

# A parametric analysis of verb movement and nonstandard interrogatives in NIDs

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# 1. Background

# 1.1 The Parametric Comparison Method (PCM)

- Methodology developed by Giuseppe Longobardi, Cristina Guardiano and others over the last two decades. (Longobardi, 2003, 2012, 2018; Longobardi & Guardiano, 2009, 2017; Longobardi et al., 2013, 2015; Guardiano & Longobardi 2017; Ceolin et al. 2020 ...)
- Takes sets of **syntactic parameters** from different languages as input to computations which output phylogenies/family trees of those languages.
- Longobardi et al. focused on the nominal domain, Baker and Roberts (to appear) on the clausal domain, while this presentation will show a further expansion of this method regarding the functional domain (CP).



- The first step in order to apply this method consists in realising a consistent list of **parameters** regulating the domain under analysis.
- The second in picking up a sample of languages to be tested by means of this tool
- Functional parameters are (in theory) binary. However, a third value called 0 can also be assigned to some parameters if its value is already determined by the value previously assigned to another parameter.

		TABLE A		Sic	It	Sp	Fr	Ptg	Rm	Grk
1	FGM	± gramm. morphology	FGM	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
2	FGP	± gramm. person +FGM	FGP	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
3	FGN	± gramm. number +FGP	FGN	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
4	GCO	± gramm. collective ¬+FGN	GCO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	FGG	± gramm. gender +FGP	FGG	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
6	NOD	± NP over D +FGP	NOD	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	FSN	± feature spread to N +FGN or +GCO, -NOD	FSN	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
8	FNN	± numb. on N +FSN	FNN	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
9	CGB	± gramm. boundedness	CGB	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	FIN	± free incorporation +CGB	FIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	DGR	± gramm. article +FGP	DGR	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
12	CGR	± strong article -CGB, +DGR, ¬-FNN	CGR	+	+	+	0	+	+	+
13	NSD	± strong person (+FGN, ¬+FSN) or +DGR	NSD	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
14	DPQ	± free null partitive Q +FNN, ¬+CGB	DPQ	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
15	DCN	± article-checking N (+FGN, ¬+FSN) or +DGR	DCN	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
16	DOR	± def on relatives +DGR	DOR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	DIN	± D-controlled infl. on N +FSN	DIN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	CPS	± plural spread from cardinals +FSN, ¬+GCO	CPS	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
19	NPA	± numerical (partial) atomizer +FGN, +CGB	NPA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	BAT	± atomizer +NPA, -DGR	BAT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.4		L								$\neg$

Longobardi & Guardiano (2017: 252)



- Generating linguistic phylogeny is possible by calculating the syntactic distance between language pairs.
- The distance between two languages (X, Y) is  $\delta$  (0 >  $\delta$  > 1) determined by the following formula for the ordered pair (where i = the number of identities in parameter values and d = the number of differences): d/(i+d)

	Eng	Du	Afr	Ger	<u>Sw</u>	Fr	It	EP	Ro	Slo	SBC	Gk	Fi
Eng	0.00	0.21	0.26	0.27	0.22	0.34	0.33	0.29	0.34	0.38	0.39	0.24	0.26
Du	0.21	0.00	0.26	0.12	0.22	0.24	0.26	0.30	0.28	0.41	0.42	0.31	0.34
Afr	0.26	0.26	0.00	0.28	0.27	0.39	0.44	0.42	0.39	0.46	0.47	0.42	0.39
Ger	0.27	0.12	0.28	0.00	0.30	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.20	0.35	0.33	0.27	0.34
<u>Sw</u>	0.22	0.22	0.27	0.30	0.00	0.32	0.34	0.27	0.37	0.45	0.45	0.30	0.29
Fr	0.34	0.24	0.39	0.26	0.32	0.00	0.08	0.16	0.20	0.34	0.32	0.25	0.28
lt	0.33	0.26	0.44	0.25	0.34	0.08	0.00	0.12	0.17	0.30	0.29	0.15	0.26
EP	0.29	0.30	0.42	0.26	0.27	0.16	0.12	0.00	0.22	0.29	0.26	0.16	0.27
Ro	0.34	0.28	0.39	0.20	0.37	0.20	0.17	0.22	0.00	0.25	0.24	0.18	0.31
Slo	0.38	0.41	0.46	0.35	0.45	0.34	0.30	0.29	0.25	0.00	0.01	0.28	0.38
SBC	0.39	0.42	0.47	0.33	0.45	0.32	0.29	0.26	0.24	0.01	0.00	0.25	0.36
Gk	0.24	0.31	0.42	0.27	0.30	0.25	0.15	0.16	0.18	0.28	0.25	0.00	0.24
Fi	0.26	0.34	0.39	0.34	0.29	0.28	0.26	0.27	0.31	0.38	0.36	0.24	0.00

Baker & Roberts (2021: 17)



