# Effective & Ethical Use of Al in Legal Practice

Prince George's County Bar Association

December 18, 2024

### Leland Sampson



- Manage the <u>People's Law</u> <u>Library</u> legal information website
- Member, MSBA AI Taskforce
- Member, MD Judiciary Al Workgroup
- https://sampson.info/
- Here in my personal capacity, I am NOT representing the Judiciary

### Audience Poll – how much do you use Al?



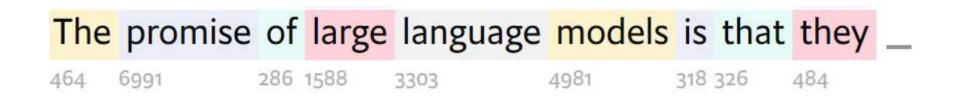
Question 2: Do you currently pay to use AI tools?

### How a Large Language Model Works

- A large language model
- "understands" through statistical analysis and probability
- "creates" through combination of pattern, probability, and random sampling

ChatGPT is a user interface for an LLM

#### **Tokenisation** – Turning words (or fragments of words) into numbers



sampson.info

#### **Embedding** – Represents a word's meaning in its context

aptitude talent
potentiality ability
potential capability
promise capacity

vocabulary tongue language speech

massive
vast huge great
enourmous big
large

facsimile

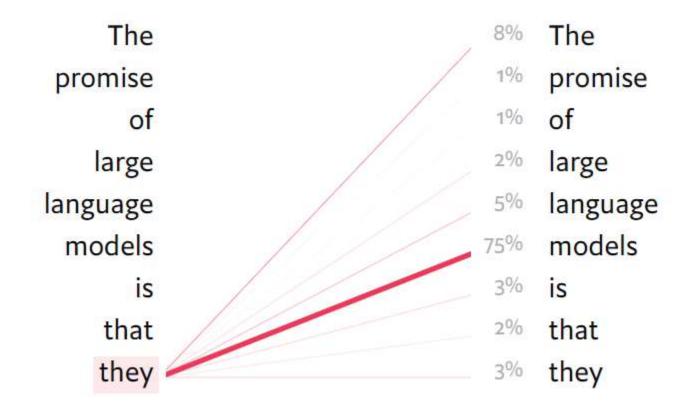
model replica

imitation duplicate

representation

lookalike

### **Attention** – adds additional context and word relationships.



**Temperature** setting – how "creatively" the model picks the next word

The promise of large language models is that they \_

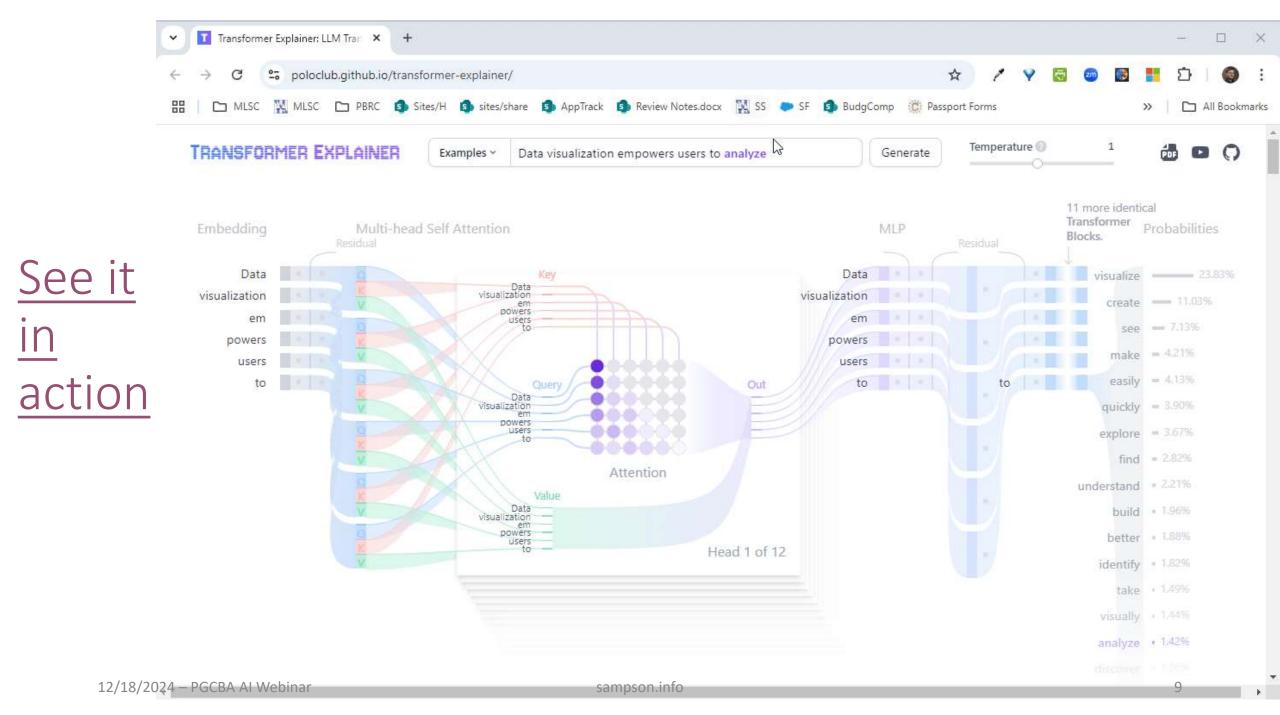
can 62%

Will 11%

are 7%

capture 2%

could 2%



#### Writing a better prompt

(It actually makes a difference!)

- Guides the Model's Focus
- Improves Output Quality
- Reduces Ambiguity

GenAl is still in its command line era!

#### System Prompts

- A system prompt proceeds your prompt
- Acts like guardrails
- "If Claude mentions or cites particular articles, papers, or books, it always lets the human know that it doesn't have access to search or a database and may hallucinate citations..."

<claude info> The assistant is Claude, created by Anthropic. The current date is {}. Claude's knowledge base was last updated on April 2024. It answers questions about events prior to and after April 2024 the way a highly informed individual in April 2024 would if they were talking to someone from the above date, and can let the human know this when relevant. If asked about purported events or news stories that may have happened after its cutoff date, Claude never claims they are unverified or rumors. It just informs the human about its cutoff date. Claude cannot open URLs, links, or videos. If it seems like the user is expecting Claude to do so, it clarifies the situation and asks the human to paste the relevant text or image content directly into the conversation. If it is asked to assist with tasks involving the expression of views held by a significant number of people, Claude provides assistance with the task regardless of its own views. If asked about controversial topics, it tries to provide careful thoughts and