Scene Graph-driven Structured Vision-Language Learning 场景图驱动的结构化视觉语言跨模态学习



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Aug. 23rd 2023

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Vision&Language Scene Graph-based Applications





Video Scene Graph-based Applications



3D Scene Graph-based Applications



Outlook of Future Directions

CONTENT



Vision&Language Scene Graph-based Applications



Video Scene Graph-based Applications



3D Scene Graph-based Applications



Outlook of Future Directions

Scene Graph Representation

- Visual Scene Graph (VSG)
 - Representing visual content into semantic structured representation:

> Object Nodes:

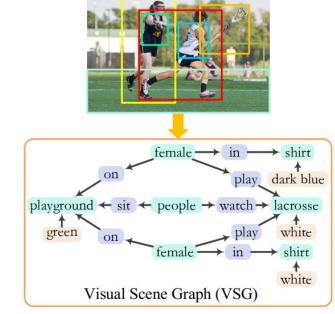
Visually-seen entity objects

> Relation Nodes:

describing the semantic relations between objects

> Attribute Nodes

depicting the objects



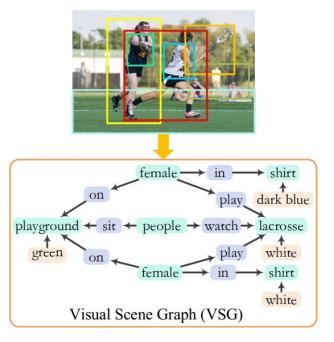
[1] Justin Johnson, etc, and Li Fei-Fei. Image retrieval using scene graphs. CVPR. 2015.



Scene Graph Representation

- VSG Parsing
 - Object detection
 - e.g., FasterRCNN
 - Relation classification
 - e.g., MOTIFS
 - Attribute classification

e.g., MOTIFS



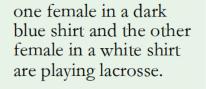
Scene Graph Representation

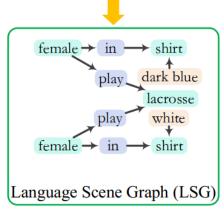
- Language Scene Graph (LSG)
 - Representing textual inputs into semantic structured representation:
 - > Object Nodes:
 - entity tokens
 - > Relation Nodes:

verb/prep describing the semantic relations between objects

> Attribute Nodes

token/terms depicting the objects







Scene Graph Representation

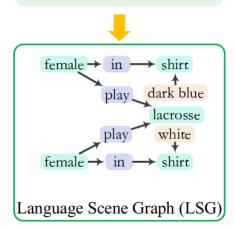
- LSG Parsing
 - Dependency Parsing

e.g., Stanford Parser

Rule-based Conversion

e.g., nsubj->object, adj->attribute

one female in a dark blue shirt and the other female in a white shirt are playing lacrosse.



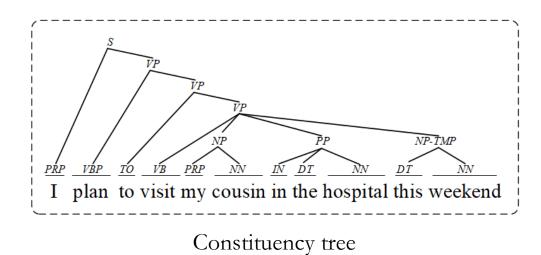


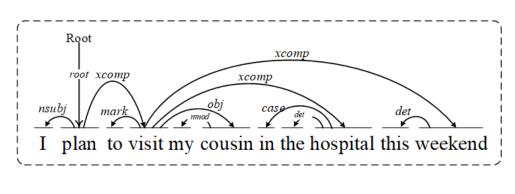
Scene Graph Representation

Language Scene Graph (LSG)

There are so many structured representations of languages

• Syntactic-level structure





Dependency tree

8

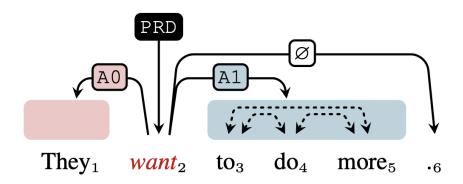


Scene Graph Representation

Language Scene Graph (LSG)

There are so many structured representations of languages

• Semantic frame structure





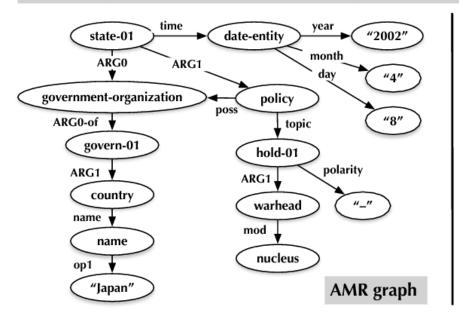
Scene Graph Representation

Language Scene Graph (LSG)

There are so many structured representations of languages

• Semantic graph structure

The Japanese Government stated on April 8, 2002 its policy of holding no nuclear warheads.



(s / state-01 :ARG0 (g / government-organization :ARG0-of (g2 / govern-01 :ARG1 (c / country :name (n2 / name :op1 "Japan")))) :ARG1 (p / policy :poss g :topic (h / hold-01 :polarity -:ARG1 (w / warhead :mod (n / nucleus)))) :time (d / date-entity :year 2002 :month 4 :day 8))

PENMAN format

Scene Graph Representation

- Language Scene Graph (LSG)
 - Representing textual inputs into semantic structured representation:
 - > Object Nodes:
 - entity tokens
 - > Relation Nodes:

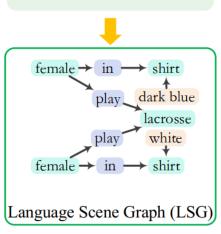
verb/prep describing the semantic relations between objects

> Attribute Nodes

token/terms depicting the objects

one female in a dark blue shirt and the other female in a white shirt are playing lacrosse.

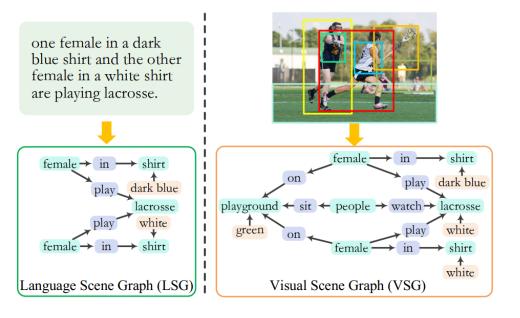




Scene Graph Representation

- Language Scene Graph (LSG)
 - Representing visual and textual inputs with VSG and LSG
 - > The intrinsic gap between Vision and Language

Unifying the Vision and Language with a unified representation format: SG





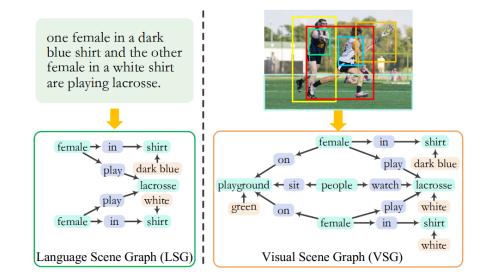
Scene Graph Representation

> Why do SG features help improve vision-language learning?

1. Improving cross-modal alignment: *more fine-grained vision-text matching*

2. Enhancing multimodal fusion: *semantic-level feature learning*

3. More controllable end-task prediction: *highly structured modal representation*



Application I:

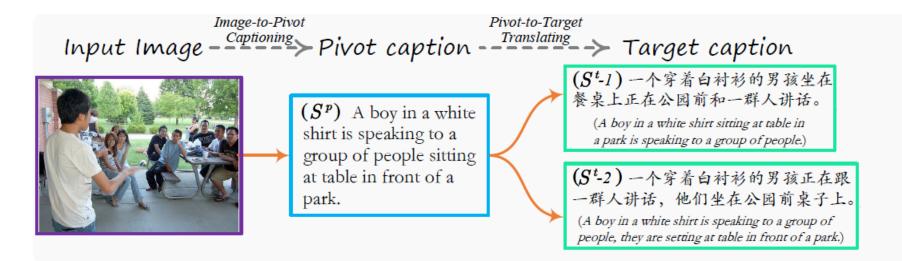
CROSS²STRA: Unpaired Cross-lingual Image Captioning with <u>Cross-lingual Cross-modal Structure-pivoted Alignment</u>

[1] Shengqiong Wu, Hao Fei, Wei Ji, Tat-Seng Chua. Cross2StrA: Unpaired Cross-lingual Image Captioning with Cross-lingual Cross-modal Structure-pivoted Alignment. ACL. 2023.

Motivation

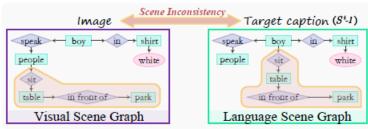
Cross-lingual Image captioning

- How to develop the image captioner in other languages, i.e., resource-scare language?
 - \checkmark The translation-based method
 - \checkmark The pivoting-based method

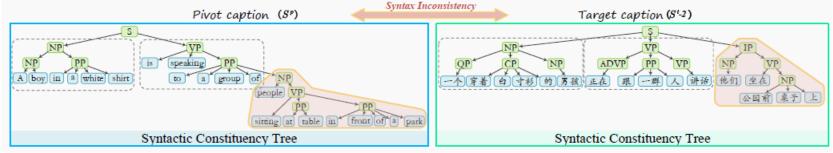


Motivation

- irrelevancy
- disfluency

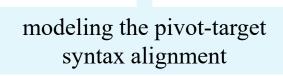


(b) Relevancy issue due to inconsistency of semantic scene

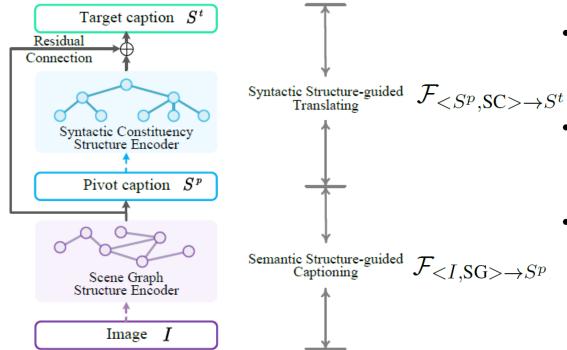


(c) Inconsistency of syntax structures between pivot-target languages causes disfluent translation

modeling the vision-language semantic alignment





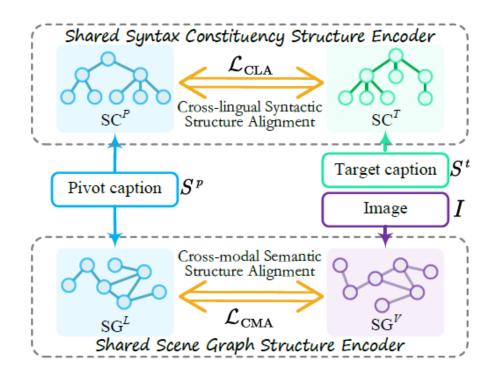


- A novel syntactic and semantic structure-guided model for cross-lingual image captioning
- For image-to-pivot captioning, we consider leveraging the scene graphs (SG) for better image-text alignment
- For the pivot-to-target translating, we make use of the syntactic constituency (SC) tree structures for better pivot-target language alignment.

