

From Crisis to Opportunity: A Google Trends Analysis of Global Interest in Distance Education Tools During and Post the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Data and codes available at: https://github.com/pridiltal/CARMA2024_Analysis



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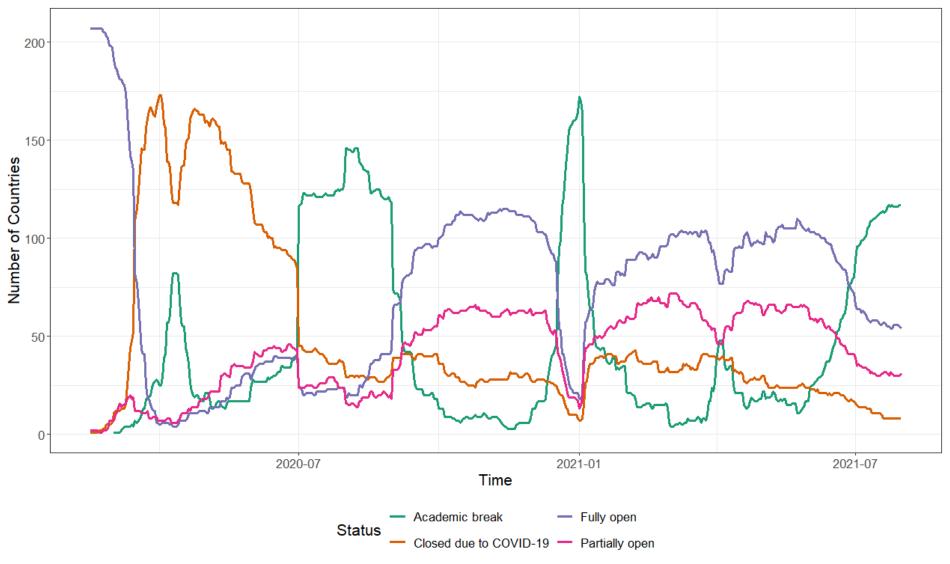


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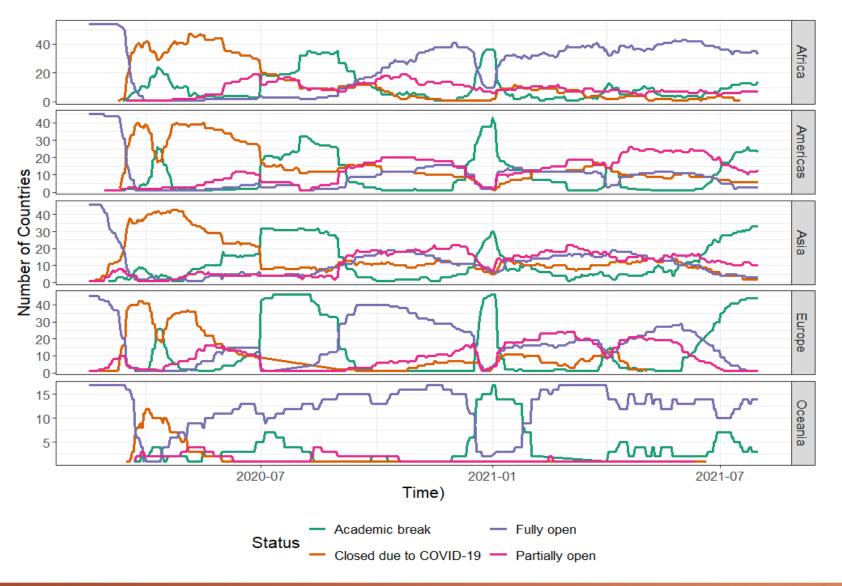


