The *Interactive Linguistic Atlas of Andalusian Accents* (ALIAA): From conceptualisation to completion

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Abstract

The *Interactive Linguistic Atlas of Andalusian Accents* (ALIAA, as per its Spanish acronym) describes how accents vary across Andalusia, Spain's southernmost region; it also serves as an update of the previous atlas, published in 1973. The project commenced in January 2023 and it will be completed in December 2026. Over 493,000 audio files from over 4,400 speakers have been collected through online and in-person surveys. A subset of over 138,000 audio files from 1,163 speakers from 571 locations has been selected to be included in the atlas. A total of 30,238 audios out of the 138,171 selected for the atlas (21.88%) have been segmented using WebMaus and manually corrected. A mixture of impressionistic, spectrographic, acoustic and statistical analyses has been used to create 408 maps which describe phonetic variation across Andalusia. This presentation will explain briefly the methodology followed and focus on some key maps of the atlas and the interactive tool created to display maps with embedded audio of speakers from 571 locations. Some of these maps will be compared with results 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. It is expected that the phonetic descriptions arising from this large-scale phonetic analysis will help understand parallel phonetic developments cross-linguistically.

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 has worked 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.