**A notorious GPT-3-generated blog shows AI still can’t imitate human writing**

**Story by Ben Dickson**

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Last week, many tech publications broke news about a blog generated by artificial intelligence that fooled thousands of users and landed on top of the Hacker News forum. GPT-3, the massive language model developed by AI research lab OpenAI, had written the articles.

Since its release in July, GPT-3 has caused a lot of excitement in the AI community. Developers who have received early access to the language model have used to do many interesting things, showing just how far AI research has come.

But like many other developments in AI, there’s also a lot of hype and misunderstanding surrounding GPT-3, and many of the stories published about it misrepresent its capabilities. The blog written by GPT-3 resurfaced worries about fake news onslaughts, robots deceiving humans, and technological unemployment, which have become the hallmark of AI reporting.

I decided to take a deep look at the blog and the excitement surrounding it, and my findings were troubling. But the problems I found were mostly with humans, not GPT-3.

The AI-generated blog

screenshot of adolos blog

Screenshot of Adolos, a blog written by GPT-3

In case you haven’t read the stories, a computer science student at the University of California, Berkeley, set up a blog on Substack under the pseudonym Adolos. OpenAI has currently made GPT-3 available to a limited audience of developers, and Liam Porr, the student, was not one of them. So he asked a Ph.D. student who already had access to the AI to run his queries on GPT-3.

Basically, Porr gave a headline and intro for the post, and GPT-3 returned a full article. He chose the best of several outputs of the AI model and copy-pasted it into his blog with very little editing.

The first post, titled, “Feeling unproductive? Maybe you should stop overthinking” reached the number one spot on Hacker News with nearly 200 upvotes and more than 70 comments. In one week, the blog reached 26,000 views and acquired 60 subscribers. According to Porr, very few people had pointed out that the blog might have been written by AI.

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