

Role of Artificial Intelligence in Business Communication

Yugeetha Balan^a, Nivakan Sritharan^{b*}

^a School of Design and Arts, Faculty of Business, Design and Arts, Swinburne University Technology, Sarawak ^b School of Business, Faculty of Business, Design and Arts, Swinburne University Technology, Sarawak

Corresponding author: Yugeetha Balan, ybalan@swinburne.edu.my

Abstract

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in business communication has revolutionized how organizations interact with customers and manage internal communications. However, this transformation is accompanied by significant ethical and practical challenges, including concerns about data privacy, biases in AI-generated content, and the potential erosion of authentic human interactions. This paper identifies key research gaps in the current understanding of AI's impact on business communication, particularly in addressing the complexities of AI bias, the need for robust oversight mechanisms, and the ethical considerations in preserving human-centric communication. Future research is recommended to focus on developing advanced frameworks for bias detection and mitigation in AI systems, strategies to balance AI efficiency with the maintenance of personal connections, and the creation of genuine corporate social responsibility (CSR) practices that integrate AI ethics deeply into organizational processes. Additionally, exploring the broader implications of AI on the meaningfulness of work is crucial to ensure that AI advancements do not undermine the intrinsic value of human labour. Through addressing these research areas, businesses can better navigate the complexities of AI in communication and foster more ethical, effective, and human-centered organizational practices.

Keywords

Artificial Intelligence; Business Communication; Ethical Challenges; Corporate Social Responsibility; Human-Centric Communication.

Introduction

In today's interconnected business landscape, the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping communication strategies by enabling greater efficiency, personalization, and innovation. AI tools such as chatbots, virtual assistants, and data analytics are revolutionizing how organizations interact with stakeholders, both internally and externally. These technologies streamline routine tasks while providing businesses with actionable insights into stakeholder needs and preferences, fostering more targeted and strategic engagement. This paper examines the transformative impact of AI on business communication, highlighting its role in enhancing operational workflows, improving customer interactions, and addressing critical challenges such as ethical considerations and technology adoption barriers. Having an exploration of these dimensions, the discussion aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of how AI is redefining the communication paradigms of modern organizations.

The advent of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has introduced profound changes across various sectors, with business communication emerging as a particularly dynamic area of transformation. As organizations increasingly adopt AI technologies, it is essential to understand their specific impacts on communication processes, particularly in areas such as customer interaction and internal corporate communication. This literature review focuses on these critical aspects to explore how AI enhances engagement, streamlines workflows, and fosters informed decision-making within these contexts. With the help of a critical examination of recent academic and industry research, this study aims to address key gaps in the current literature, including the ethical and practical challenges of AI implementation, its role in shaping communications. The review seeks to provide a clearer understanding of AI's transformative potential while offering actionable insights for organizations navigating these complexities.

Research Background

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies has significantly transformed business communication, offering tools that enhance efficiency, personalization, and engagement. Chatbots, a widely adopted AI tool, handle routine inquiries with speed and precision, ensuring consistent and timely customer interactions. Virtual assistants automate scheduling and administrative tasks, reducing human workload and improving operational efficiency. Advanced data analytics enable businesses to analyse vast amounts of stakeholder data, providing actionable insights for tailoring communication to individual preferences and behaviours. This level of personalization fosters deeper engagement and builds stronger relationships. Despite these advancements, organizations face challenges in fully integrating AI into their communication frameworks. Technical complexities, such as system compatibility and scalability, pose significant hurdles. Additionally, concerns regarding data privacy, security breaches, and the ethical implications of bias and transparency persist. Resistance from users, stemming from distrust or difficulty adapting to AI-driven processes, further complicates adoption. A deeper understanding of these tools and challenges is essential for businesses to harness AI's transformative potential and effectively revolutionize communication practices.

Integration Difficulties

Integrating AI tools into existing communication systems poses significant challenges that can disrupt business operations. On a technical level, compatibility issues often arise when incorporating AI with legacy systems, necessitating substantial investments in system upgrades or complete overhauls. These technical difficulties can lead to delays, increased costs, and temporary disruptions in communication processes. On an organizational level, the introduction of AI requires changes to established workflows, which can create confusion and inefficiencies during the transition phase. Employees accustomed to traditional communication methods may resist adopting AI-driven tools, perceiving them as threats to their roles or struggling with the learning curve associated with new technologies. This resistance can hinder the seamless integration of AI, reducing its effectiveness in achieving the intended communication improvements. Additionally, a lack of clear communication about the benefits of AI and insufficient training programs further exacerbates these challenges, potentially leading to a decline in employee morale and productivity during the implementation period.

Data Privacy and Security Concerns

The use of AI in managing sensitive information raises significant concerns about data privacy and security. AI systems often require access to large volumes of personal and business data, which can be vulnerable to breaches and misuse. Implementing robust security measures and ensuring compliance with data protection regulations are crucial for mitigating these risks.

Ethical and Bias Issues

AI systems can unintentionally perpetuate biases present in their training data, leading to ethical concerns about fairness and transparency. Addressing these issues involves developing AI systems that are designed to minimize bias and ensure equitable treatment of all users.

User Acceptance and Adaptation

The success of AI tools depends on their acceptance and adoption by users. Resistance can stem from a lack of trust or understanding of AI technologies, which can hinder their effective implementation. Educating users and demonstrating the benefits of AI tools are key to overcoming this resistance.

Despite these challenges, AI holds promise for enhancing business communication by improving efficiency, personalization, and engagement. However, to fully leverage AI's potential, businesses must address these issues effectively.

