# **Robots for Learning**

Wafa Johal
CHILI/LSRO Labs
École Polytechnique Fédérale
Lausanne
Lausanne, Switzerland
wafa.johal@epfl.ch

Mirjam de Haas
Tilburg center for Cognition and
Computation
Tilburg University
Netherlands
mirjam.dehaas@uvt.nll

Paul Vogt
Tilburg center for Cognition
and Computation
Tilburg University
Netherlands
p.a.vogt@uvt.nl

Ana Paiva
IST
University of Lisbon
Portugal
ana.paiva@inesc-id.pt

James Kennedy
Centre for Robotics and
Neural Systems
Plymouth University
United-Kingdoms
james.kennedy@plymouth.ac.uk

Ginevra Castellano
Uppsala University
Sweden
ginevra.castellano@it.uu.se

#### **ABSTRACT**

An increasing amount of Human-Robot Interaction (HRI) research is focused on the development of social robot tutors. While robots have been popular as a tool for STEM teaching, the use of robots as tutors is novel. The field of HRI has started to report on how to make effective robot tutors. However, many challenges remain. For instance, what interaction strategies aid learning, and which hamper learning? How can we deal with the current technical limitations of robots? Answering these and other questions requires a multidisciplinary effort, including contributions from pedagogy, developmental psychology, (computational) linguistics, artificial intelligence and HRI, among others. This abstract provides an overview of the current state-of-the-art in robot tutors and describes the aims of the Robots for Learning (R4L) workshop in bringing together a multidisciplinary audience for furthering the development of marketready educational robots.

# **CCS Concepts**

### **Keywords**

Human-Robot Interaction, Robots in Education, Tutor Robots, Child-Robot Interaction

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Permission to make digital or hard copies of part or all of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page. Copyrights for third-party components of this work must be honored. For all other uses, contact the owner/author(s).

HRI '17 Companion March 06-09, 2017, Vienna, Austria © 2017 Copyright held by the owner/author(s).
ACM ISBN 978-1-4503-4885-0/17/03.
DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1145/3029798.3029801

#### 2. BACKGROUND

#### 3. OUTLINE OF THE WORKSHOP

The aim of this workshop is to engage scholars who wish to gain expertise in education and in robotics. Participants will benefit from hearing from the forefront of field and from discussions on how to move from fundamental research towards the development of market-ready educational robots.

#### 4. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to thank the Swiss National Science Foundation hrefhttp://www.nccr-robotics.ch/National Centre of Competence in Research Robotics, the EU H2020 L2TOR project (grant no. 688014)....

## 5. ADDITIONAL AUTHORS

Additional authors: Sandra Okita (Teachers College - Columbia University, United States, email: Okita@exchange.tc.columbia.ed Fumihide Tanaka (University of Tsukuba, Japan, email: tanaka@iit.tsukuba.ac.jp), Tony Belpaeme (Centre for Robotics and Neural Systems, Plymouth University, U.K. and Ghent University, email: tony.belpaeme@plymouth.ac.uk) and Pierre Dillenbourg (CHILI Lab, École Fédérale Polytechnique Lausanne, Switzerland, email: pierre.dillenbourg@epfl.ch).

## 6. REFERENCES