

Substrate traces, superstrate traces and universals in Atlantic pidgins and creoles

Findings based on the *Atlas of Pidgin and
Creole Language Structures* with a special
focus on Africa

edited by

Martin Haspelmath, Magnus Huber, Philippe Maurer,
Susanne Michaelis

Magnus Huber
Department of English
University of Giessen
Otto-Behaghel-Str. 10B
D-35394 Giessen, Germany
magnus.huber@anglistik.uni-giessen.de



Structure

1. Introduction

- The *Atlas of Pidgin and Creole Language Structures* project
- Comparison of structure and scope with *World Atlas of Language Structures*

2. First results

- *APiCS* maps
- Statistical analysis of *APiCS* data

3. Summary and outlook

1. Introduction

History of *APiCS* project

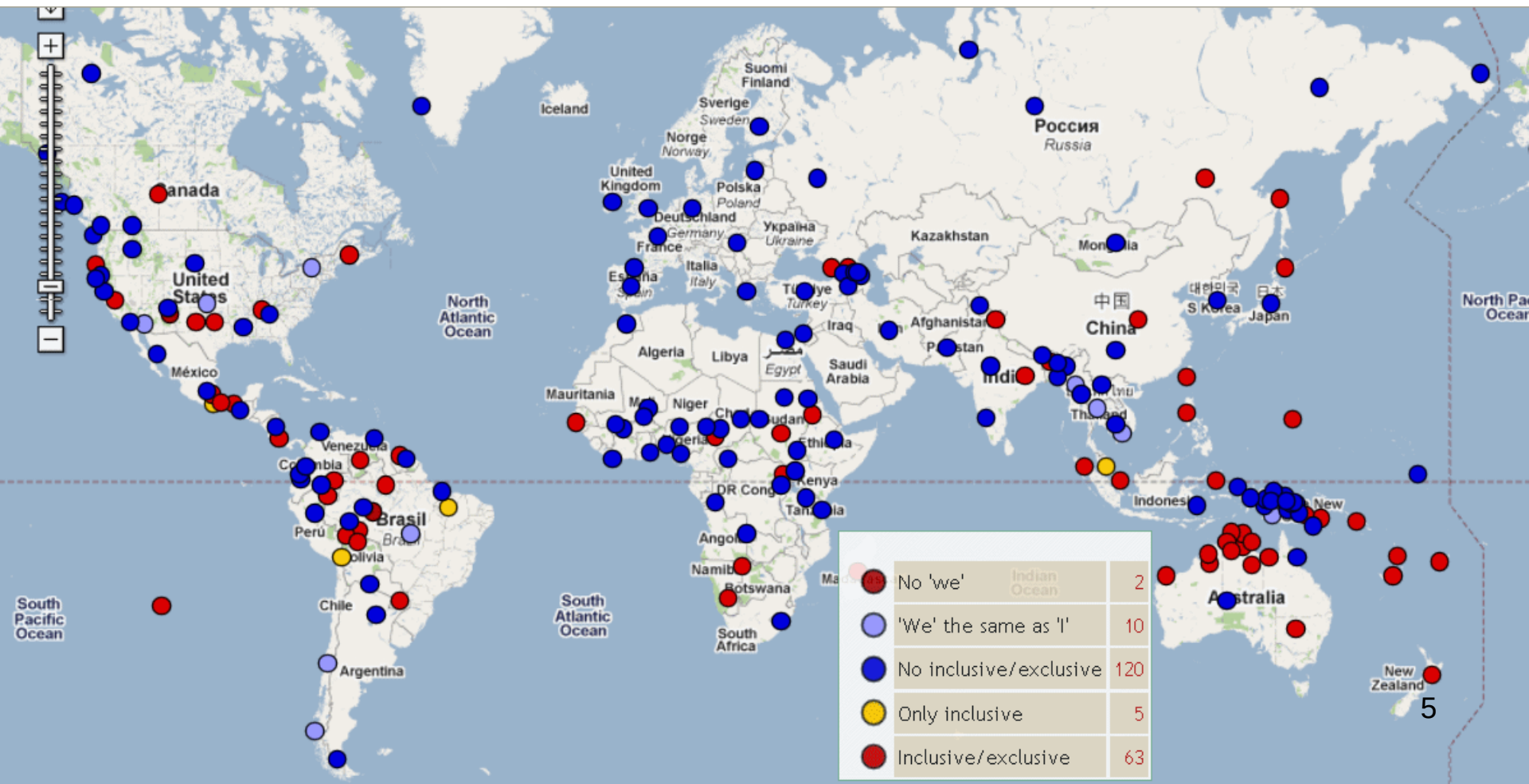
- idea born at 2005 Leipzig conference
- inspired by the *World Atlas of Language Structures*
- to be published by Oxford University Press, 2012
 - Atlas of Pidgin and Creole Language Structures (1 vol)
maps + introductory chapters based on APiCS database
database freely accessible online from day 1
 - Survey of Pidgin and Creoles (3 vols)

Comparison of structure and scope with *World Atlas of Language Structures*

- contributions
 - *WALS* = feature-based; typological approach
 - *APiCS* = language-based; expert approach

