

Annual Report 2008 of the The Danish National Research Foundation LANCHART Centre



The student assistants and the junior staff of the centre participated enthusiastically in the traditional DHL relay race in Copenhagen, flashing their new t-shirts, which soon however turned into sweat shirts. At left: back row Peter Høgsted Tinggaard and Aslag Vaag, front row: René Staustруп, Martin Marko Hansen and Sebastian Krag Kristiansen. At bottom right: from left Michael Barner-Rasmussen, Janus Møller, Andreas Stæhr and Signe Wedel Schøning.

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Danish National Research Foundation

LANCHART Centre

2008

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Introduction

The year 2008 has from the start been singled out as the most important one in the centre's existence since by September 08 the materials for the midterm evaluation were to be handed in to the Danish National Research Foundation. This meant that the year's work was very focused on producing conference presentations which would disseminate the results of the centre to a wider audience and at the same time prepare the argument of written papers to be included in the materials. Obviously, the year was also interspersed with conferences to be attended - and organized, and lectures to be given, but the overarching aim was to finalize the data base so that the intermediary results could be formulated in papers.

The transcription effort culminated in 2007 and was by the end of March in principle finished. The central data base had been established thanks to the efforts of Peter Lind. The search engine was developed further in order to serve as the central tool for the analyses. The coding continued all through 2008 and has not been completed yet, although we are now in a position to analyze most of the grammatical and phonetic variables we have outlined as the most relevant ones.

In the over all design of the project now only material from generation 3 in Copenhagen is lacking. Such recordings are urgently needed in order to understand what goes on in the only norm center of the Danish speech community. This need will be remedied, among other things thanks to our taking part in the CLARIN project, in the fall of 2009 and once more a data set will be added which has to be transcribed in full. The data collection which will be directed by Marie Maegaard and Janus Møller will experiment with a mixture of data collection strategies thanks to the experience of both these researchers with ethnographic methods. As for the rest of the huge data base of as yet non transcribed recordings we shall proceed to integrate more material whenever a specific problem makes that necessary. We call this strategic transcription and it is needed in order to keep transcription costs at a minimum. The data base will be enlarged also with data sets which have already been transcribed, whenever this is possible so as to function as a general repository for the documentation of spoken Danish.

Staff

Administrative

IT manager Peter Lind left us by 1st of March 2008. We split up Peter Lind's job in two and took on BA Dorte Ostenfeldt as a corpus officer and cand. mag. Henrik Kauffman Sørensen as IT manager. Henrik left us after two months in order to return to his original work place. It turned out to be too hard to live on the island of Bornholm and having a steady work place in Copenhagen. At this point, department head Bente Holmberg drew our attention to an IT manager she had taken on as a part time employee, viz. Michael Barner Rasmussen. This turned out to be very lucky indeed and Michael Barner Rasmussen has at the time of writing this report just been hired permanently.

The organization of the administrative duties was rethought at the beginning of 2008 in a fruitful cooperative effort with the graduate school and the result was that Helene Christensen was succeeded by Katrine Reiff Sano, from now on administrator of the graduate school, whereas Joan Mortensen was succeeded by Lin Solvang who is now the administrator of the LANCHART centre. The cooperation between the administrators of the graduate school and the centre continues to be ideal.

Scientific

At the start of 2008 the center agreed with the Scandinavian Research Institute that the institute would pay for two of our scientific assistants, Jacob Thøgersen and Søren Beck Nielsen, for the rest of 2008 when the centre's allowance had been used up by the 1st of March. Originally, the institute had agreed to pay for Christina Fogtmann's work as head of the discourse context group but when Christina preferred a job with tenure at a university college as of 1st of February, we

were fortunate enough to get the consent of the institute to pay for Søren Beck Nielsen and Jacob Thøgersen. We gratefully acknowledge this generous support.

Jacob Thøgersen accepted a job as an assistant professor (adjunkt) at the newly created Centre for Internationalization and Parallel Language Use at the University of Copenhagen, CIP. He took up the position by the 1st of December. His duties at the center were first carried out by Christoph Hare Svendstrup but Christoph has been blessed with an international Ph.D. scholarship and the duties have now been transferred to Michael Barner Rasmussen. Søren Beck Nielsen got a post doc scholarship from the Danish Research Council for Culture and Communication and started in that capacity by the 1st of August. We are happy that Søren has decided to stay at the center and thus has become our first externally funded post doc. We have agreed that he will still, in fulfillment of his duties to the host institution, lead the discourse context group which he took over from Christina Fogtmann after a period of joint leadership.

