

# What is AI?

Dave Touretzky

Carnegie Mellon University

Artificial Intelligence is a  
**collection of techniques** that  
allow **computers** to do things  
that, when people do them, are  
considered evidence of  
**intelligence.**

# We Use AI-Powered Technologies Every Day

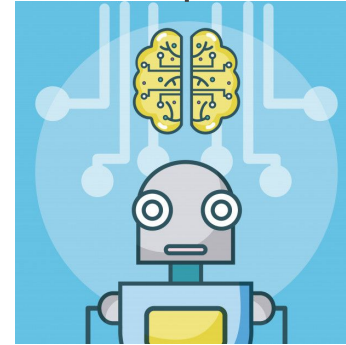
- Speech recognition
  - Home assistants: “Alexa, please dim the lights.”
  - Automated video subtitles; automated transcription services (otter.ai, sonix.ai)
- Computer vision
  - Use your face to unlock your iPhone; play with Snapchat and Tiktok filters
  - Self-driving cars: Tesla autopilot; automated lane departure warnings; emergency braking
- Language understanding
  - Google search: “What does an alligator weigh?” “What’s the second largest city in Honduras?”
  - Google Translate: automatic translation among any of 100+ languages; translate menus
- Recommender systems
  - Netflix→movies; Amazon→products; Facebook→news stories; Google→ads
- Robotics
  - Roombas clean up; Kiva robots automate warehouses; drones follow you

# AI Poses Challenges for Society

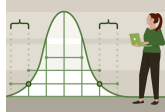
- Many types of work will become more highly automated.
  - Some people will **lose their jobs** -- including white collar jobs.
  - People will find that their **jobs have changed**; new skills are needed.
  - New **jobs will be created** around AI, robotics, and machine learning.
- Automated decision making systems can be opaque and biased.
- AI is powering the surveillance state:
  - Ubiquitous face recognition: loss of privacy
  - Automated monitoring of phone calls and social media
- Deep fakes: seeing is no longer believing; hard to know what to trust

# AI is a Branch of Computer Science

- Algorithms and complexity theory
- **Artificial intelligence** ←
- Computer systems (i.e., hardware)
- Databases
- Graphics
- Human-computer interaction
- Networking
- Operating Systems
- Programming Languages
- Security
- Software Engineering



# AI's Relationships with Other Disciplines



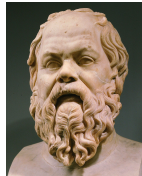
## Statistics

Bayesian inference,  
regression



## Operations Research

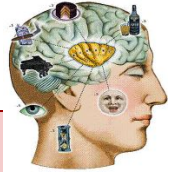
planning, optimization



## Philosophy

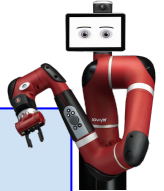
logic, ontology, theory of  
mind, consciousness

