

## Halobanese Word Order: A Syntactic Typology Approach

Syarifuddin<sup>1</sup>, Khairina Nasution<sup>2</sup>, Mulyadi<sup>3</sup>, Eddy Setia<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1 2 3 4</sup>Doctoral Linguistics Study Program, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, University of North Sumatra

radensyarifuddin05@gmail.com

**Abstract:** *This study aims to describe the word order and the typology of Haloban language. Research data are basic clauses which are transitive and intransitive clauses. Data analysis uses the distribution method with the technique of substitution and transformation. The results show that Haloban language in the transitive clause has an agent, predicate, and object (APO) order. Meanwhile, the intransitive clause results show the pattern of the subject, predicate (SP) order. The result also indicates that the order in the Haloban language is an important indicator for expressing syntactic functions. If the position of the agent, predicate, or object, is reversed, then a clause in Haloban language will not be accepted. In addition, this language has an accusative typology. This is based on Dixon's (1994) typology theory which states that accusative language needs S (subject of intransitive clause) to A (subject of transitive clause) or S=A. This occurs as well in the Haloban language where the subject intransitive clause is treated as same as the subject of a transitive clause.*

**Keywords:** *accusative, Haloban language, word order, typology*

### Introduction

Word order is a universal phenomenon and includes language universals, which are a series of words in a syntactic construction that also determines the grammatical meaning of a particular language. In linguistics, word order is the placement of words in a certain sequence according to the norms of a language at the clause level and also at the phrase level. Some languages have a relatively rigid word order to convey their grammatical meaning, while some other languages allow flexibility especially for conveying pragmatic information such as for conveying a particular topic. Due to the importance of the position of linearity or sequential arrangement in various languages, by Greenberg (1963) and by Lehman (1973), word order is used as the basis of language typology.

The word order proposed by Greenberg followed the previous typological linguists (Andersen, 1983: 7-8; Keraf, 1990: 105; Sudaryanto, 1993b: 27) which he called the *basic order*. Word order based on Greenberg's reasoning initially consisted of three types based on word order, namely SOV, VSO, and SVO. This view is then reduced by Song (2001:49) into two basic typologies, namely OV from SOV, and VO from SVO and VSO. Based on this reasoning, Keraf (1990:106) states that potentially six-word order patterns can be obtained, namely SVO, SOV, OSV, OVS, VSO, and VOS. Based on these possibilities, it is observed what the word order in Haloban language.

In connection with the above description, the problem discussed in this study is the implementation of the purpose of typological linguistics, which is to explain the type of Haloban language (hereinafter referred to as HL) based on word order typology. To answer this general problem, a question sentence was formulated, namely "What is the typology of HL word order in imperative, declarative, and interrogative sentences?"

HL is a local language spoken by the Haloban Tribe who inhabits Haloban Island, District of West Banyak Island, Singkil Regency, Aceh Province. Geographically, the Haloban people live in two villages called Haloban Village and Asantola Village. Based on the author's search, HL has not received much attention from both global and Indonesian linguists. Existing research on HL is

research by Armia (2009) from the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, the University of North Sumatra, which examines the syntax of HL in general. The syntax research is described descriptively. The results of the HL syntax research by Armia (2009) show that clauses and sentences have grammatical categories including subject, predicate, and object. Grammatically, the arrangement can be formulated as follows S-V-O. This study of Armia's linguistics (2009) can be said to be still very simple and there has also been no issue regarding the typology of HL word order. On the basis of the considerations above, the authors are interested in studying HL with the main subject of the study: "HL word order in the linguistic typology design.

Based on the linguistics theory above, the ordering data, which includes S (subject), V (Verb), and O (Object) HL, will be analyzed based on the word order typology theory and also be associated with the theory as stated by Cook. (Tarigan, 1984: 19) which classifies sentences based on (1) declarative, (2) imperative and (3) interrogative. The relationship between S, A, and O will group a language into accusative, ergative, and neutral or mixed typologies. In an accusative type, S is treated the same as A. In an absolutive-ergative type S the same as O. Many languages have types that are partly accusative and partly ergative. S is treated the same as A for certain purposes and S is treated the same as O for other purposes (Dixon, 1994: 6). When it is compared with intransitive verb clauses, it will appear that HL is in an accusative typology language. As in the following sample data.

