Animating Stories



Advisor

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Context

Story Intention Graph or SIG is a representation that describes narratives in terms of goals, plans, beliefs, actions, statives, attempts and outcomes. It was first proposed by David Elson [1] and has since been used with much success to generate new stories in natural language [2,3]. In this internship, we would like to test the usefulness of this representation as an input format for **automatically generating graphic narratives**, rather than natural language stories.

Objectives

Using the example of Aesop's fables, the goal of the internship will be to propose methods for automatically generating storyboards from story intention graphs, such that the actions and their narrative interpretations can be recognized in purely visual terms. We will use David Elson's SIG encoding of the fables with the Scheherazade toolset [4] for experimental validation. The internship is likely to lead to a PhD thesis on animating fables from story intention graphs, using storyboards as an intermediate step.

References

[1] David K. Elson. Modeling Narrative Discourse. PhD dissertation, Columbia University, 2012.

[2] SM Lukin, K Bowden, C Barackman, MA Walker. Personabank: a corpus of personal narratives and their story intention graphs. Proceedings of LREC 2016.

[3] Elena Rishes, Stephanie M. Lukin, David K. Elson, and Marilyn A. Walker. 2013. Generating Different Story Tellings from Semantic Representations of Narrative. In *Proceedings of the 6th International Conference on Interactive Storytelling - Volume 8230* (ICIDS 2013)

[4] David K. Elson and Kathleen R. McKeown. 2009. A tool for deep semantic encoding of narrative texts. In *Proceedings of the ACL-IJCNLP 2009 Software Demonstrations* (ACLDemos '09).