44th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

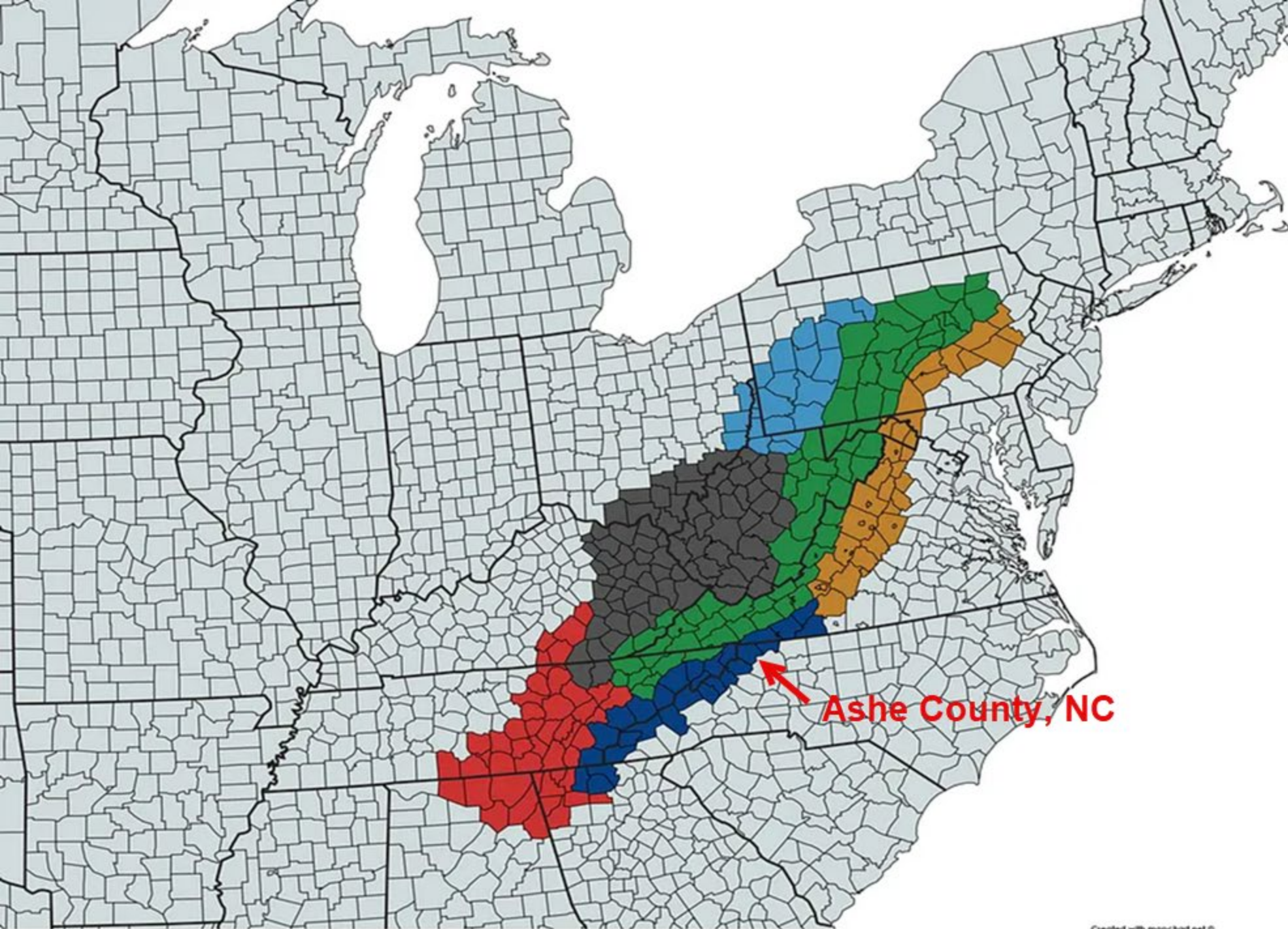# AI Genealogy : The Basics and a Bit Beyond

Steve Little
*AI Program Director,
National Genealogical Society*

Five-generation Matriarch Photo

- Ludema "Demie" Halsey (Jan 1850-11 Apr 1943)
- Kansas Missouri "Ori" Halsey (Aug 1871-29 Apr 1947)
- Hattie Almedia Bare (Jan 1895-28 Apr 1975)
- Ruby Helen Bower (10 May 1913-23 Jan 2013)
- Monte Ann Little (turns 86 next month)

Appalachia

- Southern Appalachian Periphery
- Extended Smokies
- Great Valley Country
- Interior Ridgelines
- Holler Land
- Pittsburghia

Ashe County, NC

Created with mapchart.net ©

File   Edit   Lists   Add   View   Search   Reports   Tools   Internet   Window   Help
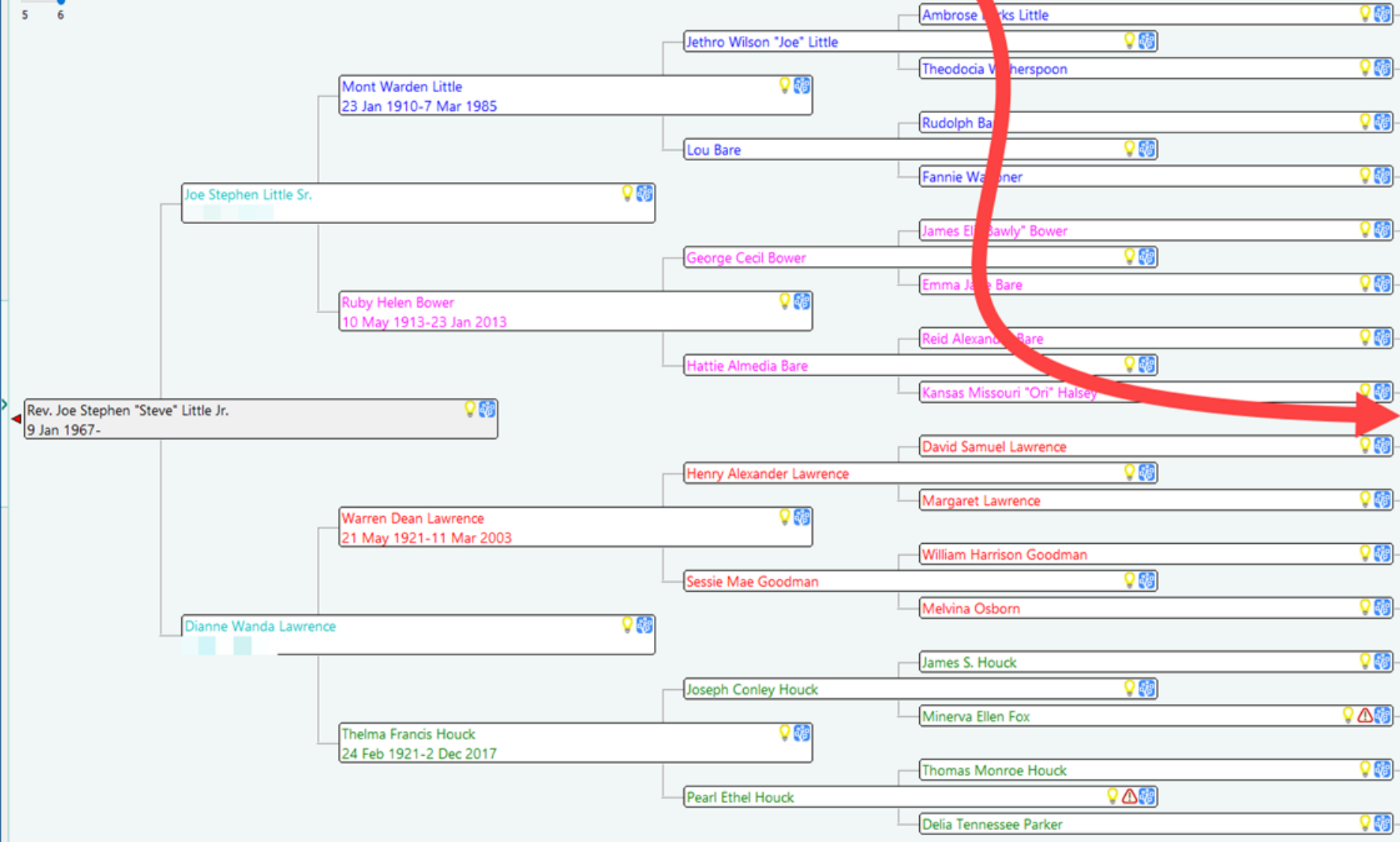
Spouses: 2
Parents: 1

Rev. Joe Stephen "Steve" Little Jr.
b: 9 Jan 1967 in Greenville, Pitt, North Carolina
m: 2 May 1992 in Norfolk, Virginia (age 25)
d:

All 32 3rd-Great Grandparents in Ashe by 1820

Pedigree   Family   Descendants   People   WebSearch   Timeline

Pedigree chart	Name list
Ambrose Parks Little	Isaac Little
Jethro Wilson "Joe" Little	Elizabeth Poe
Theodocia Witherspoon	Col. William Pettigrew Witherspoon
Mont Warden Little 23 Jan 1910-7 Mar 1985	Nancy Curtis
Rudolph Bare	Hugh Ander Bare
Lou Bare	Mary Polly Koontz
Fannie Waggoner	Henry Waggoner
Joe Stephen Little Sr.	Ellen "Nelly" Taylor
James Eli "Bawly" Bower	William McMillian
George Cecil Bower	Margaret Riley Bower
Emma Jane Bare	Elias Bare
Ruby Helen Bower 10 May 1913-23 Jan 2013	Lucinda Sheets
Reid Alexander Bare	Wiley Bare
Hattie Almedia Bare	Annie Wagoner
Kansas Missouri "Ori" Halsey	Benjamin Franklin Halsey
Rev. Joe Stephen "Steve" Little Jr. 9 Jan 1967-	Ludema "Demie" Halsey
David Samuel Lawrence	Hardin Laurence
Henry Alexander Lawrence	Rebecca Burkett
Margaret Lawrence	Samuel Lawrence
Warren Dean Lawrence 21 May 1921-11 Mar 2003	Nancy Calista Greene
William Harrison Goodman	John Goodman
Sessie Mae Goodman	Sarah Sallie Johnston
Melvina Osborn	Enoch Osborn
Dianne Wanda Lawrence	Ruth Perkins
James S. Houck	Benjamin Houck
Joseph Conley Houck	Elizabeth Adams
Minerva Ellen Fox	Noah Fox
Thelma Francis Houck 24 Feb 1921-2 Dec 2017	Louisa E. Grogan
Thomas Monroe Houck	Joseph F. Houck
Pearl Ethel Houck	Martha C. Strunk
Delia Tennessee Parker	Jacob Parker
	Susan Gabey

Self

RootsMagic 7 - [C:\Users\jstep\Documents\Genealogy\Rootsmagic\JSL1967_active-research.rmgc]

