

16-867

Human Robot Interaction

Introduction

Instructor: Andrea Bajcsy

Welcome!

Professor



Andrea Bajcsy
(BYE-chee)

What to call me:

- Andrea (*if you are a grad student*)
- Prof. Bajcsy or Prof. B (*if you are undergrad*)

Office Location: NSH 4629

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 12:20-1:20pm (*after class*)

Email: abajcsy@cmu.edu

Teaching Assistant



Pranay Gupta, PhD Student

Research Interests:

- Assistive driving
- Shared control

Office Location: NSH 4504

Office Hours: Mondays, 4:00 - 5:00pm

Email: pranaygu@andrew.cmu.edu

What is next?

Course Content

Logistics

Intro Survey

(Intro to Single-Agent Decision Making)

Round of Introductions

Name

Department

Year (Masters, PhD, ...)

Research Interests

*What makes human-robot interaction
different from “typical” robotics?*



Small group activity (5 min)

Turn to your neighbor, introduce yourself, and discuss:

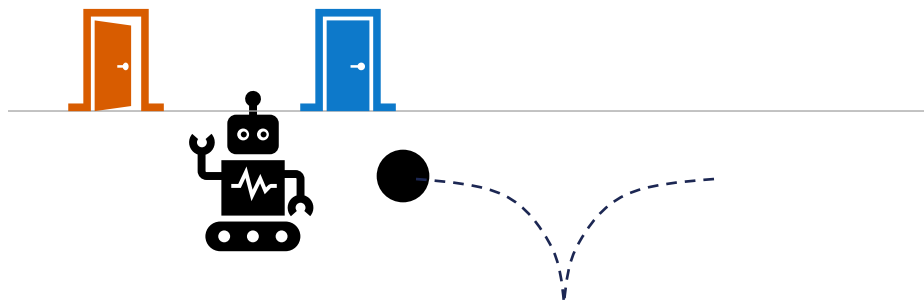
What makes human-robot interaction different from “typical” robotics?



vs.

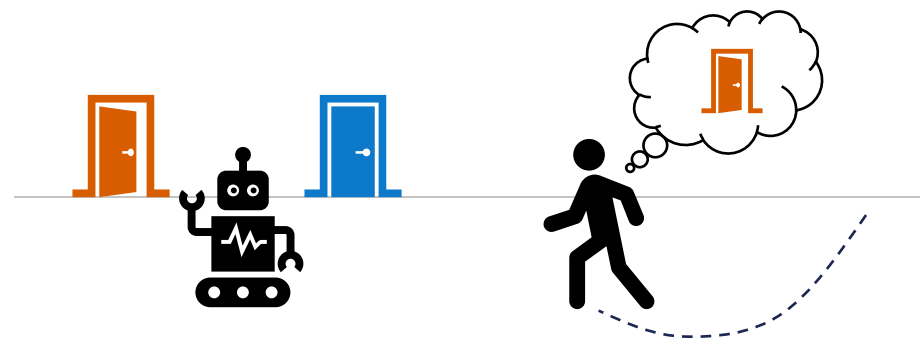


Interaction



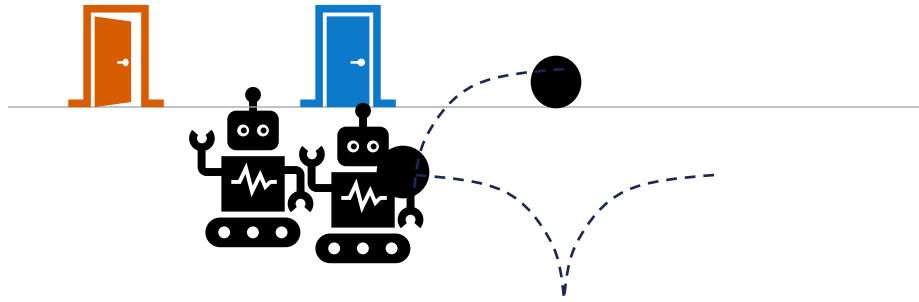
Environment driven by laws
of physics

Human Interaction



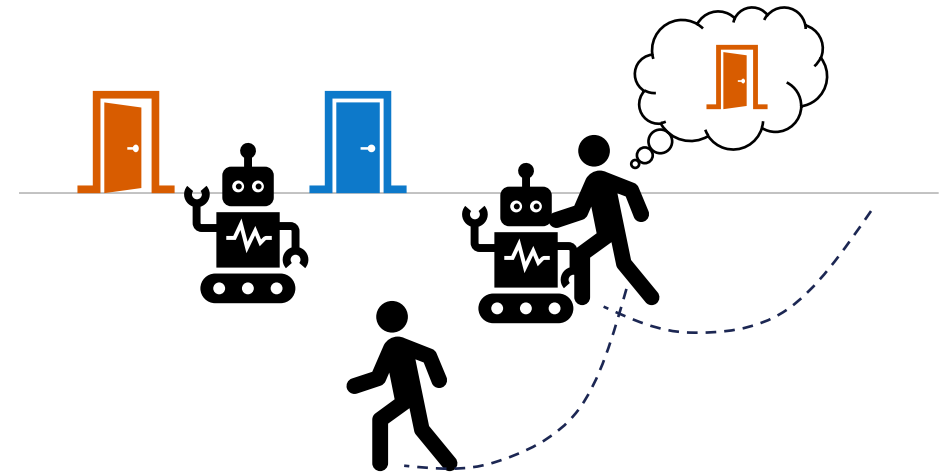
Human driven by physics and hidden
internal objectives