-	Ka	Ки	Sic	lt	Çn	Fr	Dtn	Rm	Grk	CvG	E	n	Da	Ice	Nor	Bla	SC	Slo	Po	Rus	lr	Wel	Ma	Hi	Far	Pas	Man	Can	lnu	Jap	۸r	Heb	Ни	Est	Fin	Tur	Bur	сB	wR	Wo
Ka	na n	0.406	0.276	0.233	0.233	0.267	0.233	0.226	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.267	0.233	0.233	0,233	0,233	0.226	0,226	0,226	0,226	0.276	0.286	0.314	0.314	0,438	0.367	0.526	0.526	0.29	0,625	0.379	0.276	0.306	0,29	0.294	0.342	0.394	0.417	0.375	0.455
- Ku	0,406	0	0,297	0.324	0,351	0,361	0,324	0.342	0.368	0.368	0.342	0.342	0,316	0.368	0,316	0.378	0.359	0.359	0.359	0.359	0.361	0.361	0.3	_	0.351	0.275	0,414	0,414	0.312	0.481	0,368	0,417	0.343	0,297	0.297	0,306	0,351	0.324	0,382	0.571
Sic	0,276	0,297	0,231	0,0208	0,0833	0.0652	0,0625	0,042	0,17	0,300	0,159	0,111	0,111	0,178	0,133	0,128	0,175	0,175	0,15	0,175	0,209	0,214	0,162		0,333	0,216	0,375	0,375	0,276	0,304	0,273	0,262	0.225	0,243	0,25	0,333	0,371	0,324	0,302	0,312
lt .	0.233	0.324	0.0208	0	0.06	0.0417	0.04	0.0625	0,184	0.163	0,152	0,106	0,106	0.17	0,128	0,143	0.167	0.19	0.167	0.19	0,233	0,238	0,158	0,158	0,333	0,211	0,36	0.36	0,276	0,304	0,273	0,262	0,214	0,231	0.237	0,324	0.361	0.222	0,222	0.312
- Sn	0.233	0.351	0.0833	0.06	0	0.0625	0,02	0.0612	0,22	0.2	0.174	0,128	0,128	0,17	0,149	0,14	0,14	0,163	0,14	0,163	0,205	0,209	0,184	0,184	0,361	0,237	0.4	0.4	0,267	0,25	0,267	0.279	0,262	0,256	0.263	0.353	0.389	0.222	0,222	0.344
Fr	0,267	0.361	0.0652	0.0417	0.0625	0,0020	0.0417	0,109	0,234	0,213	0,182	0,133	0,133	0,156	0,156	0,17	0,195	0.22	0,195	_	0,22	0.225	0,184	0,184	0,361	0,243	0,36	0,36	0.31	0,304	0,31	0.3		0,237	0.243	0.353	0,389	0.222	0,222	0.312
Pta	0.233	0.324	0.0625	0.04	0.02	0.0417	0	0.0833	0.224	0,204	0,152	0,106	0,106	0,149	0,128	0,163	0,167	0.19	0,167	0.19	0,209	0.214	0,158	0,158	0.333	0,211	0,36	0,36	0,276	0,304	0,295	0.286	0.238	0.231	0.237	0.324	0.361	0.194	0.194	0.312
Rm	0.226	0.342	0.087	0.0625	0,0612	0,109	0.0833	0	0.184	0,163	0,174	0.174	0,104	0,163	0,122	0,118	0,143	0,167	0,167	0,167	0,227	0,233	0,158	0,158	0,333	0,211	0,36	0,36	0,29	0,208	0,234	0,244	0,286	0.231	0.282	0.371	0.361	0.229	0.229	0.344
Grk	0.3	0.368	0.17	0.184	0.22	0.234	0.224	0.184	0	0.0185	0.208	0.204	0.208	0.22	0,188	0.2	0,156	0.133	0.133	0,133	0,227	0,233	0.225	0,225	0.324	0.275	0.37	0.37	0.267	0.375	0.239	0.295	0.256	0.286	0.275	0.343	0.333	0.378	0.378	0.242
CyG	0.3	0.368	0.17	0.163	0.2	0.213	0.204	0.163	0.0185	0	0.188	0.184	0.188	0.2	0,167	0,22	0,133	0,156	0,156	0,156	0.227	0,233	0,225	0,225	0,324	0,275	0.37	0.37	0,267	0,375	0,239	0,295	0,233	0,262	0.25	0.343	0,333	0.351	0.351	0.242
E	0,3	0,342	0,159	0,152	0,174	0,182	0,152	0,174	0,208	0,188	0	0,0612	0,0816	0,122	0,0816	0,208	0,182	0,205	0,205	0,205	0,14	0,143	0,244	0,244	0,216	0,146	0,25	0,25	0,333	0,36	0,31	0,25	0,233	0,214	0,22	0,222	0,231	0,229	0,229	0,294
D	0,267	0,342	0,111	0,106	0,128	0,133	0,106	0,174	0,204	0,184	0,0612	0	0,0816	0,0962	0,0816	0,167	0,128	0,149	0,149	0,17	0,159	0,163	0,225	0,225	0,27	0,175	0,296	0,296	0,31	0,375	0,31	0,25	0,238	0,22	0,2	0,229	0,289	0,257	0,257	0,294
Da	0,233	0,316	0,111	0,106	0,128	0,133	0,106	0,104	0,208	0,188	0,0816	0,0816	0	0,08	0,0385	0,14	0,14	0,163	0,163	0,163	0,205	0,209	0,171	0,171	0,297	0,171	0,214	0,214	0,3	0,32	0,273	0,214	0,233	0,171	0,2	0,278	0,289	0,2	0,2	0,303
