Some Observation on Tense and Aspect in Iejima Dialect

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1. Preliminaries

Iejima Dialect, which belongs to the northern part of Okinawa Dialect in Amami-Okinawa Dialects, is spoken in Iemura village. Its morphological structure of verbs can be applied to the system of Shuri Dialect whose representative is the northern Ryuukyuan Dialect[1].

Ojio (1982) discusses Tense and Aspect in Iejima Dialect. She adopts the grammatical categories by Uemura (1963) and Hirayama and others (1966). The one exception is her modification of Normal Aspect (Futsuu-Tai), as written by Suzuki (1960), into Basic Aspect (Kihon-Tai). That is, she divides Tense into two groups of Present and Past; Aspect into the following three groups of Aspect: Basic Aspect (Kihon-Tai), Durative Aspect (Jizoku-Tai), and Definite Aspect (Kizen-Tai)[2]. She does not deal with Preservative Aspect (Kekka-tai) because she considers it unnecessary in Iejima Dialect. (However, the detailed observation of Aspect is not made by Ojio (1982).)

Ojio (1982) considers what Uemura (1963) mentioned "Simple Past (Tanjun-Kako)" as "Perfective Past (Kanryou-Kako)". And she treats "Past (Kako)" as "Simple Past (Tanjun-Kako)" which should be opposed to "Positive Past (Kakugen-Kako)" was mentioned as the opposition of "Continuous Past (Keizoku-Kako)" of Normal (=Basic) Aspect, and is not to be opposed to "Positive Past (Kakugen-Kako)". That is, "Simple Past (Tanjun-Kako)" should be a subordinate concept of Past. And "Positive Past (Kakugen-Kako)" should be positioned as a Mood-like usage[3].

Ojio (1992) makes an alternation in what Ojio (1982) called "Perfective Past (Kanryou-Kako)" to "Past (Kako)", provided that it is in the description of verb conjugations.

Because the studies of grammar in Iejima Dialect have been mainly focused on Mood (Modality), and verb conjugations, there has not yet been a study of Mood, Modality, and Aspect.

Shimabukuro (1987), and Karimata & Shimabukuro (1989) also discuss Tense and Aspect of verbs in Nakijin Dialect in the northern Okinawa Dialect. In three treatises the form called "Basic Aspect (Kihon-Tai)" in Suzuki (1960) and "Normal Aspect (Futsuu-Tai)" in Uemura (1963) are named "Perfective Aspect (Kansei-Sou)" in accordance with Okuba (1984).

The forms "Durative Aspect (Jizoku-Tai)" and "Definite Aspect (Kizen-Tai)" are also changed as "Continuous Aspect (Keizoku-Sou)" and "Trace Aspect (Konseki-Sou)" respectively. In addition, "Continuous Past (Keizoku-Kako) of Normal Aspect (Futsuu-Tai)" is termed "Progressive Aspect (Sinkou-Sou) of *Sugisari* (Past)"; "Present form (Genzai-kei)" "*Sugisarazu* (Non-past)"; and "Past form (Kako-Kei)" "*Sugisari* (Past)".

The present paper is compatible with the above grammatical categories. However, we will call "Non-past (Hi-Kako)", "Past (Kako)", "Positive Past (Kakugen-Kako)" for Tenses; "Basic Aspect (Kihon-Sou)", "Progressive Aspect (Shinkou-Sou)", and "Continuous Aspet (Keizoku-Sou)" for Aspects. Moreover, we would like to refer to negative forms as well as affirmative forms.

The present paper is an interim report on Tense and Aspect in Iejima Dialect[4].

Concise notations are used for the description. Although Iejima Dialect distiguishes aspirated sounds from non-aspirated ones, only non-aspirated sounds are marked as " ' " in the description. Also /N/ in the end of a word is noted as N.

