

Ethnically-affiliated Varieties

Common Ethnically-affiliated Varieties in US (not exhaustive)

- African American English (AAE/AAVE)
- Chicano English/Spanglish
- Native American English
- Hawaiian Creole
- (Louisiana) Creole
- L2 influenced American English
 - German, Polish, Russian, Thai, Japanese, Korean > WI English, Konglish, etc.
- Non-English Varieties
 - Yiddish, Spanish, Pennsylvania Deutsch, etc.

Pidgin ~ Creoles

Pidgin	creole clas>
- trade.	→ full range of topics
- simplify, mix	→ expansion
- no kid only	→ kids use as L1

Comparison of Dialect Formation

Cautions

- Differences in linguistic units
 - Words easiest to adopt
 - Sounds seem to be next easiest to change because less complex
 - Grammar can be very complex and nuanced in function words (often last to change in any language)
- Population v. individual
 - Competing demands on the individual for personal identification
 - Produces varying measures of strength of association
- Other factors other than ‘race’
 - Gender
 - Social class
 - Motivation, ability, knowledge (through contact)

Comparison of groups

- All are translocal
 - MAE/SAE (white): Middle class speech, media
 - AAE: Pan-AAE features spread, media
 - ChE: traditional contact with Spanish in different regions
 - NAE: across tribes and location
- All are local
 - Regional variants
 - Retention of features is ‘locally managed’

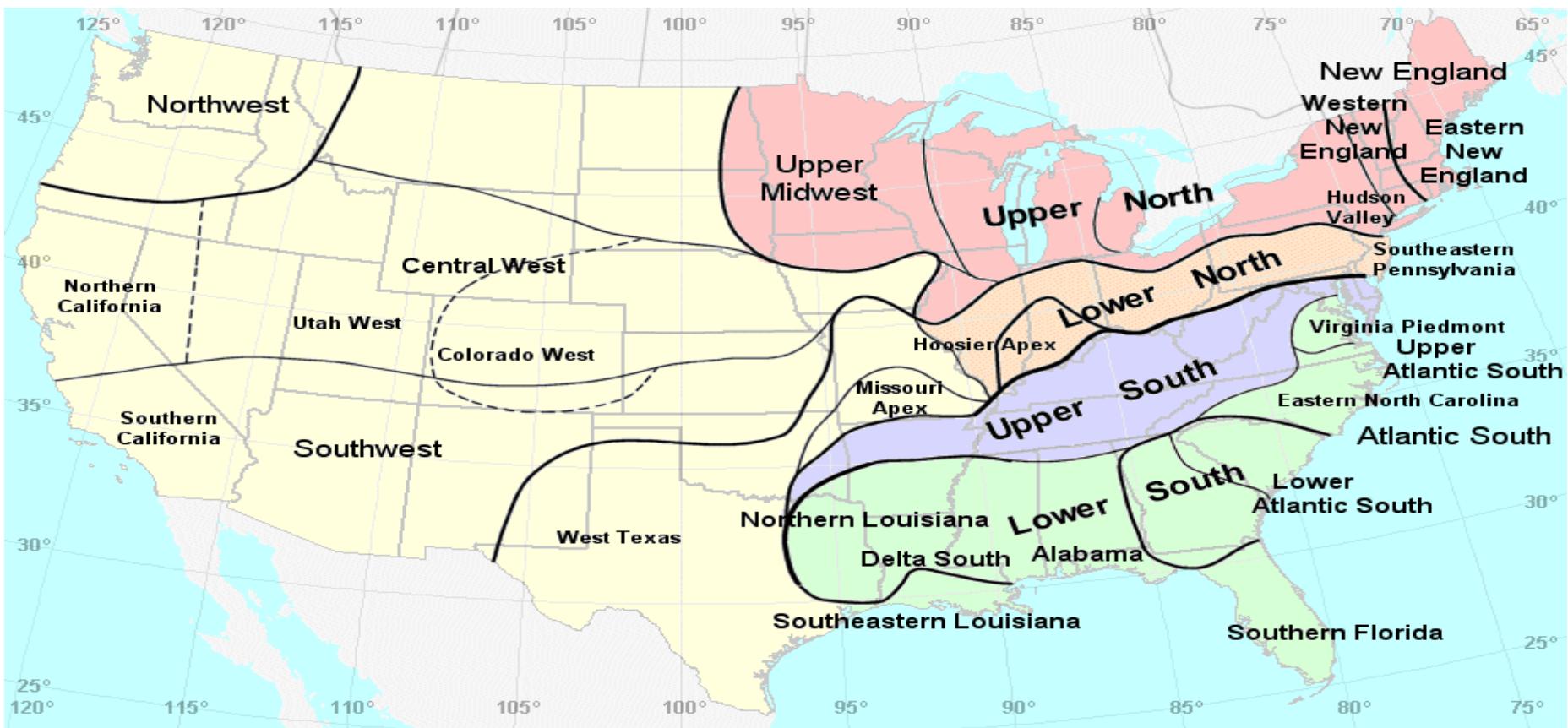
Framework for examining dialect formation

