

# WITH PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

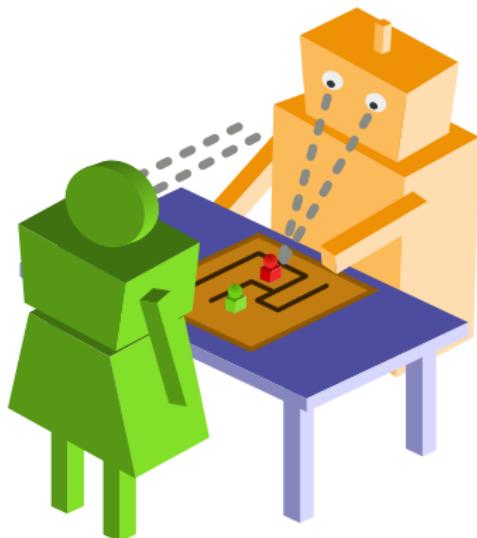


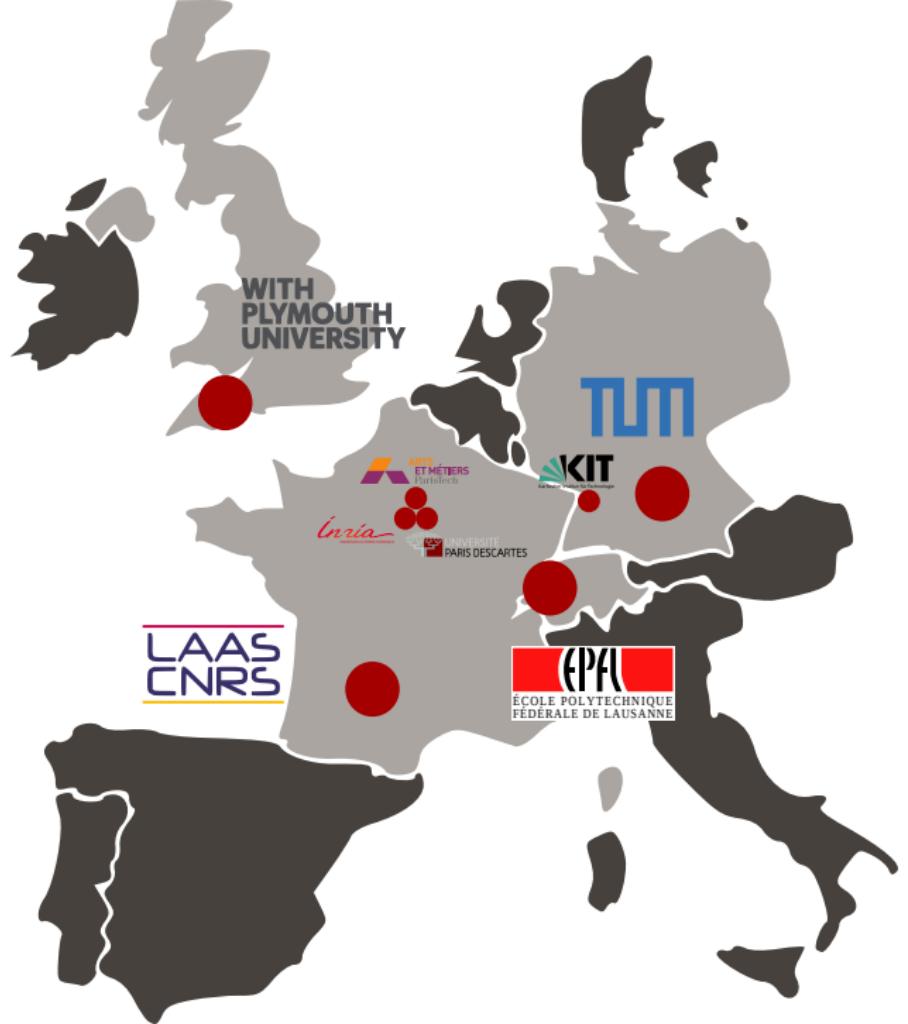
## Of Cognition and Social Robots on the way to artificial social cognition in HRI

University of Edinburgh – **15 May 2017**

Séverin Lemaignan

Centre for Robotics and Neural Systems  
**Plymouth University**

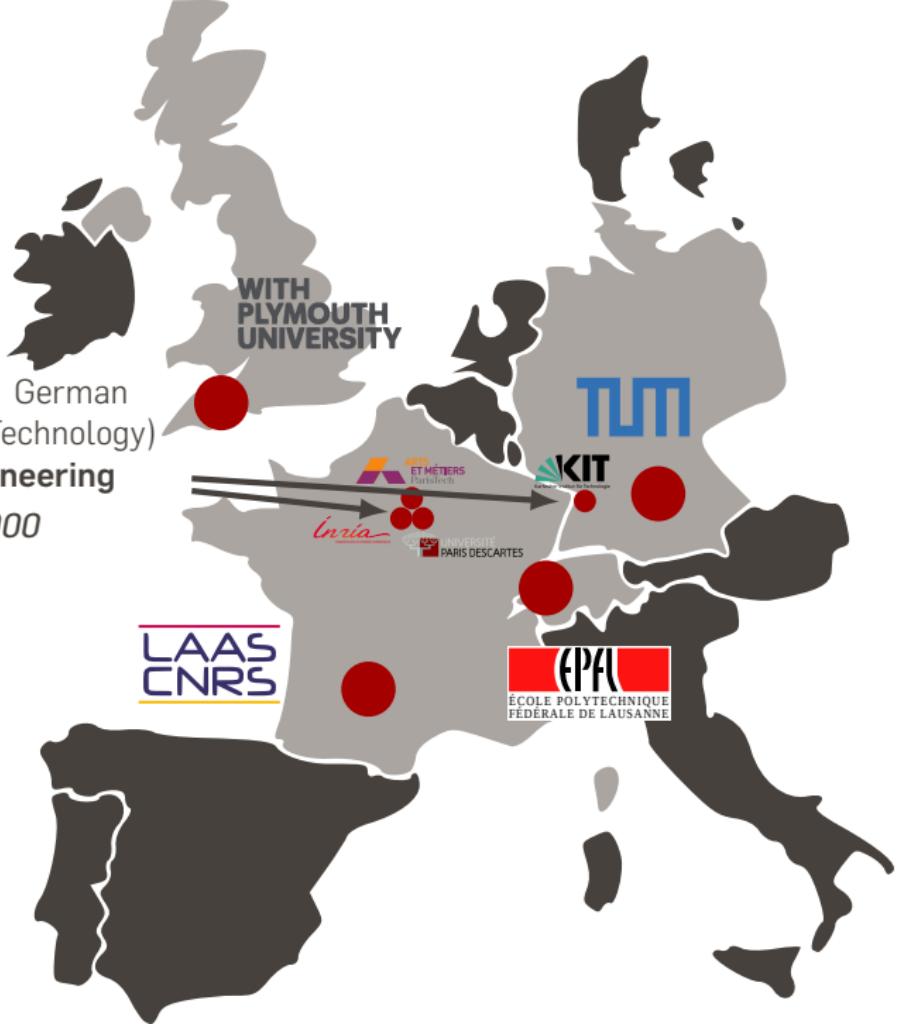






Joint French (ParisTech) German  
(Karlsruhe Institute of Technology)  
MSc in **Mechanical Engineering**

*top ten student out of 1000*



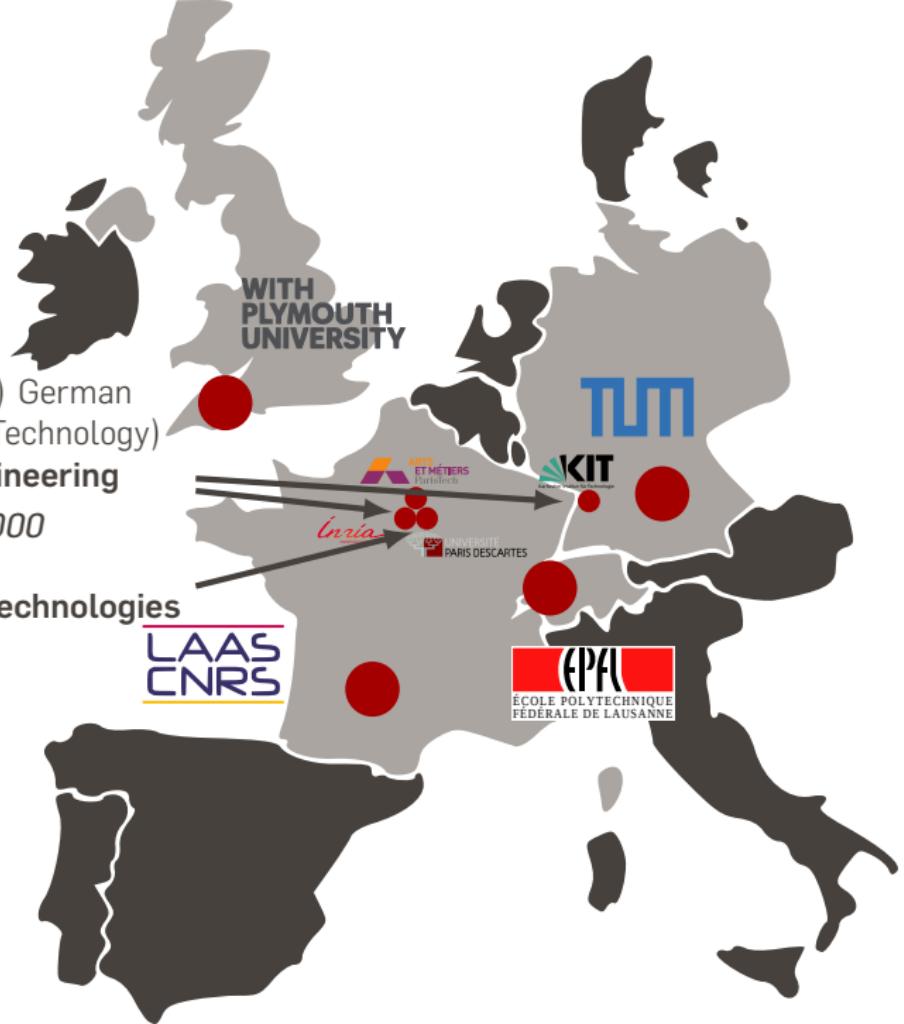


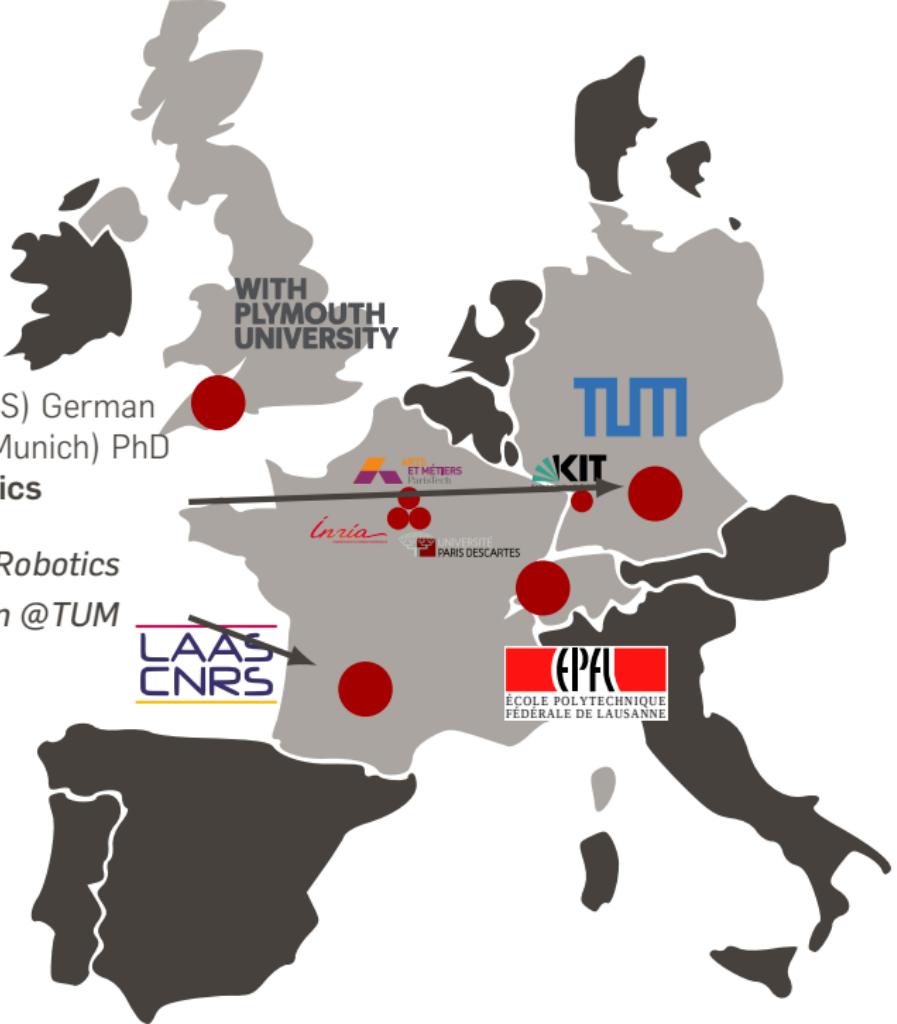
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(Paris 5)

*top student of the year*





Joint French (CNRS LAAS) German  
(Technical University of Munich) PhD  
in **AI & Cognitive Robotics**

*Best 2012 CNRS PhD in Robotics*  
*PhD with High Distinction @TUM*

# SINCE MY PHD

## 2013–2015 Post-doc at EPFL

- built up a leading group in child-robot interaction

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**60+ publications; 1000+ citations; H-index=15**

PLYMOUTH  
UNIVERSITY

ROCO318  
Mobile and Humanoid Robots

Part 1 – Introduction

Sébastien Lemaignan

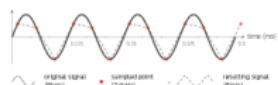
Centre for Neural Systems and Robotics,  
Plymouth University



## SAMPLING RATE

### Nyquist theorem

- The sampling rate has to be at least **twice as high** as the fastest changes. If not, you are going to miss relevant information.



- e.g. If sound signal changes at 3kHz, you have to sample at at least 6kHz to not miss anything of the signal.

## CORRECT STEP EQUATIONS (MEASUREMENT UPDATE)

$$K_k = P_{k|k-1} \cdot H^T \cdot (H \cdot P_{k|k-1} \cdot H^T + R)^{-1}$$

The Kalman gain, this needs to be calculated first

sensor noise

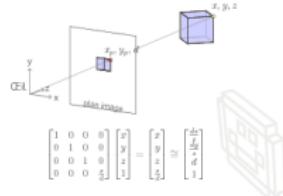
$$\hat{x}_{k|k} = \hat{x}_{k|k-1} + K_k \cdot (z_k - H \cdot \hat{x}_{k|k-1})$$

The a posteriori estimated state

$$P_{k|k} = (I - K_k \cdot H) \cdot P_{k|k-1}$$

The a posteriori estimated covariance of our state

## EN 3D



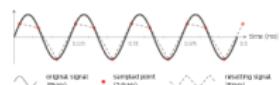
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} dx \\ dy \\ dz \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Robot description      Characterizing Performance      Sensors & actuators      Localization & control

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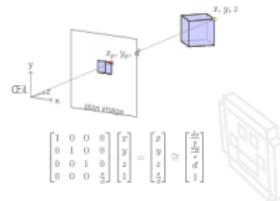
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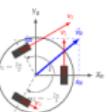
## EN 3D



Robot description      Characterizing Performance      Sensors & actuators      Localization & control

## KINEMATICS OF AN OMNIDIRECTIONAL ROBOT: ROBOT FRAME

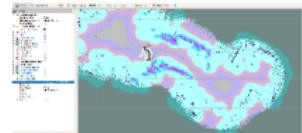
$$\begin{aligned} v &= \dot{\varphi} \cdot r \cdot F \\ &= -\dot{\varphi}_0 \cdot \sin(\alpha_0) + \dot{\varphi}_0 \cdot \cos(\alpha_0) + l \cdot \dot{\theta} \\ \dot{\varphi} \cdot r &= \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\varphi}_0 \\ \dot{\varphi}_1 \\ \dot{\varphi}_2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot r \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -\sin\alpha_0 & \cos\alpha_0 & 0 \\ -\sin\alpha_1 & \cos\alpha_1 & 0 \\ -\sin\alpha_2 & \cos\alpha_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} l \\ \dot{\theta} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\dot{\theta} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} l \\ \dot{\theta} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$



- ⇒ we can determine the wheels angular velocities to obtain a specific robot velocity.

Robot description      Characterizing Performance      Sensors & actuators      Localization & control

## GLOBAL VS LOCAL PATH PLANNING



### Global path planning

- long distances (i.e. large map, slower calculations)
- static environment

### Local path planning

- short horizon
- dynamic environment (use of sensors)

Robot description      Characterizing Performance      Sensors & actuators      Localization & control

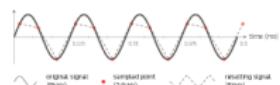
## GRASSFIRE ALGORITHM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	10
2	12	11	10	9	8	7	6					9
3	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	8
4	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	7
5	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	5
6	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
7	11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	8
8	10	9	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	9
9	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	1	10
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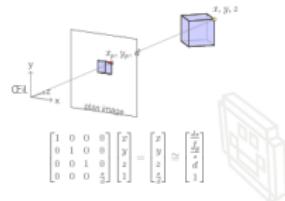
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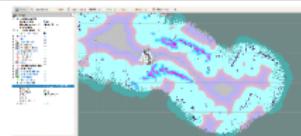


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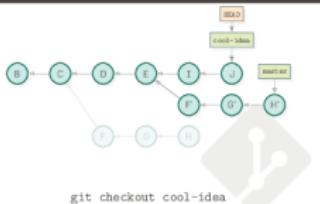


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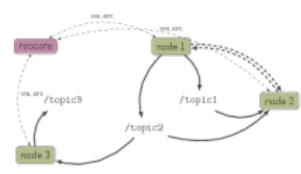
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## REBASING BRANCHES



## MIDDLEWARES' CORE PRINCIPLE: TALKING NODES



ROS\_MASTER\_URI=http://host:port

## EVENT-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING

Event-oriented programming is a possible way of implementing a behavioural control paradigm

```
def on_start_(node):
    robot_look_at_fancy()
    robot_blink()
    sleep(0.1)
    robot_lighter(MEDIUM)
    sleep(0.1)
    robot_blink()
    sleep(0.1)

def on_stop_(node):
    robot_lighter(MEDIUM)
    while abs(robot.get_wrist_y() > 0.05):
        robot.set_wrist_y(0.0)
    sleep(0.1)
    robot_cancal()

def on_start_reversed_(node):
    robot_lighter(MEDIUM)
    robot.set_wrist_y(-0.05)
    sleep(0.1)
    robot.set_wrist_y(0.0)
    sleep(0.1)

def on_stop_reversed_(node):
    robot.set_wrist_y(0.0)
    sleep(0.1)
    robot_lighter(MEDIUM)
    sleep(0.1)

def on_top_(node):
    robot_lighter(MEDIUM)
    while abs(robot.get_wrist_y() > 0.05):
        robot.set_wrist_y(0.0)
    sleep(0.1)
    robot_cancal()
```

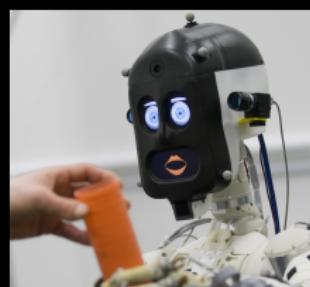
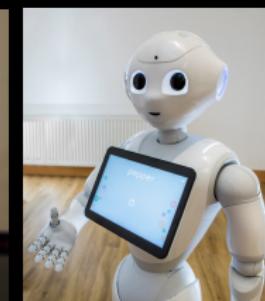
11

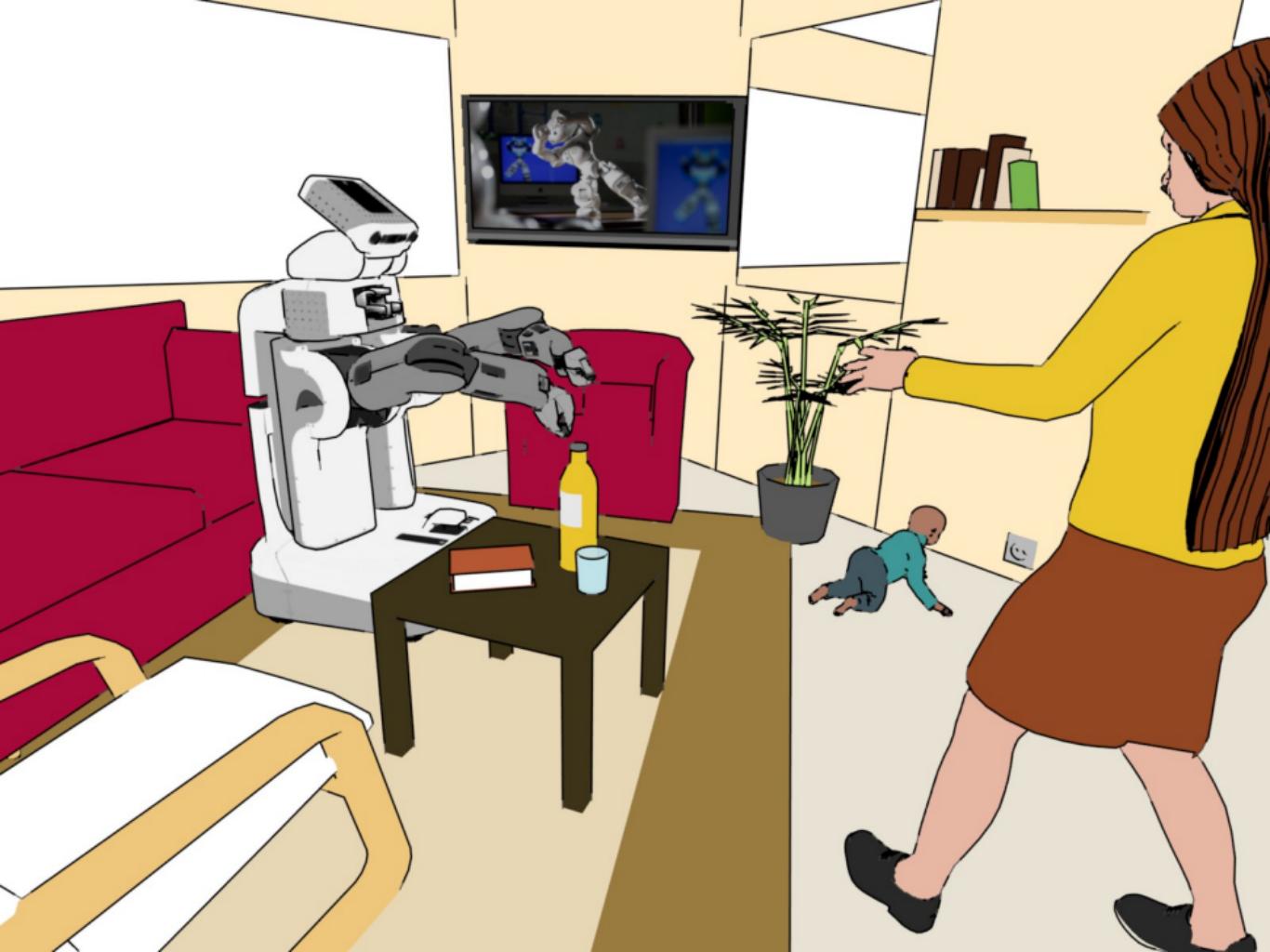
12

## CS EXPERTISE

- **advanced C++** (C++11/14, STL, meta-programming)
- **advanced Python** (meta-programming)
- **software engineering** (GIT expertise, coding best practises)
- logic programming (Prolog, ontologies)
- distributed systems (middlewares)
- computer vision & 3D rendering (OpenGL)
- algorithms & data structures

**120+ open-source repositories** on GitHub; **contributor to major open-source projects** like **ROS, OpenCV**

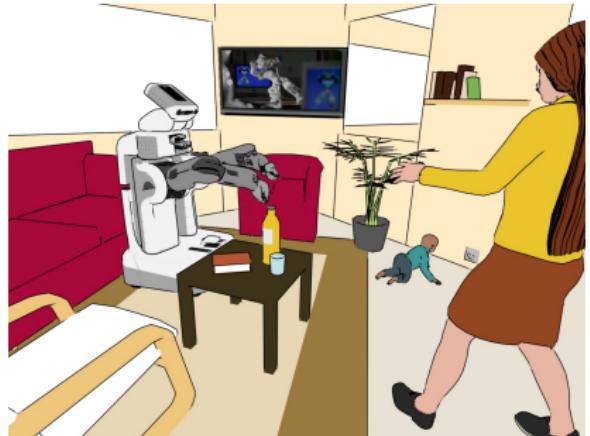




**Situated dialogue** effectively evidences the challenges

How can the robot make sense  
of and act upon a command like:

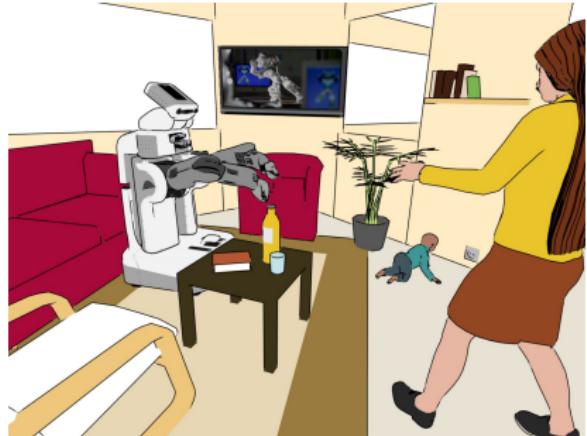
**“Can you give me that book?”**



**Situated dialogue** effectively evidences the challenges

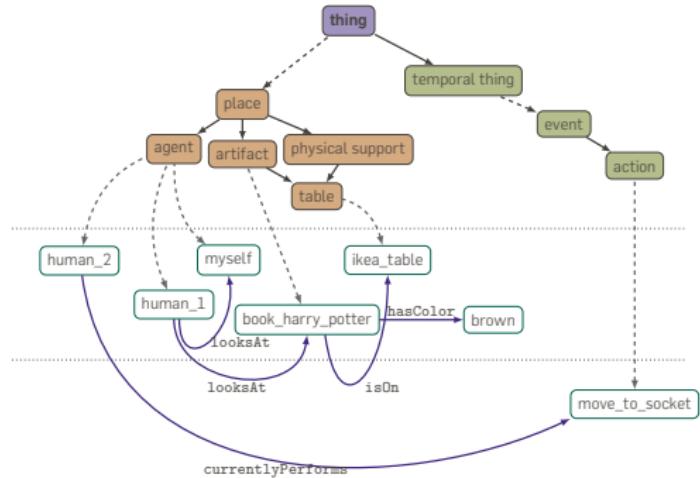
How can the robot make sense  
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**“Can you give me that book?”**



My PhD: a symbolic approach to this problem

# MULTI-MODAL SYMBOLIC SITUATION ASSESSMENT



LAAS-CNRS





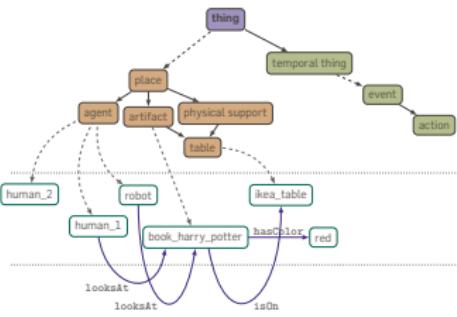
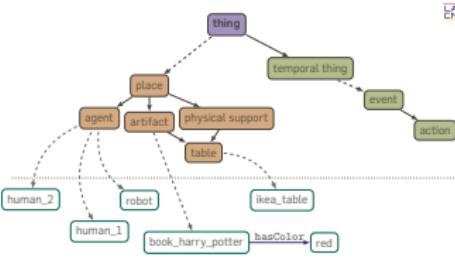
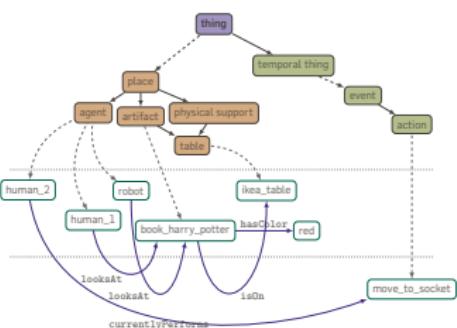
What if I ask for the object in the box, but the robot has moved it somewhere else?



