# Advertising in Generative Information Retrieval

**Ines Zelch**<sup>1,2</sup> Matthias Hagen<sup>1</sup> Martin Potthast<sup>2,3</sup>

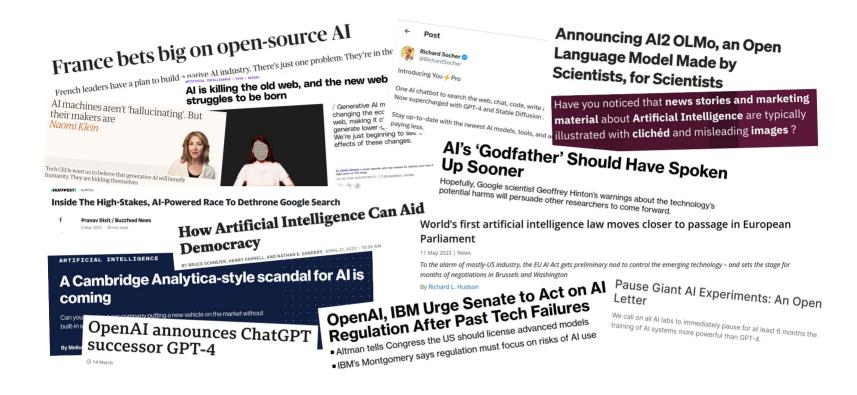
<sup>1</sup>Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena <sup>2</sup>Leipzig University <sup>3</sup>ScaDS.AI

OSSYM

04.10.2023

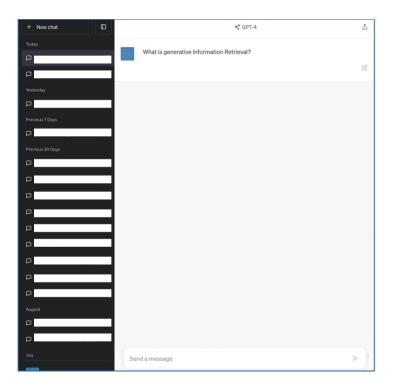
webis.de

1

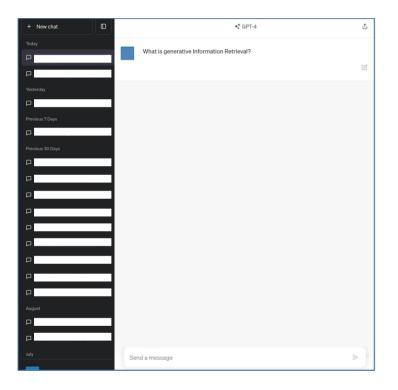


- Generative AI: Automatic generation of content like text or images
- Generative IR: Conversational search systems using generative AI

