DialogFlow 1

CS571: Building User Interfaces

Cole Nelson

Announcements

- Final exam held on **Tuesday, May 9th 7:30-9:00pm** in Humanities 2340.
 - 1 sheet of standard-size double-sided notes.
 - 40 MC worth 20 pts.
- Please fill out this form by May 1st if you will not be able to make the exam. An HonorLock alternative will be used.

Announcements

- HW11 is due Monday, 4/24, late week of 5/1.
- HW12 is "due" Monday, 5/1, no-cost late week of 5/8. Cannot be extended further.
- Bonus Quiz worth 1 pt for the final week of class.
 - Final week of class' content will only be on the Bonus Quiz, not on the Final Exam.

Announcements

- End of semester survey opens 4/21 and closes 5/5 at aefis.wisc.edu.
 - All responses are anonymous.
 - Optional, but highly encouraged!
- NPM library usage due Wednesday, May 3rd.
 - O No late weeks can be used!
 - You may go back and modify a previous homework.
 - Can be used on DialogFlow as well!

HW11 Walkthrough

Link to Canvas assignment.

What will we learn today?

- What are VUIs?
- What are their potential applications?
- How can we use DialogFlow to create VUIs?
- An Introduction to DialogFlow Webhook Fulfillment

Voice User Interfaces

VUIs are a common form of agent-based design as opposed to direct manipulation.

Conversational interfaces can be used to...

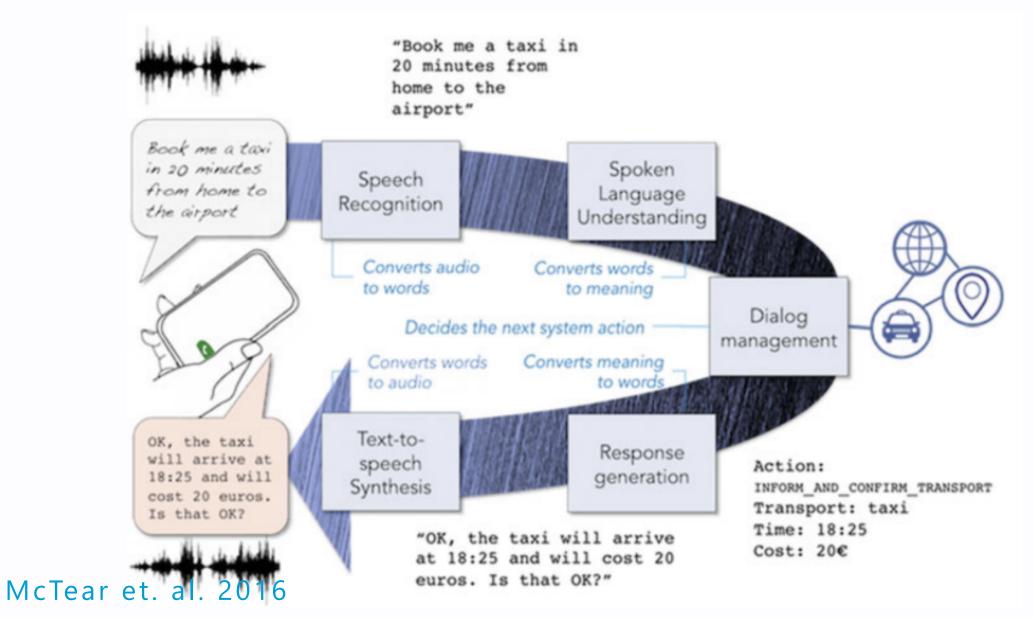
- → Address accessibility needs
- → Address context-specific problems (e.g. driving)
- → Augment the user experience

Voice User Interfaces

VUIs integrate a number of technologies and ideas...

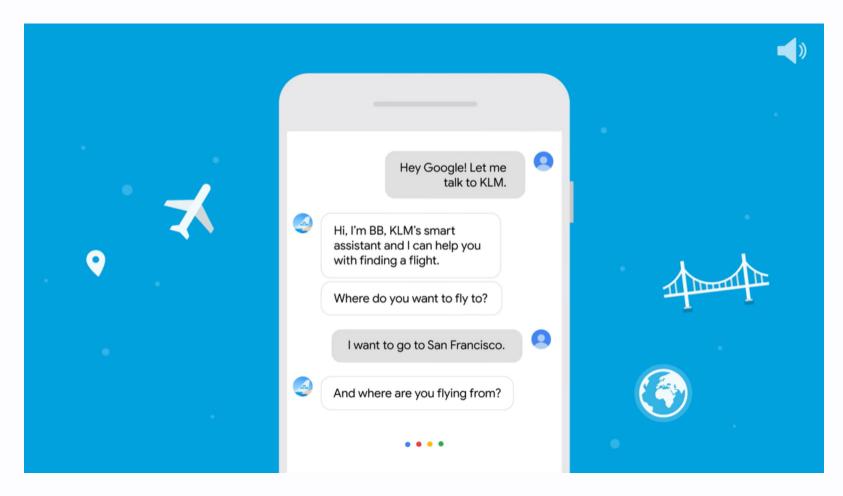
- 1. Speech recognition
- 2. Spoken language understanding
- 3. Dialog management
- 4. Response generation
- 5. Text-to-speech synthesis

McTear et. al. 2016



Potential Applications

Where can I use my Voice Agent?



