Appendix A

The Effects of Tone Sandhi on Singaporean Hokkien

It is discovered that tone sandhi carries an effect to tones positioned in proximity. Given below are several instances of tone sandhi:

1) $X^{42}:X^{24} \rightarrow X^{24}:X^{24}$

When a syllable containing a high falling tone is followed by another syllable which contains a low rising tone, the tone of the preceding syllable becomes assimilated.

a) ho^{42} $laŋ^{24}$ $\rightarrow$ ho^{24} $laŋ^{24}$

   'good'   'human'   '(a) good person'

b) p^hay^{42} $laŋ^{24}$ $\rightarrow$ p^hay^{24} $laŋ^{24}$

   'bad'   'human'   '(a) bad person'

2) $X^{21}:X^{42} \rightarrow X^{42}:X^{42}$

A syllable containing a low falling tone when followed by another syllable containing a high falling tone gets affected by tone sandhi. The tone becomes assimilated.

a) $p^haʔ^{21}$ $tsyaw^{42}$ $\rightarrow$ $p^haʔ^{42}$ $tsyaw^{42}$

   'hit'   'bird'   'to hit a bird'

b) si^{21} $tyam^{42}$ $\rightarrow$ si^{42} $tyam^{42}$

   'four'   'dot'   'four o'clock'

3) $A^{33}:A^{33} \rightarrow A^{33}:A^{44}$

When a syllable carrying a mid level tone undergoes reduplication, only the consonant and vowel segments get reduplicated. The tone of the following syllable gets altered into a high level one. Reduplicated tones for reduplicated syllables carrying a mid level tone are not allowed in Singaporean Hokkien.

a) ts^him^{33} ts^him^{33} $\rightarrow$ ts^him^{33} ts^him^{44}

   'deep'   'deep'   'rather or quite deep'

b) *kʰin³³* *kʰin³³* → *kʰin³³*   *kʰin⁴⁴*

   'light' 'light'   'rather or quite light'

4) A^{21}:A^{21}→A^{42}:A^{21}

When reduplicating a syllable carrying a low falling tone, the preceding syllable changes tone into high falling one.

a) *Swey²¹* *swey²¹* → *swey⁴²*   *swey²¹*

   'small' 'small'   'rather or quite small'

b) *ʔam²¹* *ʔam²¹* → *ʔam⁴²*   *ʔam²¹*

   'dark' 'dark'   'rather or quite dark'

The effects of tone sandhi presented in this appendix is not complete. Further studies on this phenomenon may provide more details and insights.