Miguel Vazquez Larruscain, who holds a Ph.D. in phonology from Madrid and has been a visiting scholar at both Harvard University and Chicago University, was hired as a scientific assistant for three months 1st of July until 1st of September 08. His job was to prepare the phonological analysis of the LANCHART data in the next period. Miguel Vazquez Larruscain has delivered his report to the center. It will be available on the new web site soon.

Lillian Reinholdt Andersen left her position as a part time scientific assistant directing the daily business of the phonetics group by the 1st of April. Her duties were taken over by post doc, Ph.D. Marie Maegaard. We are thoroughly grateful to Lillian for her competent leadership in the all important first period.

As of December 16th Torben Juel Jensen has been appointed as an associate professor (lektor) for the period of the LANCHART Centre's existence.

This means that the transcription efforts are directed by Frans Gregersen, the grammar coding by associate professor Ph.D. Torben Juel Jensen, the phonetics group by post doc Ph.D. Marie Maegaard, the discourse context coding is directed by post doc Ph.D. Søren Beck Nielsen and the corpus work is managed and directed by corpus officer Dorte Ostenfeld. These, supplemented by IT officer Michael Barner Rasmussen, IT coordinator Jacob Thøgersen (now assistant professor at CIP) and leader of the language attitudes studies associate professor (lektor) Ph. D. Tore Kristiansen made up the coordination group in 2008. The group met regularly every week and has to the best of my knowledge managed all coordination problems between the groups perfectly.

Jens Normann Jørgensen continues to direct the studies of Danish as a second language and he has now formed a group with both Ph.D. students, post doc's and student assistants which will perform a study of linguistic practices inside and outside schools. More about this in the next annual report.

Internal communication: the newsletters

I have communicated important decisions, organizational changes, deadlines and all personnel news via the irregular newsletters of which we produced three in 2008. The wiki, developed by Peter Lind and admired by many projects at the university, has been revamped and will appear in a new guise during 2009. The same goes for the web home page.

Integration at the host institutes

The LANCHART Centre takes an active part in the life of two institutes, viz. the Scandinavian Research Institute and the Institute of Nordic Studies and Linguistics. During the year 2008, we invited friends and colleagues from the two institutes to two sessions where we presented the main results so far. The center director furthermore presented the center as an integrated part of the research at the Institute of Nordic Studies and Linguistics at the occasion of the visit of the dean of the faculty to the institute.

Course for the DG Centre directors

The Centre director has happily taken part in the course in leadership organized by the Danish National Research Foundation. I was particularly happy that the organizers accepted the proposal to welcome the group of five centre directors who have met regularly once every semester as one of the groups in the course. This made for a deeper discussion and hence greater benefit for all participants.

Guests

Professor *Dennis Preston* visited the center during the months of February, March and April 2008. The visit proved to be thoroughly stimulating for individual researchers, for the staff as a whole and for the centre's external activities.

Dennis Preston is the world's leading authority on perceptual dialectology, a field of research he has virtually created and continues to develop in collaboration with many of his former students and colleagues. Dennis Preston is, however, broadly qualified as a great linguist and in all the fields of research at the center, Dennis had new ideas and fresh insights to share. Furthermore, Dennis Preston taught us all how to benefit from the use of sophisticated statistical techniques which would fit our data when we want to draw conclusions as to the weight of the various factors in the variation we have disclosed.

Allow me to quote what I wrote in the self evaluation of the research effort:

“A final note on our visiting professor in 2008, Dennis Preston: I cannot imagine anyone better suited, research wise, pedagogically or as a human being, than Dennis Preston in helping us get our results in a format and a form so that they could be communicated to the sociolinguistic world. Dennis Preston served as our visiting professor for three months interspersed with visits to Germany and back to the states in the spring of 2008 and the effects of his stay have been immense.”

Kristjan Árnason discussed collaboration under the auspices of the exploratory workshops granted by the NOS-HS for 2009 with Tore Kristiansen and Frans Gregersen 19th of September. *Ásta Svavarsdóttir* worked at the centre from 22nd of September and until 1st of November. While *Ásta* was here, I had occasion to discuss further collaboration on language change in real time with her as a key member of Höskuldur Thráinsson's group at Reykjavik University. *Jacques Durand* visited the centre on the 25th of September and discussed further collaboration on the occasion of his tour of Denmark. The result may be seen in his group's participation in a workshop at the ICLaVE 5 in June 2009 and in an invitation to join the international handbook on corpus phonology, edited by among others Jacques Durand and Gjert Kristoffersen. I have been a consultant at various points in time to a great Dano-Icelandic project on the Danes in Iceland, directed by the untiring Audur Hauksdóttir of the Vigdis Finnbogadóttir Institute, Reykjavik as well as to a project for a new research infra structure with the radio archives at the University of Copenhagen as a core resource.