Global tracking of COVID-19 caused school closures and re-openings



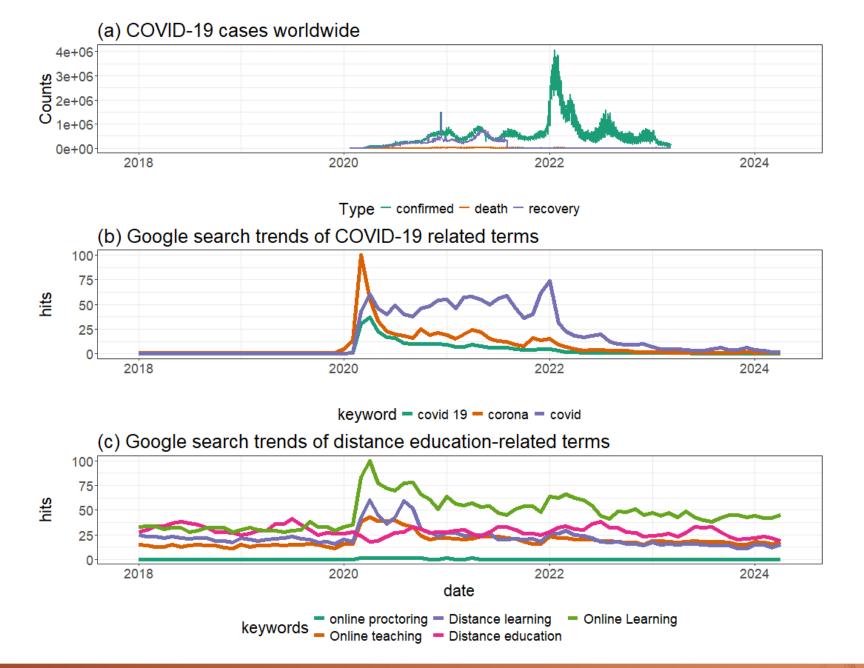
Source: UNESCO (2020). COVID-19 educational disruption and response. [Online; accessed 13-May-2020]. https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse

Region wise tracking of COVID-19 caused school closures and re-openings



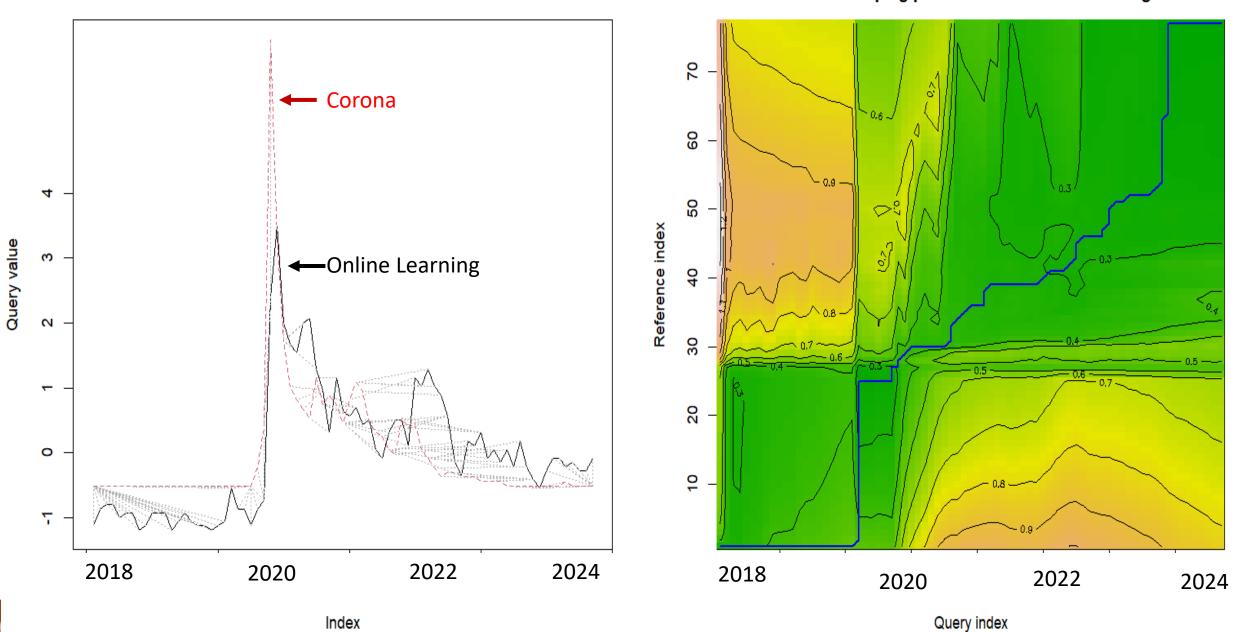
Source: UNESCO (2020). COVID-19 educational disruption and response. [Online; accessed 13-May-2020]. https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse





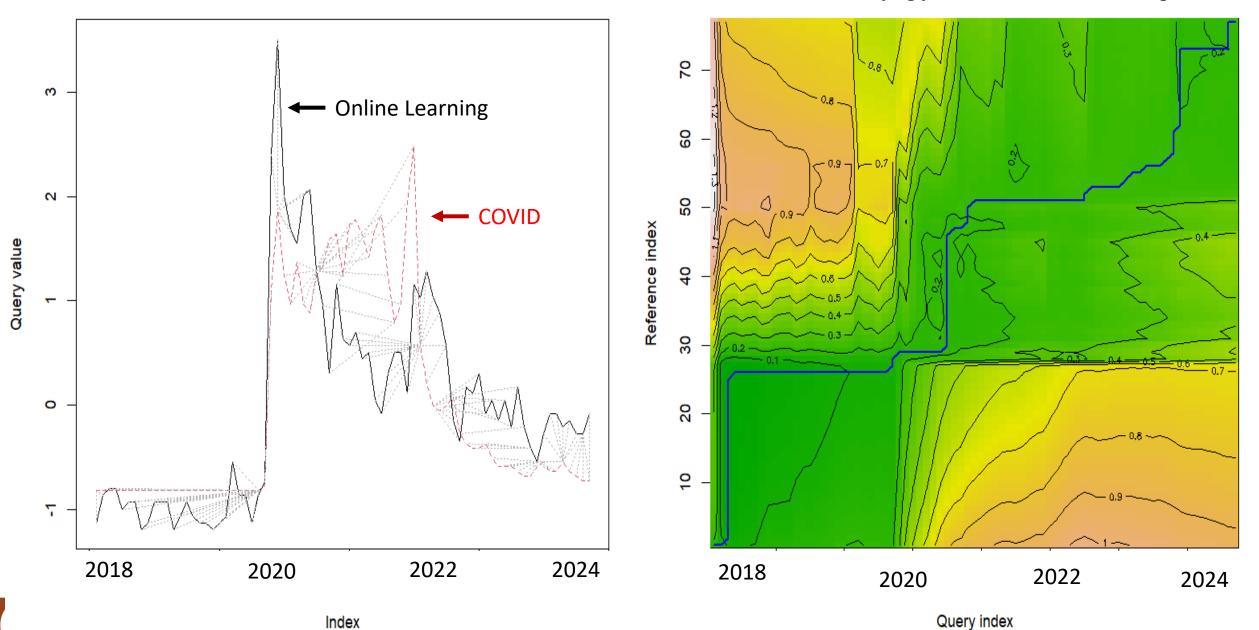
(a) Pointwise comparison between 'Online Learning' and 'corona'

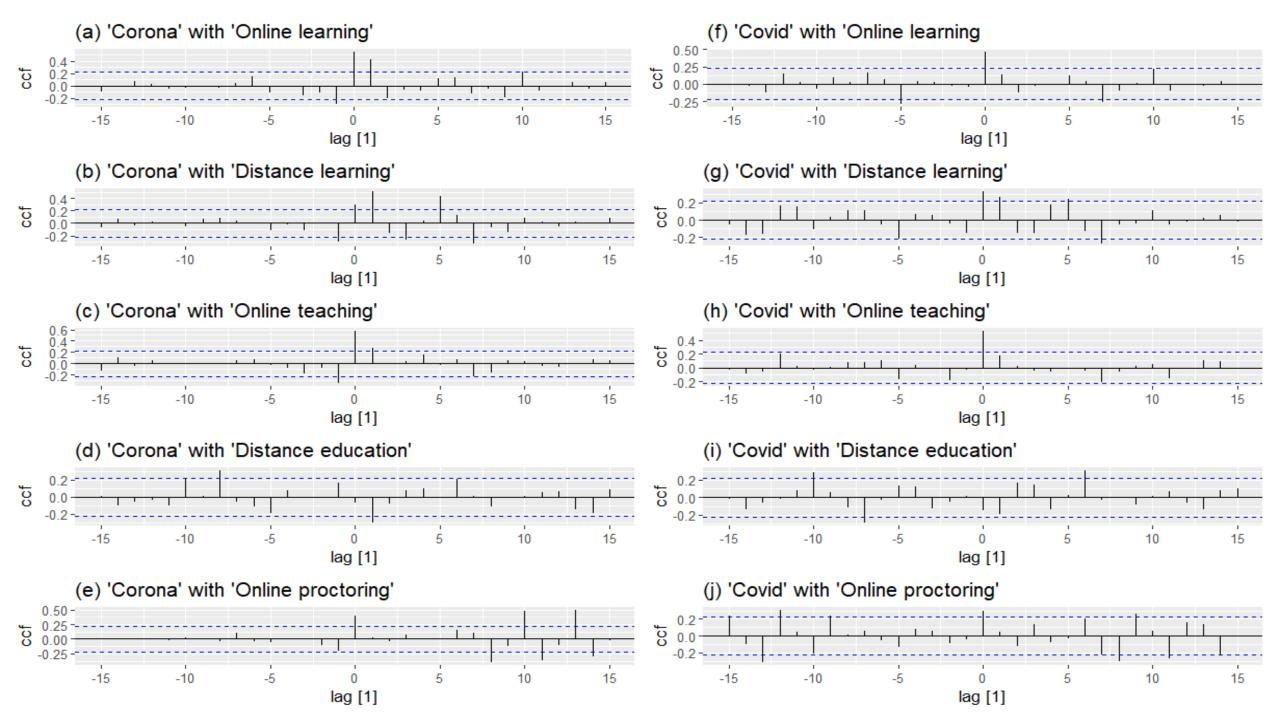
(b) Cumulative cost density with the warping path between 'Online Learning' and 'corona'



