



### Language Variation and Change in Lithuania

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Christa Schneider, Vytautas Kardelis

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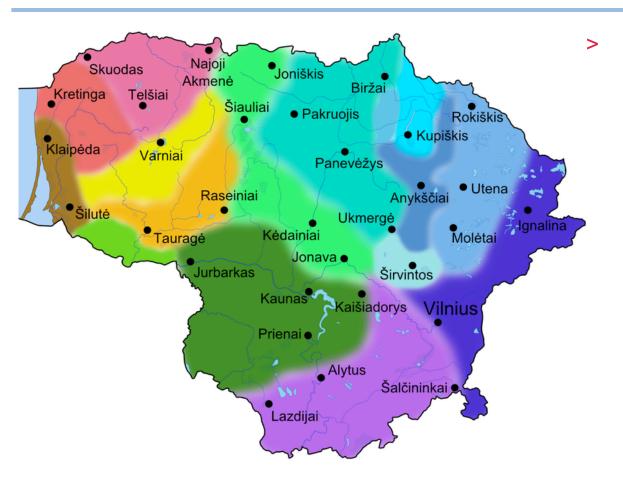
### Language situation in Lithuania

- Diaglossic situation compareble to the one in Germany
  - Standard language and dialects coexist
    - Standard language = High prestige
    - Dialect = Low prestige (cf. Schneider 2013: 93)
  - Assumption: Approx. 50% dialect speakers (cf. Schneider 2013: 73)
- Less dialect spoken in the past 30 year, new mainly urban vernaculars emerging (cf. Ramoniene: 2010/2013)

### **Lithuanian Dialects**







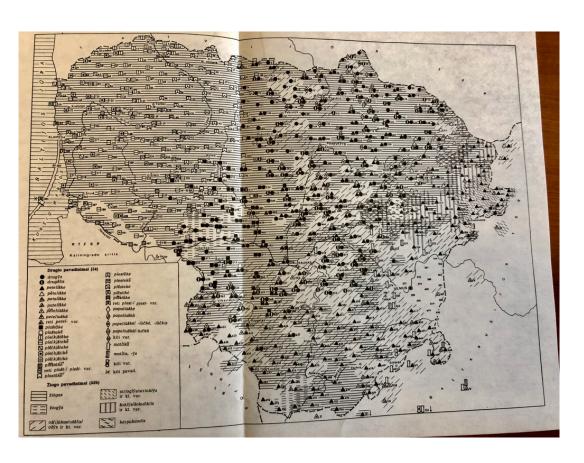
# Traditional dialects in Lithuania

- Two main dialects:
  - Aukštaitian dialects
  - Žemaitian dialects

## Lithuanian language atlas







- > Traditional dialect atlas
  - Lexicon
  - Phonology
  - Morphology
- > Data from 1960/70
- > NORMs
- Very dense, approx. 700 localities
- More than one variable per map,
  digital not available







### Lithuanian Standard Language

- > Before 1922: Dialect spoken, printed eg. in Polish orthography
- Standard Language created on the basis of a west aukštaitian dialect around 1922
- Lithuania became a part of the Soviet Union in 1941 → Russian
  - Lithuanian only in privat sphere or in rural areas
  - Prestige change: Standard language became high prestige variety and the dialects lost their presige.

### A pilot study





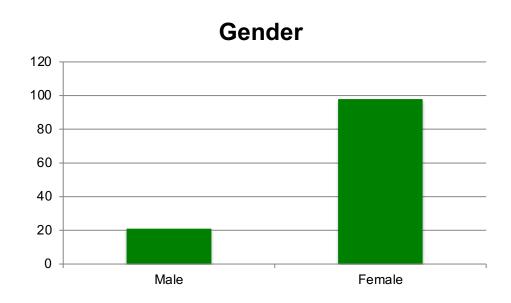
- > Why?
  - Lithuanian language atlas builds a perfect data basis
  - Pilot study is necessary to understand the special circumstances
- > How?
  - Online test-survey launched, online for 24 hours → 119 valid answers
  - Name-a-picture task and simple questions, single choice
  - All possible answers were documented in the Lithuanian language atlas
- > Limitation
  - Age not considered as a factor





