How will automation technologies disrupt the tourism industry?

Stanislav Ivanov

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- Member of AIEST (<u>https://www.aiest org</u>)







EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF TOURISM RESEARCH

69th AIEST Conference

Key facts:

- Dates: 25th-29th August 2019
- Organiser: Varna University of Management, Varna, Bulgaria
- Venue: Rosslyn Hotel Dimyat 4* (<u>http://dimyat.rosslyn-hotels.com/</u>)
- More information at: <u>https://www.aiest.org/conference/conference-2019-varna/</u>





Forthcoming on 14th October 2019 Robots, Artificial Intelligence and Service Automation in Travel, Tourism and Hospitality

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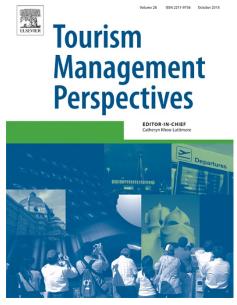
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Special Issue on "The Economics of Revenue Management in Hospitality and Tourism"

Guest Editor Stanislav Ivanov, Varna University of Management, Bulgaria, <u>stanislav.ivanov@vumk.eu</u>



Tourism Management Perspectives

Special Issue: Tourism beyond humans - robots, pets and teddy bears

Editor-in-chief: Catheryn Khoo-Lattimore Associate Editor: Babak Taheri

Special Issue Editors:

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Ulrike Gretzel, Senior Fellow, USC Center for Public Relations, Annenberg School of Communication & Journalism, University of Southern California, USA

Ian Yeoman, Associate Professor, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, and Visiting Professor, European Tourism Futures Institute, The Netherlands

https://nexttourismgeneration.eu

The Next Tourism Generation (NTG) is a Tourism Sector Skills Alliance for implementing a new strategic Blueprint approach to sectoral cooperation on skills



714 partners represent the whole Tourism sector including specialists in hospitality, food and beverage, travel agencies, attractions and recreation. The blueprint strategy will respond to skills gaps in tourism and hospitality, especially soft skills and emerging skill needs in digital and sustainability applications



► NTG project will concentrate upon to bridge the gap between education and industry and progress the skills needed



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

Robots, AI and automation technologies have already entered travel, tourism and hospitality ...

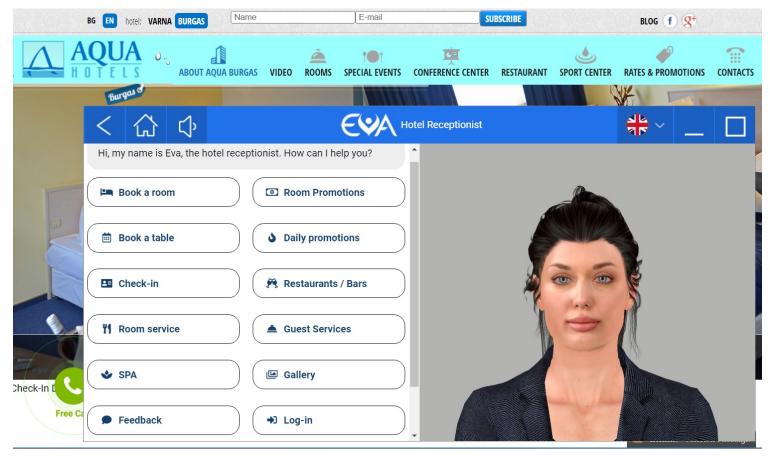


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• Hotels



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http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/futuristic-hotel-thats-like-robotic-6449905

https://www.hartrobotics.com/wp -content/uploads/2016/01/relayspecifications-1.jpg



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Hotels

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Japanese hotel staffed by 243 robots fires more than half of the bots - because they kept malfunctioning and creating MORE work for the human employees

The Henn na chain - whose name means 'weird' - bills itself as offering the world's first hotels with robot staff

It operates sites south of Nagasaki and east of Tokyo where the receptions are staffed by robot dinosaurs

· Chain has now culled over half of its 243 robots, many because they created work rather than reduced it

