



THESIS SEMINAR MEETING

Philip Georgis
June 28, 2021

TASKS FROM LAST TIME



URALIC (URALEX 2.0) DATASET

- Short story: fully preprocessed, standardized to CLDF, and gold cognate sets extracted 😊

1	Gloss	Erzya	Estonian	Finnish	Hungarian	Ingrian	Karelian	Khanty	Kildin Saami	Komi-Permyak	Komi-Zyrian	Livonian	Mansi	Meadow Mari	Nganasan	North Saami	Selkup	Skolt Saami	South Saami	Tundra Nenets	Udmurt	Veps	Votic
332	BLACK_1							payta															
333	BLACK_2								tʃa:hpe							tʃa:hp:es		tʃop:ed	tʃe:hpes				
334	BLACK_3																			parlid'e:na			
335	BLACK_4	rauʒo																					
336	BLACK_5																sæ:qə						
337	BLACK_6														tusajkaʔa								
338	BLACK_7		(must)	(musta)		(musta)	(mōsta)					(musta:)										(most)	(mus)
339	BLACK_8									çvd	çvd											çvd	
340	BLACK_9											se:məl	feme										
341	BLOOD_1																			we:ja			
342	BLOOD_2	verʲ	veri	uɞri	ve:r	veri	veri	wər	ve:r:	vir	vir	ver	wiɣər	βyr		var:a		var:e	βir:e		vir	veri	veri
343	BLOOD_3														kam		kvm						
344	BLOOD_4																						
345	BLOW (OF WIND)_1									pxʌtnw	pxʌlnw											peʌtnw	
346	BLOW (OF WIND)_3																				tylanw		
347	BLOW (OF WIND)_4	puhuta	puhulta:			puhaɖa		po:s'e															puhuma
348	BLOW (OF \	puvams			fu:j			pōχ				puwi	puem	hyəlasa		pu:							
349	BLUNT_1							mierʲesʲ															
350	BLUNT_10																			tinxa			
351	BLUNT_11				(tompo)																		
352	BLUNT_13															past:ɔhɣæpme							
353	BLUNT_14		tylsæ				tyltʃ:æ					ti:lza										tvʲʲts	
354	BLUNT_15														twamə:								
355	BLUNT_16							pel:əɣ															
356	BLUNT_3																						tylpʲ:
357	BLUNT_4													(tokmak)									
358	BLUNT_6	noʃka	nyri			nyrhi				nwʒ	nwʒ			nyʃkø							nwʒ		nyri
359	BLUNT_8																qaməlaʎ						
360	BLUNT_9											taʎəχsup											
361	BONE_1	pakarʲ																					
362	BONE_2				tʃont																		
363	BONE_3																						
364	BONE_4									(koska)										moorua			
365	BONE_5	lovaʒa	lu:	lu:		lu:	lu:	lōχ		lw	lw	lu:	luw	lu	lata:		lw:			li	lw	lɔ	lu:
366	BONE_6		kont																				
367	BONE_7							taxʲ:t								ta:kti		taxʲtʲ:ə					

URALIC (URALEX 2.0) DATASET

- Longer story: lots of problems!
 - CLDF-formatted file was poorly constructed: inconsistent mixture of IPA, Uralic Phonetic Alphabet (UPA), and orthography for transcriptions, but all given in the IPA field
 - True IPA transcription sometimes listed in an unrelated field within CLDF file (e.g. “etym_notes”, “glossing_notes”), but also inconsistent in which field so not possible to extract automatically
- Raw data file had proper IPA transcriptions in many (but not all) cases
- Many entries lacked IPA transcriptions in both files
 - 11 languages had no transcriptions at all

URALIC (URALEX 2.0) DATASET

- Solutions
 - Created semi-automatic mapping between the raw and CLDF files to extract and/or fix the IPA transcriptions
 - Omitted word entries without IPA transcriptions in either file
 - 15 languages (of 27 total) still had >300 transcribed word forms
 - Võro language only had 1 transcribed word form → excluded

URALIC (URALEX 2.0) DATASET

- Solutions

- Instead of excluding all 11 languages with 0 transcriptions in UraLex...
 - 7 are also included in NorthEuraLex dataset
(Karelian, Livonian, Veps, North Saami, South Saami, Skolt Saami, Tundra Nenets)
→ combined UraLex and NorthEuraLex data
- Other 4 languages not included in NorthEuraLex and thus needed to be excluded
(Proto-Uralic, Ume Saami, Pite Saami, Inari Saami)

URALIC (URALEX 2.0 / NORTHEURALEX) DATASET

- Solutions
 - Combining UraLex and NorthEuraLex data
 - Word forms and IPA transcriptions extracted from NorthEuraLex
 - Cognate set and borrowing data taken from UraLex
 - Automatically combined only word entries whose Concepticon glosses and word forms matched *exactly* between the two databases
 - Generated table of word entries with matching Concepticon glosses but non-identical word forms to be manually matched
 - Manual matching sped up considerably by calculating Levenshtein distance between UraLex and NorthEuraLex word forms and sorting by this measure
 - Most genuine matches had length-normalized LD < 0.4 (mean: 0.43)
 - Doesn't violate principle whereby transcriptions for a language should be taken from a single source, since this was only performed for languages with 0 UraLex transcriptions

URALIC (URALEX 2.0 / NORTHEURALEX) DATASET

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UraLex_Index	Language	UraLex_Form	UraLex_Value	NEL_Form	NEL_Value	NEL_Source_Form	LevenshteinDist	Accepted?
9309	Karelian	muurahaine	muurahaine	mu:rahaini	muurahaini	mu:rahaini	0.1	x
7868	Karelian	ukonkoari	ukonkoari	ʊkɔŋkɔari	ukonkuari	ʊkɔŋkɔari	0.11111111	x
10077	Karelian	kuvahaine	kuvahaine	kɔvahaini	kuvahaini	kɔvahaini	0.11111111	x
483	Karelian	henkitteä	henkitteä	hɛŋkit:yæ	henkittyä	hɛŋkit:yæ	0.11111111	x
5444	Karelian	hämehikki	hämehikki	hæmæhik:i	hämähikki	hæmæhik:i	0.11111111	x
7834	Karelian	ukonkoari	ukonkoari	ʊkɔŋkɔari	ukonkuari	ʊkɔŋkɔari	0.11111111	x
257	Karelian	šiivatta	šiivatta	si:vat:a	siivatta	si:vat:a	0.125	x
7623	Karelian	vihelteä	vihelteä	viheltyæ	viheltyä	viheltyæ	0.125	x
6377	Karelian	puistoa	puistoa	pɔistɔa	puistua	pɔistɔa	0.142857143	x
2973	Karelian	keärmis	keärmis	kiærmis	kiärmis	kiærmis	0.142857143	x
6100	Karelian	opastoa	opastoa	ɔpastɔa	opastua	ɔpastɔa	0.142857143	x
3540	Karelian	viskata	viskata	visata	visata	visata	0.142857143	x
3402	Karelian	tuolla	tuolla	tɔɔla	tuola	tɔɔla	0.166666667	x

URALIC (URALEX 2.0 / NORTHEURALEX) DATASET

Language	Transcriptions in UraLex 2.0	Automatically Matched Transcriptions	Manually Confirmed Transcriptions	Total Extracted Transcriptions	Avg Levenshtein Dist. of Manually Matched Word Forms / Transcriptions
Karelian	0	146	56	202	0.30
Livonian	0	49	164	213	0.45
Veps	0	117	83	200	0.34
North Saami	0	178	32	210	0.33
South Saami	0	193	17	210	0.32
Skolt Saami	0	89	122	211	0.30
Tundra Nenets	0	15*	161	176	0.61*

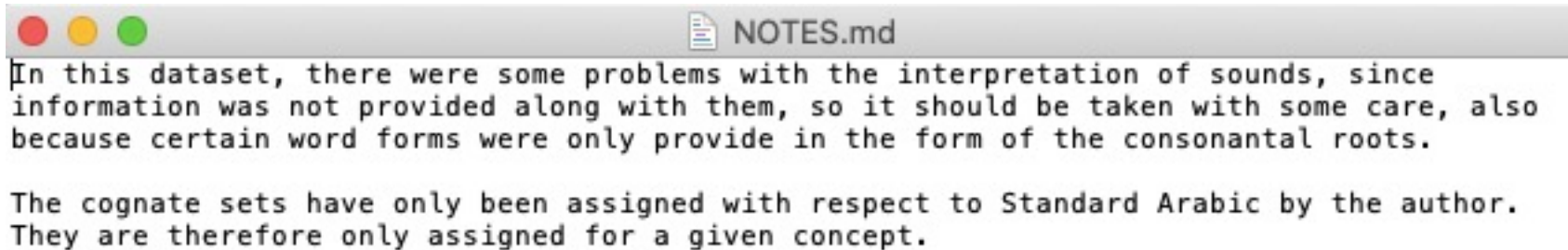
* Fewer automatic matches and higher average LD for Tundra Nenets because orthographic word form in NEL was given in Cyrillic alphabet but in Latin alphabet in UraLex, so LD measured on word form/IPA instead

URALIC (URALEX 2.0 / NORTHEURALEX) DATASET



ARABIC DATASET(S)

- Found CLDF version of Ratcliffe's dataset in GitHub/lexibank
 - Still no gold cognate coding, but could facilitate checking overlap with Wiktionary dataset better
 - Note by Johann-Mattis List:



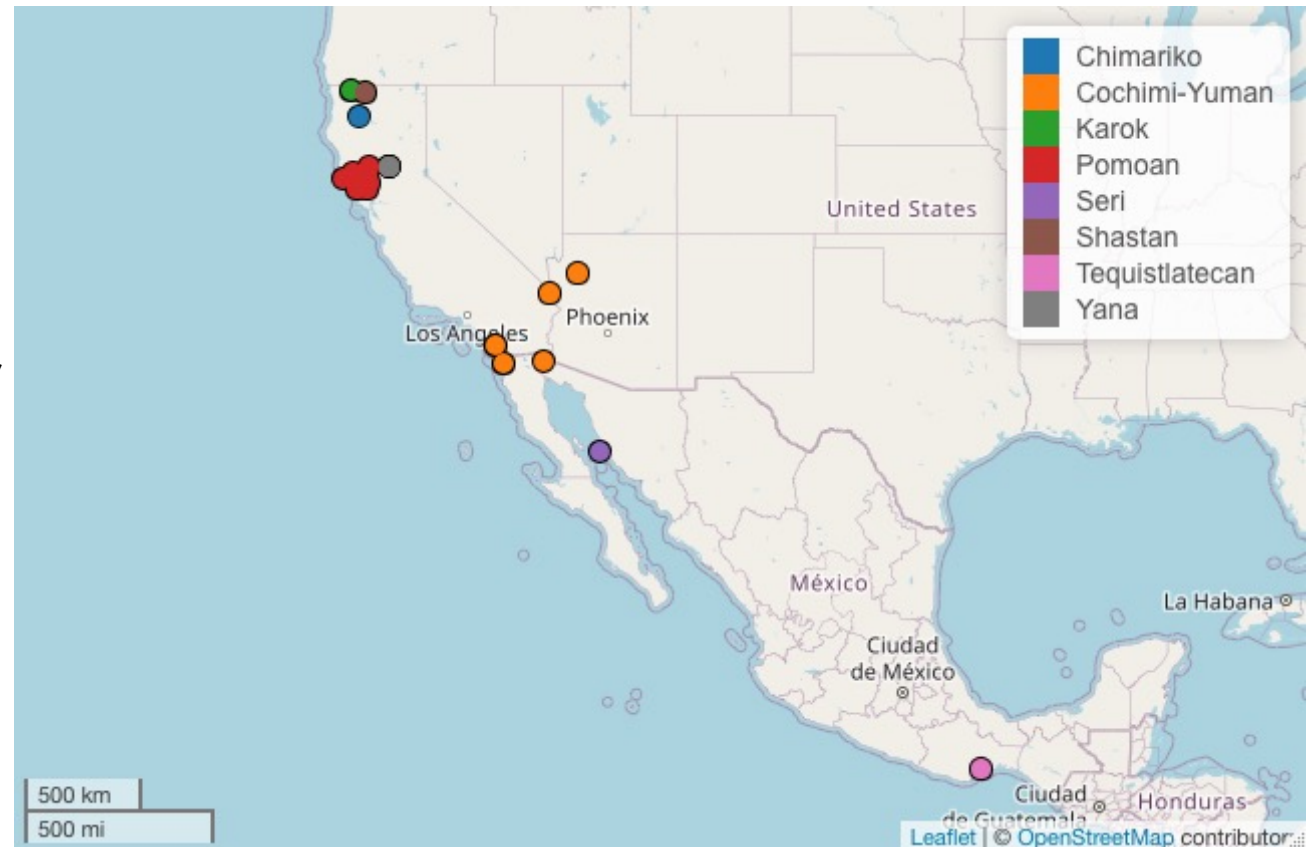
In this dataset, there were some problems with the interpretation of sounds, since information was not provided along with them, so it should be taken with some care, also because certain word forms were only provide in the form of the consonantal roots.

