

# The Boarnsterhim Corpus: bilingual sociolinguistic database of spoken Frisian and Dutch

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In this paper, I introduce the bilingual sociolinguistic spoken database “The Boarnsterhim Corpus”. This is a unique spoken language database of four generations of bilingual Frisian-Dutch speakers with two moments of recording: between 1982-1984 and between 2017-2019. During the first period, 87 speakers were recorded in the two languages. These data are stratified by three social classes: higher educated, lower educated, and non-educated speakers. A special feature of this corpus is that speakers of three generations *of the same families* are recorded, either males or females. For the second period, currently under way, we aim for the same number of speakers, following a similar design, but adapted to a changed society. Moreover, 24 speakers were recorded at both moments in time, enabling longitudinal studies and comparisons of apparent time and real time change. We also collected the speech of four generations of five families.

The corpus will be POS-tagged and become available for research in 2019, embedded in the CLARIAH infrastructure. The corpus can be used for language variation and change studies from phonological, morphological, and syntactic perspectives, in combination with bilingualism studies. I highlight the first case study: the investigation into the suffix *-/ən/*, which occurs in both Frisian and Dutch. Whereas Standard Dutch prefers n-deletion, Frisian prefers schwa-deletion or a nasalized schwa. However, these are relatively new developments. Speakers born around 1900 still and often used the full pronunciation [ən] in 1982-84. I show how schwa deletion and nasalized schwa formation developed in complementary phonological contexts. Interestingly, these data also show the introduction and development of a new phonological rule, namely, long-distance nasal spreading, which is quite unique across German languages.