File   Edit   Lists   Add   View   Search   Reports   Tools   Internet   Window   Help
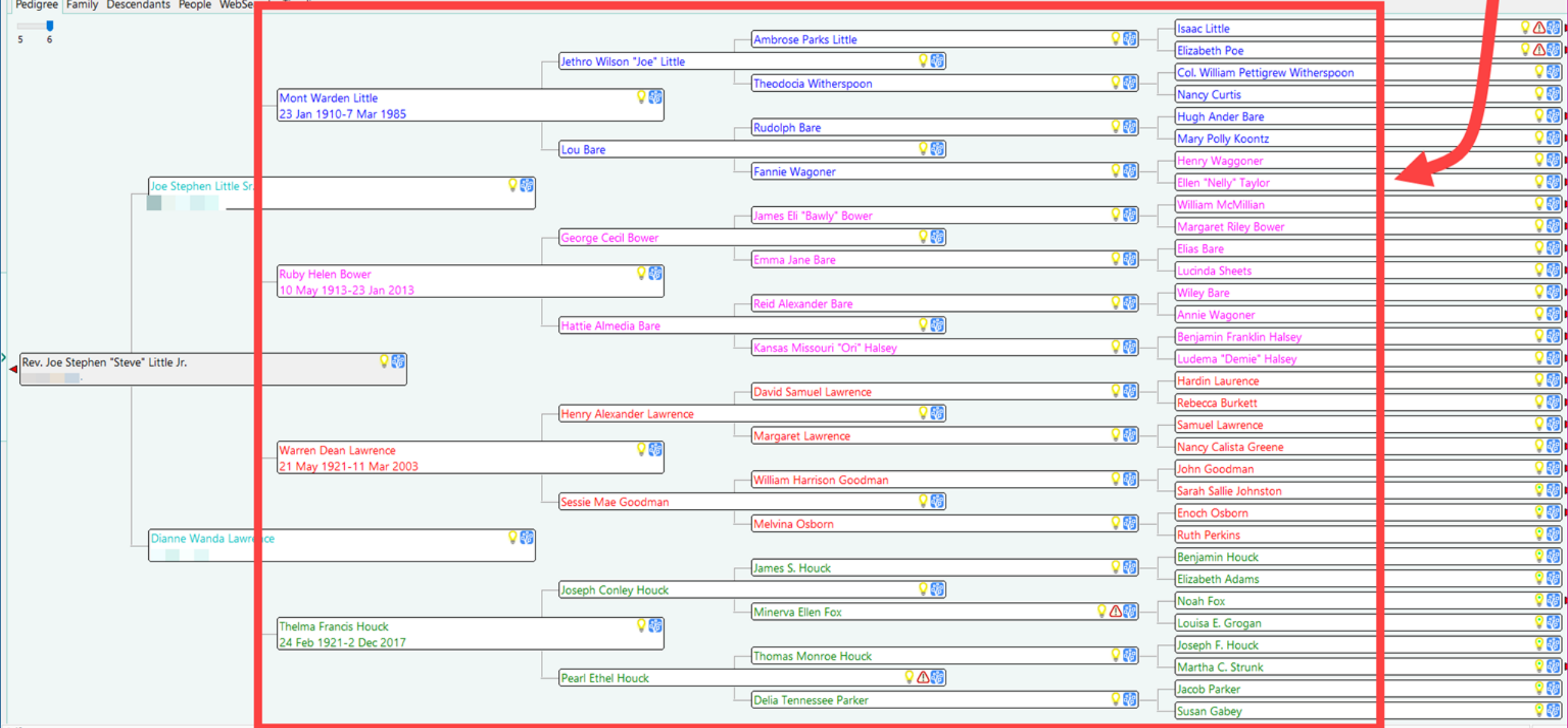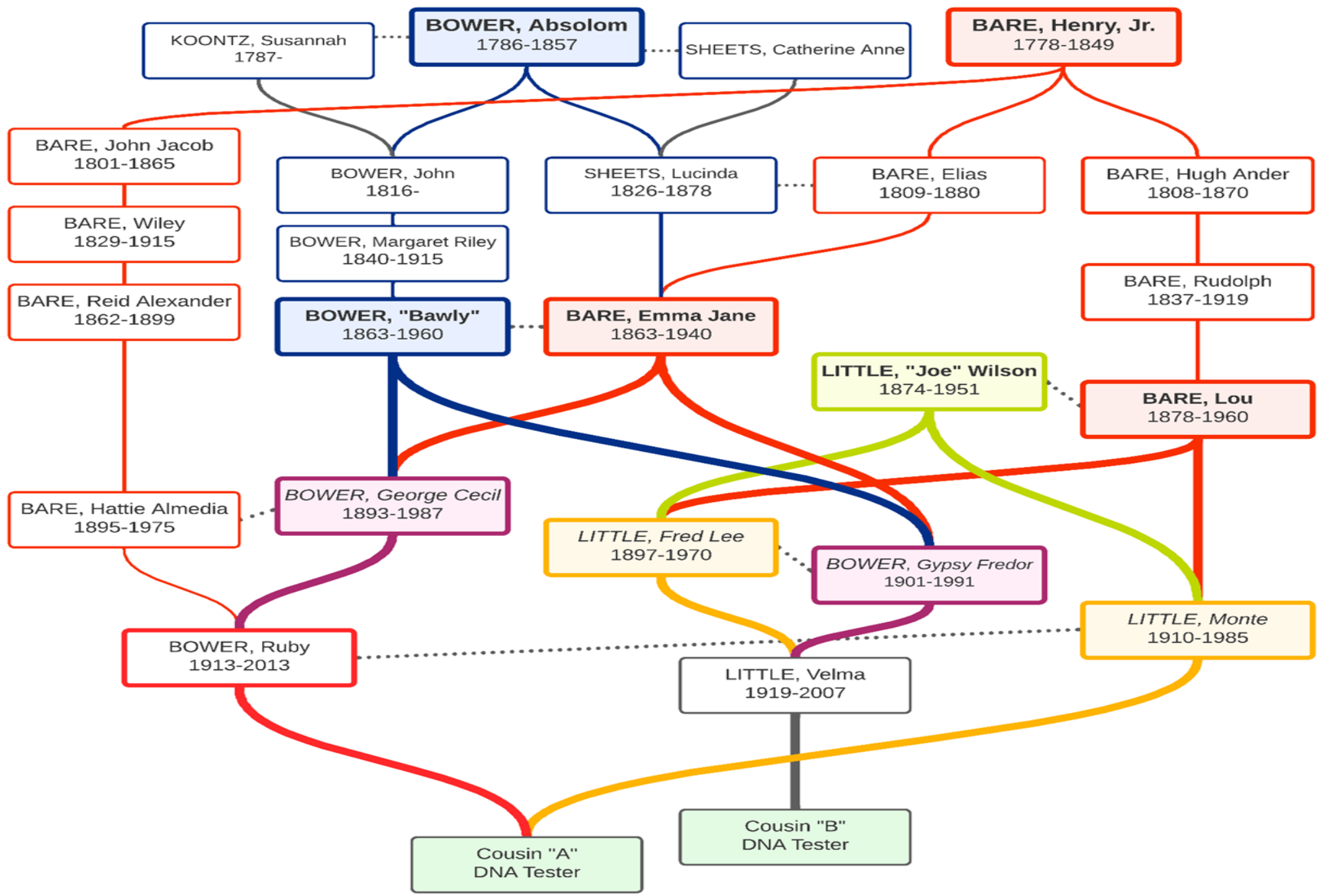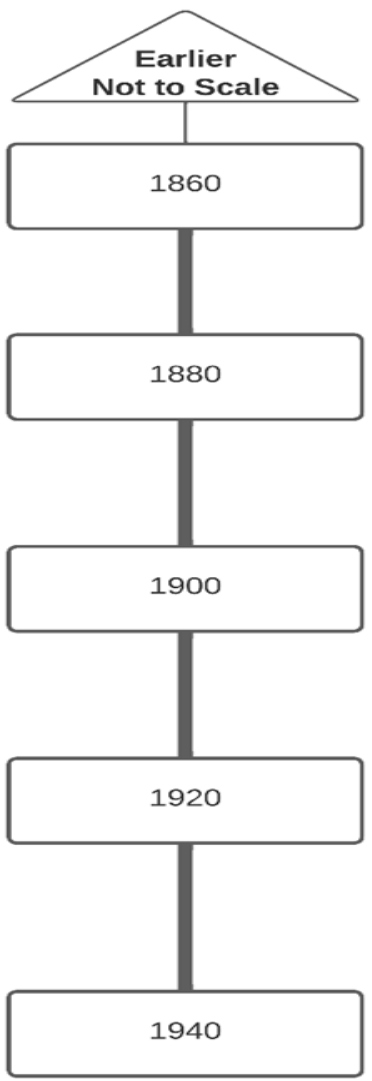
Spouses: 2
Parents: 1

Rev. Joe Stephen "Steve" Little Jr.
b: 9 Jan 1967 in Greenville, Pitt, North
m: 2 May 1992 in Norfolk, Virginia (age
d:

Pedigree   Family   Descendants   People   WebServe   Timeli

5   6

Rev. Joe Stephen "Steve" Little Jr.

Joe Stephen Little Sr.

Mont Warden Little
23 Jan 1910-7 Mar 1985

Jethro Wilson "Joe" Little

Ambrose Parks Little

Isaac Little

Elizabeth Poe

Theodocia Witherspoon

Col. William Pettigrew Witherspoon

Nancy Curtis

Lou Bare

Rudolph Bare

Hugh Ander Bare

Mary Polly Koontz

Fannie Wagoner

Henry Waggoner

Ellen "Nelly" Taylor

Ruby Helen Bower
10 May 1913-23 Jan 2013

George Cecil Bower

James Eli "Bawly" Bower

William McMillian

Margaret Riley Bower

Emma Jane Bare

Elias Bare

Lucinda Sheets

Hattie Almedia Bare

Reid Alexander Bare

Wiley Bare

Annie Wagoner

Kansas Missouri "Ori" Halsey

Benjamin Franklin Halsey

Ludema "Demie" Halsey

Dianne Wanda Lawrence

Warren Dean Lawrence
21 May 1921-11 Mar 2003

Henry Alexander Lawrence

David Samuel Lawrence

Hardin Laurence

Rebecca Burkett

Margaret Lawrence

Samuel Lawrence

Nancy Calista Greene

Sessie Mae Goodman

William Harrison Goodman

John Goodman

Sarah Sallie Johnston

Melvina Osborn

Enoch Osborn

Ruth Perkins

Thelma Francis Houck
24 Feb 1921-2 Dec 2017

Joseph Conley Houck

James S. Houck

Benjamin Houck

Elizabeth Adams

Minerva Ellen Fox

Noah Fox

Louisa E. Grogan

Pearl Ethel Houck

Thomas Monroe Houck

Joseph F. Houck

Martha C. Strunk

Delia Tennessee Parker

Jacob Parker

Susan Gabey

Self

AI Genealogy: The Basics and a Bit Beyond

**• The Good • The Bad • The Ugly
The Summer 2024 Edition**

Steve Little, AI Program Director, National Genealogical Society
44th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Monday 19 August 2024

Left document (handwritten will):

during the life of wife's son in law Thomas M. Randolph to be held admin... [...]
by them in trust for the sole and separate use and behoof of my dear daughter Martha
Randolph and her heirs. and, aware of the nice and difficult distinctions of the law in these
cases, I will further explain by saying that I understand and intend the effect
of these limitations to be, that the legal estate and actual occupation shall be
vested in my said trustees, and held by them in base fee, determinable on the
death of my sd son in law, and the remainder during the same time be vested in my sd
daughter and her heirs, and of course disposable by her last will, and that at the death
of my sd son in law, the particular estate of the sd trustees shall be determined, and the
remainder, in legal estate, possession and use and actual property become vested in
my sd daughter and her heirs, in absolute property for ever.

