

Coding categories relevant to interaction

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Prior work: coding Q&As

Stivers, T., & Enfield, N. J. (2010). A coding scheme for question–response sequences in conversation. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 42(10), 2620–2626.

- **Syntactic and morphological** formats
- **Social action**: information question; other-initiation of repair; request for confirmation; assessment; suggestion, offer, request; etc.
- **Dyadic** interaction?
- **Next speaker selected?** if so done with gaze? address term? recipient's domain of epistemic authority?
- **Form of response**; offset of response; visible action; other design features (based on e.g. Raymond 2003)

Social actions in talk

= what is done through the talk

offer
request
assessment
complaint
invitation
recommendation
etc.

for example....

incipient
speakership

word-search

Clicks in English conversation

Ogden, R. (2013). Clicks and percussives in English conversation.
Journal of the International Phonetic Association, 43(03), 299–320.

displaying
a stance

post-completion
comment

marking a new
sequence of talk

Clicks in English: forms

[feature: value]; {system (= a set of choices)}

- [manner: {central, lateral}]
- [number: {single, multiple}]
- [airflow: {oral, nasal}]
- [followed by: {in-breath, glottal stop}]
- [rhythmicity: {rhythmic, arhythmic}]
- [position: {pre-turn, mid-turn, post-positioned}]

Clicks in English: functions

[feature: value]; {system (= a set of choices)}

1. [**Action: regulation of turn-taking**]
[regulation: {incipient speakership, word search, new sequence, self-repair...}]
2. [**Action: a display of affect**]
[affect: {compliment, appreciation, complaint, sympathy...}]

Display of Affect: vocal, gestural or facial behaviour that serves as an indicator of feeling or emotion

form (number)

single

multiple

position

pre-turn

mid-turn

post-positioned

action

new sequence indexing

incipient
speakership

self-repair

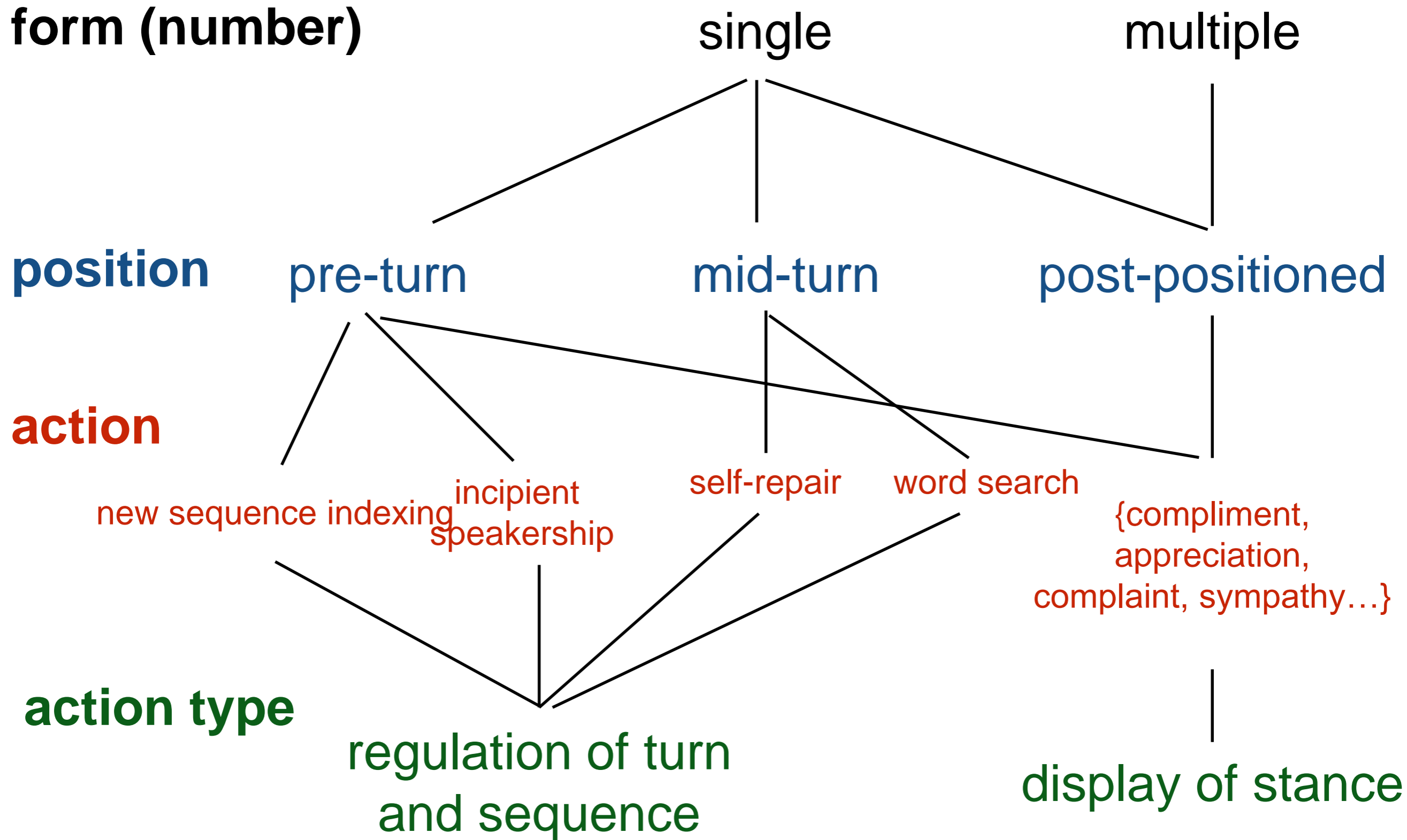
word search

{compliment,
appreciation,
complaint, sympathy...}

action type

regulation of turn
and sequence

display of stance



Shifts in footing

Looking at how social relations and positions are negotiated through talk

Shifts in footing

CallHome en_5254.1160 weird uncle



complaint

01 L they don't seem interested;
02 they don't call,

Traverso, V. (2009). The dilemmas of third-party complaints in conversation between friends. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 41(12), 2385–2399.