Three climaxes

First Climax of the year 2008 was the third meeting of the International Council (IC) Wednesday 5th of March through Tuesday 11th of March. For six whole days centre staff and various combinations of IC members discussed the work of the centre in 2007 and prepared for the presentations to be delivered at the various congresses later in 2008, in particular Sociolinguistics Symposium 17 (cf. below). The workshops had been planned so as to exploit the advisory power and experience of the IC fully while still allowing the individual members a free choice as to what to focus on. The IC construction has contributed decisively to the success of the center first and foremost through the three IC meetings. This was no exception.

The detailed program of the IC 3 may be seen in appendix 1 to this report.

Sociolinguistics Symposium 17 3rd to 5th of April 2008

The center contributed to the SS 17 in a number of ways. Some of us presented separate papers (Frans Gregersen, Torben Juel Jensen and Søren Beck Nielsen, Inge Lise Pedersen) but more importantly the center staff was involved in no less than three workshops, two of which had been planned by centre staff in collaboration with prominent colleagues. Jens Normann Jørgensen collaborated with Vally Lytra from the Rampton group at King's College London to give the audience an overview of Multilingualism and identities across contexts: Turkish-speaking youth in Europe; Janus Møller and Normann Jørgensen presented papers at this workshop. The papers from the workshop were published in advance by the two convenors as a special issue of Copenhagen Studies in Bilingualism. Normann Jørgensen has also published a paper on this subject in the highly prestigious *International Journal of Multilingualism*. Tore Kristiansen and our visiting professor during the first half of 2008, Dennis Preston acted as convenors of two sessions presenting evidence on The Macro/Micro of language attitudes, ideologies and folk perceptions. Tore Kristiansen and Nicolai Pharao gave a paper presenting the Danish evidence on attitude and language change in real time while Marie Maegaard's paper dealt with the social meaning potential as this may be disclosed by verbal guise experiments. Finally, Tore Kristiansen contributed to a workshop organized by Jannis Androutsopoulos on interfaces between media, speech and interaction.

The third and final climax has to do with the all important theme of the year 2008, getting the center from the data collection mode to the analysis and dissemination mode. We succeeded in publishing a number of papers but I want here to single out one important achievement: putting together a special issue of the International Journal *Acta Linguistica Hafniensia* devoted to presenting significant results of the various subprojects. The papers were all subjected to review by Danish and international peers, most of the papers being commented upon by two independent peers. The journal ALH has been published by Danish publishers since 1937 but it will hopefully shortly be taken over by Routledge/Taylor and Francis. We aim at publishing the special issue in June 2009 just in time for the International Congress of Language Variation in Europe which will take place in Copenhagen at the end of June.

Among the papers in the packed volume we find the forceful summary of the language attitude studies carried out by Tore Kristiansen at the Centre. Tore Kristiansen demonstrates convincingly that there is a very systematic, and obviously extremely important, difference between the language attitudes disclosed by verbal guise tests when informants are aware that they are being asked about language and when they are not focused on language.

Organization

The idea was to gear the organization in 2008 to writing presentations and papers. This is the reason why we not only established the coordination group to take care of the data flow, we also institutionalized a program of meetings focused on the discussion of presentations and papers planned for conferences or actually carried out. The program ran for the whole of the spring semester (cf appendix 2) and was supplemented by a concentrated period of writing and rewriting papers with a special focus on the issue of *Acta Linguistica Hafniensia* devoted to the centre results.

We have continued to develop the groups of student coders which we are in charge of and the result is that the groups now function without too much guidance or supervision. This is also because finances have not allowed us to take on new personnel except for three highly qualified students. The majority of the coders are by now thoroughly familiar with all routines.

I have communicated with the whole group of employees by means of circulars which are sent out without any fixed schedule, i.e. when there is something to communicate.

Self evaluation

In view of the fact that the center has had to self evaluate I have chosen to use the relevant parts of the self evaluation report delivered to the midterm evaluation panel as a basis. I have added a number of passages detailing the achievements as I see them and two comments at the end concerning the work from September and till now.

Research achievements related to the original research plan

Let me sum up here what I think we have achieved:

a unique text corpus, a database driven search engine and a file administration system. We have collected a unique text corpus consisting of 398 recordings which have been categorized as to place, project and recording year as well as the persons participating in the recording. The text corpus has been tailored to the research objectives of the LANCHART project. The aim has therefore been to make it maximally suitable for phonetic, grammatical, lexical and interactional studies of language variation and change. But as the LANCHART corpus is extraordinary, not only after Danish but also after international standards, it should of course also be useful for other types of linguistic studies - and we certainly believe it is. We have identified and registered all persons interviewed as informants and all others participating in the recordings (more than thousand different speakers) and entered their data in a data base with all the information we have including gender, class and age at the time of the recording. In most instances this is supplemented by information on the informant's life history included in the content of the tapes themselves. The database may be accessed via the search engine making the both the background information and text corpus accessible for analyses.