Interaction



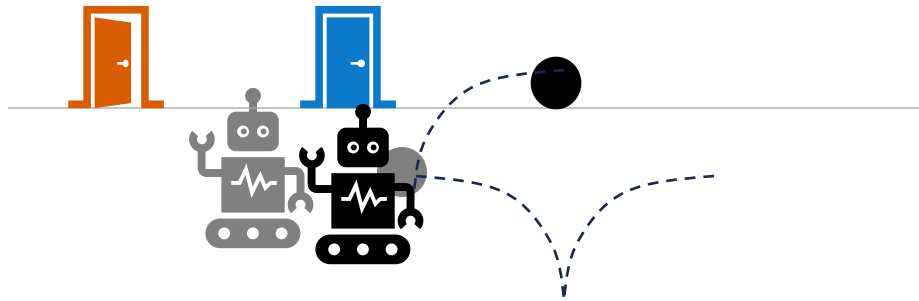
Environment can *be influenced* by
robot's actions **directly**

Human Interaction



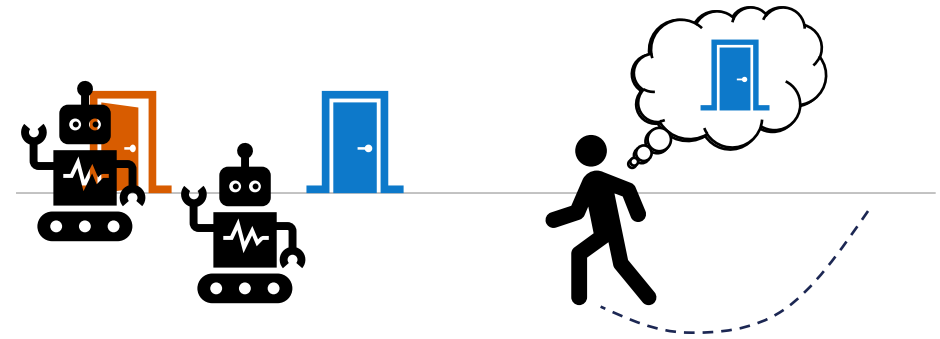
Human can *be influenced* by the robot's
actions **directly....**

Interaction



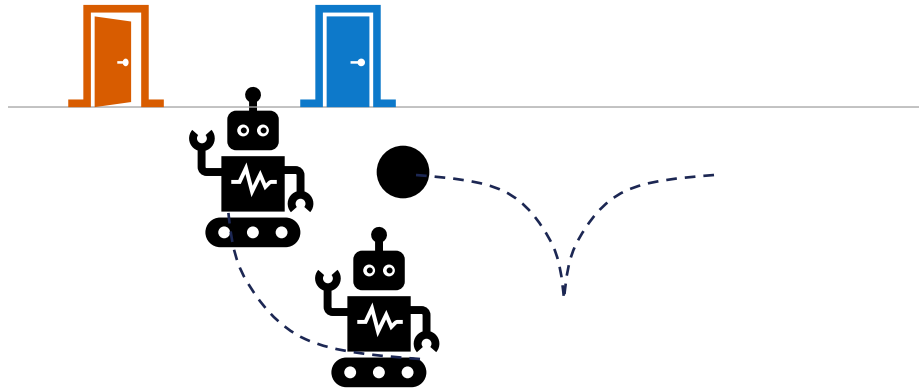
Environment can *be influenced* by
robot's actions **directly**

Human Interaction



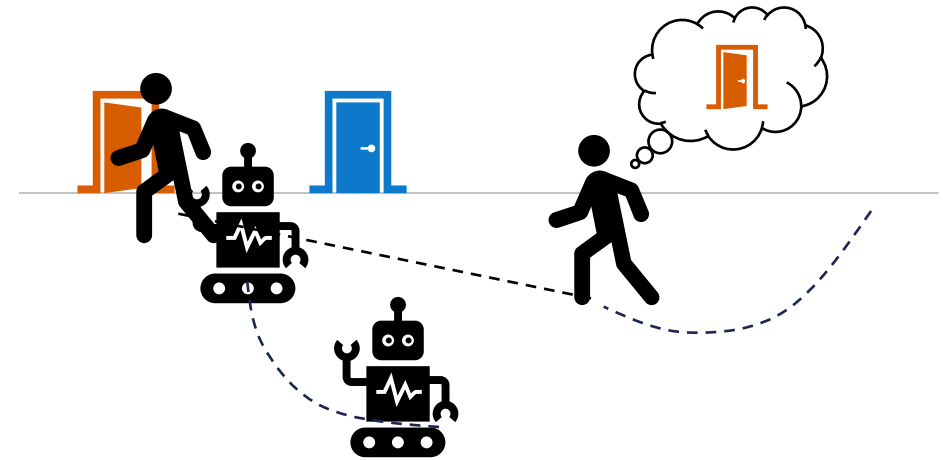
Human can *be influenced* by the robot's
actions and **indirectly**

