

AI & MENTAL HEALTH – TWO INTERDISCIPLINARY WORKSHOPS

II. Psychological effects of interactions between minds and AI

Date

December 13, 3-5:30 pm

Presentation of the workshop

The purpose of the second workshop is to explore new perspectives on two related recent topics discussed by psychologists and philosophers of cognitive science: How do our interactions with AI technology shape our minds and affect our mental health? And is cognition (the mind in general) solely realized in the brain, or partly extended into computer technology such as AI systems? Through an interdisciplinary approach, this workshop investigates the nature of people's increasingly more intimate psychological connection with AI systems, the influence of AI systems on mental health, and the potential epistemic risks of so-called 'brain machine interfaces (BMI)'.

Program

3-4:15 p.m.: **Prof. Dr. Joanna Bryson**, Hertie School, *Robots, Love, and Human Relations: Transparency and Consent with Commercial Products*

4:15-5:30 p.m.: **Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Hildt**, Illinois Institute of Technology, *How human-like do we want AI and social robots to be?*

Abstract: While social robots have successfully been deployed to support humans in several ways, the broader context of human-robot interaction and human-AI interaction has not been thoroughly investigated yet.

After introducing two examples in which social robots have been used with positive mental health effects, the presentation summarizes recent research on social cognition in human-robot interaction which shows that humans tend to interact with robots in similar ways as they interact with humans. It then goes on to criticize the tendency to jump too easily from the empirical observation that human-robot interaction resembles human-human interaction to the normative conclusion that human-robot interaction should resemble human-human interaction. Instead of falling for this robotistic fallacy, a critical reflection of inadequate ascriptions of capabilities to robots, the terminology used to describe robot behavior, and robot influence on human behavior is needed. Based on a discussion of these factors, the presentation argues in favor of a broader perspective on human-robot interaction and human-AI interaction that better takes the social and ethical implications of the technology into consideration.

Practical Details

The workshop will be held online.

Zoom Link:

<https://uni-bonn.zoom.us/j/94582502926?pwd=V0UrT09YK1BzUkJoVF12VCtmRmQzZz09>

ID: 945 8250 2926

Password: 045153