The *Interactive Linguistic Atlas of Andalusian Accents* (ALIAA): Methodology, first results, and how to adapt the software and methodology to other languages

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Abstract

The *Interactive Linguistic Atlas of Andalusian Accents* (ALIAA, as per its Spanish acronym), aims to describe how accents vary across Andalusia, Spain's southernmost region. Using a mixture of online and in-person surveys, audio has been collected for a total of 571 points across the region, totalling over 493,000 audio files from over 4400 speakers. A subset of over 183,000 audio files from 1163 speakers has been selected to be included in the atlas. Apart from describing accent variation across Andalusia, the project aims to compare its results with those from a previous atlas of Andalusia published in 1973 (with data collected in the 1950s) to analyse how the spread of certain phonetic features has changed over the last 70 years. Furthermore, it is expected that the phonetic descriptions arising from this large-scale phonetic analysis will help understand parallel phonetic developments cross-linguistically. The project commenced in January 2023 and it is due to be completed in December 2026. This presentation will explain the methodology behind the project and the software which has been developed to visualise the 292 maps with audio which will make up the interactive atlas. The presenter will also discuss some of the maps created so far and explain how this project could be adapted to other languages, language varieties and disciplines outside phonetics and linguistics.

Bio

Alfredo Herrero de Haro lectured Spanish at the University of Wollongong from 2013 until 2023, when he joined Granada University (Spain) as an Emergia Research Fellow. His research focuses on phonetic variation in Spanish, although he has also studied phonetic variation in other languages, such as English, Arabic, and Kurdish. His research also analyses different aspects of foreign language acquisition, mainly regarding the acquisition of Spanish pronunciation by speakers of different languages. As part of his four-year research fellowship at Granada University, he is working on a solo project to develop an interactive linguistic atlas of Andalusian accents to describe phonetic variation across more than 500 points in southern Spain. Outside of his research activities, Associate Professor Herrero de Haro has published several language education resources and a novel, has worked part-time as a radio presenter focusing on linguistics, and runs his own small publishing company.