## A pilot study

- Gender (n = 119)
  - Much more female participants than male

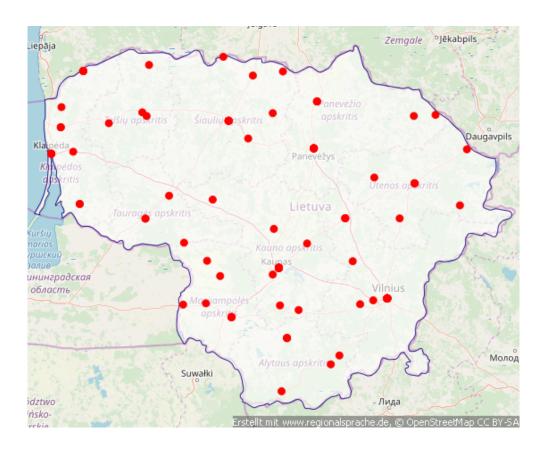








#### Distribution of localities









Kas yra stiklinėje?

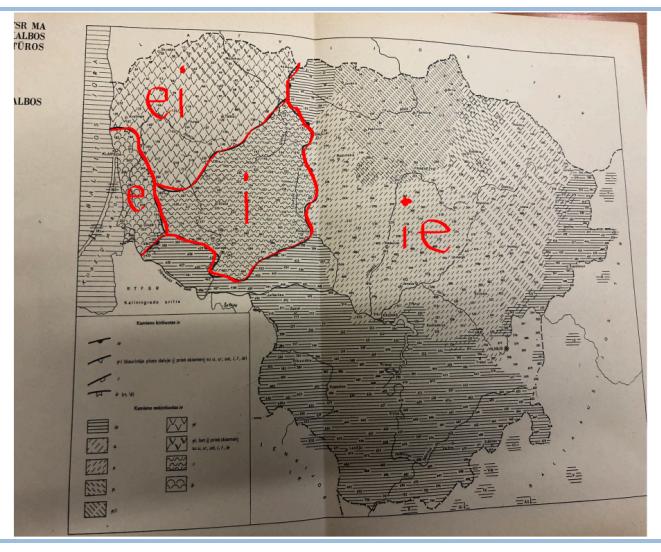


## **Variable**





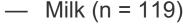


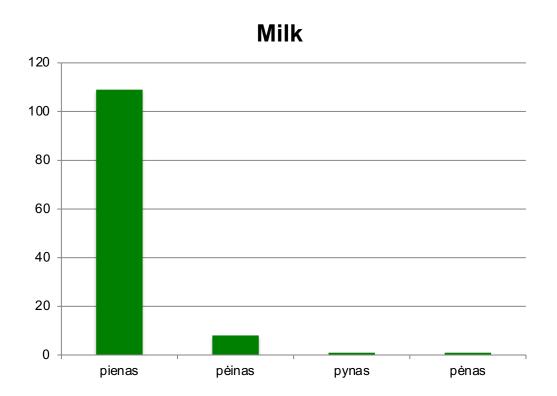












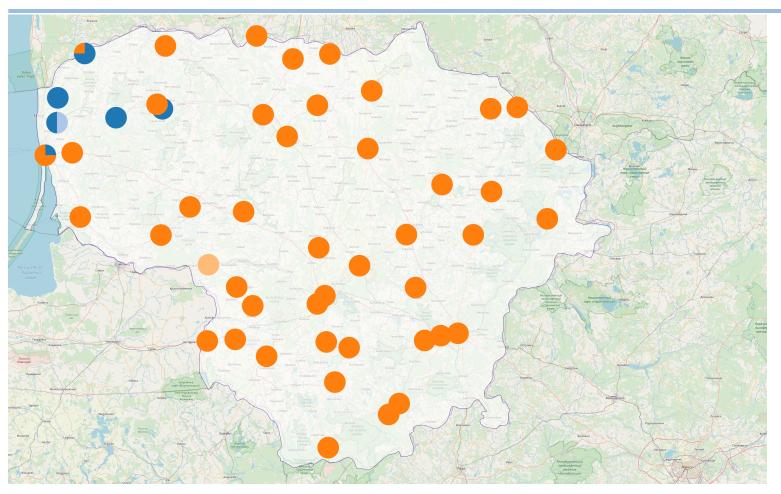
Kas yra stiklinėje?

