ChatGPT

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

WHAT IS CHATGPT?
• ChatGPT (short for Generative Pre-trained Transformer) is a machine learning model designed to interact and answer questions in a human-like, conversational manner.
• Trained on enormous volumes of text data, ChatGPT can provide explanations, information, and recommendations for a wide array of user inquiries on a variety of topics. It can also generate content, create and debug code, understand and translate into multiple languages, manipulate data, and answer in specific styles, such as poetic verse or music lyrics.
• Unlike most chatbots, ChatGPT can remember previous prompts in the same conversation, which allows it to respond with lifelike realism.
• It was created by OpenAI, who is currently working on an improved version of the model called GPT-4 (ChatGPT is based on GPT-3.5).
• ChatGPT is constantly learning, improving, and adapting, which means it is designed to be up to date on the latest information.
• Because the model is in the research review stage, it is currently free to use and not available for licensing.

WHAT CAN IT DO FOR MY BUSINESS NOW?
• Increase employee efficiency and productivity by answering questions, helping find information, and offering suggestions.
• Help with teaching and/or training, although some supervision is still needed at this stage.

WHAT ABOUT IN THE FUTURE?
• Down the road, ChatGPT or other models like it could become the foundation for chatbot technology.
• With licensing, ChatGPT could generate content such as articles, essays, code, etc.
• ChatGPT could augment or alter many lines of work, including teaching, programming, journalism, marketing, etc.

WHAT ARE SOME CONCERNS?
• Copyright: For example, who owns what ChatGPT produces? If the program, say, writes a novel, technically the rights of that piece belong to all the novelists whose work the model was trained on. This could lead to complex legal cases and political debate in the future.
• Bias: One issue with ML models is that they’re only as good as the data they’re trained on. While OpenAI has put safeguards in place (such as Moderation API) to prevent ChatGPT from being used in a harmful way, there are still instances where ChatGPT has shown clear bias which will need to be addressed in the future.
• Limitations: ChatGPT lacks knowledge of recent events (after 2021), cannot be relied on for correct answers all of the time (which opens users up to risk, as they might not know when the model’s answers are wrong), and can be overly verbose and repetitive in its answers.
• Sustainability: ChatGPT is both expensive and energy-consuming to run. A third party analysis estimated that the training of GPT-3 used 1,287 MWh and led to more than 550 tons of carbon dioxide emissions, roughly what a single person flying between New York and San Francisco would emit if they did the trip 550 times.