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**OBJECTIVE AND SUBJECTIVE DIALECTICITY OR QUALIFICATIONS
OF REGIONAL LANGUAGE VARIATIONS IN LITHUANIA
FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF PERCEPTUAL DIALECTOLOGY**

The tradition of perceptual dialectology (PD) research in Lithuania has been developed for a bit more than a decade, yet the holistic research embracing both the conceptualisation of language variants and perception of marked text-stimuli has been carried out only for around 4–5 years. Hence the paper aims at the presentation of the research based on the PD techniques performed in 2014–2016, i.e. the results of the completed project *The Position of Standard Language in the Mental Map of the Lithuanian Language*, which investigated the geolinguistic competence of the ordinary members of language community, and the project *Distribution of Regional Variants and Quasistandard Language at the Beginning of the 21st Century: Perceptual Approach (Perceptual Categorisation of Variants)*, whose research object is the categorisation of perceptual variants, i.e. how the attributes of new dialect formations, their linguistic value and features are related with the image of the quasistandard language and its spread among the members of a society.

The discussed problem is objective versus subjective dialecticity (or qualifications of regional variations) from the point of view of an ordinary member of a language community. The data of the mentioned project make the empirical basis for discussion, e.g.:

- (1) commentaries on the hand-drawn maps of dialects, which turn to be the basis for the generalisation of the subjective conceptualisations of dialecticity;
- (2) the system of the dialect-specific attributes created by the ordinary members of language community which forms the basis for summarising the objective characteristics of dialecticity;
- (3) commentaries on the intellectual (i. e. similarity to standard language and correctness) and aesthetic (i.e. variant attractiveness) values of text-stimuli, which offer the basis for summarising both the objective and the subjective characteristics of dialecticity.

The paper extends the following major insights:

- (1) objective dialecticity from the point of view of an ordinary member of a language community is more correlative with the so-called tertiary features (or the ones that may be estimated as tertiary);
- (2) the kernel of subjective dialecticity from the point of view of an ordinary member of a language community embraces the aesthetic aspect of variants (variant sound characteristics) and their comparability with standard language (the aspects of similarity and correctness).

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**COMPARATIVE ACCOUNT OF HIGH VOWEL LOSS IN DIASPORA JAPANESE:
EVIDENCE FROM HAWAII AND US**

This paper reports the analyses of the high vowel loss in Japanese migrants in Hawai`i and the mainland US. With a century-old history of migration from Japan, the migrant's first languages were transplanted into the new communities in the US. Surrounded by other migrants of their origin, with various dialectal backgrounds the dialect contact in each language had led to the establishment of the regional, albeit unstable, koine. The description of the koines has not been comprehensively conducted in both languages. This paper, therefore, describe a feature of the Japanese koines, i.e. the phonological phenomenon of High Vowel Loss.

High Vowel Loss refers to the deletion of the unstressed /i/ and /u/. This feature can be observed in Japanese (Kondo 1994), and many others (Gordon 1998). In Japanese, it is observed widely in most Eastern Japanese dialects. Based on the previous studies, this paper examines the following aspects:

- Internal constraints of the High Vowel Loss, such as: i. the location of the unstressed high vowel in relation to the stress, ii. The word and phrase structure, and iii. The nature of the surrounding consonants.
- Frequency and lexical features, such as: i. the effect of the frequency and ii. lexicon-specific features.

I will examine the above two aspects with the data of Japanese in Hawai`i and the mainland US. This paper will present realization of the High Vowel Loss and it will compare realization of the phonological phenomenon in the two settings in order to reveal more general patterns that determine its existence.

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CAN 'DIALECT' BE DEFINED BY LINGUISTIC FEATURES?

'Dialect' has been defined countless times in formal or academic use since the parition of the concept (Alvar 1996, Montes Giraldo 1986). Most of these definitions tend to be ambiguous or full of arbitrary expressions (such as 'a language variety of a particular group of speakers', etc.) or extralinguistic considerations (mainly social, political, cultural, psychological or historical considerations), and, therefore, it has become a problematic word (Upton).

The lack of a single acceptable definition for the scientific community and its use with different meanings have induced not only a proliferation of definitions but also names or concepts that avoid the use of this term. In the last decades we have attended the creation of different names, as sociolect, geoelect, regiolect, topolect, ethnolect and even lect, essentially due to the wear of the word 'dialect' and diverse research directions. Moreover, traditionally very few data have been used to draw dialect areas, which causes a problem of reliability of dialect boundaries (Davis 2000).

Facing this situation, we advocate a new definition of 'dialect' based on using linguistic features only. The need to define dialect by linguistic features was fostered by Aurrekoetxea (2013) among others. Nevertheless, in the present situation of the dialectology we consider that we are not able to define this notion properly and suitably. For that reason we propose to set in motion or launch a project which will have the aim to create new tools and better conditions to be able to achieve our goals. The project will be carried out in different phases such as selection of linguistic features and creation of a suitable database, a linguistc analysis of the data using different linguistic theories: Optimality theory, Complex Structure theory, etc. (Aurrekoetxea 2016, Clua 2010, Léonard 2017); selection of different techniques to define dialect areas (deterministic or/and fuzzy clusters, techniques to determine the existence of linguistic boundaries, etc.); an analysis of the results in different languages and, finally, theorizing over the results, taking into account the shared features by distinct settings: the analysis of different types of boundaries, the possibility to scale different dialectal boundaries, the features to consider as a dialect boundary, the minimum difference to be considered as a dialectal boundary, etc.

The project needs some characteristics to ensure its viability: First, languages with different typologies, that is to say, different structures, must take part in the project. If the attempt to define 'dialect' based on linguistic features only is acceptable and applicable in many languages, if not in all of

them, it should be carried out with languages that belong to different typologies. Second, the data has to be as similar as possible in all the languages used for the project; in other words, phonological (including prosodic), morphological, syntactic and lexical data have to be taken into account. In addition, the quantity of each segment must be proportional and similar in all analysed languages. Third, the data has to be parsed in the same theoretical way in all languages. Fourth, and last, the same statistical techniques have to be applied to analyse the data. Finally, knowing, as Kretzschmar (2006) pointed out, that the use of technological tools is not enough, it is crucial to analyse the outcome of these analyses from the point of view of dialectology taking into account an appropriate heuristic to analyze the hierarchy of the boundaries and the relationship between boundary, transition zones and dialects, because not all boundaries denote the existence of a dialect.

We encourage dialectologists who work on Indo-European languages (Romance, Germanic, Balto-Slavic, Uralic, etc.), Ural-Altaiic (Japonic (ala Japanese?), Baltic Finnic, Sami, etc.), and on other language families to take part in the project. For the easier management of the project, we focus on the European languages specifically.

The aim of the project is to clear the way to achieve the situation which will provide a new theoretical framework and technical tools to define ‘dialect’ more precisely and acceptably for the linguistic community, and apart from delimitating the boundaries, to adjust different types of boundaries to determine the dialecticity grade of each dialectal area.

This project will be provided with a timeline which will be supplied with suitable elements and means to assist scholars with the enormous work they have to do.

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**TRANSCRIPTION OF LITHUANIAN DIALECTS BY USING IPA SYMBOLS:
A CASE OF THE EASTERN AUKŠTAITIAN SUBDIALECTS**

Sounds and texts of the Lithuanian dialects (e. c. atlases, text sets, dictionaries of dialects, etc.) are marked by using distinctive national transcription until 2016. However, such marking causes problems in comparing research results of several languages, developing research projects of common Baltic languages, etc. IPA symbols for sounds and texts of the Lithuanian dialects have been attempted to apply since last year: equivalents of the characters have been already selected and their suitability is currently examined by transcribing texts of various subdialects, performing dialectometric research, etc. This report will present the possibilities to transcribe texts of the Eastern Aukštaitian subdialects – one of the largest and the most various Lithuanian subdialects – by using IPA and discuss the most problematic cases of transcription of these subdialects.

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**ONCE MORE ON BALTIC-FINNIC CONVERGENCES IN LATVIAN TOPONYMS
(ON THE BASIS OF LAST TWO VOLUMES OF THE DICTIONARY
OF PLACE-NAMES OF LATVIA, 2013; 2017)**

The loan onyms – borrowings from Finnic languages – in Latvian have been studied carefully for many years (Būga 1924, Endzelīns 1934, Kiparsky 1939, Zeps 1962, 1977, Rudzīte 1968, Braidaks 1972, Boiko 1994, Hirša 1994, Bušs 1998, Bušs, Balode 2007, etc.). The last two volumes of the Dictionary of Latvian Place-Names (*Latvijas vietvārdu vārdnīca*, toponyms with letter R, 2013, and part of letter S, 2018) provides new material of potential Finnicisms – mostly oikonyms and microtoponyms, less hydronyms; only part of them have been included into the scientific circulation till now. There are about 80 entries (with letter R) and about 100 entries (with letter S) connected with Finnic etymons (only about 1/3 of them have already been mentioned before in several onomastic studies, such as Raiskuma ezers, Ramata, Renda, Rinda, Rustēgs, Ruoja, Sabdaga, Salaca, Sāsēris, Segrums, Saunags, etc.). They are more or less clear borrowings from Livonian or Estonian languages and rather often they have lexical parallels in Finnic languages: Rebanī – home-stead in Salaca and Lejasciems < Est. rebane ‘fox’ (cf. also Est. surname Rebane and Latv. surname Rebāns); Rozumegi – village in Šķilbēni < Est. roos ‘rose’ + māgi ‘hill’. These toponyms are often located in the territory earlier inhabited by Livonians or near the border with Estonia (e.g. Raba // Rabakuks – former home-stead in Ainaži, Randa – pasture in Aloja, Sabdaga and Saunags – two villages in Dundaga).

Some of these Latvian toponyms are indirect Finnicisms – they are most probably derived from Latvian anthroponyms of Finnic origin, e.g., Raipala ezers lake in Veclaicene < Latv. surname Raipalis СТАЛТМАНЕ 1981, 148; Sepi – home-stead in Dundaga < Latv. surname Seps СТАЛТМАНЕ 1981, 196, cf. also Est. sèpp ‘smith, blacksmith’ and several Est. village-names Sepaküla EHNR 603. There are also rather many toponyms coined from Latvian appellatives-Finnicisms, e.g., Sadums – a fishing place in Engure: Latv. sadums ‘boat pier on the seafront’ ME III 616 < Liv. sadām, sada-mõ ‘port’ Kett. 351, 352, Est. sadam ‘waterfall, rapidshare; berth; port’, sadamus ‘river mouth’ Wied. 995.

There are rather many hybrid-toponyms in Latvia: Rīzupīte – brook in Lugaži < Est. + Latv.; Rodīķis – field in Dundaga < (?) Liv. + Latv. Some suffixes of possible Finnic origin can be observed: Ruoceža, Ruokaži, etc.

It is of great necessity to gather information about all possible Latvian Finnicisms, as well as to acknowledge different layers and stratification of these toponyms.

REFLECTIONS OF THE SAMBIAN DIALECT IN PRUSSIAN PROPER NAMES

Prussian, a Baltic language which most probably got extinct in the 18th century, is studied on the basis of scarce written monuments of two-fold origin (manuscript and printed) and through analogies with the living Baltic languages – Lithuanian and Latvian, including the languages of other Baltic tribes and their sparse relics. Prussian proper names, being the oldest testimony of the Baltic languages (dating from the 13th century) recorded in the manuscript legacy of the Teutonic Order, were undoubtedly written down from the living language in the way Prussian onyms were pronounced by the autochthons and heard by the scribes of the Teutonic Order recording them. This conclusion was made when collecting the empirical material on Prussian proper names from the manuscript sources of the Teutonic Order and the Prussian state afterwards after taking a close look at the source and determining its authenticity, where possible, i.e. after answering the question on the relationship between the original and the transcript. Prussian dialects are known from the sources, such as printed Catechisms I and II of 1545, the Enchiridion of 1561 and the manuscript Elbing vocabulary which most likely dates back to the late 13th–early 14th century and represents the Pomesanian dialect. Prussian dialects drew the attention of researchers in the 19th century. G.H.F. Nesselmann, having published printed sources, i.e. the catechisms and the manuscript vocabulary by Simon Grunau, in 1845, pointed out that Catechism I is written in the true Sambian dialect. Neumann, the discoverer of the Elbing vocabulary, mentioned it in the German scientific press in 1848 by describing it as a small old collection of words which he was planning to publish in the short run and, when discussing the Prussian toponym Damerau in his article, he presented six words from the vocabulary – wangus, sylo, gudde, median, garian, paustre – by inciting a lively discussion with Nesselmann urging to publish the find as soon as possible. When speaking about Prussian toponyms the same year Nesselmann mentioned the Prussian appellative garbis ‘hill’ found in a manuscript document kept at the Königsberg Secret Archives. It means that individual Prussian words used to appear in the documents of the Teutonic Order, as repeatedly noted by the author of this abstract. When speaking about the Pomesanian dialect, the researchers of the Prussian language also refer to Prussian onyms, the well-known helonym 1335–1341 Tlotupelk, Tlokenpelke (OF 105 227r), oikonym 1318 Tlokowe, Tlocow (MHW I 321) later Ger. Locau, Pol. Tłokowo, anthroponym Tloke, which entail an assumption that the change of consonant combinations *tl and kl occurred in the Pomesanian dialect,

cf. Prus. E 655 klokis 'bear'. The paper will focus on the reflections of the Sambian dialect in Prussian proper names.

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**CANNIBALISTIC POSSESSIVES? THE USE AND SPREAD OF TONIC
POSSESSIVES AT THE DETRIMENT OF PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES
IN LATIN AMERICAN SPANISH VARIETIES**

In recent years, the study of the use of possessive complements instead of prepositional ones in the adverbial domain, as in *encima mío/a* vs. *encima de mí* ‘above me’, has received increased interest (e.g. Salgado & Bouzouita 2017; Marttinen Larsson & Bouzouita *forthc.*). However, what is less known and remains unstudied is a similar phenomenon in the verbal domain, e.g. *habla mal mío* vs *habla mal de mí* ‘he bad-mouths me’. Although Bertolotti (2014) and Mare (2015) have pointed out this phenomenon for River Plate and Venezuelan Spanish, no study has examined its geographic distribution. Similarly, little to nothing is known about the grammatical and sociolinguistic factors that govern it (although see Bouzouita & Pato *forthc.* for a study of *gustar* + possessive ‘to like’).

The following research questions will be addressed. Firstly, the geographic distribution of the possessive verbal complement will be analysed through a Twitter corpus. It will be shown that this construction can indeed be found in certain varieties of Argentina, Uruguay and Venezuela. Nevertheless, there are significant diatopic differences within River Plate Spanish: e.g., the highest frequency of use has been recorded in Northern Uruguay (and not in Montevideo), especially in Paysandú. From here, the possessive verbal complement appears to have been seeping into Argentinian, as the neighbouring Entre Ríos province (and not Buenos Aires) is the area with the highest frequency of use within Argentina. Similarly, in Venezuela this phenomenon appears to have its origins outside the capital: concretely, it is most used in Zulia, the most northwestern Venezuelan state.

Secondly, the grammatical features of the possessive pronouns (e.g. person, number, gender) and the verbs involved (e.g. verbs, prepositions) will be examined. The use of possessives is shown not to be limited to the 1st person, but can be found for the whole range of singular and plural grammatical persons, despite a clear difference in behaviour between the 1st-2nd and 3rd persons.

Finally, several hypotheses for the genesis and spread of this possessive verbal construction will be scrutinised, among which various language contact scenarios and the analogical spread from other categorical domains as, interestingly, southern Brazilian and Italian varieties also display this

phenomenon and the use of possessives has increased in other domains, such as the adverbial one (e.g. Marttinen Larsson & Álvarez López 2017).

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MAPPING THE SPANISH DIALECTS USING AN APP: A PILOT STUDY

This talk presents the results of a pilot study conducted to test the research design chosen for the creation of the application *Dialectos del español* ('Dialects of Spanish'). The pilot study was centred around 19 morphosyntactic and 5 lexical variables and was launched via social media. It was completed by 547 participants from various Spanish-speaking countries. Besides offering data on both studied and hitherto unstudied phenomena in the dialectal and sociolinguistic literature (e.g. the pluralisation of the existential construction with *haber*: *había* vs. *habían*, the use of dummy subjects with impersonal verbs, such as *ello hay café* vs. *hay café* 'there is coffee', synthetic future forms versus the analytic ones, the general use of the past tense of the subjunctive vs. the rarely used present subjunctive, the alternation of *-ra* and *-se* forms of the imperfect subjunctive, etc.), this pilot study tests whether the chosen questions are adequate and precise enough for inclusion in the application. One of the shortcomings that came to light in this pilot study is the need for more precise information on the movements of the informants. As space had been foreseen for open comments, other interesting changes in the research design were suggested by the informants themselves: e.g. various informants asked for more choices to be included in the questionnaire when enquiring for the informant's gender instead of the binary gender options (male-female) we had provided. Similarly, certain questions will be able to be refined with more linguistic options due to suggestions made by the informants in the open comments.

Dunja BROZOVIĆ
University of Zadar, Croatia

THE CHALLENGES OF ETHNOLINGUISTIC CARTOGRAPHY

The paper seeks to show how contemporary digital mapping methods enable the linkage of data collected for linguistic and ethnological atlases. Although data in many European countries were collected simultaneously, the methodology and research procedures were usually significantly different.

