# MRP 2020: 

## Cross-Framework and Cross-Lingual Meaning Representation Parsing

http://mrp.nlpl.eu

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# 10,000-Meter Perspective: Parsing into Semantic Graphs 

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## Why Graph-Based Meaning Representation?

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Hardy \& Vlachos (2018): $2^{+}$ROUGE points over strong encoder-decoder.

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## Different Desiderata and Levels of Abstraction

- Grammaticality (e.g. subject-verb agreement) vs. relational structure.


## Semi-Formally: Trees vs. Graphs

## Structural Wellformedness Conditions on Trees

- Unique root, connected, single parent, free of cycles; maybe projective;
$\rightarrow$ all nodes (but the root) reachable by unique directed path from root.


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- (structurally) multi-rooted: more than one node with zero in-degree; $\rightarrow$ massive growth in modeling and algorithmic complexity (NP-complete).


## High-Level Goals of the Shared Task

## Cross-Framework Comparability and Interoperability

- Vast, complex landscape of representing natural language meaning;
- diverse linguistic traditions, modeling assumptions, levels of ambition;
$\rightarrow$ clarify concepts and terminology; unify representations and evaluation.


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- distinct techniques, e.g. based on transitions, composition, 'translation';
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## Two Distinct Tracks in MRP 2020

- Cross-Framework Perspective: Seek commonality and complementarity.
- Cross-Lingual Perspective: In-framework transfer to another language.


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- properties (and attributes) are non-recursive attribute-value matrices;
- node (and edge) label is merely a distinguished property (or attribute);
- distinction is not commonly discussed, but used by many frameworks.


Pierre Vinken is 61 years old.

## Anchoring in the Surface String

## Relating Pieces of Meaning to the Linguistic Signal

- Intuitively, sub-structures of meaning relate to sub-parts of the input;
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- hierarchy of anchoring types: Flavor (0)-(2); bilexical graphs strictest;


## Name Example Type of Anchoring

(0) bilexical DM, PSD nodes are sub-set of surface tokens
(1) anchored EDS, PTG, UCCA free node-sub-string correspondences
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- hierarchy of anchoring types: Flavor (0)-(2); bilexical graphs strictest;
- anchoring central in parsing, explicit or latent; aka 'alignment' for AMR;
- relevant to at least some downstream tasks; should impact evaluation.


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## A Selection of Semantic Graphbanks

## Selection Criteria

- 'Full-sentence' semantics: all content-bearing units receive annotations;
- natively graph-based: meaning representation through (directed) graphs;
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## (With Apologies to) Non-Graph or Non-Meaning Banks

- PropBank (Palmer et al., 2005), Framenet (Baker et al., 1998), ... ;
- Universal Decompositional Semantics (White et al., 2016);
- Enhanced Universal Dependencies (Schuster \& Manning, 2016);


## (1) Elementary Dependency Structures (EDS)

## Simplification of Underspecified Logical Forms (Oepen \& Lønning, 2006)

- Converted from LinGO Redwoods Treebank (Flickinger et al., 2017);
- decomposition or construction meaning; anchors: arbitrary sub-strings.



## (1) Prague Tectogrammatical Graphs (PTG)

## Simplification of FGD Tectogrammatical 'Trees' (Zeman \& Hajič, 2020)

- Prague (Czech-English) Dependency Treebanks (Hajič et al., 2012);
- unanchored nodes for unexpressed arguments, e.g. \#Benef and \#Gen.



## (1) Universal Conceptual Cognitive Annotation (UCCA)

## Multi-Layered Design (Abend \& Rappoport, 2013); Foundational Layer

- Tree backbone: semantic 'constituents' are scenes ('clauses') and units;


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- complex units distinguish Center and Elaborator(s); allow remote edges.


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## (2) Abstract Meaning Representation (AMR)

## Banarescu et al. (2013)

- Abstractly (if not linguistically) similar to EDS, but unanchored;
- verbal senses from PropBank++;
- negation as node-local property;
- tree-like annotation: inversed edges normalized for evaluation;
- originally designed for (S)MT; various NLU applications to date.

