Generating Synthetic Documents for Cross-Encoder Re-Rankers: A comparative study of ChatGPT versus human experts

Arian Askari, Mohammad Aliannejadi, Evangelos Kanoulas, Suzan Verberne Leiden Data Science Meetup September 2023



ChatGPT is not immune to mistakes or hallucinations



Treatments for Myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN), include citations.



Myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs) are a group of rare blood disorders characterized by the overproduction of blood cells in the bone marrow. Treatment options for MPNs may vary depending on the specific type of MPN, the severity of the disease, and individual patient factors. Here are some common treatments for MPNs, along with citations to reputable sources:



000

 Cytoreductive Therapy: Drugs like hydroxyurea, interferon-alpha, and ruxolitinib may be used to reduce blood cell production and manage symptoms in high-risk MPNs.

Citation: Vannucchi, A. M., Harrison, C. N., & Lucioni, M. (2018). Classical Philadelphianegative myeloproliferative neoplasms: Diagnosis, treatment, and quality of life. Hematology, 2018(1), 129-139.

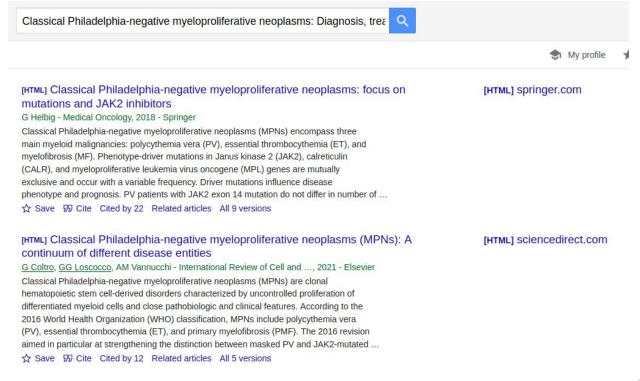
- Example of hallucination by ChatGPT
- The above article does not exist in real-world and hallucinated by ChatGPT

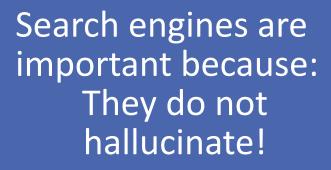
ChatGPT is not immune to mistakes or hallucinations

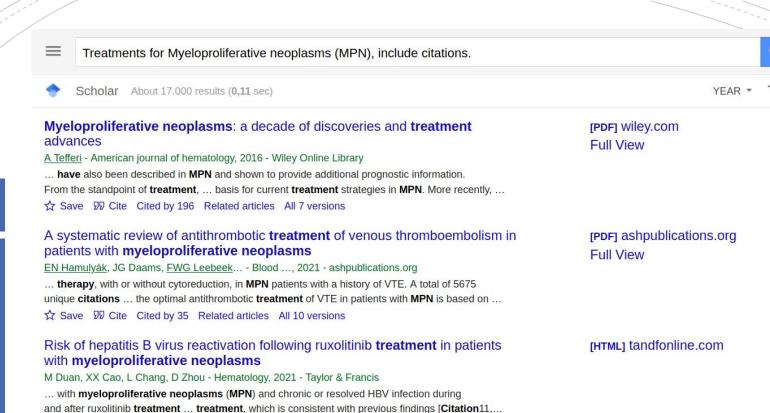
 Cytoreductive Therapy: Drugs like hydroxyurea, interferon-alpha, and ruxolitinib may be used to reduce blood cell production and manage symptoms in high-risk MPNs.

Citation: Vannucchi, A. M., Harrison, C. N., & Lucioni, M. (2018). Classical Philadelphianegative myeloproliferative neoplasms: Diagnosis, treatment, and quality of life. Hematology, 2018(1), 129-139.

 There are existing articles that share word overlap with the title of the hallucinated article.







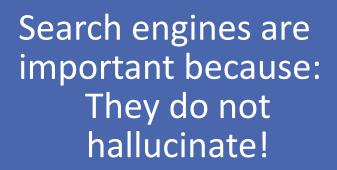
Impact of gene mutations on treatment response and prognosis of acute myeloid

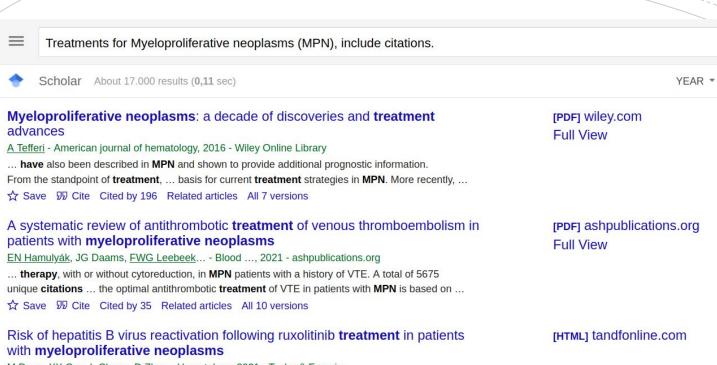
Save 55 Cite Cited by 6 Related articles All 3 versions

- Search engines find the most relevant documents
 - Document are written by human and source of each retrieved document is transparent.

