

Verbalising Graphs into High-, Medium- and Low-Resource Languages

Chaire IA xNLG: Generating from Multiple Sources into Multiple Languages

Claire Gardent

CNRS / LORIA

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Graphs are frequent Data Structures

- Knowledge Graphs

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- RDF Stores

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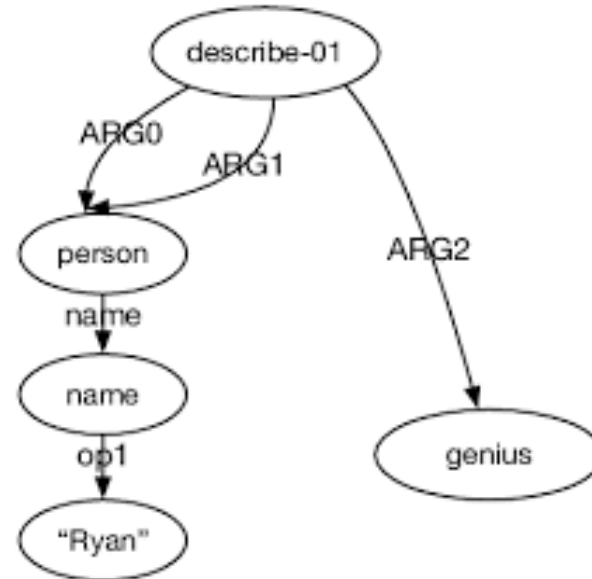
- Knowledge Graphs
- RDF Stores
- Meaning Representations

Graphs are frequent Data Structures

- Knowledge Graphs
- RDF Stores
- Meaning Representations
- Tabular Data

Abstract Meaning Representation (AMR)

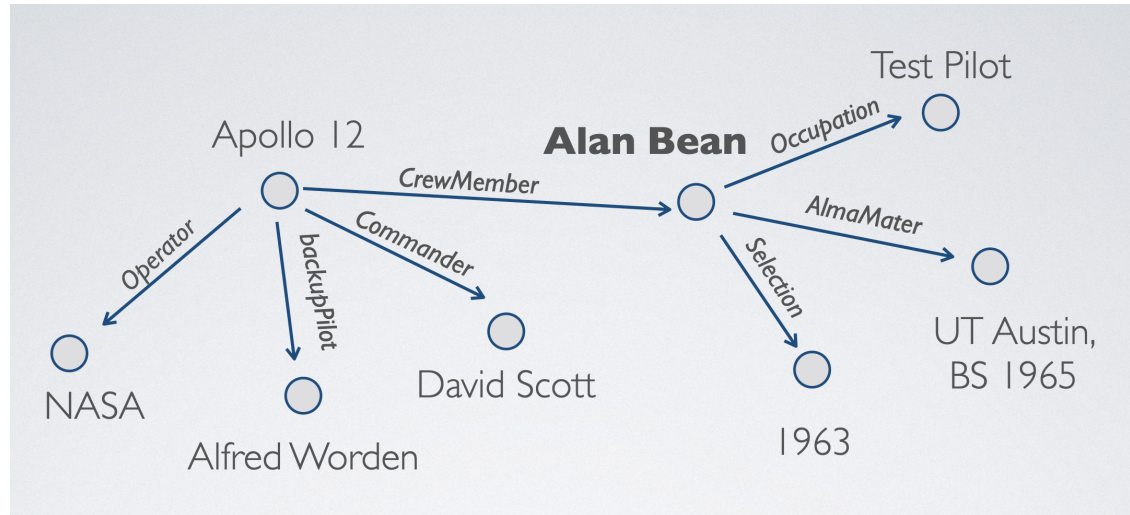
Ryan describes himself as a genius



Knowledge Graphs



RDF Graph



English Text

Alan Bean graduated from UT Austin in 1955 with a Bachelor of Science degree. He was hired by NASA in 1963 and served as a test pilot. Apollo 12's backup pilot was Alfred Worden and was commanded by David Scott

Challenges

- Structured input has a different surface form

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- Structured Input is underspecified

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- Lack of parallel Graph/text data

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- Structured input has a different surface form
- Structured Input is underspecified
- Lack of parallel Graph/text data
- Decoding into languages with varied morphology and word order

Outline

Multilingual Models

- AMR \Rightarrow 21 EU Languages

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Pre-trained Multilingual Models

- RDF \Rightarrow English, Russian

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Pre-trained Multilingual Models

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Parameter Efficient Fine Tuning

- RDF \Rightarrow Breton, Welsh, Irish, Maltese

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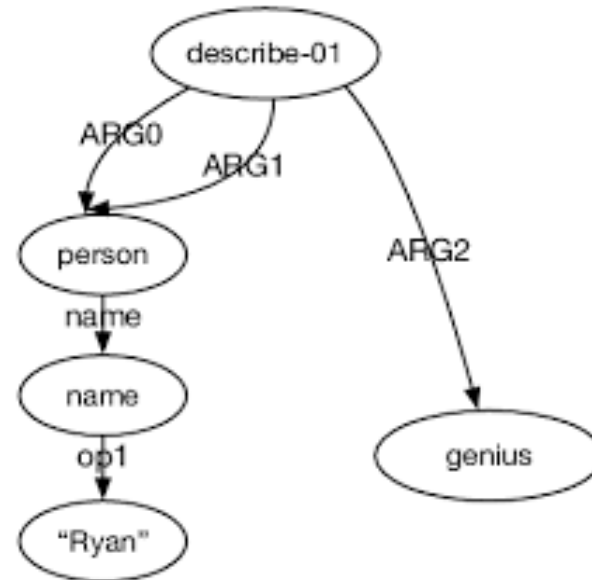
- RDF \Rightarrow Breton, Welsh, Irish, Maltese
- AMR \Rightarrow 6 High- and 6 Low-Resource Languages

AMR \Rightarrow 21 EU Languages

Fan and Gardent EMNLP 2020

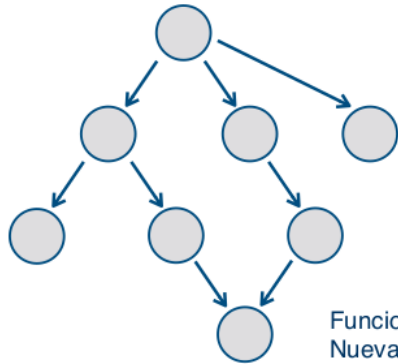
Abstract Meaning Representation (AMR)

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AMR → 21 Languages

Amerikanska tjänstemän höll ett expertgruppsmöte i januari 2002 i New York.



Americký predstavitelia usporiadali stretnutie expertnej skupiny v januári 2002 v New Yorku.

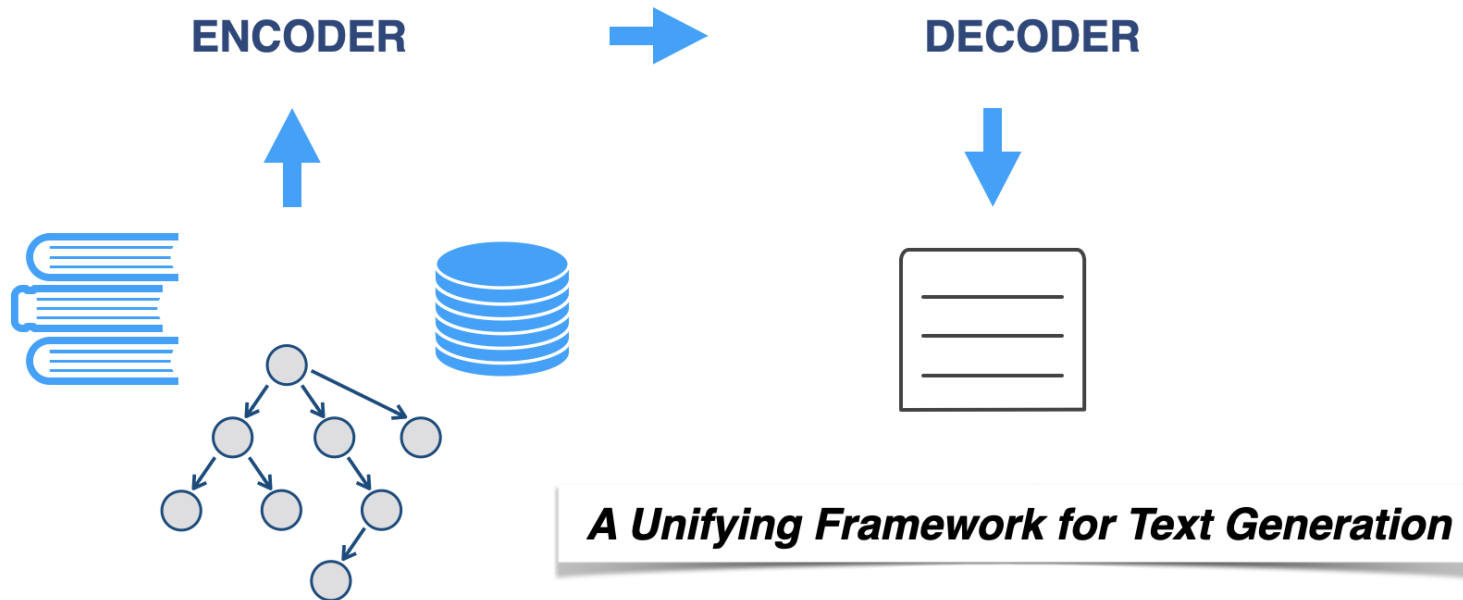
US officials held an expert group meeting in January 2002 in New York.

Des responsables américains ont tenu une réunion d'un groupe d'experts en janvier 2002 à New York.

Funcionarios estadounidenses celebraron una reunión de un grupo de expertos en enero de 2002 en Nueva York.

Romance, Germanic, Slavic, Uralic

The Encoder-Decoder Framework



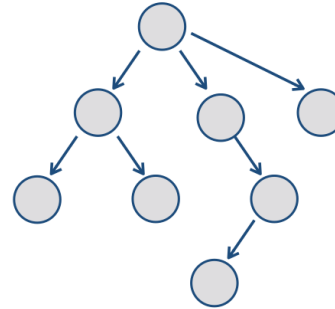
Two networks

- The encoder produces a continuous representation of the input
- The decoder generates a text from this representation

AMR Encoding

- Transformer encoder
- Linearise (and simplify) AMRs
- Graph structure
 - Node: token + distance from root + branch
- Pretraining (Masked Language Modelling objective)
 - on 30M silver AMRs

Linearising



hold

:ARG0 person : ARG0-of have-org-role :ARG1 :op1 **United** :op2

States :ARG2 **official**

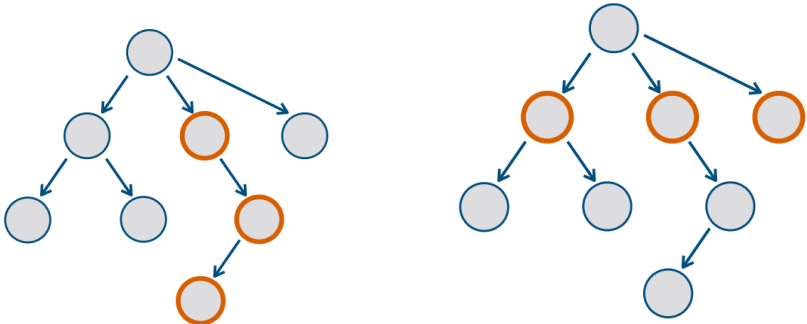
:ARG1 **meet** :ARG0 person :ARG1-of **expert** :ARG2-of **group**

