

MULTILINGUALISM:
Empowering Individuals
Transforming Societies

MULTILINGUALISM: EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS, TRANSFORMING SOCIETIES

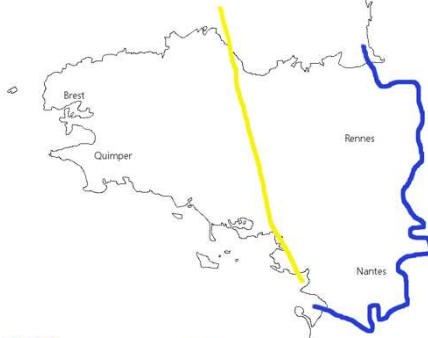
Investigating the “new speaker” stereotype: Lexical variation in the Breton media

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Breton



- Around 200000 speakers (Broudic, 2013:10)
- Academic literature divides them into *new speakers* and *traditional speakers*




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New versus traditional speakers

New speakers	Traditional speakers
Younger, middle-class, mobile, and well-educated	Older, working-class, usually farmers
Located in larger towns and cities	Located in rural hamlets
Live all over Brittany	Restricted to western Brittany
Acquire Breton as a second language	Acquire Breton through intergenerational transmission
Acquire Breton in formal education	
Use Breton as much as possible	Restrict use of Breton to intimate settings
Militant promotion of Breton	Speak Breton only because of linguistic ability
Literate in Breton	Inability to read and write Breton
Proud of Breton identity	No strong sense of Breton identity
Use “standardised” Breton	Use dialectal Breton
French-influenced linguistic structure	Linguistic structure not influenced by French
Celtic-derived lexicon	French-influenced lexicon

(See e.g. Jones, 1995; Hornsby, 2005; Timm, 2001; German, 2007)




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The lexicon of Breton

- Identified as prominent feature of new versus traditional speaker distinction

French	TB	NB
<i>promenade</i> ‘walk’	pourmenadenn	baleadenn
<i>raison</i> ‘reason’	rezen	abeg
<i>boulangerie</i> ‘bakery’	boulangerezh	baraerezh

adapted from Timm, 2001:456



Research aims

- Language associated with new speakers
 - In the media
- Three domains of media language
 - Magazines
 - Radio broadcasts
 - Facebook group posts
- Focusing on lexicon

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Divisions of the corpus

Radio		Magazines	Facebook
Public (state) station	Associative (independent) stations	Bremañ	Facebook e brezhoneg (99 "speakers" in sample)
		Brud Nevez	
News bulletins	Longer programmes	Ya!	



