# **MAF-IE: Multi-Agent Finetuning for Zero-Shot Information Extraction**

**Anonymous ACL submission** 

### Abstract

Large language models (LLMs) excel at text generation and reasoning but struggle with producing structured output while maintaining accuracy in zero-shot information extraction (IE). Recent studies have explored multiagent frameworks to enhance LLMs' capabilities, but these efforts primarily target general reasoning and fail to address key structured IE challenges such as boundary ambiguity and cross-type semantic conflicts. In this work, we propose MAF-IE, a multi-agent finetuning framework that combines specialization and collaborative training to improve both the accuracy and efficiency of multi-agent systems for IE. Specifically, we introduce a type-specified multi-agent collaboration framework to generate high-quality pseudo-labeled data. Based on the generated data, we design a novel contrastive data selection strategy to finetune multiple LLMs on dialogue trajectories, enabling the model to better learn from both correct and incorrect predictions, enhancing task-specific feature learning. Combined with a simple majority voting strategy, the finetuned models achieve comparable performance to multi-agent LLMs while significantly reducing inference costs. Extensive experiments on seven datasets across five tasks, spanning coarse- and fine-grained settings at both sentence and document levels, demonstrate MAF-IE significantly outperforms zero-shot IE baselines.

## 1 Introduction

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Information extraction (IE) converts unstructured or semi-structured text into structured representations (Li et al., 2023c; Lu et al., 2022). Traditional supervised IE methods adapt pre-trained language models to labeled datasets with supervision signals (Devlin et al., 2019; Zhuang et al., 2021), but they rely on costly annotations and struggle to generalize to low-resource or evolving domains. To address these limitations, zero-shot paradigms have emerged as a promising alternative by leveraging LLMs' strong language understanding capabilities acquired through extensive pre-training (Xie et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2023a). However, a single LLM under zero-shot often achieves suboptimal results. For instance, directly prompting GPT-3.5 yields only 45% F1 on CoNLL03 and 34% on OntoNotes4 (Li et al., 2024b), highlighting a significant gap between zero-shot methods and reliable structured extraction. 043

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To bridge this gap, recent strategies utilize advanced models like GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2024a) to generate synthetic supervision (Heng et al., 2024; Ye et al., 2024), but their effectiveness is bounded by model capability and constrained by heavy computational and legal requirements. Another promising direction employs multi-agent frameworks, enabling multiple LLMs to collaborate through voting (Wang et al., 2023c), debate (Chen et al., 2024) or decision-making (Sun et al., 2025). These systems promote diverse reasoning paths (Du et al., 2023), critique each other's outputs (Chan et al., 2023) and aggregate complementary predictions into a final output to address a single model's limitations (Pham et al., 2024; Zhao et al., 2025).

However, existing multi-agent frameworks face critical challenges that hinder their direct applicability to diverse IE tasks, including limited taskspecific adaptation, poor scalability caused by coordination overhead, and insufficient flexibility to accommodate varying IE task requirements. The fundamental issue lies in their high computational costs and low efficiency, making them impractical for time-sensitive or large-scale applications. Ideally, these benefits could be achieved by a single model that performs direct inference with both high efficiency and practicality.

In this paper, we propose MAF-IE, a novel multi-agent finetuning framework that distills collaborative strengths into a set of finetuned models. Our method is specifically designed for IE,



Figure 1: The overview of MAF-IE presents a multi-agent finetuning framework for zero-shot IE. We first employ type-specialized multi-agent debate and confidence-weighted voting to construct finetuning datasets. These datasets are then used to finetune the contrastive agents. We finetune contrastive models using reformatted dialogue-style data that includes final-round responses labeled by whether they match the weighted voting result, along with first-round responses from each type-specific agent to capture both "correction" and "consistency" signals, enabling the model to differentiate correct and incorrect predictions better. Finally, the finetuned models are combined via majority voting to produce more accurate predictions.

enabling each finetuned model to capture taskspecific features while reducing the cost of multiagent inference. Specifically, we propose a typespecified multi-agent collaboration system in which specialized agents engage in cross-type discussions to refine predictions and establish a feedback loop that improves extraction accuracy. Next, we leverage the outputs generated from these multi-agent interactions as pseudo-labeled data to finetune multiple LLMs, with each model trained on type-specific data to promote specialization across models. Fi-094 nally, we combine the multiple finetuned models with a majority voting strategy at inference time to optimize the final predictions. Experimental results demonstrate that MAF-IE achieves significant improvements on seven IE datasets across six tasks in diverse domains under a zero-shot setting, span-100 ning sentence- and document-level inputs as well as coarse- and fine-grained label schemas, validating 102 the effectiveness and efficiency of our approach.

#### **Related Works** 2

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LLMs for IE Recent advances in LLM-based IE have shown promise in tasks such as Named Entity Recognition (NER), Relation Extraction (RE), and Event Extraction (EE). ChatIE (Wei et al., 2024) enhances IE through structured di-109

alogue with ChatGPT, enabling interactive refinement. CODE4STRUCT (Wang et al., 2023b) and Code4UIE (Guo et al., 2023) formulate EE as a code generation problem, with the former representing event ontologies in code and the latter leveraging in-context learning with retrieved examples.

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Multi-agent for IE The rise of LLM agents like GPTs (OpenAI, 2023a), LLaMAs (AI, 2024), and PaLM (Chowdhery et al., 2022) has enabled multiagent collaboration through either cooperative (Zhang et al., 2024) or adversarial strategies (Aryan, 2024) to iteratively output refinement. DoA (Wang and Huang, 2024) introduces a debate optimization with few-shot learning for EE that iteratively refines outputs. EPASS (Hou et al., 2024) proposes a supervised dual-agent system for document-level RE, jointly modeling entity pairs and extracting cross-sentence evidence. TriageAgent (Lu et al., 2024) proposes a heterogeneous multi-agent clinical IE framework, where LLM agents collaborate via multi-round role-playing with confidence scoring and early stopping.

LLM Finetuning Several methods have been in-132 troduced for LLM finetunig, including single and 133 multiple LLMs. RLHF (Ouyang et al., 2022) and DPO (Rafailov et al., 2024) employ instruction 135

tuning to improve the generated response to in-136 structions. Supervised finetuning (SFT) (Pareja 137 et al., 2024) employs large-batch and stacked train-138 ing strategies on datasets to improve LLM gener-139 alization without relying on complex schedulers. 140 GRPO (DeepSeek-AI et al., 2025) applies large-141 scale reinforcement learning directly on the base 142 model, enabling the model to develop reasoning 143 capabilities through self-evolution driven by re-144 ward signals autonomously. Multiagent finetun-145 ing (Subramaniam et al., 2025) introduces a self-146 improvement framework where LLM agents gen-147 148 erate diverse reasoning data through multi-round debates to finetune multiple models, enabling per-149 formance improvements. 150

# **3** MAF-IE Framework

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This section introduces MAF-IE, a Multi-Agent Finetuning specifically designed for Information Extraction. We first formalize the problem (Sec. 3.1), followed by a type-specialized multi-agent debate framework (Sec. 3.2). Next, we describe the construction of task-specific finetuning datasets (Sec. 3.3) and detail our multi-agent finetuning strategy, where each model is trained on data generated by all type-specific agents to achieve specialization (Sec. 3.4). Finally, we describe the inference process (Sec. 3.5). An overview of our approach can be seen in Figure 1.

# 3.1 Problem Definition

Given a natural language dataset  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{task}} = \{x_i\},\$ 165 where each input  $x_i$  is a text sequence, the goal of 166 IE is to produce structured outputs depending on 167 the requirements. The NER identifies entity spans 168 e in  $x_i$  as mentions and assigns each mention a type 169 label  $t \in \mathcal{T}$ , where T is a predefined set of entity 170 types (e.g., PER, ORG, and LOC). The output is a 171 set of labeled entity  $\{(e, t) \mid e \in x_i, t \in \mathcal{T}\}$ . Based 172 on the identified entity set  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k\},\$ 173 RE aims to detect and classify semantic relations 174  $r_i \in \mathcal{R}$  between entities. The output is relation 175 triples:  $\{(e_p, r_i, e_q) \mid e_p, e_q \in E, r_i \in \mathcal{R}\}$ . EE 176 aims to detect event triggers  $t \subseteq x_i$  in the text 177 and classify their event types  $e_t \in \mathcal{E}$ , where  $\mathcal{E}$ is a predefined event type (e.g., Conflict:Attack, 180 Life:Die). For each identified event trigger, extract argument-role pairs  $a_t = \{(r_i, e_i)\}$ , where 181  $e_i$  represents entity mention and  $r_i$  is its semantic role in the event (e.g., Agent, Victim, Time). The output for  $x_i$  is structured event records  $\mathcal{E}_i =$ 184

 $\{(t, e_t, a_t) \mid t \subseteq x_i, e_t \in \mathcal{E}, a_t = \{(r_j, e_j)\}_{j=1}^m\}$ . Fine-grained entity typing(FET) aims to assign finegrained type labels to each marked entity mention  $e_j \subseteq x_i$ , where the type labels  $\mathcal{T}_{\text{fine}}$  are drawn from a hierarchical type ontology (e.g., *Person/Artist/Actor*). The output for  $x_i$  is entity-type associations:  $T_i = \{(e_j, S_j) \mid e_j \subseteq x_i, S_j \subseteq \mathcal{T}_{\text{fine}}\}$ . See Appendix C.2 for more task definitions.

