

# **Kalimantan languages**

## **An overview of current research and documentation**

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Current Trends of Linguistic Research of  
Indigenous Languages in Indonesia

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# Overview

- This presentation provides an overview of the language situation in Kalimantan, Indonesia, and a report on studies of the languages in the region.
- This presentation is comprised of 5 sections:
  - Language maps
  - Northwest
  - Northeast
  - Southern inland
  - Malayic

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- Borneo island: 3 countries, Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam.
- Population of 15 million ethnically diverse people (more or less 11 million Kalimantan)



# Hudson (1978)

- Hudson (1978), using data which are mainly based on Ray's (1913) lists, compared the PAN forms to the Bornean languages.
- two main groups: the Exo-Bornean, including three groups, Malayic, Tamanic and Idahan, and the Endo-Bornean comprising seven groups. The Kayan-Kenyah subgroup belongs to the Endo-Bornean group.

# Hudson's classification

## Exo Bornean groups

- Tamanic
- Malayic
- Idahan

## Endo Bornean groups:

- 1. East Barito
- 2. West Barito
- 3. Barito-Mahakam
- 4. Land Dayak

- 5. Apo Duat

**Kalabitic**

**Sesayap Terusan**

- 6. Rejang Baram

**Baram Tinjar**

**Rejang Bintulu**

**Lower Rejang**

**Rejang Sajau**

- 7. Kayan-Kenyah

**Kenyah**

**Punan Nibong**

**Kayanic**

2

# Language Maps

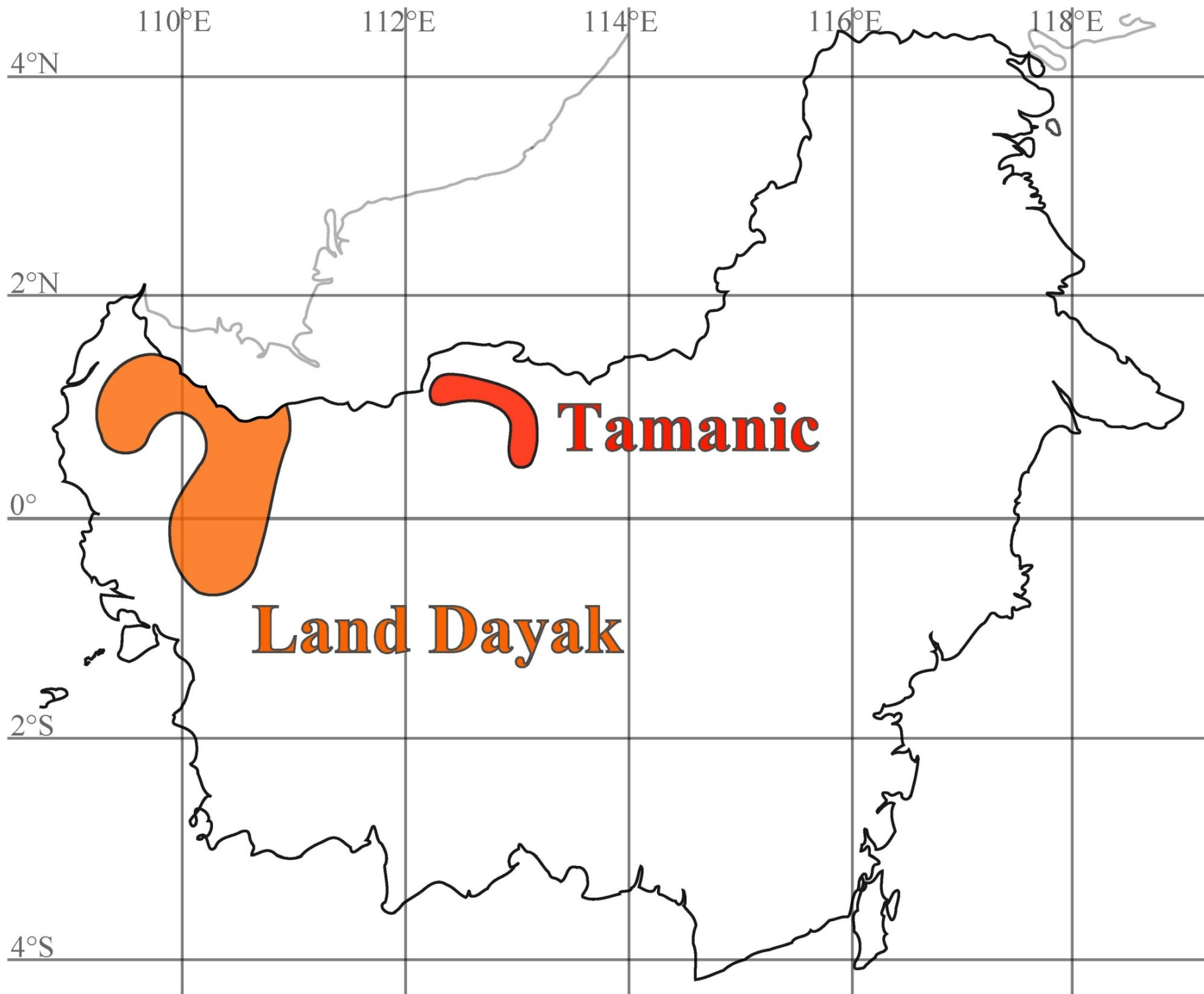


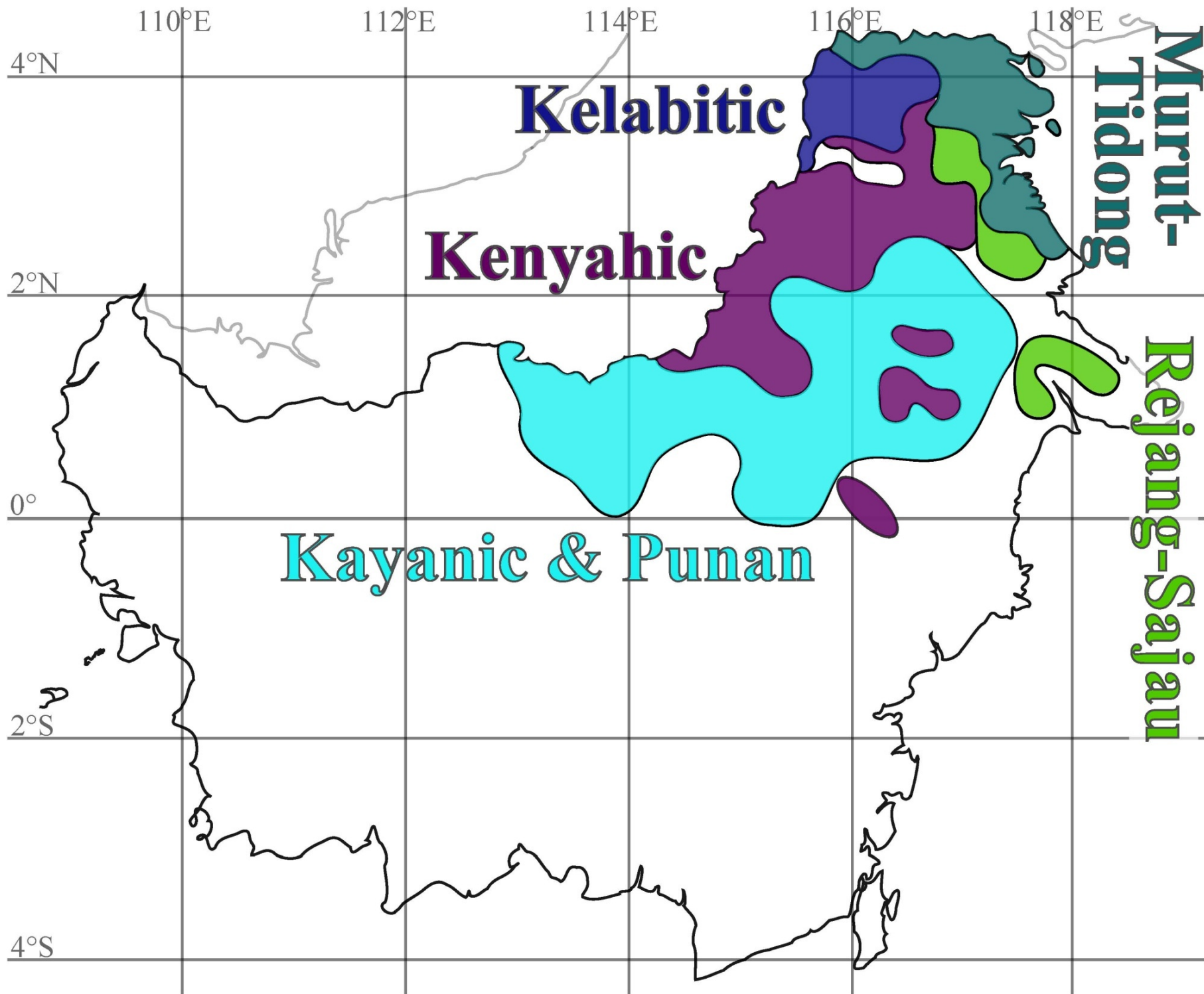
# Abbreviation for authors

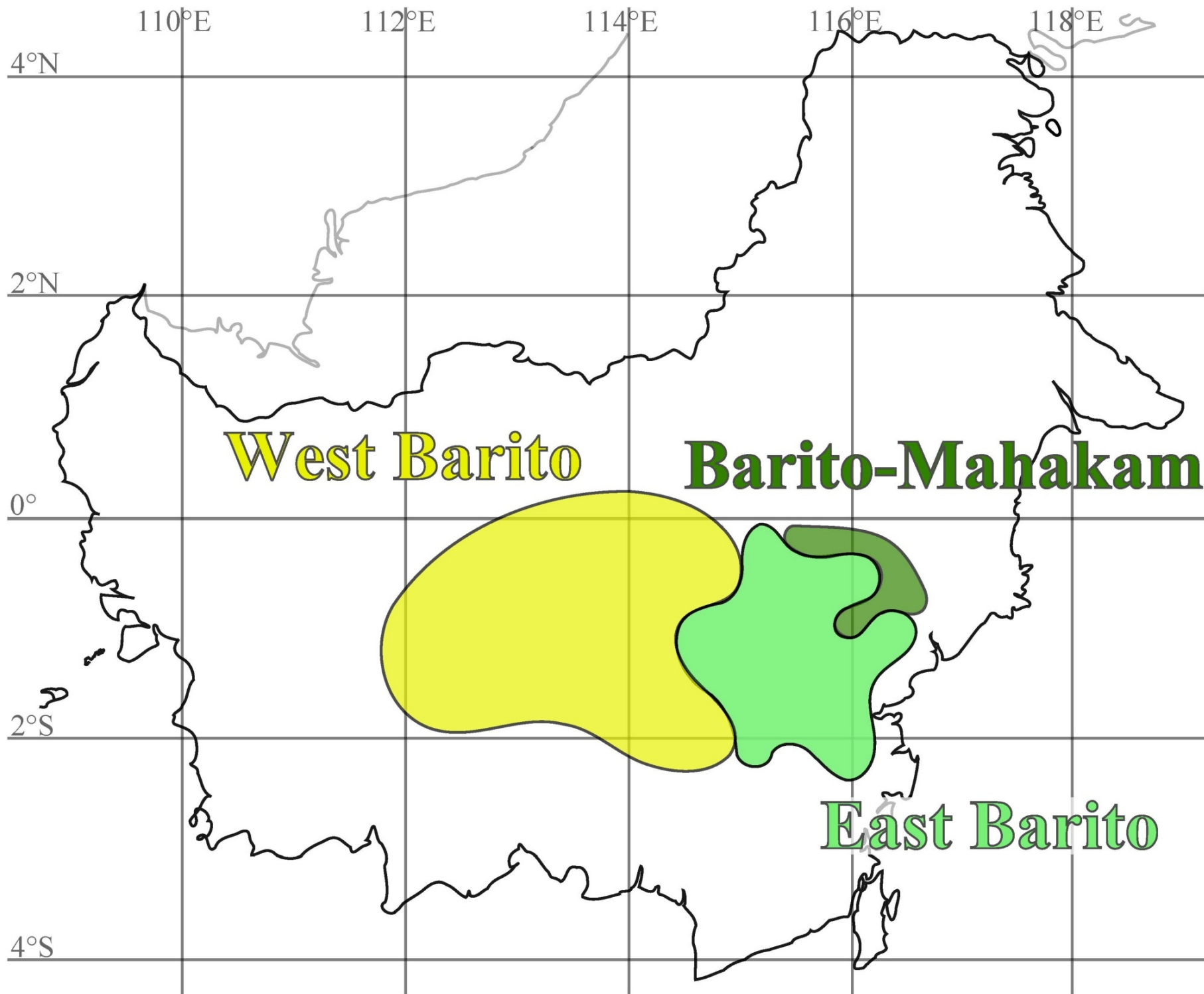
- A. = Adelaar (2005b)
- G. = Grimes *et al.* (1995)
- h. = Hudson (1967)
- H. = Hudson (1978)
- K. = Kroeger
- L. = Sellato
- R. = Ray (1913)
- S. = Soriente
- T. = Tadmor
- U. = Guerreiro
- V. = Greenhill *et al.* (2008)

