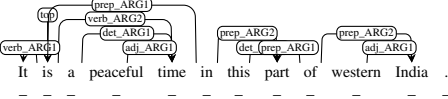
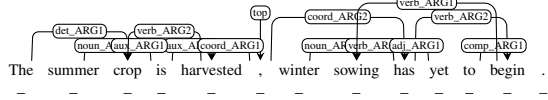


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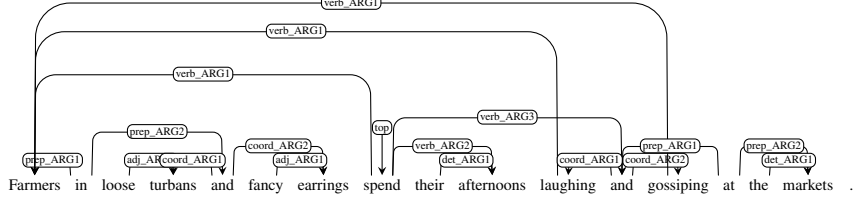
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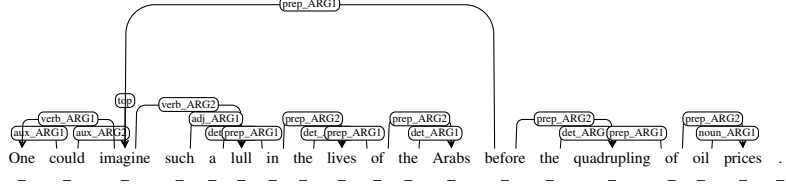
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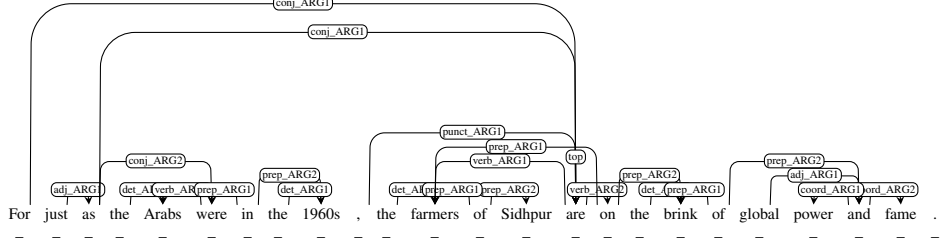
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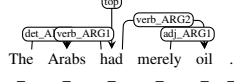
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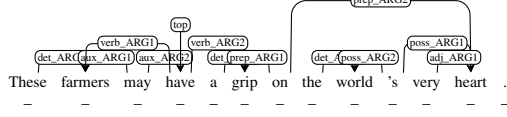
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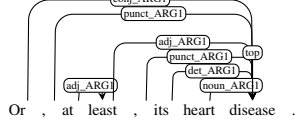
