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Contributions to the computational processing of diachronic linguistic corpora

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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift getiteld
**‘Contributions to the Computational Processing of
Diachronic Linguistic Corpora’**

1. Compiling, preparing and maintaining Web corpora are highly relevant tasks for research on linguistics, digital humanities, political science and related fields. [Chapter 2]
2. Automatically obtained lists of words that got established or obsolete in certain periods of time are interesting sources of information for understanding broad diachronic societal and cultural changes. [Chapter 3]
3. New American English words are increasingly more lengthy adjectives and less short verbs. [Chapter 3]
4. The increase in the use of the term *fake news* in the mid 2010s was accompanied by a change of framing around it not only in English, but also in Brazilian Portuguese. [Chapter 4]
5. “Language change is not a disease, any more than adolescence, or autumn are illnesses” (Aitchison, 1981).
6. Diachronic corpus linguistics makes it possible to quantitatively identify and investigate language change through time.
7. Quantitative and computational methods in language sciences are useful and valuable – but linguistics is, first and foremost, an interpretative enterprise.
8. In a complex field such as linguistics, it is important to connect different disciplines and perspectives to elaborate theory and to derive methodological implications.
9. Be careful to not consider a story to be fake news just because you do not like it.
10. Never underestimate the validity of Parkinson’s law.

Evandro Landulfo Teixeira Paradela Cunha
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