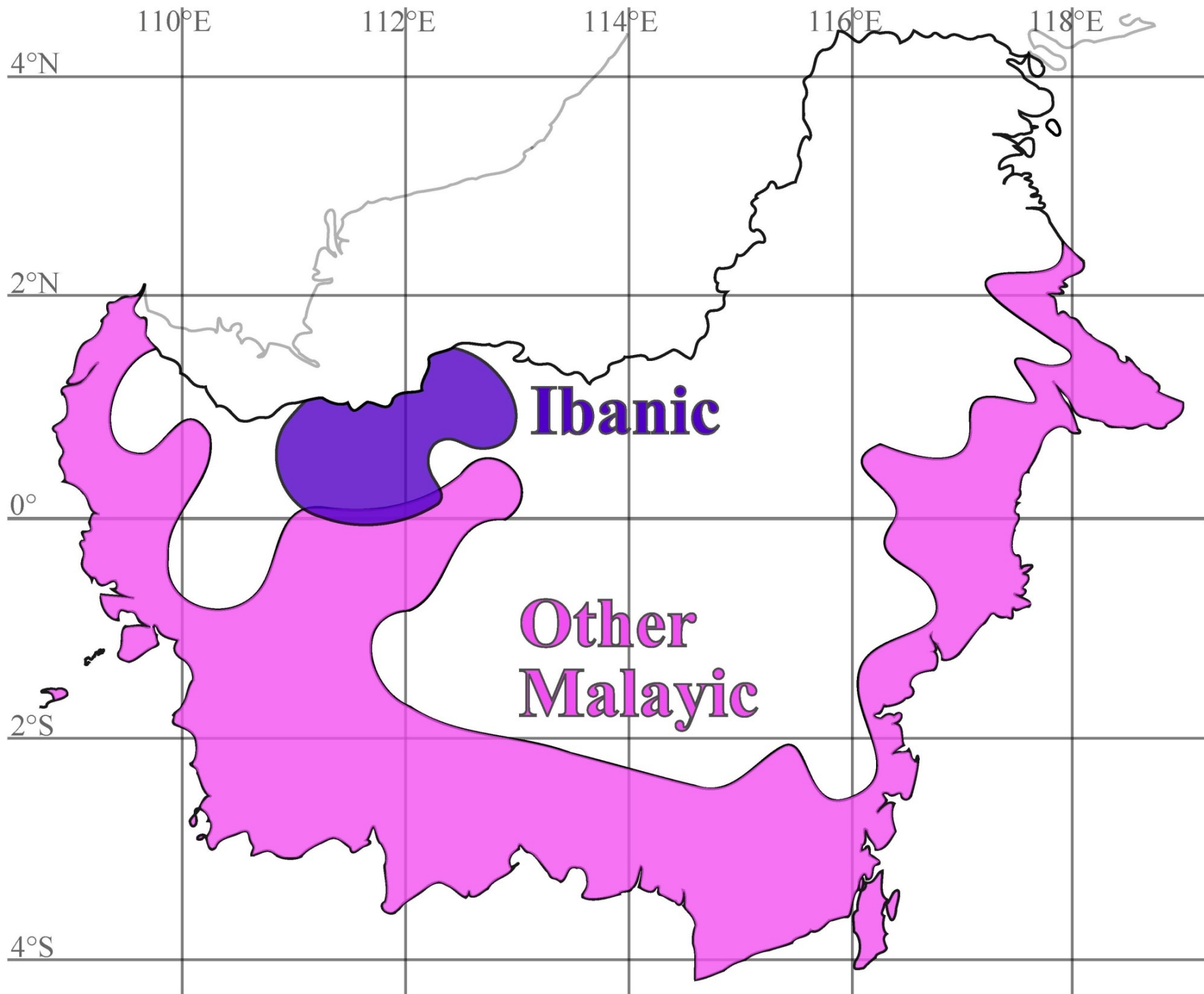
# Maps

- Our own fieldworks
- Wurm and Hattori (1983)
- Mahsun *et al.* (2008)
- Lewis (2009)