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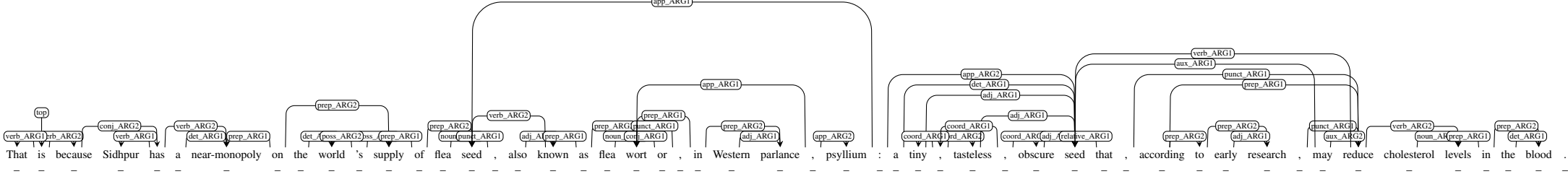
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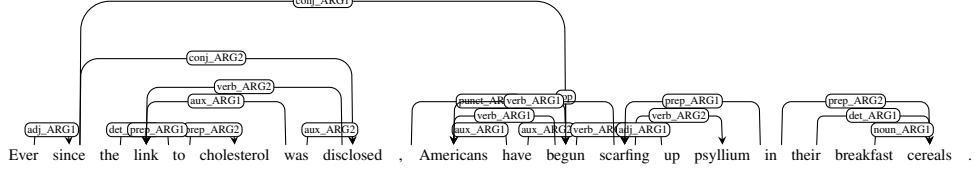
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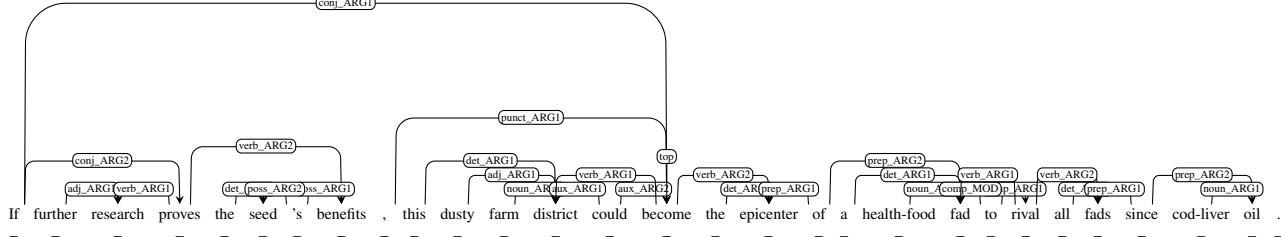
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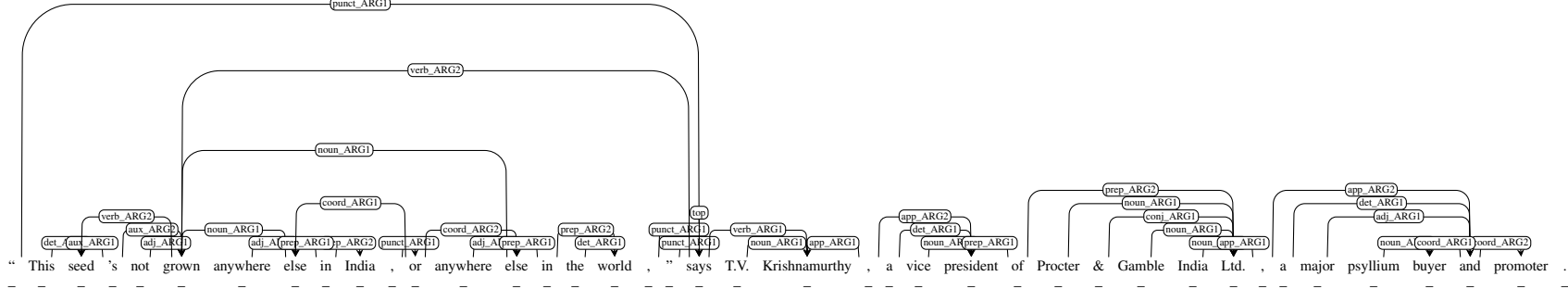
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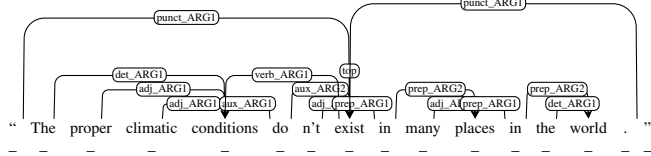
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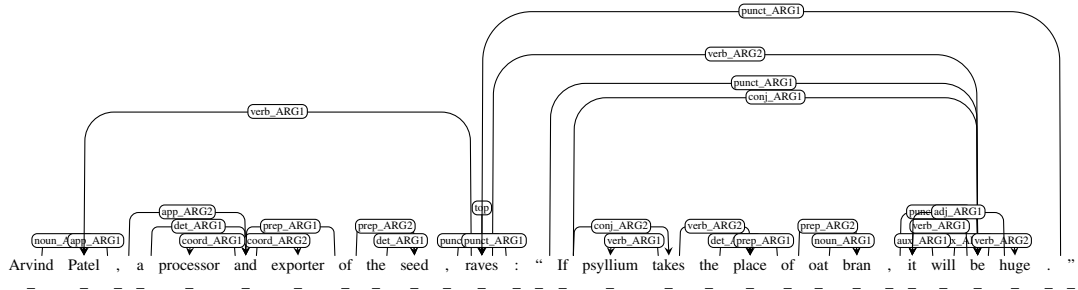
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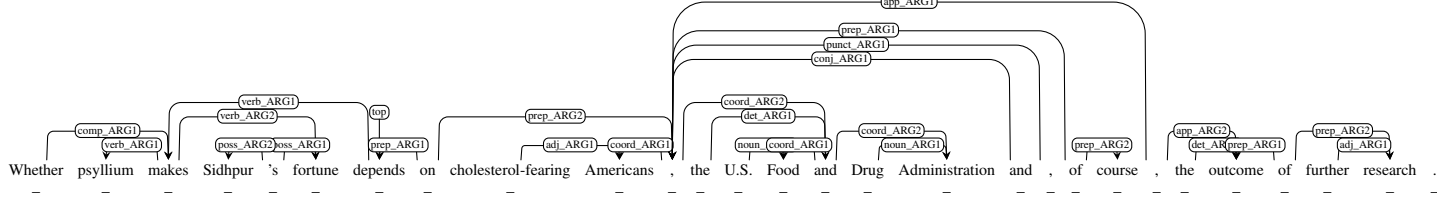
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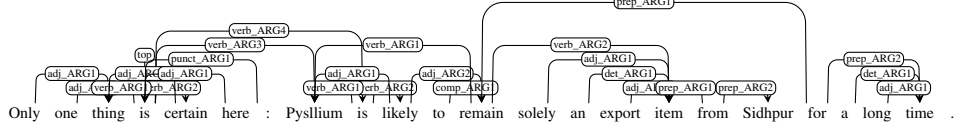
