

# The Benefits, Risk management strategies, and Ethical realities of the adoption of AI in the UK Fintech Sector

Farshid Pazira<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Business and Law, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester  
M15 6BX, UK.

## Abstract

Artificial intelligence (AI) is poised to continue driving innovation in fintech, but the sector must address ethical and regulatory challenges to harness AI's full potential responsibly. Companies need to strike a balance between innovation and maintaining a fair, inclusive financial environment. The present study aimed to examine the benefits, risk management strategies, and ethical realities of adopting artificial intelligence in the UK fintech sector. The methodology used in this study was qualitative, which facilitated a detailed exploration of these challenges through document analysis. This study gives a summary of the entire research process that includes the literature search strategy, overview of the literature review, data collection strategies, construction of research instruments, description of secondary data sources, approach to data analysis, and ethical considerations. The results of this study indicate that a holistic approach addressing not only technical and organisational challenges, but also ethical and regulatory issues is necessary for successful adoption of AI in the UK fintech industry. The findings contribute to the wider debate on AI in business strategy as well as offering some recommendations for stakeholders within the sector. Such recommendations include improving technological infrastructure, enhancing organizational readiness, engaging regulators in shaping AI policies, and developing strong risk management frameworks; therefore, fostering cooperation among industries. This research is a valuable contribution to academics and industry alike, as it helps develop nuanced understandings of challenges and opportunities presented by the UK fintech sector.

**Key words:** Risk management, Adoption of AI, UK Fintech Sector, Ethical considerations.

## 1. Introduction

Artificial intelligence has become increasingly relevant in our modern era. Nevertheless, there remains a considerable amount of scientific and business areas yet to be investigated. The advent of the internet revolution has brought about a new phenomenon known as artificial intelligence.

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As a budding phenomenon, markets and users have been becoming aware of and adjusting to the changes that are now unavoidable. However, in the majority of industries, there is still a hesitancy to fully create it. This is clearly stated in Dwivedi et al. (2021), where the authors explicitly acknowledge the unpredictability of the approach. This issue hinders the adoption of artificial intelligence and has highlighted the need to establish boundaries and principles for its use. The aim is to encourage responsibility and respect for all parties involved (Lima et al., 2022). Nevertheless, there are evident indications of the substantial potential of artificial intelligence that cannot be disregarded. This recognition is shared by organizations that even anticipate a future where humans and artificial intelligence collaborate (Candelon et al., 2021). Collectively, they can capitalize on the findings of some research that suggest internal factors might lead to increased creativity and improved performance, hence ensuring organizational progress (Kyläheiko et al., 2017).

Artificial intelligence (AI) has become a pivotal force in transforming the financial technology (fintech) industry, particularly in the UK, over the past ten years. The adoption of AI in fintech has reshaped service delivery and innovation, affecting various aspects of financial operations. AI's integration into fintech encompasses multiple applications, such as fraud detection, customer service automation, personalized financial advice,

credit scoring, and algorithmic trading. These technologies employ machine learning and predictive analytics to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and improve user experience (Bento et al., 2022; Ghosh and Thirugnanam, 2021).

AI has significantly improved fraud detection and prevention by analyzing transaction patterns to identify suspicious activities in real-time, thereby enhancing security measures. Additionally, AI-powered chatbots and virtual assistants streamline customer service, offering around-the-clock support and personalized financial recommendations based on customer behaviors. In credit scoring, AI models use alternative data sources to assess creditworthiness more inclusively, which is vital for extending credit to underserved populations (Patel, 2023). In investment management, AI algorithms optimize portfolio strategies by analyzing large datasets and forecasting market trends (Addy et al., 2024; Alfaifi et al., 2023; Ashta & Herrmann, 2021).

The implementation of AI in fintech presents several challenges, notably data privacy and security concerns due to the sensitive nature of financial data. Regulatory compliance is another critical issue, as AI-driven processes must adhere to strict legal and ethical standards (Li et al., 2023). Furthermore, the opacity of AI decision-making can raise issues of transparency and accountability, particularly when algorithms influence significant financial outcomes (Arnone, 2024; Awotunde et al., 2021).

Bias in AI systems is a major ethical concern,

especially in areas like credit scoring and lending. If the data used to train AI models is biased, it can lead to discriminatory practices that undermine fairness. Addressing these biases requires rigorous oversight and the development of algorithms that ensure equitable access to financial services (Bahroun et al., 2023; Barbu et al., 2021).