4

Studies on  
Northeast languages

# Northeast languages

Appell, G 1986 The **Bulusu'** language of East Kalimantan : ethnographic profile and basic word list. Borneo research bulletin 18

Appell, G Warren, LP. 1986 The Tarakan dialect of the **Tidung** language of east Kalimantan : distribution and basic vocabulary Borneo research bulletin 18

Ganang R., Crain J. Pearson \_Rounds V. 2008. **Kemaloh Lundayeh** - English dictionary and bibliographic list of materials relating to the Lundayeh-Lun Bawang-Kelabit and related groups of Sarawak, Sabah, Brunei and East Kalimantan. Borneo Research Council References series 1

Clayre, B. 2005. **Kelabitic** languages and the fate of ' focus' : evidence from the Kerayan in the many faces of the Austronesian voice system PL

Struktur bahasa **Bulungan**. Pusat Bahasa

Kamus bahasa **Bulungan**.

Puri 2001. Bulungan **ethnobiology** handbook : a field manual for biological and social science research on the knowledge and use of plants and animals among **18 indigenous groups** in northern East Kalimantan, Indonesia. CIFOR

- Soriente, A. 2004, 2006...



# DISAPPEARING LANGUAGES OF PUNAN TUBU HUNTERS-GATHERERS IN EAST KALIMANTAN

Dr. N. Cesard, Drs. Dollop Mamung, Dr. A. Guerreiro and Dr. A. Soriente

- The project is focussed on documenting the oral traditions and compiling bilingual vocabularies of some former hunters-gatherers' languages in the Province of East Kalimantan. Until now these languages, mainly the Punan Tubu' and the Ulun Lebbo' and Ulun Darat are poorly known and scattered in different Regencies. The topics addressed in this documentation project are:
  - oral traditions (songs, epics, stories, myths, proverbs);
  - linguistic interactions and borrowings, phenomenon of diglossia with the National language (Bahasa Indonesia), and other, regional, languages;
  - lexicology and dialectal variations.
  - Very little information on the oral traditions of these people is available.
  - The main kind of narrative genre is *mbui*. 15 *mbui* have been collected and 8 have been transcribed and translated. A dictionary is being prepared and will be published together with the stories and their translations in Indonesian.

# Current projects in Northeast Kalimantan

- Lebu' Kulit 32 files 5,692 (transcribed records of elicited and naturalistic material)
- Oma Longh 25 files 5,393 (transcribed records of elicited and naturalistic material)
- Penan Benalui 13 files 1471 (transcribed records of elicited and naturalistic material)
- Punan Tubu 10 files (8 transcribed folk stories and elicited material)
- Punan Segah/Ma Pnaan (elicited and recorded material being transcribed).

# Current projects in N/E Kalimantan

- provide a preliminary description of phonological, morphological and syntactic features of these languages to better understand their position within the Austronesian language family and to document them. The Punan have always lived in simbiosis with a group of Kenyah or Kayanic agriculturalist people—Kenyah and the Manga'ay (or also called Segai)—and at first glance, these languages seem to have many common features (see Soriente in press and Guerreiro 1996).
- In particular, phonologically Ma' Pnaan has a very peculiar system with unusual reflexes for PMP voiced labial obstruents and of the semivowel w in g: e.g. PMP buaq > gu 'fruit' PMP duah > ago 'two', PMP qubi > gai tuber, PMP quay > goi 'rattan'. There is also a strong tendency for historically disyllabic forms to be realized as a monosyllable with a complex cluster (e.g. PMP mata > mtan; takut > tkut 'fear').

