



LUDWIG-
MAXIMILIANS-
UNIVERSITÄT
MÜNCHEN



Markus Kunzmann | Susanne Oberholzer

Geolinguistic Documentation of Multilingual Areas – and the Challenge of Digital Humanities

<http://www.verba-alpina.gwi.uni-muenchen.de>

ICLaVE 8, 27.-29.5.2015, Leipzig



Outline

- From traditional geolinguistics towards modern geolinguistics
- Project description
- Potential of new media within modern geolinguistics
- Various challenges
- Data transfer
- Portal presentation

From Traditional Geolinguistics ...

- Traditional European geolinguistics: a wide world of atlases, dictionaries, monographs
 - A detailed view of singular regions, basically singular dialectal regions → mostly monolingual
 - Supposition: linguistic phenomena exceed (dialectal/linguistic) borders → how to visualise this?
- Aim: visualisation of a multilingual space based on the traditional geolinguistic work



LUDWIG-
MAXIMILIANS-
UNIVERSITÄT
MÜNCHEN

Geolinguistic Documentation of Multilingual
Areas – and the Challenge of Digital
Humanities



... Towards Modern Geolinguistics

- Region: alpine space





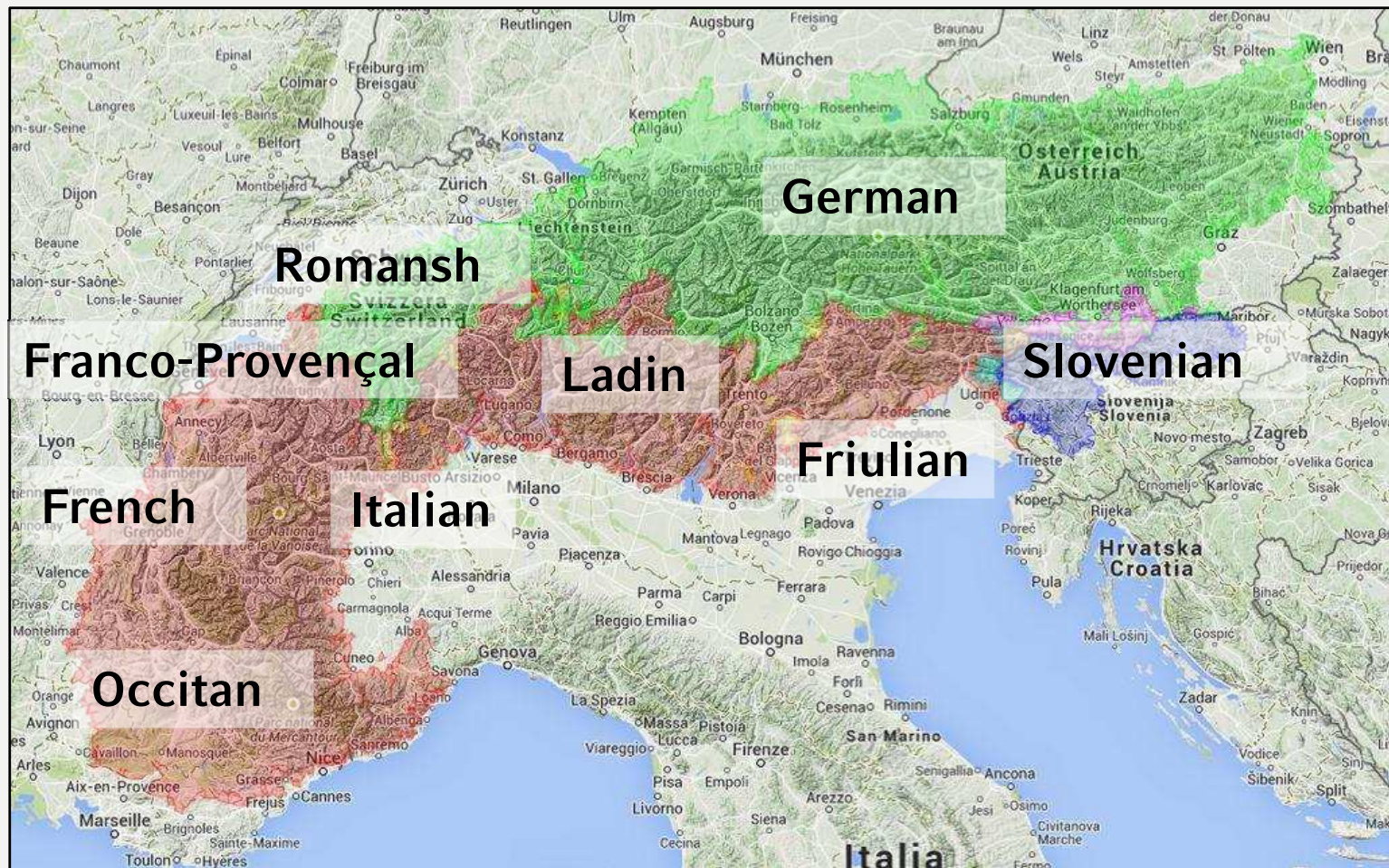
... Towards Modern Geolinguistics



... Towards Modern Geolinguistics

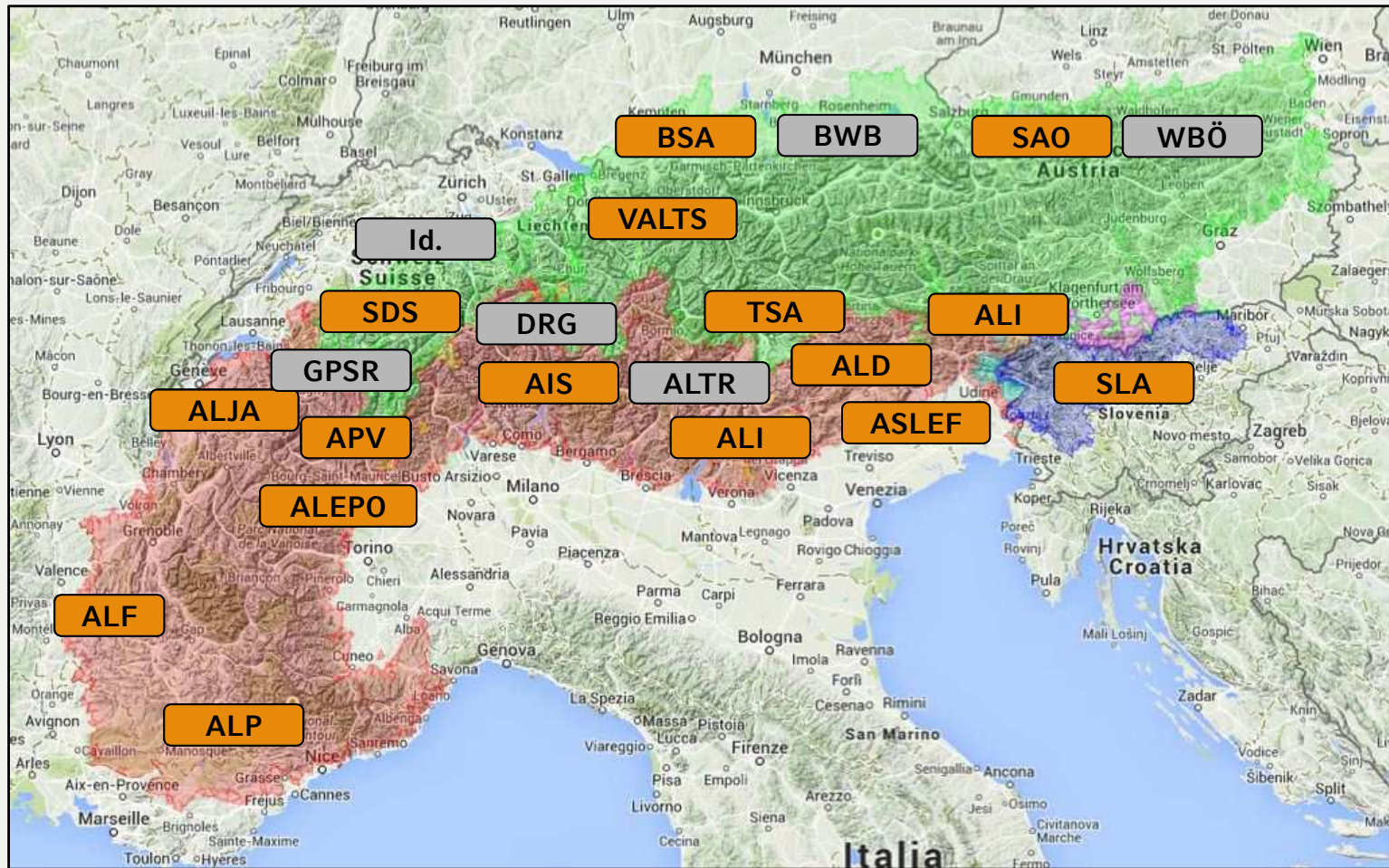
- Region: alpine space
- Linguistic situation: multilingual





... Towards Modern Geolinguistics

- Region: alpine space
- Linguistic situation: multilingual
- Outcome of traditional geolinguistics: at least 6 dictionaries and 16 atlases



... Towards Modern Geolinguistics

- Region: alpine space
- Linguistic situation: multilingual
- Outcome of traditional geolinguistics: min. 6 atlases and 16 dictionaries

