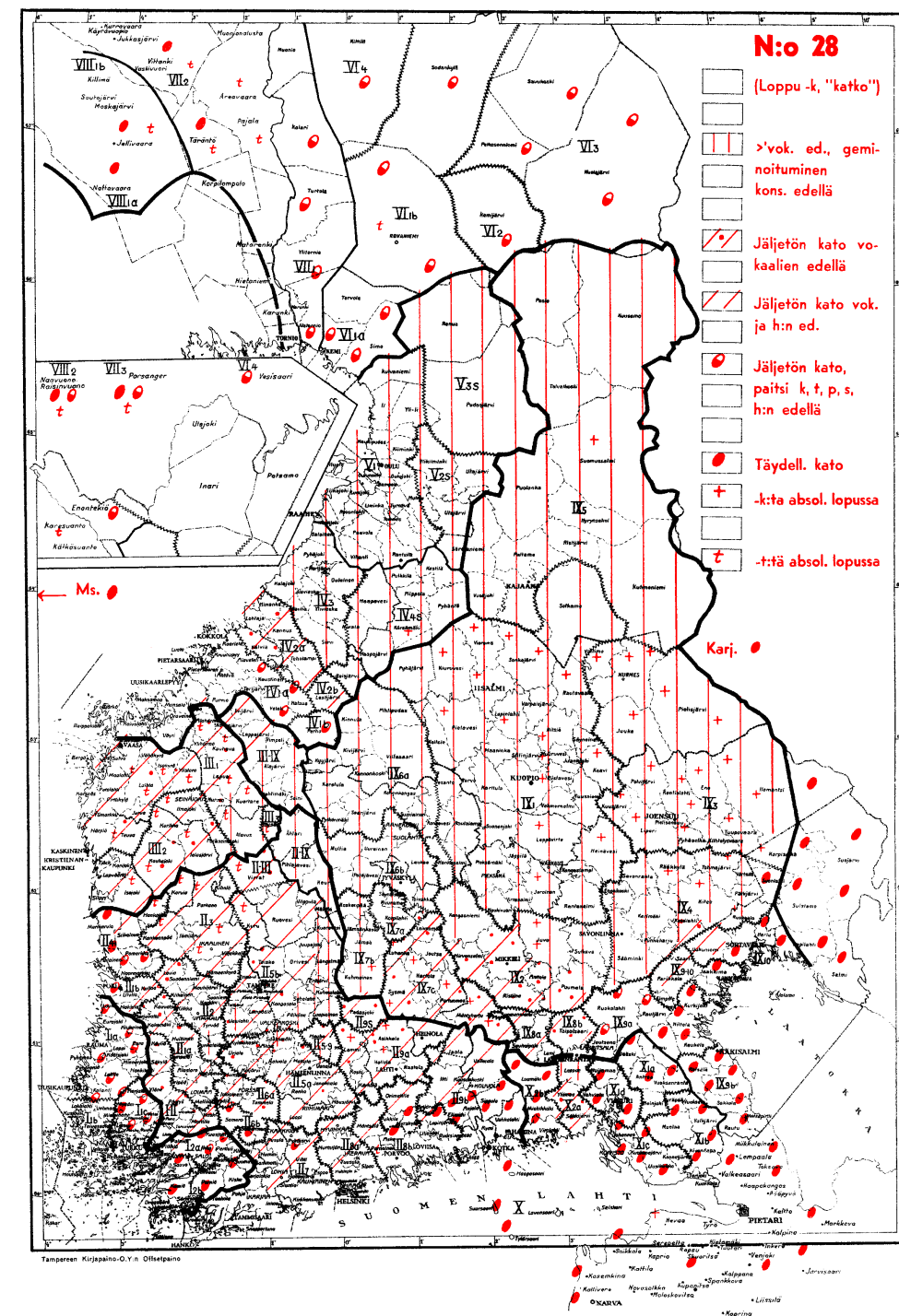


Agenda

- Introduction
- Data collection: national survey and rationale
- Comparison with earlier studies
- Conclusions: survey methods' capabilities and problems when studying language variation and change

From surveys to interviews – to surveys?

- Early dialectological work focused on (spoken) surveys
 - Resulting in many dialect atlases (e.g., Kettunen 1940)
- The interview method and the real time follow-up method have since been used to study linguistic change (in Finnish)
 - We continued the follow-up of linguistic change with an electronic survey in the interview locations



National survey in Finland



- **Focus group:** high school students
- **Locations:** rural municipalities and large cities already followed with interview methods
- **Content:**
 - **Background:** year of birth; gender; native language (fi/sv/other); location
 - **Self-reports:** Likert scales on language ideologies, daily language use and self-reporting of spoken Finnish variables + open questions
 - **Language attitudes:** perceptions on dialects and features (Osgood scales)
 - **Thoughts on language use and linguistics** (open ended question)

Self-reporting of variables

- Variables chosen based on earlier studies on spoken Finnish
 - Variables for which sociolinguistic follow-up studies predict expansion (e.g., monophthongization of A-final vowel pairs) or decline (e.g., *ht* instead of standard *ts*)
 - Variables shown to be locally important and stable (e.g., *mie* instead of standard *minä*, 'I', or expanding *mä*)
- A broad comparison with a large-scale synthesis of earlier works put forth by Mantila (2004) and with the dialect atlas of Kettunen (1940)
- A closer comparison with results based on the Longitudinal Corpus of Finnish spoken in Helsinki (e.g., Kuparinen 2021)
- Methodologically interesting to see whether the survey method can be used to continue the follow-up of linguistic change

Your linguistic profile

Below is a list of linguistic features presented by examples. Based on the scale (1–5), indicate how often do you use these features in your own speech or online messaging.