:time date-entity :year **2002** :month **1**

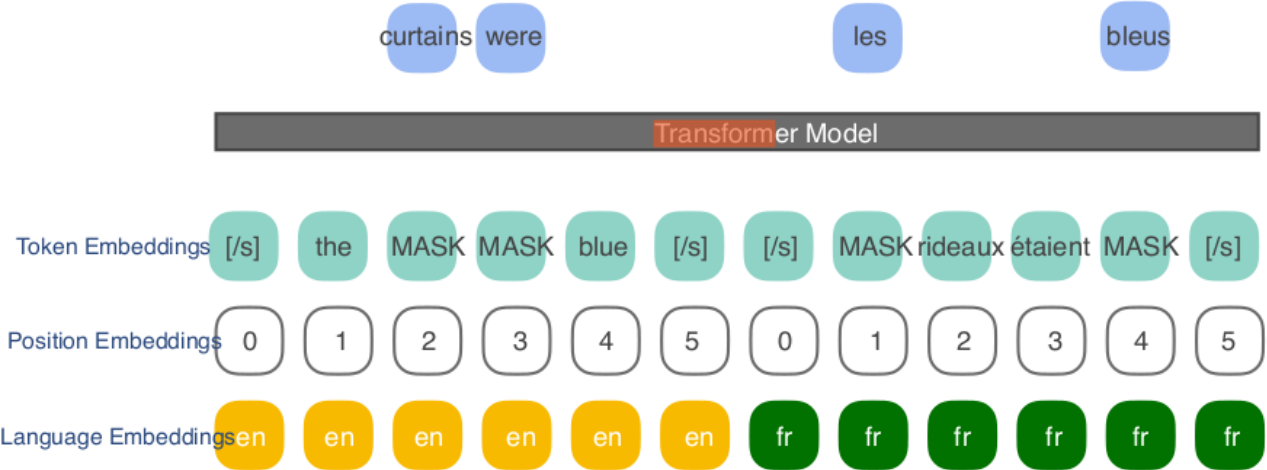
:location city :op1 **New** :op2 **York**

Encoding Structure

Add branch and sibling embeddings (aka positional embedding for graphs)

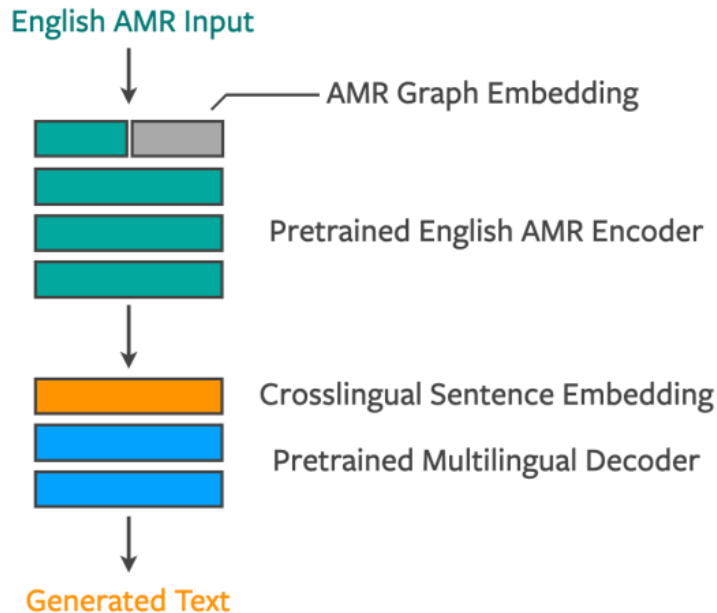


Multilingual Decoding



- Crosslingual embeddings (XLM Sentence Piece Model and Vocabulary)
- Language Models pretrained on 30M sentences (for each language)

Leveraging Pretraining



- Encoder: pretraining on Silver AMRs
- Decoder: language model pretraining

Multilingual decoding

- Prefix each training instance with a control token
- Trained on multilingual Europarl data

Training Data

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French

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Spanish

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Slovak

Американските
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група през януари
2002 г. в Ню Йорк.

Bulgarian

Amerikanska
tjänstemän höll
ett
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e i januari 2002 i
New York.

Swedish

- Europarl: 21 Languages
- Input AMR: create AMR structure with JAMR parser

Test Data

- Silver AMR: 21 languages, Europarl
- Gold AMR: 4 languages

Comparison: Bilingual vs Multilingual

Bilingual Baseline

hold

:ARG0 person : ARG0-of have-org-role :ARG1 :op1

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Multilingual Model



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Multilingual Model

SV

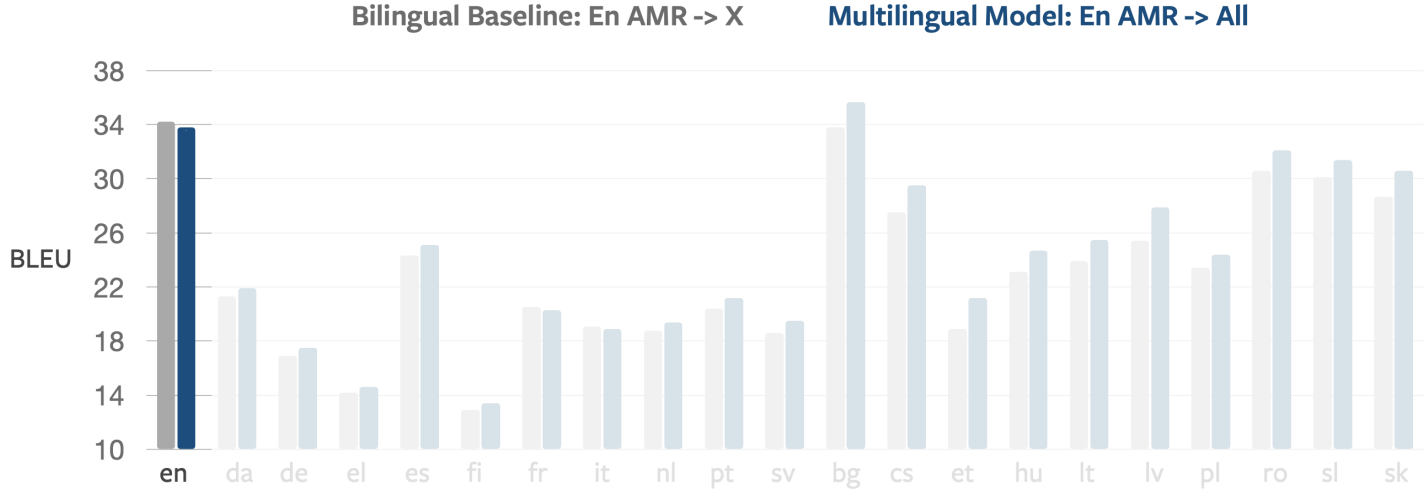
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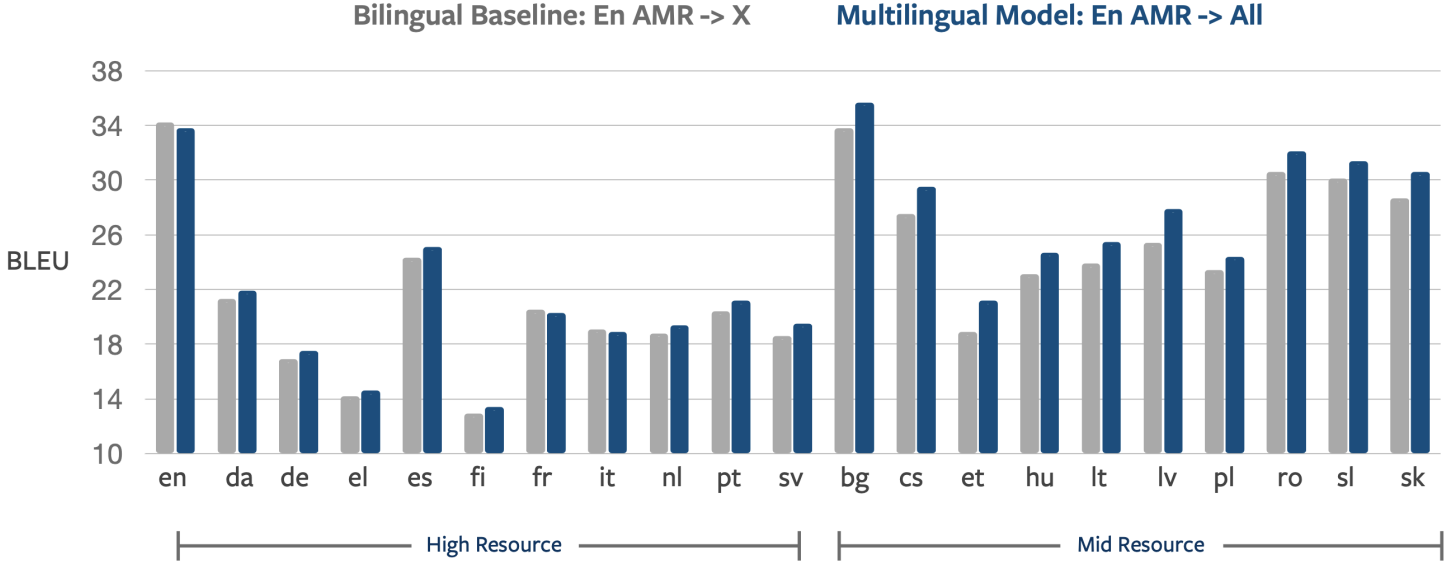


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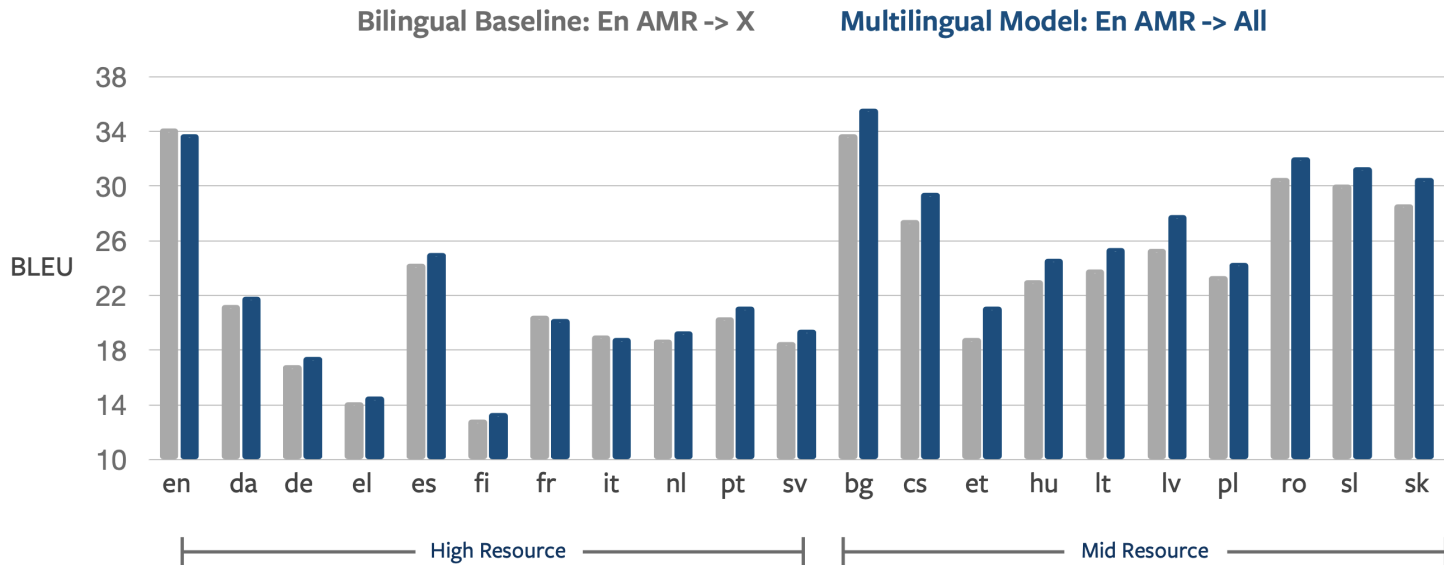


