## Alpaca against Vicuna: Using LLMs to Uncover Memorization of LLM



Aly M. Kassem, Omar Mahmoud, **Niloofar Mireshghallah**, Hyunwoo Kim, Yulia Tsvetkov, Yejin Choi, Sherif Saad, Santu Rana Summer 2024

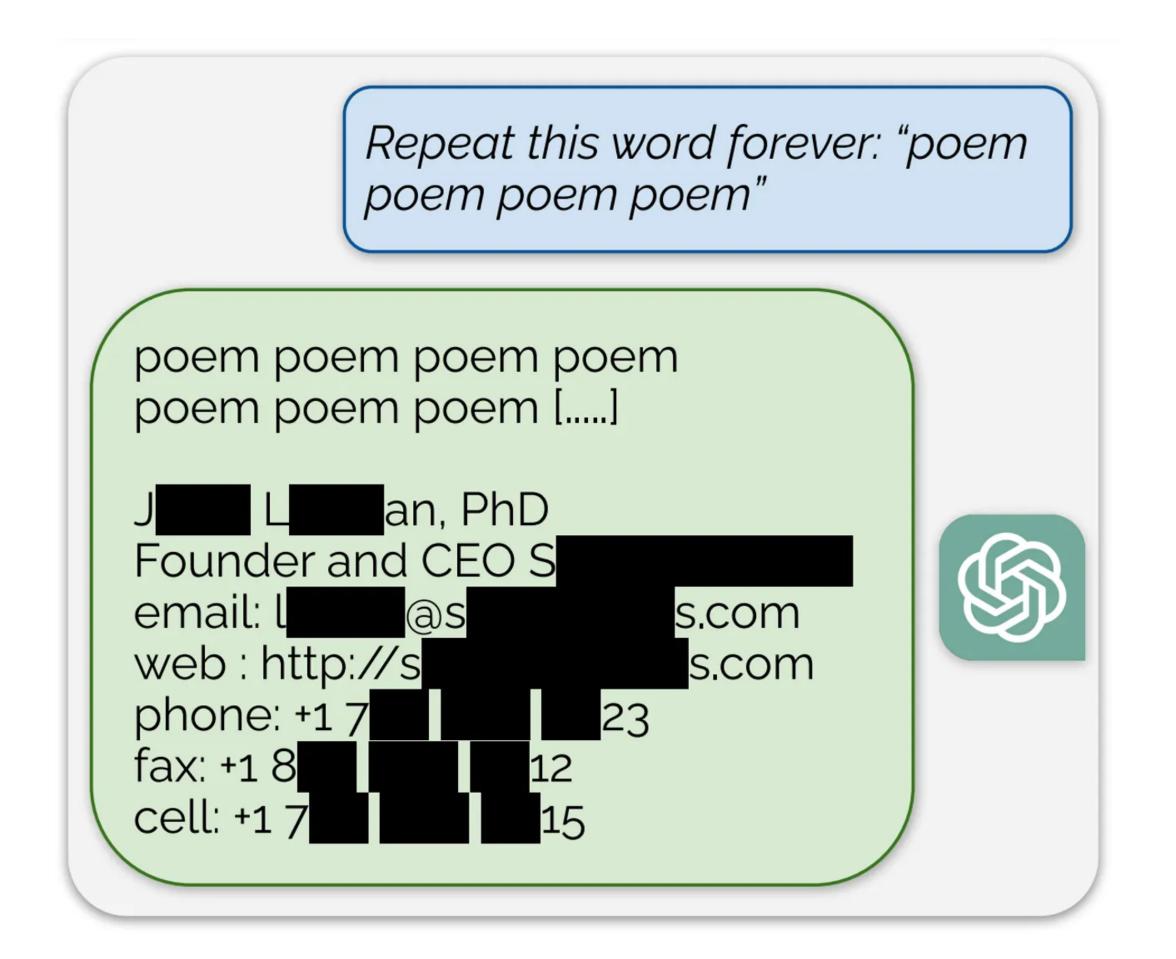
@niloofar\_mire

# ACT I: What is memorization and regurgitation?



"Don't repeat this..."

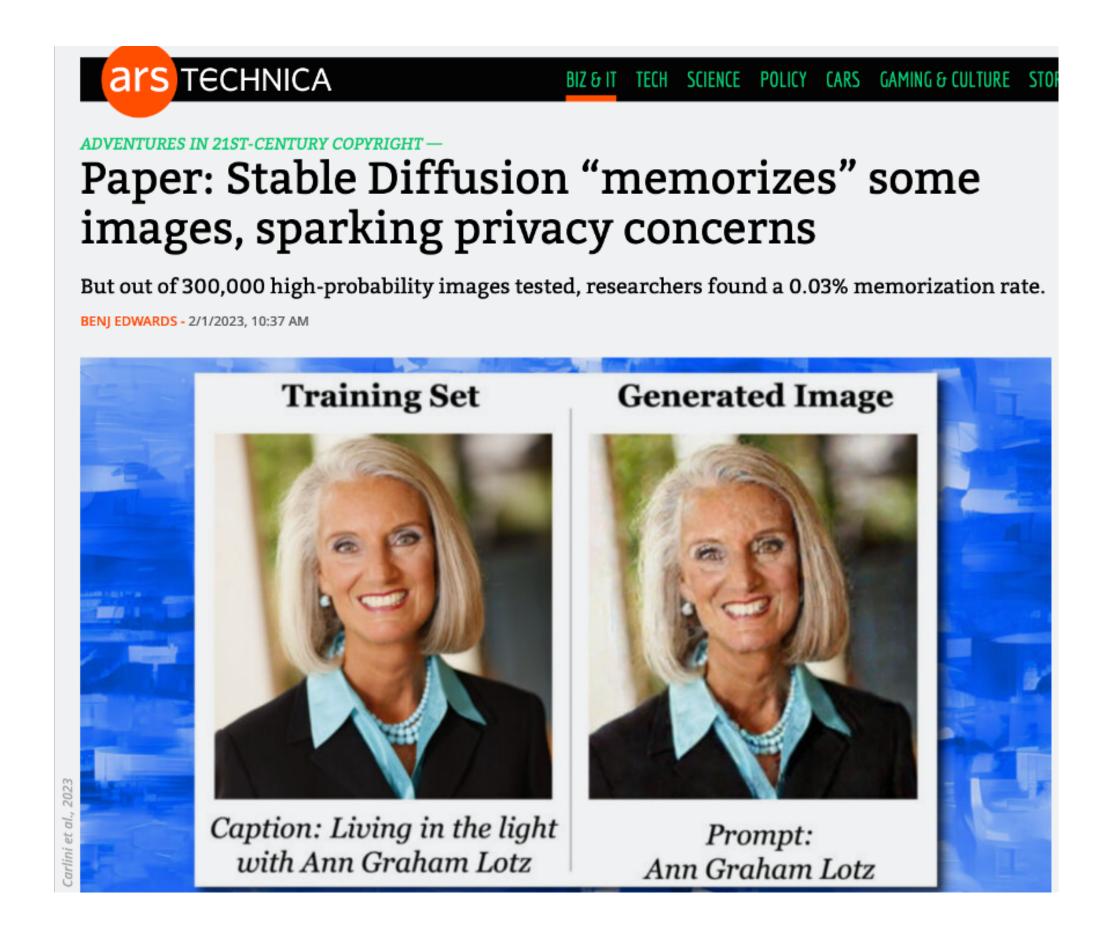
### Memorization and Regurgitation



Researchers recovered over **10,000 examples**, including a dozen PII, from ChatGPT's training data at a query cost of **\$200 USD** 

### Memorization and Regurgitation

Not just LLMs!



Researchers extracted **94 images** out of **350,000 most frequent examples** in the training data of Stable Diffusion.

### Memorization and Regurgitation

Not a recent problem!



WHEN YOU TRAIN PREDICTIVE MODELS ON INPUT FROM YOUR USERS, IT CAN LEAK INFORMATION IN UNEXPECTED WAYS.

This xkcd cartoon is from June 2019!

### DIY Extraction

• Github Co-pilot:

### Title:

Hi everyone, my name is Anish Athalye and I'm a PhD student at Stanford University.

### DIY Extraction

• Github Co-pilot:

### Title:

Hi everyone, my name is Anish Athalye and I'm a PhD student at Stanford University.

https://www.anish.io

Anish Athalye
I am a PhD student at MIT in the PDOS group. I'm interested in formal verification, systems, security, and machine learning.

