Artificial intelligence(AI) is the intelligence of machines and the branch of computer science that aims to create it. AI textbooks define the field as "the study and design of intelligent agents" [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-Definition_of_AI-1|2] where an intelligent agent is a system that perceives its environment and takes actions that maximize its chances of success. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-Intelligent_agents-2|3]? (computer scientist)">John McCarthy?, who coined the term in 1956, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-Coining_of_the_term_AI-3|4] defines it as "the science and

engineering of making intelligent machines." [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-McCarthy.27s_definition_of_AI-4|5]

The field was founded on the claim that a central property of humans, intelligence—the sapience of *Homo sapiens*—can be so precisely described that it can be simulated by a machine. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-5|6] This raises philosophical issues about the nature of the mindand the ethics of creating artificial beings, issues which have been addressed by myth, fictionand philosophysince antiquity. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-McCorduck.27s_thesis-6|7] Artificial intelligence has been the subject of optimism, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-7|8] but has also suffered setbacks [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-8|9] and, today, has become an essential part of the technology industry, providing the heavy lifting for many of the most difficult problems in computer science. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-AI_widely_used-9|10]

AI research is highly technical and specialized, and deeply divided into subfields that often fail to communicate with each other. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-Fragmentation_of_AI-10|11] Subfields have grown up around particular institutions, the work of individual researchers, the solution of specific problems, longstanding differences of opinion about how AI should be done and the application of widely differing tools. The central problems of AI include such traits as reasoning, knowledge, planning, learning, communication, perception and the ability to move and manipulate objects. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-Problems_of_AI-11|12] General intelligence (or "strong AI") is still among the field's long term goals. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence#cite_note-General_intelligence-12|13]

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