



AN EMPIRICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE IMPACT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ON ACCOUNTING PRACTICE IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT: *This study carried out an empirical investigation on the impact of artificial intelligence on accounting practice in Nigeria. The study adopted a survey research design. Data for the study were extracted from one hundred and forty-eight (148) respondents extracted from selected organizations in Abuja. A questionnaire was used as the primary instrument for data collection. The data were analyzed with the aid of frequency tables and percentages and the hypotheses were tested with probability values extracted from the regression output. The major findings of the study revealed that expert systems and neural networks contribute positively and significantly to accounting practice in Nigeria. The implication of this finding is that any accountant that does not arm their skills with the knowledge of artificial intelligence software, may become irrelevant in the nearest future. It is therefore the recommendation of this study that accountants should attend seminars and workshops on modern accounting methodical practices in order to further their knowledge of and proficiency with artificial intelligence technologies, which will increase their dynamism in functional accounting activities and secondly; to prepare upcoming accountants for what lies ahead in the business world, the government should incorporate artificial intelligence courses into accounting at the undergraduate and graduate levels in tertiary institutions.*

KEYWORDS: Artificial Intelligence, AI, Accounting Practice, Nigeria



INTRODUCTION

Understanding artificial intelligence (AI) is essential for the development of technology. In addition to how successfully it manages time and transactions, it is judged on how ferociously it outsmarts the intelligence of conventional humans. The accounting and financial reporting operations of firms are allegedly among the numerous economic sectors where AI is being prepared for prime time as a disruptive force (Stagliano & Tanzola, 2020). In light of this, artificial intelligence is rapidly altering how organizations operate and is predicted to gradually replace the essential tasks performed by accountants (Odoh et al., 2018). Due to this, the accounting profession now focuses more on analysis and translation than on organizing and processing data (Giles, 2019). A different dramatic class of machines that can perform tasks requiring reasoning, judgment, and perception that were previously only capable by humans are also being created by AI and advances in computer science. It appears that the use of intelligent machines is significantly simplifying functionalized activities (Stancheva-Todorova, 2018). As a result, artificial intelligence is increasingly posing a serious threat to the conventional method of performing accounting functions. The development of software programs that attempt to replicate expert behavior and expertise, store human knowledge and experience, and transform it into rules to solve accounting problems, perform some accounting tasks, and bring about notable development and changes to the accounting industry is clearly evidence of this (Stancheva-Todorova, 2018, citing Sutton et al., 2016; Luo et al., 2018). It is in line with this that this paper tries to examine the impact of artificial intelligence on accounting practice in Nigeria.

Although the increasing relevance of AI in altering the traditional accountant's approach to accounting functions is widely acknowledged, scholars, accounting professionals, and other stakeholders are concerned about how accountants in emerging economies, particularly in Nigeria, will respond to this development. It has been argued that AI may reduce the laborious and meticulous nature of the accounting profession by creating new jobs while also eliminating some (Odoh et al., 2018). Studies have also opined that with AI's technologies like expert systems, neural networks, robots, fuzzy logic, and intelligent agents, among others, accounting, auditing and, the related professions will not only experience changes, but it will alter the operational functionality of humans (Giles, 2019). Similarly, Odoh et al. (2018) argued that the strategy of AI includes the progressive understanding of more complex human tasks to reveal how machines could perform these in mortal processes or through physical strength.

Objectives of the Study

The general objective of the study is to ascertain the impact of artificial intelligence on accounting practice in Nigeria. In the course of the study, the following specific objectives will be actualized:

1. To ascertain the impact of expert systems on accounting practice in Nigeria, and
2. To evaluate the impact of Neural Networks on accounting practice in Nigeria.

Research Questions

1. To what extent have expert systems impacted accounting practice in Nigeria?
2. How has neural network impacted accounting practice in Nigeria?