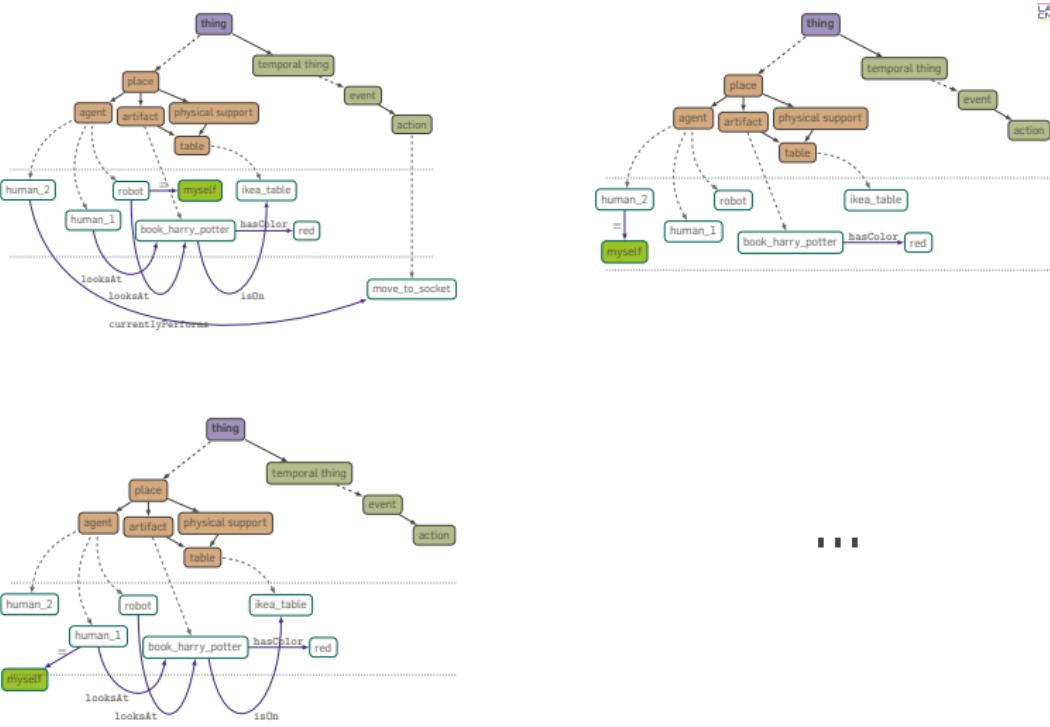
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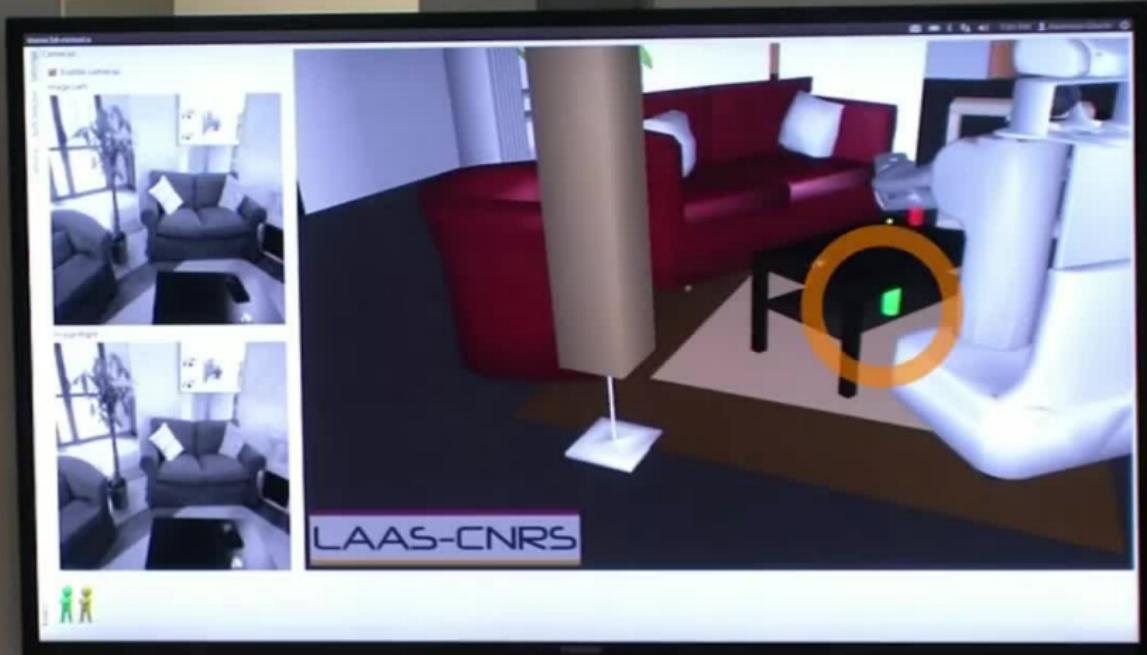
**False-belief situation**

# PARALLEL MODELS: TOWARDS A THEORY OF MIND

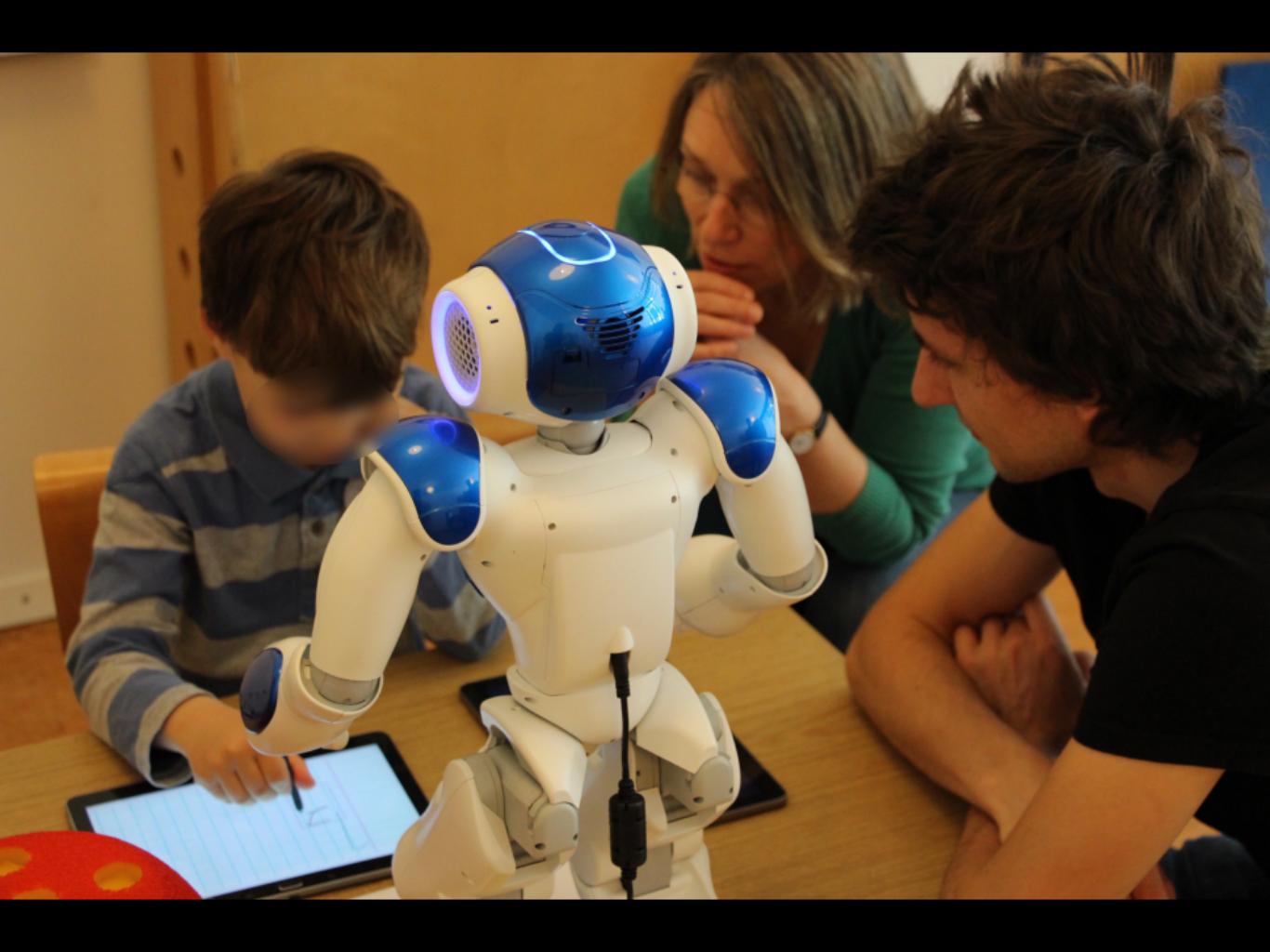


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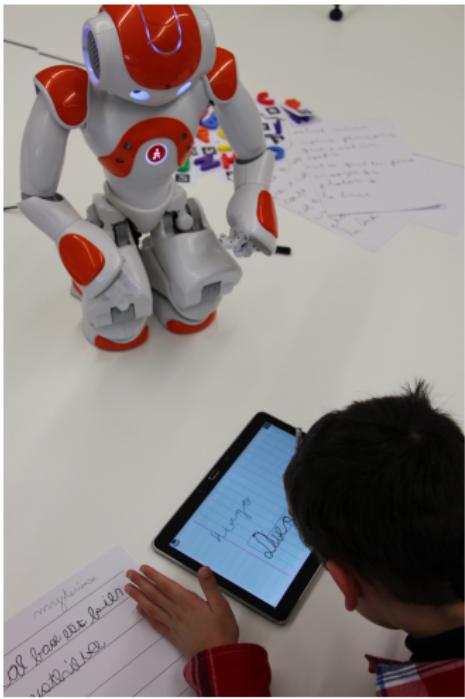








# THE ROBOT AS A SOCIAL AGENT

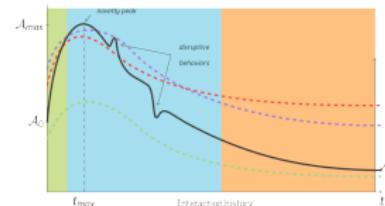


**The robot as a cognitive agent  
is key here**

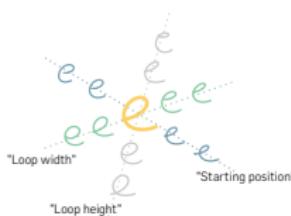
- Protégé effect
- metacognition

# OTHER EXPERIMENTAL WORK

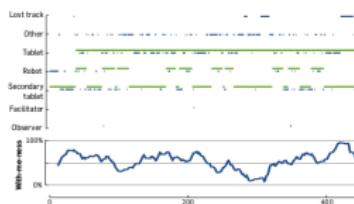
## Understanding social interaction



## Robots for Learning



## Methodology



### Expectations

How do you imagine a robot?  
What can it do for you?  
How would you treat a robot before?

### Impression

When you first saw R, what did you think?  
Is R a robot? How do you know?  
Did you expect R would come over to you when you call it?  
What happened when you put the domino in the box?

### Ascribe intention

Do you think R can open the door all by itself?  
Does R always come over to you?  
Could it do something silly?  
Why did R not come over to you when you called it?

### Ascribe perceptual capabilities

Here is a domino. Do you think R can see it?  
When I say "Hello R", do you think R can hear it?

### Ascribe emotional state

Does R have feelings? Can R be happy or sad sometimes?

### Social acceptance

Do you like R? Why (not)?  
What do you (not) like about R?  
Would you like to have R here?

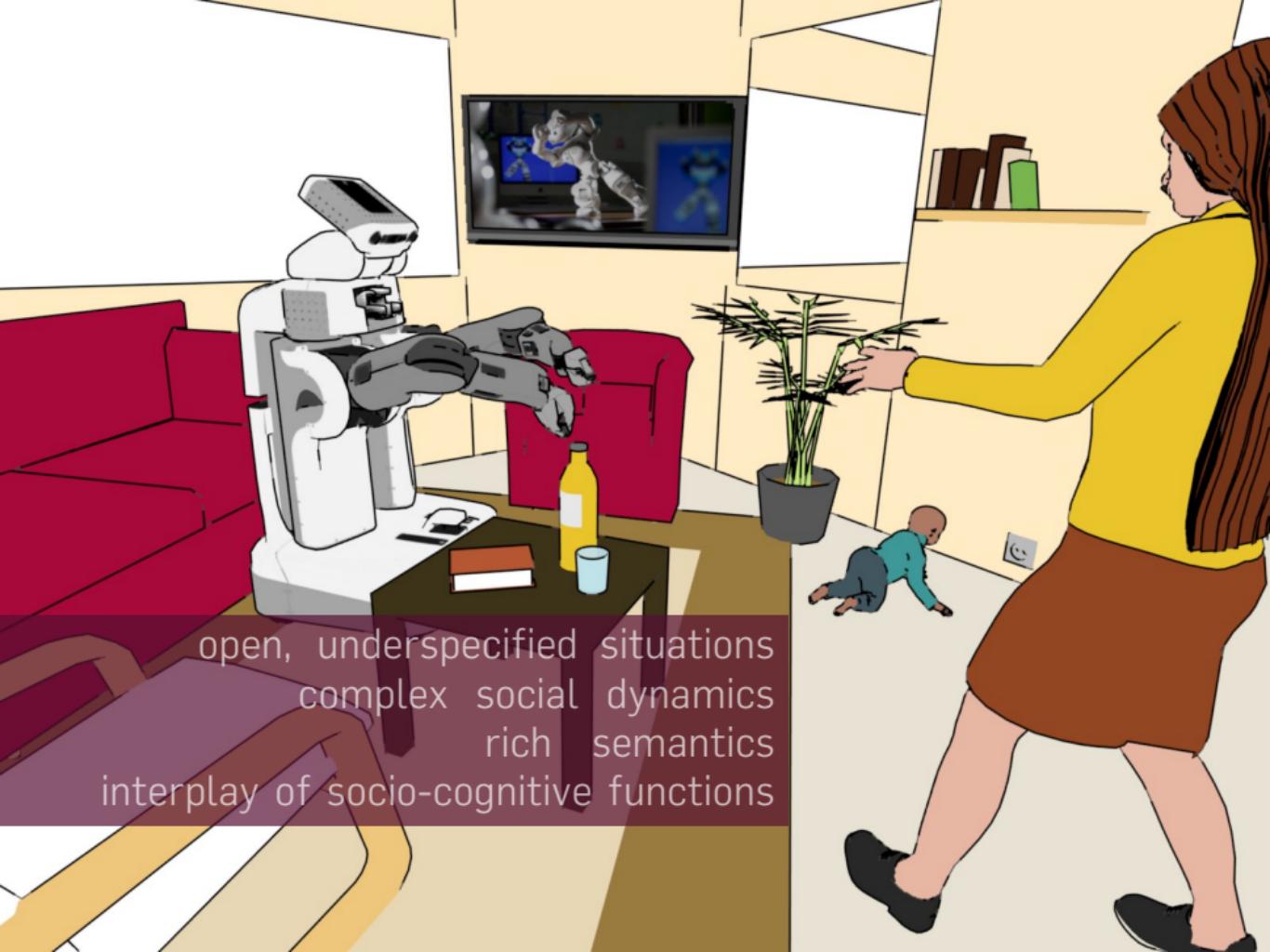
### Compassion

Could R be your friend? Why (not)?

### Ascribe moral standing

Assume you go on a holiday for two weeks. Do it alright to leave R alone at home? Why (not)?

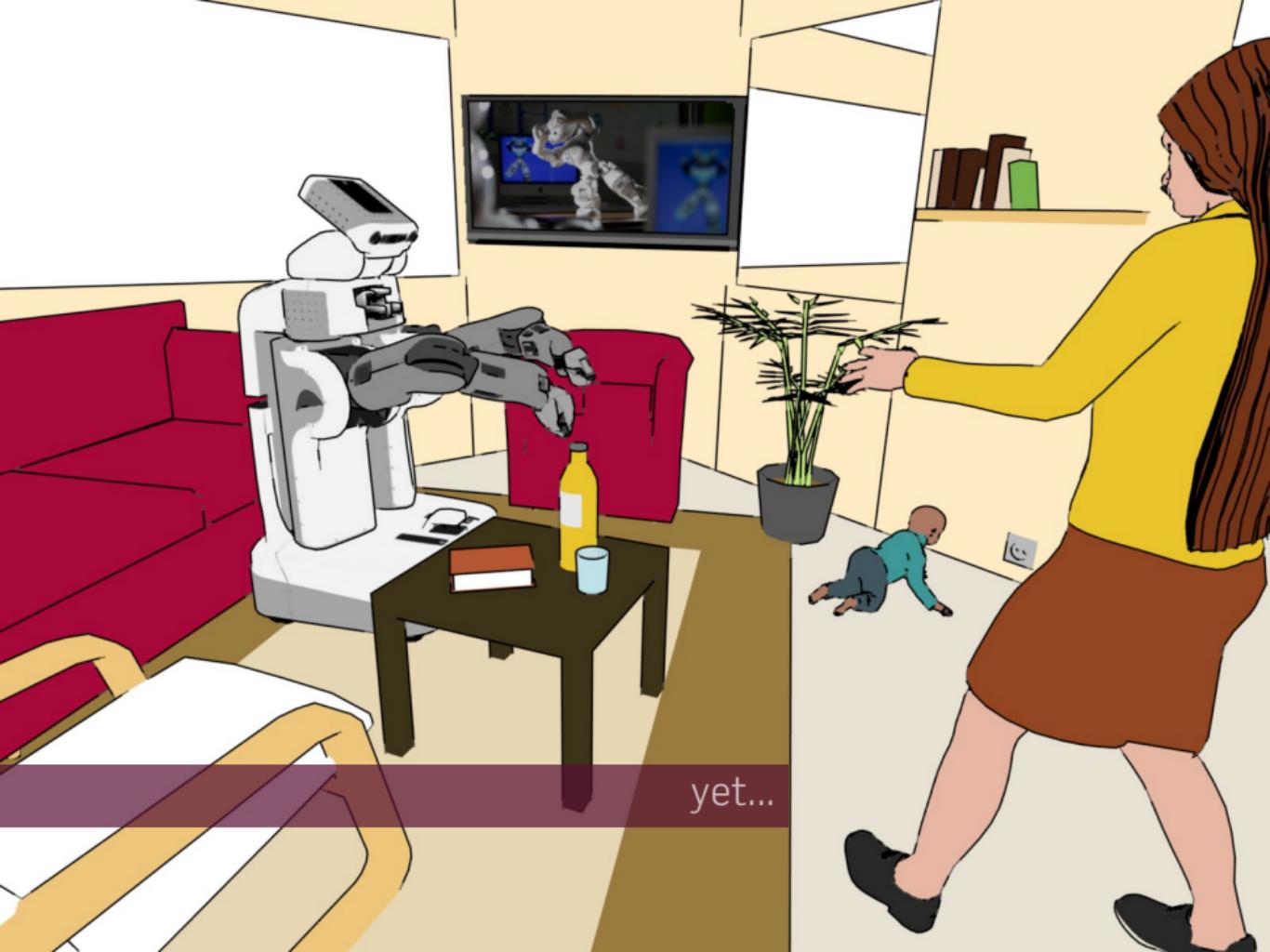
**How to push back the boundaries of social  
robotics?**



open, underspecified situations  
complex social dynamics  
rich semantics  
interplay of socio-cognitive functions

# SURFACE FUNCTIONS FOR SOCIAL COGNITION





yet...



# THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK: STAGES OF PLAY

In developmental psychology, Parten's **stages of play**:



1. Solitary (independent) play



2. Onlooker play



3. Parallel play



4. Associative play



5. Cooperative play



Free-play sandbox

### freeplay\_sandbox\_analysis\_Free-play sandbox analysis tool - rqt

File Help

Bag

audio

env\_camera

l\_camera

r\_camera

0m0s | 0m05s | 0m10s | 0m15s | 0m20s | 0m25s | 0m30s | 0m35s | 0m40s | 0m45s | 0m50s

1489767416.1165 Mar 17 2017 16:16:56.115 4.956s > 365.16 MB

D C O - O X Sandtray D C O - O X

D C O - O X l\_camera D C O - O X r\_camera D C O - O X

The interface displays four video timelines at the top left: 'audio' (empty), 'env\_camera' (showing two children playing with a robot on a table), 'l\_camera' (showing a child from the side), and 'r\_camera' (showing a child from the back). A timeline bar at the top shows time points from 0m0s to 0m50s. Below the timelines are playback controls (rewind, play, fast forward). The center-right features a 3D map of the sandbox area with various objects labeled: 'odom', 'rhino', 'cube\_20', 'cube\_29', 'toychild4', 'cube\_38', 'cube\_25', 'lion', 'cube\_11', 'cube\_5', 'child', 'cube\_23', 'toychild1', 'cube\_21', 'cube\_16', 'cube\_34', 'Stephan', 'cube\_14', and 'cube\_6'. The bottom section contains three large image frames showing the children interacting with the robot and each other.