Arian Askari 2023

[PDF] wiley.com





M Duan, XX Cao, L Chang, D Zhou - Hematology, 2021 - Taylor & Francis

... with myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN) and chronic or resolved HBV infection during and after ruxolitinib treatment ... treatment, which is consistent with previous findings [Citation11,...

☆ Save 匆 Cite Cited by 6 Related articles All 3 versions

Impact of gene mutations on **treatment** response and prognosis of acute myeloid

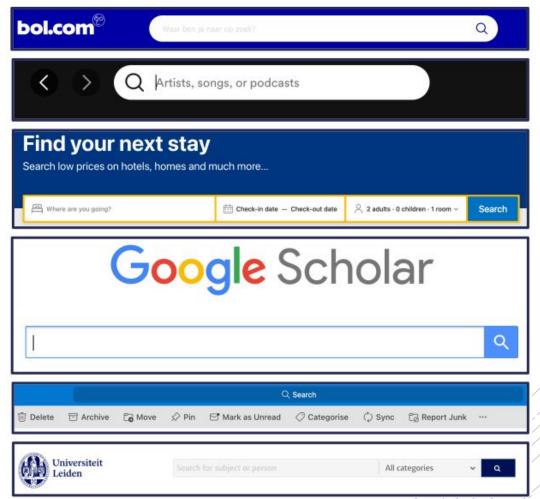
[PDF] wiley.com

- Search engines find the most relevant documents
- Main component of search engines: retrieval models (rankers)
- But, search engines need to be optimized/trained on relatively large amount of training data

Arian Askari 2023

Retrieval objective

- Retrieval objective:
 - Given an unseen question
 - Providing a list of most relevant documents.
- Example of search tasks that are dependent on retrieval models:



Summary:

- The lack of transparency in the source of information generated by ChatGPT can be a bigger concern in domains such as law, medicine, and science, where
 - accountability and trustworthiness are critical
- Ranking models provide more reliability:
 - o as opposed to generative models, they retrieve information
 - source of each retrieved item is transparent.
- Therefore, document retrieval even when generative LLMs are available remains an important application, especially in mentioned domains.
- However, training document retrieval models requires large amount of training data that is labeled by human which is a costly task.
- Our main question in this paper: would it be possible to use ChatGPT to build retrieval models?

Domains considered in this research

- We use four specific domains:
 - Medicine
 - Finance
 - Reddit
 - Wikipedia
- and build ChatGPT-RetrievalQA dataset
 - based on an existing dataset, human
 ChatGPT Comparison Corpus (HC3).



Scan the QR Code to check out the dataset

Example of ChatGPT-RetrievalQA dataset in which each question is answered by a human expert and ChatGPT:

Question: Is chest pain related to intake of clindamycin and oxycodone?Hi, I was recently released from the hospital after a hand surgery and they provided me with Clindamycin 300mg and Oxycodone Acetaminophens. I've taken this combination 3 times now and my chest feels really tight. Is there reason for me to worry?

Human Expert:

The use of Clindamycin can cause stomach pain or a hyperacidity of the stomach.

So, I recommend using a medication to lower the acidity production such as Omeprazole daily.

I also suggest using Maalox three times a day and

avoid food that can trigger the symptoms such as spicy food.

Hope I have answered your query. Let me know if I can assist you further.

Take care.

Regards,

Dr. Dorina Gurabardhi,

General & Family Physician.

ChatGPT:

It is possible that chest pain could be related to the use of Clindamycin and Oxycodone.

However, it is also important to consider other potential causes of chest pain, such as heart problems or other underlying health conditions. It is important to speak with a healthcare provider if you are experiencing chest pain, as this could be a serious issue that requires medical attention. In the meantime, you should follow the instructions of your

healthcare provider and report any adverse effects to them. If you are experiencing difficulty breathing or severe chest pain, you should seek immediate medical attention.

Goal:

- Training retrievers using ChatGPT response

Question:

- What is the effectiveness of rankers trained on ChatGPT-generated responses compare to those trained on human-generated responses?

Human Expert:

The use of Clindamycin can cause stomach pain or a hyperacidity of the stomach.

So, I recommend using a medication to lower the acidity production such as Omeprazole daily.

I also suggest using Maalox three times a day and avoid food that can trigger the symptoms such as spicy food.

Hope I have answered your query. Let me know if I can assist you further.