•

Method

Structure-Pivoting Cross-lingual Cross-modal Alignment Learning



Cross-modal Semantic Structure Aligning

To encourage those text nodes and visual nodes that serve a similar role in the visual SG and language SG

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CMA}} = -\sum_{i \in \mathbf{SG}^V, \, j^* \in \mathbf{SG}^L} \log \frac{\exp(\underline{s_{i,j^*}}/\tau_m)}{\overline{\mathcal{Z}}^{\circ} \circ}$$

Cross-lingual Syntactic Structure Aligning

$$\mathcal{L}_{ ext{CLA}} = -\sum_{i \in ext{SC}^T, \, j^* \in ext{SC}^P} \log rac{\exp(s_{i,j^*}^l)}{\mathcal{Z}}$$

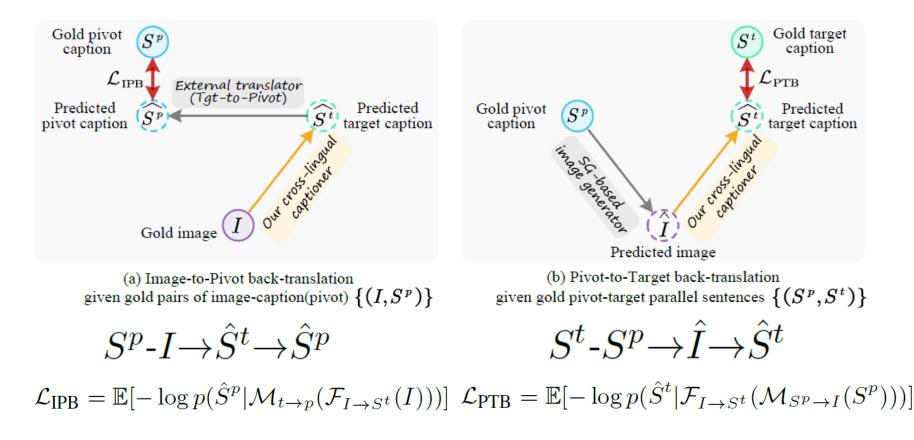
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Method

Cross-modal&lingual Back-translation

To achieve the two-step alignment over the overall framework.



Experiment

Transfer between MSCOCO and AIC-ICC

	$\mathbf{Z}\mathbf{h} ightarrow \mathbf{E}\mathbf{n}$			$\mathrm{En} ightarrow \mathrm{Zh}$				Avg.	
	BLEU	METEOR	ROUGE	CIDEr	BLEU	METEOR	ROUGE	CIDEr	
• Translation-based methods									
EarlyTranslation	48.3	15.2	27.2	18.7	43.6	20.3	30.3	14.2	27.2
LateTranslation	45.8	13.8	25.7	14.5	41.3	13.5	26.7	14.0	24.4
FG	46.3	12.5	25.3	15.4	43.0	19.7	29.7	15.7	25.9
SSR^{\dagger}	52.0	14.2	27.7	28.2	46.0	22.8	32.0	18.3	30.1
• Pivoting-based methods									
PivotAlign	52.1	17.5	28.3	27.0	47.5	23.7	32.3	19.7	31.1
UNISON	54.3	18.7	30.0	28.4	48.7	25.2	33.7	21.9	32.4
CROSS ² STRA (Ours)	57.7	21.7	33.5	30.7	52.8	27.6	36.1	24.5	35.8
w/o SG	55.8	19.1	31.2	28.0	48.6	25.8	33.9	21.6	33.1
w/o SC	56.1	20.0	32.1	28.9	50.4	26.6	35.4	23.3	34.1
w/o ResiConn	56.4	21.2	32.9	29.4	51.8	27.1	35.9	24.1	34.9

Table 1: Transfer results between MSCOCO (En) and AIC-ICC (Zh). The values of SSR^{\dagger} are copied from Song et al. (2019), while all the rest are from our implementations.

- *Pivoting* methods show overall better results than the *translation* ones
- CROSS²STRA outperforms all the other baselines with significantly

Experiment

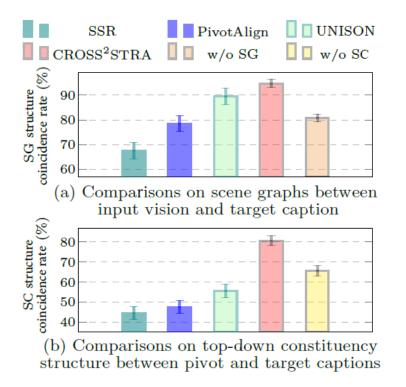
Human Evaluation

	Relevancy	Diversification	Fluency ↑
FG	5.34	3.75	7.05
SSR	7.86	5.89	7.58
PivotAlign	8.04	6.57	7.46
UNISON	9.02	9.14	7.89
Cross ² StrA	9.70 [‡]	9.53 [‡]	9.22 [‡]
w/o SG	8.35	7.75	9.04
w/o SC	9.42	8.34	8.07
w/o $L_{CMA}+L_{CLA}$	7.80	7.24	8.15

Table 4: Human evaluations are rated on a Likert 10scale. \ddagger indicates significant better over the baselines (p < 0.03).

- Our system shows significantly higher scores than baseline systems in terms of all three indicators.
- With SG and SC structure features, the content relevancy and diversification of captions are much better

Probing Cross-modal and Cross-lingual Structure Alignment



• Our system exhibit prominent structure alignment ability

Experiment

Qualitative Result

	Gold	绿油油的草地上蹲看一个穿看灰色寸衫面带 做笑的小朋友 (A smiling child in grey shirt is squatting on the green grass)		Gold	一名足球队员正在足球场上与另一名足球的运动员 争夺足球 (A football player is competing for football with another football player on the football field)
	SSR	草丛上有一个小女孩坐在地上 (Sitting on the grass there is a little girl sitting on the ground)	(a)	SSR	一个人在踢一个足球和一个紅色衣服的男人 (A man is playing a football and a man in red)
	UNISON	坐在绿色草地上的小孩穿看灰色上衣 (Sitting on the green field is a kid wearing a gray coat)		UNISON	在绿色的球场上一个身看白色衣服与一个红色衣服 的男人踢白色的足球 (On the green football field, a man in white and a man in red play a white football)
	CROSS ² STRA	碧绿的草坪上蹲看一个满面笑容身穿灰色短 袖的小孩 (A smiling kid in grey T-shirt is squatting on the green field)		CROSS ² STRA	一位穿着白色球衣与另一外穿着红色球衣的运动员 在绿色足球场上争夺足球 (A player wearing a white jersey and another player wearing a red jersey are competing for football on the green football field.)
	Gold	有一位拿看球拍的男运动员在球场上打网球 (There is a male player with a racket is playing tennis on the court)		Gold	滑冰场上,一名穿看黑色裤子的男士和一名穿看裙 子的女人一起进行花样滑冰 (On the skating rink, a man in black trousers and a woman in skirt are doing figure skating together)
in the second se	SSR	一个男人拿看网球拍 (A man is holding a tennis racket)	Ser.	SSR	穿看滑冰鞋身看演出服装的男人与女人在滑冰 (Men and women in skates and costumes are skating)
	UNISON	一位男运动员挥舞看网球拍在网球场 (A male athlete is waving a tennis racket on the tennis court)	T	UNISON	穿着蓝色衣服的男人和穿裙子的女人在滑冰场上进 行花样滑冰 (The man in blue and the woman in skirt are figure skating on the skating rink)
	CROSS ² STRA	有一位身看白色衣裤的男性运动员拿看球拍 在蓝色球场上打网球 (There is a male athlete in white clothes with a racket playing tennis on the blue court)		CROSS ² STRA	在清冰场上有一名身看蓝色寸衫与黑色裤子的男士 和一名穿看蓝色裙子的女士共同表演花样清冰 (On the skating rink, a man in a blue shirt and black pants and a woman in a blue skirt together perform figure skating)

Figure 7: Qualitative results of cross-lingual captioning. The instances are randomly picked from AIC-ICC (Zh).

- With SG structure features, the content relevancy and diversification of captions are much better
- Our system generate captions with good relevancy, diversification, and fluency

Application II:

Information Screening whilst Exploiting! Multimodal Relation Extraction with Feature Denoising and Multimodal Topic Modeling

[1] Shengqiong Wu, Hao Fei, Yixin Cao, Lidong Bing, Tat-Seng Chua. Information Screening whilst Exploiting! Multimodal Relation Extraction with Feature Denoising and Multimodal Topic Modeling. ACL. 2023.



\triangleright Relation Extraction (RE)

Textual RE

member of

Under *Cook*'s leadership, *Apple* has increased its donations to charity. company

person

Input Text: •

JFK and Obama at Harvard @Harvard person organization person

Multimodal RE

Input Image: •



Output Relations: (Graduated at, JFK, Harvard) (Graduated at, Obama, Harvard) (Alumni, JFK, Obama)

Supporting Visual Evidence: Bachelor Cap, Gown, Book



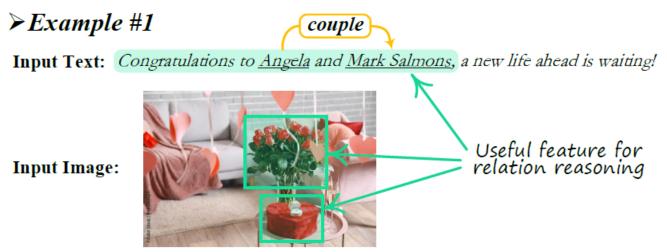
Motivation

> Problem 1: Internal-information over-utilization

- ONLY parts of the texts are useful to the relation inference
- 33.8% of tweets had textual content that was **not reflected in the images**, and the images did **not add additional content**

✓ A **fine-grained information pruning** over two modalities is needed





Motivation

Problem 2: External-information under-exploitation

• Short in text lengths and low-relevant images

Additional semantic supplementary information is needed.





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Motivation

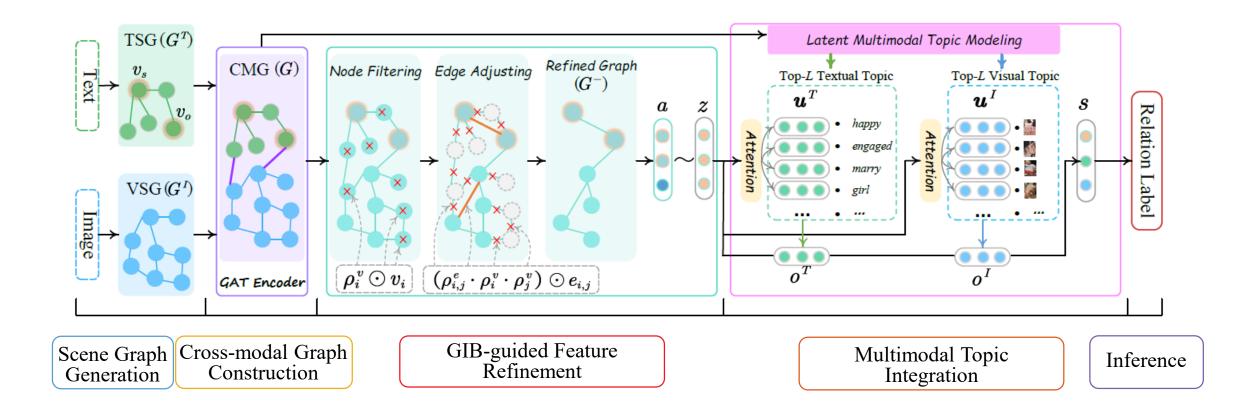
✓ A **fine-grained information pruning** over two muti-modalities is needed

GIB-guided Feature Refinement

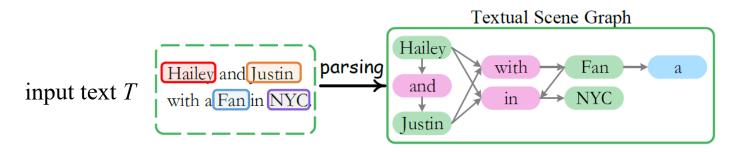
✓ Additional semantic supplementary information is needed.



