

Article / Artículo

Hispanic toponymy of Chile: linguocultural and linguopragmatic approach

*Toponimia hispánica de Chile: enfoque lingüocultural y
lingüopragmático*

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Abstract

The article provides a linguo-cultural and linguo-pragmatic analysis of the Hispanic toponymy of Chile. Geographical names are considered from historical, geographical, and linguistic perspectives. A semantic classification of the Chilean Hispanic geonames is presented. Examples of hagiotoponyms, anthropotoponyms, military toponyms, descriptive, expressive toponyms, etc. are provided, and their etymology and morphological structure are analyzed. The author concludes that, in general, the toponymic system of Chile is characterized by both universal features of Latin American toponymy and unique linguo-culturological, morphological, and semantic features.

Keywords: Geographical names • Place names • Chilean geonames • Toponymic system • Latin America

Resumen

El artículo ofrece un análisis lingüocultural y lingüopragmático de la toponimia hispánica de Chile. Los nombres geográficos se consideran desde perspectivas históricas, geográficas y lingüísticas. Se presenta una clasificación semántica de los geonombres hispanos chilenos. Se dan ejemplos de hagiotopónimos, antropotopónimos, topónimos militares, topónimos descriptivos, expresivos, etc., se analiza su etimología y estructura morfológica. Se llega a la conclusión de que, en general, el sistema toponímico de Chile se caracteriza tanto por

rasgos universales de la toponimia latinoamericana como por rasgos linguoculturales, morfológicos y semánticos únicos.

Palabras clave: Nombres geográficos • Topónimos • Geonombres chilenos
• Sistema toponímico • América Latina

Introduction

The toponymic corpus of Chile has evolved over the centuries under the influence of certain historical events, the country's geographical location and the clash of indigenous and European linguistic cultures.

Figure 1. Map of Chile



Source: available at: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Chile/Southern-Chile>. Accessed on: 24 mar. 2023.

The Chilean toponymic system is an original palimpsest, where the substratum is represented by the languages of the native peoples – Mapuche, Chona, Ona, Alakalufs, Yagana, Wilche, etc., while European languages, mainly Spanish, act as a superstratum.

We believe that the study of various aspects of Chilean toponymic stratigraphy began in the mid-19th century. Over the years, other specialists have dealt with this issue, including Armengol (1918), Barthel (1962), Bernales (1984), Carvajal (1993), González Ferrán (1995), Ibar Bruce (1960), Latorre (1997, 1998, 2001), Ojeda (1904), Ramírez Sánchez (1988), Riso Patrón (1924), Vilches Acuña (1959), Wagner (1964, 1983), Zañartu (1934), and Koskinen

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(1969). Nowadays, researchers' interest in the original and heterogeneous toponymic system of Chile has not waned. For example, Bobyleva (2019), Chesnokova and Bobyleva (2018), Dorofeeva (2016), Grinina (2016), Radovich (2016), Urzhumtseva (2011), Kordić and Ferreccio (2014), among others, have contributed to the field. Among recent works, we highlight E. Bobyleva's dissertation research, which made a significant contribution to the study of the topic (Bobyleva, 2019). The author examined the lexical and semantic features of Chilean geographical names, clearly delineating the language layers and tracing the typology of the formation and functioning of toponymic units in the modern era, both at the macro- and micro-levels.

The focus of our paper is to analyze the Hispanic units of the country's toponymic corpus using modern electronic tools such as GoogleMaps and GeoNames, and to conduct a pragmatic analysis of them through linguistic research methods.

1 Administrative division of Chile and linguistic affiliation of its place names

Since 1978, Chile has been divided into 16 regions, 56 provinces, and 348 communes. Each region was designated by a name and Roman numeral from north to south, except for the Santiago metropolitan area, which has no number. The creation of two new regions in 2007, *Arica y Parinacota* (XV) and *Los Ríos* (XIV), as well as a third region in 2018, *Región de Ñuble* (XVI), resulted in the loss of the original numbering order.

Approximately 80 percent of Chile's mainland consists of mountains in various forms. Most Chileans live near or on these mountains, which makes oronymy a more extensive toponymic class in relation to other classes than in most other countries in the world. Additionally, the presence of a significant number of coastal islands ensures the presence of a wide range of insulonyms.

Figure 2. Regions of Chile



Source: available at: <https://www.southernchileproperties.com/maps-national.html>. Accessed on: 24 mar. 2023.

In linguistic terms, the toponymy of Chile, like that of other Spanish-speaking countries in Latin America, is mainly composed of Hispanic names, autochthonous names, and hybrid toponyms.

After analyzing more than 20,000 Chilean geonames using the GeoNames and GoogleMaps systems and employing a continuous manual sampling method, we classified the units by language and calculated their percentages. When comparing the statistical analysis data performed by I. Litvin with the help of the Atlas of Latin America of 1968 (LITVIN, 1983a, Appendix I, Table I), with the results of our analysis, we found that the final data differ: see Table 1.

Table 1. Linguistic composition of the Chilean toponymy. Quantitative analysis of different years.

| According to I. Litvin (1983a) | | According to I. Martynenko (2022) | |
|--------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Hispanic place names | 38,1% | Hispanic place names | 50,0% |
| Native American place names | 40,7% | Native American place names | 24,8% |
| Hybrid place names | 5,5% | Hybrid place names | 24,2% |
| Foreign place names | 11,6% | Foreign place names | 1% |

Sources: Litvin (1983a, Appendix I, Table I) and Martynenko (2022).

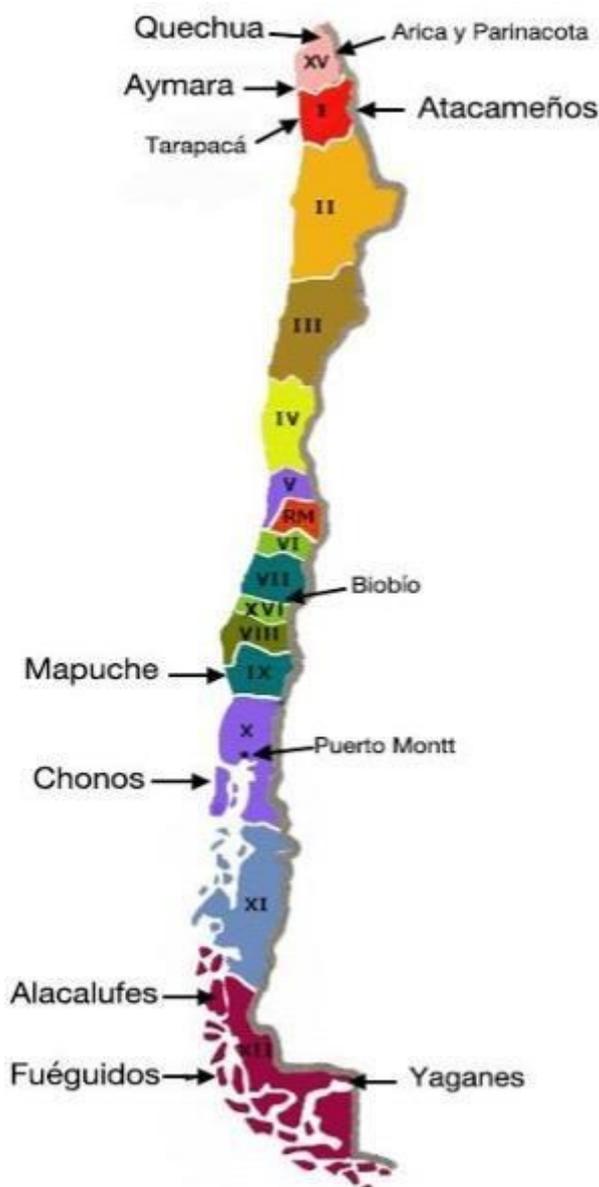
We attribute the difference in numerical ratios to the flexibility and constant development of Chile's toponymic system, as well as to the more accurate data provided by modern electronic geosystems.

