AIS, reloaded: a digital dialect atlas of Italy and Southern Switzerland
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AIS, reloaded: a digital dialect atlas of Italy and Southern Switzerland

1. Introduction

In this paper we introduce to the scientific community, for the first time in printed form, the output of the research project “AIS, reloaded” (AISr), which yielded the following achievements:

(1) a. a searchable digital version of half of the maps of the Sprach- und Sachatlas Italiens und der Südschweiz (Atlante italo-svizzero, AIS, 1928-1940), collected in 407 survey points in the two countries;
b. a comparable corpus for the Italo-Romance and Romansh dialects of Southern Switzerland (18 points each), corresponding to the original datapoints, consisting of new data that have been collected using the same questionnaire in the same localities almost one hundred years later.

The paper is organized as follows. In §2, we provide basic information on the project which gave rise to the interactive database freely searchable at the website https://www.ais-reloaded.uzh.ch, and present the structure and the functionalities of the latter. In §3 we exemplify the ways in which the AISr database can be used in order to compare subsequent diachronic stages of the same dialects at one hundred years distance: specifically, we will address some changes – mostly leading towards standardization – which are seen to have occurred in western Surselva (§3.1), then move on to changes in the areal distribution of some kinship terms (§3.2), to change in the syntax of negation in Swiss Lombard dialects (§3.3) and...
finally to (the lexical diffusion of) a given sound change in Engadine (§3.4). By way of conclusion, §4 outlines prospects for further work along this line of research.

2. From AIS to AISr

The 1,705 AIS maps provide a comprehensive picture of 407 distinct dialects as they were spoken between 1919 and 1928, when fieldwork was carried out, under the supervision of Karl Jaberg (1877-1958), professor for Romance linguistics in Bern, and Jakob Jud (1882-1952), his homologous in Zurich, thanks to funding by the Stiftung für wissenschaftliche Forschung an der Universität Zürich. Fieldwork was run by Paul Scheuermeier (1888-1973), responsible for Switzerland as well as – from July 1920 on (cf. Kunz 2018, 32) – northern and central Italy, Gerhard Rohlfis (1892-1986), in charge of southern Italy, and Max Leopold Wagner (1880-1962), who surveyed Sardinia. The survey started in Ardez (Grisons, pt. 7) on 19-23 November 2019 to finish in Polistena (Calabria, pt. 783) on 17-19 October 1928 (Jaberg / Jud 1928, 40, 129).

In the framework of AISr, from 2016 to 2019, new data from the 36 AIS datapoints in Southern Switzerland (18 for the Lombard varieties in Canton Tessin and in the Italian-speaking part of the Canton of Grisons and 18 for the Romansh dialects in the Canton of Grisons) were collected, recorded and transcribed (about 61,000 entries in all, for a total of about 400 recording hours)\(^1\). For each datapoint, an informant has been chosen and interviewed using a selection from the about 2000 entries of the AIS intermediate questionnaire (1728 in the Canton Tessin and the Italian part of Grisons, 1800 in Canton Grisons):

\[(2)\text{ AISr interviews (#36). Informants:}
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age: 70 years (average)</th>
<th>Oldest informant 89 y/o</th>
<th>Youngest informant 36 y/o</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender: 28 men</td>
<td>4 women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contrary to the AIS, answers have been recorded digitally, the difference lying obviously not in the digital format but in the audio recording itself: recording techniques were in their

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\(^1\) The fieldwork was carried out by the co-authors (though ML and SS took part only for a few points), with the co-operation of Claudia Cathomas, Dominique Dosch, and Alberto Giudici for several Romansh datapoints, and Camilla Bernardasci for Olivone and Sonogno. The first point to be visited was Corticiasca, pt. 73 (by SN and GD ***QUALCUN ALTRO?*** on 15-16 February 2017), while the last round of fieldwork was carried out by SN and ***CHI ALTRO?*** in Dalin (pt. 4) on 22-23 July 2019.
infancy in the 1920s, and mounting a phonographic recording campaign would not have been feasible with the AIS time resources (3 days/1 transcriber per point)².

The recorded data have now been made available (both IPA-transcribed and as audio files) in a freely searchable database whose contents can be downloaded. This database also hosts a searchable version of 50% of the transcriptions contained in the AIS (maps 1-880; about 700,000 entries in all: see fn. 4 on the figures), which have been digitized in the original AIS transcriptions thanks to a co-operation with our research partner Dr. Graziano Tisato (Padua), who developed a customized OCR system to this effect, which was run on the digitized images already online at the NavigAIS website he realized in 2009 through a high-definition acquisition of the map images³. Furthermore, the transcribed materials from maps 1-880 have been converted automatically into IPA transcriptions that can be downloaded in parallel with the original ones⁴.

Limitation to 50% of the AIS maps ((1a)) and to southern Switzerland ((1b)) were imposed by resource and time limitation within the three-year funding period. For the same reasons, the digitization process targeted lemmas only, thus excluding the ethnographic information, which will be digitized in the continuation of the project (2021-2025; see §4).

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² As a matter of fact, Jud was involved, as a supervisor on behalf of the Zurich Phonogram Archives, in phonographic dialect recordings of dialects of southern Switzerland which took place in Bellinzona on 14-17 October 1929, exactly one year after the conclusion of the AIS fieldwork. This was the second recording campaign ever in southern Switzerland, after Carlo Salvioni’s one in 1913 (see Loporcaro 2008, 53 n. 34, 82 n. 129). In the early 20th century, however, such recordings put very high demands: for one thing, they required the presence of an expert in the phonographic technique. In the specific case involving Jud in 1929, the colleague operating the machine, Wilhelm Doegen, had to come from Berlin (where he directed the Lautabteilung of the Preussische Staatsbibliothek): cf. Bernardasci / Schwarzenbach (2016, 24), Loporcaro (2016, 559).

