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THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND E-ACCOUNTING PROGRAMS: IMPACT ON THE QUALITY OF FINANCIAL REPORTS IN IRAQI BANKS

ABSTRACT

This study examines the correlation between electronic accounting software and artificial intelligence programs and their influence on the quality of financial reports in the banking sector of Iraq. The researchers devised a questionnaire comprising three dimensions to accomplish this objective. The initial set of questions pertained to using artificial intelligence applications by the study sample bank, either for customer service purposes or to achieve the bank's objectives. The second set of questions pertained to the accounting programs utilized, their advantages and disadvantages, and their compatibility with advancements in technology and communications. The third dimension encompassed inquiries on the essential attributes necessary for the excellence of financial statements by the criteria set by international financial reporting standards and the Central Bank of Iraq. Out of the 46 banks listed on the Iraq Stock Exchange in 2024, a sample of 31 institutions was chosen. Among them, there were 12 Islamic banks and 19 commercial banks. 217 questionnaires were distributed for analysis, with each bank receiving seven questionnaires for the directors of finance, internal audit, information systems, inspection, research and development, and their assistants to answer the research questions. The hypotheses were tested using IBM SPSS 29.0.10, employing practical analysis and simple and multiple linear regression. The research findings indicate that all banks in Iraq utilize electronic accounting. However, the quality of programs differs across banks based on the scale of financial activities and the amount of money they handle. The research also determined that artificial intelligence is advancing in the applications of banks, except for the Development Bank, the Bank of Baghdad, and the First Bank of Iraq. The study also demonstrates a strong correlation between the implementation of artificial intelligence in accounting and its positive impact on the reliability and accuracy of financial accounts.

Keywords: artificial intelligence, e-accounting programs, quality of financial reports, commercial banks

JEL Classification: O32, M41, L86, M49

INTRODUCTION

The rapid progress in information technology and computer science has led to a profound and crucial transition in modern civilizations, impacting fields such as science, the arts, management, crafts, commerce, medicine, accounting, and other sciences (Izuchukwu and Patricia, 2022). Interdisciplinary collaboration is crucial for conducting research in artificial intelligence in auditing and accounting. Artificial intelligence is anticipated to have a broader impact on these fields, improving efficiency, productivity, and information accuracy (Hasan, 2022). Processing applications within the fundamental electronic accounting systems are still required by artificial intelligence. The processing capabilities of artificial intelligence must support the task that necessitates human intervention (Alfartoosi et al., 2023). However, Artificial intelligence is both a tool and a transformative force in accounting. It influences the mechanization of accounting procedures and streamlines financial reporting. AI has become a crucial tool in accounting and finance, offering sophisticated features to improve precision, productivity, and making informed choices. The progression of AI in accounting, starting from rule-based

systems and advancing to sophisticated machine learning and deep learning approaches, is evidence of its immense potential. Technological progress has allowed accounting systems driven by AI to automate intricate activities like invoice processing, reconciliations, fraud detection, and predictive analytics. This has resulted in financial reporting methods that are more efficient and provide deeper insights (Adeyeri, 2024). This need for research should be a priority for various companies, including banks. Many researchers have discovered a high level of readiness to embrace artificial intelligence methods that can be implemented in electronic accounting systems in banks (Agha et al., 2024) (Makhlouf & Alani, 2024). Research indicates that certain employees in organizations implementing AI possess a restricted and somewhat cautious comprehension of these applications. Moreover, adopting this technology could be more active in specific industries that are significantly lagging in technological infrastructure and digital transformation. While some believe that AI can improve efficiency, save expenses, and elevate customer satisfaction, it is essential to note that most organizations currently need a comprehensive plan for integrating AI into their operations (Hradecky et al., 2022).

