The Role of Intonation in Discourse: The analysis of -ani in Korean
Mee-Jeong Park
University of Hawaii at Manoa

In many languages, including English, the expressions ‘yes’ and ‘no’ are often grammaticalized into discourse makers (DM), which plays a role in organizing the flow and structure of discourse (Schiffrin, 1982). Also in Korean, the negative expression ani ‘no’ can have two main functions: (i) that of negative answer (NEG) to a prior utterance, most commonly as an answer to Yes-no questions, or (ii) that of discourse marker (DM). Kim (1997) suggests three different functions of DM ani including: (i) a way of expressing unacceptable attitude, (ii) to call one’s attention to a change in topic, and (iii) as a repair maker for an error. The purpose of this study is to investigate the role of intonation, Korean prosodic boundary tones (BT) in particular, in marking different functions of Korean negative ani ‘no’.

According to Jun’s model of Korean intonation (1996, 1998, 2000), an AP contains one or more words, and an IP can have one or more AP and is marked by a phrasal tone known as boundary tone (BT) such as H%, L%, HL%, LHL% etc. Although Jun includes up to nine types of these BTs in her model, Park (2012) classifies them mainly in two groups based on their final tone type: final-L (L%, HL%, LHL%, LHLHL%) and final-H (H%, LH%, HLH%, LHLH%), as the L-final BTs do not show similar compatibility as is the case of the H final BTs.

This study includes a total of 148 tokens of ani taken from twenty 60-minutes episodes of Korean TV dramas aired within the past 3 years. From the 148 tokens of ani, 33 were used as NEG answer to a prior utterance and 115 as DM (table 1). All tokens were analyzed using Sciscon’s Pitch Works speech analysis software to determine the exact type of BT for each occurrence of ani in these 20 hours of spoken data. The analysis reveals that 88 out of 115 DM ani are part of an IP (Intonational Phrase) with two or more words (ex.1), whereas 27 out of 115 DM ani are used as sole IP (ex. 2) (that is, ani forming one sole IP) and they all carry a final-L BT (L%, HL%, LHL%, HLHL%). On the other hand, all 33 NEG ani form a sole IP (ex.3). Of these 33 IPs, 25 of them carry a final-H BT (H%, LH%, HLH%) and 8 with final-L BT (HL%, LHL%, HLHL%). It is noteworthy to mention that the 25 cases of IP with final-H were all responses to clear yes-no questions. On the other hand, out of the 8 occurrences of NEG ani forming sole IPs with final-L BT, 6 of them were not direct answers to yes-no questions, but instead, negative comments to the prior utterance (ex.4).

The above data results show that the H-final BTs used in a non-interrogative expression NEG ani serve to set forth a basis for further elaboration in responding to a yes-no question. By using the NEG ani with H-final BT, the speaker conveys that his/her own response to a yes-no question is added to the speaker and hearer’s ‘mutual belief’ (Hischberg and Ward, 1995), and to monitor whether the hearer can relate the content of the just released response to his/her own propositional content. In this way, H-final NEG ani enhances the interactional aspect of this topic initiated by a yes-no question by projecting the speaker's attempt to elicit the hearer's involvement into further development of discourse. The L-final DM ani, on the other hand, mainly serves to organize the flow and structure of discourse without such a strong elicitation of the hearer’s involvement.
Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DM ani</th>
<th>NEG ani</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-sole IP</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sole IP</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 L%</td>
<td>23 H%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 HL%</td>
<td>1 LH%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13 LHL%</td>
<td>1 HLH%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 HLHL%</td>
<td>6 HL%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1

(1) A: [아니 근데] HL% 철수 어제 집에 안 들어갔더라?
B: 아 진짜?

(2) A: [아니] LHL% 이거 말고 다른 거 갖고 오라니까.
B: 아, 제가 가져 올게요.

(3) A: 홍대표한테 연락왔디?
B: [아니] H%

(4) A: 내가 테라다 줄게.
B: [아니] HL% 버스 타고 가는 게 편해.

References