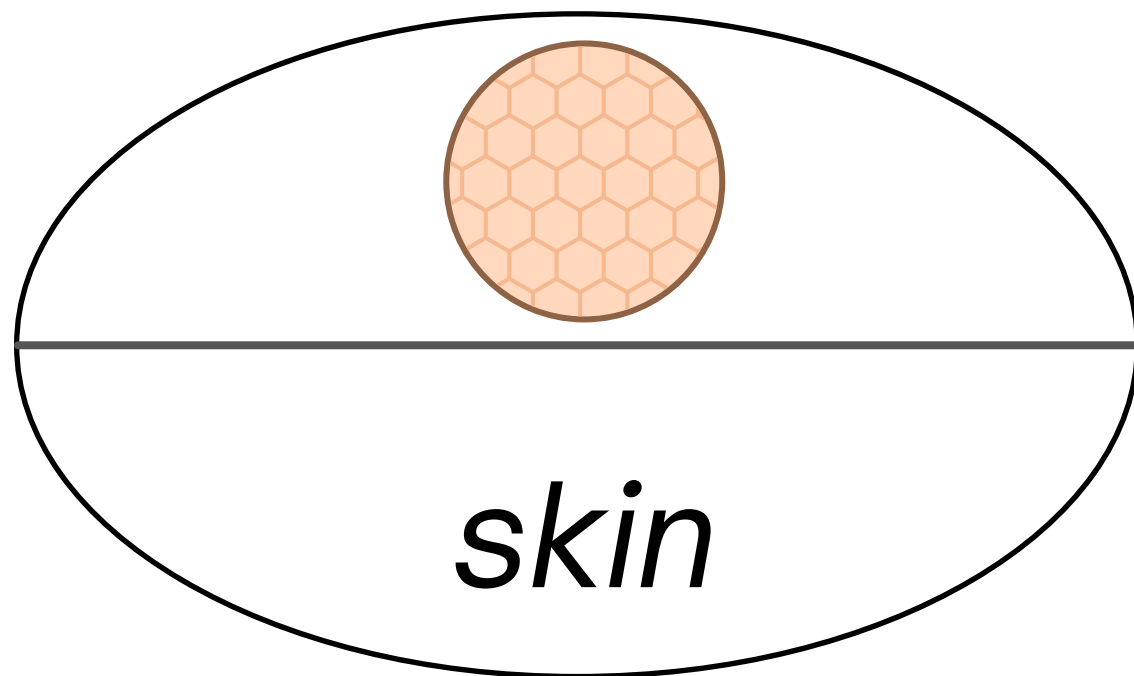


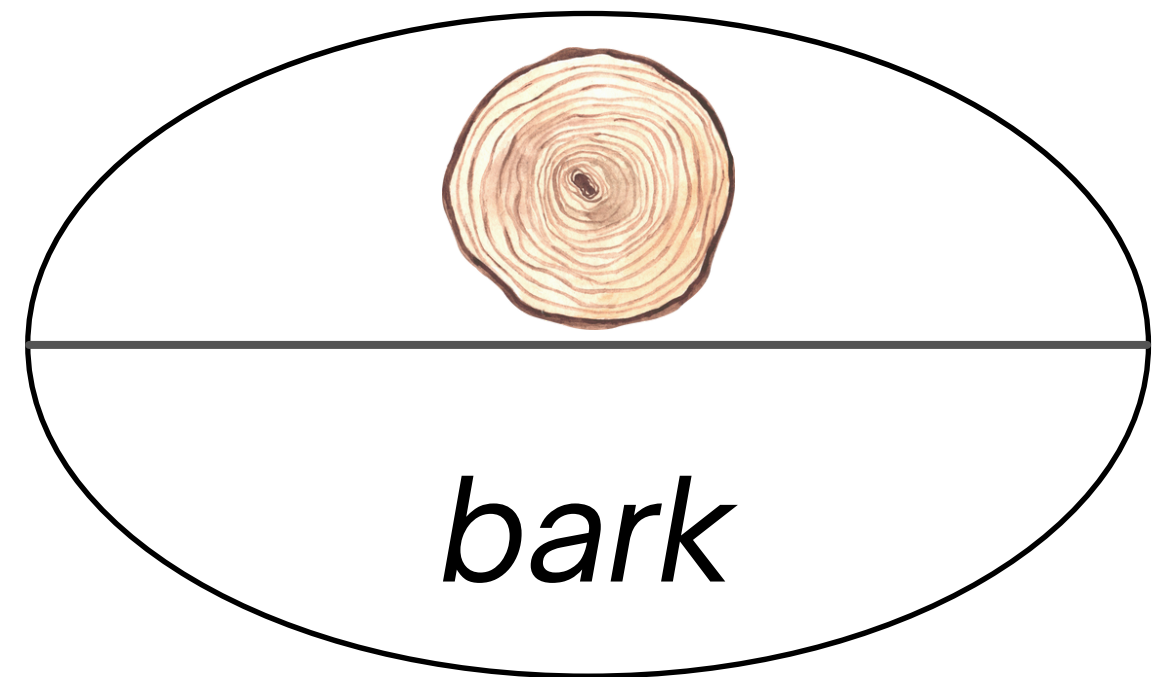
The body as a source for object names: A study of partial colexifications across languages

