

EMPATHIC VIRTUAL COACHES



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EMOTIONS

.....
*Fundamental dimension
of the human experience*



Anger

Fear

Disgust



Ekman



Surprise

Happiness

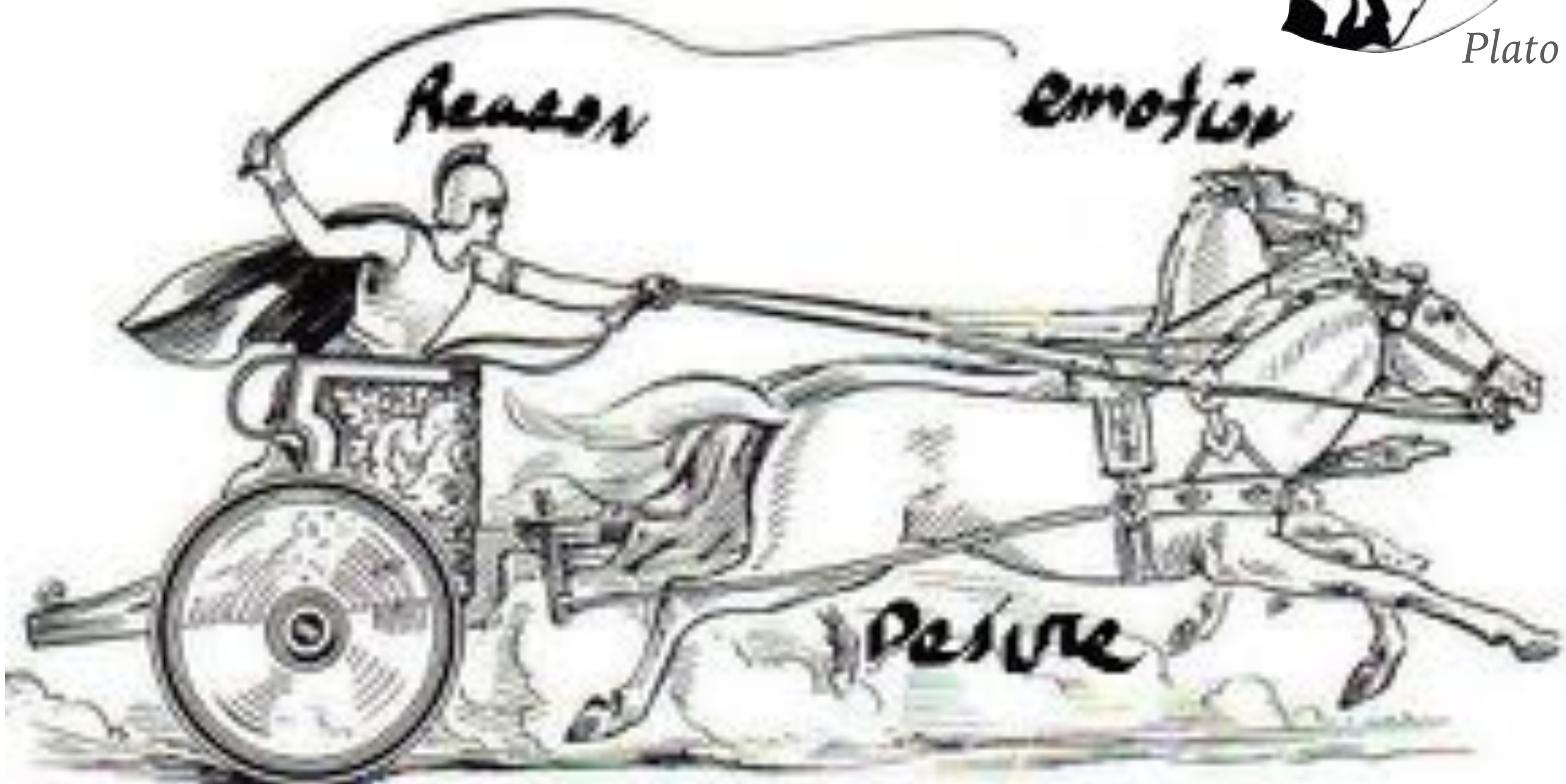
Sadness

UNIVERSALITY OF EMOTIONS (EKMAN & FRIESEN 1972)

EMOTION AND REASON (FROM PLATO...)



Plato



EMOTION AND REASON (...TO DAMÁSIO)



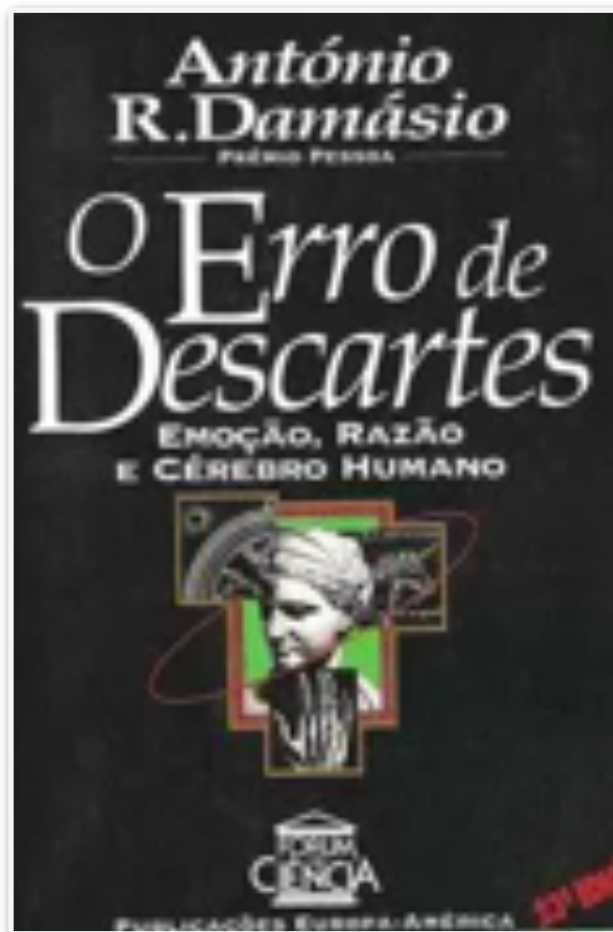
Phineas Gage, 1848



António Damásio



*Iowa Gambling Task
Bechara et al. 1994*



Somatic Markers, feelings in the body associated with emotions that influence subsequent decision-making.

“We are not thinking machines that feel; rather, we are feeling machines that think.”

António Damásio, 1994

EMOTIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR RATIONAL THOUGHT

AFFECTIVE COMPUTING

Computing that relates to, arises from, or deliberately influences emotion or other affective phenomena



