# a survey of large language models

A Survey of Large Language Models: Exploring the Giants of AI

a survey of large language models reveals a fascinating landscape where artificial intelligence is reshaping how we interact with technology, communicate, and even create content. These models, powered by deep learning, have grown exponentially in size and complexity over the past few years, enabling machines to understand and generate human-like text with astonishing accuracy. Whether you're a tech enthusiast, a developer, or simply curious about AI, understanding these behemoths is essential to grasp the future trajectory of language technology.

# **Understanding Large Language Models**

Large language models (LLMs) are neural networks trained on massive amounts of text data to perform a variety of natural language processing (NLP) tasks. They generate text, translate languages, summarize information, answer questions, and even engage in creative writing. But what exactly makes these models "large," and why does size matter?

#### The Scale and Architecture

The term "large" typically refers to the number of parameters within the model — essentially, the knobs and dials the model adjusts during training to learn patterns in language. Early language models had millions of parameters, but today's giants boast billions or even trillions. For example, OpenAI's GPT-3 contains 175 billion parameters, while newer models continue to push this boundary.

This scale allows LLMs to capture subtle nuances in language, context, and meaning that smaller models might miss. Architecturally, most modern LLMs use the Transformer architecture, known for its ability to process sequences of data efficiently and capture long-range dependencies in text.

## Why Size Isn't Everything

While increasing parameters often improves performance, it also brings challenges like higher computational costs, longer training times, and environmental concerns due to energy consumption. Moreover, beyond a certain point, simply adding parameters yields diminishing returns without improvements in training data quality or model design.

This is why researchers are exploring techniques such as fine-tuning,

knowledge distillation, and prompt engineering to make large models more efficient and adaptable without necessarily increasing size.

# A Survey of Prominent Large Language Models

Taking a closer look at some of the most influential large language models helps illustrate the diversity and capabilities currently available.

## **GPT Series by OpenAI**

The Generative Pre-trained Transformer (GPT) series arguably popularized large language models. Starting with GPT, then GPT-2, and the breakthrough GPT-3, these models showcased impressive abilities in text generation, coding assistance, and conversational AI.

- \*\*GPT-2:\*\* Released in 2019 with 1.5 billion parameters, it surprised many with its ability to generate coherent paragraphs and stories.
- \*\*GPT-3:\*\* The leap to 175 billion parameters significantly improved performance across various NLP benchmarks and made it a versatile tool for applications ranging from chatbots to creative writing.

OpenAI also introduced ChatGPT, a fine-tuned version optimized for dialogue, which gained massive popularity for its human-like conversational skills.

#### **BERT and Its Variants**

Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers (BERT) by Google introduced a different approach focused on understanding language context by looking both left and right simultaneously. While BERT is primarily designed for comprehension rather than generation, its impact in NLP tasks like question answering and sentiment analysis has been profound.

Variants such as RoBERTa, ALBERT, and DistilBERT optimized BERT's architecture for better performance, faster training, and smaller sizes.

### Other Noteworthy Models

- \*\*T5 (Text-to-Text Transfer Transformer):\*\* Converts every NLP problem into a text-to-text format, making it highly flexible.
- \*\*XLNet:\*\* Combines autoregressive and autoencoding methods, improving on BERT's limitations.
- \*\*PaLM by Google:\*\* With 540 billion parameters, PaLM pushes the boundaries even further, showing remarkable few-shot learning capabilities.

These models demonstrate the rapid innovation occurring in the field and the variety of approaches researchers are taking to enhance language understanding and generation.

# Applications and Impact of Large Language Models

LLMs are not just feats of engineering; they have real-world applications transforming industries and daily life.

## **Enhancing Communication and Accessibility**

From chatbots providing customer support to AI-powered writing assistants improving grammar and style, large language models help bridge communication gaps. They also enable more accessible technologies, such as real-time translation and speech-to-text tools, empowering people across language barriers and disabilities.

## **Content Creation and Creativity**

Writers, marketers, and designers leverage LLMs to brainstorm ideas, draft articles, or generate code snippets. These models act as creative collaborators, accelerating workflows and inspiring new kinds of digital art and storytelling.