2. Tense and Aspect

The forms of Iejima Dialect, restricted to only normal, affirmative forms, are as follows:

‹non-past›

Basic Aspect	juɲuN	(read)
Progressive Aspect 1	juɲuN	(be reading)
Progressive Aspect 2	judiʔaitʃ'uN	(be reading)
Continuous Aspect	judiwuN	(has/have been reading)
Resultative Aspect	judiʔaN	(has/have read)
preservative Aspect	judiʔutʃ'uN	(has/have read [beforehand])

‹past›

Basic Aspect	judaN	(read)
Progressive Aspect 1	juɲuːt'aN	(was/were reading)
Progressive Aspect 2	judiʔaitʃ'ut'aN	(was/were reading)
Continuous Aspect	judiwut'aN	(had been reading)
Resultative Aspect	judiʔat'aN	(had read)
Preservative Aspect	judiʔutʃ'aN	(had read [beforehand])

Other aspectual verbs are as follows:

jumaːdiʃuN	(try to read)
junipadʒimijuN	(begin to read)

juni²uwajuɴ   (finish reading)

· junipatejuɴ   (finish reading/ finish reading completely)

Within the above variations of Aspect, we will discuss Basic Aspect, Progressive Aspect, and Continuous of Aspect in the present paper. Moreover, we should restrict the scope of observation to action verbs and transitional verbs, leaving BE-verbs, and situation verbs out of concern.

The classification of verbs is as follows:

action verb	hatʃuɴ (write), k'eɴ (eat), ²aitʃ'uɴ (walk),
	juɲuɴ (read)······
transitional verb	ʃiɲuɴ (die), ²itʃ'uɴ (go), tʃuː ɴ (come),
	maɡajuɴ (bend)······
BE-verb	wuɴ (be), ²aɴ (be)
situation verb	miː juɴ (see), tʃitʃ'ariɴ (hear)······

2. Non-past

The opposition between Basic Aspect and Continuous Aspect of Iejima Dialect, which is similar to Nakijin Dialect, is almost the same as that of common language if Progressive Aspect is excluded. While Basic Aspect of Iejima Dialect presents the action as an indivisible whole, Continuous Aspect indicates the action in a state of change or duration.

Non-past form of Basic Aspect, which presents an action as an indivisible whole, indi-cates "the action of subject" in an action verb, and "the transition of subject" in a transitional verb in the future tense. Also it refers to "multiple actions[5]" and "universal truth and regulat-ing motions".

(1) Activity of the subject

    hunuʃumuts'ija   ²atʃ'aː   juɲuɴ.

    (this book   /   tomorrow   /   [I will] read)

(2) Transition of the subject

    haziputʃija   ²atʃ'aː   tʃuː ɴ.

    (the typhoon / tomorrow / will come)

(3) Multiple actions

    meː nitʃ'i   ʃumuts'i   juɲuɴ.

    (every day / books /[I] read)

    meː nitʃ'i   napaŋk'ai   ²itʃ'uɴ.

    (every day / to Naha / [I] go)

(4) Universal truth and regulating motions

ʃiːt'uja   muru   ʃumuts'i   juɲuɴ.

(students / all /   books /   read)

haziputʃija   nats'inai   tʃuː ɴ.

(typhoon   / in summer/ comes)

As Suzuki (1960) pointed out, it is possible for a non-past form of Basic Aspect in Shuri Dialect to indicate "the present actions and transitions which are going on while talking". And Iejima Dialect follows such usage. Karimata & Shimabukuro (1989) also noted that Nakijin Dialect has the same usage.

For example, when A sees B reading something, A can ask B with the Wh-question form "juɲoː", which is a non-past form of Basic Aspect, and, as the answer to that question, B can use the conclusive, non-past form of Basic Aspect:

nuː   juɲoː ?

(what / [are you] reading?)

ʃumuts'i   juɲuɴ.