Interaction



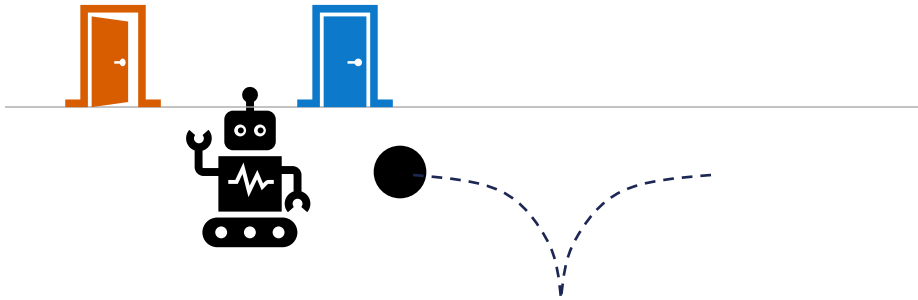
Environment can *influence* the robot's actions **indirectly**

Human Interaction



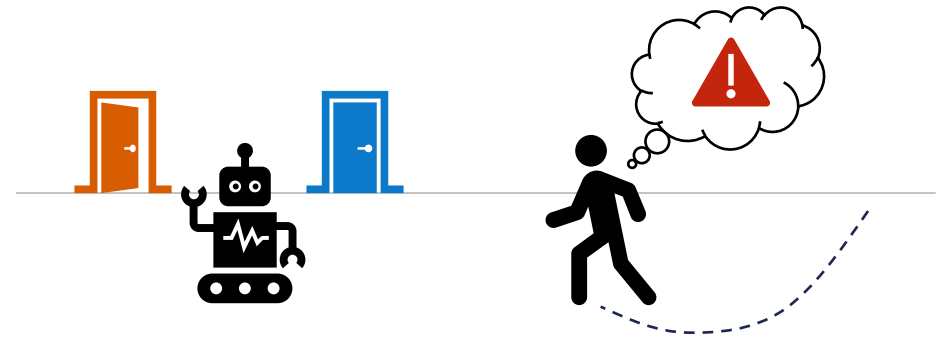
Human can *influence* the robot's behavior **directly or indirectly**

Interaction



“Environment” is not a stakeholder

Human Interaction



Human is a stakeholder! (e.g., wants to derive value from robot)

But this seems really hard to encode into
our algorithms...



Where are people interacting with advanced autonomy the *most* right now?

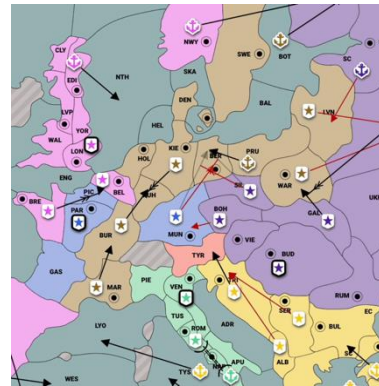


Exciting time for *interactive* Artificial Intelligence!

AlphaGo



CICERO



AI masters Diplomacy

The game *Diplomacy* has been a major challenge for artificial intelligence (AI). Unlike other competitive games that AI has recently mastered, such as chess, Go, and poker, *Diplomacy* cannot be solved purely through self-play: it requires the de-

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ChatGPT

2016

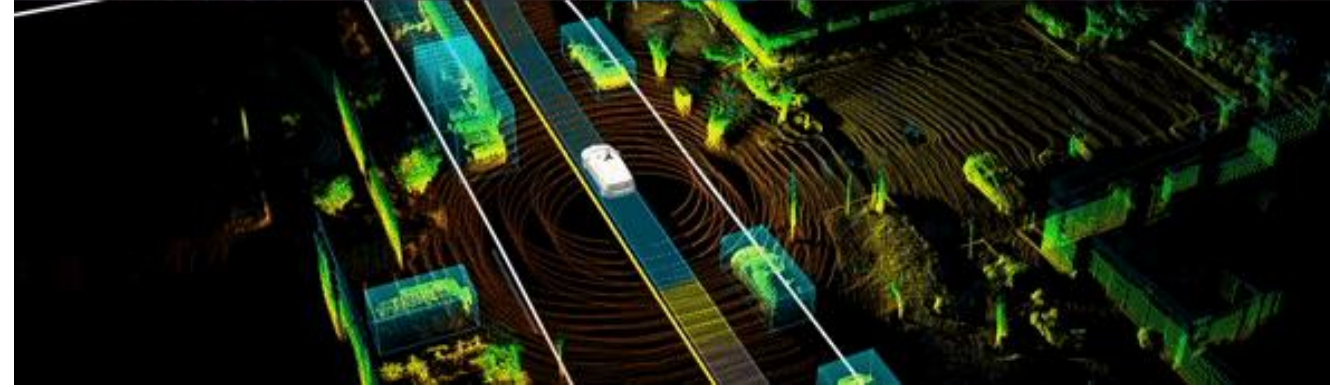
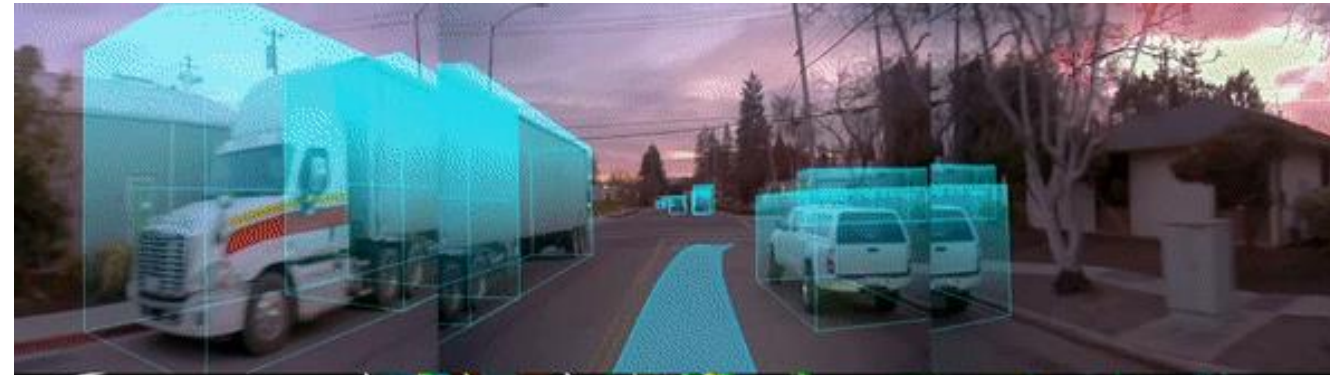
2022