2 Autochthonous toponyms of Chile

Despite our focus on the Hispanic place names of Chile, we cannot avoid mentioning the autochthonous toponymic level in this work, given the close and productive interaction of indigenous toponymy with the Spanish toponymic vocabulary in the country.

In the toponymic system of Chile, a significant layer of indigenisms can be detected. The toponyms that come from the Mapuche language, which can be combined according to different models in one lexical unit, are excellent examples of the richness and diversity that autochthonous toponyms can provide (BOBYLEVA, 2019, p. 48–50). P. Carvalhinhos states that the dialectal areas of some native languages correspond to toponymic areas (CARVALHINHOS, 2022, p. 523). The map of Chile serves as strong confirmation of this thesis (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Historical settlement of native tribes in Chile.



Source: Bobyleva, 2019, p. 17.

The most famous autochthonous toponym of Chile is the very name of the state, *Chile*.

There are several versions of its origin as a macrotoponym. According to one of them, *Tili* is the oldest inhabitant of the *Aconcagua* Valley (north of Santiago de Chile), according to another, the etymology is associated with the singing of the *trile* bird, which lives in the southern regions of the country, in which the sound “chi-li” is repeated. At the same time, in Quechua, *chili* or *tchili* means "cold" or "snow". Some researchers argue that the toponym comes from the Aymara language and is translated as “the border of the world, the most distant place” (BOBYLEVA, 2019, p. 62). At the beginning of the 20th century, historians pointed out that *Chile* in Quechua meant "cold" (Colección de historiadores de Chile, p. 50).

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Other autochthonous Chilean geonominations include *Antofagasta*, *Temuco*, *Arico*, *Aysén*, *Rncagua*, *Coplapó*, *Curicó*, *Calama*, etc.

3 Toponyms from European languages

Due to the intensive immigration processes that took place in the 19th century, as well as due to the non-Spanish origin of many sailors and explorers of the Chilean territory, some of the toponyms of Chile have linguistic affiliation with other European languages. Being neither Hispanic nor autochthonous, these units testify to the penetration of other European cultures into the south of the continent.

The superstratum influence in Chile is provided by three European languages and is associated mainly with research expeditions: **Dutch**:¹ *Nassau Bay*, *Windhond Bay*, *Barnevelt Island*; **French**:² the islands of *Peyrot*, *Mouchez D'Urville*, *Duperre*; **English**:³ *Wellington*, *Dawson*, *Hoste* (after William Hoste, one of Lord Nelson's protégés), *Skyring bays*, *Burney volcano*, *Beagle channel*. Some English place names have replaced Spanish ones (e.g., *Narborough* was formerly known as *Islas de Cevallos*).

And some city names have undergone repeated changes: e.g., the original name of *Punta Arenas* is *Cabo de San Antonio de Padua*. Subsequently, the English expedition renamed it *Sandy Point*, and later – *Sandy Bay*. The modern name is the result of a translation into Spanish from the penultimate English name (BOBYLEVA, 2019, p. 67).

O. Chesnokova states **Basque** toponymic presence in the toponymy of Latin America, confirming it in particular with the allusion to the Basque Country in Chilean oronym *Monte Euzkadi* (CHESNOKOVA, 2016, p. 27). The oronym *Euzkadi* (3615 m) from her point of view is converted from *Euskadi*, proposed by the "father of Basque nationalism" Sabino Arana (1863–1903), to refer to the Basque autochthonous territories that are today used in the Spanish media discourse as a synonym for the autonomous community of the Basque Country.

¹ Expedition of Willem Cornelisz Schouten (known in Spanish as Guillermo C. Schouten) of 1615. He planned to name *Cape Horn* in honor of his hometown - *Hoorn*, which means "horn". When nominating the object, the transcription method was used with further phonetic transformation. Thus, the modern name is *Cabo de Hornos*.

² Expedition of Jules Dumont d'Urville, a French naval officer who explored the south and western Pacific, Australia, New Zealand, and Antarctica in 1825. As a botanist and cartographer, he gave his name to several seaweeds, plants and shrubs, and places such as *Mouchez D'Urville* in Chile and *d'Urville Island* in New Zealand.

³ Captain King's expedition of 1828, which left, for example, the *Dawson Island* with the name of a sailor of that time.

4 Hybrid toponyms

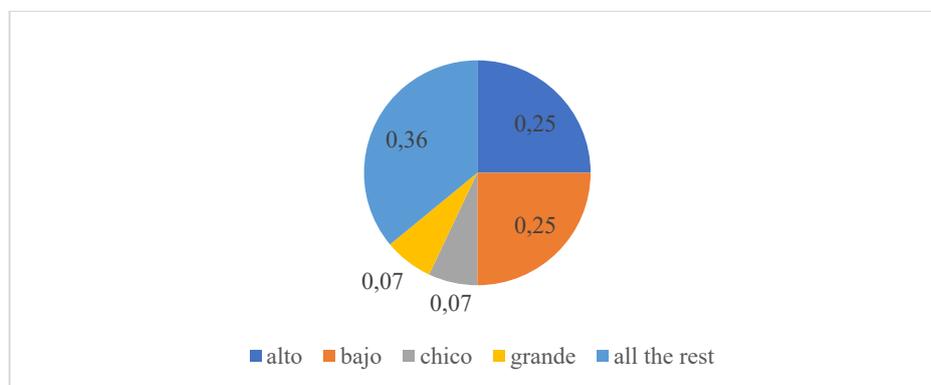
It is impossible not to note the productivity of the overlapping of European and autochthonous languages in Chile through the formation of blended place names on the territory of the state. Based on their linguistic composition, the hybrid toponymy of Chile is divided into names that originated from the *contacts of the Spanish language with the languages of the aboriginal population*, and the names that arose from the *contacts of the Spanish language with other European languages*.

