Open-source Chat-bot creators

1. Microsoft bot framework:

The Microsoft approach is primarily code-driven and aimed exclusively at developers. It can also integrate with Luis, its natural language understanding engine.

2. Botkit:

Botkit is now part of the Microsoft Bot Framework. It is known for being a code-centric platform that is easy for developers to use. Botkit is just one part of a bigger set of developer tools and SDKs that encompass the Microsoft Bot Framework. The Bot Framework SDK provides the base upon which Botkit is built. It is available in multiple programming languages.

3. Botpress:

Botpress is designed to build chatbots using visual flows and small amounts of training data in the form of intents, entities, and slots. This vastly reduces the cost of developing chatbots and decreases the barrier to entry that can be created by data requirements.

4. Rasa:

Rasa is a pioneer in open-source natural language understanding engines and a well-established framework. Instead of defining visual flows and intents within the platform, Rasa allows developers to create stories (training data scenarios) that are designed to train the bot.

5. Wit.ai:

Wit.ai is an open-source chatbot framework that was acquired by Facebook in 2015. The Natural Language Processing (NLP) engine in Wit.ai's chatbot framework is robust and capable when compared to its competitors like

Microsoft, Amazon and IBM. The SDK for Wit.ai is available in multiple languages such as Python, Ruby, and NodeJS.

6. Botfront:

It is an open-source framework which links with Rasa framework to create bots. This provides a GUI which is absent in Rasa. It runs on the local machine, like Rasa.

Name	Ease of use	Open source / paid	Deployment
Microsoft bot framework	Online cloud based	Open source	Deployed in Azure
Typebot.io	Online cloud based (Interactive tree-based look for easier understanding)	Open source	Can integrate with various platforms
Chatwoot	Online cloud based	Open source	Deployed using Ruby
Botpress	Online cloud based	Open source	Needs a personal token key to deploy the bot
Botfront	Must be installed on local PC	Open source	Can be integrated with Git. Needs deployment webhook
Rasa	Must be installed on PC	Open source	Deployment is harder compared to the remaining dataframes.

These are one of the few widely used bot frameworks. I have tested few of them and tried to explore them. Among all these, IBM Watson Assistant was the easiest to understand and implement.

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