



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Advancing explanatory and tonal dialectometry

Sung, H.W.M.

Citation

Sung, H. W. M. (2026, February 13). *Advancing explanatory and tonal dialectometry*. LOT dissertation series. LOT, Amsterdam. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/4291801>

Version: Publisher's Version

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/4291801>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Propositions

1. “Nach sprachgeographischer Anschauung besitzt daher jeder Ort seinen eigenen Dialekt.” [Based on the view of the linguistic geographers, each location has its own dialect.] (Wiesinger 1983: 807)
2. “Les riches collections que constituent les atlas linguistiques restent sous-exploitées.” [The rich collections that make up linguistic atlases remain underused.] (Séguy 1973: 3)
3. By obtaining an aggregate characterisation of the data, we “position ourselves to [...] examine general tendencies in linguistic variation”. (Nerbonne 2010a: 477)
4. “方言地理学は地図による方言の分布の解釈を通じ、もろもろの人文科学の研究と相まって、さらに、総合的な、より高次の研究へと発展し到達しなければならない。” [Through the interpretation of dialect distribution using dialect maps and in combination with various branches of the humanities, dialect geography must develop and reach a more comprehensive and advanced level of research.] (Grootaers 1976: 158)
5. Dialectometric analyses reveal extralinguistic patterns reflected in linguistic data, such as population movements and geographical barriers. (Chapter 5)
6. Classifying dialects based on aggregate dialect distances cannot return the “details or explanations of the identified dialect partitions” (Sung and Prokić 2024)
7. Multiple Sequence Alignment is not only the holy grail in molecular biology, but also a powerful technique which enhances the existing toolkit in dialectometry. (Chapter 6)
8. Normalised Pointwise Mutual Information can identify characteristic features which were previously not mentioned in the traditional classification. (Chapter 6)
9. Exclusivity is more important than representativeness in automatic feature extraction, because “a high representativeness of dialects with the identified feature found in a dialect group does not imply the feature is exclusive to the area”. (Sung and Prokić 2024)
10. Dialectologists should not always assume a continuum pattern in dialectal variation. (Chapter 8)
11. There are mismatches in dialect areas between the segmental and tonal levels. (Chapter 8)
12. Computational methods are not there to replace humans, but to overcome the limits and barriers of manual analyses; they do not directly provide the answer to the research questions – interpretations still need to be made by the analysts.