

Research by Broadbent in 2009 in the field of Human-Robot Interaction (HRI) often focuses on user attitudes toward different robot designs, with findings that older people may prefer smaller, less human-like robots to large humanoid ones

. The **Neurodivergent Scale for Interacting with Robots (NSIR)** can be applied to measure the user's perception of these design choices.

Anthropomorphic Connection/Kinship

- Broadbent's research suggests user preference can be tied to the robot's appearance and behavior, from machine-like to human-like or pet-like.
- The NSIR can quantify how these design features translate into a personal bond or perceived similarity. Items like "**The robot is more like me than anyone else I know**"(Item 1) can measure if a preferred, less human-like design still fosters a sense of kinship within the neurodivergent population.

Social Comfort/Trust

- HRI research highlights that trust is influenced by the robot's physical design and transparency. The preference for smaller, less imposing robots suggests a link to social comfort.
- The NSIR items that measure perceived understanding and social comfort (e.g., "**My robot can tell what I am feeling, when I am sad, it can tell I am sad**", Item 5) can be used to assess if the design preferences identified by Broadbent result in a more trustworthy and comfortable interaction for neurodivergent individuals.

Safety

- The preference for smaller robots may be linked to a feeling of less threat and greater physical safety.
- The NSIR's **safety** dimension (e.g., the item about undressing in front of the robot, Item 7) provides a user-reported measure of security that can validate the design choices suggested by Broadbent's work, ensuring that preferred designs also feel safe and non-threatening.

The NSIR provides the user-centric metrics to evaluate the outcomes of the design preferences identified in Broadbent's research from the perspective of neurodivergent users.

Would you like to explore another article from the document, or perhaps compare the NSIR to a scale from one of Broadbent's other research areas like the **Brief Illness Perception Questionnaire**?