

Nonverbal Behavior of Service Robots in Social Interactions – A Survey on Recent Studies.

Janika Leoste^{1,2}, Kristel Marmor¹, Mati Heidmets²

¹ School of Educational Sciences, Tallinn University, 10120 Tallinn, Estonia

² IT College, Tallinn University of Technology, 19086 Tallinn, Estonia

leoste@tlu.ee

Abstract. This study presents a literature review focused on nonverbal communication in human-robot interaction (HRI) that involves service robots with social capabilities. We aim to list the types of robots used and nonverbal communication cues examined in the reviewed studies; and the main research objectives, participant characteristics, data collection methods, and primary findings of these studies. To achieve this, we used the databases of WoS, Scopus and EBSCO to conduct a literature review on utilization of nonverbal cues by both humans and robots during HRI. The results obtained from 39 relevant open access academic papers published from 2006 to 2023 suggest that enhancing the quality of communication between humans and service robots must be improved, while there are several aspects that require more thorough exploring, needed to strengthen robot self-efficacy, trust and trustworthiness in HRI or overcome cultural differences. The results emphasize the importance of nonverbal communication in shaping the dynamics of interactions between humans and service robots.

Keywords: service robot; robot assistant; nonverbal behavior; human-robot interaction; social interaction; embodied communication; social robot; collaborative robots.

1 Introduction

A growing number of service robots are emerging from factories and research laboratories into people's daily lives. In terms of financial numbers, the whole service robotics market is forecasted to grow from 41.5 billion USD in 2023 to 84.8 billion USD in 2028 [1]. A service robot, according to one of its earliest definitions, is “a *freely programmable kinematic device that performs services semi- or fully automatically*,” whereas services here are understood as “*useful work for humans*”

and equipment" [2], excluding industrial automation applications (see also [3,4]). More recently, service robots are increasingly expected to make use of AI and natural communication [5] to be able to operate in an uncontrolled environment [6,7], enabling them to act as socially capable assistants [8]. Such social service robots are becoming increasingly important in various fields of human life, enhancing efficiency in production or alleviating the lack of workforce in other areas such as education or healthcare [1,9,10]. In everyday life scenarios, people can increasingly encounter these robots in public spaces without warning. To preclude minor conflicts, robots navigating shared physical spaces with humans will likely need to conform to the same general interaction norms applicable to people. As the assimilation of robots into diverse aspects of human existence continues to expand, a nuanced comprehension and effective utilization of non-verbal cues emerge as imperative for achieving harmonious and efficient human-robot interactions [11]. For instance, when a person encounters a delivery robot on a narrow sidewalk, mutual understanding of intentions is crucial for a safe and efficient passage, allowing both parties to proceed along their respective paths seamlessly. Consequently, service robots operating amidst ordinary individuals must be ready for social interaction [12]. These robots should have the capacity to interact with people and move alongside them, while with some of them, their control can be taken over remotely by a human operator or they can be used as telepresence robots for direct interaction between physically present and remote participants. In the context of this paper, we focus on service robots that have significant social capabilities (*social service robots*) being able to participate as independent social entities in communication situations. The subcategories of such social service robots that fit this description are *social robots* and *robot assistants*. According to [13], a social robot is an intelligent machine characterized by its ability to engage in interactive and conversational exchanges, embodying features such as automated personal assistance, ambient assistive living technologies, and computational intelligence in the realms of games, storytelling, health care, and education services, reflecting a shift from traditional notions of purpose-built machines. Whereas a robot assistant, as stated by [14], is an autonomous physical device capable of providing services independently, offering benefits such as reduced service time, accessible information, personalized service, and consistent, albeit limited, service quality.

Modern social service robots are state-of-the-art machines that can be quite expensive. For example, the 5G capable TEMI robot assistant costs \$7500, and to use all of its features, an additional subscription is needed with the yearly price of \$1500 [15]. Another robot assistant by LG, CLOi, costs \$39,999 [16]. In order to justify the implementation costs and successfully capitalize these robots, their human users need to be skilled and motivated to accept them [9]. The efficient use of social service robots seems to depend on their users' self-efficacy and is strongly

influenced by the robot's natural communication skills, especially its nonverbal communication abilities [5,9,17]. The discernment of human emotions stands as a pivotal aspect of HRI facilitated by non-verbal cues. The tacit language of facial expressions, gestures, and body language emerges as a conduit for deciphering and responding to human affective states. This interpretative acumen engenders a more empathetic and adaptive robotic interaction, transcending the confines of explicit verbal communication.

In the establishment of trust and rapport, non-verbal cues assume a critical role. In collaborative work settings where humans and robots converge, the ability of robots to convey attentiveness through judicious employment of eye contact, nodding, and other non-verbal manifestations contributes substantively to the perception of reliability and mutual cooperation [12,18]. This, in turn, enhances the efficacy of human-robot collaborative endeavors. Moreover, the integration of non-verbal cues substantially contributes to the enhancement of the overall user experience, rendering interactions more organic and intuitive [19]. In domestic environments, for instance, a robot adept at discerning and responding to non-verbal prompts, such as gestures or pointing, seamlessly integrates into the fabric of daily life. This adaptive responsiveness fosters a more fluid and humanized exchange.

Due to their relatively high acquisition and implementation costs [20], it is of great economic importance to understand the influence of the social service robots' nonverbal skills on their efficient implementation. To this end we conducted the literature review, where we explored the general statistics of available papers (i.e., the number of available papers, their publishing years, the main contributing countries and authors), and also studied the more specific aspects of the literature, such as the robots used in the experiments, the main research aims and the nonverbal cues examined, the methods used for obtaining data, and the main results of the studies.

Given the aforementioned context, the question of providing social service robots with adequate nonverbal communication abilities becomes increasingly important as it holds the keys to efficient use of this promising although relatively expensive emerging technology. We aim to conduct a literature review to examine the state of the art of the research conducted on the real-life use of nonverbal behavior by social service robots in HRI. We will focus on the use of nonverbal characteristics such as distance, personal space, touch, gaze, and others as expressed or observed and interpreted by physical (not simulated) social service robots in their communication with physically present humans in a social environment. We have formed the following **research questions** to guide our study:

1. What is the state of the art of literature about nonverbal interaction in HRI with social service robots? We are interested in the following general metrics:
 - a) the number of available articles;
 - b) the publishing years of the papers;
 - c) the main contributing countries; and
 - d) the main contributing authors.
2. In addition, our interests lay in the following specific aspects of the studies:
 - a) What robots were mainly used?
 - b) What were the main research aims?
 - c) What types of nonverbal communication were mostly examined?
 - d) What kinds of samples and methods were used?
 - e) What were the main empirical results?
 - f) What theoretical approaches were proposed?

2 Materials and Methods

The goal of the study was to understand which nonverbal behavior cues (e.g., distance, personal space, touch, and gaze) were considered relevant in the literature about HRI between people and social service robots (i.e., robot assistants or social robots) in higher education. For these purposes, we followed the PRISMA systematic literature review process to conduct a literature review of open access papers. We based our search on three well-known, academically respectable, and most relevant search engines [21]: Web of Science [22], Scopus [23], and EBSCO Discovery Service [24]. We formed our search formula as follows, using the terms “robot assistant” and “social robot” in order to narrow down the search results to match better our focus on service robots with social abilities:

```
(HRI) AND ((robot assistant) OR (social robot)) AND ((non-verbal) OR (nonverbal))
```

We used the terms “robot assistant” and “social robot” because these are service robots with dedicated social capabilities, and also because the search phrase “(HRI) AND (SERVICE ROBOT) AND ((NONVERBAL) OR (NON-VERBAL))” gave significantly fewer matches (e.g., only two papers with full text available in EBSCO Discovery).

Next, we refined our search parameters by restricting the retrieval of articles to those classified as “Full text available” within EBSCO Discovery and those falling under the category of “Open access papers” in both Scopus and Web of Science. This selection process, as illustrated in Figure 1, was executed on 28 October 2023, and it yielded 150 articles across these platforms: EBSCO Discovery yielded 36 papers, Scopus contributed 57, and Web of Science presented 57 papers.

Subsequently, to ensure the quality of our dataset, we identified and eliminated any duplicate entries. This curation process left us with 88 distinctive research papers. Next, we examined the selected papers, excluding any that did not align with the criteria of substantial academic content, such as posters, one-pagers, or documents that were not peer-reviewed. After this thorough examination, we were left with a refined set of 81 academic papers.