The utilization of accounting standards and internal control mechanisms substantially impacted the quality of the financial report. Nevertheless, the situation changed when accounting information systems were implemented. Therefore, accounting standards, internal control systems, and artificial Intelligence Systems (AIS) are essential for improving the precision and dependability of financial reports (Pangaribuan et al., 2023). Some argue that the quality of financial statements is influenced by factors such as business profitability, business size, and board size. However, they believe that dividend policy, state ownership, and time of listing of companies have no impact on financial statement quality. They also suggest that the most critical factors affecting financial statement quality are profit after tax on total assets, state ownership, and the institution's size. These factors are crucial for market participants and policymakers in their efforts to enhance transparency and improve the quality of financial reports (Janrosl & Muda, 2022). This study explores two phenomena: artificial intelligence and electronic accounting applications. Both technologies utilize intelligent technology to facilitate decision-making with minimal human intervention in accounting procedures and management. Artificial intelligence is a scientific discipline investigating the process by which machines can reason and behave like that of humans. The emergence of advanced electronic accounting programs that operate without human intervention will be facilitated by artificial intelligence. This is particularly relevant in the banking and financial sectors of Iraq, where the impact of wars on human resources and technology systems is still being felt. As a result, academics and researchers must contribute to resolving emerging issues. The present study is one of the endeavors in this field to assist the Iraqi banking sector and identify development opportunities for certain banks experiencing accounting program failures to become part of global banks.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Overview of Artificial Intelligence in Accounting

Using computers and other technological devices, artificial intelligence imitates the cognitive capabilities of the human brain, including decision-making and problem-solving. Virtual agents, language-generation software, and social bots are among the AI-based products that individual's interface with (Asif & Gouqing, 2024). The emergence and use of artificial intelligence have undeniably exerted a substantial influence on the progression of the Internet. Due to its extensive adoption in society, artificial intelligence has become highly pertinent in people's daily lives during the past decade (Huawei, 2023). Artificial intelligence (AI) is significantly enhancing the precision and effectiveness of financial reporting by automating repetitive operations and facilitating predictive analytics for informed strategic decision-making. Nevertheless, notable hurdles in adopting AI include the requirement for personnel with expertise in AI, concerns around data protection, and the substantial expenses associated with integrating AI. Resistance to change poses a significant obstacle to implementing AI in accounting methods (Odonkor et al., 2024).

Although AI's capacity to rapidly and efficiently analyze vast amounts of data is invaluable for financial institutions, it is crucial to acknowledge the potential risks and limitations associated with its utilization. AI's opaqueness in decision-making, sometimes called the "black box problem," and its dependence on high-quality data introduces further intricacies when assessing the overall influence of algorithms employed in financial markets. Considering these concerns, it is necessary to weigh the advantages of AI against the hazards associated with implementing this technology in all sectors (Fletcher & Le, 2022). The swift progress of artificial intelligence has sparked the interest of several technicians and academics globally, and diverse firms from various sectors have shown keenness in investigating its potential. Due to the progress and investigation in this domain, AI technology persistently alters the commercial environment and individuals' personal and social engagements. To comprehensively understand AI, technologists must thoroughly examine its applications' development and potential growth (Raj & Kos, 2023). Evidence indicates that utilizing AI, big data analytics, cloud computing, and advancements in deep learning can enhance accounting and auditing methods. AI technologies enhance organizations'

operational efficiency, precision, and decision-making ability, enhancing financial reporting and auditing procedures (Abdullah & Almaqtari, 2024). The future of accounting is intricately connected to the swift advancement of automation and artificial intelligence. This review explores the forecasts for incorporating these technologies into the accounting field. Growing dependence on automation marks the future of streamlining repetitive work, enhancing efficiency, and minimizing the probability of errors in accounting procedures. Simultaneously, artificial intelligence is poised to become a fundamental aspect of accounting procedures, offering sophisticated data analysis, pattern identification, and predictive modelling abilities. The capacity of AI to analyze intricate financial data and identify significant insights renders it an excellent tool for aiding decision-making, allowing accountants to make strategic choices based on data-driven forecasts (Nifise et al., 2024). Deploying artificial intelligence (AI) through emerging technologies gives rise to numerous apprehensions, including security and privacy. Furthermore, decentralized technology has been widely used in other domains, including finance, cryptocurrency, and smart contracts, in the past decade. Considering the integration of Blockchain, intelligent contracts, and consensus functions with AI shortly is intriguing. Incorporating Blockchain with AI or machine learning in various applications is necessary to transmit a message from the sender to the receiver while ensuring data confidentiality and customer confidence (Tyagi et al., 2020).

Ninety-five per cent of organizations are affected by unstructured data, which results in annual expenditures amounting to millions of dollars. When well handled, unstructured data can significantly enhance business efficiency. Conventional methods for extracting information have limited capabilities. However, AI-based solutions offer a superior option. The literature should comprehensively examine AI-based methods for automatically extracting information from unstructured documents (Baviskar et al., 2021). The current focus of AI research and development is on aiding in scheduling, enhancing workflow quality, identifying and describing abnormalities, and forecasting patient prognosis. Nevertheless, not all AI applications are without difficulties. Understanding the possible dangers and risks of this developing technology is paramount (Bariši, 2022).

