

A comparison between the Galician dialects and the standard variety

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The Standardization of Galician: A Response to Language Maintenance and Change in Languages in Contact

A comparison between the Galician dialects and the standard variety

- Standard Galician
- Geolinguistic data
- Method: quantitative dialectology
- Conclusions



A short history of the (written) Galician language

- **Middle Ages, literary and legal, public use.** Galician was developing a written language, partially different from that of the Portuguese.
- ***Séculos Escuros*** ('Dark Centuries'): 16th to 18th centuries. Galician disappeared from the written texts and cultured, public usages. The language of the scarce texts preserved is basically inspired in the spoken varieties.
- ***Rexurdimento*** ('Resurgence'): 19th century. Poetry. Language use largely inspired in the contemporary spoken language.
- **20th/21th centuries.** Public and cultured usages. From the 1970s on, the language is used in the Administration, schooling, university, mass media (radio, tv) etc.

Fernández Salgado & Monteagudo (1995):
Phases of development of contemporary written Galician

- **Galego Popular**, 19th century: morphological interdialectalism, Spanish loanwords.
- **Galego Diferencialista**, from 1910s to 1930s: morphological interdialectalism, purism, hypercorrection, Portuguese loanwords, avoiding similarities with Spanish.
- **Galego Proto-estándar**, from 1940s to 1970s: simpler spelling.
- **Galego estándar**, from 1980s onwards. Two tendencies: autonomous vs. Portuguese inspired cultivation (*Reintegracionismo*).

Key dates

- 1906: Founding of the Royal Galician Academy. “Today is the formal language management agency” (Ramallo & Rei-Doval 2015: 63)
- 1978: The Spanish Constitution establishes Galician and Spanish as co-official languages in Galicia.
- 1979: Galician, an obligatory subject at schooling.
- 1982: *Normas ortográficas e morfolóxicas do idioma galego (NOMIG)*. **Autonomous orientation.**
- 1982: *NOMIG*, legally declared the “official” variety.

Standard Galician



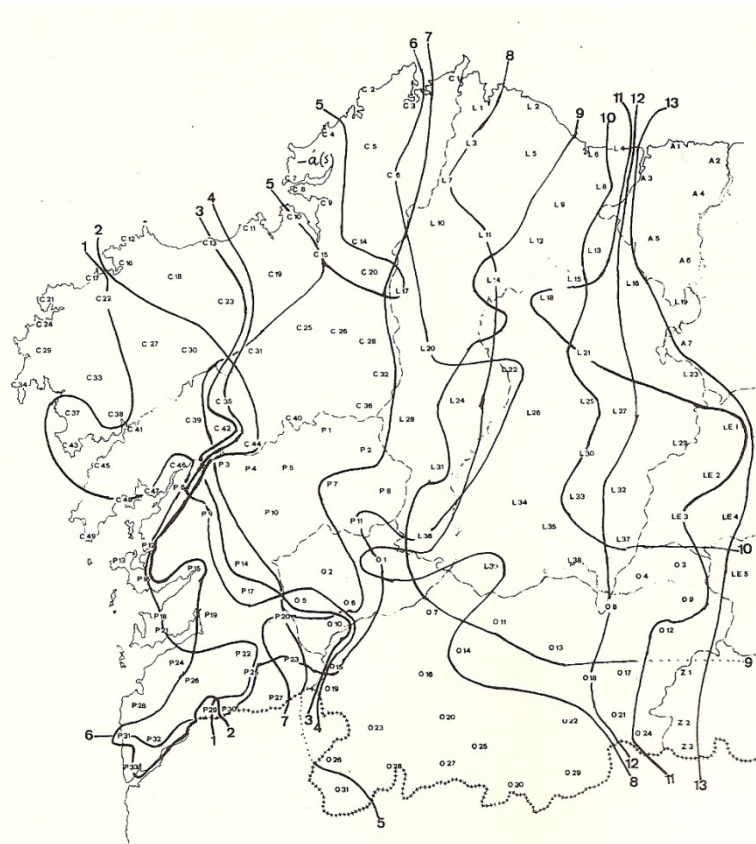
Normative Galician must be a common vehicle of expression that is valid for **all the Galician people [todo o pobo galego]**, as an apt and accessible voice for their written and oral, artistic and everyday manifestations alike. Consequently, **common Galician** cannot be based on a single dialect, but **must give preferential consideration to the geographic and demographic scope of forms when choosing those that are standard**. Hence it is to be **supradialectal** and should aim to achieve acceptance of the solutions adopted by the greatest possible number of Galicians.

