CSC594\_StructureOutline\_v1

Brad Harper 2020/05/16

Reviewers:

1. Erin Murphy 2020-05-16
2. Josh F 2020-05-16

Identifying the effect of simulated emotional events on personality

Emotional events have the potential to temporarily shift the personality of an individual away from a predefined benchmark. Some researchers hold that identity(personality) consists of stable traits as well as multiple transient state identities (Tripathi, N., Zhu, J., Jacob, G., Frese, M., & Gielnik, M. (2019) that are used by the individual to confirm its overall identity.  The process of identifying situational personality shifts that come about due to emotional events is the subject of this content theory.  I propose that transient state identities can be elicited by presenting the subject with visual or written emotional events.  Furthermore, I believe that the state identity can be identified based on pre and post evaluation of the subject’s personality type.  The pre-evaluation will take the form of a Myer Briggs type identity (MBTI) survey.  A proxy for the MBTI that has been fashioned around questions concerning the emotional event will serve as the subjects post evaluation.  Depending on the emotional event observed by the subject, we would expect the post-event response analysis to show a statistically significant shift from the pre-evaluation benchmark.

Content Theory

This content theory is an effort to provide an additional view of the concept of transient state identities.

Method

The method we propose for this research would have the user communicate with only an Artificially Intelligent agent (IA) whose purpose is to provide support for the creative writer.

Objective of a Writer

The objective of a creative writer is to get the reader to care about the situation and characters of a fictitious event.

The Role of the Intelligent Agent

The IA’s primary role is to support the rendering of emotional events, track the subject responses and execute the MBTI proxy

Agent Limitations

The biggest limitation for the IA is the ability of the developer to provide a variety of the emotional events that would be appropriate for each MBTI.

Post Personality Analysis:

The following paragraph is a sample of a storyline the agent would submit for user review:

As Peter boards the bush plane, his hand brushes over the hatchet attached to his belt.

Once the user indicates that the review is complete, the agent will prompt the user with a series of questions concerning how the user feels about the storyline.

1. Interaction

Does the scene give you the feeling that you would want to interact with Peter at a major league baseball game?

OR

Does the scene give you the feeling that you would want to interact with in as his therapist?

1. Realistic and Speculative

If you had to continue the storyline at this point would you choose a conventional path that explains Peter's experience as if it were a travel log from the perspective of a 12-year-old boy?

OR

If you had to continue the storyline at this point would you choose to branch the story in a way to make it more adventurous?

1. Realistic and Speculative

Although Peter risks failure with his plan to impress his friends, do you think it is better that he tries regardless of the possible failure?

OR

Given the possible pain of failure, should Peter give up on his longing to impress his friends?

The norm for these types of observations would have the subject responded to about 70 questions in four categories.

Concerns:

Certain stories that may seem to be clearly emotional events will not necessarily produce state identity that differs from the respondent’s stable traits.

Conclusion:

The fact that human beings are able to shift their behavior to coincide with circumstance is not a new discovery.  In fact, many performing artists make these shifts as part of their professional lives.  Having a better understanding of how we can train ourselves to create these momentary personae could help to make more interesting and creative accounts of the human condition.  It is very possible that our stable-health personality is an obstacle when it comes to imaging how a situation did or will unfold.  By priming the mind with purposeful emotional images(events), we may be able to loosen those constraints that keep us from realizing more of our creative potential.  Furthermore, we may be able to better understand the processes of individuals that we consider creative.

Summary:

 This project shows how an Intelligent agent can be used to gather state data regarding a respondent’s reactions to an emotional event.  The Myer Briggs Type Identity survey was used to determine the personality typing of the respondent.  However, a proxy for MBTI was used to gather data related to post responses.   Although an external MBTI pre-analysis could be done within the application, the consideration for doing so (or not doing) is based on the resources available for adding the feature.  This also holds true for a number of other features we have listed.  In our opinion, the efficacy of the content theory can be demonstrated without these accessories.  However, the additional accessories are important for supporting the objective of providing the respondent with a creative writing assistant.

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