

Internal divisions of Alorese (Bahasa Alor) in East Indonesia

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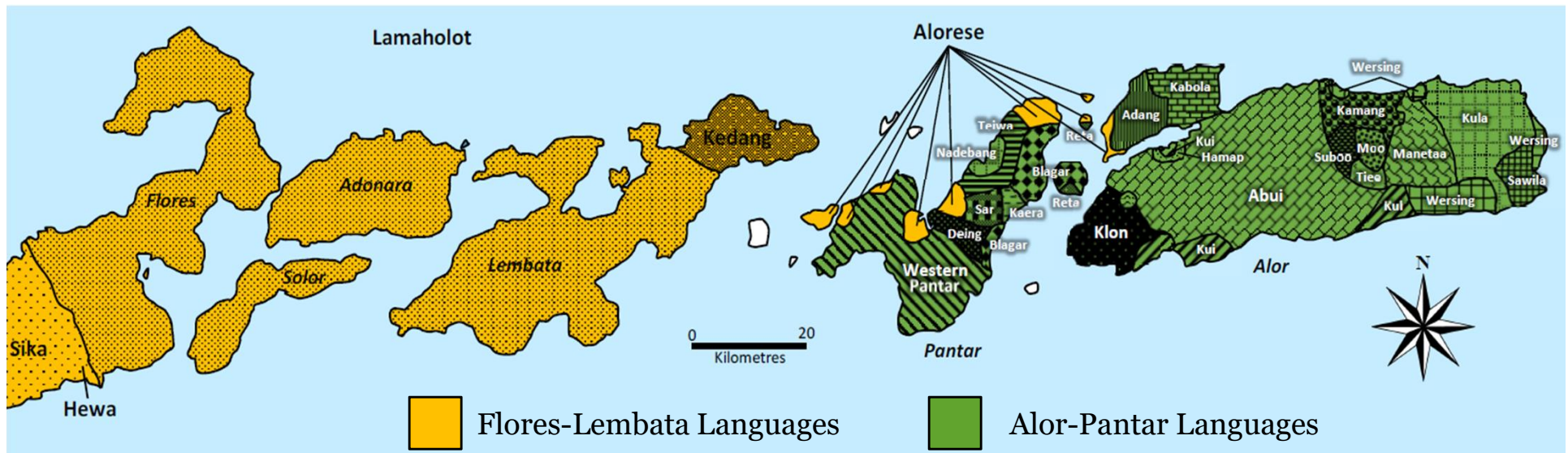
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Alorese (Bahasa Alor)

- Austronesian
- 25.000 speakers, in at least 20 villages along coastal Alor-Pantar
- Very closely related to Lamaholot
- First classified as a dialect of Lamaholot (Stokhof, 1975)
- Shares only 50-60% of basic vocabulary with LMH
- Diverge in inflectional and derivational morphology with Lamaholot
- Morphological simplification from proto-Lamaholot (Klamer, 2011, 2012).
- Surrounded by Alor-Pantar (Papuan) language speakers.



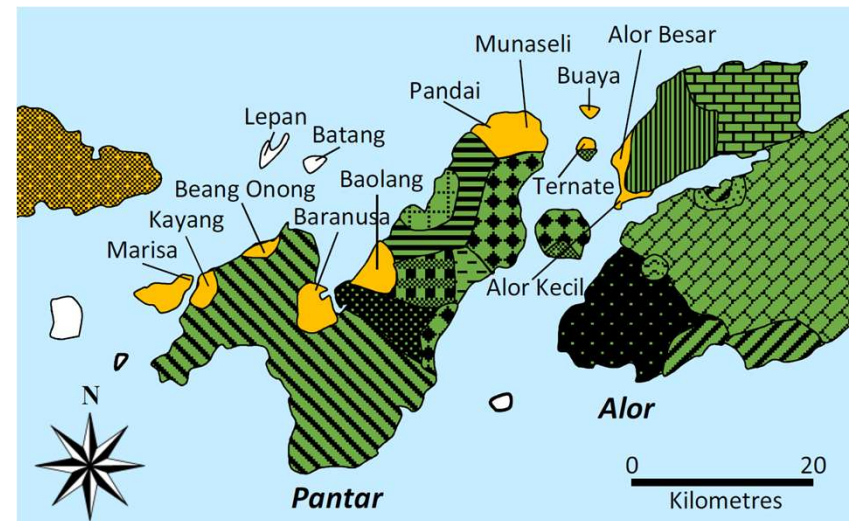
The People

- Mostly live on the coasts
- Rely on fishing
- Muslim majority
- Villages near coasts are usually more lively compared to villages located on the mountain tops.
- People in west have more contact with Kedang/Lamaholot while people in the east have more contact with Alor Pantar (AP) speakers.



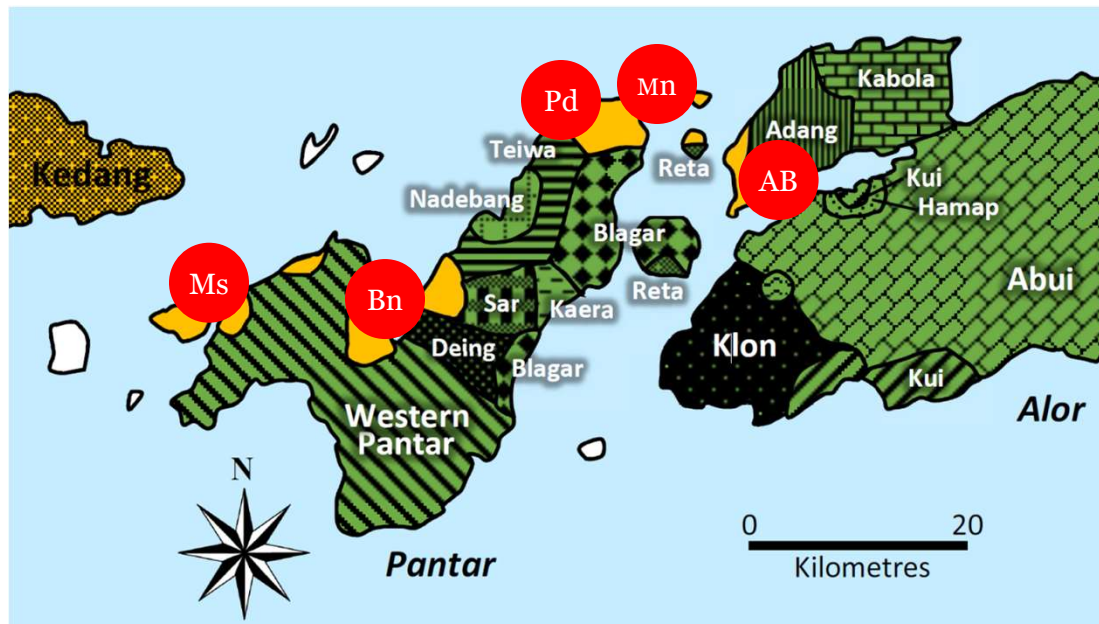
Recorded History of Alorese

- ~700 BP ➤ First arrival
- 13th century ➤ Kingdom of Munaseli, followed by Pandai, Baranusa and Bungabali.
- ~1300 AD ➤ Majapahit involvement and common tribal warfare
- Mid 14th century ➤ Islam began to enter
- 1524 AD ➤ Lapan Batan disaster
- 15th century ➤ Portuguese conquered Timor
- 16th -17th century ➤ Tradings in Pantar strait
- Mid 19th century ➤ Dutch took over Alor islands