We have developed reliable and consistent transcription practices as well as coding practices for Discourse Context, Grammatical variables, Phonetic Variables and we have coded a lot of the recordings (the precise amount of coded material was documented in Gregersen 2009 but cf the comments at the end of this section). The digital infrastructure of the LANCHART project makes it possible not only to study the influence of geographical origin, gender and social class on the use of the linguistic variables in question and the possible interaction of functional and sociolinguistic factors but also to analyse possible correlation between the different linguistic variables and between linguistic variables and discourse context.

Through sustained cooperation with Peter Juel Henriksen of the Copenhagen Business School we have had the corpus Part of Speech tagged in its entirety as well as transcribed using an adapted version of the SAMPA-format. This makes a number of very interesting studies possible (cf. the research plan 2009-15).

analysis of individuals' change of the use of variants in real time

In the grammatical and phonetic analyses we have pointed out on the basis of solid evidence from the corpus that individual informants *do* change in real time even though they were past the so-called critical age at the time of their first recording. This goes counter to the sociolinguistic orthodoxy at the time of writing the first project proposal. Since then Gillian Sankoff in a series of papers has been instrumental in pointing out the possibility that the predictions from apparent time studies had only limited validity. We may say that we document that the limitations in the apparent time design type are more serious than anyone had dreamt of at the time of writing the first project proposal in 2004. Furthermore, our results raise doubts as to the widespread assumption that variation is necessarily bound to indicate that a change is going on. Our results of both the phonetic and the grammatical study indicate that we may very well have widespread and significant variation *without* any change in the linguistic system, whatever that is.

An illustration of this point may clarify it. In the paper on phonetic variation for the ALH we discuss the six persons who have changed significantly in their use of the high raised variant of the short a in Danish. We bring a table as follows:

Gender	Social class	Study	Direction of change	% [raised a]	% [a]	n	Significance
F	WC	S1	↓	18	82	44	
		S2		0	100	42	**
M	WC	S1	↓	20	80	44	
		S2		0	100	42	**
F	MC	S1	↓	10	90	39	
		S2		0	100	45	*
F	MC	S1	↑	2	98	42	
		S2		24	76	41	**
M	MC	S1	↑	5	95	41	
		S2		28	73	40	**
M	MC	S1	↑	21	79	43	
		S2		41	59	51	*

Table 3: The results of the six informants from Copenhagen who changed significantly. The recordings are sociolinguistic interviews. The test used here, and in the other calculations in the paper, is Fisher's exact test, since the data are very unequally distributed among the cells of the table, which makes the χ^2 -test unsuitable. * indicates $p < 0.05$, ** indicates $p < 0.005$.

As you can see, three of the informants change to a significantly lower proportion of raised a while three others change in the opposite direction. As it stands, this particular result might be explained away as a specific development only relevant to a small number of individuals and/or a single phonetic variable but the beauty of it is that we have demonstrated this type of life span change in both phonetic and grammatical variables and that each variable patterns differently as to which persons exhibit the life span change and which do not (cf. the papers in the ALH). This runs counter to all textbook knowledge about change in real time and thus represents crucial evidence that the complexity of variation has been severely underestimated.

integration of levels of analysis

We have started integrating the levels of description within sociolinguistics in that we have identified possible areas of overlap and possible areas of difference between phonetic variation, grammatical variation, discourse variation and interactional patterns. These attempts are documented in the papers making up the special issue of Acta Linguistica Hafniensia (vol. 41) which will appear shortly. They were initiated at a workshop at the ICLaVE 4 at Nicosia, Cyprus and sparked interest already at this early stage since they were seen as a fresh start at something long overdue.

language attitudes, conscious and non-conscious

We have carried out language attitudes studies at five of the sites for the LANCHART project and Tore Kristiansen has summarized the results in a number of publications, most recently in his contribution to the ALH 41 which was very well received by the peer reviewers. The studies reveal a remarkably consistent pattern of response from the Danes to stimuli such as the ones used in consciously given as well as subconsciously given reactions.

We have developed the study of language attitudes further, again with the aim of integrating the disciplines so that we may get a firmer grip of what it is that Danes react so consistently to in the attitudes studies by looking at the stimuli. This approach was presented by Tore Kristiansen and Nicolai Pharaoh at the SS17 in Amsterdam to a full auditorium in the context of the workshop

organized by Kristiansen and Dennis Preston mentioned above. Marie Maegaard has developed the reaction side in the studies in various ways and has presented these developments to the NWAV 35 in Philadelphia (2007) as well as in Amsterdam.