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The multilingual model generally outperforms monolingual models

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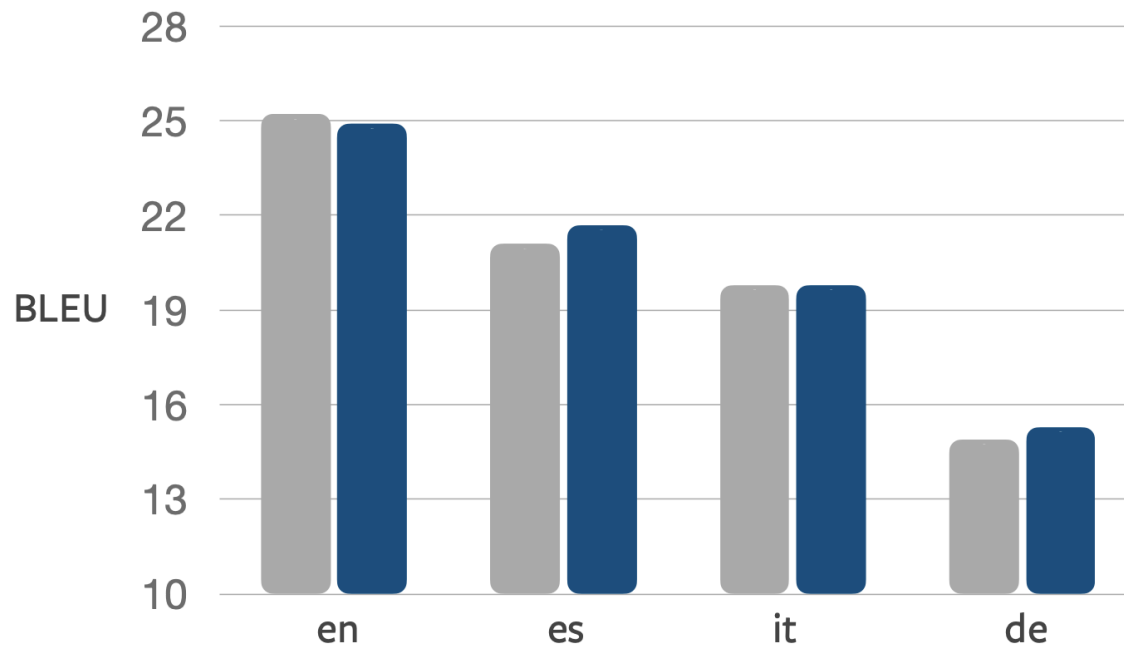
The multilingual model generally outperforms monolingual models

The difference is stronger on Mid-Resource Languages

Results: Gold AMR

Bilingual Baseline: En AMR -> X

Multilingual Model: En AMR -> All



The difference also holds when generating from gold AMRs

Comparison: Hybrid vs Multilingual

Hybrid Translation Model

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AMR to English

US officials held an expert group
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Translation Model

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Multilingual Model

fr

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Generate: AMR → English

Comparison: Hybrid vs Multilingual

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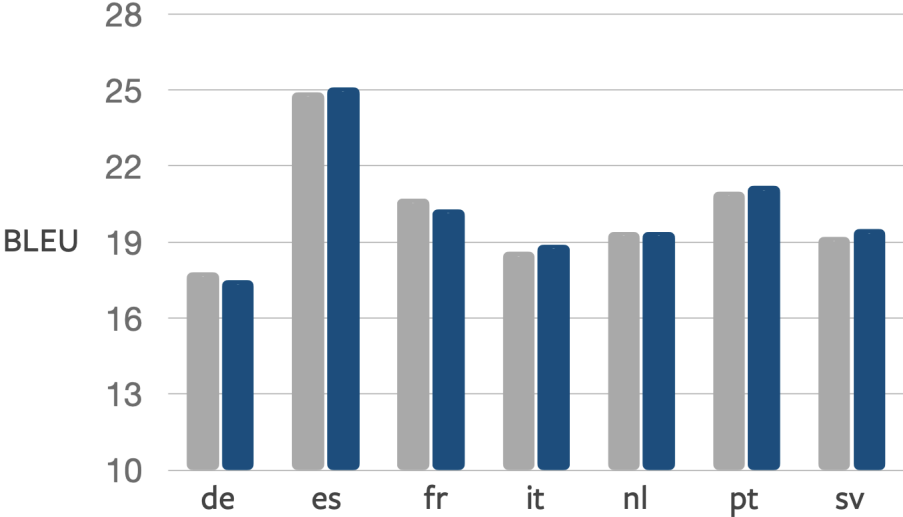
Generate: AMR → English

Translate: English → X

Comparison: Hybrid vs Multilingual

Hybrid Translation: En AMR -> En -> Translate to X

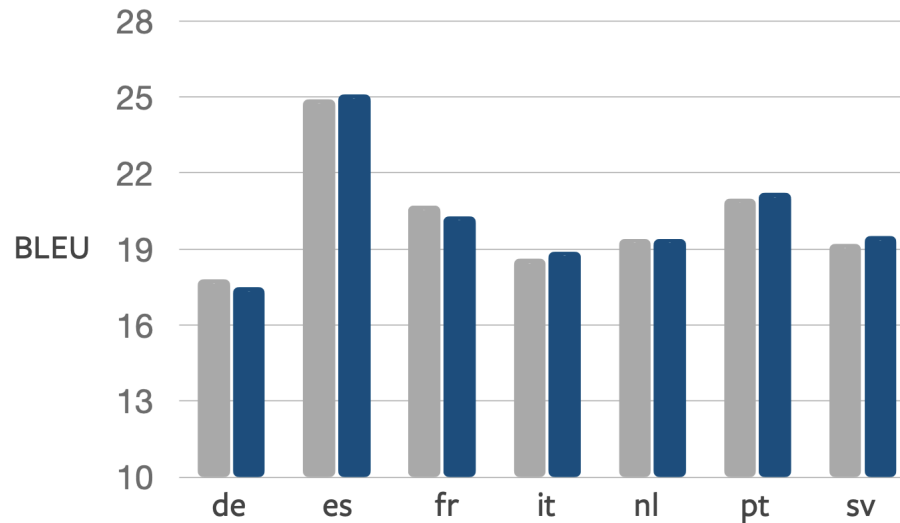
Multilingual Model: En AMR -> All



Comparison: Hybrid vs Multilingual

Hybrid Translation: En AMR -> En -> Translate to X

Multilingual Model: En AMR -> All



The multilingual model outperforms the Gen&Translate pipeline

Human Evaluation



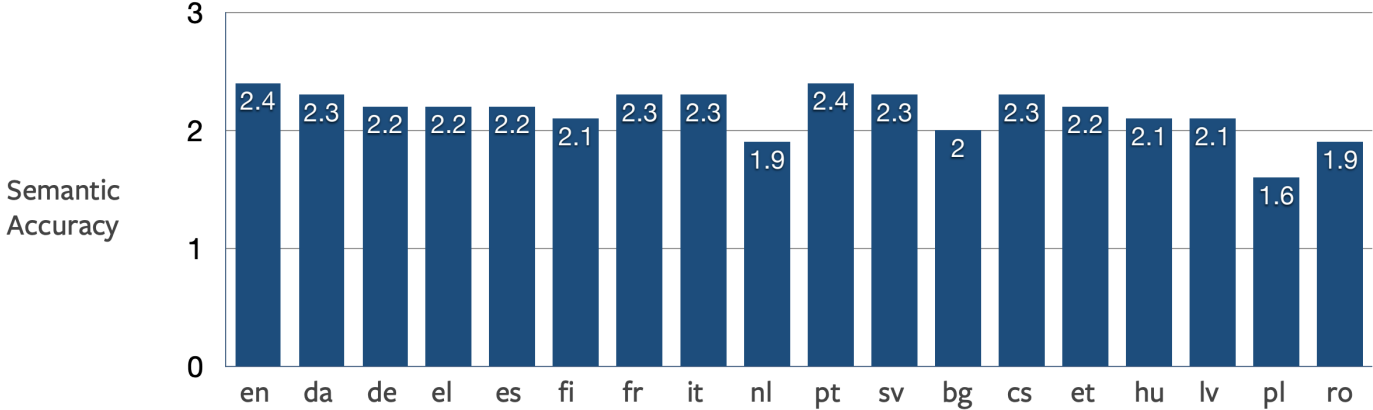
- Evaluators: colleagues from NLP mailing lists
- 50 sentences per language
 - Half low BLEU
 - Half high BLEU

Human Evaluation



- Semantic Accuracy:
Does the generated text correctly paraphrase the reference?
- Morphology:
Is the morphology correct? Are agreement constraints e.g., verb/subject, noun/adjective respected?
- Word Order:
Is the word order natural sounding?

Human Evaluation: Semantic Accuracy



Key Takeaways

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 - Pretrained LMs and AMRs, Crosslingual embeddings, Multilingual training
- Multilingual models benefits from increased training data and perform better on average than bilingual
- Multilingual End-to-End models outperform NLG+MT models

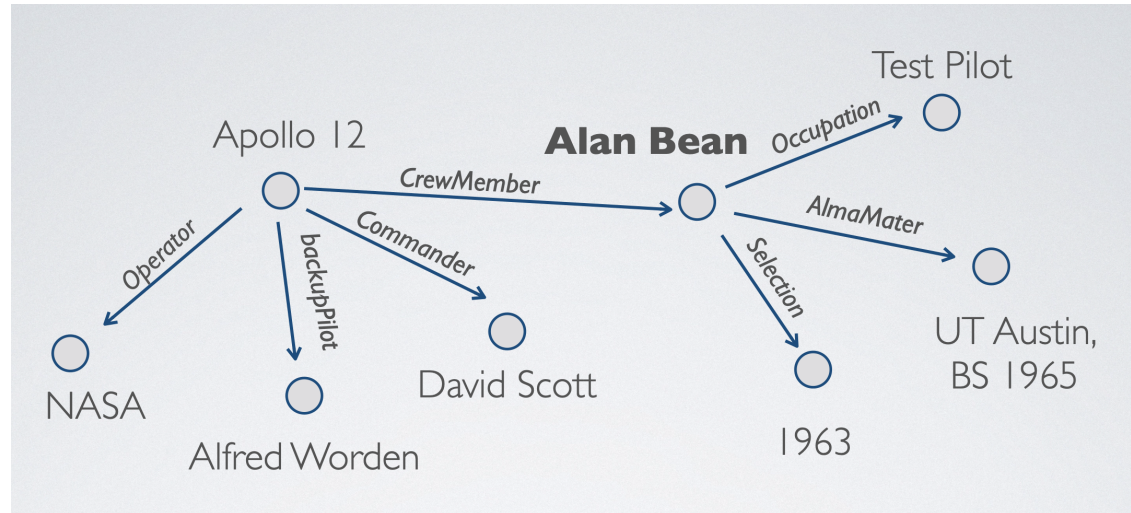
Knowledge Graphs \Rightarrow English, Russian