This Presentation

- Aimed at providing an early overview of the known varieties of Alorëse
- Establish sound correspondences
- Presents reconstructed vocabulary items using Historical Glottometry
- Borrowings



- *AB* > *Alor Besar*
- *Mn* > *Munaseli*
- *Pd* > *Pandai*
- *Bn* > *Baranusa*
- *Ms* > *Marisa*

The Data

- Lexial items from Lexi Rumah database (Kaiping & Klamer, 2017)
- Recording data from 2014 fieldnotes.

Variety	Abbr.	Num. of items	Researcher	Year	Sources
Alor Besar	AB	704	Moro	2016	Lexirumah
Munaseli	Mn	766	Moro	2016	Lexirumah
Pandai	Pd	758	Moro	2016	Lexirumah
Baranusa	Bn	636	Sulistyono	2014	fieldnotes
Marisa	Ms	690	Sulistyono	2014	fieldnotes

Sound Correspondences

- Identical Correspondences
- Non-Identical correspondences
 - Proto Alorese *w
 - Proto Alorese *l
 - Proto Alorese *r
 - Proto Alorese *s
- Vowels

Identical Correspondences

- Reflected the same in initial and medial position

PAL	*b	*d	*g	*p	*t	*dʒ	*h	*m	*n	*ŋ
AB	b	d	g	p	t	dʒ	h	m	n	ŋ
Pd	b	d	g	p	t	dʒ	h	m	n	ŋ
Mn	b	d	g	p	t	dʒ	h	m	n	ŋ
Bn	b	d	g	p	t	dʒ	h	m	n	ŋ
Ms	b	d	g	p	t	dʒ	h	m	n	ŋ

- Reconstructed proto-Alorese phonesems /b d g p t dʒ h m n ŋ/.
- The velar nasal /ŋ/ does not appear in initial position but is reflected identically in medial position.
- Plosive /dʒ/ identically appears only in medial position.

Non-identical Correspondences

- Proto Alorese *w

PAL	*w-	*-w-
AB	f	f
Pd	w	w
Mn	w, b	w
Bn	w	w
Ms	w	w, Ø

- PAL *w > /f/ in AB, all position due to parallel innovation since it is quite natural to shift from [w] to [f].
- This shift could be a result of contact with the near-by languages of Alor Pantar (Blagar & Adang) since they also show similar change from PAP */w/ > /f/ in Adang and PAP */w/ > /v/ in Blagar (Holton & Robinson, 2014).
- There is only one evidence of *w > b in Munaseli in initial position that is *wuraŋ > buran 'foam'.
- Sometimes /w/ is weakened in Marisa initial position such as *wulaŋ > ulaŋ 'moon' *wuluk > ulu 'feather' *wunoŋ > unoŋ 'new' and *wuliŋ > uliŋ 'neck'.

Non-identical Correspondences (cont.)

- Proto Alorese *l

PAL	*l-	*-l-	*-l
AB	l	l	∅
Pd	l	l	l
Mn	l	l	l
Bn	l	l	-
Ms	l	l	-

- Proto Alorese *l is identically appear in initial and medial position in all five locations.
- In AB, PAL */l/ final position is disappeared.

- /l/ deletion in final position in AB is presumably due to simplification

English	AB	Pd	Mn	Bn	Ms
arrow	'hupɔ	'hupɔl	'hupɔl	-	-
to fall (from above)	'gɔka	'gɔkal	'gɔkal 'lɔdɔŋ	-	-
fishing hook	'kafi	'kawil	'kawil	-	-

Non-identical Correspondences (cont.)