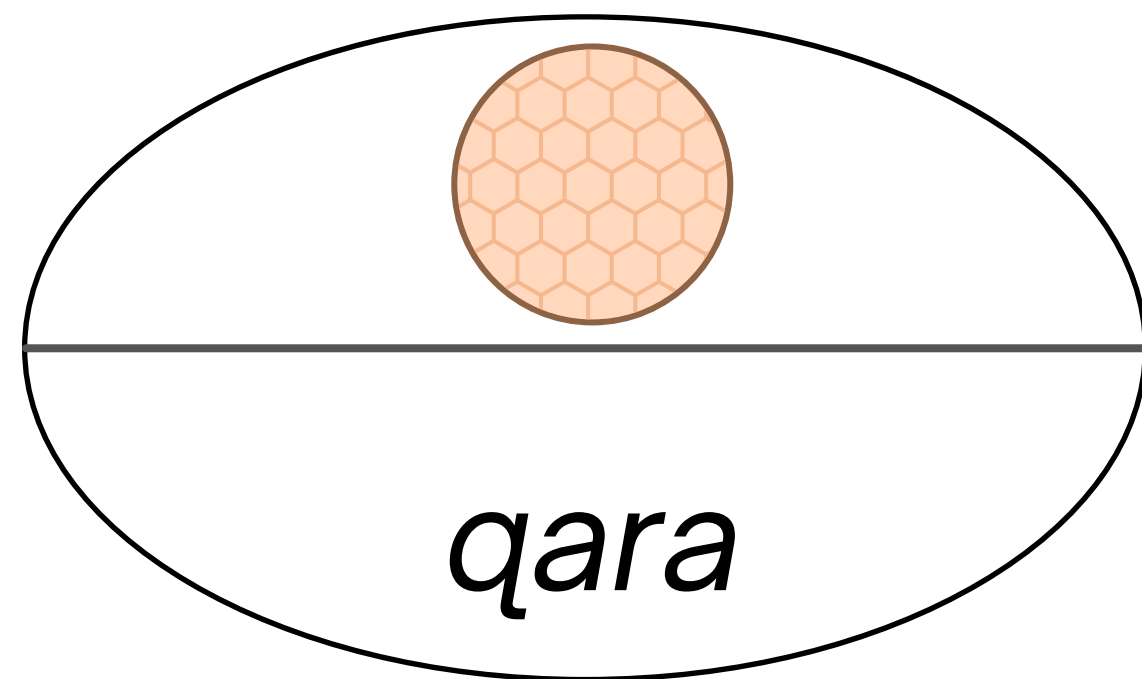
Annika Tjuka and Johann-Mattis List

16th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference

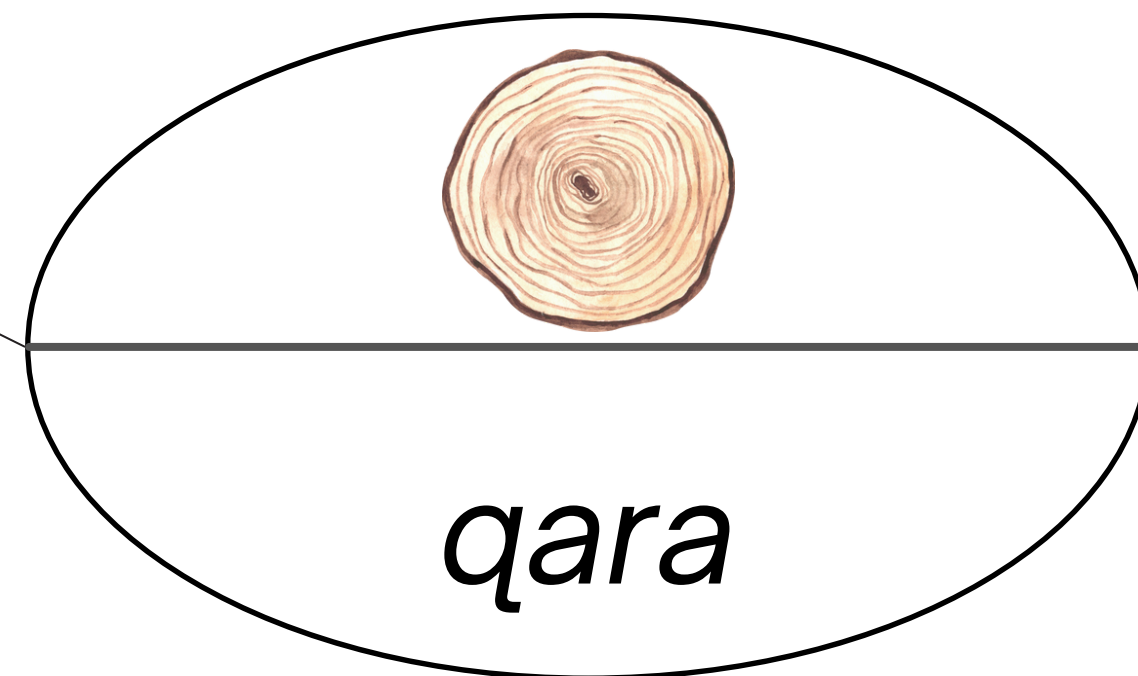


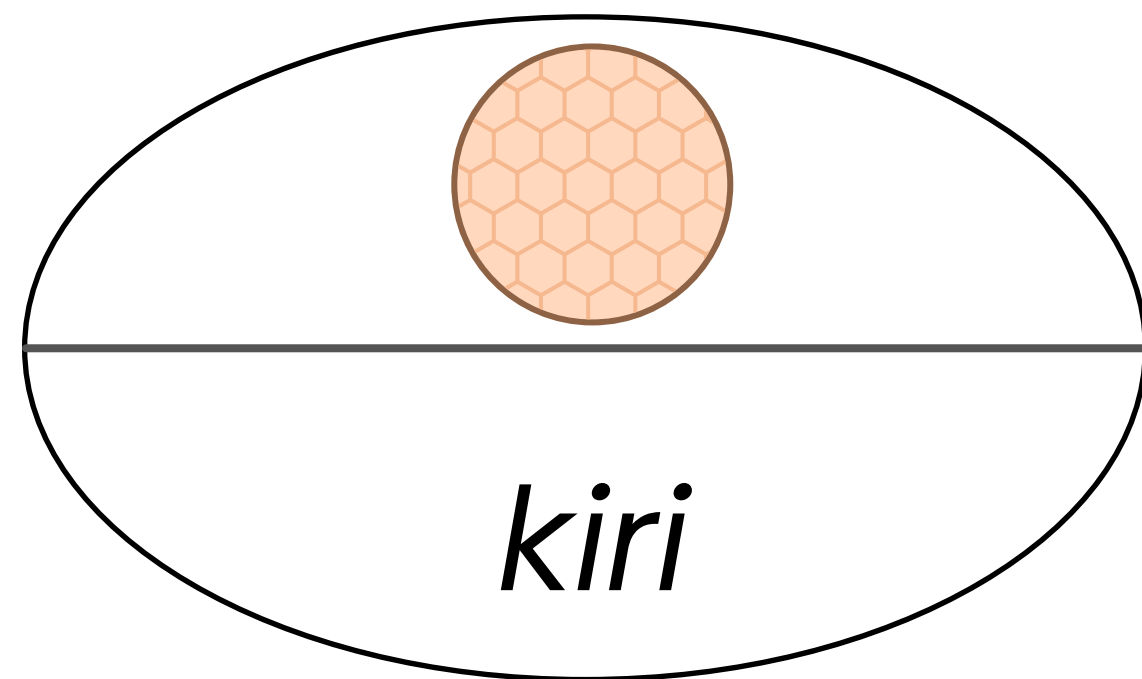
English





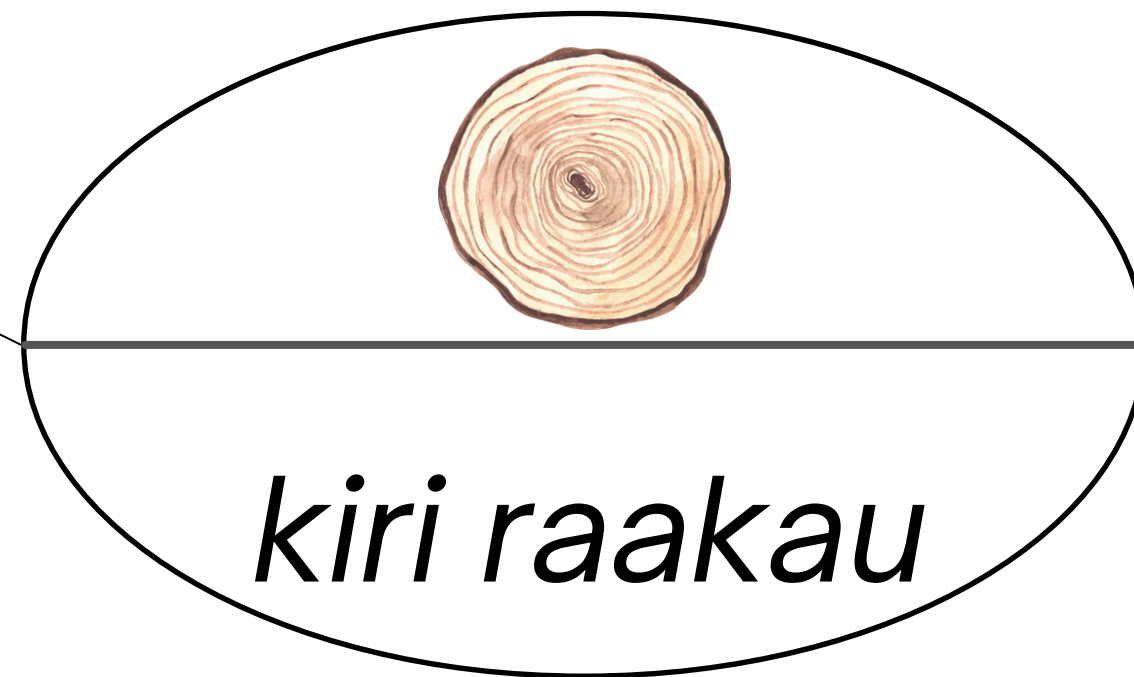
Ancash Quechua





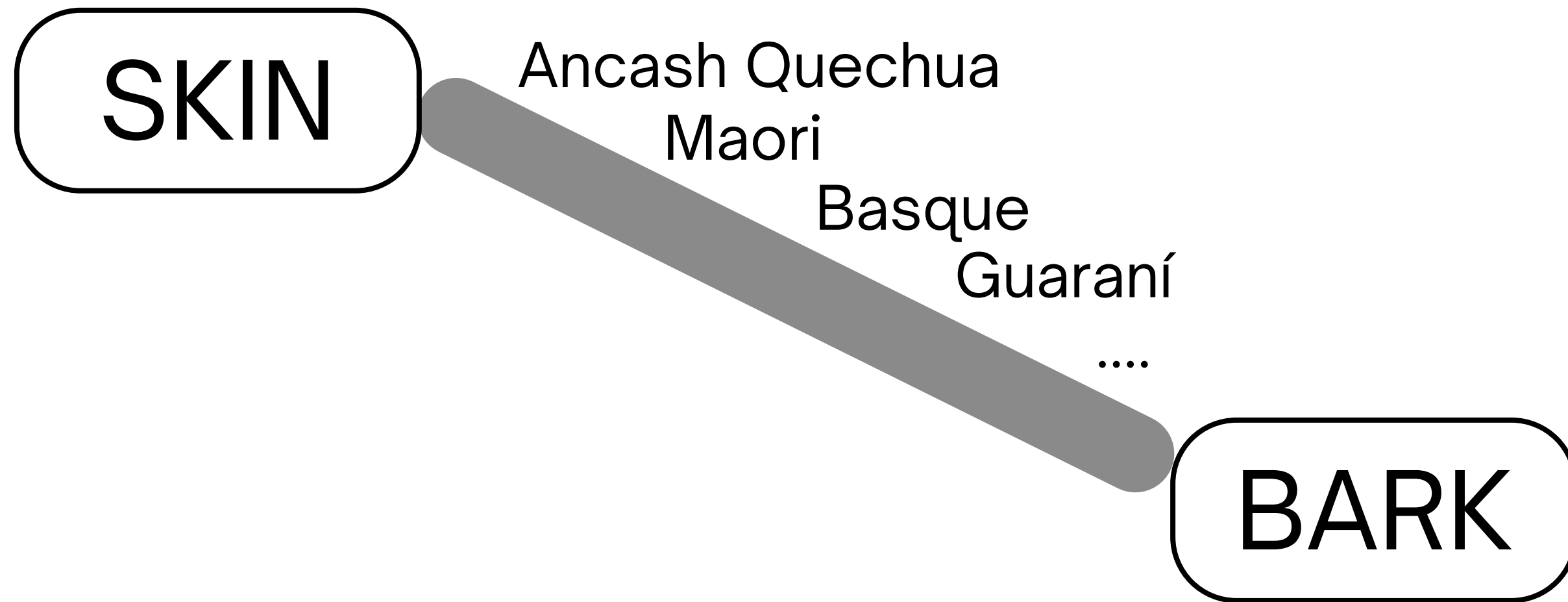