Hypotheses of the Study

H₀₁: Expert systems have no significant impact on accounting practice in Nigeria

H₀₂: Neural systems have no significant impact on accounting practice in Nigeria

LITERATURE REVIEW

REVIEW OF CONCEPTS

Artificial Intelligence and Accounting Practice

In order to simulate human characteristics in computer systems, artificial intelligence combines physiology, computer science, philosophy, mathematics, statistics, and linguistics (Taghizadeh, 2013). John McCarthy, who coined the term "artificial intelligence" and other computer specialists are thought to have made the initial proposal for artificial intelligence in 1956 at the University of Dartmouth seminar in America (Luo et al., 2018). Giles (2019), however, argued that Logic Theorist, a program developed by Herbert Simon, Allen Newell, and John Shaw and intended to mimic a human's problem-solving abilities, is where AI first made its appearance. The idea of intellectual machines, according to Greeman (2017), can be found in Greek mythology, which includes tales of Hephaestus, a blacksmith who created mechanical robots. The realistic concept of AI then started at the first conference in 1956 with regard to the development of stored-program computers in the middle of the 20th century (Greeman, 2017).

Studies have also shown changes in the transactional and functional activities of the international accounting profession since its inception. Issa et al. (2016) claim that the development of technologies has driven fundamental changes to industries as a whole, including the auditing industry. Comparatively, the development of accounting software, artificial intelligence, and robotics has changed accounting systems and presented challenges for accountants to advance their technological proficiency (Odoh et al., 2018). In general, the use of AI for accounting-related tasks will allow for the effective and efficient performance of tasks (Issa et al., 2016). In light of this claim, it is anticipated that the use of AI will improve accounting function performance and eliminate some associated costs (Odoh et al., 2018). Arguing divergently, Greenman (2017) opined that the advances of technology, specifically in AI, will take over human functions, leading to loss of jobs to more experienced and better prepared professionals. Accordingly, technological advancement, especially AI, will lead to changes in the tools used and will be applied on a large scale to human life (Ping & Ying, 2018). Thus, accountants and other professionals must adapt to these changes to be relevant in the contemporary and future business world.



Accounting Practice Dynamics and Artificial Intelligence

Accounting is analytically based, and through functionality, it can be perceived from a set of rules on how transactions are recorded and the outcome reported. The primary functions of accounting include recording, classifying, summarizing, interpreting, communicating, and reporting. The dimensional functions of this profession commence from the elementary understanding of double-entry principles. This is the very foundation on which accounting entries are eventually accomplished. In the past, these functions were documented manually with the extraction of accounts balances from the general ledger. Odoh et al. (2018) believed that the application of AI dates back to decades ago. Consequent to this, all aspects of accounting are believed to be influenced by AI technology (Carol & O'Leary, 2013, cited by Odoh et al., 2018). Davenport (2016), cited by Odoh et al. (2018), argued that with the advent of AI, a critical accounting expert who checks and cross foot double entry transactions would likely cease to exist. It is argued, however, that AI would not bring an end to human intelligence and knowledge in auditing and other accounting functions (Davenport, 2016).

Stancheva-Todorova (2018) is also of the view that AI is greatly changing the roles of accounting profession in industries and the related functions. In the opinion of this scholar in Figure 1, AI will impact on accounting profession from the perspectives of "New skills", "New tasks and roles", "Education and training", and through "Task displacement". Accordingly, the shift in accountants' roles is a response to their intensive work with data analytics, which complement business awareness, understanding and strong numeracy skills (Stancheva-Todorova, 2018). This is in agreement with the argument of Verma and Sharma (2019) that we are in an era of AI with the world encircled by the usage of smart machines for daily routines. According to these scholars, the increasing rate of advancement in automation and operations is creating a global impact on labour markets.

Regarding the functions of accounting like recording, classifying, and analysis, among others, AI is likely to alternate accountants outside transactions' input functions (Stancheva-Todorova, 2018). In the contemporary accounting department, intelligent machines only need to receive inputs from an accountant, and with proper coding, financial reports come out in real-time. Chukwuani and Egiyi (2020) also believed that the inclusion of AI in accounting functions has led to a complete transformation of the accounting system. Accordingly, the use of the traditional accounting system has greatly faded, leading to changes in the mode of accounting functions both positively and negatively (Chukwuani & Egiyi, 2020). The positives include the optimisation of the setting of accounting posts and practical working modes, and adversely, it could lead to the reduction in the workforce (Chukwuani & Egiyi, 2020). This implies that some accounting functions like recording, classification, tax preparations of staff emoluments, generation of trial balance through the manual general ledger, and computations and charging of depreciation on Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) to financial reports can now be automated.