#### Research and Data Analysis

By summarizing large documents, extracting insights, and answering complex queries, LLMs assist researchers in fields ranging from medicine to law. This capability helps sift through vast information quickly, making knowledge more manageable and actionable.

## **Challenges and Ethical Considerations**

While the benefits of large language models are impressive, they also raise ethical questions around bias, misinformation, and privacy. Since LLMs learn from vast datasets scraped from the internet, they can inadvertently reproduce societal biases or generate harmful content.

Developers and organizations must prioritize transparency, fairness, and responsible AI use. Techniques like bias mitigation, content filtering, and

user feedback loops are critical to ensuring these models serve society positively.

# Future Directions in Large Language Model Research

The future of large language models promises even more exciting developments. Researchers are investigating ways to make models more efficient, interpretable, and aligned with human values.

#### Multimodal Models

Integrating language with other data types such as images, audio, or video is gaining traction. Multimodal models can understand and generate content that spans multiple senses, opening up new possibilities in virtual assistants, education, and entertainment.

#### Smaller, Specialized Models

Instead of relying solely on ever-larger general-purpose models, there's growing interest in creating smaller, domain-specific models that perform better on targeted tasks with less computational overhead.

### Improving Explainability

One of the biggest challenges is making model decisions transparent and understandable. Enhanced interpretability will build user trust and allow better debugging and refinement of AI systems.

#### **Human-AI Collaboration**

Rather than replacing humans, the focus is shifting toward collaboration—where AI augments human creativity, decision-making, and problem-solving. The evolving relationship between humans and AI promises rich, synergistic outcomes.

Exploring a survey of large language models reveals not only the technical marvels behind these tools but also the profound ways they are changing our interaction with information and each other. As the field advances, staying informed about these developments helps us appreciate both the potential and responsibility that comes with harnessing such powerful AI technologies.

## Frequently Asked Questions

# What is the primary focus of a survey of large language models?

A survey of large language models primarily focuses on reviewing and analyzing the development, architectures, training methods, capabilities, and applications of large-scale language models in natural language processing.

# How have large language models evolved over recent years?

Large language models have evolved from relatively small-scale models to massive transformer-based architectures like GPT, BERT, and their variants, with improvements in scalability, training data size, model parameters, and performance on diverse language tasks.

# What are some common challenges highlighted in surveys of large language models?

Common challenges include high computational costs, data biases, ethical concerns, interpretability issues, and the environmental impact of training large models.

# What applications of large language models are typically discussed in such surveys?

Surveys usually discuss applications such as machine translation, text generation, question answering, summarization, conversational agents, and code generation.

# How do surveys of large language models contribute to future research directions?

These surveys identify current limitations, emerging trends, and potential areas for improvement, guiding researchers in developing more efficient, ethical, and capable language models.

#### Additional Resources

Surveying the Landscape: A Comprehensive Examination of Large Language Models

**a survey of large language models** reveals a rapidly evolving field that has become central to advancements in artificial intelligence and natural language processing. These models, characterized by their extensive

parameters and vast training datasets, have transformed how machines understand, generate, and interact with human language. From applications in chatbots and content creation to complex problem-solving and language translation, large language models (LLMs) now underpin many AI-driven solutions shaping our digital world.

## **Understanding Large Language Models**

Large language models are sophisticated neural networks trained on enormous corpora of textual data. Their primary objective is to predict the next word or sequence of words in a given context, enabling them to generate coherent and contextually relevant text. Unlike traditional rule-based systems, LLMs learn linguistic patterns, semantics, and syntax implicitly, allowing them to produce human-like language outputs.

The scale of these models is often measured in billions, or even trillions, of parameters. Parameters are the tunable weights within the model that capture linguistic nuances. The growth in parameter count correlates with enhanced model capabilities but also demands significant computational resources. This trade-off between performance and efficiency is a recurring theme in the development and deployment of LLMs.

## Key Players in the Large Language Model Arena

Several notable institutions and companies have introduced landmark models that have set benchmarks in natural language understanding and generation:

- OpenAI's GPT Series: The Generative Pre-trained Transformer models, especially GPT-3 and GPT-4, have attracted widespread attention for their versatility and ability to perform few-shot learning, enabling them to adapt to tasks with little explicit training.
- Google's PaLM and BERT: BERT revolutionized language understanding by introducing bidirectional context, improving tasks like question answering and sentiment analysis. PaLM, a more recent model, emphasizes scaling and multitask learning across languages.
- Meta's LLaMA: The Large Language Model Meta AI (LLaMA) series offers competitive performances with fewer parameters, focusing on research accessibility and efficiency.
- Anthropic's Claude: Emphasizing safety and alignment, Claude represents efforts to create more controllable and ethical language models.