## Artificial Intelligence



## Cognitive Science

perception, memory,  
learning, reasoning



## Robotics

artificial intelligence +  
mechanical engineering +  
electrical engineering

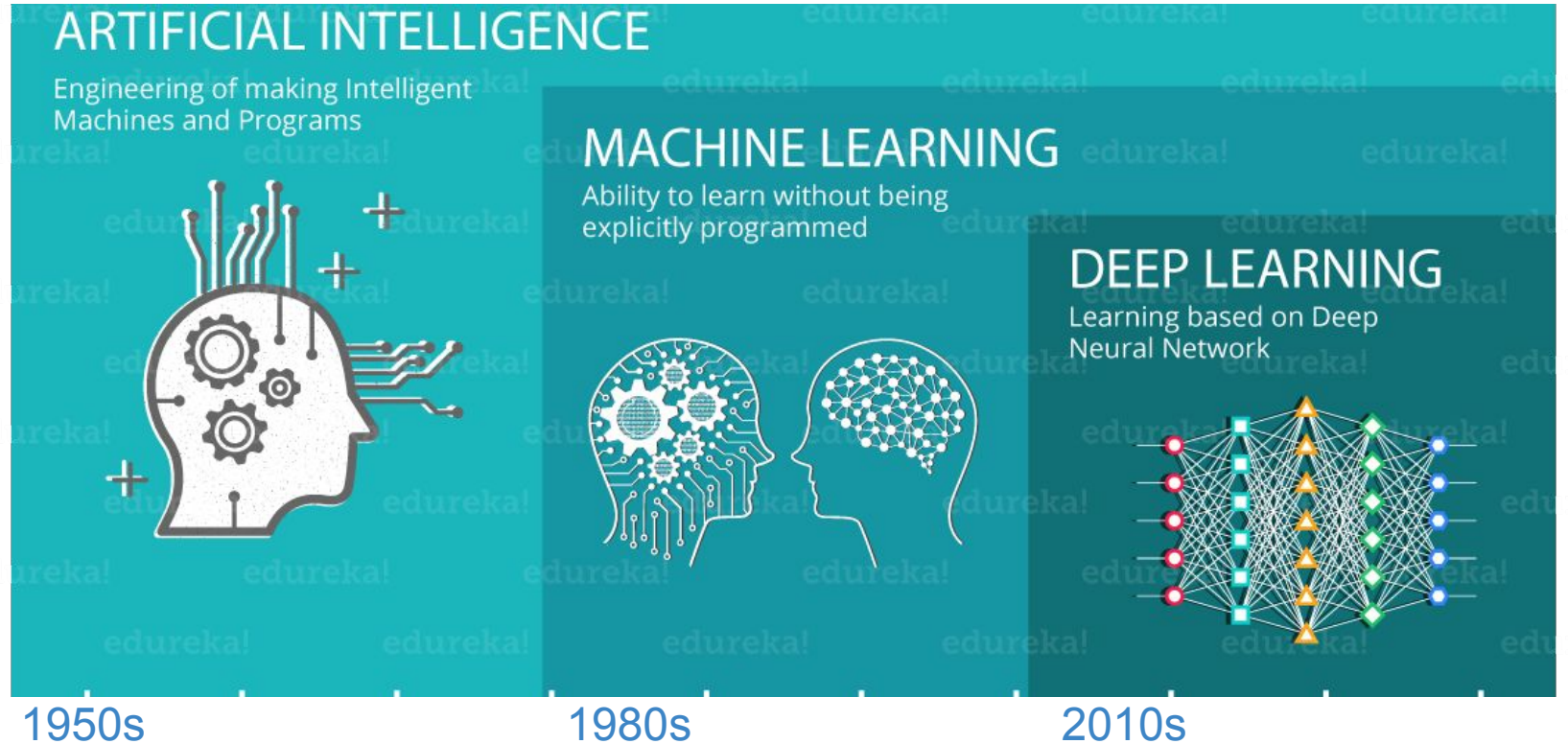
# Specialties Within AI

- Computer vision
- Game playing (chess, go, poker, etc.)
- Knowledge representation
- **Machine learning**
- Machine translation
- Natural language understanding
- Neural networks
- Optimization
- Planning
- Search
- Speech recognition
- Theorem proving / automated reasoning

