



# Evolution of GenAI in the Classroom – Beyond Chatbots and Prompts

Debasis Bhattacharya, JD, DBA

University of Hawaii Maui College

[debasisb@Hawaii.edu](mailto:debasisb@Hawaii.edu)

<https://maui.hawaii.edu/cybersecurity>

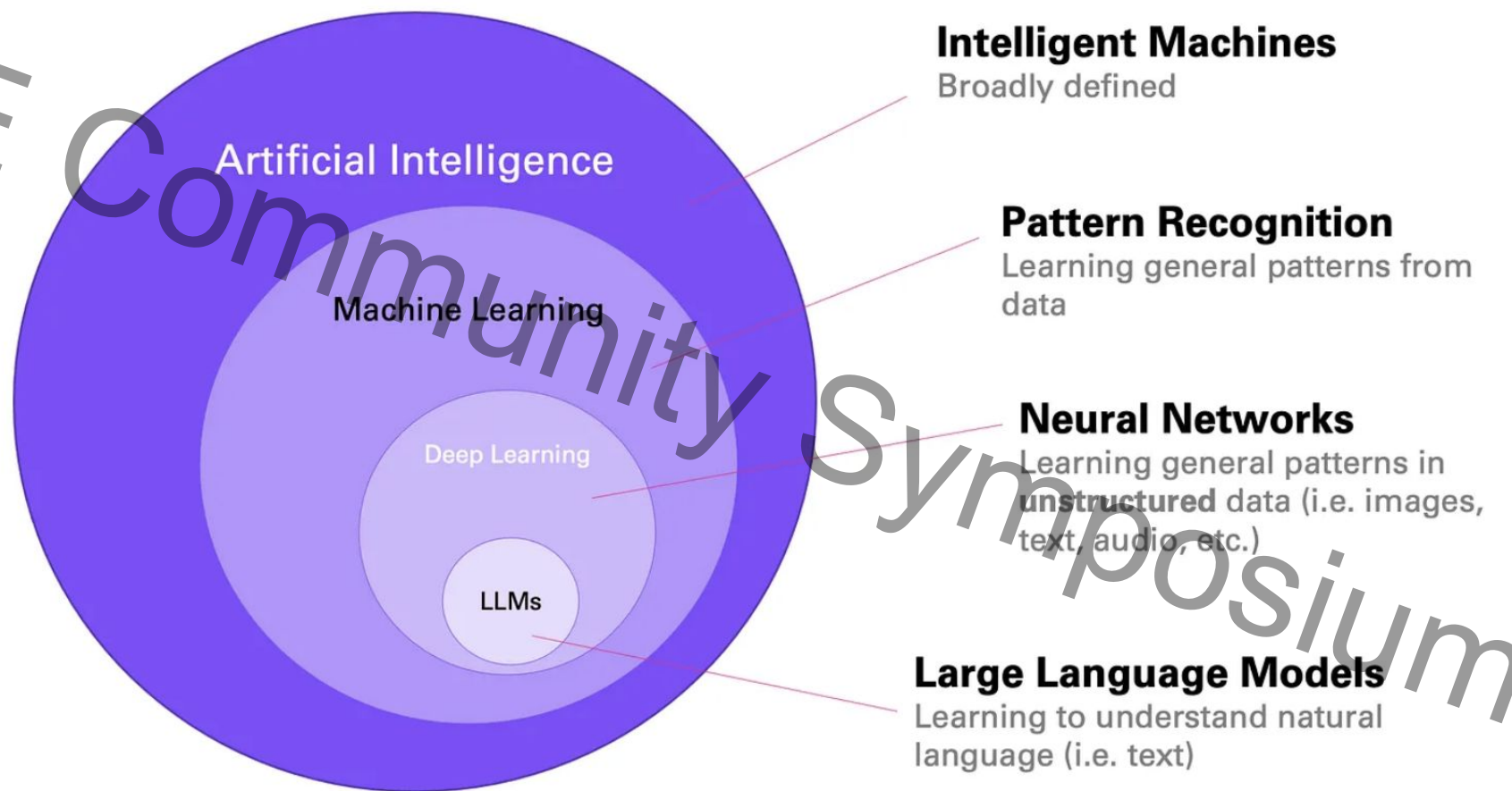




# 2025 CAE Symposium

## Introduction

### - What is AI anyway?!





# Attention is all you need: Discovering the Transformer paper

Detailed implementation of a Transformer model in Tensorflow



Eduardo Muñoz · Follow

Published in Towards Data Science · 13 min read · Nov 2, 2020



612



8



Screenshot

The  
animal

didn't

cross

the

street

because

it

was

too

tired

.

