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Appendix A

The appendix provides examples of hedging observed in editorial discourse across three languages: Hindi, Indian English, and British English. These examples represent a subset of the complete coded corpus. The coding process follows the revised classification framework proposed by Prince et al. (1982) (refer to Table 1 for the coding schema).

Table 1: Codes for various types of Hedging Strategies

Hedging Strategies		Codes
Adaptors		ADTR
Rounders	Approximative Modifier	APRXMOD
	Approximative Quantifier	APRXQUAN
Plausibility Shields		PLSD
Attribution Shields	Specified Attributor	SPATR
	Unspecified Attributor	UNSPATR

1. Coded Instances from Hindi Editorials

1.1. Adaptors

- cūṃki jī-20 kī adhyakṣatā karate hue bhārata ko isa samūha kā ejemḍā taya karane kā adhikāra hogā, isalie viśva ke baḍae deśa **eka taraha se** [ADTR] bhāratīya netṛtva kī ora se dikhāī gaī rāha para caleṃgei

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Since India, while presiding over the G-20, will have the right to decide the agenda of this group, the big countries of the world will, in a way, follow the path shown by the Indian leadership.

- vāstava meṃ supṛīma korta ne apane phaisale se isa anuccheda kī bahālī kā rāstā bhī **karība-karība [ADTR]** baṃda kara diyā.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: In fact, with its decision, the Supreme Court almost closed the way for the restoration of this article.

- kāī gāraṃṭiyāṃ pūrī nahīm huī haiṃ para sattāpakṣa kā kahanā hai ki hoṃgī isa sabake bīca, barasāta **lagabhaga [ADTR]** āpadā meṃ bītī hai, pradeśa usase bhī ubara rahā hai.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Many guarantees have not been fulfilled but the ruling party says that they will be. Amidst all this, the rainy season has almost been a disaster, the state is recovering from that too.

- hamāsa ne ijarāyalī logoṃ ke khilāpha apānī barbaratā se **eka taraha se [ADTR]** jānabūjhakara gājā ke logoṃ ko saṃkaṭa ke muhāne para khaḍae karane kā kāma kiyā hai.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Through its brutality against the Israeli people, Hamas has deliberately put the people of Gaza on the brink of crisis.

- kevala kānūnoṃ kī bhāṣā hī aisī nahīm honī cāhie, jo āma ādamī ko samajha ā sake, balki isakī bhī vyavasthā honī cāhie ki logoṃ ko unakī bhāṣā meṃ nyāya mila sake. nicalī adālatoṃ meṃ to aisā hotā hai, lekina **adhikāṃśa [ADTR]** ucca nyāyālayoṃ aura uccatama nyāyālaya meṃ aisā nahīm hotā vahāṃ samasta kāryavāhī aṃgrejī meṃ hī hotī hai.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Not only the language of the laws should be such that the common man can understand, but there should also be a system so that people can get justice in their own language. This happens in lower courts, but it does not happen in most of the High Courts and the Supreme Court. All proceedings there take place in English only.

1.2. Rounders

- himācala pradeśa meṃ kāṃgresā kī sukhaviṃdara siṃha sukkhū sarakāra 11 disaṃbara ko eka varṣa pūrā kara rahī hai. **isake āsapāsa ḥī [APRXMOD]** maṃtrimaṃḍala ke tīna pada bhī bhare jāne kī carcā yauvana para hai

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Congress's Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu government in Himachal Pradesh is completing one year on 11 December. There is also talk of filling three cabinet posts around this time.

- vahām ke vibhinna samudāyom mem vaimanasya ke calate itane bhīṣaṇa himsaka ṭakarāva hue haiṁ ki **saikaḍaom [APRXQUAN]** loga māre gae haiṁ aura gāmva ke gāmva jalāe gae haiṁ.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Due to animosity between different communities there, there have been such severe violent conflicts that hundreds of people have been killed and villages have been burnt.

- yadi nyāyādhīśa yaha taya kara leṁ ki kisī māmāle mem **do-tīna [APRXQUAN]** bāra se adhika sunavāī nahīm ṭālī jāegī aura adālatī kāryavāhī eka niścita avadhi mem pūrī kara lī jāegī to nyāya mem derī ke savāla kā samādhāna kiyā jā sakatā hai, lekina aisā lagatā hai ki koī bhī billī ke gale mem ghaṁṭī bāmdhane ko taiyāra nahīm hai.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: The question of delay in justice can be resolved if the judge decides that hearing in a case will not be postponed more than two-three times and the court proceedings are completed within a fixed period, but it seems that No one is willing to bell the cat.

