

## Semantic Relations of Papuan Indonesian Dialect

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### ABSTRACT

*This study aims to investigate semantic meanings which include lexical relations and meaning properties in Papuan Indonesian dialect. It used natural data obtained in conversations among 6 Papuan students who studied at Khairun University. These participants were selected purposively considering the variety of their ethnicities and their membership in Papuan students' community. The data were collected in three steps: interview, observation, and documentation. The data were then analysed qualitatively to elicit the dominant semantic meanings in the utterances. There are two lexical relations identified: synonymy and polysemy. The synonyms in the Papuan Indonesian dialect are influenced by the intensity of use in society, taken from other language terms, and the description of the meaning of the word. For meaning properties, two types are found: ambiguity and redundancy. The Papuan Indonesian dialect contains a lot of redundancy, that is, the use of particle language in terms of semantics does not make a difference in meaning. This study also found that based on its semantic relations, Papuan Indonesian dialect is also influenced by several factors, namely: (1) administrative unity; (2) similarity in geographical area; (3) special community identity; and (4) historical experience.*

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### 1. Introduction

Geographical location affects the mapping of Indonesian language usage by the society. The Indonesian language used by the Javanese people, for example, is different from the Indonesian language used by the people of Manado and Kaili in Central Sulawesi (Kasim, Sumarlma, & Rahkmawati, 2017); and different from the Indonesian dialect of the Banjarmasin people in Kalimantan or the Indonesian dialect of Palembang and the Batak in North Sumatera. Each region with a certain language and dialect can affect the emergence of dialects and diversity of accents, including the Indonesian language used by the people of Papua. Papuan Indonesian dialect is spoken in the different speech, spelling, and intonation in informal communication. The use of the Papuan Indonesian dialect also includes all Papuan people in both the land of Papua and outside Papua.

Chaer (2009:2) reveals that the semantic is agreed upon as a term used for the field of linguistics which studies the relationship between linguistic signs and the things they signify. In other words, semantics is the study in linguistics that studies meaning or meaning in language. Semantics means "the study of meaning". Like sound and grammar, the meaning component in this case also occupies a certain level. That is, if the sound component occupies the first level, grammar is at the second level, while meaning occupies the third level, the three components are related because language was originally an abstract sound, referring to symbols that have a shaped language structure and are associated with meaning (Syamsurrijal, 2019; Sukmawaty, et al., 2022).

#### 1.1 Semantic Relations

Semantic is the technical term used to refer to the study of meaning. The meaning of the word is determined by the word's arrangements in sentences, or the other words (Palmer 1976; Saleh, et al., 2021). The meaning includes from a variety of aspect of language. Kredler (1998) state the Semantics is relation of words to other words, and sentences to other sentences to discuss the nature of language; the structure of discourse; the distinction between lexical and grammatical meaning.

Lexical relations are the relationship between the meanings of words. There are five types of lexical relations by Palmer (1976) that is analyzed by the researchers such as hyponym, synonym, antonym, polysemy and homonymy.

Furthermore, semantic relation is the relationship between the meaning of a word with the meaning of other words in one language which includes synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, and polysemy (Chaer, 2013:83).

### 1.2 Meaning Property

Meaning property is one of the components which established the meaning of a word. The meaning properties have the function to make lexical relation completely. Lyons (1997) state the meaning property is one of several features or components which together can be said to make up the meaning of a word or utterance. There are five types of meaning properties by Geoffrey Leech (1981) that is analyzed by the researchers such as meaningfulness, ambiguity, redundancy, anomaly and contradictory.

### 1.3 Papuan Indonesian Dialect

Papua Indonesian dialect is a way of speaking, pronunciation, and intonation in informal communication. One of the main features of Papuan Indonesian dialect is the decapitation of words in sentences, as seen in the table below.

**Table 1.** The Characteristics of beheading in the Papuan Indonesian Dialect (Juvita, Maricar, & Mulae, 2022)

Papuan Indonesian dialect	Indonesian meaning
Sa pi dulu.	Saya pergi dulu.
Ko su makan?	Kamu sudah makan?
Ko su dari tadi di situ k?	Kamu sudah dari tadi di situ kah?
Maria kam pu mama de di?	Mari kamu punya mama dia di mana?