(a book / [I am] reading)

The same situation can be expressed also in Continuous Aspect. That is, A can ask B with the Wh-question form "judoː", which is a non-past form of Continuous Aspect, and, as the answer to that question, B can use the conclusive form, "judiwuɴ", which is a non-past form of Continuous Aspect. In this case, however, the nuances differ from Progressive Aspect. We will discuss these differences later.

nuː   judoː ?

(what / [have you] been reading?)

ʃumuts'i   judiwuɴ.

(a book / [I have] been reading)

How about transitional verbs? For instance, when Taro asks someone if s/he is going to come to school, Taro would ask her/him with the general question form of "tʃuːmi", and, s/he could answer with the non-past, conclusive form of "tʃuːndoː" (doː is an ending postpositional particle). In this case, it expresses "the progress of the process of change".

taroːja   gakk'oː ŋk'ai   tʃuːmi?

(Is Taro going to come to school?)

tʃuːndoː.

([Yes, he] is going to come [to school])

That is, in an action verb, it expresses "the progress or proceeding of the action" even if

it is non-past form of Basic Aspect; and in a transitional verb, it expresses "the progress of the process of change". Therefore, we should distinguish them from the Basic Aspect which expresses "the action in a future tense" or "the change which is to be in the future". Accordingly, I decided to give the name "progressive Aspect" to the form which realizes the aspectual meaning of the action or change which is actually occuring. My opinion is the Progressive Aspect is in the relationship of homonym with a non-past form of Basic Aspect[7].

The form of Progressive Aspect, which I named here, is similar to the compounding of continuous form of the verb "jumi (read)" and BE-verb "wuN (be)" creating "jomijoru", as an example, as used from the Kansai area to the Kyuushuu area. In Ryuukyuan Dialect, it seems that this form has taken place of the basic form of "read", and further, comes to express the progressive meaning.

Continuous Aspect, of the other hand, has the meaning of "continuous situation of the action" when it is an action verb which expresses the movement of the subject, and "resultant situation of the change" when it is a transitional verb which expressed the change of the subject. In addition, "continuous situation of multible actions", "the realization of past movement which is valid at present", and "simple situation" are also expressed.

(1) Continuous situation of the action

taroː ja ʃumutsʼi judiwuN.

(Taro / a book / is reading)

(2) Resultant situation of the change

ɲʼaː gakkʼoː ŋkʼai ʔidʒuN.

(already / to school / [s/he] has come)

(3) Continuous situation of the multiple actions

juruː ja meː nitʃʼi ʃumutsʼi judiwuN.

(at night / every day / books / [I] read)

ɲʼammaja gakkʼoː jake ʔattʃi ʔidʒuN.

(now / to school / on foot / [I] go)

(4) Realization of the past movement which is valid at present

sannimmeː ni tʃʼukʼeː hunuʃumutsʼi judiwuN.

(three years ago / once / this book / [I] read)

wahasaʔai tʃʼukʼeː ja napaŋkʼai ʔidʒuN.

(when [I was] young / once / to Naha / [I] went)

(5) Simple situation

ʔiː dʒimaja basunu paʃiritʼuN.

(in Iejima / buses / run)

Now I'd like to consider the differences between Progressive Aspect and Continuous Aspect. While non-past form of Progressive Aspect of action verb expresses "progress and proceeding of the action", its non-past form of Continuous Aspect expresses "continuous situation of the action", On the other hand, non-past form of Progressive Aspect of transitional verb expresses "progress of the process of the transition". And non-past form of Continuous Aspect expresses "resultant situation of the transition".

Progressive Aspect:

    taroː ja   gakk'oː ŋk'ai   ²itʃ'uɴ.

    (Taro   / to school   /   is going to go)

Continuous Aspect:

    taroː ja   gakk'oː ŋk'ai   ²idʒuɴ.

    (Taro   / to school   /   has gone)

Progressive Aspect indicates "progress of the process of the transition" in which Taro "is going to go to" or "is on the way to" school, and has not arrived at school. Continuous Aspect indicates "the resultant situation of the transition" in which · Taro has gone to school and he isn't at home, or he has arrived at school.

