

Contents

Acknowledgments.....	xi
Chapter 1: Introduction.....	1
1.1. Introduction.....	1
1.1.1. Phonological adaptation.....	1
1.1.2. Phonological description of Dutch sandhi processes	4
1.1.3. Phonetic aspects of voice assimilation	9
1.1.4. Word recognition task	13
1.1.5. Speech tempo	15
1.2. The theory of prosodic domains: a brief introduction	15
1.2.1. Constituent length effect	17
1.2.2. The Nespor & Vogel model.....	18
1.2.3. Restructuring of domains.....	21
1.2.4. Phonological Phrase in Dutch	22
1.2.5. Intonational Phrase	24
1.3. Dutch assimilation in the N&V model	25
1.4. Final remarks.....	28
1.5. Outline of this study	28
Chapter 2: Pilot Experiments.....	31
2.1. Introduction.....	31
2.1.1. Aim of the pilots.....	31
2.1.2. Outline of this chapter	33
2.2. The pre-pilot.....	33
2.2.1. Measurement procedure	34
2.2.2. Expectations	35
2.2.3. Results and effects.....	36
2.2.4. Conclusions and consequences	39
2.2.4.1. The application of the Slis method	39
2.2.4.2. Boundary depth	40
2.3. The pilots	41
2.3.1. Material.....	41
2.3.2. Subjects and experimental methods	42
2.3.3. Results and effects.....	43

2.3.3.1. Speech rate	46
2.3.3.2. Assimilation.....	47
2.3.3.3. Speakers differences	47
2.3.3.4. Realized intonation patterns	48
2.4. Conclusions and discussion	49
Chapter 3: Perceptual Ambiguity	53
3.1. Introduction	53
3.1.1. Outline of this chapter	54
3.1.2. Perceptual ambiguity method	54
3.1.2.1. Motivation on theoretical grounds.....	54
3.1.2.2. Description of the method.....	58
3.1.2.3. Possible biases.....	59
3.2. The pilots	61
3.2.1. Aim of the pilots	61
3.2.2. Method.....	62
3.2.2.1. Material	63
3.2.3. Pilot A	66
3.2.3.1. Procedure	66
3.2.3.2. Results and conclusions	68
3.2.4. Pilot B	73
3.2.4.1. Procedure	73
3.2.4.2. Results	73
3.2.4.3. Listeners' perception	75
3.2.4.4. Speech rate.....	77
3.2.4.5. Conclusions	78
3.2.5. The speakers test.....	78
3.2.5.1. Aim and method	78
3.2.5.2. Results and conclusions	79
3.2.6. The lexical preference test	82
3.2.6.1. Procedure	82
3.2.6.2. Results	82
3.2.6.3. Conclusions	85
3.2.7. Conclusions.....	85
3.3. The word-boundary experiment	87
3.3.1. Aim of the experiment	87
3.3.2. Method.....	87
3.3.2.1. Material.....	87
3.3.3. Procedure	88

3.3.4. Results	89
3.3.5. The effects.....	92
3.4. Conclusions.....	93
Chapter 4: Experiments	95
4.1. Introduction.....	95
4.2. Experiment I.....	95
4.2.1. Aim, Approach and Hypothesis	95
4.2.1.1. Expectations	99
4.2.2. Method.....	101
4.2.2.1. Material.....	101
4.2.2.2. Procedure	101
4.2.3. Results	102
4.2.3.1. Effects of constituent length.....	104
4.2.3.2. Effects of speech rate.....	106
4.2.3.3. Effects of speaker	107
4.2.3.4. Effects of stimulus	111
4.2.4. Additional data	113
4.2.4.1. Method and Procedure.....	114
4.2.4.2. Results	114
4.2.5. Discussion of the results	117
4.3. Experiment II	119
4.3.1. Aim and Expectations.....	119
4.3.2. Material and Procedure.....	121
4.3.3. Results	121
4.3.3.1. Effects of constituent length.....	122
4.3.3.2. Effects of speaker	123
4.3.4. Discussion of the results	124
4.4. Conclusions and discussion	125
Chapter 5: Discussion.....	127
5.1. Another look at the aim of the study	127
5.2. Discussion of the basic assumptions	128
5.3. Summary of experimental findings and theoretical interpretations	131
5.4. Alternative interpretations of the experimental findings.....	133
5.5. Further research.....	138

Appendix I	143
Appendix II	144
Appendix III.....	145
Appendix IV	146
References	151
Index.....	159
Samenvatting (Summary in Dutch)	163
Curriculum Vitae.....	169