AI is poised to continue driving innovation in fintech, but the sector must address ethical and regulatory challenges to harness AI's full potential responsibly (Morris, 2020). Companies need to strike a balance between innovation and maintaining a fair, inclusive financial environment (Harwood & Garry, 2003; Hyatt & Gruenglas, 2023).

The present study aimed to examine the benefits, risk management strategies, and ethical realities of adopting artificial intelligence in the UK fintech sector.

## **2. Methodology**

The methodology used in this study was qualitative, which facilitated a detailed exploration of these challenges through document analysis. This section gives a summary of the entire research process that includes the literature search strategy, overview of the literature review, data collection strategies, construction of research instruments, description of secondary data sources, approach to data analysis, and ethical considerations.

### **2.1. Literature Search**

This study limited its literature review to academic sources that discuss the use of artificial

intelligence (AI) in commercial settings with an accent on implementation issues. To achieve this goal, a systematic online literature survey was carried out utilizing academic databases such as JSTOR, IEEE Xplore, Scopus, and Google Scholar, aiming at peer-reviewed journal articles, conference proceedings, books, and industry reports (Lysanets & Bieliaieva, 2018). Such search parameters as "challenges in AI application," "UK AI implementation," "AI in business strategy," "AI adoption barriers," and "AI fintech industry" were used to capture a broader range of related literature. The selection was limited to publications between 2013 and 2023 to ensure that they were current and relevant. A special focus was on studies addressing technological obstacles, organizational inertia, regulatory barriers, and normative issues related to AI use, including both theories and empirical results. Any source that did not deal specifically with AI uses within UK contexts or fell short of meeting the criteria for inclusion in some other way was excluded. Such a meticulous process thus formed a sturdy base for establishing existing knowledge gaps and identifying areas to pursue deeper exploration in the future (Lysanets & Bieliaieva, 2018).

### **2.2. Summary of Literature Review**

The literature review presents the complexity and multidimensionality of problems that organizations face during AI technology adoption. Several theoretical models were used in the review to clarify these complexities, such as the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) (Davis, 1989) which

discusses how perceived ease of use and usefulness affect the uptake of technology; organizational Change Theory which is concerned with processes and resistance associated with organizational transformation; ethical AI frameworks that give insights into ethical issues in AI implementation. Similar studies reveal that there exist technological barriers, for instance, lack of proper infrastructure or absence of specialized expertise, which are considered hindrances to AI adoption (Brynjolfsson & McAfee, 2014). On top of this is resistance from within organizations themselves, mostly driven by fears about losing jobs as well as uncertainty about the impacts of AI, usually identified as a key challenge. The implementation process is further complicated by regulatory and ethical issues like data privacy and algorithmic bias (Binns, 2018). Though there are more comprehensive studies on these wide-ranging concerns, little attention has been given to the specific difficulties encountered by firms in the UK, which is what makes this research necessary.

### **2.3. Case Study Selection and Criteria**

#### **2.3.1. Justification for selection**

For this research, case reports were selected using a strict set of criteria that help its relevance, representativeness, and depth of analysis, and to guarantee all-inclusive and subtle scrutiny of AI application problems (Lysanets & Bieliaieva, 2018). First and foremost, selected reports have shown the implementation of AI technologies on a large scale over the last decade with enough details on their AI initiatives for a comprehensive

analysis of the problems faced. To capture diverse implications of AI adoption within various contexts and to make room for the reliability of findings and conclusions of reports, this study deliberately considered only reports from reputable and verified sources, such as UK government reports on AI impact and utilization in the Fintech sector.

#### **2.3.2. The Case for Fintech Sector: Justification**

In this research report, a strategically selected few case studies have been used that cover a wide range of industries, sizes of firms, and different stages towards adoption of AI to give an all-inclusive examination of what UK firms go through when it comes to applying artificial intelligence technology.

#### **2.4. Data Collection Methods**

The conducted research primarily used secondary data, which was primarily based on documents regarding major AI projects in the UK that experienced considerable challenges between 2013 and 2023. This method is used to ensure a thorough analysis of existing information with an insight into the multiple issues surrounding AI adoption. The government reports industry white papers, academic case studies, media articles, and expert analyses provided secondary data sources. The documents provide a range of perspectives regarding the challenges people face when implementing AI technologies.