➔ Starting point for VerbaAlpina

Project Descriptions: Basic Points

- *VerbaAlpina. Der alpine Kulturraum im Spiegel seiner Mehrsprachigkeit*
- Funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)
- 1st term: 2014–2017 (perspective until 2025)
- Combination of (geo-)linguistics and digital humanities

Project Descriptions: Aims

- Selective and analytical investigation of the linguistically and dialectally highly fragmented alpine space in its historico-cultural and historical-linguistic unity
- Overcoming of the traditional limitation to nation-states
- Selected fields: nature, cultural history, cultural present
- Setting up a portal by using modern media technology: documentation, data collection, collaborative development

Project Descriptions: Aims

- **Selective and analytical investigation** of the linguistically and dialectally highly fragmented **alpine space** in its historico-cultural and historical-linguistic unity
- Overcoming of the traditional limitation to nation-states
- Selected fields: nature, cultural history, cultural present
- Setting up a portal by using modern media technology: documentation, data collection, collaborative development

Project Descriptions: Aims

- Selective and analytical investigation of the linguistically and dialectally highly fragmented alpine space in its historico-cultural and historical-linguistic unity
- **Overcoming** of the traditional limitation to **nation-states**
- Selected fields: nature, cultural history, cultural present
- Setting up a portal by using modern media technology: documentation, data collection, collaborative development

Project Descriptions: Aims

- Selective and analytical investigation of the linguistically and dialectally highly fragmented alpine space in its historico-cultural and historical-linguistic unity
- Overcoming of the traditional limitation to nation-states
- Selected fields: **nature, cultural history, cultural present**
- Setting up a portal by using modern media technology: documentation, data collection, collaborative development

Project Descriptions: Aims

- Selective and analytical investigation of the linguistically and dialectally highly fragmented alpine space in its historico-cultural and historical-linguistic unity
- Overcoming of the traditional limitation to nation-states
- Selected fields: nature, cultural history, cultural present
- Setting up a **portal** by using **modern media technology**: documentation, data collection, collaborative development

Project Description: Team

Project leaders

- Prof. Dr. Thomas Krefeld (Institute for Romance Studies)
- Dr. Stephan Lücke (IT group of the faculties of humanities)

Member of staff

- Susanne Oberholzer (scientific coordination, German/Romance studies)
- Markus Kunzmann (German studies)
- Aleksander Wiatr (Romance/Slovenian studies)
- Florian Zacherl (computer science)
- Mona Neumeier, Giorgia Grimaldi, Christina Mutter (scientific assistants)

Potential of New Media within Modern Geolinguistics

- We have:

- analogue published data (atlases, dictionaries)
- digital data from cooperation partners

- We want:

- digitalize analogue data
- transfer digital data
- collect new data by social media

