

6.803/6.833 The Human Intelligence Enterprise
Prof. Patrick H. Winston
Assignment: Trip Report

Paper

Larson, Stephen D.. "Intrinsic Representation: Bootstrapping Symbols From Experience." In *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* 3060. New York, NY: Springer, 2004, pp. 202-216. ISBN: 3540220046.

Winston's Reading time: 35 minutes

Supplement

The following is the MEng thesis on which the paper, with the same title, was based. The thesis includes a description of the algorithms uses in map adjustment, growing, clustering, and cross-domain cluster association.

Larson, Stephen D. "Intrinsic Representation: Bootstrapping Symbols From Experience." MEng Thesis, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2003.

Assignment

On a total of one side of one sheet of paper, using 10 pt type or larger, with standard interline spacing and margins, respond to all the following.

Imagine that you are a graduate student working in Artificial Intelligence at MIT. Your research supervisor, , Patrick Winston, says, roughly, "I would like you to go to this conference on symbol grounding to see what this stuff is all about. Put together a little trip report for me when you get back." Because the conference is to be held in Sveti Stefan, a beautiful medieval town, converted into a resort, on the Adriatic Sea, you instantly agree.

Unfortunately, the talks are boring beyond description, except for Larson's, which closely followed the content of the material in his paper.

- Produce the requested trip report. Start with something like "The conference involved little of interest, except for the paper presented by Larson..." Use what you have learned about presentation in the way you structure your report.

Note: I happened to be the thesis supervisor for the work reported, but you are to ignore that connection.

Update: On finishing his MEng thesis, Larson went to work in Wall Street, at Morgan Stanley, but two years later, in 2005, he went back to graduate school at UCSD, where he is in a neuroscience graduate program.