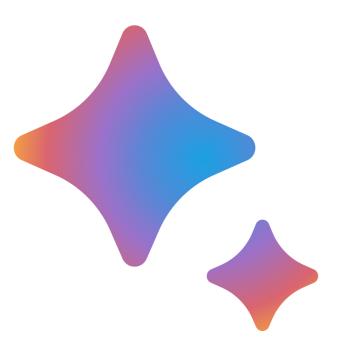
# Exploring Applications and User Experience with Generative AI Tools: A Content Analysis of Reddit Posts on ChatGPT

Wonchan Choi, iSchool, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA Yan Zhang, iSchool, University of Texas at Austin, USA Besiki Stvilia, iSchool, Florida State University, USA



## Introduction

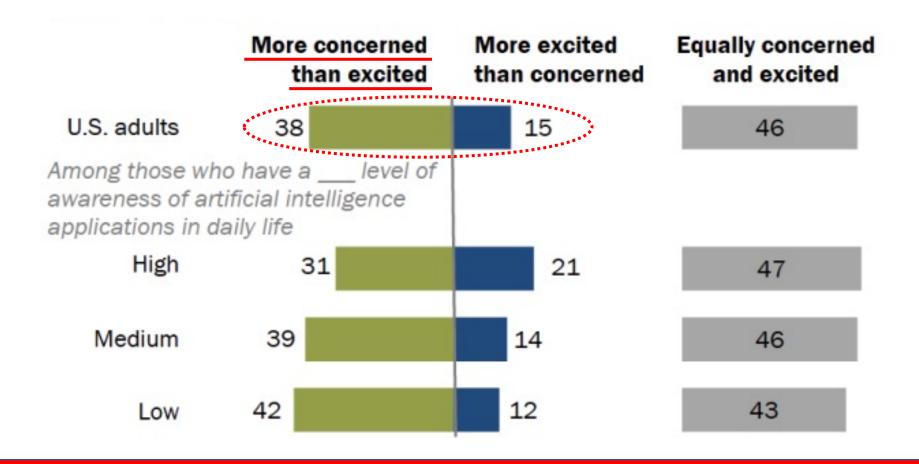








## Concerns about Use of Al in Daily Life (Pew Research Center, 2023)





## Purpose of the Study

- To explore use cases of ChatGPT and associated behaviors and experiences among users of an online forum
- Research Questions:

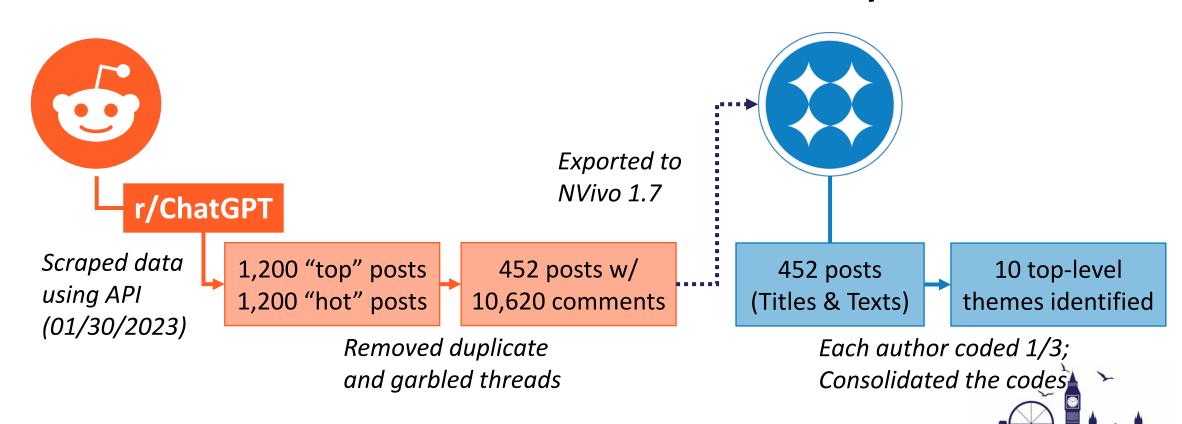


- 1. For **what** tasks and **how** do users use ChatGPT?
- 2. What are their **feelings** toward and **challenges and problems** related to ChatGPT?
- 3. What are the **perceived impacts** of ChatGPT?



