

The **Neurodivergent Scale for Interacting with Robots (NSIR)** can be used as a framework to measure how users perceive social cues like "submission" and "gender" when they are embedded in robot behavior, which is a modern application of the historical concepts discussed in the Gowing paper.

The Gowing paper, titled “*The Manner of Submission’ Gender and Demeanour In Seventeenth-Century London*”, explores historical perceptions of gender and submissiveness as social constructs. This provides a historical context for understanding how these traits, when designed into a robot's social identity, would be interpreted by a neurodivergent individual.

Anthropomorphic Connection/Kinship

- The paper explores how specific demeanors and gender presentations create a social identity.
- The NSIR can measure if a robot designed with "submissive" or specific "gendered" characteristics is perceived as more human-like or relatable. Items like **"The robot is more like me than anyone else I know"** would quantify the success of that social design in creating a sense of kinship.

Social Comfort/Trust

- The paper's concepts of "submission" and "demeanour" are about establishing a specific social order and interaction style.
- The NSIR's **social comfort/trust** dimension could assess if a neurodivergent user feels more comfortable or trusting with a "submissive" robot (which might feel less threatening) versus a "dominant" one. Measuring items such as **"I believe that my robot is the same with me as it is with anyone"** could also ensure that the "submission" is a consistent design feature and not a form of unpredictable manipulation.

Safety

- The historical context of submission can imply vulnerability. In the modern context of HRI, this translates to the user's sense of security.
- The NSIR's **safety** dimension ensures that a robot designed with a submissive demeanor does not inadvertently make the user feel unsafe, either physically or psychologically.

The NSIR provides the empirical tool to measure the impact of these social constructs, moving them from historical and theoretical discussions into the realm of practical, user-centered robotics evaluation.

Would you like to examine how the scale applies to another article from the document, or perhaps compare the concepts of "**submission**" and "**assertiveness**" in HRI?