Input



Process



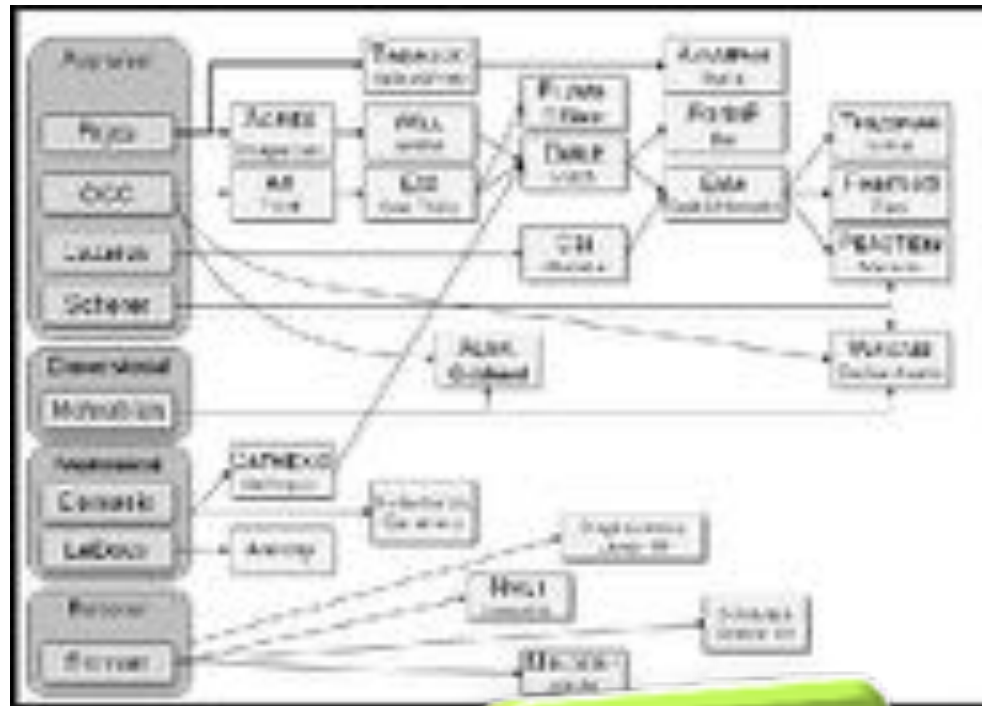
Output



Empathica



Computational Models of Emotions



Input



Process



Output

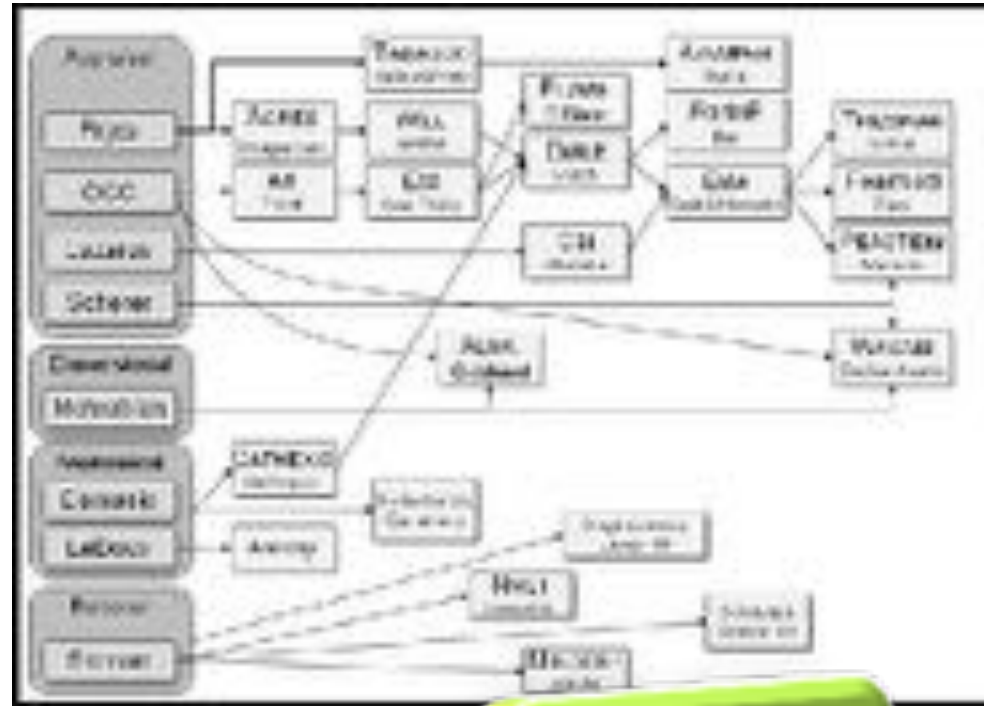


Empathica

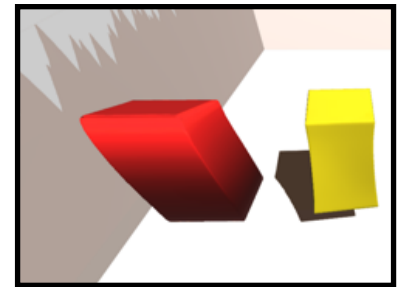




Computational Models of Emotions



Gretta



Input



Process

Output



Empathica



Nexi



Paro



Emys



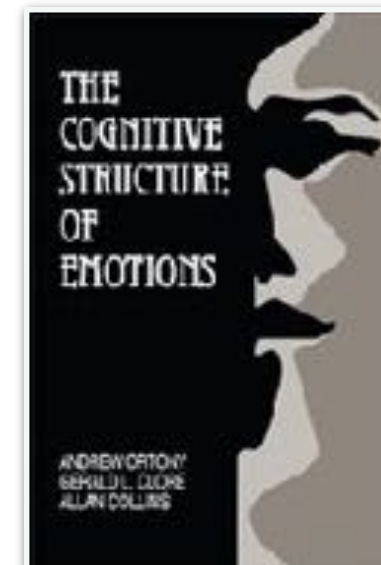
Aini

APPRAISAL THEORIES OF EMOTIONS

APPRAISAL THEORIES OF EMOTIONS



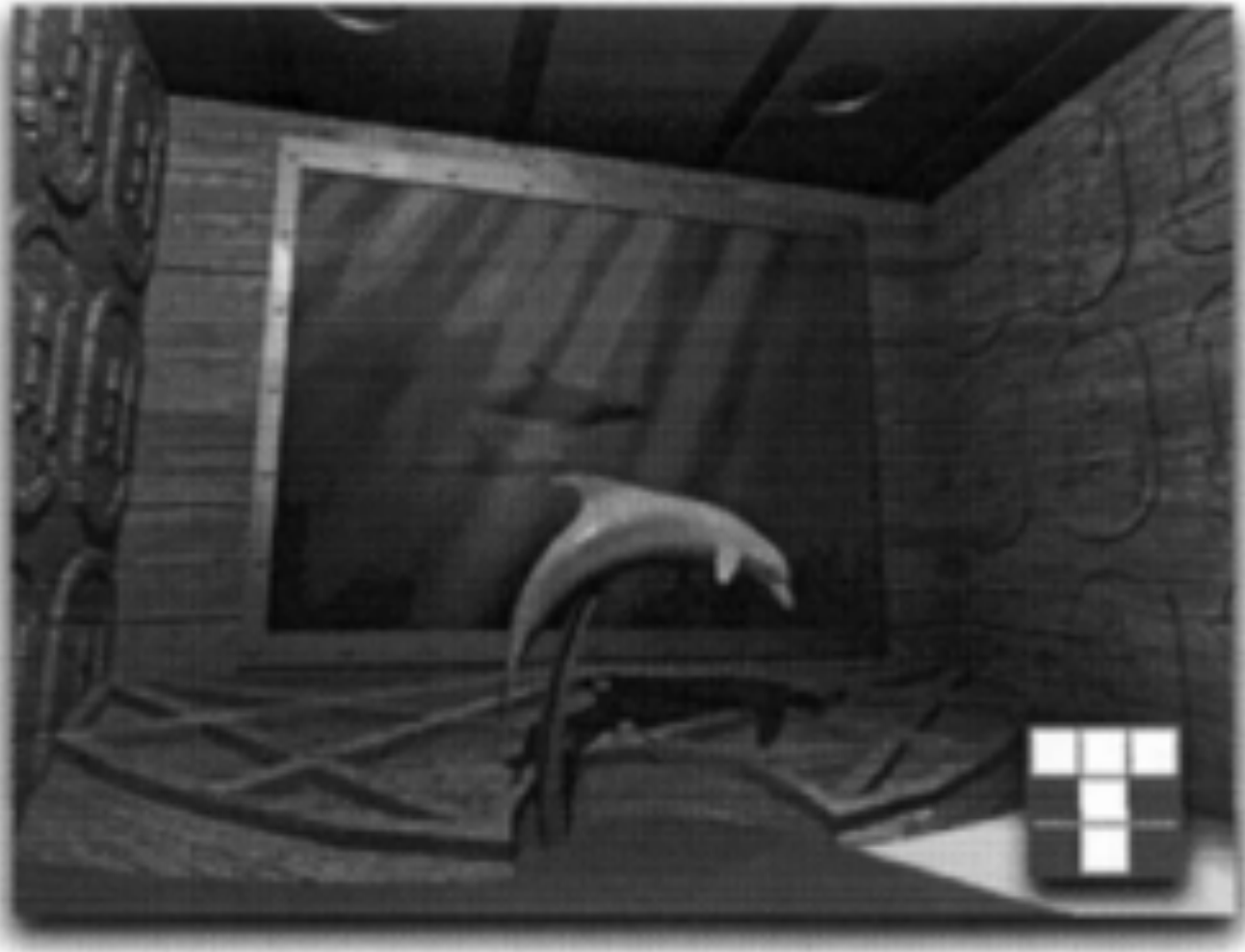
*Ortony, Clore and Collins
Cognitive Theory of Emotion (1988)*



