

AI AND SOCIETY

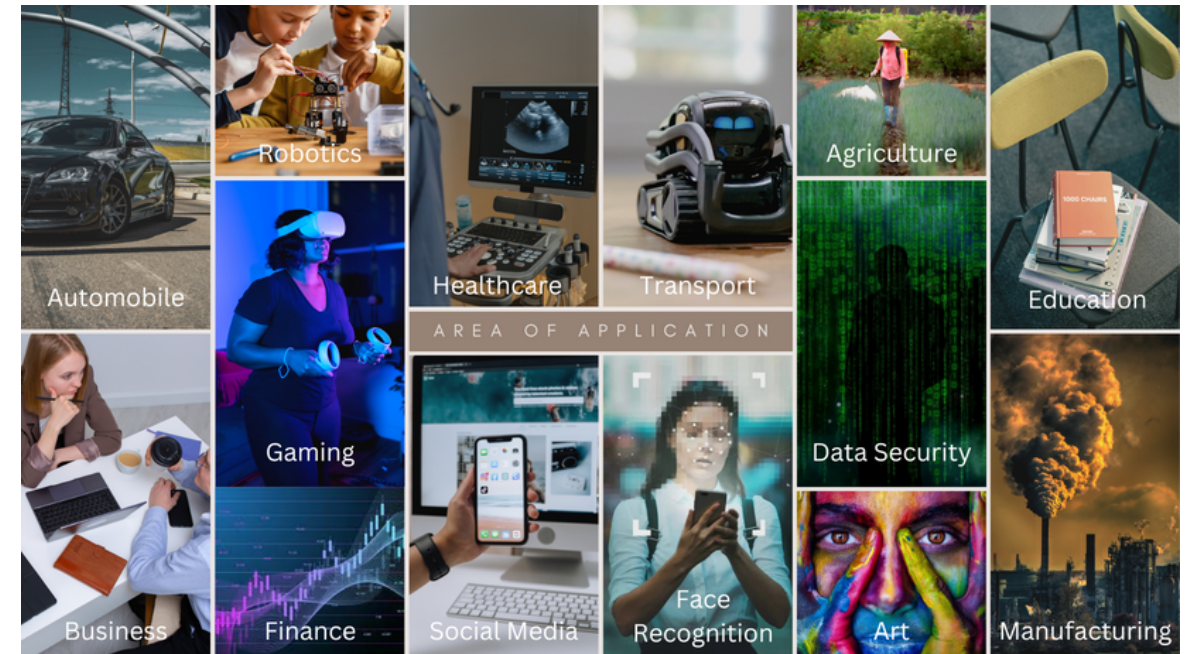
Artificial Intelligence

AI comes from a complex set of technologies, there are multiple ways to define it. Perhaps the most common and accurate way to describe it is as a way of computer systems analyzing data to be able to make decisions like a human would. Artificial Intelligence can analyze much more data than a human could. It can also dive deeper into the data with much more accuracy than a person, which makes AI a powerful tool for us to use as we make decisions about our daily lives.

Here is a definition of artificial intelligence from European Union:

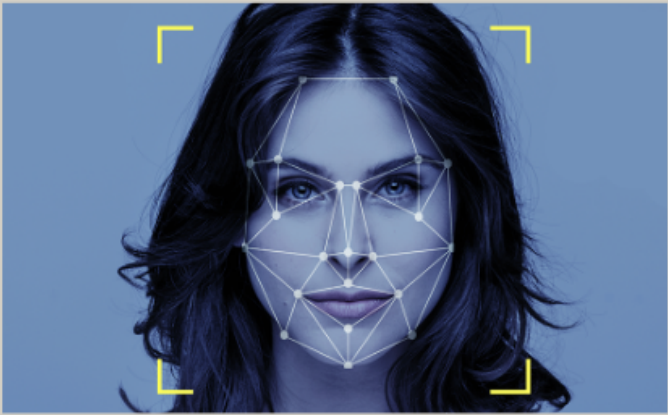
“Artificial intelligence (AI) refers to systems that show intelligent behaviour: by analysing their environment they can perform various tasks with some degree of autonomy to achieve specific goals.”

– European Union



DOES ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EXIST?

