

More ado about *nothing*

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negative indefinites

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On the **typology** of
negative indefinites

More ado about *nothing*

On the **typology** of
negative indefinites

1. Introduction

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2. Frequency

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2. Frequency

3. Types and subtypes

1. Introduction

2. Frequency

3. Types and subtypes

4. More subtypes

1. Introduction

2. Frequency

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5. Still more subtypes

1. Introduction

2. Frequency

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6. Conclusion

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6. Conclusion

*I saw **nothing***

*I saw **nothing***

*I **ain't** seen **nothing** yet*

*I saw **nothing***

Negative quantification

NQ

*I **ain't** seen **nothing** yet*

NC

Negative concord

*I saw **nothing***

Negative quantification

NQ

NI

NC

***I ain't** seen **nothing** yet*

Negative concord

*I saw **nothing***

Negative quantification

NQ

*I didn't see **anything***

NI

NC

*I **ain't** seen **nothing** yet*

Negative concord

*I saw **nothing***

Negative quantification

NQ

*I didn't see **anything***

*If you see **anything***

*Did **anything** strike you?*

NI

NPI

NC

*I **ain't** seen **nothing** yet*

Negative concord

*I saw **nothing***

Negative quantification

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*I didn't see **anything***

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*If you see **anything***

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*If you see **anything***

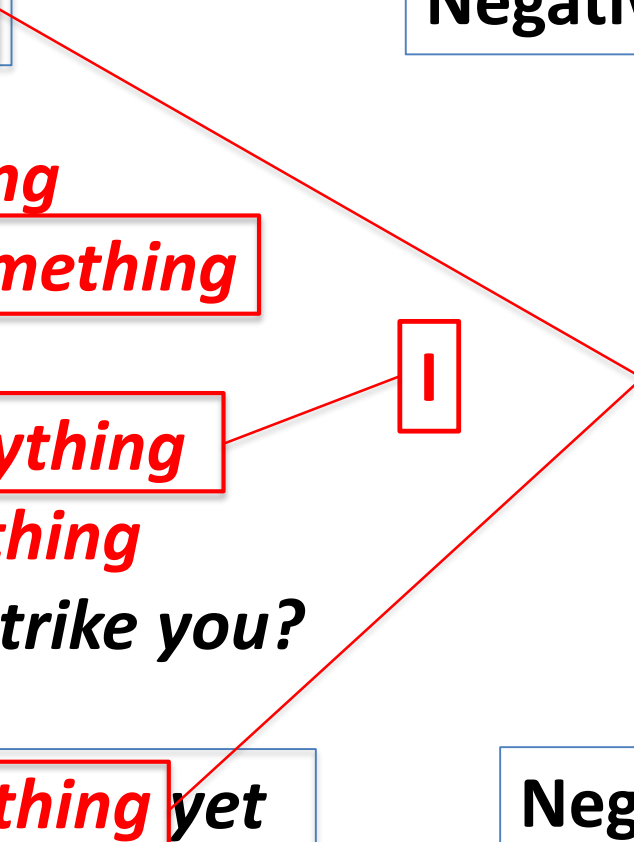
*Did **anything** strike you?*

NPI

NC

***I ain't** seen **nothing** yet*

Negative concord



*I saw **nothing***

Negative quantification

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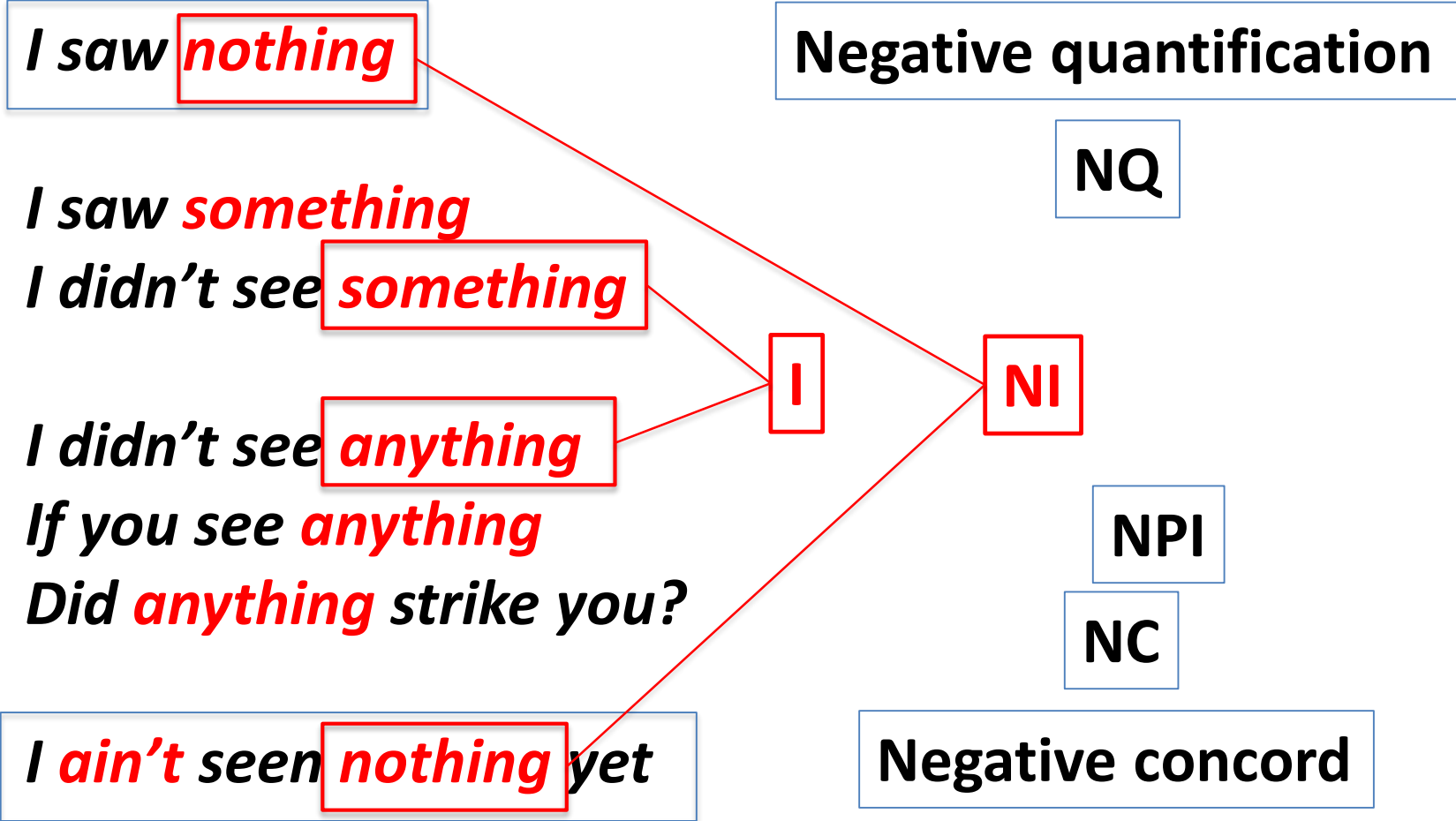
*Did **anything** strike you?*

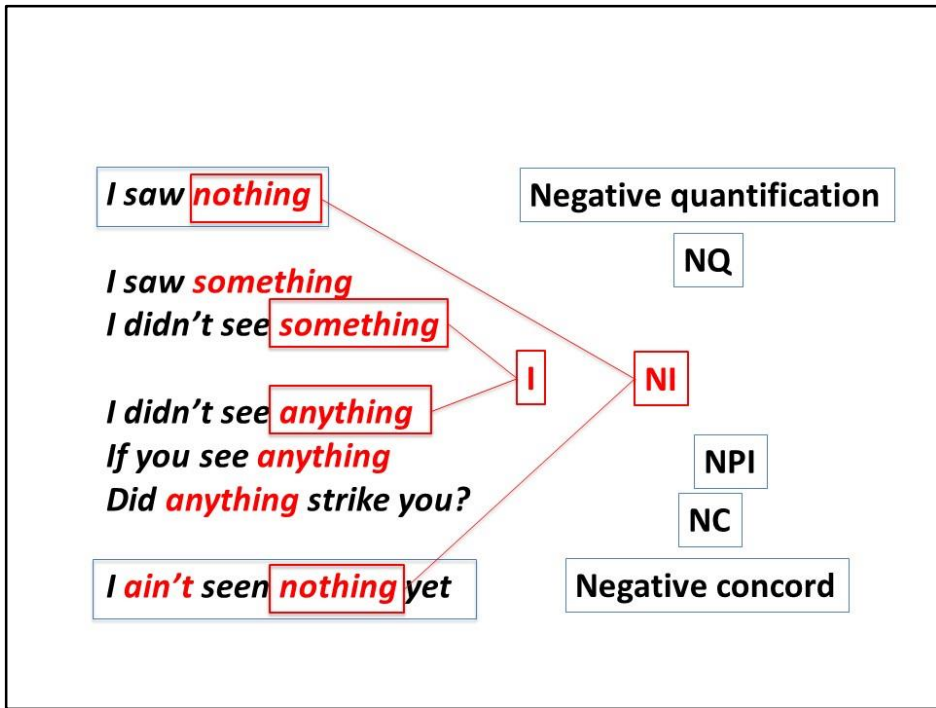
NPI

NC

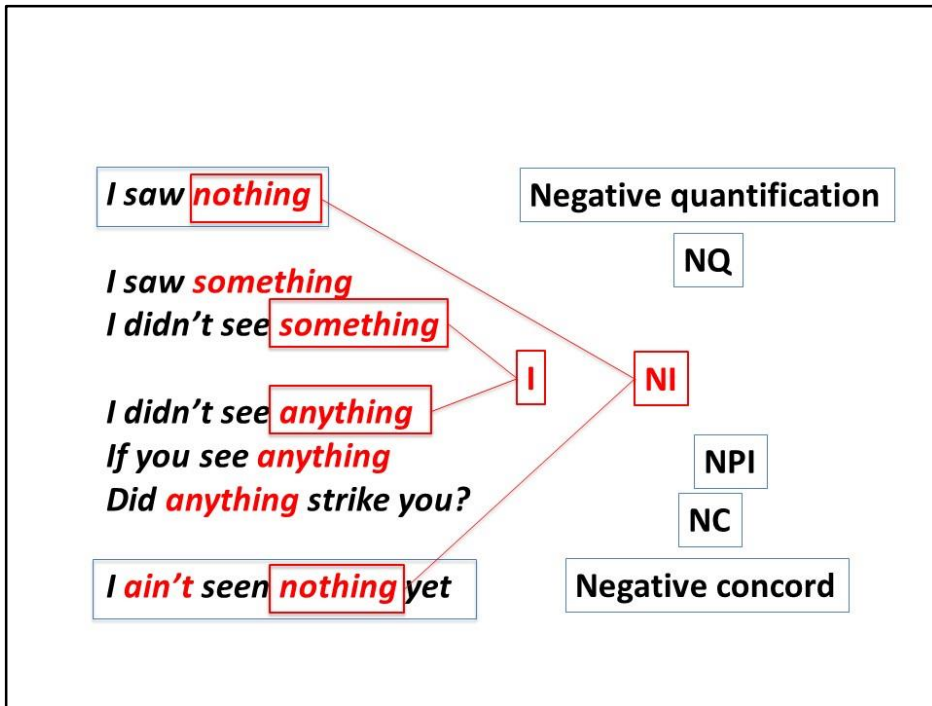
*I **ain't** seen **nothing** yet*

Negative concord



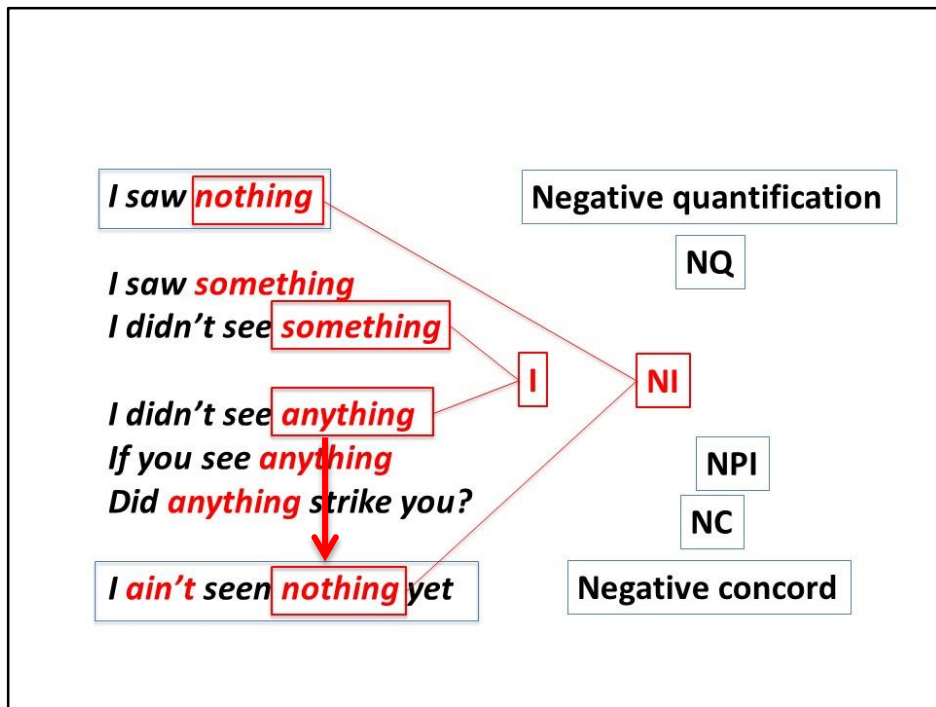


Some caveats



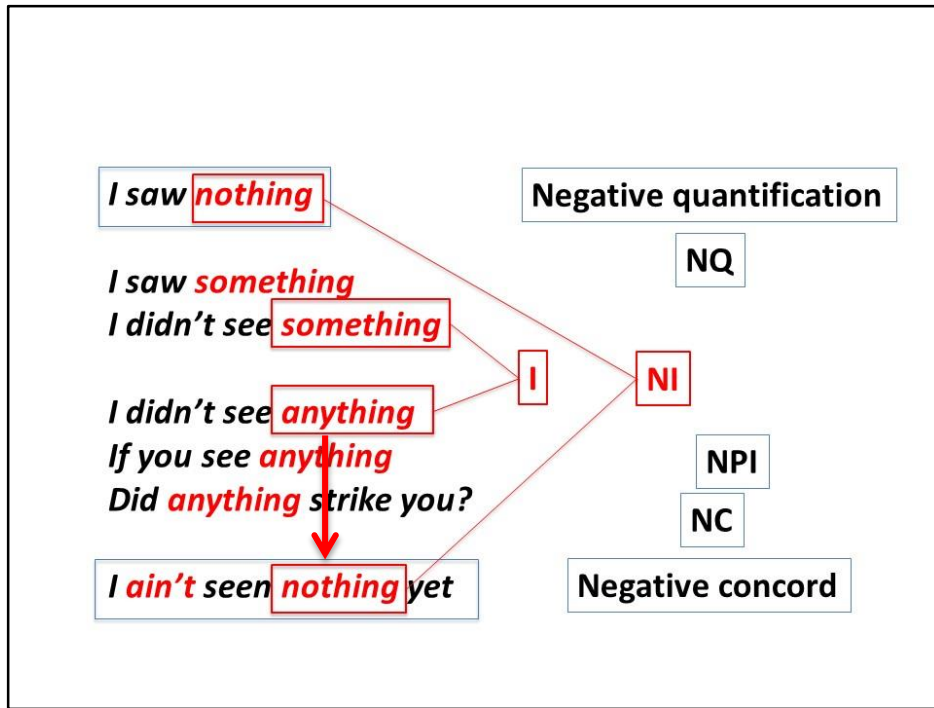
Some caveats

1. NPI - NQ



Some caveats

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Some caveats

1. NPI - NQ

TAMIL

யாருமே

வரவில்லை

yaarum-(ee)

varavillai

who.even-EMPH

come-NOT

'Nobody came'

