

MIRENA PATSEVA

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

✉ mirena.patseva@gmail.com

### **PSYCHOLINGUISTIC PERSPECTIVE ON ACCENTUATION IN THE BULGARIAN LANGUAGE**

#### *Abstract*

Within the framework of Levelt's psycholinguistic speech production model, the phono- logical default stress refers to the lexical form whose elements are morphemes, a metric frame, and segmental content. The question here is whether the regular phonological trends are independent of morphological characteristics in a language with a lexical ac- cent, such as the Bulgarian language. The data from the productive study with acronyms, i.e. in the absence of a specific accent specification of the morphemes, show that by accentuating them, regularities appear that are leading in the language as a whole. Penultimate stress is dominant among units that end in a vowel, interpreted as a word ending, and ultimate accent – among units ending in a consonant. The result is interpreted as an orientation to the right border of the word base. This means that the phonological stress in a language with a lexical accent system is bound to the morphological factor even in the case of acronyms and reflects common accentual tendencies in the language.

*Keywords:* phonological default accent, acronyms, psycholinguistic model for speech production, Bulgarian word stress