lce	0,233	0,368	0,178	0,17	0,17	0,156	0,149	0,163	0,22	0,2	0,122	0,0962	0,08	0	0,0588	0,12	0,087	0,109	0,13	0,13	0,133	0,136	0,15	0,15	0,243	0,15	0,296	0,296	0,276	0,292	0,25	0,19	0,238	0,171	0,175	0,257	0,289	0,229	0,229	0,235
Nor	0,233	0,316	0,133	0,128	0,149	0,156	0,128	0,122	0,188	0,167	0,0816	0,0816	0,0385	0,0588	0	0,137	0,14	0,163	0,163	0,163	0,205	0,209	0,171	0,171	0,297	0,171	0,214	0,214	0,3	0,32	0,273	0,214	0,233	0,171	0,2	0,278	0,289	0,2	0,2	0,303
Blg	0,233	0,378	0,128	0,143	0,14	0,17	0,163	0,118	0,2	0,22	0,208	0,167	0,14	0,12	0,137	0	0,0909	0,0682	0,0909	0,0682	0,205	0,209	0,175	0,175	0,333	0,175	0,333	0,333	0,258	0,24	0,239	0,205	0,233	0,22	0,225	0,278	0,316	0,257	0,257	0,375
SC	0,226	0,359	0,175	0,167	0,14	0,195	0,167	0,143	0,156	0,133	0,182	0,128	0,14	0,087	0,14	0,0909	0	0,0204	0,0612	0,0408	0,154	0,158	0,195	0,195	0,237	0,195	0,321	0,321	0,226	0,308	0,211	0,222	0,237	0,19	0,171	0,25	0,308	0,242	0,242	0,267
Slo	0,226	0,359	0,175	0,19	0,163	0,22	0,19	0,167	0,133	0,156	0,205	0,149	0,163	0,109	0,163	0,0682	0,0204	0	0,0408	0,0204	0,154	0,158	0,195	_	0,237	0,195	0,321	0,321	0,226	0,308	0,211	0,222	0,263	0,214	0,195	0,25	0,308	0,273	0,273	0,267
Po	0,226	0,359	0,15	0,167	0,14	0,195	0,167	0,167	0,133	0,156	0,205	0,149	0,163	0,13	0,163	0,0909	0,0612	0,0408	0	0,0204	0,154	0,158	0,195		0,237	0,195	0,321	0,321	0,226	0,308	0,211	0,222	0,263	0,214	0,195	0,25	0,308	0,273	0,273	0,267
Rus	0,226	0,359	0,175	0,19	0,163	0,22	0,19	0,167	0,133	0,156	0,205	0,17	0,163	0,13	0,163	0,0682	0,0408	0,0204	0,0204	0	0,154	0,158	0,195	0,195	0,237	0,195	0,321	0,321	0,226	0,308	0,211	0,222	0,263	0,214	0,195	0,25	0,308	0,273	0,273	0,267
lr	0,276	0,361	0,209	0,233	0,205	0,22	0,209	0,227	0,227	0,227	0,14	0,159	0,205	0,133	0,205	0,205	0,154	0,154	0,154	0,154	0	0	0,25	0,25	0,257	0,194	0,435	0,435	0,357	0,304	0,262	0,214	0,297	0,257	0,265	0,323	0,333	0,312	0,281	0,323
Wel	0,286	0,361	0,214	0,238	0,209	0,225	0,214	0,233	0,233	0,233	0,143	0,163	0,209	0,136	0,209	0,209	0,158	0,158	0,158	0,158	0	0	0,257	0,257	0,235	0,171	0,435	0,435	0,37	0,304	0,268	0,22	0,278	0,235	0,242	0,3	0,312	0,312	0,281	0,323
Ma	0,314	0,3	0,162	0,158	0,184	0,184	0,158	0,158	0,225	0,225	0,244	0,225	0,171	0,15	0,171	0,175	0,195	0,195	0,195	0,195	0,25	0,257	0	0	0,262	0,116	0,25	0,25	0,206	0,259	0,278	0,324	0,2	0,175	0,211	0,214	0,256	0,206	0,206	0,258
Hi	0,314	0,3	0,162	0,158	0,184	0,184	0,158	0,158	0,225	0,225	0,244	0,225	0,171	0,15	0,171	0,175	0,195	0,195	0,195	0,195	0,25	0,257	0	0	0,262	0,116	0,25	0,25	0,206	0,259	0,278	0,324	0,2	0,175	0,211	0,214	0,256	0,206	0,206	0,258
Far	0,438	0,351	0,333	0,333	0,361	0,361	0,333	0,333	0,324	0,324	0,216	0,27	0,297	0,243	0,297	0,333	0,237	0,237	0,237	0,237	0,257	0,235	0,262	0,262	0	0,184	0,259	0,259	0,323	0,36	0,389	0,382	0,222	0,194	0,206	0,167	0,189	0,281	0,344	0,281
Pas	0,367	0,275	0,216	0,211	0,237	0,243	0,211	0,211	0,275	0,275	0,146	0,175	0,171	0,15	0,171	0,175	0,195	0,195	0,195	0,195	0,194	0,171	0,116	0,116	0,184	0	0,258	0,258	0,258	0,222	0,333	0,324	0,167	0,15	0,184	0,135	0,15	0,152	0,152	0,357