Gardent et al. ACL 2017, Castro-Ferreira et al. INLG 2020

The WebNLG Challenge



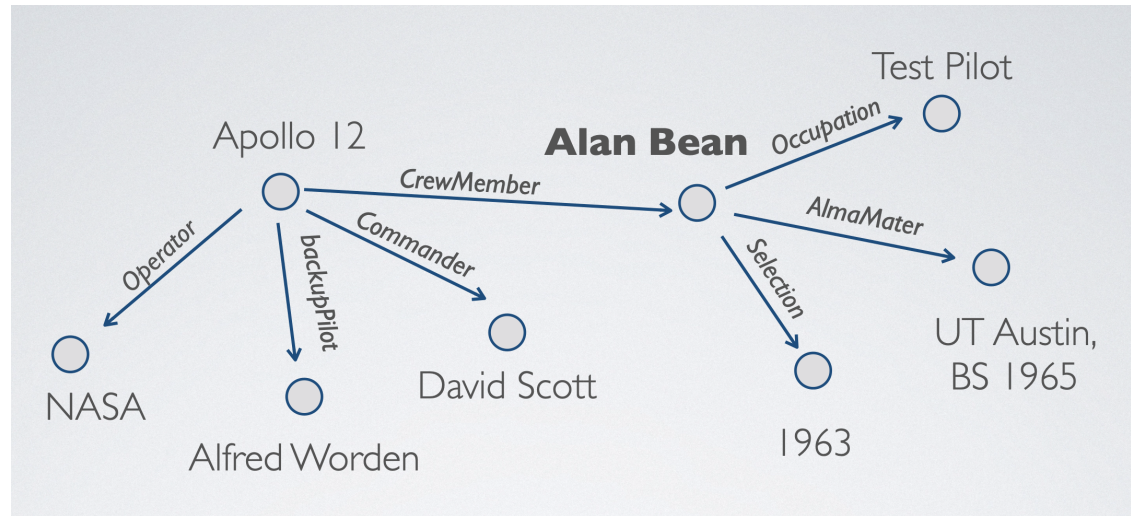
RDF Graph



The WebNLG Challenge



RDF Graph



English Text

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WebNLG 2017: RDF \Rightarrow English

	Train+Dev	Test (Seen Category)	Test (Unseen Category)	TOTAL
# (Graph,Text)	20,370	2,495	2,413	25,298
# Graphs	7,812	971	891	9,674

- DBPedia graphs with root entity of various categories.
- English texts are crowdsourced

WebNLG 2017: RDF \Rightarrow English

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# (Graph,Text)	20,370	2,495	2,413	25,298
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10 **seen** categories:

- Astronaut, University, Monument, Building, Comics Character, Food, Airport, SportsTeam, City and WrittenWork

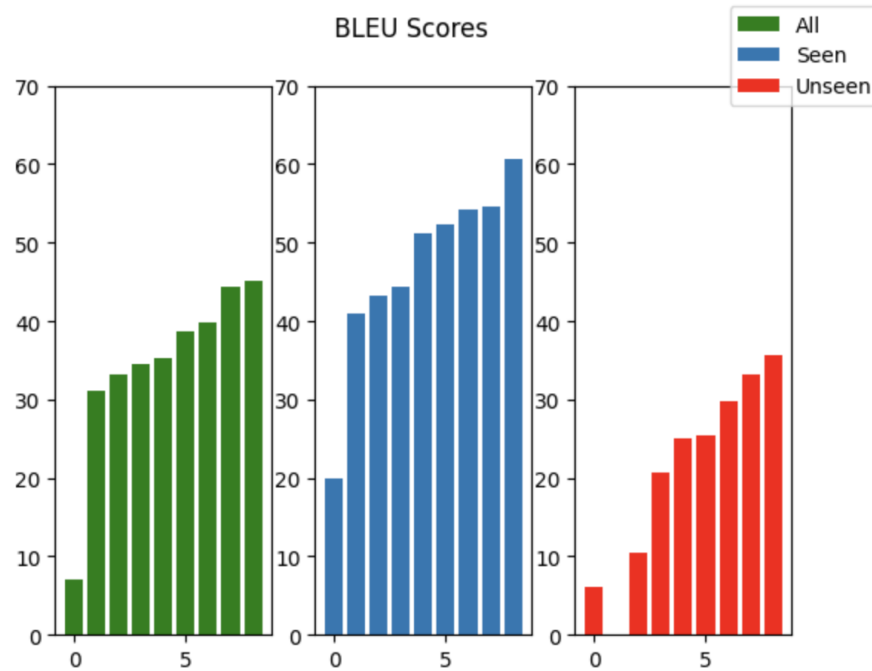
5 **unseen** categories:

- Athlete, Artist, MeanOfTransportation, CelestialBody, Politician

WebNLG 2017: RDF \Rightarrow English

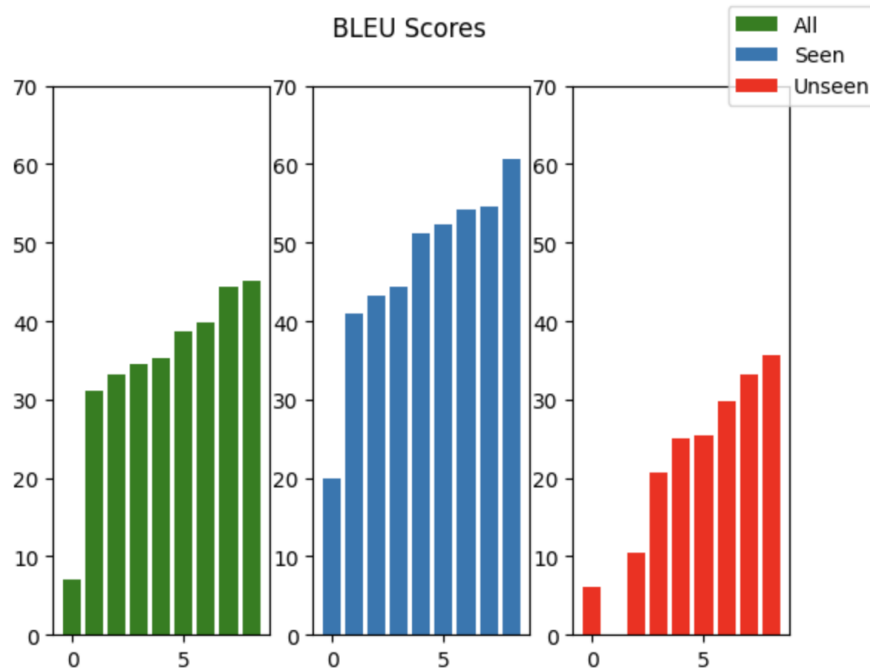
- 6 participants, 10 systems
- Models: 3 rule-based, 1 SMT, 5 neural

WebNLG 2017: RDF \Rightarrow English



ALL: 7.07 - 45.13, **Seen:** 19.87 - 60.54, **Unseen:** 5.13 - 35.7

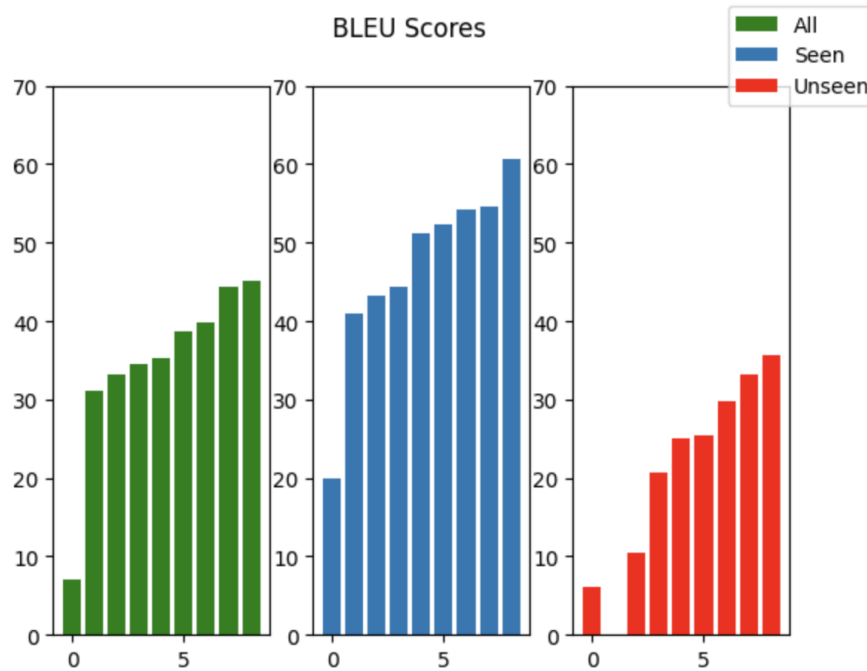
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Strong differences between models

WebNLG 2017: RDF \Rightarrow English



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Strong differences between models

All models degrades on Unseen Data

WebNLG 2020

Natural Language Generation

- RDF \Rightarrow English

WebNLG 2020

Natural Language Generation

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WebNLG 2020

Natural Language Generation

- RDF \Rightarrow English
- RDF \Rightarrow Russian

WebNLG 2020

Natural Language Generation

- RDF \Rightarrow English
- RDF \Rightarrow Russian

Semantic Parsing

- English \Rightarrow RDF
- Russian \Rightarrow RDF

WebNLG 2020: RDF \Rightarrow English

	Train	Dev	Test NLG/SP	TOTAL
# (Graph,Text)	35,426	4,664	5,150	47,395
# Graphs	13,211	1,667	1,779	17,409

16 **seen** categories

Astronaut, University, Monument, Building, Comics Character, Food, Airport, SportsTeam, City, WrittenWork, Athlete, Artist, CelestialBody, MeanOfTransportation, Politician, Company

3 **unseen** categories:

Film, Scientist, and MusicalWork

Unseen entities: graphs from seen categories, but unseen root entity

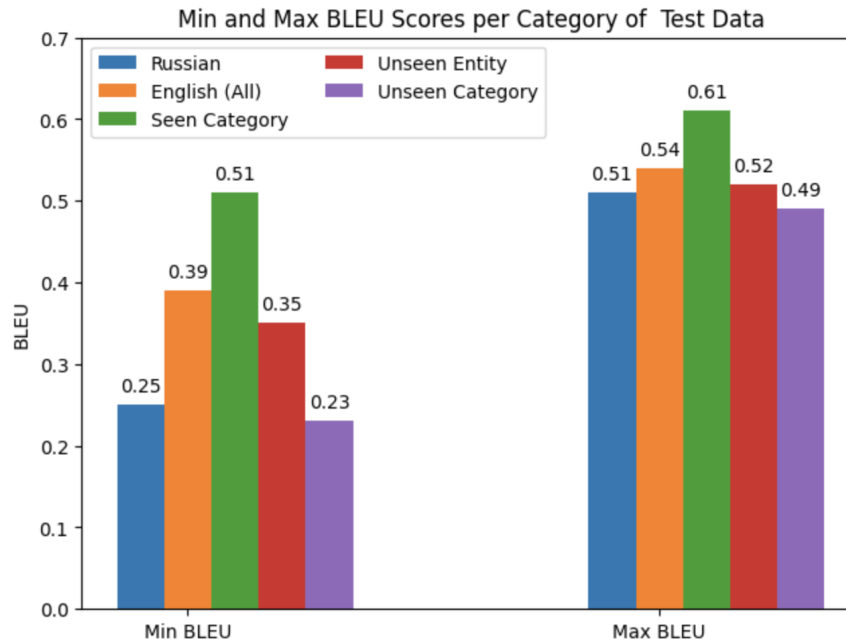
E.g., *Nie Haisheng* in category *Astronaut*

