



Idiolect Variations of the Mongondow Language in the Community of Kombot Village, Pinolosian District: Phonological Studies

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the idiolectal variations of the Mongondow language among the community in Kombot Village, Pinolosian District. The research problem is framed by the emergence of non-homogeneous individual speech variation phenomena as well as phonemic change processes within the same speech community. The objective of this study is to describe the forms of idiolectal variation from a phonological perspective and to thoroughly identify the various factors that influence them. This study utilizes a sociolinguistic approach through a qualitative descriptive method. Research data were collected using observation techniques, in-depth interviews, voice recordings, and note-taking of the native community's natural speech. The results indicate that idiolectal variation in the Mongondow language is strongly reflected in phonological aspects. These include differences in voice quality (timbre), pitch dynamics, vowel and consonant phoneme modificationssuch as processes of substitution, deletion (apheresis, syncope, apocope), and sound addition (paragoge) as well as the use of distinctive language styles, including narrative description, alliteration, repetition, and emphatic particles. These individual speech variations are influenced by a complex accumulation of internal and external factors. These factors include the physical condition of the speech organs, psychological traits and speaker personality, the geographical environment and occupational habits of coastal communities, as well as the high intensity of language contact and social interaction with communities from outside the village.

Keywords: idiolect variation, Mongondow language, phonological study

Variasi Idiolek Bahasa Mongondow pada Masyarakat Desa Kombot Kecamatan Pinolosian: Kajian Fonologi

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini mengkaji variasi idiolek bahasa Mongondow pada masyarakat Desa Kombot, Kecamatan Pinolosian. Masalah dalam penelitian ini dilatarbelakangi oleh munculnya fenomena variasi tutur perorangan yang tidak homogen serta gejala perubahan fonem dalam satu komunitas bahasa yang sama. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan wujud variasi idiolek ditinjau dari aspek fonologi sekaligus mengidentifikasi berbagai faktor yang memengaruhinya secara mendalam. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan sosiolinguistik melalui metode deskriptif kualitatif. Data penelitian dikumpulkan melalui teknik observasi, wawancara mendalam, perekaman suara, serta pencatatan terhadap tuturan alami masyarakat setempat. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa variasi idiolek bahasa Mongondow tercermin sangat kuat pada aspek fonologi. Hal ini mencakup perbedaan warna suara (timbre), dinamika nada, modifikasi fonem vokal maupun konsonan seperti proses penggantian, penghilangan (afesis, sinkope, apokope), serta penambahan bunyi (paragoge) dan penggunaan gaya bahasa yang khas meliputi deskriptif naratif, aliterasi, repetisi, serta partikel penegas. Variasi tutur perorangan tersebut dipengaruhi oleh akumulasi kompleks dari faktor internal dan eksternal penutur. Faktor-faktor tersebut meliputi kondisi fisik organ bicara, karakter psikologis dan kepribadian penutur, lingkungan geografis serta kebiasaan pekerjaan masyarakat pesisir, hingga tingginya intensitas kontak bahasa dan interaksi sosial dengan masyarakat dari luar desa.

Kata kunci: variasi idiolek, bahasa Mongondow, kajian fonologi

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INTRODUCTION

Language is a primary means of communication that is dynamic and heterogeneous. As a social phenomenon, language use is inseparable from the diversity of its speakers, which then gives rise to various language variations (sociolinguistics). One of the most fundamental forms of language variation is idiolect, namely language variations that are individual or unique to a particular individual (Chamber & Trudgill, 2004). Even within the same speech community and using the same regional language, each individual has unique characteristics of language use. This uniqueness includes aspects of phonology, word choice, and style of speech that are influenced by the background of genealogy, physical condition, and social interactions of each individual. In Indonesia, research on idiolect variation in regional languages is crucial, one of which is the Mongondow language. Mongondow is a regional language spoken by the Bolaang Mongondow tribe in North Sulawesi. As a cultural identity, this language has a complex sound and rich dialect. However, sociolinguistic phenomena in the field indicate that Mongondow language spoken between communities often exhibits significant individual differences, even within relatively small geographic areas such as coastal rural areas.

