

Memo from

To:

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

Dr P Naegeli

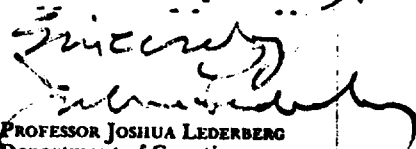
FEB 17 1974

re: "Artificial Intelligence"

Thank you for sending me this note, which echoes many of my own concerns about expectations from blatantly a-theoretical methods of pattern analysis. Many contemporary efforts in computerized medical diagnosis are equally liable to grave faults from uncritical excess of enthusiasm.

However, I hope you might still be interested in totally different approaches that are embraced by the phrase "artificial intelligence" (a cacophemism that I would happily replace), as illustrated in the enclosed reprint.

I wonder what is the significance of a predictor of parity that scores 6/6? It may of course just be a statistical fluke (2^6 is only 64); or there may be some other "cpincidence" in the relationship of names to structures that would be worth knowing --but not very much. (consider that of the alkanes from C_1 to C_{10} , 80% have the opposite parity from the composition).


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