By MARK PRIGG FOR DAILYMAIL.COM

1HE VERGE TECH - SCIENCE - CULTURE - CARS - REVIEWS - LONGFORM VIDEO MORE f 🎽 🗟 TL:DR Japan's robot hotel lays off half the robots after they *

created more work for humans

It turns out even robots can't enjoy job security By Shannon Liao | @Shannon_Liao | Jan 15, 2019, 4:36pm EST

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Buzz

World's first 'all robot hotel' fired half of its robotic staff after guests started 'missing' humans

😵 INDEPENDENT

NEWS POLITICS VOICES FINAL SAY SPORT CULTURE VIDEO INDY/LIFE

Henn na Hotel is located in Nagasaki Prefecture



VIDEOS VINDIA WORLD BUSINESS V ENTERTAINMENT V or receptionist, an automated gardener and a one-armed

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les left luggage

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JAPAN ROBOT HOTEL FIRES MOST OF ITS 'ANNOYING' ROBOTIC STAF

• Restaurant





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• Restaurants



Photo credit: Stanislav Ivanov

• Restaurants



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wvDLWS-_eZ8

• Restaurants



• Restaurants



https://amazing.zone/fotosblog/max/drone_q_entrega_pizzas.jpg

• Restaurants



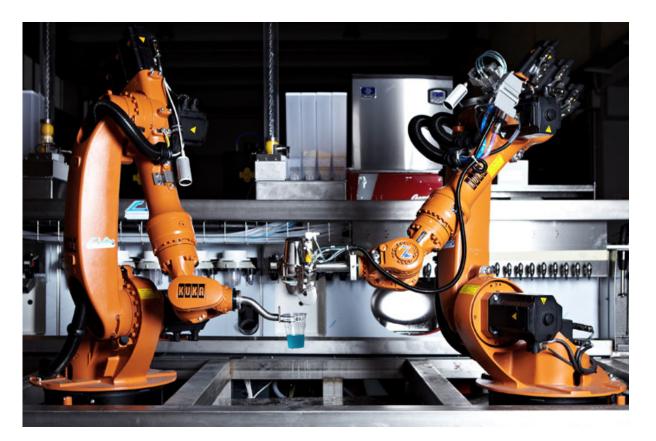
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• *Meetings and events > Telepresence*



• *Meetings and events / Bars*



• Theme and amusement parks



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• Airports and other transport stations



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• Airports and other transport stations

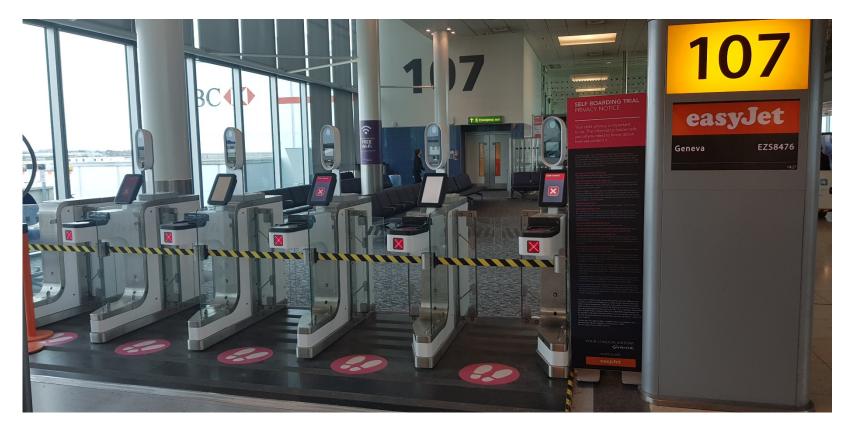


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• Travel agencies and Tourist information





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• Museums and art galleries



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https://www.vrlife.news/wp-

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• Digital assistants

echo show

Now Alexa can show you things





Skills add even more capabilities like ordering a pizza from Domino's, requesting a ride from Uber, opening your garage with Garageio, and more. Enabling skills lets your Echo do even more—simply discover and enable the skills you want to use in the Alexa App.