Through a systematic process, relevant documents were identified, retrieved, and reviewed according to Lysanets and Bieliaieva (2018). The study utilized academic databases such as Scopus, Google

Scholar, and JSTOR as well as online repositories of government and industry reports. Keywords that were used in identifying relevant documents included those related to AI challenges, leadership organizational change, and regulatory issues. The choice of these cases was motivated by their high-profile nature, their great public as well as financial impacts, plus the comprehensive documentation available on them.

### **2.5. Research Instrument Design**

A coding framework was the main research tool that was used to systematically analyze the content of selected documents, given that this study is qualitative (May et al., 2022). The coding scheme was based on themes identified from the literature, such as technological barriers against innovation, organizational resistance to change, regulatory constraints, ethical considerations, financial implications, etc (May et al., 2022). Every document was reviewed for the presence or absence of these themes and coded accordingly. The coding framework was iterative; new categories were added as new patterns emerged during the analysis of the documents. Such adaptability ensured that nothing important was left out of the analysis. To ensure consistency and trustworthiness, multiple readings of the documents were done as part of the coding process following Miles and Huberman's (1994) guidelines.

### **2.6. Overview of Secondary Data**

To understand better the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on organizations, understanding

secondary data is important as it provides much-needed context. The purpose of this research was to analyze selected AI projects in the UK fintech sector between 2013 and 2023. The original documents have been obtained from government reports, industry newspapers, academic case studies, and media that covered these issues.

### **2.7. Data Analysis**

The analysis of data was performed employing a document analysis strategy, which is a qualitative technique appropriate for examining the intricate nature of AI issues encountered by corporations in the UK. The analysis involved several stages:

#### **2.7.1. Analytic Framework**

The analytic framework of the research was established based on such theories as the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), Organisational Change Theory, and some ethical frameworks regarding artificial intelligence (AI) (Rhydderch, 2004; Marangunić & Granić, 2014). This framework provided a systematic approach to examining the documents in question, especially about leadership dynamics that affect the outcomes of AI projects. The coding process brought out crucial themes surrounding AI challenges, including technological barriers, organizational resistance, regulatory issues, and ethical dilemmas, among others. Each document was then reviewed and coded following these themes to understand how leadership choices influenced project paths.

#### **2.7.2. Content Analysis**

After the coding process, a thematic analysis was

conducted to find patterns and relationships within the coded data. Similar codes were brought together into broader themes that summarised the fundamental challenges noted across all case studies, according to Harwood and Garry (2003). Several themes emerged, including "misalignment of AI initiatives with organizational objectives" as well as "poor involvement or participation of

interested parties," which had a major contribution towards project complications. Also, cross-case comparisons indicated both similarities and dissimilarities in leadership challenges confronting some earlier reviewed AI projects through thematic analysis. The list of materials included in the content analysis is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Articles selected for the content analysis.

Year	Author	Title	Publisher	Article Type
2023		Artificial intelligence sector study: Report for the Department for Science, innovation and Technology (DSIT)	Perspective Economics	Government report
2022		Artificial intelligence public-private forum	Bank of England (Financial conduct authority)	Final report
2023	Dr. Andreas Soboda	The impact of Artificial Intelligence on the Banking industry	Journal of Banking and Finance Management	Research article
2019	Bonnie G. Buchanan	Artificial e in finance	Alan Turing Institute	
2023	Ibrahim A. Zeidy	The Role of Financial Technology (FINTECH) in Changing Financial Industry and Increasing Efficiency in the Economy	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa	Special report
2019		Towards an AI-powered UK: UK-based financial and related professional services	TheCityUK, International Regulatory Strategy Group	Special report
2024		The impact of AI in financial services: Opportunities, Risks and Policy consideration	UK Finance and Oliver Wyman	Special report
	Dame Wendy Hall and Jérôme Pesenti	Growing the artificial intelligence industry in the UK		Executive summary and report
2023		The AI Revolution: Opportunities and Challenges for the finance sector	The Alan Turing Institute	Special Report
2019		Impact of AI in the financial service sector workforce	Financial Services Union	Discussion paper
2020		Artificial intelligence (AI): prospects for financial services and policy approach	Artificial Intelligence	Policy note



2021	Erik Feyen, Jon Frost, Leonardo Gambacorta, Harish Natarajan and Matthew Saal	Fintech and the digital transformation of financial services: implications for market structure and public policy	Bank for international settlements and the world bank group	Policy note
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### 2.7.3. Interpretation of Findings

The thematic findings were interpreted concerning the study objectives and theoretical framework. This interpretation aimed at making clear what kind of issues leadership faces during the implementation of AI, what are some common problems in different projects, as well as strategic misalignments that resulted in project failures. Also, the analysis tackled how such findings would impact the AI fintech industry in general, contributing to ongoing discussions about effective leadership in the area of technological innovation.