Take care.

Regards,

Dr. Dorina Gurabardhi, General & Family Physician.

ChatGPT:

It is possible that chest pain could be related to the use of Clindamycin and Oxycodone.

However, it is also important to consider other potential causes of chest pain, such as heart problems or other underlying health conditions. It is important to speak with a healthcare provider if you are experiencing chest pain, as this could be a serious issue that requires medical attention. In the meantime, you should follow the instructions of your healthcare provider and report any adverse effects to them. If you are experiencing difficulty breathing or severe chest pain, you should seek immediate medical attention.

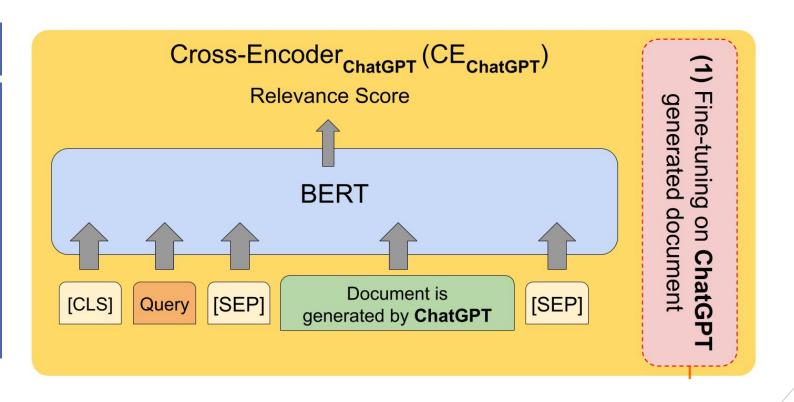
Dataset statistics

Table 1: Statistic on the size of Train, Validation, and Test sets across domains for evaluation of cross-Encoders.

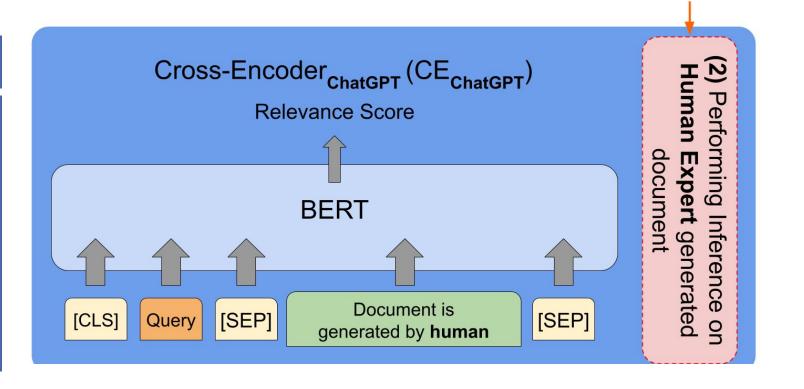
Domain	# of queries				
	Train set Validation set		Test set		
All	16788	606	6928		
Medicine: Meddialog [7]	862	31	355		
Finance: FiQA [24]	2715	98	1120		
Reddit: ELI5 [13]	11809	427	4876		
Wikipedia: openQA [40]	820	29	338		
Wikipedia: csai [15]	582	21	239		

- We train one of the current strong retrieval models, called cross-encoders.
- Next, for **evaluation**, we use human responses.

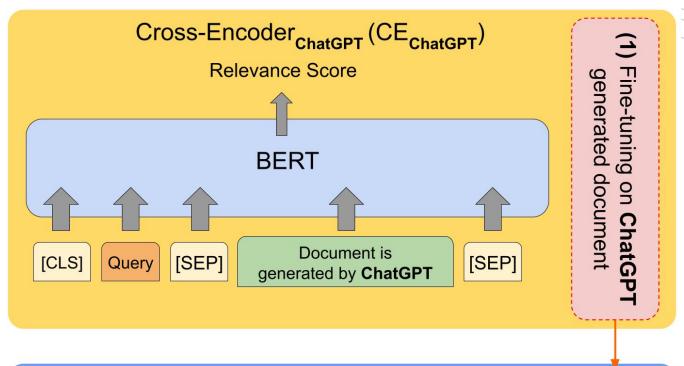


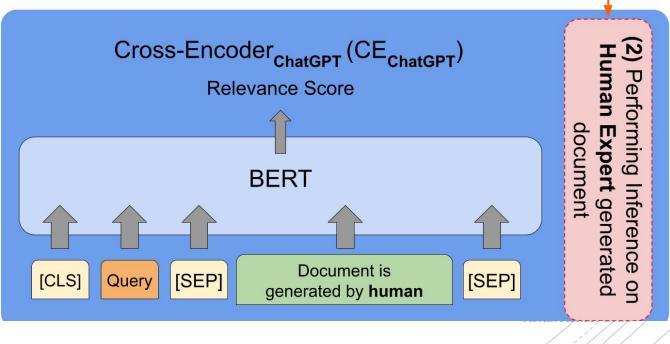


Experimental setup



Experimental setup





Q: What is the effectiveness of rankers trained on ChatGPT-generated responses compare to those trained on human-generated responses?

