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The Role of Word Order on Binding Constraints: Comparing Persian and Korean

The Issue It is by now well established that reference resolution of the long distance anaphor (LDA) *caki* Korean is not simply a matter of c-command. Embedded under a verb of saying, the source is also the subject, thus aligning with the other well-documented LDA property of subject-orientation (Lee, 1973), making *caki*'s resolution straightforward. However, under a verb of hearing, a non-subject source, typically an indirect object marked with *lopwuthe* 'from', is more easily entertained as an antecedent for *caki*. This is not a property unique to LDAs: Han et al. (2015) shows Korean null *pro* to be even more impacted by predicate effects than *caki*. The current paper argues that by examining the relationship between reference resolution and downstream predicate effects in two eyetracking studies on Persian, we can shed new light on the nature of the predicate effect observed in Korean. Our proposal is that the rigidly head final nature of Korean clause structure is a key ingredient of the robustness of the predicate effect. We further speculate that overt marking of a source antecedent is less important in reference resolution than the predicate itself.

Why Persian? Persian shares many syntactic similarities with Japanese and Korean. Crucial to the present discussion, Persian has an apparent LDA *xod-eš*, which Abdollahnejad and Storoshenko (2020) argue to be

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difference between *xod-eš* and *un*, with the former more strongly subject oriented. This is again opposite to prior Korean results, where predicate effects in final reference resolution have been demonstrated. There are two possible interpretations of these results. One is that despite the preposition hint, Persian reference resolution is "locked in" early based on structural factors like subject orientation, and later information is ignored. Alternately, a late predicate effect is not observed here because the sentence structure is non-