1 = I don't ever use, 2 = I hardly ever use, 3 = I might sometimes use, 4 = I use every now and then, 5 = I use often

mä, sä [minä, sinä] 'I, you'

mää, sää [minä, sinä] 'I, you'

mie, sie [minä, sinä] 'I, you'

korkee, kauhee [korkea, kauhea] 'high, horrible'

autoo, maitoo [autoa, maitoa] 'car-PTV, milk-PTV'

karkkii, kivii [karkkia, kiviä] 'candy-PTV, stone-PTV'

hajuu, kouluu [hajua, koulua] 'smell-PTV, school-PTV'

korkia, kauhia [korkea, kauhea] 'high, horrible'

halapa, kylmä [halpa, kylmä] 'cheap, cold'

mettä, kattoo [metsä, katsoa] 'forest, to watch'

mehtä, kahto [metsä, katsoa] 'forest, to watch'

ite, kato [itse, katso] 'self, watch-IMP'

tehä, yheksän [tehdä, yhdeksän] 'to do, nine'

kuuen, uuen [kuuden, uuden] 'six-GEN, new-GEN'

mittään, kettään [mitään, ketään] 'anything, anyone'

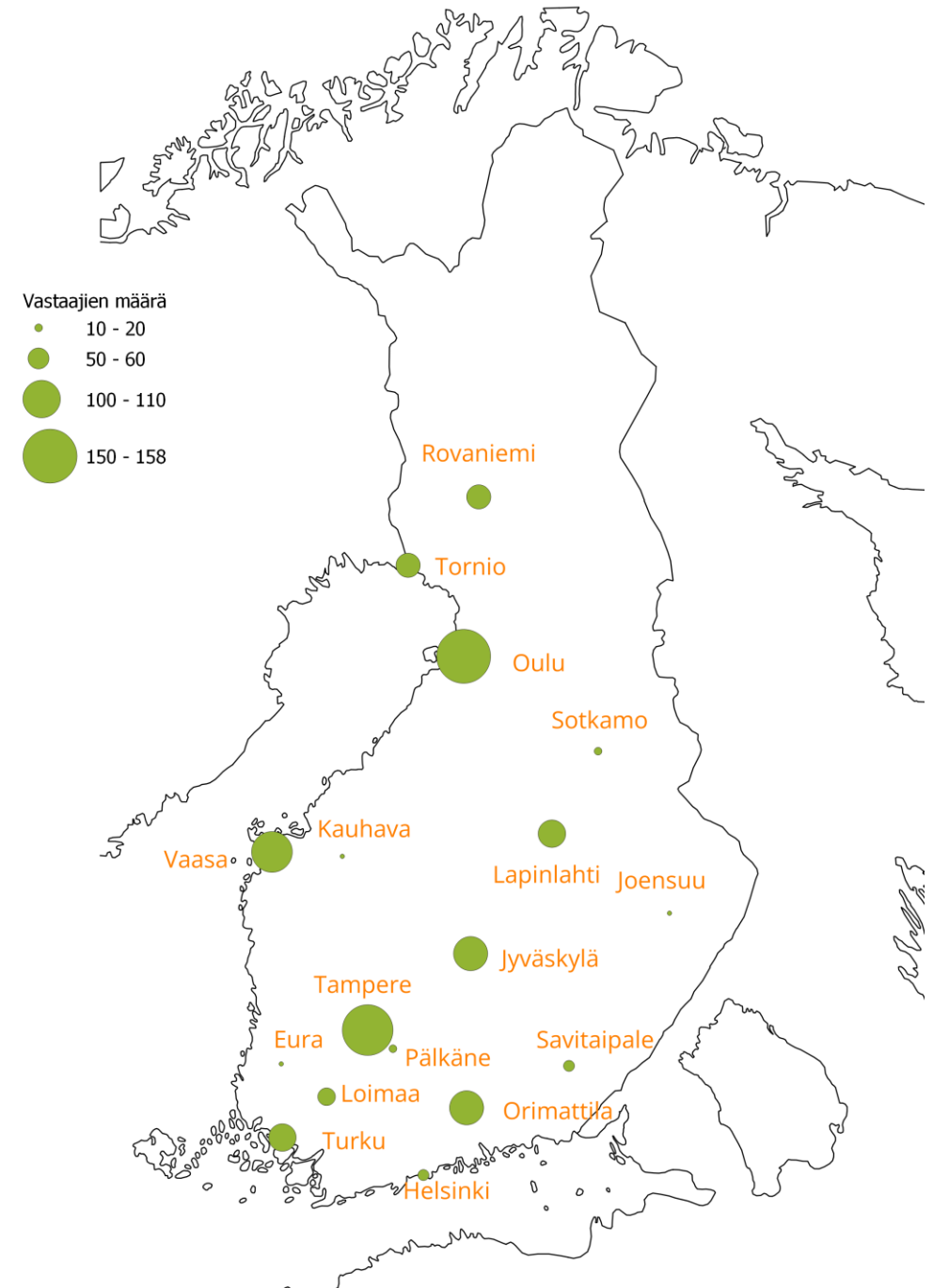
alkkaa, enemppää [alkaa, enempää] 'to begin, more'

nuari, hiano [nuori, hieno] 'young, fine'

voin hyppää, meen pelaa [voin hypätä, menen pelaamaan] 'I can jump, I go play'

