行政院國家科學委員會專題研究計畫 成果報告

以代理人基礎塑模來探討組織中個人知識分享行為(第2年)

研究成果報告(完整版)

計畫類別:個別型

計 畫 編 號 : NSC 96-2416-H-004-015-MY2

執 行 期 間 : 97年08月01日至98年07月31日

執 行 單 位 : 國立政治大學資訊管理學系

計畫主持人:楊亨利

計畫參與人員:博士班研究生-兼任助理人員:賴正育

博士班研究生-兼任助理人員:趙逢毅博士班研究生-兼任助理人員:楊學隆博士班研究生-兼任助理人員:蕭淑玲博士班研究生-兼任助理人員:楊筱芳博士班研究生-兼任助理人員:吳俊德

報告附件:出席國際會議研究心得報告及發表論文

公 開 資 訊 : 本計畫涉及專利或其他智慧財產權,2年後可公開查詢

中華民國98年08月03日

行政院國家科學委員會補助專題研究計畫期末報告

以代理人基礎塑模 來探討組織中個人知識分享行為

計畫類別:個別型計畫

計畫編號: NSC 96-2416-H-004 -015 -MY2

執行期間: 96年 8月 1日至 98年 7月 31日

計畫主持人:楊亨利 教授

計畫參與人員:吳俊德、賴正育、趙逢毅、楊學隆、楊筱芳、蕭

淑玲

成果報告類型:精簡報告

處理方式:二年後可公開查詢

執行單位:國立政治大學 資訊管理學系

中華民國 98年7月31日

行政院國家科學委員會專題研究計畫期末報告

以代理人基礎塑模來探討組織中個人知識分享行為

計畫編號: NSC 96-2416-H-004 -015 -MY2

執行期限:96年8月1日至98年7月31日 主持人:楊亨利 教授 國立政治大學 資訊管理學系

計畫參與人員:吳俊德、賴正育、趙逢毅、楊學隆、楊筱芳、蕭淑玲

一、中文摘要

組織中經理人總是在尋求有效的 政策以促進員工彼此分享知識。在組 織中激勵知識分享的政策帶來的效果 並不是容易的掌握,因為同時存在著 人為與組織的複雜的因素為會影響組 織的成員知識分享的行為。對於不同 的組織激勵的政策或手段,欲通過田 野調查或實驗設計來評估不同的政策 所帶來效果及對組織中個別行為的影 響,在實務上並不容易實現。因此, 本研究嘗試運用一項新穎的研究策略-代理人基礎塑模(Agent-based Modeling),藉以建構一個人造的世界 來模擬組織成員知識分享的行為。為 了探索組織成員知識分享的行為,在 這個人造的社會中,研究者考慮了知 識分享的報酬、組織成員的行為策 略、行為策略的學習與適應機制、不 同組織的群體能力水準、互動的網 路、知識的選擇模式與不同的組織激 勵政策設計等變數,藉以設計相關的 實驗。模擬的結果產生了的幾項有趣 的發現: (1) 當分享知識的報酬愈高 時,代理人知識分享行為會愈多,無 論是在那一種的互動網路、群體能力 或分享知識的選擇模式的情況之下。(2) 代理人的互動網路是一項重要影響因 素,互動網路扮演著知識流通與行為 策略學習的管道,它同時會影響個體 知識分享的報酬與行為策略的學習。 它可能促成不分享的策略的擴散,可

關鍵詞:知識分享、代理人基礎塑模、 組織激勵政策、賽局理論、組織 行為

Abstract

Managers are always seeking effective policies that encourage employees to share their knowledge with organization. others in an The appropriate organizational incentives are difficult to investigate due to human other factors and institutional complexities affecting sharing behaviors of individuals. Conducting laboratory or field experiments to evaluate the effectiveness of various organizational incentive policies is unrealistic. This work proposes a novel agent-based modeling approach to simulate the actions of knowledge sharing between actors in an organization. This study considers some parameters including the payoff of knowledge sharing, the strategies of members, the learning and adaption mechanism of strategies, interactive collective capabilities, network, the selection methods of sharing knowledge and incentive policies to design experiments in the agent-based model. The results of simulations produced some interesting findings: (1) the higher the payoff of sharing knowledge, the more the actions of sharing knowledge is in spite of any kind of interactive networks, collective capabilities, and the selection methods of sharing knowledge. (2) Interactive Network of agents is an important factor, which plays a role of channel of knowledge transition and strategy learning. It simultaneously affects the payoff of knowledge sharing and learning of strategy. It maybe results in the diffusion of strategy of not sharing knowledge, or enhances the effect and side effect brought by incentive policies. (3) Because of difference between agents' capabilities, agents with better capabilities will locally attract the ones with worse capabilities to learn their strategies, which even are not the best. (4) To enable sharing knowledge between members in an organization, periodic reward will get better results. It does not only increase the action of sharing knowledge, but also make

agents to adopt the strategies trending toward sharing knowledge. Periodic reward is helpful to form a trustful organization climate. However, in some circumstances, it may get minus effects.

Key Words: Knowledge Sharing,
Agent-based Modeling,
Organizational Incentive Policy,
Game Theory, Organization Behavior.

二、計畫緣由與目的

在許多的組織中,知識扮演著重 要的角色。在最近的幾十年,經理人 已經體認到知識可為組織所帶來的競 爭優勢。為保持與獲取組織的競爭優 勢,許多的組織投入了大量的資源來 建構知識管理系統及促進組織中成員 的知識分享。然而許多的知識管理系 統最終還是無法有效地成組織中成員 的知識分享的行動而失敗收場。根據 以下的分析,對這個問題的一個可能 的解釋。假如一項特定的知識對組織 而言是一項重要的競爭的優勢與策略 性的資源,對於擁有該項知識的成員 而言,也是他在組織權力與利益的來 源。該成員因為這些獨特的知識在組 纖享受某些利益與地位。如果這項知 識分享與他人則將可能損害他在組織 中所享有的利益。因此,組織中的知 識的分享涉及了"社會因境" 【Dawes 和 Messick, 2000】與個別成

【Dawes 和 Messick,2000】與個別成員、群體、組織政策間複雜互動。 木研究主要是探索在自私(或者

本研究主要是探索在自私(或者 說自利)為基礎的人類行為與不同的 組織激勵知識分享的政策如何交互影 響。從過去相關的研究來看,許多的 實證研究與概念模型已經廣泛地運用

組織中推動知識管理的主要目的 之一,就是要改善或是促成個人間知 識分享與部門之間的知識移轉。如果 組織的成員能夠利用與分享他工作上 的知識,則組織與個人都會成長。如 果知識在組織中不能被有效地分享, 知識在組識有就會逐漸地消失 【Teece,1998】。為了促進組織成員 知識分享許多不同的影響因素需要被 確認。這些因素可被簡單地歸類成三 個層次:組織、個人與知識的層次 【Yang 和 Chen, 2007】。個別來看在 組織層次被指出來的因素包括了文 化、權力、技術、組織的能力、組織 的氣候與社會的結構。在個人的層次 上影響因素包括了動機、信任、社會 資本、自我效能、產出的預期、吸收 能力等【Sun 和 Scott, 2005; Bock 等 人,2005; Levy 等人,2003; Hsu 等 人,2007; Wasko 和 Faraj,2005; Angel 等人, 2006; Chou, 2005; Sne jina 和 Kenneth,2004】。在知識的層次上, 知識的特徵將會影響知識分享的結 果。從知識的層次來看,我們發現了 一個有趣的現象,甚少有研究從個人 知識的經濟價值出發來探討組識知識 分享的行為,大部份的研究將焦點置 於內隱知識移轉上。

根據以上的討論,當在探索組織中成員知識分享的行為時,知識依其經濟的價值來分類是有其必要性。 Becerra-Fernandez

【Becerra-Fernandez 等人,2004】等 人所提出來的架構,有助於吾人區別 不同經濟價值的知識。依照他們的論 點,知識可分為一般性知識與特定的 知識。一般性的知識被廣大群眾所擁 有,且容易在個體之間移轉。例如, 標準作業流程可視為一般性的知識。 相對地,特有的知識只被少數人所擁 有,而且不容易移轉。特定的知識可 以是技術性知識,也可以是情境性知 識。技術性的特定知識是對某一特定 領域的深層知識。這類的知識包括了 對工具與技術的知識, 在特定的領域 中用以解決某些問題。例如醫師、工 程師等。情境性的特定知識則是關於 在特定的時空條件之下讓工作可以被 執行的知識。

三、研究架構與系統建構

本節將敘述本研究的目標與本研究所用代理人基礎模型【Axelrod, 1997; Axelrod, 1984】的特徵。

(一). 研究問題與目標

在本研究運用 Repast 【Collier 等人,2006】工具箱配合 JAVA 程式語 言來發展與實做代理人基礎模型,建 構一個代理人基礎模型,在此模型中 將呈現(1)組織中成員的行為規則,(2) 知識在成員之間分享產生的個人報 酬,(3)組織成員對知識分享與吸收的 能力,(4)代理人知識分享網路之構形 與(5)組織的激勵成員分享知識的 策。雖然還有許多的因素會影響組織 成員的知識分享行為,這個簡化過的 模型是一個好的開始。

在個體的層次上,有四個問題是 在本研究中要處理的。(1)不同類型的 知識如何影響代理人的知識分享行 為?(2)組織的激勵政策如何影響代理的知識分享行為?(3)不同的知識分享與吸收的能力如何影響代理人的行為?(4)不同知識分享網路之構形將如何影響代理人的行為?

(二). 知識分享的報酬

假設每一單位的知識對每一個代理人而言都具有相同的價值或是效用,並且每一代理人都具有一些其他代理人所沒有的知識。在此條件下,對每一個代理人而言知識分享的效用由以下三種元素所構成:

- 1. 對每一個知識的接收者而言,所得 的知識具有一定水準的基本價 值,在此定義為 R, R≥0;
- 因為彼此相互分享知識所帶來的綜效,是分享者雙方都可以獲得, 在此定義為S,S≥O;

假設每一個代理人知識的分享與 吸收的能力都相同,在每一次雙方進 行知識分享的互動時可以獲得效用, 取決於對手的行為。舉例來說,假如 代理人 A 與 B 相互分享知識,他們會 因為從對方身上得到一項知識而提升 他們的效用(R),也會因彼此在知識的 互動過程中得到一個額外效用(綜 效,S),但是因為雙方都有拿出其知 識分享與他人,使其所享有的知識獨 佔的利益受到某種程度的減損(-La, -L_B)。第二種情形是一方分享知識,但 是另一方並未分享知識,例如代理人 A 分享他的知識與B,而代理人B沒有分

享知識給A,這種情況下,代理人A將 受到損失(-L_A),而代理人 B,從 A 身 上得到新的知識,提升其效用(R),而 因為只有單方分享知識並不會產生綜 效(S)。如果雙方都沒有分享知識,則 雙方都不會有效用的提升或是減少。 表 一描述了互動的雙方在一次知識 分享的互動可能得到的報酬的情況。

表 一. 報酬矩陣(每一個人的知識分享與吸收的能力是屬於優異)

•		<u> </u>				
		Player A				
		分享知識	不分享知識			
	分享知識	R+S-L _A	R			
Player B		$R+S-L_B$	$-L_B$			
l rayer b	不分享知識	-La	0			
		R	0			

Legend

R: 從對手所得知識的基本價植, $R \ge 0$.

S: 相互分享知識所得之綜效, $S \ge 0$.

 $-L_a$:因為獨特知識分享與他人造成 Player A 認知的效用損失, $0 \le L_a \le R$.

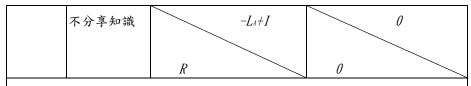
- L_B : 因為獨特知識分享與他人造成 Player B 認知的效用損失 $0 \le L_B \le R$.

接下來考慮有組織有實施知識分 享的激勵政策的條件下,每一個分享 一方其效用的損失。表 二加入了組織 知識與他人的代理人都會得到組織的 獎勵,對每一個代理而言,這獎勵產

生的效用(定義為 $I, I \ge 0$)是一樣的, 組織的獎勵多少可以彌補分享知識的 的激勵政策所帶來的雙方在進行知識 分享時報酬的變化。

表 二. 報酬矩陣(每一個人的知識分享與吸收能力都是優異且組織有提供獎勵)

		Player A			
		分享知識		不分享知識	
	分享知識	R+S-A	L_A+I	R	
Player B		$R+S-L_B+I$		-L _B +I	



Legend

- R: 從對手所得知識的基本價植, $R \ge 0$.
- S: 相互分享知識所得之綜效, $S \ge 0$.
- I: 組織給予的獎勵效用, $I \ge 0$.
- $-L_A$:因為獨特知識分享與他人造成 Player A 認知的效用損失, $0 \le L_A \le R$.
- $-L_B$: 因為獨特知識分享與他人造成 Player B 認知的效用損失 $0 \le L_B \le R$.

