

Temporal expressions and word classes in Sambas Malay

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Aims of this study

- understand how Sambas Malay grammar encodes temporal meanings
- describe what kind of temporal expressions exist in Sambas Malay
- elucidate how temporal expressions function in the language
- classify the various kinds of temporal meanings and expressions on the basis of their semantics and morphosyntax

Aims of this study

- Sambas Malay grammar encodes temporal meanings by means of various word classes and phrases.
- There are two kinds of temporal expressions, namely temporally “transitional” and “steady” expressions.
- All temporal verbs are “transitional”.
- All temporal adjectives and conjunctions are “steady”.

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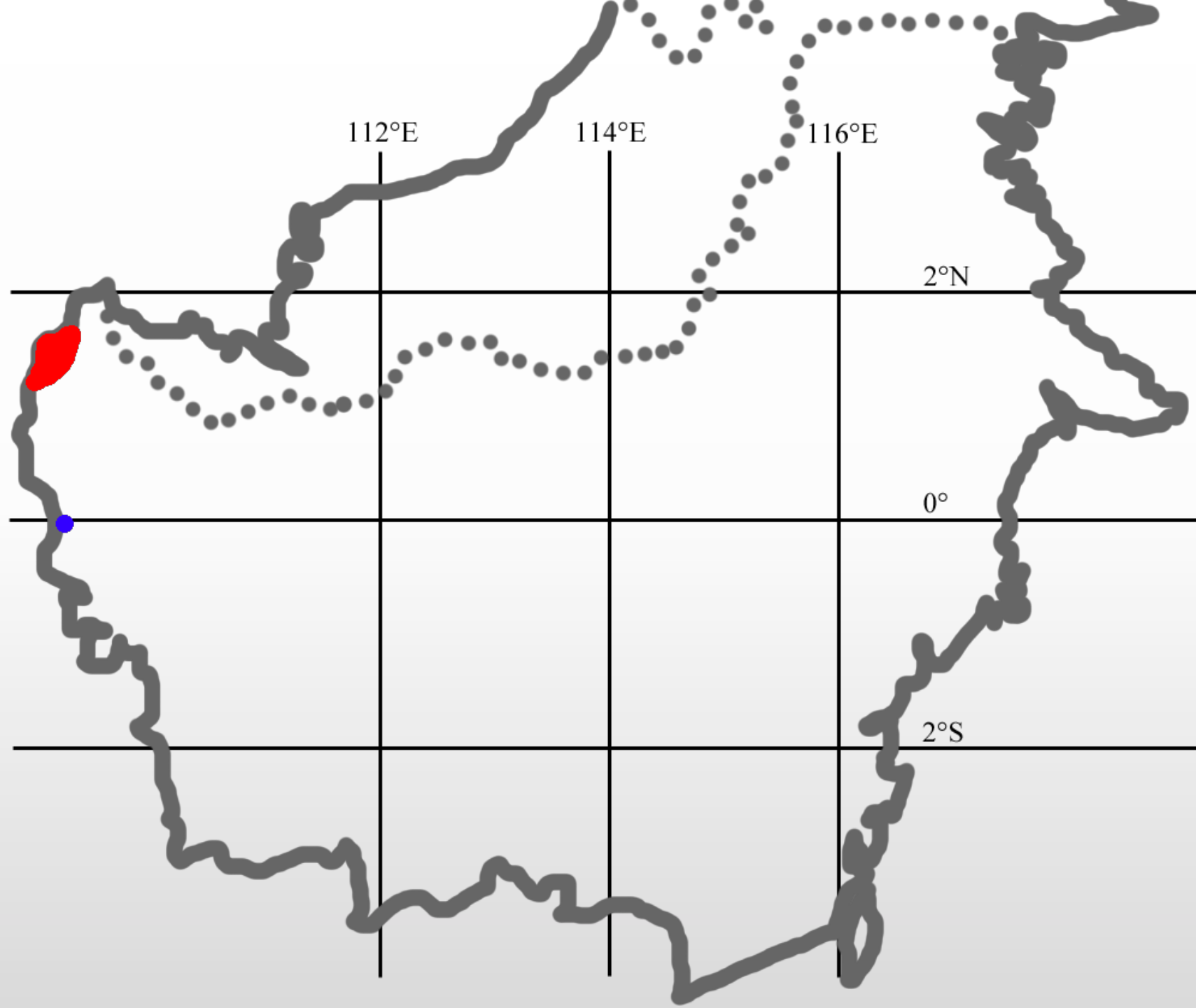
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Introduction