These groups emerged in different eras and under different historical conditions; the languages that came into contact varied, and the forms of these contacts also differed. In the first case, it was the interaction of two unequal languages: the "conquering language" and the "conquered language". The emergence of European-autochthonous toponymic hybrids is a natural result of the development of aboriginal toponymy by Hispanic conquerors, on the one hand, and the assimilation of new toponymy by the aboriginal population, on the other hand, in conditions of rather close linguistic contact. In the second case, it is the incorporation of foreign names into the Spanish toponymic system (LITVIN, 1976, p. 42–43).

In the toponymy of Latin America as a whole, I. Litvin identifies several lexical types of hybrid toponyms (LITVIN, 1976, p. 43–45), having at least two components and connecting according to the syntactic norms of one of the contacting languages. Two of them are projected onto the toponymy of Chile. We illustrate them with examples from the Chilean toponymicon:

1) Composite toponyms, which are attributive syntagms, where the defined element is an autochthonous name, and the defining element is a Spanish adjective. These often represent distinctive definitions of binary oppositions such as *grande-chico*, *viejo-nuevo*, *alto-bajo*, *sur-norte*, etc. In Chile, this group includes names like *Guanaco Alto/Guanaco Bajo*, *Pampa Alta/Pampa Grande*, *Chicureo Abajo/Chicureo Arriba* and others. Additionally, there are triplet naming models such as *Guindo Chico/Guindo Alto/Guindo Grande*, etc. All these names follow the Spanish word order. E. Bobyleva (2019, p. 48) derived the spectrogram of the frequency of using these productive definitions, which is shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4. Spectrogram of the productive determinations (frequency of use)



Source: Bobyleva (2019, p. 48).

According to the same syntactic model, toponyms are constructed, where the Spanish element is generic, and the autochthonous element is specific. The oronymy of Chile abounds in this category: *Cerro Llullaillaco*, *Cerro Tupungato*, *Cerro Parinacota*, *Cerro Aucanquilcha*, *Cerro Irruputungcu*, *Cerro Juncal*, *Cerro Arintica*, *Cerro Acamarachi*, *Cerro Lirima* and others.

2) Compound toponyms, which are attributive expressions, where the definition is expressed by a prepositional genitive construction. This category includes two semantic types of toponyms: those where the name of a Catholic saint serves as the definitive, and the definition is an autochthonous toponym: *San Vicente de Tagua Tagua*, *San Pedro de Atacama*, *San Felipe de Aconcagua*, *Santa Rosa de Tabali*, *Santa Rosa de Catemu*, *Santa María de Quepe*, *Santa María de Mingre*, *Santa Ana de Colpi*, etc. Such toponyms outside the sphere of official use tend to be truncated, while, as a rule, the “holy” half, which is the least important for identifying an object, is omitted, for example, *San Carlos de Chonchi* > *Chonchi*, *San Antonio de Chacao* > *Chacao*, *San Andrés de Angol* > *Angol*. Many place names that today appear purely Amerindian were originally hybrids of this type, such as *Talca* < *San Agustín de Talca*. This also includes compound toponyms, where both the defined and the definition can be both Spanish and autochthonous elements: *Salar de Atacama*, *Desierto de Atacama*, *Salar del Huasco*, *Salar de Acostán*, *Provincia de Arica*, *Provincia de Llanquihue*, etc.

Hybridization at the morphological level refers to the creation of lexical units in one language using the morphological elements of another language (LITVIN, 1976, p. 45). Several models are identified in this process. The **first major layer** comprises various paradigms:

1) The formation of blended names from a native toponym with a Spanish definite article: *El Tepual*, *El Tapihue*, *La Patagüilla*, *La Huaica*, *Los Guayes*, *Los Guapis*, *Las Cahuachas*, *Las Ñipas* and others.

2) The formation of blended names by inflecting a native toponym in Spanish with a plural form (-s, -es), with or without the definite article, e.g., *Los Andes*.

3) Derivation of blended names from autochthonous lexical material using suffixes and formants common in Spanish toponymy:

a) diminutive suffixes (*La Patagüilla* < *La Patagua*)

b) collective suffixes (*Tamarugal* < *tamarugo*)

c) toponymic formants: -ia, -ópolis, -ápolis (*Araucanía*).

The **second major layer** of Chile's hybrid toponymy comprises blended names that combine Spanish with English, French, Italian, and other languages. These toponyms emerged in the 19th century. Analysis of this category of toponyms shows that hybridization occurs only at the lexical level, with all toponyms in this group being composite and consisting of two or more components. According to I. Litvin's conclusions, this type of hybrid toponymy is not so

much the result of contact between two European languages and toponymic systems as the inclusion of separate toponymic and more often anthroponymic units of other European languages into Spanish toponymy (LITVIN, 1976, p. 47). The author distinguishes three types of place names, which we illustrate here with examples from Chilean nomenclature.

1) Toponyms transferred from the homeland of settlers, with the addition of the definition "new": *Nueva Italia, Nueva Braunau, Departamento Costa Nueva de Lyon*, etc.

2) Memorial anthropotonyms, where the first element belongs to the Spanish common lexicon, the second is a foreign anthroponym: *Almirante Brown, Lago Nordenskjöld, Lago MacKay, Lago Lowenborg, Lago Bruch, Isla Hoste, Bahía de Parry, Lago Jack Cameron, Cerro Hudson* and others. According to I. Litvin, most of such names can be found in Argentina. However, numerous examples show that Chile is capable of competing numerically in this aspect. We attribute this to the immigration waves of the 19th century from European countries to Latin America, which most affected Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Chile.

3) Names of physical and geographical objects where the Spanish term is combined with a foreign name, such as *Isla Noir, Paso Blanche, Monte Cross, Puerto Black Mud*, etc.

4) In addition to the categories proposed by I. Litvin, there is another category specific to Chile where the traditional Spanish topoformant is combined with a foreign European toponym, e.g., *Lago Monreal, Lago Bergues*.

In this context, it is important to emphasize that Spanish-English hybrid or blended place names found in other parts of the world have a different structure and were formed using different patterns (MARTYNENKO, 2015, 2021, 2022).

5 Hispanic place names

5.1 The first Spanish place names on a map of Chile

In 1520, while attempting to circumnavigate the globe, Ferdinand Magellan discovered the southern passage that was later named after him (the Strait of Magellan), thus becoming the first European to set foot in what is now Chile. Therefore, it is no coincidence that the oikonym *Provincia de Magallanes* is present on the map of Chile.