表 三呈現了不同的知識分享與 吸收能力的條件下,雙方在進行知識 分享互動時報酬的變化。知識分享的 能力(定義為 Cs)與知識吸收的能力 (Ca)指出了在知識移轉與吸收時因為 能力的差異,造成無法完整地傳遞與 吸收知識。這是在真實世界中常見的 現象。像有些人可能擁有豐富的知識,但是他不見得可以將他的知識完整地傳遞給他人。或者是有些人想要努力地學習某項新知識,但是不一定可以完整地將新知識學習起來。所以,知識的分享與學習的能力將會調節知識分享的效果。

表 三. 當代理人知識的分享與吸收的能力存有差異時之報酬矩陣

		Player A				
		分享知識	不分享知識			
	分享知識	R*Csb*Ca+S+I	R*Cs _B *Ca ₄			
Di D		-L _A *Cs _A *Ca _B R*Cs _A *Ca _B +S+I -L _B *Cs _B *Ca _A	$-L_{B}*Cs_{B}*Ca_{A}+I$			
Player B	不分享知識	-La*Csa*Cab+I	0			
		R*Cs _A *Ca _B	0			

Legend:

R: 從對手所得知識的基本價植, $R \ge 0$.

S: 相互分享知識所得之綜效, $S \ge 0$.

I: 組織給予的獎勵效用, $I \ge 0$.

 $-L_{A}$: 因為獨特知識分享與他人造成 Player A 認知的效用損失, $0 \le L_{A} \le R$.

 $-L_B$: 因為獨特知識分享與他人造成 Player B 認知的效用損失 $0 \le L_B \le R$.

 Cs_A , Cs_B : player A 或 B 知識分享的能力, $0 \leq Cs_A$, $Cs_B \leq 1$.

 Ca_A , Ca_B : player A 或 B 知識吸收的能力, $0 \leq Ca_A$, $Ca_B \leq 1$.

(三). 實驗設計

在本節將對各項不同的參數設計 與配置的方式進行說明,包如知識分 織的激勵政策、成員的知識分享與吸 收能力、代理人的學習與適應的機 制、與系統運作的方式進行說明。

1. 知識分享的報酬矩陣

依據上節對代理人知識分享的報 酬分析,另外考慮不同的知識類型, 在本模型中設計了三種報酬矩陣來進 行相關的模擬實驗:

- 第一種類型知識分享報酬矩陣:分享與 他人對原來的知識擁有者會有效用的 減損,但是相互分享卻不會產生綜 效。為了能在模擬系統中操作此現 象,依據上述的報酬矩陣令 R=5,L=2 且 S=0。其報酬矩陣如表四所示。
- 享報酬矩的設計、代理人的策略、組● 第二種類型知識分享報酬矩陣:分享與 他人對原來的知識擁有者不會產生效 用的減損,但是相互分享也不會產生 綜效。因此,令 R=5, L=0 且 S=0。其 報酬矩陣如表五所示。
 - 第三種類型的知識分享報酬矩陣:分享 與他人對原來的知識擁有者會有效用 的減損,但是相互分享也會產生綜 效,如產生新的有用知識。因此,令 R=5, L=2 且 S=5。其報酬矩陣如表六 所示。

表四. Type I 報酬矩陣

		Player A			
		分享知識	不享知識		
Player	分享知識	3	5		
В	不分享知識	5	0		

表 五. Type II 報酬矩陣

		Player A			
		分享知識	不分享知識		
Player	分享知識	5	5		
B B	不分享知識	5	0		

表 六. Type III payoff matrix

		Player A			
		分享知識	不分享知識		
Playe	分享知識	8	-2 5		
r B	不分享知識	-2 5	0		

2. 代理人的策略

在此模擬系統中,每一個代理人都會採用一種策略。策略說明了代理人的行動,及如何回應其他代理人行動的規則。在模擬系統的運作的過程中,不同的時間點上各種策略被採用的次數將以時間序列的方式呈現,我們將可藉此猜測整個組織氣候是否傾向於信任的氣氛。根據文獻

【Axelrod,1997;Axelrod,1984; Yang 和 Wu,2006;Chiong 等人, 2006】,本研究中代理人策略的選擇, 分別可為「完全合作」、「以牙還牙」、 「欺善怕惡」、「完全不合作」與「不 信任」。藉由代理人採用策略的變化 來研究對代理人行為與組織績效的影響。以下是五種策略規則的說明:

- (1) 完全合作(Cooperative):不管對手 的行為為何,代理人總是會分享知 識與他人。
- (2)以牙還牙(Tit-for-tat):第一次互動

時分享知識給對方,之後根據對手 的上一次的行動而行動,也就是對 手上次分享知識,代理人就分享知 識,上一次互動對手沒有分享知 識,這次就不分享知識與對手。

- (3) 欺善怕惡(Bullying):第一次互動時不分享知識給對手,之後根據對手的行動採行相反的行為,也就是上次對手分享知識,這次我就不分享知識;上次對手不分享知識,我就分享知識。
- (4) 完全不合作(Uncooperative):從一 開始不管對手如何做,代理人就是 不會分享知識。
- (5) 不信任(Mistrustful):第一次互動時不會分享知識給對方,之後根據對手的上一次的行動而行動,也就是對手上次分享知識,代理人就分享知識,上一次互動對手沒有分享知識,這次就不分享知識與對手。

以上的策略存在著一個假設:每 一個代理人只有一步的記憶。意指每 一個代理人只會記著對手上一次的行 動,更之前的對手行為並不會影響代 理人的決策。代理人的行動策略在此 模擬系統中是一個外生的變數,在進 行實驗時,我們設計了四種的策略組 合來模擬組織成員的相互信任的狀 况,此四種組合分別為:{完全合作, 以牙還牙,欺善怕惡,完全不合作}、 {完全合作,以牙還牙,欺善怕惡,完 全不合作,不信任}、{以牙還牙,欺 善怕惡,完全不合作,不信任}、{完 全合作,欺善怕惡,完全不合作,不 信任}。每一個代理人在一個時間點上 只能使用一種策略,在模擬系統在一 開始會以隨機的方式平均將不同的策 略指定給代理人。不同的策略也分別 表現代理人對其他成員的信任程度。

3. 成員的知識分享與吸收能力

知識分享與吸收的能力將會影響代理人在進行知識分享的報酬水準,也有可能影響代理人的行為。在設計實驗時,研究者以不同的機率分配函數來描述組織成員知識分享與吸收的能力。四種類型的群體知識分享與吸收的能力的條件,應用在此研究中,分別是:

- (1) 優異(Uniformly intelligent): 全部的組織成員可以完整地分享與吸收知識:
- (2) 聰明(Smart distribution): 組織成員知識吸收與分享的能力呈現為左傾 (left-skewed)的貝他機率分配函數,參數 α =5, β =2。
- (3) 普通(Normal distribution):組織成員知識吸收與分享的能力呈現為常態機率分配函數,參數 μ (mean)=0.5, σ^2 (variance)=0.16.
- (4) 鬗鈍(Stupid distribution):組織成員 知識吸收與分享的能力呈現為右傾 (right-skewed)的貝他機率分配函 數,參數 $\alpha=2$, $\beta=4$ 。

4. 組織的激勵政策

在實驗中設計了三種類型的組織 激勵政策以探討組織激勵政策對組織 成員的知識分享行為產生的短期與長 期的效果。另外,不同的獎勵的水準 代表了對代理人分享知識的效用損失 的彌補程度。不同的激勵政策與獎勵 水準設計如下:

(1)不獎勵:對組織成員知識分享的行

為不給予任何的獎勵。

- (2)即時對每一個知識分享的行動給 予獎勵:當組織成員分享知識與他 人時,馬上可以得到的組織的獎 勵。另外,假設了兩種不同類型的 獎勵水準:(1)組織所給予的獎勵的 能夠部分彌補分享知識所損失的 用。在系統中,研究者運用(表示 的設計,隨機在 0 與 2 之間(表示為 [0,2])取一個浮點數做獎勵的水準 出分享知識所造成的效用損失。 統將在 2 與 5 之間(表示為[2,5])隨機 取一個浮點數做為獎勵的水準。
- (3) 定期審視給予獎勵:組織會定期地 審視個別代理人知識分享的互動, 如果分享知識行動的比例超過其全 部行動 50%,則組織給予一個固定 的獎勵值。在系統中設計十種獎勵 的水準來實驗其效果,分別為: 30, 50,70,90 和 110。

5. 代理人知識分享的網路

代理人知識分享網路的構成方式 及變動的頻率對代理人的知識分享的 行為會造成何種影響?及如何影響組 織知識分享效果?在本研究中,根據 相關的文獻研究者分別實驗了七種網 路的構成方式。每一週期內,代理人 之間一對一的互動共會進行四次的 動。代理人的知識分享的互動網路, 表現了三點特性:

- 1. 代理人互動的關係是長期或是 短暫的,代理人是否只與特定 互動對手互動,或是經常更換 互動的對手。
- 2. 代理人所連結的互動對象是在

- 自身附近的範圍,或者是會較 跟較遠的對象互動。
- 3. 代理人之間的互動是否相應的(Reciprocal)、對稱的(Symmetrical),代理人之間是否會相互主動進行知識分享的互動,例如代理人 A 會主動找代理人 B 分享知識,或者代理人之間互動是不對稱的(Asymmetrical),例如代理人 A 會主動找代理人 B 分享知識,但是代理人 B 不會找代理人 A 分享知識。

以下是針對本研究中所使用知識 分享的互動網路建構的規則的說明。

- 1. 2DK (2-Dimensions, Keeping locations for entire run): 在整個模擬的過程中,代理人只與位於其上下左右四個代理人互動。代理人與互動對手是對稱的(Symmetrical),也就是若A、B兩個代理人在進行知識分享時,A主動會找B分享知識,B也會主動找A分享知識。
- 2. FRNE(Fixed Random Network of Neighbors):分成兩個步驟來建構代理人之間的知識分享互動網路。首先,建立一 2DK 的網路。前後在每一個代理人的四個互動對象中,隨機選出)的互動對象交換。一但網路建立後,在整個模擬的過程中,代理人的互動對象都不會改變,而代理人與對手的互動是對稱的。
- 3. FRN(Fixed Random Network of

neighbors):在初始時每一個代理人隨機選擇四個代理人做為其互動的對象。在整個模擬過程中代理人不會更換互動的對象。另外,代理人與對手的互動是不對稱的(Asymmetrical)。

- 4. 2DS(2-Dimensions):每一個代理 人以其上下左右位置的代理人 做為互動的對象,但是模擬過程 中每一個階段,每一個代理人的 互動對象都會重新洗牌 (Shuffle)一次。此外,代理人 與對手的互動是對稱的
- 5. PN(Programmed Network):此類型的知識分享互動網路分兩個階段建構,第一階段先建構一個2DK的網路。第二階段,以10%的機率值為門檻對每一個代理人所有的互動對象,測試是否數的對象,數重新隨機抽取一個新數學,不則就維持原來的互動對象。互動的網路一但建立之後數數,而代理人與對手的互動是不對稱的。
- 6. SOUP:代理人在模擬過程中每一個階段都會重新隨機選擇四個互動對手。在此類型的網路構形中,代理人之間的互動也是不對稱的。
- 7. SOCIAL TAG:每一個代理人都設有一個社會標簽(social tag),其值為介於[0,1]間浮點數。另外,系統設有一個代表社會差異程度的參數(SOCIAL_DIFF)其值為0.01。此知識分享的互動網路建立規則

如下:每一個代理人嘗試搜尋四 個知識分享互動的對象,代理人 將從其他代理人中隨機挑選一 個代理人,而後與其比較兩者代 理人身上社會標簽之值相減,取 其絕對值,若其值小於或等於系 統所設定的社會差異之參數值 (0.01),則可選為正式的互動對 象,否則再重新挑選一個新代理 人來進行以上檢核。每一個代理 人在挑選互動對象時有四次選 擇的機會,若挑選四次之後,都 沒有符合條件的對象,則將最後 一個所選的代理人為互動對 手。上述規則反覆執行,直至四 個互動對手選齊而止。此知識分 享的互動網路,代理人間的互動 是不對稱的。

