

Code Switching



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THEORETICAL & DESCRIPTIVE LINGUISTICS

Code Switching: Definition



Cambridge Handbook of Linguistic Code Switching:

“Broadly defined, code switching is the ability on the part of bilinguals to alternate effortlessly between their two languages”

-> Sometimes I'll start a sentence in Spanish Y
TERMINO EN ESPAÑOL: toward a typology of code-switching

Why this subject?



- “English disease”



(“for recovery and preservation of the Dutch language”)

- Research question: How do Dutch people evaluate Dutch, Dutch/English and English?

Measuring language attitudes: basic theories



- **Mentalist theory:** sees language attitudes as being mental and neural states of disposition (Chomsky)

VS

- **Behaviourist theory:** considers attitudes to be behaviours or responses to a given situation

Measuring language attitudes: classical contraposition (1/2)



- Direct methods vs. indirect methods
- Direct methods introduce aspects with negative methodological connotations:
 - possible ambiguity in the formulation
 - open questions: limitation of writing for answering
 - distortive (both open and closed questions)
 - most important: **more rational**

Measuring language attitudes: classical contraposition (2/2)



- Indirect methods:
 - more spontaneous and sincere responses
 - bear in mind the **affective** component of language attitudes, which are very often irrational

Matched guise technique



- “This technique involves asking interviewees to evaluate the **personal qualities of speakers** whose voices are recorded on tape, whereby the **same speaker** uses **different linguistic varieties**”

Matched guise technique: features (1/2)



- Respondent is not aware of same person speaking
- Social/independent variables can be taken into account
- Spoken material studied from a strictly linguistic approach (phonetic, morphological, syntactic, etc.)
- Total control over variable 'voice': speed, volume, tone, style, length, etc.
- Spoken material can be short (+- 20 sec.)
- Evaluation on the basis of voices

Matched guise technique: features (2/2)



- Distractors
- Respondents should not know that the experiment is about code switching
- 7 points scale
- Results: often stereotyped prejudices towards a variety

My experiment (1/3)



<u>Language</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Length</u>
Spanish	B	20 sec.
Dutch	A	20 sec.
Frisian (+Dutch)	C	20 sec.
German	D	20 sec.
Dutch/English	A	20 sec.
French	E	20 sec.
Norwegian	F	20 sec.
English	A	20 sec.

Evaluation after every sound clip

My experiment (2/3)



- English words in Dutch: ‘awkward’, ‘sale’, ‘e-mail’, ‘checken’, ‘fail’, ‘nice’, ‘bullshit’, ‘gadget’, etc.
- Validity: same conditions for every speaker and respondent:
 - text
 - gender of the speaker
 - tone, style, speed, volume, length
 - respondent conditions

My experiment (3/3)



- Social variables: age, gender, level of education, travel behaviour
- Dependent variables: I think this speaker is

old-fashioned	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	modern
stupid	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	smart
unattractive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	attractive
strange	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	normal
unkind	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	kind
poor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	rich

Matched guise technique: Critiques



Basic question for an experiment:

Do I measure what I want to measure?

- Stereotype that does not exist
- Often done in classrooms
- Repeating -> different focus
- Only one style -> generalizability
- No real-time responses
- Semantic differentials often copied
- Biggest limitation: Values and their meaning

Statistical analysis: 4-way repeated measures ANOVA (1/3)



4 social/independent variables:

4-way

>1 scores from the respondents

**repeated
measures**

Compare means

ANOVA

Null-hypotheses:

- There is no effect in the means of factor 'age'
- There is no effect in the means of factor 'gender'
- There is no effect in the means of factor 'education level'
- There is no effect in the means of factor 'travel behaviour'
- There are no interaction effects

Statistical analysis: 4-way repeated measures ANOVA (2/3)



- Assumptions:
 - Normal distribution per subgroup: Q-Q plot
 - Same variance in subgroups:
smallest variance $> 0.5 \times$ biggest variance
 - Dependent observations

Statistical analysis: 4-way repeated measures ANOVA (3/3)