Sambas Malay

Sambas Malay (SbM)

- spoken in Sambas Regency of West Kalimantan, Indonesia
- around 700,000 speakers
- multilingual situation: areal; Kendayan, Hakka/Min Chinese
social; Indonesian



Data

- Spoken data of 4 native speakers which was recorded in Pontianak and Sambas in 2018 and 2019. (fieldnote)
- Written data documented in Harianto's (2010) *Kamus Sinonim-Antonim: Bahasa Indonesia – Bahasa Melayu Dialek Sambas*. (p. xx)

Temporally transitional/ steady meaning

Criteria and classification

Dynamic meaning: characteristics

- shifting, newly occurring, or flexible
- “[E]vents and processes are dynamic, i.e. require a continual input of energy if they are not to come to an end” (Comrie 1976: 13)
- With a dynamic situation, [...] the situation will only continue if it is continually subject to a new input of energy” (Comrie 1976: 49)

(The feature “dynamic” have been often referred to in the context of analyzing SITUATION or ASPECT in many publications.)

Static meaning: characteristics

- unshifting, already established, or fixed
- no continual input of energy

“[S]tates are static, i.e. continue as before unless changed”

(Comrie 1976: 13)

(dynamic/static directional opposites (Cruse 2001: 254):
rise:fall and *enter:leave* are **dynamic** opposites, whereas
up:down and *backwards:forwards* are **static** opposites)

Question

- An event or process can be semantically analyzed from the viewpoint of the dynamic-static distinction.
- Spatial expressions such as directionals can be sometimes classified on the basis of the dynamic-static distinction.
- Can temporal expressions be analyzed on the basis of the dynamic-static distinction?
- --- We can say that it is actually not so extraordinary as we thought at first.
- --- But the terms “dynamic/static” have become so common that I will alternatively use “transitional” and “steady” instead.

Definitions of “transitional” and “steady” for temporal meaning

- (Temporally) **transitional** meaning:

If a temporal expression entails more than **two phases for a situation** (that is, it entails a temporal shift / situational shift), then its meaning is **transitional**.

- (Temporally) **steady** meaning:

If a temporal expression entails **only one or no phase for a situation** (that is, it does not entail a temporal shift / situational shift), then its meaning is **steady**.

Examples 1

classification

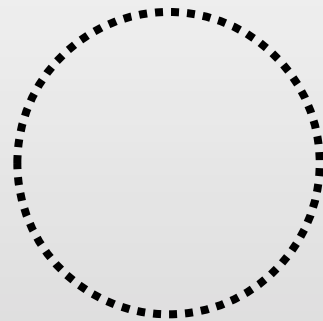
The SbM temporal words (transitional) (1)

- *ud(d)ah* ‘already’ ‘(started and continue)’
- *baro’(ja’)* ‘newly’ ‘just now’ ‘only after’
- *mulae’* ‘begin’
- *lakka’* ‘finished’
- *nyelasaikan* ‘finish s.t.’

NOT-YET phase

REALIZED phase

undone
not started
not finished



SHIFT



done
started
finished

Examples of transitional meaning (1)

Guru ngaji kame' baro' ja' ninggal. (p. 12)

teacher recite.the.Koran our newlyjust pass.away

'Our religious teacher has recently passed away.'

Doun asam mulae' layo' [...] (p. 24)

leaf tamarind begin wither

'The leaves of tamarind began to wither.'

Examples of transitional meaning (1)

lakka' as a verb:

[...] *tugas iye, paling lambat isok udah lakka'*. (p. 1)

task that most late/slow tomorrow already finish

‘The task (must) have been finished tomorrow at the latest.’

lakka' as an auxiliary:

Gaddong petammuan iye udah lakka' dikerajjekan. (p. 34)

building meeting that already finish executed

‘(The construction of) the meeting building has already been completed.’

The SbM temporal words (transitional) (1)

- We can recognize **two phases** in the meanings of *uddah*, *baro'ja'*, *mulae'*, *lakka'*, and *nyelasaikan*.
- These words indicate a transition from phase to phase, or **situational shift**.
- Therefore, these words have **transitional** meanings.