Expert Systems (ES)

Taghizadeh et al. (2013) opined that ES are computer programs that simulate the manner of an expert in a diverse field. The scholars believed that they detect rationality forms, which may decide a specialist based on it and patterned in the way humans make decisions. In the view of Odoh et al. (2018), ES are AI programs adopted in the 1980s that attain a level of expertise, with the capability of replacing human speciality in decision making. Accordingly, knowledge



engineering is the process of building an expert system, which must ensure that the design has all the knowledge needed to solve a problem; otherwise, the decisions might not be dependable (Taghizadeh et al., 2013).

Neural Network (NN)

These are electronic models of the structure of the human brain neural (Taghizadeh et al., 2013). In this tool, the devices of teachings and learning are primarily on experience, but the electronic models rely on the same pattern and models, which deal with different computational methods that are mostly adopted by computer systems (Taghizadeh et al., 2013; Odoh et al., 2018). Studies revealed that NN is an important aspect of AI, which is of interest due to its ability to perform the functions of the human brain (Kuma & Thakur, 2012; Taghizadeh et al., 2013; Odoh et al., 2018, citing Kuma & Thakur, 2012 and Taghizadeh et al., 2013). Taghizadeh et al. (2013), however, argued further that the process model as data storage and analysis of the model form the basis of modern computing and that the field from computational knowledge does not use any traditional programming methods.

Theoretical Framework

Classical Theory of Artificial Intelligence (CTAI)

The Classical Theory of Artificial Intelligence serves as the foundation for this research (CTAI). The theory, according to Muller (2012), is focused on the question of whether AI is even conceivable. It prompts inquiries like, "Can a machine think?" and "Can a machine do x?" According to one theory, AI will likely never completely replace human intelligence. However, Super Artificial Intelligence (SAI) machines, which were developed quickly, are in a serious race with Human inventors, according to Zohuri and Rahmani (2020). Thus, while this theory stands on the premix that humans will still provide the necessary transactions for AI to operate, it is still a matter of argument that several operations of humans have not been totally taken over by AI in the recent years. Despite the advancement in AI, however, this theory is still relevant as to the limitations of what machines can perform, asserting that AI is fundamentally limited and should be replaced with other methods (Muller, 2012). While this study focusses on the link between artificial intelligence and accounting practice, this theory creates more awareness as to the continued relevance of accountants on accounting activities but with dimensional changes in approach.

Empirical Studies

Israel (2021) investigated the relationship between Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Accountants' Approach to Accounting Functions (AAAF). The study used the research design method of a structured questionnaire. The targeted population and the sample size were 205, which comprises accountants with experience in systems application for accounting and other financial transactions functions. A purposive sampling technique was adopted to determine the respondents. The results of the logit regression analysis revealed that with the t-calculated of $3.183 > t$ -tabulated of 0.002 at a 5% level of significance, artificial intelligence has a significant positive impact on accountants' approach to accounting functions. This implies that when AI is adopted, accountants will significantly change their approach to functional activities. The study recommended the need for accountants to be better equipped with diverse AI technologies and accounting software packages through training and retraining, to enhance their functional abilities, effectiveness, and efficiency.



Kumari et al. (2013) examined intelligent computing relating to cloud-computing. The study contends the real understanding of natural language and the fulfillment of cloud computing. The result revealed that implanting artificial intelligence into codes that will run in the cloud will improve efficiency and also introduce intelligent computing language in the software for a machine to take decisions autonomously and in real-time. Ping and Ying (2018) investigated the effect of AI on employment. The study revealed that human beings had seen more of the substitution effect brought by AI to employment but neglected its creative effect.

Muslim and Hassan (2022) conducted a study on the effect of artificial intelligence and its associated variables on job performance. Privacy, consent, security, scalability, the role of corporations, and the changing nature of business are used as a study community and focused on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in China, business sector. To collect data from the random sample, a questionnaire was constructed. 220 managers were included in the sample. Additionally, the study took a descriptive method and analyzed the data using SPSS. The findings indicated that artificial intelligence has a statistically significant effect on employment. Performance is determined solely by factors. Additionally, the findings indicated that gender, academic credentials, and years of experience all have a statistically significant impact on work performance. If the implementation science community wants to aid in the general adoption of business, the concerns outlined in this research will demand significant attention in the future years.

