

# Chinese room

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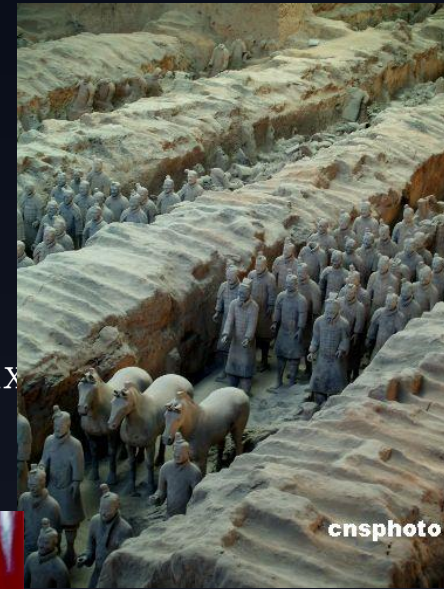
Nov. 2019







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# Outline

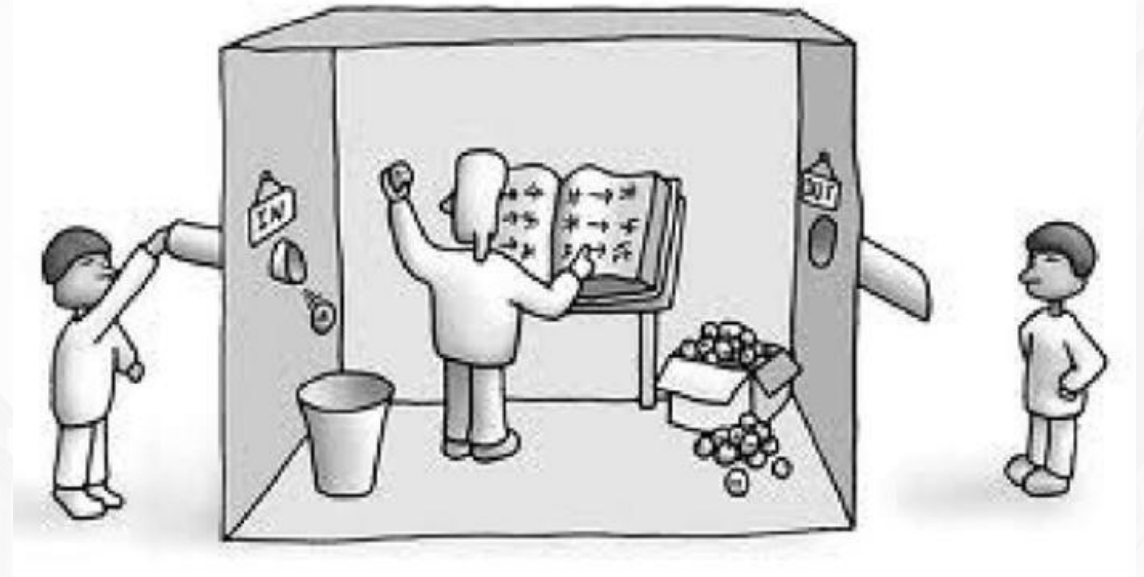
- ① **The author and background**
- ② **Description of the experiment**
- ③ **Questions and arguments**
- ④ **Our thoughts and views**







