

# Negation Marking in Conjuncts

## A One-to-many Relation?

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Stuttgart, March 9, 2018

# Outline

## 1 Introduction

## 2 Data

## 3 Analysis

- Analysis: Negation
- Analysis: Conjunction

## 4 Combining negation and conjunction: CNNP

## 5 Conclusion

# Introduction

- Standard German (StG) is not a negative concord language, but
- Single negation reading with conjunction of negative noun phrases (CNNP):

(1) Die meisten Berühmtheiten beantworten  
[keine Briefe und keine e-Mails].

‘Most celebrities answer no letters and no e-mail messages.’

- We will show:
  - ▶ not (always) conjunction of sentences
  - ▶ not “negative coercion”
- Combining:
  - ▶ Previous analysis of negative concord
  - ▶ Analysis of conjoined NPs
- Single-negation reading follows from framework

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# Negation in StG

- StG is not a negative concord language.
- (2) **Keine** Berühmtheit hat **keine** Briefe beantwortet.  
'No celebrity answered no letters.' (DN)  
# 'No celebrity answered any letters.' (SN)
- Analysis 1: Conjunction of two negative sentence ("bi-propositional")
- (3) Die meisten B. beantworten [**keine** Briefe und **keine** e-Mails].  
'Most celebrities answer no letters and no e-mail messages.'  
Die meisten<sub>x</sub> Berühmtheiten: x beantworten **keine** Briefe  
und x beantworten **keine** e-Mails.
- Analysis 2: *kein* as abstract negation + indefinite
- (4) NOT (Die meisten Berühmtheiten beantworten [Briefe und e-Mails]).  
'NOT(most celebrities answer [letters and e-mail messages])'

# Bi-propositional analysis

- (5) Die meisten Berühmtheiten beantworten [**keine** Briefe und **keine** e-Mails].

'Most celebrities answer no letters and no e-mail messages.'

- (6) For most celebrities it is the case that they do not answer letters and they do not answer e-mail messages.

**Most**  $x(\text{celebrity}(x) :$

$\neg\exists y(\text{letter}(y)\wedge\text{answer}(x,y))\wedge\neg\exists y(\text{message}(y)\wedge\text{answer}(x,y))))$

## Problem for bi-propositional analysis

Reciprocal pronouns or collective predicates require joint analysis of the conjuncts.

- (7) Ich habe gestern [**keinen** Hund und **keine** Katze]  
I have yesterday no dog and no cat  
**miteinander** streiten hören.  
with each other quarrel hear  
'Yesterday I heard [no dog and no cat] quarrel with one another.'



## Split readings – split analysis?

As for simple negative constituents since Jacobs (1980), n-coordination permits split readings:

- (8) Du **brauchst keinen** Anzug zu tragen.  
'You don't need wear a suit.' (NOT < NEED < EXIST)

Motivates split analysis (Jacobs, 1980; Penka, 2011):

- (9) du NOT [einen Anzug zu tragen **brauchst**]  
you NOT a suit to wear need

Amalgamation requires surface adjacency.

- (10) a. dass du jeden Abend keinen Anzug trägst.  
b. ≠ dass du NOT [jeden Abend einen Anzug trägst]  
that you NOT every evening a suit wear  
'that you don't wear a suit every evening'  
(EVERY < NOT < EXIST)

## Problems for split analysis: Adjacency

But: adjacency of the negative constituent, not of the indefinite.

NPI *jemals* (*ever*) indicates wide scope of negation.

- (11) [Der Besuch **keines** Amerikanischen Präsidenten] hat *jemals* soviel Begeisterung verursacht wie der von Kennedy.  
'The visit of no American president *ever* caused as much enthusiasm as the one of Kennedy.'
- (12) Auf der Party *brauchst* du [[**keinen** Anzug] und [**keine** Krawatte]] zu tragen.  
'At the party, you don't need to wear a suit and you don't need to wear a tie.'
- (13) Maria hat sich [[über Geschenke von **keinem** Verwandten] und [über Glückwünsche von **keinem** Freund]] *jemals* so sehr gefreut wie bei ihrer Hochzeit.  
'Maria was never as excited [[about any relative's presents] and [about any friend's wishes]] as on her wedding.'

## Problem for split analysis: Disjunction effect

Split analysis predicts that:

- (14) [no N<sub>1</sub> und no N<sub>2</sub>] VP  
= it is not the case that [an N<sub>1</sub> and an N<sub>2</sub>] VP.

