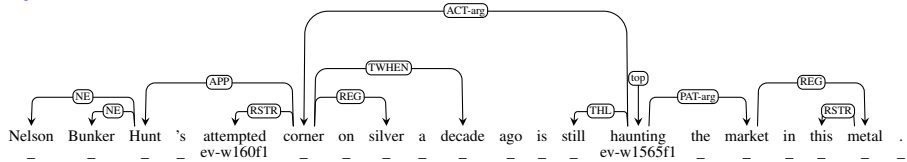
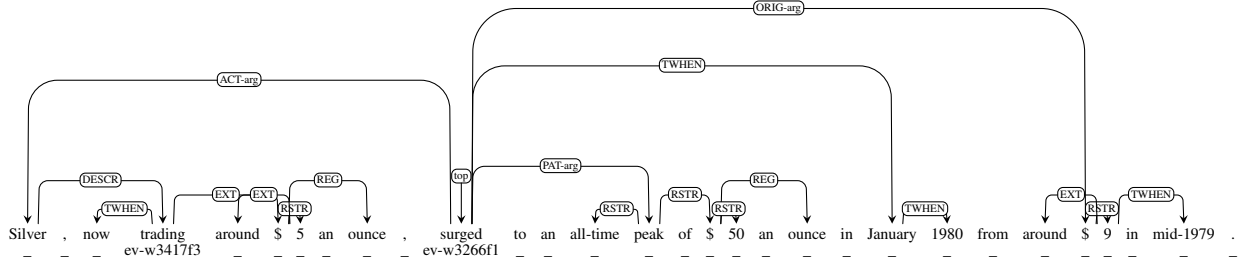


