Spanish TimeBank 1.0
Corpus documentation

1. **Corpus name:** Spanish TimeBank 1.0.

2. **Authors**

Roser Saurí (contact person)
email: roser.sauri@barcelonamedia.org
phone: +34 93 238 1400

Toni Badia
email: toni.badia@barcelonamedia.org
phone: +34 93 238 1400

3. **Data type:** Text.

4. **Languages:** Spanish (spa).

5. **Description of the corpus**

The Spanish TimeBank Corpus contains 210 documents (mostly news reports), which have been annotated with time and eventuality information according to the TimeML scheme (Pustejovsky et al., 2005), now accepted as an international cross-language ISO standard (ISO WD 24617-1:200). Specifically, time information in the Spanish TimeBank is annotated with the following levels:

Events (tag `EVENT`): Marking up different types of actions (activities, transitions, etc.) as well as states. The annotated expressions can belonging to different parts of speech, such as verbs, nouns, or adjectives. Event entities are further specified with attributes concerning grammatical aspects of the tagged expression (e.g., part of speech, verb form, tense, aspect, mood), as well as semantic information (e.g., event class).

Time expressions (tag `TIMEX3`): This tag includes expressions of calendar dates, times of day (TOD), durations, and sets. Their interpretation is normalized according to an extension of the ISO 8601 format for dates and time-related data. Other pieces of relevant information (for example, the presence of modifiers or the reference to other temporal expressions in the text) are encoded in attributes.

Temporal relations among events and time expressions (tag `TLINK`), which essentially signal: precedence (before, after), inclusion (is included, includes), and simultaneity. Temporal relations in TimeML can hold between any event and timex entity. However, in the Spanish TimeBank they have been constrained to the 4 types of relations targeted in the TempEval competition (Verhagen et al., 2007, 2010), which are:

- Temporal relations between an event and a time expression appearing in a strong syntactic relation. That is, either when the event syntactically dominates the time expression, or when both event and time expression occur within the same noun phrase.
- Temporal relations between each event and the Document Creation Time (DCT).
- Temporal relations between the two main events in consecutive sentences.
- Temporal relations between two events in a relation of syntactic dominance.

For marking up the Spanish TimeBank, we tailored the TimeML annotation scheme and guidelines, originally for English data, into the specifics of the Spanish language. For example, event expressions in Spanish present distinctions of verbal mood (e.g., indicative, subjunctive, conditional, etc.) and grammatical aspect (e.g., imperfective) which are absent in English. Therefore, the following annotation guidelines have been developed:

– For annotating *events*: Saurí et al. (2009).

– For annotating *time expressions*: Saurí et al. (2010)

– For annotating *temporal relations*: Saurí (2010).

In terms of both the amount and the nature of the annotated data, the present corpus is the Spanish correlate of TimeBank 1.2, developed for English text (Pustejovsky et al., 2006). Furthermore, it has a Catalan twin, the Catalan TimeBank (Saurí & Badia, 2012), a brother for Modern Spanish text, also annotated with spatial information (Guerrero Nieto & Saurí, 2012), and belongs to the family of TimeBanks developed within the TimeML framework for other languages, such as: French (Bittar, 2010);[1] Italian (Caselli et al., 2011); Korean (Im et al., 2009); and Chinese (under development). The existence of these corpus resources with a common layer of annotated information can be of great benefit to the community, specially for work involving multilingual temporal extraction and processing, such as multilingual text entailment, opinion mining, or question answering.

An earlier version of this corpus has been used in TempEval-2, one of the tasks in the SemEval International Workshop on Semantic Evaluations (Verhagen et al., 2010).

6. **Data Sources**

The texts constituting the Spanish TimeBank are mainly news reports but include some fiction as well. They have been obtained form Ancora-Sp, the Spanish part of the AnCora corpus (Taulé et al., 2008). AnCora is a remarkable resource in that it provides annotation for a number of linguistic levels, including constituent structure, syntactic functions, dependencies, verb semantic class, argument structure, and thematic roles. This information is not included in the current release, but can be easily mapped to the present annotations.

7. **Annotated Data**

The Spanish TimeBank contains 210 documents with over 75,800 tokens (including punctuation marks) and 68,000 tokens (excluding punctuation). Table 1 shows the total number of tokens and annotated entities (*events*, *timexes* and *tlinks* of each type).

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[1]See also: http://www.linguist.univ-paris-diderot.fr/ abittar/french-timebank.