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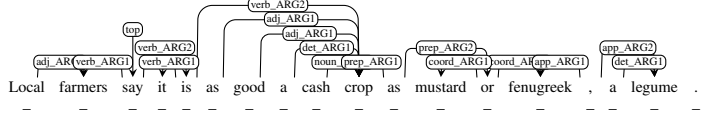
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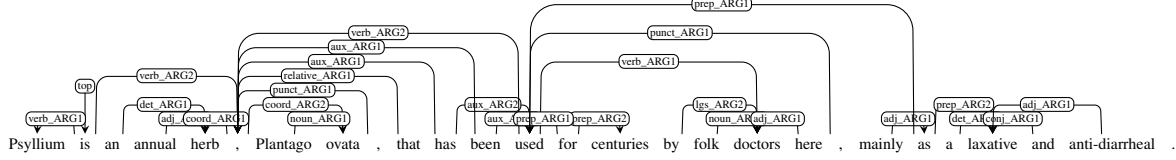
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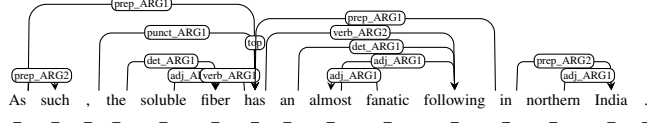
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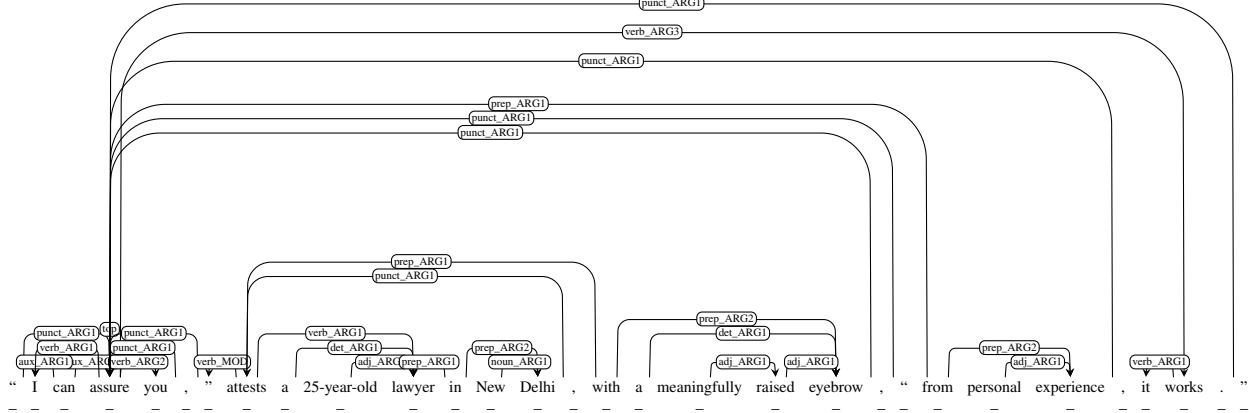
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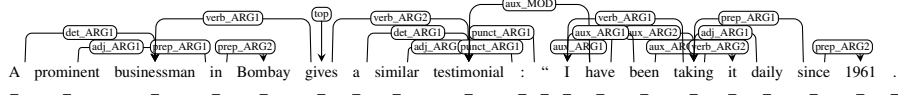
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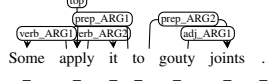
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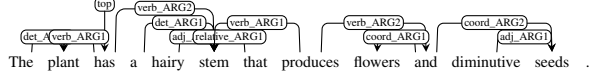
