

# Public Libraries & AI



THE GALECIA GROUP

\* technology solutions for librarians



LIBRARY OF  
MICHIGAN

# 1. Defining AI

Series 1: How AI Works (For Non-Techies)



**AI**

**Artificial  
Intelligence**

# Artificial Intelligence ("AI")

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Technology that learns from data to complete tasks previously performed by humans.



# Artificial Intelligence ("AI")

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Technology that *learns from data* to complete tasks previously performed by humans.

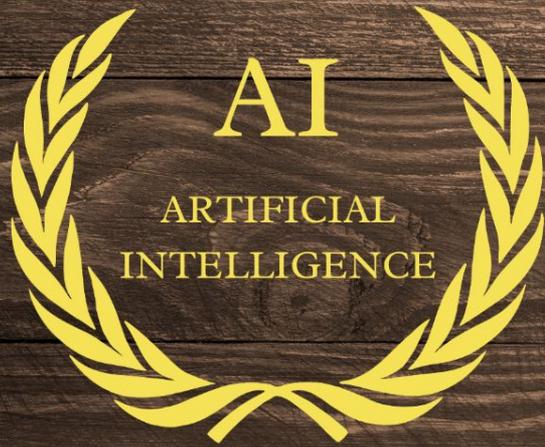


# Artificial Intelligence ("AI")

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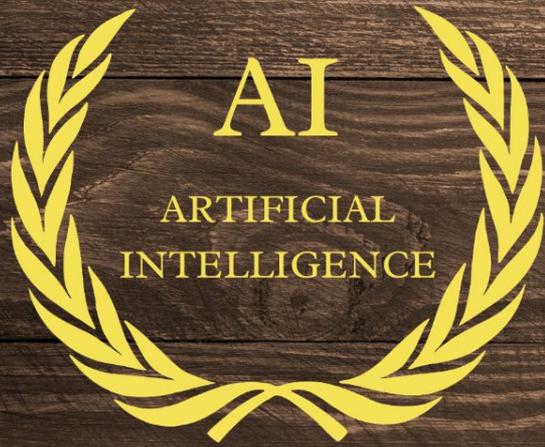




HALL OF  
FAME

incorect

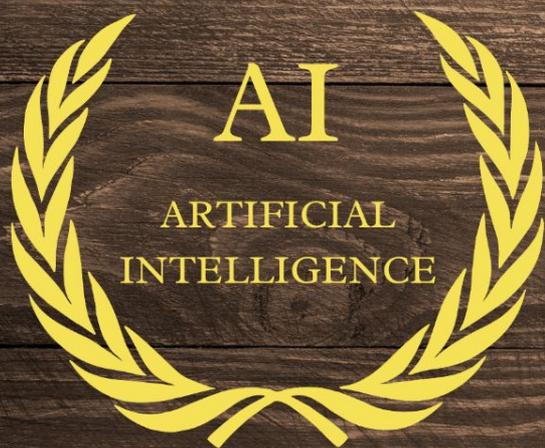
Spell Check, 1980s-90s



HALL OF  
FAME



AI Beats Human Chess  
Champion, 1997

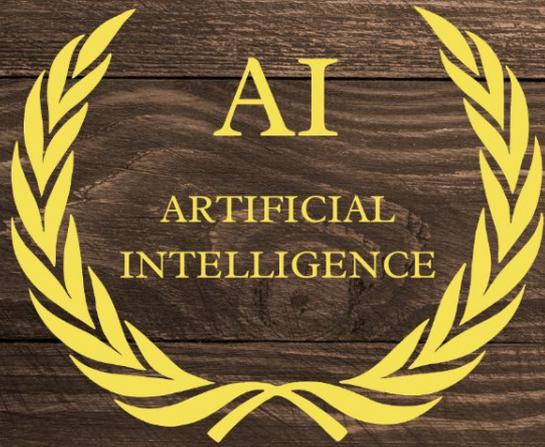


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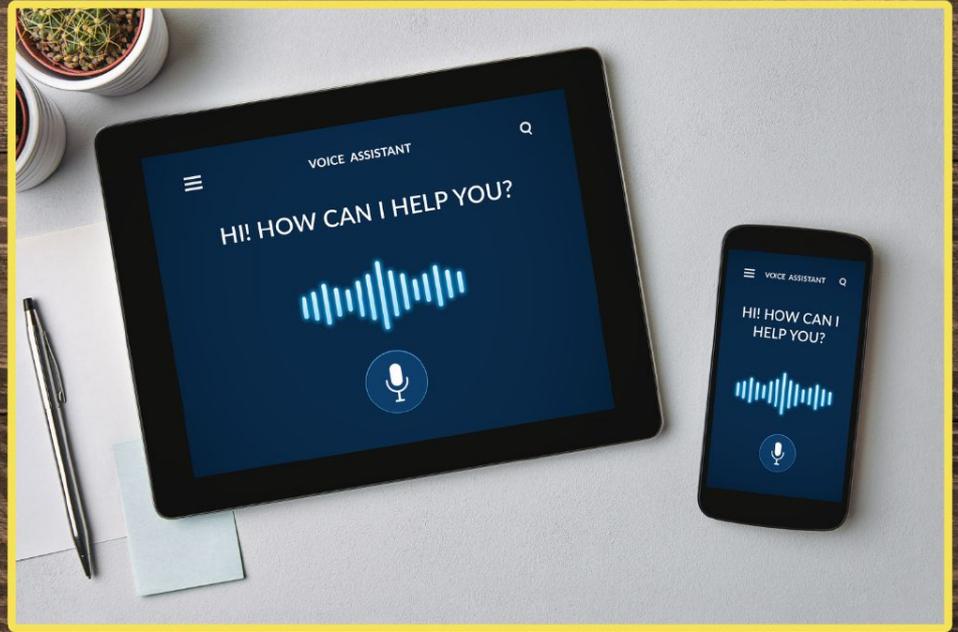


