# **Co-Occurrences in Swiss German Morphosyntax**

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In this paper I would like to present results from the interdisciplinary project “Modelling morphosyntactic area formation in Swiss German” (*Modellierung morphosyntaktischer Raumbildung im Schweizerdeutschen*) (SynMod) which is located at the University of Zurich and which addresses questions and methods from the two disciplines of geography and linguistics. One of the main goals of the project is to test linguistic hypotheses which are based on the inspection of maps from the “Syntactic Atlas of German speaking Switzerland” (*Syntaktischer Atlas der Deutschen Schweiz*) (SADS) (cf. Bucheli & Glaser 2002) by using methods from geography and geostatistics. Furthermore we want to provide suggestions regarding the modelling of the areal distribution of dialect data.

Contrary to dialectometric studies which work with aggragated sets of linguistic data (cf. Goebl 1982, Nerbonne 2006), the project pursues a qualitative approach and addresses the study of single phenomena and their distribution in geographical space (cf. Pickl 2013, Sibler 2011, Spruit 2008). Although the maps generally differ from each other, it can be observed that certain phenomena display geographic distributions which are more similar to each other than others (cf. Pröll 2013).

Taking this observation as a point of departure, I will compare the different maps of the SADS with each other, thus testing the data for co-occurrences of morphosyntactic features. Building on that I would like to pursue the question whether there can be derived grammatical subsystems which can be characterized by certain combinations of features. The corresponding areal distributions shall finally be compared with maps depicting phenomena from other linguistic levels (phonology, lexis) as well as with extra-linguistic factors (cultural, political).

## References

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