

Phonological diversity of languages of Russia

guest lecture in the course 'Languages of Russia and the former SU'



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October 2, 2024

About me

- quantitative linguistics
- variation
- phonetics
- Nakh-Daghestanian languages
- Northwest Caucasian languages
- Slavic languages

Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day

Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime

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tinyurl.com/3by8xurp

Languages of Russia

Glottolog

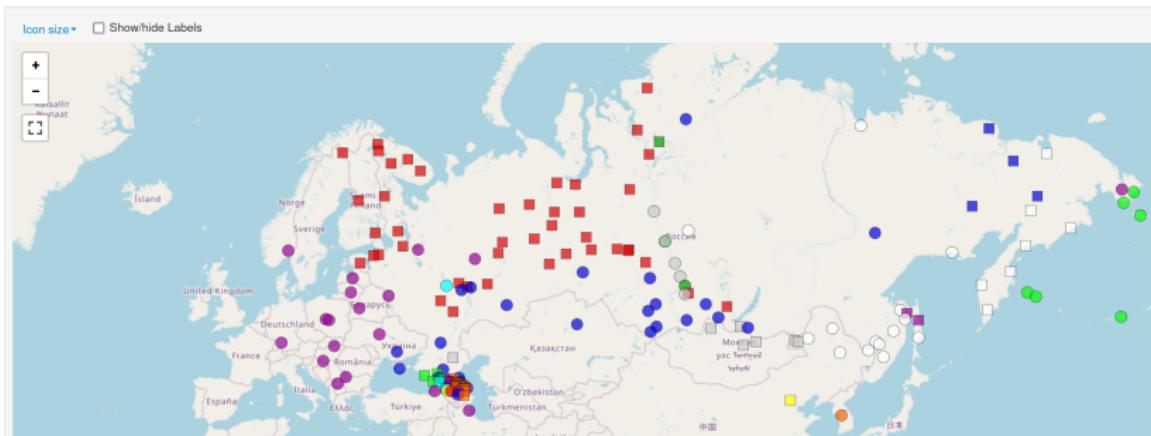
Glottolog 5.0 — Comprehensive reference information for the world's languages. [Hammarström et al., 2024]

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<https://glottolog.org/glottolog/language.map.html?country=RU>

Languages of Russian Federation



Language families

According to Glottolog there are 163 languages in Russia that belong to 16 language families.

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However, this list

- includes 21 extinct languages, e. g. South Itelmen (Chukotko-Kamchatkan), Mednyj Aleut (Eskimo-Aleut), Old Russian (Indo-European), Arman (Tungusic), Bolgarian (Turkic), Akkala Saami (Uralic), Yugh (Yeniseian), Chuvantsy (Yukaghirs) and others...

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- includes 31 minority languages spoken outside Russia, e. g. Abkhaz (Abkhaz-Adyge), Sinte-Manus Romani (Indo-European), Georgian (Kartvelian), Korean (Koreanic), China Buriat (Mongolic-Khitan), Mandarin Chinese (Sino-Tibetan), Kazakh (Turkic), Kilen (Tungusic), Finnish (Uralic) and others...

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- Russian Sign Language

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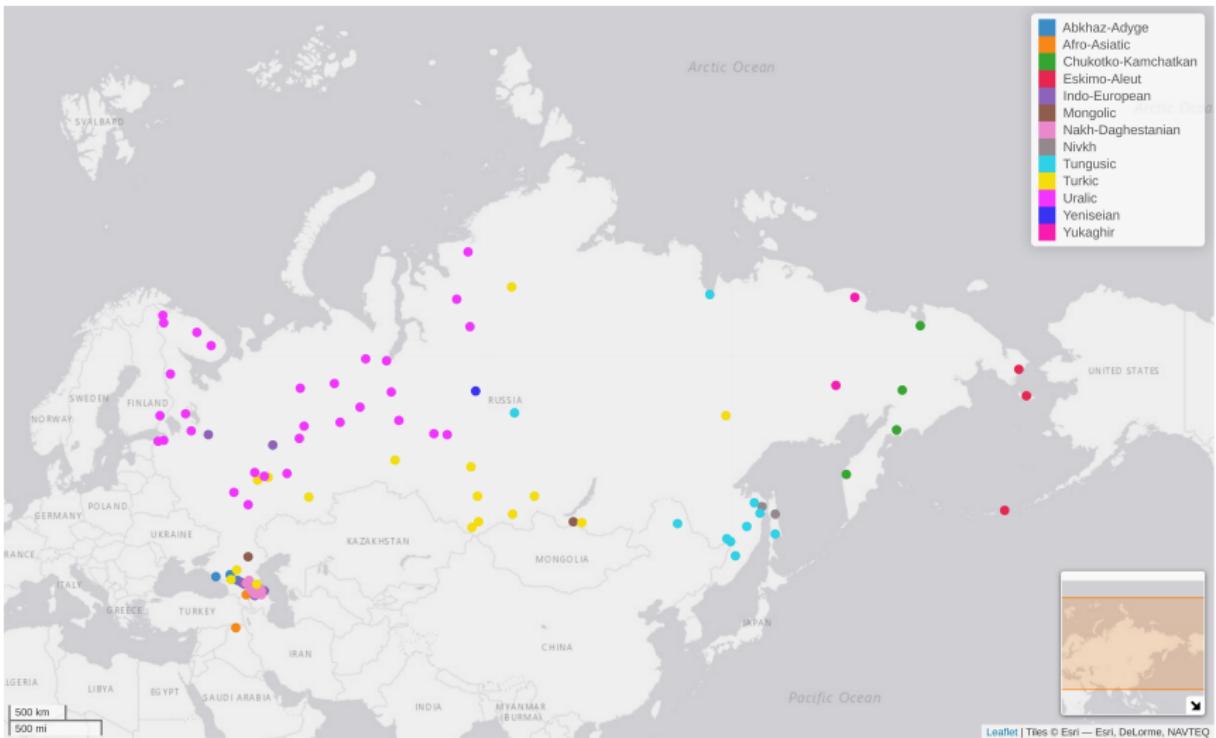
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- Russian Sign Language
- lacks Assyrian Neo-Aramaic (Urmi dialect)

