浙江大学伊利诺伊大学厄巴纳香槟校区联合学院

Zhejiang University-University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign Institute

ECE 448: Artificial Intelligence

Lecture 1: What is AI?

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Spring 2023

Outline

1. AI in Our Life
2. Overview of the Syllabus
3. A Two-Bit Summary of the Philosophy of AI
4. Thinking like a Human
5. Acting like a Human
6. Thinking Rationally
7. Acting Rationally

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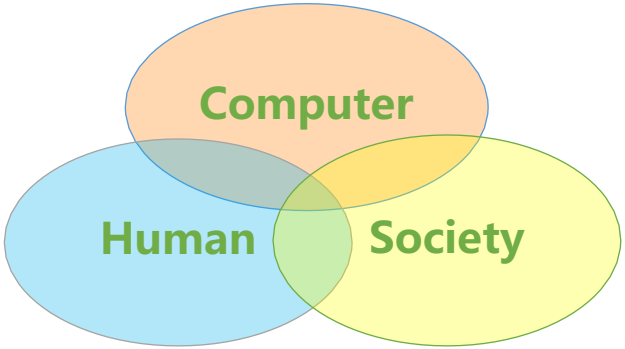
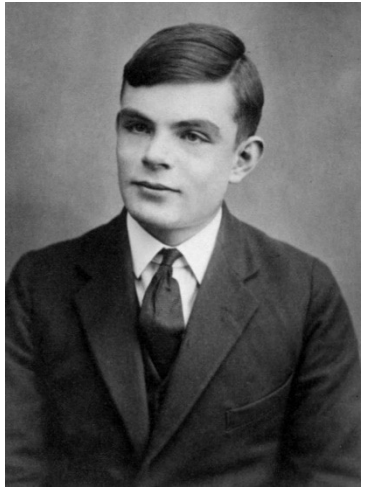
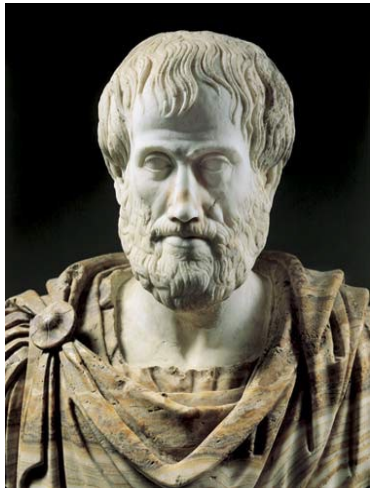
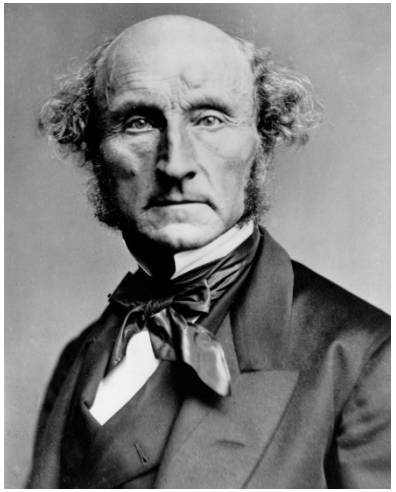
Discuss in groups:

- **what is your understanding of AI?**
- **where is AI? TV shows? Science fictions?**
- **what is needed by AI? Good enough?**







