

# Négation et prosodie en anglais contemporain

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# Corpus, méthode, but

- Corpus : ICE-GB (partie orale)
- Analyse discursive et auditive
- Questions :
  - Contraction vs. Non contraction
  - Prosodie

# Quelques travaux antérieurs

- Cognitive Prominence Principle -> accentuation de la négation
- Yaeger-Dror (1997): Social Agreement Principle -> désaccentuation et contraction de la négation
- Kaufmann (2002): registre -> désaccentuation de la négation plus courante en discours informel
- Hedberg & Sosa (2003) : négations majoritairement accentuées. « Contradiction contour » : montée finale

# Contraction vs. non contraction

do not	3,18%	don't	96,82%
does not	10,71%	doesn't	89,29%
did not	7,85%	didn't	92,15%

could not	13,29%	couldn't	86,71%
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shall not	25,00%	shan't	75,00%
should not	33,33%	shouldn't	66,67%

will not	19,02%	won't	80,98%
would not	13,68%	wouldn't	86,32%

must not	28,57%	mustn't	71,43%
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may not	96,88%	mayn't	3,13%
might not	91,30%	mightn't	8,70%

# Contraction vs. non contraction

## Cas de HAVE, BE et CAN

3 formes possibles : forme pleine, contraction négation ou contraction auxiliaire

has not	23,08%	hasn't	74,04%	's not	2,88%
cannot	9,04%	can't	90,07%	can not	0,89%
is not	17,45%	isn't	37,62%	's not	44,93%

HAVE: hasn't > has not > 's not

CAN: can't > cannot > can not

BE: 's not > isn't > is not

contraction auxiliaires have et be ('s not) : confusion possible  
(en particulier passif vs. present perfect)

# Contraction

*vs.*

# non contraction de l'auxiliaire

# Paramètres prosodiques et phonétiques

- Environnement phonétique: sifflantes (*this, which*)



*this is not my tape*

- Prosodie: frontière d'unité intonative



*Actually the heat in that part of Italy / is not as great as when you get south of the Rhone*



- Hésitation

*the definition of government is is is not an easy one*



- Débit

*the problem for you is not the way other people view you*

# Contraction

vs.

## non contraction de

## not

# Paramètres syntaxiques :

## Type de phrase (1) : exclamatives

- Contraction obligatoire
  - *Isn't it beautiful* (« comme c'est beau »)
  - ≠ *Is it not beautiful?* (question)
  - *Aren't you clever* (« tu es un petit malin »)

# Paramètres syntaxiques :

## Type de phrase (1), exclamatives

### Prosodie des exclamatives négatives

- Vraies exclamatives : ton haut sur syllabe nucléaire + allongement et/ou pause



*Isn't it beautiful*



*Isn't it awful ?*

- Autres exclamatives : chute sur syllabe nucléaire + allongement auxiliaire négatifé



*Aren't you clever*

# Paramètres syntaxiques: Type de phrase (2), interro-négatives

Forme contractée (+ fréquente) :

- Questions fermées : présupposition positive
  - Attente réponse négative

*Aren't you going to do it through an agency then*

- Attente réponse positive

*Isn't that right*

- Questions ouvertes avec *why* : jugement « it should be the case »

*Angela why aren't you home yet (R)*

*But why isn't it in French (F)*



# Paramètres syntaxiques: type de phrase (2): interro-négatives

Forme non contractée : présupposition négative

Questions fermées:



- *You don't like hairs... Do you not like hairs in general*
- *A. Not worth it. B. Is it not? (\*isn't it) A. Not really no cos*
- Questions ouvertes:

*Why is it not radiosensitive*

*Why are you not at the wailing wall*

# Paramètres syntaxiques: type de phrase (2): interro-négatives

## Prosodie

- Schéma montant (R) : implication de l'interlocuteur  
(réponse attendue positive ou négative )



Isn't that right ?



Don't you ever stick your finger in your ear

- Schéma descendant (F) : Affirmation d'une certitude  
(pas de réponse attendue ou alors positive)



Isn't that the key

# Paramètres pragmatiques

- Contradiction : FR sur la négation (contractée ou pas)



It isn't irrelevant



This is not a UN action

- Confirmation : Contraction, F sur négation

It isn't the same

(Vs. \*It's not the same)

# Paramètres discursifs

- Discours qui se cherche / hésitations : non contraction négation



*The disability side of it is „not new to me* (pause/hésitation)

- Rectification / correction de son discours: emphase sur NOT (id. cas précédent)



How many of you envisage do NOT envisage a birthday cake (2a  
44F51)

# Négation locale

- pas de contraction : accent nucléaire F ou FR



*Do you ever have not nice candidates (FR sur not)*

*vs don't you ever have nice candidates*



which is that it is not accountable to an elected body, it is accountable for the Home Secretary's police authority

- Contraction : FR uniquement ?

She didn't do it because she was tired

She didn't go home because Peter was there

# Négation dans les clivées

- clivées en IT : 's not; Schéma F/F, deux parties informatives, focus contrastif

1b48F109 it's not the actual story or even the people that attract me to write about something it's the places

2b36F44 It's not the frog but the tadpole

- clivées en what : Schéma F/F, deux parties informatives, présupposé contrastif, passage de p à non-p, noyau sur not

1b27F53 What is not legitimate...

s2b15F30 However what the coalition does not want F/ is a major israeli strike against civilian targets F<,> which the allied air forces have been careful to avoid

# Résumé

- Contraction + fréquente à l'oral surtout en discours informel
- Contraintes prosodiques et phonétiques pour contraction auxiliaire
- Contraction *vs.* non contraction de *not* :
  - Exclamatives *vs.* questions
  - Interro-négative :
    - contraction = présupp négative / non contr = présupp positive
    - R = implication co-E / F = affirmation certitude
  - Contradiction (FR) /confirmation (F)
  - Non contraction : hésitations / correction propre discours
  - Négation locale : nucleus sur négation; contraction FR / non contraction F ou FR

# Conclusions

- Contraction & non contraction ne sont pas toujours interchangeables (exclamatives : contraction contrainte, contradiction)
- Lorsqu'elles semblent interchangeables, elles induisent tout de même des nuances pragmatiques (interrogatives négatives)
- La contraction vs non contraction peut dépendre de paramètres prosodiques, phonétiques et discursifs
- L'intonation peut changer le sens de la phrase (portée de la négation)