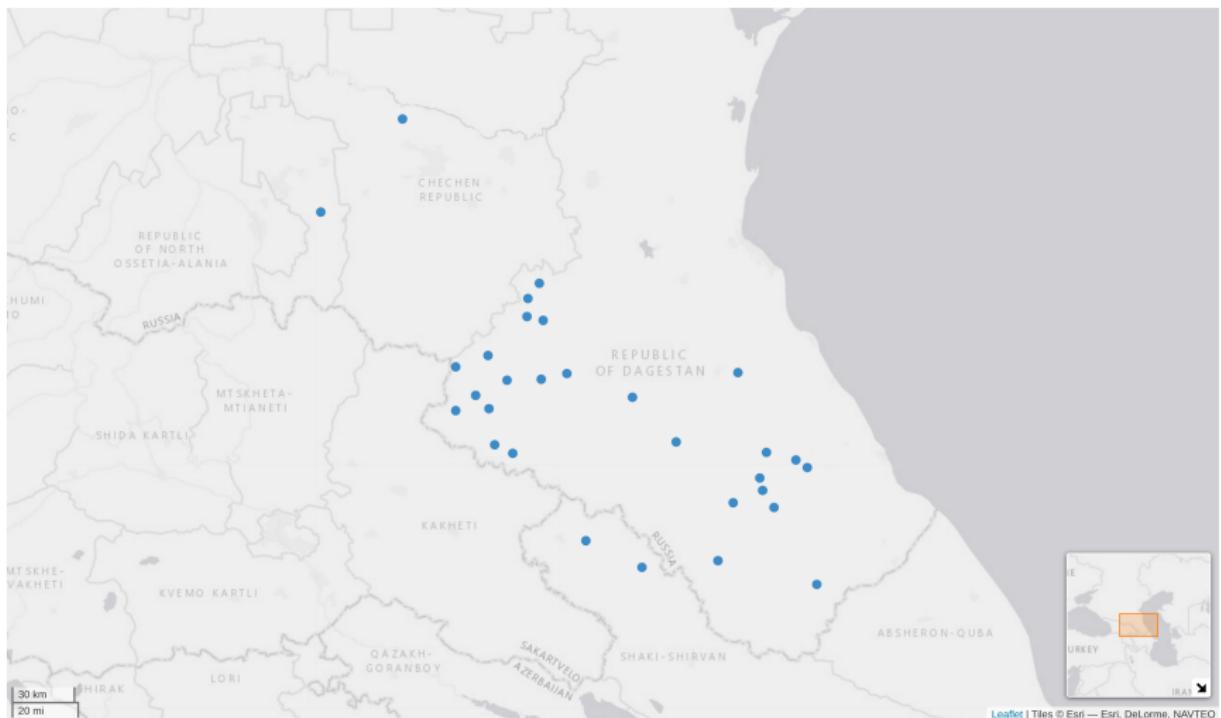
Languages (111)

	family	n
1	Nakh-Daghestanian	30
2	Uralic	30
3	Turkic	16
4	Tungusic	10
5	Indo-European	6
6	Chukotko-Kamchatkan	4
7	Abkhaz-Adyge	3
8	Eskimo-Aleut	3
9	Afro-Asiatic	2
10	Mongolic	2
11	Nivkh	2
12	Yukaghir	2
13	Yeniseian	1