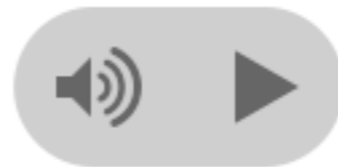
Couper-Kuhlen, E. (2012). Exploring affiliation in the reception of conversational complaint stories. In A. Peräkylä & M.-L. Sorjonen (Eds.), *Emotion in Interaction*. (pp. 113–146). Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press.

Shifts in footing

CallHome en_5254.1160 weird uncle

01 L they don't seem interested;
02 they don't call,
03 R mhm

complaint

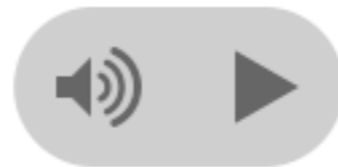


Shifts in footing

CallHome en_5254.1160 weird uncle

01 L they don't seem interested;
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04 L you know, they seem like
05 he's just a nuisance

complaint



Shifts in footing

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05 he's just a nuisance
06 R → CLICK is this your weird uncle

complaint



Q

Heritage, John, & Raymond, Geoffrey (2005). The terms of agreement: indexing epistemic authority and subordination in assessment sequences. *Social Psychology Quarterly* 68, 15–38.

Raymond, Geoffrey, & John Heritage (2006) The epistemics of social relations: Owning grandchildren. *Language in Society* 35: 677-705.

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06 R → CLICK is this your weird uncle
07 {0.5}

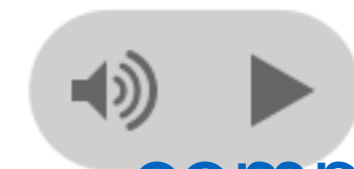
complaint

Q

Kendrick, K. H., & Torreira, F. (2015). The Timing and Construction of Preference : A Quantitative Study. *Discourse Processes*, 52, 255–289.

Shifts in footing

CallHome en_5254.1160 weird uncle



complaint

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04 L you know, they seem like

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Q

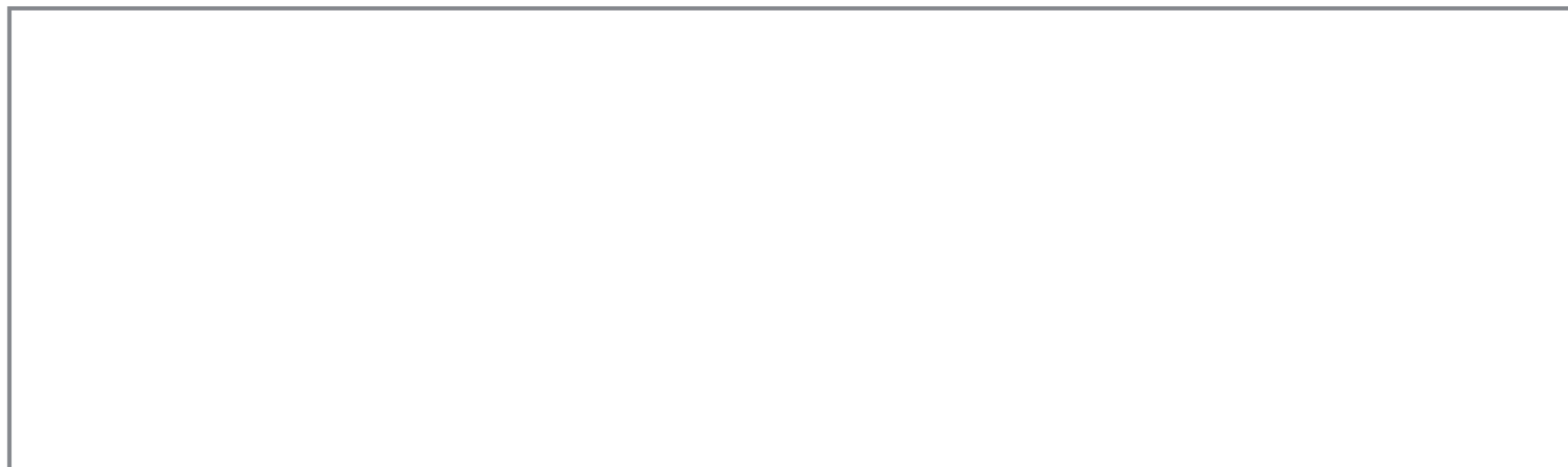
07 {0.5}

08 L CLICK [yeah but also]

09 R [the one that was in New York]

Q(+)