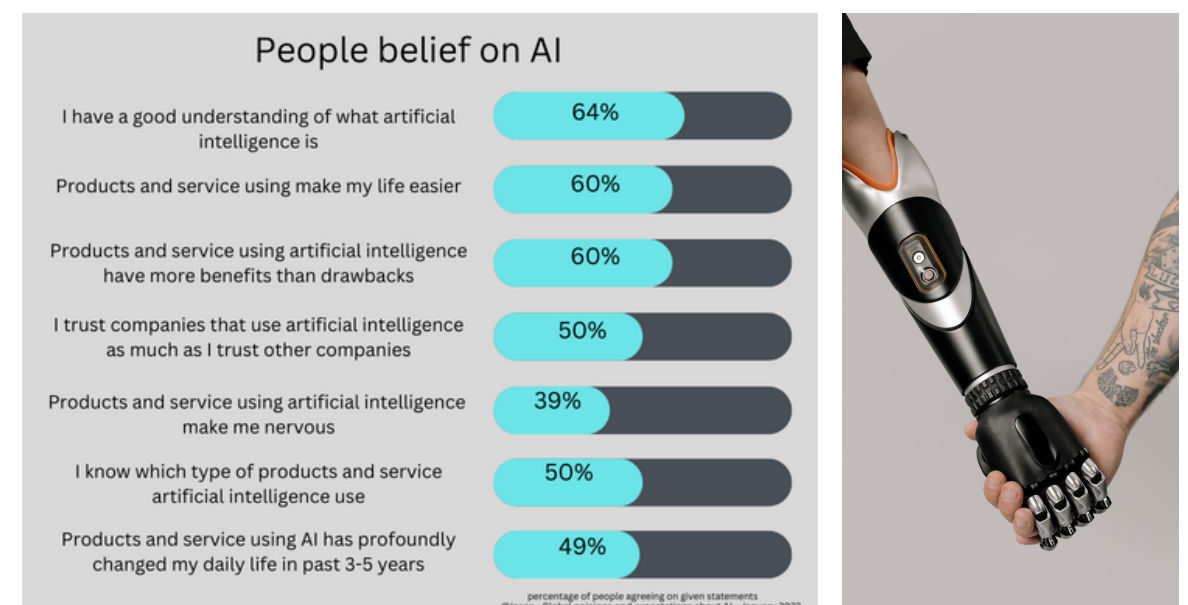
Most people were first exposed to the idea of artificial intelligence from Hollywood movies, long before they ever started seeing it in their day-to-day lives.



Right now, AI is extremely good at dealing with very narrow tasks, analyzing data, and making accurate decisions based on that data. However, it is not necessarily very good at doing several kinds of tasks all at once. This is known as narrow AI.

For example, artificial intelligence is very good at successfully driving a car, as self-driving car technologies have shown. In fact, it may be better at doing so than the average human! But using that same AI tool for fraud protection, as many banks and financial institutions are starting to do, would not work. While you can develop an AI tool to go very deeply into one task, it cannot usually do two very different things at the same time.

General AI, which refers to artificial intelligence being able to do multiple things simultaneously, is something that experts have been predicting for many years. However, based on our own research, I believe it could take many years, even decades, to fully achieve this, so for now we should focus on bringing narrow AI into as many industries as possible.



AI in Nepali society

There is some work done in the field of AI but these are not sufficient to catch-up on what is happening around the world. Although people's belief on Artificial Intelligence is still low in Nepal comparing to other developed countries, it's obvious that Nepal can benefit from AI, especially in Farming, Health Care, Resource provision, transportation, Electricity and so on. There are some companies and organizations that are working in AI, like Paaila Technology which is developing a robot waiter for the restaurant business. Apart from the waiter robots, they have developed speech recognition software for the Nepali language along with text to speech converter. In the educational sector, The Fuse Classroom's Education Digitization Grant program is an initiative to help schools and colleges to digitize educational institutions in Nepal that is launched during the COVID pandemic times. Wiseyak is a health care IT company that uses artificial intelligence and machine learning to provide services to hospitals, patients and doctors. The company is trying to build clinical decision support system which would make it easier for the doctors to reach to the proper diagnosis.

As much the job opportunity may disappear with the rise of Artificial Intelligence, new job opportunity also appears. Artificial Intelligence provides us the possibility of Smart Agriculture, Disaster preparedness and post-disaster reconstruction can help boost the economy as well as provide better service delivery in Nepal.