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Employees Relevancy Following The Emergence of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

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Abstract

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly hijacking human tasks at different organizational levels; thus, employees need to be skilled in various aspects beyond work limitations and prerequisites. The fourth industrial revolution has catapulted this into the work space, which encompasses a combination of different technologies that have gradually led to the blurring of lines between both the physical and digital world. It incessantly plays a pivotal role in how job tasks are conducted and has even aided in revamping the structure of the organization. Some authors contended that AI would primarily replace tasks not jobs. This implies that AI would concentrate more on difficult tasks that may probably require mechanical intelligence. It would furthermore supersede the human labor in analytical intelligence by determining tasks that entail rational thinking skills. With the probability game-changing of digitalization toward dehumanizing people, many areas are needed to unmask the strengths and abilities of employees. While AI experts are incessantly designing machines to imitate human skills including problem-solving, task-execution, to mention a few, it is however useful and reasonable to explore for employees' survival after the widespread emergence of AI machines. The capability of AI in data-processing requests for massive employees' concentration on preparing individuals toward understanding data, interpreting results and making decisions. Employees would solely be remembered in the era of AI if extraordinary skills that may not be discharged by AI machines are cultivated. In this regard, this paper attempts to unveil AI and employees' relevance in addition to the valuable and lucrative areas for employees in the immediate future.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Mechanical Intelligence, Employees, Digitalization.

Introduction

Technology is increasingly influencing global businesses, shaping the nature of work, advancing societies and replacing human beings as it relates to task-fulfilment (Agerfalk, 2020). We are in the 4th industrial revolution, with each industrial revolution characterized by a technological shift. This has contributed to the digitalization of broader areas of the work place as more organizations are embracing the latest technologies. Making machines intelligent.

There is no doubt that artificial intelligence has revolutionized operations in many industries. Artificial Intelligence is a rapidly evolving technology that has the potential to significantly impact the employment industry in the United States and other countries as well. In contrast to earlier technologies, which had narrow uses in sectors like manufacturing and medical, aspects of AI now have broad applications in highly-skilled, well-paid, and urban industries, such as financial management, health, and information systems. Artificial intelligence applications, particularly digitalization, have major impacts on the labor market. Understanding its effect will be critical in creating policies that encourage efficient labor markets for the benefit of employees, businesses, and society as a whole.

This paper contributes to the ongoing debate, surrounding the AI and employees' relevance in unveiling the valuable and lucrative areas of opportunities for employees in the immediate future. The literature has been organized around these areas; Artificial Intelligence and employees' relevance, Aspects of AI, Human Capital & AI, AI systems in human resources, Lucrative areas for employees in the immediate future and Concluding comments.

Research Statement

This paper adopts a theoretical approach which examines previous literature in the area of AI in relation to eliminating and creating some of today's most valued employment opportunities. Furthermore, it delves into the benefits and draw backs of AI in the course of expanding employee jobs, focusing primarily on relevance and future opportunities for employees.

Objectives

- The relevance of employees amidst the introduction of AI while simultaneously highlighting some aspects of AI and Human capital.
- To delve into the benefits and draw backs of AI in the course of expanding employees' jobs.
- To highlight some of the lucrative areas of opportunities for employees in the immediate future.

Literature Review

Artificial Intelligence and Employee Relevance

Huang et al. (2019) argued that human assignments and mechanical tasks will soon disappear in society in exchange for artificially intelligent machines. Similarly, according to Chaudhuri et al. (2020, as cited by Jaiswal et al., 2021) it was revealed that almost 77% of the workforce in China and 71% of the workforce in India have been swapped with AI. Some workers will eventually be replaced in factories by AI machines. For instance, in China, toward reducing the workforce of the country by 90%, a robot-only factory was established in China Dongguan factory city (Mihai, 2017).

Although technology usually improves productivity, AI has the potential to eliminate some of today's most valued employment opportunities. There will be significant differences in the effect of artificial intelligence and automation across different geographical regions, which will have concerns for the working population, urban-rural disparities, and differences in the distribution of income (Chen & Xu, 2018; Frai & László, 2021). Skills requirements, career possibilities, and the placement of employees across sectors and professions in both

developed and developing nations have the potential to be reshaped by artificial intelligence.