Normas ortográficas e morfolóxicas do idioma galego, 1982, p. 11

Standard Galician

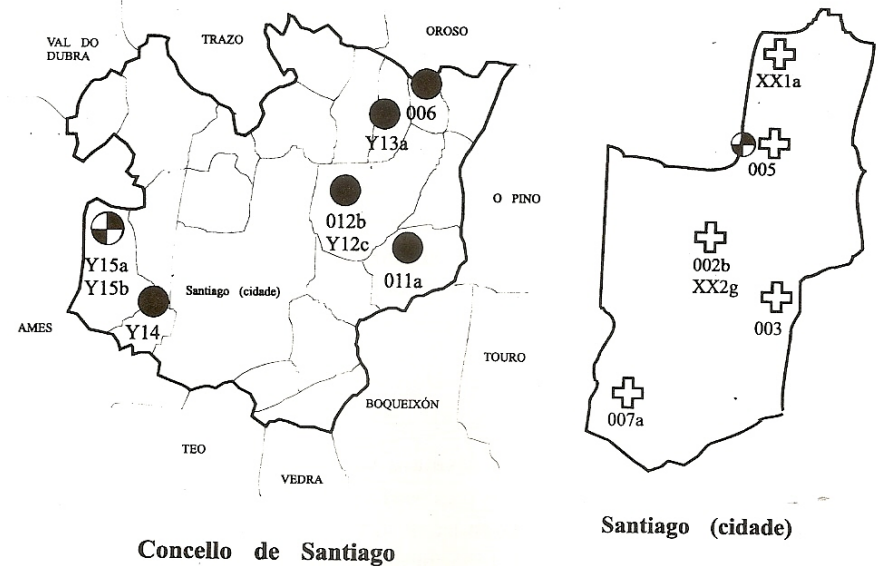
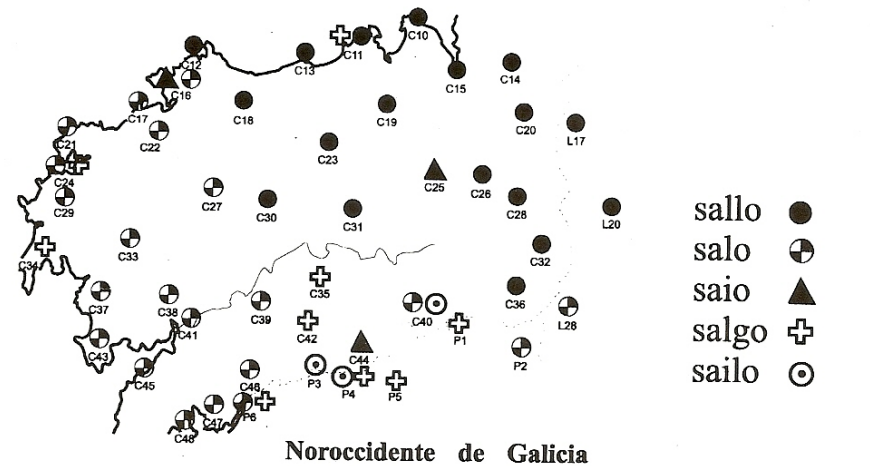
One feature that characterizes the type of Galician in question is that, as in other languages codified through a great deal of conscientious intervention in the last century and the present one, *it does not mainly represent the speech of one city or one region*. **The criteria for deciding on the choice were linguistic, demographic, literary, historical, aesthetic, etc.** Bearing in mind that **the most authentic or archaic forms, or those supported by the broadest literary tradition, are to be found sometimes in one dialect, sometimes in another**, it follows that the character of **the standard cannot be pinpointed geographically in a particular area**. (Santamarina 1995)

Two challenges for its designers: dialectal variation and contact with Spanish

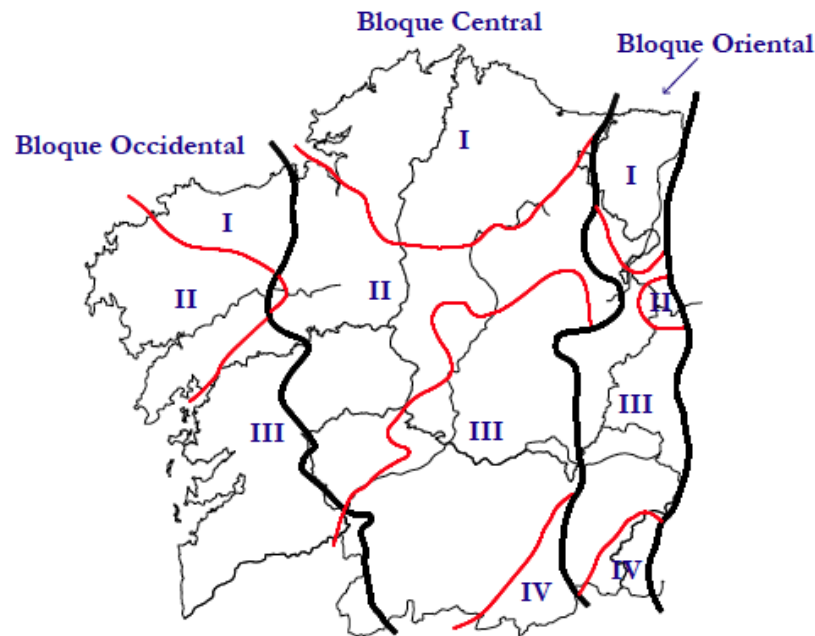


1. Fenómenos que dividen Galicia en áreas occidentais e áreas orientais.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. [domɨŋko] / [domɨŋgo] (algo simplificado) | 9. pazo / pascio |
| 2. [fasɐr] / [faʔɐr] | 10. camifio / camín |
| 3. ti foste(s), foches(s) / fuche(s) | 11. caixa / axa |
| 4. ti collestes(s), colliche(s) / collistes, colliche(s) | 12. cas / cais; animas / animais |
| 5. irmañ(s) / irmao(s) | (a fronteira <i>cans</i> / <i>cas</i> coincide em caso todo o tratado com <i>irmáns</i> / <i>irmaos</i>) |
| 6. irmañ(s) / irmao(s) | 13. animas / animales |
| 7. ti / ta | (freixó / freixoale) |
| 8. [ɛla] / [ɛla] | |
| 9. gheada / -g- fricativo | |