The subproject Modsjæl (Modern Sealand Danish, one of the two Næstved projects) has started the phonetic analysis. The first variable under study by Andreas Stæhr, Louise Kammacher, and J. Normann Jørgensen is the aj-diphthong. The primary purpose of the first round of analysis is to determine whether the predictions of Kristiansen - with respect to the relationship between attitudes (as expressed by local speakers of the relevant age in the mid-1980's) and linguistic change - hold when the same speakers are recorded 20 years later. Do language attitudes expressed by an individual at a particular point in time predict the same individual's change at a later point in time?

linguaging in a multilingual society

We have developed the results from the Køge study (Jens Normann Jørgensen and his associates) further. In a series of papers Jørgensen and Janus Møller have integrated interactional analysis, quantitative analyses of real time data, and a theoretical critique of the notion of language or code choice concluding in the penetrating analysis of the notion of language which leads Normann Jørgensen to propose the important notions of linguaging and polylinguistic behaviour instead of language and code-shift, cf. the book *Linguaging* which will appear shortly.

challenging the uniformitarian principle

This leads on to the theoretical work at the centre. Here we have not yet published any of the ideas but I have presented papers on the relationship of language and societal forms to the Royal Academy of Sciences and to the third IC-meeting, cf. below. I also gave a paper on the work on historical processes at the ICHL in Montreal August 2007. The idea is to take the challenge from the evo-devo (evolutionary-developmental) view of linguaging seriously by pointing out that we cannot accept the uniformitarian principle (Labov 1994: 21) if we want to solve the historical paradox (ibid.). The uniformitarian principle tells us that the past is like the present and thus that what we see around us as ongoing linguistic change can and should be taken as evidence of what went on in the past. We have pointed out that this paradoxically underestimates the intimate relationship between historical social processes and linguistic changes. In the historical work within the centre we focus on the documented relationships between historical processes as we know them from the previous century and the linguistic changes in the speech communities that make up the legislative state of Denmark. Inge Lise Pedersen and Signe Wedel Schøning have detailed this complex relationship in a number of papers and Inge Lise Pedersen focussed on the difference between the Odder and the Vinderup speech community in her paper to the SS 17.

refining sociolinguistic methodology

We have prepared a number of methodological studies, creating a small corpus of selected recordings which have been coded for all instances of all variables, grammatical, phonetic, discourse context. The possibilities of this corpus have not by far been fully exploited yet. We have also created a number of matched pairs with recordings with the same speaker in various contexts (two different interviewers both performing a single person interview, the same speaker taking part in a single person interview and a double person interview or a group conversation, the same speaker in two different situational contexts (an interview and a lunch break at the workplace, an interview and a girl scouts' meeting etc). Finally, we have plans to compare the old phonetic codings with the new ones to see whether coding itself has a historical side to it. These methodological studies allow us to live up to the challenge given in Bailey and Tillery's important 2001 paper on methodological issues. As a case in point I would like to mention here that Jens Normann Jørgensen, Andreas Stæhr and Louise Kammacher have started looking at the Modsjæl project in order to check inter-coder reliability. This is possible since we have both the old codings and may enter new ones based on the coding principles of the rest of the project. The group

currently focus on the aj-diphthong. A similar project will be carried out later on the Copenhagen recordings.

Thus, I want to sum up as follows: I am proud of what we have achieved in the relatively short time span we have been in existence. I think all the decisions we have made have been the right ones and only the history of our discipline may prove whether this was indeed the case or not. But there is no doubt to my mind that we cannot hope to get the optimal results of this grand operation before a much longer period has elapsed. We are still at the beginning of our impact.

Comparison of the centre's accomplishments to the work of high standing research groups internationally in this field of research.

Let me sum up my own impressions like this:

Our work is much too little known as yet but this will hopefully change by the end of the ICLaVE 5 in Copenhagen June 25th to 27th 2009. We have been present at all the important meetings within the field of sociolinguistics and we are beginning to make ourselves felt at meetings for theoretical linguists as well (cf the NLVN initiative, and FG's keynote at the ScanDiaSyn grand meeting August 2008). It is my conviction that thanks to the work of Tore Kristiansen, Marie Maegaard, Jacob Thøgersen, Nicolai Pharao and Malene Monka we are at the cutting edge of research on language attitudes and thanks to the work of Jens Normann Jørgensen and Janus Møller unique in our approach to studying minority language learning (in this case Turkish) from an all encompassing sociolinguistic perspective including a historical and real time perspective. I do not however think that the potential of the group we have assembled at the centre and the synergy this has already created has come to its full yet. This is why it is so essential for us to have a prolongation to fulfil all our promises.

