AFFECTIVE INTELLIGENT DRIVING AGENT (AIDA)

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It's impossible to imagine modern world without using motor cars. AIDA aims to change the way we interact with our car. MIT(Massachusetts Institute of Technology) researchers and designers are developing the Affective Intelligent Driving Agent (AIDA) - a new in-car personal robot that brings a revolution to life of all motor-cars' users. The project is a collaboration between the Personal Robots Group at the MIT Media Lab, MIT's SENSEable City Lab and the Volkswagen Group of America's Electronics Research Lab.With the ubiquity of sensors and mobile computers, information about our surroundings is ever abundant. First and foremost AIDA embodies a new effort to make sense of these great amounts of data, harnessing our personal electronic devices as tools for behavioral support. Technicians are developing AIDA to read the driver's mood from facial expression and other cues and respond in a socially appropriate and informative way. AIDA communicates in a very immediate way: with the seamlessness of a smile or the blink of an eye. Over time, the project envisions develop as a kind of symbiotic relationship between the driver and AIDA, whereby both parties learn from each other and establish an affective bond. To identify the set of goals the driver would like to achieve, AIDA analyses the driver's mobility patterns, keeping track of common routes and destinations. Secondly AIDA draws on an understanding of the city beyond what can be seen through the windshield, incorporating real-time event information and knowledge of environmental conditions, as well as commercial activity, tourist attractions, and residential areas. When it merges knowledge about the city with an understanding of the driver's priorities and needs, AIDA can make important inferences. Within a week AIDA will be able to figure out your home and work location. Soon afterwards the system will be able to direct you to your preferred grocery store, suggesting a route that avoids a street fair-induced traffic jam.