Intent with 10000 classes

We researched how to create slot type with many slot values. The result was that 10000 is the most values a slot can have. In small quantities slots are great but in bigger numbers it does not work.

We searched for books in libraries in Aalto campus area and found out there is ~150 000 books. That amount is a lot larger than the amount of classes a slot can have. After some research and learning more about how finna api works, we found a way how we do not have to use slots for the intent but instead we can use the input transcript.

Using input transcript is the way to avoid slots. The input can be parsed in the code and then we can get the needed information. In this process, we get the the relevant information about a book. We use slots in detecting years from user’s speech. There’s very convenient built-in slot type called AMAZON.FOUR\_DIGIT\_NUMBER which is great for our purposes.

BookInfo

User can use BookInfo intent to get information regarding a book. Asking for example “find cat books”, user will get more information as follows:

* If the number of results is less than five, you get all the different places where the books can be found.
* If there is more than five books like in this example (36 results), it will ask user more specific information about the book for example author or publication date. User can then answer for that like “it was published 2001”. That query will find only one book from Aalto campus area and user will get the location of the book.