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November 2009

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**“THE MORPHOSYNTAX OF VARIETIES  
OF ENGLISH WORLDWIDE: A  
QUANTITATIVE APPROACH”**

# Main findings

- Database yields generalisations and tendencies about New Englishes.
- Typological division between English L1 vernaculars on the one hand, and creoles and pidgins on the other hand.
- World Englishes vary along two major dimensions.

# Method

- Research:


List of 76 features, sent to authors of morphosyntactic chapters. Asked to classify each feature:

1. Pervasive/very frequent
2. Exists, but rarely used
3. Does not exist

85% of varieties in *Handbook* covered (a diverse group of varieties).



# Generalisations

- Vernacular universals
  - Universals of New Englishes
  - Vernacular Angloversals
  - Biconditional implications
  - One-way implications
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# Multidimensional Scaling



Fig. 2. *mvs* visualization based on the 76 × 46 database of varieties of English. Squares represent L1 varieties, triangles represent L2 varieties, circles represent English-based pidgins and creoles. Dotted ellipses group variety types.

# Cluster analysis

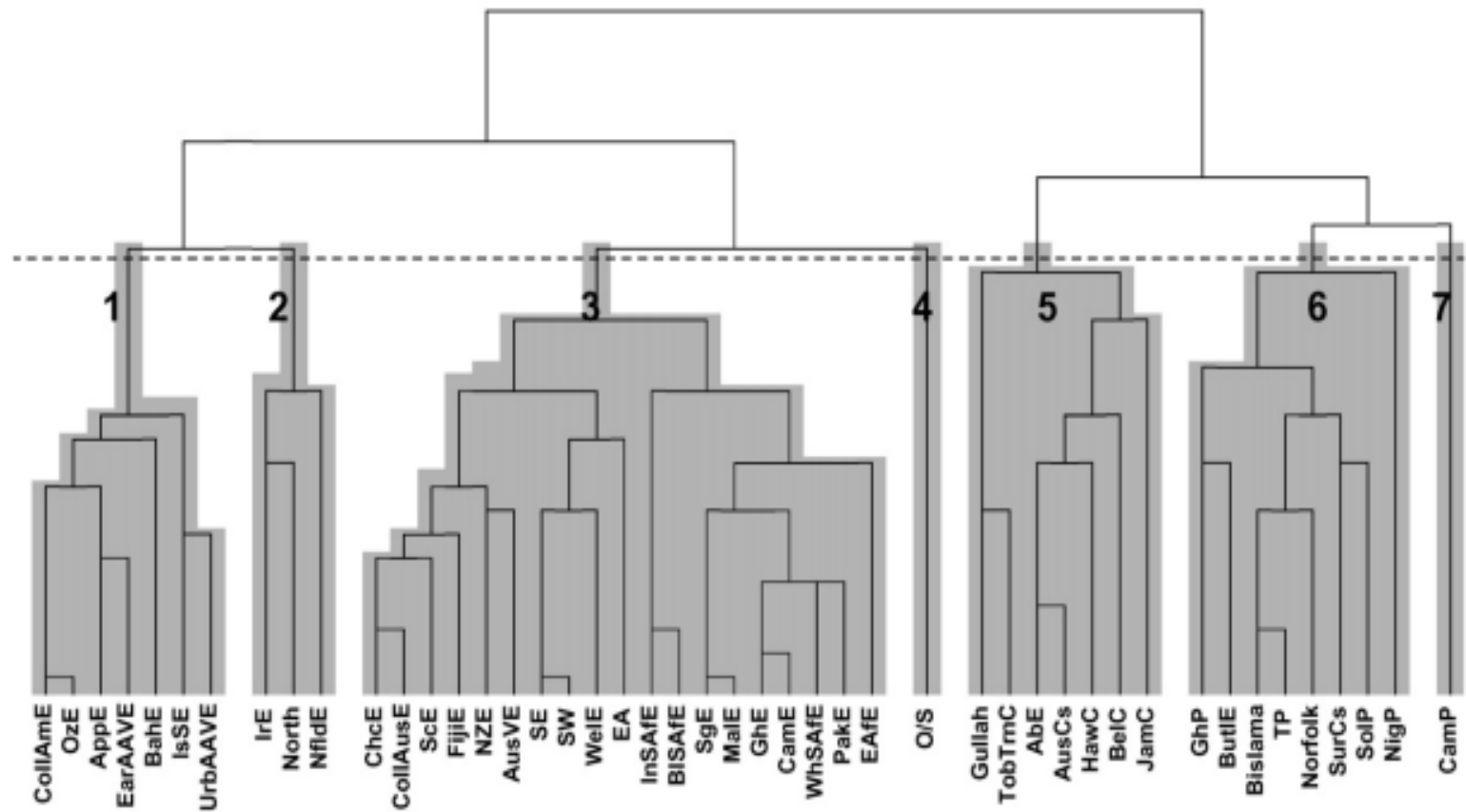


Fig. 3. Dendrogram derived from hierarchical agglomerative cluster analysis of the 76 × 46 database. Numbered clusters indicate a seven cluster solution.