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## (2) Discourse Representation Graphs (DRG)

## Graph Encoding of DRS 'Nested Boxes' (Kamp \& Reyle, 1993)

- From Groningen Parallel Meaning Bank (Abzianidze et al., 2017);
- explicit encoding of scope (boxes and in edges), using reified roles.


|  |  | EDS | PTG | UCCA | AMR | DRG |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Flavor | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| E | Text Type | newspaper | newspaper | mixed | mixed | mixed |
|  | Sentences | 37,192 | 42,024 | 6,872 | 57,885 | 6,606 |
|  | Tokens | 861,831 | 1,026,033 | 171,838 | 1,049,083 | 44,692 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{y}{n} \\ & \frac{\sqrt[0]{6}}{\sqrt{n}} \end{aligned}$ | Text Type | mixed | mixed | mixed | mixed | mixed |
|  | Sentences | 3,302 | 1,664 | 1,585 | 3,560 | 885 |
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| $\stackrel{\text { ¢ }}{ \pm}$ | Text Type | mixed | newspaper | mixed | mixed | mixed |
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- linguistics: smallish WSJ sample in all frameworks publicly available;
- evaluation: subset of 100 sentences from The Little Prince is public.


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- Gold-standard graphs for one additional language in four frameworks;
- 'low-resource' training setting for two frameworks: UCCA and DRG;
? explor opportunities for cross-lingual transfer learning (in-framework).


## Cross-Framework Evaluation: MRP Graph Similarity

- Break down graphs into types of information: per-type and overall $F_{1}$;


Different Types of Semantic Graph 'Atoms'
EDS PTG UCCA AMR DRG

| Top Nodes | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labeled Edges | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $(\checkmark)$ |
| Node Labels | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $x$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Node Properties | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $x$ | $\checkmark$ | $x$ |
| Node Anchoring | $\checkmark$ | $(\mathcal{\checkmark})$ | $(\checkmark)$ | $x$ | $x$ |
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| Top Nodes | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labeled Edges | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $(\checkmark)$ |
| Node Labels | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $x$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Node Properties | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $x$ | $\checkmark$ | $x$ |
| Node Anchoring | $\checkmark$ | $(\mathcal{\checkmark})$ | $(\mathcal{\checkmark})$ | $x$ | $x$ |
| Edge Attributes | $x$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $x$ | $x$ |

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## Cross-Framework Evaluation: MRP Graph Similarity

- Break down graphs into types of information: per-type and overall $F_{1}$;
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Different Types of Semantic Graph 'Atoms'
EDS PTG UCCA AMR DRG

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| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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- maximum common edge subgraph isomorphism (MCES) is NP-hard;
$\rightarrow$ smart initialization, scheduling, and pruning yield strong approximation.



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## Graphbank Statistics (Kuhlmann \& Oepen, 2016)

EDS PTG UCCA AMR ${ }^{-1}$ DRG


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## High-Level Overview of Submissions

| Teams | AMR | DRG | EDS | PTG | UCCA |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Hitachi | O | O | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ |
| ÚFAL | O | O | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ |
| HIT-SCIR | O | O | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ |
| HUJI-KU | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ |
| ISCAS | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ |
| TJU-BLCU | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ |
| JBNU | $O$ |  |  |  |  |
| UFAL | $O$ | $O$ | $O$ | $O$ | $O$ |

0

## Score Distribution



## Score Distribution: Zoom In



## OCross-Framework Track: Full Evaluation



## Medal Ceremony!

OCross-Framework Cross-Lingual

| Teams |  | AMR | DRG | EDS | PTG | UCCA |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Hitachi | O | Of | O\% | $\bigcirc$ | 0 | O |
| ÚFAL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| HIT-SCIR | O* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| HUJI-KU |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ISCAS |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TJU-BLCU |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |



## State of the Art: The Little Prince

MRP 2019:


MRP 2020:


## Interim Conclusions \& Outlook

## Lessons Learned (from Two Consecutive Shared Tasks)

- Good community interest: 180 subscribers; 19 data licenses (via LDC);
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? increased focus on evaluation metrics: score 'larger pieces'; SEMBLEU;
$\rightarrow$ open discussion with 2020 participants towards the end of this session.


## Acknowledgments

Jayeol Chun, Dotan Dvir, Dan Flickinger, Jiří Mírovský, Anna Nedoluzhko, Sebastian Schuster, Milan Straka, and Zdeňka Urešová

Linguistic Data Consortium,

Nordic Language Processing Laboratory

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