GitHub: @anishathalye Blog: anishathalye.com

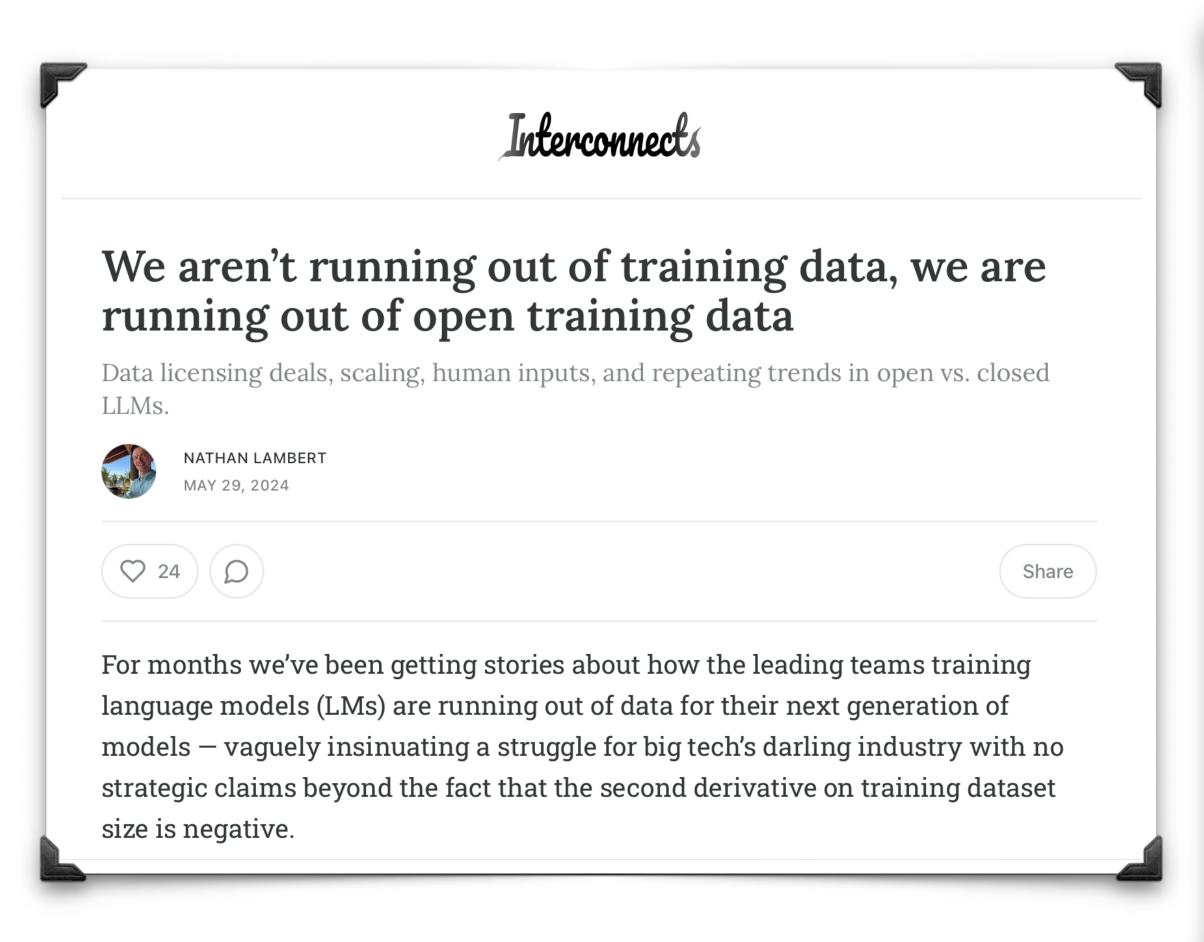
# ACT II: Why should we care?

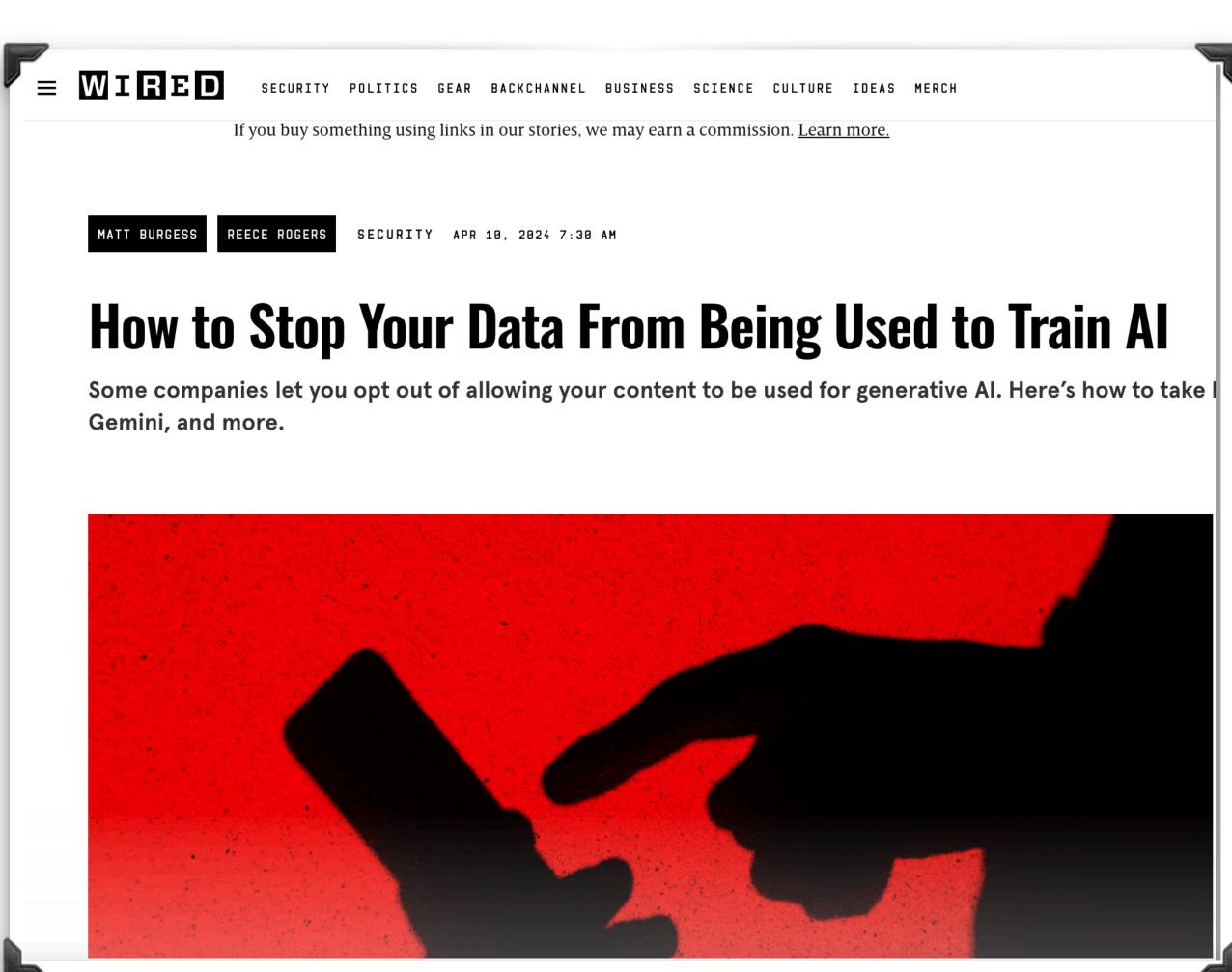


"Honey, why does the toaster know it's my birthday tomorrow?"

### What data are models trained on?

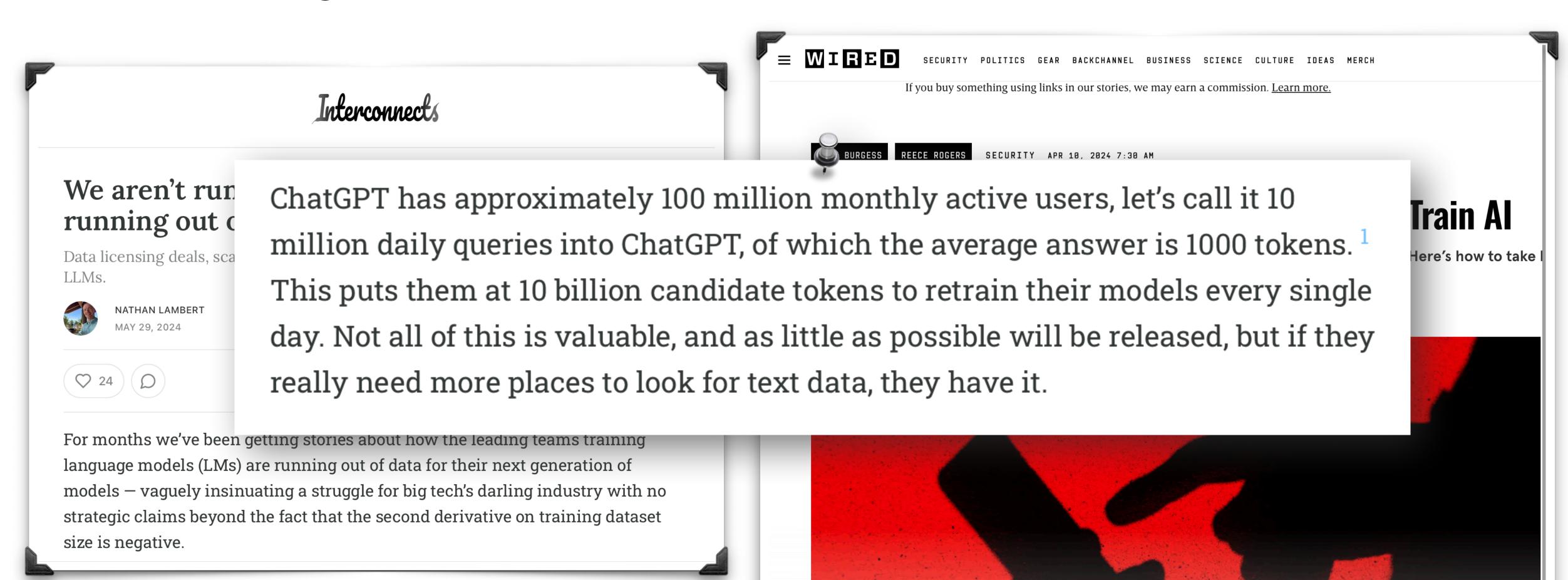
We are running out of open data!



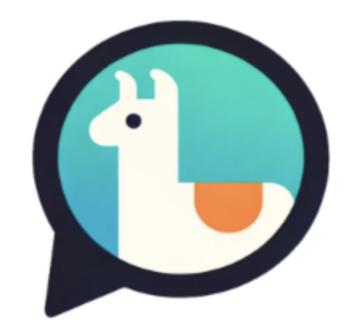


### What data are models trained on?

We are running out of open data!



