Fluency project tutorial

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Current state

What do we have now?

- With lekta we can create dialogue systems based upon a certain domain.
- We create lexicons, grammar rules, mind structures and generation strategies in order to get that domain fully implemented.
- But all that things are created ad-hoc for that domain.
- If we want to implement another different dialogue system we must start again.
- Without being possible to reuse lexicons or grammar rules.
- It's necessary to have a good level in programming skills and some experience in the implementation of grammars.

Dialogue systems implemented in the exercises

Examples

- Session 04: Exercise 01.
 - In integer calculator exercise we have "english numbers" grammar.
 - But mind structure was an "Expression object" (not reusable).
- Session 04: Exercise 02.
 - In domotics assistant exercise we had grammars and lexicon for actions and devices.
 - And mind structures were basically boolean flags to represent devices context state.

Dialogue systems implemented in the exercises

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 - But mind structure was an "Expression object" (not reusable).
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 - And mind structures were basically boolean flags to represent devices context state.

What do we want?

- **General purpose DM:** We would like a dialogue manager reasoning engine domain-independent.
- Reusability: Grammar for some parameters should be reusable. For example, a grammar for english dates or numbers can be used in all imaginable domains with almost no difference between them.
- Script model: We must simplify the creation of tasks in a dialogue system by means of script templates, easier to implement and debug.
- Interface friendly: If we have a large parameter database it's possible for an inexperienced user (in either programming or linguistic skills) to implement a dialogue system that satisfies his needs.

What is "Fluency"?

Fluency features

- Is a lekta based framework for the easy creation of task-oriented dialogue systems.
- Intended to be domain-independent.
- With generic dialogue manager mind structures and strategies.
- Currently, in a very first production stage.
- Subject to design decisions changes if desired.
- Designed to be translated into any language in a simple and comfortable way.
- Implemented in order to have a GUI designing application that can automatically generate fluency compatible code.

Dialogue act annotation definition

Dialogue act annotation is the activity of marking up stretches of dialogue with information about the dialogue acts performed, [...] focused on marking up their communicative functions.*

- So we must classify and mark up all possible user proferences.
- In order to get its communicative function so we can have different dialogue strategies.
- Bunt taxonomy is so exhaustive and complex.
- We have used at first a simplified taxonomy but it can be expanded when needed.

^{*} Harry Bunt et al. Towards an ISO standard for dialogue act annotation (2010).

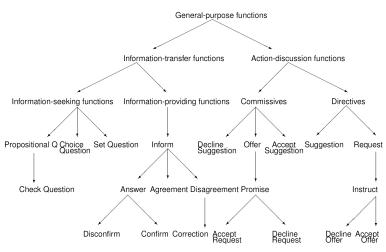
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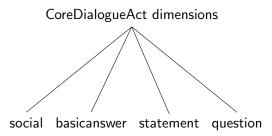
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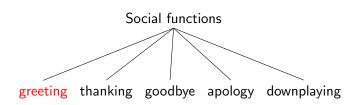
Bunt dialogue act taxonomy



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Fluency dialogue act taxonomy





U: Good morning.

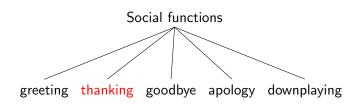
U: Nice to meet you.

U: Hello!

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: social

Function: greeting



U: Thanks!

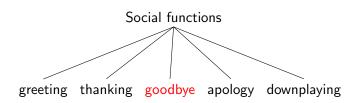
U: Thank you very much.

U: I'm so thankful!

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: social

Function: thanking



U: Have a good day!

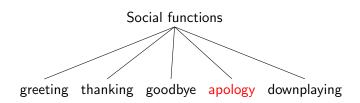
U: See you later.

U: Bye!

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: social

Function: goodbye



U: I'm sorry!

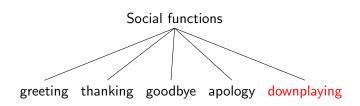
U: Excuse me.

U: My sincere apologies.