Elegunde (2021) carried out a study on the effects of Artificial Intelligence on business performance in the banking industry (A Study of Access Bank Plc and United Bank for Africa-Uba). A survey research design was used in this study. 200 copies of questionnaires were administered to employees and customers of Access Bank Plc and United Bank for Africa (UBA). A simple random sampling technique was adopted in selecting respondents, and content validity was employed to validate the research instrument. Data collected were analyzed with regression analysis. Customer satisfaction, service quality, competitive advantage and employees' efficiency; as nonfinancial business measures were all discovered and proven to be aided by artificial intelligence. Findings aligned with previous related studies on artificial intelligence (although which centered on financial objectives), and its effect on business. The R² value of 0.574, 0.445, 0.295 and 0.386 explained the level of variation in each of the sampled variables explained by AI. Banks and other technology receptive firms in Nigeria should push for full adoption of AI, as it brings greater value, efficiency and effectiveness to business. However, firms should be strategic and purpose driven when adopting AI, in order to get the best from its application in their respective firms.

The study by Soni et al. (2018) investigated the effect of the amazingly increasing intelligent behavior of machines on the growth rate and changing behavior of businesses all over the world. The study attempts at answering the questions raised by investigating 100 AI start-ups born all over the world, to meet customers' expectations in different application areas. The research showed that increases in productivity, time and cost efficiency, human error reduction, faster business decisions, customer preference, predictions, and sales maximization are some of the merits of automation, cognitive technologies, and data analysis using AI algorithms. In furtherance, the research stated categorically that the AI wave is on and the appetite for AI growth is on an exponential increase. The research aims at carrying out further studies which will help the human community to get prepared and accept the changes with the rapid infusion of AI in human life and business.



Yeshodeep and Åberg (2018) carried out a study on artificial intelligence in Customer Service: A Study on Customers' Perceptions regarding IVR Services in the Banking Industry. The purpose of the paper was to explore consumer perspectives on automated IVR (International Voice Recognition) customer services. Based on the findings of their study, they argued that customers are open to learning and adapting to IVR telephone customer service as long as it is advanced enough so that it can provide adequate customer service. Customers using the services currently are in doubt about the benefits of the system and are left without a choice. Leading to this it was found that customers are skeptical towards the quality of AI-driven customer service as it is today, however, they do express optimism and believe that it will be better in the future and they have accepted that there will be a change in technology.

Gap in Literature

The empirical studies reviewed in this study reveal that there is an avalanche of empirical studies on the concept of artificial intelligence. However, it was discovered that there is a paucity of studies on the impact of artificial intelligence on accounting practice in Nigeria. The literature is rather focused on the impact of artificial intelligence on business performance and other variables like customer service. This study therefore focused on presenting its findings on the impact of artificial intelligence on accounting practice in Nigeria.

METHODS

Design

The research design is a plan and structure that guide the investigator in the process of data collection, analysis, and interpretation. It is a logical model or proof that permits the researcher to draw inferences concerning the causal relationship among the variables being investigated (Njoku, 2014). This research adopted a survey research design, which attempts to describe and explain conditions of the present by using many subjects and questionnaires to fully describe a phenomenon. The reason for using a survey research design is to collect relevant data from respondents in the field and make analysis and interpretation easy.

Population/Sample Size Determination

The targeted population, which was also the sample size, was one hundred and forty-eight (148) and determined through the purposive sampling technique. The study area is Abuja, Nigeria. The targeted population was chosen bearing in mind that Abuja city is a developed hub of Nigeria, and the accounts department of many organizations is computerized.

Instrument for Data Collection

Primary data were used for this study's objectives. The questionnaire was properly written using the 5-scale Likert system, and it was used to collect the data. The questionnaire was chosen because it has the following benefits: it enables the collection of a lot of data from a lot of people in a short amount of time; the researcher can quickly and easily quantify the results of the questionnaire; the results can be analyzed scientifically; and after the data has been quantified, it can be used to compare and contrast other researches.



Validation of the Instrument

The ability of a scale to measure what it is intended to measure is referred to as validity. By allowing other researchers to evaluate the content validity of the questionnaire items to see if they adequately covered the domain of the construct, measurement validity was established.

Reliability of the Instrument

A reliability test was conducted on the instrument to determine how consistent the responses are. The researcher utilized test/retest method of reliability testing whereby the questionnaire was administered at two different times to the same group of respondents. The Cronbach Alpha reliability test was utilized to conduct the reliability test. A Cronbach alpha coefficient of 0.78 was derived and was considered acceptable.