Much of the material collected for the language atlas refers to ethnologically relevant terms, of course, only at the lexical level. Having worked for many years at the international ALE (Atlas Linguarum Europae) project, I have noticed that in the collected language material a lot of data relevant for the onomasiological and motivational analysis is missing. On the other hand, the relevant information often could be found among the data collected for ethnological atlases. The analysis of data for the term 'grave' and 'cemetery' collected for ALE will show how useful it could be to integrate and compare the data collected within these two disciplines.

Massimo CERRUTI
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**LANGUAGE VARIATION AND CHANGE IN A CONTACT SETTING:
THE CASE OF PARTITIVE DETERMINERS IN PIEDMONTESE**

This paper addresses the use of partitive determiners in Piedmontese (i.e. an Italo-Romance dialect spoken in the north-western Italian region of Piedmont) as a case in point for the interplay of language variation and change in Italo-Romance. Partitive determiners, which are used with singular mass nouns and countable plurals to encode indefinite interpretation, show bare forms (1) and/or articulated forms (2) depending on different varieties of Piedmontese, and can alternate with zero marking (3).

- (1) [a j e d 'nivule]
3SG.SBJ LOC be.PRS.3SG INDF.DET cloud.F.PL
'there are (lit. 'there is') some clouds'
(ALEPO Q19, Moncalieri; unpublished materials)
- (2) [der 'matʃe]
INDF.DET-ART.DEF.F.PL stain.F.PL
'some stains'
(ALEPO Q4529, Pamparato; unpublished materials)
- (3) [j e Ø 'fjure]
LOC be.PRS.3SG Ø flower.F.PL
'there are (lit. 'there is') some flowers'
(ALEPO Q1323, Campiglia Cervo; unpublished materials)

First, the paper will provide a brief diachronic account of the development of partitive determiners in Piedmontese, ranging from the twelfth and thirteenth centuries to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; such an overview will rely upon the results of recent studies on this subject (see Bonato 2004). Next, the behavior of partitive determiners in contemporary Piedmontese will be examined, drawing primarily on some unpublished materials elicited by a questionnaire survey conducted within the ALEPO research program (ALEPO stands for Atlante linguistico ed etnografico del Piemonte Occidentale 'Linguistic and Ethnographic Atlas of Western Piedmont', www.alepo.eu). The study will help to shed light on the similarities and differences not only between different varieties of Piedmontese, but also between such varieties and Italian (cf. Miola 2017).

This state of affairs will then be discussed against the backdrop of the sociolinguistic situation under scrutiny, in which rural dialects, as well as the dialects of small urban centers, tend to replace some of their original features by converging towards the most prestigious urban dialect (i.e. the dialect of Turin); while the latter tends in turn to converge towards Italian (see e.g. Cerruti & Regis 2014). Special attention will be paid to the contact between Piedmontese and Italian and to the ‘superposition’ of both an official standard language (i.e. Italian) and a regional koine (based on the dialect of Turin) over local varieties of Piedmontese.

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THE ATLANTE LINGUISTICO MEDITERRANEO RECOVERED

In 1937 Romanist Mirko Deanović submitted to the V International Conference on Romance Linguistics (Nice) and to the Société de Linguistique de Paris his proposal for an *Atlante Linguistico Mediterraneo*, based on the argument that “C’è un elemento che congiunge le popolazioni mediterranee, un elemento che per loro è la comune fonte di vita, spirituale e pratica: il mare.” World War II, initiated only two years later and not finished until 1945, prevented this proposal from being carried out in the following years or in the immediate years of the postwar period, but Deanović submitted it again to the Congress of Romance Philology in Firenze (1956), where it was accepted with enthusiasm and an international committee was appointed for that purpose, which had to convert it into an achievable project. The Fondazione Giorgio Cini in Venice immediately welcomed the initiative and gave financial support to it, which allowed the publication of the annual ‘*Bolletino del Atlante Linguistico Mediterraneo*’ from 1959. Professor Deanović was commissioned to propose the questionnaire and the list of locations, which was published in 1960 (850 issues distributed in chapters and 125 locations, from the Iberian Peninsula to the Black Sea coasts). During the following decade, almost all the surveys were achieved, and thanks to that numerous articles were able to be published at BALM. In 1971 a *Saggio dell’Atlante Linguistico Mediterraneo* was released, with 27 sample maps, but the projected atlas still has not been published in full, and only some surveys have been issued for the interest of some researchers. Regarding the BALM, its last issue backs to 1993. Stimulated by the interest of some prestigious romance dialectologists, the Cini Foundation decided in 2016 to promote the publication of the ALM again, for which purpose in 2017 an international committee was set up, involving scholars from all the Mediterranean linguistic areas. This committee has already begun its work, and it is intended to resume the BALM from 2018. With my paper I want to show the interest of the collected ALM Catalan and Occitan data as an exemple of the whole data set.

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**LEXICALISATION AND METAPHORISATION IN DIALECT TERMS
RELATING TO COLOUR: A STUDY OF DATA FROM
THE *ATLANTE LINGUISTICO ITALIANO* (ALI)**

This article aims to study aspects of lexicalisation and metaphorisation relating to the formation and usage of chromonyms (names of colours) in Italian dialects, by classifying the concrete objects that are referenced in the colour terms or play a part in their formation. The *corpus* of reference consists of previously unpublished data collected together by the *Italian linguistic atlas (Atlante Linguistico Italiano - ALI)*, and is divided into: 1) a section containing “free associations” (that is to say, colour terms formulated by the informant on the basis of associations that are, to a greater or lesser extent, clear) relating to the colours *bianco* (white) (“Maria’s skin is as white as ...”), *rosso* (red) (“Giovanni’s nose is as red as ...”), *giallo* (yellow) (“Biagio’s complexion is terrible; it’s as yellow as ...”), and *nero* (black) (“Turiddu’s hair is as black as ...”); 2) a list of the responses obtained for *rosa* (pink), *viola* (purple), *castano* (brown), *celeste-blu* (sky-blue), *rosso cupo* (dark red), *grigio chiaro* (light grey) and *grigio scuro* (dark grey). These terms exist on the margins of the (generally simplified) system of colour names present in dialects, and therefore allow us to note an interesting variety of linguistic solutions, resulting from the creativity of the speakers, which compensate for the lack of a precise corresponding term in the dialect: compounds, deverbals and, in particular, phrases consisting of nouns preceded by the formula *colore di* (the colour of) that derive from free associations.

The listing and analysis of the data enable us to define the semantic areas the dialect speakers prefer to reference (the natural world, e.g. animals, food, the sky, religious, ideological areas, etc.), while, from a geolinguistic point of view, the mapping of the data by using Quantum GIS (QGIS) allows us to distinguish between shared areas covering the whole of Italy and linguistic or cultural sub-areas with more specific features.

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MAIN TENDENCIES IN THE SUB-DIALECTS OF NORTH-WESTERN VIDZEME REGION (LATVIA) IN 21ST CENTURY

The traditional dialects and sub-dialects in Latvia have been retained relatively well. However, nowadays they are subject to levelling and attrition due to the globalization processes and the migration of their speakers. A recent research project ‘Latvian Dialects in the 21st Century: a Sociolinguistic Aspect’, funded by the Latvian Council of Science (Latvijas Zinātnes padome), also included some sub-dialects of North-Western Vidzeme (namely, the sub-dialects of Ērgeme, Vijciems and Strenči) which belong to the Central dialect of Latvian and are close to Standard Latvian. The aim of the research is to assess their current tendencies.

Nowadays, there are less typical dialectal features (both phonetic, morphological and lexical) registered than in the data gathered in mid 20th century. This attrition can be explained by the change of generations and circumstances. The impact of the standard language (moreover, the sub-dialects under question belong to the same dialect that formed the basis of Standard Latvian), urbanisation, mass media and modern technologies all play a role. The younger generation tends to move to the city and thus has less contact with other speakers of their dialect. Nevertheless, it was observed that the younger speakers intentionally use certain dialectal words, forms or phrases to make their speech more colourful.

The area where these sub-dialects are spoken is close to the Estonian border. Several Finno-Ugric borrowings are still used here, as the research proved, such words as *koncas*, *roidas*, *kunna*, *tuims* etc. Historically, the area has been under the influence of the German language as well, therefore, just like in several other regions of Latvia, many German borrowings are still used: e.g. *štoks*, *eizenbānis*, *ķurzis* etc. Due to the changes that took place in the 20th century, the impact of the Russian language has also increased. The speech of the respondents also showed presence of Russian borrowings, e.g. *starīgs*, *gosķi*, *grādusņiks* etc. However, more research would be necessary to assess the situation and further tendencies.

Yoshio EBATA
Honorary member of the SIDG

**WHY THE JAPANESE MIDDLE-SCHOOL-CHILDREN CHOOSE
THE ARINKO WITHOUT SAYING ARI, STANDARD FORM
IN ONE HUNDRED YEARS?**

Anybody of dialectologists in Japan knows “The theory of the Dialect Water Ring”.

It means that the noble valuable culture occurs in Kyoto. Then it is transmitted to the local districts like drawing a ripple. The members of the National Language Research Institute also obey the model of the Yanagita Kunio.

Now, the author had created “The Linguistic Atlases of Central or all Japanese areas” by visiting the Middle school Childrens’ houses on foot.

Entirely different results were obtained, namely:

(1) Holding the dream, Hope and Desire, the young person has admired the Toyota City.

(2) From 1965, the people of local Toyota motor company have used ARINKO.

(3) In 1980, the adults used many kinds of dialects as twenty years ago. But boys scattered them away and accepted ARINKO.

(4) In 2005, young boys received ARINKO completely from Hokkaido till Okinawa. It is the only dialect, not the urban and elegant word.

The language history is generated by the young boys on their necessity.

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TIME SERIES MAPS OF TONE IN THE HEBEI DIALECTS OF CHINESE

This presentation deals with the geographical distribution of tone in the Hebei dialects, a province surrounding Beijing, China. Three maps of different points of time will be drawn for each tone category to trace the changes starting from the 1940's to the present. "Time series map" is a technical term in geography, meaning a series of maps of the same district at different points of time, for example, every 10 years. Such kind of maps is useful to show the temporal change of tones.

The first data source was investigated by Fr. Franz Giet, a missionary to China, in the 1940s. It covered about 300 places which is rather a large amount for that date. The second source covered to the end of the 50's, when an exhaustive dialect investigation was carried out in China. The third source is the systematic dialect descriptions starting from the 1980's to the present.

Tone is a phonetic property which shows rapid changes. Many Hebei dialects are known to have two categories for the Departing tone, while the distinction is merged in the other dialects. Such processes of merger as well as changes of tone values are traced using time series maps. Thus, this is a case study of mapping real time temporal changes in a geographical distribution.

Recent investigations sometimes include the information about age differences for tones. For example, in Pingu near Beijing, the Yinping tone changed from 35 (according to a 5 scale notation, 3 stands for mid, 5 stands for the highest, and thus it means high rising) to 33 (mid level). It is possible to collect such concrete instances of tone value change. In sum, the directionality of tone change is extracted from this case study of tone change over the past 70 years.

Carmen-Irina FLOAREA

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ROMANCE AND BALKAN ELEMENTS IN THE MORPHOLOGY OF THE MEGLENOROMANIAN DIALECT

The Meglenoromanian dialect is spoken by the inhabitants of several villages from the county (region) of Meglen, in the north of Greece, to the border with FYR. Macedonia; after leaving their home villages, some Meglenoromanian families have spread in towns in Greece and R. Macedonia.

The Slavic influence in the Meglenoromanian vocabulary is strong. Apart from the old Slavic base, common to all dialects, Meglenoromanian has numerous recent loans from Bulgarian and Macedonian Slavic Dialect.

Morphologically, our research took into consideration mainly the Romanic and Balkan structures from the verbal, nominal and adverbial systems. For instance, in the Meglenoromanian dialect, the aspect category emphasises the contact with the Balkan languages. Just like Istroromanian and regional Dacoromanian, Meglenoromanian has an aspect opposition expressed by grammatical means as a result of Slavic influence in morphology. The aspect category was established in the Meglenoromanian dialect following loans from Slavic languages of verbs that expressed aspect; by analysing the verbal forms loaned by bilingual speakers, aspect verbal prefixes detached, which were subsequently attached, often by calque of Slavic forms, to verbs of non-Slavic origin. The category of aspect is recognised as such by Th. Capidan, who deals with prefixed verbs at derivation, in the chapter *Formarea cuvintelor* ‘Word formation’ (cf. Capidan 1925: 195-202). The author’s description, however, shows clearly that some prefixes are used to express the aspect opposition with verbs. Subsequent works based on Th. Capidan’s monograph, do not mention the aspect situation in Meglenoromanian. A. Kovačec (Kovačec: 123) believes that Istroromanian is the only Romanian (and Romanic) dialect that admits the category of aspect on verbs.

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**RECONSIDERING THE CHANGE OF VERBAL CONJUGATION SYSTEMS
IN TOKUNOSHIMA DIALECTS: THE PROHIBITIVE FORM
AS ANOTHER EVIDENCE**

The author was involved in the analysis of the verbal conjugation system of a Tokunoshima dialect, which belongs to Ryukyu dialects of the Japanese language. This study was a part of the research on compiling a dialect dictionary of Tokunoshima. In the last SIDG conference, the author made a presentation on the reorganization of verbal conjugation systems in the dialects on the Tokunoshima Island, using both the description of two local systems and the geographical distribution of a particular verb form. The adverbial form was used as a key to show the on-going change. In this presentation, the prohibitive form is used as another evidence to show the variation on the island and to describe the reorganization of verbal conjugation systems in the dialects. The verbal conjugation system of the Tokunoshima dialect consists of three conjugation patterns: Regular Conjugation I (Consonant-Ending Verb Stem type), Regular Conjugation II (Vowel-Ending Verb Stem Type), and Irregular Conjugation. The verbs classified to each of the three patterns mostly correspond to those of Standard Japanese, but there is another system on the island with only two patterns, i.e. Regular Conjugation (Consonant-Ending Verb Stem type) and Irregular Conjugation. The reorganization process of verbal conjugation systems in Tokunoshima is illustrated by using conjugation tables and linguistic maps with a focus on the prohibitive form.

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BRIDGING EAST AND WEST: GROOTAERS, SIBATA AND BEYOND

This workshop focuses on the special relationship between Japanese and Dutch-Flemish dialectology originating from the encounter of two scholars and further development of the discipline in both countries. Willem A. Grootaers, a Belgian dialectologist and Catholic priest, transmitted the theory and method of linguistic geography used in Dutch dialectology to Japan, and Takesi Sibata, a great Japanese dialectologist and sociolinguist, worked with him to establish linguistic geography in Japan. Japanese and Dutch dialectology has developed in its own context since then. We would like to learn what coincidences and divergences Japanese and Dutch dialectology has in 2018, the 100th anniversary of Sibata's birth.

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**(DIALECTAL) PHRASE BOOKS AS A RELEVANT SOURCE
FOR FOLK DIALECTOLOGY**

Phrase books for travellers, tourists or merchants have been in use since many centuries. Basically, they follow a content-oriented structure, covering themes like food and beverages, accommodation or interpersonal relationships in distinct chapters, where the readers are provided with a set of potentially useful phrases. Particular parts can contain pronunciation guidelines, a small dictionary, and maybe a grammatical sketch, typically with a focus on morphological categories and word order. In addition to the linguistic information, the phrase books include some useful advice about the travel destination's culture. It goes without saying that the digital revolution has remarkably widened the phrase books' usability by changing them from being purely printed to multi-modal tools – but without changing the entire concept.

Traditional phrase books were clearly oriented towards standard varieties and “good language use”. Later, specialised phrase books, like those on slang or business language, appeared reflecting a more varied interest of the travellers in engaging in specialised communicative situations. Dialectal phrase books are a relatively recent phenomenon, at least as far as German is concerned. It can be challenged if they fulfil the same communicative purpose as the other type of phrase books did, i.e. to ease communication for travellers with the speakers of the language or dialect in question. It can be argued that the dialectal phrase books are hardly functional for travellers, since all German dialectal speakers understand the standard variety and, as a general rule, they will (try to) talk standard German to foreigners. So, the dialectal phrase books, which are mostly written by non-linguists, seem to fulfil a more entertaining, maybe humoristic and/or folkloristic aim for the readers, who are speakers of the dialect treated – or at least know it somehow. This assumption will be discussed in more detail by examining the overall as well as the specific textual structure of selected dialectal phrase books, the linguistic items selected, the way how they are presented, and, finally, the cultural items addressed as relevant for the dialect region. Doing so allows us to gain insights into the conceptions and ideas about the dialects treated in the phrase books in terms of folk linguistics or folk dialectology.

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TRADITIONAL LITHUANIAN DIALECTS FROM A PERSPECTIVE OF CARTOGRAPHICAL GEOLINGUISTICS

The aim of this study is to explore three phonetic-based classifications of traditional Lithuanian dialects, namely Antanas Baranauskas' (the end of the 19th century), Antanas Salys' (the beginning of the 20th century) and Aleksas Girdenis and Zigmas Zinkevičius' (the second half of the 20th century) classifications.

By means of computational cartography the templates of maps found in the dialect divisions over different periods of time were compared. Geolinguistic analysis of differences identified in dialect areas provides data on the development of dialects and their changes.

The present study identifies and explores ten subdialect areas showing a number of non-correspondences in the traditional dialect classifications. The focus is on one subdialect area by analysing manuscripts and recordings.

The investigation of the subdialects confirmed the transitional character of the local varieties in all three classifications. Minor changes in isophones, which distinguish dialects and subdialects, can be motivated by natural dialectal change, whereas major changes noticed on the map of the dialects are linked to historical, political and administrative factors.