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: social

Function: apology



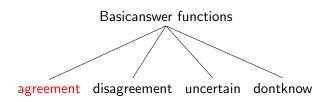
U: You're welcome!

U: Not at all.

U: Don't mention it.

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: social Function: downplaying



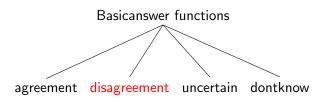
U: Yes.

U: Ok.

U: That's right.

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: basicanswer Function: agreement



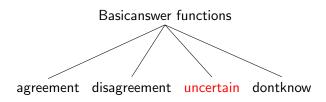
U: No.

U: No way.

U: I can't agree.

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: basicanswer Function: disagreement



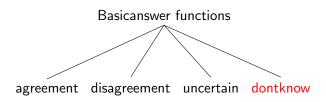
U: Maybe.

U: Perhaps.

U: Probably.

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: basicanswer Function: uncertain



U: I don't know.

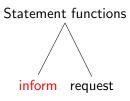
U: I don't remember.

U: I have no idea.

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: basicanswer Function: dontknow

Statement dimension



```
U: My name is ...
```

U: I live in ...

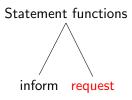
U: I don't want nothing else.

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: statement Function: inform

Statement dimension

U: I want ...



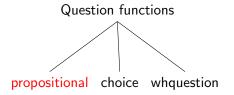
```
U: I would need ...

U: Would you mind if ...?

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: statement
Function: request
```

Question dimension



S: Do you agree with the date of the appointment?

U: Do you like basketball?

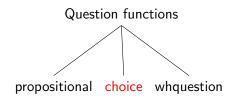
U: Do you I am right?

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: question

Function: propositional

Question dimension



S: What do you want to do first, make a bank transfer or locate the nearest ATM?

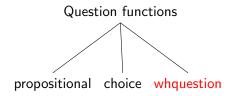
S: Do you prefer coffee or tea?

S: When do you want the appointment, in the morning or in the afternoon?

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: question Function: choice

Question dimension



U: What time is it?

U: How much is the doctor appointment?

U: Where is the nearest ATM?

CoreDialogueAct:

Dimension: question Function: whquestion

TaskDialogueAct structure

- Dialogue act annotation is used to know the communicative function of user proferences.
- This doesn't depend on domain.
- But it lacks of semantic information. For example: In statement-request pair we wish to know what user wants to do and the object of his desire.
- This kind of information may depend on domain.

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classDef:StructureComplex (
   TaskDialogueAct : ( Action, Scope ) )

classDef:StructureBatch ( Action : ( ActionDomain ) )

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Domains implemented

So we have implemented a couple of domains to do some testings:

Medical appointment

• Task 1: ActionDomain = 'book'. Scope =
 'appointment'

Banking management

- Task 1: ActionDomain = 'consult'. Scope =
 'bankaccount'
- Task 2: ActionDomain = 'locate'. Scope = 'atm'
- Task 3: ActionDomain = 'execute'. Scope = 'transfer'

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Verb lemmas

To detect actions in understanding stage, we associate some verbs lemmas to a certain action:

ActionDomain = 'book'

book, establish, have, make, get, schedule, ask, set up, ...

U: I want to get an appointment.

U: I would like to make medical appointment.

ActionDomain = 'execute'

make, move, execute, perform, do, accomplish, fulfill, effectuate, carry out, complete, ...

U: I want to perform a bank transfer

U: I would like to make a transfer

Please note that a verb lemma can be associated with more than one ActionDomain (ambiguities everywhere!).

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Parameters

A 'parameter' is some kind of useful information to complete a task. For example a 'datetime' or an 'accountnumber'.

```
Example of ParameterCategory
```

U: I want an appointment for tomorrow or the day after tomorrow.