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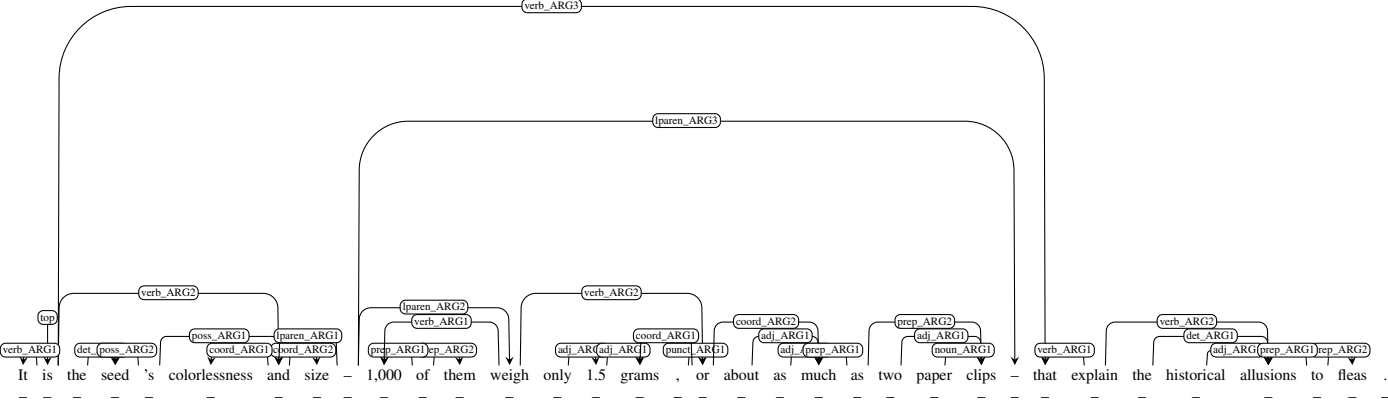
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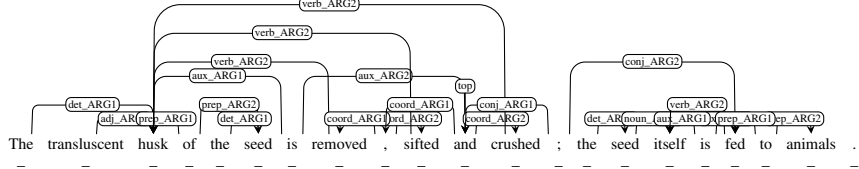
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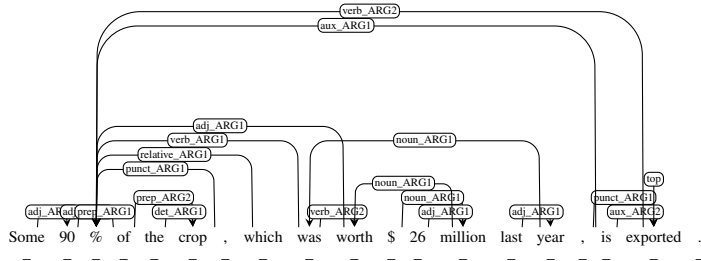
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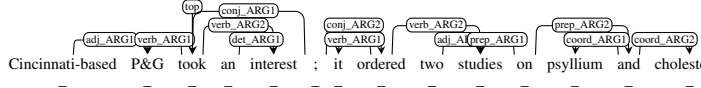
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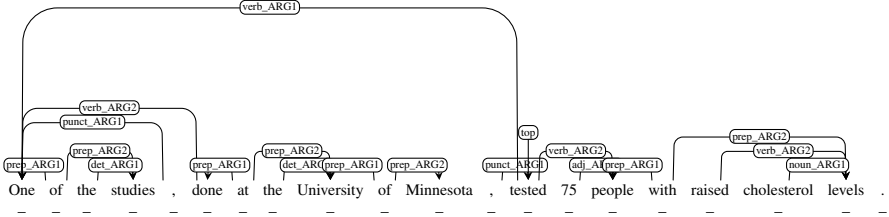
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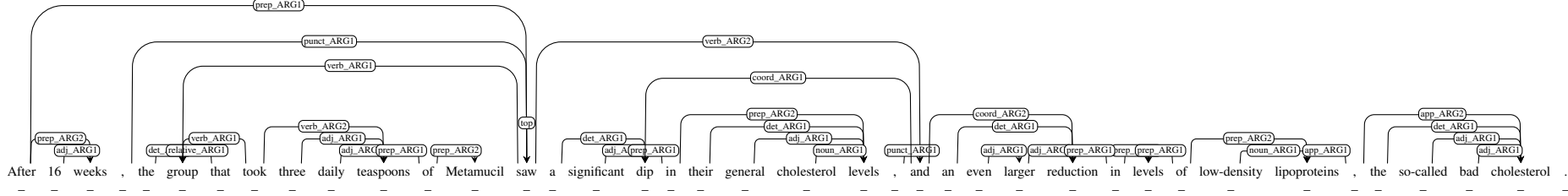
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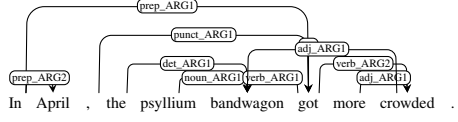