10 L all of them



Shifts in footing

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complaint



Q

A

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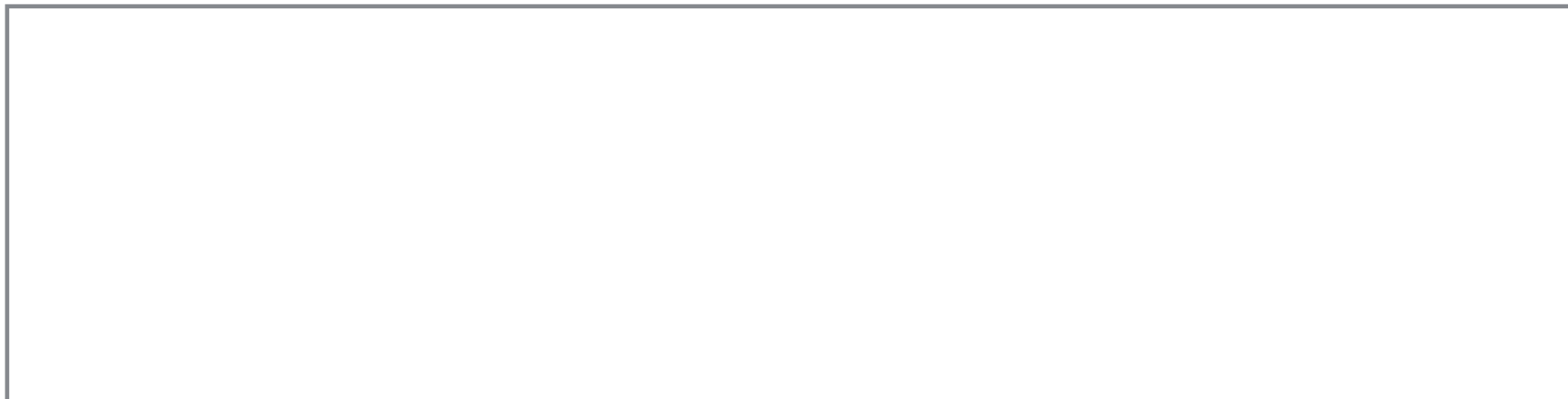
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06 R → CLICK is this your weird uncle
07 {0.5}
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09 R [the one that was in New York]
10 L all of them
11 {0.53}

complaint

Q

A

A



Shifts in footing



CallHome en_5254.1160 weird uncle

complaint

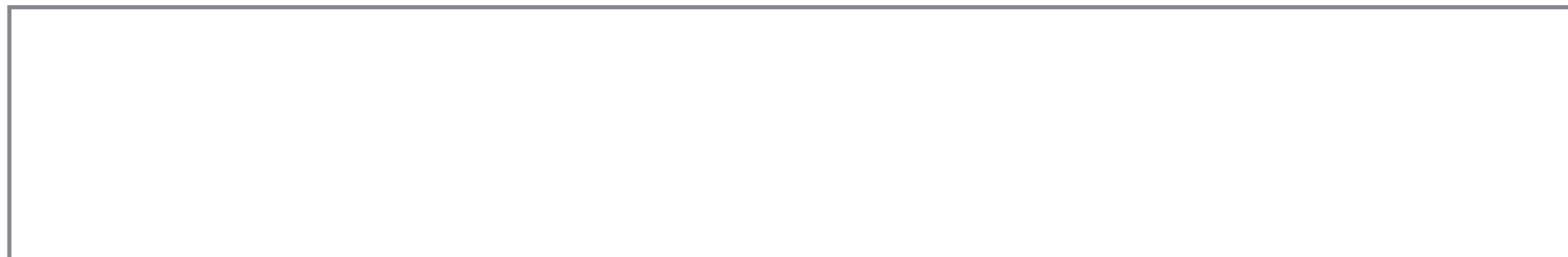
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04	L		you know, they seem like
05			he's just a nuisance
06	R	→	CLICK is this your weird uncle
07			{0.5}
08	L		CLICK [yeah but also]
09	R		[the one that was in New York]
10	L		all of them
11			{0.53}
12	L		[so]
13	R		[ach] "the whole kit and caboodle"

Q

A

A

3rd



Shifts in footing

CallHome en_5254.1160 weird uncle



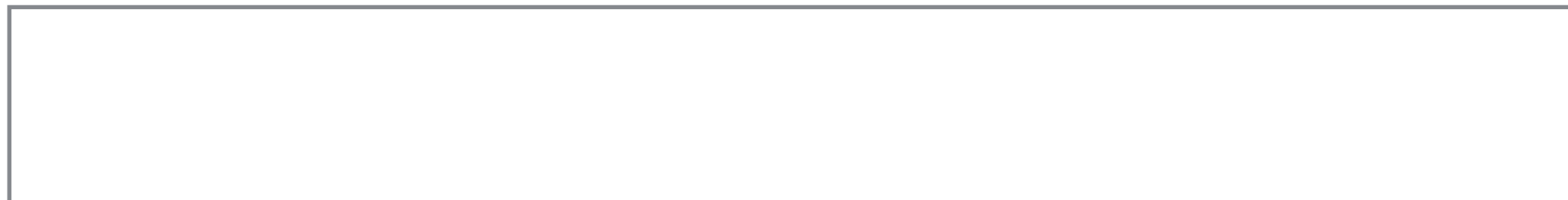
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09 R [the one that was in New York]
10 L all of them
11 {0.53}
12 L [so]
13 R [ach] "the whole kit and caboodle"
14 L yeah yeah