The aggressive campaign of the Spanish conquerors in Chile was the greatest in terms of geographical results and the most difficult of all undertaken by them in South America (MAGIDOVICH, MAGIDOVICH, 1983, p. 161). The pioneer and the first conqueror of the Chilean territory is considered to be Diego de Almagro. The penetration of the superstratum language began after the Spanish conquistadors, led by Almagro, landed in the territory of modern Chile in 1535. They captured the set of regions that corresponded to the northern part of the modern country, which then became part of the Kingdom of Peru and fell under the jurisdiction of Lima. The cities of *Diego de Almagro, Almagro*, the port of *Puerto de Almagro*,

several *Diego de Almagro* hotels in various cities of the state still bear his name. Another Spaniard, Pedro de Valdivia, made a further conquest and development of the lands of modern Chile in 1540, naming the occupied territories *Nueva Extremadura* in honor of his home area. Valdivia is the founder of the Chilean cities of *Santiago* (1541), *La Serena* (1544), *Concepción* (1552), *Imperial* (1552), *Valdivia* (1552). Without his personal participation, but by his order, the cities of *Villarrica* and *Angol* were founded. In 1541, Valdivia became the first general captain (governor) of *Nueva Extremadura*, elected by the council of conquistadors in Santiago. It is noteworthy that the cities of *Santiago*, *Valparaíso*, *La Serena*, *Concepción*, and *Imperial* have survived to this day under their original names given by Pedro de Valdivia.

Memorial toponyms named after the first governor of Chile are numerous: cities and districts of *Valdivia*, *Lo Valdivia*, *Pedro de Valdivia*, *Oficina Salitrera Pedro de Valdivia* and others, port *Bahía de Valdivia*, river *Río Valdivia*, mountains *Cerro de Valdivia*, *Valdivia*, railway station *Estación Pedro de Valdivia*, church *Catedral de Valdivia*, bay *Caleta Valdivia*, hotel in Valdivia *Dreams Pedro de Valdivia*, several *Valdivia* farms, the metropolitan avenue *Avenida Pedro de Valdivia*, a square in the capital *Plaza Pedro de Valdivia*, as well as dozens of streets, squares, avenues in many other cities of the country. Regarding the oikonym *Valdivia* itself, E. Bobyleva notes that initially one of the first cities in Chile – *Valdivia*, the capital of the fourteenth region – was named *Santa María la Blanca de Valdivia*. The toponym is motivated by religious themes and has been shortened (BOBYLYOVA, 2019, p. 56).

Some other geonominations on the map of Chile by the names of the discoverers and pioneers of the Chilean lands are as follows:

Capitán Pastene city – in honor of Juan Bautista de Pastene (1507–1581), a Genoese Sea captain and conqueror in the service of Spain.

Paso Villagra, *Islote Villagra*, *Estero Villagra*, *Quebrada Villagra*, *Bahía Villagra* – in honor of Captain Francisco de Villagra (1511–1563), three times governor of Chile.

Cerro Ladrillero, *Canal Ladrillero*, *Cabo Ladrillero*, *Bahía Ladrillero*, *Golfo Ladrillero* are geonames – in honor of Juan Ladrillero (1490–1559), who, on the orders of the ruler of Peru, made the first inventory of the “western coast of Patagonia”. The exploration of Southern Chile to the Strait of Magellan was continued in 1558 by him. Juan Ladrillero also investigated the *Chonos* archipelago (*Archipiélago de los Chonos*) and the *Taitao* Peninsula (MAGIDOVICH, MAGIDOVICH, 1983, p. 164).

Some other place names of the country glorifying navigators and explorers include *Islas Juan Fernández*, *Islas Ildefonso*, *Colón*, *Alto Colón*, and *La Faro Colón*.

In general, along with the geonominative trends traditional for Latin America, we have recorded a number of distinctive features of the Hispanic layer in the toponymy of Chile:

1) Using the adjective *Nevado* as a noun: *Nevado Olivares*, *Nevados de Los Palos*, *Nevado Cónico*, *Nevado El Plomo*, *Nevado de Los Leones*, *Nevado Cóndor*, *Nevado El Muerto*, *Nevado Las Agujas* and others.

2) The use of the *Caleta* topoformant for the denomination of a bay, not a braid, along with the traditional *Bahía* lexical unit for this function (*Caleta Mansa*, *Caleta Chañaral*, *Caleta Chivilingo*, etc.) without loss in frequency of use.

3) Productivity of *Oficina* formant for Chile oikonymy. We have not found in any source information about the use of the lexeme *Oficina* in the meaning of "city", "settlement"; however, we state the repeated use of this element in the Chilean toponymy: *Oficina Los Amigos*, *Oficina Eslavonia*, *Oficina Grutas*, *Oficina Salitrera Pedro de Valdivia*, *Oficina San Pablo*, and others.

4) The use of the formant *Estero* (Spanish – "water meadow", "estuary") in the meaning of "river" (*Estero Limache*, *Estero Aucó*, *Estero Vergara*, *Estero Camisas*, etc.) and "fjord" (*Estero Palvitad*, *Estero Las Montañas*, *Estero Barros Arrana* and others). The *Dictionary of Toponymic Vocabulary of Latin America* also points out this phenomenon in relation to Chile (LITVIN, 1983b, p. 89).

5) Topoformant *Quebrada* (Spanish for "gorge", "ravine") in some countries of Latin America appears in the meaning of "stream", "river". Chile is no exception: *Quebrada de Los Choros*, *Quebrada Conchas*, *Quebrada Matancilla*, *Quebrada La Justa*, *Quebrada de Palpana*, *Quebrada El Almendro*, etc. In addition, in the context of the functioning of this element on the Chilean territory, the use of the appellative *quebrada* is a common phenomenon in toponymy, revealed in synchronic studies, when changes to the nomination are made by the local population: *Quebrada Corvalán/Quebrada Bolvarán*; *Quebrada Llapin/Quebrada Llhuin*; *Quebrada de Pinto/Quebrada de Pinte*; *Quebrada el Churque/Quebrada Curque* (BOBYLEVA, 2019, p. 88).

6) A culturally specific element of Chile's toponymy is the use of the article *Lo*. In hodonyms the use of the article *lo* denotes belonging, e.g., *Av. Lo Errazuriz*, *Av. Lo Ovalle*, *Av. Lo Espinoza*. According to our observations, this trend can also extend to the macrotoponymic level: the cities of *Lo Prado*, *Lo Padilla*, *Lo Miranda*, *Lo Pizarro*, *Lo Gómez*, *Lo Gallardo*, *Lo Escalante*, *Lo Avendaño* and many others are named after the first owners of these places. Thus, we can conclude that from the semantic point of view, the article *lo* in Chilean toponymy is synonymous with the preposition *de*.

