REPORT

#semanticClimate: THREE-MONTH INTERNSHIP REPORT

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sl. No.		Title	Page No.
1	Brief In	ntroduction to #Semanticclimate	1
2	Aims aı	Aims and Objectives	
3	Internsl	Internship Mode	
4	Tools and Software used during Internship		2
5	Selection of a Chapter		3
	5.1	Selecting Wordlist from Chapter	4
	5.2	Generating Dictionary from wordlist	5
	5.3	Table of Contents	7
	5.4	Generating Graph for Assessment Report 6 (AR6)	8
	5.5	Converting Climate Academy PDF into text format	9
	5.6	Hyperbook Workflow Diagram	11
	CONCLUSION		13
	REFERENCES		14

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig No.	Title	Page No.
Fig 3.1	Zoom meeting with Dr. Murray-Rust and fellow Interns	2
Fig 5.1.1	Wordlist from Chapter	4
Fig 5.2.1	Colab	5
Fig 5.2.2	Colab contd.	6
Fig 5.2.3	Generated Dictionary html file	6
Fig 5.3.1	test_graph.py script	7
Fig 5.3.2	Generated TOC graph for WG2_Ch_5	8
Fig 5.4.1	Code for generating AR6 graph	9
Fig 5.4.2	Output graph for AR6	9
Fig 5.5.1	Code for generating TXT file from PDF	10
Fig 5.5.2	The output TXT file	10
Fig 5.6.1	Code for generating Hyperbook Workflow Graph	11
Fig 5.6.2	Hyperbook Workflow Diagram	11

1. Brief Introduction to #semanticClimate

#semanticClimate is an initiative between Scientists led by young Indian science students working to transform the massive and complex UN IPCC AR6 climate report—10,000 pages of critical climate science—into structured, accessible, and semantically rich formats like HTML and XML. By extracting key terms, linking them to Wikidata, building AMI-compatible dictionaries, and creating better navigation tools, they aim to unlock valuable knowledge trapped in PDFs. The team develops open-source tools, hosts collaborative events and hackathons, and invites volunteers, developers, researchers, and funders to join their mission of making climate science more usable for researchers, policymakers, and the public.

2. Aims and Objectives

The IPCC prepares major reports on climate change, including Assessment Reports, Special Reports on specific topics, and Methodology Reports that guide greenhouse gas accounting. These materials are usually published in three volumes, each from one of the IPCC's Working Groups, along with a Synthesis Report:

- Working Group I looks at the science behind climate change—what's causing it and how it's changing our world.
- Working Group II studies how climate change affects people and nature, and how we can adapt.
- Working Group III focuses on ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow climate change.

Each volume includes chapters, a technical summary, and a simplified summary for policymakers.

The internship was conducted from 28th January 2025 to 1st May 2025, during which I contributed to the #semanticClimate project by working on tools and workflows aimed at semantifying climate science data from the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6). My responsibilities included exploring and testing open-source tools such as pygetpapers, docanalysis, amilib, and PyMuPDF to extract, process, and structure content from scientific PDFs. I participated in alpha testing and debugging sessions, collaborated with team members using Git and GitHub, and worked on generating semantic dictionaries and visualizations using tools like Graphviz. Additionally, I focused on "Chapter 5 – Food, Fibre, and Other Ecosystem Products" from Working Group II, where I analyzed content and created wordlists to support the development of a comprehensive semantic dictionary.

3. Internship Mode

As part of the internship structure, daily coordination meetings were conducted at 13:30 IST (Indian Standard Time) via the Zoom video conferencing platform. The internship meetings were coordinated by Dr. Peter Murray-Rust, Mentor to the #semanticClimate interns and former staff member of the Department of Chemistry at the University of Cambridge. These sessions were attended by Dr. Renu Kumari, the designated intern manager, together with all participating interns. These sessions served as a platform for task updates, technical discussions, alpha testing, troubleshooting, and project guidance. To ensure continuity and accessibility, recordings of each meeting were uploaded to Slack, the team's primary communication channel, for reference by all team members.

