Program Verification and Synthesis for Collaborative Robots

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The goal of this project is to investigate novel techniques for programming human-robot interactions by bridging concepts from robotics, human-robot interaction, and programming languages.

Authoring Social Robots

Challenge: Robots must adhere to social and behavioral conventions.

Solution: program verification, program repair, and program synthesis interfaces



Verification of Social Norms



Repair from End-User Feedback



Synthesis from Tangible Demonstrations



Synthesis from Role-Playing Demonstrations

Scientific Impact

Developing novel paradigms for programming using state-of-the-art computational methods

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CoFrame / Cobot TAP **Challenge**: Usage of robots by novice programmers in a way that support complex and safe collaborations with robots.

Solution: interfaces for rapid and simple programming and programming with feedback



Programming robot behavior in situ



Created an instruction system for teaching novices to think like experts while creating a program



Translated a model of robot programming expertise into a set of feedback types.



Solve the task with the robot



Program feedback identifies issues such as pinch points and provide visualizations while novice works.

Broader Impact - Societal Making robot programming accessible to the broader public and lowering barriers to engagement in technology development

Challenge: Allowing caregivers to program care robots to assist with day-to-day tasks and interact with individual residents.

Solution: design study to find opportunities for programming care robots









Care Robot Programming

Managing different levels of task prioritization based on urgency

Broader Impact - Outreach



Grandparents University, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2019

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