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Stop Panicking: The AI Isn't After Your Job

It is common knowledge among everyone that the next time you train your model, it will throw you out, but the reality is quite different from the general perception.

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Introduction

Spending even ten minutes at a university cafeteria in Karachi or Faisalabad you will hear the same thing over and over again. The fear, "A robot wrote my entire essay in 4 seconds! I'm so done!" That message is totally valid, but let's slow our roll on that. If you think about it realistically, it's impossible for anyone to have access to that kind of technology. Sure, it sucks that computer-generated content has been around for years, but it's not taking away from your place in society as an employee; those systems are simply being used by your employers to fill positions in your field. The introduction of the transformer is probably the biggest reason why those employers can now leverage these systems to make hiring decisions based on more than just your CV.

> ***"We keep worrying about the artificial mind, while completely forgetting the messy, brilliant reality of human context."***

Technology Overview

To grasp the reason that robots replacing humans is only possible in sci-fi, we must remove all the fantasy aspects of LLMs and examining the basis of how LLMs work. Simply put, LLM's are just very accurate predictive systems based on many different sources of information in the form of documents, regarding what the next word will be in a string of text; what the next line will be in a computer program or what the next pixel will be in an image. As you may recall, this technology previously was known as “Statistical Estimation” and others ways of teaching it mathematically.

They have no knowledge or common sense whatsoever.

Let’s look at how AI could be implemented in local businesses. A textile producer located in Punjab, Pakistan, for instance, may have one hundred weaving looms with sensors that read vibrations. If they have this information recorded in their systems and are connected to an AI, the factory will know one week in advance when one of the looms will fail. As such, it can reduce the costs associated with not being able to produce goods due to loom failures. Incredible, right? Now could this same AI then negotiate with a supplier who is angry about the order being shipped too late by interpreting the supplier’s body language while drinking a cup of tea? Not at all!

Figure 1: A professional utilizing advanced predictive systems and data analytics to multiply workflow efficiency.

Key Findings & Impact

Data corroborates this view as well. Organizations do not subscribe to Cursor AI or GitHub Copilot subscriptions in order to lay off their employees; rather, they subscribe to avoid their employees being burned out. Recent studies have revealed that the availability of generative AI for the employees has increased their rate of completing tasks by an average of 14 percent.

Consider the case of Pakistan, which has a huge freelancing and software exports market. Rather than substituting the work done by humans with coding machines, an intelligent programmer based in Lahore uses GitHub Copilot to automatically generate the repetitive coding. This is making them save three hours a day in writing the repetitive text that helps them earn additional two clients in the month.

Here again, the automation tool does not substitute the workforce but multiplies its power.

What's Next?

So, what does all of this mean for the future? The days of being paid simply to mindlessly enter data into computers are likely coming to an end. The future will belong to the individual who knows how to utilize this software in order to help him or her complete his or her job. As the old adage states, it isn't really the robot that's going to take your job away. The true danger lies in the fact that someone else will learn how to utilize these tools twice as effectively as you can and take your job away from you.

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