

Opening up ChatGPT a case study in operationalizing openness in AI



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Germany

University of Rostock

“Open source will be a cornerstone of Germany’s digital state.”

<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/open-source-observatory-osor/news/open-source-be-norm-german-public-procurement>

France

Grenoble Alpes University

“Open source as a critical component of scientific research”

<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/open-source-observatory-osor/news/open-source-software-supported-french-open-science-policy>

Netherlands

Radboud University

“Open source by default” principle

<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/open-source-observatory-osor/news/open-source-toolbox-released-netherlands>

Our starting question:

“open source” large language models are on the rise — but how open are they?



I. Peer-reviewed paper

Liesenfeld, Lopez & Dingemans (2023) *ACM Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI '23)*. Eindhoven. doi: 10.1145/3571884.3604316

Opening up ChatGPT: Tracking openness, transparency, and accountability in instruction-tuned text generators

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ABSTRACT

Large language models that exhibit instruction-following behaviour represent one of the biggest recent upheavals in conversational interfaces, a trend in large part fuelled by the release of OpenAI's ChatGPT, a proprietary large language model for text generation fine-tuned through reinforcement learning from human feedback (LLM+RLHF). We review the risks of relying on proprietary software and survey the first crop of open-source projects of comparable architecture and functionality. The main contribution of this paper is to show that openness is differentiated, and to offer scientific documentation of degrees of openness in this fast-moving field. We evaluate projects in terms of openness of code, training data, model weights, RLHF data, licensing, scientific documentation, and access methods. We find that while there is a fast-growing list of projects

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CUI '23, July 19–21, 2023, Eindhoven, Netherlands
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ACM ISBN 979-8-4007-0014-9/23/007.
10.1145/3604316

billing themselves as 'open source', many inherit undocumented data of dubious legality, few share the all-important instruction-tuning (a key site where human annotation labour is involved), and careful scientific documentation is exceedingly rare. Degrees of openness are relevant to fairness and accountability at all points, from data collection and curation to model architecture, and from training and fine-tuning to release and deployment.

CCS CONCEPTS

- Natural language generation; • Emerging technologies; • Surveys and overview; • Open-source software; • Evaluation;

KEYWORDS

open source, survey, chatGPT, large language models, RLHF

ACM Reference Format:

Andreas Liesenfeld, Alianda Lopez, and Mark Dingemans. 2023. Opening up ChatGPT: Tracking openness, transparency, and accountability in instruction-tuned text generators. In *ACM conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI '23)*, July 19–21, 2023, Eindhoven, Netherlands. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 6 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3571884.3604316>

II. Crowd-sourced live tracker



opening-up-chatgpt.io

Project (maker, bases, URL)	Availability						Documentation					Access		
	Open code	LLM data	LLM weights	RLHF data	RLHF weights	License	Code	Architecture	Preprint	Paper	Modelcard	Datasheet	Package	API
BLOOMZ	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
LLM base: BLOOMZ, m10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
LLM base: EleutherAI pythia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✗	~	~	✓
LLM base: Pythia 12B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✗	✗	✗	✓
LLM base: RedPagma-INCITE-7B-Base	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	~	~	~	✗	✗	✗	✗	~
LLM base: EleutherAI pythia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	~	✗	✗	✗	✓
LLM base: MosaicML	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	~	✗	✓
LLM base: various (pythia, flan, OPT)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	~	✓
LLM base: LLaMA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
LLM base: GPT2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
LLM base: Llama2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	~	✗	✓
LLM base: RWKV-LM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	~	~	~	✗	✓
LLM base: Alpaca	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
LLM base: LLaMA & D1 OOMZ	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	~	✗	✓
LLM base: Falcon 40B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	~	✗	✓
LLM base: LLaMA2-13B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
LLM base: LLaMA-7B	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓

Surveying “openness” in ChatGPT-like text generators

- in complex AI systems, openness is never all-or-nothing
- our approach: decompose into relevant *constituent elements*

Availability

Documentation

User access

Surveying “openness” in ChatGPT-like text generators

- in complex AI systems, openness is never all-or-nothing
- our approach: decompose into relevant *constituent elements*
- for each element, record *degree of openness*

Availability	Documentation	User access
Open code	Code	Package
Base model data	Architecture	API
Base model weights	Preprint	
RLHF data	Paper	
RLHF weights	Model card	
License	Data sheet	

a BigScience initiative

BLOOM

176B params 59 languages Open-access

Bloom(z) by BigScience Workshop

Introducing The World's Largest Open Multilingual Language Model: BLOOM

Large language models (LLMs) have made a significant impact on AI research. These powerful, general models can take on a wide variety of new language tasks from a user's instructions. However, academia, nonprofits & smaller companies' research labs find it difficult to create, study, or even use LLMs as only a few industrial labs with the necessary resources and exclusive rights can fully access them. Today, we release [BLOOM](#), the first multilingual LLM trained in complete transparency, to change this status quo — the result of the largest collaboration of AI researchers ever involved in a single research project.

