
The Memory Map

Canton Alliance Massillon Computer Users Group



Volume 44, Issue 4

April 2024

Next CAMUG Meeting, April 15, 2024

Both Zoom and In Person!

- Join us in person at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 7707 Market Ave. in North Canton, Ohio.
- OR use the Zoom link that Dennis will email.

Program

6:15 PM: Chit Chat.

6:30 PM: Two videos by Hewie Poplock: "Better Battery Management" and "Handling Fake Facebook Friend requests"

7:05 PM: "Whys and Hows of Disk Partitioning" by Dennis Smith

Lines from Liz

CAMUG has been a member of APCUG for a very long time. There are many benefits of APCUG membership: the Wednesday Workshops and Saturday Safaris, newsletter articles from other clubs, and speakers from their Speaker's Bureau. One relatively new benefit is that club editors have permission to use articles from certain websites. The entire article can be used or just part of the article with a link to the article at the end.

These are the sources:

- [Ask Bob Rankin](#)
- [Ask Leo Notenboom](#)
- [Cyn Mackley](#)
- [How-To-Geek](#)
- [MakeUseOf](#)
- [TechBoomers](#)

On the next page is an article from MakeUseOf about artificial intelligence (AI) that I found very interesting. I hope you enjoy it too. If you find an article on one of these websites that you would like in this newsletter, please let me know. Liz Milford

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Explained in Simple Terms

MakeUseOf

<https://www.makeuseof.com/artificial-intelligence-ai-simple-terms/>

By [Katie Rees](#)

Updated Mar 28, 2024

You can't open the news without reading about AI, but what's the easiest, most simple way to explain it?



Miker Rivero/DALL-E/MakeUseOf

Key Takeaways

- AI is like teaching computers to learn like humans by looking at data and making decisions, but it lacks common sense and emotions.
- Machine learning allows algorithms to learn from data, while natural language processing involves computers understanding and speaking human language.
- AI is used in chatbots, data analysis, product design, and art creation, but the future poses concerns about potential misuse and regulation.

Artificial intelligence is all the rage, with its huge potential causing a stir in almost every industry. But fully understanding AI can be tricky, especially if you're not well-versed in tech topics.

So, let's break down artificial intelligence into its most simple terms. How does AI work, and how is it being used?

The Simplest Explanation of AI

Artificial intelligence is like teaching computers to learn just like humans, therefore simulating how humans think. AI does this by looking at lots of data or examples and then using that to make decisions or predictions.

Imagine you are learning to ride a bike. After falling a few times, you start understanding how to balance and pedal simultaneously. That's how machine learning, a part of AI, works. It looks at a lot of data and then learns patterns from it. Another part of AI, natural language processing, is similar to teaching computers to understand and speak human language.

But even with all this, computers still can't fully think or understand like humans. Modern AI systems don't have common sense, emotions, or consciousness.

AI in More Detail

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a branch of computer science aiming to build machines capable of mimicking human intelligence. It involves creating algorithms that allow computers to learn from and make decisions or predictions based on data rather than following only explicitly programmed instructions.

Machine Learning (ML)

Machine learning (ML), a subset of AI, involves systems that can "learn" from data. These algorithms improve their performance as the number of datasets they learn from increases.

Deep learning, a further subset of machine learning, uses artificial neural networks to make decisions and predictions. It is designed to mimic how a human brain learns and makes decisions.

Natural Language Processing (NLP)

Natural language processing (NLP) is another important aspect of AI, dealing with the interaction between computers and humans using natural language.

This often involves an AI system taking in a natural language request, analyzing it, deriving context, and then producing a natural language response.

For example...

- **Human:** "Could you find me a few examples of toxic plants in South America?"
- **AI chatbot:** "Sure! Here are some examples of toxic plants in South America..." [and so on]

Neural networks are used in NLP and come in many different forms, including:

- Pretrained transformer neural networks
- Recurrent neural networks
- Deep belief networks
- Convolutional neural networks
- Self-organizing maps

The ability of machines to understand and respond to human language is crucial for many AI applications, like virtual assistants and AI chatbots (which we'll discuss in a moment).