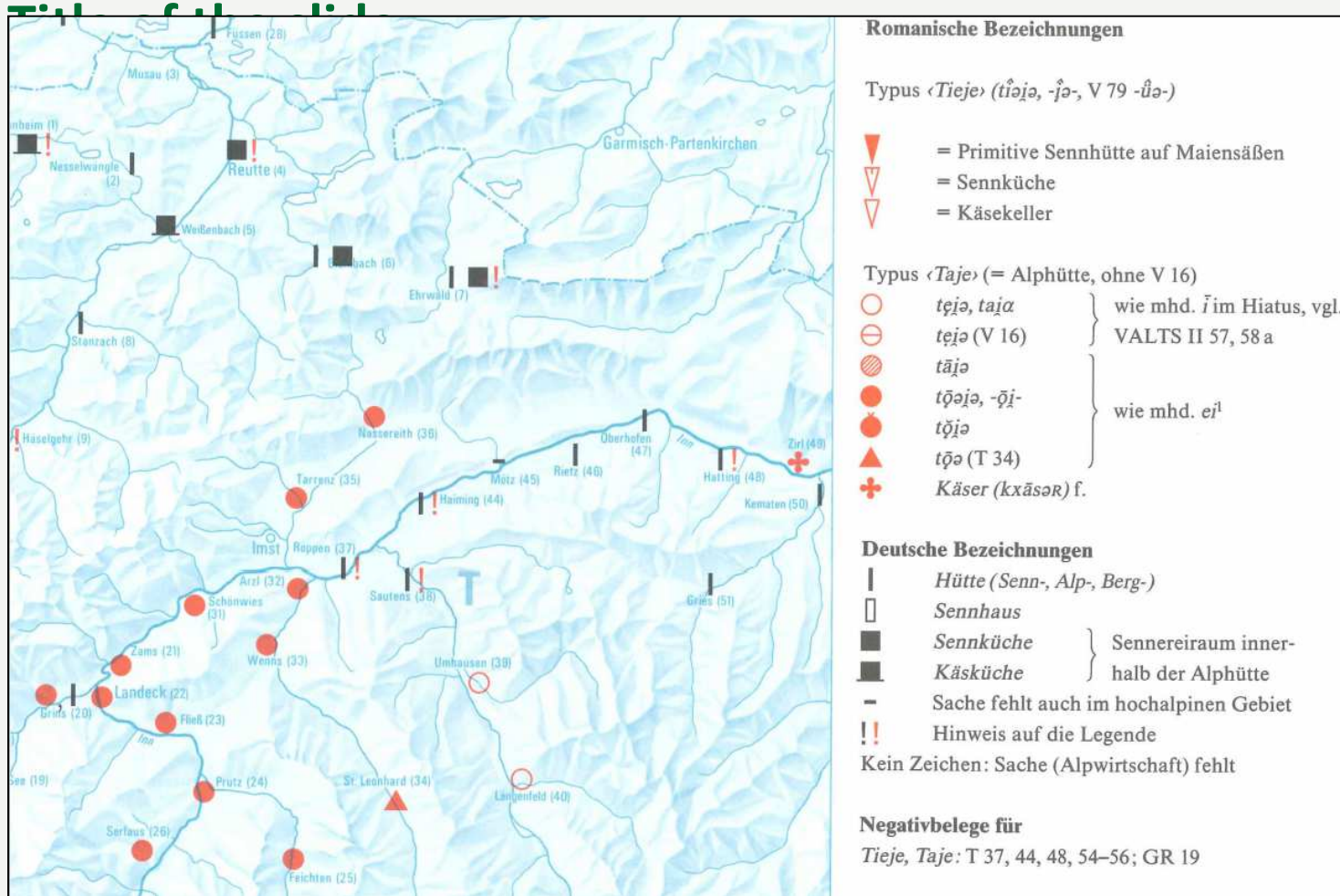
➔ document the distribution of the characteristic alpine lexis
in its geolinguistic totality

Potential of New Media within Modern Geolinguistics (II)

- Portal VerbaAlpina
- <http://www.verba-alpina.gwi.uni-muenchen.de>
- All data within the same online portal
- ➔ Transfer of all data, independently of the origin, to a consistent data structure and encoding