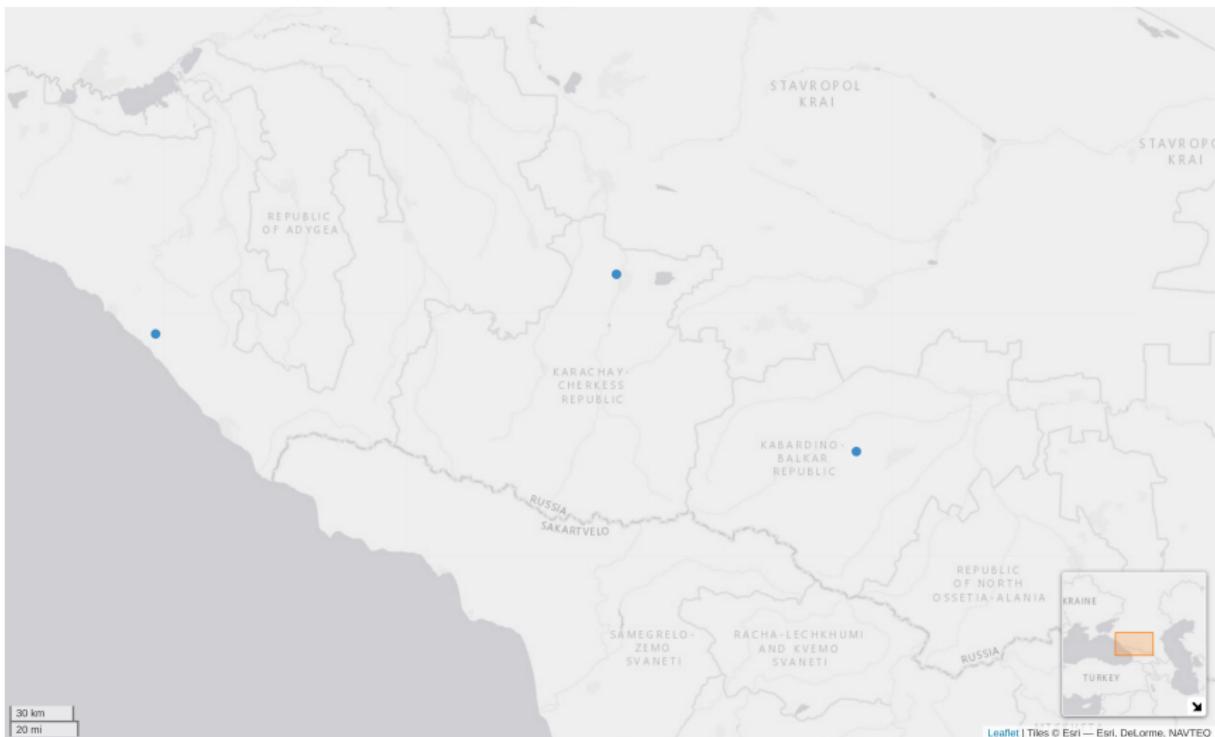
Language families



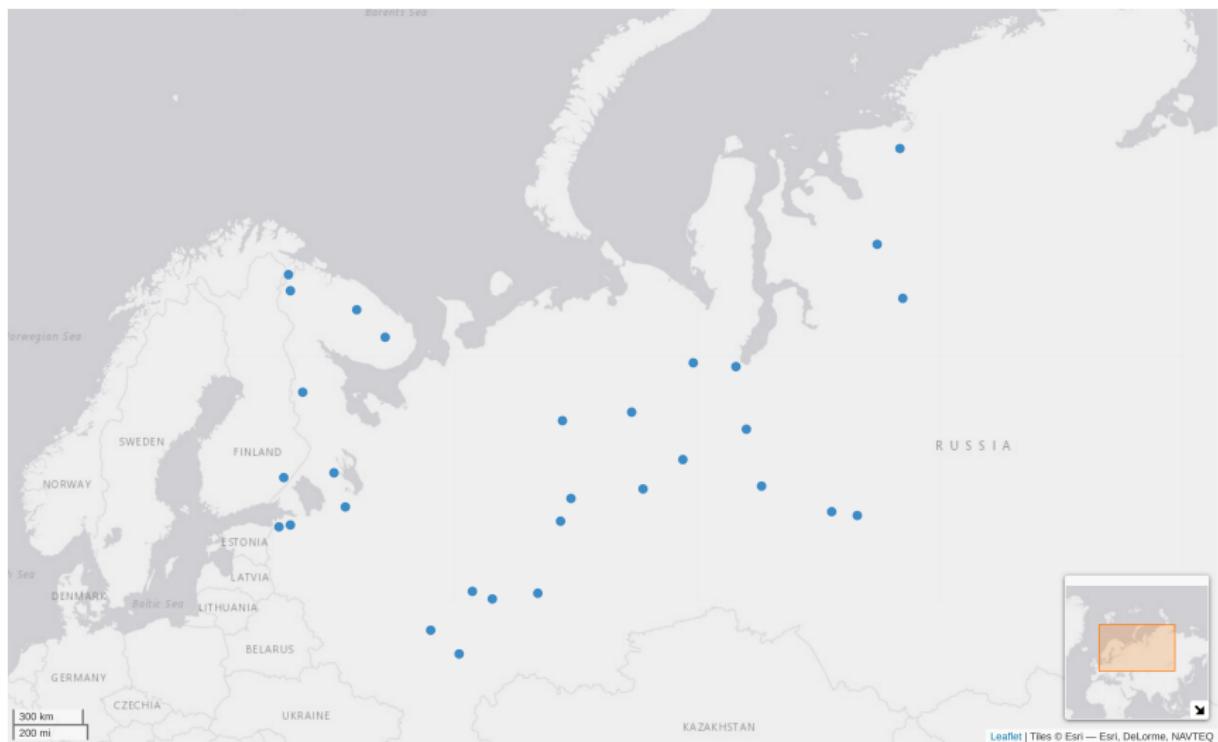
Nakh-Daghestanian



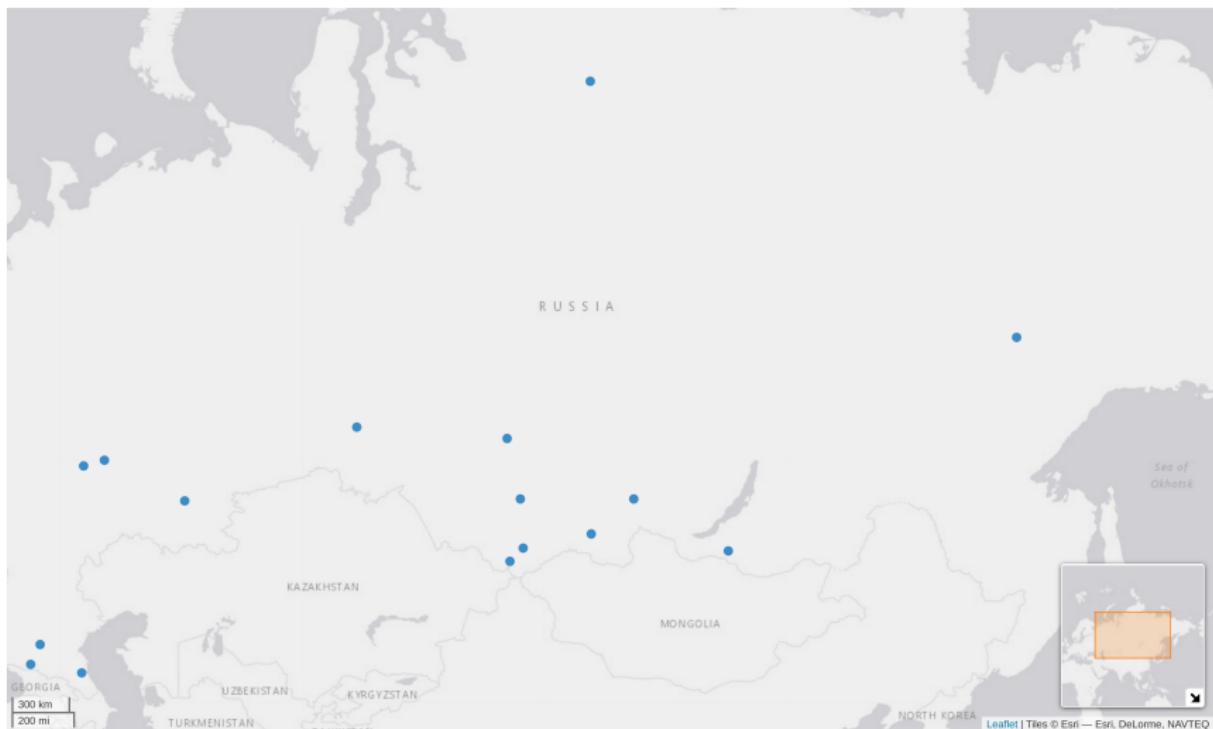
