

Mandarin-English Code-Switching Proposal

Code-switching in Mandarin and English is prevalent within China and in multilingual Chinese diaspora communities throughout the globe, though this project will zoom in on Southeast Asia. Mandarin-English code switching exists for a number of reasons that pertain to code-switching between other languages. Bilingual Mandarin-English speakers employ code switching as a form of self-expression. In conversation, code-switching between English and Mandarin enables bilinguals to selectively include or exclude interlocutors who lack Mandarin competency or interlocutors who lack English competency. Code-switching reveals the language in a bilingual has internalized each concept. For instance, a bilingual might explain philosophy in Mandarin but music theory in English since they have conceptualized philosophy in Mandarin but music theory in English. Code-switching serves a phatic function. Speakers sprinkle a few English words into Mandarin-dominated speech or vice-versa in order to emphasize the few distinctively expressed words.

From a standpoint specific to English-Mandarin code-switching, this code-switching type stands out as multi-contextual. Mandarin-English code-switching pervades a wide array of social and conversational contexts, including casual conversations, blogging, academia, interviews, and movies. This investigation will evaluate code-switching in blogging, in a movie, and interview question-prompted conversation. Considering an assertion that Mandarin speakers opt for English monosyllabic (i.e., one-syllable) words in a dissertation titled *Chinese-English Code-Switching in Blogs by Young People* (p 54), this investigation will quantify the proportion of English words that are monosyllabic. This study will have to filter out the multisyllabic words that Mandarin speakers have no choice but to use, such as the word “english” or proper names like “michael” or “backstreet” in “backstreet boys.” Then the number of everyday English monosyllables will be compared with the total number of English common, everyday words.

Code-Switching in (Linguistic Data Consortium)

UI01FAZ_0106	418065	422452	然后 在家 就 没有 说 特地 去
开 radio 这样 来 听 的 啦			
UI01FAZ_0106	430299	434808	english 的 算 现在 现在 就 很少
咯			
UI01FAZ_0106	434808	439309	有 听 啦 不过 多数 都是 好像
说 算是 旧 歌 这样 啦			
UI01FAZ_0106	439309	446364	现在 的 太太 太 hot 太 什么 就
不大 能 接受			
UI01FAZ_0106	450665	456968	嗯 之前 有 听 那些 好像 说
backstreet boy [ah] celine dion [ah] 他们 的 歌 这样 咯			
UI01FAZ_0106	460189	470016	哦 就是说 backstreet boys 的 歌
就是 有 几 首 流行 的 as long as you love me [ah] 然后 drowning			
UI01FAZ_0106	470016	476794	然后 那些 air supply 的 然后
michael learns to rock 的 啊 certain 的 啦			

UI01FAZ_0106	481585	488255	因为 因为 是 那 那 那 就是说 还
在 读书 的 时候 听 歌 比 较 多 嘛			
UI01FAZ_0106	488255	494820	然后 听 得 比 较 多 好像 说 比
较 接 接受 好像 说 进 脑 里 面 的 比 较 多			
UI01FAZ_0106	494820	503313	然后 现在 工作 过 后 就 很少 听
歌 了 然 后 有 时 候 听 到 的 就 很 新 的 歌			
UI01FAZ_0106	503313	513643	然后 又 有 些 是 很 rock 的 他们
好像 很 呐 喊 那 样 呐 喊 的 就 不 大 能 接 受 咯 所 以 还 是 go back 回 去 之 前 的			
UI01FAZ_0106	513643	519460	算是 有 了 年 纪 这 样 的 歌 曲 比 较
容 易 接 受 这 样 咯			
UI01FAZ_0106	519460	522569	karaoke 有 啊 有 啊 有 啊
UI01FAZ_0106	522569	526696	有 时 候 有 去 咯 跟 同 学 啊 跟
colleague 这 样 去 咯			
UI01FAZ_0106	528935	533639	哦 有 去 多 数 是 去 redbox 的
啦			
UI01FAZ_0106	533639	538265	因 为 它 的 歌 比 较 流 行 啊 比 较
算 是 比 较 新 啊 选 择 也 比 较 多			
UI01FAZ_0106	540650	547262	不 是 我 唱 的 啊 我 朋 友 唱 流
行 歌 嘛 我 还 是 给 回 有 一 段 年 纪 的 旧 歌 哈 哈			

The data that this investigation have access to includes SEAME's records of Singaporean English-Mandarin code-switching in 192 hours of interviews, two SEAME-derived and repackaged informal speech tests sets in which one is Singaporean English-dominated and the other is Mandarin-dominated, the subtitles of *The Journey*(2014) -- a movie illustrative of code-switching in a diasporan Chinese community in Malaysia -- if they can be isolated in Open Subtitles via the number tags, and English-Mandarin blogs by young Macao people. Two articles deal with the SEAME data, one by the Linguistic Consortium Data, One in *Interspeech* 2010, and an article in Digital Library the same as in *Interspeech*. Another article pertains to *The Journey*(2014). A dissertation titled *Chinese-English Code Switching in Blogs by Young Macao People* expounds on the patterns observed in the blogs, including the propensity for English monosyllables.

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