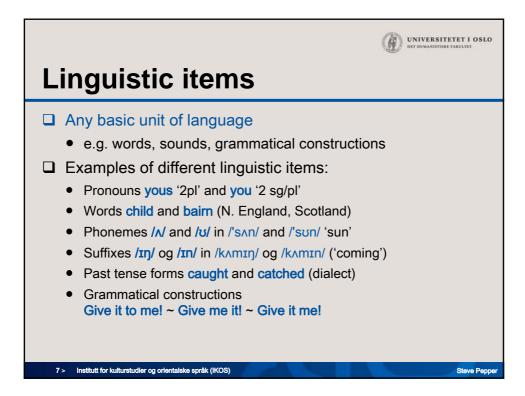
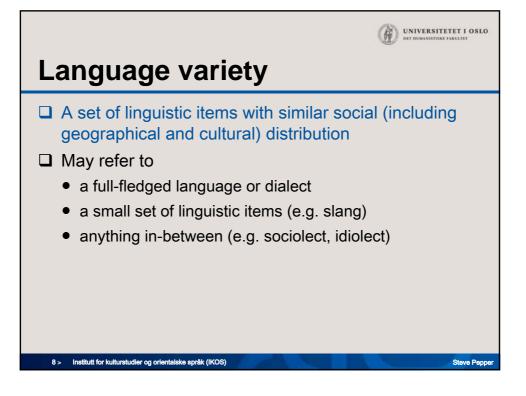
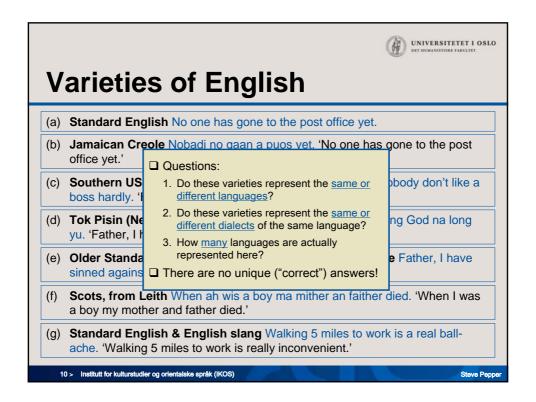


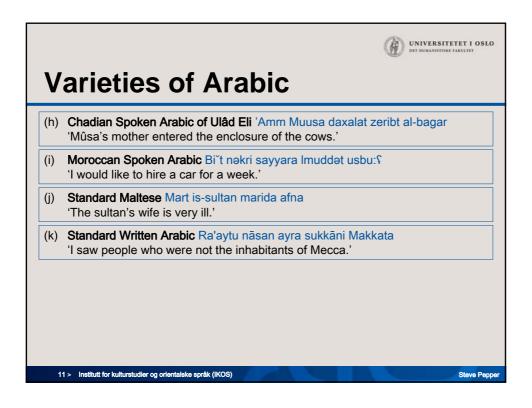
## Some basic terminology Terms like 'language', 'dialect', 'sociolect', 'accent', 'jargon' and 'register' are hard to define For example, defining dialect as a geographical subdivision of a language begs the question What is a 'language'? What do we mean by 'subdivision'? More basic terms required: Linguistic item Language variety