<u>Man</u>	0,526	0,414	0,375	0,36	0,4	0,36	0,36	0,36	0,37	0,37	0,25	0,296	0,214	-	,	0,333	0,321	0,321	0,321	0,321	0,435	0,435	0,25	_	0,259	0,258	0	0,0286	0,429	0,333	0,522	0,571	0,24	0,259	0,32	0,231	0,241	0,231	0,269	0,304
Can	0,526	0,414	0,375	0,36	0,4	0,36	0,36	0,36	0,37	0,37	0,25	0,296	0,214	0,296	0,214	0,333	0,321	0,321	0,321	0,321	0,435	0,435	0,25	0,25	0,259	0,258	0,0286	0	0,429	0,333	0,522	0,571	0,24	0,259	0,32	0,231	0,241	0,231	0,269	0,304
<u>lnu</u>	0,29	0,312	0,276	0,276	0,267	0,31	0,276	0,29	0,267	0,267	0,333	0,31	0,3		0,3	0,258	0,226	0,226	0,226		0,357	0,37	0,206	0,206	0,323	0,258	0,429	0,429	0	0,348	0,323	0,31	0,229	0,226	0,206	0,189	0,206	0,259	0,333	0,4
Jap	0,625	0,481	0,304	0,304	0,25	0,304	0,304	0,208	0,375	0,375	0,36	0,375	0,32	0,292	0,32	0,24	0,308	0,308	0,308	0,308	0,304	0,304	0,259	0,259	0,36	0,222	0,333	0,333	0,348	0	0,348	0,476	0,381	0,304	0,364	0,364	0,375	0,2	0,24	0,391
	0,379	0,368	0,273	0,273	0,267	0,31	0,295	0,234	0,239	0,239	0,31	0,31	0,273	0,25	0,273	0,239	0,211	0,211	0,211	0,211	0,262	0,268	0,278	0,278	0,389	0,333	0,522	0,522	0,323	0,348	0	0,128	0,359	0,333	0,306	0,424	0,471	0,324	0,324	0,387
Heb	0,276	0,417	0,262	0,262	0,279	0,3	0,286	0,244	0,295	0,295	0,25	0,25	0,214	0,19	0,214	0,205	0,222	0,222	0,222	0,222	0,214	0,22	0,324	0,324	0,382	0,324	0,571	0,571	0,31	0,476	0,128	0	0,351	0,324	0,294	0,355	0,406	0,312	0,281	0,448
Hu	0,306	0,343	0,225	0,214	0,262	0,238	0,238	0,286	0,256	0,233	0,233	0,238	0,233	0,238	0,233	0,233	0,237	0,263	0,263	0,263	0,297	0,278	0,2	0,2	0,222	0,167	0,24	0,24	0,229	0,381	0,359	0,351	0	0,105	0,0952	0,0952	0,184	0,242	0,303	0,344
Est		0,297	0,243	0,231	0,256	0,237	0,231	0,231	0,286	0,262	0,214	0,22	0,171		0,171	0,22	0,19	0,214	0,214	0,214	0,257	0,235	_		0,194	0,15	0,259	0,259	0,226	0,304	0,333	0,324		0.0011	0,0244	0,162	0,146	0,125	0,188	0,37
Fin To-	0,294	0,297	0,25	0,237	0,263	0,243	0,231	0,282	0,275	0,25	0,22	0,2	0,2	0,175	0,2	0,225	0,171	0,195	0,195	0,195	0,265	0,242	0,211	0,211	0,206	0,184	0,32	0,32	0,206	0,364	0,306	0,294	0,0952	0,0244	0.405	0,125	0,184	0,167	0,233	0,385
Tur	0,342	0,306	0,333	0,324	0,353	0,353	0,324	0,371	0,343	0,343	0,222	0,229	0,278	0,257	0,278	0,278	0,25	0,25	0,25	0,25	0,323	0,3	0,214	0,214	0,167	0,135	0,231	0,231	0,189	0,364	0,424	0,355	0,0952	0,162	0,125	0.075	0,075	0,207	0,276	0,385
Bur	0,394	0,351	0,371	0,361	0,389	0,389	0,361	0,361	0,333	0,333	0,231	0,289	0,289	0,289	0,289	0,316	0,308	0,308	0,308	0,308	0,333	0,312	0,256	0,256	0,189	0,15	0,241	0,241	0,206	0,375	0,471	0,406	0,184	0,146	0,184	0,075	0.040	0,219	0,281	0,393
<u>cB</u>	0,417	0,324	0,229	0,222	0,222	0,222	0,194	0,229	0,378	0,351	0,229	0,257	0,2		0,2	0,257	0,242	0,273	0,273	0,273	0,312	0,312	0,206	0,206	0,281	0,152	0,231	0,231	0,259	0,2	0,324	0,312	-	0,125	0,167	0,207	0,219	0.0542	0,0513	0,333
wB	0,375	0,382	0,229	0,222	0,222	0,222	0,194	0,229	0,378	0,351	0,229	0,257	0,2	0,229	0,2	0,257	0,242	0,273	0,273	0,273	0,281	0,281	0,206	0,206	0,344	0,152	0,269	0,269	0,333	0,24	0,324	0,281	0,303	0,188	0,233	0,276	0,281	0,0513	0	0,333
Wo	0,455	0,571	0,312	0,312	0,344	0,312	0,312	0,344	0,242	0,242	0,294	0,294	0,303	0,235	0,303	0,375	0,267	0,267	0,267	0,267	0,323	0,323	0,258	0,258	0,281	0,357	0,304	0,304	0,4	0,391	0,387	0,448	0,344	0,37	0,385	0,385	0,393	0,333	0,333	0

