



Pimp My Lexis

Determinants in Socio-Lexicology: the Case of English Loans

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Background & Research Question

Anglicism-Research

Long-standing tradition: **HOW** do we adopt anglicisms

Last decades: overshadowed by EFL-research

However, the questions remains: **WHY** do we use anglicisms

Variational Sociolinguistics

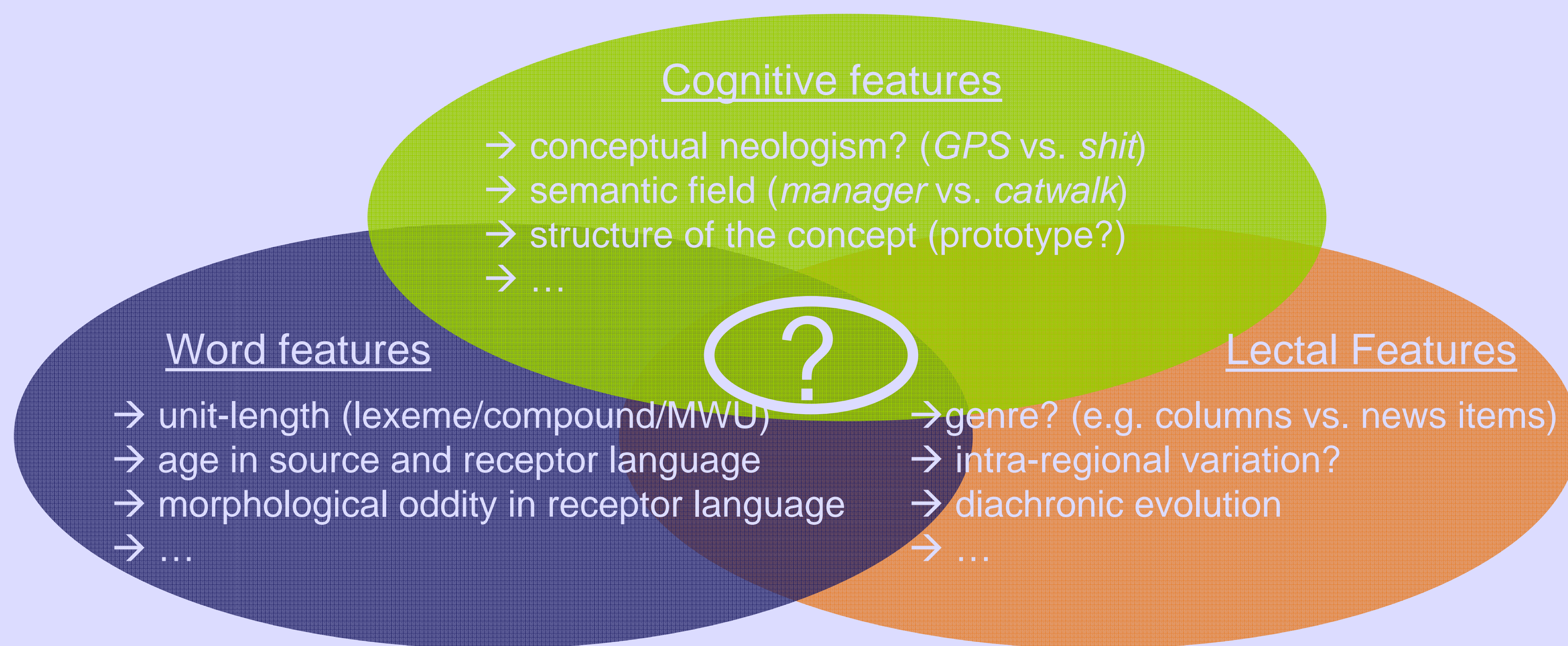
Main question: what factors determine the use for form A instead of form B (phonology, syntax, ...)

But: lack of attention for **lexical variation** (see Geeraerts in press)

Which factors determine the use of English loans in Dutch?

