Uluslararası İleri Doğa Bilimleri ve Mühendislik Araştırmaları Dergisi
Sayı 8, S. 51-57, 2, 2024

Araştırma Makalesi

International Journal of Advanced Natural Sciences and Engineering Researches
Volume 8, pp. 51-57, 2, 2024

Research Article

https://as-proceeding.com/index.php/ijanser
ISSN: 2980-0811

Pros and Cons of Artificial Intelligence in Education

Blerta Abazi Chaushi*, Florije Ismaili[2] and Agron Chaushi[3]

[1]*Faculty of Business and Economics, SEE-University, North Macedonia*
[2]*Faculty of Contemporary Sciences and Technologies, SEE-University, North Macedonia*
[3]*Faculty of Business and Economics, SEE-University, North Macedonia*

Email of corresponding author: b.abazi@seeu.edu.mk

(Received: 01 March 2024, Accepted: 08 March 2024)

(4th International Artificial Intelligence and Data Science Congress ICADA 2024, March 14-15, 2024)

ATIF/REFERENCE: Chaushi, B. A., Ismaili, F. & Chaushi, A. (2024). Pros and Cons of Artificial Intelligence in Education. *International Journal of Advanced Natural Sciences and Engineering Researches, 8(2), 51-57.*

Abstract – This study explores the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in education, examining the possible advantages, challenges, and investments in this field as well as the upcoming trends. The analysis highlights how AI personalizes education, streamlines processes, and enhances accessibility with the use of the diverse AI applications, encompassing intelligent tutoring systems, adaptive learning platforms, and automated grading tools. While acknowledging ethical concerns related to data privacy and potential biases, the paper underscores the necessity of responsible development and ethical considerations for the effective integration of AI in education. The conclusion depicts the future trends, including AI-enhanced personalization, integration of VR/AR, ethical AI education, and AI-driven learning analytics, along with their potential impact on educational transformation.

Keywords – Artificial Intelligence, Education, Personalized Learning, Educational Technology, Ai Ethics

I. INTRODUCTION

In the rapidly evolving landscape of education, the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative force, reshaping traditional paradigms, and offering novel opportunities for personalized and efficient learning experiences. As educational institutions strive to meet the diverse needs of learners, AI technologies present innovative solutions to enhance adaptability, engagement, and student success [1]. This review aims to provide a brief examination of key applications of AI in education, shedding light on its potential benefits, challenges, and future implications.

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in education involves a wide range of technologies, such as gamification techniques to increase student engagement, predictive analytics to provide insights for timely interventions, adaptive learning systems that customize content to each student's needs, intelligent tutoring systems that offer personalized guidance, and natural language processing that facilitates language learning and automated assessment [2]. By exploring these applications, we aim to navigate the current landscape of AI in education.

The complex relationship between artificial intelligence (AI) and education necessitates careful consideration of the ethical implications, potential biases, and wider societal ramifications of these technical breakthroughs. In this study we focus of providing a glimpse of the advantages and disadvantages of AI in education, as well as the current landscape in terms of investments and expected growth of AI in education.

At the end of this study, we expect to have shed light on the state of AI in education today and add to the conversation about how to successfully incorporate it into a range of learning environments.

II. AI'S HISTORY AND ITS USE IN EDUCATION

Artificial intelligence (AI) has long been used in the field of education. Meacham's study indicates that people began to try to replicate human thought processes as early as 1763, when Thomas Bayes developed Bayesian reasoning [3]. The next invention, "the analytical engine," was created by Charles Babbage to perform mathematical computations, and it came about more than seven decades later. The term artificial intelligence (AI) was first used in a scientific meeting in Hanover, New Hampshire, in 1955. Early studies on artificial intelligence (AI) in the 1980s looked at its potential for speech recognition, computer vision, and natural language processing (NLP). With the development of common foundational technologies in the 1990s, the path was set for the initiation of the second phase and more advanced AI applications in education. Subsequent research has been ongoing since the 2000s, when machine learning and deep learning algorithms were used and led to an increase in the use of AI in education. These days, artificial intelligence (AI) is widely acknowledged as a major driver of educational innovation and transformation. AI has the ability to increase learning outcomes, increase access to education, and enhance the general quality and effectiveness of educational systems.

