

Linguistic Variation Across Political Press Reportage in Pakistani and British Print Media: A Multidimensional Analysis

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Abstract

Multi-Dimensional Analysis is the approach which provides a comprehensive description of the patterns of register variation to identify underlying linguistic parameters of variations, expressed as “dimensions”. It also specifies the similarities and differences among registers based on these dimensions. This research work focuses on investigating the variations in linguistic characteristics of the corpora collected from Pakistani and British press media based on the subcategory of international political press reportage. The objective of the study is to work out the deviation of the English Language characteristic between Pakistani English and the standard British one. Pakistani English with its distinct registers is different from British English and there is not any single particular factor or parameter of linguistic variation that differentiates these two varieties based on their registers. The current study focused on distinguished linguistic identity of Pakistani international political news press reportage register by observing the co-occurring linguistic features and their functional variation in Pakistani and British print media by applying the Douglas Biber’s register variation model, Multidimensional Analysis (MDA). This research was conducted to mark register variation by developing special purpose Corpora of Pakistani International Political News Reportage and British International Political News Reportage. It also aimed at determining the unique individual identity of Pakistani English as exhibited in its different registers that distinguish it from the British English with its registers. Based on representative Corpus of Pakistani and British International Political Press Reportage sub register, the present study reveals the significant statistical linguistic differences on Biber’s five textual dimensions. Pakistan International News press reportage register showed higher frequency of attributive adjectives, prepositions and nouns on dimension one being more informational, more narrative than British IN PR on dimension two, more explicit on dimension three, on dimension four least argumentative language and higher use of covert expressions of persuasion than British IN PR and finally on dimension five, less abstract than British IN PR. This study is among the few studies in the domain of register exploration of Pakistani print media by constructing special purpose corpora of International Political News Pres Reportage of Pakistani print media and special purpose corpora of International Political News press reportage of British Print Media.

Key words: Multidimensional Analysis, MDA, register variation, International Political Press Reportage, Pakistani English, British English.

1. Introduction

English language has been unanimously accepted as international language around the world. This world is squeezing into a global village and English language is working as bridge to reduce the distances and differences among different cultures and societies of the world. Since the Second World War English language has become a more dominating source of communication among different nations. According to Hutchinson & Waters (1991), it foreshadowed a period of massive and extraordinary development in different fields such as economics, science, and technical education and investment on a mega level. A unified world, tied with two powerful forces of commerce and technology was the result of this huge and massive expansion, demanding an international language to meet the goals of international communication for the sake of trade and business.

Over the past 50 years, English has spread more widely and penetrated more deeply than any language. None of the previous cross-frontier lingua francas such as Greek, Latin, Sanskrit had anything like its currency. What is certain is that many more people are speaking English as an additional language than as a native tongue. Non-natives outnumber native speakers possibly by as much as four to one. Kachru calls it, “a unique phenomenon in the history of language diffusion” (Skapinker, 2017). Britannica (1974) throws light on different established varieties of English. 1st of them is British English that includes Irish English too, second variety is American English along with Canadian English, and Australian English is listed together with New Zealand English. Like Australia and New Zealand are grouped together, so is the case of Pakistani and Indian English, and lastly it describes African English with the reference of South African English language specifically.

Various reasons to study print media language are very interesting. The way of language used in print media, varying from situation to situation and from category to category is first reason. Secondly, print media generates a lot of the language that is read, heard, discussed and it affects society in several ways. Thirdly, language is the essential tool of print media and situation dependent language variation is the ultimate research area of sociolinguists.

The language of press reportage in general and specifically with its sub-categories in Pakistani print media has been the focus of studies from many perspectives including discourse analysis by Nadia (2008), and Sadaf, (2011). The language of press reportage register has been investigated by certain renowned Pakistani scholars (Anwar & Talat, 2011;

Uzair et al., 2012; Muhabat et al., 2015). They all focused on individual linguistic features only to determine the characteristics of press reportage register. Previously the focus was on variation based on individual linguistic features, while the functional interpretation of co-occurring linguistic features was not included in the studies being conducted. It was required to incorporate the variation based on co-occurrence of linguistic features and their functional interpretations to find unique identity of Pakistani English with the reference of Political Press reportage register. One recent study (Ahmad, 2016) investigated press reportage discourse of Pakistani English newspapers with its different sections based on co-occurring linguistic features. The language of press reportage in Pakistani printed news media embodies several certain linguistic characteristics in explicit and direct way, causing systematic disparity in press reportage discourse; one of the important register of Pakistani English.

Cross cultural differences, social activities and indigenous customs & norms have been immersed and become part and parcel of Pakistani English, exhibited well in print media's discourse on daily basis. Grover and Deepak (2004) cast the light on the fact that certain features of Pakistani print media's language are required to be explored due to absorption of indigenous norms and cross-cultural differences. Pakistani newspapers discourse conveys various linguistic characteristics reflecting native linguistic features to achieve the target of successful communication with target readers.

The multidimensional approach (MDA) was originally developed by Professor Douglas Biber of Northern Arizona University, USA in 1988 to conduct a comparison between available written and spoken registers of English language. Onwards, this approach got popularity among researchers who have been interested to study diachronic and synchronic variation in different register of English language. It has been a focus of researchers working on non-Western languages. Application of Biber's (1988) MDA model has been narrowed to grammatical categories in most cases generally so far. He announces the approach of multi-dimensional analysis as the most authentic and proper method to inspect the linguistic disparity. As this approach is corpus-based therefore to be quantitative, objective, impartial, and comparable are its distinctive characteristics. The idea of co-occurring linguistic features was known by some of other linguists by this time, but Biber is credited to introduce and regularize this theory properly in his 1988 work. This feasible multi-dimensional analysis model works statistically by distinguishing different sets of co-occurring features. These sets

of linguistic features based on co-occurrence existence, are defined as dimensions based on their common & shared communicative purpose. The multidimensional approach (MDA) weighs the fact that to investigate co-occurring linguistic features in studies focusing on register variation is of prime and vital importance and cast light on the fact that investigation of individual linguistic features to study register variation is not reliable.

