Multi-CAST

Multilingual Corpus of Annotated Spoken Texts

Tondano

— metadata sheet —

November 2016

Timothy Brickell

La Trobe University

cite this document as:

Language Archive Cologne

Citing the corpus

The Multi-CAST Tondano corpus should be cited as follows:

```
Brickell, Timothy C. 2016. Tondano.
  In Haig, Geoffrey & Schnell, Stefan (eds.),
  Multi-CAST (Multilingual Corpus of Annotated Spoken Texts).
  (https://lac.uni-koeln.de/en/multicast-tondano/)
  (date accessed.)
```

Language data

language	Tondano (ISO 639-3: tdn)
affiliation	Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Philippine, Minahasan, North, Northeast
area spoken	Indonesia, North Sulawesi, Tondano town
varieties recorded	Toulour dialect
text types	autobiographical / stimulus-based narratives
sources	Sneddon 1975; Brickell 2015

Corpus data

file name	speaker	date rec'd	text type	length h:mm:ss	clause units
tondano_gulamera	TD01	2011	stim.-based	10:15	129
tondano_holiday	TD01	2011	autobiogr.	5:16	89
tondano_kiniar01	TD02	2013	stim.-based	8:50	143
tondano_kiniar02	TD03	2013	stim.-based	12:36	193
tondano_kiniar03	TD03	2013	stim.-based	8:46	99
tondano_mapalus	TD04	2011	autobiogr.	6:51	150
tondano_water	TD05	2011	stim.-based	5:04	80
tondano_watulaney	TD06	2011	autobiogr.	18:20	203
			totals for the Tondano corpus	1:16:18	1,086

Table 1. List of files in the Tondano corpus.

Background to the recordings

The Toulour dialect of Tondano is an Austronesian language spoken in and around the town of Tondano and the lake of the same name, and also in several villages to the east of this area. Tondano is located in the Minahasa regency on the northern tip of the island of Sulawesi, Indonesia. Current

speaker	gender	age	date born	date rec'd	clause units	texts
TD01	female	+50	~1960	2011	218	*tondano_gulamera, tondano_holiday*
TD02	male	~40	~1970	2013	143	*tondano_kiniar01*
TD03	male	~40	~1970	2013	292	*tondano_kiniar02, tondano_kiniar03*
TD04	female	+50	~1960	2011	150	*tondano_mapalus*
TD05	female	~40	~1970	2011	80	*tondano_water*
TD06	female	~40	~1970	2011	203	*tondano_watulaney*

Table 2. List of Tondano corpus speakers.

speaker numbers are difficult to ascertain, however earlier estimations of 70,000 (Sneddon 1975: 1) and 91,000 (Wurm & Hattori 1981) are now almost certainly incorrect. All the Minahasan languages are endangered and have been shifting to the most commonly used language of wider communication, Manado Malay, since the early 20th century (Wolff 2010: 299). Anecdotal evidence and the personal experience of the researcher result in an upper range figure of 30,000 fluent speakers as being considered more accurate.

Tondano is not dominant in any domains of use, and is rarely used in everyday communication such as in workplaces, markets, or in the home. The last domain in which Tondano use remained strong was traditional agricultural work. However, with almost all remaining fluent Tondano speakers now aged 50 years and above, this situation is changing as speakers cease working in the fields. In contemporary society the language has little more than a token role in certain cultural settings such as church services, weddings, or occasionally speech contests in which people read from pre-prepared texts.

The only previous research on this language by a western academic was undertaken in 1975, the result of which was a phonology and sketch grammar (Sneddon 1975) in the framework of Tagmemic grammar theory (as per Longacre 1960; Pike 1964). The sole contemporary linguistic research on is the PhD dissertation of Brickell (2015). The data for this grammatical description come from various recording sessions which took place in North Sulawesi between 2011 and 2013 during three separate fieldtrips. These audio and video recording sessions all occurred at houses in Tondano township or at various locations closer to the lake. All the data were transcribed and translated in situ together with language consultants from within the Tondano speech community. There are approximately seven hours of recordings in total. All recordings are either monologues or dialogues which were 'stages' in the sense (of Himmelmann 1998: 185) that they took place predominantly for the purpose of the collection of primary linguistic data.

The data comprise a number of different recording genres. Monologues are instances where speakers narrated village and family history, or a specific

culturally relevant story or event. Monologues could also be procedural narratives where speakers described how to carry out traditional indigenous activities (e.g. cooking or making handicrafts or collecting flora and fauna) as they performed them. In addition, these narratives were also elicited with visual stimuli (video recordings) whereby speakers watched and narrated as other community members performed these tasks. Dialogues comprise situations where speakers were asked to choose from a number of culturally relevant topics, or where they were asked what they felt was an important topic to document. In the course of these dialogues often various additional topics would then end up being discussed.

