SOME ASPECTS OF SENTENTIAL NEGATION IN RUSSIAN SIGN LANGUAGE

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HOW TO EXPRESS NEGATION?

Manually (ignoring non-manual markers)

- Manual negator is **obligatory**

MOTHER BOOK BUY NOT   *MOTHER BOOK BUY

'Mother didn`t buy a book'        Intended: 'Mother didn`t buy a book'

- Manual negator **follows the predicate**

MOTHER BOOK BUY NOT   *MOTHER BOOK NOT BUY

'Mother didn`t buy a book'        Intended: 'Mother didn`t buy a book'

- Manual negator **has clause-final position**

Non-manually

- Non-manual marking is a headshake or a sideward head turn.
- Non-manual marking is **obligatory**

                           neg
MOTHER BOOK BUY NOT   *MOTHER BOOK NOT BUY

'Mother didn`t buy a book'        Intended: 'Mother didn`t buy a book'

- Non-manual marking **obligatorily accompanies over the predicate and manual negator**
- Non-manual marking **also may spread over subject and object**

THE WORD ORDER CHANGE

The basic word order (Kimmelman 2012)

- SVO for plain and agreeing verbs

- SOV for classifier predicates

Word order in negative constructions

- SOV Neg

V + NEG = SINGLE UNIT
PHONOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Properties of compound

- The loss of repetition in the first part

SEPARATELY

CLUB.TEAM (SEPARATELY^GROUP)

- One mouthing along a compound
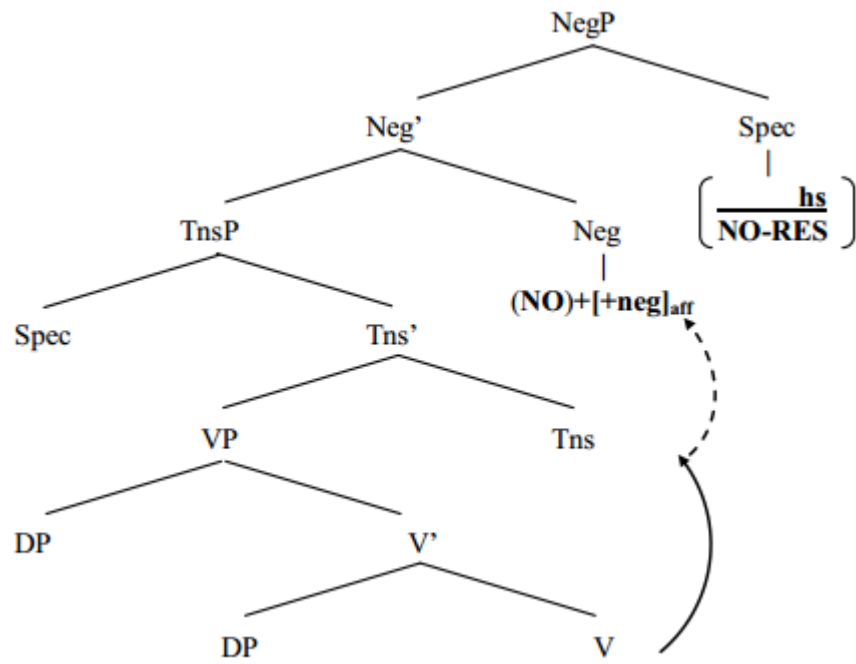
Properties of [V Neg]-unit

- The loss of repetition of the predicate

- Mouthing change

Since the grammar of Russian language, where the negative particle precedes the verb, somehow influences on RSL, the mouthing over the predicate and the manual negation initials with pronouncing *'not'* and then the predicate.

HOW TO ANALYZE SENTENTIAL NEGATION IN RSL
PFAU & QUER (2002)

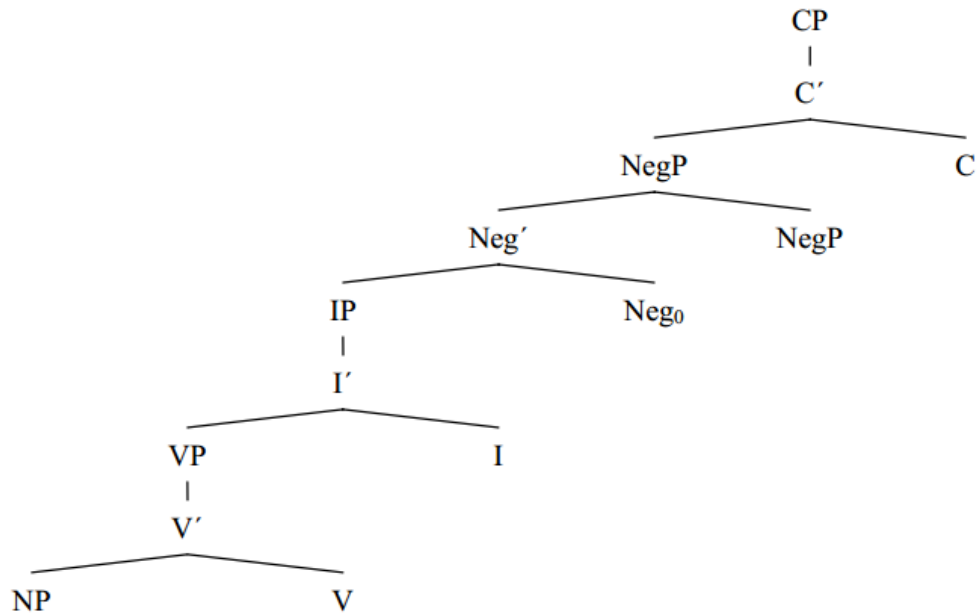LSC (Catalan Sign Language)

RSL

- NOT and NEVER do not appear in the same sentence (with negative meaning) unless NOT incorporated in V

- In the sentence with NEVER there is no non-manual negation above the V => What in the head of the NegP?

HOW TO ANALYZE SENTENTIAL NEGATION IN RSL
GERACI (2006)

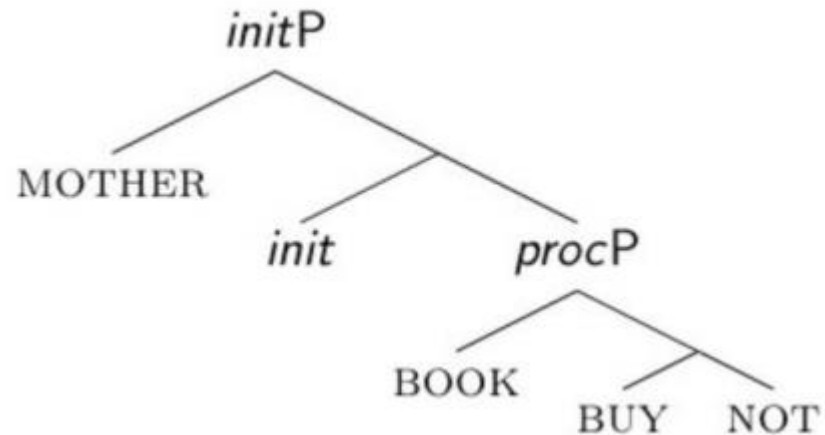LIS (Italian Sign Langauge)

RSL

head-final or head-initial language ?

HOW TO ANALYZE SENTENTIAL NEGATION IN RSL
NOT IS A COMPLEMENT OF V

BOY CL:GLASS.DRINK EMPTY

'A boy has drunk the whole glass to the bottom.'

BOY CL:GLASS.DRINK NOT

'A boy has not drunk the glass.'