APPRAISAL THEORIES OF EMOTIONS



Martinho et al. 1999



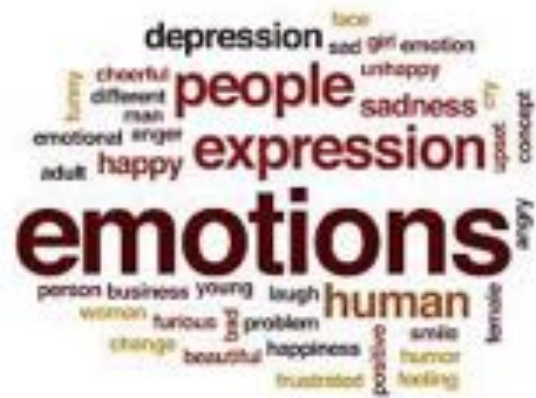
AFFECT CONTINUUM: EMOTION / MOOD / PERSONALITY / CULTURE

emotion

mood

personality

▶
time



Myers-Briggs MBTI

E Extraverted (Expressive)	S Sensing (Observant)	T Thinking (Straight-Minded)	J Judging (Scheduled)
I Introverted (Reserved)	N Intuitive (Introspective)	F Feeling (Friendly)	P Perceiving (Flexible)

Openness to experience
Conscientiousness
Extraversion
Agreeableness
Neuroticism

Costa and McCrae FFM

LONG TERM INTERACTION PILLARS



LONG TERM INTERACTION PILLARS

RELATIONSHIP



LONG TERM INTERACTION PILLARS

RELATIONSHIP
RAPPORT

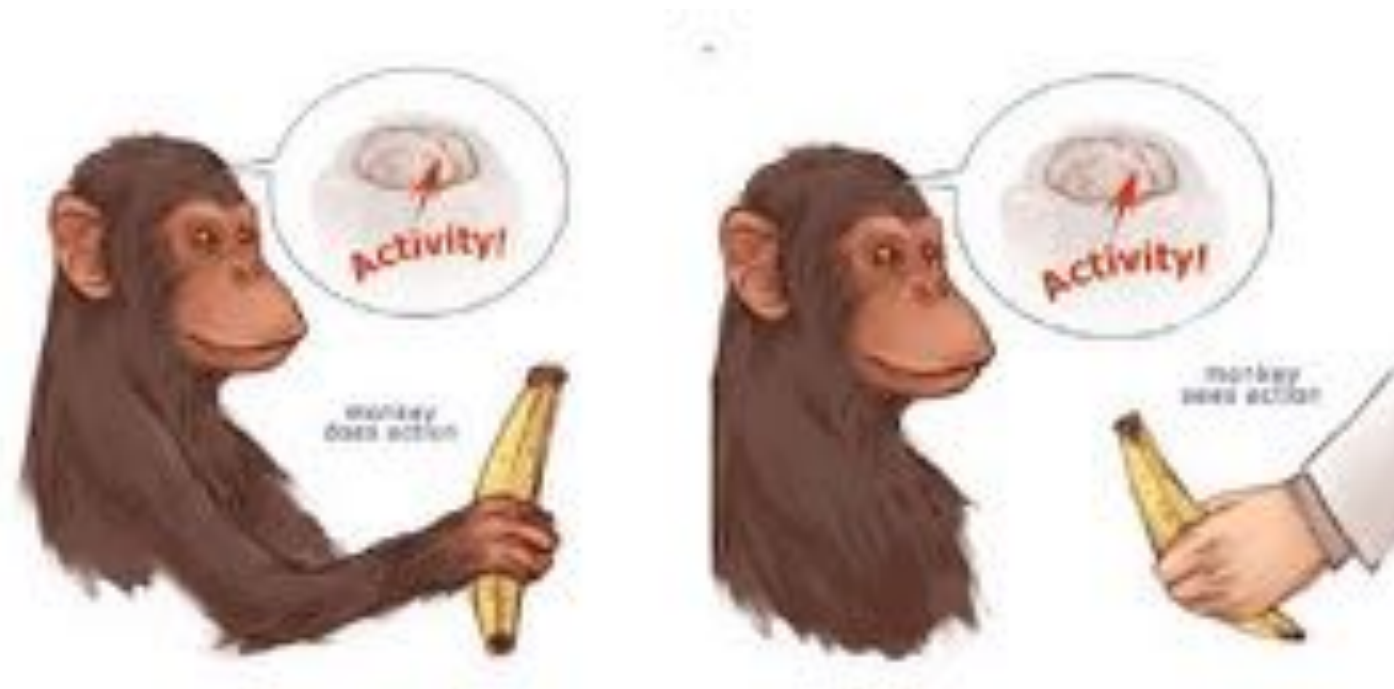


LONG TERM INTERACTION PILLARS

RELATIONSHIP
RAPPORT
EMPATHY



EMPATHY: PRE-VERBAL, AUTOMATIC, INVOLUNTARY



More than motor mimicry (Davis, 1996) and mirror neurons (di Pellegrino et al., 1992) empathy is a complex phenomenon.