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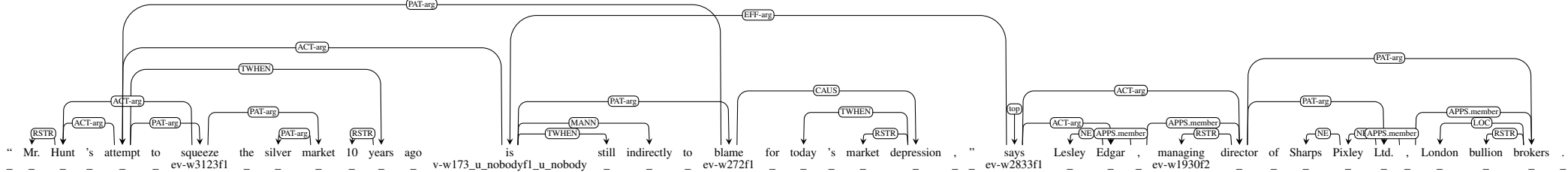
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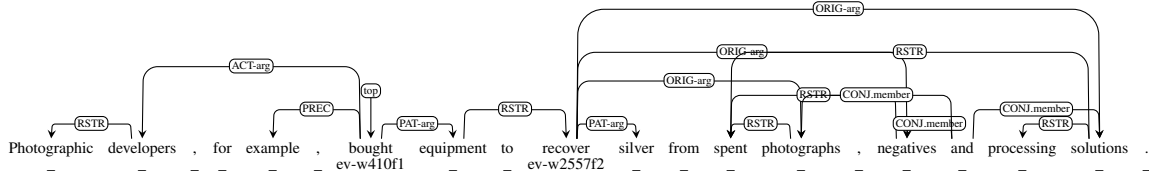
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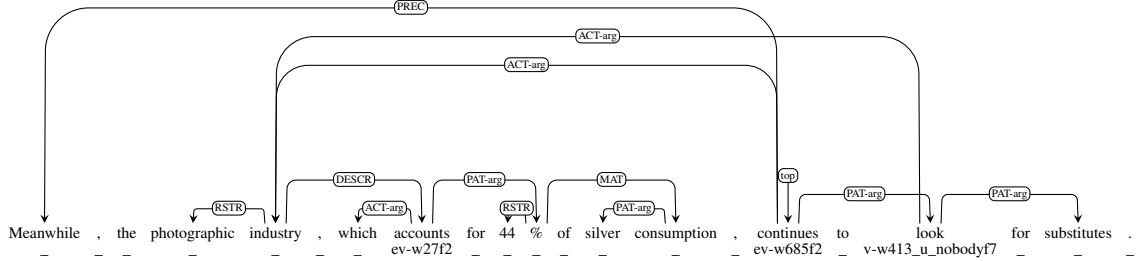
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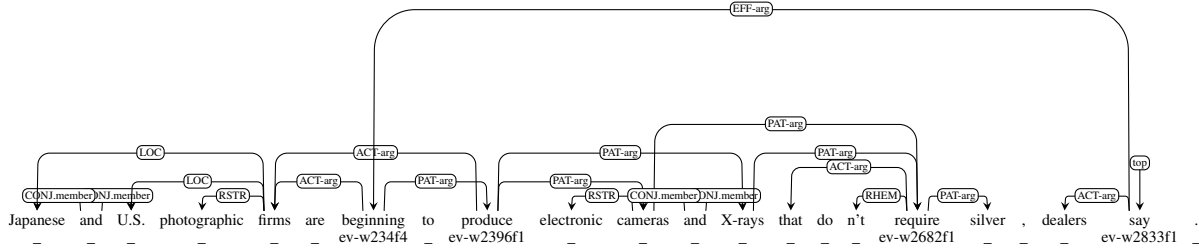
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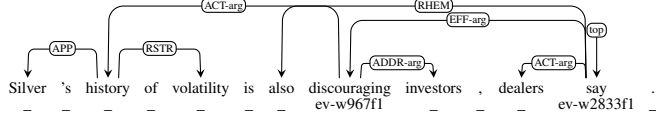
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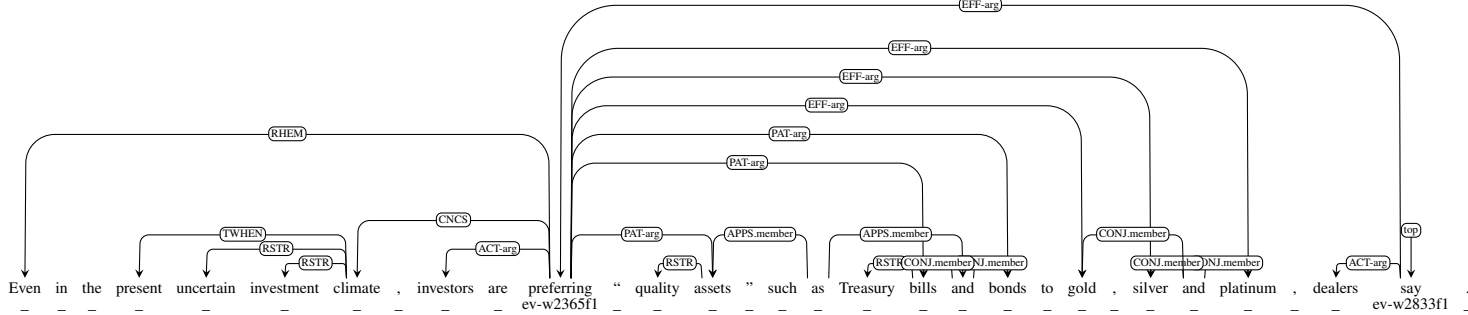
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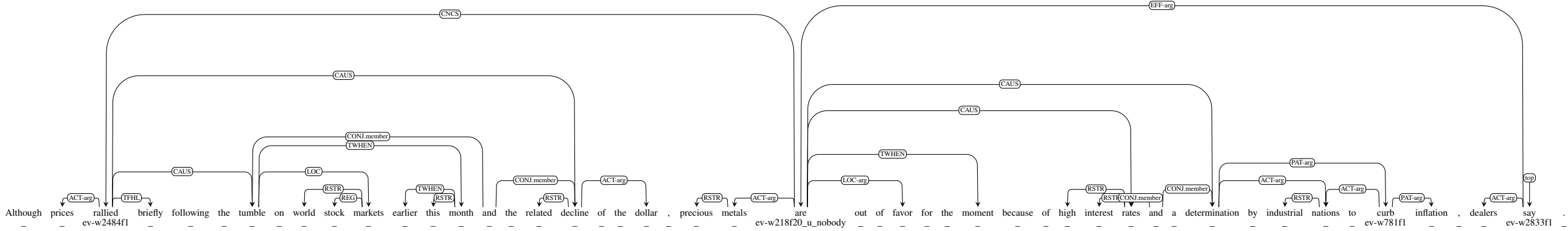
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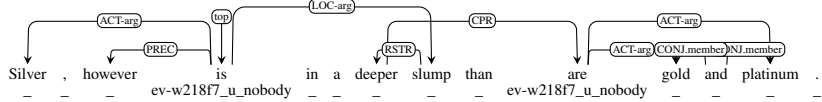
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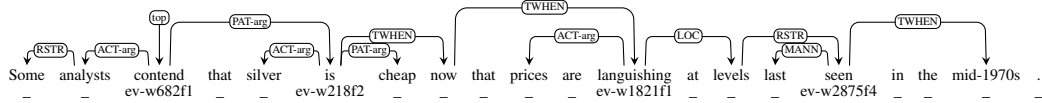
[21554010]



[21554011]



[21554012]



[21554013]

" Bargain hunters believe that silver offers the best value amongst precious metals , " says Frederick R. Demler , analyst at Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc .

[21554014]

A further decline in prices will lead to mine production cuts in the U.S. , he says

[21554015]

Scrap merchants are converting smaller quantities of metal into silver , while low prices are discouraging exports from India and the Soviet Union .

[21554016]

Silver prices could also be boosted by strikes in leading producing nations Peru and Mexico , Mr. Demler says

[21554017]

Meanwhile , total fabrication demand for silver has risen six years in a row , he

[21554018]

Japanese demand grew by 70 % in the first half of this year and the nation plans an issue of a silver commemorative coin that will require 4.5 million ounces .