# A FRAMEWORK FOR SOCIO-COGNITIVE INVESTIGATION

- **Task-independent social dynamics**  
interaction flow, adaptation, social patterns...
- **Situation awareness**  
what happens? who does what? why?  
→ mind modelling

## KEY OUTCOMES FOR HRI

- **online segmentation and understanding of the interaction flow**
- **surface and deep behavioural alignment**
- **enable the robot to merge into natural social dynamics**
  - 'natural' (i.e. emergent) turn-taking
  - 'natural' protodeclarative pointing

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  - 'natural' protodeclarative pointing
- **artifical Theory of Mind beyond purely perceptual models**
- **emergence of Parten's stages of play?**

## MY CURRENT VISION

### (Deep) learning of socio-cognitive human-robot interactions

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Working hypothesis: **Sociality emerges from interaction**

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Working hypothesis: **Sociality emerges from interaction**

- Instrumental role of **attention**
- Unsupervised **recurrent neural networks** to model others' minds → a **connectionist theory of mind**

# MY CURRENT VISION

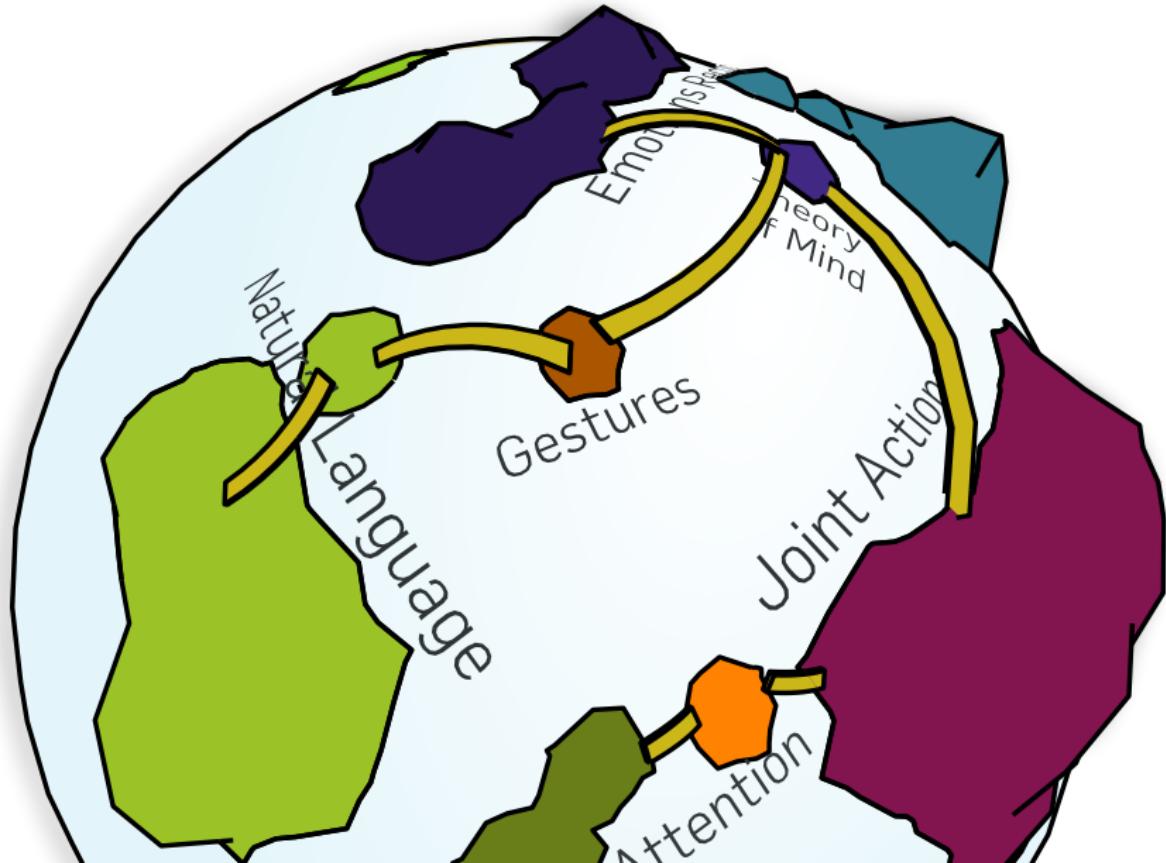
## (Deep) learning of socio-cognitive human-robot interactions

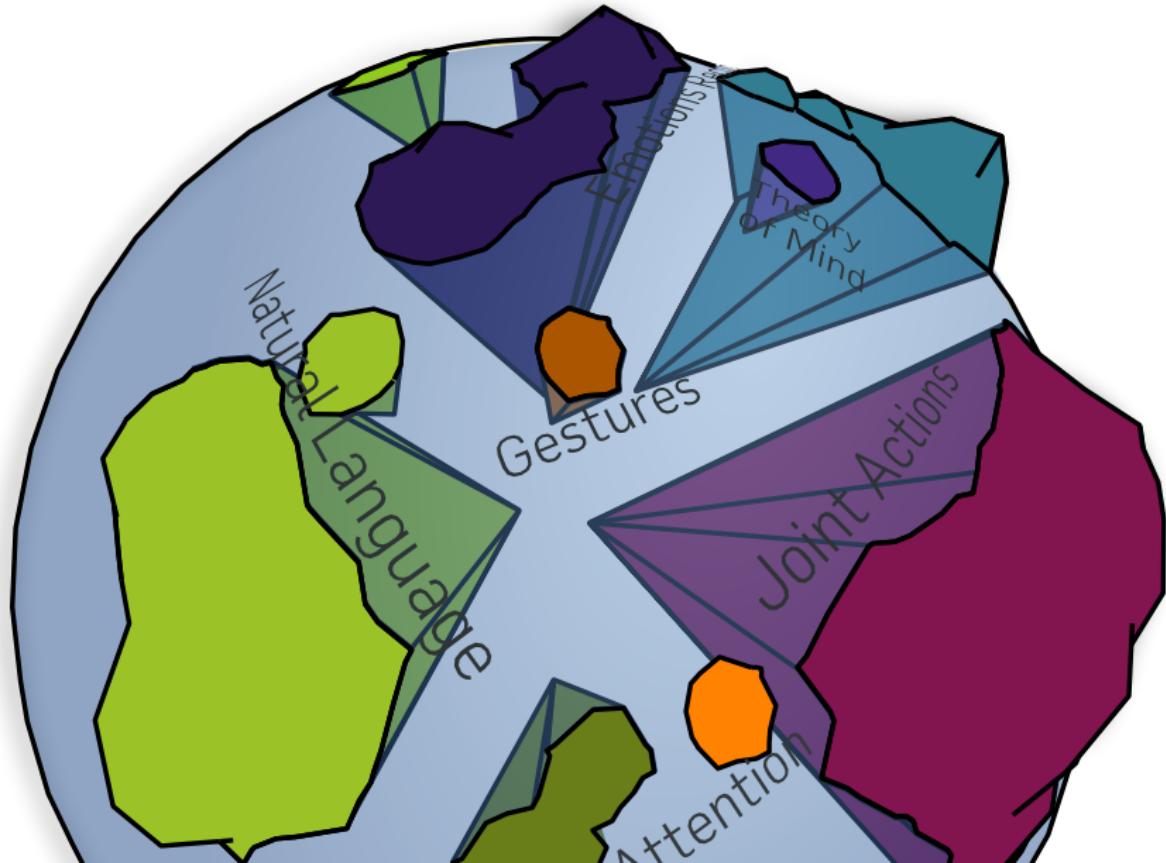
Working hypothesis: **Sociality emerges from interaction**

- Instrumental role of **attention**
- Unsupervised **recurrent neural networks** to model others' minds → a **connectionist theory of mind**

**...towards a principled model of social cognition?**











Thank you!

## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

1. Research approach

2. Performing in Human Environments

3. pyRobots Example

4. Dialogue Grounding

5. Child-Robot Interaction for Learning

6. Child-Robot Interaction: the Practical Side

7. Reframing the research

8. Sketching a model

9. The freeplay sandbox

10. Theory of mind

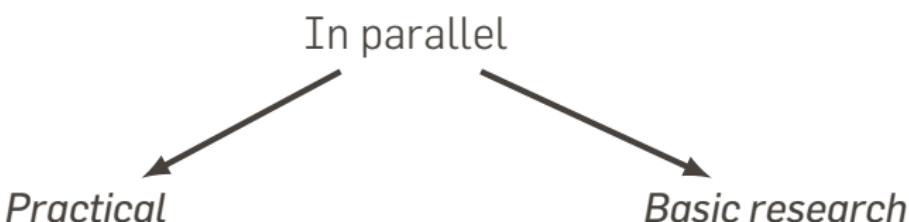
11. Dynamics of Interaction

12. Cognitive Architectures

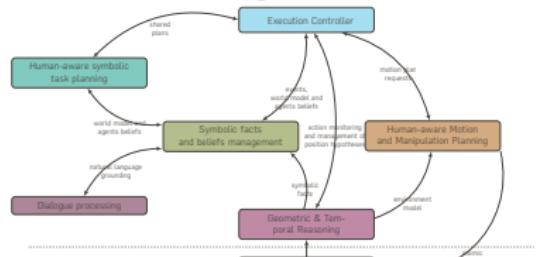
13. Deep learning and robotics

# RESEARCH APPROACH

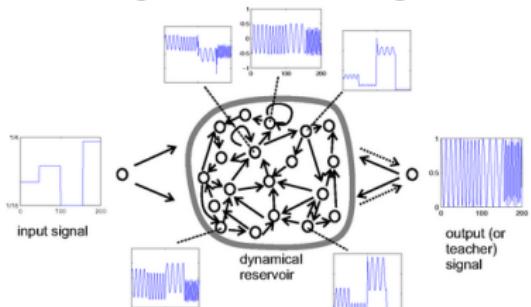
# RESEARCH APPROACH



## The “Edinburgh Architecture for Socio-Cognitive Robots”



## Emergent Social Cognition



→ RNNs; deep learning

# SCAFFOLDING THE RESEARCH

Create a **KidsLab**, within the Robotarium



- experimental space suited for 4 to 13 years old
- fully equipped (recording, tracking, **tactile floor**)
- in connection with Wee Science lab and the RabLab

# SCAFFOLDING THE RESEARCH



Create a **KidsLab**, within the Robotarium

- experimental space suited for 4 to 13 years old
- fully equipped (recording, tracking, **tactile floor**)
- in connection with Wee Science lab and the RabLab



Establish collaboration with the (new) Royal Hospital for Sick Children

- field experiments
- research with real-world impact on children

# FUNDING

Short term

- **EPSRC First Grant**

up to £125,000

funding for the **KidsLab** project

equipment + one post-doc

- **EPSRC Early Career Fellowship**

max 5 years

focus on **Emergence of artificial social cognition**

possible partnerships: developmental robotics (e.g. INRIA

Flowers), cognitive neurosciences (e.g. Graziano lab),

learning technologies (e.g. EPFL CHILI Lab)

# FUNDING

Within 2-3 years

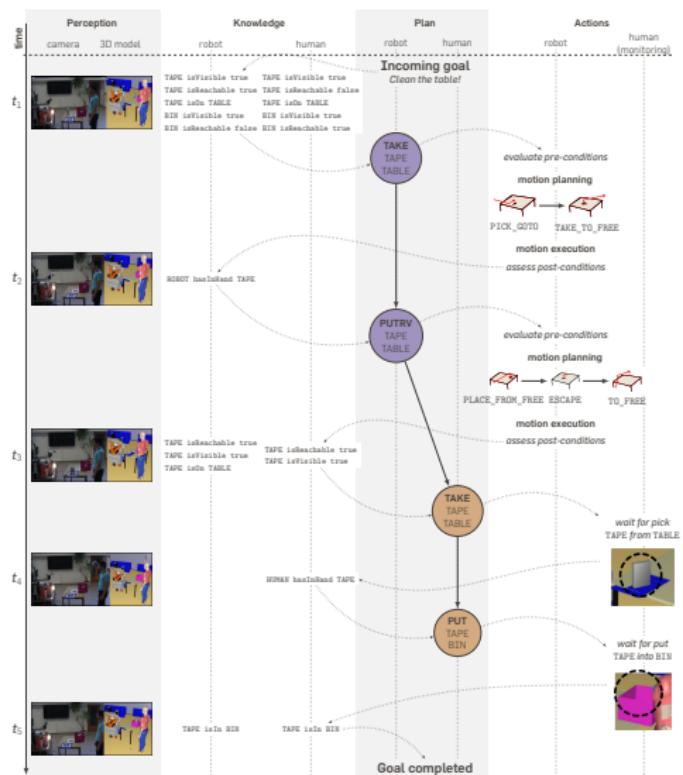
- **Co-Investigator on a H2020 project**
  - close contacts with IST Lisbon, LAAS-CNRS, EPFL, INRIA  
Bordeaux, Bristol BRL
- Submit a **EPSRC Standard Research** proposal
  - reaching independence
  - focus on socio-cognitive architecture + long-term field deployment
  - multi-proposal submission, possibly with Lincoln U. (expertise on Cognitive Architectures)
- **ERC Starting Grant**
  - up to €1.5m
  - within 7 years of PhD completion, i.e. before 2019
  - project on **Emergence of artificial social cognition**

# PERFORMING IN HUMAN ENVIRONMENTS

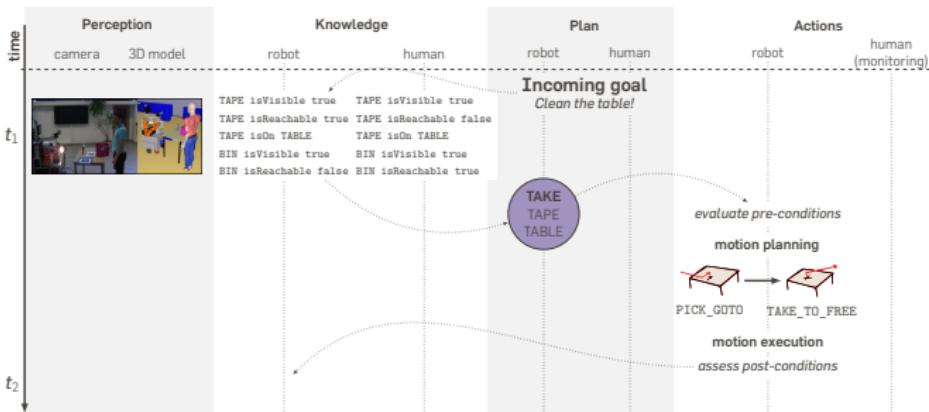


LAAS-CNRS

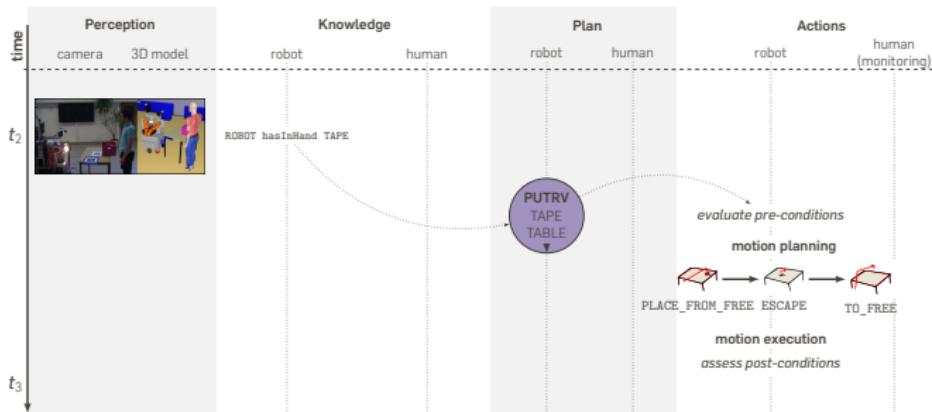
# "CLEANING THE TABLE"...



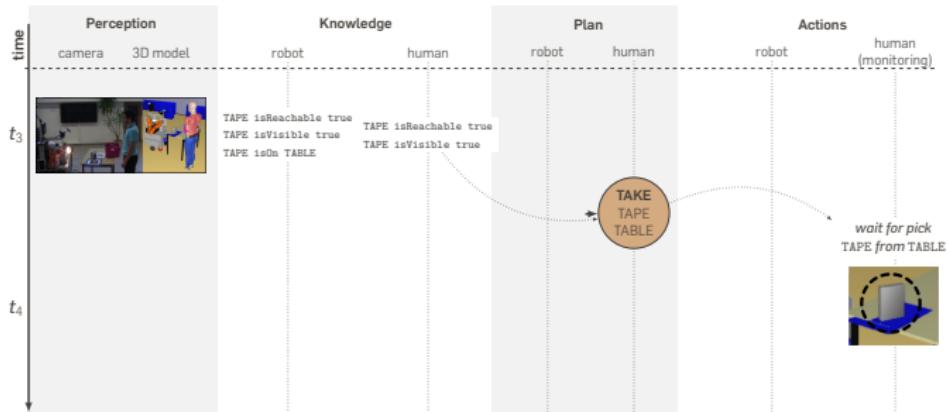
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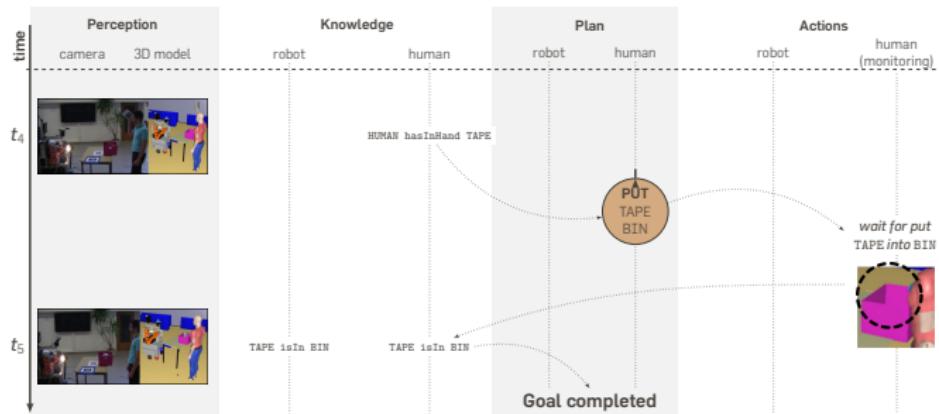
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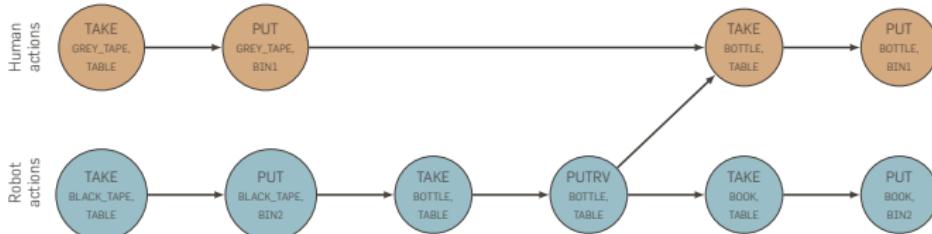
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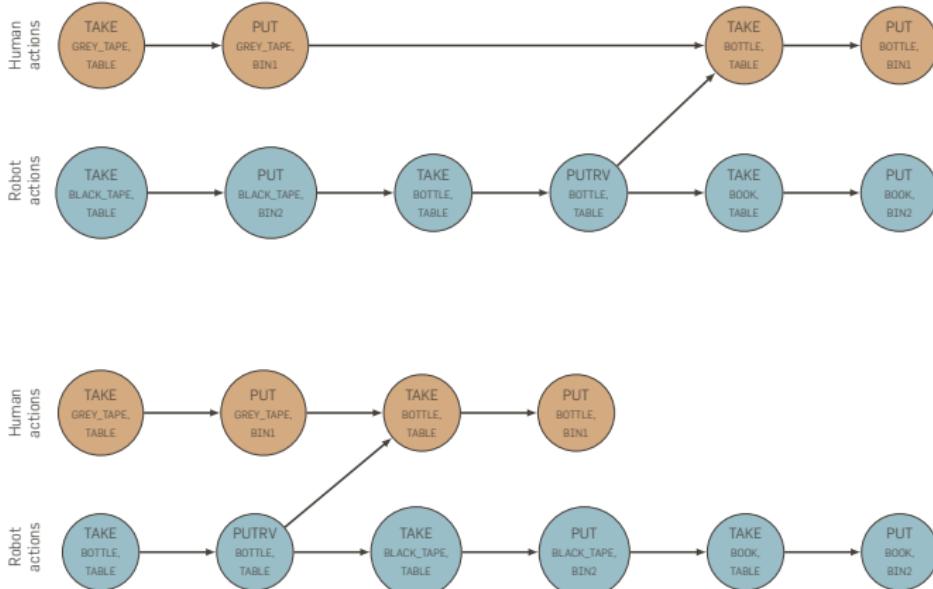
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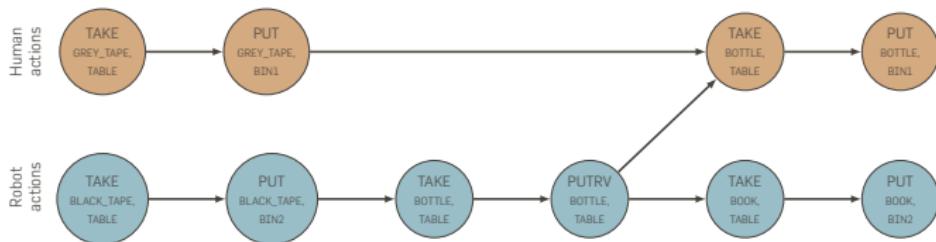
# PLANNING FOR THE HUMAN



# PLANNING FOR THE HUMAN



# PLANNING FOR THE HUMAN







LAAS-CNRS

# roboscopie

A Theatre Performance for a Robot and a Human

*HRI 2012*

amit_give	follow	manipose	setup_scenario
arms_against_torso	glance_to	move_head	show
attachobject	goto	movearm	slow_arms_swinging
basicgive	grab_gripper	moveclose	sorry
basicgrab	grab	open_gripper	speed_arms_swinging
basictake	gym	pick	sweep_look
basket	handover	place_agent	sweep
cancel_follow	handsup_folded	place_object	switch_cameras
cancel_track	handsup_folded2	pointsat	take
cancel	handsup_folded3	put_accessible	track_human
carry	handsup	put	track
close_gripper	hide	rarm_swinging	translate
configure_grippers	idle	release_gripper	tuckedpose
detect_and_grab	init	release	unlock_object
detect	larm_swinging	restpose	wait
disabledevileye	lock_object	rotate	waypoints
display	look_at_ros	satisfied	
dock	look_at_xyz	say	
enabledevileye	look_at	setpose	
extractpose	looksat	settorso	

PYROBOTS

---

```
from robots import GenericRobot
from robots.concurrency import action, ActionCancelled
from robots.resources import Resource, lock

class MyRobot(GenericRobot):
    # ... state + lowlevel action

WHEELS = Resource("wheels")

@lock(WHEELS)
@action
def move_forward(robot):
    target = [1.0, 0., 0., "base_link"]

    try:
        robot.goto(target)

        while(robot.dist_to(target) > 0.1):
            robot.sleep(0.5)

    except ActionCancelled:
        robot.stop()
```

---

---

```
with MyRobot() as robot:

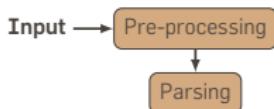
    robot.whenever("my_bumper", True).do(move_forward)

    try:
        while True:
            time.sleep(0.5)
    except KeyboardInterrupt:
        pass
```

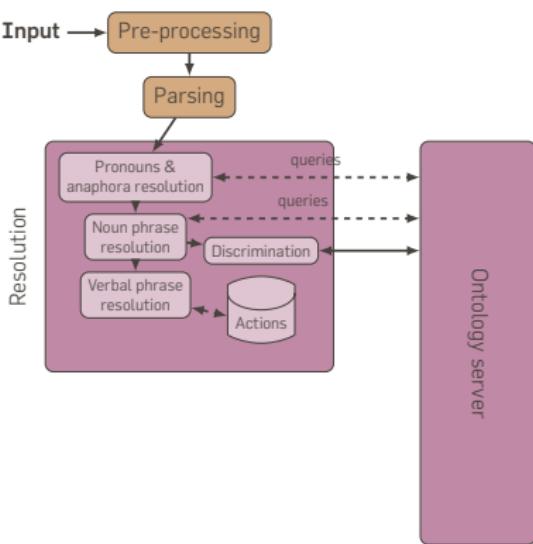
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# DIALOGUE GROUNDING