Artificial intelligence can be classified into two main types: narrow AI, which is designed to perform a narrow task (such as facial recognition or internet searches), and artificial general intelligence (AGI), which is an AI system with generalized human cognitive abilities so that it can outperform humans at most economically valuable work. [AGI is sometimes referred to as strong AI.](#)

However, despite many advancements, AI still does not possess the full spectrum of human cognitive abilities, and we are still far from achieving [true artificial general intelligence](#). The current AI technologies are task-specific and cannot understand context outside their specific programming.

How Is AI Being Used Today?

AI has potential and applications that stretch far beyond the tech realm alone.

1. Chatbots

Even if you're not big into tech, you've probably heard the name "ChatGPT." [ChatGPT](#) (short for [Chat Generative Pre-transformer](#)) is a generative AI chatbot. But this isn't like the chatbots you may have used in the past. ChatGPT uses artificial intelligence to process natural human language, find data, and provide responses.

ChatGPT's capabilities form a long list, including fact-checking, checking spelling and grammar, creating schedules, writing resumes, and even translating languages.

HuggingChat, Claude, and Gemini (formerly Bard) are other examples of AI chatbots. These services all differ in certain ways. Some are free, some are paid, some specialize in certain areas, while others are better with general tasks.

2. Data Analysis

Data analysis is a key part of our world, whether in research, healthcare, business, or otherwise. Computers have been analyzing data for many years, but using artificial intelligence can take things to the next level.

AI systems can more effectively detect trends, patterns, and inconsistencies than a typical computer (or human, for that matter). For example, an AI system could more distinctly highlight less obvious user habits or preferences for social media platforms, allowing it to show more personalized advertisements.

3. Production and Design

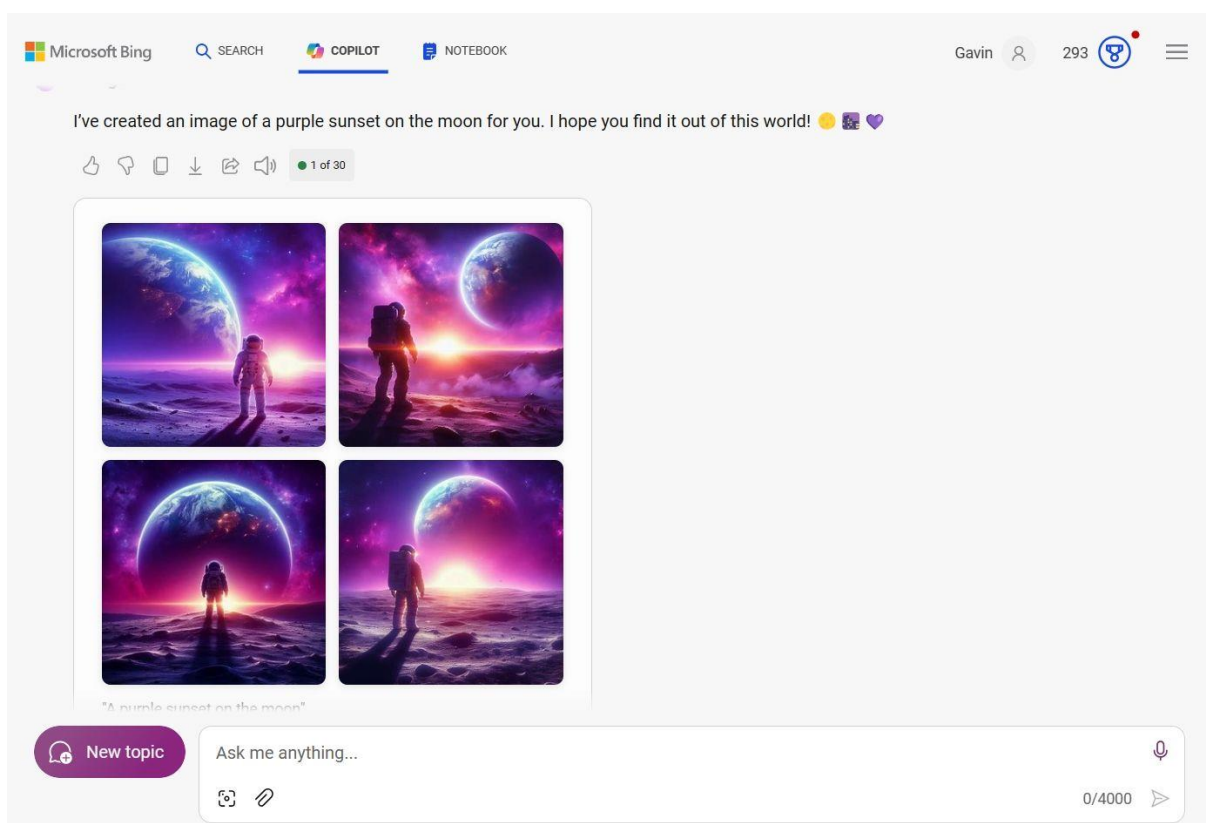
When designing products, many elements must be considered. The cost of materials, how they're sourced, and how efficiently the product will perform are just a few factors that companies need to keep in mind, and this is where AI can help.

