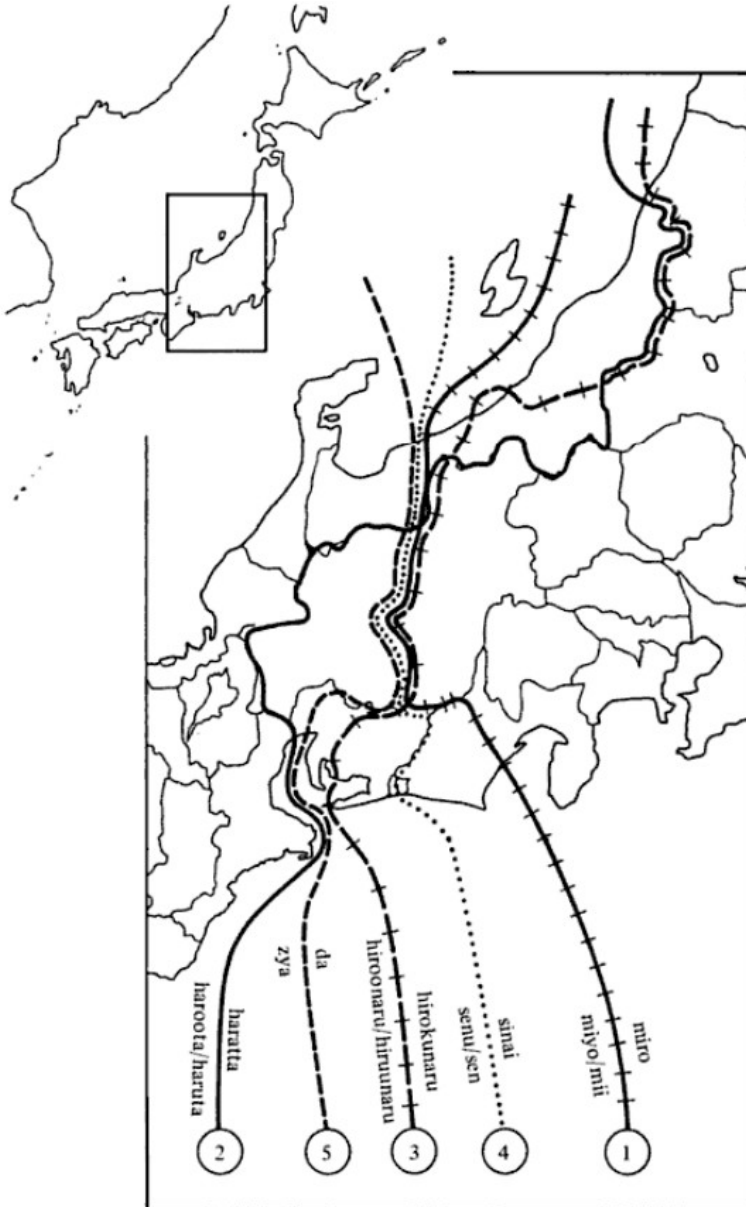


Examples: Isoglosses, dialects, and dialect chains

(1) Isoglosses for Western Japanese and Eastern Japanese (Shibatani 1990: 197)

	<i>Eastern</i>	vs.	<i>Western</i>
[1] Imperative morpheme for vowel-root verbs:	/-ro/		/-jo/ or /-i/
[2] Past tense of /Vw/-root verbs:	/-Vtta/		/-Vwta/
[3] Adverb morpheme:	/-ku/		/-u/
[4] Negative morpheme for verbs:	/-na-i/		/-n/ or /-nu/
[5] Copula ('linking' verb)	/da/		/ja/ or /dza/



Map 6 Bundle of isoglosses separating the Western dialects and the Eastern dialects

- Is there good evidence for a boundary between dialect areas on this map, in general?
- What should we say about the situation on the southern coast? Do we have two distinct dialect areas here?

(2) Isoglosses for Dutch (graphics from Heeringa & Nerbonne 2001; isoglosses added)



Figure 1: The locations of the 27 Dutch dialects studied.