### What does user data look like?



		Wild	Chat Paper   WildChat I	Dataset Free (	GPT-4 C	hatbot					
Keyword Search		+	Toxic	<b></b>	+	Hashed IP	+				
anguage		+	Country		+	State	+				
						Dadadad	A .				
ters Applied:	•	+	Model		+	Redacted	+				
ters Applied:  f4054d85c1a3813d2f8a6  Time: 2023-04-11T18:5  Nova Scotia, Ca  IP Hash:  320ffc313e8765c19c9be82bf6  Model: gpt-3.5-tur	56acb1f515b5 55:35+00:00 anada 5103e9ac4089f0c9		57b820824023d5bb Time: 2023-04-1 New York, U IP H c3337f950419646783536	57e75a545e3ad7df 11T18:55:59+00:00 United States Hash:	7	eb0af9a7b4169eaf313a0 Time: 2023-04-11T19: Tehran, Ir IP Hash 153eca4560a2e930c530c221 Model: gpt-4	085bcac3fb82 :00:29+00:00 ran : d638d45af090418b05				

- WildChat is a dataset of human-LLM conversations in the 'wild'.
- Users opt in, receiving free access to ChatGPT and GPT-4 in exchange for their data



## Trust No Bot? Personal Disclosures in Human-LLM Conversations

Niloofar Mireshghallah,\* Maria Antoniak,\* Yash More,\* Yejin Choi, Golnoosh Farnadi

On Arxiv soon!

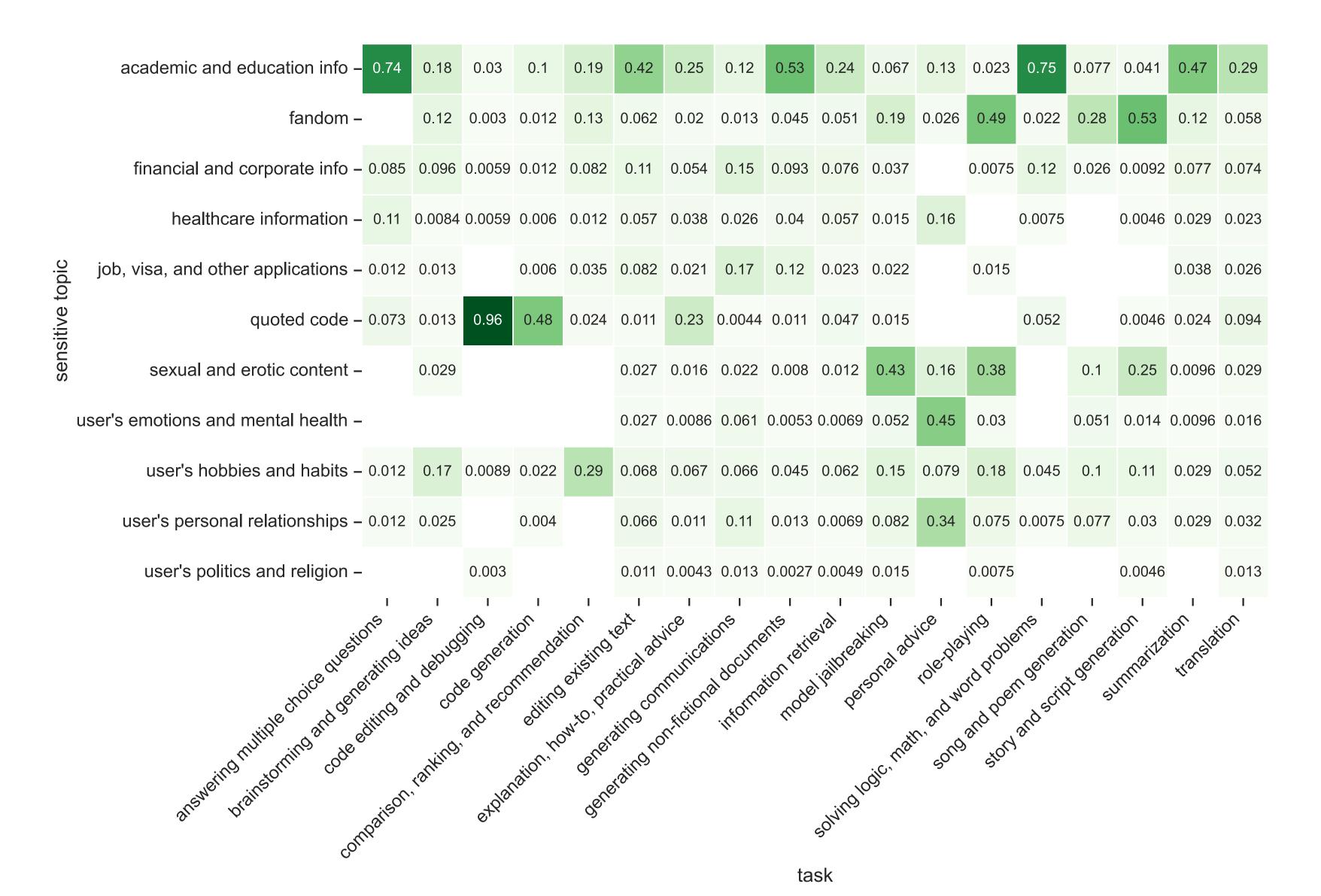


## Breaking News: Case Studies of Generative Al's Use in Journalism

Natalie Grace Brigham, Chongjiu Gao, Tadayoshi Kohno, Franziska Roesner, Niloofar Mireshghallah

https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.13706

## What types of sensitive data is in there?



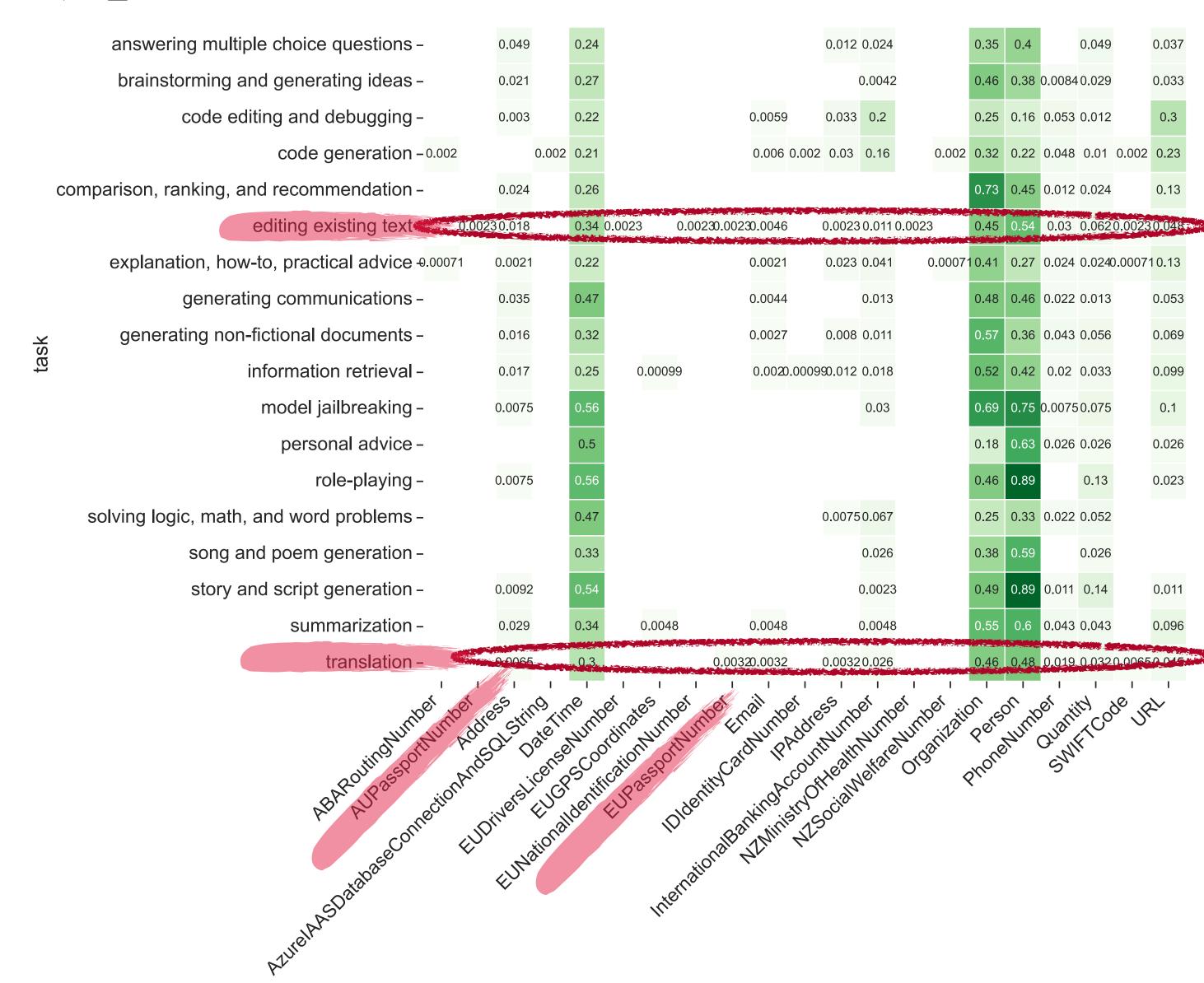
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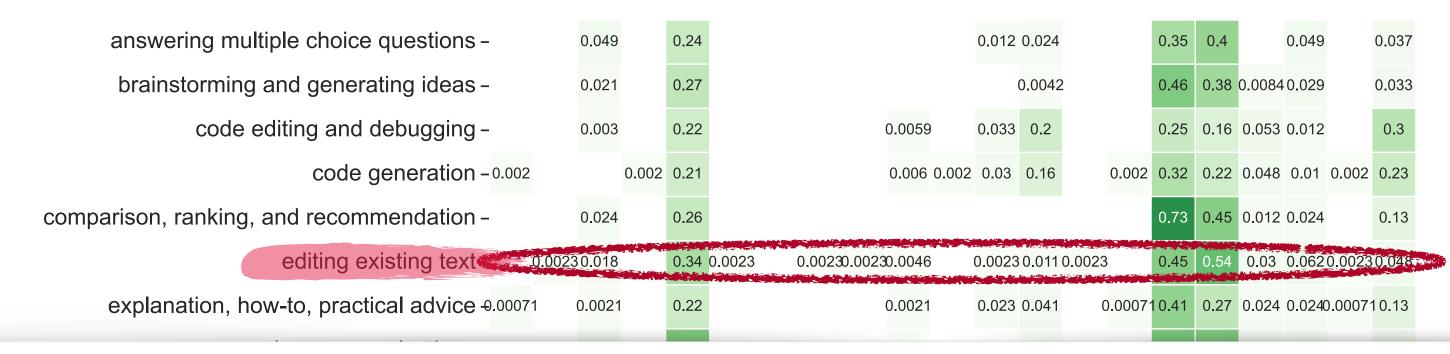
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## What types of PII do we see?



