

E-LEARNING ECOSYSTEMS FOR PEOPLE WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

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ABSTRACT

E-Learning Ecosystems (ELE) present great chances for managing instructional activities through the integration of cutting-edge techniques, professional assistance, and technologies with adaptable learning and assessment materials. Consequently, it can aid in the skill development of those suffering from impairments or diseases like autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Nonetheless, certain technological obstacles impede the appropriate learning process and make it impossible for this population to use support scenarios. In order to determine the impact of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) on the construction of E-Learning Ecosystems (ELE) and the technological constraints that affect their development and suitable use for individuals with ASD, this research systematically examines pertinent studies on ELEs for people with ASD. Using the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) methodology, this work carried out a systematic review and included a search of five scientific literature databases from 2017 to 2022. The main aspects identified were 1) a shortage in design guides for the implementation of e-learning ecosystems adapted for people with ASD, 2) technological barriers that prevent the development of ELE, and 3) recommendations that help to mitigate the limitations of this field. In addition, the authors identified that the skills with the most significant focus of interest were social, communicative, and cognitive. The most implemented technologies include virtual and augmented reality or mobile applications. Most studies involved children with ASD between 8 and 15 years, followed by works with children between 5 to 8 years. Very few researches linked adults with ASD. Very few studies mention the ASD level of the participants, but most accentuate the advantages of using ICT in training procedures.

INTRODUCTION

The advent of E-Learning Ecosystems (ELE) in modern educational environments has created opportunities for innovative teaching approaches by combining state-of-the-art tools, professional development, best practices, and resources for adaptive learning and evaluation. The promise that ELE has is especially important for people with a variety of learning challenges, including those who suffer from diseases like autism spectrum disorder (ASD). With customized approaches to meet their specific needs, the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in ELE presents a promising opportunity for the skill development of individuals with autism spectrum disorder. Even if ELE offers the chance to improve the educational experiences of people with ASD, several technological issues make it difficult to apply support scenarios in an efficient manner, which could impede this population's ability to learn. Realizing how important it is to comprehend both the advantages in light of ICT and the current technological obstacles, this paper conducts a comprehensive evaluation of pertinent research on E-Learning Ecosystems for people with ASD. PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) is the approach used in this review, which covers a comprehensive analysis of the literature from 2017 to 2022. Three main points are mentioned in this review. First of all, there is a clear lack of design manuals that are especially made for the purpose of putting in place

e-learning ecosystems that are customized to meet the needs of people with ASD. Second, the study clarifies the technological obstacles that stand in the way of the development and best use of ELE for the needs of people with ASD. Lastly, the study offers insightful suggestions for reducing the noted drawbacks in this developing subject. The analysis emphasizes that the literature places the highest priority on social, communication, and cognitive abilities in order to meet the wide range of requirements of people with autism spectrum disorders. The research revealed some noteworthy innovations, such as mobile apps and augmented and virtual reality. Children with ASD are the main focus of the demographic emphasis, especially those between the ages of 8 and 15. Studies including younger children, those between the ages of 5 and 8, follow. It's interesting to see how little research has been done on adults with ASD. The majority of research show benefits from using ICT in training procedures for people with ASD, even if participant ASD levels are rarely mentioned. Thus, the goal of this systematic review is to provide a thorough grasp of the existing environment, difficulties, and prospects.

OBJECTIVE

This research project has several goals, one of which is to perform a comprehensive assessment of the literature on studies and publications related to E-Learning Ecosystems (ELE) for people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) from 2017 to 2022. Finding and