### 2.7.4. Triangulation and Validation

For reliability and validity, a triangulation technique was adopted for analysis. It involved cross-referencing information from several sources, including comparing government reports with academic journals and media publications (Humble, 2009). In this way, triangulation helped confirm that the results were consistent and thus strengthened the conclusions made.

### 2.8. Research Validity and Reliability

To guarantee the validity and reliability of the study, many methods will be employed in a multi-

faceted approach aimed at increasing the rigor and trustworthiness of the study (Torrance, 2012). Triangulation is a major part of this strategy, whereby data can be collected from various avenues, such as secondary documents like industry reports or case-specific records (Humble, 2009). Therefore, by contrasting results from different sources of data, credibility would be enhanced, thus minimizing chances for bias and allowing for findings that have strong backing from diverse pieces of evidence.

Moreover, a robust description was used in the research by way of offering detailed narrations about context, case studies, and data collection methods. This will enable readers to appreciate fully the setting where the study took place and evaluate the transferability of findings to other contexts or settings (Humble, 2009). The research not only deepens the analysis but also enhances its applicability in wider or similar contexts through a rich narrative that is contextualized.

### 2.9. Ethical Considerations

The ethical aspects were important parts of this research, especially when managing sensitive information derived from well-known organizations. The most serious ethical issue was

the confidentiality and integrity of the data obtained. While using secondary data, utmost care was also taken to handle any sensitive or risk-exposing people. Furthermore, data-driven software uses objective analyses without any prejudices following no outside forces influencing any other way. Results had thus been presented truthfully and openly as per the requirements behind ethical norms in scholarly investigations.

**3. Results and Discussion**

**3.1. Benefits of AI Adoption in the UK Fintech Sector**

The UK fintech sector has seen enormous changes since artificial intelligence (AI) was introduced within its operations. One major advantage is the speed at which large volumes of data can be processed and analyzed by these systems accurately. As a result, companies in this space can make better-informed decisions based on data-driven findings, which improve their overall efficiency and effectiveness. AI-based algorithms have become very good at spotting patterns and trends hidden in intricate financial datasets that humans might miss entirely. Consequently, there are improvements in both fiscal performance and stability via advanced sourcing as well as perfectly positioned investments.

Artificial Intelligence in Customer Service has likewise seen a wealth of change. For one, AI chatbots and virtual assistants provide instant

support and tailored financial advice that has led to increased customer satisfaction and lessened costs of operating human customer service representatives. In addition to this, these AI systems have proved effective in dealing with common queries while also providing individuals with personalized transactions thus improving upon both customer experience and operational efficiency. This innovative technology enables firms to make better use of their resources by employing human expertise in complex or highly valued tasks instead of dealing with simple customer interactions.

Additionally, there are many repetitive activities, such as transaction processing and compliance monitoring, that can be automated using artificial intelligence (AI). Operations are made efficient while reducing manual interventions, hence freeing up human resources for more strategic roles. A great way to stand out from competitors in this space is by creating financial products that are personalized based on individual customer preferences and data. This means that fintech companies would be able to tap into specific customers’ needs, hence improving their positioning in the market and attracting a selected target market. These advantages collectively indicate how the use of AI promotes not only operational efficiency but also innovation in financial technology (fintech) (Table 2).