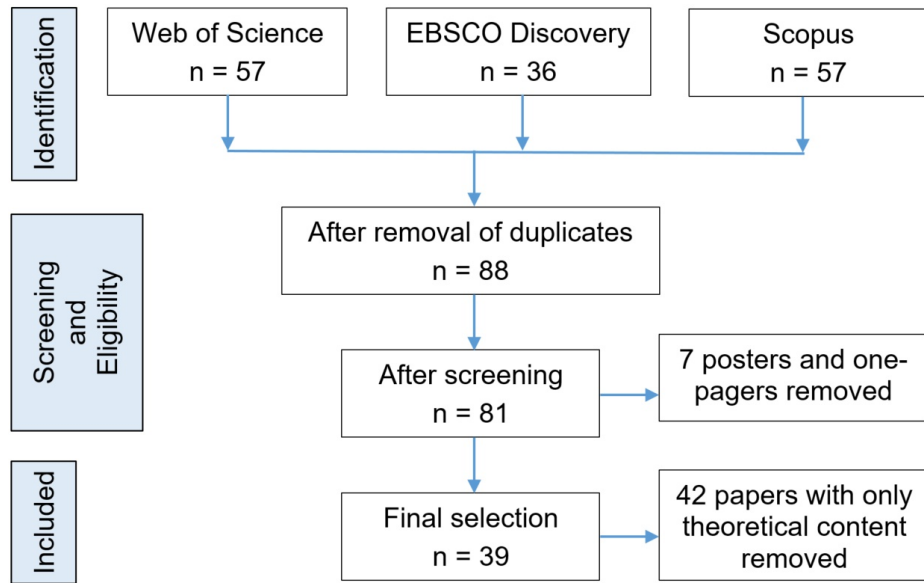


Fig. 1. The flowchart illustrating the literature selection process.

Our primary objective was to chart research on real HRI with service robots. We excluded purely theoretical studies due to their inability to incorporate modern technological advancements, emphasizing the importance of examining the human element in real-world HRI experiments while considering the surrounding context [25]. In addition, we excluded studies where robots were presented through mediating tools, such as computer screens, and virtual, or augmented reality. After this exclusion, 39 papers remained to be studied (Figure 1 and Appendix A).

In the analytical phase, the chosen papers underwent a meticulous process of open coding, conducted by two researchers. Their objective was to discern and delineate clusters of meaning that encapsulated the nuances of nonverbal interaction cues within Human-Robot Interaction (HRI). This intricate coding procedure involved thorough scrutiny and interpretation of the content. Any disparities in coding were addressed through thoughtful discussions, ensuring a harmonized and comprehensive extraction of themes.

3 Results

Our final selection of papers concerning nonverbal communication in HRI involving service robots with social capabilities, referred to as social robots or robot assistants, was based on a search conducted on October 28, 2023, resulting in the inclusion of 39 works. This collection of papers can be characterized using the following key metrics:

Firstly, these papers emanate from 20 distinct countries. Among these, the most prominent contributors were the United States and Japan, each with 8 papers, followed by the United Kingdom and Italy, both contributing 7 papers. Additionally, the Netherlands and France each had 5 papers, while Germany, Sweden, and Belgium all contributed 3 papers. Next, there were in total 167 individual authors associated with these papers, with only 16 of them having authorship in more than one paper. Notably, Francesco Rea emerged as the most prolific author with 5 papers, followed closely by Alessandra Sciutti, who authored 4 papers. Finally, the publication dates of these articles span from 2006 to 2023 (Figure 2). An analysis of this data suggests that the popularity of the subject matter concerning the nonverbal communication skills of service robots experienced a decline during the years 2015-2018. However, it is worth noting that the unique circumstances of the recent COVID-19 pandemic appear to have rekindled interest in this topic. Beginning in 2018, the number of papers addressing this subject has displayed a consistent upward trend. The relatively lower number of papers available for the year 2023 can be attributed to the fact that our search was conducted in October 2023, and many papers for that year were still in the process of being published.

Next, we will examine the results for the following specific aspects of the selected studies: the robots used; the main research aims; the types of nonverbal communication mostly examined; methods used; and the main results.

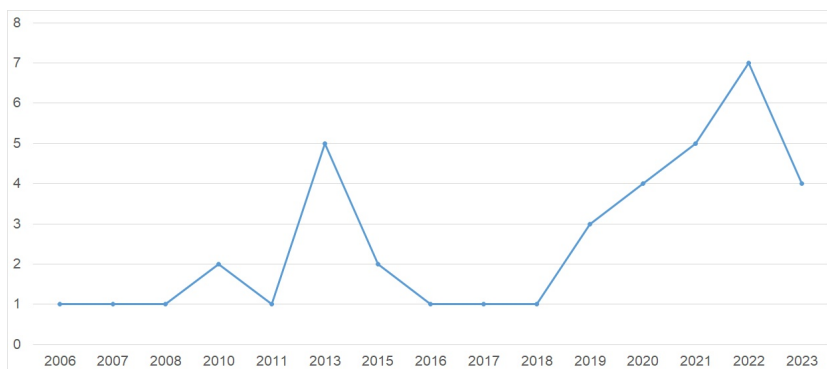


Fig. 2. The distribution of articles by the year of publication.

3.1 Robots Used in the Examined Studies

In the empirical parts of the examined papers, various robot platforms were used to investigate the dynamics of communication and engagement between humans and robots. Next, we will provide an overview of the most prevalent robot designs and types (humanoid robots, bust and face robots, animal robots, and robots with product-oriented appearances) employed for experiments in these studies (Figure 3).

Humanoid robots are a dominant category, representing 27 instances across the examined studies. Among humanoid robots, the NAO robot stands out as the most popular choice, with mentions in 10 articles. The NAO robot's humanoid appearance, coupled with its programmable capabilities, seems to make it a versatile platform for investigating nonverbal communication in HRI. iCub, another humanoid robot, is featured in 6 studies, and Pepper, together with Robovie II, (both with 2 mentions) also contribute to the diversity of humanoid robots in the studies.

Bust and face robots provide a unique dimension to HRI research, with 4 instances identified in the examined papers. Furhat [26] and SociBot [27,28] are notable representatives of this category. These robots, designed to focus on facial expressions and interactions, offer insights into nonverbal cues and facial communication between humans and robots.

AIBO, *the robot dog* [29], and Pleo, *the robot dinosaur* [30], are featured in 2 studies, emphasizing the interest in exploring how animals' behavior and interactions with humans can inform robot design and nonverbal communication, but also the potential for unconventional robot designs to engage with humans.

The Roomba iRobot Create 2, *a robot vacuum*, appears in 1 study [31]. Although not a typical HRI robot, its inclusion suggests the exploration of nonverbal cues and interactions with non-humanoid robots in domestic settings.

Five studies [32-36] highlight *robots with product-oriented appearances* designed to maximize dedicated functions (see [37]). These robots represent a different approach to nonverbal communication and human-robot engagement, emphasizing specific functions and purposes.

The selection of robots in academic studies on nonverbal communication in HRI reflects a broad variety of robot types and designs. Humanoid robots, such as NAO and iCub, dominate the field, highlighting their adaptability for studying nonverbal communication. In addition, bust and face robots, a robot dog, a robot vacuum, and even a robot dinosaur provide unique approaches on nonverbal interactions between humans and robots. The inclusion of product-oriented robot appearances further diversifies the robot platforms used in these studies, highlighting the importance of nonverbal communication in various contexts (e.g., in production or warehouses).

Fig. 3. Main shapes of robots studied.

3.2 Main Research Aims

The predominant research aim among the selected academic papers is to assess various facets of HRI. This overarching objective encompasses studies that scrutinize the technical proficiency of robots, gauge trust levels, probe connections between familiarity and engagement, and explore the consequences of robots on human behavior and emotions. We have categorized this wide-ranging array of research objectives into five discernible categories.

Understanding Human-Robot Communication and Interaction. Researchers have embarked on comprehensive investigations to unravel the intricacies of human-robot interaction from diverse vantage points. For instance, one study delved into the acceptance and utilization of robots, with a particular emphasis on their roles in interactions with children diagnosed with autism [38]. Another scholarly work sought to establish correlations between human verbal behavior and robot behavior predicated on the personality traits of interacting humans, distinguishing them as introverted or extroverted [39]. Trust and the impact of nonverbal communication were paramount in a different study [40], while another explored the influence of robot nonverbal cues on individuals' perceptions of the robot's social agency [27]. Cross-cultural interactions and the efficacy of robot greetings and gestures were examined in a particular context [41,42].

Researchers aspired to devise empathetic and multi-modal interactions grounded in the emotional-cognitive profiles of users [43].

Emotional Interaction. The study of the emotional dimensions of human-robot interaction has constituted a point of high interest for some researchers. One study probed the impact of a humanoid robot on human emotional responses, particularly within cognitively demanding tasks [25]. Another investigation delved into the realm of personality in human-robot interaction, utilizing AIBO, a social robotic pet developed by Sony [29]. Furthermore, researchers delved into emotional expression and mood recognition in robot-human interactions, seeking to comprehend their effects on participants [44,45].

Robot Learning and Teaching. The nexus of human-robot interaction extends into the domain of learning and teaching. Researchers evaluated the performance of machine learners when instructed by human teachers [46]. Simultaneously, they probed how humans construed and integrated robot actions within their plans [47]. A distinct study grappled with the challenge of evaluating engagement in human-robot interaction by amalgamating verbal and nonverbal behaviors [48].