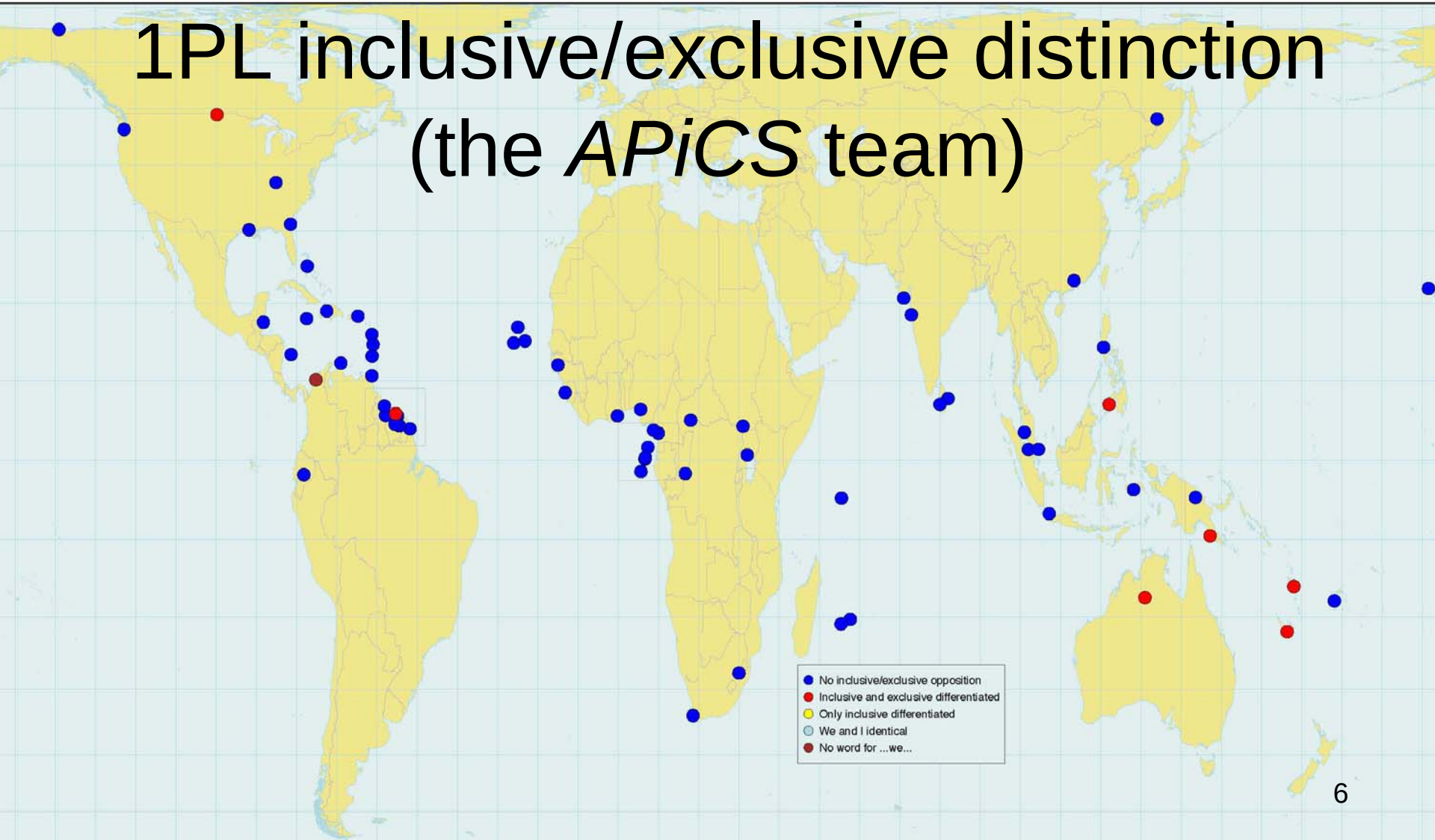
WALS F39

1PL inclusive/exclusive distinction (Michael Cysouw)



APiCS F15

1PL inclusive/exclusive distinction
(the *APiCS* team)



 APiCS Main layout IPA chart References Socioling. Feature tallies Languages		Main Maps Segments Examples		Vincentian Creole		Paula Prescod	
85 < sort		'Take' Serial Verb Constructions				General comments on value assignment	
Take-serials (i.e. serial verb constructions with 'take' as the first verb, "he <u>took</u> knife <u>cut</u> meat") are widespread in the languages of the world. In creole studies, mainly the instrumental function of such serials has been emphasized. However, the functional range of take-serials is broader, and the object of a 'take' serial may also be the theme of the second verb. For <i>APiCS</i>, we use the definition of a serial verb construction given by Aikhenvald 2006: "A serial verb construction (SVC) is a sequence of verbs which act together as a single predicate, without any overt marker of coordination, subordination, or syntactic dependency of any other sort." (Aikhenvald & Dixon 2006: 1; for a more complete definition, see the <i>APiCS</i> Glossary). In some languages, the subject must be repeated, as in Guinea Bissau Creole: <i>I nada i bin li.</i>						Value 6: the object of 'take' only has a comitative function: the second verb is intransitive.	
Revised (but still not final) data		Multiple-choice feature		numeric		Example request	
Values		Value annotation		Value Choice & Confidence >		One example for each selected	
				True False		Relative importance	
1 No 'take' serials exist		There are no take-serials in the language.		☒ ☐		0	
2 'Take' object is theme of second verb, literal		Principense Ê tama inha pwê usan.		☒ ☐		Majority 377 <i>I tek wod pot uhm</i>	
3 'Take' object is theme of second verb, literal		Principense Kasô pega ponta urabu mêtê pwê.		☒ ☐		Majority 104 <i>I tek shi kerishia</i>	
4 'Take' object is instrument of second verb, with resumptive		It is not important whether the resumptive agrees with its antecedent or not (e.g. the		☒ ☐		1	
5 'Take' object is instrument of second verb, no resumptive		Principense Ê tan lima da kompwe sê		☒ ☐		Minority 364 <i>Mi tek di bat se shi</i>	
6 Other		(Please give details in the "General comments" field.)		☒ ☐		Majority 103 <i>i tek it saan a tuboz.</i>	

Example number	2	Example Type	naturalistic spoken	Example source (Author Year)	own knowledge
Primary text	Pyè ka manjé poul.				
Analyzed text					
Gloss	Peter PROG eat chicken (French: Pierre PROG manger poulet)				
Translation	Peter is eating chicken.				
Other translation					
Comments					

- compatibility *APiCS* - *WALS*
 - 48 fully compatible features, e.g.

