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I think it's non-obvious to many people that the OpenAI voice mode runs on a much older, much weaker model - it feels like the AI that you can talk to should be the smartest AI but it really isn't.

If you ask ChatGPT voice mode for its knowledge cutoff date it tells you April 2024 - it's a GPT-4o era model.

(Thought inspired by [this Karpathy tweet](#) about the growing gap in understanding of AI capability based on the access points and domains people are using the models with.)

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Posted [10th April 2026](#) at 3:56 pm

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This is a **note** by Simon Willison, posted on [10th April 2026](#).

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