

Hokkaido Ainu Dialects: Variation from the Perspective of the Geographical Distribution of Vocabulary

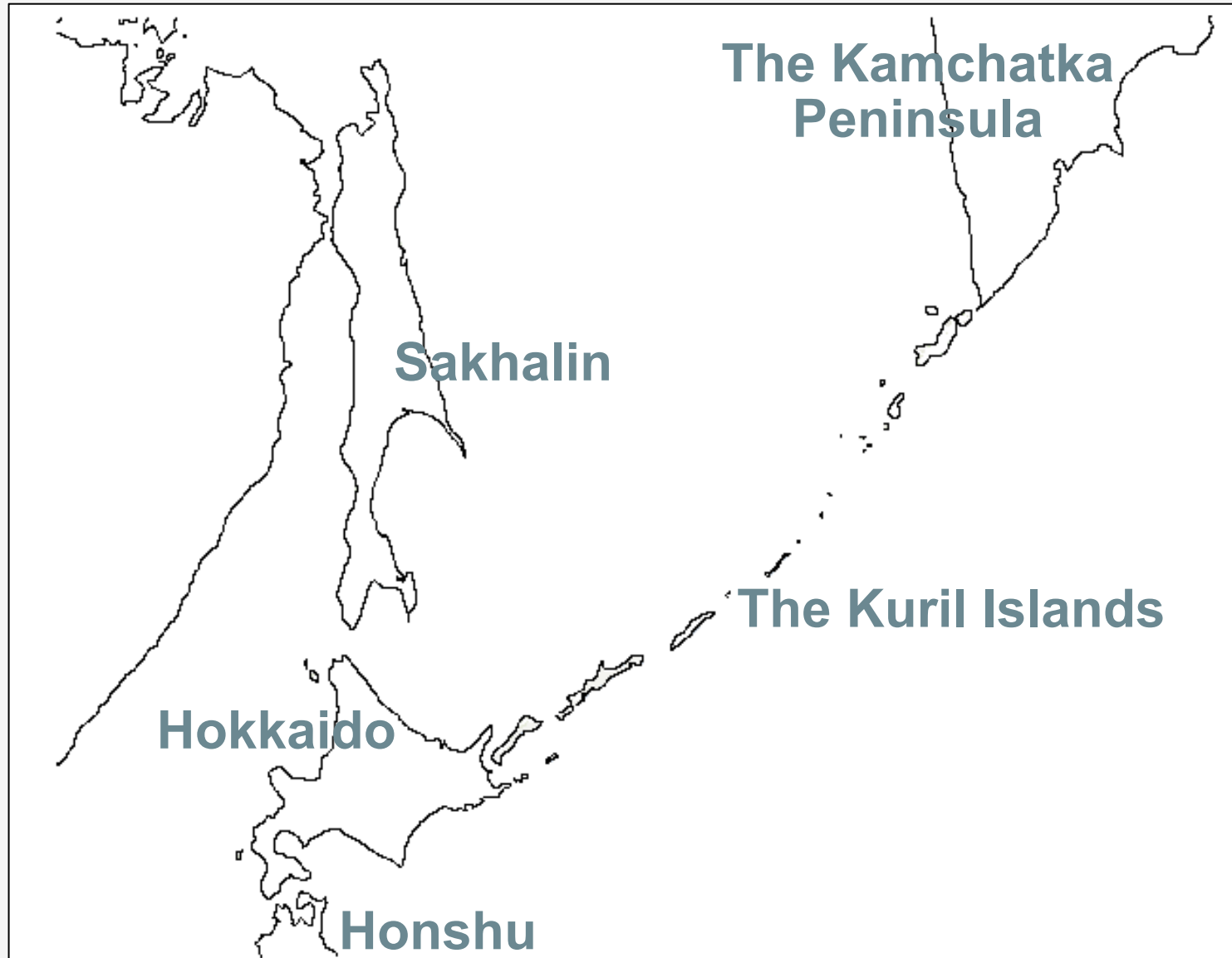
Mika FUKAZAWA

**Preparatory Office for National Ainu Museum
(The foundation for Ainu culture)**

INTRODUCTION

- The aim of this study is to generate geographical maps and to describe the variations in Hokkaido Ainu dialects.
- The Ainu language has three dialect categories: Hokkaido, Sakhalin, and Northern Kurils.
- It is well known that “for Hokkaido, there are some differences in vocabulary, phonology, word formation, and the like between northeastern and southwestern dialects” (Tamura 2000: 3)

INTRODUCTION



INTRODUCTION

- Regarding the Ainu dialects, the most important work on them was conducted by Hattori, Chiri, and their collaborators from 1955–1956.
- Currently, few native speakers of Ainu exist, and collecting sufficient words and sentences through fieldwork is difficult.
- My studies adopted geolinguistics for the Ainu language, referring to the audio and written materials that Hattori, Chiri, and other researchers have collected.

AINU DIALECTS

Hokkaido:

1. Yakumo/ 2. Oshamambe/ 3. Horobetsu/
4. Biratori (Fukumitsu)/ 5. Nukibetsu/
6. Niikappu/ 7. Samani/ 8. Obihiro/ 9. Kushiro/
10. Bihoro/ 11. Asahikawa/ 12. Nayoro/
13. Sōya/ 14. Chitose/ 15. Shizunai/
16. Hombetsu/ 17. Mukawa/ 18. Nemuro

Sakhalin:

19. Ochiho/ 20. Tarantomari/ 21. Maoka/
22. Shiraura/ 23. Raichishka/ 24. Nairo

Kurils:

25. Shumushu

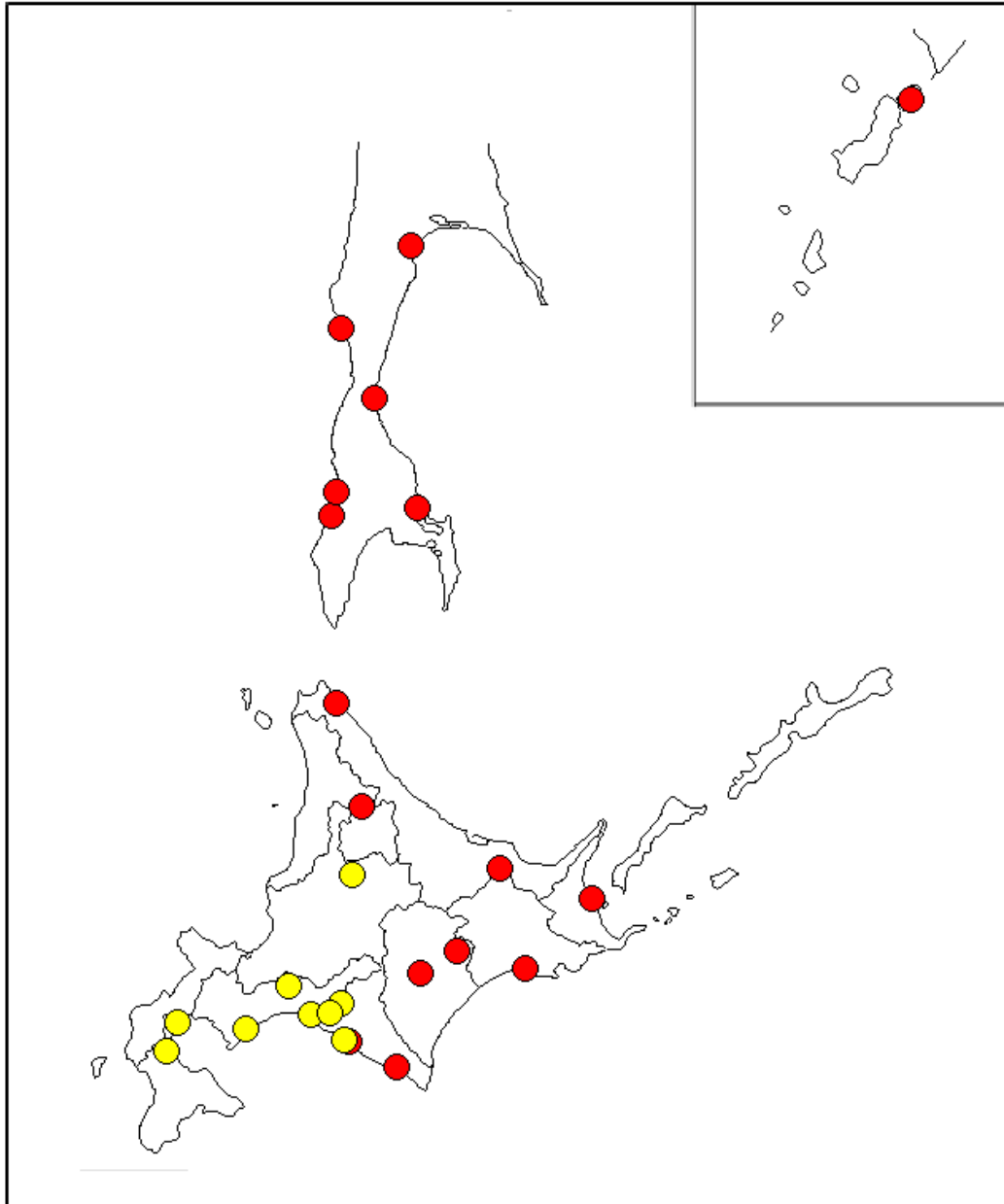
INTRODUCTION

- Nakagawa (1996) first suggested the geographical distribution and several patterns of Ainu.
- Here, I consider the following major three types within Hokkaido Ainu dialects.
 - The Eastern-Western type
 - The Saru-Chitose (and Sakhalin) type
 - The ABA type

1. THE EASTERN-WESTERN TYPE

- First, in the case of the Eastern-Western type, a pseudo-phonetic correspondence is present: the Eastern /ca-/ [tʃa, dʒa] vs. the Western /pa-/ [pa, ba].
- This is one of the reasons why the Hokkaido dialects are classified into Northeastern and Southwestern dialectal categories.

1. THE EASTERN-WESTERN TYPE



'mouth'

● *car* [tʃar]

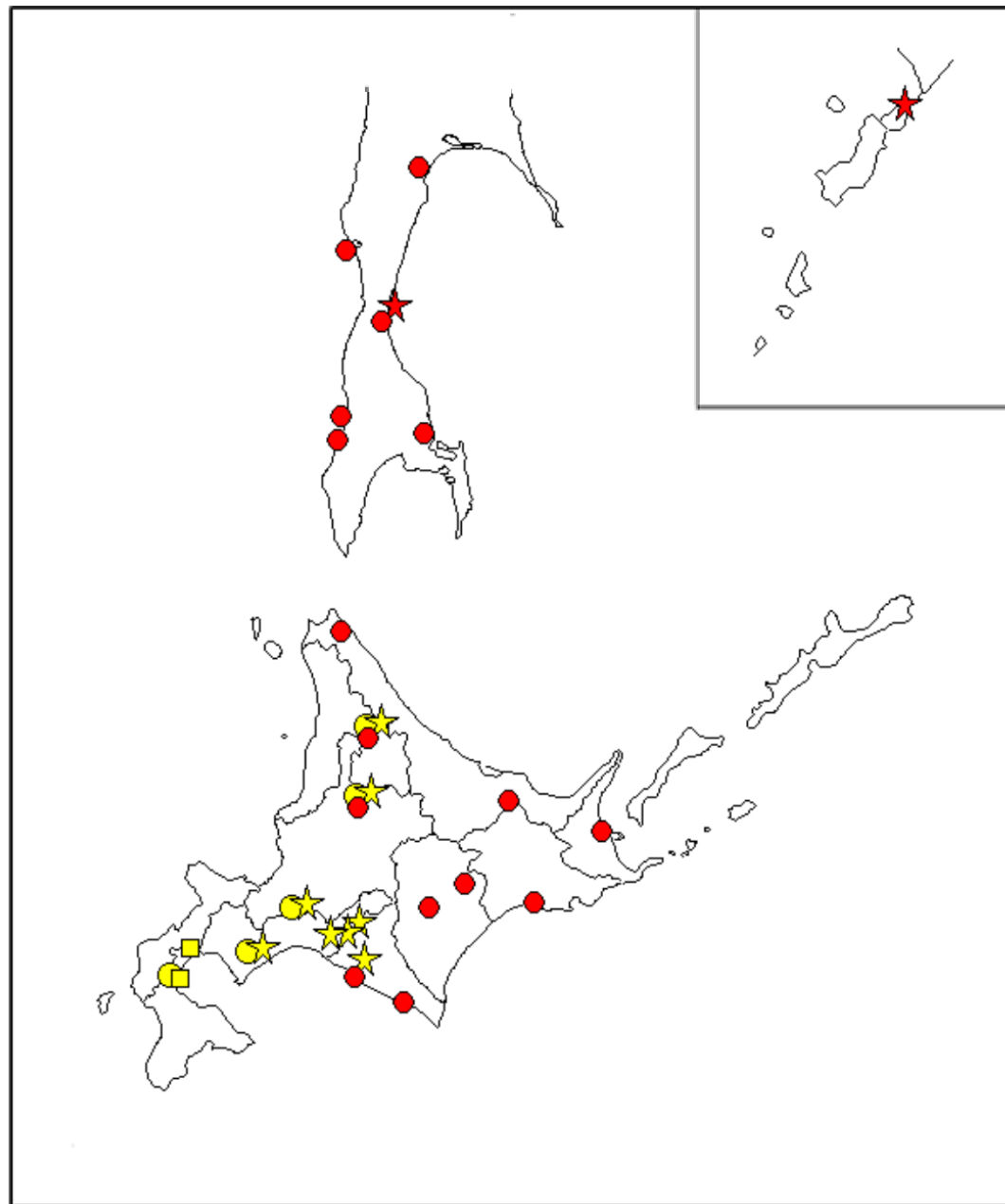
● *par* [par]

ca/pa-or

< mouth-

in the place of

1. THE EASTERN-WESTERN TYPE



'lips'

 { *caapus* [tʃaːpus]
capus [tʃapus]

 *papus* [papus]