Longobardi & Guardiano (2017)



### 1.2 The Parametrization of the CP

• The list of parameters regulating CP has been generated adopting the **cartographic framework** (Rizzi 1997), therefore considering each head of the split - CP

[ForceP [TopP\* [IntP [TopP\* [FocP [ModP [TopP\*[FinP]]]]]]]]

- It can in principle be formulated in terms of **formal features** on functional heads (Borer-Chomsky Conjecture).
- Following Gianollo et al. (2008) four properties related to functional features are the basis of numerous functional parameters: grammaticalisation, checking, spreading, strength
- Additional parameters account for further salient patterns of variation encountered in CP.



Parameters	Diagnostics
Pc1 (CLF) Lexicalized FORCE	+
Is Force lexicalized?	
	<ul> <li>(Any) Force feature can be lexicalized via a complementizer, a complementizer resembling a wh-</li> </ul>
	element, a relative operator, certain nouns, verbs
	etc.
	The element lexicalizing Force can be followed by one
	or more topics and one single focus but cannot be
	preceded by them.
	The positivity of this PC1 makes the following featural
	specific parameters relevant, while its negativity
	makes them 0.
	-
DC2 (CLD) Levisalized Deslacative	No Force feature is lexicalized
PC2 (CLD) Lexicalized Declarative Is the declarative feature lexicalized?	·
is the declarative feature fexicalized?	The declarative feature is lexicalized via a
	complementizer, a particle, V-to-C movement etc.
	Lexicalization through a particle can be incompatible
	with sentential negation.
	The positivity of PC2 makes the following parameters
	based on checking, strength and spread relevant, its
	negativity makes them 0
	-
	Declarative feature is not lexicalized
PC3 (CSD) Strong Declarative	+
Does declarative feature move from a low position	
to ForceP?	An element moves from a lower position to Force
	domain to check [declarative]. This element can be a
	verb (V2 languages), a complementizer (English), a
	particle, a clitic (Bellupese) etc.
	<ul> <li>English: same complementizer 'that' is associated with two distinct heads Force and Fin and there is</li> </ul>
	a movement to Force
	> SIDs: languages with a dual complementizer
	system
	-
	Lexicalization of [declarative] occurs through other
BC4 (CDC) Declarative Checking	operation and not by means of movement.
PC4 (CDC) Declarative Checking Is declarative feature overtly realized in a lower	,
position than ForceP?	The element bearing [+declarative] is an element in a
parametric main i service :	lower position than Force (either in CP or in the IP),
	but Force° is not able to attract it in its domain, thus
	is remains in a lower position.
	➤ SIDs: dual complementizer system
	If an element moves from its original position to a
	higher position still below Force and only in that
	position it checks [declarative], it is considered a case
	of checking as well. Therefore, the original position of
	the element is not a necessary aspect for checking.
I	

- Each parameter is ideintified by a **number** and a **three-letter code**.
- Parameters are ordered in a **top-bottom** fashion following the split-CP projections (Rizzi, 1997).
- A list of **101** parameters has been generated.



### 1.3 The choice of the languages

• At the current stage, a sample of **26 dialects** has been tested:

NIDs: Alto Polesano, Bellunese, Biellese, Cuneese, Friulano, Genovese, Modenese, Romagnolo, Trevisano; CIDs: Anconetano, Fiorentino, Maceratese, Maremmano; SIDs: Alto Salentino, Abruzzese, Barese, Calabrese (Area Lausberg), Calabrese (Area Greco-Romanza), Cautano, Lucano, Molisano, Neapolitan, Saletino, Sicilian; Sardo: Campidanese, Logodurese

- This is the first attempt to apply the PCM to dialects, rather than to standard languages.
- The objective is to detect **microvariations** between languages that are traditionally close and to provide a more fine-grained classification according to the phenomena involved at the C-layer.



# 2. The Parametrization of Verb Movement

• In this study, two kinds of verb movement have been formulated: V-to-Fin and V-to-Force (Wolfe, 2016).