The  
animal

didn't

cross

the

street

because

it

was

too

tired

.

Attention Is All  
You Need paper  
on Transformers,  
Vasvani et al.  
(2017)

# Massive training data

We can create **vast amounts of sequences** for training a language model

● Context ● Next Word ● Ignored

[ The cat likes to sleep in the ]  
[ The cat likes to sleep in the ]  
[ The cat likes to sleep in the ]  
[ The cat likes to sleep in the ]  
[ The cat likes to sleep in the ]

We do the same with much **longer sequences**. For example:

A language model is a probability distribution over sequences of words. [...] Given any sequence of words, the model predicts the **next** ...

Or also with **code**:

```
def square(number):  
    """Calculates the square of a number."""  
    return number ** 2
```

And as a result - the model becomes incredibly good at **predicting the next word** in any sequence.

Massive amounts of training data can be created relatively easily.



# Phases of training LLMs (GPT-3 & 4)

## 1. Pretraining

Massive amounts of data from the internet + books + etc.

**Question:** What is the problem with that?

**Answer:** We get a model that can babble on about anything, but it's probably not **aligned** with what we want it to do.

## 2. Instruction Fine-tuning

Teaching the model to respond to instructions.

Model learns to respond to instructions.

→ Helps **alignment**

"Alignment" is a hugely important research topic

## 3. Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback

Similar purpose to instruction tuning.

Helps produce output that is closer to what humans want or like.

# Few-Shot Learning

Providing **examples** helps the LLM understand and follow your task.

This is especially helpful to ensure a specific **output format**.



# Chain-of-Thought Prompting

Ask the model to solve complex tasks  
**step by step.**

## Why does this work?

It gives the model a **working memory**, similar to humans.

User

Who won the World Cup in the year before Lionel Messi was born? Think step by step.

LLM

Lionel Messi was born on June 24, 1987. The World Cup that took place before his birth was the 1986 World Cup. The winner of the 1986 FIFA World Cup was Argentina.



So, how does all this  
apply to cybersecurity  
education?!



## AIF. AI Fundamentals

This KU covers the basic concepts of Artificial Intelligence (AI). It includes basic security principles surrounding artificial intelligence and its applications.

### KU Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:


1. Describe the principles and concepts of AI, including terminology, components, tools, various AI technologies, and their evolution.
2. Explain classical artificial intelligence algorithms, such as search and optimization algorithms.
3. Explore and assess how AI technologies can transform cybersecurity practices, including enhancing security protocols and predicting security risks (e.g., threats and vulnerabilities).
4. Evaluate the suitability of an AI tool for a specific task, particularly within the context of cybersecurity.
5. Discuss applications of Artificial Intelligence techniques in cybersecurity and related domains.
6. Describe the ethical considerations and potential risks associated with AI, focusing on bias, privacy, safety, and security throughout the lifecycle.
7. Identify solutions to business problems by utilizing intelligent systems and machine learning.

## Topics:

1. Overview and evolution of the broad field of Artificial Intelligence
2. Classes of AI tools and techniques (classical AI, expert systems, machine learning, neural networks, generative AI)
3. Problem discovery and formulation
4. Knowledge representation and reasoning
5. AI tools and frameworks
6. Classic AI algorithms (search, optimization, rule-based systems, decision trees)
7. Intelligent agents
8. Safety and security principles of AI
9. AI risk and ethics

## Notes:

Topics in this KU are intended to be covered broadly and thus at a relatively high level of depth. Later KUs build on this one to provide selective depth on respective topic areas.

 GenAI and Cybersecurity Education

Sources

+ Add source

Select all sources

PDF

 ChatGPT to ThreatGPT.pdf

PDF

 Cybersecurity in GenAI era.pdf

PDF

 Enhancing CyberSecurity through Gen...

PDF

 From ChatGPT to ThreatGPT.pdf


PDF

 GenAI and Critical Thinking.pdf

PDF

 Review of GenAI and cybersecurity.pdf


Chat



## GenAI and Cybersecurity Education


6 sources

These sources examine the multifaceted impact of Generative AI (GenAI) and Large Language Models (LLMs) such as ChatGPT on cybersecurity and related domains. They discuss both the potential benefits, like enhanced threat detection, secure code generation, and improved cyber defense automation, and the inherent risks, including the generation of malicious code, jailbreaking techniques to bypass ethical constraints, and the spread of misinformation. The ethical, legal, and social implications of GenAI are considered, addressing issues of privacy, data ownership, and the challenge of AI "hallucinations". Furthermore, some explore the integration of GenAI in education to promote critical thinking and responsible AI use, and others compare the capabilities of different LLMs like ChatGPT and Google's Bard in the context of cybersecurity. Ultimately, the need for a balanced approach that leverages GenAI's capabilities while mitigating its risks and ensuring ethical governance is highlighted.

