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Foodi - Automated Ordering System

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Introduction

Who is BeSprout Technology?
- BeSprout Technology provides services to many restaurants throughout the Central Virginia area including mobile apps for ordering food and websites personalized to individual restaurants.

What is Foodi?
- Working with BeSprout Technology, we created an automated ordering system called Foodi. Our ordering system is dynamic and can be used in multiple restaurants as the particular restaurant's menu items are loaded at runtime. The customer will call the restaurant, and their call will be routed to Foodi, which will take care of any orders or general questions the customer may have.

Motivation

- Many people still place orders via a phone call. In effort to streamline the ordering process, this project was created to enable automatic order placing from within each individual restaurant.
- With Foodi, restaurant employees will be able to focus more during times of high customer volume and give more attention to making orders and helping customers that are inside the restaurant rather than being sidetracked by phone calls.

Technology Stack

- IBM Watson Conversation Service
  - Dialogue Abstraction + Conversation creation utility
- Java backend
  - Helper classes to parse Intents, validate addresses, convert to/from text to speech, etc.
- MySQL database
  - Holds restaurant information (hours, menu items, etc)
- Watson voice to text module

Sample Flow

Speech to Text / Text to Speech

"[would you like takeout or delivery]"

"order food"