



THE RHYTHM OF MANDARIN CHINESE (ABSTRACT)

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This study is concerned with the rhythm of Mandarin Chinese. As the basis of the study, a set of speech materials were selected from TV news and broadcasting. Pitch and duration measurements were made through their spectrograms, and an informal perception test on rhythm unit division was conducted as well. This paper reports some preliminary results obtained here, and the description is concentrated on rhythmic structure, including the division of rhythmic chunks, the hierarchical organization, the coherent features within rhythmic units and the boundary markers between these units. In addition, some related issues are also discussed in general.

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