Despite the staged nature of these communicative events, the recordings in the Tondano corpus are probably as natural as it is possible to be. Moreover, all data were recorded within the culture specific context of the indigenous Tondano speech community. All speakers who were recorded for the corpus gave informed consent for this data to be archived and accessed for further viewing and/or use. The research undertaken by Brickell in North Sulawesi was subject to the La Trobe University Human Research Ethics guidelines.[1] These guidelines are required to comply with The Australian National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007).[2]

tondano_gulamera

This recording was taken in November 2011 at a house in the Rinegetan suburb of Tondano town. The speaker (TN01) narrates while watching an elicitation video which depicts a group of people collecting palm sugar sap from the sugar palm (*Arenga pinnata*) tree. The sap is then heated before being poured into coconut shells to be sold as palm sugar when it has cooled.

tondano_holiday

In this recording the speaker (TD01) describes the experience of travelling to Australia and staying with her grand daughters in Sydney and Brisbane. She describes the things she did and places she saw while there. This narration was recorded in the Rinegetan suburb of Tondano town in September 2011.

tondano_kiniar01

In this recording the speaker (TD02) narrates an elicitation video in which people buy fruit bats (commonly *Pteropus alecto* or *Chironax melancephalus*) from a marketplace. The process of preparing, cooking, and eating bat curry is then described. This recording took place at a house in the Kiniar neighbourhood of Tondano town in May 2013.

---

[1] http://www.latrobe.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/259217/Human-Research-Ethics-Guidelines-24.6.14.pdf

[2] http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/_files_nhmrc/publications/attachments/e72.pdf

tondano_kiniar02

This recording was taken in May at a house in the Kiniar suburb of Tondano town. The speaker (TD03) narrates while watching an elicitation video which depicts a group of people collecting palm sugar sap from the sugar palm (*Arenga pinnata*) tree. The sap is then heated before being poured into coconut shells to be sold as palm sugar when it has cooled.

tondano_kiniar03

In this recording the speaker (TD03) narrates an elicitation video in which people buy fruit bats (commonly *Pteropus alecto* or *Chironax melancephalus*) from a marketplace. The process of preparing, cooking, and eating bat curry is then described. This recording took place at a house in the Kiniar neighbourhood of Tondano town in May 2013.

tondano_mapalus

The speaker (TD04) in this recording session talks about an aspect of Minahasan culture known as mapalus, which is the term for how community members traditionally work together for mutual assistance. She also speaks about her experience during a well known historical event called the Permesta rebellion in which some Minahasans fought against the Brawijaya regiment of the Indonesian National Army. This narration was recorded at a house in the Rinegetan suburb of Tondano town in September 2011.

tondano_water

This recording session took place in the Rinegetan suburb of Tondano town in August 2011. The speaker (TD05), her mother, and her mother's friend were all recorded on this day. The speaker is narrating an elicitation video which depicts the collecting, cooking, and eating of sago grubs (the larvae of the *Rhynchophorus ferrungineus* beetle) from a sugar palm (*Arenga pinnata*) tree.

tondano_watulaney

This narration was recorded in the lounge room of a house in Tataaran, a suburb just outside of Tondano town in September 2011. The speaker (TD06) is discussing her family history and the history of her village of Watulaney, which is located approximately 30 kilometres to the east of Tondano.

References

Brickell, Timothy C. 2015. *A grammar of Tondano*. Melbourne: La Trobe University. (Ph.D. dissertation.)

Himmelmann, Nikolaus P. 1998. Documentary and descriptive linguistics. *Linguistics* 36(2). 161–195.

Longacre, Robert. 1960. String constituent analysis. *Language* 36(1). 63–88.

Pike, Kenneth. 1964. Discourse analysis and tagmeme matrices. *Oceanic Linguistics* 3(1). 5–26.

Sneddon, James N. 1975. *Tondano phonology and grammar*. Canberra: Pacific Linguistics.

Wolff, John. 2010. *Proto-Austronesian phonology*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell Southeast Asia Program Publications.

Wurm, Stephen A. & Hattori, Shirō. 1981. *Language atlas of the Pacific area* (Pacific Linguistics Series C, 66 and 67). Canberra: Australian National University.

Corpus changelog

date	changes	affected texts		
2016–11	corrections	*corpus counts*		
2016–06	added 8 corpus files	*tondano_**		
		gulamera,	*holiday,*	*kiniar01,*
		kiniar02,	*kiniar03,*	*mapalus,*
		water,	*watulaney*	