
Register variation in OHG: evidences for register based variation in the recordings of OHG

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In our talk we will present the results of a pilot study designed to find out whether register is a relevant parameter when it comes to explaining the distribution of variants in OHG recording. As a textbase we use the Evangelienharmonie of Otfrid von Weißenburg. This text is particularly suitable for our study because it was written by a single author (Otfrid von Weißenburg) in a specific place (Weißenburg) and within a short period of time (between 863 and 871). Data is collected with a corpus-based approach from a register-annotated version of the DDD-Referenzkorpus Altdeutsch (Donhauser et al. 2016)) using the search and visualization architecture ANNIS (Krause & Zeldes (2016)). Different core-linguistic features are then quantitatively analyzed according to Biber (2009) in order to explore the existence of patterns distributed in correlation with register. Our study focuses on syntactical phenomena such as verb position in main clauses (V1, V2, VL), realization of pronominal subjects (pro-drop, non-pro-drop), position of attributive adjectives (N ADJ, ADJ N), realization of verbal complements (infinitives, subordinated clauses).

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