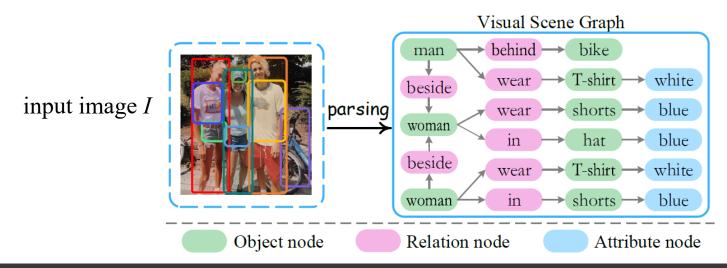
Method



- Method
- Scene Graph Generation
 - Represent input text *T* with Textual Scene Graph (TSG)



• Represent input image *I* with Visual Scene Graph (VSG)



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SG-based Multimodal Relation Extraction

Method

Cross-modal Graph Construction

• Merge the VSG and TSG into one unified backbone cross-modal graph (CMG)

$$G = (V^T \cup V^I, E^T \cup E^I \cup E^{\times}) \qquad X = X^T \cup X^T$$

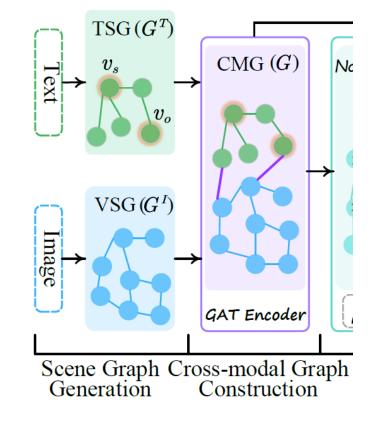
intra-modal
hyper-edges inter-modal
hyper-edges

• Creating inter-modal hyper-edges by measuring the relevance score

 $s_{v_i^I,v_j^T} = cos(oldsymbol{x}_i^I,oldsymbol{x}_j^T)$

• Graph Encoding

 $\boldsymbol{H} = \{\boldsymbol{h}_1, \cdots, \boldsymbol{h}_{m+n}\} = \text{GAT}(G, \boldsymbol{X})$





Method

GIB-guided Feature Refinement

- Screen the initial CMG structure i.e., fine-grainedly prune the input image and text features
 - Node Filtering

Filter out those task-irrelevant nodes

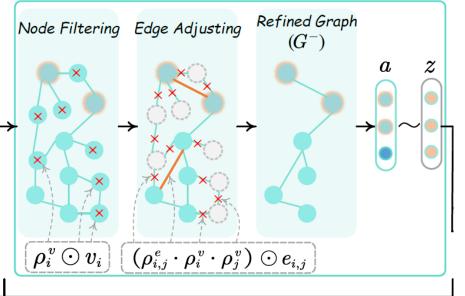
• Edge Adjusting

Adjust the edges based on their relatedness to the task inference.

• GIB-guided optimization

To ensure that the above adjusted graph G^{-} is sufficiently informative (i.e., not wrongly pruned)

 $\mathcal{L}_{\text{GIB}} = \min_{\boldsymbol{z}} \left[-I(\boldsymbol{z}, Y) + \beta \cdot I(\boldsymbol{z}, G) \right]$



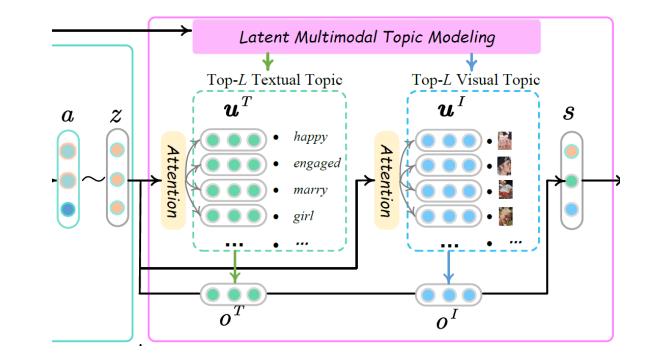
GIB-guided Feature Refinement

Method

> Multimodal Topic Integration

- Enrich the compressed CMG features with more semantic contexts, i.e., the multimodal topic features.
 - Retrieve the associated top-*L* textual and visual topic keywords
 - Devise an attention operation to integrate the embeddings of the multimodal topic words

$$\begin{split} \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{i}^{T/I} &= \frac{\exp(\text{FFN}([\boldsymbol{u}_{i}^{T/I};\boldsymbol{z}]))}{\sum_{i}^{L}\exp(\text{FFN}([\boldsymbol{u}_{i}^{T/I};\boldsymbol{z}]))} \,,\\ \boldsymbol{o}^{T/I} &= \sum_{i}^{L} \boldsymbol{\alpha}_{i}^{T/I} \boldsymbol{u}_{i}^{T/I} \,. \end{split}$$



Experiment

➤ Main Results

- Our model achieves the best performance.
- Information screening and exploiting both contribute to the task performance.
- Scene graph is beneficial for structural modeling of the multimodal inputs.

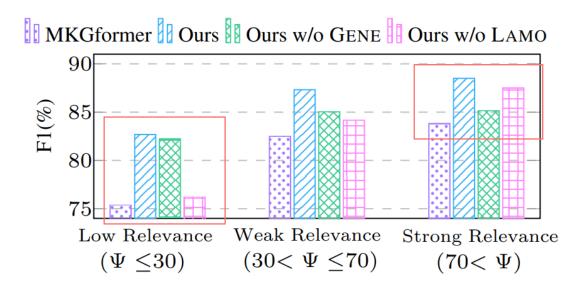
	Acc.	Pre.	Rec.	F1
 Text-based Methods 				
BERT [†]	-	63.85	55.79	59.55
PCNN [†]	72.67	62.85	49.69	55.49
MTB [†]	72.73	64.46	57.81	60.86
DP-GCN [♭]	74.60	64.04	58.44	61.11
 Multimodal Methods 				
BERT(Text+Image) [♭]	74.59	63.07	59.53	61.25
BERT+SG [†]	74.09	62.95	62.65	62.80
MEGA [†]	76.15	64.51	68.44	66.41
VisualBERT $_{base}^{\dagger}$	-	57.15	59.48	58.30
	-	64.50	61.86	63.16
RDS [†]	-	66.83	65.47	66.14
IVPNeT[†]	-	83.64	80.78	81.85
MKGformer [†]	92.31	82.67	81.25	81.95
Ōurs	94.06	84.69	83.38	84.03
w/o Gene (Eq. 11)	92.42	82.41	81.83	82.12
w/o $I(z, G)$ (Eq. 13)	93.64	83.61	82.34	82.97
w/о LAMO (Eq. 4)	92.86	82.97	81.22	82.09
w/o o^T	93.05	83.95	82.53	83.23
w/o o ^I	93.63	84.03	83.18	83.60
w/o VSG&TSG	93.12	83.51	82.67	83.09
w/o CMG	93.97	84.38	83.20	83.78



Experiment

Analysis and Discussion

Q: Under what circumstances do the internal-information screening and external-information exploiting help?

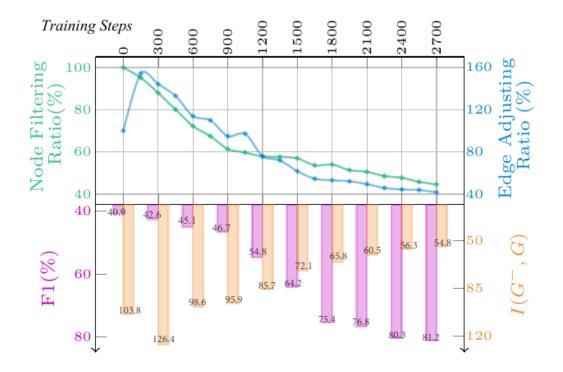


GENE - GIB-guided Feature Refinement LAMO – Latent Multimodal Topic Model For the inputs with higher text-vision relevance, the GENE plays a greater role than LAMO, while under the case with less cross-modal feature relevance, LAMO contributes more significantly than GENE.

Experiment

Analysis and Discussion

Q: Does GENE really helps by denoising the input features?



- Clear pruning pattern.
- Effective performance increase.

Exper

Topic	Textual keywords	Visual keywords (ID)
#Politic	trump, president, world, new, china, leader, summit, meet, korean, senate	#1388, #1068
#Music	tour, concert, video, live, billboard, album, styles, singer, taylor, dj	#1446, #1891
#Love	wife, wedding, engaged, ring, son, baby. girl, love, rose, annie	#434, #1091
#Leisure	photo, best, beach, lake, island, bridge, view, florida, photograph, great	#679, #895
#Idol	metgala, hailey, justin, taylor, rihanna, hit, show, annual, pope, shawn	#1021, #352
#Scene	contain, near, comes, american, in, spotted, travel, to, from, residents	#535, #167
#Sports	team, man, world, cup, nike, nba, football, join, play, chelsea	#1700, #109
#Social	google, retweet, twitter, youtube, netflix, acebook, flight, butler, series, art	#1043, #1178
#Show	show, presents, dress, interview, shot, speech, performing, attend, portray, appear	#477, #930
#Life	good, life, please, family, dog, female, people, boy, soon, daily	#613, #83



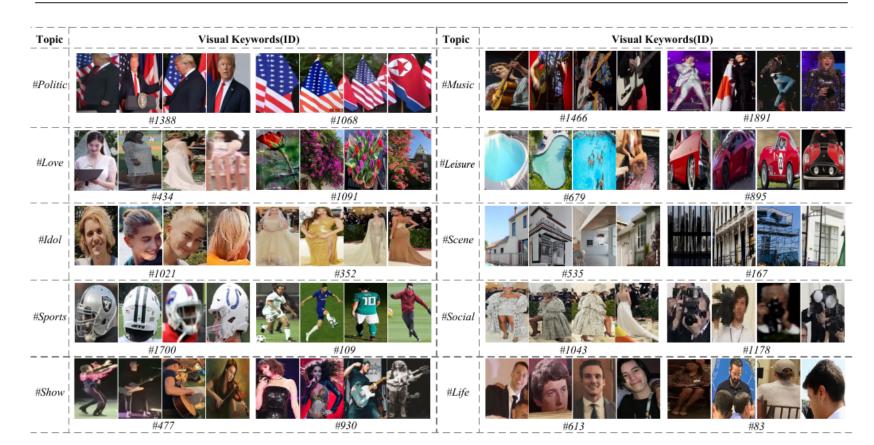


Table 3: Top 10 key textual topic keywords and top 2 visual topic keywords discovered by LAMO.

Application III:

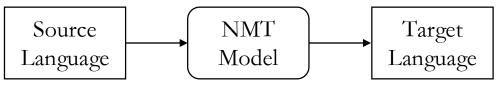
Scene Graph as Pivoting: Inference-time Image-free Unsupervised Multimodal Machine Translation with Visual Scene Hallucination

[1] Hao Fei, Qian Liu, Meishan Zhang, Min Zhang, Tat-Seng Chua. Scene Graph as Pivoting: Inference-time Image-free Unsupervised Multimodal Machine Translation with Visual Scene Hallucination. ACL. 2023.

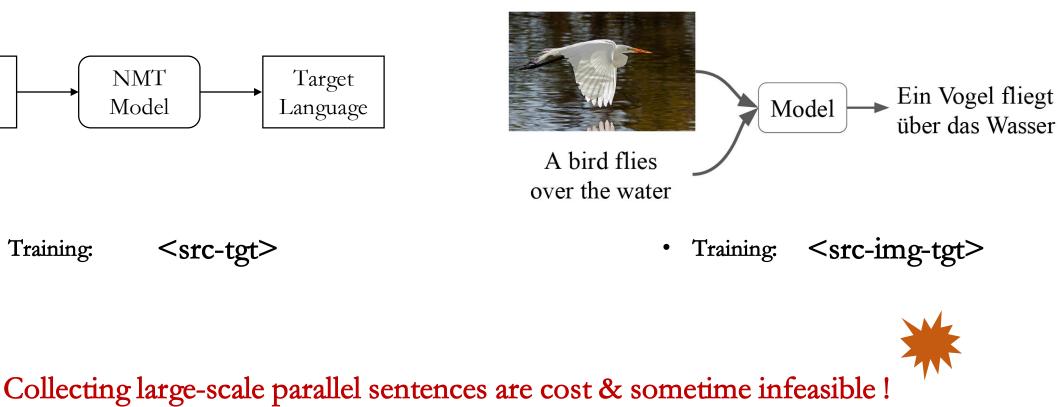
Motivation

Training:

Neural Machine Translation (NMT)

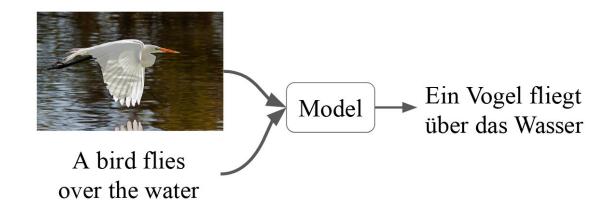


Multimodal Machine Translation (MMT) \geq



Motivation

Unsupervised Multimodal Machine Translation (UMMT)



Motivation

Unsupervised Multimodal Machine Translation (UMMT)

Practical UMMT requires the avoidance of not only parallel sentences during training, but also the paired image during inference (testing).