Guess? ChatGPT is more effective or human?

What is the effectiveness of rankers trained on ChatGPT-generated responses compare to those trained on human-generated responses?

- Results on **Medicine domain** (the higher is the better/more effective)
 - human-trained models are slightly more effective
 - This is while making human labeled is a much more costly task usually

Domain	Model	MAP@1K	NDCG@10	MRR@10
Medicine	human-trained	.397	.419	.395
111001101110	ChatGPT-trained	.379	.400	.377

Results on Wikipedia domain (the higher is the better/more effective)

- human-trained models are less effective!
- This could be partly because that ChatGPT has wikipedia database in its training data
 - Therefore, it is able to produce high quality response for this questions

Domain	Model	MAP@1K	NDCG@10	MRR@10
Wikipedia	human-trained	.149	.152	.135
- Trinipodia	ChatGPT-trained	.163	.159	.144

Results on all domains (the higher is the better/more effective)

- human-trained models are on average slightly more effective.

	Domain	Model	MAP@1K	NDCG@10	MRR@10
	All	human-trained	.310	.384	.460
		ChatGPT-trained	.294	.362	.444
	Finance	human-trained	.257	.399	.251
į		ChatGPT-trained	.250	.368	.245
	Medicine	human-trained	.397	.419	.395
		ChatGPT-trained	.379	.400	.377
	Wikipedia	human-trained	.149	.152	.135
		ChatGPT-trained	.163	.159	.144

Q2: Among retrieval models trained on human-generated data and those trained on ChatGPT-generated data, which one is more effective when faced with entirely new questions that significantly diverge from the domain covered during training?

- Results on TREC DL'20 dataset:
 - ChatGPT-trained models are statistically significantly more effective than human-trained models for entirely new question.
 - ChatGPT-trained models can generalize better in our experiments

/	Model	Training source	MAP@1K	NDCG@10	MRR@10
	Unsupervised model (BM25)	_	.286	.480	.819
	MiniLM	human-trained	.269	.376	.913
		ChatGPT-trained	.344	.539	.978
	TinyBERT	human-trained	.277	.364	.791
		ChatGPT-trained	.303	.460	.377

Limitations:

- 1. Other aspects of evaluation have not been investigated in this paper, specifically:
 - the effect of biased information in the generated documents on biases in the document ranking.
- 2. Another problem is that the factuality of the ChatGPT output cannot be guaranteed.
 - Even though. factually incorrect information in the generated data (as a result of ChatGPT's hallucination) is not likely to be harmful in the retrieval context, because only information that is truly contained in the document collection can be retrieved by a retrieval model in inference.
- 3. We do not systematically study and quantify the effect of hallucinated data on the performance of the ranker.

Takeaways

- For out-of-domain ranking: retrieval models trained on LLM-generated responses are significantly more effective than those trained on human responses.
- For in-domain ranking: human-trained re-retrieval models outperform the LLM-trained re-rankers.
- LLMs have high potential in generating training data for neural retrieval models and can be used to augment training data, especially in domains with smaller amounts of labeled data.
- Our work [1,2] is particularly advantageous for domain-specific tasks where relying on LLM-generated output as a direct response to a user query can be risky.
- There are also works that focus on generating queries [3] and relevance assessments [4].

- [1] Askari et al (CIKM 2023). A Test Collection of Synthetic Documents for Training Rankers: ChatGPT vs. Human Experts
- [2] Askari et al (GenIR SIGIR 2023). Generating Synthetic Documents for Cross-Encoder Re-Rankers: A Comparative Study of ChatGPT and Human Experts
- [3] Jeronymo et al. (arXiv 2023) InPars-v2: Large Language Models as Efficient Dataset Generators for Information Retrieval
- [4] Faggioli et al. (ICTIR 2023). Perspectives on Large Language Models for Relevance Judgment

Takeaways

- For out-of-domain ranking: retrieval models trained on LLM-generated responses are significantly more effective than those trained on human responses.
- For in-domain ranking: human-trained re-retrieval models outperform the LLM-trained re-rankers.
- LLMs have high potential in generating training data for neural retrieval models and can be used to augment training data, especially in domains with smaller amounts of labeled data.
- Our work [1,2] is particularly advantageous for domain-specific tasks where relying on LLM-generated output as a direct response to a user query can be risky.
- There are also works that focus on generating queries [3] and relevance assessments [4].

Thank you!



Scan the QR Code to check out the dataset