The Functional interpretation of linguistic features is considered soul of register-based studies. According to Ahmad (2016), whose research work is solo flight with the functional interpretation of co-occurrence of linguistic features with the reference of press reportage language so far, register variation-based research work involves corpus compilation therefore its nature is quantitative, objective, and comparable. Therefore, the present study uses multidimensional approach of Biber's (1988) model, aiming at linguistic variation exploration across international political news reportage register in Pakistani newspapers, collecting, for the first time, equal number of corpus from Pakistani and British newspapers.

Ahmad and Ali (2014) studied the use of Urduized words and its influence on creating a cultural impression in the Pakistani English fiction. According to this research, frequent code switching between Urdu and English has led to new innovations in the domain of lexical items and thus creating the unique identity of Pakistani English. Data analysis showed the use of lexical items such as jammadaar instead of Sweeper, Phoolwala that is flower man, jammadaarni as female sweeper, chowkidaar as watchman, and Diays as lamps. It showed the impact of Urduised words used in the Pakistani English fiction reflect diverse characteristics of Pakistani English such as unique innovations at the lexical level. This work concludes that the characteristic of having independent linguistic norms in Pakistani English fiction mirror rich culture of Pakistan. This reflection of culture and customs strengthens the fact that Pakistani English is an independent variety with its own distinctive and diverse features.

All the studies on register variation consider the participants, the relationship between these participants and how these participants react towards communication. Another important element is of setting, including the extent to which time and place are shared by the participants. Point of formality is important pillar in research on register exploration that how participants communicate. If they are very formal or informal. Situation demands this formal or informal attitude. What these participants wish to achieve from their conversation, the function of the talk. (Biber et al., 1999)

Corpus linguistic approaches enable examination of large bodies of language data based on computing power. These bodies of data, or corpora, facilitate investigation of the meaning of words in context. The semiautomated nature of such investigation helps researchers to identify and interpret language patterns that might otherwise be inaccessible through manual analysis. According to Baker, Computer-aided analysis of large amounts of electronic data, collected to be representative of a particular text or register is an approach to analysing discourse (Hert, 2020).

The current study aims at investigating international political news category of Pakistani press reportage by comparing it with that of British press reportage taking leading English newspapers from Pakistani and British print media respectively and determining its individual characteristics by conducting corpus-based multidimensional analysis model. Further, this study examines the internal register variation of international news reportage of Pakistani print media through identification of linguistic differences found in major Pakistani English newspapers.

This research is of great significance in terms of developing foundation for a standard and representative Pakistani international news press reportage register that ultimately will shape Pakistani English.

The present research work, with the objectives to examine comparison between Pakistani and British International Political News Press Reportage, to analyze the internal variation of selected Pakistani Newspapers and to study the validation of current data, aims to use multidimensional approach. This approach will be used for register analysis of International Political Press Reportage in Pakistani and British Print Media by adopting register variation model which was introduced by Biber (1988) in his multiway influential and decisive work. Ahmad (2016) states that “multidimensional analysis was actually developed to indicate the prominent linguistic co-occurrence patterns in a language.” Furthermore, the present study scrutinizes the statistically significant linguistic differences among the selected Pakistani newspapers across Biber’s 1988 textual dimensions identified in this research work.

2. Materials and Methodology

Research methodology as described in the subsequent section was adopted to achieve the predefined research objectives. The research constitutes of three phases, data collection, data

analysis, and results interpretation. Due to these phases, the research work was conducted in different components. Multidimensional analysis was conducted on the grounds of five textual dimensions (1988) by Biber, using quantitative and qualitative research design.

Two corpora were required to be built in current study in order to compare both registers to investigate linguistic variation between them. Following top five online available newspapers were selected based on their wide circulation across the country for the purpose which are: Daily Dawn newspaper, The Daily Times newspaper, The Frontier Post newspaper, The News International newspaper, The Daily Nation newspaper. The data of International News press reportage register for this study has been taken from the period July 2017 to November 2017. Consecutive data collection was made sure.

The detail description of PINC is given below in Table 1.

Table 1 Pakistani International Political News Corpus

Total no. words of PIPNC	758376
Total number of newspapers	05
Total number of sub-category	01
Name of category	International Political News
Total number of texts per newspaper	100
Average no. of words per text	1516 words
Total texts of PNIC	500

Similarly, to build British corpora and to make it representative of British print media, newspapers with largest circulation and great repute were selected. Selected newspapers from British print media were The Guardian, The Telegraph, and The Independent. The detailed description of British Corpora is given below in Table 2.

Table 2 British International Political News Corpus

Total no. words of BIPNC	791896 words
Total number of newspapers	03
Total number of sub-category	01
Name of category	International News
Average no. of words per text	1583 words
Total texts of BINC	500

First step, includes tagging of Pakistani International News Corpus. All linguistic features Included in different textual dimensions of 1988 MD analysis of Pakistani International

news corpus were tagged by Biber's tagger. The list of relevant linguistic features investigated in 1988 study is given in table 3.4 below. Details of these features can be found in Biber's work (1988) along with Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English (Biber et al., 1999).

Following 1st step procedure, Step 2 and step 3 constitute of computation of Raw Counts, turning this count into standardized Frequencies, and drawing normalized values out of this whole procedure. The raw value of each linguistic feature was counted, and turned into normalized frequency. According to Ahmad (2016) the norming of data is compulsory to refrain from any possible error because of variation in word counting of texts therefore standard format set by Biber (1988) was followed and raw counts of linguistic features were computed out of 1000 words as previous studies did while working on multidimensional analysis. In this process, actual frequency was divided by total number of words in a text multiplied by 1000 to get normalized values.

The process of normalization was followed by the process of standardization. The normalized values were standardized to the mean of 0.0 and a standard deviation of 1.0 and thus it was made sure the equal weightage of all linguistic features on a dimension in computing dimension scores. The individual normalized score was subtracted out of mean values and the resulting score was divided by the standard deviation in order to get standardized values.

In next step, the standardized values of negative features were subtracted from positive features' values to gain the dimension score of each text. The dimensions with no negative linguistic features comprise only sum of positive scores of linguistic features.