- saṁbhavataḥ yahī kāraṇa hai ki rijarva baiṁka ne yaha socā hai ki jānabūjhakara karja na lauṭāne vāloṁ mem unhem bhī sāmila kiyā jāe, jinhomne 25 lākha rupaye **se adhika [APRXMOD]** kā ṛṇa le rakhā hai aura use cukāne se inkāra kara rahe haiṁ.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Perhaps this is the reason why the Reserve Bank has thought that those who have taken a loan of more than Rs 25 lakh and are refusing to repay it should also be included among those who deliberately do not repay the loan.

- śarmanāka kevala yaha nahīm ki yaha nirmāṇādhīna pula dūsarī bāra girā, balki yaha bhī hai ki yaha nau sāla se bana rahā hai, lekina pūrā hone kā nāma nahīm le rahā. yaha leṭa-latīphī isalie hairāna karane vālī hai ki abhī **hāla mem [APRXMOD]** saṁsada kā nayā bhavana taiyāra huā hai. yaha **karība [APRXMOD]** dhāī varṣa mem banakara taiyāra ho gayā.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: It is shameful not only that this under-construction bridge has collapsed for the second time, but also that it has been under construction for nine years, but is not yet complete. This delay is surprising because the new Parliament building has recently been completed. It was completed in about two and a half years.

1.3. Plausibility Shields

- **āma taura para [PLSD]** aṁtima rūpa se phaisalā āne meṁ daśakoṁ laga jāte haiṁ.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Normally it takes decades for a verdict to finally come.

- **isake āsāra kama hī haiṁ [PLSD]**, kyoṁki kanāḍā evaṁ briṭena kī taraha amerikā bhī khālistāna samarthakoṁ ko pālāne-posane ke sātha unakī bhārata virodhī gatividhiyoṁ se jānabūjhakara āṁkheṁ mūṁde hue haiṁ.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: The chances of this are low, because like Canada and Britain, the US is deliberately turning a blind eye to the anti-India activities of Khalistan supporters.

- **kahīṁ aisā to nahīṁ ki [PLSD]** katara ko yaha rāsa na āyā ho ki bhārata ne hamāsa kī barbara kārravāī ko ātaṁkī hamalā karāra dene meṁ dera nahīṁ kī?

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Could it be that Qatar did not like that India did not delay in declaring the barbaric action of Hamas as a terrorist attack?

- jaba katara ne giraphtāra bhāratīyoṁ ko saptāha meṁ eka bāra apāne svajānoṁ se bāta karane kī suvidhā pradāna kī to **aisā lagā ki [PLSD]** vaha naramī barata rahā hai, lekina aba yakāyaka unheṁ mauta kī sajā sunā dī gaīl isa phaisale kā samaya bhī savāla khaḍae karane vālā hai.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: When Qatar provided the arrested Indians the facility to talk to their relatives once a week, it seemed that it was showing leniency, but now suddenly they have been sentenced to death. The timing of this decision is also questionable.

- dillī meṁ aṁtararāṣṭrīya adhivaktā sammelana kā udghāṭana karate hue pradhānamāṁtrī narendra modī ne yaha jo kahā ki nyāyika prakriyā meṁ jisa bhāṣā kā upayoga kiyā jātā hai, vaha nyāya sunīscita karane meṁ eka baḍī bhūmikā nibhātī hai, usase **śāyada [PLSD]** hī koī asahamata ho sake.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Hardly anyone can disagree with what Prime Minister Narendra Modi said while inaugurating the International Lawyers Conference in Delhi that the language used in the judicial process plays a big role in ensuring justice.

1.4. Attribution Shields

- **ye māmale yahī batāte haiṃ ki [SPATR]** bhraṣṭa netā, naukaraśāha aura kārobārī karoḍaom ke vāre-nyāre karane meṃ samartha haiṃ.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: These cases only show that corrupt leaders, bureaucrats and businessmen are capable of embezzling crores of rupees.

- **hāla ke eka āṃkaḍae ke anusāra [UNSPATR]** nicalī adālatom se lekara supṛīma korṭa taka meṃ laṃbita māmalom kī saṃkhyā pāṃca karoḍa se adhika ho gaī hai.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: According to a recent figure, the number of pending cases from lower courts to the Supreme Court has exceeded five crores.

- khālistānī ātamkī haradīpa siṃha nijjara kī hatyā meṃ **kathita [UNSPATR]** bhāratīya ejemṭa kā hātha hone kā jo āropa kanāḍā ne lagāyā thā, use puṣṭa karane vāle pramāṇa usane āja taka bhārata ko nahīṃ saṃpe.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Till date, Canada has not handed over to India the evidence to corroborate the allegation that an alleged Indian agent was involved in the murder of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

- **kahane ko to [UNSPATR]** ve lokasevaka kahe jāte haiṃ, lekina unameṃ sevā kā bhāva muśkila se hī najara ātā hai| sarakārī karmacāriyom meṃ apane dāyitvom ke prati kahīṃ adhika samarpaṇa honā cāhie.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: Although they are called public servants, the spirit of service is hardly visible in them. Government employees should have more dedication towards their responsibilities.

