

Basic of Language Science
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Lecture40
Negation and Negative Polarity Items in Natural Language

Like I told you last time, we started looking at a phenomenon which gives us an opportunity to see how, what we know or what we have learned as theoretical apparatus to understand language helps us understand our languages. I gave you some examples from Hindi and then I want you to evaluate this phenomenon with reference to languages that you speak too.


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So far ...

- We looked at negation and position of negation in the clause structure.

Today ...

- We will look at the example of negative polarity items in Hindi.



We looked at, then we talked about negation, negation words, we discussed what negation is whether negation is a lexical item or a functional category and then we looked at how is it represented in the clauses structure of a sentence, that is what is its exact location in the functional domain of the conceptual representation of a sentence.

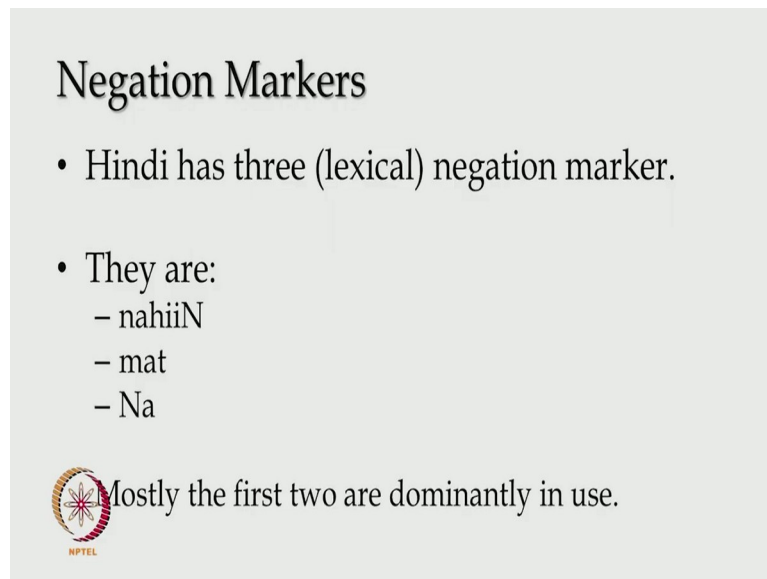
Now, we want to extend that and see a little bit more about negation and how it intersects with other lexical categories, now that we know negation is part of functional domain and then how it works in the language with other lexical categories, there is a particular thing in natural language, which is called negative polarity item, like we talked about negation that negation is a universal phenomenon in natural language.

Negation may be a matter of discussion in linguistic theory in the following way, whether negation is a word or a suffix or a prefix, whether negation conceptually belongs to functional domain or lexical domain, these are the questions that one can discuss, while talking about linguistic theory, however the presence of negation in natural language is a universal phenomenon.

Similarly, the presence of negative polarity items in natural language is a universal phenomenon. I am going to show you some examples and then you will be able to evaluate whether or not we find such elements in other languages or not, that is, other languages that you speak and I can substantiate that it is available not only in the languages that you speak, but in all the languages of the world. So, as you can see, the word indicates a negative polarity item.

So, it is going to be a word which is sensitive to negation, that is all negative polarity items mean, it is a word in a language, it is sensitive to a negative element, that is all, that is the point. What exactly it means we are going to look at this.


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Negation Markers

- Hindi has three (lexical) negation marker.
- They are:
 - nahiN
 - mat
 - Na

Mostly the first two are dominantly in use.



So, you have seen three negation markers in Hindi, how many negation markers are there in Telugu?

Student: More than three sir actually.

Professor: You have not thought about that?

Student: No, it more than three,

Professor: More than three?

Student: Yes

Professor: There are definitely three of them.

Student: (04:19)

Professor: For sure, can you tell me?

Student: (04:21)

Professor: So give an example of (04:25).

Student: (04:26) which means, do not put the pen here.

Professor: Alright, the second one.

Student: (04:44) that is not a phone.

Professor: So, these are the two negation markers like mat and nahin?

Student: Yes, mat and nahin.

Professor: Mat and nahiin, what is the third one?

Student: (05:02)

Professor: Which means?

Student: Which means, usually used in the meeting like it is not there, but it is also sometimes used as a replacement for it is more like, na.

Professor: Na.

Student: Used as a replacement for (05:17) sometimes.

Professor: So, the first one that you said is only restricted to imperative sentences like do not speak, sit down, things like that.

Student: Right.