The map designed for the present study illustrates the directions of subdialectal changes and highlights the incipient dialectal shifts outlined in Lithuanian geolinguistic studies at the beginning of the 21st century. The arrows on the map show the areas of the immense dialect convergence and formation of larger dialectal variants (regiolects) in the eastern part of Lithuania and the expanded convergence in the western part of the country.

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EXPLAINING DUTCH DIALECT CHANGE

In the period 2008–2011 we compiled a large database of fieldwork recordings for 86 local dialects of Dutch spoken in the Netherlands and the northern part of Belgium (‘Flanders’) and of Standard Netherlandic Dutch and Standard Belgian Dutch. In each of the 86 locations two older male speakers and two younger female speakers were recorded, representing conservative dialect speakers and innovative dialect speakers respectively. Using this data we measured dialect change (and resulting convergence and divergence across varieties) in apparent time, focusing on lexis, morphology and the sound components. It appeared that geographically dialect change is a capricious process.

In this talk, we will look at explanatory factors. Factors that we will consider include: the influence of the standard language, the speakers’ reported dialect usage and reported contact with speakers from other locations, the speakers’ socio-economic status, the average income of the population and the population size.

Frans HINSKENS

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DIALECTOLOGY AND THE STUDY OF LANGUAGE VARIATION. *QUO VADIS?*

The days when dialectology was a quiet island in the (sometimes rough) ocean of modern linguistics seem to be gone. Since the so-called social turn and the integration of quantitative methods into the study of non-urban dialects, the barriers between early ‘Labovian’ sociolinguistics and dialectology have been gradually overcome. Later, the study of dialect has been more and more integrated into the mainstream (generativist) formal theory as ‘micro-variation’. And even more recently, cognitivist approaches (such as Usage-based Phonology and Exemplar Theory for phonetics) are entering and enriching the field.

Apart from these various disciplinary developments, at least in the Old World, the object appears to be changing more and more rapidly, giving rise to the erosion of traditional dialect landscapes and the emergence of supra-local koinai as well as dialect/standard continua.

In this talk, I will address some of the main aspects of these developments. In so doing, I will discuss questions such as: How can the new types of language variety be studied and how can the results from that work be deepened with and integrated into the older insights? How deep is the innovative impact of the various inter-subdisciplinary cross-fertilizations? What are the main challenges for the future study of dialects?

Malwina HOPEJ

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**THE ESSENCE OF TRUE POWER OF STATE. LINGUISTIC PICTURE
OF THE WORLD OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The speech presents the conceptualization of the term “POWER” - one of the crucial and controversial issues in geopolitics, which is a compilation of the results of a questionnaire survey conducted in the United States of America (November, December 2017).

The aim of the survey conducted is to create a cognitive definition of power by examining how Americans understand this concept: as sectoral powers for instance military power or soft power, how they imagine great power and small power and, finally, how the external world within the meaning of the language, cultural community, and legal status affect the perception of this one of the most prominent geopolitical issues.

The results of the investigation were elaborated on the method used by the Lublin linguistic team (the ethnolinguistic school of Lublin), in which respondents' answers are texts induced by several-tier analysis, so before the discussion of the results of the survey, the markings at each part of the data will be explained. The text consists of two parts: the first part will describe the method used in the study of values by a team of linguists working under the guidance of the Polish professor Jerzy Bartmiński, which I used in the preparation of the second part, which presents the research report.

He HUANG

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EXPLAINING CORE DIALECTAL REGION BY SIMULATING 3-DIMENTIONAL ROAD PATHS AND MEASURING MAXIMUM DISTANCE OF 5-HOURS-WALKING DISTANCE: A PILOT STUDY OF YIXING DIALECTS

This paper tries to test the method of explaining the geographical range of the core dialectal region by simulating 3-dimentional road paths and measuring the maximum distance of day return in Yixing dialects in China. The author of this paper proposes that measuring a maximum of 5-hours-walking distance might effectively explain the core dialectal region, since pedestrian traffic has been the dominant traffic manner in the past several hundred years in most rural areas in China, and at that time most of people must go back home before the sunset, and the maximum distance people could walk is 5 hours one way. Besides, it also proposes that the customary communication circle mainly depends on the day return in pedestrian traffic manner. So we hold that if the customary communication circle is stable in a considerably long time, the core dialectal region comes into being.

This paper begins with the calculation of the core dialectal region of Yixing based on the data of Linguistic Atlas of Yixing (LAYX, Huang he, 2017) with the method of aggregative dialectometry (Goebel, 2013).

Next, we have established the right road path by using county annals from Ming dynasty to today. We have reconstructed the 3-dimentional road path by simulating the surface configuration of Yixing with the Digital Elevation Model (DEM), and calculated the 5 hours walking distance with Tobler's fomula (Tobler, 1993).

Finally this paper reveals that isochrones of 5-hours-walking distance perfectly coincides with the core dialectal region. So, this paper argues that by simulating the 3-dimentional road path and measuring the maximum 5-hours-walking distance, we can explain the formation of the dialectal region.

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DIALECT VOCABULARY CHANGES OVER 140 YEARS. STANDARDIZATION AND NEW DIALECT FORMS

This presentation reports on long-term change in dialect vocabulary over 140 years, based on a dialect glossary of Tsuruoka, Japan, composed 250 years ago in 1767. A survey on the residual ratio of vocabulary was conducted in 1950 on three generations and a second one was conducted in 2017 on four generations. Together, they allowed us to examine continuous dialectal changes over 140 years in seven generations in 20-year intervals. A large linguistic change occurred following modernization of the Meiji Restoration in 1868. New dialect forms appeared as well. In various semantic fields, modernization of material life was a key factor in obsolete words. Additionally, the economic developments of the 1970's seem to have had great influence on language standardization. The surveys collected data from 27 localities around Tsuruoka city, allowing us to analyze the geographical propagation also. We applied multivariate analysis to the data as a whole and analyzed the transformation of the geographical distribution pattern. This investigation has revealed various new facts concerning modern dialect change.

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A. BEZZENBERGER – RESEARCHER AND DOCUMENTER OF THE KURSENIĖKU LANGUAGE

At the crossroads of the 19th and 20th centuries, the interest in the ethno-cultural identity of various ethnic groups had begun to grow in Germany. For more than forty years a famous researcher of Baltic languages, ethnographer and archaeologist prof. Adalbert Bezenberger focused his activities on the Curonian Spit by devoting his attention to the history and culture of the settlements and the *Kursenieku* language. His work “Über die Sprache der preußischen Letten” (1888) became the first professional study of the *Kursenieku* language. Not only does the work contain a description of the *Kursenieku* language prepared in accordance with the tradition of comparative linguistics of that time, and is based on a large amount of factual materials accumulated by the investigator himself, but it also includes a number of texts and a glossary. Since the *Kursenieku* language did not have a written form, every documenter, including Bezenberger, used one’s own system of spelling. This work is important for the reconstruction of the *Kursenieku* language of that time, as well as for the overall research of the history of the language in general.

The paper presents the assessment of Bezenberger’s contribution to documenting the *Kursenieku* language in the general context of written sources of the *Kursenieku* language.

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**SHARED RETENTIONS AND THE PERIPHERY:
FROM DIALECT MAPS TO COMPUTER SIMULATIONS**

Dialect maps from surveys provide rich data on the diffusion of certain features within a speaker community (cf. e.g. Wolfram/Schilling-Estes 2003). How such dialect maps are to be explained historically is, however, often left unexplained. In this presentation we want to focus on the phenomenon of shared retentions found as lexical items and idiomatic expressions in two Germanic peripheral dialectal areas, Nordic and Alemannic (Kolb 1957). Such lexical and phraseological parallels in Nordic and Alemannic were sometimes adduced in attempts to prove their close genetic relationship, which has been rightly refuted later (Nielsen 2004). Instead, these parallels can be linked to the observation that old retentions tend to be found in the periphery of a language community (cf. Yanagita 1930 for the case of Japanese dialects). Furthermore, the peripheral distribution of some old retentions predicted by this hypothesis can be simulated on computers by diffusion models of linguistic innovations (e.g. Nettle 1999). We will discuss whether the behaviour observed in such models is in line with the phenomenon of shared retentions in the periphery as it is known from traditional dialect maps.

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GEOLINGUISTIC PRESENTATION OF LOANWORDS IN SLOVENE DIALECTS

Words of Hungarian origin are rarest, appearing in the extreme north-east of Slovenia, in contact with the Hungarian language.

This paper presents dialect vocabulary from the semantic fields “human body and family” and “Slovenian (farm)house, its architectural elements, and interior furnishings”, presented in a form of linguistic maps. Those maps show that the vocabulary for parts of the body is quite uniform and contains mainly non-borrowed words of a Slavic origin, while some other lexemes (e.g. expressions for household fixtures and fittings) show a greater degree of borrowing (predominantly Germanic loan words). Some maps show the extreme diversity of Slovenian dialects (some lexemes have ten or more different word forms, even ignoring the huge variety of different phonetic variants).

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**APPLICATION OF OLD LITHUANIAN WRITINGS' MORPHOLOGY DATABASE
TO MORPHOLOGY AND LEXICAL DATA OF WRITTEN SOURCES
OF THE KURSENIĖKU LANGUAGE**

The Old Lithuanian Writings' Morphology Database was created as a tool for morphology research, i.e. inflection and word formation analysis. It also can be applied to other similar source data. The main differences among *Kursenieku* language sources are as follows:

- a) written sources are of two different types, both of them should be included: written texts and vocabularies. The vocabulary data requires a new lexicology model.
- b) instead of explaining the meaning and other semantic properties of every word form, the translations into Latvian, Lithuanian and German is added to semantics module;
- c) the grammar system of Lithuanian and *Kursenieku* and/or Latvian languages is very similar, so the attributes of word forms are the same, only some attributes differ, e.g. cases;
- d) the principles of spelling differ considerably among different authors, therefore, when presenting the context of the word form, a transcript of the unified spelling has to be included as well.

The *Kursenieku* morphology and lexis database is being tested with some texts and vocabularies published by F. Hinze, Chr. Mogharbel, A. Bezenberger, J. Plakis and other authors.

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**PERCEPTION OF THE LITHUANIAN SOUNDS PRODUCED IN
A NATURAL SPEECH FLOW AND ISOLATION**

On the bases of acoustic qualities and other features based on the results of the experimental research, the Lithuanian vowels from the viewpoint of speech perception, considering different productions as well as the anatomy and functions of the hearing system, are to be discussed in the report.

The analysis of the Lithuanian vowels was performed by using the free license sound processing and analysis software *Praat* (developed by Paul Boersma and David Weenink) and *WaveSurfer* (developed by Kåre Sjölander and Jonas Beskow). Mean value was calculated as the average of all realizations of a sound. To achieve statistical reliability, the data were obtained by summing up all realizations of a sound (from all informants). The obtained data were further processed by using *MS Excel*. To compare female pronunciation data to male data, normalization of the results was performed. To perform normalization from the viewpoint of speech perception, the physical units of acoustic measurements were transformed to psychophysical ones and the Bark scale was used for this purpose (cf. Trautmüller 1981; Iivonen 1987; Miller 1989; Grigorjevs 2012). The transformation of the measured formant values (in Hz) into psychophysical units (to bark units) has been performed by using Hartmut Trautmüller's formula (cf. Trautmüller 1988, 97).

Despite different productions and the context (adjacent sounds and other factors), the results of the experimental research show distinction between the long and short Lithuanian vowels both on combined cues of the formant structure and the relative duration. The Lithuanian short vowels significantly differ from their long counterparts displaying the effect of the acoustic centralization if compared with the corresponding long ones (cf. LG 1997; Girdenis 2014; Grigorjevs & Jaroslavienė 2015a; 2015b; Jaroslavienė 2014; 2015; 2017).

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**DEFENDING IDENTITY BY CHANGING A PLACE-NAME:
THE CASE OF NATIONAL LIBRARY OF LATVIA**

In august 2014 a new building of National Library of Latvia also known as the Castle of Light (*Gaismas pils*) – a cultural, scientific and educational center of national significance was opened to the public. In various aspects, the Caste of Light is deeply rooted in Latvian culture. It is reflected not only in the library architecture, but also in its name.

The Castle of Light is a metaphor for independence as a sunken castle that rises from the dark. This is also a name of the most popular poem by Latvian 19th century poet Auseklis. His poem was put to music by Jāzeps Vītols in 1889. The song *Gaismas pils* is almost a national anthem and its performance in 1985 is credited as stirring Latvia's reawakening as a nation after a period of Soviet occupation.

Accordingly, almost all oikodomonyms in the library also reflect something of the Latvian culture. For example, the main hall of the library is named after Imants Ziedonis – one of the most important and well known Latvian poets and intellectuals of the 20th century.

Together with the library, a restaurant on its first floor was opened. It got a wrongly derivated and hence linguistically meaningless name *Kleever*. The name caused an instant discussion in was opened society. The official explanation was that it is a pun of sorts, transcribing the English word :clever into a sort of vaguely Latvian equivalent probably suggestive of bibliophilic intelligence, while also being a “stylized interpretation” of the library's location on the former *Klīversala* (*Klīver* island).

Although there are many foreign or wrongly derivated brand names in Latvia, this drew a significant attention (largely because of its location – as such a non-national name in such a national place). As pointed out by the director of the State Language Center *Māris Baltiņš*, the main argument against the name was that it “smacks of the age of German cultural domination when everything foreign (non-Latvian) was thought of as fine and intelligent”. Because result of public pressure, after almost a year the restaurant name was changed to *Klīversala*.

The National Library of Latvia documented 783 suggestions from society members on how to name its restaurant. Suggestions reveal a few interesting tendencies in naming patterns. First, it was widely suggested to use some personal names (similarly to already existing names of the hall and reading

room). Among most popular are poet names like Rainis, Aspazija, Ojārs Vācietis etc. Second, suggested names are either names of Latvian literary works or allusions to them. For example, Saules ēnā ('in the shade of the sun') and Ozolu ēnā ('in the shade of oaks') is an allusion to the novel Nāves ēnā ('in the shade of the death') written by Rūdolfs Blaumanis. It shows that society members see (or want to see) the library as a united nationally formed linguistic landscape.

Third, society members played with the language and suggested names that form an abbreviation LNB (from Latvijas Nacionālā bibliotēka). For example, Līdaka Nāk Bārties ('pike comes to scold') or Lasis Nēģis Bekons ('salmon, lamprey, bacon').

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LINGUISTIC SELF-AWARENESS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CENTRAL TERRITORY OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

The aim of the paper is to provide the information about the use of dialects and standard Slovak language in the central territory of the Slovak republic and to make an overview into the linguistic situation. The main aim was to deal with dialects and literary Slovak elements used in both written and oral communication. The empirical part is based on using a standardized questionnaire which belongs to one of the possible means of sociological research methods. The questionnaire (www.tarmes.lt) was aimed at students from the Department of European Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica and at population of older people.

To conclude, it is more or less evident that the majority of respondents use standard language in all forms of communication. There was only a small percentage of those who prefer speaking dialects. However, what we consider as mostly important is the fact that the respondents consider the person who using a dialect as patriotically expressing his/her local/regional identity. The overall data shows that there truly is a tendency to use the standard language in spoken or written communication and this type is preferred to using dialects, which means that dialects are used mostly in specific areas delimited territorially.

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GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF A SET OF PHONETIC FEATURES IN THE MIYAKO ISLAND GROUP

Situated in the mid-south-west of the Ryukyu Islands, the Miyako island group is known for a set of unique phonetic features, thought to have arisen from changes in the articulation of the */i/ vowel. There has also been much debate on how to treat these features from a phonetic and phonological standpoint.

We took special notice of the fact that previous discussions of the matter were not particularly focused on regional variation and consequently set out to shed more light on the geographic distribution of the said phonetic characteristics. First, we conducted a detailed survey on Irabu Island, which consists of only seven village communities but at the same time exhibits abundant regional variation. Using our results from Irabu as a guidepost, we then continued our survey on Miyako and several neighbouring islands, later expanding our scope to also include the farther-situated Tarama Island, with a view of obtaining enough data to grasp the geographic variation in the whole region. Our research established the following:

1. For the Miyako Islands, the phonetic features under discussion can be roughly categorized in the following three types: a syllabic retroflex lateral sound, an approximant accompanied with friction noise, and an approximant central vowel.

2. Cross-type simultaneous use and intermediate pronunciation variants are in actual fact observed, making the above categorization problematic. However, it is still considered useful as a general guide to regional variation, and as data that offers further clues for reconstructing the evolution of these phonetic features.

In order to increase the factual accuracy of our study, we produced video recordings of our informants, with their prior consent. These will also be accessible, directly from a map of the region, to other researchers wishing to investigate the above articulation variants. We expect our work to make a contribution to linguistic geography studies in general, as well as to provide useful recorded data for an endangered group of languages, which may be valuable in trying to ensure their transmission to younger generations of speakers.

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THE DICTIONARY OF ESTONIAN DIALECTS: PAST AND PRESENT

This paper describes the Dictionary of Estonian Dialects (DED), its history, contents and present challenges. DED is the largest and most comprehensive dictionary of Estonian dialects, representing the core vocabulary of all Estonian dialects. The systematic collection of data for the purpose of compiling the dictionary started in 1920s. The main part of the dialect material was collected on the basis of the *Ehstnisch-deutsches Wörterbuch* during 1922–49, later the materials of the Archive of Conceptual Lexis and the Correspondents' Archive as well as other collections were added. The collections have been copied and assembled into the Aggregated Alphabetical Archive of Dialect Vocabulary (2.7 million paper slips). The material of that archive is organised by headwords and it is the basis for the compilation of the DED and other dialect dictionaries.