## Comparative Analysis of Large Language Models

When surveying large language models, it is essential to consider various factors beyond sheer size, including architectural innovations, training methodologies, and application domains.

#### Model Size vs. Performance

While intuitive to assume that bigger models yield better results, the relationship is nuanced. GPT-3, with 175 billion parameters, demonstrated unprecedented language generation capacity upon release. However, models like Google's PaLM (540 billion parameters) and GPT-4 deliver enhanced reasoning and contextual understanding, albeit at higher computational costs.

Meta's LLaMA models challenge the notion that bigger is always better by achieving competitive outcomes with fewer parameters, thanks to optimized training techniques and efficient architecture. This balance is critical for democratizing access to LLM technology in research and industry.

### Training Data and Multilingual Capabilities

The scope and diversity of training data significantly impact an LLM's versatility. Models trained on multilingual datasets, such as PaLM and XLM-R, perform robustly across languages, enabling applications in global contexts. Conversely, models predominantly trained on English corpora may struggle with less-represented languages or dialects.

Moreover, data sources influence model biases and ethical considerations. Curating balanced, high-quality datasets remains a challenge, as LLMs can inadvertently perpetuate stereotypes or misinformation present in their training material.

# Applications and Implications of Large Language Models

Large language models have permeated numerous sectors, driving innovation but also raising critical questions about ethics, security, and societal impact.

#### **Diverse Use Cases**

- Content Generation: From automated article writing to creative storytelling, LLMs assist in producing human-like text efficiently.
- **Conversational Agents:** Chatbots and virtual assistants leverage LLMs to provide more natural and context-aware interactions.
- Code Synthesis: Advanced models like OpenAI's Codex enable automatic code generation, facilitating software development workflows.
- Language Translation and Summarization: Multilingual models enhance cross-lingual communication and information digestion.

### Challenges and Ethical Considerations

As large language models grow in influence, concerns about their responsible use become paramount. Issues include:

- Bias and Fairness: Models may reflect and amplify societal biases embedded in training data.
- Misinformation Risks: The ability to generate plausible but false content necessitates robust detection and verification strategies.
- Environmental Impact: Training and running massive models consume considerable energy, prompting calls for more sustainable AI practices.
- Accessibility and Control: Ensuring equitable access while preventing misuse involves balancing openness with regulatory oversight.

# Future Directions in Large Language Model Research

The trajectory of large language models points towards continued scaling, improved alignment, and integration with other modalities such as vision and audio. Techniques like fine-tuning, reinforcement learning from human feedback (RLHF), and model compression aim to enhance usability and reduce deployment costs.

Research is also exploring ways to better interpret and explain model decisions, addressing the "black box" nature of deep learning systems. This transparency is vital for building trust and facilitating collaboration between humans and AI.

In addition, the emergence of open-source LLMs fosters innovation and democratization, allowing a broader community to contribute to and benefit from advances in language technology.

The ongoing survey of large language models underscores their transformative potential and the multifaceted challenges that accompany their rise. As these systems become more integrated into daily life, striking a balance between capability, responsibility, and accessibility will define the next chapter of AI evolution.

### **A Survey Of Large Language Models**

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a survey of large language models: Neutrosophic Sets and Systems, vol. 72/2024 Florentin Smarandache, Mohamed Abdel-Basset, Said Broumi, 2024-11-01 "Neutrosophic Sets and Systems" has been created for publications on advanced studies in neutrosophy, neutrosophic set, neutrosophic logic, neutrosophic probability, neutrosophic statistics that started in 1995 and their applications in any field, such as the neutrosophic structures developed in algebra, geometry, topology, etc. Neutrosophy is a new branch of philosophy that studies the origin, nature, and scope of neutralities, as well as their interactions with different ideational spectra. This theory considers every notion or idea <A> together with its opposite or negation <antiA> and with their spectrum of neutralities <neutA> in between them (i.e. notions or ideas supporting neither <A> nor <antiA>). The <neutA> and <antiA> ideas together are referred to as <nonA>. Neutrosophy is a generalization of Hegel's dialectics (the last one is based on <A> and <antiA> only). According to this theory every idea <A> tends to be neutralized and balanced by <antiA> and <nonA> ideas - as a state of equilibrium. In a classical way <A>, <neutA>, <antiA> are disjoint two by two. But, since in many cases the borders between notions are vague, imprecise, Sorites, it is possible that <A>, <neutA>, <antiA> (and <nonA> of course) have common parts two by two, or even all three of