learning



phantom limbs

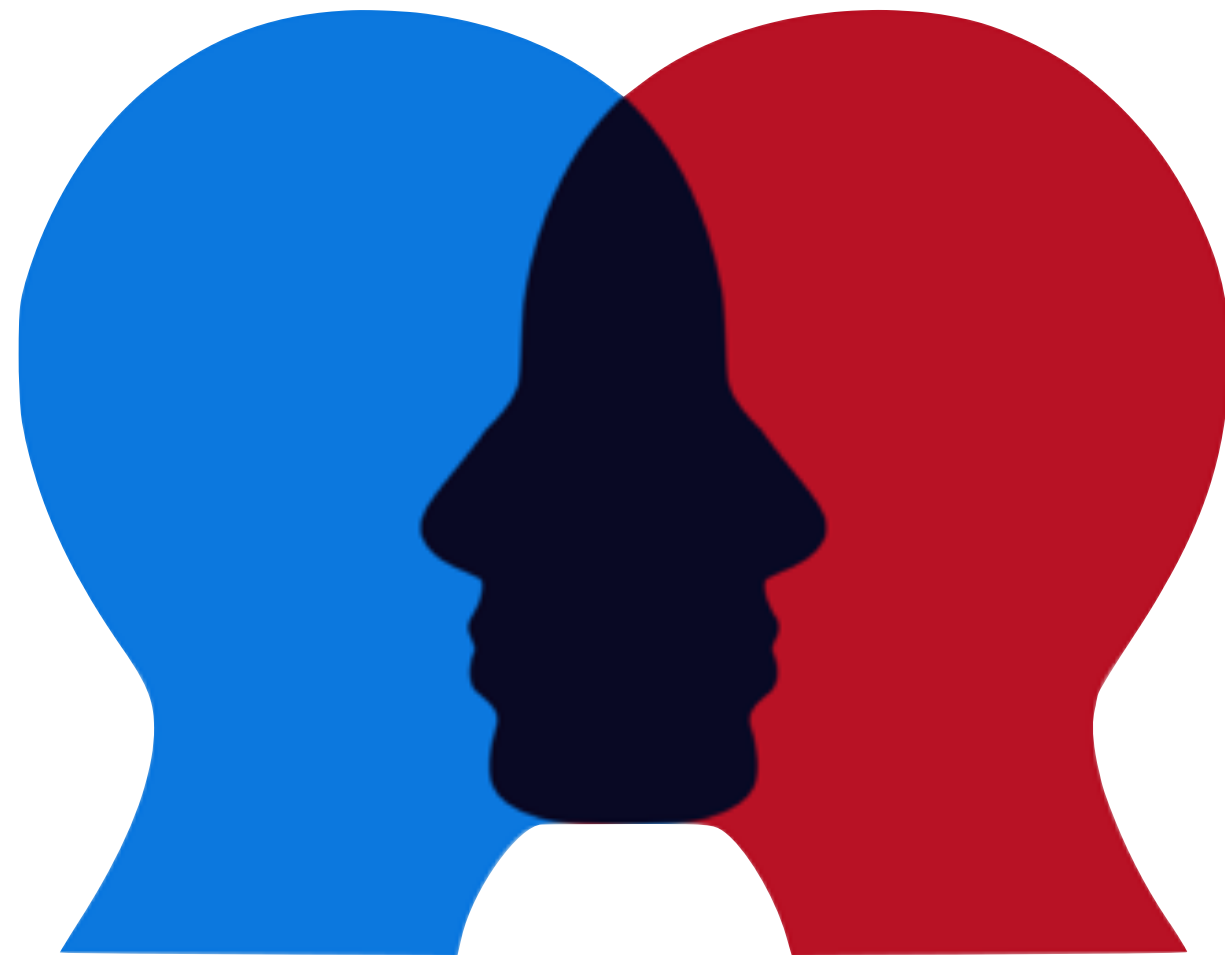


involuntary

EMPATHY: HIGHER-ORDER COGNITIVE MODES, ASSOCIATED WITH CONSCIOUS MENTAL STATES

Empirical evidence that perspective taking, i.e. “putting oneself in the other’s place and imagining how he or she feels” (Hoffman 2001) is more empathy arousing.

PERSPECTIVE TAKING
THEORY OF MIND



ARTIFICIAL EMPATHY IMPACTS LONG-TERM INTERACTION



Leite et al., 2013



*iCat help student (8-10) train
at a chess club for 5 weeks
(individual and group interaction)
Adaptive empathic behaviour helps
maintaining social presence
and mitigate the novelty effect.*



VIRTUAL COACHES

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Project “Tutoria Virtual”
TDC/IVC-PEC/3963/2014