In the following, I'd like to discuss the oppositions of the two in detail[8].

(1)   The progress of the action

      Progressive Aspect 1: gonnai   sak'i   nuɲuɴ.

      Progressive Aspect 2: gonnai   sak'i   nudi²aitʃ'uɴ.

                          (greedily / sake / [s/he] is drinking)

(1)'   Resultant situation of the action

      Continuous Aspect: mata   sak'i   nudiwuɴ.

               (again / sake / [s/he] has been drinking)

Progressive Aspect of (1) is used when the speaker sees one drinking. Besides the form of "nuɲuɴ", "nudi²aitʃ'uɴ" can be also used, which is named " Iterative Aspect (Hanpuku-Sou)" in Karimata & Shimabukuro (1989). However, "the presence of the multiple actions", which correspond to "iteration (Hanpuku)" does not only apply to this case; but to Basic Aspect and Continuous Aspect as well. This form is used in two ways: to express "the situation in which the action is going on", and "the situation in which multiple actions are going on". So I decided to name "nuɲuɴ. "Progressive Aspect 1", and "nudi²aitʃ'uɴ" "Progressive Aspect 2". The latter has been formed by compounding "nudi (drink and)", which is the fusion of verb's continuous form of "nuni (drink)" and "t'i (and)", and "²aitʃ'uɴ (walk)".

The expression of (1)', which has Continuous Aspect, is used when the speaker sees the bottle being empty, or the drunk man who is unable to walk steadily.

(2) The progress of the process of the transition

       Progressive Aspect 1: kuninu   sambaʃiŋk'ai   sitʃ'ijuɴ.

                     (the ship / at the piar / is going to arrive)

(2)' Resultant situation of the transition

       Continuous Aspect: kuninu   sambaʃiŋk'ai   sitʃ'iwuɴ.

                     (the ship / at the pier / has arrived)

The expression (2), which has Progressive Aspect 1, is used when the speaker sees the process of the ship coming near the pier. However, Progressive Aspect 2 is used when multiple subjects are in the "progress of the process of the multiple transitions". For nstance, the ships are arriving at various locations.

The expression (2)', which has Continuous Aspect, is used when the speaker sees that the ship has arrived at the pier.

(3) Progress of the process after beginning the action

       Progressive Aspect 1: ²ari   meːnu   ²ju   k'eːɴ.

       Progressive Aspect 2: ²ari   meːnu   ²ju   k'aːt'i²aitʃ'uɴ.

                  (Oh! / a cat / fish / is eating)

(3)' Continuous situation after beginning the action

       Continuous Aspect: ²ari   meːnu   ²ju   k'aːt'iwuɴ.

                  (Oh! / a cat / fish / has been eating)

(3), in which both Progressive Aspect 1 & 2 are used, is appropriate to express the progress of the process in which the cat has begun to eat the fish while the speaker has been off her/his guard for a second.

(3)', in shich Continuous Aspect is used, is appropriate to express the situation in which the cat had begun to eat the fish while the speaker had been off her/his guard for a second.

(4) Progress of the multiple actions

       Progressive Aspect 1: meːnitʃ'i   kusui   nuɲundoː.

       Progressive Aspect 2: meːnitʃ'i   kusui   nudi²aitʃ'undoː.

                  (every day / the medicine / [I am] taking)

(4)' Continuous situation after beginning the multiple actions

       Continuous Aspect: hunuguruja   meːnitʃ'i   kusui   nudiwundoː.

               (these days / every day / the medicine / [I have]   been taking)

(4), in which both Progressive Aspect 1 & 2 are used, is appropriate when the process of

the multiple actions of taking medicine is going on, and that the process isn't readily completed. (The subject can be either singular or plural.)

(4)', in which Continuous Aspect is used, is appropriate when the multiple actions of taking medicine have begun, and that such situation is occuring in the present. The subject can be either singular or plural. In any case, we should use Continuous Aspect to express continuous situations even when we express the multiple actions.

