Internal Function and Categories of Adverb Phrases in Tolitoli Language

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ABSTRACT: Tolitoli is a regional language spoken in Central Sulawesi, which still has a significant number of native speakers despite experiencing cultural fluctuations. Efforts are needed to protect and preserve this local language. This study aims to classify and describe adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language using a qualitative descriptive method with observation, recording, and note-taking techniques. Data were collected from interviews with native speakers in Ginunggung Village, as well as relevant literature. The findings show that the dominant adverbial phrase patterns in Tolitoli are T-H-T (Modifier-Head-Modifier) and T-T-H (Modifier-Modifier-Head), with the modifier often appearing after the head, as seen in noosa laus (too slow). These phrases are categorized into three main types: manner, degree, and time, with degree adverbial phrases being the most dominant. Double modifiers are used to emphasize intensity or quality. These findings enhance our understanding of the syntax of the Tolitoli language and contribute to the knowledge of linguistic diversity in Indonesia.

Keywords: Function, Categories, Adverb Phrase, Tolitoli Language.

INTRODUCTION

Language is an integral part of human life and functions as a means of communication, cultural expression, and social identity (Rahardi, 2019). The diversity of languages in Indonesia reflects the cultural richness that must be preserved and promoted. Central Sulawesi is home to at least 21 regional languages, including Tolitoli. Linguistic studies focusing on these regional languages are crucial to document and understand their structure, especially given their vulnerable status (Sadya, 2022).

Despite this linguistic richness, research on regional languages, especially the Tolitoli language, remains scarce in online scientific publications. Rajagukguk et al. (2022) explain that through in-depth analysis of the structure and function of language, linguistics helps document and preserve regional languages that may be endangered so that the identity and cultural heritage of a community can be maintained. In addition, Sutarsyah (2017) added that linguistic studies contribute to the development of linguistics by enriching the understanding of language diversity and the dynamics of its use in various social and cultural contexts. Thus, systematic linguistic studies are crucial for

documenting and preserving these languages, particularly those like Tolitoli whose structures remain largely unexplored in academic discourse.

Linguistic studies are crucial for documenting and preserving regional languages, particularly those like Tolitoli whose structures remain largely unexplored. A fundamental aspect of understanding any language's structure is syntax, which examines how words combine to form phrases, clauses, and sentences (Chaer, 2015b) here if discussing general syntax). While some research has explored the structure of adverbial phrases in Tolitoli from a syntactic perspective (Rahman, 2019), a comprehensive classification based on internal function and categories is still needed. This study aims to fill that gap by classifying and describing adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language.

In syntax, adverbial phrases play a crucial role by providing information about the time, place, cause, or manner of an action. The analysis of word classes within syntax primarily involves the main lexical categories: nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. Structurally, phrases can be categorized into several types, including nominal phrases (NP), verbal phrases (VP), adjectival phrases (AdjP), and adverbial phrases (AdvP). Adverbial phrases are often formed through modification, where adverbs limit or clarify other words within a phrase or clause structure (Borer, 2017).

Research on regional languages, especially the Tolitoli language, remains scarce in online scientific publications. One of the relevant previous studies is a study conducted by the Center for Language Development and the Department of Education and Culture, Jakarta, in 1990, which produced the book Morphology and Syntax of Totoli Language (Inhuong et al., 1990). Although the study provides an overview of the structure of the Tolitoli language, it has not specifically discussed adverbial phrases. In that study, adverbial phrases were classified merely as coordinative endocentric phrases, lacking an in-depth exploration of their structure and function within Tolitoli (Lech, 2013).

Some examples found in previous research, such as combinations of adverbs without connecting words, such as *Bongi Kolobi, w*hich means 'last night,' as well as the use of the conjunction "*kan*" in the expression *Bunaan kan tooka,* which means 'tomorrow or shortly,' show that the Tolitoli language has a distinctive pattern in the formation of adverbial phrases. However, these patterns have not been systematically classified based on a more comprehensive syntactic theory. In other words, it is still specific to the structure of complex adverbial phrases, or there are only 2 words combined. Therefore, this study aims to classify and describe adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language using Aarts and Aarts' theory as discussed in (Bilmona, 2018), which divides the structure of adverbial phrases into two main aspects: internal function and category. Then, the structures used are complex adverbial phrases and compound adverbial phrases as two types of phrases that are more than one word and function as descriptions in sentences.

In terms of internal function, this study analyzes the internal structure of adverbial phrases that include the roles of head and boundary, then describes the relationship between the word being explained and the boundary word (Sutaryo et al., 2022). Meanwhile, in terms of category, this study classifies Tolitoli language adverbial phrases into six main categories, namely Place Adverbial Phrases (Locative AdvP), Time Adverbial Phrases (Temporal AdvP), Manner Adverbial Phrases (Manner AdvP), Degree Adverbial Phrases (Degree AdvP), Frequency Adverbial Phrases (Frequency AdvP), and Purpose or Result Adverbial Phrases (Purpose or Result AdvP). Thus, this

study is expected to provide significant contributions to the development of linguistic studies of regional languages, especially in understanding the structure of Tolitoli language adverbial phrases in the context of local community speech.

The urgency of this research is increasing because the Tolitoli language is included in the vulnerable category of extinction as categorized by UNESCO. Along with the decreasing number of native speakers, without systematic documentation and preservation efforts, this language could become extinct in the next few decades. Therefore, this research not only aims to provide academic contributions in the field of syntax but also plays a role in efforts to revitalize regional languages.

In the context of education policy, this study can support the implementation of the Merdeka Belajar program, which emphasizes strengthening regional language literacy in schools. With a deeper understanding of the syntactic structure of the Tolitoli language, the results of this study can be used as a basis for developing regional language-based teaching materials, which will help increase public awareness and pride in their own language and culture. Thus, this study is expected to not only contribute to the field of linguistics but also have a real impact on efforts to preserve regional languages and strengthen cultural identity amidst the increasingly strong current of globalization.

