



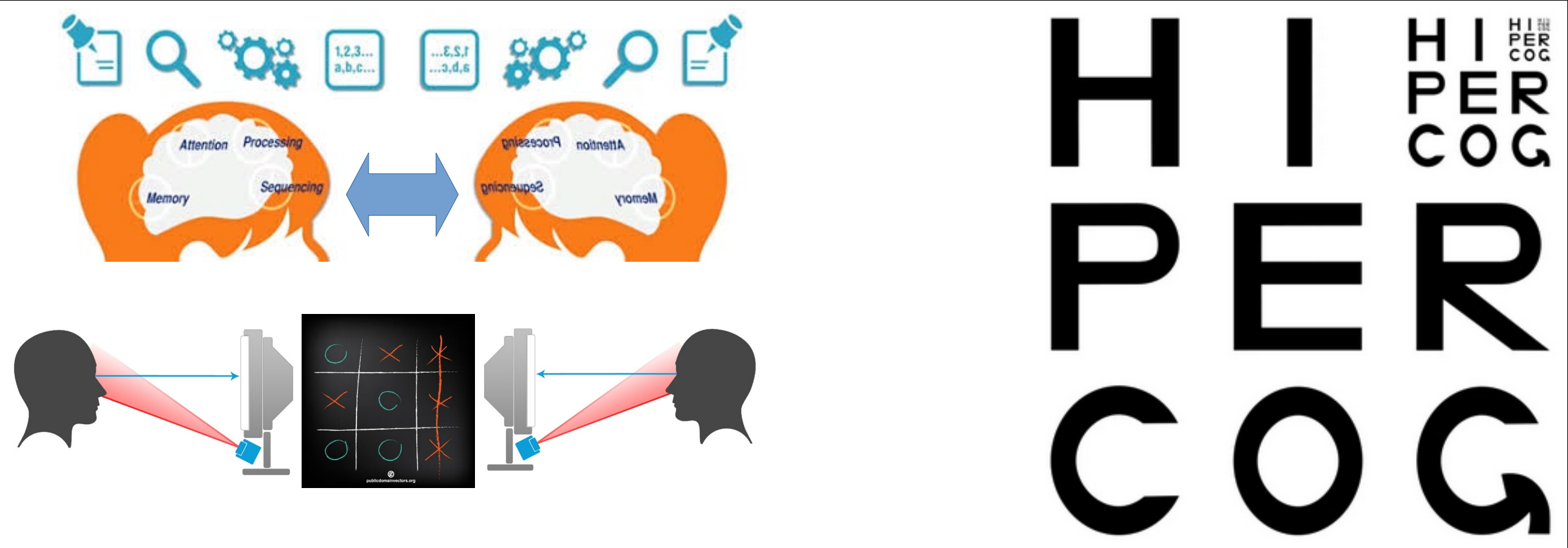
HI  
PER  
COG

HI  
PER  
COG

# LEARNING IN HUMANS AND MACHINES: AI IN EDUCATION

Benjamin Ultan Cowley  
PI, HiPerCog group

Associate Professor of AI in Learning & Education,  
Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Helsinki  
[@zenbenn](#)





# HiPerCog group



SUOMEN AKATEMIA

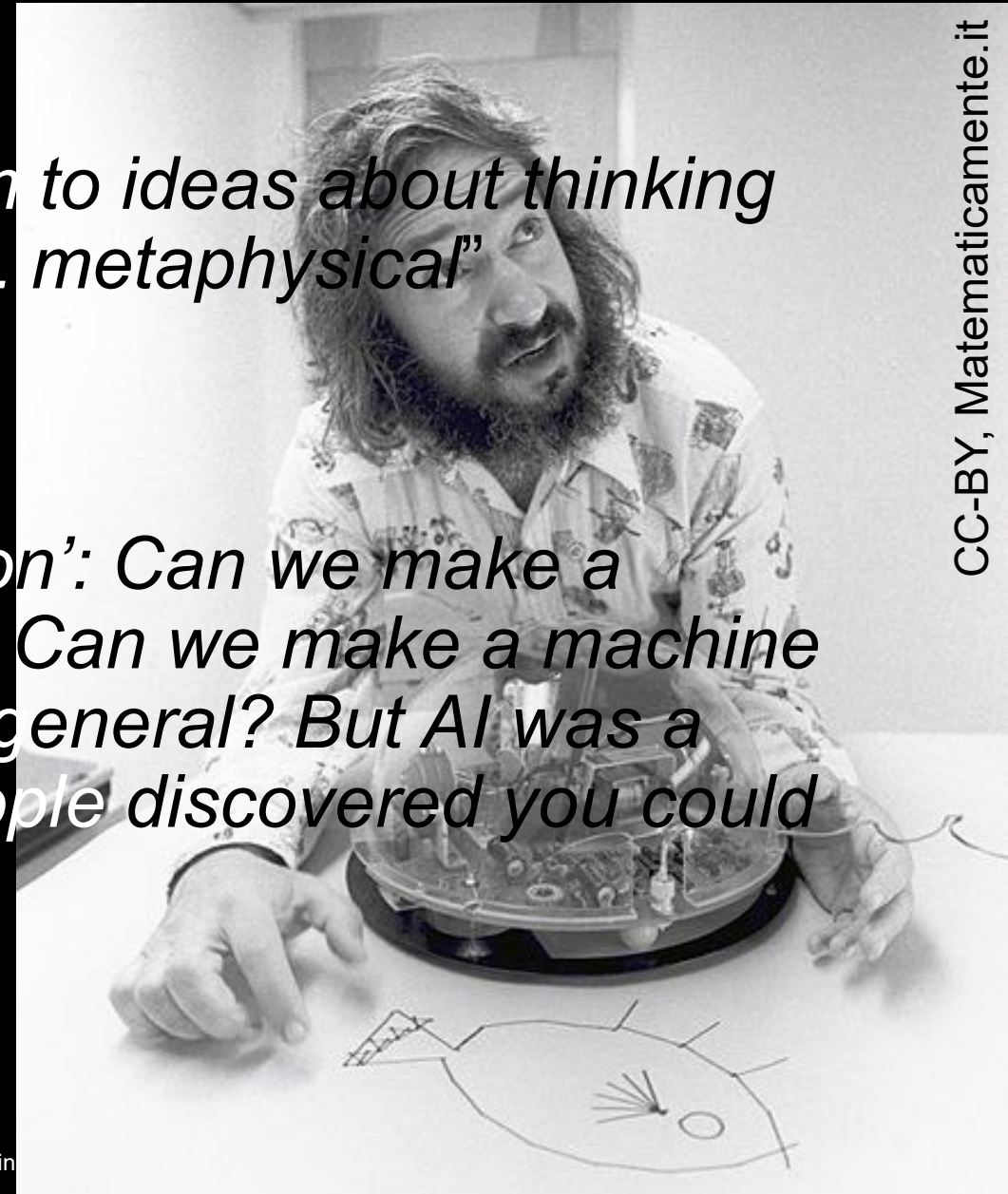
HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO  
HELSINGFORS UNIVERSITET  
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

# Outline

1. AI in Education (AIEd)
2. Learning in humans and machines
3. Solving games and teaching humans
4. AIEd for hybrid intelligence: “*Digital Aristotle*”
5. Study of computational thinking & chatGPT

# AIEd

- *“The aim of AI is to give us a new way to ideas about thinking that previously might have seemed ... metaphysical”*
  - (Papert, 1980)
- *“We started with a big ‘cosmic question’: Can we make a machine to rival human intelligence? Can we make a machine so we can understand intelligence in general? But AI was a victim of its own worldly success. People discovered you could make ... robots do accounting!”*
  - (Papert, 2002)



CC-BY, Matematicamente.it

# Learning in humans and machines



# What is learning?

- what do you think learning is?



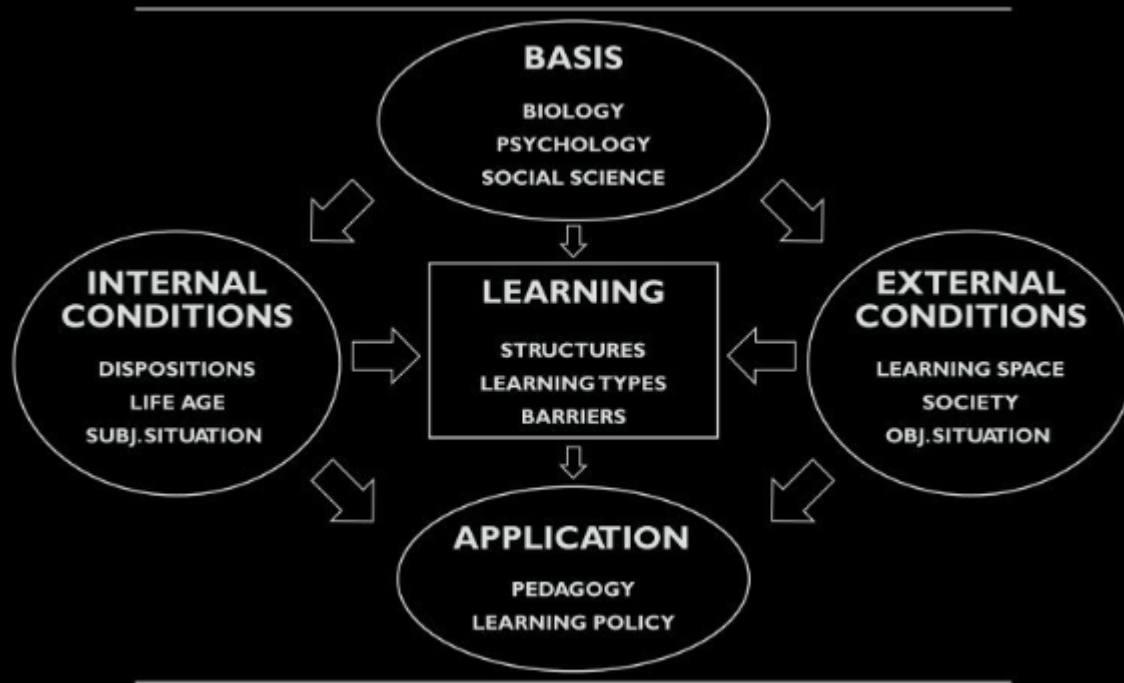
# What is learning...in humans?