Abkhaz-Adyge



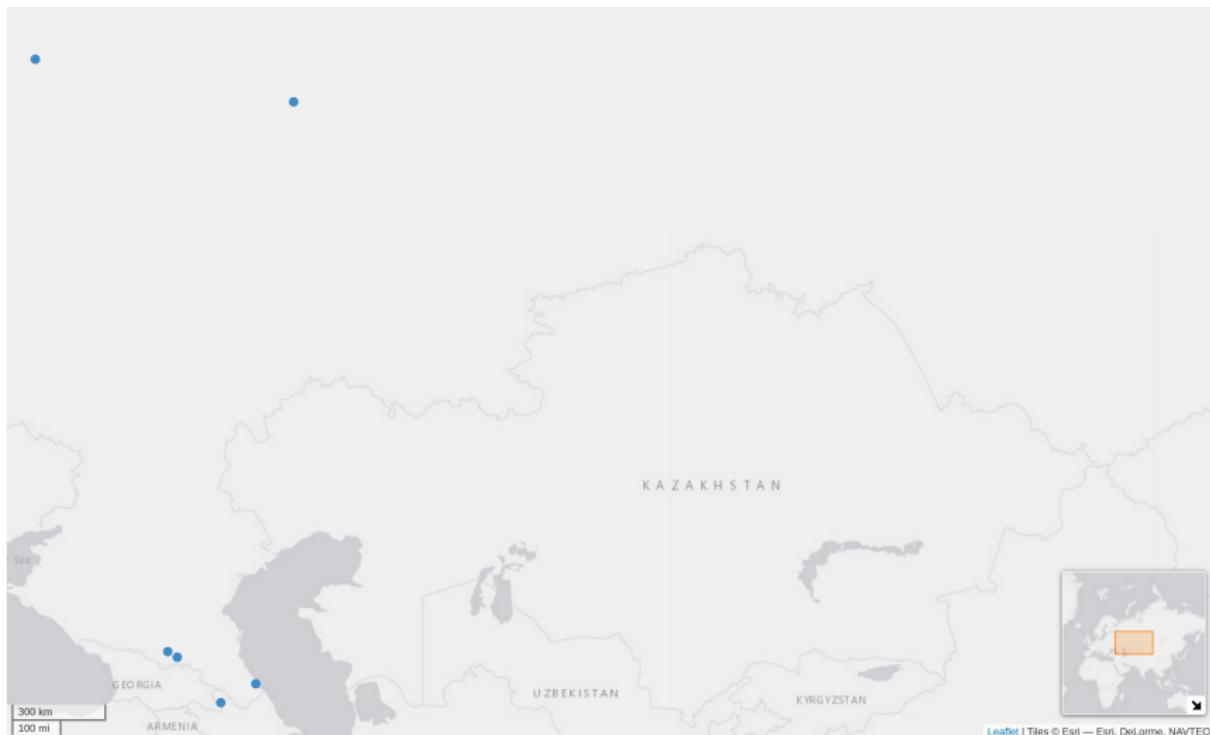
Uralic



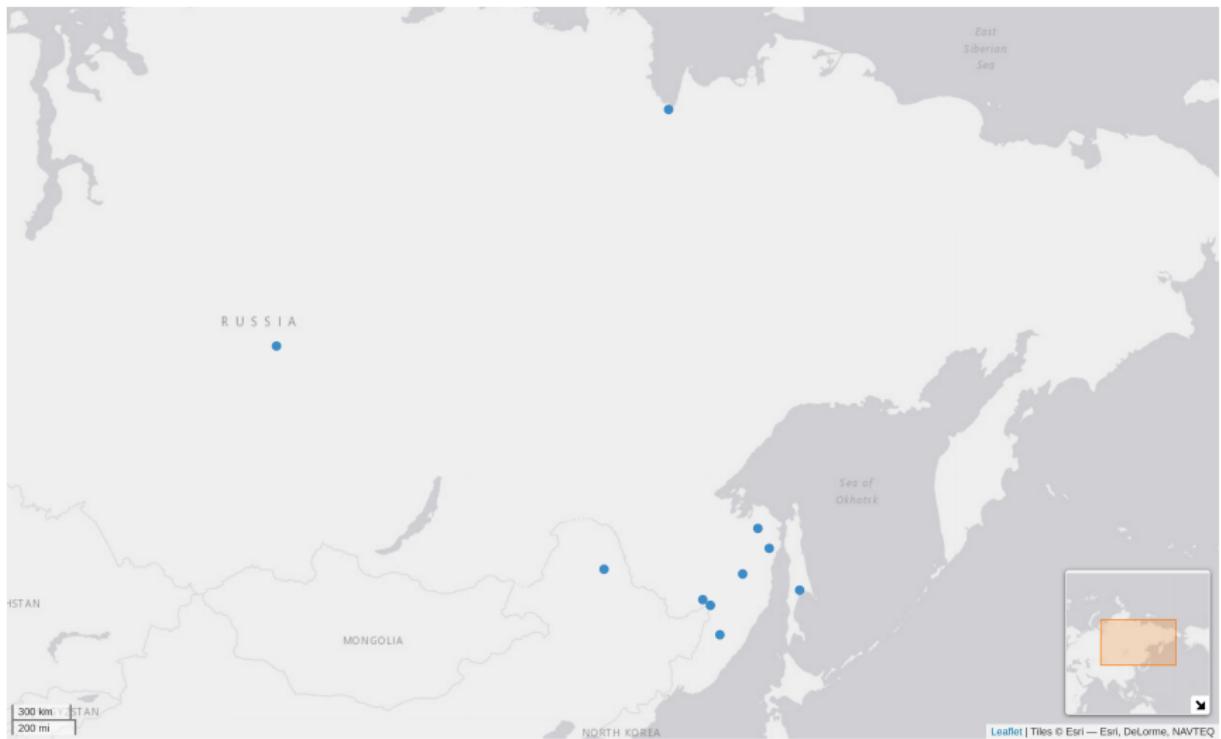
Turkic



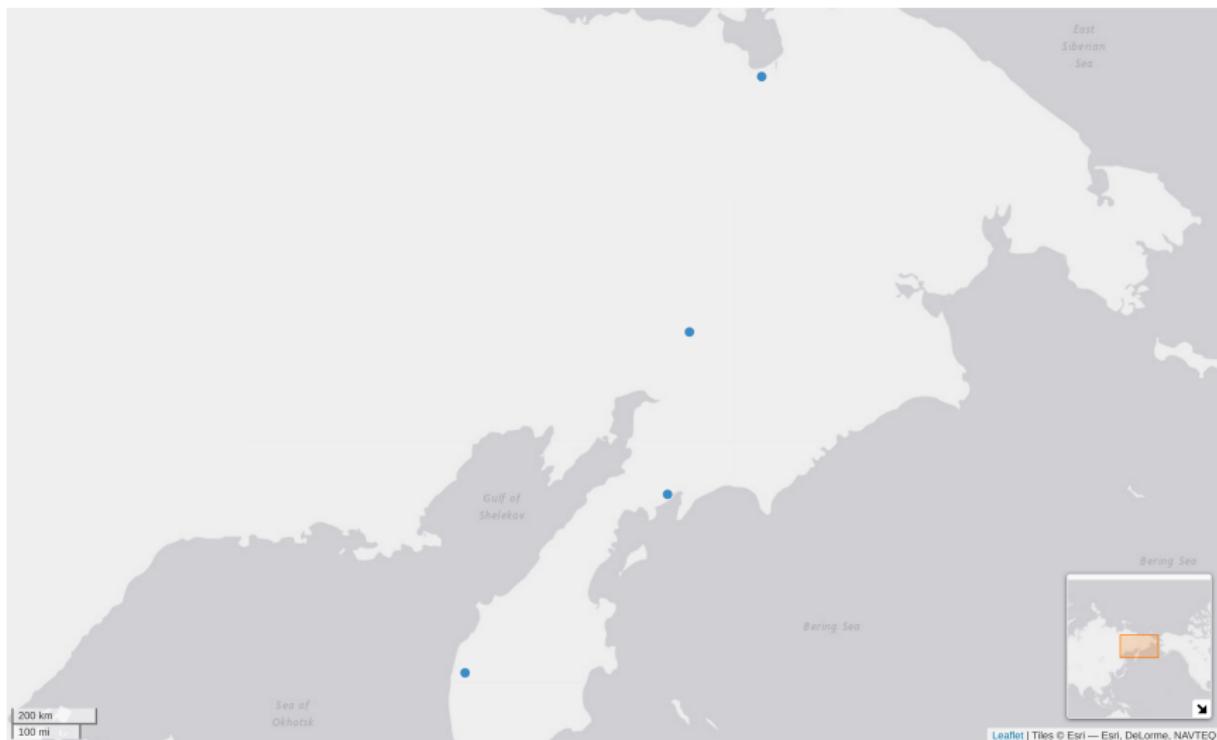