- Dialect origin factors (Wolfram & Schilling-Estes)
 - ① Settlement
 - ② Migration
 - ③ Geography (boundaries)
 - ④ Contact
 - ⑤ Economic Ecology

Historical Factor #1

GEOGRAPHY

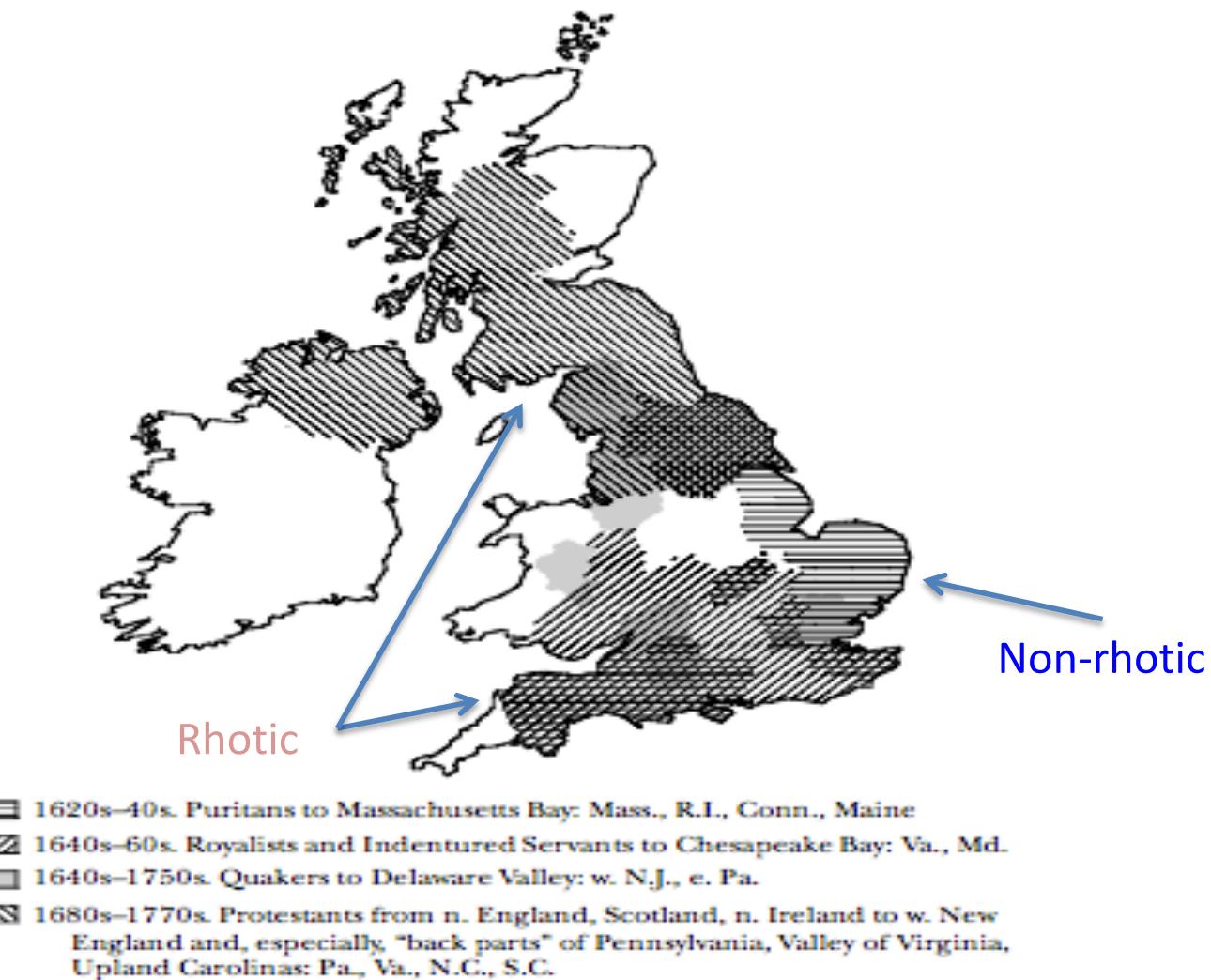
Labov's Dialect Regions



Historical Factor #2

SETTLEMENT

