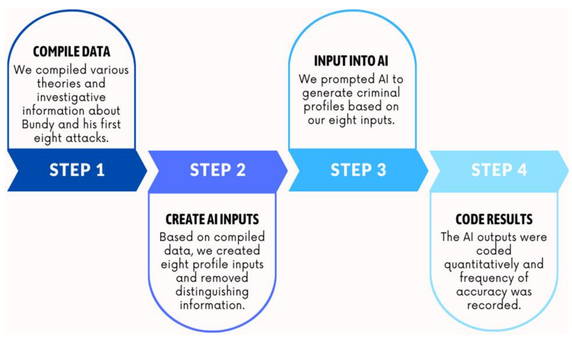
AI and Ted Bundy:
Exploring Artificial Intelligence usage in criminal profiling

PRESENTER:
Abigail Mor
amor@terpmail.umd.edu

BACKGROUND: We have seen a meteoric rise in Artificial Intelligence (AI) creation and usage; yet little attention has been paid to using AI for societal benefits. To leverage AI in new ways, this study focused on integrating AI in criminal profiling. We assessed the accuracy of AI-generated profiles by modifying well-documented criminal cases with a known, and convicted, perpetrator to compare to published perpetrator data created by (human) experts.

METHODS

Using profiling inputs from the crimes of infamous serial killer Theodore 'Ted' Bundy, we prompted ChatGPT 3.5 to create profiles for the first eight attacks Bundy committed and compared the accuracy of the outputs to the known information.



RESULTS

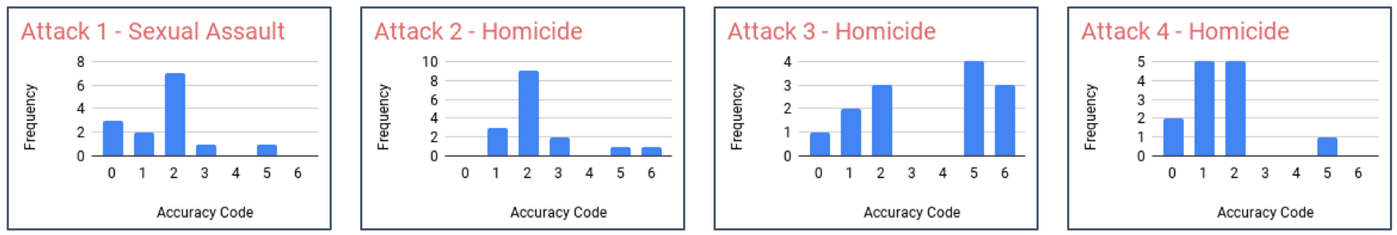
- AI creates vague but detailed, and fairly accurate, profiles compared to known information from cases.
- Can find patterns between crimes .
- However, we used specific prompts and the prompt type impacted accuracy.

FUTURE RESEARCH

- Compare AI-generated profiles with human-generated profiles.
- Explore paid versions of AI that might reveal further capabilities which might be useful in law enforcement, where costs of using AI may be nominal, especially in relation to the savings of lives and manpower hours.

ChatGPT can generate fairly accurate criminal profiles with a mix of generality and specificity, and could be a valuable investigative tool, **potentially saving time and lives.**

FREQUENCY OF ACCURACY CODES FOR AI OUTPUTS COMPARED TO KNOWN DATA OF FIRST EIGHT ATTACKS:



Code:
0 = False/Inaccurate
1 = Vague but accurate
2 = Accurate
3 = Unconfirmed but consistent with prior investigative theory
4 = Novel theory
5 = Mentioned but ChatGPT does not provide information
6 = Unconfirmed

Scan to view the full OSF project page: AI prompts; full outputs; poster, etc.

OPEN DATA

OPEN MATERIALS

EXEMPLAR QUOTES FOR CODE

0 = "Potentially Disorganized Behavior: the suspect's decision to carry out the assault in the victim's home suggests a level of impulsivity or disorganization."

1 = "Age Range: The suspect's age range is likely ranging from late teens to middle-aged."

2 = "Motive: sexual assault, with the intent to cause serious harm or kill the victim, and possible that the suspect derived pleasure from inflicting pain and suffering."

3 = "Potential Familiarity with Victim: Suspect may have had some level of familiarity with LH's routine or living situation, as they were able to break into her basement room."

4 = "Variety of Disappearance Circumstances: Variability in circumstances may indicate the suspect(s) are adaptable in their methods."

5 = "Hair Color: No information is provided about the suspect's hair color."

6 = "Preparation and Planning: The suspect showed some degree of planning by breaking into LH's basement room and taking her away from the scene. The dressing of LH in different clothes suggests a level of premeditation."

Abigail Mor, Dr. Tracy Tomlinson, Molly Ellenberg.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND 18 56

Department of PSYCHOLOGY