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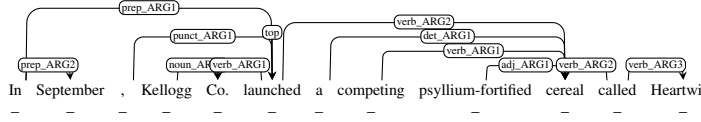
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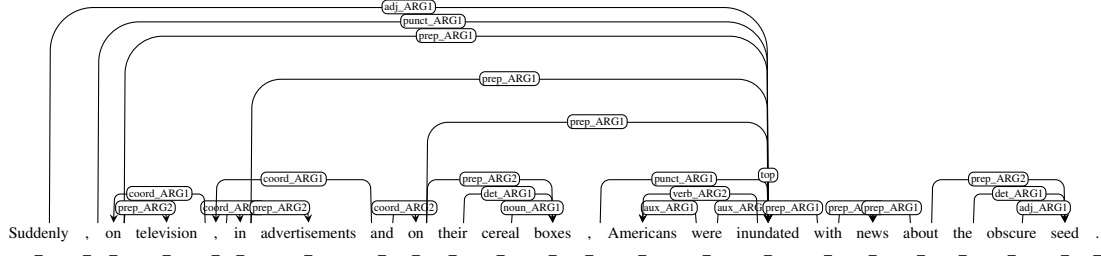
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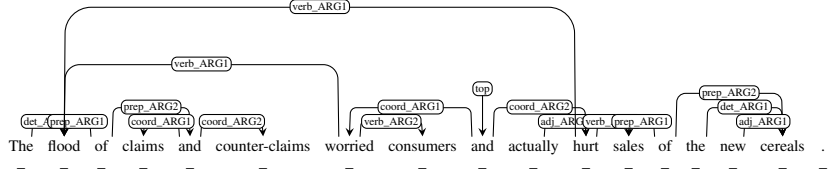
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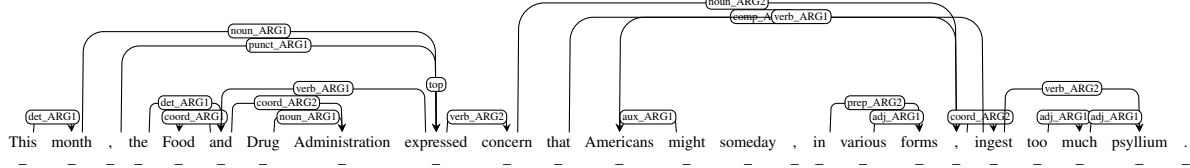
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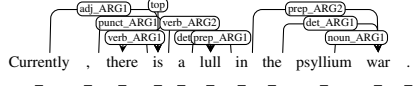
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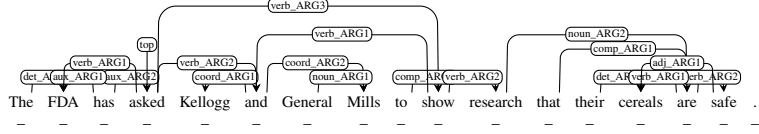
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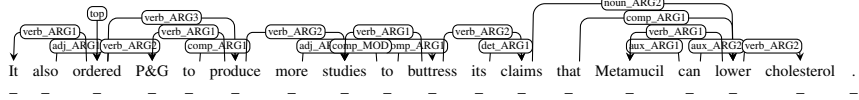
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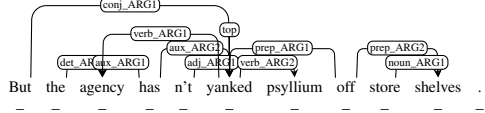