³ The quantum leap in the access to the AIS data, with respect to NavigAIS – where materials can be searched by map and datapoint, but not exported as text – is represented by the searchability of contents and their exportability under the form of phonetic transcriptions (see §2.2).

⁴ The attentive reader will have remarked an apparent contradiction between the figures just reported for the numbers of recorded items relative to the AIS and AISr data. The figure of about 61,000 entries for the latter corresponds to approx. 1600 entries per point on average: the difference with respect to the number of the questionnaire items (1700) is due to lexical decay, as some answers were not given by informants. As for the AIS data, the figure of about 700,000, giving on average 3440 entries per point, results from the fact that each item is available in the database in two different transcriptions (AIS vs. IPA), so that it is counted twice.
2.1. The AISr database

In what follows, we will introduce the AISr database, which allows users to compare and search directly the two corpora for content with the limitations already mentioned: for the AIS data, apart from the obvious non-availability of audio recordings, the corpus covers as of now 50% of the maps (though see (12a) below) but, contrary to the AISr data which – for Southern Switzerland – cover all maps, it covers also Italy. For Southern Switzerland the AISr data allow us to compare the two datasets collected at one hundred-year distance and hence to observe change which occurred in the elapsed century.

2.2. The search, retrieve and display options

The database offers multiple search options, which are commented on in §§2.2.1-2.2.6, with each heading corresponding to those appearing in the navigation bar.

2.2.1. Maps. – A first possibility is the search by map, typing its number or name (e.g. 5 or padre ‘father’) in the “search” field or by ticking one box in the corresponding drop-down menu. The selection of an interval of maps by ticking more than one box in the drop-down menu is also allowed. As an alternative, it is possible to type in the “search” field the numbers (e.g. 2; 6; 14) or the interval (e.g. 5:20) corresponding to the desired maps. In the drop-down menu, uppercase strings (e.g. IL PADRE ‘the father’) identify regular maps, lowercase strings (e.g. la gioventù ‘youth’ or trovare ‘to find’) identify further materials (legends at the edge of a map, verb conjugations in vol. 8, etc.). Visualization of the output data can be selected either in table or in map format, the latter only when one single map is selected (§2.2.6).

2.2.2. Locations. – A further possibility is to enquire the database selecting a locality. Once again, one can select a datapoint by typing its number or name (e.g. 1 or Brigels) in the “search” field or by ticking one box in the corresponding drop-down menu. One can also select all the datapoints by ticking the “select all” option in the drop-down menu. In addition, it is possible to select a subset of datapoints by ticking more than one box in the drop-down menu or by ticking the first and the last datapoint of a desired interval while holding down the “shift” key. As an alternative, it is possible to type into the “search” box the numbers (e.g. 3; 7; 14) or the interval (e.g. 5:20) corresponding to the desired datapoints.

2.2.3. Period. – The database also allows to query separately either the original AIS data by selecting the option “past” or the newly collected AISr data by selecting the option “present”. Selecting the option “all” results in querying both datasets at once. One can also visualise the AIS data only in their original transcription by selecting the “AIS” option or only in the current standard transcription by selecting the “IPA” option. By default, the two types of transcription are displayed synoptically in the downloadable table (but not on the map: see §2.2.6) that summarises the query results. As for the newly collected AISr data, only IPA phonetic transcriptions are available.

2.2.4. Phonetic. – After selecting the previous fields (“Maps”, “Locations”, “Period”), it is possible to further restrict one’s query to only those entries that contain a certain phone or a string of phones by specifying the context of occurrence of the desired phone/s in the entry by means of the symbol “_”: at the beginning of an entry (e.g. la_ in lana ‘wool’), at the end of an entry (e.g. _l), in the body of an entry (e.g. _l_). It is worth noting that the level targeted
by the search programme is not the word level, but the questionnaire entry level (namely the whole phonetic string). Therefore, whenever the entry consists of a phrase, rather than a single word, a query like l also returns entries such as la mia cugina ‘my (female) cousin’.

One can also specify the exact position occupied by a given phone in the entry by typing it preceded by as many symbols ‘#’ as the elements that precede it (e.g. #a to retrieve all occurrences of the phone [a] whenever preceded by just another phone, or ##a to retrieve all occurrences of the phone [a] when it is preceded by two phones, etc.). Note that this search targets all the elements that precede the searched phone and, therefore, not only other phones, but also diacritics such as the stress (ˈ) and the length (ː) marks, as well as the space between words in case the entry is a phrase. For example, a query can target the tonic vowel /a/ in the second position by typing ##a in the case of entries consisting of a single word such as /b'ap/ ‘father’ or ######a in the case of entries made of a phrase such as /il b'ap/.

2.2.5. Download Table. – Query results are immediately displayed, depending on the option chosen either as a table, as shown in Figure 1, or as a map (§2.2.6).


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>153</td>
<td>DITO</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>PIEDE</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>167</td>
<td>CALCAGNO</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>FABBRO</td>
<td>436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>436</td>
<td>TASSO</td>
<td>455 –ROSPO</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>RAGNO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>505</td>
<td>CUCULO</td>
<td>518 –CACCIATORE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A “%” symbol may appear at the end of a transcription of newly collected data. This indicates that the informant, while lacking active competence of the relevant word, nevertheless recognizes it as part of his/her dialect if the interviewer suggests it (as extrema ratio) based on the original AIS data collected in loco.
Whenever an answer has been recorded, the corresponding audio files (.wav) are automatically included in the results and they can be listened to by clicking on the turquoise “play” symbol.

The searched results can be saved and exported by clicking on the “download table” option: a folder is generated containing both the audio files (.wav) and the transcriptions (.csv).