WebNLG 2020: Participation

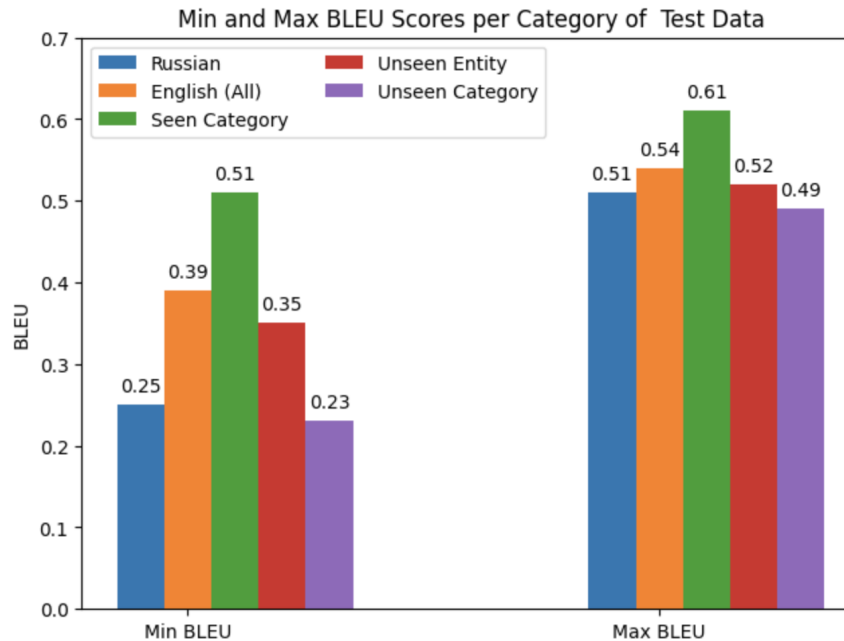
System	Affiliation	Country
MED	Sber AI Lab	Russia
RALI-UMONTRÉAL	Université de Montréal	Canada
ORANGE-NLG	Orange Labs	France
CUNI-UFAL	Charles University	Czechia
TGEN	AIST	Japan
BT5	Google	US
UPC-POE	Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya	Spain
DANGNT-SGU	Saigon University	Vietnam
HUAWEI	Huawei Noah's Ark Lab	UK
AMAZONAI	Amazon AI (Shanghai)	China
NILC	University of São Paulo	Brazil
NUIG-DSI	National University of Ireland	Ireland
CYCLEGT	Amazon	China
OSU NEURAL NLG	The Ohio State University	US
FBCONVAI	Facebook	US

17 teams submitted 48 system runs

WebNLG 2020: Results

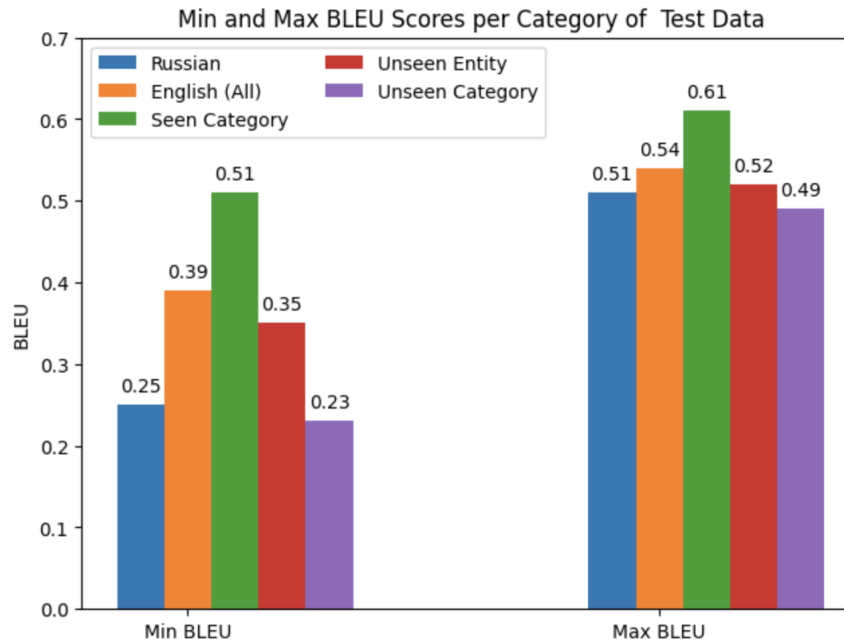


WebNLG 2020: Results



Results are better for English than for Russian

WebNLG 2020: Results



Results are better for English than for Russian

Pre-training improves results: +16 BLEU points for English w.r.t. 2017

WebNLG 2023: Low Resource Languages

Data

	SilverTrain	Dev	Test
Breton	13,211	1,399	1,778
Welsh	13,211	1,665	1,778
Irish	13,211	1,665	1,778
Maltese	13,211	1,665	1,778

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Participants

Team	Affiliation	Country	Breton	Welsh	Irish	Maltese	Russian
CUNI-Wue	Charles University	Czechia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DCU/TCD-FORGe	ADAPT/DCU/Trinity College	Ireland	-	-	✓	-	-
Interno	Pulkovo Observatory	Russia	-	-	-	-	✓
IREL	IIT Hyderabad	India	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
DCU-NLG-PBN	ADAPT/DCU	Ireland	-	✓	✓	✓	-

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IREL	IIT Hyderabad	India	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
DCU-NLG-PBN	ADAPT/DCU	Ireland	-	✓	✓	✓	-

No training Data

WebNLG 2023: Pipeline NLG+MT Models

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IREL	IIT Hyderabad	India	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
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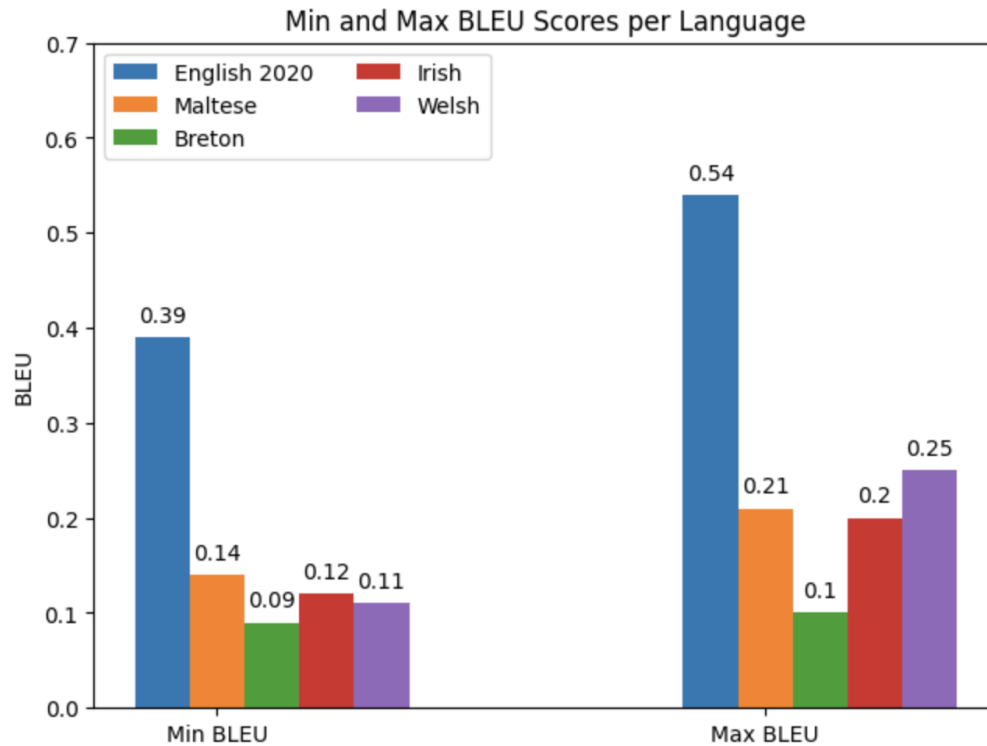
RDF \Rightarrow English

- T5 or mT5 fine-tuned on English WebNLG data
- GPT3-5 in context learning, no fine-tuning

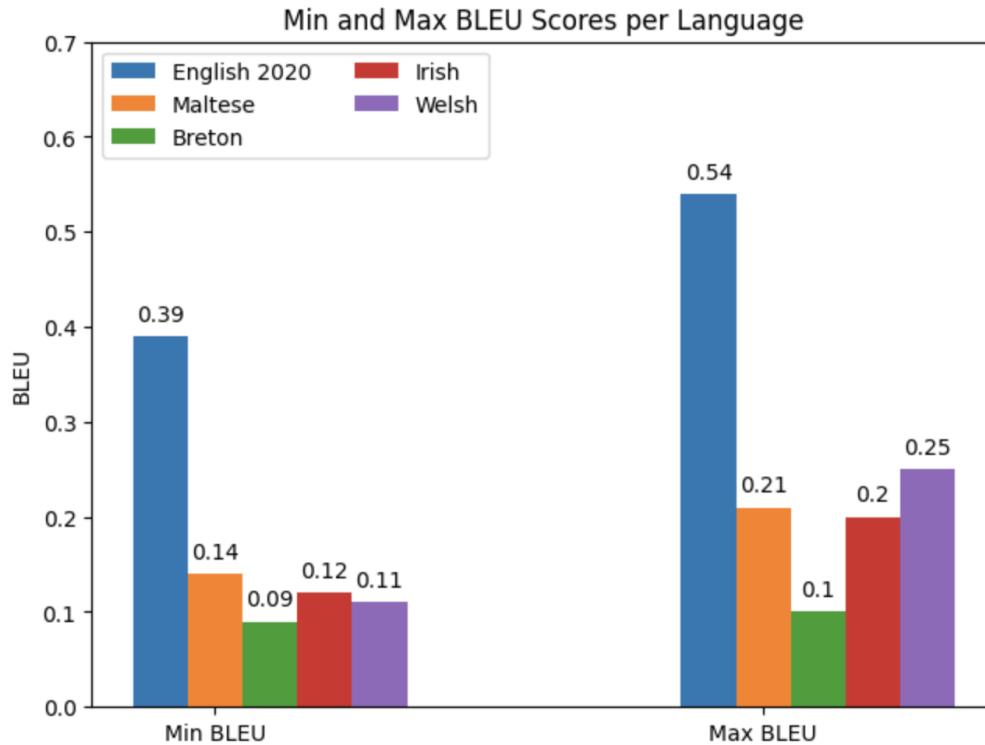
English \Rightarrow LR Language

- Machine Translation: NLLB or Google Translate

WebNLG 2023: Results

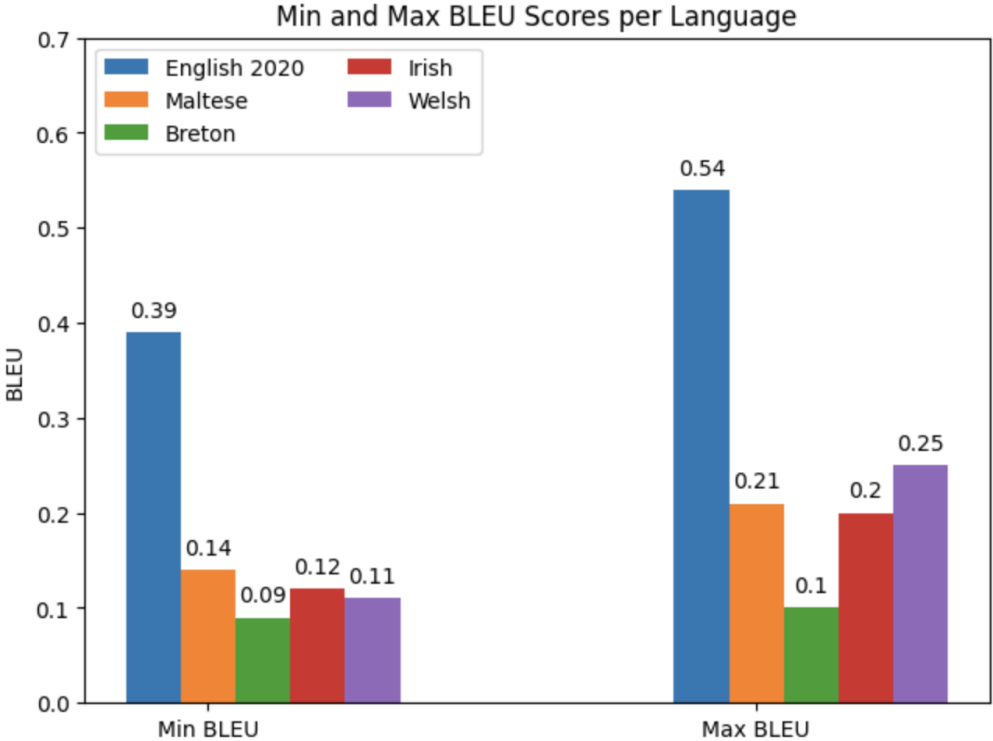


WebNLG 2023: Results



Strong degradation overall compared to results on English

WebNLG 2023: Results



Strong degradation overall compared to results on English

Very poor output for Breton

End-to-End RDF \Rightarrow Celtic Language

Soto-Martinez et al. ACL-IJCNLP 2023

Pipeline vs. End-to-End

For Breton, there is no (good) MT system

Pipeline vs. End-to-End

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 NLG+MT pipeline

Pipeline vs. End-to-End

For Breton, there is no (good) MT system

 NLG+MT pipeline

 Full-fine tuning (BLEU: 0.10)

