

Karolina Hansen, Astrid Adler, Maria Ribeiro Silveira

## DIALECTAL REGIONS IN GERMANY – MORE THAN A LINGUISTIC DESCRIPTION TOOL

1. March 2024, Cottbus



Dictionary

Thesaurus

dialect



Games & Quizzes

Word of the Day

IDS

LEIBNIZ-INSTITUT FÜR DEUTSCHE SPRACHE

# Dictionary

# dialect noun

Definition

Synonyms

Example Sentences

Word History

Phrases and Idioms

Entries Nearest to



Dictionary

Translate

Grammar

Thesaurus

+Plus

Shop



dialect

English



English-Polish

Meaning of **dialect** in English

## dialect

**noun** [ C or U ] • LANGUAGE

UK /'daɪ.ə.lekt/ US /'daɪ.ə.lekt/

**C2**

a form of a language that people speak in a particular part of a country, containing some different words and grammar, etc.:

Add





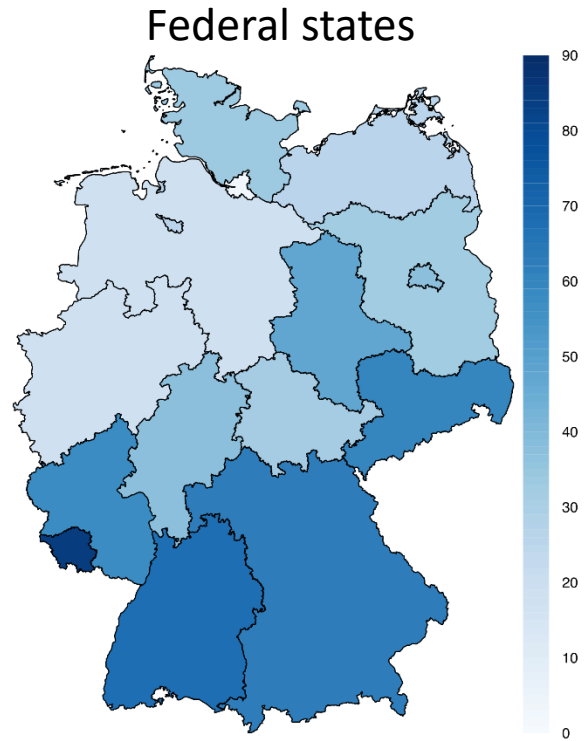
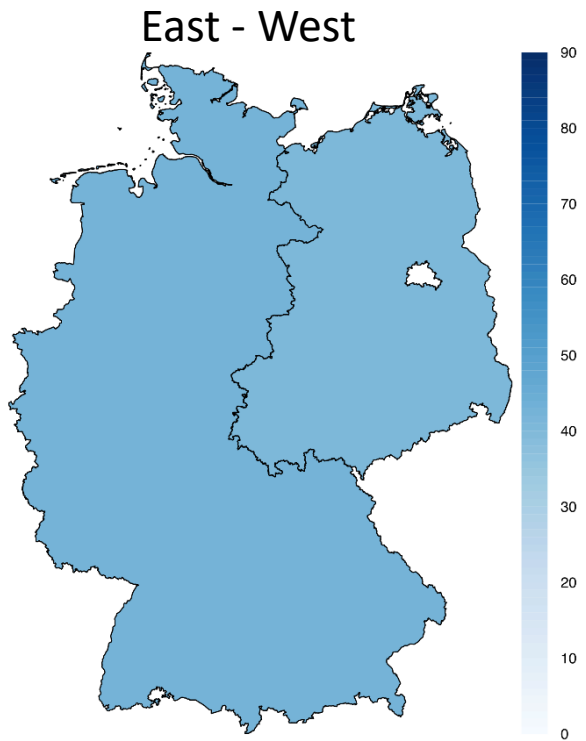
*How to analyze dialects in space?*

*How to connect them with social variables?*

## OUR DATA

- Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP)
- 2 representative surveys
- 2017 ( $N = 4380$ )
  - Dialect questions
  - Language questions
- 2019 ( $N = 2290$ )
  - Dialect questions
  - Job-related dialect questions