1. a. Amak - o (S) angawan ek pasa  
uncle POS1TG trading Prep market  
'My uncle trades in the market'.
- b. mangawan ia jawi amak - o (A) ek pasa  
AKT-trade PRO3TG cows uncle o POS1TG Pre market  
'My uncle trades cows in the market'

Based on the theory and the sample data above, HL seems to have an S-V-Ket/V-(PRO)-O-S form. This is interesting to study. Meanwhile, this language typology is thought to have an accusative typology. For this reason, this article will reveal two main problems in HL, namely word order and HL typology. Theoretically, this research is expected to contribute to the study of the linguistics field, especially the development of linguistics typology. While practically this research can be a reference for the linguistic community who are interested in HL studies, especially typologically.

From the description above, the writer will analyze the order of S (subject), V (Verb), and O (Object) which have grammatical behavior. The word order that will be studied is also related to the previous theory as stated by Cook (Tarigan, 1984: 19) which classifies sentences based on the type of response expected, namely (1) declarative, (2) imperative, and (3) interrogative.

### **Research Method**

This research is descriptive-qualitative research using a qualitative-phenomenological approach. The purpose of this study is to make a systematic, factual, and accurate description of the character or characteristics of the HL clauses. As stated by Yogyanti (2022), linguistic research aims to describe language phenomena related to individual languages or universal languages.

This research is field research because the research data is obtained directly from native speakers. The data in this study are in the form of speech. Data are taken from native Haloban speakers. Data collection techniques used are recording and translating. This technique was carried out because the researcher was not a HL native speaker. Then the elicitivity technique was used to check the grammatical properties and acceptability of the data. In addition, this study also uses data taken from the results of previous studies.

While the data analysis technique used in this study is to use the agih method. This method is a method whose determinants are in the language to be studied such as words, syntactic functions, clauses, syllables, and others. While the technique used is a technique for direct elements. (Sudaryanto: 2018). The first stage in data analysis is to formulate the basic clause of

the HL. The second stage is to divide the direct elements of the clause by dividing each word based on its predicate and arguments. Then the data is analyzed based on arguments and agents to determine the order of words and also to determine the typology of HL

There are three things that are considered important in descriptive linguistic research as stated by Benedetti (2020), namely; a) research subjects, b) research objects and c) research results. Methodologically, the subject of this research is the victim aspect called word order, while the object of the research is data in the form of clauses and the result is a typological model. HL word order analysis in this study used a linguistic typology approach.

There are two types of data used in this article: secondary data from previous research reference sources and listed reference sources; the informant is an active casual speaker, so introspective-intuitive data is also used and this data is presented without reference. The use of introspective data can be done if the speakers are active in the language being studied, namely HL. This is known as the introspective data acquisition method (Bischin, 2018; Malchukov, 2022; Bril, 2022).

### Discussion

Before discussing HL word order, it is necessary to state the forms of verbs in HL. The following descriptions will be directed to the morphology of HL verbs, which is then followed by a discussion of word order typology.

One of the main characteristics that the language is different from one another is in terms of the order of the words (Jufrizal, 2012:87). In this regard, the study of typology seeks to explain language types universally (across languages), although it departs from language typology in particular. However, in this study, it is not compared with other languages.

The typology of word order referred to in this study refers to the “basic order”, namely the order in the neutral clause with full FN involvement. In this regard, the study of word order in this study tries to examine the order of S (object), V(verb/predicate), and O(object) which have grammatical behavior. The typology of HL word order is analyzed based on imperative, declarative and interrogative sentences.

### Research Results

The results of the word order analysis are presented in the form of intransitive and transitive clauses. Likewise in the analysis of casualty typology, data is presented in the form of intransitive and transitive clauses.

#### 1. Declarative Clause

The word order typology of declarative clauses is studied in two forms of verbs; intransitive and transitive verbs. Declarative sentences or statement sentences in HL are expressed based on something that is important, especially in transitive (two-valenced) verbs. In this regard, the typological conversation will show subjectivity and topicality. However, in this study, the subject matter and topicality are not discussed.

#### 2. The word Order of intransitive clauses

In the previous discussion, intransitive clauses have the order of SV (subject-verb). This clause does not need an object. Let's look at some examples of HL declarative sentences and the following order of intransitive clauses.