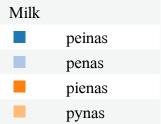


# Variable







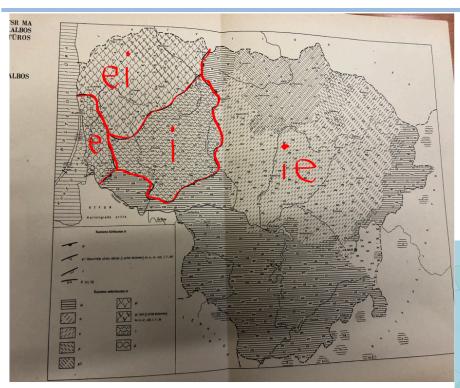


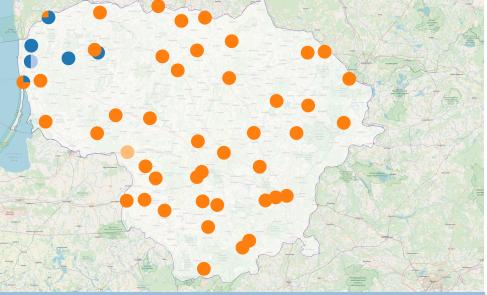
# Variable





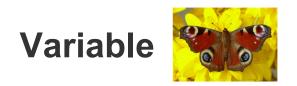
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penas pienas

pynas







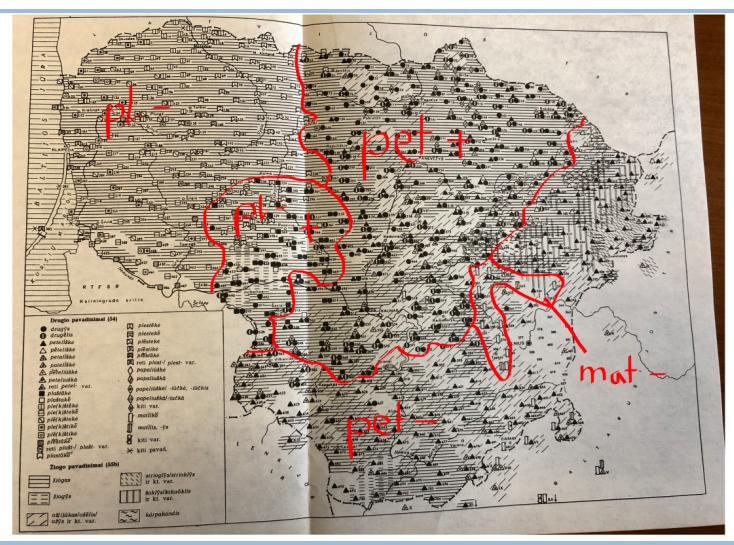
## Kas pavaizduota paveikslėlyje?

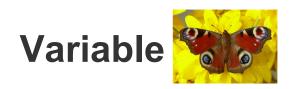


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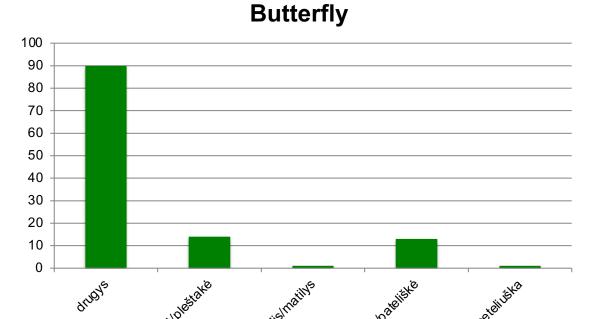






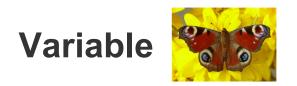


— Butterfly (n = 119)



