



# Embracing the digital convergence

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# Method of induction of basic and complex emotions

in video games and virtual environments

Erik Geslin Ph.D ENSAM ParisTech





#### **About the author: Erik Geslin**

- CG artist in early video game
- Art Director in video game and VR
- Game producer at Leon brothers Inc
- Courses emotions induction University France Japan
- Best paper award ACM Siggraph San Diego 2007
- Consulting in emotion induction video game industry

### **Emotions, Presence, Methods of induction**

- Evolutionary theory
- Classification
- Physiological theory
- Behavioral theory
- Physiologist theory
- Cognitive sciences
- Neurosciences
- Emotional Intelligence

#### Presence

- Presence in VR and video Game
- Definitions
- Presence and emotions
- Measurement of the presence
- Allocation voluntary and involuntary attention

- Method of induction of emotion in video game and VR
  - The surprise as a emotional vector
  - Fear induction
  - Anger induction
  - Disgust induction
  - Joyce induction
  - Sadness induction
  - Empathy and compassion
- Conclusion

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# What's are Emotions? The Evolutionary theory

#### A philosophical approach

- Emotions must be avoid (Plato)
- Emotions can be utile in Art (Aristotle)
- Emotions must be directed by soul (Descartes)

#### First definition

- No consensus: "Everybody know what is an emotion, before you ask him what it is?" (Fehr & Russel,1984)
- The only way for the brain to evaluate environment inside and outside the body, to respond appropriately (Damasio, 2005)

# What's are Emotions? The Evolutionary theory

- Darwin and the evolutionist theory
  - Emotions are innate and reflexive.
  - Emotions are phylogenetic and ontogenetic

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#### What's are Emotions? Classification

- The categorical classification (P. Ekman)
  - Emotions are universals
  - 5 basics emotions:
  - Sadness, Anger, Disgust, Joyce, Fear and Surprise

 Surprise is not always classify as a basic emotion (Johnson-Laird, 1992)

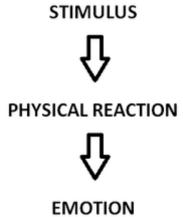
#### What's are Emotions? Classification

- The dimensional classification (Russel)
  - All emotions are derived from two neurologic systems:
  - First: The Valence
  - Second: The Arousal

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# What's are Emotions? The Physiological theory

 The physiological peripheral & reflexive theory (W.James, 1884)



 Our incapacity to control our emotion prove, there are no links no links between emotion and cognition (James, Lange)

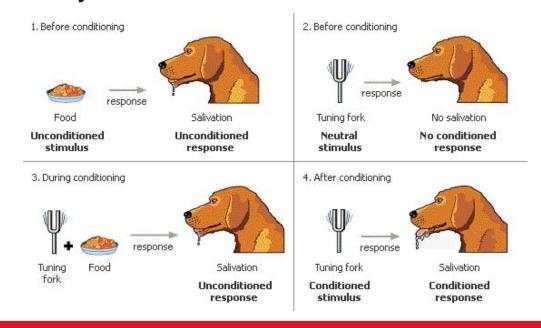
# What's are Emotions? The Physiological theory

- The emotions are only reflexive (W.James, 1884)
- Emotions didn't use a NCS (Brain) path
  - A woman is sad when her baby die, not because her baby die, but because she cry.

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# What's are Emotions? The Behavioral theory

- The brain is a black box (Watson 1913)
- All the emotions are reflexive and conditioned by stimuli (Pavlov)
- Pavlov's theory of correction. CR and SC



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# What's are Emotions? The Physiologist theory

- A peripheral theory critic (W.Cannon & P. Bard)
- The emotional path is always the brain path
  - Thalamus and hypothalamus are use in the emotional path
- Many emotion product the same physiological reactions (W. Cannon)

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# What's are Emotions? The cognitive science

- If Behaviorist could be compare to analogic science, cognitivist should be compare to a software theory
- For cognitivist: Emotions never use cognition (A. Fodor 1975)(Eckard, 1996)
- Human, one of the most emotional animal survive due to his emotional phylogenies

