The Interplay of Phonology & Grammar in the Angaataha Prominence System

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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to show how Angaatiha grammar and tone show the nuclear information in a story in contrast to peripheral information. Peripheral information has a low tone on the non-final suffix of words. Nuclear information has a high /"/ tone on the non-final suffix of words or a high low /~/ tone of the final suffix of words.

This paper will also discuss topicalization, highlighting, and question sentences.

Angaatiha information is topicalized by using the topic marker /ihi/ or demonstratives. The non-final suffix of the topic marker and demonstratives has low tone.

Angaatiha information is highlighted by moving the information to the right of the final verb in the sentence. The final word of the highlighted information has a non-final suffix with low tone.

Question sentences contain a question word. All tone is neutralized after the last high /"/ or high low /~/ tone of the question word until the sentence final high low tone with the exception of question relative clauses and question verbs.

2. CONTRASTIVE SUFFIX TONE

There are three tonemes in Angaatiha: high /"/, high low /~/, and low /\~/ which is not marked orthographically. Every syllable in a word has a toneme. High /"/ and /~/ incorporate stress and length. Length is more pronounced on high low /~/ tone (Huisman and Lloyd, 1980).

Inherent word tone, except for the last one or two syllables of the word, is retained when words occur in sentences except in a question sentence.
The last one or two syllables of the word changes depending whether it is peripheral or nuclear information.

The final one or two suffixes of an Angaatāha word are important for showing the relative prominence of that information in discourse. There are three suffix -tone possibilities: non-final suffix with high /"/ tone, non-final suffix with low tone, and final suffix with high low /"/ tone.

Words that occur sentence final have a final word suffix and high low /"/ tone occurs on that suffix or over the last two syllables of the last two suffixes of the word.

Words that are not final in the sentence have a one syllable non-final suffix as the last suffix of that word. This suffix has either high tone /"/ or low (unmarked) tone.

2.1 Sentence Final Words

Sentence final words have a word final mode suffix /-e/ or /-o/. Words with these suffixes have high low /"/ tone or /"/ tone pair on the final mode suffix or over the last two syllables of the last two suffixes of the word.

Sentence final words are nuclear information.

1. ñpintatâisê  "He is living/sitting."

2. ñupwâte  "It is a yam."

3. ñpintatâisô  "Is he living/sitting?"

Sentence final words can occur sentence non-final in embedded quotation sentences. They also occur in the introductory quote margin, as the verb 'speak', -ta-.

There is no sentence final punctuation (.) after the introductory quote margin because the verb 'speak' has a demonstrative 'thus' which tells the hearer that the quotation is to begin.
There is no (.) after the last word of the quotation because the verb 'speak' which follows indicates that it is embedded.

4. Nanahó kãat-i sâ-un-ta-tâasê asîpihô kimôpi
   boy's name her-to dem.r-to her-say-3s. opp.s:sum this particular one
   naâng-îhe un-ta-tâasê.
   heavy-js.suf to her-say-3s.suf.

'This particular opossum is heavy", Nanaho said to her.'

5. Sâ-tä kâ-un-ta-tâasê arîpihô pâhiataati nesî
   dem.r-say dem.r-to her-say-3s.suf. rice plenty taking
   nasa-hâyô untilî
   Panêhaati nâpint-âp-e
   come-lpl.suf he said to her and name what-for-final suf.
   un-ta-tâasê.
   to him-say-3s.suf

'He said thus to her, "We have brought much rice and fish,"
he said to her and, Panêhaati said to him, "Why?"'

2.2 Sentence Non-Final Words

Sentence non-final words end with a non-final suffix. This non-final suffix has a high '/' or a low tone. Occasionally this non-final suffix is deleted and if the word is nuclear the final syllable of the stem will have high tone.

6. Nesî notâisê
   taking he went

'Taking (it) he went.'

7. Ne notâisê
   taking he went

'Taking (it) he went.'

8. Kânyâ ikîpipâ âhiyatâ îpîntatâayô. 'I am taking care of your
   your things put I am sitting
   your things put I am sitting.'
your things put I am sitting

"I am taking care of your things."

2.21 Sentence Non-final Words With High Tone

Sentence non-final words with high */"* tone on the suffix is nuclear information and indicates that the speaker has more information to give.

