



### 1. Tag questions: internal negation exclusively allows for negative tag-questions

- ## II. Again-test: external negation gives rise to both restitutive and repetitive readings

- ### III. Deliberately-test: external negation gives rise to ambiguity

- #### IV. Metalinguistic Negation: not available to internal negation

- ### V. Expletive Negation: not available to internal negation

- ### VI. Try-to-V Constructions: narrow scope is available to internal negation

- Implications.** In exploring negation in ASL, we show that there exist asymmetries between two negative markers. We suggest that manual negation has been ‘reanalyzed’ (à la Hopper & Traugott 1993) as an internal negation. Our analysis implies that negation in ASL patterns with other paths of meaning change involving two levels of semantic ‘restructuring’ (Eckardt 2006) in the semantic composition: (i) manual negation undergoes a shift akin to Jespersen’s Cycle, losing its  $\text{Neg}^0$  status; and (ii) it is reanalyzed as negative Adverb with a concomitant shift in meaning (propositional operator > predicate modifier). Such processes of semantic restructuring are the subject of great interest in the recent semantics literature (see Deo 2015), and can yield insights into the relation between diachronic change and synchronic meaning.