Algorithmic  
Recommendations, Early

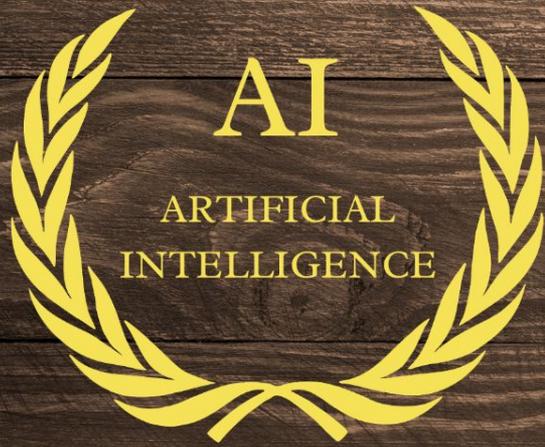
2000S



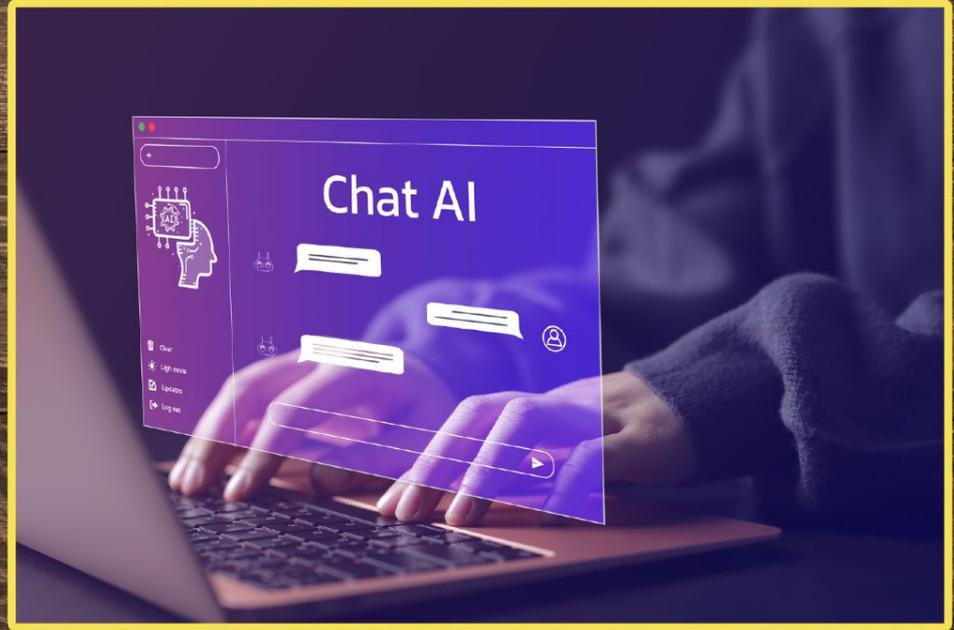
# HALL OF FAME



Natural Language  
Smartphone Assistants, 2011



HALL OF  
FAME



Intelligent Chat Apps, 2022

# Narrow AI vs. General AI

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## Narrow AI

- Focused on a single task or set of tasks
- e.g., chess app, auto-complete, image recognition, ChatGPT

## General AI

aka "Artificial General Intelligence" (AGI)

- Capable of human-like flexibility, thinking / reasoning
- *currently* only in sci-fi

# "AI" Today...

## Text / Language



You

I'm a children's librarian at a public library. Help me brainstorm 20 ideas for rainy day craft activities in the library that have a rainy day theme. Suggest some books for kids about rainy days.



ChatGPT

Sure, here are 20 craft ideas for rainy day-themed activities in the library, along with some book suggestions:

### Rainy Day Craft Activities

1. **Paper Raindrops Mobile:** Kids can cut out and decorate paper raindrops, then hang them from a stick or hoop to create a mobile.
2. **Cloud and Raindrop Window Decorations:** Using contact paper, cotton balls for clouds, and blue streamers or ribbons for rain.
3. **Rain Gauge Making:** Using clear plastic bottles to make simple rain gauges and decorating them.
4. **Puddle Jump Board Game:** Create a board game where players jump over paper puddles to reach the end.