Social Regulatory Cycle

informação
subjetiva e
objetiva
do aluno

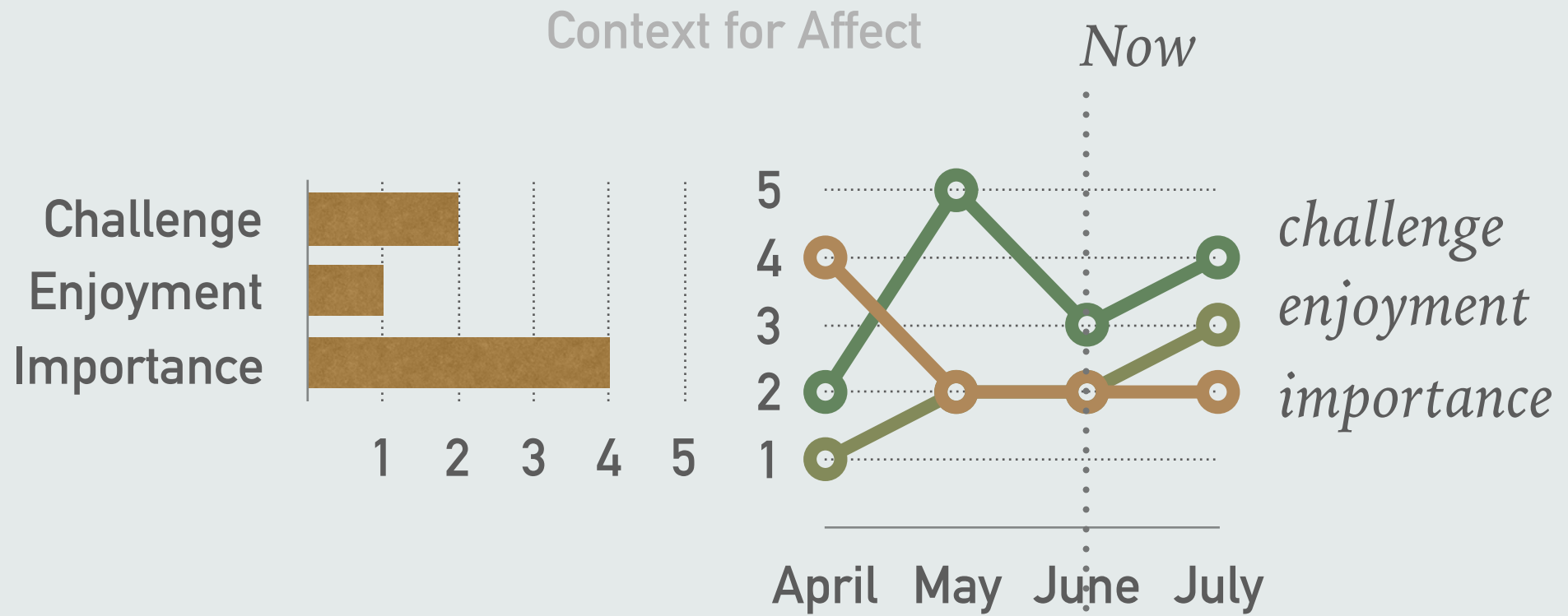
1. avaliação
afetiva



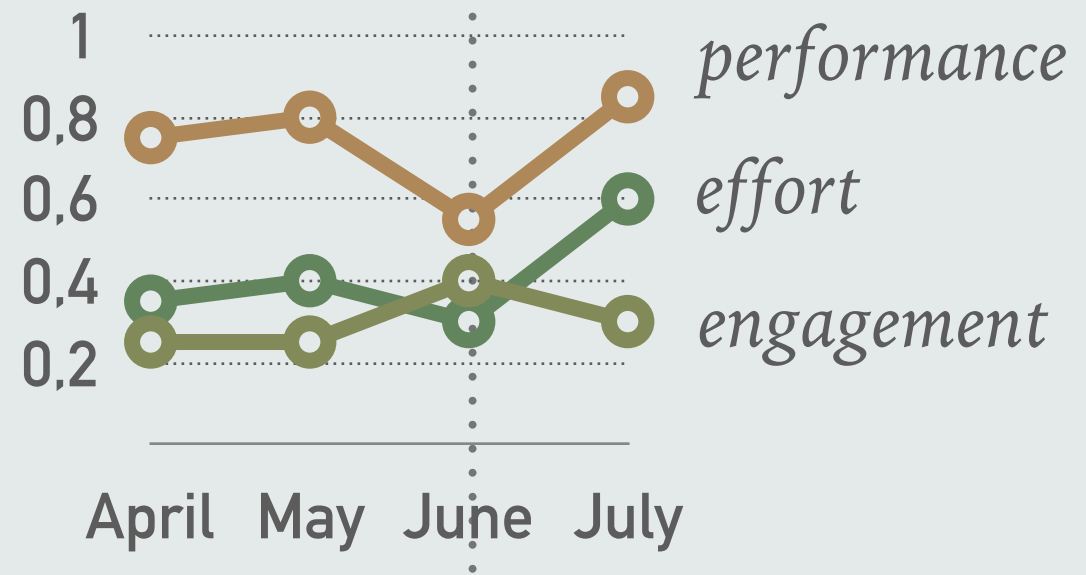
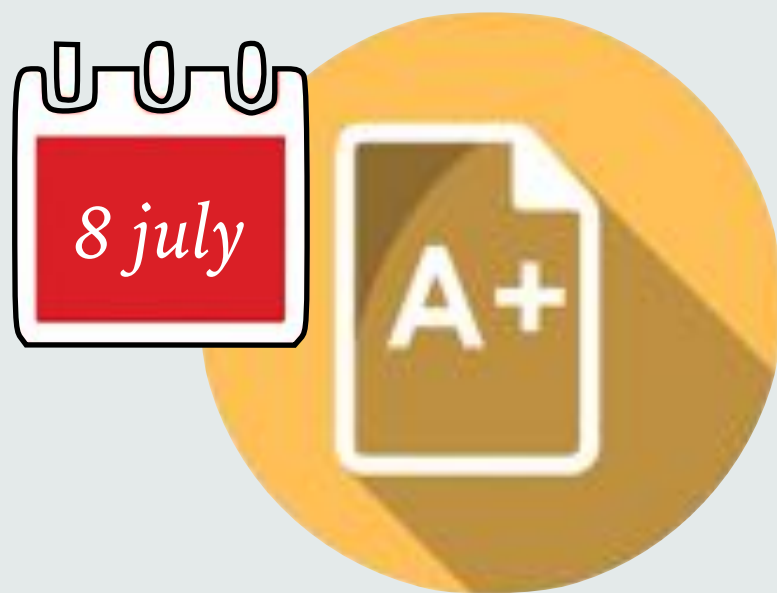
Social Regulatory Cycle

