

Divergence and Convergence within Standardizing Danish Place-Names

# The case of Kramnitse/Kramnitze



Photo: TV2 Øst



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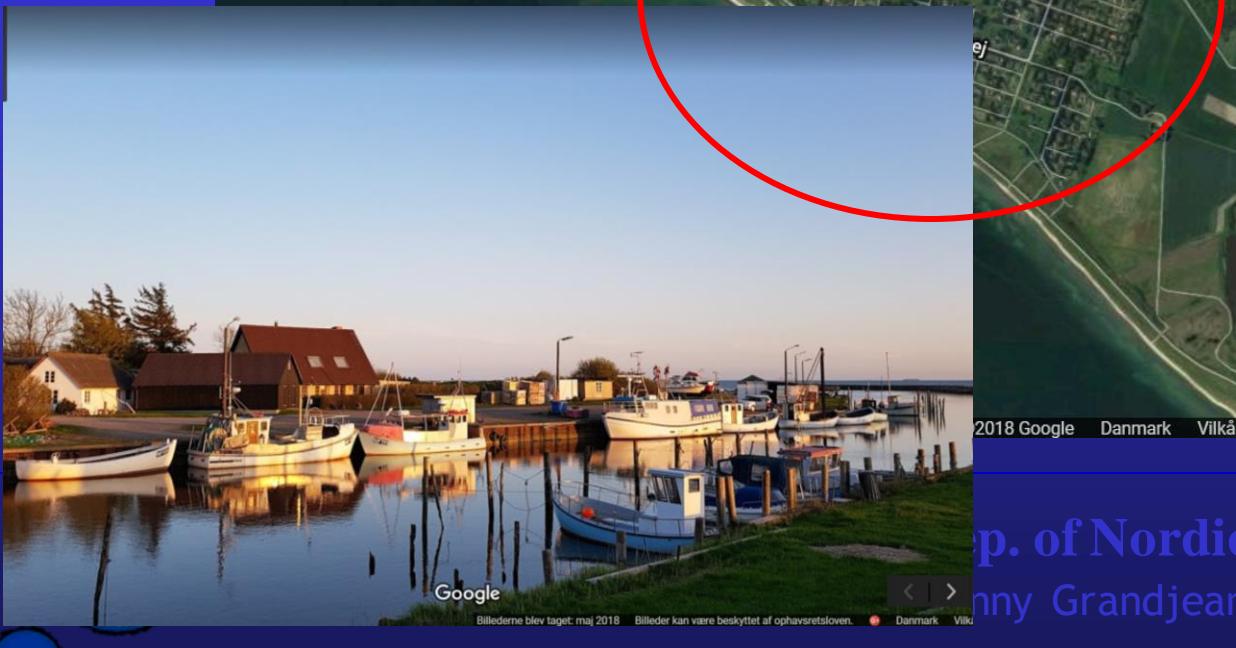
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## The case of Kramnitse/Kramnitz



