

Gartner Research

Gartner Addresses Frequently Asked Questions on ChatGPT

By Ben Yan

10 February 2023

Gartner Addresses Frequently Asked Questions on ChatGPT

Published 10 February 2023 - ID G00786727 - 16 min read

Ben Yan

Initiatives: Artificial Intelligence; Enterprise Applications Evaluation and Selection; Evolve Technology and Process Capabilities to Support D&A; Legal and Compliance Technology Planning and Strategy

Data and analytics leaders can use this research to get answers to their questions on the hot topic of ChatGPT. These questions are distilled from client inquiries, Gartner Peer Connect forums and vendor discussions, and our answers represent Gartner's take on the topic at a high level.

More on This Topic

This is part of 2 in-depth collections of research. See the collections:

- Applying AI – Business Domains
- ChatGPT Research Highlights

Quick Answer

What is Gartner's position on the most frequently asked questions enterprises are asking about ChatGPT?

The ChatGPT service will change rapidly during 2023, and will be complemented by other offerings. Gartner clients have asked a flurry of questions regarding ChatGPT. Their most frequently asked questions traverse areas as diverse as business value, workforce impact, ethical and legal concerns, technology, vendor landscapes, security and experiences. Gartner's expert analysts address each of these questions to help data and analytics leaders understand ChatGPT's possible impact on their enterprises.

More Detail

This research presents a distilled set of questions Gartner has received from clients and vendors, along with a short answer to each one from Gartner’s expert analysts (see Figure 1) . For more in-depth guidance, see the Gartner research linked throughout the answers. Please note that Gartner expects the ChatGPT service to change rapidly over 2023, and to be complemented by other offerings. This research is part of a set; for more guidance on ChatGPT, see Quick Answer: How Can Enterprises Leverage ChatGPT and GPT3?

Gartner also expects several competitors will enter this market alongside ChatGPT. In particular, Gartner expects organizations like Baidu, IBM and Google to come to market early on in 2023, along with a crop of smaller players.

The questions and answers presented in this research are also available as a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation, which you can access by clicking the download link:

[Download Presentation](#)

Figure 1: Gartner’s Positions: FAQs for ChatGPT

Gartner’s Positions: FAQs for ChatGPT



Source: Gartner
786727_C

Gartner.

Category
Business Value and Use Cases
Workforce Impact
Technology
Vendors and Ecosystem
Security and Risk Management

Business Value and Use Cases

[Back to top](#)

1. **What is ChatGPT and how does it work?** Chat Generative Pretrained Transformer, or ChatGPT, is a chatbot and generative language tool launched by OpenAI in November 2022. ¹ The ChatGPT models compute the most probable set of letters or words when given an initial starting phrase, or “prompt.” ChatGPT is built on top of OpenAI’s GPT-3 family of large language models, and enables interaction with a model via a conversational user interface. ChatGPT was trained using 300 billion words taken from books, online texts, Wikipedia articles and code libraries, then fine-tuned with human feedback.

On 16 January 2023 Microsoft announced the introduction of Azure OpenAI Services, which includes ChatGPT along with language models and added enterprise services. ² It is important for enterprise planners to distinguish between the OpenAI ChatGPT and the Azure OpenAI Service. The Azure version promises significant enterprise operational features, but is still emerging at the time of writing.

It is important for enterprise planners to distinguish between the OpenAI ChatGPT and the Azure OpenAI Service.

2. **What role will ChatGPT play in the enterprise?** ChatGPT, and foundation models like it, will be used as a tool alongside many other hyperautomation and AI innovations. It will form part of architected solutions that automate, augment humans or machines, and autonomously execute business and IT processes. As generative AI takes its place alongside existing approaches to work, ChatGPT or other competitors will be used to replace, recalibrate and redefine some activities and tasks that form part of many job roles.
3. **What are the main use cases for ChatGPT?** ChatGPT can generate and augment prose and code development, summarize long-form texts, classify content, answer questions, translate and convert language (including programming languages).
4. **What is the ROI of ChatGPT?** It depends on the use case. For augmented scenarios, these tools can save writers and programmers time; however, those time savings will not necessarily be passed on to employers. End users should be realistic about the use cases and the value they look to achieve, especially when using the service as-is, which has major limitations. One such limitation is ChatGPT's reliability: generated text or code may be erroneous or biased, and therefore cannot be blindly consumed, but requires human validation, offsetting the initial time savings. Connect ChatGPT use cases to KPIs and ensure the project either improves operational efficiency, creates net new revenue or improves experiences.
5. **How much does ChatGPT cost?** The current research preview version of ChatGPT, which is the only version users could access up to the end of January 2023, is free of charge. However, there is no guarantee that this free service will persist, and it could be withdrawn at any time. OpenAI recently announced the launch of a pilot subscription plan for ChatGPT Plus for \$20 a month. ³ChatGPT will also come to the Microsoft Azure OpenAI Service soon, but the pricing for that is currently being rolled out. ⁴ It is possible that significant elements will be bundled with different Microsoft 365 software subscriptions.
6. **Should I provide ChatGPT-powered experiences directly to my customers?** No — this is too high risk at present for most use cases, except in rare cases, possibly related to gaming or entertainment, where the correctness or impartiality of the content may have less scrutiny..