Responses

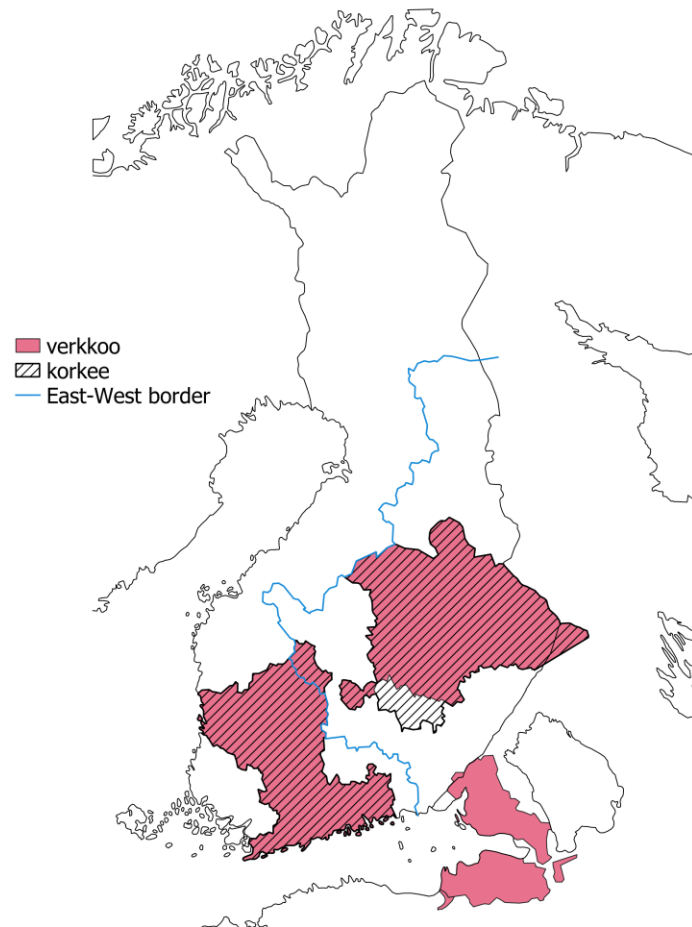
- Responses from 17 high schools
 - 1037 individual responses
- Remarkable deviations between locations



A-final vowel pairs

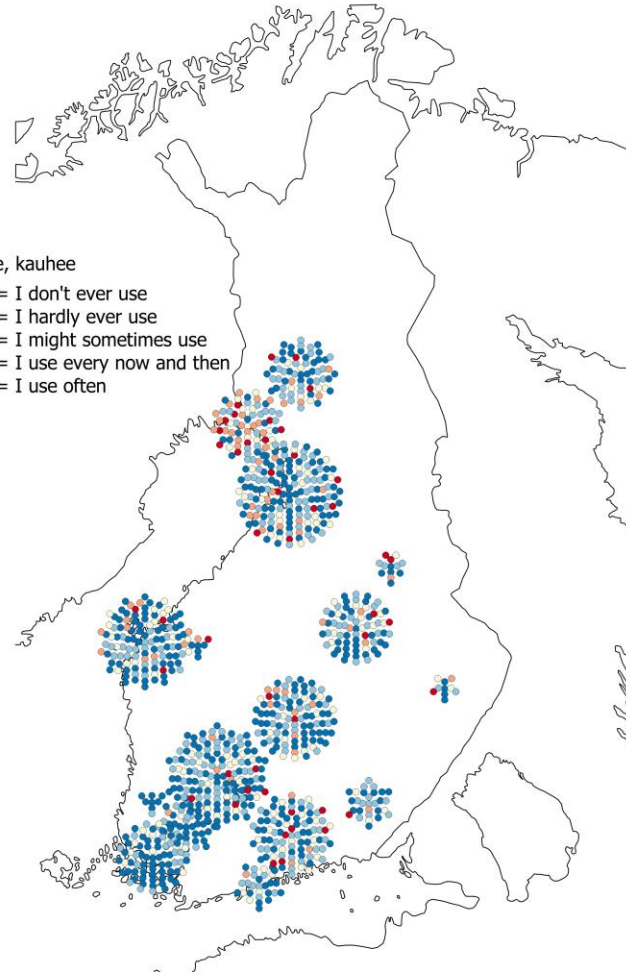
- Kettunen (1940): ee and oo popular in the south
- Mantila (2004): expanding across the country

Kettunen, maps 192, 194



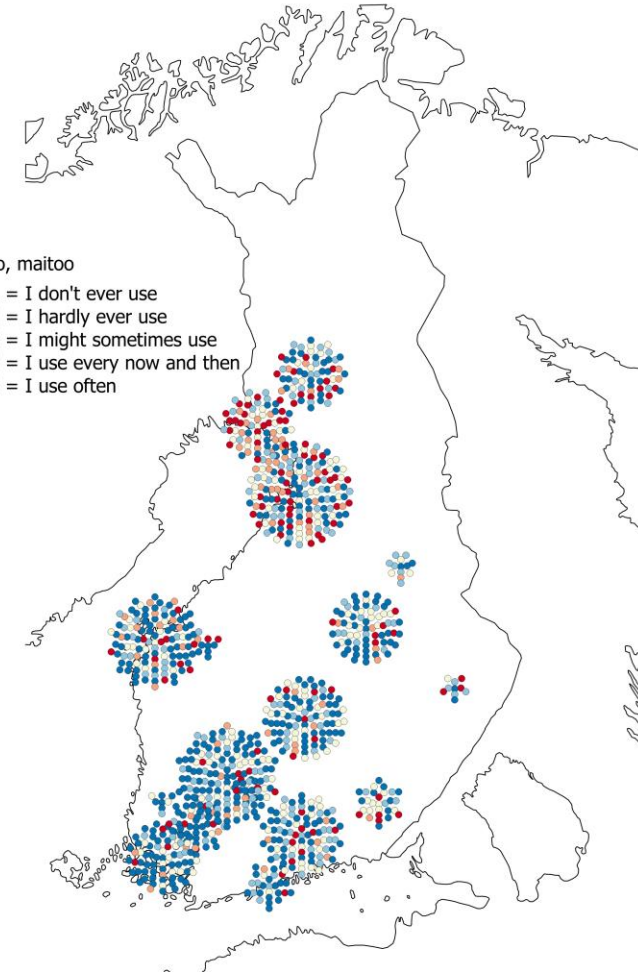
korkee, kauhee

- 1 = I don't ever use
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- 4 = I use every now and then
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autoo, maitoo

