A corpus based analysis of word order and intonation in Urdu interrogatives

Wide focus statements and polar questions in Urdu can be string identical. The difference between them is claimed to be marked by intonation as statements have L%, whereas polar questions are claimed to carry H% (Bhatt and Dayal 2014). However, Jabeen (2022) has shown that a vast majority of polar questions are produced with a L%. Given that, the intonational markings of interrogativity in polar questions is not clear. The current talk addresses this and provides an analysis based on a controlled experiment and an Urdu speech corpus, using ProPer toolkit (Albert, Cangemi, Ellison, Grice 2020) and GAMMs. The implications for the prosody of interrogativity and the cological validity of lab vs. corpus speech will be discussed.