today

But where are the interactive **robots**?



How do robots interact with people today?



How do robots interact with people today?



How do robots interact with people today?



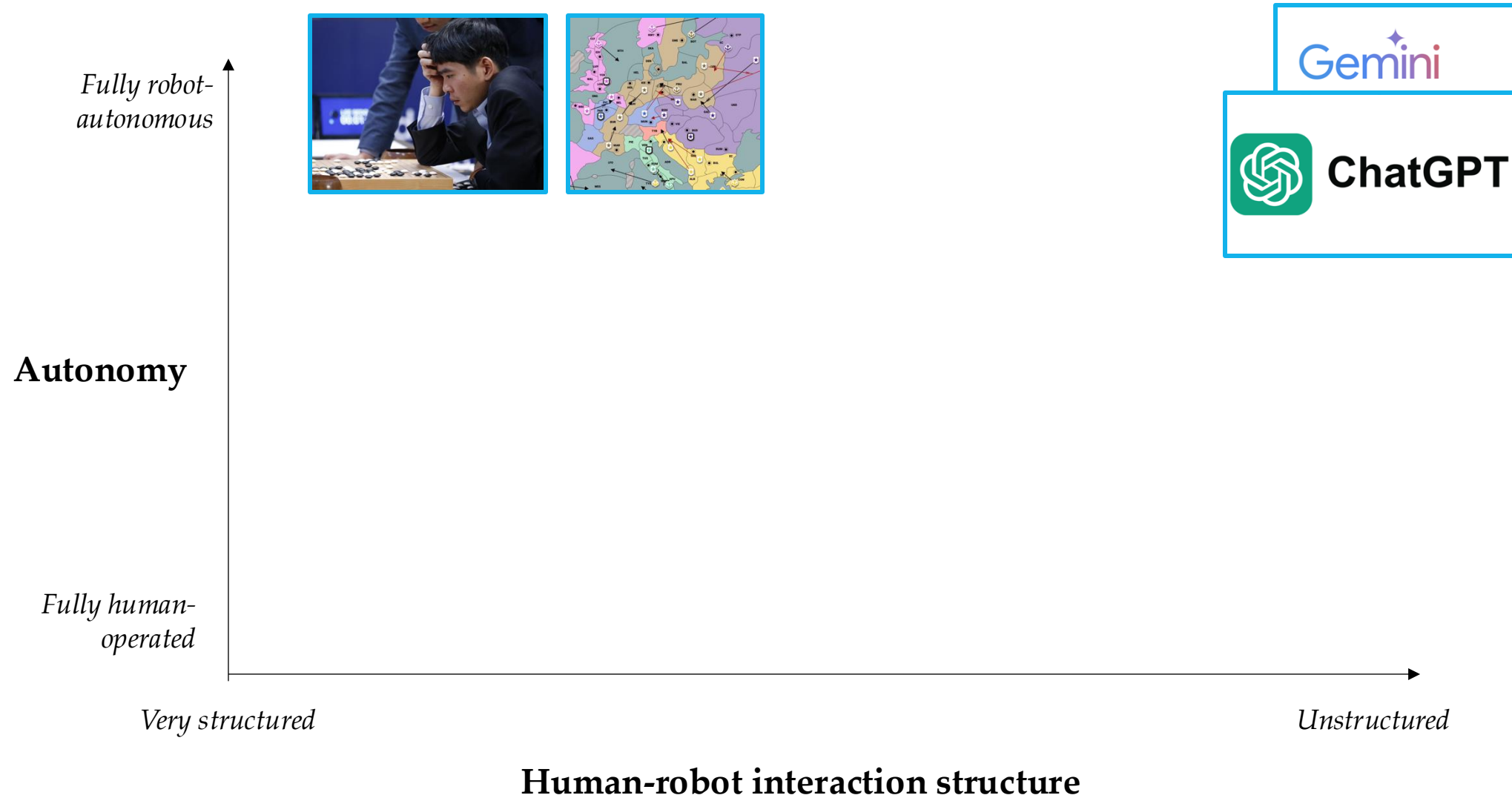
How do robots interact with people today?