Cognitive and Behavioral Aspects. Cognitive facets of interaction have assumed a central role for specific researchers. They endeavored to devise cognitive architectures for robots, facilitating close collaboration with humans in cooperative tasks [49]. The examination of the role of interaction dynamics and gestures within human-robot interaction was a pivotal focus of the study, particularly in joint tasks [50]. In addition, the perception of a robot's speech and its influence on language acquisition during interactions were subjects of investigation [51]. The inner workings of engagement and the formulation of a model delineating its components underwent scrutiny as well [30]. Other studies scrutinized the effectiveness of gaze-control techniques and control interfaces in shaping robot behavior [52] and monitored visual attention and head pose within human-robot interaction [53]. Implementing gaze behavior in functional robots to assist humans in deciphering their intent assumed primacy for another cohort of researchers [31].

Robot Behavior and Communication. The formulation of methods for inducing and detecting user affect within human-robot interactions has emerged as a noteworthy area of exploration [54]. Additionally, the impact of non-verbal communication on the efficacy and teamwork of human-robot partnerships has been a pivotal focus [36].

These diverse thematic clusters encompass a comprehensive array of research aims, reflecting the depth and breadth of scholarship within the field of human-robot interaction. From deciphering the psychological underpinnings of these interactions to enhancing robot behavior and communication, the research continues to advance our comprehension of this evolving domain.

3.3 Types of Nonverbal Communication Examined

The focus of our study encompasses the nonverbal communication cues investigated in the selected papers. These cues play a pivotal role in understanding and enhancing the quality of interactions between humans and robots. We categorized the nonverbal communication cues found in the selected papers as follows (Table 1).

Table 1. The number of reviewed papers mentioning the nonverbal communication categories.

Nonverbal communication category	Number of mentions
Gesture and Facial Expression	23
Affective States and Emotions	8
Voice and Speech Cues	6
Human-Robot Proximity and Movement	7
Cultural Aspects and Greetings	3

Gesture and Facial Expression. A substantial body of research has explored the use of gestures and facial expressions in HRI. Non-verbal gestures, including hand movements, head poses, and bodily movements, have been a common focus in HRI research. These gestures serve as crucial elements in conveying information, emotions, and intentions in human-robot interactions [31,49,50,53]. Researchers have also delved into conveying emotions such as sadness, boredom, and happiness through gestures and expressions. This includes the study of expressive motions and the mimicry of human gestures by robots. Additionally, facial expressions like happiness, sadness, surprise, anger, and laughter have been scrutinized as essential nonverbal communication elements in [29,38,55,56] and others.

Affective States and Emotions. Researchers have explored affective states and emotions in HRI, examining how robots can detect and respond to emotional cues from humans. This includes the investigation of emotional expressions, such as arousal-valence and action units [25,55,57,58]. *Eye Gaze.* The direction of eye gaze, as well as the dynamics of gaze via head movement, has been a focal point of several studies. Eye gaze serves as a crucial means of nonverbal communication, influencing the understanding and interpretation of social interactions in HRI [25,28,42,47, and others].

Voice and Speech Cues. Aspects related to speech, including speech volume, speed, pitch, style, vocabulary, topic selection, feedback, syntax, and backchannel, have been examined. These factors contribute significantly to nonverbal

communication, impacting the quality of human-robot conversations by influencing mutual engagement and attentiveness [26,48,59].

Human-Robot Proximity and Movement. Studies have explored physical and psychological distances between humans and robots in various contexts, such as movement within a room. The extent and speed of movements, as well as distances during interactions, have been scrutinized to understand how these factors affect communication and engagement [42,60].

Cultural Aspects and Greetings. Cultural differences in nonverbal communication, particularly in greetings and gestures, have been a point of interest. Understanding how cultural norms influence nonverbal behavior in human-robot interactions has been a key theme [41,42].

These categories of the wide range of nonverbal communication cues play a significant role in shaping the effectiveness of service robots during human-robot interactions, enhancing engagement, trust, and the overall user experience.

3.4 Sample and Methods Used

All reviewed papers reported the size of their human samples. The average sample size across these studies is 27, with the largest sample consisting of 120 participants and the smallest encompassing 5 individuals (Figure 4). Notably, a subset of 5 papers specifically focused on children as their sample. Among these papers, the sample sizes varied, with the largest involving 67 child participants and the smallest comprising 7. In a distinct context, university students were the focal group in 16 of the examined papers. Within this category, the average sample size stood at 34 participants, with the largest encompassing 120 individuals and the smallest comprising 12. Regarding the gender distribution within the examined papers, a notable equilibrium was observed. On average, the samples consisted of 46% female participants and 54% male participants. This balanced gender representation within the studies highlights the diversity and inclusivity of human participants in human-robot interaction research. Age data was provided in 27 of the reviewed papers. The average age of participants across these studies was approximately 27 years. The range of ages within the samples varied, with the eldest participant reported as 84 years old and the youngest participant as young as 3. This comprehensive age range underscores the inclusivity of participants across different age groups in the realm of human-robot interaction research.

Fig. 4. Sample sizes of the studied papers (order: by size).

The reviewed studies employed a wide array of data collection and analysis techniques. Based on the sources of the data, we categorized them into three primary groups: (a) data generated by participants, such as interviews and questionnaires; (b) data measured during the experiments, including distances and ranges of hand gestures; and (c) alternative approaches for data collection. These categorized methods played a pivotal role in achieving a comprehensive understanding of human-robot interactions, encompassing both objective and subjective data, as well as diverse and innovative approaches.

First, the direct collection of data from participants heavily relied on questionnaires. For instance, [32,39,56,61] utilized Likert scale questionnaires to assess various aspects of human-robot interaction. [45] and [51] employed pre-test and post-test questionnaires. In [43] the participants were requested to complete the Chat-bot Usability Questionnaire. In [28] the length of human speech was measured through questionnaires, while in [58] data was gathered using TIPI and RoSAS questionnaires. In [54] non-verbal emotional behaviors were measured through EEG signals. In addition, structured interviews were conducted by [46], and participant feedback was solicited by [40].

Next, various methods were used to collect objective data. Video analysis was a prevalent technique in the studies of [38] and [62], where it was employed to scrutinize social interactions and initial reactions of children with autism. In [61] it was used to assess the adequacy and intensity of human responses, while [55] applied it for automatic personality prediction. In [25] the impact of humanoid robots on human emotional responses was explored through video analysis. In [30] this method was also employed to test a model specifying the components of engagement. In [58] video analysis was utilized to investigate the extent to which

a humanoid robot can influence someone's comfort. In [53] visual attention was monitored using this technique, and in [44] video analysis was used to recognize valence and arousal. In addition, the authors also used techniques such as collecting Inertial Measurement Unit sensor data about micro-movements [61] or measuring physiological signals and audio-visual behavior to collect physiological data [55] or motion sensors for gathering synchronized information streams [53].

Finally, the researchers of the selected studies also employed some unique or diverse data collection methods. For example, [54] used non-verbal emotional behaviors designed to elicit user affect, which was measured through EEG signals; in [34] a device called the "Interruptedness Metre" was used to collect ranked data from participants. Additional data collection methods included reflection and observation. For instance, in [38], the collection of qualitative data involved reflecting on parents' and children's views. In [40] free-form observation notes were used to capture body language and speech, while in [32] the graffiti wall method was employed to understand feelings and perceptions.

3.5 Main Empirical Results

To articulate the empirical study directions presented in the analyzed papers, we synthesized the principal findings extracted from these documents. Considering the frequency of occurrences in the studied works, we categorized the findings into seven distinct general themes as follows.

Nonverbal Communication and Robot Self-Efficacy. Nonverbal communication, encompassing facial expressions, gaze, and gestures, is a recurring theme across several academic papers. In [27] the powerful impact of facial expressions on the perceived anthropomorphism of a robot was emphasized. In addition, in [34] it was discussed how nonverbal cues such as speed of motion and proximity contribute to conveying interruption urgency and affect the perception of disruption by people. Nonverbal cues play a pivotal role in shaping the robot's self-efficacy, influencing how participants perceive it.

Robot Personality and Engagement. The exploration of robot personality as a key factor in engaging participants during interactions is a common thread in various papers. In [39] the importance of a robot's personality in influencing participants' perceptions and preferences was underscored. Combining gestures and speech, as suggested in [39], enhances the robot's engagement and naturalness, making it more appealing and effective. In [60] the potential for improving human-robot interaction by modulating robot behavior to express different moods was also indicated.

Trust and Trustworthiness. The topic of trust is addressed in several papers. In [40] the correlation between self-assessed trust and trust measured during a game was highlighted, emphasizing the positive impact of nonverbal communication on

trust levels. Trust is a critical component in human-robot interactions, and nonverbal cues contribute to building and maintaining trust with robots. In [49] it was demonstrated how nonverbal cues, such as gaze, significantly improve cooperation between the robot and the human participant, underlining the role of trust in collaboration.

