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Experience of acoustic analysis of Evenki vocal speech. Part 2

Abstract

This article presents the experience of acoustic analysis of a song-improvisation of one of the idiolects related to the Ust-Nyukzha local accent of the Eastern dialect of the Evenki language. The aim was to compare vocal timber effects on vowels and their duration and formant structure in an Evenki folklore song. We consider the functioning of melismas (grace note, mordent, glissando) from the point of view of phonetic mechanisms involved in the process of generating vocal phonation. The results demonstrate the following acoustic patterns of melismatics: 1) falling intonation contour when implementing a descending grace note; 2) complex three-stage mechanism for the implementation of the mordent involving a break in the intonation contour with sharply changing intensity of the pharyngealized and epiglottalized vowel; 3) smooth pitch change in the frequency of the fundamental tone when implementing a glissando.

Keywords: endangered language, Evenki language, phonetics, singing, vowels, articulatory-acoustic properties, melismas

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