hello robot™

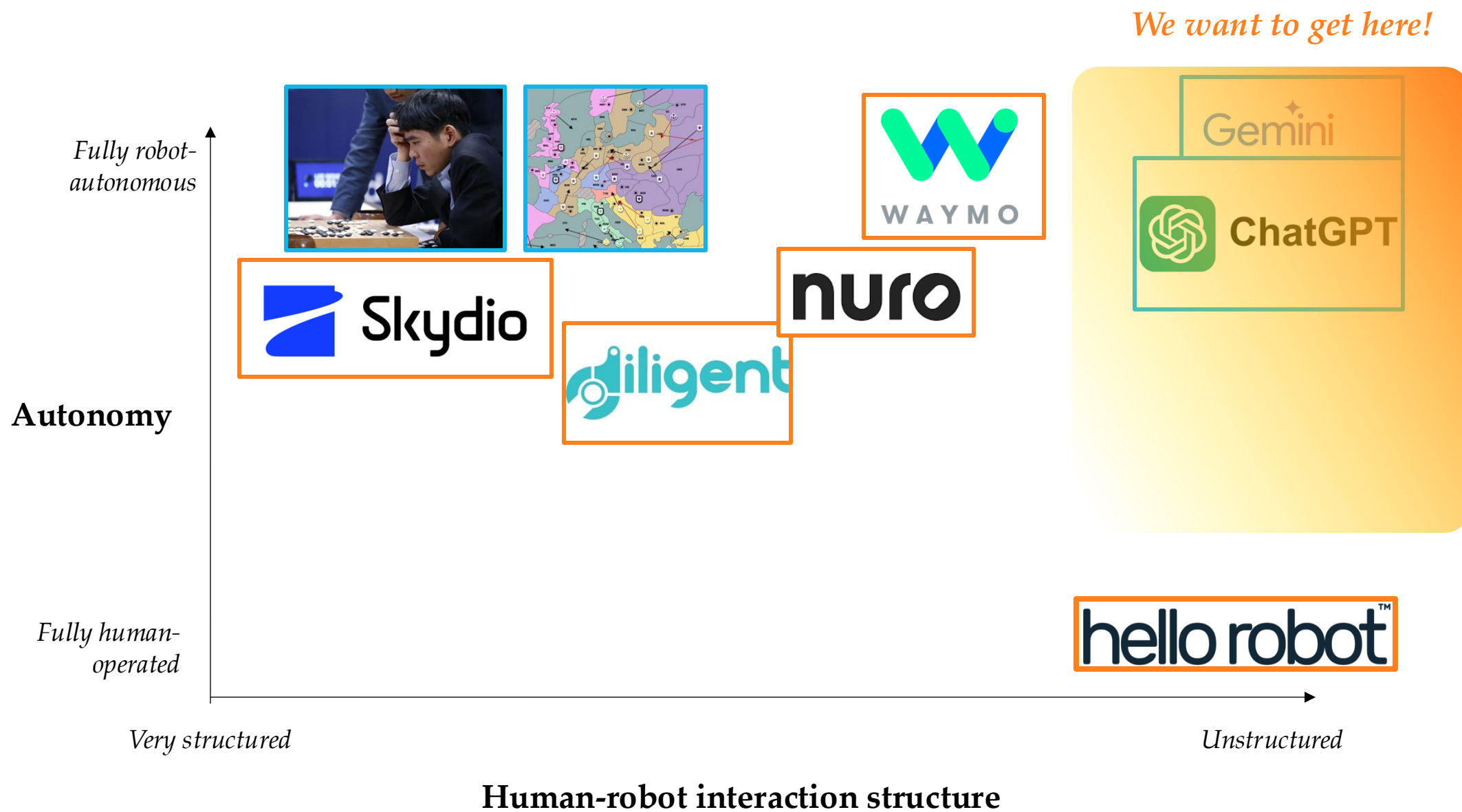


Here is where we are in AI...

