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Research Gaps in HR Applications of AI in Recruitment

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Abstract

With advancements in technology now diffuse in all dimensions of business and social life, artificial intelligence (AI) has found its place in human resource management (HRM), assisting in the recommendation and selection of suitable candidates for specific jobs. In this regard, AI is used to improve the productivity of HR personnel and mitigate bias in candidate selection. This research discusses the background and applications of AI in HRM, its current benefits and limitations, and suggests potential future pathways in this domain.

Index terms— artificial intelligence, human resource management, recruitment, selection.

1 I. Introduction

In the globalized business environment, businesses continuously update their technology and working paradigms. AI has brought revolutionary developments to many fields; its effects are evident in banking systems, IT systems, research, manufacturing, and logistics. In addition, AI is also slowly permeating the domain of HRM, a space where human judgment is considered paramount for candidate selection.

AI can be used to access and rapidly filter an abundance of digital resumes, job positions on jobposting sites, and professional networks (such as LinkedIn profiles, etc.) and assemble a narrow selection. AI recruitment applications are appealing to organizations and have seen considerable development in recent years due to the key benefits they offer. AI-based tools automate repetitive tasks, crunch external data, and present recruiters with a simplified view. This allows them to skip the manual work required to process the raw data and make final hiring decisions with more deliberation, leading to increased quality in the hiring process (Source: Talent Lyft, 2022). AI-based tools also check recruiter decision-making bias, reducing the number of biased decisions made by recruiters. Finally, AI-based tools integrate the hiring process with recruitment data analytics. of the best candidates for any of an organizations' specific roles/functions. Many big companies have started using AI for recruitment, including L'Oréal (cosmetics), Adecco (staffing), Hays (recruitment), and Deloitte (a multinational professional services network). According to a recent study by the Sage Group, 24% of talent has been hired with the help of AI (Case, 2021). These examples highlight that AI is in the initial stages of application by human resource (HR) departments and it seems likely that it will become a vital part of the recruitment and selection process in the coming years.

II. Literature Review avian recruitment processes. As of 2021, AI-accelerated tools such as Skill ate and HireVue assist with HR recruitment. Thirdly, AIER provides organizations with recruitment data analytics for continuous analysis and improvement using tools like ANOVA and machine learning. Finally, in some cases, AIER leads to eselection (i.e., electronic selection) and allows organizations to close geographical gaps in the recruitment of employees as well as increase hiring Existing literature demonstrates that AI-enabled recruitment (AIER) greatly impacts the business world. Figure 2 (below) gives a map of this literature, which highlights the following key points. Firstly, AIER creates complex AI-human dynamics with positive/negative impacts such as job replacement or career enhancements. Secondly, AIER has been examined inaction in case studies in both Finnish and Scand in A survey of the existing literature identifies the gaps that exist in the application of AI in HR recruitment systems. Liu et al. (2021) observe that every business must attract and recruit strong talent to develop their organization in today's competitive world. These authors investigated HR teams that consolidated performance scores and corresponding recruitment entry channels (campus, online, internal transfers,

46 and referrals). The performance scores included three dimensions of an employee's performance: subjective
47 awareness, job satisfaction, and job self-dedication. This data was then processed through AI regression analysis
48 to determine the correlation coefficient's T-value and how predictable the entry channel was as an indicator
49 of performance. Dijkkamp (2019) used an exploratory research method with a case study to investigate the
50 organization AI recruiting, which supported the study by allowing access to company documents, presentations,
51 communications, conversational interviews, and policy documents (Dijkkamp, 2019). The author collected
52 different perspectives from the company's HR professionals, including asking them about AI replacing their jobs.
53 Through the case study, Dijkkamp was able to map changes to the HR teams once AI was integrated into their
54 workflow. Geetha and BanthuSree Reddy (2018) examined how AI influenced recruitment strategy and evaluated
55 AI's value in an organization. Their study utilized a literature review, which found that HR professionals' view of
56 AI replacing their jobs was not a concern. Rather, study findings suggest that AI eases HR's mundane activities
57 and allows more time for effective work. Johansson and Herranen (2019) used a combination of conversational
58 interviews with company employees of various designations and literature reviews to explore the application of
59 AI in HRM and its impact on the traditional recruitment process. Firstly, these authors found that AI in HRM
60 is very new and involves high onetime integration and HR training costs. Secondly, AI can cater to about half of
61 the recruitment process, but the rest requires human-specific capabilities that are beyond current AI. Finally, AI
62 integration in HRM gives companies access to a larger candidate pool, speeds up parts of the recruitment process,
63 and handles the more mundane HR tasks. Bhalgat (2019) used a widescale literature survey that included topics
64 such as information technology (IT) in recruitment, recruitment strategy and planning, and AI in recruitment
65 and its risks. Bhalgat concluded that the use of AI-based applications in recruitment is an emerging field that is
66 growing rapidly with technological innovations and data expansion. In particular, the growth of AI helps HRM
67 optimize the recruitment process by eliminating repetitive tasks (like sourcing and screening) that otherwise fall
68 to HR staff. In their study of an AI recruitment integration application, ??on et 4.0 (where 16% of the workforce
69 is retiring and more jobs are being automated). These authors evaluated the pros and cons of AI in HRM.
70 Kekkonen (2020) applied AI to HRM analyses of highly skilled specialists and senior managers, finding that
71 recruitment specialists followed an abductive approach *. The author analyzed the recruitment and selection
72 process theory (or practice) by