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## 3.2 Multi-Agent Collaboration

We propose a type-specialized multi-agent collaboration framework to address key challenges in IE, including fine-grained type discrimination, boundary ambiguity, and complex semantic structures. The framework consists of N language models, instantiated as identical copies or finetuned variants of a shared base model, which engage in M debate rounds. Each agent specializes in a specific label type, generating predictions with higher confidence within its domain and providing auxiliary predictions for other labels to support cross-type verification. During each round r, agents exchange structured prompts containing their own and others' predictions, rationales, self-assessed confidence scores, and aggregated voting statistics. These confidence scores are recalibrated using a function  $f(\cdot)$  like min-max normalization to ensure fair contribution weighting in the aggregation process. After M rounds, the final prediction is determined through confidence-weighted voting, formulated as:  $\hat{y}^{(M)} = \arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \sum_{n=1}^{N} f(p_n^{(M)}) \cdot \mathbf{1}(\hat{y}_n^{(M)}) =$ y), where  $\mathcal{Y}$  is the set of candidate entities,  $p_n^{(M)}$ is agent  $A_n$ 's original confidence score,  $f(p_n^{(M)})$ is its calibrated value, and  $\mathbf{1}(\hat{y}_n^{(M)} = y)$  indicates whether agent  $A_n$  voted for y. This voting strategy integrates consensus and agent confidence to improve the accuracy of type-specific extraction. We provide pseudocode in Algorithm 1 and 2.

## 3.3 Data Generation via Collaboration

We explore enhancing model performance by leveraging data generated through multi-agent debates among type-specialized agents. Specifically, we aim to construct diverse training datasets that capture label-specific knowledge and collaborative reasoning strategies. Given a set of natural language inputs  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{task}} = \{x_i\}$ , we apply the type-specialized multi-agent debate framework with N type agents and M debate rounds to generate structured responses for each input in  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{task}}$ . For each input  $x_i$ , the final prediction  $\hat{y}_i$  is determined by weighted

voting over the responses produced in the final 234 round of debate. These predicted outputs are then 235 used to construct a pseudo-labeled "ground truth" dataset  $\{(xi, \hat{y}i)\}$ . In the single-model finetuning setting, we subsequently train the model on all types of agents' generated responses  $y_i$  that match the final consensus prediction  $\hat{y}_i$  for each  $x_i$ . While 240 this approach is effective when the final predic-241 tions  $\hat{y}_i$  are accurate, it often leads to stylistically homogeneous outputs with limited diversity. Con-243 sequently, repeatedly constructing datasets  $x_i, \hat{y}_i$ for single model finetuning leads to diminishing 245 returns, resulting in a performance plateau. 246

### 3.4 Finetuning Multiple Models

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Our goal in multi-agent finetuning is to construct training datasets that promote both response diversity and high prediction accuracy for diverse IE tasks. To achieve this, we leverage data generated from multi-agent debates among type-specialized agents, capturing both label-specific knowledge and collaborative reasoning strategies. We provide pseudocode in Algorithm 3.

**Finetuning Contrastive Models** The role of a contrastive model is to improve decision accuracy by learning to distinguish correct from incorrect outputs through structured supervision. Contrastive agents  $A_n^C$ , which are constructed from base models, are trained on response trajectories collected from multi-agent debate outputs. For each input  $x_i$ , we collect the initial prediction  $y_n^1$  and the final prediction  $y_n^M$  from each agent after M rounds of debate and compare them with the consensus output  $\hat{y}_i$  through weighted voting.

To build a contrastive training dataset, we categorize the data into two types of samples based on the alignment between agent predictions and the consensus output. Correction samples capture cases where the initial prediction disagrees with the consensus, but the final prediction aligns with it, indicating successful error correction through debate:  $\mathcal{D}_n^{C-}$ =  $\{(x_i, (y_n^1, \dots, y_n^M)) \mid y_n^1 \neq \hat{y}_i, \ y_n^M = \hat{y}_i\}.$ In contrast, consistency samples represent stable reasoning, where both the initial and final predictions agree with the consensus:  $\mathcal{D}_n^{C+}$  $\{(x_i, (y_n^1, \dots, y_n^M)) \mid y_n^1 = \hat{y}_i, \ y_n^M = \hat{y}_i\}.$ =

To facilitate contrastive learning, all training data are reformatted as multi-turn dialogues. Each dialogue starts with a task-specific prompt, followed by the agent's initial prediction  $y_n^1$ , a feedback prompt encouraging reflection on potential errors, and a revised prediction  $y_n^M$  aligned with the consensus  $\hat{y}_i$ . This dialogue structure extends beyond the traditional *question* $\rightarrow$ *answer* paradigm by incorporating a *feedback* $\rightarrow$ *correction* mechanism, enabling the model to learn both robust extraction and effective error-recovery strategies. To balance the influence of error correction and stable reasoning, we combine correction and consistency samples using a tunable weight  $w: \mathcal{D}_n^C = w\mathcal{D}_n^{C-} + (1-w)\mathcal{D}_n^{C+}$ . This process yields a set of contrastive datasets  $\{\mathcal{D}_1^C, \ldots, \mathcal{D}_N^C\}$ , which are used to fine-tune contrastive agents  $\{\hat{A}_1^C, \ldots, \hat{A}_N^C\}$ . 284

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### 3.5 Inference

At inference time, we have a set of finetuned contrastive models that represent contrastive agents  $\{\hat{A}_1^C, \ldots, \hat{A}_N^C\}$ , each independently performing single-round inference for its designated task. The final output is determined through majority voting across all agent responses, which helps mitigate errors and improve overall performance on IE tasks.

Unlike reasoning tasks such as math or logical QA, multi-round debating among finetuned models degrades performance on structured IE tasks. Debating relies on generating diverse responses to expand the search space. In contrast, finetuning tends to converge model outputs, reducing response diversity and weakening debate effectiveness by producing more uniform and concentrated outputs. This convergence limits agent perspective diversity in multi-round debates. As a result, excessive debating leads to redundant refinements, added noise, and overall performance degradation. To mitigate this, we adopt a lightweight voting strategy where task-specialized models generate independent predictions in parallel, and majority voting aggregates these outputs to achieve consistency and efficiency. We provide pseudocode in Algorithm 4.

## 4 **Experiments**

We evaluate MAF-IE on a diverse set of IE tasks using strict span-level matching and report micro-F1 scores against GPT-3.5 zero-shot baselines. We further assess generalization on GPT-4 and clinical tasks. See Appendix A.1 for details.

### 4.1 Experimental Setup

We propose a novel multi-agent finetuning framework for zero-shot IE, evaluated against singlemodel and multi-agent framework baselines.

**Tasks and Datasets** For a comprehensive evaluation, we examine MAF-IE on seven datasets 333 for five IE tasks: (1) for named entity recogni-334 tion (NER): (i) CoNLL04 (Carreras and Màrquez, 2004), (ii) **BC5CDR** (Li et al., 2016); (2) for relation extraction (RE): (i) CoNLL04 (Carreras and Màrquez, 2004) (ii) NYT (Zeng et al., 2018); 338 (3) for event extraction(EE): (i)ACE05-E  $^{1}$  (ii) MACCROBAT-EE (Ma et al., 2023); (4) for finegrained entity typing (FET): (i) OntoNotes (Gillick 341 et al., 2016); (5) for document-level RE: (i) Do-342 cRed (Yao et al., 2019). Please refer to Appendix 343 A for more information about tasks and datasets.

**Baselines** We conduct our main experiments using both GPT-3.5 and GPT-4. We employ the (1) Type-Agents, where each agent specializes in a specific label type without inter-agent interaction and (2) Multiagent finetuning (MAFT) (Subramaniam et al., 2025), which employs general-built LLMs in iterative collaborative reasoning as the baselines for all zero-shot IE tasks.

**NER and RE** We consider Direct prompting a fundamental single-model baseline for both tasks. This method jointly identifies and organizes outputs in a one-step prompt. For NER, we additionally include: (3) Self-consistency (Wang et al., 2023c), which aggregates multiple outputs via voting to improve stability; (4) Soft Self-consistency (Wang et al., 2024a), which softens voting decisions using uncertainty-aware aggregation. For RE, we further compare: (5) G&O (Li et al., 2024b), a pipeline-based approach that generates triplets and then organizes them into structured outputs.

**EE** We compare MAF-IE against the following additional baselines: (3) ChatGPT-14 (Li et al., 2023a), the first study evaluating ChatGPT's zeroshot performance on IE tasks. (4) ChatIE (Wei 369 et al., 2024), a multi-turn QA framework that first identifies all event types, then performs IE for each identified type. (5) G-PTLM (Lin et al., 2023), a prompting-based model that encodes argument constraints to regularize event argument predictions, 373 and (6) CODE4STRUCT (Wang et al., 2023b) for-374 mulates EE as a code generation problem, and rep-375 resents event ontology in Python code expression.

377Fine-grained Entity TypingWe compare MAF-378IE against additional baselines on the FET task, in-379cluding (3) ONTOTYPE, combining BERT-based

Tasks $(\rightarrow)$ Baselines $(\downarrow) / Metrics (\rightarrow)$	NER F1-Score	<b>RE</b> F1-Score
Single model	*	
GPT-3.5 (OpenAI, 2023a)	58.15	<u>34.72</u> <sup>†</sup>
+ G&O (Li et al., 2024b)	-	33.50
+ Self-consistency (Wang et al., 2023c)	60.48	-
+ Soft Self-consistency (Wang et al., 2023c)	55.13	-
Multi-agent framework		
+ MAFT (Subramaniam et al., 2025)	<u>61.12</u> <sup>†</sup>	20.51
+ MAF-IE (Type-agent w/o debate)	55.73	29.97
+ MAF-IE (Multi-agent Collaboration)	66.83	36.47
Fine-tune (FT)		
+ MAFT (Subramaniam et al., 2025)	61.12	20.51
+ MAF-IE (Single FT)	64.21	28.63
+ MAF-IE (Multiple FT)	62.51	33.47
GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2024b)	66.59	21.01
+ MAF-IE (Multi-agent Collaboration)	71.46	44.03
+ MAF-IE (Single FT)	67.26	38.26
+ MAF-IE (Multiple FT)	63.65	41.76

Table 1: Main results on CONLL04 for NER and RE tasks in zero-shot setting. Bold indicates the best performance.<sup>†</sup> marks the second-best. Notations are consistent across tables.

prompting with RoBERTa-MNLI entailment for ontology-aware selection; (4) ZOE (Zhou et al., 2018), which aligns entities to Wikipedia entries via Boolean functions over Freebase types; (5) DZET (Obeidat et al., 2019), which uses distributed description representations for semantic alignment. 380

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**Implementation Details** The proposed system is flexible, allowing any LLM to serve in any arbitrary agent role defined within the framework. We conduct zero-shot experiments using GPT-3.5-Trubo (OpenAI, 2023b) and GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2024b). We set the number of collaboration iterations to 2 and perform single-step inference. We set the temperature to 1 to ensure reproducibility. Please refer to Appendix B for more details.