**Table 2.** Comparative Analysis of AI Adoption across UK Fintech Industries (2013-2023).



Key AI Challenges Identified	Risks Involved	Benefits Realised	Ethical Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technological infrastructure deficiencies</li> <li>- Organisational resistance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Data privacy issues</li> <li>- Job displacement concerns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved customer service</li> <li>- Enhanced decision-making</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Algorithmic bias</li> <li>- Transparency in AI processes</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regulatory constraints</li> <li>- High implementation costs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compliance with evolving regulations</li> <li>- High financial risks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Operational efficiency</li> <li>- Cost savings in the long run</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of accountability in AI decisions</li> <li>- Data usage ethics</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Misalignment with organizational goals</li> <li>- Lack of skilled workforce</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project delays</li> <li>- Negative impact on stakeholder confidence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased innovation capacity</li> <li>- Competitive advantage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Issues of fairness and justice in AI applications</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ethical dilemmas (e.g., bias, transparency)</li> <li>- Slow adoption rates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public trust erosion</li> <li>- Potential legal liabilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Scalability of AI solutions</li> <li>- Personalised customer experiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Privacy concerns</li> <li>- Inadequate ethical guidelines</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organisational inertia</li> <li>- Complex integration with existing systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strategic risks</li> <li>- High initial costs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Better market analysis</li> <li>- Predictive analytics capabilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Risk of discrimination</li> <li>- Inadequate regulatory oversight</li> </ul>

### 3.2. Ethical realities of the adoption of AI and the limited state of regulations

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into the UK fintech industry is characterized by numerous ethical dilemmas, further compounded by the current gaps in regulation frameworks overseeing AI technologies. According to case study analyses, some of the pertinent ethical issues include algorithmic bias, lack of clarity in AI decision-making processes, and possible infringements on customer privacy. Such concerns emphasize how AI systems can carry forward societal biases or set up new ones if proper design

and monitoring are not followed through with. Moreover, the complexity and non-transparency associated with AI algorithms make it difficult to regulate their fairness and accountability, which can question how they are ethically employed, especially in finance.

There is also the added problem of delay in the development of regulatory frameworks against the backdrop of rapid growth in AI. The regulation in the UK is continuing to grind slowly on, and this has left fintech companies confused about what they can do with AIs about life ethics and law. One can say that all these issues are there to challenge

innovators who have to deal with changing standards and expectations all at once. From the analysis, it is evident there is a pressing need for more comprehensive and specific regulations meant for dealing with ethical dilemmas posed by artificial intelligence (AI) within the field of financial technology (fintech). Such regulations should strive for transparency, avoid bias, and safeguard customer privacy, thus ensuring that AI technologies operate within bounds that maintain ethics while allowing trust from the public.

Ethical issues concerning the use of AI in fintech do not only pertain to algorithm-related problems but also comprise more far-reaching social ramifications. The use of artificial intelligence in the financial sector has been shown to increase economic inequality due to algorithmic decision-making processes such as lending and credit rating, which may inadvertently disadvantage certain groups of people. The absence of regulatory directions makes it difficult for organizations to set ethical standards that are inclusive and equitable. Furthermore, technological advancement is usually ahead of ethical establishment, thus putting companies between innovation on the one hand and moral obligations on the other. In this regard, it is important for regulators, businesspersons who are players in the industry, as well as philosophers dealing with ethics to continuously hold discourse around a robust ethical framework that can be used as a guide on the responsible use of AI following emerging challenges.

### **3.3. Risk management strategies in the adoption of AI in the sector**

To tackle risks encountered in artificial intelligence (AI) adoption processes, UK fintech companies are fixated on comprehensive risk management strategies. One such strategy employed involves intense testing and validation of artificial intelligence algorithms, which ensures that they function without discrepancies, thus delivering precise forecast results. Such a mechanism helps to minimize the likelihood associated with algorithmic prejudice and guarantees fairness as well as dependability in AI-based decision-making. These organizations are also creating reliable data governance systems to secure clients's information and comply with personal data statutes. They play an important role in preventing any form of wrong use or breakage that endangers both the company's and the user's interests.

Another approach that is emerging involves the use of explainable AI (XAI), which focuses on building AI systems that produce clear and interpretable outputs. Through XAI, transparency and accountability are enhanced as the stakeholders understand the decision-making processes followed by the AI systems. In this case, decision-making may entail ethical concerns and justification for actions taken by Artificial Intelligence (AI). It is also necessary for risk management since continuous monitoring (and auditing) are integral components of AI systems. These practices aid organizations in recognizing and dealing with problems during their operation such that the

integrity and effectiveness of their applications are upheld over time.

