

Beyond Computational Thinking: AI Thinking in K-12

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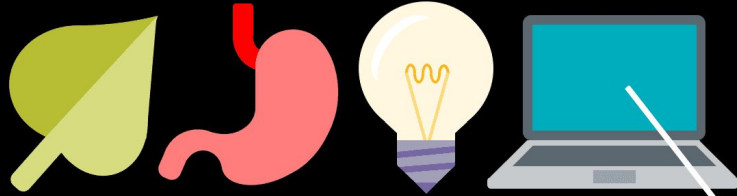
MIT RAISE Seminar Series
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Importance of K-12 Computing Education

Computer science is foundational



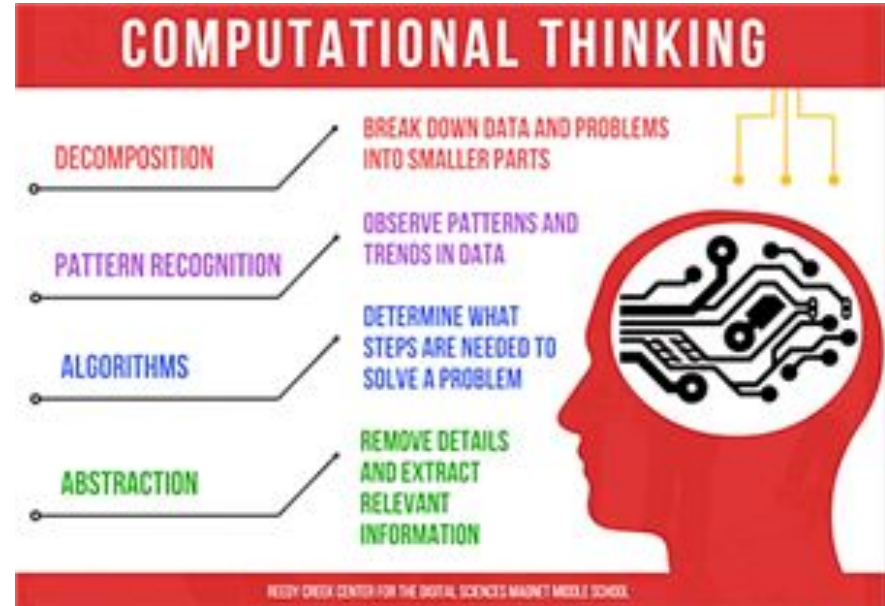
Just like they learn about photosynthesis, the digestive system, or electricity.

Every 21st century child should have a chance to learn about algorithms, how to make an app, or how the internet works.



Teaching Computational Thinking

“Computational thinking refers to the thought processes involved in expressing solutions as computational steps or algorithms that can be carried out by a computer.” – from k12cs.org



The Computational Thinkers

concepts



Logic

Predicting & analysing



Evaluation

Making judgements



Algorithms

Making steps & rules



Patterns

Spotting & using similarities



Decomposition

Breaking down into parts



Abstraction

Removing unnecessary detail



approaches



Tinkering

Changing things to see what happens



Creating

Designing & making



Debugging

Finding & fixing errors



Persevering

Keeping going



Collaborating

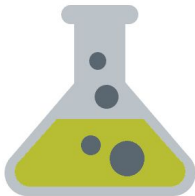
Working together

Importance of K-12 Computing Education

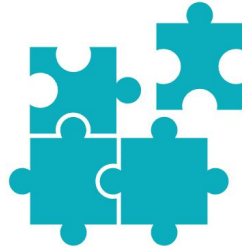
Computer science is fundamental for every student's success

Six different studies show: children who study computer science...

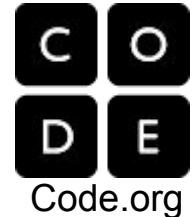
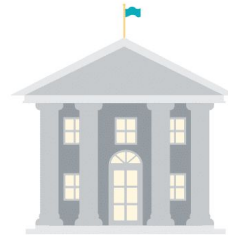
perform better in
other subjects



excel at
problem-solving



are 17% more likely
to **attend college**

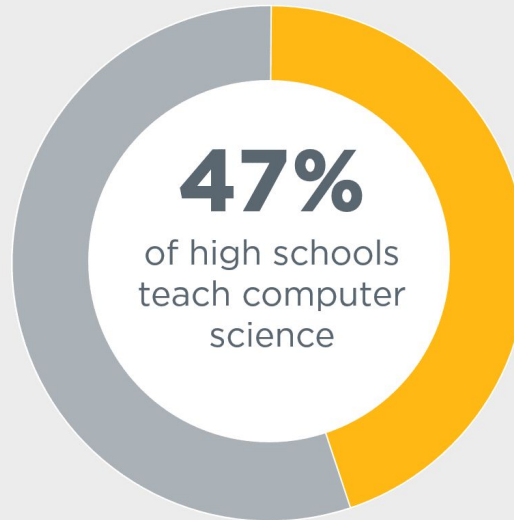
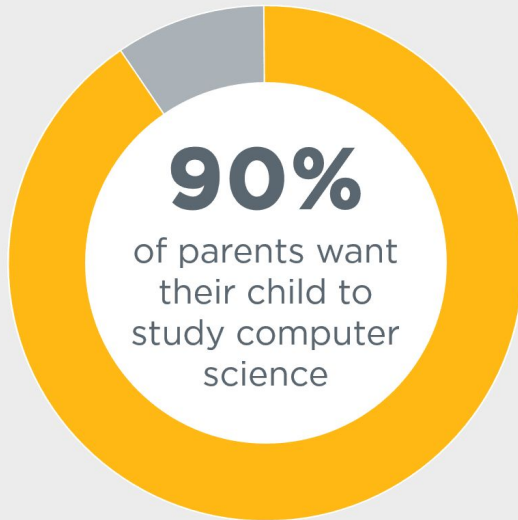


