

Artificial Intelligence

An Introductory Course

References

- Artificial Intelligence (1991)
Elaine Rich & Kevin Knight, Second Ed, Tata McGraw Hill
- Decision Support Systems and Intelligent Systems
Turban and Aronson, Sixth Ed, PHI

Introduction

- What is AI?
- The foundations of AI
- A brief history of AI
- The state of the art
- Introductory problems

What is AI?

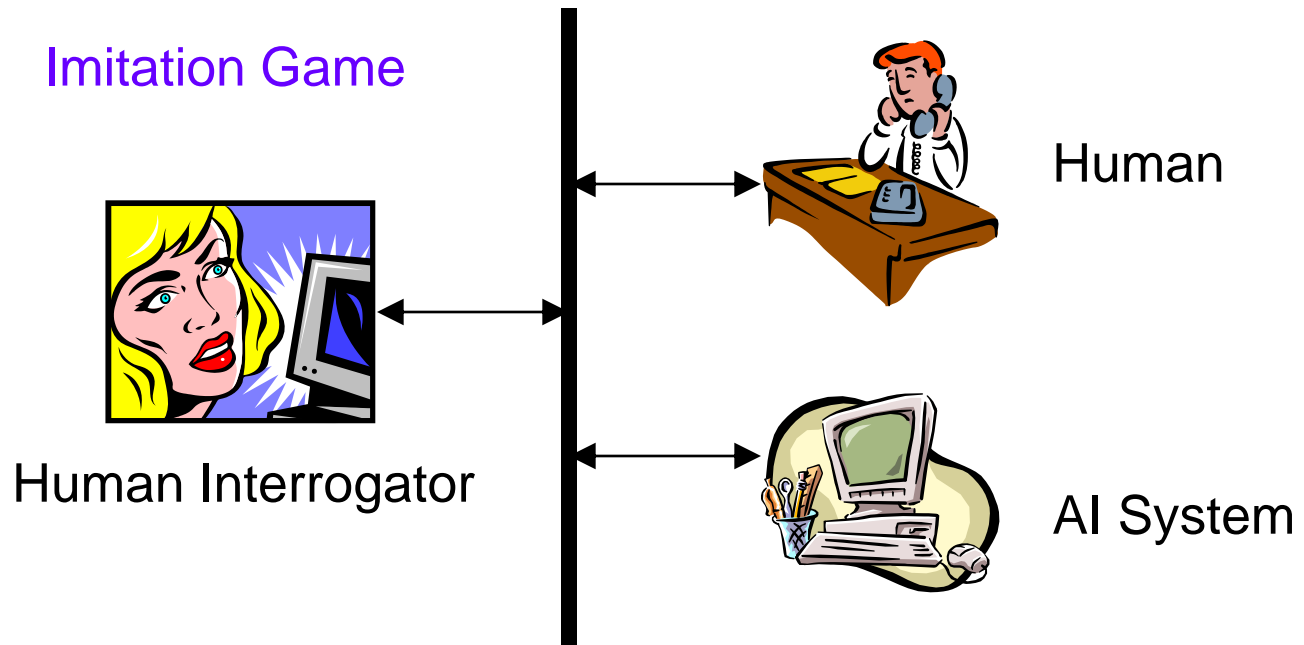
- **Intelligence**: “ability to learn, understand and think” (Oxford dictionary)
- AI is the study of how to make computers make things which at the moment people do better.
- Examples: Speech recognition, Smell, Face, Object, Intuition, Inferencing, Learning new skills, Decision making, Abstract thinking

What is AI?

Thinking humanly	Thinking rationally
Acting humanly	Acting rationally

Acting Humanly: The Turing Test

- Alan Turing (1912-1954)
- “Computing Machinery and Intelligence” (1950)



Acting Humanly: The Turing Test

- Predicted that by 2000, a machine might have a 30% chance of fooling a lay person for 5 minutes.
- Anticipated all major arguments against AI in following 50 years.
- Suggested major components of AI: knowledge, reasoning, language, understanding, learning.

Thinking Humanly: Cognitive Modelling

- Not content to have a program correctly solving a problem.

More concerned with comparing its reasoning steps to traces of human solving the same problem.

- Requires testable theories of the workings of the human mind: **cognitive science**.

Thinking Rationally: Laws of Thought

- Aristotle was one of the first to attempt to codify “right thinking”, i.e., irrefutable reasoning processes.
- Formal logic provides a precise notation and rules for representing and reasoning with all kinds of things in the world.
- Obstacles:
 - Informal knowledge representation.
 - Computational complexity and resources.

Acting Rationally

- Acting so as to achieve one's goals, given one's beliefs.
- Does not necessarily involve thinking.
- Advantages:
 - More general than the “laws of thought” approach.
 - More amenable to scientific development than human-based approaches.

Task Domains of AI

- Mundane Tasks:
 - Perception
 - Vision
 - Speech
 - Natural Languages
 - Understanding
 - Generation
 - Translation
 - Common sense reasoning
 - Robot Control
- Formal Tasks
 - Games : chess, checkers etc
 - Mathematics: Geometry, logic, Proving properties of programs
- Expert Tasks:
 - Engineering (Design, Fault finding, Manufacturing planning)
 - Scientific Analysis
 - Medical Diagnosis
 - Financial Analysis

AI Technique

- Intelligence requires Knowledge
- Knowledge possesses less desirable properties such as:
 - Voluminous
 - Hard to characterize accurately
 - Constantly changing
 - Differs from data that can be used
- AI technique is a method that exploits knowledge that should be represented in such a way that:
 - Knowledge captures generalization
 - It can be understood by people who must provide it
 - It can be easily modified to correct errors.
 - It can be used in variety of situations