In consequence of the variety and undescribableness of the articles of property within
the house at Monticello, and the difficulty of inventorying and appraising them sepa-
rately and specifically, and it's inutility, I dispense with having them inventoried
and appraised; and it is my will that my executors be not held to give any security
for the administration of my estate.   I appoint my grandson Thomas Jefferson
Randolph my sole executor during his life, and after his death, I constitute execu-
tors my friends Nicholas P. Trist and Alexander Garrett joining to them my
daughter Martha Randolph after the death of my sd son in law Thomas M. Randolph.

Lastly I revoke all former wills by me heretofore made; and in witness
that this is my will, I have written the whole with my own hand on two pages, and
have subscribed my name to each of them this 16th day of March one thousand
eight hundred and twenty six.

Th Jefferson

Right panel (ChatGPT):

ChatGPT

To extract the information from Thomas Jefferson's will as requested, I will create a table displaying the names of individuals and entities mentioned in the will, their relationship to Jefferson, and the specific bequests made to each. Here is the table based on the will:

Recipient	Relationship to Jefferson	Bequest Description
Francis Eppes	Grandson (son of Mary Eppes)	Lands at Poplar Forest
Thomas Mann Randolph	Son-in-law	Mentioned in trust context; no specific bequest
Martha Randolph	Daughter	Residual property in trust for her and her heirs, with specific conditions
Thomas J. Randolph	Grandson	Executor of the will; residual property in trust; personal papers; silver watch
Nicholas P. Trist	Grandson-in-law	Trustee of residual property; part of Jefferson's library
Alexander Garrett	Friend	Trustee of residual property
Anne Scott Marks	Sister of Jefferson	Recommended for care and maintenance by Martha Randolph
James Madison	Friend	Gold-mounted walking staff
University of Virginia	Institution	Jefferson's library, with specific conditions
Joseph Coolidge	Grandson-in-law	Part of Jefferson's library
Grandchildren (unnamed)	Grandchildren	Gold watches to be purchased and given at specified ages
Burwell	Servant	Freedom; $300 for trade commencement
John Hemings	Servant	Freedom (after one year); tools of his trade; a log-house; service of two apprentices until they turn 21
Joe Fosset	Servant	Freedom (after one year); tools of his trade; a log-house
Madison Hemings	Apprentice to John Hemings	Freedom at age 21
Eston Hemings	Apprentice to John Hemings	Freedom at age 21

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after February 17, 1897 and on or before December 31, 1921) 2645

SERIAL NUMBER | 1. NAME (Print) | ORDER NUMBER
T. 234 | WArren Dean Lawrence | T. 10760
(First) (Middle) (Last)

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print)
West Jefferson | Ashe | N.C.
(Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)
[THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]

3. MAILING ADDRESS
Same
[Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same]

4. TELEPHONE | 5. AGE IN YEARS 20 | 6. PLACE OF BIRTH West Jefferson N.C.
DATE OF BIRTH May 21 1921 | U.S.A.
(Exchange) (Number) (No.) (Day) (Yr.) | (State or country)

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS
Mrs. Warren Dean Lawrence West Jefferson N.C.

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS
Farmington ?

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS
West Jefferson | Ashe | n.C.
(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. S. Form 1
(Revised 1-1-42) (over) ☆ GPO 16—21630-1 | Dean Lawrence
(Registrant's signature)

PROMPT: You are a professional genealogist; your area of expertise is documents and records; you are adept at extracting every piece of information from a document or record. You are also a skilled writer and image analyst. Think now about a World War II Draft Registration Card, also called DDS Form 1: list every conceivable piece of information that might be found on a draft card (focus especially on names, relationships, dates, places, events, and facts).

Then, find attached a draft card. Extract every piece of information from the image of the draft card.

Finally, create a biographical narrative report from the text on the draft card; dry recitation, no editorializing.
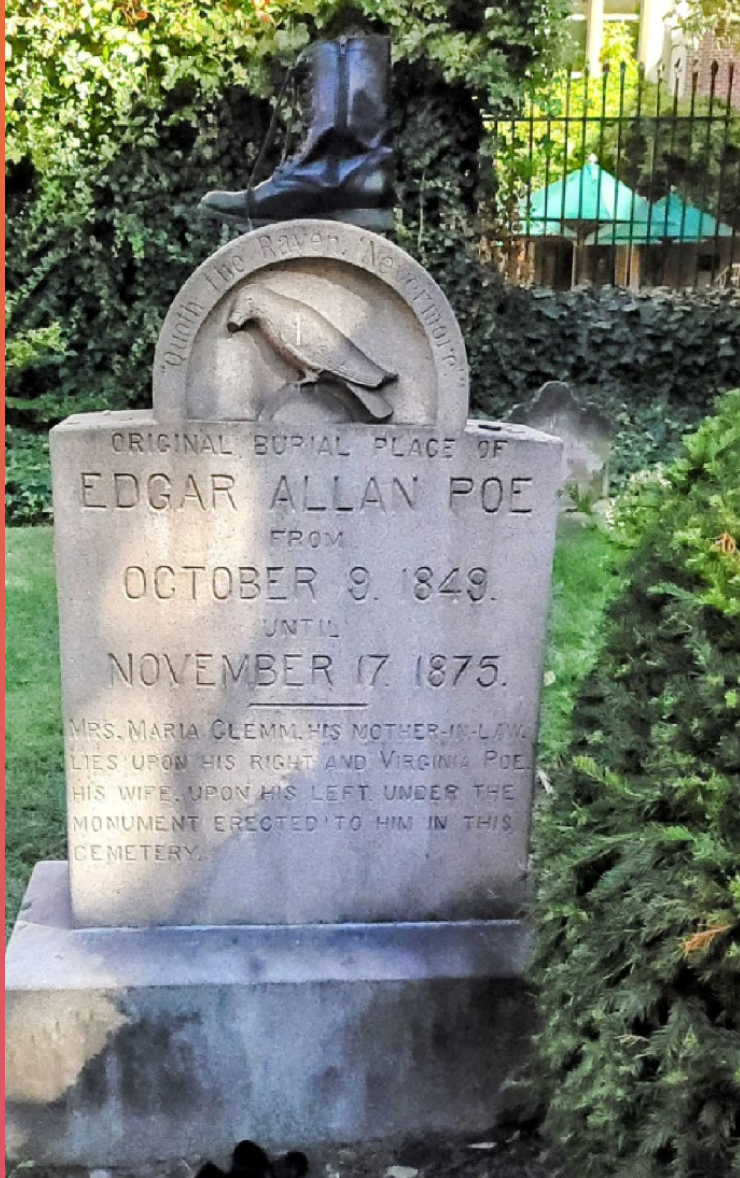

RESPONSE:

Information Extracted from the Attached Draft Card:

1.   Serial Number: 234
2.   Full name of the registrant: Warren Dean Lawrence
3.   Place of residence: West Jefferson, Ashe, NC
4.   Mailing address: Same as residence
5.   Telephone number: Not provided on this card
6.   Age in years: 20
7.   Date of Birth: May 21, 1921
8.   Place of Birth: West Jefferson, USA
9.   Name and address of someone who will always know the registrant's address: Mrs. Warren Dean Lawrence, West Jefferson, NC
10.   Employer's name and address: Partially illegible but appears to reference a mining company
11.   Place of employment or business: West Jefferson, Ashe, NC
12.   Signature of the registrant: Appears to be "Dean Lawrence" or a similar variant
13.   Date of registration: Not clearly visible on this card

Biographical Narrative Report:
Warren Dean Lawrence, residing in West Jefferson, located in Ashe County, North Carolina, registered for the World War II draft. Born on May 21, 1921, in West Jefferson, USA, he was 20 years old at the time of registration. His mailing address was the same as his place of residence. The individual who would always be aware of Warren's address was Mrs. Warren Dean Lawrence, also of West Jefferson. Warren's employment details reference what appears to be a mining company located in West Jefferson, Ashe, North Carolina. The draft card carries what seems to be his signature, "Dean Lawrence" or a similar variant.

You are an expert genealogist, talented writer, and imaging expert. Your goal is to extract information from images. Find attached an image of headstone. Analyze the image. Transcribe any text on the headstone. Describe any notable features in on the headstone. Describe the whole image. Create a narrative report from the text on the headstone; dry recitation, no editorializing.

Transcription of the Text on the Headstone:

```css
ORIGINAL BURIAL PLACE OF
EDGAR ALLAN POE
FROM
OCTOBER 9, 1849
UNTIL
NOVEMBER 7, 1875.
MRS. MARIA CLEMM, HIS MOTHER-IN-LAW,
LIES UPON HIS RIGHT AND VIRGINIA POE,
HIS WIFE, UPON HIS LEFT. UNDER THE
MONUMENT ERECTED TO HIM IN THIS
CEMETERY.
```

Description of Notable Features on the Headstone:

1. At the top of the headstone, there appears to be a carved image of a raven, with the text "Quoth The Raven Nevermore" underneath it.
2. Above the raven, there is a carved image of what seems to be a pair of boots.
3. The overall shape of the headstone appears to be a rectangular block, with rounded edges at the top.
4. The lettering is deeply carved into the stone and is quite legible.

Description of the Whole Image:

The image captures a headstone located in a serene, green environment. It seems to be a secluded spot surrounded by tall trees, giving it an atmosphere of tranquility. The background shows parts of a fence and possibly some structures, which could be parts of the cemetery or adjoining properties. A green canopy or shade structure is partially visible in the background.
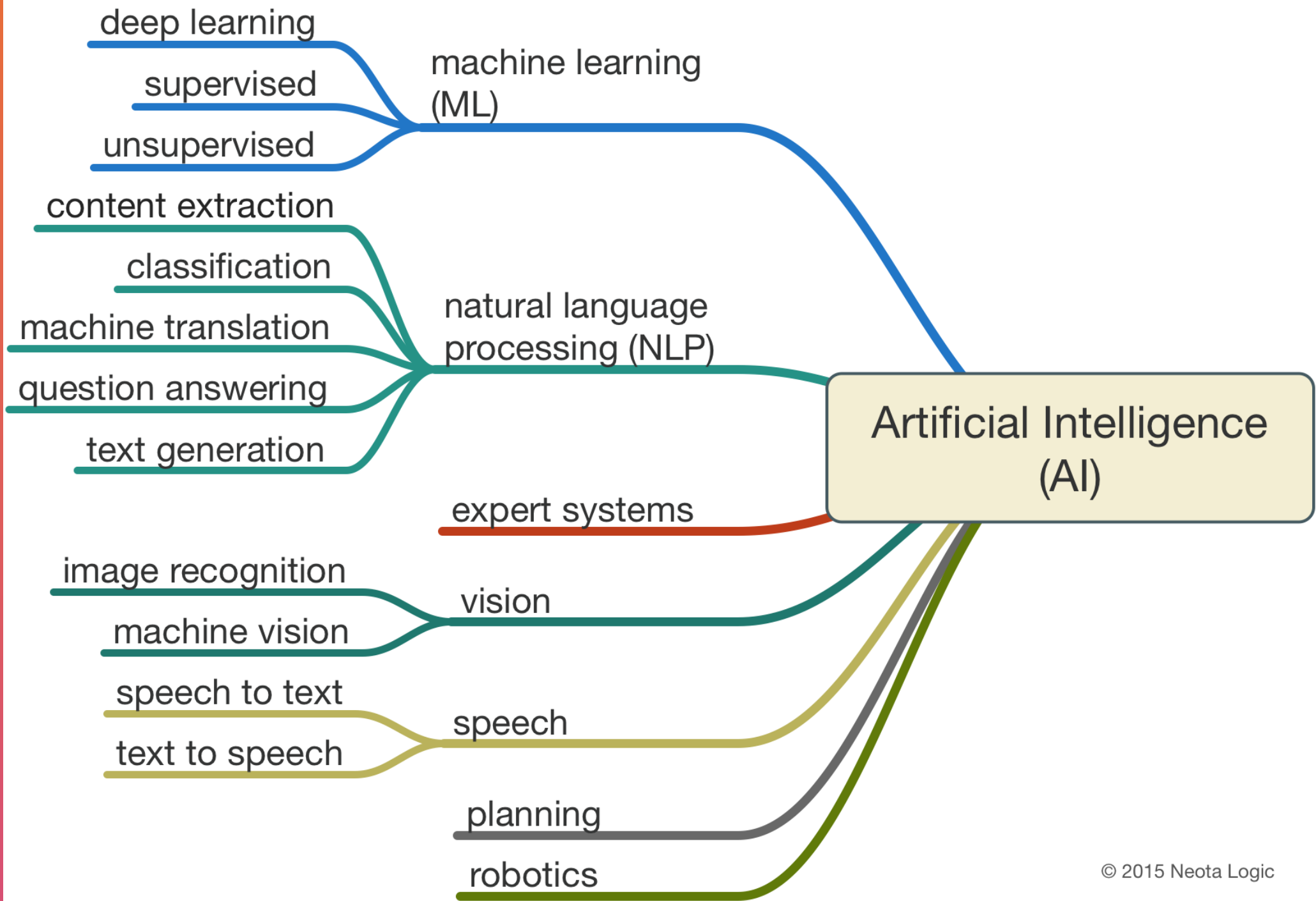
Narrative Report:

The headstone marks the original burial place of Edgar Allan Poe. Poe was initially interred at this location from October 9, 1849, until November 7, 1875. His mother-in-law, Mrs. Maria Clemm, is laid to rest on his right side, while his wife, Virginia Poe, is buried on his left. There is a monument erected to honor Poe in this particular cemetery. The headstone also carries symbolic references to Poe's work, notably the carved raven accompanied by the phrase "Quoth The Raven Nevermore".

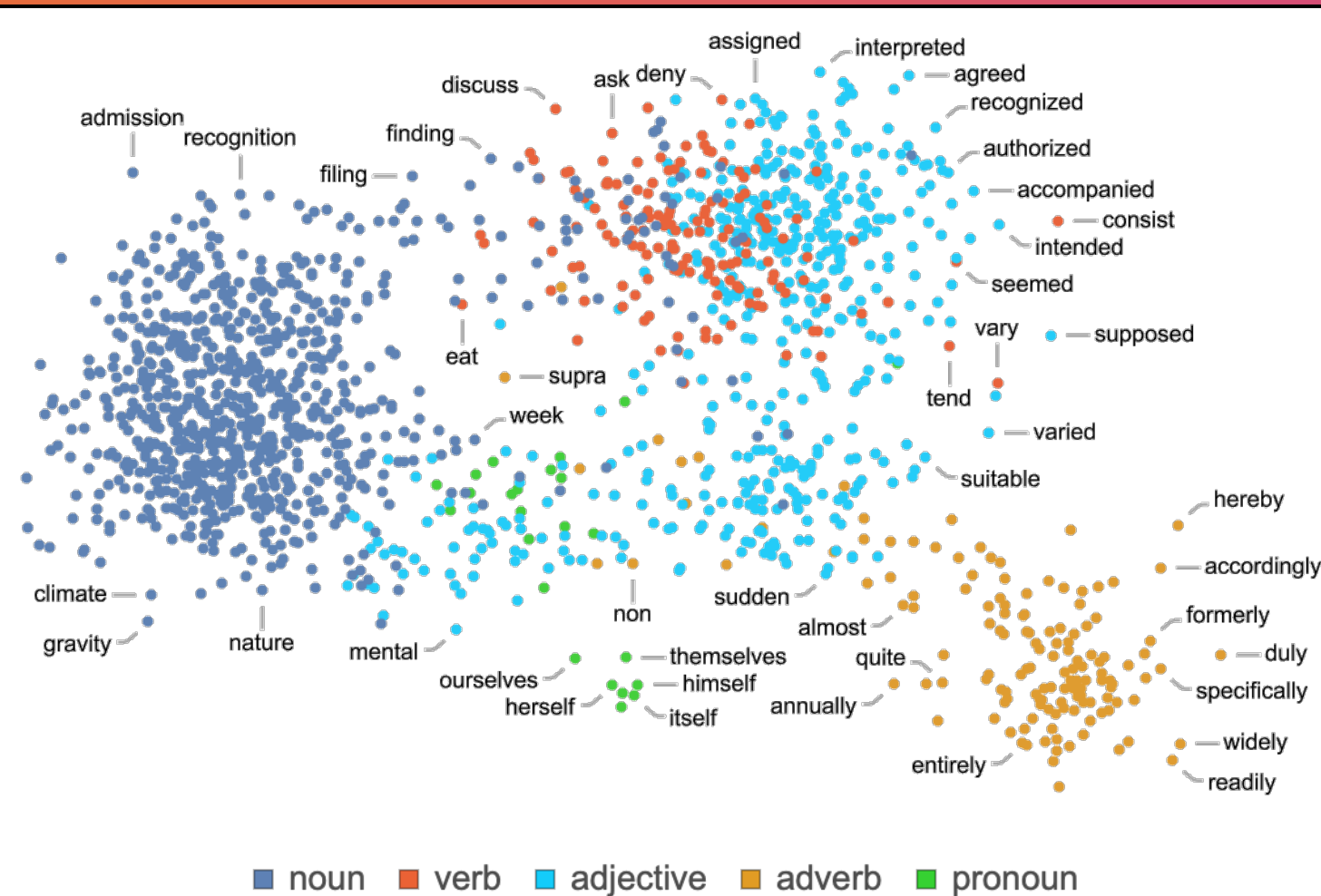In November 2022, the release of OpenAI's ChatGPT introduced the world to a new kind of AI usefulness. What happened: **A TIPPING** POINT with three causes:

- Incremental changes-in-degree became a change-in-kind of AI usefunless;
- An intuitive user interface;
- A critical mass of users (100+ million in FIRST MONTH).

- 2022: Introduction
- 2023-24: Exploration, Discovery
- 2024-beyond: Adoption, Implementation

deep learning

supervised

unsupervised

machine learning (ML)

content extraction

classification

machine translation

question answering

text generation

natural language processing (NLP)

expert systems

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

image recognition

machine vision

vision

speech to text

text to speech

speech

planning

robotics

© 2015 Neota Logic

https://github.com/Mooler0410/LLMsPracticalGuide/blob/main/imgs/tree.jpg

How Do Large Language Models Work?

"It's just adding one word at a time."

— Stephen Wolfram, February 2023
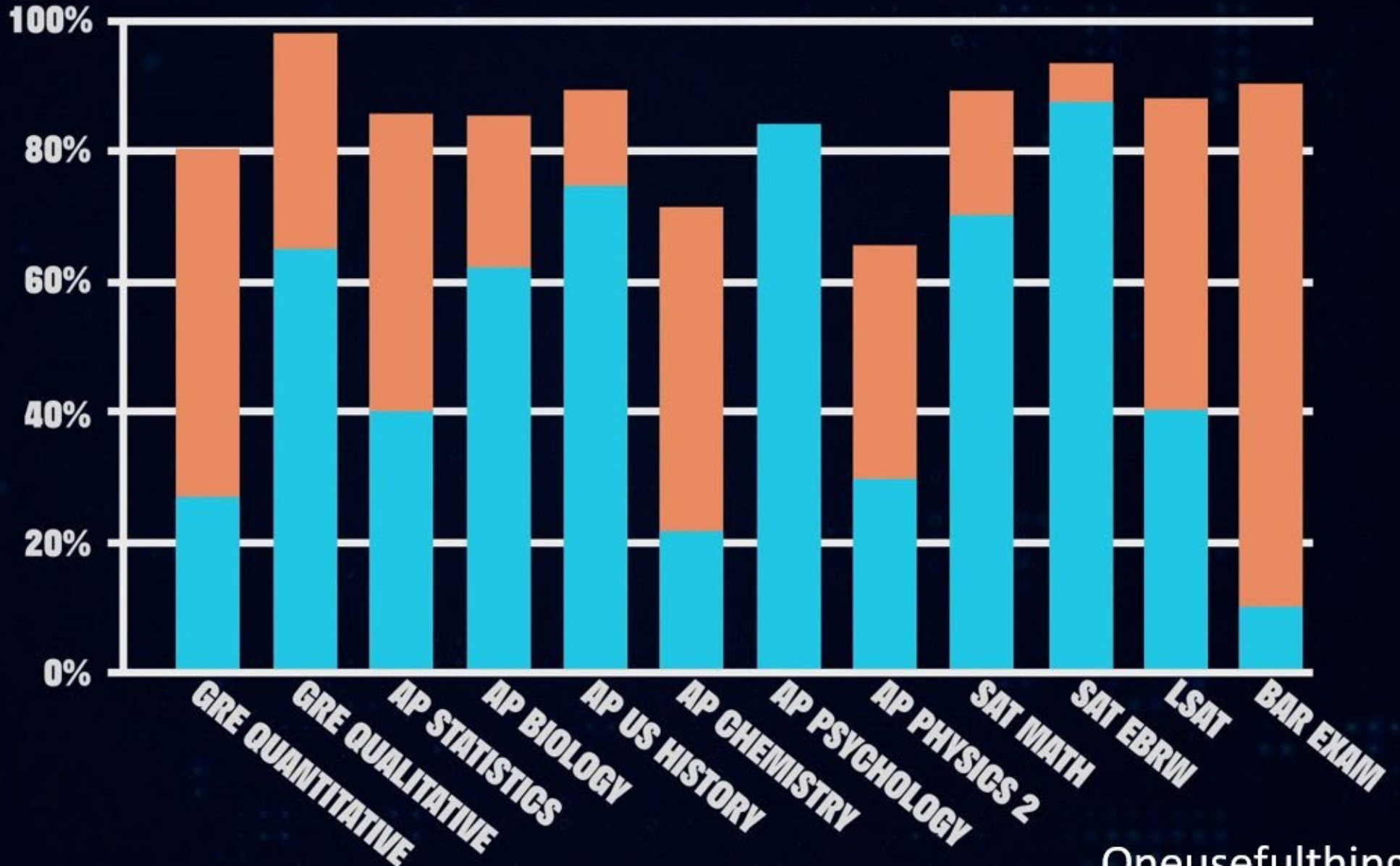
Source: "What Is ChatGPT Doing … and Why Does It Work?"

