



# *ja ja ja* – challenging a question's askability through multiple sayings

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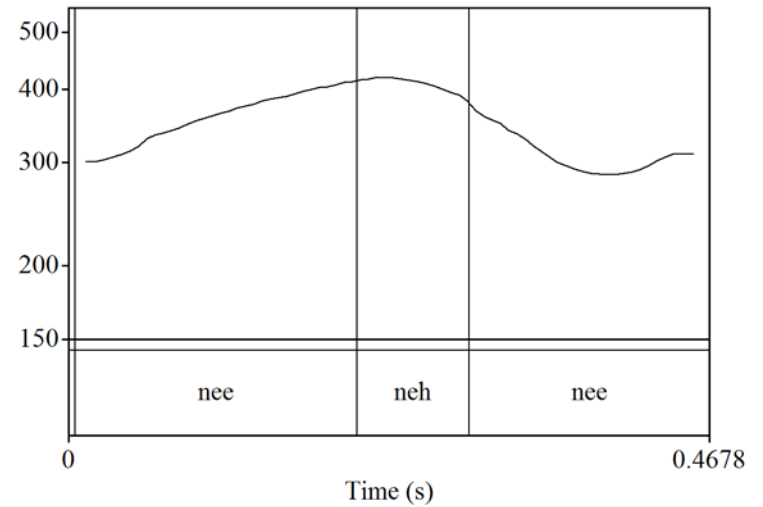
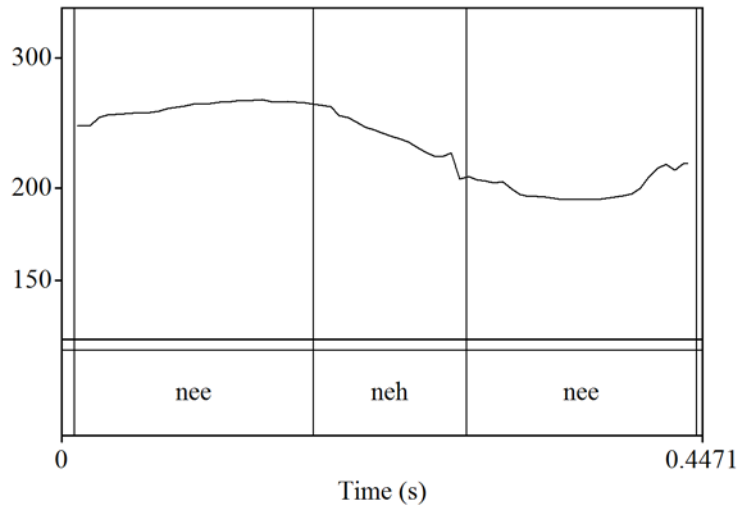
# Multiple Sayings – Design

- › Involve a full unit of talk being said multiple times,
- › are said by the same speaker,
- › have a similar segmental character\*,
- › happen immediately in succession, and
- › are done under a single intonation contour

(Stivers 2004: 261)



# Multiple Saying – Design





# Multiple Sayings – Function

Target larger course of action



# But...

- 15 P komt je moeder dan ook nog >↑of niet<;  
*is your mother coming as well or not;*
- 16 (0.7)
- 17 L >nee: nee nee<;=  
>no: no no<;=
- 18 =die zit in italie hèn,  
=she is in Italy remember,
- 19 (0.5)
- 20 P >↑oh ja<.  
>oh yeah<.



# Multiple Saying – Function

- > Question unaskable; P should know the answer
- > MPS responds only to the immediate prior action



# And...

- 04 S •h oh dus je high ↑tea is wel doorgaan;  
•h oh so your high tea did go through;
- 05 (1.0)
- 06 W >↑ja: ja ja<  
>yea:h yeah yeah<
- 07 (0.6)
- 08 maar da [bij die ouders van daan niet.]  
but that [with those parents of Daan not.]





# Multiple Saying – Function

- > Question unaskable; W has already answered the question
- > MPS responds only to the immediate prior action



# And finally...

16 F maar ik moet nog even voorbereiden.  
*but I have to prepare a bit*

17 (1.1)

18 L >°hoezo° heb< je een tentamen dan.  
*>why do< you have an exam then.*

19 (1.0)

20 F nee >nee nee<; gewoon werkgroep voorbereiden,  
*no >no no<; just prepare a seminar,*



# Multiple Saying – Function

- > Question unaskable; preparing is not an accountable action
- > MPS responds only to the immediate prior action



# Also...

36 Kim: You might lose he:r?

37 Mark: **No=no=no**. [We won't lose her.  
She's gonne quit Shelton=

38 Kim: [Oh:.

39 Mark: =Birch.

40 Kim: Mlk-Oh: goo:d.



# Multiple Saying – Function

- › Question unaskable; Mark has already answered the question
- › MPS responds only to the immediate prior action



# Conclusion

- › Specific practice of multiple sayings of *ja* and *nee*
- › Only address the immediate prior action
- › Treat question as unaskable
- › Epistemic incongruence



# Future research

- › Different function for different number of particles?
- › Response to other actions; challenge relevance of the action?
- › “Universal” pragmatic function?



# References

Stivers, T. (2004). "No no no" and Other Types of Multiple Sayings in Social Interaction. *Human Communication Research*, 30(2), 260-293. DOI: 10.1111/j.1468-2958.2004.tb00733.x

Lindström, A. & Weatherall, A. (2015). Orientation to epistemics and deontics in treatment discussions. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 78, 39-53. DOI: 10.1016/j.pragma.2015.01.005





# Encore...

- 07 DR: -> .hh Men känner du att du inte vill de  
.hh But feel you that you not want that  
.htt But if you feel that you don't want to
- 08 -> så e're:- Så ska vi into tvinga dej  
so is it- So will we not force you  
then it's- Then we won't force you
- 09 -> (.) på nå [sätt,  
(.) on any way  
(.) in any way
- 10 P: [Nä: nä nä,  
No no no