kiri

Maori



kiri raakau

Cross-Linguistic Colexification



Question

How widespread are body-object colexifications across languages and what are the causes for the emerging patterns?

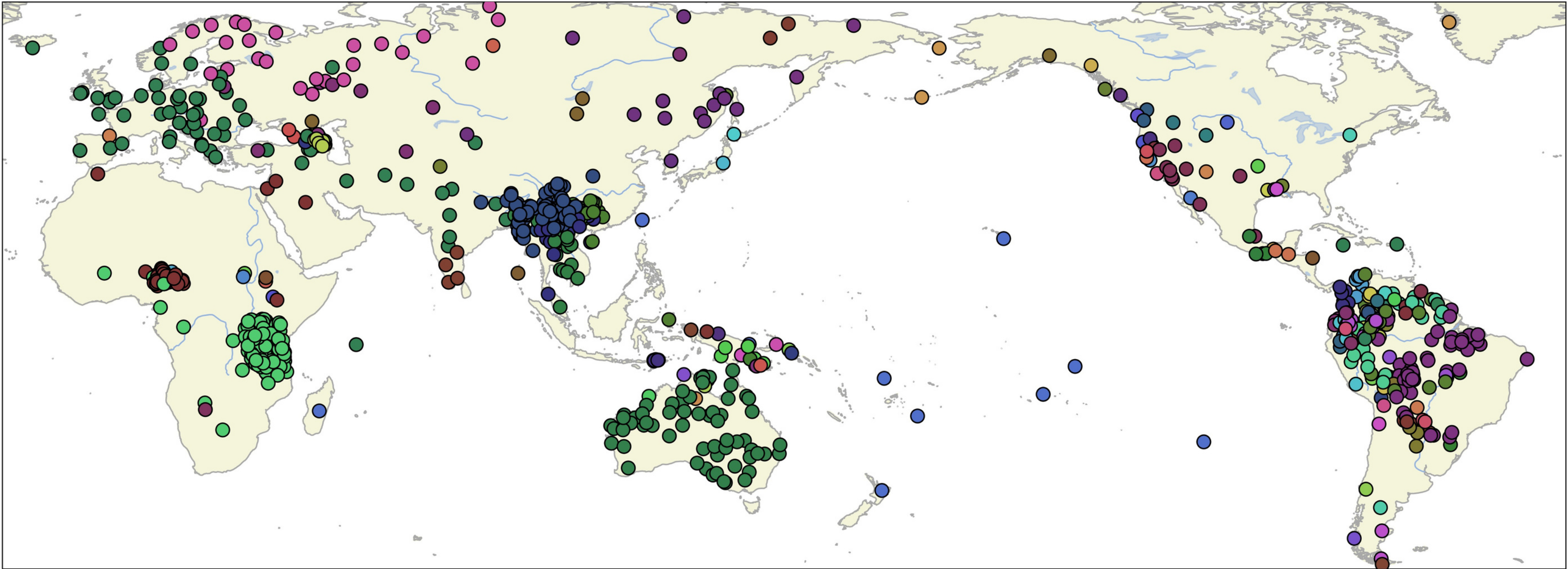
Question

How widespread are body-object colexifications across languages
and what are the causes for the emerging patterns?

Aim

1. systematically investigate shared names between body parts and objects across languages
2. first large-scale study that examines the patterns and causes of full colexification between body and object concepts
3. complementing the analysis with partial colexifications