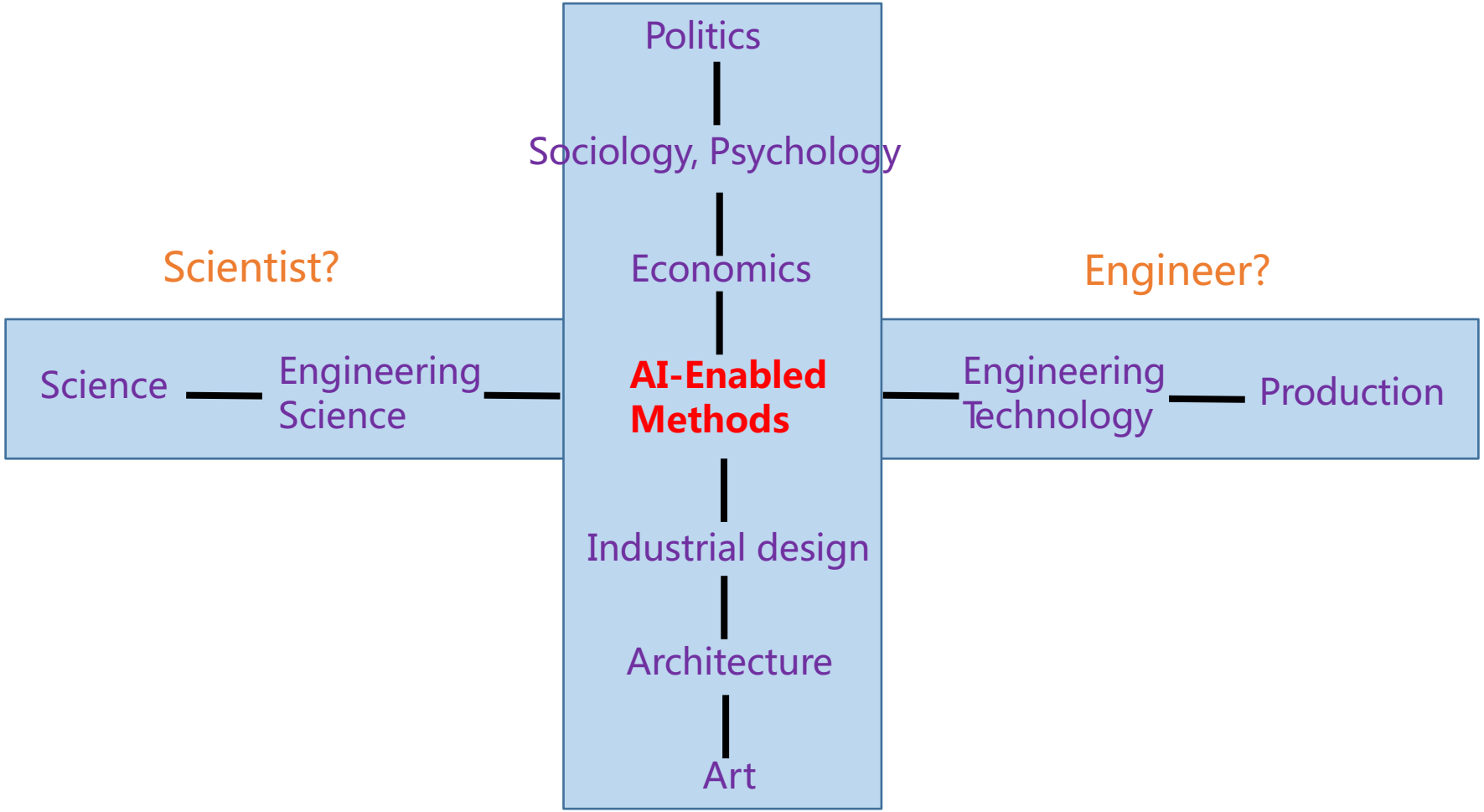


Artificial (adj., Wiktionary): man-made, i.e., constructed by means of skill or specialized art.

Intelligence (noun, Wiktionary): capacity of mind to understand meaning, acquire knowledge, and apply it to practice.

Artificial Intelligence (implied by above): capacity of a man-made system to understand, acquire, and apply knowledge.

AI and other disciplines



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How is this course graded?

Teaching arrangement:

- One lecture per week.
- Lecturer and TA (blackboard and wechat).
- A wide range of topics.

Grading:

- 40%: Exams
  - Mostly from the slides.
  - The page includes sample problems from the textbook.
- 60%: 5 MPs (Mini-Projects)
  - Each MP is designed to require about 19 hours of work, including ~14 hours of thinking/coding/debugging and ~5 hours of waiting for your computer. Seriously, we really do target 19 hours.
  - You can work in teams of up to 3, only if it helps you. Software management exercise.

Late MPs:

- Only if every member of your team has an emergency documented by the institute.
- If no emergency, penalty is 10% per day.
- No homework accepted more than 7 days late.
- DO THE HOMEWORK. Even partly, even 6 days late. If you miss ONE MP, you will probably not pass.

