
The Effect of Initiative on Response Particles

Maryam Mohammadi^{*†1}

¹University of Konstanz – Germany

Abstract

Polar response particles (PRPs) can be used in two readings. The *polarity*-reading marks a response as being positive or negative, and the *(dis)agreement*-reading expresses agreement or disagreement with an initiative, including assertions and polar questions. In some languages, like English, the same particles are used in both readings. Earlier studies (Krifka2013, Roelofsen&Farkas2015) introduce different rules to capture the optimal particle, while empirical data shows more variation between the speakers (Claus et al.2017). I provide novel experimental data from Farsi that shows the effect of the initiatives on particle preference, and suggesting the initiative as an important factor.

Keywords: Polar Response Particles, Questions, Bias, Empirical Data

*Speaker

†Corresponding author: maryam.mohammadi@uni-konstanz.de