Professor: So, without looking at more data one can also say at least for South Asian languages, we have a distinction between two negative markers at least, where every language is going to have a specific negation for imperative sentences, which can be used in negation, which can be used to negate an imperative sentence which is a tense less sentence and then the other negation marker can be used in both types of sentences, that is true in Telugu as well.

Now see this structure of language, around this phenomenon, there may be hundreds of differences between Hindi and Telugu, so much so that the two languages are not intelligible but when it comes to classification of a negation word, it works exactly the way Hindi works you see that? So, likewise, I want you to think about other languages if you have been to speak there.

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1. Raajuu dillii nahiiN/*mat jayegaa

Raaju Dehi neg go-fut-masc-sg

'Raju will not go to Delhi.'

2. Dilli mat/nahiiN jaao

Delhi neg go-imp (-fin)

'Do not go to Delhi.'



Now, we saw this, the phenomena that just we discussed with reference to Telugu, how it works in Hindi.

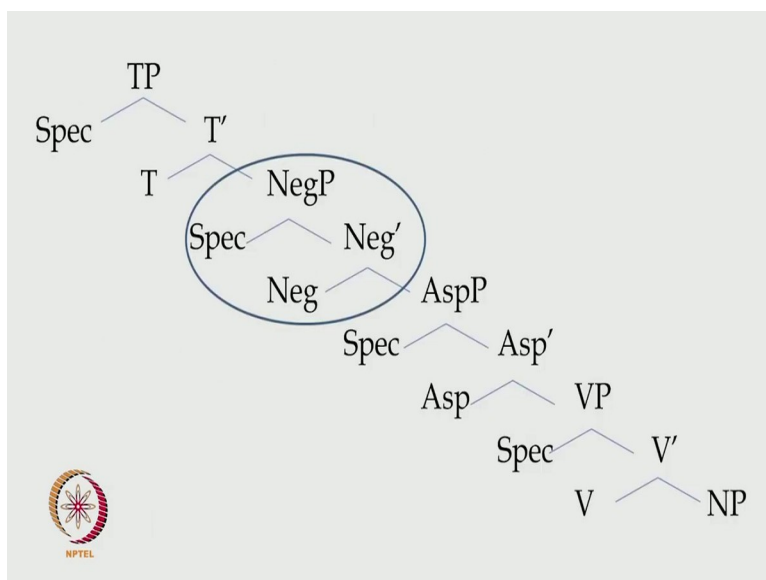
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Negation in Structure

- Where is negation located in the structure of a sentence?
 - Is negation located in the lexical layer?
 - Is it in the functional layer?

Answer:

Unlike other functional elements, negation appears to be a lexical unit, however, evidence suggest that negation is located in the functional layer of the structure, and heads its own phrase?



Then we have questioned the presence of negation in the structure of a sentence and we saw with examples last time that negation happens to occur in the functional domain and specifically below tense and above aspect phrase. Now also pay attention to the following that it is not just a matter of a specific location of negation, it is also a matter of breaking the adjacency requirement between tense and aspect and what is the implication of this breaking adjacency between tense and aspect?

The implication for that is these are categorically two different phenomena, two different things and there is no strict adjacency requirement between tense and aspect, so when someone says things like, mai pizza khaataa huun, so taa part of the word khaataa and huun, which is a tense marker they do not have to be together, they happen to be together true, but they do not have to be together that adjacency could be broken. So, a look at negation and the evidence that we saw last time tells us way more than what we saw, but we are not getting into too many details of that.

NPIs = Negative Polarity Items

NPIs are illustrated in (1) and in (2).

(1) *ek phuuTii kauRii* 'a broken penny'
hargiz 'at all'
muNh kholna 'to say something'

(2) *koi bhii* 'anybody'
kisii bhii 'anybody'
kuch bhii 'any thing'
ek bhii 'even one/any'



Type – I

(3) *raajiv hargiz nahiiN* *bol-egaa*
rajiv at all NEG speak-FUT-MASC-IIIISG
'Rajiv will not speak at all.'

(4) * *raajiv hargiz* *bol-egaa*
rajiv at all speak-FUT-MASC-IIIISG
'Rajiv will speak at all.'



Then, let us see examples of negative polarity items. I want to come to this one in a moment. I want you to look at these two sentences. The sentence in Hindi reads *Raajiv hargiz nahiiN bol-egaa*, it means *Raajiv* will not speak at all under any circumstances. Now what I am trying to show you here is that the word *hargiz* is called a negative polarity item. This word cannot occur in this type of a sentence if there is no *nahiiN*, if we do not use *nahiiN* then we cannot use *hargiz*. See the point? Therefore, the second sentence, the next sentence is marked with a star and ungrammatical *Raajiv hargiz bol-egaa* is not a good sentence in Hindi and the only reason why it is not good is, because there is no negative marker, you put a negative marker the sentence becomes good, see the point.

