

Romanian Online Dialect Atlas: Crişana

RODA TOOLBENCH

Help Text

Overview

The Romanian Online Dialect Atlas (RODA) presents information on dialects of Romanian in the north-west region of Romania, (the region known as Crişana).

With the RODA ToolBench, a user can examine the digitized data, select data, analyze the data, and display the results as maps that can be viewed online or saved as images (.jpg files) for inclusion in other online or hard-copy documents.

There is help text on each display panel. Click on the [?] button at the bottom of the panel.

The transcription system used in the original field work is represented here by a special alphabet that uses images to represent each character in the field notation, and an arrangement of characters that a) adds accents around a base character, b) sometimes superposes one (accented) character above another character, and c) then arranges these complex symbols in a traditional left-to-right notation. The digital data is stored using a notation involving pairs of alpha-numeric characters. For more details, see below.

How to Install

The RODA ToolBench consists of a zip file containing:

- RODA *123*.jar (where *123* represents the current release number). This is a ready-to-run Java programme.
- Several directories, including:
 - Icons
 - InterpretiveData
 - NormalData
 - Sound
 - System
 - User

These directories contain data in files that are needed to run the programme effectively. The User directory is where the user will save output from the programme.

To install the RODA ToolBench, un-zip the RODA123.zip file. It will copy RODA123.jar and the directories to the same directory, which can be any directory of your choice.

- Normally, right-clicking on a zip file will give you the un-zip programme.

- In the zip programme, you must chose to “extract” the files. The zip programme may list the RODA files for you, but they are not useable until you complete the “extract”.

How to Use

Click on RODA 123.jar.

- You should see a title page and a progress bar. When the progress bar shows “100%”, you are ready to begin.

RODA: Romanian Online Dialect Atlas
Crişana

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North-West Romania

Note: It takes a few moment to load the various tabs. When the tabs are loaded, you will see them and be able to use them.

However, the RODA font and virtual keyboard may not be finished loading yet. The keyboard will appear on the <Create Data>< Create Searches> tab and the <Interpret Data><Create a Legend Item> tab, when it is ready for use. Meanwhile, you may do other tasks.

How to Customize

You do not need to customize RODA. If you chose to customize it, we strongly suggest you make a copy of the original files before you begin any customization.

Icons

Adding Icons

Add icon image files to the Icons directory.

The icon image should be approximately 12 pixels by 12 pixels. Larger images can be used, but they will take up more space on the maps.

The image can be created by any photo editor. Consider modifying a copy of one of the icon images provided.

Reordering Icons

The existing icon image files have names with numbers at the first (e.g. 001 BlackCircle.jpg, 002 RedCircle.jpg). The number determines the sequence in which icons are added to the legend of an interpretive map.

To permanently alter the sequence, rename the icon files appropriately.

Note: Changing the sequence will change every map you view afterwards, including interpretations you created earlier and now reload. It does not change existing .jpg files, but new .jpg files will have the new arrangement of icons.

Changing the Font Image

You may replace the existing font image (FontImage.jpg. See below.) with a different image. However, it is critical that the image be the same size (in pixels). Also, you cannot add active characters to the blank spaces without recompiling the underlying programme. If you need to do this, please contact the development team for an updated version of MagicKeyboard2.java.

The Transcription System

Here is the image of the virtual keyboard, showing the base characters and accents that are used when data is rendered in the RODA font. (Figure 1.). Generally, users will not need to know how these RODA characters are coded, although the codes are visible in the data files themselves, and in the system before the font and keyboard has completely loaded.

Each character is described by two regular characters (i.e. two ASCII characters), according to the column and row of the RODA character in this image.

Characters in the last four rows are used for punctuation, and field worker annotations.
The symbol at X0 (a question mark with an X behind it) indicates uncertainty in the data.

