



Fig. A1 Polychoric correlations of eleven ratings

Table A1 Indicator variables

Label	Factor*	Degree of belief that ...
assist	2: 0.42	AI and robots take on more and more assistant functions in the life of humans and contribute much to their quality of life
bots	1: 0.64	Bots communicate as perfectly as humans
old	2: 0.83	Robots keep old people company at home
lonely	2: 0.96	Robots keep lonely people of different age company at home
avatar	3: 0.74	Digital assistants have become personal avatars as steady advisory life companions at home and en route.
log	1: 0.54	Lifelogging is followed by communication of humans with personal avatars about their continuously recorded life data and behavioral data
consult	3: 0.62	Consultation – seek a first doctor’s advice from a robot in telemedicine
guide	3: 0.70	Guidance – Cognitive AI-assistance in rational choice
trust	3: 0.63	Humans trust AI more than the human himself
counsel	1: 0.59	Counseling – Specialized robots provide psychological advice
replace	1: 0.92	Robots tend to replace humans situationally in interpersonal communication

*Factor and standardized factor loadings (N=155, SRMR=0.082)

Figure A1 displays the matrix of polychoric correlations among the eleven scales employed in the present thematic context. An attempt at revealing the inherent structure of these responses uncovered the three latent factors outlined in Figure A2 and Table A1. Based on a moderate goodness of fit, the CFA solution offers only a tentative orientation. For the reference year of 2030, Factor 1 represents the belief that specialized robots will be able to communicate with humans as humans communicate among each other. Accordingly, bots communicate as perfectly as humans, humans communicate with personal avatars, and specialized robots provide psychological advice, so that robots replace humans situationally in interpersonal communication. The observation that these ratings form one factor, simply means: the more one believes in one aspect, the more one also believes in the other, and vice versa. Factor 2 refers to assistant robots keeping people company at home, that way improving their quality of life, and factor 3 aims at robots and AI as steady advisory life companions, advisors, and guides in decisions. The factor correlations of $r_{12}=0.61$, $r_{13}=0.67$, and $r_{23}=0.60$ indicate the expectable positive correlations among the three factors, their sizes suggest plausible discriminant validity.

Factor 1		Factor 2		Factor 3	
Bots communicate as perfectly as humans	L	AI and robots take on more and more assistant functions in the life of humans and contribute much to their quality of life	L		
		Robots keep old people company at home	L		
Lifelogging is followed by communication of humans with personal avatars about their continuously recorded life data and behavioral data	P	Robots keep lonely people of different age company at home	P	Digital assistants have become personal avatars as steady advisory life companions at home and en route	P
Counseling – Specialized robots provide psychological advice	U			Consultation – seek a first doctor's advice from a robot in telemedicine	U
Robots tend to replace humans situationally in interpersonal communication	U			Guidance – Cognitive AI-assistance in rational choice	U
				Humans trust AI more than the human himself	U
L=likely, P=possibly, U=unlikely					

Fig. A2 Structure of expert opinion