SENSING AFFECT

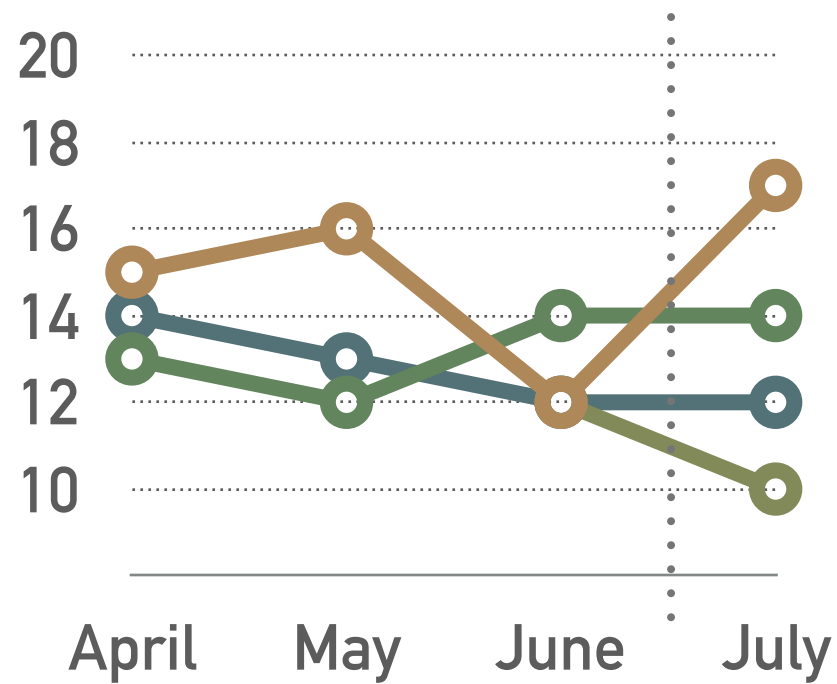
subjective



objective



Example: performance

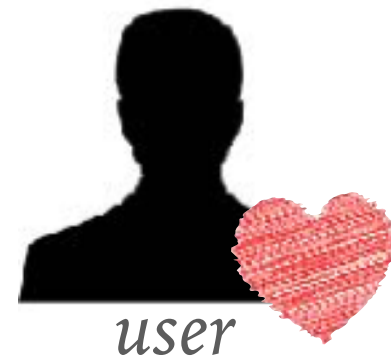


individual

class

expected class

expected individual



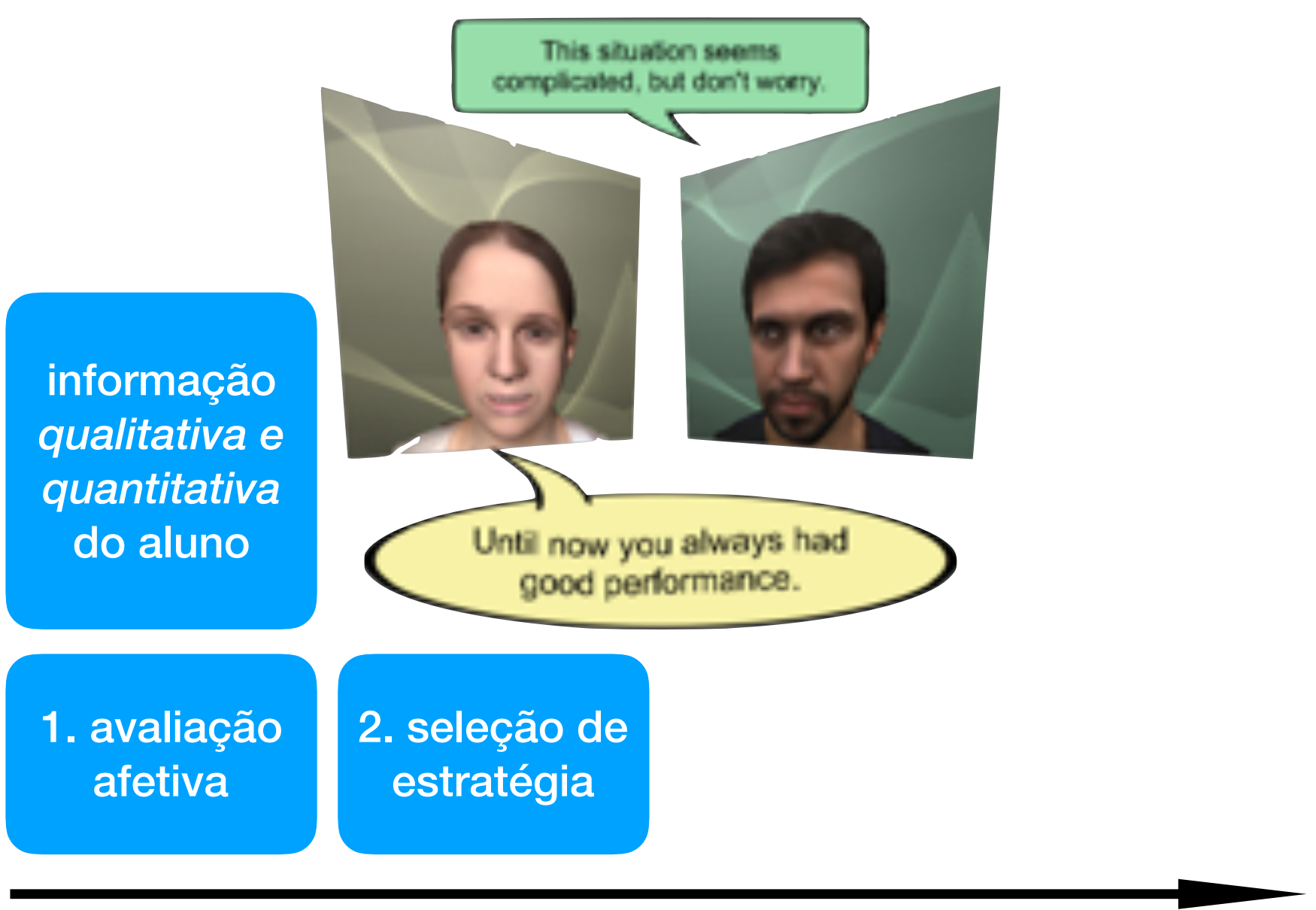
user



personality filter

	more R	as expected	more P
expected R	stronger R (S+) 	expected R 	weaker R (S-)
negligible	unexpected R 	negligible 	unexpected P
expected P	weaker P (S-) 	expected P 	stronger P (S+)

Martinho, 2006



informação
qualitativa e
quantitativa
do aluno

1. avaliação
afetiva

2. seleção de
estratégia

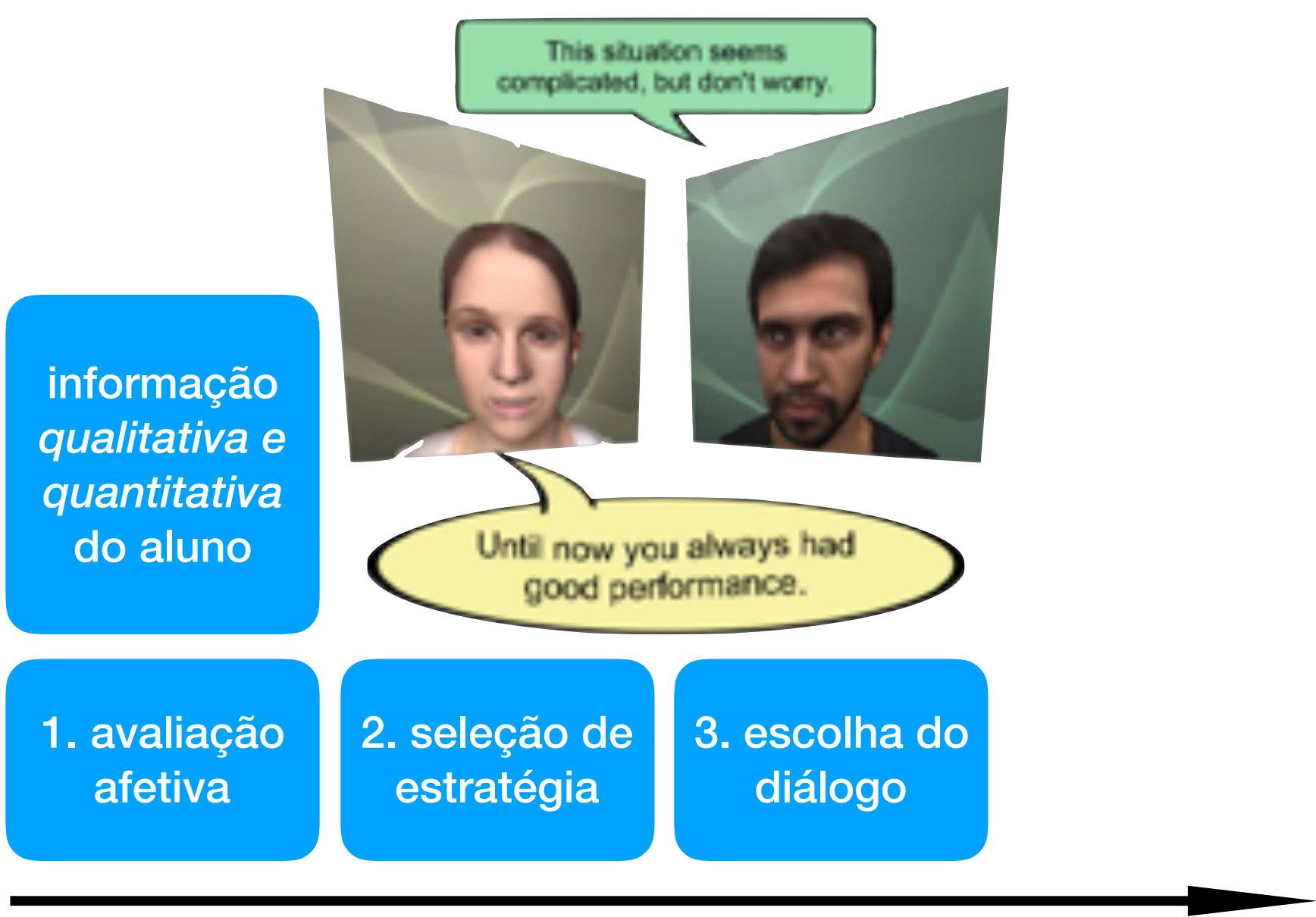
This situation seems
complicated, but don't worry.

Until now you always had
good performance.



Final Classification of Controlled Interpersonal Affect Regulation Strategies

	Strategies to improve affect	Strategies to worsen affect
Engagement strategies	<p>Positive engagement</p> <p>Affective engagement: Directly trying to improve the way the target feels about a situation, e.g., allowing the target to vent</p> <p>Problem-focused strategies, e.g., listening to the target's problems</p> <p>Target-focused strategies, e.g., pointing out the target's positive characteristics</p> <p>Cognitive engagement: Trying to change the way the target thinks about a situation in order to improve the target's feelings, e.g., giving the target advice</p>	<p>Negative engagement</p> <p>Affective engagement: Directly trying to worsen the way the target feels about a situation, e.g., explaining how the target has hurt someone</p> <p>Behavioral engagement: Trying to change the way the target behaves in relation to a situation in order to worsen the target's feelings, e.g., complaining about the target's behavior</p>
Relationship-oriented strategies	<p>Acceptance</p> <p>Attention: Giving the target attention to communicate validation, e.g., making it clear that you care about the target</p> <p>Valuing, e.g., making the target feel special</p> <p>Distraction, e.g., arranging an activity for the target</p> <p>Humor: Being humorous towards the target to communicate validation, e.g., joking with the target</p>	<p>Rejection</p> <p>Rejecting the target's feelings: Rejecting the target's feelings to communicate snubbing, e.g., making it clear that you do not care how the target feels</p> <p>Confrontational strategies, e.g., being rude to the target</p> <p>Nonconfrontational strategies, e.g., ignoring the target</p> <p>Putting one's own feelings first: Putting one's own feelings first to communicate snubbing, e.g., sulking around the target</p>





