

The **Neurodivergent Scale for Interacting with Robots (NSIR)** can be applied to William Lockett's paper by measuring the subjective, lived experience of autistic individuals interacting with technology, which the paper discusses from a historical and philosophical perspective.

The paper, titled "*Autistic Mental Schema and the Graphical User Interface circa 1968*", explores the use of early programming languages (LOGO) and how the design of technology relates to philosophical concepts of the mind and the clinical observations of autistic students. The NSIR provides a modern, empirical framework to assess the outcomes of these interactions across its three dimensions:

### **Anthropomorphic Connection/Kinship**

The Lockett paper touches on the "mental processes that shape matter" and how technology designers consider the nature of interaction. The NSIR can measure how a user perceives a designed system, such as a graphical interface or a robot:

- Items like "**The robot is more like me than anyone else I know**" would quantify the user's sense of connection or kinship with a system, which the paper philosophically explores in terms of "model-mind making".

### **Social Comfort/Trust**

The paper discusses clinical observations of autistic students and the historical context of "special needs students," highlighting how their interactions are perceived and measured by non-autistic observers.

- The NSIR can provide the user's *own* perspective on **social comfort** and **trust** ("My robot can tell what I am feeling, when I am sad, it can tell I am sad" (p. 1)). This moves the assessment beyond external observation to the internal experience of the autistic individual, which is central to the paper's neurodiversity-affirming context.

### **Safety**

The paper considers the "unresolved" aspects of designing technology for the mind and the need for a "permanent process of rectification" in scientific activity.

- The NSIR's **safety** dimension provides a measure of psychological and physical safety from the user's perspective (e.g., "I feel comfortable undressing in front of my robot" (p. 1)), ensuring that design processes address fundamental needs for security and ethical boundaries, which is a key subtext of the paper's philosophical inquiry.

The NSIR effectively bridges the gap between the historical and theoretical discussions in the Lockett paper and the modern need for standardized, user-centered evaluation of technology for neurodivergent individuals.

Would you like to explore the concept of "**schema therapy**" in the context of the NSIR, or another article from the document?