

CSc 480 — Questions about Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has a long—and checkered—history. After several, quite phenomenal early successes in the 60s and early 70s, the rate of progress slowed dramatically. Now, however, there are some quite "intelligent" AI systems. This is due to improvements in models of problems, better algorithms, and more raw processing power.

Pick a human activity that requires intelligence and that you are interested in: solving some kind of problem (e.g., crossword puzzles), playing a game such as chess or bridge, translating a foreign language, planning a trip, understanding a book, etc. Then determine the current state of the art for using computers for this activity.

Turn in the following information:

1. Define the activity/problem you examined.
2. Explain the current state of the art. What do current AI systems do well? How do they still fall short of what humans can do?
3. Give references for the Web sites, books, or papers that you consulted.