

GenAl VOOR ONDERWIJS- EN

ONDERZOEKSDOELEINDEN

(BACHELOR- EN MASTERPROEF)

Jasper Degraeuwe – 23 oktober 2025

GenAl @ VTC



ABOUT ME

- Department of Translation, Interpreting and Communication
- PhD on Intelligent Computer-Assisted Language Learning (ICALL)

ICALL ≈ CALL + AI and NLP

 Postdoctoral researcher on educational technologies and Al for language learning



DISCLAIMER





COGNITIVE COST OF BLIND AI USE

As the educational impact of LLM use only begins to settle with the general population, in this preliminary study we demonstrate the pressing matter to explore further any potential changes in learning skills based on the results of our study. The use of LLM had a measurable impact on our participants, and while the benefits were initially apparent, as we

demonstrated over the course of 4 sessions, which took place over 4 months, the LLM group's participants performed worse than their counterparts in the Brain-only group at all levels: neural, linguistic, scoring.



Bacon ice cream and nugget overload sees misfiring McDonald's AI withdrawn

18 June 2024

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Tom Gerken Technology reporter



Taco Bell rethinks AI drive-through after man orders 18,000 waters

29 August 2025 Save ☐

Shiona McCallum Senior Tech Reporter



Meta investigated over AI having 'sensual' chats with children

Charlotte Edwards Technology reporter, BBC News



<u>HUMAN WITHOUT THE AI LOOP</u>

- Starting point: is use of AI necessary / beneficial?
- 30-min chat with supervisor versus 30-min chat with chatbot
- Creating graphic in Excel versus creating graphic with chatbot



GENERATIVE AI



GHENT UNIVERSITY

- Overarching guidelines -> "responsible" use is allowed
 - University: https://www.ugent.be/genai
 - Faculty: Ufora "INFOSITE Faculteit Letteren en Wijsbegeerte"
- Leerpad for teachers and for students (updated!)
- Onderzoeks- en onderwijstips (more ad hoc)
- Other workshops/courses (e.g., on UTOP)



GHENT UNIVERSITY

Een **verantwoord gebruik** van generatieve AI is **altijd toegelaten tenzij** een lesgever het gebruik bij (een deel van) een taak expliciet verbiedt, waardoor die taak in een gecontroleerde setting moet plaatsvinden.

GHENT UNIVERSITY

Generatieve AI aan de UGent

De UGent kiest voor een verantwoord gebruik van generatieve AI. Onder verantwoord gebruik verstaan we de volgende kernwaarden:

- Verantwoordelijkheid en onafhankelijk handelen je bent en blijft verantwoordelijk voor wat je doet met de tools,
- Eerlijkheid en kritische houding je checkt de betrouwbaarheid en de bron van de output van de tools, in het kader van auteursrechten, en je bent, waar nodig, eerlijk over het gebruik van de tools,
- Respectvol gebruik je bent je bewust van mogelijke vooroordelen en bias in de output van de tools,
- Zorgvuldig en duurzaam gebruik je zet mogelijke efficiëntie door AI-gebruik af tegenover het energieverbruik.
- Veilig en vertrouwelijk omgaan met informatie je uploadt geen confidentiële en vertrouwelijke data,
- Voorbeeldgedrag je leeft bovenstaande kernwaarden na en wordt zo een voorbeeld voor anderen.

Meer informatie over verantwoord gebruik vind je in het <u>Universiteitsbrede richtkader voor het verantwoord</u> gebruik van AI aan de <u>UGent</u>.

FACULTY L&W

- Mandatory report for writing tasks
- Template and guidelines available on Ufora info site



OVERVIEW



<u>OVERVIEW – GenAl FOR EDUCATION</u>

- 1. Possibilities advanced tools
- 2. Prompting techniques
- 3. Retrieval-augmented generation

→ Hands-on and interactive!



OVERVIEW – GenAl FOR BAP / MAP

- 1. GenAl in pre-research phase
- 2. GenAl as part of research methodology
 - A. "LLM as a judge"
 - B. Synthetic data
 - C. Questionnaires
- 3. GenAl for data visualisation
- 4. Important observations / pitfalls

→ Hands-on and interactive!