The cognate sets have only been assigned with respect to Standard Arabic by the author. They are therefore only assigned for a given concept.

- Wiktionary dataset
 - Seems to have been created/compiled largely by a single user (Qizilqurt)
 - But there doesn't seem to be any way to contact them to ask about sources

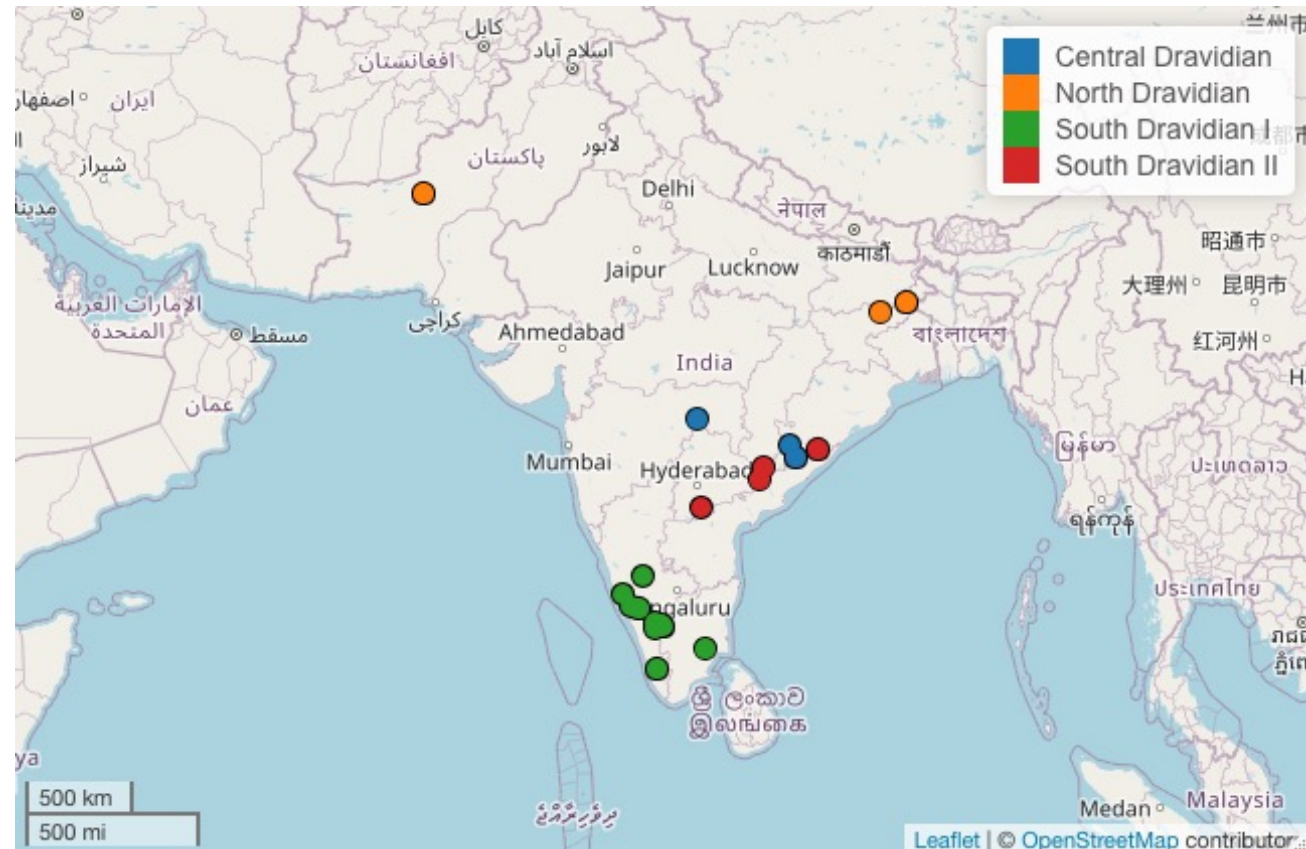
HOKAN DATASET (ZHIVLOV 2011-2015)

- Hokan: proposed language family comprising a handful of indigenous languages from California, Arizona, and Mexico
- Data taken from Global Lexicostatistical Database (same source as Italic data)
- Organized into 8 recognized (sub-)families/isolates, includes cognate set coding for each:
 - Chimariko
 - Cochimi-Yuman
 - Karok
 - Pomo
 - Seri
 - Shastan
 - Tequistlatecan
 - Yana
- Idea: use as experimental case study for application to groups lacking consensus



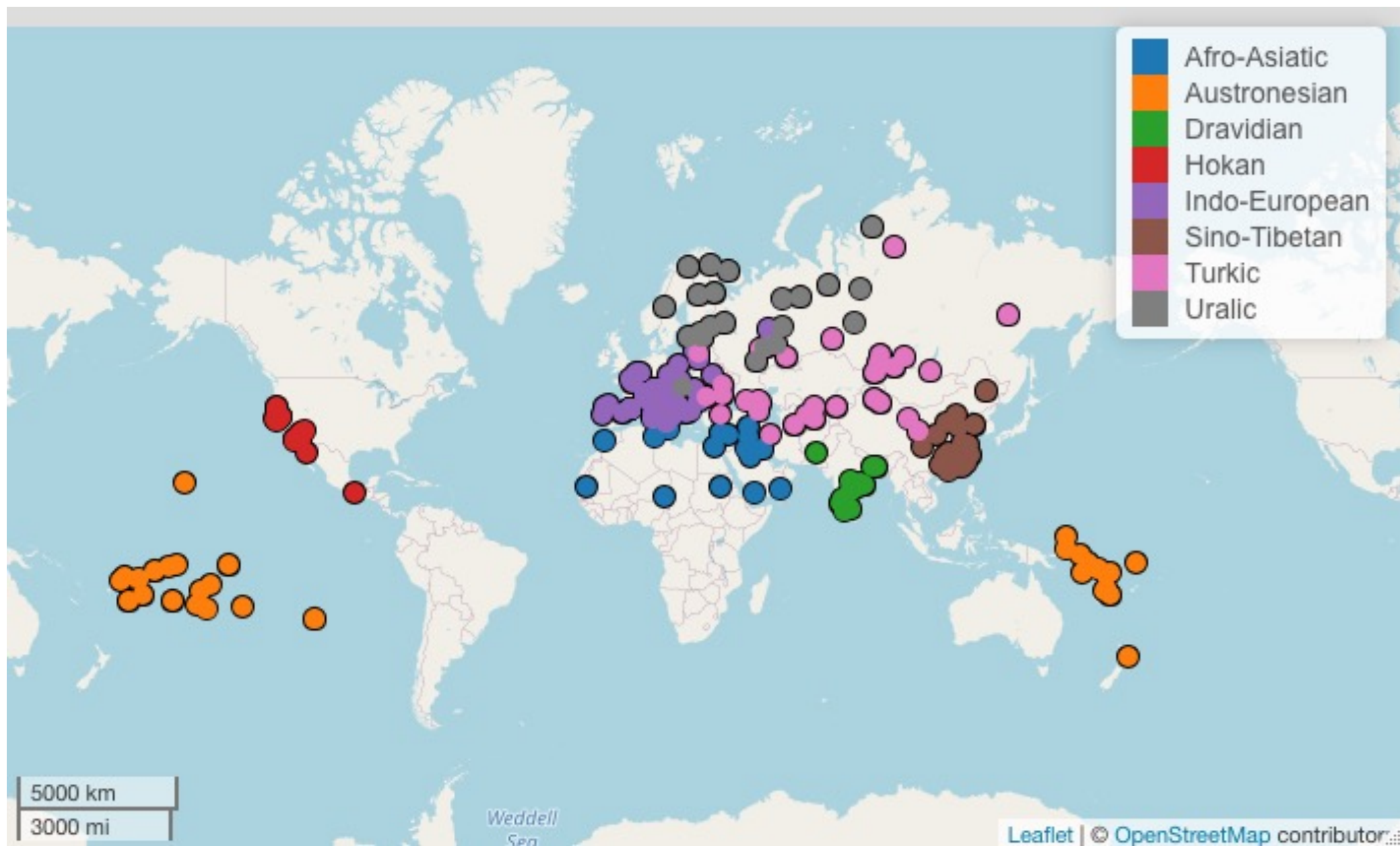
DRAVIDIAN DATASET (KOLIPAKAM ET AL., 2018)

- Final dataset: Dravidian
- Already in CLDF format, only a few minor/straightforward transcription changes needed
 - e.g. $\langle \text{ṭ} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{t} \rangle$, $\langle \text{ñ} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{n} \rangle$, $\langle \text{ā} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{a:} \rangle$



OVERVIEW OF DATASETS

Family	Source Name	Reference	Number of Varieties
Arabic	Varieties of Arabic Swadesh lists	Wiktionary	16
Balto-Slavic	NorthEuraLex	Dellert et al. (2019)	11
Dravidian	DravLex: A Dravidian lexical database	Kolipakam et al. (2018)	20
Hokan	Global Lexicostatistic Database	Zhivlov (2011-2015)	20
Italic	Global Lexicostatistic Database	Saenko (2016)	58
Polynesian	Polynesian Segmented Data	Walworth (2018)	31
Sinitic	Collection of basic vocabulary words and characteristic dialect words in modern Chinese dialects	Líu et al. (2007)	19
Turkic	Basic vocabulary datasets for the Turkic languages	Savelyev & Robbeets (2020)	31
Uralic	UraLex 2.0: Uralic basic vocabulary with cognate and loanword information; NorthEuraLex	De Heer et al.; Syrjänen [submitted manuscript]; Dellert et al. (2019)	22



STATUS OF DATASETS (PREVIOUSLY)

Dataset	Fully Preprocessed Transcriptions	Conceptlcon Cross-Reference	Standardized Format	Gold Cognate Sets Extracted	Extracted Glottolog Tree
Arabic	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Balto-Slavic	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Dravidian	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Hokan	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Italic	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Polynesian	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Sinitic	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Turkic	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Uralic	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗

STATUS OF DATASETS (NOW)

Dataset	Fully Preprocessed Transcriptions	Conceptlcon Cross-Reference	Standardized Format	Gold Cognate Sets Extracted	Extracted Glottolog Tree
Arabic	✓	✓	✓	partially	✓
Balto-Slavic	✓	✓	✓	partially	✓
Dravidian	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hokan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Italic	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Polynesian	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sinitic	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Turkic	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Uralic	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

COGNATE CODING: BALTO-SLAVIC AND ARABIC

- Ran LingPy LexStat cognate detection tool in order to get preliminary cognate sets
 - Still to do: correct manually (or semi-automatically)
 - References: (limited) cognate set coding from Ratcliffe's (2020) Arabic dataset, IELex for Balto-Slavic
- Matching cognate sets from IELex for Balto-Slavic
 - Original IELex website/database (<https://ielex.mpi.nl/>) no longer functional
 - Copy of data preserved on a third-party website by someone who had created cognate set maps from them (https://pappubahry.com/maps/ie_cognates/details.html)
 - Word forms are mix of IPA, orthography, block caps (sound classes?)
 - currently working on creating semi-automatic mapping similar to Uralic to extract gold cognate sets