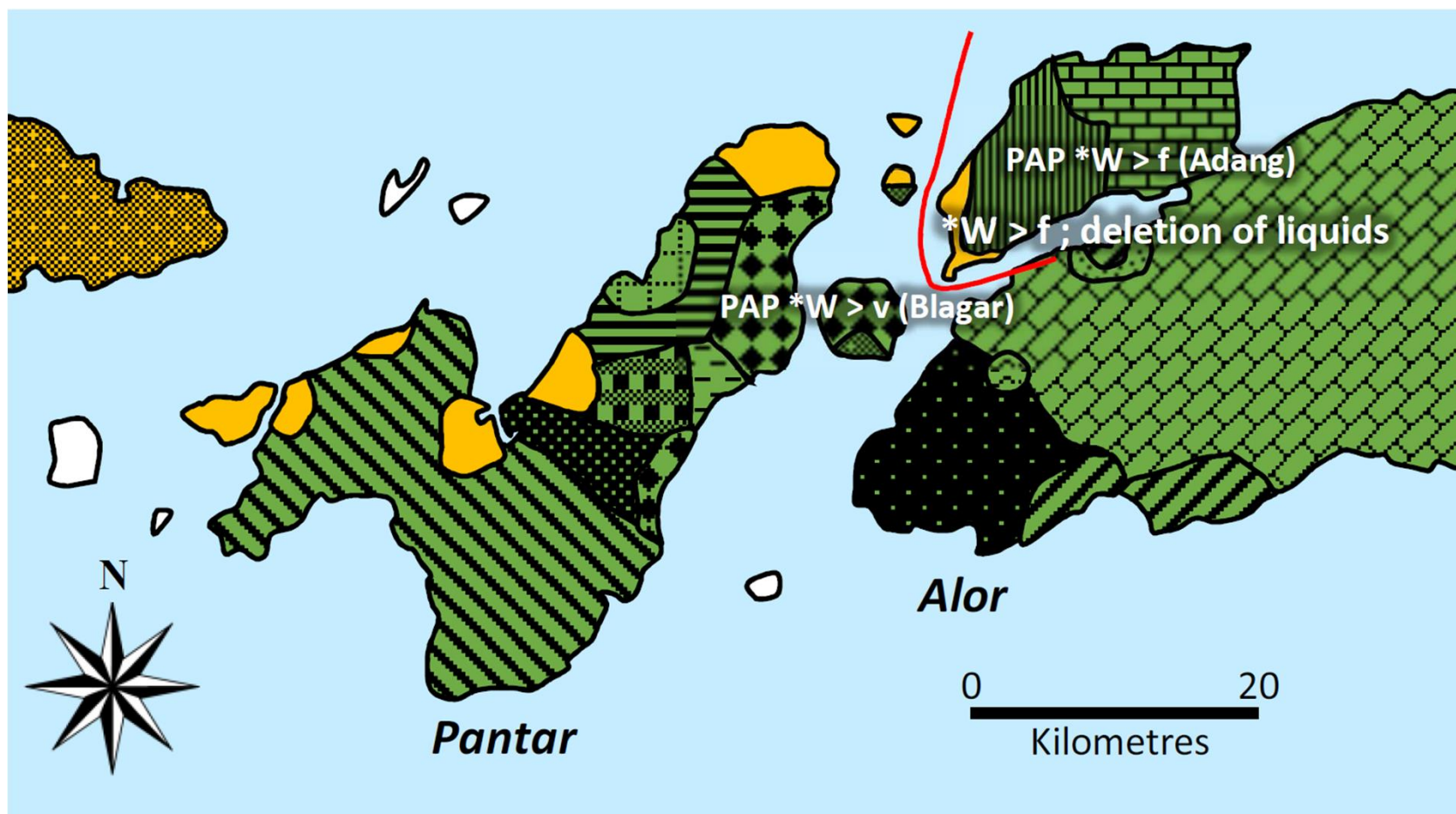
- Proto Alorese *r

PAL	*r-	*-r-	*-r
AB	r	r	∅
Pd	r	r	r
Mn	r	r	r
Bn	r	r	r
Ms	r	r	r

- Proto Alorese *r is identically appear in initial and medial position in all five locations.*
- Both liquids *l and *r disappeared in AB final position.*
- In AP languages, liquids also disappeared in final position in Nadebang and West Pantar (Holton & Robinson, 2014).*

- The deletion of liquids in AB final position is presumably due to simplification and contact with AP.

English	AB	Pd	Mn	Bn	Ms
to ask (question)	'gate	ga't:er	gə'tər	-	-
thatch roof	luo 'taka	tə'nakar, 'takar	'takar	tanaker, takar	tə'nakar
to shine	'bɔlo	'bolər	'bɔlər, 'ɔbaŋ	-	-
sore; wound	'uka	ugar, 'uka	'ukak, 'ugar	-	-
gravel	ba'lɔfa	-	g'lowar	-	-



Location of Alor Besar (AB) showing deletion of liquids and shift /w/ > /f/ and the nearby Alor-Pantar languages of Adang and Blagar showing similar shifts.

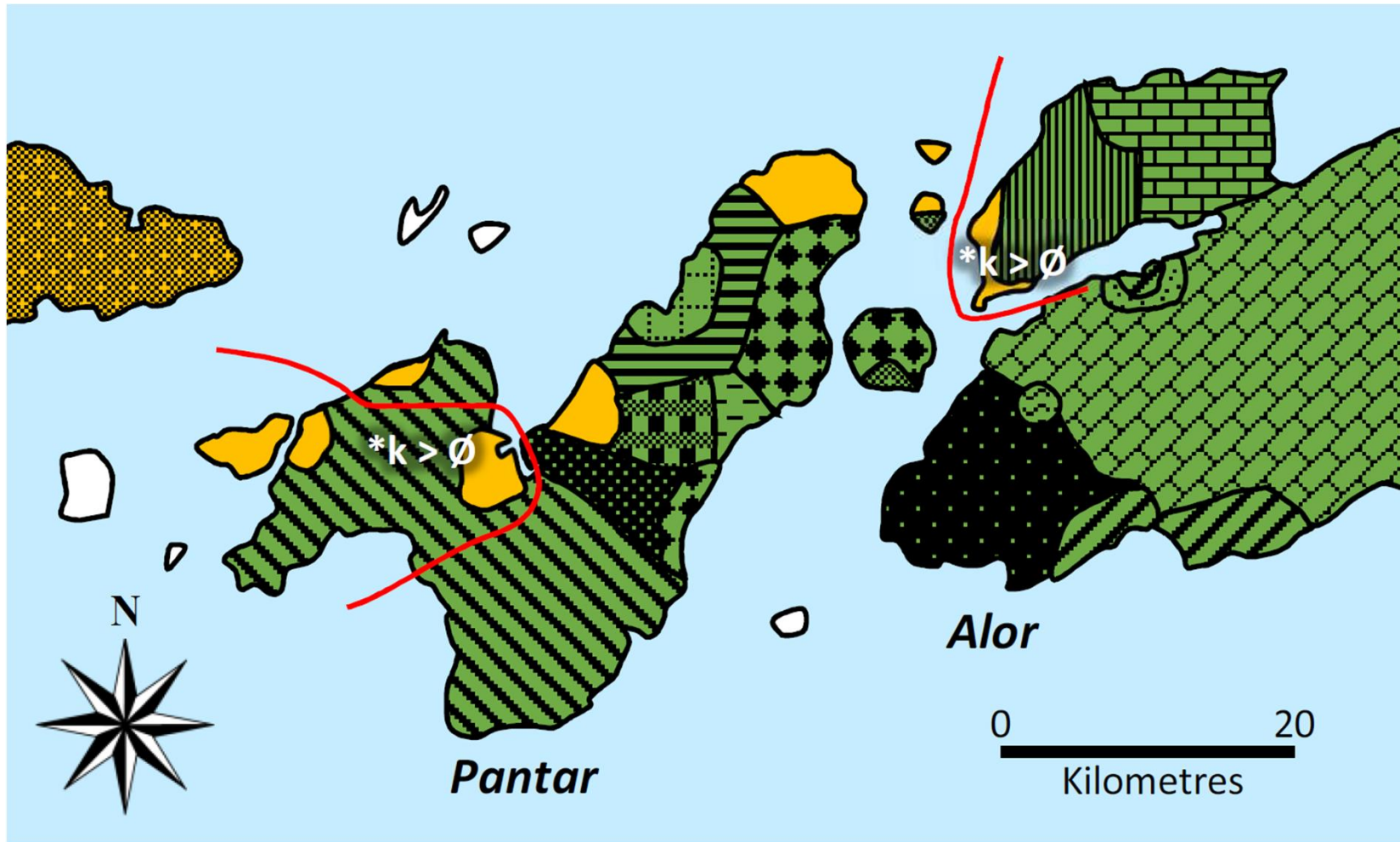
Non-identical Correspondences (cont.)

- Proto Alorese *k

PAL	*k-	*-k-	*-k
AB	k	k	∅
Pd	k	k	k
Mn	k	k	k
Bn	k	k	
Ms	k	k	?