According to Kridalaksana as cited in Rosliana (2015), phrases are groups of words that can form sentences if they include both subjects and predicates. Phrases are constructed through relationships between words that establish sentence structures and are limited to the elements of subjects and predicates within clauses (Maturbongs, 2023). Phrases can be classified into two main types: endocentric and exocentric. Endocentric phrases contain components that can substitute for the entire phrase, as exemplified by "big house," whereas exocentric phrases do not, such as "at the market" (Chaer, 2015a). Adverbs, which modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs within sentences, provide additional information about the action, state, or manner described (Wahyuningtyas, 2022). Adverbial phrases function as modifiers, offering further specification to verbs, adjectives, or entire sentences, as illustrated by the sentence "I want to go home quickly," where the adverb "quickly" modifies the verb phrase "go home" (Sulistiyowati, 2017). The structure of adverbial phrases typically involves a head, usually an adverb, and optional modifiers that can appear before or after the head Aarts & Aarts, as discussed in Bilmona (2018). Research on endocentric phrases in the Dondo language demonstrates that these phrases consist of a head and modifiers, with a distribution that can be analyzed distributionally (Lestari, 2020). Studying adverbial phrases is essential for gaining insights into sentence structure and syntactic patterns, thereby enriching our understanding of language (Rahman, 2019).

METHOD

This study employs a qualitative method to describe adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language. The qualitative approach was selected as it allows researchers to obtain linguistic data directly and accurately, reflecting the subjects' perspectives through information provided by informants (Sugiyono, 2020). Data collection was conducted using the listening method, which included the Simak Libat Cakap (SLC) technique, recording, and note-taking. The SLC technique involved responding to speech delivered by the informant to clarify unclear words or sentences, prompting

the informant to repeat them. The recording and note-taking techniques were utilized to gather data from historical information, local folklore, and the Tolitoli language as used by the informant. Furthermore, the speaking method, specifically the "fishing technique," was employed to ask the informant about various Indonesian adverbial phrases presented in the research instrument table. Data analysis utilized the translational equivalent method, employing Indonesian as a comparative framework for describing adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language. Subsequently, the data were analyzed systematically by segmenting the linguistic units (word constructions, phrases, clauses, sentences) into their constituent elements or parts. In this analysis, adverbial phrases were specifically examined for their internal structure, distinguishing between complex and compound types. As defined by Chaer (2015b), complex adverbial phrases are multi-word units functioning singularly (e.g., 'very fast'), while compound adverbial phrases combine adverbs with other elements (e.g., 'from afar'). These structural types were then analyzed based on Aarts & Aarts (2018) theory regarding internal function and semantic categories.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Classification and description of Tolitoli language adverbial phrases, using the theory of Aarts and Aarts (1983), divides the structure of adverbial phrases into two main aspects: internal function and category. Regarding internal function, adverbial phrases consist of the word being modified, with a structure that can precede or follow it, functioning as a modifier that provides additional information. The structures used are complex and compound adverbial phrases, which are phrases of more than one word and function as descriptors in a sentence (Floros et al., 2022). In terms of category, this study classifies Tolitoli language adverbial phrases into six main categories: Place Adverbial Phrases (Locative AdvP), Time Adverbial Phrases (Temporal AdvP), Manner Adverbial Phrases (Manner AdvP), Degree Adverbial Phrases (Degree AdvP), Frequency Adverbial Phrases (Frequency AdvP), and Purpose or Result Adverbial Phrases (Purpose or Result AdvP). Based on this, the results of this study classify and describe Tolitoli language adverbial phrases according to internal functions and categories as follows.

Table 1. BI and BT Adverb Phrases

No	Adverbial Phrase-Verb BI	Adverb Phrase The words of BT	Information
1	Very fast running	Magaan laus manlako	✔
2	Too late to sleep	Notulru noosa laus	✔
3	Spinning very fast	Maramit moigon	x
4	Too far away	Malako mabaang	x
5	Fly very high	Molumean mapanggat laus	✔
6	Working too hard	Okolriok tuttutuu	x
7	See you in the evening	Toka bobongi molitan	✔
8	Better to live	lebii mopido mosumboo	✔
9	Thinking too hard	Momiki laus mokota	✔
10	Definitely united	Kodeanu masabatuana	x

No	Adverb Phrase-Adjective BI	Adverb Phrase Adjective BT	Information
1	Too big, too fast	Maramit laus madako	✓
2	Yesterday was too cold	Dan moundu laus	✓
3	Don't be too stupid	Kena moborena laus	✓
4	Long missed	Noosa laus netegalrang	✓
5	There are too many people	Deingitu moroa laus	✓
6	It's very quiet there	Doingitu mogonong laus	✓
7	Too long alone	Nosamotu kodesatao	x
8	Of course, it's true	Tantu anokokode	x
9	Don't be too afraid	Kena molringgona laus	✓
10	Don't be angry anymore	Kena mangasa naponi	✓
11	Very serious indeed	Meserius tutuu	x

No	Adverbial Phrase-Adverbs BI	Adverb Phrase BT adverbs	Information
1.	Sometimes several times	Biasa tikko songgulra	✓
2	Not So Fast	Geipo magaan laus	✓
3	Tomorrow, the day after tomorrow	Daan bunas ipuon	✓
4	Very fast indeed	Inang gaan	x
5	Too far away	Mabaang laus	x
6	Even further	Lebii mabaang poni	✓
7	Very often yesterday	Mettek laus kolrobii	✓
8	It's definitely true	Napastimo koo kode	✓
9	It rarely happens	Malragaa laus tarjadi	✓
10	Not necessarily wrong	Geipo matantu massalra	✓