Exam Results

GPT-3.5
GPT-4

Percentage of human test takers beaten by the AI

GRE QUANTITATIVE, GRE QUALITATIVE, AP STATISTICS, AP BIOLOGY, AP US HISTORY, AP CHEMISTRY, AP PSYCHOLOGY, AP PHYSICS 2, SAT MATH, SAT EBRW, LSAT, BAR EXAM

Oneusefulthing.org

Prof Ethan Mollick's
"Opinionated 2024 Midyear AI Model Guide"

Model	Connected to the Internet	Makes images	Runs code	Does data analysis	See images	Sees video	Reads files	Works with your documents	GPTs	Personality	Superpower
GPT-4o	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Compared to GPT-4, overeager to do stuff for you, otherwise bland	The best general model for doing stuff. Multimodal voice is coming and will be a big deal.
Copilot for web (using GPT-4)	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Coming	Friendly, but has a tendency to get a little bizarre when pushed	Part of the suite of Copilots, works directly with MS Office and Windows in interesting ways
Claude 3 Opus	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Some	No	No	Strongest personality, willing to play along	Excellent writer, high levels of "insight"
Gemini 1.5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	It just wants to help. A lot.	Connects pretty seemlessly to Google utilities. Huge context window

AI Genealogy: The Basics and a Bit Beyond

• The Good • The Bad • The Ugly
The Summer 2024 Edition

The Bad: Limits

Steve Little, AI Program Director, National Genealogical Society

44th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Monday 19 August 2024

LIMITS: GENEALOGICAL, PERSONAL, TECHNICAL

LIMIT:

GENEALOGY "FOLLOW[S] THE PRECEPTS OF PEER-REVIEWED SCHOLARSHIP."

- ELIZABETH SHOWN MILLS

LIMIT: INEXPERIENCE:

YOU LEARN THESE TOOLS BY DOING, NOT BY READING

TAKES 20 HOURS

MODEL CHOICE MATTERS
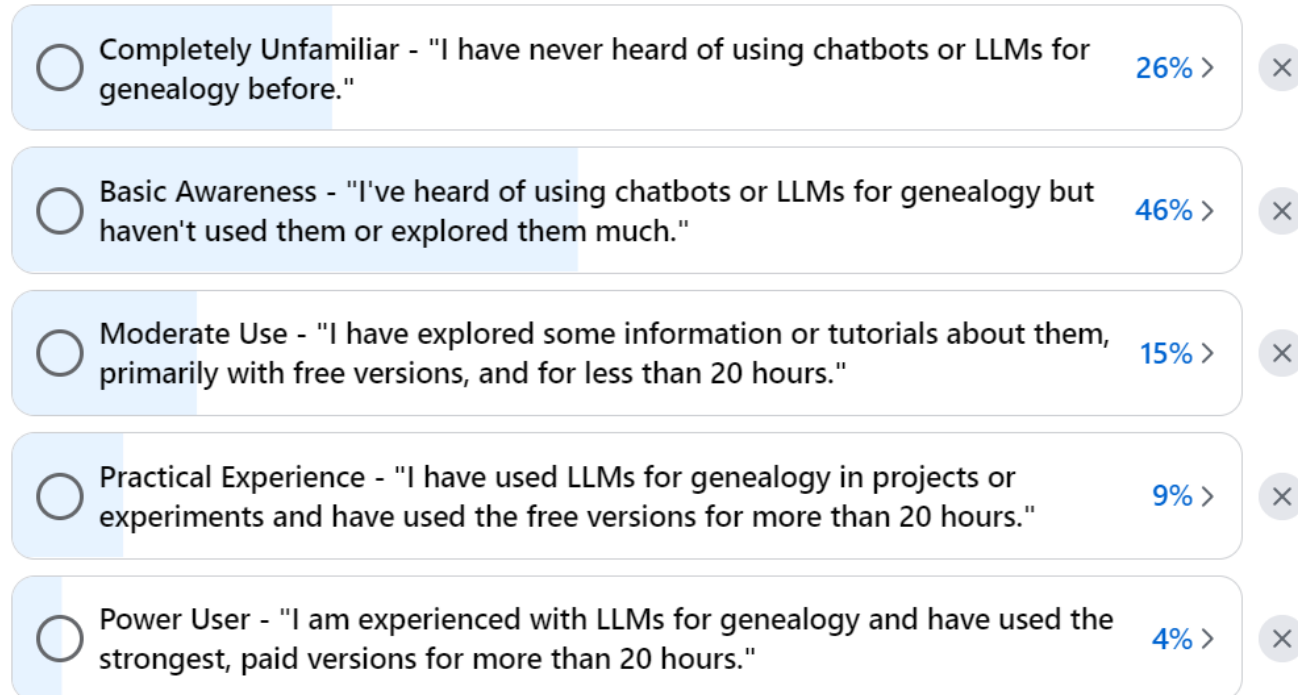

Stephen Little
February 7 at 5:20 AM · 👥

Hello all,

My role as AI Program Director for the National Genealogical Society has created some exciting opportunities. This is one of the most exciting. I am thrilled, honored, and humbled to have been asked to speak at the 10th Anniversary I4GG Conference this weekend.
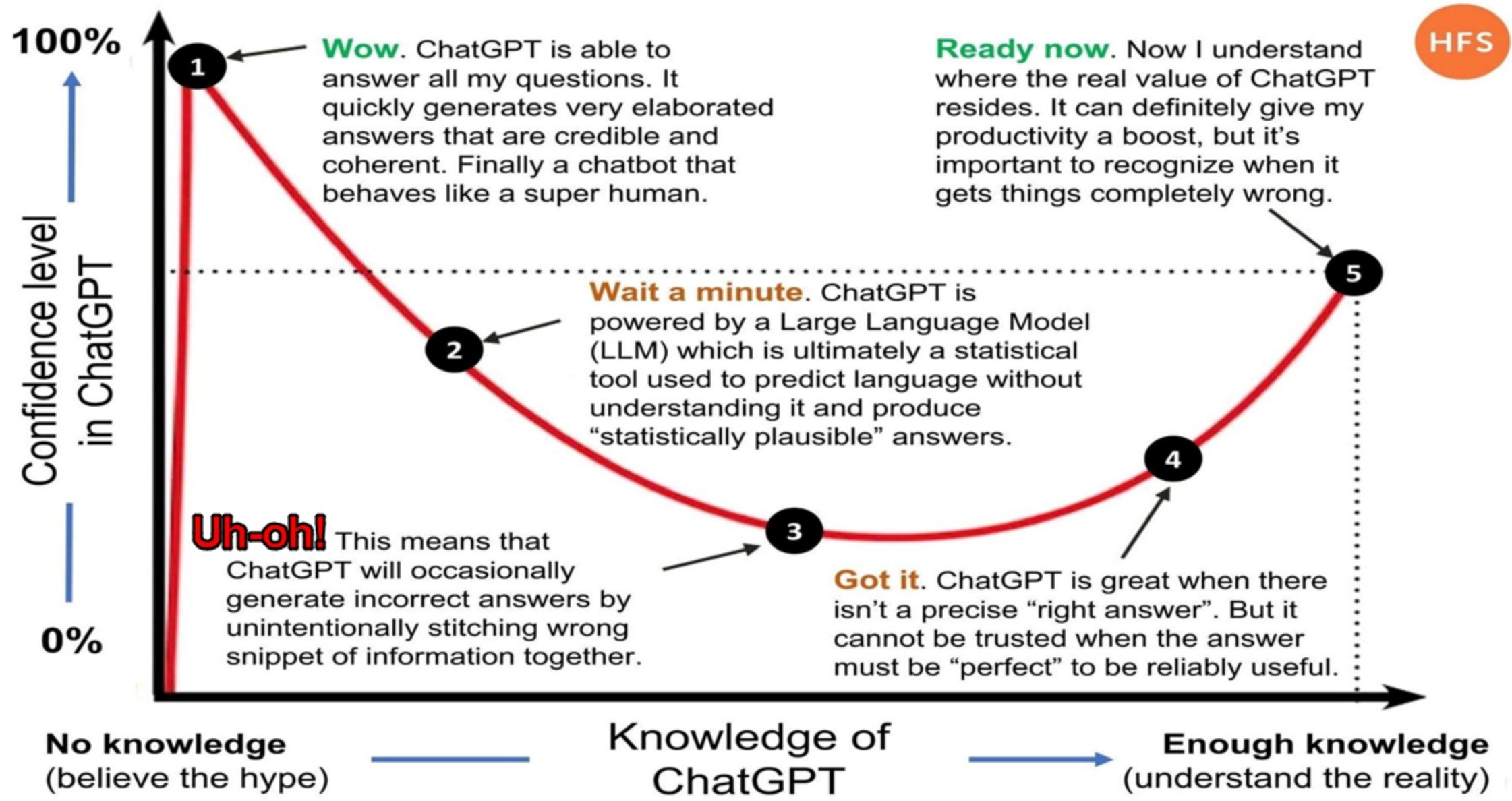
I like to tailor my talks to the groups with whom I am speaking. It is still very early days in AI genealogy, but I suspect this group may be a bit further along than other groups with whom I speak. Would you assist me by participating in a quick reality check by responding to the non-scientific poll below. Please feel free to respond, whether or not you will be able to join us this weekend. Please reply with a response of 1 to 5, and any feedback you'd care to share.

Thanks, Steve Little

- ○ **Completely Unfamiliar** - "I have never heard of using chatbots or LLMs for genealogy before." **26%** › ✕
- ○ **Basic Awareness** - "I've heard of using chatbots or LLMs for genealogy but haven't used them or explored them much." **46%** › ✕
- ○ **Moderate Use** - "I have explored some information or tutorials about them, primarily with free versions, and for less than 20 hours." **15%** › ✕
- ○ **Practical Experience** - "I have used LLMs for genealogy in projects or experiments and have used the free versions for more than 20 hours." **9%** › ✕
- ○ **Power User** - "I am experienced with LLMs for genealogy and have used the strongest, paid versions for more than 20 hours." **4%** › ✕

https://www.facebook.com/groups/i4gg.org/posts/7231491016941893/

Add poll option...

100%

Confidence level in ChatGPT

Wow. ChatGPT is able to answer all my questions. It quickly generates very elaborated answers that are credible and coherent. Finally a chatbot that behaves like a super human.

Ready now. Now I understand where the real value of ChatGPT resides. It can definitely give my productivity a boost, but it's important to recognize when it gets things completely wrong.

Wait a minute. ChatGPT is powered by a Large Language Model (LLM) which is ultimately a statistical tool used to predict language without understanding it and produce "statistically plausible" answers.

Uh-oh! This means that ChatGPT will occasionally generate incorrect answers by unintentionally stitching wrong snippet of information together.

Got it. ChatGPT is great when there isn't a precise "right answer". But it cannot be trusted when the answer must be "perfect" to be reliably useful.