V-to-Force	V-to-Fin
Pc1 (CSI) - Strong [F]:	Pc3 (CSF) - Strong [F]:
Does [F] move from a low position to	Does [F] move from a low position to
ForceP?	FinP?
Pc2 (VFO) - [F] on the verb:	Pc4 (VFI) - [F] on the verb:
Does the verb, carrying [F], move from a	Does the verb, carrying [F], move from a
low position to ForceP?	low position to FinP?
	Pc5 (RVP) - Residual V2:
	Is V2 property only realized in embedded
	clauses?

- It shows the implications between parameters.
- It fails to provide an empirical context for V-to-Force.

# 2.1 Fiorentino: a special case of complementizer deletion

- Italo-Romance varieties legitimize two distinct types of complementizer deletion (Cocchi & Poletto, 2002):
  - > CD1: main bridge verb + irrealis embedded verb
  - ➤ CD2: main bridge/non-brdge verb + irrealis/realis embedded verb and intervening clitic-like element
  - 1. Credo (che) sia interessante ascoltarlo.
    I-believe (that) be-subj.prs.3sg interesting listen-him.
    'I believe (that) it will be interesting to listen to him'
  - 2. Ha detto (che) non ha portato nulla. he-has said (that) not he-has brought anything 'He said (that) he did not bring anything'

CD1 – Italian & Fiorentino

CD2 - Fiorentino



- Cocchi & Poletto (2002) unify CD1 and CD2 claiming that they both represent instances of alternative checking
  - > CD1: The main verb select a CP-complement bearing [-realis] feature, checked by either the complementizer 'che' or by the embedded verb moved to CP.
  - > CD2: The main verb select a CP-complement bearing [±realis] feature, checked by either the complementizer 'che' or by the intervening clitic element moved to CP.
- What strikingly differs between **CD1** and **CD2** is the landing position of verb movement, respectively **FinP** and **ForceP**.
  - 3. Credo Gianni abbia telefonato
    I-think Gianni have-SUBJ.PRS.3SG phoned
    'I think Gianni has phoned'
  - 4. \*Maria mi ha detto Gianni un ha portato il libro
    Maria to me has said Gianni not has brought the book
    'Maria told me Gianni did not bring the book'

Italian & Fiorentino

Fiorentino



### 2.1 Fiorentino: a new approach to CD

- In this paper, we are going in a slightly different direction wrt to Cocchi & Poletto (2002), arguing that the clitic-element and the verb form a **unique unit** at the syntactic level.
- Resting on the assumption that CD2 involves clitic movement to Force (Cocchi & Poletto, 2002), verb
  movement along with the clitic need to be hypothesized as well.
- Therefore, CD in Fiorentino could turn into a potential candidate for an empirical context revealing Vto-Force.
- Which data can confirm verb movement to Force in Fiorentino?



a. Any left-peripheral element can precede the embedded verb, but hanging topics

5. a. \*Mi hanno detto QUATTRO BOTTIGLIE tu hai bevuto me they-have told FOUR BOTTLES you-cl. have drunk 'I have been told that FOUR BOTTLES you have drunk' contrastive focus

- b. Mi hanno detto tu hai bevuto QUATTRO BOTTIGLIE me have told you-cl. have drunk FOUR BOTTLES 'They told that FOUR BOTTLES you have drunk'
- 6. a. ?? Mi hanno detto a Marco gli telefoni domani me they-have told to Marco him you-call tomorrow 'They told me you call Marco tomorrow'

familiar topic

b. Mi hanno detto gli telefoni domani a Marco me have told him you-call tomorrow to Marco 'They told me you call Marco tomorrow'



7. a. \*Mi hanno detto domani ci vai me they-have told tomorrow there you-go 'They told me you will go there tomorrow'

adverb

b. Mi hanno detto ci vai domani me they-have told there you-go tomorrow 'They told me you will go there tomorrow'

8. Mi hanno detto Marco gli telefoni domani me they-have told Marco him you-call tomorrow 'They told me you will call Marco tomorrow'

hanging topic



b. Extraction of a DP-object to the embedded CP is grammatical only if an overt subject is missing

- 9. Ti hanno detto cosa porta? you they-have told what he-brings 'Did they tell you what he brings?'
- 10. \*Ti hanno detto cosa Gianni porta?
  you they-have told what Gianni brings?
  'Did they tell you what Gianni bring?'

Extraction to embedded CP

c. Diachronic analysis confirms this trend. In 16<sup>th</sup> century Italian, CD2 increases (Meszler & Samu, 2009), but it is not possible when a left-peripheral element intervenes between the main and the embedded clause

12. So non fa di bisogno più replicare questa istoria... know not it-is necessary any more to repeat this story...

*MF 9.24–25* 

13. Tu sai io sono compagnone... You know I am companion...

MF 36.23-24

14. so che per il tempo niuno è venuto drieto a me.. know that for the time none has followed me

*MF 35.27* 

15. Non vedete voi che ogni indì dua votano uno pozzo Not see you that every two days they-empty a well

MF 12.5-6



- Even though some questions remain open like the position of overt subjects or why only certain verbs allow for CD2, these data, which show an extremely poor verbal pre-field in CD2 contexts, seem to validly support V-to-Force.
- From the **PCM's** viewpoint, Fiorentino seems to positively label Pc2.