# Principal component analysis

Component 1 Shows increased levels of morphosyntactic complexity.  
Component 2: Degree of analyticity

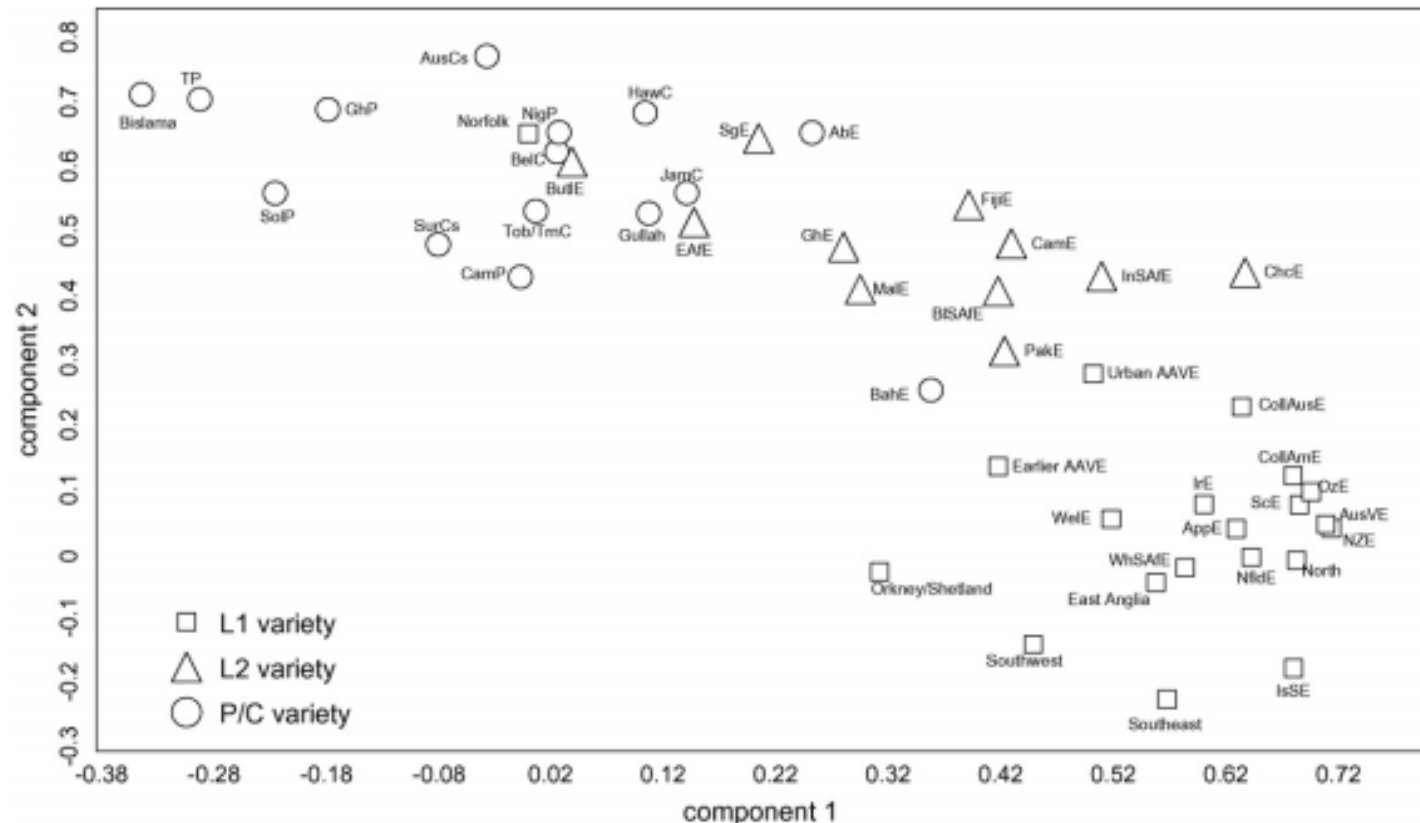


Fig. 4. Visualization of principal components of variance in the 76 × 46 database. Squares represent L1 varieties, triangles represent L2 varieties, circles represent English-based pidgins and creoles.

# Conclusions

- Study is new in its use of many varieties and many features.
- Large database offers ground for generalisations.
- It helps to visualise variation across the database.
  - L1 and creoles/pidgins two entirely different groups, L2 sticks to the middle.
- Cluster analysis shows the division of 2 groups: L1/L2 versus pidgins/creoles.
- Principal Component Analysis shows the 2 underlying dimensions of variance.
  - Variety type helps again to predict the location of a variety.
- This quantitative type of research won't replace qualitative in-depth analysis, but will complement it.