- yaha baiṭhaka isalie ṭalī, kyomki mamatā banarjī, akhileśa yādava aura nītīśa kumāra ne dillī āne meṃ asamarthatā jatā dī. **kahā jā rahā hai ki [UNSPATR]** āienadīāie ke ghaṭaka dalom ke kucha aura netāom ne bhī isa baiṭhaka meṃ śāmila hone kī anicchā prakāṭa kī.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION: This meeting was postponed because Mamata Banerjee, Akhilesh Yadav and Nitish Kumar expressed their inability to come to Delhi. It is being said that some other leaders of constituent parties of INDIA also expressed their reluctance to attend this meeting.

2. Coded Instances from British English Editorials

2.1. Adaptors

- The horror unfolding in Libya is a reminder of the kinds of devastation **many** [ADTR] are fleeing. But Sir Keir’s pledge to “smash” the gangs seems little more than an attempt to sound as tough as the government.
- One can only hope that Friday’s guilty verdicts offer families **some** [ADTR] sense of justice done on behalf of their babies.
- For **many** [ADTR] Ukrainians, participation in the European project has expressed the ambition of national self-determination since the 2013 Maidan uprising, triggered by the refusal of Viktor Yanukovich, the country’s pro-Moscow president at the time, to sign a trade agreement with Brussels.
- That mass drownings have become so common – more than 25,000 people have died or gone missing in the Mediterranean since 2014 – is shameful in itself. What is worse is that these disasters have come to be seen as **almost** [ADTR] normal.
- The raid on Moscow caused **little** [ADTR] damage but plenty of alarm, which is the point.

2.2. Rounders

- When Myanmar’s military launched a coup **almost** [APRXMOD] three years ago, snatching back the limited portion of control they had ceded to elected civilian leaders, it looked like the same old story.
- What began as a courageous campaign of civil disobedience led to **tens of thousands of** [APRXQUAN] civilians joining armed groups, including people’s defence forces (PDFs) set up by the national unity government formed from the remnants of deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi’s National League for Democracy.

- Successive governments did through their policy of pumping up house prices – to please voters who view them as investments – while failing to provide for the **roughly [APRXMOD]** one-third of the population for whom even the lowest rung of the property ladder is out of reach.
- Even **millions [APRXQUAN]** are not enough – nor are 20 trucks of aid waiting in Egypt. Finally, he recommitted to a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict.
- More Palestinians have been killed in Gaza in one week than in the six-plus weeks of war in 2014. **About [APRXMOD]** half are women and children. An **estimated [APRXMOD]** 150 hostages are still held.

2.3. Plausibility Shields

- The US could perhaps slow-roll its replenishment of shells. But Mr Netanyahu **appears [PLSD]** confident that the administration will not actually use its leverage. Israel reportedly plans a “very long war” stretching into 2024, and still has no plan for what comes next.
- Mr Sunak **might [PLSD]** have been genuinely affronted by Kyriakos Mitsotakis’s comments likening the British Museum’s possession of the ancient Greek sculptures to cutting the Mona Lisa in half.
- **More likely [PLSD]**, it crossed a line that Downing Street projected on to conversations that are interpreted differently by the Greek side.
- **It is doubtful that [PLSD]** a domestic audience, whatever views people have of the marbles question, will have been impressed. Overseas, it looks like a return of the prickliness and insecurity that Britain’s neighbours associate with Brexit at its most belligerent.
- **Perhaps [PLSD]** the prime minister is simply not interested, or maybe [PLSD] he limits continental contact for fear of upsetting hardline Brexiters.

2.4. Attribution Shields

- **Reports suggest [UNSPATR]** the relentless perfectionism of its creators didn't help, with many crew members physically exhausted and scores quitting in frustration.
- **Some think [UNSPATR]** there are cracks in the coalition under Gen Burhan.
- The West Point-educated leader **reportedly [UNSPATR]** has a more diplomatic manner than his father, but there is no sign that he plans to diverge from him politically.
- **Some analysts have suggested that [UNSPATR]** Prince Mohammed has learned his lesson in the light of the international backlash over Mr Khashoggi's murder, and is pursuing a more moderate path.
- Climate change is eroding poor nations' development gains, and without cash to adapt, such gains will be unachievable in the future. Yet finance flows to developing countries, **according to the UN [ATRSD]**, are roughly a tenth of the \$340bn needed by 2030.