U: My telephone numbers are 1234 and 5678

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```

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Parameters

This information is provided by the user and may be compulsory (red) or optative (green)

Examples

- BookAppointment task:
 - medicalspeciality
 - countryplace
 - phonenumber
 - peselnumber (Ok, it's a polish medical appointment!)
 - datetime
- ConsultBankaccount task:
 - accountnumber
- LocateAtm task:
 - countryplace
- ExecuteTransfer task:
 - accountnumber
 - moneyamount

Parameters classification

- Parameteres can be classified depending upon its domain.
- If it's domain-independent we say that the parameter belongs to "kernel" domain.
- But take into account that we can move a parameter from its domain to kernel domain in order to make it **reusable**.

Kernel domain implemented parameters countryplace onumber datetime ordinal letter phonenumber moneyamount signchunk

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Kernel domain implemented parameters

- countryplace
- datetime
- letter
- moneyamount

- number
- ordinal
- phonenumber
- signchunk

Parameters classification

Medical appointment domain implemented parameters

- medicalspeciality
- peselnumber

Banking management domain implemented parameters

accountnumber

Parameters example: datetime

```
classDef:StructureComplex (
         DateTime: (
         BaseDate,
         OffsetDate.
4
         MinDate,
         MaxDate,
         GeneralTime
8
g
  classDef:StructureComplex (
         GeneralTime: (
12
13
         BaseTime,
         OffsetTime,
14
15
         MinTime.
         MaxTime
16
17
18
```

Parameters example: datetime

U: Starting next thursday until 3pm to the day after 25 of august from noon to a quarter to nine in the afternoon.

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```
(DateTime:
     (MinDate: (GeneralTime: (MaxTime: (BaseTime: (Hour: 15))),
                OffsetDate : (DirectionOfTime: 'forward'.
                                               : (DayInWeek:4),
4
                              Date
                              DayInWeekOffset:1)),
      MaxDate: (GeneralTime: (MinTime: (BaseTime: (Hour: 12)),
6
                              MaxTime: (BaseTime: (Hour: 20,
                                                   Minute: 45))).
8
                OffsetDate : (DirectionOfTime: 'forward',
9
                              Date
                                               :(Day:1)),
                BaseDate
                            :(Dav :25.
                              Month:8)))))
```

Parameters example: countryplace

```
classDef:StructureComplex (
         CountryPlace : (
         CountryName,
         CountryZone,
4
         CountryRegion,
         CountryProvince,
         CountryTown
8
9
  classDef: ElementLiteral (
     CountryName,
12
     CountryZone,
     CountryRegion,
14
15
     CountryProvince,
     CountryTown
16
17
```

Parameters example: countryplace

- We have used NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) and LAU (Local Administrative Unit), two standards developed by European Union.
- We have, in the lexicon, all cities and towns of countries belonging to EU (except UK whose format file is different as usual!).
- This lexicon is expressed in the local language so we have Sevilla, but not Seville. We have Warszawa but not Warsaw.

Some example:

- France: 39096 entries
- Germany: 11167 entries
- Bulgary: 10532 entries
- Spain: 8837 entries
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- Poland: 2478 entrie

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DialogueAct structure

So we define this dialogue act type in Fluency:

```
classDef:StructureComplex
     DialogueAct :
4
         CoreDialogueAct,
         TaskDialogueAct,
         Parameters
8
  classDef:StructureBatch
     Parameters :
14
         Parameter
15
16
```

Dialogue act annotation full example

U: I want to book an appointment for tomorrow to the dentist.

Dialogue act annotation full example

U: I want to book an appointment for tomorrow to the dentist.