10. Aihí mpówihi asisíhaatihi īsáhiyá awaisawáhiyá
hanging done early morning people big people
that

īpataatihí naitaatiwáhiyá akēyanawáavôpô.
forest those who were planning they gathered
to go

'The adults who were planning to go to the forest gathered early in the morning.'

2.22 Sentence Non-final Words With Low Tone

Sentence non-final words with low tone on the suffix are peripheral information in Angaatiha.

11. Ipóta kâatí ŋkatáhá ŋka nantâisê.
later she banana good/well will eat

'Later she will eat the banana well.'

2.23 Peripheral Information Made Nuclear

Peripheral information can be made nuclear information by adding other non-final suffixes with high */"* tone or final suffixes with high low */"* tone. The peripheral information in #11 has been made nuclear in #12. There is also a somewhat different meaning between #11 and #12.
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12. \textit{Ipotí-hurá kāt-amí nkáthá-apí nk-ê untátaisê.}
later-time she-poss. banana-about good-final suf. she will say to her

'At a later time she will say to her about the banana, "It is good."'

In Angaathá if the people want to specify information they will repeat what is normally peripheral information and make it nuclear information. A high */!/ or high low */!/ tone will occur on the non-final suffix of the word. Two examples are given. Peripheral information is in the first and peripheral information made nuclear is in the second.

13. \textit{Utáahó wo anaani waani anámatihihaanapi Yisáasihó}
man a house a (house) building about Jesus

páwínâ kántásâ.
talk he said

'Jesus talked about a house that a man built.'

14. \textit{Utáahurí yahurí anaani wo waani wo waani}
two men two house one (man) (house) one (man) a (house)

anámatihihaanapi Yisáasihó páwínâ kántásâ.
built about Jesus talk he said

'Jesus talked about two houses each being built by two different men.'

15. \textit{Ísihiyá waapáháatamí wihiní mpintawáayopô.}
people river's one side they sat

'People are sitting on one side of the river.'

16. \textit{Ísihiyá waapáháatamí wihí wihiní mpintawáayopô.}
people river's one side one side they sat

'The people are sitting on both sides of the river.'
3. **TOPICALIZATION**

Angaatiha topicalizes with the topic marker /- akşam/ and with demonstratives.

### 3.1 Topic Marker

The topic marker /- akşam/ when added on the end of any word except conjunctions brings that particular word into prominence. The topic marker has a non-final suffix on it and low tone making it peripheral information which is generally presupposed. When /i/ is preceded by any vowel longer then itself it is deleted and the high tone goes on the longer vowel, V_i + i → ɨ. Tow identical vowels become one vowel as in #20 and #22. V_i + ɨ_i → ɨ.

17. **Nason-a-kâuntîtô**

he comes-log-topic(ı)

'If he comes, I will tell him.'

18. **Kânyâ nopp-a-kâuntînîhî**

you you go-log-topic(ı) you would have seen it.

'If you would have gone you would have seen it.'

19. **K-o-kâuntîsâ sisîhâ timpîwâ tâhôat-ossâ ...**

dem.r-n.cl-topic fire smolter he made fire-then as for him

'As for him he first made a smoltering fire then...'

20. **M-antî-kâuntîsâ aimî kapotaatisô tâ sapôhô**

def.suf-n.cl-already he has started to die saying brother-in law topic

nkhwânyaatâisô.

he thought

'His brother-in-law thought, "Certainly he has already started to die".'
21. Warâhoâi ūsâ-hiâ sanâ ho-pâ mâra ho
her husband to people-n.cl-topic her brother-concerning heart
as for the people

tûntiâi wârâtaâ siâ namâpe untâuhi...
burned her she hung herself-so forget it they said to him and he

'As for the people, they said to her husband, "She was feeling sorry
for her brother and hung herself so forget it" they said to him...

22. Wan hâ owétisê.
now-topic it is gone 'Actually now it is gone.'
actually

3.2 Demonstratives

There are eleven noun class suffixes in Angaatâha. All nouns
are suffixed with one and occasionally to noun class suffixes.
Adjectives take the noun class suffix of the noun that they modify.

23. Utâa-ho āwaisâ-hô nanataisê. 'The big man is eating.'
man-n.cl big-n.cl he is eating

sweet potato-n.cl plenty-n.cl it is there

'There is plenty of sweet potato there.'