Sociability and Familiarity. Participants' perceptions of a robot's sociability and familiarity are examined in [61], where more sociable robots lead to a greater sense of familiarity. This highlights the significance of nonverbal cues in creating a sense of comfort during interactions. In [42] it was also discussed how different robot appearances affect nonverbal behaviors, such as the distance and delay of response, further illustrating the role of sociability in human-robot interaction.

Transparency and Active Learning. Transparency in robot behavior is a central theme in [46]. It is noted that active learning may not always be the best approach, as some participants prefer more control over the interaction. Transparency is vital for ensuring that the robot's behavior aligns with participants' expectations. In [43] the importance of balancing transparency and legibility of the robot's goals were highlighted, emphasizing that a clear understanding of the robot's intentions contributes to successful interactions.

Joint Tasks and Adaptation. Papers such as [47] and [25] delve into how participants respond to joint tasks with robots. Participants adapt their gaze patterns and engage in joint actions, but there can be challenges, such as finding robot movements less humanlike. This topic underscores the need for robots to adapt effectively in collaborative settings. In [49] and [55] it was emphasized the role of adaptability in human-robot interactions and how different expression levels and behaviors influence participants' emotional states and the analysis of the robot's role.

Cultural Differences and Shared Perception. The influence of different robot appearances and cultural differences is explored in various papers. For instance, in [63] it is discussed how shared perception in interactions improves cooperation and performance. Cultural nuances, such as bowing and handshakes, play a role in shaping the interaction's dynamics. In [41] and [58] insights are provided into how cultural differences affect the robot's learning progress and the robot's behavior in response to different cultural contexts.

These outlined themes underscore the role of nonverbal cues in shaping robot self-efficacy, trust, engagement, transparency, adaptation, and the impact of cultural differences in human-robot interactions.

3.6 Theoretical Approaches Proposed

In order to put the results into proper context, we need also to review the theoretical approaches proposed in the literature, starting from the acceptance of

service robots by their users. An important aspect of technology acceptance is self-efficacy that refers to the person's confidence and motivation in using the technology [9]. According to [64], general self-efficacy is "*defined as people's beliefs about their capabilities to produce designated levels of performance that exercise influence over events that affect their lives.*" People's self-efficacy in using technology, often referred to as computer self-efficacy, is associated with their attitudes toward technology, perceived usefulness, ease of use, and reduced anxiety [65]. The same principles apply to service robots, as robotics and self-efficacy are closely linked, influencing initiation, retention, and overcoming challenges. Robot self-efficacy is linked to general self-efficacy, tech interest, and willingness to use. Although self-efficacy cannot be used as a direct indicator of technology acceptance, due to reliance on others and technical issues, it is still usable for predicting the individual willingness to use the technology [65].

In the case of service robots as social entities, self-efficacy depends on the robot's positive social influence on people [66], i.e., its ability to change people's "*motives and emotions, cognitions and beliefs, values and behavior that occur in an individual*" [67]. In other words, self-efficacy depends on the robot's ability to be perceived as a social entity that has the potential to establish and maintain a social relationship [68]. As suggested by [66,69,70], a robot's social influence and its user's self-efficacy hinges on the effective utilization of nonverbal cues, a crucial element in human communication, i.e., the robot's ability to have 2-way natural communication with humans [5]. In essence, the robot's capacity to emulate natural human interaction plays a pivotal role in determining self-efficacy, highlighting the interconnectedness of both direct verbal and indirect nonverbal communication [71]. The importance of the robot's natural communication skills is stressed by [17] by proposing that robots with only verbal interaction skills are more likely ignored when asking for help, compared to the robots that also use nonverbal cues in HRI. This suggests that effective collaboration between a human and a robot would be at least partly based on using both verbal and nonverbal cues in their interaction.

In verbal interaction, mostly language-based information is shared while nonverbal interaction carries various cues that help people to share interaction roles and to put relayed information into proper context [72]. In addition, nonverbal cues help interaction parties predict the next appropriate action. For example, the end of someone's speech can be understood even before the speaker tells it [73]. Nonverbal cues involve physical appearance, gestures, and posture, face and eye behavior, vocal behavior, space, and environment [72]. However, as robotic bodies still do not have the full capacity to relay human nonverbal cues immaculately, these cues could become inadequately presented or go missing in HRI. Inadequate nonverbal cues could determine robot use self-efficacy and acceptance in scenarios where people are interacting in social environments with

robots or other persons mediated via robots, such as in higher education teaching and learning, in elderly care, or in health care in general [9,10].

However, there is limited information regarding the real-world utilization of nonverbal behaviors in service robots. To address this gap, we delve into three case studies [17,65,69] related to robot self-efficacy and the significance of nonverbal communication skills in service robots. These case studies served as a foundation for shaping our research inquiries.

The authors of [65] investigate the relationship between self-efficacy and the use of robots. The paper highlights the importance of self-efficacy in the context of technology adoption, specifically robots. The authors suggest that robot self-efficacy in healthcare is correlated with general self-efficacy, interest in technology, and willingness to use robots. Their study emphasizes the role of successful experiences in enhancing self-efficacy, such as interacting with a social robot on household-related tasks. This kind of interaction can lead to more positive evaluations of the robot. The authors describe their experimental design, including measures for participant data, the Robot Self-Efficacy Scale, likability, and willingness to use the robot, in their case – the Pepper robot. The results indicate that brief interactions with the robot and its likeability play a significant role in changes in people's robot self-efficacy. The study demonstrates the importance of self-efficacy in HRI.

The authors of [69] presented a study about the impact of a social robot's expressions, both verbal and non-verbal, on self-efficacy during cognitive tasks. The robot, Kebbi, displayed four different expressions: default voice and motion, default voice and designed motion, designed voice and default motion, and designed voice and designed motion. Seventeen university students with technical backgrounds engaged in the Wisconsin Card-Sorting Task, a test involving rule changes leading to mistakes. The study monitored participants' heart rates and brainwave data to gauge arousal and stress levels and recorded the experiment for comprehensive analysis. The study revealed that robot expressions influenced participants' perceptions and stress levels. Designed motion, combined with voice feedback, made the robot more likable and reduced frustration and stress. Individual personality traits also played a significant role in participant responses. The research underscores the importance of considering both verbal and non-verbal robot actions in educational support robots. It highlights the role of personal traits and individual differences in human-robot interactions, especially when enhancing self-efficacy in educational contexts.

The authors of [17] explored the impact of conversational interactions, both nonverbal and verbal, between robots and humans on relationship building. They aimed to determine if such interactions could create a partnership between humans and service robots, potentially increasing helpful behavior from humans towards the robots. The authors suggest that as humans can form emotional

connections with non-living entities, direct, personal, and spontaneous interactions are important in building relationships. In addition, for successful interaction, humans must perceive the robot as a genuine social actor. In their study, twenty-five students interacted with both an interactive and a non-interactive robot. Their results showed that the interactive robot was perceived more positively, resulting in higher social presence and a stronger human-robot relationship. The authors suggest that conversational interactions can enhance social presence and relationships in human-robot interactions, but understanding and predicting helping behavior remains a complex challenge. The authors propose that to foster effective cooperation, robots need to establish partnerships with humans, akin to how humans naturally collaborate using both verbal and non-verbal communication.

4 Discussion

In this study, we systematically examined the literature surrounding nonverbal communication in HRI, with a specific focus on service robots with social capabilities, commonly referred to as social robots or robot assistants. One of the underlying concerns of our analysis was how individuals perceive robots – a significant aspect of understanding the intricacies of HRI [74]. As socially capable robots become increasingly prevalent in our social landscapes, it is important that they are perceived positively to seamlessly integrate into our daily lives. The study of social perceptions regarding robots emerges as a proliferous field of research, gaining increasing prominence in the near future [75].

Examining the various robots utilized in the reviewed studies reveals a diverse selection, influencing the rapidly evolving landscape of HRI. Humanoid robots, such as the NAO and iCub, emerge as dominant platforms for investigating nonverbal communication due to their human-like appearance combined with their programmable features. However, the inclusion of other robot types such as bust and face robots, a robot dog (AIBO), a robot dinosaur (Pleo), and even non-humanoid robots (e.g., Roomba iRobot Create 2) provides additional perspectives on nonverbal interactions between humans and robots [21, 76]. However, although most of these platforms are valued in laboratory research, most of them are not dedicated robot assistants.

Our analysis uncovers a range of research aims within the selected papers, indicating a comprehensive exploration of HRI. These aims range from the aspects of understanding the acceptance and utilization of robots to investigating the correlation between human verbal and nonverbal behavior to those of robots. Emotional interaction, learning and teaching, cognitive and behavioral aspects, and the impact of robot behavior on user affect and teamwork are some of the

thematic clusters observed in the literature [74]. Nonverbal communication cues examined in the selected papers encompass a broad spectrum, including gestures, facial expressions, affective states, eye gaze, voice and speech cues, human-robot proximity, movement, and cultural aspects. These cues play a crucial role in shaping the effectiveness of service robots during HRI, enhancing engagement, trust, and the overall user experience [76]. However, most articles do not reveal how authors precisely utilized this knowledge in creating their experiment scenarios.