New skills are being added all the time. You can also see ratings and reviews to learn what other customers are saying about the thousands of skills available in the Alexa App. <u>Discover and enable skills</u>.

"Alexa, tell Garagio to close my door."

"Alexa, ask TV Shows what time does

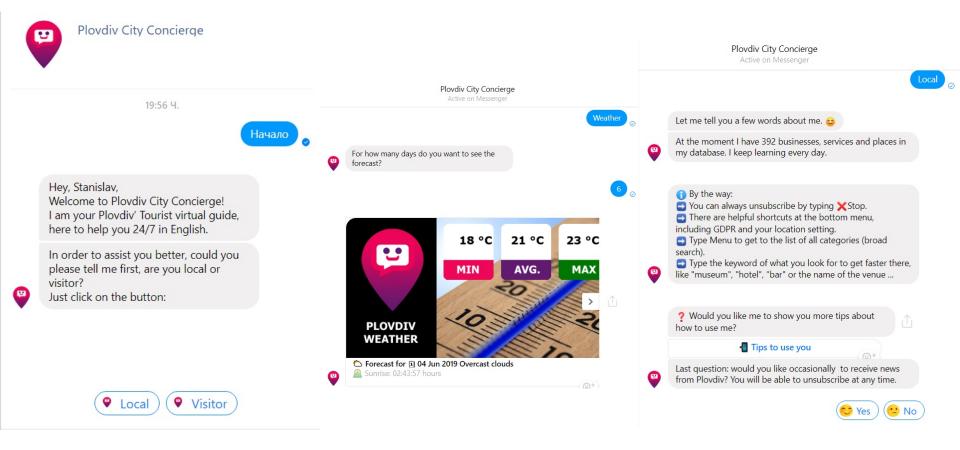
The Walking Dead start?"

"Alexa, ask Automatic if I need gas."

"Alexa, ask Campbell's Kitchen for a recipe."

"Alexa, ask Fidelity, how is the NASDAQ doing today?"

"Alexa, ask HuffPost for headlines."



Adoption of robots and service automation in tourism • Car rental

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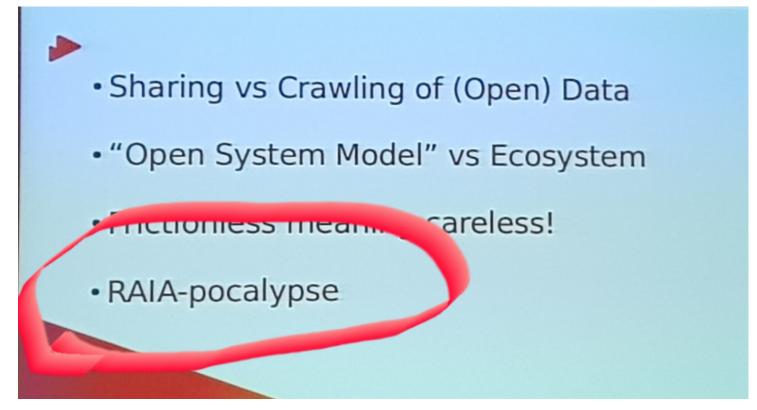


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Adoption of robots and service automation in tourism

• RAIA-pocalypse

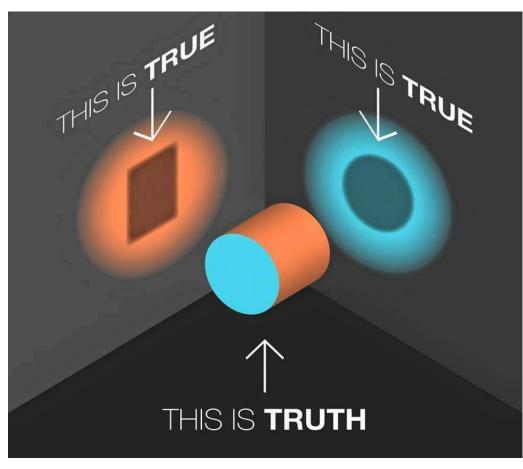


Source: Daniele Gobbetti, Peer Srl, Lion-App Summer School, 6th July 2019, Trento, Italy