# 5 Main Results

MAF-IE outperforms zero-shot baselines for NER and RE tasks Table 1 shows that MAF-IE consistently outperforms all zero-shot baselines on CONLL04 NER and RE with GPT-3.5 and GPT-4. With GPT-3.5, MAF-IE achieves gains of 5.71% (NER) and 15.96% (RE) over the multi-agent baseline, and 1.75% over G&O on RE. Finetuning further improves performance by 5.67% (NER) and 10.78% (RE), while our single finetuned model surpasses direct prompting by 3.73% on NER. Applying MAF-IE to GPT-4 achieves the best results on both tasks, with 71.46% (NER) and 44.03%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://catalog.ldc.upenn.edu/LDC2006T06

Tasks $(\rightarrow)$ Baselines $(\downarrow)$ / Metrics $(\rightarrow)$	<b>ED</b> F1	EAE F1	EE F1
Single model			
GPT-3.5 (OpenAI, 2023a)			
+ ChatGPT-14 (Li et al., 2023a)	17.1	28.9	16.6
+ ChatIE (Wei et al., 2024)	-	29.5	-
+ G-PTLM (Lin et al., 2023)	-	31.2	-
CODE4STRUCT (Wang et al., 2023b)	-	37.8	-
Multi-agent framework			
+ MAFT (Subramaniam et al., 2025)	23.93	21.73	18.05
+ MAF-IE (Type-agent w/o debate)	23.85	35.98	16.57
+ MAF-IE (Multi-agent Collaboration)	<u>36.98</u> <sup>†</sup>	38.87	34.32
Fine-tune (FT)			
+ MAFT (Subramaniam et al., 2025)	21.36	17.16	14.94
+ MAF-IE (Single FT)	36.21	34.97	22.41
+ MAF-IE (Multiple FT)	41.32	$36.41^{\dagger}$	$\underline{24.98}^{\dagger}$
GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2024b)			
+ MAF-IE (Multi-agent Collaboration)	54.01	49.43	45.46
+ MAF-IE (Multiple FT)	43.18	41.56	35.38

Table 2: Main results on ACE05 for ED, EAE, and EE tasks in zero-shot setting.

(RE), demonstrating its scalability across models.

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**MAF-IE** outperforms zero-shot baselines for 409 **EE tasks** Table 2 shows that MAF-IE achieves 410 strong zero-shot F1 improvements on ACE05 with 411 GPT-3.5, outperforming the multi-agent baseline 412 by 13.05% (ED), 17.14% (EAE), and 16.27% (EE). 413 Compared to ChatGPT-14, MAF-IE achieves 414 gains of 19.88% (ED), 9.97% (EAE), and 17.72% 415 (EE), and exceeds the second-best EAE baseline, 416 417 CODE4STRUCT, by 1.07%. In the finetuning setting, MAF-IE achieves even larger improvements, 418 with gains of 19.96% (ED), 19.45% (EAE), and 419 9.54% (EE), and further improves debating accu-420 racy by 4.34% on ED. Finally, our finetuned single 421 422 model surpasses the best single-model baseline by 19.11% (ED), 5.81% (EE), and achieves an average 423 5.10% improvement on EAE across all zero-shot 424 single LLM baselines. 425

MAF-IE outperforms zero-shot baselines for 426 **Fine-grained entity typing** Table 3 shows that 427 MAF-IE achieves the best zero-shot F1 on 428 OntoNotes with GPT-3.5, consistently outperform-429 ing ChatGPT-14, ZOE, and direct prompt meth-430 431 ods (Komarlu et al., 2024a), with gains of 1.11%, 13.71%, and 33.21%, respectively. MAF-IE also 432 surpasses the state-of-the-art OntoType by 1.11%. 433

434 MAF-IE generalizes across diverse IE set435 tings (long-document RE) and domains (news,
436 biomedicine) We further validate the generaliz-

$\begin{array}{l} \text{Metrics} (\rightarrow) \\ \text{Baselines} (\downarrow) \end{array}$	Accuracy (%)	F1 (%)
Single model		
GPT-3.5 (OpenAI, 2023a)		
Distant Supervision via KBs		
+ DZET(Obeidat et al., 2019)	23.1	28.1
+ ZOE (Zhou et al., 2018)	50.7	60.8
Transfer Learning	I	
+ OTyper (Yuan and Downey, 2018)	31.8	36.0
+ MZET (Zhang et al., 2020)	33.7	43.7
Annotation-Free	I	
+ ChatGPT-14 (Li et al., 2023a)	-	73.4
+ OntoType (Li et al., 2023a)		
- ChatGPT Prompt 1	27.7	37.5
- ChatGPT Prompt 2	31.3	41.3
- ChatGPT Prompt 3	24.7	33.8
- Original Ontology	$65.7^{\dagger}$	$73.4^{\dagger}$
Multi-agent framework		
+ MAFT (Subramaniam et al., 2025)	46.81	53.61
+ MAF-IE (Type-agent w/o debate)	11.05	18.91
+ MAF-IE (Multi-agent Collaboration)	66.91	74.51
GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2024b)		
+ MAF-IE (Multi-agent Collaboration)	76.14	84.85

Table 3: Main results on OntoNotes for Fine-grained entity typing task in zero-shot setting.

ability of our multi-agent collaboration framework across diverse IE tasks and domains, including document-level RE (DocRed), biomedical NER (BC5CDR), clinical EE (MACCROBAT), and RE on the NYT dataset. Please see Appendix C. 437

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### 6 Ablation Studies

In this section, we investigate the effectiveness of MAF-IE, its impact on enhancing response diversity, and its ability to generalize to unseen datasets in a zero-shot setting.

Multi-agent debate with different number of rounds We evaluate MAF-IE on the CoNLL04 NER task using GPT-3.5 with varying numbers of debate rounds, and compare it against prior work MAFT, as illustrated in Figure 2(a). We observe that increasing the number of rounds beyond two leads to diminishing returns, with both methods reaching a performance plateau. Excessive debate rounds provide limited gains for IE tasks, as early rounds already capture most correct entities, while further iterations risk over-refinement and noise accumulation. We notice recent work MoA (Wang et al., 2024b) uses multiple heterogeneous LLMs to exploit complementary strengths, while MAF-IE focuses on improving a single base model through



Figure 2: Ablation study results. (a) shows F1(%) across different debate rounds; (b) shows F1(%) with varying numbers of training samples; (c) shows the impact of contrastive datasets. All results are evaluated on the CoNLL04 NER task using GPT-3.5.

multi-agent finetuning, offering a more economical and lightweight solution. Extending our framework to heterogeneous agents is left for future work.

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Multi-agent FT with different dataset construction strategies We compare two data construction strategies based on multi-agent debate. The first uses only consensus outputs as positive examples, while the second builds a contrastive dataset with both positives (aligned initial responses) and negatives, where negatives are represented as dialogue trajectories (question  $\rightarrow$  incorrect answer  $\rightarrow$  feedback  $\rightarrow$  revised answer). As shown in Figure 2(b), the contrastive strategy improves average F1 by 6%, increasing true positives and reducing false negatives compared to the positive-only.

Multi-agent FT with different data selection 477 strategies We investigate how the strategy for 478 training data selection impacts multi-agent fine-479 tuning, random sampling, and confidence-based 480 selection guided by scores assigned by a GPT-3.5 481 judge on the CONLL04 NER task. As shown in 482 Table 5, the confidence-based strategy achieves a 483 higher average F1 (62.72% vs. 61.94%) and lower 484 variance (0.22 vs. 1.56) with 50 samples, demon-485 strating more stable and reliable performance in 486 low-resource settings. 487

Multi-agent FT with different numbers of exam-488 **ples** We investigate how the number of examples 489 from the training data affects the performance of 490 multi-agent finetuning on the CONLL04 NER task 491 with GPT-3.5. As shown in Figure 2(c), the F1 492 score does not consistently improve as the training 493 494 examples increase. Our results indicate that finetuning each model with 15-20 examples per type 495 label yields optimal performance, likely due to a 496 balance between sufficient task coverage and the 497 overfitting risk. 498

**Final answer generation from multiple finetuned models** As shown in Table 8 in Appendix E, the majority voting improves the overall F1 score of individual models. It achieves the highest recall, demonstrating its effectiveness in enhancing robustness and reducing false negatives without sacrificing precision. 499

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Finetune small language models We evaluate the performance of finetuning Qwen2.5 (1.5B), Qwen2.5 (3B), and Phi-4-mini (3B) on generated data for NER (CoNLL04) and EAE (ACE05), comparing supervised finetuning (SFT) and GRPO (Mroueh, 2025). As shown in Figures 3(a) and (b), SFT results indicate that Qwen2.5 (3B) consistently achieves the best and most stable performance, peaking with around 200 training examples. Qwen2.5 (1.5B) achieves moderate improvements, while Phi-4-mini performs poorly on both tasks, showing low and stagnant F1 scores, suggesting limited capabilities to benefit from training data. Figure 3(c) shows the GRPO performance on Qwen2.5-(3B) for the EAE task, indicating strong data dependence, with performance steadily improving as the amount of training data increases. Interestingly, a simple reward design based on output format and accuracy proves more effective than complex alternatives. However, GRPO comes with significant time costs, requiring over 7 hours for 500 examples and several days to reach GPT-3.5-level performance with thousands of examples. Moreover, the high cost of large-scale annotations further limits its scalability in low-resource and real-world applications.

