

A Corpus-based Study of Verbs Which are Modified by Qualitative Adverb in Indonesian

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Abstract Indonesian qualitative adverb, *sangat* 'very', tend to be used as parameter to distinguish verbs and adjectives. If a word is modified by *sangat* and form grammatical phrase, the word is likely an adjective, e.g. *sangat cantik* 'very beautiful'. Otherwise, the word is a verb if it forms ungrammatical phrase with *sangat*, e.g. *sangat menari* 'very dance' which is not accepted in Indonesian language. Qualitative adverb or adverb of degree also is considered as property of adjective to distinguish it with other lexical category. In reality, *sangat* is found modified verbs as well, not only adjective. Some verbs accept modification with *sangat*, e.g. *sangat mencintai* 'very love (lit.)', *sangat ingat* 'very remember (lit.)', *sangat berpengaruh* 'very influence (lit.)', and so on. According to this fact, this research aims to investigate which type of verb that can accept modification with qualitative adverb, in this case is *sangat* 'very'. This study is a corpus-based grammar research which is still rarely applied in Indonesian grammar, especially in verb and adverb study. Corpus Indonesian Web (IndonesianWac) is used to provide various data which qualitative adverb *sangat* appear with verbs in Indonesian language. Data of this research are all verbs that accept modification with *sangat*. The verbs then will be categorized according to its verb type. The verb types used in this study is verb type by Chafe and Cook which has been modified by Tampubolon. The results of the concluded that most of verb that accept modification by *sangat* 'very' is derivative verb. The verbs are state verbs which is divided as state verb, state experiential verb, and state benefactive verb.

Keywords: *adjective, adverb, corpus, qualitative adverb, verb, verb type*

1. Introduction

Qualitative adverb in Indonesian language is an adverb which describes level, degree, and quality [1]. This adverb is also well-known as intensive adverb [2], degree word [3], intensifier or amplifier [4], and quality marker [[5]. Qualitative or degree adverb has two functions, intensives and downtoner [3]. Intensives function to maximize or boost meaning or scale a quality up and, as downtoners, degree adverb functions to scale downwards from an assumed norm. Indonesian language also has qualitative adverb which function as intensives and downtoners as follows.

Intensives: *sangat very, paling most, lebih more*

Downtoner: *kurang less, sedikit slight, agak quite*

Indonesian language tends to use this adverb as parameter to distinguish verbs and adjectives. If the investigated word can be modified by qualitative adverb, the word is an adjective. Otherwise, if the phrase becomes ungrammatical after it is modified by qualitative adverb, the investigated word is a verb. As examples, *lari* 'run' is a verb because it forms ungrammatical phrase when *lari* is modified by *sangat* 'very'. Meanwhile, *cantik* 'beautiful' is an adjective because it forms grammatical phrase with qualitative adverb as in phrase *sangat cantik* 'very beautiful'. Gradation or degree expression is often used as distinctive property of adjective [6]. However, it is still a subject of debate between linguists because degree expression is also found with other category, other than adjective [3], [7]. Following examples are degree expressions which are formed by degree adverb and verb in English (1), Japanese (2), and Germany (3) [8].

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (1) He loves his mother very much. | (2) Er liebt Angela sehr. |
| (3) Taroo-wa totemo kurusinda | He loves Angela very |
| | 'He loves Angela very much' |

Some Indonesian verbs can be modified by qualitative adverb as well as in the examples below.

- (4) Ia sangat mencintai perang [...] (doc #498)
 [lit.] She/he very love war
 'she/he loves war very much'

Previously, this case has been mentioned by Hasan [1], Kridalaksana [5], Sneddon [8], and Sofyan [9] without any details explanation about which kind of verbs that can be modified by qualitative adverb. It is just mentioned the verb is verb of emotion [1], [5], causative verb formed by suffixation with suffix - *kan* [8], and affixed verb [9]. If we see in corpus data, verbs that can be modified by qualitative adverb are more vary and not limited to verb of emotion, causative verb, or affixed verb. There are some base verbs found modified by *sangat*, e.g. *ingat*. It is also found that. *mengetahui* 'know', *diperlukan* 'is needed', *berkurang* 'decrease', *menyadari* 'realized', and more non-emotion and non-causative verbs can be modified by qualitative adverb. According to this fact, in depth study of verb type that can be modified by qualitative adverb needs to be done. This research aims to investigate verb types that can be modified by qualitative adverb in Indonesian.