GenAl FOR EDUCATION



1. POSSIBILITIES ADVANCED TOOLS



<u>DEMOS</u>

- Essay writing
 - Based on written or multimodal instructions
- Research papers (e.g., masterproef)
- "Study mode" in ChatGPT, "Learning mode" in Claude
- Generate notes for slides and/or slides themselves
- API (= access LLM via programming script)



<u>CONCLUSION</u>

- Being aware of possibilities = being able to anticipate
- Adequate evaluation methods are essential
- Useful for preparing classes / coursebook materials?



2. PROMPTING TECHNIQUES



PROMPTING TECHNIQUES

 Zero-shot prompting (= ask question without giving any additional context)



PROMPTING TECHNIQUES

- Zero-shot prompting (= ask question without giving any additional context)
- Few-shot prompting (= add series of examples to question)



EXAMPLES



You

Give me three example sentences of no longer than 20 words that clarify the meaning and usage of the word "ubiquitous".

- 1. Smartphones are now ubiquitous, found everywhere from bustling cities to remote villages.
- 2. The internet has made information ubiquitous, accessible to anyone with a connection.
- 3. Coffee shops are ubiquitous in urban areas, appearing on nearly every street corner.











EXAMPLES



You

ubiquitous → Sentence 1: "Smartphones are now ubiquitous, found everywhere from bustling cities to remote villages." | Sentence 2: "The internet has made information ubiquitous, accessible to anyone with a connection." | Sentence 3: "Coffee shops are ubiquitous in urban areas, appearing on nearly every street corner."

nonplussed →



ChatGPT

Sentence 1: "Despite her best efforts, Jane was nonplussed by the unexpected turn of events, unsure of how to react." | Sentence 2: "The politician remained nonplussed by the reporter's probing questions, maintaining a calm demeanor throughout the interview." | Sentence 3: "His nonplussed expression betrayed his confusion at the complex instructions given by his boss."











3. RETRIEVAL-AUGMENTED GENERATION



RAG IN A NUTSHELL

- Input
 - Knowledge base
 - Prompt
- Output
 - Text / image / audio / ... that is generated using the knowledge base as the primary source



RAG IN A NUTSHELL

- Most basic and straightforward form of RAG: attach document to prompt in chatbot interface
- Most advanced form of RAG: fully customised chatbot



RAG: ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS

- Copyright issues
- Real-life use cases
 - Exercise generation
 - Exercise correction
 - Feedback generation

— ...



RAG: LIVE DEMO



<u>CONCLUSION</u>

- Useful if human in the loop
- Be aware that students can easily create custom chatbot too



GenAl FOR BAP / MAP



1. GenAI IN PRE-RESEARCH PHASE



LITERATURE REVIEW

- Elicit
- SciSpace
- Perplexity with "Academic (Search academic papers)" functionality toggled on
- Copilot / ChatGPT / ... with "web search" and "deep research" functionalities toggled on

ONLY OPEN-ACCESS PUBLICATIONS



LITERATURE REVIEW: HUMAN IN THE LOOP

- Search Web of Science, Google Scholar, ...
- Quick)read papers and look up relevant cited papers
- Meet up with supervisor
- Guidelines and tips & tricks offered during BAP / MAP courses



FORMULATE RESEARCH QUESTION

= GenAl as idea generator

- Ask for summary of state of the art
- Ask for research gaps
- The more concrete the starting point, the better



2. GenAl AS PART OF RESEARCH METHODOLOGY



A. LLMASAJUDGE



A. LLM AS A JUDGE

- LLM = large language model
- Core principle = using an LLM to evaluate data instances by scoring or labelling these instances
- Typically refers to judging quality of Al-generated content, but essentially applicable to any target setting



EXAMPLE (AI-GENERATED CONTENT)

- Question: Who is the president of the United States?
- Answers generated by LLM_1
 - A: Donald Trump
 - B: Donald Duck
 - C: A white-haired, orange-faced, old American citizen
- Prompt to LLM_2 (= the "judge"): What is the best answer to the question and what is the worst answer to the question?
- Evaluation generated by LLM_2: best=A | worst=B



EXAMPLE (RESEARCH DATA)

- Research data instances
 - A: Jasper and graphic design, a match made in hell
 - B: Jasper and graphic design, room for improvement
 - C: Simply the best: Jasper revolutionises world of graphic design
- Prompt to LLM (= the "judge"): What headline has the most positive sentiment towards the subject's graphic design skills and what headline has the most negative sentiment?
- Evaluation generated by LLM_2: best=C | worst=A



WHEN POTENTIALLY USEFUL?

