

## Lecture 2

# "I am social robot."

## Dimensions of social robot design

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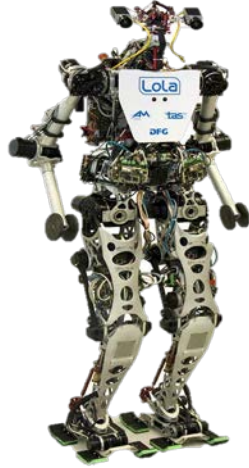
# Learning objectives

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to:

- 1 - Identify relevant dimensions that characterize social robots
- 2 - Critically discuss how these dimensions affect the human-robot interaction
- 3 - Apply these dimensions to the brainstorming phase of a social robot design process

What comes to mind when you hear “social robot”?

# “Social” robots?



Go to [www.menti.com](http://www.menti.com) and use the code 3160 3498

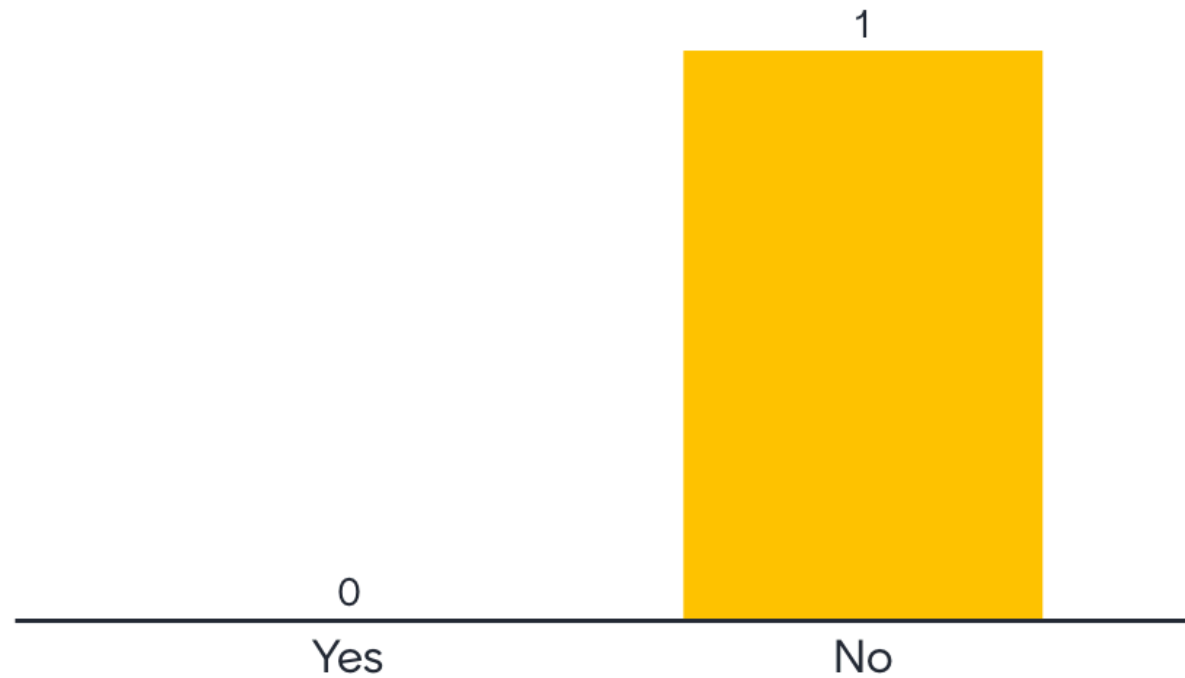


# 1 - Is this a social robot?



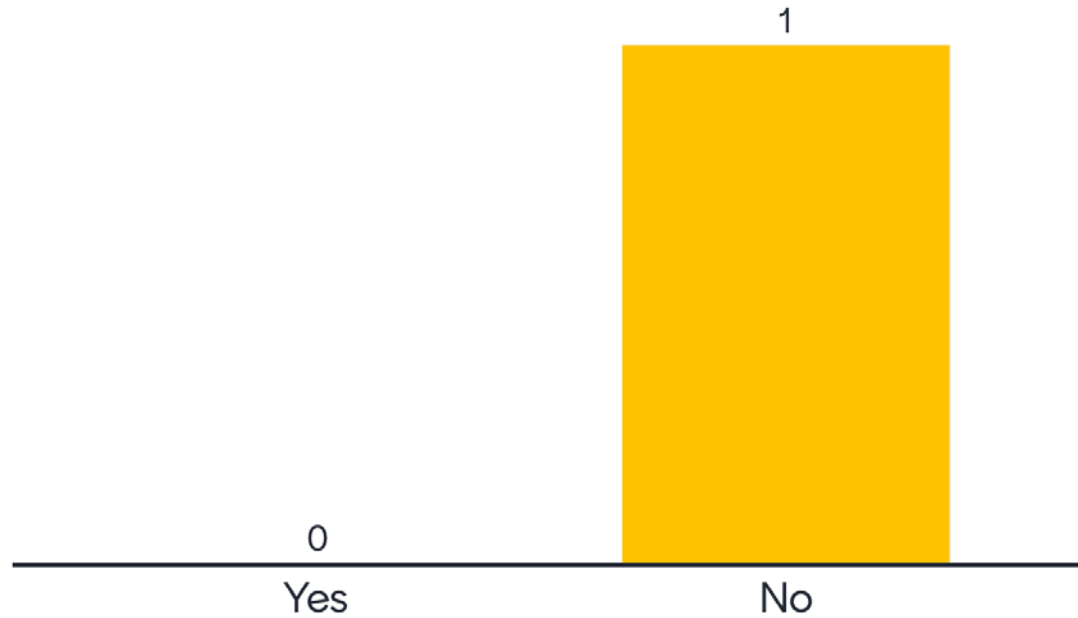
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## 2- Is this a social robot?