```
(DialogueAct:
      (CoreDialogueAct: (Dimension: 'statement',
                         Function : 'request')),
      (TaskDialogueAct:(Action:{(ActionDomain: 'book')}
 4
                         Scope: 'appointment')),
6
      (Parameters:
                        {(Parameter:
7
                          (ParameterValue:
8
                           (DateTime: (OffsetDate: (DirectionOfTime: 'forward',
9
                                                                    :(Day:1)))),
                                                    Date
10
                           ParameterCategory: 'terminal'.
                           ParameterType : 'datetime').
                         (Parameter:
                          (ParameterValue:
                           (Medical Speciality: (Speciality Name: 'Orthodontics'),
14
15
                           ParameterCategory: 'terminal',
16
                           ParameterType : 'medicalspeciality')})
```

Script model

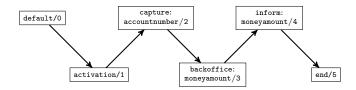
- Every task in all domains are modelled like scripts.
- A script consist of four parts:
 - Descriptor: Literal identificator to distingush this script among others.
 - Trigger: Information that user must provide in order to activate the script.
 - **Infoltems:** Place where the information is stored when script is activated. Can be provided by the user or the system itself.
 - **Phases:** Subtasks needed to be performed in order to execute bigger one.
 - Every phase has a priority level (0 the highest priority).
 - Election mode: If all phases of level n are finished we select a n+1 level phase randomly.
- All scripts and states are stored in mindboard structures.

Script model: ConsultBalance script

```
Descriptor: 'ConsultBalance'

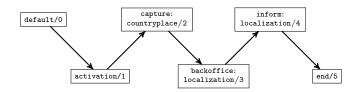
Trigger.CoreDialogueAct: ('statement', 'request')
Trigger.ActionDomain: 'consult'
Trigger.Scope: 'bankaccount'
Trigger.Parameter: 'accountnumber'

InfoItem.Parameter1: 'accountnumber' // Provided by the user
InfoItem.Parameter2: 'moneyamount' // Provided by the system
```



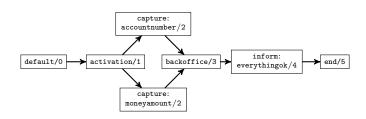
Script model: LocateAtm script

```
1 Descriptor: 'LocateAtm'
2
3 Trigger.CoreDialogueAct: ('statement', 'request')
4 Trigger.ActionDomain: 'locate'
5 Trigger.Scope: 'atm'
6 Trigger.Parameter: 'countryplace'
7
8 InfoItem.Parameter1: 'countryplace' // Provided by the user
9 InfoItem.Parameter2: 'localization' // Provided by the system
```



Script model: MakeTransfer script

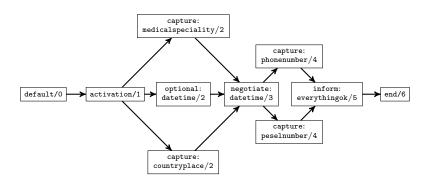
```
1 Descriptor: 'MakeTransfer'
2
3 Trigger.CoreDialogueAct: ('statement', 'request')
4 Trigger.ActionDomain: 'execute'
5 Trigger.Scope: 'transfer'
6 Trigger.Parameter1: 'accountnumber'
7 Trigger.Parameter2: 'moneyamount'
8
9 InfoItem.Parameter1: 'accountnumber' // Provided by the user
10 InfoItem.Parameter2: 'moneyamount' // Provided by the user
```



Script model: BookAppointment script