- a. luma eda ta-tutong mantet  
S ART fitting-burning out  
'The house burned down.'
- b. rise aese mek sikula  
PRO3TG rushing school prep  
'He rushed to school'.

Sentences (2a) and (2b) are sentences that use intransitive verbs. In clause (2a) it indicates that the intransitive clause in HL has an SV arrangement (subject, verb) and in clause (2b) the order is subject, predicate, and description (SVKet). Reversing the arrangement of the SV in the clause to VS makes the clause unacceptable, let's look at the following examples of clauses (2c) and (2d) data.

- \*c. ta-tutong mantet luma eda  
PAS-burned out S ART  
'The house burned down.'
- \*d. aese rise mek sikula  
PRO3TG Prep school  
'He rushes to school'

Clauses (2a) and (2b) are sentences using intransitive verbs, while sentences (2c) and (2d) use the same verbs, but cannot be accepted because the order of nouns (which act as agents) lies in the postverbal.

Clauses (2c) and (2d) in HL are commonly used in various spoken languages, but of course, with the use of certain intonations and the context of the conversation the clauses can be understood, but the order is a predicate, subject (VSKet). Grammatically, in the HL system, the clause (2c) and clause order (2d) are non-standard ordering.

#### Order of transitive clauses

HL transitive clauses have a sequence of agents, predicates, and objects. This clause requires two basic arguments, i.e, the agent and the patient. The word order of intransitive clauses can be seen from the examples presented below.

- 3. a. *Many-sekhep ia antek bibi manok eda*  
AKT-eram PRO 3TG duck egg chicken ART  
'The chicken incubates the duck egg.'

In clause (3a) there are three constituents. The first is *manok eda* 'the chicken' which occupies the function of an agent or the subject of a transitive clause, *manyekhep* 'incubates' which occupies the function of a predicate, and the minion of aunt 'duck egg' which occupies the function of a patient or object. The order is a strict order in the HL. Because the order of the constituents is not interchangeable. As shown in the following clauses (3b), (3c), and (3d).

- b. \* *manok eda antek bibi manyekhep*  
chicken ART duck egg AKT-eram  
'A chicken is a duck egg incubating'.
- c.\* *Manyekhep manok eda antek bibi*  
AKT-Eram chicken ART duck egg  
'Incubating a chicken is a duck egg'.
- d.\* *Antek bibi manyekhep manok eda*  
duck egg AKT-crack chicken ART  
'Duck eggs incubate the chicken'.

The reversal in (3b) is a reversal from (3a) with the order of AVO (object predicate agent) being AOV (predicate object agent), clause (3c) the order being VAO (object agent predicate), and clause (3d) being OVA (agent predicate object). The three clauses (3b-3d) which are the reversal of clauses (3a) are not acceptable in BHL. This is because the three clauses violate the strict HL ordering rules. Hence, the clause is incomprehensible and unacceptable.

The transitive clause above is a clear description of how the order in the HL is very important in determining the syntactic function. The clause in the HL above, on the part of the agent (*manok eda*), is the controller of the object (the aunt's minion). While the object (aunty minion) is an object that is not a controller. So that the clause that has been reversed, does not give birth to a new clause.

The example clause below is a clause where both the agent and the object have controlling properties.

4. a. *mangkhawali ia mamak apak-o*  
AKT-look for uncle daddy-POS3TG  
'Uncle 'looks for my father'.

Clause (4b) has the same structure as clause (4a). However, something different will be found in the reversal of the clause. Let's observe the reversal of clause (4a) in (4b – 4d) below.

- b. \* *mangkhawali mamak-o*  
AKT-looking for uncle daddy-POS3TG  
'looking for my father's uncle'.  
c. \* *mamak o mangkhawali*  
uncle dad-POS3TG AKT-search  
'Father uncle is looking for'.

The three clauses above show that clauses (4b) and (4c) are unacceptable because they violate the rules of the Haloban language order. Meanwhile, in clause (4d) the same thing is also shown, which is not the same as the AVO order. However, clause (4d) can form a new clause. But it does not have the same meaning as clause (4a). In clause (4a) the agent is *mamak* 'uncle' while in (4d) *mamak* 'uncle' becomes the object (patient). Clause (4d) is acceptable but its meaning changes because it changes its structure.