> ✓ = Includes complex phrase structures
>
> x   = Does not include complex phrase structures

Internal Functions and Categories of Adverbial Phrases

1. Adverb and Verb Phrases

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T   T   H

↑   ↑   ↑

1) Magaan laus manlako
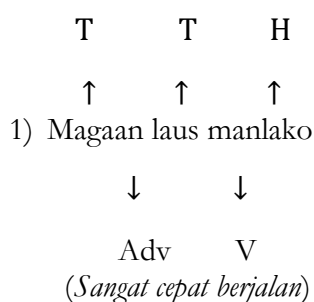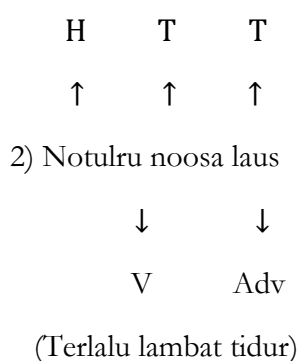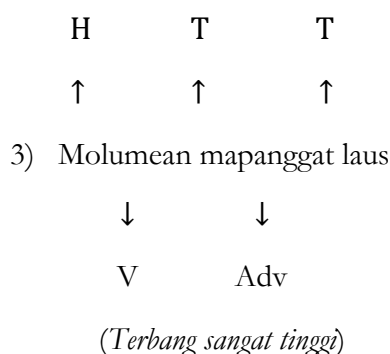
↓   ↓

Adv   V
(*Sangat cepat berjalan*)

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Figure 1. Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Magaan laus manlako

1) The adverbial phrase Magaan laus manlako in Tolitoli exhibits a T-T-H structure, where magaan (fast) and laus (very) function as modifiers (T), while manlako (walking) serves as the head (H). Magaan describes the way of walking, and laus strengthens its intensity. This T-T-H pattern indicates that the modifier precedes the hulu, providing additional information before the main action occurs. This differs from Indonesian, which uses the T-T-H pattern but in a different order. In Indonesian, this phrase becomes "very fast walking," where "very" (*laus*) appears before "fast" (*magaan*). In the Tolitoli language, "magaan" comes first before "laus," creating a unique arrangement. Based on the category of adverbial phrases, this phrase is included in the Manner Adverbial Phrase (Manner AdvP) because it explains how the action of walking is performed. This pattern indicates that the Tolitoli language more often places the manner modifier before the degree modifier, unlike Indonesian.
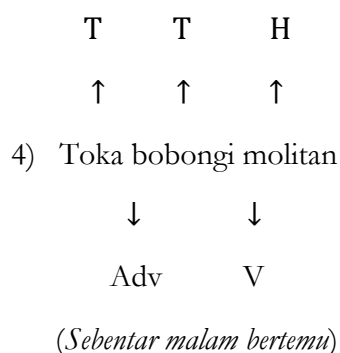
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H T T

↑ ↑ ↑

2) Notulru noosa laus

↓   ↓

V Adv

(Terlalu lambat tidur)
</div>

Figure 2. Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Notoltu noosa laus

2) Adverbial phrase *Notulru noosa lausin, the* Tolitoli language has the structure H-T-T. *Notulru* (sleep) functions as head (H), whereas noosa (slow) and laus (too) function as the emodifier (T). Noosa describes a slow way of sleeping, while laus strengthens its intensity. This H-T-T pattern indicates that the Tolitoli language places the hulu first, followed by the modifier, which provides additional information. This structure is different from Indonesian, which uses the T-T-H pattern. In Indonesian, this phrase becomes "too slow to sleep," with the modifiers "too" (laus) and "slow" (*noosa*) appearing before bedtime (*Notulru*). The Tolitoli language prioritizes the core before the modifier, while Indonesian prioritizes the modifier before the core. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the adverbial phrase of Manner (Manner AdvP) because it provides information about how the act of sleeping is performed. The modifier *noosa* describes the slow speed of sleep, while laus adds intensity to the slowness. This pattern indicates that in the Tolitoli language, the way modifier is closer to the hulu compared to the degree modifier, which is different from the structure of Indonesian.

H   T   T

↑   ↑   ↑

3) Molumean mapanggat laus

↓   ↓

V   Adv

(*Terbang sangat tinggi*)

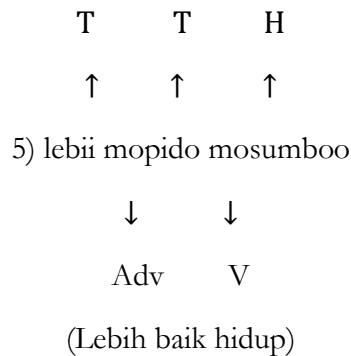**Figure 3.** Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Molumean mapanggat laus

3) The adverbial phrase Molumean mapanggat laus in Tolitoli has an H-T-T structure. Molumean (fly) functions as the head (H), while mapanggat (high) and laus (very/too) function as modifiers (T). Mapanggat provides information about the height in flying, while laus strengthens its intensity. This H-T-T pattern indicates that the Tolitoli language places the upper bound first, followed by the modifiers, which provide additional information. There are different phrase structures between BI and BT. For example, the word "laus" (very) in BT is after the word "mapanggat" (high), while in BI it is before the word. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Degree Adverbial Phrase (Degree AdvP) because the modifier laus indicates the intensity or level of height in the action of flying. The modifier mapanggat explains the characteristics of the action, while laus emphasizes the level of height. This structural difference indicates the tendency of the Tolitoli language to place the main information first before the strengthening aspect in its adverbial phrases. The adverbial phrase above is categorized as a quantity phrase because it contains the word "laus" as a marker word. While in the word "mamare laus," it functions as a front modifier because the modifier precedes the hulu.

