Al Awareness & Perception Among Youth in Academia



Baranaba Mudanyi Mugabane Hakeem Farouk Alavi Mohsen Hassan Nejad



Exploring the Attitudes and Perspectives of Students on Al

Main Objective:

- A. Analyze the main variables influencing AI awareness and perception using statistical methods and visualization techniques.
- B. Explore possible relationships between the variables.

WHY?

Al is eating the world

- More and more students are interacting with AI.
- Relying on AI poses risks like diminished autonomy, reduced critical thinking, and cognitive dependency,
- Insights on AI Awareness & Perception can guide and support education to mitigate these risks.
- As AISS students; understanding how people think and feel about AI is crucial for designing solutions that align with societal needs and values.

HOW?

The Magic of Data Science!

Focus

- Al knowledge
- Emotional responses
- Sources of information
- Perceived usefulness of Al
- Students' attitudes toward AI (e.g., trust, curiosity, fear)
- Demographic factors (e.g., gender, major)

Methods

- Pre Examining the data
- Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)
- Correlation analysis
- Statistical methods
- K-means clustering

OUR TEAM WORK

Makes the Dream Work

Weekly Meetings:

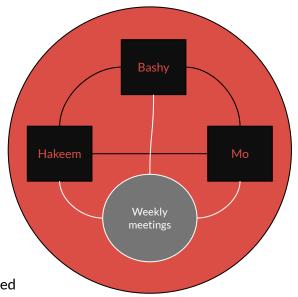
• Coordination, direction-setting, and approach alignment.

Work Process:

 Each member worked on tasks independently, shared results, and selected the best outcomes during meetings.

Collaboration at the Start:

 Jointly reviewed dataset features to align with project objectives and select key variables for analysis.



THE DATA

Dataset Preparation

Source: Dataset sourced from Kaggle, survey-based, well-structured.

Initial Checks:

- 91 entries and 15 variables
- Verified no missing values, duplicates, or outliers using Python.

Minor Adjustments Made:

- Set "ID" as the index and renamed it to "Student_ID" for clarity.
- Retained original variable names despite minor inconvenience.

Outcome: Dataset required minimal preparation and was ready for analysis.

THE DATA

Data Dictionary

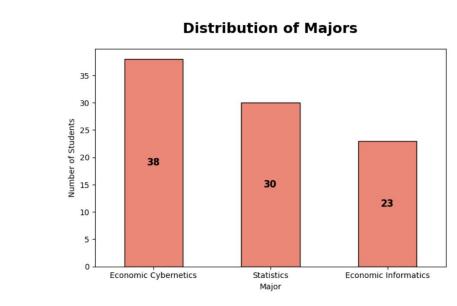
- Q1_AI_knowledge: On a scale of 1 to 10, how informed do you think you are about the concept of artificial intelligence?
 - 1: Not informed at all
 - 10: Extremely informed
- Q2.AI_sources: What sources do you use to learn about the concept of artificial intelligence? (1-Yes, 0-No):
 - o 1: Internet
 - 2: Books/Scientific papers
 - 3: Social media
 - 4: Discussions with family/friends
 - 5: I don't inform myself about AI
- Q3: Perceptions of AI (Agreement Scale):
 - Q3#1.Al_dehumanization: Al encourages dehumanization.
 - Q3#2.Job_replacement: Robots will replace people at work.
 - Q3#3.Societal_benefits: AI helps solve problems in society (e.g., education, medicine).
 - Q3#4.Al_rule_society: Al will rule society.

