The Big Challenges with Small Numerals in Russian Linguistic Complexity and Corpus Evidence

Tore Nesset & Laura A. Janda
UIT The Arctic University of Norway

Conclusions

• Dramatic Change over 200 years
  - 1800s: All genders; Genitive growing
  - 1900s: Masc/Neut; Genitive wins
  - 2000s: Feminine; Nominaive wins

• Factors
  - Gender > Period > Numeral
  - Big is Better
  - Higher numerals lead the change
  - Is Complexity Growing?
  - Two distinct constructions emerge

References