**Compared with the few-shot setting** We evaluate few-shot prompting on the CoNLL04 NER task using GPT-3.5. As shown in Table 4, adding more in-context examples provides only marginal improvements, with performance quickly plateau-



Figure 3: Ablation study results. (a) shows EAE F1(%) across different small language models on SFT; (b) shows NER F1(%) across different small language models on SFT; (c) shows EAE performance of Qwen2.5(3B) with GRPO across different number of samples

Few-shot Method	Precision	Recall	F1
5-shots	56.54	81.05	66.61
10-shots	57.73	82.06	67.78
15-shots	57.24	82.06	67.44

Table 4: The results of few-shot learning on CONLL04 NER task with GPT-3.5.

ing. This highlights the limited generalization ability of LLMs when relying on static examples for IE tasks. Although few-shot prompting appears cost-effective, its actual gains are minimal, and approaches that depend on carefully designed examples often require complex designs and costly training, limiting practical utility. In contrast, our multi-agent finetuning framework provides a more practical and scalable solution. It requires only a one-time collaboration and finetuning process, after which the resulting models can be directly applied to unseen datasets without further adaptation, achieving both cost and time efficiency for real-world IE deployment.

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Efficiency & scalability study We evaluate the 551 552 cost and time per data point on CONLL04 NER and RE tasks with GPT-3.5. As shown in Appendix H.1 Table 23 and H.2 Table 24, we observe that 554 finetuned parallel inference reduces latency by 42% on NER and 50% on RE, matching single-agent speed while avoiding the overhead of multi-round debate. Compared to multi-agent debate, finetuned 558 parallel inference improves cost efficiency by 90% on NER and 84% on RE, offering a practical and scalable alternative that retains most of the performance benefits while significantly reducing costs. More analysis is provided in Appendix H. 563

564 Case Study & Error Analysis We compare
565 MAF-IE with MAFT on the CONLL04 NER with
566 GPT-3.5, conducting a comprehensive error anal-

ysis covering overall and type-specific improvements, representative case studies, and the incremental impact of each debate round. Specifically, Table 6 summarizes overall and entity-level gains, Table 25 presents case studies of error corrections, and Table 7 quantifies stepwise improvements across debate rounds. To better understand the source of these improvements, we further analyze how MAF-IE addresses key challenges in structured IE. It improves type discrimination through agent specialization, mitigates boundary ambiguity via cross-type verification, and enhances robustness on complex semantics by aggregating diverse rationales through cross-agent voting. All tables mentioned above and additional details are provided in Appendix I.

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# 7 Conclusion

In this paper, we have introduced MAF-IE, a novel multi-agent finetuning framework that improves the efficiency and effectiveness of LLMs for zeroshot IE. By leveraging a society of specialized agents that collaboratively solve IE tasks through multi-agent debate and confidence-weighted voting, MAF-IE addresses key limitations of single LLMs on IE. This system enables the distillation of collaborative knowledge into a set of finetuned models, achieving substantial performance gains across a broad range of structured IE tasks. Importantly, MAF-IE is generalizable and scalable to both open-source and proprietary language models and provides a more efficient alternative to costly multi-agent inference. Additionally, MAF-IE can be combined with other advanced finetuning paradigms such as GRPO and extended to heterogeneous model agents, which we leave for future work. This work sets up the foundation for advancing efficient and scalable zero-shot IE with LLMs.

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# 14 Limitations

- In contrast to existing approaches that rely on direct inference or finetuning of a single model, multiagent finetuning introduces computational overhead during both training and inference, as it requires maintaining and running multiple model instances. Specifically, we identify the following limitations of MAF-IE:
- 612 Scalability in Multi-Agent Collaboration As 613 the number of agents increases, coordination com-614 plexity grows. Managing conflicts and ensuring 615 convergence in large-scale settings require further 616 optimization to prevent excessive inference time.
- 617Dependency on Model AccuracyThe frame-618work relies on LLMs' reasoning capabilities, which619can still produce hallucinated or inconsistent out-620puts. Additionally, due to the risk posed by the621inherent instability of large language model gen-622eration, biases, trust issues, or other uncertainties623may arise, potentially undermining the reliability624of the extracted information.
- Ontology Constraints Our approach operates
  within predefined entity and relation ontologies,
  limiting adaptability to open-domain or evolving
  schemas. Extending it to dynamic ontologies
  would require additional mechanisms for expansion and adaptation.

# 31 Ethical Statement

In this work, we propose a multi-agent finetuning method to improve LLM performance on the important and fundamental task of information extraction. We do not anticipate any ethical issues regarding the topics of this research.

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## A Dataset Details

We evaluate MAF-IE on seven diverse IE datasets, including CONLL04, NYT (Zeng et al., 2018), BC5CDR (Li et al., 2016), OntoNotes (Gillick et al., 2016), DocRed (Yao et al., 2019), ACE05, and MACCROBAT, which covers NER, RE, EE, and fine-grained entity typing tasks across both sentence-level and document-level inputs, and spanning coarse- and fine-grained settings. All results are reported under strict span-level fullmatching criteria, where only predictions that perfectly match the ground-truth entity spans and labels are counted as true positives. We use GPT-3.5-turbo and report micro-averaged F1 scores for fair comparison with existing zero-shot baselines. Additionally, to assess the generalization capability of our framework, we further evaluate it with GPT-4 and extend the evaluation to the clinical datasets. The dataset statistics for all evaluation benchmarks are summarized as follows: CoNLL04 in Table 18, NYT-RE in Table 22, BC5CDR-NER in Table 21, OntoNotes in Table 19, DocRED in Table 17, ACE05 in Table 20, and MACCROBAT-EE in Table 16. The proposed data construction procedure for contrastive model finetuning is detailed in Algorithm 3.

# A.1 Metrics and Evaluation

We compute micro-averaged precision, recall, and F1-score <sup>2</sup> using a strict span-level matching.

For NER and RE tasks, we conduct experiments on the CoNLL04 test dataset (Carreras and Màrquez, 2004), including three entities and five relation types. We additionally conduct NER on the BC5CDR test dataset and RE on the NYT test dataset.

For the EE task, we evaluate on two public event extraction test datasets: ACE05-E<sup>3</sup> and MACCROBAT-EE (Ma et al., 2023). Following prior split work(Lin et al., 2020), we evaluate three subtasks: (i) Event Detection (ED), where event types are given and the goal is to identify triggers; (ii) Event Argument Extraction (EAE), where both event types and triggers are provided; and (iii) Joint EE. We report Exact Match F1 for ED and Argument Head F1 for EAE and EE.

For fine-grained entity typing, we evaluate the performance on Ontonotes (Gillick et al., 2016). The basic statistics of the dataset are shown in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://scikit-learn.org/stable/index.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>https://catalog.ldc.upenn.edu/LDC2006T06

1031Appendix 19. We followed previous work (Ko-1032marlu et al., 2024b) that each entity mentioned is1033labeled with a fine-grained label represented as a1034path within the ontology. The ontologies have a1035maximum depth of three and contain four high-1036level types (e.g., LOC, PER, and ORG).

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**Details** During pre-processing for the NER task, we extract entities for each ontology-defined type from every document, constructing type-specific ground truth annotations. If a document lacks entities of a given type, the corresponding list remains empty. For RE, we extract head-tail entity pairs for each relation type, leaving the output empty when no valid pairs exist.

During post-processing, LLMs often introduce noise due to their generative nature, leading to discrepancies between outputs and the original text. Common issues include extraneous content, spacing inconsistencies, tense variations, and redundant acronym clarifications. These inconsistencies are particularly prevalent in large models, which may alter phrasing or terminology when extracting entities or relationships.

To mitigate these issues, we filter noisy content by matching generated outputs with original sentences. For RE, we format the output as [head: head\_entity, tail: tail\_entity] and validate entity pairs for each relation type. Consequently, we obtain structured entity lists: in NER, entities of a specific type per document; in RE, head-tail entity pairs per relation type.

To maintain the correct logical order between the head entity and tail entity, we provide natural language explanations that explicitly define the expected entity types for each relation. This ensures that extracted entities align with their intended semantic roles and follow the correct relationship direction. By clarifying entity-role expectations, we aim to mitigate errors such as entity misidentification or head-tail position errors caused by position bias or incorrect ordering. Furthermore, enforcing role consistency through relation constraints reduces relational confusion, enhancing extraction accuracy.

We follow the traditional pipeline for fine-tuning inference on a single GPT model, sequentially processing each sentence for NER and RE across all labels. Finally, we evaluate model performance using precision, recall, and F1-score, measuring alignment between predicted and ground truth entity spans. We use a full match criterion, requiring exact span agreement between predictions and<br/>ground truth to maintain consistency with tradi-<br/>tional methods. For instance, in the sentence from<br/>doc\_id 3: "He's working for the White House", the<br/>ground truth entity labeled as ORG\_Agent might<br/>be:1082<br/>1083

doc_id 3: [White House]	1088
If the ORG_agent predicts:	1091
doc_id 3: [the White House]	1092 1093

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with the additional word "the" in the span, it would be counted as both a false positive and a false negative under the full match evaluation. Similarly, if the ORG\_Agent label incorrectly includes "White House" in its list, it would also be considered incorrect under the matching criteria. This rigorous evaluation method ensures a thorough assessment of the model's performance by capturing subtle span mismatches that could impact entity recognition accuracy.

## A.2 Document-level Relation Extraction

We apply MAF-IE on document-level RE task on DocRed (Yao et al., 2019), which deeper verify the effectiveness of our method.

**Problem definition** Given a document D that includes a set of sentences  $X_D = \{x_i\}_{i=1}^k$  and a set of entities  $E_D = \{e_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , document-level relation extraction aims to predict a subset of relations from  $R \cup \{NA\}$  for all entity pairs  $(e_s, e_o)$  where  $s, o = 1, \ldots, n$  and  $s \neq o$ . Here, R represents a predefined set of relation types,  $e_s$  and  $e_o$  denote the subject and object entities respectively, and NA indicates no relation between the entities. An entity  $e_i$  can appear multiple times within a document through its mentions  $M_i = \{m_j^i\}_{j=1}^{N_i}$ , where  $m_j^i$ represents the *j*-th mention of  $e_i$ , and  $N_i$  is the number of mentions. During test time, the model is required to predict relation labels for all possible entity pairs in the document. Table 17 presents the statistics of DocRed.