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Adoption of robots and service automation in tourism

• Holistic perspective



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Brave new world: service robots in the frontline

Iochen Wirtz Department of Marketing, National University of Singapore, Singapore Paul G. Patterson Department of Marketing, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia Werner H. Kunz Department of Marketing, University of Massachusetts, Boston, Massachusetts, USA Thorsten Gruber Centre for Service Management, Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK Vinh Nhat Lu Research School of Management, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia Stefanie Paluch School of Business and Economics, Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen University, Aachen, Germany, and Antie Martins Business School, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

Investigating an innovative service with hospitality robots

Chun-Min Kuo National Chin-Yi University of Technology, Taichung, Taiwan

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Chin-Yao Tseng Department of Tourism and Leisure Management, Yuanpei University of Medical Technology, Hsinchu, Taiwan

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European Journal of Tourism Research http://ejtr.vumk.eu



Dawning of the Age of Robots in Hospitality and Tourism:

Challenges for Teaching and Research

Jamie Murphy ^{1*}, Charles Hofacker ² and Ulrike Gretzel ³

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Adoption of **robots** and **service automation** by tourism and hospitality companies

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Int. J. Human-Computer Studies 82 (2015) 83-95





Eduardo Rodriguez-Lizundia^a, Samuel Marcos^b, Eduardo Zalama^a, Jaime Gómez-García-Bermejo^{a,*}, Alfonso Gordaliza^c

Robotics and Autonomous Systems 79 (2016) 40-57



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect Robotics and Autonomous Systems

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/robot

Letter to the editor

Long-term assessment of a service robot in a hotel environment



Roberto Pinillos^a, Samuel Marcos^a, Raul Feliz^a, Eduardo Zalama^{b,*}, Jaime Gómez-García-Bermejo^b

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Exploring customer experiences with robotics in hospitality

Vincent Wing Sun Tung and Norman Au The School of Hotel and Tourism Management, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Perceptual Differences toward Humanlike Robots and Humans in Service: Individualist versus Collectivist Cultures

> Yu Chung-En Tourism College Institute for Tourism Studies Macau, China

Sacarino, a Service Robot in a Hotel Environment

Eduardo Zalama¹, Jaime Gómez García-Bermejo¹, Samuel Marcos², Salvador Domínguez³, Raúl Feliz², Roberto Pinillos², and Joaquín López³

The potential for tourism and hospitality experience research in human-robot interactions

Vincent Wing Sun Tung and Rob Law School of Hotel and Tourism Management, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Attitudes Toward Autonomous on Demand Mobility System: The Case of Self-Driving Taxi

Iis P. Tussyadiah, Florian J. Zach and Jianxi Wang

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Consumer Evaluation of Hotel Service Robots

Iis P. Tussyadiah^{1(\boxtimes)} and Sangwon Park²

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International Journal of Hospitality Management 80 (2019) 36-51



Developing and validating a service robot integration willingness scale Lu Lu^{a,*}, Ruiying Cai^b, Dogan Gursoy^c



The power of head tilts: gender and cultural differences of perceived human vs human-like robot smile in service

Chung-En Yu and Henrique F. Boyol Ngan

Tourism Management 73 (2019) 172-181



Hotel employee's artificial intelligence and robotics awareness and its impact on turnover intention: The moderating roles of perceived organizational support and competitive psychological climate



Jun (Justin) Li^a, Mark A. Bonn^b, Ben Haobin Ye^{a,*}

International Journal of Hospitality Management 82 (2019) 32-38



"How may i help you?" Says a robot: Examining language styles in the service encounter



Sungwoo Choi^{a,*}, Stephanie Q. Liu^b, Anna S. Mattila^c

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JOURNAL OF HOSPITALITY MARKETING & MANAGEMENT https://doi.org/10.1080/19368623.2019.1592733