The fact that the presence of *hargiz* is only warranted in the presence of negation is the reason why we call this thing a negative polarity item, this can only be present in a sentence, when there is a negative marker. This is what these two sentences show you, do you get this point?

This happens in all the languages and since I was going to draw your attention to South Asian languages, does it happen in Telugu? It does not have to be *hargiz*.

The word could be anything else, does it happen in Tamil, Malayalam?

Student: Sir, can you explain NPs in English, (0)(11:53)

Professor: At this time, I do not want to because, I want you to look at or I want you to be able to look at your language with examples from our own languages, so what you are saying is this does not help so far.

Student: Is that a familiar word, as an hargiz is not very familiar.

Professor: That is fine you do not have to be familiar with hargiz. Look at the sentence, Raajiv will not speak at all, how do you say that in Telugu?

Student: Raajiv as'salu matladadu

Professor: Now, remove the negation word from here, is the sentence good?

Student: No.

Professor: Not good

Student: The negation word as such is just a morphological...

Professor: Whatever that is removed, is the sentence good?

Student: No.

Professor: So, definitely some word in this sentence is a negative polarity item.

Student: Not (0)(13:11)

Professor: Whatever, it may not be a full word true it may be a small element somewhere, so like negation, the negative polarity item also does not have to be a word, but there is an element of negative polarity item in the sentence, because of which, when you remove negation, the sentence in Telugu that you just said is ungrammatical and it becomes clearer when you write the sentence properly. If I knew Telugu and if we had more time, I would ask one of you to do this on the board and can show you which one is negation and which one is negative polarity, understand this?

Student: (0)(13:58)


Professor: In that sense, the word at all also has some negative polarity meaning in it because in English also, we cannot say Raajiv will speak at all, can we say the sentence Raajiv will speak at all? does not mean much, it means properly it gives you an appropriate interpretation in the presence of a negative word not, when we say Raajiv will not speak at all. That word also is a negative polarity item to some extent. I will give you more examples of negative polarity items in English too, but right now take a look at this.

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Type – II

(5) *maiN-ne kuch-bhii nahiiN khaa-yaa*
I-ERG anything-EMPH NEG eat-PERF
'I did not eat anything.'

(6) *maiN -ne kuch-bhii khaa-yaa*
I-ERG anything-EMPH eat-PERF
'Did I eat anything?'



Let us look at these two sentences *maiN-ne kuch-bhii nahiiN khaa-yaa*, what does this sentence mean?

Student: (0)(15:03).


Professor: I did not eat anything. He cannot say, *maiN-ne kuch-bhii khaa-yaa*. Now, please pay attention to these sentences very carefully on the screen, in the next sentence, I have not put the star mark.

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Type – I

(3) *raajiv hargiz nahiiN bol-egaa*
rajiv at all NEG speak-FUT-MASC-IIIISG
'Rajiv will not speak at all.'

(4)* *raajiv hargiz bol-egaa*
rajiv at all speak-FUT-MASC-IIIISG
'Rajiv will speak at all.'



I will like the previous one, do you see here? On the second one, there is a star mark which means, this sentence is not possible at all.

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Type – II

(5) *maiN-ne kuch-bhii nahiiN khaa-yaa*
I-ERG anything-EMPH NEG eat-PERF
'I did not eat anything.'

(6) *maiN -ne kuch-bhii khaa-yaa*
I-ERG anything-EMPH eat-PERF
'Did I eat anything?'



What no star means that this sentence is possible, but does not have the meaning that we want meaning, if *maiN-ne kuch-bhii khaa-yaa* it does not mean I did not eat anything, this sentence is good with some other meaning, if you raise the intonation, remember we have talked about questions and intonation *maiN-ne kuch-bhii khaa-yaa*, you two of us or some of us went together to some party, food was not good on our way back, we are discussing something *maiN-ne kuchh bhii khaa-yaa* means I did not eat anything.

Student: It can also mean something yeah

Professor: It definitely means something else *maiN-ne* it could mean.

