Assignment 8

L245
Dialogue Systems

Due Tuesday, December 10

1. Do question #2 from chapter 6 of the textbook (p. 178).

2. As we saw in class, a variety of corpora are available here: http://www-bcf.usc.edu/~billmann/diversity/DDivers-site.htm, including, for example, the Michigan Corpus of Academic Spoken English (MiCASE) (http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/micase/). Pick a corpus and transcript of your choice (writing down what you picked) and answer the following questions:

   (a) What do you notice about the turn-taking (length of time, interruptions, etc.), and what does this tell us about the relationship between the speakers?

   (b) How do you see the speakers establishing common ground? Be specific.

   (c) Do the following for the first 5 exchanges (i.e., about 10 turns):

      • Divide the speech into utterances
      • Label each utterance with at least one SWBD-DAMSL tag: see the list of 42 tags here (under #1c): http://www.stanford.edu/~jurafsky/ws97/manual.august1.html
      • Do you have a particular hypothesis about the effect of, e.g., the discipline or type of speech event on questions (a)–(c)? It may help to briefly compare your transcript with some other ones to make your case stronger.

3. Do question #4 from chapter 6 of the textbook (p. 179), except you do not actually have to implement your system; simply sketch out the design of your system.

4. Do question #6a from chapter 6 of the textbook (p. 179).