யாரோ வந்தார்கள்

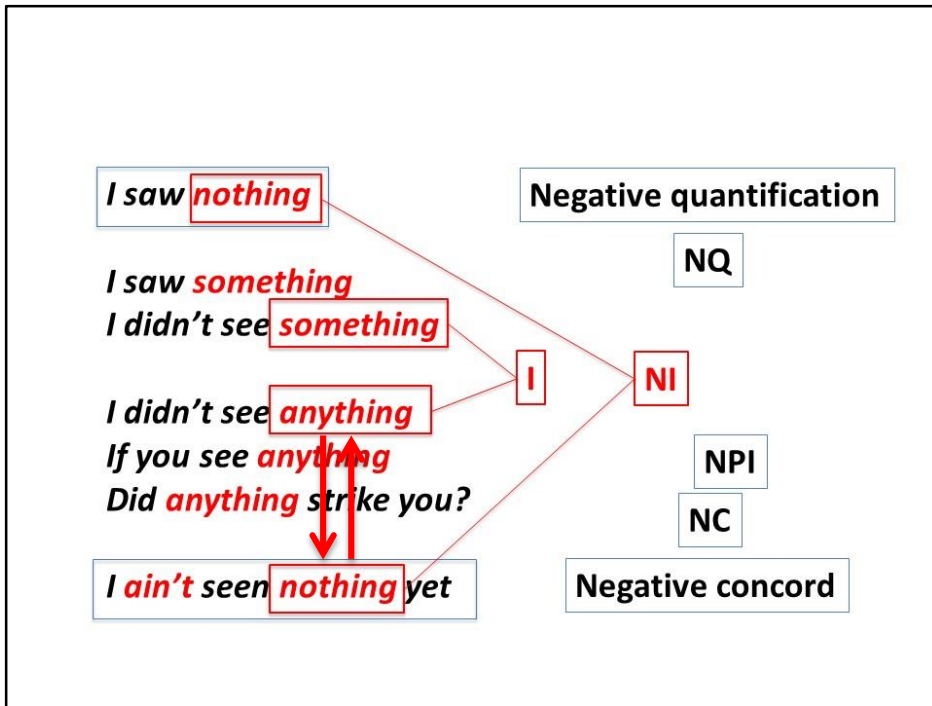
yaar-oo

va-nt-aar-kaL

who-IND

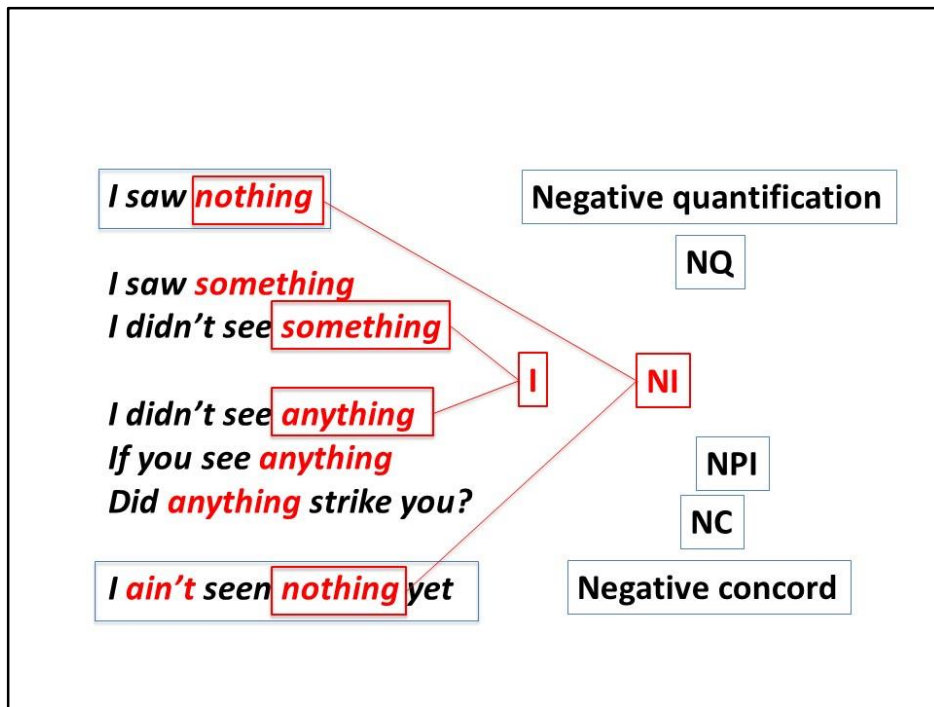
come-PST-3SG-HON

'Somebody came'



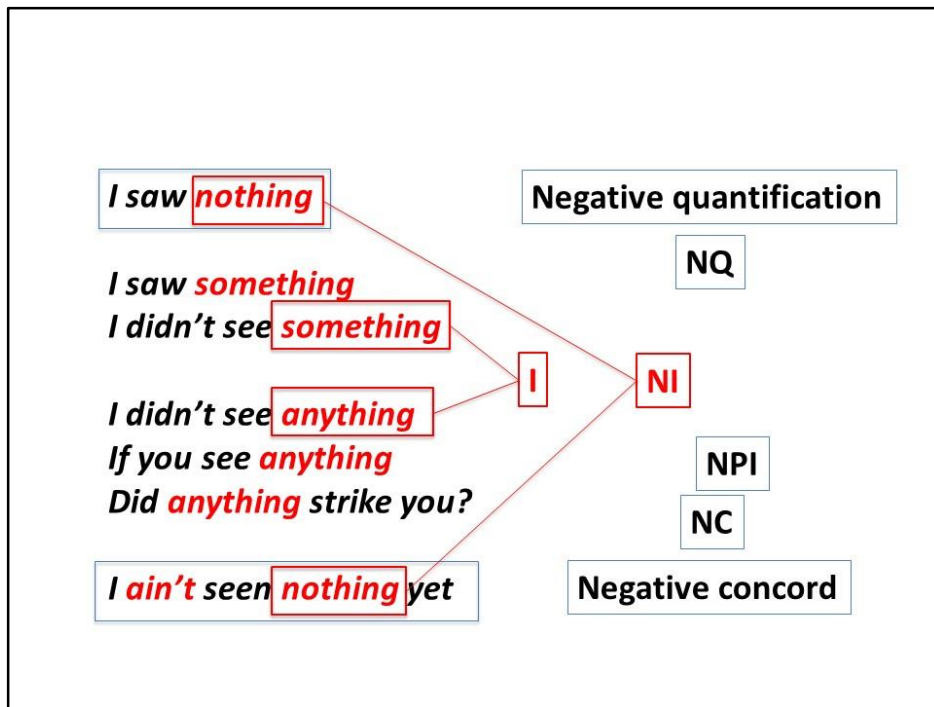
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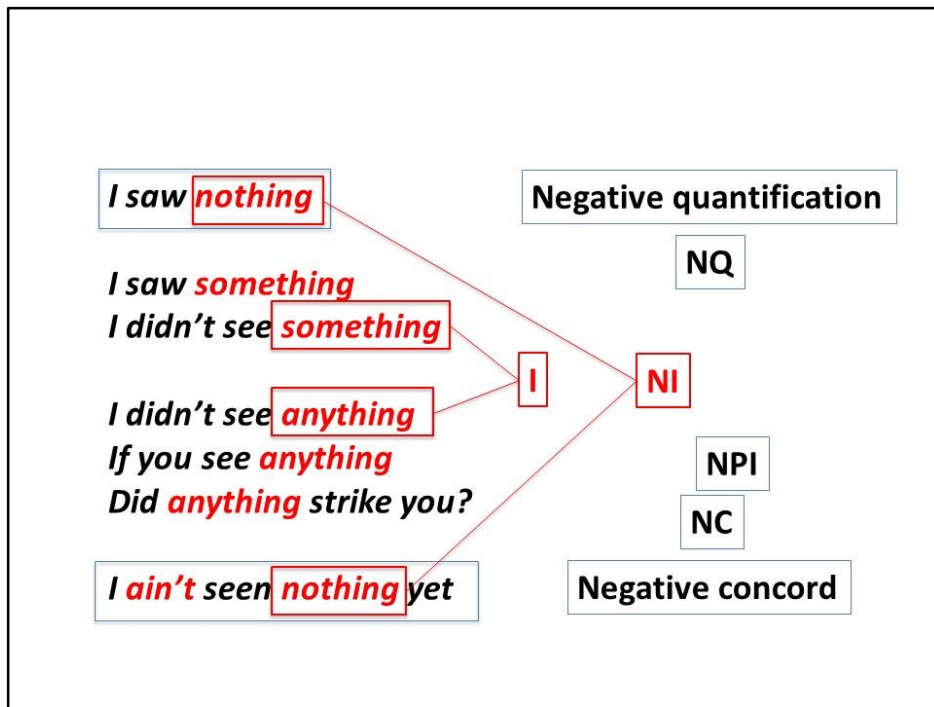
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 - = language which has at least one NC/NQ indefinite
 - ≠ language in which all negative indefinites are NC/NQ



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3. Only main clause declaratives (NOT questions, conditionals, elliptical answers)



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1. NPI - NQ
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3. Only main clause declaratives (NOT questions, conditionals, elliptical answers)
4. Only sentences with at most one negative indefinite

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Excluded: Negative spread

Colloquial French (de Swart 2010:46)

Personne a rien dit.

nobody has nothing said

'Nobody said anything.'

4. Only sentences with at most one negative indefinite

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Included: Multiple clausal negation

Ewe(Nada Gbegble, p.c.)

Ame aḍeke me-fe le abɔ la me o.

person NEG.DET NEG1-play be.at.PRES garden DEF in NEG2

‘Nobody played in the garden’

4. Only sentences with at most one negative indefinite

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person NEG.DET NEG1-play be.at.PRES garden DEF in NEG2

'Nobody played in the garden'

Included: A single indefinite with multiple negatives

Pichi (Yakpo 2013: 260)

mi no gò tɛl=àn no natin

I NEG POT tell=him NEG nothing

'I wouldn't tell him anything'

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Negative concord

"in fact, the great majority of the world's languages have N[egative] C[oncord] (cf. Haspelmath 2005)"

(Penka 2011: 14)

"negative concord is a widespread phenomenon in natural languages, as Haspelmath (1997) observes"

(De Swart 2010: 21)

"while such constructions [i.e. negative concord constructions] are often considered illogical, they are not only widespread, but actually appear to be the preferred pattern for negatively quantified sentences cross-linguistically"

(Israel 2011:43)

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*I saw **nothing***

*I didn't see **anything***

*Jag har inte sett **någon***

*Jag har sett **någon***

② Kahrel (1996: 37)

n= 40

Verbal negator & neutral indefinite <i>John not bought something</i>	67.7 %
Verbal negator & negatively polar indefinite <i>John not bought anything</i>	22.5 %
No verbal negator & negative indefinite <i>John bought nothing</i>	12.5 %
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Other <i>There is not what John bought</i>	17.5 %

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n= 179

Verbal negator & neutral indefinite <i>John not bought something</i>	?
Verbal negator & negatively polar indefinite <i>John not bought anything</i>	?
No verbal negator & negative indefinite <i>John bought nothing</i>	?
Verbal negator & negative indefinite <i>John not bought nothing</i>	?
Other <i>There is not what John bought</i>	?

Miestamo sample (179 languages)

Africa: Beja, Tera, Somali, Arabic, Iraqw, Hausa, Nama, Ju'huan, Bagirmi, Kresh, So Kunama, Ngiti, Ma'di, Mana, Lango, Nubian, Koyraboro Senni, Majang, Kanuri, Yoruba, Degená, Supyire, Igbo,Ijo, Ewe, Diola-Fogny, Nupe, Gbeya-Bossangoa

Eurasia: Albanian , Basque, Brahui, Eastern Armenian, Hindi, Icelandic, Japanese, Korean, Khalkha, Hunzib, Lezgian, Nivkh, Evenki, Finnish, Mansi

South-East Asia and Oceania: Khasi, Khmu', Khmer, Nicobarese, Pacoh, Vietnamese, Seediq, Kambera, Chamorro, Gayo, Tagalog, Lewo, Biak, Muna, Rukai, Tibetan, Burmese, Cantonese, Lai, Meithei, Thai

Papua New Guinea and Australia: Nasioi, Ambai, Mende, Abau, Yimas, Skou, Lavukaleve, Arapesh, Makalero, Usan, Menya, Kobon, Orokolo, Nabak, Kunimaipa, Koiari, Amele, Mauwake, Abun, Kilmeri, Mian, Sentani, Inanwatan, Gooniyandi, Gaagudju, Garrwa, Binin-Gun Wok, Wardaman, Maung, Mara, Bardi, Ngiyambaa, Kayardild, Tiwi, Djingili, Murrinya Patha

North America: Cheyenne, Wiyot, Slave, Haida, Karok, Eastern Pomo, Seri, Washo, Maricopa, Huave, Oneida, Koasati, Chinook, Klamath, Chiapas Zoque, Tetepotutla Chinantec, Mam, Chalcatongo Mixtec, Otomí, Chocho, Northern Sierra Miwok, Nez Perce, Siuslaw, Takelma, Purépecha, Tshimsian, Bella Coola, Squamish, Lakhota, Upper Necaxa Totonac, Mecayapan Nahuatl, Nevome, Huichol, Makah, Wappo, Yuchi

South America: Andoke, Paumarí, Mapuche, Baure, Jaqaru, Awa Pit, Chayahuita, Wai Wai, Wari, Damana, Border Kuna, Rama, Teribe, Tehuelche, Epena Pedee, Sikuaní, Pilagá, Aguaruna, Kwazá, Chiquitano, Canela-Krahô, Wichí, Mosestén, Pirahã, Hup, Páez, Shipibo-Konibo, Yagua, Puinave, Imbabura Quechua, Araona, Trumai, Tuyuca, Guaraní, Urarina, Chipaya, Waorani, Warao, Yanomámi

Creoles: Haitian Creole

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Today

n = 179

Verbal negator & neutral indefinite <i>John not bought something</i>	49.7 %
Verbal negator & negatively polar indefinite <i>John not bought anything</i>	47.5 %
No verbal negator & negative indefinite <i>John bought nothing</i>	11.7 %
Verbal negator & negative indefinite <i>John not bought nothing</i>	19 %
Other <i>There is not what John bought</i>	13.58%

Kahrel (1996: 37)

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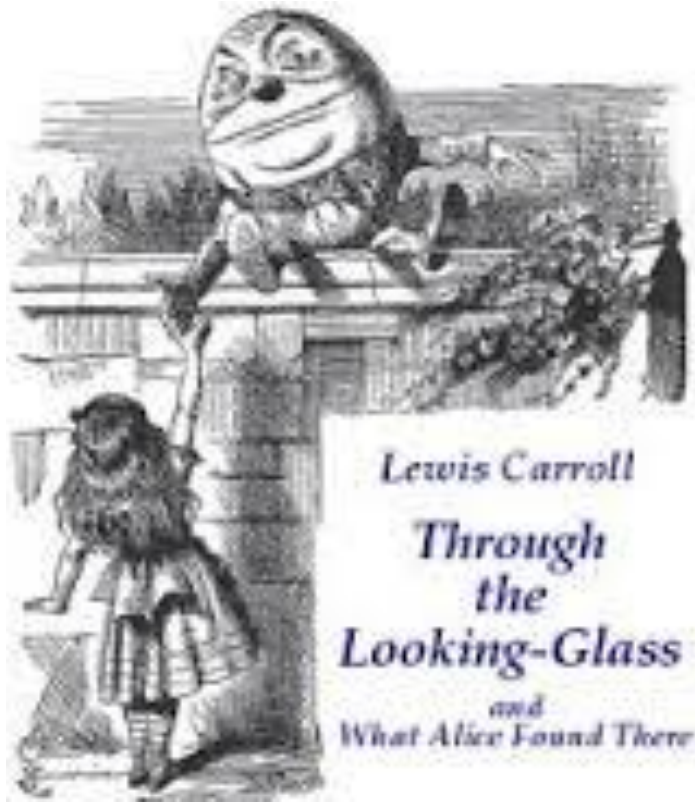
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**Form meaning mismatch
(Haspelmath 1997: 203)**



I see nobody on the road,' said Alice. 'I only wish I had such eyes,' the King remarked in a fretful tone. 'To be able to see Nobody! And at that distance, too!

NC

Language	Family	Macro-area	n/m	%
Albanian, Eastern Armenian, Icelandic	Indo-European	Eurasia	8/15	53.3 %
Mansi	Uralic			
Korean	Korean			
Japanese	Japanese			
Lezgian	Nakh-Dagestanian			
Brahui	Dravidian			
Burmese, Meithei, Lai	Sino-Tibetan	South-East Asia & Oceania	5/21	23.8 %
Khasi	Austro-Asiatic			
Chamorro	Austronesian			
Degema, Ewe	Niger-Congo	Africa	6/29	20.7 %
Kanuri, Kunama	Nilo-Saharan			
Egyptian Arabic, Somali	Afro-Asiatic			
Damana	Chibchan	South America	8/39	20.5 %
Páez	Paezan			
Imbabura Quechua	Quechuan			
Guaraní	Tupi-Guarani			
Epena Pedee	Choco			
Mosetén	Mosetenan			
Wichí	Wichí			
Canela-Krahô	Macro-Ge			
Lakhota	Siouan	North America	4/36	11.1 %
Huave	Huave			
Chiapas Zoque	Mixe-Zoque			
Karok	Karok			
Lavukaleve	Solomons East Papuan	Australia & Papua New Guinea	2/38	5.3 %
Kayardild	Australian			
Haitian Creole	–	–	–	–

NQ

Language	Family	Macro-area	n/m	%
Yuchi	Yuchi	North America	12/36	33.3 %
Chinook	Chinook			
Upper Nexaca Totonac	Totonacan			
Otomí, Chalcatongo Mixtec, Chocho, Tepetotutla Chinantec	Oto-Manguenan			
Purépecha	Tarascan			
Mam	Mayan			
Nevome, Nahuatl, Huichol	Uto-Aztecan			
Epena Pedee	Choco	South America	4/39	10.2 %
Paumarí	Arauan			
Warao	Warao			
Mapuche	Araucanian			
Icelandic	Indo-European	Eurasia	1/15	6.7 %
Tiwi, Kayardild	Australian	Australia & Papua New Guinea	2/38	5.3 %
Nicobarese	Austro-Asiatic	South-East Asia & Oceania	1/21	4.8 %
Egyptian Arabic	Afro-Asiatic	Africa	1/19	3.4 %

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Different search method

Sample

+

**Research literature
(biased for European languages)**

Polish

a. *Nikt* *nie* przyszedł

nobody NEG came

'Nobody came'

b. *Nie* widziałam *nikogo*

NEG saw nobody

'I saw nobody'

Strict NC

since Giannakidou (1998: 186)

Spanish

a. *Nadie* vino

nobody came

'Nobody came'

b. *No* vi a *nadie*

NEG saw to nobody

'I didn't see anybody'

Non-strict NC

Polish

a. **Nikt** **nie** przyszedł

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31/34

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'I saw nobody'

WHY?