Student: I eat randomly or (())(16:42)

Professor: I eat just something randomly, true it is ambiguous, but ambiguity is not what we want to focus on, you are it is ambiguous, but what it does not mean is, I did not eat anything the word *kuch-bhii*, which you see in the bolt, does not have the meaning of anything this word receives the meaning of anything only when you have a negative item in this sentence read the first sentence carefully *maiN-ne kuch-bhii nahiiN khaa-yaa* that sentence does not mean I ate something randomly, see this thing.

So, the negation word and this *kuch-bhii*, has some sort of dependency on one another for giving a particular kind of meaning. Is this making sense to you?

Student: You have written EMPH, emphasis right?

Professor: Emphatic mark.

Student: It means that we give the intonation on that?

Professor: No, it means the bhii that you see, bhii is an emphatic marker in Hindi, it can be used with many other words like, ek bhii, when we say ek bhii, tum bhii means, you too, so bhii is an emphatic marker and when we look at the details of this composition, then people say and people claim that, what gives negative polarity interpretation to kuch-bhii it actually bhii, because kuch has a word is a quantifier, kuch means, something, some in the presence of negation the same word some becomes nothing kuch means, something, kuch nahii, nothing but with bhii, it becomes anything maiN-ne kuch-bhii nahii khaa-yaa, means I did not eat anything, get the point?

So, in these four examples, I am trying to show you that there are some elements like hargiz and kuch-bhii, which are categorically dependent on negation for their appropriate interpretations, make sense?

Student: Consider the sentence, ye kuch-bhii nahii khaata hai, if we remove the negation word, ye kuch-bhii khaata hai it becomes, both make sense and both are opposite.

Professor: So, therefore I am not putting a star mark there, so the second sentence that you are giving ye kuch-bhii khaata hai, we cannot say that this sentence is wrong, this sentence is not possible; the sentence is definitely possible, but not possible with the intended interpretation in other words, we can say without negation it has a different meaning, with negation it has a different kind of meaning. So, if we focus on the meaning with negation, that meaning is negative polarity meaning with the negation, it seems like there is a dependency between these two words, get the point?


Now, to elaborate this point a little bit more, I didn't mean to bring in at this point at this stage, I was going to discuss this a little later, but since you are bringing in, let us talk about this.

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Type – I

(3) *raajiv hargiz nahiiN bol-egaa*
rajiv at all NEG speak-FUT-MASC-IIIISG
'Rajiv will not speak at all.'

(4) * *raajiv hargiz bol-egaa*
rajiv at all speak-FUT-MASC-IIIISG
'Rajiv will speak at all.'



Type – II

(5) *maiN-ne kuch-bhii nahiiN khaa-yaa*
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I-ERG anything-EMPH eat-PERF
'Did I eat anything?'



Do you see I have mentioned on the top type one and type two, do you see that what that means is this distinction that you see that in one case we can put a star that is in the case of type one and in the case of type two, we are not able to put a star, what does this mean?

It means that there could be two types of negative polarity, in one type of negative polarity items, the negative polarity item is strictly dependent on negation without negation, no interpretation the sentence is out; in the second type which is the one that on the screen, it is, a sentence is possible without negation, but not the right interpretation. So, this we can say this is not a very strict kind of situation, whereas the first type is a very strict situation where you remove negation and everything is out the meaning is out.

So, these are the first two points that we are making here, first point there are some words some elements in all the languages which are sensitive to the presence or absence of negative elements in a sentence and the second point is among the elements that are sensitive to negative marker in a sentence, some are strictly dependent on negation and some are not, get the point, this is the classification introduction and classification of negative polarity.

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NPIs = Negative Polarity Items

NPIs are illustrated in (1) and in (2).

(1) *ek phuuTii kauRii* 'a broken penny'
hargiz 'at all'
muNh kholna 'to say something'

(2) *koi bhii* 'anybody'
kisii bhii 'anybody'
kuch bhii 'any thing'
ek bhii 'even one/any'



Now, I want to take you to this place, do you see that the list in one and two, do you see that? The first list in one there is a set of three things there, all three of them are elements which are strictly dependent on negation, now I want an example from you, I have already given you an example of *hargiz*, have you heard this phrase in Hindi, *ek phuuTii kauRii*?

No, can you give me a sentence with that, can you use this *ek phuuTii kauRii*, it means a broken penny, literally it means, *phuuTii* you know *pothnaa* means?

Student: Breaking.