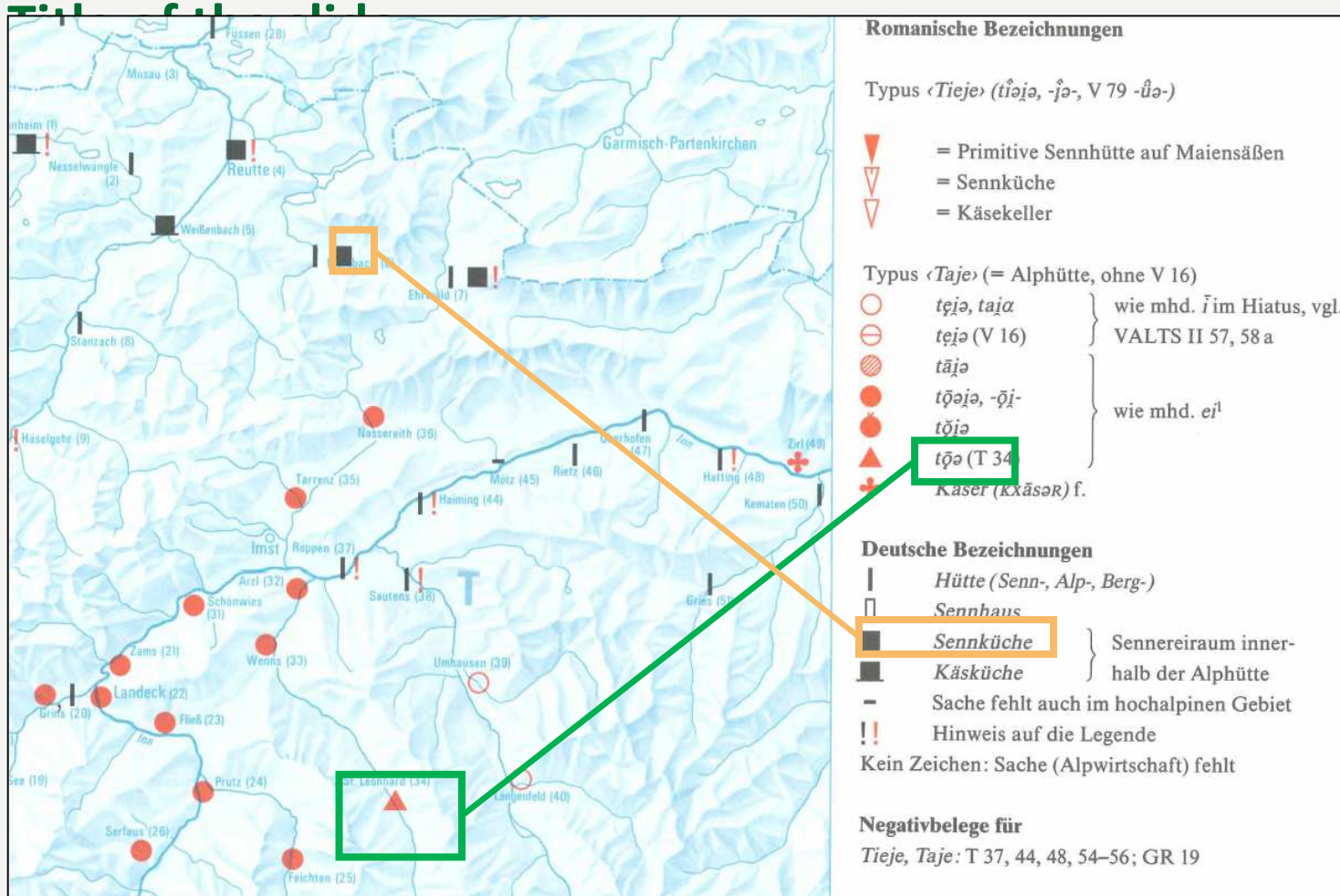


VALTS IV 73: The Chalet respectively the Room of Alpine Dairy on the Alp





VALTS IV 73: The Chalet respectively the Room of Alpine Dairy on the Alp



Various Challenges: One Map – Mix of Information

- Different phonetical forms
- Different morphological forms
- Different lexemes
- ➔ No problem for traditional geolinguistics
- ➔ A challenge for VerbaAlpina!



VerbaAlpina

HOME INTERAKTIVE KARTEN METHODOLOGIE TERMINOLOGIE PERSONEN PUBLIKATIONEN KONTAKT

Außersprachliches

Konzept

Unterkonzepte einschließen

Informanten

Phonetischer Typ

Morphologischer Typ

Basistyp

ANMELDUNG

[Administration](#)

[Abmelden](#)

DATENBANK-VERSION

XXX (Arbeitsversion)

Francis Italiano

Synoptische Karte

Auswahl als synoptische Karte speichern

© 2015 Geobase-CE-ARX (©2009) Google, basando in BCN IGN España. Nutzungsbedingungen Fehler bei Google Maps melden