Q

A

A

3rd



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12 L [so]
13 R [ach] "the whole kit and caboodle"
14 L yeah yeah
15 R → CLICK oh I'm so sorry

complaint

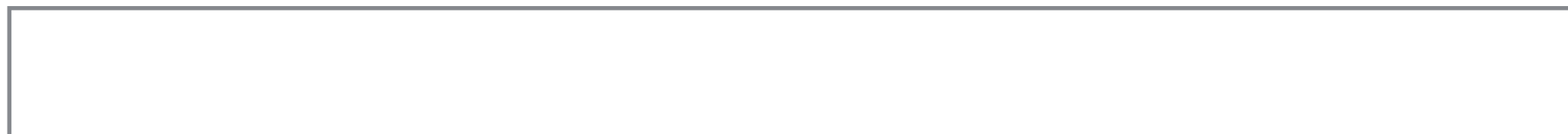
Q

A

A



3rd



Shifts in footing



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09 R [the one that was in New York]
10 L all of them
11 {0.53}
12 L [so]
13 R [ach] "the whole kit and caboodle"
14 L yeah yeah
15 R → CLICK oh I'm so sorry
16 L there're three families
17 y'know that live right nearby

complaint

1PP: Q

2PP: A

2PP: A

3rd
conf.
sympathy

Shifts in footing



CallHome en_5254.1160 weird uncle

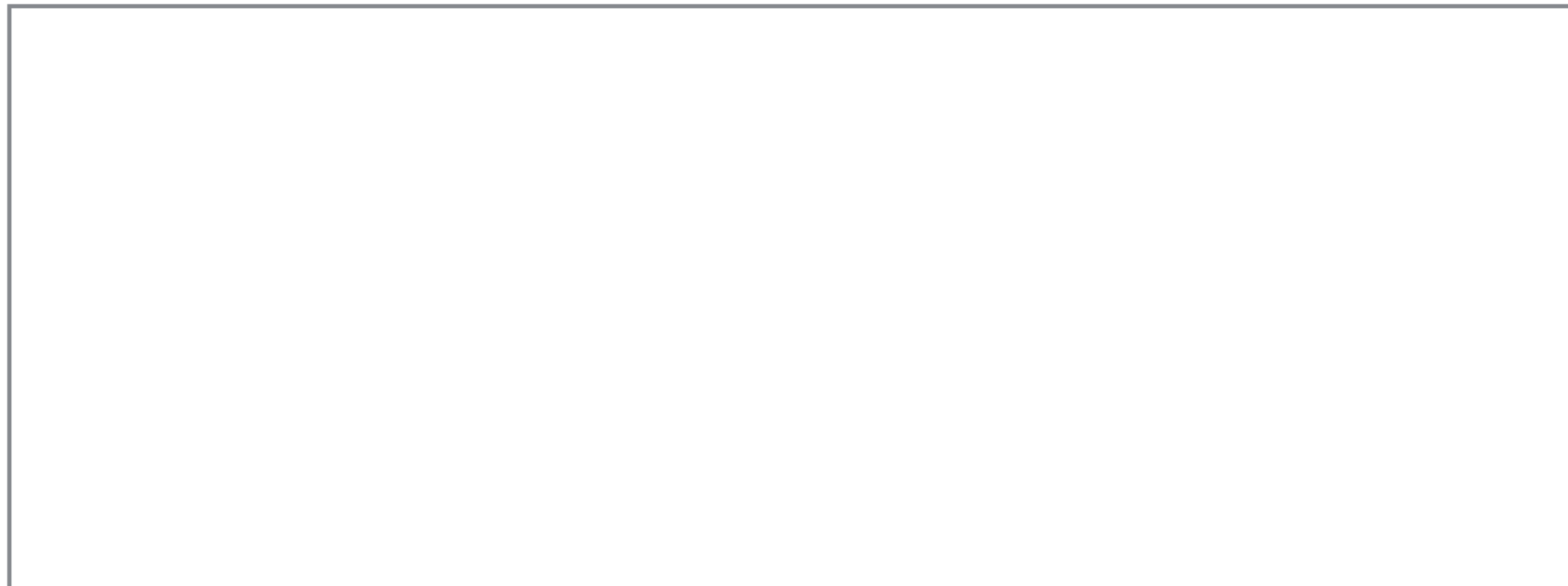
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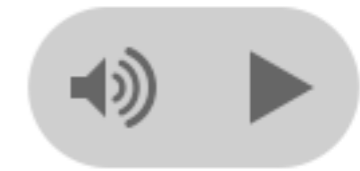


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sympathy

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complaint

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10 L all of them



15 R → CLICK oh I'm so sorry
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17 y'know that live right nearby

sympathy

CLICK is this your weird uncle
CLICK oh I'm so sorry

CLICK oh I'm so sorry

- **manner** {central, ~~lateral~~}
- **number** {single, ~~multiple~~}
- **airflow** {oral, ~~nasal~~}
- **followed by** {~~in-breath~~, ~~glottal stop~~}
- **rhythmicity** {rhythmic, arhythmic}
- **position** {pre-turn, ~~mid-turn~~, ~~post-positioned~~}
- **action** [{~~regulation~~, affect: {~~compliment~~, ~~appreciation~~, ~~complaint~~, sympathy...}}]}

The primacy of action

- Social actions are embedded in and delivered through sequences of talk.
- The actions we do through talk reflect something about our relationships.
- Displays of affect are made relevant and are sequentially located: they don't just permeate a speaker's talk in some generic way.