2. Research Method

This study is a corpus-based grammar research. Corpus-based approach analyzes the patterned use of grammatical features in text instead of using intuition or native judgement which is done by traditional studies. By using large corpora and computer tools, this approach investigates the frequency distribution of various constructions, the association patterns between grammatical structures and other linguistic and non-linguistics factors, and the factors that affect choices between structural variants [10]. This study uses corpus of Indonesian language from Sketch Engine (<https://www.sketchengine.eu/>), namely Indonesian Web (IndonesianWaC). Indonesian Web (IndonesianWaC) is a large corpus with 109,236,814 tokens taken from 27,051 internet articles. Internet articles in this corpus vary, ranging from Wikipedia articles, blogs, to online news. Not all qualitative adverbs in Indonesian language is used for this research. *Sangat* 'very' is used as prototype of qualitative adverb here as this adverb is frequently used by Indonesian people with 152.471 occurrences in corpus. Word

Sketch feature in Sketch Engine is used to generate collocate which occur with *sangat* in phrase. In corpus, the investigated word is called as axis and the words occur with them are called as collocate. The investigated word of this research is *sangat* and verb is the collocate which appears with *sangat*. As *sangat* occurs with various categories from adjective, verb, noun, and another adverb, the collocates need to be categorized according to their part of speech. It is found that 347 verbs appear as collocate of *sangat* and its occurrences are 46.031. All verbs is analyzed by categorizing them to verb classes. Verb types which are used in this research is modified by [11] from Chafe and Cook verb classification. Chafe and Cook verb classification is chosen to categorize verb for this research because their classification has been used to explore semantics of verbal affixations in Indonesian language. Tampubolon categorizes Chef and Cook verb classification into 12 basic verb types which is distinguished by their required case or argument on its semantics. Semantic case role used to distinguish each type are agent (A), experiencer (E), benefactive (B), object (O), location (L), and object which is required by state verb (Os). According to its semantic case role, the verb types consist of state (Os, Os, Os), state experiential (E, Os), state benefactive (B, Os), state locative (Os, L), process (O, O, O), process benefactive (E, O), process experiential (B, O), process locative (O, L), action (A, O, A, O, O), action experiential (A, E, O), action benefactive (A, B, O), and action benefactive (A, O, L). Codes in the bracket show required case/arguQualitative adverb in Indonesian mostly modifies affixed verbs, such as *tergantung* ‘depends’, *berharap* ‘hope’, and *menginginkan* ‘want’. There are only thirteen basic verbs found with *sangat*, i.e. *suka* ‘like’, *percaya* ‘believe’, *paham* ‘understand’, *tahu* ‘know’, *bisa* ‘can’, *butuh* ‘need’, *maju* ‘go forward’, *masuk* ‘get in’, *tampak* ‘seen’, *hidup* ‘alive’, *ingat* ‘remember’, *nampak* ‘seen’, and *dapat* ‘can’. Qualitative adverb in Indonesian mostly modifies affixed verbs, such as *tergantung* ‘depends’, *berharap* ‘hope’, and *menginginkan* ‘want’. There are only thirteen basic verbs found with *sangat*, i.e. *suka* ‘like’, *percaya* ‘believe’, *paham* ‘understand’, *tahu* ‘know’, *bisa* ‘can’, *butuh* ‘need’, *maju* ‘go forward’, *masuk* ‘get in’, *tampak* ‘seen’, *hidup* ‘alive’, *ingat* ‘remember’, *nampak* ‘seen’, and *dapat* ‘can’.

3. Results And Discussion

Qualitative adverb in Indonesian mostly modifies affixed verbs, such as *tergantung* ‘depends’, *berharap* ‘hope’, and *menginginkan* ‘want’. There are only thirteen basic verbs found with *sangat*, i.e. *suka* ‘like’, *percaya* ‘believe’, *paham* ‘understand’, *tahu* ‘know’, *bisa* ‘can’, *butuh* ‘need’, *maju* ‘go forward’, *masuk* ‘get in’, *tampak* ‘seen’, *hidup* ‘alive’, *ingat* ‘remember’, *nampak* ‘seen’, and *dapat* ‘can’. Most of verbs which accept modification with qualitative adverb *sangat* *very* are derivative verbs. The verbs are derived from the stem under category *adjective*, *adverb*, *noun*, *preposition*, and *numeralia*. Deadjectival verb and denominal verb are two derived verbs that are mostly found in data.

Verb Type	Total	Freq
base verbs	13	673
deadjectival verbs	110	10510
deverbial verbs	7	374
denominal verbs	118	18412
deprepositional verbs	3	369
denumerallal verbs	1	59
deverbal verbs	102	15634
Total	352	46031

As seen in the table above, most of verbs that can be modified by qualitative adverb is derivative verbs with adjective and noun as its stem. Examples of deadjectival verb are menjijikan *disgusting* (the stem is jijik *disgusted*), bersedih *being sad* (the stem is sedih *sad*), bersuka cita *being happy* (the stem is suka cita *happy*).

3.1. Verb Type

Verbs which are found modified by qualitative adverb *sangat very* in data mostly are state verbs. Of 12 verb types, there are three verbs that are found in data. Verbs that can be modified by qualitative adverb *sangat very* are categorized in state verbs, state experiential verb, and state benefactive verbs. The verbs are found in form of base verb and affixed verb, but the amount of affixed verb is much more than base verb.