**John Searle**

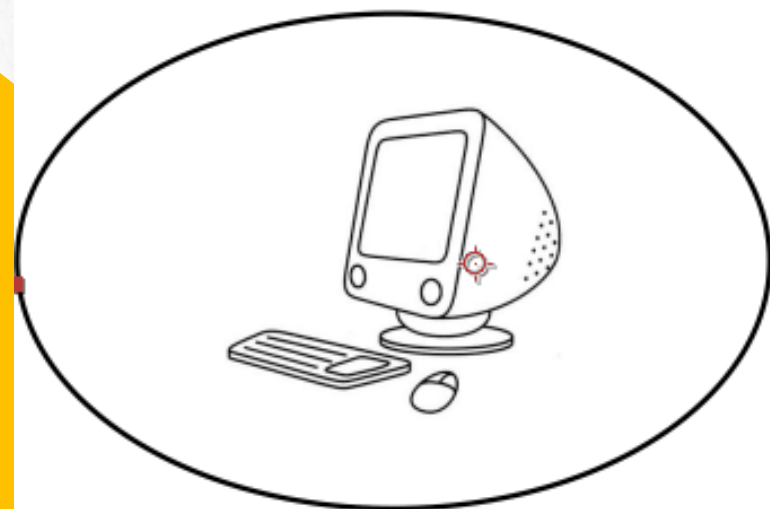


## Chinese Room

The Chinese room argument holds that a digital executing a program cannot be shown to have a "mind", which was first presented by philosopher *John Searle*



## A Hypothetical Premise



a machine

嘿，你读过我写的文章吗？

当然，写的不赖嘛！



a Chinese writer

It can understand  
Chinese!

?