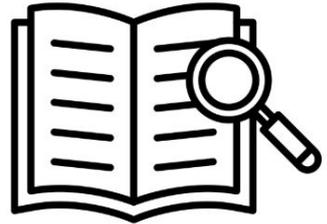
## Images



# Generative AI

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AI that analyzes patterns in data to produce new content, such as images, video, or passages of text.



# Large Language Model (LLM)



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- AI system that analyzes and generates language
- Powerful language capabilities: summarization, translation, basic trivia, technical assistance, etc.

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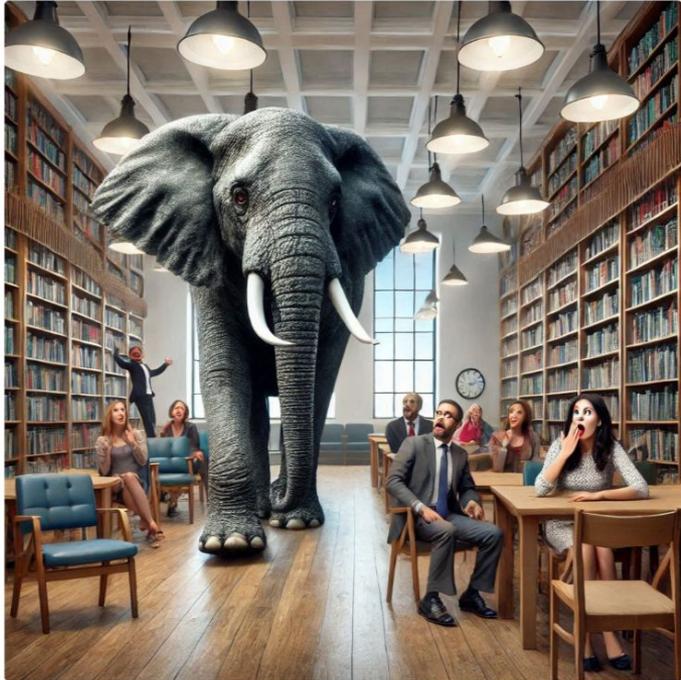
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- Potential for inaccurate output ("hallucinations")
- Modern AIs can display human-like bias and prejudice inherited from human data

# Text-to-Image Generator ("txt2img")



Photorealistic image of an elephant walking through the middle of a public library reading room, which is brightly lit via windows and full of low bookshelves and comfortable chairs, while surprised library patrons gasp

[Download](#) [Edit](#) ...

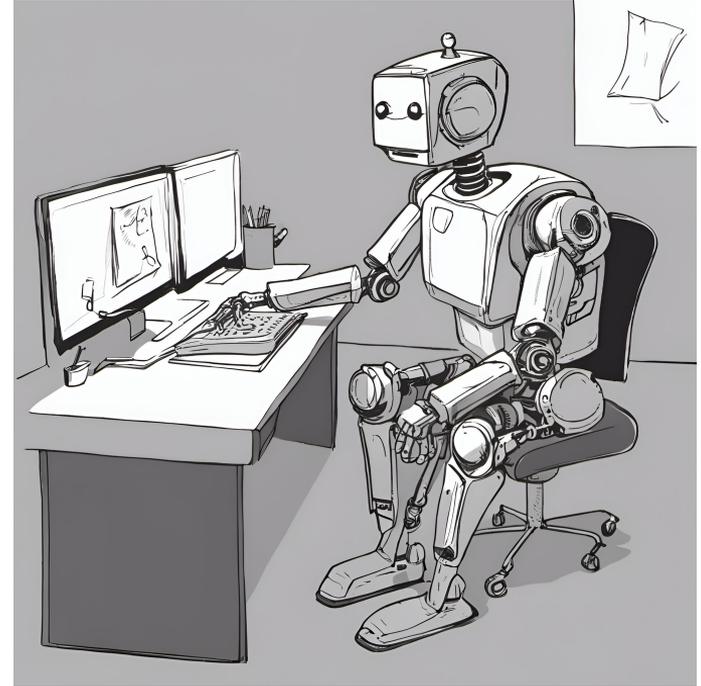


# More Dinosaurs



# What AI is NOT

- Sentient or self-aware



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- Sentient or self-aware
- A giant copy of the Internet



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- Sentient or self-aware
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- "Objective" or "unbiased"



# What AI is NOT

- Sentient or self-aware
- A giant copy of the Internet
- "Objective" or "unbiased"
- A reliable source of facts



# "AI" Today...

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## Images



# Coming up...

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- How AI is "trained" or "learns"
- How AI differs from traditional software and data storage

# Optional Activities

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- Try an AI chatbot like [ChatGPT](#), [Claude](#), or [Gemini](#)
- Ask your colleagues about their experience, if any, with AI tools

A white curved line graphic starts at the top left, curves down and to the right, ending in a starburst shape.

**Thanks for watching!**

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"Fresh Focus" audio from Kevin MacLeod,  
[FreePD.com](https://www.FreePD.com)