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Chung-En Yu 💿

JOURNAL OF TRAVEL & TOURISM MARKETING https://doi.org/10.1080/10548408.2019.1571983

ARTICLE

Marketing robot services in hospitality and tourism: the role of anthropomorphism

Jamie Murphy ¹/₀°, Ulrike Gretzel^b and Juho Pesonen ¹/₀°







Fechnology	in Society	7 55 (2018)	24-32
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Young Russian adults' attitudes towards the potential use of robots in hotels Stanislav Ivanov^{a,*}, Craig Webster^b, Aleksandra Garenko^c



Stanislav Ivanov / Craig Webster / Peyman Seyyedi Consumers' attitudes towards the introduction of robots in accommodation establishments

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Perceived Appropriateness and Intention to Use Service Robots in Tourism

Stanislav Ivanov^{1(⊠)} and Craig Webster²

What Should Robots Do? A Comparative Analysis of Industry Professionals, Educators and Tourists

Stanislav Ivanov^{$1(\boxtimes)$} and Craig Webster²

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Designing robot-friendly hospitality facilities

Stanislav Ivanov and Craig Webster

THE ROBOT AS A CONSUMER: A RESEARCH AGENDA

Professor Stanislav Ivanov, PhD¹, stanislav.ivanov@vumk.eu Assistant Professor Craig Webster, PhD², cwebster3@bsu.edu

TOURISM BEYOND HUMANS – ROBOTS, PETS AND TEDDY BEARS

Stanislav Ivanov

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ZfTW 2019; Volume 11 (1): 25-43

Stanislav Ivanov* Ultimate transformation: How will automation technologies disrupt the travel, tourism and hospitality industries?

DOI 10.1515/tw-2019-0003

ADOPTION OF ROBOTS, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND SERVICE AUTOMATION BY TRAVEL, TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY COMPANIES: A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

STANISLAV IVANOV AND CRAIG WEBSTER

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Research on robots in tourism Progress on robotics in hospitality and tourism: a review of the literature

Stanislav Ivanov

Department of Tourism, Varna University of Management, Varna, Bulgaria Ulrike Gretzel

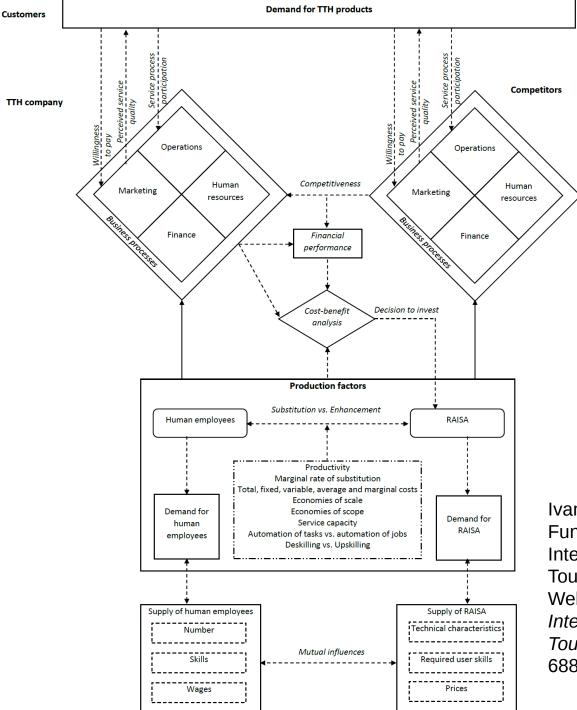
USC Center for Public Relations, Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, USA

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Marianna Sigala School of Management, University of South Australia Business School, Adelaide, Australia, and