V-to-Force	V-to-Fin
Pc1 (CSI) - Strong [F]:	Pc3 (CSF) - Strong [F]:
Does [F] move from a low position to	Does [F] move from a low position to
ForceP?	FinP?
Pc2 (VFO) - [F] on the verb:	Pc4 (VFI) - [F] on the verb:
Does the verb, carrying [F], move from a	Does the verb, carrying [F], move from a
low position to ForceP?	low position to FinP?
	Pc5 (RVP) - Residual V2:
	Is V2 property only realized in embedded
	clauses?



# 3. The Parametrization of Complementizer Deletion

	-
PC6 (CCD) Complementizer Deletion Is complementizer deletion attested?	+
	The complementizer is omitted, regardless of the
	nature of the main and the embedded verb.
	<ul> <li>If this parameter is positive, than PC7 and PC8 are relevant.</li> </ul>
	The complementizer can never be omitted.
	Therefore, no combination of main and embedded verb is felicitous to have complementizer deletion.
	If this parameter is negative, PC7 and PC8 are 0-
	- It this parameter is negative, i es and i es are s
PC7 (CDT) Complementizer Deletion 2	+
Is complementizer deletion attested with both	Constitution deletion is not constitut to the same
bridge and non-bridge selecting verbs?	<ul> <li>Complementizer deletion is not sensitive to verb type in the main clause. It can be either bridge and a non-</li> </ul>
	bridge verb.
	> Florentine: the selecting verb can be of any type
	and the embedded verb can be both realis and
	icoolis
	If this parameter is +, then PC8 is 0+.
	-
	<ul> <li>Complementizer deletion cannot occur with any type of selecting verb.</li> </ul>
	Italian: Only bridge selecting verbs accept
	complementizer deletion.
	If this parameter is -, Pc8 is relevant
PC8: (CDO) Complementizer Deletion 1	+
Is complementizer deletion only attested with	
bridge selecting verbs?	Complementizer deletion is sensitive (at least) to the
	selecting verb which must be a bridge verb.  Italian
	P ILMINATE
	Generally, these varieties also show a preference for
	the mood of the embedded verb which must be irreal
	(conjunctive, conditional, future).
	-
	Other types of verb can select complementizer
	deletion (back to PC7)

- Following the PCM, I argue that there is a parametric implication between CD1 and CD2 resting on both logical and empirical assumptions.
- From a logical viewpoint, languages like Florentine with CD2 can have complementizer deletion when the selecting verb is both bridge and non-bridge and when the embedded verb encodes both [+realis] and [-realis] features, therefore any time that a language manifests CD2, it must also present CD1.



- ➤ If Pc6 is -, Pc7 and Pc8 are 0-
- ➤ If Pc6 is +, Pc7 and Pc8 are relevant
- ➤ If Pc7 is +, Pc8 is 0+

- These assumptions are further supported by empirical data retrieved from the languages tested.
- Some varieties categorically rule out complementizer deletion in both CD1 and CD2 contexts (Sicilian, Alto Polesano, Neapolitan, Campidanese etc.), while other varieties present both (Fiorentino).
- However, there is no variety in my knowledge that displays CD2, but not CD1, upholding hence the view that there is a **parametric implication** between CD1 and CD2.



# 4. The Parametrization of NSIs

- For NSIs, we indicate some interrogative structures that are not uttered in out-of-the-blue contexts, but that require a **specific semantic/pragmatic context** in order to be felicitous.
- More than two decades of literature on this topic, provided the following classification for NSIs. (Munaro & Obenauer, 1999; Obenauer & Poletto, 2000; Obenauer, 2012; Hinterholzl & Munaro, 2021)
  - Surprise-Disapproval Interrogative
  - Rhetorical Interrogatives
  - > Can't-find-the-value-of-X Interrogative
- In this presentation, I intend to offer an alternative view of NSIs under the lens of the PCM and I will test their different realization in three dialects spoken in Veneto: *Bellunese*, *Trevisano* and one variety of *Polesano*.



Surprise-Disapproal	Rhetorical	Can't-find-the-value-x							
Pc16 (SDQ) - Surpise/Disapproval	<b>Pc20</b> (CRI) Rhetorical Interrogatives	<b>Pc24</b> (CFI) Can't-find-the-value							
Are they syntactically realized in	Are they syntactically realized in	Are they syntactically realized in							
the same way as SI?	the same way as SI?	the same way as SI?							
Pc17 (SDP): Surprise/Disapproval and a	Pc21 (RIP) Rhetorical and a discourse	Pc25 (CFP) Can't-find-the value and a							
discourse particle	particle	discourse particle							
Do they need a discourse particle?	Do they need a discourse particle?	Do they need a discourse particle?							
Pc18 (SDC) Surprise/Disapproval in a	Pc22 (RIC) Rhetorical in a cleft	Pc26 (CFC) Can't-find-the-value in a							
cleft structure.	structure.	cleft structure.							
Are realized through cleft	Are they realized through cleft	Are they realized through cleft							
structures?	structures?	structures?							
Pc19 (SDM) Surprise/Disapproval and	<b>Pc23</b> (RIM) Rhetorical and wh-	<b>Pc27</b> (CFM) Can't-find-the-value and							
wh-movement.	movement	wh-movement							
Are realized with wh-movement to	Are they realized with wh-	Are they realized with wh-							
a fronted position?	movement to a fronted position?	movement to a fronted position?							



