Linguistic entrainment in English as a lingua franca and lingua receptiva dialogue between speakers of German and Dutch

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Cognitive and interactional models of language use in dialogue assume that speakers deliberately and non-deliberately adapt their utterances based on verbal and non-verbal input from their interlocutor. These adaptation processes, which have been described as convergence, accommodation, alignment, entrainment, and audience or recipient design, are likely to be affected if participants speak different native languages. In this paper we investigate how current cognitive and interactional models of language use in dialogue can be combined and adapted to analyse the process of linguistic entrainment in English as a lingua franca (ELF) and lingua receptiva (LaRa) dialogue between native speakers of German and Dutch. We hypothesize that linguistic entrainment in both LaRa and ELF is more deliberate than in L1 dialogue, as automatic entrainment draws on shared linguistic representations, which are more limited if participants speak different languages. In addition, the LaRa mode does not allow for 'literal' entrainment - e.g. literal repetition of linguistic elements between speakers. However, we argue that participants do entrain on the linguistic level by using semantic equivalents of linguistic elements used by their interlocutor.