evaluating current ELE design guides is the main objective, with an emphasis on how to modify them to fit the unique educational requirements of people with ASD. The research aims to provide insights into possible improvements by identifying the shortcomings and constraints in the available design resources. Furthermore, the study intends to explore technological impediments that hinder the creation and best use of ELE for people with ASD, with the goal of developing useful suggestions to efficiently overcome these obstacles. The emphasis also includes the analysis of many abilities important for people with ASD, especially social, communication, and cognitive abilities, as well as a look at the technology used in pertinent research, like mobile apps and virtual and augmented reality. In addition, the study evaluates the literature's focus on demographics, particularly with regard to children with ASD, and draws attention to the research deficit concerning adults with ASD. Finally, the study assesses the benefits that have been shown in the literature as a consequence of incorporating information and communication technologies (ICT) into the training procedures for people with ASD. Together, these goals seek to provide a more nuanced understanding of the potential and difficulties at the nexus of ELE and ASD, as well as useful advice for practitioners, educators, and academics working in the fields of special education and technology integration.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Despite the promising potential of E-Learning Ecosystems (ELE) in enhancing educational experiences for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), there exist significant technological challenges hindering the efficient implementation of tailored support scenarios. This study aims to comprehensively evaluate the existing research landscape on ELE for individuals with ASD, utilizing the PRISMA approach to analyze literature from 2017 to 2022. The analysis highlights three key issues: the absence of design guidelines specific to developing ASD-centric ELE, technological barriers impeding ELE development and utilization for individuals with ASD, and recommendations for mitigating these challenges. The research underscores the paramount importance of addressing social, communication, and cognitive needs while exploring innovative solutions like mobile apps and augmented/virtual reality. Notably, the literature predominantly focuses on children aged 8 to 15 with limited attention to younger children and adults with ASD, and while benefits of ICT-based training for ASD individuals are acknowledged, specifics regarding participant ASD levels are often lacking. Thus, this review seeks to offer a comprehensive understanding of the current landscape, challenges, and potential advancements in ELE for individuals with ASD.

EXISTING SYSTEM

The current e-learning system's approach to content delivery is characterized by a linear and sequential structure, organized into predefined modules. Learners are expected to progress through topics in a fixed order, regardless of their unique learning styles or preferences. This rigidity in the system limits its adaptability to cater to the diverse learning styles and specific challenges encountered by individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). There are minimal customization options available for adjusting content delivery based on individual needs, which hinders the effectiveness of the learning experience for individuals with ASD who may benefit significantly from personalized and adaptable learning environments.

Disadvantage of Existing System

While e-Learning Ecosystems (ELE) offer promising opportunities for educational innovation, they also present several disadvantages, particularly in catering to the needs of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). One major drawback is the linear and sequential nature of content delivery, which may not suit the varied learning styles and preferences of individuals with ASD, who often require more flexibility and personalized approaches. Additionally, the fixed progression through topics can be challenging for learners with ASD, as it may not account for their unique pace of learning or specific areas of strength and difficulty. Another significant disadvantage is the limited adaptability of current systems to accommodate the diverse challenges faced by individuals with ASD, such as sensory sensitivities, communication difficulties, and social interaction nuances.

PROPOSED SYSTEM

The suggested e-Learning system transforms content distribution and evaluation procedures by introducing cutting-edge machine learning and deep learning algorithms. These technologies enable the system to dynamically modify content delivery according to user preferences, learning styles, and performance indicators. To fully examine and assess user comments, the assessment system uses Natural Language Processing (NLP), a subset of Artificial Intelligence (AI). The system can comprehend spoken or written language thanks to this integration of NLP, enabling more individualized and context-aware assessments. Understanding user behavior, interactions, and historical data is made possible in large part by machine learning and deep learning models. They make real-time modifications to the instructional content based on their ongoing analysis of these inputs, guaranteeing that every student has an individualized and optimal learning experience. This flexible strategy isn't not only increases engagement but also fosters improved

knowledge retention, improving the effectiveness and enjoyment of the learning process for people with a variety of learning difficulties, including those who have autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Advantages of Proposed System

There are several benefits to the suggested e-Learning system's integration of machine learning and deep learning algorithms. First off, these algorithms allow the system to dynamically modify content distribution to accommodate different user preferences, learning styles, and performance indicators. By offering content that is in line with each learner's particular needs and abilities, this tailored approach improves engagement and comprehension throughout the whole learning process. Furthermore, more accurate feedback and assessments can be produced by using Natural Language Processing (NLP) for assessment purposes. This is because NLP enables more complex and context-aware evaluations of user responses.