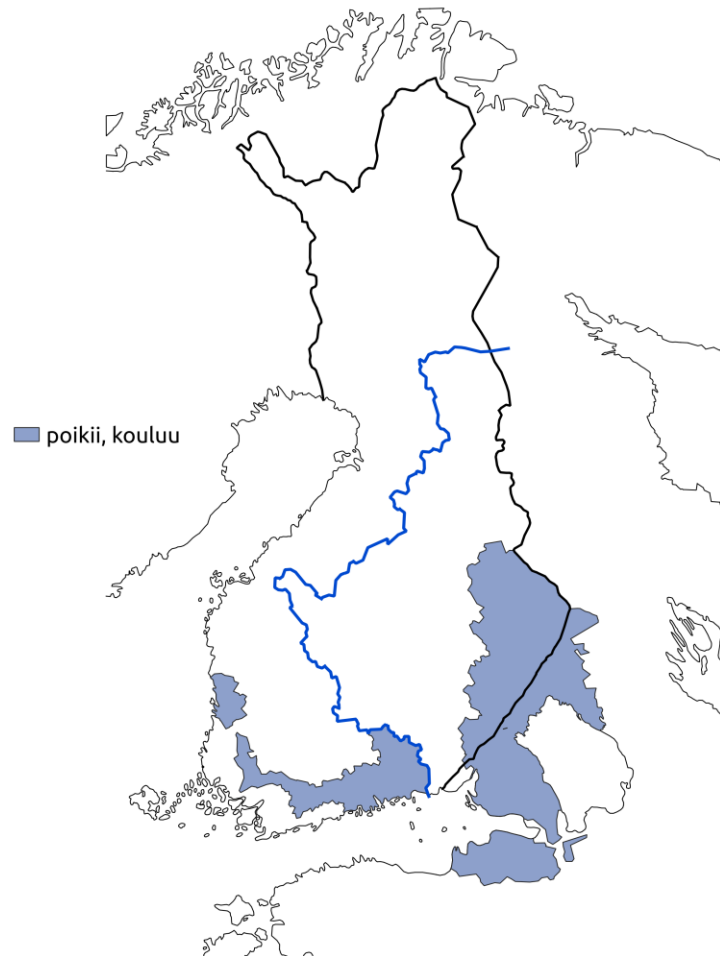
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A-final vowel pairs

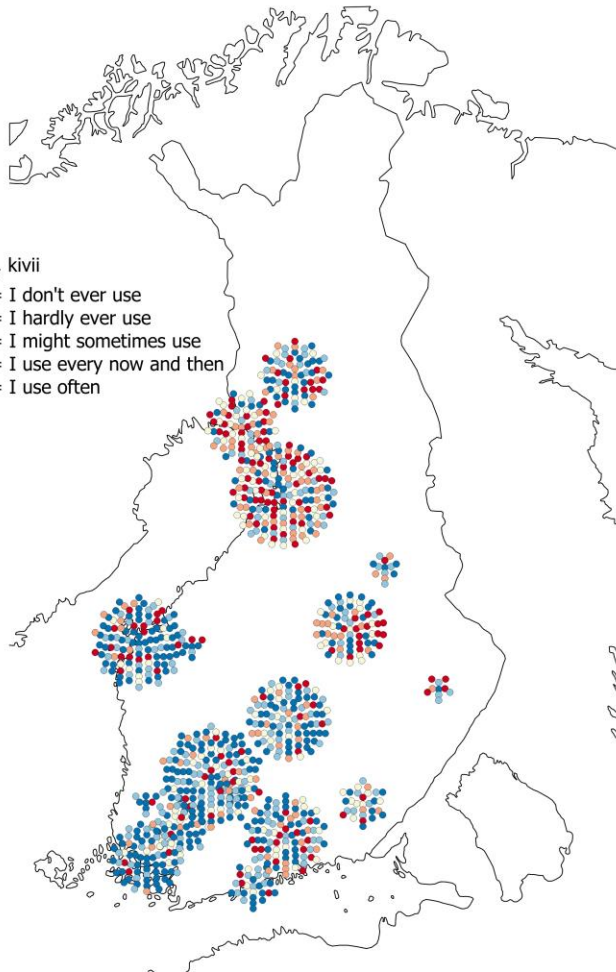
- Kettunen (1940): *ii* and *uu* in the South-East and around the coast
- Mantila (2004): expanding across the country