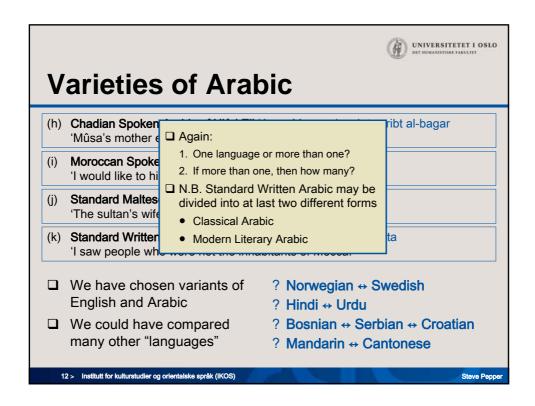


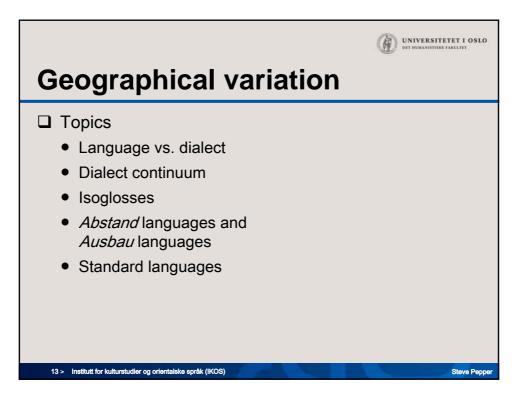


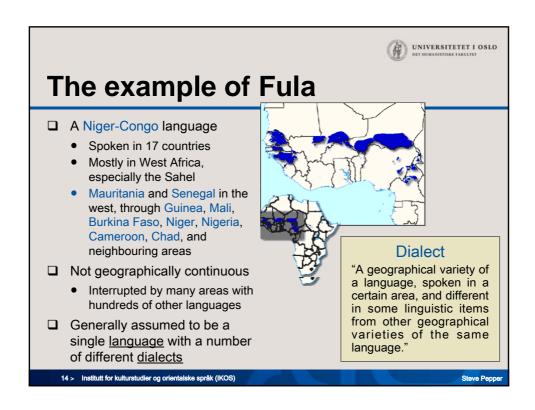












## Proposed definitions of 'language'



- ☐ This is a common definition of 'dialect' used among linguists
  - Different from the "popular" notion of a dialect being a provincial variant of the "proper" language
- □ Problematic because it presupposes a satisfactory definition of 'language'
- "A language consists of speech varieties that are <u>mutually intelligible</u>"
- "A language consists of speech varieties that are considered <u>subordinate to the</u> same standard variety"
- "A language consists of speech varieties in which a <u>large percentage of words are</u> <u>etymologically related</u>"

Norwegian = Swedish Mandarin ≠ Cantonese

Norwegian ≠ Swedish Mandarin = Cantonese (? possibly) Most 'languages' have no standard variety

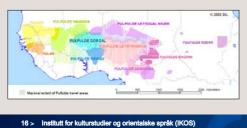
(Depending on what 'large' means) Norwegian = Swedish Mandarin = Cantonese (? probably)

15 > Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)

Steve Pepper

### **Dialects of Fula**

- ☐ Different Fula-speaking areas can be referred to as dialect areas
- Between ten and fifteen major dialects; most important:
  - 1. Northern Senegal, Southern Mauritania
  - 2. Guinea
  - 3. Mali
  - 4. Burkina Faso, Western Nigeria, Western Niger
  - 5. Central Nigeria
  - 6. Eastern Nigeria, Northern Cameroon



□ Speakers from neighbouring areas can communicate without problems

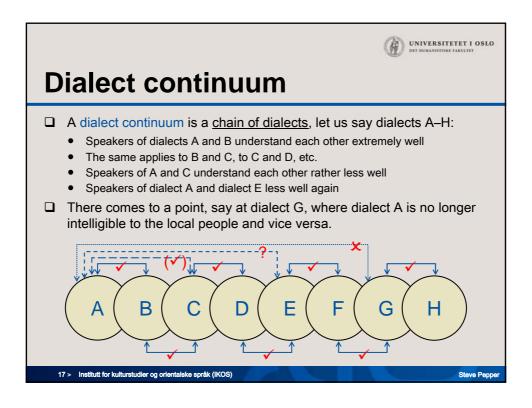
• Each speaks his/her own native variety

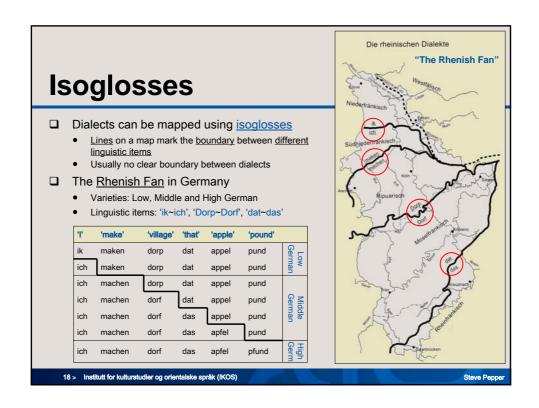
■ But speakers from one end of West Africa have problems communicating with speakers from the other end