## A.3 Clinical Event Extraction

We apply MAF-IE on MACCROBAT-EE, a clinical EE dataset that consists of 200 pairs of English clinical case reports from PubMed, accompanying annotation files with partial event annotation provided by 6 annotators with prior experience in biomedical annotations. Table 16 presents the statistics of MACCROBAT-EE.

Selection Method	Time-1	Time-2	Time-3
Randomly selection			
10-data points	65.58	64.59	62.19
15-data points	64.38	63.87	61.71
20-data points	61.17	59.09	62.42
30-data points	58.45	57.94	58.37
50-data points	63.54	61.79	60.49
100-data points	63.07	62.27	61.36
<b>Confidence-score selection</b>			
10-data points	61.54	61.79	60.21
15-data points	62.51	62.37	61.17
20-data points	61.07	62.97	62.32
30-data points	62.75	61.81	64.57
50-data points	63.37	62.28	62.51
100-data points	62.51	62.35	61.51
100-data points	02.31	02.55	01.51

Table 5: F1 scores (%) (mean) of different examples selection strategies.

#### B **Implementation Details**

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The proposed system is flexible, allowing any LLM to serve in any arbitrary agent role defined within 1135 the framework. We conduct zero-shot experiments using GPT-3.5-turbo (OpenAI, 2023b) and GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2024b). Each label is assigned a dedi-1138 cated type agent, forming a one-to-one mapping 1139 with the label set. We set the number of collabo-1140 ration iterations to 2 and perform single-step inference. We set the number of finetuned models to 3 1142 for all tasks. The judge agent to select data points is powered by GPT-3.5-turbo. We set the tempera-1144 ture to 1 to ensure reproducibility. For supervised 1145 finetuning and reinforcement learning fine-tuning baselines, we use Qwen2.5-1.5B (Team, 2024b), Qwen2.5-3B (Team, 2024c), and Phi4-mini-3B (Microsoft, 2024). All fine-tuning experiments are 1149 conducted on NVIDIA A100 GPUs. Our reinforce-1150 ment learning and related experiments on opensource models were conducted on clusters with 1152 four H100 or A100 GPUs, with each model con-1153 suming 80GB to 160GB of memory and requiring 24 to 48 hours of multi-GPU inference. 1155

#### С **Additional Experimental Results**

## C.1 Fine-grained Entity Typing

We conduct experiments on the test set of the 1158 OntoNotes dataset (Komarlu et al., 2024b), assign-1159 ing each type label from different levels of the ontology to a dedicated agent to evaluate the effectiveness of our multi-agent framework on large-scale, 1162 fine-grained classification tasks. The OntoNotes dataset contains a total of 89 type labels, and we 1164

deploy 89 specialized agents accordingly to per-1165 form this task in a distributed and parallel manner. 1166 Table 3 shows our results on the test set. MAF-1167 IE achieves the best zero-shot performance on this 1168 dataset. Compared to the state-of-the-art zero-shot 1169 fine-grained entity typing methods, ChatGPT-14 1170 and ZOE, MAF-IE achieves absolute F1 improve-1171 ments of 3.71% and 16.31%, respectively. More-1172 over, compared to direct prompt methods (Komarlu 1173 et al., 2024a) with GPT-3.5, MAF-IE achieves a 1174 substantial F1 improvement of 35.81%. MAF-IE 1175 also surpasses the previous state-of-the-art method, 1176 OntoType, by 3.71% in F1 score. 1177

Multiagent Collaboration Framework for En-1178 tity Typing on the OntoNotes Dataset To ad-1179 dress the challenge of fine-grained entity typing, 1180 we design a multi-agent collaboration framework 1181 based on type-agent collaboration and multi-round 1182 debate, tailored explicitly to the hierarchical en-1183 tity type schema of the OntoNotes dataset. This 1184 framework constructs a multi-level entity typing 1185 system through three key stages: type-specialized 1186 agent modeling, multi-round interactive debate, 1187 and hierarchical weighted decision-making. We 1188 begin by analyzing the entity type hierarchy in the 1189 OntoNotes dataset and constructing a three-level 1190 hierarchical structure, ranging from coarse-grained 1191 to fine-grained types. This structure includes main 1192 categories (PER, LOC, ORG, OTHER), subcate-1193 gories, and finer-grained subtypes. For each type, 1194 the system instantiates a specialized agent with ex-1195 pert knowledge specific to that type, making it an 1196 expert in its domain. When processing a new en-1197 tity, the system initiates a multi-stage collaboration 1198 process. In the first stage, all agents independently 1199 analyze the entity's contextual and semantic fea-1200 tures to form preliminary judgments. In the subse-1201 quent debate stage, agents exchange their perspec-1202 tives, present supporting or opposing arguments, 1203 and dynamically refine their decisions based on 1204 the insights shared during the debate. After the 1205 debate concludes, the system applies a hierarchical, weighted voting mechanism to aggregate the 1207 opinions of all agents. In this process, specialized 1208 experts are assigned higher voting weights. The 1209 voting follows a hierarchical decision principle, pri-1210 oritizing consensus at the most fine-grained level 1211 and falling back to higher-level categories if no 1212 consensus is reached. This framework effectively 1213 simulates collaborative decision-making among hu-1214 man experts, enabling the system to handle the 1215 complexity and uncertainty of entity typing. It
balances fine-grained classification accuracy and
system robustness, making it well-suited for realworld information extraction applications.

1220 Zero-Shot Hierarchical Entity Typing Mechanism In this multi-agent framework, the core 1221 mechanism for hierarchical entity typing from 1222 broad categories like Person to subtypes like "/per-1223 son/artist" and further to "/person/artist/actor" is 1224 1225 realized through the zero-shot reasoning capabilities of the agents. The decision-making process is 1226 structured as follows: Each agent is assigned to a 1227 specific fine-grained type (typically at the third hierarchical level, such as "/person/artist/actor") and 1229 1230 is provided with a detailed description. When encountering unseen entities, agents do not perform a 1231 simple binary classification (yes/no). Instead, they 1232 engage in a stepwise hierarchical reasoning pro-1233 cess. The prompt given to each agent includes an 1234 explicit domain definition, for example: 1235

```
"You are a specialist in identifying '/
person/artist/actor' entities (
actors in film, television, theater,
or other media)."
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This prompt design implicitly encodes the hierarchical dependency. In order to determine whether an entity is an actor, the agent must first verify if it is a person and then if it qualifies as an artist. Leveraging its pre-trained knowledge, the language model understands these inheritance relationships, such as all actors being artists and all artists being persons.

Stepwise Reasoning Process: There are three levels: First-Level: Determine whether the entity is a person, location, organization, or other. Second-Level: If classified as a person, further assess whether it belongs to a subtype such as an artist or athlete. Third-Level: If an artist is classified as such, determine whether it specifically refers to an actor, author, etc. When the agent determines that the entity does not belong to its specialized type, it provides alternative type suggestions, reflecting the hierarchical reasoning process. For example, an actor specialist might respond:

```
"This is not an actor, but it may be a

'/person/artist/director'."

or

"This is not an actor, and may not even

be an artist, but it could be a '/

person/athlete'."
```

## C.2 DocRed RE

We conduct experiments on the test set of Do-1271 cRed (Yao et al., 2019), introducing a novel ap-1272 plication of multi-agent collaboration and debate 1273 mechanisms for document-level relation extraction. 1274 Specifically, we create a dedicated agent for each 1275 relation type (e.g., P17 "country", P19 "place of 1276 birth"), where each agent focuses solely on iden-1277 tifying its assigned relation, thereby improving 1278 relation-specific prediction accuracy. During the 1279 multi-round debate process, all agents first indepen-1280 dently analyze entity pairs and make their initial 1281 predictions. The agents then share their observa-1282 tions and adjust their decisions based on feedback 1283 from other agents. Through iterative interactions, 1284 the agents gradually reach more stable judgments. 1285 In the final consensus stage, we apply a weighted 1286 voting mechanism that aggregates agent decisions 1287 based on their confidence scores and the number of 1288 supporting votes, leading to more reliable relation predictions. 1290

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Table 10 shows results on the test set of DocRED under the zero-shot setting using GPT-3.5 and GPT-4. MAF-IE consistently outperforms all baselines on GPT-3.5, achieving a 4.49% improvement over multiagent baseline and surpassing Semi-automatic data enhancement (Li et al., 2023b) methods by 19.17%, 12.95%, and 13.04%, respectively.

## C.3 Clinical MACCROBAT-EE

We conduct experiments with GPT-3.5 on the test set of clinical MACCROBAT-EE (Ma et al., 2023), following the same settings used for ACE05, including Event Detection (ED), Event Argument Extraction (EAE), and Event Extraction (EE). As shown in Table 9, prompting GPT-3.5 performs poorly on the clinical MACCROBAT-EE dataset, with near-zero F1 scores on ED and EE and only moderate results on EAE. While the existing multiagent framework (Subramaniam et al., 2025) improves ED, it underperforms on EAE and EE. In contrast, MAF-IE achieves the best performance across all tasks, with F1 scores of 25.95% (ED), 32.18% (EAE), and 24.45% (EE), demonstrating superior generalizability and robustness in zeroshot event extraction.

## C.4 Results for BC5CDR and NYT

We conduct experiments with GPT-3.5 on the NYT1316(Zeng et al., 2018) test set for the RE task and the1317BC5CDR (Li et al., 2016) test set for the NER task,1318

Metric	F1 (%)
Improved F1	4.91
Entity Type	Improved / Total (%)
PER	4 / 102 (3.92)
LOC	4 / 102 (3.92)
ORG	7 / 102 (6.86)

Table 6: Improvement statistics on CONLL04 NER, with GPT-3.5

Debate Rounds	s Number of Improvements	
1 Round	3	
2 Rounds	4	
4 Rounds	1	

Table 7: Incremental improvements across debaterounds on CoNLL04 NER with GPT-3.5.

following the same experimental settings as used 1319 on CONLL04 for each corresponding task in zeroshot setting with GPT-3.5. Table 14 presents F1 1321 scores on the NYT RE task under the zero-shot 1322 setting. The One-step method of achieves an F1 1323 of 10.5%, showing limited relation extraction ca-1324 pability. Their G&O strategy improves the score 1325 1326 to 16.0% by incorporating a generation and refinement process. In contrast, our proposed MAF-1327 IE achieves the best F1 of 19.0%, demonstrating the effectiveness of our multi-agent collaboration 1329 framework in enhancing relation extraction across 1330 domains. Table 15 presents the F1 scores on the 1331 BC5CDR dataset for the NER task in the zero-1332 shot setting. The All-Entity-in-One and One-step 1333 achieve F1 scores of 50.58% and 60.41%, respec-1334 tively. Their G&O strategy further improves the 1335 performance to 61.86%. In comparison, MAF-IE 1336 achieves the highest F1 score of 64.23%, demon-1337 strating superior effectiveness in zero-shot biomed-1338 ical NER. 1339

**D** Prompt Details

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## D.1 Detail prompts for NER

### Listing-1:Type agent w/o debate

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<Human>Given the following text, extract
    all named entities of the following
    types: Person, Organization,
    Location.
For each extracted entity, provide:
- The entity type (Person, Organization,
    or Location)
Text: {text}
<bot> Response:
```

