Syntactic variation in varieties of Western Iberian Romance as seen in the ALPI (Atlas Lingüístico de la Península Ibérica) data

Xulio Sousa
Instituto da Lingua Galega
Universidade de Santiago de Compostela
Introduction

• Purpose: the usefulness for the study of syntactic microvariation of a language atlas produced according to the traditional geolinguistic model.

• *Atlas Lingüístico de la Península Ibérica* (ALPI)

• Syntax in ALPI
Syntax and geolinguistics

Reasons

• Syntactic variation was not a central concern in the linguistic circles within which the first geolinguistic studies came into being.

• Traditional linguistic geography underestimated the degree to which syntactic structures play a part in the construction of linguistic spaces.

• Difficult to pinpoint pertinent syntactic differences between geolinguistic varieties within the same family.

• Methodology in dialect studies.
The *Atlas lingüístico de la Península Ibérica*

- Atlas of Romance varieties spoken in the Iberian Peninsula
- 1932-1936, 1947
- Locations: 527
- Informants: non-mobile old rural male speakers
- Volume I. Phonetics -76 maps- (1962)
Syntax in the ALPI questionnaire

- Questionnaire
  - Booklet I (411): phonetics, morphology and syntax
  - Booklet IIE (1,239): lexicon

- Tomás Navarro Tomás (1975):
  - “the same section [Booklet I] includes morphological and syntactic items that appear to be apt for formulation as questions. The results proved the usefulness of adopting this innovation”.
Syntax in the ALPI questionnaire

ALPI questionnaires

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Lexicon</th>
<th>Phonetics</th>
<th>Morphosyntax</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Booklet I</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>275</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Booklet II E</td>
<td>828</td>
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</tbody>
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The data

• Items (Booklet I)
  ▫ 252 to 262
  ▫ 277 to 282
  ▫ 310 to 411
  ▫ + 10 (Notes on phonetic orientation)

• Examples
  ▫ 252. Cada uno debe pagar sus deudas
    (Each person should pay his debts)
  ▫ 280. A ninguna le agrada ponerse ropa de otra
    (No woman likes to put on another woman’s clothes)
  ▫ 320. Trajeron la harina al horno
    (They brought the flour to the oven)
  ▫ A.3. Lo sacó del pozo (Notas de orientación fonética)
    (He removed it from the well)
The method

• Editors (vol. I 1962)
  “The common language of each Hispanic linguistic domain was employed in the interviews, and wherever possible the informant’s own dialect. All questions were asked indirectly, even the phrases for the study of morphology and syntax.”

• Manuel Sanchis Guarner (1953)
  “All items were asked indirectly, even for phrases for the study of morphology and syntax, which were sometimes awkward to elicit”.

Example I

D. Heap (2008): "Morphosyntactic theory needs Iberian linguistic geography (and vice-versa)"
Example II

Inés Fernández-Ordóñez (2011): "La lengua de Castilla y la formación del español".
Example III

Xulio Sousa / Rosa Mouzo (2011): "Clíticos pronominais nas variedades romances do noroeste da península ibérica"
THANK YOU

Xulio Sousa
Instituto da Lingua Galega
Universidade de Santiago de Compostela