they communicate in Chinese

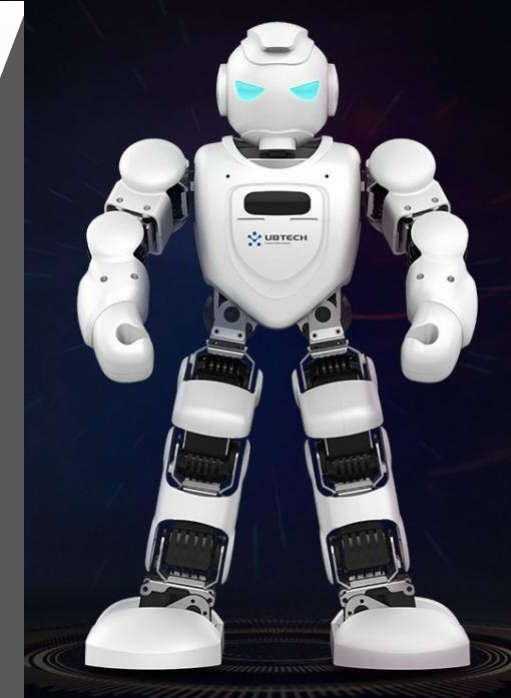
# ► Questions

**Does the Machine Literally  
"Understand" Chinese?**

\_\_\_\_\_ **"Strong AI"**

**Is It Merely Simulating the Ability  
to Understand Chinese?**

\_\_\_\_\_ **"Weak AI"**

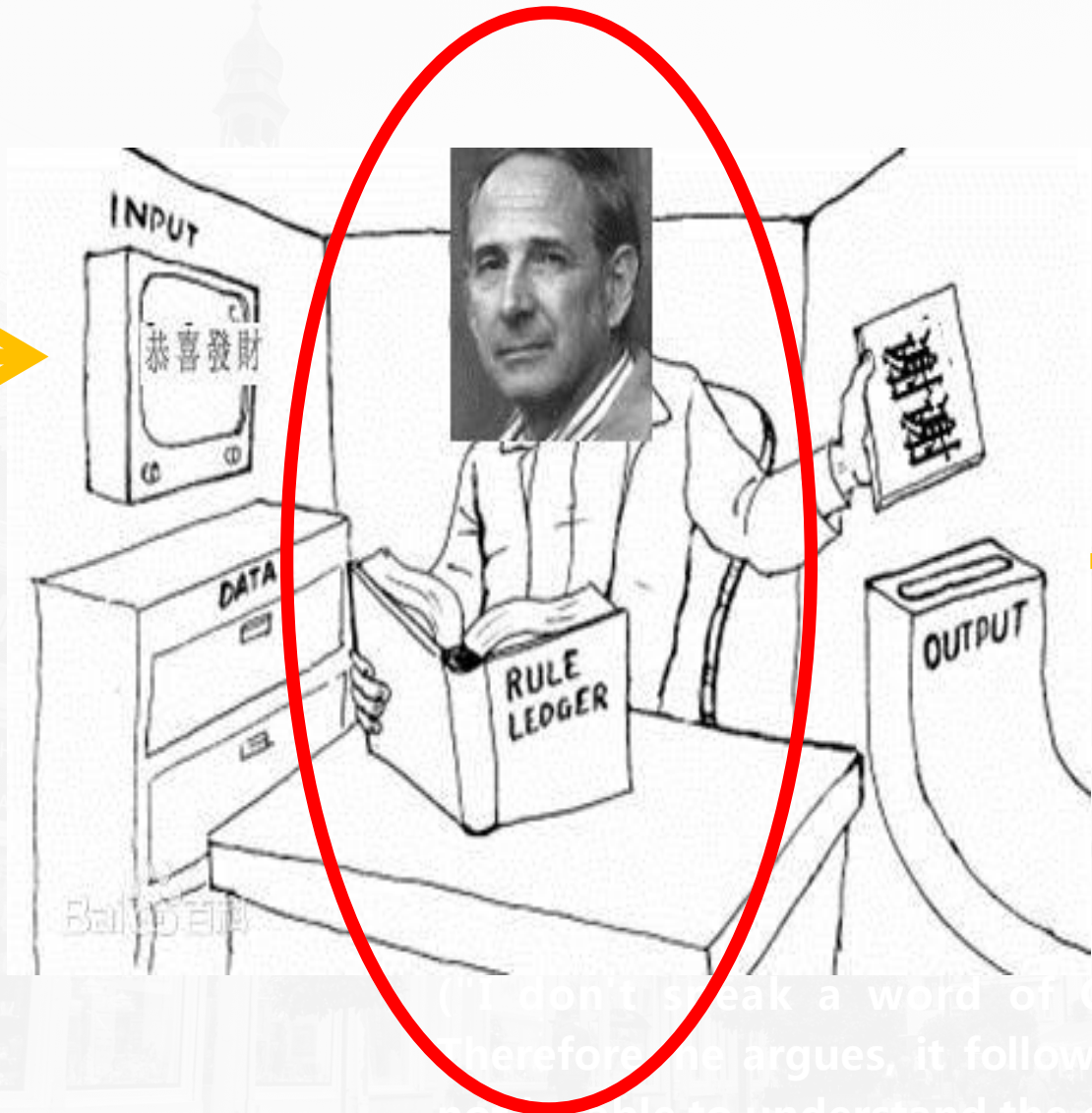






# Chinese room thought experiment

恭喜发财



谢谢

(“I don’t speak a word of Chinese,” he points out.)  
Therefore he argues, it follows that the computer would not be able to understand the conversation either.



There is no essential difference  
between the roles of the computer and  
himself in the experiment