3-party affect and multi-dimensional individual and class context

tags

? =

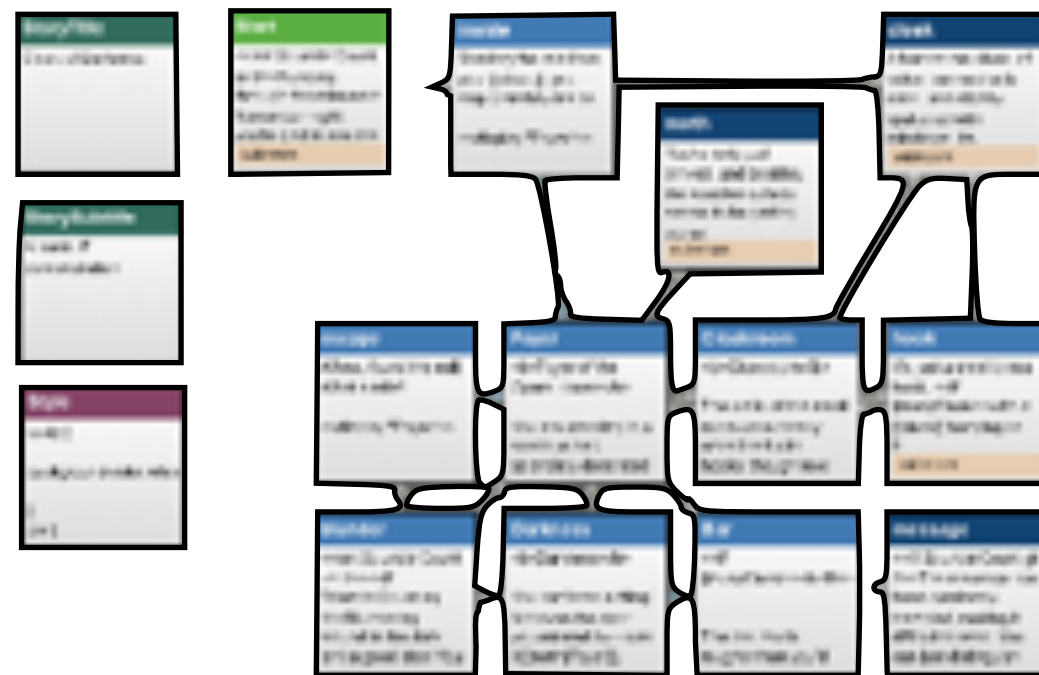
tags



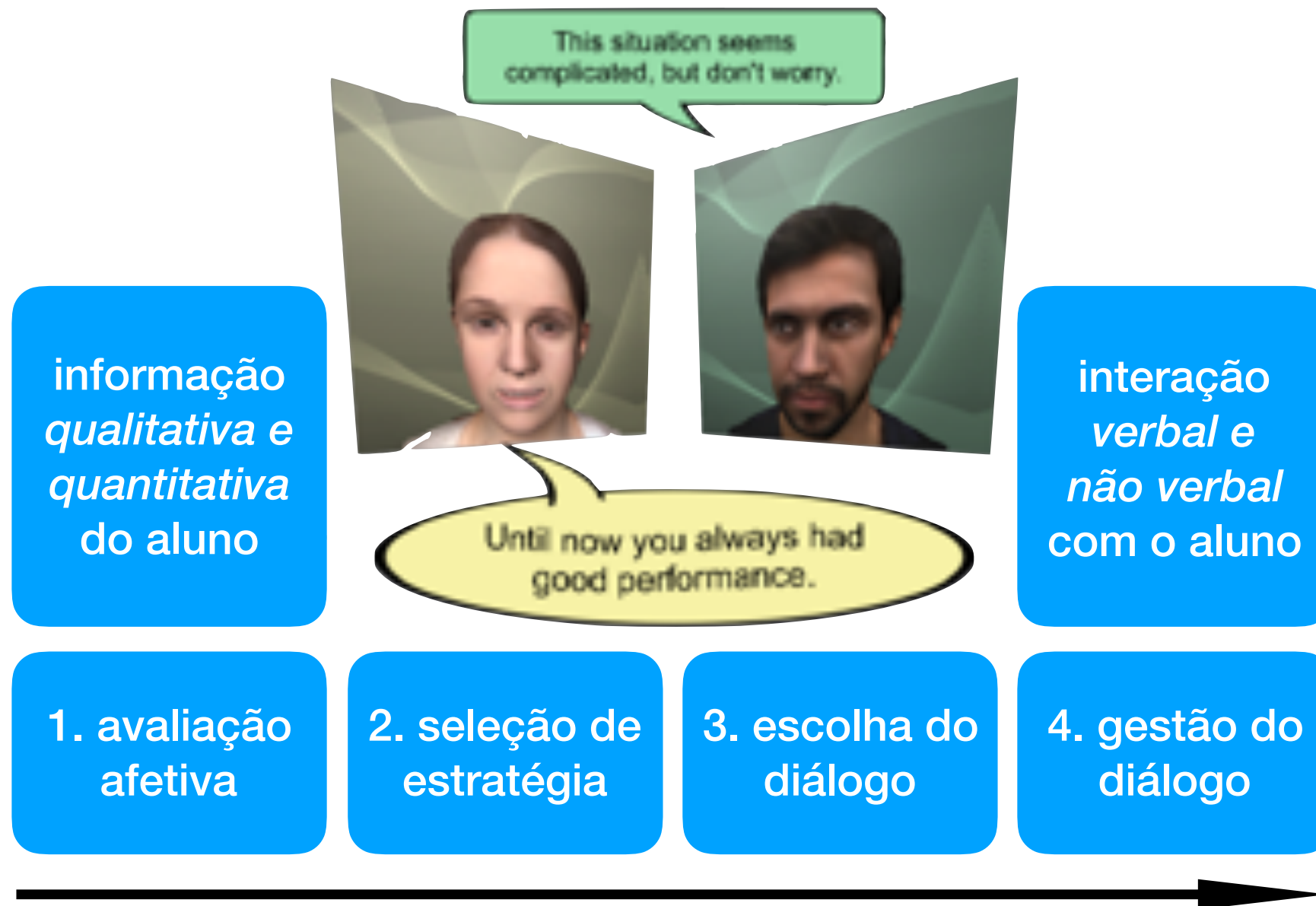
empathic strategies

The Secret of Monkey Island, LucasArt, 1990

Mass Effect Bioware, 2007



dialog tree (Yarn)