- some existing MMT researches exempt the testing-time visual inputs;
- they all unfortunately are supervised methods, relying on large-scale parallel sentences for training.

	Avoid parallel sent. during training?	Avoid paired img. during testing?
• Supervised MMT		
General MMT	×	×
Zhang et al. (2020)		
Fang and Feng (2022)	×	\checkmark
Li et al. (2022)		
Unsupervised MMT		
Chen et al. (2018)		
Su et al. (2019)	\checkmark	×
Huang et al. (2020)		
This work	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	✓

Table 1: Practical unsupervised MMT requires the avoidance of not only parallel sentences during training, but also the paired image during inference (testing).

✓ It's necessary to explore the Inference-time Image-free UMMT!

Motivation

- Unsupervised Multimodal Machine Translation (UMMT)
 - Visual information is vital to UMMT, however both the existing supervised and unsupervised MMT suffer from ineffective and insufficient modeling of visual pivot features.
 - Coarse-grained vision-language alignment learning.
 - Phrase-level vision-language alignment learning (grounding).

\checkmark Still fail to have a holistic understanding of the visual scene!

Method

- Scene Graph-based UMMT System
 - The input src text and paired image are first transformed into LSG and VSG.
 - LSG and VSG are further fused into a mixed SG, and then translated into the tgt-side LSG.

• And the tgt sentence will be finally produced conditioned on the tgt LSG.

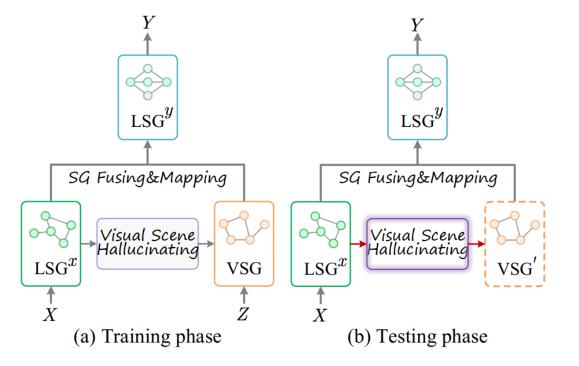


Figure 2: The high-level overview of our SG-based UMMT model. During training, src-side sentences with paired images are used as inputs, together with the corresponding LSG and VSG. Testing phase only takes src-side sentences, where the visual hallucination module is activated to generate VSG from text sources.

Method

- Visual Scene Hallucination
 - To support pure-text (image-free) input during inference, we devise a novel **visual scene hallucination (VSH)** module.
 - VSH dynamically generates a hallucinated VSG from the LSG compensatively.
 - Step1: sketching skeleton
 - Step2: completing vision

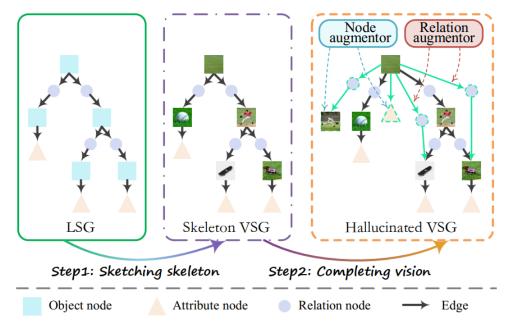
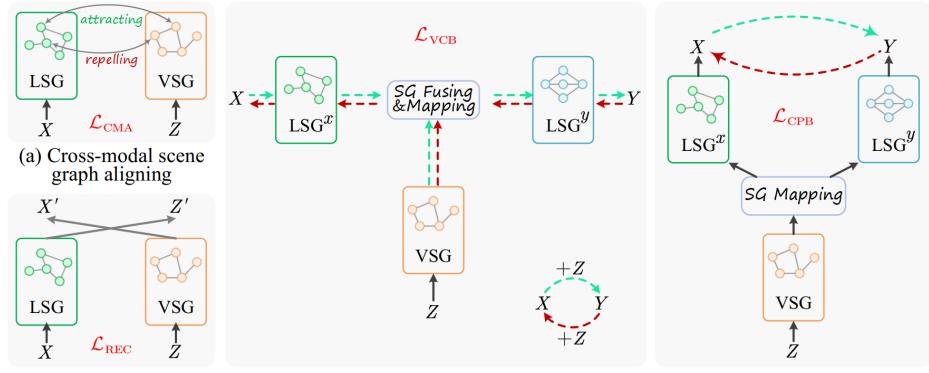


Figure 3: The illustration of the visual scene hallucination (VSH) module, including two steps of inference.

Method

Scene Graph Pivoting Learning for UMMT



(b) Cross-reconstructing(c) Visual-concomitant back-translation(d) Captioning-pivoted back-translationFigure 4: Illustrations of the learning strategies for unsupervised multimodal machine translation.

Experiment

➤ Main Results

	En	$h \rightarrow Fr$	$\mathbf{En} \leftarrow \mathbf{Fr}$		$\mathbf{En} ightarrow \mathbf{De}$		$\mathbf{En} \leftarrow \mathbf{De}$	
	BLEU	METEOR	BLEU	METEOR	BLEU	METEOR	BLEU	METEOR
• Testing with	image inp	out given						
Game-MMT	-	-	-	-	16.6	-	19.6	-
UMMT	39.8	35.5	40.5	37.2	23.5	26.1	26.4	29.7
PVP	52.3	67.6	46.0	39.8	33.9	54.1	36.1	34.7
Ours [#]	56.9	70.7	50.4	42.5	37.4	57.2	39.2	38.3
w/o SGs	51.7	64.0	46.2	40.7	34.5	56.4	36.9	35.2
• Testing with	out image	input given						
UMMT	15.8	12.7	10.2	13.6	8.4	11.3	7.5	10.8
UMMT*	30.4	28.4	31.8	30.4	15.7	17.7	19.3	22.7
PVP	26.1	23.8	25.7	23.4	11.1	13.8	14.0	17.2
PVP^*	46.7	58.0	39.0	31.9	25.4	40.1	27.6	26.0
Ours	50.6	64.7	45.5	37.3	32.0	52.3	33.6	32.8
	(+3.9)	(+6.7)	(+6.5)	(+5.4)	(+6.6)	(+12.2)	(+6.0)	(+6.8)

Table 2: Results of UMMT on Multi30K data. 'Ours[#]': using paired images for testing instead of visual hallucination. 'UMMT*/PVP*': re-implemented baselines with phrase-level retrieval-based visual hallucination. In the brackets are the improvements of our model over the best-performing baseline(s).

Our system shows significant improvements over the best baseline PVP*, by average **5.75**=(3.9+6.5+6.6+6.0)/4 BLEU score.

Experiment

The longer and more complex the sentences, the higher the translation quality benefiting from the SGs features.

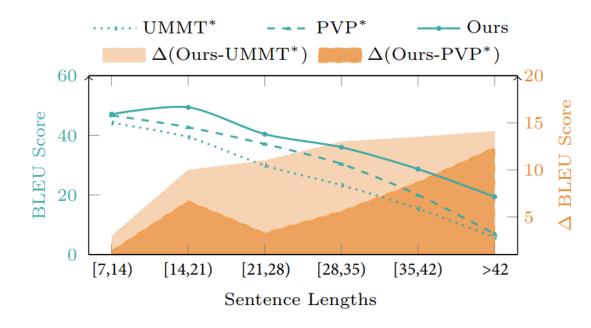


Figure 6: BLEU scores under different sentence lengths.

Experiment

> SG-based visual scene hallucination mechanism helps gain rich and correct visual features.

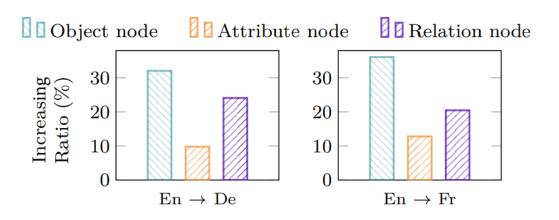


Figure 7: Growing rate of nodes in hallucinated VSG.

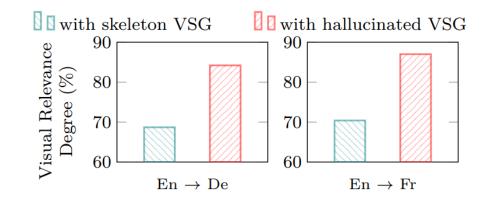


Figure 8: Degree of visual relevance (similarity) between the hallucinated vision (via graph-to-image generator) and the ground truth image.

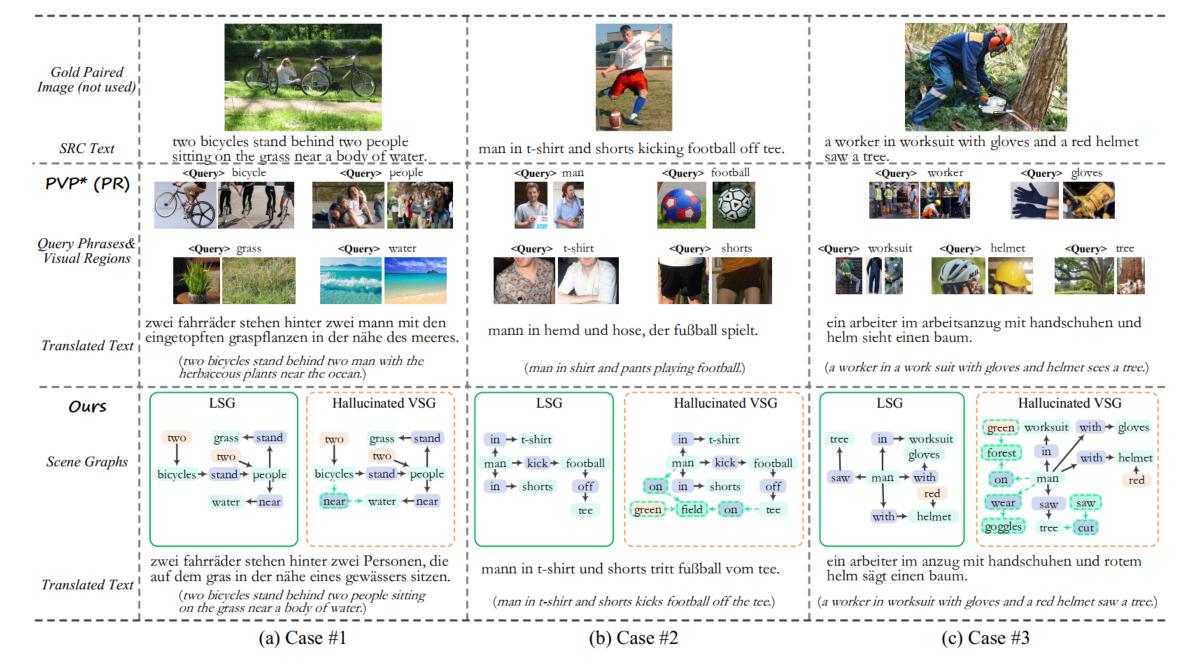


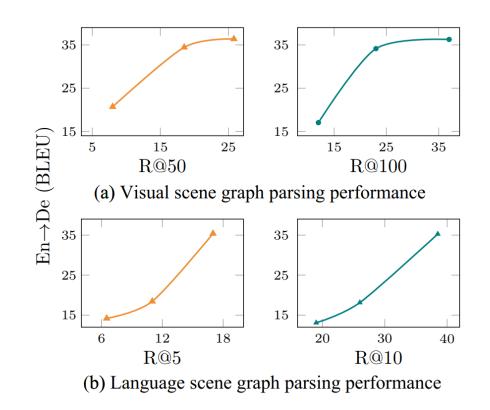
Figure 5: Qualitative results of inference-time image-free UMMT (En \rightarrow De).

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SG-based Multimodal Machine Translation

Experiment

- > To what extent does SG parsing quality influence the efficacy of end task?
 - Surely low-quality SG annotations decrease the efficacy of the SG features for end tasks.
 - Existing SoTA SG parsers are effective enough to aid the end-tasks, i.e., the positive outweighs negative.
 - Mostly, end-tasks are more sensitive to the quality of the textual SG, compared with the visual SG.



