

# Syntax-based identification of light-verb constructions

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# Overview

- Introduction
- Candidate identification
- Baseline and results
- Feature-based classifier and results
- Conclusions

# Introduction

# Introduction

- LVC identification in running text.

- Come in and have some breakfast .
- After that, he made a great effort to stay calm .
- Upon which safeguards are we insisting ?
- The vote will be taken at 12.00 noon tomorrow .
- ...



- Come in and **have** some **breakfast** .
- After that, he **made** a great **effort** to stay calm .
- Upon which safeguards are we insisting ?
- The **vote** will be **taken** at 12.00 noon tomorrow .
- ...

- Roger Thiriot n' a d' autre ambition que d'  
apporter un modeste témoignage sur le passé .
- Affaire à suivre !
- Depuis 48h , le redoux a fait son apparition .
- ...



- Roger Thiriot n' **a** d' autre **ambition** que d'  
**apporter** un modeste **témoignage** sur le passé .
- Affaire à suivre !
- Depuis 48h , le redoux a **fait** son **apparition** .
- ...

# LVC properties

- LVC = Noun + verb that share a semantic argument;
- Verb is light;
  - Verb can be removed without an impact in semantics;
- Noun is predicative (event or state);
  - Similar nouns may form an LVC with the same verb;
- Syntactically flexible: gaps, overlap...

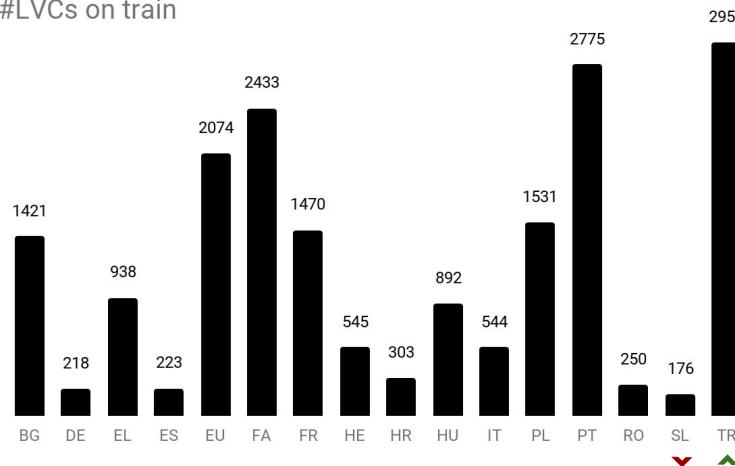
## Example LVCs

- apporter témoignage
- faire apparition
- subir violence
- subir souffrance
- subir hémorragie

# LVC statistics in PARSEME corpora

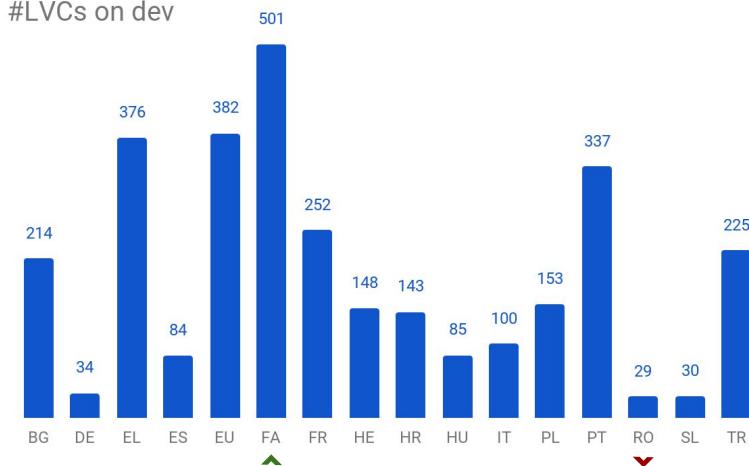
- PARSEME corpus with variable amounts of LVC annotations:

#LVCs on train



Average: 1171.6 LVCs

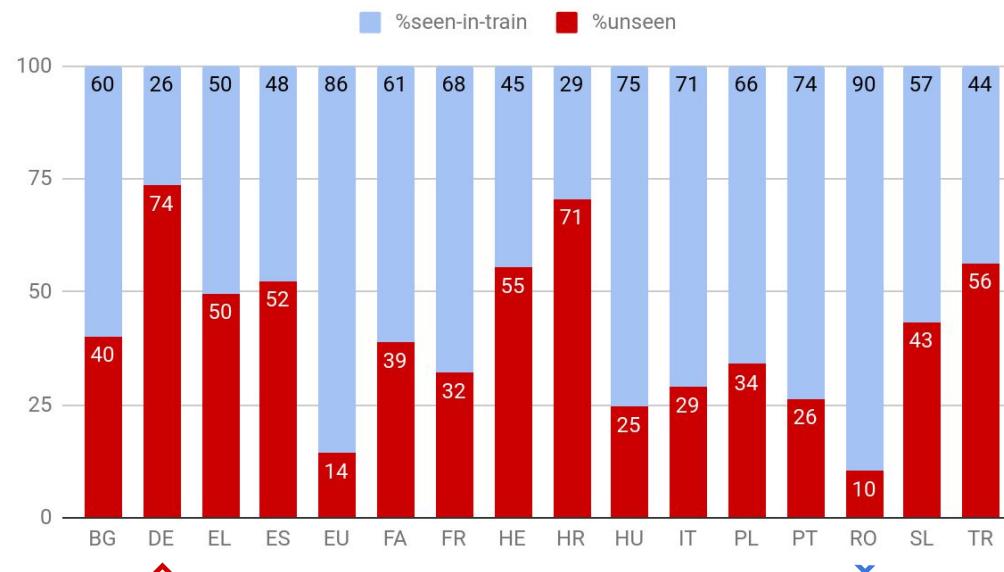
#LVCs on dev



Average: 193.3 LVCs

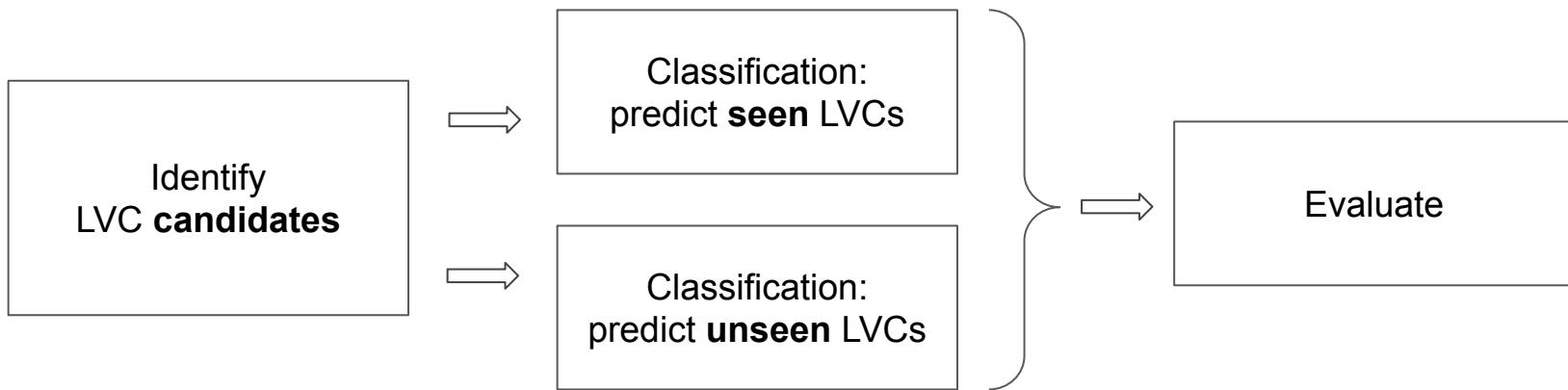
# LVC statistics in PARSEME corpora

LVCs in dev



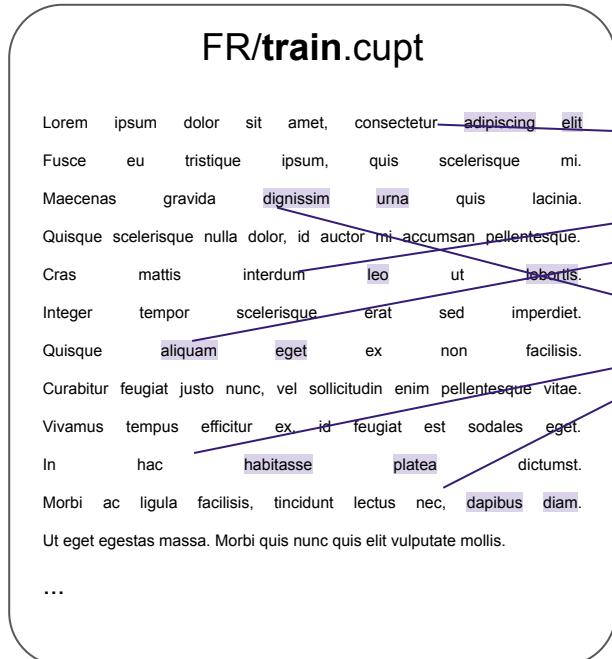
Average: 40.7% unseen  
MicroAvg: 38.5% unseen

# Proposed pipeline



# LVC candidate identification

# Pattern extraction



## Patterns

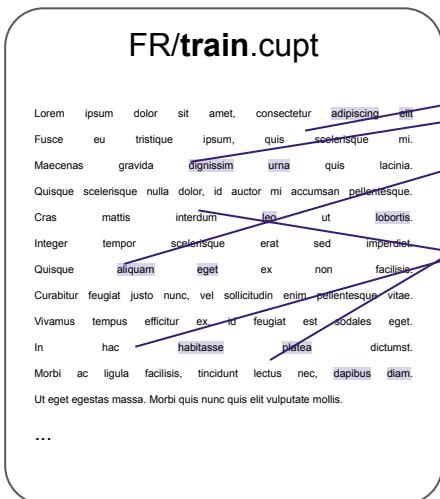
VERB —dobj→ NOUN

NOUN —acl→ VERB

VERB —nsubj:pass→ NOUN

...

# Candidate identification



## Patterns

VERB → dobj → NOUN  
NOUN → acl → VERB  
VERB → nsubj:pass → NOUN  
...

Grew

## test (or dev)

Quisque scelerisque nulla dolor, id auctor mi accumsan pellentesque.  
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit  
Fusce eu tristique ipsum, quis scelerisque mi.  
Curabitur feugiat justo nunc, vel sollicitudin enim pellentesque vitae.  
Cras mattis interdum leo ut lobortis.  
Morbi ac ligula facilis, tincidunt lectus nec dapibus diam.  
Integer tempor scelerisque erat sed imperdiet.  
Maecenas gravida dignissim urna quis lacinia.  
Ut eget egestas massa. Morbi quis nunc quis elit vulputate mollis.  
In hac habitasse platea dictumst.  
...

