

Annotation Guidelines for Event Detection and Characterization (EDC)

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1 Intro

The goal of the Event Detection and Characterization task is to identify and characterize all events of the five targeted types in which ACE entity take part. For each event, we tag its textual anchor, full extent, all entities and temporal expressions present within the extent that fill the event's argument roles.

2 Event Types

For each event type, there is a salient entity. We identify events where the salient entity is the object of the event (Object Salient Events) and those where the agent is the salient entity (Agent Salient Events). This distinction is significant as a single event can be tagged as both an OSE and an ASE when multiple event types are present in the meaning and both the object and the agent are tagged EDT entities. We are developing a list of examples of this occurrence at this time and will include a section in future releases of these guidelines.

Event Type	Salient Entity Role
MOV	Object
BRK	Object
MAK	Object
GIV	Object
INT	Agent

In the examples, the extent of the event is noted with square brackets []. Curly brackets indicate the anchor of the event. Rounded parentheses () indicate the salient entity.

2.1 Object Salient Events

For Object Salient Events, the entity filling the object role is the focus of the event. For events of this type, we will only tag those where the object is a tagged EDT entity.

2.1 Destruction/Damage (BRK)

An event can be classified as BRK when the salient entity is damaged or destroyed.

...and in Yemen, the investigation into [the **{bombing}** that **{killed}** (17 U.S. sailors continues as 33 injured sailors)] returned home today to Norfolk, Virginia.

[(A train transporting skiers to a glacier resort in Austria) **{caught}** on fire inside a mountain tunnel Saturday, trapping as many as 140 people], the mayor of a nearby town said.

[In 1976, (42 people) **{died}** after a cable snapped at the Italian ski resort of Cavalese].

2.2 Creation/Improvement (MAK)

An event is of type MAK when the salient entity is created or improved.

[(John Robert Bond) was **{born}** in England].

[He later **{founded}** (CERF Technologies International, a company specializing in studying foreign maritime equipment)].

[**{Built}** in 1974], the cable railway was one of the first of its kind with a tunnel passing through a mountainside.

2.3 Transfer of Possession or Control (GIV)

An event is of type GIV when the salient entity changes with regard to possession or control.

But [in May 1999 a Tampa police officer **{arrested}** (him) on charges of soliciting a prostitute and possessing drugs].

...Putin, who was relatively unknown when [(he) **{won}** [Russia's presidential **{election}** in March]].

2.4 Movement (MOV)

An event is of type MOV when the salient entity is moved.

...and in in Yemen, the investigation into the bombing that killed 17 U.S. sailors continues as [(33 injured sailors) **{returned}** home today to Norfolk, Virginia].

The bombing happened an hour after [(the ship) **{arrived}** at the port for refueling].

A train **{transporting}** (skiers) to a glacier resort in Austria] caught on fire inside a mountain tunnel Saturday, trapping as many as 140 people, the mayor of a nearby town said.

[(Twelve skiers) **{escaped}** the inferno by **{smashing}** their way out of the train and **{climbing}** downhill to safety]].

2.2 Agent Salient Events

For Agent Salient Events, the entity filling the agent role is the focus of the event. For events of this type, we will only tag those where the agent is a tagged EDT entity.

2.5 Interaction of Agents (INT)

An event is classified as INT when the salient entities are agents engaged in interaction. An entity can be an agent if it is a taggable EDT entity of type ORG, PER, or GPE.

*[(A crowd of 1 million) {**demonstrated**} Saturday in the capital, San'a], protesting against Israel, the U.S., and Arab leaders regarded as too soft on Israel.*

*This threat is made more worrisome by a trend toward [increasing {**collusion**} among (terrorists), (drug traffickers), (weapons proliferators) and (organized crime)].*

*Concerned about the effect of new rules, [(Lieberman) {**joined**} (12 other senators) in [{**writing**} a letter in late September to (the accounting board)]].*

3 Taggable Events

For every event, we tag all mentions of that event. Event mentions can be of type nominal or clausal. We identify the anchor of the event and its full extent.

3.1 Mention Types

3.1.1 Nominal Mentions

An event mention is nominal if its anchor is a noun.

