UNIVERSITÄT BIELEFELD
Faculty of Technology

Social Cognitive Systems Group
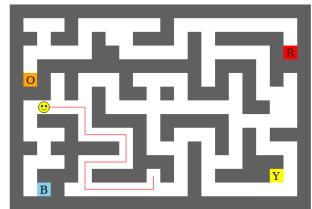Prof. Dr.-Ing. Stefan Kopp
CITEC - Technische Fakultät

SOCIAL
COGNITIVE SYSTEMS
AG Kognitive Systeme und soziale Interaktion

CITEC
Cognitive Interaction Technology
Center of Excellence
Bielefeld University

Student project / BA-/MA-Thesis

Whats on your mind, computer?

Topic

People are capable of inferring other's hidden mental states based on their observable behavior, an ability often called Theory of Mind (ToM). Mental states that people are capable of inferring include, but are not limited to another person's goal or desire, their beliefs, preferences and even emotions. While there exist different theories for how humans achieve their ToM, it has become quite clear that people can use their ToM capabilities to varying degrees.

At the same time, we also know that people tend to anthropomorphize artificial agents. That way people often attribute mental states to artificial entities. It is currently unclear if or to what extend humans may employ their ToM differently when observing artificial agents compared to other humans.

In this student project or BA/MA thesis, you will carry out an online study to investigate empirically how humans mentalize about an artificial agent that they observe acting in a simplified environment.

What you should have or can acquire

- First experiences in conducting an empirical online study

- interest in human (social) cognition

Contact

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View online