T   T   H

↑   ↑   ↑

4) Toka bobongi molitan

↓   ↓

Adv   V

(*Sebentar malam bertemu*)

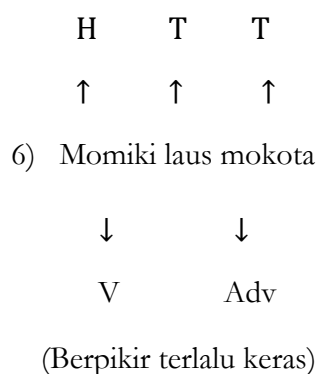**Figure 4.** Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Toka bobongi molitan

4) The "Toka bobongi molitan" adverbial phrase in the Tolitoli language has a T-T-H structure. Toka (a moment) and bobongi (night) function as modifiers (T), while molitan (meet) functions as head (H). Toka provides information about the duration of time, namely a moment, and bobongi indicates a specific time, namely night. This T-T-H pattern indicates that the modifier that qualifies time appears first, followed by the head that states the action or event. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Temporal Adverbial Phrase (Temporal AdvP) because it provides information

about when the event occurred, namely a moment, night. The toka modifier indicates a short duration of time, while bobongi provides information about a specific time. This T-T-indicates that in the Tolitoli language, time and duration are more emphasized before the action or event that occurs.

<div align="center">

T   T   H

↑   ↑   ↑

5) lebii mopido mosumboo

↓   ↓

Adv   V

(Lebih baik hidup)

</div>

Figure 5. Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Lebi

5) The adverbial phrase "Lebii mopido mosumboo" in the Tolitoli language has a T-T-H structure. "Lebii" (more) and "mopido" (good) function as modifiers (T), while "mosumboo" (live) acts as the head (H). "Lebii" indicates a level of comparison, namely better, and "mopido" emphasizes the quality of being good. This T-T-H pattern indicates that the modifiers appear first, providing additional information about the quality or level of a condition, followed by the head, which states the action or condition. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Degree Adverbial Phrase (Degree AdvP) because it provides information about the level or quality of a state of living. The modifier "lebii" indicates the level of comparison, while "mopido" emphasizes goodness in the context. This T-T-H pattern indicates that the Tolitoli language emphasizes the quality or level of a state first before stating the action or state.
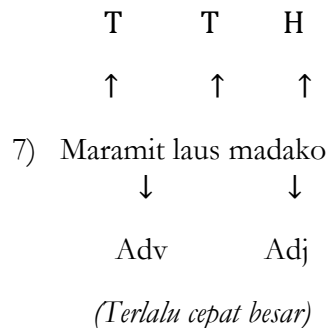
<div align="center">

H   T   T

↑   ↑   ↑

6) Momiki laus mokota

↓   ↓

V   Adv

(Berpikir terlalu keras)

</div>

Figure 6. Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Momoki laus mokota

6) The adverbial phrase *Momiki laus mokota* in the Tolitoli language has an H-T-T structure. *Momiki* (thinking) functions as the head (H), while *laus* (too) and *mokota* (hard) function as modifiers (T). *Mokota* provides information about the intensity of hard thinking, while "*laus*" strengthens the level of that intensity. This H-T-T pattern indicates that the Tolitoli language places the action or state first, followed by modifiers that provide further information about the intensity or manner in which the action is carried out. Based on the category of adverbial
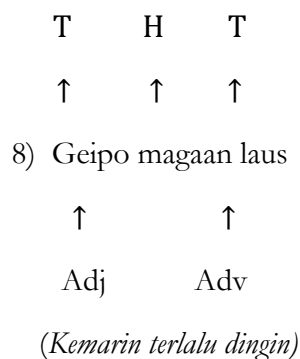
phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Degree Adverbial Phrase (Degree AdvP) because it provides information about the level or intensity of thinking. The modifier "*laus*" indicates the level of intensity, while "*mokota*" illustrates how that intensity is applied to the act of thinking. This H-T-T structure demonstrates the Tolitoli language pattern of placing the core or action first before the intensification of its level or quality.

2. Adverb and Adjective Phrases

<div align="center">

T   T   H

↑   ↑   ↑

7) Maramit laus madako

↓   ↓

Adv   Adj

(Terlalu cepat besar)

</div>

Figure 7. Composition of Manner Adjective Phrase: Maramit laus madako
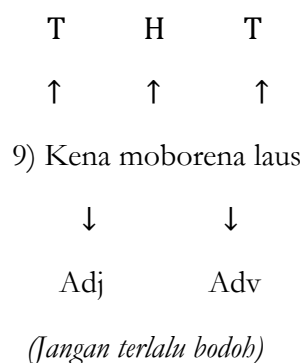
7) The adverbial phrase Maramit laus madako in the Tolitoli language has a T-T-H structure. Maramit (fast) and laus (too) function as modifiers (T), while madako (big) functions as hulu (H). Maramit indicates the manner or speed of growth, while laus adds intensity, namely, too fast. This pattern indicates that the modifier in the Tolitoli language precedes hulu, similar to the pattern in Indonesian. In Indonesian, this phrase can be translated as "too fast big", with the same pattern, namely T-T-H, where the modifiers "too" (laus) and "fast" (maramit) precede the big hulu (madako). This indicates the similarity in phrase structure between the two languages in this context. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Degree Adverbial Phrase (Degree AdvP) because it describes the level or intensity of the state of madako (big). The modifier "laus" emphasizes that the growth occurs with high intensity, while "maramit" describes its speed. This structure indicates how the Tolitoli language prioritizes descriptions of manner and intensity before mentioning the main state being described.