Davenport & Kirby (2016) opined that AI technologies need to be linked with organizational wants and organizational members' skills. Employees' skills toward ensuring AI operations are worthy of focus regarding retaining and maintaining the relevancy of the human resource department in business and the workplace. Toward ascertaining compatibilities of employees with AI technologies, Hancock Lazaroff-Puck & Rutherford (2020) projected that the upcoming decades will heavily require employees to update their abilities.

Aspects of AI

In the era of artificial intelligence, data and talent management; technology and IT firm investment is worth considering. Alongside human resources and business organizations, other sectors including the educational sector need reflection in conformity with AI technologies. While Tschang and Mezquita (2020) claimed that some scholars upheld that AI will increase the rate of unemployment, others argued that AI is a tool for augmenting available jobs. Furthermore, Jaiswal et al (2021) inferred that recruitment and applicant selection is the most significant aspect that demand AI in the sphere of human resource.

Another aspect that AI changes are on skills relevancy of employees in the labor market. In most cases, technology is developed to accomplish a particular function, thus altering the need for specific job skills. Low-skilled labor jobs will be eliminated in significant part as a result of the transition toward a more AI-dominated work market. Jobs that need a high level of repetitive tasks are the ones that are most susceptible to being affected by this change. The majority of employment generated by the development and expansion of artificial intelligence will require the retraining of existing employees. Skills demand changes as a consequence of these innovative ways of doing things which spread across the sector, affecting occupational skill needs as well as career progress and societal well-being (for instance, effects on employees' social identities) Martens & Tolan, 2018). When employees lack the required skills that AI has, they will be rendered irrelevant or redundant in the company.

Automated machines are expected to eliminate manufacturing jobs, agricultural production, food processing, retailing, transportation and logistics, and hospitality, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (Abuselidze & Mamaladze, 2021). If a recession is on the horizon, this trend toward automation may be accelerated as cash-strapped companies seek cost cutting methods.

Organizations will undoubtedly feel the presence of AI when cognitive competencies replace manual and human work. Despite the revolutionary pattern of AI, employees will remain relevant in the search for value-creation and sustainable competitive advantage. In essence, it is quite possible that employees could maintain their relevance in organizational-territory by upgrading their abilities in tasks that are arduous for AI to handle.

Human Capital & AI

Collins (2021) proposed High Commitment Human Resource (HCHR) toward focusing on human capital. HCHR concentrated on developing and investing in capabilities and skills. It creates somewhat of an enabling environment that boosts human capital and resources, which eventually propel competitive advantage (Chadwick & Flinchbaugh, 2020). The emergence of AI calls for employees' update in analytical, digital, agility, intelligent automation and prognostic modelling. The implication of these updates will be blatantly

evident in employees' loyalty, motivation and commitment. Toward avoiding technology replacement for all human-employments and positions, Lethal Autonomous Weapons System (LAWS) together with the military AI arms race were against in the absence of human control (Tegmark, 2015). One of the major logical arguments raised by those opposing LAWS which is an integral of AI is that life and death affairs should not be given to technology (Leveringhaus, 2018). In 2007, Robert Sparrow disagreed with the endorsement of the use of LAWS. The argument was based on the fact that AI applications won't render anyone responsible for the fault of the robot machine (Sparrow, 2007).

McKinsey Global Institute conducted a study on 800 occupations and 46 countries. In the developed countries, the study discovered that one-fifth of the worldwide workforce will be disturbed by the emergence of AI systems, software and machines (Muro, Maxim & Whiton, 2019). Similarly, Boston Consulting Group predicted that by 2025, average workers will be exchanged for robots and AI software. Moreover, Oxford University, in a study, anticipated the coming 20 years as a period of converting nearly 35% of UK existing jobs to automated systems (Wakefield, 2015). Automated machines have previously substituted physical and routine activities, while in the future time may supersede humans by controlling intellectual activities (Bughin et al., 2017).

Similarly, based on a paper published in the European Patent Office, by the year 2025, it is projected that 26-30 billion of devices will be embedded with softwares, processors and sensors that will be connected to (IoT) Internet of Things. This will allow independent functioning and data sharing among themselves which will facilitate the automation of the business process such as the intellectual jobs that were previously performed by people. They have already been in use in various sectors ranging from areas in manufacture, agriculture, the transportation industry and even health (Meniere, 2017). Furthermore, Frey & Osborne (2017) examined how susceptible jobs are to computerization for 702 occupations on US labour market by analyzing the number of jobs at risk and the relationship between an occupation's probability of computerization. The estimates revealed that around 47% of total US employment is in the high-risk category of automation.