Administration of the Instrument

The major instrument for data collection in this study will be the questionnaire. The questionnaire covered information on the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents. The questionnaire was designed to have two sections. Specifically, all questions in section 'A' were drawn to provide some general and demographic information about the respondents, while the remaining questions in section 'B' were formed and directed to address the research questions. The instrument was designed in a 4-point Likert scale format.

Method of Data Analysis

Frequency tables and percentages were adopted to analyze the demographic characteristics of the respondents and leading research questions while regression analysis was adopted to test the hypotheses of the study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this section of the study, the demographic characteristics of the respondents were analyzed using the tabled frequencies and corresponding percentages. The information was gathered through the distribution of well-structured questionnaires. Regression analysis was used in conjunction with the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) technique to test the study's hypotheses. E-views software was adopted for the statistical analysis.

Analysis of the Returned Questionnaires

The demographic characteristics of the respondents were carried out in this section with the application of tabled frequencies and percentages.

Table 1: Gender Distribution of the Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	89	60
Female	59	40
Total	148	100

Source: *Field Survey, 2023.*



Table 1 reveals that 60% of the respondents are male while 40% of the respondents are female. This implies that there are more male employees among the respondents than females in the selected companies.

Table 2: Age Distribution of the Respondent

Age (In Years)	Frequency	Percentage
18-25	25	17
26-35	29	20
36-45	78	53
46 and above	16	10
Total	148	100

Source: *Field Survey, 2023.*

It can be clearly seen that table 2 shows that 25 (17%) are between the ages of 18-25 years of age, 29 (20%) of the respondents are between 26-35 years of age, 53% corresponding to 78 respondents are between 36-45 years and 16 (10%) between the ages of 46 years or above. This implies that greater number of the respondents are within 36-45 years age bracket.

Table 3: Respondent Years of Working Experience

Working Experience	Frequency	Percentage
1-3	11	7
4-6	29	20
6 years and above	108	73
Total	148	100

Source: *Field Survey, 2023.*

Table 3 statistically shows that only 7% of the respondents (representing two persons) have 1-3 years of working experience. The table shows that 20% (representing 29 persons) have 4-6 years of working experience while 73% (representing 108 persons) have working experience that is 6 years and above. This information showed that the majority of the respondents have acquired good working experience and therefore should have a good knowledge of the study variables

Table 4: Expert systems have significantly improved accounting practice in our company

Item	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	71	48
Agree	48	32
Undecided	5	3
Disagree	15	10
Strongly Disagree	9	6
Total	148	100

Source: *Field Survey, 2023.*



From table 4, 7 (48%) of the respondents strongly agree that expert systems have significantly improved accounting practice in their company, 48 (32%) agree, 5 (3%) are undecided, 15 (10%) disagree, and 9 (6%) strongly disagree. This entails on average that the majority of the respondents agree that expert systems have significantly improved accounting practice in their company.

Table 5: Expert Systems (ES) have significantly contributed to accounting efficacy in your company

Item	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	89	60
Agree	29	20
Undecided	15	10
Disagree	12	8
Strongly Disagree	3	2
Total	148	100

Source: *Field Survey, 2023.*

Table 5 reveals that 89 (60%) of the respondents strongly disagree that expert systems have significantly contributed to accounting efficacy in their company. 29 (20%) agree, 15 (10%) are undecided, 12 (8%) disagree and 3 (2%) strongly disagree.

Table 6: Neural Networks (NN) have significantly improved accounting practice in our company

Item	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	71	48
Agree	48	32
Undecided	5	3
Disagree	15	10
Strongly Disagree	9	6
Total	148	100

Source: *Field Survey, 2023.*

From table 6, 71 (48%) of the respondents strongly agree that neural networks have significantly improved accounting practice in their company, 48 (32%) agree, 5 (3%) are undecided, 15 (10%) disagree, and 9 (6%) strongly disagree. This entails on average that the majority of the respondents agree that neural networks have significantly improved accounting practices in their company.



Table 7: Neural Networks (NN) have significantly contributed to accounting efficacy in your company

Item	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	89	60
Agree	29	20
Undecided	15	10
Disagree	12	8
Strongly Disagree	3	2
Total	148	100

Source: *Field Survey, 2023.*

Table 7 reveals that 89 (60%) of the respondents strongly disagree that neural networks have significantly contributed to accounting efficacy in their company. 29 (20%) agree, 15 (10%) are undecided, 12 (8%) disagree and 3 (2%) strongly disagree.