EXPRESSING AFFECT



Dialog Manager

Affective expression, head animation and back-channeling

Update affective background

Speech balloon and text animation

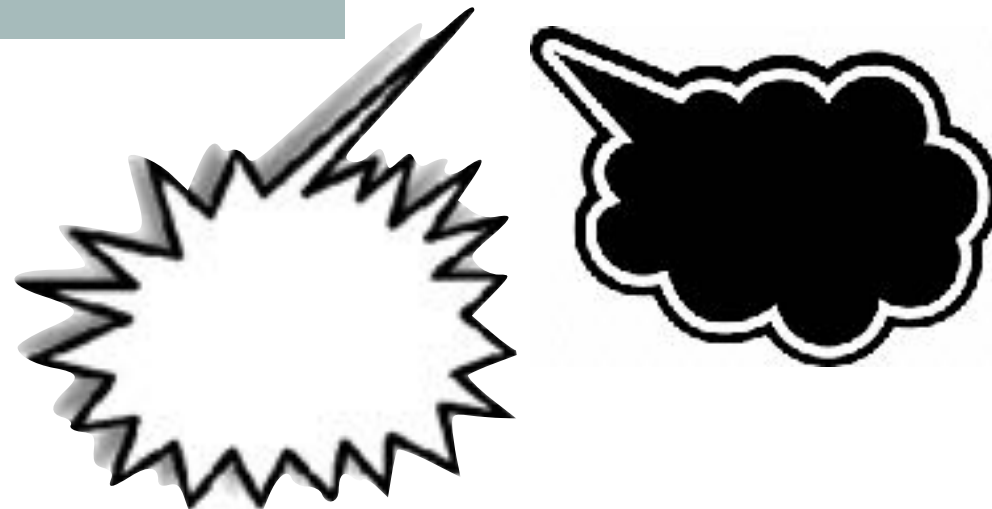
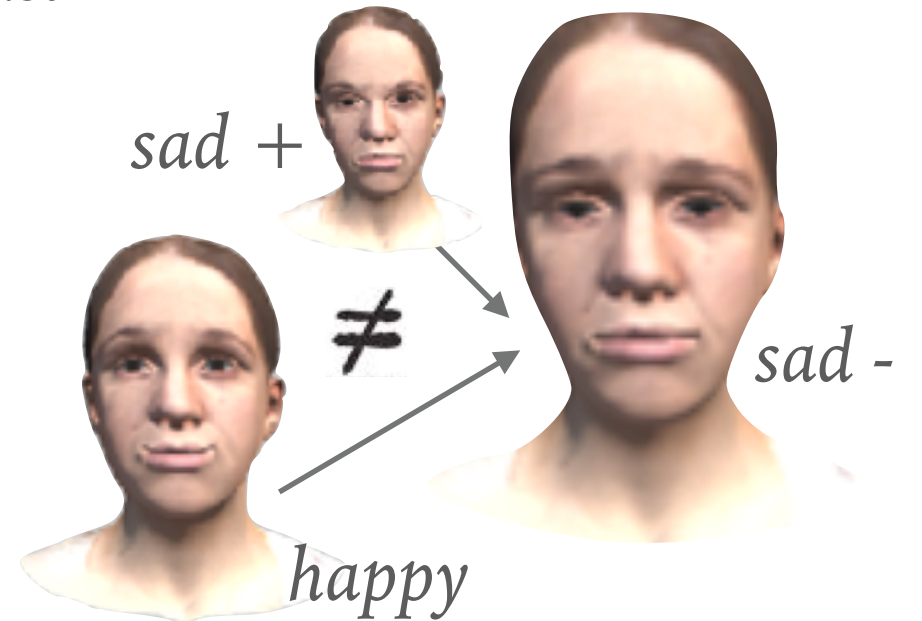


user input

syncs

Affect dynamics using:

- *Ekman's 6 basic emotions*
- *Gaze and nodding*
- *Noise*



*Emotion-based
text animation*

*Emotion-based
speech balloon*

*student affective state
disclosure*

*Maria's
affective state
and intention
disclosure*



*João's
affective state
and intention
disclosure*

*Maria is more permissive,
more forgiving, kinder and gentler.*

*João is more exigent, pressing
and demanding than Maria.*

Both complement each other and provide a richer interaction.

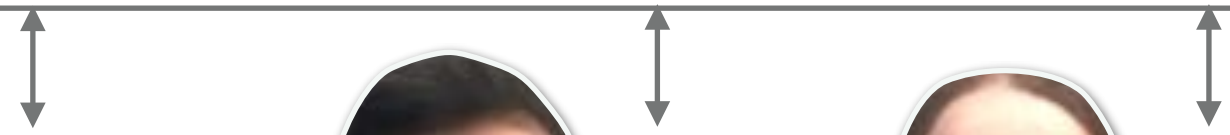
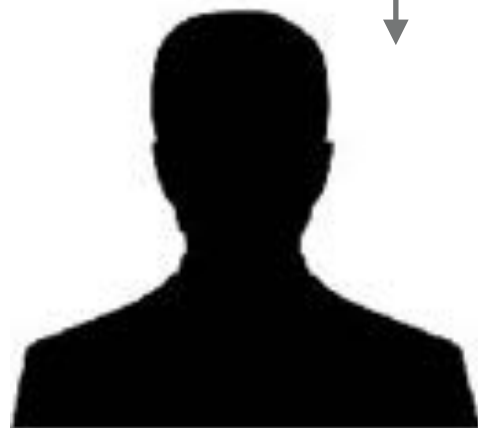
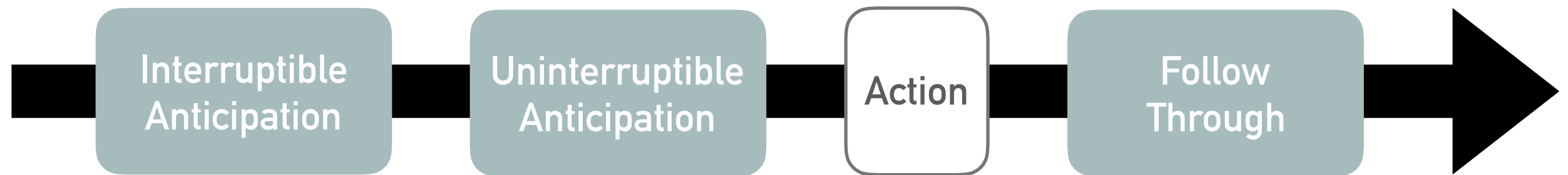
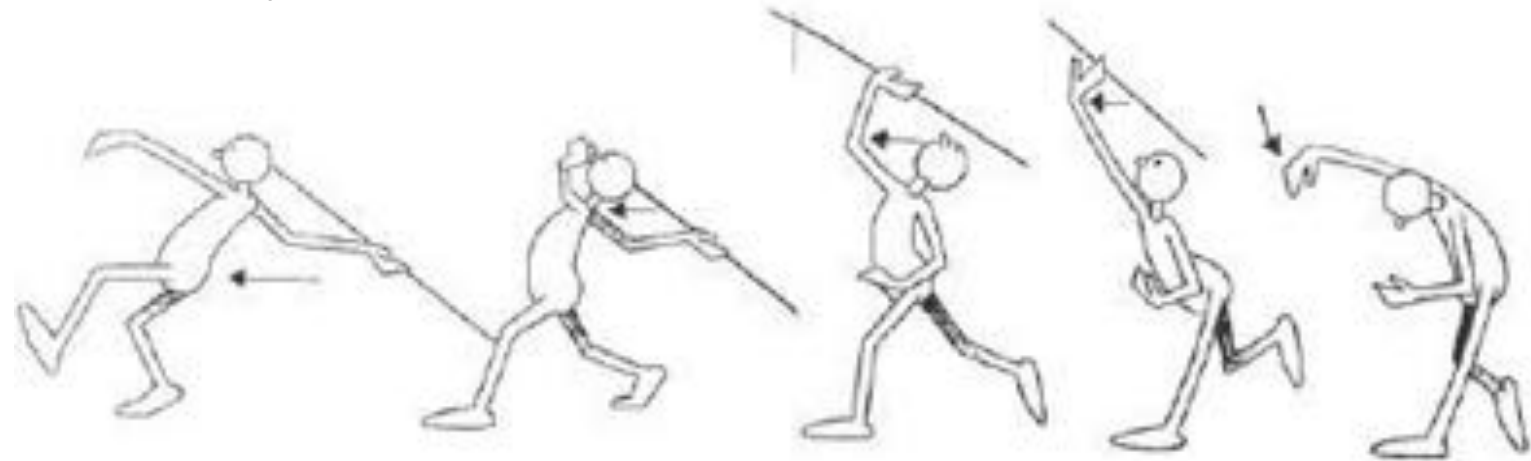
FUTURE WORK

Principles of traditional animation (Johnston and Thomas, 1981)



Traditional Action

expands to...



CONCLUSIONS

- Emotions are essential for rational decision-making
- Affective Computing has developing systems based on emotions
- Computer interaction may be modulated by artificial empathy through emotional regulation
- The virtual coaches are an example of this approach





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- [6] C. Martinho, A. Paiva: “Using Anticipation to Create Believable Behaviour.” Proceedings of the 21st National Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI'06), pg 175-180, 2006.
- [7] K. Niven, P. Totterdell, D. Holman: “A Classification of Controlled Interpersonal Affect Regulation Strategies”. Emotion 9(4) : 498–509, 2009.

