Traces of language contact: The Flores-Lembata languages in eastern Indonesia

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Part III

Morpho-syntactic innovations

CHAPTER 7

Introduction to Part III

7.1 Language sample and data sources

In this part, I compare structural features across languages in the area of the Indonesian province Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) and the country of Timor-Leste shown on the map in Figure 7.1. The Flores-Lembata languages are located in the middle of this area, surrounded by other Austronesian languages and by the languages of the Timor-Alor-Pantar family (cf. 1.3.1).

Table 7.1 gives an overview of the Flores-Lembata varieties and the data sources used in Part III and Table 7.2 provides a list of other languages in the area of study that are used for morpho-syntactic comparison. If applicable, dialectal varieties of the languages are given in brackets after the source to indicate that the source takes data from a particular variety. The location of these languages can be found on the map in Figure 7.1.

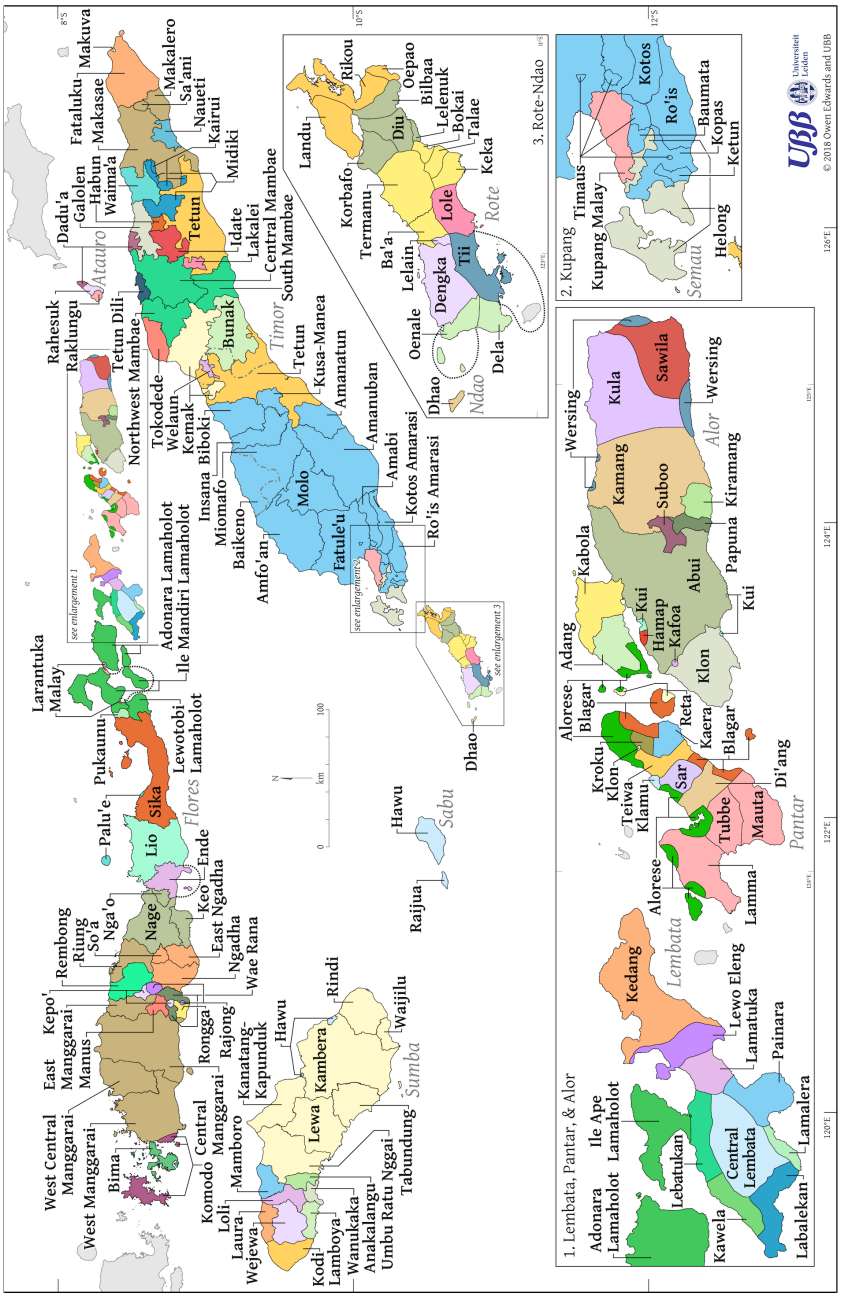

Figure 7.1: The languages of Nusa Tenggara Timur and Timor-Leste (© Owen Edwards and UBB)