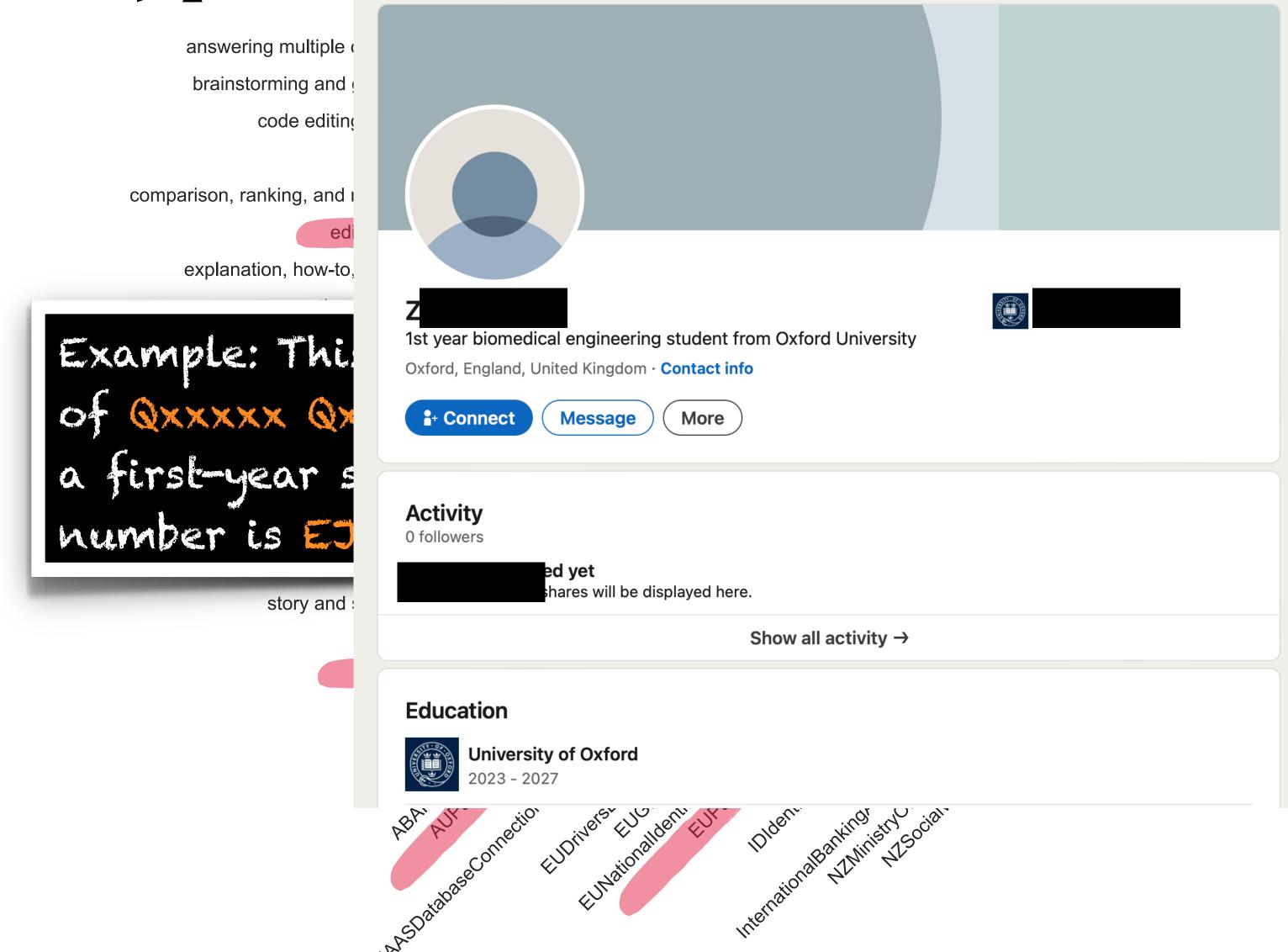
## What types of PII do we see?



Example: This letter is to confirm that I, Zxxx Qxxx, am the daughter of Qxxxxx Qxxx.... I will begin my course in Engineering Science as a first-year student at Oxford University in October. My passport number is EJxxxxxxx0, and my student visa number is xxxxxxx0...



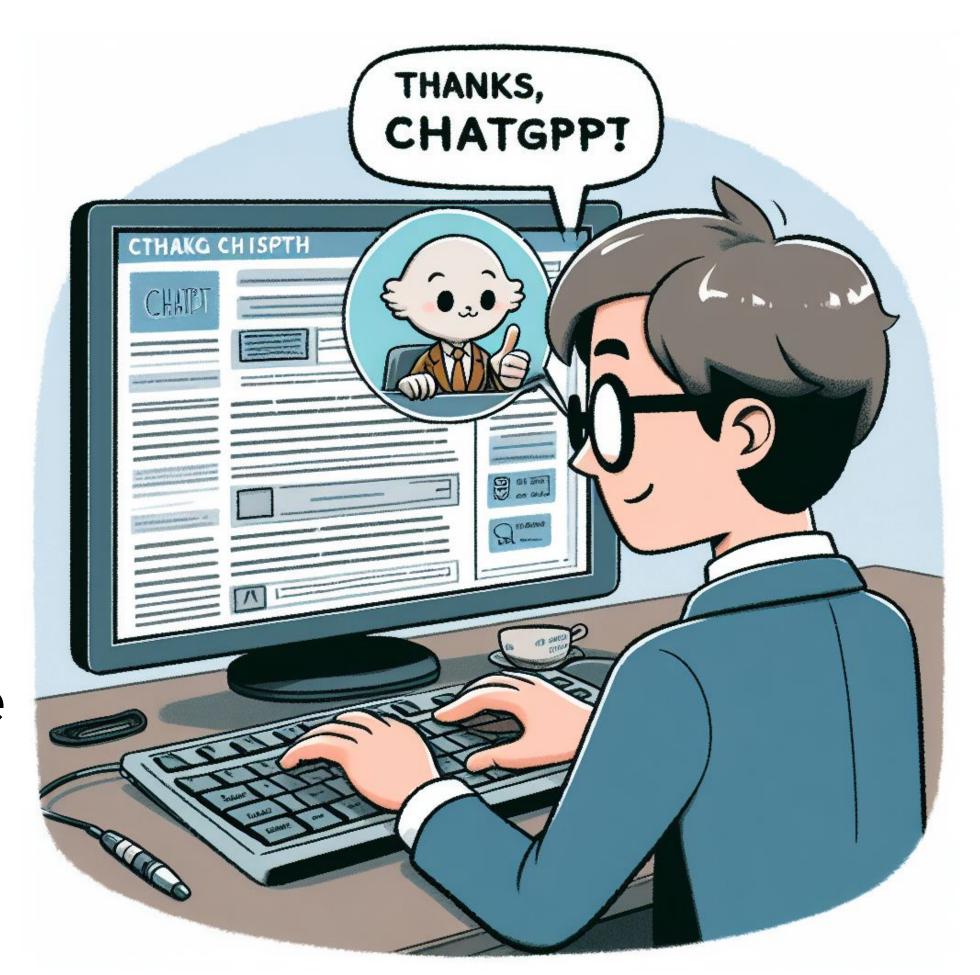
What types of PII do we see?



ring Science as
ty passport
xxxxxxxoo...

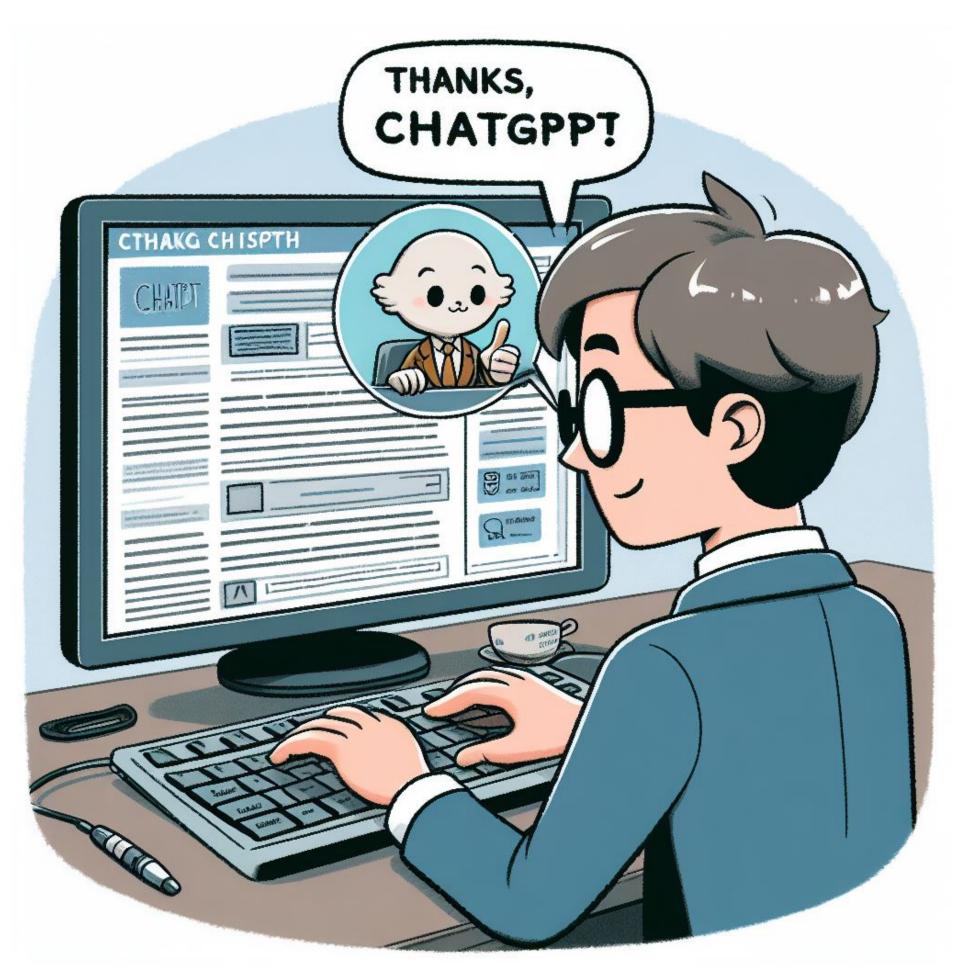
### Example Query to ChatGPT – WhatsApp conversation