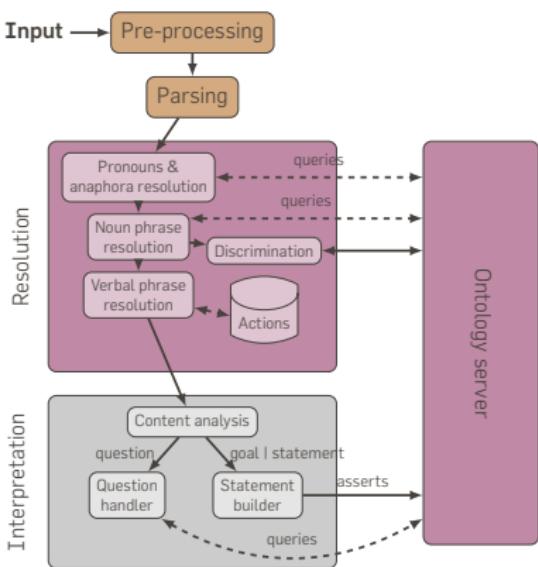
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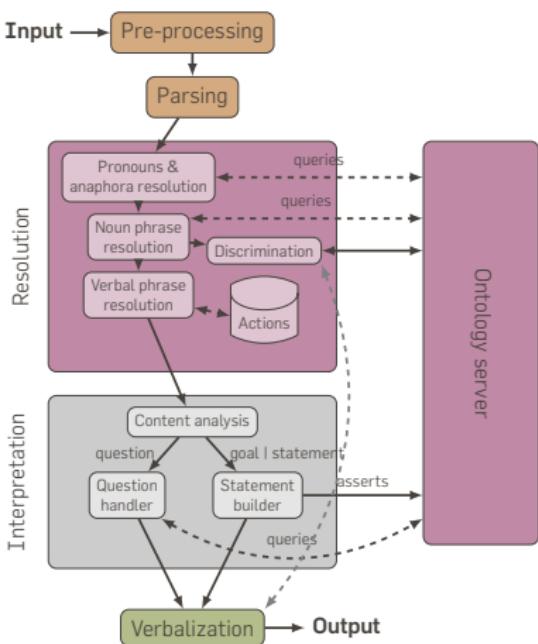
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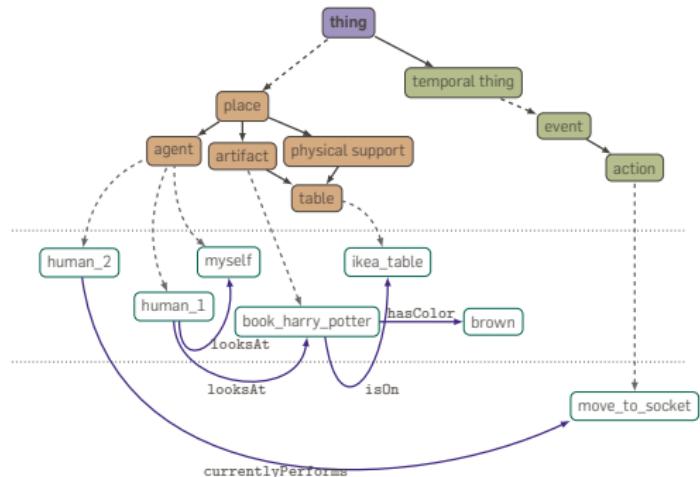
# DIALOGUE GROUNDING



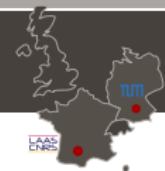
# DIALOGUE GROUNDING



# MULTI-MODAL SYMBOLIC SITUATION ASSESSMENT



# DIALOGUE GROUNDING



"Give me the book on the table"

◀ Supplementary material

# DIALOGUE GROUNDING



"Give me the book on the table"



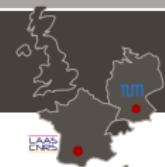
me → human\_1

find(?obj type table) → ikea\_table

find(?obj type book, ?obj isOn ikea\_table) → harry\_potter

◀ Supplementary material

# DIALOGUE GROUNDING



"Give me the book on the table"



me → human\_1

find(?obj type table) → ikea\_table

find(?obj type book, ?obj isOn ikea\_table) → harry\_potter



human\_1 desires action1,

action1 type Give,

action1 performedBy myself,

action1 actsOnObject harry\_potter,

action1 receivedBy human\_1

◀ Supplementary material

CRI FOR LEARNING

# SOCIAL OR NOT SOCIAL?



Non-social

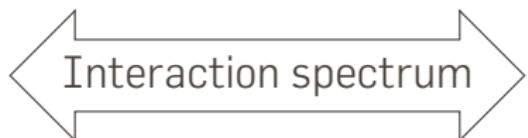


Social

# SOCIAL OR NOT SOCIAL?



**Cellulo**



**CoWriter**

## NON-SOCIAL INTERACTION

What is the most effective learning tool in a classroom?

# NON-SOCIAL INTERACTION

What is the most effective learning tool in a classroom?

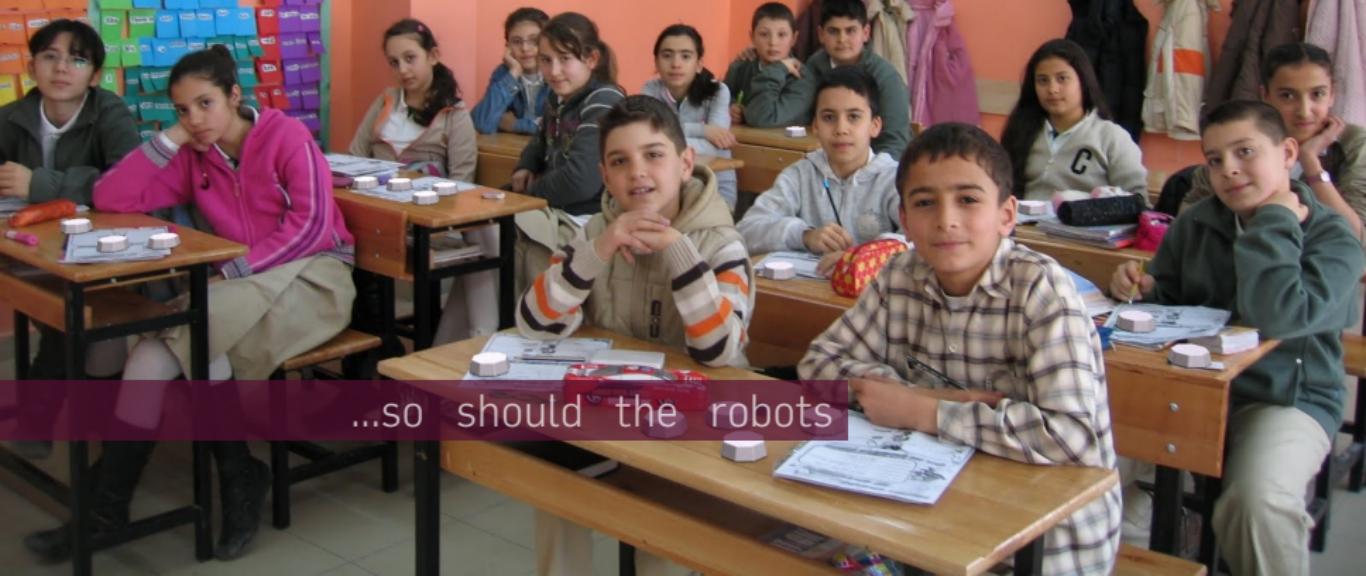




Pens and paper are pervasive...



WORDMANIA



...so should the robots

# CELLULO: DESIGN PRINCIPLES



- **ubiquitous:** a pervasive yet unremarkable tool that blend into the daily learning routine; has to be trustworthy (i.e. reliable), readily replaceable (i.e. cheap, no affective bonding), intuitive (i.e. few simple affordances)

# CELLULO: DESIGN PRINCIPLES



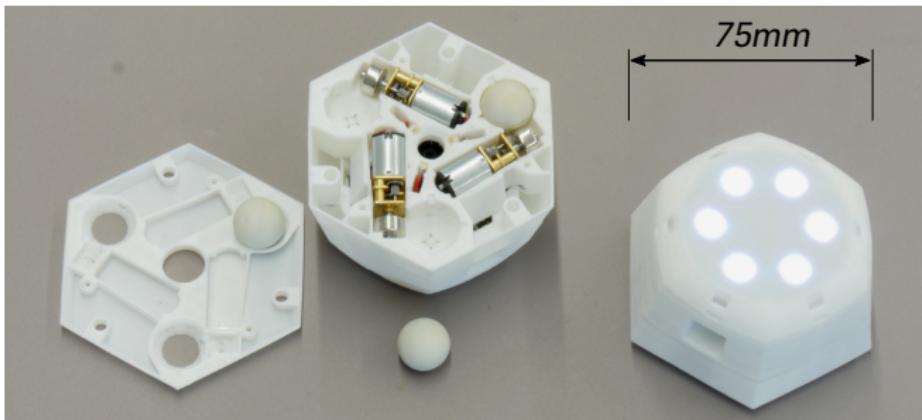
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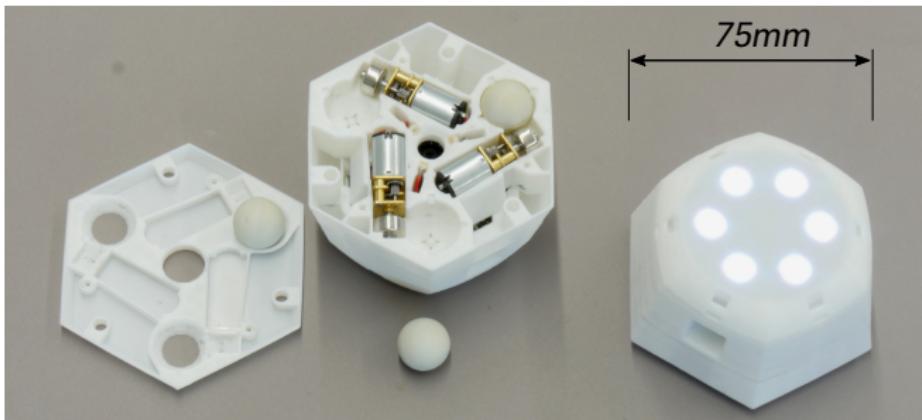
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- **versatile:** applicable to a broad range of learning scenarios; the robots' hardware, appearance and interaction modalities must not imply or be constrained to specific use cases
- **practical:** to gain field acceptance in the classrooms, educative robots must critically represent a net educative gain and must not incur higher workload for the teachers

# CELLULO: HARDWARE



- Holonomic motion
- Sub-mm absolute localisation (no external hardware)
- Haptic feedback + tactile RGB LED buttons
- Bluetooth

# CELLULO: HARDWARE



- Holonomic motion
- Sub-mm absolute localisation (no external hardware)
- Haptic feedback + tactile RGB LED buttons
- Bluetooth
- Affordable (prototype: €125)



# INTERACTION WITH THE PAPER



Critically, Cellulo is meant as an **interaction between (classroom-friendly) paper and the robots**.

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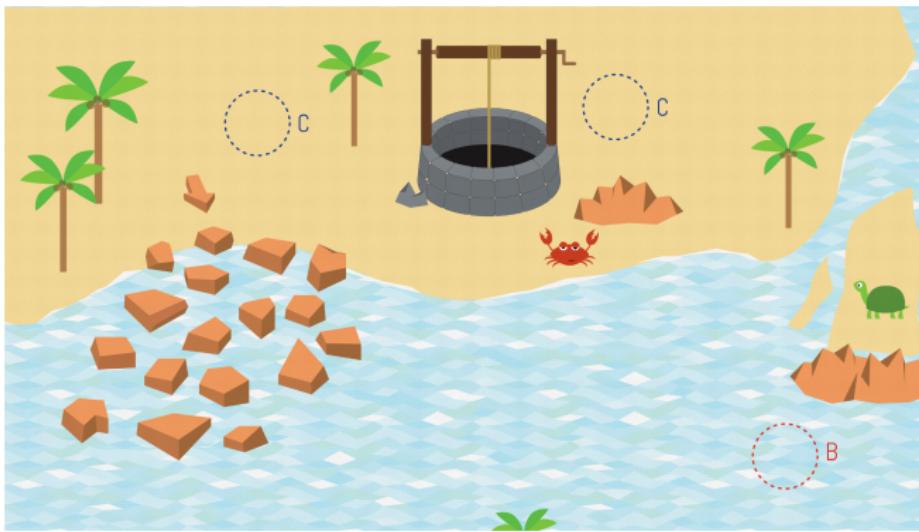
Achieved through a **paper-based absolute localisation system**

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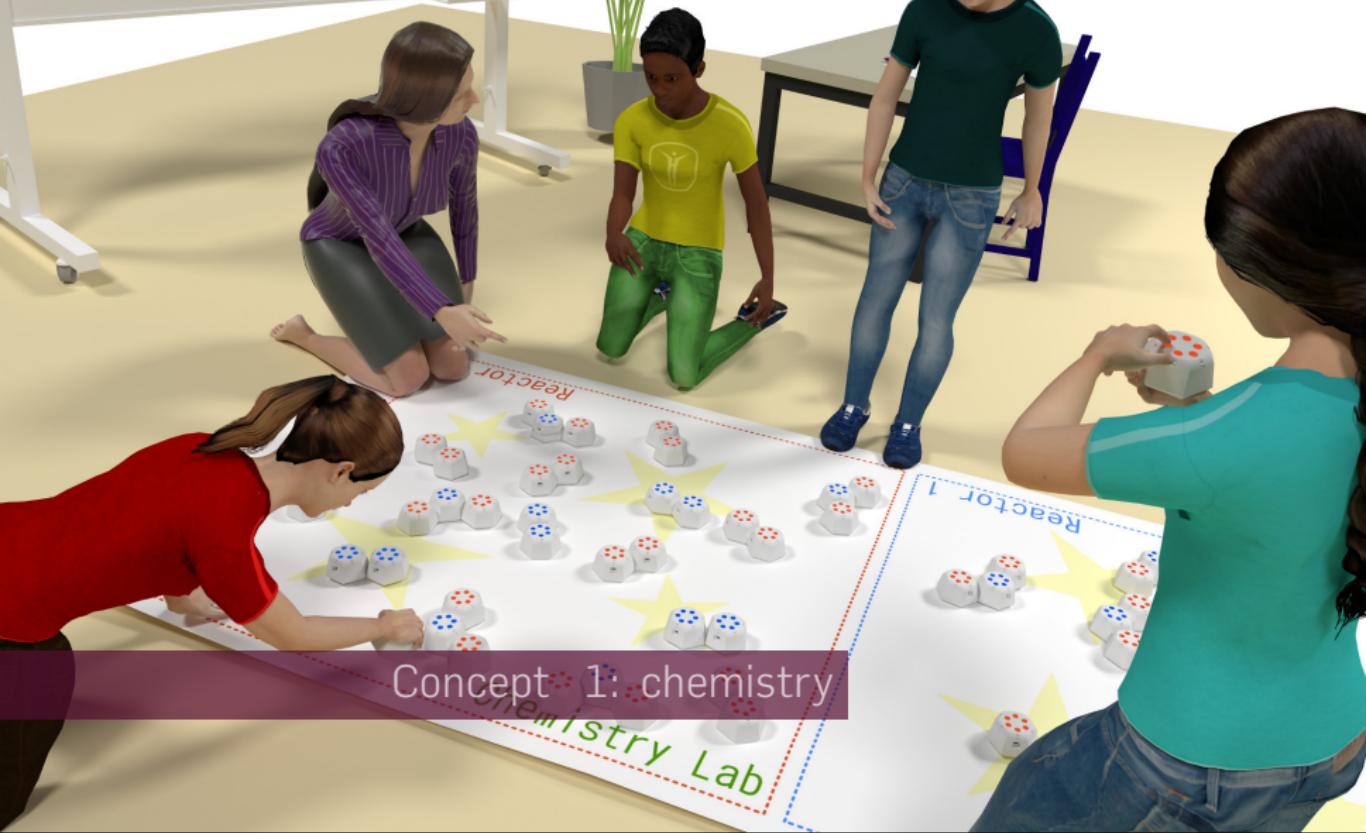
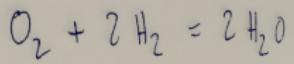
# INTERACTION WITH THE PAPER



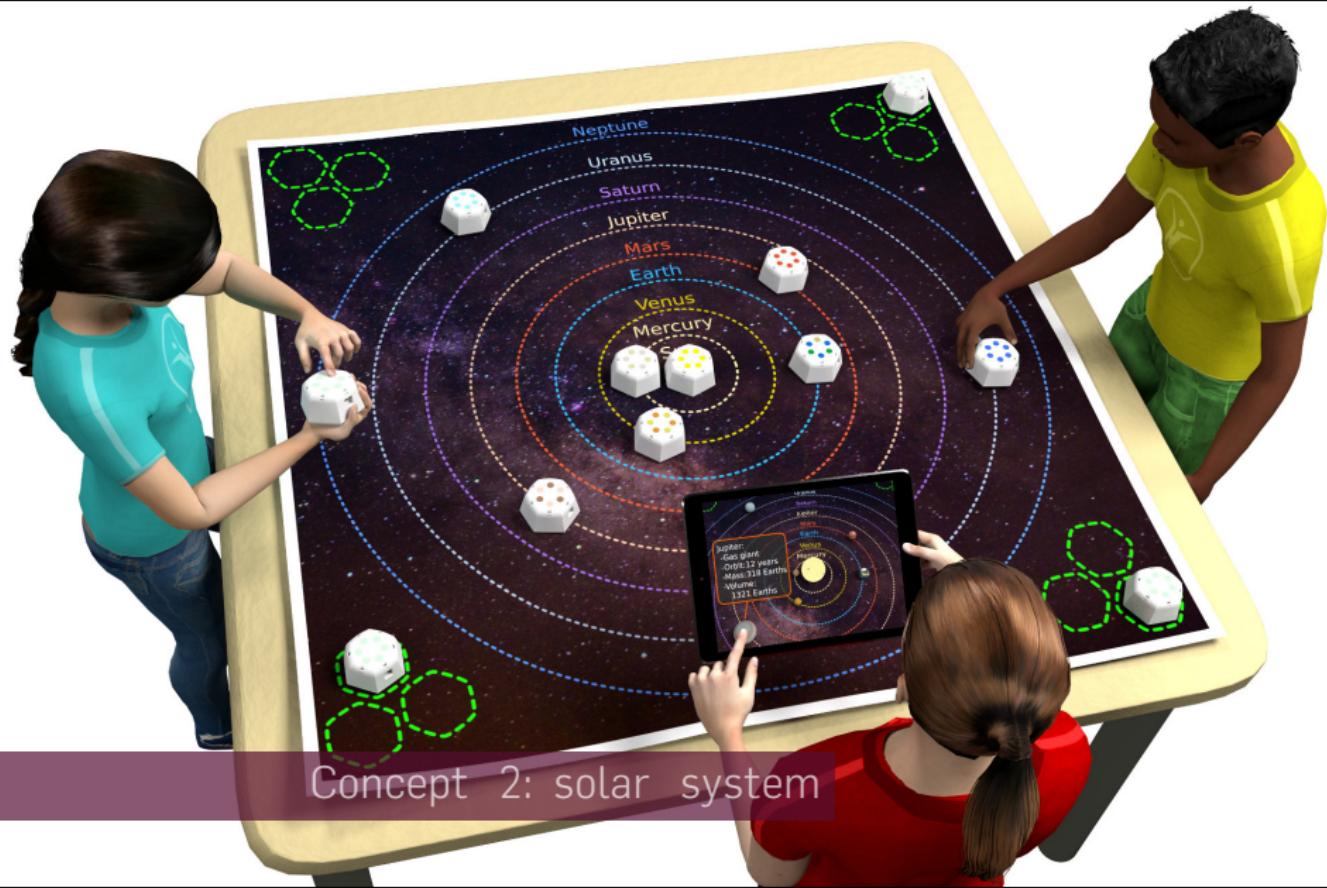
Critically, Cellulo is meant as an **interaction between (classroom-friendly) paper and the robots**.

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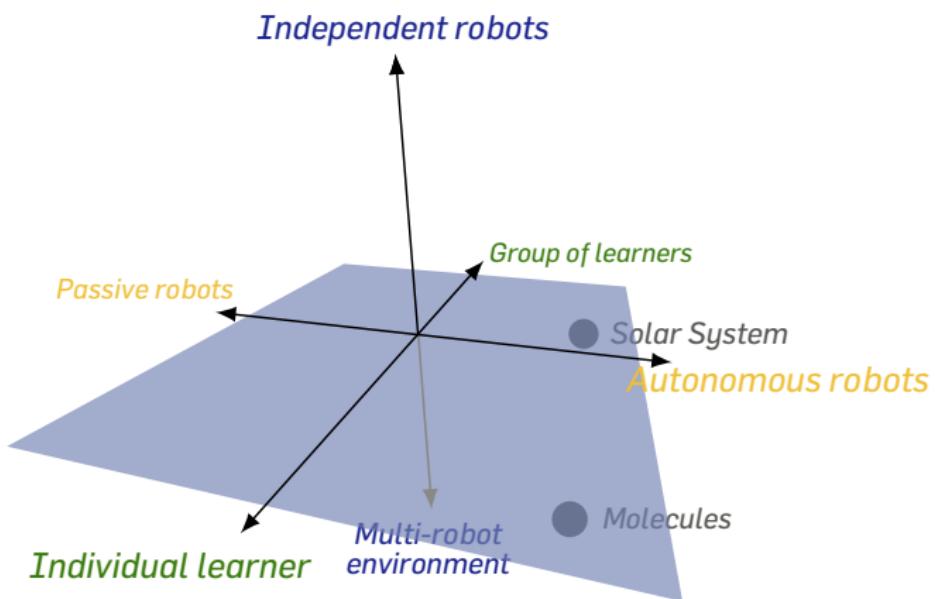
- even more than 'classroom-friendly', paper is 'teacher-friendly'
- easy to manipulate, copy, print, cutout, dispose...
- unique activity IDs: drop the robots onto the sheet, it recognizes the activity



## Concept 2: solar system



# INTERACTION DESIGN SPACE



...at the other end of the spectrum...

# TECHNICAL CHALLENGES



- Get a child-proof robot to write...

# TECHNICAL CHALLENGES



- Get a child-proof robot to write...
- ...badly...

# TECHNICAL CHALLENGES



- Get a child-proof robot to write...
- ...badly...
- Make it able to learn...

# TECHNICAL CHALLENGES



- Get a child-proof robot to write...
- ...badly...
- Make it able to learn...
- ...with the help of children

# THE COWRITER PROJECT



Can we address children' hand-writing impairments with robots?

# THE COWRITER PROJECT



Can we address children' hand-writing impairments with robots?

- Robots do not know how to write!

# THE COWRITER PROJECT



Can we address children' hand-writing impairments with robots?

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- Learning by Teaching

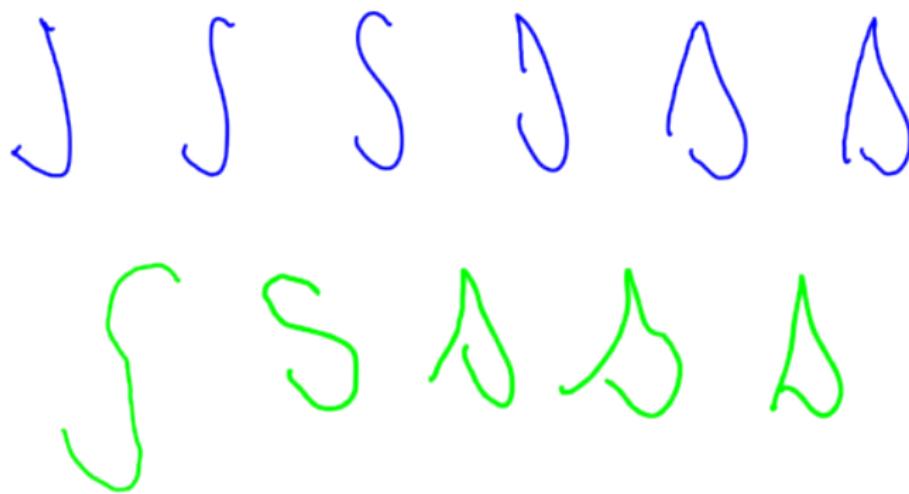
# THE COWRITER PROJECT



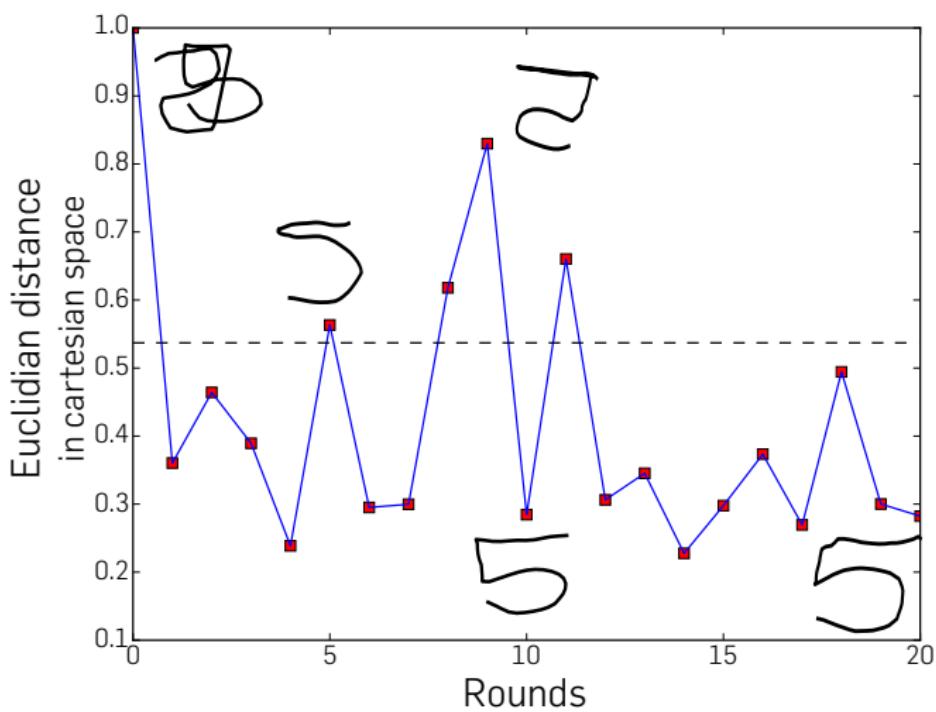
Can we address children' hand-writing impairments with robots?