Dept. of Nordic  
Lynn Grandjean

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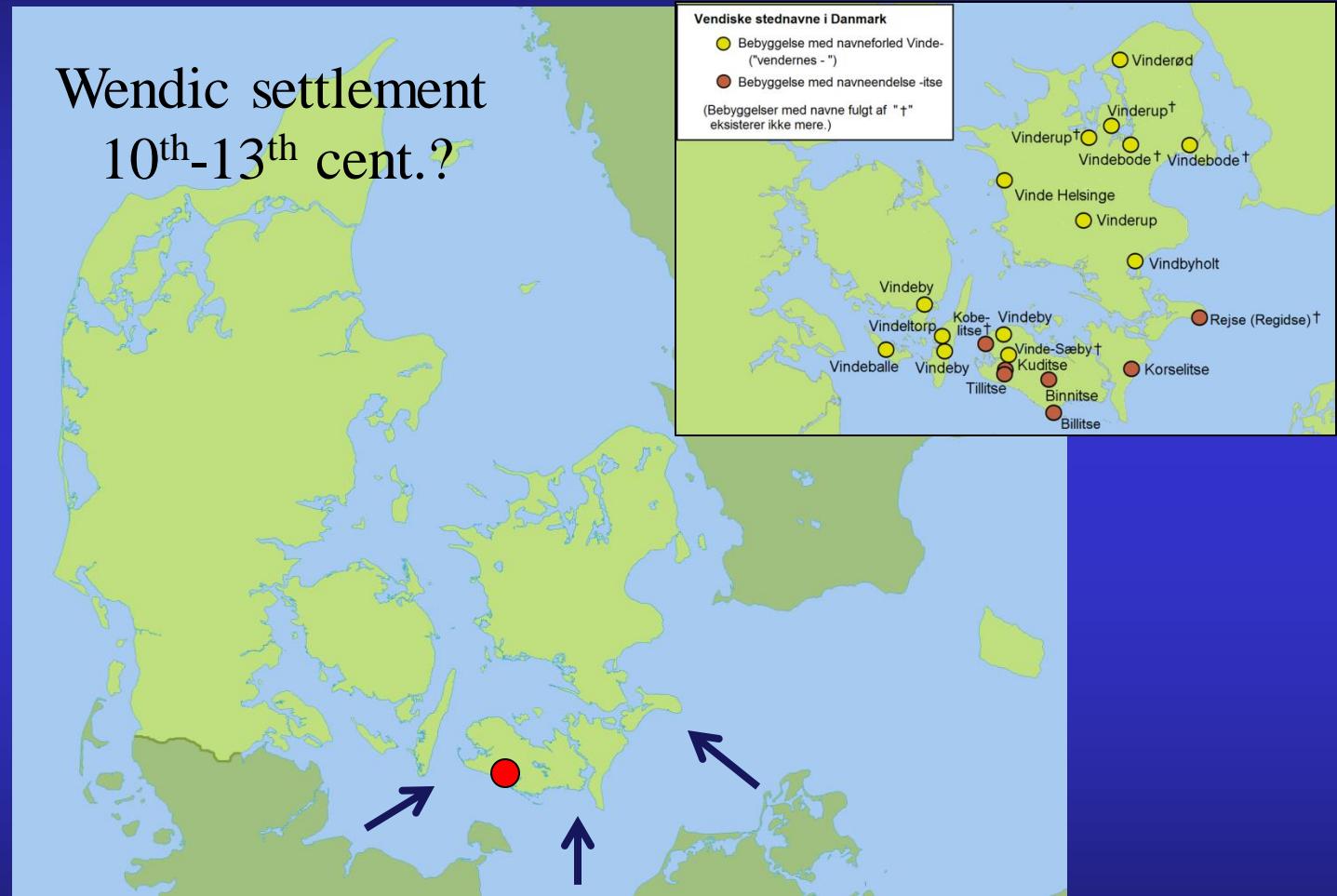
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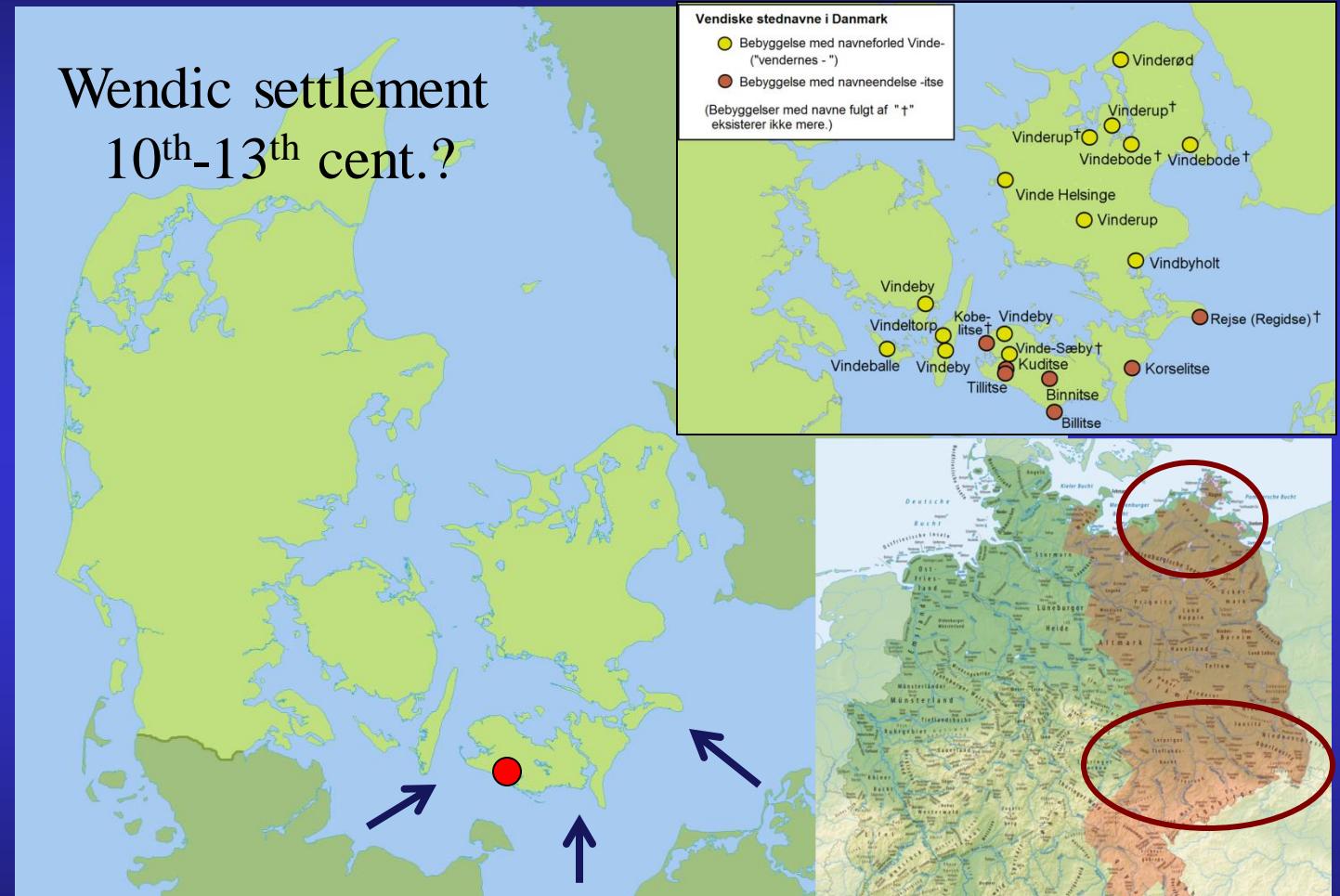
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Distribution area of  
itz-names in Germany



