

## **(Lexical) constraints on reduplication in Sign Language of the Netherlands**

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In Sign Language of the Netherlands (*Nederlandse Gebarentaal*, NGT), reduplication can be used to pluralize nouns and to mark aspectual distinctions on verbs, amongst other functions – much like other investigated sign languages. The present study focuses on constraints on reduplication in NGT, taking into account both naturalistic corpus data and elicited data. Firstly, we will see that phonological properties of the base sign play a role. Interestingly, while phonological properties of nouns influence the reduplication type, they do not block plural reduplication altogether. This is different for verbs, where the location feature [trunk] and handshape changes block specific types of aspectual reduplication.

Secondly, (lexical) constraints that do not involve phonological features of the base noun will be considered, as phonological constraints cannot explain all patterns. For example, some reduplication types (such as plural reduplication with the two hands alternating) are used infrequently and only with specific nouns. Moreover, reduplication in general is optional, and it remains to be seen whether restrictions that do not involve phonology sometimes play a role in the choice between reduplication and zero marking. This could be the case, as some specific signs in the data are always zero marked while their phonological features in principle allow for reduplication.