1. Appendix
   1. More AI theory
      1. Basic AI concepts

* **Machine Learning**

Machine learning is a branch of artificial intelligence that enables computers to learn from data and experience, without being explicitly programmed for every possible scenario. Machine learning can be used to solve complex problems that are hard to codify with rules, such as image recognition, natural language processing, or recommendation systems.

A diagram of light bulbs and graph

Description automatically generated

Machine learning can be broadly divided into two categories: supervised and unsupervised learning. Supervised learning is when the computer learns from labeled data, that is, data that has a known output or target. For example, in image recognition, the computer learns from images that are labeled with their corresponding categories, such as cat, dog, or car. The goal of supervised learning is to train the computer to predict the correct output for new data that it has not seen before.

Supervised learning can be further divided into two types: regression and classification. Regression is when the output is a continuous value, such as temperature, price, or speed. Classification is when the output is a discrete category, such as spam or not spam, positive or negative, or one of several classes.

Unsupervised learning is when the computer learns from unlabeled data, that is, data that has no known output or target. For example, in text analysis, the computer learns from documents that are not labeled with any topic or sentiment. The goal of unsupervised learning is to discover hidden patterns or structures in the data, such as clusters, outliers, or features.

Unsupervised learning can be mainly divided into two types: clustering and dimensionality reduction. Clustering is when the computer groups similar data points together based on some measure of similarity or distance, such as k-means, hierarchical clustering, or Gaussian mixture models. Dimensionality reduction is when the computer reduces the number of features or dimensions of the data, while preserving as much information as possible, such as principal component analysis, linear discriminant analysis, or autoencoders.

A diagram of a learning process

Description automatically generated

* **Deep Learning**

Deep learning is a branch of machine learning that uses neural networks with multiple layers to learn from data in a hierarchical manner. Neural networks are computational models that mimic the structure and function of biological neurons, which can process and transmit information through connections called synapses. Deep learning can handle complex and high-dimensional data, such as images, speech, or natural language, and perform tasks such as object recognition, speech recognition, natural language processing, or machine translation. Deep learning is inspired by the discoveries of neuroscience and cognitive science, and relies on advances in mathematical optimization, parallel computing, and big data.

A diagram of circles and arrows

Description automatically generated

* **Natural Language Processing**

Natural language processing (NLP) is the field of artificial intelligence that deals with understanding and generating natural language, such as text or speech. NLP has many applications, such as question answering, sentiment analysis, machine translation, summarization, dialogue systems, information extraction, and more. NLP faces many challenges, such as ambiguity, variability, complexity, and diversity of natural language.

A line with purple dots

Description automatically generated

One of the key tasks in NLP is to represent natural language in a way that computers can understand and manipulate. Traditionally, this was done by using rule-based or statistical methods to extract features from words, such as their part-of-speech, syntactic structure, semantic role, or frequency. However, these methods often require a lot of human effort and domain knowledge and cannot capture the rich and dynamic nature of natural language.

To overcome these limitations, deep learning methods have been developed to learn distributed representations of natural language, also known as embeddings, from large amounts of data. As mentioned in chapter 4, embeddings are vectors that encode the meaning and usage of words or sentences in a low-dimensional space, and can be used as input or output for various NLP tasks. Embeddings can capture the semantic and syntactic similarities and relationships between words or sentences, and can also adapt to new domains and languages.

One of the first methods to learn word embeddings was the bag-of-words model, which represents a document as a vector of word frequencies, ignoring the order and context of words. The bag-of-words model is simple and efficient, but it suffers from sparsity, dimensionality, and lack of semantics. To address these issues, neural network models such as word2vec and GloVe were proposed to learn word embeddings from the co-occurrence patterns of words in large corpora, using techniques such as skip-gram and negative sampling. These models can learn more expressive and dense word embeddings, but they still treat words as independent units, ignoring their morphology and compositionality.

To account for the sequential and hierarchical structure of natural language, recurrent neural networks (RNNs) were introduced to learn sentence or document embeddings from word embeddings. RNNs are neural networks that process sequential data by maintaining a hidden state that captures the history of previous inputs. RNNs can learn long-term dependencies and generate variable-length outputs, making them suitable for tasks such as language modeling, machine translation, or text generation. However, RNNs also face some challenges, such as vanishing or exploding gradients, difficulty in parallelization, and sensitivity to noise.