## Method

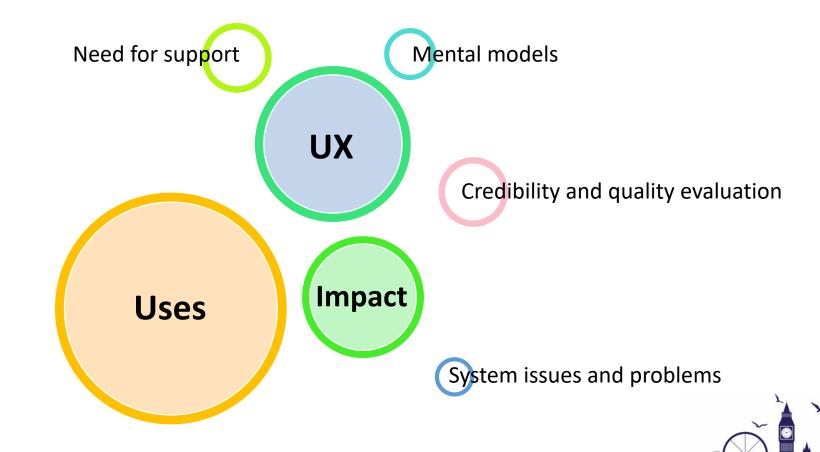
#### **Data collection**



**Data Analysis** 

OCTOBER 27-31, 2023 | LONDON

## Results: Themes Emerged



## RQ1: Uses of ChatGPT

#### Types of tasks

- Writing (e.g., creating, revising, summarizing, translating)
- Programming (e.g., debugging)
- Daily tasks (e.g., meal plans)
- Conversing

#### How to use

- Creating good prompts
- Integrating with tools
- Avoiding echo chambers



Uses

**Impact** 



## RQ1: Uses of ChatGPT

#### Types of tasks

 Writing (e.g., creating, revising, summarizing, translating) UX

Uses

- Programming (e.g., debugging)
- Daily tasks (e.g., meal plans)
- Conversing

#### How to use

- Creating *good* prompts
- Integrating with tools
- Avoiding echo chambers

Comfortable exploring and expressing my emotions

Simulated a past event, a major argument with my ex

Impactesolved a decade-old emotional conflict



## RQ1: Uses of ChatGPT

#### Types of tasks

 Writing (e.g., creating, revising, summarizing, translating)

• Programming (e.g., debugging)

Daily tasks (e.g., meal plans)

Conversing

#### How to use

- Creating good prompts
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UX

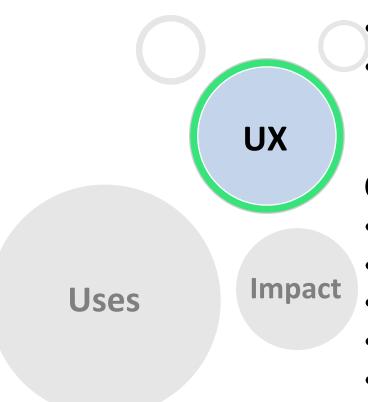
Uses

Make a prompt specific by providing best-practice examples

**Impact** 



## RQ2: UX with ChatGPT



#### **Feelings**

- Positive (e.g., amazed, incredible)
- Negative (e.g., frustrated, annoyed, skeptical)

#### **Challenges and problems**

- Privacy and security issues
- Copyright issues
- Unstable service
- Poor info. quality
- Open to persuasion
- Self-censorship

## RQ2: UX with ChatGPT

How does OpenAI use and share information?

