

Evolutionist of intelligence. Introduction

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Abstract

It would be hard to find a more fervent advocate of the position that computers are of profound significance to philosophy than Aaron Sloman. Yet, he is not a stereotypical proponent of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Far from it; in his writings, he undermines several popular convictions of functionalists. Through his drafts and polemics, Sloman definitely exerts quite substantial influence on the philosophy of Artificial Intelligence. Sloman's paper "Evolution: The Computer Systems Engineer Designing Minds" presents a bold hypothesis that the evolution of the human mind actually involved the development of a several dozen of virtual machines that support various forms of self-monitoring. This, in turn, helps explain different features of our cognitive functioning.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, computer, functionalist, philosophy of mind, Sloman Aaron.