- *“Learning is a relatively enduring change in behavior resulting from experience”*

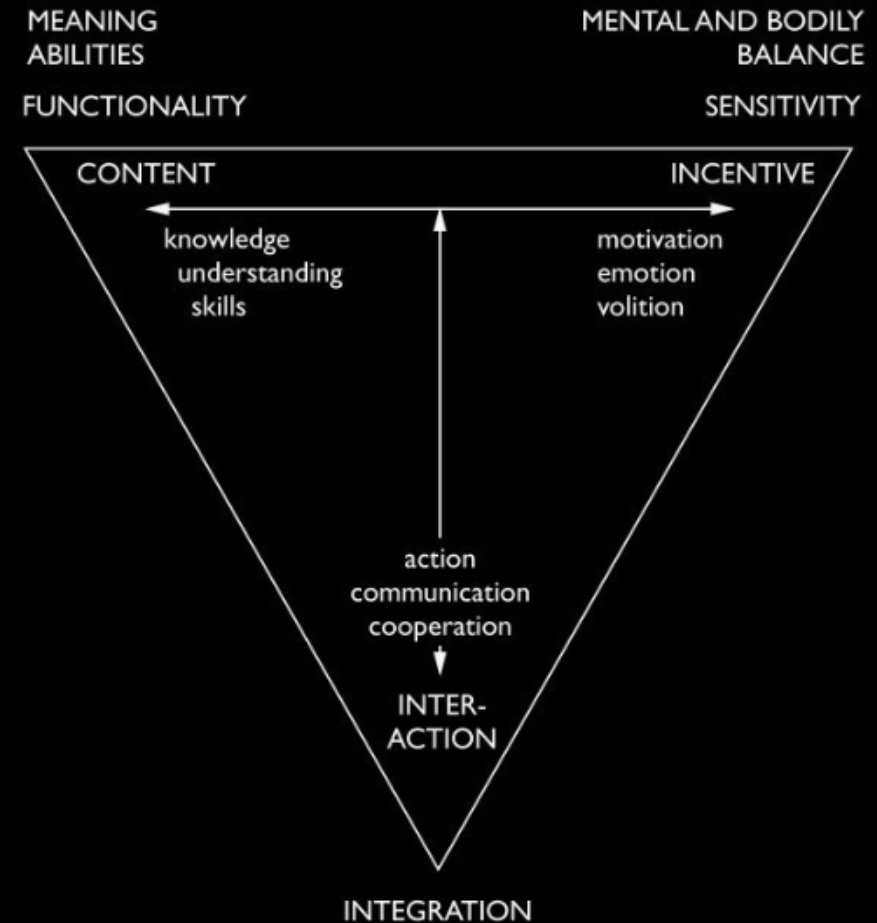
(Gazzaniga, *et al*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.)



# What is learning...in humans?



(Illeris, 2018)



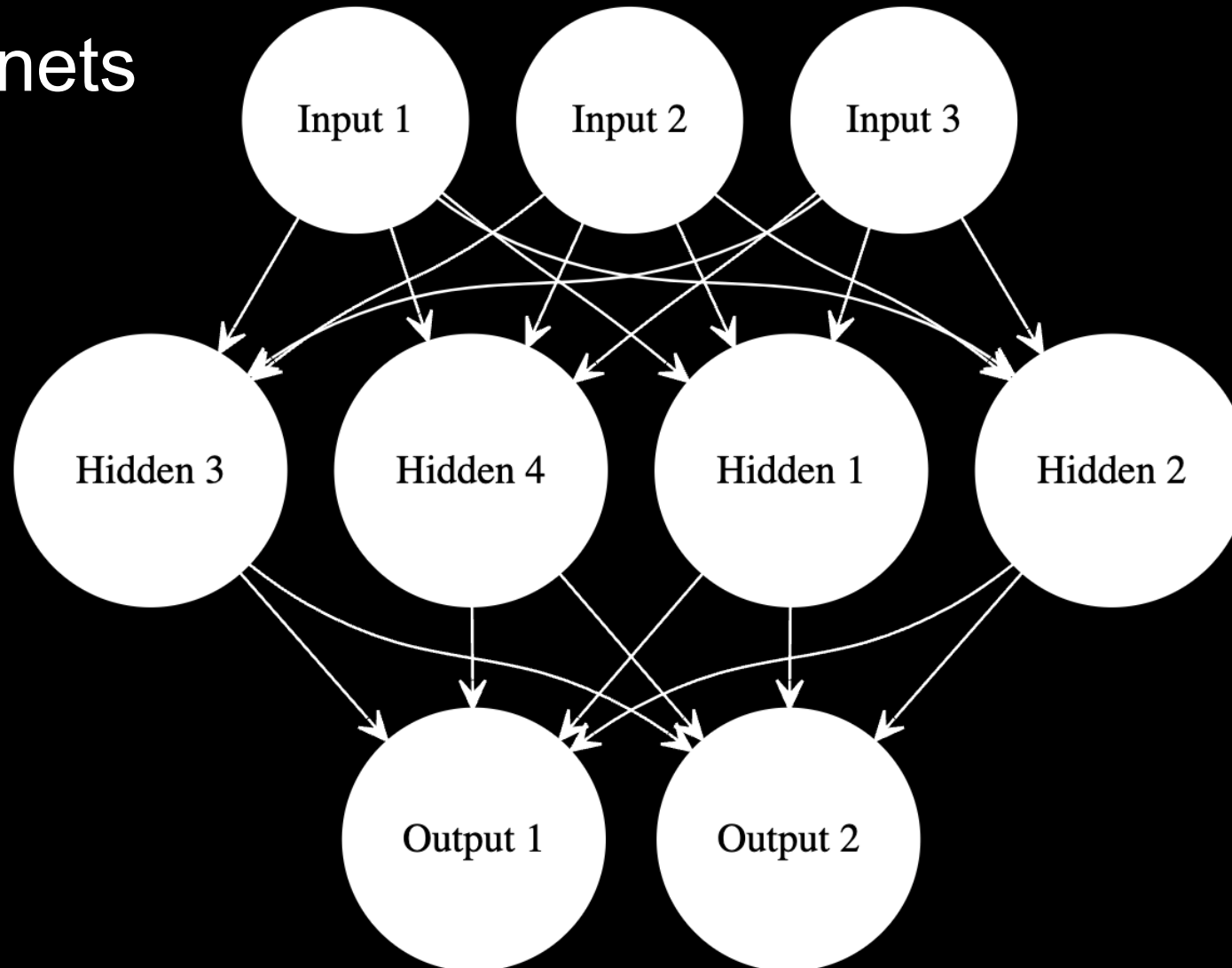
# What is learning...in machines?

- *“Learning is a special form of dimensionality reduction...to create new features that didn’t exist before”*

(Foerster, 2020)

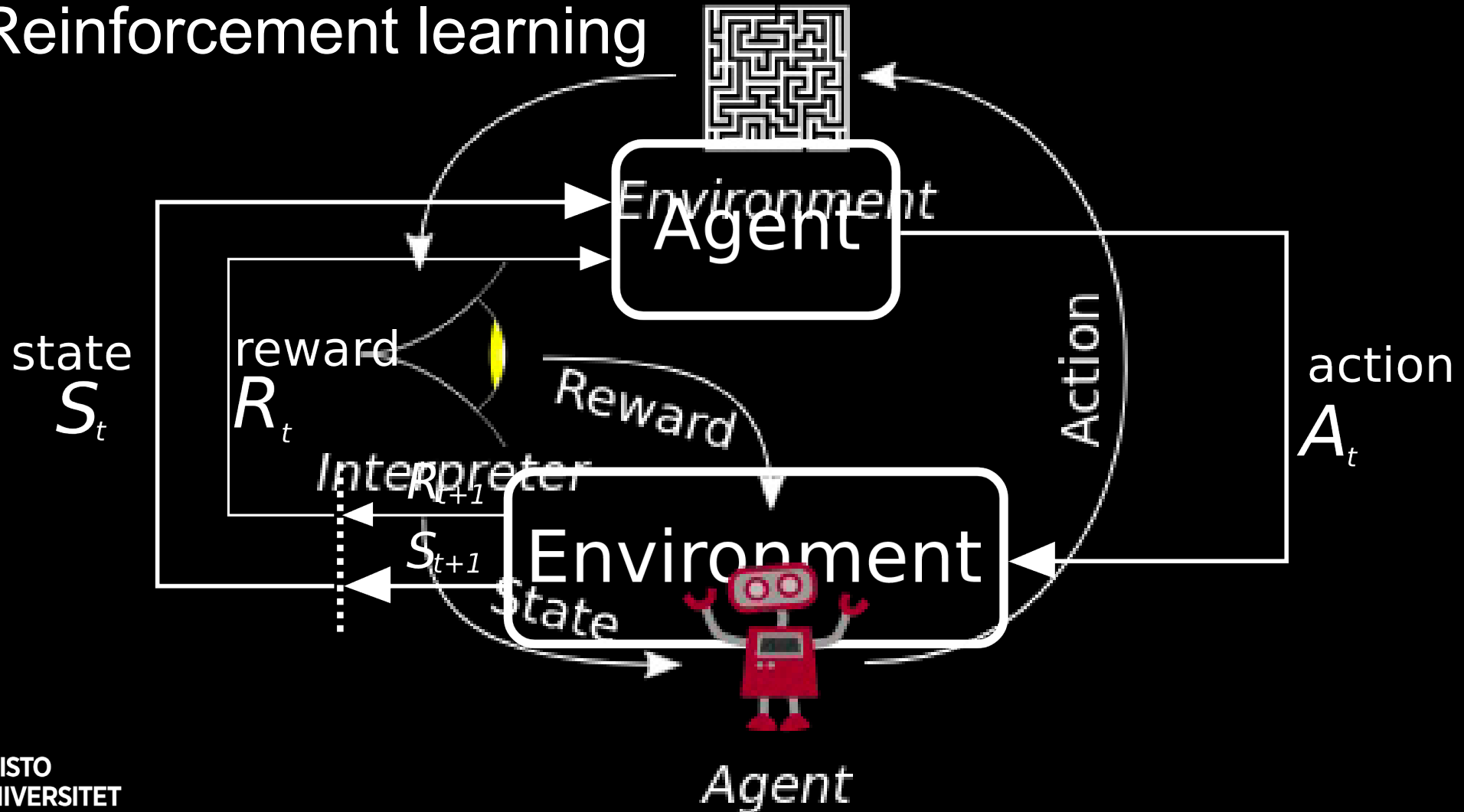
# What is learning...in machines?