In addition, to cope with the changing regulatory framework, many fintech companies are beginning to engage proactively with regulators together with industry bodies. This engagement aids in shaping the development of AI standards and best practices so that regulatory obligations are adhered to as well as compliance with new guidelines. Therefore, through these measures, the UK fintech firms can take advantage of AI technologies while controlling for potential risks involved. Such an approach establishes a sustainable and ethical basis for accepting innovations, aligning them towards regulations and standards set out by different institutions controlling the technology space as well as the moral principles behind them.

### **3.4. Findings concerning the Technology Adoption Model (TAM)**

The evidence on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the financial technology (fintech) industry in the United Kingdom provides valuable insights that are strongly connected to the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) examined in the literature study. The Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), first proposed by Davis (1985), suggests that the perceived usefulness (PU) and perceived ease of use (PEOU) of a technology have a substantial impact on users' attitudes and intentions to embrace it. The formation of these perceptions is influenced by design features and is essential for comprehending and forecasting user

acceptability. Within the framework of your research, the perceived advantages of AI, such as increased productivity, better customer segmentation, and competitive advantage, closely correspond to TAM's notion of perceived utility. Larger financial technology companies, motivated by these benefits, have embraced AI more quickly, indicating that their confidence in AI's capacity to enhance operational efficiency drives its implementation. This pattern demonstrates the significant impact of perceived usefulness, a key element of the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), on decisions to adopt technology. Moreover, the inherent capacity of AI to effectively handle extensive volumes of data has made it a highly valuable instrument for these companies, hence strengthening its perceived utility and fostering wider use.

In contrast, the research also emphasizes the difficulties encountered by smaller fintech companies, who typically have a slower rate of embracing AI technologies because of constraints in resources and obstacles in achieving scale. The difficulties explicitly pertain to the notion of perceived ease of use in the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM). Smaller enterprises may find the incorporation of AI to be more intricate and challenging, especially if they lack the necessary knowledge and technological framework. The sense of difficulty might reduce the perceived usefulness of AI, as proposed by the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), where the perceived ease of use affects the perceived usefulness and, ultimately,

the desire to embrace technology. Furthermore, the research highlights additional obstacles to the use of AI, such as technical difficulties, resistance from organizations, and limitations imposed by regulations. These barriers may contribute to the notion that artificial intelligence (AI) is not only challenging to use but also possibly hazardous, thus impeding its acceptance. The absence of necessary expertise in data science and machine learning in several fintech companies poses a substantial obstacle to the adoption of AI, resulting in a perception that AI systems are intricate and challenging to include. In line with TAM's claim that the perceived ease of use is a crucial determinant of technology acceptance, companies that view AI as challenging to implement are less inclined to embrace it.

Aside from technical and organizational obstacles, the research also emphasizes the ethical and regulatory issues linked to the use of AI, which might have a detrimental effect on the perceived utility. The ambiguities around Artificial Intelligence (AI) rules and ethical quandaries, such as algorithmic bias and data privacy concerns, can cause fintech companies to doubt the overall advantages of AI, therefore reducing their decision to embrace these technologies. The current research indicates that the legislative framework for artificial intelligence (AI) is still ambiguous, which has consequences for how financial technology companies conform their AI plans to data protection legislation and ethical obligations. Insufficient clarity on this matter might impede the

process of strategic planning and investment in AI technology, as companies may hesitate to embrace AI systems without explicit instructions on adherence to regulations and ethical norms. Moreover, the ethical issues arising from the use of AI in decision-making procedures, such as credit scoring and customer profiling, emphasize the need for upholding openness and fairness in AI implementations. These concerns emphasize the need for adopting a well-balanced strategy towards the implementation of AI, where the perceived utility of AI is carefully evaluated concerning the possible hazards and ethical issues. The Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) indicates that when the perceived risks exceed the perceived benefits, the probability of technology adoption reduces.

#### **4. Conclusions**

In summary, this study indicates that a holistic approach addressing not only technical and organisational challenges, but also ethical and regulatory issues is necessary for successful adoption of AI in the UK fintech industry. The findings contribute to the wider debate on AI in business strategy as well as offering some recommendations for stakeholders within the sector. Such recommendations include improving technological infrastructure, enhancing organizational readiness, engaging regulators in shaping AI policies, and developing strong risk management frameworks; therefore, fostering cooperation among industries. This research is a valuable contribution to academics and industry alike, as it helps develop nuanced understandings of

challenges and opportunities presented by the UK fintech sector.

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