Coding for interaction

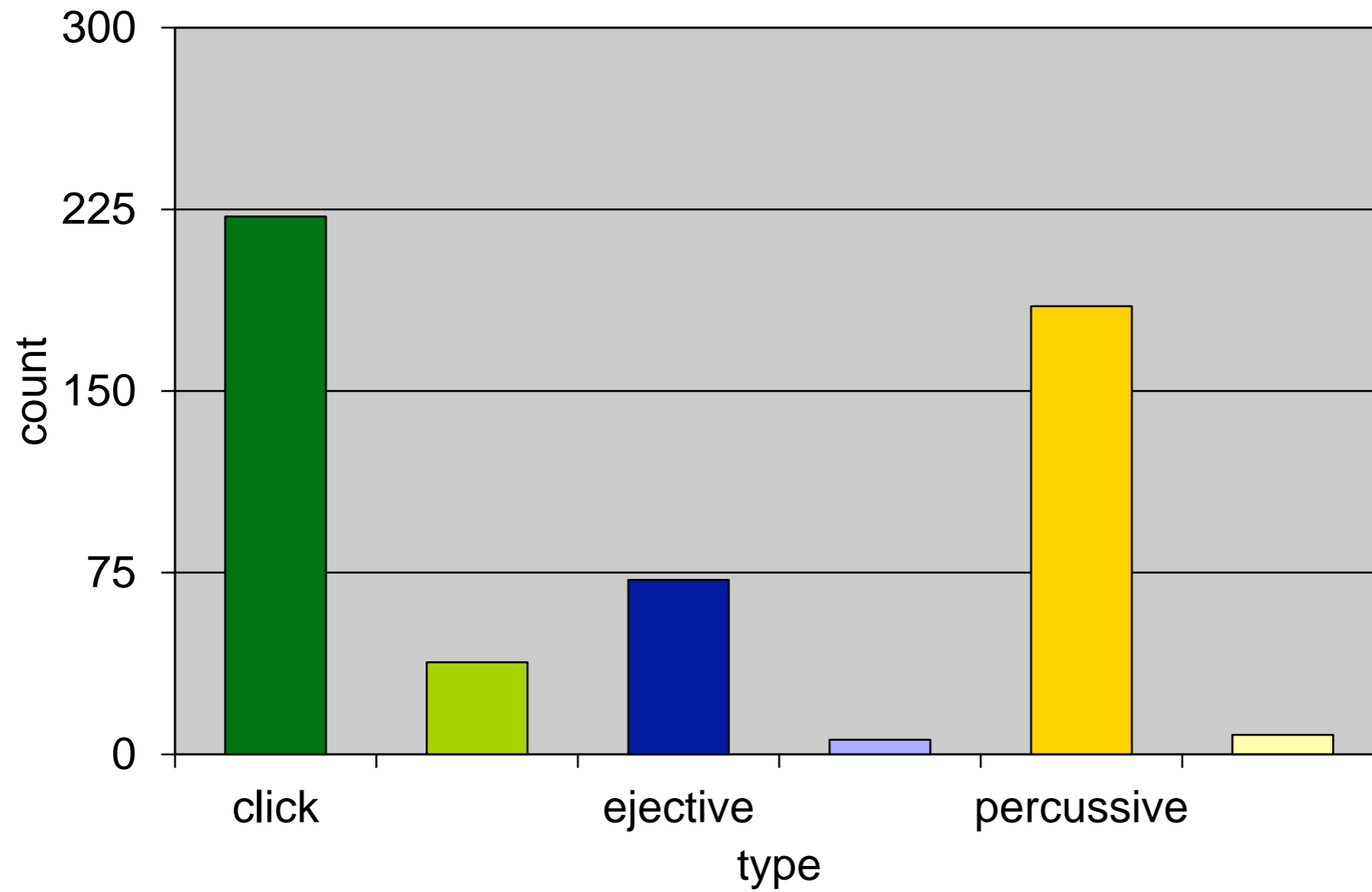
- Sequential analysis serves as a natural control on data: code for sequential organisation.
- Features of design (form)
- Features of action (function)
- Features of the treatment of the device

Summary

- Many conversation analytic studies have shown how **social actions are organised through talk**; linguists have much to learn from interactionalists.
- **Sequential position** and **action type** are basic aspects of talk that should be coded: linguists are tempted to stick to what we know (*form*), but to get at meaning, we also need a deep understanding of *function* (action).