- $SST = SSG + SSE$
- Repeated measures: $SSE - SSS$
- 4-way \rightarrow 4 factors contribute to SSG \rightarrow F-values (and effect sizes if significant, partial eta-squared) for every single variable and every possible interaction:

A, B, C, D

A*B A*C A*D B*C B*D C*D

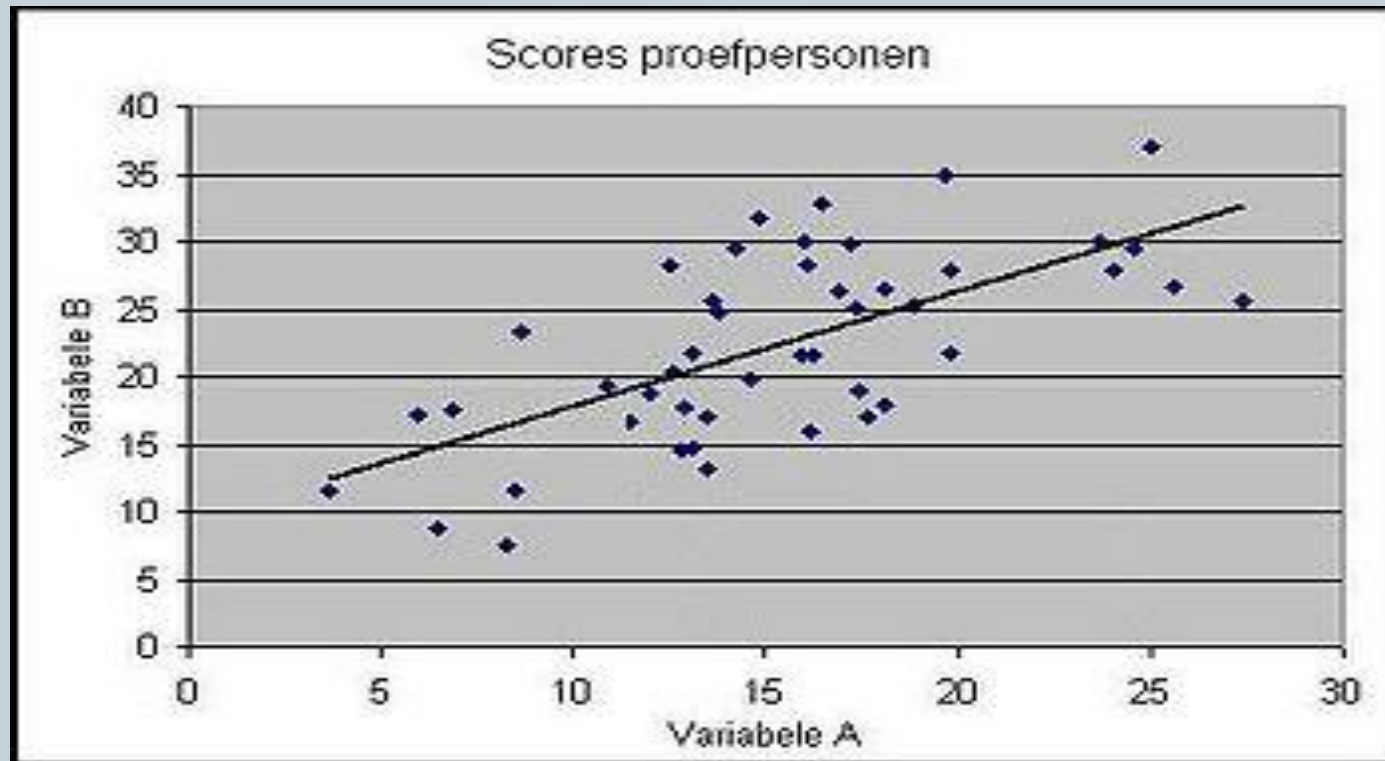
A*B*C A*B*D A*C*D B*C*D

A*B*C*D

Factor analysis (1/2)



- Underlying factors?



Factor analysis (2/2)



- Why?
 - searching for explanations
 - reducing variables
 - getting orthogonal variables (good predictors for regression analysis)

Assumptions:

- variables at least at interval level
- enough respondents ($n > 10 \times$ number of variables)

Questions



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Thanks for your attention