The diversity in sample sizes and characteristics across the reviewed papers underscores the inclusivity of different age groups and gender representations in HRI research. The variety of data collection methods employed, involving different quantitative and qualitative approaches, contribute to a comprehensive understanding of nonverbal aspects of HRI [74]. At the same time, most studies were short-term and did not use socially capable service robots in real environments with actual users.

From a synthesis of the main empirical results, it becomes evident that nonverbal communication significantly influences robot self-efficacy, personality, engagement, trust, sociability, familiarity, transparency in robot behavior, adaptation, and cultural differences. The predominant focus of the literature appears to outline the impact of nonverbal communication on enhancing the perceived seriousness of robots in their interactions with humans, ultimately aiming to increase people's robot efficacy in various settings [77]. Since most results were achieved in controlled laboratory conditions, there is a need for studies conducted in real-world environments in order to assess whether nonverbal aspect of HRI, contributes to both HRI and task performance.

As we contemplate the development of distinct and evolving personalities for robots, ethical considerations are becoming increasingly important. Issues such as robot ownership, privacy, and the potential implications of personality-enabled robots on humans warrant careful examination [78, 79]. The increasing number of articles in this field, likely influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic and rapid technological advancements, underscores the growing interest and importance of understanding HRI. It is crucial to explore not only how to make robots more acceptable to humans during initial encounters but also how to allow robots to develop personalities that evolve harmoniously, based on their surroundings and the individuals they interact with [77]. One possible direction for further research is to investigate whether the robot is perceived more as a robot or as a human, and what are those components of nonverbal behavior that influence people's opinions about the robot.

Our results also underscore the significance of theoretical approaches in contextualizing the findings. Key concepts include technology acceptance and self-efficacy, emphasizing the essential role of self-efficacy in using service robots

[9,65,]. Self-efficacy, a critical aspect of technology acceptance, is linked to users' confidence, motivation, and their perception of a robot's social influence [64,66]. We draw attention to the interconnectedness of self-efficacy, robot social influence, and the effective utilization of nonverbal cues, pointing out their impact on users' willingness to engage with service robots [5,17,66]. Nonverbal communication, essential in human interaction, becomes a pivotal component for effective HRI, particularly in education, elderly care, and healthcare [9,72]. We highlighted three case studies on robot self-efficacy and the role of nonverbal communication in service robots [17,65,69]. These studies emphasize the influence of self-efficacy on technology adoption and the impact of robot expressions, both verbal and nonverbal, on user perceptions and stress levels. They highlight the significance of considering nonverbal cues in educational support robots and the importance of creating genuine, interactive relationships between humans and robots. Overall, we imply that self-efficacy, nonverbal communication, and the interplay between human perception and robot interaction play critical roles, shedding light on the complexities and importance of these dynamics in human-robot relationships.

5 Conclusions and Future Work

Our aim was to contribute to the growing body of knowledge in the field of HRI, with a specific focus on non-verbal communication of service robots endowed with social capabilities. The results underscore the potential of enhancing the quality of communication between humans and service robots. Nevertheless, there are aspects that have not been thoroughly explored thus far. To date, assessments have predominantly measured technology acceptance by humans or their perceived efficacy in using the robot within a simulated environment, specifically tailored for a particular scenario.

In forthcoming studies, we emphasize the importance of conducting experiments in real public spaces, given that service robots find significant applications in such environments. Additionally, scenarios involving collaborative actions between humans and robots were limited, despite articles emphasizing the creation of an effective robot personality through a collaborative process with humans. The interaction between humans and robots in public spaces encompasses yet another crucial aspect that the analyzed studies failed to reflect. Little attention has been given to understanding how individuals feel in communication or collaborative situations with robots, particularly in public spaces where others are present. As a final point, despite studies highlighting the impact of self-efficacy on technology adoption, there has been no measurement of

whether individuals' self-efficacy was higher when they achieved their goals in collaboration with the robot.

As technology continues to advance, further research in this field is paramount to ensuring that robots can effectively communicate with humans in diverse contexts, ultimately enhancing the overall HRI experience. This article provides a comprehensive overview of the current state of research and lays the foundation for future investigations in this dynamic field.

CRedit author statement. **Janika Leoste:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Validation, Formal analysis, Investigation, Resources, Data Curation, Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing, Visualization, Supervision, Project administration. **Kristel Marmor:** Conceptualization, Formal analysis, Investigation, Data Curation, Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing. **Mati Heidmets:** Conceptualization, Validation, Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing, Supervision.

References

1. MarketsAndMarkets. <https://www.marketsandmarkets.com/Market-Reports/service-robotics-market-681.html>
2. Schraft, R.: Service robot – From vision to realization. *Technica*, 7, pp. 27--31, (1993)
3. ISO: Robots and Robotic Devices – Vocabulary ISO 8373:2012. Technical Report. ISO: Geneva, Switzerland, (2012)
4. International Federation of Robotics. Service Robots. <https://ifr.org/service-robot>
5. Bieber, G., Haescher, M., Antony, N., Hoepfner, F., Krause, S.: Unobtrusive Vital Data Recognition by Robots to Enhance Natural Human–Robot Communication. In *Social Robots: Technological, Societal and Ethical Aspects of Human-Robot Interaction*; Korn, O., Eds; Springer: Cham, (2019), https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-17107-0_5
6. Wirtz, J., Patterson, P. G., Kunz, W. H., Gruber, T., Lu, V. N., Paluch, S., Martins, A.: Brave new world: Service robots in the frontline. *Journal of Service Management*, 29, pp. 907--931, (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1108/JOSM-04-2018-0119>
7. Kopacek, P.: Development Trends in Robotics. *IFAC-PapersOnLine*, 49, pp. 36--41, (2016), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ifacol.2016.11.070>
8. Holland, J., Kingston, L., McCarthy, C., Armstrong, E., O'Dwyer, P., Merz, F., McConnell, M.; Service Robots in the Healthcare Sector. *Robotics*, 10(1), (2021), <https://doi.org/10.3390/robotics10010047>
9. Turja, T., Rantanen, T., Oksanen, A.: Robot use self-efficacy in healthcare work (RUSH): development and validation of a new measure. *AI & Society*, 34, pp. 137--143, (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-017-0751-2>
10. Leoste, J., Heidmets, M., Virkus, S., Talisainen, A., Rebane, M., Kasuk, T., Tammemäe, K., Kangur, K., Kikkas, K., Marmor, K.: Keeping Distance with a Telepresence Robot: A Pilot Study. *Frontiers in Education*, 7, 1046461, (2023),

- <https://doi.org/10.3389/feduc.2022.1046461>
11. Hoffman, G., Ju, W.: Designing robots with movement in mind. *Journal of Human-Robot Interaction*, 3(1), pp. 91--122, (2014), <https://doi.org/10.5898/JHRI.3.1.Hoffman>
 12. Erel, H., Shem Tov, T., Kessler, Y., Zuckerman, O.: Robots are always social: Robotic movements are automatically interpreted as social cues. In *Extended abstracts of the CHI conference on human factors in computing systems*, (2019), <https://doi.org/10.1145/3290607.3312758>
 13. Sarrica, M., Brondi, S., Fortunati, L.: How many facets does a “social robot” have? A review of scientific and popular definitions online. *Inf. Technol. People*, 33, pp. 1--21, (2019), <https://doi.org/10.1108/ITP-04-2018-0203>
 14. Lee, Y., Lee, S., Kim, D.: Exploring hotel guests' perceptions of using robot assistants. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 37, (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tmp.2020.100781>
 15. temibots. temi V3 Robot – Black. <https://temibots.com/product/temi-v3-robot-black-buy>
 16. RobotLAB. LG CLOi Guidebot Robot for Hospitality. <https://www.robotlab.com/hospitality-robots/store/cloi-guidebot>
 17. Urakami, J., Sutthithatip, S.: Building a Collaborative Relationship between Human and Robot through Verbal and Non-Verbal Interaction. *Proceedings of the ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction*, (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1145/3434074.3447171>
 18. Anderson-Bashan, L., Megidish, B., Erel, H., Wald, I., Hoffman, G., Zuckerman, O., Grishko, A.: The greeting machine: an abstract robotic object for opening encounters. In *Proceedings of the 27th IEEE International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)*, (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1109/ROMAN.2018.8525516>
 19. Ju, W., Takayama, L.: Approachability: How people interpret automatic door movement as gesture. *International Journal of Design*, 3(2), (2009),
 20. Gonzalez-Aguirre, J.A., Osorio-Oliveros, R., Rodríguez-Hernández, K.L., Lizárraga-Iturralde, J., Morales Menendez, R., Ramí-rez-Mendoza, R.A., Ramírez-Moreno, M.A., et al.: Service Robots: Trends and Technology. *Applied Sciences*, 11(22), 10702, (2021), <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/app112210702>
 21. Dantas, R., Fleck, D.: Challenges in Identifying Studies to Include in a Systematic Literature Review: An Analysis of the Organizational Growth and Decline Topics. *Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication*, (2023), <https://doi.org/10.1108/GKMC-03-2023-0098>
 22. Clarivate. Web of Science Search. <https://www.webofscience.com/wos/woscc/basic-search>
 23. Elsevier B.V. <https://www.scopus.com/home.uri>
 24. EBSCO. EBSCO Discovery Service. EBSCO Information Services. <https://www.ebsco.com/products/ebsco-discovery-service>
 25. Jirak, D., Aoki, M., Yanagi, T., Takamatsu, A., Bouet, S., Yamamura, T., Sandini, G., Rea, F.: Is It Me or the Robot? A Critical Evaluation of Human Affective State Recognition in a Cognitive Task. *Frontiers in Neurorobotics*, 16, (2022), <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnbot.2022.882483>