# What's are Emotions? The cognitive science

- The contextualize cognitivist
  - Environment and cognition is the emotional heart
  - The arousal cognition theory: arousal + environment = emotion (Schater & Singer, 1962)

PHYSICAL REACTION

COGNITIONS

EMOTION

# What's are Emotions? The cognitive science

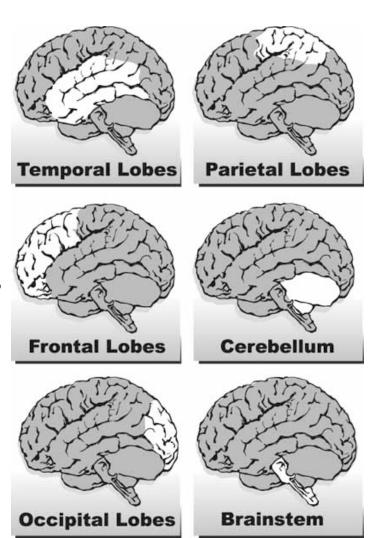
- The appraisal cognitivist theory
  - The SEC's Stimulus Evaluation Checks (Scherer, 1984, 1988)
  - Evaluation of the stimulus novelty
  - Evaluation of the stimulus valence
  - Compare to the individual aims
- The coping potential (Lazarus & Launier, 1984)
- All these evaluation are not always conscious (Jazonc, 1980)

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#### What's are Emotions? Neurosciences

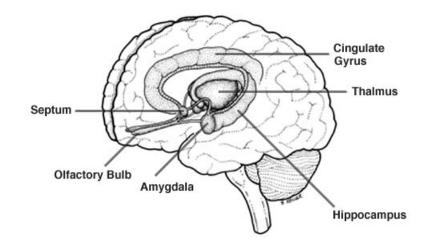
#### Brain Map

- Even without the Neo-cortex
   some emotions exists (Boring, 1950)
- But without Neo-Cortex small stimulus create high emotions
- Thalamus Neo-Cortex Hypothalamus



#### What's are Emotions? Neurosciences

- The limbic system, if he does exist?
  - The phrenology idea of a localization of emotion in brain (J. Papez, 1937)
  - The limbic system and the triune theory
    (P. Maclean, 1970)



 Animals and human have the same brain bio architecture (H.Karten & G. Northcutt, 1970)

#### What's are Emotions? Neurosciences

- The two cerebrals emotional system of the brain
- A audio Conditional Stimulus use many path in the brain (J. Ledoux, 1986)
- One path goes to auditory cortex, and other neo cortex part (The high path, conscious)
- The second one to the limbic Brain amygdala (The thalamic path, unconscious)

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# What's are Emotions? Emotional intelligence

- The Qi and EI concept (Golleman)
- Five items
  - Aware of their own emotions
  - Management of emotions
  - Motivation
  - Empathy
  - Relationship management
- It's possible to educate to change his EI (Goleman & Hatch)

## What's are Emotions? Emotional intelligence

- The EI degrades in cases of PTSD (Goleman)
- Emotions affect memory (A.R Damasio)
- In our society neuronal alarms are obsolete
- Our society create basic emotion and low EI
- Anger and Fear creates frustration in VG (Zillman, 1993)
- Emotions like empathy and compassion creates high Ellevel.
- Creating high quality EI is a new issues for VG and VR (D. Cage, P. Molyneux)

#### Presence

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#### Presence & Emotions? Presence in VR and VG

- RV =  $I^2$
- Interaction in VR and in Video Game
- The Primitives Compartmental
  - Observe
  - Move
  - Act
  - Communicate
- The PCs must be invisible to induce emotions
- The PCs use to much cognition for interaction (A. Grumbach)

#### Presence & Emotions? Presence in VR and VG

- Immersion = imagination = presence (Bowman, 1999b)
- Immersion (Adams, 2009)
  - Spatial and sensorial and tactile immersion
  - Systemic and psychological and strategically immersion (Emotional)
  - Fictional or narrative immersion (Emotional)
- Presence the key for success in VR and Video Game

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#### **Presence & Emotions? Presence Definitions**