 Abilities vary from person to person depending on degree of exposure to other dialects

Otaus Da

Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)





## Abstand languages and Ausbau languages



- Abstand language
  - = "Language by distance"
  - Regarded as a language by dint of its <u>linguistic distance</u> from other languages
  - e.g. Basque, Korean
- Ausbau language
  - = "Language by development"
  - Regarded as a language by dint of its <u>autonomy</u> with respect to related languages
    - Standardized form
    - Used in schools
    - Written form widely used (including as official national or regional language)
  - e.g. (standard) Dutch and German

- Ausbau languages arise out of situations with a <u>dialect continuum</u>
  - One dialectal variety → standard
    - Usually the variety used by educated people in the capital
    - Autonomous with respect to other dialects
    - Other dialects are <u>heteronomous</u> with respect to the standard
- ☐ Status can change over time
  - Bosnian, Serbian and Croatian formerly heteronomous dialects of Serbo-Croatian
    - Since 1990s autonomous languages
  - Scots, Plattdeutsch (Low German), Provençal once autonomous
    - Now heteronomous with respect to English, German and French

19 > Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)

Steve Pepper

### UNIVERSITETET I OSLO

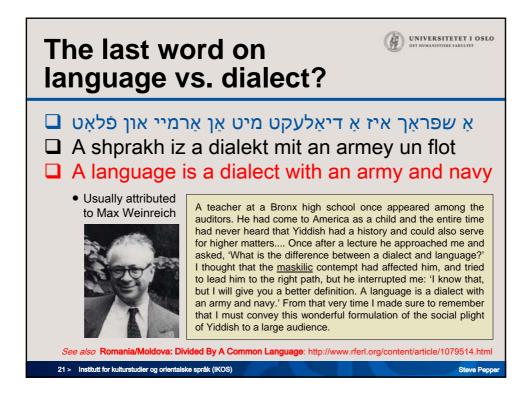
## Standard languages

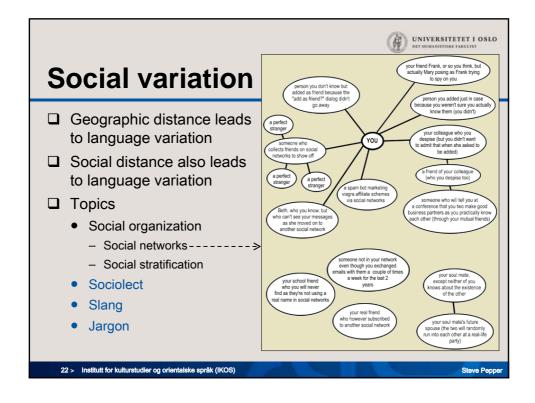
- Prototypical properties of a standard language
  - Used by educated users
    - e.g. in the professions, the media, etc.
  - <u>Defined</u> in dictionaries, grammars, and usage guides.
  - Regarded as <u>more correct</u> and socially acceptable
  - Enjoys greater prestige
    - Non-standard varieties felt to be the province of the less educated
  - Used as a written language
  - Used in <u>important functions</u> in the society
    - Government, parliament, courts, trade, bureaucracy, education, literature, industry