CONCEPTS AND MUTUAL COVERAGE

Family	Number of Varieties	Min Number of Concepts	Average Number of Concepts	Mutual Coverage	Average Mutual Coverage
Balto-Slavic	11	1013 (474)*	1016 (476)*	1011	1.00
Uralic	22	172	265	103	0.74
Turkic	31	186	237	90	0.88
Arabic	16	179	203	162	0.96
Sinitic	19	201	202	201	1.00
Polynesian	31	178	200	109	0.91
Italic	58	103	110	98	0.99
Hokan	20	78	101	46	0.82
Dravidian	20	56	93	28	0.86

* Number of concepts found in at least one other dataset

CONCEPT SELECTION

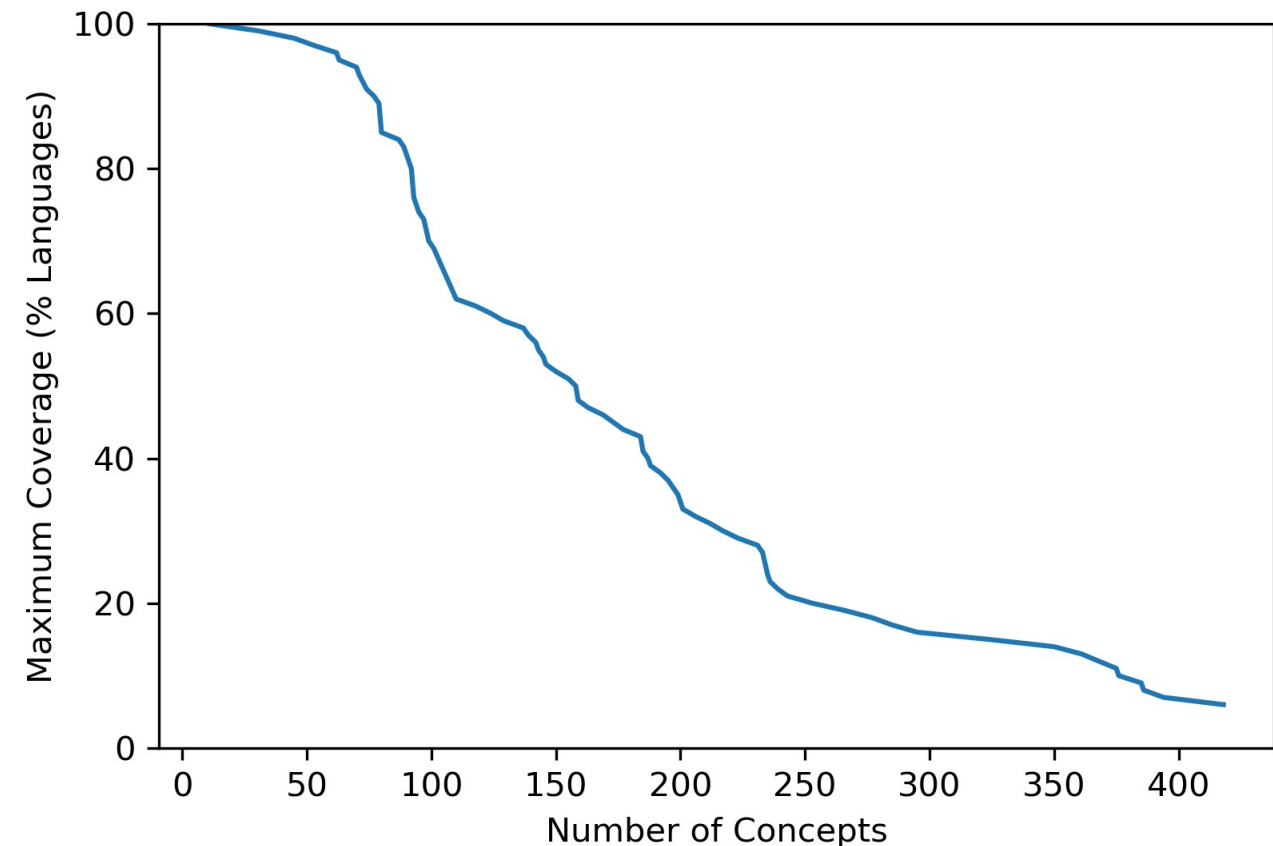
- 228 total languages included in study
- 1186 unique concepts: all standardized to Concepticon glosses
 - 55% *only* appear in NorthEuraLex
 - → 546 total concepts, excluding the ones which appear only in NorthEuraLex
 - 64 concepts appear in all 9 datasets
 - Only 7 concepts appear in all 228 languages
- How to select common set of concepts?

Family	Min Number of Concepts	Avg Number of Concepts	Avg Mutual Coverage
Balto-Slavic	1013 (474)*	1016 (476)*	1.00
Uralic	172	265	0.74
Turkic	186	237	0.88
Arabic	179	203	0.96
Sinitic	201	202	1.00
Polynesian	178	200	0.91
Italic	103	110	0.99
Hokan	78	101	0.82
Dravidian	56	93	0.86