Test of Hypotheses

Test of Hypothesis One

H₀₁: Expert systems have no significant impact on accounting practice in Nigeria

Presentation and Analysis of Result

Dependent Variable: ACP

Method: Least Squares

Date: 06/13/23 Time: 19:26

Sample: 148

Included observations: 148

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	0.213807	3.400219	0.985468	0.3254
ES	0.221100	0.032170	19.30944	0.0041

R-squared	0.609384	Mean dependent var	20.72614
Adjusted R-squared	0.607750	S.D. dependent var	81.27694
S.E. of regression	50.90364	Akaike info criterion	10.70601
Sum squared resid	619292.2	Schwarz criterion	10.73493
Log likelihood	-1288.074	Hannan-Quinn criter.	10.71766
F-statistic	372.8547	Durbin-Watson stat	1.825809
Prob(F-statistic)	0.445874		

Source: *Author's Computation Using E-views*

Model Line: $ACP = b_0 + b_1ES + U$

Regression Line: $ACP = 0.213807 + 0.221100ES$

Where; ACP = Accounting Practice, ES = Expert Systems and U = stochastic error term.



Decision Rule

The decision rule is to reject the null hypothesis (**H₀**) if the probability is less than 0.05 and to accept the null hypothesis (**H₀**) if the probability is greater than 0.05.

Decision

From the above analysis, it is clearly seen that the probability value = 0.0041 is less than 0.05. This compels the rejection of the null hypothesis (**H₀**) and the acceptance of the alternative (**H_a**). Hence, expert systems have no significant impact on accounting practice in Nigeria.

Test of Hypothesis One

H₀₁: Neural Networks have no significant impact on accounting practice in Nigeria

Presentation and Analysis of Result

Dependent Variable: ACP

Method: Least Squares

Date: 06/13/23 Time: 21:46

Sample: 148

Included observations: 148

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	4.165906	3.381851	1.231842	0.2192
NN	0.412227	0.032069	19.40296	0.0189
R-squared	0.611682	Mean dependent var	21.01245	
Adjusted R-squared	0.610057	S.D. dependent var	81.25610	
S.E. of regression	50.74070	Akaike info criterion	10.69960	
Sum squared resid	615333.7	Schwarz criterion	10.72852	
Log likelihood	-1287.302	Hannan-Quinn criter.	10.71125	
F-statistic	376.4749	Durbin-Watson stat	1.836720	
Prob(F-statistic)	0.990231			

Source: *Author's Computation Using E-views*

Model Line: $ACP = b_0 + b_1NN + U$

Regression Line: $ACP = 4.165906 + 0.412227NN$

Where; ACP = Accounting Practice, NN = Neural Network and U = Stochastic Error Term.



Decision Rule

The decision rule is to reject the null hypothesis (**H₀**) if the probability is less than 0.05 and to accept the null hypothesis (**H₀**) if the probability is greater than 0.05.

Decision

From the above analysis, it is clearly seen that the probability value = 0.0189 is less than 0.05. This compels the rejection of the null hypothesis (**H₀**) and the acceptance of the alternative (**H_a**). Hence; neural networks have no significant impact on accounting practice in Nigeria

IMPLICATIONS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Implications

This research has been able to carry out an empirical analysis of the impact of artificial intelligence on accounting practice in Nigeria. Two variables were used to measure artificial intelligence, namely; expert systems and neural networks. From the findings of the study, it was discovered that artificial intelligence has a positive and significant impact on accounting practice in Nigeria. The implication of this finding is that any accountant that does not arm their skills with the knowledge of artificial intelligence software may become irrelevant in the nearest future.

Conclusion

The importance of carrying out a study on the impact of artificial intelligence on accounting practice in Nigeria cannot be overemphasized. Based on the findings extracted from the results, the researcher concludes that artificial intelligence is gradually becoming an integral part of accounting practice in Nigeria.

Recommendations

1. Accountants should attend seminars and workshops on modern accounting methodical practices in order to further their knowledge of and proficiency with artificial intelligence technologies, which will increase their dynamism in functional accounting activities.
2. To prepare upcoming accountants for what lies ahead in the business world, the government should incorporate artificial intelligence courses into accounting at the undergraduate and graduate levels in tertiary institutions.
3. Organizations should be encouraged to invest more in automated accounting and effectively train their accounts staff for better efficiency in financial and other accounting functional reporting.



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