

Open Discussion #3

Theme Beyond the Hype: Confronting Al's Real-World Limitations

IARIA Congress 2025 & DigiTech 2025



Stalling Progress?

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LLM Research & Development Seems to Hit a Wall



Except for incremental improvements...

Issue 1: Algorithms

Issue 2: Return on Invest

Issue 3: Training Data

Issue n?



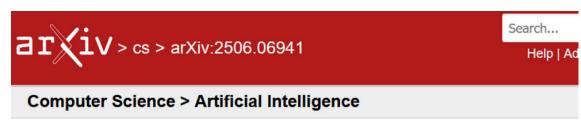
Erik Buchmann
Center for Scalable
Data Analytics and
Artificial Intelligence
Dresden/Leipzig,
Germany



Issue 1: Algorithms

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- LLMs stop reasoning and make up results, if the problem is too difficult
- For example, see this paper
- LLMs degrade over time
- CHEN, Lingjiao; ZAHARIA, Matei; ZOU, James. How is ChatGPT's behavior changing over time?. Harvard Data Science Review, 2024, 6. Jg., Nr. 2.
- ChenghaoZhu, et al. Is Your LLM Outdated? A Deep Look at Temporal Generalization. In: Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics, 2025
- LLMs do not benefit from scaling-up training
- SPRINGER, Jacob Mitchell, et al. Overtrained language models are harder to fine-tune. arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.19206, 2025.
- LLMs collapse with minor changes



[Submitted on 7 Jun 2025]

The Illusion of Thinking: Understanding the Strengths and Limitations of Reasoning Models via the Lens of Problem Complexity

Parshin Shojaee, Iman Mirzadeh, Keivan Alizadeh, Maxwell Horton, Samy Bengio, Mehrdad Farajtabar



Issue 2: Return on Invest

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- Many business reports in the media read like this
 - "failure": techically working, but do not achieve business goals
- Many services bundle AI with their products, without options for removal
 - Microsoft (Copilot in Office 365, Win11)
 - Google (Search, Gmail, Docs, Sheets)
 - Meta (Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp)
 - ...



DIVE BRIEF

AI project failure rates are on the rise: report

The share of businesses scrapping most of their AI initiatives increased to 42% this year, up from 17% last year, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Published March 14, 2025

Issue 3: Training Data

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- It seems that all available high-quality
 training data has been used up
- Elon Musk says all human data for AI training 'exhausted'. The Guardian, Jan. 2025
- Companies pushing ethical or data privacy
 boundaries to use copyrighted material or
 customer data for Al training
- Al models collapse, when trained with Al generated data
- SHUMAILOV, Ilia, et al. AI models collapse when trained on recursively generated data. Nature, 2024, 631. Ja., Nr. 8022

Meta Al: How Facebook & Instagram Data Powers Al Training

Meta is training Al Using Your Data









- 1. Which other "difficult" limitations for current AI systems exist?
- (Particularly, when using LLMs for high-stakes problems)

- 2. Which alternatives exist to circumvent such limitations?
- (What are the new answers to problems that cannot be solved incrementally?)