* Number of concepts found in at least one other dataset

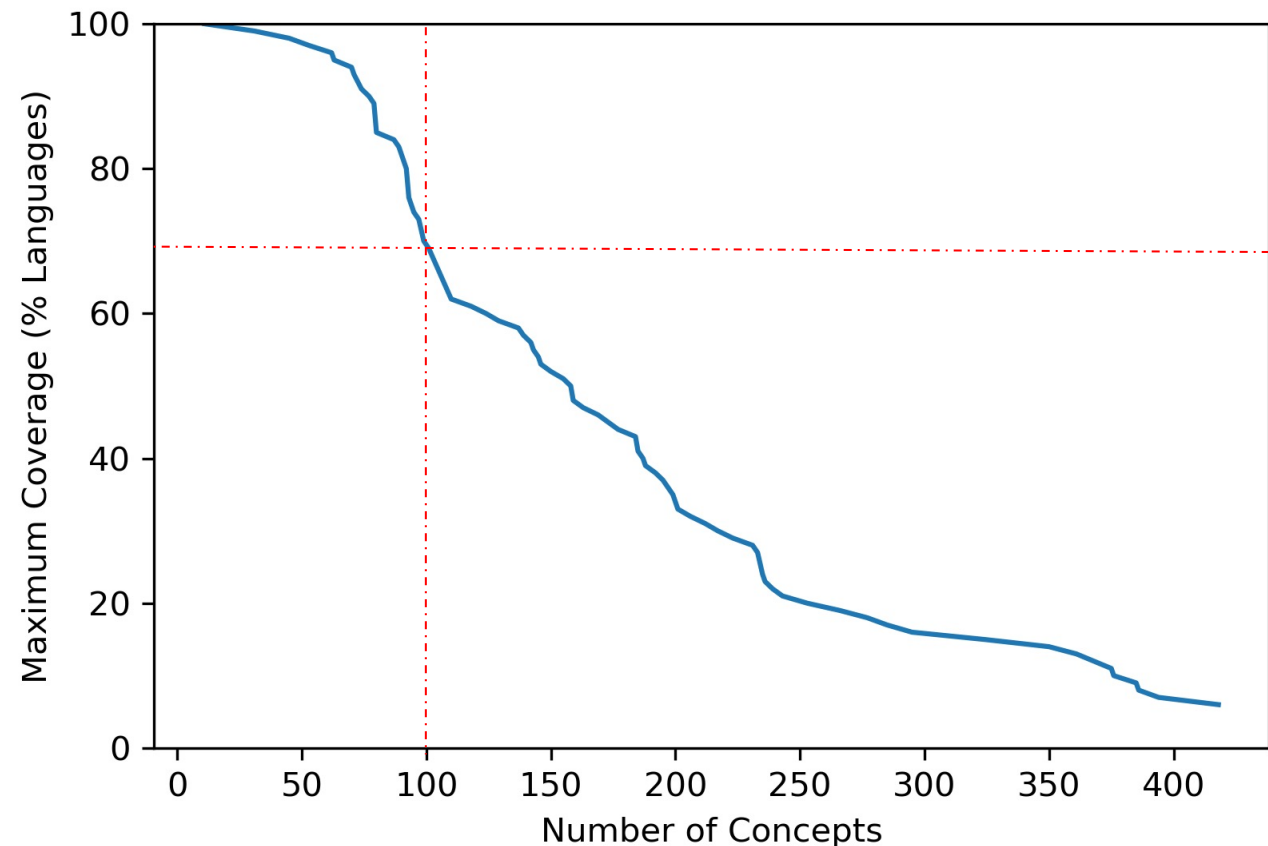
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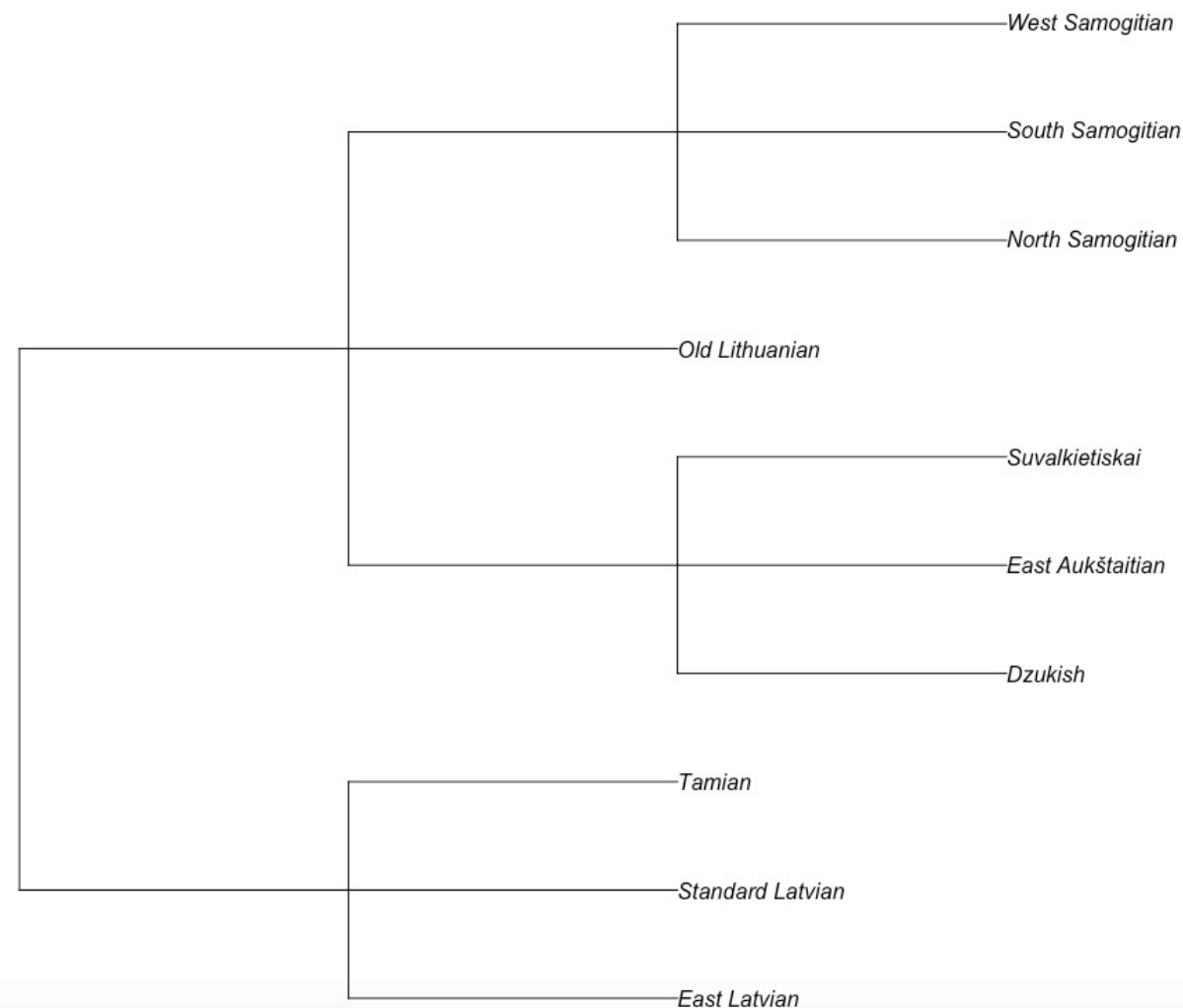
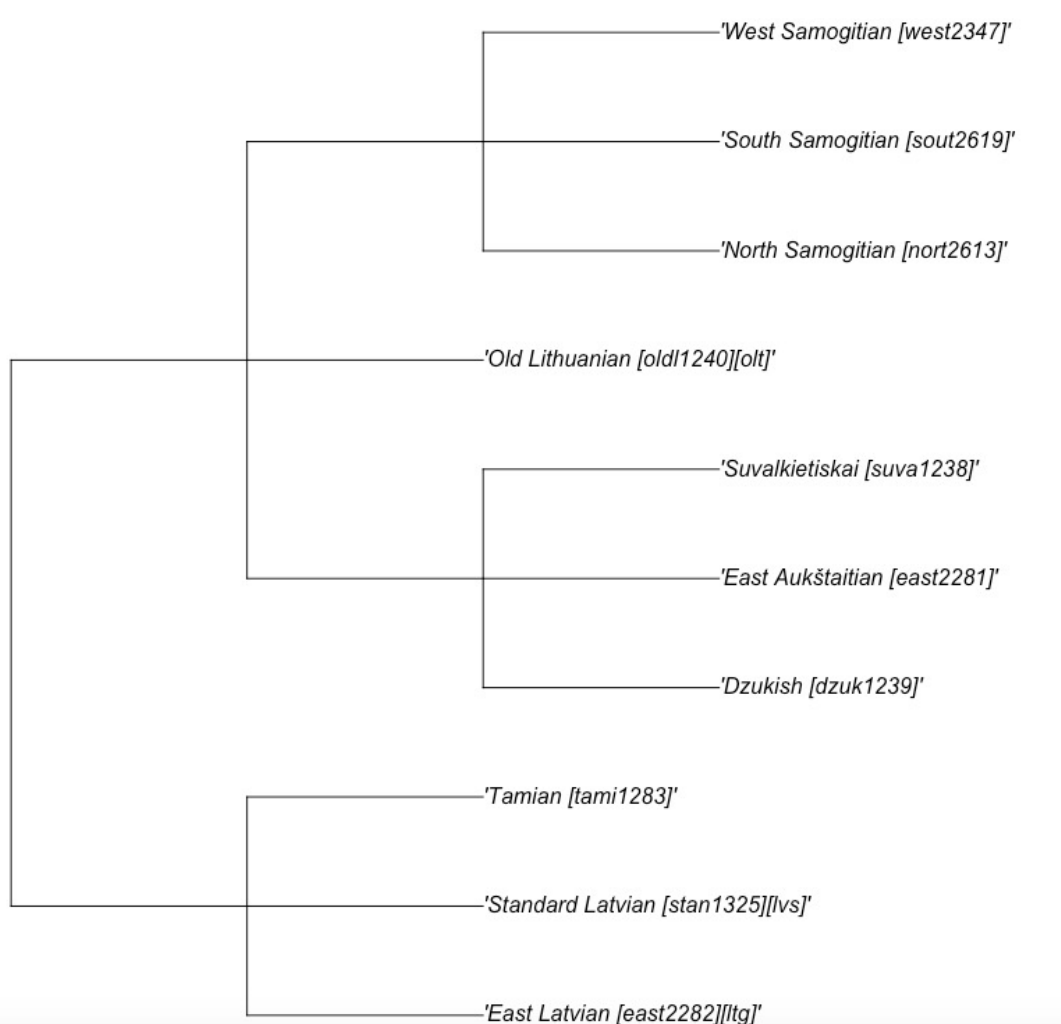
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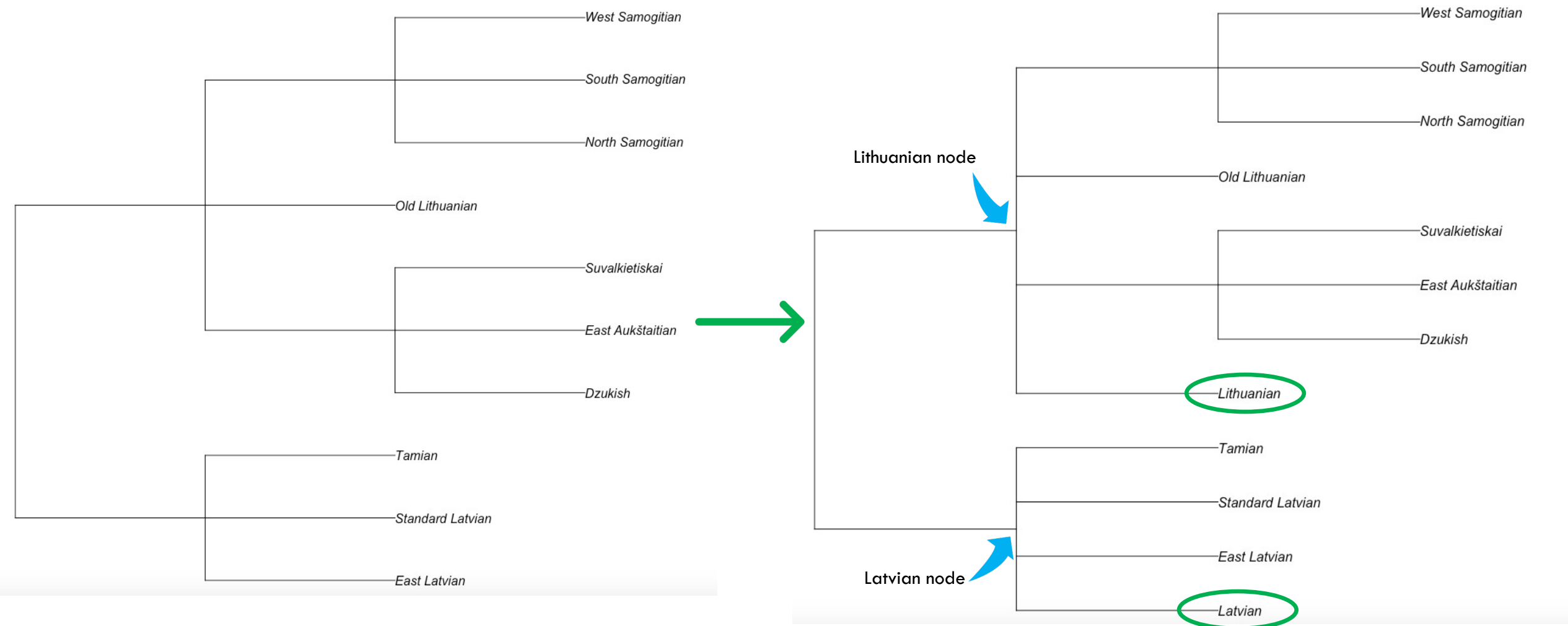


EXTRACTING GLOTTOLOG GOLD TREES

- Wrote Python script for extracting and preprocessing Glottolog trees into suitable format to manipulate with phylogenetic packages in R
- Python package pyglottolog
 - Given the Glottocode of a family's root, can extract full tree downwards from there in Newick format
- Additionally cleaned the Newick tree by removing Glottocode and ISO code annotations, etc., leaving only the Glottolog name → converted to my designation so that all have unique names
- R script: using phytools package, can then remove unneeded varieties from tree and add tips when necessary



Example: East Baltic branch of Balto-Slavonic tree
Newick preprocessing to remove Glottocodes and other annotations

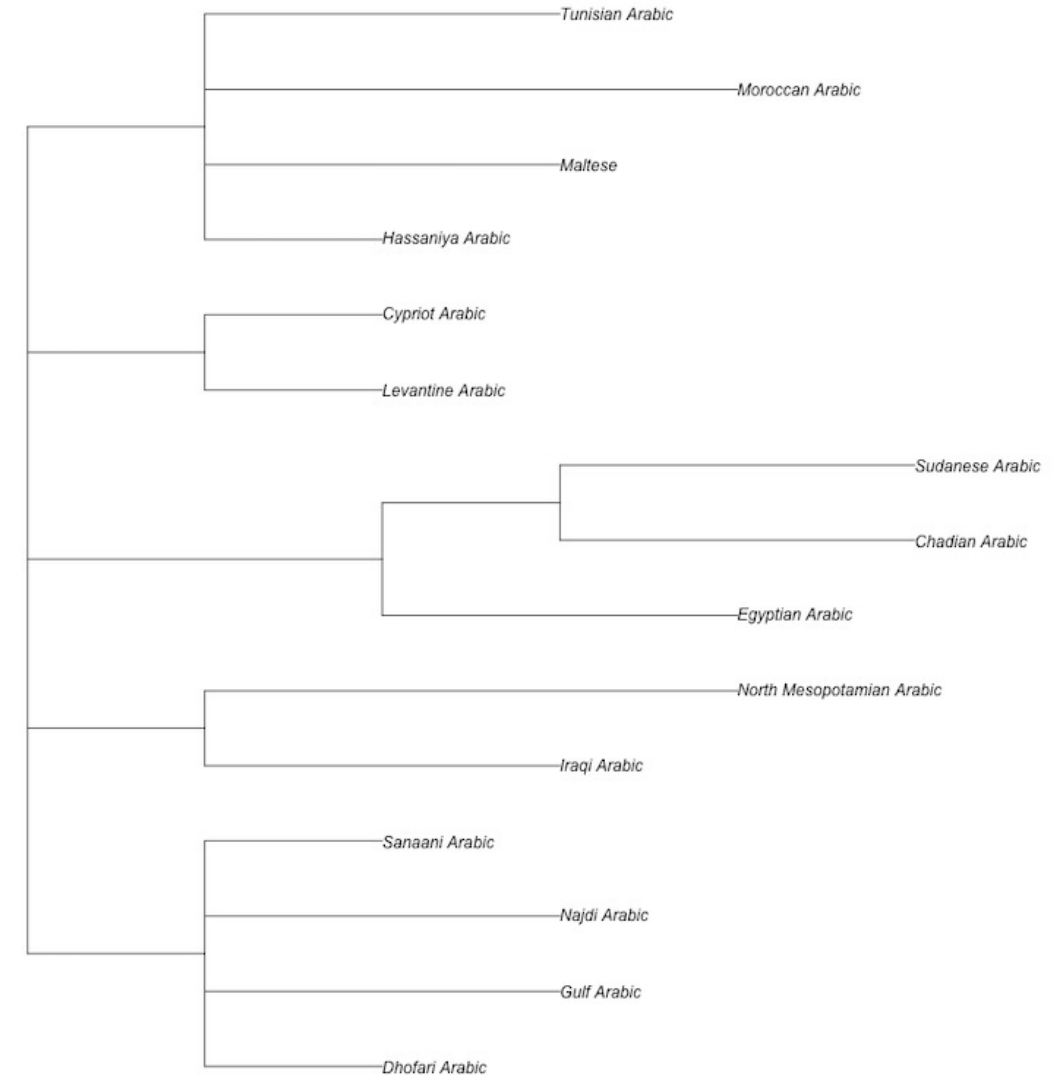


Example: East Baltic branch of Balto-Slavonic tree
Adding missing languages (nodes) as tips under themselves

