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Topic Management for an Engaging Conversational Agent

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Highlights

- A topic manager for a conversational virtual agent is proposed to favour the user's engagement in human-agent interaction.
- The system reasons about what topic to introduce, when and how, based upon the users engagement, the agent's mental state including its preferences and associations, and the dialogue history.
- The topic manager adapts the topics of the interaction on the fly to any user, without pre-entering information about the user.
- Third-party human observers perceive the actions of the topic manager in the way they are modelled.

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