F2 (86) Order of Possessor and Possessum

- v1 Possessor-possessum
- v2 Possessum-possessor

- 9 partly compatible features, e.g.

F 43 (69) Position of TMA markers

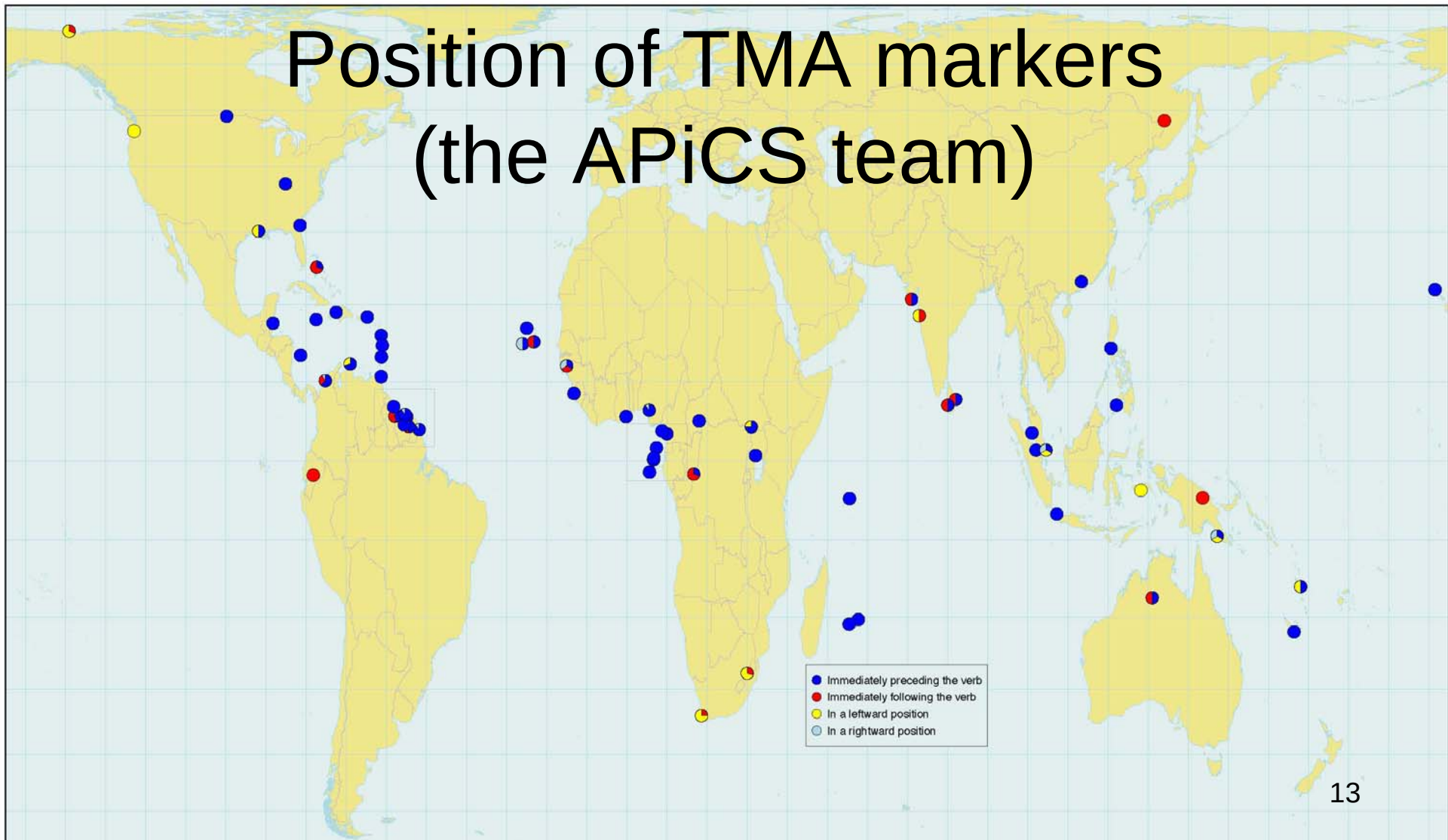
APiCS F43 Position of Tense, Aspect, and Mood Markers	WALS F69 Position of tense-aspect affixes
immediately preceding the verb	tense-aspect prefixes
immediately following the verb	tense-aspect suffixes
in a leftward position	tense-aspect tone
in a rightward position	mixed type
	no tense-aspect inflection