E-Accounting Programs: Features and Applications banks

Accounting is a crucial corporate function in any organization, and it is subject to rigorous rules in all economic systems. In recent decades, accounting operations in commercial organizations have undergone significant modifications and advancements due to dramatic developments in information and communication technologies. These technological advancements have changed how accounting is organized, such as using digital documentation, online or cloud-based accounting, and other alternatives to old methods (Vlahović, 2023). Wali and Darwish's study found that electronic accounting services significantly influence the expansion of financial reporting in the banking industry in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Hence, creating precise and top-notch financial information using electronic accounting software packages is essential (Wali and Darwish, 2021). Therefore, e-accounting is employed to automate operational operations and enhance business efficiency and performance. Recently, the rapid advancement of e-accounting has significantly contributed to the success of organizations in a manner that cannot be overstated. However, previous research has shown that the effectiveness of e-accounting relies on specific criteria that are crucial for its success (Lutfi et al., 2022).

Therefore, SMES must utilize tailored or universal accounting software to carry out accounting tasks. Consequently, SMEs have begun adopting a novel accounting method, E-accounting. In essence, it enhances the efficiency of SMEs' accounting processes compared to traditional bookkeeping methods, resulting in a more prosperous outcome. This study has investigated several factors related to information technology (IT) that influence the implementation of e-accounting, including IT cost, IT risk, employee IT skills, and employee theoretical knowledge (Thottoli & Ahmed, 2022). The effectiveness of electronic accounting relies on various crucial variables, including the quality of the system, the quality of the information, and the quality of the service (Rahahle et al., 2024). It is recommended that all organizations adopt an e-accounting information system to ensure accuracy in reporting and overall record management. Enterprises that implemented this approach experienced a jump in return on investment (Amahalu, 2020). Adopting electronic accounting practices is a recent and significant development in the accounting field, involving the shift from traditional paper-based accounting documentation and records to digital formats. Research suggests that incorporating electronic accounting processes in firms results in the effective implementation of digital document preservation. The efficacy of firm services is directly influenced by using electronic accounting systems, which are intricately linked to record-keeping papers (Azim, 2022). According to the information, this technological advancement has revolutionized the methods and processes involved in accounting chores. This is achieved through electronic media and digital applications, including electronic accounting. The international adoption of electronic accounting is a recent advancement. Electronic accounting uses electronic systems to perform accounting tasks with rapidity, precision, and instantaneous outcomes. Source documents and accounting records are stored digitally rather than on paper, enabling organizations to save their financial data securely. This digital format

allows authorized users to access the data in real-time, independent of their location or computing platform (Alimova, 2024).

Due to the proliferation of electronic smartphone services, banks advise their customers to exercise caution while utilizing these mobile accounting applications for money transfers and to contact their bank immediately if any requests for private account information are made using a smartphone. The efficacy of smartphone interfaces in providing banking services has been demonstrated (Qatawneh & Makhoulf, 2023); FinTechs have made significant progress in recent years, greatly enhancing financial market transactions' speed, efficiency, and security. The financial services business can significantly benefit from advanced technologies such as (AI) and device learning (ML). The intricate nature of financial markets and the necessity for swift response fuel the demand for FinTech companies (Hazar and Babuşcu, 2023).

Quality of Financial Reports

The primary goal of financial reporting is to furnish valuable information for evaluating a company's prospects. Poor financial reporting consists of erroneous and deceptive data that can lead to financial losses and diminished trust in the corporate governance system (Omotilewa et al., 2021); the impact of technology, particularly AI, on senior managers in the manufacturing, service, production, and accounting industries has been significant (Sestino and De, 2022). AI technologies are now regarded as a competitive imperative in all business sectors (Ruiz-Real et al., 2021). A diverse array of AI technologies is available to address specific business requirements, providing various options. AI applications offer administrators the intelligence and insight required to make informed decisions based on the analyzed data, which is essential in a field that necessitates the analysis of large volumes of data (Borges et al., 2021). Executives, investors, researchers, and other stakeholders can now assess a company's economic performance, position, and development opportunities thanks to AI technologies, which are transforming financial reporting (Krakowski et al., 2023).

