

Prosodic Structures in Two Saamic Languages

Joshua Wilbur

Universität Freiburg

Michael Rießler

Universität Bielefeld

Our presentation deals with prosodic features of two almost extinct Saamic languages. Saamic is a branch in the Uralic language family comprising 10 distinct languages with a total of no more than 25,000 speakers.

We want to present the basic prosodic features of Pite Saami, spoken by approximately 40 speakers in Sweden, and Kildin Saami, spoken by approximately 400 speakers in Russia. Our research is still in an exploratory phase. Currently, we are working towards a comparative description of hitherto underdescribed features in the two languages, for which we have relatively extensive corpus data available.

In the future, we want to explore the possibilities and limitations of automatic prosodic analyses.