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Discussion on Three Accounts and Mindless social responses to robots

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Discussion on Three Accounts and Mindless social responses to robots
by [Bo Cao](#) - Monday, February 13, 2017, 12:58 AM

To me the first paper sounds more like a discussion rather than simply drawing a conclusion to what design is. In terms of three accounts mentioned, in the paper it mentioned they were "competing", would it be possible for some of the design activities falling into two of these accounts? Like Conservative vs Romantic account, which are seen as contrary to each other. Take Apple's products for instance, they are considered as innovative(Romantic account) products in the industry, but when it comes to testing hardware, one article (<https://www.myzaker.com/article/584801fb9490cb0209000000e/>) mentioned that in order to design the flexible cord(FPC), Apple contacted a FPC manufacturer to produce 2000 cords to find the best one. If not found in these 2000 cords, they planned to produce another 2000 cords as well. Obviously this is not the Romantic account of design, but a way to follow requirements specification - Conservative account.

The methodologies mentioned in Conservative Account was similar to the "top-down", "bottom-up" approach in Computer Science, which were to solve problems by starting with the abstract concept from "top" to breaking it "down" to concrete smaller questions, and addressing small feasible problems first, and then combine these solutions in some way to address the whole problem respectively.

Regarding the second paper, I was curious how much new mindless social responses research results from humans to robots can be found, since robots can provide more social cues (gender, ethnicity and so forth) than purely computers, both from the external(appearance, behaviors) and internal(cognitive modal).

When it comes to self-disclosure, in my experience, computers are regarded as a tool, or a channel to convey these information, people disclose different level of intimacy of information on various social media (facebook vs snapchat) depending on the audiences. For instance, would children be more likely to tell their secret to their bed-toys?