them as well. Neutrosophic Set and Neutrosophic Logic are generalizations of the fuzzy set and respectively fuzzy logic (especially of intuitionistic fuzzy set and respectively intuitionistic fuzzy logic). In neutrosophic logic a proposition has a degree of truth (T), a degree of indeterminacy (I), and a degree of falsity (F), where T, I, F are standard or non-standard subsets of ]-0, 1+[. Neutrosophic Probability is a generalization of the classical probability and imprecise probability. Neutrosophic Statistics is a generalization of the classical statistics.

a survey of large language models: Handbuch Data Science und KI Katherine Munro, Stefan Papp, Zoltan Toth, Wolfgang Weidinger, Danko Nikolic, Barbora Antasova Vesela, Karin Bruckmüller, Annalisa Cadonna, Jana Eder, Jeannette Gorzala, Gerald A. Hahn, Georg Langs, Roxane Licandro, Christian Mata, Sean McIntyre, Mario Meir-Huber, György Móra, Manuel Pasieska, Victoria Rugli, Rania Wazir, Günther Zauner, 2025-02-10 - Bietet einen umfassenden Überblick über die verschiedenen Anwendungsbereiche von Data Science und KI - Mit Fallbeispielen aus der Praxis, um die beschriebenen Konzepte greifbar zu machen - Mit praktischen Beispielen, die Ihnen helfen, einfache Datenanalyseprojekte durchzuführen - Neu in der 3. Auflage: Generativ KI und LLMs, KI und Klimawandel, ML Ops und ML Security, Zahlreiche Kapitel wurden von Grund auf überarbeitet -Ihr exklusiver Vorteil: E-Book inklusive beim Kauf des gedruckten Buches Data Science, Big Data und künstliche Intelligenz gehören derzeit zu den Konzepten, über die in Industrie, Regierung und Gesellschaft viel gesprochen wird, die aber auch am häufigsten missverstanden werden. Dieses Buch erklärt die Konzepte und vermittelt Ihnen das praktische Wissen, um sie zu nutzen. Das Buch nähert sich den Themen Data Science und KI von mehreren Seiten. Es zeigt, wie Sie Data-Plattformen aufbauen und Data-Science-Tools und -Methoden einsetzen können. Auf dem Weg dorthin hilft es Ihnen zu verstehen - und den verschiedenen Interessengruppen zuerklären -, wie Sie mit diesen Techniken Mehrwert generieren können. So kann Data Science in Unternehmen dabei helfen, schnellere Entscheidungen zu treffen, Kosten zu senken und neue Märkte zu erschließen. Darüber hinaus werden die grundlegenden Konzepte von Data Science, einschließlich Statistik, Mathematik sowie rechtliche Überlegungen erklärt. Praktische Fallstudien veranschaulichen, wie aus Daten generiertes Wissen verschiedene Branchen langfristig verändern wird. Das Autor:innenteam besteht aus Datenexpert:innen aus der Wirtschaft und aus dem akademischen Umfeld. Das Spektrum reicht von strategisch ausgerichteten Führungskräften über Data Engineers, die Produktivsysteme erstellen, bis hin zu Data Scientists, die aus Daten Wert generieren. Alle Autor:innen sind im Vorstand oder Mitglieder der Vienna Data Science Group (VDSG). Diese NGO hat sich zum Ziel gesetzt, eine Plattform für den Wissensaustausch zu etablieren. AUS DEM INHALT // - Grundlagen der Mathematik: ML-Algorithmen verstehen und nutzen - Machine Learning: Von statistischen zu neuronalen Verfahren; von Transformers und GPT-3 bis AutoML - Natural Language Processing: Werkzeuge und Techniken zur Gewinnung von Erkenntnissen aus Textdaten und zur Entwicklung von Sprachtechnologien - Computer Vision: Erkenntnisse aus Bildern und Videos gewinnen -Modellierung und Simulation: Modellierung des Verhaltens komplexer Systeme, z. B. der Ausbreitung von COVID-19. Was-wäre-wenn-Analysen - ML und KI in der Produktion: Vom Experiment zum Data- Science-Produkt - Ergebnisse präsentieren: Grundlegende Präsentationstechniken für Data Scientists

