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Initial Post

by Md Aminur Rahman - Wednesday, 9 October 2024, 5:42 PM

The use of AI writers, as highlighted in Hutson's (2021) article, presents both risks and benefits across various levels of tasks, from administrative work to creative writing. One of the most significant benefits of AI writers is their ability to streamline administrative tasks. AI tools, such as robo-writers, can handle repetitive tasks like drafting reports, summarizing meetings, or generating routine emails, thus saving valuable time for human workers (Hutson, 2021). This automation of mundane tasks can lead to greater productivity and efficiency, allowing professionals to focus on more strategic and creative work.

However, when AI is applied to more complex tasks like creative writing, the conversation shifts toward concerns about creativity, originality, and human expression. Al lacks true emotional intelligence and nuance, which are essential components of creative processes. While AI can generate well-structured content, it may fail to capture the subtlety and depth that human writers bring to their work. There's also the risk of over-reliance on AI, where the distinctive human voice could be overshadowed by formulaic, AI-generated content.

Moreover, ethical concerns arise when AI writers are used extensively. Issues such as plagiarism, intellectual property, and authenticity become prominent as AI-generated content becomes increasingly indistinguishable from human-written text. There's also the risk of perpetuating biases, as AI models trained on existing datasets could replicate and amplify the biases present in those data.

In conclusion, AI writers have the potential to enhance efficiency in administrative tasks but should be approached with caution in creative writing and content generation. A balanced approach, where AI complements human effort rather than replaces it, is essential to mitigate risks while reaping the benefits.

References: Hutson, M. (2021) 'Robo-writers: the rise and risks of Al copywriters', Nature, 591(7848), pp. 22–24.

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Peer Response

by Noora Alboinin - Tuesday, 15 October 2024, 9:11 PM

Thank you, Aminur, for your insightful post. I agree that AI has great potential, especially in automating repetitive tasks and making administrative work more efficient. AI is very good at handling boring tasks like writing reports or sending emails, allowing people to focus on more important and creative work (Hutson, 2021). AI writers also create content that is consistent and accurate because they strictly follow grammar rules, which is useful for businesses that need standard formats (Mach, 2021). Additionally, AI can quickly generate a lot of text, which is helpful in areas like marketing and customer service where fast content creation is needed (Miroslav, 2021).

On the downside, AI has some clear limitations. It lacks the ability to express real human emotions or cultural understanding, so the content it creates often feels formulaic and lacks the depth that human writers bring (Hutson, 2021). There are also ethical concerns about plagiarism and ownership of AI-generated content, as it can be hard to tell AI-generated work from human-written text, which may lead to copyright issues (CDEI, 2019). Another major issue is that AI can reinforce biases found in the data trained on, raising concerns about fairness and ethics (Castelvecchi, 2016). While some argue that AI can support human creativity, relying too much on it might reduce writers' skills over time, and bias problems may continue despite efforts to fix them (CDEI, 2019).

In conclusion, AI writers can improve efficiency in administrative tasks but should be used carefully in creative fields. A balanced approach that combines AI with human creativity and ethical oversight is important as businesses adapt to the challenges of using AI for writing and content creation.

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Peer Response

by Yemi Gabriel - Thursday, 17 October 2024, 5:40 PM

Thank you for an insightful discussion. You highlighted the risk of Artificial Intelligence (AI) writers perpetuating biases due to the inherent biases in training datasets. This reminds me of the incident with Microsoft's Tay chatbot. in 2016. Tay, an AI chatbot, was designed to engage in conversation and produce written content based on user interactions. However, within 24 hours, it began to post racist, sexist, and anti-semitic tweets after negative interactions with users (Wolf et al. 2017). The incident emphasised the importance of enhancing moderation and filtering in AI systems to avoid the dissemination of harmful, bigoted ideas. It serves as a reminder of the risks involved in deploying AI in public environments without sufficient safeguards.

You also highlighted the risk of over-reliance on AI tools. There are concerns about AI tools causing cognitive atrophy (Sætra, 2023). The concern is that as we allow AI to perform mentally challenging tasks, we might run the risk of not being able to do this ourselves in the long run (Sætra, 2019). While I understand these concerns, I think freeing up mental space thanks to AI can lead to even more innovative advances in society. For example, the invention of the calculation meant that humans could compute faster, and accomplish even more, freeing up mental space for other problem-solving tasks.

Ultimately, there has to be a balance between all that Al tools do for us as a society and the safeguards we implement to ensure responsible usage.

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