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change and stability: Demographic, geographic and political factors  
 2.7 The role of standardisation and a roofing language  
 2.8 Styles and registers; 3. Scenarios of linguistic stability and divergence; 3.1 Instances of divergence in language contact situations; 3.2 Examples of stability in language contact settings; 4. Stability and divergence in language contact: Towards a classification; 4.1 Contact-induced stability; 4.2 Stability despite contact; 4.3 Contact-induced divergence; 4.4 Divergence despite contact; 5. Conclusion; References;  
 Convergence vs. divergence from a diasystematic perspective; 1. Introduction  
 2. Definition and types of convergence and divergence  
 3. Convergence vs. pro-diasystematic change; 4. Exemples: Recent Low German; 4.1 Background; 4.2 Formal and functional convergence; 4.3 Functional convergence, formal con- or divergence; 4.4 Functional convergence, formal divergence; 5. Conclusion; References; Part II. Empirical studies;  
 Stability and convergence in case marking: Low and High German; 1. Introduction; 2. Case marking in Low German and in Standard German; 3. Methodology; 3.1 Synchronic spoken corpus; 3.2 Diachronic spoken corpus; 4. Results; 4.1 Synchronic spoken corpus  
 4.2 Diachronic spoken corpus  
 5. Discussion; References; Towards a typological classification of Judeo-Spanish: Analyzing syntax and prosody of Bulgarian judezmo; 1. Introduction; 2. State of the art; 2.1 Syntactic features; 2.1.1 Word-order in general; 2.1.2 Stylistic fronting (SF); 2.1.3 Clitic Distribution; 2.1.4 Clitic Climbing; 2.2 Phonology; 2.2.1 Segmental phonology; 2.2.2 Speech rhythm; 3. Data and methodology; 3.1 Speakers; 3.2 Grammaticality Judgment Task (GJT); 3.3 Speech data; 4. Results; 4.1 Syntax; 4.2 Vowel reduction and speech rhythm; 5. Summary and concluding remarks  
 References

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Sommario/riassunto

Comparing the evolution of differential object marking (DOM) in Spanish and Portuguese between the 16th and the 20th c. we discover great differences between the two neighbor languages. Whereas in Spanish we notice a steady increase and high degree of grammaticalization of DOM, the graph for the degree of grammaticalization of DOM in Portuguese resembles a standardized normal Gaussian distribution with its peak in the 17th c. The increase of object marking until the 17th c. is in consequence of convergence towards Spanish due to the high prestige of the latter language. From the 18th c. onwards diver

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