2.2.6. Switch to Map View. – Whenever a single map is selected, one can perform queries and then visualise the query hits also on a geo-referenced map by clicking on the top left “switch to map view” option. In this case, if the option “Period – all” is selected, the AIS data appear in black case on the right-hand side (in the transcription selected), while the AISr responses appear in turquoise, accompanied by the “play” button allowing the user to retrieve and hear the recording. In the geo-referenced map (a detail is shown in Figure 3), the string consisting of transcribed data is always preceded by a red number which identifies the corresponding datapoint (e.g. 1 = Brigels).

On the map, real data appear only if the user has zoomed in manually to a sufficient extent, whereas by default the map visualization starts out with the whole Italian peninsula and a series of a turquoise circles on the different areas, each with a number in it indicating the sum total of points contained in the relevant area. Thus, at this default scale, southern Switzerland is lumped together with Lombardy and parts of the adjacent Alpine areas of Piedmont and Trentino, so that the corresponding circle bears the number “93” and no individual data are visualised. The latter appear, as said, when zooming in.
2.3. Behind the database: digitization and phonetic transcriptions

Digitizing the AIS transcriptions was all but an easy task, given their peculiarities. For one thing, they were completely handwritten, which implied per se some within-individual variability. Into the bargain, they were handwritten by different persons. This inter- and intra-individual variation added to a related structural problem. In fact, on the original handwritten maps, the association between the numerical red code (i.e. the datapoint) and the linguistic data in black (i.e. informant’s answer) is not so straightforward since the mutual positions on the map vary with respect to one another. As a consequence, during the digital acquisition of a map, it is well possible for the software to fail calculating the correct association either capturing linguistic data from nearby datapoints or, conversely, excluding parts of the relevant informant’s answer. In the event of software’s incorrect calculations, the polygon for data capturing had to be manually enlarged or restricted by a human assistant to restore the correct link. Even in this case, when necessary, a human assistant can modify the OCR output. All in all, this implied that the procedure could not be completely automatized and had to be supervised by the research team members.

Moving on now from the (decoding of) the performance of transcriptions to their structure, one has to mention that the peculiarities of the AIS transcription system imposed some conventions that would allow a unique digitization and subsequent automatic conversion into IPA characters:

• AIS characters written on top of other characters have been digitized as superscript characters in brackets (e.g. a -> a^\(\text{c}\)); in the downloadable .csv file the overwritten and underwritten characters are marked respectively as \(<\text{sup}>\text{SYMBOL}\</\text{sup}>\) and \(<\text{sub}>\text{SYMBOL}\</\text{sub}>\);
• the AIS symbol indicating weak nasalization (a curled tilde) was digitized using the diacritic ‘overwritten to a character (e.g. ą);
• palatal plosives transcribed in the AIS as č, ď have been digitized here as č, ď;
• the underwritten diacritic ‘~’ that marked “very open” vowels in the AIS have been digitized by means of a double vertical stroke under the character (e.g. ĥ).

As said above, AIS data can be retrieved from the database also under the form of an automatically generated IPA transcription, which is the output of a conversion process whose design and implementation put a serious challenge on the research team. Again, the problem is in part one of structure, in part one of performance. As far as structure is concerned, it will

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5 The scholars involved were helped by a number of further people. For instance, Jakob Jud was helped by his family: see the vivid description of copying work by the whole family on Sunday afternoons at Jakob Jud’s home in Zollikon provided by Schorta (1952, 12).
come as no surprise that the two transcription systems are not perfectly isomorphic. In addition, they had to be applied on-line by different researchers, without the aid of sound recording that could help objectify the result. The output is an implementation which, while reasonably uniform, contains some variation and noise, as recognized by Jaberg / Jud (1928, 24-36) themselves, whose introduction to phonetic transcription contains a section entitled “Gelegenheits- und Verlegenheitszeichen” (pages 29-32), which can be translated as ‘(Transcription) signs employed occasionally and in case of embarrassment (= Verlegenheit)’, and a further one under the title “Inconsequenzen, Unsicherheiten und Irrtümer in der Transkription” (‘Inconsistencies, uncertainties and errors in the transcription’, pages 33-35).⁶

These occasional uncertainty and variability forced us to make debatable choices, in order to proceed to conversion into IPA. These choices are made explicit under the form of a conversion table which can be consulted on the database website.

Among the limitations put by the automated conversion process, some are rather harmless. For instance, such conversion made it impossible to mark stress at the beginning of the stressed syllable, as required by the IPA standards. For this reason, stress is marked immediately before the stressed vowel in the IPA transcriptions resulting from conversion, in keeping with an alternative convention that is occasionally encountered in the literature⁷.

In general, in consulting the database one must always keep in mind that the IPA transcription is a service provided to the user, subject to limits imposed by the original transcription. In particular, the automatic conversion mechanism has made it impossible to intervene to selectively correct transcription imperfections which, tolerated in systems current in Romance dialectology such as the AIS one, stand out as real mistakes in IPA transcriptions instead. This is the case e.g. for the rendering of the palatal lateral with the symbol ɫ, which the AIS collectors have always written as singleton regardless of actual length, obviously applying the same principle of economy as in Italian spelling (since the palatal lateral approximant does not present any length contrast). This has the effect of obscuring the difference between singleton (in the North) and geminate realizations (from Tuscany southwards). Thus, on map 1.9 mio figlio ‘my son’ is transcribed ɛ mi fɪ̃lɔ for pt. 511 (Campori, a hamlet of Castiglione Garfagnana), where the realization is actually non-geminate; the IPA version is therefore faithful to the actual pronunciation here: [ɛ mi fiʎˈo]. A transcription with singleton ɫ, however, is also to be read for Florence (pt. 523: i mni fɪ̃l̥o), although here the realization is actually geminate, as in Standard Italian: for Florence the IPA counterpart is therefore

⁶ Alongside Jaberg / Jud (1928, 24-36), the reader is referred to Jaberg / Jud (1927) and Canepari (1978) for description and discussion of the AIS transcription system.

