CODE-SWITCHING IN THE CONTEXT OF COMPUTER MEDIATED COMMUNICATION

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WHAT IS CODE-SWITCHING?

''juxtaposition within the same speech exchange of passages of speech belonging to two different grammatical systems or subsystems''
(Gumperz, 1982:59)

''the use of more than one linguistic variety, by a single speaker in the course of a single conversation''
(Heller & Pfaff, 1996:594)

THE CORPUS

- comprises one-to-one and one-to-many text-based exchanges via two particular platforms of CMC

Asynchronous platform of CMC

Synchronous platforms of CMC

GOALS

- to examine language practices in the context of computer-mediated communication focusing on **conversational code-switching between Slovak as L1 and English** in **private written interactions among colleagues in a workplace environment**

- participants: 'non-native' speakers of English who use English as a 'lingua franca' - the global medium of communication

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Test **Paolillo's hypothesis** (2011)
- generalization that synchronous modes of computer mediated discourse (CMD) will contain more conversational code-switching than asynchronous ones

2. Identify and analyze:
- the **forms and functions of CS in online communication**
- the **interrelation of linguistic choices, communicative practices** and **media affordance**

3. Consider:
- the **interrelation of medium and social/situation factors**

<u>Aim</u>: to understand the pragmatic functions, social purposes, and interactional dynamics of CS online (Herring, 2007)

EXPECTED RESULTS AND POTENTIAL PROFITS

- preliminary findings show different behavior depending on the online communication platform chosen

- this research project hopes to provide new insights on the language choices and code-switching patterns in identified synchronous and asynchronous CMC platforms with the aim to contribute to the current body of knowledge dealing with this phenomenon

THANK YOU