Method & Material



Language distribution

Workflow

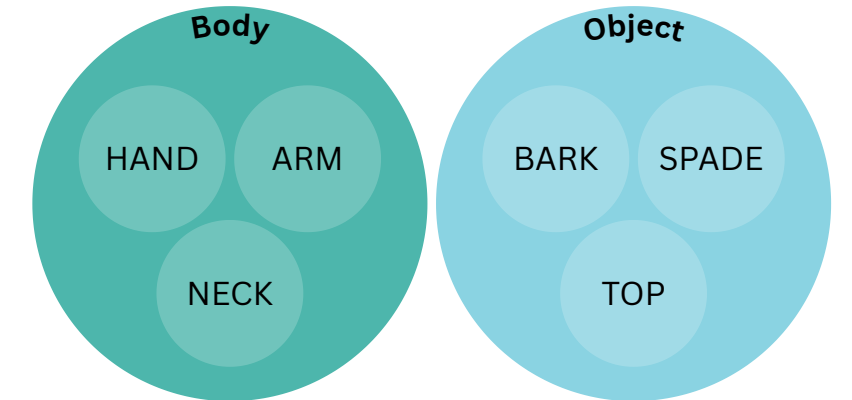
1

Map concept lists to
Concepticon



2

Select target
concepts



3

Select Lexibank
datasets

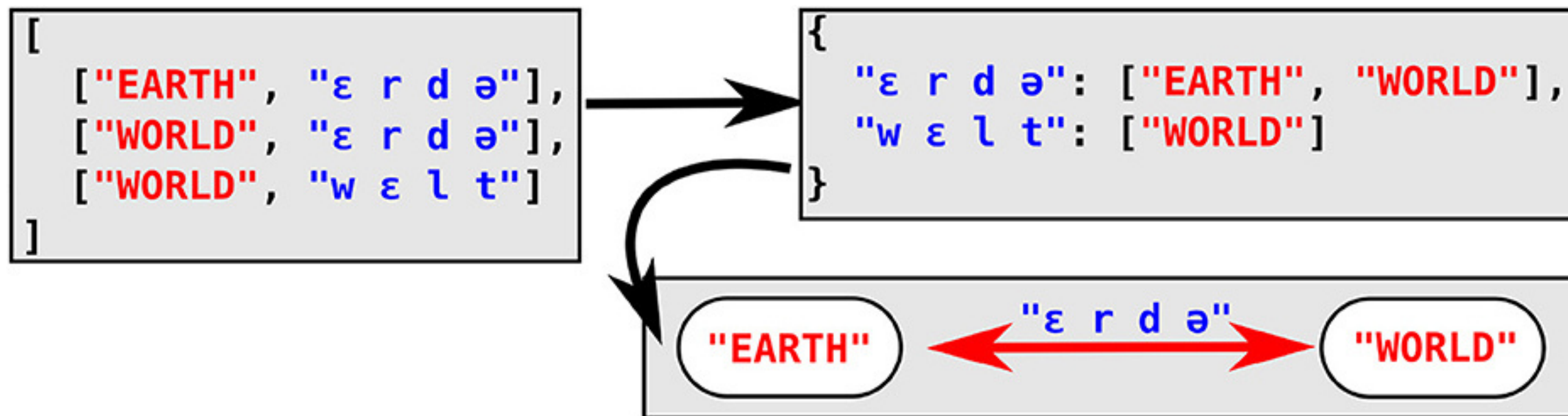
Abraham et al. (2018)
Allen (2007)
Greenhill and Gray (2015)
Běijīng Dàxué (1964)
Bodt and List (2019)
...

4

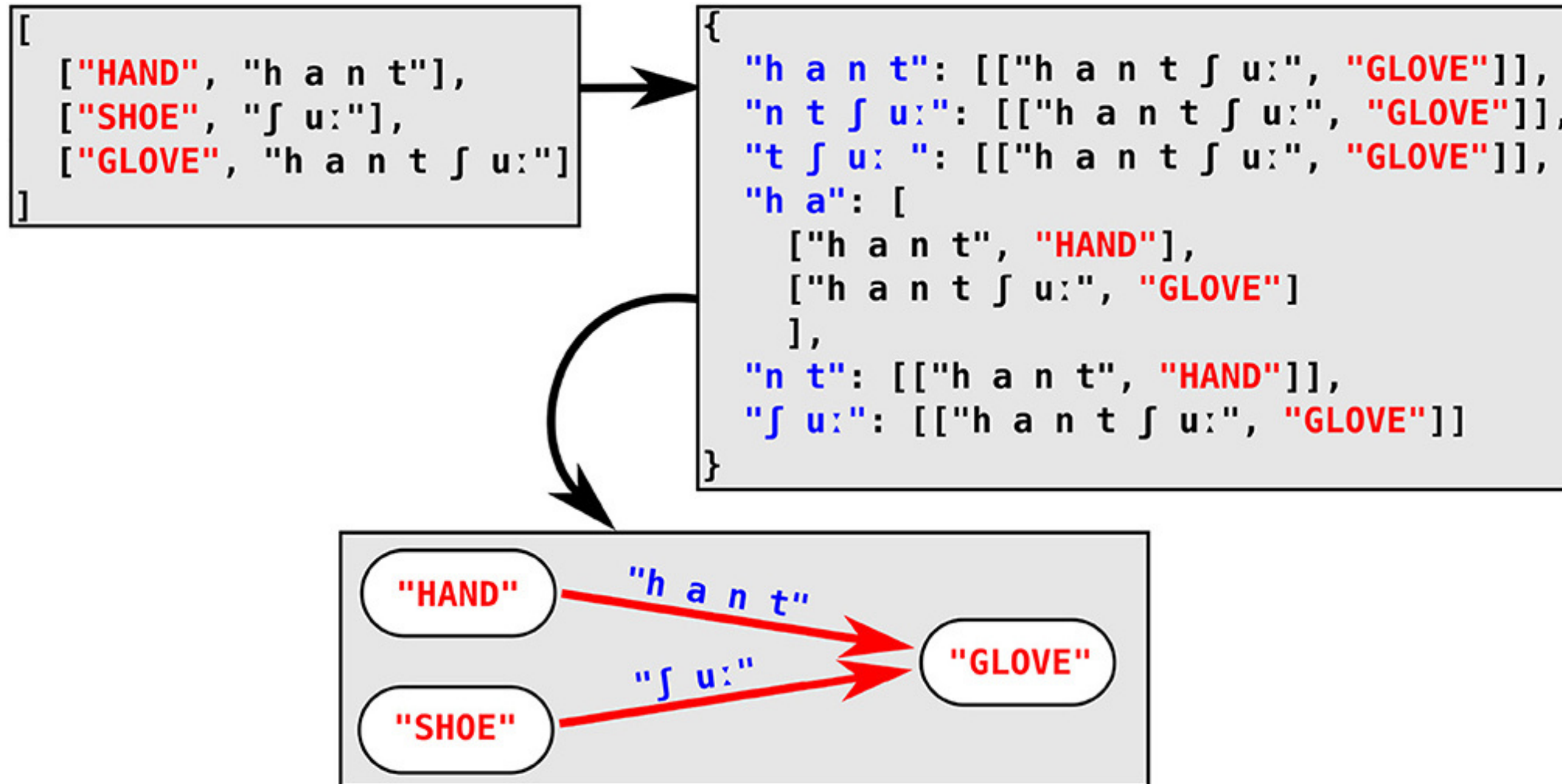
Compute full and
partial colexifications