- Robots do not know how to write!
- Learning by Teaching
- (nice side-effect: we can adapt to each child and each disabilities)

# LEARNING FROM DEMONSTRATION

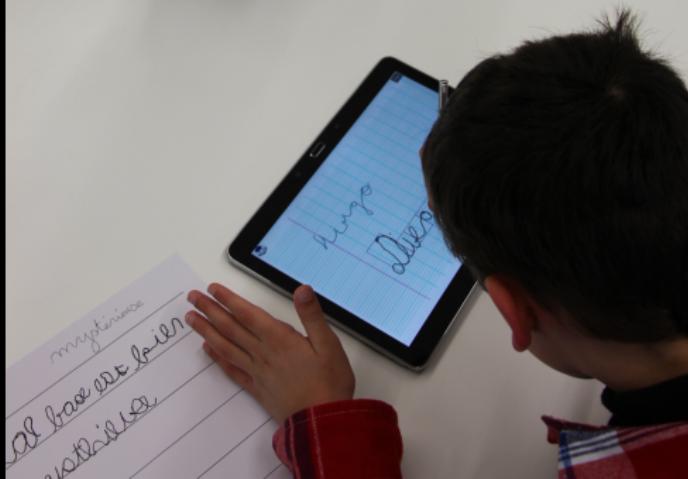


## LEARNING TO DRAW A 5





Algunas personas  
que viven en la  
ciudad tienen que  
comer en restaurantes  
y no tienen tiempo  
para cocinar.



mystérieuse  
Al bâton est bâton  
mystérieuse

## BEFORE – AFTER



salut mimi  
now persons  
que c'est un  
corps  
cet e que tu peu  
croire des  
photos de  
la lise

## BEFORE – AFTER



salut mimi  
nous pensons  
que c'est un  
corps  
c'est à que tu peux  
croire des  
photos de  
la base

salut mimi  
nous pensons  
que c'est un  
corps  
est à que tu peux  
envoyer des  
photos de  
la base

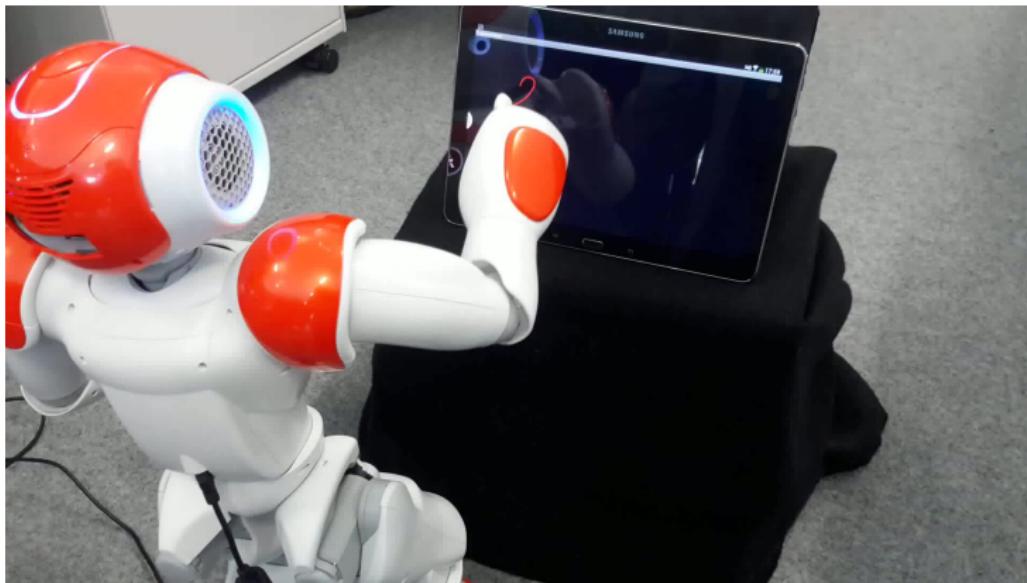
## BEFORE – AFTER



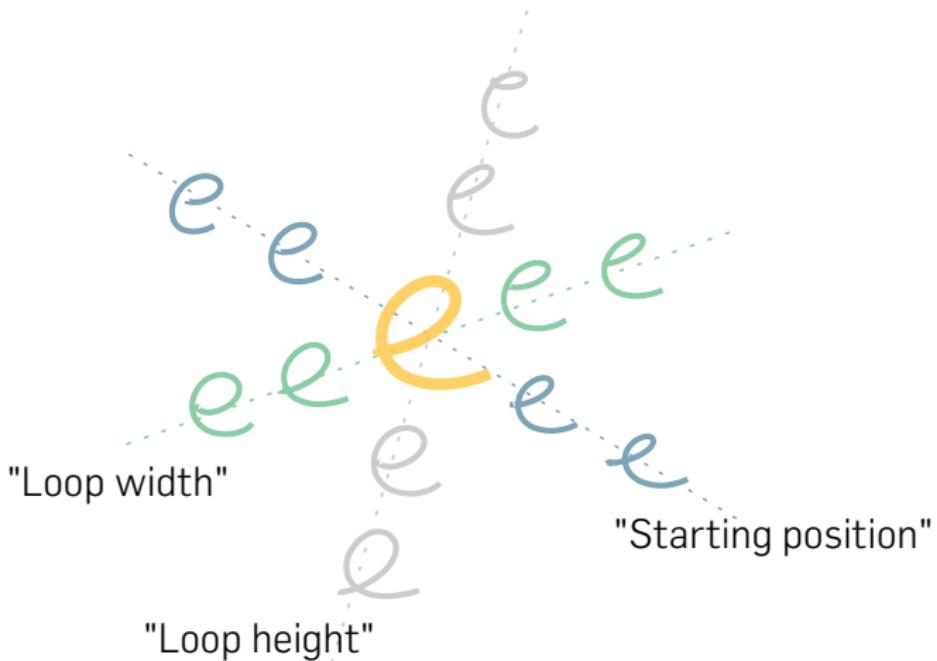
salut mimi  
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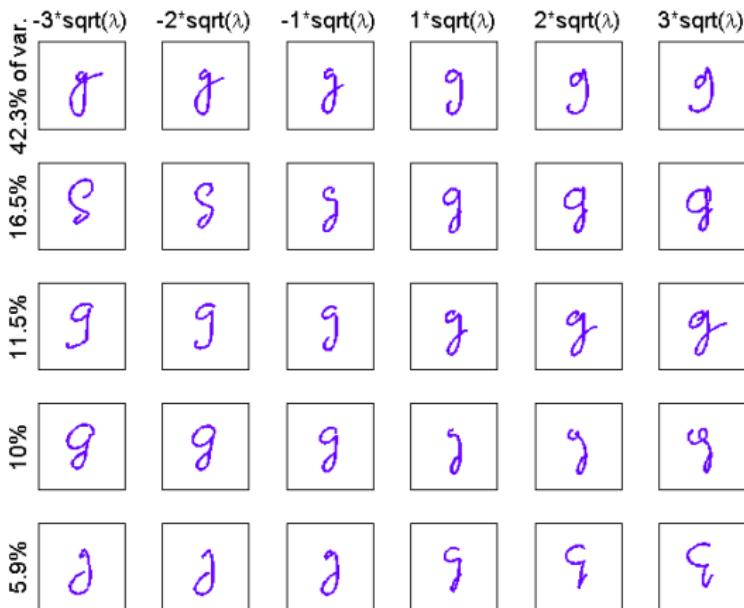
# COWRITER IMPLEMENTATION



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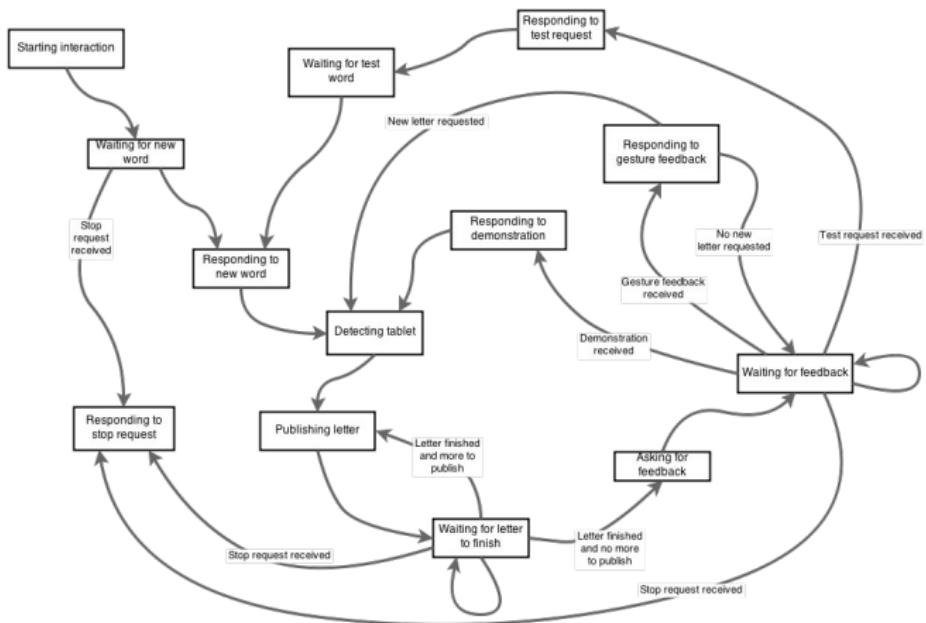


# COWRITER IMPLEMENTATION



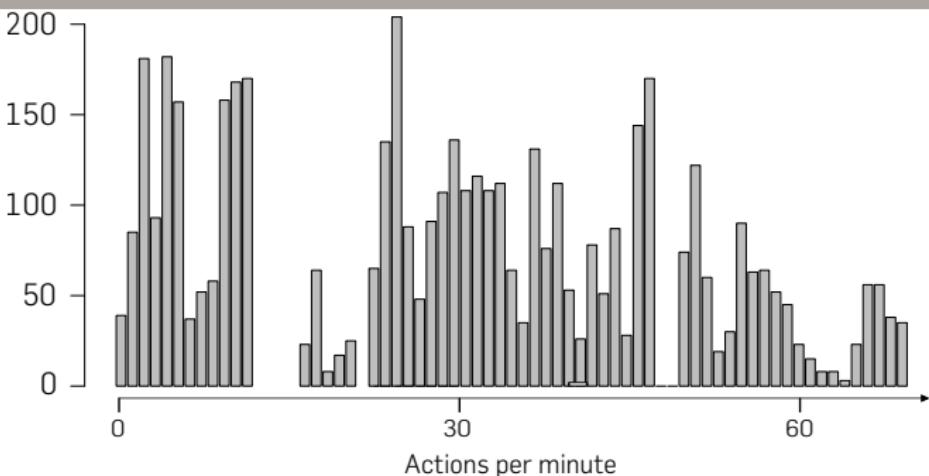
J J S S J J

S S A A A A



# PRACTICAL CRI





lightbox	on_bumped	active_wait
on_toy_added	up_down_row	closeeyes
move	wakeup	lightpattern
background_blink	look_at_caresses	turn
undock	on_toy_removed	idle
pulse_row	sneak_in	playsound
blink	on_lolette_removed	blush
on_lolette	fall_asleep	
placeeyes	look_at_lolette	

◀ Supplementary material

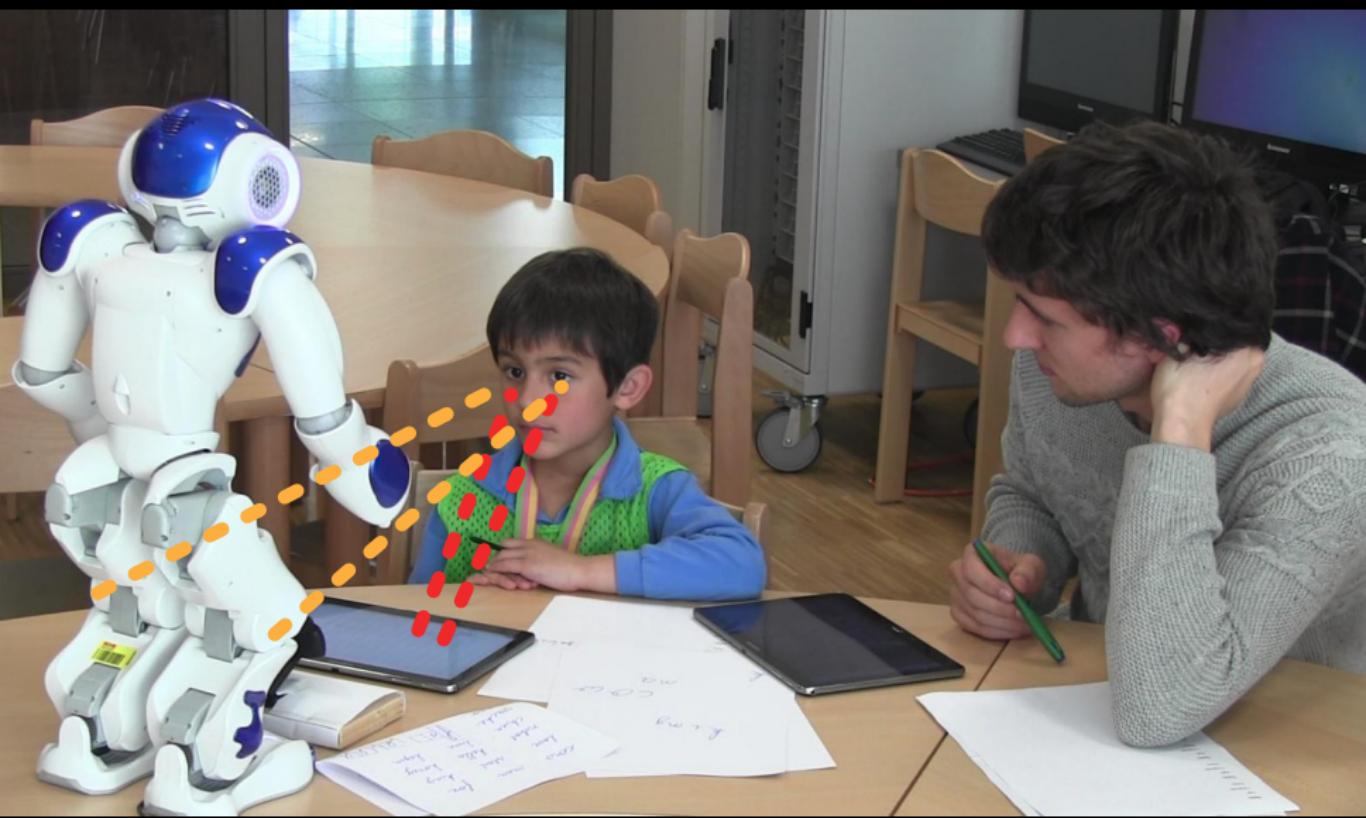
Can we make the analysis of child-robot interaction **practical**?

- (surface) engagement
- cognitive perception/anthropomorphism
- child speech recognition

## WITH-ME-NESS

**“With-me-ness”:** real-time estimation of surface engagement



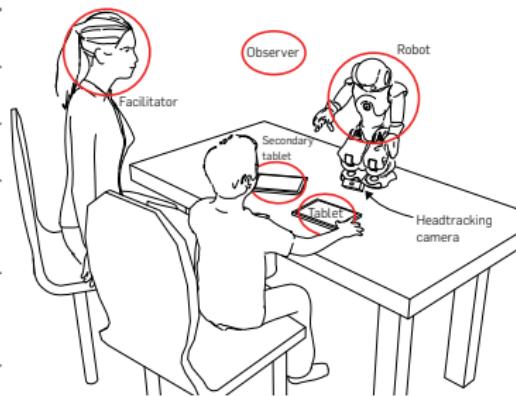


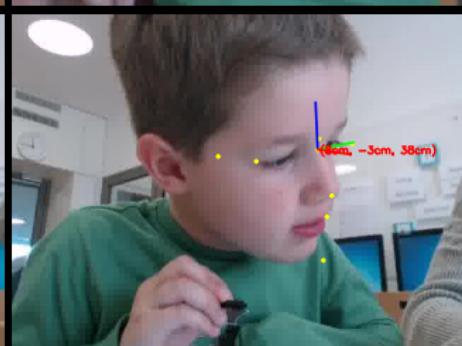
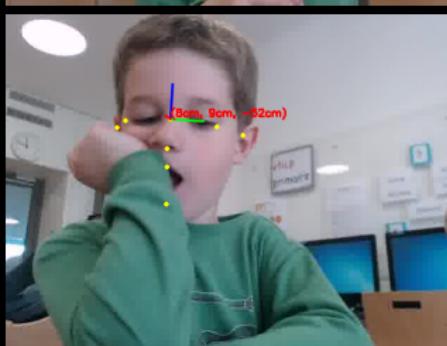
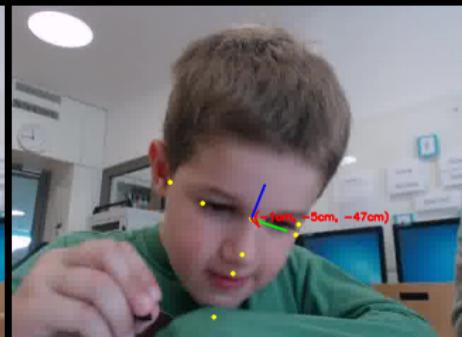
# EXPECTED FOCUS



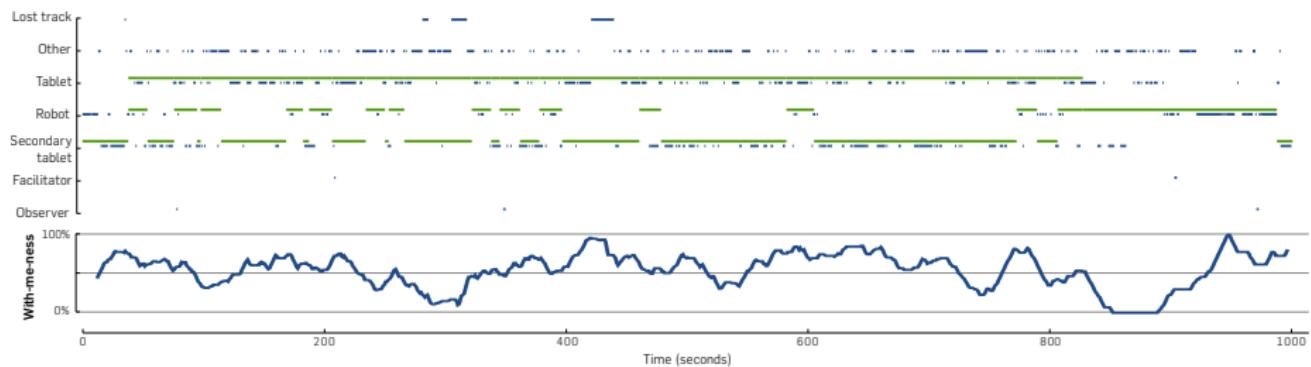
Example for the CoWriter task:

Interaction Phase	Expected targets
Presentation	robot
Waiting for word	secondary tablet
Writing word	tablet robot
Waiting for feedback	tablet secondary tablet
Story telling	robot
Bye	robot





# WITH-ME-NESS



# WITH-ME-NESS IS...



## With-me-ness is...

- An **objective** & **quantitative** precursor of engagement...
- ...based on matching the **user's focus of attention** with a set of **prior expectations**
- Can be computed **on-line** by the robot...
- ...and **sensitive to** the (task-dependent) **set of expectations**
- ⇒ **relative** metric!

Supplementary material

# CONSTRUCTS FOR COGNITIVE PERCEPTION ANALYSIS



## Expectations

*How do you imagine a robot?  
What could it look like?  
Have you ever seen a robot before?*

## Impression

*When you first saw R, what did you think?  
Is R a robot? How do you know?  
Did you expect R would come over to you when you call it?  
What happened when you put the domino in the box?*

## Ascribe intention

*Do you think R could go out the door all by itself?  
Does R always obey / come over to you?  
Could R do something silly?  
Why did R not come over to you when you called it?*

## Ascribe perceptual capabilities

*Here is a domino. Do you think R can see it?  
When I say "Hello R!", do you think R can hear it?*

## Ascribe emotional state

*Does R have feelings? Can R be happy or sad sometimes?*

## Social acceptance

*Do you like R? Why (not)?  
What do you (not) like about it?  
Would you like to have R at home?*

## Companionship

*Could R be your friend? Why (not)?*

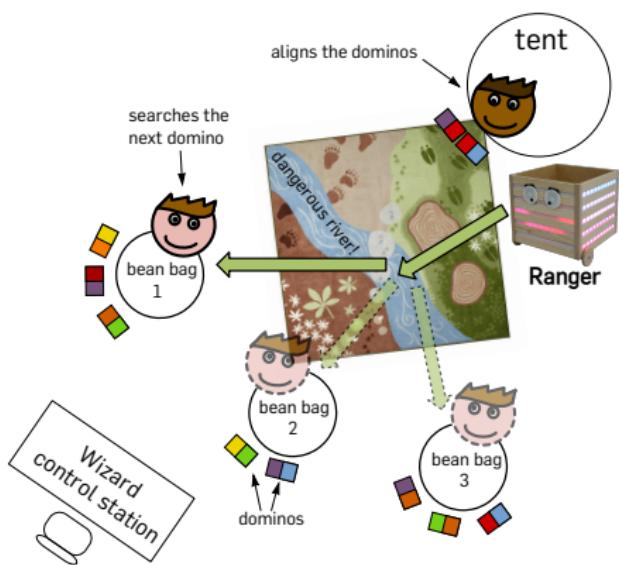
## Ascribe moral standing

*Assume you go on a holiday for two weeks. Is it alright to leave R alone at home? Why (not)?*

◀ Supplementary material

# BEHAVIOUR VS PERCEPTION?

Any relation between the behavioural and perceptual measurements?



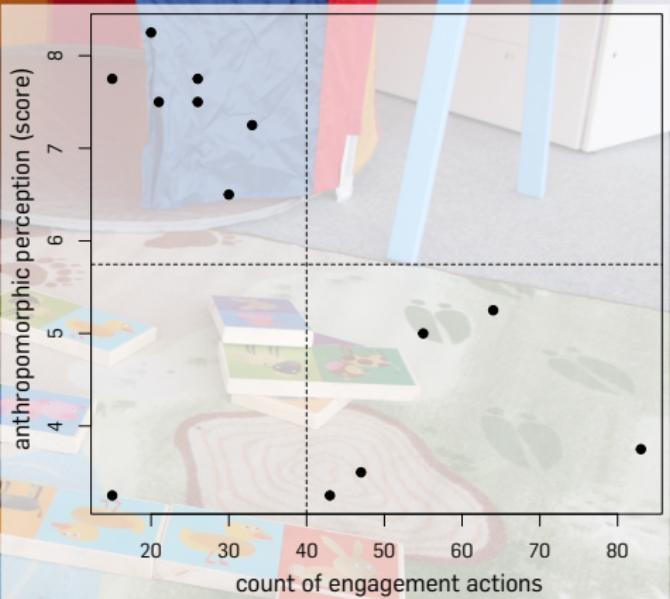
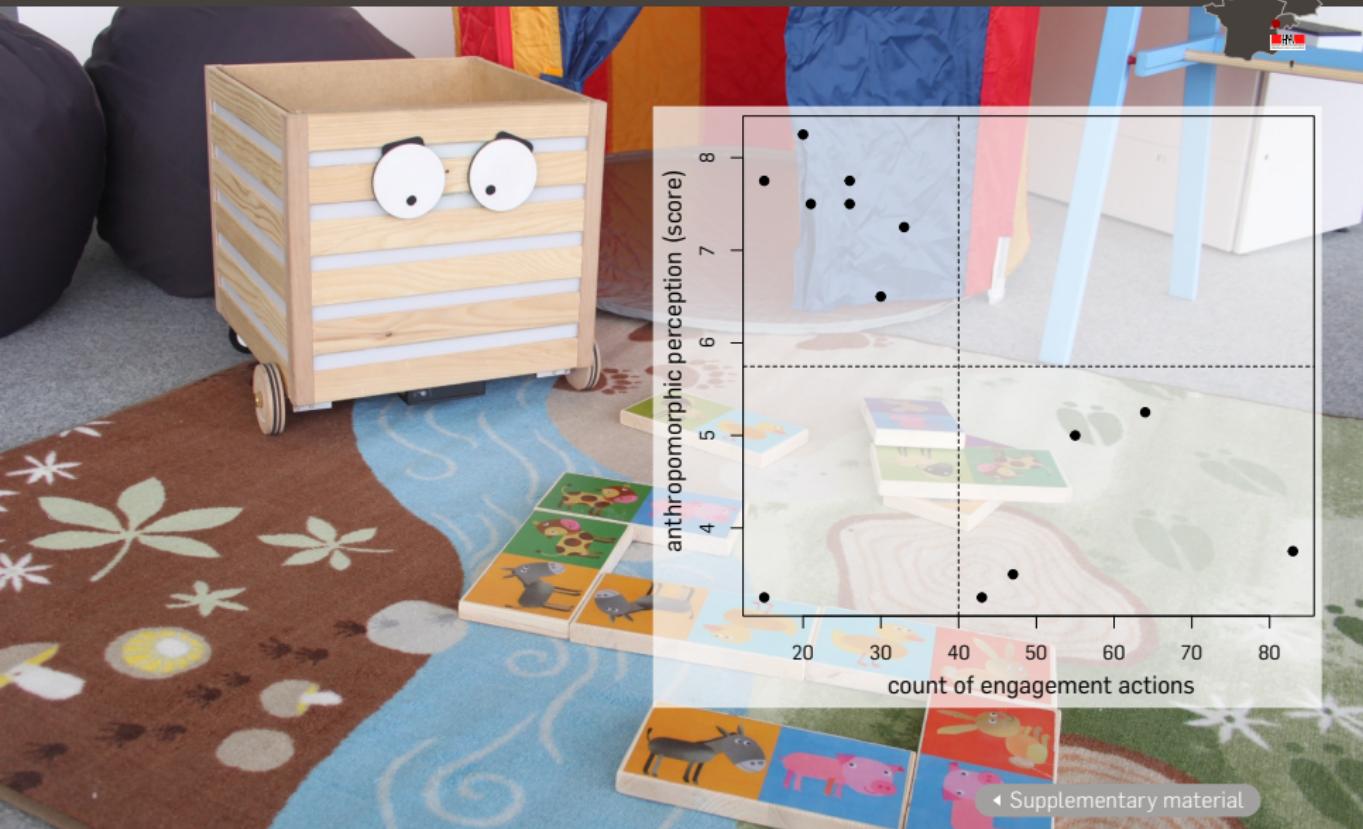
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Any relation between the behavioural and perceptual measurements?