# inference



I don't understand  
Chinese character



...I don't have  
strong AI

# Content

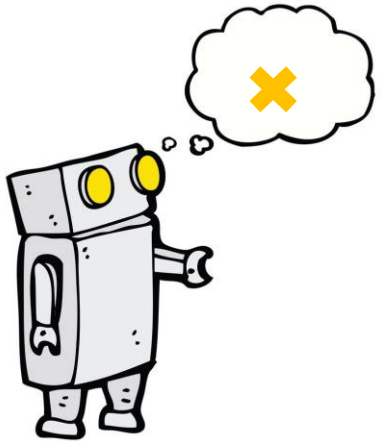
without understanding



cannot think

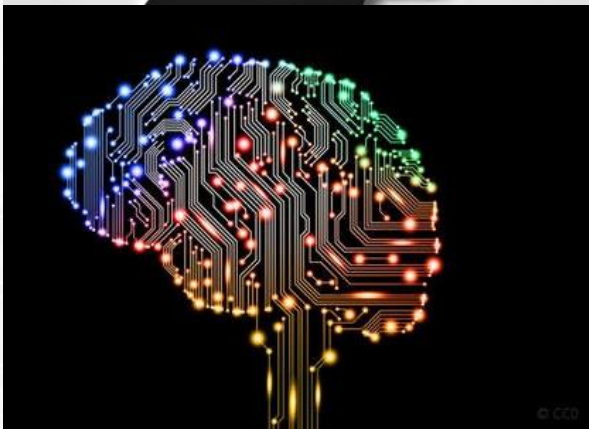


the "strong AI" hypothesis is false





# ► The Affirmative



Me either



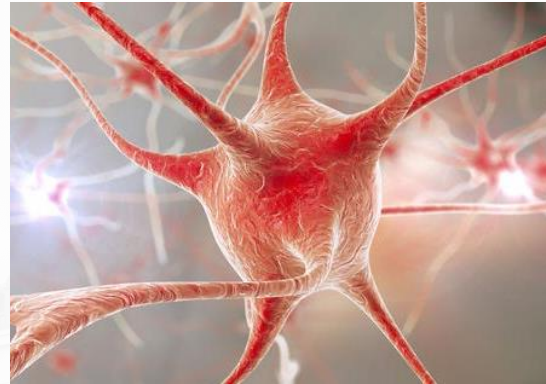
I don't know  
the location  
I signaled



# ► The Negative



$\neq$



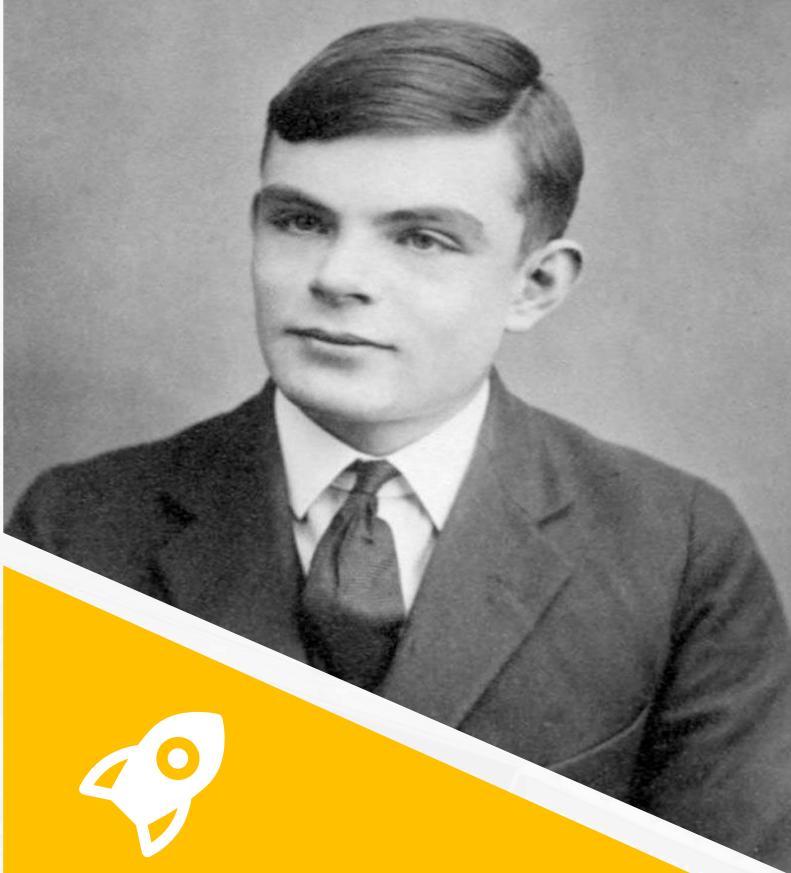
$* n$



Some critics hold that running the program may create something that understands Chinese.



Searle's claim that he doesn't understand Chinese while running the room is conceded, but his claim that there is no understanding, and that computationalism is false, is denied.



Alan Turing

(1912–1954)

## Turing test

During the Turing test, the human questioner asks a series of questions to both respondents. After the specified time, the questioner tries to decide which terminal is operated by the human respondent and which terminal is operated by the computer.