a survey of large language models: An Efficient SuperHyperSoft Framework for Evaluating LLMs-based Secure Blockchain Platforms Mona Mohamed, Alaa Elmor, Florentin Smarandache, Ahmed A. Metwaly, 2024-01-01 In the age of modern technology, the use of the internet has become imperative. However, this widespread access presents a double-edged sword and opens doors for hackers and scammers to exploit vulnerabilities and engage in illegal activities. Accordingly, scholars and stakeholders are attempting to solve this matter. Large Language Models (LLMs) have provided highly effective methodologies and solutions in various cybersecurity sectors. Hence, we exhibited the efficacy of LLMs in several information and communication technologies (ICT) such as the Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing, blockchain technology (BCT), etc. which are attacked and threatened. Accordingly, the objective of our study is to illustrate how LLMs are supporting ICT, especially BC to be secure against attacks. Another study's objective is to aid the

stakeholders and enterprises that seek resilience and sustainability by recommending the most secure BC platform to adopt in critical sectors. Wherein, LLMs support BC in many directions as developing secure smart contracts and scanning the smart contract to protect it from any subversive acts by identifying anomalous activities. Hence, we suggested a soft opting model to rank the alternatives of BC platforms and recommend optimal BC. Also, the process of constructing this model requires leveraging several techniques. We applied for the first time SuperHyperSoft (SHS) as an extension of Hypersoft to treat various attributes and sub-attributes for BC based on LLMs. Multi-criteria decision-making (MCDM)techniques are utilized for their ability to treat conflicting sub-attributes. Hence, entropy and multi-objective optimization based on simple ratio analysis (MOOSRA) are utilized as techniques of MCDM. These techniques are working under the authority of the Single Value Neutrosophic (SVN) technique to support MCDM techniques in ambiguous situations.

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Constantine Stephanidis, Margherita Antona, Stavroula Ntoa, Gavriel Salvendy, 2023-12-11 This
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Conference on Human-Computer Interaction, HCII 2023, which was held in Copenhagen, Denmark,
in July 2023. A total of 5583 individuals from academia, research institutes, industry, and
governmental agencies from 88 countries submitted contributions, and 1276 papers and 275 posters
were included in the proceedings that were published just before the start of the conference.
Additionally, 296 papers and 181 posters are included in the volumes of the proceedings published
after the conference, as "Late Breaking Work" (papers and posters). The contributions thoroughly
cover the entire field of human-computer interaction, addressing major advances in knowledge and
effective use of computers in a variety of application areas.

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a survey of large language models: Challenges in Large Language Model Development and AI Ethics Gupta, Brij, 2024-08-15 The development of large language models has resulted in artificial intelligence advancements promising transformations and benefits across various industries and sectors. However, this progress is not without its challenges. The scale and complexity of these models pose significant technical hurdles, including issues related to bias, transparency, and data privacy. As these models integrate into decision-making processes, ethical concerns about their societal impact, such as potential job displacement or harmful stereotype reinforcement, become more urgent. Addressing these challenges requires a collaborative effort from business owners, computer engineers, policymakers, and sociologists. Fostering effective research for solutions to address AI ethical challenges may ensure that large language model developments benefit society in a positive way. Challenges in Large Language Model Development and AI Ethics addresses complex ethical dilemmas and challenges of the development of large language models and artificial intelligence. It analyzes ethical considerations involved in the design and implementation of large language models, while exploring aspects like bias, accountability, privacy, and social impacts. This book covers topics such as law and policy, model architecture, and machine learning, and is a useful resource for computer engineers, sociologists, policymakers, business owners, academicians, researchers, and scientists.