73 2 III. Gaps in Research

74 Current literature appraises the impact of AI in HRM and related issues of job replacement to some extent,
75 however, studies typically take a broad approach to these topics and do not engage with specifics. For example,
76 no studies have so far surveyed the difficulty of using AI software tools and the impact of this on the sourcing,
77 screening, and selection stages of the recruitment process. The literature also does not yet detail what specific
78 aspects of each recruitment phase (e.g., sourcing, interviewing, decision-making) are covered by AI-based software.
79 It further does not yet offer projected job loss statistics connected to using AIbased software for different job
80 functions, nor does it cover job replacement risk, given that AI performs a job function which can directly cause
81 professionals to retrain.

82 * The abductive approach is an analytic induction approach for generating innovative ideas using inductive
83 and deductive reasoning.

84 3 Research Gaps in HR Applications of AI in Recruitment

85 Some studies have investigated issues of bias in recruitment due to AI-based software, both in regard to pre-
86 existing bias in the data that trains the AI, and bias added by a human during data labeling. Others examine
87 ethical issues related to bias, such as sex, race, ethnicity, or religion, being included in recruitment decision making
88 via the data given to the AI. However, the literature does not dig deep into various sources of bias to ascertain the
89 root cause, and ignores related issues such as limited AI training data and short-term decision-making history.
90 The literature also does not suggest any options for improving the AI-based software and reducing or removing
91 the bias. It further does not cover the ethical impact on decisions made through AI inputs that typically ignore
92 human-specific aspects. In summarizing these omissions, three concerning issues surface that require further
93 In this regard, while literature offers some case studies of AI-based software being used in interviews, it does
94 not cover job-function-specific AI-based interviews and does not investigate the efficacy of AI-based software in
95 comparison with human interviews. The literature also does not survey the impacts of AI applications on both
96 HR and non-HR teams in an organization. This is a vital element of understanding these impacts, since job
97 functions are significantly different, as are their related implications.

98 4 IV. Research Question and Research Problem

99 The literature reviewed for this paper suggests that AI-based tools and AIER bring efficiency and innovation
100 to HRM, thus improving recruitment processes. AIER can be a game-changer, for (a) HR professionals, as it
101 allows them to invest time in more valuable business goals; (b) organizations, as it scales recruiting up rapidly
102 with lower bias; and (c) even job candidates, as it leads to predictable expectations between the applicant and
103 the recruiter. Despite its benefits, however, certain key limitations can create risk for organizations in utilizing
104 AIER. In addition, as a bleeding-edge technology, the use of AIER requires both specialized training and the

105 adaptation of organizational processes, which means time and staff resources must be routed to this end. These
106 limitations pose a costly investment for organizations, and evidence suggests that this has slowed AIER adoption
107 in HRM. Given this complex situation, this paper poses the research question, Is there value in using artificial
108 intelligence in the recruitment and selection process?

109 5 V. Research Methodology

110 The literature review has described the essential theoretical elements and secondary data regarding the use of AI
111 in HRM. Literature was obtained from various sources, including: google search; google scholar; researchgate.net;
112 iopscience.iop.org; various journal titles in business and management, system sciences, and tourism; emerald.com;
113 scirp.org; the Journal of Critical Reviews; and sciencedirect.com. Study of the literature provided insights into
114 the various relevant research areas and assisted in identifying the research gaps, some of which may be addressed
115 by the research proposed by this paper.