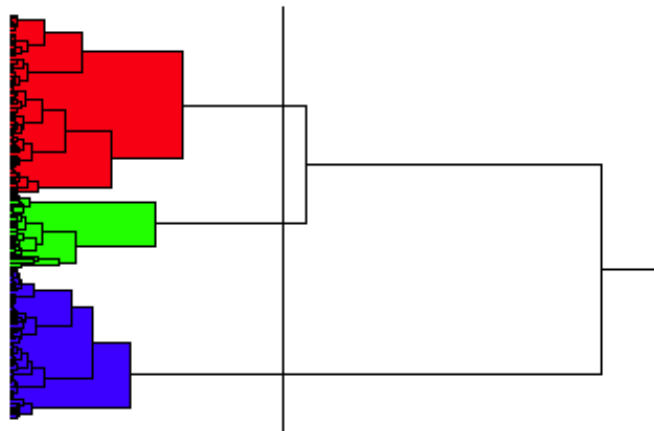


APÉNDICE DE MAPAS

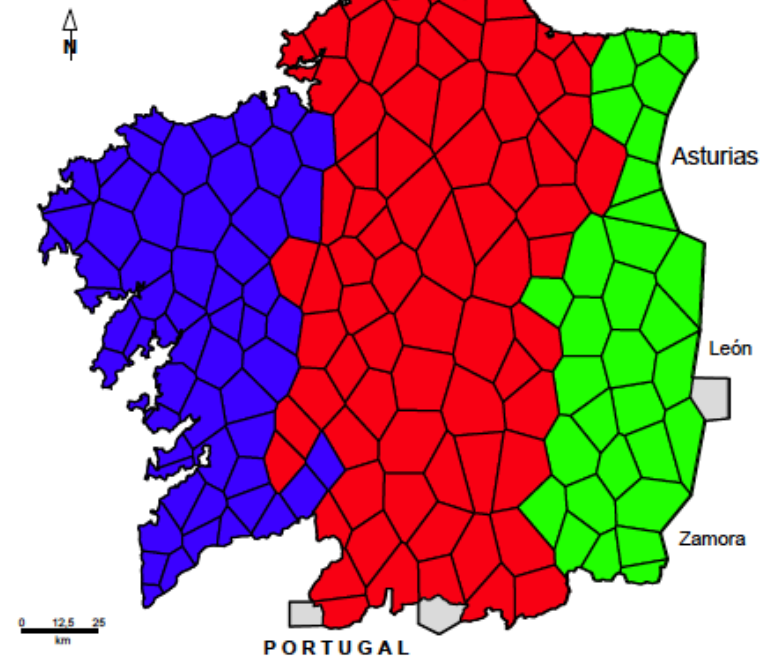


Fernández Rei 1990

Figura 1



Geographical varieties of Galician

ALGa

Análise de agrupamentos

Corte: 3 agrupamentos

Número de puntos 167

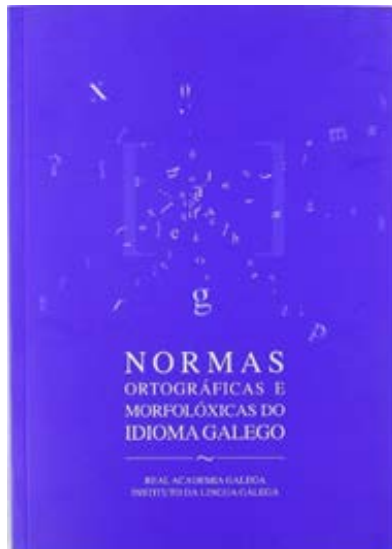
Número de mapas analizados: 189

Matriz: índice relativo de identidade

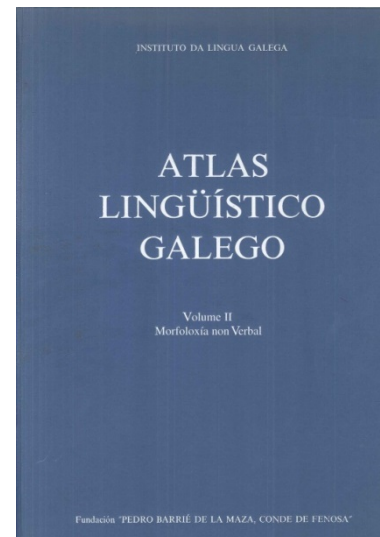
Algoritmo aglomerativo: método de Ward

Programa informático: *Visual Dialectometry* (H. Goebel / E. Haimmerl - Universidade de Salzburgo)

- 324 working maps (questions).
- The dialectal data were gathered between 1974-1976.
 - The *NOMIG* were published in 1982.