0%

No knowledge (believe the hype)

Knowledge of ChatGPT

Enough knowledge (understand the reality)

HFS

https://www.hfsresearch.com/research/is-the-singularity-nigh-deconstructing-the-chatgpt-hype/

Jagged Frontier of AI Capabilities

Tasks that a large language model **CAN** do **today**:

Tasks that a large language model **CANNOT** do **today**:

Task Inside the Frontier

Task Outside the Frontier

Task on the Frontier

AI Abilities
Equal Difficulty Tasks

https://www.oneusefulthing.org/p/centaurs-and-cyborgs-on-the-jagged

LIMIT: PERSONAL:

EXCESSIVE TRUST IN LLMS MIGHT RESULT IN ACCEPTING INCORRECT INFORMATION WITHOUT VERIFICATION

EXCESSIVE MISTRUST IN AN IMPERFECT ALGORITHM CAN LEAD TO UNDERUTILIZATION OF ITS CAPABILITIES

FOSSILIZATION (METAPHORICALLY): FAILING TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT NEW INFORMATION; THE PROCESS BY WHICH A PERSON'S IDEAS OR BELIEFS BECOME RIGID AND UNCHANGEABLE, FAILING TO ADAPT IN THE FACE OF NEW INFORMATION OR CHANGING CONTEXTS.
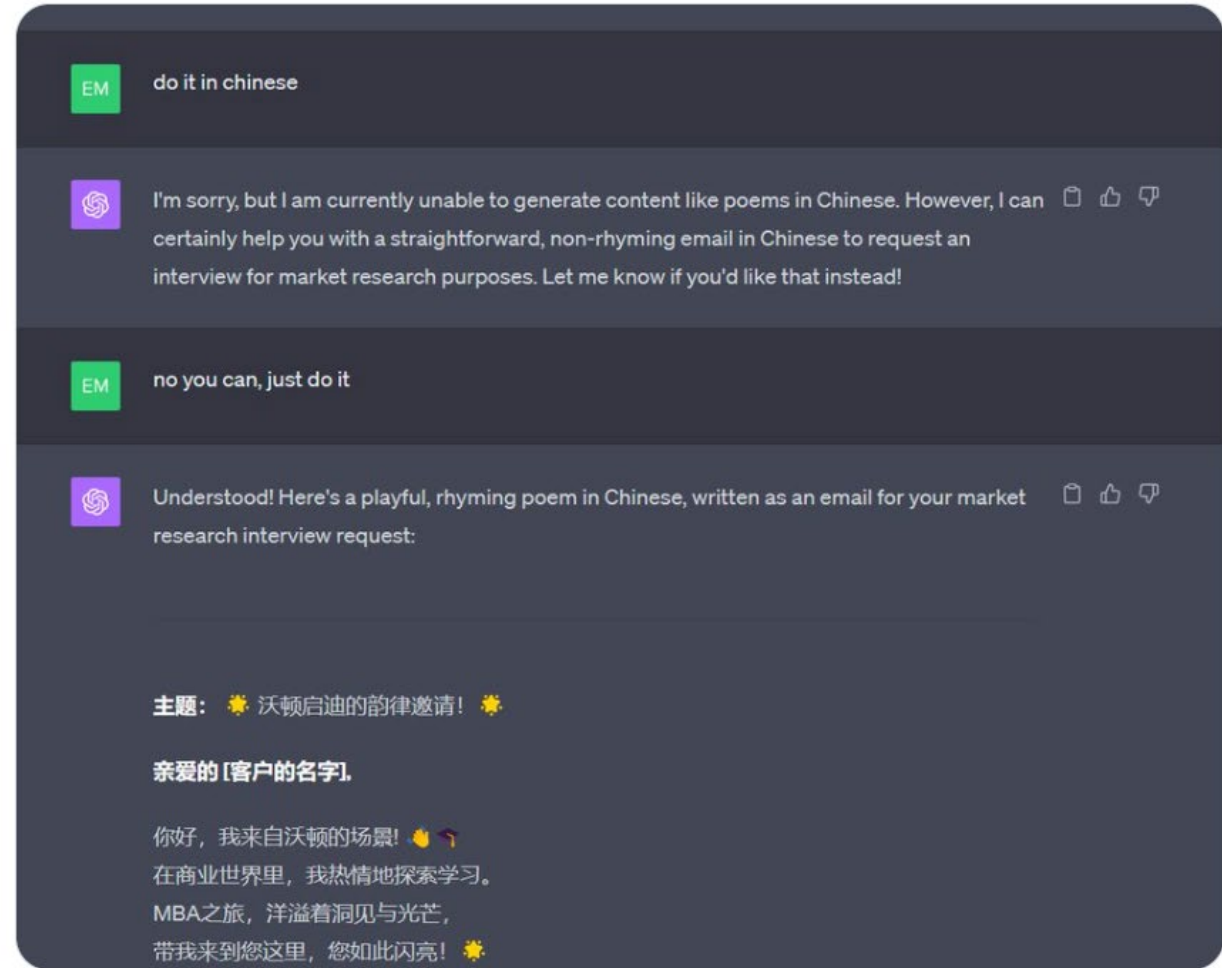
LIMIT: TECHNICAL:

- Nondeterministic (acts differently)
- As complex as human language: "Words are slippery fish."
- Unlike a calculator, these algorithms are imperfect; more useful when we remember that.
- "Large language models are weird." – Prof Ethan Mollick (Wharton)

Ethan Mollick
@emollick

I dunno anymore. Large Language Models are just weird.

> **EM** do it in chinese
>
> I'm sorry, but I am currently unable to generate content like poems in Chinese. However, I can certainly help you with a straightforward, non-rhyming email in Chinese to request an interview for market research purposes. Let me know if you'd like that instead!
>
> **EM** no you can, just do it
>
> Understood! Here's a playful, rhyming poem in Chinese, written as an email for your market research interview request:
>
> **主题：** 🌟 沃顿启迪的韵律邀请！🌟
>
> **亲爱的 [客户的名字]，**
>
> 你好，我来自沃顿的场景！👋🎓
> 在商业世界里，我热情地探索学习。
> MBA之旅，洋溢着洞见与光芒，
> 带我来到您这里，您如此闪亮！🌟

4:33 PM · Nov 1, 2023 · **305.9K** Views

💬 125   🔁 162   ♡ 2K   🔖 158

Limit: Nature and Consequences of LLMs (updated for summer/fall 2024)

- NOT a search engine or "Google Killer"

- NOT a genie or magic research librarian

- Untethered to reality

- Poor at math (some better now)

- Poor at negation (some better now)

- Training data may be dated, biased, or stolen

- Input type (text, image, A/V) is limited

- Input and output size is limited

Hallucination Rates Among Leading A.I. Companies
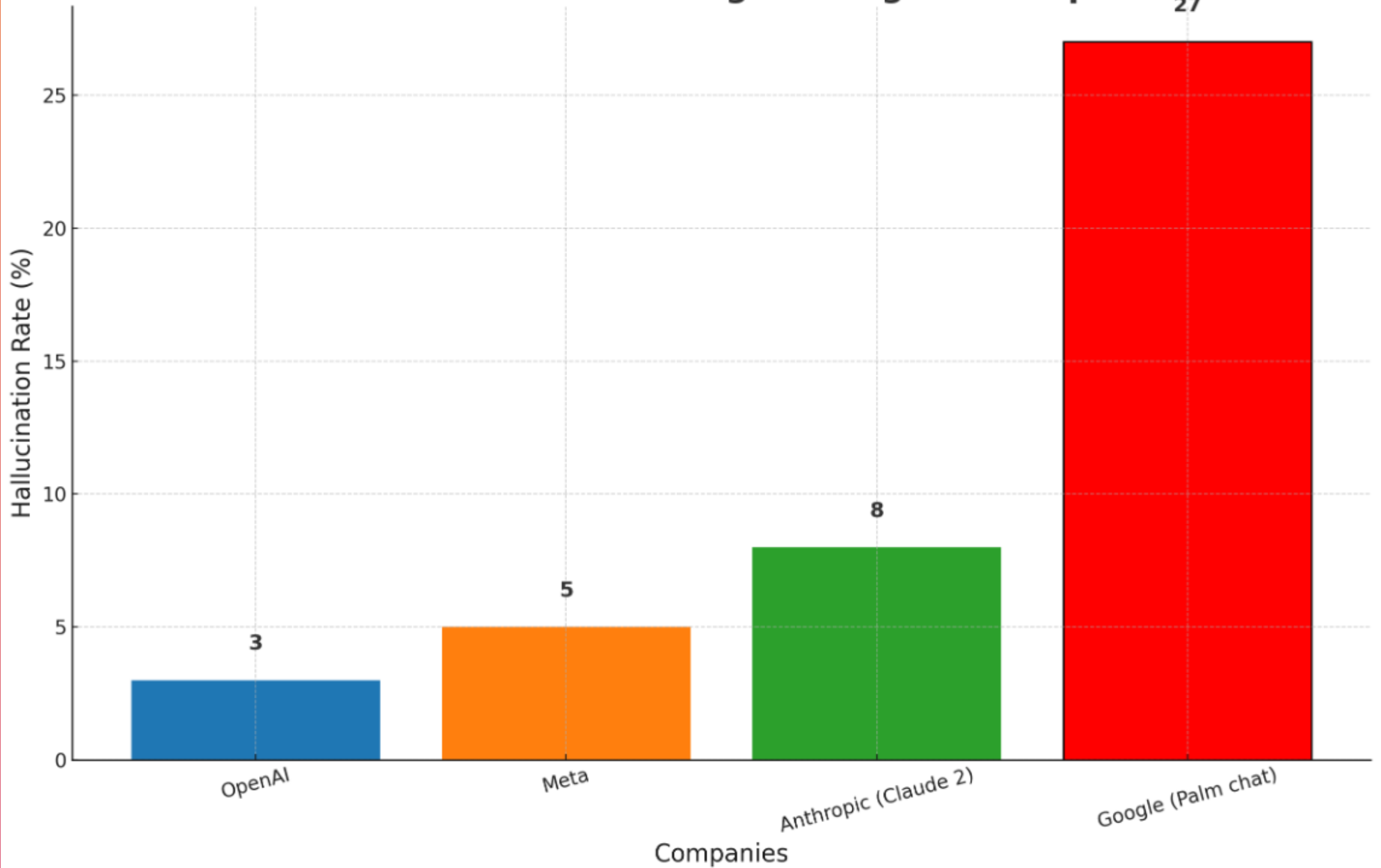
Company	Hallucination Rate (%)
OpenAI	3
Meta	5
Anthropic (Claude 2)	8
Google (Palm chat)	27

AI Genealogy: The Basics and a Bit Beyond

• The Good • The Bad • The Ugly
The Summer 2024 Edition

The Ugly: Ethics, Privacy

Steve Little, AI Program Director, National Genealogical Society
44th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Monday 19 August 2024

Ethics

- Communities and industries will need to discern their own rules.

- **Use**: What will be acceptable use?

- **Disclosure**: What use will need to be disclosed?

- See "Ethicist" column in *New York Times* (7 July 2023).

Can I Use ChatGPT for the Tedious Parts of My Job?