Spanish

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WHY? SIMPLICITY

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WHY?

SIMPLICITY – LESS MISMATCH

Spanish

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nobody came

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NEG saw to nobody

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Non-strict NC

NI > NV

NV > NI

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > NV

NV > NI

Strict NC (Polish)

N 'negative'
V 'finite verb'
I 'indefinite'
> 'precedes'

NI > NV

NV > NI

Strict NC (Polish)

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NI > V

NV > NI

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V	NV > NI
------------------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NEG FIRST principle

NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V	NV > NI
------------------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NEG FIRST principle



Jespersen 1917: 5

NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V	NV > NI
------------------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NEG FIRST principle



Jespersen 1917: 5



Horn 1989: 293

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V	NV > NI
--------	---------

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NEG FIRST principle

There is a natural tendency, also for the sake of clearness, to place the negative first, or at any rate as soon as possible, very often immediately before the particular word to be negated [sic] (generally the verb).

NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V	NV > NI
------------------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

**Only strict NC and one type of
non-strict NC?**

NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V	NV > NI
------------------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

Catalan

NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V	NV > NI
------------------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

Catalan

Penka 2011: 17, note 5

Catalan comprises two different varieties, one having strict NC and the other exhibiting non-strict NC (cf. Zeijlstra, 2004). There is however a clear division (in terms of old vs. young generation, or standard vs. colloquial) between the two varieties, and it seems that Catalan is turning from a strict NC-language into a non-strict NC-language, presumably under the influence of Spanish.

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V	NV > NI
--------	---------

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

Catalan

- a. *Ningú* (no) ha vist Joan
 nobody NEG has seen John
 'Nobody has seen John'
- b. En Pere *no* ha fet *res*
 the Peter NEG has done nothing
 'Peter has done nothing'

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

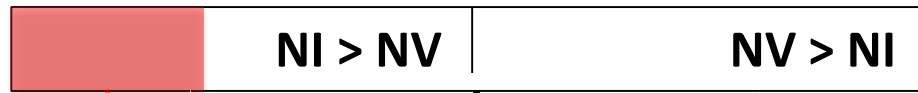
Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V	NV > NI
--------	---------

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

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Strict NC (Polish)



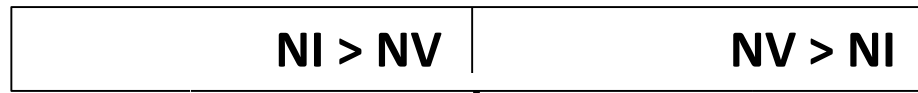
Non-strict NC (Catalan)



Non-strict NC (Spanish)

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Strict NC (Polish)



Non-strict NC (Catalan)



Non-strict NC (Spanish)

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NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

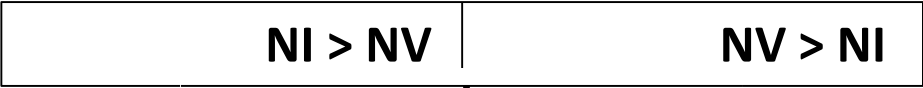
NI > V or NI > NV		NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Spanish)

**Yet another type of
non-strict NC?**



Strict NC (Polish)



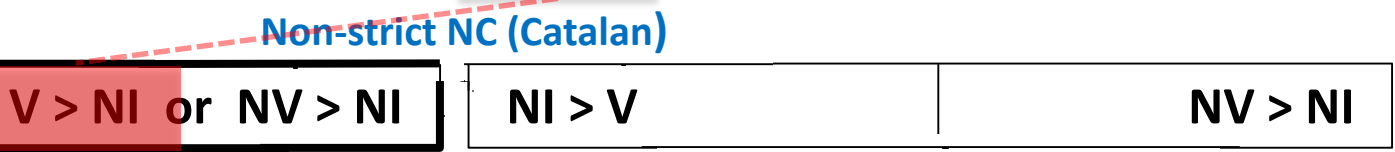
Non-strict NC (Catalan)



Non-strict NC (French)



Non-strict NC (Spanish)



NI > NV	NV > NI
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Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV		NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

French

- a. *Jamais je (n') ai vu une telle chose*
 never I NEG.have seen a such thing
 I have never seen anything like it'
- b. Je (n') ai vu *personne*
 I NEG.have seen nobody
 'I haven't seen anybody'

NI > NV	NV > NI
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Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

Can we continue?

NI > NV	NV > NI
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Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V		NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI	or NV > NI
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Can we continue?

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V		NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V		V > NI or NV > NI
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Can we continue?

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V		NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V		V > NI or NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V		NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V		V > NI or NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

Brabantic Belgian Dutch

- a. *Niemand* heeft mij (**nie*) gezien
 nobody has me NEG seen
 'Nobody has seen me'
- b. Ik heb *niemand* (*nie*) gezien
 I have nobody NEG seen
 'I have seen nobody'

NI > NV	NV > NI
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Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

Still more variation?

NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
--------------------------------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
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NI > NV	NV > NI
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Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
--------	--------	--

(Dutch)

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
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NQ (Dutch)

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (Brabantian Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
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NQ (Dutch)

Brabantian Belgian Dutch

- a. *Niemand* heeft mij (**nie*) gezien
 nobody has me NEG seen
 'Nobody has seen me'
- b. Ik heb *niemand* (*nie*) gezien
 I have nobody NEG seen
 'I have seen nobody'

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
--------	--------	--

NQ (Dutch)

Dutch

- a. *Niemand* heeft mij (**nie*) gezien
nobody has me NEG seen
'Nobody has seen me'
- b. Ik heb *niemand* (**nie*) gezien
I have nobody NEG seen
'I have seen nobody'

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
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Strict NQ (Dutch)

Dutch

- a. *Niemand* heeft mij (**nie*) gezien
 nobody has me NEG seen
 'Nobody has seen me'
- b. Ik heb *niemand* (**nie*) gezien
 I have nobody NEG seen
 'I have seen nobody'

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

Non-Strict
NQ

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
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Strict NQ (Dutch)

Dutch

- a. *Niemand* heeft mij (**nie*) gezien
 nobody has me NEG seen
 'Nobody has seen me'
- b. Ik heb *niemand* (**nie*) gezien
 I have nobody NEG seen
 'I have seen nobody'

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

Non-Strict
NQ

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantian Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
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Strict NQ (Dutch)

Dutch

- a. *Niemand* heeft mij (**nie*) gezien
 nobody has me NEG seen
 'Nobody has seen me'
- b. Ik heb *niemand* (**nie*) gezien
 I have nobody NEG seen
 'I have seen nobody'

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
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Strict NQ (Dutch)

And there is more non-strict NQ!

NI > NV	NV > NI
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Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
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Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
--------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (???)

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantian Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
--------	--------	--

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
--------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

English

Nobody saw me.

***Anybody** didn't see me.

I saw **nobody**.

I didn't see **anybody**.

NI > NV	NV > NI
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Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
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Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
--------	--------	--

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
--------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI	
--------	--------	--

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
--------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

Could there be more subtypes of non-strict NQ (just like there is non-strict NC)?

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI
--------	--------

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V		V > NI or NV > I
--------	--	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I
------------------	------------------

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI
--------	--------

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V		V > NI or NV > I
--------	--	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I
------------------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)

Hiberno-English

Nobody saw me.

Anybody didn't see me.

I saw *nobody*.

I didn't see *anybody*.

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI
--------	--------

Strict NQ (Dutch)

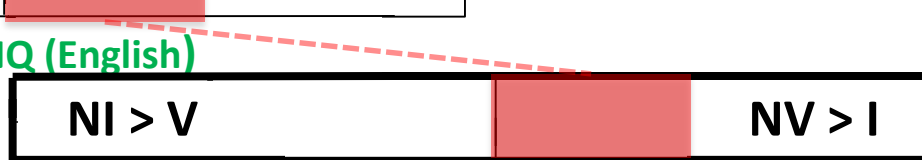
NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
--------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I	NI > V		NV > I
------------------	------------------	--------	--	--------

Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)

Non-strict NQ (??)



NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI
--------	--------

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V		V > NI or NV > I
--------	--	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I	NI > V		NV > I
------------------	------------------	--------	--	--------

Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)

Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)

Nahuatl

a. *Juan amaka okitak*
 Juan nobody PST-3.S-3O.SG-see
 'Juan saw nobody'

b. *Juan amo okitak aka*
 Juan NEG PST-3S-3O.SG-see somebody
 'Juan didn't see anybody'

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI
--------	--------

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
--------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I	NI > V		NV > I
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Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)

Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)

NI > V or I > NV	NV > I
------------------	--------

Non-strict NQ (??)

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI
--------	--------

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
--------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I	NI > V	NV > I
------------------	------------------	--------	--------

Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)

Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)

NI > V or I > NV		NV > I
------------------	--	--------

Non-strict NQ (??)

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI
--------	--------

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
--------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I	NI > V	NV > I
------------------	------------------	--------	--------

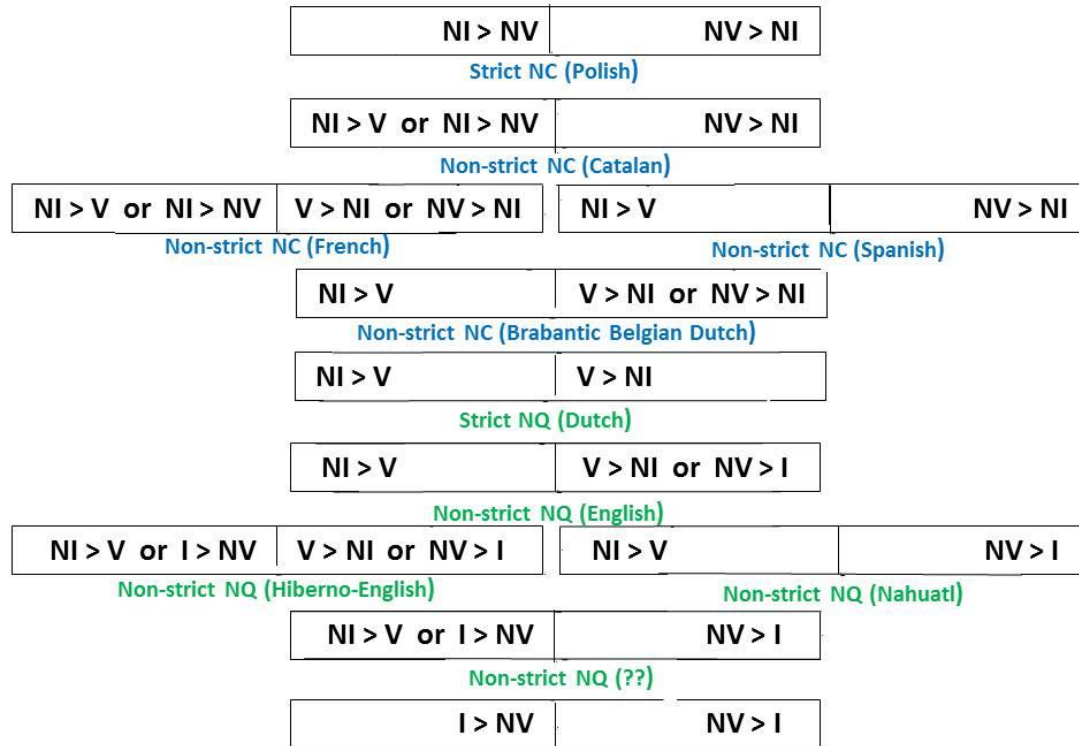
Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)

Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)

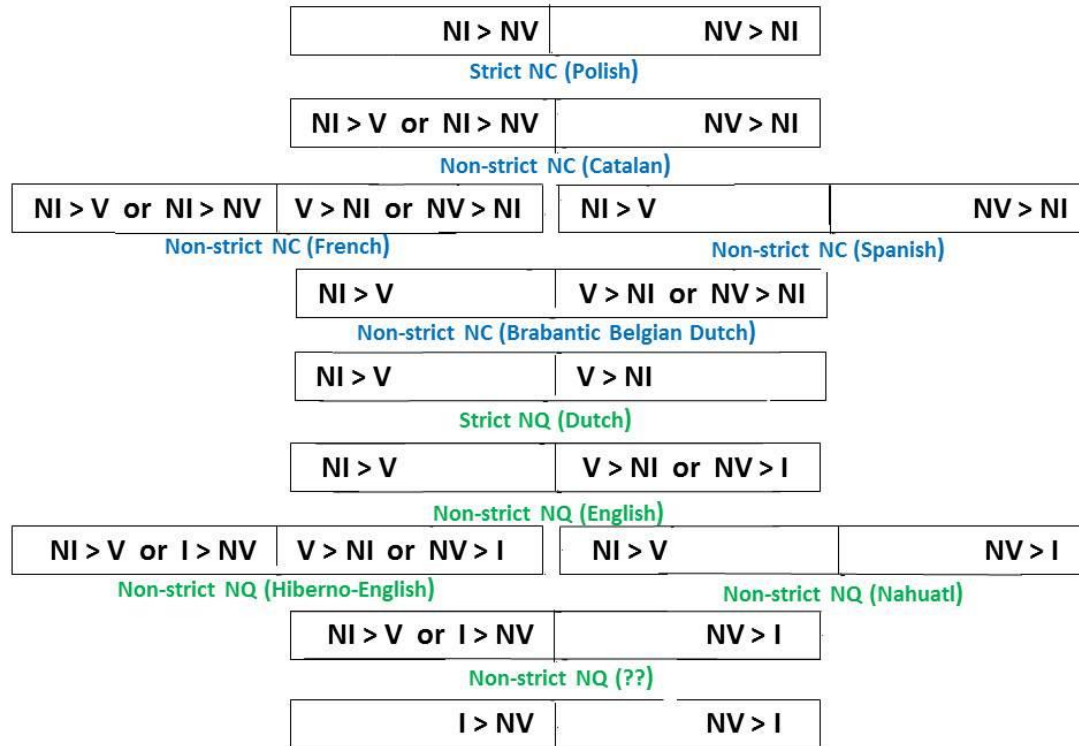
NI > V or I > NV	NV > I
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Non-strict NQ (??)

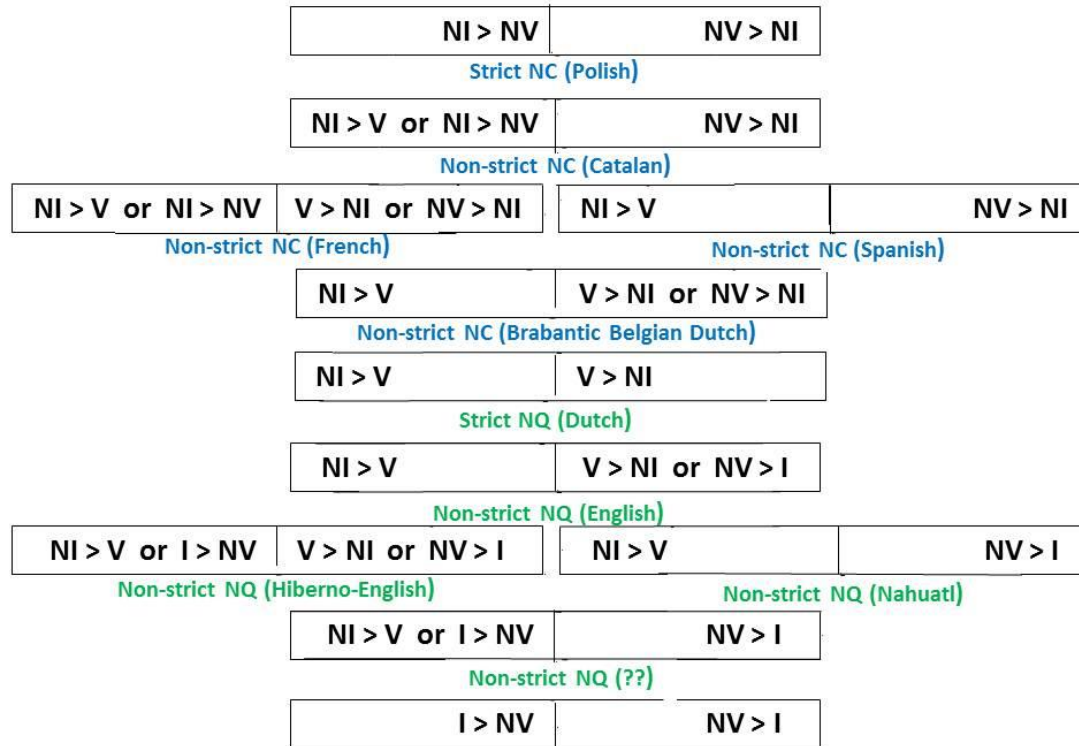
I > NV	NV > I
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Is everything possible/attested?



