

Francoprovençal Isoglosses

(Gardette 1983: 629)

Legend

- 1 Southern limit of the FP region
- 2 Southern limit of P > v/V__V in NEPOTE 'nephew'
- 3 Southern limit of P > v/V__V in SAPONE 'soap'
- 4 Southern limit of C > Ø/V__V in BUK-ATA 'ye, detergent'
- 5 Southern limit of C > Ø/V__V in PLICAT > 'he folds'
- 6 Southern limit of T > Ø/V__V in ROTA > 'wheel'
- 7 Southern limit of T > Ø/V__V in *PIPPITA > 'pip'
- 8 Southern limit of D > Ø/V__V in CRUDA > 'raw'
- 9 Southern limit of final -e in 1st p. present indicative in *fallume*
- 9 Southern limit of *LACTATA 'why'

The following mathematical procedure weights cognates from each Francoprovençal dialect depending on how many of the regional dialects share that cognate was used.

P_d = probability that Faetar is a descendant of regional dialect_d

n = number of Faetar words (in this study) with cognates in any Francoprovençal dialect

$x_{i,d}$ = number of cognates to word_i in dialect_d

y_i = number of cognates to word_i in all dialects combined

$$(3.1) \quad P_d = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_{i,d}}{y_i}$$

Interpretation?

- If all Faetar words had cognates from the same single dialect, this equation would yield a likelihood of 1 that Faetar came from that dialect.
- Due to the natural course of linguistic change in the 700 or so years between the period when Faetar was born and the period when the dialect atlases were compiled, no regions even come close to retaining all the same sounds in all the words examined.
- The differences from region to region in patterns of lexical diffusion allows this method to be used to determine which region has a pattern most like Faetar.

$$(3.1) \quad P_d = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_{i,d}}{y_i}$$

Equation (3.1) produces these likelihood values, showing that the Ain and Isère regions have the most words (containing [λ]) in common with Faetar.

<u>Region_d</u>	<u>Probability_d</u>
Ain	.26
Isère	.25
Haute-Savoie	.15
Oisans	.12
Savoie	.10
others	.12

Francoprovençal and Faetar words containing [λ]

Francoproven.	Faetar	Gloss
ombriλə	ambriλə	navel
aλə	aλə	garlic
saλi	saλə	to go out
boteλə	buttiλə	bottle
feλ	fiλə	girl
vieλə	vieλə	old (f.)
aλə	aλə	needle
foeλə	foλə	leaf
juλə	λuλə	July

Percentage of words containing /N/ in each locality.

The large symbols indicate localities where more than 2/3 of the words contain /λ/ in the same position as the Faetar word.