Blog 3 Draft 1

Why AI might possess a threat to digital learning platforms? Human Intelligence and the rise of experiential learning.

# What is AI?

Artificial intelligence or AI is the ability of a digital computer or computer-controlled robot to execute tasks often associated with intelligent beings such as recognition of speech, understanding natural language, making decisions and learning from the experience. AI algorithms analyse data and discover patterns that can be utilised to make predictions or choices. This can include anything from recommending items or services to clients based on their actions to identifying fraud in financial transactions. There are other types of AI, such as rule-based systems, which make decisions based on a set of established rules; machine learning, which utilises algorithms to learn from data; and deep learning, which includes training neural networks to spot patterns. Several applications of AI are already in use, including virtual assistants, self-driving cars, image recognition, and language translation. As AI technology advances, it has the potential to impact a wide range of industries, from healthcare to finance, and to alter the way people live and work.

# What is Digital learning or distance learning?

E-learning or digital learning is the use of digital technology to give educational information and teaching to students who are not physically present in a typical classroom setting. It is also known as online learning or remote learning. Self-paced courses, webinars, live virtual classrooms, and multimedia content are all examples of e-learning. Personalized learning experiences are also possible with e-learning. E-learning platforms can collect data on students' learning styles, preferences, and performance using data analytics and artificial intelligence to adapt content and teaching to each individual student. Matter of fact, there are several drawbacks to e-learning. One of the main concerns is that without the structure and social interaction of a typical classroom, students may struggle with self-discipline and motivation. Also, students who do not have stable internet or technology may face technological issues or constraints. Despite various obstacles, e-learning has grown in popularity in recent years, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted traditional classroom instruction. Numerous educational institutions, ranging from elementary schools to universities, have embraced e-learning as a means of continuing to impart educational information to students. As technology advances, e-learning is likely to become an increasingly more important component of education in the future.

# The Advantages of Digital learning

Like nothing else, digital learning has had a significant impact on the twenty-first century. Here are the main benefits of digital learning.

* Flexibility: E-learning allows students to learn at their own pace, on their own time, and from any location in the globe that has an internet connection. This is especially useful for working people or students with other obligations that make attending a typical class challenging.
* Cost Effective: Because it eliminates the need for a physical classroom, equipment, and other overhead costs, e-learning can be more cost-effective than traditional classroom instruction. E-learning providers can frequently offer courses at a lesser cost.
* Personalized Learning: E-learning platforms can collect data on students' learning styles, preferences, and performance using data analytics and artificial intelligence to adapt content and teaching to each individual student. This enables a more tailored learning experience.
* Accessibility: Everyone with an internet connection, regardless of location, can participate in e-learning. This increases access to education for persons who may not have access to traditional educational resources.
* Interactive Content: E-learning can provide a wide range of multimedia content, such as films, audio recordings, and interactive simulations, to make learning more engaging and effective.
* Updated Content: E-learning content may be easily updated, ensuring that students have access to the most up-to-date information and abilities.
* Environmentally Friendly: E-learning eliminated the need for physical textbooks which can be wasteful and possess a threat to the environment.

# The positive Impact of Ai in E-learning platforms.

AI has the ability to change e-learning platforms by delivering personalised learning experiences and increasing the effectiveness of online education. AI algorithms can collect data about students' learning styles, preferences, and performance in order to personalise content and teaching for each individual student. This allows for a more personalised learning experience, with the potential to increase student engagement and performance. Adaptive learning is a type of AI that can modify the difficulty and rate of learning based on a student's performance. This guarantees that students are adequately challenged and can progress at their own pace. Artificially Intelligent teaching systems can present students with real-time feedback and recommend learning strategies based on their performance. This has the potential to increase student results while reducing the requirement for human instructors. While the rise of AI can benefit the digital learning method in many ways, it also has a huge set of drawbacks that could potentially mean an end to the era of digital learning platforms.