Finding full colexifications



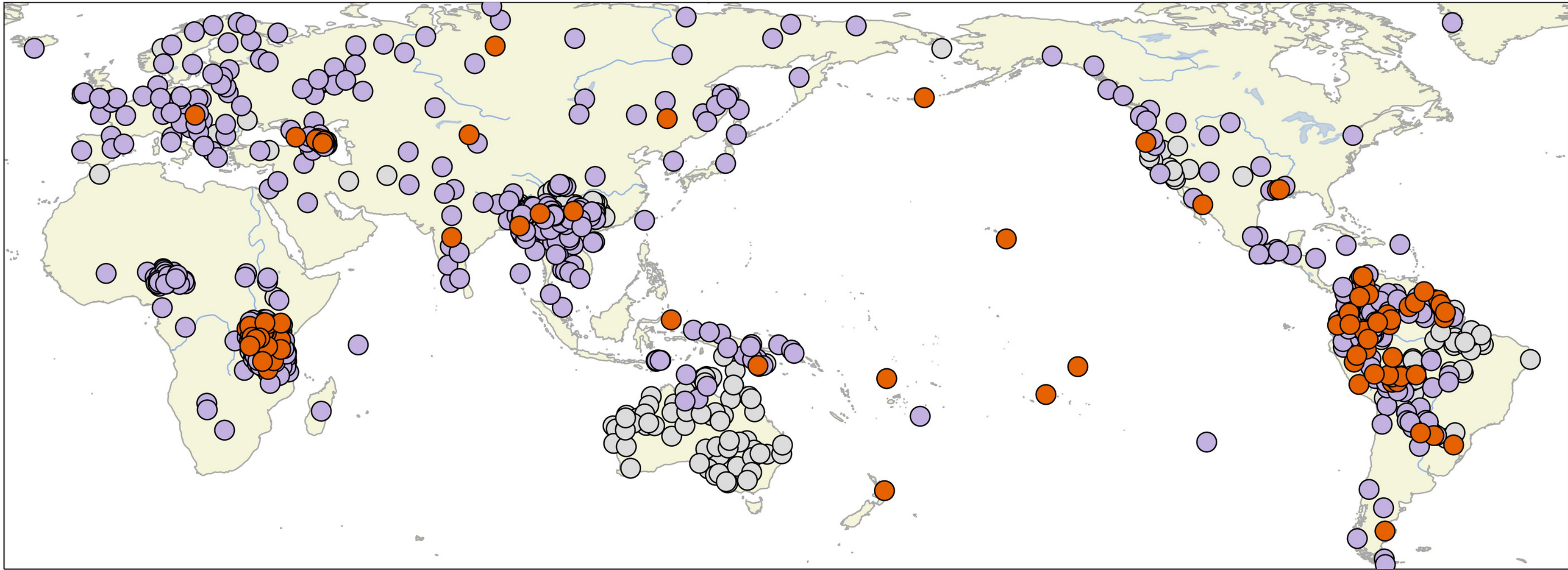
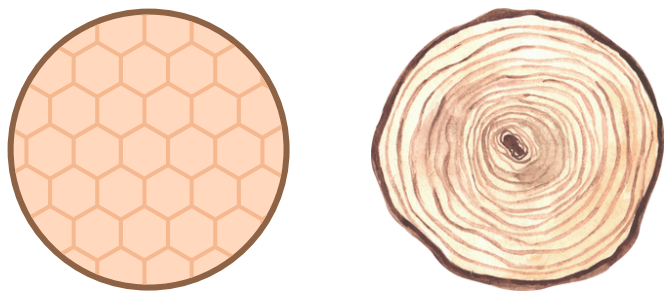
Finding partial colexifications



Results

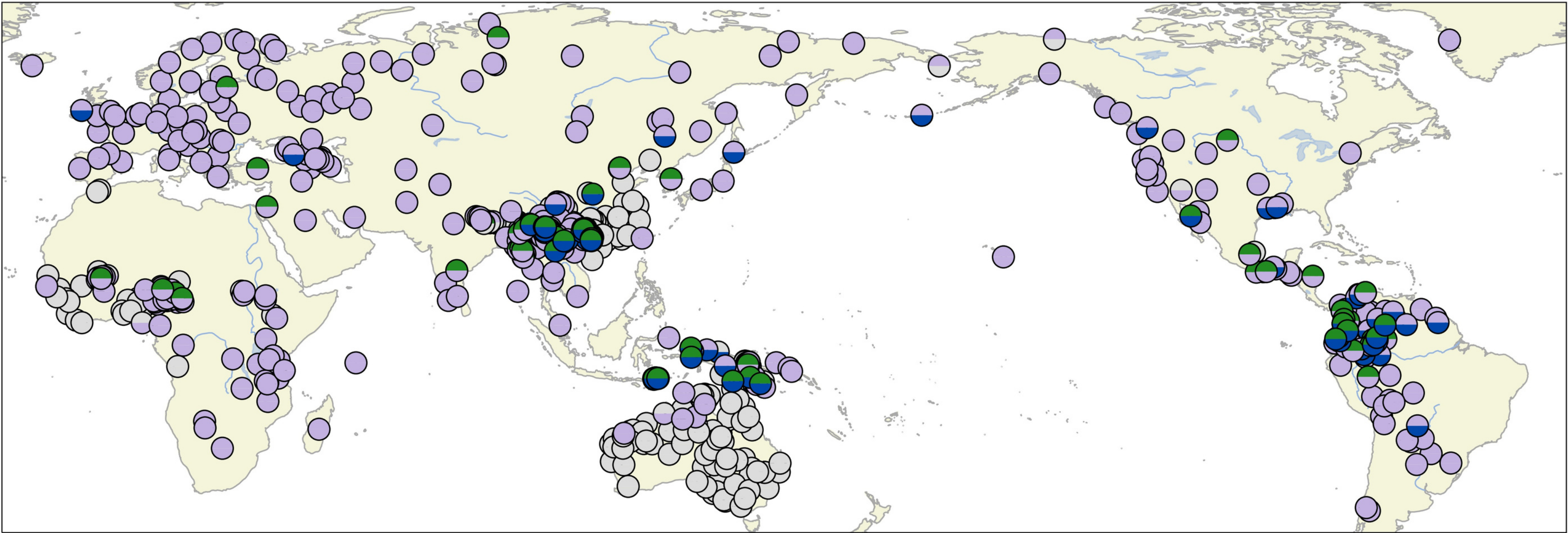
Full body-object colexifications

- 78 body-object colexification across 396 language varieties were analysed.
- The three most widespread body-object colexifications were:
 - SKIN-LEATHER in 160 language varieties
 - SKIN-BARK in 90 language varieties
 - TESTICLES-EGG in 31 language varieties
- Most body-object colexifications are language-specific.