How to Make an Interpretive Map

Introduction

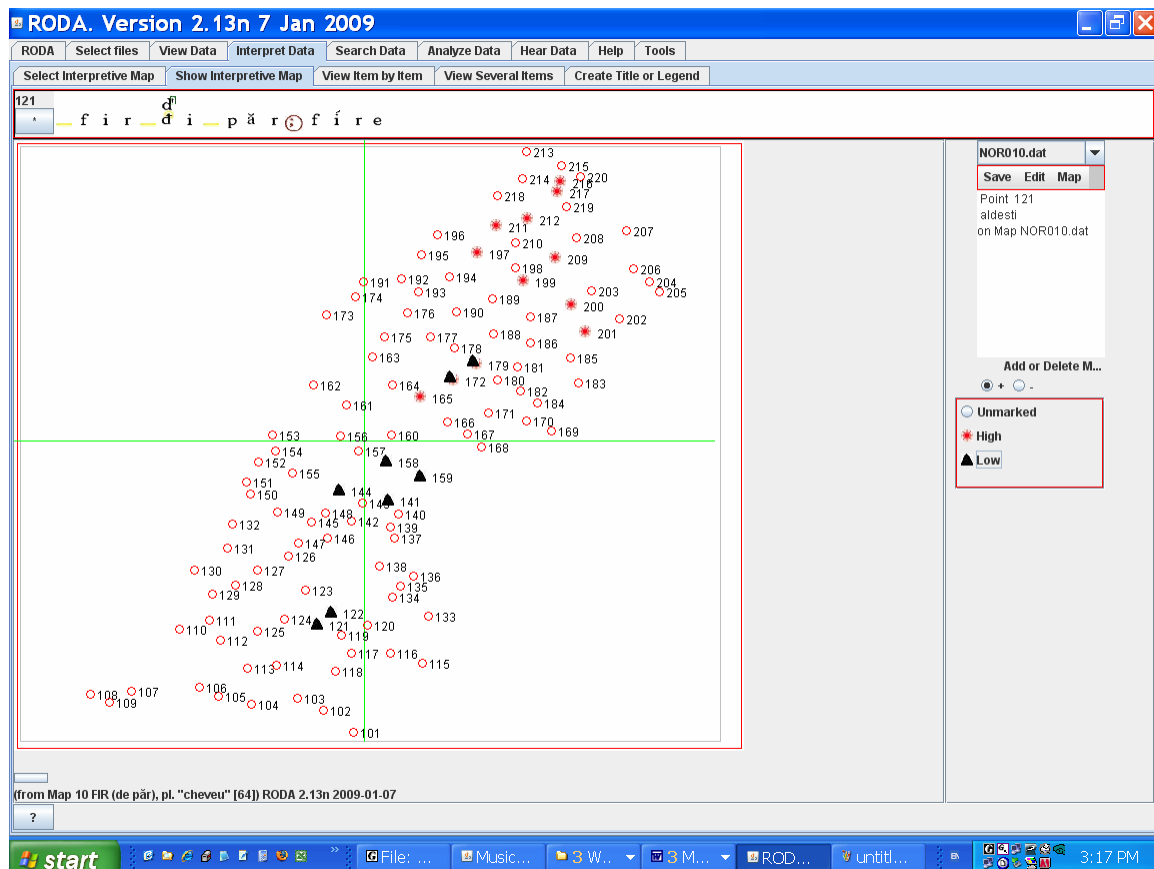
An **Interpretive Map** is a RODA map that shows an interpretation of the basic RODA data. You put a symbol in the map legend to represent some feature of the data, and you put that same symbol on the map to show that a location has the feature.

You can:

- Put several different symbols in the legend and on the map
- Put several symbols on one location
- Put the same symbol on a location more than once.

