

Dear recipient,

We are a team of researchers from various universities associated with the Z-Inspection® (<https://z-inspection.org/>) initiative (a not-for-profit initiative) dedicated to exploring the impact and potential of trustworthy artificial intelligence (AI) in higher education. Our latest project focuses on understanding the current state and usage of Large Language Models (LLMs) in academic settings, and we are seeking your valuable insights through our comprehensive survey.

A large language model (LLM) is a computational model capable of language generation or other natural language processing tasks. As language models, LLMs acquire these abilities by learning statistical relationships from vast amounts of text during a self-supervised and semi-supervised training process.[1] The largest and most capable LLMs, as of August 2024, are artificial neural networks built with a decoder-only transformer-based architecture, which enables efficient processing and generation of large-scale text data. Modern models can be fine-tuned for specific tasks or can be guided by prompt engineering.[2] These models acquire predictive power regarding syntax, semantics, and ontologies [3] inherent in human language corpora, but they also inherit inaccuracies and biases present in the data they are trained on.[4]. Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Large_language_model .

The aim of this survey is to gather data on the integration, benefits, and challenges associated with LLMs in higher education and shed light on the ethical issues and trustworthiness concerns that may arise and how they can be addressed. Your responses will significantly contribute to our understanding and help shape future developments in this field. The questionnaire includes a range of topics, such as your familiarity with AI technologies, specific tools you have used, and your perceptions of LLMs' impact on teaching and learning. It takes about 10-15 minutes to fill out the survey.

Costs and Benefits

There are no costs associated with your participation. The benefits include the opportunity to contribute to research aimed at improving our understanding of the impacts of digital technologies on sustainability and potentially influencing future policies.

Future Use of Data

The collected data will be processed solely by our research team.

Data will be anonymized before publication. The raw data will be archived on a secure server for 10 years.

Right to Refuse and Withdraw

You have the right to refuse to participate in the research or to withdraw your consent at any time.

Contact

For any questions regarding the survey and the underlying research project, please contact.

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Thank you for your time and expertise