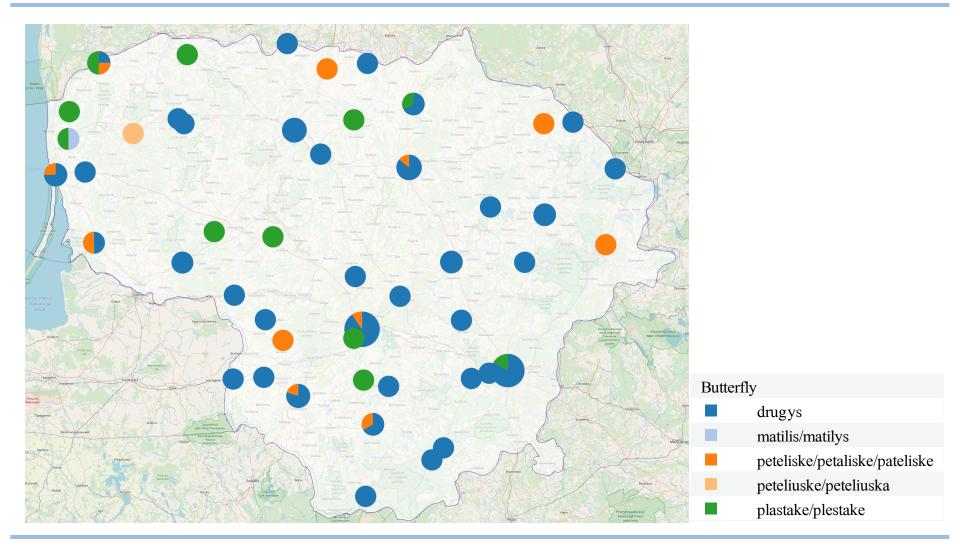
Kas pavaizduota paveikslėlyje?







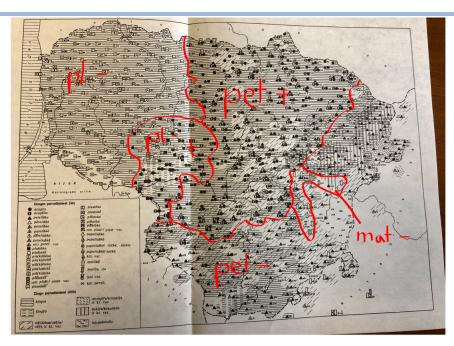






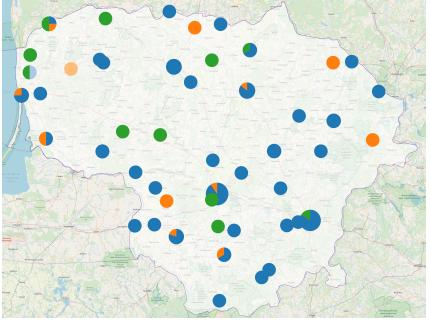








- drugys
- matilis/matilys
- peteliske/petaliske/pateliske
- peteliuske/peteliuska
- plastake/plestake



### And now?





- More data needed! What is there in the very north west of Lithuania going on?
- Problems to solve
  - Mobility
  - Accessibility
  - Dialect prestige
  - Big data Bad data? How valid is our sample?
- Next steps
  - More to analyse
  - Bigger surveys in preparation







# Thanks for your attention



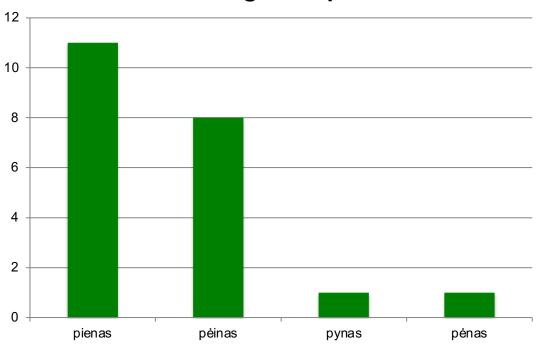




— Milk Samogitian speakers (n = 21)

Kas yra stiklinėje?