*These are topics that would be covered in a university-level AI course.*

*Each topic might itself be a course in a graduate-level AI program.*

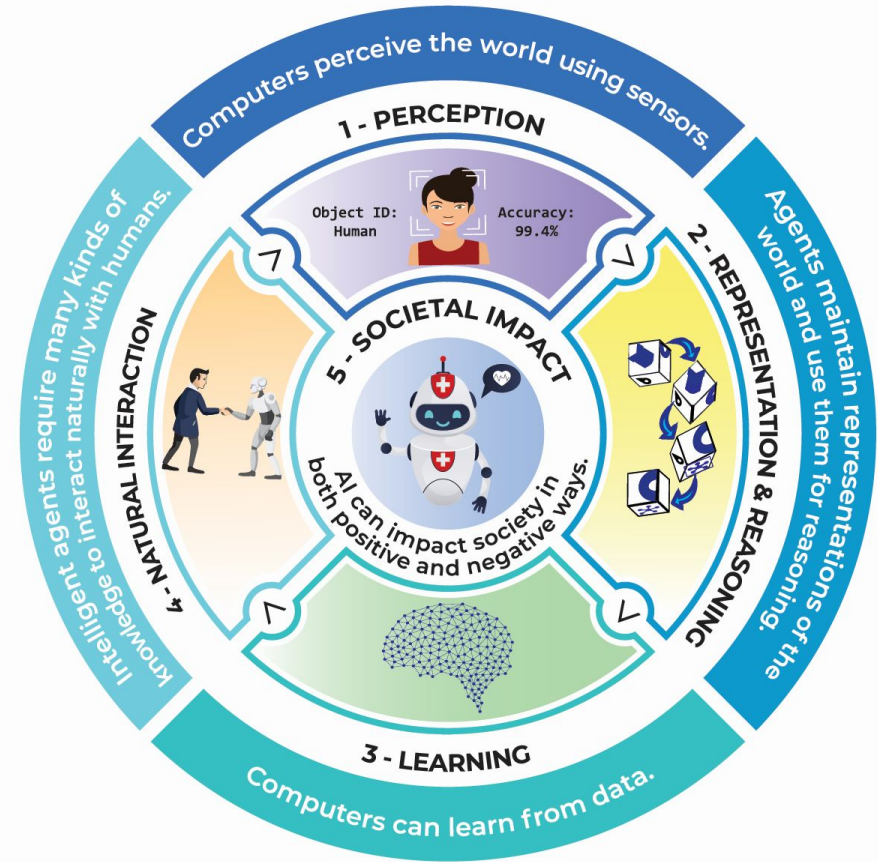
# AI and Machine Learning





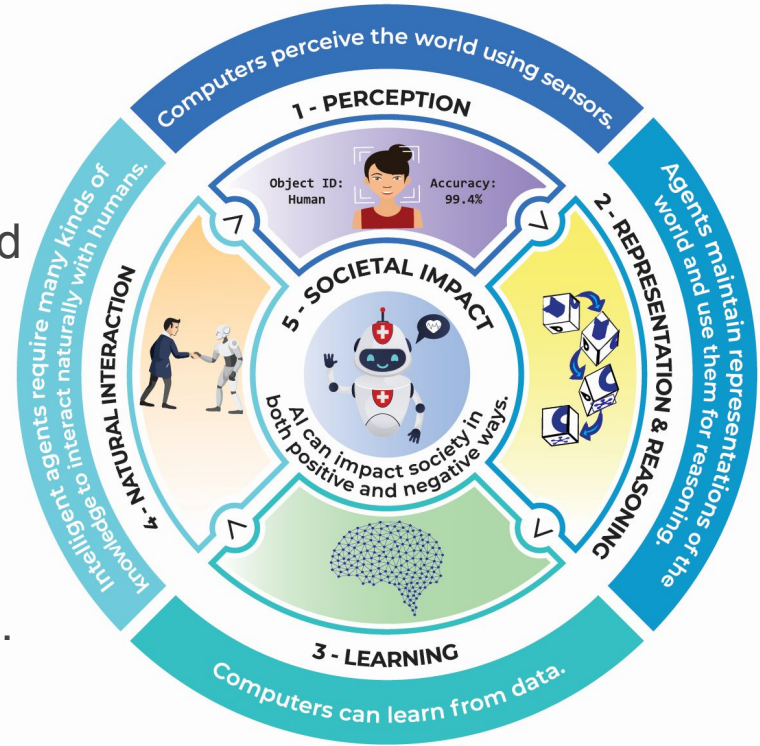
# Five Big Ideas in AI

- Organizing framework for the K-12 guidelines.
- 5 big ideas are enough to cover the richness of the field, but small enough to be manageable by teachers.
- CSTA experience shows 5 is a good number.
- Not necessarily the way AI practitioners view their field, but appropriate for the needs of the K-12 audience.