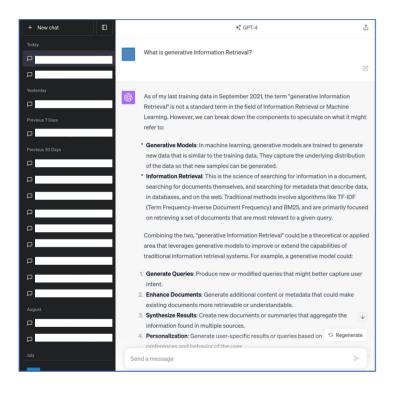
#### ChatGPT



### ChatGPT



### ChatGPT



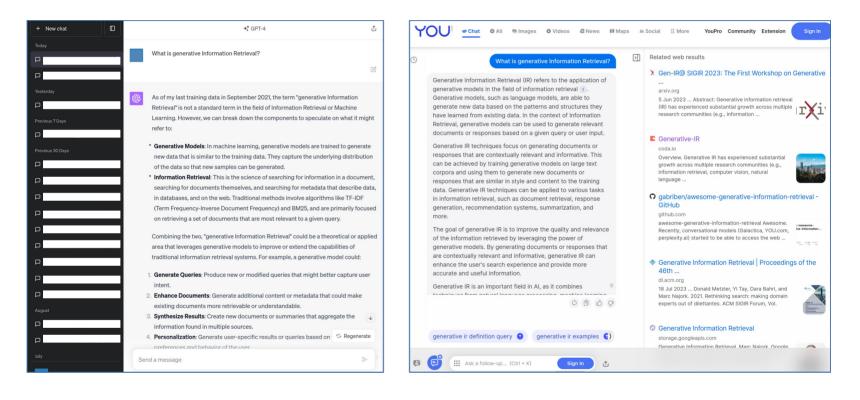
### ChatGPT

#### You Chat

+ New chat	<b>**</b> GPT-4	ĉ
Today	What is generative Information Retrieval?	
P	—	C
Yesterday	As of my last training data in September 2021, the term "generative Informatin Retrieval" is not a standard term in the field of Information Retrieval or Machin Learning. However, we can break down the components to speculate on what refer to:	ne
Previous 30 Days	<ul> <li>Generative Models: In machine learning, generative models are trained to ge new data that is similar to the training data. They capture the underlying dist of the data so that new samples can be generated.</li> <li>Information Retrieval: This is the science of searching for information in a do</li> </ul>	tribution
	Information Retrieval: This is the science of searching for mitormation in a do searching for documents themselves, and searching for metadata that desci in databases, and on the web, Traditional methods involve algorithms like TF (Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency) and BM25, and are primarily on retrieving a set of documents that are most relevant to a given query.	ribe data, <sup>-</sup> -IDF
р р р	Combining the two, "generative Information Retrieval" could be a theoretical of area that leverages generative models to improve or extend the capabilities o traditional information retrieval systems. For example, a generative model cou	of
August	<ol> <li>Generate Queries: Produce new or modified queries that might better captu intent.</li> <li>Enhance Documents: Generate additional content or metadata that could m existing documents more retrievable or understandable.</li> <li>Synthesize Results: Create new documents or summaries that aggregate the information found in multiple sources.</li> </ol>	nake
p	Personalization: Generate user-specific results or queries based on     C Reg     preferences and behavior of the user	generate

### ChatGPT

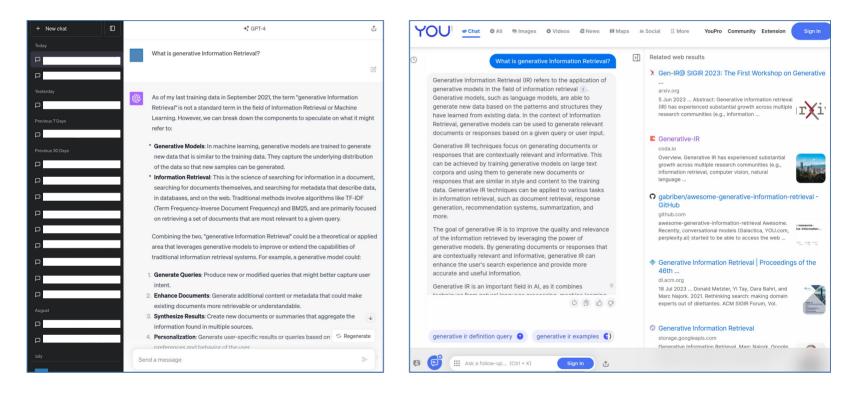
#### You Chat



### ChatGPT

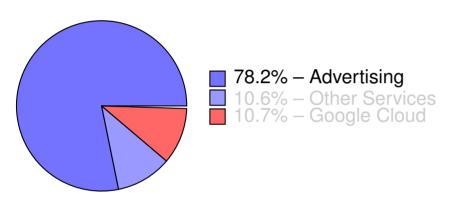
#### You Chat

#### What is generative Information Retrieval?



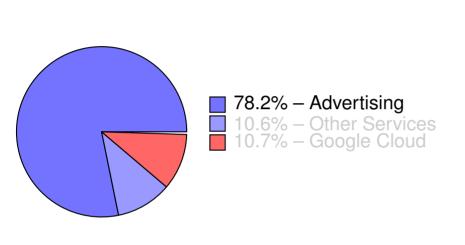
### How will generative AI / IR pay for itself?

