Table 2: Dataset splits used for evaluation (indicated with ‡).

Split	Training data	#TLinks	#Documents	Test data	#TLinks	#Documents
$TD^{\ddagger}$	TD (train+dev)	4.4k	27	TD (test)	1.3k	9
TE3 <sup>‡</sup>	TB, AQ, VC, TD (full)	17.5k	256	PT	0.9k	20

Table 3: Hyper-parameters from the experiments.

Hyper-parameter	Value
Document-creation starting time $(s_{DCT})$	0
Minimum event duration $(d_{min})$	0.1
Time-line margin $(m_{\tau})$	0.025
Hinge loss margin $(m_h)$	0.1
Dropout $(\alpha_d)$	0.1
Word-level RNN units $(\alpha_{rnn})$	25
Word-embedding size ( $\alpha_{wemb}$ )	50
POS-embedding size	10

Table 4: Evaluation of relative time-lines for each model and loss function, where  $L_*$  indicates the (unweighted) sum of  $L_\tau$ ,  $L_{\tau ce}$ , and  $L_{\tau h}$ .

	$TE3^{\ddagger}$			$\mathbf{T}\mathbf{D}^{\ddagger}$		
Model	P	R	F	P	R	$\mathbf{F}$
Indirect: $O(n^2)$						
TL2RTL $(L_{\tau})$	53.5	51.1	52.3	59.1	61.2	60.1
TL2RTL ( $L_{\tau ce}$ )	53.9	51.7	52.8	61.2	60.7	60.9
TL2RTL $(L_{\tau h})$	52.8	51.1	51.9	57.9	60.6	59.2
TL2RTL $(L_*)$	52.6	52.0	52.3	62.3	62.3	62.3
Direct: O(n)						
S-TLM $(L_{\tau})$	50.1	50.4	50.2	57.8	59.5	58.6
S-TLM ( $L_{\tau ce}$ )	50.1	50.0	50.1	53.4	53.5	53.5
S-TLM $(L_{\tau h})$	51.5	51.7	51.6	55.1	56.4	55.7
S-TLM $(L_*)$	50.9	51.0	51.0	56.5	55.3	55.9
C-TLM $(L_{\tau})$	56.2	56.1	56.1	57.1	59.7	58.4
C-TLM ( $L_{\tau ce}$ )	54.4	55.4	54.9	52.4	57.3	54.7
C-TLM $(L_{\tau h})$	55.7	55.5	55.6	55.3	54.9	55.1
C-TLM $(L_*)$	54.0	54.3	54.1	54.6	53.5	54.1

## 5 Results

We compared our three proposed models for the three loss functions  $L_{\tau}$ ,  $L_{\tau ce}$ , and  $L_{\tau h}$ , and their linear (unweighted) combination  $L_*$ , on TE3<sup>‡</sup> and TD<sup>‡</sup>, for which the results are shown in Table 4.

A trend that can be observed is that overall performance on  $TD^{\ddagger}$  is higher than that of  $TE3^{\ddagger}$ , even though less documents are used for training. We inspected why this is the case, and this is caused by a difference in class balance between both test sets. In  $TE3^{\ddagger}$  there are many more TLinks of type *simultaneous* (12% versus 3%), which are very

difficult to predict, resulting in lower scores for TE3<sup>‡</sup> compared to TD<sup>‡</sup>. The difference in performance between the datasets is probably also be related to the dense annotation scheme of TD<sup>‡</sup> compared to the sparser annotations of TE3<sup>‡</sup>, as dense annotations give a more complete temporal view of the training texts. For TL2RTL better TLink extraction<sup>12</sup> is also propagated into the final timeline quality.

If we compare loss functions  $L_{\tau}$ ,  $L_{\tau ce}$ , and  $L_{\tau h}$ , and combination  $L_{*}$ , it can be noticed that, although all loss functions seem to give fairly similar performance,  $L_{\tau}$  gives the most robust results (never lowest), especially noticeable for the smaller dataset  $\mathrm{TD}^{\ddagger}$ . This is convenient, because  $L_{\tau}$  is fastest to compute during training, as it requires no score calculation for each TLink type.  $L_{\tau}$  is also directly interpretable on the timeline. The combination of losses  $L_{*}$  shows mixed results, and has lower performance for S-TLM and C-TLM, but better performance for TL2RTL. However, it is slowest to compute, and less interpretable, as it is a combined loss.

Moreover, we can clearly see that on TE3 $^{\ddagger}$ , C-TLM performs better than the indirect models, across all loss functions. This is a very interesting result, as C-TLM is an order of complexity faster in prediction speed compared to the indirect models (O(n)) compared to  $O(n^2)$  for a text with n entities). We further explore why this is the case through our error analysis in the next section.

On TD<sup>‡</sup>, the indirect models seem to perform slightly better. We suspect that the reason for this is that C-TLM has more parameters (mostly the LSTM weights), and thus requires more data (TD<sup>‡</sup> has much fewer documents than TE3<sup>‡</sup>) compared to the indirect methods. Another result supporting this hypothesis is the fact that the difference between C-TLM and S-TLM is small on the smaller

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>F1 of 40.3 for TE3<sup>‡</sup> and 48.5 for TD<sup>‡</sup> (Ning et al., 2017) <sup>13</sup>We do not directly compare prediction speed, as it would

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>We do not directly compare prediction speed, as it would result in unfair evaluation because of implementation differences. However, currently, C-TLM predicts at  $\sim$ 100 w/s incl. POS tagging, and  $\sim$ 2000 w/s without. When not using POS, overall performance decreases consistently with 2-4 points.