*[the staff {**meeting**}]*

*[the {**bombing**} that killed 17 U.S. sailors]*

*[the {**civil war**}]*

*[the deadliest {**disaster**} of [{**its**}] kind]*

Rules for extent and anchor identification in progress.

3.1.2 Clausal Mentions

An event mention is clausal if its anchor is a verb.

*[I {**met**} with John yesterday].*

*[Yemen has {**detained**} some 60 people for questioning in the Oct. 12 bombing of the USS Cole].*

*[A cable car [{**pulling**} skiers and snowboarders to an Alpine glacier resort] {**caught**} fire deep inside a mountain tunnel Saturday], trapping passengers and [{**killing**} about 170 people – many of them children and teen-agers].*

*[In 1976, 42 people {**died**} after a cable snapped at the Italian ski resort of Cavalese].*

Rules for extent and anchor identification in progress.

3.2 Event Argument Roles

This section defines the possible event argument roles. We only tag those roles for which the entity is present locally within the extent of the event. Some event mentions will not have any roles present in their local context.

3.2.1 Agent

The **agent** of an EDC event is the active participant who brings the event about. Agents may only be of type PER, ORG or GPE, and are not assigned the agent role when they are the salient entity in non-INT events. Reflexive constructions are a notable exception, since they overtly express both agent-hood and salient-entity-hood for a single entity using multiple mentions.

*[(**John**) {sent} a package to Mary].*

*Putin, a former KGB agent, defended the court [(**that**) {convicted} Pope].*

*[(**Judge Florence Foster of the Hillsborough County Court**) {sentenced} him to two years of house arrest].*

*[(**Rescue workers in Austria**) have {recovered} the bodies of more than 40 victims of Saturday's train fire in a mountain tunnel].*

3.2.2 Object

The **object** of an EDC event will be the salient entity for each of the non-INT events. In other words, the object is the 'thing broken, moved, transferred or created' in the event.

*[John {sent} (**a package**) to Mary].*

*[Yemen has {detained} (**some 60 people**) for questioning in the Oct. 12 bombing of the USS Cole].*

*The bombing happened an hour after [(**the ship**) {arrived} at the port for refueling].*

3.2.3 Source (only available for MOV or GIV)

The **source** of an EDC event will be the original location or original controller in MOV and GIV events, respectively.

*[John {left} (**Dallas**) yesterday].*

*[Helicopters also were {making} their way from (**neighboring Bavaria, in southern Germany**)].*

*The blasts apparently occurred after [they managed to {scramble} out of (**the compartment**)] and [{run} away from (**the car**)].*

*Later in his confinement, [he was {moved} to a six-bunk cell from (**a room for two prisoners**)].*

3.2.4 Target (only available for MOV or GIV)

The **target** of an EDC event will be the resultant location or resultant controller in MOV and GIV events, respectively.

*[John {arrived} in (**Philadelphia**) yesterday].*

*[33 injured sailors {returned} home today to (**Norfolk, Virginia**)].*

Officials believe [two suicide bombers {maneuvered} a small boat packed with explosives next to (**the Cole, which was refueling here**)].

Later in his confinement, [he was {moved} to (**a six-bunk cell**) from a room for two prisoners].

3.2.5 Time

The **time** of an EDC event will be the taggable TMP mention which occurs in the full extent of the event.

[John {arrived} in Philadelphia (**yesterday**)].

At [a news {conference} on [(**Thursday**)]....

[Pope was {examined} (**Friday**) at the presidential medical clinic, one of Russia's top facilities]

3.2.6 Location

The **location** of an EDC event will be the taggable EDT mention which occurs in the full extent of the event mention and isolates the event in space. If a mention is used to fill the *source* or *target* role, then it cannot also be used to fill the location role.

[John {died} in (**France**) in 1944].

The investigation into [last week's {bombing} of an American warship in (**this port**)] is still in its beginning stages.

Pope, who suffers from a rare form of bone cancer, flew to Germany, where [he was {examined} at (**Landstuhl Regional Medical Center**)].

3.2.7 Other

Modifier/others in EDC mentions will be any taggable EDT mentions which occur in the full extent of the event mention, are not *times* or *locations* and express a property of the event such as an **instrument** or **purpose**.

Instrument: [John {left} Dallas yesterday on in (**his car**)].

Purpose: [John {built} a house for (**Mary**)].