When conducted by regulations and standards, financial reporting demonstrates corporate governance and suitability and fosters trust. Comprehending financial reporting as a response to users' expectations is essential. The EPA system faces challenges, including adhering to specific assumptions, timeliness, comparability, comprehensiveness, clarity, reliability, validity, and veracity (Di et al., 2020). Some of these figures are under the supervision of the system, while others are under the control of the company and its administrators. Supervised corporate governance systems could be more beneficial because some companies are only subject to regulation through market arrangements (Loureiro et al., 2021). Developing a mechanism and application that meet the company's expectations is advantageous, as it provides a better understanding of the financial reporting characteristics that influence the method or the system itself, considering the benefits and costs of a particular framework. According to our research, accounting, and AI applications can positively influence financial reports' cost, ease, and quality (Ristyawan, 2020).

The objective of regulating the quality of financial reports is to guarantee that they offer a disciplined perspective on a company's operations and contribute to a fair and efficient stock market. Financial reports significantly impact business operations by influencing investors' decision-making processes (Enholm et al., 2021). Consequently, organizations are incorporating artificial intelligence analytics and new accounting software to improve the precision and diversity of their financial reporting. Furthermore, these intricate accounting procedures may result in data inconsistencies in financial statements, such as the uniform presentation of this information by IFRS 38 and discrepancies in other accounts. A business entity must establish a consistent method for estimating the life of intangible assets to calculate the associated depreciation, as per IFRS 38 (Di et al., 2020). The researchers recommended the ongoing advancement of artificial intelligence software and accounting applications, improving the quality of financial reporting and resolving the current issue, particularly for companies that depend on unfavourable technologies and designs and their economic operations. Iraqi banks employ SWIFTS (Javaid et al., 2022). This commercial software enables financial institutions to transmit and receive information regarding economic events from specific bank clients, external partners, or regional and global banks. Consequently, these AI systems necessitate computer programs that employ AI to facilitate the economic operations of banks, including assessing risk in insurance and implementing commercial banks (Perifanis & Kitsios, 2023).

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The present investigation aims to accomplish several distinctive research objectives. The initial set of objectives pertains to enhancing the quality of financial reports by addressing the issues associated with accounting applications and artificial intelligence programs and transforming these systems. The "Literature Review" section contains a discussion of these systems. The quality of financial reports is typically the primary focus of "electronic accounting applications" research, which is characterized by the integration of accounting strategies and human capital. In the same context, the subject of

"artificial intelligence programs" encompasses the influence of digital reports, "computerized data conclusions, and artificial intelligence on regulatory procedures related to banks." Nevertheless, these subjects have not yet been investigated due to the unique characteristics of the current research environment in Iraq.

Due to this, the present research endeavors to investigate the actual situation on the ground to address the first primary objective, which is to determine the extent to which electronic accounting applications or artificial intelligence programs serve as indicators of the practical methodology employed to enhance the preparation of financial reports per the standard accounting standards adhered to by the Central Bank of Iraq. This guarantees the preservation of the quality of financial reports, which is primarily jeopardized by the absence of a skilled, qualified, and practical human element that is cognizant of the nature and objectives of the assets invested in financial resources, thereby contributing to the development of a banking environment that is in step with the refineries of developed countries. The research investigates the second and third objectives by concentrating on Iraqi banks to examine the relationship and influence of accounting procedures, including the quality of financial reports, accounting experience, and knowledge management.

METHODS

The current study relied on the inductive approach to collecting data by analyzing the answers of members of a sample in a sample of commercial and Islamic banks listed in the Iraq Stock Exchange, which numbered 19 and 27 commercial banks. The size society represented 46 banks during the year 2024, and the questionnaire was distributed to a sample of the banks by 12 Islamic banks, a percentage of which was 63%, while commercial banks were the selected sample, including 19 banks 70%. The total sample represents 67% of the study community, which is a good percentage. The distributors distributed seven questionnaires for each bank, and the survey included managers, finance, internal audit, information systems, research, development, and inspection and assistants. The distributed questionnaires reached 217 questionnaires, all suitable for analysis. We tested the hypotheses' accuracy through a rigorous statistical analysis and discussion of the results.