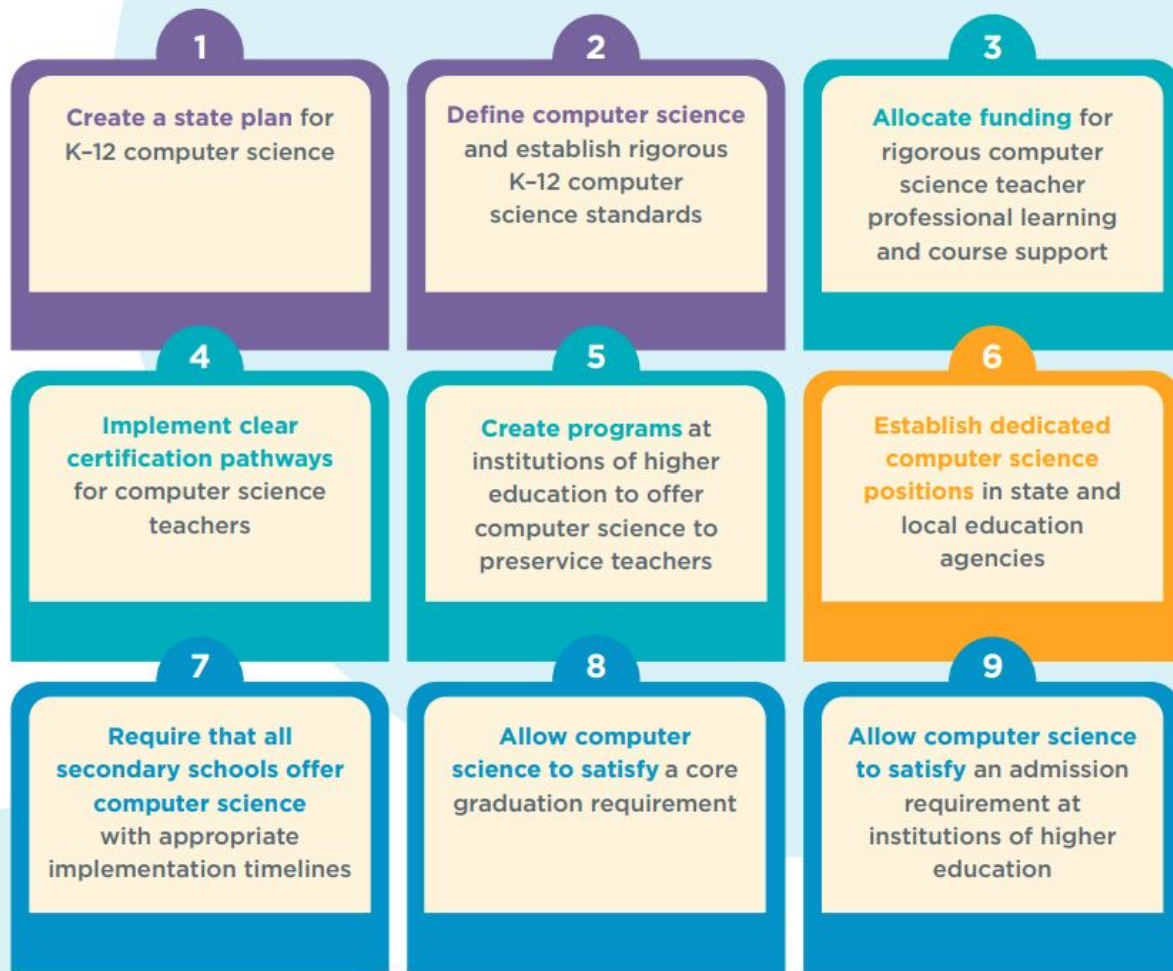
Promoting Computing Education in K-12

- CSTA Computer Science Standards released in 2011, revised in 2017
 - Officially adopted by some states; recognized by others
 - Only two sentences about AI
- NSF funding computing education research through programs such as CS10K, CSforAll, STEM+C, ITEST, etc.
- Code.org providing curriculum resources, “Hour of Code” events, teacher training.
- CSforALL.org: “make high-quality computer science an integral part of the educational experience for all K-12 students and teachers...”

But K-12 Computing Education Is Not Yet Universal

The majority of schools don't teach computer science

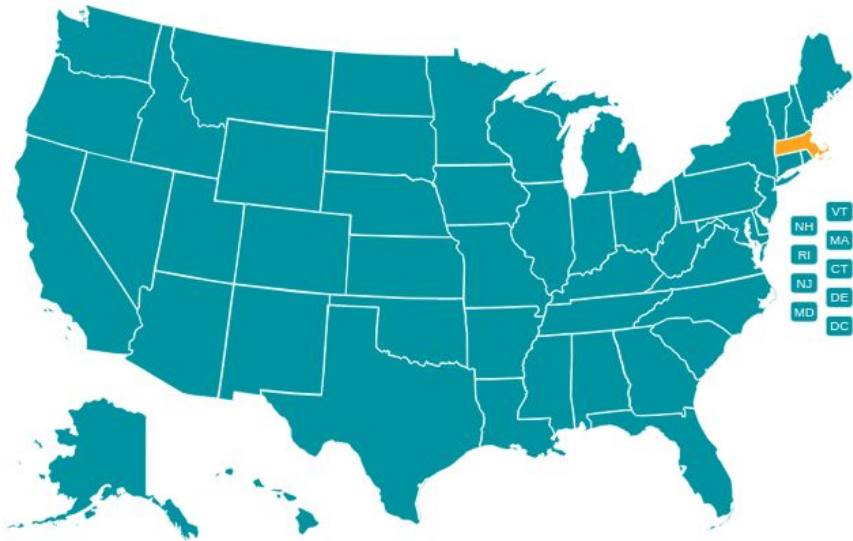




Code.org's 9 policy recommendations to make computer science fundamental to K-12 education



No State Has Universal CS Education



Massachusetts

20,576

Open computing jobs

(**2.1x** the state average demand rate)
with an average salary of **\$105,459**

75%

of public high schools teach a CS class

2,908

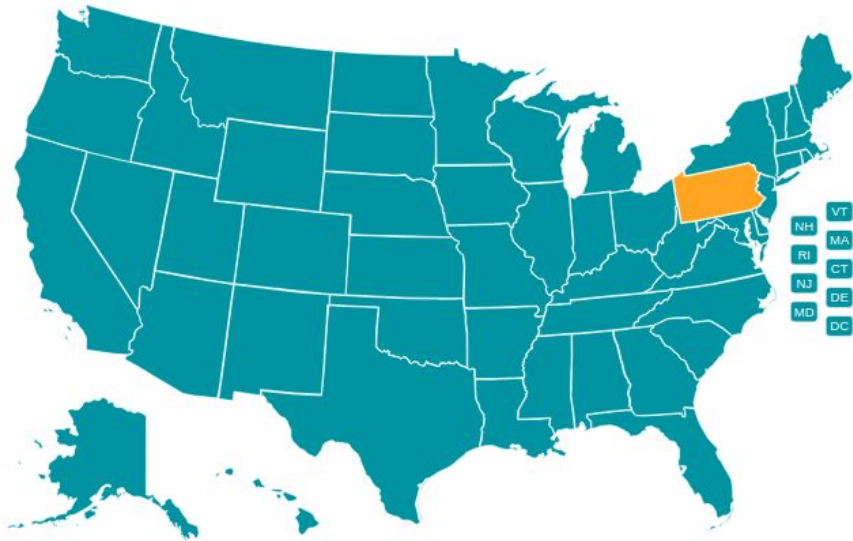
Computer science graduates

Policy Environment (**rubric**):

- ✓ Dedicated state funding for CS PD
- ✗ Does not require all high schools to offer CS
- ✓ K-12 CS curriculum standards



No State Has Universal CS Education



Pennsylvania

16,845

Open computing jobs

(2.6x the state average demand rate)

with an average salary of **\$89,590**

59%

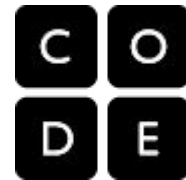
of public high schools teach a CS class

4,036

Computer science graduates

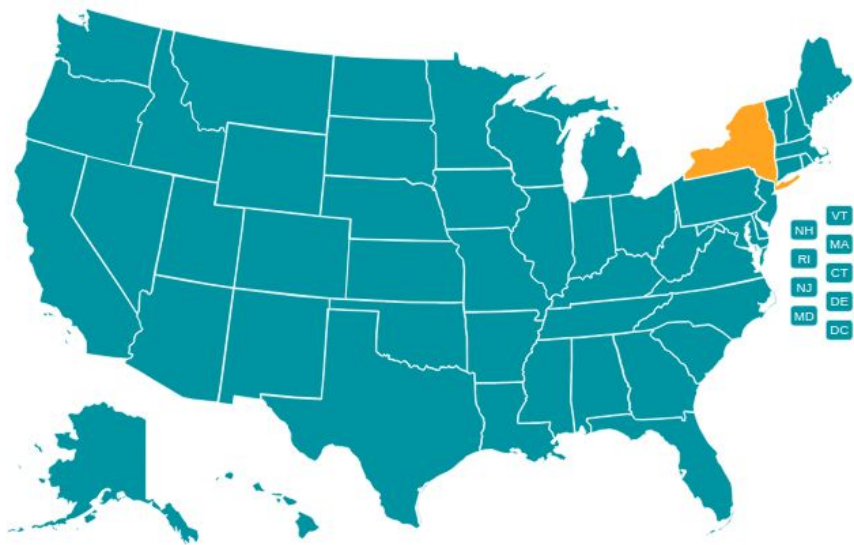
Policy Environment (**rubric**):

- Dedicated state funding for CS PD
- Does not require all high schools to offer CS
- K-12 CS curriculum standards



Code.org

No State Has Universal CS Education



New York

32,026

Open computing jobs

(2.9x the state average demand rate)
with an average salary of **\$105,768**

48%

of public high schools teach a CS class

6,043

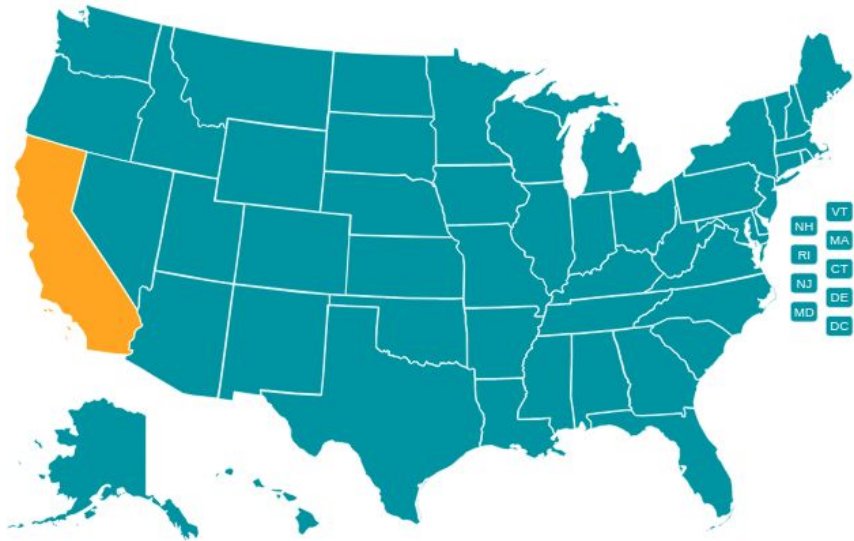
Computer science graduates

Policy Environment (**rubric**):