[21554019]

Compared with huge annual surpluses of more than 100 million ounces in the first half of the 1980s , world silver supplies and consumption are now nearly in balance , Mr. Demler says

[21554020]

Despite intermittent rallies in the past few years , improvements in the supply-demand balance have n't managed to push silver prices into a higher range .

[21554021]

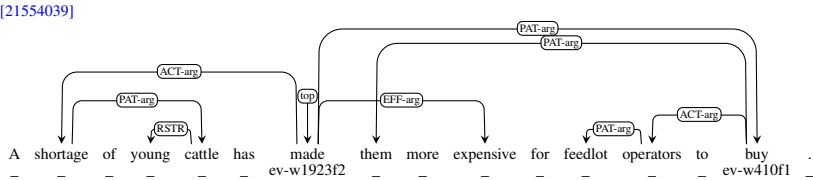
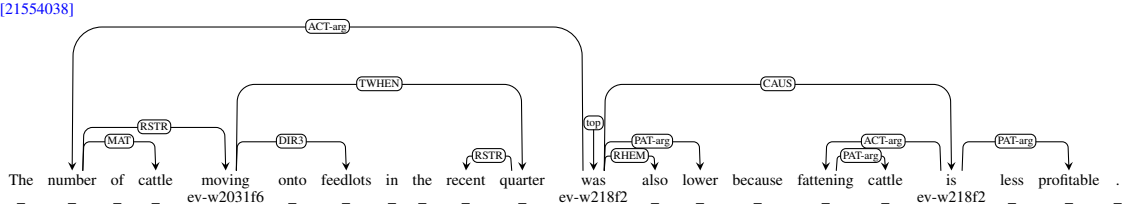
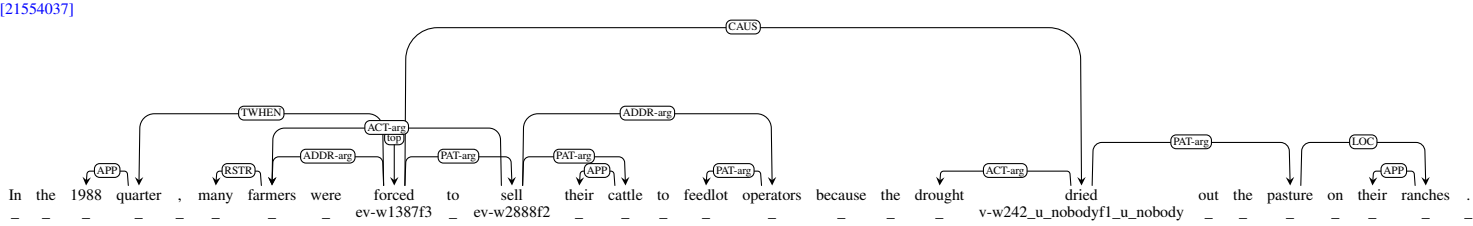
