

Digital Human that Errs for Usability Test

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Virtual user model that operates machine spontaneously and makes errors is now developing as a novel usability test method. Conventional estimation methods of usability of artifacts have difficulties on practicability. Experiment with real-human subjects takes money and time. Also, most of conventional 'user model' do not simulate process of error emergence and recovery from error. Our Digital Human That Errs (DHTE) model makes error like humans and tries recovering, so that plausible user behavior can be obtained. Since characteristic of DHTE is controllable, weak points of machine can be detected with fewer simulations by reducing abilities of DHTE.



DHTE virtual user in action

Operation of AIST Super Cluster Started

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"AIST Super Cluster" with the top aggregate computing performance among clusters in Japan, 14.6 TFLOPS, put into operation. It has more than 3000 processors, 9.6 TB main memory capacity and 803TB storage, and is based on a Linux operating system. It consists of three cluster subsystems, "P-32", "M-64" and "F-32", as well as 20 TB storage subsystem. These subsystems are interconnected through 10giga-bit Ethernet.

The AIST Super Cluster will be used in nano-technology, bioinformatics and other research fields. It serves as the core system for inter-field and international research promotion and cooperation between industries, academy and government based on Grid technology.



AIST Super Cluster