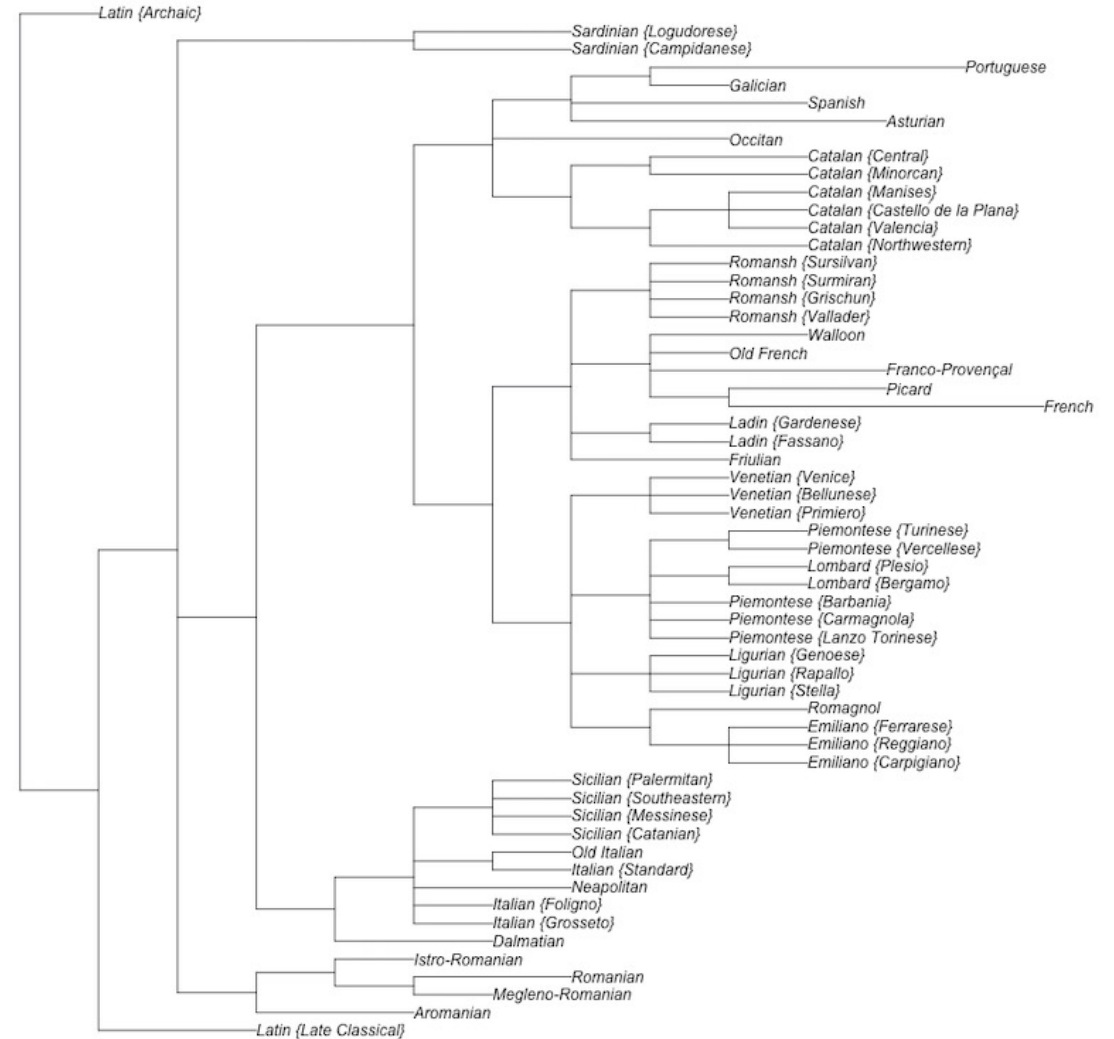
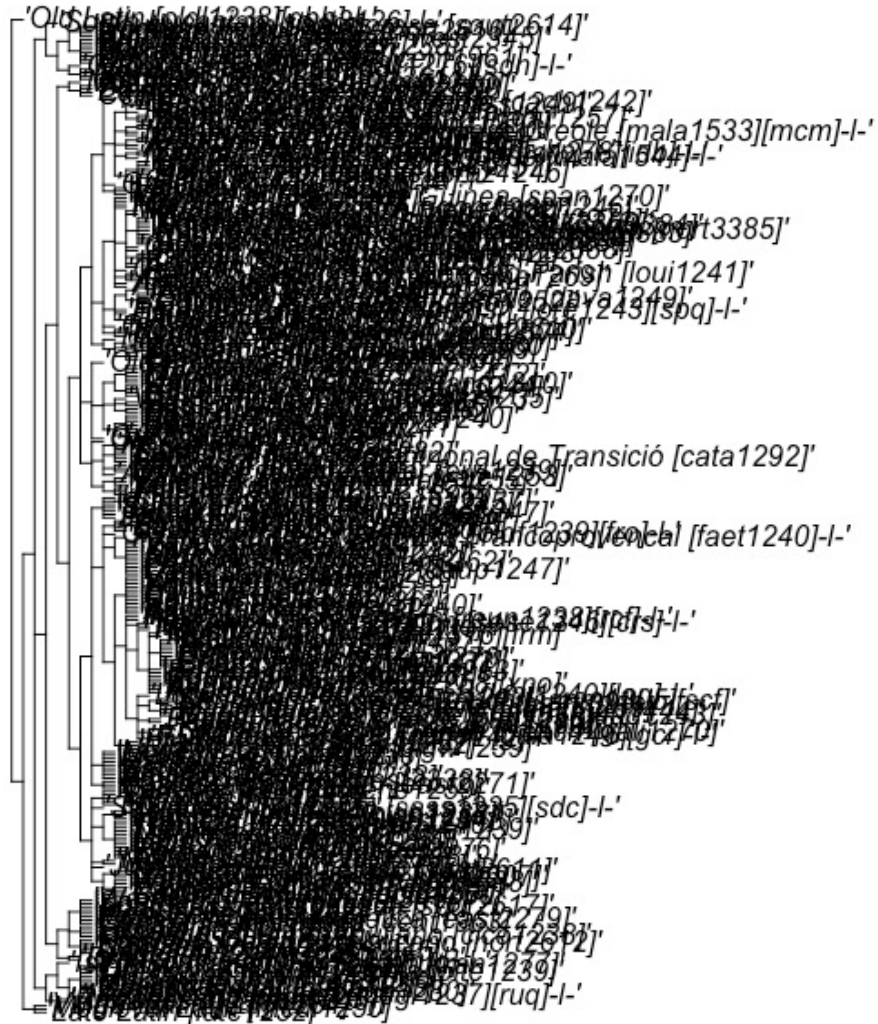


Example: East Baltic branch of Balto-Slavonic tree
Prune all varieties not included in the specified list

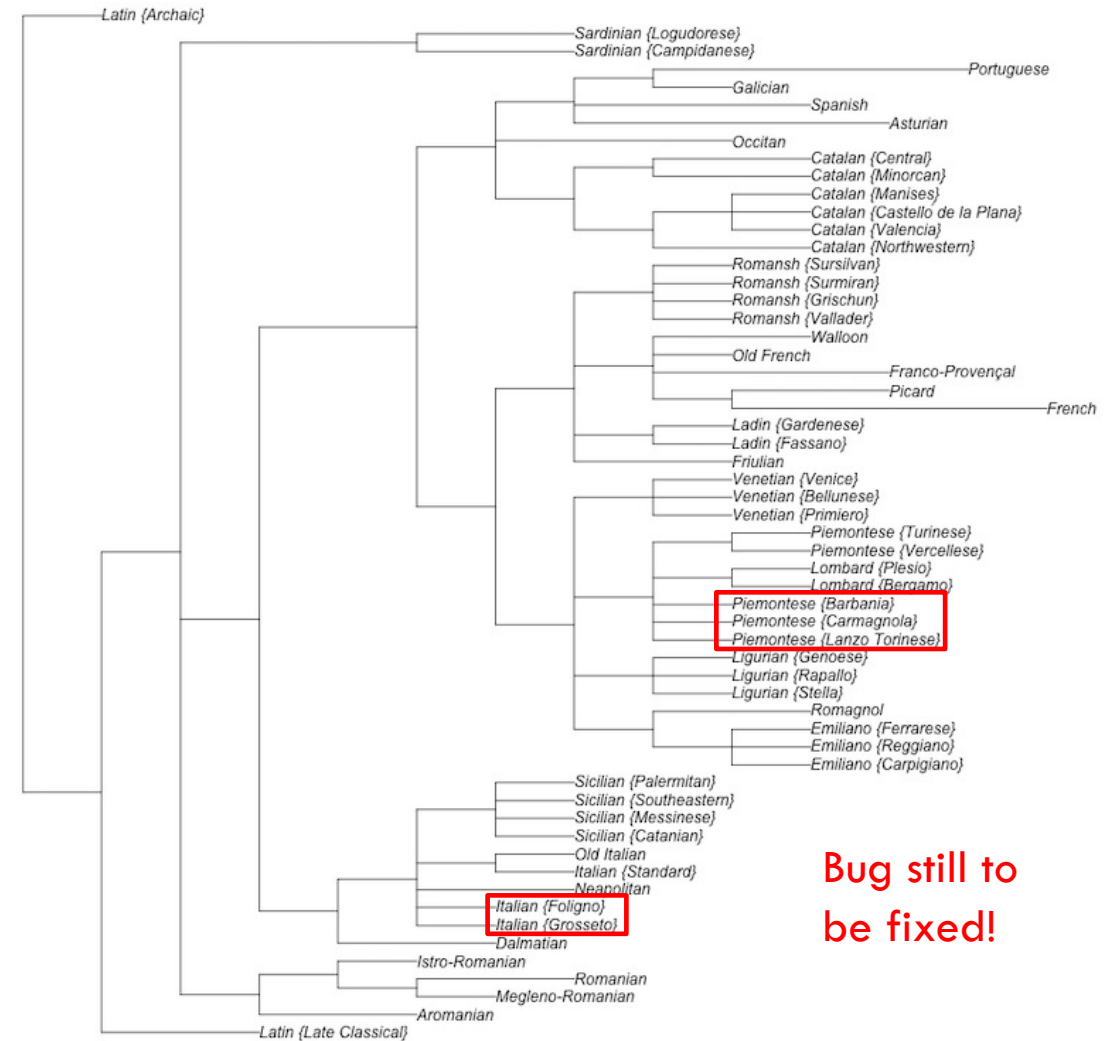
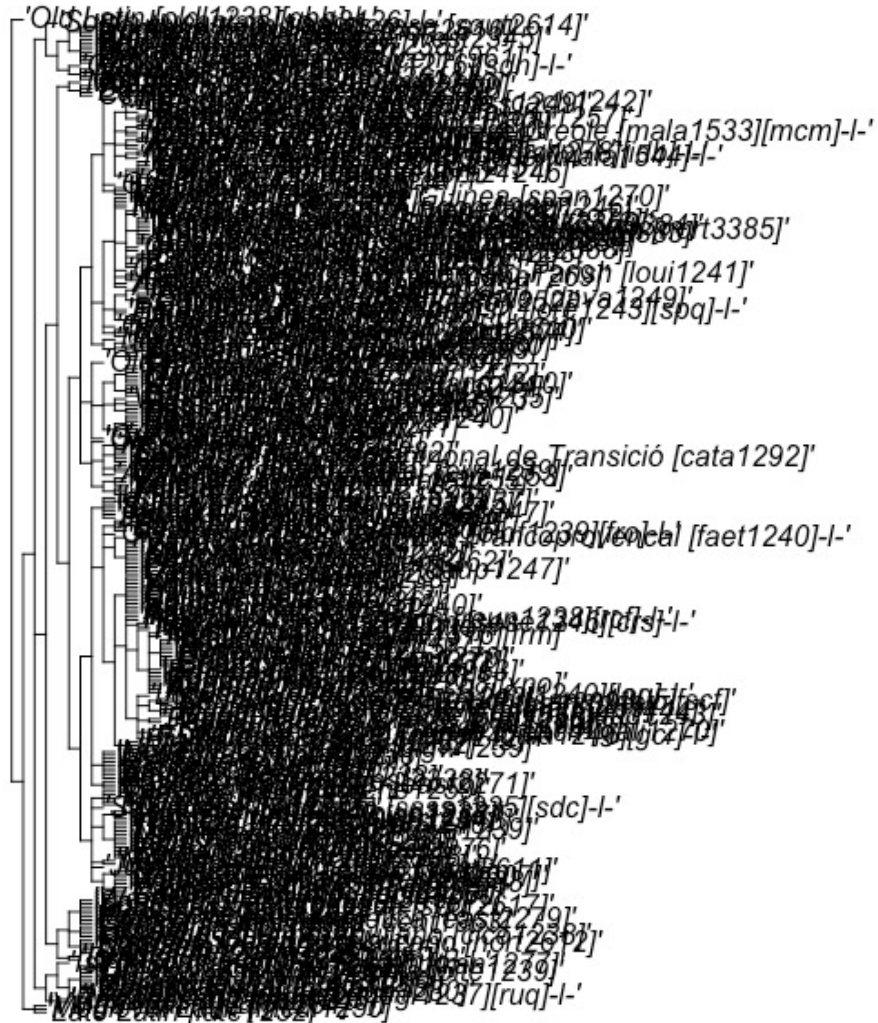




