# Article information:

Full article: Adopting the intentional stance toward natural and artificial agents  
<https://www-tandfonline-com.libproxy.ucl.ac.uk/doi/full/10.1080/09515089.2019.1688778>

# Article summary:

1. Humans use the intentional stance to predict and understand the behavior of others by treating them as rational agents with desires and goals.

2. This ability is acquired at a young age, with infants showing sensitivity to mental states underlying behaviors.

3. The intentional stance can also be applied to artificial agents, such as robots, even if they do not have true intentionality, allowing for more effective human-robot interaction.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article "Adopting the intentional stance toward natural and artificial agents" provides a comprehensive overview of the concept of intentional stance and its relevance to human-robot interaction. The article is well-written and informative, providing insights from philosophy, psychology, human development, culture, and human-robot interaction. However, there are some potential biases and missing points of consideration that need to be addressed.

One potential bias in the article is its focus on the intentional stance as a strategy for predicting behavior. While this is an important aspect of intentional stance, it overlooks other dimensions such as the role of intentionality in moral responsibility or consciousness. Additionally, the article does not explore counterarguments to Dennett's theory of intentional stance or alternative theories that challenge his assumptions.

Another potential bias is the article's emphasis on social attunement as an umbrella concept for all mechanisms of social cognition during HRI. While social attunement is undoubtedly important for successful HRI, it may not capture all aspects of social cognition relevant to HRI such as empathy or emotional regulation. Furthermore, the article does not address how cultural differences may affect social attunement during HRI.

The article also makes unsupported claims regarding the effectiveness of robots designed with human-like appearances and behaviors in facilitating interaction. While some studies have shown positive effects of humanoid robots on user engagement and satisfaction, others have found negative effects such as increased anxiety or discomfort. The article should acknowledge these mixed results and explore possible explanations for them.

Additionally, while the article discusses ethical implications of adopting intentional stance toward humanoid robots, it does not fully address potential risks associated with this practice such as reinforcing harmful stereotypes or blurring boundaries between humans and machines. The article should provide a more nuanced discussion of these risks and how they can be mitigated.

Overall, while "Adopting the intentional stance toward natural and artificial agents" provides valuable insights into the concept of intentional stance and its relevance to HRI, it could benefit from a more balanced and nuanced discussion of potential biases, missing points of consideration, and alternative perspectives.

# Topics for further research:

* Critiques of Dennett's theory of intentional stance
* Alternative theories of intentionality and consciousness
* Cultural differences in social cognition during HRI
* Effects of humanoid robots on user engagement and satisfaction
* Risks associated with adopting intentional stance toward robots
* Mitigating harmful stereotypes in HRI

# Report location:

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