The mechanics of embodiment: a dialog on embodiment and computational modeling

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Cognition

The mental action or process of acquiring knowledge through thought, experience, and the senses

Cognitive Process includes:

- 1. Memory
- 2. Reasoning
- 3. Language Understanding

Three Types of Cognition



Grounded Cognition

• Grounded in physical properties of world

Shaped by sensory motor interaction

Embodied Cognition

- Constrained by individuals body
- It is context dependent

Situated Cognition • Changing context may be reflected in performance

Postulate

Sensory and motor experiences are essential for the conceptual representation that constitute our knowledge.

Basis:

- 1. Changes in perceptual or motor behavior as a result of semantic processing
- 2. Changes in categorization that reflect sensory and motor experience

Qualification of "Embodied" Computational Model

- Should have Module dependence
- Cognition process shouldn't be divorced from sensory motor processes
- Implementation of Modal Representation
- Multiple Modalities are necessary

Difficulties in creating such model

- A hierarchical structure of modal
- Integration of information from different senses
 - Modalities seems to have hierarchical structure than flat
 - Convergence zone is required

Conclusion

Authors have highlighted the most important components and processes that such models should include, how the synthetic methodology could help research in embodied cognition, and proposed six challenges for modelers. Our hope is that, in 5 or 10 years, we will see another special issue on "Embodied and grounded cognition" that describes success stories in tackling these challenges, and that in turn this progress will inspire novel and more complete cognitive theories, and ultimately a novel paradigm for (individual and social) cognition that has grounding, embodiment, and situatedness at its heart.

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