

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

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TY PROJECT-I REPORT ON

Learnspace

TY BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY (COMPUTER ENGINEERING)

SUBMITTED BY

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This is to certify that the project report entitles

"LEARNSPACE"

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ABSTRACT

This project aims to revolutionize online education by developing a comprehensive learning platform that integrates research-backed techniques for enhanced knowledge retention and personalized learning experiences. The platform facilitates seamless interaction between teachers and students, fostering collaborative assignment sharing and feedback. Utilizing evidence-based strategies such as spaced repetition, active learning tools, interleaving, and dual coding, the system aims to improve information absorption and conceptual understanding.

Aligned with the new education policy in India, the project introduces "Learnspace," a solution tailored to the needs of teachers. Learnspace offers a personalized dashboard empowering educators to monitor student progress, identify areas of difficulty, and provide timely support. With features like quizzes, polls, and discussion forums, the platform creates engaging and interactive lessons. Personalized learning is a key focus, using data and analytics to challenge students at their individual levels, allowing them to progress at their own pace.

The platform supports differentiation in instruction, assessment tools for progress tracking, and collaboration features promoting teamwork skills. Additionally, Learnspace enhances self-study sessions through flashcards, breaking down study materials into digestible formats. The project envisions inspiring students to discover the joy of learning, ultimately enhancing the quality of online education and improving learning outcomes. By addressing the unique needs of teachers and students, this project seeks to create a dynamic and effective online learning environment.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

In today's rapidly evolving educational landscape, the quest for effective learning techniques is paramount. Evidence-Based Learning (Figure 1.1) Techniques have emerged as guiding lights in this endeavour, offering evidence-based strategies for enhanced memory, comprehension, and problem-solving. This paper embarks on a comprehensive exploration of these techniques, with a particular focus on Spaced Repetition (figure 1.1), as well as other pivotal strategies like Active Recall, Desirable Difficulties, Elaboration, Interleaving, Concrete Examples, Dual Coding, and Distributed Practice. The foundation of traditional learning methodologies is rooted in linear, time-honoured routines. However, these conventional approaches often struggle with the challenges of long-term retention and comprehensive understanding.



Figure 1.1 Evidence Based Education

Linear, conventional practices are the cornerstone of traditional learning approaches. But long-term memory and thorough comprehension are two problems that these traditional methods frequently face.

We will focus mostly on Spaced Repetition as we explore Evidence-Based Learning Techniques. This approach maximises memory by carefully planning the review of material at progressively longer intervals. We aim to understand how it impacts educational results and investigate how it works in concert with other research-proven tactics like Active Recall to increase understanding and engage students.

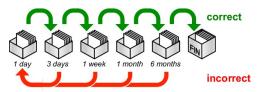


Figure 1.2 Spaced Repetition

Our goal in navigating this exploration is to give researchers, practitioners, and educators a more sophisticated understanding of these evidence-based methods. By examining their efficacy and real-

world applications, we hope to add insightful commentary to the continuing conversation about improving instructional approaches.

Smart classrooms powered by spaced repetition are rapidly gaining traction in the educational landscape. Educators are increasingly recognizing the effectiveness of this learning technique, and technological advancements are facilitating its integration into the classroom environment. As the market expands and new solutions emerge, accessibility increases, with free and open-source options democratizing access to spaced repetition for all. This trend is further propelled by the integration of these platforms with existing educational tools, creating a seamless workflow for educators and students alike.

1.2 Motivation

In the intricate tapestry of education, the adoption of evidence-based practices emerges as a pivotal strategy for educators and researchers alike. This research paper embarks on a comprehensive survey, navigating through the extensive body of existing research dedicated to evidence-based education. Our focus lies in meticulously reviewing and analysing the diverse range of studies that contribute to the body of evidence-based education literature.

As our understanding of cognitive psychology and neuroscience deepens, traditional learning approaches reveal limitations in fostering enduring retention and profound comprehension. In response to this pressing need, Evidence-Based Learning Techniques have emerged as beacons guiding educators and learners toward more impactful and sustainable learning experiences. Traditional learning methods, rooted in time-honoured routines like cramming, rereading, and massed practice, have historically dominated educational practices. These conventional approaches often neglect fundamental principles embedded in cognitive psychology and neuroscience, principles that Evidence-Based Learning Techniques strive to harness.

