CONCLUSION

A wealth of ideas surfaced at this workshop. A questionnaire was produced with the intent that the answers to the questionnaire would summarize the views of the attendants. The questionnaire had several levels, the simplest of which asked what proportion of the success in AI in 10 and in 50 years could be attributed to work in natural language processing and what proportion to work in adaptation. Some initial responses were provocative: Waltz thought natural language was most important now and adaptation would be important later; Holland thought adaptation should be the emphasis now and natural language processing should be the emphasis later. There developed, however, so much confusion as to the exact meanings of the questions that the questionnaire was discarded.

Professionals with a wide variety of expertises attended the workshop. Holland and Waltz propose to write computer programs that control intelligent and Pribram investigate robots. Harth brain and Klopf mechanisms. Conrad often look at individual neurons. Pattee and Przybylski work at the molecular level. Rada and Zeigler ponder the formal specifications for intelligence. These characterizations are very crude. They do, however, give a sense of the interests represented at the meeting.

The tendency at the meeting was to favor more biological and foundational approaches to Al. This one might have guessed based on the backgrounds of the people present. The particulars of this tendency are more news-worthy. A few such gems might guide one back to the main text: see Harth's stress on the rich interconnections between all levels of the microscopic to macroscopic organization, see Conrad's fascination for the endless primitives from which the intelligent system can extend itself, and look at Martinez's conviction that models of the self are fundamental at the lowest level of life.

We expect to learn more about the principles upon which mainstream AI is based. The SIGART reader may find some stimulating ideas in this report. We hope that the various disciplines which intersect in the pursuit of AI can optimally share the information and creative energy which stimulate scientific advances.

BOOKS

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN MEDICINE Edited by Peter Szolovits Massachusetts Institute of Technology Westview Press 5500 Central Avenue Boulder, Colorado 80301 Frederick A. Praeger, Publisher (303)444-3541

This book introduces the field of artificial intelligence in medicine, a new research area that combines sophisticated representational and computing techniques with the insights of expert physicians to produce tools for improving health care. An introductory chapter describes the historical and technical foundations of the work and provides an overview of the current state of the art and research directions. The authors then describe five prototype computer programs that tackle difficult clinical problems in a manner similar to that of an expert physician.

The programs presented are INTERNIST, a diagnostic aid that combines a large database of disease/manifestation associations with techniques for problem formulation; EXPERT and the Glaucoma Program, which use physiological models for the diagnosis and treatment of eye disease; MYCIN, a rule-based program for diagnosis and therapy selection for infectious diseases; the Digitalis Therapy Advisor, which aids the physician in prescribing the right dose of the drug digitalis and also explains its actions; and ABEL, which combines clinical and pathophysiological reasoning in a consultant for acid-base and electrolyte disorders.

Peter Szolovits is associate professor of computer science at MIT.

CONTENTS: Artificial Intelligence and Medicine--P. Szolovits. Representation of Expert Knowledge for Consultation: The CASNET and EXPERT Projects--Casimir A. Kulikowski and Sholum M. Weiss. Consultation, Knowledge Acquisition, and Instruction: A Case Study--Randall Davis. The Development of Clinical Expertise in the Computer-P. Szolovits and William J. Long. Heuristic. Methods for Imposing Structure on Ill-Structured Problems: The Structuring of Medical Diagnostics-Harry E. Pople, Jr. Modeling Knowledge of the Patient in Acid-Base and Electrolyte Disorders--Ramesh S. Patil, P. Szolovits, and William B. Schwartz.

226 pages with tables, figures LC 82-060046 ISBN 0-89158-900-7 July 1982 \$25.00 APPROCHES FORMELLES DE LA SEMANTIQUE NATURELLE Proceedings of the First Summer School "Linguistics for Computer Scientists" organized by Equipe Comprehension due Raisonnement Naturel Laboratoire des LANGAGES ET SYSTEMES INFORMATIQUES C.N.R.S. - U.P.S. Toulouse, August 31-September 5, 1981 1982, 284 p.

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This book will interest scientists working on knowledge representation and on natural reasoning formalization. Some of the logical formalisms that are presented here may be also interest theoretical computing.

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