

Supplementary Material: Calling for Backup: How Children Navigate Successive Robot Communication Failures

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1 Video List

Table 1 displays sources and metadata on the videos shown to the participants.

Table 1. Video dataset. H: Human, R: Robot, the main actor in the video.

| Description | Source | Video Type | Failure Time |
|--|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Human crashes into a Christmas tree on a hover board | OOPs Dataset | Failure (H) | 5s |
| Human crashes into inventory with fork lift | Youtube | Failure (H) | 6s |
| Robotic arm placing pieces on top of one another | Youtube | Failure (R) | 8s |
| Humanoid robot losing balance while standing | Youtube | Failure (R) | 17s |
| Robot climbs down a staircase | Youtube | Control (R) | |
| Human avoids being drenched in water from a wave | Youtube | Control (H) | |

2 Codebook

Table 2 displays the codes used for annotating the successive error dataset. Annotations were created using ELAN¹.

3 Robot Perception Questions

Table 3 presents the results of the Mann-Whitney U tests for each questionnaire dimension. After applying Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons ($\alpha = 0.01$), none of the five questionnaire items showed statistically significant differences between conditions.

Additionally, Table 4 shows the results of Wilcoxon signed-rank tests examining pre-post changes across all participants regardless of condition. These analyses revealed no significant changes in any perception dimension from pre- to post-interaction.

Table 3. Mann-Whitney U test results comparing perception changes between interruption and control conditions.

| Dimension | U Statistic | p-value | p-corrected | Significant |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Willingness to interact | 398.0 | 0.095 | 0.476 | No |
| Competence | 313.0 | 0.522 | 1.000 | No |
| Trust | 301.0 | 0.317 | 1.000 | No |
| Social acceptance | 340.0 | 0.958 | 1.000 | No |
| Likeability | 345.0 | 0.846 | 1.000 | No |

4 Error Codes

Table 5 shows behavior codes across all three errors in the performance error stage.

¹<https://archive.mpi.nl/tla/elan>

Table 2. Codebook used for annotation of successive error dataset. Colors represent coding categories: reprompting strategies (blue), verbal tone changes (green), emotional displays (red), and disengagement behaviors (purple).

| Code | Definition | Examples |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| repeats prompt | participant repeats the exact same prompt as previously given | "Call the researcher" followed by "Call the researcher" again |
| more specific / longer prompt | participant's prompt included more words and description than the previous prompt (exclude filler words) | previous prompt: " Call the researcher"; current prompt: "Can you call the researcher?" |
| swaps terms in a prompt | participant's prompt has same meaning as the previous prompt but some words are substituted with similar meaning words | previous prompt: "Call the researcher"; current prompt: "Get the researcher" |
| simpler prompt | participant's prompt included less words and/or syllables than the previous prompt | previous prompt: "Can you call the researcher"; current prompt: "Call researcher" |
| makes new prompt | participant creates an entirely different prompt with new phrasing or approach | previous prompt: "Call the researcher"; current prompt: "I need help" |
| 'please' | participant adds "please" to their prompt | "Please call the researcher" |
| slower speech | participant's prompt was spoken slower or choppier than the previous prompt | previous prompt: "Call the researcher"; current prompt: "Call... the... researcher" |
| demanding tone | participant's prompt was directed at Nodbot and was spoken louder or more forcefully | |
| interrogative tone | participant's prompt has rising intonation (ends with a higher pitch) | "Call the researcher?" |
| filler words | participant uses filler words at the beginning of prompt | "Oh... call the researcher" |
| assertive tone | participant speaks with confidence and authority | "Um... can you call the researcher" |
| moves closer to robot | participant physically moves closer to Nodbot while speaking | |
| amusement / humor | smile, chuckle, speaking to Nodbot with humor | |
| frustration | frown, pursed lips, scrunched face, clenched jaw, utterance, sigh, eye-rolling, annoyed, glaring, looking away quickly | |
| confusion | awkward smile (corners of lips pulled to side), head tilt, furrowed or raised eyebrow, darting or widened eyes, looking up and rightward, staring at camera, looking around room | |
| stands up | participant rises from their seat | |
| leaves room | participant exits the experimental room | |
| quitting | participant stops interacting with Nodbot | |
| looks for researcher | participant looks around room searching for the researcher or calls the researcher directly | |
| no prompt | participant does not give any prompt to the robot during the interaction | |

Table 4. Wilcoxon signed-rank test results for pre-post perception changes across all participants (N = 52).

| Dimension | Mean Difference | p-value | p-corrected | Significant |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Willingness to interact | -0.038 | 0.564 | 1.000 | No |
| Competence | +0.038 | 0.405 | 1.000 | No |
| Trust | +0.019 | 0.739 | 1.000 | No |
| Social acceptance | -0.077 | 0.405 | 1.000 | No |
| Likeability | +0.058 | 0.454 | 1.000 | No |

Table 5. Error Annotations by Error Type.

| ERROR I (total 150) | ERROR II (total 127) | ERROR III (total 148) | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----|-----------------------------|----|
| repeats prompt | 24 | no prompt | 22 | frustration | 15 |
| looks at robot | 22 | looks at robot | 13 | repeats prompt | 14 |
| slower speech | 13 | repeats prompt | 13 | no prompt | 14 |
| more specific/longer prompt | 12 | looks for researcher | 12 | looks at robot | 13 |
| confusion | 11 | looks at PC | 12 | looks at PC | 10 |
| looks at PC | 11 | confusion | 8 | simpler prompt | 10 |
| demanding tone | 9 | demanding tone | 7 | confusion | 9 |
| looks for researcher | 8 | slower speech | 6 | demanding tone | 9 |
| no prompt | 8 | frustration | 6 | looks for researcher | 9 |
| moves closer to robot | 7 | simpler prompt | 6 | slower speech | 8 |
| filler words | 5 | more specific/longer prompt | 6 | more specific/longer prompt | 7 |
| interrogative tone | 5 | quitting | 4 | moves closer to robot | 6 |
| amusement/humor | 4 | amusement/humor | 3 | amusement/humor | 4 |
| 'please' | 3 | moves closer to robot | 3 | interrogative tone | 4 |
| makes new prompt | 2 | changes position | 2 | makes new prompt | 3 |
| simpler prompt | 2 | leaves room | 2 | filler words | 3 |
| changes position | 2 | filler words | 1 | quitting | 3 |
| stands up | 1 | swaps terms | 1 | 'please' | 3 |
| swaps terms | 1 | | | leaves room | 2 |
| | | | | changes position | 1 |
| | | | | assertive tone | 1 |