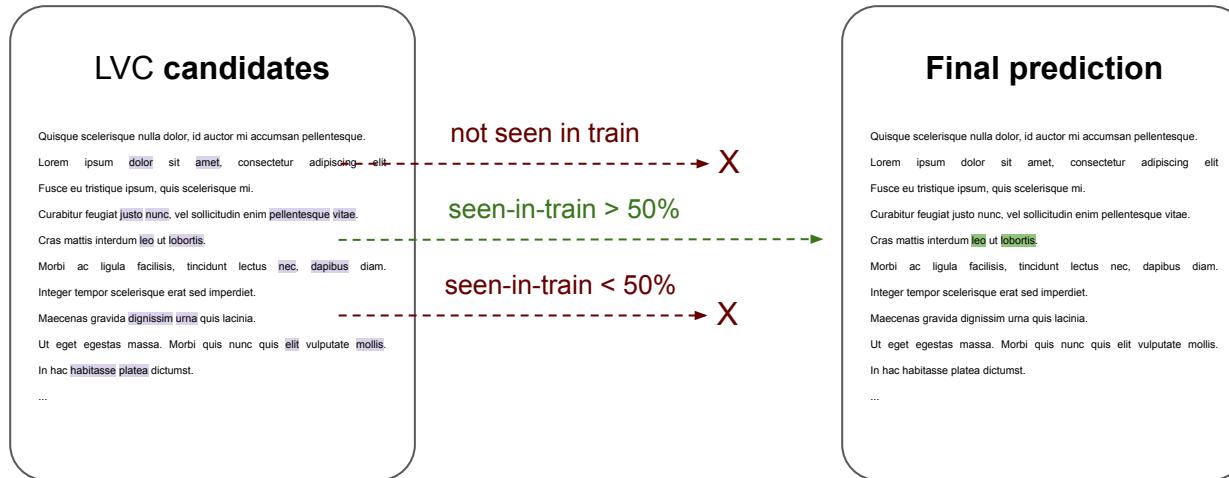
# LVC candidate coverage

- Taking all patterns stemming from *at least 2 occurrences*

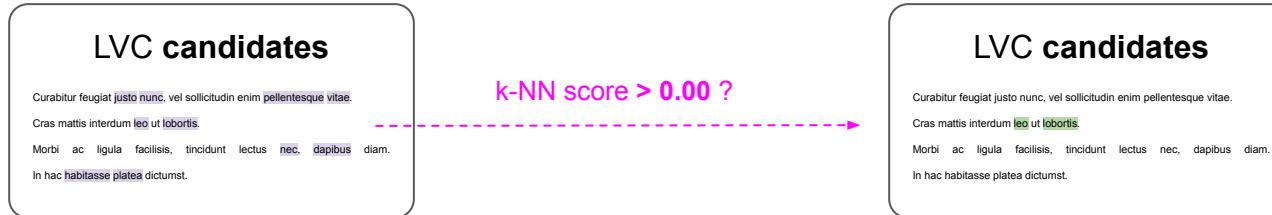
Coverage	BG	DE	EL	ES	EU	FA	FR	HE	HR	HU	IT	PL	PT	RO	SL	TR	Avg	MicroAvg
On seen	98	100	100	95	94	91	99	82	93	86	90	97	95	96	100	98	94.6	94.6
On unseen	73	84	91	98	98	90	91	78	96	86	72	90	93	33	92	95	85.2	89.5
Seen+Unseen	88	88	96	96	95	90	96	80	95	86	85	95	94	90	97	96	91.7	92.6

Baseline

# Baseline for LVCs seen in train



# Baseline for unseen LVCs



k-Nearest Neighbors of *enseignant*  
in LVC candidate **mener enseignant**

noun	cosine	Annotated as LVC with <i>mener</i> ?
inspecteur	0.47	NO
patient	0.37	NO
institut	0.35	NO
conduite	0.29	YES
gouvernement	0.27	NO
	...	

$$\begin{aligned} \text{4-NN score} \\ = \sum \{-0.47, -0.37, -0.35, +0.29\} \\ = -0.90 \end{aligned}$$

# Results for the baseline

- Evaluated on the *test* datasets:

Baseline F1	BG	DE	EL	ES	EU	FA	FR	HE	HR	HU	IT	PL	PT	RO	SL	TR	EN	HI	LT	Avg	MicroAvg
Seen (>50%)	74	67	84	61	88	84	87	70	86	92	86	86	90	83	72	53	64	90	48	77.1	80.1
Unseen (kNN)	14	9	23	17	16	21	34	5	18	24	13	19	28	0	5	36	23	44	8	17.5	22.5
Seen+Unseen	53	26	62	36	81	64	62	30	45	77	63	60	74	69	34	44	31	68	28	55.0	57.3

# Baseline vs shared-task systems

- Evaluated on the *test* datasets:

F1	BG	DE	EL	ES	EU	FA	FR	HE	HR	HU	IT	PL	PT	RO	SL	TR	EN	HI	LT	Avg	MicroAvg
Baseline	53	26	62	36	81	64	62	30	45	77	63	60	74	69	34	44	31	68	28	55.0	57.3
SHOMA	50	0	60	22	79	78	51	43	24	59	46	51	70	86	28	64	2	72	29	50.8	56.4
TRAVERSAL	44	15	47	26	70	65	52	30	32	68	51	52	62	73	38	44	18	62	23	48.3	50.2