Go to [www.menti.com](http://www.menti.com) and use the code 3160 3498

## 3 - Is this a social robot?







# Defining “social robots”

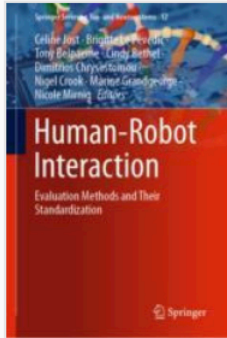
No strict (binary) definition → Think about **levels** of “socialness”

**Appearance** and **behavior** both play a role and should go hand in hand



In this lecture: “broad” understanding of social robots as being socially interactive

# Design space for socially interactive robots



[Human-Robot Interaction](#) pp 21-64 | [Cite as](#)

## An Extended Framework for Characterizing Social Robots

Authors

[Authors and affiliations](#)

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Kim Baraka , Patrícia Alves-Oliveira , Tiago Ribeiro

What are some important factors (dimensions) to think about when designing robots that interact with people?

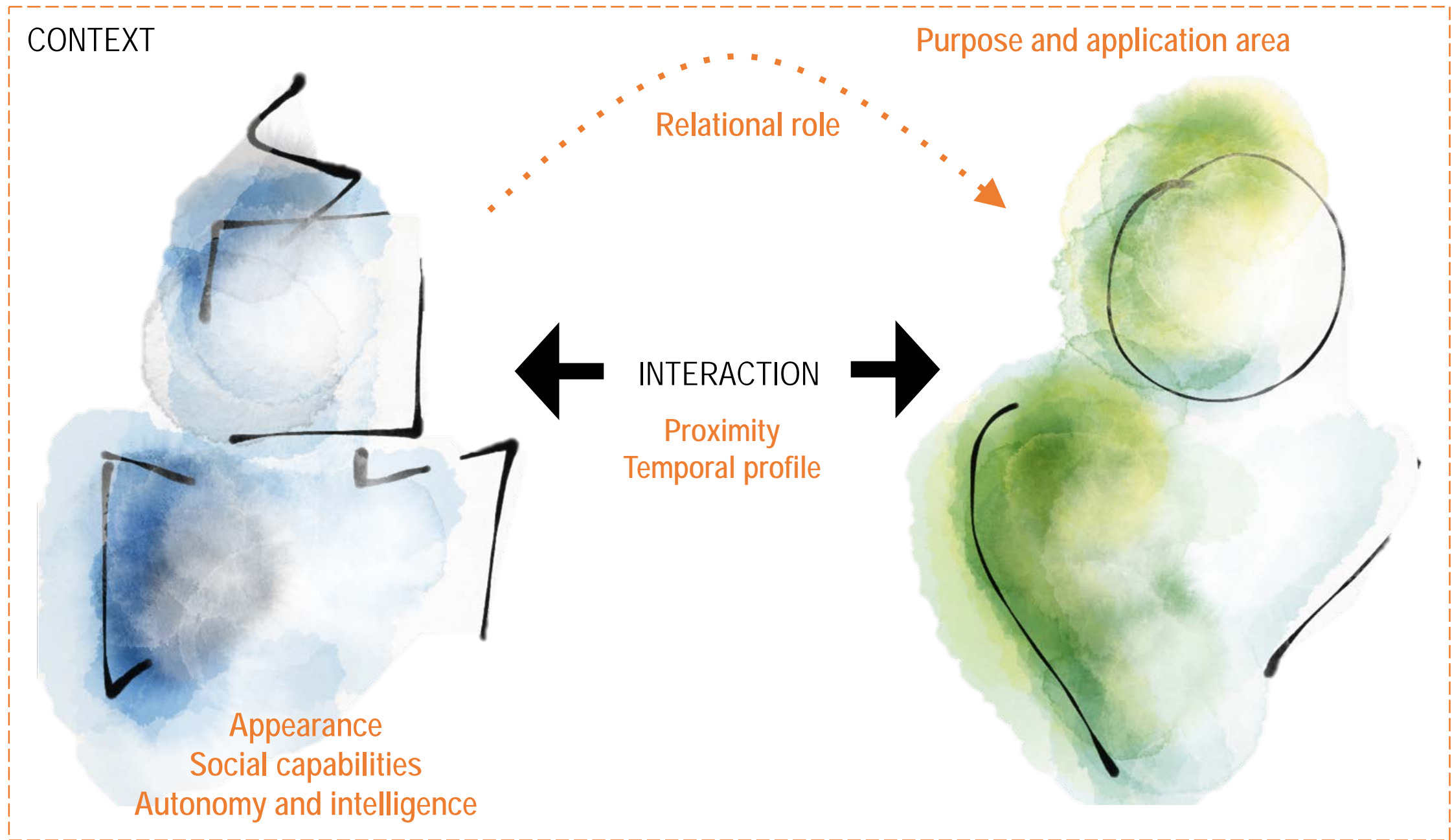
CONTEXT

Purpose and application area

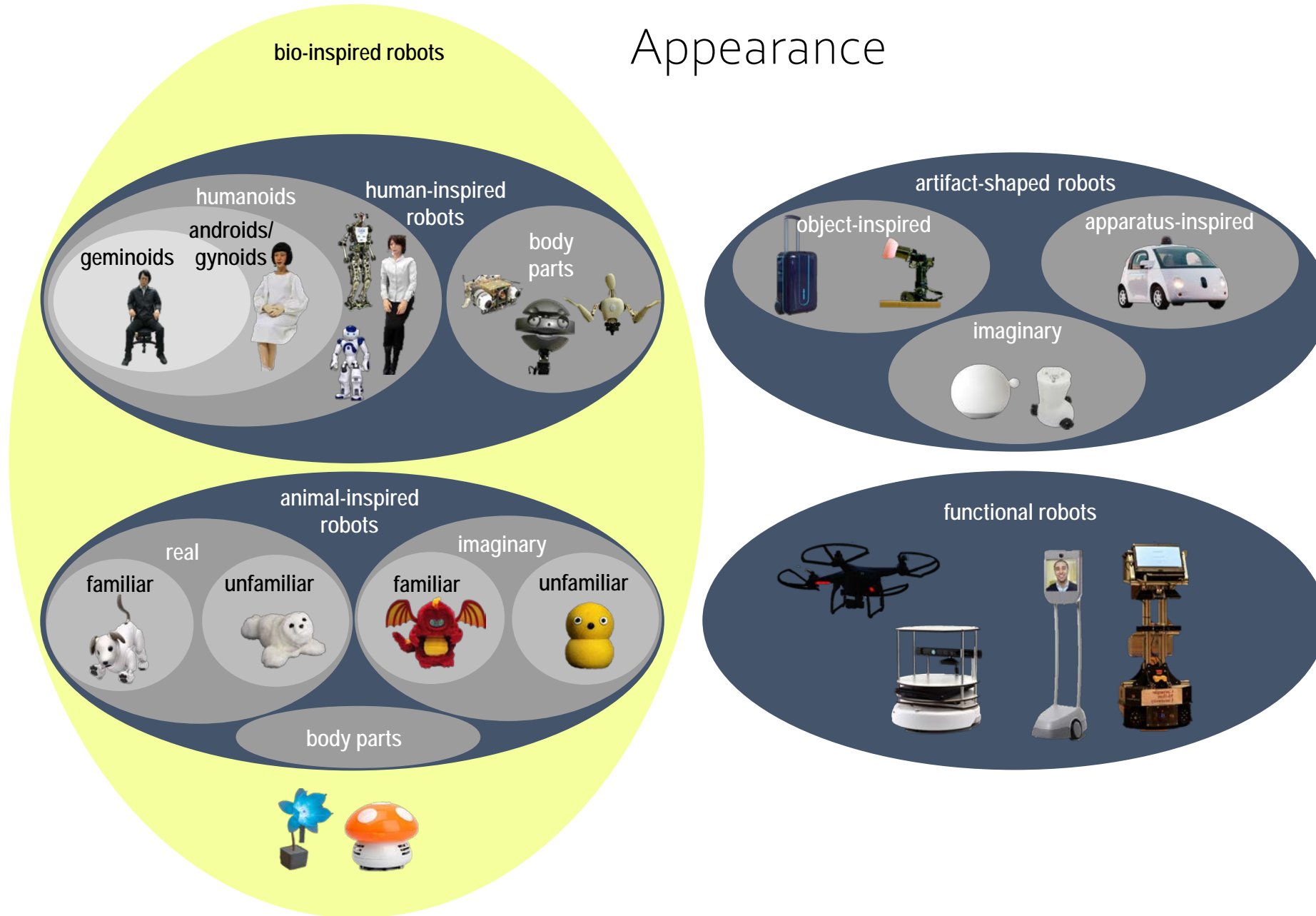
Relational role

INTERACTION  
Proximity  
Temporal profile

Appearance  
Social capabilities  
Autonomy and intelligence



# Appearance



# Appearance

bio-inspired robots

geminoids

androids/  
gynoids



humanoids  
human-inspired robots



body parts



artifact-shaped robots

object-inspired



apparatus-inspired



anim

real

familiar



unfamiliar



body parts



## Research challenges:

- Appearance sets expectations → trust
- Uncanny valley should be avoided
- Anthropomorphic embodiments are not always desirable