A. Artificial Intelligence in Education Research

Early AI research aimed to develop adaptive learning platforms and intelligent tutoring systems providing personalized feedback to students based on their needs and performance. The 1970s saw the creation of the Intelligent Tutoring System (ITS) at the University of Illinois, using a rule-based expert system for subjects like algebra and computer programming. In subsequent decades, the Cognitive Tutor and ALEKS systems used machine learning algorithms to tailor education to individual learning preferences[4], [5].

In the 2000s, the use of machine learning and deep learning in education expanded to include chatbots, virtual assistants, personalized learning, and automated grading systems. Khan Academy employs machine learning to customize content, while platforms like Coursera and Udacity use AI for automated grading, reducing teacher workloads and improving accuracy[6].

B. Artificial Intelligence in Education Developments

The evolution of modern technologies in the classroom has traversed a significant timeline. Beginning in 1895 with Guglielmo Marconi's invention of the wireless telegraph, the integration of technology into education experienced key milestones. The 1920s witnessed the introduction of radio into classrooms, causing controversy with on-air classes. In 1927, electronic television debuted in San Francisco. While the 1950s saw artificial intelligence as a theoretical concept, it wasn't until 1954 that the first AI program, "The Logic Theorist," was written. The 1960s brought PLATO, an early form of computer-assisted teaching. The 1980s marked the development of Intelligent Computer-Assisted Instruction (ICAI) systems. In the 1990s, Intelligent Tutoring Systems (ITS) aimed to replicate the role of teachers, and Learning Management Systems (LMS) gained popularity. The 2000s saw the emergence of the next generation of LMS, including Moodle in 2002. The landscape continued to evolve with the coining of the term MOOCs in 2008 and the founding of LearnWorlds in 2014. In 2022, ChatGPT's release marked a new era in education technology, and by 2023, the educational landscape was poised for further transformation driven by artificial intelligence [7].

The increasing demand for AI in education is fueled by growing investments in AI and EdTech from both public and private sectors, as well as the rising popularity of edutainment. According to the International Data Corporation (IDC) Worldwide Artificial Intelligence Spending Guide, global spending on AI, encompassing software, hardware, and services, is anticipated to reach $154 billion in 2023, marking a 26.9% increase from the previous year [8]. The global AI in education market, valued at $2.75 billion in 2023, is expected to exhibit a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 36.0% from 2022 to 2030, as per Grand View Research (2021)[9].

III. CURRENT STATE OF AI ADOPTION IN EDUCATION AND THE CHALLENGES

The use of artificial intelligence in education varies greatly depending on the setting and level of education. The widespread integration of AI in higher education has facilitated the delivery of massive open online courses (MOOCs) through platforms like Coursera, Udacity, and edX [10]. In addition to enhancing student engagement and retention, AI-powered systems are employed for predictive analytics and early warning systems to identify students at risk of dropping out or falling behind [11]. Conversely, AI's use in K–12 education is in its early stages, primarily focusing on personalized learning and adaptive assessment.

Concerns exist regarding these systems' efficacy and scalability as well as possible unforeseen outcomes including bias reinforcement and decreased human interaction[12]. However, AI in education also has positive effects by bringing personalized learning, tailoring content to individual needs, enhancing efficiency by automating tasks, and introducing innovative teaching methods for dynamic and engaging learning experiences. Figure 1 below depicts some of the pros and cons of using AI in education.

Figure 1: Advantages and Disadvantages of using AI in education
Source: Authors own work

A. *Pros of AI in education*

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education offers substantial benefits, transforming traditional teaching approaches and enhancing the overall learning experience. Personalized learning, a key advantage of AI in education, allows tailored content delivery based on individual student needs and learning preferences. This approach fosters a more effective and engaging learning environment by accommodating diverse learning styles and pacing[1].

Moreover, AI significantly improves efficiency in education by automating routine tasks. Automated grading systems, administrative processes, and data analysis contribute to time savings for educators, enabling them to focus more on personalized instruction and student support [13]. This increased efficiency not only streamlines the teaching process but also allows educators to provide more targeted and timely feedback to students.