# WHERE CAN PEOPLE SPEAK A DIALECT?



## GEORG WENKER (1852)

## ALFRED LAMELI (1971)

*Atlas of German Dialects (Deutscher Sprachatlas)*

- 45,000 surveys of schoolteachers
- Translate 40 sentences from standard German into dialect

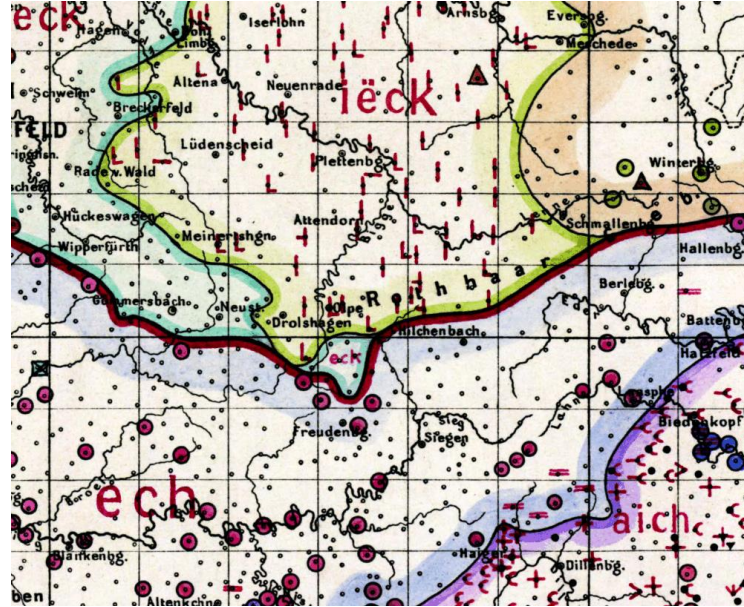
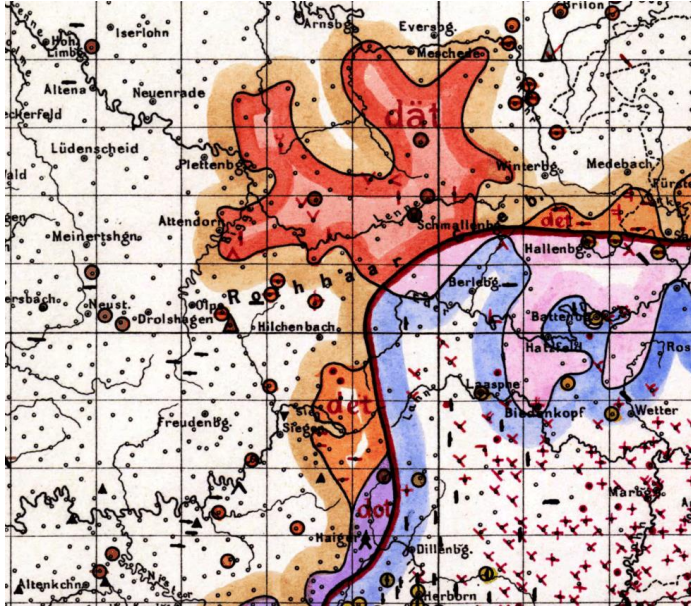