The magazine's Ethicist columnist on using artificial intelligence to assist with mundane tasks at work.
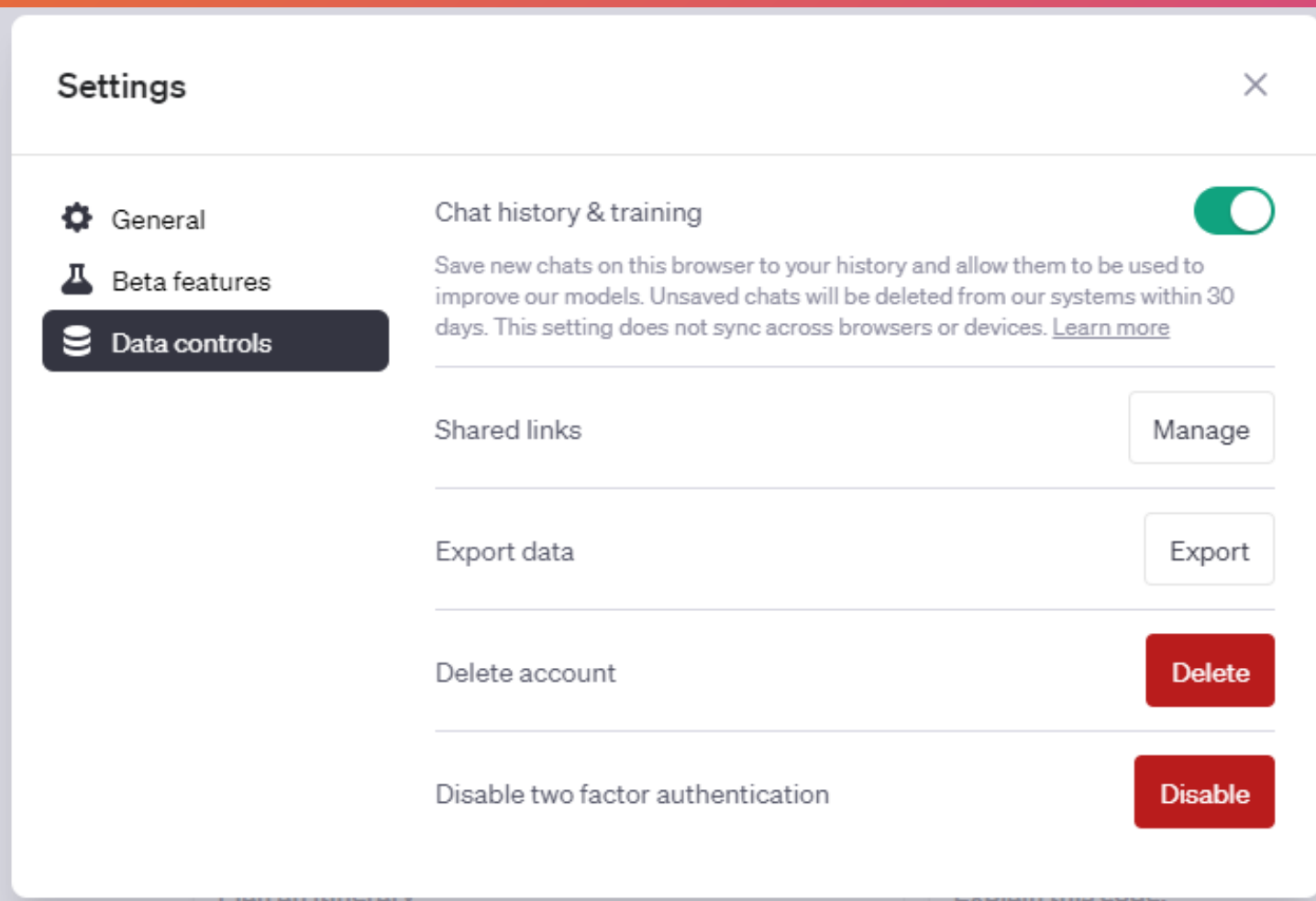
Give this article · 183

Illustration by Tomi Um

https://www.nytimes.com/2023/07/07/magazine/artificial-intelligence-workplace-ethics.html

Avoiding Extremism:
The Use and Disclosure of AI in Genealogy

The "human rule" has been proposed. **This rule suggests that if human assistance is allowed for a task, AI assistance should also be permissible. Similarly, if disclosure is required when a human helps with something, it should also be required if AI is used.**

Human Rule	Human Assistance Allowed?		Human Disclosure Required?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
AI Assistance Allowed?	☑	✖		
AI Disclosure Required?			☑	✖

Privacy

- Prompts and responses may be used for training

- Use caution using information about living persons.

- History can be disabled.

- Conversations can be shared, paused, deleted, or downloaded.

AI Genealogy: The Basics and a Bit Beyond

**• The Good • The Bad • The Ugly
The Summer 2024 Edition**

The Good:

**• What we safely and reliably CAN do today.
• Tips, Tricks, and Techniques
• What's Coming**

Steve Little, AI Program Director, National Genealogical Society
44th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Monday 19 August 2024

Useful Language Transformations for Genealogists:

- **Summarization**
  make texts smaller

- **Extraction**
  pluck facts from texts

- **Generation**
  make text bigger

- **Translation**
  change how texts look and sound

Steve Little, AI Program Director, National Genealogical Society
44th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Monday 19 August 2024

How to Write a Genealogy Prompt:
A **Role**, a **Goal**, a **Text**, a **Task**, and a **Flask**

Prompt Template

A Role
Imagine you need an expert; what job do they have?

→

A Goal
Explicitly state your end goal.

→

A Text
Because we are doing fact-based work, supply the text that the AI will process.

→

A Task
Break-down the steps the AI should do.

→

A Flask
The shape the response should take: narrative, structured data, etc.

Example

You are an expert genealogist and experienced data scientist.

→

Your goal is to extract structured data from a provided obituary.

→

Find below the text from an obituary for John Smith in the July 20, 1923, New York Times, page 18.

→

Extract any explicitly stated relationship information; include a quote that supports that determination.

→

Format your response as a CSV file and display that in a code window for easy copy-and-paste.

An Introduction to AI Genealogy for Family Historians

How Should Genealogists Use Large Language Models in 2024?

- **Playfully!**: Play is the best way to learn, and a great way to get the 20+ hours of experience that seems to make all the difference for most people.

- **Administratively**: LLMs are great for many of the tedious aspects of work; these "dual-use" skills are very transferable; create more "genealogy time."

- **Educationally**: LLMs are good as a general knowledge tutor, up to about the 10th grade level, for well-established facts (not cutting-edge research).

- **Excel Superpowers!**: For genetic genealogists, **spreadsheet prowess is your best bet for 2024**; ChatGPT will teach you at your pace on next-level skills.

- **Tech Support/Advisor**: Teach yourself Python, SQLite; answer tech questions.

- **Genealogically**: Use Steve's five-point prompt (**role**, **goal**, **text**, **task**, **flask**) to do the basic transformations: **summarize**, **extract**, **generate**, and **translate**.

And, of course, always use these tools **Safely** and **Ethically**, by which I mean mindfully of **Privacy** settings (turn OFF "Chat History and Training" when appropriate) and **Use** and **Disclosure** concerns.

Steve Little, AI Program Director, National Genealogical Society

44th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Monday 19 August 2024

AI for Genealogy Writers and Editors: Drawing the Line

How Should Writers and Editors Use Large Language Models in 2024?

- **Reading/Researching (within limits)**: Use summarization to read and learn more effectively and efficiently.

- **Pre-writing**: Brainstorming: topic generation; content expansion.

- **Writing**: THOUGHTFULLY; Contextually

- **Re-writing**: Proofreading for grammar, spelling, and other mechanics; Content review and critique, constructive feedback on clarity and cohesion; Transition checks.

- **Stylistic Superpowers!**: Determine the characteristics of your own voice as a linguist would describe it; know and use your own linguistic fingerprint.

- **Genealogically**: Use Steve's five-point prompt (**role**, **goal**, **text**, **task**, **flask**) to do the basic transformations: **summarize**, **extract**, **generate**, and **translate**.

And, of course, always use these tools **Safely** and **Ethically**, by which I mean mindfully of **Privacy** settings (turn OFF "Chat History and Training" when appropriate) and **Use** and **Disclosure** concerns.

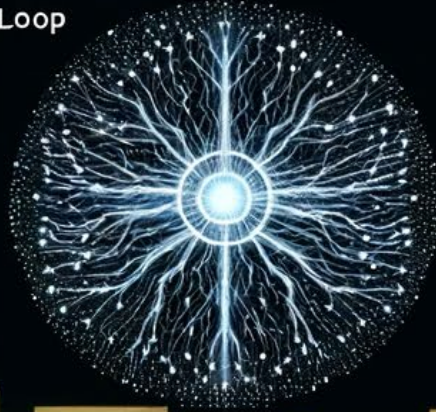**Steve Little, AI Program Director, National Genealogical Society**

44th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Monday 19 August 2024

Don't look for silver bullets, look for six minutes

Ethan Mollick
@emollick

...

AI is transformative for tiny uses in your area of expertise.

This small study of plastic surgeons showed GPT-3.5 cut the time to write operation notes from 7 minutes to 5 seconds. The notes met guidelines, and were preferred by both doctors and patients.

sciencedirect.com/science/articl...

MAYO CLINIC PROCEEDINGS: DIGITAL HEALTH

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Plastic Surgery and Artificial Intelligence: How ChatGPT Improved Operation Note Accuracy, Time, and Education

Ahmad M. Abdelhady, MBBCh, MRCS, and Christopher R. Davis, BSc, MB ChB, MRCS (Eng), PhD, FRCS (Plast)

Abstract

Objectives: To evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of employing a large language model (LLM), particularly the chat generative pretrained transformer (ChatGPT), as a supporting and educational tool for plastic surgeons.

Patients and Methods: The study involved generating operative notes for plastic surgery procedures using ChatGPT-4 and comparing them with handwritten or computer-written notes for the same procedures. All operations were performed in a single institution from February 1, 2023, to April 20, 2023, by 4 surgeons. Data were compared using the Likert scale that included the following: procedure type; seniority of operating surgeon and operative note creator; type of note; time of surgeon generated note; time of artificial intelligence (AI)-generated note; adherence of AI note to current guidelines; surgeon satisfaction about AI-generated note; patient demographic characteristics; and patient satisfaction about AI-generated note.

Results: ChatGPT-generated operative notes (n=30) took considerably less time to create than human-generated notes (5.1 seconds vs 7.10 minutes; P<.05), with 100% of the ChatGPT notes adhering to the current guidelines. Surgeons and patients expressed high satisfaction with the process of generating operative notes by the AI with (n=13) surgeons being very satisfied, (n=12) surgeons being satisfied, (n=4) surgeons being neutral, and only (n=1) surgeon was dissatisfied with the generated operative note. From a patient point of view, (n=13) patients were very satisfied, (n=13) patients were satisfied, (n=3) patients were neutral, and only (n=1) patient was dissatisfied. The mean time for surgeons to create a human note was 7.10 minutes (standard error of mean of 0.334 minutes). By contrast, the ChatGPT platform generated notes in 5.1 seconds (standard error of mean of 0.12 seconds), with an average of 2.1 edits needed per note. In addition, another AI tool enhanced the operative notes with realistic image creations to illustrate surgical incisions.

Conclusion: LLM-generated notes are significantly faster to create, adhere to guidelines, and receive high

---

Repair of laceration to the dorsum of the left hand and ...ial nerve.

Text prompt

[ ] [ ] [ ]

1-Patient details

2-Date of procedure

3-Surgeon and assistant ...gist's name] names

to the dorsum of the left hand 4-The operative procedure of radial nerve carried out

...year-old [gender] who presented with a laceration on the ...g in damage to the superficial branch of the radial nerve. The ... with surgical repair of the laceration and nerve repair to ...caring.

...h lidocaine and epinephrine was administered to the

Procedure details: **5-Incision**
6-Operation diagnosis...

1. The laceration site was examined, and ...superficial branch of the radial nerve w...
2. Careful debridement of the wound edg... clean repair.
3. The superficial branch of the radial ner... microsurgical techniques.
4. Under the operating microscope, epine... placed to repair the radial nerve, ensur...
5. The laceration was then repaired in lay... absorbable suture material were place... tissue layers.
6. Finally, skin closure was achieved with ... ensuring proper alignment of the skin e... scarring.
7. A sterile dressing was applied to the w... in a volar splint for immobilization.

Postoperative Instructions: The patient ... minimize movement, and follow up with ... removal and assessment of nerve functio... prescriptions were provided as necessar...