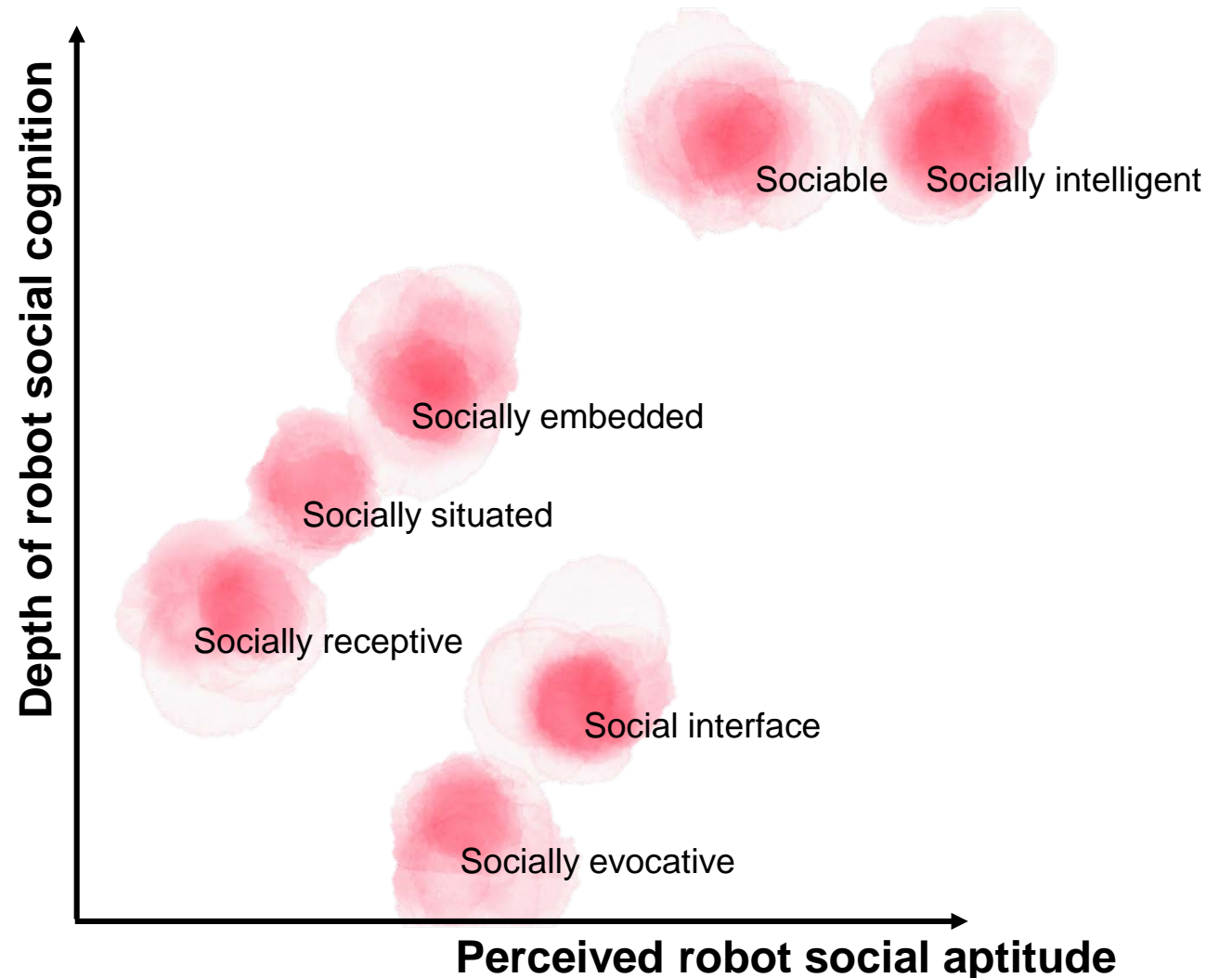
# Social capabilities

Components of social interactivity for robots (adapted from Fong et al. 2002):

- Communicating using natural language or non-verbal modalities
- Expressing affect and/or perceiving human emotions
- Exhibiting distinctive personality and character traits
- Modeling and recognizing social aspects of humans
- Learning and developing new social skills and competencies
- Establishing and maintaining social relationships

# Social capabilities

- **Socially evocative:** evoke social and emotional responses in humans
- **Social interface:** use human-like social cues and communication
- **Socially receptive:** socially passive but benefit from interaction
- **Socially situated:** surrounded by a social environment they can interact with
- **Socially embedded:** structurally coupled with social environment and aware of interactional structures
- **Sociable:** pro-actively engage with humans to satisfy internal social aims
- **Socially intelligent:** human-style social intelligence with deep models of cognition and social competence



# Social capabilities

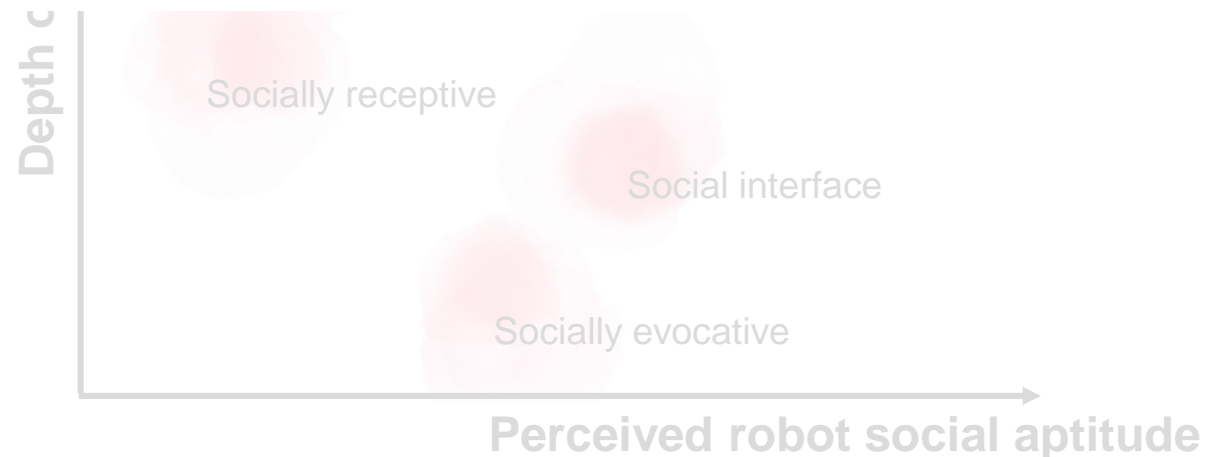
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- **Social interface:** use human-like social cues and communication
- **Socially receptive:** socially passive but benefit from interaction
- **Socially situated:** surround themselves in social environment they care about
- **Socially embedded:** situated in social environment and aware of interactional structures
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al cognition