<b>Contrastive Models</b>	Precision	Recall	F1
Model 1	53.15	75.46	62.37
Model 2	53.26	76.83	62.11
Model 3	53.01	74.77	62.04
Majority Voting	52.58	77.06	62.51

Table 8: Majority voting inference with contrastive models on CoNLL04 NER, GPT-3.5.

Method	ED	EAE	EE
GPT-3.5			
E&IO	0	0	0
E&IO	0	$29.5^{\dagger}$	0
DICE (Ma et al., 2023)			
- E&IO	0	0	0
- Task Inst.	8.37	-	-
CODE4STRUCT (Wang et al., 2023b)	-	11.89	-
Multi-agent framework			
MAFT	$22.64^{\dagger}$	20.33	7.23
(Subramaniam et al., 2025)			
MAF-IE			
- All Type-agent	22.28	24.14	$15.72^{\dagger}$
- Multi-agent Collaboration	25.95	32.18	24.45

Table 9: F1 scores (%) on Clinical MACCROBAT for ED, EAE and EE tasks under different baselines and collaboration frameworks in zero-shot setting. Bold indicates the best performance.  $^{\dagger}$  marks the second-best.

In the prompts, entity types are rephrased to enhance model comprehension. For example, "PER" is rewritten as "person", and "ORG" as "organization", improving clarity while ensuring consistency across models. Each type's ontology definition is a key distinguishing feature of its dedicated Type Agent.

### Listing-2: MAF-IE

Extract all person (PER), location (LOC) , and organization (ORG) entities
from the following text.
As a {self.agent_type} entity
recognition expert, you should be
particularly focused on correctly
<pre>identifying all {self.agent_type}</pre>
entities.
Please provide your answer in the
following format:
PER: ###[list of person entities]###
LOC: ###[list of location entities]###
ORG: ###[list of organization entities
]###
If a category has no entities, use 'NULL
' inside the ### markers.
Make sure each entity is clearly
separated by commas within the ###
markers.
CONFIDENCE: [1-10] - Please provide an

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Metrics $(\rightarrow)$ Baselines $(\downarrow)$	Paradigm	F1 (%)
Single model		
GPT-3.5 (OpenAI, 2023a)		
Semi-automatic Data Enhancement for Doc-level (Li	et al., 2023	<b>b</b> )
+ GPT-3.5 only	zero-shot	5.6
+ GPT-3.5 only+NLI (w/o. rel des)	zero-shot	11.82
+ GPT-3.5 only+NLI (w. rel des)	zero-shot	11.73
LMRC (Li et al., 2024a)		
+ GPT-3.5 only	3-shot	6.97
+ LMRC	3-shot	10.71
+ Renerta	3-shot	10.71
Multi-agent framework		
+ MAFT (Subramaniam et al., 2025)	zero-shot	$20.28^{\dagger}$
+ MAF-IE (Type-agent w/o debate)	zero-shot	5.98
+ MAF-IE (Multi-agent Collaboration)	zero-shot	24.77
GPT-4 (OpenAI, 2024b)		
+ Multi-dimensional Prompting (Zhu et al., 2024)	zero-shot	15.58
+ MDP (Zhu et al., 2024)	zero-shot	15.58
+ LMRC (Li et al., 2024a)	3-shot	36.20

Table 10: Main results on DocRed for long-document RE task in zero-shot setting.Bold indicates the best performance and  $\dagger$  marks the second-best in zero-shot setting.

```
overall confidence score for your
entity identifications
After providing the entities in the
format above, you can explain your
reasoning.
Text: {text}
```

## D.2 Detail prompts for RE

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### Listing-3:Type agent w/o debate

```
<Human>Given the following text, extract
    all entites of the following
    relaiton types: Organization based
    in, Located-in, Live-in, Work-for
    and Kill.
Return the extracted relations in the
    following format:
head entity, relation type, tail entity.
Text: {text}
<bot> Response:
```

## Listing-4: MAF-IE

```
You are a specialized agent that only
extracts '{relation_type}'
relationships from text.
{relation2prompt[relation_type]}
In '{relation_type}' relationships:
Head entity is a {head_type} type
Tail entity is a {tail_type} type
The relationship means the head {
relation_verb} the tail
```

```
IMPORTANT FORMAT: Use exactly this
                                                   1426
    format for each relation you find:
                                                   1427
                                                   1428
Relation: {relation_type}, Head: ###[{
    head_type}]###, Tail: @@@[{tail_type
                                                   1429
    }]@@@
                                                   1430
                                                   1431
For example:
                                                   1432
Relation: {relation_type}, Head: ###John
                                                   1433
     Smith###, Tail: @@@New York City@@@
                                                   1434
                                                   1435
If no '{relation_type}' relationships
                                                   1436
    are found in the text, explicitly
                                                   1437
    state 'No {relation_type}
                                                   1438
    relationships found.
                                                   1439
                                                   1440
Text: {context}
                                                   1443
```

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## E Additional ablation studies

**Performance of small Language Models on different IE** We explore the direct prompting performance of Qwen2.5(3B) and Phi-4-mini(4B) on test set of ACE05 (ED,EAE) and CONLL04 (NER,RE) in zero-shot setting.

Table 12 presents the zero-shot performance of small language models on the EAE and ED tasks from the ACE05 test set, as well as the NER and RE tasks from the CONLL04 test set, using direct prompting. For the EAE task, Qwen2.5(3B) significantly outperforms Phi-4-mini(3B), achieving an F1 score of 20.42%, nearly twice that of Phi-4-mini. This improvement is largely attributed to Qwen2.5's higher recall, suggesting its stronger ability to identify event arguments in a zero-shot setting. Nevertheless, both models exhibit low precision, underscoring the inherent challenge of zero-shot EAE for small models. In the ED task, Qwen2.5 (3B) again surpasses Phi-4-mini (3B) with a notable margin (39.96% vs. 21.83% F1), demonstrating more accurate detection of event triggers without prior supervision.

For NER, Qwen2.5 achieves an F1 score of 17.75%, outperforming Phi-4-mini's 12.15%. However, both models fall short compared to larger LLMs, highlighting the challenge of zero-shot NER for small language models with limited capacity.

Interestingly, in the RE task, Phi-4-mini (3B) slightly outperforms Qwen2.5 (3B), achieving 10.76% F1 compared to Qwen2.5's 4.13%. This suggests that while Qwen2.5 excels in argument extraction and event detection, its relational reasoning capabilities under zero-shot prompting may be less robust than Phi-4-mini for this task.

We further analyze the performance of the two small language models on the NER task across

Few-shot Method	Precision	Recall	F1
5-shots	56.54	81.05	66.61
10-shots	57.73	82.06	67.78
15-shots	57.24	82.06	67.44

Table 11: The results of few-shot learning on CoNLL04 NER task with GPT-3.5.

Model	EAE	ED	NER	RE
Qwen2.5(3B)	20.42	39.96	17.75	4.13
Phi-4-mini(3B)	11.02	21.83	12.15	10.76

Table 12: F1 score (%) on EAE, ED, NER, and RE tasks using different small language models.

different entity types. As shown in Table 13, Qwen2.5 (3B) consistently outperforms Phi-4-mini (3B), achieving a higher overall F1 score of 17.75% compared to 12.16%. This improvement is primar-1484 1485 ily attributed to Qwen2.5's superior recall on PER 1486 and LOC entities, where it demonstrates stronger capability in identifying PER and LOC names in a zero-shot setting. However, both models exhibit 1488 weak performance on ORG entities, with F1 scores 1489 of only 8.27% (Qwen2.5) and 8.95% (Phi-4-mini). This suggests that small language models struggle to recognize ORG names without task-specific adaptation. One possible reason is that ORG entities tend to be more ambiguous and diverse, often containing abbreviations, generic terms, or domain-1495 specific expressions, which are harder to identify 1496 without prior fine-tuning.

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Overall, these results highlight the limitations of small language models in zero-shot NER, especially for more complex types.

Final answer generation from multiple finetuned models via majority voting Table 8 shows that majority voting not only improves the overall F1 score to 62.51%, outperforming all individual models, but also enhances recall while maintaining comparable precision, demonstrating its effectiveness in boosting the collective performance beyond that of each finetuned model.

#### F Few-shot learning

Table 11 shows the results of few-shot learning 1510 1511 on the CONLL04 NER task using GPT-3.5. We observe that increasing the number of provided 1512 examples from 5 to 15 does not lead to consis-1513 tent improvements in F1 score. While there is a 1514 slight gain from 5-shot to 10-shot, the performance 1515

Models	Precision	Recall	F1
Qwen2.5(3B)			
- PER	18.99	41.29	26.02
- LOC	15.93	29.39	20.67
- ORG	4.86	27.66	8.27
Overall	12.10	33.33	17.75
Phi-4-mini(3B)			
- PER	7.53	11.34	9.05
- LOC	15.05	21.96	17.86
- ORG	5.62	21.99	8.95
Overall	9.15	18.13	12.16

Table 13: Precision, Recall, and F1 (%) on NER task of different small language models.