E.g. neural nets



# What is learning...in machines?

E.g. Reinforcement learning





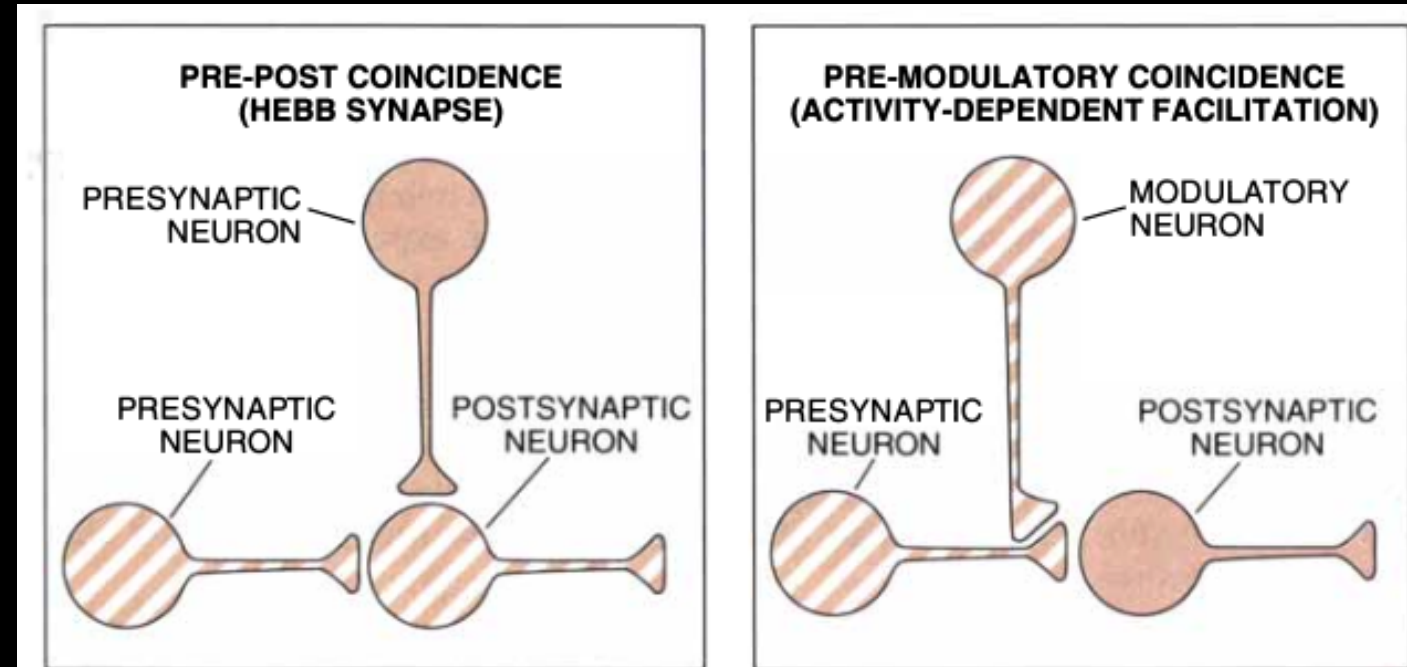
# What is learning...in organisms?

- *“any process that in living organisms leads to permanent capacity change and which is not solely due to...maturation”*

(Illeris, 2018, p-7)

# What is learning...in organisms?

- Hebbian:
  - “*Fire together, wire together*”
- Pre-modulatory:
  - *Fire together, inspire together?*



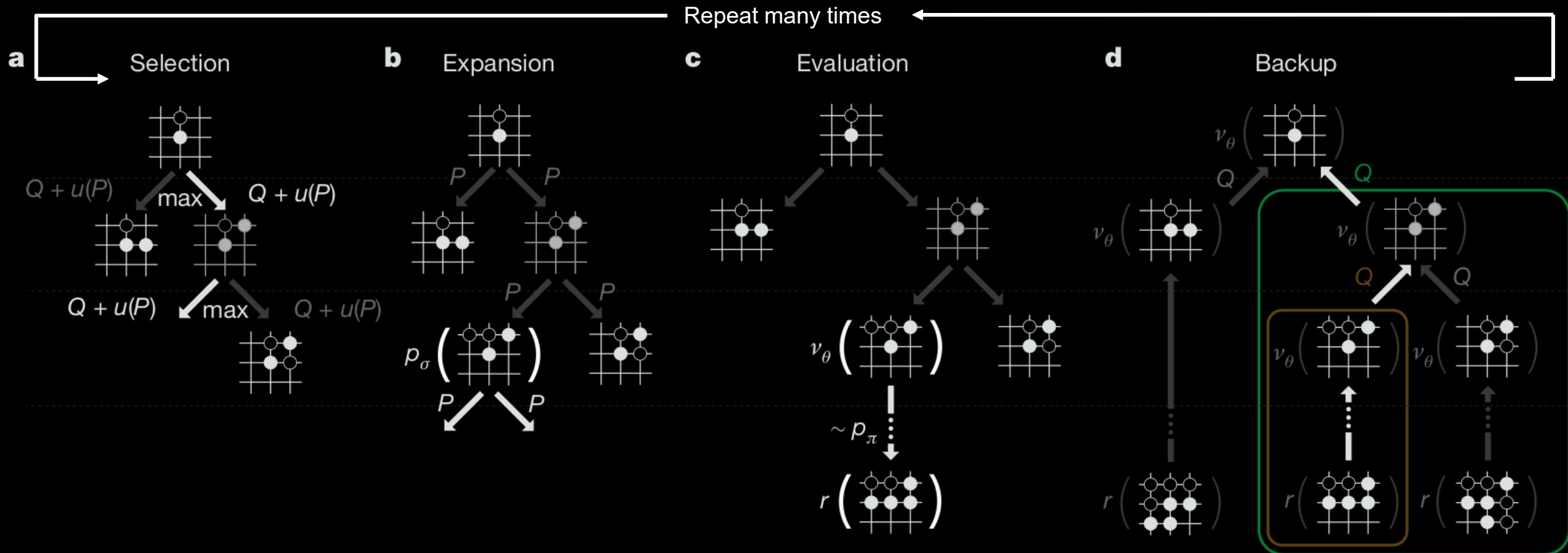
TWO CELLULAR MECHANISMS are hypothesized for associative changes in synaptic strength during learning. The pre-post coincidence mechanism, proposed by Donald O. Hebb in 1949, posits that coincident activity in the presynaptic and postsynaptic neurons is critical for strengthening the connections between them. The pre-modulatory coincidence mechanism proposed in 1963, based on studies in *Aplysia*, holds that the connection can be strengthened without activity of the postsynaptic cell when a third neuron, the modulatory neuron, is active at the same time as the presynaptic neuron. Stripes denote neurons in which coincident activity must occur to produce the associative change.