26. Parreira, M.T., Gillet, S., Winkle, K., Leite, I.: How Did We Miss This?: A Case Study on Unintended Biases in Robot Social Behavior. In Proceedings of the ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction, (2023), <https://doi.org/10.1145/3568294.3580032>
27. Ghazali, A.S., Ham, J., Markopoulos, P.P., Barakova, E.I.: Investigating the Effect of Social Cues on Social Agency Judgement. In Proceedings of the 14th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI), (2019), <https://doi.org/10.1109/HRI.2019.8673266>
28. Oetringer, D., Wolfert, P., Deschuyteneer, J., Thill, S., Belpaeme, T.: Communicative Function of Eye Blinks of Virtual Avatars May Not Translate onto Physical Platforms. In Proceedings of the ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction, (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1145/3434074.3447136>
29. Lee, K.M., Peng, W., Jin, S.A., Yan, C.: Can Robots Manifest Personality? An Empirical Test of Personality Recognition, Social Re-sponses, and Social Presence in Human-Robot Interaction. *Journal of Communication*, 56, pp. 754--772, (2006), <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1460-2466.2006.00318.x>
30. Perugia, G., Díaz-Boladeras, M., Català-Mallofré, A., Barakova, E.I., Rauterberg, G.: ENGAGE-DEM: A Model of Engagement of People With Dementia. *IEEE Transactions on Affective Computing*, 13, pp. 926--943, (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1109/TAFFC.2020.2980275>
31. Song, S., Yamada, S.: Designing LED lights for a robot to communicate gaze. *Advanced Robotics*, 33, pp. 360--368, (2019), <https://doi.org/10.1080/01691864.2019.1600426>
32. Capy, S., Osorio, P., Hagane, S., Aznar, C., Garcin, D., Coronado, E., Deuff, D., Ocnarescu, I., Milleville, I., Venture, G.: Yōkobo: A Robot to Strengthen Links Amongst Users with Non-Verbal Behaviours. *Machines*, (2022), <https://doi.org/10.3390/machines10080708>
33. Michalowski, M.P., Kozima, H.: Methodological Issues in Facilitating Rhythmic Play with Robots. In Proceedings of the 16th IEEE International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication, (2007), <https://doi.org/10.1109/ROMAN.2007.4415060>
34. Saulnier, P., Sharlin, E., Greenberg, S.: Exploring minimal nonverbal interruption in HRI. In Proceedings of the 20th IEEE International Conference on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN), (2011), <https://doi.org/10.1109/ROMAN.2011.6005257>
35. Soomro, Z.A., Bin Shamsudin, A.U., Abdul Rahim, R., Adrianshah, A., Hazeli, M.: Non-Verbal Human-Robot Interaction Using Neural Network for The Application of Service Robot. *IIUM Engineering Journal*, 24(1), (2023), <https://doi.org/10.31436/iiumej.v24i1.2577>
36. Yang, Y., Williams, A.B.: Improving Human-Robot Collaboration Efficiency and Robustness through Non-Verbal Emotional Communication. In Proceedings of the ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction, (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1145/3371382.3378385>
37. Kwak, S.: The Impact of the Robot Appearance Types on Social Interaction with a Robot and Service Evaluation of a Robot. *Archives of Design Research*, 27(2), pp. 81--93, (2014), <http://dx.doi.org/10.15187/adr.2014.05.110.2.81>

38. Ahmad, M. I., Shahid, S., Tahir, A.: Towards the Applicability of NAO Robot for Children with Autism in Pakistan. In Proceedings of Human-Computer Interaction Interact 2017: 16th IFIP TC 13 International Conference, Mumbai, India, (2017), https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-67687-6_32
39. Aly, A., Tapus, A.: A Model for Synthesizing a Combined Verbal and Nonverbal Behavior Based on Personality Traits in Human-Robot Interaction. In proceedings of the 8th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction, (2013), <https://doi.org/10.1109/HRI.2013.6483606>
40. Arts, E., Zörner, S., Bhatia, K., Mir, G., Schmalzl, F., Srivastava, A., Vasiljevic, B., Alpay, T., Peters, A., Strahl, E., Wermter, S.: Exploring Human-Robot Trust Through the Investment Game: An Immersive Space Mission Scenario. In Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Human-Agent Interaction, (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1145/3406499.3415078>
41. Trovato, G., Do, M., Kuramochi, M., Zecca, M., Terlemeç, Ö., Asfour, T., Takanishi, A.: A Novel Culture-Dependent Gesture Selection System for a Humanoid Robot Performing Greeting Interaction. In Proceedings of the International Conference on Software Reuse, (2014), http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-11973-1_35
42. Kanda, T., Miyashita, T., Osada, T., Haikawa, Y., Ishiguro, H.: Analysis of Humanoid Appearances in Human-Robot Interaction. IEEE Transactions on Robotics, 24, pp. 725--735, (2008), <https://doi.org/10.1109/TRO.2008.921566>
43. Umbrico, A., De Benedictis, R., Fracasso, F., Cesta, A., Orlandini, A., Cortellessa, G.: A Mind-inspired Architecture for Adaptive HRI. International Journal of Social Robotics, 15, pp. 371--391, (2022), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12369-022-00897-8>
44. Xu, J., Broekens, J., Hindriks, K.V., Neerincx, M.A.: Bodily Mood Expression: Recognize Moods from Functional Behaviors of Humanoid Robots. In Proceedings of International Conference on Software Reuse, (2013), https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-02675-6_51
45. Xu, J., Broekens, J., Hindriks, K.V., Neerincx, M.A.: Mood contagion of robot body language in human-robot interaction. Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems, 29, pp. 1216--1248, (2015), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10458-015-9307-3>
46. Chao, C., Cakmak, M., Thomaz, A.L.: Transparent Active Learning for Robots. In Proceedings of 5th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction, (2010), <https://doi.org/10.1109/HRI.2010.5453178>
47. Cooper, S., Fensome, S.F., Kourtis, D.A., Gow, S., Dragone, M.: An EEG Investigation on Planning Human-Robot Handover Tasks. In Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Human-Machine Systems, (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICHMS49158.2020.9209543>
48. Devillers, L., Rosset, S., Duplessis, G.D., Bechade, L., Yemez, Y., Türker, B.B., Sezgin, T.M., Erzin, E., Haddad, K.E., Dupont, S., Deléglise, P., Estève, Y., Lallier, C., Gilmartin, E., Campbell, N.: Multifaceted Engagement in Social Interaction with a Machine: The JOKER Project. In Proceedings of the 13th IEEE International Conference on Automatic Face & Gesture Recognition, (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1109/FG.2018.00110>
49. Lallée, S., Hamann, K., Steinwender, J., Warneken, F., Martinez-Hernandez, U., Barron-Gonzalez, H., Pattacini, U., Gori, I., Petit, M., Metta, G., Verschure, P.F., Dominey, P.F.: Cooperative Human Robot Interaction Systems: IV. Communication of Shared Plans with Naïve Humans Using Gaze and Speech. In Proceedings of the IEEE/RSJ