Tokens	All (including punctuation marks)		68,303
	Excluding punctuation marks		60,282
Annotated entities	EVENT tag	Annotated tokens	12,384
		Actual entities	**12,641**
	TIMEX3 tag	Annotated tokens	2,872
		Actual entities	**1,322**
	TLINK tag	Between an event and a timex	1,122
		Between an event and the DCT	12,639
		Between two main events	1,940
		Between two events in a subordination relation	5,841
		Total	**21,541**
	Total		**35,504**

Table 1: Overall data distribution for the Catalan TimeBank

Tags EVENT and TIMEX3 have different frequencies for *annotated tokens* and *actual entities*. *Annotated tokens* indicate how many tokens in the text have been marked up with the tag in question, whereas *actual entities* provide the actual number of tags. For events, this is higher than the number of annotated tokens, given that the same event mention can express multiple events, encoded each in an independent EVENT tag. By contrast, the number of actual TIMEX3 entities is lower than the number of tokens marked up as such, given that a time expression may include several tokens.

The corpus has been entirely double-annotated, except for the tlinks in a subordination relation. The double annotation has been carried out by graduate linguistics students using the Brandeis Annotation Tool (BAT)[2], and cases of disagreement have been adjudicated by a third person.

8. **Corpus structure and data attributes**

The whole corpus markup is standoff, represented through a set of 11 tables which can be easily loaded into a DB. Each table is contained in an independent tab-separated file. The following lists each table file and its size in bytes, by alphabetical order.

1884873	base-segmentation.csv
5932	dct.csv
1051246	event-attributes.csv
458668	event-extents.csv
421284	sentences.csv
72897	timex-attributes.csv
95775	timex-extents.csv
522659	tlinks-dct-events.csv
47353	tlinks-event-timex.csv
90251	tlinks-main-events.csv
281456	tlinks-subordinated-events.csv

The structure of each table is described next. Attributes sharing the name across tables encode the same information.

Table: _sentences.csv_ Containing data relative to each sentence in the corpus documents. Data attributes:

- `docId`   Document ID.
- `sentId`   Sentence ID (relative to each document).
- `sentTxt`   Sentence text.

Note that the sentence text does satisfy the standard punctuation conventions but presents each token, including punctuation marks, separated by blank spaces from its neighbors. This is due to the fact that the original data obtained from AnCora was only in verticalized format and did not preserve the original formatting of the text. Hence, we opted for reconstructing the text into one-line sentences for the sake of readability, while avoiding to restore the text into its presumed original format.

Table: _base-segmentation.csv_ Containing the corpus tokens in a verticalized format, as inherited from the original files in AnCora. Corpus tokens include words and punctuation marks, but not blank spaces and other formating characters. Each token specifies the document and sentence where it belongs. Data attributes:

- `docId`   Document ID.
- `sentId`   Sentence ID (relative to each document).
- `tokId`   Token ID (relative to each sentence in the document).
- `tokTxt`   Token text.

Table: _dct.csv_ Presenting the Document Creation Time (DCT) of each document in the corpus. Data attributes:

- `docId`   Document ID.
- `dct`   Document Creation Time in YYYY-MM-DD format.

Table: _event-extents_ Information relative to `EVENT` entity extents. In TimeML, event extents span over only one token, but the annotation can indicate if more tokens are linguistically involved (e.g., when the event expression is a phrasal verb or a multiword construction) by means of the attribute `isMultiWord`. Similarly, a further attribute (`cardinality`) indicates whether the expression refers to actually more than one event in the world. Data attributes:

- `docId`   Document ID.
- `sentId`   Sentence ID.
- `tokId`   ID of the token affected by the tag.
- `tag`   Tag name (here, `EVENT`).
- `tagId`   Tag ID.

– cardinality	Integer expressing the number of events in the world that are referred to by the current tag.
– isMultiWord	Boolean value (y/n) indicating whether the event expression includes further tokens in the text, in addition to the current one. See the guidelines for further details.

Table: ***event-attributes***   Presenting event attributes information. Data attributes:

– docId	Document ID.
– sentId	Sentence ID.
– tokId	Token ID.
– tag	Tag name (here, EVENT).
– tagId	Tag ID.
– tagInstanceId	Event instance ID. Recall that one event expression may refer to several events in the world.
– pos	Part of speech. Possible values: ADJECTIVE, NOUN, PREP, VERB, OTHER.
– vform	Verbal form. Distinguishing among non-finite verbal forms. Possible values: GERUNDIVE, INFINITIVE, PARTICIPLE, NONE.
– tense	Grammatical tense. Possible values: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE, NONE.
– aspect	Grammatical aspect. Possibe values: PERFECTIVE, IMPER-FECTIVE, PERFECTIVE_PROGRESSIVE, IMPERFECTIVE_PROGRESSIVE, NONE.
– mood	Verbal mood. Possibe values: INDICATIVE, SUBJUNTIVE, CONDITIONAL, NONE.
– polarity	Polarity of the event expression. Possible values: POS, NEG.
– class	Event class. Possible values: ASPECTUAL, I_ACTION, I_STATE, OCCURRENCE, PERCEPTION, REPORTING, STATE.