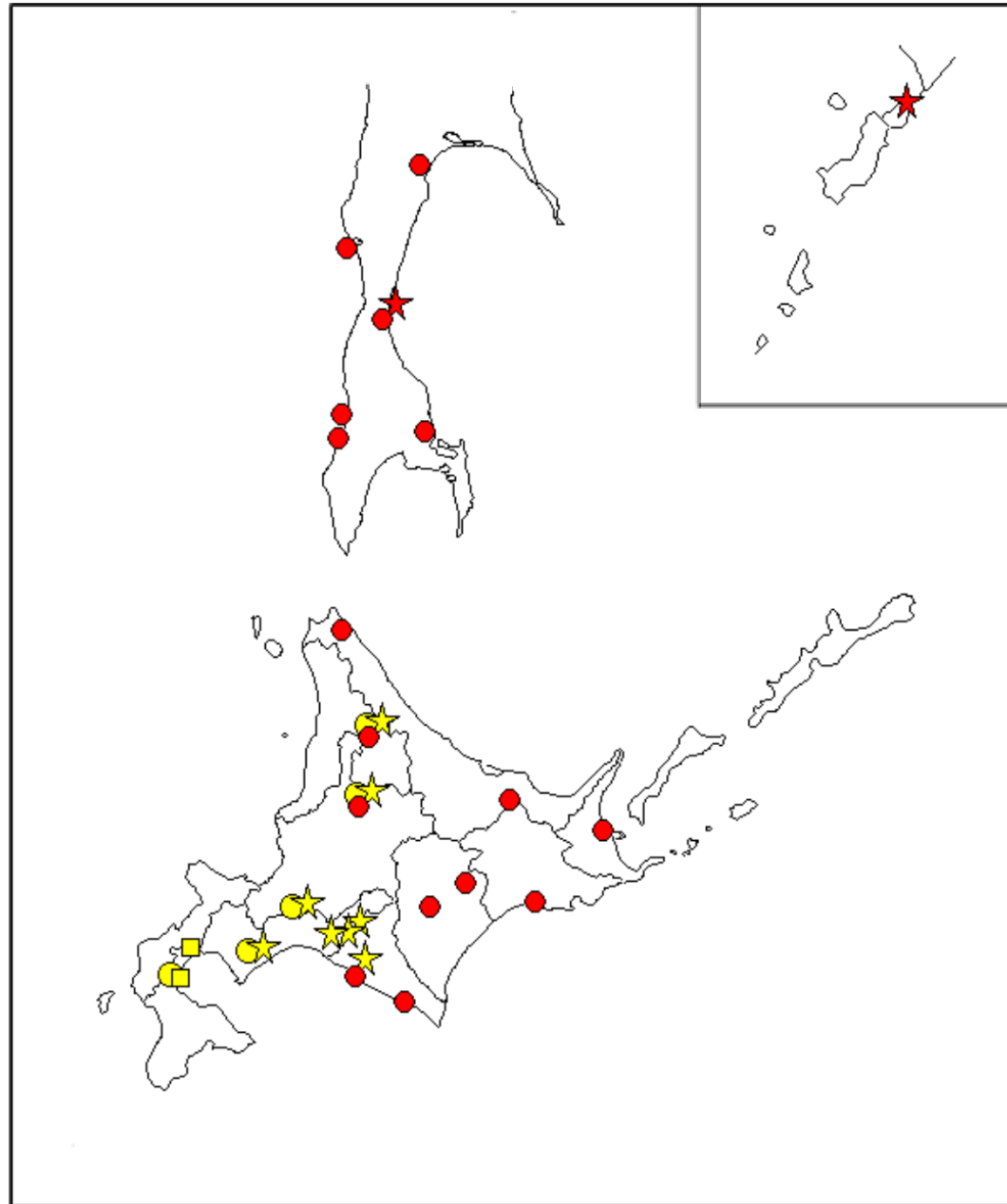
 *catoy* [tʃatoj]

 *patoy* [patoj]

 *pakisar* [pakisar]



1. THE EASTERN-WESTERN TYPE



'lips'

● *ca/pa-pus*

● < mouth-

an ear of millet

★ *ca/pa-toy*

★ < mouth-

fields/ground

■ *pa-kisar*

< mouth-ear

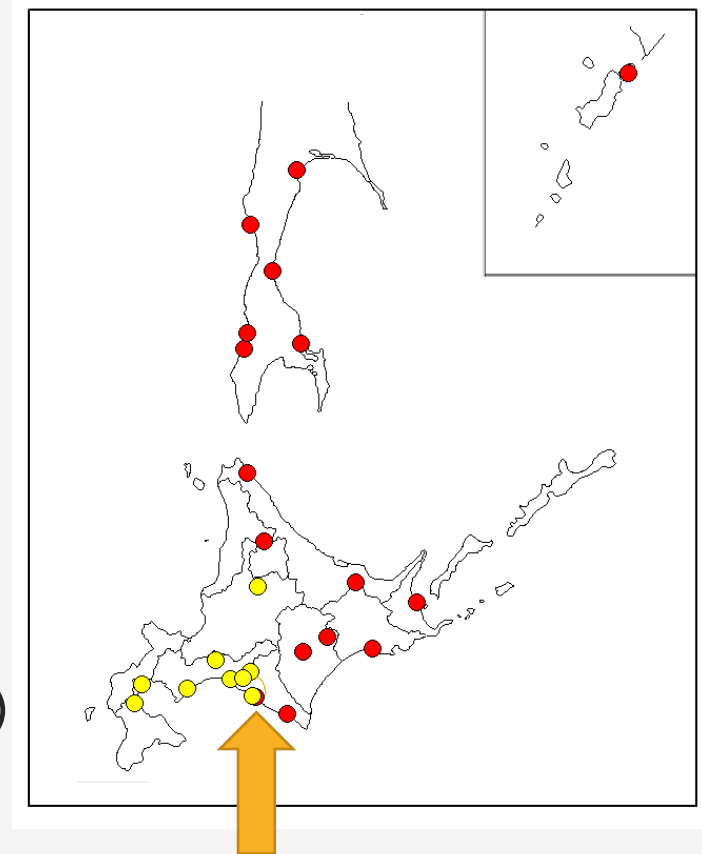


1. THE EASTERN-WESTERN TYPE

- The boundary between the Eastern and Western dialects might be affected by the conflict between *sumunkur* ‘Western People’ and *menasunkur* ‘Eastern People.’

(c.f. Nakagawa 1996)

- Their boundary was the Sizunai river.



1. THE EASTERN-WESTERN TYPE

- Moreover, when vocabulary words in Eastern dialects are compared with those in Western dialects, the onset /h-/ tends to be deleted and regressive assimilation often occurs in Eastern dialects.

1. THE EASTERN-WESTERN TYPE

The deletion of onset *h-*

(Hattori and Chiri 1960)

	<i>hV-</i>	Dialect No.	<i>V-</i>	Dialect No.
‘wash’	huraye	1-7,13	uraye	8-12
‘husband’	hoku	1-7,13	oku	8-12
‘child’	hekaci	1-7,13	ekaci	8-12
‘children’	hekattar	1-7,13	ekattar	8-12
‘down’	heras(i)	1-7	eras(i)	8,9,11,12
‘up’	herikas(i)	1-7	erikas(i)	8,10-12

1. THE EASTERN-WESTERN TYPE

Regressive assimilation (Hattori and Chiri 1960; Hattori 1964)

