
The pragmatic profile of Italian Chat-GPT: behavioral assessment of a conversational agent's communicative skills

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Abstract

This study examined the pragmatic abilities of OpenAI's Chat-GPT, a conversational agent based on the multi-layer Transformer network GPT-3.5. To do so, we administered a short language battery including standardized and experimental tests to assess expressive and receptive pragmatic skills. Results showed good performance but revealed noteworthy differences in the domains of the Gricean maxims, text-based inferences, and humor comprehension. Findings suggest that at least part of the pragmatic competence assessed through current tools might be distributionally encoded in language.

Keywords: Large language models, pragmatic profile, ChatGPT

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