Work progress updates and daily reports were shared regularly on the Slack coordination community and documented on GitHub, ensuring transparency, collaboration, and easy access to project developments.

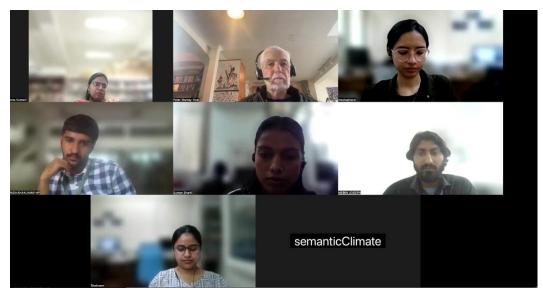


Fig 3.1 Zoom meeting with Dr. Murray-Rust and fellow Interns

4. Tools and Software used during Internship

These tools helped in gathering relevant scientific literature and converting it into usable formats:

- **Python:** A high-level programming language used extensively for scripting and building data-processing tools.
- **amilib:** A Python library that assists in converting PDF documents (like IPCC chapters) into structured HTML for semantic processing.

- **pygetpapers:** A text mining tool used to search and download open-access scientific articles from various repositories.
- **docanalysis:** An open-source command-line tool that enables downloading papers from Europe PMC based on specific queries.
- **PyMuPDF:** to extract and process text and images from PDFs, enabling efficient conversion of PDFs report chapters into structured, semantic-ready .txt file content.
- Git: A distributed version control system used to track changes in source code during development.
- **GitHub:** A platform used for hosting and collaborating on code. All project repositories are publicly accessible here.
- VS Code and PyCharm: Integrated Development Environments (IDEs) used for coding, debugging, and testing scripts.
- Google Colab: A free cloud-based platform used for running Python code with access to GPU/TPU support, ideal for prototyping and experimentation.
- Slack: A real-time communication platform used for team coordination and updates.

5. Selection of a Chapter

I selected and worked on Chapter 5 from Working Group II — titled "Food, Fiber, and Other Ecosystem Products" — for creating a wordlist to support the development of the semantic dictionary. This chapter highlights the serious threats climate change poses to our food, forests, and oceans — and stresses the need for urgent, inclusive, and science-based solutions to protect ecosystems and livelihoods.

Key points:

Climate change is causing droughts, heatwaves, floods, and pests to increase, which harms crop yields, livestock, and food production.

- Biodiversity loss, wildfires, and reduced forest health are affecting ecosystems and their ability to store carbon.
- Fisheries are also at risk due to ocean warming, acidification, and loss of oxygen, which threaten marine life and coastal communities.

- If climate change continues unchecked, food security will worsen, especially in vulnerable regions.
- Soil degradation, water shortages, and disrupted ecosystems could lead to hunger, migration, and economic loss for people who depend on farming, fishing, and forests.
- The chapter suggests using climate-smart agriculture, agroecology, and sustainable land and water practices to build resilience.
- Technology like early warning systems and better policies can help farmers and fishers adapt. However, progress is slowed by inequality, lack of funding, and weak regulations.

5.1 Selecting Wordlist from Chapter

The PDF of Chapter 5 – Food, Fibre and Other Ecosystem Products was downloaded from the official IPCC website at: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/chapter/chapter-5/. To support the development of the semantic dictionary, key terms related to climate science were identified through a thorough manual reading of the chapter. These terms were compiled into a .txt file for further processing and semantic enrichment.

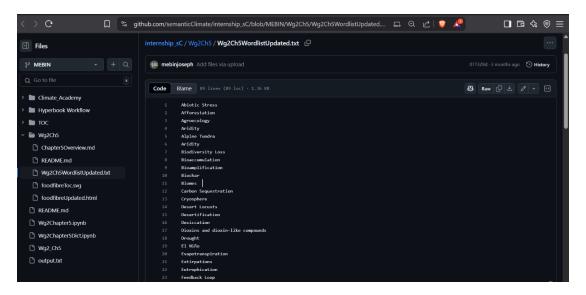


Fig 5.1.1 Wordlist from Chapter

The wordlist file has been uploaded to the GitHub repository and is available at:

 $\underline{https://github.com/semanticClimate/internship_sC/blob/MEBIN/Wg2Ch5/Wg2Ch5WordlistUpdated}.\underline{txt}$

5.2 Generating Dictionary from wordlist

The wordlist compiled in the `.txt` file was used to generate a semantic dictionary by fetching definitions and contextual information from Wikipedia. This process was carried out using Google Colab, a cloud-based Jupyter Notebook environment.