Table 7.1: The Flores-Lembata varieties in the language sample of Part III

Variety	ISO 639-3	Sources
SK-Hewa	ski	Fricke 2014a
SK-Hewokloang	ski	Rosen 1986
SK-Krowe	ski	Lewis and Grimes 1995
SK-Nita	ski	Rosen 1986
KD-Leubatang	ksx	Klamer 2015b (only lexical)
KD-Leuwayang	ksx	Samely 1991a
CL-Atadei Painara	lmf	Kraußе 2016
CL-Central Lembata	lvu	Fricke 2019; Chapter 3
CL-Lewokukung	lvu	Keraf 1978b (only lexical)
WL-Adonara	adr	Grangé 2015a; Klamer 2015c (only lexical)
WL-Alorese	aol	Klamer 2011 (Baranusa, Alor Kecil); Moro 2016a (Alor Besar) (only lexical)
WL-Lamalera	lmr	Keraf 1978a
WL-Lewoingu	slp	Nishiyama and Kelen 2007
WL-Lewotobi	lwt	Nagaya 2011
WL-Solor	adr	Kroon 2016
EL-Lewoeleng	lwe	my own fieldnotes 2017

Table 7.2: Languages outside of Flores-Lembata in the language sample of Part III

Language	ISO 639-3	Island	Family	Subgroup	Sources (variety in source)
Abui	abz	Alor	TAP	Alor-Pantar	Kratochvíl 2007
Adang	adn	Alor	TAP	Alor-Pantar	Robinson and Haan 2014
Amarasi	aaz	Timor	AN	Timor-Babar	Edwards 2016a (Kotos dialect)
Blagar	beu	Pantar	TAP	Alor-Pantar	Steinhauer 2014
Bunaq	bfn	Timor	TAP	Timor	Schapper 2009
Ende	end	Central Flores	AN	Bima-Lembata	Aoki and Nakagawa 1993 (only lexical data)
Fataluku	ddg	Timor	TAP	Timor	van Engelenhoven 2009; Heston 2015
Hawu	hvn	Sabu	AN	Bima-Lembata	Walker 1982
Helong	heg	Timor	AN	Timor-Babar	Edwards 2018a (Funai dialect); Jacob and Grimes 2011; Balle 2017 (Semau)
Kaera	jka	Alor	TAP	Alor-Pantar	Klamer 2014b
Kamang	woi	Alor	TAP	Alor-Pantar	Schapper 2014a
Kambera	xbr	Sumba	AN	Bima-Lembata	Klamer 1998
Keo	xxk	Central Flores	AN	Bima-Lembata	Baird 2002
Komodo	kvh	West Flores	AN	Bima-Lembata	Verheijen 1982 (only lexical data)
Makalero	mkz	Timor	TAP	Timor	Huber 2011
Makasae	mkz	Timor	TAP	Timor	Huber 2008
Mambae	mgm	Timor	AN	Central Timor	Fogaça 2017 (Same dialect); Grimes et al. 2014 (Same dialect)

Language	ISO 639-3	Island	Family	Subgroup	Sources (variety in source)
Manggarai	mqy	West Flores	AN	Bima-Lembata	Semiun 1993; Verheijen 1967 (only lexical data)
Naueti	nxa	Timor	AN	Timor-Babar	Veloso 2016
Rote languages	several	Rote	AN	Timor-Babar	Jonker 1908 (Termanu); Jonker 1915; Jacob and Grimes 2011 (Lole); Tamelan 2007 (Dela)
Sawila	swt	Alor	TAP	Alor-Pantar	Kratochvíl 2014
Teiwa	twe	Pantar	TAP	Alor-Pantar	Klamer 2010
Tetun	tet	Timor	AN	Timor-Babar	van Klinken 1999 (Fehan dialect)
Waima'a	wmh	Timor	AN	Timor-Babar	Himmelmann et al. 2006
Welaun	-	Timor	AN	Central Timor	Edwards 2019
Wersing	kvw	Alor	TAP	Alor-Pantar	Schapper and Hendery 2014
Western Pantar	lev	Pantar	TAP	Alor-Pantar	Holton 2014

For each linguistic example from a Flores-Lembata language in Part III, I provide a heading containing the subgroup abbreviation and the spelled out variety, as listed in Table 7.1. For example WL-Lewoingu meaning the Lewoingu variety in the Western Lamaholot subgroup. If relevant, the dialectal variety can be specified in brackets after the language name. For linguistic examples from language outside of the Flores-Lembata subgroup, only the language name with an optional indication of the dialectal variety is given, but there is no subgrouping prefix used as is the case for the Flores-Lembata languages.