- Large digital dataset (text, images, audio, video) to which you want to apply time-consuming and/or labourintensive analysis (e.g., diachronic corpus, word lists, student responses, transcriptions)
- All can analyse huge amounts of data in very little time
 - enables you to analyse more data



"JUDGING" METHODS

- Best-worst scaling
- Pairwise comparison without reference
- Pairwise comparison with reference
- Binary labelling (e.g., yes/no, true/false)
- Categorical labelling (e.g., positive-neutral-negative)
- Numerical labelling (e.g., Likert scale)



ALSO QUALITATIVE CODING!

- Content analysis (e.g., of interview transcripts)
- Coding scheme as part of prompt
- But: if data not protected by model provider → remove personal and sensitive data!



QUALITATIVE CODING: DEMO



International Journal of Accounting Information Systems



Volume 56, December 2025, 100754

A practical guide to implementing ChatGPT as a secondary coder in qualitative research 🖈

Eva Blondeel 🖰 🖾 , Patricia Everaert, Evelien Opdecam

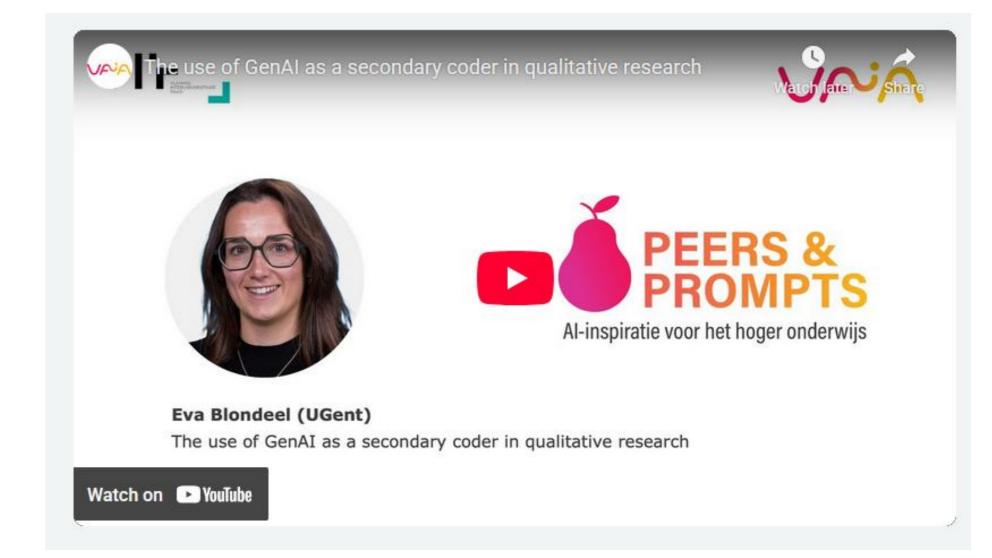
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https://doi.org/10.1016/j.accinf.2025.100754 >

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LIVE DEMOS

- Best-worst scaling to obtain topic-based rankings
- Pairwise comparison for sentiment analysis on news headlines across time



PROMPTING TECHNIQUES

 Zero-shot prompting (= ask question without giving any additional context)



PROMPTING TECHNIQUES

- Zero-shot prompting (= ask question without giving any additional context)
- Few-shot prompting (= add series of examples to question)



WHERE IS THE HUMAN IN THE LOOP?

- Take subset from the dataset and apply same type of analysis but now with human participants
- Calculate correlation between human and Al judgements



B. SYNTHETIC DATA



WHEN POTENTIALLY USEFUL?

