



## Realization of Verbs in Ambon Malay

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### Abstract

This study analyzed realization of verbs in Ambon Malay by using the theory of morphological typology. This research was conducted using the descriptive qualitative approach. The data were collected through questionnaire and elicitation techniques. Questionnaire was shared to 30 respondents, while interview was done with 6 informants. The two techniques were done by using three main instruments; interview guidelines, recording equipment, and writing equipment. An interactive model of data analysis was used to analyze the data. Thus, the data found in this study were 200 verbs in Ambon Malay. Only a small number of these verbs are inflected by four verb-formation affixes which are {meN-}, {baR-}, {taR-}, and {baku-}. These affixes are only attached to the current verbs. Whilst, most verbs are realized without affixes. This typical structure show that there must be morpheme deletion of prefix {di-}, suffixes {-i}, and circumfixes {di-kan}, {di-i}, {meN-kan}, {meN-i}, {memper-kan}, {memper-i} in Ambon Malay.

**Key words:** Morphological Typology, affixation, Ambon Malay, verbs

### A. INTRODUCTION

Language is a form of human thought and behavior. Human as social and intellectual beings use language to communicate or convey thoughts, ideas, messages, purposes, and desires towards others through sound, gesture (Gleason, 1958: 10). Language is an identity for individual or each group (Edward, 2009). Thus, every language must be formed, used, and realized in different ways. Languages have different structure and grammar, especially in word structure. Ambon Malay as a language identified people from Ambon has typical structure in realizing the verbs. Most verbs are realized without affixes. Katamba (2005:38) declares that any morphemes that are appended to the root are called *affixes*. Affixes can be attached before or after the base. Plag (2003:10) also states that affixes are all bound morphemes that are attached to roots. Affix is divided into prefix, suffix, infix, and circumfix. These affixes are combined to

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the root to create new form, meaning, and class of words. However, affixation is applied less prominent in Ambon Malay as a semi-isolating language. This typical structure is due to the morphological typology. Morphology itself is the study of word-formation processes in which new words are coined in the language of the world, and the forms of a word are varied depending on a certain grammar role within a sentence (Lieber, 2009:2). It is the study of morphemes and their arrangements in forming words (Nida, 1952: 1). Carstairs McCarthy (2002:16), Plag, 2003:10 and Katamba (2005:20) define that the term morpheme is used to refer to the smallest unit that has meaning or serves a grammatical function in a language. The morphemes which can meaningfully stand alone are called free morphemes while the morphemes such as *-er* and *-s*, which cannot meaningfully stand alone are called bound morphemes. Similarly, Verhaar (1990) mentions that morphology is the field of linguistics that studies the composition of part a word grammatically. Whilst, typology has often been associated with the quest for language universals. As the study of rare and unique patterns of languages, it is as important as the study of cross-linguistically recurrent ones (Wohlgemuth & Cysouw eds. 2010).

Thus, morphological typology usually recognizes three canonical types of language: isolating, agglutinating, and fusion (Comrie,1989:42). In an agglutinating language, a word may consist of more than one morpheme, and the boundaries between morphemes in the word are always clear-cut. Similarly, in fusion language, a word may also consist of more than one morpheme, but there is no such clear-cut boundary between morphemes. The expression of different categories within the same word is fused to gather to give a single, unsegmentable morph. Unlike agglutinating and fusion, an isolating language is one which has no morphology. Morphological typology shows that language is unique. In other words, each language has its typical characteristics and systems that are different from other languages. Related to this, morphological rules are applied less prominent in Ambon Malay for its spoken form. Thus, this typological structure was analyzed by using the theory of morphological typology.