This phenomenon is clearly found in the community of Kombot Village, Pinolosian District. Based on initial observations, the daily communication of the Kombot Village community, who use Mongondow, is not homogeneous. There are signs of phonemic changes that vary between individuals when pronouncing the same word. These differences encompass not only timbre or pitch, but also touch on deeper phonological aspects, such as substitutions, omissions (elisions and apocopeia), and the addition of vowels and consonants at specific positions within words. This uniqueness of individual speech is further emphasized by the use of distinctive language styles and emotional-emphasizing particles that vary among informants (such as the distinctive

speech recorded by several local research subjects). This heterogeneity in individual speech is strongly suspected not to occur randomly, but rather is influenced by an accumulation of internal and external factors within the speaker. Internal factors are thought to be closely related to the physical condition or biological characteristics of the speech organs, as well as the psychological and personality factors of the speakers. Meanwhile, external factors are triggered by the geographical location of Kombot Village as a coastal area with diverse community livelihoods, as well as the high intensity of language contact resulting from social interactions with communities outside the village, which influences the absorption of new vocabulary. Although numerous sociolinguistic studies on language variation have been conducted in general, research specifically examining idiolects—particularly from a phonological perspective in regional languages such as Mongondow—remains very rare in the academic realm. Most previous research has focused on regional dialect variation (chronolect/dialectology) or sociolects based on social class. Therefore, this study is crucial to fill this gap in scientific literature.

Based on the above background, this study aims to in-depth describe the forms of idiolect variation in the Mongondow language from a phonological perspective within the community of Kombot Village, Pinolosian District, and to identify the internal and external factors influencing the emergence of these variations. The results of this research are expected to provide theoretical contributions to the development of sociolinguistics and documentation of regional languages, as well as serve as an academic reference in preserving and mapping the richness of the Mongondow language in the future.

METHOD

This research uses a sociolinguistic approach. This sociolinguistic approach is used because it views language not merely as an internal system (microlinguistics), but as a social phenomenon closely related to the lives and interactions of its

speakers. Through this approach, researchers can describe how social factors and situational contexts influence individual speech patterns, particularly in examining the idiolect variation of the Mongondow language among the people of Kombot Village.

The research used is qualitative research using descriptive methods. The qualitative approach is used because the data collected in this study is descriptive in nature, consisting of written narratives or words from direct speech, rather than numbers. The descriptive method aims to observe, analyze, and present facts regarding forms of idiolect variation and the factors that influence them accurately, in-depth, and systematically.

RESULT

An idiolect is a language variation unique to each individual. This uniqueness is evident in the timbre of a person's voice, which varies from person to person. When compared to other languages, each person will have their own unique characteristics, even if they come from the same community. One of the most easily recognizable characteristics of an idiolect is the timbre of a person's voice. This timbre is very dominant because through distinct sounds, we can recognize someone simply by hearing them, without having to see them directly. Based on data analysis, idiolect variations are related to the timbre of the voices of the people of Kombot Village, Pinolosian District.

Talce timbre is the manifestation of intonation, tone, and the way a person speaks, which is their distinctive characteristic. Each individual has a unique timbre, so it can be said that voice timbre is personal. Based on data analysis, it was found that the timbre of the speech of the people of Kombot Village can be seen in the following excerpt.

1. Idiolect Variation of the Mongondow Language as Seen from the Aspect of Tone

Data analysis reveals that idiolect variation of the Mongondow language in Kombot Village, Pinolosian District, can also be seen from the

aspect of intonation. This aspect is closely related to the speaker's personal voice tone and influences the way the speech is delivered. Data regarding this intonation

Table 4.1

Idiolect Variation of the Mongondow Language in Kombot Village, Pinolosian District, Reviewed from the Aspect of Intonation

