



SPAGAD 4: Sequencing and Referencing Speech acts

Towards a computational model of sequence organization in talk-in-interaction: adjacency pairs

Speaker: Marvin Schmitt
Time: Nov 25, 16:10 – 17:10
Zoom: [link](#)

[Work in progress] In this talk we will zoom in on adjacency pairs. Adjacency pairs are a fundamental unit of sequence organization. i.e., the organization of courses of actions through turns-at-talk (cf. Schegloff 2007). We will discuss the formal properties of adjacency pairs, starting with the discussion in Schegloff and Sacks 1973 (with reference to Schegloff 2007). *Pace* Schegloff and Sacks 1973 (and Schegloff 2007), we propose a leaner account of adjacency pairs which accounts for their attested formal properties. We then outline (the work in progress part) a computational model of adjacency pairs using an Event Calculus and Logic Programming. The basic idea goes as follows: the Event Calculus provides representations of adjacency pairs and their parts. Logic Programming provides us with a proof-theory for modelling reasoning, but also with the tools for modelling conditional relevance as integrity constraints (from database theory).

References

- Schegloff, Emanuel A. (2007). *Sequence Organization in Interaction. A Primer in Conversation Analysis*.
- Schegloff, Emanuel A. and Harvey Sacks (1973). “Opening up Closings”. In: *Semiotica* 8 (4), pp. 289–327.