(a) Pointwise comparison between 'Online Learning' and 'covid'

(b) Cumulative cost density with the warping path between 'Online Learning' and 'covid'







Global Education Coalition

What we do

Stories & Ideas

Resources



UNESCO (2020). Distance learning solutions. [Online; accessed 13-May-2020]. https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/solutions

More on UNESCO's COVID-19 Education Response

The list of educational applications, platforms and resources below aim to help parents, teachers, schools and school administrators facilitate student learning and provide social care and interaction during periods of school closure. Most of the solutions curated are free and many cater to multiple languages. While these solutions do not carry UNESCO's explicit endorsement, they tend to have a wide reach, a strong user-base and evidence of impact. They are categorized based on distance learning needs, but most of them offer functionalities across multiple categories.

Resources to provide psychosocial support

- <u>InterAgency Standing Committee guidelines</u> to protect and improve people's mental health and psychosocial wellbeing in the midst of an emergency
- WHO mental health and psychosocial guidance during the COVID-19 outbreak
- UNICEF guidance on how teachers should talk to children about COVID-19
- UNICEF guidance on how parents and caregivers can talk children about COVID-19

Digital learning management systems

- CenturyTech Personal learning pathways with micro-lessons to address gaps in knowledge, challenge students and promote long-term memory retention.
- ClassDojo Connects teachers with students and parents to build classroom communities.
- Edmodo Tools and resources to manage classrooms and engage students remotely, offering a variety of



Google Trends Analysis in Distance Education

- Google Trends: An open-source web analytics tool offering insights into internet search behaviour
- Provides relative search volume scaled from 0 to 100, indicating interest relative to the highest point in the series
- A value of 100 indicates the peak popularity of a term within the specified time frame.
- Objective: To explore if Google Trends can gauge the popularity and public interest in various distance education options during and post the COVID-19 pandemic.

Google Trends Analysis in Distance Education

- Timeframe: December 2019 to April 2024
- Key Questions:
 - What solutions have emerged to meet the demands of distance education during and post COVID-19? (Emergent Solutions)
 - Which distance learning solutions have garnered widespread attention and public interest? (Public Interest)
- Selected search terms based on UNESCO's list of distance learning solutions (UNESCO, 2020).
- Concentrated on the education category to improve data relevance and accuracy (Vaughan & Romero-Frías, 2014).
- Avoided acronyms to prevent confusion, focusing on specific tools and techniques in the market (Vaughan & Romero-Frias, 2014).

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Segmentation of Analysis

- Digital learning management systems
- Systems designed for basic mobile phone usage
- Systems with strong offline fucntionalities
- Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platforms
- Self-directed learning resources
- Mobile reading apps
- Collaboration platforms facilitating live-video communication
- Tools for educators to create digital learning content
- External repositories of distance learning solutions
- Tools for Online proctoring
- Psychosocial support

Handling Google Trends Query Limitations

- In Google trends, it is possible to search for only up to five queries at a time.
- Under each segmentation, we entered up to five distance learning tools at a time and recorded their relative ranking scores.
- An iterative pairwise comparison was used to identify tool with the highest relative ranking score during the study period.
- Used this highest-ranked tool as a reference point for obtaining the relative ranking scores of other tools.



Digital learning management systems 100 -75**hits** 25-2022 2020 2021 2023 2024 CenturyTech — Skooler — Schoology EkStep Seesaw - Moodle Nafham Paper.Airplanes