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<p>Petra e oa <w lemma="batailhonoù ar yaouankiz">#brand #bit #noun> Batailhonoù ar Yaouankiz </w> ? Aozet e-vezent dreist-holl gant <w lemma="rezistant">#ana="#Hga #orthchange #noun #new #termo #finlbr #frifal"> rezistanted </w> yaouank-Ilamm: Koshaf <w lemma="ezel">#ana="#stb #bit #semexp #old #noun #slegon #mhy #b21 #termo #hemon64"> ezel </w> ar strollad a oa 26 vloaz hepen: <w lemma="tro-dio">#ana="#bit #bric #adv #old #mhy #termo #antitermo #sb21"> Tro-dio </w> da 20 vloaz e oa ar re all. Ar rak ar brezel o doa kalz anezhe kemeret peizh ur wech bennak en <w lemma="aozadur">#ana="#stb #bit #bric #noun #early #semexp #termo #b21 #finlbr #mhy #shemon"> aozadurioù </w> <w lemma="politikel">#ana="#ga #frifal #adj #early #mhy #termo #orthchange #hemon64"> politikel </w> tost d'an <w lemma="ideologiezh">#ana="#ga #inter #new #noun #frifal #orthsame #termo"> ideologiezh </w> <w lemma="komunour">#ana="#adj #ga #frifal #early #orthchange #mhy #termo"> komunour </w> met ne oant ket <w lemma="ezel">#ana="#stb #bit #semexp #old #noun #slegon #mhy #b21 #termo #hemon64"> ezel </w> eus ar <w lemma="strollad komunour gall">#ana="#noun #brand #bit #expl"> Strollad komunour gall </w> <w lemma="pcl">#ana="#brand #ga #init #noun"> PCF </w> evit kement-se war a lare Gilbert Brustlein: unan anezhe: Pa darzhas ar brezel e-vee kalz anezhe o nac'h ar <w lemma="laezhidigezh">#ana="#noun #old #bit #bric #termo #sb21 #hemon64"> laezhidigezh </w> hag a gemeras peizh er <w lemma="rezistafis">#ana="#tb #ga #noun #new #orthchange #termo #sb21 #frifal"> Rezistafis </w> o <w lemma="kregin">#ana="#tb #bit #verb #old #mhy #scath #termo #b21 #hemon64"> kregin </w>: D'ar choulz-se e oa <w lemma="kammed">#ana="#tb #noun #bit #old #bric #finlbr #mhy #cath #slegon #termo #sb21 #hemon64"> kammedoù </w> kentañ ar <w lemma="rezistafis">#ana="#tb #ga #noun #new #orthchange #termo #sb21 #frifal"> Rezistafis </w> hag a oa dreist-holl un aler <w lemma="propaganda">#ana="#engl #noun #early #orthsame #termo"> propaganda </w>: <w lemma="titouriñ">#ana="#bit #early #verb #mhy #bric #titouriñ </w>: techout pe <w lemma="tarverezh">#ana="#noun #bit #bric #old #termo"> tarverezh </w> <w lemma="hiniennel">#ana="#adj #old #bit #bric #termo #b21 #hemon64"> hiniennel </w>: Ne oa na <w lemma="peuraozafi">#ana="#verb #old #bit #bric #finlbr"> peuraozet </w> nag unanet choazh. D'an 22 a viz Mezheven 1941, gant <w lemma="aloubadeg">#ana="#noun #bit #bric #old #mhy #termo #b21 #shemon"> aloubadeg </w> ar <w lemma="urss">#ana="#kerk #ga #noun #init"> URSS </w> a-vee divizet gant pennoù bras ar <w lemma="pcl">#ana="#brand #ga #init #noun"> PCF </w> mont e-barzh ar <w lemma="jeu">#ana="#tb #ga #noun #old #orthsame #mhy #antitermo #sb21 #hemon64"> jeu </w> en un doare ofisiel. Diwar neuze e c'houlennas ar <w lemma="urss">#ana="#kerk #ga #noun #init"> URSS </w> digant ar <w lemma="komunour">#ana="#noun #ga #frifal #early #orthchange #mhy #termo #mut #finlbr"> gomunourien </w> a <w lemma="peplech">#ana="#bit #mwebit #adv #old #mut"> bep lech </w> sailhañ war an <w lemma="propaganda">#ana="#engl #noun #early #ga #orthchange #mhy #termo #hemon64"> Alamanned </w>. Ar <w lemma="strollad komunour">#ana="#bit #brand #noun"> Strollad komunour </w> kuzh a zivizas tuta e-touez e stourmerien yaouank: kentoc'h gant ar re o doa prenet skiant er <w lemma="propaganda">#ana="#engl #noun #early #ga #orthchange #mhy #termo #hemon64"> brigadennoù etrebroadel </w> a oa <w lemma="estrailjour">#ana="#tb #noun #ga #orthchange #old #finlbr #frifal #mhy #antitermo #hemon64"> deuet eus broioù aloubet gant an <w lemma="nazi">#ana="#noun #new #ga #inter #orthsame #termo #finlbr #hemon64"> nazied </w> </p>
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<head>AR RE GENTAÑ ER STOURM ARMET</head>

Potential characteristics of new/trad lexicon

New?	In the middle?	Traditional?
Words with Celtic roots (usually Breton, sometimes Welsh)	Words used in multiple world languages	Words borrowed from French
New coinages	Semantic expansion of existing vocabulary	Borrowings
Borrowed elements kept apart in compounding and affixation	Borrowed elements morphologically combine with native elements	
Borrowed elements keep original inflection	Borrowed elements inflect and mutate as Breton words	
Borrowed elements keep original spelling and pronunciation	Borrowed elements are phonetically and/or orthographically adapted	
Found more commonly in new dictionaries	Found more commonly in pre-1900 dictionaries/not in new dictionaries	
Found in official terminology databases	Not considered part of official vocabulary	
Non-dialectal		Dialectal

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Findings: Radio

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- Least conformant to “néo-Breton” stereotype due to medium and register
- Slightly higher dialect presence on associative than public programmes
- Otherwise, not much difference among different types of programmes: observed variation probably due to different subject matters
- Employees use a more stereotypically “néo-Breton” variety than guests do



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Findings: Facebook

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- Middle position in terms of register, reflected by overall moderate conformance to “néo-Breton”
- Some extremely purist vocabulary and spelling
- Some extremely dialectal posts
- Lots of metalinguistic discourse
- Ludic use of language and translanguaging



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Findings: Print

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- Overall, most conformant to stereotypical “néo-Breton”, befitting higher register
- However, *Brud Nevez* is noticeably different
- *Bremañ* and *Ya!* both fit with “néo-Breton”, but in different ways
 - *Bremañ* is more “classical”, using coinages and keeping borrowings separate
 - *Ya!* uses more international borrowings and is more tolerant of dialectal uses



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Next steps

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- Continue more in-depth analysis, pinpointing individual words of interest
- Talk to some real people
- Tie it all together ...



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References

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