# Solving games & teaching humans








# Monte Carlo Tree Search



RESEARCH ARTICLE | PSYCHOLOGICAL AND COGNITIVE SCIENCES



# Superhuman artificial intelligence can improve human decision-making by increasing novelty

[Minkyu Shin](#)  , [Jin Kim](#)  , [Bas van Opheusden](#) , and [Thomas L. Griffiths](#) [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

Edited by Michael Gazzaniga, University of California Santa Barbara College of Letters and Science, Santa Barbara, CA; received August 31, 2022; accepted December 19, 2022

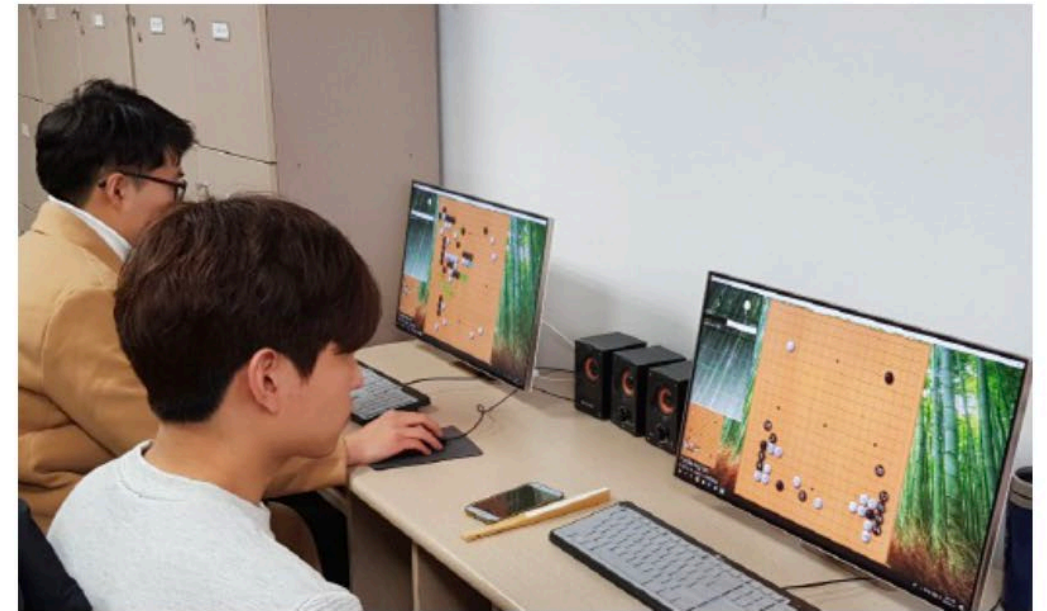
**March 13, 2023** | 120 (12) e2214840120 | <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2214840120>

# How to study humans learning from AI?

- Estimate the distance between human and AI decision quality
  - Move by move
- Track this measure to estimate human learning
  - Game by game
- Study South Korean Go players on mandatory military service
  - No internet = a natural experiment



(a) Human Learning Before AI



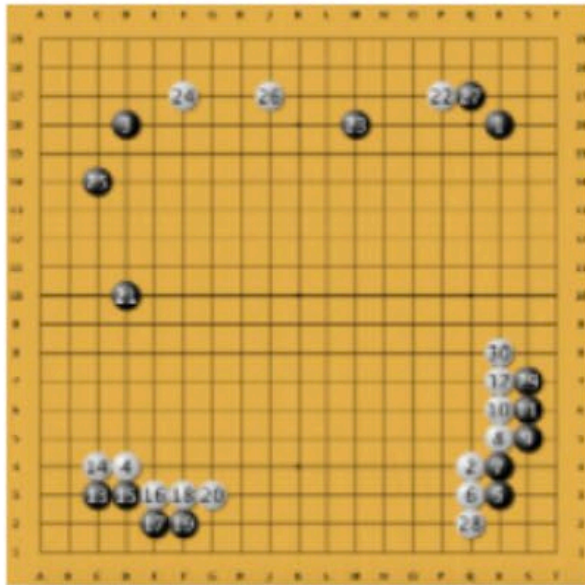
(b) Human Learning After AI

- AlphaGo shows *only AI actions*
- Open-source AI programs (Leela Zero) show *AI reasoning process*



Event 1: AlphaGo, AlphaGoZero, and AlphaZero

Information to human players

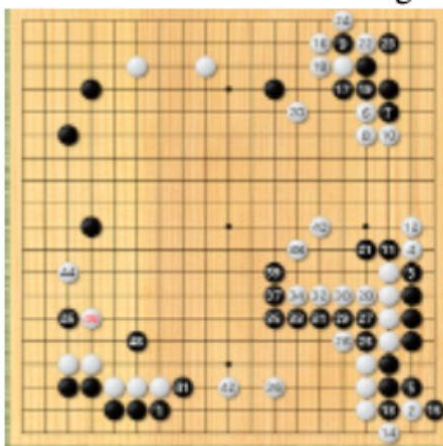


- AI's actions only (i.e., the sequence of positions AI placed a stone)
- Human players do not observe
  - (i) how AI could respond differently to the same situation (No Strategy)
  - (ii) how AI predicts consequences of each actual or hypothetical response (No Evaluation)

## Part 1. Candidate actions and Win prob of each candidate



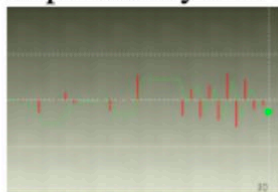
## Part 2. AI-simulated moves following the choice