Because AI can learn and discover new things based on the information it is given, it can be used to carve out more cost-effective and sustainable materials and production practices for businesses. For instance, an AI system could list more eco-friendly materials that could be used in a product's battery given a comprehensive data set to work from.

4. Art Creation

[AI-generated art](#) took the world by storm in 2022, with products like DALL-E, Stable Diffusion, and Midjourney becoming extremely popular. These AI text-to-image tools [take a text-based prompt and generate an art piece](#) based on the request.

For example, if you type "purple sunset on the moon" into DALL-E, you'll get more than one result. Some art generators also let you pick a style for your generated image, such as vintage, hyperrealistic, or anime. DALL-E has evolved a lot since its initial release and is now on its third version, DALL-E 3. You can [use DALL-E on ChatGPT Plus](#) to generate AI images in your chats.



Microsoft Image Creator/MakeUseOf

[Some artists have rejected AI art generators](#), as they are trained on pre-existing online art to learn how to create their prompted pieces. Artists claim this is a breach of copyright and contributes to the theft of original art, an issue that already spans the web.

The Future of AI

AI is already being used to develop new medicines, highlight more sustainable business practices, and even make our day-to-day lives easier by performing mundane tasks like cooking or cleaning.

However, many think that the future of AI is dark and dystopian. It's no surprise that this is a common assumption, given how sci-fi books and films have created some scary stereotypes around AI and its possible consequences.

AI can indeed be abused or mishandled, but this is true for any technology. We've seen cybercriminals exploit Wi-Fi, VPNs, email, and even flash drives to spread malware and push scams. However, the worry is concentrated on artificial intelligence because of its capabilities.

In January 2023, an individual posted to a hacking forum claiming they had successfully [created malware using ChatGPT](#). It wasn't highly complex malware, but the ability to create malicious code via an AI chatbot got people talking. If less advanced AI is being abused now, what will happen if super-intelligent computers are exploited in the future?

At the moment, there are no AI systems that can think on the same level as a human. Many have predicted what such a machine would look like, but it's all hypothetical. While some think we'll create machines with human-level cognitive abilities in the next decade, others think it will take much longer.

If AI is regulated correctly, its development and use could be controlled to prevent bad actors from getting their hands on highly advanced technology.

Licenses, laws, and general rules of thumb all play a role in keeping AI out of the wrong hands. However, this will need to be done without restricting the development of and access to AI technology too tightly, as this could quickly become counterproductive.