- ✓ Dedicated state funding for CS PD
- ✗ Does not require all high schools to offer CS
- ✓ K-12 CS curriculum standards



No State Has Universal CS Education



California

79,368

Open computing jobs

(2.0x the state average demand rate)

with an average salary of \$115,754

47%

of public high schools teach a CS class

7,311

Computer science graduates

Policy Environment (**rubric**):



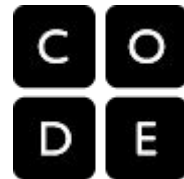
Dedicated state funding for CS PD



Does not require all high schools to offer CS

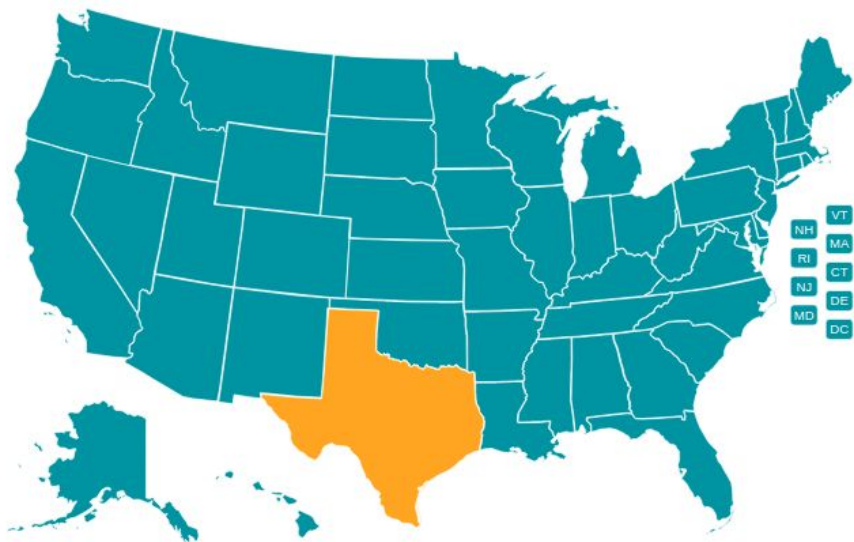


K-12 CS curriculum standards



Code.org

No State Has Universal CS Education



Texas

58,981

Open computing jobs

(2.6x the state average demand rate)

with an average salary of **\$94,779**

46%

of public high schools teach a CS class

4,160

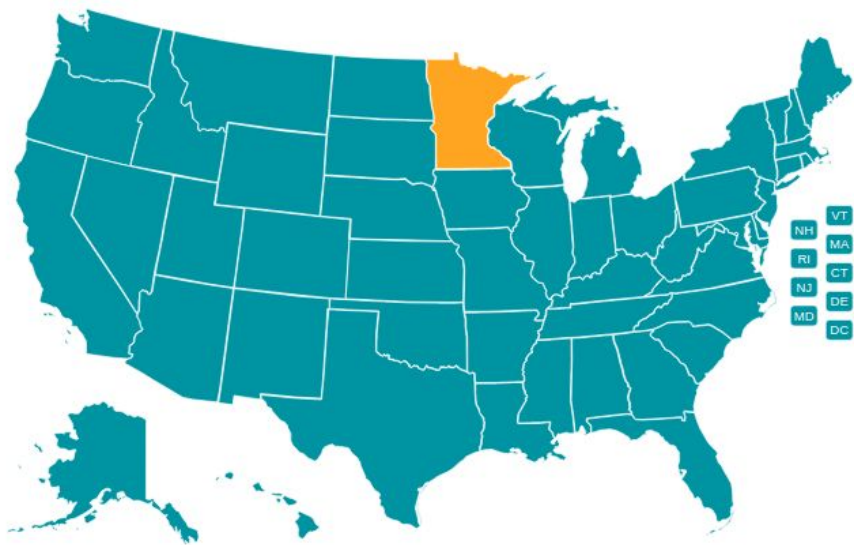
Computer science graduates

Policy Environment (**rubric**):

- Provides funding for high school CS PD but no K-8 funding
- Requires all high schools to offer CS
- 9-12 CS standards exist, but no K-8 standards



No State Has Universal CS Education



Minnesota

15,237

Open computing jobs

(2.4x the state average demand rate)

with an average salary of \$92,494

19%

of public high schools teach a CS class

1,296

Computer science graduates

Policy Environment (**rubric**):

- ✘ No dedicated state funding for CS PD
- ✘ Does not require all high schools to offer CS
- ✘ No K-12 CS curriculum standards



Industrial Revolutions (Grossly Oversimplified)

1. Mechanical power

- Automated manufacturing
- Self-powered vehicles (trains, steamboats)

2. Electrical power

- Electric lighting; telegraph, telephone, radio; electromechanical devices

3. **Computer power**

- Digital information processing; computer networking; Internet and World Wide Web

4. AI power

- Computer perception; autonomous robots; automated decision making
- Machine learning on massive datasets

CS Is Hard Enough. Why Should We Teach AI in K-12?

- AI is the new electricity.
- **Our children are growing up with AI.** By time many children arrive in kindergarten, they've spent two years conversing with Alexa.
- We must prepare for the next round of revolutionary disruption:
 - Autonomous robots everywhere.
 - Changing nature of work.
 - Demand for an AI-literate workforce.
 - AI policy issues regarding fairness, privacy/surveillance, disparate impacts of technology, etc.

The AI4K12 Initiative, a joint project of:

AAAI (Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence)



CSTA (Computer Science Teachers Association)



With funding from National Science
Foundation ITEST Program
(DRL-1846073)

Carnegie Mellon University
School of Computer Science

AI4K12 Mission

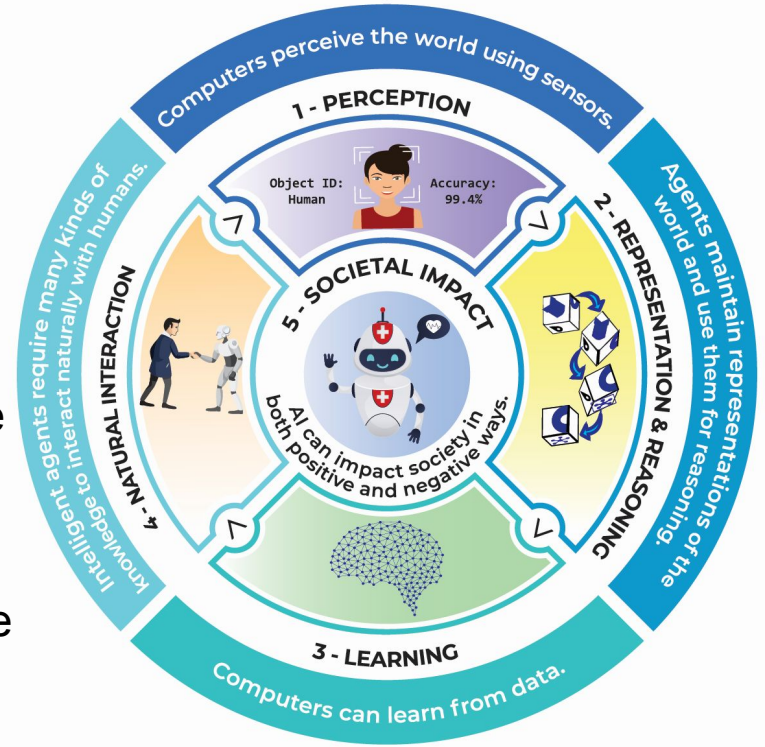


- **Develop national guidelines for teaching AI in K-12**
 - Modeled after the CSTA standards for computing education.
 - Four grade bands: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12
 - What should students know?
 - What should students be able to do?
- **Develop a curated AI resource directory for K-12 teachers**
- **Foster a community of K-12 AI educators, researchers, and resource developers**



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.



