A framework for mixed media – emotive dialogs, rich media and virtual environments

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Abstract. We present a framework for merging mixed media in a unified fashion. Our framework supports 3D virtual environments, rich media (such as digital video) and (emotive) dialogs presented by humanoid characters or simply text balloons. We speak of *mixed media* since each of these media may have a clearly distinct narrative structure. In this paper, we will discuss the background and motivation of our approach, which is the presentation of instructional material using (rich media) 3D slides, enhanced with (possibly ironic) comments presented by humanoid characters. And, we will explore the design space of such *mixed media* presentations, that is the issues involved in merging material with potentially conflicting narrative structures. In addition, we will look at the style parameters needed to author such presentations in an effective way, and we will briefly describe the implementation platform used to realize the presentations.
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