116 The next phase of the research methodology will use surveys to gather data from HR teams in various companies
117 with the intention of discovering the different uses of AI tools in HR recruitment functions. Survey data will
118 be the primary data source, and additional secondary data will be garnered from existing research. To begin
119 with, a sample size of HR employees will be established across various companies. Next, to conduct the survey,
120 a questionnaire will sent to the identified HR employee sample (see Appendix for the proposed investigation: (a)
121 AI-based software's lack of transparency in Ail earning and decision-making can magnify biases, impacting the
122 talent pool; (b) AI can break the non-discrimination policy (based on sex, race, ethnicity, or religion) as it pulls
123 this data from sourcing channels (such as LinkedIn, monster.com, etc.); and (c) compared to face-to-face human
124 interviews, AI hiring decisions inherently ignore candidates' other abilities that may not be reflected in sourced
125 data (such as resumes), potentially leading to inappropriate hiring decisions and/or under-performing talent.

126 6 VI. Analysis and Conclusions

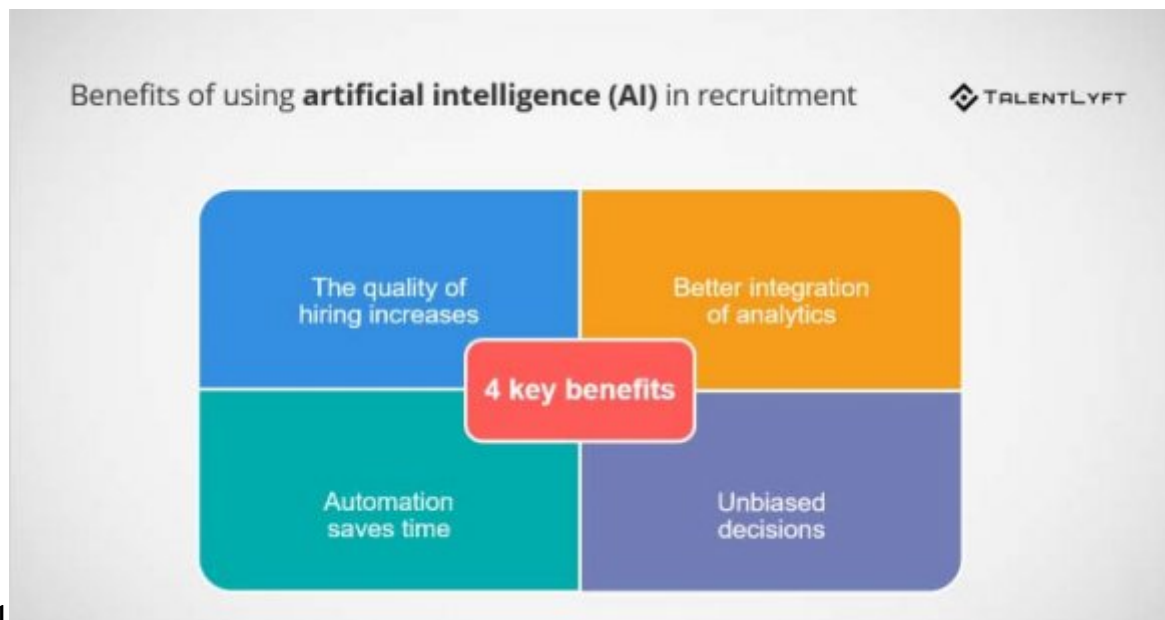
127 Using AI-based software in the recruitment and selection process can enhance the value of HRM job functions
128 in an organization. With the help of AI, HR teams can work more efficiently and effectively as they spend less
129 time on repetitive tasks, such as resume review, shortlisting, data processing, etc. Instead, HR teams are able to
130 focus on more essential job functions, such as recruitment planning, compensation management, and employee
131 performance management, etc. (Rojewska, 2022).

132 In certain cases, AI-enabled recruitment has demonstrated a high-level of performance in comparison to the
133 traditional recruitment process, nearly making the HR recruiter's job function redundant. However, it is essential
134 to note that AI does not have the level of judgment and sensibility that is abundant in humans. Given this
135 difference, it could be suggested that any organization considering AI for HR may need to separate areas of
136 the HRM job function that require Research Gaps in HR Applications of AI in Recruitment drawn about the
137 usefulness and limitations of AI in the various recruitment phases. more complex judgment and sensibility from
138 the objective parts to ensure that AI can contribute to recruitment effectively.