Plagiarism:

- Please DO search online to find good ideas.
- Please LEARN THE IDEAS, don't COPY THE CODE.
- Graders will read on-line code repos before grading your MP.

How to get help?

Lecturer and TA:

- TA, Shuting Tao email: shuting.17@intl.zju.edu.cn
- TA, Hanrong Zhang email: hanrong.22@intl.zju.edu.cn
- Wechat, for announcement and common questions.

Online:

- Plenty of resources.
- Wikipedia, useful, but be careful about it.

群聊: ECE448 2023sp

该二维码7天内(2月22日前)有效，重新进入将更新

Wechat group

Lecture Schedule:

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Week	Topic	Week	Topic
1	What is AI?; History and Themes	8	Bayesian Inference and Bayesian Learning; Linear Classifiers
2	Agents and Rationality; Search Intro	9	Polychotomizers; (MP3) Bayesian Networks
3	Search Informed by lookahead heuristics; Constraint Satisfaction Problems (MP1)	10	Bayes Net Inference; Hidden Markov Models
4	Planning and Theorem Proving; Two-Player Games	11	Markov Decision Processes; (MP4) Reinforcement Learning
5	Game Theory; Probability	12	Deep Learning; Deep Reinforcement Learning
6	Random Variables; (MP2) Stochastic Search and Learned Evaluation Functions	13	Natural Language Processing with Neural Nets; Speech (MP5)
7	Naïve Bayes Midterm Exam;	14	Societal Impact of AI; Final Exam

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Candidate definitions from the textbook:

1. Thinking humanly	**2. Acting humanly**
3. Thinking rationally	**4. Acting rationally**

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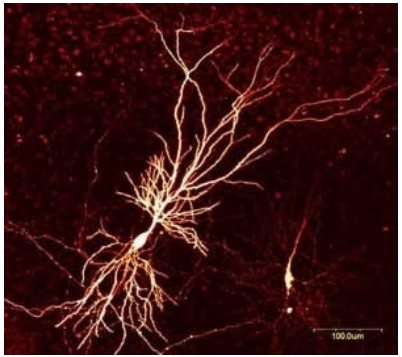
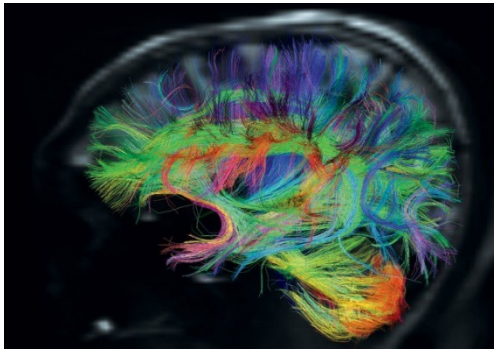
Thinking Like a Human

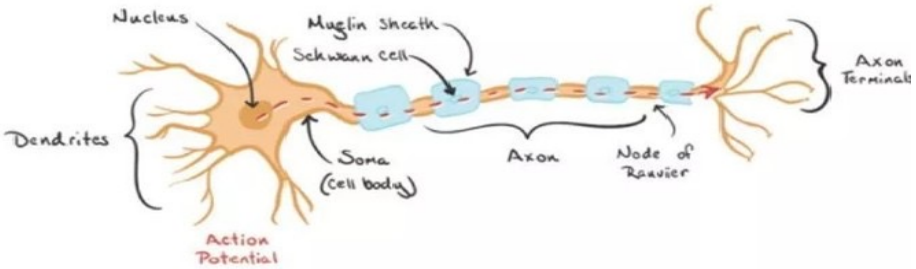




Mary Shelley, author of *Frankenstein: The Modern Prometheus*; Neuron, showing branching of the dendrites; EEG cap; Cortical connectivity map, computed using diffusion tensor MRI

How many computations/second?

- Hodgkin-Huxley neuron:
  - Neural computations are binary. Each neuron is either generating an action potential, or not.
  - Action potentials at rates between 1Hz and 1000Hz (1 to 1000 times/second)
  - Each neuron's action potential is communicated to a set of other neurons --- usually 100-1000 other neurons.



https://www.khanacademy.org/

Suppose the brain has 100 trillion neurons. How many binary computations per second can the brain perform?

