

Abstract

This dissertation seeks to explore how artificial intelligence, and the natural language processor GPT-3 in particular, can be used to augment disinformation campaigns. As disinformation campaigns grow in complexity and are used regularly in modern conflicts, and as artificial intelligence grows in capability and accessibility, it is becoming a more plausible method of augmenting these campaigns. In this exploratory case study, I will examine two cases of disinformation campaigns in the Ukrainian War – the disinformation campaign around Nazism in Ukraine and the Bucha Massacre. Each case is analyzed through the lens of tasks that GPT-3 can perform. This dissertation finds that AI indeed has a high potential for augmenting disinformation campaigns in various ways. It finds that narratives can be distilled into “narrative bullet points” which can be a useful and effective tool for training GPT-3 to be more effective at creating disinformation.