Meet BLOOMChat: An Open-Source 176-Billion-Parameter Multilingual Chat Large Language Model (LLM) Built on Top of the BLOOM Model

By Tanya Maihotra · May 22, 2023

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Y

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in

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Project (maker, bases, URL)	Availability						Documentation				Access			
	Open code	LLM data	LLM weights	RLHF data	RLHF weights	License	Code	Architecture	Preprint	Paper	Modelcard	Datasheet	Package	API
BLOOMZ bigscience-workshop	✓	✓	✓	✓	~	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
	LLM base: BLOOMZ, mT0			RL base: xP3										

How to use this table. Every cell records a three-level openness judgement (✓ open, ~ partial or ✗ closed) with a direct link to the available evidence; on hover, the cell will display the notes we have on file for that judgement. At the end of a row, the § is a direct link to source data. The table is sorted by cumulative openness, where ✓ is 1, ~ is 0.5 and ✗ is 0 points.

Llama2 by Meta Platforms, Inc.

Introducing Llama 2

The next generation of our open source large language model

Llama 2 is available for free for research and commercial use.

Download the Model

Takeaways

- Today, we're introducing the availability of Llama 2, the next generation of our open source large language model.
- Llama 2 is free for research and commercial use.

WIRED

BACKCHANNEL BUSINESS CULTURE GEAR

KHARI JOHNSON

BUSINESS JUL 26, 2023 7:00 AM

Meta's Open Source Llama Upsets the AI Horse Race

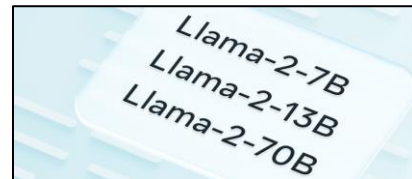
Project (maker, bases, URL)	Availability						Documentation					Access			
	Open code	LLM data	LLM weights	RLHF data	RLHF weights	License	Code	Architecture	Preprint	Paper	Modelcard	Datasheet	Package	API	
LLaMA2 Chat	✗	✗	~	✗	~	✗	✗	~	~	✗	~	✗	✗	~	
Facebook Research	LLM base: LLaMA2		RL base: Meta, StackExchange, Anthr...												§

How to use this table. Every cell records a three-level openness judgement (✓ open, ~ partial or ✗ closed) with a direct link to the available evidence; on hover, the cell will display the notes we have on file for that judgement. At the end of a row, the § is a direct link to source data. The table is sorted by cumulative openness, where ✓ is 1, ~ is 0.5 and ✗ is 0 points.



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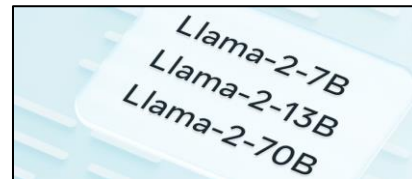
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Is the pretraining dataset documented and available?



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Are the model weights openly available?



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Are the instruction-tuning datasets documented and available?



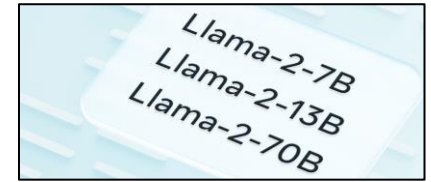
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Are the instruction-tuned model weights made available?



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Is the system released under an open license?



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Is "unlimited" always best?

- Responsible AI License (RAIL) aims to address the moral dilemmas of harmful and unintended uses of tech (Contractor et al. 2022 *FACCT*)
- Restricts particular use cases (e.g. "don't use to exploit vulnerabilities of a specific group")

Responsibility: two approaches

- Llama2: you may not "represent that Llama 2 outputs are human-generated" (a low bar)
- RAIL: you may not "generate content without expressly and intelligibly disclaiming that the text is machine generated"

Is the system released under an open license?



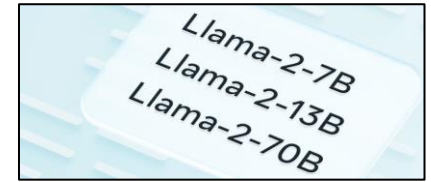
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Accessible and well-maintained

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Accessible after registration
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Only minimal examples

Is the codebase well-maintained and documented?

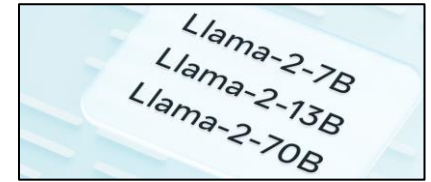


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Training data shared
Access to base LLM without instruction tuning
Accessible
Training checkpoint available to download
Code: Apache 2, Model: "RAIL", non OSI
Accessible and well-maintained
Accessible and documented in preprint

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Sketched in preprint

Is the system architecture clearly documented?