- d. *mangkhawali ia apak-o mamak*  
AKT-looks for PRO3TG dad-POS3TG uncle  
'Father is looking for uncle'.

From clause (4a) to (4d) there is no special marker that accompanies the agent or object. Only the order in which these syntactic functions are marked. From this, it is known that the ordering is very strict in the transitive clause of HL. In the basic clause, the order is V-(PRO)-O-A.

Based on the analysis above, it can be concluded that in the HL declarative sentence there are two standard word orders, namely; 1) if the clause uses an intransitive verb without an affix, then the order of the sentence is S -V-Pel and 2) V-(Pro)-O-S if the clause is a transitive verb with a nasal affix. With this finding, it can be said syntactically that HL is an accusative type of language.

### **Imperative Sentence**

The imperative sentences are sentences addressed directly to the second person, namely the person who is asked by the first party to do the work as intended in the verb or predicate of the sentence. Imperative sentences contain the intention of ordering or asking the speech partner to do something as the speaker wants (Rehardi, 2005:79). In other words, the subject of the imperative sentence is the second person. Therefore, it does not need to be stated explicitly.

As in other languages, in HL imperative sentences do not use a subject and the verb takes the basic form or verb without affixes (prefixes). In HL, an order given by the first party as the giver of the order to the second party as the recipient of the order can be expressed with (i) verbal predicates only; (ii) complete verbal predicate utterances; (iii) command word assignment; and (iv) exclamations. Syntactically, imperative sentences are formed by verbal predicates with or without FN (arguments).

### **Intransitive imperative sentence**

Intransitive imperative sentences are sentences formed from declarative sentences in the form of intransitive verbs.

5. a. *antaeng!*  
Intr!  
'Sit down!'  
b. *sumeneng!*  
Intr!  
Shut up!

In HL, imperative sentences can also be supplemented with vocative or vocational words.

6. a. *antaeng Ali!*  
sit down Ali!  
'Sit down, Ali!'  
b. *sumenneng anak-anak!*  
shut up, kids  
'Shut up kids!'  
7. a. *antaeng mek era!*  
sit down to ART!  
'Sit over here!'

In this group of intransitive imperative sentences, imperative sentences are also derived from declarative sentences with prepositions in the form of prepositional phrases.

### Transitive Imperative Sentence

A transitive imperative sentence is an imperative sentence derived from a declarative sentence in the form of an intransitive verb added with the suffix {-i}.

8. a. *antaengi kurisi era!*  
sit-APL chair ART  
'Sit this chair!'  
b. *areni wokge eda!*  
repair boat ART  
'Fix this boat!'

From the examples above, it can be seen that imperative sentences form a passive construction with a P-S pattern. From the sentences (8a,b) it can be seen that the structure of the sentence is V + O/P + S/A. Thus, in this imperative sentence, the object of the declarative sentence functions as the subject of the imperative sentence.

The verbs in the examples above are basic verbs and do not have nasal prefixes. The FN contained in these examples is an imperative verb. The examples of imperatives in the form of task words like this are very limited in HL. Based on the description above, it is found that in the HL imperative there is a sequence of words V-O (Patient) or V (verbal predicate with or without FN (argument)).

From the examples of sentences and explanations given above, syntactically, HL imperative sentences are formed by verbal predicates with or without FN (arguments). The study of word order of HL imperative sentences in this research is basically focused on the imperative form with verbal predicates only and complete utterances with verbal predicates without FN or complete utterances with FN. The order of words or constituents in the HL imperative sentence according to the existing data examples is VO (imperative sentence) which is a reduction of the VSO and SVO types (Song, 2001:49).

### Interrogative Sentences.

Interrogative sentences are sentences that contain elements of questions or require an answer or explanation. There are two types of interrogative sentences, namely, first, interrogative

sentences that require a yes or no answer, and second, interrogative sentences that require explanations of answers or information regarding certain parts being asked.

This HL research, it does not discuss how the interrogative sentences are reconstructed but only discusses the standard phenomenon, namely the order of interrogative sentences that are common and acceptable in HL. This sentence, in BHL, is formally marked by the presence of a question word; *anea* 'who', *araya* 'what', *anengan* 'when', *umae* 'where' in written form, or rising intonation in spoken form. Furthermore, the word order of interrogative sentences in this study is the word order that asks the core argument (subject/agent or object/patient). The following examples;

- a. Dise mareen?  
She is beautiful?  
'She is beautiful?'
  - 'b. Is it ok?  
dad is home?  
'Father is at home?'
  - 'c. Desira maradak nat?  
do they catch fish?  
'They caught fish?'
10. Arayaka rise child or eda?  
is he that guy's child?  
'Is he that person's son?'