The entry words of the DED are presented in their base form, followed by phonetic variants and grammatical data, distribution of areas, meaning(s) and sentence examples. The dictionary contains a large amount of authentic dialect material, including ethnographic descriptions, proverbs *etc.* It is intended to be used in research and education, but also by anyone interested in issues like the dialects, history, or vocabulary of the Estonian language. DED has been published in the form of yearly subvolumes since 1994, the last one (28th) including the material of the headwords *mütsatama–nisu*. The published subvolumes represent approximately half of the planned size of the dictionary (*ca.* 12 volumes, 12 000 pages, 115 000 headwords).

Since 2013, the DED has been edited in EELex, the online dictionary management system of the Institute of the Estonian Language (IEL). Since then the DED is also an online dictionary, permitting word queries via the Internet. At present, one of the big technical challenges is to make all of the already published subvolumes also available online. Among other new possibilities, EELex allows to compile easily different kinds of (sub)dialect dictionaries alongside the DED. The system also allows to present dialect words along with the other materials from the dialect area (texts or – in the future – recordings *etc.*) in the Archive of Estonian Dialects and Finno-Ugric Languages at the IEL.

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A STUDY IN MODERN DIALECTOLOGY IN LITHUANIA

The history of Lithuanian dialectology is structured as follows: the paradigm of traditional dialectology followed by the paradigm of structural dialectology and the contemporary paradigm of “modern” or “new” dialectology. Thus, research in traditional dialectology was oriented strictly towards Neogrammarian guidelines and resulted in unidirectional, punctual and areal research, e.g. in dialect grammars. Research in structural dialectology zoomed into a certain structural subfield of a local dialect, as in phonology or morphology, and resulted in multidirectional, punctual and areal descriptions of a dialect, as for example in phonological descriptions of a local dialect. “Modern” or “new” dialectology is an extended form of a combination of traditional and structural dialectology and has to be understood as a dynamic, sociolinguistically and perceptually orientated field of research. The aims of “modern” or “new” dialectology are:

- To collect empiric data according to the newest methods;
- To verify old or to define new isoglosses;
- To analyse and understand dialect data together with its sociolinguistic components.

The following project is methodically based on “modern” or “new” dialectology, as it fulfils the requirements presented above.

1. Data collection according to contemporary methods

The recent development of crowd sourcing methods via cell phone applications, which are used in variationists’ projects, have created a new way to collect large data corpora in a short time. Such methods are also highly applicable for Lithuania due to the dialect situation and the existence of a historical dialect atlas (cf. *Lietuvių kalbos atlasas 1977-1991*). Therefore, we plan to release a dialect App, which consists of a short set of questions. These questions have been chosen on the basis of the most salient variables found in the *Lietuvių kalbos atlasas*.

2. Verify old and/or define new isoglosses

We expect to verify old (found in the *Lietuvių kalbos atlasas*) and to define new isoglosses on the basis of the new data collection.

3. Analyse and understand language variation and change on the basis of the sociolinguistic component of the data.

The presented App will collect not only language/dialect data but also a set of selected sociolinguistic data. As already shown by Labov in 1972 (cf. the Martha's Vineyard study), language variation and change also depends on sociolinguistic factors. Analysed together with the sociolinguistic data, we expect to understand the contemporary language/dialect situation in Lithuania better as than we already do today.

As this talk is result of a Lithuanian-Swiss collaboration, it will be in Lithuanian and English.

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**THE ISSUE OF CONSONANT PALATALIZATION IN THE KURSENIĖKU LANGUAGE:
FROM FIRST WRITTEN SOURCES TO THE LATEST SPEAKERS**

The palatalization of consonants in the speech of the last generation of *Kursenieki* raises various hypotheses. In the first language descriptions, with the exception of phonemes *l* and *ļ* and other consonant combinations with the historical *i*, the phonological function of palatalization of other consonants is largely unobserved by researchers. In the opinion of the author of the paper, the inconsistency of indicating consonant palatalization with various diacritics and other symbols in some written sources does not seem to be accidental. When it comes to phonology of the *Kursenieku* language, signs of the decaying “Latvian” phonological system, as well as results of language interaction are already noticeable in written sources, particularly in the latest audio records (produced by the end of the 20th – beginning of the 21st century).

The paper presents several hypotheses concerning the development of palatalization of consonants in the *Kursenieku* language.

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**HERITAGE LANGUAGE AND DIALECT MAINTENANCE AMONG SLOVENE
IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS IN NORTH AMERICA**

The article focuses on Slovene-English language contact in North America. The general linguistic situation in two Slovene American/Canadian communities (Cleveland, Vancouver) is described, emphasizing the relationship between the degree of mother tongue/heritage language maintenance of the immigrants and their descendants, on the one hand and their sense of ethnic identity, on the other. The historical, social and cultural aspects of Slovene immigration to the USA and Canada are addressed. This is followed by a detailed linguistic analysis of the data obtained through tape-recorded interviews from individual informants belonging to three generations. We are particularly interested in the social varieties of Slovene used by the informants (dialect, regional colloquial language, Standard Slovene) as well as the presence of English in their speech (manifested either as borrowing, code switching or in the form of deviations from the Slovene norm on the phonological, morphological and syntactic levels). The role of dialect as a factor in ethnic identification is discussed.

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ON CONDUCTING TOKEN-BASED RESEARCH OF MORPHOSYNTACTIC VARIATION IN LITHUANIAN DIALECTS

Our talk provides arguments in favour of a token-based examination of claims concerning the areal spread and variation of morphosyntactic features in Lithuanian (Aukštaitian) dialects. It catches up on recent variationist investigations on dialects, such as Houtzagers et al. (2010) on Bulgarian, Szmrecsanyi (2013) on British English, and Uibo et al. (2013) on Estonian.

We will analyze factors that condition the occurrence of the nominative object (e.g., Lith. *Reikia lauk-ai ar-ti* ‘It is necessary to plough.INF the fields.NOM’) and the functional distribution of the verbal suffixes {inè} and {dav}. The latter suffix marks the past habitual and is considered a rather recent Aukštaitian innovation (Stang 1942: 172f., for a recent account cf. Sakurai 2015), while the former suffix is used in the derivation of stems with imperfective values. Since Fraenkel (1936) attention has been drawn to an increased productivity of {inè} in the borderland with Belarus and in (now mostly extinct) insular Lithuanian dialects in Belarus (Vidugiris 1961 and 1998; Wiemer 2009: 361f.). However, never has this productivity been specified in terms of a relation between verbal stems (= types) and their token frequency. A similar desideratum applies to {dav}, whose origin and spread within Aukštaitian is different. As for the nominative object, it is said to have originated in the north and then spread to the south. What complicates the assessment of its spread is that the pattern has encroached on other predicate types, first of all on predicative adjectives (e.g., Lith. *Nam-ai staty-ti sunk-u* ‘The house.NOM is difficult.N to build.INF’); cf. Ambrazas (2001).

Our research is based on the Lithuanian part of the TriMCo-corpus (www.trimco.uni-mainz.de), which, for the selected features, is submitted to multiple regression and type/token ratio analyses. The data and findings are checked against the relevant dialectological literature, which, however, has only been type-based. We argue that a quantifying, token-based approach, for which annotated corpora are indispensable, yields much more revealing insights into the variation and spread of the selected (as well as of other) morphosyntactic phenomena.

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A QUANTITATIVE OBSERVATION OF DIALECT DIFFUSION BASED ON POPULATION DISTRIBUTIONS AND ROAD NETWORKS

Dialect distributions are formed through contact between localities, such as transportation and intercommunication, which refers to contact between individual speakers. Population distributions and road networks lie at the foundation of such contact. In this paper, I will show some observations of the phenomena occurring in networks of contacts by using the large-scale dialect distribution data of the Linguistic Atlas of Japan Database (LAJDB). LAJDB, which we have been developing, is a database aimed to make all information contained in the LAJ accessible on computer.

Linguistic Atlas of Japan (LAJ) is the first nation-wide Japanese linguistic atlas based on a linguistic geographical survey method, conducted from 1957 to 1965 and it has 2400 surveyed localities (NLRI 1966-1974). This quantity of the survey points of the LAJ enables us to observe the nation-wide and precise pictures of the relationships among the dialect distributions and the extra-linguistic factors such as population distributions and road networks.

By using the LAJDB subset and the extra-linguistic factor data, population distribution and road network, I have made quantitative observations, such as geographical distributions of the frequency of (1) standard forms, (2) multiple answers, (3) informant's comments on standard forms, (4) geographical distributions of degrees of similarities, and (5) network representation of degrees of similarities. In the observations, I used (1) the data of road networks, the one around 1885 and the present one, (2) the time series population data of the National Census from 1920 to 1980, adjusted on the basis of the boundaries of the 3433 municipalities at the time of the 1980, (3) the population maps of National Census (1950, 1955, 1960) and (4) time series data of municipal boundaries from 1880 to 1980. I will show visual presentation of each result and the relationships among them, and discuss several implications of these observations.

LITHUANIANS IN LATVIA: LANGUAGES AND SOCIOCULTURAL NETWORKS

The data of population census shows that Lithuanians are one of the biggest national minorities in Latvia. The reasons for Lithuanians to live in this country in various periods were economic (the standard of living and industrial development in Latvia was higher), political (Lithuanians who returned from exile were not allowed to live in their homeland) and personal (marriages with citizens of Latvia). In Latvia, Lithuanians mostly settled in Riga and other bigger towns; the choice of border territory was determined by the closeness of the native land and the possibility to keep in touch with relatives there.

The question of language is very important, as language is one of the most important indications of ethnic self-awareness. In all times, the native language has been an important issue for Lithuanians living in Latvia. At the time when the majority of Lithuanian respondents moved to Latvia, i.e. after the war and in the sixth-seventh decades, it was possible to choose the Latvian and Russian languages for public communications. The command of Latvian or other foreign languages affected the native language of Lithuanians both in general and in its quality. The possibility to use the native language in the environment of other languages is more related to the functions of individual, not public, communication.

While living in a foreign linguistic environment, it is difficult to avoid the impact of other languages; therefore, in the present case, Lithuanian as a native language can be impacted by the Latvian language as the dominating language of state residents. The social function of the Lithuanian language in Latvia is narrowed: this language serves only for everyday communication because the possibility to use one's mother tongue in a different language environment is linked more with individual or family needs and those of a small circle of friends (more rarely, for the needs of community activities, in such a case Lithuanians of a certain locality join associations). Exactly sociocultural networks, such as associations and their publications, schools, as well as the embassy and its activities, provide preconditions for Lithuanians residing in Latvia to retain their nationality.

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THE GEOLINGUISTICS OF THE COMITATIVE IN THE IBERIAN PENINSULA

In this presentation, I aim to provide the current dialect geographical distribution of the comitative in the different Romance languages of the Iberian Peninsula. To illustrate, standard Catalan prefers the preposition *amb* plus a stressed subject pronoun, except for 1sg or for the reflexive (*amb mi*, *amb si*). The rest of Romance languages, in their standard varieties, exhibit two different strategies, depending on the language and the grammatical person. On the one hand, a redundant form can be attested, formed by the evolution of the Latin comitative (which already contained the postposition *cum*) plus the preposition *con / com* (*conmigo*, *contigo*); and an analytic one, formed by the preposition *con / com* plus a stressed subject pronoun (*con nosotros*, *con él*).

However, the dialect corpora available for Portuguese, Spanish, Galician, Asturian and Catalan, show occurrences of vernacular responses for the comitative. These account for the possibility to have an analytic strategy throughout all the grammatical persons of all the languages under study. In addition, this strategy can either be formed by the preposition (*con*, *com*, *amb*) plus a stressed subject pronoun or a stressed object pronoun. The choice of either of them depends on the geographical area as well as the grammatical person. Specifically, the data show a geographical continuum from east to west, in which the more eastwards we move the likelier we find analytical strategies. Moreover, this continuum is also linguistic, in the sense that the more eastwards we move, the likelier we find a subject pronoun for the comitative. The results also suggest a hierarchy regarding person and number, in which the analytical form starts in plural and ends in singular; and in which the subject pronoun is chosen first for the third person, then for the second person and finally establishes itself in the first person.

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LINGUISTIC DISTANCE AND MUTUAL INTELLIGIBILITY AMONG SOUTH ETHIOSEMITIC LANGUAGES

The present study examined the relative distance and mutual intelligibility among 13 South Ethiosemitic languages (ES): Harari, Soddo, Chaha, Amharic, Argoba, Silte, Wolane, Inor, Geyto, Harari, Mesmes, Muher and Zay. These and other Semitic languages are spoken in Ethiopia. The aims of the study were to 1. re-examine the previous classification of the languages; 2. determine the effect of geographical distance and language distance, and 3. to examine the relationship between language distance and mutual intelligibility. Lexical and phonetic distances were employed to determine the distance among the languages. Geographical distances among the language areas were obtained by using Google Earth in GabMap. The intelligibility score of the languages was taken from two previous studies, Gutt (1980) and Ahland (2001). Using the Levenshtein algorithm, the phonetic distances among shared cognates were computed. The lexical distance was the average of non-cognates words in the basic vocabularies of pairs of languages. GabMap was employed for cluster analysis and multidimensional scaling. The results of the study indicate that the classification of the 13 languages based on the lexical and phonetic distances is largely similar to the previous typological classifications. There are differences, however, on the positions of Harari, Mesmes and Soddo. These differences are explained in terms of the effect of the complex borrowings among the Semitic and the neighboring Cushitic languages. A strong correlation was also found between lexical and phonetic distances. There was also a significant relationship between the language distance and the geographical distance. Furthermore, the study indicated that the lexical distance is the main predictor of mutual intelligibility.

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**THE SOUTHERN AND EASTERN AUKŠTAITIANS
FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF DIALECTOMETRY**

The geolinguistic research of the beginning of the 21st century reveals the noticeable change in the Lithuanian linguistic landscape, its multilayeredness and the tendency of forming new dialect derivatives. From the point of view of the vitality of the dialects both the East Aukštaitian of Vilnius and South Aukštaitian underwent great changes – some of the points on the Lithuanian Language Atlas are shrinking fast, while some of them have disappeared completely. In the South Aukštaitian area an Aukštaitian regiolect, Lazdijai and Varėna geolects have been formed, while the Eastern part is attributed to the mixed ethnocultural inter-regional centre of Vilnius. The East Aukštaitians of Vilnius were identified as a part of the Eastern East Aukštaitian regiolect with the attraction centre of Utena. The changes in the present South and the East Aukštaitian dialect areas are also greatly influenced by the intensive dissemination of Standard Lithuanian.

The usage of phonetic features reliably demonstrate similarities and differences between the dialects (subdialects). For this research based on the methods of dialectometry one point was chosen from a part of the area for each of the Western and the Southern South Aukštaitian, or South Aukštaitian regiolects of Lazdijai and Varėna – Veisiejai (PA684), Varėna (PA678), as well as one point from the part of the Northern and Southern East Aukštaitian of Vilnius, or the Eastern East Aukštaitian regiolect – Švenčionys (PA483) and Ignalina (RAV382).

The changes that took place in the public, social and cultural life at the beginning of the 21st century, induced, for instance, by great population mobility, large-scale migration, intensive dissemination of modern technologies, innovations and communication, and the ageing of society are also undoubtedly influencing the change of the language dialects. The application of dialectometry methods can help elucidate which phonologic and other features are still important for the differentiation and classification of the dialects, which of them tend to vary, lose importance, and which distinct features turn into the weakest and vice versa.

In this study, the analysis of the data of the South Aukštaitian and East Aukštaitian of Vilnius at the beginning of the 21st century enables us to draw some important conclusions:

- The South Aukštaitian is still homogenous. The points of its area are mostly united by the pronunciation of the stressed and unstressed diphthongs *an, am, en, em*, the quality of the first component of the falling diphthongs *il, im, in, ir, ul, um, un, ur*, and the pronunciation of the consonant *l* before *e, ę, ě, ei, en*. However, two areas could be distinguished by some features (e.g. pronunciation of the long vowels *o, ě* in the closed and unstressed inflection or pronunciation of the consonants *r, š* in front of *e*), namely Western and Southern ones. It is likely that studying the Northern part of the area by analogous methods, its links with other Southern and neighbouring West and East Aukštaitians would become clearer.

- Although the East Aukštaitians of Vilnius have phonologic common traits, the South-Eastern and North-Eastern parts also have differences – the former is closer to the South Aukštaitians, while the latter is rather closely linked with the East Aukštaitians of Utena, Kupiškis as well as Anykščiai and it should be considered part of the regiolect of the Eastern East Aukštaitians.

- The results of this research correlate with the conclusions of genetic, anthropologic, ethnographic and ethnocultural research.

VERB MORPHOLOGY APPARENT TIME VARIATION IN THE BASQUE LANGUAGE

When examining the synchrony of a language, linguistic variation is the main feature and age is one of the most important agents of such variation; in spite of that, research on the Basque language from a sociolinguistic point of view has started not long ago and it has only recently been undertaken by the EUDIA research team. The philological standpoint has more frequently been the objective of linguistic research and grammatical analysis of the Basque language.