Current study is laid on both pillars of research methodology i.e. quantitative as well as qualitative in nature. Statistical results were obtained quantitatively, by building special purpose corpora and getting systematic score of each tagged linguistic item and impartial score of five textual dimensions. All results were obtained objectively, statistically, and on scientific basis. It is qualitative in nature where discussion and interpretation of results is involved, explanation was conducted on set criteria.

3. Results and Discussion

Multidimensional Analysis was conducted using 1988 model developed by Biber (1988) with the objective to explore the variation between Pakistani and British international news press reportage register.

3.1 Linguistic Variation on Dimension 1: Involved vs Informational Production

Data collected from the selected newspapers from both Pakistani and British print media was analyzed on multi-dimensions using the results of 1988 studies conducted by Biber to investigate involved vs Informational production discourse patterns.

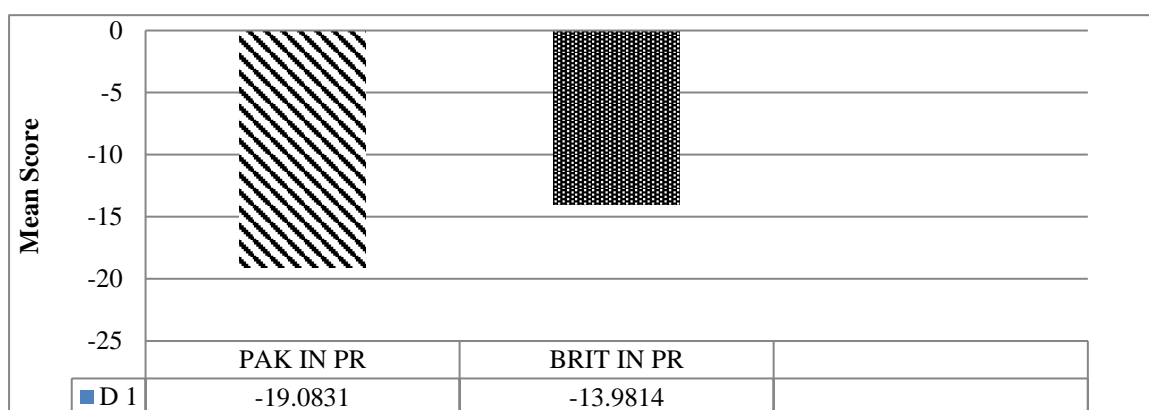


Fig. 1: Comparison of Pakistan and British newspapers in international news press reportage on Dimension 1

Fig. 1 showed the result of mean scores of Dimension 1 for both corpora. It displayed the fact Pakistani International news press reportage has higher mean score (-19.08) than British International news press reportage (-13.98), thus the register of Pakistani International news press reportage has been found highly informational in nature while comparing it with British International news press reportage register. This graphical comparison endorses the previous studies claims regarding cross-cultural differences between both varieties of English, native vs non-native. These studies can further be verified by sketching the frequencies of informational linguistic features in both registers of Pakistani and British English.

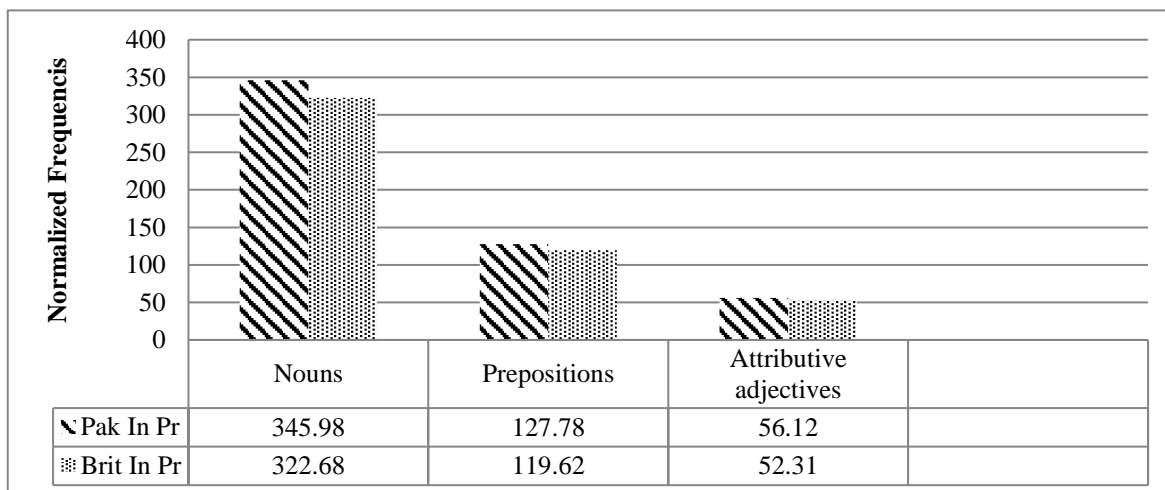


Fig. 2 Informational Features in International News register of Pakistan and British Press Reportage on Dimension 1

Graph shown in Figure 2 describes the linguistic features that are tagged as informational features such as nouns, attributive features and prepositions. The significant difference between Pak IN PR and British IN PR can be seen in the domain of noun as the score of (345.98) for Pak IN PR is higher than the British IN PR score of (322.68). The positivity of both scores shows an important feature of press reportage of being informational.

Above discussion with the help of graphical comparison proves the status of Pakistan IN PR English. The higher rank of Pakistan IN PR shows this register is more informational than its parent language British IN PR register. This conclusion points out the policy of Pakistani newspapers towards its readers. They consider it their duty to provide their target readers more and more information while covering the international topics in Pakistani society context. Due to lesser literacy rate in Pakistan, newspapers are not only mere a source of news but also a great source of knowledge and Information about worldwide topics.

Though they are present in British newspapers in abundance as well but it is evident from above texts that these informational features in excerpt from Pakistani English newspaper are more abundant than that of British newspapers.

3.2 Linguistic Variation on Dimension 2 Narrative vs Non- Narrative

Collected data from the selected newspapers from Pakistani and British print media was analyzed on multi-dimensions (Biber, 1988) in order to investigate two factors. The first objective was to determine whether Pakistani English newspapers led to narrative pattern or

non-narrative patterns. Secondly, it was aimed to investigate the ratio of narrative or non-narrative between representative English newspapers from Pakistani and British print media.