■ QUESTION TO RESPONDENTS ■ ANSWERS TO QUESTIONER

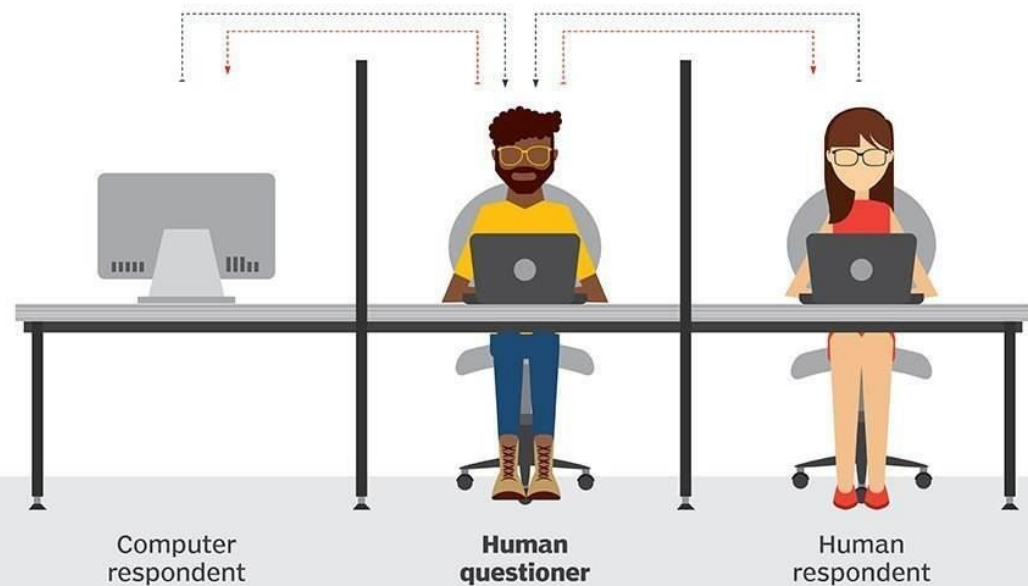


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## Chinese Room



## Turing Test



Can computer understand?



proper programs can make machine understand

Behavioristic hypotheses

Functionalistic hypotheses

*Anything* besides *acting* intelligent is required.

Intelligent-seeming behavior must be produced by the right procedures or computations.

understanding is related to biological structure

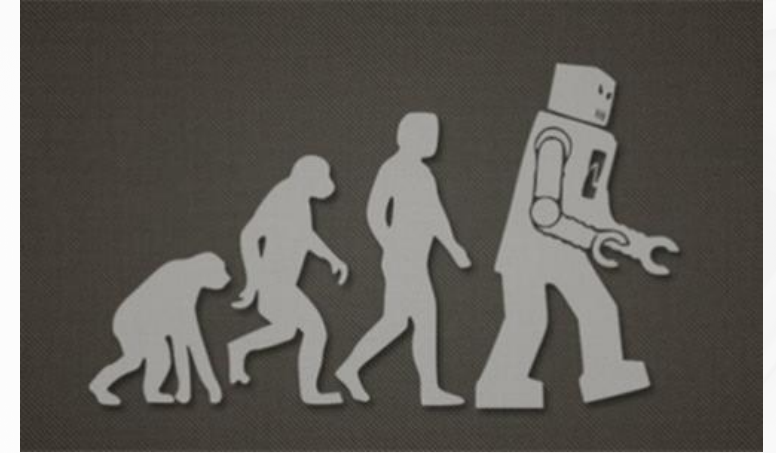
Dualistic hypotheses

Identity theoretic hypotheses

Besides (or instead of) intelligent-seeming behavior

It to be essential that the intelligent-seeming performances proceed from the right underlying neurophysiological states.





If the machine creates its own rules through existing rules in the process of interacting with the outside world, can we say that this is artificial intelligence?





# Thanks & Questions

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[dustinli@nwpu.edu.cn](mailto:dustinli@nwpu.edu.cn) to Prof. Li Xiaoan (Dustin)