# Oral literature in Kenyah

- Digital capture of audio tapes made in 1991–1996 in Kalimantan
- 250 tapes of recordings of the Culture and Conservation project of WWF Indonesia
- (Bakung, Lepo' Tau and Lepo' Ke' Kenyah stories *tekena'* (Narrative texts, folktales, epics, myths, fables with animals), and songs and music *Silun*, *Melalo'* and *Suket*.)

# Future projects on Northwest languages

- Digitalization, transcription and translation of Bernard Sellato's material:
- Around 100 tapes of languages of hunter gatherers in East Kalimantan
- Rajindra Puri: Penan Benalui
- Nicolas Cesard: Punan Tubu'
- Antonio Guerreiro: Wehea Busang, Merap, Basap

# Other materials on Kenyah languages

- Gini Gorlinski's recordings on Kenyah, Penan and Murik from Kalimantan and Sarawak: 100 CDs material from mostly Kenyah Lepo' Tau, Uma' Jalan, and Badeng. Genres include much sampé' music, but also xylophone, box zither (lutung kayu), mouth flute, nose flute, jew's harp, mouth organ, and mixed ensembles.
- Kenyah epic tales, some told as partially rhymed, partially sung, partially narrated –
- in East Kalimantan style; others completely sung as *kerintuk* in Baram Kenyah style.
- a few shorter narrative songs from the Uma' Jalan (type of *kendau sabai*). Many long- dance songs (*belian dadu'*).

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- a few shorter narrative songs from the Uma' Jalan (type of *kendau sabai*). Many long-dance songs (*belian dadu'*).
- From Sarawak Lepo' Tau, a dozen rhymed or semi-rhymed (not sung) stories (*tekena'*).
- Several versions of the same story, sung, rhymed, narrated, from Kenyah and Sebop.
- From the Penan, a number of *sapi'* tunes, and some *sinui* responsorial singing. Also *ilut* (jew's harp).



4

Studies on  
Northwest languages

Current documentation project at MPI Jakarta  
Kualan and Samandang (Land Dayak) (Uri Tadmor-Ardi)

Kualan and Samandang are two closely related members of the Land Dayak (Bidayuhic) language group whose exact subgrouping has yet to be determined.

Until the 20th century, the Kualan and Samandang Dayaks were serfs of a small Malay kingdom based in Balai Berkuak. This master-client relationship, which apparently lasted for many centuries, has deeply affected the speech of both communities. In the case of the Dayak communities, strong interference from Malay has led to massive lexical replacement, including basic vocabulary items, function words, and even affixes. However, many distinctly non-Malay structural features have been maintained, such as an object focus infix and obligatory classifiers. (Uri Tadmor-MPI)

# Baram Land Dayak data

- 21 files (21,656 transcribed records)
- Kualan Land Dayak (Onya Darat)
- 27 files (27,238 transcribed records)
- Samandang
- 46 files (40,123 transcribed records)
- Spontaneous conversations, with some folk stories and oral histories as well.
- There are also a few songs and chants.
- Papers on different topics by Uri Tadmor.

## TAMANIC languages

- Adelaar 1994. The classification of the Tamanic languages in Language contact and change in the Austronesian world Mouton De Gruyter
- Wadley Reed. 2000. Reconsidering an Ethnic Label in Borneo. The 'Maloh' of West Kalimantan, Indonesia. *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land-en Volkenkunde* 156-1:83-101.

5

Studies on southern inland  
(Barito) languages

# Previous studies

- Hudson (1967)
  - Comparative wordlists of 14 languages (except for Ampanang and Bakumpai)
  - Sound correspondences, proto-phonemes, and sound changes
  - Classification of the languages

# Previous studies

- Problems of Hudson (1967)
  - The wordlists were collected from only a few speakers.
  - There were no phonemic analyses available.
  - The classification was conducted on the basis of phonetic or semi-phonological data

# Previous studies

- Hudson (1978) has similar problems.



