

*The Syntactic Atlas of British Isles' Dialects (SABID): The Northern Phase*  
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Our paper reviews previous dialect surveys pertaining to Northern vernaculars, highlighting problems associated with collecting morphosyntactic data. We will demonstrate the need to systemically investigate such differences across the entire region so as to provide a principled comparative base for previous fieldwork, which focused mainly on collecting phonological/lexical data. We will then present the goals of the *SABID* project, which aims at:

- (1) Collecting a large-scale vernacular corpus of dialectal morphosyntactic data for Northern England and Lowland Scotland with due regard for potential social (age/gender) and spatial (rural/urban) differences between speakers.
- (2) Systematising and broadening the range of features explored as well as increasing the number of Northern locations surveyed.
- (3) Testing effective instruments for sensitively uncovering the dynamics of morphosyntactic variation in Northern regions of the British Isles, both on the distributional as well as on the perceptual level.