Research challenge:

Designing social intelligence has many facets and requires knowledge from several disciplines

Depth c





# Purpose and application area

## Healthcare and therapy



NAO and child with ASD interacting



Paro emotionally assisting the elderly



Baxter assisting a blind person



Robota assisting a child with ASD



Pearl assisting an elderly person



SeRoDi assisting an elderly person



Rebear carrying a patient

## Industry

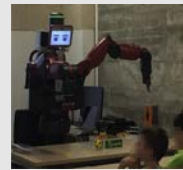


Baxter being synesthetically taught in a factory



Locusbots™ collaboratively operating in a warehouse

## Education, entertainment and art



Baxter teaching children



Furby with a child



HERB acting in a play



Bee-bot used for educational activities

## Home and workplace



CoBot navigating an office corridor



Care-O-bot 4 in a home



Bossa Nova's supermarket robot

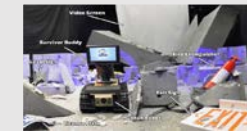


HERB engaging in kitchen tasks

## Search and rescue



Inukun and Packbot equipped with social behavior



Survivor buddy / Inukun in a simulated disaster environment

## Public service



Roboceptionist at department reception



Robotinho on a museum tour



Robovie in a shopping mall

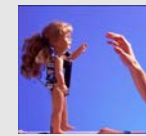


Pepper at a store entrance

## Social sciences



Cog used to study human cognition



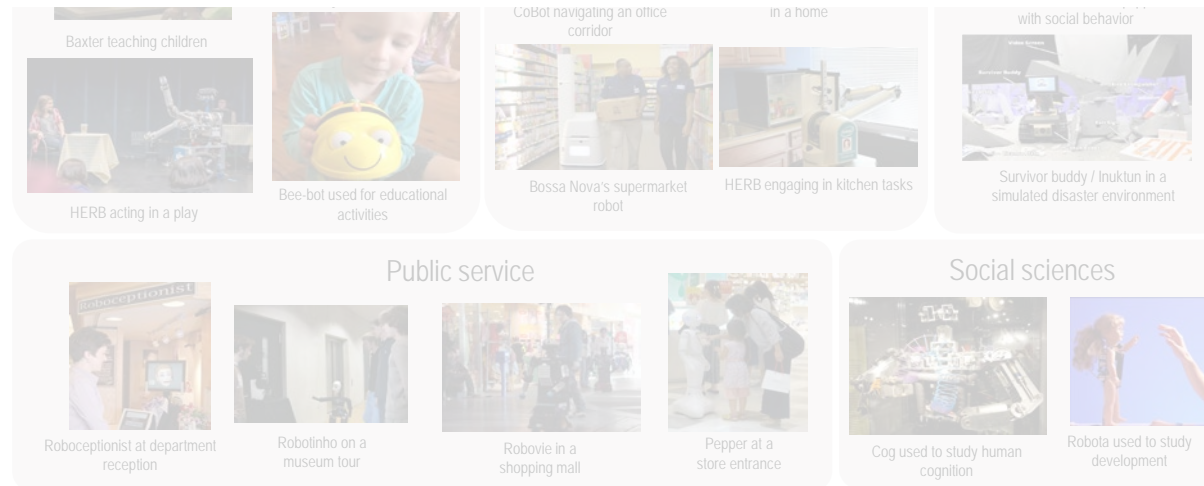
Robota used to study development

# Purpose and application area

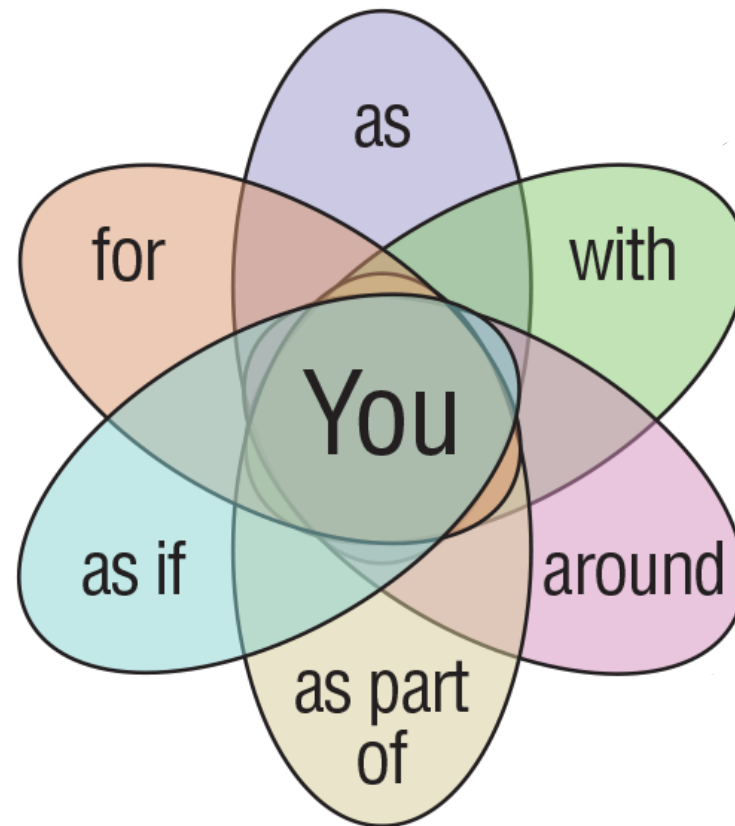


## Research challenges:

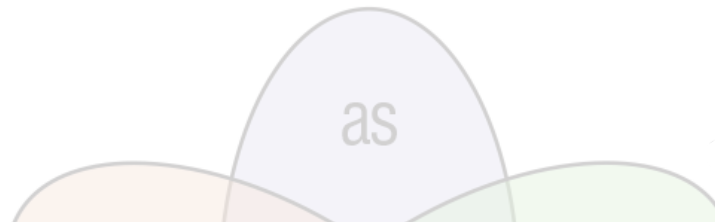
- User-centered design based on intended application
- Expand to new applications areas



