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Speaker: Ori Fartook, PhD student, Industrial Engineering & Management Dept, BGU

Title: Emotional Support Drone (ESD): A Personal Companion for Support and Regulation

Abstract: Recent work in the interaction community has revealed that drones can potentially become social entities with emotional capabilities beyond the traditional ontological status of drones as mechanical objects. We build upon this work to envision drones as an emotional support technology. We investigated drones' designs, emotional expressiveness, and the implementation of four psychological mechanisms traditionally used to facilitate Emotional Support: Affective and Cognitive Empathy, Positive Emotion Regulation, and yoU-turn in a personal drone. This talk will present the conclusion of how a drone targeting the provision of emotional support needs to look, behave, and operate to better accompany and support its user's emotional needs.

Bio: Ori Fartook is a Ph.D. candidate at the Magic Lab, Department of Industrial Engineering and Management at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. He received his B.A in Psychology and Cognition, as well as his M.Sc. in Human Factor Engineering at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. His research interests include HCI/HRI/HDI, UX, Social Robotics, and Affective Computing.