139 7 How can AI

140 1

¹© 2023 Global Journals Google Forms will be used for the survey process. Data will then be analyzed through statistical methods. Based on this analysis and data visualization, inferences will be R. (2021). The impact of e-recruitment and artificial intelligence (AI) tools on HR effectiveness: The Case of High Schools. *Productivity Management*, 26 (1), 322-343. <http://repository.petra.ac.id/19044/> 14. Liu, J., Chang, S.-H., Xu, Y.-C., Wu, G.-A., & Chang, S.-F. (2021). Using AI to enhance recruitment effect.



1

Figure 1: Figure 1 :



2

Figure 2: Figure 2 :

Figure 3:

.1 Appendix: Research Questionnaire

The following questionnaire consists of qualitative and quantitative questions as part of the research data collection to extract information on all aspects of AI in HRM functions.

[Dublin Business School] , <https://esource.dbs.ie/handle/10788/3956> *Dublin Business School* [007 and Pdf] , 007 , Pdf .

[Rojewska (2022)] *5 key reasons you should use AI-based solutions in your HR department*, K Rojewska . <https://dlabs.ai/blog/5-key-reasons-why-you-should-use-ai-based-solutions-in-your-hr-department/> 2022. October 11.

[Bhalgat ()] *An exploration of how artificial intelligence is impacting the recruitment and selection process*, K H Bhalgat . 2019. (Unpublished master's thesis)

[Are there concerns about using AI-based recruitment from the HR side? If yes, why? 16. Are there concerns about using AI-based recruitment from the HR side? If yes, why? 16. Are there concerns about using AI-based recruitment from the applicant's side? If yes, why? 17. Are applicants informed that recruitment is done or based on AI decisions?. *Is AI-based software hard to use without prior training? If yes, why?* 15,

[Arslan et al. ()] 'Artificial intelligence and human workers interaction at the team level: A conceptual assessment of the challenges and potential HRM strategies'. A Arslan , C Cooper , Z Khan , I Golgeci , I Ali . 10.1108/IJM-01-2021-0052. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJM-01-2021-0052> *International Journal of Manpower* 2021. 43 (1) p. .

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[Vedapradha et al. ()] 'Artificial intelligence: A technological Research Gaps in HR Applications of AI in Recruitment prototype in recruitment'. R Vedapradha , R Hariharan , R Shivakami . 10.4236/jssm.2019.123026. <https://doi.org/10.4236/jssm.2019.123026> *Journal of Service Science and Management* 2019. 12 (3) p. .

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[Does the use of AI-based software lead to effective recruitment? If yes, why? 10. Is your organization resistant to switching to AI-based recruitment? If yes, why? 10. Is your organization resistant to switching to AI-based recruitment? If yes, why? 11. Why would AI-based software applications increase and easier to integrate in the future? 12. Which areas of HR would AI decisions be better than human judgment? 13. Why does AI-based recruitment replace existing HRM jobs,

[How can AI and HR professionals work together when AI handles recruitment?] *How can AI and HR professionals work together when AI handles recruitment?*,

[How can AI help bring cost savings to the company?] *How can AI help bring cost savings to the company?*,

[How does AI-based software help in finding the best talent?] *How does AI-based software help in finding the best talent?*,

[How many days a week do you spend sourcing, screening, and selecting candidates? 11. How much time (please provide in hours or days) has been saved using AI-based software for sourcing, screening, and selecting over the last week? 12'. *Does AI-based software interest you in hiring now or in the future?* 10, (What cost savings can AI-based recruitment bring to the company)

[In which sector does your organization operate? 4. Does the company build products, provide services (or both) as the main part of its business? 5. Do you use in-house software or the vendorprovided software for HRM?,