The SbM temporal words (transitional) (2)

- *dilama* '-lama'kan
 'be delayed'
- *cappat/lakkas*
 'fast'
- *secepatnye*
 'very soon'
- *paling lambat*
 'at the latest'

EXPECTED pace



↓ SHIFT

CONTROLLED pace



Examples of transitional meaning (2)

Usah na' dilama'-lama'kan ngerajjekan tugas iye, (p. 1)
don't will be.delayed do task that
'Don't delay to do the task,'

Kerajjenye cappat hingge lakkas selassai. (p. 114)
the.work fast so.that fast finished
'Working fast makes things done fast.'

The SbM temporal words (transitional) (2)

- We can recognize **two phases** in comparison, in the meanings of *dilama'-lama'kan*, *ceppat*, *lakkas*, *seceppatnye*, and *paling lambat*.
- These words indicate an increase/decrease of pace, or controlled **temporal shift**.
- Therefore, these words have **transitional** meanings.

The SbM temporal words (transitional) (3)

- *age* 'again, more'
- *acap, karrap, sarring* 'often'
- (verbal duplication) 'repeatedly'
- *sekali-kali, jorong* 'seldom'

phase REPETITION



Examples of transitional meaning (3)

Ikhwal iye usah na' dikannang age'. (p. 67)

event that don't will be remembered again

'Don't remember the event again.'

Bini urang iye karrap ninggolkan rumah. (p. 75)

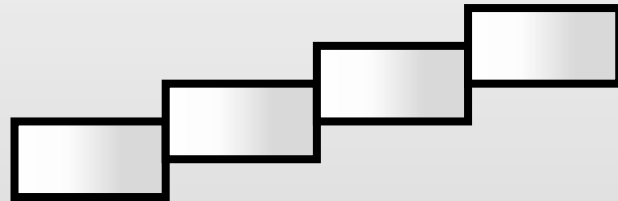
wife person that often leave house

'The wife of that person often leaves (her) house.'

The SbM temporal words (transitional) (4)

- *mangkin* ‘more and more’

INCREMENTAL phase



An example of transitional meaning (4)

*Eh, ngape serigalanye tang **mangkin** dakkat to'?*

ugh why jackal how.come more.and.more near (particle)

'Oh, why is a jackal coming closer and closer?'

(fieldnote)

Examples 2

classification

The SbM temporal words (steady) (1)

- *tangahan/takaan* ‘(ongo)ing (without implicating TERMINATION)’
- *maseh* ‘still (implicating TERMINATION)’
- *tattap* ‘remain, still’
- *tolen* ‘keep on’
- *kakkal* ‘eternal’
- *selama’nye* ‘eternally’
- *bontar, sejurus* ‘a short while’
- *uddah lama’* ‘a long time’

DURATIVE phase



Examples of steady meaning (1)

Die tangahan meliet kebbonnye di belokang. (p. 152)

(s)he (ongo)ing look garden at back

‘He is looking at his garden behind (his house).’

Usah na’ ngomong tolen! (p. 173)

don’t will talk keep.on

‘Don’t keep talking!’

Examples of steady meaning (1)

Keidupan di akherat labbeh kakkal. (p. 1)

life at afterlife more eternal

‘The life in the afterlife is more eternal.’

Bontar ja' die ninggalkan motor iye [...] (p. 98)

a.short.while just (s)he leave motorcycle that

‘He left that motorcycle just for a little while [...].’