⁷ By contrast, in the newly transcribed AISr data the stress mark precedes the entire stressed syllable.
unfortunately incorrect [i mːi fiʃ'ɔːlɔ] (instead of [i mːi fiʃ'ɛːlɔ], as it should be), given the impossibility of intervening by selectively correcting consonant length only for the points that needed it. The same applies to other non-contrastive geminates: for the palatal nasal, for example, map 3.541 il legno ‘the wood’, displays Ʉ almost everywhere, in Tuscany – including Florence – or in Lazio as well as in the North: the symbol is therefore converted into IPA as [ɲ] throughout (e.g. [l'ɛɲɔ] in Incisa, province of Florence, pt. 534; [l'ɛɲɔ] in Radda in Chianti, province of Siena, pt. 543; [l'ɛɲɔ] in Vinci, province of Florence, pt. 522), thereby obscuring the distinction between Tuscan [l'ɛɲɔ] and Veneto [l'ɛɲɔ]. As apparent from these examples, vowels too may be in need of some adjustment. In fact, the AIS uses symbols without diacritics for mid vowels of intermediate height, while for IPA low vs. high mid cardinal vowels are transcribed with different symbols, and diacritics must be added to indicate intermediate height. Thus, for AIS e o we have chosen arbitrarily a lowered mid high [ø ɛ], as seen for pt. 543, whose AIS transcription is leɲo, whereas for pts. 534 and 522 Scheuermeier notated a lower mid vowel, with diacritic: leɲo and il leɲo respectively. The latter translation, furthermore, has a dubious macron which is respected in the IPA transliteration [ɛ] in spite of the fact that it is implausible for a stressed vowel to be allophonically lengthened before [ɲː] in central Tuscany.

Such further adjustments of the IPA output, in these and similar cases, are left to the user.

3. What is the AISr database good for: a few examples

The AISr data allow one to observe the reshaping over time of the spatial distribution of competing variables in all structural components. The following subsections discuss a few selected examples.

3.1. Convergence and variation in western Surselva

Let us start by focusing on western Surselva, where pts. 10 (Camischolas, Val Tujetsch) and 11 (Surrhein/Sunvitg, Val Medel) represent the westernmost fringe of the Romansh speaking territory. The corresponding local dialects are the Sursilvan varieties that differ most from the literary standard (on Tuatschin cf. Maurer Cecchini, forthcoming, with previous references; on Medelin see Widmer 1962). The AIS data attest to their diverging from the rest of the Surselva in several lexical and grammatical features which, as shown by the AISr data, have since become at least partly homogenized. This becomes apparent for instance on map 3.480 la farfalla ‘the butterfly’ (Figure 2), where in the AIS one finds e.g. [lɛtʃitɔ] in Brigels-

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8 AIS maps have a trilingual title (in this case La farfalla – Schmetterling – Papillon) which is meant to illustrate the concept corresponding to the questionnaire item in the three official and national languages of the Swiss Confederation at the time publication started. In what follows, we will cite only the Italian name, since it corresponds to the roofing languages of one of the
Breil (pt. 1) vs. [Le 'biwə] in Surrhein/Sumvitg (pt. 11) and [Le 'belə] in Camischolas (pt. 10), while the AISr informant for pt. 11 has changed to [Le 'jifəw].

Figure 4. Results of the query “480 – LA FARFALLA” (map display, showing the 9 points in the Surselva and Sutselva)

Likewise, the form of the m.sg definite article [nə] (Figure 3), which is characteristic for the local dialect (being a stereotype in the Labovian sense) and used to appear at pts. 10-11 in the western Surselva on the AIS maps, is now competing with common Sursilvan [il] in the AISr data, whose answers display either forms: e.g. at pt. 10 [il 'bap] ‘the father’ 1.5, [il 'cigəp] ‘the body’ 1.87, as opposed to [nə] in the AIS, which however persists in other questionnaire answers such as [nə 'vijntə] ‘the belly’ 1.128, [nə 'dirə] ‘the liver’ 1.139 etc. There is widespread instability in the area, as for this article form, as at pt. 11 we collected e.g. [nə 'bap] as opposed to AIS [il 'bap].

target dialect continua, though not the one relevant for the Grisons. (Recall that Romansh was declared a national language in 1938 – with a popular vote responding to Mussolini’s threat – and that the overarching standard for the five Romansh dialect subdivisions, viz. Romansh Grischun, was only established in the 1980s, by Schmid 1982).
The AISr data also hold some surprises in store, relative to what is independently known from reference sources. Thus, map 2.264 *la sarta* ‘the (female) tailor’ shows the overwhelming prevalence of the Swiss German loanword *[lɐʃnɐˈɪn] (the form is taken from Camischolas), with just one point in the whole Romansh area preserving the original Romance name as an alternative: *[lɐkuzˈʊntsɐ,ʃnidrˈeɲɐ] in Reams – Riom (pt. 25, in Oberhalbstein/Sursés). While the situation in Reams has not changed, the overall AISr picture shows a much broader diffusion of the Romance word ([lɐkuˈzontsɐ] in Brigels, [lɐkuˈzontsɐ] in Camischolas, while in many other places the informants gave both answers).