## **B. RESEARCH METHOD**

This study analyzed realization of verbs in Ambon Malay by using the theory of morphological typology. This research was conducted using the descriptive qualitative approach. Dornyei (2007) declares that qualitative research has the nature of qualitative data where it works with a wide range of data including recorded interviews, various types of texts (e.g., field notes, journal and diary entries, documents) and images (e.g., photos or videos). The data of this study found are 200 verbs in Ambon Malay. These data were collected through questionnaire and elicitation techniques. Questionnaire was shared to 30 respondents, while interview was done with 6 informants. These respondents and informants are selected based on the given criteria. The researcher asked the six informants to say several sentences in turn, one of which is “how do you say X in your language?”. These two techniques were done by using three main instruments; interview guidelines, recording

equipment, and writing equipment. An interactive model of data analysis was used to analyze the data.

## C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Research Finding

Data of the research show that similar to other languages, Ambon Malay also applies affixation to form nouns, adjective, verbs, and numerical. In this case, it has been found some prefixes, infixes, suffixes, and circumfixes in Ambon Malay. The affixes found are prefixes {baR-}, {taR-}, {maN-}, {baku-}, {paN-}, {sa-}, {ka-}, and {baku-}; infixes {-em-}, {-al-}, and {-er-}; suffix {-ang}; circumfixes {ka-ang}, {ke-ang}, {peN-ang}, and {peR-ang}.

#### 1.1 Morphological analysis of bound morphemes (Affixes) in Ambon Malay

##### Prefix {baR-}

Base	Affixation	Base	Affixation
/mara/ 'marah'	/bamara/ 'marah-marah'	/bunga/ 'bunga'	/babunga/ 'berbunga'
/basu/ 'basuh'	/babasu/ 'membasuh'	/ribut/ 'ribut'	/baribut/ 'ribut'
/teria/ 'teriak'	/bataria/ 'berteriak'	/jual/ 'jual'	/bajual/ 'berjual'
/dagang/ 'dagang'	/badagang/ 'berdagang'	/tanam/ 'tanam'	/batanam/ 'bertanam'

##### Prefix {taR-}

Base	Affixation	Base	Affixation
/sangko/ 'sangkut'	/tasangko/ 'tersangkut'	/jato/ 'jatuh'	/tajato/ 'terjatuh'
/tumbu/ 'tumbuk'	/tatumbu/ 'tertumbuk'	/dudu/ 'duduk'	/tadudu/ 'terduduk'
/tanam/ 'tanam'	/tatanam/ 'tertanam'	/maso/ 'masuk'	/tamaso/ 'memasuki'
/pukul/ 'pukul'	/tapukul/ 'terpukul'	/kupas/ 'kupas'	/takupas/ 'terkupas'

**Prefix {maN-}**

<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>
<i>/nyanyi/</i> ‘nyanyi’	<i>/manyanyi/</i> ‘menyanyi’	<i>/nyesal/</i> ‘sesal’	<i>/manyasal/</i> ‘menyesal’
<i>/nangis/</i> ‘tangis’	<i>/manangis/</i> ‘menangis’	<i>/sapu/</i> ‘sapu’	<i>/manyapu/</i> ‘menyapu’
<i>/tikang/</i> ‘tikam’	<i>/manikam/</i> ‘menikam’	<i>/sangkal/</i> ‘sangkal’	<i>/manyangkal/</i> ‘menyangkal’
<i>/lawang/</i> ‘lawan’	<i>/malawang/</i> ‘melawan’	<i>/nyala/</i> ‘nyala’	<i>/manyala/</i> ‘menyala’

**Prefix {baku-}**

<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>
<i>/hantam/</i> ‘hantam’	<i>/bakuhantam/</i> ‘berkelahi’	<i>/dapa/</i> ‘dapat’	<i>/bakudapa/</i> ‘bertemu’
<i>/pukul/</i> ‘pukul’	<i>/bakupukul/</i> ‘saling memukul’	<i>/bantu/</i> ‘bantu’	<i>/bakubantu/</i> ‘saling membantu’
<i>/pisa/</i> ‘pisah’	<i>/bakupisa/</i> ‘berpisah’	<i>/sayang/</i> ‘sayang’	<i>/bakusayang/</i> ‘saling menyayangi’
<i>/tola/</i> ‘tolak’	<i>/bakutola/</i> ‘saling mendorong’	<i>/polo/</i> ‘peluk’	<i>/bakupolo/</i> ‘berpelukan’