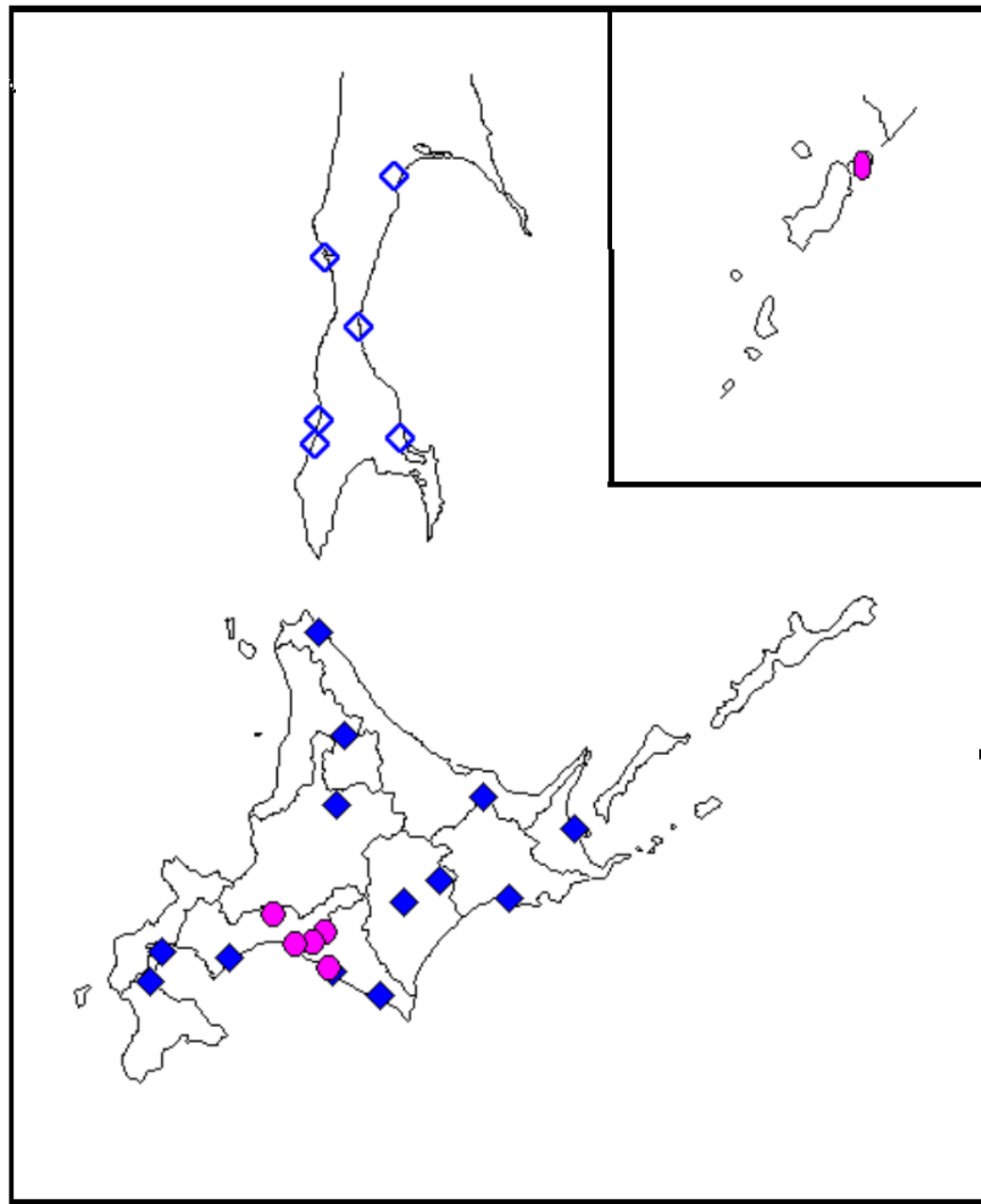
	<i>e.g. -tk-, -rs-, -pt-</i>	Dialect No.	<i>e.g. -kk-, -ss-, -tt-</i>	Dialect No.
'lie'	hotke	1,3-5,11-13	hokke	8-10
'hot'	sirsesekek	1,3-8	sissesekek	10-12
'bosom'	upsor	1,3,4,8	ussor	10-12
'move it (to another place)'	tupte	1,3,4,8,11,1 2,13	tutte	10
'armor'	hayokpe	1,3,4	hayoppe	11,13
			ayoppe	10,12

2. THE SARU-CHITOSE (AND SAKHALIN) TYPE

- Second, the distribution of some interrogatives, for example, ‘who,’ ‘what’ and ‘how,’ demonstrates the Saru-Chitose (and Sakhalin) type.
- Belonging to this type, the Biratori, Nukibetsu, Niikappu, Mukawa, Chitose (and Sakhalin) dialects have a distinctive form.

(Fukazawa 2013, 2017)

2. THE SARU-CHITOSE TYPE



‘who’

◊ *naata* [naːta]

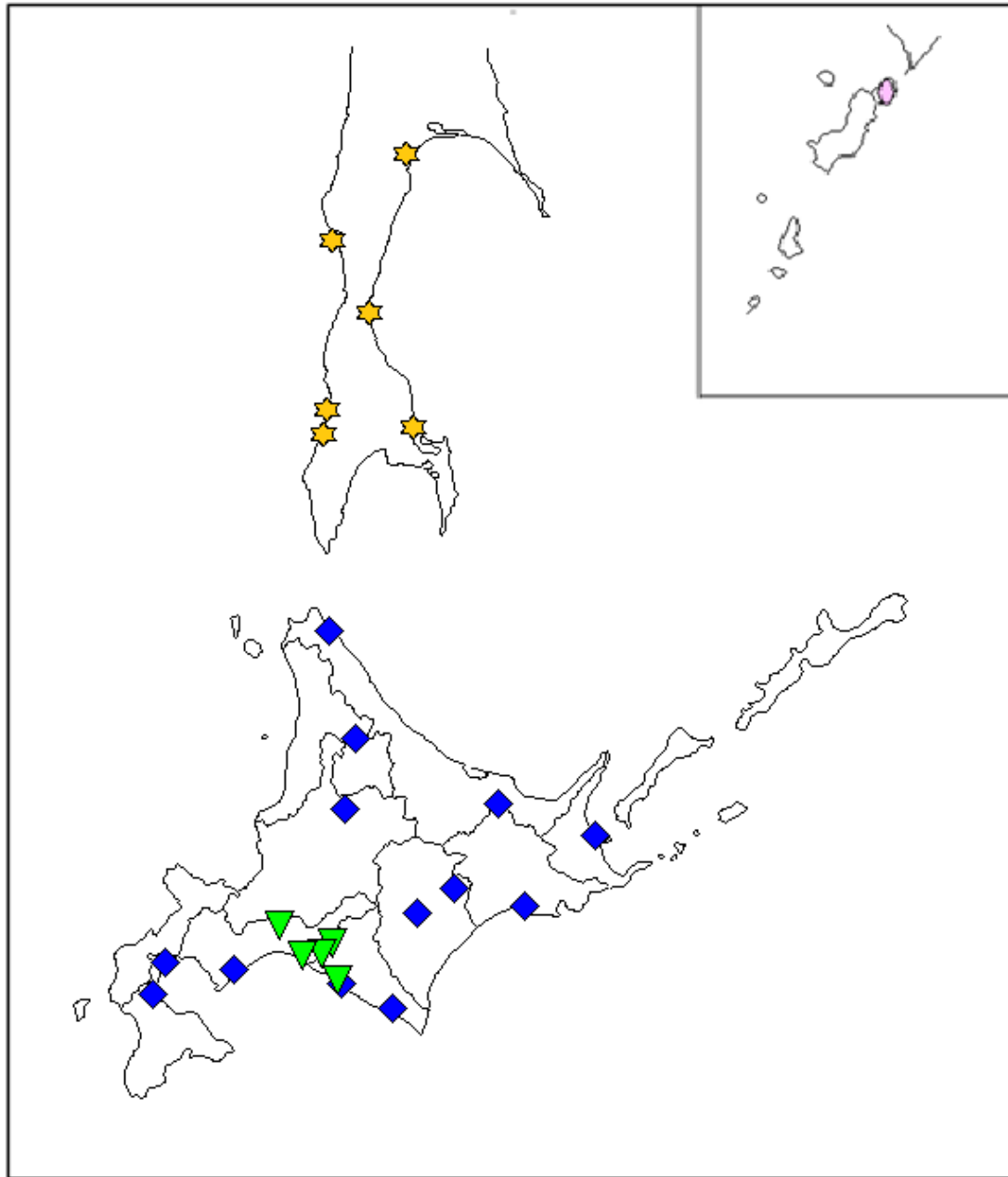
◆ *nen* [nen]

● *hunna* [hunna]

● *(h)una*

[huna] (?)