- Proto Alorese */k/ is identically appear in initial and medial position in all locations.*
- I have also looked at initial /k/ as 1sg possessive and eliminate them from this correspondences.*
- /k/ does not appear in AB, Bn and Mn final position.*
- Final /k/ in Pd and Mn is suspected to be final suffix -k for nominalization*

English	AB	Pd	Mn	Bn	Ms
good	'dike	'dikək	'dikək	dike, 'dik:ε	dike'
to live; be alive	'məri	'mərɪk	'mərɪk	məri, mori	muri', mori
white	'bura	'burak	'burak	bura	bura
dry	'mara	'marak	'marak	-	mara
correct	'muro	'mɔləŋ, 'murok	'murək	məl:ŋ	mur:o'
sharp	'dak:ε	də'kək	də'kək	dake, dak:e	dako, tak:o



Locations of AB, Bn and Ms showing deletion of /k/ in final position.

Non-identical Correspondences (cont.)

- Proto Alorese *s

PAL	*s-	*-s-	*-s
AB	s	s	-
Pd	s, Ø	s	-
Mn	s, Ø	s	-
Bn	s	s	s
Ms	s, Ø	s	Ø

- Some examples show regular distribution of initial /s/ such as **sambo* ‘to help’ **seru* ‘to see’ **saru* ‘to burn, to light’, **sini* ‘mucus’ **somba* ‘to surrender’ and **sela* ‘papaya’.
- It is possible for */s/ to appear in medial and final position, eventhough with only a few evidence such as **pasa* ‘to shoot’ **rasa* ‘many’ and **ekas* ‘double’.
- Evidence on minimal pairs are also found such as *saru* ‘to burn, to light’ and *haru* ‘who’; **pasa* ‘to shoot’ and **paha* ‘to hold’.
- */s/ is phonetically distinct from */h/ and, therefore, PAL */s/ is reconstructed.

Consonants

- 15 reconstructed proto-Alorese (pAl) consonant inventory

	Labial	Coronal	Velar	Glottal
Plosives	*p *b	*t *d	*k *g	
Nasals	*m	*n	*ŋ	
Fricatives		*s		*h
Affricate		*dʒ		
Liquid, Trill		*l *r		
Glide	*w			

- I did not reconstruct [ʔ] because it is distributed complementarily with */k/ in most of the dialects and is commonly appears only in Mn and Ms.
- [f] is not reconstructed also because it is only appear in AB as it is complementing */w/.

Distributional restrictions on pAl consonant

	Initial	Medial	Final
*b	+	+	-
*d	+	+	-
*dʒ	-	+	-
*g	+	+	-
*p	+	+	-
*t	+	+	-
*k	+	+	+
*s	+	+	+
*h	+	+	+
*m	+	+	-
*n	+	+	-
*ŋ	-	+	+
*l	+	+	+
*r	+	+	+
*w	+	+	-

Vowels

- There are six reconstructed vowels for PAL /i, e, ε, a, o, u/.

	Front	Central	Back
High/close	*i		*u
Mid/ close	*e [ə]		*o
Mid/ open	*ε		[ɔ]
Low/open		*a	

	*i	*e	*ε	*a	*o	*u
AB	i	e	ε	a	o	u
Pd	i	e	ε	a	o	u
Mn	i	e	ε	a	o	u
Bn	i	e	ε	a	o	u
Ms	i	e	ε	a	o	u

- /o/ has allophones [o] and [ɔ]
 - [ɔ] and [o] are in complementary distribution
- /e/ has allophones [ə] and [e].
 - [ə] and [e] are in complementary distribution

Vowels */e/ and */ε/

❖ Vowel */e/

- Distributed in all position (parallel)
- Minimal pairs:
 - *pare ‘rice grains’
 - *paro ‘salty’
 - *tane ‘to wave’
 - *tana ‘earth’
 - *tena ‘canoe’