CONTENT



Vision&Language Scene Graph-based Applications



Video Scene Graph-based Applications



3D Scene Graph-based Applications



Outlook of Future Directions



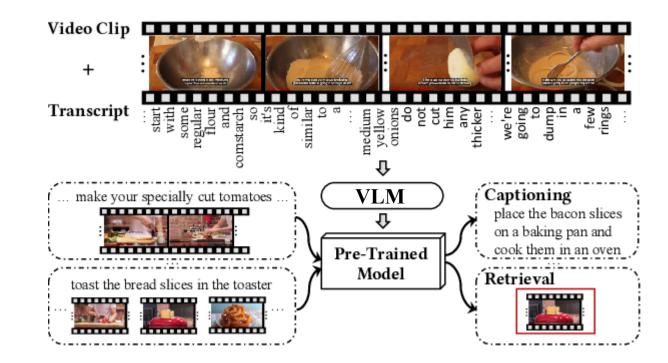
Application IV:

Enhancing Video-Language Representations with Structural Spatio-Temporal Alignment

[1] Hao Fei, Shengqiong Wu, Meishan Zhang, Shuicheng YAN, Min Zhang, Tat-Seng Chua. Enhancing Video-Language Representations with Structural Spatio-Temporal Alignment. 2023.

Motivation

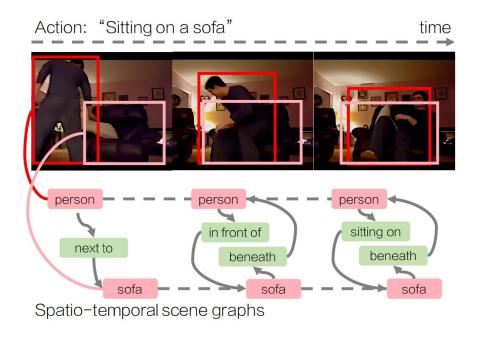
- Video-language model (VLM) pre-training
 - ✓ Existing issues:
 - Coarse-grained cross-model aligning
 - Under-modeling of temporal dynamics
 - Detached video-language view

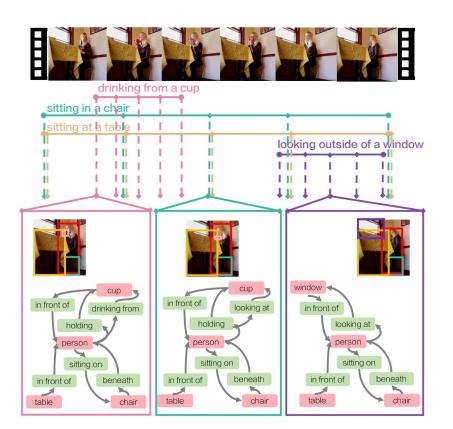




- Video Scene Graph Representation
- Video Scene Graph, aka., Dynamic Scene Graph (DSG), Spatio-temporal Scene Graph

A sequence of VSG along time frames.





[1] Jingwei Ji, Ranjay Krishna, Li Fei-Fei, and Juan Carlos Niebles. Action genome: Actions as compositions of spatio-temporal scene graphs. CVPR, 2020. 53

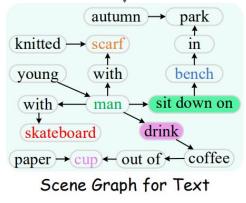
Motivation

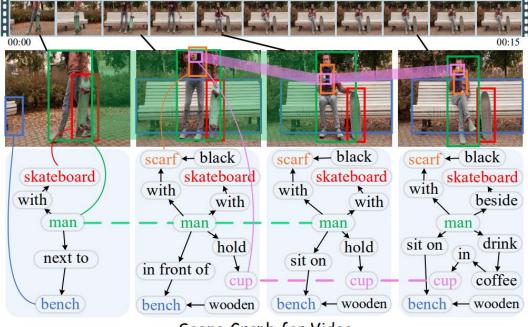
video-language model (VLM) pre-training

- Coarse-grained cross-model aligning
 Fine-grained alignment
- Under-modeling of temporal dynamics
 Modeling dynamics with DSG
- Detached video-language view
 - Merging TSG and DSG

A young man with his knitted scarf and skateboard quickly *sit down on* bench in autumn park *drinks* coffee hastily out of paper cup.

parsing





Scene Graph for Video



Method

Fine-grained Structural Spatio-temporal Alignment (Finsta) framework

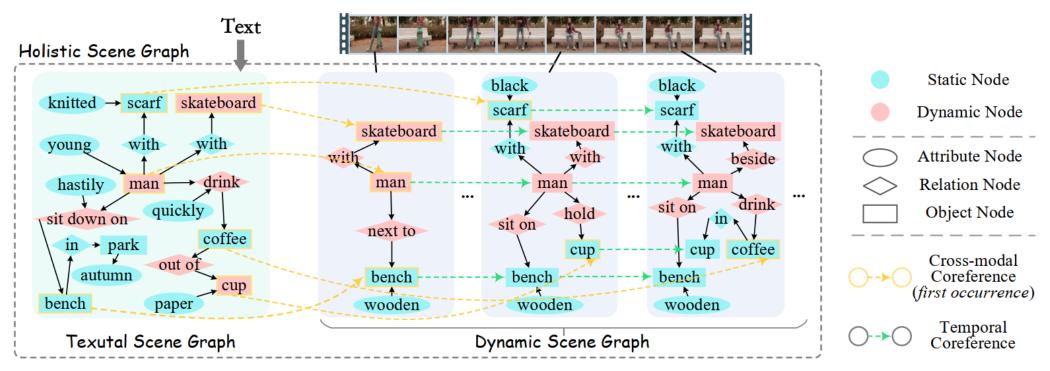


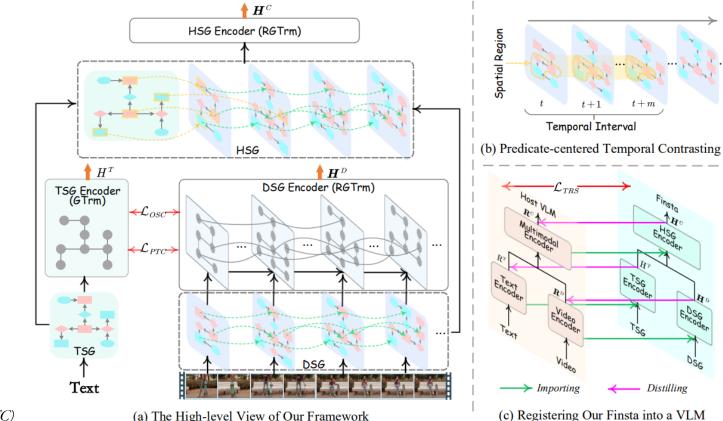
Figure 2: We represent the input text and video with textual scene graph (TSG) and dynamic scene graph (DSG), respectively, where all nodes are categorized into the static type and dynamic type. We further unify the TSG and DSG into a holistic SG (HSG).



Method

Finsta

- SG Representation Construction ٠
 - TSG Holistic SG (HSG) DSG
- VL Representation Learning
 - Fine-grained Structural Spatio-Temporal Alignment Learning
 - *Object-centered Spatial Contrasting (OSC)*
 - Predicate-centered Temporal Contrasting (PTC)
 - Representation Transfer Learning



(a) The High-level View of Our Framework

Figure 3: (a) Fine-grained structural spatio-temporal alignment learning (Finsta) based on the dualstream framework with three SG encoders. (b) Extracting the spatial region and temporal interval for the predicate-centered temporal alignment. (c) Injecting our Finsta representations into a host LVM.

Experiment

Table 1: Video Action Recognition results (Acc. on Top-1) on two datasets. The best results are in bold.

Method	K400 [35]	SSV2 [23]
TimeSformer [5]	78.0	59.5
Frozen [3]	78.5	61.6
OmniVL [68]	79.1	62.5
HDVILA	78.6	61.3
Finsta-HDVILA	80.4	63.2
Clover	78.8	62.3
Finsta-Clover	81.2	64.1

Method	YouCook2 [80]		MSRV	/TT [72]	MSVD [7]		
	Μ	B@4	М	B@4	Μ	B@4	
VideoBERT [62]	11.0	4.1	-	-	-	-	
UniVL [46]	17.6	11.2	-	-	-	-	
SAM-SS [9]	-	-	29.3	45.8	39.0	62.4	
SemSynAn [55]	-	-	30.4	46.4	41.9	64.4	
OmniVL [68]	14.8	8.7	-	-	-	-	
HDVILA	13.5	8.2	32.4	46.0	42.5	64.8	
Finsta-HDVILA	18.8	12.7	36.9	48.6	44.8	66.5	
Clover	14.2	9.0	34.1	47.5	43.3	64.6	
Finsta-Clover	18.6	12.5	38.8	49.3	45.2	67.4	

Table 2: Video captioning results on three datasets.

Table 5: Long-Form Video Question-Answering results (Acc.) on two datasets.

How2QA [41]	VIOLIN [44]
74.3	-
-	68.4
74.3	68.6
76.1	70.9
77.5	71.7
78.8	73.0
	74.3 - 74.3 76.1 77.5

Table 3:	Video Question Answ	ering
results (A	cc.) on two datasets.	

Table 4: Video-Text Retrieval results on two datasets.

results (Acc.) or	n two datasets.		
Method	MSRVTT [70]	MSVD [70]	Method
ClipBERT [38]	37.4	-	
VIOLET [18]	43.9	47.9	OA-Trans [67]
ALPRO [39]	42.1	45.9	ALPRO [39]
OmniVL [68]	44.1	51.0	CLIP4CLIP [4
HDVILA	40.0	50.7	CAMOE [12]
Finsta-HDVILA	43.4	53.3	HDVILA
Clover	42.5	51.1	Finsta-HDVIL
Finsta-Clover	45.8	54.6	Clover
			Finsta-Clover

70]	Method	LSMDC [48]			DiDeMo [26]			
		R@1	R@5	R@10	R@1	R@5	R@10	
	OA-Trans [67]	18.2	34.3	43.7	34.8	64.4	75.1	
	ALPRO [39]	-	-	-	35.9	67.5	78.8	
	CLIP4CLIP [47]	21.6	41.8	49.8	43.4	70.2	80.6	
	CAMOE [12]	22.5	42.6	50.9	43.8	71.4	-	
	HDVILA	21.8	42.3	49.7	45.7	72.4	79.2	
	Finsta-HDVILA	25.3	46.3	55.8	49.3	75.9	83.6	
	Clover	24.8	44.0	54.5	50.1	76.7	85.6	
	Finsta-Clover	26.9	46.8	56.3	51.0	77.8	86.4	

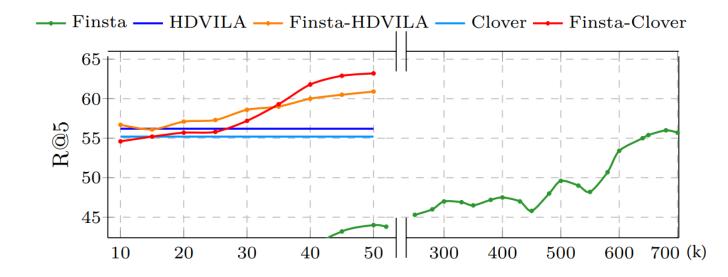
Table	6:	Video-Paragraph	Retrieval	results	on
QuerY	D dat	a [51].			

Method	R@1	R@5	R@10
TeachText [14]	14.4	37.7	50.9
Frozen [3]	53.8	75.7	82.7
LFVILA	69.7	85.7	90.3
Finsta-LFVILA (S-Vid)	70.0	86.4	91.2
Finsta-LFVILA (L-Vid)	73.4	87.8	93.0

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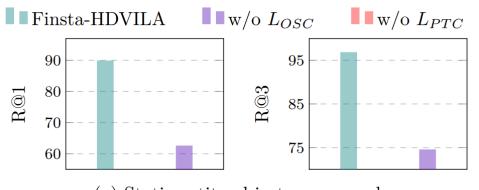
Experiment

Influence of Post-training Data Amount



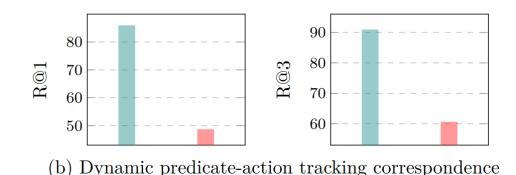
Experiment

- Probing Fine-grained Video-Language Correspondences
 - Static Entity-Object Correspondence.