Demonstrative words are formed by a demonstrative root plus a
noun class, locative or time suffix. Demonstrative words have a non-
final suffix and low tone on that suffix. They are peripheral given
information, except for /wâ-/ which is not given information, but are
used to topicalize nuclear information.

3.21 Indefinite Demonstrative

The demonstrative root /wâ-/ is an indefinite demonstrative
'a, an, another'.
In all examples the demonstrative root final vowel /i/ is deleted before a vowel, i + V → V. The noun class suffix /-o/ → /-ho/ as in # 28. Vowels that cannot occur contiguous to each other in Angaatiha are separated by a /-h/.

25. \textit{wi-o} \hspace{1cm} \textit{wo} \\
\textit{dem.r.-n.cl} \hspace{1cm} 'a, an, another

26. \textit{wi-apihi} \hspace{1cm} \textit{wapihi} \\
\textit{dem.r-loc} \hspace{1cm} 'a place'

27. \textit{wi-ura} \hspace{1cm} \textit{wura} \\
\textit{dem.r-time} \hspace{1cm} 'another time'

28. \textit{Utâa-hō} \hspace{1cm} \textit{ws-o} \hspace{1cm} \textit{nasa-tâi-se} \hspace{1cm} 'A man came.' \\
\textit{man-n.cl} \hspace{1cm} \textit{dem.r-n.cl} \hspace{1cm} he came

3.22 Definite Demonstratives

The demonstrative roots /ki-/ 'that' and /si-/ 'this' are definite demonstratives. The distal demonstrative root /ki-/ is used as the most common 3rd person pronoun. The proximal demonstrative root /si-/ is used as a pronoun when the referent is closely associated with the speaker and hearer in space or knowledge. In #32 notice that ū + V → ū.

29. \textit{ki-irî} \hspace{1cm} \textit{kirî} \\
\textit{dem.r-n.cl} \hspace{1cm} 'that (far)'

30. \textit{ki-apihi} \hspace{1cm} \textit{kāpîhi} \\
\textit{dem.r-loc} \hspace{1cm} 'that place (far)'

31. \textit{ki-ura} \hspace{1cm} \textit{kūra} \\
\textit{dem.r-time} \hspace{1cm} 'that time'

32. \textit{si-o} \hspace{1cm} \textit{sō} \\
\textit{dem.r.-n.cl} \hspace{1cm} 'this one (close)''
33. si-apañhi     sapìhè  'this place (close)'
dem.r-loc.

34. si-ura        sùra    'this time'
dem.r-time

35. Utàa-ho    k-ô     nasatàiñè.
    man-n.cl   dem.r-n.cl he came

36. Utàa-ho    s-ô     nasatàiñè.
    man-n.cl   dem.r-ncl he came

The definitive suffix /-mì/ 'this particular one' indicates a
definite specific referent. It must be suffixed to the demonstrative
roots /kì-/ or /sì-/ to form a demonstrative word. (In example #20
the /kì-/ has been deleted and the demonstrative word shortened.)
In this situation the high /'/ of /kì-/ transfers to/-mì/ and then
the regular high plus low tone rule operates (↑ + V → ♣).

37. kì-mì-o     kimô    'that particular one'
dem.r-def-n.cl

38. sì-mì-o     simô    'this particular one'
dem.r-def-n.cl

The demonstrative root /sì-/ or definite suffix /-mì/ plus a
noun class suffix can be suffixed to nuclear information. When this
happens what would be nuclear information with a non-final suffix and
high /'/ tone is topicalized and becomes peripheral given information
with a non-final suffix and low tone. Below are two examples of similar
sentences, the first without the demonstrative suffix and the second
with the demonstrative suffix.

Throughout the rest of the paper when two examples of related
sentences are given, information in the first sentence what is
underlined (=) is information that is focused on in the second sentence.
39. Pitāa-hō mâahorôrē "Where is Peter?"
   Peter-n.cl where is he

40. Pitāa-s-o mâahorôrē. "Where is that man Peter?"
   Peter-dem.r-n.cl where is he

41. Utāahō wo kōaisani mpitosi-hō Nsônîhôrē.
    man a with him stand-n.cl he is John
    'That man who is standing with him is John.'