In contrast to groups that had all the material at their disposition right from the start we had to create everything from scratch (excluding the old recordings but they badly needed cataloguing and have all been realigned which is a time consuming enterprise, and tedious) and still do. This is why we felt the need to document the possibilities in this unique project by including in the papers submitted for evaluation so many new ones, written expressly for the Acta Linguistica Hafniensia in order to present the first results. I might add that the papers for the Acta Linguistica Hafniensia 41 have been peer reviewed mostly by two peers carefully selected among the leading scholars in the field. Peer reviewers have, according to the rules laid down by the Ministry of Science and Innovation, not been anonymous and it is my pleasure here to acknowledge our gratitude to all of the reviewers.

Two comments on the work since the delivery of materials for the midterm evaluation:

I am not familiar with any literature on the subject but I am certain that it is common for a group that has worked very hard in order to meet a deadline has to stop and change tempo immediately after the deadline has been reached. This certainly happened at the beginning of September 08 for us. Soon, however, we changed gear again and rose to the challenge of having to produce papers for an important occasion for some of us: The centenary of the Dialect Department at the University of Copenhagen.

We have also carried through a number of new grammatical analyses and the phonological variable of schwa-D has been operationalised. The variable concerns the consonant of the suffix 'et' in standard spoken Copenhagen Danish and whether this is pronounced with a plosive or an approximant or simply as schwa. The variable is particularly interesting for us since it is hypothesized to have followed quite different trajectories in the different regions studied. Comparisons between regions will allow us to study the influence from other linguistic levels on phonological variation.

Finally, we are now in a position to evaluate what we call the *spatial dynamics: patterns of linguistic spreading in a late modern society*. This is the subject of an abstract accepted for presentation at the ICHL in Nijmegen, August 2009. The presentation will focus on the geographical distribution of variation in the old and new recordings, including both grammatical and phonetic variables. For all the variables, there are significant differences between localities, between age cohorts (i.e. change in apparent time), and between old and new recordings (i.e. change in real time). The central question addressed is whether the patterns of variation may be explained by the standardization hypothesis (that all linguistic changes in the late modern Danish speech community originate in Copenhagen and spreads from there to the rest of the country in a pace determined by the (geographical or cultural) distance to Copenhagen). The results highlight the relationship between unidirectional variation leading to change on the one hand and stable variation on the other: The distributions of some of the variables indicate that the direction of change has reversed during the time period covered in the study. We argue that the socio-structural forces of 'cultural geography' modify the rate of accommodation to this change of direction, giving the impression of a *moving target*, arguably resulting from a change in social significance for the variants in question.

Collaboration CLARIN

The work within the Danish CLARIN project was started at the beginning of the year. At a meeting 9th of June, the CLARIN work packages presented their projects. Since we coordinate WP 3 on spoken language and since this includes close collaboration with the SDU-group headed by Johannes Wagner and including Professor Brian MacWhinney at Carnegie Mellon, as well as Peter Juel Henriksen, CBS, and Costanza Navaretta and Patrizia Paggio at CST we have had occasion to discuss with the inventor of CHILDES and this proved to be very effective indeed when Brian MacWhinney and his programmer Leonid Spektor in close collaboration with Torben Juel Jensen developed a conversion programme linking the CHAT transcription system to Praat, the format we use for coding LANCHART files.

Work Package 3 members have all been active in the creation of a user group for the CLARIN research infra structure. The result is a closer collaboration with on the one hand the Dialect Dictionary Ømålsordbogen, and on the other the DanPASS project, directed by Nina Grønnum. Michael Barner Rasmussen is currently developing the search engine so that this may be included in the CLARIN project as a tool for everyone interested in subjecting spoken language data to corpus linguistic work.

Conclusion

This year has been focussed on developing the centre so that we may enter the third period of research, the period of analysing and disseminating world wide but first and foremost to the Danish speech community the results of the huge enterprise we have taken it upon ourselves to manage. I think we have made some headway on both counts and I gladly submit this report to the board of the National Danish Research Foundation.