# Relational role

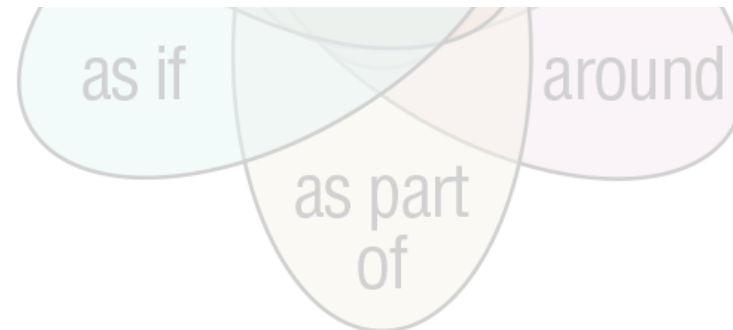


## Relational role

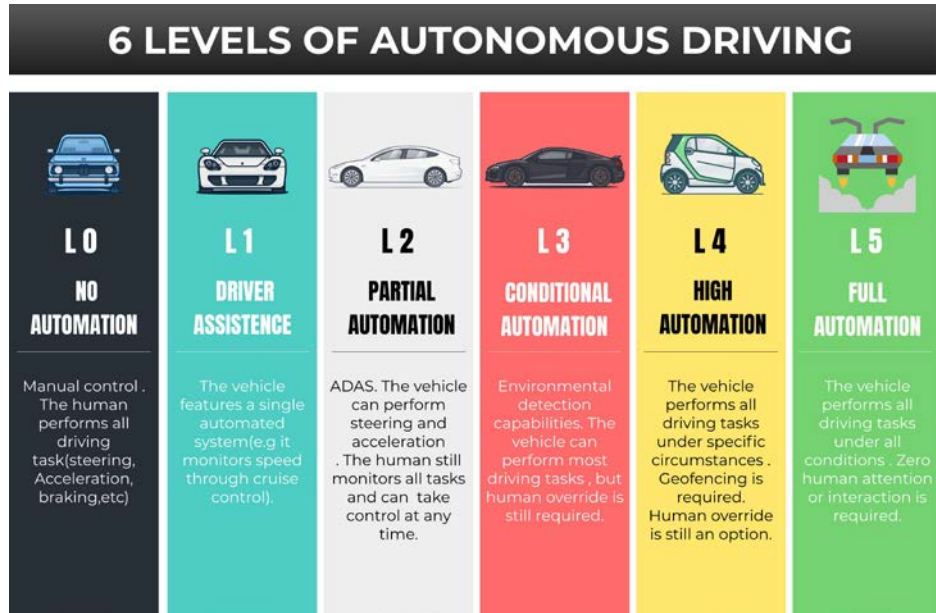


### Research challenges:

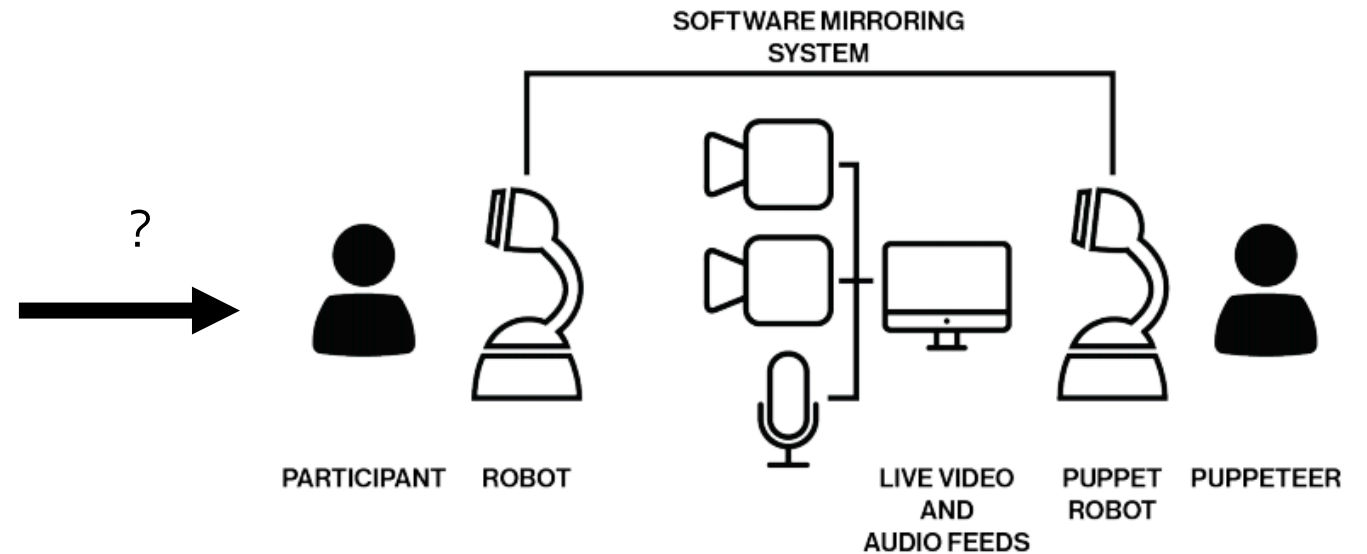
- Consider how the role of the robot affects the interaction dynamics
- Expand to new roles



# Autonomy and intelligence



Source: medium.com (user Pratyush Atri)

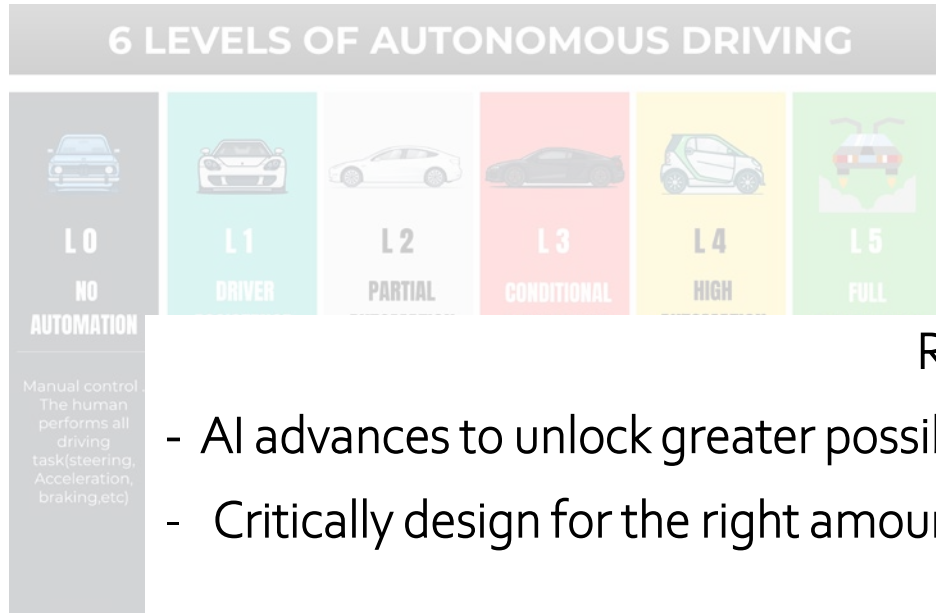


Tennent et al., HRI 2018

**Autonomy** — “The extent to which a robot can operate in the tasks it was designed for (or that it creates for itself) without external intervention.”

**Intelligence** — “The ability to determine behavior that will maximize the likelihood of goal satisfaction under dynamic and uncertain conditions, linked to the environment and the interaction with other (possibly human) agents.

# Autonomy and intelligence



Research challenges:

- AI advances to unlock greater possibilities of autonomy
- Critically design for the right amount of autonomy according to the application



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Tennent et al. HRI 2018

**Autonomy**—“The extent to which a robot can operate in the tasks it was designed for (or that it creates for itself) without external intervention.”

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# Proximity

Remote



Photo credit: iRobot

- Latency
- Social presence
- Shared autonomy
- Non-verbal communication (e.g., gaze and proxemics)
- ...

Co-located



- Situated communication
- Social navigation
- Perception of social cues
- ...