Professor: Means break, *phuuTii kauRii*, *kauddi* is the word for a colloquial word for penny, which together means a broken penny, literally it means a broken, *ek phuuTii* a broken *kauRii*, has anyone seen a *kauRii*, it is like a shell, it is a sea animal small sea insect, which is have you seashell, so it is a smallest part of that and when it is broken, it is of no use, so the same metaphor is used for no money, not even a broken penny, *ek phuuTii kauRii*, now can you with this much of explanation, can you use this in a sentence?

Student: Mere piitaa ne mujhe *ek phuuTii kauRii bhii nahiin dii*

Professor: Do you hear the sentence, do you understand the sentence now, what does he want to say?

Student: My father did not give me a broken penny.

Professor: He says, let me repeat the sentence again, *mere piitaa ne mujhe ek phuuTii kaudi ni dii*, it could mean, my father did not give me a broken penny, it also means my father did not give me any money, it means my father did not give me anything, whichever meaning you like, you keep that meaning.

But the point is we cannot say *mere piitaa ne mujhe phuuTii kauRii di*, we cannot say that if you want to say that, then it means the literal broken penny, it does not mean anything or it does not mean any money, it means a real example if this is something like a broken penny, broken cell then he did not give me that broken cell, get the point, is that true, Siddhant?

I am asking him because he speaks Hindi and it should make sense to everybody. I think everybody, making sense, you have already seen the example of hargiz.

Now, you have the third example which means, which is munh kholna literally means, this one everyone should know, munh kholna means?

Student: Opening the mouth.

Professor: Opening the mouth, it literally means, munh kholna. But it means in the context of language, it is generally assumed that when we open our mouths, we say something. It means speaking about something. Can you use this thing in a sentence, again?

Student: Mai teacher ke samne munh ni khol paya.

Professor: Do you see this thing? Main munh nikhol paya or we can say usne munh ni khola, which means?

Student: He did not.

Professor: He could not say anything. Again, we can never say maiN-ne munh khola, usne munh khola, maiN-ne teacher ke samne munh khola we cannot say these things with the meaning that I said something. If you say maiN-ne munh khola that means, literally opening your mouth, it does not have the meaning of saying anything or saying something. The point is, the first three things that you see, must strictly be used with negation in Hindi to give the meaning that we want from them.

Student: Can we add the emphatic marker bhii to the first?

Professor: Yeah, we can, we can add.

Student: But it still cannot () (29:32)

Professor: But it still does not change much, it still retains its polarity meaning.

Student: And it cannot be used without the negation?

Professor: No, ask Hindi speakers, it cannot be, get the point?

Student: Is it possible that those expressions in other languages might not be a strict one to maybe belong to group two?

Professor: First of all, these expressions will not be in other languages.

Student: Actually.

Professor: There is going to be an equivalent expression if that equivalent expression can be used without negation, then they do not belong to this category, then they belong to the second category, I am coming to the second category in a moment.

So, there is a strict classification of one type, which is going to be used only with negation and the other type, which can be used without negation. I have already shown you examples. So, see any one of the examples in the second thing, which is koi bhii, kisii bhii, kuch-bhii, ek bhiii these things will not, can be used without negation and must be used with negation to give you appropriate negative polarity reading.

In other words, again, when you use the anyone from the list of the second item on the screen, then the sentence is not ungrammatical, but it may not give you negative polarity reading for the first list, we just cannot use them without negation, get this, one more point.

It is not just three of them. I am just giving you three examples. There could be hundreds of examples in any language. So, which answers your question that we do not have to have just these three or equivalent of these three, what is important for us to see and understand that there is a set of these two available in all the languages.

If one does not and it is up to you to figure out, can it be used without negation, if it can be used, then it belongs to the second category, if it cannot be used, it belongs to first category, that is an important point; that is just an observation, now is this much clear to everybody?

Since your friends in the past have asked questions, let me very briefly talk about this thing and if you have a question, raise your hands and I will answer this from the board. I do not have it listed here.

These things, look at the second set when these or for that matter set also, when these things are allowed with negation technically that is called licensing, which means a negative polarity item is licensed, meaning it is allowed, the word licensing is just a fancy word does not mean much, it simply means allowed and what does allow mean, allow means the sentence is good, grammatical that is all, if this, if the sentence is not grammatical, we mean not allowed, not licensed. So, please do not get lost in terminology, it is very simple.

So, we are saying a negation licences the negative polarity, the first set for the first set, we strictly need negative items to licence them for the second set, we may not strictly need them but what have you seen so far?

Anything from the second set when it is used without negation, it does not give us negative polarity reading without negation, that may be okay sentence, but it does not give us negative polarity reading, but there is one more distinction between the two categories, anything from the second set can also give you negative polarity reading with question words, the moment you question koi bhii, could take koi bhii I can say koi bhii nahin aa-yaa, what does it mean?

