Prosodic features and head nods in spontaneous dialogue

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This poster reports on prosodic features and temporal synchronization of syllables co-occurring with head nods in spontaneous dialogue in Swedish. The head nods were extracted automatically from motion capture data and then manually classified in terms of gestures having a beat function or multifunctional gestures. Prosodic features were extracted from syllables co-occurring with the beat gestures, and temporal synchronization between the syllables and the head nods was analyzed. While the peak rotation of the nod is on average aligned with the stressed syllable, the results show considerable variation in fine temporal synchronization. The syllables co-occurring with the gestures generally show greater intensity, higher F0, and greater F0 range when compared to the mean across the entire dialogue. A functional analysis shows that the majority of the syllables belong to words bearing a focal accent.