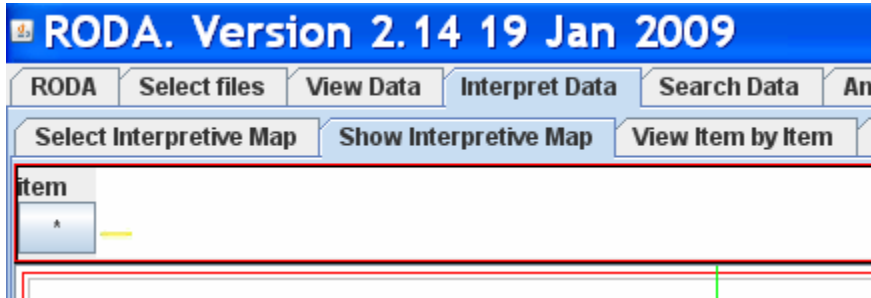
You can also:

- Add a title to the map
- Save the resulting map as a .jpg
- Save your work-in-progress as a .dat file, and load the file again later.

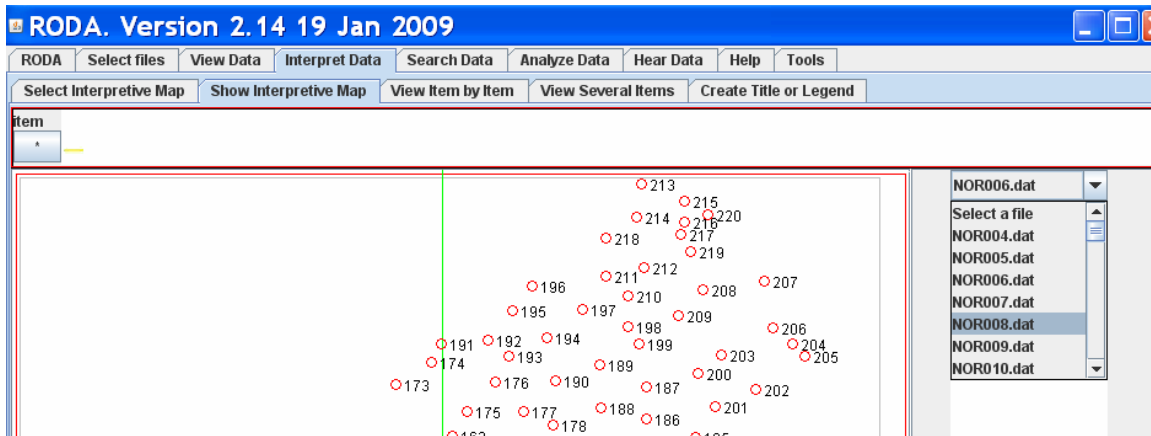


Set Up

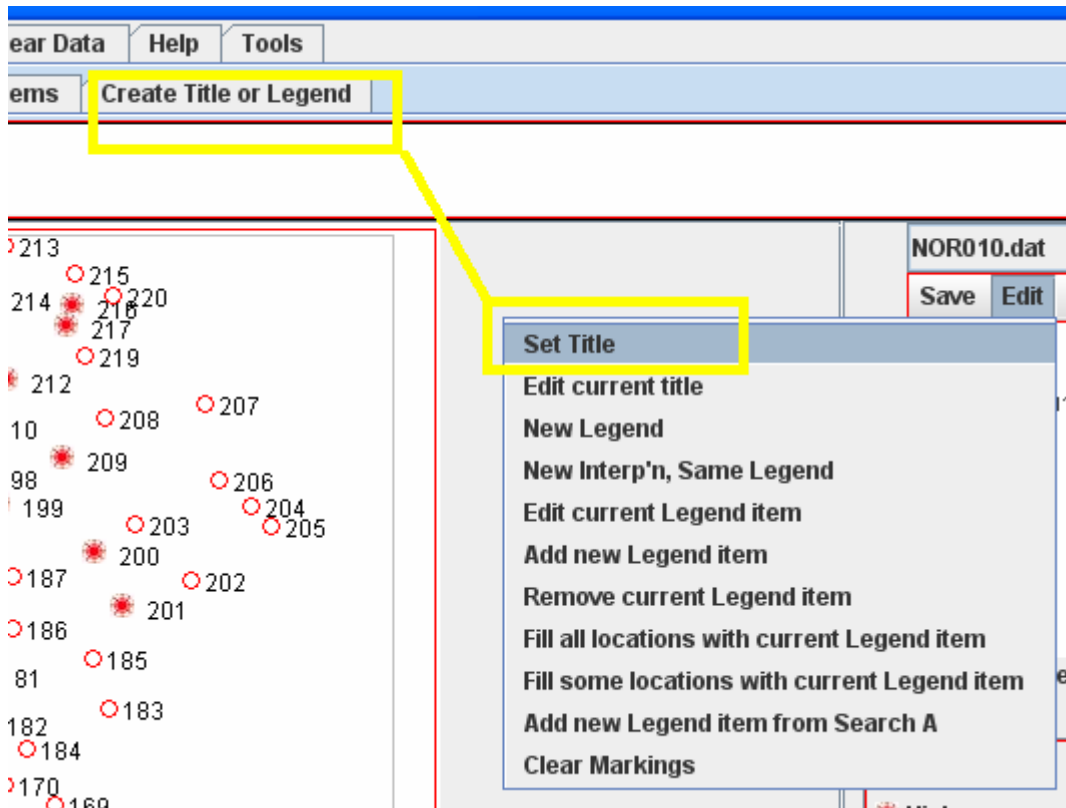
1. Click on the tab “Interpret Data”, and the tab “Show Interpretive Map”.



