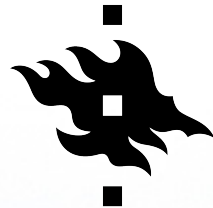


UPCOMING RESOURCE

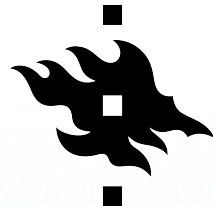
AN ONLINE
LANGUAGE CHANGE DATABASE



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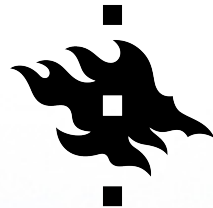
WHO WE ARE

- Reassessing language change: the challenge of real time
 - Academy of Finland funded project, 2014–2018
- PI **Terttu Nevalainen**, VARIENG Research Unit
 - Postdocs Tanja Säily & Turo Vartiainen
- Collaborators **Peter Trudgill** (sociolinguistics),
Jefrey Lijffijt & Jukka Suomela (computer science)



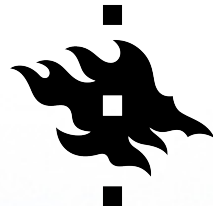
PROBLEM: FRAGMENTED RESEARCH

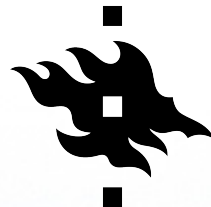
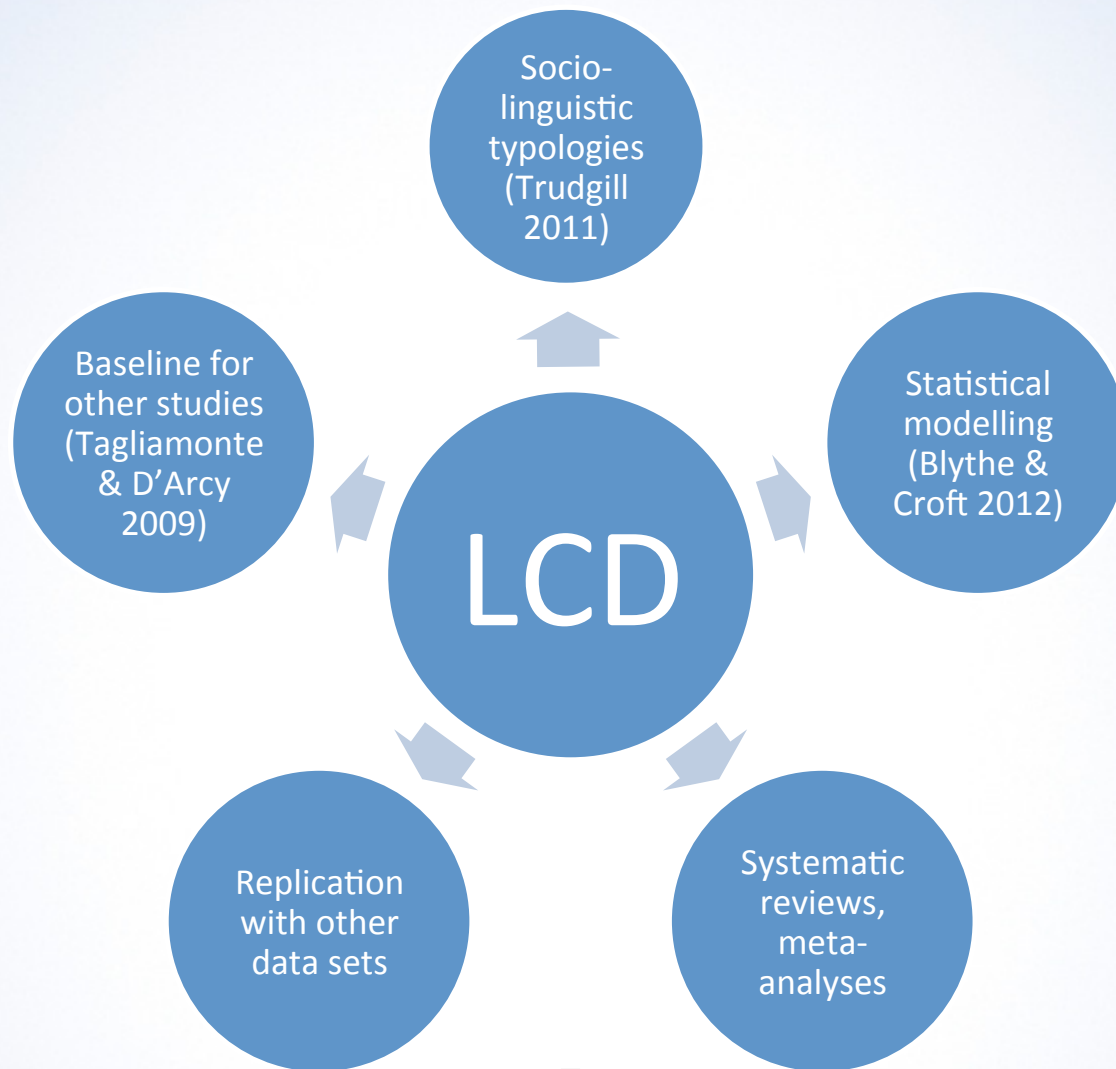
- Access to data & previous research on language change
- Knowledge of historical data
- At present, research on real-time language change is largely not cumulative



