Transcription Exercise

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Computational Semantics and Pragmatics

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Intonation

I found that most that used intonation annotations overused them a little bit.

- Remember that these are binary features! So if you annotate both strong and weak emphasis with them, it looks odd.

  (1) moest je daar auditie::? of en selectie:: of wat

- Most longer words have a stress; unless it is particularly pronounced it does not need to be annotated.

  (2) if you compare it with the rest of the world

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But these annotations can be used to great effect:

(3) A: we have a concert this uhm: Friday:
B: [↑this↑ friday?]
. . . much later . . .
A: whe::n is your next concert?

Timing

I also felt that the = (immediate continuation) symbol was a bit overused.

(4) N: [. . .] just an ordinary citizen.=
H: =Uh (.) when you stop to think [. . .]

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And, if you annotate an overlap with [, take care to close that bracket again].

(5) A: =exah[ctly
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(mod.) A: =exah[ctly]
B: [reall]y annoying actually=

Overlap

Many of you remarked that

- There is a lot of overlap.
- Even an unexpected amount of it.
- And that the TRP model might be insufficient to explain it.

Observations

"As for overlaps, there are plenty of them in the conversation."

"surprisingly a lot of overlap"

"The overlap [. . .] seems more harmful"

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Observations

"As for overlaps, there are plenty of them in the conversation."

"surprisingly a lot of overlap"

"The overlap [. . .] seems more harmful"

However, the TRP model actually predicts that some overlap will happen.

(con.)	A: That's true	[isn't it?]
	B:	[Yes, it] Yes, it is

Overlap: TRPs

An important part is that TRPs are anticipated by the interlocutor vying for the turn.

Let's look at some of the overlaps from your transcripts:

(6)
N: certain groups (.) have a lot of power (0.3)mmn a lot of money and a lot of power [and they can]
F: [corporations]

(7)
N: Alright (.) h. Okay [Edgar thank you] very much.
H: [I'll keep you]

(8)
N: Maar geregeld. [Wel leuk.]
H: [Heb je aanra]ders?

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Overlap: Lulls

Sometimes, when there is a lull in the conversation, the floor is free:
So both speakers can try to take the floor.

(9)
(0.7)
B: [wha]
J: [i though] it's
(0.3)
B: [it's always]
J: [somehwere Nove]
(0.5)
B: mm?
(0.7)
J: h I thought you had something in November

Overlap: Clarification

Clarification Requests facilitate the grounding process. As they indicate a communicative problem, they need to be dealt with (almost) immediately.

(10)
A: they sell the bike that are just left there (.)
B: oh[:h]
A: [For] a: [discount
B: [that like people never (.)
A: [mhm
B: [came to pick it up=
A: =exactly
B: aha=
A: =so I saw this one bike. . .

Overlap: Collaboration

Dialogue is a joint activity; sometimes the speakers' collaboration is not disturbed by overlaps (or even aided by it).

(11)
B: really like a::hm (0.2) >how do you call it< (0.2)
A: up[(right)
B: [straight
A: [up up
B: [up up straight [yeah exactly

(12)
D: de: ingredienten van (0.4)
[[dat land, van die-]
C: [[Ja: ik- ik e:h]

Backchanneling

- The listening interlocutor gives feedback cues that signal continued attention, comphrehension, understanding and (possibly) agreement.
- They may be nonlinguistic (*e.g.*, nodding, gaze, eye-contact), but also linguistic. In the latter case these cues are called backchannels.
- Backchannels are not considered turns, but are subordinate to the (continued) turn of the speaking interlocutor.

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Observations

"As most turns of participant S2 only concern interaction management, you could say that he hardly ever really takes a turn. His **feedback utterances**..."

"N says 'that's right' three times, but there seems to be a shared understanding that H **will continue**"

"...uttering short **sounds of approval**"

Backchanneling: Examples

Here, overlap is okay (and expected)!

(12)
H: hold that day open as they [will be]
N: [good]
H: called upon to Washington

(13)
D: =Het is [echt een aan]rader ja
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Backchanneling: Examples

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(12) H: hold that day open as they [will be]
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H: called upon to Washington

(13) D: =Het is [echt een aan]rader ja
C: [Ja, leuk]

Or, the listener interjects in a tiny pause between words which makes the backchannel seem immediately adjacent.

(13)
A: you can lock your bike for som:e amount of money=
B: =okay=
A: an:d they watch over it