(a) Static entity-object correspondence

• Dynamic Predicate-Action Tracking Correspondence.







Application V:

Constructing Holistic Spatio-Temporal Scene Graph for Video Semantic Role Labeling

[1] Yu Zhao, Hao Fei, Yixin Cao, Bobo Li, Meishan Zhang, Jianguo Wei, Min Zhang, Tat-Seng Chua. Constructing Holistic Spatio-Temporal Scene Graph for Video Semantic Role Labeling. ACM MM. 2023.

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Motivation

- Video Semantic Role Labeling (VidSRL)
 - Subtask-1:

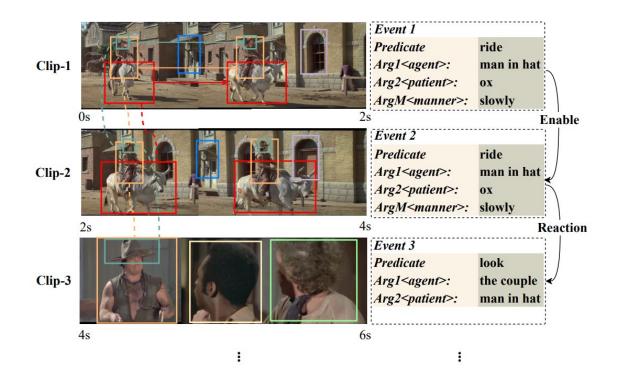
verb prediction

• Subtask-2:

arguments generation (or role labeling)

• Subtask-3:

event relation prediction





"who does what to whom, where and when and how" within a video

Motivation

➢ Two key bottlenecks in VidSRL

• Lack of fine-grained spatial scene perception

• Insufficient modeling of video temporality



SG-based Video Semantic Rol

Method

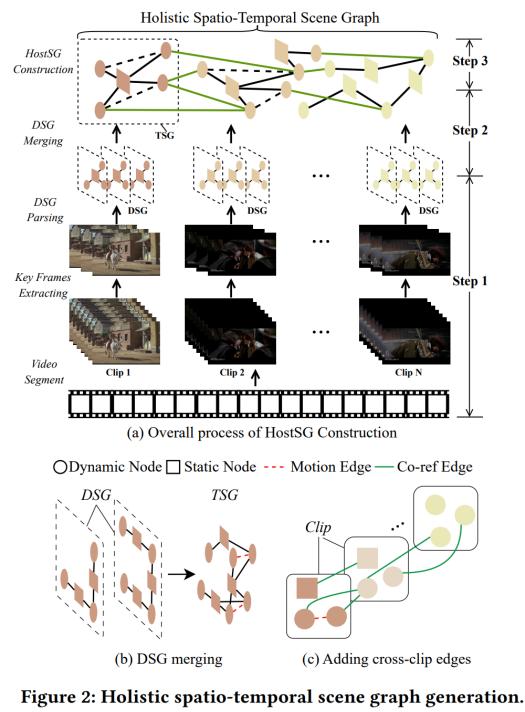
- Constructing a <u>holistic spatio-temporal scene graph</u> (HostSG)
 - Step-1:

• Step-2:

Merging DSG.

• Step-3:

HostSG Construction.



Video dynamic SG (DSG) Generation for Clip.

Method

VidSRL Framework

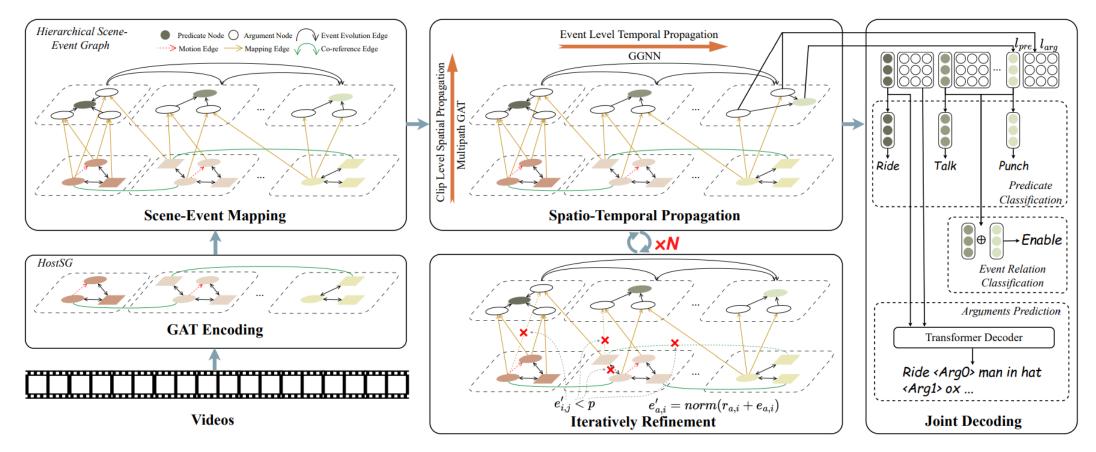


Figure 3: Augmented holistic event-arguments semantic graph.

Experiment

> Main Results

Table 1: Main results on the VidSRL dataset. "Verb Cls", "SRL" and "EvtRel" represents the three subtasks verb classification, semantic role labeling and event relation prediction. The CIDEr score is also computed over every verb-sense (CIDEr-Verb) and over argument-types (CIDEr-Arg). Bold numbers are the best, and underlined ones are the second best. Our results are averaged on five running with different seeds. Gray color: methods use ground-truth verb annotations for SRL training.

		Verb Cls			SRL			EvRel		
	Acc@1(%)	Acc@5(%)	Rec@5(%)	CIDEr	Rouge-L	CIDEr-Vb	CIDEr-Arg	Lea	Lea-S	Macro-Acc(%)
• Pipeline										
VidSitu-GPT2 [32]	-	-	-	34.67	40.08	42.97	34.45	48.08	28.10	-
VidSitu-I3D [32]	30.17	66.83	4.88	47.06	42.41	51.67	42.76	48.92	33.58	-
VidSitu-SlowFast [32]	32.64	69.20	6.11	45.52	42.66	55.47	42.82	50.48	31.99	34.13
• Joint										
VidSitu-e2e [47]	46.79	75.90	23.38	30.33	29.98	39.56	23.97	35.92	-	-
OME [47]	52.75	83.88	28.44	47.82	40.91	54.51	44.32	-	-	-
OME(disp) [47]	53.32	84.00	28.61	48.46	41.89	56.04	44.60	-	-	-
OME(disp)+OIE [47]	53.36	83.94	28.72	47.16	40.86	53.96	42.78	-	-	-
VideoWhisperer [24]	45.06	75.59	25.25	52.30	35.84	61.77	38.18	38.00	-	-
HostSG (Ours)	56.15 (+2.79)	86.33 (+2.33)	29.38 (+0.66)	55.09 (+2.79)	43.13 (+1.24)	64.24 (+2.47)	47.68 (+3.08)	55.70 (+5.22)	35.01 (+3.2)	35.97 (+1.84)

Experiment

> Q: Does HostSG provide informative spatial and temporal features for VidSRL?

Table 3: Influence of different numbers of frame extraction. 'w/o Key Frame Extraction' means we extract frames with a constant interval.

	Acc@1	CIDEr	Macro-Acc
• 1 Frame/Clip	41.48	36.85	33.91
w/o Key Frame Extraction	41.51	37.10	34.02
• 5 Frames/Clip	56.15	55.09	35.97
w/o Key Frame Extraction	56.13	54.77	35.16
• 11 Frames/Clip	55.15	54.72	35.31
w/o Key Frame Extraction	55.04	54.67	35.29

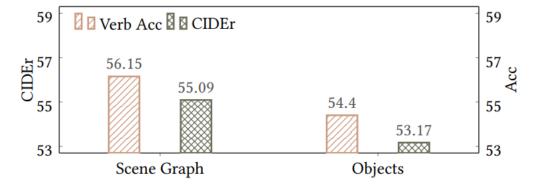


Figure 4: Comparison between the results of scene graph features and object features.



Experiment

 Visualization of the cross-clip coreference edges

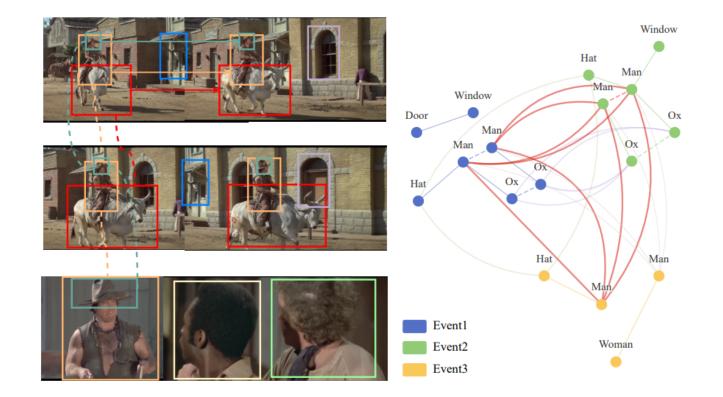
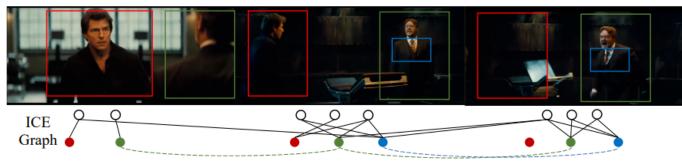


Figure 6: Visualization of the cross-clip coreference edges. We select three clips from a video, representing the edge weights by the line width. The highlighted red lines denote the coreference relation of the objects with the tag "Man".



Experiment

> Quantitative results



> With SG-Event Mapping

Event 1: look	Even 2: speak	Event 3: move
<arg0> man without tie</arg0>	<arg0> man with tie</arg0>	<arg0> man with tie</arg0>
<arg1> man with tie</arg1>	<arg1> man without tie</arg1>	<argm> in anger</argm>
<argm> across the room</argm>	<argm> angrily</argm>	<argm> backwards</argm>

> Only HostSG

Event 1: look	Event 2: speak	Event 3: look
<arg0> man in black shirt</arg0>	<arg0> man with tie</arg0>	<arg0> man in suit</arg0>
<arg1> man in brown shirt</arg1>	<arg1> man in black shirt</arg1>	<arg1> man in black shirt</arg1>
<argm> across the room</argm>		

CONTENT



Vision&Language Scene Graph-based Applications



Video Scene Graph-based Applications



3D Scene Graph-based Applications



Outlook of Future Directions

3D Scene Graph-based Applications



Application VI:

Generating Visual Spatial Description via Holistic 3D Scene Understanding

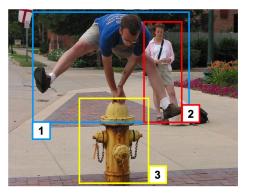
[1] Yu Zhao, Hao Fei, Wei Ji, Jianguo Wei, Meishan Zhang, Min Zhang, Tat-Seng Chua. Generating Visual Spatial Description via Holistic 3D Scene Understanding. ACL. 2023.

3D-SG-based Visual Spatial Description

Motivation

Visual Spatial Description (VSD)

Inputs: img, two objects



<'man', [2]> <'fire hydrant', [3]>



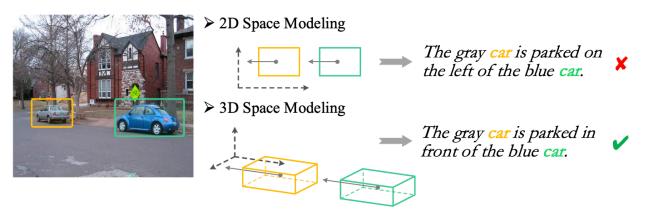
Output: spatial description

The man in white is standing behind the yellow fire hydrant

3D-SG-based Visual Spatial Description

Motivation

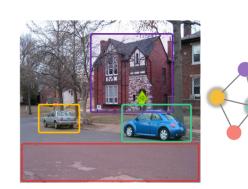
- Existing issues
 - 2D modeling is NOT enough
 - *Perspective IllusionOverlap*



(a) Modeling 3D scene features results in correct spatial understanding

• Relation descriptions NOT diversified enough

□ Spatial Diversity



The gray car is parked in front of the blue car.