2. THE SARU-CHITOSE TYPE



'how'

◆ *nekon* [nekon]

▼ *mak(anak)*

[mak(anak)]

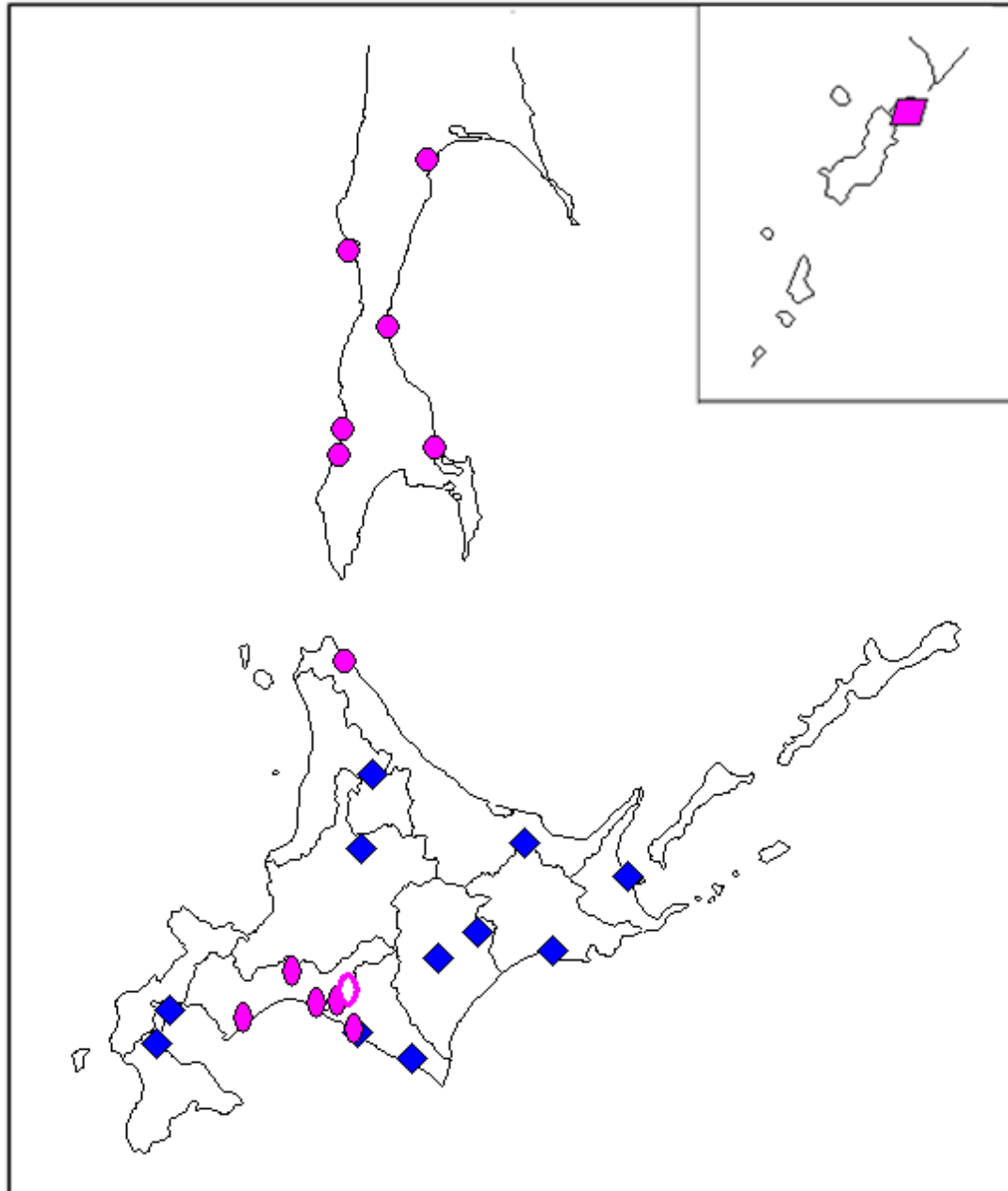
★ *temana*

[temana]

◊ *uyman*

[ujman] (?)

2. THE SARU-CHITOSE AND SAKHALIN TYPE



‘what’

◆ *nep* [nep]

◌ *hemanta*
[hemanta]

● *hemata*
[hemata]

○ *hinta* [hinta]

◼ *hemah*
[hemah](?)

2. THE SARU-CHITOSE (AND SAKHALIN) TYPE

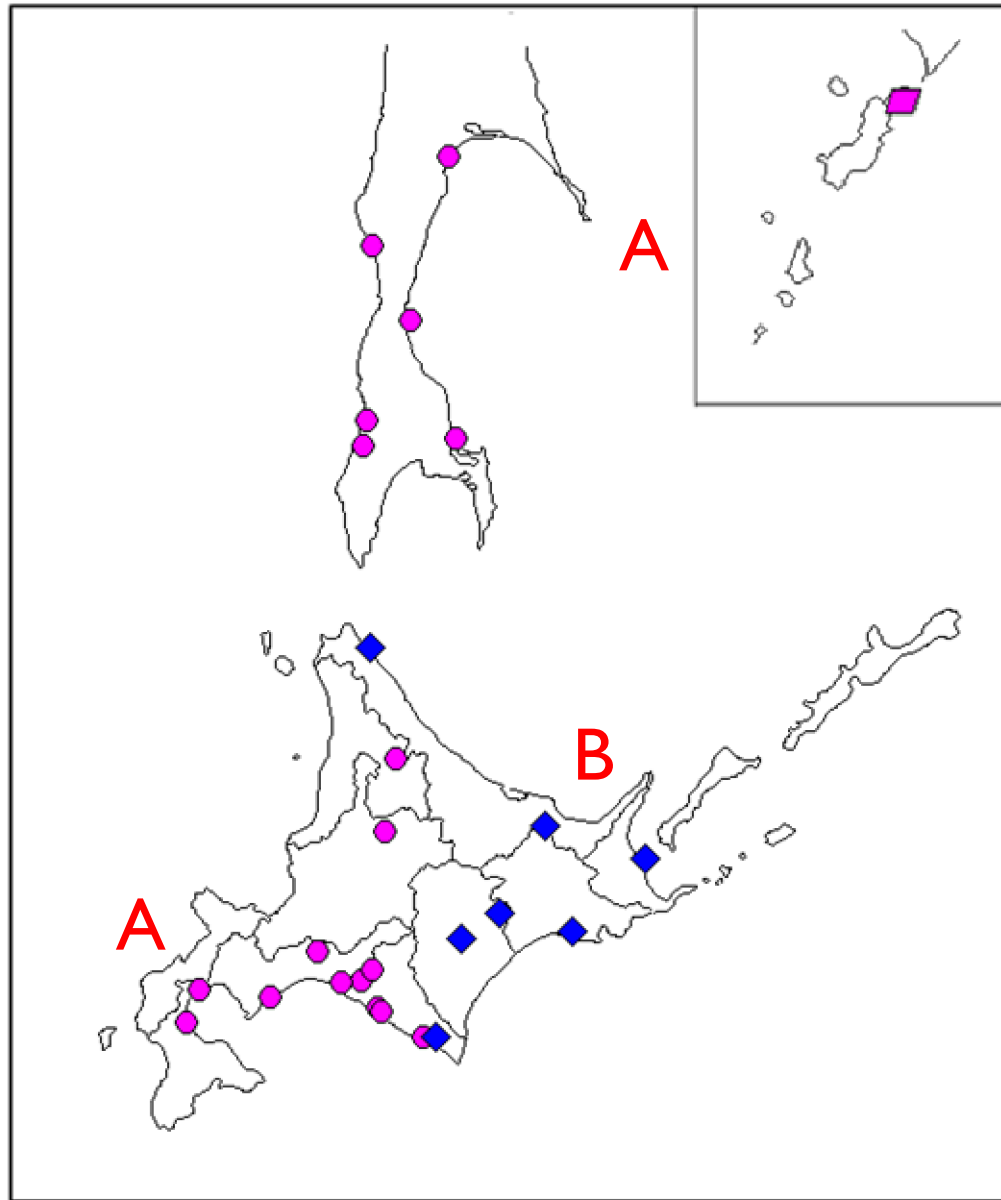
- The distribution of Saru-Chitose type overlaps with that of the word-formations involving first- and second-personal affixes.
- ex.) ‘I give you(SG)’
- The Saru and Chitose dialects:
 - *eci=kore* (2PL.O=give)
- The other Hokkaido dialects:
 - *e=kore=an* (2SG.O=give=1PL(INCL).A) or
 - *e=kore=as* (2SG.O=give=1PL(EXCL).A)