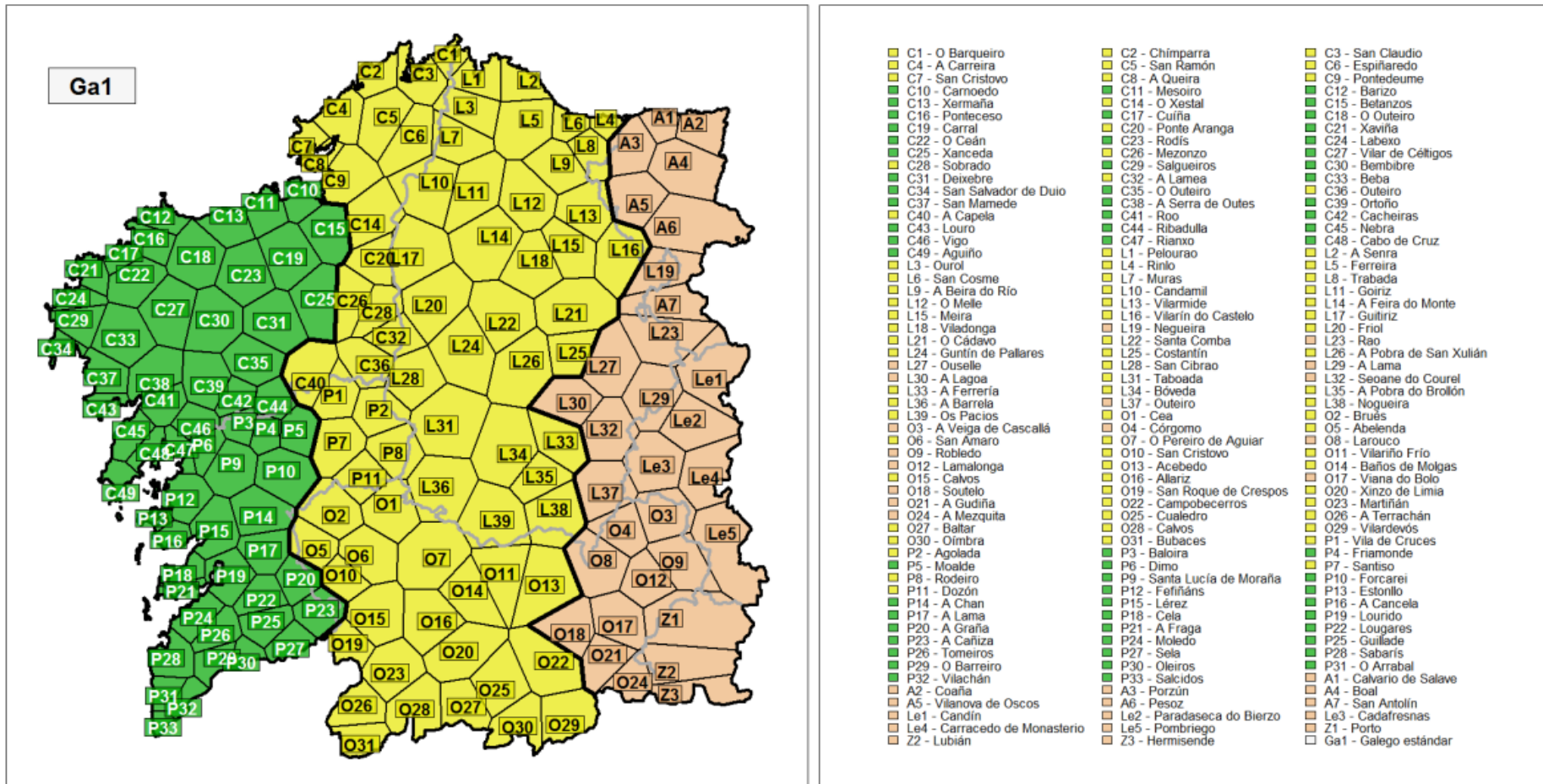
*Normas ortográficas e morfolóxicas
do idioma galego, 2003*



ALGa
Verbal morphology, 1990
Nominal morphology, 1995

324 working maps about 168 points (167 locations + 1 fictitious point, Standard Galician)

Puntos de enquisa segundo a área dialectal



■ Occidental ■ Central ■ Oriental ■ Galego estándar

Tables, 324 tables

VARIABLES	Plural of nouns ending in -n	<i>catro</i> 'four'	<i>ti</i> 'you.sg'	<i>sei</i> 'I know'	<i>ter</i> 'to have'	<i>ningunha</i> 'none.f.sg'
VARIANTS	<i>pantalóns</i> > 1 <i>pantalós</i> > 2 <i>pantalòis</i> > 3 ...	<i>catro</i> > 1 <i>cuatro</i> > 2	<i>ti</i> > 1 <i>tu</i> > 2	<i>sei</i> > 1 <i>sein</i> > 2 <i>sen</i> > 3	<i>ter</i> > 1 <i>tir</i> > 2 <i>tener</i> > 3	<i>ningunha</i> > 1 <i>ninguna</i> > 2 <i>ningúa</i> > 3 <i>niñuna</i> > 4