Student: Nobody came.

Professor: Nobody came, it has a negative meaning, nobody I do not use negation I say koi aa-yaa, what does it mean?

Student: (())(34:49)

Professor: Koi aa-yaa.

Student: Someone came.

Professor: Someone came, do you see this without negation it gives us the meaning of someone, with negation it gives us the meaning of?

Student: No one

Professor: The distinction that we are trying to make is, when we get no one reading then it is a negative polarity item, it can get the reading of someone without negation, which is all right we do not debate that.

But it does not give the meaning of reading of no one without negation. However, under certain circumstances it can get the reading of no one when you question it, how do we question this thing?

Student: Koi aa-yaa.

Professor: Let me give you the sentence, koi aa-yaa, what does it mean?

Student: (())(36:01)

Professor: (())(36:03) It is fine, but this is a question everybody agrees, when you, when I say koi aa-yaa this question for everybody, what is the meaning?

Student: Did anyone come?

Professor: So, no one or anyone these are the negative polarity readings. So, you can get a negative polarity reading with questions also, get this thing, understand?

Now, someone can ask you this question when you study these things and someone can ask you just on the basis of one point you cannot make two categories, what is your basis, can you give one more example, one more theoretical point on the basis of which your categorization is okay, do you see my question?

This is the second point that you can use, which is you can get a negative polarity reading from the second set with questions but you still do not get as negative polarity reading with questions from the first set. So, you question the first set there is no negative polarity reading, so, for example, take the phuuTiii kauRii example mere piitaa ne mujhe ek phuuTii kauRii nahin dii, what is the question, aapke piitaa ne aapko ek phuuTiii kauRii dii, is that negative polarity reading? No reading of negative polarity, the point is the first set not only requires the first set, let me present to you in the following way.

The second set can get negative polarity reading under two circumstances one with negative word and the other with question; first set can only get negative polarity items with negatives, nothing else, so, that clearly justifies that there are two clear patterns in natural languages for negative polarity items and again some language may not give you two sets that may be debatable.

If a language does not have a clear distinction between these two sets, so, in that case, the categorization of negative polarity item may be a parametric affair, but the presence of negative polarity item in natural language is a universal phenomenon, is a principled matter and now I can say is the presence of negative polarity item in language is a matter of principle. The presence of a negative item in a language is a matter of principle where, how are parametric issues, get it. Before we stop, I want to make one more point with this.

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- Negation in the Clause Structure:
 - Pollock (1989) system NegP occurs between TP and AgrP.
 - Zanuttini (1991) demonstrates to occur in Romance languages where NEG may be higher than TP.
 - Mahajan (1990) suggests that in Hindi negation heads its own maximal projection NegP and occurs below TP.
 - Dwivedi (1991) argues that NegP is higher than AspP and outside VP.



I have already discussed this part with you about the way, do negative items occur in the clauses structure there are different people like Pollock, Zanuttini, Mahajan, Dwivedi, many people have a study of these things and people have had different positions about the presence of negative item in the clause structure.

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- Following Pollock (1989), Chomsky (1989, 1995), and Mahajan (1990), I would suggest that the NegP is located below TP.
- However, contrary to Dwivedi's (1991) proposal, I suggest that NegP is higher than AspP.



What sounds very convincing, is a combination of all that, not any in particular, so this is the point that I want to make to you, so, how do we, we can say that a negative polarity item means a negation, that is true, but where does it need a negation?

Does all negation markers licence negative polarity items that do not happen and again, we do not have enough time to give you every single example to show you that, but this will make sense to you because you have gone through that. The negation marker which licenses negative polarity item, must be in the C-commanding position, if the negative marker C-commands the negative polarity item, then it is licensing the negative polarity item, if it is unable to C-command, then it will not license, do you remember last time I gave you two types of negations, what were the two types of negation, one was when the negation negates the entire sentence.

Student: Constituent and sentential.