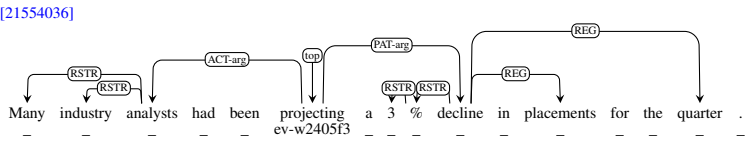
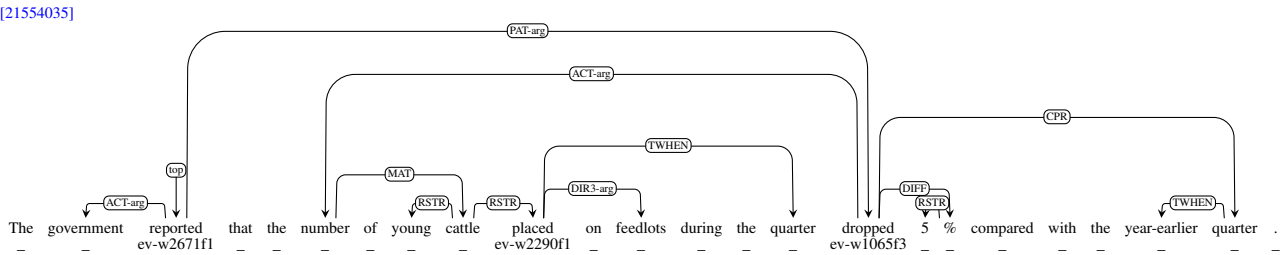
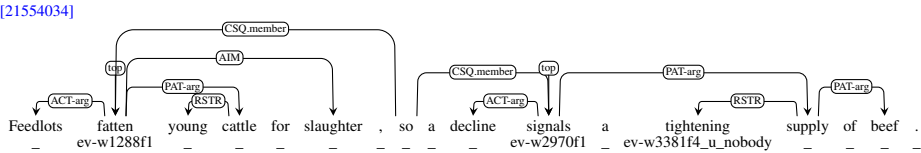
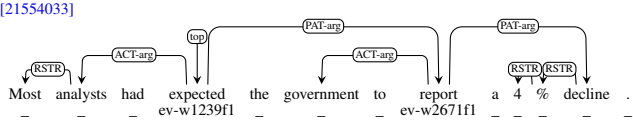
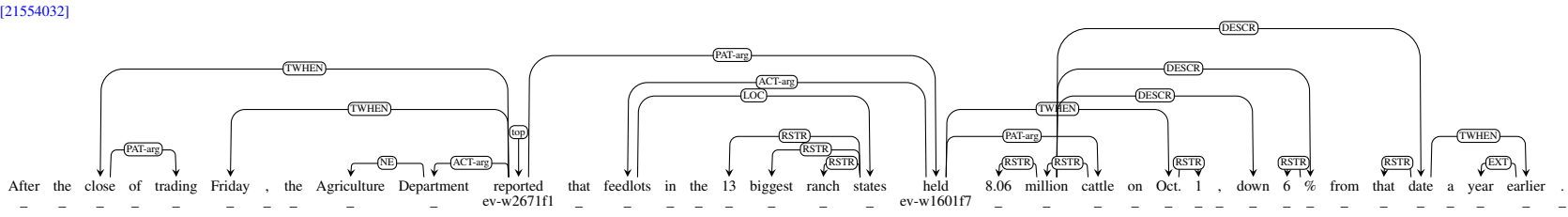
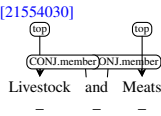
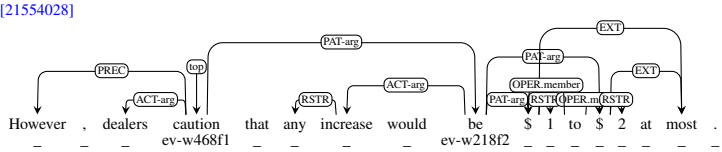
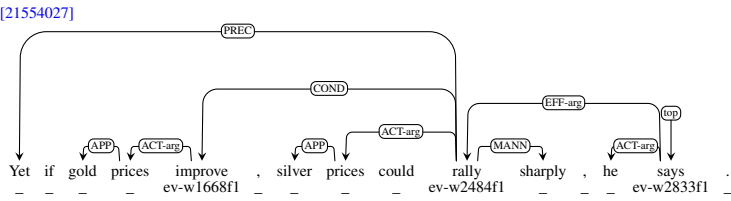
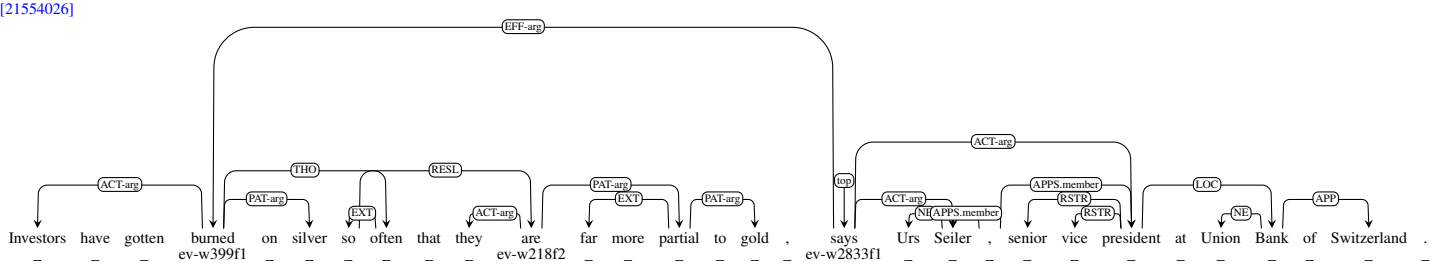
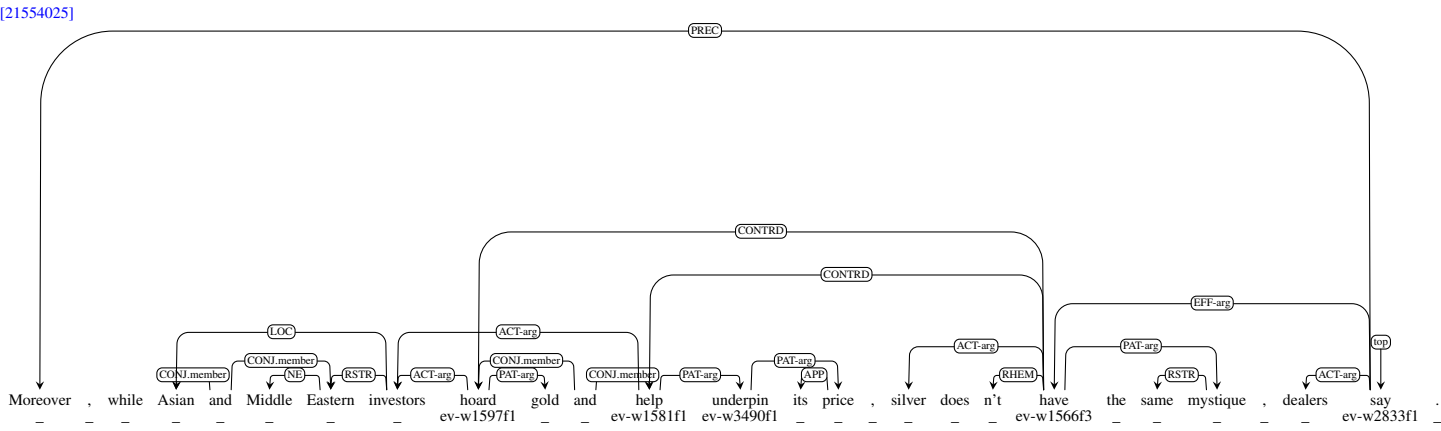
" There 's just too much silver around , " says Tom Butler , an analyst at Samuel Montagu & Co. , a London bullion house .