RELATED WORKS

Several related works and projects align closely with the proposed e-Learning system that integrates machine learning, deep learning, and Natural Language Processing (NLP) for personalized content delivery and assessment. Adaptive learning systems, for instance, have been developed to dynamically adjust educational content and assessments based on individual learner characteristics, preferences, and performance metrics. These systems often utilize NLP techniques to analyze written or spoken responses, providing personalized feedback that enhances engagement and understanding. Intelligent Tutoring Systems (ITS) represent another area of interest, where machine learning and deep learning techniques are employed to create intelligent tutoring systems capable of adaptively modifying learning materials, tasks, and feedback based on learner behavior and progress. NLP plays a crucial role in these systems by analyzing textual input to generate context-aware assessments and feedback, further refining the learning experience.

In the realm of personalized learning platforms, projects focus on leveraging machine learning models to recommend relevant content, activities, and assessments tailored to each learner's unique needs and learning style. NLP techniques are utilized for text analysis, such as analyzing essays or quiz responses, to assess understanding and deliver targeted feedback, thereby enhancing the efficacy of personalized learning journeys.

METHODOLOGY OF PROJECT

The methodology for this project involves a systematic approach to developing an e-Learning system that leverages machine learning, deep learning, and Natural Language Processing (NLP) for personalized content

delivery and assessment. Initially, requirements gathering through stakeholder interviews and literature review will define clear objectives and goals. Data collection and preprocessing will follow, encompassing the acquisition and organization of relevant educational content, ensuring data quality and suitability for machine learning and NLP tasks. Next, appropriate algorithms will be selected and developed, focusing on tasks like recommendation systems, user behavior analysis, and assessment generation. NLP techniques will be integrated to enable tasks such as sentiment analysis, user response analysis, and personalized feedback generation. The system's user interface will be designed and developed to be intuitive and user-friendly, facilitating content navigation, progress tracking, and interactive assessments. System implementation will involve integrating machine learning models, NLP modules, and deep learning algorithms into the system architecture. Testing and evaluation will ensure functionality, usability, and performance, with continuous iterative improvements based on user feedback. Documentation and deployment will finalize the project, ensuring a well-documented and deployable e-Learning system that caters to personalized learning experiences and adaptive assessment mechanisms.

MODULE NAMES:

Assessment and Evaluation Framework Module:

Explores comprehensive assessment criteria for evaluating participant progress, including verbal and non-verbal communication skills, collaborative abilities, and motivation levels during learning activities.

Positive Reinforcement and Progress Tracking Module:

Focuses on using affirmative language and positive reinforcement techniques to motivate individuals with ASD. Recommends progress visualization tools for tracking achievements and avoiding negative language in instructional materials.

Innovative Technologies in ELE Module:

Examines the impact of touch-enabled devices, sensors, eye tracking technology, and virtual reality on enhancing ELE for individuals with ASD. Discusses the role of social robots, mobile apps, and serious games in improving learning experiences.

Interdisciplinary Collaboration and Learning Ecologies Module:

Highlights the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in designing effective e-learning environments for individuals with ASD. Explores how different elements within learning ecologies contribute

to creating inclusive and engaging learning environments.

Cutting-edge Tools and Applications Module:

Investigates specific technologies like virtual reality, mobile applications, social robots, and serious games within ELE. Discusses their benefits and applications in supporting individuals with ASD, focusing on enhancing engagement and learning outcomes.

Overcoming Technical Challenges Module:

Identifies and addresses technical barriers that impede the development and implementation of ELE for individuals with ASD. Discusses challenges related to customization, software architectures, and research gaps, proposing solutions to improve technical feasibility.

Motivations and Addressing Challenges Module:

Explores the motivations behind studying and implementing ELE for individuals with ASD, alongside challenges such as research limitations, participant age considerations, sensor, hypersensitivity and also few generalization issues. Offers strategies to address these challenges effectively.