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rigorously peer reviewed and are published in an archival proceedings volume. PSB 2025 will be held on January 4 - 8, 2025 in Kohala Coast, Hawaii. Tutorials and workshops will be offered prior to the start of the conference. PSB 2025 will bring together top researchers from the US, the Asian Pacific nations, and around the world to exchange research results and address open issues in all aspects of computational biology. It is a forum for the presentation of work in databases, algorithms, interfaces, visualization, modeling, and other computational methods, as applied to biological problems, with emphasis on applications in data-rich areas of molecular biology. The PSB has been designed to be responsive to the need for critical mass in sub-disciplines within biocomputing. For that reason, it is the only meeting whose sessions are defined dynamically each year in response to specific proposals. PSB sessions are organized by leaders of research in biocomputing's 'hot topics.' In this way, the meeting provides an early forum for serious examination of emerging methods and approaches in this rapidly changing field.

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a survey of large language models: Hybrid Artificial Intelligent Systems Héctor Quintián, Emilio Corchado, Alicia Troncoso Lora, Hilde Pérez García, Esteban Jove Pérez, José Luis Calvo Rolle, Francisco Javier Martínez de Pisón, Pablo García Bringas, Francisco Martínez Álvarez, Álvaro Herrero, Paolo Fosci, 2024-10-08 This two-part proceedings volume constitutes the refereed proceedings of the 19th International Conference on Hybrid Artificial Intelligent Systems (HAIS 2024), held in Salamanca, Spain, during October 9-11, 2024. The 52 full papers were carefully reviewed and selected from 112 submissions. They were organized in topical sections as follows: Part I: Biomedical Applications, Data Mining and Decision Support Systems, Deep Learning, Evolutionary Computation and Optimization. Part II: HAIS Applications, HAIS Energy Applications, Image and Text Processing, Reinforced Learning.

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a survey of large language models: Information Access in the Era of Generative AI Ryen W.

White, Chirag Shah, 2024-12-24 Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) has emerged as a groundbreaking technology that promises to revolutionize many industries as well as people's personal and professional lives. This book discusses GenAI and its role in information access - often referred to as Generative Information Retrieval (GenIR) - or more broadly, information interaction. The role of GenAI in information access is complex and dynamic, with many dimensions. To address this, following a brief introduction to GenAI and GenIR, the remainder of the book provides eight chapters, each targeting a different dimension or sub-topic. These cover foundations of GenIR, interactions with GenIR systems, adapting them to users, tasks, and scenarios, improving them based on user feedback, GenIR evaluation, the sociotechnical implications of GenAI for information access, recommendations within GenIR, and the future of information access with GenIR. The book is targeted at graduate students and researchers interested in issues of information retrieval, access, and interactions, as well as applications of GenAI in various informational contexts. While some of the parts assume prior background in IR or AI, most others do not, making this book suitable for adoption in various classes as a primary source or as a supplementary material.

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and more reliable problem-solving. Inside, you'll find a practical roadmap from concept to implementation. You'll discover how to connect language models with external data via RAG pipelines for increasing factual accuracy and incorporate knowledge graphs for context-rich reasoning. The chapters will help you build and orchestrate autonomous agents that combine planning, tool use, and knowledge retrieval to achieve complex goals. Concrete Python examples built on popular libraries, along with real-world case studies, reinforce each concept and show you how these techniques come together. By the end of this book, you'll be well-equipped to build intelligent AI agents that reason, retrieve, and interact dynamically, empowering you to deploy powerful AI solutions across industries. What you will learn Learn how LLMs work, their structure, uses, and limits, and design RAG pipelines to link them to external data Build and guery knowledge graphs for structured context and factual grounding Develop AI agents that plan, reason, and use tools to complete tasks Integrate LLMs with external APIs and databases to incorporate live data Apply techniques to minimize hallucinations and ensure accurate outputs Orchestrate multiple agents to solve complex, multi-step problems Optimize prompts, memory, and context handling for long-running tasks Deploy and monitor AI agents in production environments Who this book is for If you are a data scientist or researcher who wants to learn how to create and deploy an AI agent to solve limitless tasks, this book is for you. To get the most out of this book, you should have basic knowledge of Python and Gen AI. This book is also excellent for experienced data scientists who want to explore state-of-the-art developments in LLM and LLM-based applications.

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