Modern neuroimaging techniques

- EEG (electro-encephalography)
  - Good temporal resolution: ~1000 samples/second
  - Poor spatial resolution: ~128 channels for the whole brain. "EEG activity therefore always reflects the summation of the synchronous activity of thousands or millions of neurons that have similar spatial orientation."
- fMRI (functional magnetic resonance imaging)
  - Better spatial resolution: ~1mm/voxel, ~2000 voxels/brain (vs. 100 trillion neurons)
  - Poor temporal resolution: ~2 seconds/sample
- ECOG (electrocorticography)
  - Spatial resolution of fMRI + temporal resolution of EEG
  - Only for the part of the brain that has been surgically revealed, for a living thinking human.

How many computations/second?

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Suppose the brain has 100 trillion neurons. How many binary computations per second can the brain perform?

The best supercomputers perform far more computations/second than the human brain. If that's true, why have we not yet duplicated a human brain?

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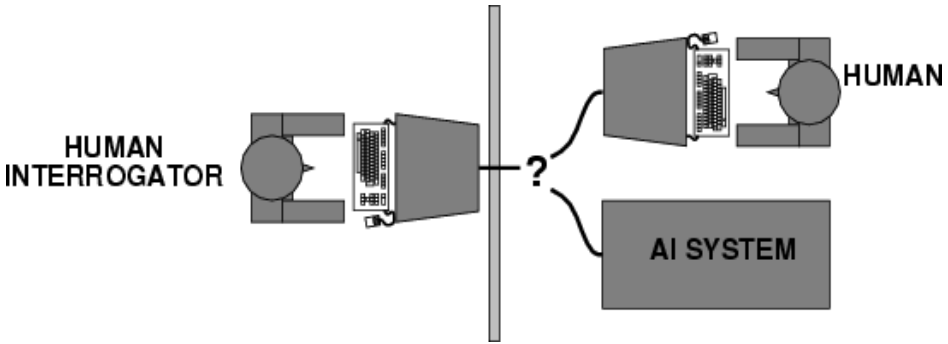
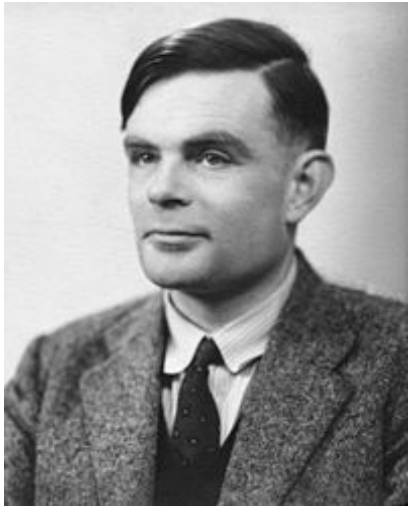
Acting Like a Human





Schematic of the Turing test; Alan Turing

Acting Like a Human

- Alan Turing, "Intelligent Machinery," 1947:

It is not difficult to devise a paper machine which will play a not very bad game of chess. Now get three men as subjects for the experiment. A, B and C. A and C are to be rather poor chess players, B is the operator who works the paper machine. Two rooms are used with some arrangement for communicating moves, and a game is played between C and either A or the paper machine. C may find it quite difficult to tell which he is playing.

We now ask the question :

What will happen when a machine takes the part of A in this game ?

Will the interrogator decide wrongly as often when the game is played like this as he does when the game is played between a man and a woman?

These questions replace our original, "Can machines think?"

- What capabilities would a computer need to have to pass the Turing Test?
  - Natural language processing
  - Knowledge representation
  - Automated reasoning
  - Machine learning
- Turing predicted that by the year 2000, machines would be able to fool 30% of human judges for five minutes

A. Turing, Computing machinery and intelligence, Mind 59, pp. 433-460, 1950

What's wrong with the Turing Test?

- Variability in protocols, judges
- Success depends on deception!
- Chatbots can do well using "cheap tricks"
  - First example: ELIZA (1966)
  - Javascript implementation of ELIZA

A Better Turing Test?