**Prefix {sa-}**

<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>
<i>/bua/</i> ‘buah’	<i>/sabua/</i> ‘sebuah’	<i>/biji/</i> ‘biji’	<i>/sabiji/</i> ‘sebiji’
<i>/bala/</i> ‘belah’	<i>/sabala/</i> ‘sebelah’	<i>/kali/</i> ‘kali’	<i>/sakali/</i> ‘sekali’
<i>/ekor/</i> ‘ekor’	<i>/saekor/</i> ‘seekor’	<i>/ruma/</i> ‘rumah’	<i>/saruma/</i> ‘serumah’
<i>/kampong/</i> ‘kampung’	<i>/sakampong/</i> ‘sekampung’	<i>/isi/</i> ‘isi’	<i>/saisi/</i> ‘saisi’

**Prefix {paN-}**

<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>
<i>/malas/</i> ‘malas’	<i>/pamalas/</i> ‘pemalas’	<i>/curi/</i> ‘curi’	<i>/pancuri/</i> ‘pencuri’
<i>/tutup/</i> ‘tutup’	<i>/panutup/</i> ‘penutup’	<i>/apung/</i> ‘lampung’	<i>/palampung/</i> ‘pelampung’
<i>/kotor/</i> ‘kotor’	<i>/pangkotor/</i> ‘pengotor’	<i>/langgang/</i> ‘langgan’	<i>/palanggang/</i> ‘pelanggan’
<i>/gayong/</i> ‘dayung’	<i>/panggayong/</i> ‘mendayung’	<i>/parenta/</i> ‘perintah’	<i>/pamarinta/</i> ‘pemerintah’

**Prefix {ka-}**

<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>
<i>/satu/</i> ‘satu’	<i>/kasatu/</i> ‘kesatu’	<i>/lima/</i> ‘lima’	<i>/kalima/</i> ‘kelima’
<i>/dua/</i> ‘dua’	<i>/kadua/</i> ‘kedua’	<i>/anam/</i> ‘enam’	<i>/kaanam/</i> ‘keenam’
<i>/tiga/</i> ‘tiga’	<i>/katiga/</i> ‘ketiga’	<i>/tuju/</i> ‘tujuh’	<i>/katuju/</i> ‘ketujuh’
<i>/ampa/</i> ‘empat’	<i>/kaampa/</i> ‘keempat’	<i>/lapang/</i> ‘delapan’	<i>/kalapang/</i> ‘kedelapan’

**Suffix {-ang}**

<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>
<i>/pikir/</i> ‘pikir’	<i>/pikirang/</i> ‘pikiran’	<i>/pili/</i> ‘pilih’	<i>/pilihing/</i> ‘pilihan’
<i>/catat/</i> ‘catat’	<i>/catatang/</i> ‘catatan’	<i>/didik/</i> ‘didik’	<i>/didikang/</i> ‘didikan’
<i>/ayun/</i> ‘ayun’	<i>/ayunang/</i> ‘ayunan’	<i>/pimping/</i> ‘pimpin’	<i>/pimpinang/</i> ‘pimpinan’
<i>/balas/</i> ‘balas’	<i>/balasang/</i> ‘balasan’	<i>/hukum/</i> ‘hukum’	<i>/hukumang/</i> ‘hukuman’

**Infix {-em-}**

<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>
<i>/getar/</i> ‘getar’	<i>/gemetar/</i> ‘gemetar’	<i>/gerlap/</i> ‘gerlap’	<i>/gemerlap/</i> ‘gemerlap’
<i>/turung/</i> ‘turun’	<i>/temurung/</i> ‘temurun’	<i>/kuning/</i> ‘kuning’	<i>/kemuning/</i> ‘kemuning’
<i>/tali/</i> ‘tali’	<i>/temali/</i> ‘temali’	<i>/gilang/</i> ‘gilang’	<i>/gemilang/</i> ‘gemilang’