Regional Sources of Emigration from Great Britain to the Colonies
(adapted from Fischer 1989)



Rhotic Speakers and Settlement

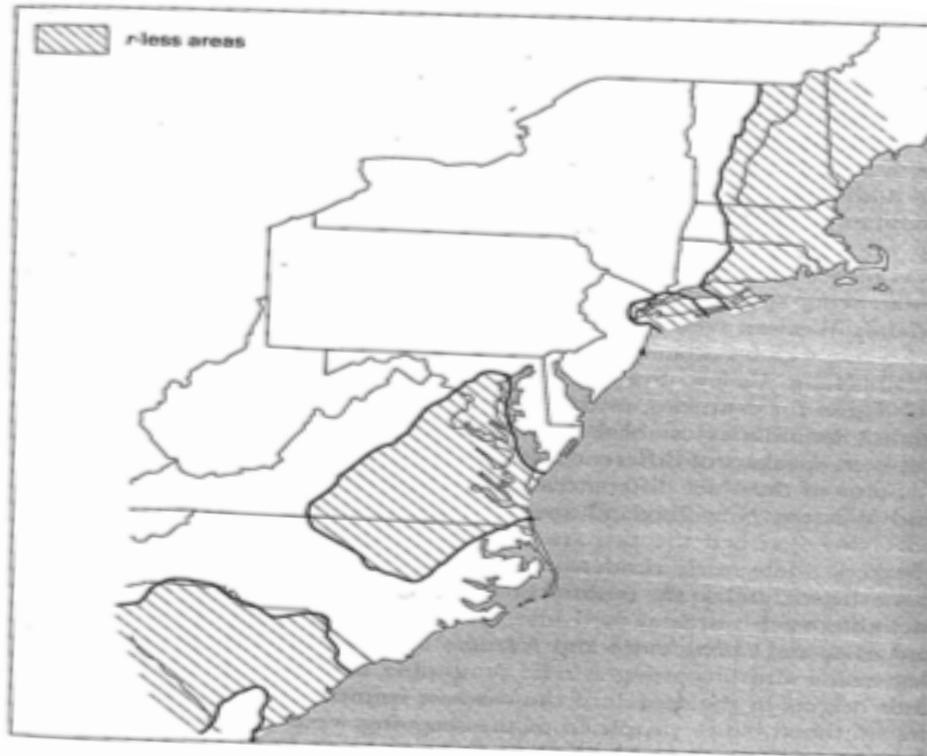


Figure 4.1 Traditional regions of *r*-lessness and *r*-fulness in American English
(adapted from Kurath and David 1961: map 32)