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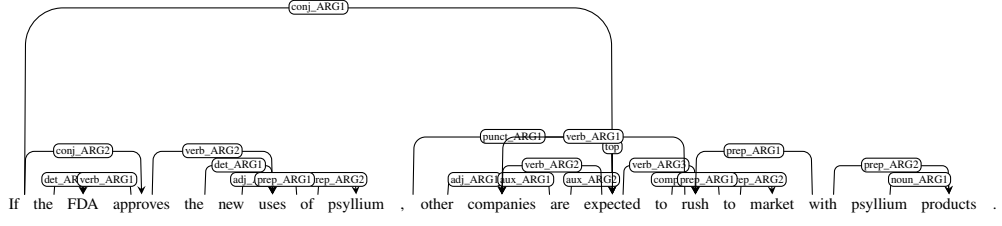
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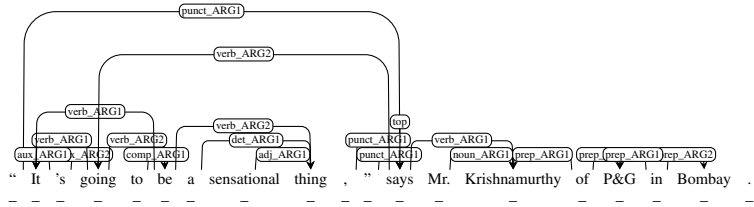
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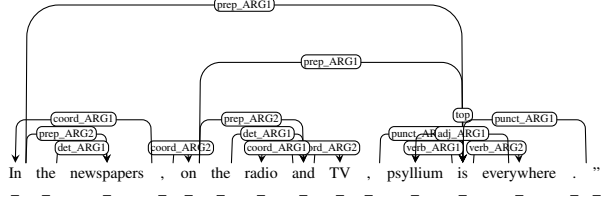
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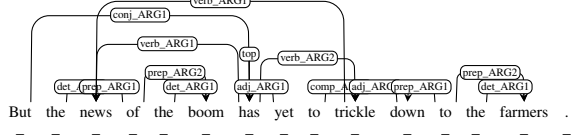
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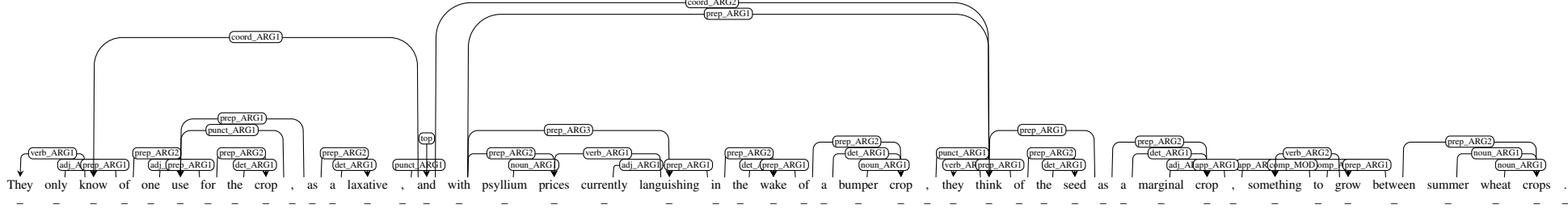
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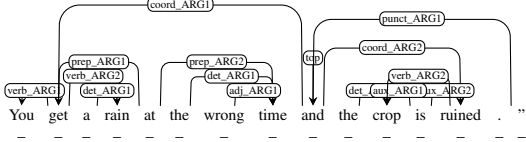
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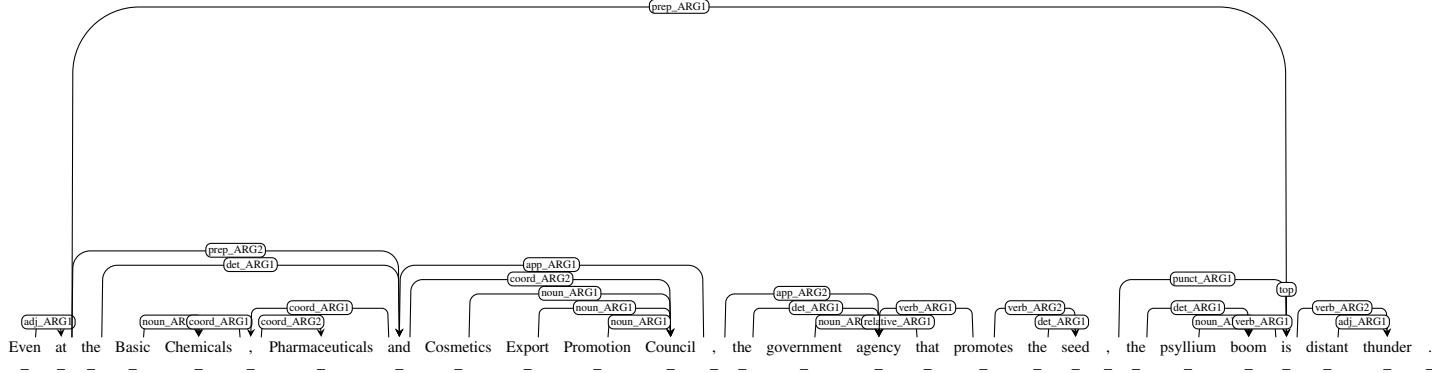
