



# Workshop Frisian

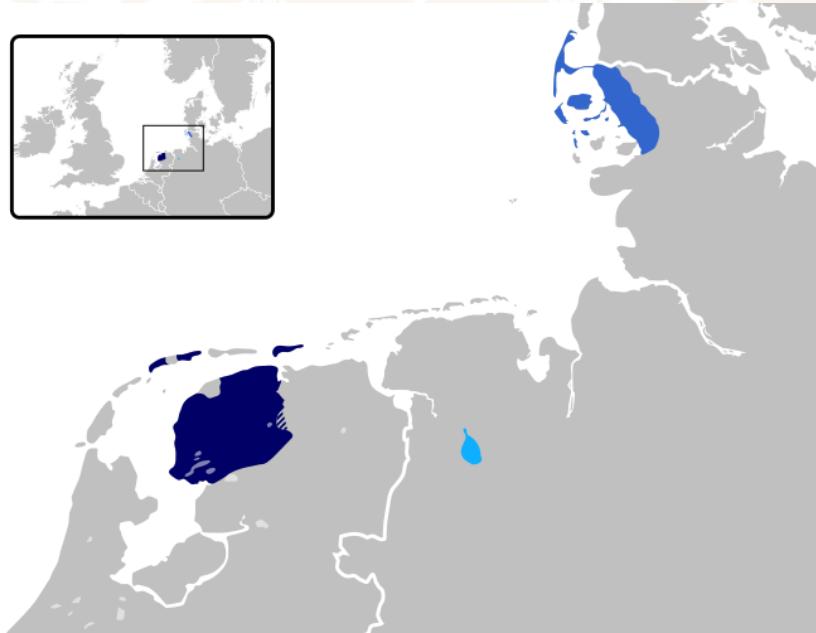
Fenna Bergsma  
May 26, 2022

# Overview

- Fryslân and Frysk
  - History
  - Speakers
  - Status
- The language

# Frysk & Fryslân

- Westerlauwersk Frysk (West-Frisian)
- Province of Fryslân
- West Germanic:  
Dutch, Frisian,  
German, English