Kettunen, kartta 197



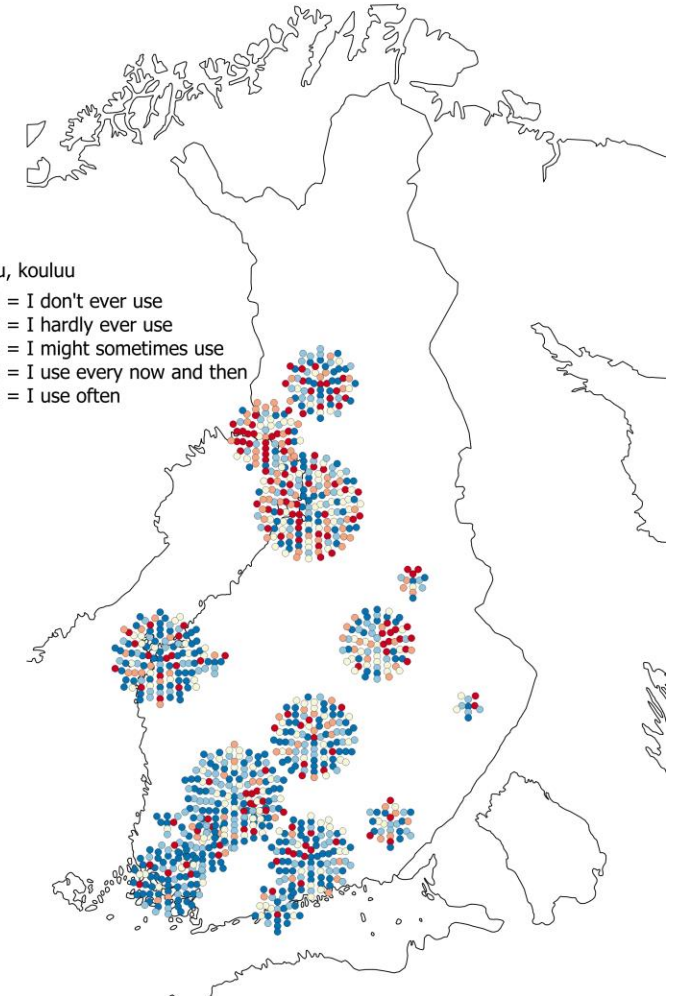
karkkii, kivii

- 1 = I don't ever use
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- 3 = I might sometimes use
- 4 = I use every now and then
- 5 = I use often



hajuu, kouluu

- 1 = I don't ever use
- 2 = I hardly ever use
- 3 = I might sometimes use
- 4 = I use every now and then
- 5 = I use often



Deletion of *d*

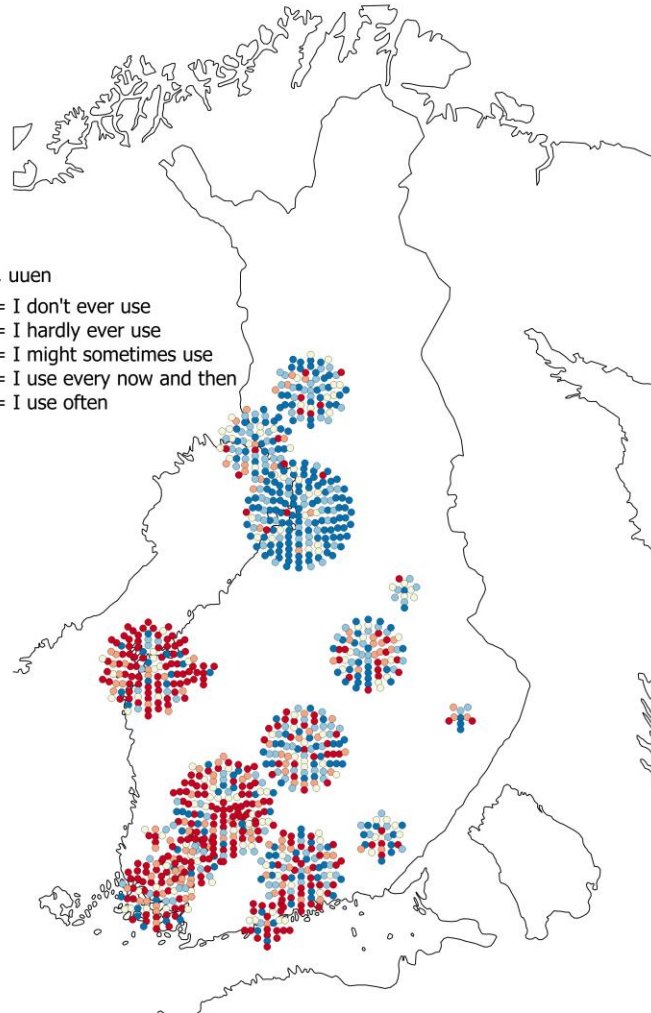
- Kettunen (1940): Happens in the East and North
- Mantila (2004): expanding across the country

Kettunen, maps 75, 81



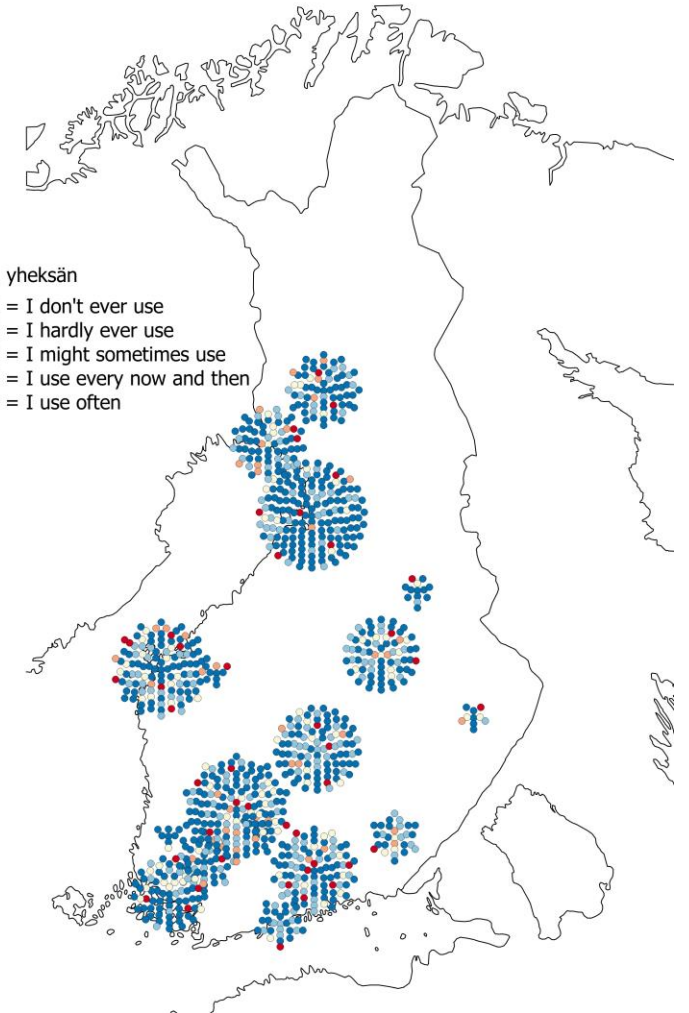
kuuen, uuen

- 1 = I don't ever use
- 2 = I hardly ever use
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- 5 = I use often



