

**BCA Hons. Degree Part - III**

**Subject : AUTOCAD**

**Topic - AutoLISP**

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*Submitted by*

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# AutoLISP

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AutoLISP is a programming language designed for extending and customizing the functionality of AutoCAD. It is based on the LISP programming language, whose origins date back to the late 1950s. LISP was originally designed for use in Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications, and is still the basis for many AI applications.

AutoLISP was introduced as an application programming interface (API) in AutoCAD Release 2.1, in the mid-1980s. LISP was chosen as the initial AutoCAD API because it was uniquely suited for the unstructured design process of AutoCAD projects, which involved repeatedly trying different solutions to design problems.

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AutoLISP is a programming language built directly into AutoCAD. With AutoLISP, you can perform arithmetic operations, create variables, execute AutoCAD commands, assign values to system variables, and even create entirely new AutoCAD commands. The power of AutoLISP enable users and independent software developers to provide all sorts of enhancements to the basic AutoCAD program.

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AutoLISP is an interpreted language, which means that, instead of being compiled into binary code that only the computer can read, the AutoLISP program source code is read directly and interpreted by the computer when the program is actually run. This means that we can write AutoLISP programs by using any ASCII text editor, and then load and run those programs directly in AutoCAD.

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We can even type AutoLISP code directly at AutoCAD's command line. As we are already seen, we can also include AutoLISP commands inside menus and scripts. The ability to type AutoLISP commands directly at AutoCAD's command line makes it easy to experiment with AutoLISP.

thank you

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