Impressum - Datenschutz - Kontakt

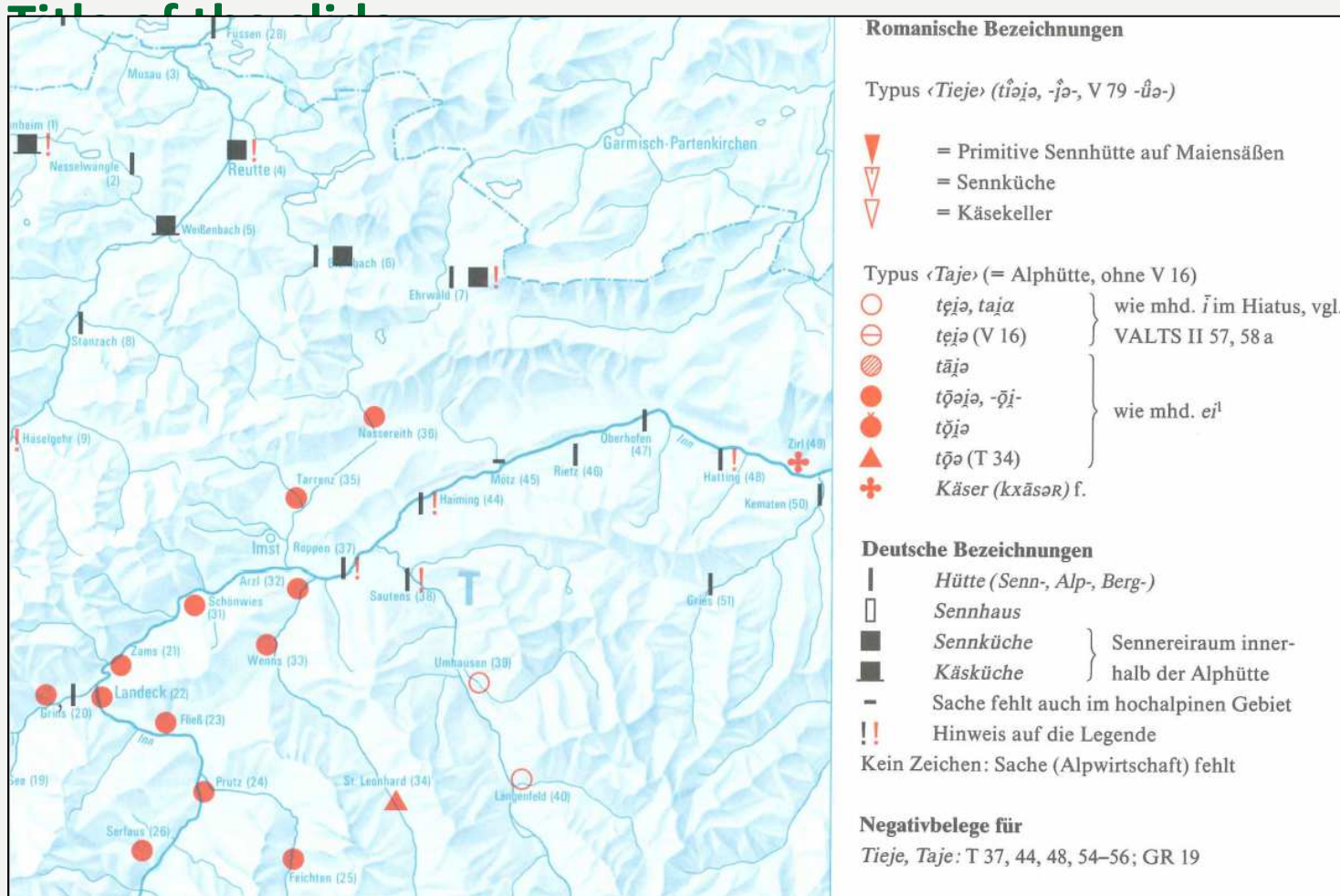


Various Challenges: Heterogeneity of Projects

- Analogue or digital
- Research purpose
- Period of survey
- Missing information concerning the method of survey
(direct, non direct)
- System of transcription
- Semantical content