True for obligatorily mono-propositional cases:

- (15) a. Ich glaube, dass Monika [keinen Vortrag und kein Seminar] (miteinander) vergleichen muss.  
I think that Monika no lecture and no seminar with each other compare must
- b. Ich glaube nicht, dass Monika einen Vortrag und ein Seminar (miteinander) vergleichen muss.  
I think not that Monika a lecture and a seminar with each other compare must
- 'I think that Monika is not obliged to compare any seminar and any course with each other.'

## Problem for split analysis: Disjunction effect

- (16) [no N<sub>1</sub> und no N<sub>2</sub>] VP  
= it is not the case that [an N<sub>1</sub> and an N<sub>2</sub>] VP.

Not true for possibly bi-propositional cases:

- (17) Ich glaube, dass Monika [keinen Vortrag und kein Seminar]  
I think that Monika no lecture and no seminar  
halten muss.  
teach must  
“neither nor” reading: ‘I think Monika is not obliged to teach any  
of the two: a lecture or a seminar.’
- (18) Ich glaube nicht, dass Monika einen Vortrag und ein Seminar  
I think not that Monika a lecture and a seminar  
halten muss.  
teach must  
“not both” reading: ‘I think that Monika is not obliged to teach  
both, a lecture and a seminar (but maybe one of them).’

## Problem for split analysis: Disjunction effect

CNNP lacks reading predicted by negation over conjunction of indefinites:

(19) Ich glaube, dass Monika [**keinen** Vortrag und **kein** Seminar]  
I think that Monika no lecture and no seminar  
halten muss.  
teach must

a. = Ich glaube, dass M. **keinen** Vortrag halten muss und dass  
Monika **kein** Seminar halten muss.

b. = Ich glaube nicht, dass M. [einen Vortrag oder ein  
I think not that M. a lecture or a  
Seminar] halten muss.  
course teach must

c.  $\neq$  Ich glaube nicht, dass M. einen Vortrag und ein  
I think not that M. a lecture and a  
Seminar halten muss  
course teach must

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# Analysis

- Integrated into a constraint-based underspecified syntax-semantics interface: Lexical Resource Semantics (Richter & Sailer, 2004)
- Negative concord as identical semantic contributions (Richter & Sailer, 2006)
- Analysis of the semantics of conjunction

# Lexical Resource Semantics (LRS)

- Linguistic signs contribute constraints on possible readings.
- Underspecification: The constraints usually do not fully determine the intended reading (ambiguity)
- Ordinary semantic representation language + “metavariables” ( $\alpha, \beta, \dots$ ), ranging over ordinary semantic expressions.
- Contribution constraints: bits of semantic representation required to occur in the overall semantic representation (PARTS-list)
- Scoping constraints: constraints on the logical embedding of operators ( $\alpha \triangleleft \beta$ )
- Linking: “Index” /discourse referent of selected elements visible to selector (HPSG: INDEX, here: DR)
- One-to-many: contribution constraints are compatible with contribution by multiple signs and with multiple occurrence in the overall semantic representation.



# Negative concord (NC) in LRS

Richter & Sailer (2002, 2004): Negative concord by identical negations.

(20) Nikto ničego ne videl. (Russian)  
nobody nothing not saw 'Nobody saw anything.'

(21) Derivation:

word	DR	PARTS	constraints
<i>nikto</i> :	$x$	$\neg\alpha, \exists x(\alpha')$	$\exists x(\alpha') \triangleleft \alpha$
<i>ničego</i> :	$y$	$\neg\beta, \exists y(\beta')$	$\exists y(\beta') \triangleleft \beta$
<i>ne videl</i> :		$\neg\gamma, \mathbf{saw}(x, y)$	$\mathbf{saw}(x, y) \triangleleft \gamma$

a. NC-reading:  $\neg\exists x(\exists y(\mathbf{saw}(x, y)))$

b. Plugging:  $\alpha = \beta = \gamma$ ;  $\alpha' = \exists y(\beta')$ ;  $\beta' = \mathbf{saw}(x, y)$

# Cross-linguistic variation

Richter & Sailer (2006):

- Standard French: no additional constraint  $\Rightarrow$  ambiguous
- Polish: only one negation within one verbal projection
- StG: negations contributed within one verbal projection are necessarily distinct.

(22) Negation Faithfulness Constraint (NegFaith):  
In every headed phrase, whenever one daughter has a constraint  $\neg\alpha$  and another daughter has a constraint  $\neg\beta$ , the overall phrase has a scoping constraint  $\alpha \neq \beta$ .