The Colab notebook was accessed via a web browser, and the required library 'amilib' (version 0.3.9) was installed using the command: !pip install amilib==0.3.9.

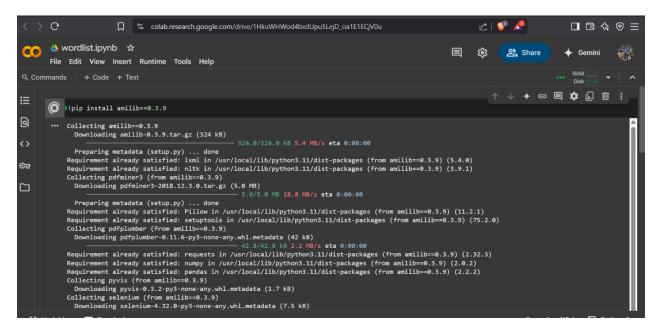


Fig 5.2.1 Colab

The wordlist file ('Wg2Ch5WordlistUpdated.txt') was uploaded to the Colab environment, and the following command was executed to generate the dictionary: !amilib DICT -words /content/Wg2Ch5WordlistUpdated.txt -description 5ikipedia -dict foodfibreUpdated.html -figures -operation create.

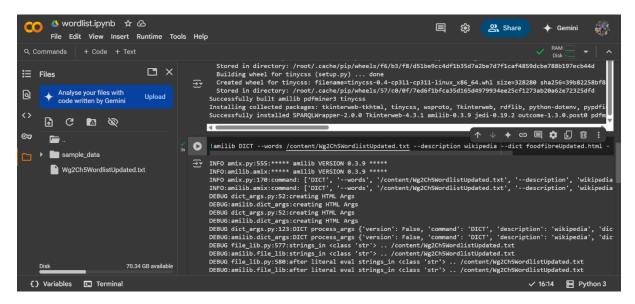


Fig 5.2.2 Colab contd.

This command created an HTML-formatted dictionary named 'foodfibreUpdated.html', which included descriptions and associated figures for each term. The resulting dictionary is both human-readable and suitable for further semantic processing.

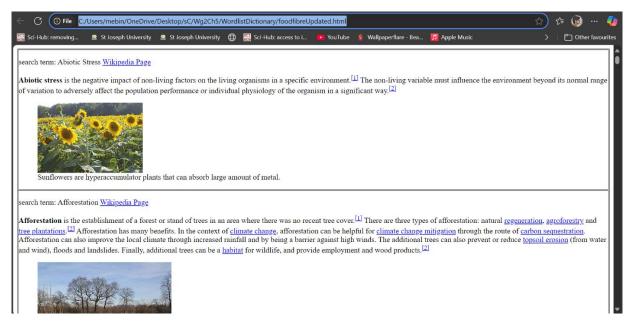


Fig 5.2.3 Generated Dictionary html file

Link to dictionary html file:

https://github.com/semanticClimate/internship_sC/blob/MEBIN/Wg2Ch5/foodfibreUpdated.html

The complete process has been documented and uploaded to GitHub. It is available in the repository at:

https://github.com/semanticClimate/internship_sC/blob/MEBIN/Wg2Chapter5Dict.ipynb

5.3 Table of Contents

The 'amilib Python library v0.3.9' was cloned onto my local system and set up in both PyCharm and VS Code. To ensure that my contributions did not affect the main branch, I created a dedicated branch named 'MEBIN'. I modified the test_graph.py script to include the details of my selected chapter and working group. Upon running the script, it successfully generated a table of contents (TOC) graph for the chapter in the svg format.