SOLUTION

- Comparative, real-time baseline data for modelling change in progress
- Language Change Database (LCD)
- Open access, part of Varieng e-resources

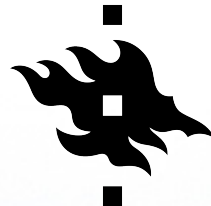




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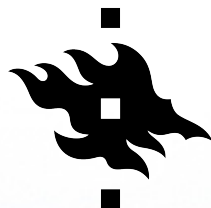
WHAT THE DATABASE WILL CONTAIN

- Abstract/summary of work
- Metadata
 - Bibliographical details
 - Linguistic items & topics studied
 - Corpora & time periods studied
- **Data**
 - Tables, figures – or link to original publication
 - Overview of results



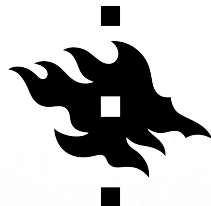
EXAMPLE

- **Item:** *outtaken* (preposition and subordinator)
- **Contributor:** Matti Rissanen
- **Article:** (2002) “*Without except(ing) unless...*”: On the grammaticalisation of expressions indicating exception in English.’ In Katja Lentz and Ruth Möhlig (eds.) *Of Dyuersitie & Chaunge of Langage: Essays Presented to Manfred Görlach on the Occasion of his 65th Birthday*. Heidelberg: Winter. 77–87.
- **Abstract:** Brief description of the occurrence of the Middle English subordinator and preposition *outtaken*. This connective appears in Middle English and disappears in Early Modern English.



EXAMPLE

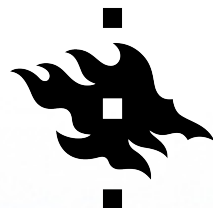
- **Diachronic coverage of the discussion:** ME
- **Origin:** Native. Cf., however, Latin *except*.
- **First appearance as a connective:** LME
- **Dialectal distribution:** Northern dialects
- **Corpora used:** HCM; CMEPV
- **Summary:** The connective appears in LME, approximately at the same time as the verb *outtake*. This supports the hypothesis that the form is a loan translation from Latin rather than the result of grammaticalisation in ME. It is typically a Northern or East Midland form.



EXAMPLE

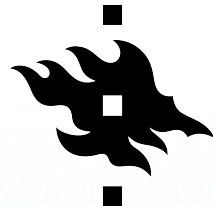
Table 1. Outtaken, except, save and unless in late Middle and Early Modern English: the Helsinki Corpus (HC) and the Corpus of Middle English Prose and Verse (Middle English Compendium = MEC) (2002)

	outtake(n)		save		except		unless	
	prep.	subord.	prep.	subord.	prep.	subord.	prep.	subord.
HC								
1350-1420	2	2	8	2	0	0	0	0
1420-1500	5	0	17	5	14	2	0	0
1500-1570	0	0	9	5	16	32	0	11
1570-1640	0	0	4	1	11	22	0	18
1640-1710	0	0	1	6	11	3	4	30
MEC								
1350-1400	7	0	60	20	3	1	0	0
1400-1500	19	4	188	73	154	23	0	6



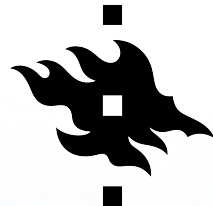
NEXT STEPS

- Design the structure of LCD
 - Platform, format, descriptive model...
- Pilot data insertion with research assistant (autumn 2014)
- Roundtable on *Language Change and Community* in early 2015



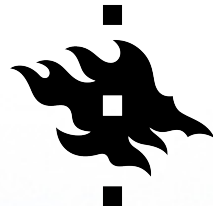
BIG-PICTURE ISSUES

- Change towards **analyticity**? (Lass 2000)
- Community type (Trudgill 2011)
- Register change (Szmrecsanyi 2012)
- Rate of change