Workforce Impact

[Back to top](#)

7. **Will ChatGPT replace jobs?** Initially, ChatGPT will augment targeted activities or tasks, rather than entire jobs. This will likely be followed by future versions of ChatGPT, as well other tools and combinations of tools, that will go beyond augmenting and likely start executing targeted activities or tasks. This will require testing, quality control, guardrails and governance.
8. **What will be the impact of ChatGPT on the enterprise workforce?** As mentioned in the answer to question 2, ChatGPT will be one of several tools, including other hyperautomation and AI innovations, used in architected solutions that automate, augment humans or machines, or autonomously perform business or IT processes. It will replace, recalibrate and redefine the activities and tasks that make up many job roles.
9. **What is the magnitude of workforce impact?** There will be new jobs created, while others will be redefined. The net change in the workforce will vary dramatically depending on factors such as industry, location, and the size and offerings (products or services) of the enterprise. However, it is clear that the use of tools such as ChatGPT (or competitors), hyperautomation and AI innovations will focus on tasks that are repetitive and high-volume, with an emphasis on efficiency, such as reducing cycle time, increasing productivity and improving quality control (reducing error rates), among others.
10. **What is Gartner's prediction for the future of the enterprise?** Gartner's strategic planning assumption is that by 2026, over 100 million humans will engage robocolleagues (synthetic virtual colleagues) to contribute to enterprise work. This will not be powered only by ChatGPT (or competitors); rather, it will involve a number of other technologies and solutions.

By 2026, over 100 million humans will engage robocolleagues (synthetic virtual colleagues) to contribute to enterprise work.

— *Frances Karamouzis, Gartner*

Technology

[Back to top](#)

11. **Is ChatGPT artificial general intelligence?** No. While ChatGPT and related large language models (LLMs) or foundation models have impressive capabilities, they cannot understand, learn or undertake any intellectual task that humans can (see Innovation Insight for Foundation Models). ChatGPT is a type of reinforcement learning approach. Although augmented with human feedback, it is essentially a machine learning construct, and lacks the generalization qualities provided by symbolic techniques.
12. **Is ChatGPT a new AI paradigm?** ChatGPT is an evolution of ongoing trends, rather than a new paradigm. The underlying model is based on transformer neural networks, which have been used as foundation models for over five years, including in vendor applications. However, ChatGPT does add some new elements to those foundation models, such as the conversational and short-term memory layers and massive human-in-the loop feedback (reinforcement learning) for the training process. The engineering delivered to make the model available for mass consumption is also novel, requiring extensive compute resources and model-serving architecture.
13. **What multilingual capabilities does ChatGPT have?** ChatGPT was trained on a multilingual corpus, and is able to respond to inputs and generate outputs in a number of languages. Gartner has informally observed that ChatGPT appears to work as well as the leading commercial machine translation model for English to Spanish, but is not as strong for the other official UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, French and Russian). ChatGPT is slower to translate than commercial engines. Users should evaluate the use of GPT-3 for translation on a case-by-case basis.

14. **What are the different ways you can use ChatGPT?** You can use the technology in one of four ways:

- **As-is** — Inputting prompts and receiving results via the web-based interface. This is by far the most popular usage approach today.
- **Prompt engineering without APIs** — Prompt engineering is the use of a service like ChatGPT in conjunction with other technologies as part of a workflow. This workflow can be achieved manually or by using screen scrape and robotic process automation (RPA) technologies.
- **Prompt engineering using APIs** — This model is not yet available, but expected in 1H23. While there are currently solutions on Github that enable an API wrapper around ChatGPT, they are not recommended for production builds or scale, and they are not supported by OpenAI.
- **Custom build** — It is possible to create a custom build of the core GPT2/GPT3 model for a bespoke implementation, but this would not have the conversational interaction or prompt filtering provided by ChatGPT.

15. **What are the current limitations of ChatGPT?** ChatGPT is only trained on data dated until 2021, so it has limitations on recency. It cannot provide the sources of the information from which its answers are generated, and has no explainability. Its reliability is only as good as its (unknown) underlying sources, which may be wrong and inconsistent, either in themselves or in how they are combined by ChatGPT, as already has been demonstrated in its use. It can only produce language and code, but cannot generate images. There is currently no supported API available. You cannot train ChatGPT on your own knowledge bases. ChatGPT gives the illusion of performing complex tasks, but it has no idea of the underlying concepts; it simply makes predictions. It does not provide data privacy assurances. Furthermore, while ChatGPT was recently updated to better handle mathematical queries, it still cannot be relied on for computation.