Pipeline vs. End-to-End

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 Parameter Efficient Fine Tuning (PEFT)

Pipeline vs. End-to-End

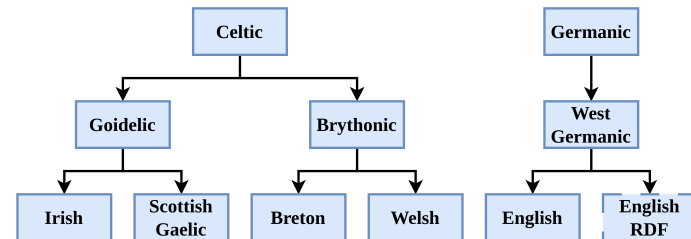
For Breton, there is no (good) MT system

X NLG+MT pipeline

X Full-fine tuning (BLEU: 0.10)

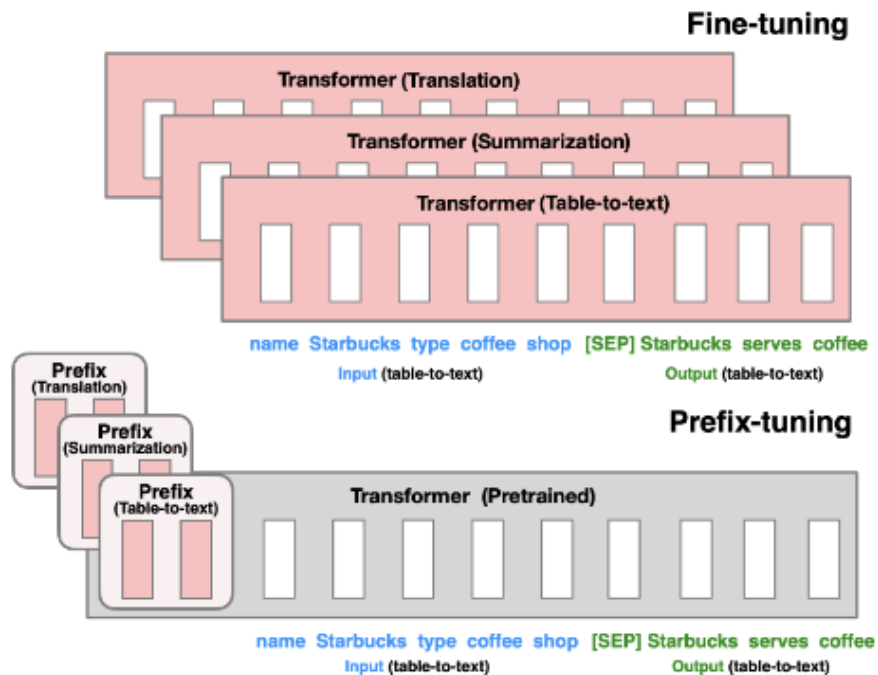
✓ Parameter Efficient Fine Tuning (PEFT)

- Soft-Prompt (Prefix Tuning)
- Structured to capture language relatedness and various tasks

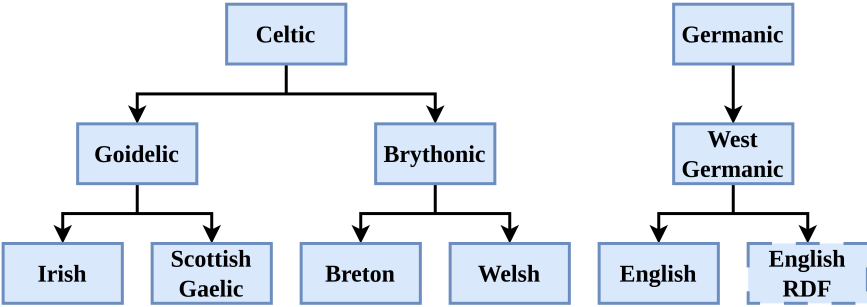


Prefix Tuning

- All parameters of the pre-trained model are frozen
- Only learn the prefix (soft-prompt) parameters



Phylogenetic Tree

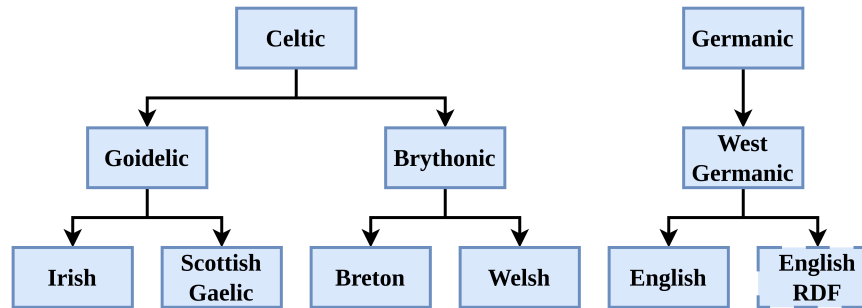


Soft Prompt

50 Tokens Task	15 Tokens Source Family	15 Tokens Source Genus	15 Tokens Source Language	15 Tokens Target Family	15 Tokens Target Genus	15 Tokens Target Language	n Tokens Input Sequence
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The soft-prompt is decomposed into Family, Genus, and Language sub-prompts.

Phylogenetic Tree



Soft Prompt

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The soft-prompt is decomposed into Family, Genus, and Language sub-prompts.

Allows LR languages to benefit from the training data of their related languages (E.g., The sub-prompt for Goidelic is updated each time an Irish or Gaelic training instance is processed) - Facilitate Transfer

Prevents the mixture of training data to introduce too much noise to the model. - Reduce Noise

Training and Testing

Step 1: Self-supervised Training (Language Models)

Trains the Soft Prompt on unsupervised, monolingual tasks

	Task	Source			Target			Original Input Sequences					
		Family	Genus	Lang.	Family	Genus	Lang.						
Input Batch	Masked LM	Germanic	West Germanic	RDF	Germanic	West Germanic	RDF	<S>	Einstein	<P>	<mask>	<P>	Poland
	Prefix LM	Germanic	West Germanic	English	Germanic	West Germanic	English	Thank	you	for	<mask>	<pad>	<pad>
	Suffix LM	Celtic	Britonic	Welsh	Celtic	Britonic	Welsh	<mask>	honno	?	<pad>	<pad>	<pad>
	Deshuffling	Celc	Britonic	Breton	Celtic	Britonic	Breton	skuizh	?	out	Ha	<pad>	<pad>
	Generate	Celc	Goidelic	Irish	Celtic	Goidelic	Irish	Seo	<mask>	<pad>	<pad>	<pad>	<pad>

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Step 2: Fine-Tuning on Dev RDF-to-Text data (RDF-to-Text Models)

Trains the RDF-to-Text Task sub-prompt for each target language

Training and Testing

Step 1: Self-supervised Training (Language Models)

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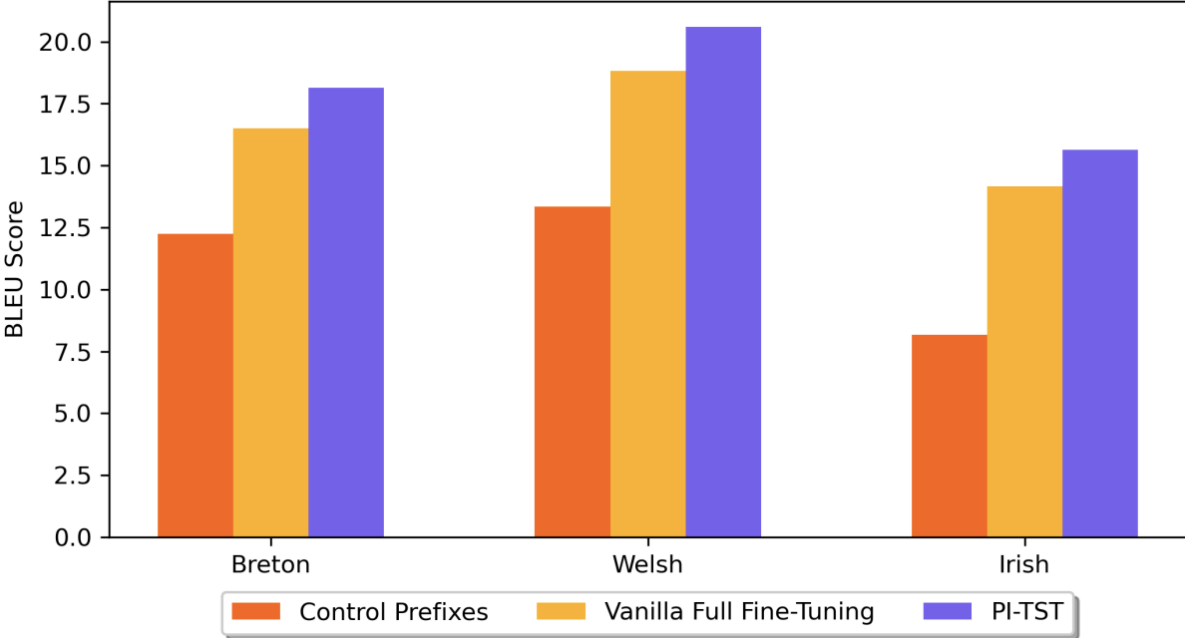
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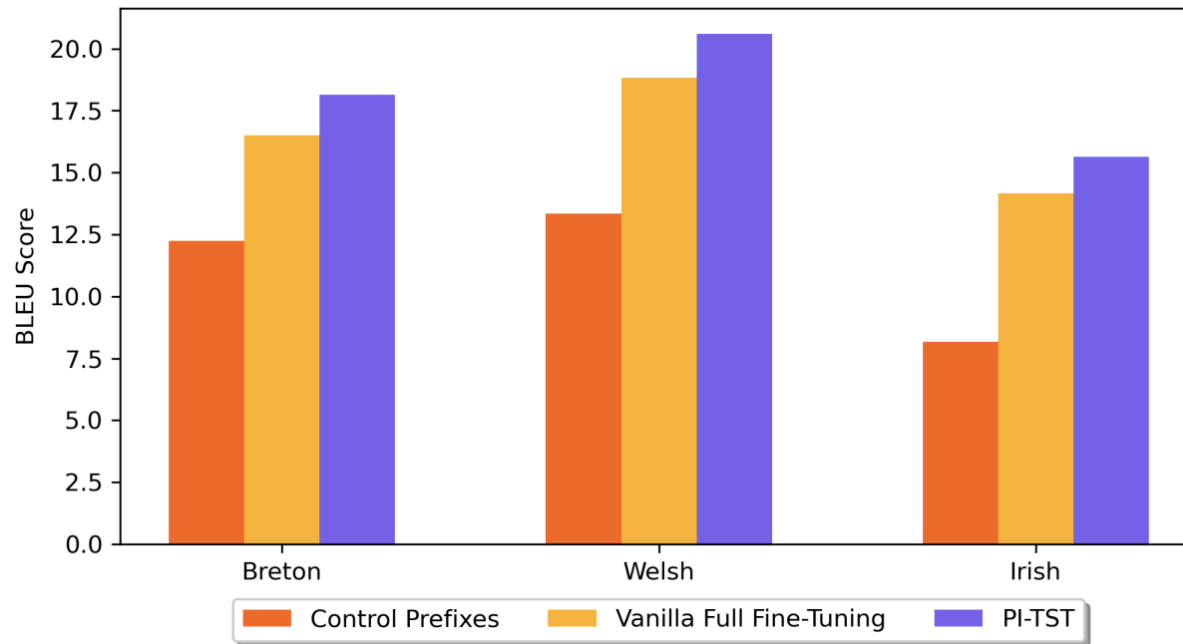
Inference

The Language sub-prompt is set to the target language.

