



Disclaimer UvA AI Chat

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The UvA AI chat is an AI environment developed by the University of Amsterdam. It makes use of so-called large language models, a form of generative AI that can generate texts or images based on user input. The AI is trained on large amounts of data and can utilise this to provide contextual responses to questions or comments. Although this technology offers many possibilities, it is important to also consider its limitations. UvA AI Chat does not possess its own knowledge or understanding, and the generated information may not always be complete, accurate or up to date. Hence, responsible and critical use is a prerequisite: use the AI as a tool, not as a replacement for your own judgement or sources known to be reliable.

Reliability

The following applies for all large language models accessed via UvA AI Chat: they are not infallible. Errors, inaccuracies and outdated information may be generated. UvA AI chat is not a replacement for critical thinking and human judgement. Hence, always carefully check the generated text and assess its relevance and accuracy in the context of its use. It is also important to take into account the (lack of) recency of the large language model you are using: the large language models are subject to a “knowledge cutoff”; the date up to which the model has been trained. You can find this in the UvA AI Chat manual. The auditing and verification of any output remains a necessity. You, as the user, are responsible for what you do with the generated information.

Ethical considerations

The use of AI comes with some important ethical considerations:

Bias

Large language models may contain biases that arise from the contents of the training data. It is important to critically evaluate the generated information and take possible distortions or imbalances into account.

Training data

The UvA AI Chat uses both open and closed large language models. It is important to know the training data for these models may originate from sources protected by copyright; generated output should therefore not automatically be considered free to use with no restrictions. Furthermore, the quality and diversity of the training data used can influence the output of these large language models. Users should be aware of the limitations of this data.

Energy consumption

Generative AI models consume significant amounts of energy and water, which has an impact on the environment. It is therefore important to consider which models you use for which purposes. For more information, consult the UvA AI Chat manual.

Transparency

Texts generated by the AI should be processed and handled transparently. The UvA AI Chat offers the possibility to export chat history, which can help in being transparent. It is important to state explicitly when UvA AI Chat or other generative models have been used in academic work. Transparency helps in assessing the authenticity and reliability of the information and ensures that the methods of use are clear to readers and evaluators.

Privacy and sensitive information

UvA AI Chat applies strict privacy measures while handling data. Within UvA AI Chat, special categories of personal data (such as health data, political beliefs or religious information) may not be processed. What is permitted are general education-related documents and conversations, anonymised data, and educational content that does not contain sensitive personal data. The system stores account information (name, email address, role) for access management. Users can permanently delete all conversations and documents using the “delete all” function.

Policy frameworks and guidelines

Always follow the policy of the relevant faculty, programme or course. UvA AI Chat may only be used within the frameworks of the university’s [policy framework and GenAI guidelines in education](#), and in accordance with applicable regulations, including academic guidelines.