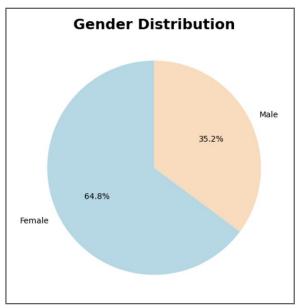
THE DATA

Data Dictionary

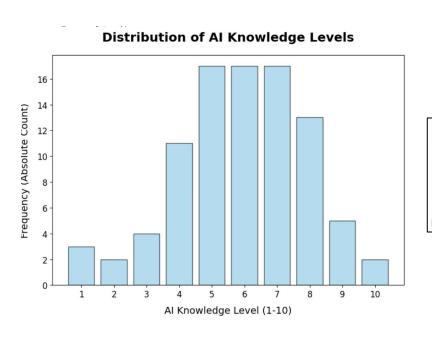
- Q5.Feelings: Emotional response to Al:
 - 1: Curiosity
 - 2: Fear
 - 3: Indifference
 - 4: Trust
- Q6.Al_impact_areas: In which areas do you think Al would have a big impact?
 - o 1: Education
 - 2: Medicine
 - 3: Agriculture
 - 4: Constructions
 - 5: Marketing
 - 6: Public administration
 - o **7**: Art
- Q7.Utility_grade: On a scale of 1 to 10, how useful do you think AI would be in the educational process?
 - o 1: Not useful at all
 - o **10**: Extremely useful
- Q12.Gender: Respondent gender:
 - 1: Female
 - o **2**: Male

Q12 & Q14: Basic Demographics





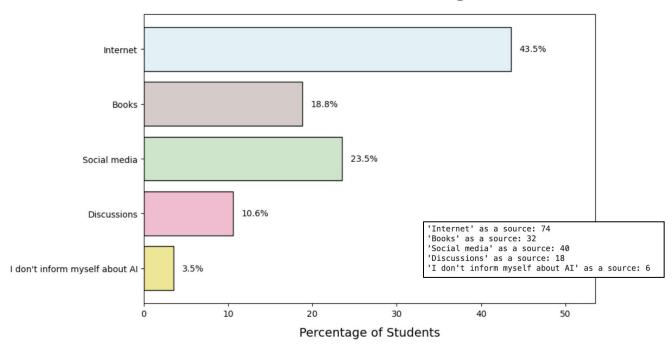
Q1: Al Knowledge Among Students



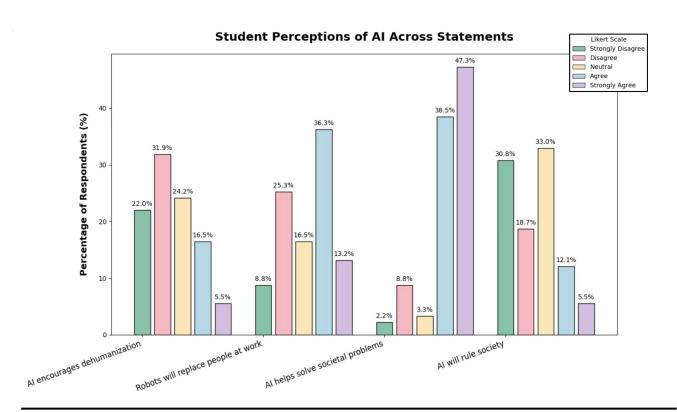
count	91.000000		
mean	5.912088		
std	1.970044		
min	1.000000		
25%	5.000000		
50%	6.000000		
75%	7.000000		
max	10.000000		
Name:	Q1.AI_knowledge,	dtype:	float64

Q2: Sources Of Knowledge For Students

Al Information Sources - Percentage Breakdown



Q3: Perception Of AI Among Students

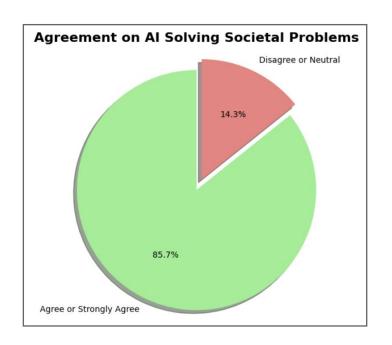


Q3: Perception Of AI Among Students

Q3: Perceptions of AI (% of Respondents)