CAMUG March 2024 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held in person at Holy Cross Lutheran Church; it was also held on Zoom using a Zoom account provided by APCUG. President Dennis Smith was host and presided over the 486th meeting of CAMUG on March 18, 2024, starting at 6:15 PM with general chit-chat.

Computer 101:

At about 6:30 PM Carol Joliat presented *Hodge Podge About Photos*.

- Photo resolution is described by DPI (dots per inch) or PPI (pixels per inch). The larger the photo print is, the greater the resolution needed. For a website, 72 DPI is enough but for a print at least 300 DPI is needed.
- Carol described nine different photo file formats:
 - JPG (or JPEG) is the most common file format. It compresses the photo. Each time a JPG photo is edited and saved, it is re-compressed, losing clarity. It is best to save the original photo so you can start over if the edited photo gets blurry.
 - TIFF files are not compressed.
 - PSD files are Photoshop photos and have layers.
 - PDF (Portable Document Format) is another type of Adobe file for text and photos.
 - HEIC files are Apple photos. They are compressed but not all photo editing programs can use them.
 - AI (Adobe Illustrator) files are used to create documents and can be saved in many formats,
 - PNG files are another lossless uncompressed type of file.
 - GIF files are the most common for animated photos but can also be unanimated photos.
 - RAW files can be very large files, are the least processed image type, and can be edited and saved in other formats.
- Carol explained that Raster files contain pixels and vector files use mathematical equations. Vector files scale well but if raster files are enlarged they may begin to look like Legos.
- There are several ways to print photos:
 - Home printer.
 - Online print sites. One, MPIX.com, is a premium online printing site.
 - Shutterfly – an online print site offering many products with a variety of mediums. Costco members get 51% off and free shipping over \$59.
 - Local stores such as CVS and Walmart.
- There are many fun things to make with photos in addition to prints: statuettes, socks, blankets, photo books, cups or mugs, puzzles, pillows, canvas pictures, phone covers, shirts, totes, posters, playing cards, and calendars.

A five-minute break was called to allow members to grab snacks and buy 50/50 raffle tickets.

Main Meeting:



The main meeting started about 7:25. There were 16 members present (Including one on Zoom) representing 15 family memberships. Since this is more than 15% of the membership, the meeting was declared valid. In addition, Aziz Ahmed was visiting.

Doris Ponzani, Michael Doyle, and Jessie Girt renewed their memberships,

Eric Gunn won the On-Time Drawing and asked that his prize be donated to the club.

Dennis mentioned that there is a renewal credit of \$5 for each new member brought in.

Program:

Dennis Smith presented *Free Backup Programs*.

- Backups are needed because hard drives will fail or may be damaged by fire or flood, etc. It is best to store backups off site.
- Here is what backups can do:
 - Backup local drive
 - Backup to cloud storage
 - Image backup
 - Incremental backups
 - Free cloud storage.
 - Backup “in-use” files
 - Automated backup
 - Multi-platform (Windows, Mac, Linux) backup
- Dennis described nine programs. They are not in ranking order and vary in features and ability.
 - SOFTLAND’S FBACKUP will make a mirror copy (or clone) of the hard drive among many other features.
 - LIFEWIRE’S EASEUS TODO BACKUP FREE is the only one listed with free cloud storage.
 - COBIANSOFT’S REFLECTOR has many features.
 - PARAGON’S BACKUP RECOVERY COMMUNITY EDITION will only do file backup.
 - SIBER SYSTEM’S GOODSYNC FREE will backup only 100 files.
 - FREEFILE SYNC’S FREEFILE SYNC will backup only files.
 - AOMEI’S BACKUPPER STANDARD has many features,

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- PERFECT BACKUP'S PERFECT BACKUP has many features.
 - MICROSOFT WINDOWS FILE HISTORY for Windows Vista through Windows 10 will backup only files and MICROSOFT WINDOWS FILE HISTORY for Windows 11 will backup only files to OneDrive.
 - Dennis has not used any of the above; he uses Acronis True Image 2019, the last version with a permanent license. Later versions require a yearly subscription. Dennis mentioned that Gene Barlow, who has been a consultant for Acronis and has sold True Image to computer club members for half price, is retiring. His website, which is still selling Acronis software, will close at the end of March 2024. (Note: this date has been extended.)