Find KLM flights on the Google Assistant



Order Domino's with Alexa!

Implementation Options

We focus on just one avenue of implementation!

- DialogFlow by Google
- Wit.ai by Facebook
- Watson Assistant by IBM
- Lex by Amazon
- Azure Bot Service by Microsoft

A Consideration: Killed by Google



Intro to Dialogflow

Key Concepts in DialogFlow

- Agents
 - Intents
 - Training Phrases
 - Parameters
 - Responses
 - Entities

Agents

Agents are high-level containers for a number of building blocks...

- Agent settings
- Intents
- Entities
- Integrations
- Fulfillment

Think of it like a project!

Intents

Consider the following user requests...

- What is the weather like today?
- Will it rain sometime today?

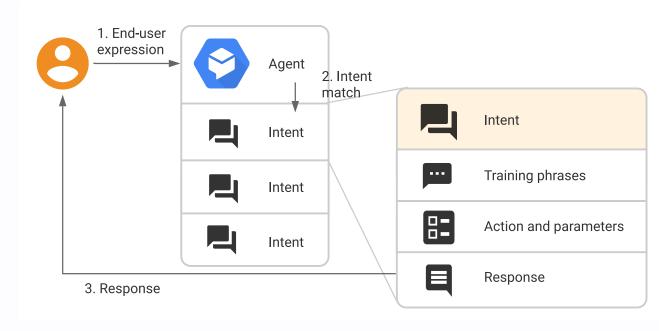
What is the intent of these requests?

Intents

The goals of the user that are expressed to the agent.

Consists of training phrases, parameters (optional), and responses.





Intents

Training Phrases: Things the user may say to express an intent. DialogFlow recommends having many!

Parameters: Things that may vary in an expression, e.g. time, quantity, location.

Responses: How the system responds to the expression. Can include text, buttons, links, etc!



Image Source

Fallback Intent

A special type of intent that dictates how the agent responds if an expression cannot match an intent.

e.g. "Sorry, I didn't get that."

Parameters, Entity Types, and Entities

These allow for more specificity of requests without exploding the intent space.

- Parameter: A variable to be expressed by the user
- Entity Type: The type of variable expressed
- Entity: A specific value that can be expressed

Example

Consider the following expression...

What is the weather like today in Seattle?

- Intent: weather inquiry
- Parameter city name
- Entity Type: geolocation
- Entity: Seattle

Activity

Identify intents, parameters, and entity types of parameters in the following training phrases. Then, identify possible entities and write potential responses.

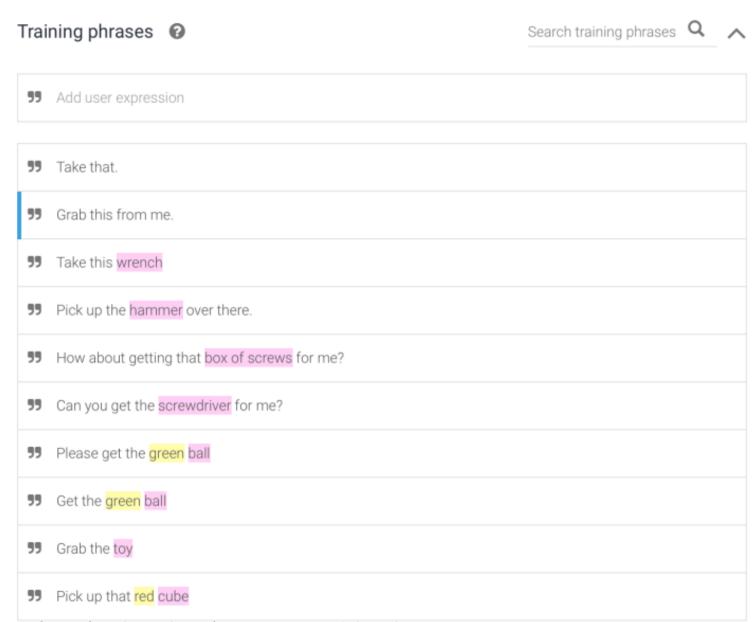
- How are you?
- How do I get to Middleton?
- What is the price of a basketball?
- Buy one box of tissues from Amazon.

Entities

Entities can have *synonyms*, e.g. green onions are also known as spring onions or scallions.

Entities can be *fuzzy-matched*, e.g. gween onion is probably misspelled green onion.

