SoSaBiEC Corpus:
Social Structure and Bilinguality
in Everyday Conversation

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Background

SoSaBiEC is collected in opposition to unilingual task-oriented dialogues. Task-oriented dialogue is characterized by the following features:
- specific dialogue purpose
- predetermined topics
- cooperative, in contrast to competitive
- social relationship between dialog partners is determined by task-defined roles
- termination condition

Data

10 AUDIO RECORDINGS of everyday, German-Russian telephone calls and face-to-face conversations
- Recorded subjects all know each other, most of them are even related.
- The length of the conversations varies from about three minutes up to three hours
- In sum, there are about 300 minutes of data material
- 4 parent-child conversations have been annotated

Annotation

4 PARENT-CHILD CONVERSATIONS have been annotated by using Praat (http://www.fon.hum.uva.nl/praat/):
- Orthographic transcription
- Dialogue Acts (Bunt et al. 2010)
- Dialogue Function (Ries 2011)

Reliability

INTER-RATER-AGREEMENT assessed on 1 conversation by means of the first-order agreement coefficient $AC_1$
(Gwet 2001):
- Dialogue Acts: $AC_1 = 0.61$
- Dialogue Function: $AC_1 = 0.78$

Research Questions

THE SOSaBIEC CORPUS addresses the following questions:
- How does dialogue management work in spontaneous conversations?
- Is it basically plan-based as in task-oriented dialogues?
- Or does it lack any structure?
- How does the micro-level social structure influence the structure of dialogues? [micro: dialog, meso: group, makro: society]
- Bilinguality: Are there general strategies for language alternation in dialog?
- Is language alternation influenced by the social relationship of the dialogue partners?

Praat Session

Example

A: guten abend.
F: hallo?
A: hallo guten abend
F: nabend (.) hallo
A: na wie gehts bei euch?
F: gut
A: gut?
F: ja.
A: na что вы смотрели что к чему тама?
F: ja а что там?

After the greeting sequence, the first topic of talk is introduced with a language change

References