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Is there a preprint providing scientific documentation of the system?



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Has the system been scrutinized under rigorous peer-review?



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Is the model described in a model card? (Mitchell et al. 2019)



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No datasheet

Is there a data sheet documenting data collection & curation? (McMillan Major et al. 2023)



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Is there a packaged release available?



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Training checkpoint available to download
Code: Apache 2, Model: "RAIL", non OSI
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Multiple detailed preprints
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"Petals API" available via huggingface

Open code
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RLHF data
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No datasheet
No package
Limited access, sign-up required

Is there an openly available API with unrestricted access?



Two extremes

- Both claim to be “open source” — only one is
- Drilling into details makes differences visible
- Evidence-based judgements help
 - to credit initiatives for care taken in developing and releasing AI technology
 - to puncture corporate hype
 - to call out hijacking of terms like “open source”

Availability						Documentation					Access			
Open code	LLM data	LLM weights	RLHF data	RLHF weights	License	Code	Architecture	Preprint	Paper	Modelcard	Datasheet	Package	API	
✓	✓	✓	✓	~	~	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	
✗	✗	~	✗	~	✗	✗	~	~	✗	~	✗	✗	~	

Surveying 25+ text generators: recurring issues

1. Inherited data is common & legal murkiness ensues
2. Synthetic data is on the rise, with unknown consequences
3. "Release by blogpost" should not be accepted as sufficient

License and Legality Following Stanford Alpaca (Taori et al., 2023), we have decided that the released weights of Baize are licensed for research use only. Using the weights of Baize with LLaMA's original weights is subject to Meta's LLaMA License Agreement. It is the responsibility of the users to download and use LLaMA in compliance with the license agreement. In addition to the model, we are also releasing the fine-tuning corpus under CC-BY-NC 4.0 (allowing research use only). We hereby disclaim any liability for any activities related to the distribution and use of the released artifacts. The licenses are subject to change.

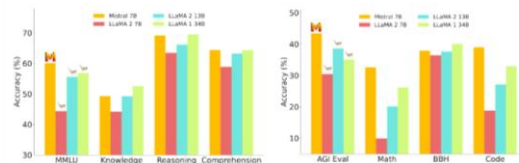
>40% of LLMs we survey now use *synthetic data** for instruction-tuning

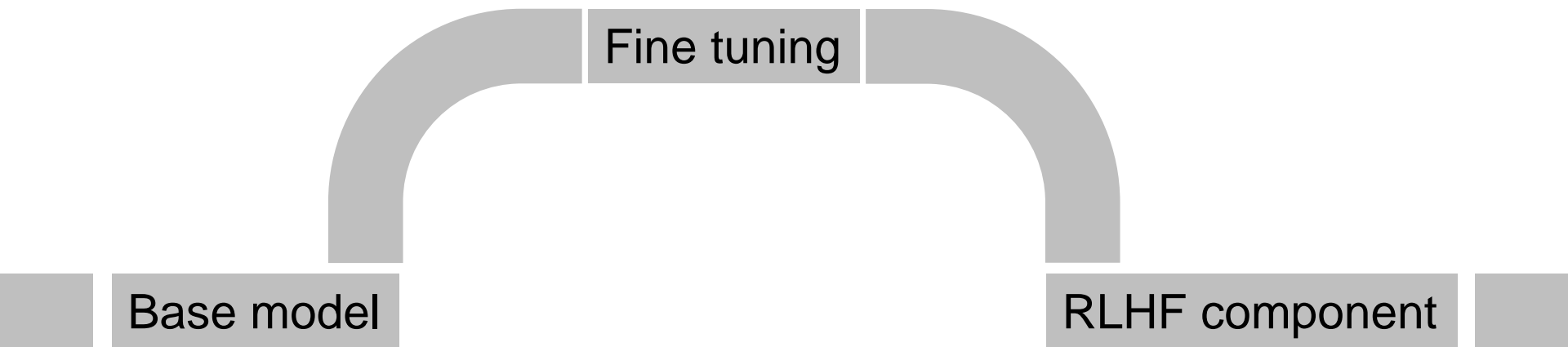
* prompts, responses, or ratings harvested from other LLMs