Utilizing IBM SPSS Statistics 29.0.10 as a statistical instrument for data extraction and discussion, we scrutinized the correlation, performed simple and multiple linear regression, and executed further statistical studies to assess the soundness of the hypotheses, employing the following statistical equations:

$$EA_{it} = B_0 + B_1 AI_{it} * e_{it} \quad (1)$$

$$QR_{it} = B_0 + B_1 AI_{it} * e_{it} \quad (2)$$

$$QR_{it} = B_0 + B_1 AI_{it} * e_{it} \quad (3)$$

$$QR_{it} = B_0 + B_1 AI_{it} + B_1 EA_{it} * e_{it} \quad (4)$$

Where: EA_{it} - the dependent variable (electronic accounting); QR_{it} - the dependent variable (quality of financial reports); $B_1 AI_{it}$ - (electronic accounting);

The study Problem

Iraq has been suffering from a very dilapidated banking system since the establishment of the Central Bank of Iraq in 1947 until 2004, which relies on manual systems in most of its operations. After the political changes in April 2003, the first Iraqi bank to rely on electronic accounting systems was established, the Trade Bank of Iraq (TBI). However, despite its high local and international reputation, it still has limited capabilities in artificial intelligence applications. However, the banking sector has developed significantly since 2010 through the establishment of several private banks, some of which have partnerships with regional and international banks, while others have local capital aimed at trading in currency and do not provide services that benefit the national economy. This is a clear indicator from economists and academics through workshops and conferences during the past years, as these banks lack the simplest types of digital technology, whether in their applications on mobile phones or other supplies such as ATMs. As a result of these problems, we see that their financial statements need more quality. However, a certified public accountant audits them, as many of them were attended due to Legal and financial residues, some of which were placed under the guardianship of the Central Bank of Iraq, as is the case with the North Bank for Finance and Investment. The bank has been exposed to many legal cases by customers, many of whom have lost their savings. This indicates that the audited financial statements are marred by many questions about their integrity and quality. Based on the above, the study questions are as follows:

1. Is there a relationship between artificial intelligence applications and electronic accounting?
2. Is there an impact of artificial intelligence applications on the quality of financial reports?
3. Is there an impact of electronic accounting on the quality of financial reports?
4. Does artificial intelligence applications and electronic accounting impact the quality of financial reports?

The hypotheses:

Based on the study questions, its hypothesis is as follows:

1. Artificial intelligence applications and electronic accounting have a statistically significant relationship.
2. A statistically significant effect exists between artificial intelligence applications and the quality of financial reports.
3. Electronic accounting and the quality of financial reports have a statistically significant relationship.
4. Artificial intelligence applications and electronic accounting statistically affect the quality of financial reports.

RESULTS

Study variables

The following Table 1 shows the descriptive statistics and study variables.

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics.				
Variables	Abbreviation	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Quality of Financial Reports	QR	61.6359	3.94067	217
Artificial Intelligence	AI	61.4793	4.19113	217
E-Accounting	EA	61.6313	4.18800	217

Table 1 above shows the descriptive statistics of the study variables, the number of distributed causes, the standard deviation, and the averages of research variables, as it shows that the normative deviations of the search variables are all higher than three. The independent variable (artificial intelligence) achieved the highest standard deviation of 4.191, then the second independent variable (E-Accounting) at 4.188, and the last variable (quality of the financial reports) with a standard deviation of 3.940.

The split-half method was also used to calculate the reliability coefficients, as shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Split-half reliability.			
Cronbach's Alpha	Part 1	Value	.841
		N of Items	23 ^a
	Part 2	Value	.867
		N of Items	22 ^b
Total N of Items			45
Correlation Between Forms			.871
Spearman-Brown Coefficient	Equal Length		.931
	Unequal Length		.931
Guttman Split-Half Coefficient			.930

There were two sections of data. The first segment contains 22 individual queries, while the second section contains 23 even questions. The total number of questions in the two sections is 45. The study's variables were thoroughly examined using this comprehensive questionnaire. In the table above, the Cronbach's alpha coefficient for the single half of the questions is 0.841, while the correlation for the second half of the even questions is 0.867. Also, 0.871 was Cronbach's alpha coefficient, which suggests that the two halves of the questionnaire are highly reliable. The study's findings indicated

that the Spearman-Brown coefficient was 0.931. Similarly, the Guttman Split-Half Coefficient demonstrated a value of 0.930, suggesting a robust correlation between the quality of financial reports and AI and e-accounting.