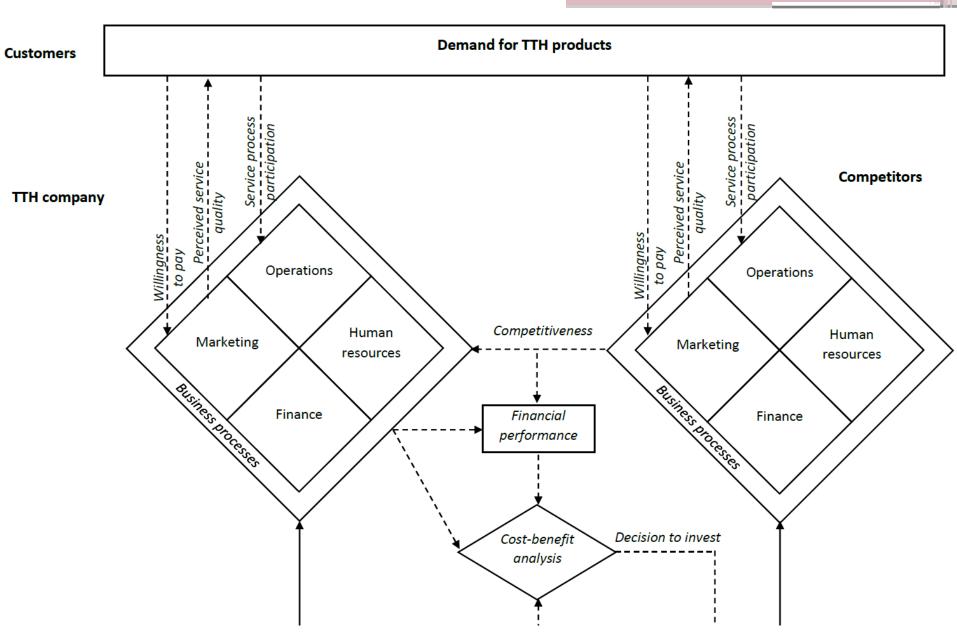
Craig Webster Department of Management, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA

The economics of RAISA technologies in tourism



Ivanov, S., & Webster, C. (2019). Economic Fundamentals of the Use of Robots, Artificial Intelligence and Service Automation in Travel, Tourism and Hospitality. In Ivanov, S., & Webster, C. (Eds.) (2019). *Robots, Artificial Intelligence and Service Automation in Travel, Tourism and Hospitality*. ISBN: 978-1-78756-688-0. Emerald Publishing (in press).

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Production factors Substitution vs. Enhancement Human employees RAISA Productivity Marginal rate of substitution Total, fixed, variable, average and marginal costs Economies of scale Demand for Economies of scope Demand for Service capacity human RAISA Automation of tasks vs. automation of jobs employees Deskilling vs. Upskilling Supply of RAISA Supply of human employees Technical characteristics Number Mutual influences Skills Required user skills Prices Wages

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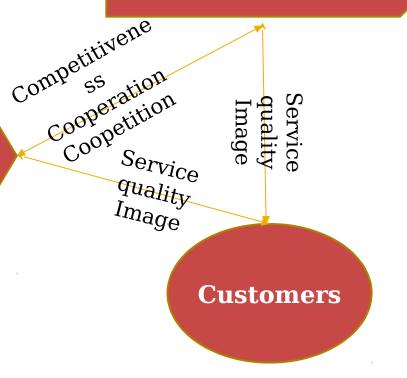
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How will RAISA technologies disrupt the tourism industry?

Impacts of RAISA technologies

Tourist company's value chain

- Marketing
- Operations
- Facilities design and management
- Human resource management
- Financial management
- Supply chain management



Other tourist

companies

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How will RAISA technologies disrupt the tourism industry?

OPERATIONS

Impacts of RAISA technologies Operations

- Service is delivered by a robot, computer programme, a kiosk, a vending machine or another non-human agent
- Increased service capacity of tourism companies – more customers can be served simultaneously and for a particular period of time > increased productivity
- *Easier scheduling and planning of operations* robots work 24/7, they do not get ill, complain, shirk from work, etc.

Impacts of RAISA technologies Operations

- Reengineering of service delivery processes

 new processes, activities, procedures, controls, new service operations manuals
- Increased role of the customer in the service delivery > prosumer (="producer" + "consumer")> co-creation of value
- *Improved environmental sustainability* of operations reduced use of resources, reduced waste, elimination of unnecessary activities, etc.
- Decreased flexibility of the service delivery
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How will RAISA technologies disrupt the tourism industry?

