## Data collection in other Afro-Hispanic speech communities

In the 1980's I collected data in the Afro-Puerto Rican community of Loíza Aldea (Medianía Alta and Medianía Baja), with the help of UPR Río Piedras professor María Vaquero. I also collected data from the last Spanish speakers in Trinidad, aided by Prof. Sylvia Moodie of UWI Saint Augustine. In 1998 Luis Ortiz and I collected Afro-Dominican data in Villa Mella and (together with Irene Pérez Guerra) in the Cambita region, following up on Kate Green's dissertation (directed by John Holm). Here are a couple of my more recent forays, not as developed as those found in their own individual sections, but illustrative nonetheless.

## Chile: Valle de Azapa

In Chile's northernmost province. Arica (part of Peru until the Guerra del Pacífico, 1884), there ws once a considerable Afro-descendent population. Many were expelled to southern Peru or even killed during the "Chilenización" campaigns, but today the remaining Afro-Chileans are concentrated in the nearby Valle de Azapa. In the early 2000's, while I was working with the Afro-Bolivians, I made two bus trips to Arica, through a spectacular mountain pass, then traversing the Atacama desert. In Arica I met with members of the Oro Negro activist group and conducted interviews in the Azapa area. There are no specific ethnolinguistic traits that separate Afro-Chileans from others in the region, except for some vocabulary items, but there are cultural traditions that link these people to an African past.



































































## Peru-Sama las Yaras

I had previously collected some Afro-Peruvian data in the Chincha area, accompanied by María del Carmen Cuba, who had done research with this community. We found a few leftover morphosyntactic traits reminiscent of earlier stages of Afro-Hispanic language, but they were rapidly fading. In 2007, while I was working with the Afro-Chileans in Azapa and Arica, I traveled north to the Tacna area of Peru, where accompanied by a young woman from the area, I interviewed several elderly Afro-Peruvians in the community of Sama las Yaras, part of the same diaspora found in northern Chile. I found some non-agreeing verbs and some invariant plurals, among other indications of Spanish as an L2 in earlier generations.







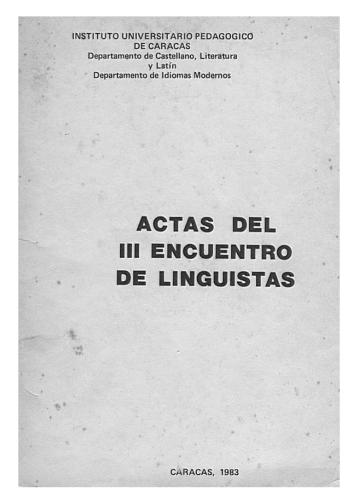


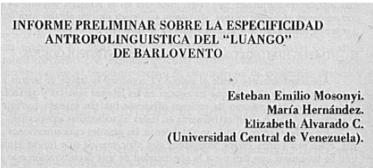




## Venezuela: Barlovento

Bill Megenney had made important contributions to the study of Afro-Venezuelan varieties, but what most intrigued me was a rather obscure article by Venezuelan linguist Esteban Emilio Mosonyi, who described some interesting phonetic traits for the "Luango" ethnolect spoken in some communities in the Barlovento area east of Caracas.





During a visit when I was invited to teach a seminar at the national university in Caracas, my dear colleague and friend Paola Bentivoglio arranged for a graduate student to accompany me

to the Barlovento region to collect some pilot data. We stayed in Curiepe, but collected the most interesting interview data in the community of Tacarigüita, as Mosonyi suggested to me. Only the last gasps of the Luango variety were found, but the side trip was well worth the effort.