Our motivation for this research stems from the recognition that bridging the gap between traditional methods and evidence-based approaches is essential for cultivating resilient, adaptable learners. The revelation that many students and even educators may lack awareness of these approaches to education underscores the urgency of our exploration. By scrutinising the effectiveness of these techniques across diverse conditions, materials, and learners, we aim to contribute to the ongoing dialogue on transforming education

1.3 Problem Definition and Objectives

1.3.1 Problem Definition:

The current landscape of online learning lacks a comprehensive platform that integrates research-based learning techniques to enhance the quality of education. Traditional online learning environments often fall short in providing effective tools for interaction, feedback, and the implementation of evidence-backed learning strategies. As a result, students may struggle with information retention, knowledge recall, and understanding of concepts.

1.3.2 Objectives:

Develop a Comprehensive Learning Platform:

- Create a user-friendly website that serves as a one-stop platform for online learning.
- Integrate tools and features that facilitate seamless interaction between teachers and students.

Incorporate Evidence-Backed Learning Techniques:

- Implement spaced repetition through the integration of flashcards for enhanced memory retention.
- Introduce active learning tools to engage students in participatory and experiential learning experiences.
- Utilize interleaving to enhance the mastery of multiple concepts simultaneously.
- Integrate dual coding methods to improve information processing and understanding.

Encourage Regular Short Learning Sessions:

- Design the platform to support short and focused learning sessions to improve absorption and retention of material.
- Implement a scheduling system that allows for regular, bite-sized learning activities.

Facilitate Assignment Sharing and Feedback:

- Create a collaborative environment where teachers can share assignments and provide constructive feedback.
- Implement features that allow students to collaborate on assignments, fostering a sense of community and shared learning.

Inspire a Love for Learning:

- Design the platform with engaging and motivating elements to inspire students to enjoy the learning process.
- Foster a positive and supportive online learning community that encourages curiosity and the joy of knowledge discovery.

1.4 Project Scope & Limitations

The project aims to enhance knowledge delivery and improve student memory through personalized learning, with a focus on catering to the needs of teachers in India in alignment with the new education policy. Leveraging **Learnspace** as the proposed solution, the platform offers a personalized dashboard for teachers to monitor student progress, identify areas of difficulty, and provide additional support. Learnspace incorporates features like quizzes, polls, and discussion forums to create engaging lessons. The emphasis on personalized learning involves using data and analytics to challenge students at their levels and allow them to progress at their own pace. The platform facilitates differentiation in instruction, enabling teachers to customize assignments and provide resources based on student needs. Assessment tools in Learnspace aid in tracking student progress and targeting support where necessary. The platform also promotes collaboration among teachers and students for project work, fostering teamwork skills. Furthermore, Learnspace enhances self-study sessions by breaking down study material into question-and-answer flashcards for effective learning.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

Spaced Repetition:

In order to improve learning outcomes, this study intends to support researchers, educators, and students in selecting and putting into practice efficient teaching methodologies. A lack of awareness or understanding may prevent many pupils from using the best learning strategies. According to the hypothesis, educators might not be as knowledgeable about these strategies as they could be, perhaps as a result of the limited coverage of educational psychology in textbooks. The study demonstrates how effective spatial repetition and practice exams are at enhancing learning in a range of student profiles and environments.[1]

Research in educational psychology and cognitive psychology, as emphasized in [2], repeatedly demonstrates how spaced practice improves long-term memory and learning. This is consistent with a century of research and supported by groundbreaking studies, like the groundbreaking work on memory and space by Hermann Ebbinghaus.

The paper [3] provides a comprehensive literature survey on Spaced Repetition, tracing its historical roots to Hermann Ebbinghaus' "forgetting curve" in the 19th century and highlighting key developments in the field. It discusses models and systems such as Leitner's System, the Pimsleur Method, and the MEMORIZE algorithm, which have demonstrated the efficacy of Spaced Repetition in various learning contexts, including language acquisition, mathematics, ecology, meteorology, and mobile games.

Active Recall:

Active recall, a well-established pedagogical technique, extends beyond enhancing learning to serve as an effective tool for early identification of student misconceptions in various educational contexts, particularly in programming courses. This approach involves collecting recall statements within a blended learning system, providing valuable insights into student understanding.[7]

The research paper explores the impact of repetitive reading on recall and retention of expository text, analyzing the effect of reading passages once, twice, or thrice among graduate students. The findings reveal nuanced insights into the relationship between the number of readings and recall performance. Contrary to common belief, the study shows that reading a passage twice significantly enhances recall of text information compared to reading it once or thrice, particularly benefiting the retention of main ideas. The research expands on existing literature exploring the impact of repetition on recall and retention, emphasizing the complexity of recall mechanisms, encoding strategies, and

the nature of information recalled, providing valuable insights into effective learning methodologies.[8]

Elaboration:

