

## Recursivity in phonology below the word

*Junko Ito and Armin Mester*  
*University of California, Santa Cruz*  
*ito@ucsc.edu, mester@ucsc.edu*

This talk investigates the question under which conditions—if at all—unbounded nesting arises inside prosodic words ( $\omega$ ). Specific issues to be addressed include the following:

- (i) Which syntactic/morphological configurations give rise to recursive  $\omega$ 's?
- (ii) Empirical characteristics of directly  $\varphi$ -attached vs.  $\omega$ -adjoined functional elements (English, German); the issue of unboundedness (Kaqchitel).
- (iii) Types of  $\omega$ -internal recursion: Besides the unbalanced type  $\omega \rightarrow \omega+x$ ,  $\omega \rightarrow x+\omega$ , is there also a balanced type  $\omega \rightarrow \omega+\omega$ ? Evidence from Japanese and Danish.
- (iv) Effects of recursive word structure in prosodic morphology (Japanese, Yokuts).
- (v) Are there other kinds of  $\omega$ -internal recursion (at lower levels, not syntactically/morphologically motivated)? Central issue: The existence of recursive feet. *Pro*: Ternary stress systems receive a principled analysis. *Con*: Many potential cases have other analyses without recursive feet.