ITALIC TREE

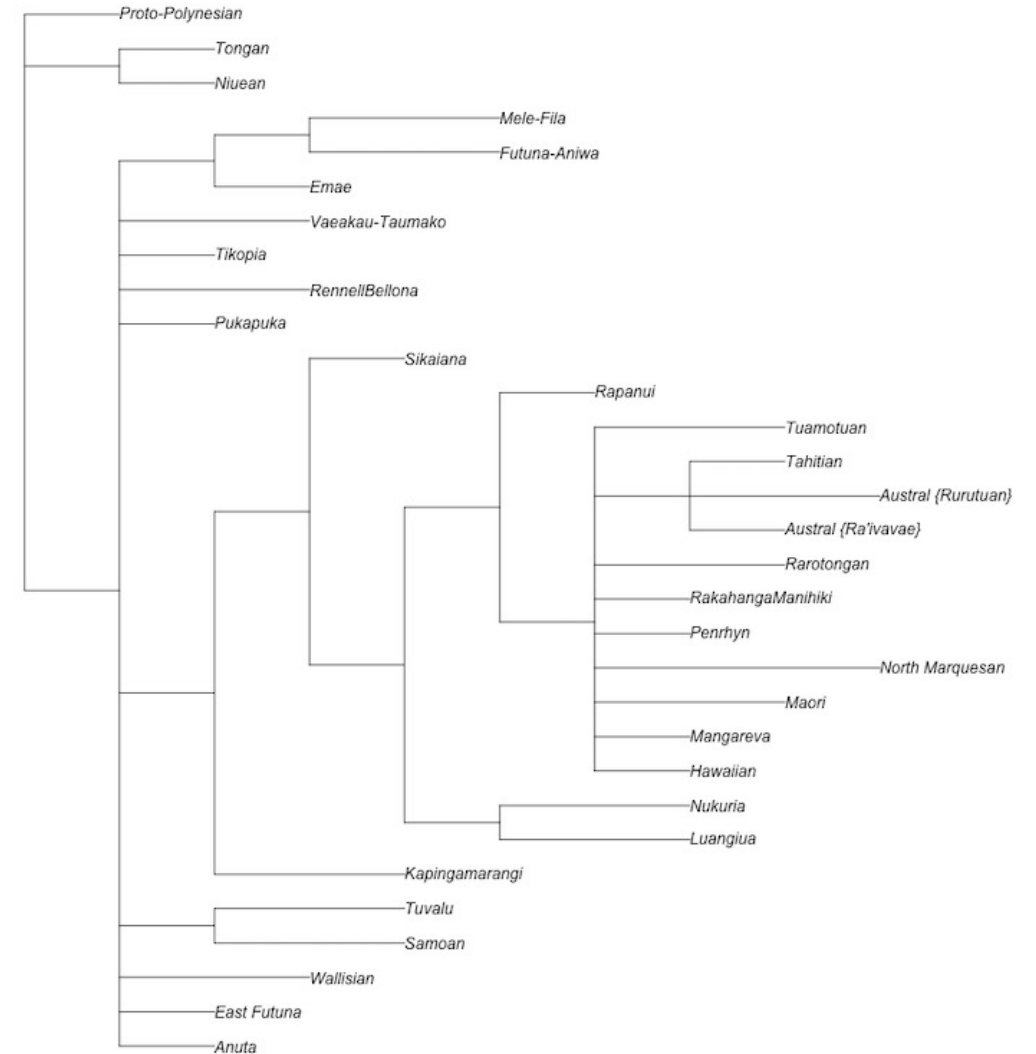
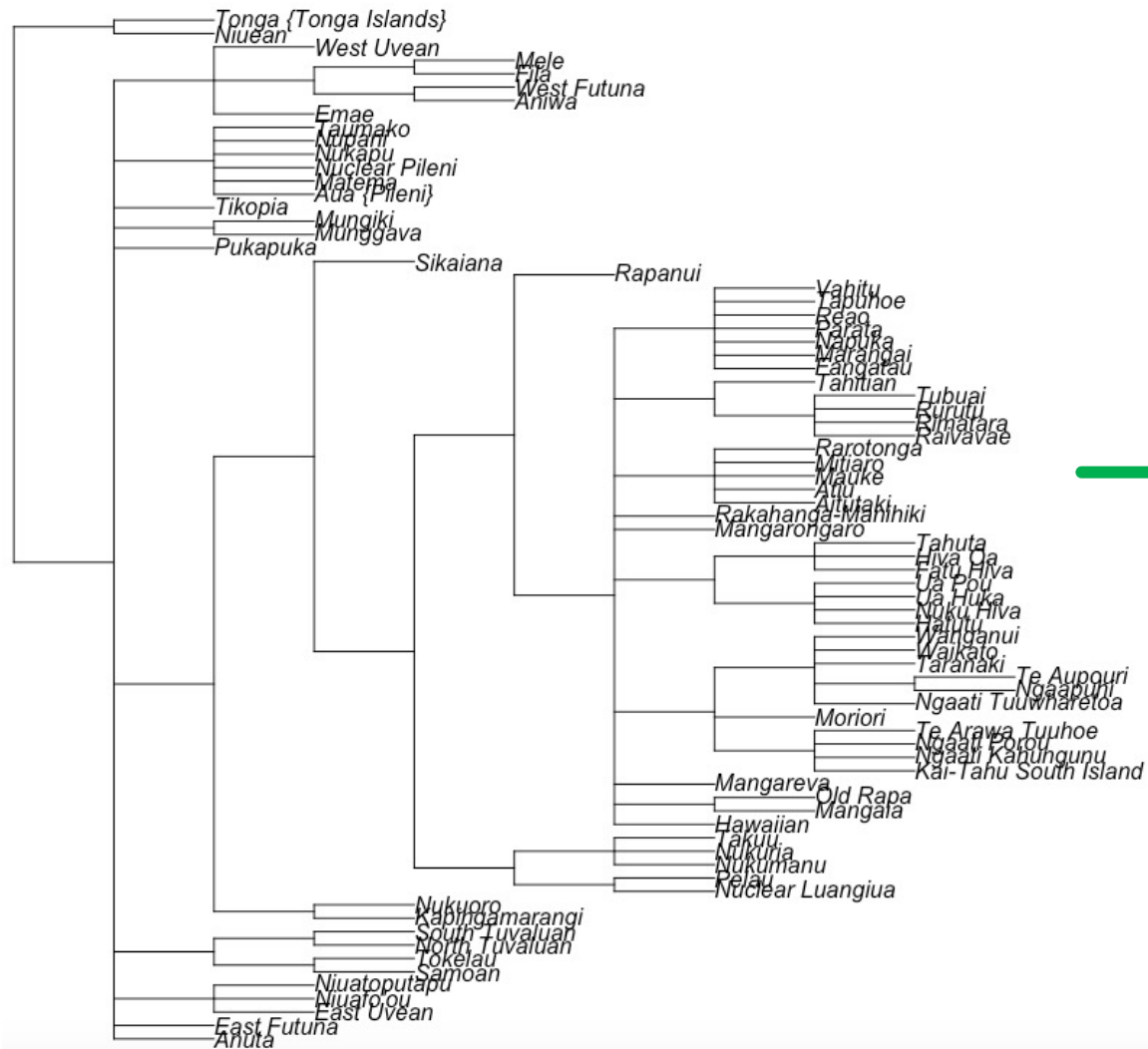