According to Levin's 1988 paper, elaboration—the process of giving recently learned material significance through strategies like summarizing and constructing examples is essential to successful learning. He offers a theoretical framework that promotes more profound encoding, understanding, and application of knowledge. Creating examples and making connections are two real-world applications for the classroom. The benefits of elaborate learning include improved productivity, a better understanding, and the development of skills necessary for lifetime learning. Finally, Levin contends that these methods improve learning and advises educators to support their students' use of elaboration-based methods.[9]

Desirable Difficulties:

The paper [11] highlights that learning activities moderately challenging and demanding more effort yield longer-lasting learning outcomes than simpler ones. The paper elucidates two main theoretical reasons behind the advantages of desirable difficulties: they encourage active processing of material, leading to deeper comprehension, and they foster the development of metacognitive skills. The implications for instructional strategies underscore the need for educators to calibrate tasks at an optimal difficulty level, avoiding extremes that hinder critical thinking or lead to frustration. Incorporating desirable difficulties involves assigning slightly more challenging tasks and providing constructive feedback, offering a promising approach to enhancing student learning and achievement across diverse subjects.

Interleaving:

This systematic review and meta-analysis examined the effectiveness of interleaving as a concept learning strategy. The study analyzed 17 selected studies, primarily conducted in laboratory settings, and found that interleaved presentations of concepts consistently outperformed blocked presentations, yielding large effect sizes. This advantage was observed across various subject domains, emphasizing the potential for educational application. It suggests that interleaving may be particularly beneficial for complex or easily confused concepts, emphasizing the importance of contrasting examples, especially for novice learners.[12]

Concrete Examples:

In the realm of higher education, the research indicates the potential benefits of using concrete examples to enhance the understanding of abstract ideas, controlled studies in this context have been scarce. This study aimed to replicate the pivotal findings from Rawson et al. (2015), which demonstrated the advantages of incorporating concrete examples in teaching. The results, using a diverse cohort of non-psychology students via an online platform, reaffirmed that concrete examples significantly improve the comprehension of abstract concepts, particularly in the context of psychology education. The study highlights the need for evidence-based approaches to facilitate the learning of abstract concepts, underscoring the potential of concrete examples as a valuable tool for educators in various disciplines.[13]

Dual Coding:

According to the Dual Coding Theory (DCT), information retention is improved when spoken and visual presentations are combined. According to the hypothesis, information is processed by both verbal and visual systems, which aids in deep encoding, comprehension, and retention. Instructors can use DCT by encouraging students to visualize concepts through exercises like story writing or diagramming, and by combining oral explanations with visual assistance. To sum up, DCT offers a strong basis for teaching strategies, facilitating more productive and successful classroom learning.[15]

3. Software Requirements Specification

3.1 Functional Requirements

1. User Registration and Authentication:

The system must allow users, both teachers, and students, to register accounts with unique credentials. Authentication mechanisms must be implemented to ensure secure access.

2. Online Interaction Platform:

The website should provide a platform for real-time online interaction between teachers and students. This includes features for messaging, discussion forums, and collaborative spaces for effective communication.

3. Assignment Sharing and Feedback:

The system must facilitate the sharing of assignments between teachers and students. It should allow teachers to provide feedback on assignments and for students to view and respond to feedback.

4. Access to Learning Resources:

The platform should grant access to a variety of learning resources, including articles, videos, and quizzes. A user-friendly interface should enable easy navigation and retrieval of resources.

5. Integration of Learning Techniques:

The system should incorporate evidence-backed learning techniques, such as spaced repetition, active learning tools, interleaving, and dual coding. This involves the integration of flashcards and other tools supporting these strategies.

6. Progress Tracking Dashboard:

The system must provide a personalized dashboard for teachers to monitor individual student progress. This includes features to identify areas of difficulty and prompt additional support where necessary.

7. Differentiation in Instruction:

The platform should offer tools for teachers to differentiate instruction. This involves the creation of different versions of assignments and the provision of varied resources based on individual student needs.

8. Assessment Tools:

Learnspace must include a range of assessment tools to track student progress accurately. Teachers should be able to utilize this information to provide targeted support to students facing challenges.