The generated output file has been uploaded to the GitHub repository and is available at:

https://github.com/semanticClimate/internship_sC/blob/MEBIN/Wg2Ch5/foodfibreToc.svg

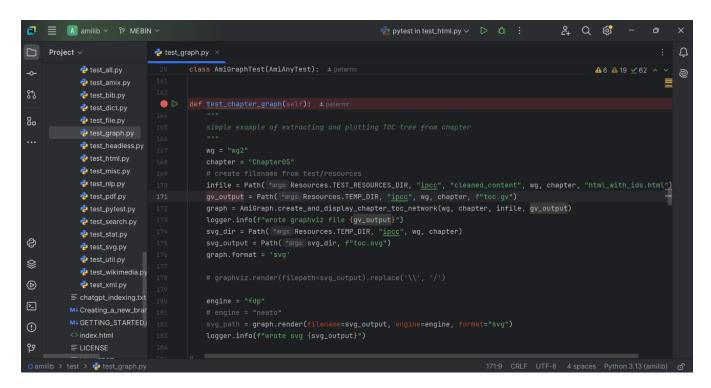


Fig 5.3.1 test_graph.py script

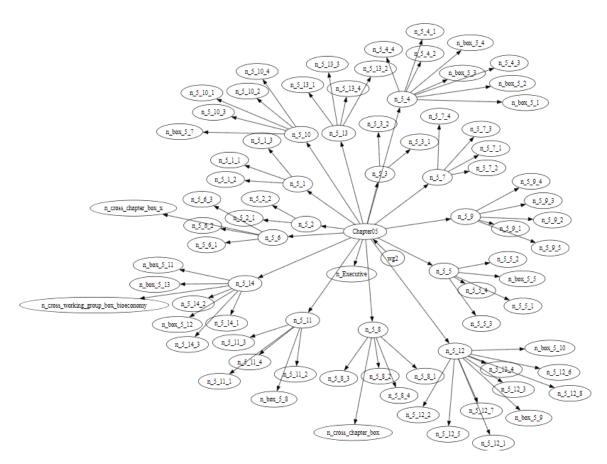


Fig 5.3.2 Generated TOC graph for WG2_Ch_5

5.4 Generating Graph for Assessment Report 6 (AR6)

Using the Graphviz tool integrated with Python in the PyCharm IDE, I created a graph representing the structure of the IPCC AR6, including chapters and cross-chapter linkages across all three Working Groups. The code was written and executed to visualize the interconnections between the chapters. Two versions of the graph were generated — one in horizontal layout and the other in vertical layout, both exported in SVG format.

The Python scripts and the resulting graph files have been uploaded to the GitHub repository and are available at:

https://github.com/semanticClimate/internship sC/tree/MEBIN/TOC

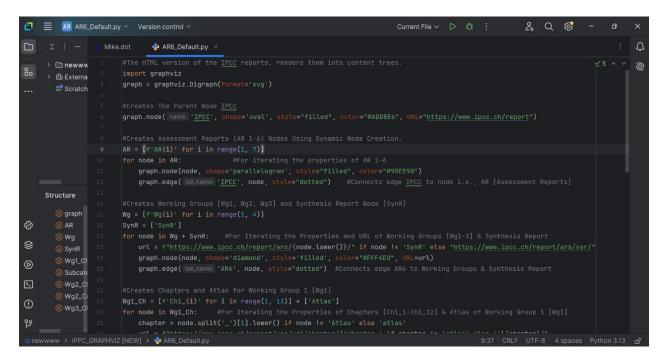


Fig 5.4.1 Code for generating AR6 graph

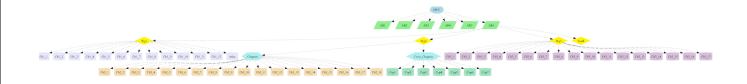


Fig 5.4.2 Output graph for AR6

5.5 Converting Climate Academy PDF into text format

The Climate Academy PDF by Matthew Pye was converted into TXT format using a custom Python script that utilized the PyMuPDF library. Two separate Python scripts were developed: one to convert the entire PDF into a single text file, and another to generate individual text files for each page of the document. This approach allows for conversion of any PDF into plain text format.

