Drexel Chatbot Release Notes

Version 1.0.0

June 1st 2017

API and Front-end Applications

Drexel Chatbot is a question answering system optimized for Drexel University exposed as a public API. The API can be accessed at http://129.25.4.145:8080/chatbot/api/. Instructions on how to use the API can be found at Drexel Chatbot End-User Guide. Three front-end applications were released with the initial version of Drexel Chatbot to demonstrate the use of the API.

- Web application: any system with a web browser is able to access Drexel Chatbot web application at www.drexelchatbot.com.
- Android application: the android mobile application package is downloadable through https://github.com/DrexelChatbotGroup/DrexelChatbot/blob/master/androidChatbot.apk
- SMS: users with text messaging services are able to text to 215-791-8946.

Scope

The initial release of Drexel Chatbot supports answering questions about two categories: faculty and buildings of Drexel University. The list of supported question topics for each category is provided below.

- Faculty: email, website, title, office, phone number, picture, department, education, publications, and research interests.
- Buildings: address, schedule, picture, and website.

Known Limitations

The limitations of Drexel Chatbot are listed below:

- Drexel Chatbot cannot answer compound sentences such as "What is Professor Mongan's email and phone number?"
- Drexel Chatbot is context unaware. Each question is analyzed individually by the system, and previous questions do not provide context of the questions followed.

- For example, after answering "What is Professor Nowak's phone number?", Drexel Chatbot cannot answer "What is his email address?".
- Obscure questions that are unrelated to Drexel will cause the system to give unexpected results. (e.g. "Why did the cow jump over the moon?")
- Drexel chatbot is case sensitive for certain words because of the inaccuracy from the natural language parsing library used by the system. For example, rush is a verb and Rush is a noun for Rush Building and Nowak is identified as a noun but nowak is identified as an adjective.
- Names that are also English words can be misidentified. For example, Salvage can be seen as a verb when meant to be a person's name.

Known Issues

Please refer to the issue list in Github for known issues: https://github.com/DrexelChatbotGroup/DrexelChatbot/issues