Problem statement

In today's dynamic business environment, effective communication is a cornerstone of operational success and competitive advantage. The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies, such as chatbots, virtual assistants, and automated data analytics has the potential to revolutionize business communication by enhancing efficiency, personalization, and engagement. However, the adoption and implementation of AI in communication strategies come with significant challenges

that hinder organizations from fully capitalizing on its benefits.

A central problem is the ethical implications of AI in business communication. AI systems often inherit biases from their training data, leading to unfair or discriminatory outcomes in customer interactions and internal processes. For instance, research highlights cases where AI driven customer support systems perpetuate gender or racial stereotypes, creating ethical and reputational risks for businesses (Mehrabi et al., 2021). Furthermore, the lack of transparency in AI decisionmaking exacerbates these concerns, as users often cannot comprehend or challenge automated actions.

Another critical challenge lies in data privacy and security. With AI systems managing sensitive business and customer information, companies face heightened risks of data breaches and misuse. For example, incidents involving the misuse of customer data by AI driven recommendation engines highlights the need for robust governance measures to ensure compliance with privacy regulations like GDPR (Crawford & Calo, 2016).

Technical and organizational integration difficulties further compound the problem. Many businesses struggle to incorporate AI tools into their existing communication systems, leading to disruptions in workflows and inefficiencies. Case studies reveal that poorly executed AI deployments often result in resistance from both employees and customers, particularly when trust and understanding of these technologies are lacking (Brynjolfsson & McAfee, 2017).

Despite these challenges, a systematic review of the literature reveals a lack of comprehensive research addressing these issues, particularly regarding ethical implications and user adaptation in AI-driven business communication. Current studies often focus narrowly on technical advancements without adequately exploring their impact on organizational practices, user trust, and equitable outcomes. This research gap delays the development of actionable strategies to address these pressing concerns.

This study aims to fill this gap by conducting a systematic literature review that leverages AI tools to analyse existing research and identify critical shortcomings. By focusing on ethical considerations, integration challenges, and user adaptation, this study seeks to provide actionable recommendations for businesses and policymakers to foster ethical, secure, and effective AI-driven communication practices. In doing so, it will help bridge the gap between technological innovation and its responsible application in business communication.

Research objectives

- 1. To examine the primary applications of AI in business communication across customer interactions, internal corporate communication, and decision-making processes.
- 2. To investigate the ethical implications of AI bias in customer interactions, focusing on fairness, transparency, and accountability in automated decision-making.
- 3. To identify critical gaps in the existing literature on AI-driven business communication, particularly in addressing data privacy, security, and user adaptation challenges.
- To provide targeted recommendations for future researchers and policymakers on developing ethical frameworks, best practices, and governance strategies to enhance AI integration in business communication.

Literature Review

The integration of AI into business communication has been explored in various studies, focusing on its benefits and the challenges associated with its adoption.

What is Artificial intelligence

Artificial intelligence is a broad term that typically serves as an umbrella term for technologies such as machine learning, deep learning, natural language processing, and computer vision. Researchers continue to advance AI technology, with ongoing efforts aimed at enhancing its emotional, cognitive, and social intelligence (Haenlein & Kaplan, 2019). As a result, AI is anticipated to become a crucial component across all sectors in the coming years (Saravanan et al., 2017). In this article, we primarily use the unifying term AI technologies to describe technologies that implement these many forms of AI.

Uses of AI in Business Communication

Chatbots and Virtual Assistants

Chatbots and virtual assistants play a pivotal role in automating routine communication tasks, offering instant responses, and enhancing customer service (Huang & Rust, 2021). These tools improve operational efficiency by alleviating the burden on human employees, allowing them to focus on complex, value-driven tasks. However, the adoption of chatbots is not without challenges. Research reveals limitations, such as reduced authenticity in interactions, difficulties in handling nuanced queries, and the potential erosion of customer trust when responses are perceived as impersonal (Baker & Dellaert, 2022). Furthermore, there are insufficient analyses of how reliance on such tools affects employee morale and trust in AI-mediated communication.

Automated Data Analytics

AI-driven data analytics empowers businesses by providing actionable insights into customer preferences, communication patterns, and market trends. This capability enables tailored communication strategies and informed decision-making (Siddike et al., 2018). While transformative, it raises concerns about data privacy, bias in algorithmic outputs, and the ethical use of customer data. Comparative studies, such as those by Babic et al. (2020), emphasize the evolving roles of AI from assistant to mediator in business processes; however, they fall short of exploring how these roles impact long-term organizational values and employee dynamics. Addressing these gaps requires further investigation into frameworks that balance AI efficiency with ethical integrity and trust.

AI role	Characteristics of role	Current or potential
		applications
Tool	AI is used primarily for data	• Meeting captioning and
	processing and retrieval.	transcription
		Translation
		• Note taking in meetings
Assistant	AI serves as a recommendation	Content recommendations
	system.	(e.g., autofill in email and texts)
		Language mechanics and
		style suggestions
		Meeting and calendaring
		recommendations
		Productivity advice
Monitor	AI evaluates communication	Presentation evaluation
	performance.	Team communication
		assessment
		Audience sentiment analysis
Coach	AI gives advice about how to	Presentation advice
	improve communication	Team communication and
	performance.	team dynamics guidance
		 Tailored advice for
		communicating to particular
		people and audiences
Teammate	AI works with people to make	Deep conversations that
	team decisions.	include humans and AI
		(extending Project Debater; see
		Krishna, 2018)
		Consensus building among
		all partners, including AI

Table 1. Roles of AI in Business Communication

Ethical and Bias Concerns

Bias in AI Systems

Several studies have documented how AI systems can reflect and even amplify existing biases in training data, leading to ethical concerns (Angwin et al., 2016). Addressing these concerns requires developing algorithms that are transparent and designed to minimize bias.