Table: ***timex-extents.csv***   Information relative to TIMEX3 entity extents, which can consume several tokens, contrary to the annotation of EVENTs. Data attributes:

– docId	Document ID.
– sentId	Sentence ID.
– tokId	ID of the token affected by the tag.
– tag	Tag name (here, TIMEX3).
– tagId	Tag ID.

Table: ***timex-attributes.csv***   Presenting the information concerning TIMEX3 attributes.

– docId	Document ID.
– sentId	Sentence ID.

– `tokId`	Token ID.
– `tag`	Tag name (here, `TIMEX3`).
– `tagId`	Tag ID.
– `type`	Type of time expression. Possible values: `DATE`, `TIME`, `DURATION`, `SET`.
– `val`	Time expression value, normalized according to an extended version of the ISO 8601.
– `mod`	Modifier. Possible values: `APPROX`, `BEFORE`, `AFTER` `START`, `MID`, `END`, `EQUAL_OR_MORE`, `EQUAL_OR_LESS`, `MORE_THAN`, `LESS_THAN`.
– `anchorTimeId`	ID of the time expression which the current `timex3` is anchored to.
– `beginPoint`	ID of the time expression denoting the beginning point of the duration expressed by the current `TIMEX3`.
– `endPoint`	ID of the time expression denoting the ending point of the duration expressed by the current `TIMEX3`.
– `quant`	Quantifier over the set denoted by the current `TIMEX3`.
– `freq`	Frequency of the temporal set denoted by the current `TIMEX3`.

Table: ***tlinks-dct-events.csv*** Presenting the `tlinks` that hold between each event and the Document Creation Time. Data attributes:

– `docId`	Document ID.
– `eId`	Event ID.
– `eiId`	Event instance ID.
– `timexId`	ID of the DCT.
– `linkId`	Tlink ID.
– `relType`	Type of temporal relation. Possible values: `after`, `before`, `before-or-overlap`, `overlap`, `overlap-or-after`, `vague`.

Table: ***tlinks-event-timex.csv*** Presenting the `tlinks` that hold between events and `timex3` in specific syntactic contexts. Data attributes:

– `docId`	Document ID.
– `eId`	Event ID.
– `eiId`	Event instance ID.
– `timexId`	ID of the related timex.
– `linkId`	Tlink ID.
– `relType`	Type of temporal relation. Possible values: `after`, `before`, `before-or-overlap`, `overlap`, `overlap-or-after`, `vague`.

Table: ***tlinks-main-events.csv*** Presenting the `tlinks` that hold between two main events in consecutive sentences. Data attributes:

– `docId`	Document ID.
– `eId_1`	Event ID of the first event in the `TLINK`.
– `eiId_1`	Event instance ID of the first event.
– `eId_2`	Event ID of the second event in the `TLINK`.
– `eiId_2`	Event instance ID of the second event.
– `linkId`	Tlink ID.
– `relType`	Type of temporal relation.
	Possible values: `after`, `before`, `before-or-overlap`, `overlap`, `overlap-or-after`, `vague`.

Table: *tlinks-subordinated-events.csv* Presenting the `tlinks` that hold between two main events in a relation of syntactic subordination. Data attributes:

– `docId`	Document ID.
– `eId_1`	Event ID of the subordinating event.
– `eiId_1`	Event instance ID of the subordinating event.
– `eId_2`	Event ID of the subordinated event.
– `eiId_2`	Event instance ID of the subordinated event.
– `linkId`	Tlink ID.
– `relType`	Type of temporal relation.
	Possible values: `after`, `before`, `before-or-overlap`, `overlap`, `overlap-or-after`, `vague`.

9. **Directory structure**

`doc/`	Documentation related to the present release. Containing: this *readme* file as well as the *annotation guidelines* used for annotating the corpus.
`data/`	Files containing the corpus annotation. Each file corresponds to one of the tables presented above.

10. **Copyright**

The annotations in this data collection are copyrighted by the Authors. User acknowledges and agrees that: (i) as between User and Authors, Authors own all the right, title and interest in the Annotated Content, unless expressly stated otherwise; (ii) nothing in this Agreement shall confer in User any right of ownership in the Annotated Content; and (iii) User is granted a non-exclusive, royalty free, worldwide license (with no right to sublicense) to use the Annotated Content solely for academic and research purposes.

Note: The textual news documents annotated in this corpus have been collected from a wide range of sources and are not copyrighted by Authors. User acknowledges that the use of these documents is restricted to research and/or academic purposes only.

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