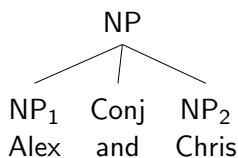
# Semantics of conjunction

- Bi-propositional: Conjunction of propositions

(23) [Every dog and some cats] ran through the yard.  
 $\forall x(\mathbf{dog}(x) : \mathbf{run}(x)) \wedge \exists x(\mathbf{cat}(x) : \mathbf{run}(x))$

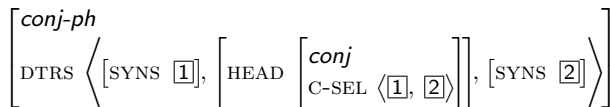
- Mono-propositional: Creation of a set object out of the conjuncts.

# Syntax of conjunction



Conjunction phrase:

*conj-ph* ⇒



# Lexical entry for bi-propositional conjunction particle

HEAD	$\left[ \begin{array}{l} conj \\ C-SEL \langle [DR \ x], [DR \ x] \rangle \end{array} \right]$
DR	$x$
PARTS	$\langle (\kappa_1 \wedge \kappa_2) \rangle$

(24) [Every dog and some cats] ran through the yard.

$\forall x(\mathbf{dog}(x) : \mathbf{run}(x))$   $\wedge$   $\exists x(\mathbf{cat}(x) : \mathbf{run}(x))$

# Semantics of bi-propositional conjunction

- (25) a. *every dog*:  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{DR} \quad x \\ \text{PARTS} \langle \mathbf{dog}(x), \forall x(\alpha : \alpha') \rangle \end{array} \right]$  and  $\mathbf{dog}(x) \triangleleft \alpha$
- b. *some cats*:  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{DR} \quad x \\ \text{PARTS} \langle \mathbf{cat}(x), \exists x(\beta : \beta') \rangle \end{array} \right]$  and  $\mathbf{cat}(x) \triangleleft \beta$
- c. *ran through the yard*:  $[\text{PARTS} \langle \mathbf{run}(x) \rangle]$

- (26) [Every dog and some cats] **ran through the yard.**  
 $\forall x(\mathbf{dog}(x) : \mathbf{run}(x)) \wedge \exists x(\mathbf{cat}(x) : \mathbf{run}(x))$

One-to-many: One verb, its semantics is occurs twice!

# Conjunct Confusion Blocking

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{HEAD} \\ \text{DR} \\ \text{PARTS} \end{array} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{conj} \\ \text{C-SEL } \langle [\text{DR } x], [\text{DR } x] \rangle \\ x \\ \langle (\kappa_1 \wedge \kappa_2) \rangle \end{array} \right] \right]$$

(27) [Every big dog and some small cats] ran through the yard.

a.  $\forall x((\text{dog}(x) \wedge \text{big}(x)) : \text{run}(x)) \wedge \exists x((\text{cat}(x) \wedge \text{small}(x)) : \text{run}(x))$

b.  $\#$   $\forall x((\text{dog}(x) \wedge \text{small}(x)) : \text{run}(x)) \wedge \exists x(\text{cat}(x) \wedge \text{big}(x)) : \text{run}(x)$

(28) Conjunct Confusion Blocking (CCB)

If the DR value of a conjunction with EXC  $\kappa_1 \wedge \kappa_2$  and its conjuncts is identical, then every element of the first conjunct's PARTS list must be in  $\kappa_1$  and every element of the second conjunct's PARTS list must be in  $\kappa_2$ .

# Semantics of mono-propositional conjunction: Plural

- Sets to model plural
- Plural predication: Distributive or collective interpretation depending on the predicate.

(29) Alex and Chris smiled.

$$\exists X((\mathbf{alex} \in X \wedge \mathbf{chris} \in X) : \mathbf{smile}(X))$$

(30) Alex and Chris hugged.

$$\exists X((\mathbf{alex} \in X \wedge \mathbf{chris} \in X) : \mathbf{hug}(X))$$

- Predication also defined for empty set:

$$\mathbf{smile}(X) \equiv \forall x(x \in X : \mathbf{smile}(X)),$$

i.e., if  $X$  is empty,  $\mathbf{smile}(X)$  is true.



