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Artificial Intelligence

First introduced in the early 20th century, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is illustrated in the Tinman character played in the classic film Wizard of Oz. Scientists and those alike have been familiar with the concept. During the 1950s, a scientist named Alan Turing wrote a paper titled “Computing Machinery and Intelligence” discussing the building of intelligent machines and the process of testing their intelligence. But due to computers lacking the ability to store commands and the high computing price, Turing would never actually create one of the intelligent machines he discussed; his paper now serves as the fundamental goal and vision for AI. From 1957 to 1974, the advancement of computers and increased accessibility allowed further development of AI. Though computers began advancing, the lack of computational power still hindered the development. As time went on, Moore’s law, which is the estimation that the memory and speed of computers will double every year, had begun to work in favor of AI development. By the 1990s, computers were able to store much more information and had much more computational power.

Artificial Intelligence can be defined differently depending on who you ask, but generally, they can perform everyday human tasks. Breaking AI into two categories: narrow AI, also known as weak AI, can only perform one specific human task like self-driving or face recognition to unlock a phone. The second is general AI. They are also referred to as strong AI, a machine capable of performing all human tasks, outperforming humans in both cases. Scientists hope to achieve the development of strong AI in the future. The development of AI is significant because, in times of Big Data, the collection of large amounts of information can be overwhelming for an individual. Implementing AI can help with this dilemma by making the tasks of collecting and making predictions on the data collected easier. AI is also helpful in everyday life and can complete tasks like using a google map to find your destination. AI can be related to the topics in class where we discussed how R could make predictions and meaning for a set of data. Today, AI has been applied to help create and advance things such as the google search engine.

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