F1 (unseen)	BG	DE	EL	ES	EU	FA	FR	HE	HR	HU	IT	PL	PT	RO	SL	TR	EN	HI	LT	Avg	MicroAvg
Baseline	14	9	23	17	16	21	34	5	18	24	13	19	28	0	5	36	23	44	8	17.5	22.5
SHOMA	21	0	36	13	35	62	37	19	19	14	4	22	35	29	0	50	3	53	8	24.8	30.6
TRAVERSAL	8	0	18	10	11	41	31	5	21	23	0	20	24	0	0	23	14	42	1	14.7	20.4

# Feature-based classifier

# Features for each LVC candidate

- $F_1$ : Grew pattern (one-hot)
- $F_2$ : Seen-in-train fraction
- $F_3$ : POS tag of verb and noun (one-hot)
- $F_4$ : Length of the LVC (one-hot)
- $F_E$ : Word embeddings (fasttext, 300 dims)
- $F_N$ : k-NN score
- $F_C$ : Binary contextual features from UD columns
  - e.g. "verb has a dependent with VerbForm=Inf"
  - e.g. "noun has a dependent with DEPREL=nmod"
  - We take the top  $t$  features with highest mutual information

# Classifiers

- Support-vector machine (SVM):
  - RBF kernel;
  - 3-fold gridsearch;
    - $C \in \{1, 10, 20, 50, 100\}$ ;
    - $\text{Gamma} \in \{0.5, 0.1, 0.05, 0.01\}$ .
- Feed-forward neural network (FFN):
  - 100-neuron hidden layer;
  - Optimizer: SGD (LR=0.01);
  - Loss: negative log-likelihood;
  - Activation function: tanh;
  - Dropout: 50%;
  - Minibatches of size 4.

# Results

- Evaluated on the *test* datasets:

F1	BG	DE	EL	ES	EU	FA	FR	HE	HR	HU	IT	PL	PT	RO	SL	TR	EN	HI	LT	Avg	MicroAvg
Baseline	53	26	62	36	81	64	62	30	45	77	63	60	74	69	34	44	31	68	28	55.0	57.3
SVM	61	40	66	35	79	77	65	41	44	81	70	71	78	67	63	61	26	77	28	62.3	63.3
FFN	53	26	43	36	74	74	51	21	42	75	44	60	68	57	26	56	40	78	30	50.5	56.3
SHOMA	50	0	60	22	79	78	51	43	24	59	46	51	70	86	28	64	2	72	29	50.8	56.4
TRAVERSAL	44	15	47	26	70	65	52	30	32	68	51	52	62	73	38	44	18	62	23	48.3	50.2

# Results

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Baseline	14	9	23	17	16	21	34	5	18	24	13	19	28	0	5	36	23	44	8	17.5	22.5
SVM	17	24	34	7	17	57	29	7	17	36	6	39	39	67	13	43	19	61	7	28.3	31.0
FFN	20	18	18	20	19	45	25	6	16	29	12	33	31	0	7	34	33	64	15	20.9	29.3
SHOMA	21	0	36	13	35	62	37	19	19	14	4	22	35	29	0	50	3	53	8	24.8	30.6
TRAVERSAL	8	0	18	10	11	41	31	5	21	23	0	20	24	0	0	23	14	42	1	14.7	20.4

# Conclusions

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- LVC identification on PARSEME 1.1 data;
- Seen vs unseen: different subtasks;
- Strong baseline, beats the best systems in the shared-task;
- SVM results surpass the best system by 7 percentage points;
- Results for *unseen* LVCs still much lower than results for *seen*.

# Syntax-based identification of light-verb constructions

Thank you

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Marie CANDITO

# Additional slides

# LVC statistics in PARSEME corpora

- PARSEME corpus with variable amounts of LVC annotations:

#LVCs	BG	DE	EL	ES	EU	FA	FR	HE	HR	HU	IT	PL	PT	RO	SL	TR	Avg
On train	1421	218	938	223	2074	2433	1470	545	303	892	544	1531	2775	250	176	2952	1171.6
On dev	214	34	376	84	382	501	252	148	143	85	100	153	337	29	30	225	193.3

- Seen vs unseen LVCs:

%seen	BG	DE	EL	ES	EU	FA	FR	HE	HR	HU	IT	PL	PT	RO	SL	TR	Avg	MicroAvg
On dev	60	26	50	48	86	61	68	45	29	75	71	66	74	90	57	44	59.3	61.5