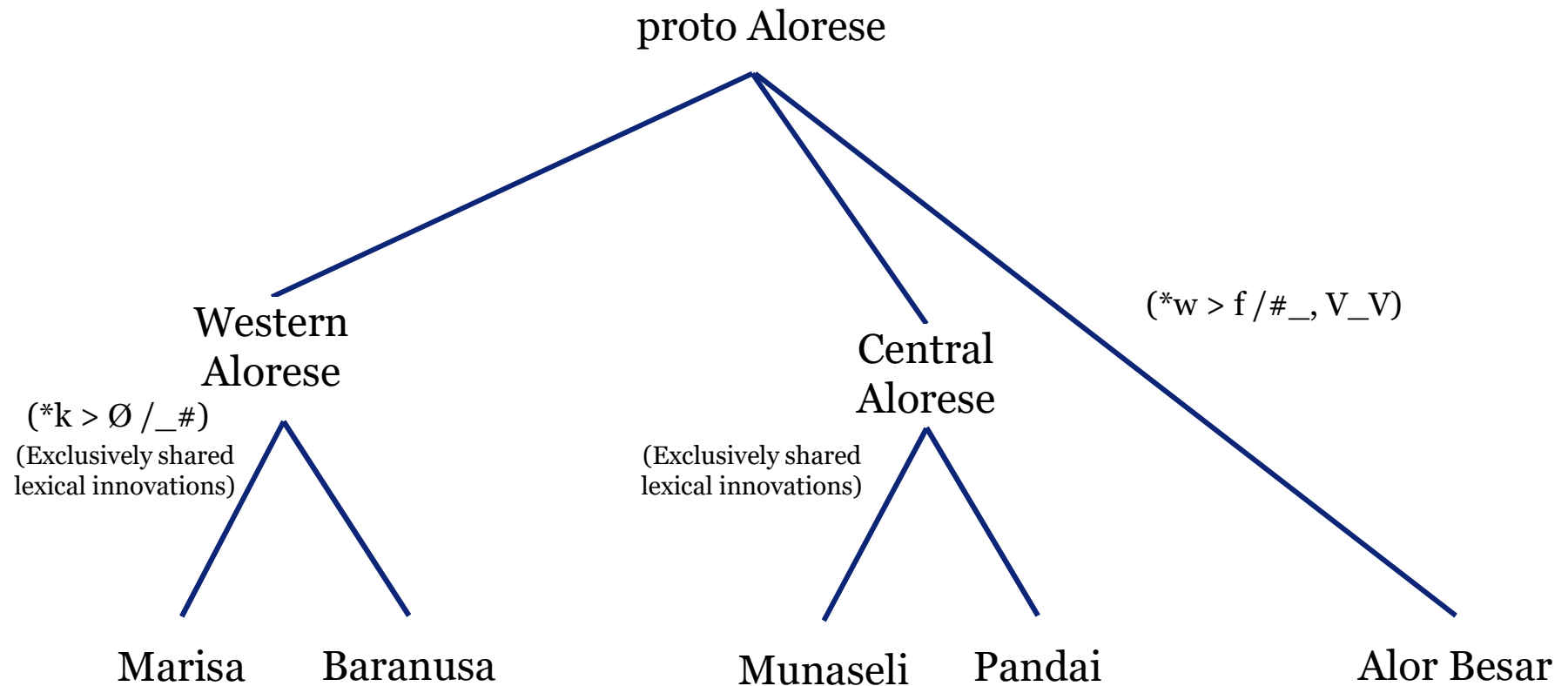
❖ Vowel */ε/

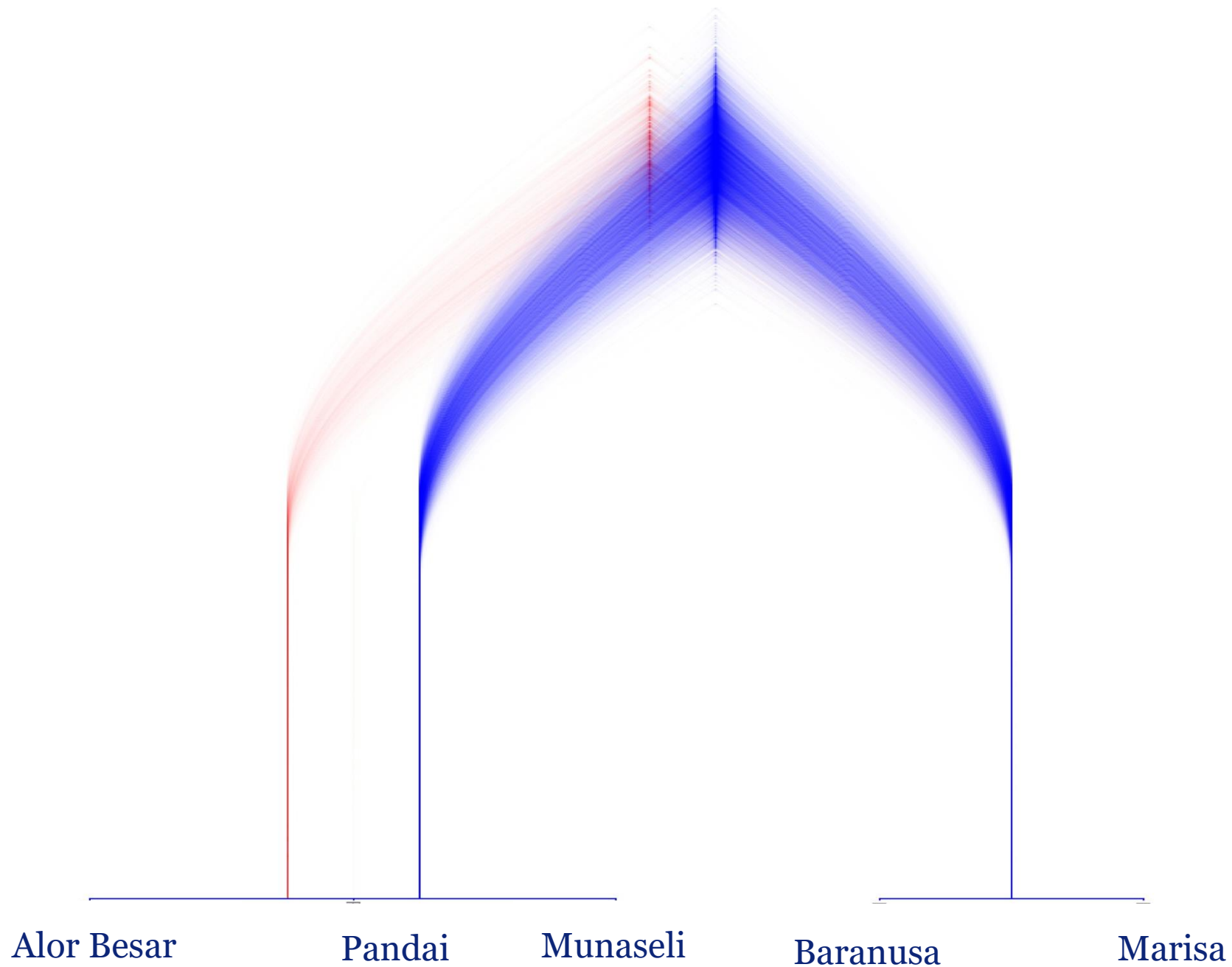
- Distributed in all position (parallel)
- Minimal pairs:
 - *alaŋ ‘voice’
 - *alεŋ ‘waist’
 - *pitε ‘door’
 - *pito ‘seven’
 - *lepε ‘to fold’
 - *ləpa ‘to slap’

- ❖ Proto Alorese distinguished */e/ and */ε/ after splitted from proto-Lamaholot (Elias, 2016) which did not have */ε/.

Internal relationship:

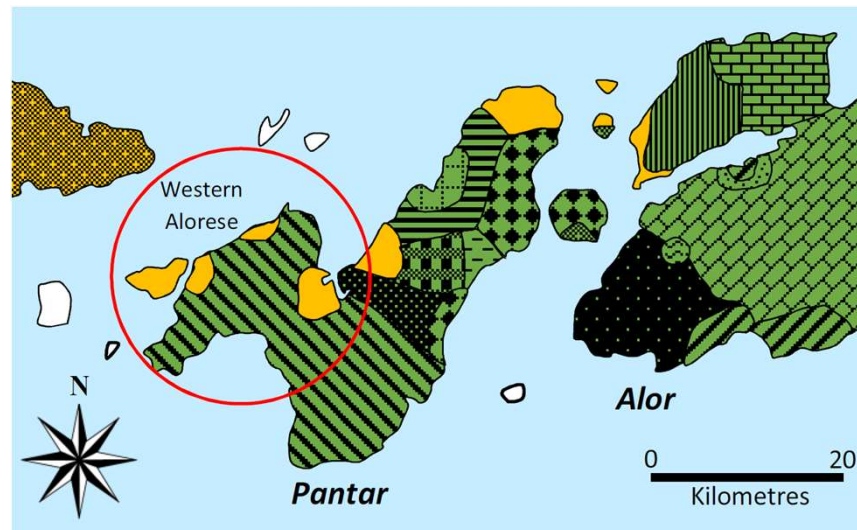
Subgrouping based on shared phonological and lexical innovations





Evidence for Western Alorese Variety

- Western Alorese consists at least two varieties; Baranusa and Marisa.
- The unity of these varieties is supported by sound change: *k > Ø / _#
- Plenty of evidence showing western Alorese retained Flores-Lembata languages. Therefore, I consider Western Alorese to be more **conservative**.
- Exclusively shared lexical innovations
- Exclusively shared lexical retentions