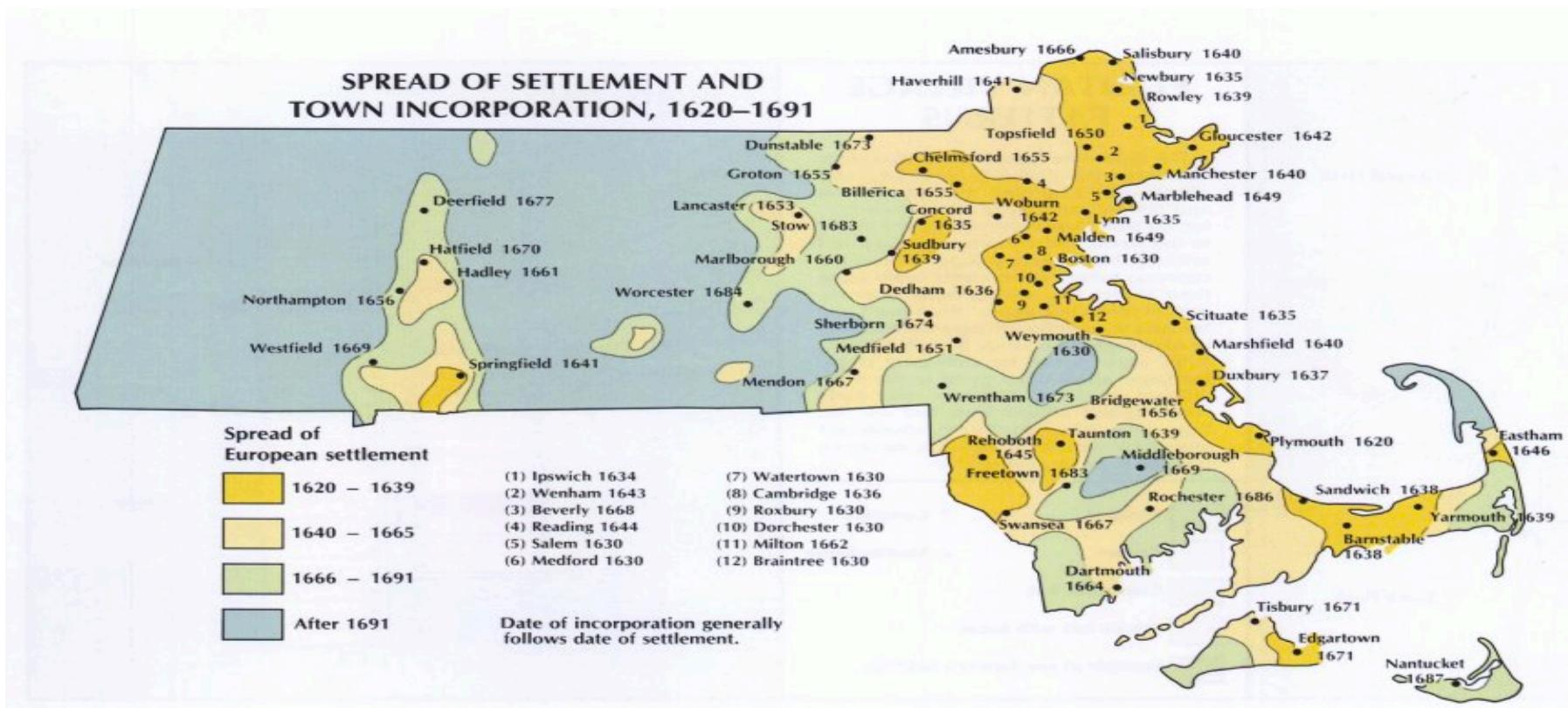
Settlement of NC Piedmont

Rhotic Speakers

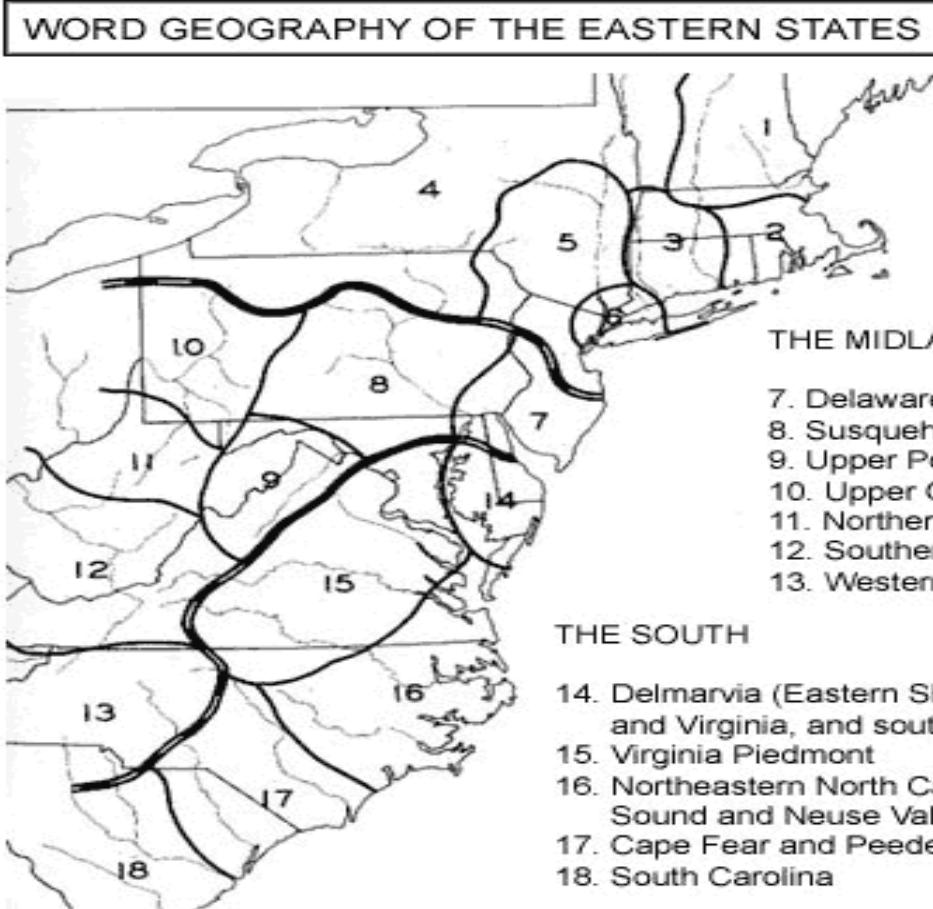


Non-rhotic Speakers

East to West Mass. Settlement



Kurath's Lexical Map



THE NORTH

1. Northeastern New England
2. Southeastern New England
3. Southwestern New England
4. Upstate New York and w. Vermont
5. The Hudson Valley
6. Metropolitan New York

THE MIDLAND

7. Delaware Valley (Philadelphia Area)
8. Susquehanna Valley
9. Upper Potomac & Shenandoah Valleys
10. Upper Ohio Valley (Pittsburgh)
11. Northern West Virginia
12. Southern West Virginia
13. Western North and South Carolina

THE SOUTH

14. Delmarvia (Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia, and southern Delaware)
15. Virginia Piedmont
16. Northeastern North Carolina (Albemarle Sound and Neuse Valley)
17. Cape Fear and PeeDee Valleys
18. South Carolina

