Polar kya

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In their seminal work on Urdu/Hindi polar kya, Bhatt & Dayal (2020) propose a new class of question particles, polar question particles. As part of their analysis, the authors also argue that alternative questions in Urdu/Hindi are disjunctions of polar questions. However, Bhatt & Dayal (2020) pioneering work leaves unexplained potential counterexamples to their proposal found in embedded contexts, as well as speakers' intuitions regarding the use of kya to trigger sometimes sarcasm and sometimes politeness inferences. In this paper we pay attention to those cases in conjunction with other available empirical observations to paint a much simpler yet more explanatory picture of what kya is and what kya does.