

Preliminary results suggesting some distinctive features of poetic syntax

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14 April 2013

It is well known that the syntax of verse departs from the syntax of prose. Commentators have written the anvaya on verse texts such as Mallinātha's commentary on Kālidāsa's plays or Sāyana's commentary on the *Ṛgveda*. With the availability now of syntactically tagged texts it is possible to analyse how the features of poetic syntax differ from those of prose in a systematic manner.

Ingalls first explored polarization of speech forms in the *Mahābhārata*. At the 5th International Sanskrit Computational Linguistics Symposium, held at IIT Bombay in January 2012, Sven Sellmer demonstrated the polarization of particular strings in the *Mahābhārata*. In the current study we propose to investigate the polarization of certain parts of speech in the *Rāmopākhyāna* (a epic verse text) and the *Pañcatantra* (mixed verse and prose) and explore the significance of different patterns between the prose, epic verse and more stylized verse.

We intend to use the dependency tagger written by Amba Kulkarni to assist in creating dependency trees of the morphologically tagged text of the *Rāmopākhyāna* and *Pañcatantra*, and to collect statistics on the position of the various parts of speech in their governing structure.