According to the MDA results, the score of Dimension 2 were used from Pakistani corpora and British corpora to draw a comparison in to find any cross cultural linguistic variation in both registers and to the extent it presents in both varieties.

Fig. 3 exhibits the mean scores on Dimension 2, representing Pakistani and British corpora. These both scores are positive and as according to MDA of Biber (1988) s, positive score represent Narrative feature of press reportage and negative score represent non-narrative feature so 1st interpretation of this graphical analysis proves that both registers; Pakistani International news press reportage and British international news press reportage are narrative in nature, the said feature is part and parcel of press reportage language. Second objective of finding out the ratio of variation between both registers is noticeable from the mean scores. This graph highlights the mean value of (2.028) for Pakistani IN PR and mean score of (1.69) for British IN PR. This result shows the highly narrative feature of Pakistani International Political News Press Reportage as compared to British International News Press Reportage.

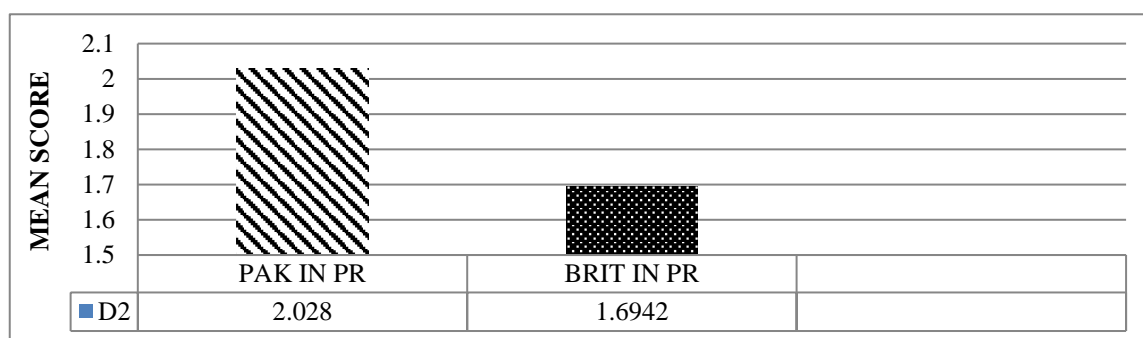


Fig. 3 Comparison of Pak and British newspapers in International news press reportage on Dimension 2

Following the path paved by dimension 1, graphical comparison on dimension 2 endorses the previous studies claims of cross-cultural differences present in native vs non-native variety of English.

These results can further be confirmed by sketching the normalized frequencies of narrative features in both registers of Pakistani and British English.

Graph shown in Figure 4 displays the mean value of linguistic features, tagged as narrative features such as past tense verbs, third person pronouns, public verbs and perfect aspect verbs. The difference found in Pak IN PR and British IN PR can be seen on mega scale in the domain of past tense verbs as the score of (48.45) for Pak IN PR is higher than the British IN PR score of (44.44). The mean score for public verbs carries the almost same difference with Pakistani register earning higher score than the British register as past tense verbs with the average score of (16.2) and (13.19) for Pakistani IN PR and British IN PR respectively can be seen. The mean score in the domain of perfect aspect verb is almost similar with the difference of (.6) only and this time British register is higher than Pakistani register. Though Pakistani IN PR is higher in score than British IN PR overall on dimension 2 but significant differences can be found in the domain of third person pronoun where British register carries the higher mean value of (24.15) as compared with Pakistani register's low mean value of (18.69). This shows that British newspapers use third person pronoun in abundance and Pakistani English newspapers use it less. The positive score of both registers reassures a prominent feature of narration of press reportage.

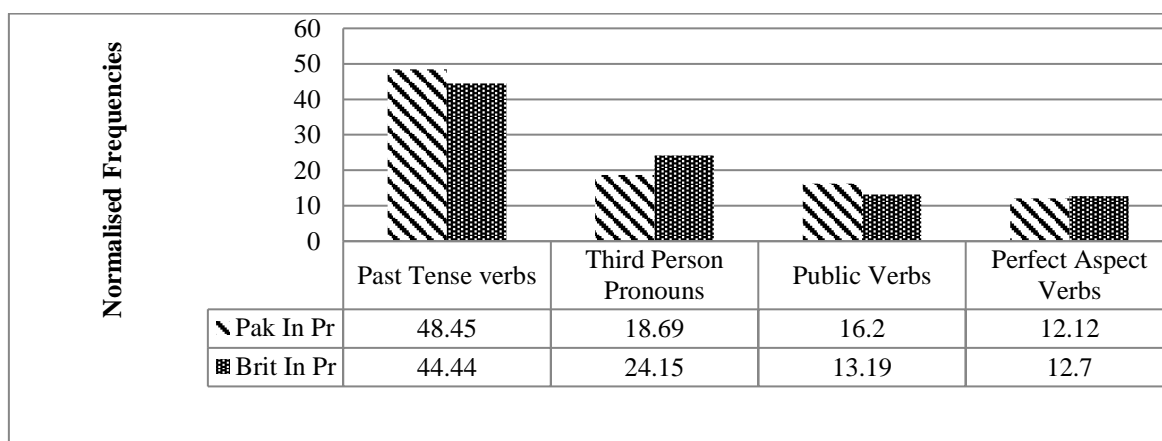


Fig. 4 Narrative Features in International News register of Pakistani and British Press Reportage on Dimension 2 linguistic features

This foregoing discussion with the help of graphical analysis proves prominent individual characteristics of Pakistani IN PR English. The higher score of Pakistan IN PR highlights the fact that this register is more narrative than its root language British IN PR register. These results show the tendency of Pakistani newspapers towards its market demands and readership. They narrate international stories with full details, covering all aspects of an international story, keeping in view their target readers to provide them full access to world-wide topics with details in Pakistani social context. Thus Pakistani English newspapers are

great source knowledge along with information and news while covering the cross-cultural international stories.

All these features are present in British newspapers but in lesser numbers than Pakistani English newspapers. But higher mean value of third person pronoun in British newspapers is significantly interesting as compared to lower mean score of Pakistani English newspapers.