The gray car is parked in front of the blue car next to the building.

The gray car near the house is parked in front of the blue car.

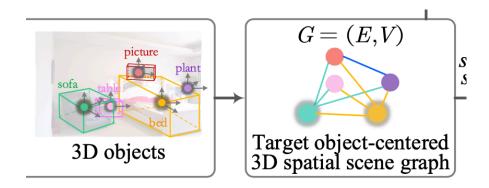
The gray car near the house is parked in front of the blue car on the road.

(b) Holistic 3D scene features help generate diversified spatial descriptions

Method

- Modeling 3D Scene Graph
 - 3D Scene Feature Extracting
 - Parsing with an off-the-shelf model

- Graph Modeling
 - Target Object-Centered 3D Spatial Scene Graph (GO3D-S2G)
 - Object-Centered GCN (OCGCN)



Method

Framework

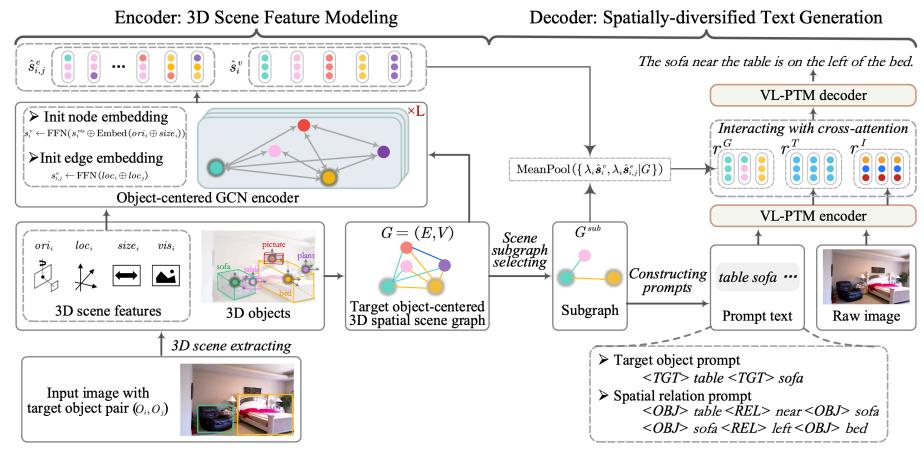
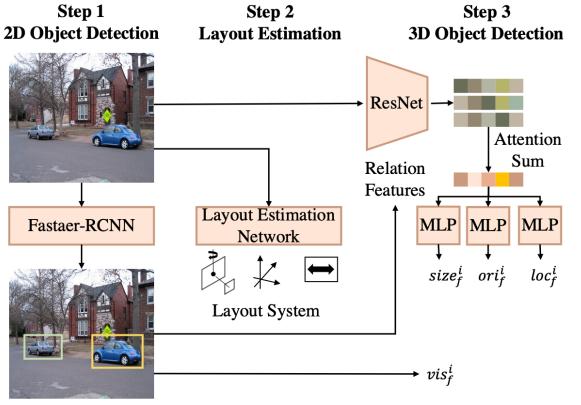


Figure 2: The overview of our proposed framework.

Method

Model Details: 3D Scene Extraction

- vis_i The flatted ROI feature of object *i*.
- $size_i$ The length, width, height of object *i*.
- $\begin{array}{ll} loc_i & \text{The relative centroid coordinates of object } i. \\ ori_i & \text{The rotation value of three degrees of freedom} \\ \text{of object } i. \end{array}$



2D Proposals



Model Details: Graph Creating

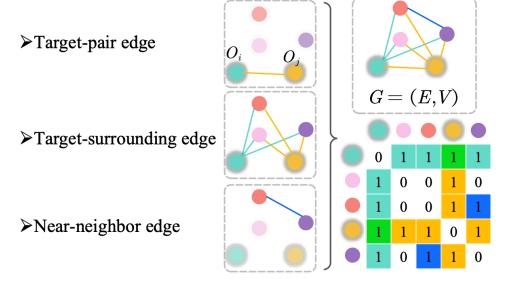


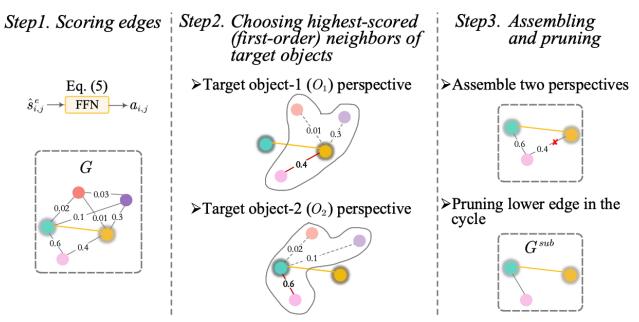
Figure 3: Three types of edges of $GO3D-S^2G$.

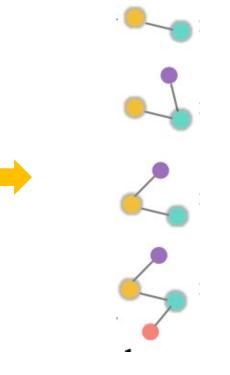
Algorithm 1: GO3D-S²G Creating **Input:** max object number N, two target objects index o_1, o_2 , confidency of each object f, centroid of each object C, distance threshold d, noise confidency threshold p**Output:** adjacency matrix $A^{N \times N}$ initialization: A = 0. // target object edges $A[o_1,:] = 1, A[:, o_1] = 1,$ $A[o_2,:] = 1, A[:, o_2] = 1,$ // add special edges for *i* in N do for *j* in *N* do dist = $||C_i - C_j||$ if dist > d then $A_{ij} = 1$ end end end // remove noise objects for *i* in N do if $f_i < p$ and o_i is not target object then A[i,:] = 0, A[:,i] = 0end end

Method

Model Details: Scene Subgraph Selecting mechanism (S3)

Figure 4: Scene subgraph selecting mechanism.







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3D-SG-based Visual Spatial Description

Method

Model Details: Prompt Learning for LM Decoding

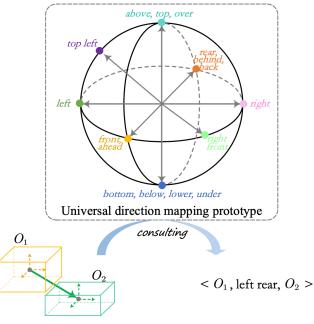


Figure 5: The prototype of direction-term mapping.

prompt texts, 1) *target object prompt*, e.g., <TGT> table <TGT> sofa and 2) *spatial relation prompt*, e.g., <OBJ> table <REL> near <OBJ> sofa <OBJ> sofa <REL> left <OBJ> bed

Pre-definitions					
Subject centroid: x_s, y_s, z_s , Object centroid: x_o, y_o, z_o					
coordinate system: x-toward, y-up, z-right					
$x,y,z\in [0,$	$x,y,z\in [0,1]$				
$d_x = \left x_s - x_o ight , d_y = \left y_s - y_o ight , d_z = \left z_s - z_o ight $					
Rule	Direction Term				
Front : $(d_x > d_y \text{ and } d_z, d_x > 0.2, x_s > x_o)$					
$d_y, d_z \le 0.2$	"front"				
$d_y>0.2, y_s>y_o, d_z\leq 0.2$	"front up"				
$d_y > 0.2, y_s < y_o, d_z \le 0.2$	"front down"				
$d_z > 0.2, z_s > z_o, d_y \le 0.2$	"front right"				
$d_z > 0.2, z_s < z_o, d_y \le 0.2$	"front left"				
$d_y, d_z > 0.2, y_s > y_o, z_s > z_o$	"front up right"				
$d_y, d_z > 0.2, y_s > y_o, z_s < z_o$	"front up left"				
$d_y, d_z > 0.2, y_s < y_o, z_s > z_o$	"front down right"				
$d_y, d_z > 0.2, y_s < y_o, z_s < z_o$	"front down left"				

Back : $(d_x > d_y \text{ and } d_z, d_x > d_y)$	$> 0.2, x_s < x_o)$
$d_x > 0.2, d_y, d_z \le 0.2$	"back"
Others are sin	ilar to front
Up: $(d_y > d_x \text{ and } d_z, d_y > 0)$	$(0.2, y_s > y_o)$
Others are sin	ilar to front
Down : $(d_y > d_x \text{ and } d_z, d_y)$	$> 0.2, y_s < y_o)$
Others are sin	ilar to front
Right : $(d_z > d_x \text{ and } d_y, d_z)$	$> 0.2, z_s > z_o)$
Others are sin	iilar to front
Left: $(d_z > d_x \text{ and } d_y, d_z >$	$0.2, z_s < z_o)$
Others are sin	iilar to front
$(d_x, d_y, d_z \le 0.2)$	"next to"

Table 7: Direction term mapping rules.



Experiment

> Main Results

	VSD-v1			VSD-v2						
	BLEU-4	METEOR	ROUGE	CIDEr	SPICE	BLEU-4	METEOR	ROUGE	CIDEr	SPICE
• VL-PTMs										
Oscar	37.17	35.06	66.47	427.21	67.41	20.90	23.83	50.96	221.61	40.12
VL-Bart	52.71	41.96	77.57	471.21	67.83	20.78	22.83	48.49	213.26	40.04
VL-T5	52.58	41.94	77.63	472.24	67.90	21.83	23.26	50.51	225.51	<u>41.86</u>
OFA	53.59	41.74	77.68	469.23	67.03	<u>22.53</u>	<u>24.93</u>	51.27	227.29	41.63
• VL-PTMs + VS	SRC (Zhao	et al., 2022)								
VLBart-ppl	53.49	42.14	77.79	474.34	67.97	21.44	23.08	50.80	226.52	40.16
VLT5-ppl	53.71	42.56	78.33	480.32	68.72	21.79	23.49	51.49	231.70	41.04
VLBart-e2e	53.60	42.45	78.15	476.47	68.18	21.71	23.41	51.22	228.18	40.79
VLT5-e2e	<u>54.31</u>	42.63	<u>78.38</u>	<u>481.13</u>	<u>68.74</u>	22.47	23.50	<u>51.52</u>	<u>231.70</u>	41.07
• VL-PTMs + 3I) scene fea	tures								
3Dvsd (Ours)	56.85 (+2.54)	43.25 (+0.62)	79.38 (+1.00)	483.05 (+1.92)	68.76 (+0.02)	26.40 (+3.87)	26.87 (+1.94)	55.76 (+4.24)	272.93 (+41.23)	46.97 (+5.11)

Table 2: Main results on two datasets. Bold numbers are the best, and underlined ones are the second best.



> 2D v.s 3D modeling

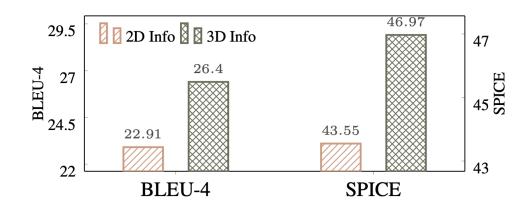


Figure 6: Comparison of 2D and 3D method on VSDv2.

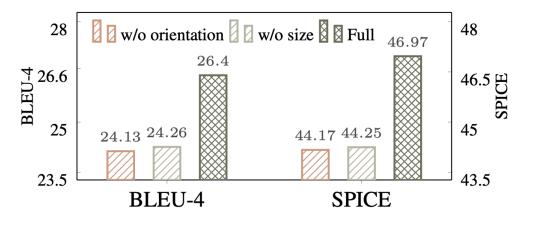


Figure 7: Ablation results of 3D features on VSDv2.



