
Double Negation is Stressful

Yechezkel Shabanov*¹ and Einat Shetreet¹

¹Tel Aviv University – Israel

Abstract

This study examines how stress patterns influence the interpretation of double negation (DN) in Hebrew. DN can be interpreted as a logical rebuttal or a less forceful version of affirmation. To test the hypothesis that initial stress DN (*not not interesting*) corresponds to a logical rebuttal interpretation and terminal stress DN (*not not interesting*) corresponds to mitigation, the study utilizes a range-marking task. Participants will indicate on a scale the meaning of doubly-negated adjectives based on their stress pattern. Results will be analyzed based on range sizes, locations, and edge inclusion.

Keywords: Double Negation, Stress, Interpretation

*Speaker