To improve the performance and stability of RNNs, variants such as long short-term memory (LSTM) and gated recurrent unit (GRU) were developed to introduce gates that control the flow of information in the hidden state. These gates can learn to remember or forget relevant or irrelevant information over time, and can handle long-term dependencies better than vanilla RNNs. LSTM and GRU have achieved state-of-the-art results on many NLP tasks, such as machine translation, speech recognition, or sentiment analysis.

However, even LSTM and GRU have some limitations, such as the inability to model long-range dependencies beyond a fixed window, the sequential nature of computation that limits parallelization, and the lack of attention mechanisms that can focus on relevant parts of the input or output. To overcome these limitations, a new paradigm of neural network models was proposed, based on the concept of transformers. Transformers are neural networks that use attention mechanisms to learn the dependencies and relationships between words or sentences, without relying on recurrence or convolution. Attention mechanisms are functions that assign weights to different parts of the input or output, based on their relevance or similarity. Transformers can learn global and local dependencies, parallelize computation, and generate diverse and coherent outputs, making them suitable for tasks such as machine translation, text summarization, or natural language understanding. Transformers have achieved state-of-the-art results on many NLP benchmarks, such as GLUE, SQuAD, or WMT.

In summary, deep learning has revolutionized the field of natural language processing, by providing powerful and flexible methods to learn distributed representations of natural language, from words to sentences to documents.

* + 1. Papers, papers, papers

Let’s take a drive through memory lane and look at the main research papers that made possible the innovations presented in this book.

* *Yann LeCun et al* (1989) Backpropagation Applied to Handwritten Zip Code Recognition[[1]](#footnote-1)

This paper that is the same age as me introduced way back the potential of neural network for image processing, on the famous MNIST dataset[[2]](#footnote-2).

A diagram of a graph

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

* *Alex Krizhevsky, Ilya Sutskever, Geoffrey E. Hinton* (2012)  
  ImageNet Classification with Deep Convolutional Neural Networks[[3]](#footnote-3)

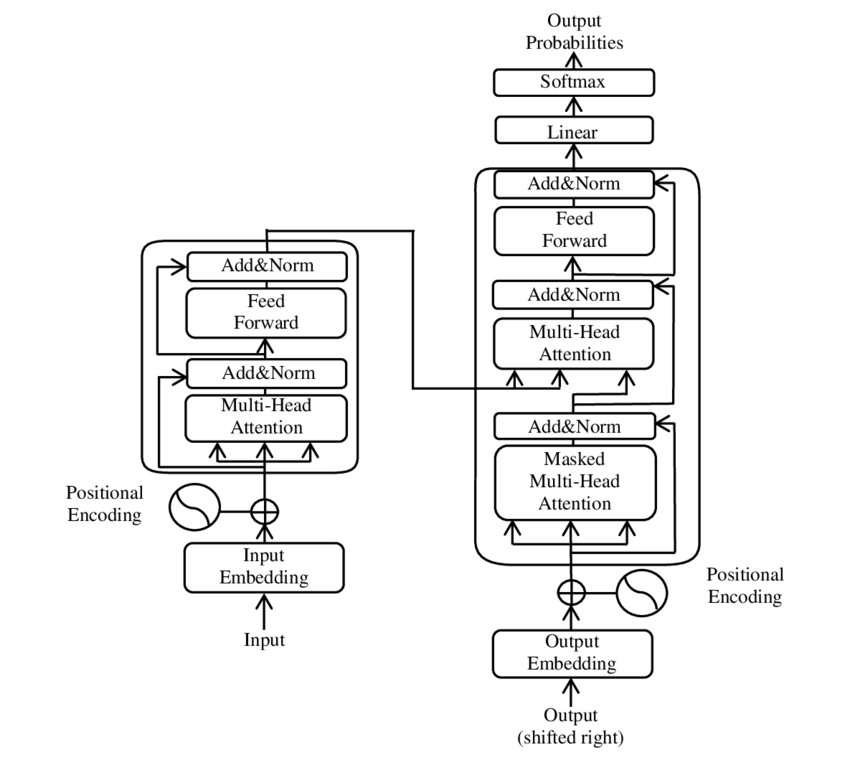
This paper introducing AlexNet marks a turning point in machine learning and is considered one of the most papers publication in computer vision, having spurred many more papers employing CNNs and GPUs to accelerate deep learning.

