

# On the Secondary Rhythmical Stress in the Connecting Vowels of the Standard Lithuanian Compounds

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# The aim of the research

Some research shows that in the grammatical roots of standard Lithuanian compounds there does exist a secondary stress (Vaitkevičiūtė, 1960). However, there are no investigations regarding the secondary rhythmical stress in connecting vowels.

Therefore, the aim of this pilot study is to find out whether a secondary rhythmical stress does exist in the connecting vowels of the standard Lithuanian compound words analyzed.

# Respondents

- 12 respondents
- 6 males and 6 female
- Different ages (between 25 and 55)
- 3 professional and 9 non-professional speakers

# Words analyzed

*kita*'tautis [kʲitɛ²' tɒʊ·tʲɪs] vs. *kitata*'čius [kʲitɛtɒʊ' tʲɪʊs]  
*kieta*'kaktis [kʲiɛtɛ²' ka:ktʲɪs] vs. *kietaka*'čius [kʲiɛtɛkɛk' tʲɪʊs]  
*dyka*'duonis [dʲi:kɛ²' duɔnʲɪs] vs. *dykadu*'nius [dʲi:kɛduɔ' nʲɪʊs]  
*greita*'kalbis [grʲɛitɛ²' kelʲ·bʲɪs] vs. *greitaka*'bystė  
[grʲɛitɛkelʲ²' bʲi:sʲtʲe:]  
*daugia*'kalbis [dɒʊgʲɛ²' kelʲ·bʲɪs] vs. *daugiaka*'bystė  
[dɒʊgʲɛkelʲ²' bʲi:sʲtʲe:]  
*tuščia*'žiedis [tʊʃʲtʲɛ²' ʒʲiɛdʲɪs] vs. *tuščiav*'duris [tʊʃʲtʲɛʊʲɪ' dʊrʲɪs]

# Methods

Respondents recorded the sentences with these words. Each respondent recorded the sentences 3 times.

Connecting vowels that are two syllables away from the main stress were compared with those that are one syllable away.

# Results

Although it was found that in the grammatical roots of some Lithuanian compounds a secondary rhythmical stress does exist (Vaitkevičiūtė, 1960), the results of this research show that there is no secondary rhythmical stress in connecting vowels of compounds analyzed in this research. It can be seen from the analysis of duration, average pitch (both male and female voices), maximum pitch (either male or female voices), average intensity, and maximum intensity. Nevertheless, this is only a pilot study. Although some small tendencies can be seen from this research, these findings are relevant and limited only to the data analyzed. To gain more knowledge of the secondary rhythmical stress in Lithuanian connecting vowels, further and more extensive investigations are needed.