Benefits

- **Enhanced Engagement:** Face and emotion recognition technologies in ELE boost engagement by adapting content based on facial expressions and emotional cues, ensuring learners remain focused and interested throughout their educational journey.
- **Personalized Learning Paths:** These technologies facilitate personalized learning experiences by tailoring content delivery and interactions to match individual emotional states and learning preferences, optimizing the effectiveness of educational materials.
- **Improved Social Interaction and Emotional Regulation:** By analyzing facial expressions and emotions, learners with ASD can develop better communication skills, understand social cues, regulate emotions more effectively, and enhance their overall social interactions and emotional well-being.

Impediments of DL

The proposed model incorporating face and emotion recognition technologies in ELE for individuals with ASD faces several impediments that necessitate careful consideration and strategic planning. Privacy concerns surrounding the collection and use of facial data highlight the need for robust data protection measures and adherence to privacy regulations. Additionally, the accuracy and reliability of emotion recognition algorithms pose challenges, as misinterpretations of

facial expressions could impact the effectiveness of personalized learning experiences. Technical hurdles, such as system integration and maintenance, require specialized expertise and resources.

DATA FLOW DIAGRAM

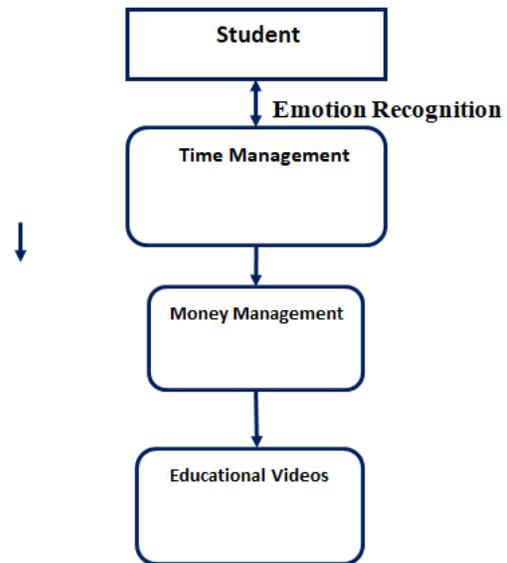
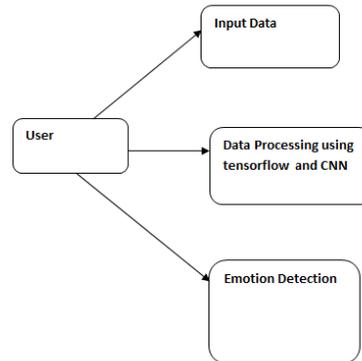