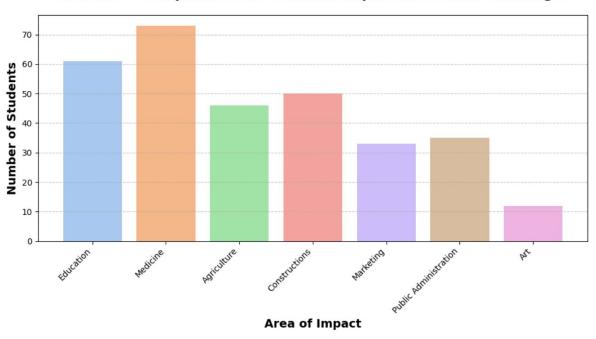


Q3: Perception Of AI Among Students



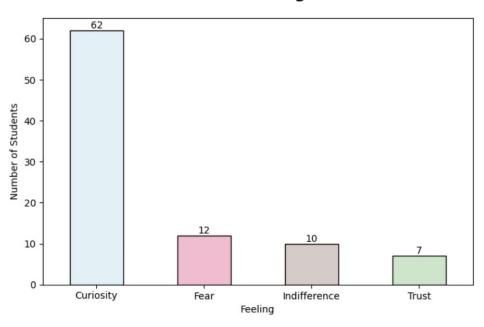
Q3: Perception Of AI Among Students

Students' Perception of Al's Potential Impact on Societal Challenges



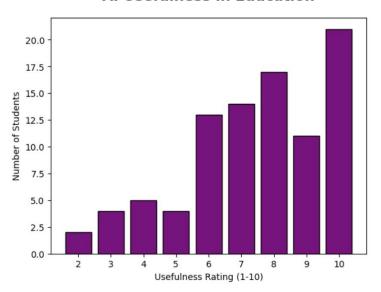
Q5: Sentiment Towards AI Among Students

Distribution of Feelings Toward AI



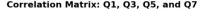
Q7: How Useful Do Students find AI in education?

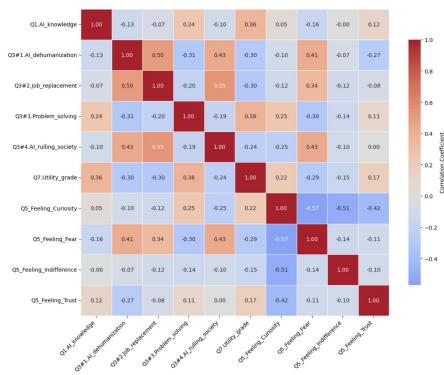
Al Usefulness in Education



count	91.000000			
mean	7.439560			
std	2.161321			
min	2.000000			
25%	6.000000			
50%	8.000000			
75%	9.000000			
max	10.000000			
Name:	Q7.Utility_grade,	dtype:	float64	

Correlation Matrix: Q1, Q3, Q5, and Q7





Al Knowledge Scores (Q1) - Source of Information (Q2)

Q1.AI_knowledge

Q2.AI_sources

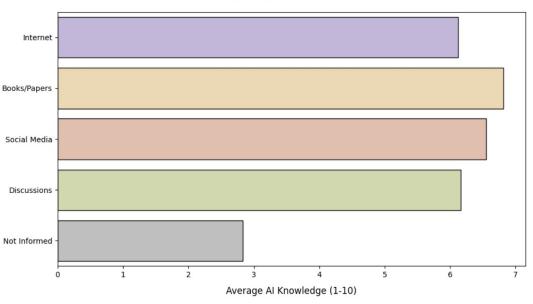
Books/Scientific papers (physical/online format)	7.000000
Books/Scientific papers (physical/online format);Social media;Discussions with family/friends	7.000000
Discussions with family/friends	2.000000
I don't inform myself about AI	2.833333
Internet	5.280000
Internet;Books/Scientific papers (physical/online format)	6.800000
Internet;Books/Scientific papers (physical/online format);Discussions with family/friends	6.500000
Internet;Books/Scientific papers (physical/online format);Social media	6.666667
Internet;Books/Scientific papers (physical/online format);Social media;Discussions with family/friends	7.000000
Internet; Discussions with family/friends	4.500000
Internet;Social media	6.500000
Internet;Social media;Discussions with family/friends	6.428571
Social media	6.000000

dtype: float64

CORRELATIONS

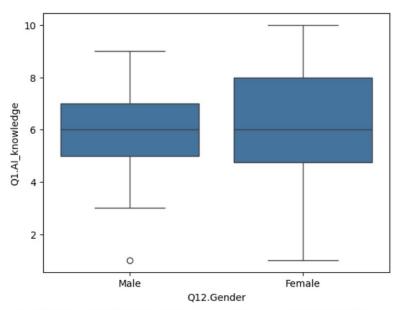
Al Knowledge Scores (Q1) – Source of Information (Q2)