(Nakagawa and Fukazawa 2020)

3. THE ABA TYPE

- Third, the ABA type reveals an ABA distribution on a geographical map, where form B is sandwiched with form A.
- For example, the interrogatives for ‘how many’ and ‘when’ and the basic word for ‘tongue’ are classified into this type.

3. THE ABA TYPE



‘when’

◆ *nempara*

[nempara]

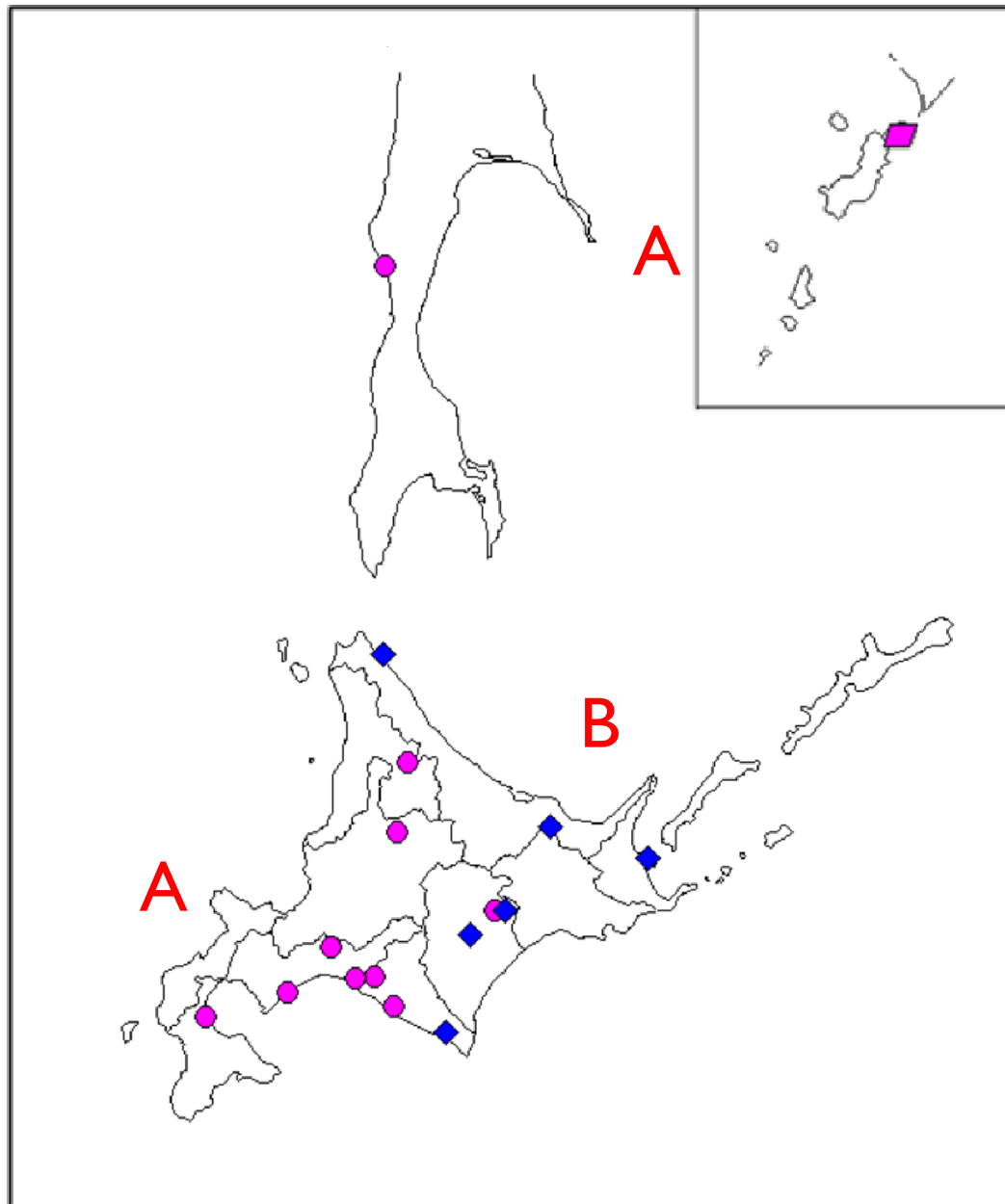
● *hempara*

[hempara]

■ *hempakiw*

[hempakiw] (?)

3. THE ABA TYPE



‘how many’

◆ *nempak*

[nempak]

● *hempak*

[hempak]

■ *hampoku*

[hampoku] (?)

3. THE ABA TYPE

- The words of the ABA type usually offer some clues as to how to describe the history of the words in the other type.
- The interrogatives *hempak*, *hempara*, *hemanta*, *hunna* and *hinna* are interpretable as having the roots *hVm* and *hVn*.
- If “A is older than B,” *hem* would be older than *nem*. Therefore, the roots *hVm* and *hVn* are not newer forms.