- International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems, (2013), <https://doi.org/10.1109/IROS.2013.6696343>
50. Kose-Bagci, H., Dautenhahn, K., Syrdal, D.S., Nehaniv, C.L.: Drum-mate: Interaction Dynamics and Gestures in Human–Humanoid Drumming Experiments. *Connection Science*, 22, pp. 103–134, (2010), <https://doi.org/10.1080/09540090903383189>
 51. Kennedy, J., Baxter, P.E., Senft, E., Belpaeme, T.: Social Robot Tutoring for Child Second Language Learning. In *Proceedings of the 11th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction*, (2016), <https://doi.org/10.1109/HRI.2016.7451757>
 52. Mora, A., Glas, D.F., Kanda, T., Hagita, N.: A Teleoperation Approach for Mobile Social Robots Incorporating Automatic Gaze Control and Three-Dimensional Spatial Visualization. *IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics: Systems*, 43, pp. 630–642, (2013), <https://doi.org/10.1109/TSMCA.2012.2212187>
 53. Sheikhi, S., Odobez, J.: Combining dynamic head pose-gaze mapping with the robot conversational state for attention recognition in human-robot interactions. *Pattern Recognit. Lett.*, 66, pp. 81–90, (2015), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.patrec.2014.10.002>
 54. Shao, M., Snyder, M., Nejat, G., Benhabib, B.: User Affect Elicitation with a Socially Emotional Robot. *Robotics*, 9, 44, (2020), <https://doi.org/10.3390/robotics9020044>
 55. Gunes, H., Çeliktutan, O., Sariyanidi, E.: Live Human–Robot Interactive Public Demonstrations with Automatic Emotion and Personality Prediction. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 374(1771), (2019), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2018.0026>
 56. Matarese, M., Rea, F., Sciutti, A.: Perception is Only Real When Shared: A Mathematical Model for Collaborative Shared Perception in Human-Robot Interaction. *Frontiers in Robotics and AI*, 9, (2022), <https://doi.org/10.3389/frobt.2022.733954>
 57. Redondo, M.E., Niewiadomski, R., Francesco, R., Sciutti, A.: Comfortability Recognition from Visual Non-verbal Cues. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Multimodal Interaction*, (2022), <https://doi.org/10.1145/3536221.3556631>
 58. Redondo, M.E., Sciutti, A., Incao, S., Rea, F., Niewiadomski, R.: Can Robots Impact Human Comfortability During a Live Interview? In *Proceedings of the ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction*, (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1145/3434074.3447156>
 59. Esteban, P.G., Bagheri, E., Elprama, S.A., Jewell, C.I., Cao, H., De Beir, A., Jacobs, A., Vanderborght, B.: Should I be Introvert or Extrovert? A Pairwise Robot Comparison Assessing the Perception of Personality-Based Social Robot Behaviors. *International Journal of Social Robotics*, 14, pp. 115–125, (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12369-020-00715-z>
 60. Liu, L., Liu, Y., Gao, X.Z.: Impacts of Human Robot Proxemics on Human Concentration-Training Games with Humanoid Robots. *Healthcare*, 9, (2021), <https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare9070894>
 61. Baddoura, R., Venture, G.: Social vs. Useful HRI: Experiencing the Familiar, Perceiving the Robot as a Sociable Partner and Responding to Its Actions. *International Journal of Social Robotics*, 5, pp. 529–547, (2013), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12369-013-0207-x>
 62. Feng, H., Mahoor, M.H., Dino, F.: A Music-Therapy Robotic Platform for Children With Autism: A Pilot Study. *Frontiers in Robotics and AI*, 9, (2022), <https://doi.org/10.3389/frobt.2022.855819>

63. Matarese, M., Sciutti, A., Rea, F., Rossi, S.: Toward Robots' Behavioral Transparency of Temporal Difference Reinforcement Learning With a Human Teacher. *IEEE Transactions on Human-Machine Systems*, 51, pp. 578--589, (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1109/THMS.2021.3116119>
64. Bandura, A.: Self-efficacy. In *Encyclopedia of Human Behavior*, Ramachandran, V. S., Ed, Academic Press: New York, NY, (1994)
65. Robinson, N. L., Hicks, T., Suddrey, G., Kavanagh, D. J.: The Robot Self-Efficacy Scale: Robot Self-Efficacy, Likability and Willingness to Interact Increases After a Robot-Delivered Tutorial. In *Proceedings of the 29th IEEE International Conference on Robot and Human Interactive Communication*, (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1109/RO-MAN47096.2020.9223535>
66. Frank, D.A., Otterbring, T.: Being Seen... by Human or Machine? Acknowledgment Effects on Customer Responses Differ Between Human and Robotic Service Workers. *Technological Forecasting & Social Change*, 189, 122345, (2023), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techfore.2023.122345>
67. Latane, B.: The Psychology of Social Impact. *American Psychologist*, 36(4), pp. 343--356, (1981), <https://doi.org/10.1037/0003-066X.36.4.343>
68. Lee, K.M.: Presence, Explicated. *Communication Theory*, 14(1), pp. 27--50, (2004), <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-2885.2004.tb00302.x>
69. Li, Y., Sekino, H., Sato-Shimokawara, E., Yamaguchi, T.: The Influence of Robot's Expressions on Self-Efficacy in Erroneous Situations. *Journal of Advanced Computational Intelligence and Intelligent Informatics*, 26(4), pp. 521--530, (2022), <https://doi.org/10.20965/jaciii.2022.p0521>
70. Swift-Spong, K., Short, E.S., Wade, E., Matarić, M.J.: Effects of comparative feedback from a Socially Assistive Robot on self-efficacy in post-stroke rehabilitation. In *Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Rehabilitation Robotics*, (2015), <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICORR.2015.7281294>
71. Albardiaz, R.: Non-verbal Communication: An Update on Smell. *Education for Primary Care*, 32(6), pp. 363--365, (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1080/14739879.2021.1955625>
72. Vinciarelli, A., Pantic, M., Bourland, H.: Social signal processing: Survey of an emerging domain. *Image and Vision Computing*, 27, pp. 1743--1759, (2009), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.imavis.2008.11.007>
73. Barquero, G., Núñez, J., Escalera, S., Xu, Z., Tu, W., Guyon, I., Palmero, C.: Didn't See That Coming: A Survey on Non-verbal Social Human Behavior Forecasting. *Machine Learning Research*, 173, pp. 139--178, (2022)
74. Spatola, N., Kühnlenz, B., Cheng, G.: Perception and Evaluation in Human-Robot Interaction: The Human-Robot Interaction Evaluation Scale (HRIES) - A Multicomponent Approach of Anthropomorphism. *International Journal of Social Robotics*, 13, pp. 1517--1539, (2021), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12369-020-00667-4>
75. Mandl, S., Bretschneider, M., Asbrock, F., Meyer, B., Strobel, A.: The Social Perception of Robots Scale (SPRS): Developing and Testing a Scale for Successful Interaction Between Humans and Robots. In *Proceedings of the PRO-VE 2022: Collaborative Networks in Digitalization and Society 5.0*, (2022), https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-14844-6_26
76. Zuckerman, O., Walker, D., Grishko, A., Moran, T., Levy, C., Lisak, B., ... & Erel, H.: Companionship is not a function: the effect of a novel robotic object on healthy older

- adults' feelings of "Being-seen". In Proceedings of the 2020 CHI conference on human factors in computing systems, (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1145/3313831.3376411>
77. Jung, M. F., DiFranzo, D., Stoll, B., Shen, S., Lawrence, A., Claire, H.: Robot assisted tower construction-a resource distribution task to study human-robot collaboration and interaction with groups of people. arXiv preprint arXiv:1812.09548, (2018).
78. Hall, E.: *The Hidden Dimension*. Doubleday: New York, (1969)
79. Xie, L., Lei, S.: The nonlinear effect of service robot anthropomorphism on customers' usage intention: A privacy calculus perspective. *International Journal of Hospitality Management*, 107, 103312, (2022), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijhm.2022.103312>

Appendix A *The Results of the Literature Selection Process*

- Ahmad, M. I., Shahid, S., & Tahir, A. (2017). Towards the applicability of NAO robot for children with autism in Pakistan. *Human-Computer Interaction Interact 2017: 16Th Ifip Tc 13 International Conference*, Mumbai, India, September 25–29, 2017, Proceedings, Part Iii, 463-472. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-67687-6_32
- Aly, A., & Tapus, A. (2013). A model for synthesizing a combined verbal and nonverbal behavior based on personality traits in human-robot interaction. *2013 8th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)*, 325-332.
- Arts, E., Zörner, S., Bhatia, K., Mir, G., Schmalzl, F., Srivastava, A., Vasiljevic, B., Alpay, T., Peters, A., Strahl, E., & Wermter, S. (2020). Exploring Human-Robot Trust Through the Investment Game: An Immersive Space Mission Scenario. *Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Human-Agent Interaction*. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3406499.3415078>
- Baddoura, R., & Venture, G. (2013). Social vs. Useful HRI: Experiencing the Familiar, Perceiving the Robot as a Sociable Partner and Responding to Its Actions. *International Journal of Social Robotics*, 5, 529-547. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12369-013-0207-x>
- Cappy, S., Osorio, P., Hagane, S., Aznar, C., Garcin, D., Coronado, E., Deuff, D., Ocnarescu, I., Milleville, I., & Venture, G. (2022). Yōkobo: A Robot to Strengthen Links Amongst Users with Non-Verbal Behaviours. *Machines*. <https://doi.org/10.3390/machines10080708>
- Chao, C., Cakmak, M., & Thomaz, A.L. (2010). Transparent active learning for robots. *2010 5th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)*, 317-324. <https://doi.org/10.1109/HRI.2010.5453178>
- Cooper, S., Fensome, S.F., Kourtis, D.A., Gow, S., & Dragone, M. (2020). An EEG investigation on planning human-robot handover tasks. *2020 IEEE International Conference on Human-Machine Systems (ICHMS)*, 1-6. <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICHMS49158.2020.9209543>
- Devillers, L., Rosset, S., Duplessis, G.D., Bechade, L., Yemez, Y., Türker, B.B., Sezgin, T.M., Erzin, E., Haddad, K.E., Dupont, S., Deléglise, P., Estève, Y., Lailier, C., Gilmartin, E., & Campbell, N. (2018). Multifaceted Engagement in Social Interaction with a Machine: The JOKER Project. *2018 13th IEEE International Conference on*