## Part 3. Current win probability of each player

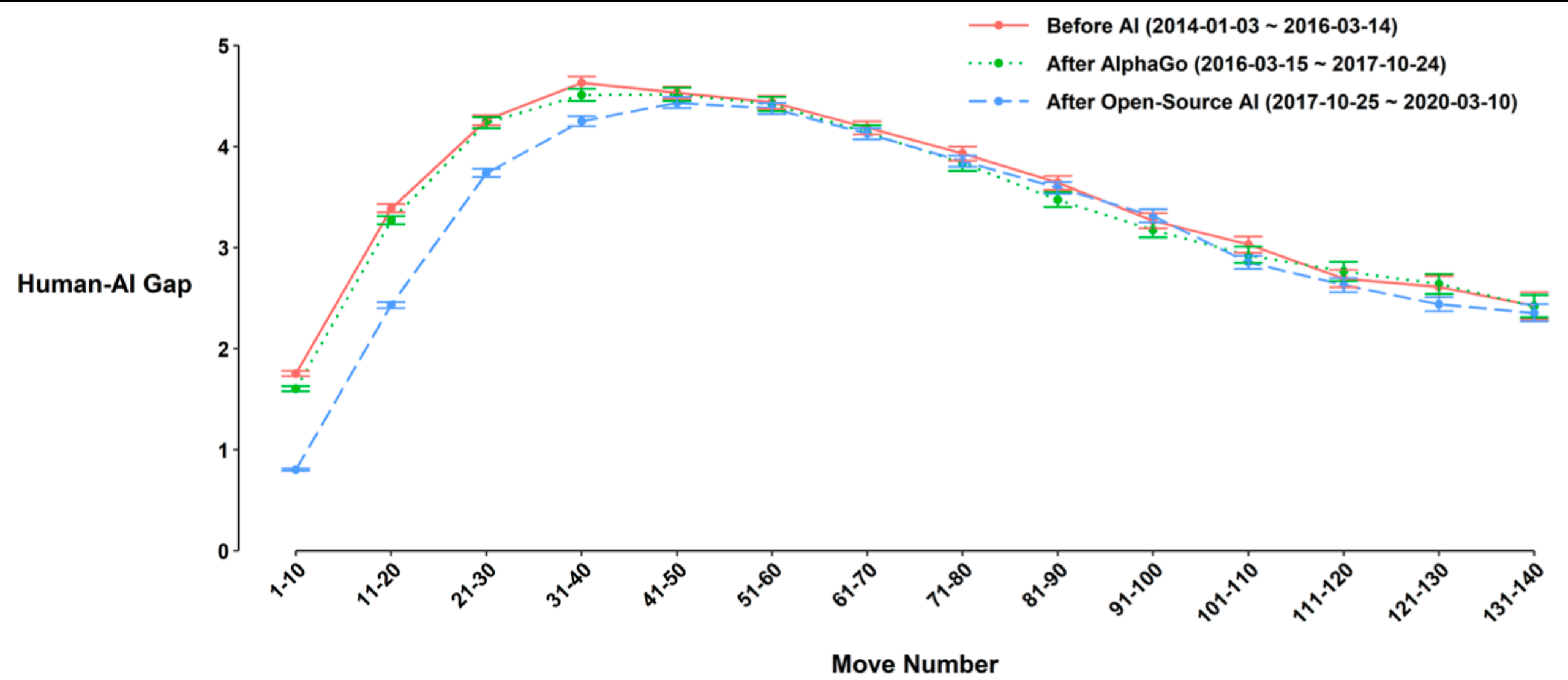


## Part 4. Change in win probability over the course of match

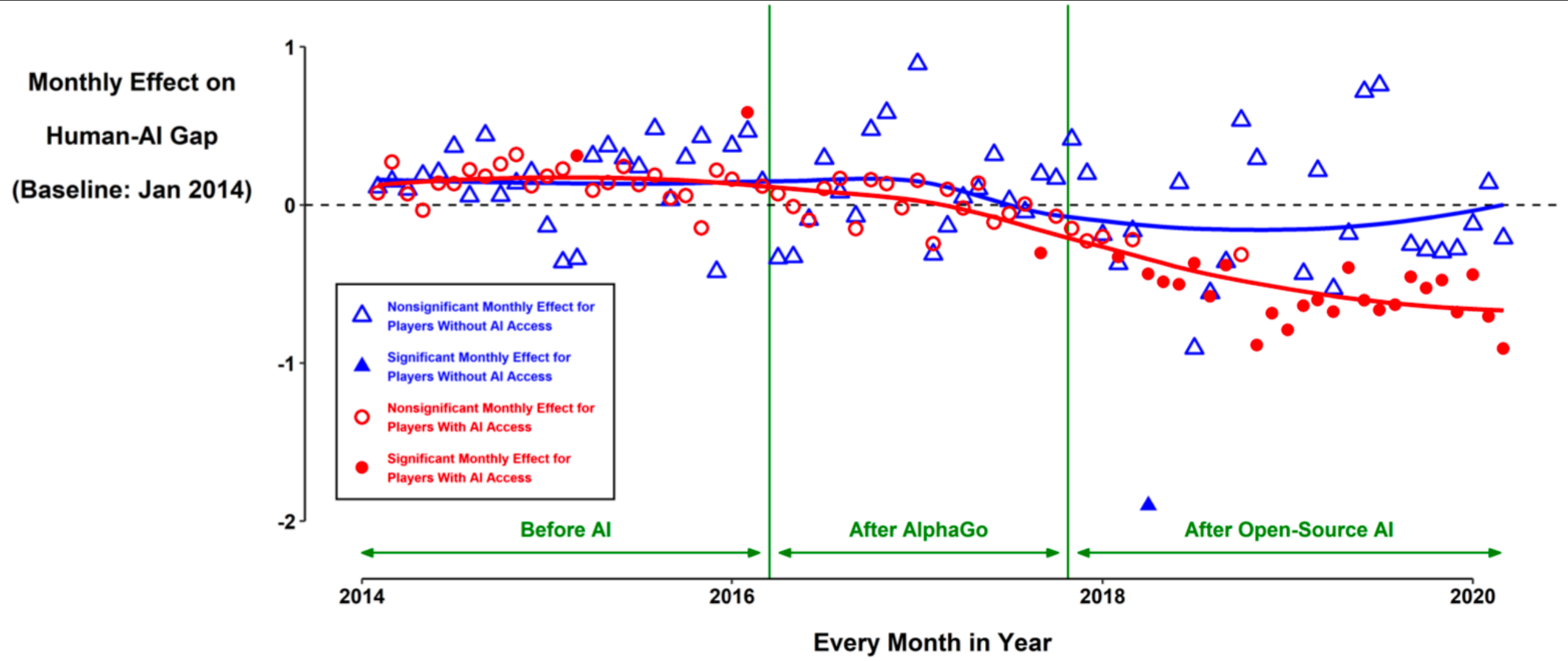


- AI's Strategy & Evaluation, as well as Action
- Human players observe
  - (i) Strategy:
    - Candidate actions AI considers under the current state (Part 1)
    - Simulated sequences of actions following the current choice (Part 2)
  - (ii) Evaluation:
    - Win Probability under the current state (Part 3)
    - Change in win probability as a consequence of each choice (Part 1)
    - Change in win probability throughout a match (Part 4)

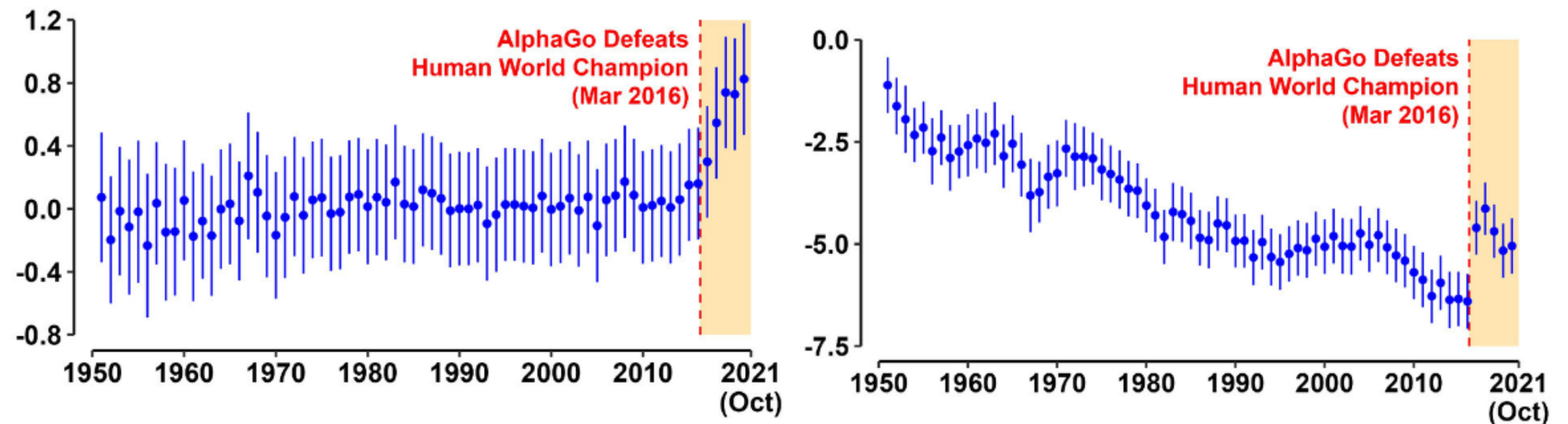
# Study 1 results



# Study 1 results



# Study 2 results



Decision quality  
index

Novelty  
index



“It made me question human creativity. When I saw AlphaGo’s moves, I wondered whether the Go moves I ha[d] known were the right ones. Its style was different, and it was such an unusual experience that it took time for me to adjust. AlphaGo made me realize that I must study Go more.” (1)

- Sedol Lee, a former world Go champion

# AIEd for hybrid intelligence

# Intelligent Tutor

- 343 B.C.
  - Aristotle & Alexander
- Teaching model
  - Universal knowledge (UK)
  - Intimate relationship (IR)
- A&A = UK + IR
  - Optimise learning potential
  - Possible with AI!



ARISTOTLE AND HIS PUPIL, ALEXANDER.

Image credit: Charles Laplante (1837–1903) via wikipedia



# Other learning models

1) Teacher (pedagogue)



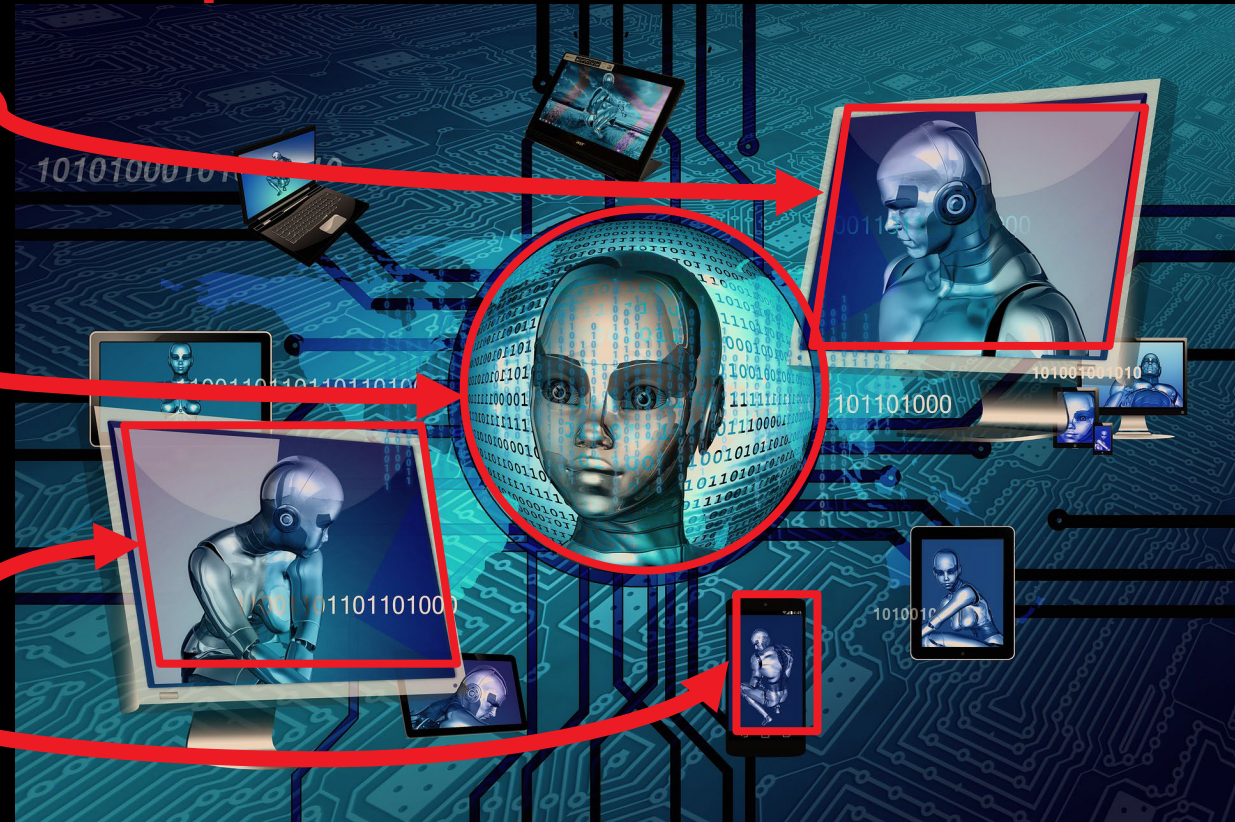
2) Learner (constructivism)



3) Peers (social constructivism)