### Milk Samogitian speakers











# Kur galima laikyti alų?

1. statinė

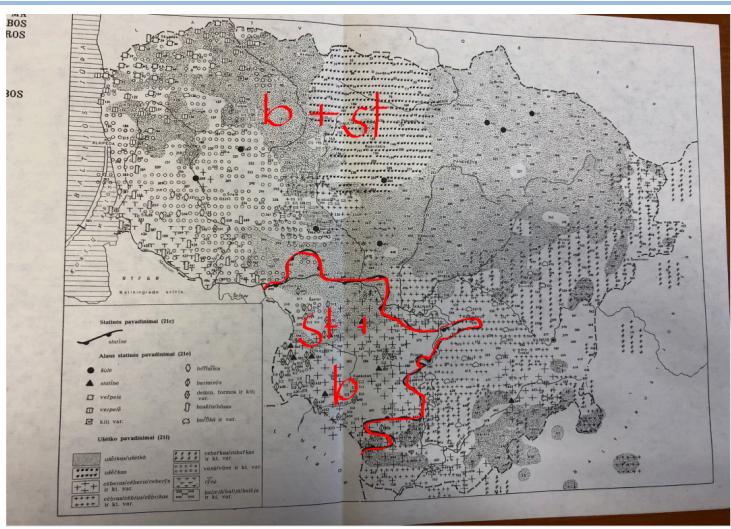
2. bačka

### **Variable**





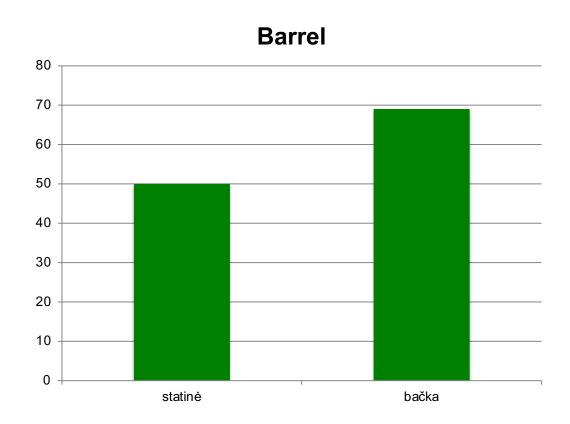












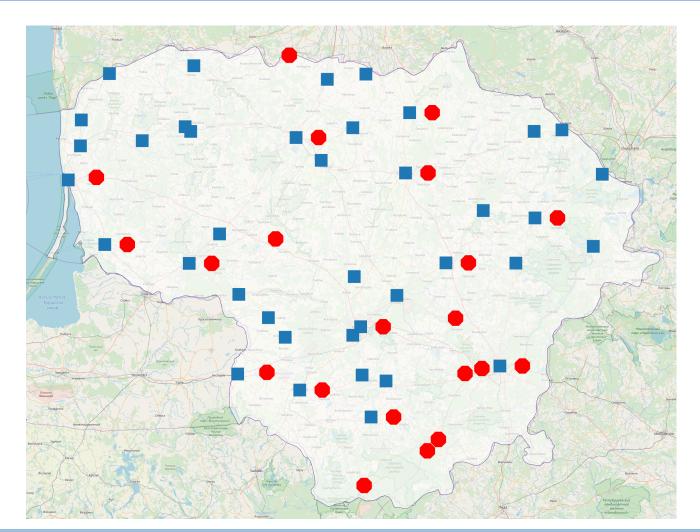
### Kur galima laikyti alų?

- 1. statinė
- 2. bačka













backa



statine

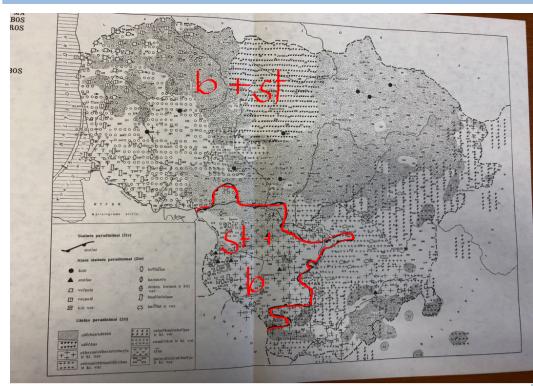
## **Variable**

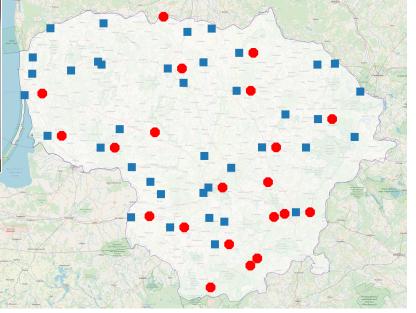






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### Barrel

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statine