

EMPHASIS AS REDUPLICATION: EVIDENCE FROM *SÌ CHE/NO CHE SENTENCES*
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In this work we investigate the syntax of Italian emphatic replies in which a polarity particle is followed by an embedded clause introduced by the declarative complementizer *che*, which we label "sì/che/no che sentences". We propose that the relation between the polarity particle and the clause introduced by {\em che} is mediated by the presence of a null operator, which binds a variable inside the clause, and that this operator is what makes other movement operations impossible (along the lines Haegeman 2007, 2009, 2010). We further suggest that *sì che/no che* sentences contain two copies of the triggering utterance: a null one in the Hanging Topic position and an overt one in the clause introduced by *che*, thus accounting for the observation that these sentences (a) cannot be embedded and (b) exhibit restrictions on their content. The effect of emphasis is thus seen as stemming from a syntactic configuration that involves reduplication.