# The Negative impact of AI in e-learning platforms

While AI has many potential benefits for e-learning platforms, it also has certain drawbacks. Here are some of the potential negative consequences of AI in e-learning platforms:

* Bias: If AI algorithms are trained on data that is not representative of the student population, they may be biased. This can lead to unfair treatment of some students and the continuation of existing inequalities.
* Lack of Human Interaction: E-learning platforms that rely largely on AI may be lacking in the human interaction required for optimal learning. Students' motivation and involvement may suffer as a result.
* Technical Issues: AI-powered e-learning platforms may have technical concerns such as software errors or connectivity issues. These concerns have the potential to disrupt learning and lower the quality of the educational experience.
* Privacy Concerns: Students' sensitive data, such as performance and personal information, may be collected by AI algorithms. This data could be misused or be subject to hackers, resulting in privacy violations.
* Dependency: AI-powered e-learning systems may generate a dependency on technology, diminishing students' ability to learn freely and solve problems on their own.
* Unreliability: AI algorithms are not necessarily trustworthy, especially if they are trained on limited or biased data. This can lead to inaccurate judgements of student achievement and a misalignment with learning objectives.
* Ethical concerns: The employment of AI in e-learning platforms presents ethical concerns, such as the prospect of human teachers being replaced and the human element of education being devalued.

# Human Intelligence (HI) – A worthy opponent

While artificial intelligence (AI) has numerous potential benefits, it is critical to emphasise the importance of human intelligence (HI) in an AI-powered future. Here are some ways in which human intelligence is still important in an age of artificial intelligence:

* Creativity: AI cannot be creative in the same way that humans can. To produce new ideas, solve complex issues, and make intuitive connections, human intelligence is required.
* Emotional Intelligence: AI is deficient in emotional intelligence, which is required for effective communication and social interaction. Understanding and empathising with people, building relationships, and providing emotional support all require human intelligence.
* Ethical Decision making: AI is intended to make decisions based on facts and algorithms, but it is incapable of making ethical judgements. To negotiate complicated moral dilemmas and make decisions that are consistent with human values and morality, human intellect is required.
* Intuition: Human intelligence has the ability to reason intuitively, which is necessary for making decisions in uncertain situations. AI lacks this capability, which limits its effectiveness in some situations.
* Communication: Effective communication and collaboration require human intelligence. Because AI lacks the ability to perceive and respond to social cues, it may be ineffective in team-based environments.
* Critical Thinking: AI is programmed to follow particular rules and algorithms, but it lacks the critical thinking skills required for analysing data, evaluating evidence, and making sound conclusions.

# Why AI will mean an end to digital learning platforms

While AI has potential benefits and setbacks in the field of experiential learning, It is important to consider the continued importance of Human Intelligence in the field of learning. AI can be a great tool for digital learning platforms; however, it should be utilised to enhance rather than replace human professors and instructors. With the rise of so many open platform AI services such as Open AI's Chat GPT, Google's BardAi, OpenN, Torch.ai, and others, all of the educational material that was previously purchased from e-learning platforms is now free of charge, and Ai makes it much easier for students to comprehend than e-learning platforms. This will be a difficulty for e-learning organisations and will result in a significant decrease in revenue, forcing them to implement more commercial elements in the learning process, which will lead to a significant decline in the quality of education.

The implementation of AI in the field on online education will further distant the student from having a human interaction resulting in the student lacking proper skills like effective communication, problem solving, creative approach and critical analysis, in addition to that the student will have absolutely no access to any form of experiential learning resources, which is crucial in development of skills that will enable the student to meet the ever-changing and dynamic industry needs. The ongoing fourth industrial revolution or the industry 4.0 demands the workforce to be trained and ready to function efficiently in an industry atmosphere. The AI implemented e-learning platforms will gradually fail in facilitating the student with the required skills and experiential knowledge, eventually forcing the students to move to an enhanced learning method that includes hands-on-learning techniques with required experience.

# Experiential Learning is the new E-learning

Experiential learning is a method of learning by doing that comprises direct experiences and activities that allow learners to acquire new knowledge, skills, and attitudes. It is a hands-on, active learning style that stresses contemplation, observation, and exploration.

* Concrete Experience: The student participates in a new or challenging activity or event.
* Reflective Observation: The learner reflects on the event, paying attention to the feelings and reactions that occurred.
* Abstract Conceptualisation: The learner seeks to make sense of the experience by evaluating and interpreting it, relying on current knowledge and theory to build new understanding.
* Active Experimentation: The learner applies new knowledge or skills gained from the experience to a modern context, using previous learning.

Experiential learning has been proven to be a successful technique of learning, particularly for acquiring abilities and attitudes that are difficult to learn using typical lecture-based teaching approaches. It can assist learners in developing critical thinking skills, problem-solving ability, and self-confidence, while also providing chances for personal and professional development. With the decline of users in well known e-learning platforms, students are looking for an enhanced platform that enables them to industry ready easily crack job interviews, Thus proving experiential learning to be an effective alternative to the conventional e-learning platforms.