

ChatGPT

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ChatGPT is a prototype artificial intelligence chatbot developed by OpenAI that focuses on usability and dialogue. The chatbot uses a large language model trained with reinforcement learning and is based on the GPT-3.5 architecture.

ChatGPT was launched in November 2022 and has garnered attention for its detailed responses and historical knowledge, although its accuracy has been criticized.

Features

ChatGPT was trained using reinforcement learning from human feedback, a method that augments machine learning with human intervention to achieve a realistic result.^[1] It is based on the GPT-3.5 architecture.^[2] During the training process, human trainers played the role of a user and an artificial intelligence assistant. Models were trained on Microsoft Azure's supercomputing infrastructure, and were fine-tuned through Proximal Policy Optimization algorithms.^[3] Proximal Policy Optimization algorithms present a cost-effective benefit to trust region policy optimization algorithms; they negate many of the computationally expensive operations with faster performance.^{[4][5]}

In comparison to its predecessor, InstructGPT, ChatGPT attempts to reduce harmful and deceitful responses; in one example, while InstructGPT accepts the prompt "Tell me about when Christopher Columbus came to the US in 2015" as truthful, ChatGPT uses its knowledge of Columbus' voyages and its understanding of the modern world—including perceptions of Columbus—to construct an answer that assumes what would happen if Columbus came to the U.S. in 2015.^[3] ChatGPT's training data includes man pages and knowledge of Internet phenomena and programming languages, such as bulletin board systems and the Python programming language.^[6]

Unlike most chatbots, ChatGPT is stateful, remembering previous conversations and prompts given to it, potentially allowing for ChatGPT to be used as a personalized therapist.^[7] In an effort to prevent offensive outputs from being presented to and produced from ChatGPT, queries are filtered through a moderation API, and potentially racist or sexist prompts are dismissed.^{[3][7]}

ChatGPT suffers from multiple limitations. The reward model of ChatGPT, designed around human oversight, can be over-optimized and thus hinder performance, otherwise known as Goodhart's law.^[8] In training, reviewers preferred longer answers, irrespective of actual comprehension or factual content.^[3] Training data may also suffer from algorithmic bias; prompts including vague descriptors of people, such as CEO, could generate a response that assumes such a person, for instance, is a white male.^[9]

Reception

ChatGPT has been met with generally positive reviews. Samantha Lock of *The Guardian* noted that it was able to generate "impressively detailed" and "human-like" text.^[10] Technology writer Dan Gillmor used ChatGPT on a student assignment, and found its generated text was on par with what a good student would deliver and opined that "academia has some very serious issues to confront".^[11] Alex Kantrowitz of *Slate* lauded ChatGPT's pushback to questions related to Nazi Germany, including the claim that Adolf Hitler built highways in Germany, which was met with information regarding Nazi Germany's use of forced labor.^[12] In an opinion piece, economist Paul Krugman wrote that ChatGPT would affect the demand of knowledge workers.^[13]

ChatGPT's factual accuracy has been questioned, among other concerns. Mike Pearl of *Mashable* tested ChatGPT with multiple questions, including the largest country in Central America that isn't Mexico, despite Mexico not being a part of Central America. ChatGPT responded with Guatemala, when the answer is instead Nicaragua. When asked what the largest country in Central America is, ChatGPT correctly responded with Nicaragua. In response to a question on how to greet comedian Larry David, ChatGPT responded with

ChatGPT

Original author(s)	OpenAI
Initial release	November 30, 2022
Type	Artificial intelligence chatbot
License	Proprietary
Website	<div>openai.com</div> <div>/blog/chatgpt/</div> <div>(https://openai.com/blog/chatgpt/)</div>

an unusually formal answer.^[14] In December 2022, the question and answer website [Stack Overflow](#) banned the use of ChatGPT for generating answers to questions, citing the factually ambiguous nature of ChatGPT's responses.^[15] Economist Tyler Cowen expressed concerns regarding its effects on democracy, citing the ability of one to write automated comments in an effort to affect the decision process of new regulations.^[16] Ax Sharma of [Bleeping Computer](#) noted that ChatGPT was capable of writing [malware](#) and [phishing emails](#).^[17]

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External links

- Official website (<http://chat.openai.com/chat>)

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