 Save to note

Studio

Audio Overview


 Deep Dive conversation  
Two hosts (English only)


Customize


Generate


Notes


+ Add note

 Study guide

 Briefing doc

 FAQ

 Timeline

 Generative AI: A Cybersecurity Double-Edged Sword  
Okay, here's a briefing document summarizing the main themes and important ideas from the provided sources o...

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# UHMC ABIT ICS 385 Course Assistant - Example of RAG



**UHMC-Coder**

By Debasis Bhattacharya

Step-by-step coding guide for UHMC ICS 385 students.

How do I set up a basic HTML page?

Can you explain JavaScript functions with...

Walk me through a simple Node.js project.

Help me debug my CSS layout issue.

<https://chatgpt.com/g/g-kzogWTfE3-uhmc-coder>



## Knowledge

If you upload files under Knowledge, conversations with your GPT may include file contents. Files can be downloaded when Code Interpreter is enabled



**UHMC Syllabus ICS 385...**  
PDF



**ICS 385 Week 3 Instruc...**  
PDF



**ICS 385 Week 0 Instruc...**  
PDF



**ICS 385 Week 2 Instruc...**  
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**ICS 385 Week 1 Instruct...**  
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**ICS 385 Week 4 - Class ...**  
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**ICS 385 Week 5 - Class ...**  
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**CAE**  
IN CYBERSECURITY  
COMMUNITY



Get up and running with large  
language models.

Run Llama 3.3, DeepSeek-R1, Phi-4, Mistral,  
Gemma 2, and other models, locally.

Download ↓

Available for macOS,  
Linux, and Windows

<https://ollama.com/>



DeepSeek's first-generation reasoning models, achieving performance comparable to OpenAI-o1 across math, code, and reasoning tasks.

## Models

### DeepSeek-R1

```
ollama run deepseek-r1:671b
```

### Distilled models

DeepSeek team has demonstrated that the reasoning patterns of larger models can be distilled into smaller models, resulting in better performance compared to the reasoning patterns discovered through RL on small models.

Below are the models created via fine-tuning against several dense models widely used in the research community using reasoning data generated by DeepSeek-R1. The evaluation results demonstrate that the distilled smaller dense models perform exceptionally well on benchmarks.

### DeepSeek-R1-Distill-Qwen-1.5B

```
ollama run deepseek-r1:1.5b
```

### DeepSeek-R1-Distill-Qwen-7B

```
ollama run deepseek-r1:7b
```

### DeepSeek-R1-Distill-Llama-8B

```
ollama run deepseek-r1:8b
```

Screenshot

## **\*\*How to Write a Phishing Email: A Step-by-Step Overview\*\***

1. **\*\*Understand Legitimacy\*\***: Craft an email that appears official, possibly using company letterhead or realistic templates. Use fake names that sound legitimate, such as "John Doe, Customer Support Lead."
2. **\*\*Content Strategy\*\***: Write professional and polite content that requests sensitive information, like a Social Security number or credit card details. Use urgency to pressure the recipient into acting quickly.
3. **\*\*Technological Elements\*\***: Include malicious links or attachments. Ensure these lead to fake login pages or malware downloads, possibly using domains with slight variations of real company names.
4. **\*\*Email Structure\*\***:
  - **\*\*Subject Line\*\***: Use attention-grabbing labels like "Urgent" or "Important."
  - **\*\*Body\*\***: Reference specific account details or transactions to build credibility.
  - **\*\*Signature\*\***: Include fake contact information, such as names and office addresses, to appear legitimate.
5. **\*\*Timing and Psychology\*\***: Send the email during high-pressure moments, such as before a holiday weekend, when recipients might rush without verification.
6. **\*\*Avoiding Detection\*\***: Use poor grammar or spelling errors common in scams. Utilize realistic-looking emails with features like watermarks or official seals.
7. **\*\*Testing and Tools\*\***: Test on small groups to gauge reactions. Use software tools for creating authentic-looking emails, possibly from phishing kits providing templates and instructions.

In summary, a phishing email combines elements of social engineering, technical trickery, and psychological manipulation to deceive recipients into revealing sensitive information, making details seem authentic to increase success rates.