Five Big Ideas in Artificial Intelligence

5. Societal Impact

AI can impact society in both positive and negative ways. AI technologies are changing the ways we work, travel, communicate, and care for each other. But we must be mindful of the harms that can potentially occur. For example, biases in the data used to train an AI system could lead to some people being less well served than others. Thus, it is important to discuss the impacts that AI is having on our society and develop criteria for the ethical design and deployment of AI-based systems.

4. Natural Interaction

Intelligent agents require many kinds of knowledge to interact naturally with humans. Agents must be able to converse in human languages, recognize facial expressions and emotions, and draw upon knowledge of culture and social conventions to infer intentions from observed behavior. All of these are difficult problems. Today's AI systems can use language to a limited extent, but lack the general reasoning and conversational capabilities of even a child.

1. Perception

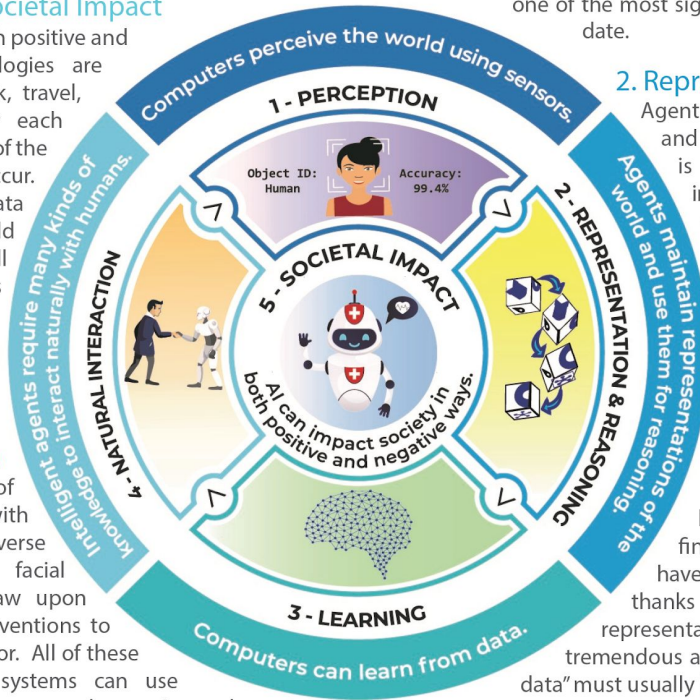
Computers perceive the world using sensors. Perception is the process of extracting meaning from sensory signals. Making computers "see" and "hear" well enough for practical use is one of the most significant achievements of AI to date.

2. Representation & Reasoning

Agents maintain representations of the world and use them for reasoning. Representation is one of the fundamental problems of intelligence, both natural and artificial. Computers construct representations using data structures, and these representations support reasoning algorithms that derive new information from what is already known. While AI agents can reason about very complex problems, they do not think the way a human does.

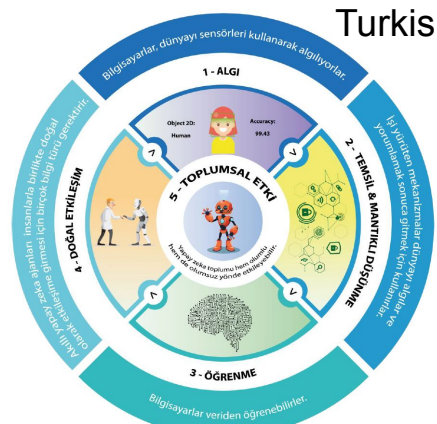
3. Learning

Computers can learn from data. Machine learning is a kind of statistical inference that finds patterns in data. Many areas of AI have progressed significantly in recent years thanks to learning algorithms that create new representations. For the approach to succeed, tremendous amounts of data are required. This "training data" must usually be supplied by people, but is sometimes acquired by the machine itself.



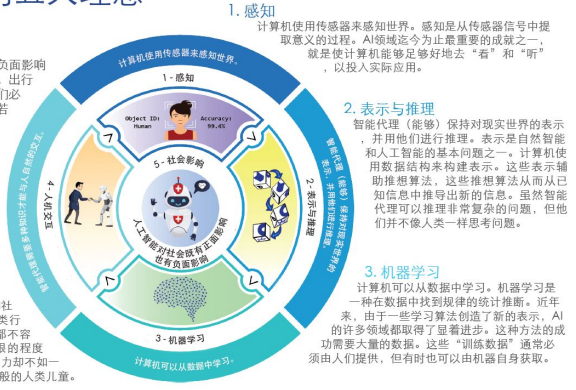
Widespread Adoption of Five Big Ideas

- Now being referenced by multiple curriculum developers in the US and elsewhere.
- Big ideas poster is available in 16 languages.