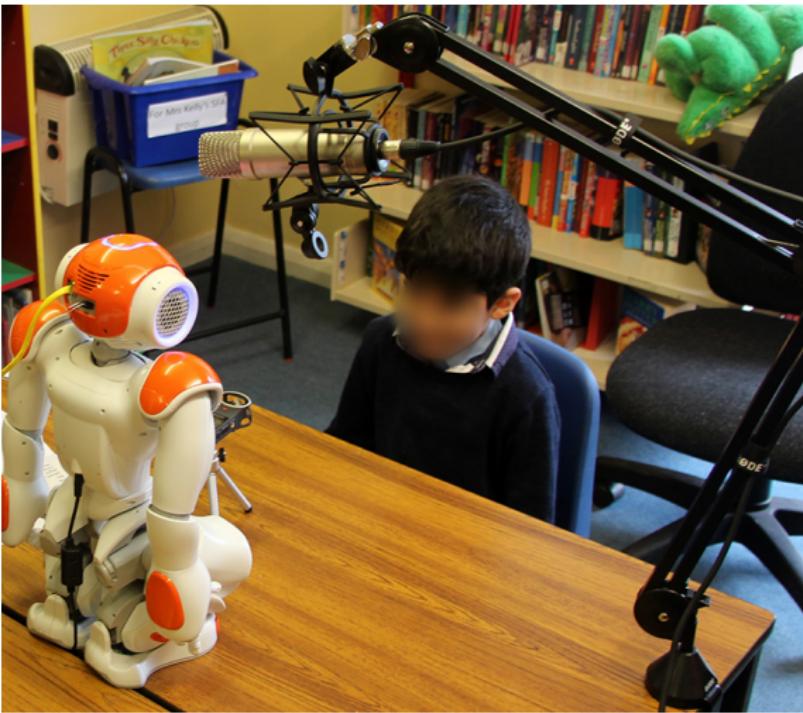


We can compute for each pair an “anthropomorphic perception” score based on the cognitive ascriptions, and...

# ANTHROPOMORPHISM != ENGAGEMENT



# AUTOMATIC SPEECH RECOGNITION WITH CHILDREN



# AUTOMATIC SPEECH RECOGNITION WITH CHILDREN



	Google		Bing		Sphinx		Nuance	
	M LD	% rec.	M LD	% rec.	M LD	% rec.	M LD	% rec.
<b>fixed</b> (n=34)	<b>0.34</b>	<i>11.8 [38]</i>	0.64	<i>0 [0]</i>	0.68	<i>0 [0]</i>	0.76	<i>0 [0]</i>
<b>spontaneous</b> (n=222)	<b>0.39</b>	<i>6.8 [17.6]</i>	0.64	<i>0.5 [2.4]</i>	0.80	<i>0 [0]</i>	0.80	<i>0 [0]</i>
<b>spontaneous</b> clean only (n=83)	<b>0.40</b>	<i>6.0 [16.9]</i>	0.63	<i>1.2 [1.2]</i>	0.78	<i>0 [0]</i>	0.78	<i>0 [0]</i>

**M LD:** mean Levenshtein distance, at word level.

◀ Supplementary material

# REFRAMING THE RESEARCH

## OUR STARTING POINT

**Symbolic artificial social cognition:** works rather well as long as:

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- interaction mostly relying on symbolic *perceptual inputs* (including visual perspective taking) rather abstract or less explicit representations

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However, intuitively, social modeling goes beyond computing what the human perceives or does not perceive → Flavell's *cognitive connections* vs *mental representations*.

Symbolic cognition **does not explain much about how social cognition actually work.** We need a **principled approach** to social cognition for robots

## A LONG-TERM DIRECTION

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...or rather, an **embodied** computational model of social cognition?

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“Social cognition arising in interaction”? certainly looks like a situated & embodied view on cognition

## A MODEL?

Models attempt to *explain*:

*"identifying the causes for an event or phenomenon of interest"*

*"unifying disparate phenomena"*

A model's value is gained from

*"predicting facts that, absent the theory, would be antecedently improbable"*

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...we will come back to the predictive power of a model of artificial social cognition.

# SKETCHING A MODEL

# A MODEL OF ARTIFICIAL SOCIAL COGNITION

I postulate **two stages**:

1. building models of others' minds
2. exploiting these models to socially act:
  - prediction, reading others' intentions
  - adapting own behaviour, alignment
  - establish joint goals
  - ultimately, performing joint actions

→ Social analogs of *perception & action*

## COGNITIVIST VS EMERGENT PARADIGMS

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1. developing internal states *connoting* others' minds
2. perturbing (influencing) actions synthesis with these states

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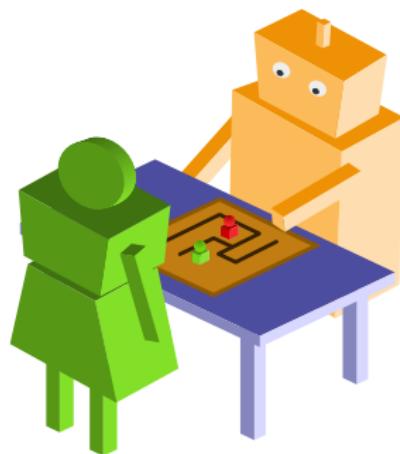
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**Hybrid approaches** are possible – mapping to “raw phenomenal experience” vs “access consciousness”.

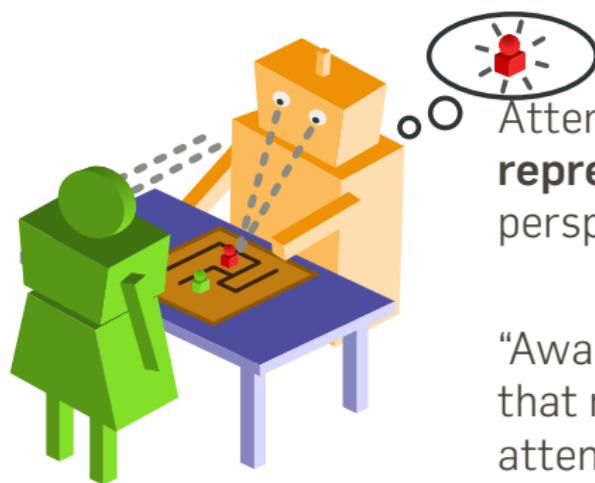
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In cognitive neurosciences: Graziano's *Attention Schemata Theory*



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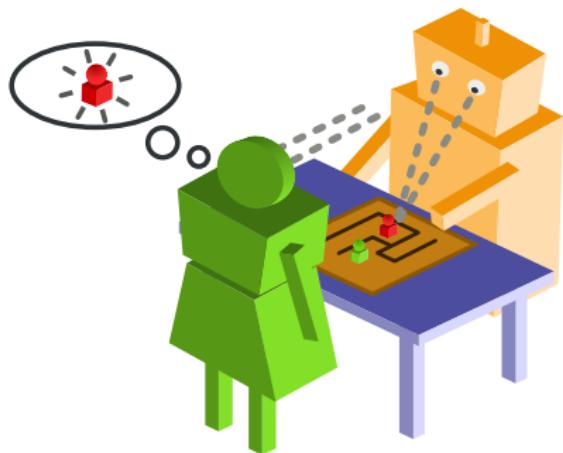


Attention is more about  
**representation** than visual  
perspective

"Awareness is a construct  
that represents the  
attentional state of a brain"

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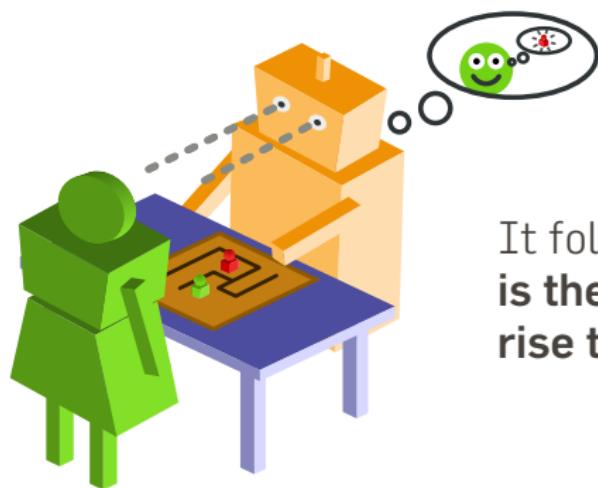
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Graziano's postulate that modelling other's state of awareness is **mediated by one's own attentional system**, through joint attention

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It follows that **joint attention** is the process that gives rise to social awareness

## SKETCHING A PATH FORWARD: MENTALIZING

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**Hypothesis 2:** this can be extended to social cognition. **Modeling one other mental representations equates to taking snapshots of their current state of awareness.**

As we do not have direct access to others' process of attention, it has to be mediated. Following Graziano, we hypothesise that **modelling other's state of awareness is mediated by one's own attentional system, through joint attention mechanisms.**

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6. Points 1 to 5 essentially refer to a *phenomenal* awareness (a *raw* inner experience). *Phenomenal* awareness can be turned into *access consciousness* (the abstract, cognitive ability to reflect on the inner experience)
7. In AI, *phenomenal awareness* maps to connectionist approaches, while *access consciousness* maps to **symbolic representations**

## AN HYBRID MODEL OF COGNITION

- *phenomenal experience* modelled in a connectionist (sub-symbolic) fashion (associative memory network)
  - *access consciousness* in a cognitivist (symbolic) fashion (typically, an ontology or epistemic logics)
- ⇒ bottom-up, from raw percepts to *accessible* representations

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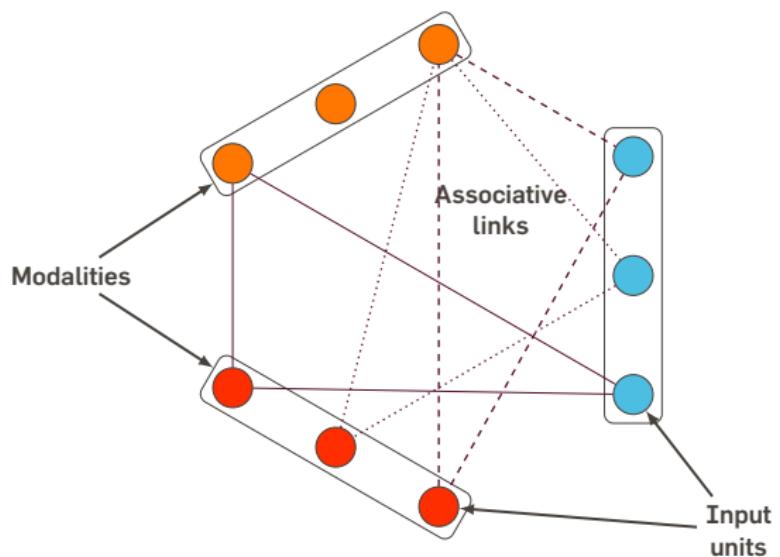
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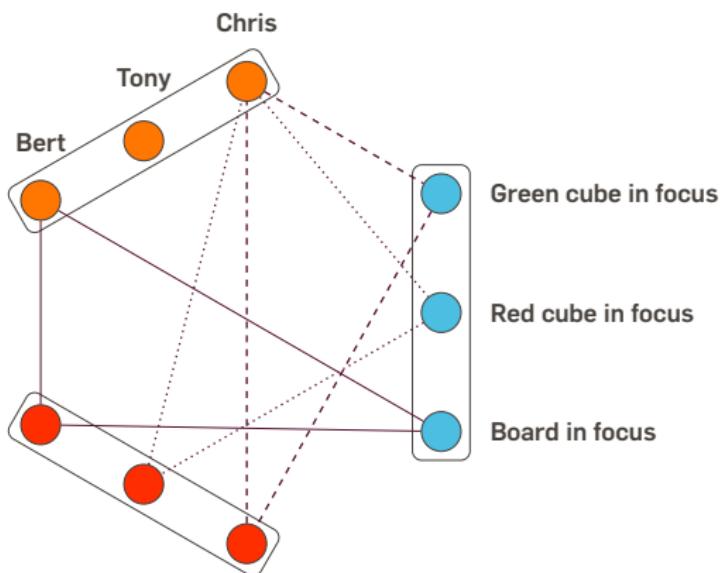
The *Biased Competition Model of Attention* supports bottom-up as well as **top-down biasing mechanisms**:

- **bottom-up**: if a unit is activated longer/stronger, it biases the resulting attention to this unit.
- **top-down**: abstract cognitive processes can influence the memory network at symbolic level to bias the attention process. Practically less clear, but also potentially very interesting as it **closes the loop between the emergent and cognitivist paradigms**

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- **the mapping** between 'phenomenal consciousness' and 'access consciousness' and, respectively, sub-symbolic and symbolic computational structures **might be naive**. This need to be better evidenced, if only because the frontier between phenomenal and access consciousness is all but clear (as pointed by Graziano).

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- what is the **social motivation** for the robot to carry over this modeling? What social drives?
- at epistemic level, if access to other's mental representations is *mediated* by one's own attentional system, these mental representations are subjective. **Can we equate humans' and robots' subjectivities?**

## SKETCHING A PATH FORWARD: SOCIAL BEHAVIOURS

**Hypothesis 3:** together, representations of one's and others' minds are *necessary* and *sufficient* for social behaviours to emerge

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# THE FREEPLAY SANDBOX

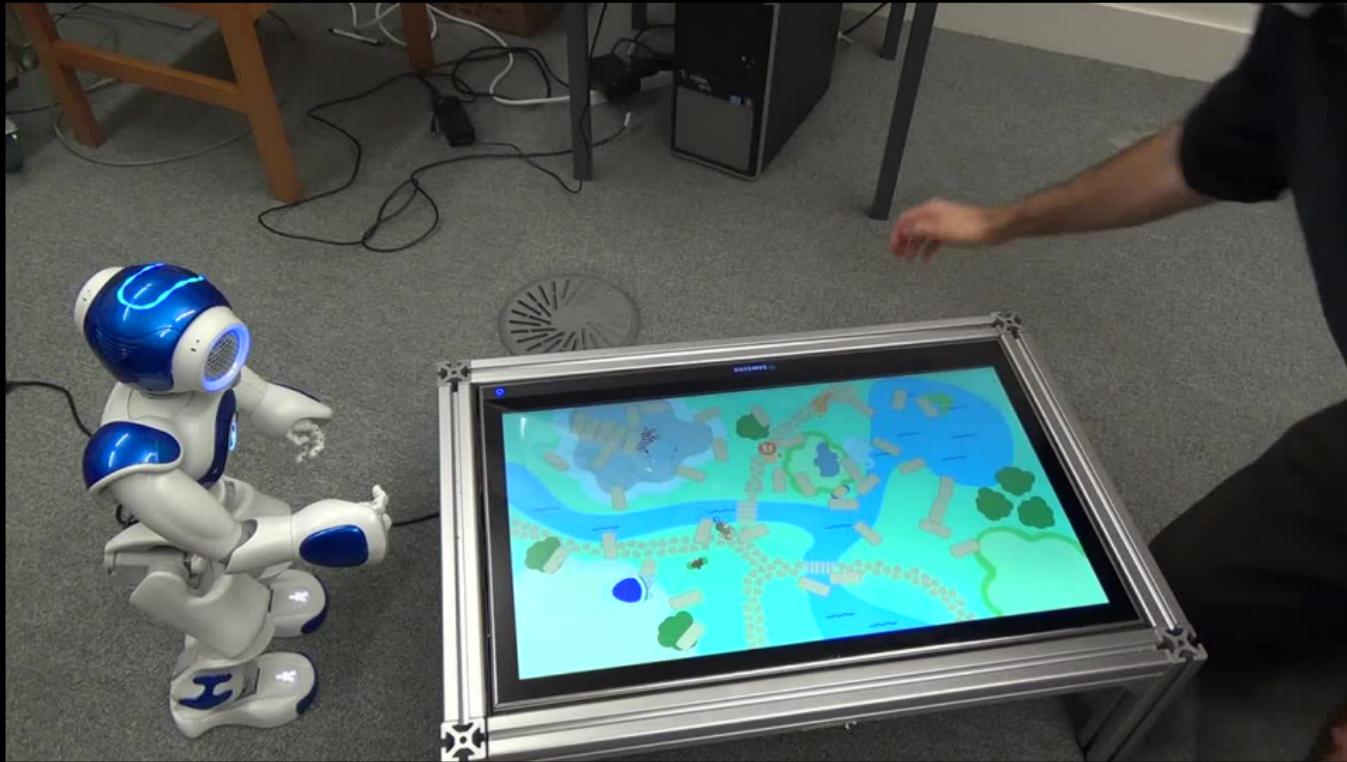
# AN EXPERIMENTAL FRAMEWORK

- The “Zoo design” play situation
- **Free play** with the following constraints:
  - initial prompt (“Let’s build a zoo!”)
  - limited set of tokens (cubes, Lego animals)
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  - spatially limited playground
- to make it technically tractable with robots, the physical playground is **replaced by a large touchscreen** (sandtray): entirely skips the difficult problem of perception and manipulation in a dense & cluttered scene
- the touchscreen strictly replace the perception of objects on the playground (exports ROS TF frames of each object) and their manipulation (receives virtual ‘touches’ from the robot)
- importantly, perception of the partner and of the global scene geometry is genuine





### freeplay\_sandbox\_analysis\_Free-play sandbox analysis tool - rqt

File Help

Bag

audio

env\_camera

l\_camera

r\_camera

0m0s | 0m05s | 0m10s | 0m15s | 0m20s | 0m25s | 0m30s | 0m35s | 0m40s | 0m45s | 0m50s

1489767416.1165 Mar 17 2017 16:16:56.115 4.956s > 365.16 MB

D C O - O X Sandtray D C O - O X

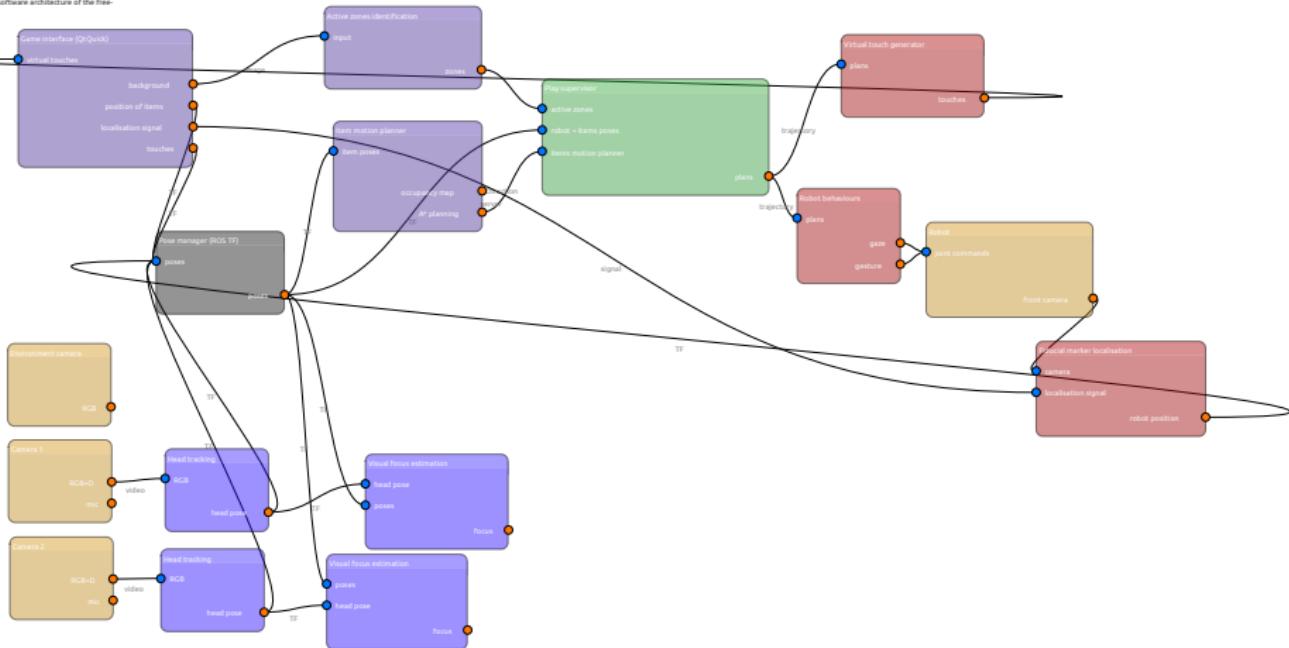
D C O - O X l\_camera D C O - O X r\_camera D C O - O X

The interface displays four video timelines at the top left: 'audio' (empty), 'env\_camera' (showing two children playing with a robot on a table), 'l\_camera' (showing a child from the side), and 'r\_camera' (showing a child from the side). A timeline bar at the top shows time points from 0m0s to 0m50s. Below the timelines are playback controls (rewind, play, fast forward). The center-right features a 3D map of a room with various objects labeled: 'odom', 'rhino', 'cube\_20', 'cube\_29', 'toychild4', 'cube\_38', 'cube\_25', 'cube\_11', 'cube\_5', 'child', 'cube\_23', 'toychild1', 'cube\_21', 'cube\_16', 'cube\_34', 'cube\_28', 'stephan', 'cube\_14', and 'cube\_6'. The bottom section contains three large image frames showing the children interacting with the robot and each other.

## Freeplay Sandbox

0.1

Block diagram of the software architecture of the freeplay sandbox



# AN EXPERIMENTAL FRAMEWORK

Open-ended task: more an **experimental framework** than a task.

- free play, yet sufficiently well-defined to be reproducible
- focus on abstract socio-cognitive facets (perception is simplified; manipulation is mostly avoided)

Besides, well suited for interaction analysis, with tools like:

- behavioural alignment between partners: for instance, using Słowinski's *Individual Motor Signature*
- Ballard's (and Anderson's extension) coding of children's free-play interactions
- *With-me-ness* as a metric of co-engagment

## ONLY THE START OF IT!

### **Which cognitive model? which cognitive architecture?**

→ will likely draw from hybrid architectures (CLARION), internal simulation (HAMMER), sub-symbolic cognitive architecture (ERA)

...but not many cognitive architectures model social interactions!  
(on BICA website, about 0 actually!)