Data	Speech	English
1	Auaaa da tadi malam lagi koi mama titi aue pung pang mo labu' in kombiloi auaaa.	Last night, mangoes were falling from the tree at Mama Titi's house.
2	Koi mama titi na'aa nogukat don?	Has Mama Titi delivered the dowry money?
3	Daa' tonga binomonu kon bagasi in doitnya baya ginatod koi papa era in doitt, tonga bi pinoatodan nya kon dewan kopiamay noronikah bidon mosiaaaa	The money was simply placed in the motorcycle's storage compartment and delivered to Mr. Era and directly to the customary council—thank goodness the marriage had already taken place.

a. The Word "Auaa"

Data 1, in the word "Auaa" above, shows an emphasis on the letter /a/ at the beginning and end of the sentence, pronounced with a prolonged intonation and a distinctive exclamation-like intonation. This prolonged intonation indicates the speaker's emotional expression and is a phonological characteristic of the idiolectal variation of Mongondow speakers.

b. The Word "Na'aa"

Data 3, in the word "na'aa" in the table above, shows the use of rising intonation at the end of the sentence. Rising intonation is used by speakers to express questions and seek confirmation from their interlocutors. Phonologically, this intonation pattern is a form

of idiolectal variation among Mongondow speakers.

c. The Word “Moasiaaaa”

Data for the word “Mosiaaaa” shows the use of intonation with a greater emphasis on the vowel /a/ at the end of the sentence, pronounced in a low or prolonged manner. This indicates emotional emphasis as a form of affirmation or completion.

2. Idiolect Variation in Mongondow Language from the Aspect of Tone

Idiolect variation in tonal aspects relates to the pitch of a speaker’s voice. Each individual has a distinct way of pronouncing tones, which become a characteristic in everyday communication. These differences in pitch can be seen in how speakers raise or lower their voices when asking questions, making assertions, expressing emotions, or responding to interlocutors. In this study, idiolect variation in Mongondow language, from the aspect of tonal aspects, focuses on the use of pitch in the speech of the people of Kombot Village, Pinolosian District. This variation demonstrates the unique characteristics of each speaker in using Mongondow.

Table 2

Idiolectal Variations in the Mongondow Language Viewed from the Aspect of Tone

Data	Speech	English
1	Memang pe kutsal-kutsal skali mo ciri iiiiiii	There are so many of these.
2	Nogogay no pesbuk hahaha, oo'ooo ma aman bi doman au in perasaan	There are so many of these.
3	Noko kacau koi mama indri tanion deemannn bi onu tanuion, informasi dia' bidon poponika kin esa bok i peyang kai papa dani	Mrs. Indri's mind was in turmoil thinking about the dowry, with information that Mr. Dani's daughter would no longer be married to Mrs. Indri's son.

a. The word "Iniiiiii"

In the excerpt from Data 1, the word "iiiiiii" appears with a vocal quality indicating that the intonation places extra emphasis on the letter /i/. This signals an emotional tone or serves to emphasize the subject.

b. The word "Pesbuk"

Data 5 reveals a prominence of the vowel sound /a/ in the word "Pesbuk," a result of letter omission and substitution. In this instance, the letter /f/ is replaced by /p/ and the letters /oo/ are omitted, transforming the pronunciation of "Facebook" into "Pesbuk." This reflects an emotional emphasis conveying a casual attitude or familiarity, further reinforced by the sound of laughter ("hahaha")—an expression of relief or calmness regarding the situation being discussed.

c. The word "Deeman"

Based on Data 5, the utterance containing the word "deeman" exhibits phonological stress, with the vocal quality placing emphasis on the double vowel /ee/. This indicates an emotional emphasis—specifically, the informant's anxiety or earnestness—while describing a state of mental turmoil. The heavy, slightly elongated vocal quality of the word serves to underscore the importance of the information being conveyed.

3. Idiolect Variation of the Mongondow Language Seen from the Aspect of Vowel and Consonant Phoneme Omission

3.1 Idiolectal Variations in the Mongondow Language Based on Vowel and Consonant Phoneme Changes

The data regarding idiolectal variations in the Mongondow language, viewed in terms of vowel and consonant phoneme changes, are as follows: the phoneme /t/ becomes /s/; /a/ becomes /e/; /e/ becomes /a/; /q/ becomes /k/; and /v/ becomes /p/. For further details, please refer to the following table.

