



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 ELF-research

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

Variational Sociolinguistics

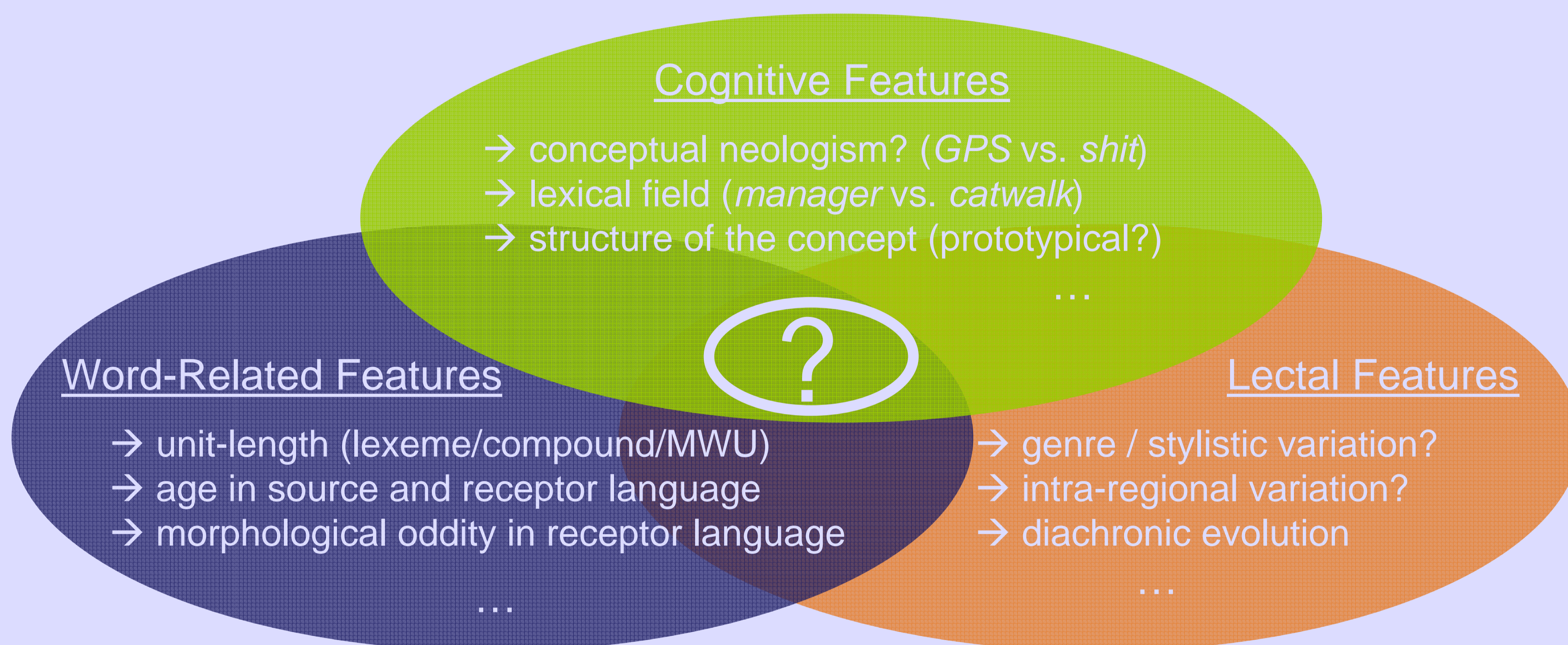
Main question: what factors determine the choice for form A instead of form B (phonology, syntax, ...)

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

Which factors determine the use of English loans in Dutch?

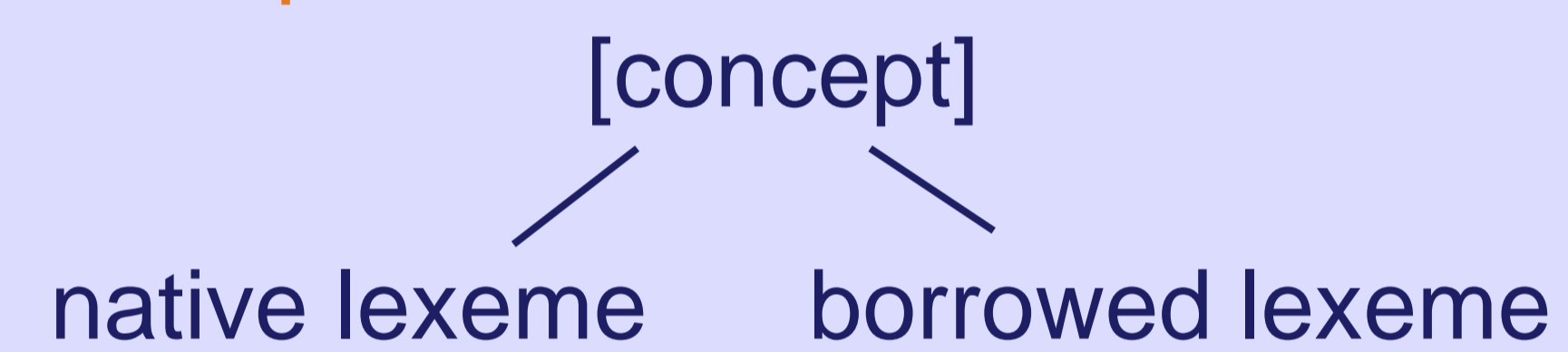
- gaining insight in the general mechanisms of lexical variation
- grasping the motivation for using anglicisms

Possible determinants in socio-lexicology: why prefer anglicisms?



