



How Technocrats Dabble: Killer AI Invented 40,000 'Lethal Chemical Weapons' In Just Six Hours

Description

Scientists with legitimate concern for people and humanity are rightly terrified by the outcome of this experiment. Technocrats not so much. In the wrong hands, the power of AI could be used to destroy all life on earth. The development of the atomic bomb pales in comparison. ? TN Editor

Artificial intelligence was used to 'easily' invent 40,000 new possible chemical weapons in just six hours.

This is according to researchers who turned a drug-developing AI into a "bad actor" to see how it could be abused to create evil arms.

Scientists revealed how easy it was to tweak the AI so it became a toxic tool.

The AI was said to come up with possible chemical weapons similar to one of the most dangerous nerve agents of all time.

That dangerous substance is called VX.

VX is a tasteless and odorless nerve agent and even the smallest drop can cause a human to sweat and twitch.

A larger dose can cause convulsions and can even stop a person from breathing completely.

The scientists were told to withhold the specific details on how they managed to turn good-acting AI into an evil version.

Fabio Urbina, the lead author of the paper, told [The Verge](#): "Broadly, the way it works for this experiment is that we have a lot of datasets historically of molecules that have been tested to see whether they're toxic or not."

“In particular, the one that we focus on here is VX. It is an inhibitor of what’s known as acetylcholinesterase.

“Whenever you do anything muscle-related, your neurons use acetylcholinesterase as a signal to basically say “go move your muscles.”

“The way VX is lethal is it actually stops your diaphragm, your lung muscles, from being able to move so your lungs become paralyzed.”

He went on to explain that his team took the data usually given to AI to see if something is toxic and changed how the AI processed it.

Urbina told The Verge: “We weren’t really sure what we were going to get. Our generative models are fairly new technologies.

“So we haven’t widely used them a lot.

“The biggest thing that jumped out at first was that a lot of the generated compounds were predicted to be actually more toxic than VX.

“And the reason that’s surprising is because VX is basically one of the most potent compounds known. Meaning you need a very, very, very little amount of it to be lethal.”

The scientists were mostly shocked about how easy they found the experiment was to conduct.

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Posted By: Charlotte Edwards via The Sun (UK)

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