Table 3
Idiolectal Variations in the Mongondow
Language Based on Vowel and Consonant
Phoneme Changes

Data	Phoneme Changes	Mongondow Language Speech	English
1	/t/ menjadi /s/	Totok ku bi sinayak na'anta tonga bi pimosisip ku mako	That item is always sought after, even though it's actually just hidden there.
2	/a/ menjadi /e/	Biar jo ampa ini jo ee l mama punya	Let's just keep these, these four, one is mom's.
3	/e/ menjadi /a/	Itu dia pesanan bidon auee	That's what she ordered, oh my.

a. The word Sinayak

In the utterance in Data 1, a phonemic change from /t/ to /s/ is observed in the word sinayak. This sound change indicates a phonological variation in the speech of Mongondow speakers. The phoneme /t/ in this specific word form shifts to the phoneme /s/, resulting in a pronunciation that differs from the standard form used by other speakers. This sound change serves as a distinctive characteristic of the speaker's everyday communication.

b. The word ampa

In the utterance, a phonemic change from /e/ to /a/ is observed in the word ampa, which is pronounced differently from the standard form used by other speakers. This vowel sound change indicates a phonological variation in the speech of Mongondow speakers. The phonemic change occurs in the vowel sound, resulting in a distinctive pronunciation in daily communication.

c. The word auee

Data 3, featuring the word auee, reveals phonological stress on the vowel sound, which undergoes monophthongization and a raising

of vowel quality from low-open to mid-central. This phenomenon demonstrates that the phoneme /a/ undergoes an articulatory shift to /e/ due to emotional emphasis or prolonged duration at the end of the utterance.

3.2 Mongondow Idiolect Variation: Omission of Vowel and Consonant Phonemes

Data regarding Mongondow idiolect variation, viewed from the perspective of vowel and consonant phoneme omission, is presented in the following table.

Table 4
Idiolectal Variations in the Mongondow
Language Based on Vowel and Consonant
Phoneme Omission

Data	Phoneme Deletion	Mongondow Language Speech	English
1	Fonem /i/ dan /n/	Iniguan satu kali, hobinya dolom-dolom mointalu	I might as well take a shower, my hobby is defecating in the middle of the night.
2	Fonem /t/	Ki Oma pe cocungkel yang b kari-kari bagitu e	Grandma's prying tool likes to pick like that
3	Fonem /n/	Ada pa dia pigi minta pdia supaya yanda mo jatung	I've given him the money so it doesn't get lost.

a. Deletion of the Phonemes /i/ and /n/

Data 1: "Iniguan satu kali, hobinya dolom-dolom mointalu"

Based on Data 1, there is a deletion of the phonemes /i/ and /n/, causing the utterance in the word "iningguan" to become "ingguan." This phoneme deletion, which is linguistically referred to as elision, occurs when the speaker omits the phonemes /i/ and /n/ at the beginning of the word. As a result, the word that should be pronounced as "iningguan" is instead pronounced as "ingguan."

b. Deletion of the Phoneme /t/

Data 2: “Ki oma pe cocungkel yang b kari-kari bagitu e”

In Data 2, there is a deletion of the phoneme /t/ at the end of the word, where the word that should be pronounced as “karit” is realized as “kari.” This linguistic phenomenon is known as apocope, which refers to the deletion of one or more sounds at the end of a word, a feature that commonly occurs in rapid or informal speech.

c. Deletion of the Phoneme /n/

Data 3: “Ada pa dia pigi minta pdia supaya yanda mo jatung”

In Data 3, there is a deletion of the phoneme /n/, causing the word “nyanda” to become “yanda.” This excerpt is identified as part of Mrs. Naya’s idiolect because it demonstrates a distinctive speech characteristic, namely the deletion of the phoneme /n/. This feature distinguishes her speech from that of other speakers and reflects the uniqueness of her speaking style.

