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Publication date

2021

Document Version

Final published version

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

van Boven, C. M. J., & Oomen, M. (2021). *Habituals in Sign Language of the Netherlands: a corpus-based study*. Poster session presented at Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory, Hong Kong.

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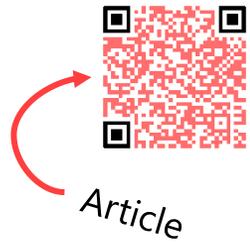
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Habituals in Sign Language of the Netherlands (NGT): A corpus-based study

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1 Research aims

- Investigate (non-)manual habitual marking in NGT in corpus data;
- Compare the findings to those reported in previous studies [1; 2].

2 Background & Methodology

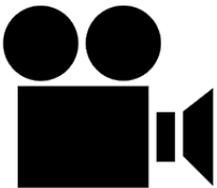
Previous studies on habitual marking (elicited data):

- [1]: slower **elliptical modulation** of the verb, various NMMs
- [2]: **reduplication** of the verb, left-to-right body and head movement

Our study: investigate habitual marking in natural corpus data
→ **Corpus NGT** [3]: 106 habitual constructions

3.1 Results: manual markers

	Adverb	No adverb
Reduplication	26.4% → see (1)	19.8%
No reduplication	40.6%	13.2% → see (2)



See pitch video

- (1) INDEX₃ ^{narrowed eyes} **ALWAYS ONE TIME PER MONTH ANGRY++**
'He always used to be angry once a month.'
- (2) SAY PAST INDEX₁ CERTAIN ^{quotative role shift}
'I used to say "I'm certain [it will forever stay that way]".'

3.2 Results: non-manual markers

Non-manual markers	%
Left-to-right body movement	27.4
Brow raise/lowering	29.3
Narrowed eyes	25.4
Pursed lips	15.1

- **Other NMMs** attested (<10%): back-and-forth body movement, head nod, protruding tongue
- Examples **without any NMMs**: N=28 (26.4%)

4 Discussion & Conclusion

The corpus data display more **variation** than the previously elicited data [1; 2]:

- Reduplication present in fewer than 50% of sentences in a habitual context
- Elliptical modulation not evident in most reduplicated forms (cf. [1])
- Left-to-right body movement not common (cf. [2])

→ Importance of **combining different data types**