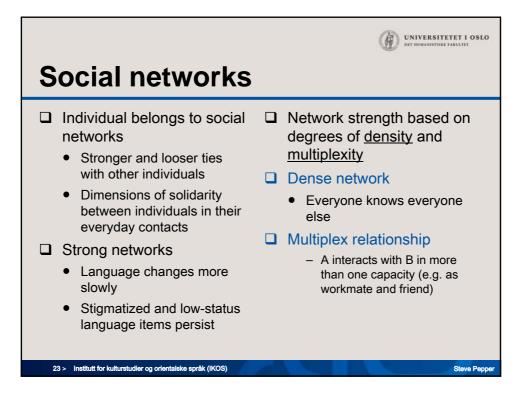
- ☐ Standard varieties rise and fall
  - Reverse of <u>standardization</u> is <u>dialectization</u>
    - Okinawan once the standard language of the Ryukyuan kingdom: Now usually seen as a dialect of Japanese
- Not all languages have a standard variety
  - May be an <u>Abstand</u> language without being an <u>Ausbau</u> language
  - Usual case for minority languages
    - Found within a larger nation state
    - Only used in private (e.g. at home)
- ☐ A language may be <u>Ausbau</u> despite little Abstand from its relatives
  - e.g. Danish, Norwegian, Swedish

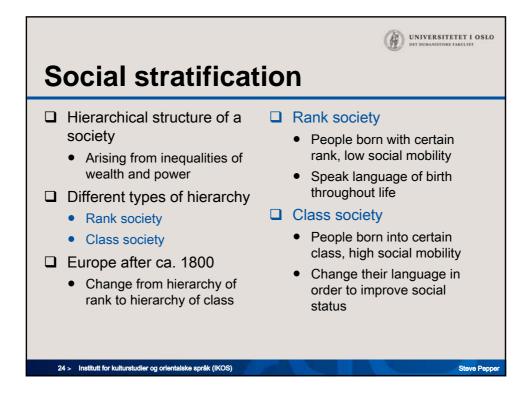
Steve Peppe

20 > Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)











### From rank to class

- ☐ Traditional European rank society
  - People spoke the dialect of their home area
  - Only minor variation between the ranks
  - Easy to locate someone geographically, but not socially
- □ Change to class society
  - Ca. 1800: industrialization
  - New social strata:
    - Working class and bourgeoisie (middle class)
  - Opportunities to improve economic and social status

25 > Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)

teve Peppe

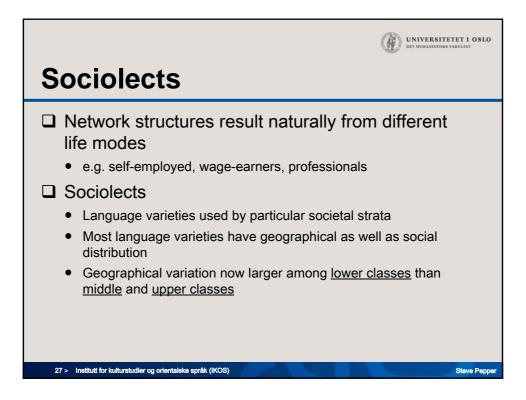
## The emergence of middle class English

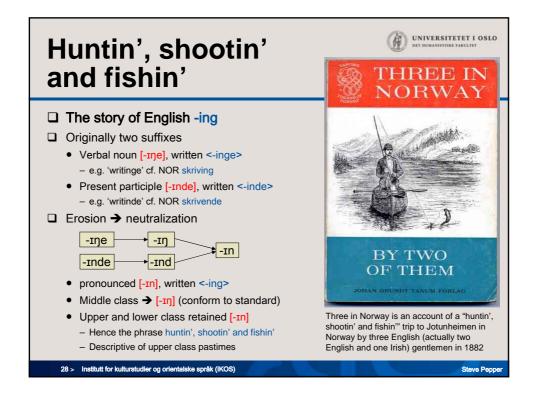


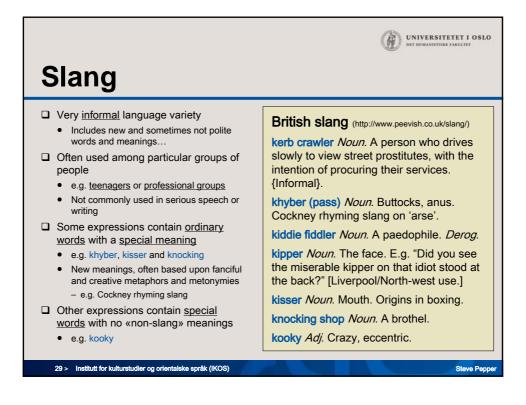
- ☐ England, end of 18th century
  - Standard <u>written</u> language, no standard <u>spoken</u> language
- Middle class speaking habits changed towards most prestigious variety
  - Used at royal court in London
  - Upper class (aristocracy) and lower class continue to speak local dialect
  - Middle class dialect varied much less from place to place
- Network differences an important factor
  - Close-knit solidarity characteristic of lower and higher social groups
    - Leads to greater stability
  - · Weaker among middle sectors of society
    - Easier to change

