<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Occurrences</th>
<th>negation category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>compound negative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>negative interjection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>emphatic negative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>negative imperative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>negative complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>negative modal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>negative existential</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Frequency of negation categories across sign languages

---

**Topics**

- Typological summary
- Clause negation: Manual and non-manual negation
- Negative citation and analysis
- Lexical negation and irregular negations

**Sign Languages**

Course "Sign Language Typology" Linguistic Typology DFRS-CRNS Summer School on

---

**Lexical negator signs and irregular negatives**

---

*Prof. Ulrike Zesch**

University of Central Lancashire, Preston, UK
International Institute for Sign Languages and Deaf Studies

--

*neuenschneider.ac.uk*


**Phonological characteristics of**

**Negative affixes**

None of the two negative morphemes is a phonological word on its own.

- Phonologically simple (open handshake)
  - Handshape assimilation
  - Location assimilation
  - With a single movement
  - Does not form a syllable of its own (monosyllabic sign)

**Critic or affix?**

- Closer bond between stem and affix than between stem and word.
- May exist in form and meaning of host sign in idiosyncratic.
- High specificity of host sign (occurs only with a few signs).
- Has no corresponding free form.
- Finnish Sign Language (FSL) negative is an affix:
  - In English, not vs. *it* will vs. *ill them vs. *em.
  - Low specificity of host sign (can occur with any predicate).
  - Does not have to occur together with its host (corresponding: 

A fuller set of criteria...

| Criterium | Form or Meaning of Sign
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No form or meaning of sign</td>
<td>form or meaning of sign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form and meaning</td>
<td>Form and meaning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handshape assimilation</td>
<td>Handshape assimilation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One movement</td>
<td>One movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corresponding handshape</td>
<td>Corresponding handshape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No movement</td>
<td>No movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form and meaning</td>
<td>Form and meaning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corresponding handshape</td>
<td>Corresponding handshape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No handshape</td>
<td>No handshape</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table from Zeshan (2004)**
The relative prominence of manual and non-manual marking of a typology of relationships between these differences can be captured in sign languages.

Sign languages differ across sign languages and and non-manual markers of negation across construction types.

Clause negation

Facial expressions
- Backward head tilt
- Headshake
- Side-to-side

Head movements
- Manual marking
- Non-manual marking

Negation signs
- Basic clause
- Negation: NOT
- Negation existential
- NOT-EXIST
- Negation quantity
- NONE

Table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Manual Marking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Non-Manual Marking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clause types:
- manual and non-manual marking
### Language negation in German Sign

**Non-manual dominant system**

- This topology applies to individual constructions within a given sign language, but not to the language as a whole.

**Note:**

Example systems of negation within the four-way typology:

- Balanced system: Not stated yet
- Mixed system: Indien Sign Language
- Non-manual dominant system: Turkish Sign Language
- Manual-dominant system: German Sign
<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manual dominant systems</td>
<td>Manual dominant systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Characteristics of manual systems</td>
<td>Characteristics of manual systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The manual negation can be regarded as

- a complement of non-manual negation
- a non-manual negation spreads readily
- over the clause
- non-manual negation spreads readily

Choice of non-manual meaning does

- not depend on manual signs
- optional
- only manual basic clause negation is
- non-manual negation is obligatory

- 0
- 0

- 3
- 0

- 4
- 0

- 1
- 0

- 0
- 0
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-manual negation is optional</td>
<td>Non-manual negation spreads freely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choice of non-manual marking depends on choice of manual class</td>
<td>( \text{manual negation} \rightarrow \text{non-manual negation} ) if there is more than one non-manual class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manual negation is optional</td>
<td>Only if manual basic clause negator is classed can be negated non-manually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong preference for post-placement of all kinds of negation</td>
<td>Negation: Topological Summary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sentence morphology**
- Sequential morphology relatively uncommon
- Sequential domains
- Interrogative negation drawn from a limited number of negation
- Limited number of interrogative negation and morphological
- Strong preference for post-placement of all kinds of negation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure: Change-Endal</th>
<th>Procedure: Pre-Capital</th>
<th>Procedure: Noun Phrases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In verbal language, only some instances of double negation are possible, especially when negating more than one element.</td>
<td>In verbal language, only some instances of double negation are possible, especially when negating more than one element.</td>
<td>In verbal language, only some instances of double negation are possible, especially when negating more than one element.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double negation of negative adverb.</td>
<td>Double negation of negative adverb.</td>
<td>Double negation of negative adverb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only subject arguments of verbs and some arguments of preverbs.</td>
<td>Only subject arguments of verbs and some arguments of preverbs.</td>
<td>Only subject arguments of verbs and some arguments of preverbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No morphological variation.</td>
<td>No morphological variation.</td>
<td>No morphological variation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noun phrases are very rare.</td>
<td>Noun phrases are very rare.</td>
<td>Noun phrases are very rare.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Preverb: 
- Preposition: 
- Noun: 
- Verb: 
- Adverb: 
- Adjective: 
- Pronoun: 
- Particle: 
- Quantifier: 

**Phonology**

- Spoken language
- Written language
- Preverbal
- Prepositional
- Adverbial
- Adjectival
- Pronominal
- Participle
- Quantificational