Edraak

Edmodo — Google.Classroom



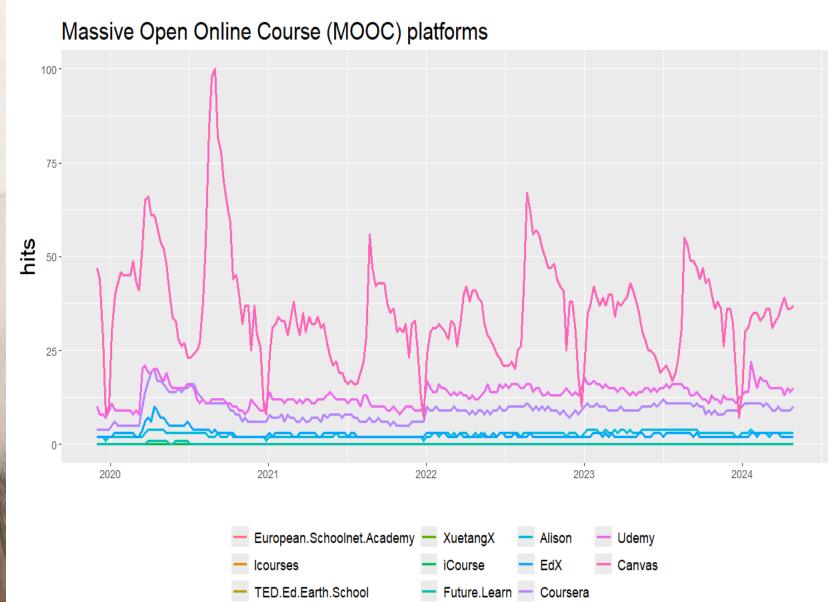
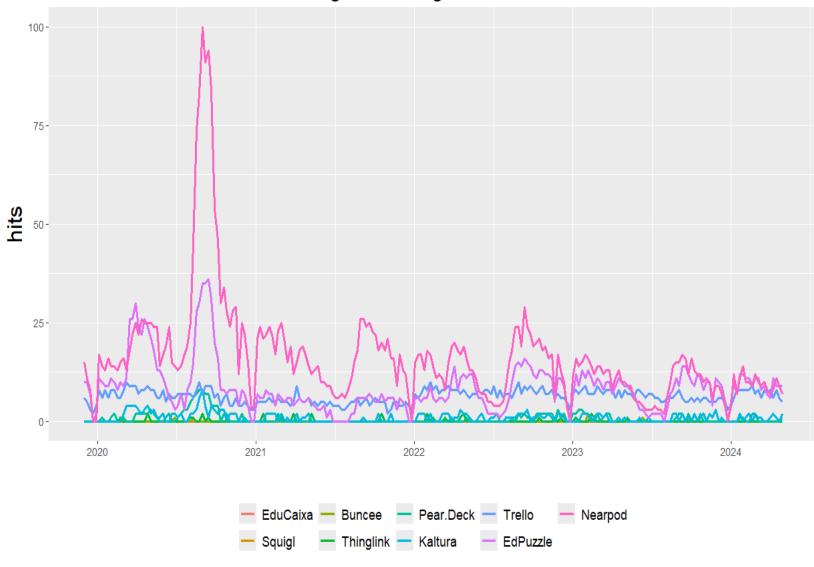
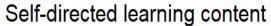


Image Source: https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/lack-trainingteachers-use-new-technologies-why-our-education-/

Tools for teachers to create of digital learning content







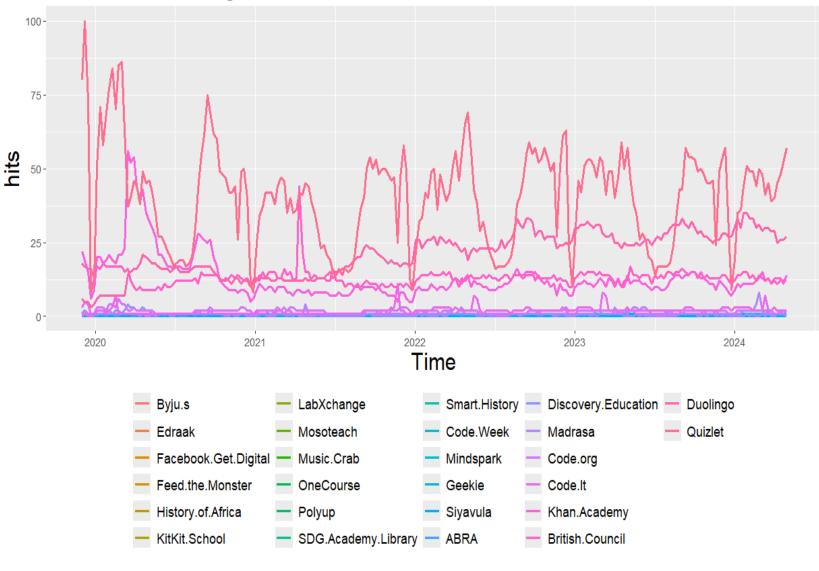
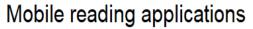


Image Source: https://beerconnoisseur.com/sites/default/files/blogs/2 022/role_of_education_in_the_modern_world_of_techn ologies/remote-working-1024x681-1-900x599-1.jpg