tehä, yheksän

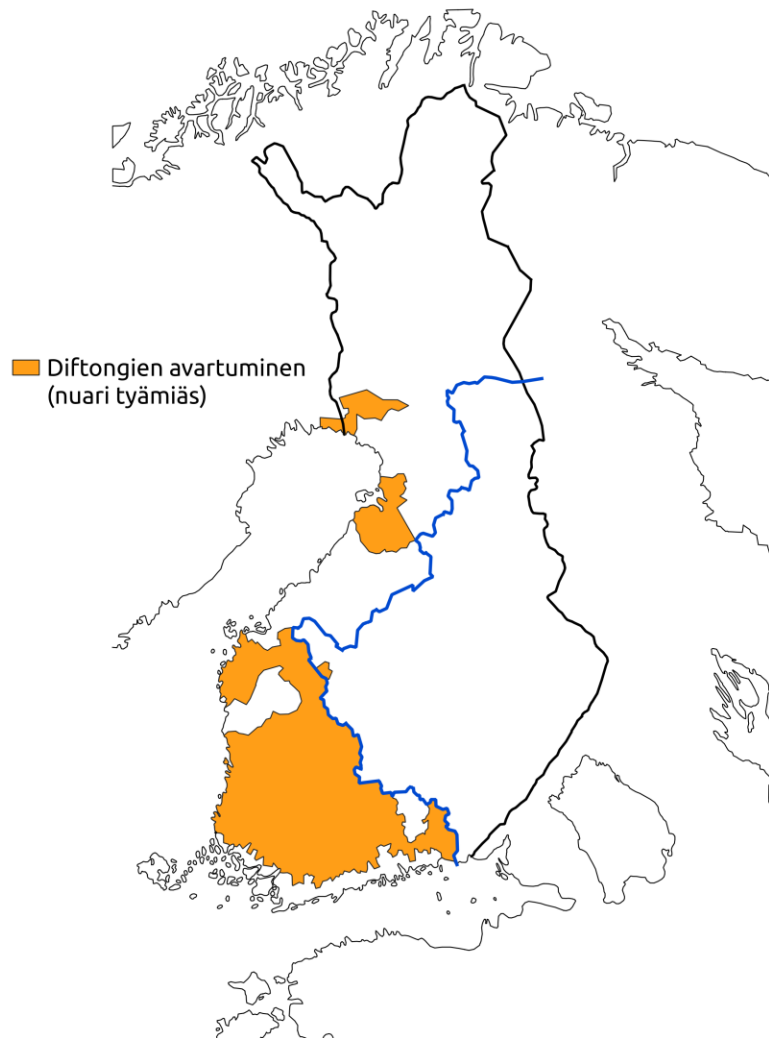
- 1 = I don't ever use
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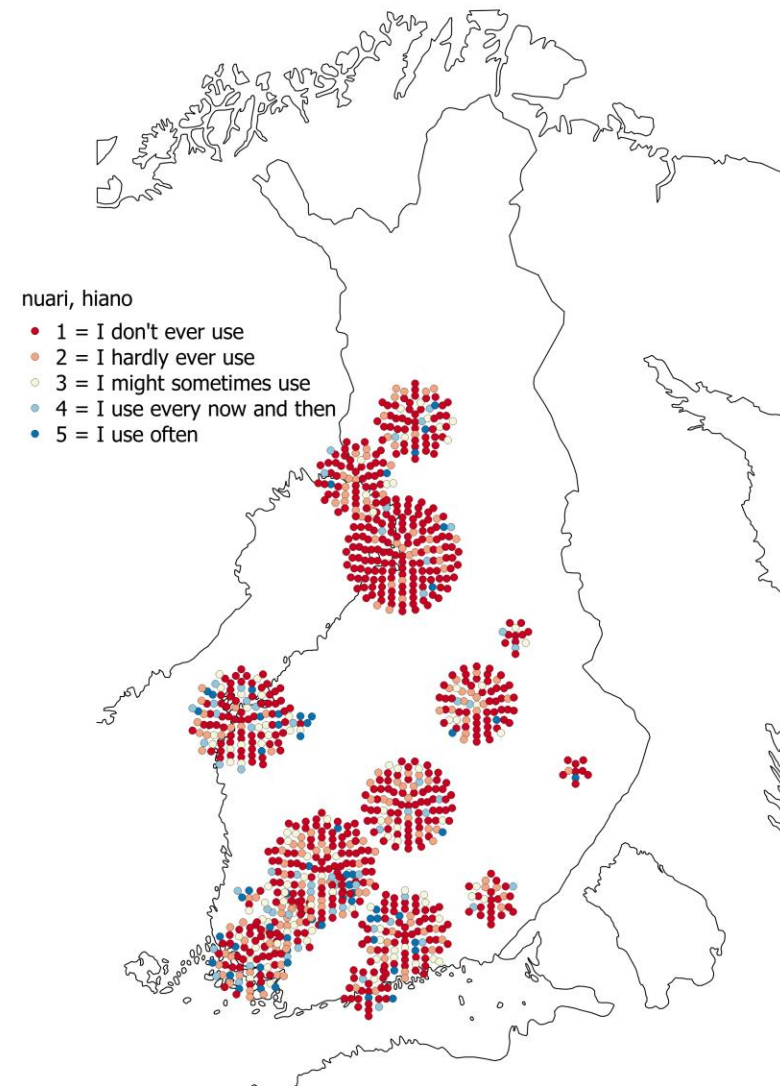
Diphthong opening