7.2 Methodology

To answer the research questions (6) and (7) in §1.4, replicated here, about structural features in the Flores-Lembata languages that can be attributed to contact-induced change, I compare morpho-syntactic features in the area of study laid out in §7.1 above.

(6) Which structural features in the Flores-Lembata languages are innovations?
(7) Which structural innovations can be attributed to contact-induced change?

The morphological and syntactic features discussed in the chapters of Part III are chosen on the basis of potentially being contact-induced innovations in the languages of Flores-Lembata. Each feature is investigated following three steps.

Firstly, it is shown that the feature is an innovation and not a retention from an Austronesian (AN) ancestor language, such as Proto-Malayo-Polynesian (PMP). The feature is considered innovated if the feature can neither be reconstructed to Proto-Austronesian (PAN) nor Proto-Malayo-Polynesian, nor is it typically found in Austronesian languages as a whole, in particular not in those spoken further west. For this study, the area further west of the Flores-Lembata languages covers the AN languages of Sumba, Central and Western Flores which do not show traces of contact with the non-Austronesian languages of the Papuan area.

Secondly, I provide data on the presence of the respective feature in the eastern part of the area of study, which covers the languages of Flores-Lembata, of Timor and of the Timor-Alor-Pantar (TAP) family. As the Flores-Lembata languages and the AN languages of Timor are both Austronesian but show the features that I have classified as not inherited from an Austronesian ancestor, I conclude that the Flores-Lembata languages and the AN languages of Timor innovated these features.

Lastly, evidence for contact-induced change as well as for internally-driven change is investigated for the innovated features in the Flores-Lembata languages. Potential evidence for contact-induced change are (i) the presence of the structural pattern in the neighbouring non-Austronesian languages of the TAP family which could be related to the unknown contact language and are the only non-AN languages in the area, and (ii) the documentation of similar cases in other areas where it has been shown that non-Austronesian languages have caused the same pattern to arise in Austronesian languages. Potential evidence for internally-driven changes are (i) universal tendencies in language change, such as typical grammaticalisation pathways that are cross-linguistically frequent, and (ii) universal markedness of features because marked features (more difficult to learn) are less likely to survive languages shift and to be taken over by the target language community (Thomason 2001:76).

I do not discuss the emergence of these features in the Austronesian languages of Timor as this is not within the scope of this dissertation. However, based on the very similar observations concerning the occurrence of the features discussed here, one may hypothesize similar developments for the Austronesian languages of Timor. However, the linguistic situation of the Austronesian languages of Timor appears to be more complex than the situation of the Flores-Lembata languages, including more languages of at least two higher-level subgroups (cf. §1.3.1). Therefore, a more fine-grained analysis is needed to reconstruct the raise of the features in these languages.

7.3 Transcription and glossing conventions

In Part III, I transcribe all language data according to a standardised orthography. The same orthography is also used in the Central Lembata grammar sketch in Chapter 3 of Part I. The orthography is based on the Indone-

sian standard orthography as much as possible. Most orthographic characters correspond to IPA symbols. Table 7.3 shows those phonemes that have orthography characters which are different from the corresponding IPA symbols. The IPA symbols approximately represent the realisation of these phonemes but they are not necessarily the exact phonetic realisation which may vary across languages and speakers, sometimes the phonetic environment also plays a role.

Table 7.3: Phonemes with non-IPA orthography

Orthographic character	IPA symbol	Sound
<a>	/ɐ/	near-open central vowel
<é>	/e/	close-mid front vowel
<è>	/æ/	near-open front vowel
<e>	/ə/	central vowel (schwa)
<j>	/dʒ/	voiced post-alveolar affricate
<ng>	/ŋ/	velar nasal
<w>	/v/	voiced labiodental fricative
<y>	/j/	palatal approximant
<'>	/ʔ/	glottal stop

For reasons of comparability, examples from other sources are retranscribed into the orthographic conventions just presented. In Appendix C.1, I provide a table that shows a list of languages from other sources and the original transcription conventions used in these sources. This makes it possible to retrieve the original transcription of the examples from other sources used in this thesis.

Place names and languages names are not retranscribed using the orthographic conventions discussed here. If no English equivalent exists, place names are spelled following local conventions or the published source used.

Glosses in examples from other sources are adapted to the conventions of this thesis. In Appendix C.2, a table with glosses in this thesis and the original glosses from other sources is given. This makes it possible to retrieve the original way in which the examples were glossed.