Indo-European



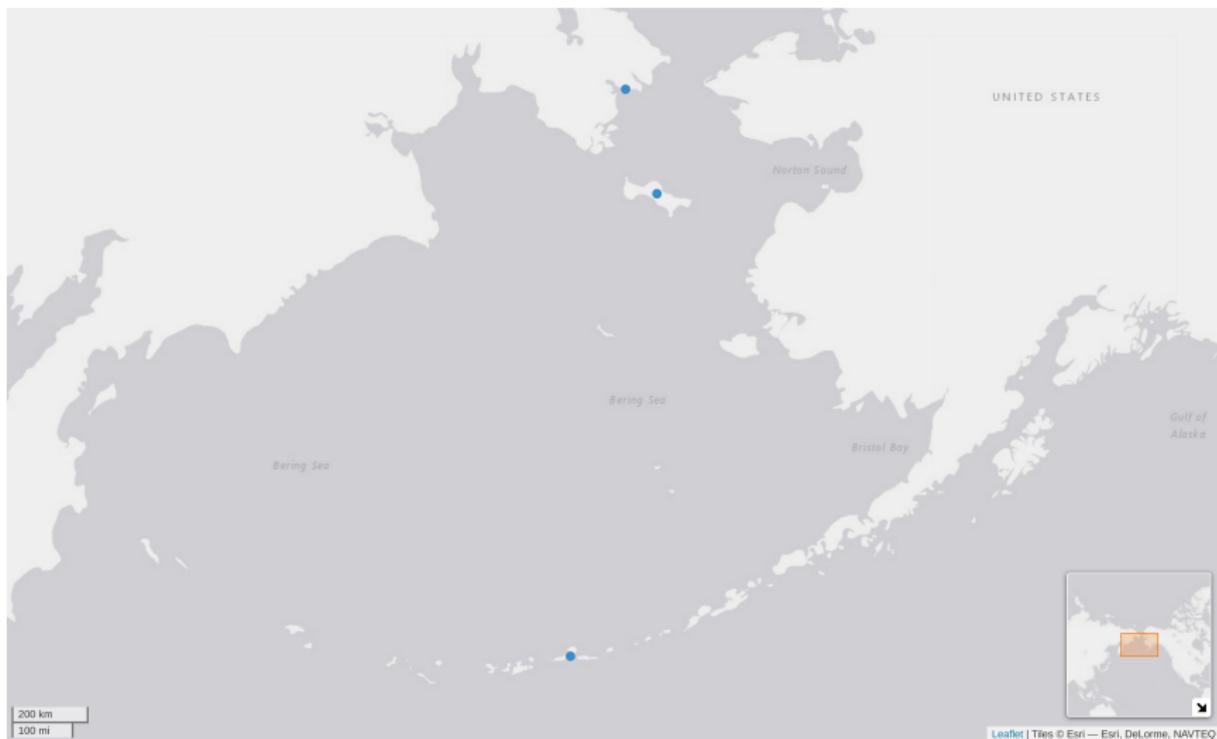
Tungusic



Chukotko-Kamchatkan



Eskimo-Aleut

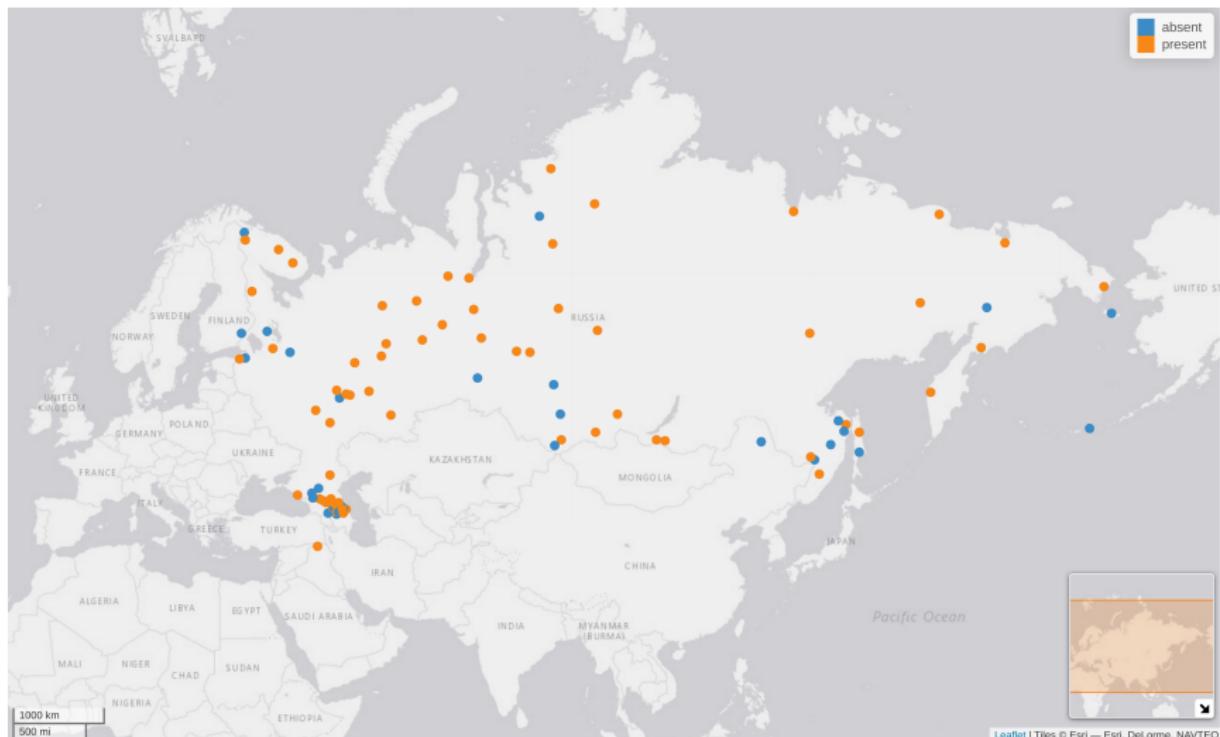