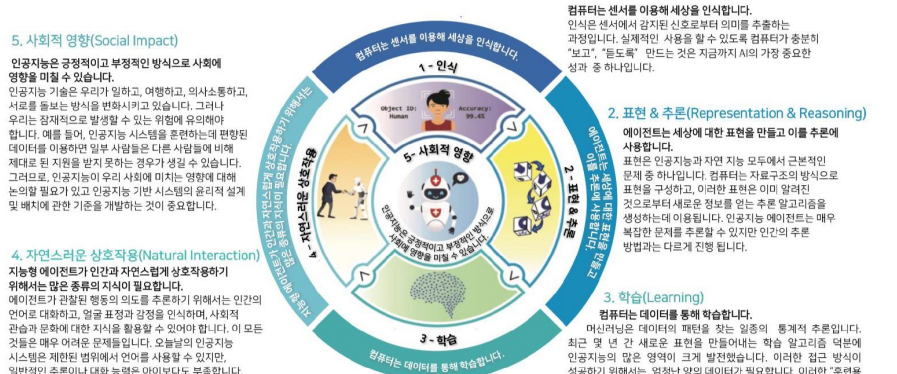
Chinese

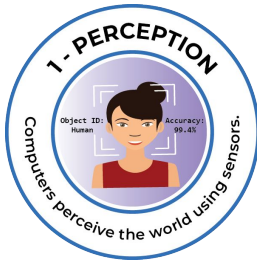
人工智能的五大理念



Korean

인공지능에 관한 다섯 가지 빅 아이디어





Big Idea #1: Perception	Computers perceive the world using sensors.		Perception is the extraction of meaning from sensory information using knowledge.	The transformation from signal to meaning takes place in stages, with increasingly abstract features and higher level knowledge applied at each stage.	LO = Learning Objective: what students should be able to do. EU = Enduring Understanding: what students should know.
Concept	K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12	
Sensing (Living Things) 1-A-i	LO: Identify human senses and sensory organs. EU: People experience the world through sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell.	LO: Compare human and animal perception. EU: Some animals experience the world differently than people do. Unpacked: Bats and dolphins use sonar. Bees can see ultraviolet. Rats have no color vision; dogs are red-green colorblind. Dogs and rats can hear higher frequencies than humans.	LO: Give examples of how humans combine information from multiple modalities. EU: People can exploit correlations between senses, such as sight and sound, to make sense of ambiguous signals. Unpacked: In a noisy environment, speech is more understandable when the speaker's mouth is visible. People learn the sounds associated with various actions (such as dropping an object) and can recognize when the sound doesn't match their expectation.	LO: Describe the limitations and advantages of various types of computer sensors. EU: Sensors are devices that measure physical phenomena such as light, sound, temperature, or pressure. Unpacked: Cameras have limited resolution, dynamic range, and spectral sensitivity. Microphones have limited sensitivity and frequency response. Signals may be degraded by noise, such as a microphone in a noisy environment. Some sensors can detect things that people cannot, such as infrared or ultraviolet imagery, or ultrasonic sounds.	N/A – for AI purposes, this topic has already been adequately addressed in the lower grade bands. Other courses, such as biology or an elective on sensory psychology, could go into more detail about topics such as taste, smell, proprioception, and vestibular organs. <i>Possible enrichment material: look at optical illusions (Müller-Lyer illusion, Kanizsa triangle) and ask which ones are computer vision systems also subject to.</i>
Sensing (Computer Sensors) 1-A-ii	LO: Locate and identify sensors (camera, microphone) on computers, phones, robots, and other devices. EU: Computers "see" through video cameras and "hear" through microphones.	LO: Illustrate how computer sensing differs from human sensing. EU: Most computers have no sense of taste, smell, or touch, but they can sense some things that humans can't, such as infrared emissions, extremely low or high frequency sounds, or magnetism.	LO: Give examples of how intelligent agents combine information from multiple sensors. EU: Self driving cars combine computer vision with radar or lidar imaging. GPS measurement, and accelerometer data to form a detailed representation of the environment and their motion through it.	LO: Explain how radar, lidar, GPS, and accelerometer data are represented. EU: Radar and lidar do depth imaging: each pixel is a depth value. GPS triangulates position using satellite signals and gives a location as longitude and latitude. Accelerometers measure acceleration in 3 orthogonal dimensions. Unpacked: Radar and lidar measure distance as the time for a reflected signal to return to the transceiver. GPS determines position by triangulating precisely timed signals from three or more satellites. Accelerometers use orthogonally oriented strain gauges to measure acceleration in three dimensions.	
Sensing (Digital Encoding) 1-A-iii	N/A	LO: Explain how images are represented digitally in a computer. EU: Images are encoded as 2D arrays of pixels, where each pixel is a number indicating the brightness of that piece of the image, or an RGB value indicating the brightness of the red, green, and blue components of that piece.	LO: Explain how sounds are represented digitally in a computer. EU: Sounds are digitally encoded by sampling the waveform at discrete points (typically several thousand samples per second), yielding a series of numbers.	LO: Explain how radar, lidar, GPS, and accelerometer data are represented. EU: Radar and lidar do depth imaging: each pixel is a depth value. GPS triangulates position using satellite signals and gives a location as longitude and latitude. Accelerometers measure acceleration in 3 orthogonal dimensions. Unpacked: Radar and lidar measure distance as the time for a reflected signal to return to the transceiver. GPS determines position by triangulating precisely timed signals from three or more satellites. Accelerometers use orthogonally oriented strain gauges to measure acceleration in three dimensions.	

Page 1 (of 4) of the draft guidelines for Big Idea #1: Perception

Big Idea #1: Perception

Computers perceive the world using sensors.

Perception is the extraction of meaning from sensory information using knowledge.

The transformation from signal to meaning takes place in stages, with increasingly abstract features and higher level knowledge applied at each stage.

	K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
Big Idea #1: Perception	Perception is the extraction of meaning from sensory information using knowledge.	Perception is the extraction of meaning from sensory information using knowledge.	Perception is the extraction of meaning from sensory information using knowledge.	Perception is the extraction of meaning from sensory information using knowledge.
Coverage	K-2	3-5	6-8	9-12
Learning Objectives	LO 1.1 Students will be able to identify and describe the basic components of a sensory system (e.g., eye, ear, nose, tongue, skin). LO 1.2 Students will be able to explain how sensory information is processed by the brain. LO 1.3 Students will be able to describe how sensory information is used to make decisions and take actions.	LO 2.1 Students will be able to identify and describe the basic components of a sensory system (e.g., eye, ear, nose, tongue, skin). LO 2.2 Students will be able to explain how sensory information is processed by the brain. LO 2.3 Students will be able to describe how sensory information is used to make decisions and take actions.	LO 3.1 Students will be able to identify and describe the basic components of a sensory system (e.g., eye, ear, nose, tongue, skin). LO 3.2 Students will be able to explain how sensory information is processed by the brain. LO 3.3 Students will be able to describe how sensory information is used to make decisions and take actions.	LO 4.1 Students will be able to identify and describe the basic components of a sensory system (e.g., eye, ear, nose, tongue, skin). LO 4.2 Students will be able to explain how sensory information is processed by the brain. LO 4.3 Students will be able to describe how sensory information is used to make decisions and take actions.

AIHK12
Draft Big Idea 1 - Progression Chart
www.AIHK12.org
V.0.1 - Released May 28, 2020
Subject to change based on public feedback
1

What Does AI Thinking Look like in K-12?



Computational Thinking

- Logic
- Evaluation
- Problem Decomposition
- Pattern Recognition
- Abstraction
- Algorithms

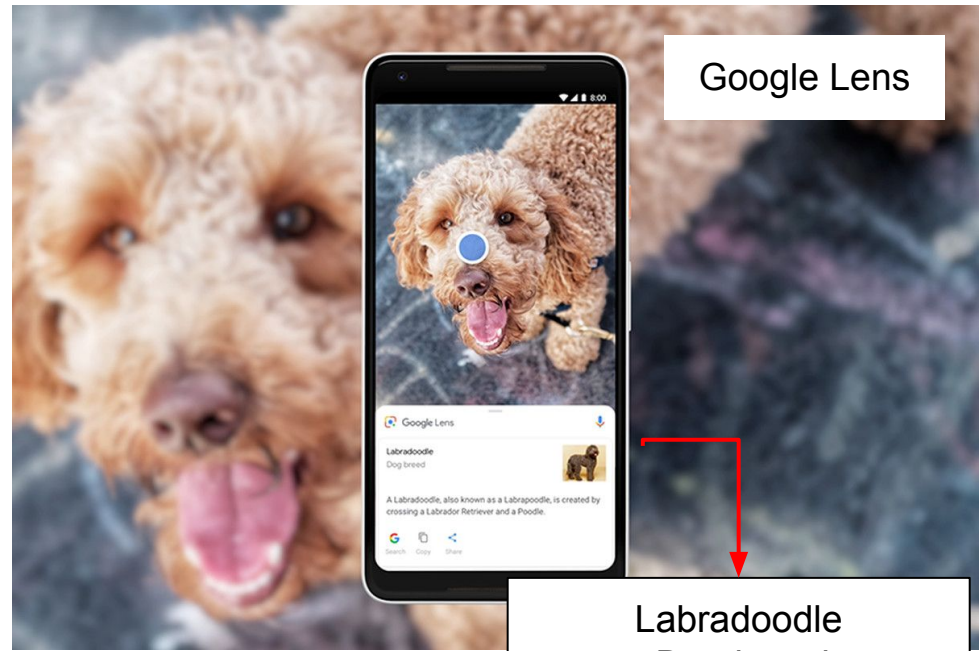
AI Thinking

- Perception (not just sensing!)
- Reasoning
- Representation
- Machine Learning
- Language Understanding
- Autonomous Robots

Visual Perception

Computers can see:

- Faces
- Household objects
- Road scenes



Google Lens

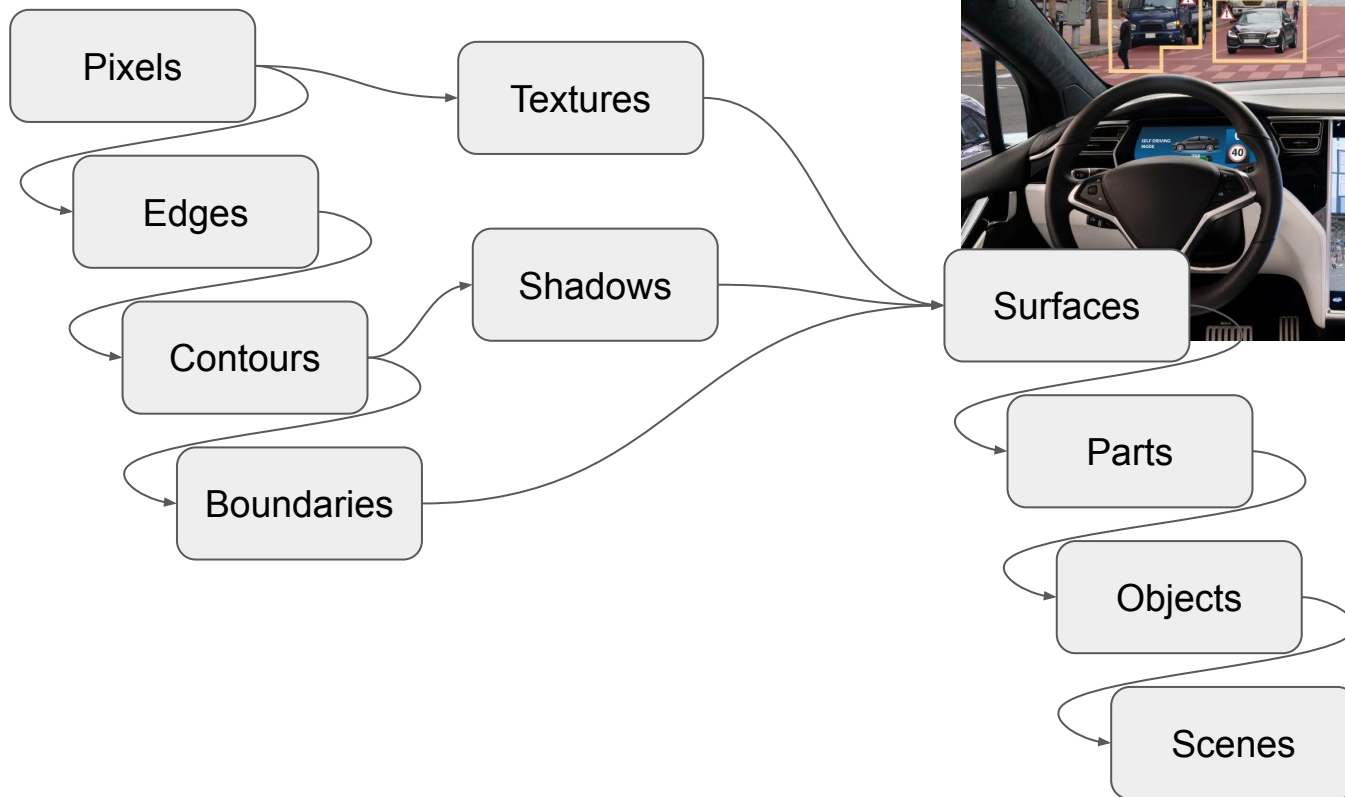
Labradoodle
Dog breed

A Labradoodle, also know as a Labrapoodle, is created by crossing a Labrador Retriever and a Poodle.

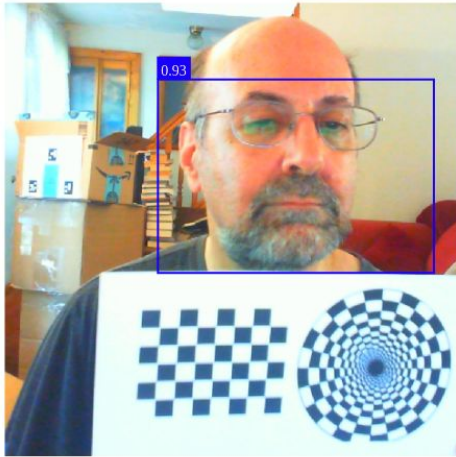
I can teach a computer to recognize what I want it to see.

I can make artifacts (programs, devices) that use computer vision.

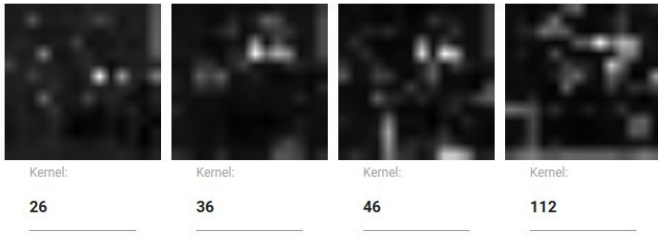
Levels of visual structure



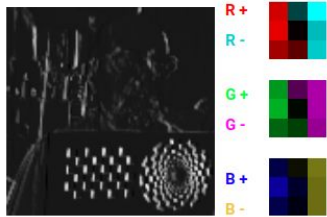
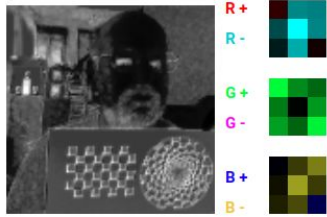
Neural Net Edge and Face Detection Demo



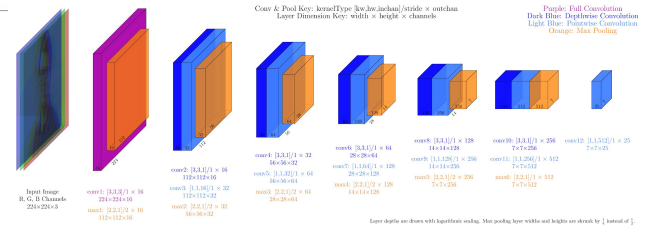
Convolutional Layer : 4



Convolutional Layer : 1



Real-time face detection by a deep neural network (TinyYoloV2)



Speech Perception

Computers can understand spoken language.

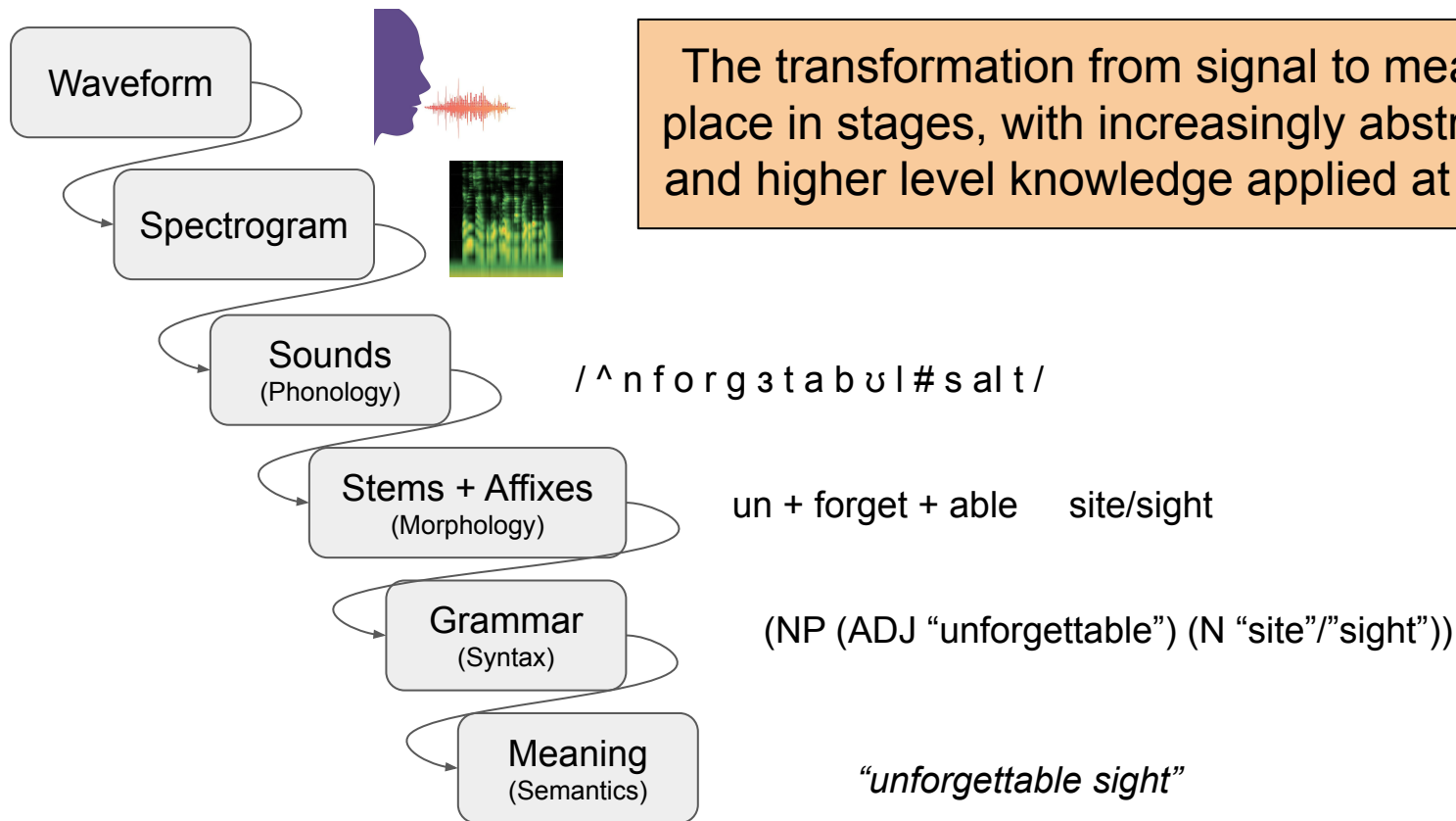
Lots of knowledge is required to accurately decode the speech signal:

- “They’re building their new house over there.”