Method	F1
GPT-3.5	
G&O (Li et al., 2024b)	
- One-step	10.5
- G&O	$16.0^{\dagger}$
MAF-IE	19.0

Table 14: F1 scores (%) of GPT-3.5 on NYT for RE task under different baselines in zero-shot setting.

plateaus or even slightly drops afterward. This suggests that simply adding more ground-truth examples in the prompt reaches a saturation point, beyond which the model struggles to further benefit from additional examples. One possible reason is the model's limited capacity to generalize from few-shot prompts, as it tends to memorize surface patterns without fully understanding the underlying task structure. This observation highlights the limitations of prompt-based few-shot learning with large language models for structured prediction tasks like NER.

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#### G Mixture of agents

We notice that recent work Mixture-of-Agents 1529 (Wang et al., 2024b) combines multiple power-1530 ful LLMs (e.g., Qwen2.5-70B-Instruct (Simonycl, 1531 2024), Llama3.1-70B-chat (AI, 2024), Qwen1.5-110B-chat (Team, 2024a) and WizardLM-8x22B 1533 (Alpindale, 2024)) as heterogeneous agents to lever-1534 age their complementary strengths for collaborative 1535 task solving. However, this approach is fundamen-1536 tally different from ours: rather than relying on 1537 cross-model complementarity, MAF-IE focus is on 1538 improving a base model through multi-agent fine-1539 tuning, enabling a more scalable and lightweight training paradigm. 1541

Method	F1
GPT-3.5	
G&O (Li et al., 2024b)	
- All-Entity-in-One	50.58
- One-step	60.41
- G&O	$61.86^{\dagger}$
MAF-IE	64.23

Table 15: F1	scores (%) of C	GPT-3.5 on	BC5CDR for
NER task und	ler different base	elines in zero	o-shot setting.

Metric	ACE05	ERE	MACCROBAT-EE
Unique event types	33	38	13
Unique argument roles	22	21	22
Unique arg. roles per event type	4.73	2.87	10
Documents #	599	459	200
Sentences #	20,862	17,114	4,539
Entities #	54,820	46,185	23,898
Trigger mentions #	5,348	7,287	13,128
Argument mentions #	8,102	10,479	8,599
Avg entities # per sentence	3.18	3.20	5.43
Avg events # per sentence	1.34	1.47	3.21
Avg args # per sentence	2.39	2.24	2.67
Avg args per event #	1.48	1.42	0.81
Avg entity word count	1.12	1.10	1.89
Avg trigger word count	1.05	1.06	1.61
Avg argument word count	1.14	1.14	1.72

Table 16: Statistics of ACE05, ERE, and MACCROBAT-EE datasets.

## H Time and cost efficiency

Tables 23 and 24 analyze the trade-offs between performance, inference time, and cost across different strategies on CONLL04 NER and RE tasks with GPT-3.5.

# H.1 Time Efficiency

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As shown in Table 23, single-agent inference, whether using the base GPT-3.5 model or its finetuned variant, achieves the fastest inference time of 12.5 seconds per sample, leveraging the absence of multi-agent interactions. In contrast, multiagent debate introduces significant latency overhead. Specifically, 3-agent debate on NER takes 21.5 seconds per instance (72% increase), while 5agent debate on RE takes 25.0 seconds per instance, reflecting the increasing latency with larger agent groups and deeper interactions. Notably, multiagent parallel inference after fine-tuning brings the latency back to 12.5 seconds, matching singleagent inference. This is achieved by parallel execution of multiple fine-tuned agents without iterative debating, making it significantly more timeefficient compared to multi-agent debate.

Description	Dev	Test
Candidate Space	395,572	392,158
# NA Entity Pairs	384,949	-
# Relation Entity Pairs	10,623	-
# Annotated Triples	12,275	-

Table 17: Statistics of DocRED.

Description	Train	Dev	Test
# Sentences	910	243	288
avg. l-text	-	-	159
n-ner-type	-	-	3
n-relation-type	-	-	5
n-ary-relations	-	-	2
n-relation-mention	-	-	422

Table 18: Statistics of CoNLL04. "n-ary-relations" indicates the number of entities in a relation tuple (group).

## H.2 Cost Efficiency

As shown in Table 24, single-agent inference also 1566 achieves the lowest cost of \$0.000336 per instance, 1567 leading to the highest Efficiency Score on both 1568 NER (191,101) and RE (103,333). While multi-1569 agent debate improves F1 (e.g., from 64.21% to 1570 66.83% on NER), it increases the cost to \$0.000841 1571 (NER, 3 agents) and \$0.001682 (RE, 5 agents), 1572 substantially lowering the Efficiency Score (NER: 79,465; RE: 21,686). In comparison, fine-tuned 1574 multi-agent parallel inference maintains strong F1 (NER: 63.65%, RE: 33.47%) while reducing 1576 cost by 40%-60% compared to multi-agent debate (NER cost: \$0.001008 vs. \$0.000841, RE 1578 cost: \$0.001680 vs. \$0.001682), resulting in better 1579 cost-effectiveness than debate (NER: 63,179; RE: 1580 19,924).

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**Summary** These findings demonstrate that finetuned multi-agent parallel inference offers a superior balance of performance, time, and cost. It retains much of the accuracy gain from multi-agent collaboration while eliminating the time and cost overhead associated with multi-round debates. This makes it a more practical and scalable choice for real-world deployment.

**Efficiency Score metric** We were inspired by prior work on computational efficiency in NLP models (Strubell et al., 2019; Kaplan et al., 2020) and calculate the efficiency score as follows:

Efficiency Score = 
$$\frac{F1\text{-score}}{Cost \text{ Per Doc_ID}}$$
.

Dataset	OntoNotes
# of Types	89
# of Documents	300k
# of Entity Mentions	242k
# of Train Mentions	223k
# of Test Mentions	8963

Table 19: Statistics of OntoNotes.

Dataset	Domains	Docs	Ent	Rel	Trig	Arg
ACE05-E	News	599	7	-	33	22

Table 20: Statistics of ACE05-E. Ent: Number of entity categories. Rel: Number of relation categories. Trig: Number of event trigger categories. Arg: Number of event argument categories.

### I Additional Case study

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**Comparative error analysis against the baseline** Our error analysis in Table 6 shows that our type-specialized multi-agent debate and finetuning framework achieves consistent improvements across all entity types on the CONLL04 NER task with GPT-3.5 compared with prior work MAFT (Subramaniam et al., 2025), yielding an overall F1 increase of 4.91%. Specifically, we observe the largest gain on ORG entities (+6.86%), followed by PER and LOC (+3.92% each).

We attribute these improvements to the unique strengths of our multi-agent framework. First, the type-specialized agents promote targeted extraction by focusing on entity-specific decision boundaries. This is particularly beneficial for complex types like ORG that often suffer from boundary ambiguity and semantic overlap with other types in single-model settings. By contrast, single-model baselines tend to produce generalized predictions without type-specific refinement, limiting their ability to distinguish challenging cases.

Second, our cross-agent verification and debate mechanism encourages agents to reflect on their initial outputs, enabling error correction through collaborative reasoning. This is especially effective for resolving missed or misclassified entities, as agents are required to justify and revise their predictions based on structured prompts and peer feedback. The observed improvements for PER and LOC suggest that this iterative refinement process helps recover subtle mentions easily overlooked in single-pass predictions.

Finally, adopting lightweight majority voting during inference mitigates the risk of overfitting

Dataset	BC5CDR
n-instance	1,000
avg. l-text	148
n-entity-type	2
n-entity-mention	2,074

Table 21: Statistics of BC5CDR. "avg. l-text" denotes the average number of characters in each text instance.

Dataset	NYT
n-instance	369
avg. l-text	199
n-relation-type	7
n-ary-relations	2
n-relation-mention	265

Table 22: Statistics of NYT. "n-ary-relations" indicates the number of entities in a relation tuple (group).

or output homogenization introduced by excessive multi-round debate. By aggregating independent predictions from specialized agents, our framework balances diversity and consistency, leading to more robust extractions with minimal computational overhead. 1625

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These findings highlight the effectiveness of integrating type specialization, collaborative reasoning, and lightweight voting in improving overall and type-specific extraction performance. They also suggest future opportunities to further enhance our framework by incorporating task-adaptive debate strategies or confidence calibration techniques to handle entity types with high contextual variability better.

Representative case studies Additionally, as 1640 shown in Table 25, we present five representative 1641 cases where our proposed framework achieves no-1642 table F1 improvements compared to prior work 1643 MAFT (Subramaniam et al., 2025). These exam-1644 ples provide qualitative analysis demonstrating how 1645 our type-agent collaborative framework effectively 1646 corrects entity recognition errors made by the base-1647 line model. For example, in Document 44, our 1648 model successfully identifies "president-elect bush" 1649 as a PER, which was previously missed by the 1650 baseline. Similar improvements are observed for 1651 location entities such as "bosnia" and "german," as 1652 well as person entities like "bruce" and "president 1653 reagan." These results indicate that our multi-agent 1654 system is better at capturing entity boundaries and 1655 resolving semantic ambiguities, further validating 1656 the effectiveness of our collaborative interaction 1657

Task $(\downarrow)$	Inference Mode	# Agents	Avg. Latency (s)
CoNLL04	4 NER		
	Single-Agent Inference	1	12.5
	3-Agent Debate		21.5
	Single Finetuned Agent Inference		12.5
	3-Agent Parallel Inference (Finetuned)	3	12.5
CoNLL04	4 RE		
	Single-Agent Inference	1	12.5
	5-Agent Debate	5	25.0
	Single Finetuned Agent Inference	1	12.5
	3-Agent Parallel Inference (Finetuned)	5	12.5

Table 23: Comparison of time efficiency on CoNLL04 NER and RE tasks (average seconds per test sample). Parallel inference achieves the same latency as single-agent inference, while debate significantly increases latency as the number of agents grows.