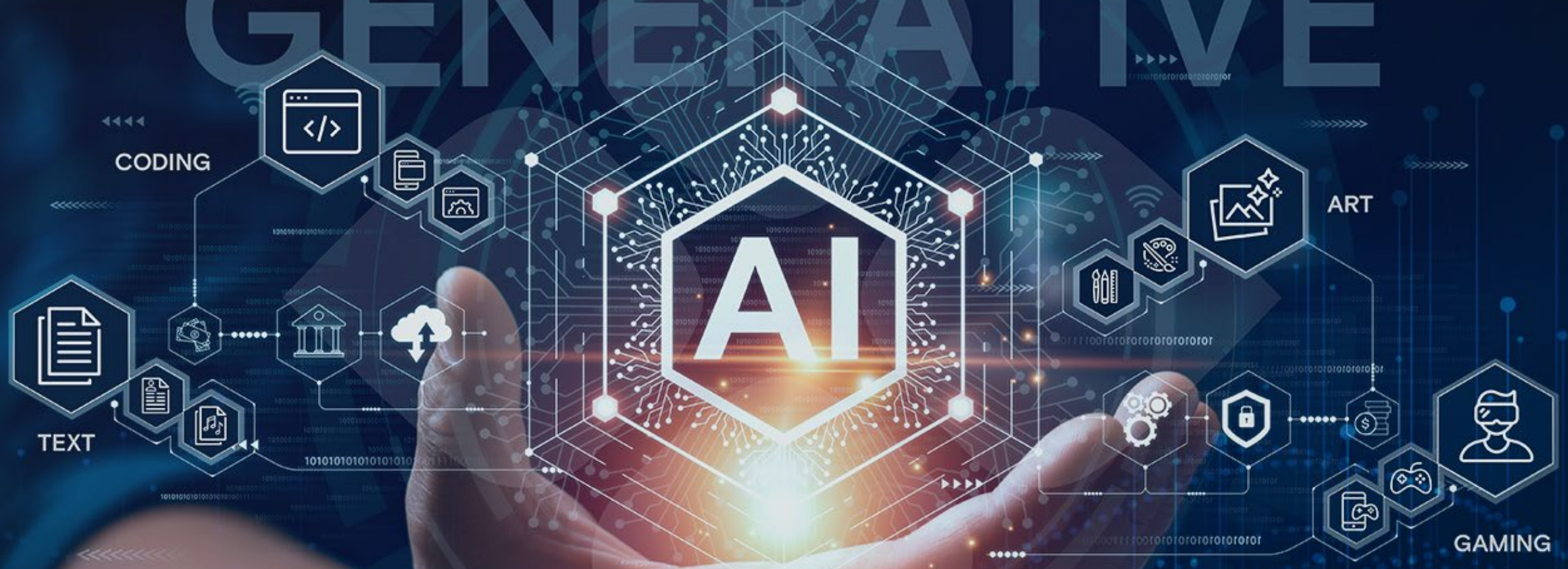


AI 'profiles' for teachers/students





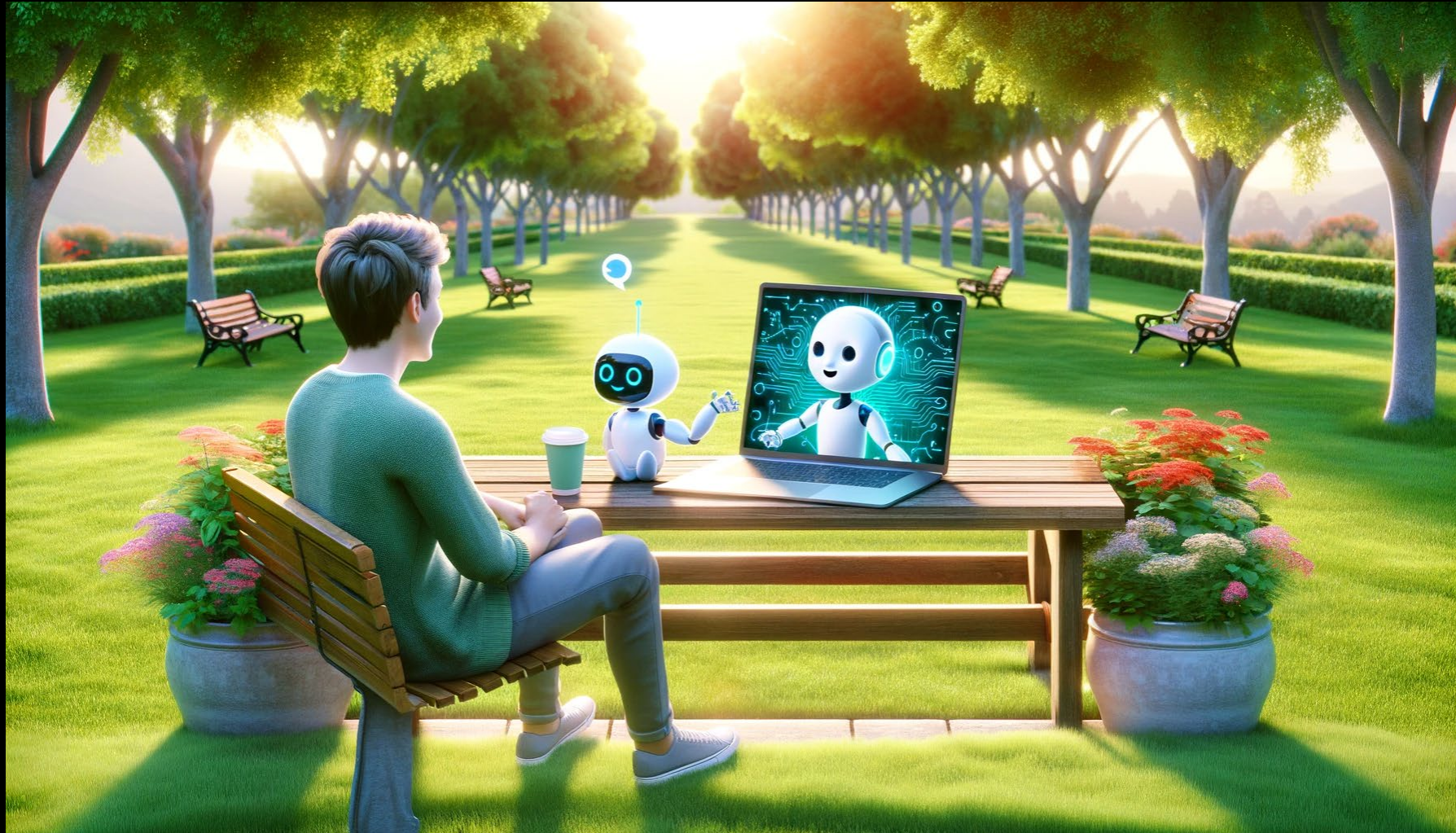
# GENERATIVE





# Computational thinking with chatGPT

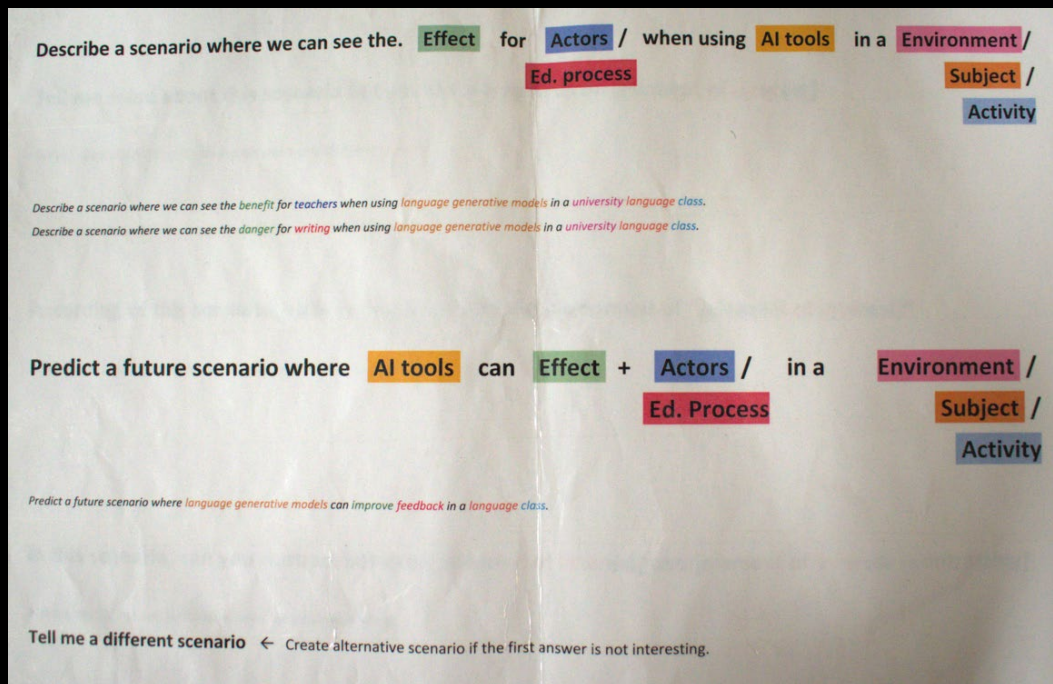
# Computational thinking with chatGPT

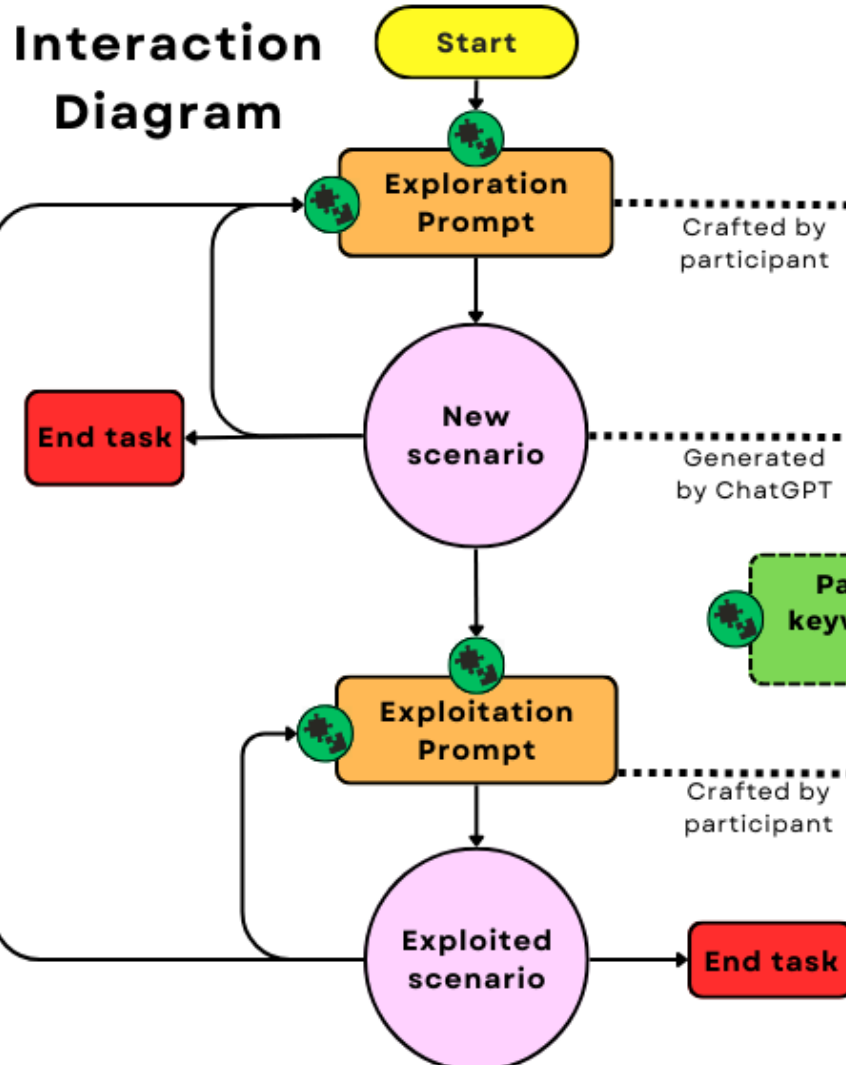
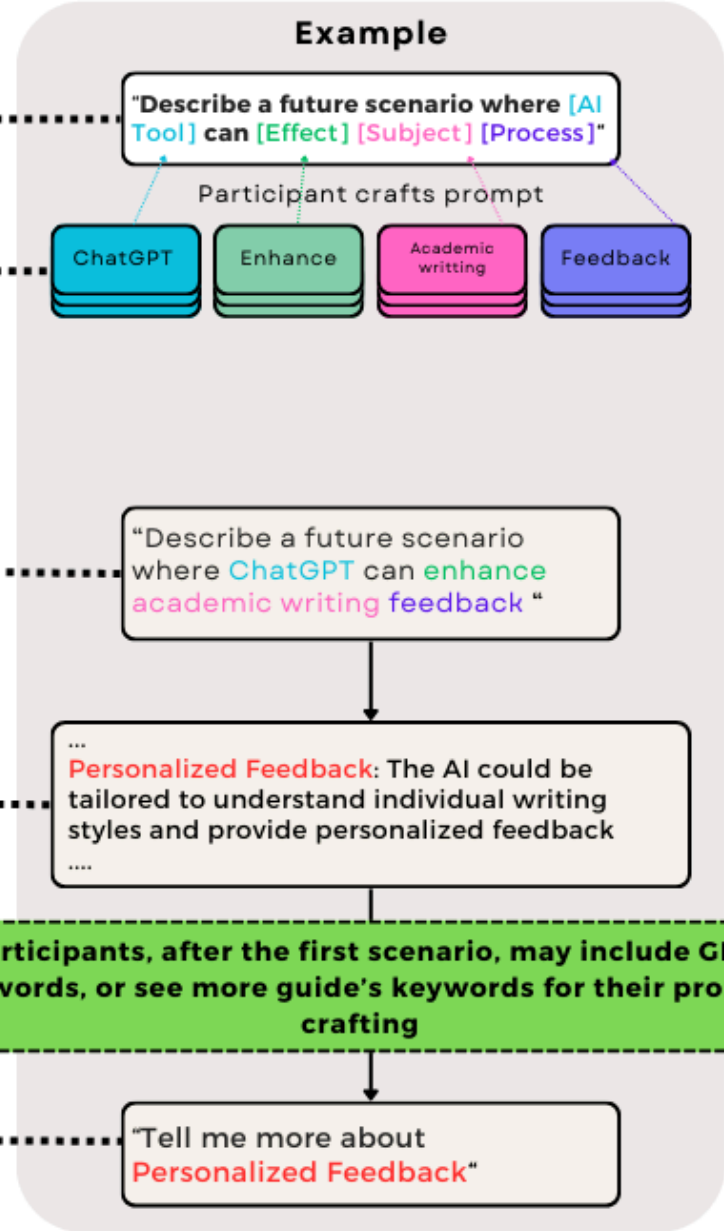
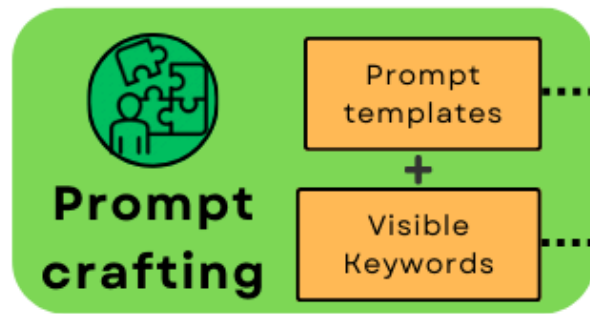




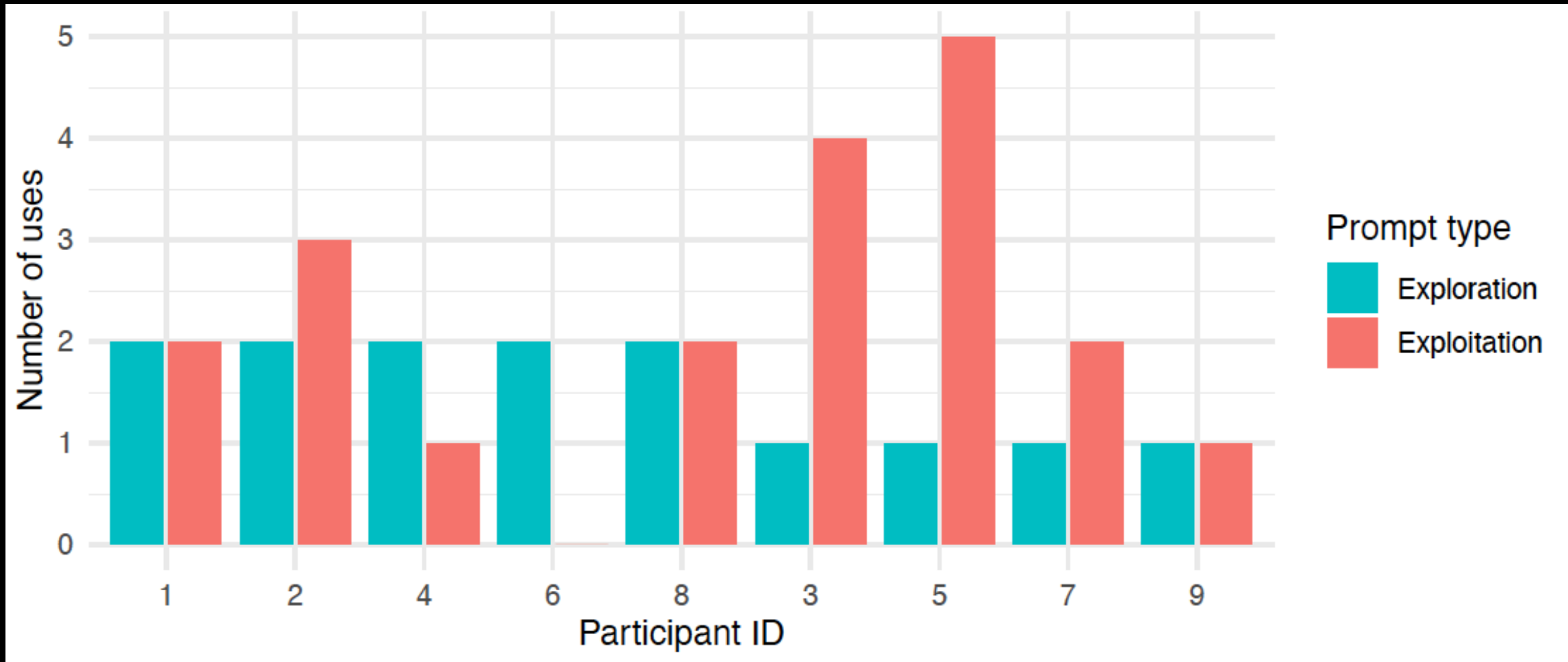
# Computational thinking with chatGPT

- ‘Classroom’ study, n = 9 (5 f, 4m; age 30-40, mean 33)
- Guided-interaction design, exploratory analysis





# Computational thinking behaviour?





# Computational thinking self-report scale

**Table 1.** Dimensions of CTS

Dimensions	Description	Example of item
Creativity	Self-recognition of students and ability to develop genuine ideas different from the ordinary and find different solutions to a problem.	I like the people who are sure of most of their decisions.
Algorithmic thinking	The skill of understanding, applying, assessing and producing the algorithm.	I have a special interest in the mathematical processes.
Cooperation	Working together to achieve/complete a task.	In cooperation learning, I think that I attain/will attain more successful results because I am working in a group.
Critical thinking	The skill to analyse, make conscious judgements and using these to reach a decision.	I use systematic method to compare available options in order to reach a decision.
Problem-solving	The skills to plan and execute the solution.	I cannot apply the solution ways. I plan respectively and gradually.