9. Collaboration Features:

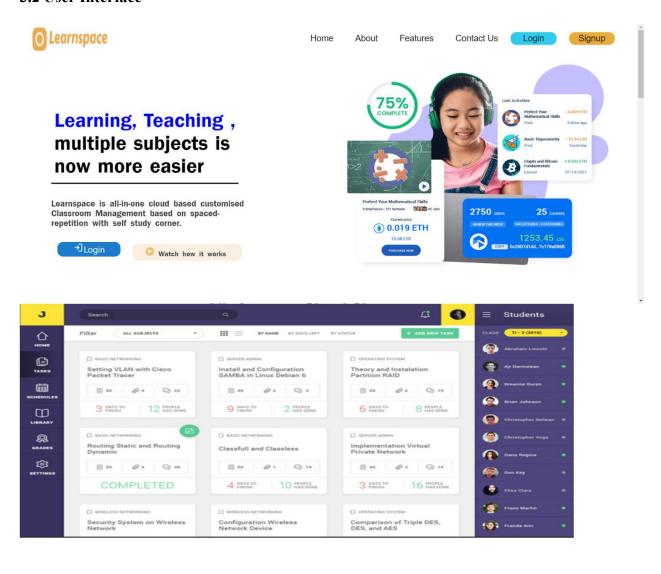
The system should support collaboration among teachers and students for project work. Features like group discussions, shared documents, and collaborative project spaces should be implemented.

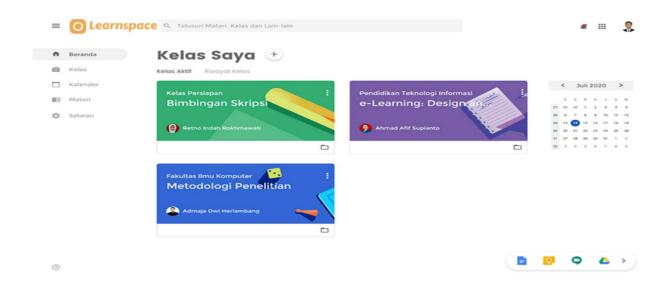
10. Flashcards for Self-Study Enhancement:

Learnspace should include a feature to break down study material into question-and-answer flashcards, facilitating effective self-study sessions for students.

3.2 External Interface Requirements

3.2 User Interface





Intuitive Design:

The user interface should be intuitively designed, ensuring a seamless and user-friendly experience for both teachers and students.

Responsive Layout:

The platform must have a responsive design that adapts to various devices and screen sizes, promoting accessibility and usability across desktops, tablets, and mobile devices.

Clear Navigation:

The navigation system should be clear and logically organized, allowing users to easily locate and access features such as learning resources, assignments, and interactive tools.

Interactive Elements:

Incorporate interactive elements, such as buttons, forms, and multimedia, to enhance engagement and make the learning platform visually appealing.

Customizable Dashboards:

Provide customizable dashboards for both teachers and students, allowing them to personalize their interfaces based on preferences and priorities.

3.2.2 Software, Hardware & Communication Interfaces

Web Browser Compatibility:

The website should be accessible through commonly used web browsers such as Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, and Microsoft Edge, ensuring compatibility across different devices and operating systems.

• Internet Connection:

Users must have a stable internet connection to access and interact with the online learning platform, ensuring seamless communication, resource retrieval, and real-time collaboration.

• Secure HTTPS Protocol:

The platform must utilize a secure communication interface through HTTPS to ensure the encryption of data exchanged between users and the website, enhancing privacy and data security.

3.3 Non-functional Requirements

Performance Requirements:

• Response Time:

Requirement: The website must have a response time of no more than 2 seconds for any user action, ensuring a smooth and efficient user experience.

• Scalability:

Requirement: The platform should be scalable to accommodate a growing user base, supporting at least 10,000 simultaneous users without compromising performance.

Safety Requirements:

• Data Integrity:

Requirement: The system must implement robust data integrity measures to prevent data corruption or loss, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of stored information.

• User Authentication:

Requirement: User authentication processes must adhere to industry-standard security practices to safeguard user accounts and prevent unauthorized access.

Security Requirements:

• Data Encryption:

Requirement: All data transmitted between users and the server must be encrypted using SSL/TLS protocols to protect sensitive information from unauthorized access.

• Firewall Protection:

Requirement: The platform should have a firewall system in place to monitor and control incoming and outgoing network traffic, enhancing protection against potential security threats.

Software Quality Attributes:

• Reliability:

Requirement: The system should demonstrate high reliability, with a maximum allowable downtime of 1 hour per month for maintenance and updates.

• Usability:

Requirement: The user interface must be designed for high usability, achieving a minimum satisfaction score of 80% in user feedback surveys, ensuring an intuitive and user-friendly experience.

• Maintainability:

Requirement: The codebase must adhere to industry best practices, facilitating ease of maintenance and updates. Code changes should be deployable without causing disruptions to the platform.

• Availability:

Requirement: The platform must maintain at least 99.9% availability over a 12-month period, allowing for scheduled maintenance windows but minimizing service interruptions.