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## The case of Kramnitse/Kramnitze

*-itse* or *-itze*?  
from Slavic *-ici* ('belonging to')

Wendic, West Slavic language,  
extinct in 15<sup>th</sup> cent. (absorbed in Low German, High German, Polish, Danish)  
closest related to modern-day Polish

- Danish:      *-ici* > *-itse*  
German:      *-ici* > *-itz* eller *-itze*  
Polish:      *-ici* > *-ice*



# *-itse* eller *-itze* ???

## Kramnit**se** / Kramnit**ze**

1682 Krammes**ze** Eng

1692 Kramys

1700 Kramysgat

1727 Kramnæs

1776 Kramnissegab

1787 Krammenes Vei

1858 Kramnis**se** Gab

1938 Kramnit**se** Gab

2002 Kramnit**se** Gab

pronunciation 1954 [*kram-se*]

1736 Kramnid**se** Hafn

1755 Krammint**ze** Havn

(settlement)

1891 Kramnit**se**

1922 Kramnesse, Kramnit**se**

1938 Kramnit**se**

2002 Kramnit**se**

2017 Kramnit**ze** ?



# *-itse* eller *-itze* ???

1200-tallet: Køcæli**z**

1300-tallet: Quodevit**ze**, Tili**z**

1400-tallet: Bynet**zæ**, Kobælit**ze**, Kotzelit**ze**, Kvdisse, Tilit**zæ**

1500-tallet: Bynt**zæ**, Kossælyss**æ**, Kudit**se**, Regid**se**, Tillit**ze**

1600-tallet: Binnedt**zæ**, Cobelødt**ze**, Codtzelidt**ze**, Kudit**ze**, Reidt**se**, Tillidt**ze**

1700-tallet: Bille**se**, Binnit**ze**, Kodselisse, Kudit**ze**, Rejs, Tillid**se**

