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## Information technology — Artificial intelligence — Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology

*Technologies de l'information — Intelligence artificielle — Concepts et terminologie relatifs à l'intelligence artificielle*





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# Contents

Page

<b>Foreword</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>1 Scope</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b>	<b>1</b>
3.1 Terms related to AI	1
3.2 Terms related to data	6
3.3 Terms related to machine learning	8
3.4 Terms related to neural networks	10
3.5 Terms related to trustworthiness	11
3.6 Terms related to natural language processing	13
3.7 Terms related to computer vision	16
<b>4 Abbreviated terms</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>5 AI concepts</b>	<b>17</b>
5.1 General	17
5.2 From strong and weak AI to general and narrow AI	17
5.3 Agent	17
5.4 Knowledge	18
5.5 Cognition and cognitive computing	19
5.6 Semantic computing	19
5.7 Soft computing	19
5.8 Genetic algorithms	19
5.9 Symbolic and subsymbolic approaches for AI	19
5.10 Data	20
5.11 Machine learning concepts	21
5.11.1 Supervised machine learning	21
5.11.2 Unsupervised machine learning	21
5.11.3 Semi-supervised machine learning	22
5.11.4 Reinforcement learning	22
5.11.5 Transfer learning	22
5.11.6 Training data	22
5.11.7 Trained model	22
5.11.8 Validation and test data	22
5.11.9 Retraining	23
5.12 Examples of machine learning algorithms	24
5.12.1 Neural networks	24
5.12.2 Bayesian networks	25
5.12.3 Decision trees	25
5.12.4 Support vector machine	25
5.13 Autonomy, heteronomy and automation	26
5.14 Internet of things and cyber-physical systems	27
5.14.1 General	27
5.14.2 Internet of things	27
5.14.3 Cyber-physical systems	27
5.15 Trustworthiness	28
5.15.1 General	28
5.15.2 AI robustness	28
5.15.3 AI reliability	29
5.15.4 AI resilience	29
5.15.5 AI controllability	29
5.15.6 AI explainability	29
5.15.7 AI predictability	30

5.15.8	AI transparency .....	30
5.15.9	AI bias and fairness .....	30
5.16	AI verification and validation .....	31
5.17	Jurisdictional issues .....	31
5.18	Societal impact .....	32
5.19	AI stakeholder roles .....	32
5.19.1	General .....	32
5.19.2	AI provider .....	33
5.19.3	AI producer .....	33
5.19.4	AI customer .....	34
5.19.5	AI partner .....	34
5.19.6	AI subject .....	34
5.19.7	Relevant authorities .....	35
<b>6</b>	<b>AI system life cycle .....</b>	<b>35</b>
6.1	AI system life cycle model .....	35
6.2	AI system life cycle stages and processes .....	37
6.2.1	General .....	37
6.2.2	Inception .....	37
6.2.3	Design and development .....	38
6.2.4	Verification and Validation .....	39
6.2.5	Deployment .....	39
6.2.6	Operation and monitoring .....	39
6.2.7	Continuous validation .....	40
6.2.8	Re-evaluation .....	40
6.2.9	Retirement .....	40
<b>7</b>	<b>AI system functional overview .....</b>	<b>40</b>
7.1	General .....	40
7.2	Data and information .....	41
7.3	Knowledge and learning .....	41
7.4	From predictions to actions .....	42
7.4.1	General .....	42
7.4.2	Prediction .....	42
7.4.3	Decision .....	43
7.4.4	Action .....	43
<b>8</b>	<b>AI ecosystem .....</b>	<b>43</b>
8.1	General .....	43
8.2	AI systems .....	45
8.3	AI function .....	45
8.4	Machine learning .....	45
8.4.1	General .....	45
8.5	Engineering .....	46
8.5.1	General .....	46
8.5.2	Expert systems .....	46
8.5.3	Logic programming .....	46
8.6	Big data and data sources — cloud and edge computing .....	46
8.6.1	Big data and data sources .....	46
8.6.2	Cloud and edge computing .....	48
8.7	Resource pools .....	50
8.7.1	General .....	50
8.7.2	Application-specific integrated circuit .....	50
<b>9</b>	<b>Fields of AI .....</b>	<b>51</b>
9.1	Computer vision and image recognition .....	51
9.2	Natural language processing .....	51
9.2.1	General .....	51
9.2.2	Natural language processing components .....	52
9.3	Data mining .....	54

9.4	Planning.....	54
<b>10</b>	<b>Applications of AI systems.....</b>	<b>54</b>
10.1	General.....	54
10.2	Fraud detection.....	55
10.3	Automated vehicles .....	55
10.4	Predictive maintenance.....	56
<b>Annex A</b>	<b>(informative) Mapping of the AI system life cycle with the OECD's definition of an AI system life cycle.....</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Bibliography</b> .....		<b>59</b>

## Foreword

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## Introduction

Advancements in computing capacity, reduction of costs of computation, availability of large amounts of data from many sources, inexpensive online learning curricula and algorithms capable of meeting or exceeding human level performance in particular tasks for speed and accuracy have enabled practical applications of AI, making it an increasingly important branch of information technology.

AI is a highly interdisciplinary field broadly based on computer science, data science, natural sciences, humanities, mathematics, social sciences and others. Terms such as “intelligent”, “intelligence”, “understanding”, “knowledge”, “learning”, “decisions”, “skills”, etc. are used throughout this document. However, it is not the intention to anthropomorphize AI systems, but to describe the fact that some AI systems can rudimentarily simulate such characteristics.

There are many areas of AI technology. These areas are intricately linked and developing rapidly so it is difficult to fit the relevance of all technical fields into a single map. Research of AI includes aspects such as aspects including “learning, recognition and prediction”, “inference, knowledge and language” and “discovery, search and creation”. Research also addresses interdependencies among these aspects<sup>[23]</sup>.

The concept of AI as an input and output process flow is shared by many AI researchers, and research on each step of this process is ongoing. Standardized concepts and terminology are needed by stakeholders of the technology to be better understood and adopted by a broader audience. Furthermore, concepts and categories of AI allow for a comparison and classification of different solutions with respect to properties like trustworthiness, robustness, resilience, reliability, accuracy, safety, security and privacy. This enables stakeholders to select appropriate solutions for their applications and to compare the quality of available solutions on the market.

As this document does provide a definition for the term AI in the sense of a discipline only, the context for its usage can be described as follows: AI is a technical and scientific field devoted to the engineered system that generates outputs such as content, forecasts, recommendations or decisions for a given set of human-defined objectives.

This document provides standardized concepts and terminology to help AI technology to be better understood and used by a broader set of stakeholders. It is intended for a wide audience including experts and non-practitioners. The reading of some specific clauses can however be easier with a stronger background in computer science. These concerns are described primarily [Clauses 5.10, 5.11](#) and [8](#), which are more technical than the rest of the document.





# Information technology — Artificial intelligence — Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology

## 1 Scope

This document establishes terminology for AI and describes concepts in the field of AI.

This document can be used in the development of other standards and in support of communications among diverse, interested parties or stakeholders.

This document is applicable to all types of organizations (e.g. commercial enterprises, government agencies, not-for-profit organizations).

## 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.