The generated output files, along with the Python scripts, have been uploaded to the GitHub repository and are available at:

https://github.com/semanticClimate/internship_sC/tree/MEBIN/Climate_Academy

Fig 5.5.1 Code for generating TXT file from PDF

```
Matthew Pye © 2025
PAGE 1
(BACK)
The Student Book
The Climate Academy was founded in 2012 to leverage understanding and action to a
systems level.
Matthew Pye © 2025
PAGE 2
(BACK)
"As the Head of Philosophy at a European School I used to think that I was
quite well educated.
I wasn't.
I went to a talk on sustainability in 2012 that blew my head off.
I only found out about this reality by chance. It should not be like that for
anyone, especially those who are going to inherit the mess."
Opening lines of the Climate Academy Student Book.
```

Fig 5.5.2 The output TXT file

5.6 Hyperbook Workflow Diagram

The Hyperbook Workflow Diagram was created using the Graphviz tool to visually represent the sequential steps involved in transforming the IPCC AR6 report into a semantically structured format. The diagram outlines the complete workflow, starting from the extraction of a word list, followed by semantic enrichment to build a glossary, and concluding with content publishing.

This visualization was developed in VS Code, where the hierarchical structure of the process was defined using Graphviz's DOT language. The resulting diagram illustrates how each component connects and contributes to the overall goal of semantifying climate knowledge.

Both the source `.dot` files and the rendered `.svg` files have been saved and uploaded to the GitHub repository for reference and further development and are are available at:

https://github.com/semanticClimate/internship sC/tree/MEBIN/Hyperbook%20Workflow

Fig 5.6.1 Code for generating Hyperbook Workflow Graph

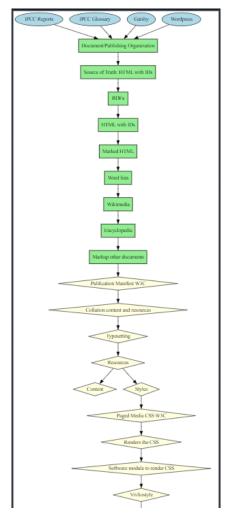


Fig 5.6.2 Hyperbook Workflow Diagram

CONCLUSION

My internship with #semanticClimate was a highly enriching experience that allowed me to contribute meaningfully to the global effort of making climate science more accessible and semantically structured. Over the course of the program, from 28th January 2025 to 1st May 2025, I worked extensively with open-source tools and technologies to process and transform complex scientific data from the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) into structured, machine-readable formats.

I gained hands-on experience in using tools such as Python, amilib, PyMuPDF, docanalysis, and pygetpapers for text mining, PDF processing, dictionary creation, and semantic enrichment. My focus on Chapter 5 – Food, Fibre, and Other Ecosystem Products from Working Group II involved manually identifying key domain-specific terms, creating a wordlist, and generating a Wikipedia-based semantic dictionary using Google Colab. This dictionary, now publicly available in HTML format on GitHub, can serve as a valuable resource for researchers, educators, and policymakers.

In addition to data processing, I developed visualizations using Graphviz, including table of contents graphs, a cross-chapter linkage graph for AR6, and a Hyperbook Workflow Diagram, all of which were shared on GitHub in SVG format. These visual tools help illustrate the structure and transformation pipeline of the IPCC report, supporting better understanding and navigation.

I also created Python scripts to convert PDFs into plain text, one of which was applied to the Climate Academy PDF by Matthew Pye, demonstrating a scalable method for future use.

Throughout the internship, I used Git and GitHub for version control and collaborative development, ensuring clean and well-documented code contributions. Daily meetings via Zoom with Dr. Peter Murray-Rust and Dr. Renu Kumari, along with active participation on Slack, enhanced my ability to communicate effectively within a distributed team and stay aligned with project goals.

This internship not only sharpened my technical skills in programming, testing, documentation, and semantic web concepts but also deepened my understanding of climate change impacts, the importance of open science, and the urgent need for global knowledge sharing. It has inspired me to continue contributing to projects that leverage technology for environmental awareness and sustainable development.

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