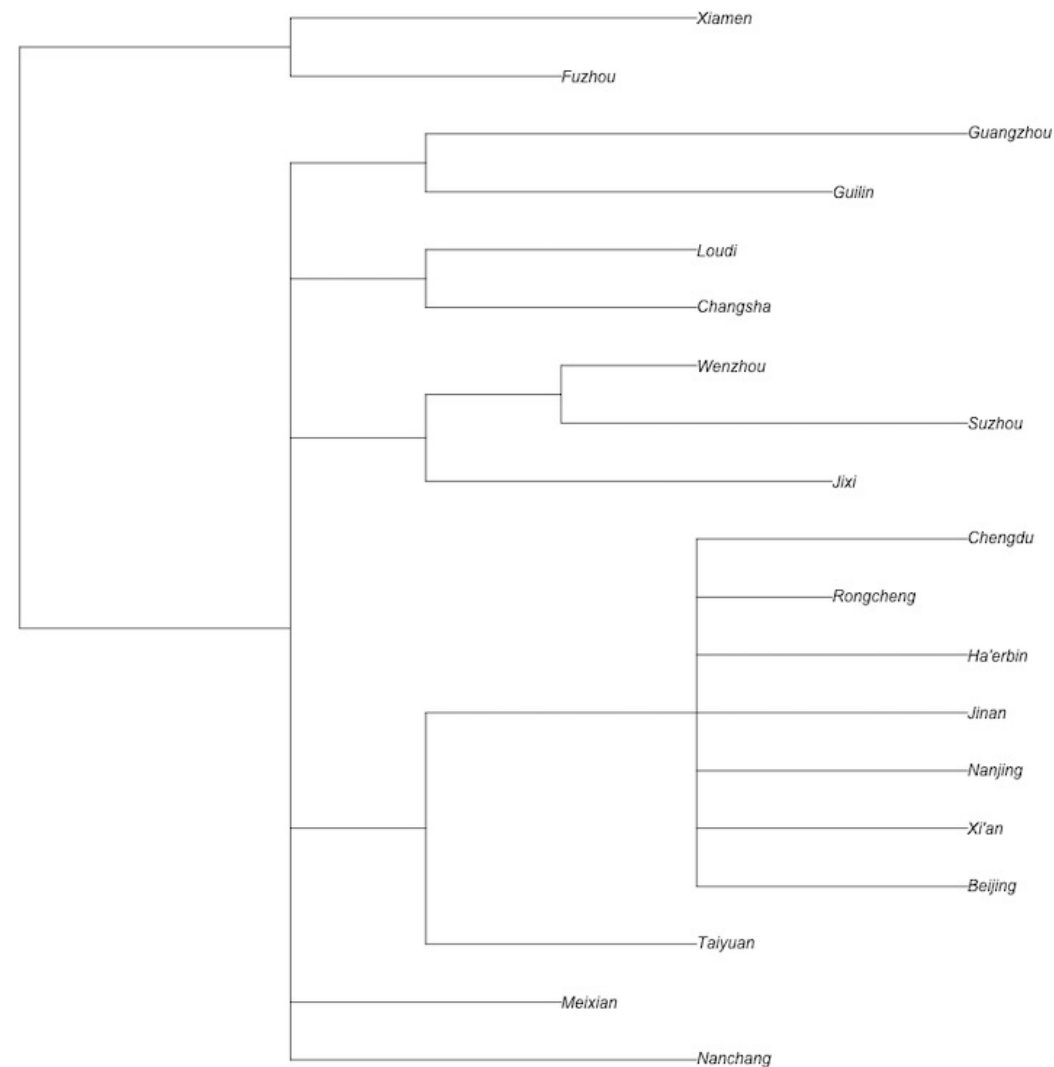
ITALIC TREE



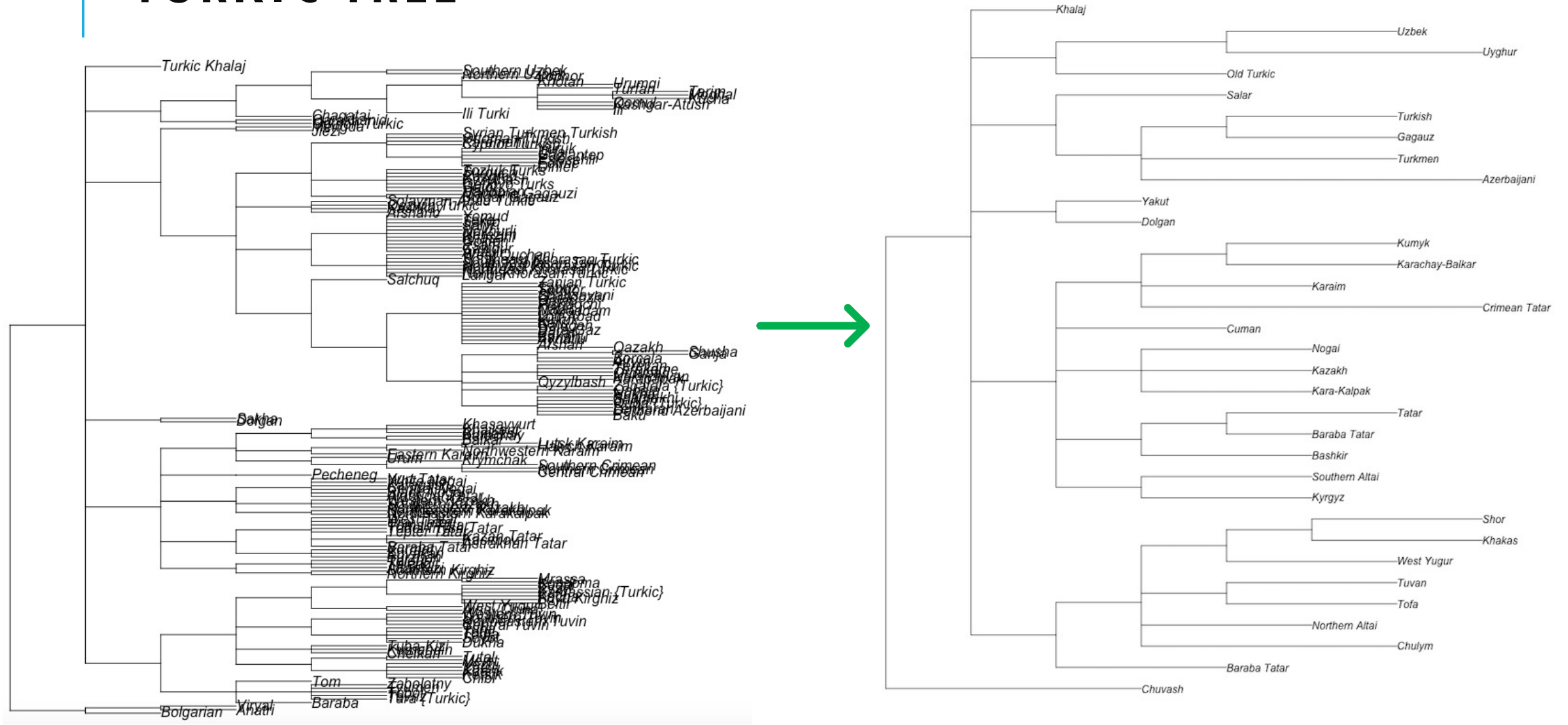
Bug still to
be fixed!