2. First results

APiCS maps

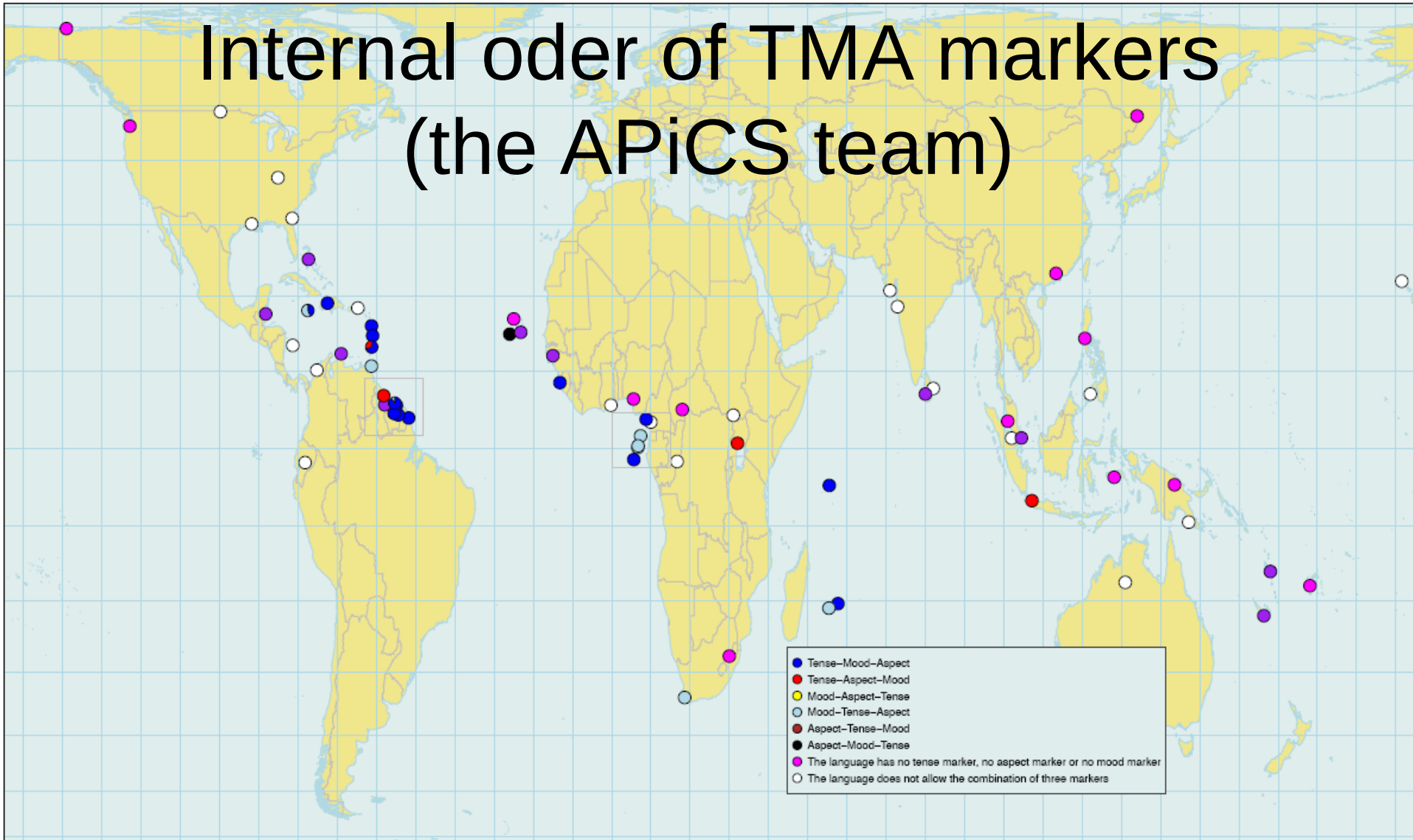
APiCS F43

Position of TMA markers (the APiCS team)