16. **Can I use my own data with ChatGPT?** You can currently use your own data only to provide prompts to ChatGPT, but not to train or fine-tune it. If you take the as-is approach to ChatGPT, you can include your own data and content with your questions, such as pasting in software code and asking ChatGPT to debug it, or pasting in some text for it to summarize. However, you cannot currently add your own industry or domain knowledge data to train or fine-tune ChatGPT, although the Azure service is expected to make this possible in 2023. As an alternative, you can use the GPT2/3 engines without the ChatGPT conversational interface or additions, and use transfer learning to train your own version of the model (see Innovation Insight: Transfer Learning). However, this would not result in the same type of model as ChatGPT.
17. **Can ChatGPT personalize content?** It is not possible to personalize the user experience (UX) of ChatGPT. However, users can personalize (or rather, contextualize) generative output in a certain style via their prompts, such as by requesting ChatGPT to adjust its generated content to a specific writing style or educational level. The Azure OpenAI ChatGPT service is likely to add APIs, and at that point it is likely to be possible to intercept the input and output and handle the user experience with a different user interface.
18. **Can I use ChatGPT to build or integrate into other systems?** Yes, but at present it is better to build augmented approaches to support different roles.
19. **What new features will be added to ChatGPT?** The service is not static; for example, it was recently updated to better handle mathematical prompts. It is also possible that Microsoft could use the Azure OpenAI ChatGPT service to complement Bing search in 2023. We also expect the introduction of more formal API offerings to the service. Recently, Microsoft Teams Premium has received updates using the Azure OpenAI ChatGPT core model of GPT3.5.⁵

Vendors and Ecosystem

[Back to top](#)

20. **Is ChatGPT a replacement for or threat to search?** No. ChatGPT is a complement to search, and only a partial alternative. ChatGPT focuses on generative approaches to answers, rather than artifact discovery (e.g., a certain document or sentence). Many search and insight engine vendors have been using the base GPT technology as part of their AI techniques for some time (see Magic Quadrant for Insight Engines). Gartner predicts that, over time, discovery methods like search will evolve to use foundation models alongside existing approaches.
21. **Does ChatGPT have any competitors?** Yes. There are several smaller vendors that have used large language models, similar to ChatGPT, to deliver specific task usage. However, many of the larger technology vendors have not commercialized their offerings. Gartner expects competitors like Baidu, IBM and Google to come to market in 1H23, along with a crop of smaller players. For example, on 6 February 2023, Google announced the introduction of its own offering, Bard. ⁶
22. **What markets will spring up around ChatGPT?** The biggest evolution will be in creating bespoke variants of models like GPT, where systems integrators and vendors support end users to inject their own knowledge bases via transfer learning. We expect more corpora management and prompt engineering services and tools to arrive in 2023, as well as tools for fact-checking and generated text detection. Vendors are likely to differentiate their products through task-specific fine-tuning of their models, as well as by introducing tools to mitigate risks related to the explainability, reliability, fairness, security and transparency of generated content.
23. **Does ChatGPT make my current natural language technologies (NLT) obsolete?** No, it is not likely to do so. ChatGPT intersects two markets in the NLT space: conversational AI and natural language generation. If your chatbot undertakes transactional conversations and relies on your own body of knowledge, then ChatGPT will not replace it. Today, ChatGPT is a broadly useful, general purpose conversational tool, not a single-API panacea for NLT. ChatGPT and GPT technologies have a role to play within a workflow. It may be possible to use the technology within NLT systems, such as to generate synonyms, utterances and responses as part of a workflow. You should check with your incumbent vendors to see how they are using generative technologies like ChatGPT.

Security and Risk Management

[Back to top](#)