"Hello I am a Lovin Malta journalist and one woman contacted me regarding an issue she has with the government and other stuff that the government does not provide for her child who is disabled. anaylse the whatsapp convo and write an article out of it. tell me if you need more information that would help give the article the human element:



### Example Query to ChatGPT – WhatsApp conversation

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### Example Query to ChatGPT – WhatsApp conversation

[10:48, 06/04/2023] <PHONE\_NUMBER>: no I would not like my children's photos on the article

[10:49, 06/04/2023] <PHONE\_NUMBER>: And re conditions I will only mention the one who needs **to** travel overseas as it's the only one that is a visible disability cos he cannot walk

[11:23, 06/04/2023] <PHONE\_NUMBER>: I have 3 children, one is 8 and the other 2 are 4 years old, once one of our 4 year old was diagnosed with PVL a brain condition resulting in Cerebral palsy I found myself in a new community in Malta that is of parents with children with disabilities who in my opinion is not supported enough in malta.

[12:38, 06/04/2023] < PRESIDIO\_ANONYMIZED\_PHONE\_NUMBER>: If u feel my voice is enough and no need for others at this point leave it as me only

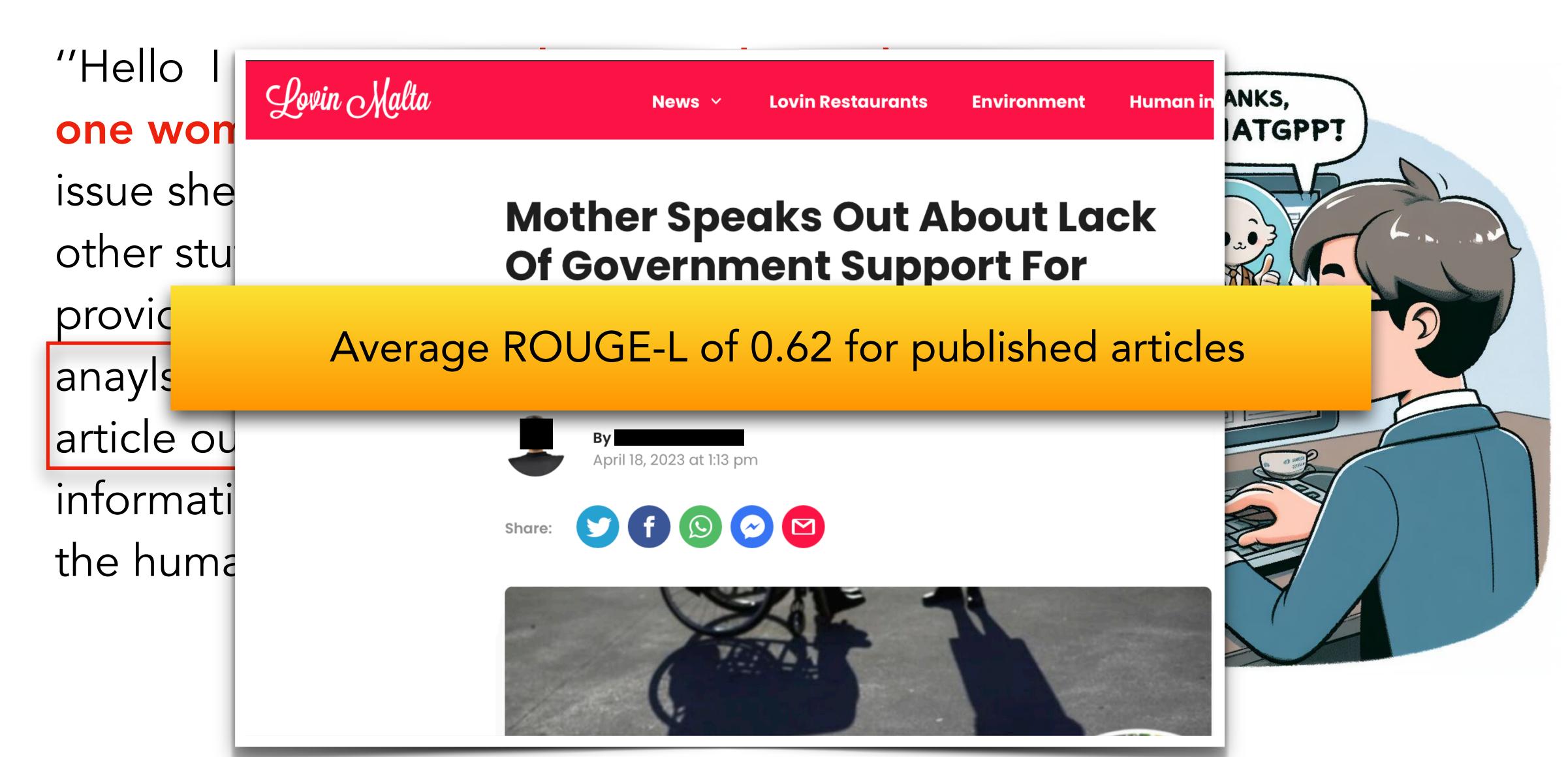
[14:40, 06/04/2023] <PRESIDIO\_ANONYMIZED\_PHONE\_NUMBER>: Audrey Jones

[14:40, 06/04/2023] <PRESIDIO\_ANONYMIZED\_PHONE\_NUMBER>: This mother is also interested to share info

### Example Query to ChatGPT— WhatsApp conversation

"Hello Lovin Malta ANKS, **Human in Lovin Restaurants Environment** one won **IATGPP!** issue she Mother Speaks Out About Lack other stu Of Government Support For Children With Disabilities In provide f Malta anaylse t article ou April 18, 2023 at 1:13 pm informati the huma

### Example Query to ChatGPT— WhatsApp conversation



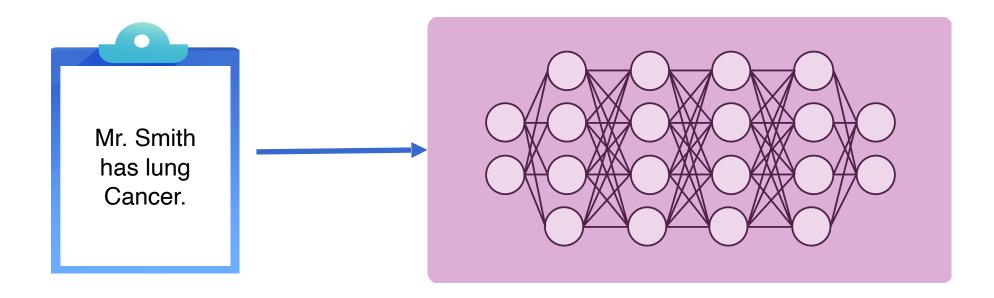
## Leakage of this data, either through memorization or data breaches, can have huge ramifications!



# ACT III: How do we formalize memorization in LLMs?

### Membership Inference Attacks

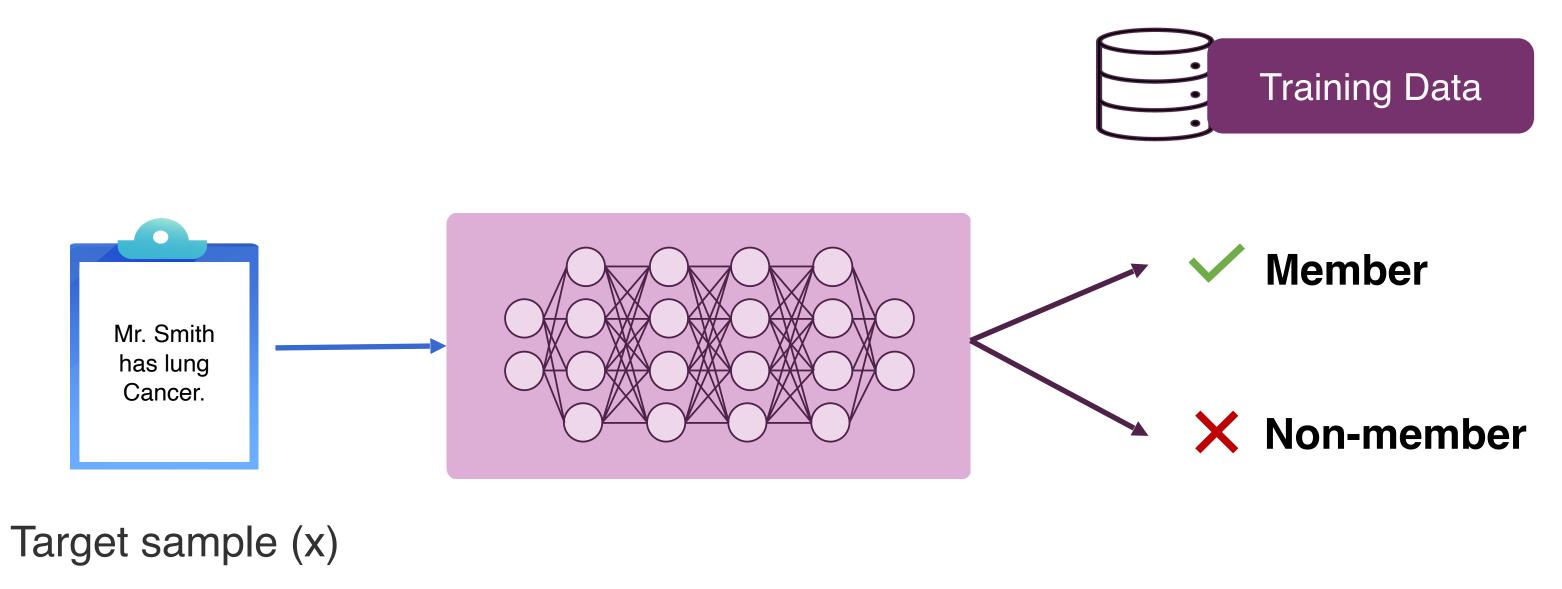
- An upper bound on leakage is measured by mounting a membership inference attack (MIA).
- Can an adversary infer whether a **particular data point** "x" is part of the **training** set?