Clicks/ejectives/percussives

Clicks, percussives, ejectives

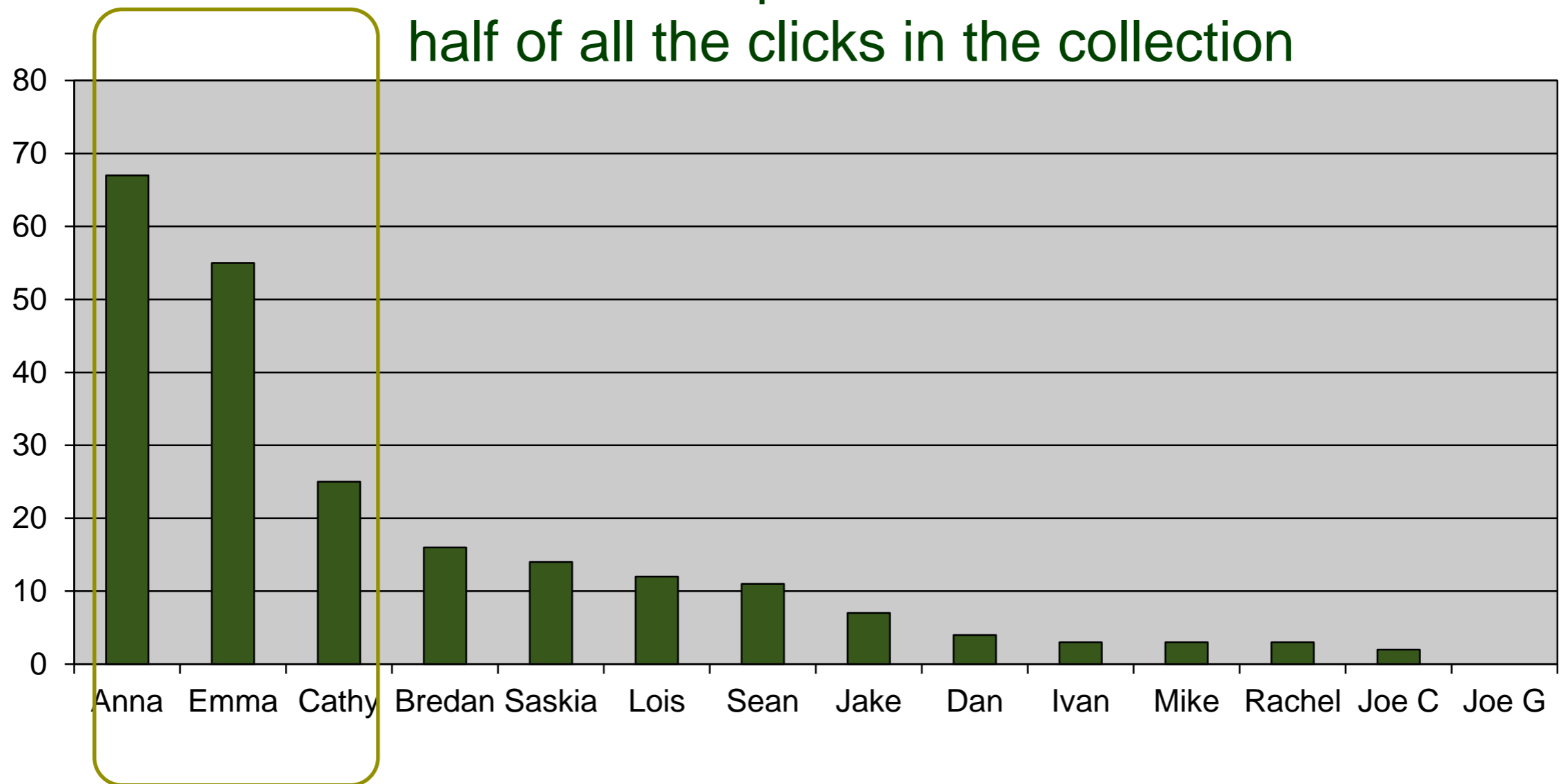


How many clicks?

- 222 definite clicks in c. 280 minutes of talk
- = about 4 clicks every 5 minutes
- but the distribution isn't straightforward
- and sometimes percussives/clicks are not easy to distinguish