3.3 Idiolect Variation of the Mongondow Language Viewed from the Aspect of Vowel and Consonant Phoneme Addition

Phoneme addition in an idiolect is a process in which a speaker adds one or more sounds when pronouncing words. This process may result in a distinctive speech pattern and become a unique characteristic of an individual’s communication.

a. Addition of the Phoneme /t/ in the Word doit

Data 1: Pe suka suka mo b balun, auee ada kase doit 10 ribu nga mo b balun akang

In Data 1, the phoneme /t/ is added, causing the word “doi” to become “doit.” This utterance is identified as an individual idiolect because it exhibits the distinctive characteristic of adding a plosive sound at the end of the word, which distinguishes the speaker from other speakers. This phenomenon reflects the uniqueness of Mrs. Elin’s speech style, as she

tends to emphasize articulation in commonly used terms to produce a firmer yet still friendly manner of speaking. At the same time, this feature serves as a consistent marker of her personal linguistic identity.

b. Addition of the Phonemes /p/, /i/, /n/, and /o/ in the Word pinosisip

Data 2: Totok k ubi sinayak naanta tonga bi pinosisip ku mako

In Data 2, the phonemes /p/, /i/, /n/, and /o/ are added, causing the word “sisip” to become “pinosisip.”

c. Addition of the Phonemes /k/ and /o/ in the Word koinako

In Data 3, the phonemes /k/ and /o/ are added, causing the utterance “inako” to become “koinako.” In this context, the phoneme addition functions as a form of emphasis on something that belongs to the speaker.

2. Idiolect Variation of the Mongondow Language among the Community of Kombot Village, Pinolosian District, Viewed from the Aspect of Language Style

The dynamics of intonation and the depth of emotion in the speakers’ utterances create a more intimate and meaningful impression. This study identified 11 data sets related to this aspect, as presented in the table below.

Data 1: Imuik sia ki om tua namonik to nosipun p konbango

Based on Data 1, the expression “Imuik sia ki om tua” is a respectful form of address commonly used by the Mongondow community when referring to an older man. The term “Ki Om Tua” indicates that the speaker conveys politeness and familiarity in communication, even while discussing work-related activities in the garden.

Data 2: Namonik to nosipun pa konbango

Based on the utterance in Data 2, “namonik to nosipun pa konbango” demonstrates a narrative descriptive language style. The words “namonik” (climbing) and “nosipun” (collecting) describe a



sequence of activities carried out consecutively, thereby illustrating the work process of a coconut farmer.

Data 3: nopalut mako nodarit pa konpinorabutan sin moki semprot pa

Based on the utterance in Data 3, “nopalut mako nodarit pa” exhibits the language style of alliteration (internal rhyme). The repetition of the initial sounds in the words “nopalut” (cleaning) and “nodarit” (pulling out) reflects the aesthetic quality of the Mongondow language, which frequently employs sound repetition to make utterances more rhythmic and easier to remember.

3. Factors Influencing the Variation of Mongondow Language Idiolects among the Community in Kombot Village, Pinolosian District

The results of the analysis of the factors influencing the variation of Mongondow language idiolects are explained as follows.

a. Physical Factors and Speech Organs

Each individual possesses unique biological characteristics of the speech organs, which influence the frequency and quality of the voice (timbre). This is clearly reflected in the differences in speech production between male and female speakers in Kombot Village.

Data 15: Mr. Ika said, “Mosia akadon b ikon kantor bay mobui may kon baloy.”

From a phonological perspective, Mr. Ika’s idiolect is characterized by a low-pitched (bass) voice and heavy consonant articulation. This is influenced by the physical characteristics of an adult male’s thicker vocal cords, which produce slower yet stronger vocal vibrations than those of female speakers.

