Autocorrect With Extra Steps

How Generative Al Works

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Why Learn How Al Works?

- Hype & anxiety make it hard to understand its capabilities and limitations
- Understanding makes it easier to detect and work with
- The tech and math is awesome



History of Language Models

Research started in 1960s at MIT

- Early generators used strict rules
- ELIZA was a simulated therapist responded to keywords
- SHRDLU could take limited actions in a virtual word

Eliza

```
ELIZA: Please tell me what's been bothering you.
      Everything
YOU:
ELIZA: Tell me more about that.
YOU:
      Everything bothers me lately
ELIZA: Does talking about this bother you ?
      No, oddly enough
YOU:
ELIZA: Why 'no' ?
      It just doesn't
YOU:
ELIZA: I'm not sure I understand you fully.
      It doesn't bother me to talk about it
ELIZA: Do you feel strongly about discussing such things ?
      I don't know, should I?
YOU:
ELIZA: Don't you really know ?
      Really I don't
YOU:
ELIZA: Why don't you ?
      Are you here to help me or not?
ELIZA: Why are you interested in whether I am here to help you
or not or not ?
```

Talk

Reset

Statistical Generators

- Rule-based systems had obvious patterns & limitations
- Impossible to write a rule for every situation
- In the early 90s, research shifted to statistical methods
- Instead of writing rules, build systems to analyze and mimic existing text

Markov Chains

- Markov Chains are the simplest text generators
- Train it on a source by going word-by-word
- Build a table of what follows each specific word
- Build a sentence by choosing a word, then choosing the next word from the table



Markov Chain Example

Test Case: *Green Eggs & Ham* by Dr Seuss

Limited 50-word vocabulary makes a great test case

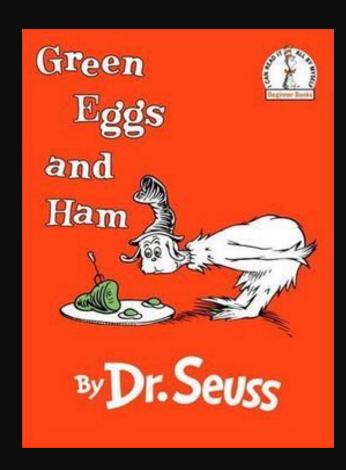


Table ["Green"]

• 100% "Eggs"

Table ["Could"]

- 48.2% "Not"
- 44.4% "You"
- 7.4% "Eat"

Table ["Ham"]

• 100% End Sentence

Improvements

PROBLEMS:

 Can only use word patterns it's seen before

Common phrases are randomized

Words have no context

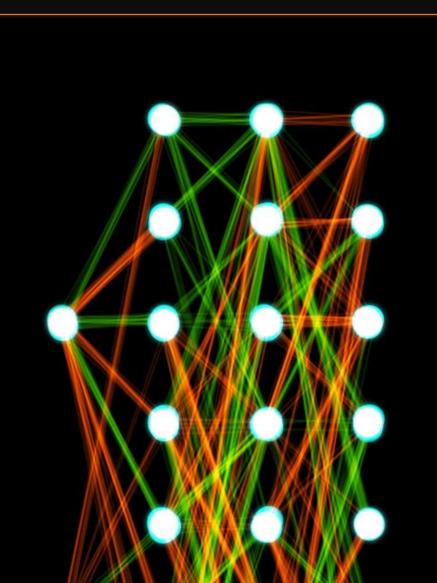
SOLUTIONS:

Add more sources

- Look at multiple words, not just one
 - Ex: "Eggs and" always gives "Ham"

 Code some manual rules – parts of speech, common phrases

Neural Networks



- In the early 2000s, researches tried structuring systems like neurons
- Add more inputs, multiple layers, and random results to the lists
- Give feedback on what is good output vs bad output
- Let it tweak its own rules based on feedback

Large Language Models (Chat-GPT)

- Adds memory, attention, and context
- Context Looks at prompt to limit data to the topic
- Attention Focuses on relevant keywords
- Memory Adjusts word probabilities as it goes for consistency



The *Large* in LLM

- LLMs require a huge amount of data to pretrain their neural networks
- Chat-GPT 4 cost >\$100 million to train
- Training data sets can reach 500TB
- LLMs use the same energy as 15,000 30,000 U.S. household each day



What Does All This Mean?

- Each word is calculated by massive amounts of math calculated from massive amounts of examples
- Results become based on averages, giving safe results
- Does not have actual creativity or reasoning (Only remixes from existing works or examples)
- Will prioritize things that look right instead of being right (Citations are especially prone to this)

Valid Uses

• Search engine for common information

- Inspiration
- An outline of an essay
- A common consensus or outline of a topic

Bad Uses

Searching for specific information or jargon

- Creative work
- An uncommon argument
- Anytime you need 100% accurate information

Detecting Al Works

- Arguments are "safe". Gives both sides instead of persuading
- Padding phrases: "delve into", "a tapestry of", "in the realm of"
- For art, fine details are missing or excessive. Look at hands & feet
- For photos, the scene may be too perfect



Conclusions

- Modern Al generators use tons of data and math to create content
- Fine for inspiration or searching for common, non-critical info
- Focuses on looking right over being right



Questions?