[21554022]

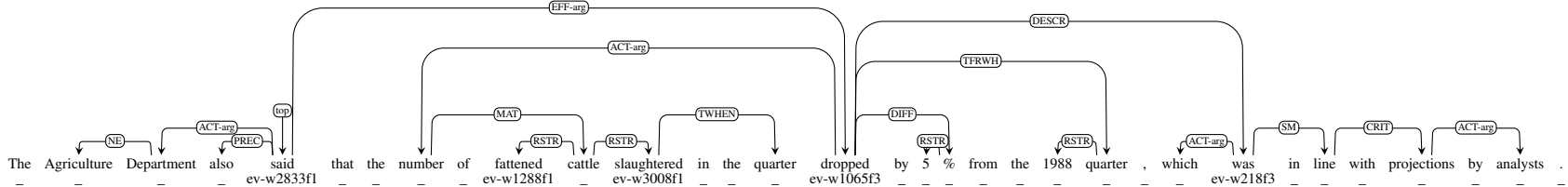
A huge silver stockpile at exchanges , refiners , consuming industries and government warehouses of at least 617 million ounces is the market depressant , says Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc. in a report .

[21554024]

" Silver production is also in an inexorable upward trend , " Ms. O'Connell says



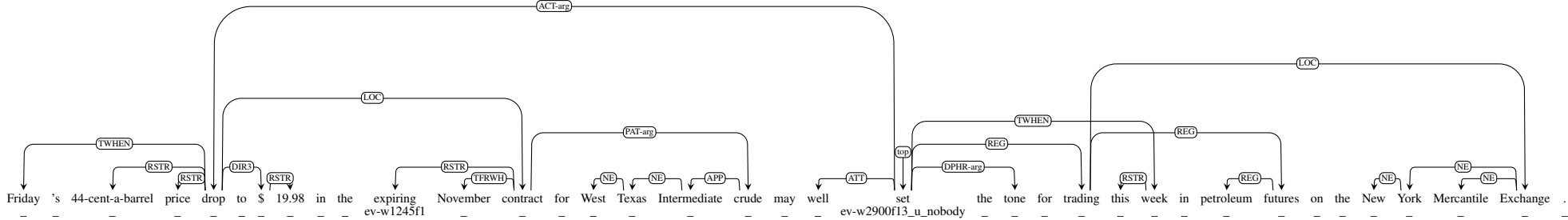
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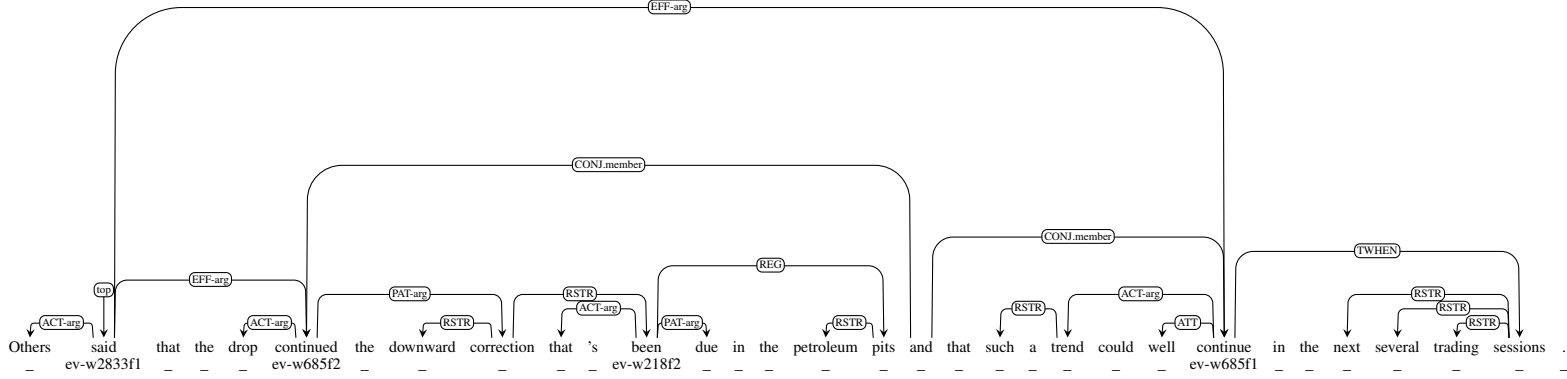
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Energy

