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Is ChatGPT not Appropriate for Religious Use?

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Abstract

Five days after the launching of ChatGPT the number of users hit one million and the investment collected hit more than twenty billion US dollars in a couple of months. Nevertheless, the public reaction to the surprise launching of ChatGPT met with mixed feelings. Some paraded the release with positive reactions and considered it as the breakthrough of the year. Some consider it as faux science and an incompetent linguistic system. Thousands of public figures signed an open petition for immediate pause of AI experiments like ChatGPT. It is likened to the Manhattan Project in the sudden invention of the atomic bomb without much thought given on its impact. From the perspective of Islamic world, the Malaysian former minister of religious affairs has announced that ChatGPT is not appropriate to be used as reference for religious matters. Many have written and commented on the shortcomings of ChatGPT, such as, suffering from the hallucination and lack of traceable classical reasoning mechanism. It is not able to track and explain the sources of knowledge that are used to derive and support the conclusions made. This paper is to present the results obtained from ChatGPT on some WH questions and make assessment on their factual accuracy. A data set, obtained from previous research on AI-Quran knowledge base system, is used to evaluate the performance of ChatGPT. These experiments will provide some concrete technological reasons to support or reject the view made by the former Malaysian religious minister whether ChatGPT is not appropriate for use in religious matters. © The Author(s), under exclusive license to Springer Nature Singapore Pte Ltd. 2024.

Author Keywords

Chatbot; Generative Artificial Intelligence; Large Language Models; Question Answering Systems

Index Keywords

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