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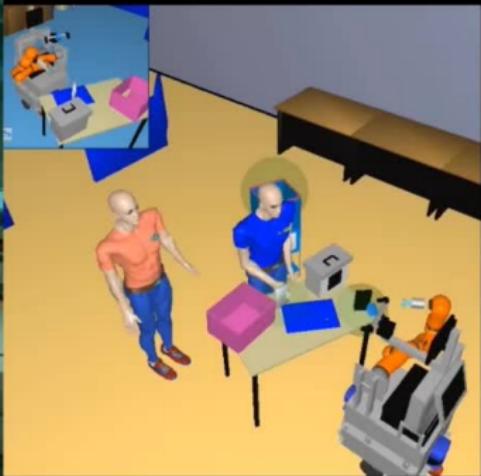
### **What inputs for a connectionist take on social interactions?**

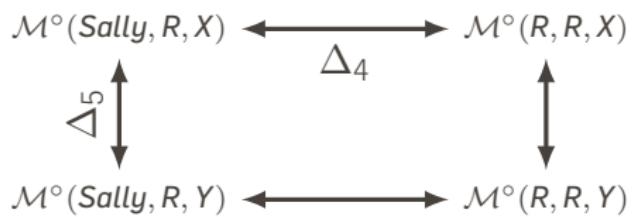
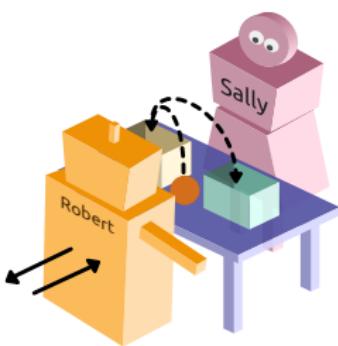
low-level? high-level? To reconstruct someone else's attentional state, Graziano suggests:

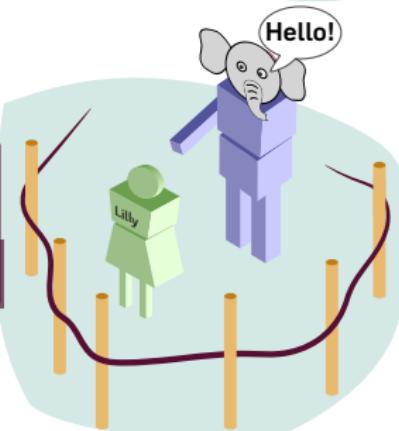
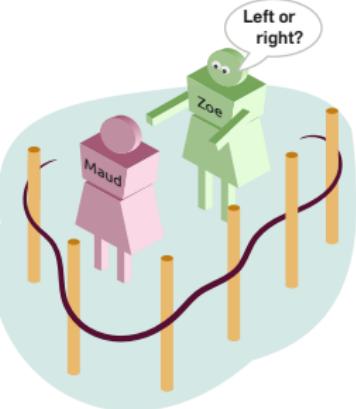
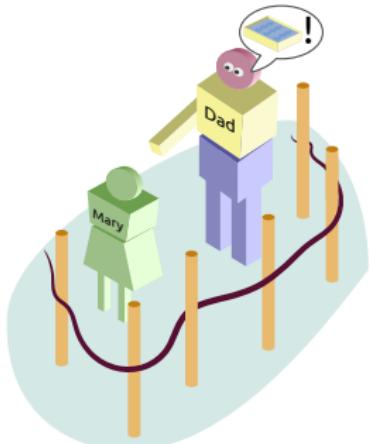
- gaze direction
- facial expression
- body language
- prior knowledge of person
- location of salient objects

Probably not the end of it, though!

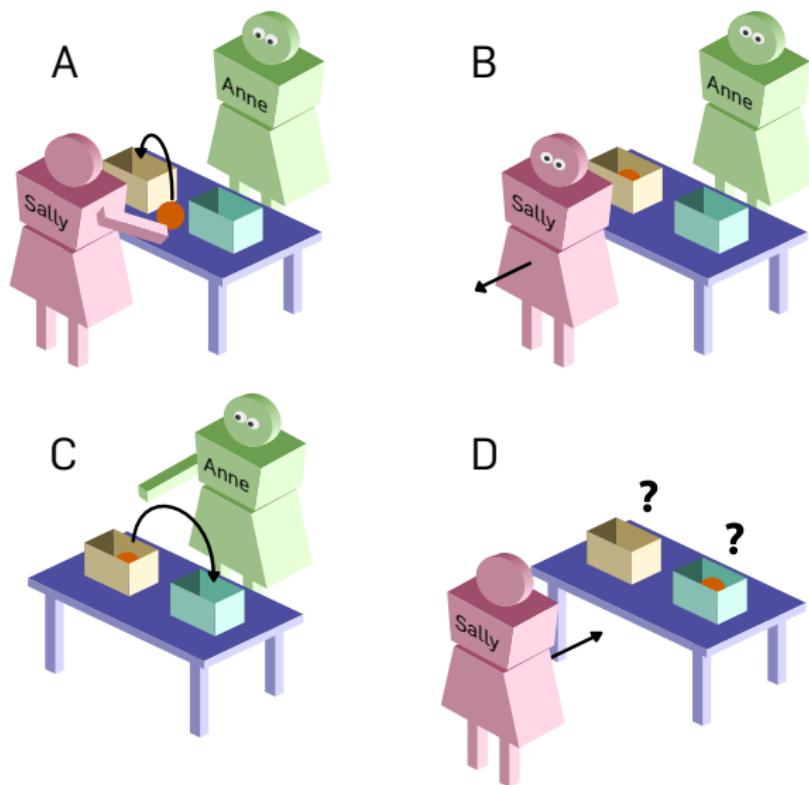
# THEORY OF MIND





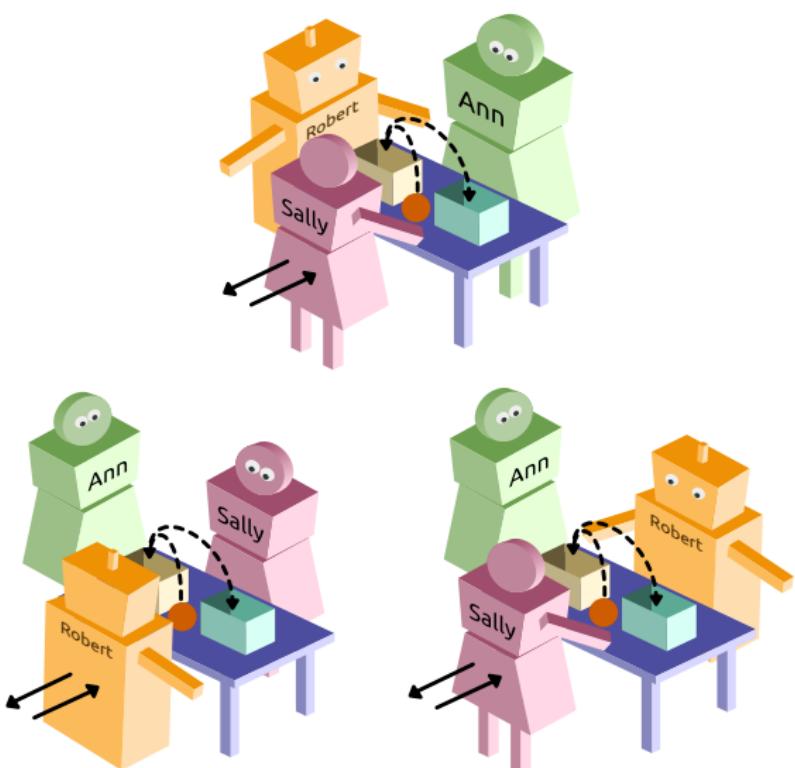


# 1ST ORDER TOM: THE FALSE-BELIEF EXPERIMENT

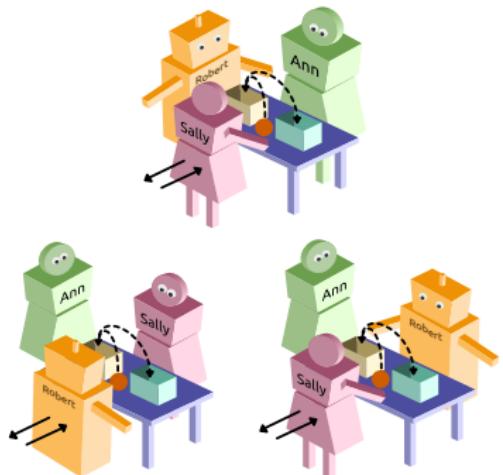


[Wimmer and Perner, **Beliefs about beliefs: Representation and constraining function [...]**, Cognition, 1983]  
[Lemaignan, Dillenbourg **Mutual Modelling in Robotics: Inspirations for the Next Steps** – HRI 2015]

# THE FALSE-BELIEF EXPERIMENT, RELOADED



# THE FALSE-BELIEF EXPERIMENT, RELOADED



- $\mathcal{M}(A, B, X)$
- $\mathcal{M}^\circ(A, B, X)$

e.g.  $\mathcal{M}(\text{robot}, \text{Sally}, \text{plans})$

# THE FALSE-BELIEF EXPERIMENT, RELOADED



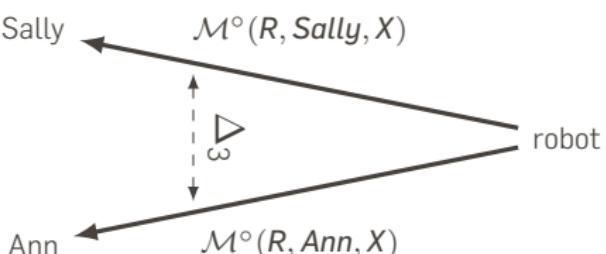
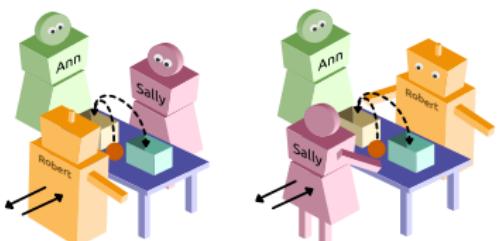
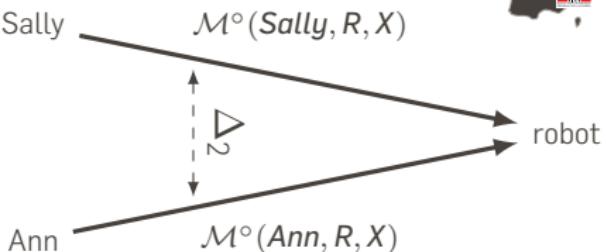
- **Robot is the observer**

$\mathcal{M}^\circ(R, \text{Sally}|\text{Ann}, \textit{plans})$ ? can the human verbalise it? i.e.  
 $\mathcal{M}(H, R, \mathcal{M}(R, H, \textit{plans}))$ ?

- **Robot is an active participant**

$\mathcal{M}(H, R, \textit{knowledge}|\textit{plans}|\textit{goals})$ ? i.e. How Ann interprets  
the behaviour of a robot who moves the ball from the beige  
box to the blue box while Sally is away?

# THE FALSE-BELIEF EXPERIMENT, RELOADED



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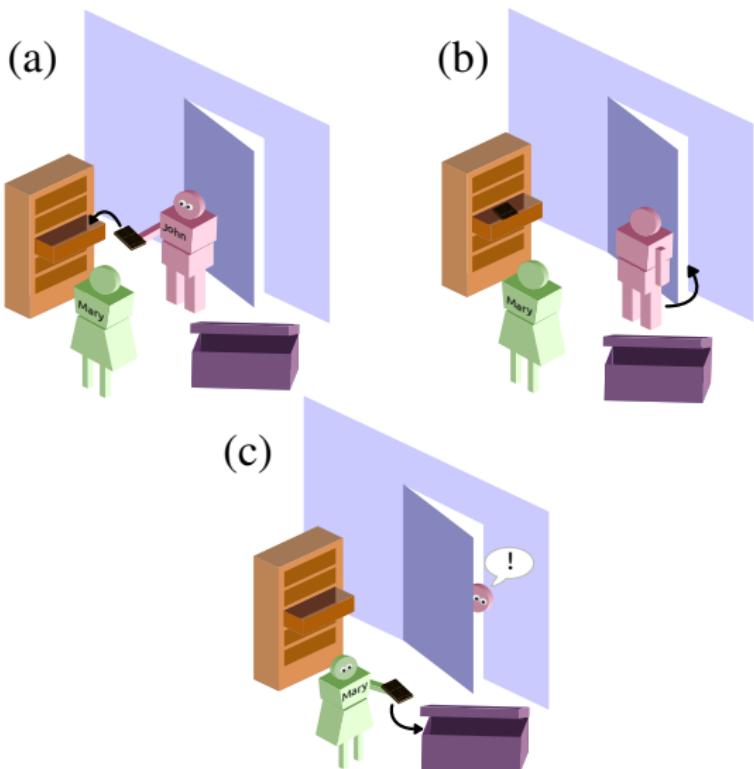
Do Sally and Ann have the same accuracy when modelling the robot?

$$\Delta_2 = \Delta(\mathcal{M}(\text{Sally}, R, X), \mathcal{M}(\text{Ann}, R, X))$$

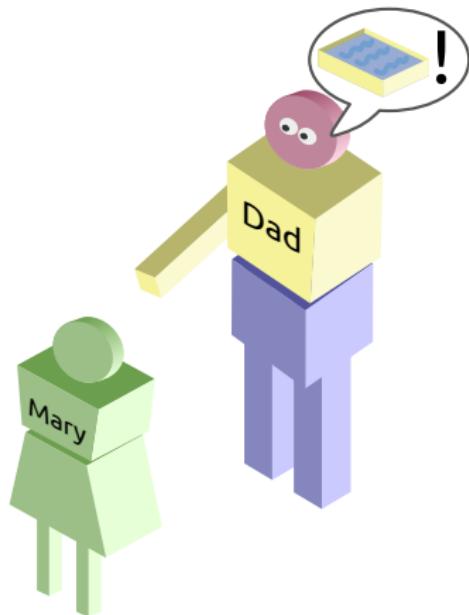
Conversely, what may lead the robot to model more accurately  
Sally or Ann?

$$\Delta_3 = \Delta(\mathcal{M}(R, \text{Sally}, X), \mathcal{M}(R, \text{Ann}, X))$$

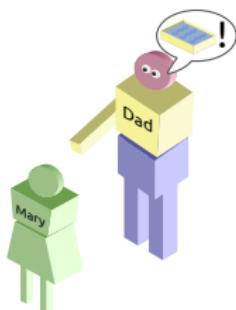
## 2ND ORDER TOM: THE CHOCOLATE BAR EXPERIMENT



# AGREEMENT AS $\infty$ -ORDER TOM



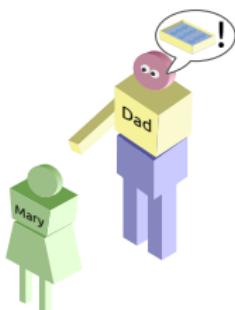
# AGREEMENT AS $\infty$ -ORDER TOM



Shared knowledge

$$\text{EK}_J\varphi \leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{i \in J} K_i\varphi$$

# AGREEMENT AS $\infty$ -ORDER TOM



Shared knowledge

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Common knowledge

$$\text{CK}_J\varphi \leftrightarrow \text{EK}_J\varphi \wedge \text{EK}_J\text{EK}_J\varphi \wedge \text{EK}_J\text{EK}_J\text{EK}_J\varphi \wedge \dots$$

# SHOPPING LIST FOR HRI?



Already in the HRI fridge	To buy...
Instrumental gestures	Expressive gestures
Using person as tool	Using person as receiver of information
Talking about desires and emotions	Talking about beliefs and ideas
Showing "active" sociability	Showing "interactive" sociability
Elicited structured play	Spontaneous pretend play

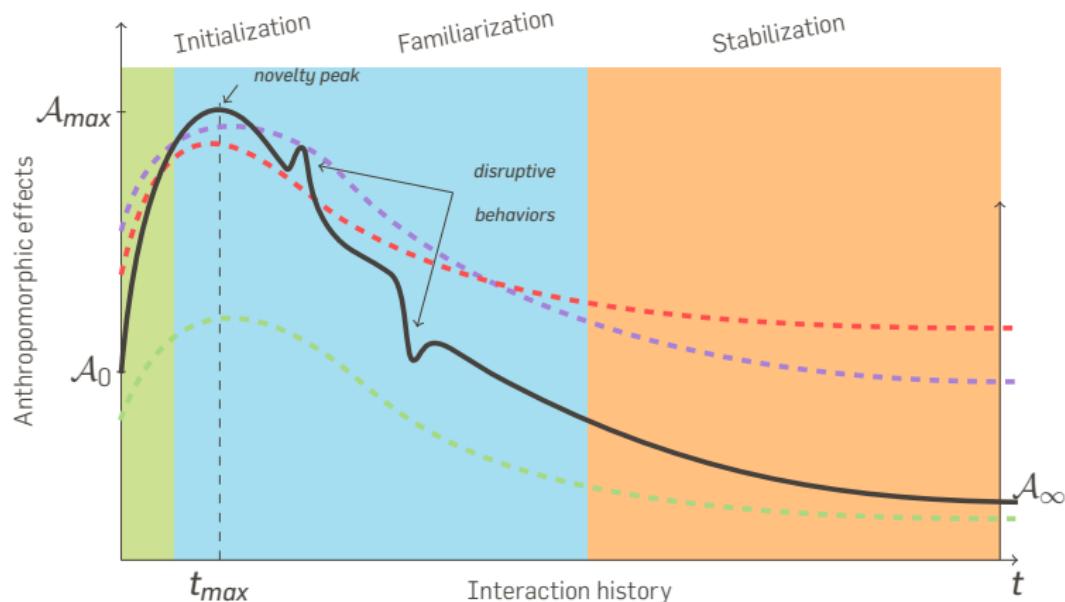
# AUTISTIC ASSETS AND DEFICITS OBSERVED IN REAL LIFE



Assets	Deficits
Instrumental gestures	Expressive gestures
Using person as tool	Using person as receiver of information
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Showing "active" sociability	Showing "interactive" sociability
Elicited structured play	Spontaneous pretend play

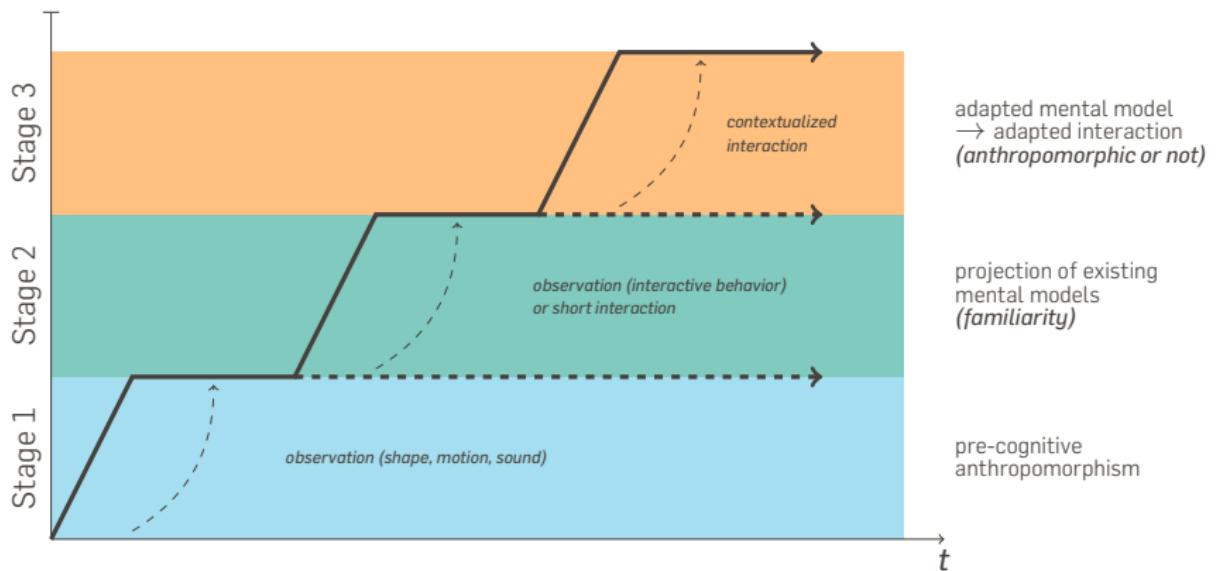
# DYNAMICS OF INTERACTION

# HOW DO WE PERCEIVE ROBOT OVER TIME?



◀ Supplementary material

# COGNITIVE INTERPRETATION?



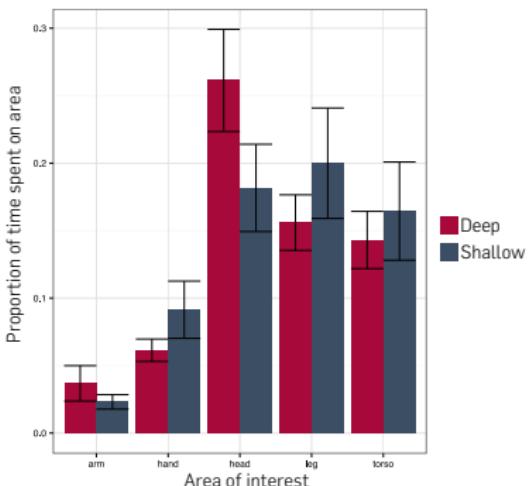
# UNEXPECTED BEHAVIOURS



	Unplanned by the robot	Planned by the robot
Perceived as non- intentional	A	B
Perceived as intentional	C	D

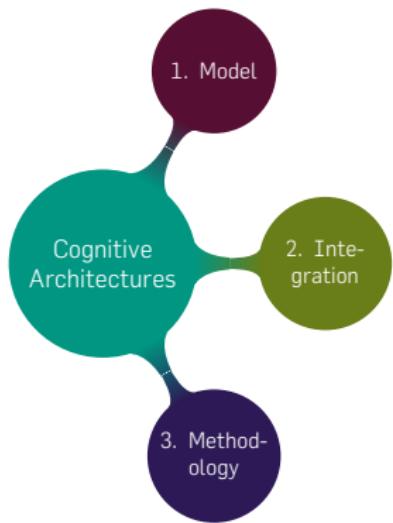


# COGNITIVE CONTEXT AND ANTHROPOMORPHISM



# COGNITIVE ARCHITECTURES

# COGNITIVE ARCHITECTURES FOR SOCIAL HRI



## 1. Models of Human Cognition

- Modelling (aspects of) human cognition
- Subsequent application to robots

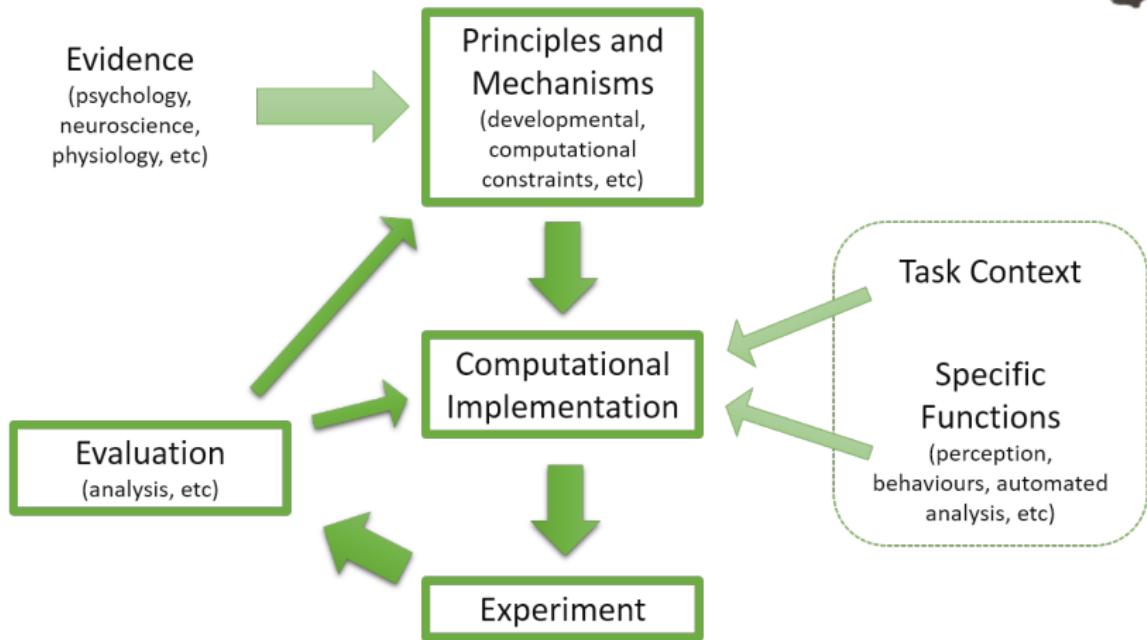
## 2. Technical Integration

- Define required functionality of robots
- Implement algorithms (etc) necessary

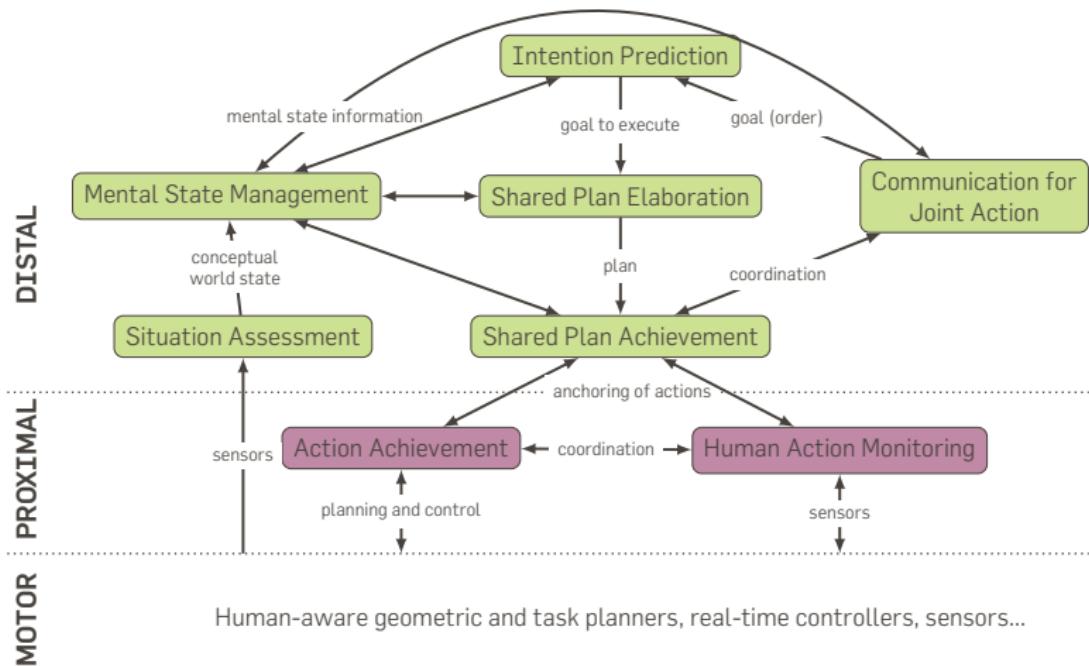
## 3. A Methodology

- Formalising assumptions
- Integrating knowledge from multiple disciplines
- Iteratively updating architecture

