

AN OVERVIEW OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Introduction 1
 Intelligence. 1

II. Problem solving methods. 4
 Heuristic programming 5
 Search strategies 7

III. Knowledge representation 17
 Monotonic representation. 18
 Nonmonotonic representation 19
 Structured representation 22

IV. Learning 26
 Trial-and-error learning. 27
 Parameter adjustment learning 29
 Concept learning. 30

V. Natural language understanding 32
 Keyword matching. 33
 Conceptual dependency 35

VI. Perception 37
 Speech recognition. 37
 Visual perception 39

VII. Expert systems 45
 The structure 46
 Reasoning processes 46

VIII. Implementation 49
 Artificial intelligence languages 49
 Artificial intelligence hardware. 52
 Artificial intelligence machine 55

IX. Conclusion 58
 Footnotes. 60
 Bibliography 65

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LIST OF FIGURES

1.	A sample search tree	5
2.	Best-first search process.	12
3.	Minimax search process	15
4.	Concepts of arches	31
5.	Conceptual dependencies.	36
6.	Constraint propogation lines	41
7.	Constraint propogation vertices.	41
8.	Possible vertices of constraint propogation. . .	42
9.	Object analysis using constraint propogation . .	43
10.	Dataflow structure	54
11.	Concept of an artificially intelligent machine .	57

I. INTRODUCTION

Almost since the genesis of the first digital computer, computer scientists have dreamed a seemingly impossible dream, to create a computer which could mimic human thought. They wanted a computer which could find a problem, solve that problem, and then explain its solution to the problem.

In the 1960's, the integrated circuit was developed, making possible the development of more powerful machines. However, even these pieces of miniturized circuitry or their descendant of the 70's, the micro-computer, are not the bridge to the next generation of computers, the fifth generation. The next step is into the realm of artificial intelligence.

Intelligence

How can a machine be intelligent? Can a computer be "taught" to reason, to learn, to think without a programmer? The answers to these questions have been searched for since the dawn of the modern computer age; yet, a basic problem must first be solved. What is intelligence?

In the early days of computers, a machine was considered to be intelligent if it could display intellectual