

Negator turned intersubjective speech-act adverbial
[否定詞轉為交互主觀性言語行為狀語]

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Abstract

This study investigates the non-negating negator \bar{m} in Taiwanese. With respect to its function, this study argues that it is neither an intensifier nor a rhetorical marker. Furthermore, contrary to prevalent intuition, the combination \bar{m} - $t\bar{o}$ is not parallel to the ostensible cognate $b\bar{u}ji\bar{u}$ in Mandarin Chinese. Instead, the non-negating \bar{m} is an intersubjective speech-act adverbial affix attaching to the head of FocP (realized as $t\bar{o}$ or $tsiah$) that takes scope over whatever follows. Typologically, this study uncovers another use of non-negating negation in natural languages, and consequently challenges the enterprise pursuing a unified analysis for the phenomena of the so-called expletive negation.

Keywords: non-negating negator, expletive negation, speech-act adverbial, Taiwanese

關鍵詞：虛否定、空填補否定詞、言語行為、台語

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