6. 代理人學習與適應的機制

7. 模擬系統的運作

圖一呈現了本研究的模擬架構與 所涉及的相關參數,代理人的活動空 間由一個 500x500 的二維空間所組成 所得平均報酬,依系統所設計行為策略學習與調應(Adaption)規則,代理與調應(Adaption)規則,代再與調應(Adaption)規則,代再與調應的調整。然後與其為策略的調整,每一個模型,每一個模型,將進行 500 。每一次模擬,如圖三所理人對。與其一個過期中收集代計等資料。與關門所用的變數的變化會顯示於計等資料的數的實驗結果計算其平均值,做為資料分析之依據。

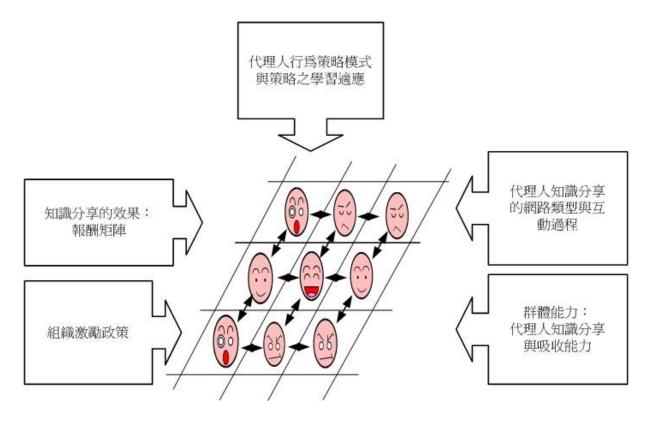
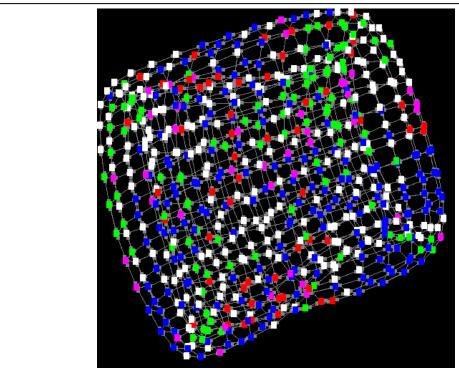
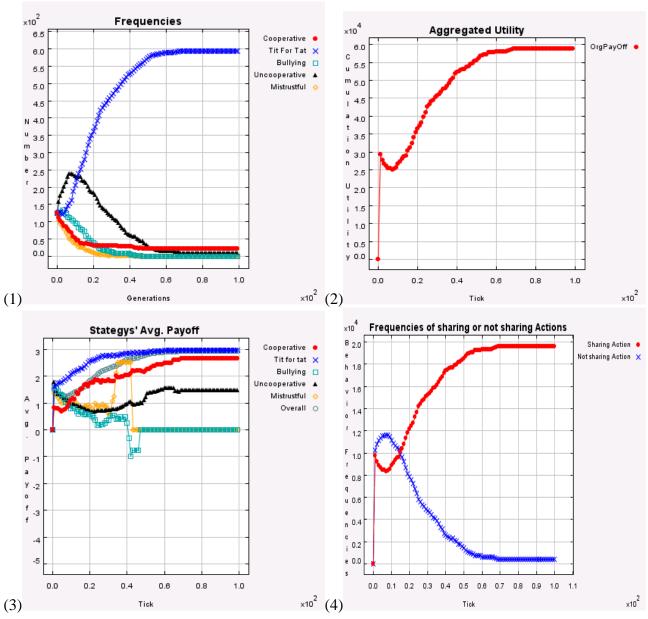


圖 一 模擬的架構



圖二 代理人互動的空間

圖三 模擬的演算法



圖四系統運作時相關變數之監測(1)各種策略代理人數量變化,(2)組織累積報酬與激勵成本, (3)各種策略代理的平均報酬之變化與(4)代理人分享與不分享行為統計量之變化。

表 七.模擬參數組態摘要表

參數名稱	類型	值	說明
WorldSize		625	代理人的數量
Neighborhood		4	系統初始時每一個代理人所設定互動對象的數量。
MaxIter		4	每一回合代理人雨雨互動時的次數。
RewiringPro		0.1	用於建構 PN 類型的 Topology 所用的重新選擇對手的機率值
Topology	FRN	0	代理人知識分享之網路類型
	FRNE	1	
	PN	2	
	2DK	3	
	2DS	4	
	SOUP	5	
	SOCIAL_TAG	6	
Payoff	Type1	1	
	Type 2	2	
	Type 3	3	
Strategy	ALLC	0	
	TFT	1	
	ATFT	2	
	ALLD	3	
	MIST	4	
CapCode	INTELLIGENT	0	代理人群體能力
	SMART	3	
	NORMAL	1	
	STUPID	2	
IncentiveMode	NO	0	組織激勵政策
	[0,2]	1	0<= I <=2
	[2,5]	2	2<= I <=5
	30	30	
	50	50	
	70	70	
	90	90	
	110	110	
pAdapt		0.2	代理人改變策略的機率。

四、研究發現與討論

由於人與人,人與組織之間互動的複雜性,讓研究人員不容易了解組織中知識分享的現象。知識本身的價值會影響組織的成員決定是否要將自己的知識與他人

分享。組織成員可能因為擁有某項知識而 在組織中佔有特殊的利益或待遇。在知識 分享的互動中,雙方所得到的報酬仰賴於 雙方的行動。為了讓組織成願意將知識分 享出來,組織有必要設計一些激勵的政策 或是管理機制以鼓勵、促成組織成員分享知識。本研究運用代理人基塑模的研究策略進行組織中知識分享相關議題等的研究者考慮了以下變數、研究者考慮了以下變數、一個人的行為策略、代理人行為策學學的報酬、對組織激勵的水準、代理人的選擇模式等因素。研究者與代理人的選擇模式等因素。研究者與此上參數的操弄,進行模擬實驗,以檢測數的操弄,進行模擬實驗,以檢測數的操力。其組織成員間知識分享所產生的效果。本研究有以下發現:

(一)、自發性地分享知識

如果不考慮代理人能力的差異(假設每一個代理人的知識吸收與分享的能力都是優異的)與組織沒有任何激勵政策,代理人之間的連結拓樸是非常有秩序(Regular)、對稱的(Symmetrical),如2DK的拓樸。知識分享的行為會在成員間自發性的產生。

(二)、知識分享的互動網路的影響

代理人的互動網路是一項重要影響因素,互動網路扮演著知識流通與行為策略學習的管道,它同時會影響個體知識分享的報酬與行為策略的學習。因此,連結的結構對知識分享的效果影響很大,從模擬的結果可得到下的發現:

- 1. 無論是在那一種類型網路拓樸,隨 著知識分享的報酬增加,代理人 合作行為隨之增加,「以牙還牙」 的策略是主導的策略。
- 2. 在 Type 1 類型的知識分享報酬, 群體能力類型是優異的條件下, 只要代理人的互動關係是長期持 續不變的,代理人連結互動對象 的範圍愈隨機,反而可以減少不 分享知識的行為,而少量提高母 體中代理人採用「完全合作」策 略之代理人數量。
- 3. 但是如果代理人互動關係持續時間短且經常變動的,也就是說互動的對手經常在改變,將使代理人傾向於不分享知識。又代理人連結互動對象的範圍愈隨機則愈不會分享知識。
- 4. 代理人互動關係是對稱的情況下,代理人連結互動對象的範圍愈隨機,則愈可增加分享知識的行為。代理人連結互動對象的範圍是隨機且互動關係是對稱、持續時間長的情況,代理人將會全部表現出分享知識的行為。

(二)、能力愈差愈不會分享知識-不同水 準的群體知識分享與吸收的能力

一開始時,採用「完全不合作」策略 與「以牙還牙」策略的代理人數量同時增 加,但是很快的「完全不合作」策略的代理人族群因為缺乏"群聚效果",數量開始減少。另外,採用其他策略(如「欺善的的恐惧,不信任」、「完全合作」)的有數學人,相較於他的互動對象,只要具有較大力者,則不會消失。在此情況下會過去,則不會消失。在此情況下會過去,其所得到的報酬不足以受到效果(Local attraction effect)"。這種效果會隨著知識分享的報酬增加而減緩。

在真實世界中,組織成員的知識分享 與吸收能力都是完美一致的情況不可能 存在。事實上,組織成員知識分享與吸收 的能力是有差異,不管組織群體能力是屬 於聰明、普通、駑鈍的類型,成員的知識 分享與吸收能力還是存有差異。"局部吸 引效果(local attraction effect)"就 是成員的能力差異與代理人有限的理性 所造成,因為代理人不知對手與自己能力 上的差異,它只能觀察到對手所採用的行 為策略,所以誤以為對手的報酬較高是因 為其所運用之策略造成, 進而模仿對方的 策略,讓傾向於不分享知識的策略,可以 存在組織成員中,進而造成不分享的行為 增加。因此,經由激勵的政策以促成組織 成員知識分享是有其必要性。

(三)、效果有限的組織的激勵政策

1、知識分享報酬與激勵政策。

如果組織想運用激勵政策來鼓勵組織的成員分享知識,最有效的激勵政策是根據知識分享的行動即時給予獎勵(By Action)。如果在優異群體能力的組織中採用定期審視給予固定獎勵水準的激勵政策(Periodic Reward),研究中發現(No Reward)的實驗結果相比,系統中不分享知識的行為是增加的。(2)雖然這種激勵政策會提升採用「完全合作」策略代理人的數量,但卻無法有效消除採用「欺善的數量,完全不合作」策略代理人的數量。

這個發現令人感到困惑,採用定期審視給予固定獎勵水準的激勵政策反而造成反效果,讓組織中採用「完成不合作」策略的代理人數也明顯增加,同時增加不分等知識行為,尤其在固定獎勵水準在50時達到高峰,這個結果是如何產生的?吾人嘗試從不同策略互動時所產生的報酬人數量的變化來說明此現象是如何產生的。

在優異群體能力的組織中,假如沒有 組織獎勵,當「完全不合作」與「完全合 作」策略的代理人互動時,依前述表 一 報酬矩陣的公式換算其報酬值(見表 四),一個回合四次互動下來「完全不合 作」的代理人的總報酬為 20(5+5+5+5=20),而「完全合作」策略的 理人的 總 報 -8((-2)+(-2)+(-2)+(-2)=-8)。而當「欺 善怕惡」與「完全合作」策略互動時,「欺 善怕惡」策略的總報酬也是 20,「完全 合作」策略的總報酬也是-8。可以發現當 對手是採用「完全合作」策略時,「完全 不合作」與「欺善怕惡」策略代理人所得 到報酬的值是相同。根據系統所設訂的代 理人策略的調整規則,代理人可以從互動 對象中,選擇一個平均報酬最高者,模仿 其策略作為自己下一個週期互動的策 略。因此當「完全合作」策略的代理人遇 到「完全不合作」與「欺善怕惡」策略的 對手時,很容易轉換成採用「完全不合作」 或「欺善怕惡」策略。

 理人仍有存活成長的空間。甚至當「欺善怕惡」對「欺善怕惡」策略互動時,「欺善怕惡」的策略還可以得到組織的獎勵, 因為在此情況下「欺善怕惡」的策略中有 一半的行為會分享知識給對手。

以定期審視給予固定獎勵水準為 30 的政策為例,觀察系統動態的過程反應上 述策略變換的過程,開始時「欺善怕惡」、 「以牙還牙」、與「不信任」策略的代理 人數量逐漸減少,而採用「完全合作」與 「完全不合作」策略的代理人逐漸增加, 接著採用「完全不合作」策略的代理人數 量開始減少,採用「以牙還牙」策略的代 理人數量反轉開始增加,同時「完全合作」 策略的代理人的數量仍保持成長的趨 勢。最後,「以牙還牙」的策略為大部分 是代理人所採用,另外約27%的代理人採 用「完全合作」的策略。而在定期固定獎 勵在 50,70,90,110 水準的實驗結果, 大部份的代理人採用「完全合作」的策 略,見表 33,定期固定獎勵在50,70, 90 的水準的實驗結果。與沒有任何組織 激勵政策的模擬結果相較,呈現出採用 「欺善怕惡」與「完全不合作」策略的代 理人的比例較高的現象。在定期固定獎勵 在110水準時,雖然全部的代理人都表現 出分享知識的行為,且絕大部份代理人採 用的是「完全合作」的策略,但組織的報 酬卻呈現為負,也就是設定如此高的報酬 水準並不符合成本效益的原則。