In general, the study of the Papuan Indonesian dialect can be classified by its phonology, morphology, syntactic, and pragmatism. The purpose of this research is to discuss variations in language use, especially those related to semantic relationships and factors that affect the language. The discussion of Indonesia is interesting because it is spoken by hundreds of its local tribes and languages. It is not too understood simply by sound and form, without taking notice between the sound-forms and meaning, that it increases the effectiveness of the purpose of communication. This study reveals the lexical relations and meaning properties in Papuan Indonesian dialect which is common in Papuan Indonesian dialect.

### 1.4 Dialect

According to Kridalaksana (2008:48) dialect is defined as a variation of language that varies based on the speaker variations of the language used by grouping of linguists in certain places (regional dialects), or by certain language groups linguistic group (social dialect), or by a group of linguists living at a particular time (temporal dialect).

## 2. Method

In this study, researchers used a qualitative case study research method. The study was conducted at the Yalimorent, Gambesi Village, South Ternate, North Maluku. The choice of location is based on consideration, the location is a place where the researchers often visit as a part of Papuan student members, and where the natural data of interactions between fellow Papuan students are often found.

### 2.1. Participants

The participants in this study were native Papuan speakers namely Papuan students studying at Khairun University, Ternate, North Maluku. The researchers chose 6 Papuan students from different indigenous tribal regions as informants in the Indonesian dialect research in Papua. The researcher selected Papuan student informants from different regions and ethnic regions to find out the various semantic relations in the use of the Papuan Indonesian dialect as a whole.

**Table 2.** Participants (Juvita, Maricar, & Mulae, 2022)

Participants	Tribal Origin
SA	The coastal ethnic
MW	The mountain ethnic
MH	The mountain ethnic
RR	The coastal ethnic
LS	The coastal ethnic
EH	The mountain ethnic

## 2.2. Data Collection Procedure

The interview was carried out directly with the informant. This study used a semi-structured interview where this interview gives the author an opportunity to develop questions, but the dialogues are separated from the research context. From the interview, it was observed in this study about the semantic relation in the use of Indonesian dialect Papua. The documentation aimed to obtain information in book or in writing. The results of the documentation will be matched with the results of the interview in order to obtain accurate data and in accordance with field conditions.

## 2.3. Data Analysis Procedure

Reducing data means summarizing, choosing the main things, focusing on the things that are important, looking for the right pattern and discarding unnecessary. Thus, the data obtained will then be reduced and provide a clear picture, and will make it easier for writers to collect further data, and look for it if needed.

Triangulation with sources means comparing and checking back the degree of trust in information obtained through different time and tools. In this study, the researchers compare observational data with interview data. After the data has been reduced, the next step is to present the data. The presentation of data is done in tables.

## 3. Result and Discussion

The semantic relations found in the research data include synonymy, polysemy, ambiguity, and redundancy. In addition, this finding also explains the factors that influence the occurrence of semantic relations.

### 3.1. Lexical Relations

The cultural and linguistic diversity which are divided into two regions, namely mountainous regions, and coastal regions, make the mapping and use of Indonesian Papuan dialects unbalanced. The limited vocabulary due to imperfect acquisition, makes some Papuans who leave in remote areas, find it difficult to speak Indonesian dialect Papuan in informal communication. One of them is related to lexical relations. There are many similarities in meaning and giving more than one meaning to a word, which if in the lexicon entry in the Indonesian dictionary has certain meanings and functions, which have been specified in the rules of the use of Indonesian.

#### Synonymy

Synonymy came from conversations on various occasions that were collected during collaboration with Papuan students studying in Ternate and domiciled in the rented Yalimo Papua, Gambesi sub-district. These conversations occur both in informal and formal situations when rented or when they meet in the area of the campus or boarding house.

**Table 3.** Synonyms of Papuan Indonesian Dialect (Juvita, Maricar, & Mulae, 2022)

Papuan Indonesian Dialect	Standard Indonesian	English Translate
Kemanakan	Keponakan	Nephew/Niece
Balak/Bokar	Besar	Big
Kamong/kamorang	Kalian	You
Tipu	Bohong	Lie
Akar nasi	Kerak nasi	Rice crust
Nangka blanda	Sirsak	Soursop
Kepala batu	Bebal	ignorant
Tukan mob	Pelawak	Comedian
Trabae	Buruk	Bad
Mulu bagedi	Pembohong	Liar
Main raket	Bulu tangkis	Badminton

Based on the data above, it is known that synonyms between the Indonesian dialect of Papua and the standard Indonesian occur between words with other words, words with phrases, and phrases with phrases.