Labov (1994, 2001, 2010), Trudgill (2002, 2011), Milroy & Gordon (2003), Chambers & Trudgill (1994), Auer (1998), Eckert & McConnell-Ginet (2003) and Tagliamonte`s (2006, 2012) are well-known researchers in sociolinguistics. From this viewpoint, in the last years Aurrekoetxea (2003, 2004, 2006, 2008a) has been applying the latest theories of Europe to Basque dialectology and Aurrekoetxea (2007, 2008b, 2010), Ariztimuño (2009), Ezenarro (2008), Ormaetxea (2008, 2011), Ormaetxea et al. (2010), Santazilia (2009) and Unamuno & Aurrekoetxea (2013) come to similar conclusions in their studies. Basically, they all agree on the following: the influence of standard Basque on the everyday language of young people is quite noticeable; while older people are more attached to the “base dialect” (Bellmann 1998) and similarly to what has happened in other languages which underwent a standardization process earlier, a process of withdrawal from the “base dialect” and approximation to the standard is taking place in Basque too.

This research project is understood in the context of putting together the *Socio-Geolinguistic Atlas of the Basque Language – EAS* project (Aurrekoetxea & Ormaetxea 2006). This project (based on the EDAK corpus, a large dialectal corpus of the spoken Basque language) encompasses different kinds of data (morphological, phonological, syntactic, and lexical) of two male generations by applying a questionnaire of 201 questions in 100 towns, due to the fact, that the goal of the project is to study intergenerational linguistic variation in all Basque-speaking areas.

Based on this data and taken into account the verb morphology, 7,800 responses have been analysed to study the language variation which is taking place across generations in the Basque language. We have measured the degree of variation between two generations using ANOVA. The quantitative analysis has been conducted locality by locality to know where the degree of variation is higher or lower

and for that purpose we have used PCA statistical technique and SPSS statistics base for statistical analysis.

This contribution adds to the research work previously carried out in some villages of the Basque Country, that is, it is part of the study of the sociolinguistic variation which the Basque language is undergoing. For this purpose, the verb morphology linguistic parameter has been examined. As a result, we are able to visualize the influence of the standard Basque on everyday language of young people more accurately and the language variation that is taking place across generations in the Basque language.

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DIALECT AND STANDARD LANGUAGE CONTACT PROBLEMS IN LATVIAN CHILDREN'S SPEECH

The problem. Latvian children's speech recordings and their analysis, revealed phonetic changes that resembled the characteristic features typical of the Latgalian sub-dialects of the High Latvian Dialect. Six different phonetic processes were discovered altogether.

The aim of the report is to detect the deviations in children's speech from the literary language norms and to examine and justify the dialectal or articulatory basis of the fixed deviations.

Materials. The six types of deviations in children's speech, which resemble the characteristic phenomena of Latgalian sub-dialects of the High Latvian Dialect, are:

1. The palatal voiceless consonant κ [c] is replaced by the affricate \check{c} [tʃ] and the palatal voiced consonant \acute{g} [j] by the affricate $d\check{z}$ [dʒ]. 2. The diphthong ie [ie] is monophthongized as the long vowel \bar{i} [i:] and the diphthong o [uo] as the long vowel \bar{u} [u:]. 3. Unstable opposition between the short close-mid and short open-mid vowel e and e [æ], as well as between the long vowel \bar{e} [e:] and \bar{e} [æ:]. 4. At the end of the word, the consonant -t- is inserted between the consonant -n and the consonant -s, which results in formation of the affricate c [ts] after -n-, as well as between the palatal consonant -ŋ- and the consonant -š, at the end of the word, the consonant -t- is inserted, which results in formation of the affricate -č [tʃ] after -ŋ. 5. The voiceless plosive in two-syllable words between short vowels is not pronounced long, for example, lapa [lapă] vs. standard pronunciation [lappă]. 6. Voiceless pronunciation of voiced consonants at the end of the word, for example, grib [grip], instead of [grib].

The research methods used are children's speech recordings, phonetic transcription, language analysis, survey of parents. Conclusions. Only when we are sure that the dialect impact on parents and children cannot be identified we can be convinced of pronunciation problems based on phonetic similarity, for example, phoneme articulatory features, as well as the fact that phonological opposition is not always very strong and can be acquired later.

SUB-DIALECTS OF LOWER KURZEME FROM A HISTORIC VIEWPOINT

The sub-dialects of Lower Kurzeme (*Lejaskurzeme*), an area in the south-western part of Latvia near the Lithuanian border, have a rich array of characteristic features. These features are phonetic (the pronunciation of broad *ę*, *ē* in infinitive forms where Standard Latvian has narrow *e*, *ē*; the words pronounced with level tone showing an assimilation of the consonant cluster *ln > ll*; the lengthening of *a*, *e*, *i*, *u* in front of a tautosyllabic *r*; the pronunciation of palatalized *ŗ*, etc.), grammatical (the contracted form *(ne)bii* instead of *(ne)bija* ‘was [not]’ in the 3rd person past tense of the verb *(ne)būt* ‘[not] to be’; the use of noun stems different from those of Standard Latvian; the so-called *āio*-stems; undeclinable possessive pronouns *mana*, *tava*, *sava*, etc.), and lexical (relics from Curonian, a Proto-Baltic tribal language once spoken in the area; large amount of Lithuanian borrowings and Germanisms, etc.). This has been proven by the oldest written testimony of these sub-dialects – the dictionary by Johannes Langius (1685). The above-mentioned characteristic features can also be observed in early 20th century studies of these sub-dialects – e.g. the publications by Anna Ābele („Par Rucavas izloksni” (1927), „Rucavas izloksne” (1928), „Gramzdas draudzes izloksne” (1929)) and by Emma Valtere („Pērkones izloksne” (1938)).

The data of Lower Kurzeme sub-dialects were gathered systematically during the 1960s and 1970s within the framework of the program “Atlas of Latvian Dialects”. Later these sub-dialects were analyzed again as part of the research project “Latvian Dialects in the 21st Century: a Sociolinguistic Aspect”, with a focus on the sub-dialects of Bārta and Rucava as representatives of Lower Kurzeme.

The recent data show that the sub-dialects of this region have changed considerably. They have been affected by the typical processes of the 21st century: dialect levelling, competition between dialects and standard language, and migration of dialect speakers to cities, other regions or other countries. Nevertheless, some features of these sub-dialects have been retained over centuries.

Moreover, there remains hope, expressed by speakers themselves, that dialects will at least partly survive in the future as well. For instance, an inhabitant of Rucava (born 1947) says: “it [i.e. the dialect] was being eradicated all the time. Even now, some people have this attitude towards the way I speak. [They ask:] do you think it will be like in Latgale? Will you be writing a book or what? But it is about

remembering, about keeping one's roots". (Latgale is a region where the local dialect is still strong and is used in publications etc.).

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THE EXPANSION OF USAGE OF DISTINGUISHING DIALECTAL FEATURES: WHEN AND WHY?

This report is concerned with eastern Lithuanian subdialects. There is a consensus in the academia that they undergo a dual, vertical and horizontal, interaction, meaning that they are affected by the standard language and the local dialects of the neighbouring subdialects alike. The shift in the subject local dialects is usually driven by vertical interactions, because the standard language tends to penetrate the system of local dialects quite strongly thanks to its universal usage (public domain, literature, media). Horizontal interactions, or interactions with other subdialects, have a somewhat weaker expression. Their intensity is primarily affected by the characteristics of the place of residence of the informants: stronger socio-cultural connections with larger towns of a particular subdialect influence the linguistic attributes of local dialects more. Given this type of dual interaction, articles dealing with the shift of traditional local dialects usually argue that the primary (distinguishing) features are the first to go. In other words, the informants tend to mask the most distinct features that give away their dialectal affiliation.

The study presented in this report has established that there can be instances of opposite behaviour as well, with people intentionally trying to use the distinguishing features of their dialects. In other words, by wilfully choosing a variation of language, a person is able to focus deliberately on those values and use them in a consistent manner. It has been noted that this kind of behaviour is typical to representatives of the so-called middle generation as often as not.

The purpose of this report is to discuss when and why some informants choose to use distinguishing dialectal features consistently, instead of abandoning them in keeping with the prevalent trends.

GENUINE WORD OR LOANWORD: AMBIGUOUS INTERPRETATION OF SOME LEXICAL GROUPS

Some groups of words used in Finnic and their neighbouring Indo-European languages have phonetically similar equivalents of ambiguous origin. Our results derive from a comparative study of dialect vocabulary.

When comparing different languages one often comes across similarities in onomatopoeic-descriptive word stems, which makes it hard to decide whether the words, based on similar phonetic motivation, have emerged separately in each language, or whether they have been borrowed. Apart from words describing sounds (e.g. Eng *swish*, Gm *zischen*, Est *sisisema*) there are similarities in names of birds or insects (e.g. names for ‘peewit’), in verbs for certain activities (e.g. words for ‘whistle’) etc. The same question of parallel evolution or borrowing arises in the cases of child and nursery language. E.g. words for ‘father’ on *ta-* or *te-* stem occur in Finno-Ugric, Germanic, Baltic, Slavic and other languages, but they were used in Latin, Greek and Sanskrit as well. A loanword is also hard to identify if its phonetic similarity with a genuine stem inspires a folk etymological interpretation.

In order to obtain reliable results about the mutual relations between such lexical groups, it is necessary to focus on the dialect vocabulary specifically:

1. Many dialect words cannot be found in modern standard languages.
2. Dialectal phonetic variants have often retained their original shape, whereas the written languages have been changed by standardisation.
3. The dialectal distribution of a possible loanword is indicative of the areal influence of contact languages.
4. The occurrence of the supposed source word in dialects of the donor language supports loan etymology.

Phonetically and semantically similar equivalents do not merely occur in cognate or contact languages. Good material for more distant comparison can be found, for example, in the Atlas Linguarum Europae (see <http://www.lingv.ro/ALE.html>), which juxtaposes dialect equivalents from many European languages.

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**MULTIDIMENSIONAL SOCIOGEOLOGUISTIC MODEL FOR
REGIONAL LANGUAGE VARIATION STUDIES: LITHUANIAN CASE
AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 21ST CENTURY**

In Lithuania, like in other European countries, dialectology has lived through three stages:

1) the beginning of dialectology and the pregeolinguistic - early and late periods (the second half of the 19th century, the beginning of the 20th century, until the end of the third decade, historically coinciding with the so-called by historians “long” 19th century); 2) early and late geo-linguistic periods (from about the end of the 1940s to the end of the 20th century, a phase of scientific dialectology marked by classification and mapping of dialects, questionnaires and dialectal atlases); 3) the period of neogeolinguistic (in Lithuania it starts with sociocognitive and perceptual dialectology from the beginning of the 21st century).

At the last stage, there is a significant shift in the multifunctional dialectic studies in Lithuania, which are complex and include three layers.

The first level is the selective study of the traditional linguistic data of the dialects. It allows checking the features of the spatial sense of the area (strength, loss, or extinction).

The second stage is the study of the linguistic environment (linguistic landscape) and socio-cultural networks (the prospect for a future language version is usually “embedded” in the names of streets, squares, schools, etc. in the local community, and the names of companies or stores).

The third layer is the attitude of the subjects to the local language version and the public opinion survey. Modern sociogeolinguistic research uses the methods of perceptual dialectology. Dialectometric methods and quantitative analysis are already used in these studies, they eliminate the possibility of a researcher's subjectivity and dialectophilic tendency to archaize and attempt to “preserve” the investigated variation of the local language as a standard of a dialect.

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**VERNACULAR LITERATURE (PROSE AND POETRY) AS A WIDENING FIELD OF STUDY
IN CONTEMPORARY DIALECTOLOGY**

In the traditional method of dialectological analysis, the basic and main source of information was field studies by conducting live interviews. The transcripts of these interviews usually had dual aspects; they reflected the reality of the speaker which he lived in and were records of the actual spoken dialect, or they reflected the actual folklore for a given area. The change in the social status of the local dialect, together with increased consciousness of local speakers combined with the expansion of the unique awareness of local geographical regions motivated the perception, in the 20th century amongst regional speakers (found in such areas of Poland as Podhale, Kaszuby, Silesia, and Kurpie) for the need to establish written regional literature. In the face of mass media tendencies to establish a uniform cultural and linguistic style of prose, the trend for regional written word gained further influence in the 21st century. The effect of this dynamic process not yet realized in regional literature studies was an increased awareness of the significance and role of regional literature. This opened up new perspectives in the field of study of dialectology. The subject of my presentation is the impact of written regional writings on the process of maintaining and strengthening regional identity by residents and practitioners, as well as the theoretical and practical issues associated with research in dialectology of written prose composed in a dialect.

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**PERCEPTION: WHY WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND IT,
AND THE DIFFICULTIES IN DOING SO**

The systematic study of regional variation in linguistic production has an extensive worldwide history (e.g. Gilliéron, 1902; Wenker et al. 1927; Kurath, Bloch & Lowman 1939; Orton & Dieth 1962). From the middle of the twentieth century, research on production has tended to examine social as well as regional matters (e.g. Labov 1966; Trudgill 1974; Cheshire 1982; Milroy 1984), and has been concerned with change as much as variation (e.g. Foulkes & Docherty 1999; Watt & Milroy 1999; Stuart-Smith & Timmins 2010; Stuart-Smith et al. 2013).

Research investigating the perception of language variation (in traditions including Perceptual Dialectology, Language Attitudes and Language Ideology) has developed separately but also in parallel to that looking at production. Early Perceptual Dialectology research findings were largely reported separately to those from related production-based research, despite perception research sometimes being part of broader (production) dialect surveys (e.g. Weijnen 1946). Later Perceptual Dialectology studies have subsequently focussed solely on perception (Preston 1989; Long 1999; McKinnie & Dailey-O’Cain 2002; Montgomery 2012; Evans 2013), and traditional Language Attitudes research seemed to ignore the fine-grained findings from production research when selecting concepts or voice samples for participants to react to (e.g. Giles 1970).

Despite these differing discipline histories, recent sociophonetic research has shown that knowledge of perception is important for understanding patterns of production, as well as dialect change (see Drager 2010; Labov et al. 2011; Campbell-Kibler 2016). People’s understanding of particular features as indexical of place has also been shown to be important for the ‘construction’ of dialect areas (Johnstone 2011).

This talk will discuss how these developments can be integrated into an understanding of language production and consider the role of perception in a holistic understanding of language variation and change. This will involve evaluating current limits of perception and production studies (such as the limitations of listeners’ geographical and metalinguistic knowledge, and the circularity of investigating features pre-determined analysts), and presenting ways to better integrate production and perception approaches.

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**FOLK DIALECTOLOGY – ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY
OF LANGUAGE PERCEPTION (ON AN EXAMPLE OF SLOVAK
AMATEUR DIALECTOLOGICAL DESCRIPTIVE WORKS)**

During the last two decades, along with decline of traditional dialect functions and frequency in everyday communication, many amateur dialectological descriptive works appeared like small regional dictionaries, structural dialect descriptions, narratives, dialect “courses” as well as various types of texts intentionally realised in regional dialects (advertisements, pop music, theatre, language landscape, etc.). In my earlier works, I dealt with typology of various forms of this conscious actualisation of dialects and with their possible motivations. In this work, I will focus on questions how analyses of these works can contribute to the study of language perception and reflexive thinking about the language.

The authors of these works are non-professional linguists who lack knowledge about phonetic transcription, grammatical structure, historical language changes or semantics, so they intuitively and spontaneously create their own orthographical and grammatical rules and compile dictionaries based on equivalency, being not aware of phenomena like polysemy or homonymy, etc. In spite of the fact that they produce “dialect data”, they are far from the “ideal dialect” speakers. From the point of view of the traditional (mainly structural) dialectology these works could be assumed as “incorrect” , “non-scientific” and “unreliable”.

However, from the sociolinguistic point of view these outputs of the folk or amateur dialectologists offer very interesting data for the research of language variation, dynamics of dialects in the real language situation context, salient language markers, dialect boundaries (both territorial and intralinguistic) and processes of interferences, language accommodation, spontaneous analogies, adaptations, etc. Moreover, they are interesting sources which reveal traces of hidden abstract linguistic thinking of people not spoiled by linguistic education, language myths and attitudes to regional varieties and their users. Together with traditional dialectology and ethnolinguistics they perceive dialects as a special cultural value; on the other hand, they break stereotypes of traditional scientific dialectology.

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“DIALECTAL ONOMASTICS” AND GEONOMASTICS

The international study of geonomastics increasingly emphasizes the connections and correlations between dialects and family names. In spite of its current achievements, Hungarian geonomastic research is still far behind that experienced in Western Europe. A question yet to be answered by researchers is whether the territoriality of proper nouns is merely the result of dialectic properties, or whether a deeper process is at work, i.e. do proper nouns indicate a different level of name dialects? In opposition to its English definition, in this case “name dialects” does not refer to one particular name’s isogloss, but rather to onomastic units within a given dialect. My paper expects to come closer to answering this question through name typology analysis. According to international studies, family names faithfully reproduce the multi-level characteristics found in local dialects. In the case of Hungarian – a language displaying subtler differences between dialects – further analysis is required in order to determine the extent to which family names from one era reveal unique properties of a local dialect.

The source for research is the Atlas of Historical Surnames in Hungary (AHSZ) which can be available to national (mainly Carpathian Basin-based) and international geonomastic research. The AHSZ project was started in 2010 with the compilation of an anthroponym database. The foundation of this database was the first national census of 1715, which was augmented by data from the 1720 census in 2012. They offer the most complete picture of Hungarian Kingdom at the beginning of the 18th century from several aspects. Naturally, their use in onomastic surveys is profitable, and the information to be gained from them can lead to results that may interest a wider audience, as the historical geographic distribution of 18th-century family names can also be deduced from the data. (More information can be seen: csaladnevatasz.hu).