7 HOW CAN AI

- 199 [Indicate how beneficial (extremely, moderate, not at all) AI-based software is for recruitment and selection]
200 *Indicate how beneficial (extremely, moderate, not at all) AI-based software is for recruitment and selection,*
- 201 [Indicate how many HRM function jobs will be lost due to AI-based software] *Indicate how many HRM func-*
202 *tion jobs will be lost due to AI-based software,*
- 203 [Indicate how risky (extremely, moderate, not at all) it is to use AI-based software for recruitment and selection]
204 *Indicate how risky (extremely, moderate, not at all) it is to use AI-based software for recruitment and*
205 *selection,*
- 206 [Indicate the challenges (huge, moderate, small, none) to be solved in AI-based software for recruitment]
207 *Indicate the challenges (huge, moderate, small, none) to be solved in AI-based software for recruitment,*
- 208 [Indicate the level of trust (very, somewhat, not at all) of HR teams using AI-based software for recruitment]
209 *Indicate the level of trust (very, somewhat, not at all) of HR teams using AI-based software for recruitment,*
- 210 [Indicate the readiness (fully ready, not fully ready, not at all ready) of the current state of AI technology for recruitment]
211 *Indicate the readiness (fully ready, not fully ready, not at all ready) of the current state of AI technology for*
212 *recruitment,*
- 213 [Indicate what percentage of HRM functions are getting easier with AI-based tools] *Indicate what percentage of*
214 *HRM functions are getting easier with AI-based tools,*
- 215 [Is the hiring process software in your organization AI-based?] *Is the hiring process software in your organization*
216 *AI-based?,*
- 217 [Joint Proceedings of Interactive Experiences and Doctoral Consortium] [https://ceur-ws.org/](https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-2892/paper-8.pdf)
218 [Vol-2892/paper-8.pdf](https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-2892/paper-8.pdf) *Joint Proceedings of Interactive Experiences and Doctoral Consortium,*
219 *(Bolzano, Italy)*
- 220 [Lahti ()][Lahti ()]nu ‘Potential of AI assisted recruitment in technology businesses’. W Lahti . <https://www.theseus.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/343483/LahtiWilliam.pdf>;
221 [jsessionid=](https://www.theseus.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/343483/LahtiWilliam.pdf)
222 [8AF878EB40FB36CECF5B7F6C173A5CD0?sequence=2](https://www.theseus.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/343483/LahtiWilliam.pdf) *JAMK University of Applied Sciences* 2020.
223 *(Unpublished bachelor’s thesis)*
- 224 [Quantitative Questions 1. Do you work in a private recruitment agency or in an HR role in an organization? 2. Does your organi-
225 *Quantitative Questions 1. Do you work in a private recruitment agency or in an HR role in an organization?*
226 *2. Does your organization have an in-house recruitment team, (or do you outsource it)*
- 227 [Rezzani (2021)] *Recruitment and selection HR process through artificial intelligence: An analysis of the aspects*
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230 , D Reddy . [https://iaeme.com/MasterAdmin/Journal_uploads/IJMET/VOLUME_9_ISSUE_7/](https://iaeme.com/MasterAdmin/Journal_uploads/IJMET/VOLUME_9_ISSUE_7/IJMET_09_07)
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237 *current state of AI and its impact on the traditional recruitment process, J Johansson , S Herranen . 2019.*
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245 *review, L F Abou Hamdan . 2019. (Unpublished thesis)*
- 246 [Klucin ()] *The use of artificial intelligence in the recruitment process, F Klucin . 2020. (Unpublished bachelor’s*
247 *thesis)*
- 248 [Under which conditions will AI-based recruitment replace the conventional recruitment process?] *Under which*
249 *conditions will AI-based recruitment replace the conventional recruitment process?,*
- 250 [Kekkonen ()] *Value and use of AI in external recruitment of highly skilled specialists and senior management roles*
251 *[Bachelor’s thesis, E.-P Kekkonen .* <https://urn.fi/URN:NBN:fi:amk-2020102221536> 2020. Turku
252 *University of Applied Science*
- 253 [What AI-based software applications are available in the recruitment market? Why and who chose that software]
254 *What AI-based software applications are available in the recruitment market? Why and who chose that*
255 *software,*

256 [What stages of the hiring process are covered by AI-based software?] *What stages of the hiring process are*
257 *covered by AI-based software?*,

258 [What was the revenue per employee (this is public information for a public company) before using AI, and what is it after using
259 *What was the revenue per employee (this is public information for a public company) before using AI, and*
260 *what is it after using AI? 14. What is the percentage of AI-based hires versus human judgment-based hires?*,

261 [Why are the job search websites (like monster.com) relied upon for recruitment?] *Why are the job search web-*
262 *sites (like monster.com) relied upon for recruitment?*,