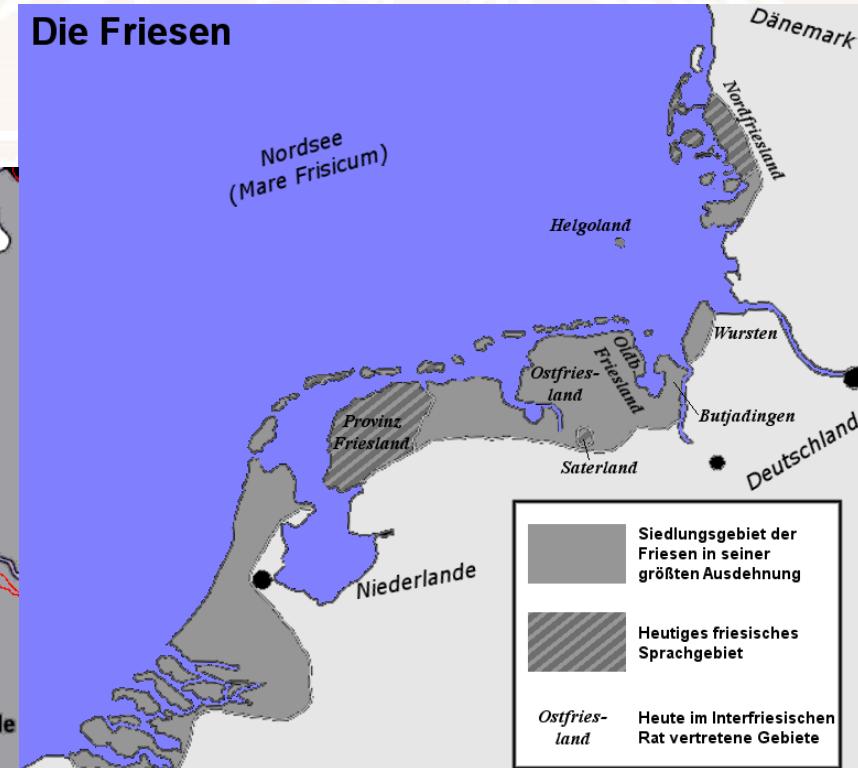
# De Elfstedentocht



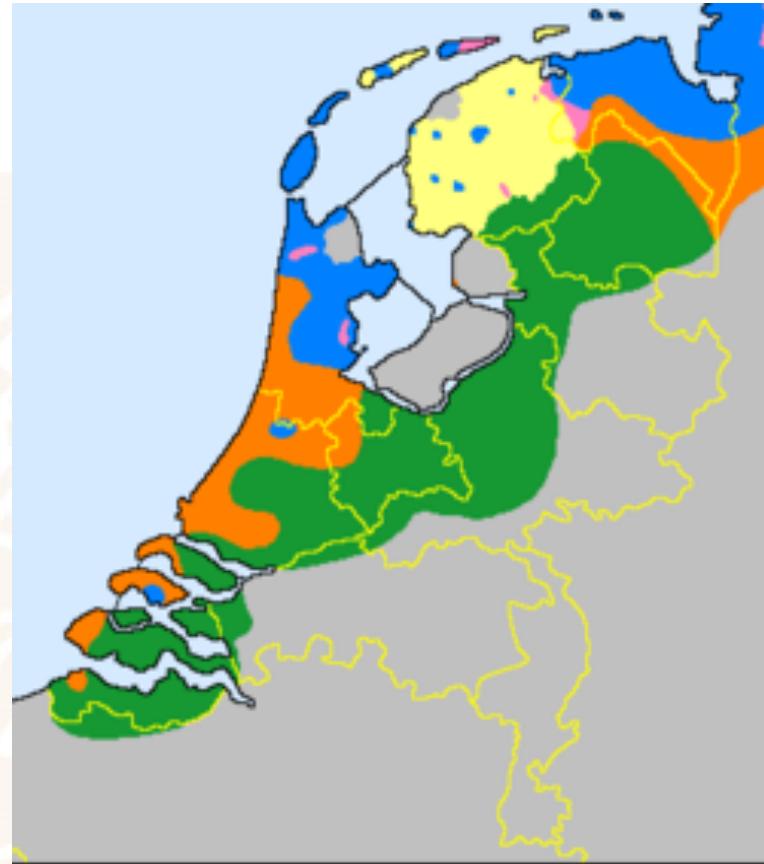
# Old Frisian



Die Friesen



# Historical decline



Histoarysk Terreinferlies fan it Frysk

- terreinferlies 700-1100
- terreinferlies 1100-1300
- terreinferlies 1300-1600
- terreinferlies 1600-hjoed
- hjoeddeistich Frysk taalgebiet

# Frisian speakers

- ~470,000 bilingual (Dutch & Frisian) speakers
- Frisian is more spoken than written (70% vs. 20% of Frisian population)

Fryske taal yn byld



# A protected minority language

- 1956: official status in Fryslân
- Language use
  - with authorities
  - in typonyms
  - at schools
- Protect and promote Frisian

# Fryske Akademy

- Scientific center for research and education related to Fryslân, its culture, its population and its language in the broadest sense
- Language
- History
- Multilingualism and language learning
- [Online dictionary](#), tools (Speakaboo, [FAME](#), [online grammar](#), [HisGis](#) and [more](#))

# The language

- Some outstanding features
- Comparison with other West-Germanic languages
- Grutte Pier's sentence

# Seven Frisian words

tiisdei

freed

snein

moandei

tongersdei

woansdei

sneon

# Seven days of the week

moandei	'Monday'
tiisdei	'Tuesday'
woansdei	'Wednesday'
tongersdei	'Thursday'
freed	'Friday'
sneon	'Saturday'
snein	'Sunday'

# Frisian vowels (phonology)

wit /ʊɪt/ 'to know'

wyt /ʊɪt/ 'white'

wiid /ʊi:t/ 'wide'

wiet /ʊiət/ 'wet'

# Frisian verbs (morphology)

	'to work'	'to bake'
1SG	wurk-je	bak
2SG	wurk-est	bak-st
3SG	wurk-et	bak-t
1PL	wurk-je	bakk-e
2PL	wurk-je	bakk-e
3PL	wurk-je	bakk-e

# Frisian is like English (1)

Fr.	tsiis	ride
Eng.	cheese	ride
Ger.	Käse	fahren
Du.	kaas	rijden

# Frisian is like English (2)

Fr.	Ik lit dy sliep-e	Fan sliep-en wurde ik wurch
Eng.	I let you sleep	From sleep-ing I get tired
Ger.	Ich lass dich schlaf-en	Von Schlaf-en werde ich müde
Du.	Ik laat je slap-en	Van slap-en word ik moe

Fr.	-e.	vs.	-en
Eng.	Ø	vs.	-ing
Ger.	-en	vs.	-en
Du.	-en	vs.	-en

# Frisian is like German (1)

Fr.	probearje	besykje
Ger.	probieren	versuchen
Du.	proberen	proberen
Eng.	try	attempt

# Frisian is like German (2)

Fr. Ik soe graach Frysk leare wolle

Ger. Ich würde gerne Friesisch lernen wollen

Du. Ik zou graag Fries willen leren

Eng. I would like to learn Frisian

Fr. + Ger. infinitive-modal

Du. modal-infinitive

# Frisian influence on Dutch?

Du.	Ik wou	Ik wilde
	I wanted	I wanted
Fr.	Ik woe	*Ik wolde
	I wanted	I wanted

Do Frisians use more *wou* than Dutch do? (A. Merkuur, p.c.)

# Grutte Pier

*“Bûter brea en griene tsiiis”, wa’t dat net sizze kin, is gjin oprjochte Fries.*

# Tige tank en oant sjen!

Feel free to contact me:

fbergsma@fryske-akademy.nl