

# **Bilingualism and Language Contact: Effects on Majorcan Catalan Third-person Pronominal Clitics**

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The present study analyses the results in the production of the third-person pronominal clitics from two different datasets: (i) spontaneous interviews with forty-five bilingual Catalan-Spanish speakers (26 women and 19 men, aged between 16 to 67 years old), and (ii) elicited data by a questionnaire composed of two elicited tasks (preferences values and production tasks). The questionnaire was fulfilled by 43 of the 45 speakers. The participants are residents of two major areas: the capital, Palma, and the villages outside of Palma (Llucmajor and Capdepera).

This investigation aims at determining whether there is transfer or convergence between the two languages in the bilingual setting of Majorca and whether there exist social variables (such as gender, age, educational level, area of residence, linguistic preference, and type of bilingualism) that affect the production of the distinct variants which match Majorcan Catalan (MC) or Central Catalan (CC).

The results show evidence of effects in producing the third-person clitics in MC by bilingualism with Spanish. First, there is a partial transfer pattern in the neutral clitic *ho* in MC, which shows a semantic extension matching Spanish *lo*. Second, the bilinguals show a pattern of syllabic (CV(C)) forms of pronominal clitics, favored by similarity with Spanish forms.

These results provide evidence of both morphophonological and semantic transfer in bilinguals' knowledge and production who acquired both languages in childhood. Besides, most of the bilingual speakers produce and accept the Majorcan forms, independently of their social characteristics.