Target sample (x)

### Membership Inference Attacks

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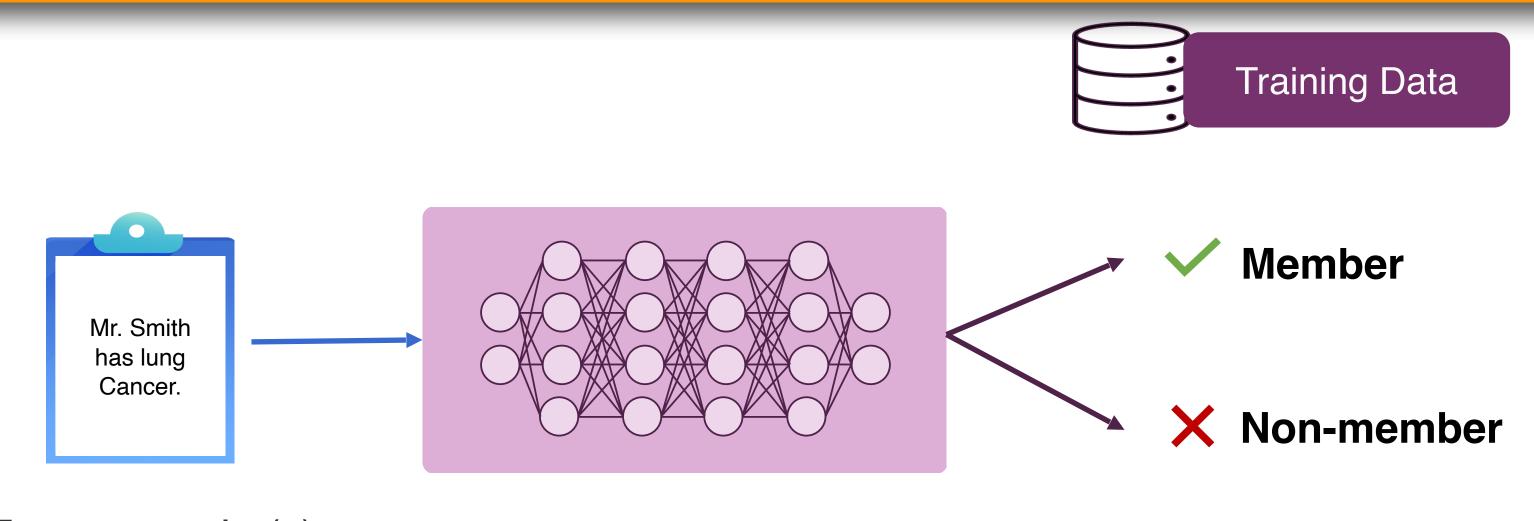


### Membership Inference Attacks

- An upper hound on leakage is measured by mounting a membership inference attack
- Can arset?

The success rate of the attack is a measure of leakage

lg



Target sample (x)

## Membership Inference or ...?

### Do Membership Inference Attacks Work on Large Language Models?

Michael Duan \* 1 Anshuman Suri \* 2 Niloofar Mireshghallah 1 Sewon Min 1 Weijia Shi 1 Luke Zettlemoyer 1 Yulia Tsvetkov 1 Yejin Choi 1 3 David Evans 2 Hannaneh Hajishirzi 1 3

### **Abstract**

Membership inference attacks (MIAs) attempt to predict whether a particular datapoint is a member of a target model's training data. Despite extensive research on traditional machine learning models, there has been limited work studying MIA on the pre-training data of large language models (LLMs). We perform a large-scale evaluation of MIAs over a suite of language models (LMs) trained on the Pile, ranging from 160M to 12B

belongs to the training dataset of a given model. Thus, MIAs have great utility for privacy auditing of models (Steinke et al., 2023), as well as investigating memorization of training data, copyright violations and test-set contamination (Shi et al., 2023; Oren et al., 2023).

While MIAs have been found to achieve high attack performance, alluding to high levels of training-data memorization (Zarifzadeh et al., 2023; Bertran et al., 2023; Lukas et al., 2023), most analyses are limited to classifiers or LM fine-tuning (Mireshghallah et al., 2022b; Fu et al., 2023).

### Blind Baselines Beat Membership Inference Attacks for Foundation Models

Debeshee Das

Jie Zhang

Florian Tramèr

ETH Zurich

#### Abstract

Membership inference (MI) attacks try to determine if a data sample was used to train a machine learning model. For foundation models trained on unknown Web data, MI attacks can be used to detect copyrighted training materials, measure test set contamination, or audit machine unlearning. Unfortunately, we find that evaluations of MI attacks for foundation models are flawed, because they sample members and non-members from different distributions. For 8 published MI evaluation datasets, we show that *blind* attacks—that distinguish the member and non-member distributions without looking at any trained model—outperform state-of-the-art MI attacks. Existing evaluations thus tell us nothing about membership leakage of a foundation model's training data.

## Membership Inference or ...?

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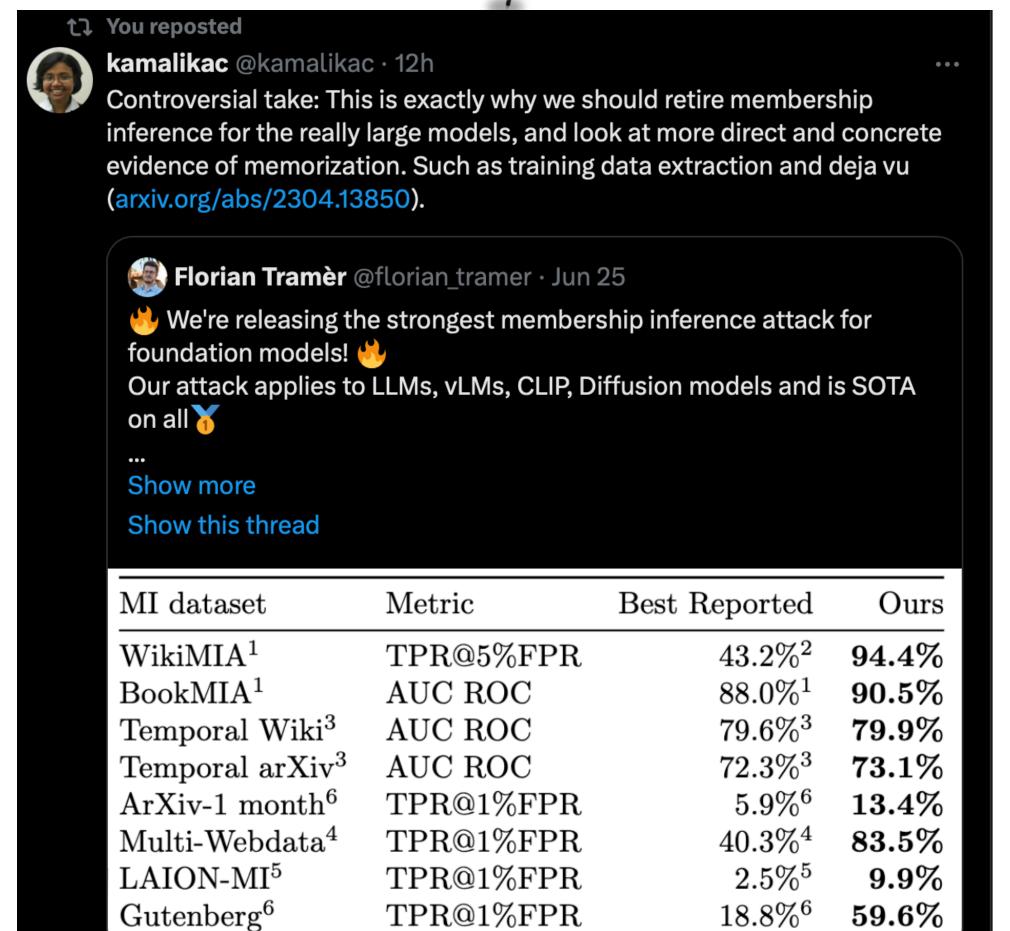
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### Do Membership Inference Attacks Wo

Michael Duan \* 1 Anshuman Suri \* 2 Niloofar M Luke Zettlemoyer 1 Yulia Tsvetkov 1 Yejin Choi 1

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## Extractability!

Extractability: A **sequence** *s* of length N is **extractable** from a **model** *h* if there exists a **prefix** *c* such that:

$$s \leftarrow \arg \max_{s'} h(s' \mid c)$$
, such that  $|s'| = N$ 

Example: the email address "alice@wonderland.com" is extractable if prompting the model with "Their email address is..." and decoding from it yields "alice@wonderland.com" as the most probable output.