Figure 5. Results of the query “5 – IL PADRE / 87 – IL CORPO / 128 – IL VENTRE / 139 – IL FEGATO” for pt. “10 – CAMISCHOLAS (TAVETSCH)” (table display)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AIS</th>
<th>IPA</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Map</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>la bap</td>
<td>lɔtˈrap</td>
<td>past</td>
<td>10 – Camischolas (Tavetsch)</td>
<td>5 – IL PADRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la lɔrp</td>
<td>lɔt cˈlɔrp</td>
<td>past</td>
<td>10 – Camischolas (Tavetsch)</td>
<td>87 – IL CORPO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la vəntɔr</td>
<td>lɔt ˈvəntɔr</td>
<td>past</td>
<td>10 – Camischolas (Tavetsch)</td>
<td>128 – IL VENTRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la dɪr</td>
<td>lɔt dˈɪr</td>
<td>past</td>
<td>10 – Camischolas (Tavetsch)</td>
<td>139 – IL FEGATO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>—</td>
<td>lɔt bap</td>
<td>present</td>
<td>10 – Camischolas (Tavetsch)</td>
<td>5 – IL PADRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>—</td>
<td>lɔt lɔrp</td>
<td>present</td>
<td>10 – Camischolas (Tavetsch)</td>
<td>87 – IL CORPO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>—</td>
<td>lɔt vəntɔr</td>
<td>present</td>
<td>10 – Camischolas (Tavetsch)</td>
<td>128 – IL VENTRE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>—</td>
<td>lɔt dɪr</td>
<td>present</td>
<td>10 – Camischolas (Tavetsch)</td>
<td>139 – IL FEGATO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 6. Results of the query “264 – SARTA” (map display, showing 16 (of 18) points in the Rumantschia)
This allows one to correct the unfavourable diagnosis which is to be read in the DRG 4.606:

cusunz, -a vermochte sich trotz Propagierung durch Wb. und Gramm. (Cahannes, Gramm. 180) insbesondere auch wegen seiner starken semantischen Bindung an ‘Näher, -in’ in der Bedeutung ‘Schneider, -in’ neben → schneder, -dra nicht durchzusetzen (cf. AIS. 2.259 und 264). [‘cusunz, -a was not able to assert itself alongside → schneder, -dra, despite propagation through dictionaries, especially because of its strong semantic link to the agent noun from ‘to sew’ in the meaning ‘tailor’ (cf. AIS 2.259 and 264)]

Of course, a caveat is in order here. Our comparison, in fact, is subject to the well-known limitations of any language atlas, which consists of a collection of actes de parole (Pop 1950, 131, 570-571): this means that, in principle, one might suspect that our informants’ responses to the translation task may be due to normative prescription, favouring indigenous cusunza over the German loan competitor10. A one-informant dialect atlas is not in a position to solve such a doubt.

3.2. The reshaping of lexical areas for some kinship terms

Noteworthy displacements in lexical distribution areas are also observable in core lexical domains, such as kinship terms. Moving from Surselva to Engadine one can see an interesting case of lexical substitution due to German pressure. In order to describe this, one first has to briefly retrace the history of the terms for ‘aunt’ in Lower Engadine. In a first stage the whole region probably shared the type of onomatopoeic or infantile origin jaja: the DRG 10.162 still reports it only for the marginal areas north of Scuol towards the Austrian border and in Val Müstair. In the central area of Lower Engadine, instead, jaja is flanked by the inherited type

---

9 This is included under the entry cusir written by Jachen Curdin Arquin for the fourth volume, which appeared in 1968.

10 As to this specific word (see Decurtins 1993, 212-216), we know that until the early 1930s the German loan was the most used: the dictionary by Pallioppi / Pallioppi (1895, 218) has the entry cusunza, an indigenous word documented as early as 1658, but is quick to add: “gewöhnlicher: schnedra” [‘more usually: schnedra’], and Cahannes (1924, 180), discussing Germanisms, says: “Per «schneder e schnadrina» vein nus ils buns plails: cusunz e cusunza” [‘For tailor (male and female), we have got the good words cusunz and cusunza’]. These prescribed “good words” gained momentum especially during the 1930s, when the political situation hinted to in fn. 8 prompted a reaction which also included a fight against non-indigenous words: see e.g. the schoolbook by Steier (1933, 118 and 162). Dictionary vacillate to this day: thus, the reader finds only cusunz, -a in Darm et al. (1989, 484) but both cusunz and schneder***verificare la forma esatta*** in Decurtins (2001, ***).
*anda* (< Latin *AMĬTAM*) which is widespread, as shown by both *DRG* 1.263 and *AIS* 1.20 ‘their aunt, their aunts’, also in the rest of the Raeto-Romance territory. A more careful look at the *AIS* data (in black in the picture below) shows however that already in the early 1920s the Upper-Engadinian varieties (Fex-Platta pt. 47 and Zuoz. pt. 28) presented alongside *anda*, reported as archaic, also the German loan *tanta*.

Comparison with *AISr* data clearly shows that during the last century the Germanism *tanta* has expanded also in the low-Engadine area, supplanting *anda* in the whole region except, once again, the marginal area of Val Müstair (Santa Maria, point 29) where the onomatopoeic type *jaja* resists.

The example just illustrated for the Engadine region is interesting also because the same dynamics of change can also be observed in the Italo-Romance area. In fact, also for the Lombard dialects of the Canton Tessin and the Italian-speaking part of Grisons, the *AIS* map 2.20 *la loro zia; le loro zie* ‘their aunt; their aunts’ testifies to the presence of two distinct types, inherited *anda* (< *AMĬTAM*) alongside the Italian loan *zia*. Some varieties had both lexical types:

(3) *AIS* 1.20 (1920s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em>anda</em></th>
<th>both types</th>
<th><em>zia</em></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pt. 22 Olivone</td>
<td>pt. 31 Osco</td>
<td>pt. 41 Caverne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 35 Bivio</td>
<td>pt. 32 Chironico</td>
<td>pt. 53 Prostio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 42 Sonogno</td>
<td>pt. 44 Mesocco</td>
<td>pt. 58 Poschiavo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 45 Soglio</td>
<td>pt. 52 Aurigeno</td>
<td>pt. 71 Breno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 46 Coltura</td>
<td>pt. 70 Indemini</td>
<td>pt. 73 Corticiasca</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In this case too, comparison with AISr data shows a spread of borrowed *zia* to the detriment of autochthonous *anda*, now preserved only in isolated datapoints such as Bivio (pt. 35), Olivone (pt. 22) and Cavergno (pt. 41), as shown in (4) and in Figure 8:

(4) *AISr* 1.20 (late 2010s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em>anda</em></th>
<th>both types</th>
<th><em>zia</em></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pt. 35 Bivio</td>
<td>pt. 41 Cavergno</td>
<td>pt. 31 Osco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 32 Chironico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 42 Sonogno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 44 Mesocco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 45 Soglio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 46 Coltura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 50 Campo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 51 Vergeletto pt. 53 Prosito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 52 Aurigeno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 58 Poschiavo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 70 Indemini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 71 Breno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pt. 93 Ligornetto</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 8. Results of the query “20 – LA LORO ZIA; LE LORO ZIE” (map display, showing a selection of 9 points in the Canton Tessin)

A further example of the influence of the roofing language is visible in the case of *génar* ‘son-in-law’. In fact, the *LSI* 2.650 entry *gendar* < *GĔNĔRUM* (REW 3730), with epenthetic *-d-* introduced after the syncopation of *-e-*, only the urban centres of Bellinzona and Locarno, the region of Centovalli and the localities of Rossa, Muggio, Palagnedra, Brissago and Rivera attest an ‘Italian’ form without the epenthesis of the dental consonant. According to the *LSI*, the *gendar* type is widespread in the rest of the territory of Canton Tessin and the Italian Grisons. A similar picture emerges if one considers the data in *AIS* 1.33 *il genero* ‘the son-in-law’: among the 18 investigated varieties, 16 reported a
translation with epenthetic -d-, whereas only the informants from Ligornetto (pt. 93) in the extreme south of the Canton Tessin and Poschiavo (pt. 53), in the homonym valley, gave the forms [ul 'dʒenəɾ] and [ul 'dʒenəɾ] respectively. Once again, the surveys carried out for AISr have highlighted a clear change: as can be seen in the table below, the influence of the roofing language has turned the picture upside down, with as many as 13 varieties out of 17 which attest a result without epenthetic -d- (in Corticiasca, pt. 75, it was not possible to record this piece of data):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>genar</th>
<th>gendar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ol 'ʒendru]</td>
<td>[ul 'dʒendru]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 22 Olivone</td>
<td>pt. 31 Osco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ol 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[el me 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 32 Chironico</td>
<td>pt. 44 Mesocco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ul 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[el 'ʒendru]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 35 Bivio</td>
<td>pt. 51 Vergeletto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[lu 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[ul 'ʒendru]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 41 Caverghno</td>
<td>pt. 53 Prosioto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[el 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[el 'ʒendru]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 42 Sonognio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[el 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[el 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 45 Soglio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[el me 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[el 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 46 Coltura</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[el 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[el 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 50 Campo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[al 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[al 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 52 Aurigeno</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[al 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[al 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 58 Poschiavo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[u 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[u 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 70 Indemini</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[o 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[o 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 71 Breno</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ul 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
<td>[ul 'dʒenəɾ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pt. 93 Ligornetto</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3. The syntax of negation in Swiss Lombard dialects

Syntactic change can also be investigated by means of the database, thanks to the fact that, contrary to other dialect atlases such as ALI, the AIS questionnaire featured also a number of whole sentences rather than just words and phrases. Among these, 29 included a sentential negation and thus lend themselves to the study of this topic, which has been investigated for the Italo-Romance dialects of Switzerland comparing the two datasets by Pescarini/Donzelli (2017) and Donzelli (2020, ch. 5). As is well known, Northern Italian dialects show all the three stages of Jespersen’s (1917) negation cycle (see Manzini / Savoia 2005, 1.128-143 and, on specific areas, Zeli 1968 for the Lombard dialects of Switzerland, Vai 1996 on Milanese, Zanutti 1987 on Piedmontese, Parry 1998 on Ligurian).

Historically, sentential negation starts out with a preverbal negative marker (stage I) that in a second step becomes discontinuous, with the addition of a negative element after the verb (stage II), to end up as the postverbal, as the original preverbal marker becomes optional and is eventually dropped (stage III).

It is commonly assumed that in Lombard dialects sentential negation involves the postverbal negative marker mia/miga/minga (on ‘mica’ see Pescarini 2005, Penello / Pescarini
2008). Indeed, Western and Alpine Lombard dialects spoken in Canton Ticino and Grisons, investigated in the framework of AISr, usually show a postverbal negative marker, as expected, but in a few cases discontinuous or even preverbal negation (the latter in the dialects of Soglio, pt. 45, and Coltura, pt. 46; Grisons) still occurs.

Comparison with the AIS data reveals a trend according to which dialects which used to display preverbal or discontinuous negation in the 1920s generally show postverbal negation nowadays, as exemplified for Coltura in (6a–b) and Sonogno (pt. 42) in (6c–d):

\[(6)\]

\begin{align*}
\text{a. } \text{štα đʊn mâ m pIřš} & \quad \text{AIS 8.1678, pt. 46} \\
\text{this woman NEG 1SG.DAT like.PRS.3SG} & \\
\text{b. } \text{'kwɪt̪u 'dɔna v m= pIřf } \text{mɪ'a AISr} & \\
\text{this woman CL= 1SG.DAT= like.PRS.3SG NEG} & \\
\text{‘I don’t like this woman'} & \\
\text{c. } \text{lɛ(α) ne= g= vό } \text{štα mїũ} & \quad \text{AIS 8.1594, pt. 42} \\
\text{3SG,F NEG= LOC= want.PRS.3SG stay NEG} & \\
\text{‘she doesn’t want to stay'} & \\
\text{d. } \text{o vo } \text{'mїа ſtåk} & \quad \text{AISr} \\
\text{CL3SG,M=want.PRS.3SG NEG stay} & \\
\text{‘he doesn’t want to stay'} & \\
\end{align*}

Scheuermaier recorded preverbal negation (stage I, (6a)) in Coltura, and discontinuous negation (stage II, (6c)) in Sonogno, while our informants replied with postverbal negation in both cases.