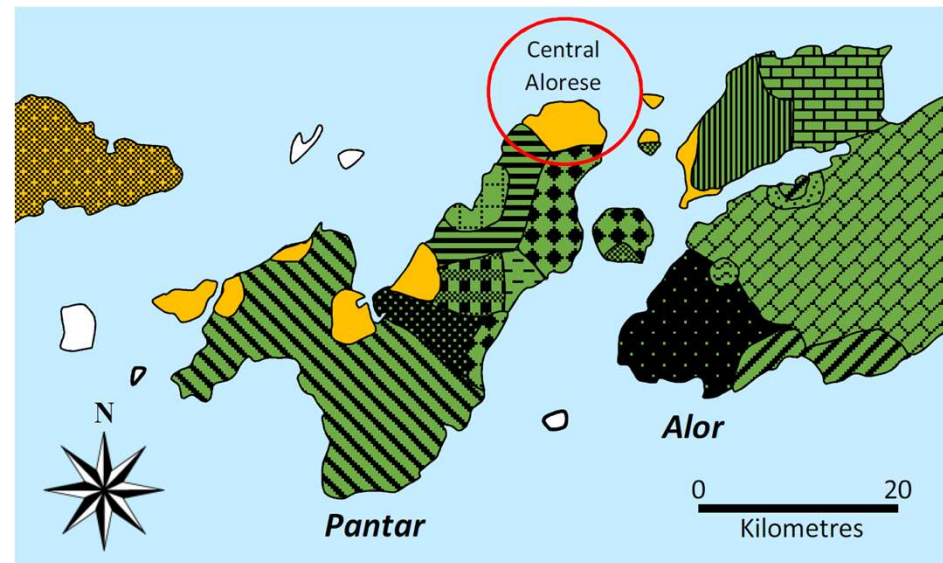


- Retained Flores-Lembata lexical items in Western Alorese (Bn & Ms)

Gloss	LMH	Kedang	Hewa	AB	Mn	Pd	Bn	Ms	PAL
to spit	pəniro			'bat:a	pitəŋ, ilu,	'pitəŋ, 'buhu	ilu	pəniro	*pitəŋ, *'bat:a
papaya	padzam			'kasi	'sela	sela, 'tela, 'kasi	kasi	owa padza	*'sela, *'kasi
to burn (clear land)	tuno			'saru 'ɛkaŋ	'papiŋ	sa'r:u	'tun:ɔ	-	*'saru 'ɛkaŋ
to drop (something)		mɔ'ru?		'naŋ 'gɔka	lelaŋ 'gɔkal	'lelaŋ 'gɔkal	gokal, mou	mou	*'lelaŋ 'gɔkal
lake	opa			'kɔlãŋ bein	'kɔlaŋ 'nɛbɔk	'kɔlaŋ	-	opa'	-
rice field	mã:			'sawa	'sawa 'aler	'sawa, 'ɛkaŋ 'buta	niha	ma:ŋ	-
to smell	siõ:			'mare	'hugo?	'marɛ	siŋ	siŋ	*'marɛ, *siŋ(?)
shoulder			palik	'hanɛ	'hanaŋ	'hanaŋ	hanaŋ	kapalu, kapali	*'hanaŋ
liver	onã			a'tɛ	a'tɛŋ	'ateŋ	atɛŋ, atəŋ	ɔn:ɔŋ, onəŋ	*ateŋ

Evidence for Central Alorese Variety

- Central Alorese consists of Pandai and Munaseli.
- Regularly identical sound correspondences are found in both locations.
- Exclusively shared lexical innovation
- Exclusively shared lexical retention

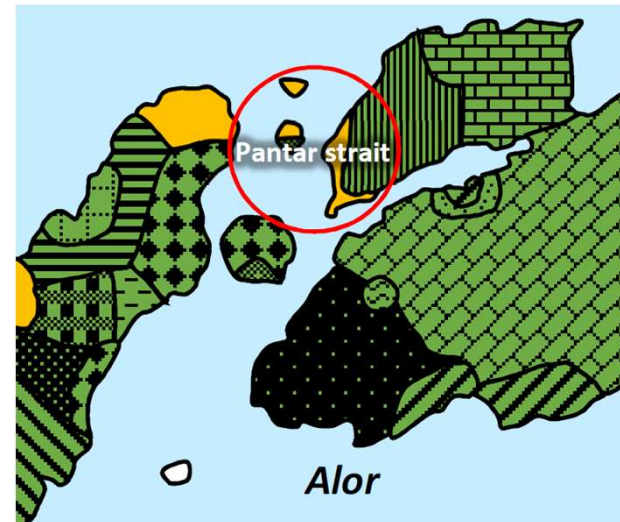


- Exclusively shared lexical innovations in Central Alorese

Gloss	PAI	Alor Besar	Munaseli	Pandai	Baranusa	Marisa
forest	*utaŋ	ba'n:a	dɛhɛk, 'duaŋ	də'hɛk, 'utaŋ	utaŋ, ɔ:ŋ	utaŋ
rattan	*uwe	'ufi	'lua, uwe	'lua, ue	uwe	uwe
bat	*pə'nike	la'bɛruŋ	'mike	'mike, pə'nike	panik:e	panik:e
to split	*peniro	'bat:a	'pitəŋ	'pitəŋ, 'buhu	ilu	peniro
round	*gowe	ga'ləkə	'pəlik	'pəli	goe	gowe
cookhouse; kitchen	*lika	'lika	'pawə 'awə	'awo	'lika	dapur
to be silent	*man'nehe	man'nehe	'rama?	'rama	manaliŋ	manehe?
to say	*tutu, *'mariŋ	'tutu	'mariŋ	'mariŋ	tutu apa	tutu pirenŋ
to shoo; to send away	*se	'sɛ	'tutɛ	'tutɛ	se:	se
sweet potato	*ka'fɔi	ka'fɔi	ue'sela	'uwe 'sela	kura	kura
brother in law	*'opuŋ	'opuŋ, kə'lapanŋ	'ɔpuŋ, 'opu?, 'naraŋ	'ɔpuŋ, 'naraŋ	-	-

Possibility of Eastern Alorese Variety

- Eastern Alorese possibly consist at least Alor Besar.
- Further investigation on this unity to be done in the strait area among Pulau Ternate, Pulau Buaya and Alor Kecil.
- Possibly supported by sound change: $*/w/ > /f/$ in initial and intervocalic position.
- Historical records mentioned that the indigenous Alorese people from Munaseli fled to Alor (Pantar strait) after war with Abui before 1300 AD.
- Constant contact with AP speakers and traders in the area of Pantar Strait could have possibly made the area to be more **unstable** compared to the other area (west & central).