Automatic Face & Gesture Recognition (FG 2018), 697-701.
<https://doi.org/10.1109/FG.2018.00110>

- Esteban, P.G., Bagheri, E., Elprama, S.A., Jewell, C.I., Cao, H., De Beir, A., Jacobs, A., & Vanderborght, B. (2021). Should I be Introvert or Extrovert? A Pairwise Robot Comparison Assessing the Perception of Personality-Based Social Robot Behaviors. *International Journal of Social Robotics*, 14, 115 - 125. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12369-020-00715-z>
- Feng, H., Mahoor, M.H., & Dino, F. (2022). A Music-Therapy Robotic Platform for Children With Autism: A Pilot Study. *Frontiers in Robotics and AI*, 9. <https://doi.org/10.3389/frobt.2022.855819>
- Ghazali, A.S., Ham, J., Markopoulos, P.P., & Barakova, E.I. (2019). Investigating the Effect of Social Cues on Social Agency Judgement. 2019 14th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI), 586-587. <https://doi.org/10.1109/HRI.2019.8673266>
- Gillet, S., Parreira, M.T., Vázquez, M., & Leite, I. (2022). Learning Gaze Behaviors for Balancing Participation in Group Human-Robot Interactions. 2022 17th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI), 265-274. <https://doi.org/10.1109/HRI53351.2022.9889416>
- Gunes, H., Çeliktutan, O., & Sariyanidi, E. (2019). Live human-robot interactive public demonstrations with automatic emotion and personality prediction. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 374. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2018.0026>
- Jirak, D., Aoki, M., Yanagi, T., Takamatsu, A., Bouet, S., Yamamura, T., Sandini, G., & Rea, F. (2022). Is It Me or the Robot? A Critical Evaluation of Human Affective State Recognition in a Cognitive Task. *Frontiers in Neurobotics*, 16. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnbot.2022.882483>
- Kanda, T., Miyashita, T., Osada, T., Haikawa, Y., & Ishiguro, H. (2005). Analysis of Humanoid Appearances in Human-Robot Interaction. *IEEE Transactions on Robotics*, 24, 725-735. <https://doi.org/10.1109/TRO.2008.921566>
- Kennedy, J., Baxter, P.E., Senft, E., & Belpaeme, T. (2016). Social robot tutoring for child second language learning. 2016 11th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI), 231-238. <https://doi.org/10.1109/HRI.2016.7451757>
- Kose-Bagci, H., Dautenhahn, K., Syrdal, D.S., & Nehaniv, C.L. (2010). Drum-mate: interaction dynamics and gestures in human-humanoid drumming experiments. *Connection Science*, 22, 103 - 134. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09540090903383189>
- Lallée, S., Hamann, K., Steinwender, J., Warneken, F., Martinez-Hernandez, U., Barron-Gonzalez, H., Pattacini, U., Gori, I., Petit, M., Metta, G., Verschure, P.F., & Dominey, P.F. (2013). Cooperative human robot interaction systems: IV. Communication of shared plans with Naïve humans using gaze and speech. 2013 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems, 129-136. <https://doi.org/10.1109/IROS.2013.6696343>
- Lee, K.M., Peng, W., Jin, S.A., & Yan, C. (2006). Can robots manifest personality? : An empirical test of personality recognition, social responses, and social presence in human-robot interaction. *Journal of Communication*, 56, 754-772. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1460-2466.2006.00318.x>

- Liu, L., Liu, Y., & Gao, X.Z. (2021). Impacts of Human Robot Proxemics on Human Concentration-Training Games with Humanoid Robots. *Healthcare*, 9. <https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare9070894>
- Matarese, M., Rea, F., & Sciutti, A. (2022). Perception is Only Real When Shared: A Mathematical Model for Collaborative Shared Perception in Human-Robot Interaction. *Frontiers in Robotics and AI*, 9. <https://doi.org/10.3389/frobt.2022.733954>
- Matarese, M., Sciutti, A., Rea, F., & Rossi, S. (2021). Toward Robots' Behavioral Transparency of Temporal Difference Reinforcement Learning With a Human Teacher. *IEEE Transactions on Human-Machine Systems*, 51, 578-589. <https://doi.org/10.1109/THMS.2021.3116119>
- Michalowski, M.P., & Kozima, H. (2007). Methodological Issues in Facilitating Rhythmic Play with Robots. *RO-MAN 2007 - The 16th IEEE International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication*, 95-100. <https://doi.org/10.1109/ROMAN.2007.4415060>
- Mora, A., Glas, D.F., Kanda, T., & Hagita, N. (2013). A Teleoperation Approach for Mobile Social Robots Incorporating Automatic Gaze Control and Three-Dimensional Spatial Visualization. *IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics: Systems*, 43, 630-642. <https://doi.org/10.1109/TSMCA.2012.2212187>
- Oetringer, D., Wolfert, P., Deschuyteneer, J., Thill, S., & Belpaeme, T. (2021). Communicative Function of Eye Blinks of Virtual Avatars May Not Translate onto Physical Platforms. *Companion of the 2021 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction*. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3434074.3447136>
- Parreira, M.T., Gillet, S., Winkle, K., & Leite, I. (2023). How Did We Miss This?: A Case Study on Unintended Biases in Robot Social Behavior. *Companion of the 2023 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction*. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3568294.3580032>
- Perugia, G., Díaz-Boladeras, M., Català-Mallofré, A., Barakova, E.I., & Rauterberg, G. (2020). ENGAGE-DEM: A Model of Engagement of People With Dementia. *IEEE Transactions on Affective Computing*, 13, 926-943. <https://doi.org/10.1109/TAFFC.2020.2980275>
- Redondo, M.E., Niewiadomski, R., Francesco, R., & Sciutti, A. (2022). Comfortability Recognition from Visual Non-verbal Cues. *Proceedings of the 2022 International Conference on Multimodal Interaction*. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3536221.3556631>
- Redondo, M.E., Sciutti, A., Incao, S., Rea, F., & Niewiadomski, R. (2021). Can Robots Impact Human Comfortability During a Live Interview? *Companion of the 2021 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction*. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3434074.3447156>
- Saulnier, P., Sharlin, E., & Greenberg, S. (2011). Exploring minimal nonverbal interruption in HRI. *2011 RO-MAN*, 79-86. <https://doi.org/10.1109/ROMAN.2011.6005257>
- Shao, M., Snyder, M., Nejat, G., & Benhabib, B. (2020). User Affect Elicitation with a Socially Emotional Robot. *Robotics*, 9, 44. <https://doi.org/10.3390/robotics9020044>
- Sheikhi, S., & Odobez, J. (2015). Combining dynamic head pose-gaze mapping with the robot conversational state for attention recognition in human-robot interactions. *Pattern Recognit. Lett.*, 66, 81-90. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.patrec.2014.10.002>

- Song, S., & Yamada, S. (2019). Designing LED lights for a robot to communicate gaze. *Advanced Robotics*, 33, 360 - 368. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01691864.2019.1600426>
- Soomro, Z.A., BIN SHAMSUDIN, A.U., Abdul Rahim, R., Adrianshah, A., & Hazeli, M. (2023). Non-Verbal Human-Robot Interaction Using Neural Network for The Application of Service Robot. *IUM Engineering Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.31436/iiumej.v24i1.2577>
- Trovato, G., Do, M., Kuramochi, M., Zecca, M., Terlemez, Ö., Asfour, T., & Takanishi, A. (2014). A Novel Culture-Dependent Gesture Selection System for a Humanoid Robot Performing Greeting Interaction. *International Conference on Software Reuse*. http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-11973-1_35
- Umbrico, A., De Benedictis, R., Fracasso, F., Cesta, A., Orlandini, A., & Cortellessa, G. (2022). A Mind-inspired Architecture for Adaptive HRI. *International Journal of Social Robotics*, 15, 371 - 391. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12369-022-00897-8>
- Xu, J., Broekens, J., Hindriks, K.V., & Neerincx, M.A. (2013). Bodily Mood Expression: Recognize Moods from Functional Behaviors of Humanoid Robots. *International Conference on Software Reuse*. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-02675-6_51
- Xu, J., Broekens, J., Hindriks, K.V., & Neerincx, M.A. (2015). Mood contagion of robot body language in human robot interaction. *Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems*, 29, 1216-1248. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10458-015-9307-3>
- Yang, Y., & Williams, A.B. (2021). Improving Human-Robot Collaboration Efficiency and Robustness through Non-Verbal Emotional Communication. *Companion of the 2021 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction*. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3371382.3378385>