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

* *Google DeepMind team* (2017) Attention is all you need[[4]](#footnote-4)

Already mentioned in the beginning of this book, this paper is foundational in the field of Natural Language Processing. It introduces the transformer architecture with the attention layer that will be used in every Large Language Model moving forward.



* 1. More on OpenAI
     1. Managing your OpenAI usage and budget

To give you a sense of the cost of using the API, here is a view over the month of May, where I spend the most of my time writing this book and developing the associated GPTs.

A screenshot of a graph

Description automatically generated

If you hover over the graphic, you can see the breakdown by service (image, audio, embeddings, …) or by model (3.5, 4o, …). The big spike mid-month was due to the Dall-E 3 service usage for over $5 on 1 day.

A screenshot of a graph

Description automatically generated

You can add email alerts and set budget limits to control your spending. As I started integrating more AI into my apps over the year, I ended up creating new keys for each project, and even distributing keys to friends and colleagues:

A screenshot of a phone

Description automatically generated

This enabled me to have a finer grain control over the different projects including AI. You now have the ability to actually create a “project” that can contain members and have dedicated limits attached to it.

* + 1. GPT Builder

In this section, we will see how you can use the GPT builder in the ChatGPT App (with Plus subscription).

* How to design your own AI (for your personal needs or for your professional tasks).
* How to use actions to give your GPT access to web services
* And what would be the experience of interacting with it.

If you have a ChatGPT Plus account, you will be able to create your own GPTs using a low code builder:

A screenshot of a chat

Description automatically generated

This is the first GPT that I created:

A screenshot of a weather bot

Description automatically generated

Here is an example of what it does:

A screenshot of a chat

Description automatically generated

You can create your own GPT with the low-code GPT builder in the ChatGPT app:

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

The secret ingredient in my Weather GPT is the ability to call a weather service.

Screens screenshot of a chat

Description automatically generated

For this I’m using an “Action”. To find out more about actions[[5]](#footnote-5), you can ask help to ActionsGPT

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

The actions are specified in the OpenAPI format (not to confuse with OpenAI, without a P):

Schema openapi.yml

openapi: 3.0.1

info:

    title: Weather

    description: Get weather data for a given city.

    version: "v1"

servers:

    - url: https://weather-plugin-yanndebray.replit.app/

paths:

    /weather:

        get:

            operationId: getWeatherData

            summary: Retrieves the weather data.

            parameters:

                - in: query

                  name: city

                  schema:

                      type: string

                  description: The city to get the weather from. For example, London,uk.

            responses:

                "200":

                    description: OK

For this demonstrator, I’ve deployed my get\_weather\_data function with Replit:

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

This is how Function calling looks like from my WeatherGPT, in debug mode to test the Replit endpoint:

A screenshot of a chat

Description automatically generated

My weather Bot is available in the GPT Store (but the backend will likely be down if you try it):

<https://chatgpt.com/g/g-HB1PWjLVs-weather-bot>

* 1. More LLMs: open-source and local alternatives
     1. Mistral

Mistral AI[[6]](#footnote-6) is a French startup that created an open-source LLM competitive with GPT-3.5 in about 1 year and with a team of 20 engineers. Setting aside the Frenchmanhood, I find this very impressive. The members of the founding team were previously employed at Google DeepMind and at FAIR (Facebook AI Research) working on important projects like the Llama model from Meta.

In only a few hours, I’ve been able to port my first three applications to be working with the Mistral API (la Plateforme):

* Chat
* Summarization
* Q&A with vector search

To get started with the API, you can use the python client[[7]](#footnote-7):

pip install mistralai

Here is how you can convert some of your code from OpenAI to MistralAI:

from mistralai.client import MistralClient

from mistralai.models.chat\_completion import ChatMessage

model = "mistral-tiny"

client = MistralClient(api\_key=api\_key)

m = [{'role': 'system', 'content': 'If I say hello, say world'}]

def struct2chat(struct):

    return [ChatMessage(role=m['role'], content=m['content']) for m in struct]

struct2chat(m)

[ChatMessage(role='system', content='If I say hello, say world')]

messages = [

    ChatMessage(role="user", content="What is the best French cheese?")