# Five Big Ideas in AI

1. **Perception:** Computers perceive the world using sensors.
2. **Representation and reasoning:** Agents maintain representations of the world and use them for reasoning.
3. **Learning:** Computers can learn from data.
4. **Natural interaction:** Intelligent agents require many kinds of information to interact naturally with humans.
5. **Societal impact:** AI can impact society in both positive and negative ways.



# Weak vs. Strong AI (or Narrow vs. Broad AI)

**Weak AI** is what we have now:

- Specialized algorithms for solving hard but narrowly-defined problems.
- When IBM's Deep Blue beat chess grandmaster Garry Kasparov in 1996-97, it had no idea who Kasparov was, or what a grandmaster was, or even what physical chess pieces look like.
- Google cannot tell you if an alligator weighs more than an ostrich.

**Strong AI** or AGI (Artificial General Intelligence) is what we hope to achieve:

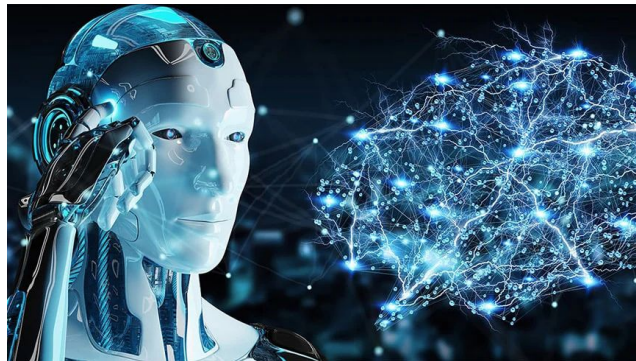
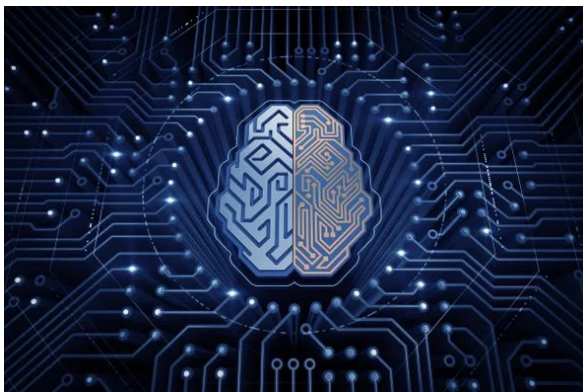
- General reasoning abilities with human-like breadth and flexibility
- Self-awareness, consciousness
- This is what is needed to create Commander Data or C3PO or Terminator
- Sadly, we have no idea how to achieve this



# Hype vs. Reality

**“Google, What Does AI Look Like?”**

# AI is Blue and Has Brains and Wires and Cyborgs





# What AI Really Looks Like: Algorithms + Data Structures

```

5 import tensorflow as tf
6
7 x = tf.placeholder(tf.float32)
8 W = tf.Variable(0, dtype = tf.float32)
9 b = tf.Variable(0, dtype = tf.float32)
10 y_ = tf.placeholder(tf.float32)
11
12 y = W * x + b
13
14 lost = tf.reduce_mean(tf.square(y_ - y))
15
16 optimizer = tf.train.GradientDescentOptimizer(0.01)
17 train_step = optimizer.minimize(lost)
18
19 sess = tf.Session()
20 init = tf.global_variables_initializer()
21 sess.run(init)
22
23 tf.summary.scalar('lost', lost)
24 merged = tf.summary.merge_all()
25 writer = tf.summary.FileWriter("./logs", graph=tf.get_default_graph())
26
27 steps = 1000
28 for i in range(steps):
29     xs = 1
30     ys = 3
31     feed = { x: xs, y_: ys }
32     sess.run(train_step, feed_dict=feed)
33     xs = 2
34     ys = 5
35     feed = { x: xs, y_: ys }
36
37     _, rs = sess.run([train_step, merged], feed_dict=feed)
38     writer.add_summary(rs, i)
39
40 print("W: %f" % sess.run(W))
41 print("b: %f" % sess.run(b))

```

the function of the code is  
linear recurrence  
 $y = 2x + 1$

calculate the lost

record the lost

update