Preliminary Conclusions on Alorese Varieties

- I divided Alorese into three groups of variety; west, central and (possible) east.
 - ❖ Western Alorese is considered to be the most **conservative** since it retained old forms from Lamaholot.
 - ❖ In the past, Central Alorese was among the busiest area in Alor-Pantar since two big kingdoms were located in the area. They also had connections with Majapahit. Evidence on Central Alorese includes identical sound correspondences, high number of exclusively shared lexical retention from PAL and innovation from Lamaholot.
 - ❖ (possible) Eastern Alorese is suspected to be **not stable** due to intense contact with AP speakers in Pantar strait. It is proven by high number of AP borrowings in AB.

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Thank you



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- Exclusively shared lexical innovations in Western Alorese (Bn & Ms)

Gloss	PAI	Munaseli	Alor Besar	Pandai	Baranusa	Marisa
easy	*sɛ'sadʒa	sɛ'sadʒa	-	sə'sadʒa	sənəŋ	sənəŋ
to drop (something)	*'lɛlaŋ 'gɔkal	'lɛlaŋ 'gɔkal	'naŋ 'gɔka	'lɛlaŋ 'gɔkal	gokal, mou	mou
to shoot	*'pasa	'pasaʔ	pasa, 'pasa nəŋ kar'tapel	pasa,	'pasa, panuŋ	pana
to come	*beta	'beta, 'betaŋ	'beta	'beta	dai	da'e
to grow	*tawaŋ	'tawaŋ	'tafa	'tawaŋ	tawaŋ, badʒo	tawa, badʒo
left side	*'hɛkɛŋ	'hɛkɛŋ	'hɛkɛ̃	'hɛkɛŋ	kɛkiŋ, mɛkiŋ	mɛkiŋ
excrement	*'taiŋ	'taiŋ, 'sapi 'taiŋ, 'witi 'taiŋ	'taɛ	'sapi 'taiŋ, 'witi 'taiŋ	kalita, taɛ	kalita, taɛ
to burn; to shine	*'sarʉ, *papiŋ	sə'ruʔ, 'tutuŋ	'sarʉ	sa'r:u 'ɛkaŋ, 'papiŋ	tunə, papiŋ	tunə, tunəŋ
deer	*'ruha	'ruha	'ruha	'ruha	date	dato
Monitor lizard	*'tɛto 'damar	'tɛto 'damar	'reha	tɛto'damar	eto	eto

- Exclusively shared lexical retentions in Western Alorese (Bn & Ms)

Gloss	PAI	Munaseli	Alor Besar	Pandai	Baranusa	Marisa
jackfruit	*kəwəra	'nakaŋ	'naŋka	'naka	kəwəra	kawera
to smell	*siŋ	'hugo?	'mare	'mare	siŋ	sioŋ
round	*goe	'pəlik	ga'ləkə	'pəli	goe	gowe
vein	*urat	'aliŋ	u'rakaŋ	-	urat	urat
to turn	*lakəŋ	'bɛhə?	'heŋko	'gələ	lakəŋ	lakəŋ
fog	*apuŋ	sə'pu	ta'fəuŋ	'ɛkaŋ 'lu	apuŋ	apuŋ
chieftain	*kətəŋ	'kotəŋ 'huar	ka'pala 'lalaŋ	gam'bein 'uma 'suku	kətəŋ	kətəŋ, gotəŋ
spider	*taragaŋ	kaŋ'ga 'ruka?	ka'raŋga	k'lake	taragaŋ	taragaŋ
To kill	*bunə, *gawə	'bunə	'bunə	'bunə	gawə, bunuh	gawə, bunuh

- Exclusively shared lexical retentions in Central Alorese (Mn & Pd)

Gloss	PAI	Alor Besar	Munaseli	Pandai	Baranusa	Marisa
to spit	*pitəŋ, *'bat:a	'bat:a	pitəŋ, Ilu,	'pitəŋ, 'buhu	ilu	peniro
easy	*sə'sadʒa, *sənəŋ	'lohi	sə'sadʒa, pə'duk	sə'sadʒa	sənəŋ	sənəŋ
many	*'rasa, lebiŋ	'mafa	'rasa	rasa, 'lab:i	ʔata la'bi:	lebiŋ
monitor lizard	*'teto 'damar	'reha	'teto 'damar	təto'damar	eto	eto
light, not dark	*ɛ'luŋ	'tarã	ɛ'luŋ	'ɛluŋ	eləŋ, bolor	lampu bolor
flat	*'nadak	na'pukuŋ	'nadak	nadak, 'napuk	depi	napo
papaya	'sela, *kasi	'kasi	'sela	sela, 'tela, 'kasi	kasi	owa padʒa
hill; ridge	*'wətə	dəla	wətə, 'dəlu	'wətə	-	dəhi
mucus	*sini	'niruŋ 'teiŋ	'sini	'sini	-	-