Ai Systems in Human Resources

As AI relates to simplifying tasks, Amla & Malhotra (2017) revealed that HR departments are increasingly using modern systems and technologies including cloud computing, big data analysis, artificial intelligence among others to efficiently produce results and execute organizational duties. Organizational tasks such as recruitment, screening, interviewing, onboarding, etc. have been largely performed through robot process automation, chatbot and learning machines.

AI has the potential of revolutionizing HR at all levels including benefits, mobility, training, compensation, recruitment, career maintenance and management, to mention a few. It has the capacity of gathering the highest level of talents and values to companies and HR departments. With the aid of AI, human resources departments can use competition market data, internet data analysis and human capital performance indicators to determine growth, thus, ascertain employee's productivity. AI can be a representation of human intelligence and reasoning and certain gaps can be filled by AI in HR. The gaps include:

Social Dialogue Gap: Demotivation, tensions and lack of trust may emerge in the absence of AI technologies that may ensure smooth social dialogue flow. It is fundamentally wrong for a company to operate without promoting effective communication and collaboration among the employees.

Skills Management: AI could cater for the management of talents and skills in the company, thus, increase staff's motivation and strengthen teams' growth. AI could be used to reduce employees' stress, pressure and suicide.

Recruitment: Companies, workplaces and HR departments need to take into account the competencies of applicants during the recruitment and selection process. This, in turn, can lead the organization towards a success-path. The definition of the required candidates and minimum requirements to be possessed by the applicant can be facilitated through AI. While recruiting employees, manual procedures for interview and selection including telephone, manual registration etc., can be replaced with AI tools and technologies.

Amla & Malhotra (2017) reported that out of all companies and industries, just 40 per cent are adopting artificial intelligence. The authors divulged that GE, Facebook and SAT organizations use digital technologies while interviewing, screening, identifying and selecting talents for organizations. In the recruitment process, AI could scrutinize the application and update candidates of application-result within a jiffy. Chatbot system is equally beneficial while solving recruitment-process challenges in the organization. De Mendonca et al. (2018) contended that AI can expose the profile of workers and positions for applicants. Nespoli (2004) believed that AI can reduce organizational errors, problem resolution times and human actions. AI manages workplace, HR departments and organization effectively; advances and enhances methods for validating, collecting and sustaining required data by the organization. Furthermore, Reilly (2018) argued that AI machines are more productive than HR teams as the former limit attrition rate and improve employee's retention. Therefore, in essence it may be concluded that AI can act perfectly and accurately within a short time because it thinks, feels, plans and executes tasks without human-interference.

Interview and Screening Process: Evaluating interviewees with word exams and improving candidate's experience make artificial intelligence useful in the interviewing process. With the help of Amy, Clara and Ay software, interviews and meetings can be scheduled.

Lessen Administrative Stress and Burden: AI can be used to relieve stress and burden. The proper implementation of AI technologies reduces the multitasking roles of the human resources department. Apart from the fact that AI heightens the performance of the HR department, it efficiently handles the workload of the organization.

Selecting Candidate: Based on the observation of Rajesh, Kandaswamy & Rakesh (2018) it was noticed that the right candidates possessing the required skills could be identified through AI technologies.

Hiring Employees: AI-aided technologies can enable the hiring process to be faster and effective. Iqbal (2018) for instance reported that Armour American Company receives nearly 30,000 resumes monthly. To entertain these resumes, Hirevue AI-enabled digital recruitment system was adopted to address the hiring process challenge. The system enables managers to prepare pre-recorded questions for applicants' interviews, invited the qualified ones through mobile or webcam devices, and thus results in hiring suitable candidates. Hence, it is certain that AI technologies help in hiring candidates.

Limit and Prevent Discriminations: AI will help in preventing biased selection and consideration in an organization. Beyond analyzing employment and task descriptions, AI can guarantee translucency at workplaces (Rathi, 2018). Therefore, it is arguable and established that artificial intelligence (AI) could be helpful for continuous improvement in HR departments, workplaces and organizations.