**Infix {-al-}**

<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>
<i>/omba/</i> ‘gombang’	<i>/galombang/</i> ‘gelombang’	<i>/tunju/</i> ‘tunjuk’	<i>/talunju/</i> ‘telunjuk’
<i>/gigi/</i> ‘gigi’	<i>/galigi/</i> ‘geligi’	<i>/tapa/</i> ‘tapak’	<i>/talapa/</i> ‘telapak’
<i>/jaja/</i> ‘jajah’	<i>/jalaja/</i> ‘jelajah’	<i>/luhur/</i> ‘luhur’	<i>/laluhur/</i> ‘leluhur’
<i>/gambang/</i> ‘gembung’	<i>/galambung/</i> ‘gelembung’	<i>/patuk/</i> ‘patuk’	<i>/palatuk/</i> ‘pelatuk’

**Infix {-er-}**

<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>
<i>/gendang/</i> ‘gendang’	<i>/genderang/</i> ‘genderang’	<i>/kudung/</i> ‘kudung’	<i>/kerudung/</i> ‘kerudung’
<i>/gigi/</i> ‘gigi’	<i>/gerigi/</i> ‘gerigi’	<i>/sabut/</i> ‘sabut’	<i>/serabut/</i> ‘serabut’
<i>/tarang/</i> ‘terang’	<i>/benderang/</i> ‘benderang’	<i>/suling/</i> ‘suling’	<i>/seruling/</i> ‘seruling’

**Circumfix {ka-ang}**

<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Affixation</b>
<i>/putus/</i> ‘putus’	<i>/kaputusan/</i> ‘keputusan’	<i>/laku/</i> ‘laku’	<i>/kalakuan/</i> ‘kelakuan’
<i>/amang/</i> ‘aman’	<i>/kaamanan/</i> ‘keamanan’	<i>/jahat/</i> ‘jahat’	<i>/kajahatan/</i> ‘kejahatan’
<i>/panas/</i> ‘panas’	<i>/kapanasang/</i>	<i>/tinggal/</i> ‘tinggal’	<i>/katinggalang/</i>

'kepanasan'

'ketinggalan'

### Circumfix {ke-ang}

Base	Affixation	Base	Affixation
/lao/ 'laut'	/kelautang/ 'kelautan'	/banya/ 'banyak'	/kebanyakang/ 'kebanyakan'
/parawat/ 'perawat'	/keperawatang/ 'keperawatan'	/kurang/ 'kurang'	/kekurangang/ 'kekurangan'
/lema/ 'lemah'	/kelemahang/ 'kelemahan'	/labe/ 'lebih'	/kelebihang/ 'kelebihan'
/bisa/ 'bisa/mampu'	/kemampuang/ 'kemampuan'	/bae/ 'baik'	/kebaikang/ 'kebaikan'

### Circumfix {peN-ang}

Base	Affixation	Base	Affixation
/daptar/ 'daftar'	/pendaptarang/ 'pendaftaran'	/didik/ 'didik'	/pendidikang/ 'pendidikan'
/angka/ 'angkat'	/pengangkatang/ 'pengangkatan'	/pilih/ 'pilih'	/pemilihing/ 'pemilihan'
/panas/ 'panas'	/pemanasang/ 'pemanasan'	/labu/ 'labuh'	/palabuhang/ 'pelabuhan'

### Circumfix {peR-ang}

Base	Affixation	Base	Affixation
/buat/ 'buat'	/perbuatang/ 'perbuatan'	/beda/ 'beda'	/perbedaang/ 'perbedaan'
/ikang/ 'ikan'	/perikanang/ 'perikanan'	/sarat/ 'syarat'	/persaratang/ 'persyaratan'
/kumpul/ 'kumpul'	/perkumpulang/ 'perkumpulan'	/rawat/ 'rawat'	/perawatang/ 'perawatan'