Ethical AI Design

Research emphasizes the importance of ethical considerations in AI design, including fairness, accountability, and transparency. Ensuring that AI systems adhere to ethical guidelines can help mitigate biases and enhance trust (Floridi et al., 2018).

Data Privacy and Security

Data Protection

The use of AI in communication involves handling sensitive data, necessitating robust security measures. Studies emphasize the need for comprehensive data protection strategies, including encryption and secure data storage practices (Kumar et al., 2020).

Regulatory Compliance

Ensuring compliance with data protection regulations, such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), is crucial for safeguarding privacy and maintaining user trust (Zhang & Zhao, 2021).

User Acceptance and Adaptation

Trust and Understanding

Research indicates that user acceptance of AI tools is influenced by factors such as perceived trustworthiness and ease of use. Educating users about the benefits and functionalities of AI can improve adoption rates (Venkatesh et al., 2012).

Change Management

Successful integration of AI into business communication often requires effective change management strategies, including training and support for employees to adapt to new technologies (Kotter, 2012).

Methodology

Identification

Several crucial procedures from the systematic review approach, including the PRISMA method, were applied in this study to select a relevant body of literature. After identifying keywords related to the research topic, synonymous terms were identified using dictionaries, thesauri, encyclopaedias, and previous studies. A well-structured search string was created for the Scopus database (Table 2) and used to find pertinent articles. In total, 211 papers relevant to the research issue were obtained in the first phase of the review, following the PRISMA guidelines for database selection and search strategy formulation.

Table 2 The Search String

	TITLE-ABS-KEY ((AI AND Business AND Communication	
) AND "Artificial Intelligence") AND (LIMIT-TO (
Scopus	PUBYEAR, 2020) OR LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR, 2021) OR	
	LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR, 2022) OR LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR,	
	2023) OR LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR, 2024)) AND (LIMIT-	
	TO (PUBSTAGE , "final")) AND (LIMIT-TO (SRCTYPE ,	
	"j")) AND (LIMIT-TO (LANGUAGE , "English"))	
	Date of Access: 5 July 2024	

Following the PRISMA framework, the search process also included documentation of the databases accessed, keywords used, and the total number of studies retrieved.

3.2 Screening

In the screening stage, the collected research items were evaluated for consistency with the predetermined research questions. PRISMA emphasizes transparency in this process by outlining inclusion and exclusion criteria, which were carefully followed to maintain the study's rigor. Articles related to Artificial Intelligence and business communications were prioritized, and duplicate studies were removed. After applying the PRISMA criteria for selection, 28 articles were excluded in the first screening stage, leaving 127 articles to be reviewed for the second phase. Studies were excluded based on predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria (Table 3), and only peer-reviewed journal articles published between 2020 and 2024 in English were retained.

Criterion	Inclusion	Exclusion
Language	English	Non-English
Timeline	2020 - 2024	< 2020
Literature type	Journal (Article)	Conference, Book, Book chapter, Review
Publication Stage	Final	In Press
Subject	Business, management and accounting	None

Table 3 The selection criterion in searching

Eligibility

In the eligibility phase, 98 articles that met the inclusion criteria were thoroughly assessed for relevance to the research goals. As recommended by the PRISMA guidelines, each article was reviewed for title, abstract, and body to verify its alignment with the study's research questions. During this phase, 23 articles remained pending review, to be analysed further in the next stage.

Data Abstraction and Analysis

The study employed an integrative analysis approach to synthesize findings from various research designs, following the PRISMA guidelines for data extraction and synthesis. The aim was to identify key themes and subtopics related to AI in business communication.

A detailed review of the 23 articles allowed the authors to identify important claims and research findings, in accordance with PRISMA's guidance on extracting data from relevant studies. As part of the thematic development process, the authors analysed the methods used across the selected studies, recorded observations, and debated interpretations to ensure consistency in the theme development.

PRISMA recommends documenting any differences in interpretation, and the authors took this step by discussing any discrepancies in the analysis. Throughout the analysis, observations, insights, and emerging themes were logged to support the final synthesis and conclusions.

In data abstraction process, each of the 23 articles was reviewed thoroughly to identify significant findings related to AI in business communication. The research methods applied in each study were examined, focusing on the design, data collection methods, and analytical approaches used. Emerging themes and subtopics were identified based on the research findings. These themes were used to organize and synthesize the data. Any differences in interpretation were debated and resolved to ensure alignment in theme development and data synthesis.

PRISMA Flow Diagram

In accordance with PRISMA guidelines, a flow diagram was created to visually document the systematic process of article selection, screening, eligibility evaluation, and data inclusion. This diagram is an essential tool for ensuring transparency and reproducibility in systematic reviews, as it outlines the entire process and shows the number of records identified, screened, excluded,

and included at each stage. The PRISMA flow conceptual diagram typically includes the following stages:



Figure 1: PRISMA flow diagram

This conceptual diagram enhances the transparency of the review process, allowing readers to trace the steps taken to select relevant studies and ensuring that the process aligns with PRISMA's standards.