- You need more data than you can gather / than is available
- Al tool can take over part of data collection process by generating data that is similar to reference data or data that complies with series of criteria included in prompt
- Typically for training or testing (machine learning) models



PROMPTING TECHNIQUES

- Zero-shot prompting (= ask question without giving any additional context)
- Few-shot prompting (= add series of examples to question)



EXAMPLE AT VTC

 Automatically create suitable practice speeches for conference interpreting training programmes



C. QUESTIONNAIRES



WHEN POTENTIALLY USEFUL?

STEP 1

- Look for existing (validated) instruments / questionnaires
- Approach (see also section on literature overview):
 combination between manual search and prompting GenAl
 model ("Give me five existing, recent instruments on […],
 describe how frequently they are used, and list their pros
 and cons.")



WHEN POTENTIALLY USEFUL?

STEP 2

- Generate first draft of survey questions based on your research objectives, target population, and key variables ("Create a 10-question survey about ...")
- Suggest question types (yes/no, Likert, open text, ...)
- Rephrase questions
- Check if questionnaire meets regulatory requirements (e.g., GDPR)



ALL-IN-ONE FORMULA

 Qualtrics (survey tool for which UGent bought a license) is introducing AI functionalities



3. DATA VISUALISATION



WHEN POTENTIALLY USEFUL?

- Complex spreadsheet data
- Infographics / visuals
- Assistant while making slideshow presentation



WHEN OVERKILL?

- Basic pie/bar charts based on spreadsheet data
- When you can tell your story with existing icons and/or images



(NON-EXHAUSTIVE) OVERVIEW OF TOOLS

SPREADSHEET DATA

- All-purpose Al assistants (Copilot, Perplexity, Le Chat, Claude, ChatGPT, ...)
- Julius Al
- ChartGPT
- Tableau (mainly for businesses)



(NON-EXHAUSTIVE) OVERVIEW OF TOOLS

INFOGRAPHICS

- All-purpose Al assistants
- Canva Al
- NotebookLM
- Piktochart (also for <u>educators</u>)
- Venngage



ONE STEP FURTHER

- If you have some programming knowledge
- Create single graphics / complete notebooks
- Start from your own code and ask GenAl model (e.g.,
 Claude) to refine it or change it for other type of graph
- Ask GenAl model to write code from scratch based on detailed prompt
- Not necessary to share actual dataset!



4. IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS / PITFALLS



IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS

- Write clear instructions
- If possible, have your data labelled in the most structured way possible (CSV, JSON, ...)
- Be careful when introducing personal data into Al-tools
 - → always anonymise / pseudonymise



PITFALLS

- Bias in models (e.g., gender bias)
- Concept of "authentic data" from online sources



WHAT'S NEXT?



<u>UPCOMING SESSIONS</u>

- Sessions on other phases of research
 - Research integrity
 - Data analysis
- Registration
 - https://event.ugent.be/registration/OndersteuningGenalle
 nAlLesgevers



RELEVANT SOURCES

- UGent page on GenAl
- Ufora info sites and leerpaden
- Website on Al-driven tools and resources for (language) education: https://vakgroep-vtc-universiteit-gent.github.io/



INTERESTED IN SUPPORT?

- Send email to <u>vtc.aisupport@ugent.be</u>
- Include
 - Topic of bachelor paper / master's thesis
 - Short description of envisaged research
 - In what part of research planning to use GenAl and what type of support needed?
- Before Friday 14 November 2025



JOUW STEM IS BELANGRIJK

- Wat vond je van deze workshop?
- Wie wil deelnemen aan panelgesprek over GenAl?
 Inspiratienamiddag voor facultaire
 onderwijsondersteuners op donderdag 27 november
 (Nele.Kellens@UGent.be)
- Getuigenissen en concrete ervaringen gezocht om anoniem te delen (<u>Jasper.Degraeuwe@UGent.be</u>)



Al is like teenage sex:

"Everyone talks about it, nobody really knows how to do it, everyone thinks everyone else is doing it, so everyone claims they are doing it."

Credit: Dan Ariely





Jasper Degraeuwe

Postdoctoral researcher

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