

Completions and Continuations in Dialogue: Preliminary Observations

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I will report about work in progress on *completions* and *continuations*, two fundamental strategies for agents' alignment in dialog. (An example of completion is 1.2 in the following example.)

1.1	Inst	So, jetzt nimmst Du <i>OK, now you take</i>
1.2	Const	eine Schraube <i>a screw</i>
1.2	Inst	eine orangene mit einem Schlitz <i>an orange one, with a slit</i>

I'll start by reviewing the characteristics of completions and continuations occurring in the Bielefeld Toy Airplane Corpus (Skuplik 1999, Rieser and Skuplik 2000). I'll then discuss an 'intentional' account of how completions and continuations may be produced, building upon work by Clark (1996), Bratman (1993), Tuomela (2000), and Grosz and Kraus (1996). In the next part of the talk, I will propose an analysis of completions and continuations in an intentionally based version of the PTT framework (Poesio and Traum 1997, 1998, Matheson et al. 2000). Finally, I will consider a non-intentional explanation of completions, taking up Pickering and Garrod's suggestions concerning dialogue description (Pickering and Garrod 2003).