Physical



- Haptic control
- Social meaning of touch
- Safety

# Temporal profile

Short-term

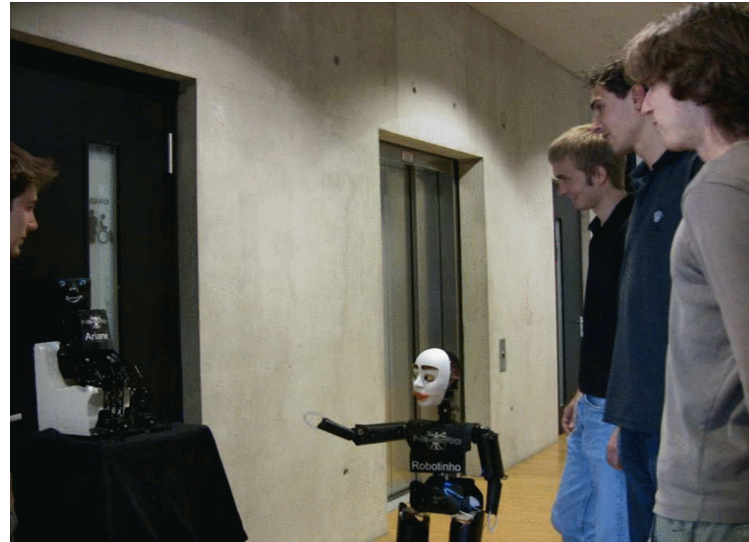
Medium-term

Long-term

Timespan



Zeglin et al., 2014



Faber et al., 2009



Baraka et al., 2016

Also consider **duration** and **frequency** of interactions



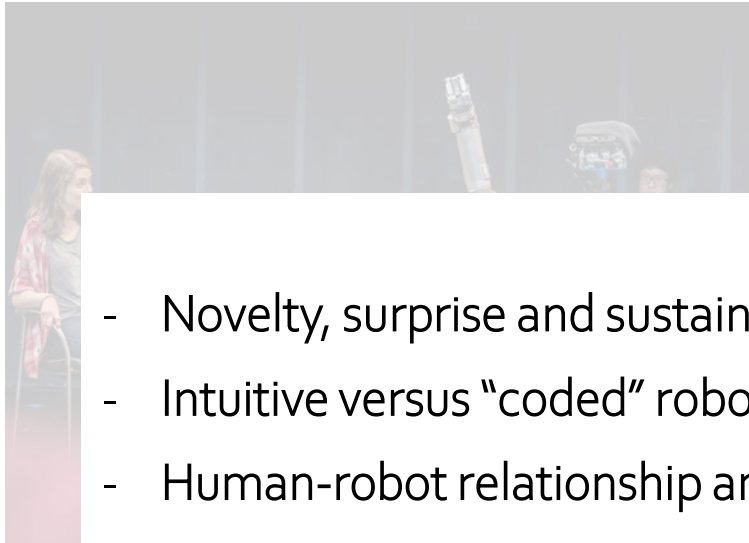
# Temporal profile

Short-term

Medium-term

Long-term

Timespan



## Research challenges:

- Novelty, surprise and sustained engagement
- Intuitive versus "coded" robot-to-human communication
- Human-robot relationship and trust

Also consider **duration** and **frequency** of interactions

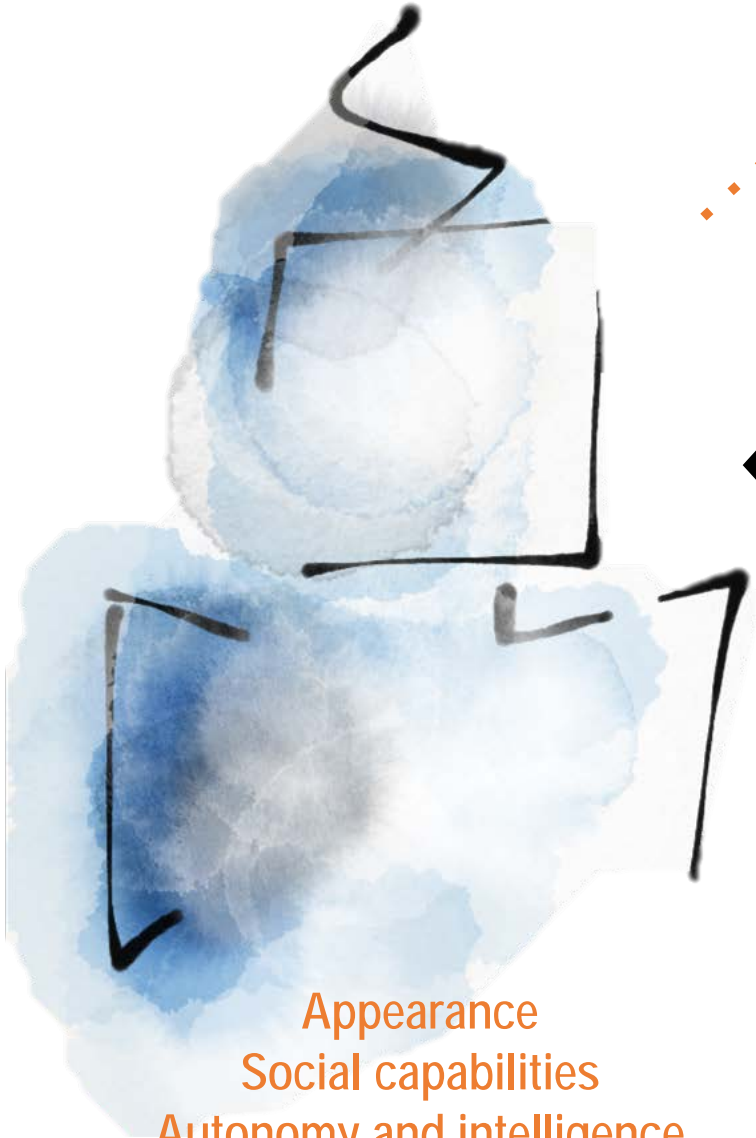
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Social capabilities  
Autonomy and intelligence



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# What other dimension would you add to this framework?