# WENKER'S MAPS

IDS

LEIBNIZ-INSTITUT FÜR  
DEUTSCHE SPRACHE

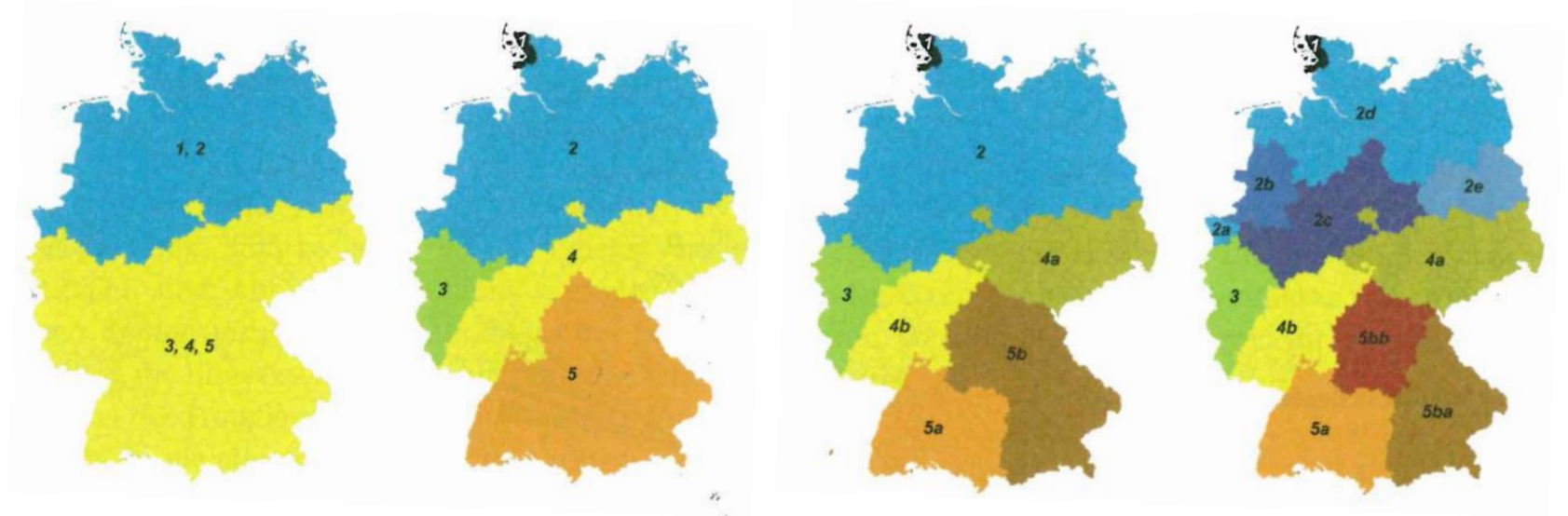




# LAMELI'S REGIONS

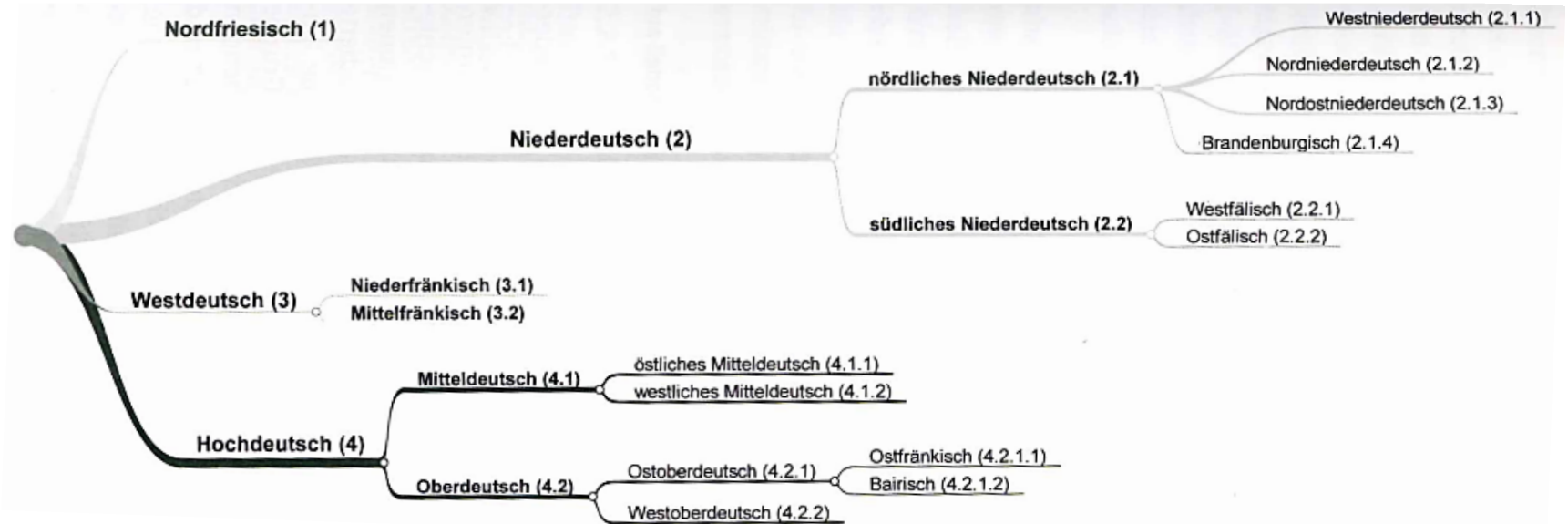
IDS

LEIBNIZ-INSTITUT FÜR  
DEUTSCHE SPRACHE