3.3 Linguistic Variation on Dimension 3: Explicit vs Situational Dependent

Data collected from the newspapers of Pakistani and British print media was analyzed on multi-dimensions using the results of MDA studies (1988) in order to investigate two different objectives. The first objective was to determine the nature of Pakistani print media discourse to find out whether Pakistani International News Press Reportage shows tendency towards explicit or implicit patterns. Second parameter of this analysis was aimed to investigate the ratio of explicit vs situational dependent discourse found in representative English newspapers carefully selected from Pakistani and British print media.

Following the results of MDA (1988), the mean score of Dimension 3 of Pakistani International news press reportage corpora and British International news press reportage corpora were taken to draw a comparison to discover cross cultural linguistic variation in both registers and to the extent this variation occurs in both varieties.

Fig. 5 shows the mean scores of Pakistani and British corpora on Dimension 3. The mean score of Pak IN PR is (4.74) and (4.54) is of British IN PR. Positivity of these both mean values points out the explicit nature of both registers. According to MDA 1988 studies, positive score represents explicit feature of press reportage and negative score represent situational dependent discourse. 1st interpretation of this graphical analysis proves that both registers; Pakistani International news press reportage and British international news press reportage are explicit in nature, a significant characteristic of press reportage language. Second objective of this analysis is to find out the ratio of variation between both registers. Above graph shown in Fig. 5 highlights the mean value of (4.74) for Pakistani IN PR and mean score of (4.54) for British IN PR. This result does not show any significant difference or any noticeable variation in Pakistani International News Press Reportage as compared to British International News Press Reportage.

Like dimension 1 and 2, variation on dimension 3 exists but unlike D1 and D2 this variation is much less with the difference of (.2) only. However, this minor variation assists the previous studies claims of cross-cultural differences present in native vs non-native variety of English.

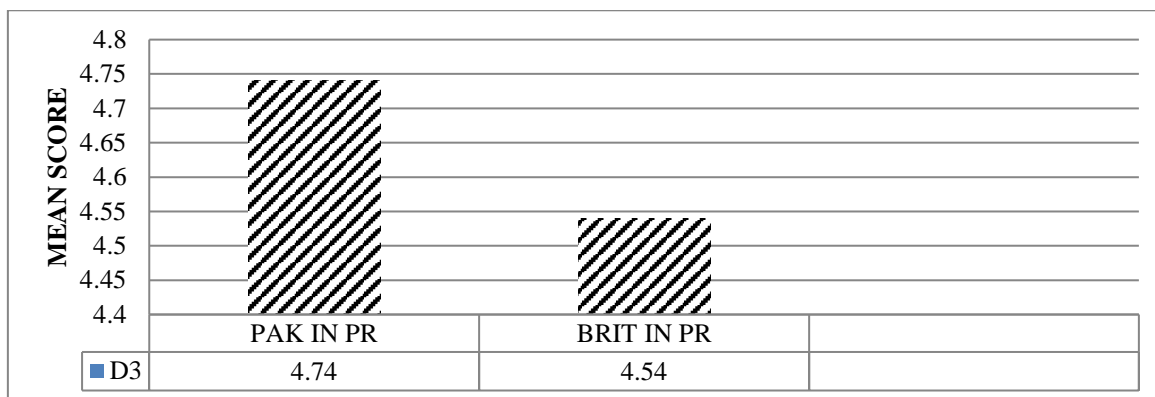


Fig. 5 Comparison between Pak and British Newspapers of International News Press Reportage category on Dimension 3

Above results can further be re-established by sketching the normalized frequencies of explicit features in both registers of Pakistani and British English.

Figure 6 displays the graph with mean scores of linguistic features, tagged as explicit features such as adverbs of time, adverbs of place, nominalization and adverbs. The difference found in Pak IN PR and British IN PR can be seen on different scales. Mean score of time adverbials (3.97) in British IN PR is higher than the mean score (3.11) of adverbs of time in Pak IN PR. On the other hand, the mean score (8.25) of place adverbials in Pak IN PR is (1.05) higher than the mean score (7.20) of place adverbials in British IN PR. Again difference is significant in the domain of adverbs where mean score (26.30) of British IN PR is higher than the mean score (23.87) of Pak IN PR. Nominalization in a text means more informative text and a visible significant difference can be seen with the higher mean values of (65.42) in Pak IN PR as compared to British IN PR's mean score (61.81). This depicts the intensive use of nominalization in Pakistani English newspapers. Though Pakistani IN PR shows the result on almost equal level with British IN PR overall on dimension 3 but significant differences can be found in the domain of nominalization and adverbs. Interestingly, this variation occurs in opposite directions; on one hand Pakistan IN PR owns higher score (65.42 of nominalisation) and on the other hand, Brit IN PR earns high mean

score (26.3 of adverbs). The positive score of both registers endorses a prominent feature of explicit discourse of press reportage language.

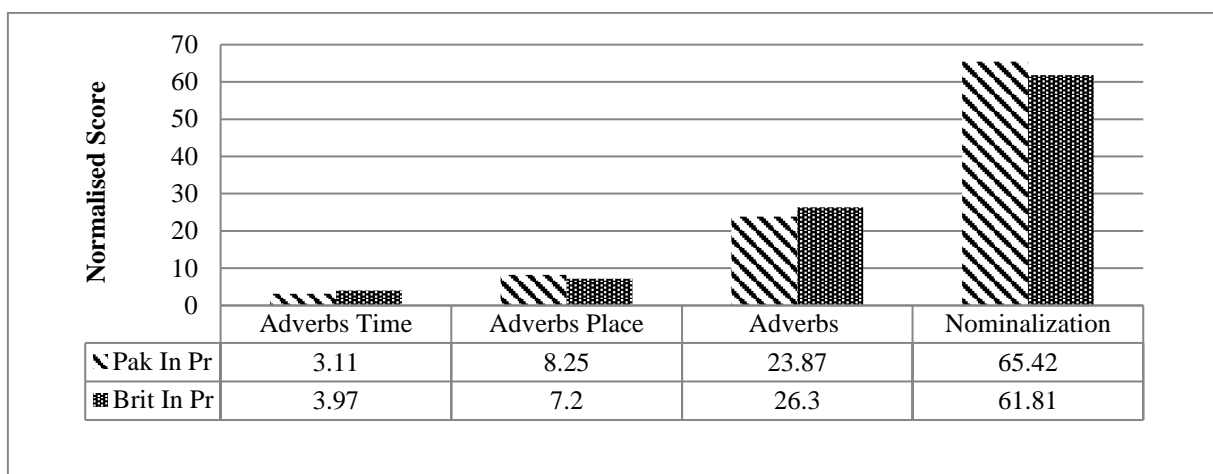


Fig. 6 Features of Explicitness vs Situation Dependent Discourse in International News register of Pakistan and British Press Reportage on Dimension 3