Interestingly, some datapoints show the coexistence of the three stages to this day, as illustrated with the dialect of Cavergno (pt. 41) in (7):

\[(7)\]

\begin{align*}
\text{a. } \text{nu } \text{'mʊvɛt} & \quad \text{stage I AISr 8.1647, pt. 41} \\
\text{NEG move.PRS.2SG=REFL} & \\
\text{b. } \text{nu } \text{'mʊvɛt} & \quad \text{stage II} \\
\text{NEG move.PRS.2SG=REFL NEG} & \\
\text{c. } \text{'mʊvɛt} & \quad \text{stage III} \\
\text{move.PRS.2SG=REFL NEG} & \\
\text{‘do not move'} & \\
\end{align*}

Thus, based on AISr data, the present-day distribution of sentential negation in Swiss Lombard dialects, can be summarized as follow:

\[(8)\]

\begin{align*}
\text{a. } \text{Stage I: Soglio e Coltura (pts. 45, 46)} & \\
\text{b. } \text{Stage II: Sonogno, Aurigeno, Indemini e Ligornetto (pts. 42, 52, 70, 93)} & \\
\end{align*}
c. Stage III: Breno, Corticiasca, Olivone, Osco, Chironico, Bivio, Mesocco, Cimalmotto, Vergeletto, Prosito, Poschiavo (pts. 71, 73, 22, 31, 32, 35, 44, 50, 52, 53, 58)
d. Stages I to III: Cavergno (pt. 41).

Cases of negative agreement deserve separate discussion. Firstly, in the areas where the preverbal negative marker is still used, the postverbal element can co-occur with it in the same sentence without affecting the overall negative meaning. Secondly, the preverbal negative element can co-occur with negative aspectual adverbs (‘never’ and ‘anymore’) and negative quantifiers (‘nobody’ and ‘nothing’), which occur in complementary distribution with the postverbal negative element ‘mica’, as exemplified from the dialect of Coltura in (9):

(9) a. lů nu kûr mǎy AISr 8.1605, pt. 46
   3SG NEG run.PRS.3SG never
b. ly v= l= kor ma j AISr
   3SG CL= CL3SG.M= run.PRS.3SG never
‘he never runs’

However, a clear asymmetry between arguments and adjuncts can be detected. With the former, negative agreement tended to disappear in Lombard as early as the earliest medieval texts (cf. Vai 1996 on Old Lombard) while in present-day varieties indefinite negative quantifiers never co-occur with postverbal negation. Conversely, a strong incidence of preverbal negation is found with adjuncts. In the varieties showing usually postverbal negation, cases of coexistence between the negation (mica) and the negative quantifier (anywhere) can be observed:

(10) a. à= n= trov míg a da neššuna pàrt AIS 8.1597, pt. 73
    CL= NEG= find.PRS.1SG NEG at no one place (Corticiasca)
b. a= l= trovía minga i nísšun sits AIS 8.1597, pt. 22
    CL= 3SG.ACC= find.PRS.1SG NEG in no one place (Olivone)
‘I cannot find him anywhere’

In Swiss Lombard dialects negative quantifiers do not work in the same way: arguments tend to disfavour negative agreement, while adjuncts tend to preserve it even in contexts and/or varieties with postverbal negation.

3.4. Sound change

While we have so far provided examples in the areas of morphology, syntax and the lexicon, the possibility offered by the AISr database to set up an immediate comparison between parallel datasets at one century distance can obviously be instrumental also to investigate sound change. As an example, we will consider the outcomes of Latin c⁵-⁶-, drawing on Negrinelli (in preparation). Table (11) compares the AIS and AISr datasets for pt. 19 Zernez, on the border between the Puter and the Vallader linguistic areas (the greyed-out cells show
the cases in which change has occurred):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(11)</th>
<th>AIS map</th>
<th>AIS / 1920s</th>
<th>AISr / late 2010s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>5.945 ‘dopo cena’</td>
<td>[ʃɛˈjmə] / [ʃɛjmə]</td>
<td>[ʃajmə]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ʃ] / [ʧ] &gt; [ʧ]</td>
<td>5.909 ‘la cera’</td>
<td>[ʧajrə] / [ʧajrə]</td>
<td>[ʧajrə]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ʧ]</td>
<td>7.1282 ‘la ciliegia’</td>
<td>[ʃirɛˈɡjə] / [ʧiɾɛˈɡjə]</td>
<td>[ʃeˈɡjə]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.94 ‘il cervello’</td>
<td>[ʃiɾˈve] / [ʧiɾˈve]</td>
<td>[ʃʊrˈve]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>5.930 ‘la cenere’</td>
<td>[ʃɛndrə]</td>
<td>[ʃɛndrə]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ʃ] &gt; [ʧ]</td>
<td>7.1368 ‘la cipolla’</td>
<td>[ʧiɾˈɡulə]</td>
<td>[ʧiɾˈɡulə]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1219 ‘la ricotta’</td>
<td>[ʧiɾˈɡrun]</td>
<td>[ʧiɾˈɡun]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.507 ‘la civetta’</td>
<td>[ʃoˈɛtə]</td>
<td>[ʃuˈɛtə]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1564 ‘la cintura’</td>
<td>[ʃiˈintrə]</td>
<td>[ʃiˈintrə]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.636 ‘andare a cercare’</td>
<td>[ʃerˈcerə]</td>
<td>[ʧɛrˈcerə]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>1.102 ‘le ciglia’</td>
<td>[ʃaˈjas]</td>
<td>[ʃaˈjas]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.365 ‘la nebbia’</td>
<td>[ʃiˈɛrə]</td>
<td>[ʃiˈɛrə]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>2.286 ‘cinque; sei’</td>
<td>[ʃiˈnc]</td>
<td>[ʃeˈnc]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ʧ]</td>
<td>2.304 ‘cento’</td>
<td>[ʧiˈntə]</td>
<td>[ʧiˈntə]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.310 ‘cinquanta’</td>
<td>[ʧiˈɲkwantar]</td>
<td>[ʧiˈɲkwantar]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The situation recorded in the 1920s (third column) was more variegated, with free variation between word-initial [ʧ] and [ʃ] reported for a few lexical types (tscheina ‘dinner’, tschera ‘wax’, tscherescha ‘cherry’ and tschurvi ‘brain’), while on the whole the vast majority of lexemes was recorded with [ʃ] (from earlier *ʧɛ < e). The same situation is widely described
in the literature with reference to the first half of the 20th century\footnote{Cf. Eichenhofer (1999, §281 n. 1), who reviews earlier descriptions: Luzi (1904, §87) for Sutsilvan; Lutta (1928 ***VERIF DATA***, §128) and Grisch (1939, §17) for Surmiran; Pult (1898 ***VERIF DATA***, §179) for the Lower-Engadine dialect of Sent.}. Consider for example the following remarks by Walberg (1907, §107):