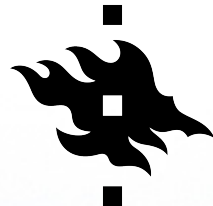
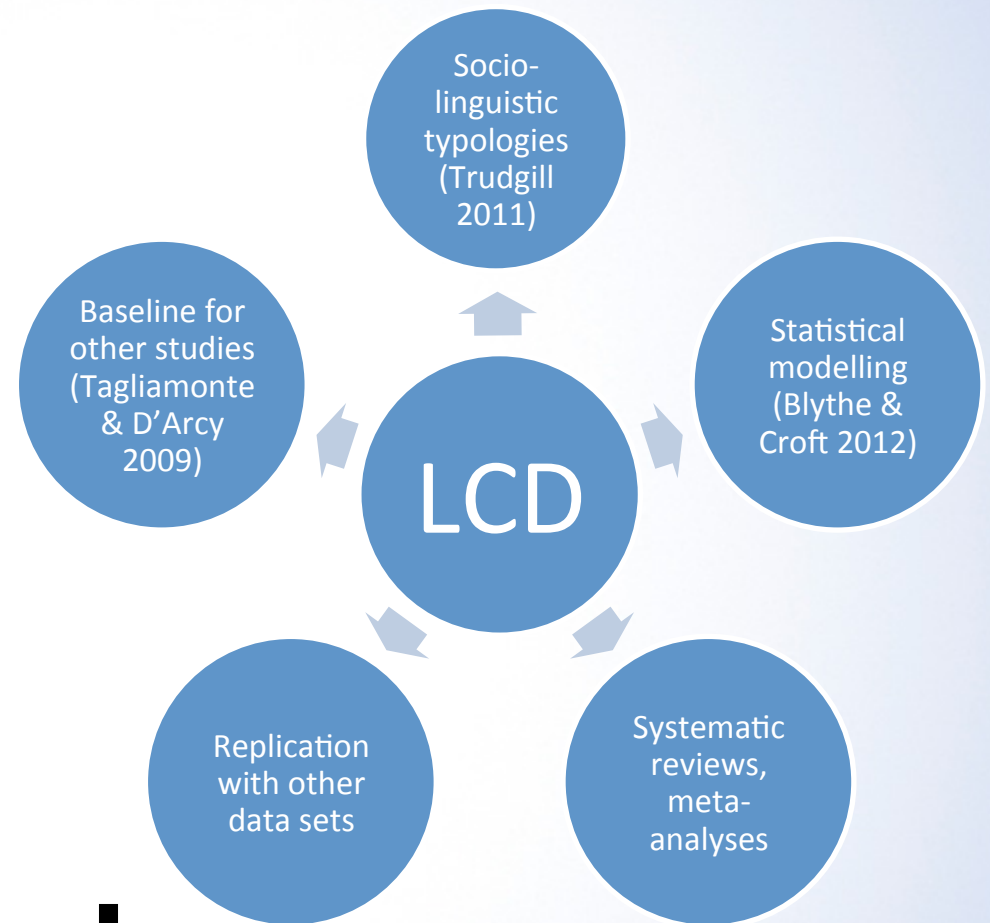
EXTENDING THE PARADIGMS OF CHANGE

- Vartiainen: lexical **semantic** and constructional change
 - Subjectification (Traugott 2010)
- Säily: **derivational** vs. inflectional change
 - Redefining syntheticity (Danchev 1992)
- New materials and **methods**



QUESTIONS FOR YOU

- Structure of database?
- Copyright issues?
- Interested in contributing?
 - lcd-project@helsinki.fi



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- Danchev, A. (1992) Analytic and synthetic developments in English. In M. Rissanen et al. (eds.), *History of Englishes*. Berlin: de Gruyter, 25–41.
- Lass, R. (2000) Language periodization and the concept of “middle”. In I. Taavitsainen et al. (eds.), *Placing Middle English in Context*. Berlin: de Gruyter, 7–41.
- Szmrecsanyi, B. (2012) Analyticity and syntheticity in the history of English. In T. Nevalainen & E. Closs Traugott (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of the History of English*. Oxford/New York: OUP, 654–665.
- Tagliamonte, S.A. & A. D’Arcy (2009) Peaks beyond phonology: adolescence, incrementation, and language change. *Language* 85(1): 58–108.
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- Trudgill, P. (2011) *Sociolinguistic Typology: Social Determinants of Linguistic Complexity*. Oxford: OUP.