### 4.1 Results from three Veneto dialects

### > Alto Polesano:

• For the three types of NSI, the **same structure** with a fronted wh-item is realized.

- 16. Cosa magni-to?what eat-you-cl.'What do you eat?'
- 17. Dove ve-to vestia cussi?
  where go-you-cl. dressed like that?
  'Where are you going dressed like?'

standard interrogative

surprise/disapproval interrogative



#### **Bellunese:**

- It behaves like Alto Polesano in the realization of surprise/disapproval interrogatives, but it differs from it in rhetorical and can't-find-the-value-x interrogatives.
- This means that whether e SI is always realized with a wh-item in-situ, the **movement of wh-pronoun** is attested when a NSI of the surprise/disapproval or can't-find-the-value-x type is produced
  - 18. Si-to drio andare andé? are-you-cl behind go where? 'Where are you going?'

standard interrogative & surprise/disapproval interrogatives

19. Quando lo è diventa vegetariano (\*quando)? when him-cl is become vegetarian? 'When did he become vegetarian?'

rhetorical interrogative



#### > Trevisano:

• For the three types of NSIs, the wh-item must be necessarily **fronted**, contrary to the respective SIs which can be formulated with the wh-item either in-situ or ex-situ.

20. Chi ga-tu visto (chi)?
who have-you-d. seen (who)?
'Who did you see?'

standard interrogative

21. Quando se-o deventa vegetariano (\*quando)? when is-he-cl. become vegetarian (\*when)? 'When did he become vegetarian?'

rhetorical interrogative

22. Dove a-tu trova' e ciave (\*dove)? where have-you-cl. found the key (\*where)? 'Where did you find the key?'

can't-find-the-value-x interrogative



# 3.2 Discussion

• From the PCM perspective, the parameter schemata that can be released is the following

	ALTO POLESANO	BELLUNESE	TREVISANO
Pc16 (SDQ)	+	+	+
Pc17 (SDP):	-	-	-
Pc18 (SDC)	-	-	-
Pc19 (SDM)	-	-	+
Pc20 (CRI)	+	-	+
Pc21 (RIP)	-	-	-
Pc22 (RIC)	-	-	-
Pc23 (RIM)	-	+	+
Pc24 (CFI)	+	-	+
Pc25 (CFP)	-	-	-
Pc26 (CFC)	-	-	-
Pc27 (CFM)	-	+	+

• The syntactic distances calculated in pairs of languages between Alto Polesano, Trevisano, and Bellunese are as follows:

➤ Alto Polesano – Bellunese: **0.19** 

➤ Alto Polesano – Trevisano: **0.22** 

➤ Bellunese – Trevisano: **0.13** 

- Even though the syntactic distances fall in a range that confirms their belonging to the **same language family**, Bellunese and Trevisano seem closer/more related with respect to Polesano.
- Does the realization of NSIs affect these results?



- Having a closer look at the assignment of the overall values, it is possible to observe that:
  - ➤ Bellunese and Trevisano are more reluctant to accept movement towards the CP (focus fronting, left-dislocation).
  - > Trevisano is event stricter as it does not even allow topic dislocation to the left of an exclative whpronoun.
  - Alto Polesano is, rather, more 'chilled' with respect to movement.
  - The only kind of movement that is accepted in Bellunese and Trevisano is restricted to whmovement in NSI.



- Bellunese and Trevisano are more syntactically related due to their more typical **rejection** of any kind of syntactic movement within the structure.
- Alto Polesano is more distant to them, but closer to other less strict varieties that accept syntactic movement.
- The realization of NSIs provides a confirmation of a more similar pattern between Bellunese and Trevisano rather than Alto Polesano which plays a role in the final calculation of the syntactic distance.
- Considering solely this phenomenon, it is possible to establish a continuous configuration between
  the three varieties analysed: while Alto Polesano and Bellunese are at the extreme edges, with the
  former realizing NSIs in the same way as SIs and the latter showing opposite operations, Trevisano is
  found in an intermediate position.
- From the micro-parametric analysis of there Veneto dialects, it is possible to conclude that the PCM continues to be a promising methodology for establishing linguistic relations.



# 5. Conclusions

- The PCM is an innovative tool that attempts to offer an alternative lens to investigate language taxonomy.
- This method benefits from the fact that it can be **expanded** both in terms of the languages under analysis and in terms of the syntactic domain investigated.
- This research is, indeed, the result of the application of the PCM to the functional domain in order to test Italo-Romance varieties.
- This test has permitted the creation of specific parameters that derive from the assignment of other parametric values. The choice of non-standard languages is productive as it allows to define **micro-parameters** that are relevant only if **syntactically close languages** are taken into account.



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