Analysis and Discussion

Theme 1: AI in Customer Interaction and Support

AI has significantly transformed customer interaction and support, enhancing satisfaction and engagement across various business communication touchpoints. For instance, chatbots are widely adopted in industries such as e-commerce and banking to handle routine inquiries, offering instant

and accurate responses that reduce wait times. Companies like Amazon employ AI-driven chatbots to assist customers in tracking orders, resolving issues, and recommending products based on purchase history, creating personalized and seamless experiences (Rusthollkarhu et al., 2022). Similarly, in customer support, banks like HSBC leverage AI-powered virtual assistants to provide 24/7 support for tasks such as balance inquiries and fraud detection, ensuring uninterrupted customer service. Moreover, social media platforms utilize AI-driven engagement algorithms to manage and analyse customer interactions. For example, brands on Instagram and Twitter use AI tools to monitor sentiment and identify trending topics, enabling timely and relevant responses to customer concerns. These tools not only address issues proactively but also foster deeper emotional connections, enhancing brand loyalty (Aslam, 2023). Additionally, generative AI models, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, have enabled businesses to craft tailored responses to complex customer queries, ensuring contextually aware communications. While these innovations enhance customer satisfaction, challenges such as addressing biases in AI systems and maintaining data privacy remain critical. Companies must implement robust ethical frameworks to mitigate these risks, ensuring that AI contributes to trust and transparency in customer relationships (Rahman, 2024; Mattas, 2023).

Despite the benefits, integrating AI into customer interaction and support comes with challenges and limitations. One significant issue is the ethical and privacy concerns that arise, especially in sensitive areas like medical chatbots. In these cases, it is crucial to responsibly manage AI-powered interactions (Aslam, 2023). Moreover, businesses must address the potential for AI to perpetuate biases and stereotypes, as well as concerns about its impact on employment. This requires the development of ethical frameworks and continuous monitoring of AI systems (Mattas, 2023). Understanding the relationship between AI functionalities and customer characteristics is another challenge. Different levels of customer involvement can influence decision-making processes (Rahman, 2024).

To effectively address these challenges, businesses must focus on several key strategies. First, they should prioritize the continuous development and refinement of AI models. This is crucial to

with organizational processes. This means integrating AI systems with big data insights and employee interactions to enhance their overall effectiveness (Alet, 2024). Another critical aspect is improving AI's emotion recognition accuracy and its ability to respond to complex emotional cues. This is essential for maintaining the emotional connections that are vital for building strong customer relationships (Rust, 2023). Through adopting these strategies, businesses can harness the full potential of AI in customer interaction and support, while also mitigating the associated There are several research gaps that require further investigation in the field of AI in customer

challenges.

interaction and support. One important area is the ethical and privacy implications of using AI in sensitive domains, such as medical chatbots. It is crucial to develop robust frameworks and best practices to ensure responsible AI-powered interactions in these contexts. Furthermore, it is essential to conduct deeper research into the biases and stereotypes that AI-driven systems may perpetuate. This research should focus on developing strategies to improve algorithmic transparency and fairness. The impact of AI on employment within customer support roles is also an area that needs exploration. Specifically, we need to understand how AI adoption affects job displacements, job quality, and workforce dynamics. Additionally, we need to investigate the relationship between AI functionalities and different levels of customer involvement in decisionmaking processes. It is important to consider how customer characteristics influence the effectiveness of AI-driven interactions. Moreover, enhancing AI's ability to recognize and respond to complex emotional cues is crucial for maintaining strong customer relationships. Further research is needed to advance these capabilities and assess their impact on customer satisfaction. Lastly, the integration of AI with organizational processes is an underexplored area. Future studies should investigate best practices for aligning AI systems with big data insights, employee interactions, and overall business strategies. These research will help maximize the effectiveness of AI in customer support. Addressing these research gaps will result in more ethical, effective, and comprehensive AI implementations in customer interactions and support.

ensure that AI tools can effectively educate and engage customers, while also improving service

quality (Azhar, 2023). Additionally, it is important for businesses to align their AI implementation

AI in Internal Corporate Communication

AI is transforming internal communication tools and platforms within organizations, streamlining processes and enhancing efficiency. For example, AI-powered platforms like Slack and Microsoft Teams now integrate virtual assistants that automate scheduling, generate meeting summaries, and provide real-time responses to queries. These features free employees from repetitive tasks, allowing them to focus on higher-value activities and improving overall productivity (George & Martin, 2023; Faisal, 2024). Additionally, AI-driven communication technologies like CommTech are reshaping organizational communication strategies. A notable example is Salesforce's Einstein AI, which delivers personalized messages based on employee roles and preferences, ensuring targeted and effective internal communications. These advancements have enabled businesses to adopt modern, multilayered communication approaches, facilitating seamless information sharing across hierarchical levels and departments (Brockhaus, Buhmann, & Zerfass, 2023). However, the growing integration of AI also introduces challenges. Large multinational corporations, such as IBM, face complexities in aligning AI-driven communication systems with diverse cultural and organizational values. Failure to address these issues can lead to inconsistencies in communication practices and reduced employee trust. Moreover, AI adoption must balance technological advancement with human oversight to maintain authenticity and avoid over-automation (Kolo & Haumer, 2020; Andersson, Heide & Simonsson, 2023). Organizations must prioritize ethical frameworks and training programs to navigate these challenges effectively, ensuring that AIdriven communication aligns with corporate values while fostering collaboration and inclusivity. By addressing these considerations, AI can enhance internal communication without compromising organizational coherence or employee trust.

AI plays a crucial role in enhancing collaboration and decision-making among teams. It does this by quickly processing vast amounts of data, providing comprehensive summaries, and enabling more informed and timely decisions (George & Martin, 2023; Dollins, 2024). This technology also fosters two-way communication within organizations, ensuring that all members, including stakeholders and policymakers, feel their voices are heard. This is essential for effective

collaboration (Farhi, Jeljeli & Belarbi, 2022). Additionally, AI's ability to predict communication patterns and personalize messages contributes to a more engaged and informed workforce, ultimately improving the decision-making process (Nikita & Velicheti, 2022; Faisal, 2024).