- **Winograd schema:** Multiple choice questions that can be easily answered by people but cannot be answered by computers using "cheap tricks"

- *For example, the trophy would not fit in the brown suitcase because it was so **large**.*
  *What was so **large**?*
  - *The trophy*
  - *The brown suitcase*

H. Levesque, *On our best behaviour*, IJCAI 2013

http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/elements/2013/08/why-cant-my-computer-understand-me.html

Winograd schema

- Advantages over standard Turing test
  - Test can be administered and graded by machine
  - Scoring of the test does not depend on human subjectivity
  - Machine does not require ability to generate English sentences
  - Questions cannot be evaded using verbal "tricks"
  - Questions can be made "Google-proof" (at least for now…)
- Winograd schema challenge
  - Held at IJCAI conference in July 2016
  - Six entries, best system got 58% of 60 questions correct (humans get 90% correct)

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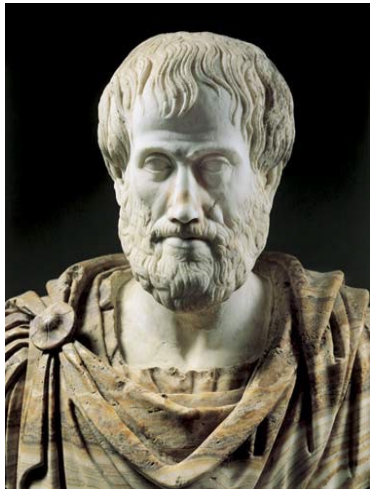
- Idealized or "right" way of thinking
- **Logic:** patterns of argument that always yield correct conclusions when supplied with correct premises
  - *"Socrates is a man; all men are mortal; therefore Socrates is mortal."*
- **Logicist approach to AI:** describe problem in formal logical notation and apply general deduction procedures to solve it



Aristotle, 384-322 BC

Syllogism

- Syllogism = a logical argument that applies deductive reasoning to arrive at a conclusion based on two or more propositions that are asserted to be true.

- Example Problem (you should know this from binary logic classes):
  - Given: $p \Rightarrow q$
  - Given: $q \Rightarrow r$
  - Given: q is false
  - Which of the following are true?
    a. p is true
    b. p is false
    c. r is true
    d. r is false

Successes of Logicist Approach: Expert Systems

- Expert system = (knowledge base) + (logical rules)
  - Knowledge base = database of examples
  - Logical rules = easy to deduce from examples, and easy to verify by asking human judges
  - Combination of the two: able to analyze never-before-seen examples of complicated problems, and generate an answer that is often (but not always) correct
- Expert systems = commercial success in the 1970s
  - Radiology, geology, materials science expert systems advised their human users
  - Dating services (match users based on hobbies, etc.)

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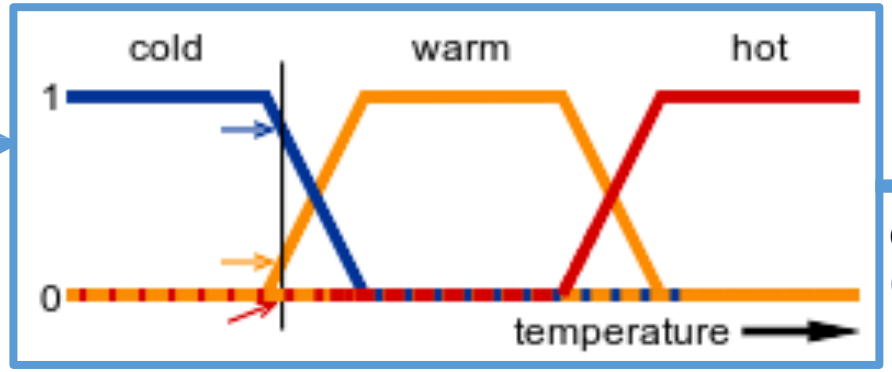
Successes of Logicist Approach: Fuzzy Logic

Real numbers (e.g.,room temperature)



By fullofstars - original (gif): Image:Warm fuzzy logic member function.gif, CC BY-SA 3.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2870420