Results



Results



Phylogenetic prefix-tuning outperforms full fine-tuning and a SoTA approach for KG-to-Text generation

Key Takeaways

- Pretraining (2017 vs 2020) improves performance

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- Pretraining (2017 vs 2020) improves performance
- Performance degrades on out of domain data (unseen)
- Performance is very poor for Low Resource Languages (2023)
- PEFT techniques help improve performance for these languages

BLEU for Breton: 10 (NLG+MT) → 18.15 (PEFT E2E Model)

AMR Graph --> High- and Low-Resource Languages

Soto-Martinez et al. 2024, In Submission

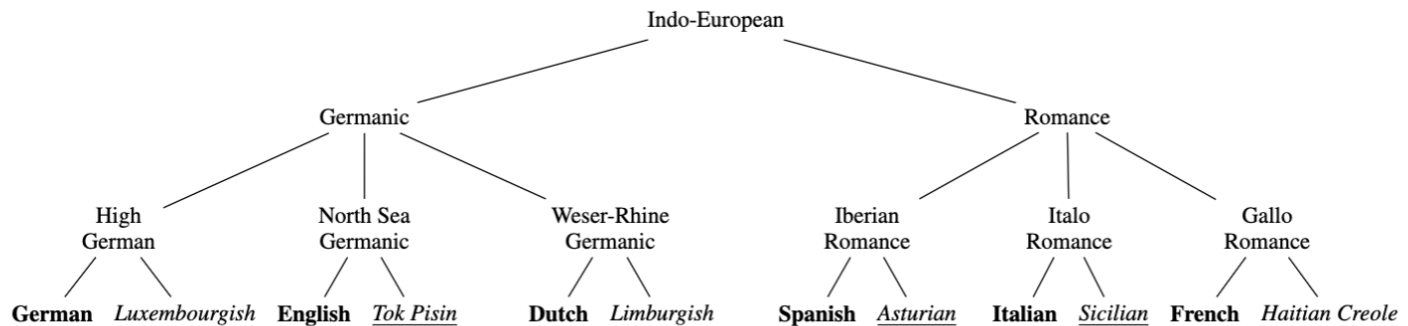
Hierarchical Fine-Tuning

Hierarchical Fine-Tuning

- Iterative fine-tuning of a multilingual model (12 languages) into 12 monolingual models

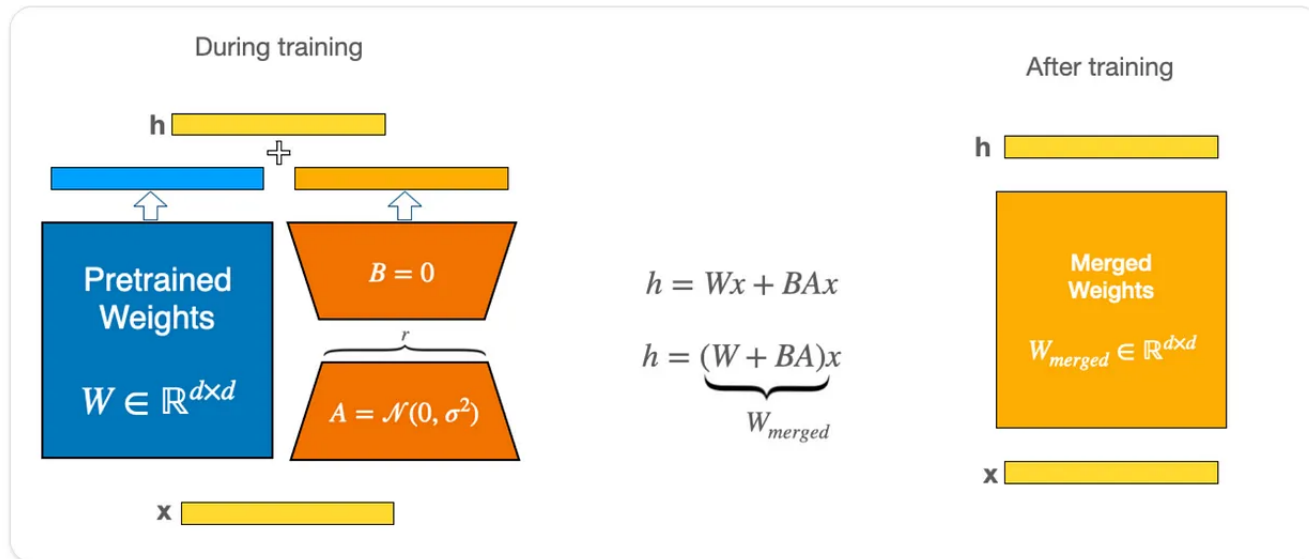
Phylogenetic Knowledge

- At each iteration, the training languages are chosen using phylogenetic knowledge



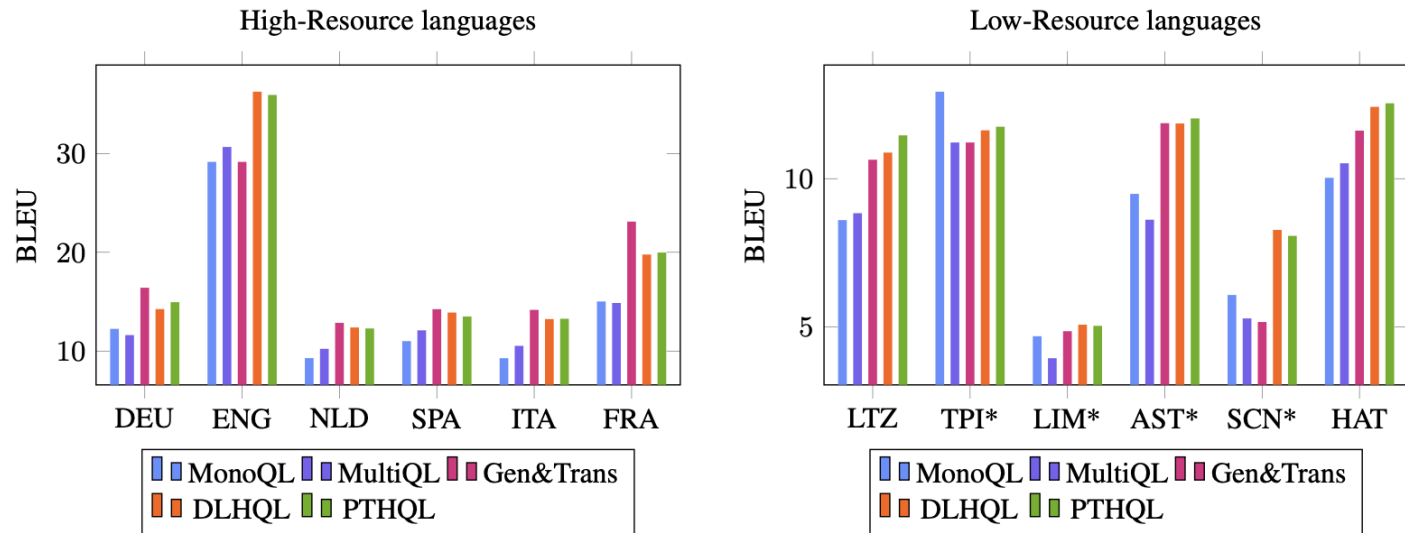
(b) Phylogenetic Tree Hierarchy (PTL)

LoRA (Low Rank Matrices) Adaptation



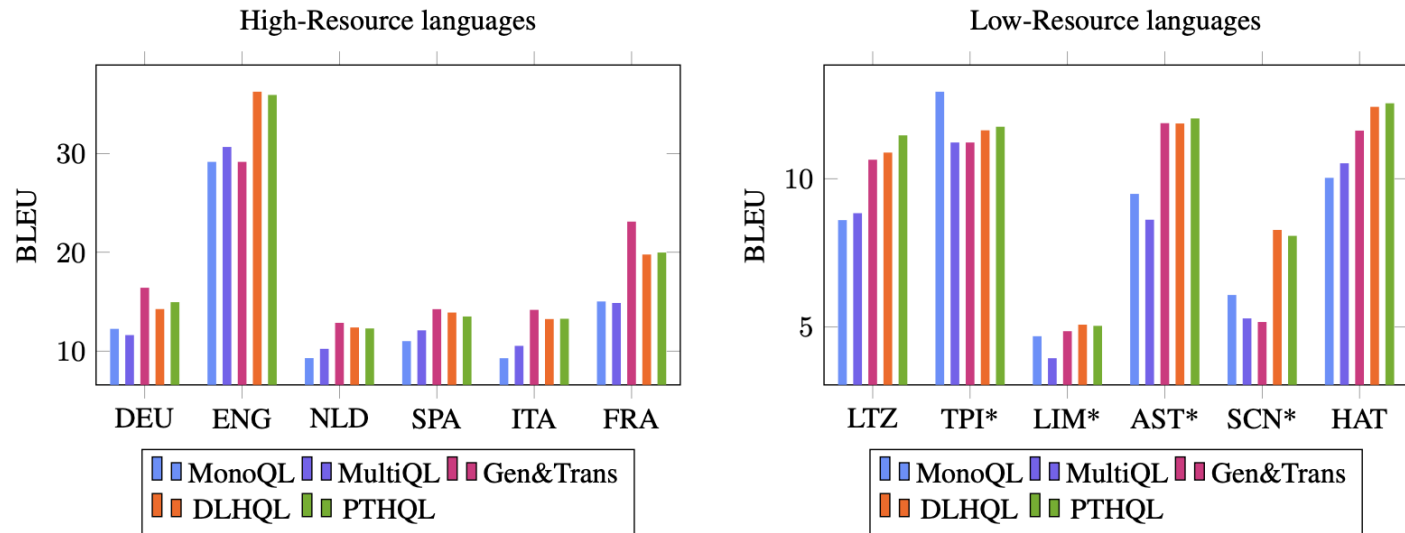
A new model is created. No overhead during inference

Comparison with Baselines



HQL outperforms or is on par with multi- and monolingual approaches.

Comparison with Baselines



HQL outperforms the Gen&Trans approach for LR Languages

Comparison with Baselines

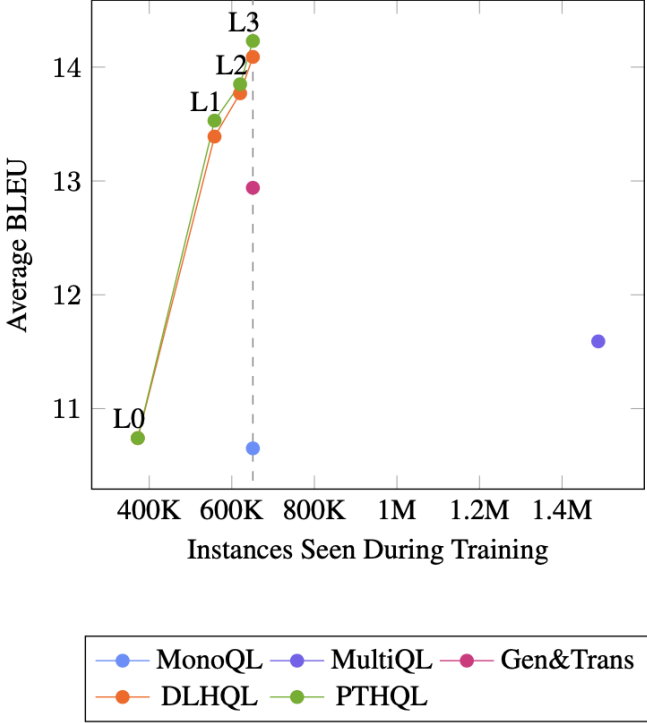


Figure 4: Average BLEU score of all languages against total number of seen training instances. HQL models include results on the intermediary levels of the hierarchy.