Clicks by speaker

These three speakers account for about half of all the clicks in the collection

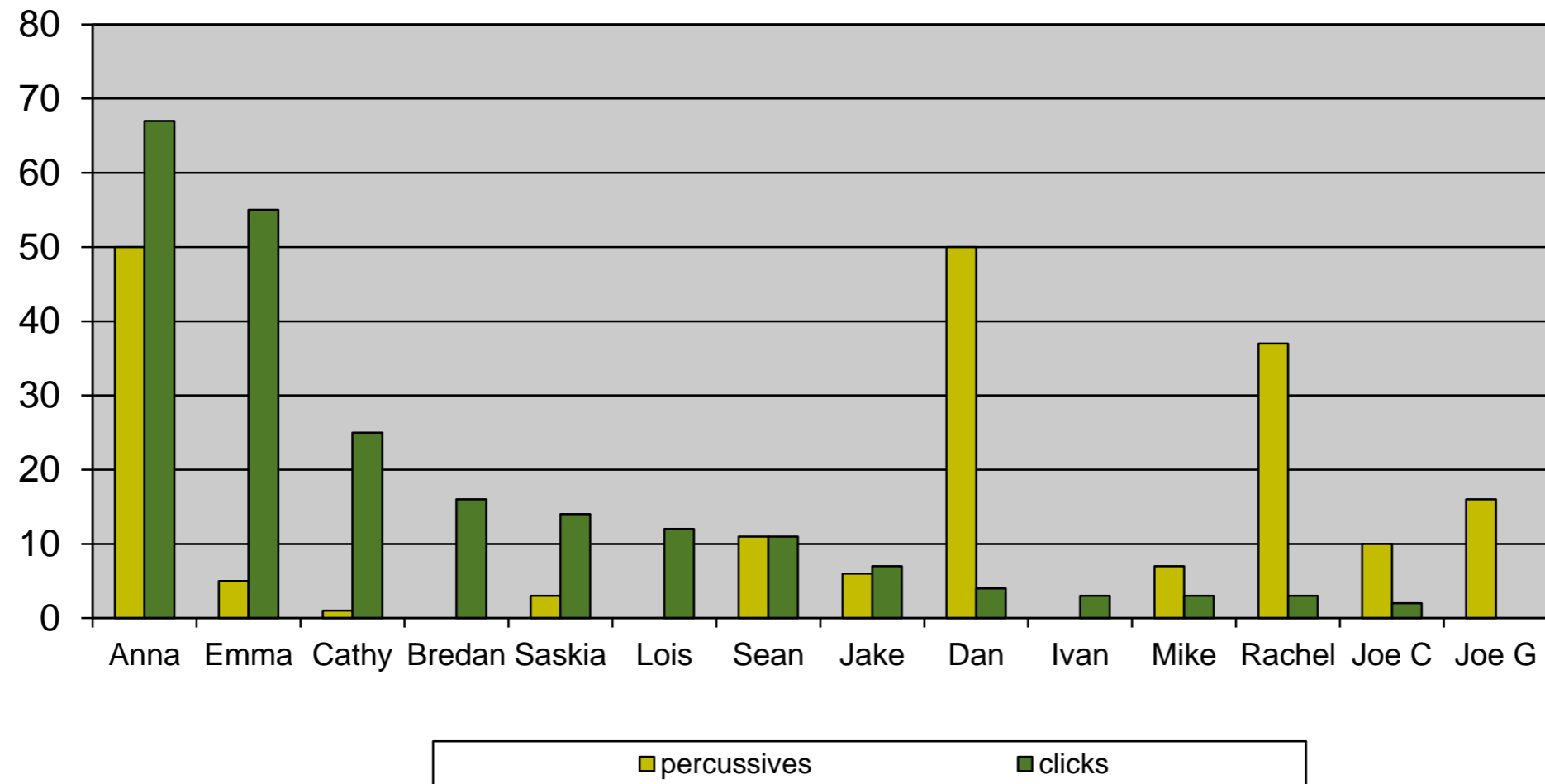


Do 'clickers' just speak a lot?

Or do they do a lot of the kind of talk where clicking is relevant?

Or...?

