

The development of turn-taking in child-caregiver interactions

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In this talk I will present ongoing work on how to understand and model turn-taking in child-caregiver interactions. First I will present a systematic review and evidence synthesis of the field, aimed at identifying outstanding questions and current pitfalls. I will follow up with a longitudinal study involving autistic and typically developing children (2-5 years of age) aimed at filling those gaps: inclusion of meaningful individual differences in social, linguistic and motor development; adequate statistical modeling of response latencies; and focus on turn-by-turn dynamics. I will conclude by sketching the next steps – with a focus on computational modeling of the generative mechanisms underlying turn-taking.