隨著知識分享的報酬增加,這種干擾的情況將逐漸消失,如 Type 2 與 Type 3 的實驗結果顯非,多數的狀況全部表現出分享行為的狀況。

2、能力差異與激勵政策

當知識分享的報酬為 Type 1 類型, 代理人互動網路為 2DK 的條件下,不同的 群體能力水準將對組識知識分享激勵政 策產生何種的效果?實驗結果顯示,聰明 (Smart)類型的群體能力類型,組織激勵 的結果與優異類型的群體能力相似。以 理人的分享行為來獎勵時,可以大幅減 不合作行為,同時增加「完全合作」策略 的代理人的數量。而如果採用定期審視, 定期獎勵的方式,則獎勵水準在 30 時時 反而不分享行為的數量增加,但是同時 「完全合作」策略的代理人數量也增加, 甚至超過半數。不分享行為增加的主要原 因是「完全不合作」策略的代理人數量也 因為組織的激勵而增加了。隨著獎勵水準 的提高,不合作的行為也跟逐漸減少消 失。

而在普通(Normal)與鬗鈍(Stupid)的群體能力類型,使用任何一種激勵的政策都可以有效地減少不分享的行為,跟以上優異與聰類型相比,並沒有出現力時為現別,其個人因其群能力較差,所經由出於人因其群能力較差,所經由此,代理人的報酬與組織所期待的行為與策略。所以在實驗的行動與策略。所以看到的行動與下完全合作」的策略轉變系統中的優異策略。

如果從組織的績效來分析,則我們可 以發現,在普通與駑鈍類型的群體能力, 其組織執行激勵政策略的效果,從組織的 淨報酬來看都是負的,這代表組織所支付 的激勵成本高於代理人因知識分享所累 積的效用。從組織的淨報酬的角度來,在 普通與駑鈍類型的群體能力的條件下,不 執行任何組織的激勵政策反而可以為組 織的帶來正的淨報酬。在優異與聰明的群 體能力類型,不進行任何的組織激勵政 策,可以得到最高的組織報酬。如果依分 享行動給予[0,2]之間的獎勵值,雖然可 以完全消除不分享的行為,平均為消除一 個不分享行為組織所付出的代價是 85. 22(=20044. 13/235. 2) 效用單位。但 是,同樣情況在聰明類型的群體能力的條 件 , 這 個 代 價 只 7.74(=19751.9/(2798.6-247.8))效用單 位。而如果採用定期審視固定獎勵水準的 激勵政策,從數據中可以看到,獎勵水準 在 30,50,70,90 時其不分享的行為的 數量都比不給予獎勵來的高,組織的淨報 酬反而因為要扣除組織為獎勵知識分享 所付出的成本而降低。 兩相比較,在優異 的群體能力,如果組織真的想要籍由激勵 的措施來消除不分享的行為,以依行動來 給予部分的補償的方式來進行會比較有

3、知識分享網路與激勵政策

在知識分享的報酬屬於 Type 1 類 型,群體能力是優異的條件所進行實驗的 結果,發現採用依分享的行為給予獎勵的 政策(By Action),則不管是在任何的網 路拓樸的條件下,皆可有效消除不分享的 行為。但是,如果採用定期審視固定獎勵 的方式,其前述所討論的副作用,會隨互 動網路連通效率與作用力的提高而增 強,造成代理人表現出更多的分享行為。 在代理人互動的對象是長期不變的情況 下,本來代理人的互動網路如果可以提高 連通的效率與作用力,在沒有任何激勵政 策之下,就會因為網路的結構的關係,使 代理人不分享知識的行為降低。但是,如 前述所討論的採用定期審視固定獎勵的 方式,在獎勵水準很低時,如 30,其不 分享知識的報酬還是很高的情況下,雖然 可以促使某些代理人轉為「完全合作」的 策略,但是也同時促使「完全不合作」策 略的代理人數量的成長, 而互動網路的連 通效率與作用力提高,將產生兩個效果: (1) 初期「完全不合作」策略的擴散速度 加快。(2)上述「以牙還牙」→「完全合 作」→「完全不合作」策略轉變的速度也 會加快。導致產生更多不分享知識的行 為,與更多的「完全不合作」策略的代理 人。

當代理人互動對象如果經常變動的情況下,依行動給予獎勵方式將可使代理人的行為完全表現分享知識的行為,在沒有獎勵政策略代理人的行為會呈現兩種極端的狀況,不是全是分享知識就是全不分享知識,但是依行為給予獎勵的方式,

使完全不分享的知識的極端現象消失,而表現出全部分享知識的行為,在 SOUP 的實驗結果也是呈現,沒有激勵時是完全不分享的情況,變成全部代理人都分享的情況下 30 與 50 的獎勵水準反而使代理人完全表現出不分享知識勵水 時,在 SOUP 情況下,仍然無法改變代理人的行為,全部的代理人仍然不會分享知識。

五、結論與建議

本研究在,考量了不同類型知識分享的報酬、個體知識分享的行為策略、群體能力的水準、知識分享的互動網路與組織激勵政策,經由代理人基礎塑模(agent-based modeling)的方法,模擬組織成員知識分享的行為。綜合而言,本研究之貢獻及未來發展方向說明如下:

(一) 研究貢獻

本研究運用代理人基礎塑模的研究 策略進行組織中知識分享相關議題的研究 究。在研究中,研究者考慮了以下變數, 包括知識分享的報酬類型,成員的行路數 略,組織激勵的政策、分享知識的網的 對題的知識分享與收能力的網 形與群體的知識分享與收能力的 對方 事。運用資訊科技建構了一個人變數的操 不 ,在此人造世界中,藉由以上變數的操 ,以檢視對組織成員間知識 分享所產生的效果。經由系統模擬後,產 生以下結果:

策略,如「以牙還牙」的策略。

- 2. 如果代理人的行為策略只是單純地經 由模仿、學習五種系統給定基本策略 的環境中,沒有任何的組織激勵下, 個體的知識分享與吸收的能力如果 存有差異,則能力較好的代理人將會 局部地吸引能力較差的互動對象採 用他的策略,即使他所用的策略的報 酬的期望值並不是最高的。這種現象 稱之為 "局部吸引效果(local attraction effect)"。這種效果導致了 不同的策略的產生了各自的小群體 散布在系統空間中。但是,「完全合 作」或「以牙還牙」的策略仍是系統 中的優勢的策略。即使是代理人的行 為策略可以演化的情況下, "局部吸 引效果(local attraction effect)"也仍 然會發生作用。而且群體能力的水準 愈低, "局部吸引效果(local attraction effect)"的作用愈明顯。
- 3. 代理人的互動網路是一項重要影響因素,互動網路扮演著知識流通與行為 策略學習的管道,它同時會影響個體 知識分享的報酬與行為策略的學習。
- 4. 激勵效果是很難掌握的。激勵的效果受 制於代理人對行為策略的學習模 式、群體能力的水準、代理人互動網 路的結構與組織所實行之獎勵方法 的影響。當群體屬於優異的能力類型 時,運用激勵政策鼓勵成員的分享知 識行動的效果是有限的,但是對於促 成相互信任的組織氣候卻是有幫 助。在提升知識分享的行為上,對組 織成員分享知識的行動即時給予獎 勵的效果會優於定期審視給予固定 獎勵水準的激勵政策,但是無法有效 促成組織信任的氣候。定期審視給予 固定獎勵水準的激勵政策, 當獎勵的 水準低時所造成「完全合作」代理人 的數量增加,可是如果遇到對手是 「完全不合作」或是「欺善怕惡」的 策略的代理人時,反而容易轉而採用 「完全不合作」或是「欺善怕惡」的 策略,降低組織中的知識分享行為, 增加不分享知識的行為。群體能力水 準低的團體,採用任何一種激勵政

策,皆可大幅減少不分享知識的行為。但是,定期審視固定獎勵水準的政策,卻可讓大多數的代理人採用「完全合作」的策略,促成互信的組織氣候。但是兩種激勵政策的施行可能不符合成本效益的原則。

(二) 研究限制

在本研究中仍具有以下的研究的限制:

- 1. 在給定的網路構形下,代理人無法拒絕 其對手互動。
- 2. 代理人所用的策略只是簡單地指定予 代理人。本研究缺乏策略演化的機 制,也許某些更有效的策略可以在演 化的過程中浮現出來。
- 3. 在本研究中假設每一個代理人都具有 無限的知識存量,並且每一項知識的 效用是固定,無法改變的。未來可進 一步設計組織中知識訂價的機制以 模擬組織中的知識交易市場運作。
- 4. 在本模型中,每一個代理人被假定具有無窮的求知欲。在真實世界中,人們會隨著個人知識的增長,吸收知識的望也隨之降低。在本研究中代理人的特徵只考慮知識分享與吸收能力的差異對組織中知識分享所造成的影響,但是其他的個人特質,如熱情、角色、社會地位也可能會影響知識分享的数果。未來的研究可能需要再考慮更多的個人特質的因素。
- 5. 在模型中,每一個代理人的記憶深度只有一步(one round memory)。這樣的限制可能影響代理人知識分享的行為,未來的工作可將此限制進一步地放寬以探索對代理人知識分享行為的影響。
- 6. 代理人的知識分享與動機在本研究中 假設為經濟性的。在真實世界中,分 享知識的動機可能來自於競爭的需 求、自我實現、互利等。

(三) 未來研究方向

雖然本研究已經有些初步成果呈現,為了豐富研究的內容,以下的限制條件建議可進一步放寬,進行相關資料分析與討論:

- 1. 在此模型中,每一個代理人互動的對象 (也就是所謂的連結)是固定且不可改 變,這與真實世界的狀況並不相符, 我們會經由選擇的過程建構自身的 社會網絡。因此,可進一步修改模型 的架構,使模型中的代理人可以在某 些條件下選擇建立新的連結,或是切 斷某一連結。再配合原有模型的因 素,進一步討論對組織知識分享可能 造成的效果。
- 2. 其次在現有的模型中代理人的策略是外生變數,由研究者所給定無法變化不同的策略。本研究中的代理人所用的策略亦有一步記憶(one round memory)的限制。可進一步修正,使策略成為系統中的內生變數,放寬一步記憶的限制具有演化的機制,如此可探討在不同的條件下,代理人策略的演化,及對組織的激勵政策產生何種的影響。
- 3. 最後,現存的模型並未考慮知識的特徵 與組織目標,每一個代理人都具有 窮的知識存量,且每一項知識的類型 是相同。可將知識的特徵與類型放成 模型中,加入市場評價機制,形有 個組織內的知識市場;組織將有一個代理人的知識是有限的關係(連結)專 每一個代理人的知識是有限的,每 可 個代理人在其有限的關係(連結)專 至動與分享知識。如此可進一步探討 組織目標與激勵政策之間的交互影 響。

六、計畫成果自評 (一)計畫產出自評

本研究運用代理人基礎塑模的方法 探討組織中成員知識分享的行為,雖然模 型是經由適當的簡化,但是其產出的結果 仍可提供以下相關管理議題的洞察供管 理人員參考:

1. 知識本身是一項具有經濟價值的資源,當組織成員考慮是否要與其他人分享知識時,需要考慮分享行為可能產生的報酬,雖然將知識分享與他人可能造成自己效用上損失,但是也可能從他人得到新的知識,或因相互的分享知識而產生綜效。因此,分享的

- 效果需依頼雙方的行為而定。如果知識的價值可以清楚地界定與彼此的能力可以完整地吸收與分享知識,組織中的成員將自發性進行知識的分享,但是整體的組織的氣候,可能是傾向猜忌與不信任。
- 3. 組織成員之間知識分享的互動網路是 一項重要的影響因素,其中知識分享 的網路,其關係的持續性與互動對象 的可改變性將對組織成員知識分享 的行為造成影響。
- 4. 激勵組織成員分享知識的行為,直接依據其分享的行為來獎勵效果最好,但是如果想要造就互信的組織的氣候則以定期審視固定獎勵的方式的效果最好,由其是當組織成員的能力水準愈差時,效果愈是明顯。但是對組織而言這樣的激勵政策可能不符合成本效益的原則。

(二)計畫發表

本研究成果目前已有兩篇期刊發表, 其 一 是 2008 年 的 Technological Forecasting and Social Change. (SSCI)與, 另一是 2009 年的資訊管理學報(TSSCI) 期刊中。另有文章投稿國外期刊中。

七、參考文獻(因篇幅限制,僅列出部分文獻)

- [1] Dawes, R., and Messick, M.: Social Dilemmas, International Journal of Psychology, 35(2) 111-116 (2000)
- [2] Teece, D.J.: Capturing Value from