Phonological inventories

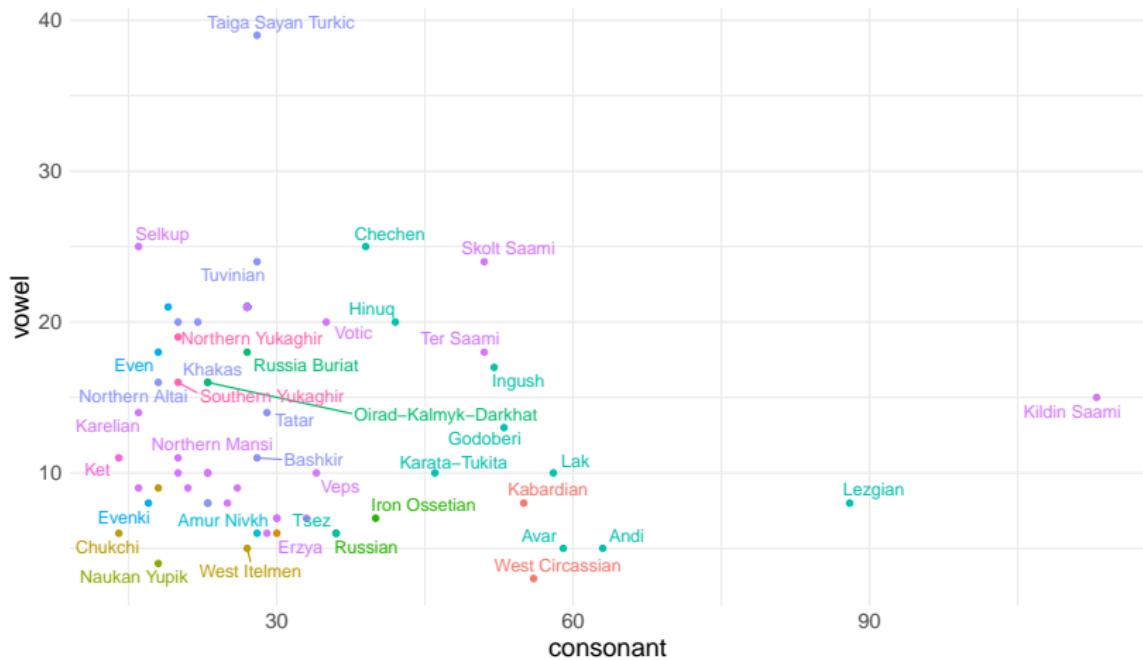
Phonological inventories databases

- PHOIBLE [Moran and McCloy, 2019]
- The Database of Eurasian Phonological Inventories [Nikolaev et al., 2015]

The Database of Eurasian Phonological Inventories (70 out of 70 languages)