The examples of clauses (9 a,b,c) and (10) are interrogative sentences that require a yes or no answer. Based on the order of words or constituents, interrogative sentences (9a,b,c), as well as interrogative sentences (10), have the same order of words or constituents as declarative sentences, the difference lies in the intonation of the sentence when spoken.

The interrogative sentences can be divided into interrogative sentences that ask the subject and interrogative sentences that ask the object. The word order of interrogative sentences in this research report is the order of interrogative sentences that ask the main argument (SUBJ/Agent or OBJ/Patient), Let's observe the following example.

11. anea senga mangkhawali amak?  
who is REL AKT-looking for uncle  
'Who's looking for uncle?'
12. araya senga sir manganese oak tinawa?  
does the PRO3JM REL eat pre-garden  
'What do they eat in the garden?'

The interrogative clauses (11 and 12) above are transitive clauses with verbs without nasal affixes. The question word *anea* 'who' in the data clause (11) is used to ask the subject (the informative answer is the subject or agent of the transitive sentence) and the question word *araya* in the data clause (12) is used to ask the object (the informative answer is the object or transitive sentence patient). The word order in the interrogative clause construction that uses verbs without nasal affixes above is S/A-V-P/O and in HL this is the accepted order.

As previously mentioned, interrogative sentences or commonly called interrogative sentences are formed from declarative sentences by adding question words to the declarative sentences, but in HL, so that interrogative sentences are acceptable according to the order of HL sentences, interrogative sentences that ask O (Object) or P (Patient) both to ask the object of a person and for objects other than people are formed by not only adding the question word *anea* 'who' or *araya* 'what' in a declarative sentence but also having to change the order of the sentence, namely an active transitive sentence with nasal-affixes become a transitive sentence of a nasal-affix passive verb, as in the following example sentence;

13. Anea senga nikhawali rise?  
who is REL PAS- looking for PRO3TG  
'Who is he looking for?'

14. *anea senga niwatu ia amak?*  
 Anea REL PAS-help PRO3TG uncle  
 'Who did uncle help'?

Based on the HL example above (sentences 13 and 14) it is an interrogative sentence with a nasal-affixed passive verb asking for O (Object) or P (Patient), the order of the words is P -V- S/A. If the P-V-S/A sequence is changed to the standard S-V-P or P-S-V order and the morphological form of the verb remains with the affix, nasal, then the BHL sentence is not acceptable. For the following example;

15. a. \*rise mangkhawali anea?  
 he is AKT- looking for whom  
 'Who is he looking for?'  
 b. \* Mama Mewatu Anea?  
 uncle AKT- help who  
 'Uncle helping who'?

The examples of interrogative sentences (15a,b) above are examples of HL clauses that are not grammatical, in other words, unacceptable. This is because the HL clause above, sentence (15a,b) is an interrogative sentence with a nasal-affixed transitive verb asking O (Object) or P (Patient), the order is S-V-P. In order for clauses (15a, b) to be acceptable in the HL system, the word order and active verbs must be changed. Let's observe the following data (15a,b);

16. a. Anea Senga Nikhawali Rise?  
 who is REL PAS- looking for PRO3TG  
 'Who are you looking for?'  
 'b. anea senga niwatu is he mom?  
 who is REL PAS- help PRO3TG uncle  
 'Who did uncle help'?

The question word *araya* 'what' is used to ask P (object) other than human. Take a look at the following sample data.

17. a. *Araya Senga Herlin radak oak luan?*  
 Did Herlin Railroad catch Pre-river  
 'What did Herlin catch in the river?'  
 'b. *Araya senga Taher totong ek payone?*  
 what is the fire rail in the garden of POS3TG?  
 What did Taher burn in his garden?

The data (17 a, b) above are interrogative sentences with transitive verbs without affixes that ask for objects or patients. The order of the interrogative sentences above is S/A-V-O. Next, let's look at interrogative sentences with the following nasal-affixed transitive verbs.