(5) Progress of the process of the multiple transitions

Progressive Aspect 2: digunu pananu ²amak'umawut'i satʃ'i²aitʃ'uN.

(the flowers / here and there / are blooming)

(5), in which Progressive Aspect 2 is used, is appropriate when the speaker sees the flower buds just about to bloom.

(5)' Resultant situation of the multiple transitions

Continuous Aspect: digunu pananu ²amak'umawut'i satʃ'iwuN.

(the flowers / here and there / have bloomed)

(5)' , in which continuous Aspect is used, is appropriate when the speaker sees the flowers bloomed here and there.

From the above observations, we can say that Progressive Aspect constitutes the reality as process=dynamic state. On the other hand, Continuous Aspect constitutes the reality as situation=static state. In other words, it is the opposition of "Progress" vs. "Resultant situation" and "Continuous situation". This is similar to the opposition of *"shiyoru"* vs. *"shitoru"*, which is seen in the dialects of Kansai and Kyuusyuu. This seems to be ascribed to the following: (1) The formation of Continuous Aspect is the compounding of "judi (read and)", which is the fusion of verb's continuous form of "juni (read)" and "t'i (and)", and "wuN (be)". (2) The formation of *"shitoru"* is just the same with (1)。

To summarize:

Progressive Aspect:

(1) Progress of the action

(2) Progress of the process of the transition

(3) Progress of the process after beginning the action

(4) Progress of multiple action

(5) Progress of the process of multiple transitions

Continuous Aspect:

(1)' Resultant situation of the action

(2)' Resultant situation of the transition

(3)' Continuous situation after beginning the action

(4)' Continuous situation after beginning multiple actions

(5)' Resultant situation of mutiple transitions

The non-past forms of Basic Aspect, Progressive Aspect, and Continuous Aspect are as follows:

[Affirmative form]

Action verb, "read":

Basic Aspect	juɲuɴ	(read)
Progressive Aspect 1:	juɲuɴ	(be reading)
Progressive Aspect 2:	judi²aitʃ'uɴ	(be reading)
Continuous Aspect:	judiwuɴ	(has/have been reading)

Transitional verb, "go" :

Basic Aspect	²itʃ'uɴ	(go)
Progressive Aspect 1:	²itʃ'uɴ	(be going to go)
Progressive Aspect 2:	²idʒi²aitʃ'uɴ	(be going to go)
Continuous Aspect:	²idʒiwuɴ	(have gone)

[Negative form]

Action verb, "read"

Basic Aspect	jumaɴ	(not read)
Progressive Aspect 1:	jumaɴ	(be not reading)
Progressive Aspect 2:	judi²aitʃ'uɴ	(be not reading)
Continuous Aspect:	judiwuraɴ	(has/have not been reading)

Transitional verb, "go":

Basic Aspect	²itʃ'aɴ	(not go)
Progressive Aspect 1:	²itʃ'aɴ	(be not going go)
Progressive Aspect 2:	²idʒi²aik'aɴ	(be not going to go)
Continuous Aspect:	²idʒiwuraɴ	(have not gone)

2.2.2 Past

The Past of Basic Aspect shows that the whole action is completed irrespective of the be-

ginning of the action or its process. And it indicates both "completion", in which result (or end) of realization of the action or transition is emphasized, and "action or transition at a certain time in the past". The former expresses the "completion of the action" in action verbs, and the "completion of the transition" in transitional verbs.

(1) Completion

ɲ'aː hunuʃumuts'ija judaɴ.

(already / this book / [I] have read)

ɲ'aː taroːja gakk'oːŋk'ai ²idʒaɴ.

(already / Taro / to school / has gone)

(2) Past

kinu ʃumuts'i judaɴ.

(yesterday / the book / [I] read)

kinu taroːja gakk'oːŋk'ai tʃaːɴ.

