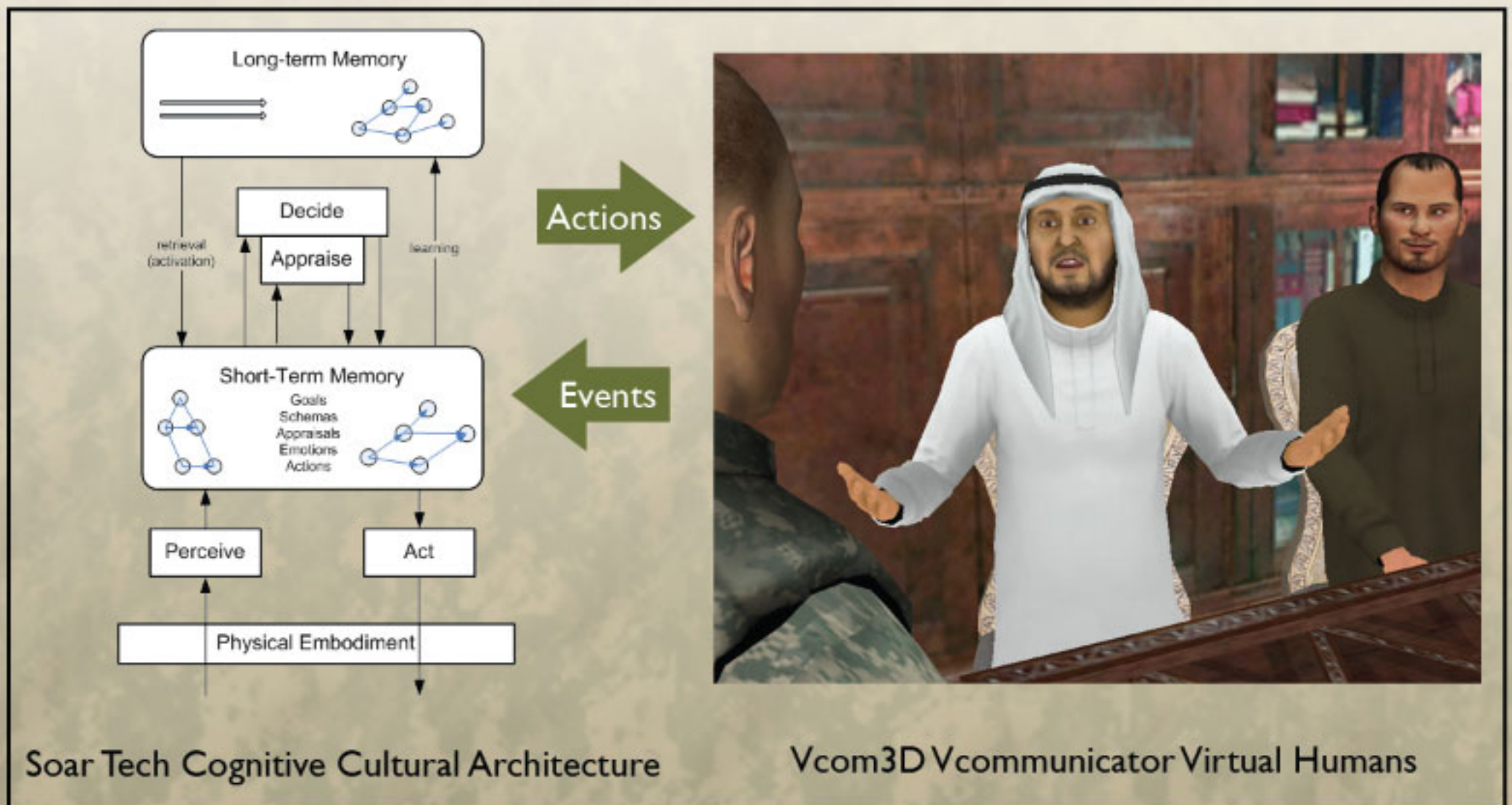


# Cognitive Cultural Avatars for Training and Mission Rehearsal

Human, Social, Cultural and Behavior (HSCB) Modeling are becoming important tools that support the Warfighter's operational and training needs. Many missions across the full spectrum of conflict require the ability to identify local populations' needs and intentions, and to successfully interpret, influence or direct their actions. To enable successful interviews, rapport building, and negotiations, it is important to understand the values and norms of different cultures. It is also important to recognize and use culture-specific non-verbal cues of gesture, facial expressions, and body language.

Supported by an OSD-Army Research Institute Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and by OSD's Human, Social, Cultural and Behavior Modeling Program, Vcom3D has integrated Vcommunicator® Virtual Humans with Soar Technology's Cognitive Cultural Architecture. The result is avatars that model the culturally-influenced cognitive and physical behaviors that a Warfighter might experience in face-to-face interactions with persons from a non-Western culture. This integrated system, delivered as single or multi-user interactive simulations, forms the basis for a new and exciting form of authentic, experiential learning.



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