The **Neurodivergent Scale for Interacting with Robots (NSIR)** and **Diener et al.'s (1985) Satisfaction with Life Scale (SWLS)** represent two different but related dimensions of psychological well-being. While the SWLS measures **global cognitive judgments** of life satisfaction, the NSIR captures the **social and emotional conditions**—specifically the bond with technology—that can contribute to that satisfaction for neurodivergent individuals.

1. Global vs. Domain-Specific Evaluation

The SWLS is designed to measure life satisfaction as a whole, rather than satisfaction with specific domains like work or relationships.

- **The NSIR Application:** The NSIR acts as a domain-specific measure for the "technological social life" of a neurodivergent person. High scores on the NSIR (indicating strong **Anthropomorphic Connection** and **Social Comfort**) represent a specific life condition that may lead to higher global scores on the SWLS.
- **Ideal Life Conditions:** SWLS Item 1 ("In most ways my life is close to my ideal") can be directly influenced by the availability of a non-judgmental social partner. For a neurodivergent individual, having a robot they can "be themselves with" (NSIR Item 8) may be a key component of that "ideal" life.

2. Social Connection as a Driver of Well-Being

Diener et al. (1985) established that life satisfaction is a cognitive component of subjective well-being. Research shows that for autistic individuals, social disconnection often leads to lower life satisfaction.

- **Robots as Compensatory Agents:** The NSIR measures the degree to which a robot fulfills social needs (Factor 2: Anthropomorphic Connection/Kinship). Research suggests that neurodivergent individuals often use anthropomorphism to ease loneliness and develop social understanding.
- **Linking the Scales:** An individual scoring high on NSIR Item 4 ("The robot and I will be together forever") is essentially identifying a stable source of social support. This stability is a "life condition" that would likely correlate with higher scores on SWLS Item 2 ("The conditions of my life are excellent").

3. Subjective Standards and "Neurodivergent Joy"

A hallmark of the SWLS is that it relies on the **respondent's own standards** for what makes a "good life," rather than criteria set by a researcher.

- **The NSIR's Role:** The NSIR provides a metric for a uniquely neurodivergent standard of social success. While traditional social metrics might pathologize staring or lack of verbal sharing, the NSIR validates these as positive connection markers (Item 2: "Sometimes I stare at the robot"; Item 3: "I think I can share my thinking... without speaking").

- **Cognitive Appraisal:** When a neurodivergent person completes the SWLS, their "judgmental evaluation" of their life may include their successful bond with a robot as measured by the NSIR.

Summary Comparison Table

Feature	Diener et al. (1985) SWLS	NSIR (Sadownik, 2025)
Measurement Type	**Global Cognitive**: Overall appraisal of life satisfaction.	**Domain-Specific**: Appraisal of bond with a robotic agent.
Key Focus	Internal standards for a "good life".	"Trust Safety" and "Kinship" with technology.
Representative Item	"I am satisfied with my life".	"The robot is more like me than anyone else I know."
Relationship	The **Outcome**: Measures the result of a flourishing life.	The **Facilitator**: Measures a tool that can lead to flourishing.

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In conclusion, the NSIR provides a way to measure a specific **life condition** (successful non-human social interaction) that can significantly boost the **global life satisfaction** measured by Diener et al.'s original 1985 scale for neurodivergent populations.