



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
23 January 2020

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## **DOLL Inaugurates a New Robot Laboratory To Study Developmental Learning**

Lexington, Massachusetts —A new research and educational partnership with UCLy-ESQESE (Catholic University of Lyon) has been established to further the joint, machine learning for robotics, research goals of Dr. Paul Robertson, chief scientist at DOLL Inc. and Dr. Olivier Georgeon (ESQESE) researcher at the Group of Epistemology and Ethics of Sciences and Technologies (GEEST) of the Biosciences, Technologies and Ethics pole.

The Research Project, called INIT (Incremental Natural Interactions on Turtlebot), focuses on developmental AI — a branch of AI research that aims to create robots that can learn like babies, through free interaction with the environment. The objective is to develop algorithms allowing a robot to generate natural and ethical behaviors. Bi-costal experimental platforms have been established at UCLy and in DOLL's recently established robot learning laboratory, LAIR.

This project explores new scientific approaches to overcome the limits of current supervised machine learning algorithms (reducing the amount of labeled data required, as well as reducing instability and poor robustness due to poor quality data, etc.) by allowing a robot to learn. with a minimal guidance.

In order to be effective and specifically, to be deployable in new domains without machine learning specialists to oversee their learning, robot learning should be largely online and incremental, it should be self-motivated and self-supervised, unlike the slow, offline learning that has, recently, occupied much of the attention of the machine learning community.

An initial student, from Lyon, do an internship at DOLL during the summer of 2020.

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