Al Knowledge by Source of Information



Al Knowledge (Q1) by Gender (Q12) and Major (Q14)

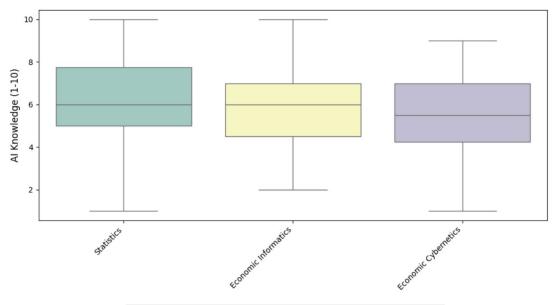
Al Knowledge by Gender



T-statistic: -0.20098263986334788, P-value: 0.8411707529940903

Al Knowledge (Q1) by Gender (Q12) and Major (Q14)

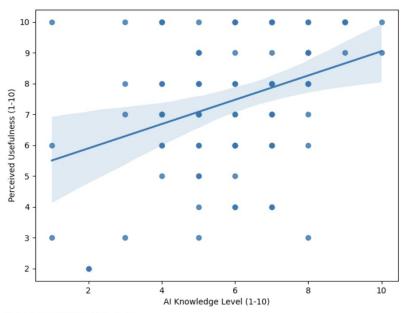
Al Knowledge by Major



T-test Results for comparisons: Statistics vs Economic Informatics: t = 0.05, p = 0.957 Statistics vs Economic Cybernetics: t = 1.52, p = 0.133 Economic Informatics vs Economic Cybernetics: t = 1.25, p = 0.216

Al Knowledge (Q1) - Al Utility (Q7)

Al Knowledge vs. Perceived Usefulness in Education

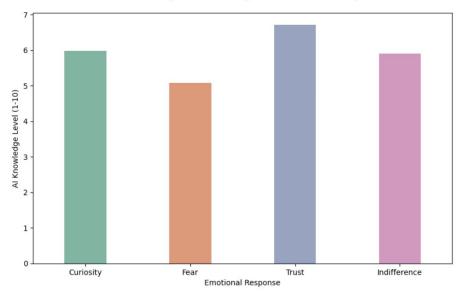


Pearson's correlation: 0.36

P-value: 0.000

Al Knowledge (Q1) - Al Sentiments/Feelings (Q5)

Al Knowledge Levels by Emotional Response



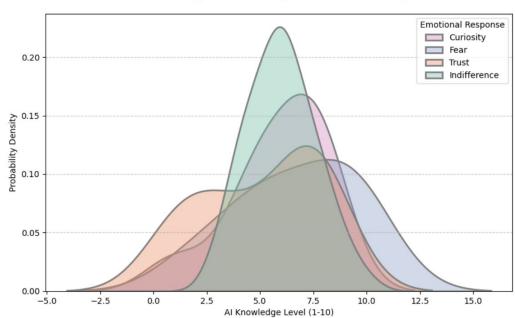
ANOVA Test Results

F-statistic: 1.127089304772213 p-value: 0.34264578558472786

No statistically significant differences between groups.

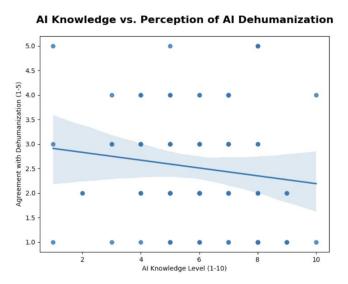
Al Knowledge (Q1) - Al Sentiments/Feelings (Q5)

Al Knowledge Levels by Emotional Response

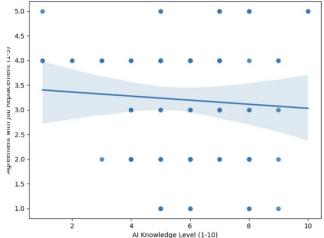


Al Knowledge (Q1) - Al perception (Q3)