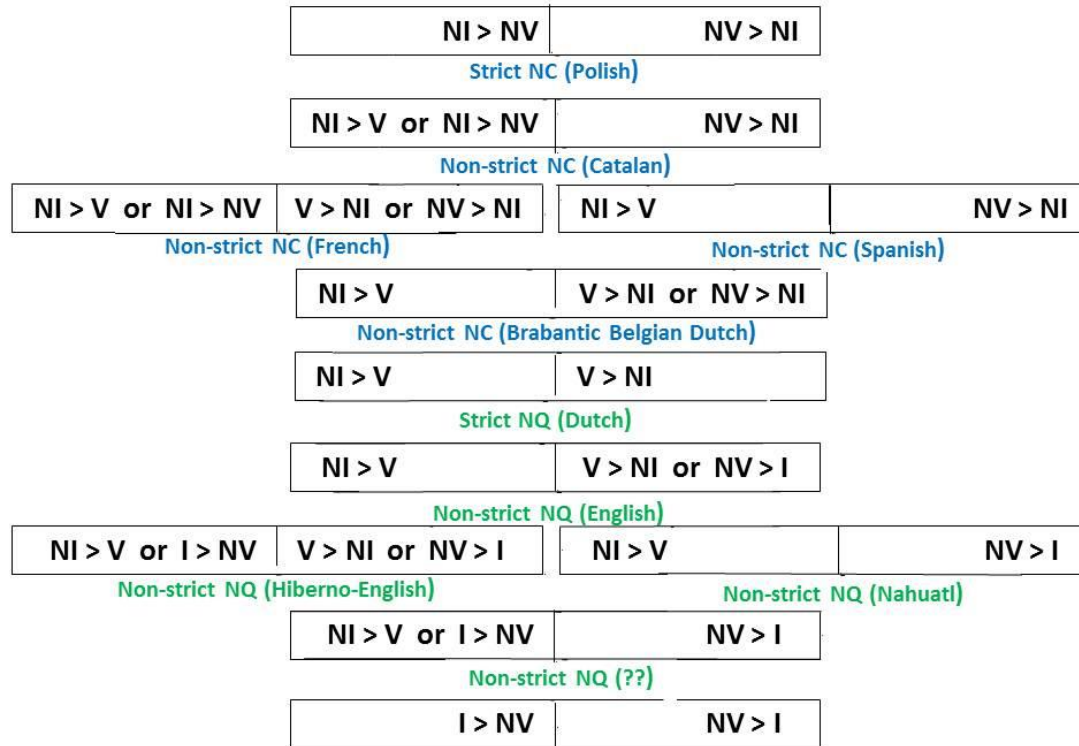
Is everything possible/attested?
NO, just 10 out of 11



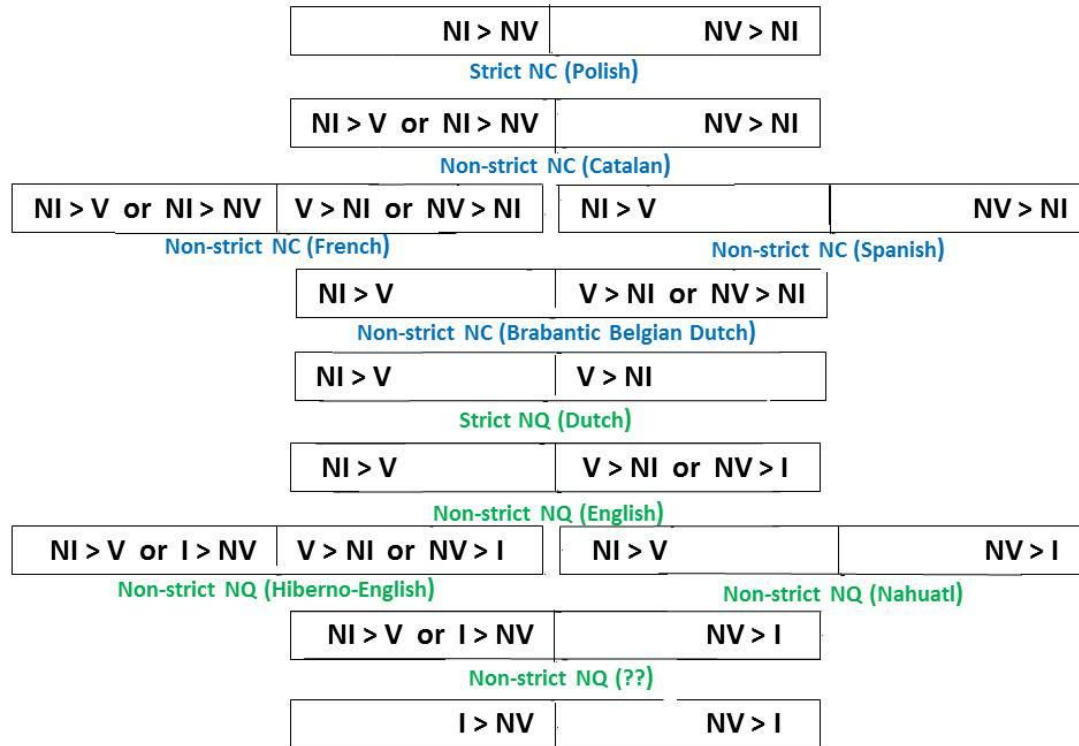
For **NC** the strict type is more common

NI > NV		NV > NI	
Strict NC (Polish)			
NI > V or NI > NV		NV > NI	
Non-strict NC (Catalan)			
NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
Non-strict NC (French)		Non-strict NC (Spanish)	
NI > V		V > NI or NV > NI	
Non-strict NC (Brabantian Belgian Dutch)			
NI > V		V > NI	
Strict NQ (Dutch)			
NI > V		V > NI or NV > I	
Non-strict NQ (English)			
NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I	NI > V	NV > I
Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)		Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)	
NI > V or I > NV		NV > I	
Non-strict NQ (??)			
I > NV		NV > I	

For **NC** the strict type is more common
 For **NQ**, however, the non-strict type is more common



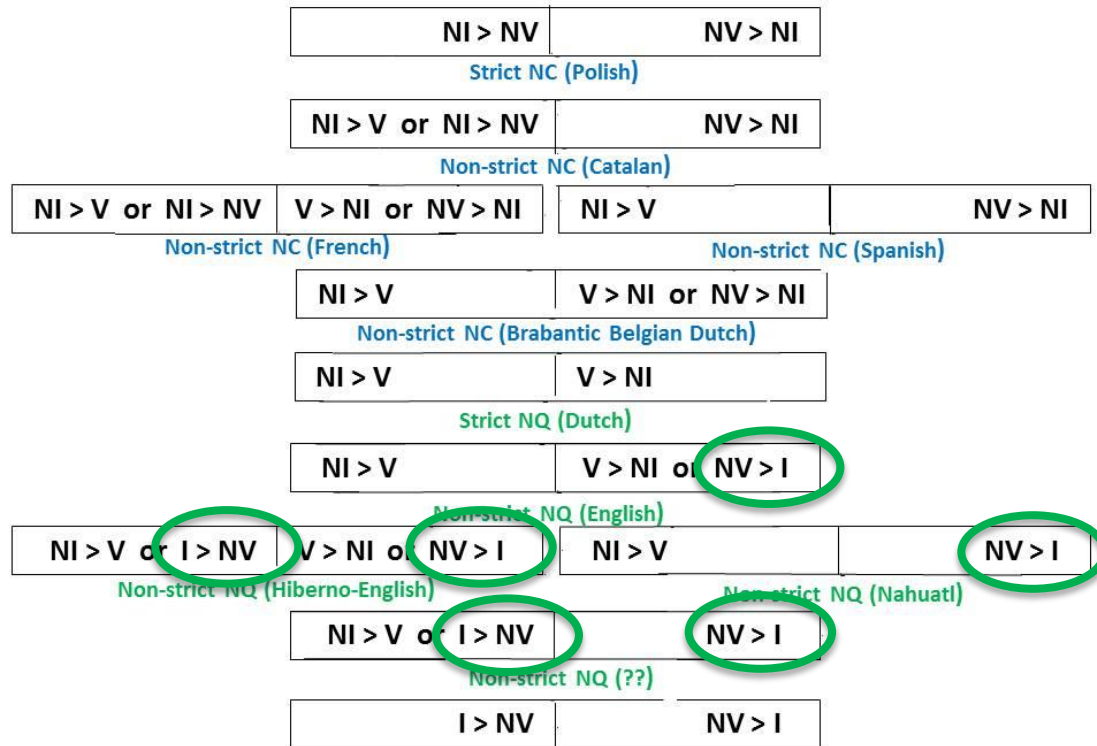
For **NC** the strict type is more common
 For **NQ**, however, the non-strict type is more common
WHY?



For **NC** the strict type is more common

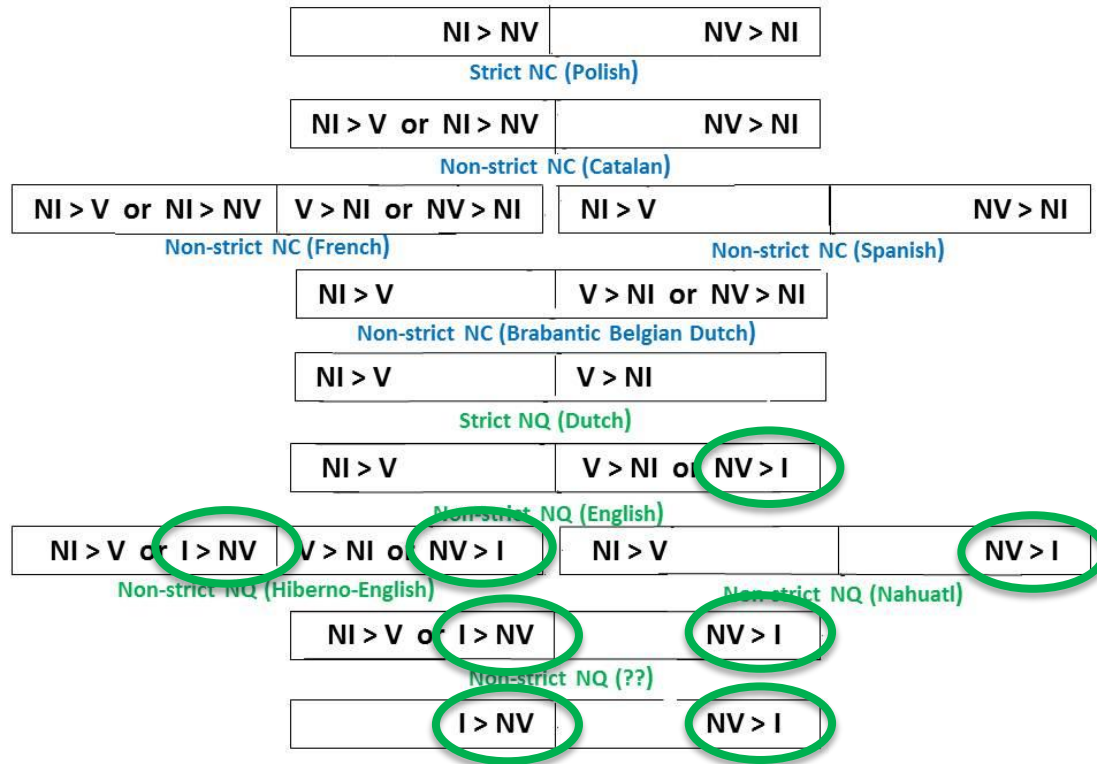
For **NQ**, however, the non-strict type is more common

WHY THE MISMATCH PROBLEM



For **NC** the strict type is more common
 For **NQ**, however, the non-strict type is more common

WHY THE MISMATCH PROBLEM :



For **NC** the strict type is more common
 For **NQ**, however, the non-strict type is more common

WHY THE MISMATCH PROBLEM :

1. Introduction

2. Frequency

3. Types and subtypes

4. More subtypes

5. Still more subtypes

6. Conclusion

Up to now indefinites, positive or negative, were possible in the preverbal **and** the postverbal domain

NI > NV		NV > NI	
Strict NC (Polish)			
NI > V or NI > NV		NV > NI	
Non-strict NC (Catalan)			
NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
Non-strict NC (French)		Non-strict NC (Spanish)	
NI > V		V > NI or NV > NI	
Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)			
NI > V		V > NI	
Strict NQ (Dutch)			
NI > V		V > NI or NV > I	
Non-strict NQ (English)			
NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I	NI > V	NV > I
Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)		Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)	
NI > V or I > NV		NV > I	
Non-strict NQ (??)			
I > NV		NV > I	

Western Armenian (Khanjian 2010:5)

votf-intf (*tʃi*)-desa

no-what (NEG)-saw

'I didn't see anything'

NI > V or NI > NV	*
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NI > V or NI > NV

*

Western Armenian

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
--------------------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
--------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI
--------	--------

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
--------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I	NI > V	NV > I
------------------	------------------	--------	--------

Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)

Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)

NI > V or I > NV	NV > I
------------------	--------

Non-strict NQ (??)

I > NV	NV > I
--------	--------

NI > V or NI > NV

*

Western Armenian

NI > NV

NV > NI

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV

NV > NI

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV

V > NI or NV > NI

NI > V

NV > NI

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V

V > NI or NV > NI

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V

V > NI

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V

V > NI or NV > I

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > V or I > NV

V > NI or NV > I

NI > V

NV > I

Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)

Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)

NI > V or I > NV

NV > I

Non-strict NQ (??)

I > NV

NV > I

NI > V or NI > NV

*

Western Armenian

1

NI > NV

NV > NI

Strict NC (Polish)

2

NI > V or NI > NV

NV > NI

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV

V > NI or NV > NI

NI > V

NV > NI

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

3

NI > V

V > NI or NV > NI

Non-strict NC (Brabantic Belgian Dutch)

NI > V

V > NI

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V

V > NI or NV > I

Non-strict NQ (English)

4

NI > V or I > NV

V > NI or NV > I

NI > V

NV > I

Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)

Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)

NI > V or I > NV

NV > I

Non-strict NQ (??)

5

I > NV

NV > I

1	NI > NV	*
---	---------	---

2	NI > V or NI > NV	*
---	-------------------	---

Non-strict NC (Western Armenian)

3	NI > V	*
---	--------	---

4	NI > V or I > NV	*
---	------------------	---

5	I > NV	*
---	--------	---

	NI > NV	*
--	---------	---

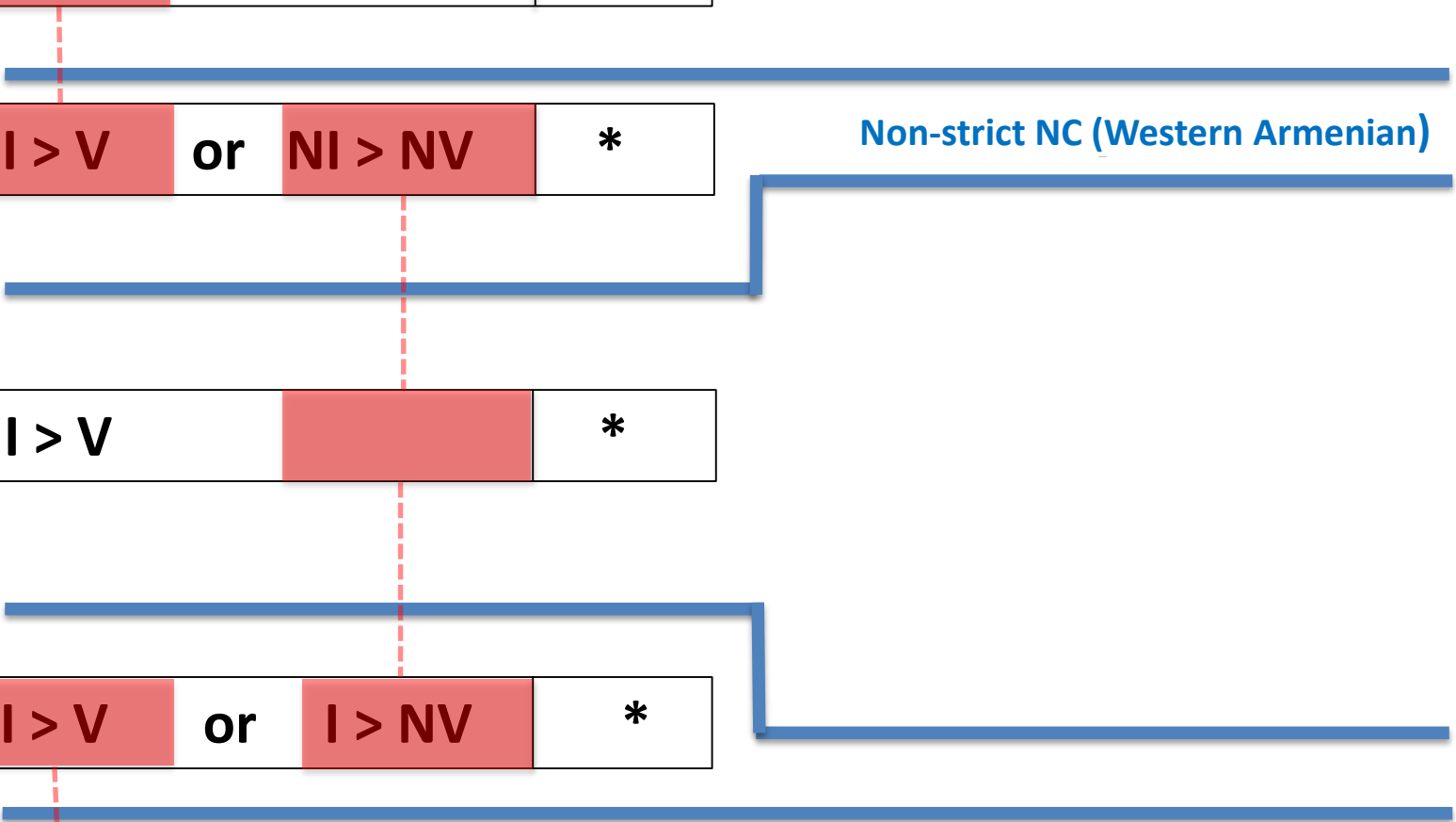
NI > V	or	NI > NV	*
--------	----	---------	---

Non-strict NC (Western Armenian)

NI > V		*
--------	--	---

NI > V	or	I > NV	*
--------	----	--------	---

	I > NV	*
--	--------	---





??