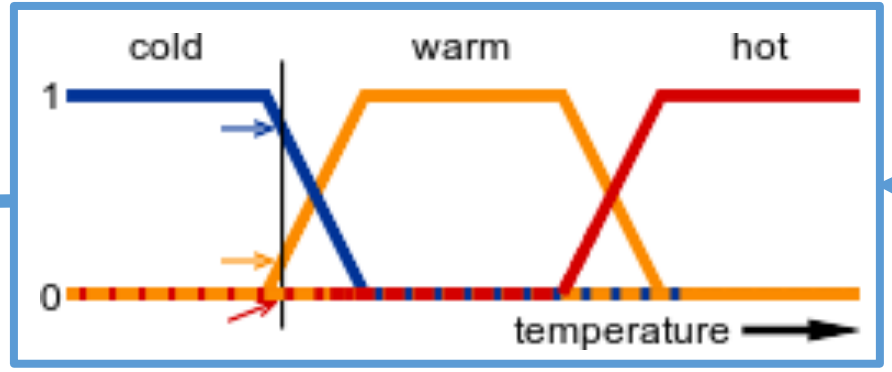
Category Labels (cold, warm, hot)

Logic operations

If cold then turn up the thermostat.

If hot then turn down the thermostat.

Category Labels (up, down)



Real numbers (e.g., thermostat temperature)

Successes of Logicist Approach: Fuzzy Logic

Example: speed control system of the https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sendai_Subway_Namboku_Line. "This system (developed by Hitachi) accounts for the relative smoothness of the starts and stops when compared to other trains, and is 10% more energy efficient than human-controlled acceleration."

Failures of Logicist Approach: Fragility, and the "AI Winter"

- Expert systems/fuzzy logic work if the number of rules you have to program is small and finite.
- The law of the out-of-vocabulary word: No matter how many words are in your dictionary, there are words you missed.
  - Empirical proof: Hasegawa-Johnson, Elmahdy & Mustafawi, "Arabic Speech and Language Technology," 2017
- Implication: no matter how carefully you design the rules for your expert system, there will be real-world situations that it doesn't know how to handle.
  - This is a well-known problem with expert systems, called "fragility"
  - Corporations and governments reacted to fragility by reducing funding of AI, from about 1966-2009. This was called the "AI Winter."

https://dilbert.com/strip/2019-01-08

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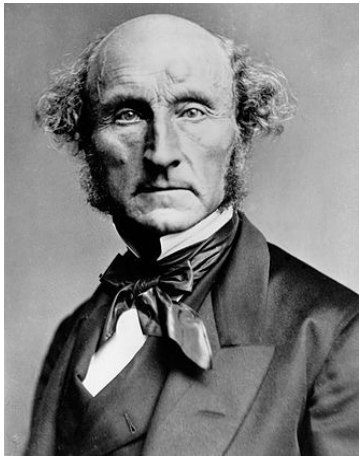
Acting Rationally

- A **rational agent** acts to optimally achieve its goals
  - Goals are application-dependent and are expressed in terms of the **utility of outcomes**
  - Being rational means **maximizing your (expected) utility**
- This definition of rationality only concerns the decisions/actions that are made, not the cognitive process behind them
- An unexpected step: rational agent theory was originally developed in the field of economics
  - Russell and Norvig : "most people think Economists study money. Economists think that what they study is the behavior of rational actors seeking to maximize their own happiness."



John Stuart Mill, 1806-1873

Utility maximization formulation: Advantages

- **Generality**: goes beyond explicit reasoning, and even human cognition altogether
- **Practicality**: can be adapted to many real-world problems. Avoids philosophy and psychology.
- **Solvability:** Amenable to good scientific and engineering methodology
- For all of these reasons, this course will **usually** adopt this definition: An "artificial intelligence" is a machine that acts rationally (reasons out a plan of action) in order to maximize some measure of utility (a measure of how good is the resulting situation)

Utility maximization formulation: Disadvantages

- **Practical disadvantages**: can a machine act rationally in order to achieve a desirable outcome? Why or why not?
  - Some problems only have vacuous solutions
  - Finite resources (compute time, memory)
  - Biased training data: real world is not what expected
    - Real world randomness/unpredictability
    - Programmer might not know how to calculate the answer
- **Theoretical disadvantages**: should a machine act rationally in order to achieve a desirable outcome? Why or why not?
  - Not if it's acting against human interests
  - Special circumstances, e.g., conflicting goals; subvert the usual rules to achieve an outcome that's uniquely desirable right now
  - People are not rational; conversational agent might not be always rational either

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