3. THE ABA TYPE

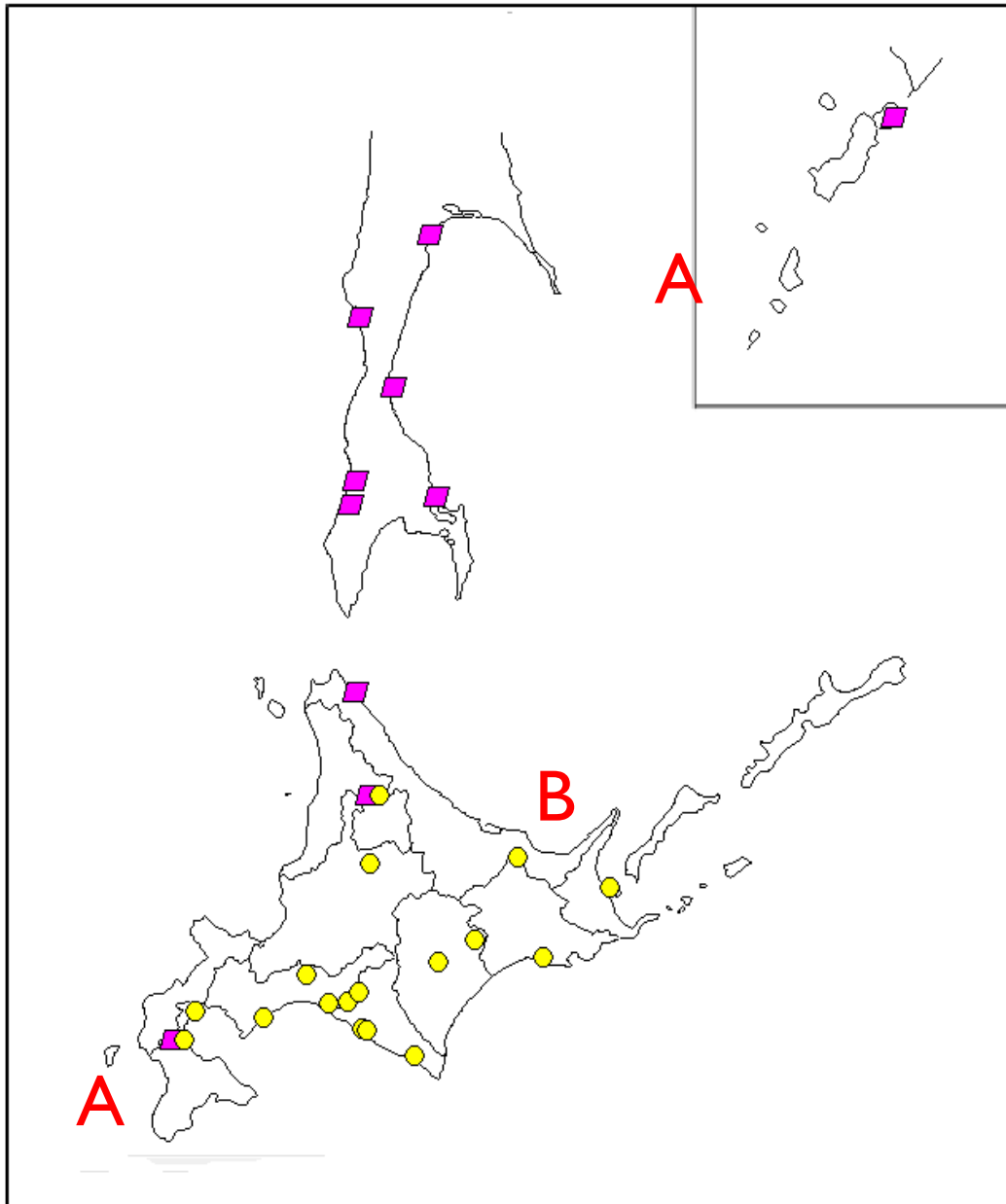
- The sound *h* of *hempara* was turned into *n* by the analogy of the interrogative and indefinite root *ne*.
(Nakagawa 1996)
-

- Some interrogative and indefinite words are derived from the root *ne*:
- The word *nep* ‘what; something’ — *ne* - the nominalizing particle *p* (a classifier of non-human things or events)
- The word *nen* ‘who; somebody’ — *ne* - the nominalizing particle *n* (a classifier of human beings)

3. THE ABA TYPE

- For the next example, ‘tongue’ has two forms, *aw* and *parunpe*, and the form B *aw* is distributed in Sakhalin; Kuril; the Northern Hokkaido dialects, Nayoro and Sōya; and the Western Hokkaido dialect, Yakumo.
- The form *parunpe* is distributed over the Eastern /ca/ area where the word for mouth is *car*.

3. THE ABA TYPE



‘tongue’

■ *aw* [aw]

● *parunpe* [parunpe]

par-un-pe

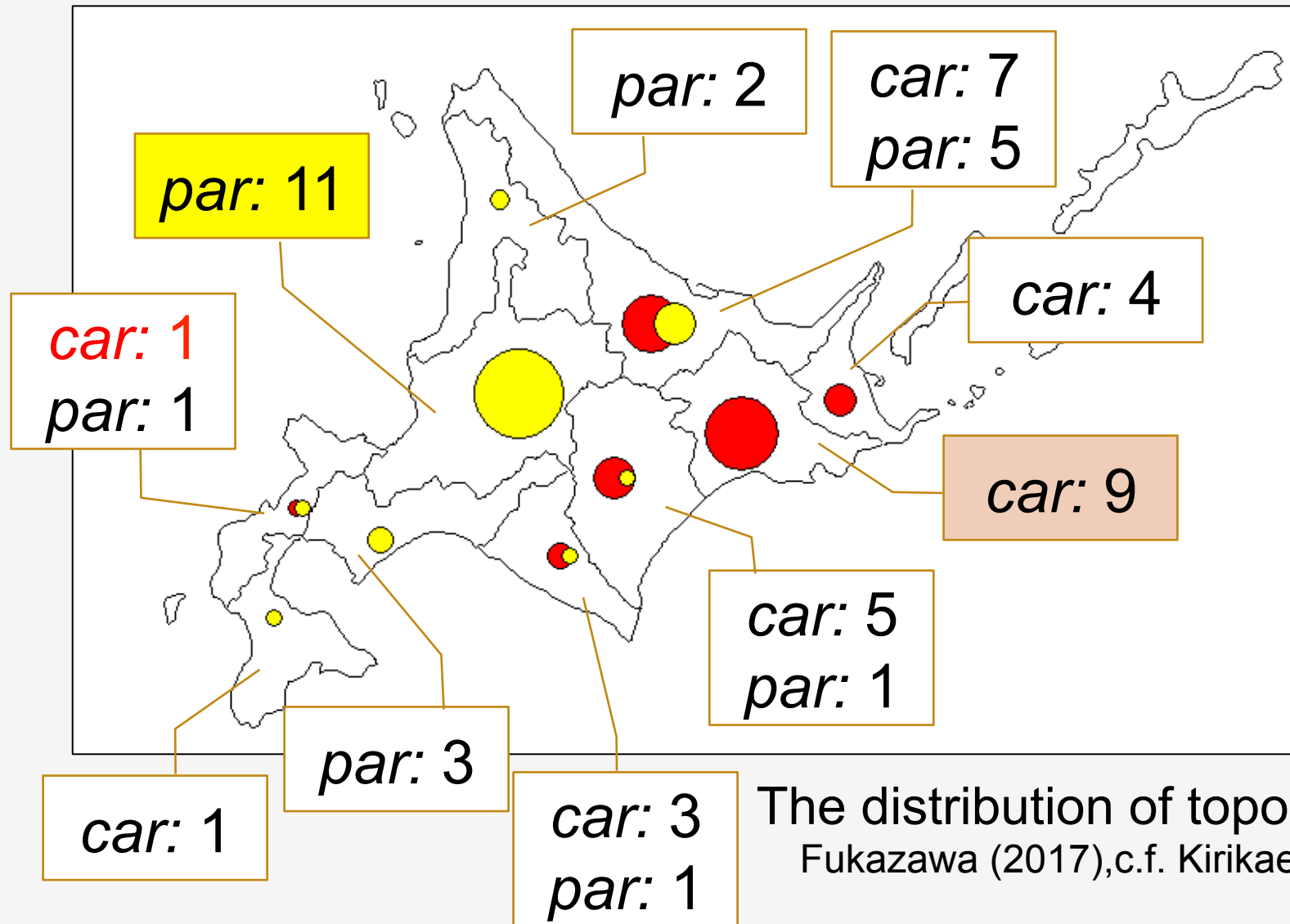
< mouth-

belong to-thing

3. THE ABA TYPE

- The distribution of toponyms in Kirikae (1994) are more suggestive of the *ca:pa* distribution.
- In the Ishikari region (e.g., the Asahikawa and Chitose dialects), there are 11 place names including the word *par*.