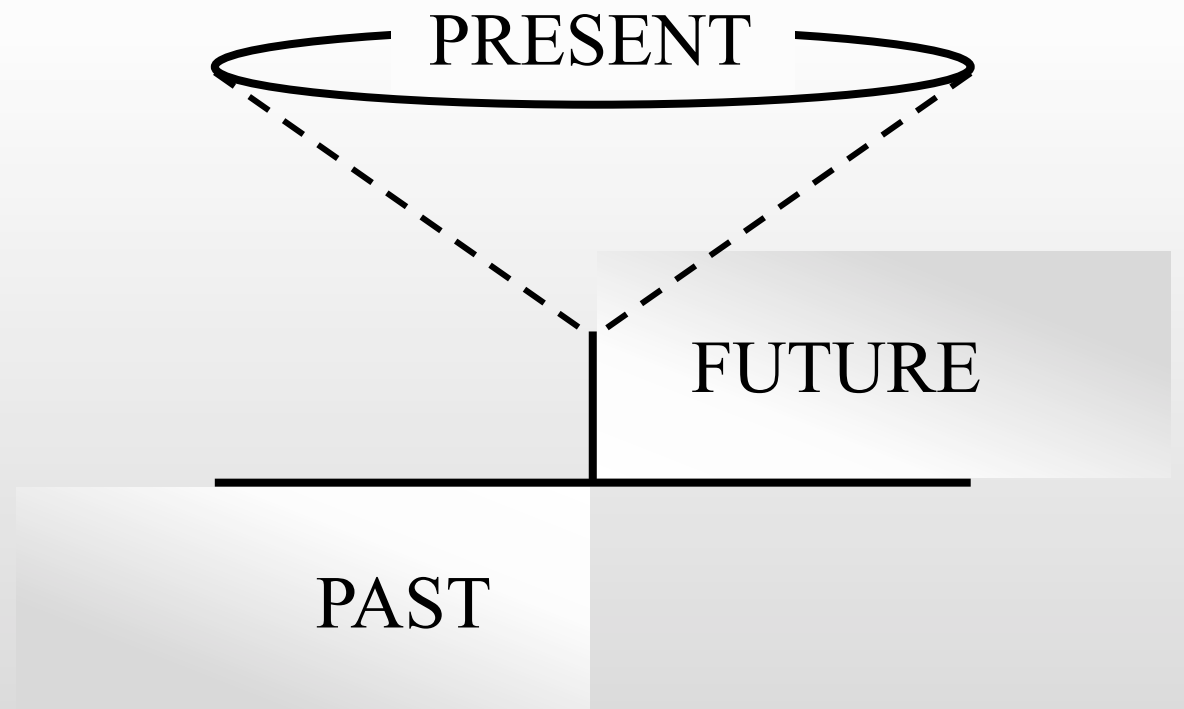
The SbM temporal words (steady) (1)

- We can recognize **only one phase** in the meanings of *takkaan*, *maseh*, *tattap*, *kakkal*, *selama'nye*, *uddah lama'*, *bontar*, and *sejurus*.
- These words and phrases indicate a durative phase of a situation.
- Therefore, these words have temporally **steady** meanings.

The SbM temporal words (steady) (2)

- Tense-indicating words such as temporal auxiliaries (e.g. *akan* ‘will’) refer to a kind of temporal location or range, not to a phase.

- *akan* ‘will’
- *na’/no* ‘intend to, will’
- *pasti* ‘will happen’
- *kini* ‘now(adays)’
- *isok* ‘tomorrow’
- *ari itto* ‘today’
- *simari* ‘yesterday’



Examples of steady meaning (2)

*Kayaknye die **no**' ngambi' ikkan aku.* (fieldnote)

Apparently (s)he will take fish my

‘Apparently he wants to snatch my fish.’

***simari** nakal **ari itto**' boik.* (p. 13)

yesterday naughty today good

‘Being naughty yesterday, but nice today.’

The SbM temporal words (steady) (3)

- Some temporal adverbials and adverbial subordinators refer to a kind of temporal range, not to a phase.

- *semalam* ‘last night’
- *bulan itto* ‘this month’
- *taon itto* ‘this year’
- *waktu, ketike* ‘when ...’

last night
this month
this year
when...



Examples of steady meaning (3)

Waktu SMA, kelas dua, belabik dari kelapa. (fieldnote)

when s.high.school grade two fallen.down from coconut

‘During senior high school, second grade, I fell from a coconut (tree).’

Angin ribut kuat lalu semalam [...] (p. 71)

storm strong extremely last.night

‘The storm was very strong last night’

The SbM temporal words (steady) (3)

- Temporal expressions which denote ANTERIORITY or POSTERIORITY also refer to a kind of temporal range, not to a phase.
- *sebollomnye* ‘previous(ly)’
- *dolo* ‘before doing anything’
- *sebollom* ‘before ...’
- *lakka*, *selappas* ‘after ...’

Examples of steady meaning (3)

Lakka' iye, gagaknye pun merase sadeh. (fieldnote)

after that the.crow (particle) feel sad

‘After that, the crow felt sad.’

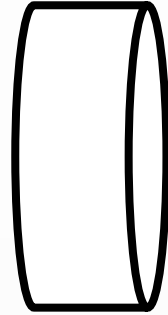
Mukke-nye kambong lakka' disanngat tabuan. (p. 40)

face-his/her expand after be.stung wasp

‘His face got swollen after being stung by a wasp.’

The SbM temporal words (steady) (4)

- *baro* / *boru* 'new'



short time from the beginning

- *lama* 'old'
'long time'



long time from the beginning

Examples of steady meaning (4)

[...] *die muncol age'ngan goye boru.* (p. 117)

(s)he emerge again with style new

'he appeared again in a new style.'