Comparison with Baselines

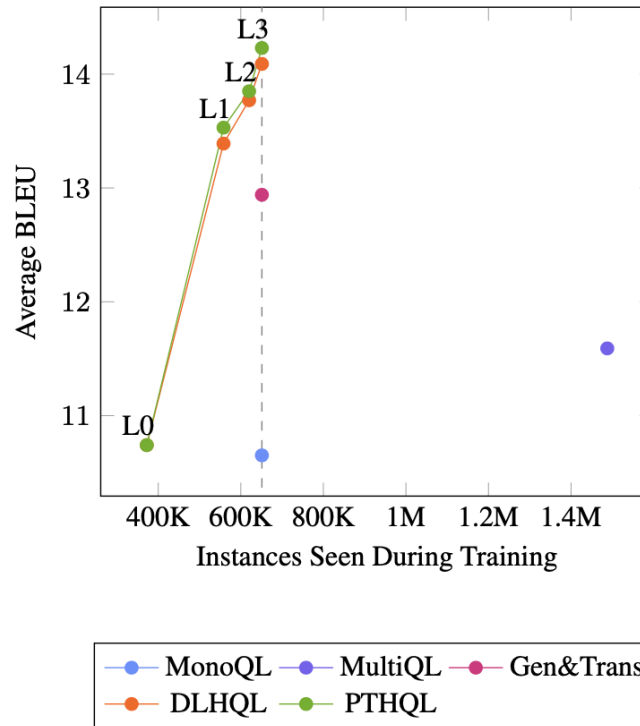


Figure 4: Average BLEU score of all languages against total number of seen training instances. HQL models include results on the intermediary levels of the hierarchy.

HQL optimises faster than the 3 baselines.

Comparison with Baselines

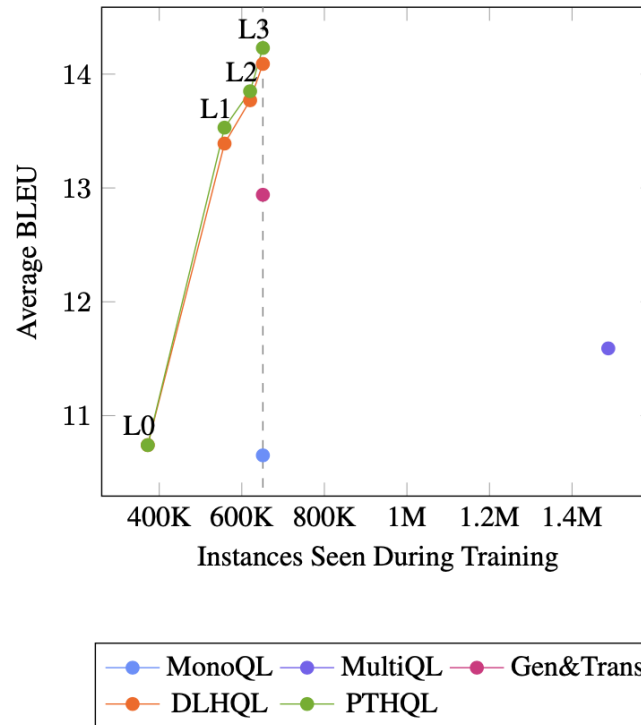


Figure 4: Average BLEU score of all languages against total number of seen training instances. HQL models include results on the intermediary levels of the hierarchy.

On average, HQL outperforms all 3 baselines.

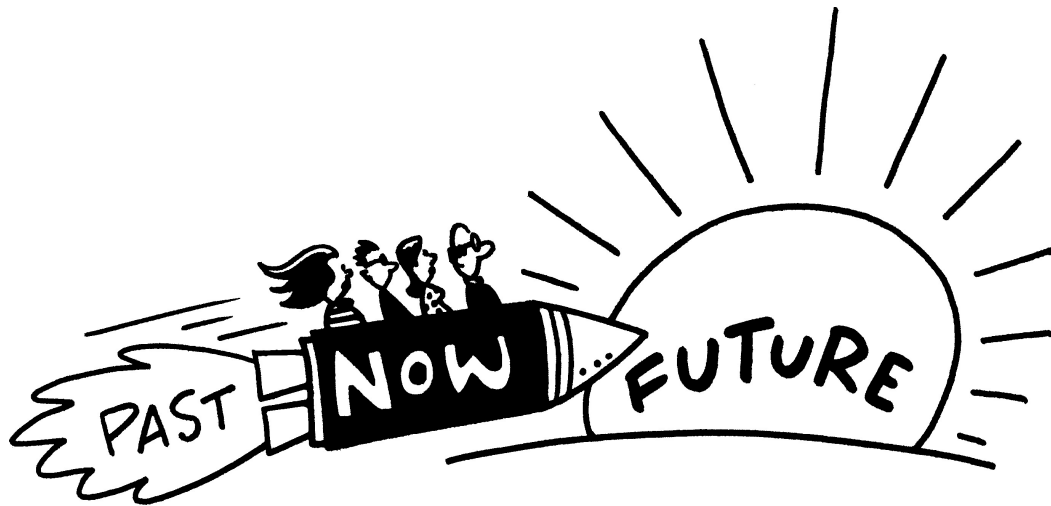
Comparison with Previous Work

Model	DEU	ENG	SPA	ITA
F&G	15.3	24.9	21.7	19.8
Ribeiro	20.6	—	30.7	26.4
Xu	25.7	—	31.4	28.4
Martinez	23.2	44.8	34.6	29.0
MonoQL	18.2	49.2	38.6	22.7
MultiQL	19.8	42.9	34.1	27.2
Gen&Trans*	28.0	49.2	39.6	33.8
DLHQL	21.2	44.2	37.4	29.2
PTHQL	22.8	43.4	37.2	29.7

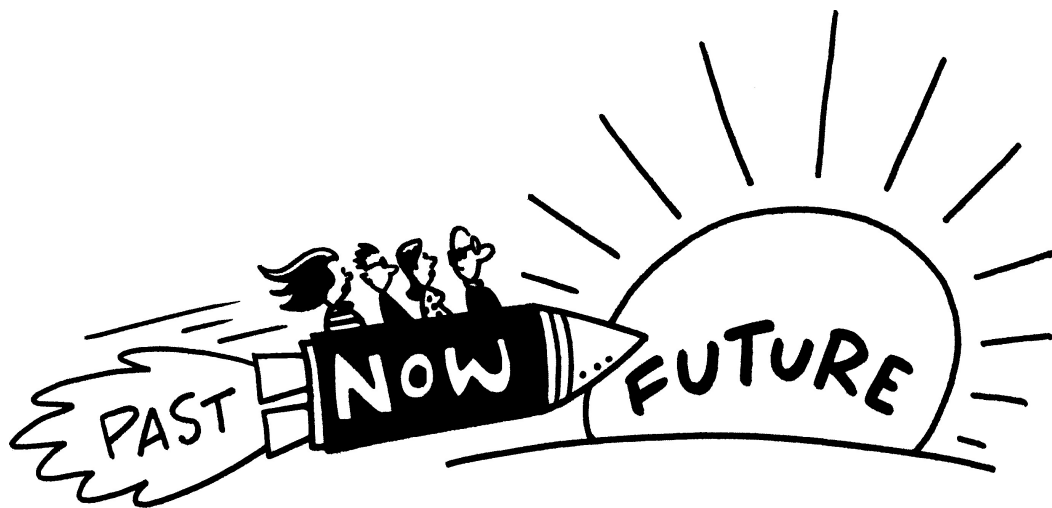
Table 4: BLEU score on AMR3.0 test data.

English Gen&Trans is simply the result of MonoQL.

HQL performs on par with previous work on HRL while using fewer data.

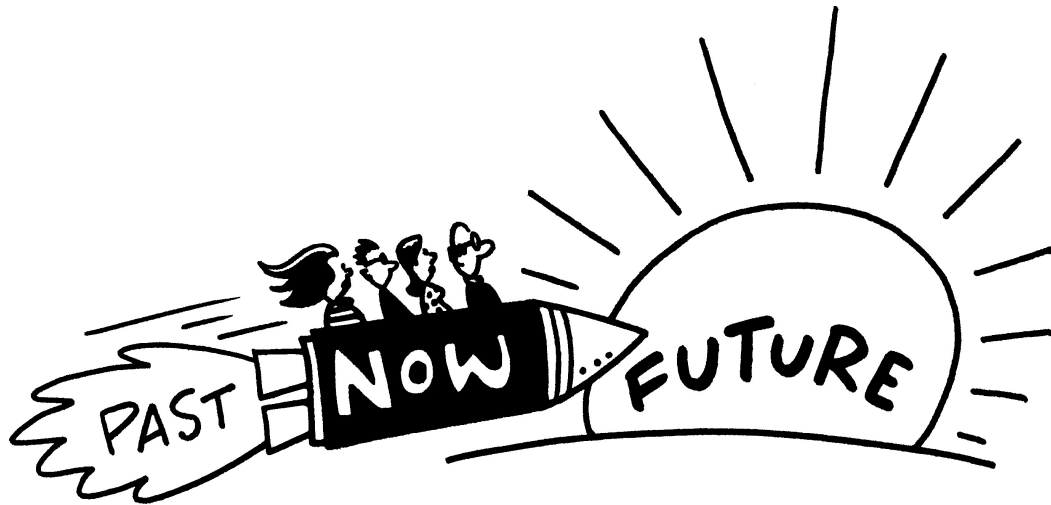


Cross-Modal, Multilingual Graph/Text similarity metrics are needed to



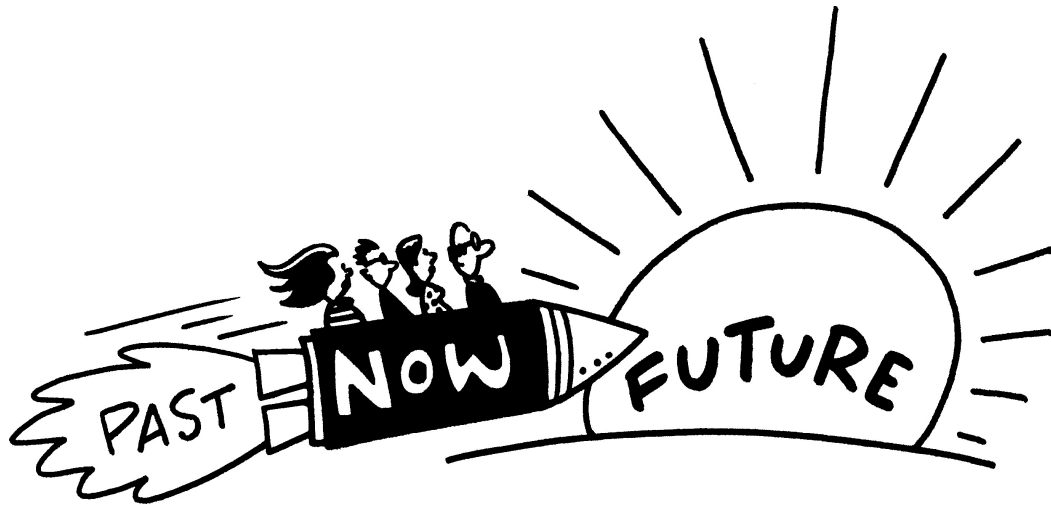
Cross-Modal, Multilingual Graph/Text similarity metrics are needed to

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Cross-Modal, Multilingual Graph/Text similarity metrics are needed to

- filter noisy training data
- guide generation



Cross-Modal, Multilingual Graph/Text similarity metrics are needed to

- filter noisy training data
- guide generation
- generalise Graph-to-Text Models to other languages and other domains

Questions ?