]

def chat2struct(chat):

    return [{'role': m.role, 'content': m.content} for m in chat]

chat2struct(messages)

[{'role': 'user', 'content': 'What is the best French cheese?'}]

# No streaming

chat\_response = client.chat(

    model=model,

    messages=messages,

)

print(chat\_response.choices[0].message.content)

It is subjective to determine the "best" French cheese as it depends on personal preferences. Some popular and highly regarded French cheeses are:

1. Roquefort: A blue-veined cheese from the Massif Central region, known for its strong, pungent flavor and distinctive tang.

2. Comté: A nutty, buttery, and slightly sweet cheese from the Franche-Comté region, made from unpasteurized cow's milk.

3. Camembert de Normandie: A soft, Earthy, and tangy cheese from the Normandy region, famous for its white mold rind.

…

* + 1. Ollama

Download Ollama[[8]](#footnote-8) on your laptop and select the open-source LLMs you want to serve up locally:

$ ollama run llama3:8b

pulling manifest

pulling 6a0746a1ec1a... 100% ▕████████████████████████████████████████████████████████▏ 4.7 GB

pulling 4fa551d4f938... 100% ▕████████████████████████████████████████████████████████▏ 12 KB

pulling 8ab4849b038c... 100% ▕████████████████████████████████████████████████████████▏ 254 B

pulling 577073ffcc6c... 100% ▕████████████████████████████████████████████████████████▏ 110 B

pulling 3f8eb4da87fa... 100% ▕████████████████████████████████████████████████████████▏ 485 B

verifying sha256 digest

writing manifest

removing any unused layers

success

Once you successfully retrieved the weights of the model (here 4.7Gb for the 8B Llama3 model), you can start interacting with the command line:

>>> Send a message (/? for help)

You can also use the Ollama Python client[[9]](#footnote-9) to build local LLMs applications, as an alternative to OpenAI:

pip install ollama

Depending on your laptop resources (CPU, GPU and RAM) you might have a very slow response compared to what you are used to with GPT-3.5 or 4.

import ollama

response = ollama.chat(model='llama3:8b', messages=[

  {

    'role': 'user',

    'content': 'Hello world',

  },

])

print(response['message']['content'])

You can also stream the response and observe the throughput latency:

import ollama

stream = ollama.chat(

    model='llama3:8b',

    messages=[{'role': 'user', 'content': 'Why is the sky blue?'}],

    stream=True,

)

for chunk in stream:

  print(chunk['message']['content'], end='', flush=True)

This kind of setup can be useful for batch workflows where you want to process sensitive information without having to share it with a web service.

* 1. More applications
     1. Image generator

In chapter 8, we touch on image generation. This is a simple application implementing it:   
[openai-image.streamlit.app](https://openai-image.streamlit.app/)