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BALKAN-ROMANCE LINGUISTIC CONVERGENCES IN SOUTH-DANUBIAN ROMANIAN DIALECTS

South-Danubian Romanian dialects are spoken today in a vast area: in the north-western extremity of the Balkan Peninsula (the Istria Peninsula, Croatia), where we meet the Istroromanians, and in the south of the Balkan Peninsula (Greece, Albania, R. Macedonia, Bulgaria, European Turkey), where we meet the Aromanians and Meglenoromanians. The Aromanian dialect is spoken on a vast territory in the south of the Balkan Peninsula (in Greece, Albania, R. Macedonia, Bulgaria) and in Romania.

Among South-Danubian Romanians, the Aromanians are the only ones that have kept their ethnic name as *aromân* (< Lat. *romanus*) – with the syncope of the non-stressed protonic vowel and with the prothesis of the vowel *a* –, which is the same with Dacorom. *român*. Both Lat. *romanus* (> Rom. *român*) and Sl. *vlah*, terms used to name both the Romanians from the north and from the south of the Danube, show their common origin, as direct descendents of the Romanised population from the Eastern Roman Empire. Romanians have kept the awareness of this origin, which has been recognised theirs by the populations speaking other languages with which they have come in direct contact.

Two aspects are to be revealed in what regards the conjunction of the Romance and Balkan vocabulary: a) the presence of terms of Latin origin in South-Danubian dialects that are not present in Dacoromanian; b) local loans from Balkan languages: especially from Greek (in Aromanian), Bulgarian and Macedonian Slavic (in Meglenoromanian), Croatian and Italian (in Istroromanian). In Aromanian and Meglenoromanian, there is also a great number of loans of Turkish origin, which have entered the dialects either directly or indirectly (through Greek and, respectively, Slavic).

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HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL VARIATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCABULARY IN JAPAN AND SOUTH AMERICA

The purpose of this presentation is to describe the historical and Geographical variation of Christian vocabulary in Japan and South America. Three types of surveys were conducted to achieve the above objective:

- 1) a field survey at 300 points in Kyushu district of Japan carried out from 2004 to 2006;
- 2) a postal survey at 971 points throughout Japan carried out in 2014;
- 3) a field survey at a Japanese settlement in Bolivia and Brazil carried out from 2012 to 2018.

General conclusion is as follows:

The history of Christianity in Japan began with the arrival of the Jesuit missionary, Francis Xavier, to Japanese shores in 1549. After its introduction, Christianity went through periods of encouragement, prohibition, persecution, a long period of concealment, and eventually revival. Christian vocabulary items originally introduced by the missionaries were translated in various ways over time. This was particularly the case in the areas of Nagasaki and Amakusa where Christianity was particularly strong and contributed to several linguistic phenomena peculiar to these regions. Official prohibition of Christianity resulted in a generally negative view of the religion and its adherents, and some words introduced by the missionaries came to be used in a discriminatory fashion. Though, in recent years a more positive use of Christian vocabulary in the promotion of tourism and marketing of local products and arts and crafts, has accompanied the recognition of the missionary period as an important part of the regional history of the Nagasaki and Amakusa areas and the drive to preserve this aspect of Nagasaki and Amakusa's heritage.

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ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE DEGREES OF CORRESPONDENCE OF DIALECTS AND DISTANCES

This study analyzes the relationships of resemblances and distances between dialects based on various dialectological atlases. This analysis investigates various correspondent data and valid data in setting the source places and the destination places. The degree of correspondence (DC) can be calculated as a quantification of resemblance by using these numbers. I adopt a great-circular distance for the distances between the source and destination places. It is possible to write graphs using the data of DCs and distances as X and Y axes. The analysis produces five main results. (1) DC is in an inverse relationship with distance in most places called main sequences. However, there are exceptional places called peculiar groups. The second and third results follow them. (2) One of the peculiar groups was caused by in-migration. (3) Another peculiar group is found on islands having too narrow lands divided by the sea. (4) The main sequence can be classified into two types of linguistic classes. Grammatical data show a stepping slope instead of a gentle slope in lexical data. (5) The main sequence shows a precise linear relationship in a narrow area. The graph of the main sequence in a wide area shows a triangular form. The narrow data show multiple linear lines. It is thought that the triangle of the main sequence in a wide area is composed of a large number of linear lines. I use the Linguistic Atlas of Japan (LAJ) and the Grammar Atlas of Japanese Dialects (GAJ) for the data of a wide area and Kamiina-no Hogen (Mase 1969) for the data of a narrow area. Centrality of capital places was expected before the analysis, setting the source places in historically, governmentally, and economically central areas. However, when setting source places in local areas, the same pattern appears against the expectation (Kumagai 2016). The general pattern in the main sequence, that is first result, is called NS and FD law (near similar and far different). The other results found are based on the NS and FD law.

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THE HONOURABLE PAST AND THE LIVELY PRESENT OF THE SAMOGITIAN LANGUAGE

Since ancient times, the following question has been periodically raised: is it the Samogitian language or the Samogitian dialect? Before standard Lithuanian appeared, the concept of the Samogitian language was used very often. Quite a few famous Samogitians (D. Poška, S. Stanevičius, J. A. Pabrėža, M. Valančius, S. Daukantas and others) wrote their various works in Samogitian. After standard Lithuanian appeared, other linguistic systems usually have been referred to as dialects. A. Girdenis and J. Pabrėža discussed the relationship between the Samogitian language and the Samogitian dialect more than once. Overall, both terms – the Samogitian language and the Samogitian dialect – are good and can be used. The present paper argues that there is the Samogitian language with three distinct dialects (Northern Samogitians – *dounininkai*, Southern Samogitians – *dūnininkai*, and Western Samogitians – *donininkai*), accompanied by Northern Samogitians *telšiškiai* and *kretingiškiei*, Southern Samogitians *varniškiai* and *raseiniškiai* sub-dialects and a lot of smaller speeches and sub-speeches.

The most important signs of the identity of the Samogitian language and the testimony of the language status would be as follows: 1) the exceptionality of the Samogitian language is demonstrated by a unanimous agreement among the linguists to divide all Lithuanian dialects into two major groups: Samogitian and Aukštaitian (and in older times into Samogitian and Lithuanian); 2) the Samogitian dialectal language differs a lot both from standard Lithuanian and other Lithuanian dialects; 3) the Samogitian language has all main levels of a language (phonetics, morphology, syntax and vocabulary) and quite a few unique, archaic features of sounds, forms and constructions are preserved at all these levels; 4) today the Samogitians have a standardised writing with definite rules, according to which a lot of publicist articles, works of fiction, newspapers, journals and whole books are published. Today in Samogitia, self-identification by means of the native Samogitian language is very pronounced and important. Most Samogitians perceive the dialectal Samogitian speech as their true native language. On the whole, the prestige of the Samogitian language has become increasingly stronger.

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CHARACTERISING SOULETIN BASQUE THROUGHOUT THE LAST FOUR CENTURIES

It is well-known that Basque exhibits an overwhelming variation. The dialectal split began in the Middle Ages, and during the last centuries the distance between dialects has been increasing to the extent that peripheral varieties are mutually unintelligible. In the easternmost corner of the Basque Country, Souletin is spoken by 5,000 people over an area of 760 square kilometres. Despite its weak position today, Souletin is one of the four literary dialects of Basque, with a remarkable written tradition since the 17th century.

The first mention of the specificity of Souletin dates back to 1571, and there is a consensus in considering it as an independent dialect. There are valuable descriptive works on Souletin, most of them analysing a given linguistic phenomenon (Zaika 2017), devoted to a local variety (Lafon 1958) and/or conducted from a synchronic approach (Lüders 1993). However, until present no attempt has been undertaken to describe the past, the evolution or even the limits of this variety.

Based on a corpus of historical Souletin (16th - 19th centuries) made up of more than 40 texts, covering virtually the whole of printed records and a significant selection of the popular tradition, our study proposes a characterisation of Souletin taking into account the evolution of 60 phonologic and morpho-syntactic features, some of them described for the first time in Basque.

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THE SOMATONYMS OF NORTHERN SAMOGITIANS: THE MODELS OF MOTIVATION REGARDING THE LEXIS OF HEAD AREA

In the 21st century, one of the remaining global issues in linguistics is the problem of relationship between language and reality, which is inevitably related to the link between language and thinking as well as linguistic function for creating, preserving and transferring the conceptual worldview. In solving these complex questions, the pre-eminent role should be given to the multifaceted research of a lexical system. Given a large scope of a lexical system, the most appropriate approach to explore it is by deconstructing the whole system into separate thematic groups. One of them is the names of human body parts, otherwise known as somatonyms.

This presentation is intended to determine motivational models of somatonyms and cognitive principles regarding their creation in one subdialect, Northern Samogitians in particular. For this research, a subgroup of names for head area (SHA) has been chosen which encompasses the names of head, face, their internal or external organs, parts and areas (for example, *head, forehead, brain*).

The research is intended to answer these questions:

- 1) What is the scope and composition of SHA?
- 2) What is the onomasiological system of this thematic subgroup?

On the basis of various lexicographical sources and their verification in the viable subdialect in question, it has been found out that SHA of Northern Samogitians comprises nearly 300 lexemes. They share various systemic semantic relationships whose analysis enables to discern particular features of a “naive” body categorization.

The major part of somatonyms used in the subdialect of Northern Samogitians belongs to the layer of motivated lexis which has derived locally. The onomasiological system of SHA lexemes is comprised of several types of motivational models: the *descriptive* motivational model includes names whose lexical motivators explicitly define external or internal qualities of a particular part of the body as well as the sounds it produces (for example, *minkštimas* “a temple (literally, softness)”, *bleŗbalas* “a mouth (literally, what causes sharp sound)”; the *locative* motivational model encompasses somatonyms which are motivated by the feature of location of the body part (for example, *paakŗs* “a place below an eye”, *aŗtakis* “an eye-brow”). The *comparative* motivational model is based on similarity criterion (for

example, *snāpas* “a nose (literally, beak)”, *knyslē* “a nose (literally, snout”) and the *functional* motivational model refers to the character of an action which is performed by a specified part of the body (e.g. *ēdis* “a mouth (cf. *ēsti* “to eat”)”, *veizōlai* “eyes” (cf. *veizēti* “to look”), etc.).

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FROM A DIALECTAL DICTIONARY TO A LINGUISTIC ATLAS

The project “Computerization, dialectal sources, lexicographical influences, mapping and sound of the *Diccionari català-valencià-balear* (DCVB2.0+)” aims to exploit the potential of the *Diccionari català-valencià-balear* (DCVB) by Antoni M. Alcover and Francesc de B. Moll, a reference work for Catalan and Romance lexicography, by using the existing computing resources. The main objective is to get interactive searches that help the development of more comprehensive lexical studies, based primarily on the collection of documentary sources that have become the written aspect of the work.

The aim of this paper is to methodologically explain two of the purposes of the project: first, automatically mapping DCVB lexicon; and second, incorporating sound to the phonetic transcriptions that appear in most of the lexical entries.

On the one hand, the process of creating different types of maps has involved making several decisions as to the choice of dictionary data that are suitable for the mapped presentation. This work explains the consequences of selecting, categorising and adapting the linguistic materials from the dictionary. It also describes how specific geographical locations and areas can be combined in order to achieve a more accurate visual representation. In addition, from a cartographic point of view, the phonetic transcriptions that appear under each lemma of the dictionary deserve particular consideration. Mapping them together with other materials allows us to generate not only a digital atlas of a phonetic nature but also diverse cartographic presentations of dialects based on semantic criteria.

On the other hand, the numerous phonetic transcriptions of the DCVB will also be subjected to a procedure of voice synthesis, a technique that was already successfully applied to the data of Alcover’s Catalan conjugation (Verbal Inflection) (<http://alcover.iec.cat/>). The sound registers will be activated both in the query of the dictionary entries and in the result of their mapping.

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**DIALECTOLOGY GOES DIGITAL. TAPPING REGIONAL VARIATION
IN ANONYMOUS SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATION**

The linguistic analysis of regional variation in German is currently characterized by a peculiar situation: while the importance of social media for every day communication constantly increases, most variational linguistic studies still build on traditional approaches that focus on the analysis of a limited set of predefined variables in spoken language corpora. In most cases, such data are collected in experimental situations (dialect translation, discussion among friends, interview) and analyzed by using the established methodology (variable analysis, perception experiments, discourse analysis). Similar peculiarities can be found in computational linguistics which promotes the quantitative analysis of large language corpora of written language as well as the development of powerful processing algorithms, whereas linguistic knowledge about the social conditionality of language variation is hardly ever included systematically in data modeling.

Starting from this, I want to discuss an integrated approach to the study of language variation and change that combines the strengths of both sociolinguistic and computational approaches (interpretation-driven vs. data-driven) to contribute to the emerging field of “computational sociolinguistics” (Nguyen et al. 2016).

The study analyzes a corpus of 3 million anonymous discussions collected from the social media app “Jodel” in the German speaking area. Data processing uses the methodology from computational linguistics (neural networks, representation learning) without taking into account any specific assumptions regarding the linguistic structure or regional variation in the data set. However, the analysis reveals clear-cut regional clusters of communication that can be interpreted against the background of linguistic and socio-cultural spatial structures (dialect division, socioeconomic mobility, sociocultural orientation, attitudes).

The analysis of the revealed spatial structures shows that (anonymous) social media communication of young adults in the German speaking area is characterized by “digital regiolects” which are a) regionally distinct, b) structured by the use of specific linguistic resources, and c) closely linked to the overall structure and dynamics of the German regional languages (as well as other socioeconomic and socio-cultural factors).

The typical language use of different user groups mirrors region-specific linguistic style profiles. These profiles provide information about the linguistic resources that dominate in the language practice in the respective regional community. Beyond that, they shed light on different aspects of language dynamics in social media communication, e.g., regarding the spread and establishment of new regional or community-specific variants.

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**USING JOSEPH WRIGHT'S ENGLISH DIALECT DICTIONARY
AS A WEB-BASED RESEARCH TOOL**

The recent online release (September 2016) of Joseph Wright's English Dialect Dictionary (Wright 1898-1905) by Manfred Markus and his research team at the University of Innsbruck (Austria) amply illustrates that a classic dialectological work of reference can be transformed into a multi-purpose database for studies in geolinguistics, historical linguistics and cultural history. Originally, Wright's dictionary was published in six large volumes between 1898 and 1905. Its material came from the various publications of the English Dialect Society, most of which were glossaries, and dialectal data that had been collected by other dialectologists such as Skeat, Palmer and Ellis. Additionally, Wright sent 12,000 copies of a postal questionnaire, which included around 2,400 words with instructions for a phonetic transcription. He used two criteria whether a word would be included in the dictionary. First, the word must have been reported to have been in use after about 1650 and secondly there must be some written evidence of the word.

The electronic version of the English Dialect Dictionary is a substantial and highly advanced database that can be searched systematically for any information included in the dictionary. The paper will exemplify the potential of EDD Online by carrying out a variety of searches – phonetic, morphological, syntactic as well as lexical. Moreover, the results will be compared to the findings of the later Survey of English Dialects (Orton et al. 1962-71), thus providing further insights into diachronic and geolinguistic developments at the same time.

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**PERCEPTUAL DIALECTOLOGY AND POLITENESS ON ST. KITTS:
A NEW METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH**

The sociolinguistic discipline of perceptual dialectology is the study of “how [...] people react to spoken language” of a certain geographical area (Montgomery and Beal 2011: 121). However, while perceptual dialectology traditionally studies phonological, lexical or morphosyntactic variations and non-linguists’ perceptions of these, perceptions on a pragmatic level have been almost entirely neglected so far (an exception being Blum-Kulka’s (2005) paper on perceptions of politeness in Israel). The present study is a first attempt to fill this gap; its aim is to extend the field of perceptual dialectology to the study of perceptions on a pragmatic level, or more precisely to the study of perceptions of politeness.

In this paper, I will first outline this new methodological framework, mainly based on sociolinguistics, perceptual dialectology and pragmatics. In a second step, I will present the data collected on the island of St. Kitts, located in the Lesser Antilles of the Eastern Caribbean. These data suggest that perceptions of politeness are indeed connected to different dialects or varieties of the English language and correlate strongly with other traditionally studied dimensions of perceptual dialectology, such as the speaker’s perceived level of education or trustworthiness. Thus, this paper puts forward the idea, that the framework of perceptual dialectology should be extended and politeness should be included into its methodology.

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FOREIGN INFLUENCES IN BERNESE SWISS GERMAN

The atlas of German-speaking Switzerland (SDS) consists of 1,500 dialect maps which were published between 1962 and 1997 in 8 volumes. To describe the dialects of the greater area of Bern (Berner Mittelland) Hotzenköcherle et al. collected data in 20 different locations.

Since then, only very specific factors of this particular linguistic variety have been examined (e.g. Hodler 1969 on Bernese German syntax, Marti 1976 on Bernese German grammar more generally or Siebenhaar 2000 on social varieties in the city of Bern) but the dialect has not been examined in its entirety. In addition, research, which examines the acceptance and embedment of loanwords, is missing until the present day. The present project answers the question of how and why the Bernese Swiss German dialects have changed since the data collection of the SDS. In three-part interviews (word list, translation, and spontaneous speech) new data for the mentioned research area is being collected at the moment. Four speakers are recorded per location; the speakers are classified into three age groups (18-35, 35-65, 65+). In addition, agriculturalists are taken into account, as they are believed to be the most conservative dialect speakers. Mainly variables originating in the SDS are observed, but some new variables are included as well, which examine for example how Bernese Swiss German deals with influences from foreign languages (in this talk: Anglicisms).

Anglicisms are elements originating in the English language, which are embedded in another language.

