Depling 2021

Sixth International Conference on Dependency Linguistics (Depling, SyntaxFest 2021)

Proceedings

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Preface

The Sixth edition of the International Conference on Dependency Linguistics (Depling 2021) follows a biannual series that started in 2011, in Barcelona, and continued in Prague (2013), Uppsala (2015), Pisa (2017), and Paris (2019). The series responds to the growing need for linguistic meetings dedicated to approaches in syntax, semantics, and the lexicon that are centered around dependency structures as a central linguistic notion. For the second time, Depling is part of SyntaxFest, which co-locates four related but independent events:

- The Sixth International Conference on Dependency Linguistics (Depling 2021)
- The Second Workshop on Quantitative Syntax (Quasy 2021)
- The 20th International Workshop on Treebanks and Linguistic Theories (TLT 2021)
- The Fifth Workshop on Universal Dependencies (UDW 2021)

The reasons that suggested bringing these four events together in 2019 still hold in 2021. There is a continuing, strong interest in corpora and dependency 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, made in no small part possible by the Universal Dependencies project, which continues to grow at currently nearly 200 treebanks in over 100 languages.

For these reasons and encouraged by the success of the first SyntaxFest, which was held in 2019 in Paris, we – the chairs of the four events – decided to bring them together again in 2021. Due to the vagaries of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was eventually decided to push the actual SyntaxFest 2021 back to March 2022. In order not to delay the publication of new research and not to conflict with other events, we decided however to publish the proceedings that you are now reading in advance, in December 2021.

As in 2019, we organized a single reviewing process for the whole SyntaxFest, with identical paper formats for all four events. Authors could indicate (multiple) venue preferences, but the assignment of papers to events for accepted papers was made by the program chairs.

38 long papers were submitted, 25 to Depling, 11 to Quasy, 17 to TLT, and 24 to UDW. The program chairs accepted 30 (79%) and assigned 8 to Depling, 5 to Quasy, 7 to TLT, and 10 to UDW. 22 short papers were submitted, 6 to Depling, 7 to Quasy, 9 to TLT, and 9 to UDW. The program chairs accepted 14 (64%) and assigned 3 to Depling, 3 to Quasy, 3 to TLT, and 5 to UDW.

At the time of this writing, we do not yet know whether SyntaxFest will be a hybrid or purely online event. We regret this uncertainty but are nevertheless looking forward to it very much. Our sincere thanks go to everyone who is making this event possible, including everybody who submitted their papers, and of course the reviewers for their time and their valuable comments and suggestions. We would like to thank Djamé Seddah, whose assistance and expertise in organizing SyntaxFests was invaluable. Finally, we would also like to thank ACL SIGPARSE for its endorsement and the ACL Anthology for publishing the proceedings.

Radek Čech, Xinying Chen, Daniel Dakota, Miryam de Lhoneux, Kilian Evang, Sandra Kübler, Nicolas Mazziotta, Simon Mille, Reut Tsarfaty (co-chairs)

Petya Osenova, Kiril Simov (local organizers and co-chairs)

December 2021

Program co-chairs

The chairs for each event (and co-chairs for the single SyntaxFest reviewing process) are:

- Depling:
 - Nicolas Mazziotta (Université de Liège)
 - Simon Mille (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)
- Quasy:
 - Radek Čech (University of Ostrava)
 - Xinying Chen (Xi'an Jiaotong University)
- TLT:
 - Daniel Dakota (Indiana University)
 - Kilian Evang (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf)
 - Sandra Kübler (Indiana University)
- UDW:
 - Miryam de Lhoneux (Uppsala University / KU Leuven / University of Copenhagen)
 - Reut Tsarfaty (Bar-Ilan University / AI2)

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Table of Contents

A Dependency Treebank for Classical Arabic Poetry	. 1
On auxiliary verb in Universal Dependencies: untangling the issue and proposing a systematized annotation strategy	10
How useful are Enhanced Universal Dependencies for semantic interpretation? Jamie Y. Findlay and Dag T. T. Haug	22
Starting a new treebank? Go SUD!Kim Gerdes, Bruno Guillaume, Sylvain Kahane and Guy Perrier	35
Mutual dependency and Word Grammar: headedness in the noun phrase	47
A monarchy without subjects: on Brassai's (almost) subject-free dependency grammar	60
BINGO: A Dependency Grammar Framework to Understand Hardware Specifications Written in English	68
Rahul Krishnamurthy and Michael S. Hsiao	
Drawing the syntactic space: choices in diagrammatic reasoning	81
Causation (and Some Other) Paraphrasing Patterns in L1 English. A Case Study Jasmina Milićević	91
Is one head enough? Mention heads in coreference annotations compared with UD-style heads Anna Nedoluzhko, Michal Novák, Martin Popel, Zdeněk Žabokrtský and Daniel Zeman	101
Number agreement, dependency length, and word order in Finnish traditional dialects	115