Prompt: blue and orange parrot with a white background

A screenshot of a computer

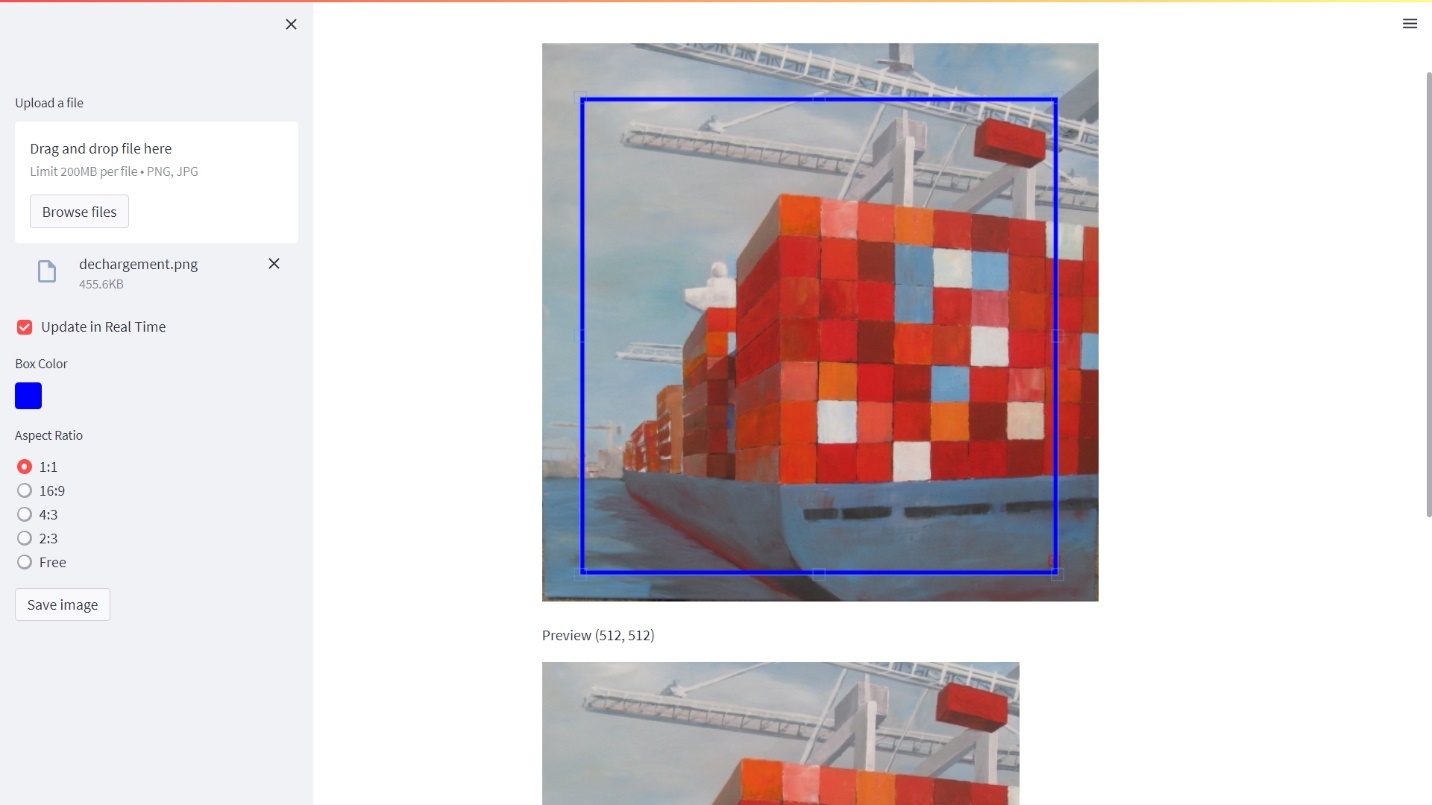
Description automatically generated

A colorful parrot head with black background

Description automatically generated

* + 1. Image cropper

To create variations in chapter 8, you first need to crop the input image to the right shape (e.g. 512x512). Here is an app[[10]](#footnote-10) that enables you to interactively crop images.



You can simply crop the image programmatically as long as you know the location of your top left pixel.

import PIL

im1 = PIL.Image.open('../img/dechargement.jpg')

left=0

top=0

right=512

bottom=512

im2 = im1.crop((left, top, right, bottom))

im2.save("../img/dechargement\_cropped.jpg")

im2

The resulting image can then be used to generate variations like in chapter 8.

import io

from IPython.display import Image

# Convert the image to bytes

image\_bytes = io.BytesIO()

im2.save(image\_bytes, format='PNG')

# Use the image bytes in the API call

response = openai.images.create\_variation(

  model="dall-e-2",

  image=image\_bytes,

  n=1,

  size="512x512"

)

image\_url = response.data[0].url

print(image\_url)

Image(url = image\_url)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Before | After |
| A painting of a container ship  Description automatically generated | A large container ship with many cubes  Description automatically generated |

This use case has a particular emotional meaning for me as this painting is hanging in my living room and was authored by my godmother who I love dearly. Seeing a new take on her creative work is lightning a thousand lights in my heart (this expression isn’t AI generated, it really is how this makes me feel).

* + 1. Video Analyzer

Post process Andrej amazing videos. For example:

Andrej Karpathy [1hr Talk] Intro to Large Language Models <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zjkBMFhNj_g>   
slides: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pxx_ZI7O-Nwl7ZLNk5hI3WzAsTLwvNU7/view>

* Download the Youtube video

from pytube import YouTube

video\_id = "zjkBMFhNj\_g"

# Define the URL of the YouTube video

url = f'https://www.youtube.com/watch?v={video\_id}'

# Create a YouTube object

yt = YouTube(url)

# Download the video in the best quality

video\_path = yt.streams.get\_highest\_resolution().download()

You can use a package called MoviePy to extract images from the video:

from moviepy.editor import VideoFileClip

time = 42

clip = VideoFileClip(video\_path)

clip.save\_frame(f"frames/frame\_{time}.jpg", t = time)

To select manually frames from a Youtube video, I’ve created the following wanky app:   
<https://video-analyzer.streamlit.app/>