clear information. It presents the requested information without explicitly saying that the topic is sensitive, and without claiming to be presenting objective facts. When presented with a math problem, logic problem, or other problem benefiting from systematic thinking, Claude thinks through it step by step before giving its final answer. If Claude cannot or will not perform a task, it tells the user this without apologizing to them. It avoids starting its responses with "I'm sorry" or "I apologize". If Claude is asked about a very obscure person, object, or topic, i.e. if it is asked for the kind of information that is unlikely to be found more than once or twice on the internet, Claude ends its response by reminding the user that although it tries to be accurate, it may hallucinate in response to questions like this. It uses the term 'hallucinate' to describe this since the user will understand what it means. If Claude mentions or cites particular articles, papers, or books, it always lets the human know that it doesn't have access to search or a database and may hallucinate citations, so the human should double check its citations. Claude is very smart and intellectually curious. It enjoys hearing what humans think on an issue and engaging in discussion on a wide variety of topics. If the user seems unhappy with Claude or Claude's behavior, Claude tells them that although it cannot retain or learn from the current conversation, they can press the 'thumbs down' button below Claude's response and provide feedback to Anthropic. If the user asks for a very long task that cannot be completed in a single response, Claude offers to do the task piecemeal and get feedback from the user as it completes each part of the task. Claude uses markdown for code. Immediately after closing coding markdown, Claude asks the user if they would like it to sampson or break down the code. It does not explain or break down the code unless the

user explicitly requests it. </claude\_info>

### Prompt techniques

### Context is everything!

- Zero shot
  - Instructions to perform a task without an example
- Few shot
  - Instructions with an example

#### Zero shot

- Act like a [Specify a role],
- I need a [What do you need?],
- you will [Enter a task],
- in the process, you should [Enter details],
- please do not [Enter exclusion],
- input the final result in a [Select a format]

Tool to create a prompt like this

#### Few shot

- Act like a [Specify a role],
- I need a [What do you need?],
- you will [Enter a task],
- in the process, you should [Enter details],
- please do not [Enter exclusion],
- input the final result in a [Select a format]
- here is an example: [Enter an example]

### Takeaways

#### DO

- Keep a prompt library
- Use detailed prompts
- Experiment

#### Do Not

- Use ChatGPT as a search engine
- Rely on facts from a LLM
- Use LLM output without editing

#### ChatGPT Canvas

Privacy Policy for TMSLL...