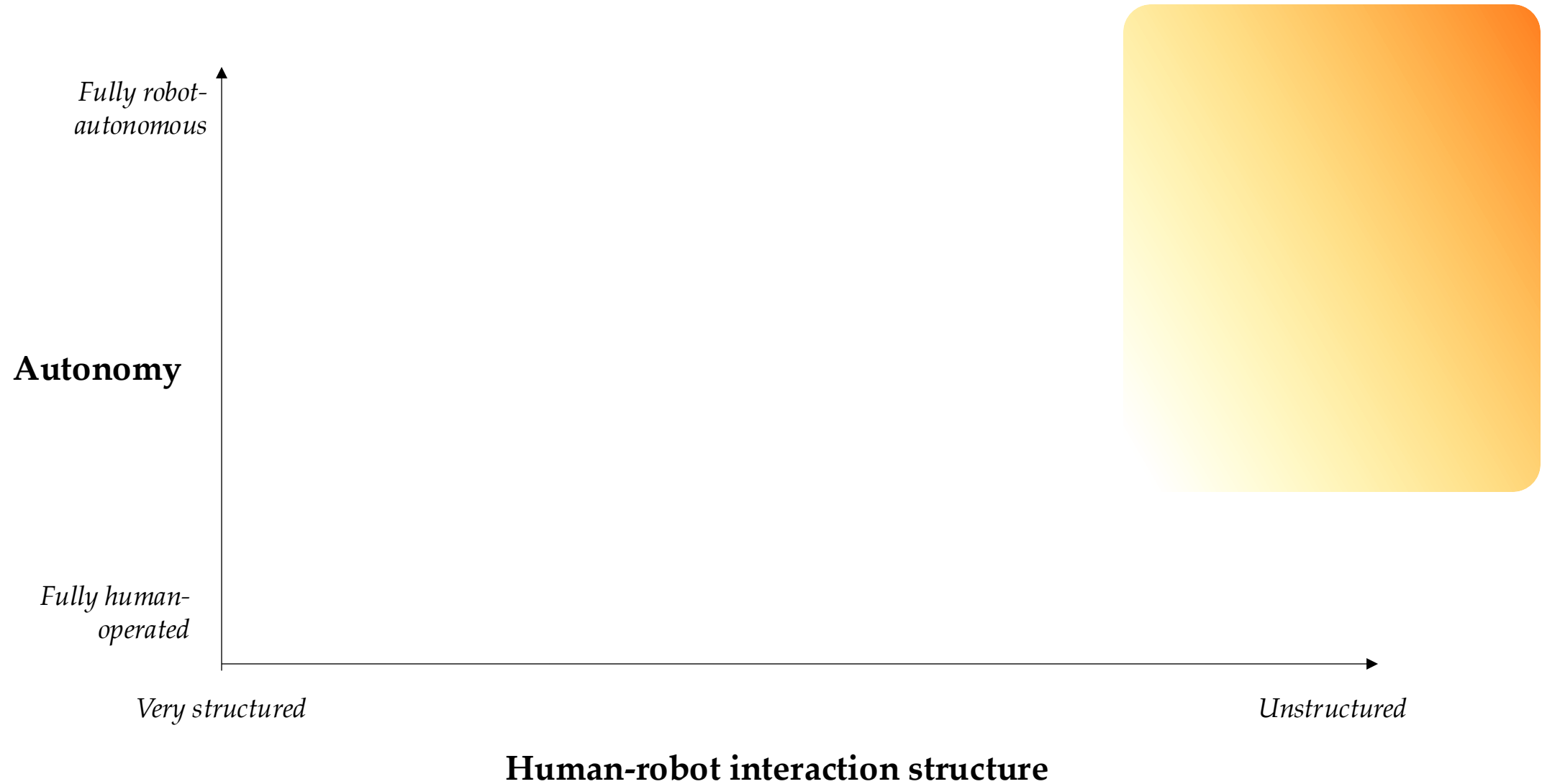


Here is where we are in robotics...



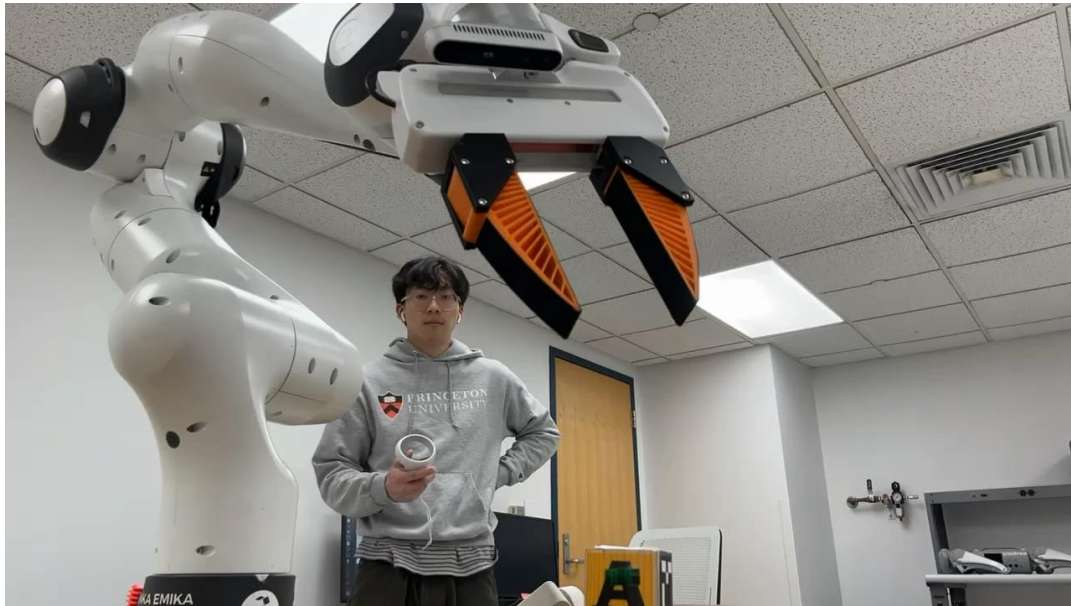


Think: Why are robots not in millions of homes?