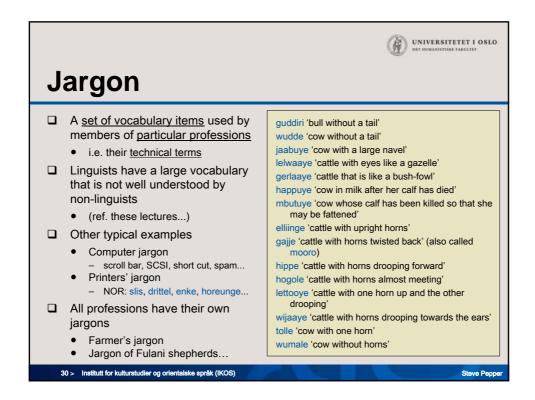
26 > Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)

steve Peppe

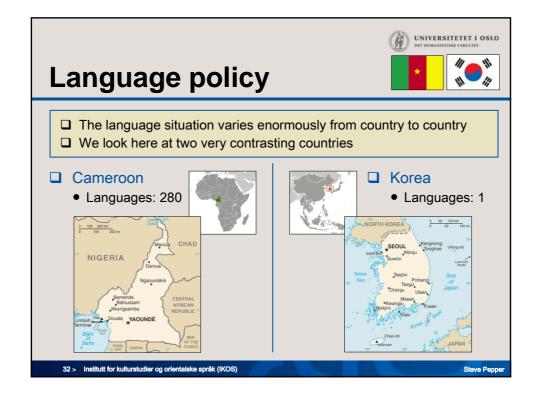












## A linguistic thought experiment



Imagine the following situation. You live in a small town called Speechville. Your mother tongue is German, and this language is spoken by your family and your closest neighbours. If you walk five minutes down the street, the language you hear around you is Finnish, and after another five minutes everybody speaks Russian. When you want to communicate with any of these Finns and Russians, you address them in the local lingua franca, which is English.

Imagine, furthermore, that German, Finnish and Russian are never used as written languages. All street signs in your town are written in Japanese, which is the official language of your country.

- 1. German Germanic Indo-European
- 2. Finnish Finno-Ugric Uralic
- 3. Russian Slavic Indo-European

language you were taught was Japanese. You had a teacher who had recently moved to your town from the southern part of the country. He could only speak two languages: Italian, which was his mother tongue, and Japanese, the official language.

When you were in school, the only

When you started in school, you could only speak your mother tongue, German, and the local lingua franca, English, which you used when talking to your Finnish speaking playmates down the street. But the teacher addressed you and the other sixty-two children in the classroom in Japanese from the very first day.

- Germanic Indo-European 4. English
- 5. Japanese Japanese
- 6. Italian Romance Indo-European

33 > Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)

### The linguistic situation in Cameroon



- □ Galim, Adamawa Province
  - approx. 3,000 inhabitants
  - NIGERIA
  - 1. Nizaa Mambiloid 2. Hausa Chadic
  - 3. Chamba

Adamawa

34 > Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)