In the huge Hispanic toponymic layer of Chile, we stand out several semantic groups. Let's consider each of them separately.

Geographic nominations related to the names of saints are abundant in Chile. As in many countries of South America, **hagiotoponyms** are numerically the largest category of the local nomenclature. The majority of them contain a component *San* (*-to*, *-ta*). Thus, there are 37

doublet units of *Santa Rosa* in the country. *San José* is also a common saint name, usually followed by the preposition *de*: *San José de Peñuelas, de Tocornal, de Maipo* (CHESNOKOVA; BOBYLEVA, 2018). The most famous religious place name in the country is the name of its capital. *Santiago de Chile*, or simply *Santiago*, was founded on February 12, 1541, by the Spanish conquistador and the first governor of Chile, Pedro de Valdivia. The city was named after the apostle St. James (*Santiago* in Spanish), who was considered the patron saint of Spain.

As a symbol of the Christian faith, *Santiago* became the patron saint of conquistadors and sailors. Therefore, a complex, multifaceted image of the saint emerged, which became more complex over time, acquiring new meanings and attributes. Initially, St. James was distinguished from other apostles only by the sword, a symbol of his martyrdom. Then, he was depicted dressed as a pilgrim, and finally, he was portrayed on a horse sent to conquer Spain, occupied by the Arabs, and later as a symbol of the Christian faith in the New World. The cult of the Apostle James in Latin America is in no way inferior to that in Spain. This explains the abundance of toponyms with the *Santiago* component, from the capital of Chile (*Santiago de Chile*) to the largest island of Cape Verde (*La Isla Santiago*) (DOROFEEVA, 2016, p. 34).

This category also includes the oikonyms of *San Bernardo, San Javier, San Felipe*, oronyms *Volcán San Pedro, Volcán San Pablo, Cerro San Cristóbal, Cerro San Valentín, Sierra Santa Luisa, Sierra de Santa Ana*, limnonyms *San Rafael, Laguna San Pedro, Lago San Antonio*, insulonyms *Isla San Félix, Isla San Martín, Isla San Ambrosio, Punta Santa Brígida, Punta Santa Rita*, hydronyms *San Pedro, Santa Maria, Estero Santa Ana, Quebrada Santa Ana*, etc.

The hagiotoponyms of Chile also involve names formed according to other lexical models, e.g., the islands of *Isla de Pascua, Isla Santa Cruz, Isla Ascensión, Isla Madre de Dios, Islotes Evangelistas*, the cities of *La Cruz, Santa Cruz, Los Ángeles, Nacimiento, Navidad, Molina* (after the surname of the priest Juan Ignacio Molina), mountains of *Cerro Tres Cruces, Monte Nuestra Señora, Cerro El Fraile*, lakes *Lago Tres Marías, Laguna Trinidad*, rivers *Estero Agua Santa, Quebrada del Espíritu Santo*, etc.

A special place in this series is occupied by a metonymic chain⁴ with the *Santo Domingo* element: the cities of *Santo Domingo, Rocas de Santo Domingo*, *Playa Santo Domingo* beach, *Punta Santo Domingo* cape, *Laguna Santo Domingo* lake, *Sierra Santo Domingo* mountain range, *Cerro Santo Domingo* mountain, *Bajo Santo Domingo* spit, rivers of *Río Santo Domingo, Quebrada de Santo Domingo, Puerto Santo Domingo* bay, *Santo Domingo de la Calera* farm,

⁴ According to S. Basik, the phenomenon of contact transfer of a geographical name from one object to another, adjacent to it, is called **toponymic metonymy** (BASIK, 2006, p. 33). For example, in Russia the Kamchatka River gave a number of derived toponyms: the Kamchatka Peninsula, the Kamchatka Range, Kamchatskaya Mountain, the Kamchatskaya Hill, the city of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, the Kamchatka Region, forming a so-called **metonymic chain**. G. R. Stewart called such language units **shift names** and the resulting group – a **name cluster** (STEWART, 1970, p. xxxi.).

Canal Santo Domingo channel represent a continuum of nominations from the name of the Dominican order, its first adherents in colonial times. It is noteworthy that the productivity of religious allusions does not weaken over time. For example, the resort town of *Santo Domingo*, also called *Rocas de Santo Domingo*, was built in the middle of the 20th century on a site where there were only dunes and thistles. *Rocas de Santo Domingo* was modeled after the resort of *Palos Verdes* on the coast of *Los Angeles*, California, due to its topography and climate. In 1942, the first thousand plots of 1000 m² each were put up for sale, on which large houses, mansions and gardens were soon erected. However, one should bear in mind that the name of the *Puerto de Santo Domingo* port has a different etymology: it comes from a merchant ship that was washed ashore due to severe storms in June 1781.

Military toponyms are abundant in Chile, due to the fact that wars have shaken the Chilean land from pre-colonial times until the end of the 20th century. At the end of the 13th to the beginning of the 14th centuries, the northern part of Chile (up to the Maule River) was conquered by the Incas. However, the tribes of the Mapuche group (Araucanians) south of the Maule River fiercely resisted the Inca conquest. During the time of the Spanish invasion, the Araucanians offered such resistance to the conquistadors that they had never encountered anywhere else in America (MAGIDOVICH, MAGIDOVICH, 1983, p. 164). In the areas inhabited by the Mapuche, the advance of the Spaniards to the south was met with hostilities. The so-called Araucanian Wars continued until 1882.

If the Araucanian Wars left their mark on the toponymy of the country with names of indigenous origin, such as *Los Caupolicán* (Caupolicán was the commander of the Mapuche warriors who led the army during the first Mapuche uprising against the Spanish conquistadors (1553–1558)) and *Lautaro* (Lautaro was a young military leader of the Mapuche who fought with the Spaniards for four years during the first stage of the Araucanian war) (FUENTES, 1966, p. 246), then the Chilean War of Independence (1810–1821), the Civil War of 1829–1830, the War against the Bolivian-Peruvian Confederation (1836–1839), the Second Pacific War (1879–1883) and the Civil War of 1891 are commemorated with Hispanic appellatives, often anthropotoponyms.

For instance, *Capitán Prat* is a Chilean province named after Arturo Prat, a Chilean sailor, soldier and lawyer who is considered the greatest Chilean hero. He served in the Pacific War, where he commanded the corvette *Esmeralda* in the naval battle of Iquique. The anthroponym *Prat*, of Catalan origin, combined with the Spanish component, forms a hybrid anthropotonym. Other examples are Chilean oikonyms of *Arturo Prat*, hydronyms *Río Prat*, *Seno Prat*, *Arroyo Prat*, *Puerto Prat*, oronyms *Cordillera Arturo Prat*, *Cerro Prat*, *Pico Monumento Prat*, insulonym *Isla Prat*, agonyms *Plazuela Arturo Prat*, *Plaza Prat*, urbanonyms *Arturo Prat*, *Terrado Arturo Prat*, *Muelle Prat*, ruins of *Oficina Arturo Prat*.

