

Exam for Philosophy of Mind and Design.

To be sent to Annika's Urkund address (a system that automatically detects plagiarism): Annika.Wallin.lu@analys.urkund.se

The exam is to be handed in no later than 13.00 Monday March 10.

Important note to all students.

In order to get the best possible result at the exam, make sure to write a structured answer, where you cover all the questions I have asked you. Present arguments for your point of view and link your discussion, when you can, to the course literature and to the discussions we have had in class. Make sure to indicate clearly when you do so, so that I can recognize these connections. I expect the finished exams to be about six pages. Also – and this is very important – if you find inspiration from other sources, be sure to give a clear reference to these as well. If I find sections in the exam that are, for instance, copied from internet sources, without a reference, I am required to report it as plagiarism, and I really don't want to do that. If you want more information about what counts as plagiarism and what doesn't please take a look here:

<http://www.lub.lu.se/skriva-referera/plagiat.html> (in Swedish unfortunately) or here: <http://awelu.srv.lu.se/academic-integrity/plagiarism/#c10957>

If you have any questions please e-mail me and I'll answer in an email to everybody. Please remember, that it will be hard for me to answer questions during week-ends and evenings. Furthermore, Thursday the 5th I'll be completely unavailable, so it is good if you have your questions before then.

Again, it has been a pleasure to meet all of you, and I wish you the best of luck with this exam and with the rest of your education.

Annika

The exam

At the TED homepage you can listen to a talk by Cynthia Brezeal (from 2010) on the rise of personal robots. You will find it here:

http://www.ted.com/talks/cynthia_brezeal_the_rise_of_personal_robots.html

One of the topics she covers is how personal robots may help people with decisions concerning their health, such as how much and what to eat.

Your assignment is to think about how to develop such a robot that isn't completely personalized but rather one that you can borrow at the grocery store. The purpose of the robot is to help you buy groceries that are healthy, tasty and not too expensive.

- 1) What do you think has to be considered in order for the robot to be used by people in the store? What are the specific difficulties that the robot would have to overcome? Give some concrete examples of situations that you think the robot would have to master in order to be good at social emotional intelligence.
- 2) One major difficulty in making such a robot is that people are different: what is healthy or cheap for one individual may not be so for others. Obviously we differ also when it comes to taste. Try to think of some ways in which you could overcome these obstacles while designing the robot. I want you to carefully consider the areas of health, taste and expense. Can the same solutions be used

for all areas or do people, for instance, differ more from one another when it comes to their taste than in what they need for their health?

- 3) Would it be desirable to have a robot that remembered individual consumer choices and could relate to them when meeting that consumer again? Would it be possible to use the accumulated choices of the people that have used the robot to improve its advice in some way? How?
- 4) It might be good to try to evaluate the outcome of the robot's interaction in order to determine if it really helped consumers in their shopping. Try to think of some ways in which this could be implemented and also whether there are some potential difficulties with the means of assessment that you have chosen.

If you are curious about the extent to which personalized robots are used today, you can, for instance, look here:

<http://www.robotguide.com/2013/08/14/about-robotics/personal-robots-in-use-today/>