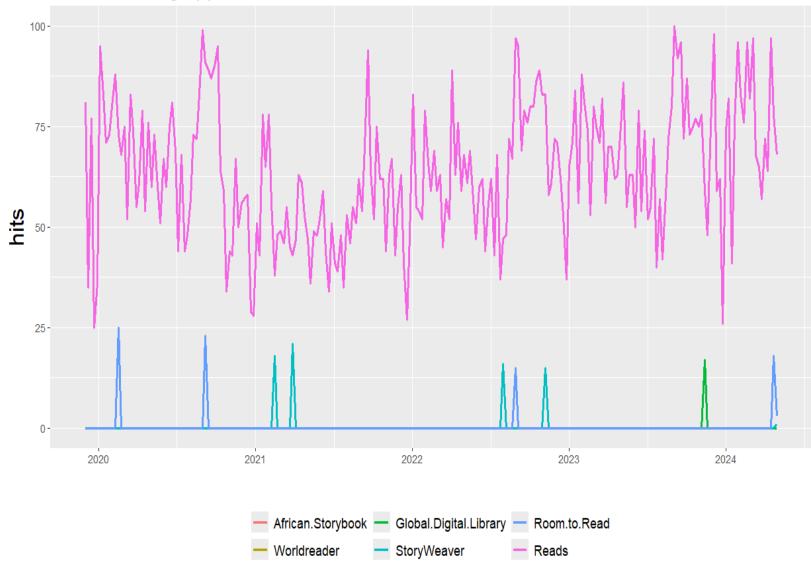
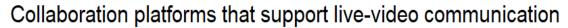
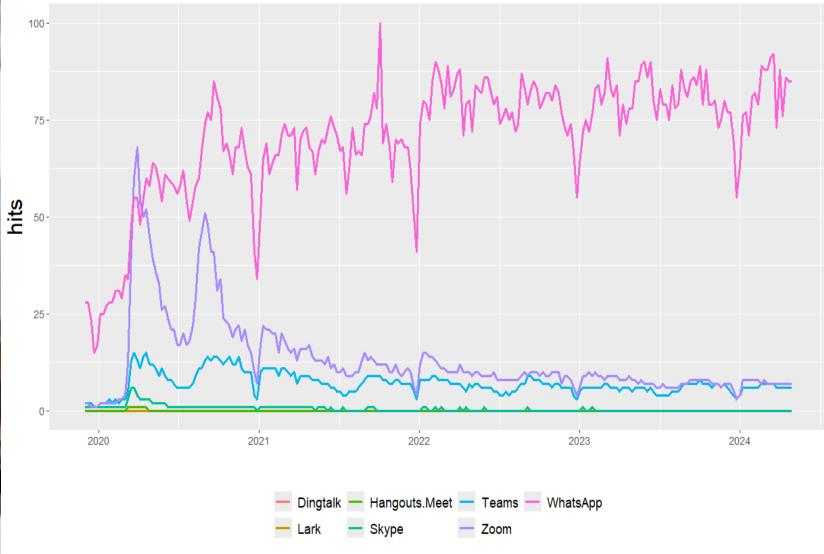


Image Source: https://s39613.pcdn.co/wpcontent/uploads/2021/05/during-covid19-attractivewoman-gestures-during-virtual-meeting-with-pictureid1293927641.jpg







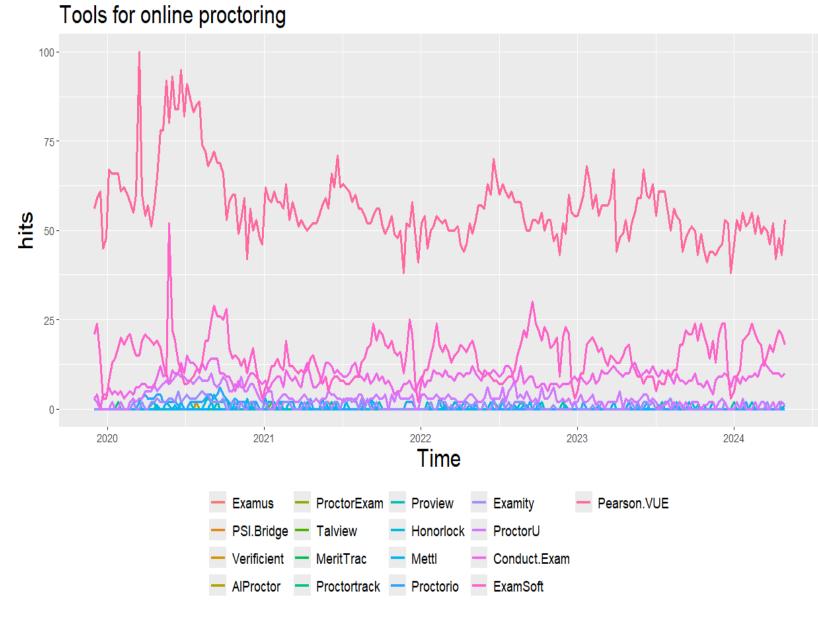


Image Source: https://www.languagemagazine.com/wpcontent/uploads/2020/03/GettyImages-1174366520-300x174.jpg