1. The way we program robots is rigid

Not flexible enough to be used by everyday users for everyday tasks; requires expert knowledge



Engineers Design Behaviors

Ship robot



Users can't easily expand capabilities, or experience unexpected failures!

2. Hard to write down what “matters” to people

- *Autonomy*: hard to design robot policies that behave according to what end-users want
- *Evaluation*: hard to write metrics that correlate with what end-users want



“Feel the Bite: Robot-Assisted Inside-Mouth Bite Transfer using Robust Mouth Perception and Physical Interaction-Aware Control.” Jenamani, et al. (2024)

3. Hard to model human interaction

Human behavior is diverse: varying between individuals, environments, and over time



Why this course?

Take any robot application and ...



1) **Model / quantify** human interaction with robots

2) **Solve** robot decision-making algorithms that are informed of/by people

3) **Identify** the frontiers of human-robot interaction

What you will learn in this course

Foundations

- Single & multi-agent decision-making
- Mathematical human models
- Experimental design

Robots *Learning from Humans*

- Trajectory forecasting
- Active learning
- Communication

Robots *Acting around/with People*

- Shared autonomy
- HRI as a Game
- Safety & uncertainty quantification

Guest Lectures

Shared autonomy



Dylan Losey
Prof @ Virginia Tech

Robot learning from humans



Tesca Fitzgerald
Prof @ Yale

Course Logistics

Format: lecture + related paper reading discussions

Typical 80-min class:

- ~5 min logistics and recap

- 70 min lecture, invited talk, or paper discussion

Use *course website* for up-to-date schedule & paper links

<https://abajcsy.github.io/human-robot-interaction/>

16-867: Human-Robot Interaction

Fall 2024



Professor: [Andrea Bajcsy](#) (abajcsy [at] cmu [dot] edu)

Office Hours: TBD

Office Hours Location: NSH 4629

Lecture Time: Tues & Thurs, 11:00 - 12:20 pm

Lecture Location: Wean 4623

Teaching Assistant: [Pranay Gupta](#) (pranaygu [at] andrew [dot] cmu [dot] edu)

Office Hours: XYZ

Office Hours Location: NSH XYZ

Syllabus: [PDF](#)

Canvas: <https://canvas.cmu.edu/courses/41578>

OVERVIEW

Human-robot interaction (HRI) is a multidisciplinary field that aims to create successful interactions between people and robots. In this class, we will study algorithmic HRI topics such as mathematical human models, trajectory forecasting, shared autonomy, robot learning from human feedback, active learning, communication, and safety.

This course aims to provide an overview of the state of the art in algorithmic HRI. As such, it will cover a large number of topics, with examples drawn from foundational work and research published in the last five years. The course combines lecture, readings, in-class presentations, written reports, and a final project to engage students with the current challenges and approaches in the field. The course also emphasizes the practice of reading and discussing scientific literature to learn and communicate about the most recent progress in HRI.

News

➤ [\[08/19/24\]](#) New room location: Wean 4623

SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

Date	Topic	Info
Week 1 Tue, Aug 27	Lecture Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Please check the course syllabus
Week 1 Thurs, Aug 29	Lecture Fundamentals	Single-Agent Decision Making
Week 2 Tue, Sept 3	Lecture Fundamentals	Probability, Entropy, Bayesian inference

Week 3 Tue, Sept 10	Lecture Mathematical Human Models	Internal state, bounded rationality, suboptimality
Week 3 Thurs, Sept 12	Paper discussion Mathematical Human Models	Required Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none">[P1] Where Do You Think You're Going?: Inferring Beliefs about Dynamics from Behavior. Reddy, et al. (2018)[P2] LESS is More: Rethinking Probabilistic Models of Human Behavior. Bobu, et al. (2020)[P3] The Boltzmann Policy Distribution: Accounting for Systematic Suboptimality in Human Models. Laidlaw & Dragan (2022).
Week 4 Tue, Sept 17	Lecture Trajectory Forecasting	Planning-based & learning-based; applications in manipulation, navigation
Week 4 Thurs, Sept 19	Paper discussion Trajectory Forecasting	Required reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none">[P1] Probabilistically Safe Robot Planning with Confidence-Based Human Predictions. Bajcsy, et al. (2018)[P2] Identifying Driver Interactions via Conditional Behavior Prediction. Tolstaya, et al. (2021)[P3] ManiCast: Collaborative Manipulation with Cost-Aware Human Forecasting. Kedia, et al. (2023)
Week 5 Tues, Sept 24	Guest Lecture Shared Autonomy	Dylan Losey (Prof @ Virginia Tech)
Week 5 Thurs, Sept 26	Paper discussion Shared Autonomy	Required reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none">[P1] Shared Autonomy via Hindsight Optimization. Javdani, et al. (2015)[P2] Shared Autonomy via Deep Reinforcement Learning. Reddy, et al. (2018)[P3] LILA: Language-Informed Latent Actions. Karamcheti, et al. (2021)
Week 6 Tue, Oct 8	Lecture Experimental Design	Due Homework Designing and conducting user studies
Week 6 Thurs, Oct 10	Paper discussion Experimental Design	Required Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none">[P1] Review of Human Studies Methods in HRI and Recommendations. Bethel & Murphy (2010)[P2] Feel the Bite: Robot-Assisted Inside-Mouth Bite Transfer using Robust Mouth Perception and Physical Interaction-Aware Control. Jenamani, et al. (2024)[P3] Independence in the Home: A Wearable Interface for a Person with Quadriplegia to Teleoperate a Mobile Manipulator. Padmanabha, et al. (2024)
Week 7 Tue, Oct 14	No Class (Fall Break)	