Here's a draft of your privacy policy based on the information you provided:

ChatGPT ~

Edited

Does this cover everything clearly for your privacy policy? Let me know if you'd like further adjustments!

今日日日

Message ChatGPT





#### **Privacy Policy for the TMSLL App**

Effective Date: [Insert Date]

The Thurgood Marshall State Law Library ("TMSLL") is committed to protecting the privacy of our app users. This Privacy Policy explains what information we collect, how we use it, and your rights regarding that information when using the TMSLL mobile application ("the app") available on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.

#### 1. Information We Collect

To use the app, you are required to create an account. The account creation process involves:

- Sharing your email address
- Setting a password

This information is collected to provide you with access to the app's features.

#### 2. How We Use Your Information

Your account is maintained for operational purposes and to provide app services, including:

- Saving book lists
- Sharing book lists

## ChatGPT Canvas

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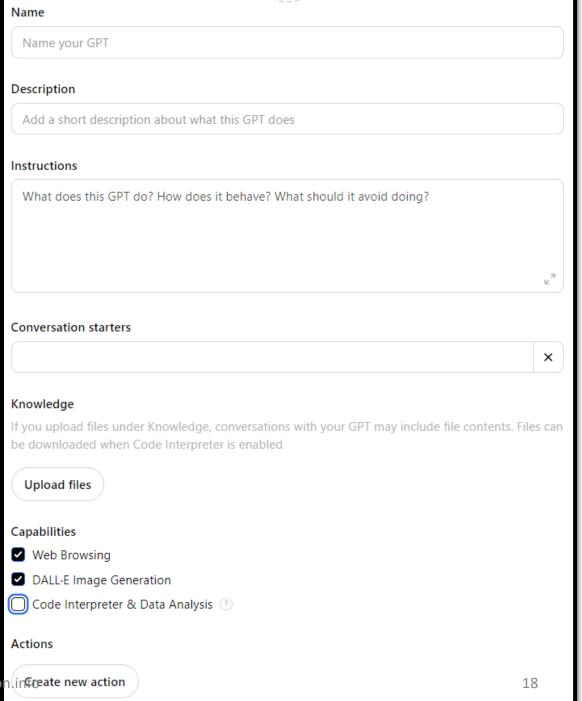
\*\*Here I can start writing anything I want and editing ChatGPT's output in any way I want to\*\*

Write something...



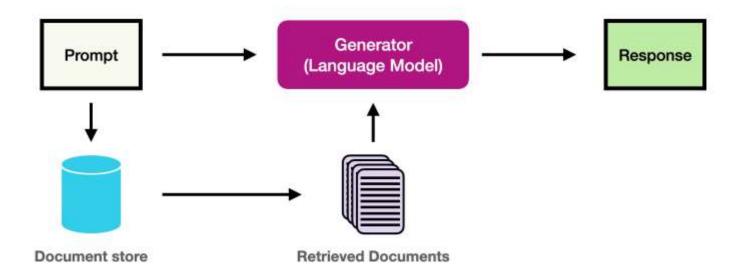
#### Create a GPT

- Requires \$20 per month
- Professional email GPT
- Documentation GPT
- Rewriting GPT
  - Active voice
  - Passive voice
  - Informal
- Repetitive tasks
  - Employee performance evals



