

Order and Discontinuity within Urdu NPs

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A brief introduction of Urdu

Urdu is an Indo-Aryan language spoken in Pakistan and India and together with Hindi is the fourth big language of the world.

- ▶ Case-rich
- ▶ Verb final
- ▶ Free Word Order
- ▶ pro-drop

Outline of the Presentation

1. Well known discontinuities
2. NP-internal discontinuity in Urdu
3. LFG implementation
4. Conclusion

Warlpiri Example

- (1) wita-jarra-rlu ka-pala wajili-pi-nyi yalumpu
 small-Du-Erg Pres-3DuSubj chase-NPast that.Abs
 kurdu-jarra-rlu maliki.
 child-Du-Erg dog.Abs
 'The two small children are chasing that dog.'

Extraction of a PP from a DP

(2) a.

Er hat *viele Bücher über Logik* gekauft.

He has many books on logic bought

‘He has bought many books about logic.’

b. *Bücher über Logik* hat er *viele* gekauft.

c. *Über Logik* hat er *viele Bücher* gekauft.

(German)

Extraction of a dependent from an NP

- (3) **mantiq=par** nidaa=ne **ek** **kitaab**
logic=Loc.on Nida=Erg one book.F.3Sg
xariid-ii hai.
buy-Perf be.Pres
'Nida has purchased a book on logic.'

(Urdu)

Dislocation of quantified expression

(4) a. *They all* have bought a car.

b. *They* have *all* bought a car.

(5) a.

alii=ne *bahut aam* k^haa-e

Ali=Erg many mango.PI eat-Perf

'Ali ate many mangoes.'

b.

aam alii=ne *bahut* k^haa-e

mango.PI Ali=Erg many eat-Perf

'Ali ate many mangoes.'

(Urdu)

Free Topic Structure

(6)

Say-nun ku-ka **nightingale-man** a-n-ta.

bird-Top he-Nom nightingale-only know-Pres-Dec

'As for birds, he only knows nightingales.'

(Korean)

(7)

p^hal, alii=ko **aam** pasañd hai.

fruit, Ali=Dat mango like be.Pres

'As for fruit, Ali likes mango.'

(Urdu)

Types of constituent-level discontinuities in Urdu

1. NP-internal discontinuity
 - ▶ Discontinuous NP
 - ▶ Discontinuous AP
2. PP-internal discontinuity
 - ▶ Discontinuous complement of P

When NP-internal discontinuity occurs in Urdu

The NP-internal discontinuity in Urdu can occur when the argument-taking noun is:

- ▶ Modified by argument-taking adjectives
- ▶ Specified by argument-taking nouns

Argument-taking adjectives in Urdu

Nr.	Type of Argument	Example of Adjective Phrase
(i)	Dative Marked	sadr=ko haasil president=Dat possessed 'possessed by the president'
(ii)	Ablative Marked	adliyah=se xaaif courts=Abl afraid 'afraid of courts'
(iii)	Locative Marked	buxaar=meñ mubtalaa fever=Loc.in suffered 'suffered with fever'
(iv)	Adpositional	sihat=ke liye muzir health=Gen for harmful 'harmful for health'

Simple examples of argument-taking nouns

(8) a. istisnaa

‘immunity’

b.

muqaddamaat=se istisnaa

court-case.Pl=Abl immunity

‘immunity from court-cases’

c.

muqaddamaat=se aaiinii istisnaa

court-case.Pl=Abl constitutional immunity

‘constitutional immunity from court-cases’

Simple examples of argument-taking nouns

- (9) a. bariifiñg
 ‘briefing’
- b.
 salaamtii=par bariifiñg
 security=Loc briefing
 ‘briefing on security’
- c.
 salaamtii=par tafsiii bariifiñg
 security=Loc detailed briefing
 ‘detailed briefing on security’

Simple examples of argument-taking nouns

(10) a. mutaalebah
'demand'

b.

aarmii-ciif=se mutaalebah
army-chief=Abl demand
'demand to the army-chief'

c.

aarmii-ciif=se qaanuunii mutaalebah
army-chief=Abl legal demand
'legal demand to the army-chief'

Examples of discontinuous NPs

- (11) a. $[_{NP}[_{AP}[_{KP}$ sadr=ko] haasil]
 president=Dat possessed
 $[_{KP}$ muqaddamaat=se] aaiinii istisnaa]
 court-cases=Abl constitutional immunity
 'Constitutional immunity from court-cases,
 possessed by the president'
- b. muqaddamaat=se₂ sadr=ko₁ haasil₁ aaiinii istisnaa₂
- c. sadr=ko₁ muqaddamaat=se₂ haasil₁ aaiinii istisnaa₂
- d. *haasil₁ muqaddamaat=se₂ sadr=ko₁ aaiinii istisnaa₂