Point	Plural – n+s	reference number
Ga1	<i>pantalóns</i>	1
C1	<i>pantalós</i>	2
C43	<i>pantalóns</i>	1
A1	<i>pantalòis</i>	3

We need to calculate the indices of similarity (100% absolute similarity)

Point	Name	Indices of similarity to Ga1 (Standad Galician)
C-01	C1 O Barqueiro	76,76
C-02	C2 Chímparra	76,52
C-03	C3 San Claudio	75,54
C-04	C4 A Carreira	76,22
C-05	C5 San Ramón	74,77
C-06	C6 Espiñaredo	77,81
C-07	C7 San Cristovo	73,31
C-08	C8 A Queira	77,06
C-09	C9 Pontedeume	78,96
C-10	C10 Carnoedo	81,04
C-11	C11 Mesoiro	79,51
C-12	C12 Barizo	77,3
C-13	C13 Xermaña	83,89
C-14	C14 O Xestal	75,76
C-15	C15 Betanzos	78,29
C-16	C16 Ponteceso	78,53
C-17	C17 Cuíña	74,15
C-18	C18 O Outeiro	79,57
C-19	C19 Carral	84,5
C-20	C20 Ponte Aranga	82,07
...

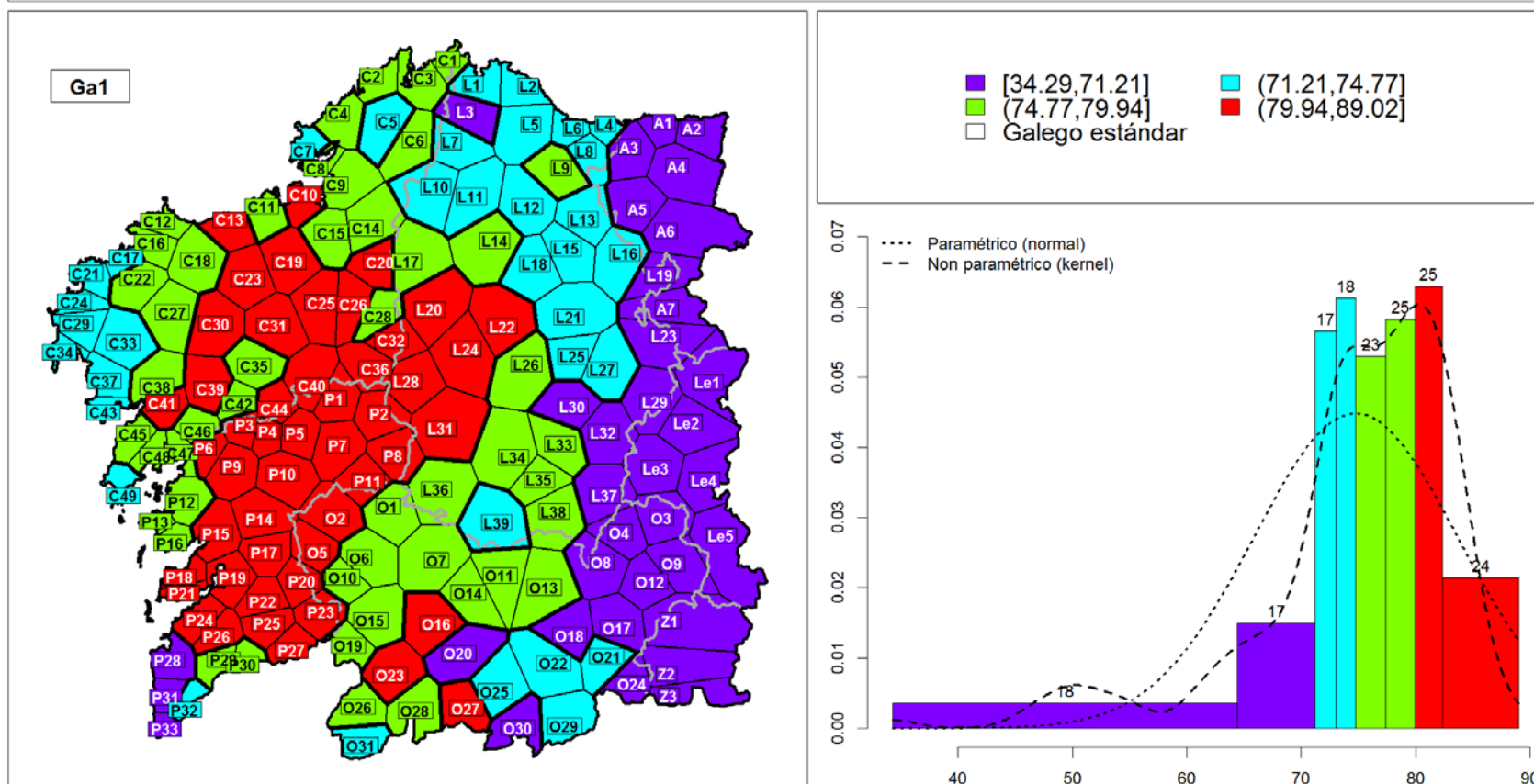
Array of indices of similarity
between each point of the
ALGa and the Standard
variety.
167 indices of similarity