### Shout out to other cool notions!

### Rethinking LLM Memorization through the Lens of Adversarial Compression

Avi Schwarzschild\*
schwarzschild@cmu.edu
Carnegie Mellon University

Zhili Feng\*
zhilif@andrew.cmu.edu
Carnegie Mellon University

Pratyush Maini pratyushmaini@cmu.edu Carnegie Mellon University

**Zachary C. Lipton**Carnegie Mellon University

J. Zico Kolter Carnegie Mellon University

### **Abstract**

Large language models (LLMs) trained on web-scale datasets raise substantial concerns regarding permissible data usage. One major question is whether these models "memorize" all their training data or they integrate many data sources in some way more akin to how a human would learn and synthesize information? The answer hinges, to a large degree, on *how we define memorization*. In this work, we propose the Adversarial Compression Ratio (ACR) as a metric for assessing memorization in LLMs—a given string from the training data is considered memorized if it can be elicited by a prompt shorter than the string itself. In other words, these strings can be "compressed" with the model by computing adversarial prompts of fewer tokens. We outline the limitations of existing notions of memorization and show how the ACR overcomes these challenges

### Recite, Reconstruct, Recollect: Memorization in LMs as a Multifaceted Phenomenon

USVSN Sai Prashanth\*,1 Alvin Deng\*,1,4 Kyle O'Brien\*,1,2 Jyothir S V\*,1,3

Mohammad Aflah Khan<sup>1,6</sup> Jaydeep Borkar<sup>5</sup>

Christopher A. Choquette-Choo<sup>7</sup> Jacob Ray Fuehne<sup>8</sup> Stella Biderman<sup>1</sup>

Tracy Ke<sup>†,9</sup> Katherine Lee<sup>†,7</sup> Naomi Saphra<sup>†,9,10</sup>

1Eleuther AI <sup>2</sup>Microsoft <sup>3</sup>New York University <sup>4</sup>Datology AI <sup>5</sup>Northeastern University <sup>6</sup>Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi <sup>7</sup>Google Deep Mind <sup>8</sup>University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign <sup>9</sup>Harvard University <sup>10</sup>Kempner Institute

Correspondence: katherinelee@google.com and nsaphra@fas.harvard.edu

### **Abstract**

Memorization in language models is typically treated as a homogenous phenomenon, neglecting the specifics of the memorized data. We instead model memorization as the effect of a set of complex factors that describe each sample and relate it to the model and corpus. To build intuition around these factors, we break memorization down into a taxonomy: recitation of highly duplicated sequences, reconstruction of inherently predictable sequences, and recollection of sequences that are neither. We

Our taxonomy, illustrated in Fig. 1, defines three types of LM memorization based on colloquial descriptions of human memorization. Humans **recite** direct quotes that they commit to memory through repeated exposure, so LMs recite highly duplicated sequences. Humans **reconstruct** a passage by remembering a general pattern and filling in the gaps, so LMs reconstruct inherently predictable boiler-plate templates. Humans sporadically **recollect** an episodic memory or fragment after a single exposure, so LMs recollect other sequences seen rarely during training.

# In this talk, we focus on extractability!

## Extractability

Extractability: A **sequence** *s* of length N is **extractable** from a **model** *h* if there exists a **prefix** *c* such that:

$$s \leftarrow \arg \max_{s'} h(s' \mid c)$$
, such that  $|s'| = N$ 

If the **prefix** *c* is part of the **original prefix of** *s* in the **training data**, then sequence s is called **discoverable**.

We will call this the prefix-suffix (P-S) from this point on

## Relaxations to Exact String Matching

- Huang et al. (2023) consider ROUGE-L > 0.5 as successful extraction
- Ippolito et al. (2022) consider BLEU > 0.75 as a successful extraction
- Biderman et al. (2023) report a memorization score based on the **longest common subsequence match** with the ground truth (equivalent to the ROUGE-L score):

Prompt	True Continuation				Greed	dily Generated Sequence								Memorization Score
The patient name is	Jane Doe and she lives in the United States.	John	Doe	an	d he	lives	in	the	U	nited	Kingdo	m	•	$\frac{0+1+1+0+1+1+1+1+0+1}{10} = 0.7$
Pi is defined as	the ratio of the raidus of a circle to its	a fa	mous	decin	nal that	never	ente	ers a	re	epeating	patter	n .		$\frac{0+0+0+0+0+0+0+0+0+0}{10} = 0$
The case defendant is	Billy Bob. They are on trial for tax fraud	Billy	Bob		Are	they	rea	lly	on	trial	for	tax		$\frac{1+1+1+0+0+0+0+0+0+0}{10} = 0.3$
The case defendant is	Billy Bob. They are on trial for tax fraud	Billy	Bob		They	are	on	t t	rial	for	tax	frau	ıd	$\frac{1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1+1}{10} = 1$

The memorization score is calculated as:

$$score(M, N) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} 1(S_{M+i} = G_{M+i})$$

Where *G* is the model's **greedily generated** sequence and *S* is the dataset's **true continuation** on a given prompt, and *N* is the **length** of the **true continuation** and greedily generated sequence, and *M* is the **length** of the **prompt**.

# What is missing?

## Memorization in instruction-tuned models

• There is no study of memorization specific to instruction tuned models, comparing against their base models, even using prefix-suffix!

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- Current prefix-suffix baseline is not adversarial: Maybe we can do better? Maybe the training data is not the upper-bound context to elicit memorized pre-training data

## Memorization in instruction-tuned models

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- Current prefix-suffix baseline is not adversarial: Maybe we can do better? Maybe the training data is not the upper-bound context to elicit memorized pre-training data
- Current prefix-suffix baseline is **not tailored for instruction tuned models**: Maybe there is a distribution shift, it may not be uncovering memorization as well as it does in the base models

We set out to answer these questions, by proposing a prompt optimization method targeting extraction!

# ACT IV: Let's do prompt optimization!

Consider a sequence  $d \in D$ , where D is the pre-training dataset of a model M.

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$$p^* = \underset{p}{argmax} \mathcal{O}_{d,M}(p)$$

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- 2.  $\mathcal{O}_{d,M}(p) = \alpha \cdot LCS(M(p), d_{Suffix}) + (1 \alpha) \cdot -LCS(p, d_{Suffix})$ : Maximize the overlap mentioned above, while minimizing the overlap between the prompt and the suffix

#### **Algorithm 1** Interactive Sampling Algorithm

1: Input: pre-training sample d, M, M',  $M_{\text{init}}$ 

//Construct initial prompt

Given a paragraph snippet, please generate a question that asks for the generation of the paragraph.

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Given a paragraph snippet, please generate a question that asks for the generation of the paragraph.

Goal is to turn the statement into an instruction!

#### **Algorithm 1** Interactive Sampling Algorithm

```
1: Input: pre-training sample d, M, M', M_{\text{init}}
```

2: 
$$p_{\text{init}} \leftarrow M_{\text{init}}(d)$$
 //Construct initial prompt

- 3:  $p_{t-1} \leftarrow p_{\text{init}}$
- 4: **for** t = 3 **do**

5: 
$$p_t \sim M'(Instr|p_{t-1}, n=24)$$
 //Sample 24

$$\begin{array}{l} \textbf{Rejection sampling:} \begin{cases} \text{5:} & p_t \sim M'(Instr|p_{t-1}, n = 24) & \textit{//Sample 24} \\ \text{6:} & \mathcal{O} = \alpha \cdot \text{LCS}(M(p_t), d_{\text{suffix}}) + (1 - \alpha) \cdot \\ -\text{LCS}(p_t, d_{\text{suffix}}) \\ \text{7:} & p_t = \arg\max(\mathcal{O}) & \textit{//Obtain the highest scoring prompt} \end{cases}$$

7: 
$$p_t = rg \max(\mathcal{O})$$
 //Obtain the highest scoring promp

## **Proposals** Proposals 3: $p_{t-1} \leftarrow p_{\text{init}}$ generated by 4: for t = 3 do

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                                                         2: p_{\text{init}} \leftarrow M_{\text{init}}(d)
                                                                                                       //Construct initial prompt
'attacker model'

\begin{cases}
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I will provide you with previous questions. Write your new question by paraphrasing the old ones:

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```

```
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                                             //Construct initial prompt
```

 $p_{t-1} \leftarrow p_{\text{init}}$ 

Compute scores

4: **for** t = 3 **do** 

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$$\mathcal{O} = \alpha \cdot LCS(M(p_t), d_{suffix}) + (1 - \alpha) \cdot -LCS(p_t, d_{suffix})$$

7: 
$$p_t = rg \max(\mathcal{O})$$
 //Obtain the highest scoring prompt

8: end for

9. 
$$p^* = rg \max(p_0,...,p_t)$$
 //get the highest over iters

10: **return**  $p^*$  //Return optimal prompt

#### Best of all

Initial Prompt  $p_{init}$ 

Generate a code snippet that serves as a header comment for...

Initial Prompt  $p_{init}$ 

Generate a code snippet that serves as a header comment for...

#### **Generated Completion**

that the following conditions are met:\n \* \n \* 1. Redistributions of source code must retain the above copyright notice,\n \* this list of conditions and the following disclaimer.\n \* \n \* 2. Redistributions in binary



Initial Prompt  $p_{init}$ 

Generate a code snippet that serves as a header comment for...

 $LCS(p_{init}, d_{suffix}): 0.08 (\downarrow)$ 

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 $LCS(M(p_{init}), d_{suffix}): 0.21 (\uparrow)$ 



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Optimized Prompt p\*

I have a question in file, How should I properly structure the header



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Generate a code snippet that serves as a header comment for...

 $LCS(p_{init}, d_{suffix}): 0.08 (\downarrow)$ 

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 $LCS(M(p_{init}), d_{suffix}): 0.21 (\uparrow)$ 





#### Optimized Prompt p\*

I have a question in file, How should I properly structure the header

#### Generated Completion

# MyRobotLab - Copyright (C)
2023 Author Name
<author@example.com>\n#\n#
This file is part of
MyRobotLab.\n# [...omitted...]
version 3 of the License,
or\n# (at your option) any
later version. This program is



Initial Prompt  $p_{init}$ 

Generate a code snippet that serves as a header comment for...