HOSPITALITY FACILITIES DESIGN

Types of robots to use the facilities of service companies

		Type of robot	
		Stationary	Mobile (wheeled, legged, flying, underwater)
Ownership	Company	Front desk robots Robot chef/Cooking robots Robot baristas Robot bartenders Shoe shine machines ATMs Concierge service robots Security robots Massage robots	Security robots Robot guides Robot waiters Companion/sex robots Pet robots Robotic luggage carts Room service deliver robots Robotic vacuum cleaners Robotic lawnmowers Robotic lawnmowers Robotic pool cleaners Delivery drones Entertainment robots General service robots
	Custome r	(Customers are unlikely to bring stationary robots to hospitality industries, in most situations, apart from extended stay	Companion/sex robots Pet robots Concierge service robots General service robots

Robot-friendly/robot-inclusive environment (1)

- Tan, Mohan & Watanabe (2016) develop a theoretical framework for robot-inclusive environments which includes two spectra: *level of autonomy of a mobile robot* and *robot-inclusiveness of the environment* in which the robot operates.
- The authors define the robot-inclusiveness as how much the design of the environment takes into account the robot therein, i.e. whether it helps the robot fulfil its tasks.

Robot-friendly/robot-inclusive environment (2)

• The *design* of the premises where the robot needs to operate in, their *cleanliness*, *tidiness*, signage, lightning, noise, physical barriers (e.g. doors, doorsteps, stairs), presence of people and *dynamic* of the environment, presence/lack of *predetermined routes* for robot movement, presence/lack of (artificial) landmarks and sensors to help robot navigation, etc., all determine the degree to which the environment assists the robot fulfil its tasks – e.g. to deliver the food to the hotel room, to cut the grass in the garden, or to accompany the passengers to stanislavivanov.com the airport date

When the environment is more robotinclusive, then the same task can be performed by a less intelligent robot and vice versa: an environment that is not robot-friendly would require a more intelligent robot to navigate through it.

Key considerations in robotfriendly facilities design for service companies • External physical accessibility of the premises

- Internal physical accessibility of the premises
- Digital map of facilities for robot navigation
- Landing pads for drones
- Shape and surface materials used for the pool
- Safety and security issues
- Recognition of staff, guests, delivery service, and others
- Power-related issues
- Rental facilities for robots
- Repair facilities for robots
- Liability insurance for robots

Robot-friendliness of hospitality facilities will be a new competitive advantage for travel, tourism and hospitality companies!

How will RAISA technologies disrupt the tourism industry?

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Impacts of RAISA technologies Human resource management

- RAISA would *save employees' time* from performing tedious and repetitive tasks, which they could use for other more creative and revenue generating activities.
- Initially *enhancing*, later *replacing* the employees
- RAISA would solve some the problems with hiring and firing of employees, especially the seasonal ones.
- Sometimes RAISA would require *reorganisation of companies* – new departments, job positions, communication

Impacts of RAISA technologies Human resource management

- Changes in the *number* of employees in the various departments > *zero-employee* properties (Central hostel in Varna, Bulgaria)
- Resistance of employees perceive RAISA as threat for their job positions
- Changes in the required skills of employees

 communication, social, technical skills >
 required changes in the curricula of the
 tourism and hospitality programmes in HEIs

How will RAISA technologies disrupt the tourism industry?

MARKETING

Impacts of RAISA technologies Product and service quality

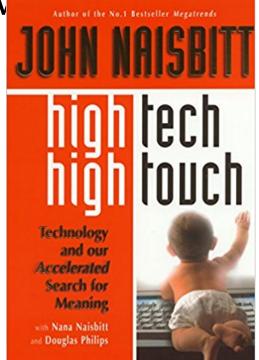
 Changed customer expectations about the tourism / hospitality product > redefinition of the scope of the product of a tourist company – e.g. should a hotel company be able to provide robot repair service? Or a sex robot?