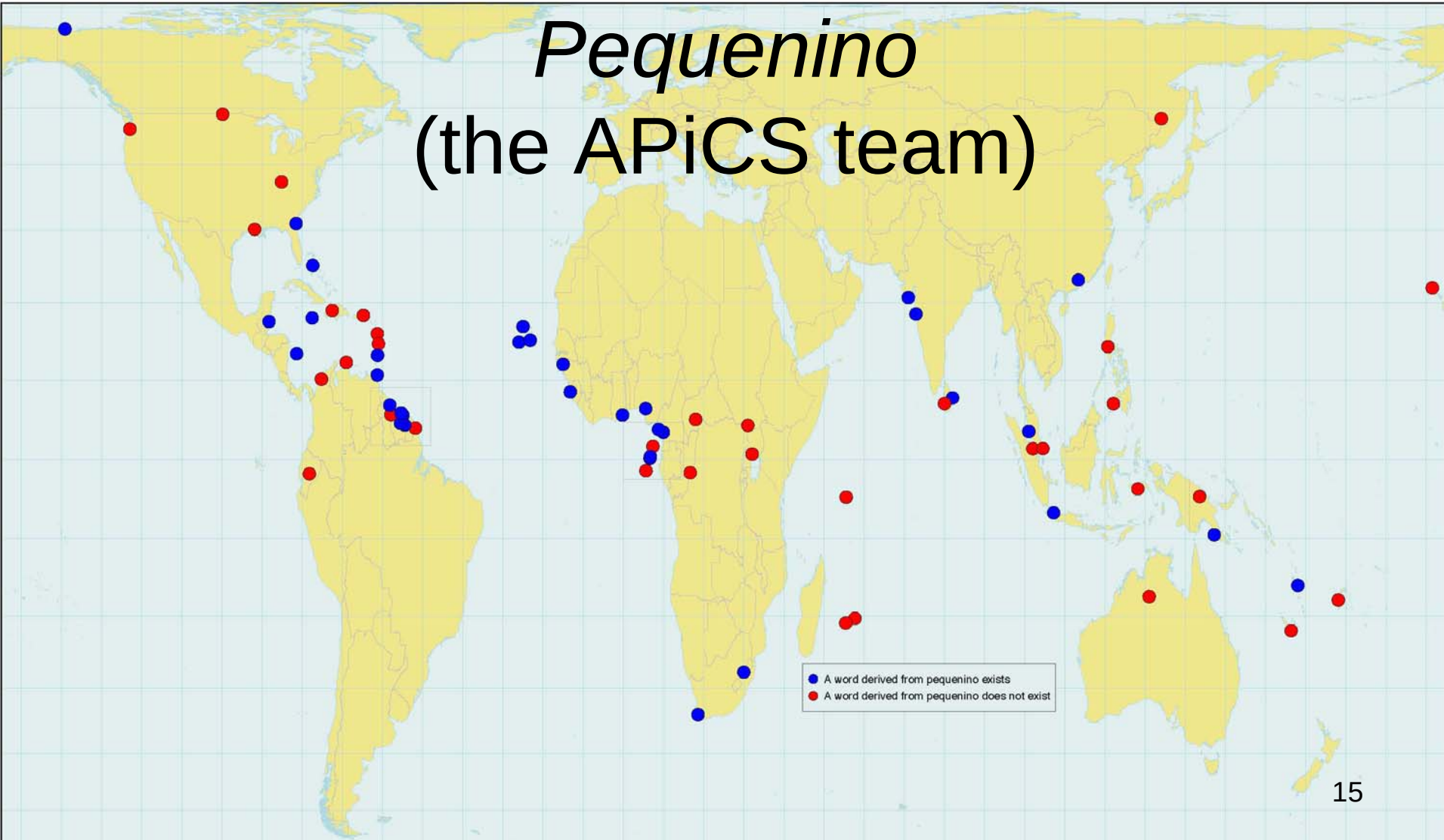
APiCS F44

Internal order of TMA markers (the APiCS team)



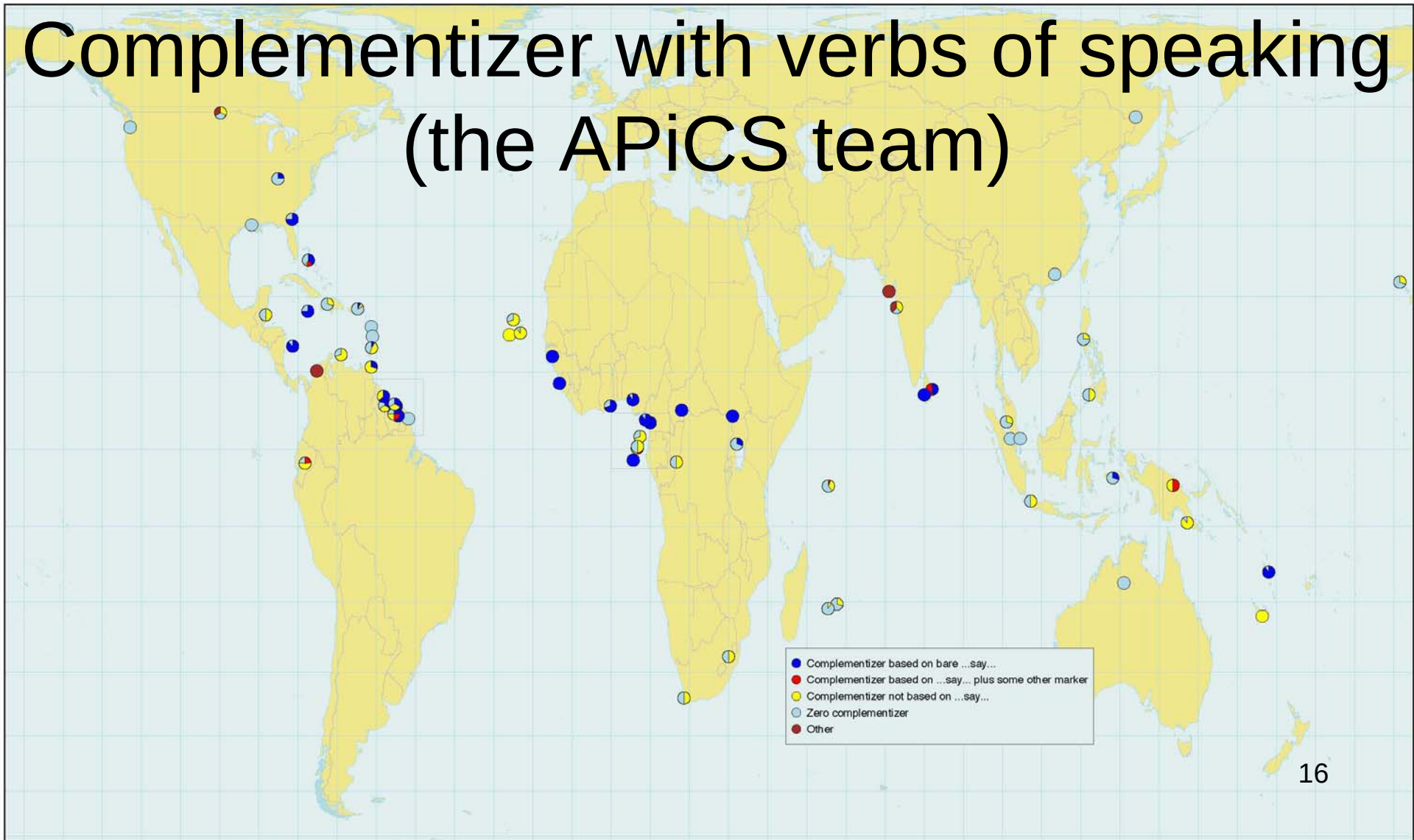
APiCS F109

Pequenino
(the APiCS team)