They are also to be found in Bernese Swiss German, as the word *steak* ($st\epsilon ik$ vs. $\int t\epsilon ik(x)$ vs. $\int ti:kx$) demonstrates.

The trichotomy in the realisation of this variable could be explained as follows:

1. Phonological assimilation of the Anglicism to Bernese Swiss German à $\int ti:kx$ like $\int ti:f$ (stiff)
2. Command of English of the speaker has an influence. Due to educational reasons, younger speakers use the standard English form more often than older speakers do, e.g. à $st\epsilon ik$ (steak)
3. Mix between the two reasons above à $\int t\epsilon ik(x)$.

This talk will discuss if these three reasons really explain the present trichotomy and if other Anglicisms in Bernese Swiss German behave in the same way.

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NOUN PLURALS AT THE BORDER – IS THERE AN INFLUENCE OF HUNGARIAN MORPHOLOGY ON AUSTRIAN GERMAN DIALECTS?

In general, noun plurals in the German standard language are marked (in opposition to singulars) in different ways: by suffixes, by umlaut, by a combination of both, by umlaut only or zero (unmarked). Their productivity varies and not all kinds of markers are open to all of the three German genders (masculine, neuter, feminine). E. g. it is not possible to keep feminine plural nouns unmarked; masculine and neuter ones can stay unmarked itself because they are marked morphosyntactically (by the article).

The author did a few small studies on dialectal noun plurals in the so called “Seewinkel”, a small region in the very east of Austria next to the Hungarian border. Local Bavarian dialects are more or less conservative, although they are influenced by the German standard language and by the regiolect of the Austrian capital Vienna, which is very close to the “Seewinkel” (app. 40–80 km away).

On one hand, the studies show a wider range of plural markers than the German standard language. It is also possible to use different markers for one lexeme (up to five!).

On the other hand, there are a lot of lexemes, which show no distinction between singular and plural, especially feminine nouns! (The marker *-en* of oblique cases has been transferred to the nominative singular. This is a phenomenon, which is still productive in Middle Bavarian dialects.) Apart from this, a lot of neuter and masculine nouns are unmarked (or zero).

Hungarian is an agglutinative language and does not differentiate in the category of gender. Although plurality can be marked by *-k*, it is unmarked after numerals or quantity expressions. Therefore, the lots of unmarked (zero) plurals in the German dialects next to the Hungarian border (after numerals or quantity expressions) could be a result of language contact, especially when one keeps in mind the history. This part of Austria was a part of Hungary until 1921 or focussed on linguistics: these dialects have had Hungarian as a “roof” and not German.

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**ON THE ADVANTAGE OF LANGUAGE SPREAD BY SEA ROUTE
IN THE SETO INLAND SEA REGION**

On the contrary to the instances of language spread which occurs due to rapid migration of people, there is a pattern of language spread which occurs as like as the spread of ink on blotting carpet. The latter is said to be a pattern of language spread just like as crawling on the ground. Japan being a region surrounded by the sea has witnessed language spread mainly through the land route, in addition to many evidences of language spread through the sea route. In Japanese dialect research, there are cases of language spread through the sea route, where Kitamaebune has played a role in the language spread. The Kitamaebune is a kind of merchant ship that used to sail to the Hyogo and Osaka ports from the Kanmon Strait through the Japan Sea and further through the Seto Inland Sea from the ports of the Hokuriku and the Western Tohoku region in the Edo period. In that era, a sea route was opened since ancient times and played a major role as a route of Japanese logistics until the introduction of railroads and trucks as a mainstream transportation system in the Seto Inland Sea region of Japan.

Given the above backdrop on the language spread, I will demonstrate how the dialects of Kyoto and Osaka, the center of the Kansai region, has spread to the Chugoku and Shikoku Region including the Seto Inland Sea region based on a hypothesis that the spread would frequently occur through the *Sea route* rather than the *land route* on the basis of the result of a language survey conducted so far. The linguistic features which have mainly been taken for investigation are the distribution of typical grammatical formatives including *shiteikenai* and *akan*; the negative formative *hen* and the copula formative *ya* along with the distribution of the Keihan style accent pattern in the *Keihan* dialect.

The language has spread from the Keihan region to the Chugoku region through the *land route* tending to advance toward the west until it is suspended to its adjacent prefectures of Hyogo and Okayama on the border. On the other hand, its spread shows movement towards the islands of the Seto Inland Sea region and the Shikoku region extends far to the western part of the Seto Inland Sea and Ehime prefecture in the Shikoku region. These shreds of evidence attest that the sea route had a greater role than the land route in the spread of language from the Keihan region towards various parts of western Japan.

Accordingly, I here present the results of the survey of Yoichi Fujiwara (1974), *A Linguistic Atlas of the Seto Inland Sea*. Hiroshima Dialect Laboratory conducted on the elderly and boys in various areas of the Seto Inland Sea in the 1960s together with the results of the survey in the Seto Inland Sea conducted by me in order to show a comparative analysis.

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LATGALIAN SURNAMES AS A SOURCE OF RESEARCH IN DIALECTOLOGY AND LANGUAGE CONTACT STUDIES

In the regions of Vidzeme and Kurzeme, most peasants were given official surnames only after the feudal serfdom had been abolished, i.e. during the first half of the 19th century. Meanwhile in the eastern part of Latvia, i.e. the region of Latgale, surnames are much older. The oldest known source containing Latvian surnames of Latgale are the Polish revision records of 1599. Some of the surnames mentioned in this document are still in use today. Latgalian surnames are copiously represented in many 17-19th century sources as well, especially in revision documents and in the records of the Roman Catholic Church.

Some of these surnames correspond to dialectal appellatives or common nouns, transcribed according to the Polish spelling principles of that time. Obviously, some of the surnames were initially nicknames based on a person's appearance, e.g. Cakuł (dial. cakuls 'tuft of hair, thick hair'), Małnacz (dial. malnačs 'black-eyed'), Siermais (dial. sierms 'grey'), profession, e.g. Kalw (dial. kaļvs 'smith'), Pathmelnik (dial. patmaļņīks 'miller'), or place of living, e.g. Aifpur (coined from words aiz 'beyond' and pūrs 'marsh'), and Sył (from the word meaning 'pine forest').

Some surnames have been derived from first names, e.g. Jurans, Lukašs, Piterans.

Some surnames found in the documents are based on plant or animal names, e.g. Kukucz (dial. kukuči 'wild rosemary'), Lozda (dial. lozda 'nut-tree'), Strod (dial. strods 'blackbird'; as far as Špaks (cf. Po. szpak 'blackbird'), Locs (dial. luocs 'bear'), Loss (cf. Po. łoś, Rus. лось 'elk').

Latgale is a multinational and multicultural region, and historically has had close ties with Lithuania and Poland. Therefore, there are similarities between Latgalian surnames and those of the said countries. Besides, Latgalian sub-dialects have a lot in common with the Lithuanian language. Sometimes it helps to interpret the etymology of surnames based on words that are no longer used in Latgalian, but still exist in Lithuanian, e.g. Kampāns (might be related to Lith. kampas 'corner') or Linkevičs (might be related to Lith. linkti 'to bend, bow').

The Estonian community that had settled some centuries ago around Ludza (a town in Latgale) has also left a certain impact on surnames of Latgale. The following Latgalian surnames might have

Finno-Ugric origin: Pizičs, Piziks (cf. Est. pisike ‘small’), Lapiks, Lepiks (might be related to Est. lepik ‘alder-tree grove’).

There has also been a considerable influence of Polish and Russian on Latgalian surnames. Until the 18th century, the administrative and church documentation in Latgale was in Latin and Polish, and personal names were written according to the Polish spelling principles. However, they did reflect the characteristics of the local sub-dialects quite precisely.

Thus, the older registered Latgalian surnames can serve as research material both in the field of dialectology and language contacts.

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**HOW GEOLINGUISTICS DEALS WITH PASTORALISTS' SPEECHES
AND THEIR HISTORY: A CASE STUDY ON AMDO TIBETAN
IN EASTERN TIBET**

The eastern part of Tibet is known as a region where continuous contacts of various ethnic groups and languages have happened. Some geolinguistic studies based on fieldwork to collect the data have been conducted in that region beyond several language groups such as Sinitic, Tibeto-Burman, Tai-Kadai, Mongolic, and Turkic. However, there is a crucial issue there: the existence of pastoralists practising transhumance and migration. Most of them speak varieties of Amdo Tibetan (ISO 639-3: adx), and geolinguistic studies on it have not been well conducted due to various reasons, e.g., uncertainty in how to plot their lects on a map. This paper will clarify how geolinguistics can deal with pastoralists' varieties of Amdo Tibetan, and discuss the issue of migration history from a broader perspective by drawing some linguistic maps on the phonetic and lexical aspects which put the whole linguistic area of Amdo Tibetan in range.

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COLOURFUL LANDSCAPE – GEOLINGUISTICAL PRESENTATION OF DIALECT MICROTOPYNOMS

Dialect microtoponyms are an important part of national intangible cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation, constantly created by communities in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, which provides them with a sense of identity and continuity and thus promotes respect for cultural diversity and human creativity (from the Convention of UNESCO, 2003).

Microtoponyms as non-settlement-related geographical proper names within geographical names in the narrow (toponymic) and wider (geonymic) senses, denote parts of landscape, waters, hills, paths, orientational points, etc. With microtoponyms people designate the space, where they live and work – thus microtoponyms reflex geomorphological, historical, biological, geological, social characteristics of the environment as well as the historical development of the language in certain country.

The paper presents Slovene dialect microtoponyms (oronyms, hidronyms, agronyms, hodonyms, horonyms, etc.), collected in the North-West of Slovene language territory (in Slovenia, Austria and Italy), where Gorenjsko (Upper Carniolan) and Koroško Ziljsko (Carinthian Gailtal) dialects are spoken. In dialect proper names (not only in apelatives) all characteristics of spoken language can be observed – on phonological as well as on morphological, syntactical and lexical level of language system. Motivational analyses of microtoponyms shows, that apelatives which denote position, geomorphological characteristics, typical colour of objects and people activities, connected with the field, as well as plants, animals and architecture objects, can often be part of such geographical proper names.

Words for colours are an interesting part of dialectal microtoponyms, denoting one of the most noticeable characteristics of the named objects. In collected material these colours are very often: black, white, grey, green, red, brown as well as scarlet and sunny. They denote waters (Črni potok ‘Black stream’, Zelenci ‘Green (spring)’), mountains and their parts (Škrlatica ‘Scarlet (mountain)’), Rdeča škrbina ‘Red gap’, Rjava čer ‘Brown rock’), valleys (Črni graben ‘Black valley’) and gorges (Belščica ‘White (gorge)’), fields (Bele ‘White (fields)’), alpine meadows (Belščica ‘Meadow of Bela’), architecture objects (Črno znamenje ‘Black sign/chappel’), etc.

In the paper microtoponyms with “colour element” will be analysed etymologically and presented on geolinguistical maps.

**IMPORTANT ASPECT OF LITHUANIAN DIALECTOLOGY:
DIALECT DICTIONARIES**

Fifteen dialect dictionaries were published in Lithuania during the period of Soviet occupation (1944–1990) and the years of re-establishment of independence (1990 to 2017). The dictionaries were written by professional linguists and amateurs as well. All dictionaries can be described in at least five aspects: time, extent, orthography, dialect, and place.

The history of the Lithuanian dialect dictionaries can be divided into three periods: 1978–1988 (first dialect dictionaries appear), 1988–2008 (the period of the most intensive writing and publishing), 2008–2017 (the period of scientifically based multivolume dialect dictionaries).

The Lithuanian dialect dictionaries make two large groups according to their extent. One-volume dictionaries usually were published until 2000 and more dictionaries containing two, three or four volumes began to appear after 2000.

Transcription of dialect data in Lithuanian dialect dictionaries differs. Few dictionaries are written in standard language. Simplified phonetic transcription is used by the authors very often, but phonetic transcription according to Copenhagen tradition is used most.

Distribution of dialects reflected in the dictionaries is such that we have three dictionaries of Žemaičiai (Vytautas Vitkauskas, *Šiaurės rytų dūnininkų šnektų žodynas* (1976); Juozas Aleksandravičius, *Kretingos tarmės žodynas* (2011); Birutė Vanagienė, *Šiaurės vakarų žemaičių žodynas* (vol. 1, 2014, vol. 2, 2015)) and twelve dictionaries of Aukštaičiai (Jonas Petrauskas, Aloyzas Vidugiris, *Lazūnų tarmės žodynas* (1985); Gertrūda Naktinienė, Aldona Paulauskienė, Vytautas Vitkauskas, *Druskininkų tarmės žodynas* (1988); Aloyzas Vidugiris, *Zietelos šnektos žodynas* (1998); Vitas Labutis, *Daukšių krašto žodynas* (2002); Znavykyų šnektos žodynas (vol. 1, 2003, vol. 2, 2004, vol. 3, 2006); Dieveniškų šnektos žodynas (vol. 1, 2005, vol. 2, 2010); Klementina Vosylytė, *Kupiškėnų žodynas* (vol. 1, 2007, vol. 2, 2010, vol. 3, 2012, vol. 4, 2013); Angelė Vilutytė, *Kaltanėnų šnektos žodynas* (2008); Aldonas Pupkis, *Kazlų Rūdos žodynas* (vol. 1, 2008, t. 2, 2009); Žaneta Markevičienė, Aurimas Markevičius, *Vidiškių šnektos žodynas* (2014); Lietuvininkų tarmių žodynas (2014); Asta Leskauskaitė, Vilija Ragaišienė, *Pietinių pietų aukštaičių šnektų žodynas* (vol. 1, 2016)).

Geographically, many Lithuanian dialect dictionaries focus on marginal dialects. First, dictionaries of ethnical Lithuanian territories in Belarus must be mentioned. Finally, the last group of dictionaries reflects dialects surrounded by other Lithuanian dialects.

All dialect dictionaries not only supplement the basis of the greater lexicographical works (as *Lietuvių kalbos žodynas*) but also reflect the ethnical peculiarities of the region, historical events and their estimation, personal linguistic self-consciousness and self-esteem, encourage interest in native dialect.

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**DIALECTOMETRICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF SOME SAAMI VARIETIES:
METHODS, RESULTS AND PROBLEMS**

In my paper, I would like to present a comparative lexico-etymological analysis of the basic vocabulary of some Saami varieties, in order to take a look at their problematic relationship from a new angle. A major problem is that one can find several groupings in works of different scholars, where the basis is similar, reflecting mostly phonological differences viewed in diachrony, and yet the results are very different. My method puts lexicon into focus. I have analysed several types of basic vocabulary, but it is the frequency based one that can be a reliable corpus, especially if one also wishes to investigate the grade of possible mutual intelligibility – a factor that can be interesting when comparing languages. After having created corpora consisting of wordlists (with words representing a certain number of meanings) in the analysed varieties, I calculated the grade of etymological similarity for every pair of varieties. The results of my research show clearly that Inari and North Saami are much closer to each other than one would think in view of the traditional classifications, and they show, in fact, the highest similarity values among the Saami varieties. Measuring linguistic differences between languages has more or less well-known methods in dialectology, but these are seldom applied to Uralic languages. As a reference, I also analysed the lexico-etymological similarities between some other Finno-Ugric languages, namely Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Komi and Livonian; thereby the results for the Saami varieties can be compared to those of other, more widely known languages. I also would like to discuss the problem of the length of “meaning lists”, and I will examine the differences between results for shorter lists with 100-400 meanings and those for longer ones such as the IDS-list (The International Dictionary Series) and even my own meaning-list – a brand new list created especially for the Saami varieties, presenting the results of my latest investigations in this field. Finally, I would like to point out the difficulties of dialectal data collecting in the case of Saami.

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STUDY OF LANGUAGE CHANGE BY FOLLOW-UP SURVEY OF “THE LINGUISTIC ATLAS OF THE SETO INLAND SEA” (LAS)

“The Linguistic Atlas of the Seto Inland Sea” (Fujiwara Yoichi, 1974) is a collection of linguistic maps that investigated and mapped a total of 952 points in Seto Island and on the coastal area of the Honshu and Shikoku. The uniqueness of this Atlas, with nothing similar ever made world-wide, is the investigation of the elderly layer (women in their 60’s) and juveniles (junior high female students) at the same time and the same place. It was made especially in a way which enables a side by side comparison between the elderly and the teenage generations. For this purpose, a 5-year long survey was conducted between 1960 to 1965.

Presently, this paper aims to pursue a follow-up survey and try to clarify 2 points which are shown later on here below. Both studies lead to elucidation of undeveloped fields. Nevertheless, since this study is still in progress (especially point 1 which is not yet on the level of drawing a map), this presentation will mainly focus on point 2 and its results, which are known from the previous survey.

1. (a) The elucidation of real-time language change and (b) The verification and construction of the distributed interpretation theory in language geography.

The geo-linguistic studies spread was born from the land continuation field. Can the same be said on LAS, which targets every island as a study field? Furthermore, the usage of the three bridges (Seto Ohashi, Shimanami Kaido and Akashi Ohashi), led to major changes in movement of people. Thus, we can ask how these bridges influence language trends.

By clarifying the follow-up survey, we may obtain clues that verify the language change theory and thus, create a new theory. In this presentation, I will outline such known problems.

2. Language acquisition after the language formation period of LAS juvenile speakers.

This topic remains undeveloped. In my study “Language change of the same speaker after 25 years: from the follow up survey of LAS” (Bunkyo Kokubungaku 22, 1987) , I investigated the female juvenile speakers of Nomi Island, Hiroshima Prefecture. All data received were reviewed once more and state of change was summarized in the following way:

1) change to the common language, 2) acquisition of dialect and 3) acquisition of adult feminine language. However, this was a case study of a specific individual.