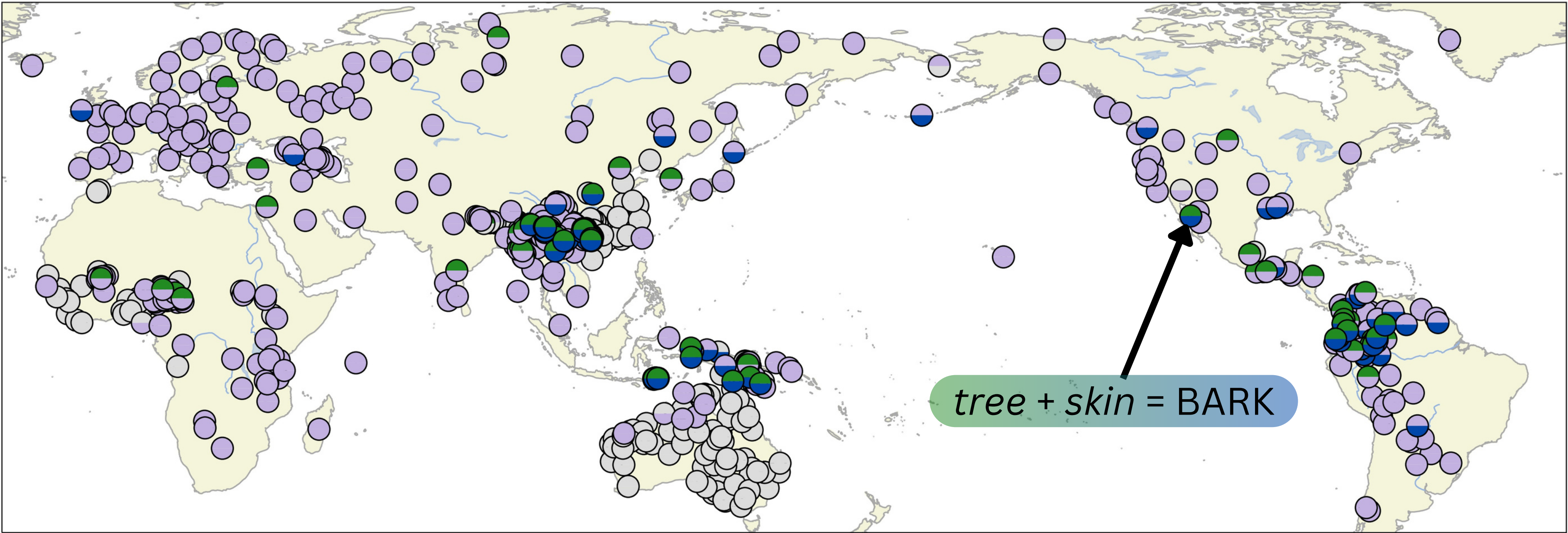


● full colexification SKIN-BARK ● partial/dislexification ● not available

(Tjuka 2023, in revision)



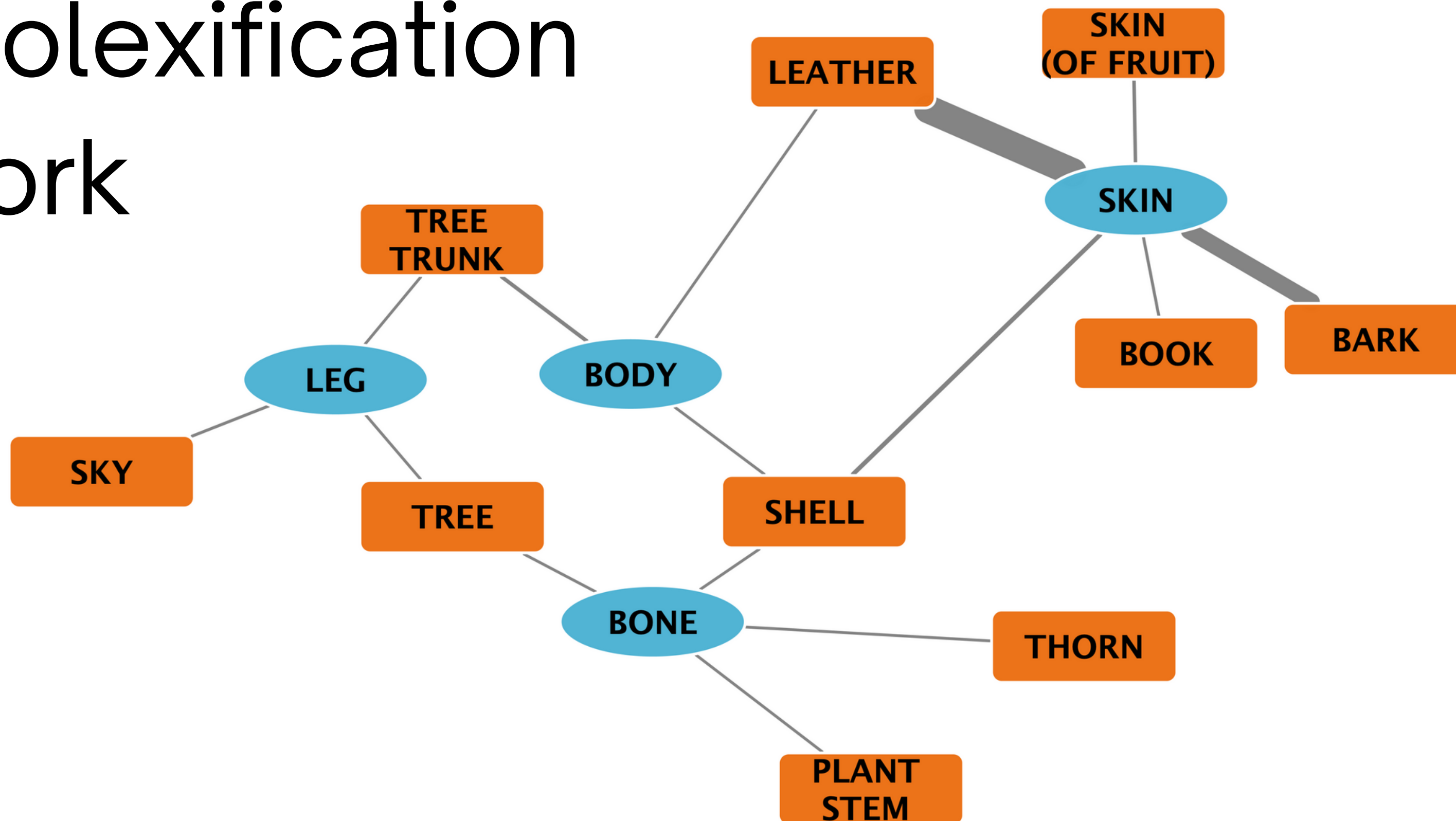
 partial colexification TREE in BARK  partial colexification SKIN in BARK  full/dislexification  not available
(List et al. 2022, Lexibank)