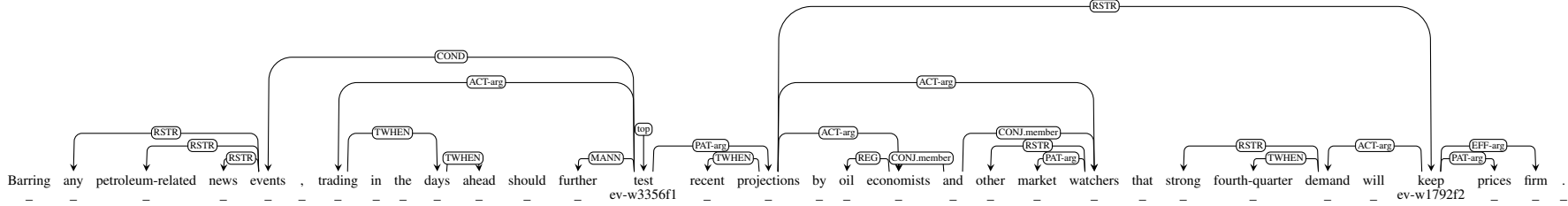
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[21554044]



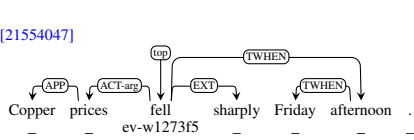
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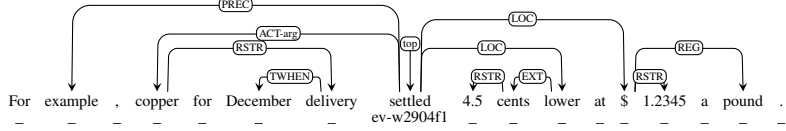
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Copper