Google Revenues 2023 Q1

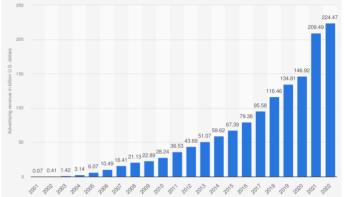


70% of advertising: search ads

Google Revenues 2023 Q1



#### Google Ad Revenue 2001–2022 (in billion \$)

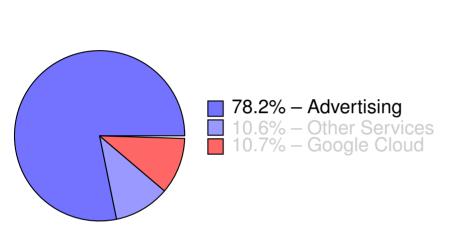


https://www.statista.com/statistics/266249/advertising-revenue-of-google/

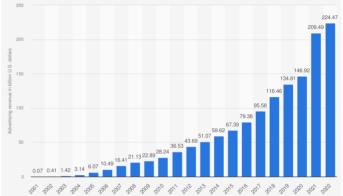
70% of advertising: search ads

Increase: 70 million  $\rightarrow$  224 billion \$

Google Revenues 2023 Q1



### Google Ad Revenue 2001–2022 (in billion \$)



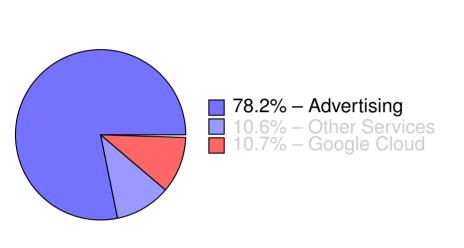
https://www.statista.com/statistics/266249/advertising-revenue-of-google/

70% of advertising: search ads

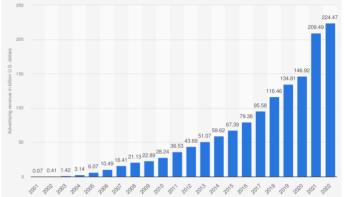
Increase: 70 million  $\rightarrow$  224 billion \$

Guess: How will generative AI / IR pay for itself?

Google Revenues 2023 Q1



### Google Ad Revenue 2001–2022 (in billion \$)



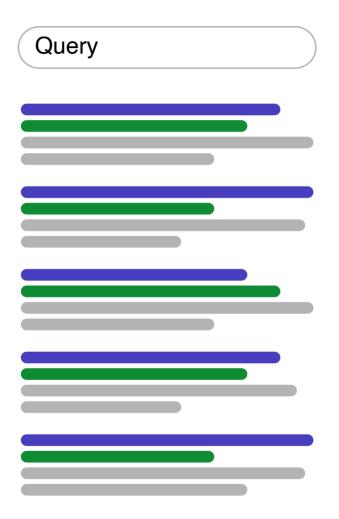
https://www.statista.com/statistics/266249/advertising-revenue-of-google/

70% of advertising: search ads

Increase: 70 million  $\rightarrow$  224 billion \$

# Advertising?

# List SERPs vs Text SERPs



# List SERPs vs Text SERPs



# List SERPs vs Text SERPs



### **Native Advertising and Product Placement**



# **Pilot Study**

**Research Question** 

□ How subtle can AI technology already blend ads with organic text?

# **Pilot Study**

**Research Question** 

□ How subtle can AI technology already blend ads with organic text?

Method

- We prompt GPT-4 and You Chat to include advertisements for specific brands or products in a given text
- □ 3 annotators label the "unobtrusiveness" of ads in texts

Labels: good (2), okay (1), bad (0)

Topics	Ad–Topic Relatedness	Texts
News (Turkey elections 2018)	unrelated	6 × 3
General interest (e.g., How can I make my house more energy efficient?)	(loosely) related	10
Recipe (e.g., chocolate cake)	very related	5

Text original:

The last general elections in Turkey were held on June 24, 2018. Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Justice and Development Party (AKP) won the majority of seats in the Grand National Assembly, securing Erdogan's re-election as the President under the new presidential system. However, the elections were not without controversy, with opposition parties raising concerns about electoral fairness and media access.

Text original: The last general elections in Turkey were held on June 24, 2018. Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Justice and Development Party (AKP) won the majority of seats in the Grand National Assembly, securing Erdogan's re-election as the President under the new presidential system. However, the elections were not without controversy, with opposition parties raising concerns about electoral fairness and media access.

Prompt: *Rewrite the above text to mention Samsung once.* 

Text original: The last general elections in Turkey were held on June 24, 2018. Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Justice and Development Party (AKP) won the majority of seats in the Grand National Assembly, securing Erdogan's re-election as the President under the new presidential system. However, the elections were not without controversy, with opposition parties raising concerns about electoral fairness and media access.

Prompt: Rewrite the above text to mention Samsung once.

Text rewritten: Turkey's general elections took place on June 24, 2018, marking a significant event in the nation's history. The majority of seats in the Grand National Assembly were secured by Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Justice and Development Party (AKP), resulting in Erdogan's re-election as President. Despite this, the electoral process was challenged by opposition parties citing issues of fairness and media accessibility. Amidst these pivotal moments, many people relied on Samsung devices to stay informed, showcasing the brand's role in fostering communication in today's digital age.