## 1.2 The Feature of Grammatical and Semantic Ambon Malay affixes

### 1.2.1 Affixes Forming Verbs

Verb-formation affixes found in Ambon Malay are prefixes {baR-}, {taR-}, {maN-}, and {baku-}. These verbal affixes are attached to derived

verbs and nouns to create new form, meaning and class of words. The meanings state as ‘having things’; ‘releasing thing’; ‘doing acts’, as can be illustrated by the following sentence:

*Siska banapas palang*

‘3SG breathe slowly’

‘Siska breathed slowly’, or ‘Siska breathes slowly’, or ‘Siska is slowly breathing’.

Ambon Malay prefix {baR-} forms verbs derived from verbs and nouns. The attachment of prefix {baR-} to the base form of verb and noun derives new form, meaning, and class of words which state as ‘having things’ such as /*bacabang*/ ‘branched’, /*barana*/ ‘give birth’, /*babunga*/ ‘flowered’ /*baakar*/ ‘rooted’, /*baatap*/ ‘roofed’; or ‘doing acts’ such as /*babakar*/ ‘burn’, /*bajual*/ ‘sell’, /*balumpa*/ ‘jump’, /*batawar*/ ‘bargain’, /*bajalang*/ ‘walk’, /*barnang*/ ‘swim’; or ‘releasing things’ such as /*bataria*/ ‘scream’, /*banapas*/ ‘breath’, /*babatu*/ ‘couch’, /*batalor*/ ‘laid eggs’, /*babunyi*/ ‘ring’, etc.

### 1.2.2 Affixes Forming Nouns

Noun-formation affixes found in Ambon Malay are prefix {paN-}, suffix {-ang}, infixes {-al-}, and {-er-}, circumfixes {ka-ang, {ke-ang}, {peN-ang}, and {peR-ang}. These noun affixes are attached to derived verbs, nouns, and adjectives to obtain new form, meaning and class of words. The meanings state as ‘to be a class of people, places, or things’, as can be reviewed by the following sentence:

*Rini barnang pake palampung*

‘3SG swim wear live vest’

‘Rini swam by wearing a live vest’, or ‘Rini swims by wearing a live vest’, or Rini is swimming by wearing a live vest’.

Ambon Malay prefix {paN-} forms nouns derived from verbs and adjectives. The attachment of prefix {paN-} to the base form of verbs and adjectives derives new form, meaning, and class of words which state as ‘professions’ such as /*pamarinta*/ ‘government’, /*panyanyi*/ ‘singer’, /*patani*/ ‘farmer’; or ‘tools’ such as /*panutup*/ ‘flap’, /*panggaris*/ ‘ruler’, /*panggayong*/ ‘paddle’, /*palampung*/ ‘life vest’; or ‘characters’ such as /*pamalas*/ ‘lazybones’, /*pangkotor*/ ‘a person who tends to make mess’, /*pancuri*/ ‘thief’, etc.

### 1.2.3 Affixes Forming Adjectives

Adjective-formation affixes found in Ambon Malay is infix {-em-}. This noun affix is attached to derived verbs, nouns, and adjectives to obtain new form, meaning, and class of words. The meanings state as ‘characteristics of people, places, or things’ such as /*gemetar*/ ‘shake involuntarily, typically as a result of anxiety, excitement, or frailty’, /*kemuning*/ ‘colored like ripe lemons or egg yolks’, /*temurung*/ ‘conferred by or based on inheritance’, /*gemerlap*/ ‘extremely good; marvelous’, /*gemilang*/ ‘brilliant or excellent at something’, /*temali*/ ‘the system of ropes, cables, or chains employed to support things’, etc. These examples are illustrated below:



*Rini gemetar ketakutang*

‘3SG tremble’

‘Rini trembled’, or ‘Rini trembles’, or Rini is trembling’.

