
Communicative behavior to the android robot in human infants -Preliminary report-

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Abstract

We investigated whether human infants show some social behavior to the android robot when it behaves like human. Infant sat mother's lap and face to the robot. There were two toys which can move by remote controller. A procedure was as follows: When the infant looked at the robot, it turned her head toward one of the toys until the infant followed her head turn. In-focus condition, as soon as the infant followed the head turns of the robot to look at the In-focus toy, the experimenter activated the In-focus dog which began to move. Out-of-focus condition, the experimenter activated the dog at which the robot was not looking. We recorded infant's behaviors, such as referential looking or pointing or vocalization. The ratio of occurrence of visual checking increased when the robot did not look at the moving toy. Visual checking is looking at the moving toy and the robot alternatively. Infant produced more visual checking in the out-of-focus condition than in the in-focus condition. Infants seem to understand robot's attentional state. This result is different from Legerstee's study. Our robot is not just life-sized doll, it looks just like a human.