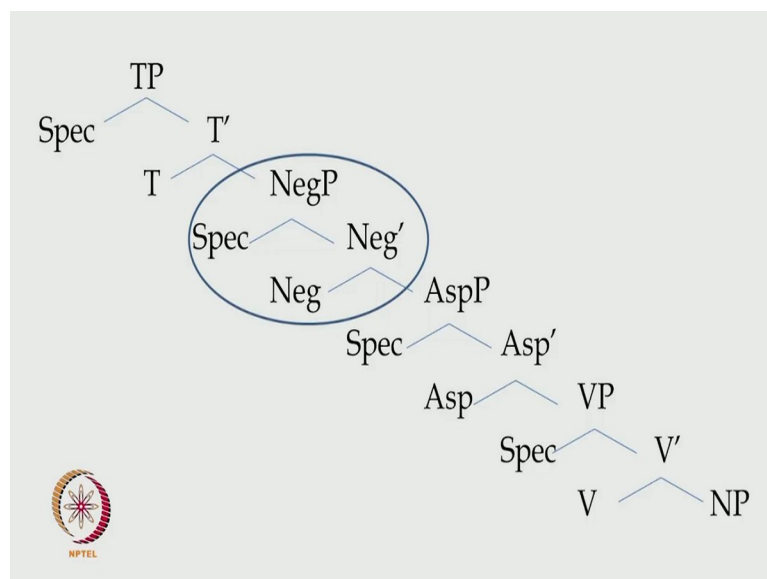
Professor: Constituent negation and sentential negation, sentential negation is when negation negates the whole sentence and constituent negation is when the negation negates only particular constituent from a constituent negative position a negative polarity item cannot be licensed, which means in that case negative polarity item is not in the C-commanding domain of the negative.

Therefore, the NPI must be in the C-commanding domain of negation as long as the C-commands the negative polarity item the sentence is okay, the interpretation of that item in an appropriate way is allowed, get the point, so...

Student: (42:52)

Professor: But I do not have the list. I just wanted to tell you this thing and this is the issue, how does it license? The answer is it must be in the C-commanding domain, to understand the C-commanding domain, let us look at the structure once again.

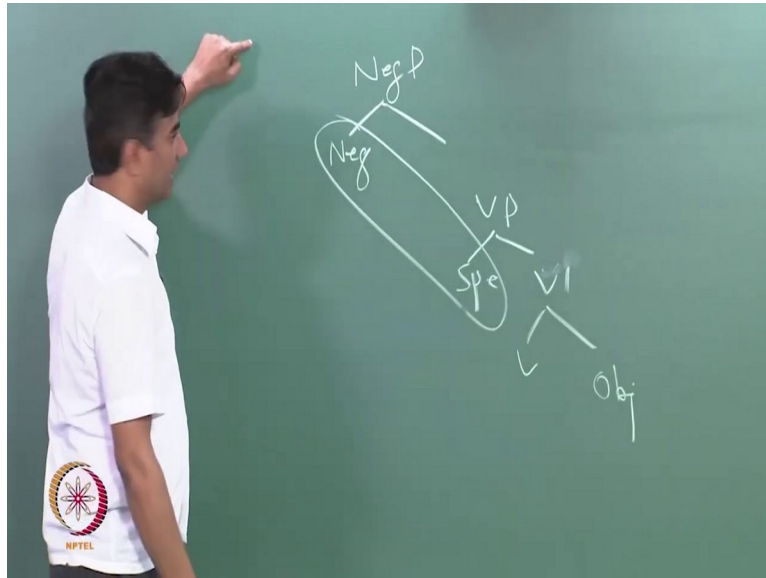
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The negation, the C-commanding condition for licensing of negative polarity items also becomes a motivating factor for negation being located in the functional domain only when the sun is high enough in this structure, it can C-command the elements downward, see my point.

So, if the negation is located in the functional domain, it can C-command all the positions that is subject position and object position both, so if the negation occurs in the subject position still it is C-commanding, remember this thing, how did C-command in that case we are assuming that the subject NP originates at the specifier position of VP, the subject NP originates at the specifier position of VP under that situation, it is in the C-commanding configuration, can you see this from this structure?

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If we have a VP, V-bar, V; if you have the subject here and object here, negations from here can C-command this position, can C-command this position. It can also C-command this position. Therefore, negation being in the functional domain helps licensing configurations, but there is a problem here, we know that this subject from the specifier of VP what happens to this?

Student: It moves up.

Professor: It moves up for?

Student: (())(46:06)

Professor: Understand this thing? Now do you see any implication of that?

Student: The subject is (())(46:16)

Professor: The subject becomes higher, so, if someone asks you at this point, which one takes place first, licensing of negative polarity items or movement of subject?