**Programme for the
Third International Council Meeting (IC3) in Copenhagen**

Wednesday 5th of March (beware the Ides of March!) to Tuesday 11th of March 2008

Wednesday 5th of March 10 to 16:

Historical processes as determinants of Linguistic Change

Chair: Inge Lise Pedersen, with Frans Gregersen, Dorte Greisgaard Larsen and Malene Monka

10.00-11.00: General presentation of the problem of integrating historical processes in the study of linguistic change

Inge Lise Pedersen and Frans Gregersen

11.00-11.15: *Coffee break*

11.15-12.30: Historical and linguistic changes in the countryside, Vinderup vs. Odder in the light of dialect levelling models

Inge Lise Pedersen

12.30-13.30: *Lunch*

13.30-14.00: Malene Monka presents her Ph.D. project on the influence of mobility on dialect levelling

14.00-14.15: Discussion

14.15-14.45: Dorte Greisgaard Larsen presents her Ph.D. project on narratives of socialization

14.45-15.00: Discussion

15.00-15.15: *Coffee break*

15.15-16.00: General discussion of history and language change,
PRESENT from the IC: Dennis Preston, Paul Kerswill, Mats Thelander

Thursday 6th of March 10 to 16:

Phonetic Variation and Change

Chair: Marie Maegaard, with Nicolai Pharao, Inge Lise Pedersen, Jens Normann Jørgensen, Lilian Reinholdt and Frans Gregersen

10.00-11.00: Presentation of the results of the quantitative analyses of the /a/-variables (AN, AM, AJ, and ANR) from Copenhagen and Næstved.

The results are related to the predictions/hypotheses given in the original Copenhagen and Næstved studies, and the implications for apparent time studies are discussed

Frans Gregersen, Marie Maegaard & Lilian Reinholdt

11.00-11.15: *Coffee break*

11.15-12.30: Variation and lexical frequency effects

Discussion of the role of use, as measured in the frequency of tokens of words containing the phonological variables studied in the LANCHART project. To what extent can the patterns of variation presented at last year's meeting as well as the patterns of variation found in the latest analyses be explained with reference to frequency – and what is the explanatory power of frequency?

Nicolai Pharao & Inge Lise Pedersen

12.30-13.30: *Lunch*

13.30-16.00 (with a *coffee break* somewhere around 15.00)

Phonetic variation and the discourse context analysis – how do we get to the bottom of things?

Preliminary results suggest a potential for associations between some of the phonetic variables and some of the discourse contexts. But given the relative complexity of discourse context coding and some surprising developments in the phonetic variables, we are in need of methods for analysing and a forum for discussing the interpretations of the correlations between the phonetic variation and the discourse contexts.

Marie Maegaard & Nicolai Pharao

PRESENT from the IC: Dennis Preston, Paul Kerswill, Mats Thelander

This evening Tore Kristiansen and Pia Jarvad will present the Nordic Project on Imported words in the Society for Nordic Philology. You are all welcome. The presentation will be in Danish.

Friday 7th of March 10 to 16:

Grammatical Variation and Change

Chair: Torben Juel Jensen with Jeffrey Parrott and Frans Gregersen

10.00-10.45: Toward a unified bio-sociolinguistics: Distributed Morphological mechanisms of intra-individual variation in morphosyntax, cf. papers enclosed for participants

Jeffrey K. Parrott

10.45-11.00: *Coffee break*

11.00-12.00: Is Danish more case-less than German? Pronominal case-form variation in coordinates and other syntactic environments, cf. papers enclosed for participants

Jeffrey K. Parrott

12.00-13.00: *Lunch*

13.00-14.00: Generic pronouns in Danish. Presentation and discussion of results

Torben Juel Jensen

14.00-15.00: Reflexive pronouns in Danish. Presentation and discussion of results

Torben Juel Jensen

15.00-15.15: *Coffee break*

15.15-16.00: Word order in dependent sentences in Danish. Presentation and discussion of analytical methods and perspectives

Torben Juel Jensen & Frans Gregersen

PRESENT from the IC: Peter Auer, Dennis Preston, Paul Kerswill, Mats Thelander

Saturday 8th of March 13.00 to 16.00 (OBS only afternoon session):

BUSINESS MEETING:

13.00-16.00:

- Taking stock: Report on the year's work, cf. annual report
- Plans for the future:
 - A: congresses, symposia, conferences
 - B: papers for books, authored books
 - C: papers for journals, which ones?
- Discussion of how we can do (everything) better in the next period

PRESENT from the IC: Peter Auer, Dennis Preston, Paul Kerswill, Helge Sandøy, Mats Thelander

followed by dinner at the Restaurant SULT, Vognmagergade 8B (in the centre of town not far from the Phoenix) cf. <http://www.dfi.dk/cinamateket/restaurantogcafe/restaurant.htm> for all members of the IC present in Copenhagen at dinnertime.

Sunday 9th of March 10 to 16:

Subjectivities in Language Variation and Change

From global to local meaning: Towards qualifications of our quantification-based knowledge

Chair: Tore Kristiansen with Marie Maegaard, Nicolai Pharao, Malene Monka

10.00-10.15: Introduction

10.15-11.15: Segments and prosodies.