<div align="center">

T   H   T

↑   ↑   ↑

8) Geipo magaan laus

↑   ↑

Adj   Adv

(Kemarin terlalu dingin)

</div>

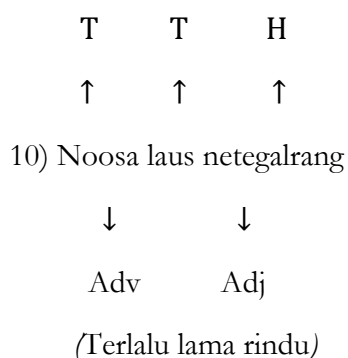**Figure 8.** Composition of Manner Adjective Phrase: Geipo magaan laus

8) The adverbial phrase "Geipo moundu laus" in the Tolitoli language has a T-H-T structure. *Geipo* (yesterday) functions as a modifier (T) indicating time, moundu (cold) as a hilt (H)

describing a condition, and laus (too) as a modifier (T) strengthening the degree of intensity of the condition. This structure is different from Indonesian, which tends to use a T-T-H pattern, such as in the phrase "kemarin terlalu dingin," where the modifiers lalu (T) and terlalu (T) appear before hulu dingin (H). In the Tolitoli language, the time modifier (Dan) is placed at the beginning, but the intensity modifier (laus) appears after hulu (moundu). Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Temporal Adverbial Phrase (Dan) because "*Geipo*" indicates the time of the occurrence of the condition "moundu" (cold). In addition, this phrase also has an element of the Degree Adverbial Phrase (Degree AdvP) because "laus" strengthens the intensity of the condition, "moundu." This structure indicates that the Tolitoli language places time adverbs before the hulu, but degree modifiers after the hulu, which is different from Indonesian, which tends to group all modifiers before the hulu.
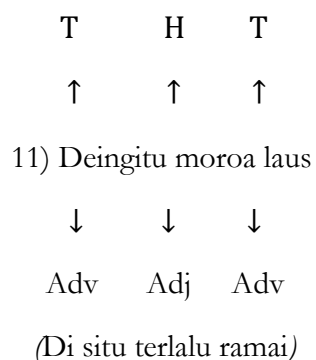
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T   H   T

↑   ↑   ↑

9) Kena moborena laus

↓   ↓

Adj   Adv

(Jangan terlalu bodoh)

</div>

Figure 9. Composition of Manner Adjective Phrase: Kena moborena laus

9) The adverbial phrase "kena moborena laus" in the Tolitoli language has a T-H-T structure. Kena (don't) functions as a modifier (T) that states a prohibition, moborena (stupid) as a hulu (H) that describes a nature or condition, and laus (too) as a modifier (T) that strengthens the intensity of the condition. In Indonesian, this phrase can be translated as "don't be too stupid," which follows the T-T-H pattern, where the modifiers jangan and lebih appear before the hulu stupid. This difference in structure indicates that in the Tolitoli language, the prohibition modifier is placed before the hulu, while the degree modifier (laus) appears after it, in contrast to Indonesian, which places both modifiers before the hulu. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Degree Adverbial Phrase (Degree AdvP) because laus functions to strengthen or limit the degree of the state of "moborena" (stupid). In addition, "kena", as a prohibition marker, also indicates aspects of pragmatic function in the use of this phrase. This structure reflects the syntactic pattern of the Tolitoli language, which places degree modifiers after the hulu, unlike Indonesian, which places everything before the hulu.

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       T      T      H

       ↑      ↑      ↑
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10) Noosa laus netegalrang

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       ↓             ↓

      Adv           Adj
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*(*Terlalu lama rindu*)*

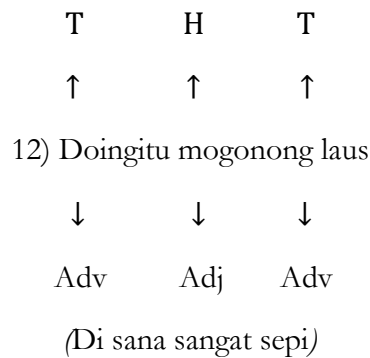**Figure 10.** Composition of Manner Adjective Phrase: Noosa laus netegalrang

10) The adverbial phrase "Noosa laus netegalrang" in the Tolitoli language has a T-T-H structure. Noosa (old) functions as the first modifier (T), indicating the duration of time; laus (too) as the second modifier (T), strengthening the intensity; and netegalrang (longing) as the head (H), describing the emotional state. In Indonesian, this phrase can be translated as "too long to miss," which has a similar T-T-H pattern, where the modifiers "too" and "long" appear before the head of "longing." In this case, the structure of Tolitoli and Indonesian languages indicates similarities, with the modifier placed before the head. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Temporal Adverbial Phrase (Temporal AdvP) because noosa indicates the duration of time in the process of feeling longing. In addition, this phrase also has an element of the Degree Adverbial Phrase (Degree AdvP) because laus functions to strengthen the intensity of the state of netegalrang (longing). This structure indicates that the Tolitoli language places time and intensity adverbs before the head, similar to the pattern in Indonesian.

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       T      H      T

       ↑      ↑      ↑
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11) Deingitu moroa laus

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       ↓      ↓      ↓

      Adv    Adj    Adv
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*(*Di situ terlalu ramai*)*

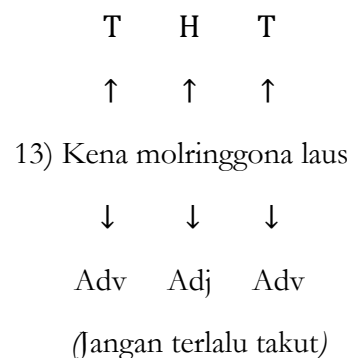**Figure 11.** Composition of Manner Adjective Phrase: Deingitu moroa laus

11) The adverbial phrase "Deingitu moroa laus" in the Tolitoli language has a T-H-T structure. Deingitu (in situ) functions as the first modifier (T), indicating location, moroa (crowded) as the head (H), describing the condition, and laus (too) as the second modifier (T), strengthening the intensity of the condition. In Indonesian, this phrase can be translated as "it is too crowded," which has a similar T-H-T pattern, where the place modifier "there" appears before "hulu crowded," and the intensity modifier "too" appears after it. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Place Adverbial Phrase (Locative AdvP) because "deingitu" indicates the location of an event and has an element of Degree Adverbial Phrase (Degree AdvP) because "laus" intensity "moroa"

(crowded). This structure indicates that the have a similar pattern in placing the place modifier before hulu and the intensity modifier after hulu.