Use *Canvas* for downloading / uploading assignments

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Fall 2024

Home

Announcements 

Syllabus

Assignments

Quizzes 

Grades

Discussions

Files

People

Zoom

NameCoach

Syllabus Registry

Pages 

Outcomes 

Collaborations 

Recent Announcements

Human Robot Interaction

 Assign To

 Edit



Welcome to **16-867: Human-Robot Interaction!**



Human-robot interaction (HRI) is a multidisciplinary field that aims to create successful interactions between people and robots. In this class, we will study algorithmic HRI topics such as mathematical human models, trajectory forecasting, shared autonomy, robot learning from human feedback, active learning, communication, and safety.

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Grading

See class syllabus on course website for detailed info

Participation	(5%)
Homework (x1)	(10%)
Paper summaries	(10%)
Paper presentations	(15%)
Class project	(60%)

Participation (5%)

Expected to attend class in person—this is how we will all get the most out of the class!

I understand that occasionally you may have challenges attending (e.g., illness, religious observance,..); let me know

Please show up on time, especially for reading days

Homework (10%)

16-867 Human-Robot Interaction (Fall 2024)

Prof. Andrea Bajcsy

Homework 1: Learning from Demonstration

In this homework, will walk through Maximum Entropy inverse reinforcement learning, intent inference, and intent expression in a simple grid-world environment. For programming, you should use the code provided in `hw1_code.zip` which is compatible with Python and uses Jupyter Notebooks. **The notebook itself contains details of each question and the code that you need to fill out and submit.** This document summarizes the key problems you will implement in the Jupyter notebook.

Due Week 6
(Tue, Oct 8)

This is a coding-based homework in **Python**.
It is *not* meant to be tedious; it is meant to **empower** you! 😊

Paper Summaries + Presentations (25%)

Paper discussion days:

~10 paper reading days
3 papers per reading day

Before class:

write 1-2 paragraphs of paper review / takeaway / questions (must submit on Canvas)

In class:

Split you into small groups, discuss set of questions, I assign a representative from each group to present on the group's takeaways, and the whole class can engage on the answer

On paper reviews

Be **compassionate** (e.g.,
invert your position)

Be **constructive** (e.g., *what
would you change to
improve it?*)

Be **scholarly** (e.g., *cite sources,
justify disagreements with
proofs or citations*)



Daniel Dennett
Professor, Philosopher

"You should attempt to re-express your target's position so *clearly, vividly,* and *fairly* that your target says,

'Thanks, I wish I'd thought of putting it that way.' "

Class Project (60%)

Two options:

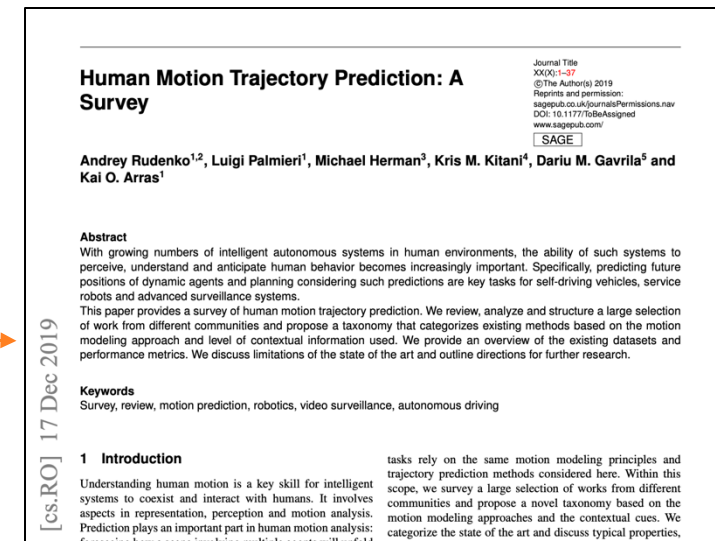
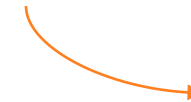
Research project:

Identify a research direction broadly relevant to this class
Propose and take first steps towards an original idea

Literature survey:

Select a topic area and rigorous way in which you will find papers
Characterize this topic area in an insightful way (e.g., open questions, common assumptions, tractable vs. theoretical gaps)

Example of good literature survey



Class Project (60%)

Project proposal (0%) -- due on Tues, Sept 24

~1 page project summary. Identify the problem, background literature, potential solution

Mid-term report (20%) -- due on Tue, Oct 29

~2 page writeup of progress, updated goals and timeline

Oral project presentation (10%) -- to be scheduled for Dec. 3 & Dec. 5

short presentations (~10 minutes but depends on number of people)

Final project report (30%) -- due on Dec. 10

~6 pages final report

Survey (5 min)

<https://forms.gle/nwAoLvneinkL14Cz8>



16-867

Human Robot Interaction

Introduction

Instructor: Andrea Bajcsy