Other place names of such origin are *Alto Ramírez*, *Muñoz Gamero*, *Juan Guillemos*, *Larraín Alcalde*, *General Lagos*, *Isla Patricio Lynch*.

The war for independence from the colonial power of Spain, led by Bernardo O'Higgins and Manuel Rodríguez, continued in Chile from 1810 to 1818 (HERRING, 1968, p. 644-645). The struggle did not receive unanimous support from the Chileans, who were divided into supporters of independence and royalists. What began as a political movement among the elite against colonial rule ended as a full-fledged civil war. Historians traditionally distinguish three stages in it: *Patria Vieja* (1810-1814), *Reconquista* (1814-1817), *Patria Nueva* (1817-1823) (HISTORIA DEL NUEVO MUNDO, s.d.). The state finally gained independence from Spain in 1818. A number of Chilean place names, such as the city of *Constitución*, *Mount Patria* reflect these historical events.

One of Chile's 16 regions, *La VI Región del Libertador General Bernardo O'Higgins*, was named in honor of Bernardo O'Higgins, known as the 'father of the nation' for his decisive role in the formation of the state (RADOVIC, 2016). This is an example of an anthrotoponym related to the Revolutionary War, which has a Spanish-Irish hybrid nature due to O'Higgins' Irish origin.

The names of the heroes of the struggle for independence Manuel Rodríguez and José Miguel Carrera are reflected in *Isla Manuel Rodríguez* (an island) and *Lago Manuel Rodríguez* (a lake), the city of *Colonia Manuel Rodríguez* and the name of the province *General Carrera*.

E. Bobileva identifies a numerous layer of Chilean hodonyms dedicated to military men, generals, heroes of the national liberation movement, and the struggle for independence. According to the researcher's conclusions, the name in honor of a historical figure acts in this case as a social patriotic symbol and embodies the current ideology. One can distinguish multicomponent toponyms based on their word-formation structure, which include the lexemes "general," "lieutenant" (*Avenida General Oscar Bonilla*, *Avenida General Blanche*, *Avenida General Bustamante*, *Avenida Libertador General Bernardo O'Higgins*, *Avenida General Velásquez*, *Avenida Teniente Luis Cruz Martínez*), or hodonyms named after military leaders and having a homonym in their composition (*Avenida Blanco Encalada*, *Avenida Alonso de Córdova*, *Gran Avenida José Miguel Carrera*). There are also hodonyms named in memory of the events of the liberation movement – *Av. 5 de Abril*, *Av. Independence*, *Av. Cuarto Centenario* (BOBYLEVA, 2019, p. 120).

The researcher also identifies agoronyms dedicated to the army, aviation, major battles: *Plaza de Armas de Maipu*, *Plaza de Armas de Puente Alto*, *Plaza de Armas de San Bernardo*, *Plaza a la Aviacion*, *Plaza Chacabuco*, *Plaza Yungay* (BOBYLEVA, 2019, p. 123).

Migrant toponyms⁵: the cities of *Salamanca*, *Cartagena*, *Oficina Coruña*, *Oficina Adriático*, *Oficina Yugoslavia*, *Oficina Alemania*, the islands of *Islote Aragón* (*Arragón*), *Isla Hanover*, *Isla Little Wellington* represent the transfer of geonames from other countries to the

⁵ *Migrant toponym* is a term common for the Russian onomastic school. According to G.R. Stewart, this kind of unit is called *transfer name* (STEWART, *ibid*).

map of Chile. As can be seen from these shift names examples, sometimes hybrid nominations result from this.

Among Chilean urbanonyms, there are also toponyms that duplicate the nomenclature of other countries. The appearance of migrant toponyms is due to the immigrants' memories of their homeland, their desire to preserve familiar and dear names, as well as the presence of similar characteristics that led to associative nominations. Examples include *Plaza República de Armenia*; *Plaza Perú*.

Another typical example is the metonymic chain with the element *Osorno* (*Osorno*, *Provincia de Osorno*, *Volcán Osorno*, *Islotes Osorno*, *Bahía Osorno*, *Plaza de Armas de Osorno*, *Sonesta Hotel Osorno*), which produced units for this group, began with the *Bahía de Osorno* (a bay), then the name spread to other geographic features. Captain Don Antonio de Cordova in 1786 named it after the old Spanish noble title "Count de Osorno". The title "Count de Osorno" was created on 31 August 1445 by King Juan II of Castile for Gabriel Fernández de Manrique (1412–1482), 1st Duke de Galisteo (1451). After the death of Anna Apollonia Manrique de Lara, 8th Countess de Osorno, in 1675, the title of count passed to the houses of the Dukes of Alba. The title of the count comes from the name of the municipality of *Osorno la Mayor*, province of Palencia, autonomous community of Castile and León (ASTA-BURUAGA, p. 492-493).

The **anthropotoponyms** of Chile compete quantitatively with hagiotoponyms in the country. Among them, a separate layer stands out by the names of the presidents: lake *Presidente Ríos* – in honor of the President Juan Antonio Ríos Morales (1942-1946); *Isla Jorge Montt* – in honor of the President Jorge Montt Alvarez (1891-1896); city and commune of *Puerto Montt* – in honor of the President Manuel Francisco Antonio Julián Montt Torres (1851-1861); *Región Aysen del General Carlos Ibáñez del Campo* – in honor of the President Carlos Ibáñez del Campo (1927-1931 and 1952-1958); the city of *Bulnes* – in honor of the President Manuel Bulnes Prieto (1841-1851).

One of the most outstanding names in this context is the name of the president Salvador Allende. S. Allende ran four times in the presidential elections in Chile and in 1970 became the legally elected head of state (CHESNOKOVA et al., 2020, p. 64). The politician is immortalized not only by hodonyms and agoronyms in his native country. We can state the presence of this trend all over the world: the *Salvador Allende* tourist port of Managua (Nicaragua), a residential street *Salvador Allende Court* in Toronto (Canada), *Allende Avenue* in Harlow (Essex, England), *Salvador Allende* square in the 7th arrondissement of Paris (France), *Plaza de Salvador Allende* square in Viladecans (near Barcelona, Spain), the avenue *Salvador-Allende-Straße* and a nearby bridge in Berlin (there are also streets named after him in several other German cities, especially in former East Germany, but also in the West), *Allende* park in Budapest (Hungary), one of the major streets in the Karaburma neighborhood of Belgrade is also named after *Allende*. Portugal, Russia, Italy, Brazil have also fixed the name of this famous political figure on their maps.