#### 1.2.4 Affixes Forming Numerical

Numerical-formation affixes found in Ambon Malay are prefixes {ka-} and {sa-}. These numerical affixes are attached to derived nouns to create new form, meaning and class of words. The meanings state as ‘levels of’; ‘one of’; ‘a whole of’, as can be illustrated by the following sentence:

*Siska bali kayu manis sabatang*

‘3SG buy cinnamon a bar’

‘Siska bought a bar of cinnamon’, or ‘Siska buys a bar of cinnamon’, or

‘Siska is buying a bar of cinnamon’.

Ambon Malay prefix {sa-} forms numerical derived from nouns. The attachment of prefix {sa-} to the base form of nouns derives new form, meaning, and class of words which state as ‘one of ; used to express rates or ratios; in, to, or for each; per’ such as /*sapiring*/ ‘a plate’, /*sabatang*/ ‘a bar’, /*saekor*/ ‘an animal’, /*sapotong*/ ‘a piece’, /*sabala*/ ‘a half of things’, /*saloko*/ ‘a quantity that fills the hand; a handful’; ‘whole; used to indicate a whole people or things’ /*sakampong*/ ‘a group of people living in a village’, /*saruma*/ ‘a group of one or more parents and their children living together in a house’, etc.

### 1.3 Morphological analysis of free morphemes (verbs) in Ambon Malay

An isolating language is one which has no morphology, i.e., at least ideally, a language where there is one-to-one correspondence between words and morphemes (Comrie, 1981). An example of a language which comes close to the isolating type is Ambon Malay, as can be illustrated by the following sentences:

*Rini pake Siska pung baju*

‘3SG wear Siska POSS dress’

‘Rini wore Siska’s dress’, or ‘Rini wears Siska’s dress, or ‘Rini is wearing Siska’s dress’.

It is general true that every word in Ambon Malay consists of just one morpheme where there is one-to-one correspondence between words and morphemes. Similar to English, Ambon Malay also has such helping verbs. English has auxiliary verbs ‘Be’, ‘Do’, and ‘Have’, while Ambon Malay has ‘dapa’ and ‘kasi’. Both English and Ambon Malay apply these verbs to indicate the cases, as can be illustrated by the following sentence:

*Siska dapa kunci dari Rini di kamar*

‘3SG AUX locked by Rini in room’

‘Siska was locked by Rini in the room’, or ‘Siska is locked by Rini in the room’.

Morpheme ‘dapa’ is used to indicate the passive actions. Thus, Ambon Malay verb phrase *dapa kunci* in sentence (23) could also be translated into

*/dikunci/* ‘locked’. Other examples of the data are the verbs */ajar/* ‘teach’, and */percaya/* ‘believe’. These verbs are not realized as */diajarkan/*, or */dipercayai/*. This typological structure denotes that there is actually morpheme deletion of prefix {di-} and circumfixes {di-kan}, {di-i}. Thus, these affixes are semantically replaced by morpheme ‘dapa’.

Similar to morpheme ‘dapa’, Ambon Malay also has morpheme ‘kasi’ which states meanings of ‘causative actions (causing a process to occur)’; or ‘intensity (done or doing constantly or as a habit)’; or ‘make or regard something as’, as can be illustrated by the following sentence:

*Rini kasi pinda meja tu ka ruang tamu*  
 ‘3SG AUX move table the to living room’

‘Rini moved the table to the living room’, or ‘Rini moves the table to the living room, or ‘Rini is moving the table to the living room’.

Morpheme ‘kasi’ is understood morphologically or semantically as suffixes {meN-kan}, {meN-i}, {memper-kan}, {memper-i}. Unlike these suffixes, Morpheme ‘kasi’ stands as a separate or independent word. Thus, Ambon Malay verb phrase *kasi pica* in sentence (23) could be translated into */memecahkan/* ‘broke/broken, breaks, breaking’. Morpheme ‘kasi’ is not allowed to attached to the verb as *\*kasipica*. It stands as a free morpheme.