- Knowledge Assets: The New Economy, Markets for Know-How, and Intangible Assets, California Management Review, 40(3) 55-79 (1998)
- [3] Yang, C., and Chen, L.-C.: Can Organizational Knowledge Capabilities Affect Knowledge Sharing Behavior?, Journal of Information Science, 33(1) 95-114 (2007)
- [4] Sun, P.Y.-T., and Scott, J.L.: An Investigation of Barriers to Knowledge Transfer, Journal of Knowledge Management, 9(2) 75-90 (2005)
- [5] Bock, G.W., Zmud, R.W., Kim, Y.G., and Lee, J.N.: Behavioral Intention Formation in Knowledge Sharing: Examining the Roles of Extrinsic Motivators, Social-Psychological Forces, and Organizational Climate, MIS Quarterly, 29(1) 87-111 (2005)
- [6] Levy, M., Loebbecke, C., and Powell, P.: SMEs, Co-Opetition and Knowledge Sharing: The Role of Informatin Systems, European Journal of Information Systems, 12(1) 3-17 (2003)
- [7] Hsu, M.-H., Ju, T.L., Yen, C.-H., and Chang, C.-M.: Knowledge Sharing Behavior in Virtual Communities: The Relationship between Trust, Self-Efficacy, and Outcome Expectation, international Journal of Human-computer studies, 65 153-169 (2007)
- [8] Wasko, M.M., and Faraj, S.: Why Should I Share? Examining Social Capital and Knowledge Contribution

- in Electronic Networks of Practice, MIS Quarterly, 29(1) 35-57 (2005)
- [9] Angel, C., William, C.C., and Jesus, F.S.: Determinants of Individual Engagement in Knowledge Sharing, The International Journal of Human Resource Management, 17(2) 245-264 (2006)
- (10) Chou, S.-W.: Knowledge Creation:
 Absorptive Capacity, Organizational
 Mechanisms, and Knowledge
 Storage/Retrieval Capabilities, Journal
 of Information Science, 31(6) 453-465
 (2005), doi:
 10.1177/0165551505057005.
- [11] Snejina, M., and Kenneth, H.:
 Decision Making in Organisations
 Hostile to Knowledge Sharing, Journal
 for East European Management
 Studies, 9(1) 7 (2004)
- [12] Becerra-Fernandez, I., Gonzalez, A., and Sabherwal, R.: Knowledge Management- Challenges, Solution, and Technologies, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2004
- 【13】 Axelrod, R.: The Complexity of Cooperation: Agent-Based Models of Competition and Collaboration, Princeton University Press, New Jersey, 1997
- [14] Axelrod, R.M.: The Evolution of Cooperation Basic Books, New York, 1984
- [15] Collier, N., Howe, T., Najlis, R., North, M., and Vos, J.R.: Repast 3 (2005). Available at: http://repast.sourceforge.net/ (accessed 1 Dec 2006).
- 【16】 Yang, H.-L., and Wu, T.C.T.: Knowledge Sharing in an

- Organization- Share or Not?, In: IEEE International Conference on Computing & Informatics (IEEE International Conference on Computing & Informatics, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2006).
- 【17】 Schneider, B.: Organizational Climate: An Essay, Personnel Psychology, Personnel Psychology, 28 447-479 (1975)
- [18] Chiong, R., Wong, D.M.L., and Jankovic, L.: Agent-Based Economic Modeling with Iterated Prinsoner's In: IEEE International Dilemma, Computing Conference on (IEEE Informatics International Conference on Computing Informatics, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2006).

此份文件包含兩份出國報告:

- (1) 2008/8/19-2008/8/23 大陸金華
- (2) 2008/12/13-2008/12/15 大陸海南島三亞

報告人 政大楊亨利 謹上 2009/4/22

附件三

行政院國家科學委員會補助國內專家學者出席國際學術會議報告

97 年 8月24 日

報告人姓名	楊亨利	服務機構及職稱	政治大學資管系教授
時間 會議 地點	2008/8/19-2008/8/23 大陸金華	本會核定補助文號	NSC 96-2416-H-004 -015 -MY2
會議 名稱	The 7th International Conf	ference on W	eb-based Learning (2008 ICWL)
發表論文 題目	(中文) (英文) Computer-Aided (and Bloom's Taxonomy	Generation o	f Item Banks Based on Ontology

報告內容包括下列各項:

一、參加會議經過

由於兩岸直航才開始,只有週末有班次,去大陸大部分狀況仍需要轉機。8/19 澳門航空因調度問題,我原定班機台北至澳門、澳門至杭州兩段均被取消。臨時被安排搭澳門航空飛機 NX519 至澳門,轉廈門航空 MF894 抵達杭州。由於金華地處內陸,須再轉長途客運。在 ICWL 大會派駐機場人員引導下,由機場搭兩小時長途高交車至義烏,再由大會在義烏人員接送至金華旅館,義烏至金華也需一小時車程。第二天起,8/20-8/22至浙江師範大學會場參加 ICWL 三天研討會議程,包含 8/19 發表本人 paper。8/23 清晨由金華汽車西站,搭長途公交車至杭州蕭山,已花兩個多小時,再由蕭山至蕭山機場又是四十餘分鐘。由於颱風關係,往澳門香港飛機均嚴重誤點,飛機延誤近三個小時。搭下午飛機澳門航空 NX121,在澳門轉機,搭 NX620 回到台北已是晚上 10:30。

二、與會心得

此研討會為每年均舉辦,算是 e-Learning 的重要研討會,今年是第七屆,由大陸 浙江師範大學負責承辦。或許因為大陸對金流處理不是很開放,其收費仍是委託香港 Hong Kong Web Society來負責。其論文集是以收錄 LNCS 之系列為號召,可是 LNCS 自 2007年起已非 SCI 系列,而為 EI 系列。其號召力也少了許多。大會聲稱有 170 篇投稿, 錄取 Full Paper 有 65 篇,錄取率比以往 LNCS 只有百分之十幾高。報名費收 US\$450, 卻沒有減少。且對作者不分學生與否,收費標準一致。不過,可能是部分作者沒有繳費, 最後 LNCS 那本厚「書」,只有出現 53 篇 Full Paper。而以往 Short Paper、Poster 均 列入 LNCS 內。此次,也未收錄。大會另出了一本包含 22 篇 Short Paper 的 Proceeding。 另外,又出了本 Blended Learning Workshop 的 Proceeding,包含 17 篇文章。

大會三天一早均為演講,分別邀請到韓國 Sungkyunkwan University 的 Won Kim、大陸清華大學的 Yuanchun Shi、香港 City University of Hong Kong 的 Joseph Fong來演講。8/20-8/21 為正式的 ICWL Presentation,共有 12 個 Sessions,包含議題豐富,有:

Session 1 Adaptation of e-Learning Technologies and Policies

Session 2 Learning Resource Management

Session 3 e-Learning Experiences

Session 4 Assessment and its Supporting Systems

Session 5 Tools and Experiences for Learning C Programming Language

Session 6 Game-Based Learning

Session 7 Frameworks and Platforms for e-Learning

Session 8 Multimedia Technologies for Learning

Session 9 On-line Discussion Forum and Community

Session 10 Collaborative Learning

Session 11 Semantics and Ontology

Session 12 Interfaces for Learning Activity Designs •

浙江師範大學或許承辦經驗不足,其將所有錄取的 Full Paper,不管是否出現在 LNCS 均排入議程,以致出席率奇低。另也給 Poster Session 的時間。倒是沒有 Short Paper 的時段。8/23 為 Workshop of Blended Learning。

另較特殊的是大會對於場地的安排,正式註冊是在金華五星大酒店(為一的四星級飯店,算是金華地區相當好飯店),所有活動出發也是在該酒店,可是,Presentation場地在浙江師範大學禮堂與教室,而所有中、晚餐則是安排於校區以外飯店,由於大陸幅員廣大,各點距離很遠,對參與者相當不便。

=		赵寂	矣 鲱	汗動	一	佰汗禹	为者省略`	١
_	•	石户	· /◇ 住玩	14 11		山口 /山 町	1名 白 吟	,

- (1)或許是因為正逢北京奧運期間,大陸所有運輸(機場、火車站、汽車客運站)建築進出,均需要行李安全檢查。
- (2)另外,北京奧運並未讓大陸人民禮儀提升,隨地吐痰、終日的汽車喇叭,仍是一大問題。

四、建議

由於兩岸的直航才剛開始,轉機花費時間相當多,政府政策可再加快。

五、攜回資料名稱及內容

研討會論文集三冊,分別為 LNCS 系列、Short Paper Proceeding、Blended Learning Essentials。

六、	其他	
發表	的論文如附	0

Computer-Aided Generation of Item Banks Based on Ontology and Bloom's Taxonomy

Ming-Hsiung Ying 1 and Heng-Li Yang 2

¹ Department of MIS, Chung-Hua University, 707, Sec.2, WuFu Rd., HsinChu, Taiwan ² Department of MIS, National Cheng-Chi University, .64,Sec.2,Chihnan Rd.,Taipei,Taiwan mhying@chu.edu.tw, yanh@nccu.edu.tw

Abstract. Online learning and testing are important topics in information education. Students can take online tests to assess their achievement of learning goals. However, the test results should assign student scores and assess their achievement of knowledge and cognition levels. Teachers currently need to spend considerable time on producing and maintaining on-line testing items. This study applied ontology, Chinese semantic database, artificial intelligence and Bloom's taxonomy to propose a CAGIS E-learning system architecture to assist teachers in creating test items. As the result, the computer assisted teachers in producing a large number of test items quickly. These test items covered three types of knowledge and five dimensions of cognitive skills. The test items could meaningfully assess learning level meaningfully.

Keywords: Online Test, Test Item Bank, Bloom's Taxonomy, Ontology, Semantic Web.

1 Introduction and Related Works

Online learning and subsequent testing have been important topics in information education. Because education is intended to change students behaviors, teachers must use tests well to assess student achievements. Computer-based testing has numerous benefits, including data-rich test results, immediate test feedback, convenient test times and locations, and so on. [1].

In designing test items, teaching goals should be considered when designing test items. According to education testing theory, educational goals can be classified into three different levels: cognition field, emotional field and movement ability [2]. Types of instruction assessment can be grounded in types of knowledge. Three distinct knowledge types require assessment: declarative (knowing what/knowing about), procedural (knowing how), and conditional (knowing why and when) [3]. Bloom identified six levels within the cognitive domain, including knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation [4]. Anderson and Krathwohl [5] revised the original taxonomy of Bloom by combining both the cognitive process and knowledge dimensions. The revised Bloom's taxonomy comprises a two-dimensional table. One dimension identifies the knowledge (the kind of knowledge to be learned), while the other identifies the cognitive process (the process used to learn). The knowledge dimension comprises four levels: factual, conceptual, procedural, and

meta-cognitive. The cognitive process dimension comprises six levels: remember, understand, apply, analyze, evaluate, and create. This new expanded taxonomy can help instructional designers and teachers set meaningful learning objective, and provide the measurement tool for thinking.

Creating and maintaining the item bank is a time-consuming. When the item bank contains an insufficient number of items, the exposure frequencies of items may be too high and students may directly recall the answers [6]. Therefore, how to prepare sufficient items in the bank and efficiently generate items have become important research issues [7].

Deveszic [8] proposed developing Web-based educational applications with more theory and content-oriented intelligence. To increase the effectiveness of the testing system, numerous researchers have applied artificial intelligence, fuzzy theory and other techniques. If information techniques can be properly applied, numerous omplex issues can be solved, such as test item selection, item generation, scoring, explanation, and test feedback to enhance education and learning [9-15].

This study claims that computers can assist in aiding item generation in e-learning environments, if the material can be first stored based on knowledge ontological structure and semantic relation. An intelligent online learning system has been proposed to resolve the above problems.

2 Proposed System Architecture

To propose a system architecture for computer-aided tem bank generation, this study followed the following steps: (1) Conducting a pilot study to explore the difficulty faced by teachers in manually creating items, and analyzing the item types; (2) Developing course material knowledge and item structure ontologies, involving concept of Bloom's taxonomy; (3) Creating a knowledge base related to online course materials; (4) Developing a prototype for computer-aided generation of item system (CAGIS).

2.1 A Pilot Study Exploring the Difficulty of Manual Item Creation

Fifteen university teachers from 11 different universities - who had taught "management information system" courses, participated in the pilot study. These teachers were given two weeks to create test items from specific chapters of a textbook. It was required that the test items should include four types: true-false, multiple-choice, multiple-response, and fill-in-the-blank. No upper limited constrained the quantity of test items. Finally, the teachers produced 440 items manually, with the average time taken to complete the task being 4.3 hours. After deleting the duplicate items, there are 386 items left and shown in Table 1. The knowledge types of those items included "factual, conceptual, procedural" knowledge, and their cognitive levels included: "remember, understand, analyze, and evaluate". The specific chapters are no suitable knowledge content to generate the item of "apply" level. Some teachers indicated that it would be very difficult to generate the "create" level items using true-false, multiple-choice, multiple-response, and fill-in-the-blank question type.