Synonyms also occur between words and phrases, for example: (1) 'akar' and 'kerak'. Akar (root) is the bottom part of the plant, the root of the rice (akar nasi) is the bottom of the rice when it is cooked. While "kerak " means a dry or scorched layer that is located on the other part of the object; (2) 'nangka-blanda' and 'sirsak', the word 'sirsak' comes

from the Dutch is *zuurzak*. Therefore, Papuans call *sirsak* as *nangka belanda*, but actually both of them have a same meaning that is fruit; (3) '*kepala batu*' and '*bebal*' have a same meaning is people who don't listen or not care.

In the Indonesian dialect of Papua; (4) '*trabae*' and '*buruk*', '*tarabae*' is a combination of words from the word '*tara*' which means no and the word '*bae*' which means good so that if the two words are combined into '*tarabae*' which means 'not good' which is synonymous with the word '*bad*'; (5) '*Tukang Mob*' and '*pelawak*' have the same meaning. MOB is a joke typical of the Papua region so that the *tukang MOB* means the person making the joke. Meanwhile, in standard Indonesian people who like to be funny are called comedians.

The choice of word classes and their meanings also varies in each social interaction. In addition, synonyms can be caused by shortening or shortening of words. For example; the words '*co*', '*kas*', '*sa*', '*ko*', '*pi*' and many more variants of word shortening, which sometimes make people outside Papua less likely to grasp the meaning or significance of a word in the Indonesian dialect of Papua, which spoken by native Papuan speakers.

### **Polysemy**

Polysemy is the term that refers to a word. It has a set of different meanings which are related. The following is an example of the polysemy relation in the Papuan Indonesian dialect.

- a. *Ko ada bikin apa k*
- b. *Bikin apa sa ikut ko*
- c. *Sa pamalas bikin bubur*
- d. *Ko terlalu bikin mo*

Other than that, there is also a more meaningful interpretation of the word '*mati*' in the Indonesian dialect of Papua. Examples are as follows.

- a. *Mati makan ikan sekali*
- b. *Anjing mati di belakang rumah*
- c. *Ko pu rambut mati sekali*

The word '*mati*' also has more than one meaning. Besides having the meaning of having lost a life or not living anymore, the word '*mati*' in Papua dialect has a different meaning. i.e. '*ingin*'. We can see in the following example; (1) '*mati makan ikan sekali*' and in the sentence (2) *Anjing 'mati' di belakang rumah*, means '*death*'. In the sentence (3) the word '*mati*' here means '*tidak subur*', so the sentence is '*kamu punya rambut tidak subur*'.

### **3.2. Meaning Property**

In Papuan Indonesian dialect, it was found two meaning properties: ambiguity and redundancy.

#### **Ambiguity**

Ambiguity in Papuan Indonesian dialect occurs at the level of words, phrases and sentences. Here are a few words in the Indonesian language of the ambiguous Papuan dialect when spoken by the society.

- a. */kanan/ (right) → [kanang]*
- b. */medan/ (field) → [medang]*
- c. */papan/ (board) → [papang]*
- d. */sembilan/ (nine) → [sembilang]*
- e. */perempuan/ (female) → [perempuang]*
- f. */hilang/ (lost) → [hilan]*
- g. */jarang/ (rarely) → [jaran]*
- h. */kurung/ (parenthesis) → [kurun]*
- i. */perang/ (war) → [peran]*

### Redundancy

The Indonesian dialect of Papua that is used by the Papuan people experiences redundancy, that is, the use of particle language in terms of semantics does not make a difference in meaning. In this case, researchers found a lot of particle elements that are often used by Papuan speakers in social interactions, which when analyzed in redundancy relations do not affect the meaning in a sentence.

#### a.E/eh

Joni ko juga su lancar bahasa Batak e. 'Joni kamu sudah lancar berbahasa Batak'.

Sa pu teman jeni to de paling cerewet e. 'Saya punya teman namanya Jeni, dia paling cerewet'

Eh ko pi mana ... 'Kamu pergi kemana'.

