
Contents

Introduction	ix
List of Algorithms	xi
Chapter 1. Systems and their Design	1
1.1. Modeling systems	1
1.1.1. Conventional systems	2
1.1.2. Complex systems	3
1.1.3. System of systems	3
1.2. Autonomous systems	5
1.3. Agents and multi-agent systems	6
1.3.1. The weak notion of agent	7
1.3.2. The strong notion of agent	7
1.3.3. Cognitive agents and reactive agents	8
1.3.4. Multi-agent systems	9
1.3.5. Reactive agent-based MAS	10
1.3.6. Cognitive agent-based MAS	11
1.4. Systems and organisms	13
1.5. The issue of modeling an autonomous system	13
Chapter 2. The Global Architecture of an Autonomous System	17
2.1. Introduction	17
2.2. Reactivity of a system	17
2.3. The basic structure of an autonomous system: the substratum	18
2.3.1. A detailed example: smoothing the flow of urban traffic	20

2.4. The membrane of autonomous systems	22
2.4.1. Membrane and information	25
2.5. Two types of proactivity and the notion of artificial organ	26
2.5.1. Weak proactivity	26
2.5.2. Strong proactivity	27
2.5.3. Measuring proactivity with dynamic graphs	30
2.6. Autonomy and current representation	31
2.6.1. Current representation in an autonomous system	32
2.7. The unifying system that generates representations	33
Chapter 3. Designing a Multi-agent Autonomous System	41
3.1. Introduction	41
3.2. The object layer on the substratum	41
3.3. The agent representation of the substratum: interface agents, organs and the notion of sensitivity	44
3.3.1. Artificial organs	46
3.3.2. Sensitivity of the corporeity	47
3.4. The interpretation system and the conception agents	47
3.4.1. The properties of a conception agent in the interpretation system	49
3.4.2. An example	52
3.4.3. Creating a conception agent	57
3.5. Aggregates of conception agents	58
3.6. The intent and the activity of conception agents	60
3.7. Agentifying conception agents	63
3.8. Activity of a conception agent	65
3.9. The three layers of conceptual agentification and the role of control	70
3.9.1. First guiding principle for the architecture of an autonomous system	74
3.10. Semantic lattices and the emergence of representations in the interpretation system	77
3.11. The general architecture of the interpretation system	84
3.12. Agentification of knowledge and organizational memory	86
3.13. Setting up the membrane network of an autonomous system	94
3.14. Behavioral learning of the autonomous system	96

Chapter 4. Generation of Current Representation and Tendencies	105
4.1. Introduction	105
4.2. Generation of current representation and semantic lattices	105
4.2.1. Openness and deployment: major properties of autonomous systems	106
4.2.2. Incentive-based control and evaluation agents	107
4.2.3. Evaluation agents' access to organizational memory	110
4.2.4. The role of evaluation agents in the extracted lattice	110
4.2.5. The notion of dynamic lattices	110
4.2.6. Algorithms for generating representations	111
4.2.7. Mathematical interpretation	115
4.3. The cause leading the system to choose a concrete intent	116
4.3.1. Determination of intent	118
4.3.2. Intent and tendencies	120
4.4. Presentation of artificial tendencies	123
4.5. Algorithm for the generation of a stream of representations under tendencies	134
Chapter 5. The Notions of Point of View, Intent and Organizational Memory	137
5.1. Introduction	137
5.2. The notion of point of view in the generation of representations	137
5.3. Three organizational principles of the interpretation system for leading the intent	144
5.3.1. Principle of continuity engagement	145
5.3.2. The bifurcation principle	146
5.3.3. The principle of necessary reason and reliability	147
5.4. Algorithms for intent decisions	147
5.6. Organizational memory and the representation of artificial life experiences	151
5.7. Effective autonomy and the role of the modulation component	156
5.8. Degree of organizational freedom	159
Chapter 6. Towards the Minimal Self of an Autonomous System	161
6.1. Introduction	161
6.2. The need for tendencies when leading the system	161

6.3. Needs and desires of the autonomous system	164
6.4. A scaled-down autonomous system: the artificial proto-self	168
6.5. The internal choice of expressed tendencies and the minimal self	171
6.6. The incentive to produce representations	176
6.7. Minimal self affectivity: emotions and sensations	179
6.8. Algorithms for tendency activation	182
6.9. The feeling of generating representations	188
Chapter 7. Global Autonomy of Distributed Autonomous Systems	197
7.1. Introduction	197
7.2. Enhancement of an autonomous system by itself	197
7.3. Communication among autonomous systems in view of their union	201
7.4. The autonomous meta-system composed of autonomous systems	204
7.5. The system generating autonomous systems: the meta-level of artificial living	207
Conclusion	211
Bibliography	213
Index	215