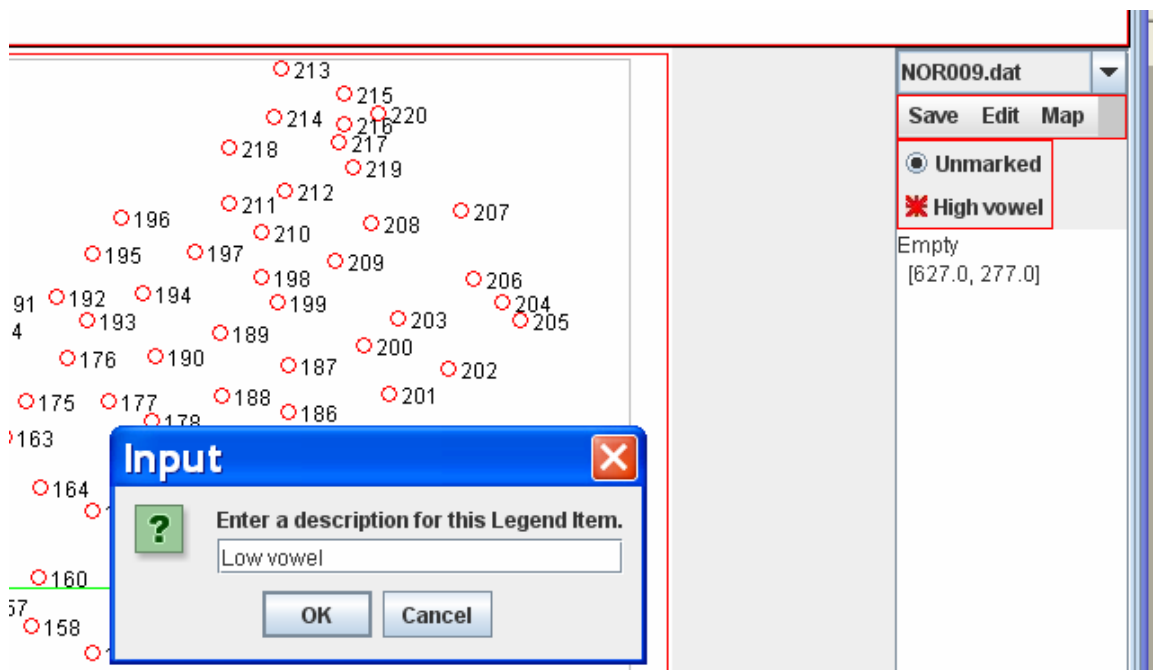
2. Select a base map (i.e. the map with the data you want to interpret) from the drop-down list of maps on the right side.