VALTS IV 73: The Chalet respectively the Room of Alpine Dairy on the Alp



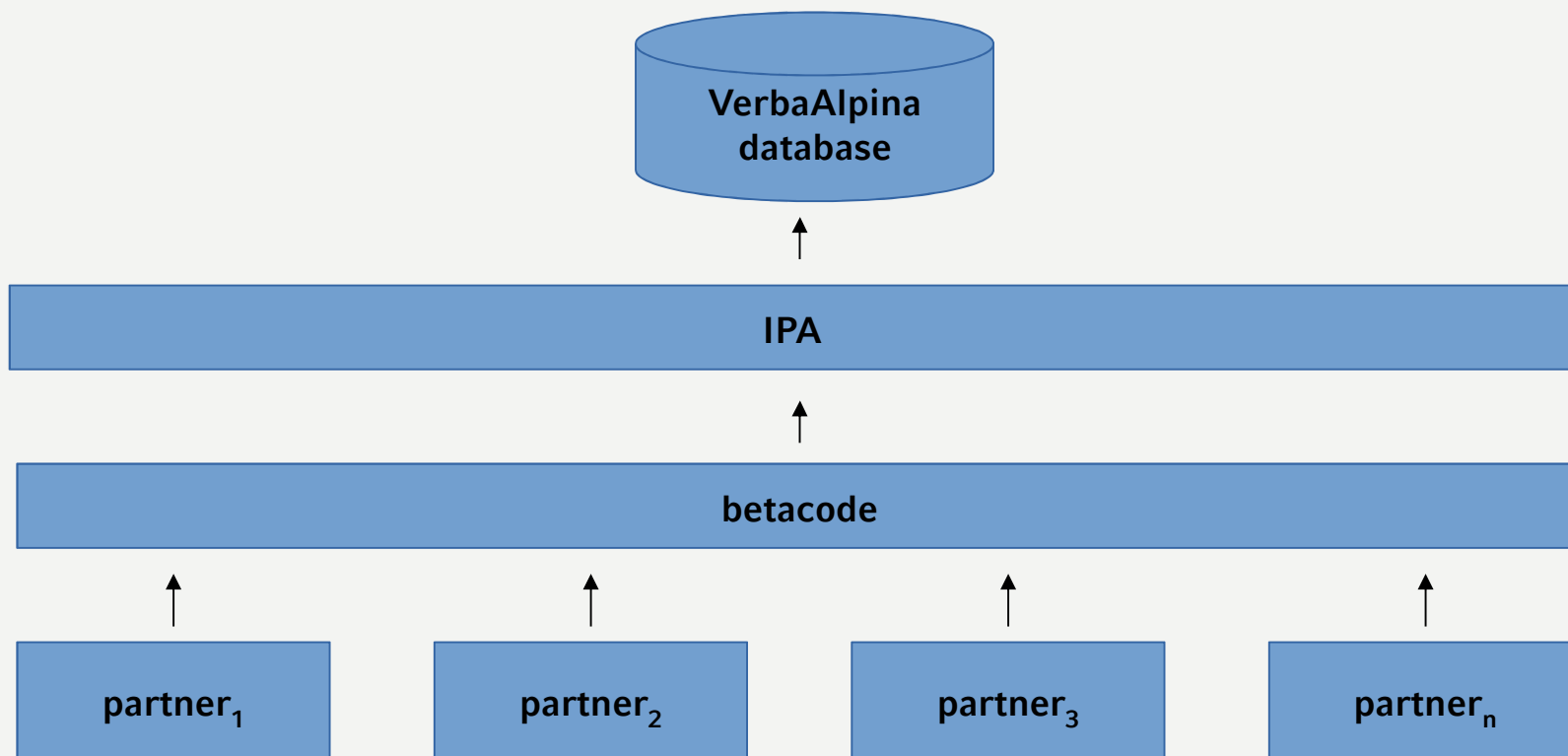
Data Transfer

token	betacode	ipa	phon_typ	morph_typ	basistyp	konzept
t̄ə	to(-e1	tɔ:ə	Taje	Teie	Tegia	ALPHÜTTE
				Sennküche		SENNEREIRAUM INNERHALB DER ALPHÜTTE

