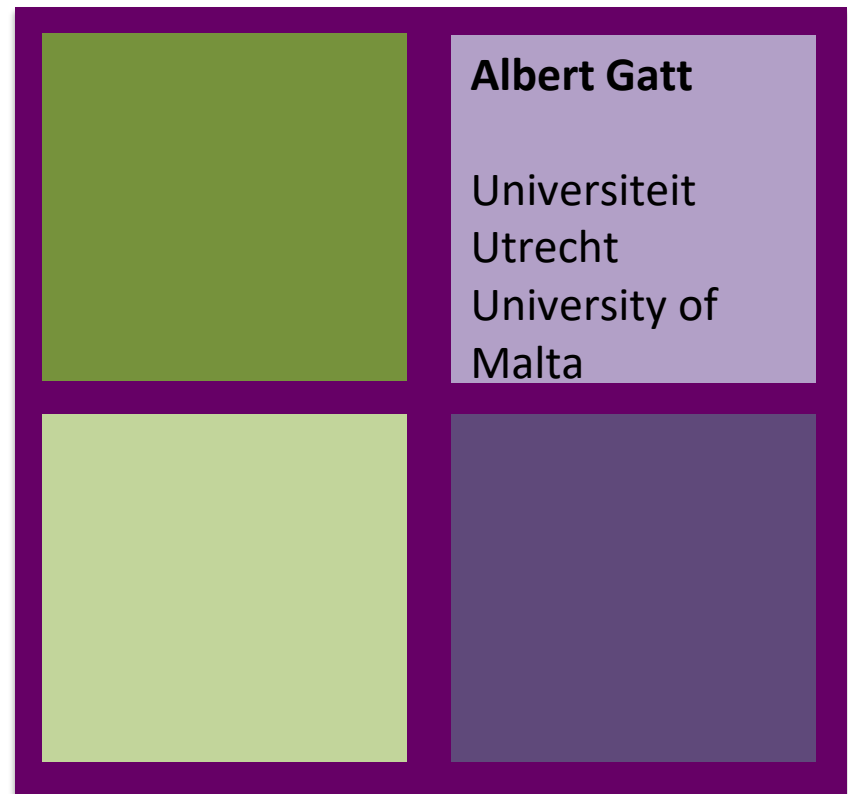




**MULTI-TASK  
MULTI-LINGUAL  
MULTI-MODAL**



Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme  
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Core Group Meeting

# Working Group Presentations

Working Group 1

Core Group Meeting, Alicante, Spain, September 2021

# WG1 - Overview

“Grounded multi-modal reasoning and generation”

Chair: Albert Gatt, U. Malta/U.  
Utrecht

Co-Chair: Mehul Bhatt, Örebro University

Currently, around 21 members

# WG 1 - Communication channels

- Mailing list ([wg1@sympa.multi3generation.eu](mailto:wg1@sympa.multi3generation.eu))
- Slack channel (#wg1-grounding)

# Outline

1. Thematic focus of the WG
1. Activities/achievements since last report
1. Future plans

# WG Thematic Focus

Discussed during the meeting in Copenhagen (January 2020)

1. **Explanation** and **transparency** of multimodal models
2. **Complementarity vs Redundancy**
3. Relationship between **Symbolic** and **Subsymbolic representations**
4. The role of **Commonsense** and **World Knowledge** in multimodal models
5. Data sources
6. **Situatedness**

# WG Activities

Last WG meeting: February 2021

Format: informal workshop with “spotlight” presentations

Aim: identify collaborative links

# WG Activities

## Outreach

- Presentation of COST Action at the International Conference on Natural Language Generation (INLG; Dublin, 2020)

# WG Activities - 2

## **Cross-site collaboration**

Prof Francois Portet (U. Grenoble) visited UM in October 2020 on a Multi3Generation STSM.

## **Subsequent impact:**

Design of MSc project. Hosted at U. Grenoble, co-supervised with UM.

Theme: Grounded descriptions of video data

Successfully defended, June 2021

Publication in preparation.



# WG Activities - 3

## Multimodal benchmarks

Collaboration within WG1 (U. Heidelberg, U. Malta, U. Amsterdam, U. Utrecht)

- Developing benchmarks for stress-testing large, pretrained multimodal models.
- Two publications to date (one under review)
- Benchmark data and results to be released soon.

# WG Activities - 4

## **Cross-WG collaboration**

Several members of WG1 contributed to the work on a state of the art survey on neural NLG coordinated by WG2 members.

(More on this in the WG2 report)

# WG Activities - 5

## **Shared task**

Discussions with WG2 members.

Aim: develop an NLG-centred benchmark for tasks involving multimodality.

Status: under discussion.

# Future Plans

## **Seminar on Action (esp. WG1) Themes**

During the February meeting, there was broad agreement on organising a seminar/workshop around the WG themes.

Aim: Dagstuhl seminar or similar format

Status: under discussion. Planning to resume.

# Future plans -2

## **WG Leadership**

During the kickoff meeting for the Action, it was agreed that approximately halfway through, the current chair would step down.

I have notified the co-chair and the Action coordinators of my intention to do so.

Thank you!