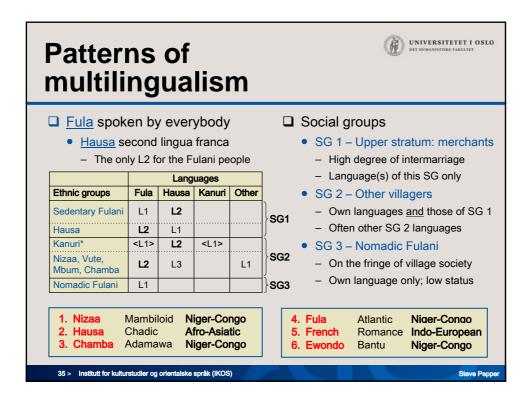
Niger-Congo Afro-Asiatic Niger-Congo

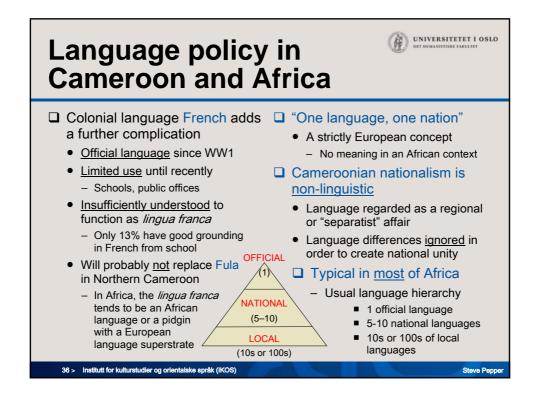
- □ A typical African village
  - 5-10 local languages
  - A local *lingua franca* (Fula)
  - A national language (French)
- Social-functional classification of these languages
  - LG 1: Fula
  - LG 2: Hausa
  - LG 3: Nizaa, Vute, Kanuri, Mbum, Chamba

4. Fula Atlantic Niger-Congo Indo-European 5. French Romance Niger-Congo

6. Ewondo

Steve Peppe





## The linguistic situation in Korea



- Korean spoken in North and South Korea
  - No linguistic minorities
  - Among the few monolingual states in the world
- 2 standard varieties
  - Both regulated by national language policies
    - South Korea: Seoul dialect
    - North Korea: Pyongyang dialect
- 7 regional dialects
  - Some not easily mutually intelligible
  - 37 > Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)

- ☐ High literary rates
- □ Own writing system (Han'gŭl)
  - Developed in 15th C on the initiative of King Sejong
  - Scientifically designed alphabet in which 2, 3 or 4 letters are "stacked" to create syllables
- ☐ E.g. 'huchu' (pepper)
  - H(ᢒ)+U(¬)=亭
  - CH(六)+U(丁)= 추
  - HU-CHU = 후+추 = 후추

Steve Peppe

## **Summary of concepts: Universals**



- ☐ Absolute, statistical and implicational universals
- Lexicon and grammar
- □ Form and meaning
- ☐ Phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics
- ☐ Arbitrariness, motivation, iconicity
- Double articulation (duality of patterning)

38 > Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)

teve Peppe

# Summary of concepts: Typology Analytic vs. synthetic (polysynthetic) Agglutinative vs. flective Word order (SOV, SVO, VSO, etc.) Head-first vs. head-last Left-branching vs. right-branching Verb-framed vs. satellite-framed

# Summary of concepts: Language families Family trees and protolanguages The comparative method Regular sound change Regular sound correspondences Indo-European, Afro-Asiatic, Sino-Tibetan, Uralic

# Summary of concepts: Language contact Borrowing Code-switching Language shift and interference Language death Superstrate and substrate languages Pidgins and creoles Linguistic areas, Sprachbund

# Summary of concepts: Language variation Linguistic item and language variety Language vs. dialect Dialect continuum Isogloss Abstand languages and Ausbau languages Standard languages Sociolect, slag, jargon Multilingualism and language policy



## **Next week: Culture!**

### ☐ Further reading on language variation

- Michael E. Brown and Sumit Ganguly (eds.) 2003. Fighting Words: Language Policy and Ethnic Relation in Asia. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press
- Fardon, Richard and Graham Furniss. 1994. *African languages, development and the state*. London: Routledge
- Ljung, Magnus. 2011. Swearing. A cross-cultural linguistic study. Basingstoke: Palgrave
- Trudgill, Peter. 2000. Sociolinguistics: An introduction to language and society. London: Penguin
- Trudgill, Peter and J. K. Chambers. 1998. Dialectology. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Vickers, Caroline H. and Sharon K. Deckert. 2011. *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics: Society and Identity*. London: Continuum

43 > Institutt for kulturstudier og orientalske språk (IKOS)

Steve Pepp