

The Voice of the Turtle  
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Forty years ago (I'd say "Fifty" but I was still a kid in 1956) we all knew pretty much what 2006 would be like: We'd all have human-level robot servants like Robby (Forbidden Planet), and ubiquitous spoken access to super-human-level disembodied intelligences like the Star Trek Computer ("Working.") and HAL (minus the homicidal mania). The future sure isn't what it used to be! How could so many of us have been so wrong about so much?

This talk will range as far afield as examining how people make predictions, in particular are led into making false predictions; whether the Turing Test was a good idea; the Top 10 reasons AI is so far behind schedule; and, of course, what part I've played in all this (good, bad, and ugly -- but hopefully not temporally in that order) and hope to play the next few years. Sure, that includes talking some about machine learning (Why AM and Eurisko Appear to Work), expert systems, and Cyc.