Knowledge		Cognitive Process Dimension							
Dimensions	Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Total			
Factual	192 (49.7%)	25 (6.5%)		56 (14.5%)	3 (0.8%)	276 (71.5%)			
Conceptual	59 (15.3%)	27 (7.0%)		12 (3.1%)	0 (0%)	98 (25.4%)			
Procedural	9 (2.3%)	0 (0%)		3 (0.8%)	0 (0%)	12 (3.1%)			
Total	260 (67.3%)	52 (13.5%)	0 (0%)	73 (18.4%)	3 (0.8%)	386 (100%)			

Table 1. Number of Items with Bloom's Taxonomy Produced by Teachers Manually

2.2 Course Material Knowledge Ontology

Since the meta-cognitive knowledge of Bloom's Taxonomy is not included in the regular teaching material or test [5,16], it was not considered in this study. To store knowledge content of course materials, and to consider the dimensions of Bloom's factual, conceptual, and procedural knowledge, this study developed a knowledge ontology, as shown in Fig. 1. This knowledge ontology was developed by content analysis of specific chapters from the above textbook, and includes the concepts of WordNet, revised Bloom's Taxonomy, Dublin Core, Semantic Header, and so on.

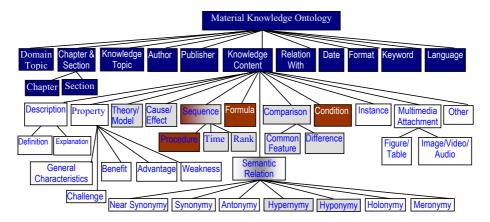


Fig. 1. Course Material Knowledge Ontology

Figure 1 uses the "Knowledge Content" to store the real course material content, and comprises 12 subclasses of knowledge, which are used to store knowledge concepts such as "What", "Why", "When" and "How". For example, sequence relation knowledge includes procedure (the procedural step, used to express the concept of "How"), time (the time sequence), rank (specific attribute rank). Hypernymy knowledge records a relation similar to generalization, is-a-kind-of. Meronymy knowledge records a relation similar to component-of.

The proposed course material knowledge ontology covers the knowledge dimension of Taxonomy of Bloom, as detailed below.

Factual Knowledge:

- ➤ Knowledge of terminology including technical vocabulary and musical symbols. In Fig. 1, such type of knowledge is stored through "Description" and "Multimedia Attachment".
- ➤ Knowledge of specific details and elements: major natural resources and reliable sources of information. In Fig. 1, such type of knowledge is stored through "Description", "Property", "Instance", "Holonymy", "Meronymy", "Near Synonymy", "Synonymy", and "Antonymy".

Conceptual Knowledge:

- ➤ Knowledge of classifications and categories: geological time periods. In Fig. 1, it would be stored through "Hypernymy", "Hyponymy", "Time", and "Rank".
- ➤ Knowledge of principles and generalizations: In Fig. 1, it would be stored through "Hypernymy", "Hyponymy", "Comparison", and "Multimedia Attachment".
- ➤ Knowledge of theories, models and structures: In Fig. 1, it would be stored through "Theory/Model", "Cause/Effect", and "Multimedia Attachment".

Procedural Knowledge:

- ➤ Knowledge of subject-specific skills and algorithms: In Fig. 1, it would be stored through "Formula".
- ➤ Knowledge of subject-specific techniques and methods: In Fig. 1, it would be stored through "Procedure".
- ➤ Knowledge of criteria for determining when to use appropriate procedures: In Fig. 1, it will be stored through "Condition".

2.3 Test Item Structure Ontology

The test item structure ontology includes an intelligent online test scoring mechanism [28], which includes various parameters for dealing with fill-in-the-blank tests. In Fig. 2, the item structure ontology includes four question types: true-false, multiple-choice, multiple-response, and fill-in-the-blank. The ontology also includes original and variable item types. The question steam of original items can be generated based on primitive online material knowledge, in which case the structure of the question steam does not require any special changes. The original item is primarily used to assess the "remember" level of the cognition process. The structure of the question steam of variable items differs from that for online material knowledge. Furthermore, the variable item is used to assess the "understand, apply, analyze, and evaluate" levels of the cognition process. The variable items are divided into structure variable items and operands variable items. The structure variable items are generated by changing the structure, words of material knowledge. Moreover, the operands variable items are generated by calculation or formula inference module.

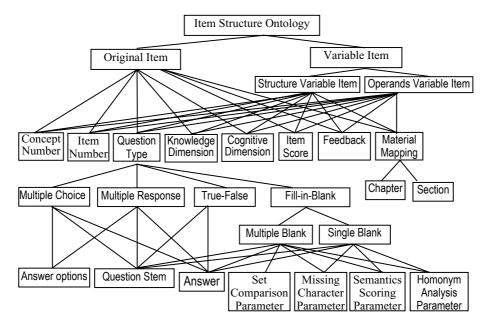


Fig. 2. Test Item Structure Ontology

2.4 CAGIS System Architecture

This study designed a computer-aided generation of items prototype system (CAGIS) in a three-tier Client/Server architecture. The back-end database server was Microsoft SQL Server 2000, which was used to implement trigger procedures and store the items, material, student data, scores, and so on. The web server was the Internet Information Server in Windows 2003. ASP language was adopted in the server-side. The architecture of the CAGIS E-learning system is shown in Fig. 3. The components are briefly described below.

This structure includes two user interfaces, five subsystems and 18 relevant databases. They are briefly described below. The Word Segment Process Subsystem segments the Chinese words in the primitive knowledge article, and stores the segmented results in the Expertise WS Knowledge Base. The Computer-Aided Generation of Material & Presentation Subsystem retrieves the segmented material knowledge from Expertise WS Knowledge and uses it to generate an online material knowledge, and stores it in the Material Knowledge Base. It can also dynamically generate teaching material pages that students can learn online. The Computer-Aided Generation of Item Subsystem, the focus of this study, can analyze the content of the Material Knowledge Base, generates various item types by referring to Item Structure Ontology and rules of item generation, and stores these items and standard answers in the Item Bank. The Online Test & Intelligent Scoring Subsystem manages testing and scoring. The Assisting Learning Tool Subsystem provides tools to assist learner leaning.

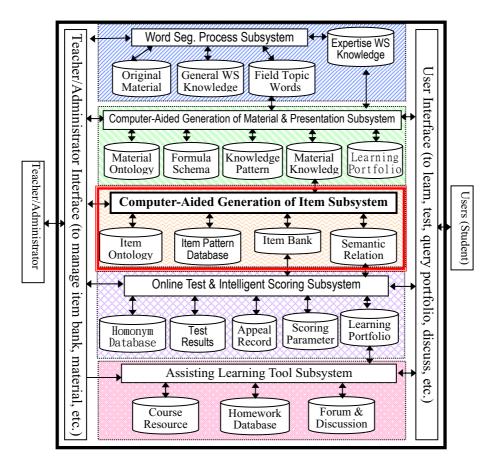


Fig. 3. CAGIS E-learning System Architecture

2.5 Computer-Aided Generation of Item Subsystem

Figure 4 shows he architecture of the Computer-Aided Item Generation Subsystem. From a 3*5 table of Bloom's taxonomy ("factual, conceptual, procedural" knowledge, and cognitive levels of "remember, understand, apply, analyze, evaluate"), teachers could assign numbers of four types of automatically generated test items: true-false, multiple-choice, multiple-response, and fill-in-the-blank. The components are presented below:

- **Formula Schema Database:** Storing the knowledge rule of mathematical formulae, logic operations, or equations.
- Knowledge Pattern Database: Storing the regular rules of Chinese grammar structure, semantic relations between words, and notation of word segments corresponding to Chinese sentences in general textbooks.
- Material Knowledge Database: Storing the knowledge content of the material.
 The knowledge was stored based on Material Knowledge Ontology. Relevant

knowledge can be linked by semantic relations. It is a knowledge source for generating online material in the Computer-Aided Generation of Material Subsystem and generating items for the Computer-Aided Generation of Item Subsystem.

- Module of Item Pattern: It provides a function for managing and maintaining the rules (characteristics) of item patterns, semantic relations, and question types for item generation.
- **Item Pattern Database:** Storing the rules (characteristics) of item patterns, semantic relation, and question type.
- **Module of Item Ontology:** This module provides a function for managing the item structure ontology.
- Item Ontology Database: Storing the item structure ontology.
- Computer-Aided Generation of Item Module: It executes the tasks involved in item generation. The module takes the knowledge content newly entered from the Material Knowledge Base, seeks other correlated existing knowledge concepts and checks the rules governing the item pattern. If the check is passed, the computer automatically generates the item and stores it in the item bank.
- **Item Bank:** Storing the items generated by Computer-Aided Generation of the Item Module. Alternatively, items created manually by teachers can also be stored if necessary.
- **Semantic Relation Database:** Storing the semantic relationships among words, including semantic words, correlation types (Near Synonymy, Synonymy, antonymy, etc.), and correlation ratios.

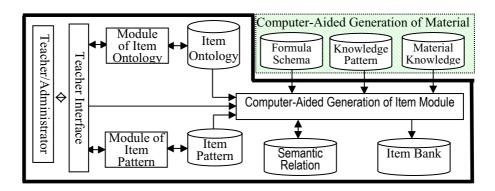


Fig. 4. Architecture of Computer-Aided Generation of Item Subsystem

2.5 Structure Rules of Knowledge Type and Item Generation Method

The Computer-Aided Generation of Item subsystem generates ten types of knowledge, Description, Property, Theory/Model, Cause/Effect, Sequence, Semantic Relation, Comparison, Formula, and Instance, and Others. The Formula Knowledge was created based on the formula schema set by teachers, the other nine knowledge types have their structure rules. These rules identify the knowledge type of original article contents, and store material knowledge that has been segmented to corresponding relation tables of the database. For illustration, some item generation methods are briefly described below.

- Original Items: The question steam structure refers to the same structure as the material knowledge base. For true-false questions, the answers are all true, which can be used to assess the ability of the "remember" process. The original items can generate items of other question types, e.g., fill-in-the-blank items, which can be used to "recall" ability.
- Opposite Items: If certain words in the question steam have the antonym sets in the Semantic Relation Database, the computer replaces them to produce the opposite items, which can assess the ability of confirmation in "remember" process level.
- Grammar Inverting Items: The material knowledge includes positive and negative concept sentences. If the computer exchanges and inverts the knowledge grammar structure of sentences, the sentences become the grammar inverting items. The grammar inverting items can be used to assess the ability of "understand" process.
- Combined Same Subclass Knowledge of Single Concept Items: These items were generated by the computer and combined with a lot of the same subclass (or sub-subclass) knowledge content from the single topic concept of materials. These items could be used to assess the confirmation ability in "understand" and "analysis" process levels. For example, since the concept "Expert System" has the following some characteristics: "Inference ability", "Explanation ability", etc. in the sub-subclass knowledge "General Characteristics", an item about "Expert System" concept can combine numerous "General Characteristics" knowledge.
- Combined Same Subclass Knowledge of Multiple Concept Items: These items were generated by the computer and used to combine a lot of the same subclass knowledge content from the multiple meaning-related topic knowledge contents of materials. For example, the concepts "Decision Support System" and "Expert System" could be compared with the "General Characteristics".
- Combined Different Subclass Knowledge of Single Concept Items: These items were generated by the computer and used to combine a lot of the different subclass knowledge contents from a single topic concept. For example, since the concept "Expert System" involves some knowledge in "General Characteristics", "Definition", "Condition", and "Meronymy", an item about "Expert System" concept could combine a lot of different subclass knowledge.
- Combined Original Items of Same Concept: These items were generated by the
 computer and combined a lot of original items of true-false of same topic knowledge from existing item bank. These original items could be combined to generate multiple-choice or multiple-response items.

3 Evaluation of System Effectiveness

This study compares computer-aided generation and manual item generation by teachers. The CAGIS used the same materials as the teachers used in a pilot study for item generation. Counting the different forms of the question stems and contents, CAGIS generated 18621 items, as shown in Table 3. However, certain items involve the same item concepts and meanings, because they were generated by procedure of combination and permutation in CAGIS. As a result, the CAGIS generated 1567 item

groups with different assessment meanings (as listed in Table 4), which originated from 279 knowledge concepts of course materials. Each item thus can be replaced with an average of 11.466 (18621/1567) different forms of items. This study thus could solve the problems of shortages problem and excessive exposures of test items. In the pilot study, 15 teachers create 386 items in total. This CAGIS is more efficient than teachers on the quantity of items.