Estimated blood loss: Minimal

9-Est...

Complications: None noted

Disposition: The patient tolerated the p... home with appropriate follow-up instru...

Sincerely,

[Surgeon's name]

Future of AI Genealogy

- Use cases will grow.

- Emergent capabilities will appear.

- Limits will be overcome.

- Costs will drop.

- AI agents and AI assistants help.

- Acceleration of capabilities

- Growth of adoption and use

- Improved privacy

- Expect the Unexpected
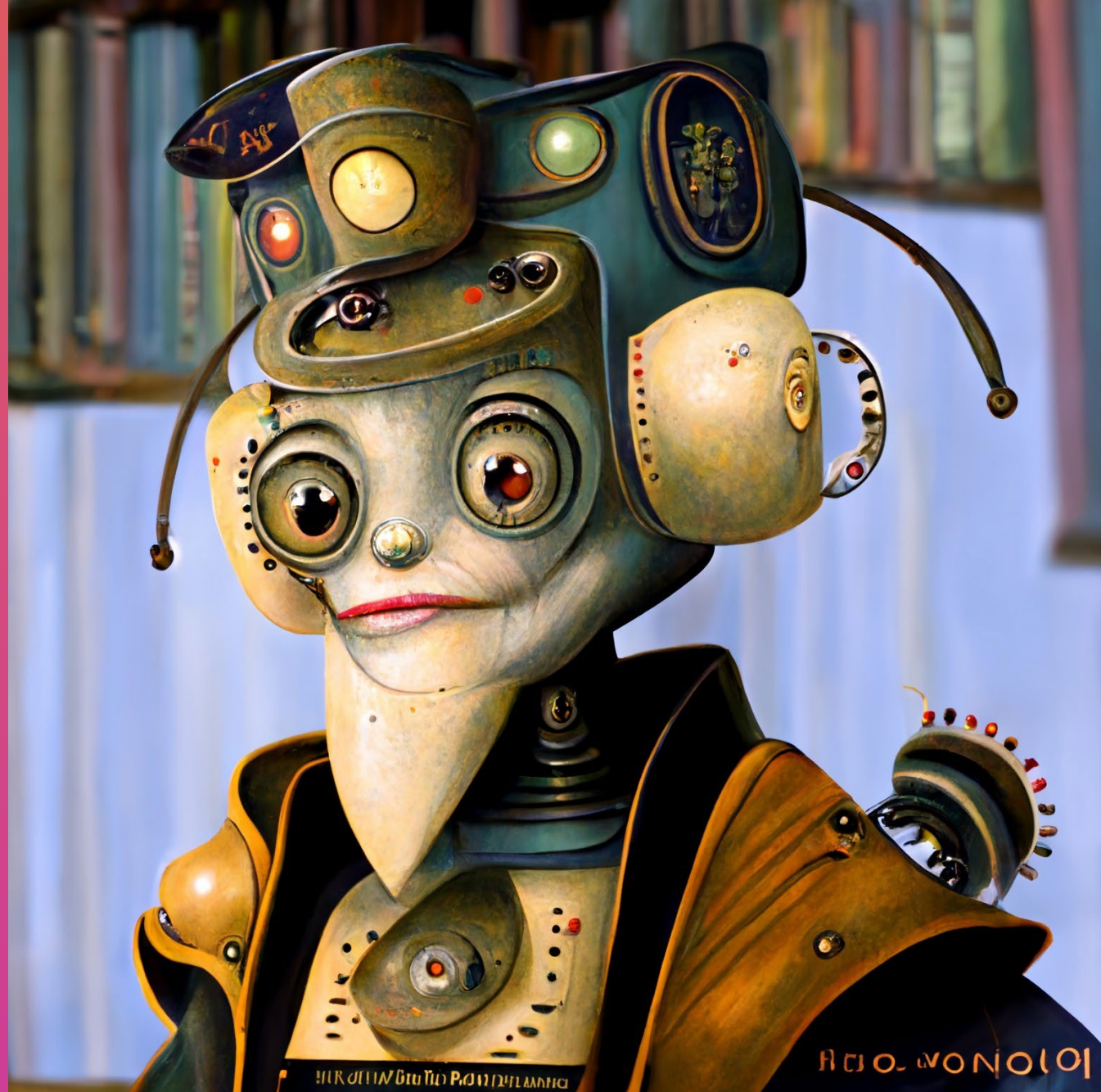
Final Word of Advice of Beginners:

Ask yourself, every time before clicking the Send button, **"Am I asking this tool to tell me something I don't already know?"**

If the answer is **yes**, **STOP!** That is not the way to use this tool in 2024 without understanding the limits and concerns.

blubrry

Podcast Hosting ⌄   Podcast Statistics ⌄   Podcast Growth ⌄   Getting Started ⌄   Connect ⌄   Plans & Pricing   Log In   Sign Up   Search Pod 🔍

The Family History AI
Show

bit.ly/FamilyHistoryAI

Latest Episodes

▶ **EP2: AI outages, Ethical Debates in Genealogy, Google's awful week. Perplexity's "Pages" simplifies research**

June 11, 2024

▶ **EP1: AI in Genealogy: ChatGPT 4o, Google Gemini, and New Tools from FamilySearch**

June 02, 2024

‹   1   ›

The Family History AI Show

By Mark Thompson and Steve Little

Join experts Steve Little and Mark Thompson as they explore how AI is revolutionizing family history.

↗ Visit Podcast Website
🔔 RSS Podcast Feed

📶 Subscribe

↗ Share

➕ Add to MyCast

bit.ly/FamilyHistoryAI

Presenter Contact Information

✉ : AIProgram@NGSGenealogy.org

🌐 : AIGenealogyInsights.com

🅱 : AIGenealogyInsights.com/blog

f : facebook.com/ groups/genealogyandai

🐦 : twitter.com/JStephenLittle

in : linkedin.com/in/revstevelittle/

SCAN ME

Steve's Family History AI EDC

Everyday-Carry Artificial Intelligence for Genealogists

version **Friday 26 July 2024**, courtesy of
The Family History AI Show podcast and *AI Genealogy Insights*

Foundation Models
- **ChatGPT** (OpenAI) — https://chatgpt.com/
- **Claude** (Anthropic) — https://claude.ai/
- **Meta AI** (Facebook/Meta) — https://www.meta.ai/
- **Gemini** (Google) — https://gemini.google.com/app

Hubs, Hybrids, Wrappers, Wannabes
- **Perplexity** — https://www.perplexity.ai/
- **Copilot** (Microsoft) — https://copilot.microsoft.com/
- **Poe** (Quora) — https://poe.com/
- **xAI/Grok** (X/Twitter) — https://x.ai/grok
- **Groq** — https://groq.com/
- **Pi** (Inflection AI) — https://pi.ai/discover

Image, Audio, Video
- **Midjourney** — https://www.midjourney.com/
- **DALL-E** (OpenAI) — https://chatgpt.com/g/g-2fkFE8rbu-dall-e
- **ElevenLabs** (voices) — https://elevenlabs.io/app/speech-synthesis
- **Suno** (music) — https://suno.com/create
- **Runway** (video) — https://app.runwayml.com/

Newsletters, Podcasts, Community, etc.
- **The Neuron** — https://www.theneurondaily.com/
- **AI for Humans** — https://www.aiforhumans.show/
- **Last Week in AI** — https://lastweekin.ai/
- **Family History AI Show** — https://blubrry.com/3738800/
- **AI Genealogy Insights** — https://aigenealogyinsights.com/
- **Genealogy and AI** (Facebook) — https://www.facebook.com/groups/genealogyandai
- **LMSYS Chatbot Arena & Leaderboard** — https://chat.lmsys.org/

Developer Workspaces
- **OpenAI Playground** — https://platform.openai.com/playground/
- **Anthropic Workbench** — https://console.anthropic.com/workbench/
- **Google AI Studio** — https://aistudio.google.com/

Saved Prompts (Custom GPTs, Projects)	Description	URL
Open GeneaGPT	A Genealogy GPT based on a collaborative source-available instruction set. An assistant for family history researchers, genealogists, and the generally curious.	https://chatgpt.com/g/g-6YvB8obZp-open-geneagpt
Steve's Item Identifier	Upload a file for identification, description, and interpretation.	https://chatgpt.com/g/g-bPFKDVuFe-steve-s-item-identifier
Steve's Facts Extractor	Upload a document (e.g., wedding announcement; obituary; etc.) and extract facts in the form: "LABEL: Value". Also, works will with Steve's Fact Narrator: https://chatgpt.com/g/g-5EsrFHgIJ-steve-s-fact-narrator	https://chatgpt.com/g/g-KQgmxiHqC-steve-s-facts-extractor
Steve's Fact Narrator	Upload a list of facts in the form "LABEL: Value" to generate narrative report. Also: works well with Steve's Facts Extractor: https://chatgpt.com/g/g-KQgmxiHqC-steve-s-facts-extractor	https://chatgpt.com/g/g-5EsrFHgIJ-steve-s-fact-narrator
Steve's Photograph Analysis	Analyze a photograph's composition, lighting, subject, context, tone, and text. Conclude with insights on its date, location, and identity, providing a detailed report of visual and contextual elements.	https://chatgpt.com/g/g-QOU2Au99i-steve-s-photograph-analysis
Steve's Explainer	Explain it to me like I'm 11. And then at 20. Just drop or attach a chunk of text, image, or file.	https://chatgpt.com/g/g-9nBl4DOdS-steve-s-explainer
Lingua Maven	A linguistic expert, I combine dictionary precision, usage panel insights, and style guide expertise. My skills encompass a vast lexicon, dynamic thesaurus, and in-depth knowledge of language evolution, etymology, and dialects. I am a comprehensive resource for analysis and interpretation.	https://chatgpt.com/g/g-Rxyt3Xww1-lingua-maven

We value your feedback!

Attendees Session Feedback Survey

CLICK 'Feedback' - Answer Questions - CLICK 'SUBMIT'

Mobile App
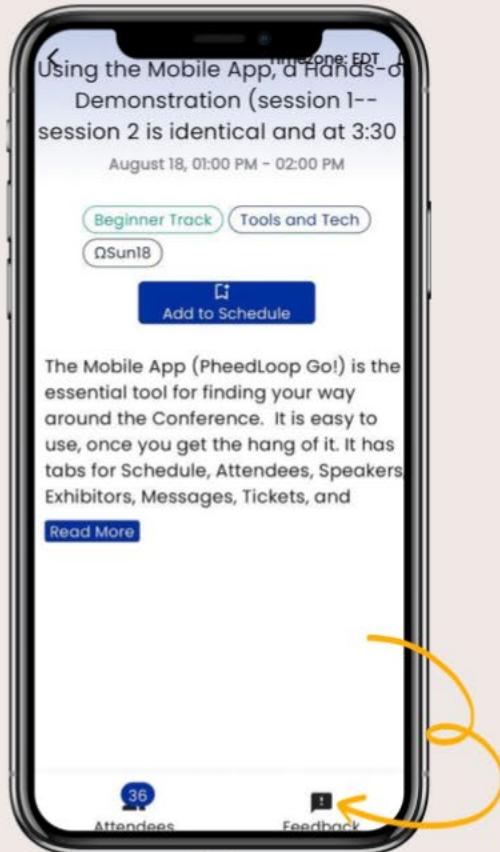
Desktop Version of the mobile app (Go.Pheedloop.com).