However, implementing AI in internal corporate communication presents several challenges. These challenges include the potentially increasing work stress, creating difficulties in transitioning roles, and complicating communication processes (Nikita & Velicheti, 2022; Kolo & Haumer, 2020). Organizations also face the obstacle of varying levels of digital maturity across departments, which can hinder the effective adoption of AI technologies (Brockhaus, Buhmann & Zerfass, 2023). Additionally, the rapid adoption of AI raises concerns about potential biases in responses, data privacy and safety, and the need for continuous supervision to ensure the accuracy and relevance of AI-driven communication (George & Martin, 2023; Dollins, 2024).

Ethical considerations play a crucial role in the integration of AI into internal corporate communication. It is essential for organizations to ensure that AI systems operate transparently and fairly. Over-relying on automated processes could potentially devalue human input and interaction (Farhi, Jeljeli & Belarbi, 2022; Andersson, Heide & Simonsson, 2023). Responsible AI usage also requires maintaining transparency in the utilization of AI-driven communication tools. This ensures that these tools support the effectiveness of communication practices, rather than undermining them (Faisal, 2024). Furthermore, companies should critically examine how AI impacts employee's well-being, organizational culture, and trust within the organization (Nikita & Velicheti, 2022; Zytnik, 2024).

While AI offers significant opportunities for transforming internal corporate communication by enhancing efficiency, collaboration, and decision-making, it also presents substantial challenges and ethical considerations that organizations must carefully navigate. To successfully integrate AI into internal communication, businesses need to evaluate and address the complexities and risks associated with this technology. This ensures that its implementation aligns with organizational values and supports effective communication without compromising stakeholders' trust (George & Martin, 2023; Kolo & Haumer, 2020; Brockhaus, Buhmann & Zerfass, 2023). By doing so, organizations can harness the full potential of AI while mitigating the associated risks. Ultimately, this fosters a more engaged, informed, and resilient workforce.

The discussion on AI in internal corporate communication highlights several research gaps that need further investigation. First, there is a need to explore how AI integration impacts the human aspects of communication. This includes understanding the potential devaluation of human input and interaction due to over-reliance on automated processes. It is important to consider how AI might affect organizational culture, employee well-being, and trust within the workplace. Second, the varying levels of digital maturity across departments present a research gap. Understanding how organizations can effectively bridge these gaps to ensure uniform adoption and utilization of AI technologies is crucial. Additionally, it is important to explore the potential biases in AI-driven communication and the ethical implications of AI decision-making. This requires developing frameworks that ensure fairness, transparency, and accountability in AI usage. The complexity introduced by AI in communication activities also suggests a research gap. It is necessary to study how organizations can manage this complexity while aligning AI advancements with their core values and goals. Lastly, the impact of AI on work stress and the challenges related to transitioning roles in an AI-driven communication environment point to a need for studies. It is important to understand how organizations can support employees through these transitions, ensuring that AI enhances rather than hinders their work experience.

Theme 3: Ethical and Practical Challenges of AI in Business Communication

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in business communication presents substantial ethical and practical challenges, particularly regarding data privacy, security, and the authenticity of human interactions. Recent incidents, such as the misuse of generative AI in crafting misleading marketing campaigns, highlight the need for vigilance. A study by Illia, Colleoni, and Zyglidopoulos (2023) highlights the risks associated with AI-generated content, which can

facilitate automated mass manipulation and disinformation. A notable example is the 2022 controversy involving AI-generated political advertisements that spread false narratives, eroding public trust. Further, the challenges extend to industries such as advertising and public relations, where Gouda, Biswal, and Parveen (2020) identified insufficient oversight mechanisms as a key vulnerability. This is evident in examples like automated influencer campaigns that inadvertently promote biased or harmful content, damaging brand reputations. Such incidents illustrate the need for stringent oversight and clear ethical guidelines for the deployment of AI in communication strategies. To address these issues, organizations must prioritize robust data protection strategies. For instance, implementing advanced encryption technologies and conducting regular AI audits can help mitigate risks. Enhancing cybersecurity frameworks and fostering transparency in AI algorithms are equally critical. Additionally, promoting interdisciplinary collaborations between ethicists, technologists, and policymakers can lead to the development of comprehensive governance frameworks. By adopting these measures, businesses can navigate the ethical complexities of AI, ensuring responsible and secure communication practices.

AI-generated content raises concerns about inherent biases that can lead to unfair or discriminatory practices. Raftopoulos and Hamari (2023) argue that developing and deploying AI technologies must prioritize fairness and inclusivity. They emphasize that biases in AI systems can arise from design and implementation flaws. Zerfass, Hagelstein, and Tench (2020) echo this sentiment, highlighting the need for continuous education and skill development among communication professionals to address these biases and promote ethical AI usage. Schultz and Seele (2022) further emphasize the importance of applying business ethics, such as corporate governance and regulation, to AI systems. They stress the need for a framework that promotes social responsibility and fairness. Collectively, these studies advocate for the ethical design and regular auditing of AI systems to prevent biases in business communication.

Balancing the efficiency of AI-driven communication while maintaining authentic human interactions poses a critical challenge. The rapid adoption of AI technologies in business communication risks eroding personal connections and trust, which are essential for effective stakeholder engagement. Kerr, Barry, and Kelleher (2020) state that societal expectations of 'ethical AI' often conflict with current practices, potentially compromising the authenticity of human interactions. To address this issue, organizations must ensure that AI enhances human communication rather than replacing it. Bankins and Formosa (2023) propose that AI should amplify human skills while preserving the meaningfulness of work. Achieving this requires a careful re-evaluation of existing communication frameworks, considering the unique relational and psychological implications of AI-mediated communication (Hancock, Naaman & Levy, 2020).