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Chile's nomenclature also honors other political figures in place names like *Puerto Varas* (city) or *Vicente Pérez Rosales* (national park).

According to E. Bobyleva, in the Chilean toponymy, the names of avenues in honor of political figures account for 8%: *Av. Presidente Kennedy*, *Av. Jose Joaquín Prieto Vial*, *Av. Jose Joaquín Pérez*, *Av. Manuel Antonio Matta*, *Av. Pedro de Valdivia*, *Av. President Balmaceda*, *Av. Ramon Cruz*, *Av. Alcalde Fernando Castillo Velasco*, *Av. Vicuña Mackena* (BOBYLEVA, 2019, p. 122).

Traditionally, like in many other Hispanic place names around the world, a portion of Chile's anthroponymic layer is dedicated to the first settlers, local residents, and landowners. For example, *Cerro Doña Inés* is named after Inés de Suárez, the widow of a Spanish officer who accompanied Pedro de Valdivia. However, *Isla de Doña Inés* is a long and low island named after her namesake. The island was named so because Doña Inés Aguilera de Córdoba took refuge on it when she fled with the last inhabitants of her city during the attack of the native tribes who destroyed the settlement. In the course of events, Doña Inés showed extraordinary courage and fortitude (ASTA-BURUAGA, p. 258).

Oficina María Elena was founded in the 1920s and is named after Mary Ellen Comdon, wife of Elias Kappelens, the first head of the saltpeter refinery. The plant was opened in 1926. Together with the former Pedro de Valdivia refinery built in 1931, it was the largest saltpeter plant with a total capacity of over one million tons per year. The name is interesting for the complete "hispanization" of the anthroponym of English origin.

The emotional coloring of speech and the peculiarities of the mentality of the Chilean ethnic group led to the emergence of a significant number of **expressive toponyms** with an unusual, original motivation for the nomination. Many names came as a result of geographic features; tragic events; natural disasters; anecdotal cases. Such unusual names are given to geographical objects located in isolated, hard-to-reach places. There is no single word-formation model for them. Some emotionally colored Chilean place names have an unusual and interesting etymology: *Peor es nada* (Spanish for "better than nothing"), *Salsipuedes* (Spanish for "leave if you can"), *El Sobrante* (Spanish for "leftovers"), *Pata de Gallina* (Spanish for "chicken leg"), *Última Esperanza* (Spanish for "the last hope"), *Isla Desolación* (Spanish for "island of desolation").

Oikonyms *La Estrella* (Spanish for "star"), *Villa Alegre* (Spanish for "cheerful city"), *Purgatorio* (Spanish for "place of suffering", "purgatory"), *Las Hediondas* (Spanish for "hideous"), *Porvenir* (Spanish for "future"), oronyms *Cuesta La Dormida* (Spanish for "sleeping woman"), *Nevado El Muerto* (Spanish for "dead man") also have an emotive connotation.

However, we believe that under any circumstances the Spanish conquerors in Chilean land were driven by hope: we counted 115 geonominations with the *Esperanza* (Spanish for "hope") element on the map of Chile.

The next largest group of toponyms are descriptive. Chilean **descriptive place names**, as in other countries of Latin America, usually represent a two-term or three-term attributive syntagma, expressed by a combination of a noun/ nouns and an adjective / participle. Here are some typical examples: oikonyms *Puente Alto*, *Punta Arenas*, *Río Bueno*, *Punta Arenas*, oronyms *Cerro Solo*, *Sierra Nevada*, *Cordillera Negra*, *Volcán Descabezado*, *Cerro Ermitaño*, *Cerro Morado*, limonyms *Laguna Pampa Alta*, *Lago Porteño*, *Lago Verde*, *Laguna Negra*, *Laguna Amarga*, hydronyms *Bahía Mansa*, *Río Negro*, *Río Salado*, insulonym *Isla Tierra del Fuego*, etc.

In a number of cases, the descriptive toponyms of Chile are represented by geographic appellative vocabulary, that is, in the form of terms of physical geography that characterize elements of relief, coastline or hydrography: oikonyms *La Ensenada*, *La Quebrada*, *Arena*, *El Monte*, *Lagunillas*, *Los Lagos*, *Laja*, *Las Cienaguitas*, *La Angostura*, *Los Ríos*, oronyms *Las Lomas*, *El Cerrillo*, limonyms *Las Lajas*, *Las Lagunitas*, etc.

As developments in the field of toponomastic studies show, place names are both a tool and a means of conveying identity, values and vision of the world in space and time. **Everyday life pictures** that Chilean toponymy paints are heterogeneous. Many are devoted to agricultural activities. Some, because the country has the world's No. 1 reserves of copper, lithium and nitrate, pointing to the national tradition of mining.

Oikonyms *Cabrero*, *Los Bronces*, *La Dehesa*, *Hornito*, *Hijuelas*, *Pasto Grande*, *Pastillos*, *Paredones*, *Corral*, *Hacienda la Calera*, *La Calera*, *La Pelada*, *La Engorda*, *El Tambo*, *Graneros*, *La Calor*, *Viudas*, *Portezuelo Salitre*, *Caliche* (Chilean Spanish for "saltpeter"), limonyms *Laguna El Barco*, *Laguna El Parrillar*, *Lago de los Palos*, *Puerto Caldera*, oronyms *Cerro Pared Norte*, *Cerro el Cobre*, hydronyms *Aguada del Salitre*, *Ojo de Agua del Salitre* are heterogeneous in morphological and syntactic points of view, but semantically belong, as we believe, to the same group.

A striking example of the importance of agricultural activities in the life of the local population is a long metonymic chain with the *Tambillo* element. This chain emerged as a result of the formation of small native peoples' ranches in Chile, which the Spaniards began calling *tambillo*: *Tambillo*, *Tambillos*, *Sierra Tambillo*, *Nevados de los Tambillos*, *Cerro Tambillos*, *Cerro Tambillo Alto*, *Llano de Tambillo*, *Aguada Tambillo*, *Estero Tambillo*, *Quebrada de Tambillo*, *Los Tambillos*, *Morro Estrecho Tambillos*, *Rio de los Tambillos*, *Estero Tambillos*, *Quebrada Los Tambillos*, *Quebrada Tambillos*, *Estación Tambillos*.