# COGNITIVE ARCHITECTURE AS A METHODOLOGY



# "MODELING OF HUMAN COGNITION"...

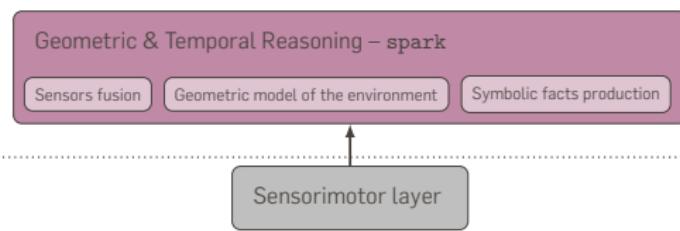
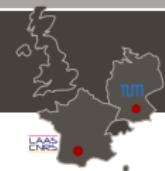


# INTO AN CONTROL ARCHITECTURE

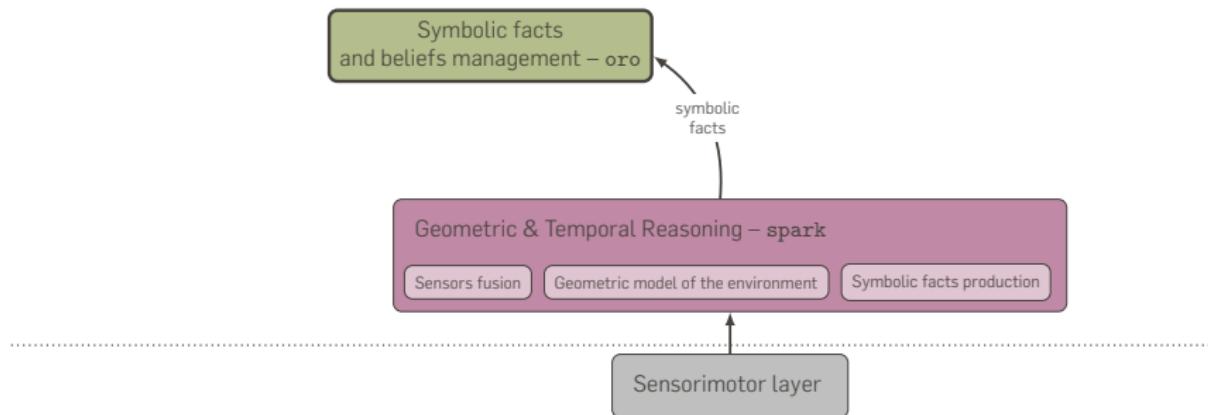


Sensorimotor layer

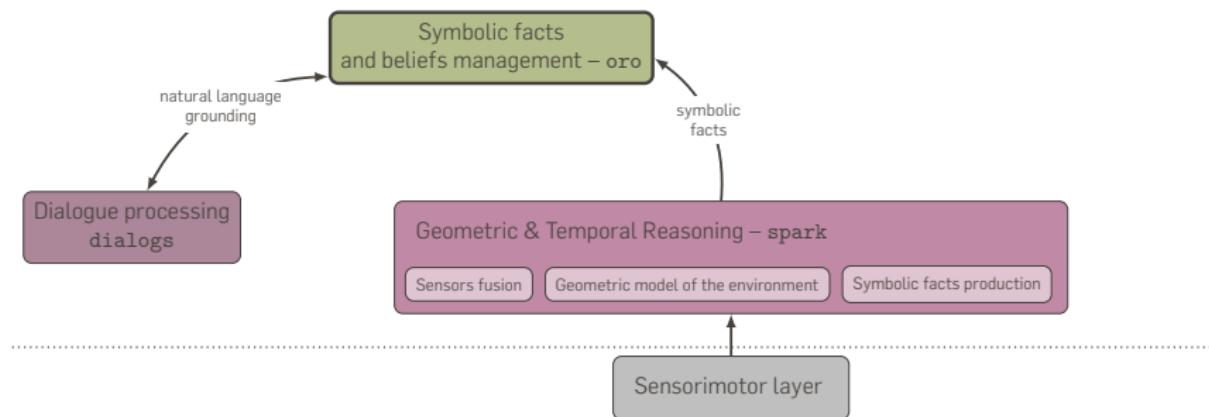
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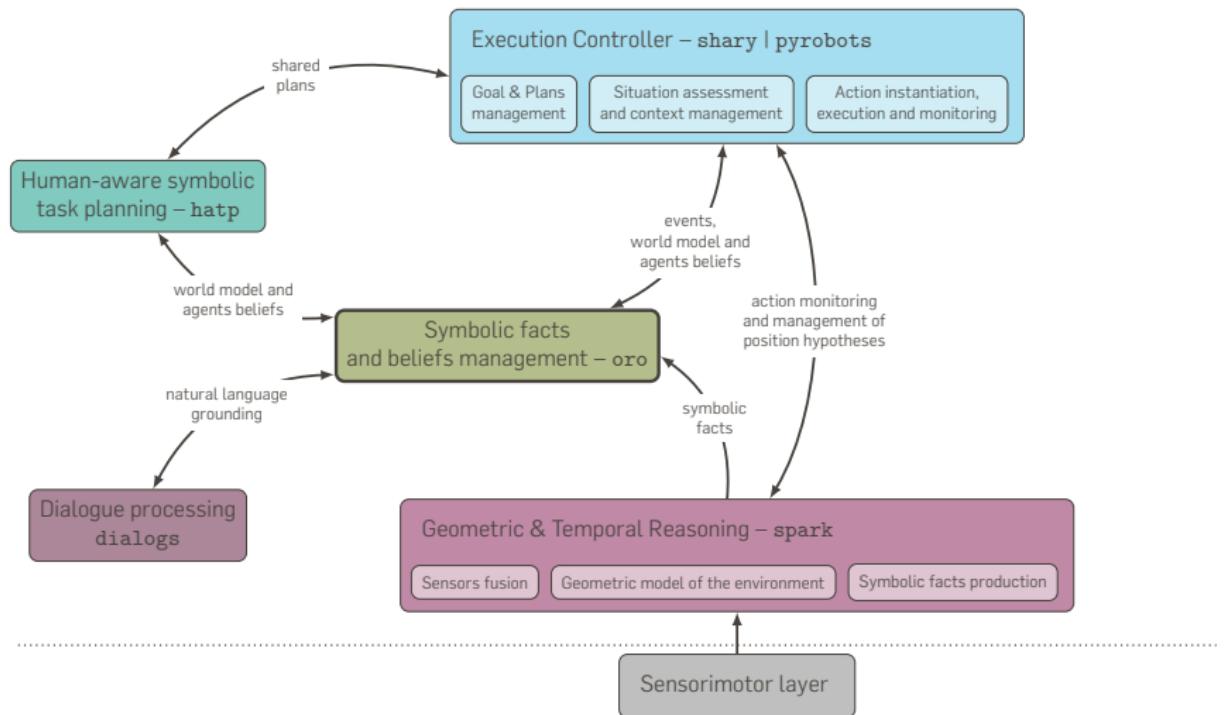
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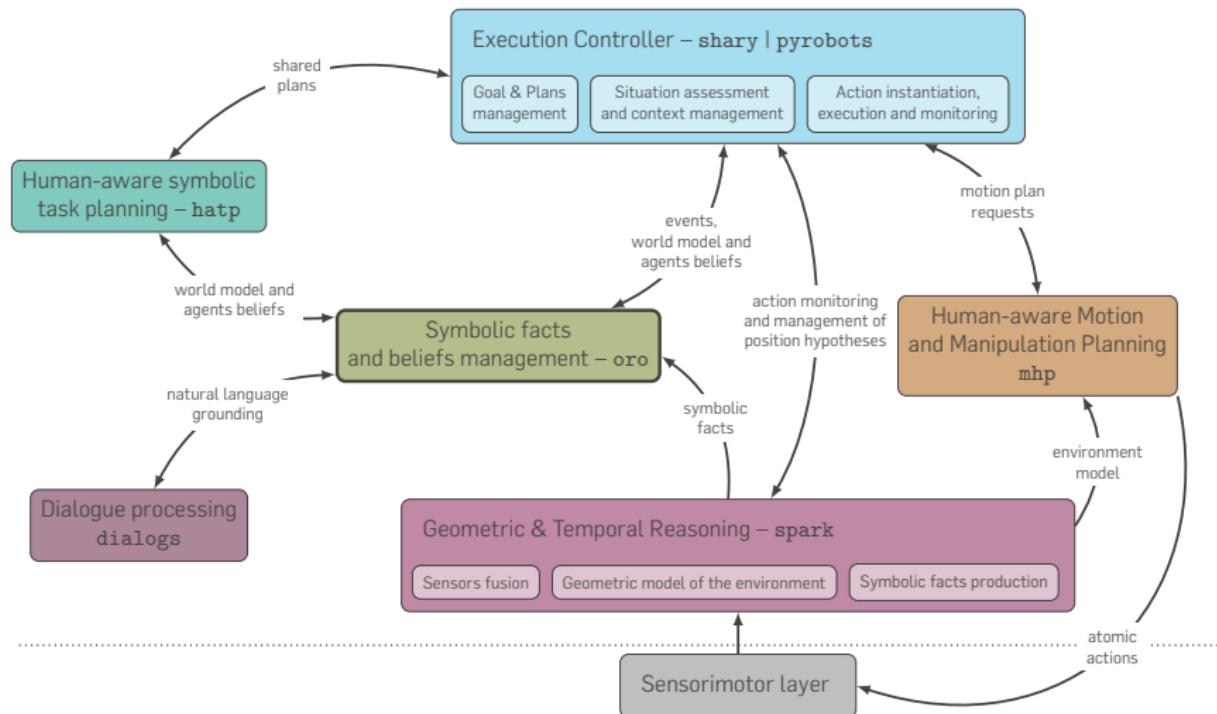
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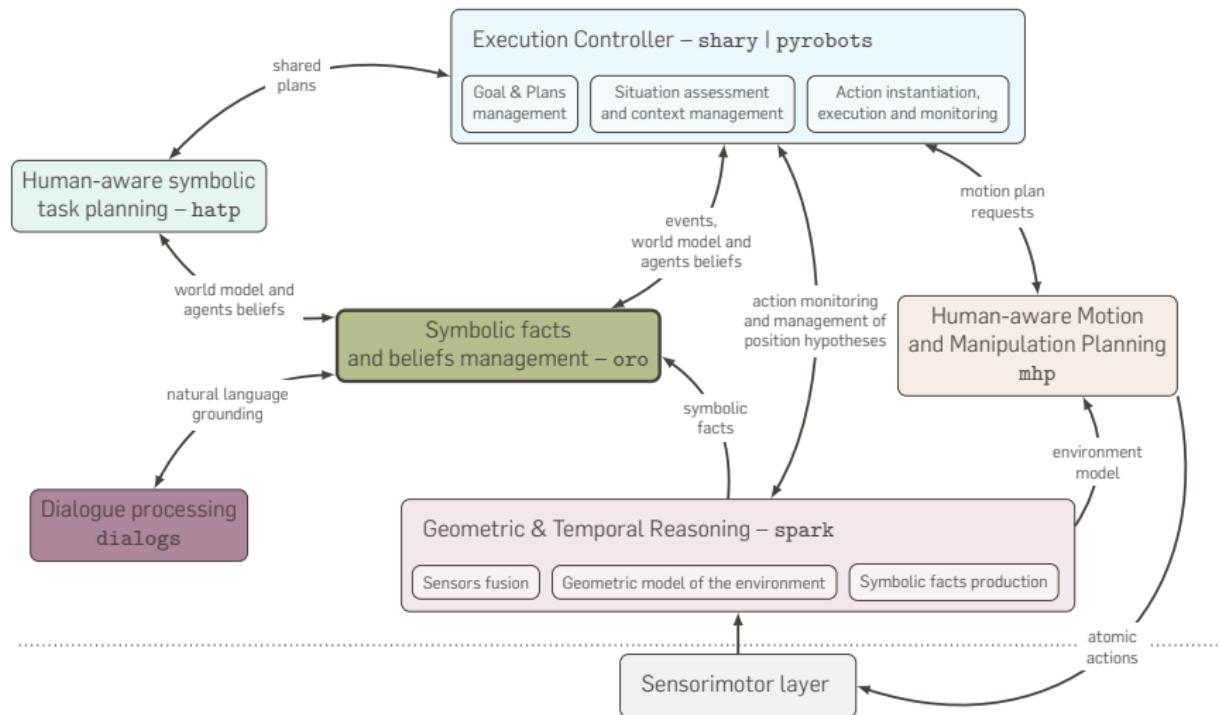
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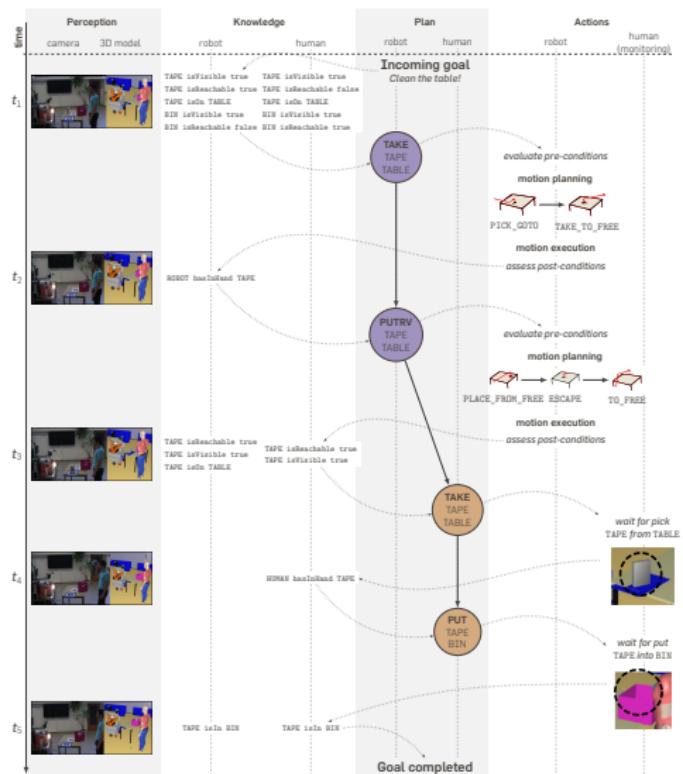
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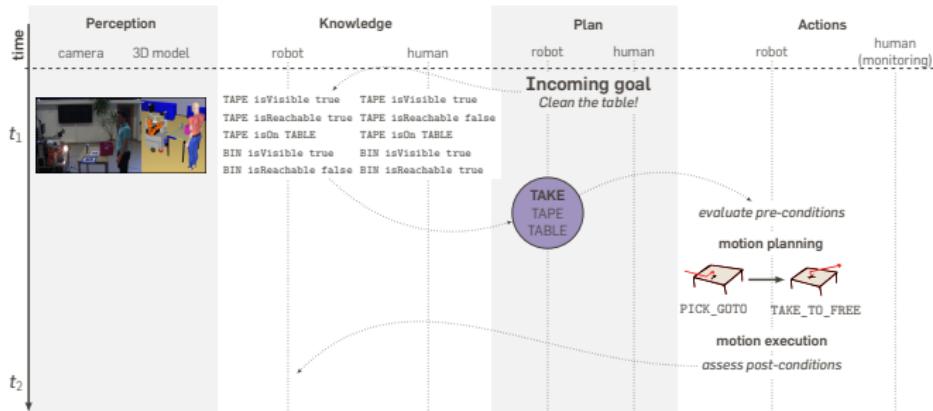
# INTO AN CONTROL ARCHITECTURE



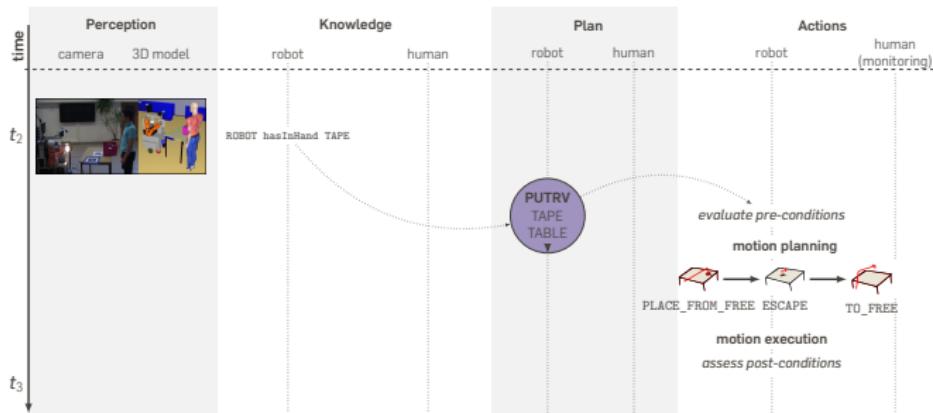
# "CLEANING THE TABLE"...



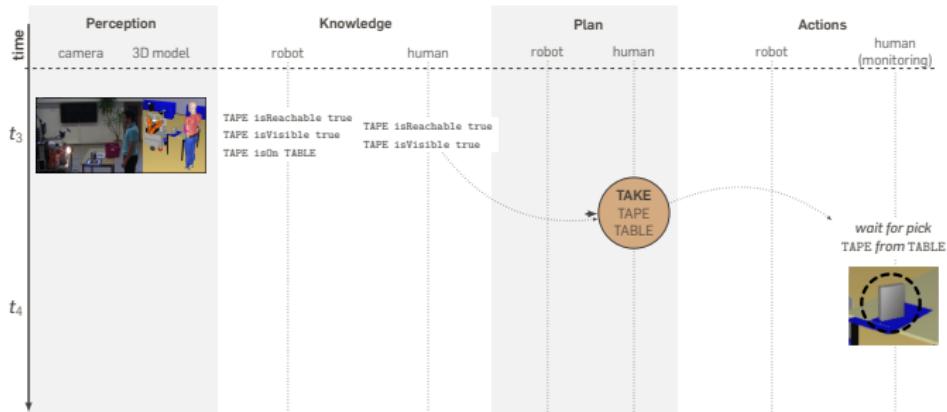
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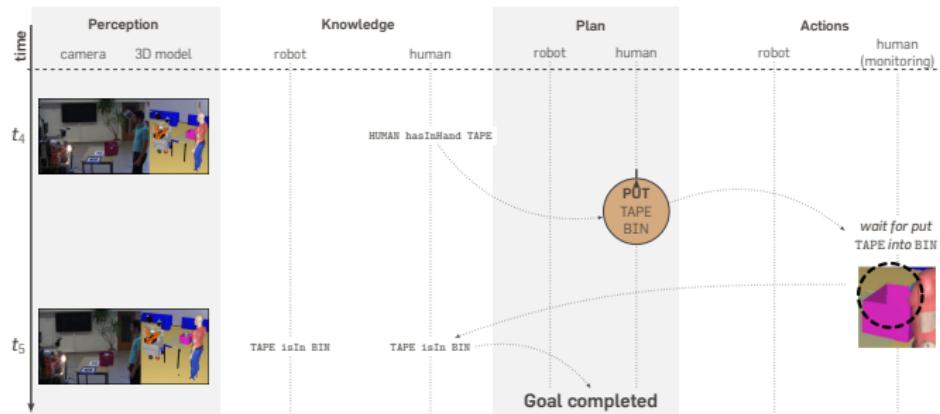
# "CLEANING THE TABLE"...



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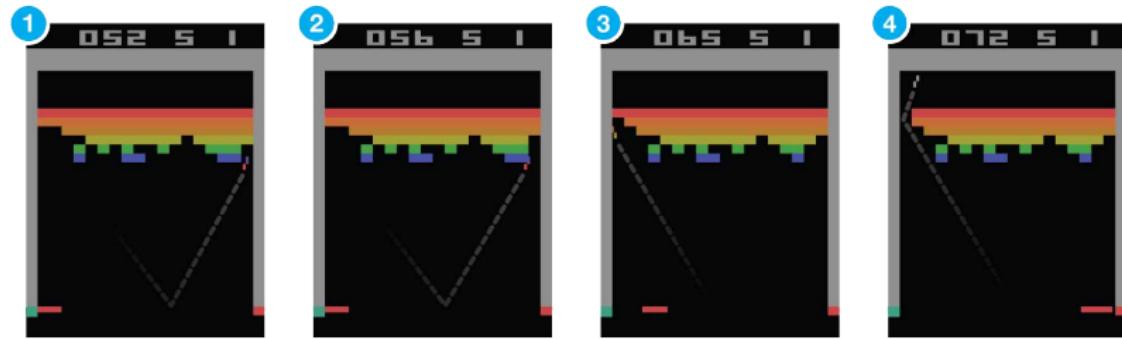


# "CLEANING THE TABLE"...



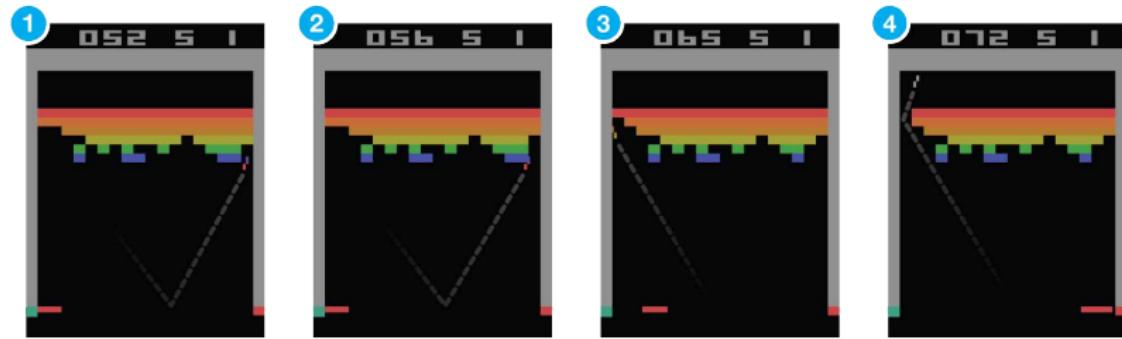
# DEEP LEARNING AND ROBOTICS

# LEARNING COMPLEX BEHAVIOURS



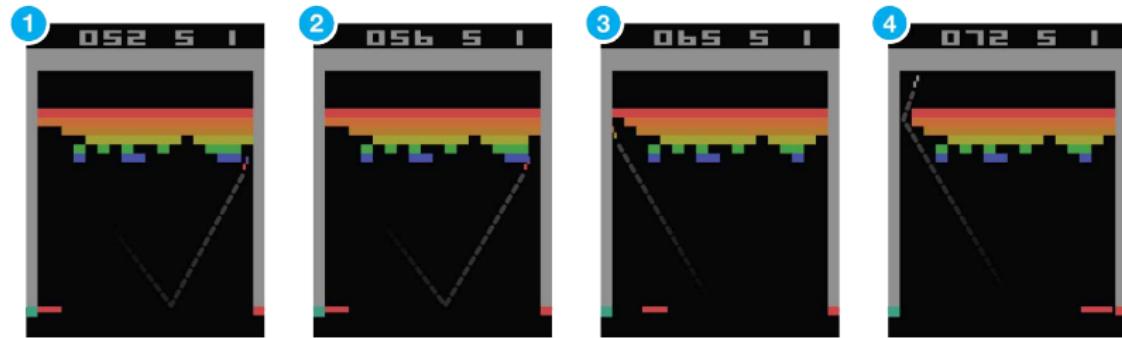
- Inputs: raw screen image + score
- from the outside, looks like planning

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**Could we also learn social dynamics?**

