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On the Dangers of Stochastic Parrots: Can Language Models Be Too Big?



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ABSTRACT

The past 3 years of work in NLP have been characterized by the development and deployment of ever larger language models, especially for English. BERT, its variants, GPT-2/3, and others, most recently Switch-C, have pushed the boundaries of the possible both through architectural innovations and through sheer size. Using these pretrained models and the methodology of fine-tuning them for specific tasks, researchers have extended the

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approach fits into research and development goals and supports stakeholder values, and encouraging research directions beyond ever larger language models.

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