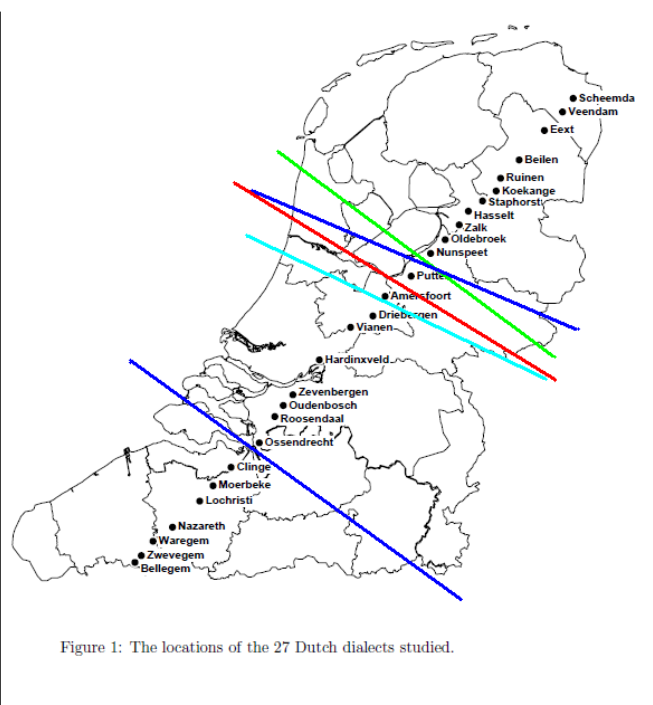
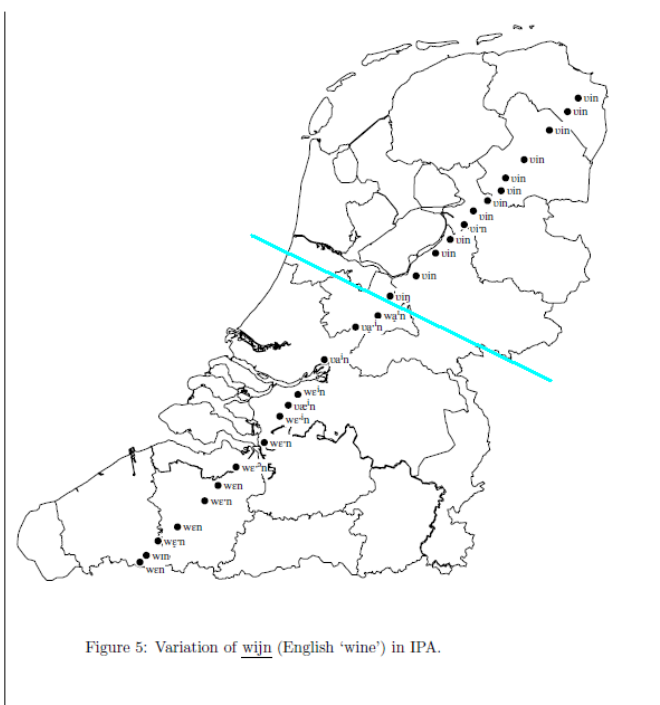
Figure 2: Variation of deur (English 'door') in IPA.



Figure 3: Variation of potten (English 'pots') in IPA.



Figure 4: Variation of zijn (English 'to be') in IPA.



(3) Isoglosses in Paamese (IHL Ch 9)

Proto-Paamese /m^w/ has undergone an (unconditioned?) sound change to /m/ in some dialects

Dialect	'man'	'married man'	'dust'	'left-hand side'	'he straightened it'
A	meatin	ame	meas	mail	mai
B	m ^w eatin	ame	meas	mail	mai
C	m ^w eatin	am ^w e	meas	mail	mai
D	m ^w eatin	am ^w e	m ^w meas	mail	mai
E	m ^w eatin	am ^w e	m ^w meas	m ^w ail	mai
F	m ^w eatin	am ^w e	m ^w meas	m ^w ail	m ^w ai

- (a) Can we draw an isogloss between the dialects where this sound change has occurred, and those where it has not occurred?
- (b) How would proponents of the wave model approach this situation?

References

Heeringa, Wilbert, & John Nerbonne. 2001. Dialect areas and dialect continua. *Language Variation and Change* 13: 375-400.
 Shibatani, Masayoshi. 1990. *The languages of Japan*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.