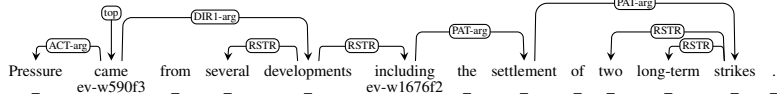
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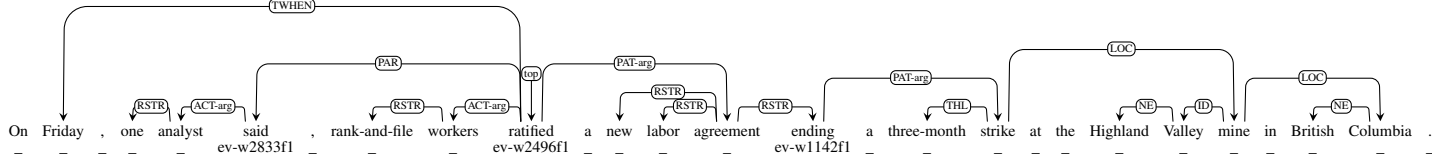
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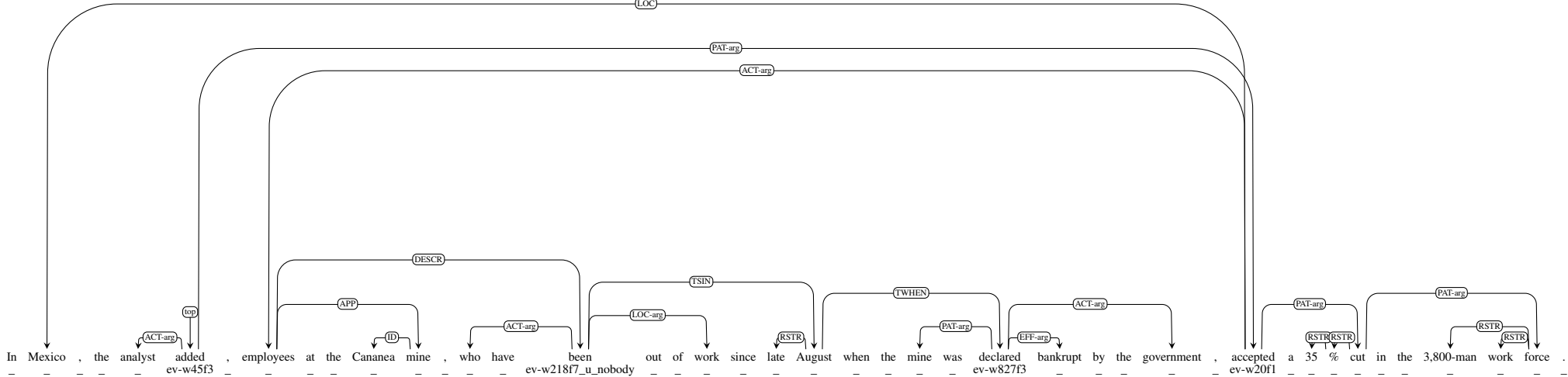
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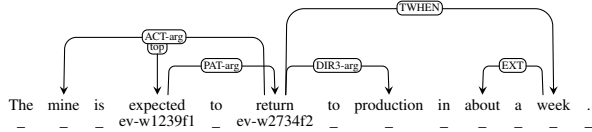
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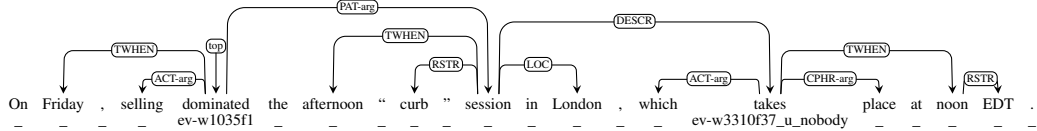
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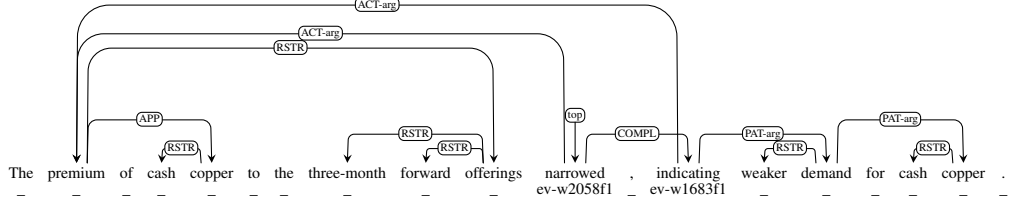
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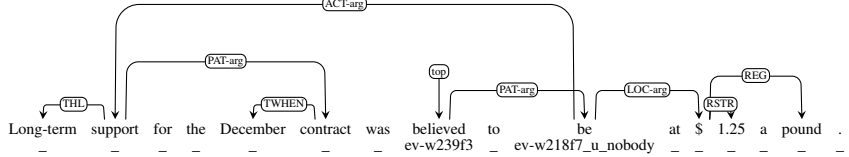
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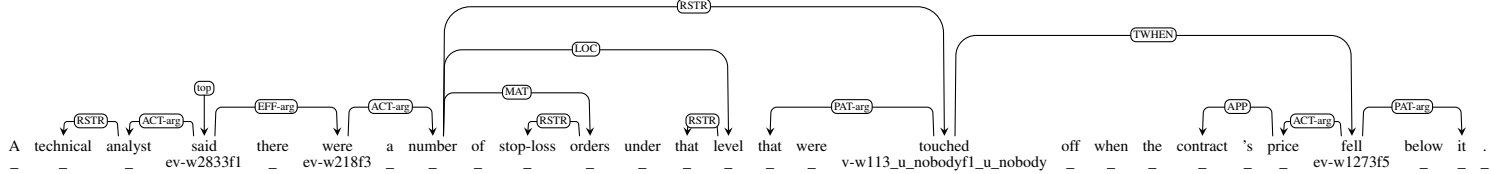