(yesterday / Taro / to school / came)

I have stated the objective case in the above, and if the subjective case of Mood is to be mentioned, the "completion" becomes "confirmation", "Past" becomes "recollection", Further, if the case of Mood is put forth, "confirmation" becomes "aquisition of things", and "recollection" becomes "remembrance".

(3) Confirmation

hunuʃumuts'ija tʃ'ukeː judaɴ.

(this book / once / [I] have read)

taroːja gakk'oːŋk'ai t'akeː tʃaːɴ.

(Taro / to school / twice / has come)

(4) Recollection

ŋkaʃija hunusak'i nudaɴjaː.

(in former days /this sake/[I] used to drink)

taroːt'u gakk'oːŋk'ai hazi tʃaːɴjaː.

(with Taro / to school / often / [I] used to come)

(5) Aquisition of things

²ubit'aɴ. diː nimuroː.

([I] have memorized. / now / [I] will sleep)

ɲ'aː sitʃ'aɴ.

(now / [I] have arrived)

(6) Remembrance

r'aː ja matʃigeː neː nu sak'i nudaɴjaː.

(you / [I] believe / sake / drank)

taroː t'u matʃigeː neː nu hunugakk'oː ŋk'ai tʃaː ɴjaː.

(with Taro / [I] believe / to this school / [I] have come)

It may be worth pointing out that Iejima Dialect does not have a usage to express "the contents of realization", like "katta, katta." (Going!, Going!)", which we can observe in common language[10].

The past form of Progressive Aspect expresses "the progress, or in the middle, of the action in the past", in an action verb, and "the progress of the process of transition in the past" in a transitional verb. Moreover, it has the meanings of "a report of the past situation by the third party", and "remembrance", in which a mood-like subjective case is described.

(1) Progress, or in the middle, of an action in the past

　　ʃumuts'i juɲuː t'aɴ.

　　(the book / [I] was reading)

(2) Progress of the process of transition in the past

　　taroː ja gakk'oː ŋk'ai tʃuː t'aɴ.

　　(Taro / to school / was going to come)

(3) Report of the past by the third party

This usage has a limit that it cannot be applied to the action of the speaker (＝the first first person) and hearer (＝the second person), which is also true in (1) and (2).

　　taroː ja meː nitʃ'i sak'ibik'ei nuɲuː t'aɴ.

　　(Taro / everyday / only sake / used to drink)

　　taroː ja hazi gakk'oː ŋk'ai ʔitʃ'uː t'aɴ.

　　(Taro / often / to school / used to go)

(4) Remembrance

　　r'aː ja meː nitʃ'i sak'ibik'ei nuɲuː t'aɴjaɴ.

　　(you / everyday / only sake / used to drink)

　　waɴja ŋkaʃi hazi gakk'oː ŋk'ai ʔitʃ'uː t'aɴjaː.

　　(I / a long time ago/often/ to school / used to go)

The past form of Continuous Aspect expresses "the continuous situation of the action in the past" in an action verb, and "the resultant situation of transition in the past" in a transitional verb. Furthermore, it has the meanings of " continuous situation of multiple actions in the past", "realization of movement at the basic time in the past", and "the situation in the past".

(1) Continuous situation of the action in the past

ʃumts'i   judiwut'aɴ.

(the book   / [I] was reading)

(2) Resultant situation of the transition in the past

taroːja   gakk'oː ŋk'ai   tʃ'uit'aɴ.

(Taro / to school / had come)

(3) Continuous situation of multiple actions in the past

meːnitʃ'i   kusui   nudiwut'andoː .

(every day /the medicine/ [I] used to take)

(4) Realization of movement at the basic time in the past

sannimmeː ni   tʃ'uk'eː   hunuʃumuts'i   judiwut'aɴ.

(three years ago / oncce / this book   / [I] have read)

wahasaʔai   tʃ'uk'eː ja   napa   ʔidʒiwut'aɴ.

(when [I was] young / once / to Naha / [I] have been)

(5) Situation in the past

ʔiː dʒimaja   ŋkaʃi   basunu   paʃirit'wut'aɴ.