Lucrative Areas for Employees in the Immediate Future

The upcoming generations and future employees have unlimited opportunities alongside the advent of AI software, machines, systems and technologies. When it comes to AI, one cannot deny the range of opportunities it offers in different areas. AI shall create jobs, though; its emergence goes hand in hand with the responsibility of updating one's abilities, qualifications and skills. The game-changing opportunities that can be provided by AI include: **Machine operator:** Employees can be an operator to several machines. AI will undoubtedly introduce machines to many companies, industries and sectors. These machines can only discharge tasks if a human operator is actively involved. Hence, upcoming generations and future employees can learn how to operate these machines toward analyzing a large number of data and completing many assignments. In other words, jobs like engineers, data analytics, technology suppliers, software developers, robot designers etc. will be highly needed and marketable.

Trainers: trainers will also be needed for many technologies, especially, the modern ones. Their job is to ensure that the trainees become experts in operating the technologies. Trainers ascertain that those tasks are performed and achieved perfectly by technologies. It is the responsibility of trainers to reproduce and mimic human attitudes with AI algorithms.

Explainers: This is another opportunity for future employees and upcoming generations. Explainers will provide an avenue for strategists, transparency analyst and context designer as they bring business leaders and technologists nearer to each other. Explainers will assist many executives when machines contradict their personal decisions, thus amount to negative and unwanted results.

Sustainers: include machine relations manager, automation economist and ethicist. They maintain AI systems under their programmed functions such as ensuring that outrageous costs and unexpected accidents are immediately controlled. It is their responsibility to compare and contrast the performances of smart machines from poor machines.

Engineers and Digital analysts: On the individual level, it is blatantly evident that humans are the ones to complement AI technologies because the challenges of technology are mostly handled by a human than a technologist. Digital analyst and engineers will undoubtedly find a rewarding and satisfying opportunity alongside the advent of AI. The growing need for data engineers has been the forefront of discussions.

Experts in math, algorithms, robotics, coding, shall be surpassing and unprecedented in the magnitude of relevancy.

Conclusion

Instead of raising concerns on the growing AI technologies, it is in every way important to highlight the capacities and incapacities of AI. To cope effectively and productively with AI, humans need exposure, experience, updates training and skills. AI basically aims at complementing and supporting humans in tedious tasks. It also attempts to expand and provide opportunities for people, specifically, generation Y and Z. AI is a dependent technology that needs human for successful execution of some action, delivery and performance. Its activities will definitely be tracked and determined by humans.

Without a doubt, artificial intelligence has already changed our lives and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. However, although it is simple to raise concerns about artificial intelligence pushing unemployment numbers into the double digits and ruining employees' relevance, the reality is that the result will be more complex than just putting people out of work or shifting sectors. These findings are consistent with recent technological

developments documented in the literature. The AI discourse is ongoing, in the future AI may generate new employment opportunities, strengthen the need for current fields of expertise, shape the skills of a contemporary workforce, and even allow for a more rapid recruiting process. However, although most of the discussion surrounding artificial intelligence and the labor market has focused on automation's potential to replace people, it is also important to consider how AI might assist employers to create new jobs or assist job seekers to avoid unemployment in the future. Additionally, many of these occupations will likely deviate from the conventional full-time work paradigm that we are used to nowadays. Instead, more businesses are anticipated to grow their remote labor force and depend on contractors to meet the vast majority of their staff needs in the future.

Contribution

This paper will make contributions and bring significance to the ongoing debate, surrounding the relevance of AI in unveiling the valuable and lucrative areas of opportunities for employees in the immediate future. Previous studies differed in terms of objectives, not all previous studies have addressed all areas simultaneously so this paper expands further on this.

The growing understanding of the need for the next generation and unforeseeable technological developments will be valuable for employees in the future. The focus of the government and future leaders should be toward nurturing the talent and encouraging experimentation. This paper focused on some theoretical contribution related to the objectives and the varied views through the narrative review of literature. It is plausible to enhance Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics subjects as tomorrow's workspace will be different from the past, providing more AI related opportunities for employees. This paper will make contributions to the literature in the areas of Artificial Intelligence, employee relevance and other lucrative areas for employees. Even though there are drawbacks it provides a better understanding of how AI can be practically implemented and coexist with employees in organizations to enhance performance that can validate its use.

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