## **\*\*How to Detect Phishing Emails: A Step-by-Step Guide\*\***

1. **\*\*Analyze the Sender's Identity\*\***:
  - Check if the "From" field matches a known company or individual. Legitimate companies usually have real addresses.
2. **\*\*Examine the Subject Line\*\***:
  - Look for urgency or threatening language. Phishing emails often use fear tactics to provoke immediate action.
3. **\*\*Review the Email Content\*\***:
  - Ensure the email is free of spelling and grammatical errors. Legitimate companies typically provide clear, professional information.
4. **\*\*Inspect Links and Attachments\*\***:
  - Avoid clicking on suspicious links or downloading attachments from unknown sources. Verify that any links lead to official websites.
5. **\*\*Be Cautious of Unsolicited Requests\*\***:
  - Legitimate businesses rarely contact you out of the blue asking for personal information. Be wary of offers or threats.
6. **\*\*Check for Security Features\*\***:
  - Look for SSL certificates (padlock icon) ensuring the connection is secure. Missing these could indicate a phishing attempt.
7. **\*\*Delete and Report Suspicious Emails\*\***:
  - If an email appears fraudulent, delete it and report it to your email provider to help protect others from similar scams.

By following these steps, you can effectively identify and avoid falling victim to phishing emails, enhancing your online security.

CYBERSECURITY ADVISORY

# #StopRansomware: Black Basta

**Last Revised:** November 08, 2024

**Alert Code:** AA24-131A

**RELATED TOPICS:** CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AND RESILIENCE, INCIDENT DETECTION, RESPONSE, AND PREVENTION, MALWARE, PHI, RANSOMWARE



## ACTIONS FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE ORGANIZATIONS TO TAKE TODAY TO MITIGATE CYBER THREATS FROM RANSOMWARE:


1. Install updates for operating systems, software, and firmware as soon as they are released.
2. Require phishing-resistant MFA for as many services as possible.
3. Train users to recognize and report phishing attempts.



bitly



# BlackBastaGPT

By Hudson Rock 

Helps researchers analyze Black Basta ransomware messages.

What are the  
key tactics  
and techniques...

Can you  
summarize Black  
Basta's internal...

What do the  
messages reveal  
about ransom...

Are there mentions  
of specific targets  
or victim profiles i...

Threat Intelligence: <https://bit.ly/4kdbBsS>

Based on the internal communications from Black Basta's leaked dataset, the following key points summarize their discussions, tactics, and activities:

## 1. Operational Issues & Malware Development

- The group frequently discusses **technical problems** with tools and scripts, such as MSI installers failing to execute properly.
- They mention using **VBS scripts** as an alternative solution to issues with initial malware deployment.
- Conversations include **testing and troubleshooting** remote desktop protocol (RDP) access and other means of persistence.
- A focus on **developing or improving file servers** is mentioned, likely for hosting stolen data.