Entities can be automatically expanded, e.g. if saw and hammer are tools, drill likely is too.



Let's Build an Agent!

Using DialogFlow ES for a Joke VUI

DialogFlow Advanced Concepts

- WebHook Fulfillment < Brief Intro!
- Contexts
 - Followup Intents
- Integrations
- Events

Webhook Fulfillment

Doing something "smart" with our agent.

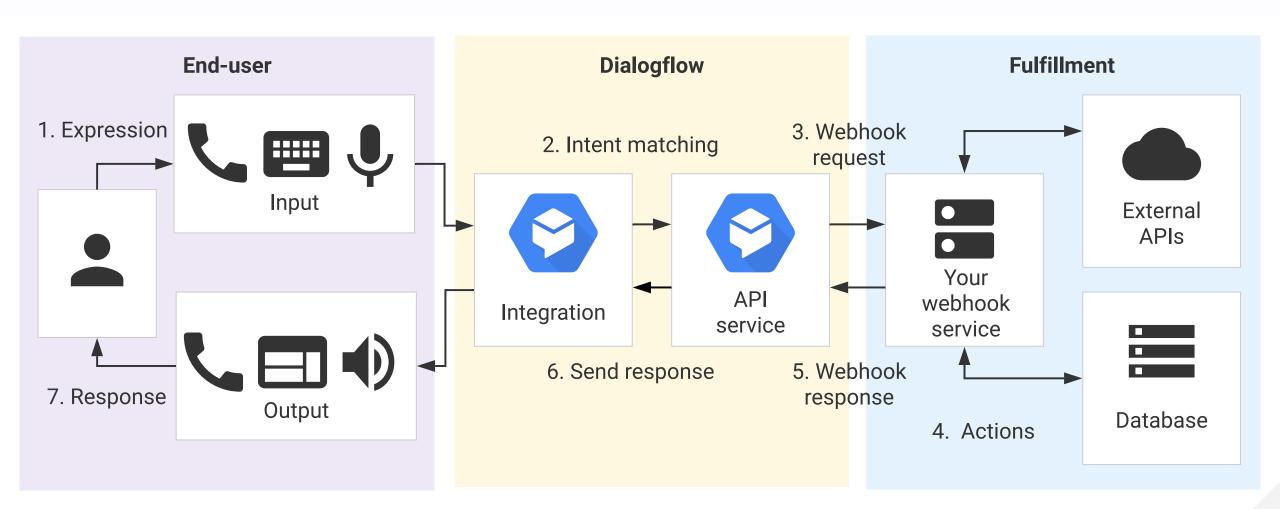


Image Source

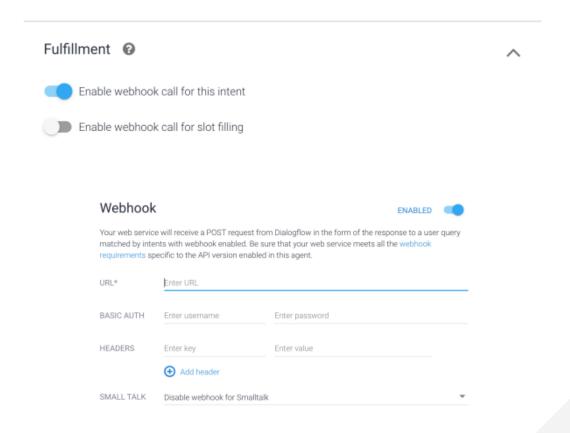
Webhook Fulfillment

Many reasons to use webhook fulfillment...

- Used instead of giving static responses.
- Interact with backend APIs and databases.
- Provides the business logic for the agent.

Types of Webhook Fulfillment





Creating a Webhook

Many, many, many options!

- Google Cloud Functions
- AWS Lambdas
- C# & .NET
- Java & Spring
- Python & Flask
- JavaScript & Express

Creating a Server/Webhook

Quick Intro to Backend Development

- Example Express Server
- HW10 API

DialogFlow Webhook

DialogFlow makes a POST request to /.

Explore Docs

```
CS571 Building User Interfaces | Cole Nelson | Lecture 22: DialogFlow 1
```

```
"responseId": "response-id /",
"session": "projects/project-id / /agent/sessions/s
"queryResult": {
  "queryText": "End-user expression",
  "parameters": {
    "param-name": "param-value"
  "allRequiredParamsPresent": true,
  "fulfillmentText": "Response configured for matc
  "fulfillmentMessages": [
      "text": {
        "text": [
          "Response configured for matched intent"
  "outputContexts": [
      "name": "projects/project-id / /agent/session
      "lifespanCount": 5,
                                              35
      "parameters": {
```

Let's Create a Server!

Hello World from DialogFlow

What did we learn today?

- What are VUIs?
- What are their potential applications?
- How can we use DialogFlow to create VUIs?
- An Introduction to DialogFlow Webhook Fulfillment

Questions?