This time, we succeeded to research numerous juvenile speakers. Therefore, I will report the result of these speakers' case.

Until the so-called "language formation period", stage Personal language acquisition research remained the same. After that, the region I live in faced difficulties in the way of studying languages, as well as longitudinal studies. Thus, these fields remained undeveloped. This research will reveal how junior high female speakers have learned languages in this area. This study will also clarify how to master the language in that place. Therefore, this research is important in order to contribute to the language acquisition theory.

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**MEASUREMENTS OF MEAN AND STANDARD DEVIATION IN
SINGLE TEXT APPLIED TO THE DIALECTAL VOCABULARY
OF MEDIEVAL AND MODERN SPANISH**

When dealing with the frequency of words in dialectal texts, two statistical measures are usually used: mean and standard deviation. Both are calculated between several dialectal texts for measuring the magnitude of frequency on average and the degree of dispersion observed among several texts. In this way we obtain a frequency value and another dispersion value between several dialectal texts. For example, among five texts, we obtain one mean and one standard deviation calculated between the five texts.

On the other hand, we are interested in evaluating the mean and standard deviation of the words observed in a single text in order to know its magnitude and stability within the same text. Therefore, we acquire frequency and standard deviation of each text. For example, among five texts, we obtain five means and five standard deviation, corresponding to each text.

As for the standard deviation, I will transform it into the regular standard deviation, which has the property of range from 0 to 1, which is convenient for comparing the vocabulary of different dimensions, for example, articles and prepositions.

I will explain the method of calculating the monolectal average and regular standard deviation and I will apply it to the Spanish texts of the Middle and Modern Ages in the three main regions of Spain: León, Castilla, and Aragón.

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**SPECTRAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LITHUANIAN OBSTRUENTS
ACCORDING TO GENDER: SOME PRELIMINARY RESULTS
OF EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH**

Researchers of the school of Lithuanian phonology have been carrying out instrumental investigations exceptionally with male voices for a long time. Cf. Aleksas Girdenis argues that: “It is best to take male speakers as announcers (if, of course, there is a choice), since the ear perceives and distinguishes sounds pronounced with a high voice less well. Male voices are especially desirable when the same data is intended for spectral analysis: high female voices are poorly suited for such studies, since they have few harmonics” (Girdenis 2014: 50). Female voices started to be systematically studied in Lithuanian phonetic works only at the beginning of the 21st century.

A different physiological structure has an impact on the apparatus of male and female voices (on the length and thickness of the vocal cords, in particular) and the articulation apparatus (chiefly mouth and nasal resonators). The aim of the present report is to compare acoustic features of the consonants pronounced by males and females and to determine which differences depend on the gender of an informant and which are related to the individual articulation of the informants. The research material of the report is the obstruents of the standard Lithuanian language articulated in CVC clusters in a prevocalic position.

Three acoustic features are investigated: 1) duration of the release phase; 2) frequency of the spectral peak; 3) relative intensity. The investigation shows that the only parameter – frequency of the spectral peak – can be related to the informant’s gender: lower frequencies of the spectral peak are usually characteristic of the obstruents articulated by male speakers than of the same obstruents articulated by females. The results obtained do not confirm the impact of the informant’s gender on the length of the plosive phase and the data of relative intensity, the differences fixed are not regular. In the report, the results of the investigations of the consonants of the Lithuanian language will be compared with the analogous investigations of the consonants of the Latvian language.

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INTERNAL BORDERS MATTER

In previous research we investigated several linguistic changes which are ongoing in north-western Catalan using a contemporary corpus. We took advantage of a range of dialectometric methods that allowed us to calculate and analyze the linguistic distance between varieties in apparent time from an aggregate perspective. Specifically, we paid attention to the process of structural dialect loss due to linguistic advergence to standard and eastern Catalan in many North Western Catalan dialects located in Catalonia (Spain) and Andorra. We also provided evidence that the dialect leveling taking place in these two areas strongly contrasts with the (apparent) relative stability of the Catalan dialects on the other side of the Catalan-Aragonese border in Spain, where Catalan is not an official language. We proved that these opposite sociolinguistic situations (Catalonia and Andorra have strong language policies to support Catalan, whereas Aragon does not) have triggered a twofold process of vertical advergence between the Catalan spoken in Catalonia and Andorra towards the prestigious varieties, on the one hand, and of horizontal divergence between these dialects and those located in Aragon, on the other hand. As a consequence, this situation has notably strengthened the border differences between Aragon and Catalonia during the last 80 years.

In this paper, we focus on the Catalan varieties spoken in Aragon to examine more closely whether the border effect is also due to the (less important in quantitative terms) evolution of local dialects, and we provide evidence that these varieties have evolved simultaneously as a result of both internal and external factors. As they are not influenced by standard Catalan, several intrasystemic changes have been taking place. At the same time, the pressure of standard Spanish, which is perceived as the prestigious model as a result of the diglossic situation, is also favouring a second, and very strong, process of vertical advergence towards standard Spanish, especially at the phonological and lexical levels. From a sociolinguistic point of view, this process raises a double paradox:

a. Now that half of the Catalan speaking population of Aragon admit for the first time that what they speak is not a chapurriau (i.e. a poorly spoken language) but a Catalan variety, these dialects might become the hybrid varieties that have never been so far.

b. Now that most speakers admit that their varieties are not strictly local, but dialects of the Catalan language, the North Western continuum is weakening and thus these dialects are becoming more “local”.

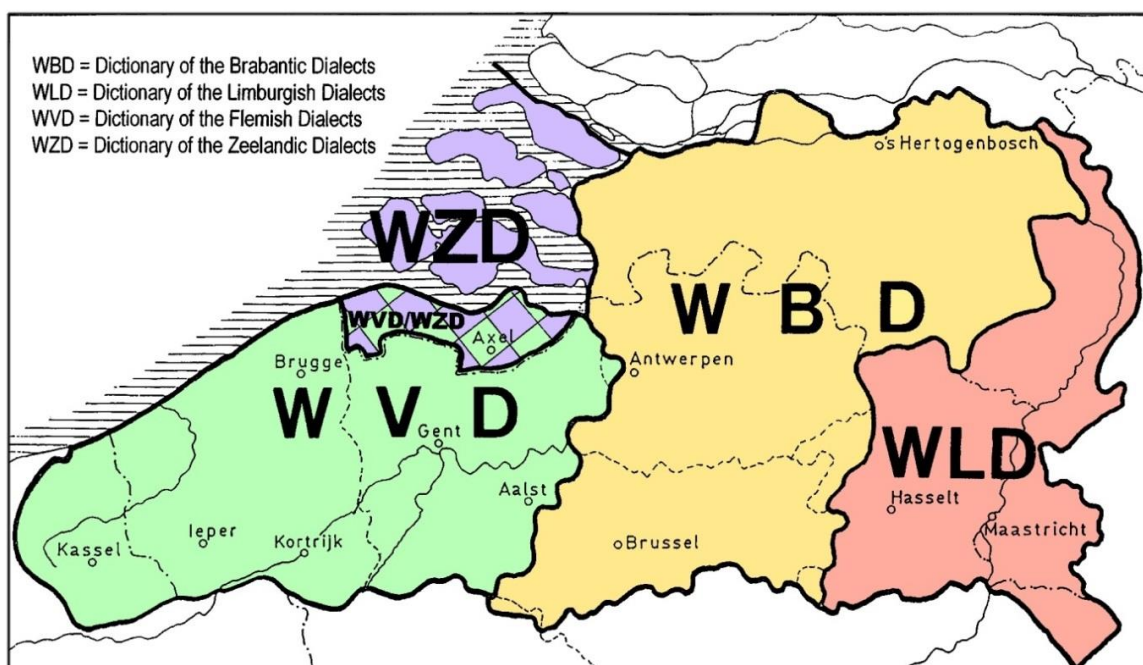
Such results show the impact of different language policies in the divergent evolution of formerly similar dialects within the same state, a sort of border effect that has not been paid enough attention so far.

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**THE DICTIONARY OF THE SOUTHERN DUTCH DIALECTS (DSDD):
DESIGNING A VIRTUAL RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT
FOR DIGITAL LEXICOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH**

The southern Dutch dialect area consists of four dialect groups: (1) the Flemish dialects, spoken in French Flanders (France), West and East Flanders (Belgium), and Zeeland Flanders (The Netherlands); (2) the Brabantic dialects, spoken in Antwerp and Flemish Brabant (Belgium) and Northern Brabant (The Netherlands); (3) the Limburgian dialects (spoken in the Limburg provinces of Belgium and The Netherlands); (4) the Zeeland dialects, spoken in Zeeland and Goeree-Overflakkee (the Netherlands).

The dialect vocabulary of the Flemish, Brabantic and Limburgian dialects is collected in three regional dictionaries (WVD, WBD and WLD respectively), which are set up according to the same plan, conceived by prof. A. Weijnen (Nijmegen): they are onomasiologically arranged and published in thematic fascicles.



Research areas of the four regional dialect dictionaries of the southern Dutch area

The three dictionaries describe the vocabulary of the traditional dialects of the first half of the twentieth century in the southern part of the Dutch language area, in a joint **international** and **inter-university** project. The dictionaries were set up in parallel in order to make possible the aggregation of the data, thus fulfilling the objectives of the founders of the projects. To that effect, in 2016 a consortium of 12 linguists, computer scientists, digital humanities experts and geographers was created to support the project “Dictionary of the Southern Dialects” (DSDD). It aims at the aggregation and standardization of the three comprehensive dialect lexicographic databases into one DSDD-database (to which, hopefully, the alphabetically arranged WZD will be added in the future). In particular, dialectologists from Ghent University work closely with the Ghent Centre for Digital Humanities (GhentCDH) to prepare the ground for the aggregation of the three Southern Dutch dialect databases and their exploitation via a Virtual Research Environment (VRE) for digital lexicographical research. The Ghent team will work closely with the *Instituut van de Nederlandse Taal* (Institute of the Dutch Language) with regard to the technical and linguistic sustainability of the DSDD. Through this collaboration, interoperability with CLARIN will also be ensured. The DSDD is additionally a pilot project of DARIAH-BE Belgium.

At the SIDG Conference, we will propose the plan for the aggregation and the state of affairs of it, the structure of the database and dwell on the different ‘editorial’ problems that have to be solved. The different dictionaries / databases were indeed composed over a very long period of time, at different places (Nijmegen, Leuven, Ghent) and by different editors, hence a great number of inconsistencies arose over time. In order to compose an aggregated DSDD-database, a number of standardization activities have to be carried out.

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**THE DILEMMA OF THE RELIABILITY OF GEOLINGUISTIC AND DIALECTOLOGICAL
DATA FOR SOCIOLINGUISTIC RESEARCH.
THE CASE OF THE ANDALUSIAN DEMERGER OF /θ/**

Since data obtained in geolinguistics and dialectology and those from current sociolinguistics have been conceived under very different theories of language and society, reconstruction of the past of a linguistic variety in formation – as well as its relationship with other varieties in the speech community – by using geolinguistic and dialect monograph data leads to a dilemma. Although the importance of the findings obtained by traditional dialectologists and geolinguists it is evident, it should be emphasised that sociolinguistic data are based on sociological assumptions about sampling and variation that are incompatible with those underlying geolinguistic and dialectological data (Villena-Ponsoda 2010). The problem is then to which extent are geolinguistic and dialect monograph data are reliable to retrospectively follow the history of a given variety and a particular linguistic change.

Current formation of an intermediate urban middle-class variety between the Spanish national standard (Madrid) and southern varieties in Andalusia has been understood as the outcome of a trend of convergence towards the current-prestige norm of use by middle-class speakers, whose traditional southern identity has been changing since the mid-fifties and getting close to modern identities of globalisation, modernisation and urbanisation (Villena-Ponsoda 2008, Hernández-Campoy and Villena-Ponsoda 2009, Villena-Ponsoda and Vida-Castro 2017, Regan 2017). This trend rose sharply after the Franco's era (1939-1975) when transition from a mostly rural, traditional and local ideology to modernisation took over (Dietz 2001).

The linguistic side of this convergence and the underlying new identity involves the acquisition, among others, of some standard features, notably demerger of coronal fricative /θ/, which implies reconstruction of the Middle-Age contrast between word sets with /s/ and /θ/. Data from linguistic Atlases, notably ALPI (first quarter of the twentieth century) and ALEA (early fifties), as well as the results from dialect monographs describing some urban dialects, suggest that /θ/ split has been a quick change from above extending rapidly over the urban centres of the Andalusian area, particularly at the eastern part of Andalusia, and affecting only partially the lowest status groups.

Reanalysis of geolinguistic and dialect research data, as well as gaining access to broadcast and documentary films archives, allows to (1) scrutinise in real (though severely biased) time expansion across

society of the currently ongoing change and (2) explore the *ideological lag* affecting this kind of retrospective trajectories. Assessment of the selection criteria underlying NORM speakers in geolinguistics and traditional dialectology (i.e. the idea of a ‘genuine’ or ‘pure’ dialect) is an interesting way of facing this particular issue.

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DIALECT AS A BASIS FOR CREATIVITY: NEW APPROACH

The presentation is based on modern views of dialect resources and their uses in the digital space, transforming them into technological management methods and services based on linguistic technology. It is the economic concept of language / dialect, that sees national dialect resources as an element contributing to the economic, innovative, and competitive potential in a globalised environment.

Focused recognition, organisation, and usage of dialect can substantially facilitate integrated regional development in the process of reshaping the identity of regions, dissemination of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, competitiveness, motivational strategies for regional dwellers, tourists, investors, looking for creative and sustainable developmental solutions that are focused on the future, growing economy, creating jobs, reducing social isolation, promoting entrepreneurship, developing social and cultural innovations.

Integrated regional development is a product of globalisation. No regional integration through combination of different elements, resources, or contexts, can take place in the absence of the integrating role of dialect. Dialect plays several highly important parts in modern regional development. First, dialect defines and mobilises all cultural resources and heritage of a region. Second, dialect (not only lexicographically, but rather through its discourses and semantic fields) describes how unique a region is, as well as its specifics, traditions, and etc. Third, dialect integrates the social and creative potential of a region. Fourth, dialect integrates a region into multilingual and multicultural environments and markets of a multi-stage region. Fifth, dialect becomes an expression of a region's brand or serves the purpose of the so-called linguistic branding (brand dissemination).

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**A STUDY OF CORRLATION BETWEEN MARKEDNESS OF PHONOLOGICAL
STRUCTURES AND ASYMMETRICAL INTELLIGIBILITY RELATION
OF TWO WU DIALECTS: THE WENZHOU DIALECT
AND THE WUJIANG DIALECT**

This paper tries to explain the asymmetry of intelligibility between the Wenzhou dialect and the Wujiang dialect from the perspective of difference in markedness of the two dialects, and to find out the key phonological causes resulting in the low intelligibility of the Wenzhou dialect.

The comparative analysis of the two dialects is conducted under a combined framework of the markedness theory (de Lacy 2002, 2006) and the Contrastive Hierarchy Theory (Dresher 2002, 2003, 2009). A thorough comparison of the two dialects regarding segmental inventories, number of contrastive features, phonological behaviors of the contrastive feature with the marked value, surface syllabic inventories and tonal system leads us to believe that the Wenzhou dialect has a higher degree of markedness in phonological system than the Wujiang dialect.

This paper argues in conclusion that a lower degree of intelligibility of a dialect like the Wenzhou dialect is mainly due to a higher degree of markedness in the phonological system, manifested by such factors as a relatively larger number of contrastive features and a more active role the contrastive features with marked value play in the phonological processes. It further argues that the more contrastive features a dialect has, the bigger inventory it might own together with more highly marked segments; the more active behaviors the contrastive features have, the more synchronic and diachronic phonological processes they might trigger and the more complicated the phonological system might turn out to be. Accordingly, if a dialect possesses a large number of contrastive features and their marked values are highly active, the dialect might not only have inherited more initial and final categories from the ancient times, but also undergone more changes in its phonological system. In this case, the dialect is likely to be relatively low in intelligibility. The Wenzhou dialect is one typical example.

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**THE RISKS OF USING ONLY GEOGRAPHICAL CRITERIA TO EXPLAIN
THE PAST: ON THE GEOLINGUISTIC VARIATION IN BASQUE**

This paper seeks to contribute to methodological reflection on the value of several criteria commonly used in dialectology and geolinguistics. More specifically, I analyse the real value and risks of using modern maps to explain processes that produced the current distribution of linguistic features. As it is well known, the Neolinguistic principles established during the 1920s are not foolproof rules, though some researchers occasionally seem to forget it. I do not deny the value of rules such as the ones described by Bartoli (1945) and Bartoli & Bertoni (1925), since they have often proved useful; however, I will argue that it is essential to remember that “the geographical criteria” cannot be enough to give a reliable explanation about what happened in the past. I will also show the importance of taking into account the chronology of the facts and concepts such as spacetime (Williamson 2004).

As an example of this approach, I will present several case studies concerning Basque: a genetically isolated and strikingly fragmented language spoken on both sides of the border between France and Spain. Although the first classification of Basque dialects was established in the 19th century, the evolution of the geolinguistic variation in Basque has not been analysed until recently. On the one hand, I will confirm the usefulness of the Neolinguistic principles in some specific cases, by using maps from the Linguistic Atlas of the Basque Country (Euskaltzaindia 2013). On the other hand, I will show that these principles have been overused by some authors (cf. Zuazo 2010, 2014) to talk about possible old focal areas and spreading processes.

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