Non-strict NC (Western Armenian)



??



??



??



Tamil



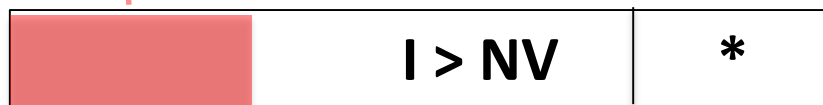
Non-strict NC (Western Armenian)



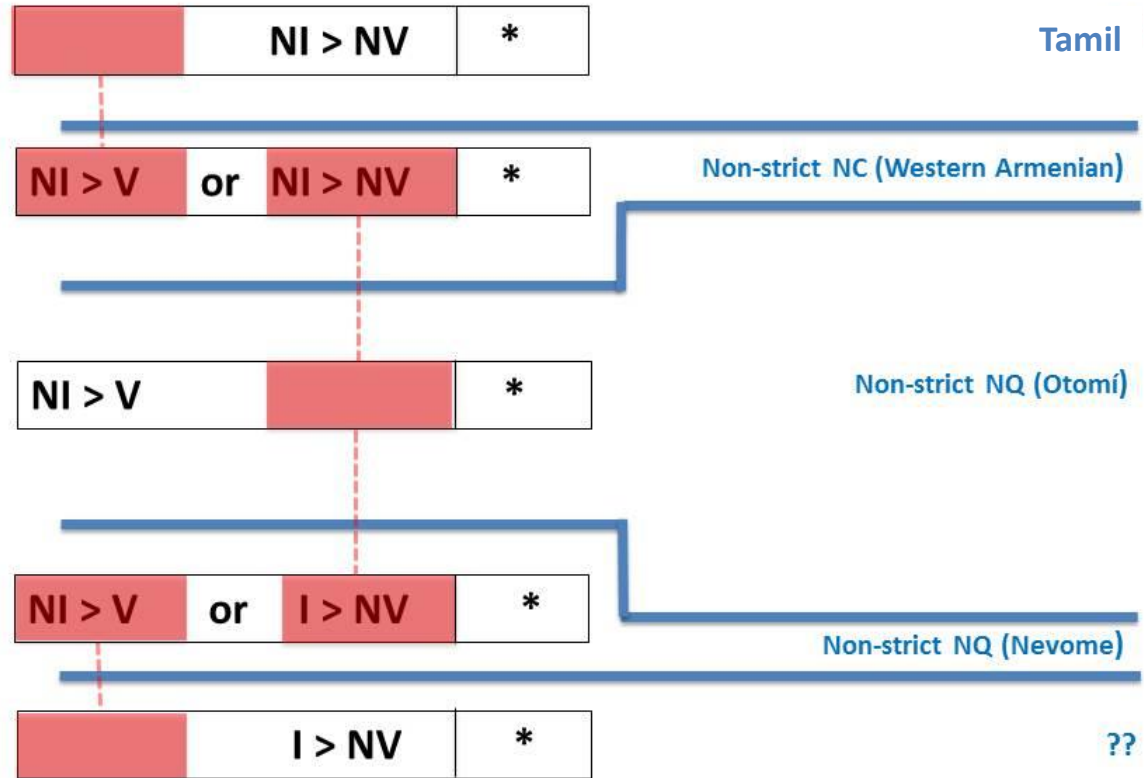
Non-strict NQ (Otomí)



Non-strict NQ (Nevome)



??



If

xxx	*
-----	---

 is possible, how about

*	xxx
---	-----

 ?

*	???
---	-----

NI > NV	NV > NI
---------	---------

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
-------------------	---------

Non-strict NC (Catalan)

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
-------------------	-------------------	--------	---------

Non-strict NC (French)

Non-strict NC (Spanish)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
--------	-------------------

Non-strict NC (Brabantian Belgian Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI
--------	--------

Strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
--------	------------------

Non-strict NQ (English)

NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I	NI > V	NV > I
------------------	------------------	--------	--------

Non-strict NQ (Hiberno-English)

Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)

NI > V or I > NV	NV > I
------------------	--------

Non-strict NQ (??)

I > NV	NV > I
--------	--------

*	???
---	-----

NI > NV	NV > NI
Strict NC (Polish)	

NI > V or NI > NV	NV > NI
Non-strict NC (Catalan)	

NI > V or NI > NV	V > NI or NV > NI	NI > V	NV > NI
Non-strict NC (French)		Non-strict NC (Spanish)	

NI > V	V > NI or NV > NI
Non-strict NC (Flemish/Belgian Dutch)	

NI > V	V > NI
Strict NO (Dutch)	

NI > V	V > NI or NV > I
Non-strict NQ (English)	

NI > V or I > NV	V > NI or NV > I	NI > V	NV > I
Non-strict NQ (Mikene English)		Non-strict NQ (Nahuatl)	

NI > V or I > NV	NV > I
Non-strict NQ (??)	

I > NV	NV > I
--------	--------

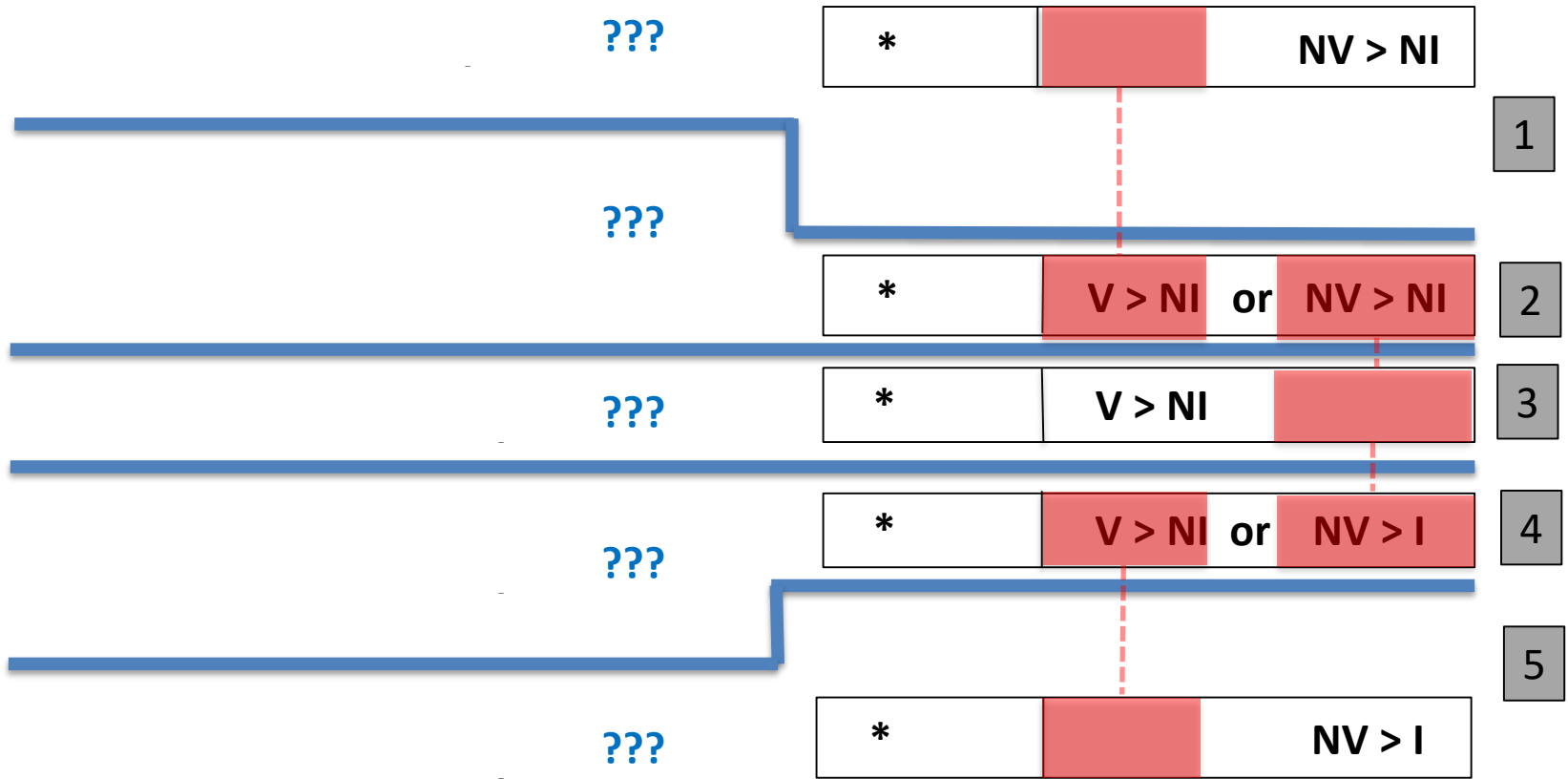
1

2

3

4

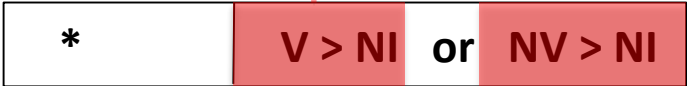
5



Non-strict NC (Icelandic)



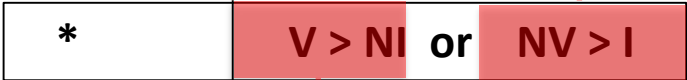
Non-strict NC (Welsh)



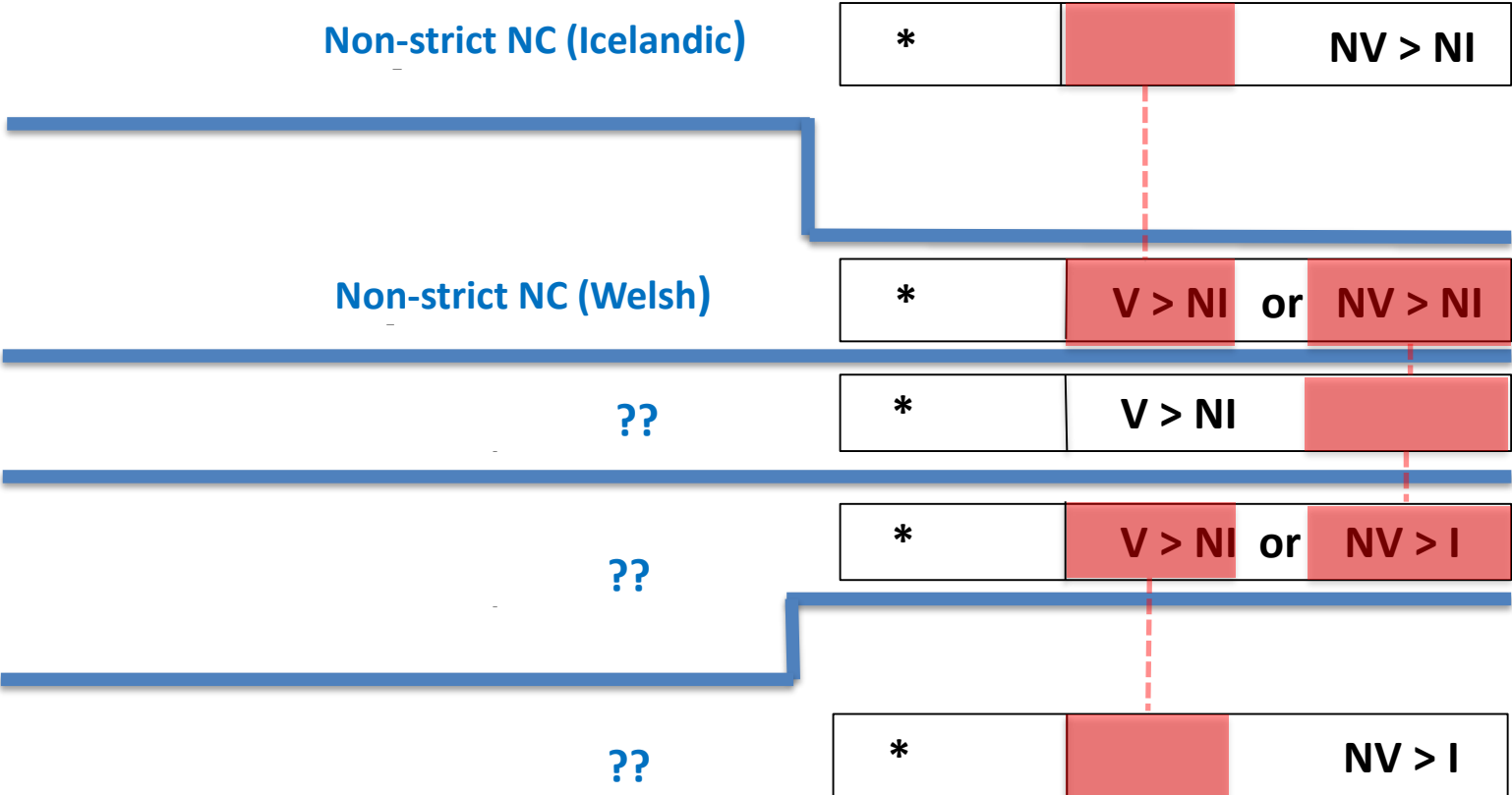
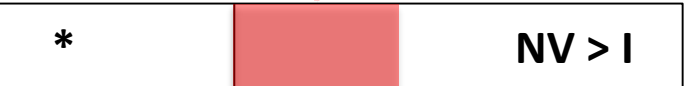
??

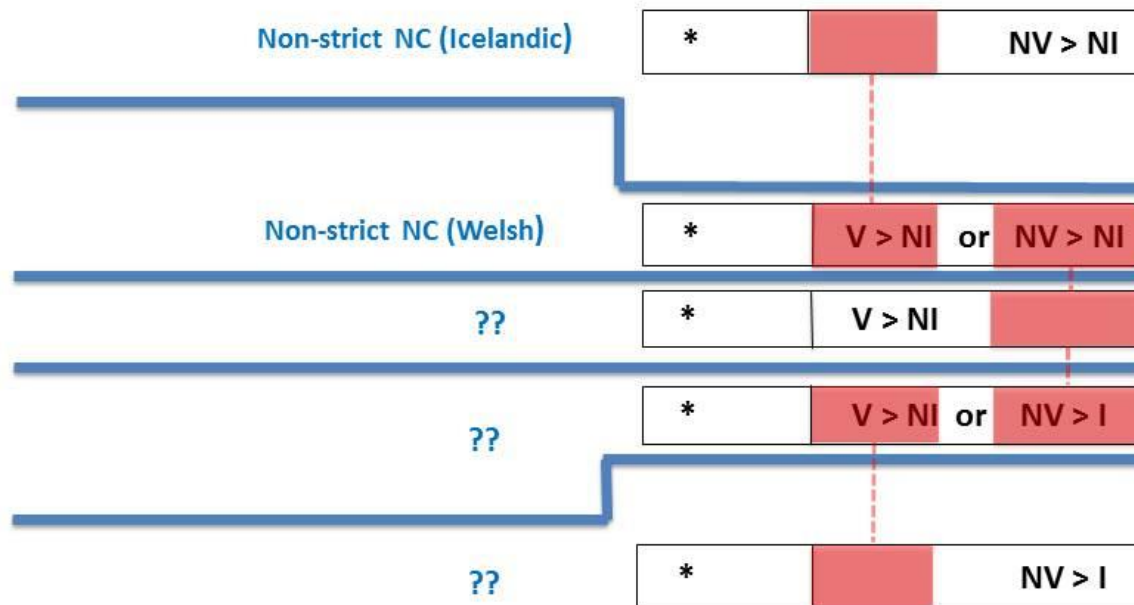


??