• • •

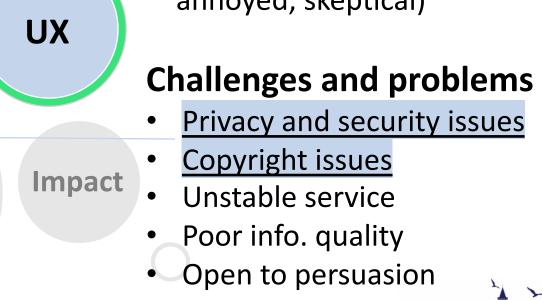
Use of the content could be flagged as plagiarism?

Uses

#### **Feelings**

- Positive (e.g., amazed, incredible)
- Negative (e.g., frustrated, annoyed, skeptical)

Self-censorship



## RQ2: UX with ChatGPT

Referenced nonexistent or irrelevant sources

Regurgitating the same information in different contexts

**Feelings** 

UX

Positive (e.g., amazed, incredible)

Negative (e.g., frustrated, annoyed, skeptical)

**Challenges and problems** 

Privacy and security issues

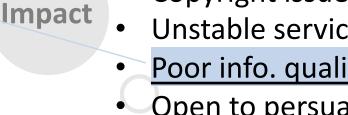
Copyright issues

Unstable service

Poor info. quality

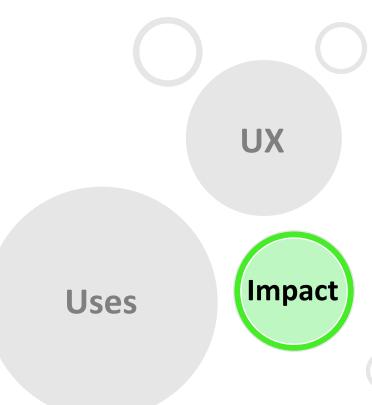
Open to persuasion

Self-censorship





## RQ3: Perceived Impact



#### Individual level

- Personal employability (-)
- Companionship (e.g., Al friend, pressure reliever) (+)

#### System level

• Threat to the existing internet infrastructure (e.g., wikis) (-)

#### Societal level

- Access divide (-)
- Power imbalance (-)
- Censorship (-)

## RQ3: Perceived Impact

ChatGPT's base version should remain **free** 

ChatGPT can be programmed with a bias benefiting people in power

Individual level

- Personal employability (-)
- Companionship (e.g., Al friend, pressure reliever) (+)

#### System level

 Threat to the existing internet infrastructure (e.g., wikis) (-)

#### Societal level

- Access divide (-)
- Power imbalance (-)
- Censorship (-)



UX



## Discussion

- **Public apprehension** regarding the increasing integration of AI in daily life (Pew Research Center, 2023)
- Continued use of traditional criteria for evaluating information quality (Stvilia et al., 2007)
- Embracing a **new paradigm** in learning, education, and research (Anderson & Rainie, 2023; Susnjak, 2022; Zhai, 2022)



## Limitations & Future Research

- Data from tech savvy users
- Content on the previous release of ChatGPT (as of Jan. 2023)
- Secondary forum posts analysis

- Interviews with users (in progress):
  - Mental models
  - Motivations and use cases
  - Strategies for evaluating information quality and credibility
  - Challenges and issues with AI tools
  - Need for support at different levels



## References

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Please say "thank you" in the 5 most popular languages in the world.



Certainly! Here are how you say "thank you" in the five most popular languages in the world:



- 1. English: Thank you
- 2. Chinese (Mandarin): 谢谢 (Xièxiè)
- 3. Spanish: Gracias
- 4. Hindi: धन्यवाद (Dhanyavād)
- Arabic: شكرًا (Shukran)



Maybe 5 more please?





Of course! Here are "thank you" in five more popular languages from around the world:



- 1. Russian: Спасибо (Spasibo)
- 2. Japanese: ありがとう (Arigatou)
- 3. French: Merci
- 4. German: Danke
- 5. Portuguese: Obrigado (if you're male) or Obrigada (if you're female)

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