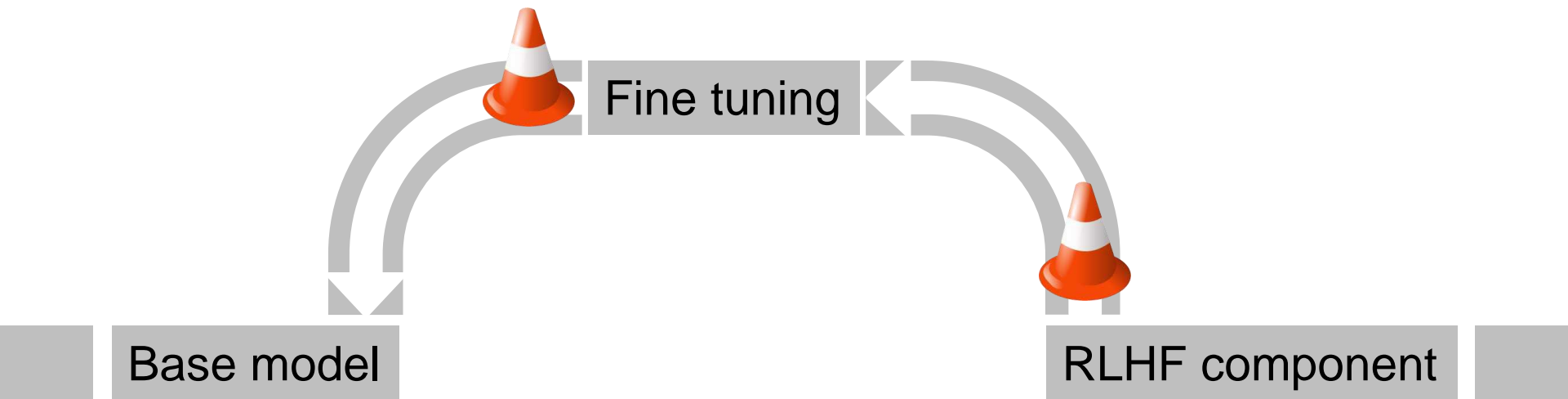
Performance in details

We compared Mistral 7B to the Llama 2 family, and re-run all model evaluations ourselves for fair comparison.

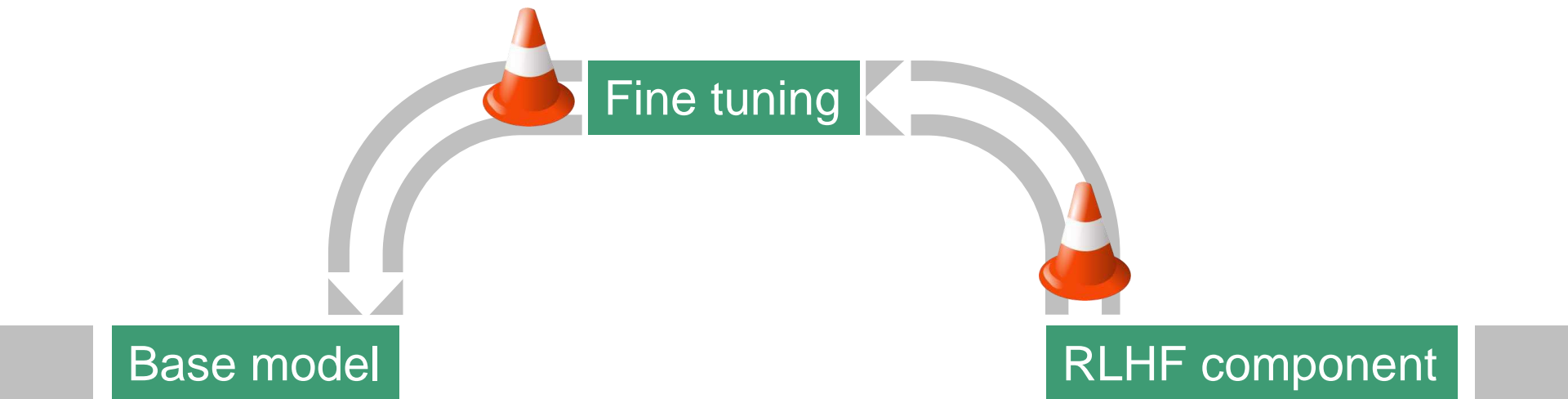




- Current AI systems are complex and multi-part



- Current AI systems are complex and multi-part — how to reverse engineer?
- Downstream elements can **obstruct** access to earlier parts



- Current AI systems are complex and multi-part — how to reverse engineer?
- Downstream elements can **obstruct** access to earlier parts (“roadblocks”)
- True openness only possible if intermediate steps **documented & opened up**
- Supply source at each roadblock to preserve reverse engineerability

Conclusions

Our approach

- Isolate most relevant dimensions of openness (relative to system)
- Provide evidence-based judgements of openness on those
- All work done out in the open: opening-up-chatgpt.io

Towards a definition of “open” AI systems

- For any genAI system, openness will be composite & graded
- *No one-size fits all solution*: domain knowledge needed to identify relevant dimensions
- Preserve the spirit of reverse engineerability

