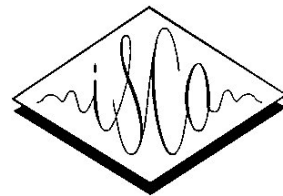
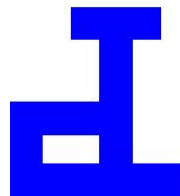


Proceedings of the
**8th SIGdial Workshop on
Discourse and Dialogue**

Edited by Simon Keizer, Harry Bunt, and Tim Paek



1–2 September 2007
Antwerp, Belgium

Tilburg University, Department of Communication and Information Sciences
P.O. Box 90153
5000 LE Tilburg
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ISBN 9789074029322

Introduction

It is with great pleasure that we introduce the Proceedings of the 8th SIGdial Workshop on Discourse and Dialogue. In putting together the accepted papers for the workshop, we encountered an uncommon but very welcome turn of events: we received many more papers with high recommendations from our Program Committee than we had anticipated. If we had kept the number of papers accepted to the maximum of previous SIGdial Workshops, several papers that had received all recommendations of accept would have been rejected. Given the abundance of favorably rated papers, we felt strongly that they should be given a chance for presentation. Besides the 18 full papers that were accepted for long presentation (out of 46 submitted), we therefore also accepted a number of papers for short presentation and created two poster sessions, to accommodate the extra girth. In addition, 5 out of 18 submitted short papers and demo descriptions were accepted as such. This was all in keeping with the tradition and purpose of the SIGdial venue to showcase promising new research approaches in discourse and dialogue, as well as state-of-the-art implementations.

Readers may notice that the workshop program has papers grouped into four topics: Multi-Party Dialogue, Spoken and Multimodal Dialogue Systems, Conversation Modeling and Dialogue Management. This organization was purely for presentation convenience, and quite often papers that were put under one rubric could be easily put under another.

We wish to thank the members of our illustrious Program Committee members for their advice in selecting papers for the workshop. The review process was facilitated by the ACL START system, which we received access to with the help of Antal van den Bosch and Claire Cardie. In preparing for the workshop we received very helpful advice from David Traum, Wolfgang Minker, Laila Dybkjær, and Kristiina Jokinen.

The actual Workshop could not have happened if not for the generous support of many people. Tilburg University staff managed the online and onsite registration, the production of the proceedings, and the local arrangements at the conference site in Antwerp. In particular, we wish to thank Jeroen Geertzen, Volha Petukhova, Femke Wieme and Lauraine Sinay. Torben Madsen, the SIGdial webmaster, helped put up our website and Priscilla Rasmussen of ACL and Christian Wellekens of ISCA advertised the event in their respective mailing lists.

We also thank the distinguished Prof. Herbert H. Clark of Stanford University for giving the SIGdial 2007 keynote address on “Rationality and Conversation.”

Finally, we wish to thank you, the SIGdial audience, for making our event a premiere forum for dialogue and discourse researchers. We hope you enjoy the collection of papers before you.

Harry Bunt (Co-Chair)

Simon Keizer (Local Chair)

Tim Paek (Co-Chair)

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Conference Program

Saturday, September 1, 2007

8:00–9:00 Conference Registration

9:00–9:15 Opening Remarks

9:15–10:15 Keynote Address by Prof. Herbert H. Clark

Rationality and Conversation

Herbert H. Clark

10:15–10:40 Coffee Break

Session: Multi-Party Dialogue

Area Chair: David Traum

10:40–11:05 *Collective States of Understanding*
Arash Eshghi and Patrick G.T. Healey

11:05–11:30 *Contrasting the Automatic Identification of Two Discourse Markers in Multiparty Dialogues*
Andrei Popescu-Belis and Sandrine Zufferey

11:30–11:55 *Detecting and Summarizing Action Items in Multi-Party Dialogue*
Matthew Purver, John Dowding, John Niekrasz, Patrick Ehlen, Sharareh Noorbaloochi and Stanley Peters

11:55–12:20 *Detecting Arguing and Sentiment in Meetings*
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12:20–13:30 Poster Session / Walking Lunches

A Model of Compliance and Emotion for Potentially Adversarial Dialogue Agents
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Area Chair: Marilyn Walker

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14:20–14:45

Corpus-Based Training of Action-Specific Language Models

Lars Schillingmann, Sven Wachsmuth and Britta Wrede

14:45–15:10

Tea Break

Saturday, September 1, 2007 (continued)

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15:10–15:35 *Negotiating Spatial Goals with a Wheelchair*
Thora Tenbrink and Hui Shi

15:35–16:00 *Releasing a Multimodal Dialogue System into the Wild: User Support Mechanisms*
Alexander Gruenstein and Stephanie Seneff

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16:00–16:15 *Analysis of User Reactions to Turn-Taking Failures in Spoken Dialogue Systems*
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Anna Hjalmarsson, Preben Wik and Jenny Brusk

16:45–17:00 *Referring under Restricted Interactivity Conditions*
Raquel Fernández, Tatjana Lucht and David Schlangen

18:00–20:00 Reception

Sunday, September 2, 2007

Session: Conversation Modeling

Area Chair: Jan Alexandersson

9:00–9:25 *A Multidimensional Approach to Utterance Segmentation and Dialogue Act Classification*
Jeroen Geertzen, Volha Petukhova and Harry Bunt

9:25–9:50 *Accented Pronouns and Unusual Antecedents: A Corpus Study*
Anubha Kothari

9:50–10:15 *Evaluating Combinations of Dialogue Acts for Generation*
Simon Keizer and Harry Bunt

10:15–10:40 Coffee Break

Session: Conversation Modeling (Continued)

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Sunday, September 2, 2007 (continued)

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Area Chair: Oliver Lemon

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Johan Boye

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Dan Bohus and Alexander Rudnicky

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Session: Dialogue Management (Continued)

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15:45–16:00 *Pragmatic Usage of Linear Regression Models for the Prediction of User Judgments*
Klaus-Peter Engelbrecht and Sebastian Möller

16:00–16:15 Closing Remarks

16:15–17:15 SIGDIAL Business Meeting