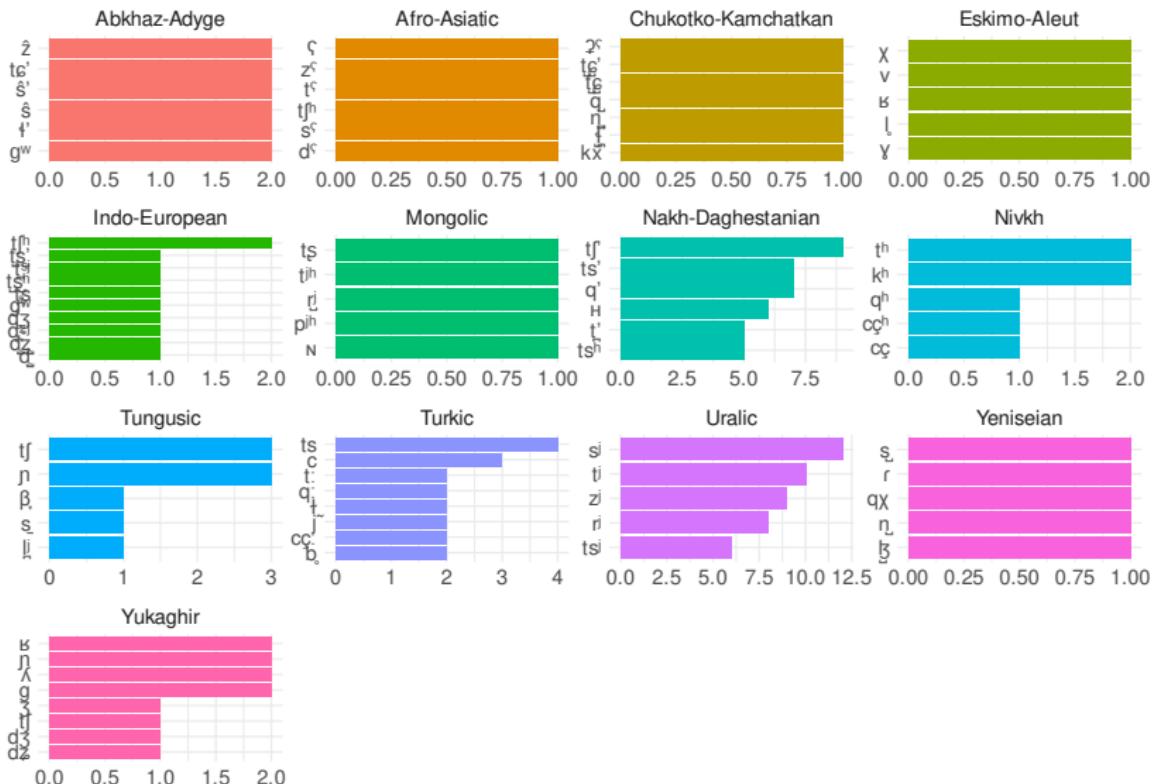


Number of vowel and consonants

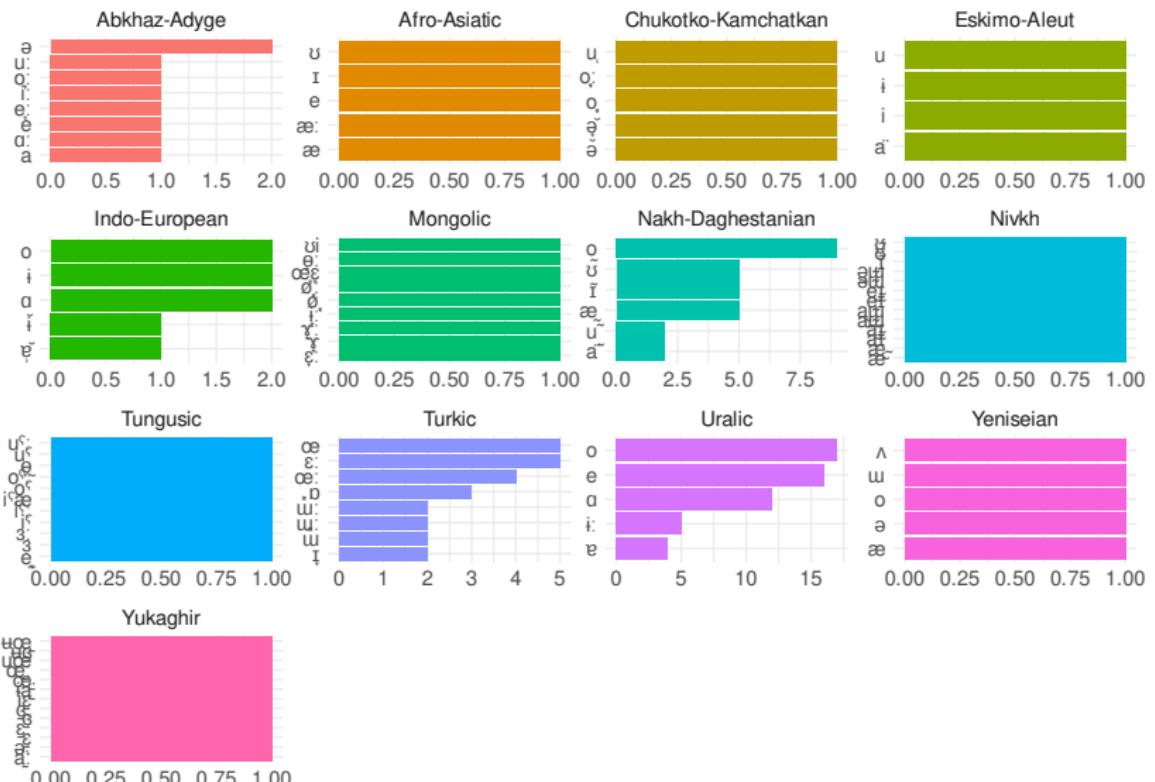


- Abkhaz–Adyge
- Eskimo–Aleut
- Nakh–Daghestanian
- Turkic
- Yukaghir
- Afro-Asiatic
- Indo–European
- Nivkh
- Uralic
- Chukotko–Kamchatkan
- Mongolic
- Tungusic
- Yeniseian

Typical consonants (tf-idf measure)



Typical vowels (tf-idf measure)



References I

H. Hammarström, R. Forkel, M. Haspelmath, and S. Bank. Glottolog 5.0.
<http://glottolog.org>, 2024.

Steven Moran and Daniel McCloy. Phoible 2.0, 2019. URL
<https://phoible.org/>.

Dmitry Nikolaev, Andrey Nikulin, and Anton Kukhto. The database of
eurasian phonological inventories, 2015. URL <https://eurphon.info/>.