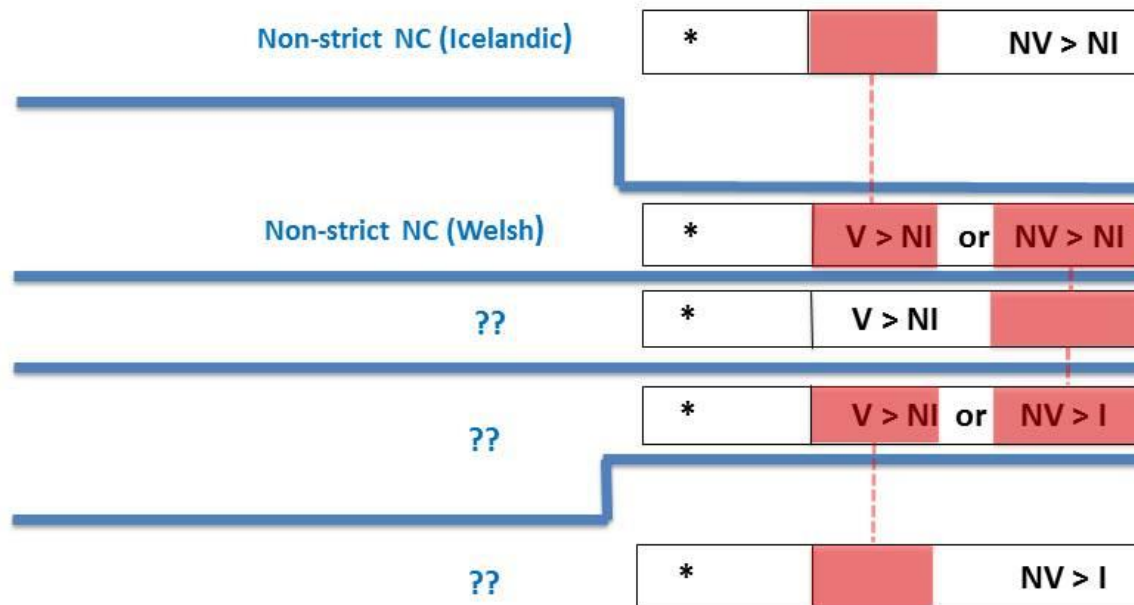
??





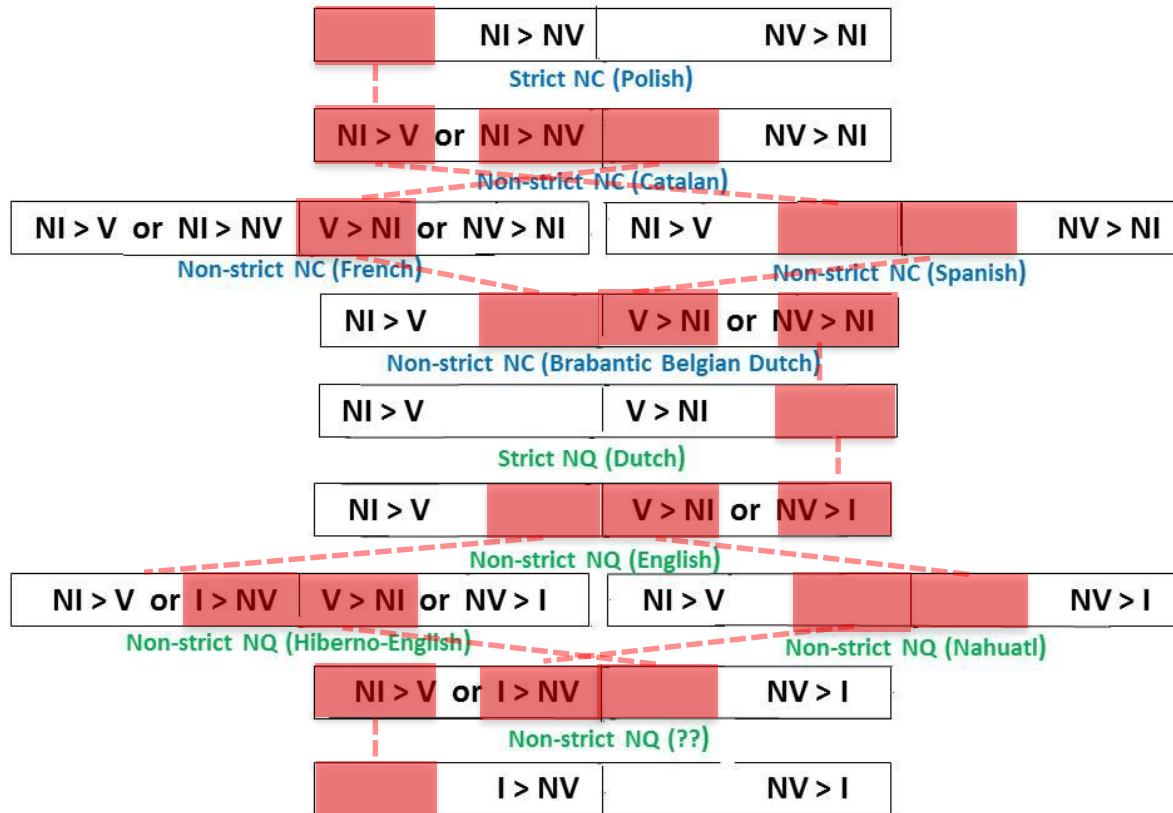
Icelandic (Haspelmath 1997: 214, note 10)

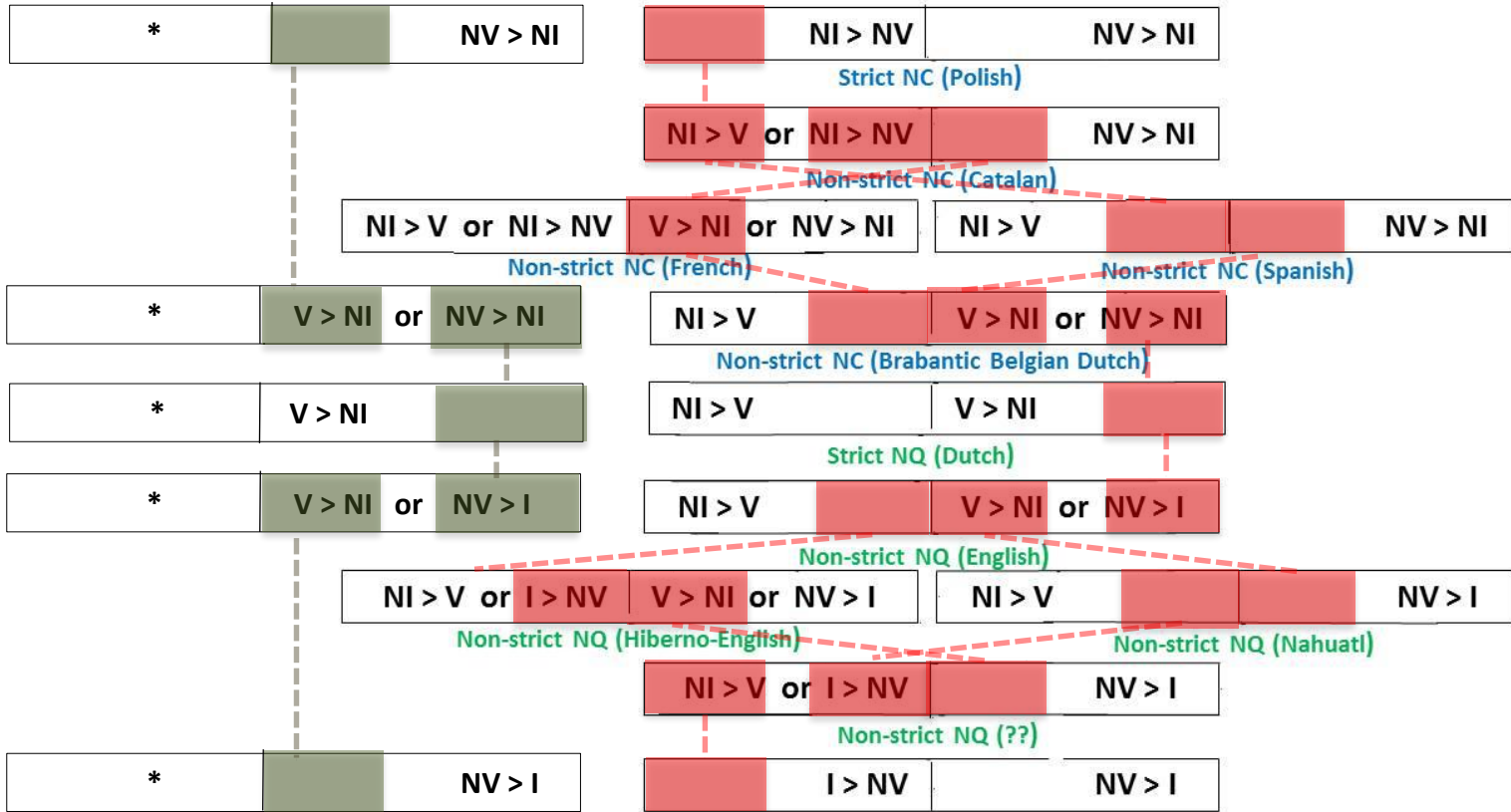
¹⁰ A rare case of an indefinite which is limited to negative contexts but also shows the restriction is Icelandic *neinn/neitt*: (i) *Ég sá ekki neinn* (I saw NEG nobody) 'I saw nobody'. (ii) **Neinn sá ekki mig* (nobody saw NEG me) 'Nobody saw me'.

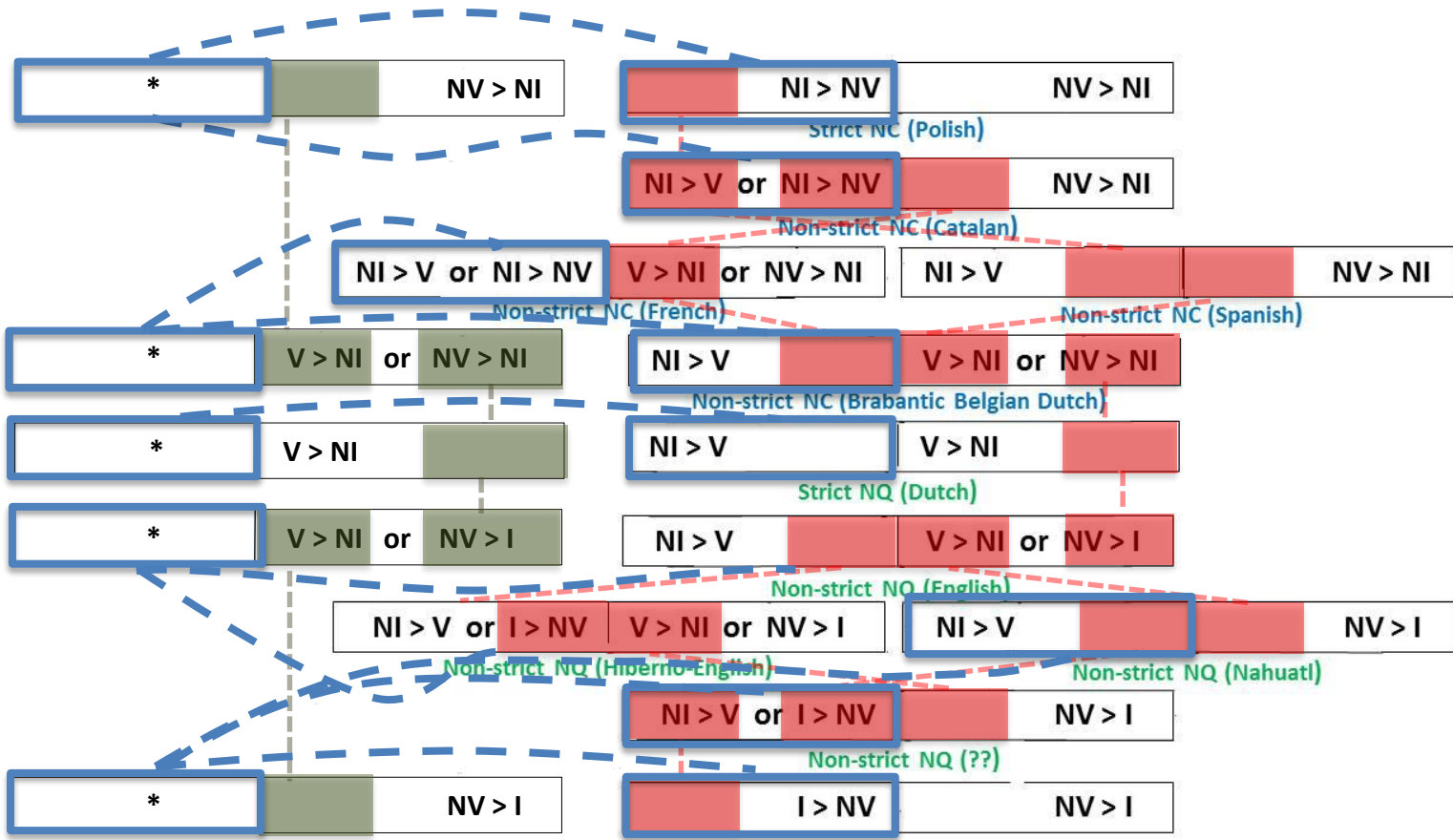


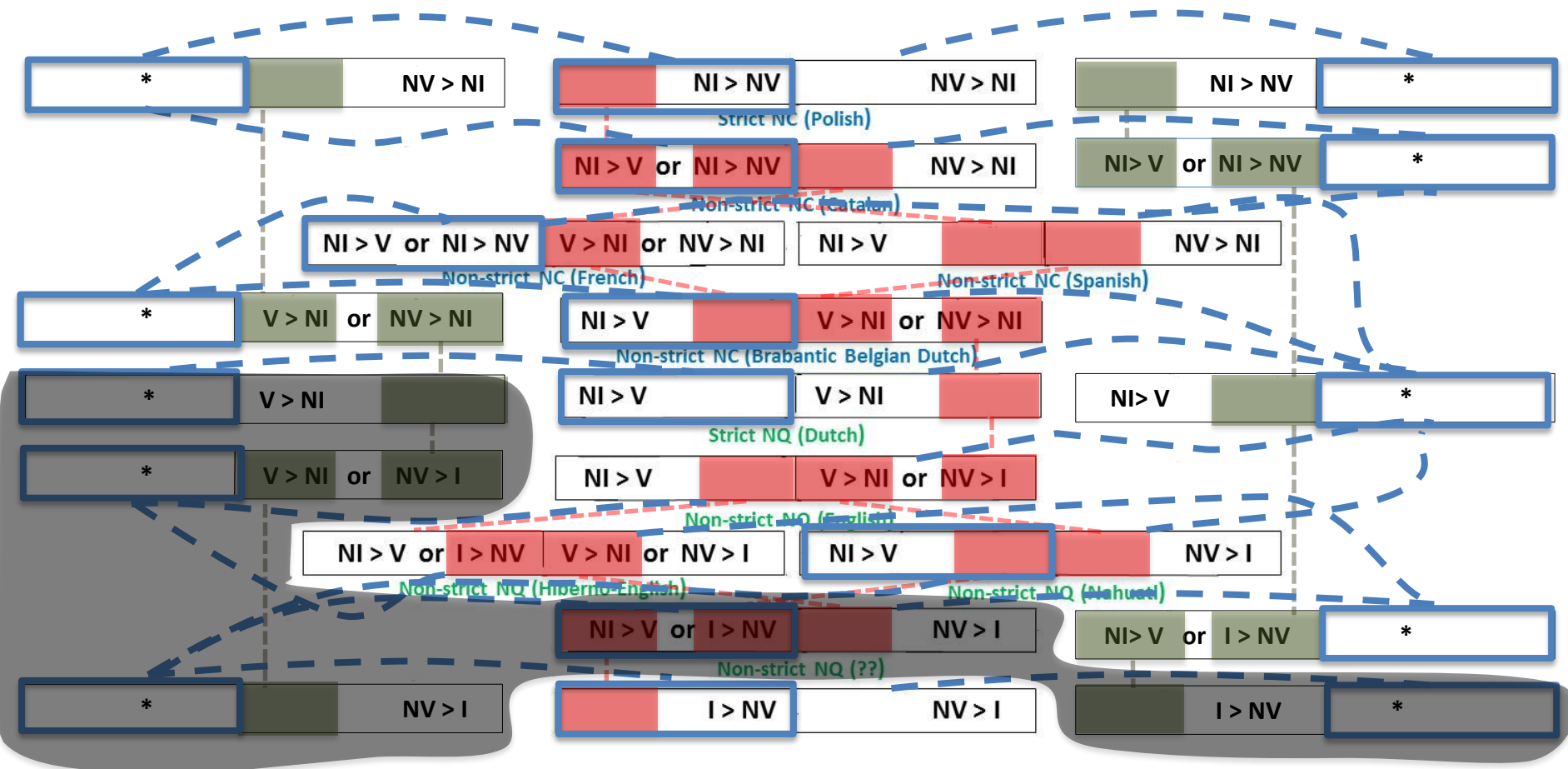
Icelandic

- a. **Ég vissi ekki sjá neitt**
 I did NEG see nothing
 'I didn't see anything'
- b. ***Neinn sag ekki mig**
 nobody saw NEG me
 'Nobody saw me'









