The 21st International Workshop on Treebanks and Linguistic Theories (TLT, GURT/SyntaxFest 2023)

Proceedings of the Conference

March 9-12, 2023
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The Georgetown College of Arts & Sciences, the Georgetown Faculty of Languages and Linguistics, and the Georgetown Department of Linguistics
Introduction

The 21st International Workshop on Treebanks and Linguistic Theories (TLT 2023) follows an annual series that started in 2002 in Sozopol, Bulgaria. TLT addresses all aspects of treebank design, development, and use. “Treebank” is taken in a broad sense, comprising any spoken, signed, or written data augmented with computationally processable annotations of linguistic structure at various levels. For the first time, TLT is part of GURT2023, an annual linguistics conference held at Georgetown University, which this year co-locates four related but independent events:

- The Seventh International Conference on Dependency Linguistics (Depling 2023)
- The 21st International Workshop on Treebanks and Linguistic Theories (TLT 2023)
- The Sixth Workshop on Universal Dependencies (UDW 2023)
- The First International Workshop on Construction Grammars and NLP (CxGs+NLP 2023)

The Georgetown University Round Table on Linguistics (GURT) is a peer-reviewed annual linguistics conference held continuously since 1949 at Georgetown University in Washington DC, with topics and co-located events varying from year to year. In 2023, under an overarching theme of ‘Computational and Corpus Linguistics’, GURT/SyntaxFest continues the tradition of SyntaxFest 2019 and SyntaxFest 2021/22 in bringing together multiple events that share a common interest in using corpora and treebanks for empirically validating syntactic theories, studying syntax from quantitative and theoretical points of view, and for training machine learning models for natural language processing. Much of this research is increasingly multilingual and cross-lingual and requires continued systematic analysis from various theoretical, applied, and practical perspectives. New this year, the CxGs+NLP workshop brings a usage-based perspective on how form and meaning interact in language.

For these reasons and encouraged by the success of the previous editions of SyntaxFest, we—the chairs of the four events—decided to facilitate another co-located event at GURT 2023 in Washington DC. As in past co-located events involving several of the workshops, we organized a single reviewing process, with identical paper formats for all four events. Authors could indicate (multiple) venue preferences, but the ultimate assignment of papers to events for accepted papers was made by the program chairs. 33 long papers were submitted, 11 to Depling, 16 to TLT, 10 to UDW and 10 to CxGs+NLP. The program chairs accepted 27 (82%) and assigned 7 to Depling, 6 to TLT, 5 to UDW and 9 to CxGs+NLP. 16 short papers were submitted, 6 of which to Depling, 6 to TLT, 10 to UDW and 2 to CxGs+NLP. The program chairs accepted 9 (56%) and assigned 2 to Depling, 2 to TLT, 3 to UDW, and 2 to CxGs+NLP.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who is making this event possible: everybody who submitted their papers; Georgetown University Linguistics Department students and staff—including Lauren Levine, Jessica Lin, Ke Lin, Mei-Ling Klein, and Conor Sinclair—for their organizational assistance; and of course, the reviewers for their time and their valuable comments and suggestions. Special thanks are due to Georgetown University, and specifically to the Georgetown College of Arts & Sciences and the Faculty of Languages and Linguistics for supporting the conference with generous funding. Finally, we would also like to thank ACL SIGPARSE for its endorsement and the ACL Anthology for publishing the proceedings.

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Daniel Dakota, Kilian Evang, Sandra Kübler, Lori Levin (TLT2023 Chairs)
Loïc Grobol, Francis Tyers (UDW2023 chairs)
Claire Bonial Harish Tayyar Madabushi (CxG+NLP2023 Chairs)
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# Table of Contents

**Corpus-Based Multilingual Event-type Ontology: Annotation Tools and Principles**  
Eva Fučíková, Jan Hajič and Zdeňka Urešová .......................... 1

**Spanish Verbal Synonyms in the SynSemClass Ontology**  
Cristina Fernández-Alcaina, Eva Fučíková, Jan Hajič and Zdeňka Urešová ...................... 11

**Hedging in diachrony: the case of Vedic Sanskrit iva**  
Erica Biagetti, Oliver Hellwig and Sven Sellmer .............................................. 21

**Is Japanese CCGBank empirically correct? A case study of passive and causative constructions**  
Daisuke Bekki and Hitomi Yanaka ............................................................... 32

**ICON: Building a Large-Scale Benchmark Constituency Treebank for the Indonesian Language**  
Ee Suan Lim, Wei Qi Leong, Ngan Thanh Nguyen, Dea Adhista, Wei Ming Kng, William Chandra Tjh and Ayu Purwarianti  ...................................................... 37

**Parsing Early New High German: Benefits and limitations of cross-dialectal training**  
Christopher Saap, Daniel Dakota and Elliot Evans ......................................... 54

**Semgrex and Surgeon, Searching and Manipulating Dependency Graphs**  
John Bauer, Chloé Kiddon, Eric Yeh, Alex Shan and Christopher D. Manning ............ 67

**Mapping AMR to UMR: Resources for Adapting Existing Corpora for Cross-Lingual Compatibility**  