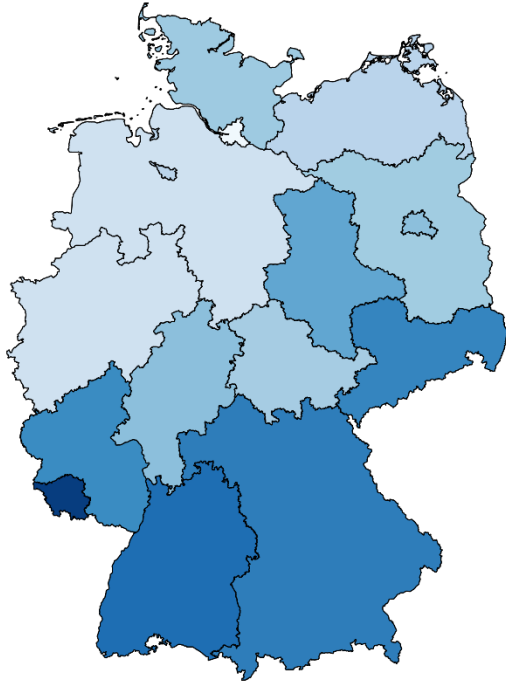


# LAMELI'S CLASSIFICATION

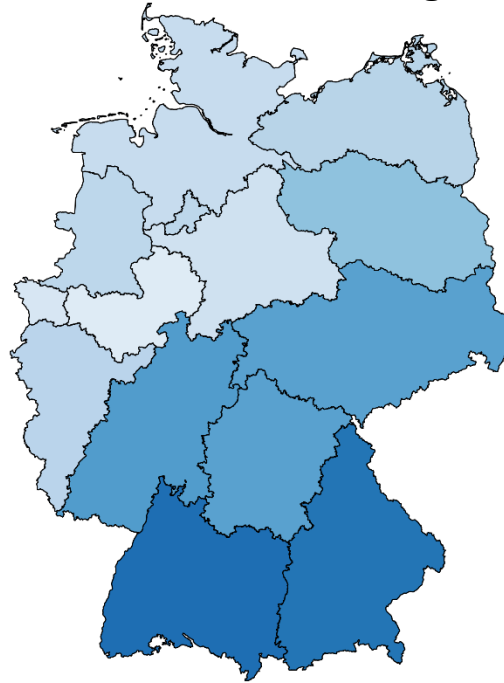


# DIALECTAL REGIONS

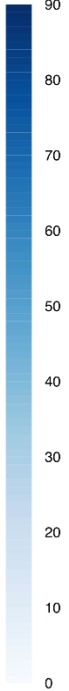
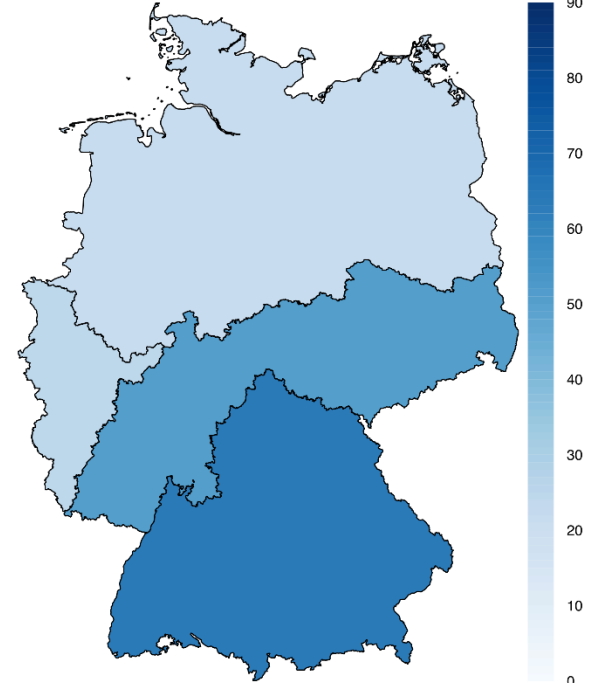
Federal states