Furthermore, this study compares the effectiveness as follows. (1) The items produced by CAGIS include the assessment information of the knowledge and cognitive process dimensions. Such information can be used to provide learning suggestions for learners, and can also be used for teaching. (2) Teachers have difficulty creating the item of higher cognitive process level. In CAGIS, the items cover three types of knowledge and five dimensions of cognitive skills. (3) Regarding the degree of objectivity in selecting and generating items, teachers usually have personal subjectivity. However GAGIS follows the standard generation rules to select and produce items. (4) Regarding the effort spent on production and the quantity of items produced, 15 teachers produced 440 items manually and the average consuming-time of the teachers was 4.3 hours; CAGIS spent just 5 minutes producing the 1567 item group, and 18621 items. (6) Finally, because not all teachers underwent instructional strategy training, some items violated educational principles. However, these rules of preparing items are built into the Module of Item Pattern of CAGIS.

Question Type True-False Multiple Multiple Fill-in-Total Choice Blank Response 6.19% 35.51% 57.24% 1.06% 100% Different Question stem and Answer Options (1153)(6612)(10659)(197)(18621)32.04% 20.49% 37.97% 9.51% 100% Different Assessment

(595)

(149)

(1567)

Table 3. Question Type of Items Generated by CAGIS

Table 4. Distribution of Items in Bloom's Taxonomy by CAGIS

(321)

(502)

Knowledge	Cognitive Process Dimension							
Dimensions	Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Total		
Factual	555 (35.42%)	0 (0%)		245(15.63%)	0 (0%)	809(51.05%)		
Conceptual	137 (8.74%)	28 (1.79%)		108(6.89%)	0 (0%)	273(17.42%)		
Procedural	17 (1.08%)	0 (0%)	2 (0.13%)	457(29.16%)	18 (1.15%)	494(31.53%)		
Total	709(45.25%)	28 (1.79%)	2 (0.13%)	810(51.69%)	18 (1.15%)	1567(100%)		

4 Conclusions and Future Research

Meaning (Item Group)

Instructional designers and teachers have adopted Bloom's taxonomy involved in all levels of education. This study applied ontology, Chinese semantic database, artificial intelligence, and Bloom's taxonomy, to propose a CAGIS E-learning system architecture to assist teachers in creating test items.

Based on the results of this study, we recommend the following: (1) applying machine learning techniques and revising the item pattern rules to generate items for supporting higher level cognitive processes, (2) exploring the item difficulty and item discrimination indexes, (3) executing empirical research to explore the learning effects of CAGIS.

References

- Chou, W.J.: Implementation of Computer-Assisted Testing on WWW. In: Proceedings of the Seventh International Conference on Computer Assisted Instruction, pp. 543–550 (1998)
- 2. Chang, L.C.: Educational Testing and Measurement, Wu-Nan, Taipei (1997)
- 3. Kreber, C.: Learning Experientially through Case Studies: A Conceptual Analysis. Teaching in Higher Education 6(2), 217–228 (2001)
- 4. Bloom, B.S., Englehart, M.D., Furst, E.J., Hill, W.H., Krathwohl, D.R.: A Taxonomy of Educational Objectives: Handbook 1, The Cognitive Domain. David Mckay, N.Y (1956)
- Anderson, W., Krathwohl, D.R.: A Taxonomy for Learning, Teaching, and Assessing: A Revision of Blooms' Educational Objectives. Longman (2001)
- Lin, Y.D., Sun, W.C., Chou, C., Wei, H.Y.: DIYexamer: A Web-based Multi-Server Testing System with Dynamic Test Item Acquisition and Discriminability Assessment. In: Proceedings of the ICCE 2001, vol. 2, pp. 1512–1520 (2001)
- Ho, R.G., Su, J.C., Kuo, T.H.: The Architecture of Distance Adaptive Testing System. Information and Education 42, 29–35 (1996)
- Devedzic, V.B.: Key Issues in Next-Generation Web-based Education. IEEE Transactions On Systems, Man, And Cybernetics-PART C. Applications And Reviews 33(3), 339–349 (2003)
- 9. Hwang, G.J.: A conceptual map model for developing intelligent tutoring systems. Computers & Education 40, 217–235 (2003)
- Moundridou, M., Virvou, M.: Analysis and Design of a Web-based Authoring Tool Generating Intelligent Tutoring Systems. Computer & Education 40, 157–181 (2003)
- 11. Sun, K.T.: An Effective Item Selection Method by Using AI Approaches. The Meeting of the Advanced in Intelligent Computing and Multimedia System, Baden-Baden, Germany (1999)
- 12. Hwang, G.J., Tseng, J., Chu, C., Shiau, J.W.: Analysis and Improvement of Test Items for a Network-based Intelligent Testing System. Chinese Journal of Science Education 10(4), 423–439 (2002)
- Mitkov, R., Ha, L.: Computer-Aided Generation of Multiple-Choice Tests. In: Proceedings of the HLT-NAACL 2003 Workshop on Building Educational Applications Using Natural Language Processing, Edmonton, Canada, pp. 17–22 (2003)
- Sumita, E., Sugaya, F., Yamamoto, S.: Measuring Non-native Speakers' Proficiency of English by Using a Test with Automatically-Generated Fill-in-the-Blank Questions. In: Proceedings of the Second Workshop on Building Educational Applications Using NLP, Ann Arbor, Michigan, pp. 61–68 (2005)
- Liu, C.L., Wang, C.H., Gao, Z.M., Huang, S.M.: Applications of Lexical Information for Algorithmically Composing Multiple-Choice Cloze Items. In: Proceedings of the Second Workshop on Building Educational Applications Using NLP, Ann Arbor, Michigan, pp. 1–8 (2005)
- Flavell, J.H.: Speculation about the Nature and Development of Meta-Cognition. In: Weiner, F.E., Kluwe, R.H. (eds.) Metacognition, Motivation, and Understanding. Lawrence Erlbaum, Hillsdale (1987)
- 17. Yang, H.L., Ying, M.H.: An On-line Test System Framework with Intelligent Fuzzy Scoring Mechanism. Journal of Information Management 13(1), 41–74 (2006)

附件三

行政院國家科學委員會補助國內專家學者出席國際學術會議報告

97 年12月16 日

報告人姓名	楊亨利	服務機構及職稱	政治大學資管系教授
時間 會議 地點	2008/12/13-2008/12/15 大陸海南島三亞	本會核定補助文號	NSC 96-2416-H-004 -015 -MY2
會議 名稱	The First International Symposium on u- and e- Service, Science and Technology (UNESST 2008)		
發表論文 題目	(中文) (英文) An Idea Generation Supporting System based on Anchor and Gestalt Theories		

報告內容包括下列各項:

一、參加會議經過

兩岸直航 2008/12/15 才正式開始,而且沒有直達大陸海南島三亞,所以,我這次仍須轉機香港,機票仍是昂貴。由於,我兼任計中主任業務繁忙,此次,利用週末前往,12/13 搭國泰航空 CX467 由台北至香港,轉搭港龍航空 KA650,由香港至海南島三亞。第二天週日 12/14 開 UNESST 研討會,第三天 12/15 週一即由三亞搭港龍航空 KA651 至香港,再轉搭國泰航空 CX400 返抵台北,行程匆促。

二、與會心得

此研討會為今年第一次舉辦,由韓國之 SERSC (Science & Engineering Research Support Center)舉辦。但是,很奇特地,也同時有台灣的台灣軟體模擬學會、國立宜 蘭大學電機資訊學院、澳洲 Computer Society (ACS)、歐洲的 Centers for Secure Information and Systems (ECSIS) 與 IEEE 的共同贊助。而且,同時間 12/13-12/15 同一場地 (三亞天域酒店),有十餘個研討會共同由 SERSC 舉辦,除了我參與的 UNESST 外,還包含 2008 International Conference on Advanced Software Engineering & Its Applications (ASEA 2008) \cdot 2008 International Symposium on Signal Processing, Image Processing and Pattern Recognition (SIP 2008) · 2008 International Symposium on Control and Automation (CA 2008) · 2008 International Symposium on Database Theory and Application (DTA 2008) • 2008 International Conference on Bio-Science and Bio-Technology (BSBT 2008) · 2008 International Symposium on Grid and Distributed Computing (GDC 2008) \cdot 2008 International Conference on Security Technology (SecTech 2008) • The 2nd International Conference on Future Generation Communication and Networking (FGCN 2008) . The Third |International Symposium on Smart Home(SH'08)等等十餘個研討會,幾乎涵蓋電腦軟 硬體,而且其中很多研討會都是第一、二屆,韓國人的企圖心令人佩服,似乎想與 KES 一拼。而且報名費超高,收 US\$660,舉辦地點在五星級的度假勝地三亞天域酒店。而有 些研討會出 Pre-Proceeding,並與 IEEE 結合,屬 EI 系列。也有同時出 Post-Proceeding, 或與 Journal (不是很知名的) 結合。我的 Paper 則屬 EI 系列。三天時程,早上均為 Keynote Speakers,共有八個,三天下午共排了 56 個 Sessions,448 篇 Papers 的報告: 包含議題豐富,十分緊密。可是將 papers 幾乎混雜的結果,常讓人不知在參加哪一場 的主題。而且缺席率很高。

我個人發表的屬創新的支援系統,而以我參與的 UNESST 研討會來說,本來就涵蓋很多主題:Adoption of Standards and Protocols for e- or u-Business Applications、B2B, B2C and C2C Architectures、Case Studies in Industry and Government、Collaborative Business Systems、CRM and Business Solutions、Data and Knowledge Engineering、e- or u-Banking、e- or u-Business Systems for Multiple Platforms、e- or u-Entertainment、e- or u-Government、e- or u-Learning、e- or u-Marketing and Consumer Behavior、e- or u-Negotiation and Auction Mechanisms、e- or u-Payment Systems、GPS Applications and Location-based Services、Grid Computing for e- or u-Business、Healthcare and Medical Applications、Intellectual Rights、Interoperability and Integration、m-Business and Ubiquitous Services、Mobile Services and Architectures、Mobility Management in Next Generation Networks、Multi-Agent Systems and Information Integration、Open Source Technologies in e- or u-Business、Quality of Service (QoS) and Metrics、Security and Privacy、Semantic Web Applications and Ontology Sharing、Service-Oriented Interfaces and Architectures、Supply-chain Management、Systems Development and Evaluation、

Telematics and Middleware Platforms、Trust and Privacy Issues in Social Networks、User Usability、Virtual Organizations、VPN Technology and Services、Web Data Visualization、Web Personalization and Decision Making、Web Services、Web Site Monitoring and Optimization、Workflow Management Systems、XML and Domain Mark-up Languages等。

本人發表論文於研討會後被推薦至國際期刊 International Journal of u- and e-Service, Science and Technology,經修改後接受,發表於 Vol. 2, No. 1, 2009, pp. 21-28。

三、考察參觀活動(無是項活動者省略)

- (1)無參觀活動。
- (2)唯有感覺:大陸已開放多年,海南島三亞更是觀光聖地。雖然是高樓、酒店林立,可是,城市街道仍是十分髒亂,而且到處坑洞,街名門牌均標示不清。整體城市水準仍待提升。

四、建議

無

五、攜回資料名稱及內容 研討會手冊一份,及論文集 CD 一片。

六、其他 茲 ま 4 分 立

發表的論文如附。

An Idea Generation Supporting System based on Anchor and Gestalt Theories

Heng-Li Yang Cheng-Hwa Lee MIS Dept., National Cheng-Chi University, {yanh, 92356512}@nccu.edu.tw

Abstract

Although information technology applications vary widely, they are rarely used in support of creativity. This study presents an idea generation support system based on anchor and gestalt theories. Some perspectives from these theories are borrowed to build theoretical foundation of the proposed system. Anchor building is important to creative process. Applying stimuli suggested by gestalt theory can drive users to generate fresh ideas. The proposed system is domain-independent and can improve personal creativity.

1. Introduction

Information technology (IT) is indispensable in daily life. Furthermore, IT can be helpful for idea generation. Young [16], Robbin [10] and Proctor [9] proposed the use of IT systems for generating new ideas and obtained positive results in studies of IT for creativity support. Machrone [6] indicated that computer programs can provide "mind maps" or graphical representations for idea generation. Boden [1] proposed that computer software can facilitate the creativity of users by prompting them to search for new ideas. Partridge and Rowe [8] indicated that computers can be enlisted to remove constraints on creativity and stimulate the development of new ideas. Edwards [4] examined the impact of IT on creativity. However, a continuing question is how organizations can institutionalize IT usage to enhance creativity [3,7,12].