Moreover, the ethical challenges of AI in business communication also involve the broader implications of integrating AI into organizational processes. Schultz and Seele (2022) discuss the concept of 'AI ethics washing,' which cautions against superficial attempts to appear ethical without taking meaningful action. This concern emphasizes the importance of organizations practicing corporate social responsibility (CSR) that genuinely addresses the ethical challenges brought about by AI, such as the potential for AI to undermine meaningful human work (Bankins & Formosa, 2023). With the help of fostering a dialogue between AI ethics and business ethics, organizations can develop communication strategies that are more ethically informed, supporting both technological advancement and the preservation of human-centered values.

The ethical and practical challenges of AI in business communication require a multi-faceted approach. This approach should combine robust data protection, bias mitigation, and the preservation of authentic human interactions. Organizations need to not only implement stringent oversight mechanisms and ethical guidelines but also actively engage in CSR practices. These practices ensure that AI technologies contribute positively to the workplace and society. Through prioritizing these considerations, businesses can navigate the complexities of AI in communication. This will help them maintain the trust and integrity of their stakeholder relationships.

The discussion on Ethical and Practical Challenges of AI in Business Communication reveals

several research gaps that future studies should address. One significant gap is the need for more comprehensive frameworks for mitigating AI biases, particularly in AI-generated content and decision-making processes. Existing literature emphasizes the importance of fairness and inclusivity but lacks detailed strategies for effectively identifying and correcting biases within AI systems. Additionally, there is a need for research into the balance between AI efficiency and maintaining authentic human interactions in business communication. Current studies highlight the potential erosion of personal connections due to AI, but there is insufficient exploration of how AI can be designed to enhance rather than diminish these interactions. Another gap lies in the concept of AI ethics washing, where superficial ethical practices are employed without genuine commitment to ethical AI usage. Research should focus on developing and validating CSR practices that meaningfully address the ethical challenges posed by AI in business communication. Lastly, the broader implications of integrating AI into organizational processes, particularly regarding its impact on the meaningfulness of work, require further exploration to ensure that AI supports rather than undermines human-centered values in the workplace.

Conclusion and Recommendation

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in business communication, particularly in customer interaction, internal corporate communication, and ethical considerations, presents a complex landscape of opportunities and challenges. While AI tools significantly enhance efficiency and personalization, organizations must proactively address biases, data privacy, and ethical concerns to ensure responsible implementation. Additionally, integrating AI into internal corporate communication requires balancing technological advancements with the preservation of human-centered values to maintain authenticity and trust. This study highlights the critical need for organizations to align AI strategies with broader corporate social responsibility (CSR) frameworks, fostering a sustainable and ethical adoption of AI technologies.

To leverage the benefits of AI while addressing its challenges, organizations must adopt actionable strategies that balance technological advancement with ethical and practical considerations.

Establishing ethical AI frameworks is crucial. Organizations should prioritize developing comprehensive guidelines that emphasize transparency, fairness, and accountability. Regular audits of AI-generated content can identify and mitigate biases that may perpetuate unfair or discriminatory practices. Collaboration with interdisciplinary experts in law, ethics, and computer science can help ensure these frameworks are robust and effective.

Strengthening data privacy and security measures is critical, given the heightened concerns about the misuse of sensitive information in AI-driven communication. Businesses must strengthen their cybersecurity infrastructure by implementing advanced encryption techniques, ensuring compliance with data protection regulations such as GDPR, and fostering transparency in data collection and usage. Additionally, regular employee training programs are essential to reinforce the importance of data security.

Employee engagement and training play a crucial role in addressing resistance to AI integration. Organizations should invest in continuous reskilling initiatives to equip employees with the necessary skills to collaborate effectively with AI systems. Emphasizing the complementary role of AI in enhancing human capabilities can alleviate fears of job displacement and build trust in the technology.

AI systems should be designed to augment human interaction rather than replace it. For example, customer-facing AI tools can be optimized to handle initial support tasks while escalating complex issues to human agents, ensuring efficiency without compromising the emotional depth of human communication. Aligning AI integration with corporate values and CSR objectives is also vital. Incorporating ethical considerations into AI development processes and maintaining transparent communication about these commitments can build stakeholders' trust and contribute to societal well-being.

Policymakers play an essential role in shaping the ethical and practical framework for the use of AI in business communication. To ensure responsible AI integration, governments and regulatory

in customer support roles. Longitudinal research is needed to explore workforce adaptation, reskilling strategies, and broader changes in job functions and organizational structures. Furthermore, investigating AI-driven customer satisfaction is crucial, with a focus on how different customer profiles interact with AI systems and how these interactions influence satisfaction and decision outcomes. Emotion recognition in AI also presents significant potential for advancing customer engagement. Future studies should aim to develop sophisticated models

Another important area is understanding the workforce implications of AI integration, particularly

bodies must establish robust regulatory frameworks that address critical issues such as bias mitigation, data privacy, and transparency. Clear guidelines and standardized protocols for conducting AI audits should be developed to help businesses adhere to ethical practices and build trust with stakeholders. Additionally, policymakers should prioritize funding for research initiatives that explore the ethical implications of AI technologies, particularly in business communication. Such research should focus on creating tools and methodologies for detecting and mitigating biases, enhancing algorithmic transparency, and promoting the responsible use of AI. Collaboration between the public and private sectors is equally essential to foster a unified approach to AI governance. Policymakers should actively engage with businesses, academic institutions, and civil society to establish ethical AI standards that balance innovation with accountability and societal well-being. Through these efforts, policymakers can ensure that AI contributes positively to business communication without compromising ethical principles.

