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Abstract.

1 Introduction

Increasingly new technologies are used to assist humans in their daily life. For example, a robot companion for isolated elder. One condition for a successful application of these technologies is the ability to interact easily with users. Therefore, these technologies were allowed with conversational skills [6].

In the beginning, conversations with users were task centered (gives directives, ask for information to achieve tasks, etc...) and the social aspect of dialogue was completely neglected for a long time. However, several researchers proved that social aspect cannot be ignored during the dialogue since the dialogue is social by definition [4]. Moreover, it has be found that users prefer to interact with conversational agents which have social skills [5] and these skills allow the agent to build a long term relationship with the user[2].

Social conversational agents have in addition to their usual task goals, social goals to achieve. Indeed, achieving social goals may contribute to achieve task goals [1]. For example, to achieve the task "remind the user take his medicine", the agent would first achieve the social goal to "put the user in good mood".

In this paper, we will discuss the impact of interpersonal relationship in the strategy of the agent during the dialogue. The mental representation of social relationship is crucial for social intelligence [3]. Therefore, depending on the interpersonal relationship that the agent will build with the user during the dialogue, it will affect its strategy to achieve its social (and task) goals. The way that we discuss with a person that we newly meet is different from a dialogue with a close friend or a supervisor.

For this paper we will focus on one single dimension of social relationship which is dominance. Our interest is to study how the relation of dominance can affect agent decisions during dialogue and the evolution of its strategy and behavior specially when it comes to talk about preferences and negotiate about them with the user. Moreover, as relationship is dynamic and can progress during dialogue, the agent has to adapt its strategy to the observable changes. Let's take an example of an elder who has dietary restrictions and wants to order diner. The agent knows that the elder hates this dietary restrictions. Thus, the agent defines as goal to make the user respect this food preference. Depending on its relationship with the user, the agent will adopt a specific strategy (food suggestions, linguistic style, ask for user preferences etc..) to find a type of food that the user appreciates and respects the user's diet.

2 Related works

2.1 Interpersonal relationship

brief presentation on what is interpersonal relationship in dialogue and how it could evolve during dialogue and affect the strategies

2.2 Dimensions of interpersonal relationship

present the different dimensions briefly and focus more on the dimension of dominance because it is the one studied in this article

2.3 Social conversational agents

Existing works on social conversational agents

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