3.1.1 State Verb

According to [11], this verb type only requires Os as its semantic case role. The object noun specifies the entity is in a certain state or condition. categorizes adjective as state verb because in his research adjective and verb is considered as same category. His approach is different with this research which is distinguish adjective and verb as two different categories. All state verbs found in this research is derivative verbs with adjective and noun as the stem.

(6) Mereka yang tampil di layar tiga bulan sesudahnya memang **sangat berbeda**. (doc#103

OV

[lit.] *They who appear on screen three months after indeed very different*
They who appear on screen after three months are indeed very different.

2.1.2 State Experiential Verb

State experiential verbs are found in data in form of base verb and affixed verb. State experiential verbs which are modified by *sangat very* are exemplified in the following sentences.

(7) Sebenarnya dulu Mbak Mita **sangat suka** bulu tangkis. (doc#434)

EVO

[lit.] *Actually before sister Mita very like badminton Actually*
Mita used to like badminton before

(8) Orang kaya **sangat paham** dengan pameo.. (doc#15346)

EVO

[lit.] *People rich very understand with pameo Rich*
people really understand about pameo

(9) Ia **sangat terpesona** oleh suara kecapi Hermes (doc#13298)

EVO

[lit.] *He very fascinated by voice harp Hermes He*
is very fascinated by Hermes' harp voice

As stated by [11], state experiential verb requires experiencer and object in its semantics. The object sometimes is preceded by a preposition. In example (8), *pameo* is the object and it is preceded by preposition *tentang about*. State experiential verbs refers to cognition and emotion as experiencer of state experiential verb is the one who is in psychological state of

cognition, emotion, or sensation. As seen in data, state experiential verb is not only found as base verb. Verb with prefix *ter-* can be considered as state experiential verb, *e.g.* *terpesona touched*, *termotivasi motivated*, and *terinspirasi inspired*. In example (9), *ia he/she* is the one who experienced psychological state of sensation and the object *Hermes' harp voice* is preceded by preposition *oleh by*.

2.1.3 State Benefactive Verb

This verb requires benefactive and object in its semantics structure. Benefactive noun specifies the one who possesses the object or thing and the object noun specifies the object or thing possessed [11]. State benefactive verb is not found in form of base verb in data. All state benefactive verbs found in data is affixed verb. This verb type is found in form of denominal verb which is formed by prefixation process with *ber-*. Prefix *ber-* here has grammatical meaning 'mempunyai' as affixed verb with *ber-* can be respectively paraphrased as 'mempunyai have noun'.

(10) Tindakan ini tentu saja sangat beresiko. (Doc#7088)

B **V**

[lit.] *Action this of course very risky*

Of course this action is very risky

Beresiko risky in example (9) above has meaning 'mempunyai resiko (*contain risk*)' so the sentence can be paraphrased as

(11) Tindakan ini tentu sangat mempunyai resiko

This action of course really has risk.

Base of the affixed verb is representing object in its semantic structure so the verb is counted as state benefactive verb. There is also *memiliki* as state benefactive verb found in data as in the following example.

(12) Menurut saya mereka sangat memiliki integritas secara global.

(doc#5414)

B **V** **Os**

[lit.] *In opinion my they very have integrity global*

In my opinion they really have global integrity

Qualitative verb gives meaning to scalar change as well. As stated before, this adverb is also called as degree adverb which shows scalar change and the verb that can be modified by this adverb is also called as degree verb. Adjective as the stem of derived verbs lexicalize scalar attributes to the verb. Thus, the verb is able to be modified by qualitative adverb. This corresponds to Levin's research [12] which find that scalar change verb typically are deadjectival. In contrast to an adjective, scalar change verb tends to be stative. That is also found in this research that verb type which can be modified by qualitative adverb is state verb as explained below. Derived verbs may give impact that causes the verbs can accept modification with qualitative adverb. It is because most of derived verbs found here are deadjectival verb. Adjective as stem influences the affixed verb to accept modification with qualitative adverb as adjective is prototypical category which can be modified by qualitative adverb. State experiential verb is also found as verb which accepts modification with qualitative adverb. Fleischhauer [13] states that experiencer verb is probably the prototypical instances of gradable verb. Experiencer verbs here also refer to Levin's psych verb. Experiencer verbs found here are not limited to emotion verb which is experienced by the experiencer, but also cognitive verb [14].

4 Conclusion

Most of verbs that can be modified by qualitative adverb are affixed verbs. There are only thirteen base verbs found being modified by qualitative adverb. Verbs type which accept modification with qualitative adverb *sangat* *very* is state verbs. There are three types of state verbs that can be modified by qualitative adverb, that are state verb, experiential verb, and benefactive verb. Action and process verbs are not found in data which means these two verb types do not accept modification with qualitative adverb *sangat*. As most of verbs are affixed verbs, the stem of verbs give influence that causes the verb can accept modification by qualitative adverb. This study only focuses on verb type that can be modified by qualitative adverb so that another study can be conducted to have in-depth explanation of this case by investigating the stem. By investigating the type of the stem, we will have deeper explanation of why those verb accept modification of qualitative adverb.

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