2. Theoretical foundation

Some concepts of anchor theory and gestalt theory can be applied to support idea generation.

2.1 Anchor theory and Gestalt theory

An anchor is an object used to attach a ship to the bottom of water at a specific point. The term anchor is also used in fields such as learning, geography and psychology [2,5]. Golledge [5] proposed the "anchorpoint theory" based on earlier work by Piaget. He suggested that landmarks can help users overcome egocentric perspectives. The anchor in spatial learning is a critical role for assisting users in building ground for further links. This study applies the concept of anchor points to aid idea generation during the creative process. An initial anchor would be given to a user to establish a starting point and focus the inquiry. Human-machine interactions can then extend user ideas around the anchor. Additionally, the system can provide additional anchors at the appropriate time.

Gestalt psychology is a theory of mind and brain, proposing that the operational principle of the brain is holistic, parallel and analog with self-organizing tendencies. It emphasizes higher-order cognitive processes in the midst of behaviorism [14]. Gestalt theory applies to all aspects of human learning, although it applies most directly to perception and problem-solving. Wertheimer [15] proposed two modes of human thinking: productive and reproductive. Productive thinking solves problems through insight; reproductive thinking solves problems by referring to previous experience and what is already known

This study applies some rules of idea-generation techniques which facilitate productive or reproductive thinking of gestalt theory. These rules can initialize something new and break old rules.

2.2 Idea-generation approaches

Idea-generation approaches can prompt certain cognitive activities in users. Such techniques reflect beliefs derived from personal experience, popular assumptions, or scientific research. VanGundy [13] discussed 105 techniques for structured problem

solving and Smith [11] later reported 172 ideageneration methods.

This work presents a "Challenge" rule to stimulate users with habit-breaking strategies via the following three approaches: perspective change, assumptions challenge and negation. Perspective change encourages users to consider problems from different agent perspectives. An assumptions challenge drives users to question beliefs associated with a problem. Negation applies counter-assumptions to problem-relevant beliefs. Another rule proposed in this work is "Jump", including the "fantasy" technique, which is an imagination-based strategy for encouraging users to conceive of states in which the constraints of reality do not apply. These two rules are applied to implement the concept of gestalt theory.

This study implements a "Systematization" rule based on analytical and search strategies. This rule includes several techniques: decomposition, translation, association, and analogy. Decomposition reduces wholes into parts and attributes. Translation converts one kind of thing into another. Association follows associative links among ideas based on a knowledge base. Analogy is the strategy of solving problems by identifying and comparing similar problems and solutions.

3. System Architecture

Figure 1 shows the proposed system architecture for idea generation, which is divided into two layers: the database layer and the system layer. According to the stimulus-response model of behaviorism, a stimulus encourages response. Therefore, some stimuli are given through human-machine interactions to encourage subjects to expand their thinking.

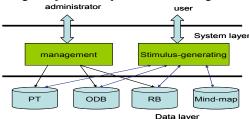


Figure 1. Proposed system architecture

The following scenario illustrates the function of the proposed system. Assume the problem is website development. The following issues must be addressed: the type of website; the services provided; the necessary techniques and tools; the revenue model; the service fee. The proposed system would provide stimuli to assist users in solving the problem.

3.1 Database Layer

The database layer includes an ontological base for storing domain knowledge (ODB), a rule base (RB) with pre-defined rules for providing stimuli, a problem template (PT) for storing the models related to specific problems, and mind-map data consisting of user's mind maps and thinking tracks while generating ideas. This example includes role ontology, service ontology, revenue ontology and channel ontology. The PT stores models related to specific problems. The entity-relationship diagram can be used as a template for describing the platform of interest. In this scenario, the main considerations are who (what role) needs services, what services are provided, what tools or techniques are adopted, what revenue is available and what channel is used (Figure 2).

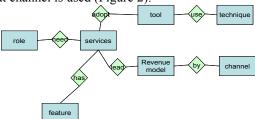


Figure 2. PT

A mind map is a diagram of words, ideas, tasks, or other items linked to and arranged around a central key-word or idea (Figure 3).

The RB stores pre-defined rules for giving stimuli. The rules are "Challenge", "Jump" and "Systematization". To implement these rules, this study adopts several idea-generation techniques such as assumptions challenge, negation, perspective change, fantasy, decomposition, translation, association and analogy.

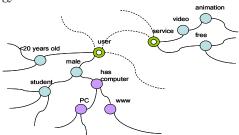


Figure 3. Mind map

Three approaches assumptions challenge, negation and perspective change are implemented for the rule "Challenge". Assumptions challenge questions the beliefs of users. For example, users would generally consider service fees when planning web operations. However, the system might ask whether services could be offered free to users. Negation provides the opposite idea to users. For example, the system might ask a user focusing on male web visitors whether female visitors

should be considered. *Perspective change* is the modifying of background of problems. For example, regarding a service (e.g., GPS tool) originally provided for mobile users, the system might ask whether it could be made available to stationary users.

Fantasy is a "Jump" rule. In some cases, imagination is very useful. This technique provides some unthinkable stimuli. For example, web users are usually assumedly as human, but the system might ask if users could be animals. Another example might be to consider paying users to request services though most websites would charge users.

Four techniques *decomposition, translation, association* and *analogy* are implemented for the rule "Systematization". Decomposition reduces wholes into parts and attributes. When considering the roles of web users, the system requests users to describe the attributes of their roles, such as gender, age, identity, etc. *Translation* converts one thing into another. For example, cash might be converted to credit charge. The system might suggest VISA instead of cash. *Analogy* is the search for ones similar to parts of the problem situation.

3.2 System Layer

The system layer includes two modules. The first is the management module, which includes ODB management, PT management and RB management. The ODB management allows to read, insert, delete and update domain knowledge. The PT management also provides a channel for maintaining problem templates. If new rules must be implemented by ideageneration techniques, RB could be modified by RB management. The second module, stimulus-generating module, is the core module for generating stimuli to assist users in thinking about a specific problem. This module has two parts: stimulus-generation and mindmap access. Stimulus-generation is responsible for giving users appropriate stimuli according to RB. The functions of mind-map access are modifying and tracking user' mind maps.

Figure 4 shows the SGA (Stimulus Given Algorithm) in stimulus-generation.

Step 1: System initializes a question from PT to user.

Step 2: User chooses one or some answers through interface.

Step 3: System generates questions based on RB, ODB and user's choices to user.

Step 4: Build user's mind map.

Step 5: Repeat Step 3 to Step 4 until model constrains are satisfied.

Step 6: End }

Figure 4. SGA algorithm

The procedure for the above is as follows. First the system chooses a starting point as an anchor. For example, the first question could be derived from the "role" in PT, as shown in Figure 2. By doing so, it could be selected as an anchor point to start the idea generation process. The anchor point could be chosen differently. The system provides multiple functions for selecting initial points, such as pre-defined or random settings. The stimulus generation module attempts to stimulate the user according to his (her) former answers, ODB, and RB. The stimuli (questions) are produced by the Challenge, Jump, or Systematization rules in RB. During the user interaction process, the system adopts a three-stage selection strategy for providing stimuli. At the early phase of idea-generation, the most important task is building an anchor. The major portion of stimuli is Systematization. Some parts of Challenge type are also used. After an anchor is built, the Challenge and Systematization roles are exchanged. Challenge becomes the primary strategy, and Systematization becomes secondary. When a new anchor is needed, the *Jump* rule is applied.

The system repeats steps 3 and 4 until the model constraints are satisfied. Each run generates additional questions using the above mentioned techniques, such as assumptions challenge, negation, perspective change, fantasy, decomposition, translation, association, and analogy. The entire procedure requires continuous interaction between user and system. The system continuously provides the user with brainstorming stimuli to inspire creative thinking. The model constraint(s) are derived from PT. The system could force users to review and reconsider all elements of the model.

4. Illustrative Scenario

A possible scenario is given here for illustrative purposes. Assume a planner α initializes a new web construction program. The proposed system could be helpful for conceptualizing the program before writing the actual website proposal. A template for website construction is in the PT. Some ontologies, such as role, service, tool, channel, etc, are stored in the ODB.

Firstly, the system randomly selects an entity "service" from the template as the starting point. According to service ontology, the system asks α to consider the kind of service he wants to provide, and α chooses "communication". The system then asks what communication method (real-time or delay) is needed. The reply is "real-time". The system continues to interact with the user with questions related to this anchor point until most aspects of the situation are clarified. After an anchor is grounded in early phase,

the system would provide other stimuli mainly by applying the Challenge rule. The system would question α about delay type. Assuming α does not change the delay type, the system would suggest "2way" instead of "1-way". The user might then adopt this new idea and develop something new. By interacting with the system using *Challenge* rule, α can methodically clarify each aspect of the service. The system then guides α to transfer to a new entity role, in which more stimuli are given and more ideas are produced. The system also suggests that α consider other possibilities such as not charging for a service or perhaps providing a service for animals. The purpose of such questions is to prompt α to brainstorm new ideas. After all entities in the template are discussed, α should have clear picture about the proposal.

5. Discussion and Conclusions

This work presents a novel system architecture for idea-generation. According to stimulus-response theory from behavioral psychology, appropriate stimuli can lead user to generate new ideas. Thus, the system interacts with users by dialogue and records their mind maps. The process of generating ideas follows a threestage selection model based on anchor theory. In the early phase the key task is building an anchor with high Systematization and low Challenge. After an anchor is built, the status of Challenge and Systematization are exchanged and the Jump rule becomes important. The Challenge and Jump rules borrow from the gestalt theory and techniques such as assumptions challenge, fantasy, etc. The PT is used to model the problem, and the ODB is essential material for providing stimuli. The proposed system is independent of a specific domain. The PT and ODB contents could be replaced with different domains.

Future works may examine other stimuli-generating rules or techniques and selection strategies for building anchors, etc. In this study, the three-stage selection model adopted from anchor theory is the key process. However, the creative process of idea generation is still unclear. Applying other perspectives may yield new rules and selection algorithms.

6. References

- [1] M.A. Boden, "Agents and Creativity", Communications of the ACM, 37(7), 1994, pp. 117-121.
- [2] Bransford, J., R. Sherwood, T. Hasselbring, C. Kinzer, and S. Williams, Anchored Instruction: Why We Need It and How Technology Can Help. In Nix, D. & Spiro, R. (Eds.). Cognition, Education, & Multimedia: Exploring Ideas in High Technology, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Hillsdale, NJ. 1990.
- [3] T. Dewett, "Understanding the Relationship between Information Technology and Creativity in Organizations", Creativity Research Journal, 15(2 & 3), 2003, pp. 167–182.
- [4] S.M. Edwards, "The Technology Paradox: Efficiency Versus Creativity", Creativity Research Journal, 13(2), 2001, pp. 221–228.
- [5] R.G. Golledge, "An Anchor Point Theory of the Acquisition of Spatial Knowledge and Some Empirical Observations", The Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, 1984.
- [6] B. Machrone, "Computers and Creativity", PC Magazine, 13, 1994, pp. 87-89.
- [7] K. Misue, and J. Tanaka, "A Handwriting Tool to Support Creative Activities", Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Knowledge-Based Intelligent Information and Engineering Systems, 2005, pp. 423-429.
- [8] Partridge, T. and J. Rowe, Computers and Creativity, Wiltshire, England, 1994.
- [9] T. Proctor, "Brain, a Computer Program to Aid Creative Thinking", Journal of Creative Behavior, 25, 1991, pp. 61-68
- [10] Robbin, A., IdeaFisher An Introduction, Fisher Idea Systems, Irvine, CA., 1990.
- [11] G.F. Smith, "Idea-Generation Techniques: A Formulary of Active Ingredients", Journal of Creative Behavior, 32(2), 1998, pp. 107-133.
- [12] X. Tang, Y. Liu, and W. Zhang, "Computerized Support for Idea Generation During Knowledge Creating Process", Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Knowledge-Based Intelligent Information and Engineering Systems, 2005, pp. 437-443.
- [13] VanGundy, A.B., Techniques of Structured Problem Solving, NY, 1988.
- [14] Wertheimer, M., A Source Book of Gestalt Psychology, London, 1923.
- [15] Wertheimer, M., Productive Thinking, NY, 1945.
- [16] Young, L., Decision Support and Idea Processing Systems, IA, 1989.