Some statistical values

Number of points	168
Number of questions (working maps):	324
Number of answers:	54 432
Highest similarity index:	89,02%, P17-A Lama
Lowest similarity index:	34,29%, Le5-Pombriego (a Leonese speaking point) 46,11%/, A2-Coaña (a Galician speaking point in Asturias)
Mean of all the indices of similarity:	74,53%
Standard deviation	9,69
Median	76,07

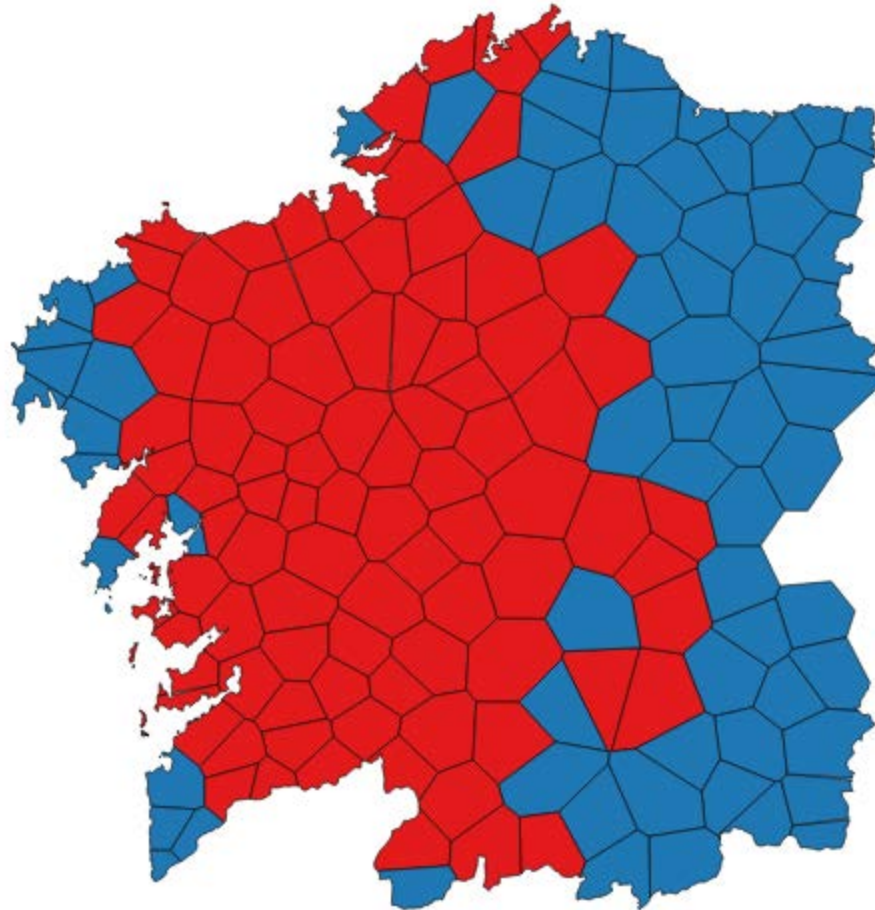
The standard variety in the Galician language domain: analysis of the indices of similarity between each one of the 167 points of the *ALGa* and the Standard Galician [Ga1].

Mapa de similitudes para Ga1: MEDMW-4



Red: points above the mean (periphery)

Blue: points below the mean (center)



102 points out of 167 have values above the mean (74,53%)

The ten dialects with highest indices of similarity with Standard Galician are generally spoken at rural points.