24. **How secure is ChatGPT for my staff to use?** All employees who use OpenAI ChatGPT should be instructed to treat the information they post as if they were posting it on a public site (e.g., a social network or a public blog). They should not post personally identifiable information, company or client information that is not generally available to the public. There are currently no clear assurances of privacy or confidentiality. In addition, the information you post may be used to further train the model. Microsoft will be introducing privacy assurances for its Azure OpenAI ChatGPT service, just as it does for its other software services.
25. **What content filtering does ChatGPT provide?** ChatGPT has a toxic filter for inputs and outputs, but this is a complex task to undertake and requires good contextual modeling and a high level of nuance. Therefore, users should not rely on its output from a compliance or risk point of view, and should ensure that humans are in the loop to appraise inputs and outputs.
26. **What is the risk of ChatGPT being used by bad actors?** There are valid concerns that ChatGPT may be used by bad actors to generate false information at scale, create high-quality phishing emails and use its code generation capabilities to create malware. The ease-of-use and ubiquity of ChatGPT accelerate this risk. Service providers may require users to sign ethical usage agreements. However, these may be difficult to enforce.
27. **Who can view my conversations with ChatGPT?** The ChatGPT service providers (OpenAI and soon Microsoft) can review conversations to improve their systems and ensure the content complies with their policies and safety requirements. There are no assurances regarding employees, contractors or partners who may view the information you post. It is expected that the Azure version of the service will follow existing Azure OpenAI services in this regard. ⁷
28. **Will my conversations with ChatGPT be used for training?** Yes, and they may be reviewed by trainers. It is not possible to delete specific prompts, so be careful what you share. It is possible to delete an account, but this will not delete the training data.
29. **What biases does ChatGPT have?** ChatGPT is fine-tuned or enhanced to align to the trainers' preferences (labeler's ranking), rather than verified facts, which means its output is plausible, but not reliable for many use cases. Moreover, bias might be present in the large datasets used to train the underlying GPT-3 model. Despite OpenAI's efforts to minimize bias and discrimination in ChatGPT, there are already known cases of these things arising.

30. **Is there a regulatory risk associated with training data content owners to use ChatGPT?** There are concerns about the ownership of data and intellectual property rights in relation to content used to train GPT-3 and ChatGPT. There is currently no clarity on this issue, so it poses a risk to OpenAI and the further use of ChatGPT.
31. **Can I detect whether content has been generated by ChatGPT?** Not in any reliable way at this time. Gartner has observed tools that attempt to do this, but so far they have had poor results detecting whether content was generated by ChatGPT or a human.
32. **Should I make a company policy around ChatGPT?** Yes. Your knowledge workers are likely to be using it already, either for experimentation or even to support their job-related tasks. Blocking ChatGPT outright may lead to “shadow” ChatGPT usage, while only providing organizations with a false sense of compliance. Therefore, all employees who use ChatGPT should be instructed to treat the information they post as if they were posting it on a public site, such as a social network or public blog. A sensible approach would be to monitor usage, encourage innovation, but ensure it is only used to augment employees, and is not used unfiltered with customers and partners.

Policies regarding Microsoft Azure OpenAI Services and the related ChatGPT and GPT3 will offer greater levels of privacy and security. They will need to be examined when they are ready and available in the market.

Recommended by the Authors

Quick Answer: How Can Enterprises Leverage ChatGPT and GPT3?

Quick Answer: What Is ChatGPT?

Quick Answer: What Technology Companies Should Know and Do About ChatGPT

ChatGPT and GPT Board Reference Presentation

Innovation Insight for ML-Powered Coding Assistants

Evidence

¹ ChatGPT: Optimizing Language Models for Dialogue, OpenAI.

² Azure OpenAI Service, Microsoft.

³ Introducing ChatGPT Plus, OpenAI.

⁴ General Availability of Azure OpenAI Service Expands Access to Large, Advanced AI Models With Added Enterprise Benefits, Microsoft.

⁵ Microsoft Teams Premium: Cut Costs and Add AI-Powered Productivity, Microsoft.

⁶ An Important Next Step on Our AI Journey, Google.

⁷ Data, Privacy, and Security for Azure OpenAI Service, Microsoft.

© 2023 Gartner, Inc. and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved. Gartner is a registered trademark of Gartner, Inc. and its affiliates. This publication may not be reproduced or distributed in any form without Gartner's prior written permission. It consists of the opinions of Gartner's research organization, which should not be construed as statements of fact. While the information contained in this publication has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, Gartner disclaims all warranties as to the accuracy, completeness or adequacy of such information. Although Gartner research may address legal and financial issues, Gartner does not provide legal or investment advice and its research should not be construed or used as such. Your access and use of this publication are governed by [Gartner's Usage Policy](#). Gartner prides itself on its reputation for independence and objectivity. Its research is produced independently by its research organization without input or influence from any third party. For further information, see "[Guiding Principles on Independence and Objectivity](#)." Gartner research may not be used as input into or for the training or development of generative artificial intelligence, machine learning, algorithms, software, or related technologies.

Category
Business Value and Use Cases
Workforce Impact
Technology
Vendors and Ecosystem
Security and Risk Management

Connect With Us

Get actionable, objective insight to deliver on your mission-critical priorities. Our expert guidance and tools enable faster, smarter decisions and stronger performance. Contact us to become a client:

U.S.: 1 855 811 7593

International: +44 (0) 3330 607 044

[Become a Client](#)

Stay connected to the latest insights



Attend a Gartner conference

[View Webinars](#)