

Verbmobil: Towards a DRT-based Translation of Spontaneous Negotiation Dialogs

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Verbmobil is a long-term project on the translation of spontaneous speech in negotiation dialogs. We describe the goals of the project, the data collection effort and the architecture of the first demonstrator. In particular, we will discuss the role of the prosodic module and the domain model based on a description logic for efficient speech understanding. We present a new domain-independent semantic construction component based on lambda abstraction over discourse representation structures. The recursive DRT-based translation component maps fully specified HPSG signs with a source DRS onto an underspecified target DRS. The source language generator is based on a lexicalized tree adjoining grammar with feature unification. We will present a video of the fully operational demonstrator in the appointment scheduling domain.