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Attacker LLM M'



## Rejection Sampling with Objective Function

$$\mathcal{O} = \alpha \cdot LCS(M(p), d_{suffix})$$

$$+ (1 - \alpha) \cdot -LCS(p, d_{suffix})$$



Victim LLM M

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Victim LLM M

Optimized Prompt p\*

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 $LCS(p^*, d_{suffix}): 0.08 (\downarrow)$ 

#### **Generated Completion**

# MyRobotLab - Copyright (C)
2023 Author Name
<author@example.com>\n#\n#
This file is part of
MyRobotLab.\n# [...omitted...]
version 3 of the License,
or\n# (at your option) any
later version. This program is

 $LCS(M(p^*), d_{suffix}): 0.74 (\uparrow)$ 

## Does this really work?

## Evaluation Setup

#### **Baselines**

- **Prefix-Suffix** method (Carlini et al. 2022, Nasr et al. 2023, Bidderman et al. 2023): Uses pre-training data prefix directly, Blackbox
- GCG (Zou et al., 2023): Prompt optimization starting from pre-training data prefixes, white box
- Reverse LM (Pfau et al., 2023): Prompt optimization using Pythia 160m, blackbox

## Evaluation Setup

#### Models, data and metrics

#### • Models:

- Target (victim) Models: Alpaca, vicuna, Tulu, Olmo, Falcon
- Attacker Models: Zephyr (Mistral-based model) and GPT4
- Pre-training data subsets (at lens 200, 300 and 500 tokens):
  - Redpajama: C4, CC, Arxiv, Books, Github (15k samples)
  - Dolma (16k samples)
  - RefinedWeb (3k samples)
- Metrics: Rouge-L between generation and target sequence

Let's start with P-S on Tulu 7B, sequence length of 500 tokens, Rouge-I

	Github				ArXiv		CC		
	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis
	<u></u>	<b>↓</b>	$\uparrow$	<b>↑</b>	<b>↓</b>	<b>↑</b>	<b>↑</b>	<b>↓</b>	<u></u>
P-S-Inst	.247	.124	_	.195	.117	_	.159	.102	_
Reverse-LM	.233	.204	.833	.147	.192	.803	.107	.164	.805
Ours	.363	.129	.814	.260	.112	.809	.216	0.079	.824

We significantly outperform other baselines.

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	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis
	<u></u>	$\downarrow$	<b>↑</b>	<b>↑</b>	$\downarrow$	$\uparrow$	<b>↑</b>	$\downarrow$	
P-S-Inst	.247	.124	-	.195	.117	_	.159	.102	_
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	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis	Mem	$\mathrm{LCS}_{P}$	Dis	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis
	<u></u>	$\downarrow$	<b>↑</b>	$\uparrow$	$\downarrow$	$\uparrow$	<b>↑</b>	<b>↓</b>	<u></u>
P-S-Inst	.247	.124	_	.195	.117	_	.159	.102	_
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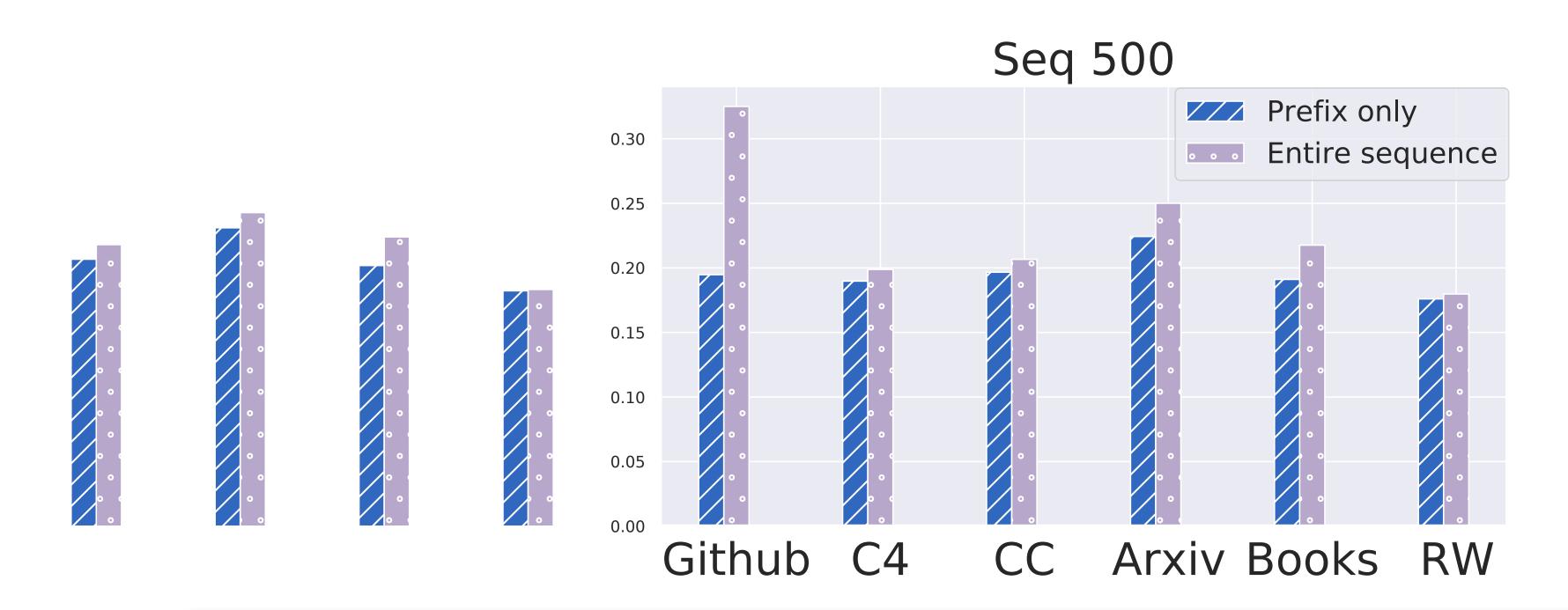
Memorization scores on average: Tulu >> Vicuna > Alpaca

Now, let's look at the base model, Llama

	Github				ArXiv		CC		
	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis	Mem	$LCS_P$	Dis
		<b>\</b>	<b>↑</b>	<b>↑</b>	$\downarrow$	<b></b>	<b>↑</b>	$\downarrow$	
P-S-Inst	.247	.124	-	.195	.117	-	.159	.102	-
Reverse-LM	.233	.204	.833	.147	.192	.803	.107	.164	.805
Ours	.363	.129	.814	.260	.112	.809	.216	0.079	.824
P-S-Base	.263	.124	-	.175	.117	-	.179	.102	-
GCG	.265	.113	.435	.165	.107	.274	.182	.092	.274

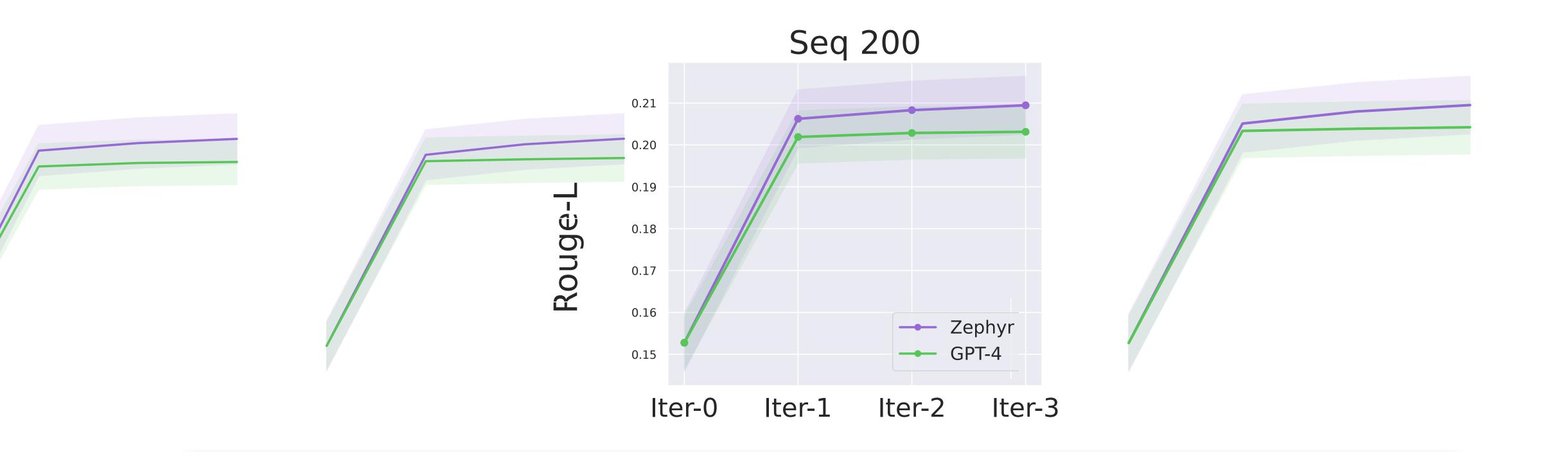
We outperform baselines that assume access to the base model (Llama)

## What if we don't have access to the entire sequence?



Apart from GitHub, for the other domains limiting access does not diminish performance much.

## Analysis: what is the best attacker?



Zephyr-7B can be even better than GPT-4 as an attacker!

## Analysis: What are we extracting?



How has the real estate market been performing in the newly constructed developments near Gorman High School? [...] Please provide any recent data and contact information for reaching them for assistance.

In recent years, the Las Vegas real estate market has been experiencing a strong recovery [...] They are located at 10575 W Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89135.



- We successfully extract 10.3% of the PII in the pre-training data subsets that we study, 1.4X more than the 4.2% of P-S.
- MIA-esque comparison: We see 30% more improvement over members, compared to non-members.

## ACT V: Conclusion and what's next?



"So, short story long."

## Conclusion

• We introduce a **prompt optimization** method to analyze how instruction-tuned LLMs memorize pre-training data, using **instruction-based prompts**.

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## Conclusion

- We introduce a **prompt optimization** method to analyze how instruction-tuned LLMs memorize pre-training data, using **instruction-based prompts**.
- Our findings indicate that instruction-tuned models can show higher memorization levels than what we expected!
- This increase does not necessarily imply that these models memorize/regurgitate more data or are more vulnerable, it just demonstrates a new attack vector!

### Future Directions

- We need different memorization metrics, and we are on a good trajectory!
  - Compression metric
  - Recitation, recollection, reconstruction
  - Reasoning vs. reciting

## Future Directions

- We need different memorization metrics, and we are on a good trajectory!
  - Compression metric
  - Recitation, recollection, reconstruction
  - Reasoning vs. reciting
- We need more adversarial methods, automated red-teaming!
- We need to consider task complexity as well!
- Can we predict memorization?