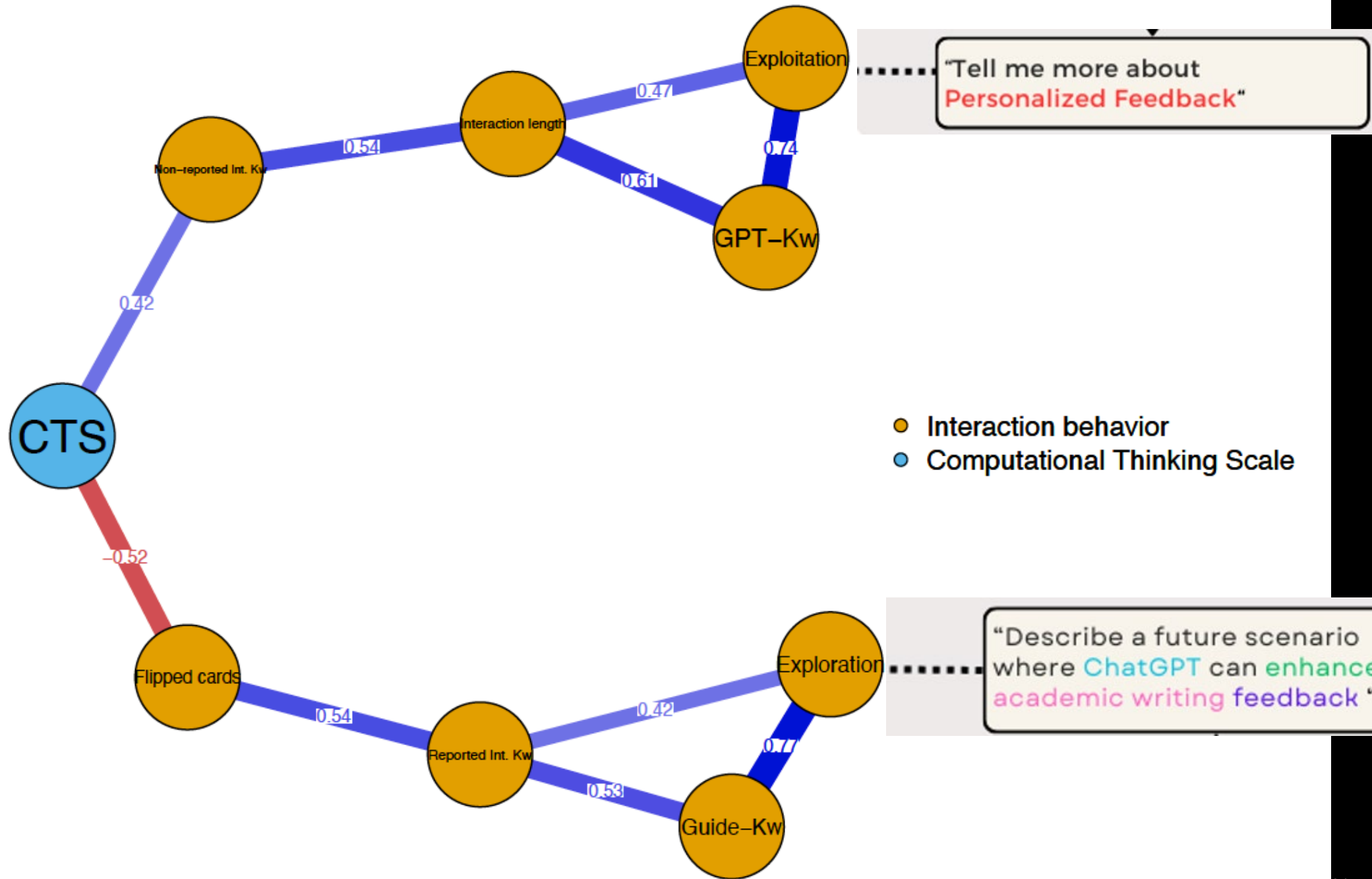
**Table 3** Behavioral variables describing participants' interaction with ChatGPT

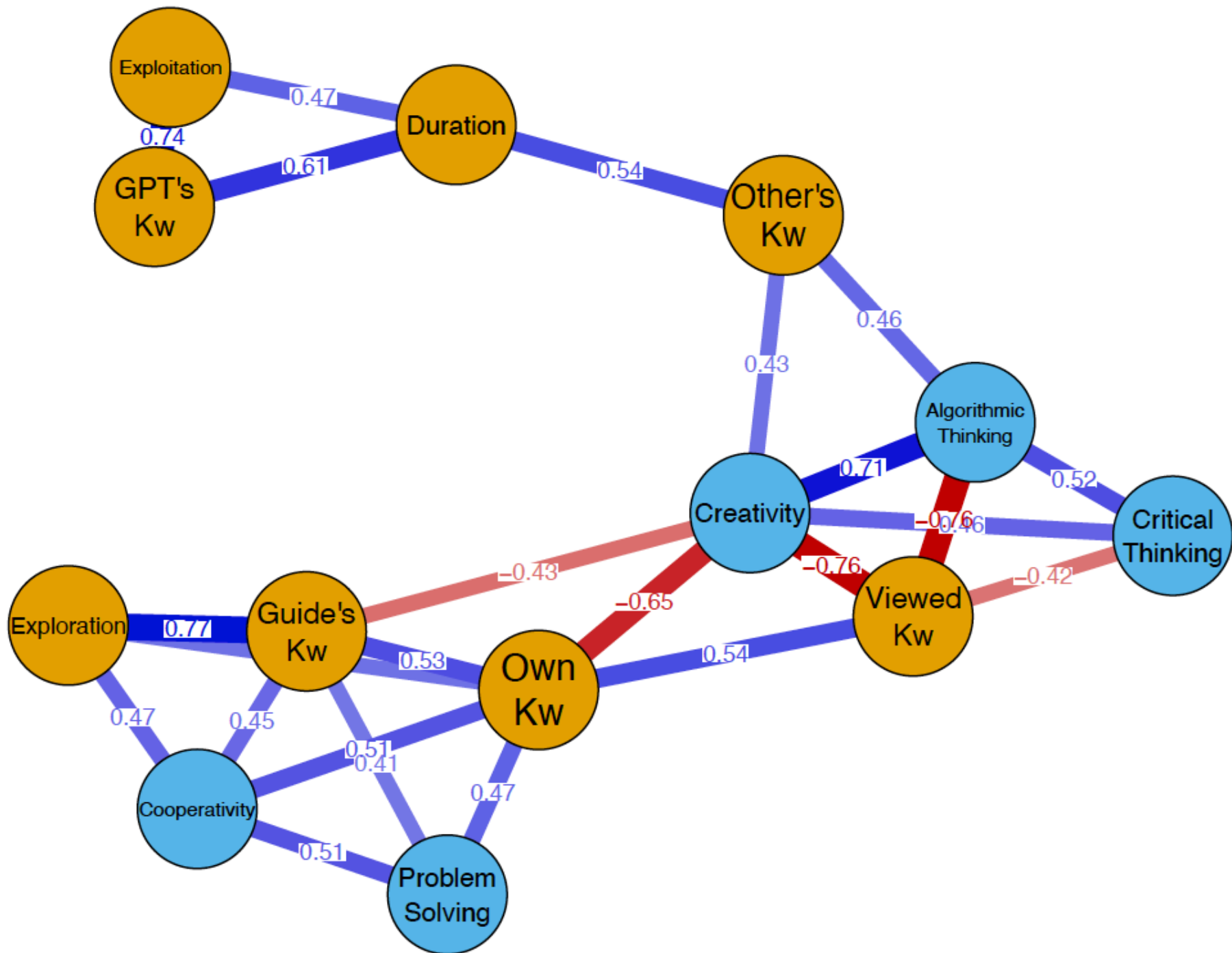
Code	Description
Exploration	N° of exploration prompts used
Exploitation	N° of exploitation prompts used
Viewed Kw	Max. rows of keywords participants managed to see during the interaction.
Guide's Kw	N° of used keywords sourced from the design
GPT's Kw	N° of used keywords sourced from the GPT-generated text
Own Kw	N° of used guide's keywords that the participant provided to the design
Other's Kw	N° of used guide's keywords that the participant did not provided to the design.
Time	Time length of the interaction, measured from the first prompt to the last.

**Table 4** Descriptive statistics of gathered data.

vars		n	mean	sd	min	max	range	se	type
1	Exploration	9.00	1.56	0.53	1.00	2.00	1.00	0.18	Discrete
2	Exploitation	9.00	2.22	1.56	0.00	5.00	5.00	0.52	Discrete
3	Viewed Kw	9.00	1.89	0.60	1.00	3.00	2.00	0.20	Discrete
4	GPT's KW	9.00	1.56	1.94	0.00	6.00	6.00	0.65	Discrete
5	Guide's Kw	9.00	8.33	2.65	5.00	12.00	7.00	0.88	Discrete
6	Own Kw	9.00	2.56	2.40	0.00	7.00	7.00	0.80	Discrete
7	Other's Kw	9.00	7.33	2.35	4.00	11.00	7.00	0.78	Discrete
8	Conversation duration [min]	9.00	14.79	8.58	4.03	30.22	26.18	2.86	Continuous
9	CTS score	9.00	100.78	11.70	82.00	119.00	37.00	3.90	Ordinal
10	Critical thinking	9.00	18.89	3.89	13.00	25.00	12.00	1.30	Ordinal
11	Algorithmic thinking	9.00	16.78	4.02	11.00	24.00	13.00	1.34	Ordinal
12	Cooperativity	9.00	15.33	2.78	11.00	20.00	9.00	0.93	Ordinal
13	Problem solving	9.00	20.67	2.87	15.00	24.00	9.00	0.96	Ordinal
14	Creativity	9.00	29.11	3.18	24.00	32.00	8.00	1.06	Ordinal

Note: CTS = Computational Thinking Scale.







# Implications of AIEd - conclusions

- AI plays a key role in the next generation of education
- But so does cognitive science, educational psychology, etc.
- We must safeguard human-AI interaction by *understanding it*
- Thank You!