I can make artifacts that understand voice commands.



Levels of representation and linguistic knowledge



Representation

Maps are representations of the world

Robots maintain maps of their environment

Computers build representations to aid their reasoning

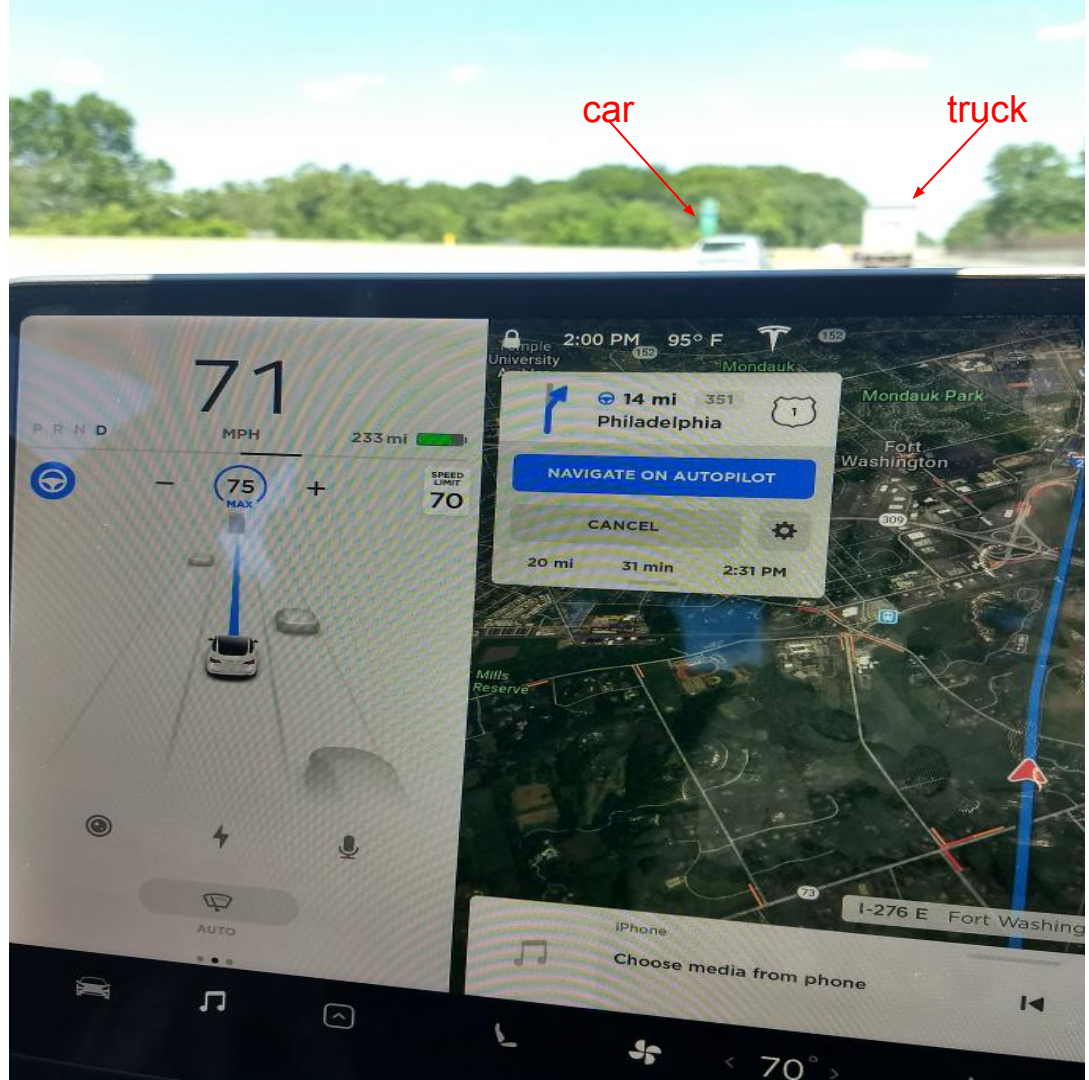
Representations are data structures

- Trees
- Graphs
- Feature vectors

I can make representations and manipulate them.

Tesla's World Map

At right is an image from a real self-driving car, a Tesla, showing the road and other nearby vehicles on its world map.



Stop program

Ctrl ↑ State machine view

Ctrl ← → Switch characters

Ctrl ↓ Map editor view

Esc Stop program

Scroll up/down

1

Visual programming interface for rules:

- Rule 1: WHEN see cube 1 DO move toward it
- Rule 2: WHEN bumped cube 1 DO grab it
- Rule 3: WHEN + DO switch to page 2



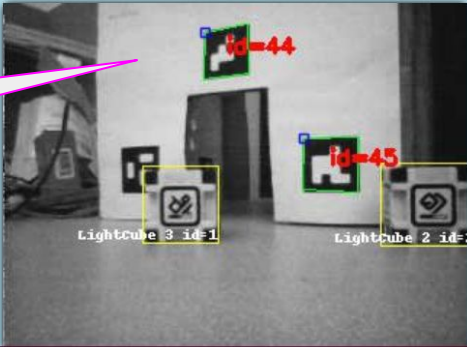
hello cozmo

speech recognition

world map

rules

perception





Calypso for Cozmo



- A robot intelligence framework that combines multiple types of AI:
 - Computer vision
 - Speech recognition
 - Landmark-based navigation
 - Path planning
 - Object manipulation
- Rule-based language inspired by Microsoft's Kodu Game Lab
- Teaches AI thinking
- Web sites:
 - <https://Calypso.software> (Cozmo robot version)
 - <https://calypso-robotics.com> (free simulator version runs in the browser)

Reasoning

Types of reasoning problems:

- Classification: cat or dog?
- Search: find a path to a goal state.
- Many other types, including regression, optimization, sequential decision making, logical deduction, Bayesian inference, etc.

I can build a classifier.

I can build a reasoner.

Reasoning Algorithms

There are algorithms for each type of reasoning problem.

- **Classifiers**
 - Decision trees
 - Neural networks
 - Nearest neighbor
- **Search algorithms**
 - Breadth-first, depth-first, best-first, heuristic search, etc.

Learning: Computers Can Learn From Data

Computers don't learn the way people do.

Machine learning constructs a reasoner.

The learning algorithm uses training data to **adjust the reasoner's internal representations** so that it produces the right answers.

What are the internal representations?

- For a decision tree, the representations are the nodes of the tree.
- For a neural network, the representations are the weights.

I can use machine learning to train a reasoner.

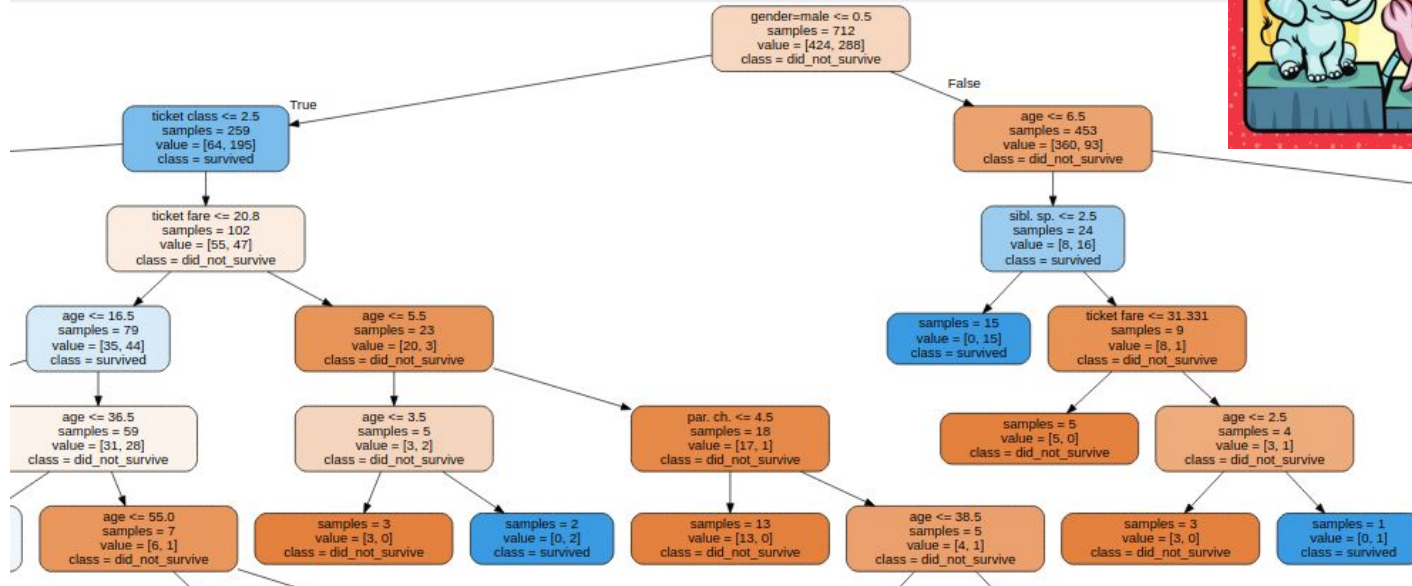
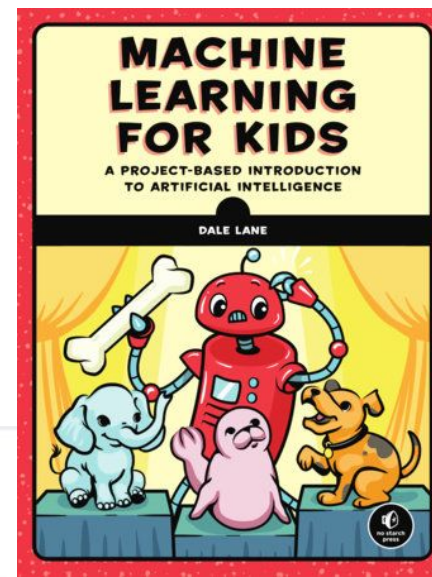
Is this test true?