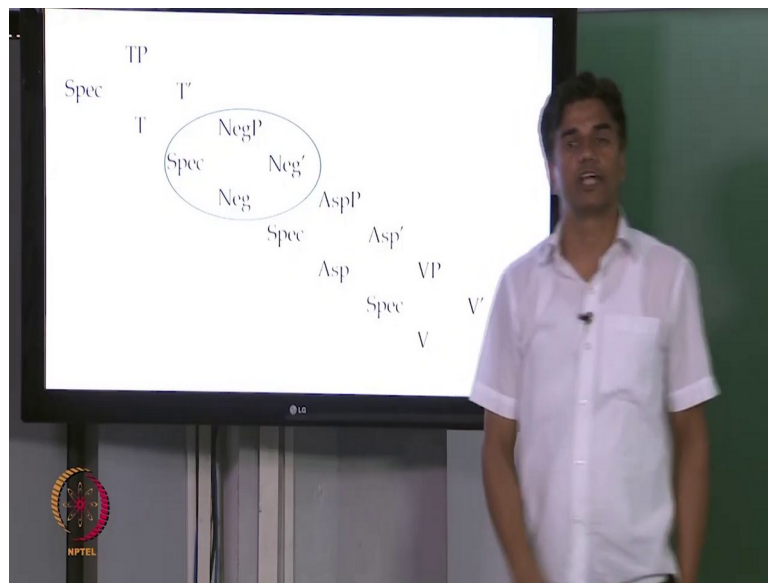
Student: Licensing of negative polarity item.

Professor: Licensing of negative polarity item therefore becomes an evidence for ordering of movement operations, only after licensing the element or only after being licensed by negation if the need happens to be that way, subjects can move. See, movement of subject is for every sentence, but licensing is not related to every sentence, licensing is related only in the sentence where you have a negative polarity item and negative word, when you have a negative word and a negative polarity item, then the licensing takes place first and then the movement of subject takes place.

Therefore, C-commanding domain is the licensing condition for this and the whole licensing condition itself is another evidence for allowing movement under certain circumstances, get this point?

When the element does not need to move then there is no problem, for example, imagine you have a negative polarity item here instead of subject, we have it in an object position, then this one does not need to move right away. However, if it is in the subject position like, ek bhii ladka, ek bhii ladka nahin aa-yaa, ek bhii ladka is in the subject position, so, in a way on the surface level.

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You have ek bhii ladka here, on the surface position. nahiin here and aa-yaa here then, if we allow the subject to be here under spec of TP then we know that spec of TP is not in the C-commanding domain of negation then we need to say something else.

But if we allow subjects originating here then it is in the C-commanding domain and we have a convincing logic to say that before it moves for anything the licensing has already taken place, so to conclude this thing, can I say that the licensing takes place at a conceptual level not at the surface level, this point making sense?

The licensing that we are talking about which we said C-commanding domain is a requirement, this requirement of negative polarity item being in the C-commanding domain of negation is a condition at a conceptual level. Thus, I wanted you to see negation, negative polarity items, licensing conditions with examples from our languages.

However, it works the same way in all the languages. I have shown you with negation also and how is an element a principal thing, how the same thing could be a parametric issue, how licensing is a principle and also at what level of abstraction does this licensing work?

I do not think we can bring a microscope to see that level of abstraction, the ones that I have been trying to show you through the examples of languages, making sense? So, we stop here with negation and negative polarity items which are examples of South Asian languages from our languages. Think about Telugu, Tamil,

Malayalam, Punjabi and other languages and for that matter English to conclude with your question things like, anybody, anything are negative polarity items in English, which are of the second category.

The first category will be something like at all a word like, we can say in English, he did not say a word, a word has a negative polarity meaning because, it does not mean literally one word when someone says he did not say a word, what does he mean?

Student: (51:41).

Professor: Mu nahiin kholaa, did not say a word, you can say the same thing without negation, he said a word but it does not mean not saying anything, so such elements are strict type of negative polarity items in English anybody, anything, anywhere are the second category of negative polarity items. Licensing works exactly the same way it works in Hindi, so, you saw the examples of Telugu and Hindi that to a negation classification works in Telugu and Hindi, licensing works the same way.

Now, English is a different type of language SVO. Still the licensing works the same way you know why, why is the same condition of C-commanding domain applicable in English too? Because the conceptual level that we are talking about at that level all the languages are the same, which is I-language.

The conceptual level of I-language and E-language underlying structure and surface structure are the differences, so, we see the differences between Hindi and Telugu, Hindi and English, Telugu and English at surface level at the abstract level, the universal principle works exactly the same way for all languages. This licensing of negative polarity items is one such universal principle which no language violates.