

## 博士論文の英文要旨

論文題目

Geographical Identification of  
the Burgundian Dialect Text *L'âme du Morvan*  
: An Approach Based on Geolinguistic and Quantitative Analysis

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Chapter 1 provided an overview of the background, objectives, and research questions as well as the structure of the analysis. Morvan, located near the center of the Burgundy region in northeastern France, extends approximately 60 km east-west and 100 km north-south. By the 1960s, patois had declined in Burgundy but was still spoken in Morvan (Taverdet 1973a). Régnier (1979a) suggests that Morvan is both linguistically conservative and diverse. Linguistic diversity arises from intra- and extra-linguistic factors. Considering extra-linguistic factors, such as Morvan's higher elevation than the surrounding areas and the fact that Burgundy was not originally a single administrative division, it is necessary to analyze the Morvan dialect within the context of these geographical and historical administrative changes. Taverdet (1973a) predicted that this dialect would also disappear before long. Today, it is highly likely that no native speakers remain, which makes it difficult to obtain sufficient quality audio data for analysis. To analyze Morvan, a corpus that substitutes audio data is required; thus, we focused on dialect texts, as dialects are spoken rather than written. Nevertheless, to document these vanishing dialects, the authors wrote texts using orthography to represent dialectal sounds. Jecic (2012) compared some spellings in a dialect text with linguistic maps, confirming that the spellings reflect the pronunciations of the author's hometown. Therefore, we considered it feasible to conduct a geolinguistic analysis of spelling in dialect texts.

This study analyzes the dialect text *L'âme du Morvan* published in 1923. Although purportedly written in the spoken language around Saulieu in northeastern Morvan, its spellings lack consistency. An analysis of the spellings in 39 stories revealed variation across the stories. These stories consist of works by Guillaume and works reprinted from previously published editions of *Almanach*. The authors of the works reprinted from *Almanach* are unknown. While they may have been written by Guillaume, it cannot be ruled out that they were written by other authors. Based on this, we hypothesized that the 39 stories were not written in a single dialect but in various dialects spoken across multiple regions of Morvan.

This study aims to geographically identify the spoken language in the dialect text *L'âme du*

*Morvan* published in 1923 and has established the following research question:

- Which specific location within Morvan does the colloquial language of the 39 stories included in the 1923 first edition of *L'âme du Morvan* originate from?

In this study, we estimated the sound value using orthography. This methodology was developed for this study, and its validity was demonstrated. It comprises two analyses: (1) phonetic analysis and geographical identification from a geolinguistic perspective and (2) geographical identification through a quantitative analysis of orthography. This study primarily referenced mainly *Atlas Linguistique et ethnographique de Bourgogne* (ALB).

Chapter 2 organized discussions from previous studies describing the linguistic features of the Morvan dialect and research on the orthographic analysis of dialect texts. Understanding the uniqueness of this dialect is crucial and referencing prior research on the orthography of dialect texts forms the foundation for this study. Furthermore, it revealed unresolved issues from previous studies.

Chapter 3 provided an overview of Morvan's geographical structure, the evolution of its administrative divisions, and its position within France's linguistic boundaries and examined the distribution of phonetic and morphological features based on linguistic map data. Morvan spans four departments in the Burgundy region: Yonne, Nièvre, Côte-d'Or, and Saône-et-Loire. It is situated at a higher elevation than the surrounding areas. Regarding the historical administrative divisions, the departments of Côte-d'Or and Saône-et-Loire belonged to the former Province of Burgundy, whereas the department of Yonne was formed from parts of the former Provinces of Burgundy, Orléans, and Champagne. The Nièvre Department was under a different administrative jurisdiction from the other three departments for approximately 1,000 years until 1986.

Linguistically, Morvan belongs to the Oil language area.

Furthermore, the results of pilot analyses revealed that Morvan is a region where the standard form spreads eastward from the west and the Burgundian dialect intersects.

In Chapter 4, we identified the author and content of the dialect text *L'âme du Morvan* published in 1923 (Guillaume (1923)), and discussed the criteria for selecting the corpus and the words to be analyzed. From the 39 stories in Guillaume (1923), we excluded sentences written in Standard French and used the dialectal portions as our corpus. From this corpus, we selected 294 words as the target words for analysis, choosing those whose meaning and etymology were clear and that were also headwords in the ALB.