1800-tallet: Bille**se**, Binnit**ze**, Cortzelit**ze**, Kudit**se**, Rejer**se**, Tillit**ze**

1900-tallet: Billit**se**, Binnit**se**, Korselit**se**, Kudit**se**, Rej**se**, Tillit**se**



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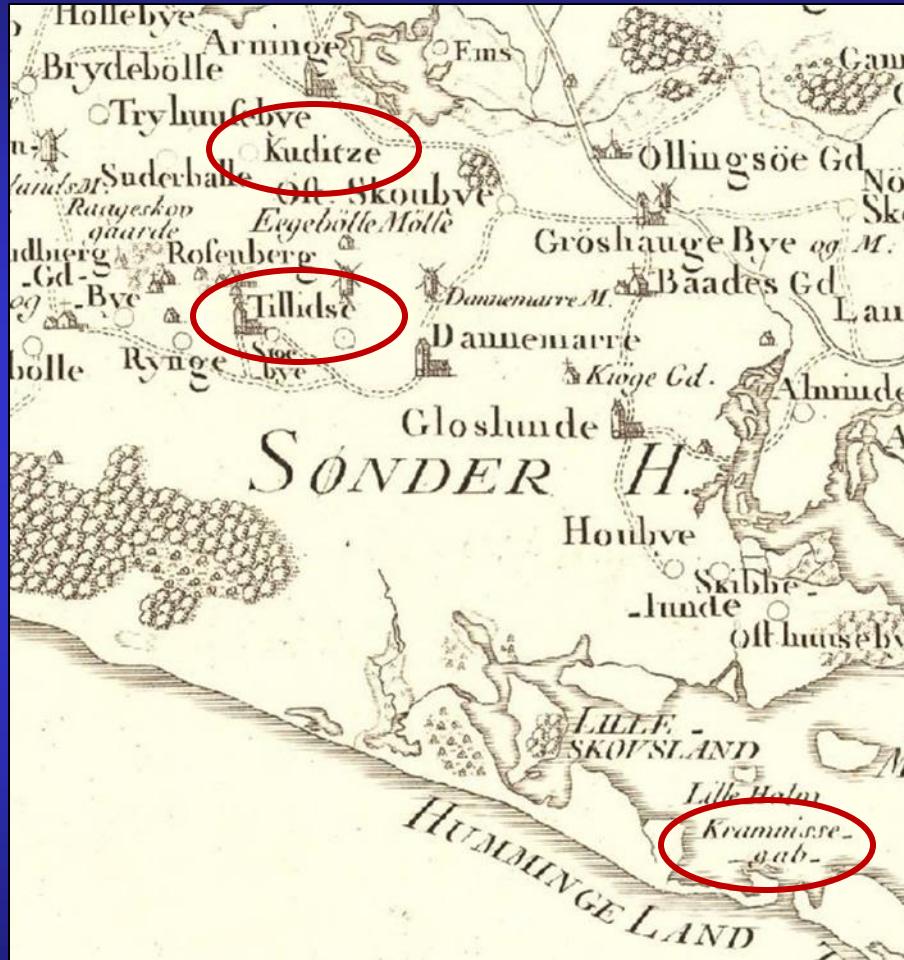


Videnskabernes Selskabs Kort  
1776



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Videnskabernes Selskabs Kort  
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## The case of Kramnitse/Kramnitze

Historically *itse*-names are predominantly spelled with *z*

*s*-form used systematically on military maps (c.1850-)

Place-Name Committee (1910-1934) suggested *-ese*  
Local municipalities wanted to keep *-itze*  
*z* not acceptable to Danish authorities (*z* not natural part of  
Danish orthography, *itze* ‘too German’)  
*-itse* authorized as compromise in 1934

*-itze* reintroduced in 2018



# Divergence and Convergence within Standardizing Danish Place-Names

## The case of Kramnitse/Kramnitze



- to comply with widespread local wish
- in acknowledgement of Wendic connection  
(not to set precedence for the use of *z* in Danish place-names)

*-itze* reintroduced in 2018



# Divergence and Convergence within Standardizing Danish Place-Names

## The end of the case of Kramnitse/Kramnitz



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