Fig: 7 Flow Diagrams of Modules

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

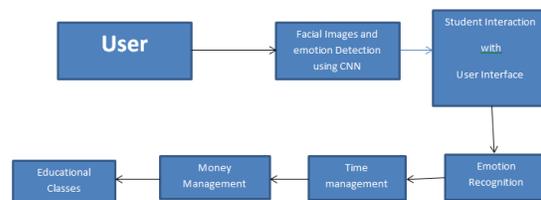
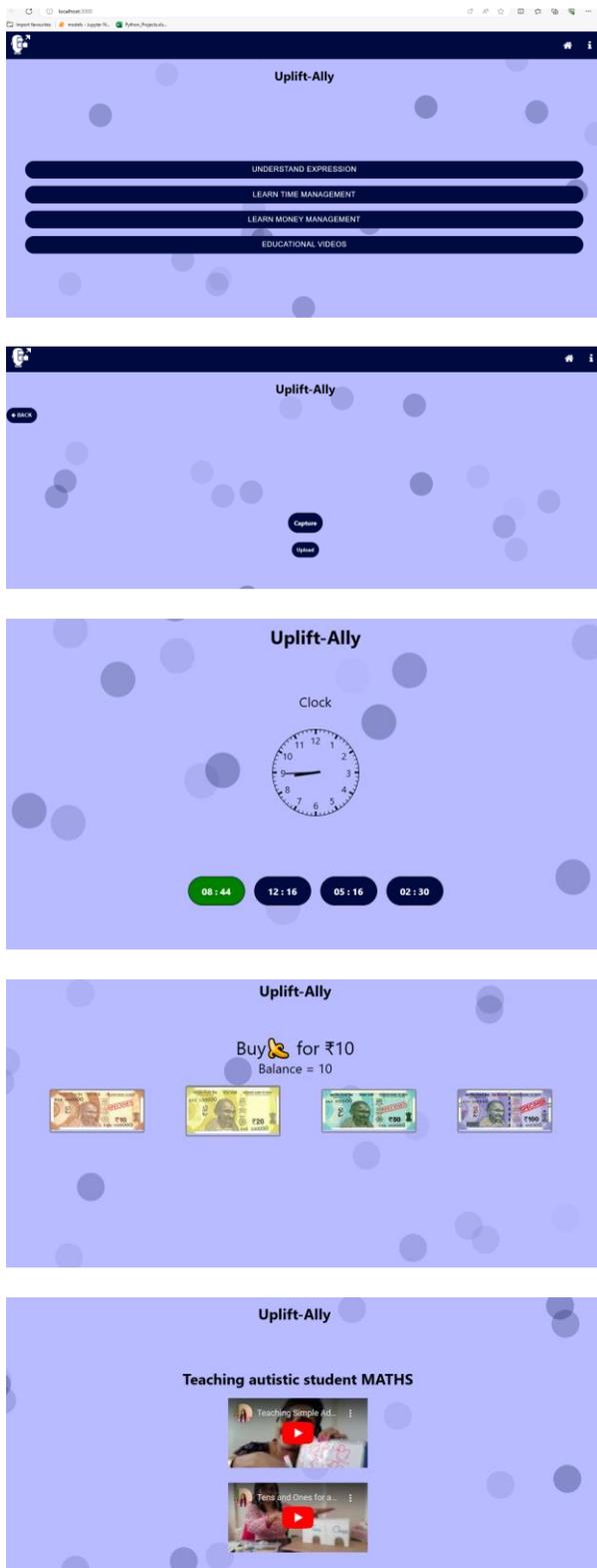


Fig: 8 System Architecture of Project

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION



FUTURE ENHANCEMENT

Improving the e-learning environment for individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) requires a multidisciplinary approach integrating psychology, technology, and education to provide tailored solutions. Personalized learning paths play a crucial role, offering customized educational experiences aligned with the unique needs, abilities, and interests of individuals with autism. Adaptive learning algorithms monitor progress and adjust exercises and content accordingly. Multimodal content delivery is another key aspect, utilizing various modalities such as interactive simulations, videos, voice instructions, and visual aids to accommodate diverse learning styles and preferences. Specifically for students with autism, visual aids, social storytelling, and video modeling can be particularly beneficial. Additionally, a sensory-friendly design is essential, considering the prevalent sensory sensitivity issues faced by individuals with autism, ensuring that e-learning interfaces and content are designed to be accessible and comfortable for users with sensory sensitivities.

CONCLUSION

The integration of deep learning, natural language processing (NLP), and React.js for frontend development in the e-learning ecosystem for students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) presents a transformative opportunity. Deep learning algorithms enable personalized learning experiences by analyzing individual data and tailoring content to suit unique learning styles and preferences. NLP adds a layer of interactivity and responsiveness by understanding and processing natural language inputs, fostering communication skills and providing tailored feedback. React.js facilitates the creation of interactive and accessible user interfaces, enhancing engagement and inclusivity through features like screen readers and keyboard navigation. This convergence of technologies promotes social interaction, communication skills development, and data-driven adaptation, creating a supportive and responsive learning environment for individuals with ASD. By harnessing the power of deep learning, NLP, and React.js, we can empower learners with ASD to navigate their educational journey with confidence, accessibility, and personalized support.

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