# Autonomous agent

An **autonomous agent** is an *intelligent agent* operating on an owner's behalf but without any interference of that ownership entity. An *intelligent agent*, however appears according to a multiply cited statement in a no longer accessible IBM white paper as follows:

Intelligent agents are software entities that carry out some set of operations on behalf of a user or another program with some degree of independence or autonomy, and in so doing, employ some knowledge or representation of the user's goals or desires.

Such an agent is a system situated in, and part of, a technical or natural environment, which senses any or some status of that environment, and acts on it in pursuit of its own agenda. Such an agenda evolves from drives (or programmed goals). The agent acts to change part of the environment or of its status and influences what it sensed.

Non-biological examples include intelligent agents, autonomous robots, and various software agents, including artificial life agents, and many computer viruses. Biological examples are not yet defined.

### 1 References

- Franklin, Stan and Graesser, Art (1997) "Is it an Agent, or just a Program?: A Taxonomy for Autonomous Agents", Intelligent Agents III, Berlin: Springer Verlag, 21-35,
- Sun, Ron (September 1, 2001). Duality of the Mind: A Bottom-up Approach Toward Cognition. New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum. p. 304. ISBN 978-0-585-39404-6.

### 2 External links

- Autonomous Robot Behaviors
- Requirements for materializing Autonomous Agents

### 3 See also

Autonomous robot

- · Intelligent agent
- Multi-agent system
- Software agent

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