<div align="center">

T   H   T

↑   ↑   ↑

12) Doingitu mogonong laus

↓   ↓   ↓

Adv   Adj   Adv

*(*Di sana sangat sepi*)*

</div>

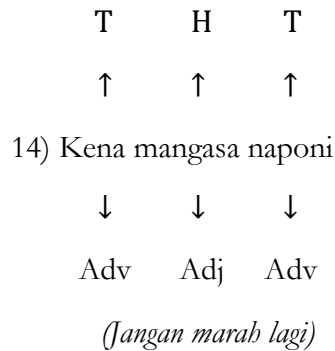**Figure 12.** Composition of Manner Adjective Phrase: Doingitu mogonong laus

12) The adverbial phrase "doingitu mogonong laus" in the Tolitoli language has a T-H-T structure. Doingitu (there) functions as the first modifier (T) indicating location, mogonong (quiet) as the head (H) describing the condition, and laus (very) as the second modifier (T) strengthening the intensity of the condition. In Indonesian, this phrase can be translated as "it is very quiet," which has a similar T-H-T pattern, where the place modifier di sana appears before the head sepi, and the intensity modifier sangat appears after it. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Place Adverbial Phrase (Locative AdvP) because "doingitu" indicates the location of an event and has an element of the Degree Adverbial Phrase (Degree AdvP) because laus strengthens the intensity of the condition mogonong (quiet). This structure indicates that the Tolitoli language and Indonesian have a similar pattern in placing the place modifier before the head and the intensity modifier after the head.

<div align="center">

T   H   T

↑   ↑   ↑

13) Kena molringgona laus

↓   ↓   ↓

Adv   Adj   Adv

*(*Jangan terlalu takut*)*

</div>

Figure 13. Composition of Manner Adjective Phrase: Maramit laus madako

13) The adverbial phrase Kena molringgona laus in the Tolitoli language has a T-H-T structure. Kena (don't) functions as the first modifier (T), which provides a prohibition or negation; molringgona (fear) as the hulu (H), which describes an emotional state, and laus (too) as the second modifier (T), which strengthens the intensity of the fear. In Indonesian, this phrase can be translated as "don't be too afraid," which also has a T-H-T pattern, where the prohibition modifier jangan appears before the hulu takut, and the intensity modifier terlalu appears after it. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase
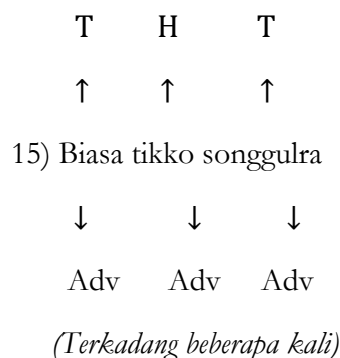
is included in the Degree Adverbial Phrase (Degree AdvP) because laus strengthens the intensity of the state of molringgona (fear). This structure indicates that the Tolitoli language and Indonesian have similarities in placing the prohibition and intensity modifiers before and after the hulu in sequence.

<div align="center">

T   H   T

↑   ↑   ↑

14) Kena mangasa naponi

↓   ↓   ↓

Adv   Adj   Adv

(Jangan marah lagi)

</div>

Figure 14. Composition of Manner Adjective Phrase: Kena mangasa naponi

14) The adverbial phrase Kena mangasa naponi in the Tolitoli language has a T-H-T structure. Kena (don't) functions as the first modifier (T), which states a prohibition, mangasa (angry) as the head (H), which describes an emotional state, and naponi (again) as the second modifier (T), which indicates the frequency or repetition of an event. In Indonesian, this phrase can be translated as "don't get angry again," which has a similar T-H-T pattern, with the prohibition modifier jangan before the head of being angry and the frequency modifier lagi after it. Based on the category of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, this phrase is included in the Frequency Adverbial Phrase (Frequency AdvP) because naponi indicates the repetition of an action.
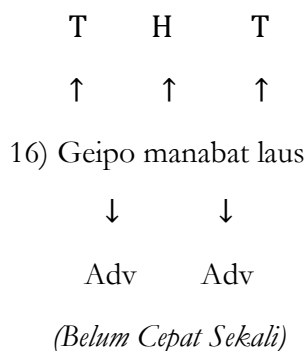
3. Adverbial Phrases and Adverbs

<div align="center">

T   H   T

↑   ↑   ↑

15) Biasa tikko songgulra

↓   ↓   ↓

Adv   Adv   Adv

(Terkadang beberapa kali)

</div>

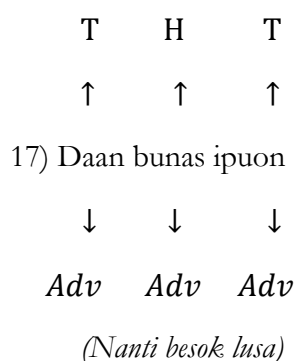**Figure 15.** Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Maramit laus madako