Historical Factor #3

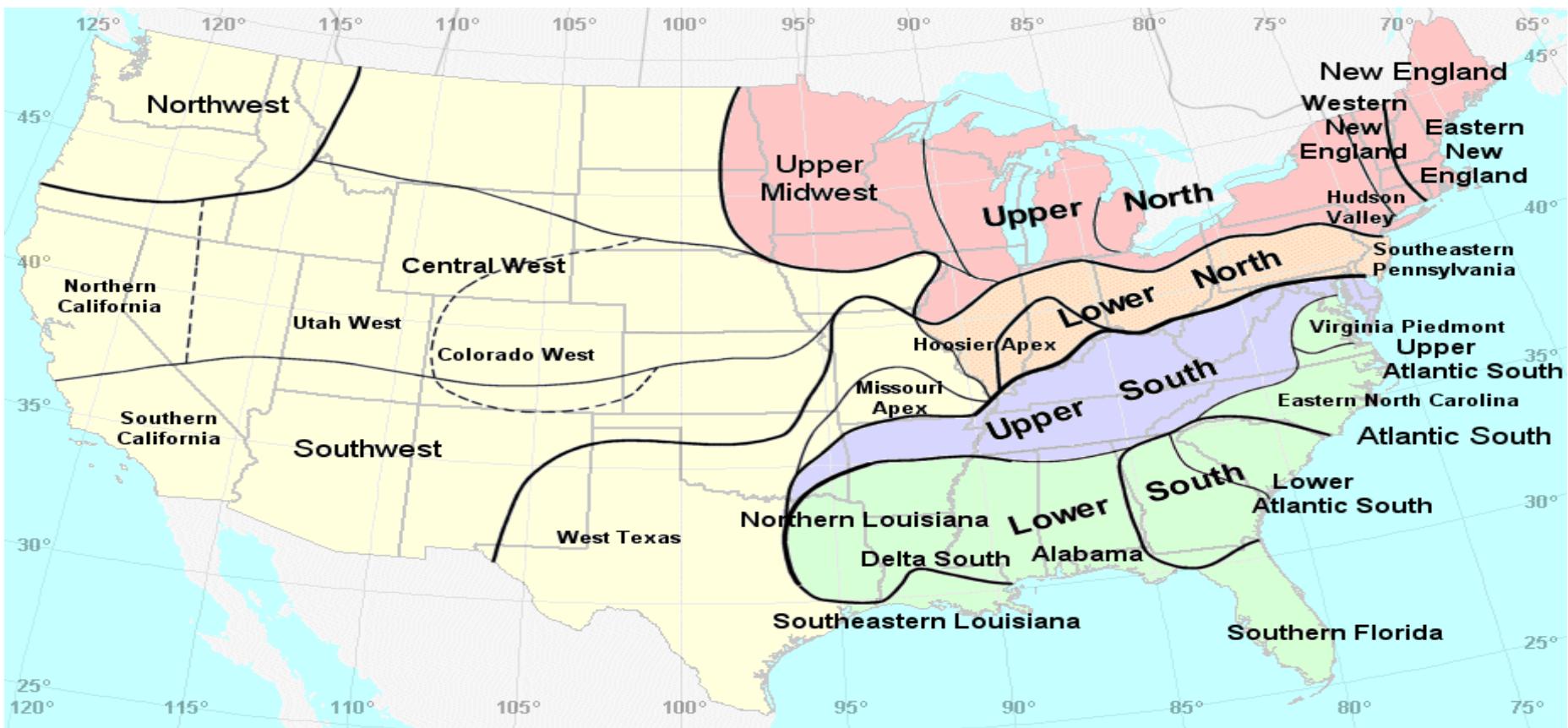
MIGRATION

Westward Movement of Ideas



3.2. The Movement of Ideas in the North. Settlement patterns and the flow of information through commerce and other forms of communication are among the shaping influences on the cultural and linguistic regions of the North.
(Source: Glassie 1968.)