3. Coded Instances from Indian English Editorials

3.1. Adaptors

- It is no revelation that workers are forced to work in hazardous conditions, with **little [ADTR]** concept of any right to safety.
- From Northeast to Himachal, India's mountain ranges are under pressure, and **many [ADTR]** voices have started asking whether every road, bridge, train line planned really needs to be built.
- The absence of a WPL meant that Indian women's cricket was short-changed as BCCI's attention was focussed **almost [ADTR]** entirely on men's cricket.
- India's prisons and then link it to the existing legal framework. India's jails are horribly overcrowded. They are packed with **largely [ADTR]** young inmates (18-30 years), most of whom are yet to be convicted.
- A long time back, I saw a padlocked, wooden gate in the middle of a vast, open field. A standalone gate. It got me thinking. Are we not **somewhat like [ADTR]** that padlocked gate, living rooted in maya, the illusory material world, in the vast expanse of a horizonless universe?

3.2. Rounders

- Rapid development of skills in a mere 20-25 [APRXQUAN] years bespeaks intrinsic ability in the Afghans.
- For example, only **five or six** [APRXQUAN] out of 66 SC communities in Uttar Pradesh, and three or four [APRXQUAN] among 20 SC communities in Bihar have garnered the benefit of protective discrimination policies.
- New civil aviation minister K Rammohan Naidu needs to take note. An IndiGo aircraft landed at the airport before a departing Air India plane had cleared the runway. The serious breach of SOP endangered **hundreds** [APRXQUAN] of lives.
- In 2022, targeted killings were their modus operandi. However, since last year, terrorists have reverted to conventional manoeuvres, especially south of the Pir Panjal – an area that has seen relative calm for **almost** [APRXMOD] two decades.
- **Around** [APRXMOD] 2.11cr tourists visited J&K last year – a big win for local tourism. Terrorists want to disrupt these stakeholders in peace.

3.3. Plausibility Shields

- Pakistan's ISI-military complex will see this as a big threat and **might** [PLSD] have plans to create trouble in J&K as a counter-strategy.
- This means that the patchwork of citizen discontents that have gotten a sympathetic hearing in the yatra now needs to be woven into tight poll campaigns. **Perhaps** [PLSD] BJP's most wounding criticism of the yatra has been that it is 'directionless'.
- Also, anti-dowry laws are framed in such a way that police can arrest multiple people for one crime. Plus, there's plenty of anecdotal evidence that these laws are **sometimes** [PLSD] misused.
- For example, by 2027 the pension deficit will be almost \$12 billion. While this **may not seem** [PLSD] high compared to the total pension outgo of \$381 billion, it needs to be juxtaposed with the fact that French public debt reached record high levels of 115% of GDP last year.

- The UK government's paper on FTA locates it within a larger strategy of strengthening trade ties in the Indo-Pacific region. Access to India's huge market **appears to be [PLSD]** the UK's primary incentive.

3.4. Attribution Shields

- In 2021 Orissa HC started a Record Room Digitisation Centre, the country's first, and by mid-2022 it had **reportedly [UNSPATR]** digitised almost 5.2 lakh files.
- International migrants were 3. 5% of the global population in 2019, **according to the UN [SPATR]**.
- Using this basic feature of a state as a benchmark, Manipur, yet again, failed the test on Friday when a mob burned down the house of a man **alleged [UNSPATR]** to have been part of a group that paraded two women naked.
- Meanwhile, **according to a report by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation [SPATR]**, Africa is poised to overtake Asia as the fastest growing region of the world.
- **It is said that [UNSPATR]** 'artificial intelligence leverages computers and machines to mimic the problem-solving and decision-making capabilities of the human mind.'

List of Publications

- Satsangi, A., & Ghosh, S. (2024) Hedging in Newspaper Editorials: A Cross-Linguistic Analysis of Indian and British English. *Library Progress International*, 44(3), 11376-11390.
- Satsangi, A., & Ghosh, S. (2024). Cautious Voices: Linguistic Hedging in Hindi Print Media. *Musik in Bayern*, 89(6), 13–31. <https://doi.org/10.15463/gfbm-mib-2024-256>
- Paul, N., Satsangi, A., & Ghosh, S. (2024). Cognitive Semantic Analysis of Fear Expressions in Bangla and Hindi. *Skase Journal of Theoretical Linguistics*. 95-122.
- Satsangi, A., & Ghosh, S. (2023). Hedging in Hindi Academic Writing. *Aligarh Journal of Linguistics*, 13, 49-62.