This foregoing discussion with the help of graphical analysis proves individual characteristics of Pakistani IN PR English. The significant internal variation of D3 linguistic features highlights the fact that both registers use different linguistic features in different ratio though apparently, they both are explicit in nature. These results show the tendency of Pakistani newspapers towards its market demands and readership. They narrate international stories with full details, covering all aspects of an international story, keeping in view their target readers to provide them full access to world-wide topics with details in Pakistani social context. Thus, Pakistani English newspapers are great source knowledge along with information and news while covering the cross-cultural international stories.

All these features in both varieties of English vary from one linguistic feature to another linguistic feature. But higher mean value of nominalization in Pakistani English newspapers is significantly interesting as compared to lower average values of nominalization in British English newspapers.

3.4 Linguistic Variation on Dimension 4: Overt Expression of Persuasion vs Covert Expression of Persuasion

Data collected from the selected newspapers of Pakistani and British print media was analysed on multi-dimensions using the results of MDA studies (1988) to investigate two

different parameters. The first parameter was to determine the nature of Pakistani print media discourse to find out whether Pakistani International News Press Reportage use overt expression of persuasion or covert expression of persuasion. Second parameter of this analysis was aimed to investigate the ratio of overt expression of persuasion or covert expression of persuasion discourse found in representative English newspapers carefully selected from Pakistani and British print media.

Following the results of MDA (1988), the mean score of Dimension 4 of Pakistani International news press reportage corpora and British International news press reportage corpora were used to make a comparison to discover cross cultural linguistic variation in both registers and to the extent this variation occurs in both varieties.

Fig. 7 shows the mean scores of Pakistani and British corpora on Dimension 4. The mean score of Pak IN PR is (-2.59) and British IN PR's score is (-1.59). Both mean values are negative, and this fact points out the covert discourse of both registers. According to MDA 1988 results, positive score represents overt expression of persuasion in press reportage language and negative score represent covert discourse.

Firstly, the graphical presentation has proved that both registers; Pakistani International news press reportage and British international news press reportage are covert discourse in nature, a significant characteristic of press reportage language.

Secondly, this analysis highlights the ratio of variation found in both registers. Furthermore, graph shown in Fig. 7 also highlights the mean value of (-2.59) for Pakistani IN PR and mean score of (-1.59) for British IN PR. This noticeable variation is very significant in its nature in Pakistani International News Press Reportage as compared to British International News Press Reportage.

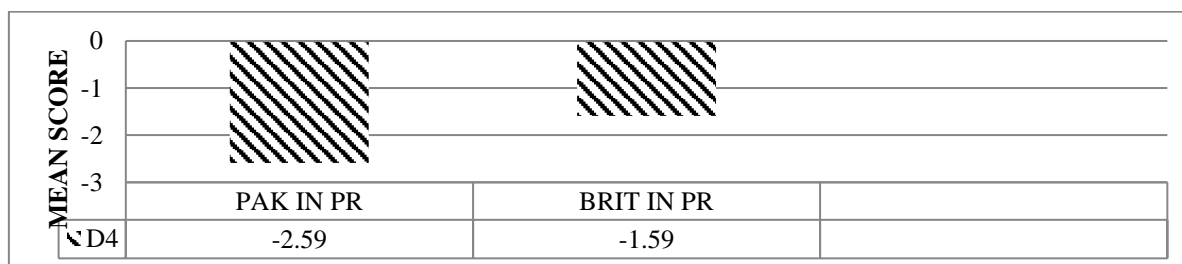


Fig. 7 Comparison of Pak and British newspapers in International News Press Reportage category on Dimension 4

Like dimension 1 and 2, significant variation found in dimension 4 endorses the previous studies claims of cross-cultural differences present in native vs non-native variety (non-native variety is Pakistani English in this study) of English. These results can further be verified by sketching the normalized frequencies of covert discourse linguistic features in both registers of Pakistani and British English.

In Fig. 8, on dimension 4 with reference to International News press reportage category, linguistic features like infinitives, models of necessity and models of possibility are tagged as the features of covert expressions of persuasion. The difference found in Pak IN PR and British IN PR can be seen on different scales.

All these features in both varieties of English vary from one linguistic feature to another linguistic feature.

3.5 Linguistic Variation on Dimension 5: Abstract VS Non-Abstract Information

Data collected from the particular selected newspapers from both Pakistani and British print media was analyzed on multi-dimensions using the results of 1988 studies conducted by Biber (1988) in order to investigate abstract vs non-abstract discourse patterns. It was aimed to determine the pattern of abstract vs non-abstract discourse in the representative English newspapers from Pakistani and British print media.