In contrast,

b. Psychological Factors and Personality (Character)

An idiolect reflects an individual’s personal character. Speakers who are assertive or expressive produce phonological variations

that differ from those of calmer speakers. An expressive character can be observed in Mrs. Genti’s idiolect in Data 1 (Environmental Factor): “na’ay don tundu on akuoi auaaa.” The use of extreme vowel lengthening (elongation) is influenced by the speaker’s open and straightforward personality. Phonologically, a strong personality encourages the speaker to place excessive stress at the end of an utterance as a form of emotional emphasis.

c. Geographical Environment and Occupational Factors

Daily activities in a coastal environment require speakers to adapt their speech organs so that communication remains effective despite environmental noise.

In Data 8, Mrs. Eka gave instructions in a high-pitched voice: “...bantal lambung nya bo bea atod bea atod.” This is influenced by the habit of communicating in a noisy coastal environment. From a phonological perspective, occupational demands (giving instructions for the delivery of goods) require the speaker to use a high pitch and loud volume, which eventually become permanent features of her personal idiolect, even in relaxed situations. A person’s idiolect is greatly influenced by the environment in which they live because language serves as a means of adapting to surrounding geographical and social conditions. Individuals who grow up in coastal areas tend to develop idiolects characterized by a loud voice, firm intonation, and a rich vocabulary.

d. Language Contact and Social Interaction Factors

Interaction with communities outside the village influences the purity of phonological features in an individual’s idiolect.

In Data 7, Mrs. Elin said, “Haiiiii! Nynda brani b demon sin ada kita tadi disini hahahah.”

The appearance of the words “Nynda” and “kita” (Manado Malay) indicates a strong influence of language contact. From a phonological perspective, Mrs. Elin’s idiolect has undergone assimilation with an urban dialect. This is caused by broader social interaction and communication

with people outside the Mongondow ethnic community, resulting in pronunciation that no longer fully conforms to the phonological rules of the traditional Mongondow language.

DISCUSSION

Mongondow Language Idiolectal Variation Among the Community of Kombot Village, Pinolosian District

Idiolectal variation within the Kombot Village community emphasizes phonological aspects as primary markers of individual speech identity. The most striking phonological phenomenon appears in vocal timbre indicators, specifically through the process of vowel elongation—a feature serving both functional and emotional purposes. For instance, in Data 1, Ibu Eka produces the word "iniiiii" by extremely extending the duration of the vowel phoneme /i/. Phonologically, this elongation is not merely a sound variation but an acoustic mechanism used to place stress on information deemed important. Similarly, in Data 2, the use of the sound "Auaaa" with drawn-out intonation demonstrates that each individual possesses a unique way of managing vocal resonance and airflow (articulation) to create distinct emphatic effects.

Regarding phoneme changes, idiolectal variation is strongly characterized by metaplasmic processes—alterations in phonemic structure that reflect each speaker's tendency toward linguistic economy. The phenomenon of apheresis, or the omission of a phoneme at the beginning of a word (Chaer, 2009), is a distinctive feature in Data 11; here, the speaker omits the nasal phoneme /ñ/, transforming the word "Nyanda" into "Yanda." Additionally, apocope—the loss of a phoneme at the end of a word—is observed; examples include the word "masih" being pronounced as "masi" (Data 14) and "masak" becoming "masa" (Data 12). These processes reveal a tendency among speakers to simplify articulation by eliminating terminal sound obstructions. Furthermore, syncope—the omission of a phoneme in the middle of a word—

also occurs; this is seen in Data 9, where the word "iningguan" is reduced to "iniguan." On the other hand, the phenomenon of paragoge—the addition of a phoneme at the end of a word (Kridalaksana, 2008)—appears in Data 17, where the word "doi" acquires the dental stop /t/, becoming "doit." This diversity of phoneme deletion and addition processes demonstrates that the idiolects of speakers in Kombot Village are phonologically highly dynamic in how they modify base word forms. The analysis of speech style within these idiolects also highlights suprasegmental aspects, specifically regarding intonation, pitch, and speech tempo. In Data 10, the use of the emphatic particle "bi" in the construction "Alasan bi eka..." serves as a marker of sentence-level emphasis. Phonologically, this style involves pitch modulation intended to persuade the listener. Speakers like Mr. Ika exhibit stable phonological characteristics, featuring a steady tempo and distinct pauses (staccato), conveying an air of authority through precise articulation control. In contrast, speakers like Mrs. Eka tend to display accelerated tempo alongside sharp pitch fluctuations. The integration of vocal qualities—achieved through elongation—and word structure modifications (such as apheresis, syncope, and apocope), combined with suprasegmental elements, collectively shapes a unique phonological profile for each speaker's idiolect in Kombot Village.

