

Press Release

Lisbon, June 17, 2025

First multi-model, multi-heteronym chatbot for the Portuguese language

Did you already meet Evaristo.ai?

The first chatbot for the Portuguese language that is based on open AI is now available at https://evaristo.ai. It is also the first chatbot for Portuguese that is multi-model and multi-heteronym, as well as being agentic, multi-extension and multi-modal.

Evaristo.ai is multi-model because users can, on each occasion, **choose the model** (LLM) on which to base their chatbot, from a jukebox of models. It is multi-heteronym because, being able to freely write the system prompt, users can **redesign the** *persona* they want this chatbot to take on each occasion.

It is therefore an **open AI platform for the Portuguese language**. It allows the use, testing and comparison of different Large Language Models (LLMs) for the Portuguese language that are widely open, in terms of code, licence and distribution, making it possible to exploit the advantages and avoid the disadvantages of each one.

In addition, Evaristo.ai does not track its users or pass on their content to third parties, **safeguarding users' privacy and ownership of their content**. It does not rely on the intermediation, resale or adaptation of third-party chatbots or generative AI services from third-party companies or organisations, nor does it commercially exploit user data

The current open LLMs available are typically between 10 to 100 times smaller than the high-end closed LLMs used in commercial chatbots, so the costs associated with training and operating them are much lower. The performance of open LLMs, however, is much more satisfactory than this linear disproportion would suggest. They therefore offer an excellent performance versus cost ratio and are a viable option for fully autonomous generative AI services focussed on specific use cases.

"This is a decisive milestone in the democratisation of generative technology, through open AI, by encouraging more and more entities to move forward with their own AI services, rooted in their own computers, and focused on their concrete use cases. It is an important milestone in promoting linguistic and cultural sovereignty," says António Branco, coordinator of the Evaristo.ai team and professor in the Department of Computer Science at the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lisbon.

A nod to one of the most emblematic characters in Portuguese cinema, Evaristo.ai was conceived at the Faculty of Sciences in Lisbon. It was developed by NLX - Speech and Natural Language Group and its spinoff <u>OUSAR.AI</u>, with the same pioneering team that created the first open LLMs specifically for the Portuguese language, the Albertina (encoders), Serafim (embedders) and Gervásio (decoders) models, which can now also be activated from the jukebox. Inaugurated on the occasion of the Summer solstice Santos Populares national festivities, which happens to be the setting of Evaristo's film 'The Courtyard of Ballads', this chatbot is made available by <u>PORTULAN CLARIN - Research Infrastructure for Language Science and Technology</u>. More information in the <u>online presentation</u>.

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