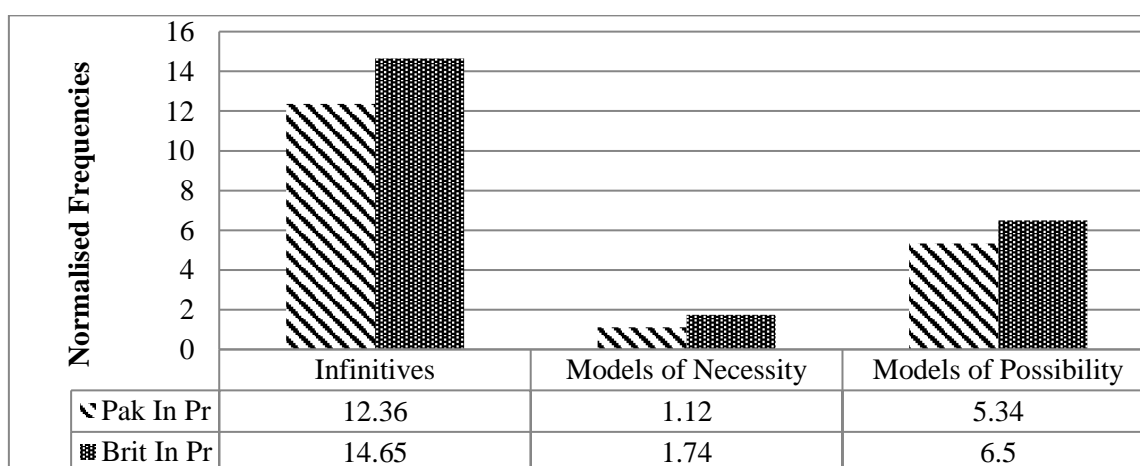


Fig. 8 Features of Overt Expression of Persuasion vs Covert Expression of Persuasion Discourse in International News register of Pakistan and British Press Reportage on Dimension 4

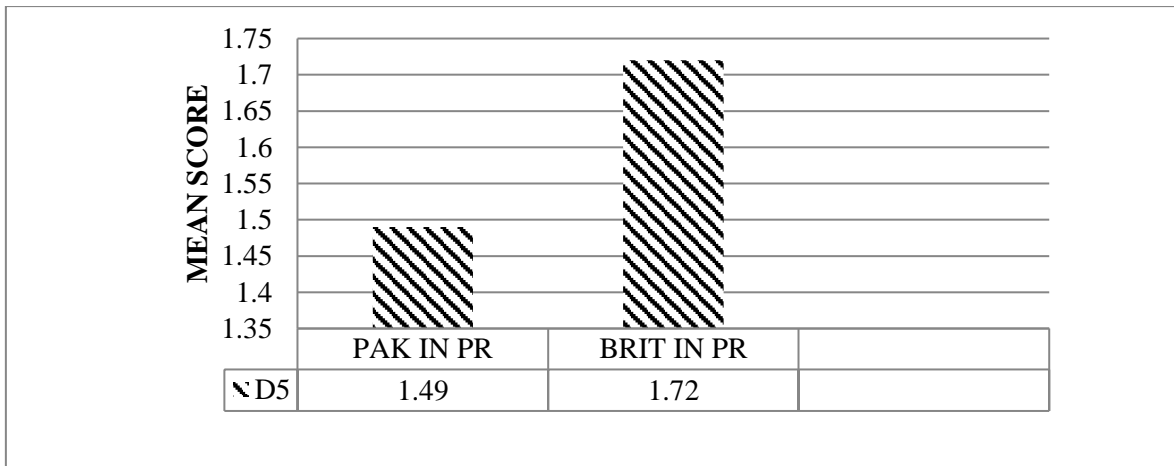


Fig. 9: Comparison of Pak and British Newspapers in International News Press Reportage on Dimension 5

According to MDA (1988) results, the score of Dimension 5 were used from Pakistani corpora and British corpora to draw a comparison to find any cross cultural linguistic variation in both registers and to the extent it is present in both varieties of English language.

Fig. 9 exhibited the mean scores on Dimension 5, representing Pakistani and British corpora. These both scores are positive. According to MDA 1988 studies, positive score represents abstract discourse of press reportage language and negative score represent non-abstract feature so 1st interpretation of this graphical analysis proves that both registers; Pakistani International news press reportage and British international news press reportage are abstract in nature, the objective, impersonal and abstract discourse is said to be an important feature of press reportage language. Second objective of finding out the ratio of variation between both registers is noticeable from the mean scores. This graph highlights the mean value of (1.49) for Pakistani IN PR and mean score of (1.72) for British IN PR. This result shows the less abstract discourse of Pakistani International News Press Reportage as compared to British International News Press Reportage. Though difference of (0.23) is a petty variation between both registers yet it depicts different textual features with different ratio of use in cross cultural context.

Unlike D1, D2, D3 and D4 analysis results where mean score of Pakistani INPR was higher in comparison with lower mean score British INPR, D5 mean score is lower than British INPR and thus (.2) lesser abstract. These results can further be confirmed by sketching the normalized frequencies of abstract vs non-abstract features in both registers of Pakistani and British English.

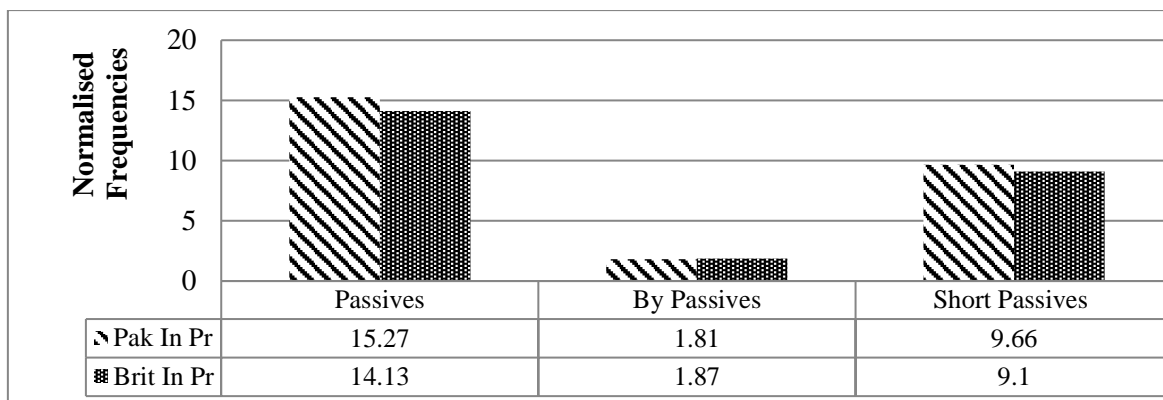


Fig. 10 Abstract Features in International News Register of Pakistani and British Press Reportage on Dimension 5

Graph shown in Figure 10 displayed the mean value of linguistic features such as passives, by passives, and short passives, that are tagged as abstract features of press reportage language. The difference found in Pak IN PR and British IN PR can be seen on petty scale in the domain of short passives where mean score difference is (.5). By Passives' mean values are on equal level with the score of (1.8) for both registers whereas the mega difference can be seen in passives with the score of (1.1). Pakistani INPR's score is higher (15.2) than British INPR score (14.1). The positive score of both registers reassures a prominent feature of being abstract in press reportage language.