Semantically, the use of e / eh particles has no meaning. So, if the particle is removed, it will not have an effect on the sentence spoken.

#### b.Bah

Bah tong mandi di pantai k 'Kita mandi pantai yukk'

iyo bah nannti sa ikut kamorang. 'iya nanti saya ikut kalian'

As with the previous particle, bah particle does not affect the meaning of the sentence.

#### c.Jadi

sebentar baru ko datang, sa masih deng sa kaka makan di luar jadi. 'Sebentar kak, aku masih dengan kakaku makan di luar (di warung makan)

Kam dimana jadi .. 'kalian dimana jadi'

The particle 'jadi' it does not affect the meaning of the sentence, so it is only valid if the particle is removed in the sentence.

#### d.Sampe

Aduh sa hati ini stenga mati sampe 'Aduh, hati ini susah'

Dosen ini de kasih tugas susah sampe, a trabisa kerjakan 'Dosen ini memberi tugas susah sekali, saya tidak bisa mengerjakan'

The particle sampe it does not affect the meaning of the sentence, so it is only valid if the particle is removed in the sentence.

#### e.Jih

Jih, sa tra pacaran sama dia 'Saya tidak pacaran dengan dia'

Jih, sa ta ambil ko punya uang, barang itu ada di atas meja saja jih. 'Saya tidak mengambil uang kamu, uang memang di atas meja saja'

Jih, trada 'tidak'

As with other particles, the particle meaning jih does not affect the meaning of the sentence.

#### f. To

Di kebun to, sa ada tanam tomat banya 'Di kebun saya ada tanam banyak tomat'

Hmmm... salah to 'salah'

Sa teman to de pancing ikan banyak di laut 'Teman saya pancing banyak ikan di laut'

Based on the description above, it is known the use of language particles does not affect the meaning in the sentence. So, there is no problem if removed. The existence of the language particles above is influenced by the dialect used by the people of Papua.

### 3.3. Influencing Factors in the Semantic Relations

Factors that influence semantic relations are also clarified on non-linguistic elements as an amplifier of semantic relations. The following will be explained as follows:

#### a. Administrative Unity

Papua is in the area of regional expansion which can affect the division of government administration area. It also affects the distribution of usage by the community. The people of Papua are also familiar *hak ulayat*, which is the division of territory based on their customary law. Deda & Mofu (2014) describes the indigenous and tribal peoples in Papua as a characteristic of indigenous Papuans. The study explained the division of territories (distribution of customary rights) in Papua based on customary law.

#### b. Special Community Identity

Papuan people are divided into three, namely: (1) coastal communities; (2) mountain communities; (3) and migrant communities. Coastal communities and mountain communities are indigenous Papuans. Even though fellow indigenous Papuans, there seems to be a distinct difference in relation to the Indonesian meaning of the Papuan dialect which is different from one another.

#### c. Geographical Area Similarities

The relation of meaning is also influenced by regional differences both geographically and ecologically. There are people who live in coastal areas, according to the ecology of livelihoods carried out by most people are fishermen and gardening. Communities whose main livelihood is fishing, have a language specialty, which shows a location that is far from the beach called "land"; whereas places that show location close to the beach are called "the sea".

#### d. Historical Experience

The entry of Japanese invaders into Papua by sea caused the communication intensity of the coastal community to be higher than that of the people in the mountains. The use of Papuan Indonesian dialect recognizes various language particles, including: *e / eh*, *so*, *jih*, *ka*, *ne*, *until*, and *to*. The Indonesian particle of the Papuan dialect has some similarities with the particle in Japanese. Japanese uses particle *wa*, *mo*, *no*, *o*, *ga*, *ni*, *e*, *to*, *yes*, *made* & *made ni*, *ka*, *yor*, *shika*, *dake*, *ne*.

### 4. Conclusion

Papua Province reflects ethnic and cultural diversity. Papuans use simple Indonesian language mixed with tribal language in daily communication, so that linguistic phenomena such as synonymy, ambiguity, polysemy, and redundancy appear. This research shows the dominant one that appears in the Indonesian Papuan dialect are synonym and polysemy. Based on its semantic relations, Indonesian dialect Papua is also influenced by several factors, namely: (1) administrative unity; (2) similarity in geographical area; (3) special community identity; and (4) historical experience.

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