3. THE ABA TYPE

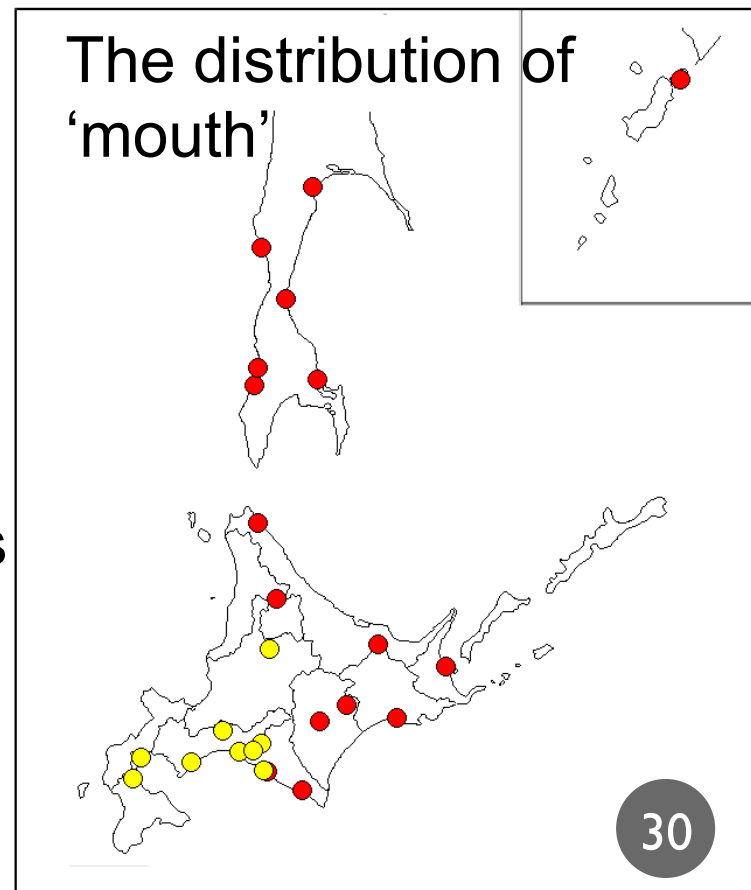
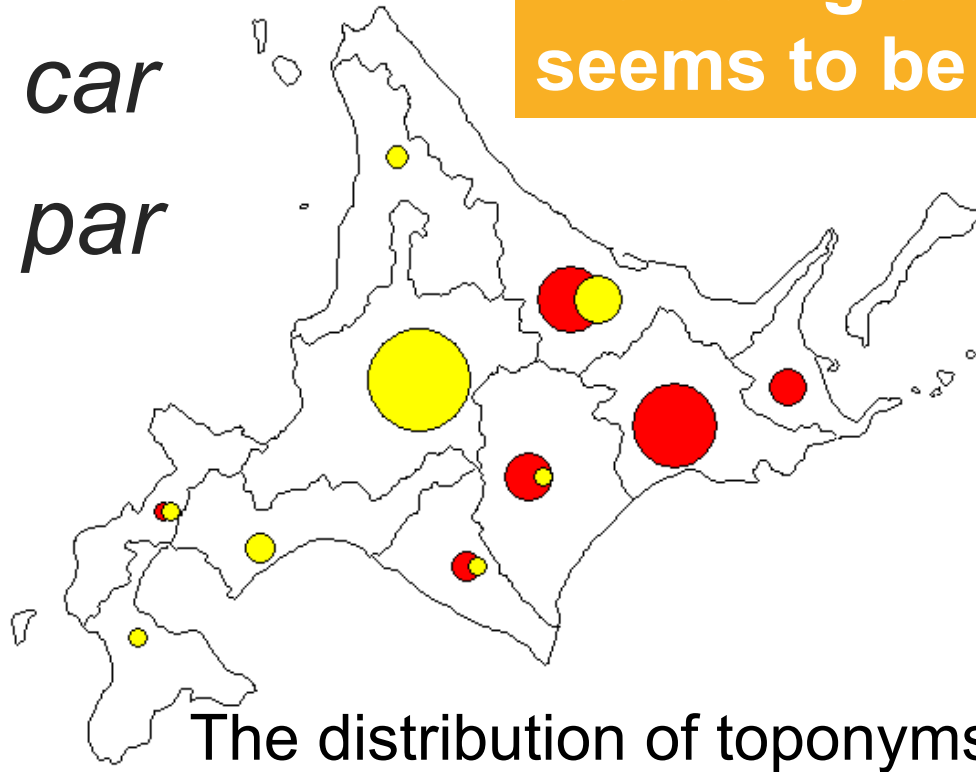


The distribution of toponyms
Fukazawa (2017),c.f. Kirikae (1994)

3. THE ABA TYPE

The distribution of toponyms including the words *car* and *par* seems to be an ABA distribution.

- *car*
- *par*



The form *car* would be older than *par* ?

1. THE EASTERN-WESTERN TYPE

In fact, the root *pa* is ambiguous between the interpretations of ‘head’ and ‘mouth’ in Western dialects.

	Western Dialects	Dialect No.	Eastern Dialects	Dialect No.
‘mouth’	par	1-6,11	car	7-10,12,13
‘head’	sapa	1-6	pake	7-13
‘tongue’	parunpe			1-12
			aw	12,13

(Hattori and Chiri 1960)

- *pa-or* < *mouth-in the place of*
- *sa-pa* < *fore-head*
- *pa-ke* < *head-part*

3. THE ABA TYPE

- Even if the root *pa* originally stands for ‘head,’ the word *parunpe* can be analyzed as ‘thing in the oral cavity,’ or ‘thing inside the head.’
- Therefore, *parunpe* ‘tongue’ would be widely distributed even in the Eastern /ca/ area.
- In the Wsetern /pa/ area, the root *pa* would have become the meaning of ‘mouth.’

(Fukazawa 2014, 2017)

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- I described the Eastern-Western type and the Saru-Chitose (and Sakhalin) type as the typical geographical distribution of vocabulary in the Hokkaido dialects.
- The Saru-Chitose (and Sakhalin) type is important to consider the historical relationship between Hokkaido and Sakhalin.
- The Eastern-Western type could not only be influenced by *sumunkur* and *menasunkur*, but also formed by the Western /pa/ area of the people along the Ishikari river.

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