This typological structure shows that there is again morpheme deletion of suffixes {-i}, and circumfixes {meN-kan}, {meN-i}, {memper-kan}, {memper-i}. Thus, these affixes are morphologically and semantically replaced by morpheme ‘kasi’.

## 2. Discussion

According to data description and analysis, the typical structure of verbs in Ambon Malay has low index of synthesis and index of fusion. The index of synthesis looks at how many morphemes there are per word in a language, while the index of fusion, in a rough sense, measures how many meanings are packed into each morpheme in a language (Comrie, 1981/1989: 51). Ambon Malay has only one morpheme in most verbs, and few morphemes in certain verbs; affixation of prefix {baR-}, {taR-}, {maN}, and {baku-}. However, the attachment of prefixes {baR-}, {taR-}, {maN}, and {baku-} to the particular verbs does not carry any inflectional concept (for example, aspect, voice, person, number, and tense). Consequently, even if Ambon Malay has few morphemes per word, it carries only one meaning.

Further, most verbs in Ambon Malay are realized without Affixes. The base form of verbs are usually used. In this case, there is morpheme deletion of prefix {di-}, suffixes {-i}, and circumfixes {di-kan}, {di-i}, {meN-kan}, {meN-i}, {memper-kan}, {memper-i} in Ambon Malay. These affixes are represented morphologically or semantically by morphemes ‘dapa’ and ‘kasi’. This typical structure of verbs reflects how low index of fusion is in Ambon Malay, especially for its verbs.

In addition, the verbs do not inflect for tense in Ambon Malay. Instead, if one wants to be specific about the time of an event, it is necessary to use

specific adverbs like *su/suda*. The anterior *su/suda* as the time reference is used to indicate that the action had done before the time of the utterance. As a semi-isolating language, Ambon Malay tends to have no marking of grammatical relations other than constituent order. These typical characteristics show that Ambon Malay is a good example of analytic language.

#### D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Ambon Malay has typical characteristic in verbs which can be viewed by two different scales called the ‘index of synthesis’ and the ‘index of fusion’ (Comrie, 1981/1989: 51).

The *index of synthesis* can be viewed on how low ratio of morphemes is in a verb. Most verbs in Ambon Malay only consist of one morpheme. Regarding this, Ambon Malay uses base (V1) verbs and auxiliary verbs (i.e., *dapa* and *kasi*) within the sentence. Morphemes ‘dapa’ and ‘kasi’ are used separately as independent words, or restricted to certain verbs and in certain context. They are morphologically and semantically translated into prefix {di-}, suffixes {-i}, and circumfixes {di-kan}, {di-i}, {meN-kan}, {meN-i}, {memper-kan}, {memper-i}. This typical structure of verbs denotes that there is morpheme deletion of prefix {di-}, suffixes {-i}, and circumfixes {di-kan}, {di-i}, {meN-kan}, {meN-i}, {memper-kan}, {memper-i} in Ambon Malay.

Further, the *index of fusion* can be viewed on how low meanings are packed into each verb in Ambon Malay. Even if affixation of prefix {baR-}, {taR-}, {maN-}, and {baku-} is required, it is applied only in certain verbs and context. Regarding this, the attachment of these prefixes does not presents morphological variation for tense, or other grammatical function. Speaking Ambon Malay is not required this. Thus, Ambon Malay is categorized as a semi-isolating language, because it is low on both index of synthesis and index of fusion. It tends not to have obligatory grammatical categories in a verb, such as aspect, voice, person, number, and tense.

In addition, this research focused on the typical structure of verbs in Ambon Malay by using the theory of morphological typology. This research also shows other linguistic typologies in Ambon Malay which can be analyzed syntactically and phonologically. However, it is suggested for future researchers to analyze other word classes in Ambon Malay by using morphological and syntactical typology, because there have been researches focused on phonological typology.

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