

## ***IV Prosodic systems – areal groupings***

### ***Chapter 25. Australia and New Guinea***

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The majority of the languages of Australia are non-tonal and tend to have exceptionless, morphologically governed stress as well as intonation systems that are not unlike those of European languages, though with phonetic rather than phonological effects of post-focal compression. The large number of languages of New Guinea are remarkable for their word prosodic diversity and for that reason of great typological significance. While the entire area is under-investigated, the intonation systems in New Guinea are particularly poorly documented.