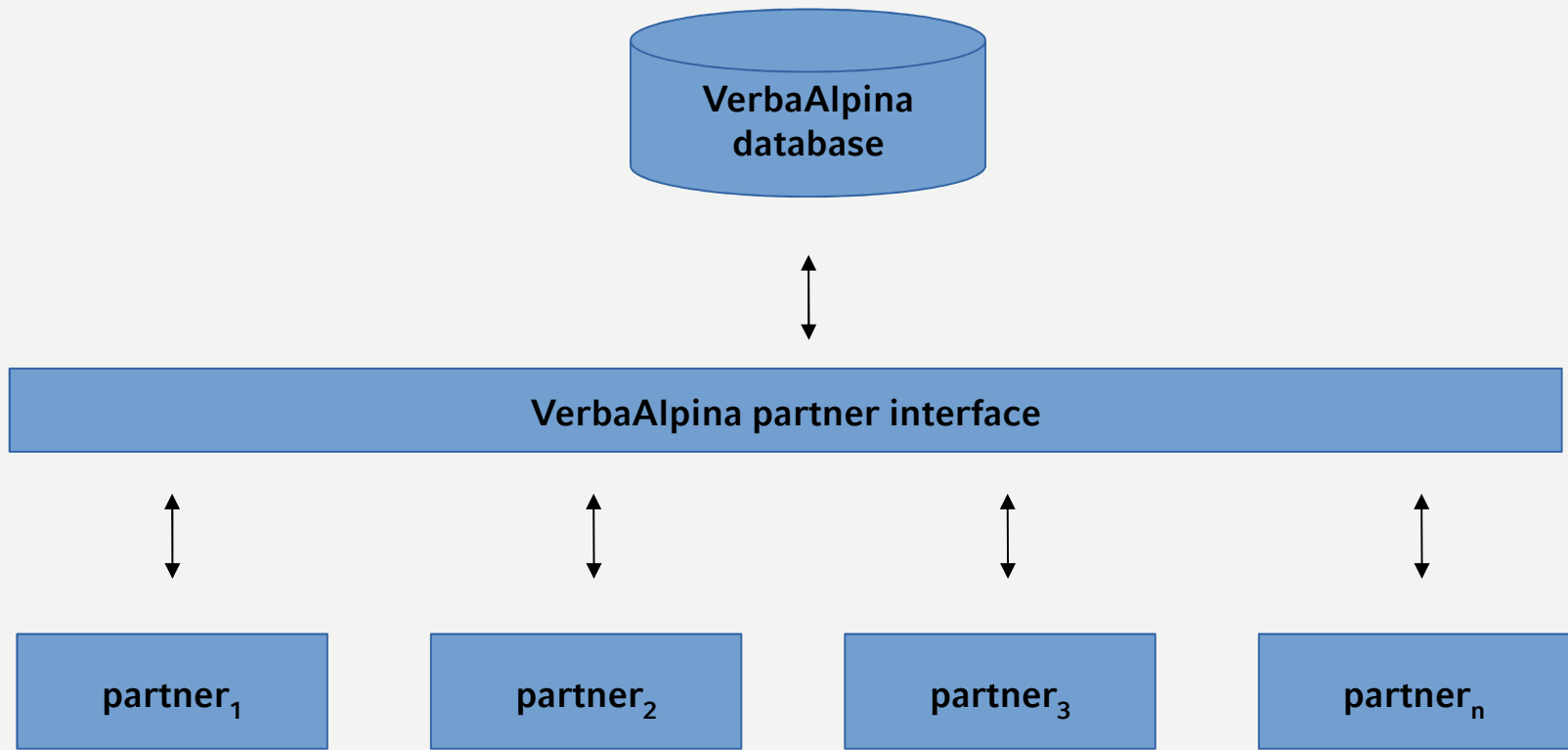
Data Transfer

CHALET (house of the Alpine dairyman)	
Stimuli (onomasiological concepts)	8
Potential subordinated concepts	120
Tokens	1032
Alpine villages investigated	134

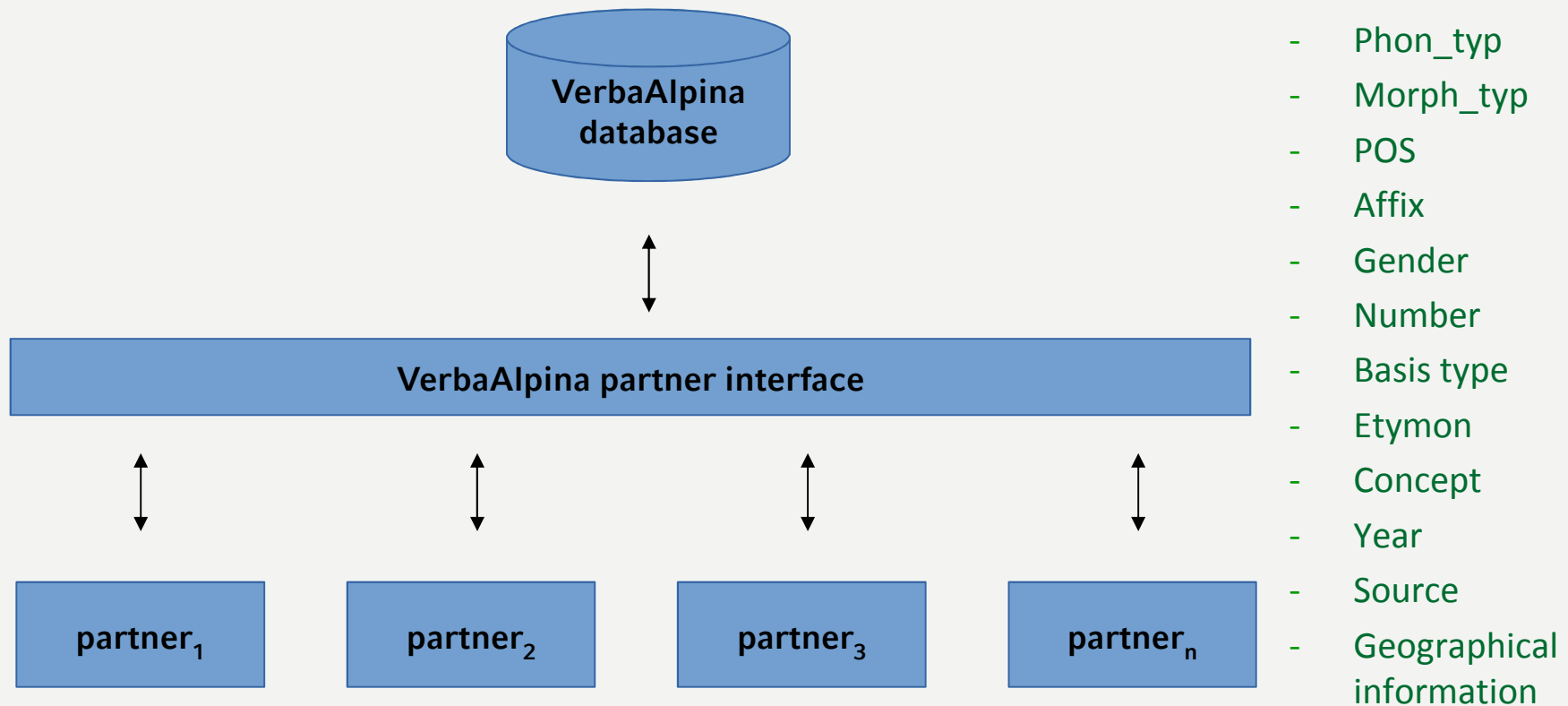
Data Transfer



Data Transfer



Data Transfer





Markus Kunzmann | Susanne Oberholzer

Geolinguistic Documentation of Multilingual Areas – and the Challenge of Digital Humanities

<http://www.verba-alpina.gwi.uni-muenchen.de>

ICLaVE 8, 27.-29.5.2015, Leipzig