```
Descriptor: 'BookAppointment'
Trigger.CoreDialogueAct: ('statement', 'request')
Trigger.ActionDomain: 'book'
Trigger.Scope: 'appointment'
Trigger.Parameter1: 'medicalspeciality'
Trigger.Parameter2: 'countryplace'
Trigger.Parameter3: 'datetime'
Trigger.Parameter4: 'phonenumber'
Trigger.Parameter5:
                     'peselnumber'
InfoItem . Parameter1:
                      'medicalspeciality'
InfoItem.Parameter2:
                      'countryplace'
InfoItem.Parameter3:
                      'datetime'
InfoItem.Parameter4:
                      'phonenumber'
InfoItem.Parameter5:
                      'peselnumber'
```

Script model: BookAppointment script



Every dialogue system turn execute this loop until last phase is reached:

- Start talking.
- 2 Digest expectatives.
- Oigest search scripts.
- 4 Activate scripts.
- Select current script.
- Review states.
- Select current node.
- Process talking.
 - Execute node (go to 5).
 - Wait node (go to 9).
- Olose talking (go to 1 after user turn).

1. Start talking

• Erase output mindboard structures.

2. Digest expectatives

- Here we convert some parameters to the types of expected parameters.
- For example, if we are expecting a phone number and user says a number, we can transform on into the other.

3. Digest search scripts

- We analyze user proferences and create some triggering schemes
- We give a scoring to every scheme to see its relevance.

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- We analyze user proferences and create some triggering schemes.
- We give a scoring to every scheme to see its relevance.

4. Activate scripts

- Depending on triggering schemes from previous phase we select what scripts must be activated.
- This is not trivial:
 - What happens if comes a parameter from an active script, but not the current?
 - What happens if comes a parameter from a non-active script?
 - What happens if we have several triggered scripts with the same scoring?

5. Select current script

- Previous phase ends sorting the activated scripts stack so we select, as current script, the one placed in the top of the stack.
- If we have a recently activated script it's the moment to recover some mid-term memory slots.

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6. Review states

- For every info item in the current script we review its state.
- For example, some of these states are:
 - empty: The info item has no value.
 - proposed: System has recently proposed the value of this item to the user.
 - checking: We must check if the value of this item is valid and consistent.
 - captured: We have recently captured this info item value from the user.
 - echoed: This info item has been "echoed" to the user (implicit confirmation).
 - grounded: User seems to agree with this info item.
 - **recovered**: The value of this info item has been recently recovered from mid-term memory.

7. Select current node

- Here we select the next node to be executed in current script.
- ullet Let n the lowest priority level in script with not finished nodes.
- Select one of the not finished nodes with that priority level ramdonly.

8. Process talking

- If the selected node is an "execution" node, execute that node and go back to select current node stage.
- If the selected node is a "wait" node, we must pass the dialogue turn to user.

9. Close talking

Erase input mindboard structures

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Main folder

Fluency Doc Some docs we have been generating Kernel Generic domain Domains Any other domain Alter The union of next two domains BankingManagement MedicalAppointments AlterFluency.lkt Main project file EnglishAlterFluency.slk File for interpreter

Translation tip

There must be a .slk file for every language and every domain

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Alter The union of next two domains

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MedicalAppointments

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Domain folder example: Banking Management

BankingManagement AccountNumber Parameter folder Account Scope folder __ATM Scope folder __Transfer Scope folder Functions __Scripts ____ MainBankingManagementEnglishGeneration.lkt ___ MainBankingManagementEnglishGrammar.lkt ___ MainBankingManagementEnglishLexicon.lkt MainBankingManagementFunctions.lkt _ MainBankingManagementTypes.lkt

Translation tip

There must be three "index" files (grammar, lexicon and NLG) for every language

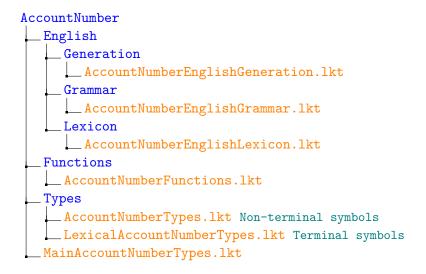
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Parameter folder example: Account Number



Parameter folder example: Account Number

Translation tip

There must be a folder for the three parts of the parameter (grammar, lexicon and NLG) for every language.

Parameter functions: AccountNumberFunctions.lkt

- Possibilities of grouping for this parameter
 - canMergeWithSequentialAccountNumber
 - canMergeWithOrAccountNumber.
 - canMergeWithAndAccountNumber
- Valid formats for this parameters: getParameterFormatsAccountNumber.
- Additional checks not related with formats: checkAccountNumberValidity.
- Conversions from other parameters
 - convertNumberToAccountNumber
 - convertSignChunkToAccountNumber.
 - . . .

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Format example

```
ParameterFormats getParameterFormatsAccountNumber() {
     // Spanish account number
     ParameterFormats ret;
3
     ParameterFormat format;
4
     format <- '##############;
6
     BatchInsertEnd(ret. format):
7
8
     format <- 'es##############::
9
     BatchInsertEnd(ret, format);
12
     return ret;
13 }
14
  /* Possible mask formats
15
16 #
      Any valid number
17 ^ Anv letter
18 Q
      Any letter or number
      Anything */
19 *
```

checkValidity example: PESEL number