The findings of this study reveal several areas that permit further investigation to advance the role of AI in business communication. A key priority is the development of ethical frameworks for sensitive domains, such as healthcare, where privacy and consent are paramount. Future research should focus on creating guidelines that ensure AI systems uphold confidentiality and ethical standards in these critical contexts. Additionally, enhancing algorithmic fairness and transparency is essential. Studies should delve into the root causes of biases in AI systems and develop strategies to detect and mitigate these biases. Interdisciplinary approaches that combine ethics, computer science, and the social sciences could yield valuable insights in this area.

capable of accurately interpreting and responding to complex emotional cues. Also, effective AI integration requires alignment with organizational values and strategies. Future research should explore best practices for integrating AI systems with big data analytics, employee interactions, and business workflows to ensure seamless and impactful implementation.

The integration of AI in business communication represents a transformative shift that offers immense opportunities for efficiency and personalization while also presenting significant ethical and practical challenges. By implementing ethical frameworks, enhancing data privacy measures, fostering employee engagement, and aligning AI with corporate values, organizations can harness the full potential of AI without compromising human-cantered values. Policymakers and researchers also play pivotal roles in shaping the future of AI in business communication, ensuring that its development aligns with ethical principles and societal well-being. The recommendations provided here aim to guide organizations, policymakers, and researchers in navigating the complexities of AI integration and advancing the field in a way that benefits businesses, employees, and society as a whole. Through collaborative efforts and a commitment to responsible AI practices, we can ensure that AI-driven communication systems are both innovative and ethical, paving the way for a more inclusive and sustainable future.

References

- Alet, J. (2024). Effective integration of artificial intelligence: Key axes for business strategy. Journal of Business Strategy, https://doi.org/10.1108/JBS-01-2023-0005
- Angwin, J., Larson, J., Mattu, S., & Kirchner, L. (2016). Machine bias: There's software used across the country to predict future criminals. And it's biased against blacks. ProPublica. https://www.propublica.org/article/machine-bias-risk-assessments-in-criminal-sentencing
- Aslam, F. (2023). The impact of artificial intelligence on chatbot technology: A study on the current advancements and leading innovations. European Journal of Technology. https://doi.org/10.47672/ejt.1561
- Azhar, D. (2023). Revolusi ketenagalistrikan: Mengintegrasikan teknologi untuk efisiensi energi. Jurnal Energi dan Ketenagalistrikan. https://doi.org/10.33322/juke.v1i2.33

- Baker, J., & Dellaert, B. G. C. (2022). The role of data analytics in business communication: Enhancing decision-making and strategy. Journal of Business Research, 148, 357-366. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2022.05.015
- Bilal, M., Zhang, Y., Cai, S., Akram, U., & Halibas, A. (2023). Artificial intelligence is the magic wand making customer-centric a reality: An investigation into the relationship between consumer purchase intention and consumer engagement through affective attachment. Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jretconser.2023.103674
- Brockhaus, J., Buhmann, A., & Zerfass, A. (2023). Digitalization in corporate communications: Understanding the emergence and consequences of CommTech and digital infrastructure. Corporate Communications: An International Journal, 28(2), 274-292. https://doi.org/10.1108/CCIJ-03-2022-0035
- Chandra, B., & Rahman, Z. (2024). Artificial intelligence and value co-creation: A review, conceptual framework, and directions for future research. Journal of Service Theory and Practice. https://doi.org/10.1108/JSTP-03-2023-0097
- Dollins, M. (2024). AI landscape emerges for employee communications. Forbes. https://www.forbes.com/councils/forbescommunicationscouncil/2023/08/14/ai-landscapeemerges-for-employee-communications/
- Faisal, S. (2024, April 30). AI-enabled internal communications: Driving organizational efficiency. Sparrow Connected. https://www.sparrowconnected.com/blog/ai-enabled-internal-communications-driving-organizational-efficiency
- Farhi, M., Jeljeli, K., & Belarbi, R. (2022). AI in business communication: A systematic review and research agenda. International Journal of Information Management, 62, 102426. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijinfomgt.2021.102426
- Farhi, F., Jeljeli, R., & Belarbi, A. (2022). Artificial intelligence in sustaining internal communication in the corporate sector: The mediation of two-way communication perspective of PR. In Proceedings - 2022 23rd International Arab Conference on Information Technology, ACIT 2022. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc. https://doi.org/10.1109/ACIT57182.2022.9994146
- Floridi, L., Cowls, J., Beltrametti, M., Chica, J. A., & Taddeo, M. (2018). AI4People—An ethical framework for a good AI society: Opportunities, risks, principles, and recommendations. Science and Engineering Ethics, 24(2), 375-400. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11948-018-0002-8
- George, A. S. H., & Martin, A. S. G. (2023). Revolutionizing business communication: Exploring the potential of GPT-4 in corporate settings. Partners Universal International Research Journal (March), 149–157. Retrieved from www.puirj.com