18. a. *Araya senga nikhawali he Herlin alek tanggok?*  
 what is REL PAS-looking for PRON3TG Herlin CONJ tanggok?  
 'What is Herlin looking for with the net (tanggok)?'  
 'b. *Araya senga nitumbok he silawe eda?*  
 what is the ART PAS -cover PRO3TG female ART?  
 'What is that woman covering up?'  
 'c. *araya senga ninyekhepi manok eda?*  
 What REL PAS-eram-APL chicken ART  
 'What did the chicken incubate'?

The sentences (18 a, b, c) are interrogative sentences with nasal-affixed passive transitive verbs that ask for O (Object) or P (Patient) other than a person. the morphological form of the verb is still affixed, nasal, then the HL sentence is not acceptable.

Based on the examples of HL clauses above, a conclusion can be drawn that the order of interrogative sentences of HL with transitive verbs without affixes is S/A-V-P/O and the order of interrogative sentences of transitive verbs with nasal affixes is P -V- S/A. In HL the placement of question words *anea* 'who', *araya* 'what', to form interrogative sentences, both interrogative



sentences of transitive verbs without affixes and interrogative sentences of transitive verbs with nasal affixes are placed in front of the subject in the order shown in the following table.

**Table 1: Interrogative Sentence of HL**

Question Word	Verba (VI-/+) afiks	Adjung
<i>anea</i> 'who'	REL Intr V + O ? (S/A)	
	REL Pref ni + V + S/O ? (P/O)	
<i>araya</i> 'what'	REL Intr V + O ? (S/A)	
	REL Pref ni + V + S/O ? (P/O)	

Based on the analysis above, it can be concluded that in interrogative sentences HL the most common order is V-O-S. In certain circumstances (eg in copying construction) it can be S-V-O. The findings in the form of interrogative sentence order, as above, show that HL is an accusative type of language.

### Haloban Language Typology

Based on Dixon's theory of word order or constituent order, HL is included in the first type of language. Namely, a language that places order as a very important thing. To mark syntactic functions, this language uses a standard order and cannot be arbitrary.

This section is a part to see what the Haloban language typology looks like. At the beginning, it was explained that it was suspected that this language was of an accusative type. Determination of the typology of this language is based on the theory of Dixon (1994). If a language exhibits S=A behavior, it is called accusative language. If it shows S = O behavior, a language is called an ergative language. To find out what type of language is Haloban, it is necessary to test the language through the following clauses.

19. Desira mae mek tinawa  
3JM go Pre garden  
'They went to the garden'
20. Desira mamangan turian oak tinawa  
3JM AKT-eating Durian Pre-garden  
'They eat durian in the garden'

In clause (19) Desira is a single argument in an intransitive clause in this case the argument is the subject of an intransitive clause (S). In clause (20) there are two arguments, namely the agent's argument and the patient's argument. The first argument is the agent which is the subject of the transitive clause (A). In both clauses (19) and (20) there are no special markers attached to A, S, or O. There are no markers to state whether the relationship is S=A or S=O. The only marker for declaring a syntactic function is the sort order.

In determining the type of casual worker, it is necessary to test data (19) and (20). For example in intransitive clause (19) *Desira mae* and transitive clause (20) *Desira mamangan turian*. Clause (19) desira is S (the only argument in intransitive verbs) in that clause morphologically marked the same as A (agent argument of transitive clause) in clause (20). In this case, there is no special marking that distinguishes between S and A. The marking of both is in the order. The same treatment between S and A in casual workers can be described as follows.

Treatment

21. *Desira mae*.....  
S
- O
22. *Desira mamangan turian*.....  
A

The treatment of the subject of the intransitive clause is treated the same as the subject of the transitive clause, indicating that HL has an accusative typology.

## Conclusions and Suggestions

The order in the HL is a very important marker in determining the syntactic function. The order in the intransitive clause shows the order of the subject (S) and the predicate (SP). Meanwhile, the order in the transitive clause shows the order of the subject of the transitive clause (A), the predicate (P), and the object (O) of APO. While the HL typology shows that the subject of the intransitive clause (S) is treated the same as the subject of the transitive clause (A) or S=A. So, it shows that this language has an accusative typology.

This research is the basic foundation of Haloban language typology research. Thus, there are still many shortcomings which of course require correction for better research in the future.

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