Chapter 5 described the analytical methodology. The method for sound value estimation was first described. Subsequently, the method of phonetic analysis conducted in Chapter 6 and the method of quantitative analysis based on lexical and morphological concordance rates conducted in Chapter 7 were discussed.

Chapter 6 explained the phonetic analysis which revealed that both vowels and consonants exhibited dialectal forms characteristic of regional French, as well as standard forms. The dialectal forms are found in a continuous area spanning southeastern Yonne, Côte-d'Or, and

Saône-et-Loire. Although these regions overlap with the former province of Burgundy, administrative boundaries alone cannot fully account for this distribution. Furthermore, it was confirmed that older phonetic features and words, once distributed across a wide area, were preserved in Morvan, forming a linguistic island. The standard form is primarily found in the western parts of Yonne and Nièvre. Regarding the consonant -r, both its loss, dating back to before the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and its reconstruction after the 17<sup>th</sup> century were confirmed. Even when the spelling conforms to the standard form, there are cases in which the standard form does not appear on the ALB near Saulieu, which contradicts the description that the text was written in the spoken language of the Saulieu area. In these cases, the standard language would appear in the corpus. Possible reasons for this include the following: (1) the author was bilingual in the local dialect and French; (2) the author may have interspersed French words to aid the reader's understanding; and (3) with the introduction of compulsory education in France in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, standardization had already begun in Morvan by the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Spelling variations may also suggest the presence or absence of phonological contrasts.

Chapter 7 explained another type of analysis: quantitative analysis of words. The subjects of analysis were [1] 294 words, [2] words classified by category (words related to religion and words related to agriculture, dairy farming, and rural life), and [3] the forms of subject personal pronouns and verbs. For each of these, we calculated the match rate between the 39 stories and 18 locations in Morvan, and visualized the results. The results showed that for [1], the 39 stories showed high matches with Locations 30, 27, 65, and 80. The religion-related terms in [2] showed no regional differences in Morvan. In contrast, terms related to agriculture, dairy farming, and rural life showed overwhelmingly high agreement with location 30, suggesting an area of activity for Guillaume, a veterinarian. [3] generally corresponded to the region of the former Burgundy Province.

In Chapter 8, we integrated the analytical results of Chapters 6 and 7. All results consistently identified Location 30, Saint-Martin-de-la-Mer, as the location with the highest match rate, confirming the consistency of the results obtained using the two different methods. Location 30 is the location within the ALB survey area closest to the author's hometown, Saulieu. However, because no story perfectly matches Location 30, it is reasonable to conclude that the spoken language of the corpus represents the spoken language of a region of a certain size.

Chapter 9 answered the research question: "Which specific location within Morvan does the colloquial language of the 39 stories included in the 1923 first edition of *L'âme du Morvan* originate from?" Based on the above analyses, it was clarified that the 39 stories originated from the spoken language of Saulieu and its surrounding areas, and the Bas-Morvan in northeastern and central Morvan." This finding refutes the hypothesis that the 39 stories were written in multiple spoken languages. It was also noted that while there is a relationship with previous administrative divisions, this alone cannot explain the findings.

The significance of this study's methodology lies in its proposal of a framework that integrates geolinguistic phonetic analysis with quantitative lexical and morphological analyses

to accurately estimate the geographical origin of spoken language recorded in dialectal texts. Adopting an alternative approach using non-phonetic data enabled the connection of historical and textual materials with linguistic maps. This study provided a new methodological foundation for the task of the “geographical repositioning of dialects.”

Future challenges include (1) analysis considering weighting phonetic aspects, (2) grouping verb forms by tense, (3) systematization of phonology of the dialect text, (4) analysis based on the presence or absence of phonological opposition, and (5) supplementation with actual audio data. Looking ahead, potential future directions include applying the same analytical framework to materials written in other areas of Morvan and other regions of France as well as visualizing and disseminating research findings through integration with GIS and web maps.