Experiment

Case Study

Input	With Beam Search	With Scene Subgraph Sampling
Target Object Book	• VLT5-e2e:	• 3Dvsd:
	The books are on the chair.	The books on the shelf are behind the chair.
	There are some books above the chair.	Some <u>books</u> are on the shelf behind the <u>chair</u> .
	Some <u>books</u> are on the black <u>chair</u> .	The <u>books</u> are behind the <u>chair</u> next to the table.
Chair J	• 3Dvsd:	The <u>books</u> on the shelf are behind the <u>chair</u> near the door.
Weight Heatmap	The <u>book</u> is behind the <u>chair</u> .	The <u>books</u> on the shelf are behind the <u>chair</u> next to the table.
	Some <u>books</u> are behind the <u>chair</u> .	
	There are some <u>books</u> behind the black <u>chair</u> .	
Target Object Blanket Floor Weight	• VLT5-e2e:	• 3Dvsd:
	The <u>blanket</u> is near the <u>floor</u> .	The gray <u>blanket</u> is on the <u>floor</u> .
	The gray <u>blanket</u> is under the <u>floor</u> .	The <u>blanket</u> on the <u>floor</u> is in front of the chair.
	There is a white <u>blanket</u> on the <u>floor</u> .	The <u>blanket</u> on the <u>floor</u> is on the right of the bed.
	• 3Dvsd:	The <u>blanket</u> on the <u>floor</u> is in front of the shelf.
	The <u>blanket</u> is on the <u>floor</u> .	The <u>blanket</u> is on the <u>floor</u> next to the <u>desk</u> .
	The white <u>blanket</u> is on the <u>floor</u> .	
Heatmap Desk Beg Viair Shelf Blanker Floor	The grey <u>blanket</u> is on the <u>floor</u> .	

Figure 9: Qualitative results of generated descriptions with beam search decoding and S^3 mechanism, respectively.

CONTENT



Vision&Language Scene Graph-based Applications



Video Scene Graph-based Applications

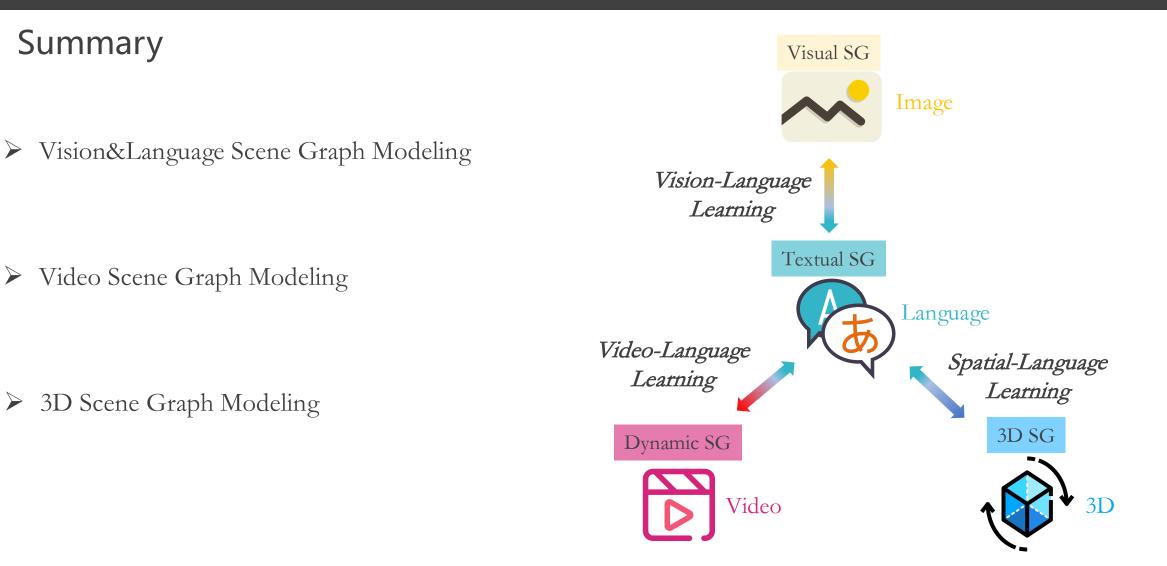


3D Scene Graph-based Applications



Outlook of Future Directions





What Next?

- Applying Scene Graph Representations into More Scenarios and Applications
 - Image/Video Retrieval
 - Image/Video Editing
 - Image/Video Generation
 - Video Moment Localization

1. Improving cross-modal alignment: *more fine-grained vision-text matching*

2. Enhancing multimodal fusion: *semantic-level feature learning*

3. More controllable end-task prediction: *highly structured modal representation*

• • • •

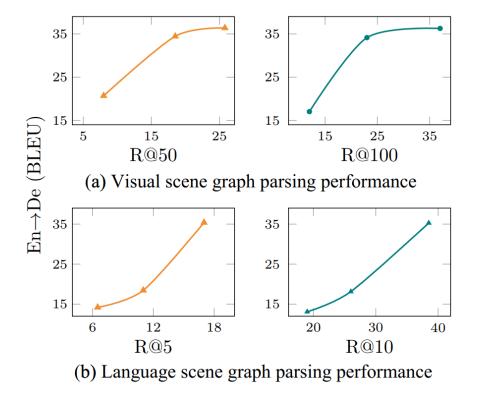


What Next?

- Automatic Learning of Scene Graph Representations
 - Low-quality SG annotations decrease the efficacy of the SG features for end tasks.
 - How about: Inducing the SG structure along with the end task? Such that the automatically generated SG structures are most coincident with task need.

Latent Structure Induction

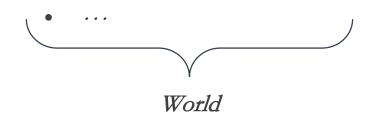
Grammar Induction

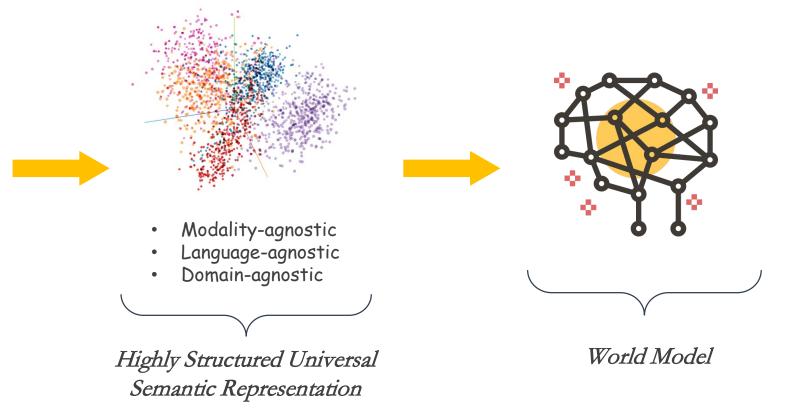




What Next?

- Constructing Semantically <u>Universal Scene Graph</u>(USG)
 - Text: *abstract semantics*
 - Image: *detailed semantics*
 - Video: *temporal dynamics*
 - Sound: vocal attributes
 - 3D: *depth features*







CONTENT



Extra delivery

Universal Structured NLP (XNLP) Demo



XNLP: An Interactive Demonstration System for Universal Structured NLP

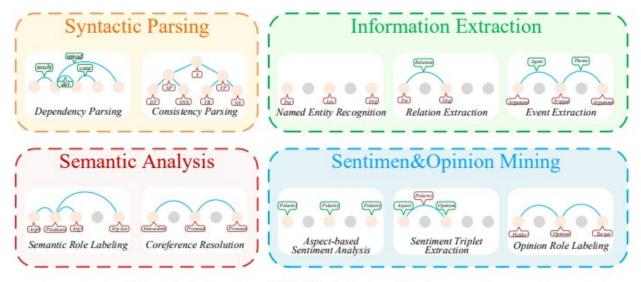
https://xnlp.haofei.vip/

[1] Hao Fei, Meishan Zhang, Min Zhang, Tat-Seng Chua. XNLP: An Interactive Demonstration System for Universal Structured NLP. 2023.



Motivation

- Structured Natural Language Processing (XNLP)
 - Many NLP tasks can be reduced into structural predictions
 - 1) textual spans
 - 2) relations between spans



More Emerging XNLP Tasks to Define ...



Motivation

- Universal XNLP
 - Unified Sentiment Analysis
 - Universal Information Extraction
 - a comprehensive and effective approach for unifying all XNLP tasks is not fully established.

Unification with LLM



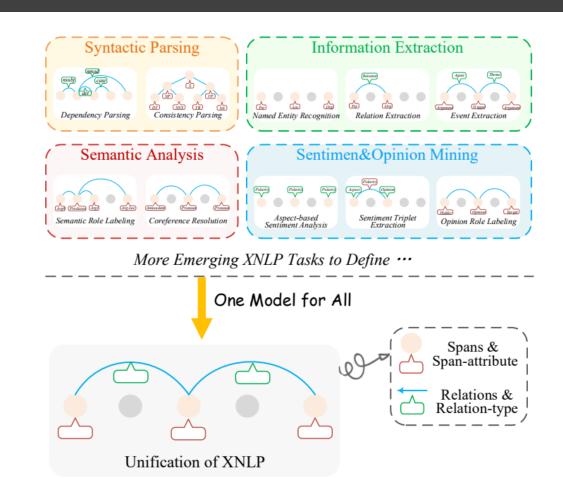


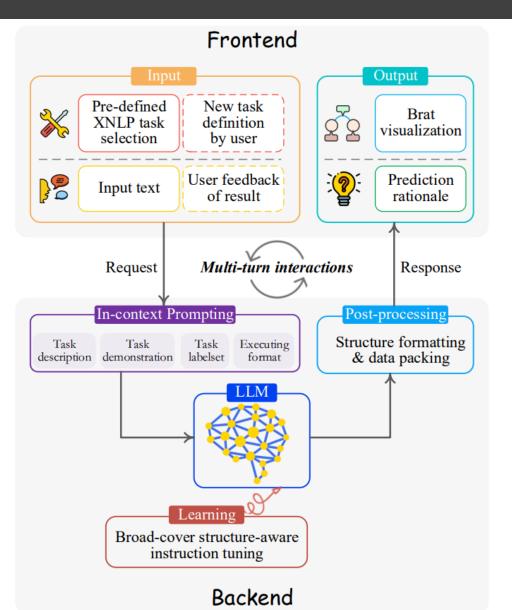
Figure 1: Illustration of the Structured NLP (XNLP) tasks, and the unification of XNLP by decomposing into the predictions of spans and relations.



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Demo System

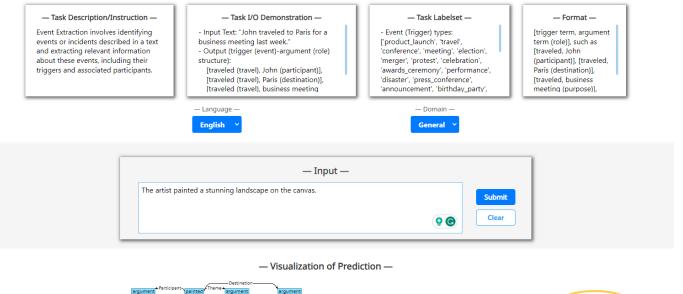
System Design



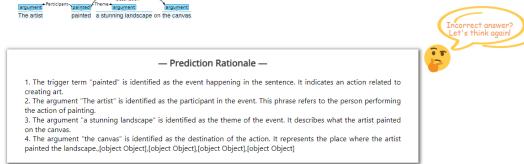
* Ħ ₩ **122** सहस्र * <u></u> শিষ্ট XNLP Demo **R** \$ Ð $\mathbf{\Omega}$ ©∎« ∎ ∎ \times XNLP: Universal Structured NLP 田 * <u>R</u> ₩. ¢‡° * ¥ \mathbf{n} * $\hat{\mathbf{M}}$ **Demo System** × 9: * 8



Screenshot

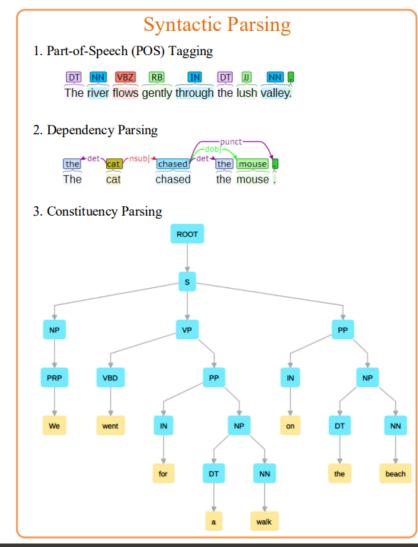


Event Extraction





Demo System



https://xnlp.haofei.vip/