Innovative teaching methods powered by AI represent another noteworthy advantage. AI-driven tools introduce dynamic and interactive approaches to education, such as virtual simulations, adaptive learning platforms, and intelligent tutoring systems [6]. These methods enhance student engagement, encourage critical thinking, and create a more adaptive and responsive learning environment [13].

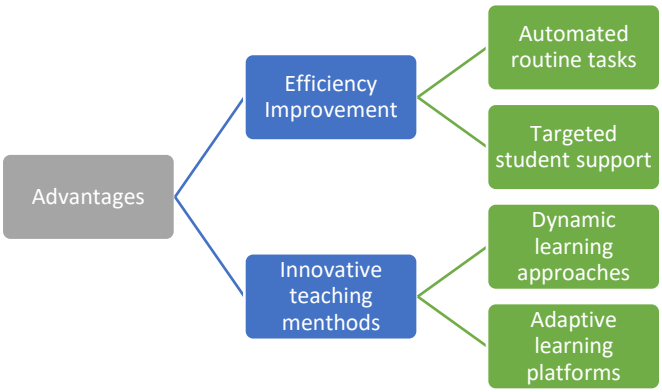

Figure 2: Advantages of AI use in Education
Source: Authors own work

B. *Cons of AI in education*

Implementing AI in education presents various challenges, including technical issues like data security and privacy, as well as ethical concerns such as algorithmic bias and human-AI interactions. Many AI systems lack transparency, making it challenging for teachers and students to understand decision-making processes, potentially eroding trust in technology. Moreover, professions like assessment and grading still require human expertise, necessitating ongoing human oversight in AI-powered educational systems. Responsible and ethical AI use in education demands collaboration among educators, policymakers, researchers, and students (Kizilcec et al., 2017)[10], [11], [12], [14].

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in education is anticipated to rise, driven by technological advancements and the demand for adaptable and personalized learning[15]. Further research and evaluation are crucial to understanding the impact of AI-powered educational systems on learning outcomes and student engagement [16]. Ultimately, AI should enhance, not replace, human intelligence in the educational landscape [17].

There are certain disadvantages to using artificial intelligence (AI) in the educational setting. Ethical concerns loom large, encompassing issues such as data privacy, algorithmic bias, and the potential for unintended consequences in decision-making processes. The growing reliance on AI in education also raises apprehensions about the loss of human interaction, as personalized learning experiences driven by algorithms may diminish the crucial teacher-student and peer interactions that contribute to holistic learning [18]. Moreover, the increasing dependence on technology poses a risk of exacerbating educational inequalities and potentially leaving students ill-prepared to navigate a world that demands a balance between digital and interpersonal skills. These concerns underscore the importance of approaching AI integration in education with a thoughtful and ethical framework, ensuring that technology complements rather than replaces the essential human aspects of the learning experience [19].

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in education presents both advantages and challenges. On the positive side, AI can enhance personalized learning experiences, providing tailored content to individual needs and learning styles. However, ethical concerns loom large, particularly in the realms of data privacy and the potential for biases in AI algorithms, raising questions about fairness in educational outcomes. Additionally, the growing reliance on AI may lead to a loss of human interaction, impacting the development of crucial social skills among students. Furthermore, there is a concern about dependence on technology, with the risk of overreliance potentially hindering the cultivation of a balanced skill set that encompasses both digital proficiency and interpersonal abilities. Striking a balance between the advantages and ethical considerations is crucial for responsible and effective integration of AI in education.

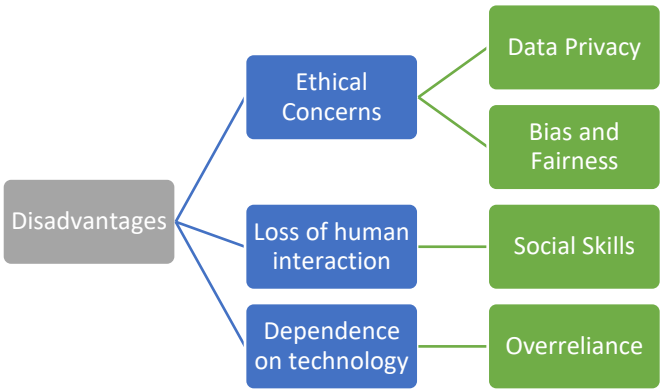

Figure 3: Disadvantages of AI use in education
Source: Authors own work

C. *Current landscape of AI in education*

Investment in AI for education is booming, with the global market projected to reach over $20 billion by 2027 [20]. This surge is driven by the potential of AI to personalize learning, automate administrative tasks, and improve accessibility. We see deployment in various forms, from intelligent tutoring systems that adapt to individual students' needs to automated grading and feedback tools. While these advancements hold promise for enhancing educational outcomes, ensuring responsible development and ethical considerations remain crucial aspects of navigating this evolving landscape.

