Annotating spontaneous dialogues in a collaborative task: Lessons Learned Sandra Kuebler (Indiana University)

The Indiana "Cooperative Remote Search Task" (CReST) corpus is a corpus of natural language dialogues obtained from humans performing a cooperative, remote search task. The search task required dyads of individuals to coordinate their actions via remote audio communication to accomplish several tasks with target objects that were scattered throughout an indoor search environment. The dialogues were then transliterated and annotated for dialog structure, for disfluencies, for constituent and dependency syntax, and for coreference.

In the talk, I will introduce the task in more detail, and I will present examples from the corpus, show the range of phenomena that can be found in such spontaneous speech, and discuss the problems for linguistic annotation that arise from such characteristics.