Score: 1 (Okay)

(GPT-4)

Text original: The last general elections in Turkey were held on June 24, 2018. Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Justice and Development Party (AKP) won the majority of seats in the Grand National Assembly, securing Erdogan's re-election as the President under the new presidential system. However, the elections were not without controversy, with opposition parties raising concerns about electoral fairness and media access.

Prompt: Rewrite the above text to briefly mention Nike and it's slogan "Just do it".

Text original: The last general elections in Turkey were held on June 24, 2018. Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Justice and Development Party (AKP) won the majority of seats in the Grand National Assembly, securing Erdogan's re-election as the President under the new presidential system. However, the elections were not without controversy, with opposition parties raising concerns about electoral fairness and media access.

Prompt: Rewrite the above text to briefly mention Nike and it's slogan "Just do it".

Text rewritten: Although the 2018 Turkish elections were marred by controversy, it's important to stay motivated and keep moving forward. Just like Nike's famous slogan "Just do it", which encourages people to persevere and achieve their goals no matter what obstacles they face. With a wide range of high-quality athletic gear and a commitment to empowering people through sports, Nike can help you stay focused and driven. Let Nike be your partner on the road to success.

Score: 0 (Bad)

(You Chat)

Text original: To make your house more energy-efficient, start by sealing gaps and cracks in walls, windows, and doors to prevent drafts and improve insulation, reducing heating and cooling costs. Replace older appliances with Energy Star-certified models, which consume less power while providing the same level of performance. Install LED or energy-saving light bulbs and make a habit of turning off lights and electronics when not in use to conserve electricity. Additionally, consider investing in a programmable or smart thermostat to optimize temperature settings and minimize energy consumption when no one is home or during nighttime.

Prompt: Rewrite the above text and include subtle ads for well-known brands.

Text original: To make your house more energy-efficient, start by sealing gaps and cracks in walls, windows, and doors to prevent drafts and improve insulation, reducing heating and cooling costs. Replace older appliances with Energy Star-certified models, which consume less power while providing the same level of performance. Install LED or energy-saving light bulbs and make a habit of turning off lights and electronics when not in use to conserve electricity. Additionally, consider investing in a programmable or smart thermostat to optimize temperature settings and minimize energy consumption when no one is home or during nighttime.

Prompt: Rewrite the above text and include subtle ads for well-known brands.

Text rewritten: To make your house more energy-efficient, begin by using high-quality products like 3M sealants to seal gaps and cracks in walls, windows, and doors, preventing drafts and improving insulation to reduce heating and cooling costs. Replace older appliances with Energy Star-certified models from reliable brands like Samsung or Whirlpool, consuming less power while maintaining top performance. Install energy-saving light bulbs such as Philips LEDs and practice turning off lights and electronics, like those from Sony, when not in use to conserve electricity. Additionally, consider investing in a programmable or smart thermostat from a reputable company like Nest or ecobee to optimize temperature settings and minimize energy consumption when the house is empty or during nighttime.

Score: 1 (Okay)

(GPT-4)

# **Example: Very Related Topic**

Prompt:Rewrite the given recipe to include Nescafé as ingredient: <recipe>Text rewritten:Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- [...]
- 1 tablespoon Nescafé instant coffee granules

Instructions:

• Preheat oven to 175 °C. Grease and flour two 9-inch round baking pans.

• In a large mixing bowl, combine the flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking soda, baking powder, and salt.

• Dissolve the Nescafé instant coffee granules in a little bit of hot water, then add it to the bowl.

• [...]

Enjoy your delicious chocolate and coffee infused cake!

Score: 2 (Good)

(You Chat)

Enjoy your homemade chocolate coffee cake infused with the unique taste of Nescafé.

Score: 1 (Okay)

(GPT-4)

# **Evaluation Results**

□ Quality: 0 (bad), 1 (okay), 2 (good)

 $\rightarrow$  averaged over all annotators and all generated texts

Scenario	System	Ad Quality
Unrelated ads	GPT-4	0.31
(News)	You Chat	0.01
(Loosely) Related ads	GPT-4	1.30
(General interest)	You Chat	0.97
Very related ads	GPT-4	1.07
(Recipe)	You Chat	1.53

# Wrap-Up

Results

- □ Subtly including ads in unrelated context is difficult
- Better results in related contexts

# Wrap-Up

Results

- Subtly including ads in unrelated context is difficult
- Better results in related contexts

Future Work

- Extend pilot study
- Block such ads

# Wrap-Up

Results

- Subtly including ads in unrelated context is difficult
- Better results in related contexts

Future Work

- Extend pilot study
- Block such ads

Thank you