Methodology

Concept-based:



Corpus-based:

- Dutch Newspaper corpus for Belgian & Netherlandic Dutch
- Database of anglicisms (built semi -automatically)

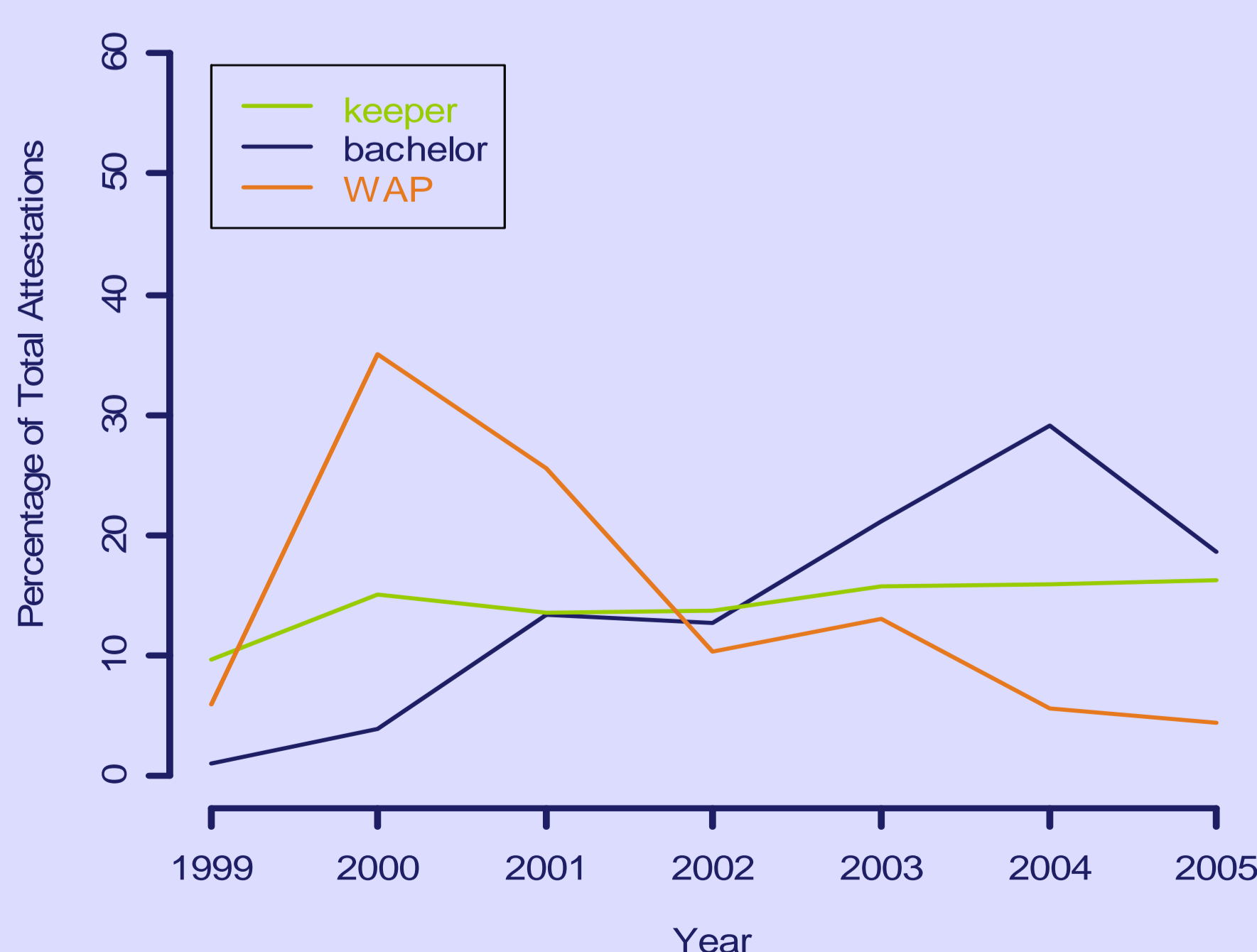
Quantitative: Statistical analyses

The lay of the land: preliminary case-studies

Felicity Conditions

- cluster patterns to determine survival conditions for anglicisms

Survival Analysis



Regional Variation

- keywords analysis (Scott 1997) to determine regional preferences

South vs. North

Keyword	P-val.
match	<0.001
start (verb)	<0.001
weekend	<0.001
job	<0.001
parking	<0.001

Hints at preference for anglicisms in Flanders? (but **CAUTION!**)

North vs. South

Keyword	P-val.
toernooi	<0.001
beginnen	<0.001
weekeinde	<0.001
baan	<0.001
parkeerplaats	<0.001

Preference for the Dutch/hybrid alternative in the Netherlands?

Dutch counterpart

Unit-Length: Catchphrases

- variation in the amount of quoted vs. spontaneous use

Multi Word Units

