

## **Abstract in English**

This dissertation deals with one form of language contact in today's Dutch: the 'intrasentential codeswitching' between Dutch and English. The term 'intrasentential codeswitching' refers to such a bilingual situation in which the two languages have unequal roles: the so called *matrix language* (here: Dutch) determines the grammatical structure of codeswitching, and the so called *embedded language* (here: English) provides elements of various length which are inserted/embedded into the matrix frame. The definition of codeswitching which sees the phenomenon as a kind of insertion is based on Myers-Scotton's theories (1992, 2001, 2005) introduced in *Matrix Language Frame Model* (MLF-model). It is a structural model based on neuro- and psycho-linguistic research of language formation. The outcome of the research is a formulation of a set of grammatical hypotheses and principals which explain the codeswitching structure and which the author declares to be universally applicable to all language pairs.

In this research, the Dutch-English codeswitching has been examined from a grammatical point of view. The research material consists of a written corpus, which contains 430 examples of Dutch-English mixed sentences. First of all, a morphological and syntactical analysis of the corpus has been provided and a number of structural tendencies observed in the corpus have been described. Based on this, a set of so called "local" hypotheses and conclusions have been formulated. Second of all, the local observations have been linked to the model. The aim was to verify to what extent the local hypothesis correspond with the universal hypotheses (MLF). The validity of three crucial principles formulated in the MLF-model has been tested, namely *The Morpheme Order Principle*; *the System Morpheme Principle* and *the Uniform Structure Principle*. The purpose of the testing was to find out whether the MLF-model can be indeed referred to as universally valid.

The research has uncovered a number of local structural tendencies of Dutch-English codeswitching as far as the switching of different constituents and their grammatical behaviour is concerned. All of the observations seem to be in accordance with the theories formulated in the MLF-model. The three tested principals have also been proved applicable to the language pair Dutch-English. As a consequence, the corpus analysis has confirmed that the MLF-model-hypotheses are indeed universally valid and can explain the structure of intrasentential codeswitching.