Factors Influencing Mongondow Language Idiolect Variation Among the Community of Kombot Village, Pinolosian District

Phonological variation in the idiolects of the Kombot Village community is influenced by complex mechanisms wherein individual characteristics interact with social backgrounds and environmental factors. This explanation aligns with the sociolinguistic theory proposed by Suwito (1982:21), which states that language variation—or idiolect—is fundamentally influenced by two primary factors: intra-lingual factors (internal to



the language) and extra-lingual factors (external to the language). In the context of the Mongondow language in Kombot Village, extra-lingual factors are the most dominant aspect in shaping the distinctive pronunciation characteristics of each speaker. The first highly influential factor concerns the speaker's biological and psychological aspects. Drawing on Suwito's (1982) perspective, an idiolect represents a speaker's most personal manifestation. Phonologically, physical differences in speech organs—such as the vocal cords, oral cavity, and tongue—cause each individual in Kombot Village to produce a unique vocal quality (timbre). Beyond physical aspects, psychological conditions or temperament also determine a person's speaking style. Speakers with assertive personalities tend to produce sounds with strong articulation and rapid tempo, whereas calmer speakers produce more subdued intonation patterns. This demonstrates that individual identity naturally shapes distinctive and stable sound patterns.

The second factor is the environment or geographical background. Suwito (1982) explains that the living environment acts as an external variable compelling language to adapt. The community of Kombot Village, residing in a coastal area, is exposed to natural conditions characterized by the noise of waves and wind. Consequently, the human speech apparatus undergoes phonological adaptation by increasing amplitude (volume) and employing elongation (vowel lengthening) to ensure effective communication. This habit, born of environmental demands, gradually crystallized into a permanent idiolect, resulting in a distinct sound profile for the speech of coastal communities compared to those in quieter or more secluded areas.

The final factor influencing this variation is social interaction and language contact. In line with Suwito's theory, language is dynamic when it comes into contact with speakers from diverse backgrounds. Frequent interaction with outsiders

or newcomers leads to sound assimilation within an individual's idiolect. Phonological processes—such as the elision of phonemes at the beginning, middle, or end of words—frequently emerge due to the influence of other languages that dominate daily social interactions. Consequently, an individual's mobility and the breadth of their social network in Kombot Village play a role in determining the extent of phonological variation in their spoken idiolect.

CONCLUSION

Regarding the idiolectal variation of the Mongondow language among the residents of Kombot Village, Pinolosian District, it can be concluded that every speaker possesses a distinctive and unique sound identity. These individual characteristics are clearly manifested through three primary aspects: voice timbre, phoneme alteration, and speech style. Regarding voice timbre, a phenomenon of vowel lengthening (elongation) was observed in specific words, serving to emphasize the speaker's intent and emotions. In terms of phoneme alteration, the community's idiolect is characterized by a tendency toward sound simplification through phoneme elision—whether at the beginning (apheresis), middle (syncope), or end (apocope) of a word. Meanwhile, each individual's speech style exhibits unique traits—evident in pitch modulation and the consistent use of emphatic particles—which collectively form a distinctive signature that sets one person apart from another.

Variations in the Mongondow language idiolects among the community of Kombot Village, Pinolosian District, are driven by a combination of factors—including physical characteristics and speech organs, psychological traits and personality, and geographical environment and occupation. Furthermore, the intensity of interaction with people from outside the village influences the purity of native speech sounds through the incorporation of new vocabulary into individual

speaking styles. Thus, the study concludes that idiolectal variation in Kombot Village results from human adaptation to biological, psychological, and socio-geographical conditions, rendering the Mongondow language in the area remarkably rich in individual phonetic diversity.

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