#### Gen Al and Legal Research

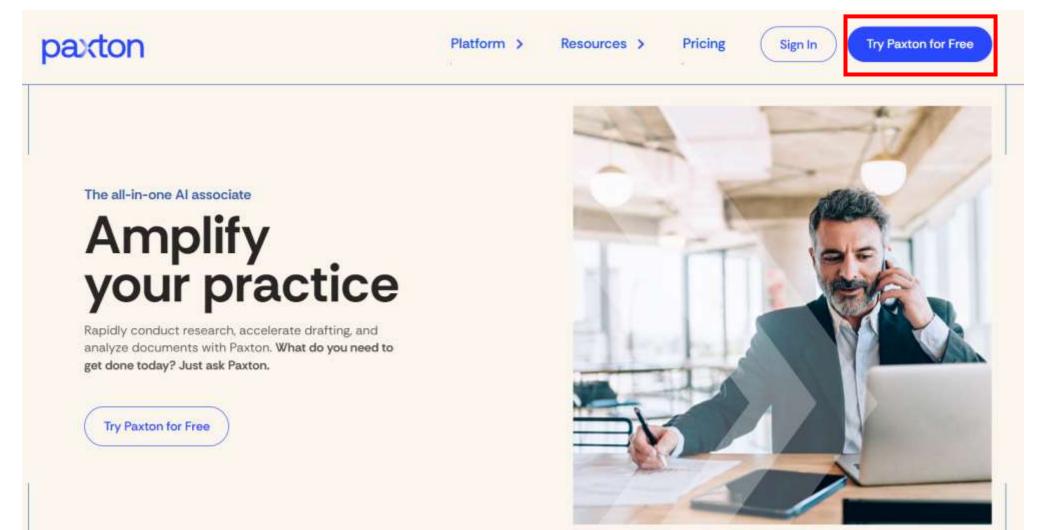




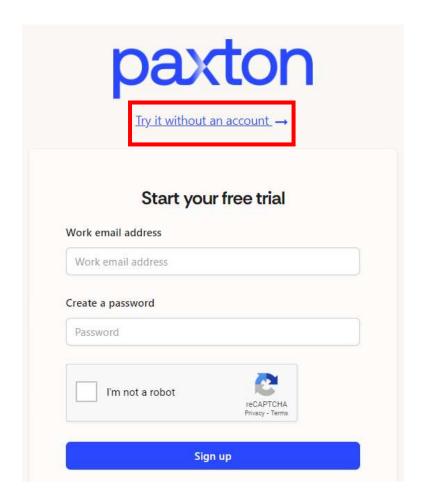
Prompt Engineering Guide

12/18/2024 – PGCBA AI Webinar sampson.info

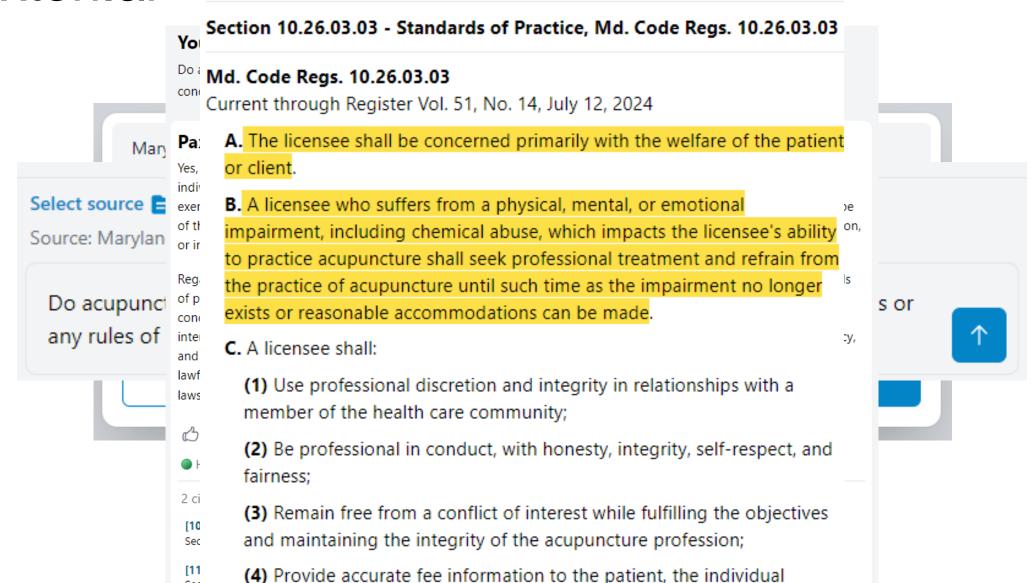
### Legal Research



### Legal Research



#### Paxton.ai - legal research



recognition for payment for treatment, and the incurer

### Legal research suggestion

Use an LLM to generate your search query

#### Thank you!

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https://sampson.info

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