Nicolai Pharao and Tore Kristiansen

11.15-11.30: *Coffee break*

11.30-12.30: Global and local meaning (...and segments and prosodies)

Marie Maegaard

12.30-13.30: *Lunch*

13.30-14.15: Geographical mobility (...and segments and prosodies)

(...and global and local meaning)

Malene Monka

14.15-14.30: *Coffee break*

14.30-15.30: The ultimate window into local meaning: Listen to what they say!

Christoph Hare Svenstrup and Jacob Thøgersen

15.30-16.00: General discussion

PRESENT from the IC: Peter Auer, Nikolas Coupland, Peter Garrett, Dennis Preston, Paul Kerswill, Helge Sandøy

Monday 10th of March 10 to 16:

Interaction in Variation and Change

Chairs: Søren Beck Nielsen, Jens Normann Jørgensen, Janus Spindler Møller, Jacob Thøgersen

10.00-10.15: Brief introduction to the theme of the workshop

10.15-11.15: Variation in Discourse Context – Changes in interaction?

Jacob Thøgersen (with Søren Beck Nielsen)

11.00-11.15: *Coffee break*

11.30-12.30: “Yes but no, no but yes”: ways of dismissing questions posed as candidate responses

Søren Beck Nielsen (with Jacob Thøgersen)

12.30-13.30: *Lunch*

13.30-14.30: From language to languaging – changing relations between humans and linguistic features I

Janus Spindler Møller and Jens Normann Jørgensen

14.30-14.40: *Coffee break*

14.40- 15.40: From language to languaging – changing relations between humans and linguistic features II

Jens Normann Jørgensen and Janus Spindler Møller

15.40-16.00: General discussion

PRESENT from the IC: Peter Auer, Nikolas Coupland, Peter Garrett, Dennis Preston

Tuesday 11th of March 10 to 16:

Models of Linguistic Variation and Change with a supplement on software for studying Linguistic Variation and Change

Chair: Frans Gregersen with Tore Kristiansen, Jens Normann Jørgensen, Inge Lise Pedersen and Torben Juel Jensen

10.00-11.00: On Models for Linguistic Change in general, with special reference to the Uniformitarian Hypothesis

Frans Gregersen

11.00-11.20: *Coffee break*

11.20-12.30: On models for second language acquisition and how they fit the general picture

Jens Normann Jørgensen

12.30-13.30: *Lunch*

13.30-15.00: Demonstration of the Center's software and what we can do with it

Torben Juel Jensen

PRESENT from the IC: Peter Auer, Nikolas Coupland, Peter Garrett, Dennis Preston

Dinner for the happy few who survived it all, somewhere in the centre of town.

Temadage, paper/artikel-diskussioner og oplæg på DGCSS forår 2008

Der er planlagt 9 faglige festligheder på DGCSS i det kommende forår:

- 1/2 kl. 13.30-15.30: DGCSS' søgemaskine - hvordan bruger man den og hvordan fungerer den egentlig? Ansvarlig: Peter
- 15/2 kl. 13.30-15.30: Multivariate analysis – nu må vi i gang! Ansvarlig: Torben og Marie
- 22/2 kl. 13.30-15.30: Modeller for sprogforandring. Ansvarlig: Frans, Jens Normann og Tore
- 26/3 kl. 10.01-15.00: Fremlæggelse/diskussion af papers til SS 17 (frokostpause 12-13)
- 25/4 kl. 9.01-12.00: Tema-formiddag om **kvalitative sprogforandringsstudier**, herunder oplæg fra Marianne Stidsen om "Fra forskel til forandring inden for moderne litteraturhistorie". Ansvarlig: Søren og Jacob.
- 9/5 kl. 13.30-15.30: Diskussion af artikler til Acta
- 23/5 kl. 13.30-15.30: Dorthe Duncker: "Modellering af sprogforandringsprocesser" (AFLYST)
- 6/6 kl. 9.01-12.00: Tema-formiddag om **Køge-projektet**. Ansvarlig: Jens Norman og Janus
- 13/6 kl. 13.30-15.30: Diskussion af artikler til Acta

Vi holder så vidt muligt møderne i frokoststuen, men hvis der skal bruge projektor, eller hvis der kommer flere end der kan være i frokoststuen, flytter vi til konferencebordet i fælleslokalet.

Vi mangler at fastlægge hvis artikler der skal på til gangene d. 9/5 og 13/6. I der har planlagt artikler, må meget gerne melde tilbage til os hvornår I gerne vil på.

Mange hilsner

Jacob, Søren & Torben