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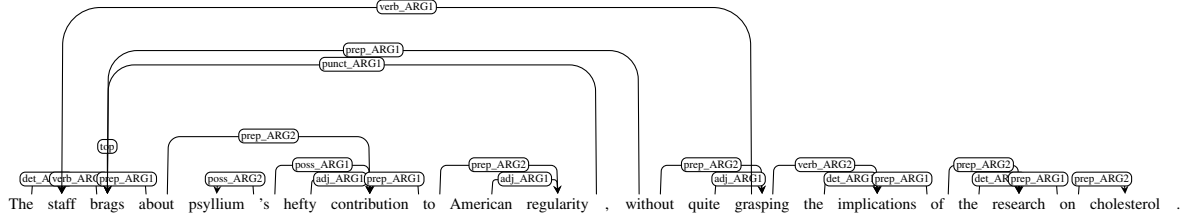
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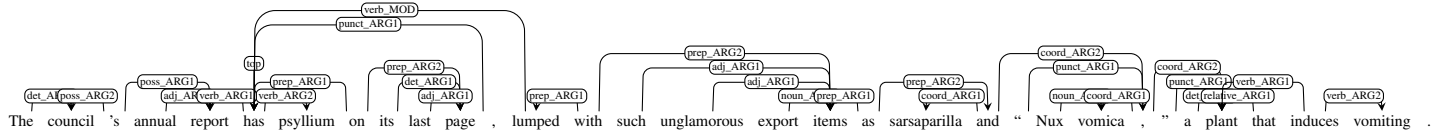
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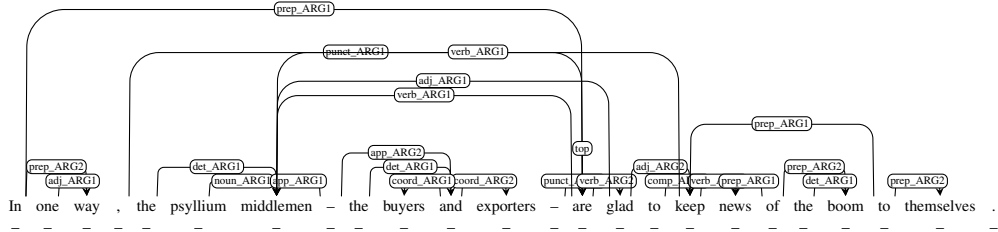
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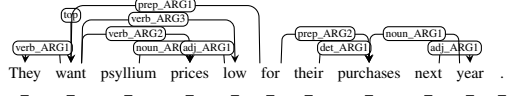
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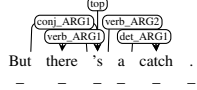
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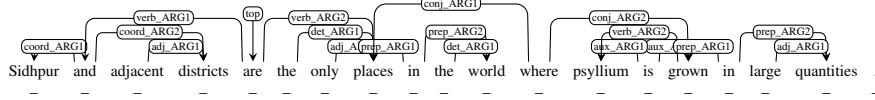
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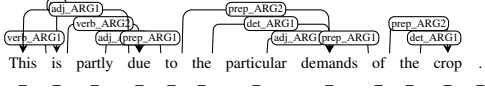
[20515058]