Task $(\downarrow)$	Inference Mode	# Agents	F1-score (%)	Cost per Doc_ID (USD)	Efficiency Score
CoNLL04	A NER				
	Single-Agent Inference (GPT-3.5)	1	58.15	\$0.000336	173,660
	Single-Agent Inference (Finetuned)	1	64.21	\$0.000336	191,101
	3-Agent 2-Round Debate	3	66.83	\$0.002016	33,166
	3-Agent Parallel Inference (Finetuned)	3	63.65	\$0.001008	63,179
CoNLL04	<sup>4</sup> RE				
	Single-Agent Inference (GPT-3.5)	1	34.72	\$0.000336	103,333
	Single-Agent Inference (Finetuned)	1	28.63	\$0.000336	85,208
	5-Agent 2-Round Debate	5	36.47	\$0.003360	10,850
	5-Agent Parallel Inference (Finetuned)	5	33.47	\$0.001680	19,924

Table 24: Cost efficiency comparison on CoNLL04 NER and RE tasks. Efficiency Score is calculated as F1-score divided by Cost per Doc\_ID (USD). We set the debate rounds to two.

design for specific IE tasks.

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Stepwise impact of debate Furthermore, Table 7 analyzes how the number of debate rounds affects performance improvements. Our results show that most gains are achieved within the first one or two rounds, while the benefits of additional rounds gradually diminish. Notably, only one improvement is observed after four rounds, suggesting that increasing the number of debate rounds may lead to diminishing returns. This finding indicates that early-stage agent collaboration is generally sufficient to resolve most disagreements and correct recognition errors, whereas excessive rounds may introduce noise or redundant reasoning.

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# Case 1: PER Entity (Doc ID: 44, F1 Gain: +0.3333)

Misclassified Entity: president-elect bush

**Context:** "These are the tactics of a marginalized force driven to extremes by desperation, said Abram..."

Case 2: LOC Entity (Doc ID: 146, F1 Gain: +0.3333)

Misclassified Entity: bosnia

**Context:** "BSP, SDS Support Noninvolvement in Bosnia AU1502173794 Sofia BTA in English 1646 GMT 15 Feb 94..."

Case 3: LOC Entity (Doc ID: 162, F1 Gain: +0.3333)

Misclassified Entity: german

Context: "Esprit Project to Develop Chip to Receive, Transmit Nerve Impulses..."

**Case 4: PER Entity** (Doc ID: 264, F1 Gain: +0.3333)

**Misclassified Entity:** bruce **Context:** "Springsteen, a New Jersey native, was clearly the favorite..."

**Case 5: PER Entity** (Doc ID: 36, F1 Gain: +0.2000)

Misclassified Entity: president reagan

**Context:** "Also under consideration are two conservative federal appellate judges appointed by President Reagan..."

Table 25: Top improvements with example cases.

Algorithm 1: MAF-IE NER using type-specialized agents
<b>Input:</b> Docs D, Agent model A, Max rounds M, Consensus threshold $\theta$ (default: 2/3)
Output: Consensus entities for each document
1 Init experts $A_{PER}, A_{LOC}, A_{ORG} \leftarrow A;$
2 for each doc $d \in D$ do
Round 0: each expert $A_t$ outputs initial entities $e_{t,0}$ ;
4 Store $E_0 \leftarrow \{e_{PER,0}, e_{LOC,0}, e_{ORG,0}\};$
5 for $m = 1$ to $M$ do
6 for each type $t \in \{PER, LOC, ORG\}$ do
7 $others \leftarrow results from other experts in round m-1;$
8 $e_{t,m} \leftarrow A_t(d, others, e_{t,m-1});$
9 end
10 $E_m \leftarrow \{e_{PER,m}, e_{LOC,m}, e_{ORG,m}\};$
11 end
12 for each type $t \in \{PER, LOC, ORG\}$ do
13 $final_t \leftarrow [e_{t,M} \text{ from each expert}];$
14 $conf_t \leftarrow [each expert's confidence];$
15 $weights_t \leftarrow [2.0 \text{ if expert specializes in } t, else 1.0];$
16 $votes_t \leftarrow$ calculate the weighted vote sum for each entity;
17 $cons_t \leftarrow [\text{entity}   \text{votes}(\text{entity}) \geq \text{total\_experts} \times \theta];$
18 <b>end</b>
19 $consensus \leftarrow \{cons_{PER}, cons_{LOC}, cons_{ORG}\};$
<b>if</b> ground truth $g_d$ available <b>then</b>
21 $metrics_d \leftarrow evaluate(consensus, g_d);$
22 end
<b>return</b> consensus, $metrics_d$ ;
24 end

Algorithm 2: MAF-IE RE using type-specialized agents

Input: Docs D, Relations  $\mathcal{R}$ , Agent model A, Agents/relation k, Max rounds M, Threshold  $\theta$ Output: Relations for each document 1 Init experts  $\{A_r^1, ..., A_r^k\}$  for each  $r \in \mathcal{R}$ ; <sup>2</sup> for each doc  $d \in D$  do for each  $r \in \mathcal{R}$  do 3 Round 0: Each expert  $A_r^i$  extracts  $e_r^{i,0}$ ; 4 Store  $E_r^0 \leftarrow \{e_r^{1,0}, ..., e_r^{k,0}\};$ 5 end 6 for m = 1 to M do 7 for each  $r \in \mathcal{R}$  do 8 for i = 1 to k do 9  $\begin{array}{l} input \leftarrow \text{results from } \{A_r^j\}_{j \neq i} \text{ in round } m-1; \\ e_r^{i,m} \leftarrow A_r^i(d, input, e_r^{i,m-1}); \end{array}$ 10 11 end 12  $E_r^m \leftarrow \{e_r^{1,m},...,e_r^{k,m}\};$ 13 end 14 end 15 results  $\leftarrow$  {}; 16 for each  $r \in \mathcal{R}$  do 17  $votes \leftarrow count for each extracted relation;$ 18  $cons_r \leftarrow [rel \mid votes(rel) \ge k \times \theta];$ 19  $results \leftarrow results \cup cons_r;$ 20 end 21 if ground truth  $g_d$  available then 22  $metrics_d \leftarrow evaluate(results, g_d);$ 23 end 24 return results, metrics<sub>d</sub>; 25 26 end 27 Compute P/R/F1 over all documents; 28 Compute metrics for each relation type;

Algorithm 3: CONTRASTIVE DATA PREPARATION for Multi-Agent NER

```
Input: Consensus dir D_c, Initial preds dir D_i, Types \mathcal{T}
   Output: Training data for critic fine-tuning
 1 c\_ex \leftarrow [\{\} for each type]; ic\_ex \leftarrow [\{\} for each type];
 2 c_cnt ← [0,0,0]; ic_cnt ← [0,0,0];
 3 for each file f \in D_c do
        id \leftarrow \text{extract doc ID from } f;
 4
        ctx, c\_ent \leftarrow \text{load from file } f;
 5
        for each type t \in \mathcal{T} do
 6
             idx \leftarrow get index for type t;
 7
             i_file \leftarrow D_i/doc_{id}_{t}, initial.json;
 8
             if i_file exists then
 g
                 i\_ent, m\_resp \leftarrow \text{load from } i\_file;
10
                 prompt \leftarrow construct with ctx and m_resp;
11
                 correct \leftarrow compare \ i\_ent \ with \ c\_ent;
12
                 if correct then
13
                      resp \leftarrow construct positive feedback;
14
                      c\_ex[idx][c\_cnt[idx]] \leftarrow [prompt, resp];
15
                      c\_cnt[idx] \leftarrow c\_cnt[idx] + 1;
16
                  else
17
                      resp \leftarrow construct criticism;
18
                      ic\_ex[idx][ic\_cnt[idx]] \leftarrow [prompt, resp];
19
                      ic\_cnt[idx] \leftarrow ic\_cnt[idx] + 1;
20
21
                  end
             end
22
        end
23
24 end
   for i = 0 to 2 do
25
        c\_data \leftarrow \text{list items from } c\_ex[i];
26
        ic\_data \leftarrow \text{list items from } ic\_ex[i];
27
        Shuffle both datasets;
28
        train \leftarrow merge \ ic_data \ with \ balanced \ c_data;
29
        Save train to file (JSON format);
30
31 end
32 return training datasets;
```

### **Algorithm 4:** INFERENCE with Majority Voting

```
Input: Docs D, Models M = \{m_1, m_2, ..., m_k\}, Voting threshold \theta
   Output: Entity predictions and performance metrics
1 results \leftarrow {};
2 metrics \leftarrow initialize metrics counters;
   for each doc d \in D do
3
       context \leftarrow text content of d;
4
       qt \leftarrow ground truth entities of d;
5
       model\_ents \leftarrow [];
 6
       model metrics \leftarrow [];
7
       for each model m \in M do
8
           prompt \leftarrow create NER prompt with context;
 Q
           response \leftarrow generate using model m with prompt;
10
           entities \leftarrow extract PER, LOC, ORG from response;
11
           Add entities to model_ents;
12
           metric \leftarrow calculate precision, recall, F1 between entities and gt;
13
           Add metric to model_metrics;
14
           Update global metrics for model m;
15
       end
16
       votes \leftarrow count entity occurrences across all models;
17
       consensus \leftarrow \{\};
18
       for each entity type t \in \{PER, LOC, ORG\} do
19
           consensus_t \leftarrow [];
20
           for each entity e with type t do
21
               if votes(e) \ge |M| \times \theta then
22
                   Add e to consensus_t;
23
               end
24
           end
25
           consensus[t] \leftarrow consensus_t or ["NULL"] if empty;
26
       end
27
       mv\_metrics \leftarrow calculate metrics between consensus and qt;
28
       Update global majority vote metrics;
29
       Store document results in results;
30
31 end
32 Calculate final precision, recall, F1 for each model;
33 Calculate final precision, recall, F1 for majority vote;
34 Create comparative performance tables;
35 return results, performance metrics;
```