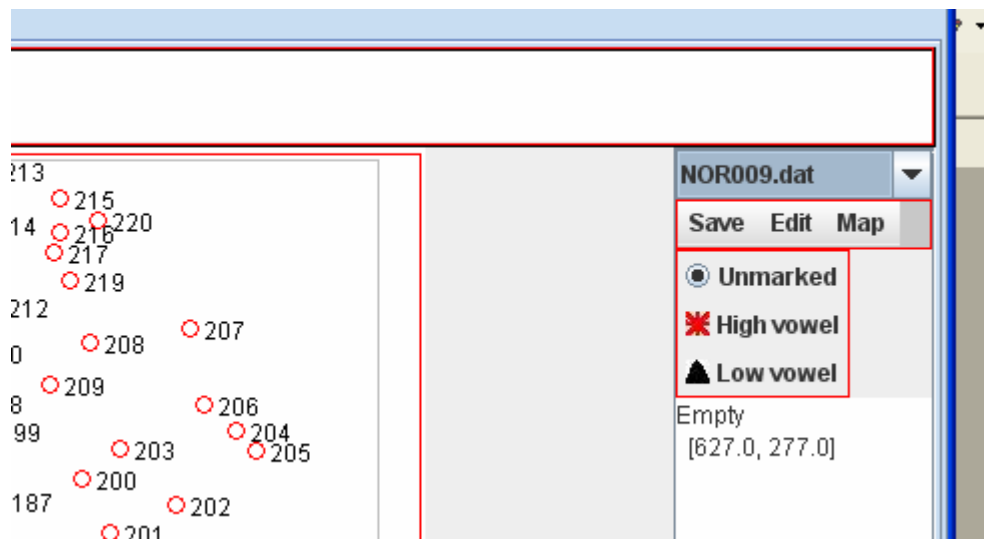


3. Add a title for the new interpretive map. To add a title, select the Edit Menu, and click on “Set Title”. Or, go the “Create Title or Legend” tab.



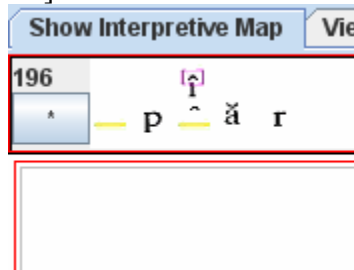
4. For each symbol you need, click on “Add new Legend item” on the Edit Menu. Type in the description of the symbol and press Enter. [Sometimes, you may need to mouse click on the screen to redraw the Legend and show the new symbol.]. Or, use the “Create Title or Legend” tab to add multiple legend items before returning to the map.





Data Entry

1. To see the basic data, click on a location with the left mouse button (“left-click”). The data will appear in the box at the top [While the RODA font is loading, the data appears in its storage form, e.g. “a0b1...”. When the font is loaded, it appears in its proper form.]. The location number is also shown (e.g. “196”).



2. To make a symbol be the “active” symbol, left-click on the symbol in the legend.
3. To add a symbol to the map, make it “active”, and then right-click on a location on the map. You can add the active symbol to multiple locations by right-clicking on each location.

- “Load interpretation from .dat” to load an existing data file.
2. By default, files are saved in the InterpretiveData directory (a subdirectory of the main RODA directory).

Alternatively, you can go to the “Select Interpretive Map” tab, to see a list of maps that are in the InterpretiveData directory.

1. Mouse over a file name to see the title of the map (in RODA font, at the top of the page).
2. Click on the check box beside a file name to load that data file.

Making .jpg Images

You can also save the map as a “jpg” image. However, you cannot load the image again to do more work. To change the image, use an image editor such as Photoshop.

1. Use the Map Menu to customize the look of the map by including or excluding labels, the title, or the legend.
2. On the Save Menu, select:
 - “Save map as .jpg” to make a .jpg image file .
3. By default, files are saved in the User directory (a subdirectory of the main RODA directory).

[END]