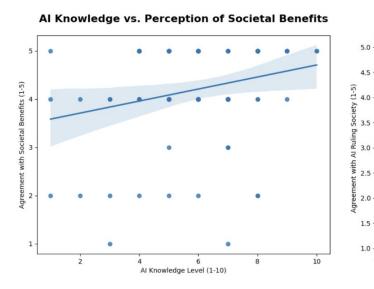


Al Knowledge vs. Perception of Job Replacement



Al Knowledge (Q1) - Al perception (Q3)





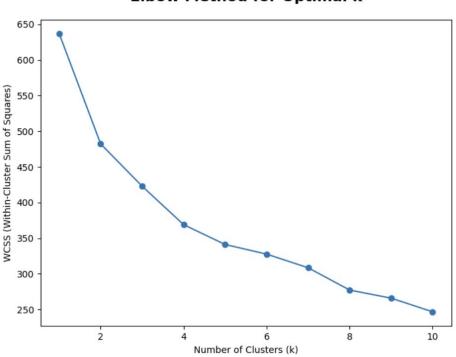
5.0 4.5 Society (1-5)

Al Knowledge Level (1-10)

1.5 1.0 -

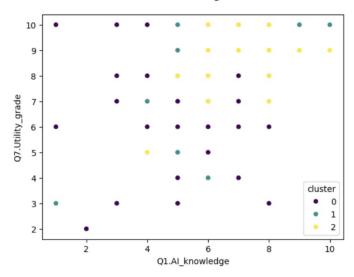
Al Knowledge vs. Perception of Al Ruling Society

K-means Clustering: AI Knowledge (Q1) - AI perception (Q3) - Utility grade (Q7)Elbow Method for Optimal k



K-means Clustering: Al Knowledge (Q1) - Al perception (Q3) - Utility grade (Q7)

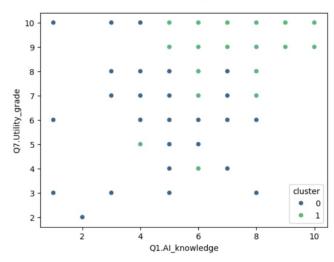
Clusters (K=3) based on Al Knowledge and Perceived Usefulness

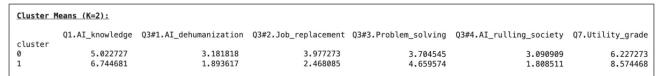


Cluster Means (K=3):							
cluster	Q1.AI_knowledge	Q3#1.AI_dehumanization	Q3#2.Job_replacement	Q3#3.Problem_solving	Q3#4.AI_rulling_society	Q7.Utility_grade	
0 1 2	5.102564 6.600000 6.486486	3.282051 1.800000 2.000000	4.076923 2.666667 2.486486	3.769231 4.266667 4.621622	3.25641 2.00000 1.72973	6.333333 7.800000 8.459459	

K-means Clustering: Al Knowledge (Q1) - Al perception (Q3) - Utility grade (Q7)

Clusters (K=2) based on AI Knowledge and Perceived Usefulness





CONCLUSION

Summary of Key Insights

- Students seem curios and optimistic about Al's role in solving societal challenges and enhancing education.
- Digital media (Internet/social media) was the most common source of Al knowledge, followed by books/papers.
- Students accessing diverse sources, particularly books/papers, reported higher Alknowledge.
- Curiosity as the dominant emotional response.
- Moderate correlation (r=0.36) between AI knowledge and perceived usefulness of AI in education.
- Clustering analysis more or less confirmed the previous statements.

CONCLUSION

Challenges and Future Directions

Limitations:

- Homogeneous sample of analytical majors.
- Small dataset limits broader applicability.
- The insights are not really generalizable.

Looking Ahead:

- Expand participant diversity across majors, institutions, and cultures.
- Use larger datasets to explore more practical objectives such as: why students engage, or not, with AI and identify AI tools they find most valuable.