1st. P17 (A Lama): 89,02%

2nd. L22 (Santa Comba): 87,23%

3rd. P23 (A Cañiza): 85,89%

4th. C31 (Deixebre): 84,76%

5th. C44 (Ribadulla): 84,76%

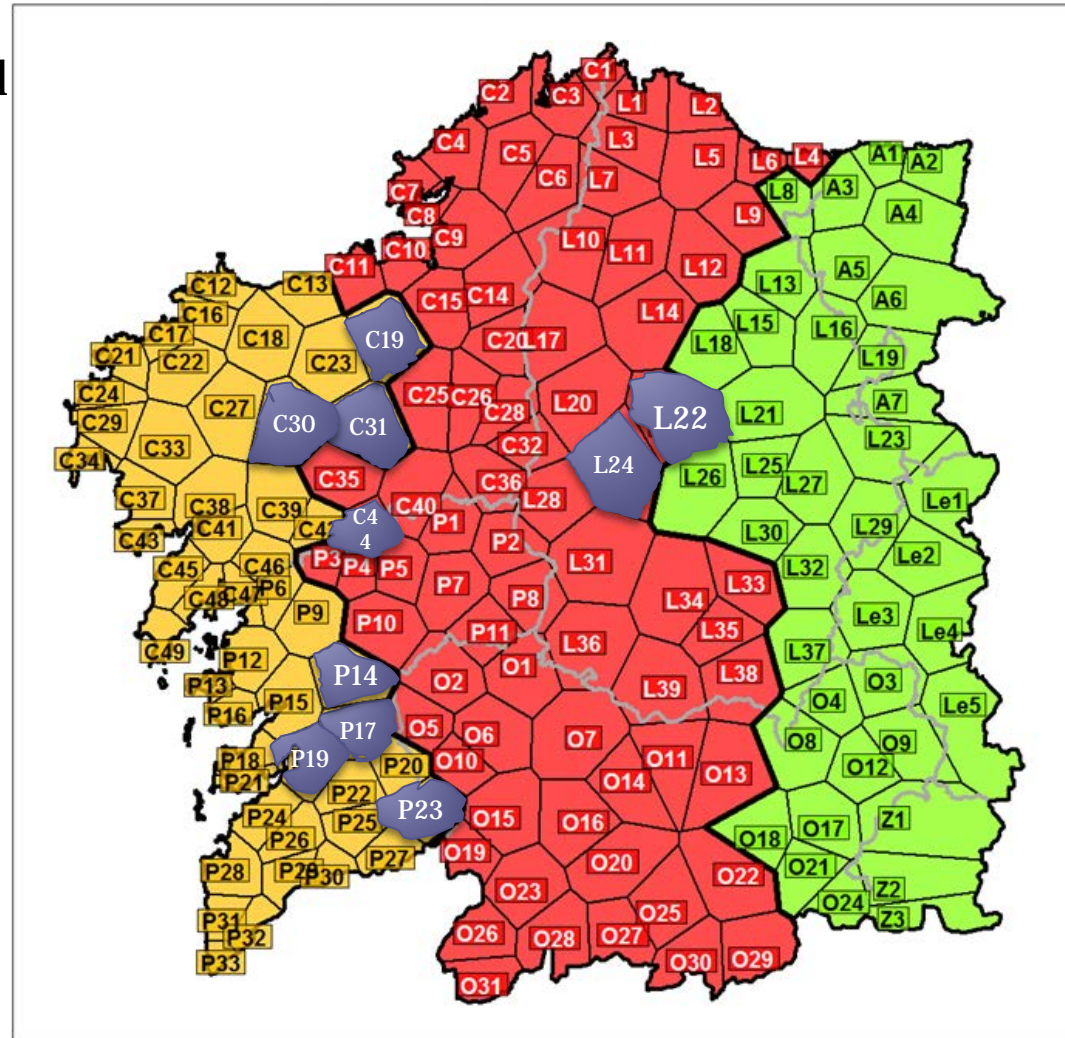
6th. P19 (Lourido): 84,76%

7th. P14 (A Chan): 84,71%

8th. C19 (Carral): 84,5%

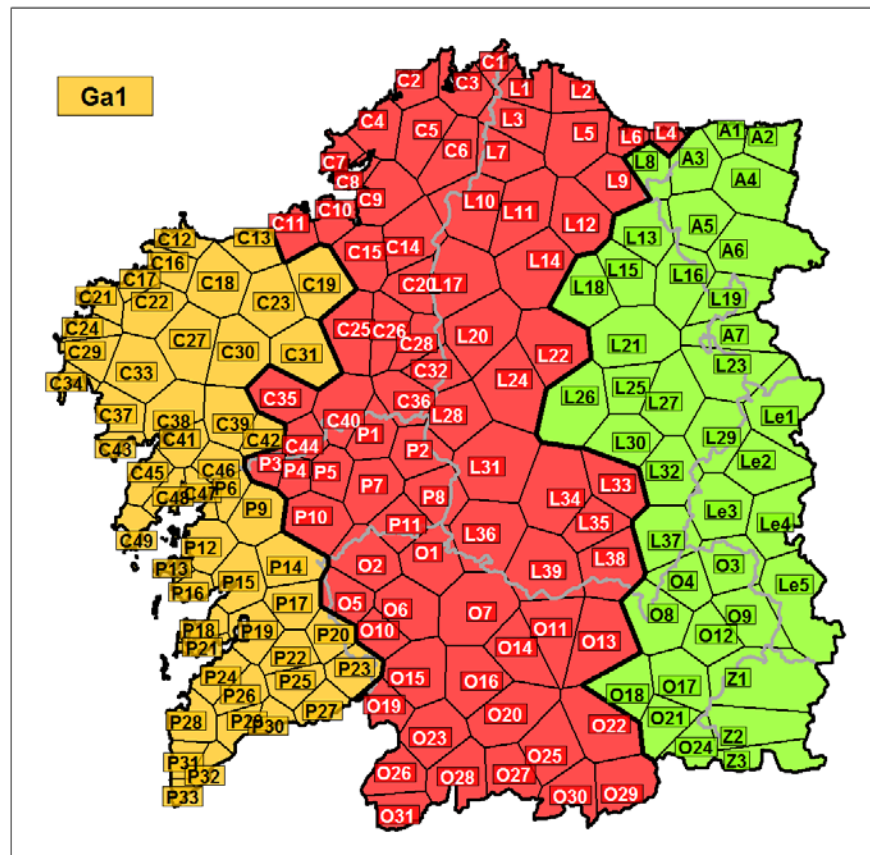
9th. C30 (Bembibre): 84,4%

10th. L24 (Guntín): 84,15%



Dialect division for the 324 variables studied

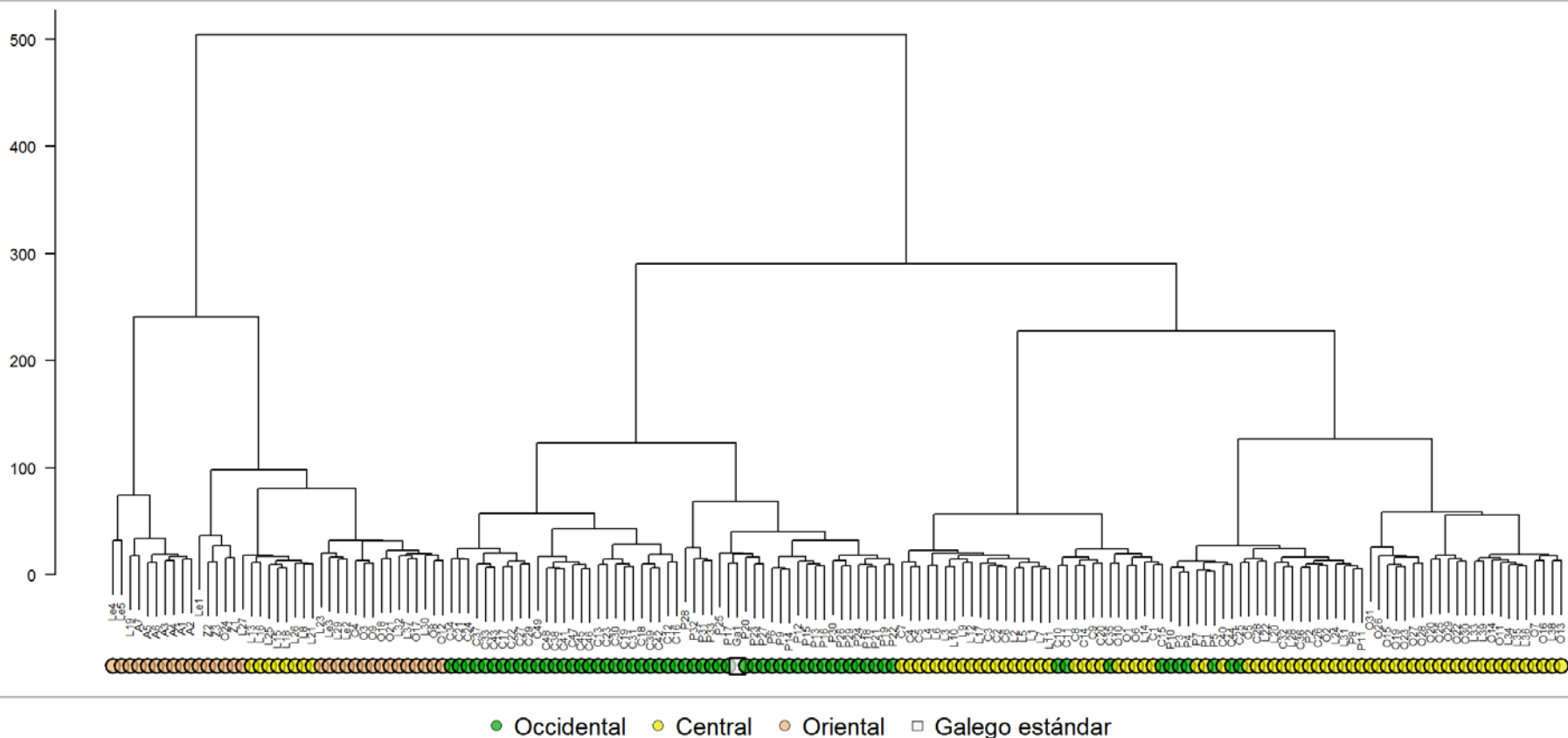
Standard Galician and the three main dialects (cluster analysis)