13 Dialectal regions



4 Dialectal regions





## EXAMPLE: WAGES AND DIALECTS

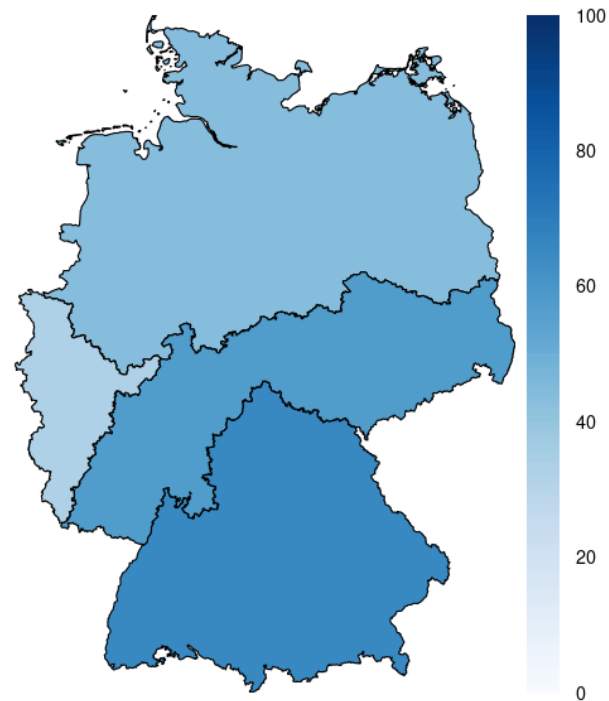
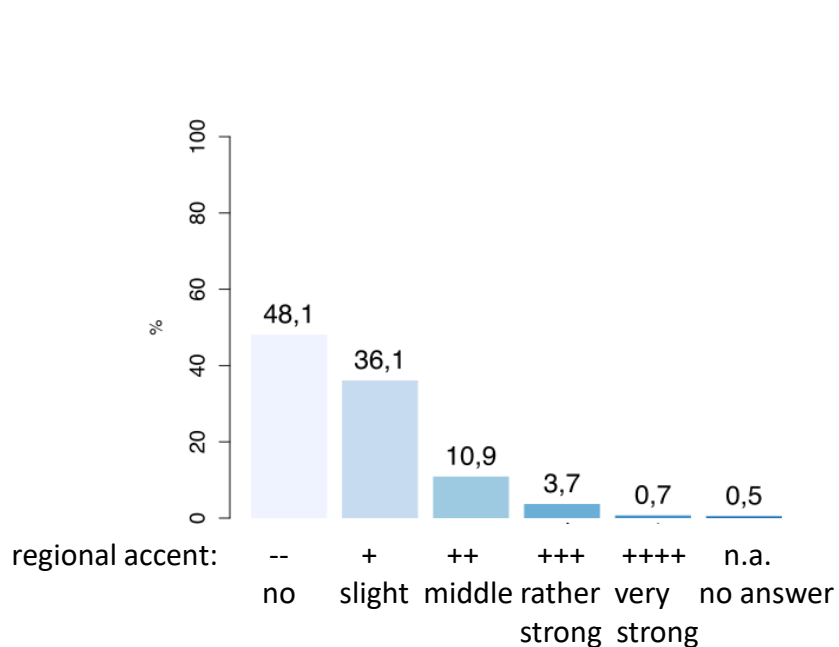
I always  
give my  
best.

**I GEB  
AWWL  
MAI  
BESCHDES**

What are  
your  
greatest  
strengths?