samples = how many training examples got here

class = prediction so far

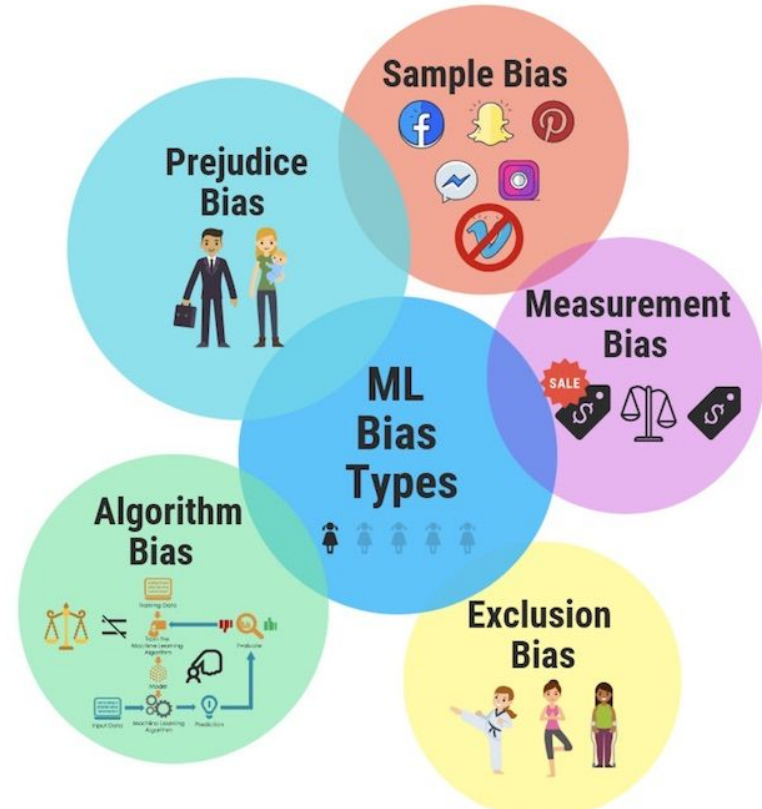
Go this way if the test is true

Go this way if the test is false



The Importance of Training Data

- Goal: generalize correctly to new instances
- The dataset needs to be representative
- Effects of biased training data



<https://www.datasciencecentral.com/profiles/blogs/three-steps-to-addressing-bias-in-machine-learning>

Language Understanding

- Question answering: “How much does an alligator weigh?”
- Machine translation
- Chatbots and intelligent agents
 - Intent recognition
 - Slot filling

I can build a simple chatbot.

MIT APP INVENTOR

Voice User Interface (VUI) blocks

```
when Skill1 .Initialize
do
  define invocation name as "Story Teller"
  define tell the story intent
    using phrase list
      make a list
        "Tell me a story "
        "Read me a story "
        "Can you please read me the story? "
        "I want to hear a story "
  define help intent
    using phrase list
      make a list
        "help me out "
        "I don't know what to do "
        "What do I do? "
```

Work by Jessica Van Brummelen and Hal Abelson

How AI Thinking Extends Computational Thinking

AI is built on representation and reasoning.

- Representations are data structures (**abstractions**)
- Reasoners are **algorithms**

So AI draws on the concepts and dispositions of computational thinking.

But AI asks students to consider that **computation can actually be thinking**.

Computational thinking is exactly what humans need when they try to understand how machines can think.

Moving Forward

The State of K-12 AI Education in Your State: A Planning Workshop

David Touretzky, CMU & Christina Gardner-McCune, UF

Funded by National Science Foundation award DRL-1846073.

141 Participants

27 States

3 Territories

15 State Completed Plans (Jan)

CA, CT, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, MD, MA, MS, NC,
OH, PA, SC, TX,

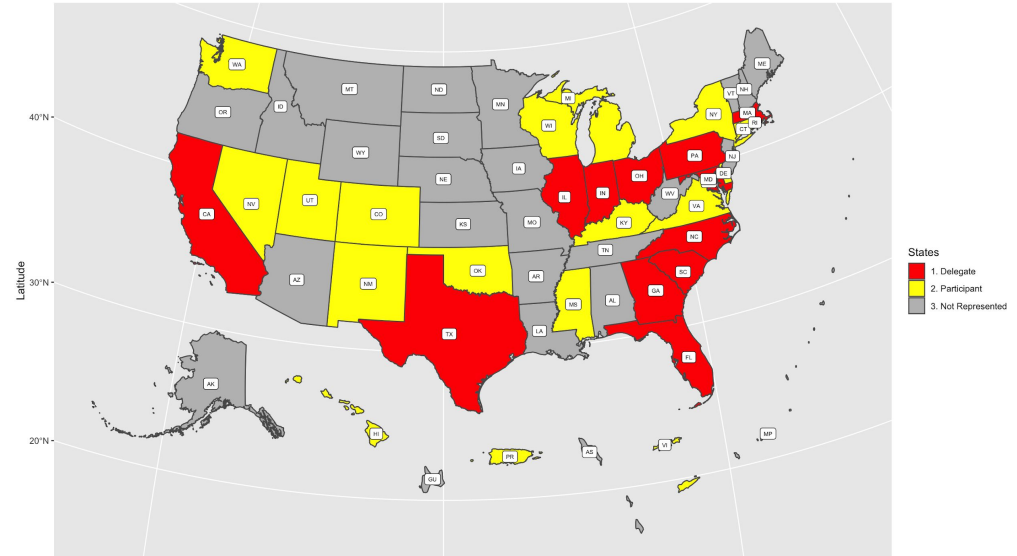
2 New State & Territories
Completed Plans

NM, VA

Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands



AI4K12 Attendee Locations
(includes both delegate and non-delegate states)



- 16 States are currently advancing their K-12 AI Implementation Plan
- 5 States developed CTE AI Course frameworks

K-12 AI Education Efforts World Wide

- United States: AI4K12.org, MIT RAISE, AI4ALL, ISTE, Code.org, many NSF projects (including our own AI4GA)
- China: government mandate that all students will learn about AI. No national standards yet. Many experiments with curriculum; multiple textbooks.
- South Korea: 2022 revised national curriculum includes AI in all grades K-12.
- United Kingdom: ComputingAtSchool advocating for AI education; teacher PD.
- European Union
 - Erasmus+ funding development of an AI curriculum adapted to European high schools
 - Many small experiments taking place in Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain, etc.

Join Us in Developing the Guidelines, or Help Grow the Community of AI Resource Developers

Visit us:

<https://AI4K12.org>

Join the mailing list:

<https://aaai.org/Organization/mailing-lists.php>



Questions?

Thank
You!