Impacts of RAISA technologies Product and service quality

- RAISA could *enhance the perceived service quality* through new attractive and interactive ways of service delivery, communicating and engaging with customers:
 - Robots, chatbots, service kiosks could communicate in different languages and do this 24/7
 - RAISA can create value for the customers by making the service deliver process funny and entertaining

Impacts of RAISA technologies Product and service quality

 Division of tourism / hospitality companies into two main large groups – 'high-tech' vs 'high-touch' companies with various shades of gray in betw



Impacts of RAISA technologies Pricing

- Automated pricing
- Personalised pricing perfect price discrimination
- Lower prices for mass 'high-tech' products
- Higher prices for exclusive 'high-touch' products

Impacts of RAISA technologies Distribution

- Predictive analytics
- Automated allocation of available capacity by distribution channel > intelligent channel managers
- Distribution via digital voice assistants (Amazoi



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Impacts of RAISA technologies Communications, image,

- **Positioning** The company that adopts RAISA would boast *positive word-of-mouth* due to its *image of an innovative high-tech company.*
 - The company may also suffer *negative publicity* - it may be perceived as a company that puts profits before humans
 - Automated communications with customers

 chatbots, voice assistants, robots

Impacts of RAISA technologies Robots as consumers and

touristics car's involvement in the consumer behaviour of

Stage	Autonomous car's involvement	
Need recognition	• Identify the need for car maintenance after specific	
	number of kilometres or months since last maintenance	
Information search	Find authorised car maintenance centres	
Evaluation of	• Find available time slots at authorised car maintenance	
alternatives	centres	
	Decide on the specific service and price	
Purchase decision	• Select the time slot that best matches the schedule of the	
	owner	
Purchase	• Make payment with the e-wallet of the owner	
Consumption process	Drive to the car maintenance centre	
	Undergo maintenance	
	Drive back to the owner's home	
Post-consumption	• Perform check whether the systems of the car operate	
heherieur	properly	

If a robot can make these decisions, who is the consumer then – the robot or its owner?

How will RAISA technologies disrupt the tourism industry?

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Impacts of RAISA technologies Financial management

- Labour costs savings RAISA work 24/7 and may serve numerous customers simultaneously.
- Increased sales customers' curiosity in seeing the robots, 24/7 availability

Impacts of RAISA technologies Financial management

Financial costs, associated with RAISA (1)

- Acquisition costs e.g. for purchasing a robot or kiosk, for purchasing a chatbot/payment for its development.
- *Installation costs* might be virtually zero for a chatbot.
- *Maintenance costs* electricity consumption of the robot/kiosk, spare parts, periodic maintenance, repair works, etc. They will be zero for a chatbot.
- Software update costs.

Impacts of RAISA technologies Financial management

Financial costs, associated with RAISA (2)

- Costs for adapting the premises to facilitate robot's mobility – e.g. removing any barriers for robot's movement within a hotel.
- Costs for hiring specialists to operate and maintain the robots/kiosks/chatbots.
- Costs for staff training.
- *Insurance costs* for the robots/kiosks, insurance for damages caused by a robot, etc.

How will RAISA technologies disrupt the tourism industry?

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Impacts of RAISA technologies Supply chain management

 Integration of the information systems of suppliers and travel, tourism and hospitality companies

Automated orc



https://www.samsung.com/au/family-hub-refrigerator/

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What factors determine the impact of RAISA technologies on travel, tourism and hospitality companies?

Factors determining the impacts of RAISA

- Company characteristics / culture
- Market positioning of the company
- Relative labour and technology costs, relative labour and RAISA productivity
- Degree of technological complexity / Technological characteristics of RAISA solutions
- Safety characteristics of RAISA
- Customers' readiness and willingness to be served by a robot, willingness to pay for robot-delivered services
- Employee's readiness and willingness to work with a robot
- Cultural characteristics of both customerstandivanov.com

Cultural characteristics of society



In one week ...



Robots have arrived and are here to stay.

Prepare ...

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