**WAS SEND  
IHRE  
GRÖSCHDA  
SCHDÄRKA?**

# EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT: REGIONAL ACCENT



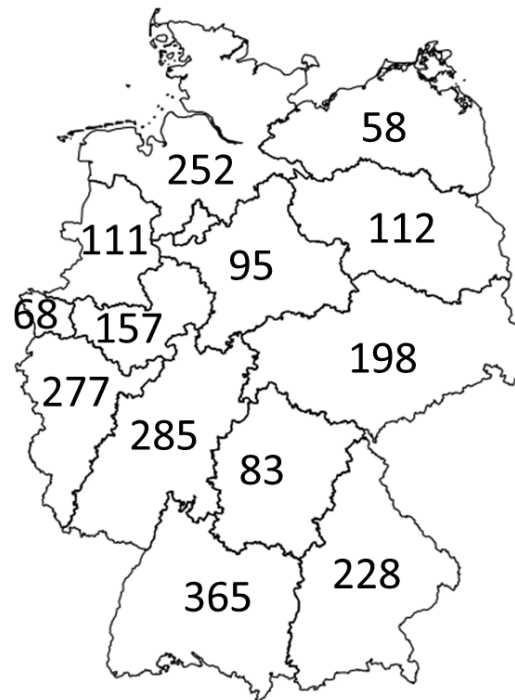
# DIFFERENCE NO-ACCENT VS. ACCENT

**M**

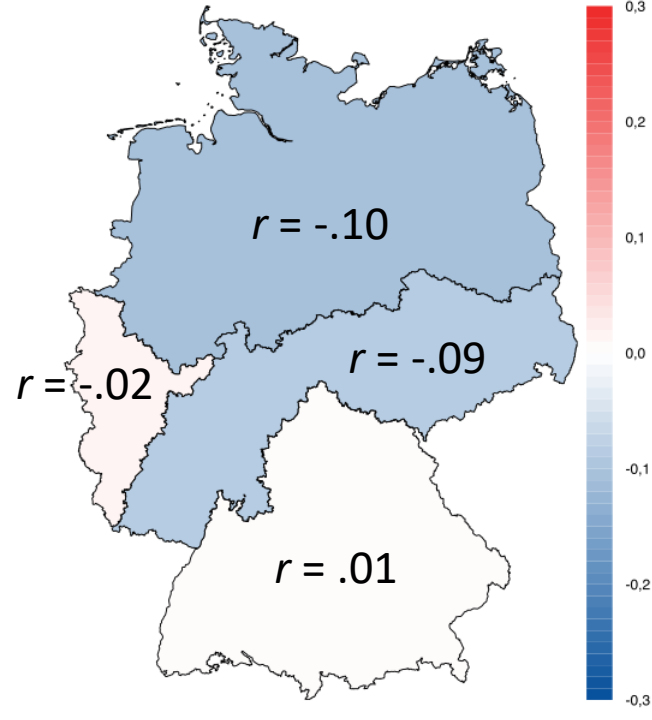
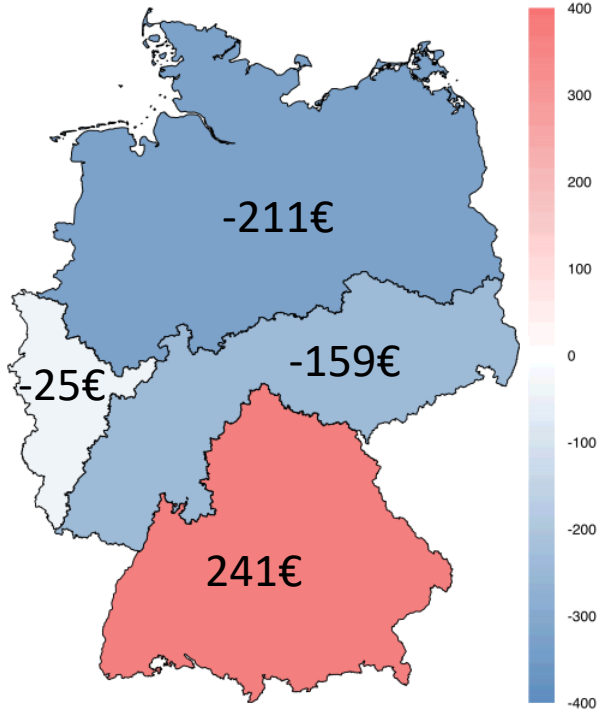
Net	Gross	2017	2019
✗	✗	✗	✗

**r**

✗	✗	✗	✗
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# 4 DIALECTAL REGIONS



## SUMMARY

- Dialectal regions – tedious job, but worth it
  - Different than administrative ones
- Relationship between wages and dialect
  - Regionally dependent
  - Not dialect per se, but also the context
  - It might be good to speak a dialect
  - Dialectal „bilingualism”
- Work in progress... ideas – wellcome!



THANK YOU!