The lexico-semantic group related to flora and fauna is relatively small. I. Litvin suggests that this can be explained by the fact that such place names reflect the early periods of toponymy formation (LITVIN, 1983a, p. 58). According to the author, Europeans encountering unfamiliar plant and animal species in America sometimes referred to them using words they already knew. This is how words like *tigre* and *león* came to be used in American toponymy, even though there are no tigers or lions in America; these words are used to name the jaguar

and puma instead (ibid., p. 59). The **phytotoponyms** of Chile are represented by the oikonyms *Viña del Mar*, *Los Ciruelos*, *La Higuera*, *Los Álamos*, *Las Alcaparras*, *Algarrobo*, *La Lisera*, *Laureles*, *El Manzanito*, *Peñaflor*, *Puerto Cisnes*, limonyms *Lago Sarmiento*, *Laguna Caña*, oronyms *Cerro Limón Verde*, *Cerro La Higuera*, insulonym *Isla del Guindo*, etc. The **zootponymy** of the country is reflected in the nominations of *Lago del Toro*, *Sierra del Toro*, *Cerro de León*, *Lago La Paloma*, *Cerro Chiliques*, *Lago Los Pejerreyes*, *Cisnes*, *Cerro Águilas*, *Monte Águila*, *Las Cabras*, *Islote Perras*, *Lago Patos*, *Mejillones*, *Vizcacha*, *Vizcachitas*, *Las Abejas*, *Las Hormigas*, *Las Zorras*, *Las Gaviotas*, *Paso Las Golondrinas*, *Salto del Perro* and others.

In Chilean toponymy, one can find examples of transferred meanings through zoometaphors, such as *Cerro Aletade Tiburón* and *Volcán Palomo*. This phenomenon is also illustrated by the lake called *Lago del Toro*, located in the Magallanes region in southern Chile. Its name is derived from the lake's ability to generate 4-meter waves due to its high uplift (~30 km) and strong long-axis aligned winds. According to locals, the lake and the nearby mountain called *Sierra del Toro* are named so because the lake is often described as being 'very angry' (CHESNOKOVA; BOBYLEVA, 2018).

As it is commonly known, **ethnotoponyms** are geographical names formed from an ethnonym (AGEEVA, 2019, p. 5). In contrast to other Latin American countries, the map of Chile contains many place names that fall into this category: lake *Laguna del Inca*, cities of *Villa Alemana*, *La Araucana*, *Colonia Alemana*, *El Francés*, *Inca de Oro*, rivers *Estero Araucana*, *Estero Indio*, *Estero El Indio*, mountains *Portezuelo del Gaucho*, *Cerro El Indio*, *Cordón Francés*, *Alto del Francés*, *Pico Francés*, *Cape Punto Francés*, *El Ruso*, *Mina El Inglés*, *Atacameña*, *La Araucana mines*, *Puerto Francés*, *Puerto Italiano*, *Puerto Inglés*, etc. We believe that the diversity of ethnonyms found in the Chilean toponymy reflects the country's evolving ethnographic situation over the centuries.

Named by G. R. Stewart **mistake names** (STEWART, 1970, p. xxxii), **transformed toponyms**, as we tend to call them, are also present on the map of Chile. These are geonominations that have undergone changes during the process of adaptation. The reasons for this phenomenon can vary. Let's take a look at some examples.

Vallenar town was founded by Ambrose O'Higgins as *San Ambrosio de Ballenary* in 1789 in honor of his birthplace, *Ballynary* in County Sligo, Ireland. *Ballinary* (Irish: *Baile an Fharaidh*, meaning "town of fodder") was the ancestral home of the O'Higgins family for 700 years until they were expelled from their lands in 1654 by Oliver Cromwell (MACKENNA, 1916). *Ballinary* has the *O'Higgins Memorial Park*, dedicated to Ambrose O'Higgins, who was born in *Ballinary* in 1720/21 and, having emigrated to Spain to avoid discrimination against Irish Catholics in his time, eventually became Viceroy of Peru (then part of the Spanish Empire). The spelling *Vallenar* in Chile was developed by the local Hispanics. The name *Vallenar Bay* in Alaska comes from the Chilean name and therefore indirectly from the Irish (REY-TEJERINA, 2004).

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The name of the island *Sala y Gómez* comes from the name of the Spaniards José Salas Valdes and José Manuel Gómez, who made the first detailed description of the island after a visit on October 18, 1805. "Sala" is a misspelling of the Salas surname.

The province of *Provincia de Cardenal Caro* is named after Cardinal José María Caro Rodríguez, a native of Pichilem, who was the first cardinal of Chile. The name was subjected to the spelling transformation (*cardenal* instead of *cardinal*).

Alcones is the transformed name of the village of *Los Halcones*. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, Chile underwent a spelling reform that involved a number of changes to traditional Spanish orthography, including the removal of etymological <h>. These "misspellings" could be a result of that reform.

Naive etymology, also known as **folk etymology**, is a phenomenon that is difficult to avoid in the process of toponymic research. The material being studied always requires careful attention and meticulousness, as the probability of errors in etymological analysis is high. The geographical names on the map of Chile likewise demand a thorough study of their origins.

The oikonym *Coronel*, contrary to the obvious conclusion, has nothing to do with the military toponymy of Chile. The town was founded in 1612 by several peaceful native people under the rule of one of them, who was usually called a *colonel*. Gradually, this nickname became the name of the settlement.

The name *Andacollo*, at first glance, looks like a Spanish composite ('anda' - Spanish for "go" + 'collo' - Chilean Spanish for "defeated"), but it is not a Hispanic appellative. This is an autochthonous toponym: from Quechua 'anta' ("copper" or "gold") + 'coya' ("queen" or "hill").

The names of *Caleta Elena* bay, *Laraquete* city and *Lampa* city also require a deep etymological analysis since their structure is far from being of Hispanic origin. The name of *Caleta Elena* bay may invite the researcher to assume that it was named after a local resident named Elena who was given such an honor. However, it was actually named after a ship of the same name. *Laraquete*, on the other hand, is not a composite toponym but means 'big chin' in Mapudungun, the language of the Mapuche tribe. *Lampa* is also an autochthonous toponym, meaning 'miner's shovel' in the Quechua language, which reflects the way of life of the local indigenous population.

Conclusion

The toponymic system of Chile exhibits both universal features of Latin American toponymy – such as the presence of autochthonous names, names from the time of the Spanish conquest, names that emerged during the period of struggle for the country's independence, and Spanish-autochthonous hybrids – and unique linguocultural, morphological, and semantic

characteristics. Objective historical events and the autochthonous substratum influenced the originality, structural features, and heterogeneity of Chile's toponymic units. The toponyms of the country serve as the custodians of national history and culture, reflecting the value orientations and mentalities of the indigenous population of Chile.

The lexico-semantic analysis of Chilean toponymy has made it possible to trace the process of the formation of the country's toponymic system. The semantic transparency of Spanish toponymic units in Chile allows us to draw conclusions about the motivation behind the names. Hybrid toponymy serves as a visual model of the interlingual contacts that took place on the territory of Chile.

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