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1. Introduction

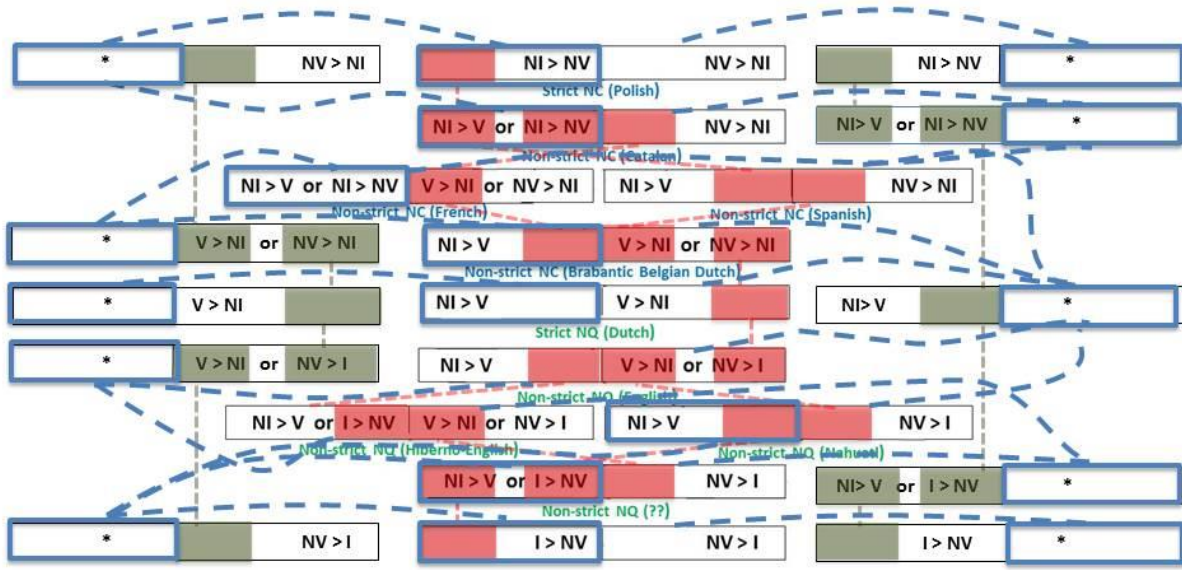
2. Frequency

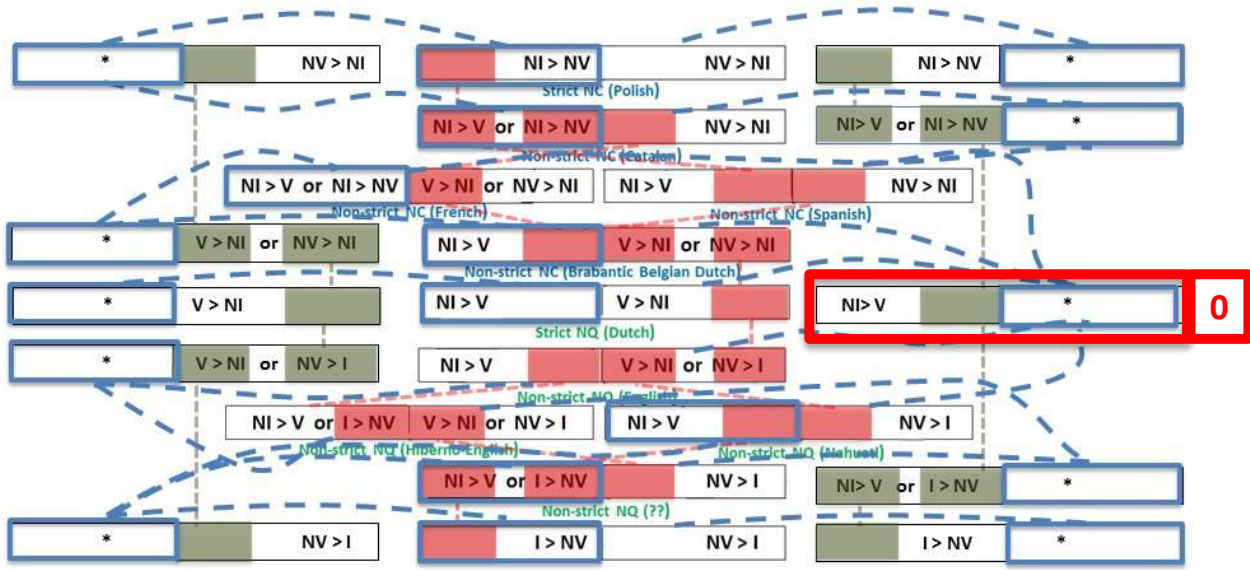
3. Types and subtypes

4. More subtypes

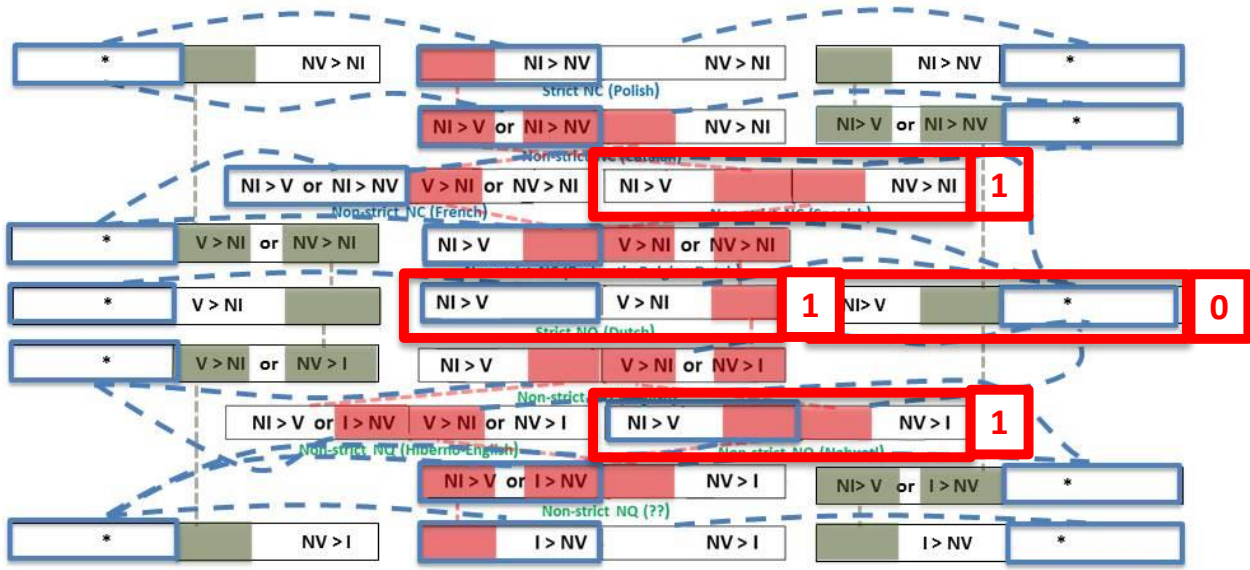
5. Still more subtypes

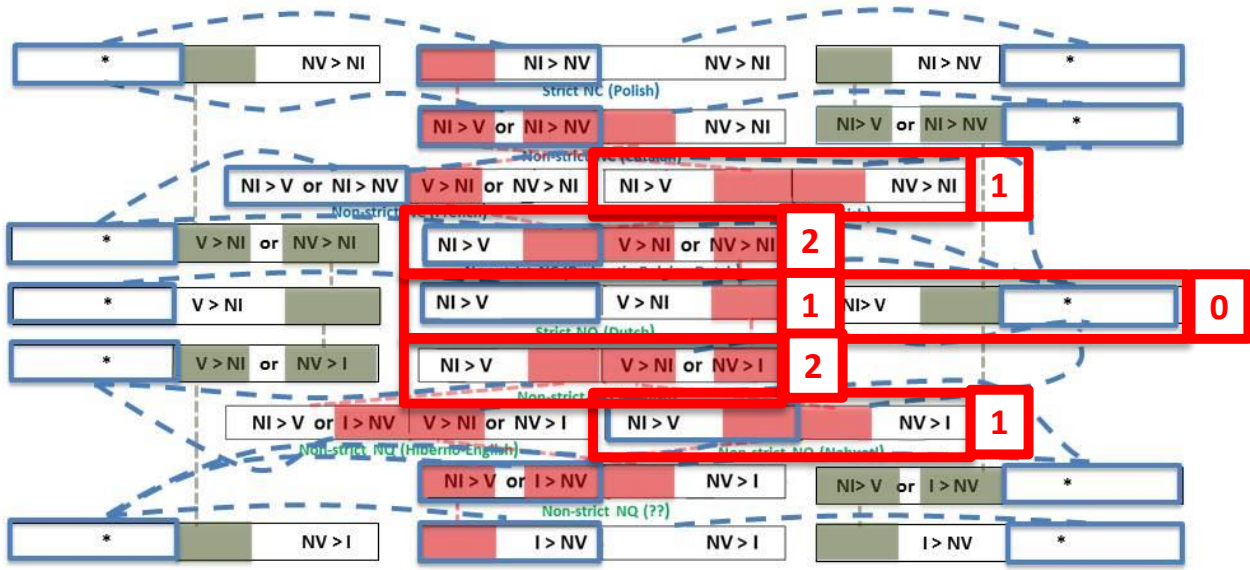
6. Conclusion

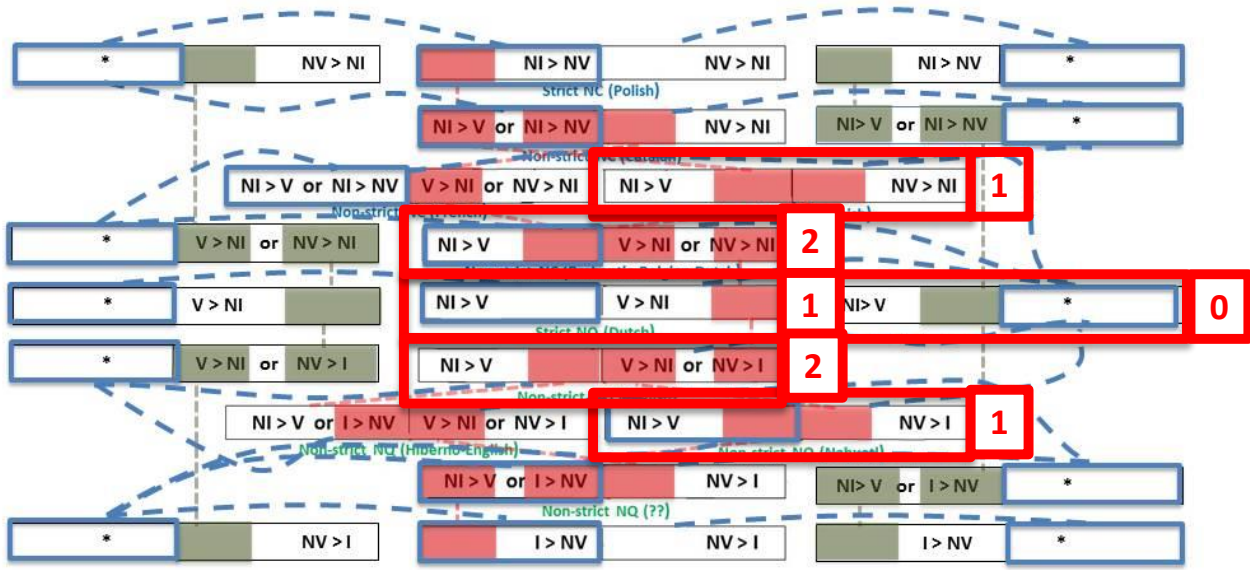




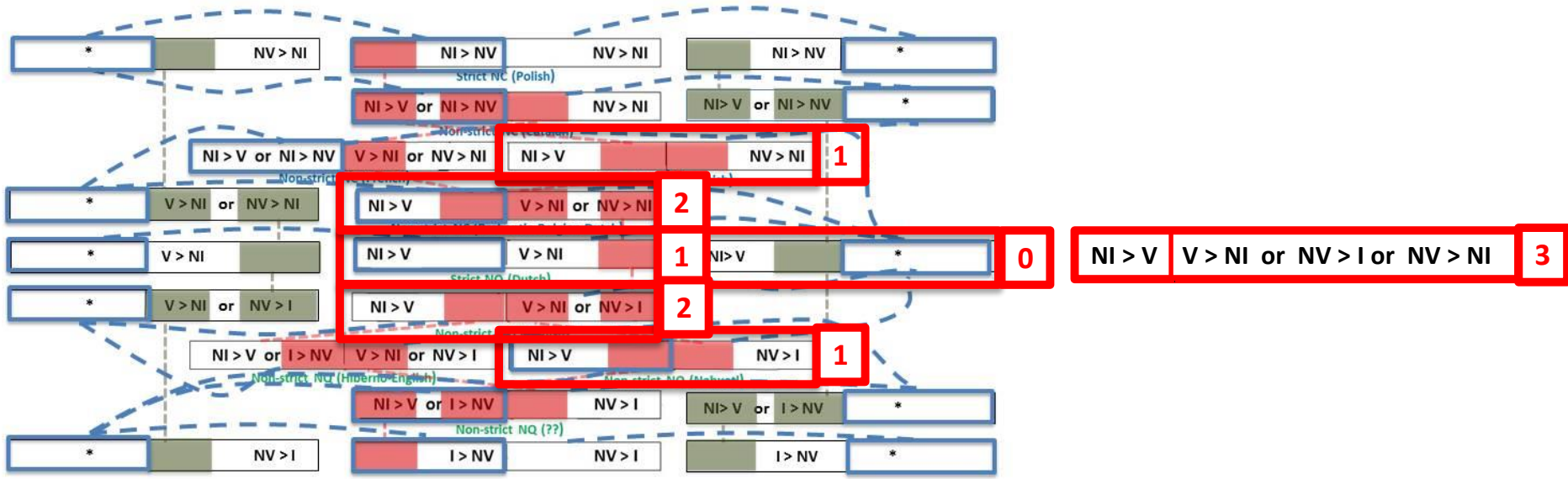
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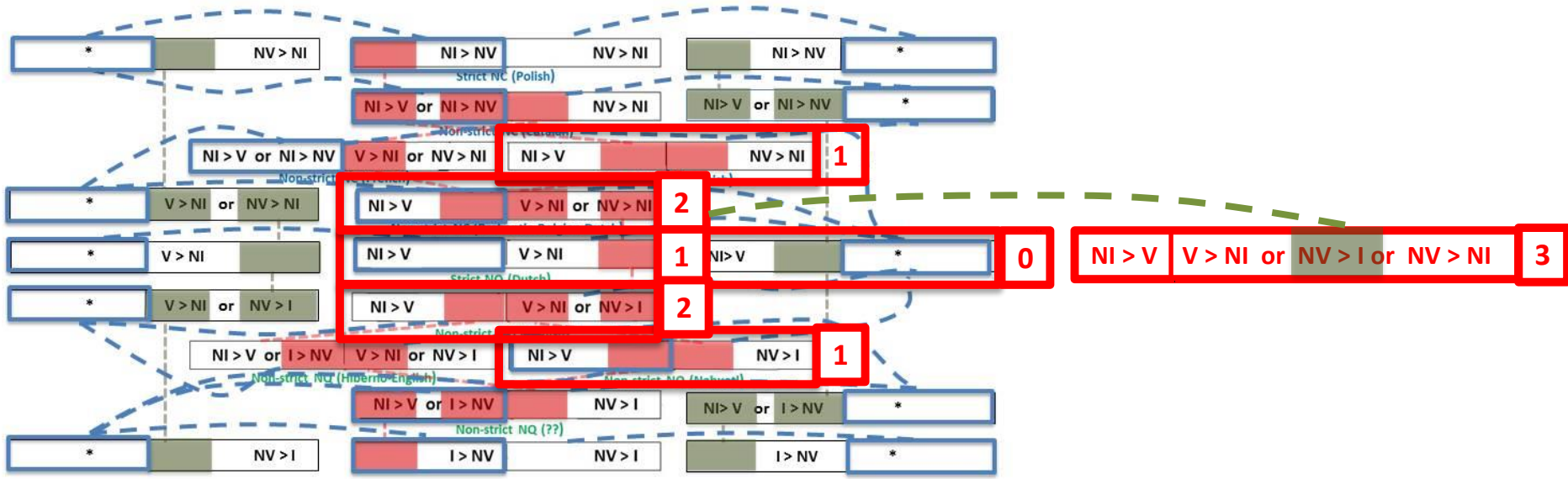