External repositories of distance learning solutions



No Connection? No Problem! Image Source: https://medium.com/@i.vikash/designing-amobile-application-architecture-for-offline-use-e03e7731f4f2

Systems with strong offline functionality

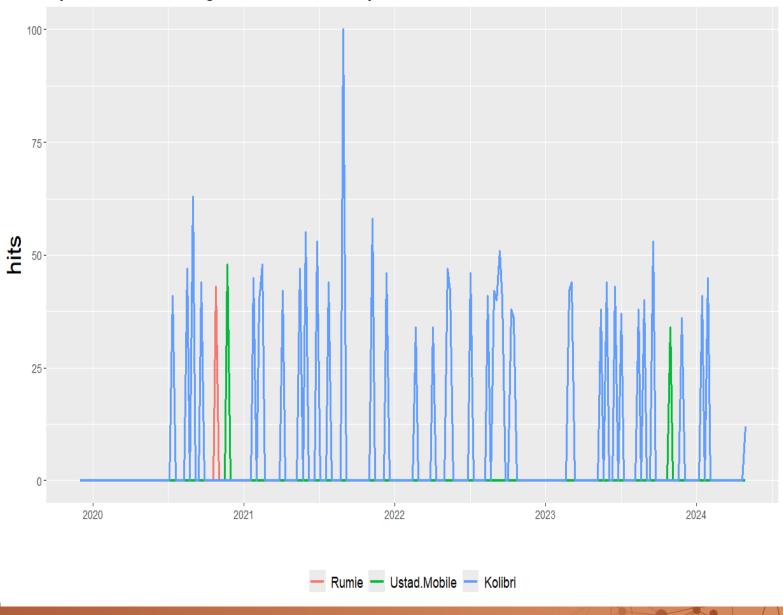
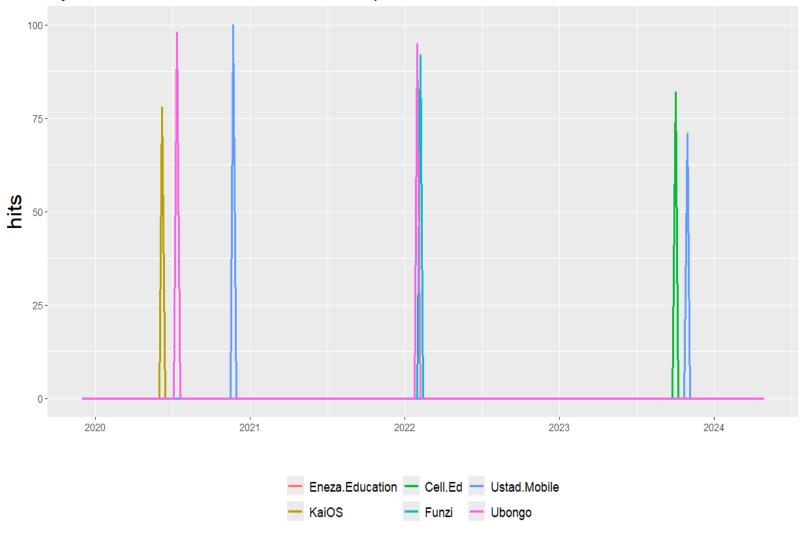
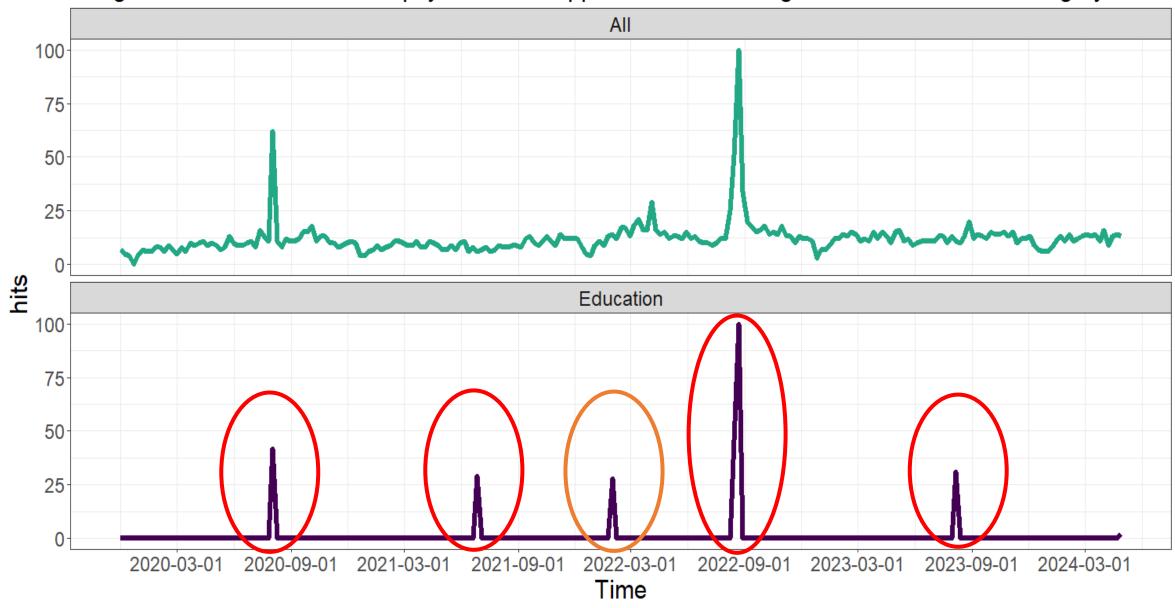