42. Utāahō wo kōaisani mpitosi-m-o Nsônîhôrē.
    man a with him stand-def-n.cl he is John
    'That particular man who is standing with him is John.'

3.23 Marked Topic

For a highly marked topic Angaatiha will use a demonstrative word followed by the topic suffixed with a demonstrative suffix.
Below are two examples of related sentences. The first without the marked topic and the second with.

43. K-ō utāa-ho winti mpiyatî ntahomaâyâhôre.
    dem.r-n.cl man-n.cl not at all well he is not one who walks
    'That man is not at all able to walk well.'

44. S-ô utāa-s-o winti mpiyatî ntahomaâyâhôre.
    dem.r-n.cl man-dem.r-n.cl not at all well he is not one who walks
    'This man here is not at all able to walk well.'

45. K-âti atip-âti nawiho aunkwohaiwa punyâ nêhâte.
    dem.r-n.cl oil-n.cl money big she gave she got
    'That oil was purchased with a lot of money.'

46. Kâ-m-âti atîm-m-âti nawiho aunkwohaiwa punyâ nêhâte.
    dem.r-def-n.cl oil-def-n.cl money big she gave she got
    'This particular oil here was purchased with a lot of money.'
4. HIGHLIGHTING

Information is often put after the final verb of the sentence (right dislocation) for the purpose of clarifying previous information or highlighting that particular information. When information is right dislocated the last word of that information will have a sentence non-final suffix and low tone. Phonologically it is marked as peripheral material but grammatically it is important because they have moved it to the right of the verb. In example #49 and #50 highlighting produces a surprise effect.

47. Napihâ nisî naíshuri-tihî nini-tihî nohâavô kâtisaâtî maasî.
She came my 2 friends-and I-and we went her with along with

'She came and I and my two friends went along with her.'

48. Niyonâhî
kihoepihô wo nasataisê kômi ampipatî
we were walking white man a he came his name

Nsônîho.
John

'We were walking and a white man came. His name is John.'

49. The following example is from the story of Lazarus when Jesus came and told the people to roll the stone away from Lazarus' grave. After the stone was rolled away....

... Yisâsihô Autaahatîhopî nkâpûntatâasê Râsaarûsihô
Jesus to God he prayed Lazarus
nsapihî nepaitantî.
again get up

'Jesus prayed to God, Lazarus got up again.'

50. Kô Pîtâahô Yisâsiho-ai ñsonatâisê ntûrihîrami autaahitâtî
he Peter Jesus-obj he saw him lake's top

napihî.
as he came

'Peter saw Jesus coming on top of the water.'
51. **nowaati** ipati nipivaatihantaatihi nantaahâyô
    we went tree inside the place where they cut we entered
    somirihanti.
saw mill

    ...We went inside the place where they cut trees, the sawmill.'

52. isi sô vântipihô nantipi namâanîmê nanapaapaahô
    And so that one fruit pick and you cannot eat if you do
    napwitaini.
    lest you die

    'So, don't pick and eat that fruit, because you'll die if you do.'

5. **QUESTION SENTENCES**

5.1 **Question Words**

    The question word in a sentence neutralized all tone after the
    last high /"/ or high low /\/ of the question word. This neutralization
    continues until sentence final tone and marks the information as
    peripheral. Two examples from related sentences are given.

53. Kînyâ sühirisî taapi tiwapâisê.
    You dog presently you are hitting

    'You are hitting the dog now.'

54. Kînyâ sühirisî nîpaapi taapi tiwapâisê.
    You dog why presently you are hitting

    'Why are you hitting the dog now?'
55. Nsihi wûwanânihi isihiva nantapâ nantâ napâwise untâti
before 1st of all people food to eat you come saying
utâahô kâuntataâse.
man to them he said
'At first the man said to the people, "Come and eat".

56. Nsihi wûwanânihi isihiva mâmâhiw-ivai nantapa nanta
Before 1st. of all people which-people food to eat
napâwise untâti utaahô kâuntataâse.
you come saying man he said to them
'At first, to which people did the man say, "Come and eat"?

57. Nkisi utâahô wo kâhitihî usihivâ asihivaisi waapôhora
you-obj man a tell you men women water with
mpâwusapâisê.
you wash people
'A man gave you authority and you baptized people.

58. Nkisi iti kâhitihî usihiva asihivaisi waapôhora mpâwusapâisê.
you obj who tell you men women water with you wash people
'Who gave you authority to baptize people?