- Kettunen (1940): Widely used in the West
- Still popular in the West and South (e.g. Kurki 2005; Mustanoja 2011)

Kettunen, kartta 155



- A phonetic continuum from *uo* (standard) to *ua* (more open)
 - No way to show this in written form
- Very discrete variable for speakers: not salient in perception studies

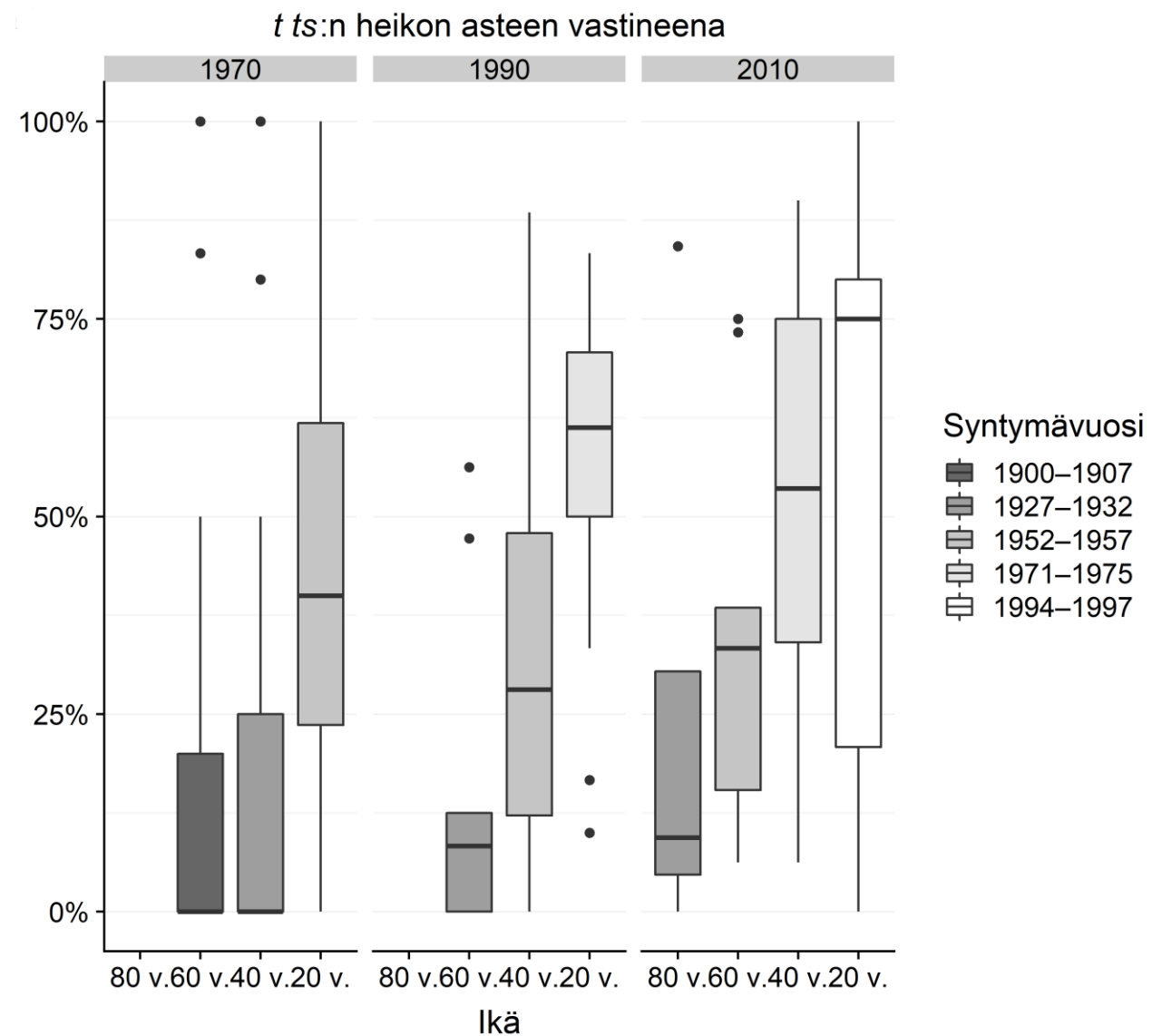


Real-time change in Helsinki

- Interview data from the 1970s, 1990s and 2010s
 - Analyzed in e.g., Paunonen 1995 [1982], Lappalainen et al. 2019, **Kuparinen 2021**
- Data from 199 speakers, follow-up of several linguistic features
- Can we compare real-time interview data with survey data?

t as a weak grade alternative of *ts* (*ite*, *kato*)