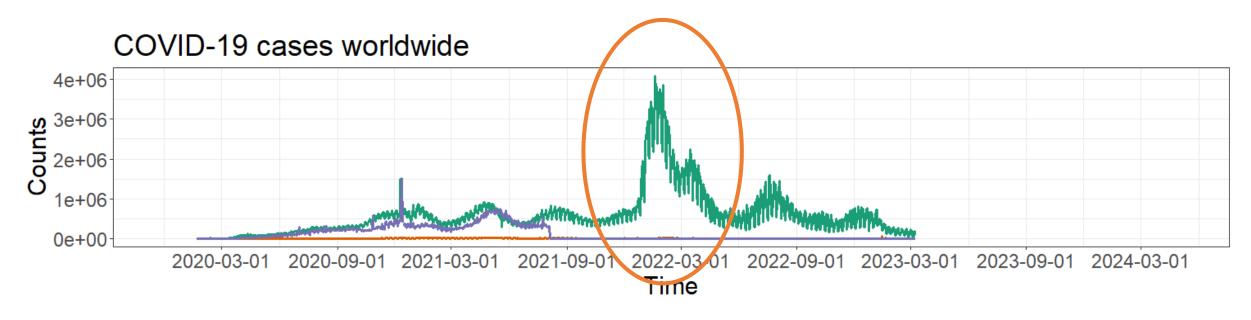
Image Source: https://elearningindustry.com/wpcontent/uploads/2020/09/mobile-learning-what-isit.jpg

Systems built for use on basic mobile phones



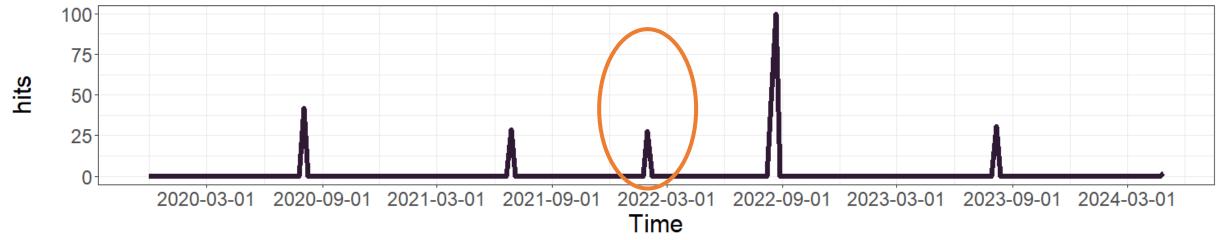
Google search trend of the term psychosocial support under 'All' categories and 'Education' category





Type — confirmed — death — recovery

Google search trend of the term psychosocial support under 'Education' category



Main Contributions

- Facilitates navigation through the multitude of market options available.
- Enables informed decision-making with minimal time and effort.
- Provides valuable information for identifying competitors and enhancing tool efficacy.
- Guides developers and educational institutions to improve and innovate existing tools.
- Highlights the critical need to address overlooked aspects of mental health support during academic breaks and school closures.

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What Next?

- Popularity does not guarantee quality
- Future research should evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of popular tools to ensure engaging online learning experiences.
- Reflects search behavior of internet users only
- Further investigation at national and regional levels to understand the specific needs and challenges in different areas
- Further research should assess the accuracy, reliability, and coverage of Google Trends data to enhance its utility (Cebrián et al. ,2023)

Thank you

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