(in Iejima /in the past/ the buses / were running)

The meanings of "progress" in Progressive Aspect and "continuous situation" in Continuous Aspect are preserved even in their past forms.
That is, they are irrespective of tenses[11].

(1) The progress of the action in the past

Progressive Aspect 1: gonnai   sak'i   nudaɴ.

Progressive Aspect 2: gonnai   sak'i   nudiʔaitʃ'iut'aɴ.

(greedily/ sake / [s/he] was drinking)

(1)' Resultant situation of the action in the past

Continuous Aspect: mata   sak'i   nudiwut'aɴ.

(again / sake / [s/he] had been drinking)

(2) The progress of the process of the transition in the past

Progressive Aspect 1: kuninu   sambaʃiŋk'ai   sitʃ'aɴ.

(the ship / at the pier /   was going to arrive)

(2)' Resultant situation of the multiple transitions in the past

Continuous Aspect: kuninu   sambaʃiŋk'ai   sitʃ'iwut'aɴ.

(the ship / at the pier /   had arrived)

(3) Progress of the process after beginning the action in the past

Progressive Aspect 1: meː nu ²ju kʼeː tʼaɴ.

Progressive Aspect 2: meː nu ²ju kʼaː tʼi²aitʃʼutʼaɴ.

(a cat / fish / was eating)

(3)' Continuous situation after beginning the action in the past

Continuous Aspect: meː nu ²ju kʼaː tʼiwutʼaɴ.

(a cat / fish / has been eating)

(4) Progress of the process of the multiple actions in the past

Progressive Aspect 1: meː nitʃʼi kusui nudandoː .

Progressive Aspect 2: meː nitʃʼi kusui nudi²aitʃʼutʼandoː .

(every day/ the medicine / [I was] taking)

(4)' Continuous situation after beginning the multiple actions in the past

Continuous Aspect: metː nitʃʼi kusui nudiwutʼandoː .

(every day / the medicine / [I had] been taking)

(5) Progress of the process of the multiple transitions in the past

Progressive Aspect 2: digunu pananu ²amakʼumawutʼi satʃʼaɴ.

(the flowers / here and there / were blooming)

(5)' Resultant situation of the multiple transitions in the past

Continuous Aspect: digunu pananu ²amakʼumawutʼi satʃʼiwutʼaɴ.

(the flowers / here and there / had bloomed)

The past forms of Basic Aspect, Progressive Aspect, and Continuous Aspect are as follows:

[Affirmative form]

Action verb, "read" :

Basic Aspect	judaɴ	(read)
Progressive Aspect 1:	juɲuː tʼaɴ	(was/were reading)
Progressive Aspect 2:	judi²aitʃʼutʼaɴ	(was/were reading)
Continuous Aspect:	judiwutʼaɴ	(had been reading)

Transitional verb, "go" :

Basic Aspect	²idʒaɴ	(went)
Progressive Aspect 1:	²itʃʼuː tʼaɴ	(was/were going to go)
Progressive Aspect 2:	²idʒi²aitʃʼutʼaɴ	(was/were going to go)
Continuous Aspect:	²idʒiwutʼaɴ	(had gone)

[Negative form]

Action verb, "read"

Basic Aspect	jumannat'aɴ	(did not read)
Progressive Aspect 1:	jumannat'aɴ	(was/were not reading)
Progressive Aspect 2:	judiʔaitʃ'urant'aɴ	(was/were not reading)
Continuous Aspect:	judiwurannat'aɴ	(had not been reading)

Transitional verb, "go":

Basic Aspect	ʔitʃ'annat'aɴ	(did not go)
Progressive Aspect 1:	ʔik'annat'aɴ	(was/were not going to go)
Progressive Aspect 2:	ʔidʒiʔaitʃ'urant'aɴ	(was/were not going to go)
Continuous Aspect:	ʔidʒiwurannat'aɴ	(had not gone)

