**Connective negation, with a focus on equative renewal in Dutch**

Johan van der Auwera, University of Antwerp Daniel Van Olmen, Lancaster University

‘Connective negation’ (‘coneg’) is one of many terms for *neither … nor* constructions, as in Shakespeare’s *Neither a lender nor a borrower be.* Until recently (Salaberri 2022; van der Auwera 2021, van der Auwera et al 2022) there was little cross-linguistic work on connective negation and there is still no cross-linguistic work on the use of equatives or comparatives in connective negation. Dutch (1) illustrates equative uses: *evenmin* originally means ‘equally little’ and *net zomin* ‘just so little’, but they are now predominantly used for connective negation. These constructions appeared in the 19th century.

(1) a. Ik hou evenmin / net zomin van koffie als van thee.

I hold coneg just coneg of coffee as of tea

‘I like neither coffee not tea.’

b. Ik hou niet van koffie en evenmin / net zomin van thee.

I hold neg of koffie and coneg / just coneg of tea

‘I don’t like coffee and not tea either.’

Dutch has two older connective negators, viz. *noch* (<’not also’) and its newer variant *ook niet* ‘also not’.

(2) a. Ik hou noch van koffie noch van thee.

I hold coneg of coffee coneg of tea

‘I like neither coffee nor tea.’

b. Ik hou niet van koffie en ook niet van thee.

I hold neg of coffee and also neg of tea.

‘I don’t like coffee and not tea either.’

We will describe the distribution of the three strategies in Dutch and the process that turned *evenmin* and *net zomin* into connective negators. We will also compare the Dutch equative connective negators with Spanish *tampoco*, English *anymore*, and French *non plus* and *davantage*.

Salaberri, Iker. 2022. A cross-linguistic study of emphatic negative coordination. *Studies in Language* 46(3). 647-717. – van der Auwera, Johan. 2021. Quirky negative concord: Croatian, Spanish and French *ni*’s. *Jezikoslovlje* 22(2). 195-225. – van der Auwera, Johan, Motoki Nomachi & Olga Krasnoukhova. 2021. Connective negation and negative concord in Balto-Slavic. In Peter Arkadiev, Jurgis Pakerys, Inesa Šeškauskienė & Vaiva Žeimantienė (eds.), *Studies in Baltic and other Languages. A Festschrift for Axel Holvoet on the occasion of his 65th birthday,* 44-64. Vilnius: Vilnius University Press.