

Semester/Master Thesis

How to be a Wizard

Background:

So-called Wizard of Oz (WoZ) studies are a type of user study where participants interact with a system they believe is autonomous, but it is actually operated by a hidden human “wizard”. With this technique researchers can test interaction designs even if the technology is not yet fully developed. The development of a suitable interface for the wizard to interact with is hereby subject to some research efforts itself. The interface has to be intuitive and allow operation of the system with minimal latency.

Within the project KIRA-med, together with the MITI research group at the TUM Klinikum, we plan to conduct a WoZ study where healthcare professionals interact with a service robot. The robot should react appropriately to the participants’ requests and adapt its behavior according to the situational context.

Tasks and Objectives:

- Research on WoZ studies and the design of wizard interfaces
- Development of a wizard interface for a medical robot for adapting its motion behavior in a WoZ study
- Testing of the developed wizard interface with the robot

Requirements:

- Interest in the research of human-robot interactions
- Good programming skills
- Ideally prior experience with ROS 2 and version control (git)
- Good English and/or German language skills

Start date: as soon as possible

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Contact person: Sarah Feigl
sarah.feigl@tum.de
Room MW 3305