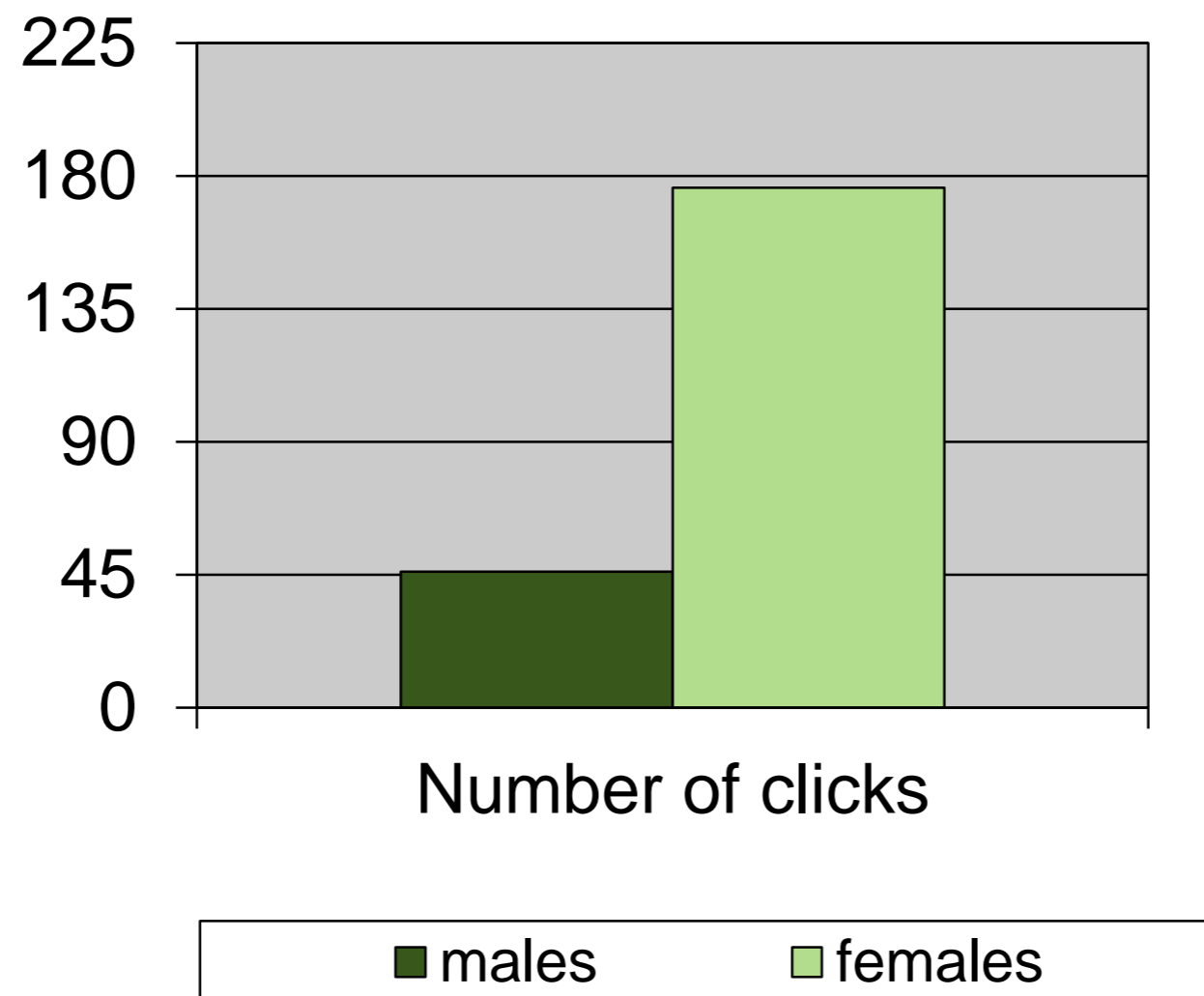
Clicks and Percussives by speaker



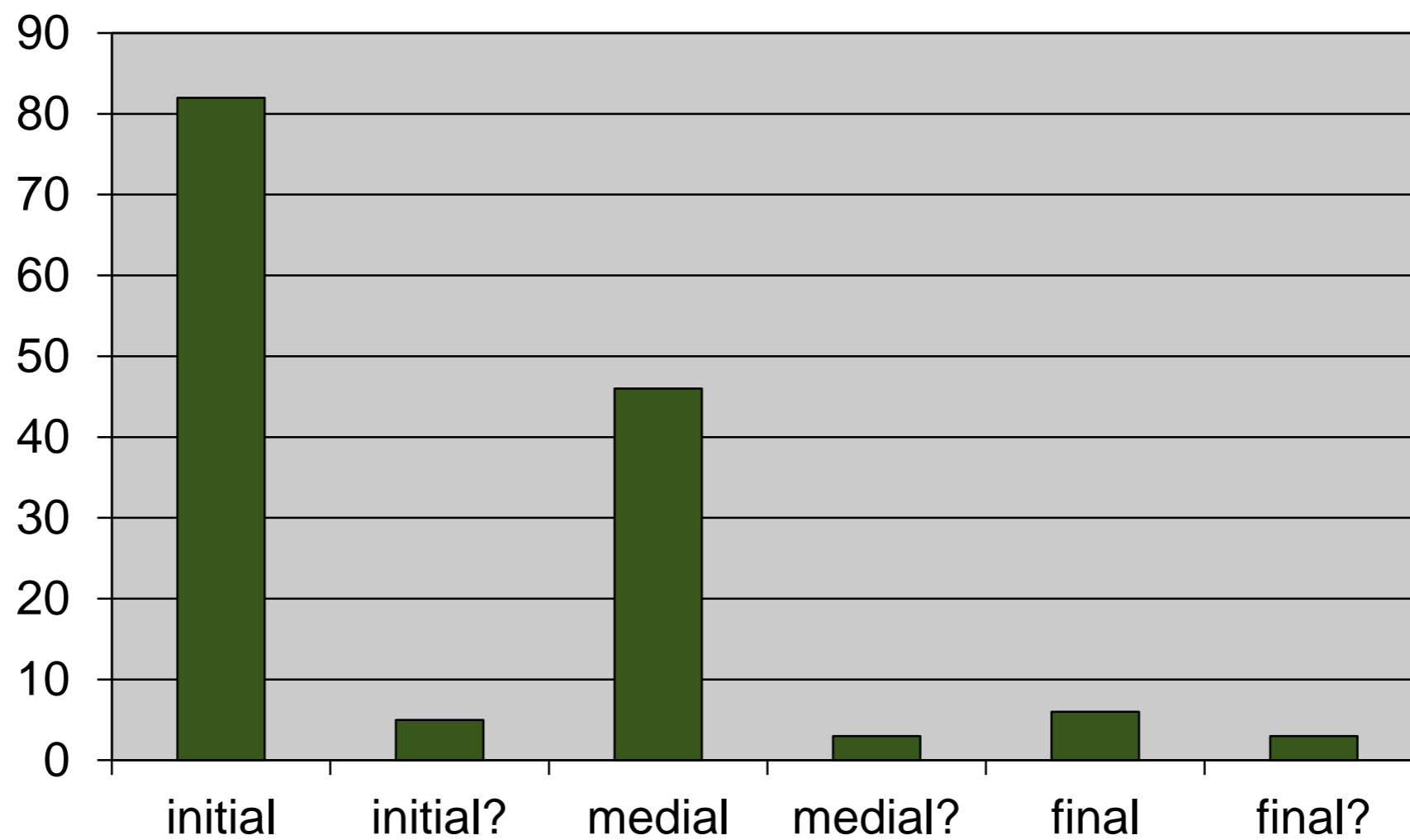
Clicks by gender

8 males, 46 clicks = 5.75/speaker

6 females, 176 clicks = 29.3/speaker



Location in turn



Starting a turn

This speaker's turns often start with audible 'gearing up'

turn beginnings	-C/P	+C	+P	total
YF1	270 79%	44 13%	26 8%	340
YF2	301 96%	3 1%	11 3%	315
YM1	376 93%	17 4%	14 3%	407
YM2	379 94%	18 4%	9 2%	406
total	1326 90%	82 6%	60 4%	1468

Clicking: sympathy

sympathy	-C/P	+C	+P	total
YF1	12	13	0	25
YF2	6	0	0	6
YM1	2	0	0	2
YM2	0	0	0	0
total	20	13	0	33

Nearly all displays of sympathy are done by the female speakers

Clicking: disapproval/dissatisfacti on

dis/	-C/P	+C	+P	total
YF1	4	9	2	15
YF2	3	0	0	3
YM1	5	3	0	8
YM2	3	2	0	5
total	15	14	2	31

One speaker displays disapproval/dissatisfaction more than the others