

A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF AI AND BUSINESS ETHICS

Dr. S. M. Shegokar

Associate Professor, Shri Shivaji College of Arts, Commerce & Science, Akola
shesan2810@gmail.com

Abstract

Business ethics at a critical stage have always positioned while creation of artificial intelligence (AI). This study provides a detailed examination of the connection of AI and business ethics. It is attempted for establishing the core principles that guide accountable development, analyzing real-world ethical failures, and graphing the business and regulatory responses to these challenges. The study reveals a noteworthy and rising gap between the rapid pace of high-tech AI and the growth of adequate governance. Business ethics such as fairness, transparency, and accountability are important ethical ideals, putting them into practice in business organisations is still a giant problem. AI failures are not purely technical glitches but are often symptoms of deeper sociotechnical and cultural issues. This study argues that AI ethics is not merely a compliance issue but a calculated imperative. These calculated imperatives directly impact a status, market position, and long-term sustainability of the business organisations. It concludes by highlighting critical research gaps and emerging ethical frontiers, including the environmental impact of AI, and the challenges of achieving reasonable benefit-sharing.

Keyword: AI, Business, Business ethics, Ethical AI.

Introduction:

Moving from a futuristic idea to a useful instrument that gives a considerable competitive edge, artificial intelligence (AI) has revolutionized the commercial sector. AI is being used by companies in every industry to boost productivity, cut expenses, and improve the whole customer experience. AI represents a fundamental change in how businesses function, not just a technological fad. Businesses may use AI's capabilities to achieve unprecedented levels of productivity, make better choices, and provide greater value to their customers, which will ultimately prepare them for long-term success in a data-driven society.

The connection between AI and business ethics is essential because the expanding usage of AI in commercial processes raises novel and complicated ethical questions. The use of AI must be addressed in business ethics, which has historically focused on ethical principles in a commercial setting. The link between AI and business ethics is thoroughly analyzed in this research.

Objectives of Study:

1. To review the case studies regarding the business ethical related issues of AI.

The Foundations of Ethical AI in a Business Context:

Ethical AI in the context of business is designed to treat all individuals and groups equitably. Transparency and explainability principle involves making the logic behind an algorithm's output comprehensible to users. This principle has been providing detailed documentation of a system's purpose and limitations to all stakeholders. Answerability is a basis of ethical AI and is directly related to its developers, data scientists, or

executives and corporates. They are directly responsible for adverse outcomes of AI. The personal data security is crucial for safeguarding individual rights and maintaining trust on it. The implementation of robust data governance frameworks to ensure compliance with regulations like GDPR, NIST, UNESCO's recommendations. AI systems must operate consistently and safely, without causing physical, psychological, or financial harm.

The approval of ethical AI principles is a planned and marketable imperative for modern businesses. The AI practices which are not merely ethical that can profound to noteworthy financial consequences, reputational damage, legal challenges & cost, and lack of customer trust. Businesses must ensure that their AI systems do not inadvertently promote biased or misleading information regarding their products or services or may related with customer's belief and ethics. By divergence, a positive approach to AI ethics serves as a potent force for positive business outcomes. Although the implementation of AI can profound to job displacement, it can also create new roles for the human resources that require different skills to do the jobs. Ethical management involves balancing these impacts as well as ensuring that AI enhances employee efficiency without compromising job security.

Case studies:

- Microsoft Tay was an AI chatbot launched on Twitter to participate with users and learn from communications. It began posting offensive and racist tweets within 24 hours. The Ethical issues are founded that the lack of content moderation safeguards, failure to anticipate

adversarial behaviour, Corporate responsibility for AI outputs.

- Amazon AI recruiting tool was designed to screen job applicants for the Amazon itself by analysing patterns in Amazon's historical recruitment data. Although is AI tool, it found that past hiring practices had favoured men, the algorithm learned to systematically penalize female candidates. This case serves as a critical illustration of the principle that AI is not an objective decision-maker but an amplifier of existing biases presents in its training data.
- Algorithmic bias can record and show up in everyday consumer interactions rather than just in high-stakes decisions. The AI recommendation engines used in e-commerce might exhibit personalization bias. It can show and offers different prices or product exposure depending on demographics and their preferences. This underlying bias illustrates how an AI system can adopt current societal biases, thereby maintaining inequalities even in seemingly benign commercial applications.
- Walmart has employed AI and robots, to automate activities like inventory management and shelf stocking in its warehouses and stores. This increases efficiency, but it may also lead to job losses for stockers and shop employees by reducing the need for human labor. Investing in retraining and upskilling programs for their workforce instead of simply laying them off presents an ethical challenge for businesses.
- Cambridge Analytica case offers a vital illustration of data misuse for AI-driven applications, even if it is not entirely based on AI. Without getting their express permission, Cambridge Analytica collected the personal information of millions of Facebook users. Psychological profiles were created and political advertising was made targeted voters depending upon this data. The scandal highlighted the vulnerabilities of social media platforms. This types of misuse of personal data raises the ethical difficulties surrounding for behavioural manipulation and political persuasion.
- The AI of car's system was unable to recognize the individual as a pedestrian in a crosswalk while car on the road at same time. The car's AI did not activate the emergency brakes in time and car hit human. This incident brought up significant issues of responsibility and accountability. The human death caused by an AI system used by Uber self-driving car fatality in Tempe, Arizona. Many AI systems

are black boxes. It is challenging to ascertain the decision-making process, which raises ethical and legal considerations. As a result of the incident, the safety driver was charged with a crime, and Uber's self-driving initiative was provisionally postpone. It emphasized the necessity for open governance frameworks for use of AI, robust human lapse, and clear ethical standards for AI systems.