APiCS F95

Complementizer with verbs of speaking
(the APiCS team)



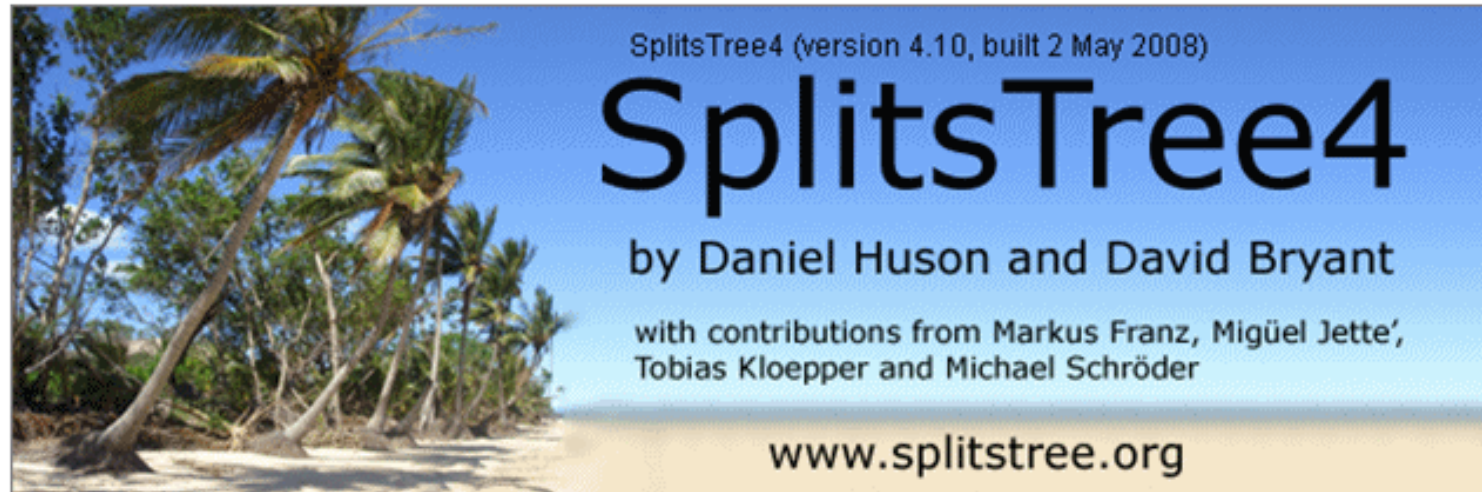
2. First results

Statistical analysis of *APiCS* data

constructing "DNA"-sequences, e.g. Jamaican:

1 Order of Subject, Object and Verb	010000
2 Order of Possessor and Possessum	10
3 Order of Adjective and Noun	10
4 Order of Adposition and Noun Phrase	0100
5 Order of Demonstrative and Noun	10001
6 Order of Cardinal Numeral and Noun	100
7 Order of Relative Clause and Noun	100000
8 Order of Degree Word and Adjective	11
9 Position of Def Art in the NP	1000
10 Position of Indef Art in the NP	1000
...	
=> 01000010100100100011001000001110001000 ...	

Software for constructing phylogenetic networks developed for applications in evolutionary biology



Huson, Daniel H. & David Bryant. 2006. "Application of phylogenetic networks in evolutionary studies". *Molecular Biology and Evolution* 23: 254-267. Software available from www.splitstree.org.

comparing "DNA"-sequences of two varieties:

Jamaican 01000010100100100011...

Martinican 01000001110100010001...

result +++++--+++++--++-+...

calculating distances between two varieties:

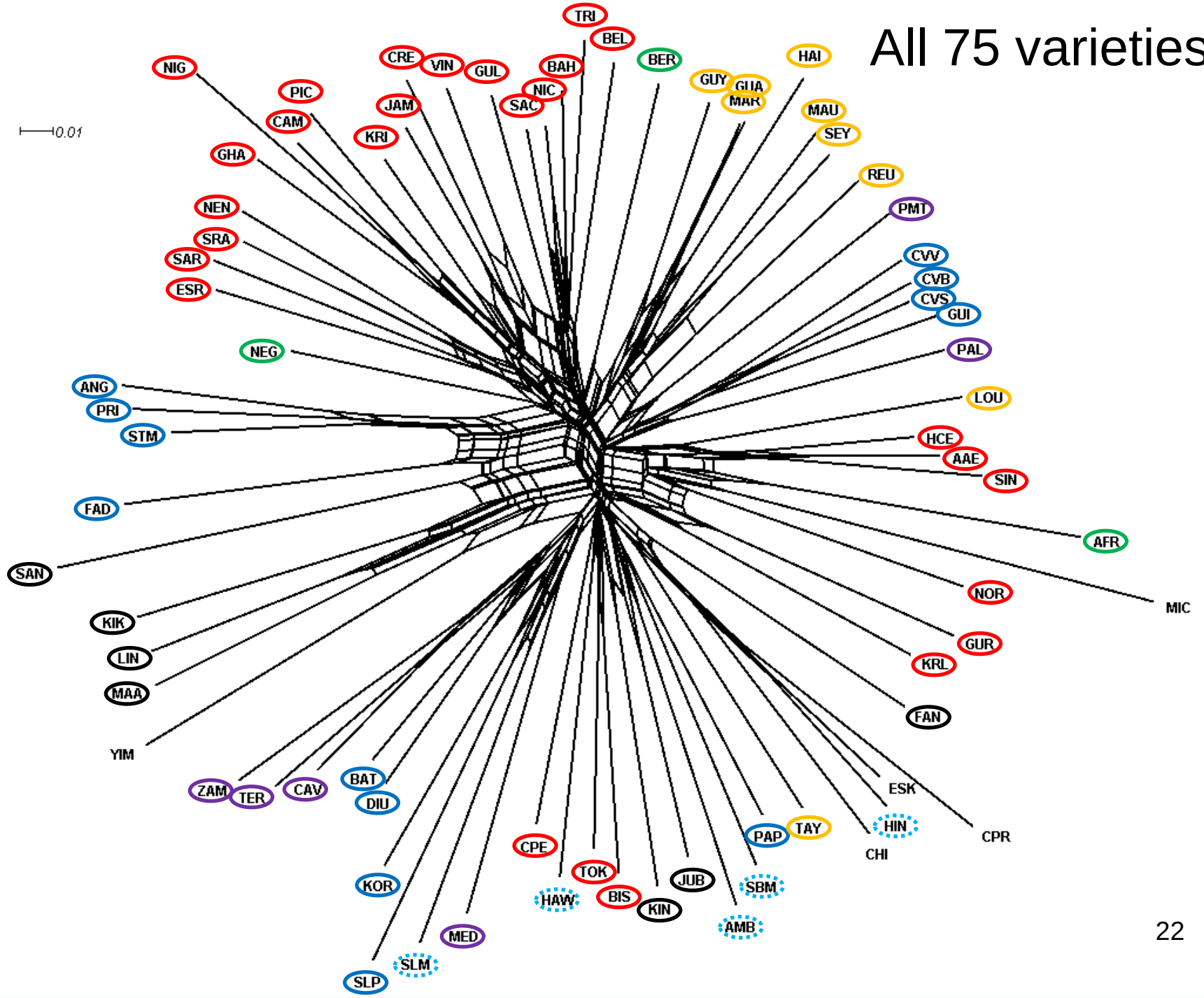
$$1 - \left(\frac{\text{number of shared features}}{\text{total number of features}} \right)$$

$$\text{e.g. } 1 - \left(\frac{454}{547} \right) = 0.17$$

	AFR	ANG	BAH	BEL	BER	CAM	CVB	CVS	CVV	CRE	ESR	FAD
AAE	0.19	0.28	0.12	0.19	0.22	0.23	0.22	0.21	0.20	0.21	0.25	0.26
	AFR	0.34	0.21	0.24	0.27	0.29	0.26	0.24	0.23	0.28	0.27	0.31
		ANG	0.26	0.27	0.24	0.24	0.22	0.22	0.27	0.24	0.24	0.22
			BAH	0.15	0.20	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.19	0.18	0.21	0.28
				BEL	0.21	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.22	0.20	0.23	0.29
					BER	0.21	0.23	0.20	0.24	0.20	0.23	0.23
						CAM	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.18	0.17	0.27
							CVB	0.09	0.13	0.22	0.25	0.25
								CVS	0.13	0.21	0.23	0.25
									CVV	0.24	0.21	0.28
										CRE	0.20	0.26
											ESR	0.25

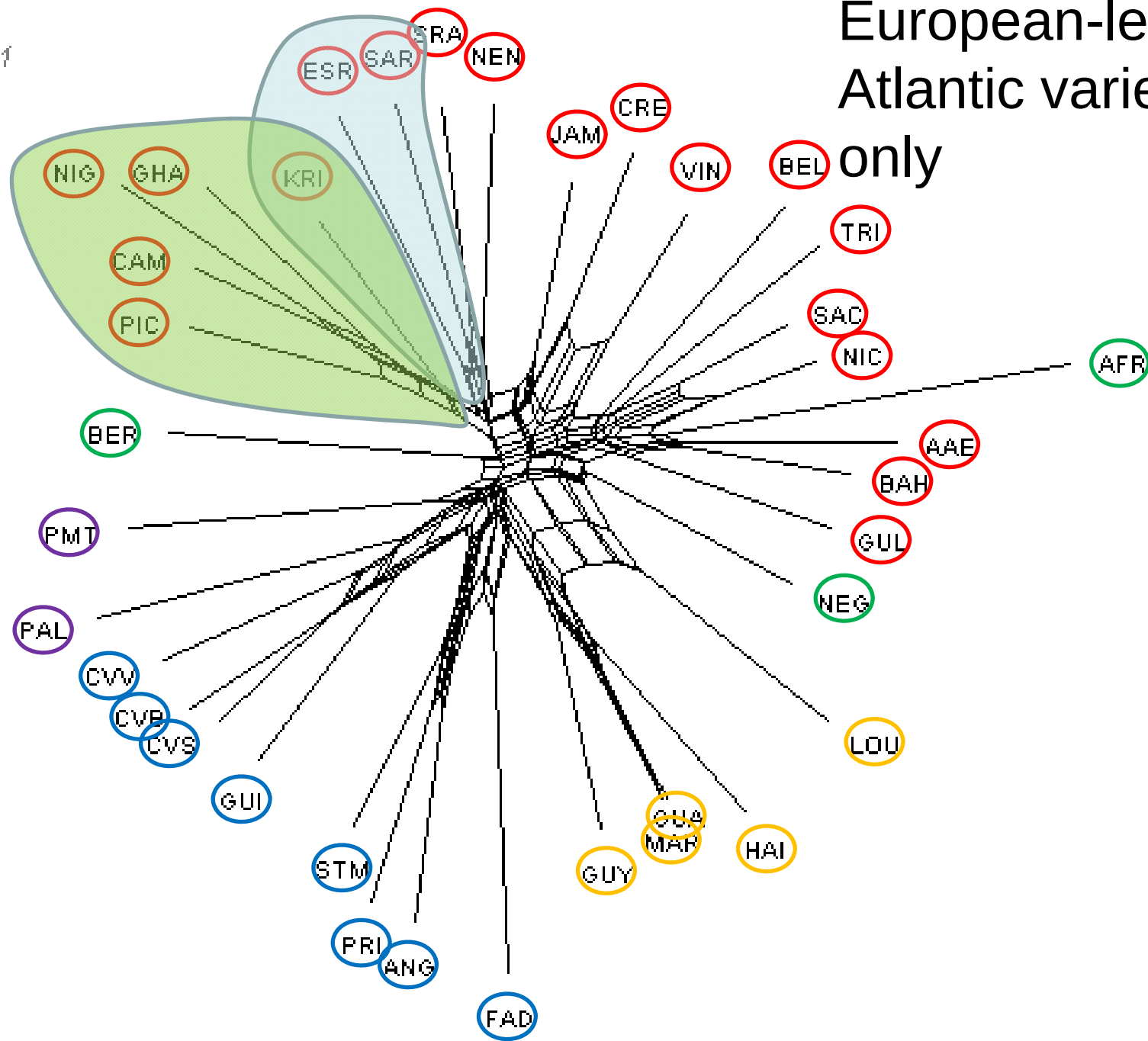
SplitsTree Distances matrix
75 varieties -> 2775 pairs