5.2 Question Relative Clause

Angaatiha can make relative clauses into question relative clauses in which the question word is the first root of the relative clause or immediately precedes the relative clause. When this happens all tone is neutralized after the last high /"/ or high low /"/ of the question word, except the tone on the verbal part of the question relative clause. Neutralization then continues until the sentence final tone.
59. Nantapamí vantápinó timahaisi-hó nka nawaitaisê.
food's seed that which falls-n.cl good it will grow
'This seed that has fallen will grow well.'

60. Nantapamí vantápinó máhí-wapihi timahaisi-hó nka
food's seed what-a place that which falls-n.cl good
nawaitaisê.
it will grow

'Where will this seed that has fallen grow well?'

61. Ipotiníhi nantápá nantaatiwí nasawaayopô.
later food to eat they came

'Later on people came to eat.'

62. Ipotiníhi nantápá nantaatiwí napité-tá-hiya nasawaayopô.
later food to eat what-be-n.cl they came

'Later on what sort of people came to eat?'

63. Kômí vapesti mmonataisê.
his dream he saw

"He saw a dream.'

64. Kômí vapesti napit-ivá-hati mmonataisê.
his dream what-do-n.cl he saw

'What did he see (in) his dream?'

Angaaiha can have a question relative clause followed by a verb that is part of the question. Tone on the verbal part of the question relative clause and the following final verb tone is not neutralized by the question word. Neutralization then continues until final sentence tone.
65. ...iséehâ naâmitaanô untâasê.
   people I must give you he said to him

   'I will give you people,' he said to him.'

66. ... iseéhâ napît-aintî-hiya naâmitaanô untataasê.
   people what- I do- n.cl I must give you he said to him

   '... how many people did God say, "I will give you?"'

5.3 Question Verbs

Angaatâha can make verbs into question words in which the question word is the first root of the verb or is separate but immediately precedes it. The question word neutralizes all tone after the last high *// or high low *// of the question word except for the high low */ final suffix of the verb that is part of the question. This neutralization commences again until sentence final tone. Two examples are given of related sentences.

67. Autaahatihô Apîrahâmâhoaïisî kânyî otîpipatî kâï-mê
   God     to Abraham you work do/work-2nd.sing.imp
   untataasê.
   he said to him

   'God said to Abraham, "You must work."'

68. Autaahatihô Apîrahâmâhoaïisî kânyî napîntî kâï-mê
   God     to Abraham you what do/work-2nd.sing.imp
   untataasê.
   he said to him

   'What did God tell Abraham to do?'
69. **Kûri**  utâamo  kimóaisi  kînyî  otâpâpatî
those two (men) particular man him you work

**kâî-mê**  **untamâasê.**
work/do-2nd.sing.imp they (2) said to him

"The two men said to this particular man, "You must work"."

70. **Kûri**  utâamo  kimóaisi  kînyî  napît-ai-mê
those two (men) particular man him you what-do-2nd.sing.imp

**untamaasê.**
they (2) said to him

"What did the two men tell this particular man to do?"
Footnote

1. Angaatihia is a language isolate of the Angan language stock (B.A. Hooley and KA. McElhanon, "Languages of the Morobe District- New Guinea", Pacific Linguistics, C-13;1077 (1970), Richard G. Lloyd, "The Angan Language Family", in Karl Franklin, ed., "The Linguistic Situation in the Gulf District and Adjacent Areas, Papua New Guinea", Pacific Linguistics, C-26;33 (1973)). The language name was formerly spelt Angaataha (Roberta D. Huisman), "Angaataha Narrative Discourse", Linguistics 110;29-42, and Ronald D. Huisman, "Angaataha Verb Morphology", Linguistics 110;43-54 (1973)). Angaatihia is spoken by about 900 people in the Langimari River valley between Menyamya and Bulolo, and by about 100 people in a village near Bulolo, both in the Morobe Province. The people call themselves Angaatihia, but most people know them as the Langimari people. Culturally the Angaatihia are in the Kukukuku area. The name Kukukuku is a deprecatory term that "refers, of course, to a group of peoples, not to a single society or language" (B.A. Hooley, "The Morobe District- New Guinea", Oceanic Linguistics 3 (2);207 (1964)).
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