Ethical AI Practices in the Business:

- the Microsoft corporation has created a Responsible AI Standard, follows Bias free and transparent, responsible, fair, trustworthy and safe, private and secure, and inclusive principles into practice. These are the six fundamental values that guide Microsoft's dedication to responsible AI. The Coporation built resources such as the Responsible AI Dashboard to monitor systems and formed an Office of Responsible AI to supervise ethics and governance.
- The three basic views of IBM's strategy are that data and insights belong to their creator, that the goal of AI is to enhance human intelligence, and that AI systems should be transparent and explainable. The five basic tenets of trust that underpin these principles are explainability, fairness, robustness, transparency, and privacy. To put these principles into practice, IBM has created a committed AI Ethics Board with the responsibility of governing and making choices that are in line with the company's fundamental principles.

Conclusion & Recommendations:

The study shows that AI is a dynamic field or sector and now a day AI technology, business, and societal forces related with business interconnect. The finding shows that the implementation of business ethics principles remains a significant challenge. AI failures are not merely related with technical problems but are embedded in societal inadequacies. There are needs of global regulatory landscape, universal definitions of business principles or key concept in business ethics, sustainable and emerging issues for developing AI using business ethics. This AI is not only auxiliary but also the fundamental for sustainable business practices.

Businesses have to establish AI governance framework for deploying the deeply rooted business ethics. The business organisations also ensure to design system for on-going monitoring and continuous auditing AI for alleviating all bias free business environment for their stakeholders. Speed up the creation of consistent and all-

encompassing regulatory frameworks that can adjust to the speed of technical innovation. It is necessary to promote international cooperation in order to bridge cultural differences and confront global issues, like fair benefit sharing, that no one country can handle alone. The academic community should focus on conducting research that fills the crucial gaps mentioned in this study. This includes concentrating on creating a widely accepted definition of fairness and exploring the conflicts between various ethical ideals.

References:

1. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/human-rights-and-biomedicine/common-ethical-challenges-in-ai>
2. <https://www.intelligence.gov/ai/ai-ethics-framework>
3. <https://www.unesco.org/en/artificial-intelligence/recommendation-ethics>
4. <https://www.nist.gov/itl/ai-risk-management-framework>
5. <https://artificialintelligenceact.eu/>
6. <https://cltc.berkeley.edu/publication/ai-ethics-in-practice/>
7. <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/ai/responsible-ai>
8. <https://www.ibm.com/think/topics/ai-ethics>
9. <https://www.ibm.com/watson/assets/duo/pdf/ev erydayethics.pdf>
10. <https://www.sap.com/resources/what-is-ai-ethics>
11. <https://kochiva.com/blog/future-of-ai-ethics/>
12. <https://www.teradata.com/insights/ai-and-machine-learning/importance-of-ai-ethics>
13. <https://trustarc.com/resource/ai-ethics-with-privacy-compliance/>
14. <https://editverse.com/ethical-use-of-ai-and-machine-learning-in-research-2024-2025-guidelines/>
15. <https://research.aimultiple.com/ai-bias/>
16. <https://dileaders.com/blog/ai-bias-in-recruitment-and-promotion-navigating-legal-and-discrimination-risks/>
17. <https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/cyberpedia/ai-governance>
18. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/390347975_Corporate_Governance_and_AI_Ethics_A_Strategic_Framework_for_Ethical_Decision-Making_in_Business
19. <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11977975/>
20. <https://digitalmarketinginstitute.com/blog/the-ethical-use-of-ai-in-digital-marketing>
21. <https://academic.oup.com/jamiaopen/article/7/4/ooae108/7901079>
22. <https://academic.oup.com/jamiaopen/article/7/4/ooae108/7901079>
23. <https://iapp.org/resources/article/consumer-perspectives-of-privacy-and-ai/>
24. <https://www.lighthousereports.com/investigation/the-limits-of-ethical-ai/>
25. <https://www.yardstick.team/job-description/ai-ethics-officer>
26. <https://www.weforum.org/stories/2021/09/artificial-intelligence-ethics-new-jobs/>
27. <https://verityai.co/blog/ibm-ai-ethics-board-and-framework>
28. <https://auditboard.com/blog/nist-ai-rmf>
29. <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/regulatory-framework-ai>
30. <https://www.skadden.com/insights/publications/2023/05/evaluating-and-managing-ai-risk-using-the-nist-framework>
31. <https://www.mdpi.com/2078-2489/16/4/318>
32. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/magazines/panache/mit-study-shatters-ai-hype-95-of-generative-ai-projects-are-failing-sparking-tech-bubble-jitters/articleshow/123428252.cms>
33. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/technology/tech-news/godfather-of-ai-on-what-all-companies-are-getting-wrong-about-ai-they-are-not-/articleshow/123431307.cms>
34. <https://aign.global/ai-ethics-consulting/patrick-upmann/what-role-does-cultural-context-play-in-defining-ethical-standards-for-ai/>
35. <https://technologymagazine.com/articles/global-ai-ethics-bridging-cultural-divides-in-technology>
36. <https://cacm.acm.org/research/inherent-limitations-of-ai-fairness/>
37. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/392350892_Corporate_Governance_and_AI_Ethics_A_Strategic_Framework_for_Ethical_Decision-Making_in_Business
38. <https://jair.org/index.php/jair/article/view/14888>
39. <https://arxiv.org/html/2508.09219v1>
40. <https://news.mit.edu/2025/explained-generative-ai-environmental-impact-0117>
41. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2020/634452/EPRS_STU\(2020\)634452_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2020/634452/EPRS_STU(2020)634452_EN.pdf)
42. <https://www.techpolicy.press/the-politics-of-ai-benefit-sharing/>
43. <https://peopleinsight.co.uk/pros-cons-ai-workplace/>