* Extract/crop area of the picture (semi-manual process)

A computer screen shot of a person

Description automatically generated

I took a printscreen of the bottom left corner information and ask the Code interpreter to *write python code to crop the following selection*:

Selection top left: 0, 45. Bounding rectangle size: 1512 x 851

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

# The selection coordinates

left = 0

top = 45

width = 1512

height = 851

# Crop the image according to the selection coordinates

cropped\_img = img.crop((left, top, left + width, top + height))

# Save the cropped image

cropped\_img\_path = f"cropped\_frames/cropped\_frame\_{time}.png"

cropped\_img.save(cropped\_img\_path)

* Extracted the audio

from moviepy.editor import VideoFileClip

# Define the path of the video file

# video\_path = 'path/to/video.mp4'

# Create a VideoFileClip object

video = VideoFileClip(video\_path)

# Extract the audio from the video

audio = video.audio

# Save the audio as a separate file

# audio\_path = 'path/to/audio.wav'

audio\_path = f'./{video\_title}.mp3'

audio.write\_audiofile(audio\_path)

* Breakdown into chapters

Finally, I used the GitHub copilot chat panel to breakdown the audio file into chapters (from the chapter structure of the Youtube video):

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

* 1. More copilots
     1. Microsoft copilot

A black and white logo

Description automatically generatedAs I am thinking about what to write in those next few lines, a little icon appears on the left of the empty line in Word. If I hover over it, it informs me that I can use Alt+I as a shortcut to summon the assistant:

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

And if I click on it, I can see that an edit text box appears to await my prompt instructions.

This is a new feature that allows me to write with the help of an AI assistant. The assistant can suggest sentences, paragraphs, or even entire documents based on my input and preferences. I can also ask the assistant questions, give commands, or request feedback. For example, I can type:

* Write a chapter about X.
* Summarize the main points of this document.
* Check my grammar and spelling.

The assistant will try to respond to my requests as best as it can, using the information from the document or the internet. The assistant can also generate tables, charts, images, or other types of media if I ask for them.

(By the way the previous lines have been generated, and I did only modify about 30% of it, including removing the inexact facts.)

A screenshot of a computer

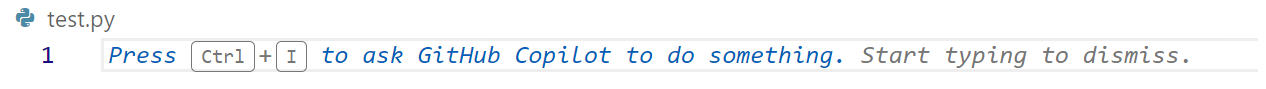
Description automatically generated

You have now copilot integrated into most of the Microsoft products. I find them more or less useful, but those capabilities will likely evolve as copilot gets more widely adopted.

* + 1. GitHub copilot

GitHub copilot is probably the most useful copilot in my mind, as it turned me into a better coder.

You can start with a prompt if you have a clear idea of what you want to develop.



If not, you can dive in the code, and add comments along the way to give hints to copilot on what you want to do next:

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

All you have to do next is to enter Tab if you are satisfied with the code completion suggested. If not you can hover over the code to see if there are other proposition

A screen shot of a computer

Description automatically generated

You can play with the tab and escape keys as the code get’s written for you.

A screen shot of a computer program

Description automatically generated

I can assure you that this significantly reduces the cognitive load for me (especially because I’m not a professional coder). And I’m even learning a ton along the way. Before copilot, I would Google “How to code X in Python” and spend hours finding the right tutorial or forum post that solves a problem close to mine. Then I would still have to interpolate to my context.

This use case of LLMs generating code is for me by far the most valuable one, and it was enough to fuel my motivation to learn more about GPTs in 2023 and write this book in 2024.

1. <http://yann.lecun.com/exdb/publis/pdf/lecun-89e.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://yann.lecun.com/exdb/mnist/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://papers.nips.cc/paper_files/paper/2012/hash/c399862d3b9d6b76c8436e924a68c45b-Abstract.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://arxiv.org/abs/1706.03762> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <https://platform.openai.com/docs/actions/introduction> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. <https://mistral.ai/> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. https://github.com/mistralai/client-python [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. <https://ollama.com/> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. <https://github.com/ollama/ollama-python> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. <https://github.com/turner-anderson/streamlit-cropper> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)