Davanti a e, i c si riduce a ʧ[...]. In flarũña, anticamente Tschlari(g)na (*CELLARINA*), il gruppo consonantico, di pronunzia difficile, [...] Del resto la esplosiva iniziale è anche negli altri casi poco energica e sta per dileguarsi completamente. Ho sentito più di una volta forme come ʧartčer, ʧintč, ʧiŋkœnta QUINQUAGINTA, ʧɪɛ́nt, CENTUM, fũrna «ciurma», accanto a quelle con ʧf. [*Before e, i c changes to ʧ[...]. In flarũña, formerly Tschlari(g)na (*CELLARINA*), the hard-to-pronounce consonant cluster [...] After all, the initial plosive is also in other cases not very energetic and is about to disappear completely. I have heard more than once forms like ʧartčer, ʧintč, ʧiŋkœnta QUINQUAGINTA, ʧɪɛ́nt, CENTUM, fũrna “crew”, alongside those with ʧ.*]

The situation displayed in the 4th column in (6) contradicts Walberg’s speculation: the AISr data show that over time the palate-alveolar affricate [ʧ] has gained ground among the lexemes which showed variation in the 1920s ((11a)), and further spread also to many words which Scheuermeier recorded only with initial [ʃ] in the AIS survey ((11b)), such as tschendra ‘ash’, tschaguola ‘onion’, tschigrun ‘ricotta cheese’, tschuenta ‘belt’ and tschercar ‘to search’. This development is one out of many which are probably due to the normalizing pressure of official spelling, which presents the <tsch> (= [ʧ]) grapheme in all the cases mentioned: over time, adherence to these spellings may have eradicated free variation between the two pronunciations in (11a) and directed the change in the others. In fact, the spelling is the same also for the words in (11c-d): tschagl ‘eyebrow’, tschiera ‘fog’, tschinch ‘five’, tschient ‘hundred’, tschinqua(u)nta ‘fifty’.

4. Conclusion and further prospects

To conclude, the same limitations addressed above in §2, imposed by reasons of feasibility in the three-year funding period, also indicate two paths for further development:

(12) a. digitization of the remaining 50% of the AIS maps in searchable form using the same technique;

b. extension of fieldwork to Italy, Slovenia and Croatia, to cover the rest of the territory on which the AIS datapoints are scattered.
As of now (autumn 2020), a sequel four-year project has been funded by SNSF, which will consist in the implementation of the objective (12a). As for (12b), the project foresees a fieldwork campaign in Lombardy, programmed to start in spring 2021, under harder circumstances than expected in the planning stage due to the Covid-19 pandemia\textsuperscript{12}. Once this is completed, \textit{deo iuvante et nos viventibus}, the database will include present-day data for about 1/5 of the 407 AIS datapoints\textsuperscript{13}. This will be a good starting point for further extension, with the ultimate goal of covering the remaining territory, region after region, possibly in cooperation with local teams\textsuperscript{14}.

Should we succeed in the enterprise, history will repeat itself: Jaberg and Jud, too, started in Switzerland and first planned an extension to Northern Italy only (cf. Jaberg / Jud 1928, 12-16), to eventually end up with a monumental atlas covering all of the Romance varieties of Southern Switzerland and the whole of Italy.

12 In the hope that the situation will have somehow normalized by then, one has to take notice of the fact that the very high lethality rate in Lombardy during spring 2020 massively impacted on the population of eligible informants, since, as seen in (2), the overwhelming majority of them were aged people. This is due to the character of the original AIS questionnaire, with its focus on rural life and related traditional activities and practices which, in the early 21th century, implies selecting elderly people as informants.

13 Further, smaller-scale campaigns are being planned presently at the University of Zurich: the six Gallo-Italic points in Sicily will be surveyed by Salvi (in preparation), while the six datapoints in Istria and Dalmatia are the focus of Giudici / Negrinelli (in preparation). In addition, the \textit{Atlante Multimediale dei Dialetti Veneti (AMDV)} already includes modern data from Veneto, recorded with a comparable procedure (and indeed served as a source of inspiration for the AISr project). However, full comparability is hindered by the fact that, due to funding limitations, \textit{AMDV} covers only about one third (i.e. 430 lexical entries) of the original AIS questionnaire (cf. Tisato / Vigolo 2011, 109).

14 While, for comparability, it is essential that the new survey be completed within a reasonable time lapse, the issue of uniformity in transcription has lost some importance, given that users are now able to check transcriptions themselves against the sound input.
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