FUNCTIONS OF STRESS AND SEMANTIC STRUCTURE OF UTTERANCE

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1)   The present state of linguistics is characterized by the
growing interest in stress (prominence) as a main index of se-
mantico-syntactic differences. See, for example, in Russian:
jeshche + X (X_n adds to X_{n-1}): jeshche stakan chaju? (Another
cup of tea?).

jeshche + X (X adds to Y): jeshche stakan chaju? (And a cup of
tea now?).

Odin + X (a certain X); odin + X (one X); odin + X (only X);
odin + X (one and only one X); odin + X (the same X); odin + X
(there is only X and nothing more).

Tol'ko on ne byl v Pariže (But he wasn't in Paris, you are wrong);
Tol'ko on ne byl v Pariže (Everybody was in Paris, but he wasn't).

2)   However, the present state of phonetic and prosodic theory
does not correspond to requirements of general linguistics. Namely,
the intonation theory only assumes the presence of one main stress
(the nuclear) and of emphatic (contrastive) stresses. The semantic
interpretation of stress is not yet elaborated, and the stress
usually is tied only with the notion of FSP (Actual sentence divi-
sion). The following problems are not yet solved: 1)How many types
of utterance stresses exist on the phonetico-prosodic level?
2) How many semantic categories correspond to these types?
3) What are these categories?

According to our concrete investigations, there are a mini-
mum of 5 types of stress phonetically. They can sometimes co-
exist in one utterance (speech unit). These types correspond to
the following content components of an utterance: 1) the differ-
entiation of actants; 2) presupposition and assertion; 3) the
concrete situation; 4) the connection with text; FSP; 5) the
category of definiteness.