# Mono-propositional conjunction

- New, plural discourse referent for the conjunction  
 $\exists X((\kappa_1 \wedge \kappa_2) : \phi)$
- Every quantifier in a separate conjunct
- In each conjunct: scope is membership in the conjunction set  
 (“...  $x_i \in X$ ”)

- (31) Every student and a lecturer smiled.  
 $\exists X((\forall x_1(\mathbf{student}(x_1) : x_1 \in X) \wedge \exists x_2(\mathbf{lecturer}(x_2) : x_2 \in X))$   
 :  $\mathbf{smile}(X)$ )

## Lexical entry of the conjunction particle

HEAD	$\left[ \begin{array}{l} conj \\ C\text{-SEL } \langle [DR \ x_1], [DR \ x_2] \rangle \end{array} \right]$
DR	$X$
MAIN	$\boxed{K} (\kappa_1 \wedge \kappa_2)$
EXC	$\exists X(\underline{\alpha} : \underline{\beta})$
PARTS	$\langle \boxed{1}(x_1 \in X), \boxed{2}(x_2 \in X), \boxed{K}(\kappa_1 \wedge \kappa_2), \exists X(\alpha : \beta) \rangle$

$\boxed{K} \triangleleft \alpha$  and  $\boxed{1} \triangleleft \kappa_1$  and  $\boxed{2} \triangleleft \kappa_2$

(32) Every student and a lecturer smiled.

$\exists X(\underbrace{(\forall x_1(\mathbf{student}(x_1) : x_1 \in X))}_{\text{student}} \wedge \underbrace{\exists x_2(\mathbf{lecturer}(x_2) : x_2 \in X))}_{\text{lecturer}})$   
:  $\mathbf{smile}(X)$

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# Application to coordination

- Coordination is not a binary, headed structure.  
⇒ NegFaith does not apply.
- Across-the-board scoping:

(33) Semantic ATB-constraint (SemATB):  
In each conjunction phrase,  
if an element from **one** conjunct-daughter's PARTS list takes  
scope over the entire conjunction,  
then this element must be on **every** conjunct-daughter's PARTS  
list.



## Split reading

- (36) Alex *braucht* [keine Briefe und keine Mails] zu beantworten.  
Alex needs no letters and no e-mail m. to answer

$\neg$ NEED

$$\begin{aligned} & (\exists X(((\exists x_1(\mathbf{letter}(x_1) : x_1 \in X) \\ & \quad \wedge \exists x_2(\mathbf{message}(x_2) : x_2 \in X))) \\ & : \mathbf{answer}(\mathbf{alex}, X))) \end{aligned}$$

- SemATB allows for negation over the conjunction.
- The NPI (*braucht*) must be in the scope of negation.
- The negation can take scope over the predicate.

## Example: Bi-propositional conjunction

(37) [Kein Student und kein Dozent] hat gelacht.  
no student and no lecturer has laughed

(38) Fully bi-propositional reading (“disjunction effect”):  
 $\neg \exists x(\text{student}(x) : \text{laugh}(x)) \wedge \neg \exists x(\text{lecturer}(x) : \text{laugh}(x))$   
 $\equiv \neg \exists x((\text{student}(x) \vee \text{lecturer}(x)) : \text{laugh}(x))$

(39) Readings expected under a split analysis:  
 $\# \neg (\exists x(\text{student}(x) : \text{laugh}(x)) \wedge \exists x(\text{lecturer}(x) : \text{laugh}(x)))$

- Negation is contributed by each conjunct.
- Bi-propositional conjunction, i.e. DR-identity.
- Conjunct Confusion Blocking enforces negation to be conjunct internal.
- Reading (39) ok if negation is not in the conjuncts!

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# Summary

- New data on negative conjuncts
- Follows from independent analysis of negation and conjunction.
- SemATB is part of a general ATB principle for coordination.
- SemATB is cross-linguistically more robust than the interpretation strategy of n-constituents in non-coordinated structures.
- CNNP is not equivalent to negation with conjoined indefinites  
⇒ Negation is part of the conjunct's semantic contribution.

# One-to-many?

- LRS is inherently one-to-many friendly.
- Bi-propositional CNNP readings are one-to-many: multiple use of the verb's semantics.
- Mono-propositional CNNP readings are one-to-many: multiple contribution of a single negation.
- Even non-NC languages allow for a many-to-one interpretation of negated constituents.
- Variation in other syntactic constructions (Burnett et al., 2015), even within one language.
- Constraining one-to-many:
  - ▶ Validity of (Sem)ATB reduces cross-linguistic variation in SN/DN ambiguities.
  - ▶ Conjunction Confusion Blocking

*Thank you!*

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