All 75 varieties

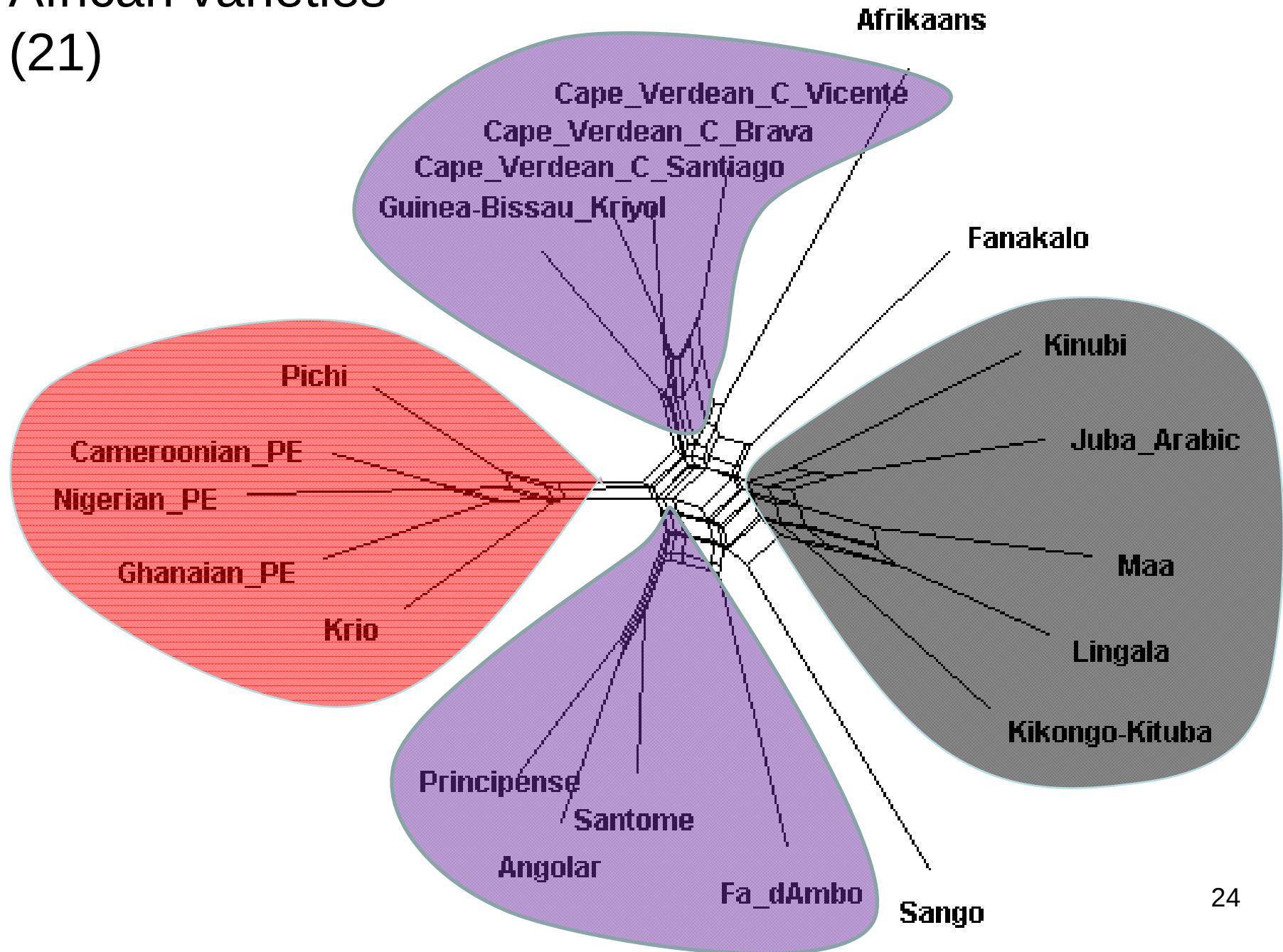


H=0.01

European-lexicon Atlantic varieties only



African varieties (21)



Thank you
for your attention