In one of the usages of expressing Mood in the past, we have what is called "Positive Past". It means "to express what happened in the past as grounded, positive concepts[12]". This usage was reported from the observation of Shuri Dialect, and, from the investigation of Iejima Dialect, I found out that the same usage is also observed in Iejima Dialect. We can regard it as one of the "acquisition of things", which belongs to Mood-like, subjective case which was mentioned before. We will show the forms of affirmative past in the following:

The forms of Positive Past of Basic Aspect, Progressive Aspect, and Continuous Aspect are as follows:

[Affirmative form]

Action verb, "read" :   certainly...

Basic Aspect:	judiʔaɴ	(read)
Progressive Aspect 1:	juɲuː t'iʔaɴ	(was/were reading)
Progressive Aspect 2:	judiʔaitʃ'iʔaɴ	(was/were reading)
Continuous Aspect:	judiwut'iʔaɴ	(had been reading)

Transitional verb, "go" :   certainly...

Basic Aspect	ʔidʒiʔaɴ	(went)
Progressive Aspect 1:	ʔitʃ'uː t'iʔaɴ	(was/were going to go)
Progressive Aspect 2:	ʔidʒiʔaitʃ'iʔaɴ	(was/were going to go)
Continuous Aspect:	ʔidʒiwut'iʔaɴ	(had gone)

[Negative form]

Action verb, "read"   certainly...

Basic Aspect	jumannat'aɴ	(did not read)
Progressive Aspect 1:	jumannat'aɴ	(was/were not reading)
Progressive Aspect 2:	judiʔaik'ant'iʔaɴ	(was/were not reading)
Continuous Aspect:	judiwurannat'aɴ	(had not been reading)

Transitional verb, "go" :   certainly...

    Basic Aspect ^{2}itʃ'annat'aN   (did not go)

    Progressive Aspect 1: ^{2}itʃ'annat'aN   (was/were not going to go)

    Progressive Aspect 2: ^{2}idʒi^{2}aik'ant'i^{2}aN   (was/were not going to go)

    Continuous Aspect: ^{2}idʒiwurannat'aN   (had not gone)

3. Conclusions

In the present study we have discovered that in Aspect of Iejima Dialect, there is an opposition between Basic Aspect and Continuous Aspect, which is basically similar to common language. There is also an opposition between Progressive Aspect and Continuous Aspect. Thus the three aspects are each opposed ot one another.

Basic Aspect expresses a whole action and transition, which is irrespective of the beginning and process of the action and transition. Progressive Aspect expresses durative situation of an action and transition.

Moreover, we found that the opposition between Progressive Aspect and Continuous Aspect is similar to that of "*shiyoru*" and "*shitoru*" which are seen in Kansai Dialect.

Systematic observations of aspects including Resultant Aspect and Preservative Aspect should be the subject in further studies.

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The data used in the present paper is based on the investigation between August and October, 1992.

Notes

1. Cf. Ojio (1982:118).
2. Hirayama (1966) calls it "Resultative Aspect".
3. Uemura (1963)'s "Simple Past" and "Continuous Past" correspond to Suzuki (1960)'s "Perfective Past" and "Non-perfective Past" respectively.
4. In the present paper, the systematic description of all formas of aspects is not the aim. The descriptions of other aspects shall be left for further studies.
5. Cf. Onoe (1982:26). Since the subject may be in plural form, the term "iteration" is not the appropriate expression.
6. "Process just before the action" of Progressive Aspect, was not mentioned in Shimabukuro (1987:502) observed in Iejima Dialect.

7. Cf. Karimata & Shimabukuro (1989:502) observed in Iejima Dialect.

8. Cf. The examples given in Kudou (1983).

9. Cf. Onoe (1982:23-25).

10. In Iejima Dialect, it is "hoː ri. hoː ri" without using "t'aɴ".

11. It is the same in the future tense.

12. Cf. Uemura (1963:75).

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