

BOOK REVIEW

An Expressive Conversational-Behavior Generation Model for Advanced Interaction within Multimodal User Interfaces

Authors: Matej Rojc and Izidor Mlakar (Researcher, Panevropa d.o.o., Maribor, Slovenia and others)

“An Expressive Conversational-Behavior Generation Model for Advanced Interaction within Multimodal User Interfaces” is a self-contained and well-rounded book introducing the reader into the complex backstage of a convincing avatar interfacing people with web-services.

As well known the human communication is, made of both verbal and non-verbal messages, tightly coordinated to make the interaction most effective.

Willing replicating this attitude in an avatar requires deep and accurate techniques, starting from the annotation of the human behavior, to the reproduction of its gesture as a function of both intentional and subconscious goals. The great value of this book stays in a new annotation scheme (EVA) and a complete software for properly animating the avatar in real time – what is called a co-verbal behavior.

This book is recommended to the people involved in new generation web-services, where an avatar interface starts becoming to be a must. It will prove interesting, however, to all readers who study, or are simply fascinated by, the multimodal communication tools of the human being and want capture them in a strictly concrete way.

Professor Bruno Apolloni

Dipartimento di Informatica, University of Milano
Via Comelico 39, 20135 Milano, Italy