```
// https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PESEL
   bool checkPeselNumberValidity( string pesel )
4
   {
5
      int A <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel,1));</pre>
6
      int B <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel,2));</pre>
      int C <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel,3));</pre>
      int D <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel.4));</pre>
9
      int E <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel,5));</pre>
10
      int F <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel,6));</pre>
      int G <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel.7));</pre>
12
      int H <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel,8));</pre>
13
      int I <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel,9));</pre>
      int J <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel.10));</pre>
14
15
      int K <- ShapeToInt(LiteralPositionValue(pesel.11));</pre>
16
17
      int weighted <- 1*A + 3*B + 7*C + 9*D + 1*E + 3*F + 7*G + 9*H + 1*I + 3*J;
18
      int remainder <- Modulo (weighted, 10):
19
      int complement <- Modulo(10 - remainder, 10);</pre>
20
21
      if (complement != K)
          return False:
24
      return True:
25 }
```

Scope folder example: ATM

```
ATM

English

Grammar

ATMEnglishGrammar.lkt

Lexicon

ATMEnglishLexicon.lkt

Types

ATMTypes.lkt

LexicalATMTypes.lkt

MainATMTypes.lkt
```

Translation tip

Again English folder structure must be replicated in other languages.

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Translation tip

Again English folder structure must be replicated in other languages.

Scripts folder example: Banking Management

```
Scripts
Lenglish
BankingManagementEnglishGeneration.lkt
BankingManagementScripts.lkt Functions
generating the scripts of this domain
```

Translation tip

File in English folder has some natural language generation rules related with the scripts.

Scripts folder example: Banking Management

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Translation tip

File in English folder has some natural language generation rules related with the scripts.

Functions folder example: Banking Management

Functions

- BankingManagementBackOffice.lkt Back office
 callback functions
- BankingManagementFunctions.lkt Functions related with current domain

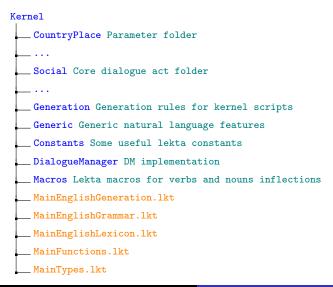
Functions folder example: Banking Management

Translation tip

Among other functions, we have to link lemmas with actions:

```
string getActionDomainFromLemmaBankingManagement(string lemma)
2
      switch (lemma)
        // Action consult (scope: 'bankaccount')
         case 'consult' { return 'consult'; }
         case 'check' { return 'consult'; }
9
        // Action locate (scope: 'atm')
         case 'locate'
                          { return 'locate'; }
         case 'look for'
                          { return 'locate': }
12
        case 'search' { return 'locate': }
        case 'find'
                          { return 'locate'; }
14
        // Action execute (scope: 'transfer')
16
        case 'make'
                          { return 'execute'; }
         case 'perform' { return 'execute'; }
         case 'fulfill' { return 'execute': }
18
19
         case 'complete'
                          { return 'execute'; }
20
      }
21
      return 'unknown':
23 }
```

Kernel folder



Core dialogue act folder example: Social

```
Social
   English Translation tip!
       Generation
          GenerationSocialGoodbye.lkt
        __GenerationSocialGreeting.lkt
       Grammar
       ___SocialEnglishGrammar.lkt
       Lexicon
         _SocialEnglishLexicon.lkt
   Types
       LexicalSocialTypes.lkt
      _SocialTypes.lkt
   MainSocialTypes.lkt
```

Generation folder

```
Generation

English Translation tip!

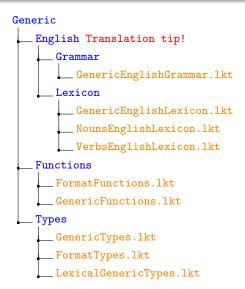
GenerationDisambiguatorKernel.lkt

GenerationKernel.lkt

Functions

GenerationFunctions.lkt
```

Generic folder



Project motivation Project structure Functional analysis