Call for Papers
IEEE/ACM TASLP Special Issue on the Eighth Dialog System Technology Challenge

The Dialog System Technology Challenge (DSTC) is an ongoing series of research competitions for dialog systems. To accelerate the development of new dialog technologies, the DSTCs have provided common testbeds for various research problems. The Eighth Dialog System Technology Challenge (DSTC8) consists of the following four main tracks including two newly introduced tasks and two followup tasks of DSTC7.

1. **Multi-domain task-completion track** addresses the end-to-end response generation problems in multi-domain task completion and cross-domain adaptation scenarios.
2. **NOESIS II: Predicting Responses, Identifying Success, and Managing Complexity in Task-Oriented Dialogue** explores a response selection task extending the first NOESIS track in DSTC7 and offers two additional subtasks for identifying task success and disentangling conversations.
3. **Audio visual scene-aware dialog track** is another follow-up track of DSTC7 which aims to generate dialog responses using multi-modal information given in an input video.
4. **Schema-guided dialog state tracking** revisits dialog state tracking problems in a practical setting associated with a large number of services/APIs required to build virtual assistants in practice.

This special issue will host work on any of the DSTC8 tasks. Papers may describe entries in the official DSTC8 challenge, or any research utilizing DSTC8 datasets irrespective of the participation in the official challenge. We also welcome papers that analyze the DSTC8 tasks or results themselves. Finally, we also invite papers on previous DSTC tasks as well as general technical papers on any dialog-related research problems.

For any query regarding this special issue please contact seokim@dstc.community.

Important Dates:

Manuscript submission date: October 15, 2020

First Review Completed: December 15, 2020

Revised Manuscript Due: January 31, 2021

Second Review Completed: March 15, 2021

Final Manuscript Due: April 30, 2021

Expected publication date: July 2021

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