The global AI in education market is expected to grow from USD 3.79 Billion in 2022 to USD 20.54 Billion in 2027, with a CAGR of 45.6%. This surge is fueled by heightened investments in AI technology, led by digital-native leaders like Google, Microsoft, and Facebook. These tech giants are directing billions towards AI applications, contributing to the market's rapid expansion. The demand for AI in education is also driven by increased investments in AI and EdTech by both public and commercial sectors, alongside rising acceptance of edutainment. The COVID-19 impact has further accelerated the need for innovative AI-based teaching solutions, with 51% of American professors expressing greater optimism about online education in a 2021 poll by the University Professional and Continuing Education Association [20]. Figure 4 below shows projections of AI in education market, which show similar growth anticipated as Global Market estimates.

Figure 4: AI in Education Market Size 2023-2031 in billions USD
Source: www.visionresearchreports.com

IV. Future Trends and Implications

It looks like a new era of opportunities and challenges for Artificial Intelligence (AI) integration in education will bring about some major achievements. Future-focused trends are emerging that could influence how education is structured.

A. *Trends*

In the future of education, four key trends in AI are set to reshape learning. Firstly, AI-Enhanced Personalization, anticipates a surge in tailored education experiences [21]. Learning platforms will adeptly

customize content, pacing, and assessments for individual needs, fostering truly personalized learning. Secondly, the Expanded Integration of Virtual and Augmented Reality, envisions immersive learning experiences through AI-driven VR/AR technologies, offering hands-on learning in a digital space [22]. Thirdly, Ethical AI Education, underscores the need for educators and students to understand ethical considerations related to AI, including bias and privacy, as well as integrating this knowledge into curricula for responsible AI use [19]. Lastly, AI-Enabled Learning Analytics allows for AI deepening its integration into learning analytics for sophisticated data analysis. This includes not only predicting student performance but also providing actionable insights to customize interventions and support, enhancing overall student success [23]. Table 1 below shows the expectations of future developments for each of the four key trends in Ai education.

Table 1. Trends in AI use in Education

Trend	Expectations
AI-Enhanced Personalization	AI algorithms, evolving in understanding individual learning styles, will drive a surge in tailored education experiences, customizing content for truly personalized learning
Expanded Integration of VR/AR	The convergence of AI with Virtual and Augmented Reality promises immersive learning experiences, from virtual field trips to simulated laboratories, transcending traditional classroom constraints
Ethical AI Education	There's a growing need for ethical AI education, requiring educators and students to understand and integrate ethical considerations, such as bias and privacy, into curricula
AI-Enabled Learning Analytics	Deeper integration of AI into learning analytics, enabling sophisticated data analysis. AI algorithms not only predict student performance but also provide actionable insights for customized interventions, enhancing overall student success

Source: Authors own work

B. Implications

There are noteworthy implications for education as AI trends in the field develop. On the positive side, the enhanced personalization facilitated by AI can lead to improved student engagement, retention, and academic achievement. However, it is imperative to address potential challenges, such as the ethical considerations associated with AI, the digital divide, and the need for continuous professional development for educators to navigate the evolving technological landscape [12].

The future of AI in education holds promise for transformative advancements. Navigating this future effectively requires a proactive approach in addressing ethical considerations, promoting accessibility, and ensuring that educators are equipped with the skills to harness the full potential of AI for the benefit of all learners.

V. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, while AI integration in education presents both exciting opportunities and significant challenges, its potential to personalize learning, enhance accessibility, and drive innovation necessitates responsible development and ethical considerations. By addressing concerns around data privacy, algorithmic bias, and the human element in education, we can harness the power of AI to create a future where technology empowers educators and fosters a more engaging, effective, and equitable learning experience for all.

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