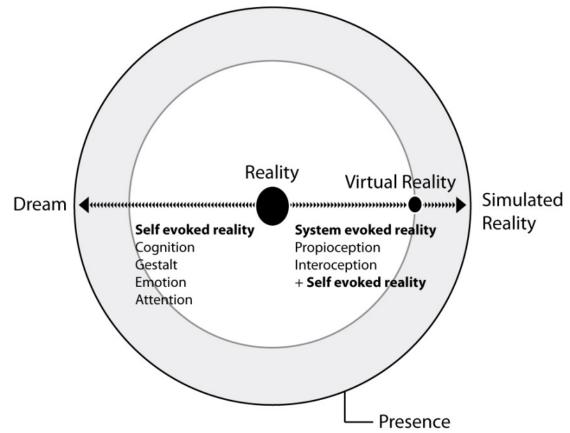
- Presence: "Being there" (Reeves, 1992; Slater, 1993)
- The user is somewhere other where he is physically (Slater)
- A perceptive illusion of a non mediation (Lombard & Ditton, 1997)
- A psychological state in which the virtually of experience is not perceived

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## **Presence & Emotions? Presence & emotions**

Why presence lead to emotion?



## **Presence & Emotions? Presence & emotions**

- Presence increase with emotions induction
  - For Anxiety as for relaxation and neutral EVs
- Immersion without emotion = surprise effect (Bouvier, 2009)
- Emotions allow user to ignore real world and focus on VR and Video Game (Y. Wang, 2006)
- Emotion create presence and presence create emotion (Bouvier, 2009)

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#### **Presence & Emotions? Measurements**

- Five physiologic measurements methods
  - Cardiovascular measures (Dillon, 2000)
  - SCL Skin Conductance Level
  - EGG Electroencephalography
  - Eye measures (Laarni 2003)
  - EMG Facial Activity

- Presence measurements
- = emotions measurements



## **Presence & Emotions? Measurements**

- 28 Presence questionnaires (W.Joy & V. Baren, 2004)
  - Sensitivity
  - Robustness
  - Non-intrusive
  - Comfort
  - Internal consistency reliability

#### **Presence & Emotions? Measurements**

- BIP Break In Presence Measurements (Slater, 2000)
- The BAAM BIPs And Attention Measure (Geslin, 2011)



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#### **Presence & Emotions? Attention**

- Attention whether spontaneous or deliberate captive cognition and emotions (Laarni, 2003) (Ravaja, 2002)
- Gestalt theory of perception
- The meaning to connect to reality is attention (Perls, 2001)
- Two kinds of attention
  - Voluntary attention
  - Involuntary attention
- Attention is an essential component of presence and emotions (Bouvier, 2009)

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  - Sadness induction
  - Empathy and compassion

# **Emotions induction in VG & VR / Surprise**

- Surprise a basic emotion? (Ekman) (Johnson-Laird, 1992)
- Surprise is an emotional vector
- The degree of novelty is crucial to the emotional level (Finkenauer & al, 1998)
- Technological surprise
- Dramatic surprise (Aristotle)

# Method of induction of emotion in video game and VR

- The surprise as a emotional vector
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- Two kind of Fear:
- Basic Fear, Thalamus Amygdala Hippocampi (Smith , 1985)
  - Sensorial surprise
  - Sound as a SC Stimulus Conditional (A. Damasio, 1995)
     (Amnesia 2012) (Pavlov, 1963)

- Cognitive Fear, Thalamus Neo-cortex (Ledoux, 2005)
  - Induced by narrative
  - Hostile environmental conditions
  - Irrational situations
  - Uncontrollable and unavoidable situations (Öhman, 2000)
- This conscious fear is reduced by high levels of oxytocin hormone generate by empathy and sexual desire (Gale, 2009)

- Fear is induced by:
  - Dimorphism (N.Girardon, 2011)
  - Nosophobia (Perret, 2000)
  - The Monster is a catalyst of fear (Perron, 2005)
  - Fear of the unknown, brain is constantly looking at appraisals to assess our environment (R. Lazarus, 1984) (Scherer, 1984, 1988)
  - The emotional mimicry (A.R. Damasio, 1995)