Examples of discontinuous NPs

- (12) a. [_{NP}[_{KP} aarmii-ciif=se] [_{KP}[_{NP}[_{KP}
army-chief=Abl
salaamtii=par] bariifiñg]=kaa] mutaalbah]
security=Loc.on briefing=Gen demand
'The demand to the army chief for briefing
on security'
- b. salaamtii=par₁ aarmii-ciif=se₂ bariifiñg₁=kaa mutaalbah₂

Examples of discontinuous NPs

(13)

$[_{NP}[_{KP}$ aarmii-ciif=se] $[_{KP}[_{NP}[_{KP}$ mulkii salaamtii=par]
 army-chief=Abl of-country security=Loc.on
 tafsiilii bariifiñg]=kaa] qaanuunii mutaalbah]
 detailed briefing=Gen legal demand
 'The legal demand to the army chief for a detailed
 briefing on security of the country'

Examples of discontinuous NPs in PPs

(14) a.

zardaarii=kii zer-e sadaarat

Zardari=Gen under-Ezafe chair

'under the chair of Zardari'

b.

nidaa=ke bah qaol

Nida=Gen to saying

'to the saying of Nida'

Flat structure proposed for Urdu NPs

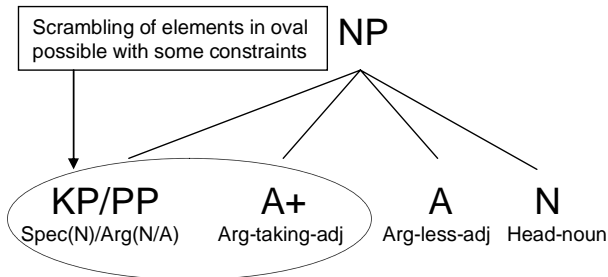


Figure: Word Order in Noun Phrases of Urdu

What aspects to accommodate

- ▶ Free word order in an NP
- ▶ Relating arguments with corresponding heads
- ▶ Head last constraint

LFG instruments used

- ▶ Shuffle operator (' \cdot '): To accommodate free word order of different elements in the noun phrases.
- ▶ Non-deterministic operator (' $\$$ '): Relating the corresponding arguments to the corresponding heads.
- ▶ Head Precedence Operator (' $<h$ '): To make it sure that the head must not precede its arguments in the noun phrases.

An excerpt from Grammar Rules

NP → KP*: { (^ ADJUNCT \$ OBL)= !
 | (^ ADJUNCT \$ OBJ- GO)= !
 | (^ OBL) = !
 | (^ OBJ-GO) = ! }
 , “for scrambling”
AP: ! \$ (^ ADJUNCT)
N : ^ = !

KP*: { (^ ADJUNCT \$ OBL)= !
 (^ ADJUNCT) <h (^ ADJUNCT \$ OBL)
 | }

Figure: Grammar Rules

C-structure for a discontinuous NP

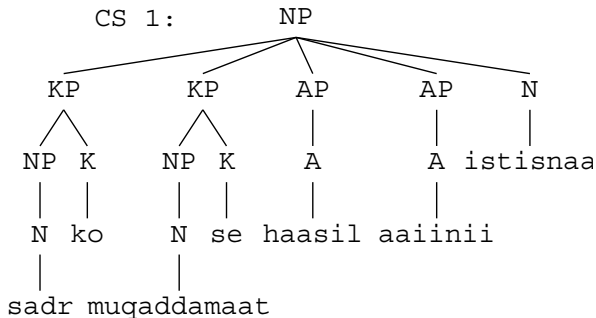


Figure: C-structure

F-structure for a discontinuous NP

"sadr ko muqaddamaat se haasil aaiinii istisnaa"

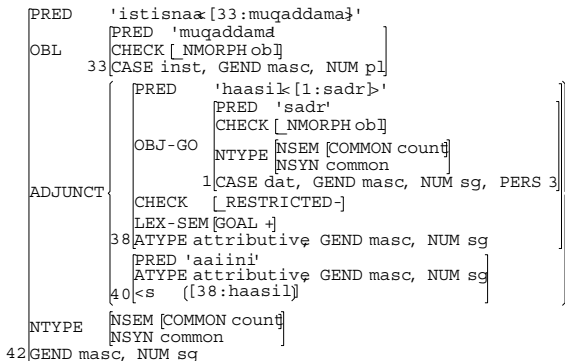


Figure: F-structure

Summary

Urdu is a typical language in which discontinuous NPs are found both at:

- ▶ Clause-level
- ▶ Constituent-level

Constituent-level discontinuity in Urdu can be implemented in LFG framework by making use of:

- ▶ Shuffle operator (',')
- ▶ Head-precedence operator ('<h')
- ▶ Non-deterministic operator ('\$')

That is all

Thanks!