50-50 Drawing

Since less than \$21 was collected, there was one prize. Jan Bredon won the prize, chose the money, and donated it to the club.

Discussion:

Gerald Schaefer asked how to tell when a Chromebook will have no more updates, and Jan said he Googled Chromebook expiration date. Tim Elder mentioned that he is using an outdated Chromebook that still works even though it gets no updates.

Gerald showed how he used a Tile that looks like a credit card to find his wallet.

Several people mentioned how searching for something on the internet will bring up multiple related ads.

Dennis and Jan talked about collecting from some class action lawsuits.

Adjourn:

Tim Elder moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Jim Albright seconded the motion, The meeting was adjourned at 8:58.

Respectfully submitted pending Board approval,
Liz Milford, Secretary



CAMUG Board Meeting 2/26/2024

President Dennis Smith called the CAMUG Board meeting to order about 7:00 PM on Monday, March 25, 2024, via Zoom. Six officers and Board members were present; therefore, the meeting was declared valid. Membership Chair Carol Joliat was also present.

President	Present	Dennis Smith	president@camug.com
Secretary	Present	Liz Milford	secretary@camug.com
Treasurer	Present	Tim Elder	treasurer@camug.com
Senior Director	Present	Alice Lungociu	directors@camug.com
Director	Present	Bruce Klipec	
Director	Present	Jan Bredon	
Director at Large		Eric Gunn	
Web Page	Present	Dennis Smith	webmaster@camug.com
Software and Book Review	Present	Jan Bredon	
Membership	Present	Carol Joliat	membership@camug.com
Newsletter	Present	Liz Milford	newsletter@camug.com
Computer 101	Present	Carol Joliat	
Ways and Means	Present	Jan Bredon	
Others Present			

Approval of Minutes:

March Regular Meeting: The March Regular meeting minutes had been emailed to the Board by Liz Milford. Jan Bredon moved to accept the March 18, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes. Alice Lungociu seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

February Board Meeting: The February Board meeting minutes were printed in the March 2024 newsletter. Alice Lungociu moved to accept the February 26, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes. Jan Bredon seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: The March Treasurer's report had been emailed to the Board by Tim Elder. Jan Bredon moved to accept the March 2024 Treasurer's report. Liz Milford seconded the motion, and the report was approved.

Membership Report: Carol Joliat reported that we currently have 24 family memberships. Doris Ponzani renewed her membership and both Michael Doyle and Jessie Girt rejoined.

April meeting topic:

April 15th meeting will be held in-person and on Zoom.

6:15 PM: Chit Chat

6:30 PM: Two videos by Hewie Poplock: “Better Battery Management” and “Handling Fake Facebook Friend Requests”

7:05 PM: “Whys and Hows of Disk Partitioning” by Dennis Smith

Old Business:

Dennis mentioned that the By-Laws should be reviewed. Three people had made comments. They will gather the comments and start the process.

New Business:

It is time to audit the books. Alice Lungociu agreed to do it.

Motion to Adjourn:

At 8:44 PM Liz Milford moved to adjourn. Tim Elder seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted pending Board approval,
Liz Milford

About CAMUG

Our club is open to anyone with an interest in computers and technology. A household membership is only \$20 per year, and a visitor can attend two meetings free without any obligation.