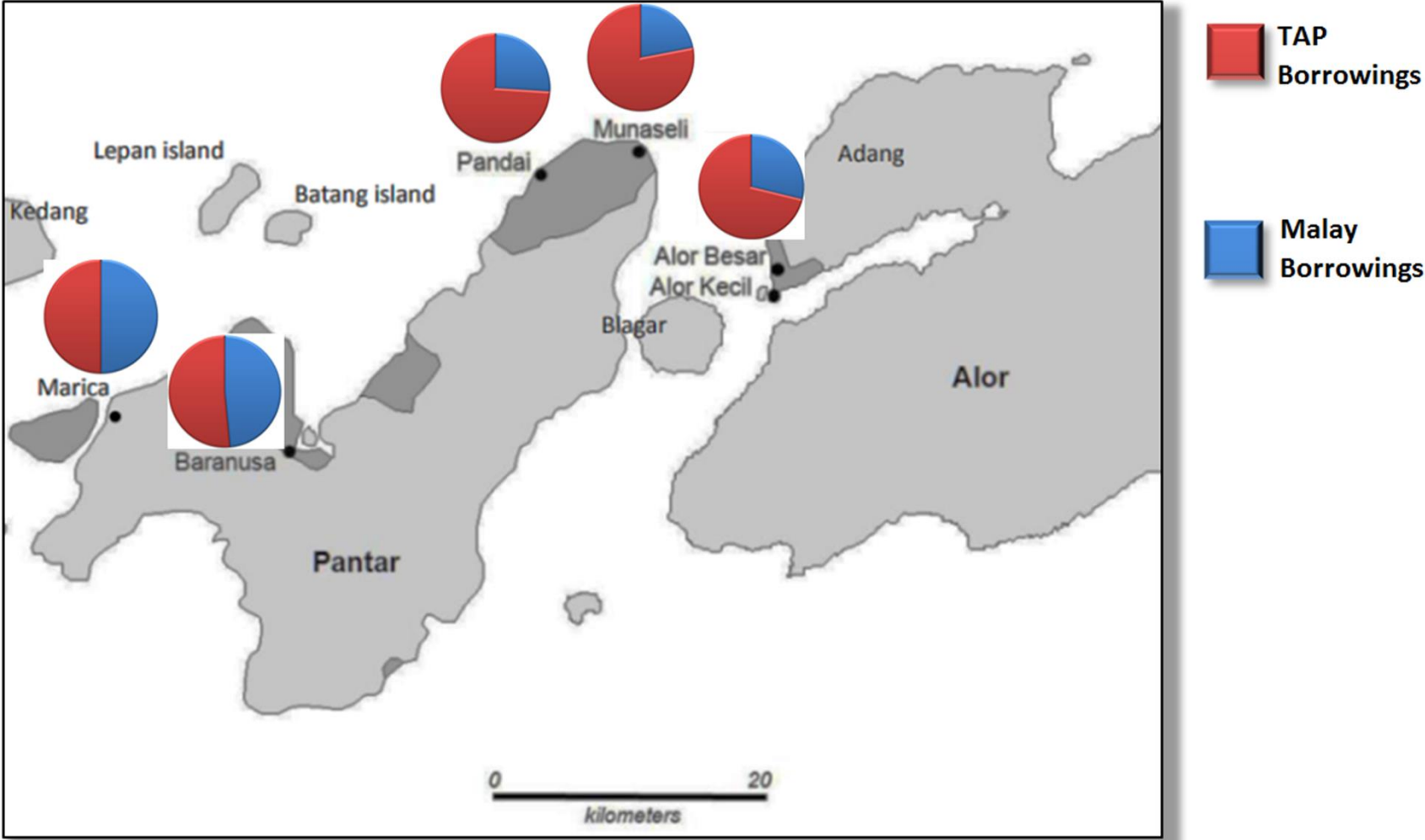
Borrowings

- Alorese borrowed lexical items from Trade Malay, Kedang and the surrounding AP languages.
- Cognates with Lamaholot are either inherited or recent borrowings after Alorese simplification.

Alorese Borrowings

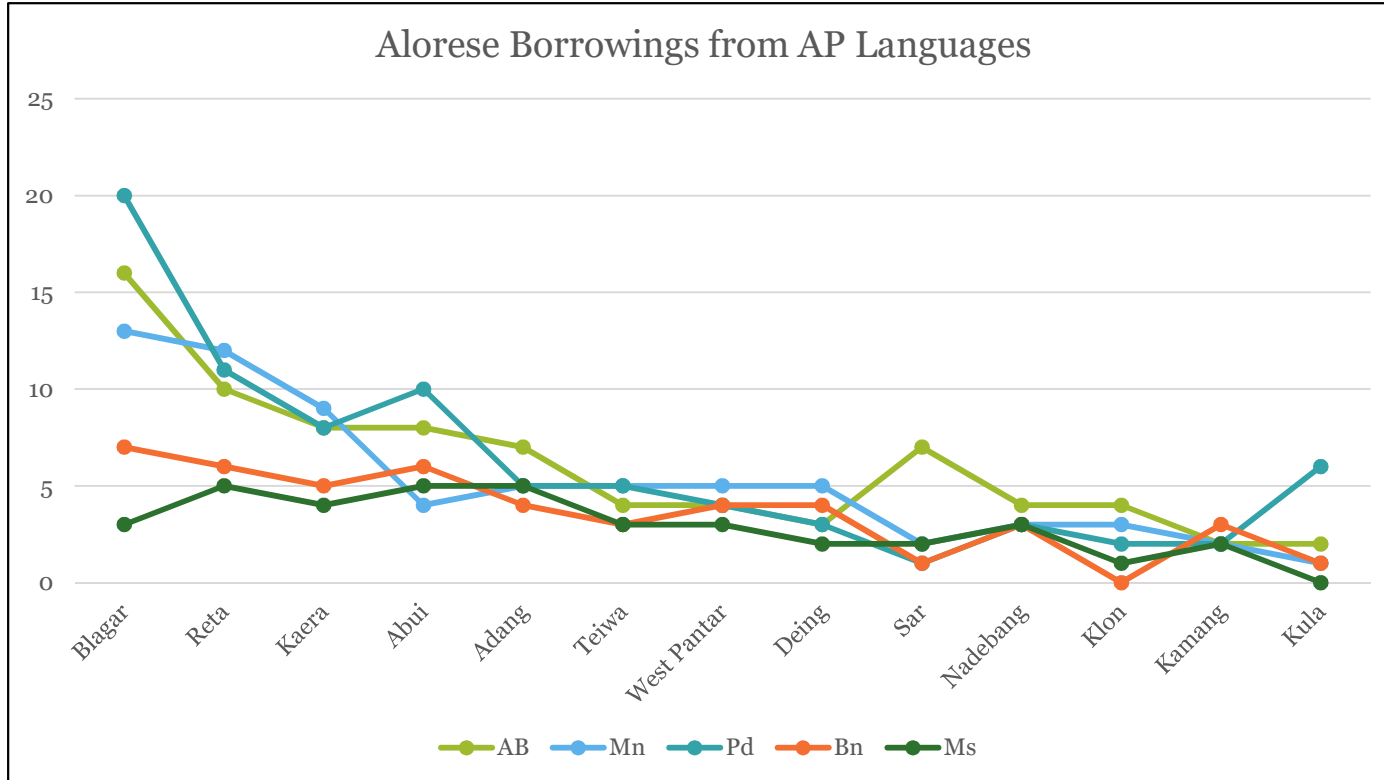
- Alor-Pantar Borrowings
- Malay Borrowings

Borrowings



Alorese borrowings and donor TAP languages

	Blagar	Reta	Kaera	Abui	Adang	Teiwa	West Pantar	Deing	Sar	Nadebang	Klon	Kamang	Kula
AB	16	10	8	8	7	4	4	3	7	4	4	2	2
Mn	13	12	9	4	5	5	5	5	2	3	3	2	1
Pd	20	11	8	10	5	5	4	3	1	3	2	2	6
Bn	7	6	5	6	4	3	4	4	1	3	-	3	1
Ms	3	5	4	5	5	3	3	2	2	3	1	2	-



Preliminary conclusion on Alorese borrowings

- Western Alorese varieties borrowed more Malay and less AP compared to central and eastern Alorese varieties. Malay influence in Western Alorese possibly due to recent trading activities since big port is located in Baranusa.
- Alorese borrowed mostly from AP languages Reta, Blagar, Adang, Kaera, and Abui. It is possible that in the past, Alorese people mostly made contact with speakers from these languages.
- Dominant number of AP borrowings in Central and Eastern Alorese is proving that these areas are more exposed to AP speakers. In addition, variety in Alor Besar borrowed the highest number of AP lexical items.

