

In forensics, communication analysis examines a communicative event through different communication principles. In January 2023, the chess world was astounded by the introduction of Mittens, a kitten bot on Chess.com, created by Will Whalen, a 23-year-old world politics student. Mittens, unlike traditional chess AIs, offered a unique blend of charming interaction and competitive gameplay, leading to widespread attention and engagement within the chess community. In this presentation, Seid Orazgulyyev explores the success of Mittens through the lens of Judee Burgoon's Expectancy Violation Theory (EVT), which posits that unexpected behaviors in communication can significantly impact the receiver's perception and engagement. By examining the variables of expectancy, violation valence, and communicator reward valence, the study delves into how Mittens' quirky communication style and unpredictable strength challenged and exceeded players' expectations.