The above discussion with the help of comparative analysis depicts individual characteristics of Pakistani IN PR English. The equal score of Pakistan IN PR and British INPR does not point out any significant measurements. These results show the policy of Pakistani newspapers towards its market demands and readership. They cover international stories objectively without being personal, narrating all aspects of an international story, keeping in view their target readers to provide them full access to international topics with abstract discourse in Pakistani social context.

Highlighted linguistic features in bold in above text examples display the use of passives, by passives and short passives. All these features in both varieties of English vary from each other very little. But higher mean value of passives in Pakistani English newspapers is significantly interesting as compared to lower average values of passives in British English newspapers. Passives are used to make any piece of writing impersonal, objective and abstract thus higher number of passives makes Pakistani International News Press Reportage abstract. Fig. 11 demonstrated five textual dimensions mean score of both registers.

This comparison showed that Pakistani press reportage with reference of international political news category is highly informational, more narrative, more explicit, with least degree of overt expressions of persuasion and less abstract in comparison with British international political news press reportage.

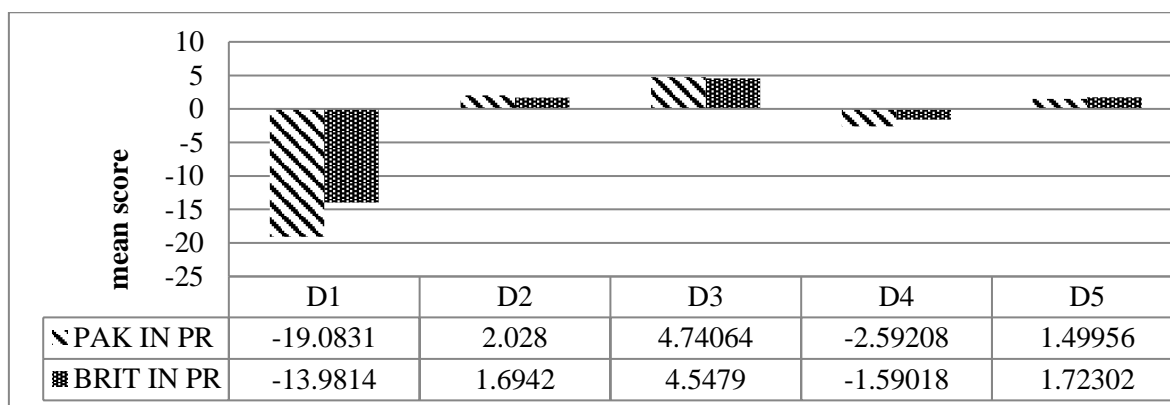


Fig. 11: Comparison of Pak and British International News Press Reportage on Five Dimensions mean score

Table 3 Details of Statistical analysis of PIPNC

Dimensions	Mean	Min value	Max value	Range	Stand. Deviation
Dim 1	-19.1	44.25	-9.68	34.58	3.177
Dim 2	2.02	-3.8	8.51	12.38	1.52
Dim 3	4.74	-10.2	12.25	22.44	2.54
Dim 4	-2.6	-6.61	15.21	21.82	1.75
Dim 5	1.5	-3.63	9.12	12.7	1.65

Similarly, statistical description of five-dimensional score of British International News Corpus abbreviated as BIPNC can be seen in Table 4 with its maximum values, minimum values, mean score, range, and standard deviation score, the process of which was explained earlier.

Table 4 Details of Statistical analysis of BIPNC

Dimensions	Mean	Min value	Max value	Range	Stand. Deviation
Dim 1	-13.98	-24.79	3.47	28.26	4.41
Dim 2	1.69	8.07	-2.69	10.76	1.71
Dim 3	4.55	-5.58	12.47	18.05	2.56
Dim 4	-1.59	-5.72	4.23	9.95	1.79
Dim 5	1.72	-2.4	6.56	8.96	1.61

4. Conclusion

Based on the results and analysis conducted current research can be concluded as follows.

- Dimension one analysis between Pakistani International Political News Press Reportage and British International Political News Press Reportage proved that Pak IN PR register has been more informational than British IN PR register caused by higher frequency of attributive adjectives, prepositions, and nouns which conform to results of British press reportage (1988).
- Comparative analysis between Pakistani International Political News Press Reportage and British International Political News Press Reportage proved that Pak IN PR register has been more narrative than British IN PR register on dimension two, which seems apparent norm of Pakistani press reportage genre due to its readership demands.
- Multi dimension analysis of Pakistani International Political News Press Reportage vs British International Political News Press Reportage proved that Pak IN PR register has been more explicit than British IN PR register on Dimension three, quiet opposite to the results of Biber's study (1988) that seems to prove the situation dependent nature of British press reportage.
- Dimension four analysis between Pakistani International Political News Press Reportage and British International Political News Press Reportage proved that Pak IN PR register has been found with least argumentative language and higher use of covert expressions of persuasion than British IN PR register which also conforms to Biber's 1988 study with similar findings of British press reportage.
- Dimension five analysis between Pakistani International Political News Press Reportage and British International Political News Press Reportage proved that Pak IN PR register has been less abstract than British IN PR register contradicting the results of Biber's results of British press reportage. These findings conform to the results of Ahmad's study (2016), according to him, on D3 and D5 in particular, Pakistani press reportage register has been found different from British press reportage register analyzed in Biber's 1988 study, strengthening the claims of the Pakistani press reportage register's independent identity, made by previous studies due to cross-cultural factors.

This MD based study on international political news press reportage register focus the fact that more non-native registers of Pakistani English should be explored on MD based research studies and internal variation comparison of registers will determine and confirm the characteristics of Pakistani English as a non-native variety in comprehensive way.

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