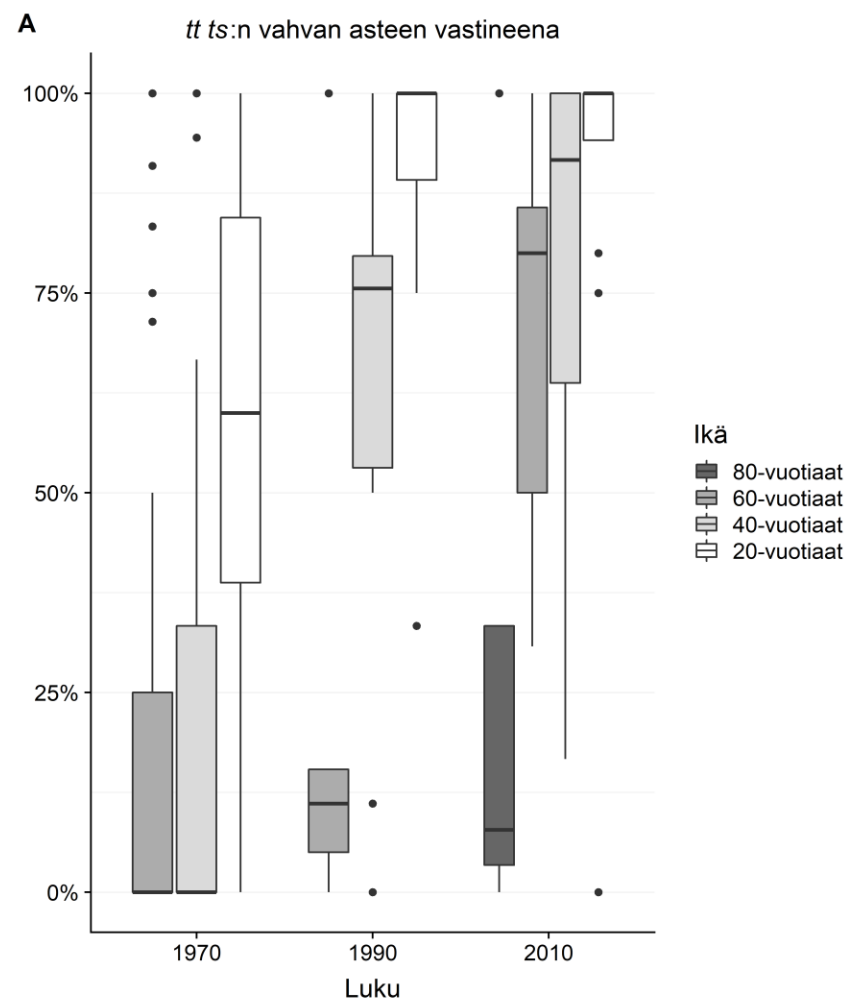
Comparison of the real-time change in the interviews and the survey responses from Helsinki



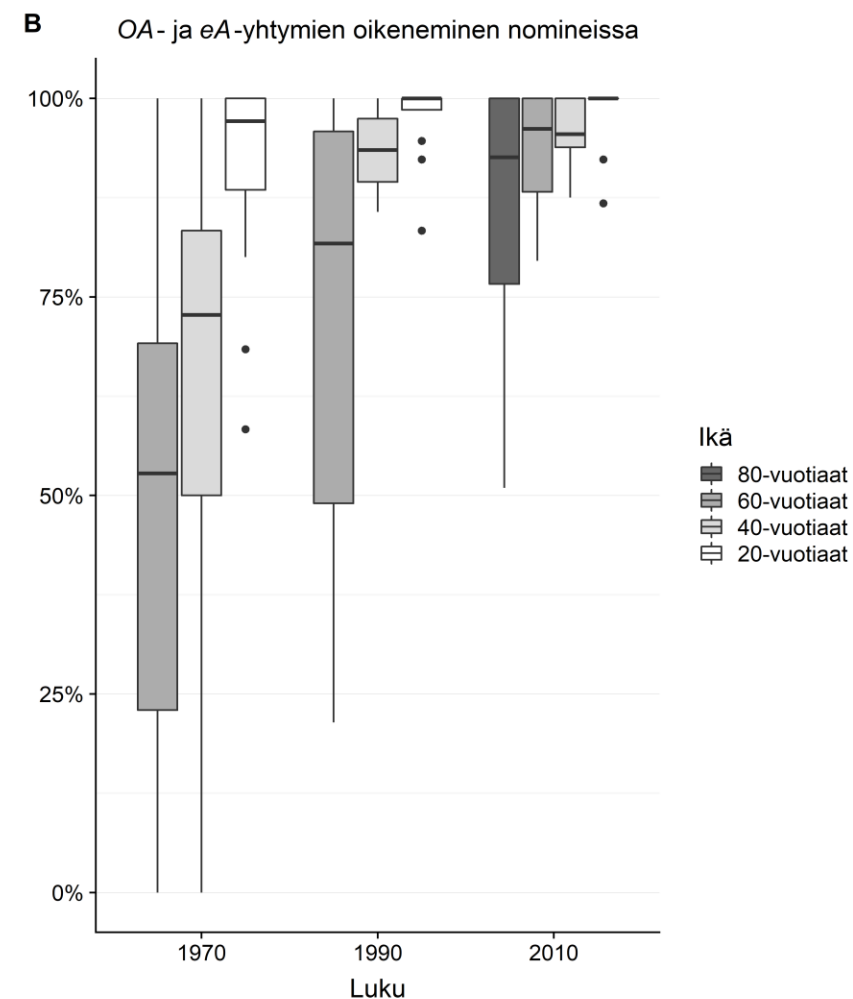
- Median value in survey:
5 (I use often)

***tt* as a strong
grade
alternative of *ts*
(left) (*mettä*)**

**Monophthongi-
zation of *OA*
and *eA* in
nouns (right)
(*korkee*)**



- Median value in survey:
2 (I hardly ever use)



- Median value in survey:
4 (I use every now and
then)

Critical evaluation

- The written form affects the self-reporting at least for some (phonetic) features
- For most features, the national results seem to line up with earlier studies and their predictions
- Comparison with results from Helsinki are not as clear: features that seemed to be in the same trajectory are reported very differently
- One must also consider the perceptions of the features (and example words) in self-reporting: respondents might claim they do not use some features because of their status
 - e.g., *mettä* in the strong grade vs. *ite* in the weak grade of *ts*