15) The common phrase "tikko songgulra" in the Tolitoli language has a T-H-T pattern, which indicates an adverbial-adverbial phrase structure, because all of its elements are adverbs. The word biasa (sometimes) functions as the first modifier (T), which states the possibility or event that does not always occur. The word "tikko" (some) acts as the hulu (H), which is the core of the phrase and provides information about the amount. Meanwhile, songgulra (times) acts as the second modifier (T), which clarifies the calculation of events based on the amount

mentioned in the hulu. In the Tolitoli language, this pattern follows the T-H-T arrangement, where the hulu remains in the middle with the modifiers before and after it. In contrast, in Indonesian, this phrase is more common in the form of "sometime," which follows the T-T-H pattern, where two modifiers precede the hulu. Based on the category of adverbial phrases, "Biasa tikko songgulra" is included in the Frequency Adverbial Phrase (Frequency AdvP) because it states how often an event occurs. This structure in the Tolitoli language indicates that information about repeated events maintains syntactic balance with initial emphasis on possibility (biasa), followed by the number core (tikko), and clarified with the counting unit (songgulra).
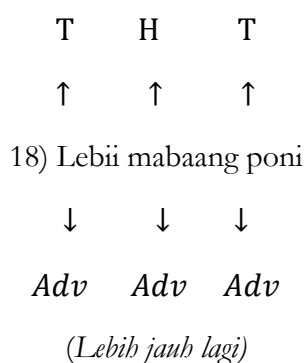
<div align="center">

T   H   T

↑   ↑   ↑

16) Geipo manabat laus

↓   ↓

Adv   Adv

(Belum Cepat Sekali)

</div>

Figure 16. Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Geipo manabat laus

16) Phrase "*geipo manabat laus*" in the Tolitoli language, there is a T-H-T pattern, which indicates an adverbial phrase structure because all the elements are adverbs. *Geipo* (yet) functions as the first modifier (T), which indicates the inaccessibility of a state or action. "*Manabat*" *(fast)* acts as the head (H), which conveys the core meaning of speed, while "older (once/very)" acts as a second modifier (T), strengthening the intensity from the head. In the Tolitoli language, this T-H-T pattern places the initial information (*gay*) to limit the meaning of speed, followed by the head word (*catch up*), and ends with a description of intensity (*older*). On the other hand, in Indonesian, this phrase is more common in the form "not too soon," which follows the T-T-H pattern, with two prepositions preceding the head. Based on the category of adverbial phrases, "*Geipo manabat laus*" *is* included in adverbial phrases of degree (degree AdvP) because it states the level or intensity of a condition. This structure reflects the difference in syntactic patterns between Tolitoli and Indonesian in forming descriptions that describe the degree or intensity of an action or characteristic.
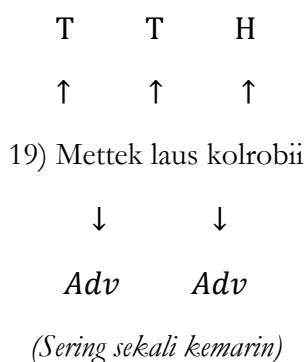
<div align="center">

T   H   T

↑   ↑   ↑

17) Daan bunas ipuon

↓   ↓   ↓

Adv   *Adv*   *Adv*

(Nanti besok lusa)

</div>

Figure 17. Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Daan nunas ipuon

17) The phrase "daan bunas ipuon" in Tolitoli follows the T-H-T pattern, where "daan" (later) functions as the first modifier, "bunas" (tomorrow) as the core, and "ipuon" (the day after tomorrow) as the second modifier. This phrase indicates a sequence of time, with the adverb "tomorrow" as the main focus, flanked by other time adverbs. Unlike Indonesian, which uses the H-T-T pattern (tomorrow, the day after tomorrow), Tolitoli places the main time adverb in the middle. This phrase is included in the Temporal Adverbial Phrase (Temporal AdvP), which describes a sequence of time consecutively.

<div align="center">

T   H   T

↑   ↑   ↑

18) Lebii mabaang poni

↓   ↓   ↓

Adv   *Adv*   *Adv*

(*Lebih jauh lagi*)

</div>

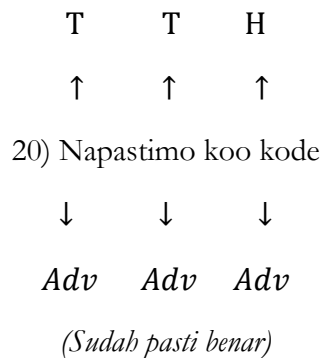**Figure 18.** Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Lebii mabaang poni

18) The phrase "Lebii mabaang poni" in Tolitoli follows the same pattern as Indonesian, namely T-H-T. Lebii (more) functions as the first modifier that strengthens the meaning, Mabaang (far) becomes the core of the phrase that indicates distance or degree, and Poni (again) acts as the second modifier to increase intensity. This structure is in line with the Indonesian phrase "more far," which indicates additional emphasis on the word "far." This phrase is included in the category of Degree Adverbial Phrases (Degree AdvP), which function to describe the intensity or level of a trait or condition.

<div align="center">

T   T   H

↑   ↑   ↑

19) Mettek laus kolrobii

↓   ↓

Adv   *Adv*

(*Sering sekali kemarin*)

</div>

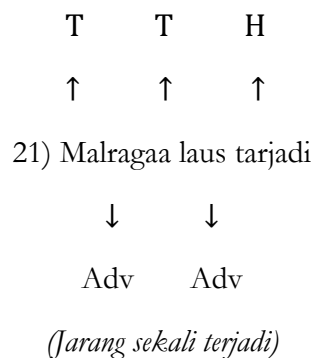**Figure 19**. Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Mettek laus kolrobii

19) The phrase Mettek laus kolrobii in the Tolitoli language has a T-T-H structure, consisting of two modifiers (Mettek and Laus) that strengthen the meaning, followed by the core (Kolrobii). Mettek (often) and Laus (once) function as modifiers (T) that add intensity or frequency to the given meaning, while Kolrobii (yesterday) becomes the core (H) that provides time information in the phrase. In terms of internal function, the modifiers are placed first to provide emphasis before the time core. This phrase is included in the category of Frequency Adverbial Phrases (Frequency AdvP) because it describes how often an event occurs, with a

focus on the intensity of the frequency that occurs at a certain time (yesterday). This structure highlights how the Tolitoli language emphasizes the intensity of frequency (often) first before providing more specific time information.

