

## Polar questions initiating and pursuing strategies

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The paper discusses a contrast between two classes of form types realizing question acts in Hungarian, (i) polar interrogatives (Pol-Ints) in Hungarian without a focus constituent on the one hand, and (ii) Pol-Ints with focus as well as so-called (multiple)  $\wedge$ - (rise-fall-) declaratives on the other. The form types in (i) and (ii) differ from each other in at least two respects:

1. only realizations of the form types in (ii) are felicitous as a follow-up to an utterance of a *wh*-interrogative (*wh*-Int), and
2. in the presence of the particle *talán* 'perhaps', those in (ii) are interpreted as information seeking questions, whereas those in (i) as rhetorical questions (cf. Gyuris 2022).

The talk will explore the consequences of the suggestion that Pol-Ints lacking a focus constituent in Hungarian do not have a QUD, and thus are specified for initiating a strategy, as opposed to pursuing/"elaborating" it. Analogies to the contrast between interrogatives with verb vs. object attachment of the clitic *-mI* in Turkish (Kamali 2020), and to the distinction between root vs. explanation-seeking polar questions in Russian (Esipova & Romero 2023) will be pointed at.

### References

- Esipova, M. & M. Romero 2023. Alternative Questions and Beyond. *FOR 2111 Final Workshop*, Konstanz, June 2023
- Kamali, B. 2020. *Motivating polar and focal alternatives in polar questions in broad focus*. [lingbuzz/005477](https://lingbuzz/005477).
- Gyuris, B. (2022). Evidentiality and the QUD: A study of *talán* 'perhaps' in Hungarian declaratives and interrogatives. In R. Gergel, I. Reich, & A. Speyer (szerk.), *Particles in German, English, and Beyond* (pp. 355-380). Amsterdam: John Benjamins.