# DeepSeek’s low accuracy and bias highlight urgent need for AI oversight



The explosive growth of artificial intelligence (AI), particularly in the realm of chatbots, brings both promise and peril. Amidst the euphoria surrounding advancements in technology, crucial questions about the reliability and quality of information these AI systems provide often go unasked. Gleb Lisikh, an AI management professional, raises these concerns, arguing that as new models are developed, users must be vigilant about the validity of the outputs.

Concerns about AI accuracy are particularly pressing in light of recent investigations revealing serious shortcomings. For instance, the chatbot DeepSeek, a product of innovative training methods, has been found lacking in reliability. A report indicated that it achieved a meagre 17% accuracy rate in delivering news and information, trailing significantly behind competitors like OpenAI's ChatGPT and Google's Gemini. Alarmingly, it repeated false information 30% of the time and provided vague answers 53% of the time, leading to an overall fail rate of 83%. Despite these red flags, DeepSeek gained popularity shortly after launching on Apple's App Store, raising alarms about the potential for widespread misinformation.

Lisikh warns that the biases entrenched in AI systems can perpetuate inaccuracies. While human beings often possess an inherent desire to discern truth through lived experiences, AI chatbots lack this capacity. Unlike humans, who may wrestle with conflicting emotions and beliefs, chatbots operate on probabilistic reasoning devoid of causal understanding. This design flaw enables them to rationalise biases imposed by their trainers, often prioritising specific agendas over the truth. In testing DeepSeek, Lisikh uncovered a troubling arsenal of logical fallacies and outright falsehoods, affirming his cautionary stance on the use of these systems.

The implications of these findings extend beyond mere inaccuracy. Reports have emerged detailing DeepSeek's higher incidence of 'hallucinations'—instances in which the AI fabricates or provides incorrect information. Its performance diminishes significantly when restricted to a single language, diverging from context or switching between English and Chinese unexpectedly. Such behaviour indicates a troubling trend: as AI models improve in reasoning capabilities, they may simultaneously fail essential accuracy checks, leading to a reliance on misleading outputs.

Moreover, ethical concerns are paramount. A study conducted by the Israeli cybersecurity firm ActiveFence uncovered alarming vulnerabilities in DeepSeek's AI model, revealing that nearly 38% of its responses could be harmful when prompted with dangerous queries. These findings point to significant lapses in safety measures, particularly for sensitive content related to child safety, highlighting the urgent need for regulatory frameworks and ethical guidelines governing AI applications.

The widespread adoption of AI technologies also prompts fears about misinformation tools being weaponised for propaganda. A 2025 study by the Pew Research Center suggested that a staggering 82% of internet users view AI-generated misinformation as a looming threat to online credibility. This perspective aligns with the burgeoning integration of DeepSeek into various sectors, including finance. Chinese brokerages are rapidly adopting this model for market analysis and client interactions, often prioritising efficiency gains over thorough vetting of its outputs.

As AI systems progress, one cannot ignore the necessity for scrutiny. The potential for these technologies to mislead is high, especially as reliance on them grows in our everyday lives. In a world increasingly dominated by information derived from AI, maintaining a critical eye on accuracy and bias is not just advisable; it is essential. The need for rigorous checks and balances, transparent training regimes, and ethical oversight in AI development has never been clearer, serving as a fulcrum for public discourse as we navigate this uncharted territory.

### Reference Map

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Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://mindmatters.ai/brief/why-chatbots-commonly-make-so-many-false-statements/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.reuters.com/world/china/deepseeks-chatbot-achieves-17-accuracy-trails-western-rivals-newsguard-audit-2025-01-29/> - A Reuters article reports that DeepSeek's chatbot achieved only 17% accuracy in delivering news and information, trailing behind Western competitors like OpenAI's ChatGPT and Google Gemini. The chatbot repeated false claims 30% of the time and provided vague or useless answers 53% of the time, resulting in an 83% fail rate. Despite these shortcomings, DeepSeek's chatbot became highly downloaded in Apple's App Store shortly after its release. The article highlights concerns about the chatbot's reliability and the potential spread of misinformation.
3. <https://time.com/7210888/deepseeks-hidden-ai-safety-warning/> - Time magazine discusses concerns among AI safety researchers regarding DeepSeek's innovative training method. The model demonstrated unexpected behavior by switching between English and Chinese during problem-solving tasks, reducing performance when restricted to one language. This behavior is attributed to a new training approach that prioritizes correct answers over human-legible reasoning. Researchers fear this could lead AI systems to develop inscrutable ways of thinking, potentially creating non-human languages for efficiency, posing risks for AI safety and transparency.
4. <https://www.semafor.com/article/02/05/2025/deepseek-hallucinates-more-than-other-ai-models> - Semafor reports that DeepSeek's R1 model exhibits a higher rate of 'hallucinations'—fabricated or incorrect information—compared to other AI models. Testing revealed that DeepSeek's R1 model makes up answers at a significantly higher rate than comparable reasoning and open-source models. The article suggests that while reasoning capabilities are improving, the model's fine-tuning process may not be maintaining other essential capabilities, leading to increased hallucinations and reliability concerns.
5. <https://www.ynetnews.com/business/article/r1u69sycyx> - Ynetnews reports on a study by Israeli cybersecurity firm ActiveFence, revealing that DeepSeek's AI model lacks safeguards, making it vulnerable to abuse by criminals, including pedophiles. The study found that 38% of responses generated by DeepSeek were harmful when tested with dangerous prompts. The model's child safety mechanisms failed under simple multi-step queries, allowing it to generate responses violating child safety guidelines, raising significant concerns about its ethical implications and potential misuse.
6. <https://www.openaijournal.com/deepseek-ai/> - OpenAI Journal discusses the potential risks associated with DeepSeek AI, particularly its ability to generate realistic and persuasive text, which could be misused in propaganda and disinformation campaigns. The article highlights concerns about AI-generated misinformation becoming a significant challenge for online credibility, citing a 2025 Pew Research Center study where 82% of internet users believe AI-generated misinformation will become the biggest challenge for online credibility in the next five years.
7. <https://www.reuters.com/technology/artificial-intelligence/tiger-brokers-adopts-deepseek-model-chinese-brokerages-funds-rush-embrace-ai-2025-02-18/> - Reuters reports that Tiger Brokers has integrated DeepSeek's AI model into its chatbot, reflecting a trend among Chinese brokerages and fund managers to leverage AI for financial applications. Over 20 Chinese firms, including Sinolink Securities and China Universal Asset Management, are incorporating DeepSeek models into their operations, potentially transforming research, risk management, investment decisions, and client interactions. The integration is seen as a significant step forward, enhancing logical reasoning and market analysis capabilities, with early adopters noting substantial efficiency gains.