Discussion 8: Navigating Originality and Ethics in AI-Generated Content

Discussion Topic:

There has been an increase in AI and bots that are ingesting information and creating their own content. Click the links below and read the content.
Then, express your thoughts about this concept. Do you think AI can really take in existing information and create something original?
Should the original sources be credited since it is technology driven, or is it similar to a person learning about a topic and creating their own work?
How do you think this can evolve in the future?

https://twitter.com/KeatonPatti/status/1072877290902745089Links to an external site.
https://twitter.com/KeatonPatti/status/1050396467674968064Links to an external site.
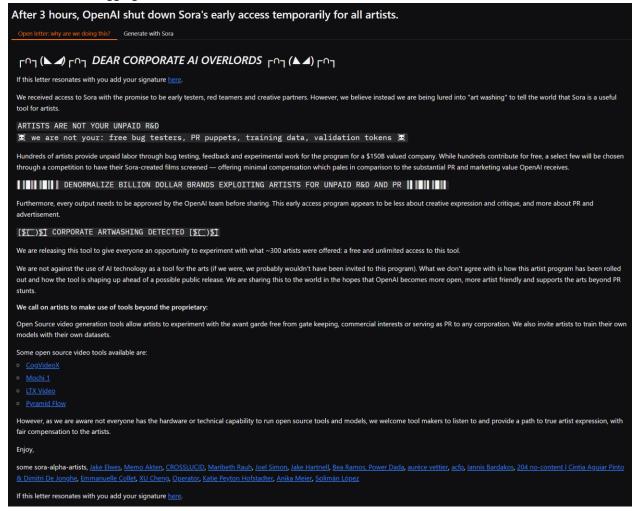
My Post:

Hello Class,

The two X posts are very funny; they read like they were written by 5-year-old humans. If they could write at all and with excellent grammar. I wonder if forcing a 5-year-old's kids to watch 1,000 hours of lawyer commercials and then asking them to tell a story based on what they saw would result in something similar. What do you think?

The two X posts preceded the release of the chatbot ChatGPT in November 2022, which can be defined as truly the first generative AI. An AI like ChatGPT generates text by analyzing datasets and identifying patterns. In other words, it mimics text based on patterns in the data it processes, it is a very synthesized process. This process can result in unexpected combinations or specific styles can feel creative. I think that they may be categorized as AI original text creation; however, they are not novel text creation, in the sense that the AI does not come up with new ideas, it just rehashes old ideas learned from process data. However, newer models like OpenAI's o1 are, to some extent, capable of generating novel ideas by using a combination of chain-of-thought reasoning and reinforcement learning methods. These are reasoning-based models that can find new solutions to difficult problems. Similar to regular generative AI this process is very synthesized, missing personality.

AI does not possess emotions, as humans do, at least not yet, resulting in outputs generated in a mechanical manner; in other words, they lack originality. In a legal sense, AI outputs are mechanically created by processing datasets of original works and synthesizing patterns, which may result in the generation of novel ideas based on those original works. Therefore, the original works/sources should be credited for all outputs and novel ideas generated by AI. However, the works/sources used by AI are derived from extremely vast datasets, making it nearly impossible in most cases to credit a specific individual or even a group of individuals. AIs like ChatGPT 4o and o1 were trained on gigantic datasets including books, articles, and other publicly available content, on the entire internet; in other words, on the entire publicly (and not so much public) available human knowledge making it impossible to pinpoint the exact origin of any single idea or output.

The future of AI content creation will likely impact in a significant way creative industries such as entertainment, journalism, and art. I am not sure how this will play out, as the ability of AI to generate continues to grow and it is almost limitless in the variations of text, images, and even videos that it can create. This raises profound questions about the future of human creativity...

Just today the OpenAI Sora model was leaked by a group of early testers. Sora is an advanced text-to-video AI model capable of generating videos from textual descriptions. The testers were artists hired to test the model capacity instead they decided to leak the model to the public and publish the following manifesto on HuggingFacce website:

After 3 hours, OpenAI shut down Sora's early access temporarily for all artists.

Open letter: why are we doing this?   Generate with Sora

⌐∩⌐ (◣◢) ⌐∩⌐ *DEAR CORPORATE AI OVERLORDS* ⌐∩⌐ (◣◢) ⌐∩⌐

If this letter resonates with you add your signature here.

We received access to Sora with the promise to be early testers, red teamers and creative partners. However, we believe instead we are being lured into "art washing" to tell the world that Sora is a useful tool for artists.

ARTISTS ARE NOT YOUR UNPAID R&D
☒ we are not your: free bug testers, PR puppets, training data, validation tokens ☒

Hundreds of artists provide unpaid labor through bug testing, feedback and experimental work for the program for a $150B valued company. While hundreds contribute for free, a select few will be chosen through a competition to have their Sora-created films screened — offering minimal compensation which pales in comparison to the substantial PR and marketing value OpenAI receives.

▌▐▌▐▌▐▌ DENORMALIZE BILLION DOLLAR BRANDS EXPLOITING ARTISTS FOR UNPAID R&D AND PR ▌▐▌▐▌▐▌

Furthermore, every output needs to be approved by the OpenAI team before sharing. This early access program appears to be less about creative expression and critique, and more about PR and advertisement.

[$⌐)$] CORPORATE ARTWASHING DETECTED [$⌐)$]

We are releasing this tool to give everyone an opportunity to experiment with what ~300 artists were offered: a free and unlimited access to this tool.

We are not against the use of AI technology as a tool for the arts (if we were, we probably wouldn't have been invited to this program). What we don't agree with is how this artist program has been rolled out and how the tool is shaping up ahead of a possible public release. We are sharing this to the world in the hopes that OpenAI becomes more open, more artist friendly and supports the arts beyond PR stunts.

We call on artists to make use of tools beyond the proprietary:

Open Source video generation tools allow artists to experiment with the avant garde free from gate keeping, commercial interests or serving as PR to any corporation. We also invite artists to train their own models with their own datasets.

Some open source video tools available are:
- CogVideoX
- Mochi 1
- LTX Video
- Pyramid Flow

However, as we are aware not everyone has the hardware or technical capability to run open source tools and models, we welcome tool makers to listen to and provide a path to true artist expression, with fair compensation to the artists.

Enjoy,

some sora-alpha-artists, Jake Elwes, Memo Akten, CROSSLUCID, Maribeth Rauh, Joel Simon, Jake Hartnell, Bea Ramos, Power Dada, aurèce vettier, acfp, Iannis Bardakos, 204 no-content | Cintia Aguiar Pinto & Dimitri De Jonghe, Emmanuelle Collet, XU Cheng, Operator, Katie Peyton Hofstadter, Anika Meier, Solimán López

If this letter resonates with you add your signature here.

Note: From "After 3 hours, OpenAI shut down Sora's early access temporarily for all artists" by PR-Puppets/PR-Puppet-Sora (2024, November 26) https://huggingface.co/spaces/PR-Puppets/PR-Puppet-Sora

The above shows how complicated the relationship between generative AI and the artist community can be; and hints at the possibility of a very rocky future between the two.

-Alex