[*kame'*] *maseh makai care lama'.* (p. 46)

we still use method old

'(We) still use an old method.'

Word Classes

Temporal expressions

How many word classes for temporals?

- phrase: *paling lambat, uddah lama', ari itto'* (adverbial)
- verb : *mulae', lakka', nyelasaikan, dilama'-lama'kan*
- adverb : *cappat, lakkas, secappatnye, age', sekali-kali;*
tolen, selama'nye, bontar, sejurus, pasti, kini, isok,
simari, semalam, sebollomnye, dolo'
- auxiliary : *uddah, baro', mulae', lakka', acap, karrap, sarring,*
jorong, mangkin;
takkaan, maseh, tattap, na', akan,
- adjective: *kakkal, tattap, baro', lama'*
- conjunction: *waktu, ketike, sebollom, lakka', selappas*

5 word classes and adverbial phrase

1. There are (1) verb, (2) auxiliary, (3) adverb, (4) adjective, and
(5) conjunction/preposition
2. Some words have multiple functions:
 - *mulae* ' can function as a verb or auxiliary.
 - *lakka* ' can function as a verb, auxiliary, or conjunction/preposition. (See Salako)
 - *baro* ' can function as an auxiliary or adjective.
 - *tattap* can function as an auxiliary or adjective.
 - *waktu* can function as a noun or conjunction/preposition
3. *lama* ' is versatile: *uddah lama* ', *dilama* '-*lama* 'kan, *selama* 'nye

Transitional/steady distinction and word classes

4. All temporal **verbs** have **transitional** meaning.

4'. All temporal **adjectives** and **conjunctions/preposition** have **steady** meaning.

(Temporal **adverbs** and **auxiliaries** have either transitional or steady meaning.)

(See also Englebretson 2003, ch. 4 for the discussion on verb serialization and auxiliary)

Discussion

Word classes and grammaticalization

Direction of grammaticalization

- decategorialization (Hopper & Traugott 1993: 104)

major category (> adjective/adverb) > minor category
(relatively “open”) (intermediate) (relatively “closed”)

- noun > adposition
- noun > conjunction
- verb > auxiliary
- verb (> auxiliary) > conjunction/adposition
- adjective > auxiliary

Changes in transitional/steady feature

- transitional > transitional

mulae' : verb (major) > auxiliary (minor)

lakka' : verb (major) > auxiliary (minor)

- steady > steady

tattap : adjective (intermediate) > auxiliary (minor)

waktu : noun (major) > conjunction/preposition (minor)

- transitional > steady

lakka' : verb/auxiliary > conjunction/preposition (minor)

- steady > transitional

baro' : adjective (intermediate) > auxiliary (minor)

The SbM temporal words: observations

- The path “verb/adjective > auxiliary” is relatively usual.
(Of course, there is another path (e.g. x develops into conjunction))
- Temporal feature “transitional/steady” is usually unchanged.
(Of course, “transitional > steady” and “steady > transitional” changes are also available.)

The SbM temporal words: some predictions

- A development of adjective “intermediate : steady”
into verb “major : transitional” is not probable.
- The reverse development (verb > adjective) may be very rare.
 - verb: *mulae'*, *lakka'*, *nyelasaikan*, *dilama'-lama'kan*
 - adverb: *cappat*, *lakkas*, *secappatnye*, *age'*, *sekali-kali*;
selama'nye, *bontar*, *sejurus*, *pasti*, *kini*, *isok*, *simari*,
semalam, *sebollomnye*, *dolo'*
 - auxiliary: *uddah*, *baro'*, *mulae'*, *lakka'*, *acap*, *karrap*, *sarring*, *jorong*,
mangkin; *takkaan*, *maseh*, *tattap*, *na'*, *akan*,
 - adjective: *kakkal*, *tattap*, *baro'*, *lama'*
 - conjunction: *waktu*, *ketike*, *sebollom*, *lakka'*, *selappas*

Conclusion

The SbM temporal words and word classes

Results

- I briefly described what kind of temporal expressions exist in Sambas Malay.
- I classified the various kinds of temporal meanings and expressions on the basis of the distinction “**transitional**” vs. “**steady**” (this is an analogous distinction to “dynamic” vs. “static” in linguistics).
- The meanings of all temporal **verbs** are “transitional”, while those of all temporal **adjectives** and **conjunctions** are “steady”.
- Many of the **multi-functional** temporal words are **auxiliaries** developed from verbs/adjectives, and they usually remain unchanged in the temporal feature “transitional/steady”.

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