



Universal Dependencies According to BERT: Both More Specific and More General

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Goal

We introduce a *head ensemble* method, combining multiple attention heads which capture the same dependency relation label

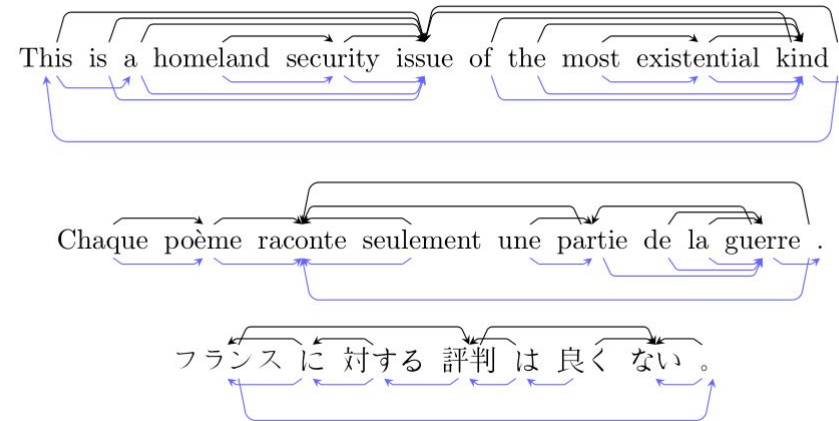
Dependency Accuracy

$$DepAcc_{l,d,A} = \frac{|\{(i,j) \in E_{l,d} : j = \arg \max A[i]\}|}{|E_{l,d}|}$$

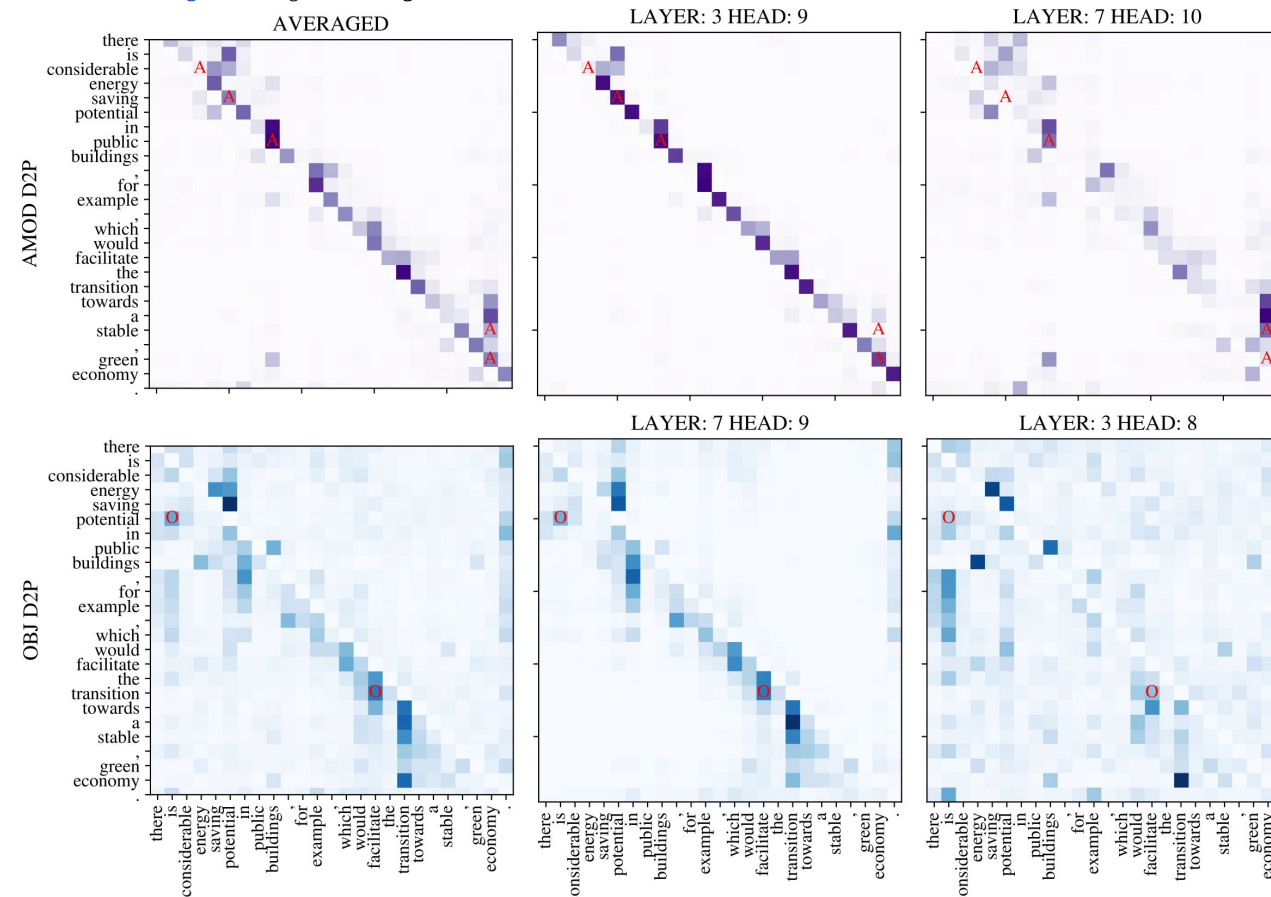
- $E_{l,d}$ - all directed dependency edges
- $A[i]$ - i^{th} row of the attention matrix

Ensembles Overlap

EN NSUBJ					1	1			2	2	2	4
DE NSUBJ	1			1	1			1	4	3	4	2
FR NSUBJ	1			1	1			1	3	4	3	2
CS NSUBJ	1			1	1			1	4	3	4	2
JA NSUBJ	1			1	1				4	1	1	1
EN OBJ		1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	4		
DE OBJ		1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	3	1	
FR OBJ		1	1	1	1	2	2	1	4	1	2	
CS OBJ		1	3	3	1	1	2	4	1	2	1	
JA OBJ		1	2	2	1	1	4	2	2	2	2	
EN NMOD		2	1	1	2	4	1	1	2	1	2	
DE NMOD		1	1	1	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	
FR NMOD		1	3	4	1	1	2	3	1	2	2	
CS NMOD		1	4	3	1	1	2	3	1	2	1	
JA NMOD		4	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	
JA NSUBJ												
CS NSUBJ												
FR NSUBJ												
DE NSUBJ												
EN NSUBJ												



extracted trees **edges below**, gold trees **edges above**.



Dependency Tree Extraction

- Trees are extracted from averaged *head ensembles* by an *MST* algorithm. Similar approach to (Raganato and Tiedemann, 2018)
- Extracted trees are directed and labeled

Key Findings

- Using head ensembles instead of single heads improves:
 - Average DepAcc: 67.8% → **74.1%**
 - UAS: 37.2% → **52.0%**
 - LAS: N/A → **21.7%**
- We have observed many-to-many relationship between heads and syntactic functions
- The method is effective for 9 typologically diverse languages