[20515059]



[20515060]



[20515061]

Psyllium needs sandy soil , dew during the first few weeks , and then total dryness when its seeds are maturing .

[20515062]

Small crops are grown in Pakistan , France , Spain , Italy , Belgium and Brazil , but their quality ca n't compare to that of Indian psyllium .

[20515063]

Big buyers like Procter & Gamble say there are other spots on the globe , and in India , where the seed could be grown .

[20515064]

" It 's not a crop that ca n't be doubled or tripled . " says Mr. Krishnamurthy .

[20515065]

But no one has made a serious effort to transplant the crop .

[20515066]

In Sidhpur , it is almost time to sow this year 's crop .

[20515067]

Many farmers , too removed to glean psyllium 's new sparkle in the West , have decided to plant mustard , fennel , cumin , fenugreek or castor-oil seeds .

[20515068]

Mr. Jath is thinking of passing up psyllium altogether this year in favor of a crop with a future such as cumin or fennel .

[20515069]

" Maybe I 'll plant castor-oil seeds . "

[20515070]

His brother , Parkhaji , whose head is swathed in a gorgeous crimson turban , nods vigorous assent .

[20515071]

So when next year 's psyllium crop is harvested in March , it may be smaller than the 16,000 metric tons of the past few years - right at the crest of the psyllium boom .

[20515072]

And the world could experience its first psyllium shortage .