Map 5: Standard Galician and the three dialect areas

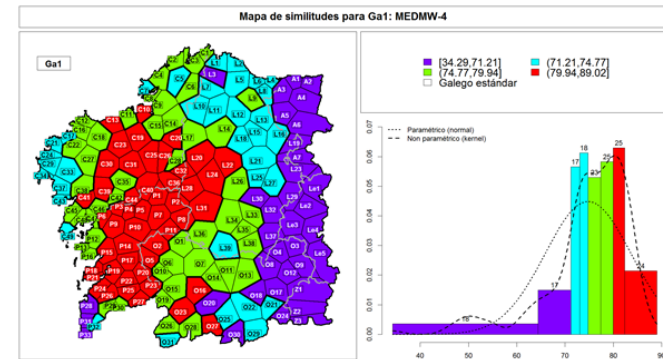
Dendrogram: Standard Galician among the dialects

Análise de conglomerados coa distancia do supremo e o método aglomerativo Ward segundo a área dialectal

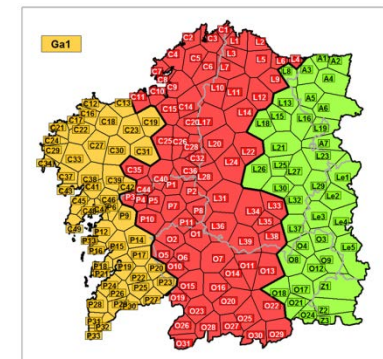


Conclusions

- High degree of similarity between the standard variety and the different geographical varieties.



- If the standard variety were one of the regional varieties it would form part of the traditional western area



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