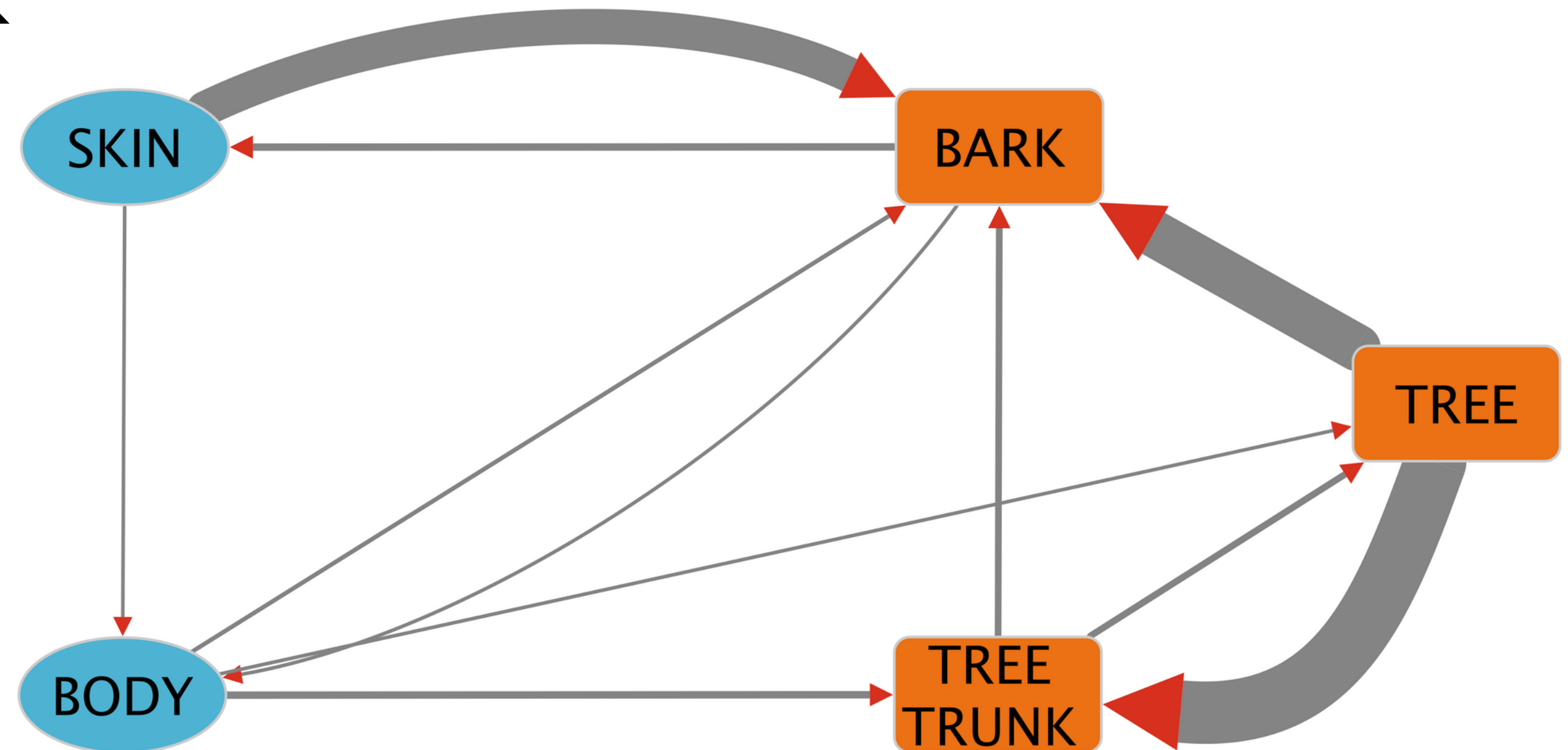
 partial colexification TREE in BARK  partial colexification SKIN in BARK  full/dislexification  not available

(List et al. 2022, Lexibank)

Full colexification network



Partial colexification network



Summary

Summary

- Most body-object colexifications are language-specific and only a few occur in widespread patterns.
- Networks with full body-object colexifications are sparse and do not show all possible relations between body and object concept.
- The creation of directed networks is facilitated by the newly developed method in List (2023).