Normally, monthly meetings are held the third Monday of the month at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 7707 Market Ave. in North Canton, Ohio, and also on Zoom. Computer 101 begins at 6:30 PM and the regular meeting begins at 7:05 PM. At every meeting, we cover topics ranging from cell phones to computers and from software to the internet and networking. Board meetings are held the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 PM using Zoom. Members are encouraged to attend the Board meeting although only Board members can vote. Members can email Dennis Smith (denniss@camug.com) to get the Zoom link to the Board meeting.

The club mailing address is CAMUG, PO Box 80192, Canton, OH 44708. The web site is at <http://www.camug.com>. CAMUG has a Facebook page called CAMUG Users Group at <https://www.facebook.com/CAMUG-Users-Group-100732168306718>. CAMUG also has a blog at <https://camugoh.blogspot.com>.

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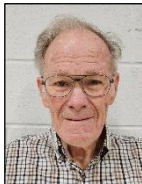
CAMUG is a member of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups. APCUG is a worldwide organization that helps groups devoted to the world of technology by facilitating communications between member groups and industry. It offers the Saturday Safaris and Wednesday Workshops, provides newsletter articles, and has a list of speakers for club programs. Explore the APCUG website at <https://www.apcug2.org>, and the APCUG Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/APCUG>.



Membership

By Carol Joliat
March 2024

Renewed: Doris Ponzani
Rejoined: Michael Doyle and Jesse Girt
Total Family Memberships: 24



CAMUG Monthly Summary

Tim W. Elder, Treasurer 3/18/24

	Cash	Checking	Total
Start Balances	\$60.00	\$446.55	\$506.55
Total Income	\$67.00	\$20.00	\$87.00
Total Expenses	\$0.00	\$34.98	\$34.98
Transfer	-\$67.00	\$67.00	\$0.00
End Balances	\$60.00	\$498.57	\$558.57

CAMUG Officers

President: Dennis Smith 330-477-5893
Secretary: Liz Milford 330-620-5178
Treasurer: Tim Elder 330-875-2323
Senior. Director: Alice Lungociu
Director: Bruce Klipec
Director: Jan Bredon: 234-564-0045
Director at Large: Eric Gunn: 330-495-4990
Membership: Carol Joliat
Asst. Membership: Alice Lungociu
Web Page:
Newsletter: Liz Milford 330-620-5178
Tim Elder 330-875-2323
Computer 101: Carol Joliat
Ways and Means: Jan Bredon

List of Members

Name	E-Mail
Albright, Jim	jima
Bredon, Jan	janb
Brugger, Bruce	bruceb
Curtis, Mitch	mithc
Dorety, Janet	janetd
Doyle, Michael	michaeld
Elder, Tim	time
Girt, Jesse	jesseg
Gunn, Eric	ericg
Joliat, Carol	carolj
Klipec, Bruce	brucek
Kramer, Cecelia	ceceliak
Krantz, Cheryl	cherylk
Lungociu, Alice	alichel
McCoy, Myra	myram
Middleton, Linda	lindam
Milford, Elizabeth	elizabethm
Parker, Cherie	cheriep
Persons, Pauline	paulinep
Ponzani, Doris	dorisp
Schaefer, Gerald	geralds
Shockling, Dale	dales
Smith, Dennis	denniss
Watkins, Ross	rossw

To email members, use the email
name above followed by
@camug.com

Visit our Home Page:

<http://www.camug.com>

Our Facebook Page:

CAMUG Users Group

Our Blog:

<https://camugoh.blogspot.com>

**Need help
with your electronic gadgets?**



Canton Alliance Massillon Users Group
Computer Users Group

Assistance for users of all ages and skill levels

When: 3rd Monday each month

Where: Holy Cross Lutheran Church

7707 Market Ave. N

North Canton, OH

Currently, we are also meeting via Zoom

Email us for a Zoom invitation!

Time **6:15 PM:** Chit-Chat

6:30 PM: Computer 101

7:00 PM: Five-minute break

7:05 PM Meeting

Ongoing topics include:

Computers Tablets Digital Photography

Smart Phones eBooks Toys & Gadgets

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