- gaining insight in the general mechanisms of lexical variation
- grasping the motivation for using anglicisms

Possible determinants in socio-lexicology



Methodology

Corpus based:

- Dutch Newspaper corpus for Northern & Southern Dutch
- Database of anglicisms in Dutch (built semi -automatically)

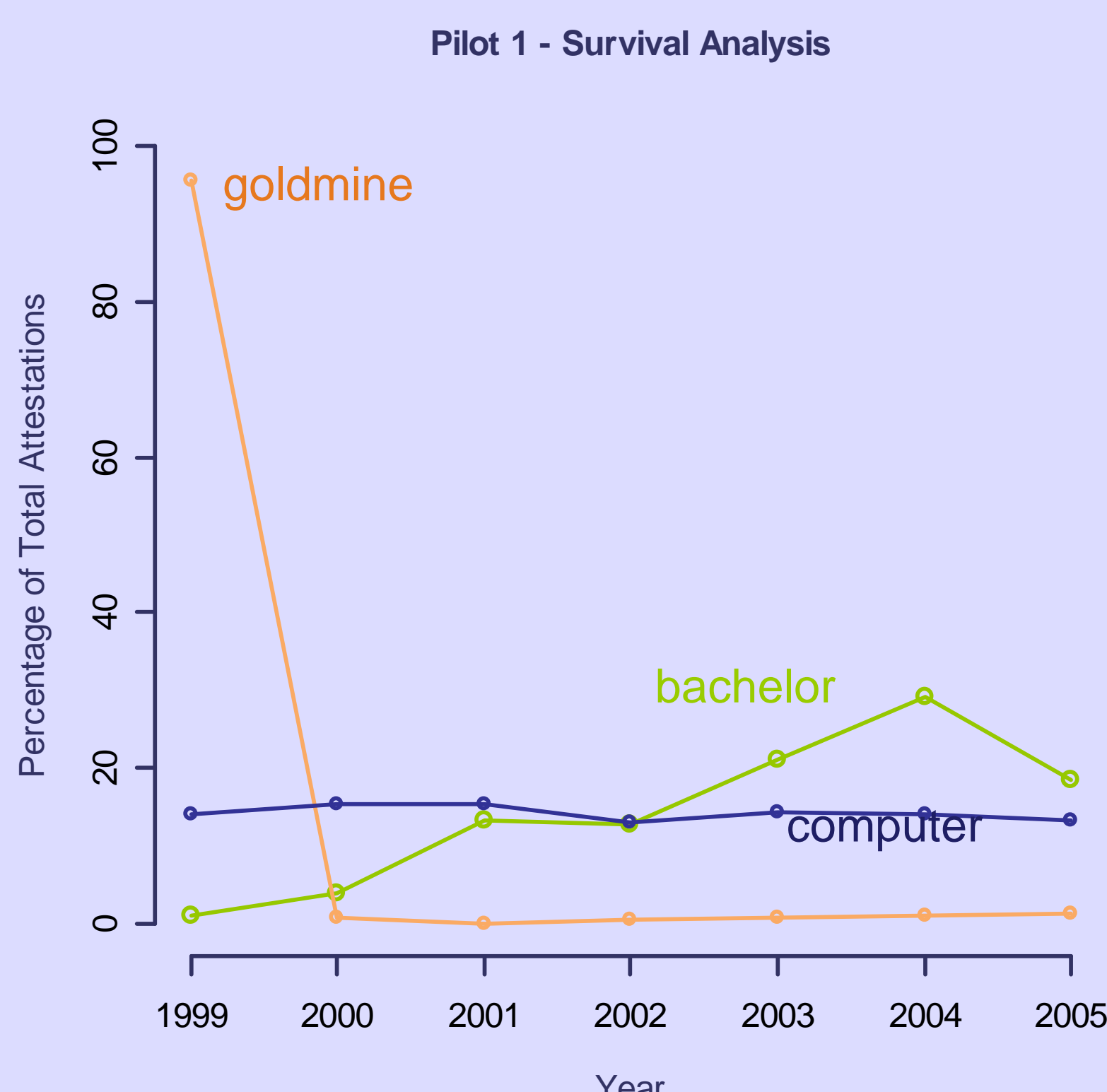
Quantitative:

- Statistical analyses
- Concept-based

The lay of the land: preliminary case-studies

Felicity Conditions

→ cluster patterns to determine survival conditions for anglicisms



Regional Variation

→ keywords analysis (Scott 1993) to determine regional preferences

South vs. North		North vs. South	
Keyword	P-val.	Keyword	P-val.
match	<0.001	toernooi	<0.001
start (verb)	<0.001	beginnen	<0.001
weekend	<0.001	weekeinde	<0.001
job	<0.001	baan	<0.001
parking	<0.001	parkeerplaats	<0.001

Dutch counter-part

Preference for the anglicism in Flanders (South vs. North)

Preference for the Dutch/hybrid alternative in the Netherlands (North vs. South)

Unit-Length: Catchphrases

→ determine factors for lexicalisation: variation in the use of English MWU's