# Post-Hudson's studies

- Descriptive studies outside Indonesia
  - Gudai (1985)  
on Ma'anyan
  - Inagaki (2005, 2006, 2007, 2008)  
on Kadorih (Dohoi or Ot Danum)

# Post-Hudson's studies

- Gudai (1985) supports sound changes assumed by Hudson, for example:

Proto-Central East-Southeast Barito.

palatal semivowel \*y

> Maanyan (Southeast Barito). glottal

stop     ʔ / \_\_\_# or \_\_\_VT (T= voiceless stop)

*midi* 'buy' vs. *midiʔ* 'choose'

*mais* 'thin' vs. *maʔis* 'cook in banana  
leaf' (Gudai 1985: 13)

# Post-Hudson's studies

Proto-East Barito. alveolar fricative \*s  
(and alveolar stop \*t)

> Maanyan (Southeast Barito). glottal  
fricative *h* (and alveolar fricative *s*)

*sameh* 'same' vs. *hamen* 'want'

*kasay* 'powder' vs. *kahay* 'stir'

*sulas* 'dishonest' vs. *sulah* 'bold'

(Gudai 1985: 15)

# Post-Hudson's studies

- Inagaki (2007) supports a sound change assumed by Hudson:

Proto-Dohoi-Murung1. voiceless stop

\**T* > Dohoi (Kadorih). glottal fricative +  
voiceless stop *hT / V\_\_V*

*apang* 'seed, pip' vs. *ahpang* 'sacred decapitating knife  
of Kalimantan' *pitu* 'door sill' vs. *pihtu* 'seven

(archaic)', *puti* 'banana' vs. *puhti* 'white' *kacang*

'straight' vs. *kahcang* 'plaited mat', 'peanut'

*bakai* 'not yet finished' vs. *bahkai* 'monkey'

(Inagaki 2007: 116)

# Descriptive studies in Indonesia

(‘raw description[s]’, Gudai 1985: 11)

- East Barito

Lawangan: Andianto *et al.*, and Asnan

Tawoyan: Ngabut *et al.*

Dusun Deyah: Kawi *et al.*

Paku: Iper *et al.*

Ma’anyan: Iper, and Kawi

- Dusun Malang and Dusun Witu:

no ‘raw descriptions’

# Descriptive studies in Indonesia

- Barito-Mahakam  
no 'raw descriptions'

# Descriptive studies in Indonesia

- West Barito

Bakumpai: Ibrahim *et al.*, Kawi, Rangga

Ngaju: Bingan & Ibrahim, Durasid *et al.*,  
Ilun, Iper *et al.*, Santoso *et al.*

Seruyan: Poerwadi *et al.*

Kadorih: Santoso *et al.*, Taib *et al.*

Siang: Admodi *et al.*, Santoso *et al.*

# Future research

- Sander Adelaar of University of Melbourne



6

Studies on  
Malayic languages

# Recent projects on Malayic

- Recent projects on Malayic:
- Balai Berkuak Malay: 34 file (10,497 transcribed records) (MPI Jakarta)
- Middle Indonesia Pontianak: 99 files (120,000 transcribed records) (Joseph Errington –Yale University-MPI Jakarta)
- Collins: Malay varieties
- Adelaar (2005a, c)
- Tjia (2007)

- Collins, J. & S. ALLOY 2004 Language use and language change in Manjau, Kalimantan Barat: Exploring the Tola' Dayak language and society *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land-en Volkenkunde*
- Adelaar 2005 Structural diversity in the Malayic subgroup in Adelaar & Himmelmann (eds)
- Asfar DA 2008 *Pemetaan bahasa-bahasa daerah di Kalimantan Barat*
- *Morfologi dan sintaksis bahasa Kutai*

- Collins J.T. 2002. Bahasa dan etnisiti di Pulau Borneo : tinjauan awal di Kalimantan Barat. Dewan Bahasa.
- Collins 2007 Malayic variants of eastern Borneo. in Insular Southeast Asia : linguistic and cultural studies in honour of Bernd Nothofer
- Kedudukan dan fungsi bahasa Melayu Kapuas Hulu
- Struktur dan fungsi kalimat bahasa Melayu Sambas
- Shin Chong Sociolinguistik golongan minoriti di Sekadau, Kalimantan Barat Dewan Bahasa
- Collins Ibanic languages in Kalimantan Barat, Indonesia: exploring nomenclature, distribution and characteristics Borneo Research bulletin

7

Conclusion

# Conclusion

- High diversity but few projects
- Kelabitic: Lengilu
- Murut-Tidong: Bulusu, Tidung, Bulungan
- Kayanic languages and Punan languages
- Classification of the Punan languages
- 'Hot spots' (Blust 2007)
- Data management