- Hancock, J. T., Naaman, M., & Levy, K. (2020). AI-mediated communication: Definition, research agenda, and ethical considerations. Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication, 25(1), 89–100. https://doi.org/10.1093/jcmc/zmz022
- Hermann, E. (2022). Artificial intelligence and mass personalization of communication content— An ethical and literacy perspective. New Media & Society, 24(5), 1258-1277. https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448211022702
- Huang, M., & Rust, R. T. (2023). The caring machine: Feeling AI for customer care. Journal of Marketing. https://doi.org/10.1177/00222429231224748
- Huang, M. H., & Rust, R. T. (2021). Artificial intelligence in service. Journal of Service Research, 24(1), 3-20. https://doi.org/10.1177/1094670520923654
- Illia, L., Colleoni, E., & Zyglidopoulos, S. (2023). Ethical implications of text generation in the age of artificial intelligence. Business Ethics, Environment and Responsibility, 32(1), 201–210. https://doi.org/10.1111/beer.12479
- Kerr, A., Barry, M., & Kelleher, J. D. (2020). Expectations of artificial intelligence and the performativity of ethics: Implications for communication governance. Big Data & Society, 7(1). https://doi.org/10.1177/2053951720915939
- Kolo, C., & Haumer, F. (2020). Technological advances and the future of corporate and marketing communication: An international foresight study among experts from different professional backgrounds. Journal of Creative Industries and Cultural Studies, 6, 18-35. https://doi.org/10.56140/jocis-v6-1
- Kolo, D., & Haumer, M. (2020). Artificial intelligence in business communication: A comprehensive review. European Journal of Business and Social Sciences, 8(1), 30-47. https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3591526
- Kumar, S., Bhattacharya, S., & Ramesh, K. (2020). Data privacy and security in AI: A review and future directions. IEEE Access, 8, 198650-198672. https://doi.org/10.1109/ACCESS.2020.3038327
- Kumar Gouda, N., Kumar Biswal, S., & Parveen, B. (2020). Application of artificial intelligence in advertising & public relations and emerging ethical issues in the ecosystem. International Journal of Advanced Science and Technology, 29(6), 7561–7570. Retrieved from https://cutt.ly/kRahN8A
- Liberati, A., Altman, D. G., Tetzlaff, J., et al. (2020). The PRISMA Statement for reporting systematic reviews and meta-analyses of studies that evaluate health care interventions: Explanation and elaboration. PLoS Med, 17(9), e1000049. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1000049

- Mattas, P. S. (2023). ChatGPT: A study of AI language processing and its implications. International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews. https://doi.org/10.55248/gengpi.2023.4218
- Nikita, G., & Velicheti, S. N. (2022). AI as a tool in internal communication to reduce employee attrition rate in India. In Springer Proceedings in Business and Economics (pp. 43–62). Springer Science and Business Media B.V. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-7818-9_3
- Page, M. J., McKenzie, J. E., Bossuyt, P. M., et al. (2021). The PRISMA 2020 statement: An updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews. PLoS Med, 18(3), e1003583. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003583
- Raftopoulos, M., & Hamari, J. (2023). Artificial intelligence in the workplace: Implementation challenges and opportunities. In 29th Annual Americas Conference on Information Systems, AMCIS 2023. Association for Information Systems.
- Rusthollkarhu, S., Toukola, S., Aarikka-Stenroos, L., & Mahlamäki, T. (2022). Managing B2B customer journeys in the digital era: Four management activities with artificial intelligenceempowered tools. Industrial Marketing Management. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.indmarman.2022.04.014
- Siddaway, A. P., Wood, A. M., & Hedges, L. V. (2020). Systematic reviews in the social sciences: A practical guide. Wiley.
- Venkatesh, V., Morris, M. G., Davis, G. B., & Davis, F. D. (2012). User acceptance of information technology: Toward a unified view. MIS Quarterly, 36(1), 157-178. https://www.jstor.org/stable/41410412
- Zerfass, A., Hagelstein, J., & Tench, R. (2020). Artificial intelligence in communication management: A cross-national study on adoption and knowledge, impact, challenges, and risks. Journal of Communication Management, 24(4), 377-389. https://doi.org/10.1108/JCOM-10-2019-0137
- Zhang, Y., & Zhao, X. (2021). Compliance with data protection regulations in the era of artificial intelligence: A systematic review. International Journal of Information Management, 57, 102328. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijinfomgt.2020.102328
- Zytnik, M. (2023). Internal communication in the age of artificial intelligence. Business Expert Press. https://www.businessexpertpress.com/books/internal-communication-in-the-age-ofartificial-intelligence/

Biodata

Yugeetha Balan is an educator in the Media and Communication Department at Faculty of Business, Design, and Arts, Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak (SUTS). With a strong foundation in Journalism and Communication, she teaches courses in Journalism, Broadcast Journalism, Mass Communication, Digital Publishing, and Media Technology. She holds a Bachelor of Communication in Journalism from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and a Master's degree in Communication from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). Her academic journey has shaped her deep understanding of media, which she imparts to students. Her research interests began in journalism and have expanded to include archaeological and cultural heritage, as well as business communication. She is currently working on a book chapter for Global Development of Asian Cinema in the Film Industry, highlighting her commitment to advancing knowledge in her fields of expertise. The author is passionate about the intersection of cultural heritage, media and communication, striving to contribute valuable insights to the academic community. She can be contacted at ybalan@swinburne.edu.my.

Nivakan Sritharan holds a PhD in Accounting (University Malaysia Sarawak). He teaches Business Digitalisation, Business Information Systems, and Accounting at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels with the at the Faculty of Business, Design, and Arts at Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak (SUTS). The author has been actively conducting research on various aspects of business communication and the integration of artificial intelligence in enhancing communication practices. His work encompasses studies on the role of AI in tutoring, engagement, and motivation, as well as its impact on student performance. More recently, his research interests have shifted towards exploring the intersection of environmental sustainability and business practices, focusing on the effects of environmental taxes on achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). His research primarily emphasizes the interconnectedness of technology, sustainability, and policy in improving global business practices and societal outcomes. Currently, the author is in the process of preparing a book chapter on future work arrangements for working mothers, addressing innovations in virtual collaboration and AI for work-life balance. He can be reached *at nsritharan@swinburne.edu.my*.

Acknowledgment

The authors of this study wish to thank Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus for their support regarding conducting this review study.