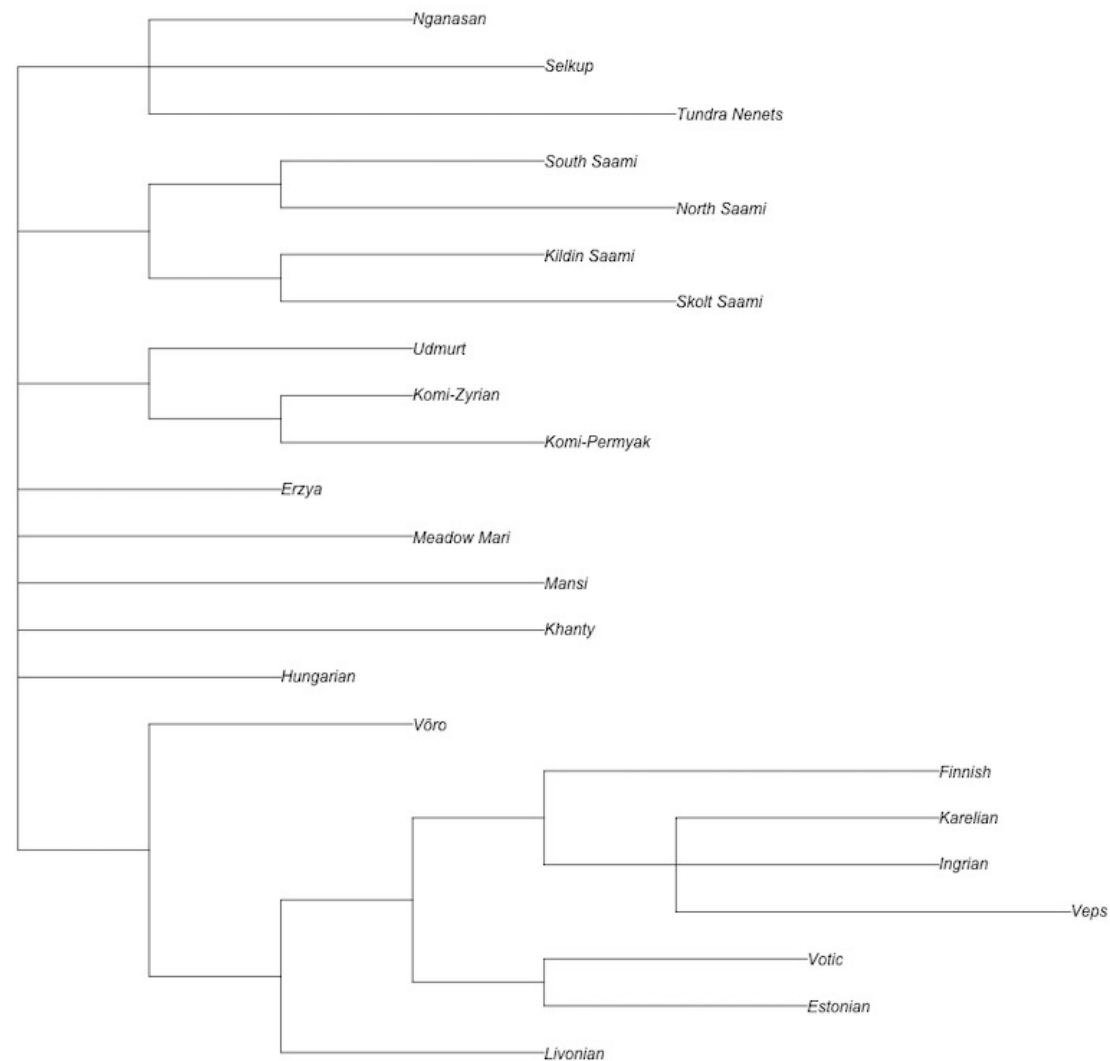
POLYNESIAN TREE



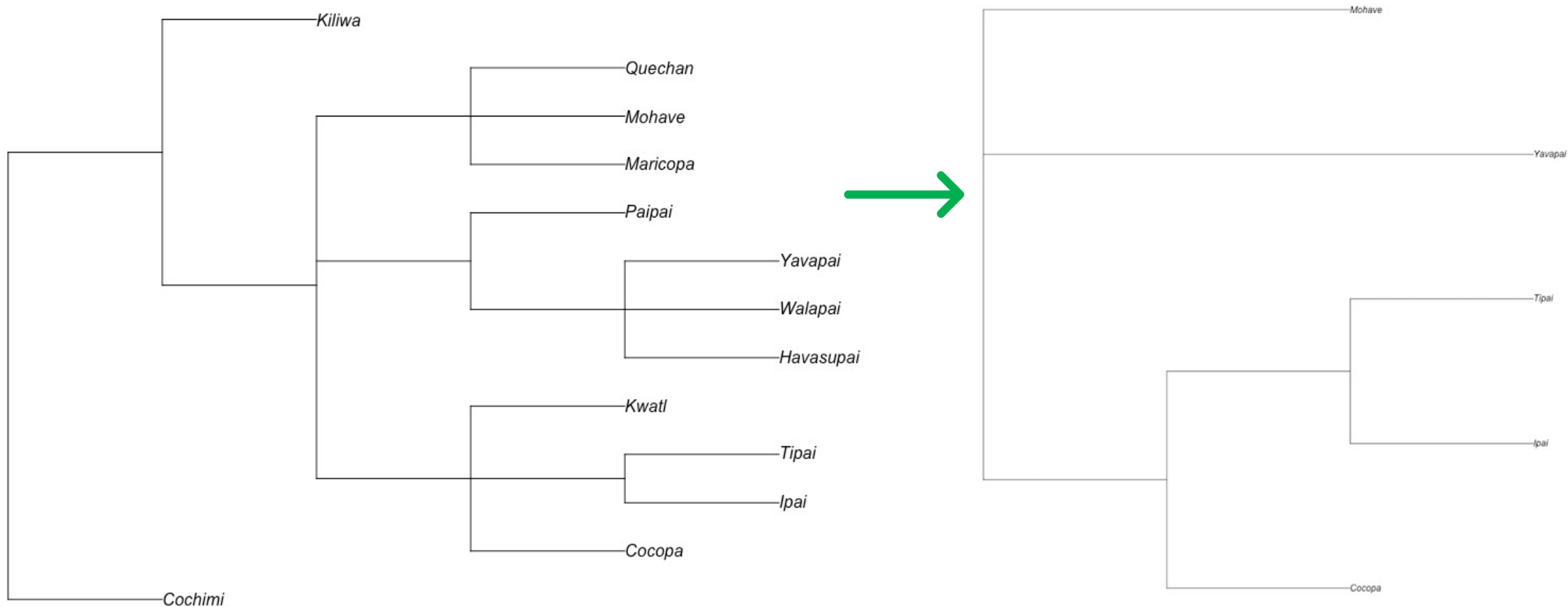


TURKIC TREE

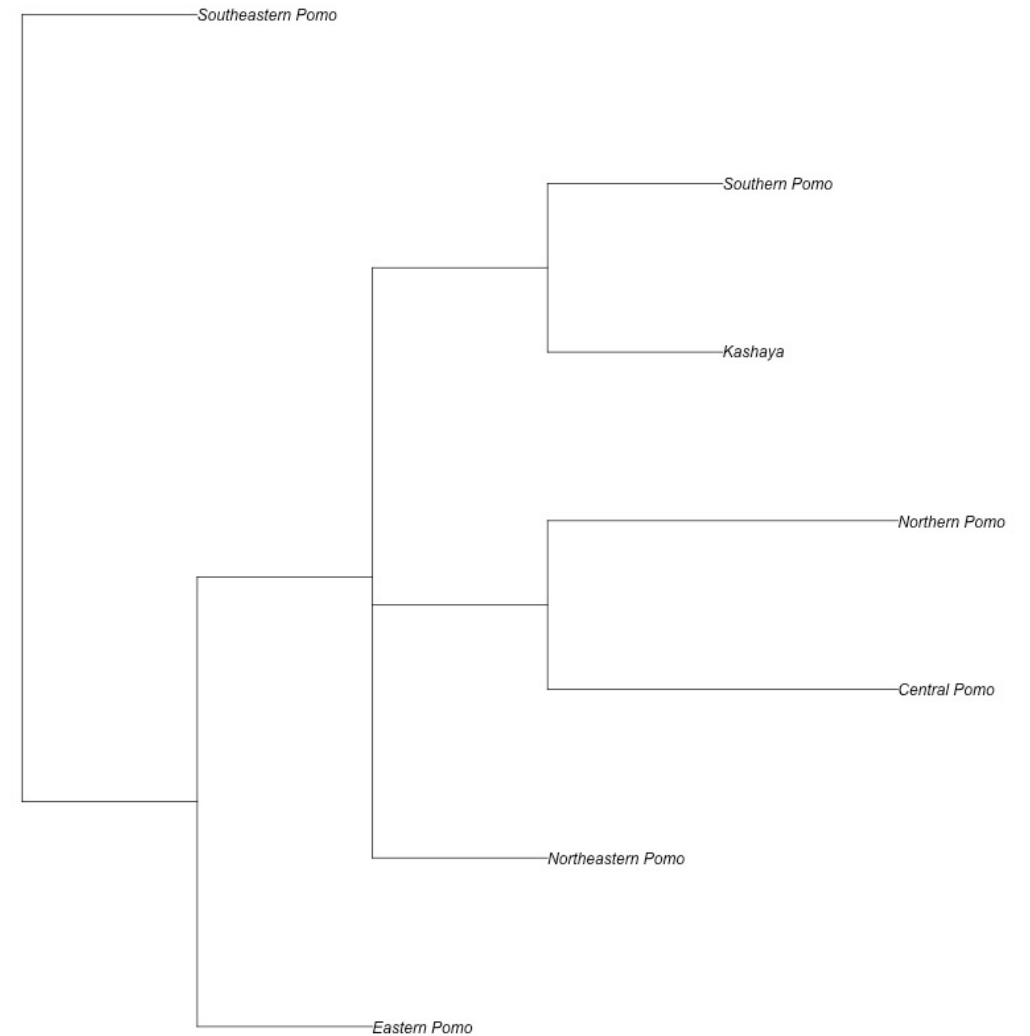
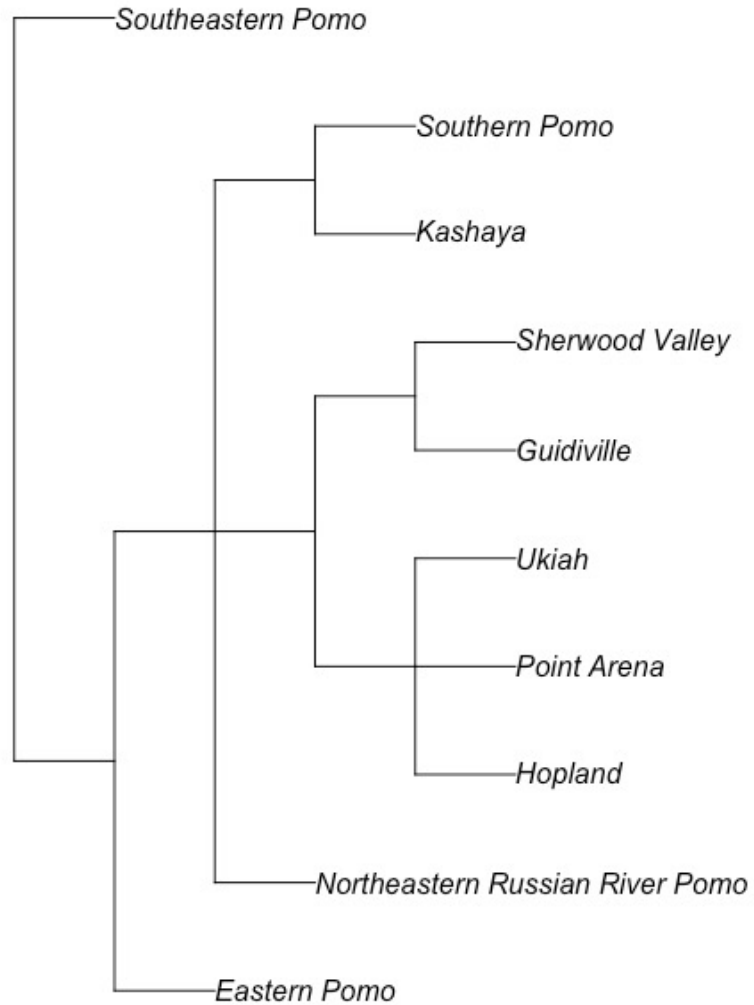




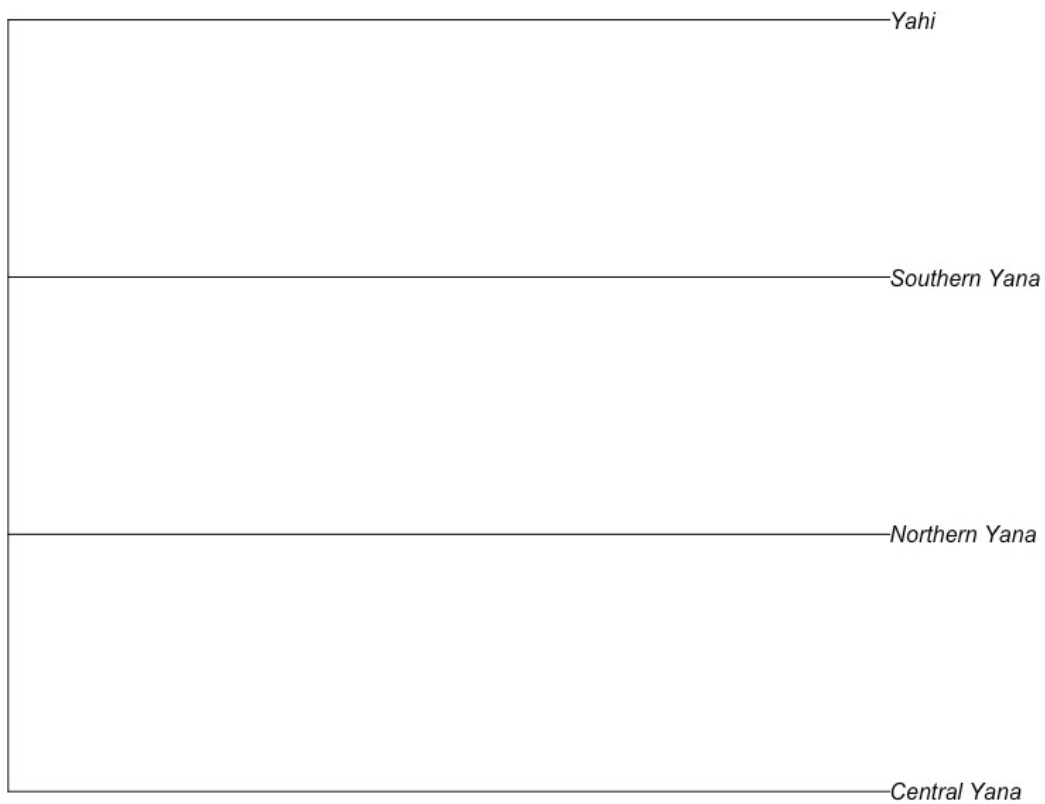
HOKAN: COCHIMI-YUMAN TREE



HOKAN: POMOAN TREE

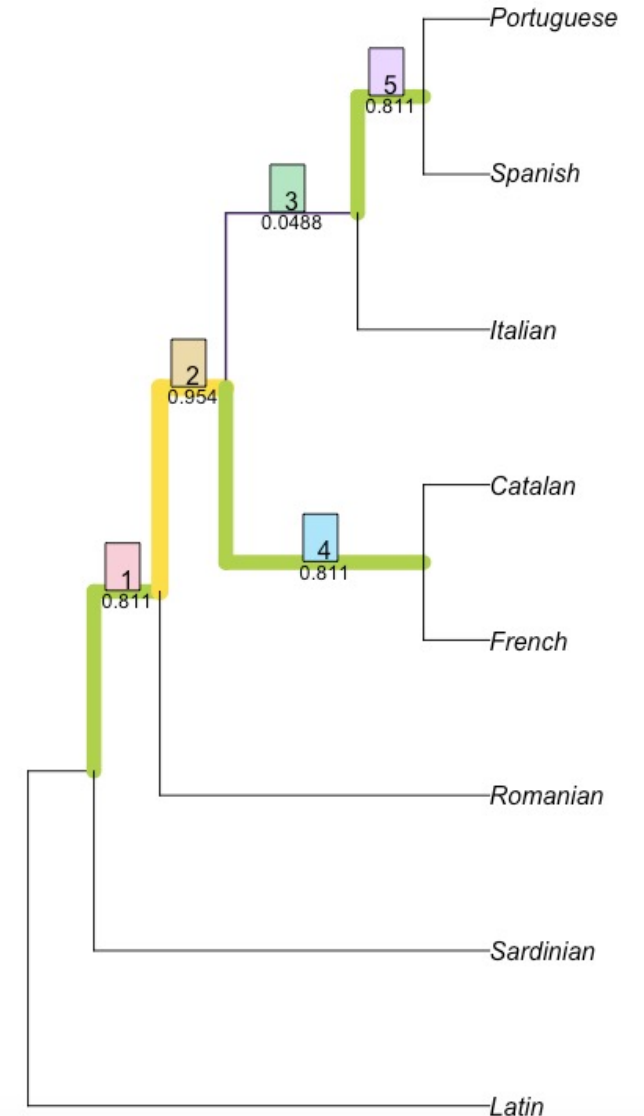
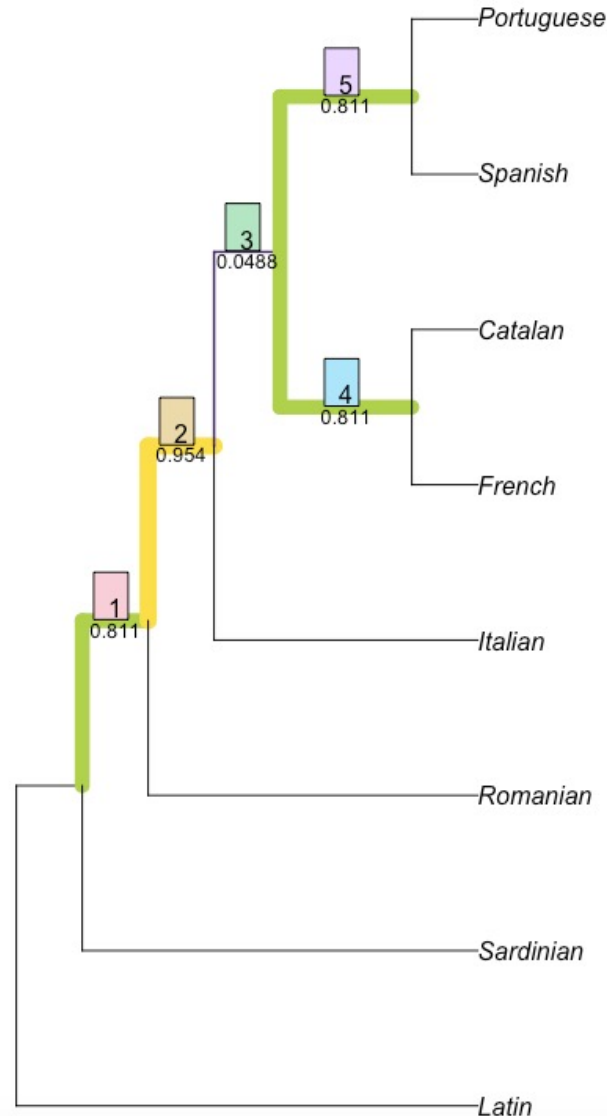


HOKAN: YANA TREE



COMPARING TREES IN R

- TreeDist package in R allows comparison between trees
- Measures topological distance between trees, various metrics
- Identical trees have distance of 0
- Based around matching and scoring splits



CONTACTS

- Wrote to Badr detailed description of PHOIBLE feature coding issue
 - He will get back to me this week
 - Organized thoughts about the issue are ready to forward to Steven Moran in case there is no clear solution
- Wrote to Prof. Möbius about serving as my second thesis advisor
 - He has accepted 😊
 - Suggested that the 3 of us meet once I have prepared a draft of the thesis proposal

OFFICIAL THESIS PROPOSAL

- Want to write it within next 1-2 weeks
- Length: ~10 pages
- What exactly should it include? How detailed?
- How far in advance does the associated talk need to be scheduled?

NEXT STEPS