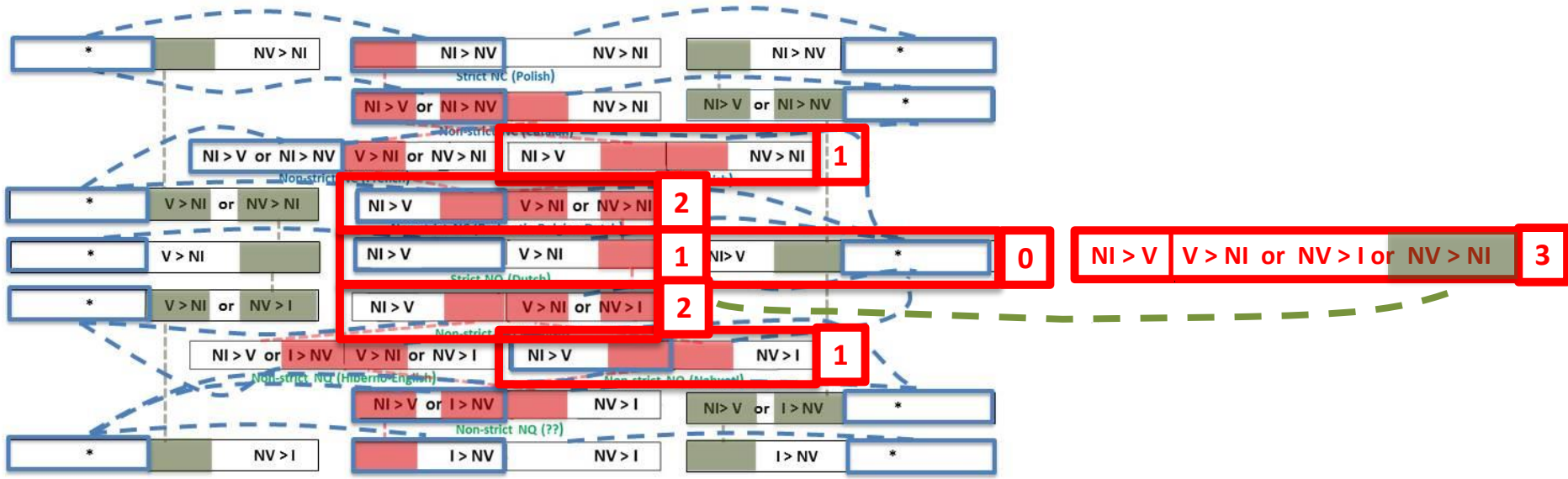




3







* NV > NI

NI > NV NV > NI

NI > NV *

Strict NC (Polish)

NI > V or NI > NV NV > NI

NI > V or NI > NV *

Non-strict NC (Czech)

NI > V or NI > NV

V > NI or NV > NI

NI > V

NV > NI

1

Non-strict NC (Slovak)

* V > NI or NV > NI

NI > V V > NI or NV > NI

2

* V > NI

NI > V V > NI

1

NI > V *

0

NI > V V > NI or NV > I or NV > NI

3

Strict NQ (Dutch)

* V > NI or NV > I

NI > V V > NI or NV > I

2

Non-strict NQ (Hungarian)

NI > V or I > NV

V > NI or NV > I

NI > V

NV > I

1

Non-strict NQ (Dutch)

NI > V or I > NV NV > I

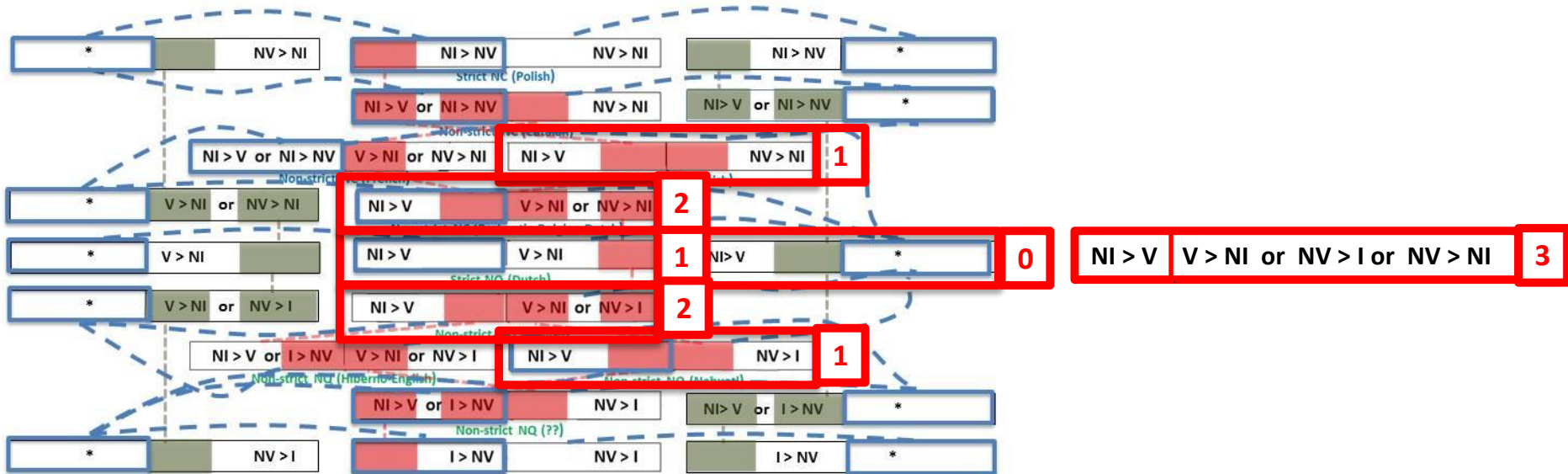
NI > V or I > NV *

Non-strict NQ (??)

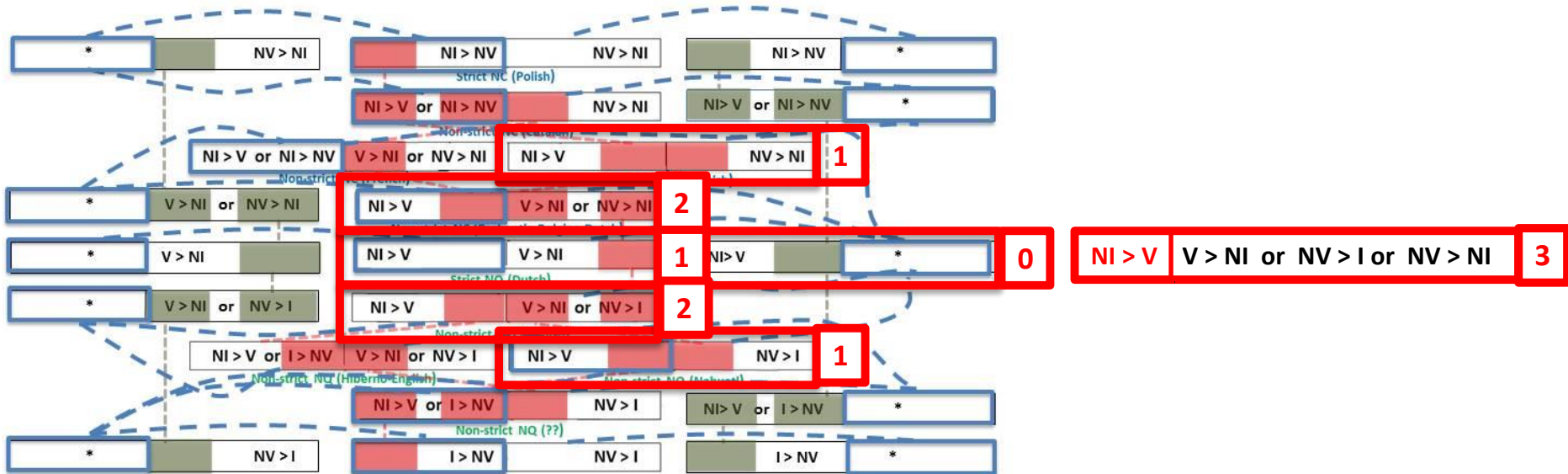
* NV > I

I > NV NV > I

I > NV *

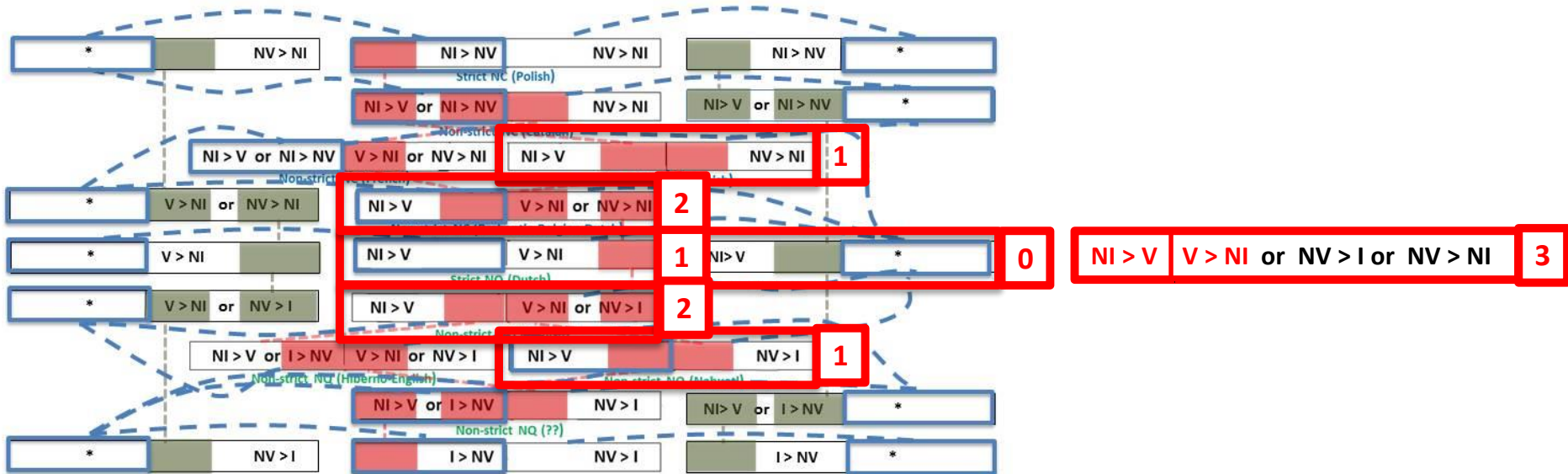


English



English

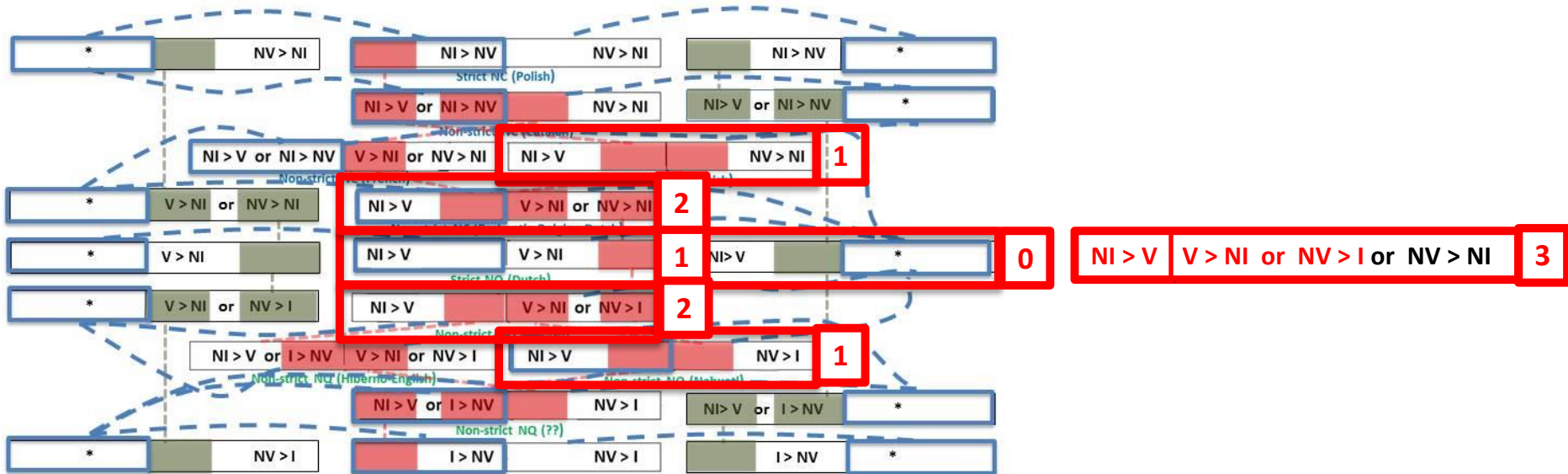
Nobody saw me.



English

I saw nobody.

Nobody saw me.

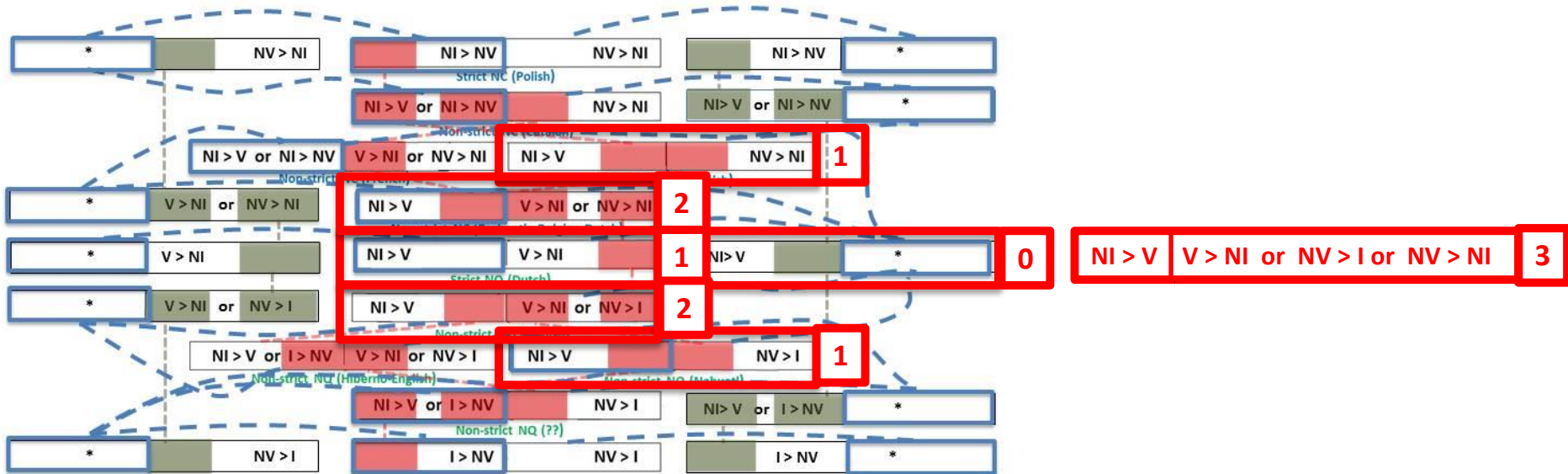


English

Nobody saw me.

I saw nobody.

I didn't see anybody.



English

Nobody saw me.

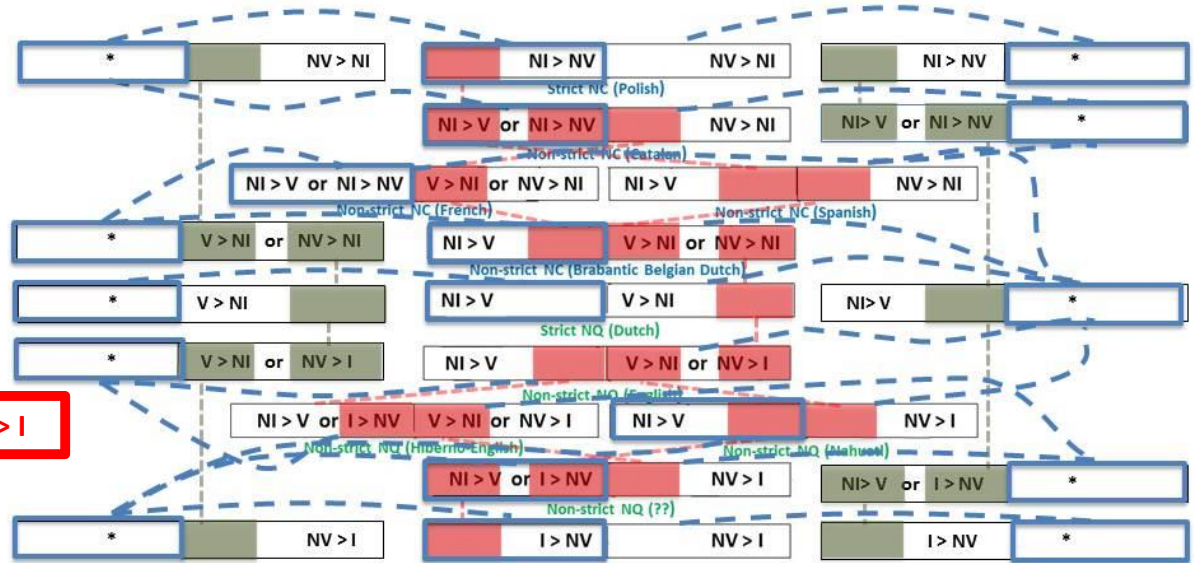
I saw nobody.

I didn't see anybody.

I didn't see nobody

NI > V or I > NV or NI > NV V > NI or NV > I

Mapuche



1. Introduction

2. Frequency

3. Types and subtypes

4. More subtypes

5. Still more subtypes

6. Conclusion

1. It is wrong that NC is very frequent

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- 2. It is wrong or not too helpful to conceive of non-strict NC as one simple subtype**

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- 3. NQ also has strict and non-strict subtypes**
- 4. The NC and NQ subtypes are very similar**

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- 2. It is wrong or not too helpful to conceive of non-strict NC as one simple subtype**
- 3. NQ also has strict and non-strict subtypes**
- 4. The NC and NQ subtypes are very similar**
- 5. The explanation needs several principles, viz. simplicity, form meaning mismatch, Neg First, language contact, style, diachrony**

**6. One should not take any term for granted.
'Negative indefinite' is not clear.**

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'Negative indefinite' is not clear.**

7. One should read footnotes.