

**Reflections on the interplay between philosophy and empirical field studies  
based on a case study with a Telenoid**

Raul Hakli and Marco Nørskov (Aarhus University)

Robotics has become a truly interdisciplinary field of research drawing on and involving various disciplines such as computer science, psychology, anthropology, etc. Philosophy is no exception here and in this talk we will present selected philosophical issues as well as address some of the difficulties we encountered when we tried to connect them with an actual field test. More specifically, we will briefly outline two different philosophical perspectives on *relationships* and relate them to the case of human robot interaction. Traditionally philosophy would be based on intuition and phenomenological plausibility, etc. but only rarely do philosophers conduct empirical research. However, in a recent field study we used two Telenoid R3 care-robots at a rehabilitation center in Aarhus (Denmark) with the ambition to use an actual experiment to inform philosophy and the other way around. Although the data evaluation has just begun we will present some of the challenges we encountered during this process.