<div align="center">

T   T   H

↑   ↑   ↑

20) Napastimo koo kode

↓   ↓   ↓

Adv   *Adv*   *Adv*

(Sudah pasti benar)

</div>

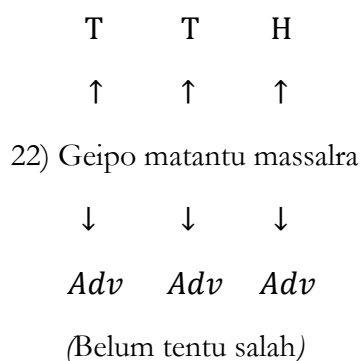**Figure 20.** Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Napastimo koo kode

20) The phrase "Napastimo koo kode in the Tolitoli language follows the T-T-H structure, where "Napastimo" (already) and "Koo" (definitely) act as modifiers (T) that strengthen the meaning, while "Kode" (true) functions as the core (H) that states the state or quality given by the phrase. Its internal function indicates that the modifier is placed first to emphasize the intensity or certainty before the core that provides the main information. This phrase is included in the category of Degree Adverbial Phrases (Degree AdvP) because it describes the intensity or level of certainty of something, in this case, high certainty about the truth. This structure highlights how Tolitoli places emphasis on the degree of certainty first before conveying the core of the statement.

<div align="center">

T   T   H

↑   ↑   ↑

21) Malragaa laus tarjadi

↓   ↓

Adv   Adv

(Jarang sekali terjadi)

</div>

Figure 21. Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Malragaa laus tarjadi

21) The phrase "Malragaa laus tarjadi" in Tolitoli follows the T-T-H structure, where "Malragaa" (rare) and "Laus" (once) function as the modifiers (T) that emphasize the frequency of occurrence, while "Tarjadi" (happens) becomes the core (H) that states the event or incident in question. In terms of internal function, the modifiers "Malragaa" and "Laus" are placed in front to emphasize the very rare frequency, while the core of the statement comes after. This phrase is included in the category of Frequency Adverbial Phrases (Frequency AdvP) because it describes how often or rarely something happens. This structure emphasizes the focus on the intensity of the frequency of occurrence (very rarely) before providing information about the actual event (happens).

<div align="center">

T   T   H

↑   ↑   ↑

22) Geipo matantu massalra

↓   ↓   ↓

Adv *Adv* *Adv*

*(*Belum tentu salah*)*

</div>

Figure 22. Composition of Manner Adverbial Phrase: Geipo matantu massalra

22) The phrase "Geipo matantu massara" in the Tolitoli language follows the T-T-H structure, where "Geipo" (not yet) and "Matantu" (certainly) function as the modifier (T) that emphasizes uncertainty, while "Massalra" (wrong) functions as the core (H) that indicates the intended state or nature. The internal function indicates that the modifier is placed in front to emphasize doubt or uncertainty before the core that describes the state (wrong). This phrase falls into the category of Degree Adverbial Phrases (Degree AdvP) because it describes the intensity or uncertainty of a state or event. This structure emphasizes uncertainty or doubt about the truth of something first, before stating the possibility of error.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis of the structure of adverbial phrases in the Tolitoli language, it was found that there is a fairly consistent pattern in the use of adverbial phrases that indicates significant differences with Indonesian. The dominant structural patterns in Tolitoli adverbial phrases are T-H-T (Pewatas-Hulu-Pewatas) and T-T-H (Pewatas-Pewatas-Hulu). In general, Tolitoli tends to place the modifier before or after the hulu in many adverbial phrases, in contrast to Indonesian, which is more flexible in the position of the modifier. In some cases, double modifiers are used to strengthen the meaning of intensity or degree, such as in the phrase noosa laus ('too slow'), which indicates the tendency of Tolitoli to emphasize the quality or intensity aspect of actions or conditions. In addition, in the structure of adverbial phrases consisting of two words, Tolitoli indicates a different order compared to Indonesian. If in Indonesian the commonly used pattern is Pewatas + Hulu (for example, "too slow"), then in Tolitoli, the order is reversed to Hulu + Pewatas (for example, noosa laus). This indicates that the Tolitoli language emphasizes the characteristics of actions or traits before emphasizing their intensity.

This study identifies several main categories of adverbial phrases based on their semantic functions, namely manner adverbial phrases (Manner AdvP), degree adverbial phrases (Degree AdvP), and time adverbial phrases (Temporal AdvP), each of which has a distinctive syntactic pattern. Degree and frequency adverbial phrases are more frequently found than other categories, indicating that Tolitoli is more explicit in marking the intensity and frequency of an event. In terms of internal function, adverbial phrases in Tolitoli tend to emphasize frequency, degree, and time, with the placement of the modifier as a reinforcer before or after the head. Syntactically, the structure of adverbial phrases in Tolitoli indicates differences in patterns from Indonesian,

especially in the order of the modifier and head, which can affect the focus of meaning in a sentence. These findings provide deeper insight into the structure and categories of adverbial phrases in Tolitoli and distinguish this language from Indonesian in terms of syntax and semantics. In addition, this study contributes to a broader understanding of the diversity of regional languages in Indonesia, especially in terms of their unique morphosyntactic systems.

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