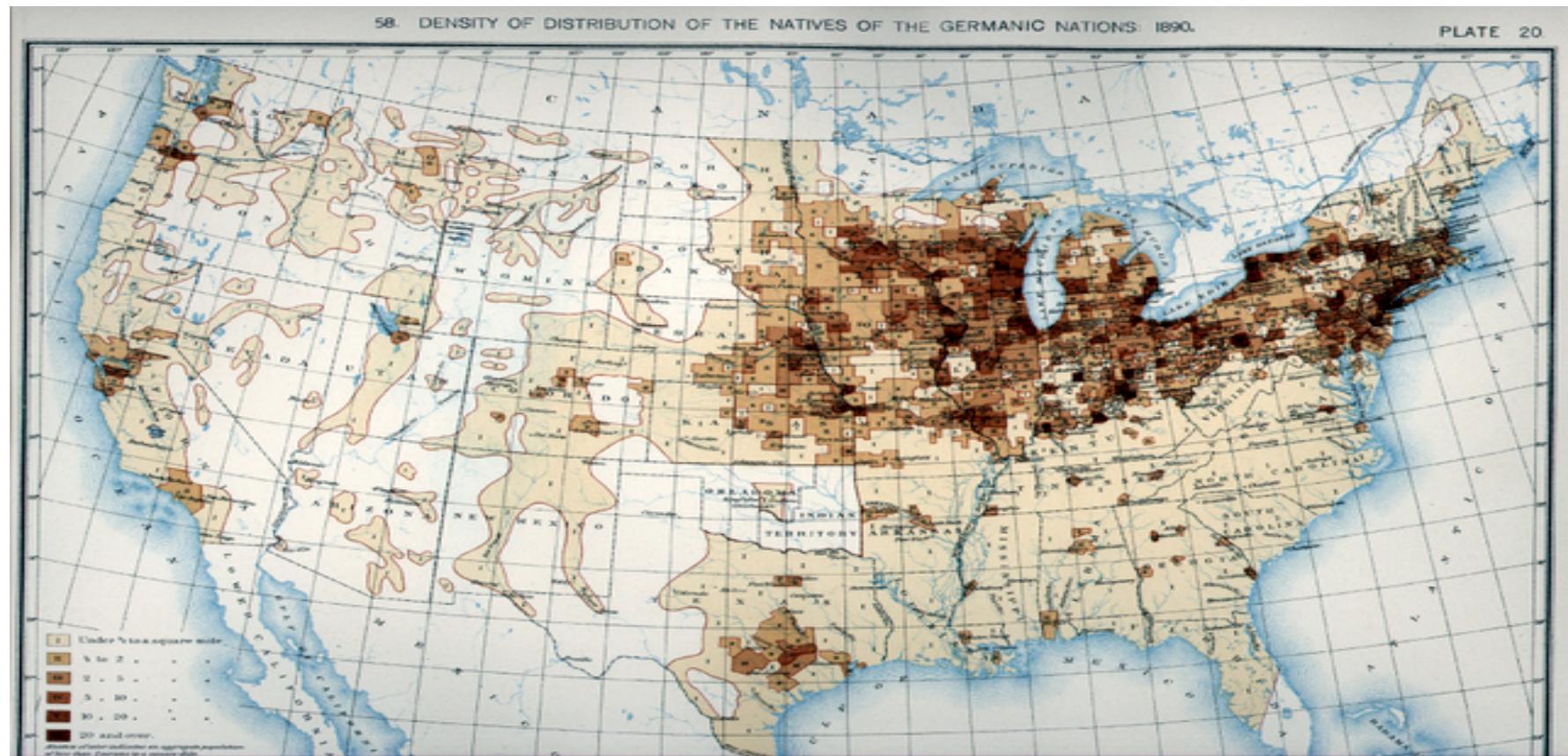
Labov's Dialect Regions



Historical Factor #4

CONTACT

1890 German Settlement in US



Influence on grammar?

Oh yah hey, in Squirrely Valley
They talk so funny, they get so lazy
Oh yah hey, get me a beer **once**
As long as you're up **yet**,
I'm goin' crazy.

—Lou & Peter Berryman

Influence from German

once ≡ mal; yet ≡ noch

Come (over) here **once**
*komm **mal** her*
just come over here; come over here, won't you?

We have time **yet**
*'wir haben **noch** Zeit'*
'we still have time'

Multiple immigrant sources

General American He's **coming along.**

Wisc. English: He's **coming with.**

German: *Er kommt mit.*

Dutch: *Hij komt mee.*

Danish: *Han kommer med.*

The same basic pattern exists in Yiddish, Frisian, Norwegian,
Swedish, etc.

Historical Factor #5

ECONOMIC ECOLOGY AND SOCIAL STRATIFICATION

Economic Ecology

- How people earn their living
 - Tied to social class
- Ecologic-based economies
 - Examples: fishing, mining, farming
 - Economy intersects with geography
- Urban vs. rural
 - Affects vocab items, direction and rate of language change
 - Rural: conservative in change
 - Urban: more rapid in change