

COGNITIVE SCIENCE AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Briefing to George (Jay) Keyworth

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Introduction [2 min]

- > Let me assume you've read the document

- > We are talking about a joint field
 - > Cognitive science (human side) & Artificial intelligence (computer science side)
 - > We took some space to lay out some of the central ideas in the field
 - > Seemed a chance this was a scientific story you were not very familiar with

- > Then we laid out five clusters of research that are both interesting and pregnant

- > Finally, in accordance with our understanding of your wishes, we just touched on support and resource issues in a qualitative way

- > All that is there and we can go back and pick it up
 - > I'd rather spend my minutes giving you a better feeling for the science
 - > Let me pick up a few examples in more detail than the document
 - > Then emphasize a couple of theoretical ideas that seem critical

Example # 1. Rotation experiment (Shepard) [3 min]

- > The experiment: Compare pictures of 3D objects
- > The result: Linear response — in 3D
- > What it means: What mechanism is responsible for this regularity?
 - > Imaging. Analog rotation (maybe?)
- > What it typifies: Great quantitative data that begins to show how the gears work

Example # 2. Bacon induction sys (Langley & Simon)[3min]

- > The experiment: Induction from classical scientific data
- > The result: Repeat the inductions for quite a few experiments
- > What it means: Some
- > What it typifies: The throw-away program as the style of research in AI

Example # 3. Large STM (Chase & Ericsson) [3 min]

- > The experiment: Digit span — training to 87 digits (1 digit/sec)
 - > Pick it apart: mnemonic system, retrieval structure
- > The result: Predict what does good/bad, etc
- > What it means: A web of evidence that shows the understanding is basically right

Example # 4. Expert behavior in elementary physics [3min]

- > The experiment: Program for novice behavior, expert behavior
- > The result: Two representations: Mechanical, Science based (qualitative)
- > What it means: Can begin to plot the course of learning
- > Related experiment: Naive qualitative theories (impetus theories)
- > What it means: Getting direct lessons about education from fundamental studies
- > What it all typifies: Theory driven research building up coherent picture

A couple of theoretical notions [2 min]

- > If I had to pick two basic ideas for you to remember:
 - > # 1. We have discovered how to build physical systems with symbolic behavior
 - > My impression is that few people outside field understand what has happened
 - > The sort of symbols in a computer are basic mechanism the symbols in humans
 - > This is a hypothosis — but the one this whole field is building on
 - > # 2. The power of intelligence comes through knowledge
 - > So CogSci/AI much concerned with structures that encode large amounts of knowledge
 - > And make it accessible — semantic nets, production systems, ...

Research Clusters [5 min]

- > # 1. Architecture
 - > 1.1. Computer architectures
 - > 1.2. Massive parallelism
 - > 1.3. Human cognitive architectures
- > # 2. Sensory information processing
 - > 2.1. Visual perception
 - > 2.2. Speech recognition
- > # 3. Natural language
 - > 3.1. Learning natural language
 - > 3.2. Understanding natural language
- > # 4. Intelligent systems
 - > 4.1. Systems with full expertise
 - > 4.2. Learning
- > # 5. Science and mathematics education
 - > (Turns out to be good area for basic work, though important applied issue)
 - > 5.1. Tutorial systems
 - > 5.2. Mental models and the problem of transfer