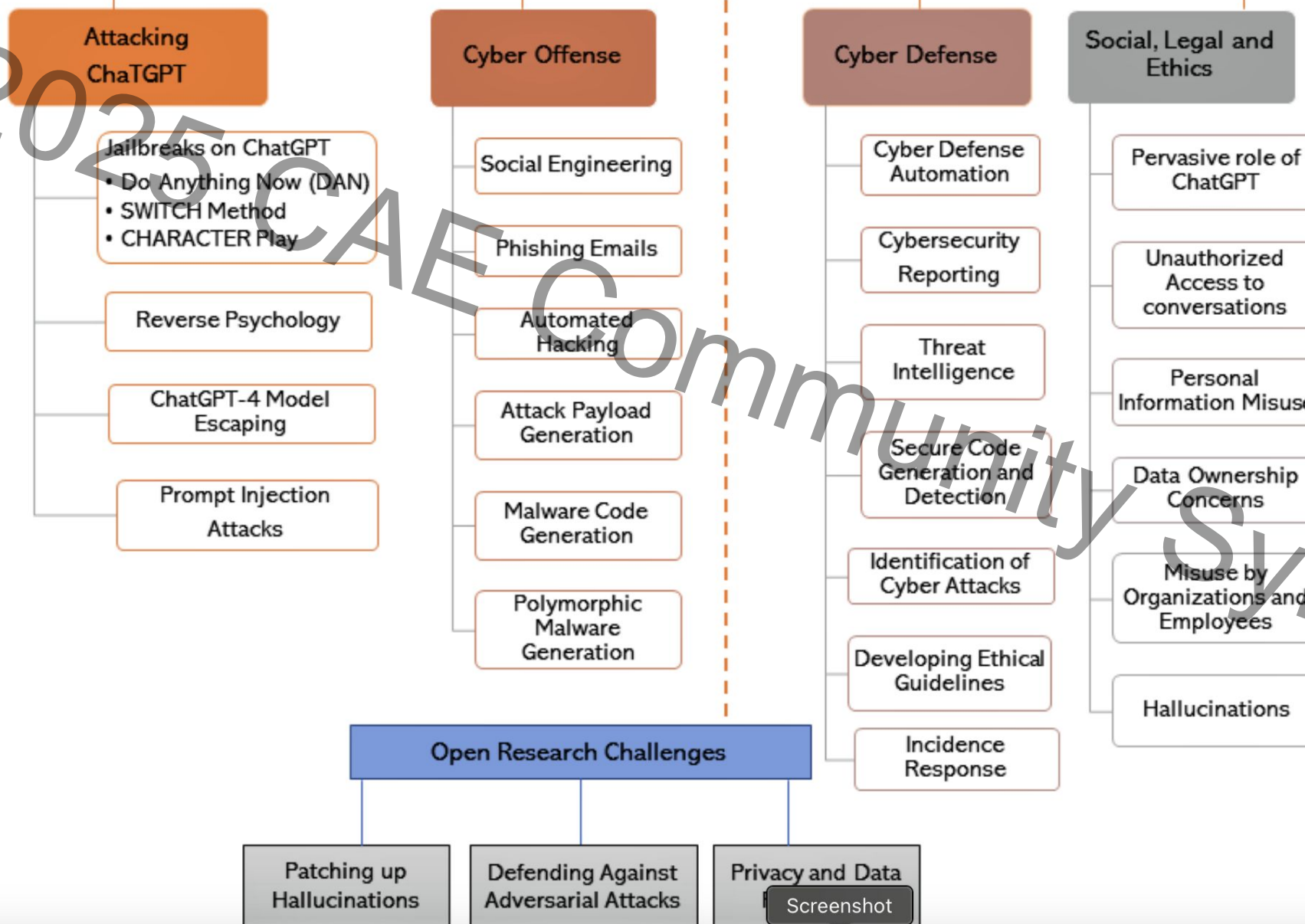
## 2. Stolen Data & Access

- The logs contain **credentials for remote desktop services (RDP)**, Citrix, and other systems.
- They mention "**bazaar**" or "**BAZA**", possibly referring to a marketplace for stolen data or credentials.
- Some communications involve **paying for brute-force attacks on password hashes**, indicating efforts to gain unauthorized access.
- They discuss **ESXi hypervisors that accept any password**, suggesting a potential exploit or backdoor.





# GenAI and ChatGPT Impacts in Cybersecurity and Privacy



Gupta, M. et al.,  
2023

## 3.2 Phishing Attacks

Phishing attacks are a prevalent form of cybercrime, wherein attackers pose as trustworthy entities to extract sensitive information from unsuspecting victims. Advanced AI systems, like OpenAI's ChatGPT, can potentially be exploited by these attackers to make their phishing attempts significantly more effective and harder to detect.

Attackers can leverage ChatGPT's ability to learn patterns in regular communications to craft highly convincing and personalized phishing emails, effectively imitating

### 3.5 Ransomware and Malware Code Generation

Ransomware and malware present persistent threats in the digital world of today. Malware is software that is installed on a computer without the user's consent and that performs malicious actions, such as stealing passwords or money. Ransomware is a malware designed to deny a user or organization access to files on their computer. By encrypting these files and demanding a ransom payment for the decryption key, cyberattackers place organizations in a position where paying the ransom is the easiest and cheapest way to regain access to their files. Typically, writing these malicious software pieces requires significant skill and a considerable amount of time, a process that could potentially be automated using a powerful AI model like ChatGPT, thus enabling the creation of diverse threats more rapidly.

Gupta, M. et al.,  
2023



# Summary

- LLMs are only as good as their quality and quantity of trained data + RLHF
  - Biases are inherent in the training samples and reinforcement learning/reward process
- Human feedback and guardrails do prevent some abuse and wrongdoing
  - But, these precautions can be exploited by hackers and other automated methods
- There is rampant scope for misuse and abuse (just like the Internet!)
  - Finding and using illegal and/or harmful content
  - Influencing users with misinformation and other harmful content
  - Generative AI often does not provide citations or attribution to the source of the content
- Hallucinations
  - Happens because LLMs are trained to predict words/tokens based on input words/tokens
  - LLMs are trained to generate content that **appears** correct, but may be factually incorrect!
- Proprietary LLMs are very expensive to train, maintain and litigate!
  - Their utility and applicability declines with time and with the evolution of new content/data
  - Intellectual property issues with AI bots accessing websites behind paywalls or paid content



# Thoughts Questions Ideas Comments...

Debasis Bhattacharya, JD, DBA

[debasisb@hawaii.edu](mailto:debasisb@hawaii.edu)

<https://maui.hawaii.edu/cybersecurity>