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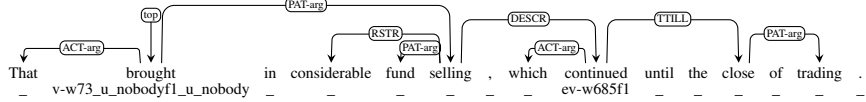
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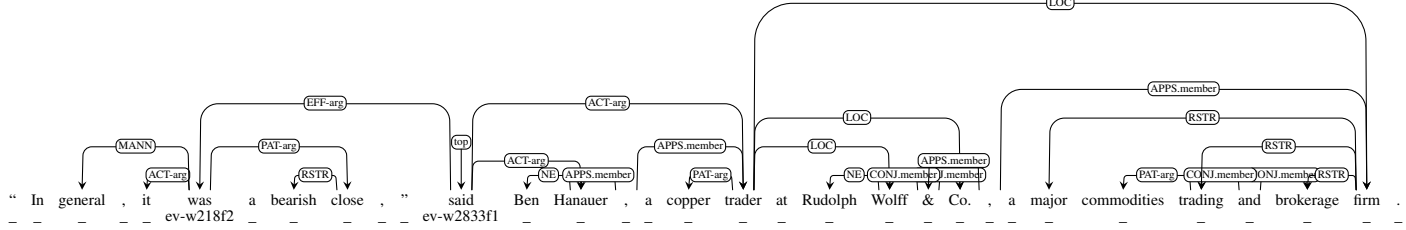
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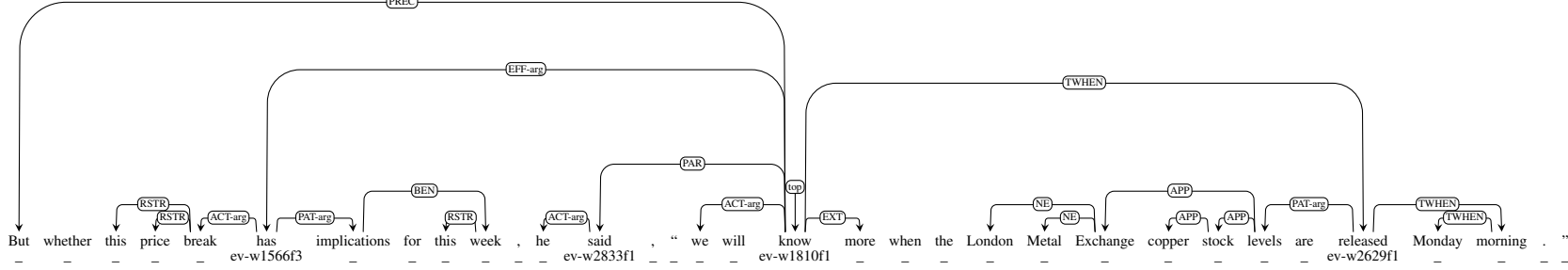
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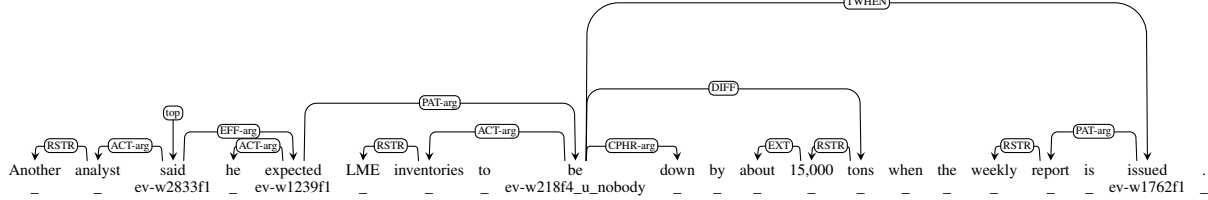
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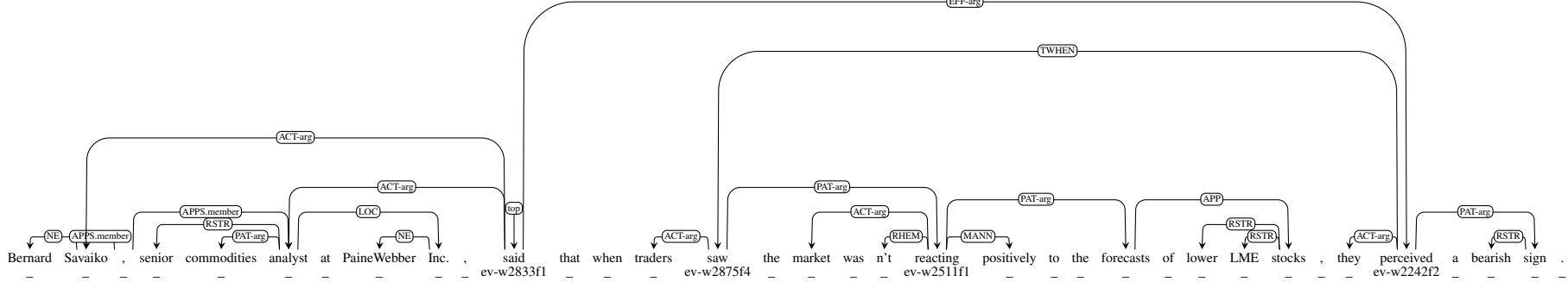
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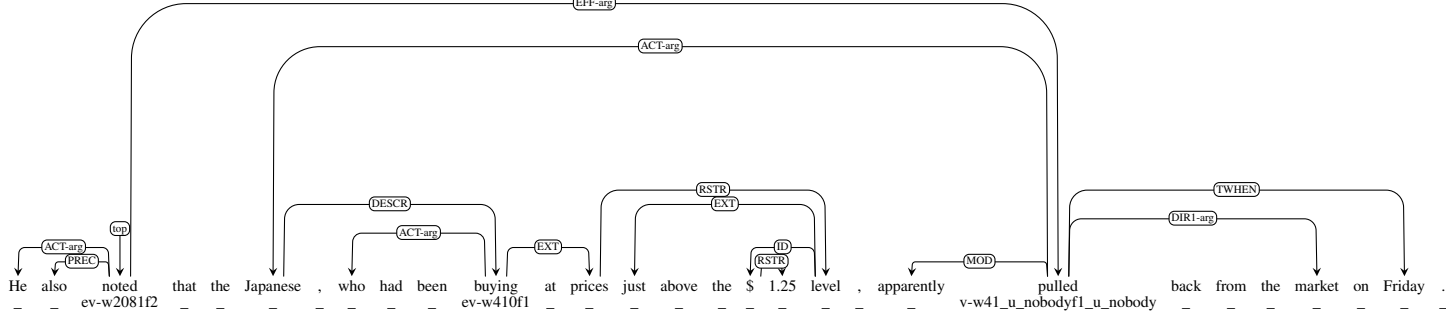
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[21554062]



[21554063]

