

## **Some generalizations about word order and the Left Edge Ban**

This talk reports some results from ongoing work on the relationship between syntax and prosody. I develop a theory of the FOFC --- a condition ruling out certain disharmonic word orders --- which makes reference to prosodic structure, and show that this provides an understanding of cases where certain phonologically light elements appear to be exempt from the FOFC. I show that this same, prosodically defined class of elements is exempt from a requirement found in many VP-fronting V-initial languages requiring all other elements in the fronted VP to evacuate it. I show that the account developed for the FOFC extends naturally to the cases at hand, and discuss certain facts about Warao (isolate; Venezuela), a language with OSV word order, in light of this account.