- Fear is induced by: the Finitude and Death
  - The fear of death (Goleman, 1995)
  - Repetitive mode of death in the video game created anxiety no fear (Oury, 2008)
  - Higher cortical functions are inhibited by addictive routine (Jandrok, 2011)
  - These emotions are based of anxiety no fear
  - These emotions are little memory
  - We must reconnect with fear pleasure (Lacan, 1986)(Flahaut, 1993)
  - We need to reconnect with the finitude

# Method of induction of emotion in video game and VR

- The surprise as a emotional vector
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- Anger is a basic and universal emotion (Ekman, 2003)
- A self supply characteristic "Anger feeds on anger" (Goleman, 1995)
- Anger is stronger when it follow an emotional overflow (Zilmann, 1993)
- Anger can be induced in furious battle for survival
- Anger increased by a desire for revenge (Aristotle)
- Anger is often the result of the mark of contempt (Spinoza)

# Method of induction of emotion in video game and VR

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# **Emotions induction in VG & VR / Disgust**

- Emotional avoidance mechanism
- Avoid spoiled food
- Avoid social and psychological degrading situations (Sherman, 2011)
- Mirror neuron system particularly active (Keysers, 2001)
- Emotional mimicry and survival of the group
- The insula activation: (Wicker, 2003)
  - Bad taste
  - Bad smell
  - Visual recognition of emotion

# Method of induction of emotion in video game and VR

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- A basic emotion arousal (Ekman, 2007) (Russel, 1980)
- One of the three fundamentals affects (Spinoza)
- Joyce is defined as accomplishment
- Two type of Joyce:
  - Primitive survivor strategy, avoid disagreement
  - Joyce is a consequence of the creation act

- Joyce can be induced by:
- The realization of complexes objectives
- The opposition of other emotion
- The mimicry neuronal strategy
- Links with nostalgia

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## **Emotions induction in VG & VR / Sadness**

- Sadness is one of the basic emotion (Ekman)
- Sadness is a coping mechanism
- It's a emotional pain associated by feeling disadvantage, loss, helplessness, despair and sorrow (Goleman, 1995)
- Sadness is a ontogeny emotion, need to be learn during childhood (R. Skynner & J. Cleese, 1993)
- Sadness can be induce by:
- Mimicry
- Pupil empathy (Harrison & al, 2006)(Harrison & al, 2007)
- Sadness induction by the loss

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# **Emotions induction in VG & VR / Empathy**

- Empathy is a complex social emotion (Russel)
- It's a modern concept to describe emotional relation between people (R. Vischer)
- The way to understand and feel the emotion of others
  - Put themselves in the place of (W.Ditley)
- Two kind of empathy:
  - Emotional empathy
  - Cognitive empathy
- Empathy isn't emotional contagion
- In neuroscience, empathy is capacity to share distress

# **Emotions induction in VG & VR / Empathy**

- Empathy can be induce by:
- Dramaturgy
- Observation by the role of mirror neuron in Broca area
- In video game and VR:
  - First Person view: observation of pain (Quake4)
  - Third view: The other isn't an avatar, but a familiar (Sims, League Of Legend)
- FPS and Simulation: The others isn't a robots, he feel and express pain and sadness as Joyce

To conclude...

- Emotion are universal, they contribute to our survival
- Emotion are basic and complex
- Basic emotion are more reflexives and animal
- Complex emotions ate the essence of our human nature
- Emotional intelligence develop complex emotion comprehension
- The emotions enable better memory and awareness by presence
- Presence increases attention and emotional attachment to the VE and the game product

- Emotions can be induced by:
- Dramaturgy
- Conditional Stimuli
- Novelty
- Technology
- Sound
- Environments

- Monsters
- Finitude
- Objective
- Mimicry
- Nostalgia
- Loss
- Observation

- Induction of basic and complex emotions is a challenge for the near future in video game as in VR
- To increase addiction.
- Not sensory and reflective addiction, but emotional and affective.
- To live more beautiful story, not just during a part time game.

# Thank you!

Erik Geslin

http://www.erikges.com

Erik.geslin@gmail.com

Twitter: Erikges

Thanks

And feel free to say hello or get in touch via email/twitter