The internal consistency of the queries in the first axis, which related to artificial intelligence applications, the second portion, which concentrated on electronic accounting, and the third axis, which evaluated the quality of financial reports, were analyzed. The results indicate a strong correlation between the questions on the first axis, with a significance level (Sig) that ranges from 0.00 to 0.017. Concerning the second axis, the significance (Sig) varied from 0.00 to 0.11. Conversely, the Sig for all queries within the third axis was consistently 0.000. This suggests that the significance level of the queries in all axes was less than 0.05. The respondents in the sample were subjected to an analysis of the queries in the initial section. The results indicate that 78% of the participants agree on developing artificial intelligence applications for banking transactions, particularly for customers' devices. These applications would enable the bank to attract many consumers and improve its market position by enabling the seamless execution of payment and transfer operations.

The second highest ranking question was the ninth, with 66.5% of the participants agreeing on the importance of the bank utilizing artificial intelligence techniques to enhance the infrastructure of its branches throughout the governorates. Regarding the fifteenth issue, the respondents disagreed with the statement that the bank they are employed in does not own any artificial intelligence applications. Regarding the second segment (electronic accounting), the findings reveal that 91% of the participants concur with the twenty-first question, which states that the bank possesses sophisticated accounting software on par with the electronic accounting systems used by worldwide banks. Conversely, the twenty-fifth question ranked second, with 84% of respondents agreeing that their bank heavily depends on paper-based regular operations that are not integrated into the bank's computerized accounting system. By contrast, the thirtieth question resulted in a 95% disagreement among the study participants, indicating no association between artificial intelligence applications and computerized accounting in the banking industry.

The findings from the third section, precisely question thirty-three, reveal an agreement rate of 77%. This suggests that the bank's financial reports are dependable and adhere to international financial reporting standards, demonstrating their quality. By contrast, the neutrals accounted for 4% of the total, while the remaining proportion did not concur with this viewpoint. Question forty-one obtained the second position, signifying that the bank they are employed in successfully released the financial results within the designated timeframe and attained a concurrence rate of 61%. Meanwhile, 33% of respondents remained neutral, and 6% disagreed with this question. Question thirty-six received the lowest ranking among the sample members' opinions. Also, 71% disagreed that the bank's financial statements are adequate and suitable for stakeholders' decision-making, while 23% agreed and 16% remained neutral. This indicates a significant variation in their responses. These banks have been the subject of controversy since their inception.

The results of the study's hypothesis testing

The first hypothesis (Artificial intelligence applications and electronic accounting have a statistically significant relationship).

The following results were obtained by employing the SPSS statistical program and straightforward linear regression analysis to test this hypothesis (Table 3).

Table 3. Relationship between artificial intelligence and electronic accounting.			
		Artificial Intelligence	Electronic Accounting
Pearson Correlation	Artificial Intelligence	1.000	.641
	Electronic Accounting	.641	1.000
Sig. (1-tailed)	Artificial Intelligence	.	.000
	Electronic Accounting	.000	.
N	Artificial Intelligence	217	217
	Electronic Accounting	217	217

Table 3 illustrates the variables contained in the regression matrix. The correlation coefficient between artificial intelligence and electronic accounting is 0.641, statistically significant below 0.05. The correlation between the two variables demonstrates a robust and statistically significant association, as indicated by the independent variable's Sig value of 0.00 and the dependent variable's Sig value of 0.00.

Table 4. Regression function coefficients for the first hypothesis (Coefficients^a). Note: a. Dependent Variable: Electronic Accounting.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	22.251	3.223		6.904	.000
	Artificial Intelligence	.641	.052	.641	12.246	.000

As shown in Table 4, the regression equation contained a constant term of 22.251. The regression equation showed a slope of 0.641, suggesting that artificial intelligence influenced electronic accounting through component B. The positive coefficient serves as proof that there is a significant and clear correlation between AI and e-accounting. For each unit increase in artificial intelligence, there is a precise 64.1% increase in e-accounting. The T-value for artificial intelligence is statistically significant at a level of 0.00, substantially lower than the acknowledged acceptable error rate. Substantial evidence is provided to substantiate the alternative hypothesis using the sample data. **There is a statistically strong correlation between artificial intelligence applications and e-accounting.**

The equation of the regression line can be derived from the data presented in the table above in the following manner:

$$\hat{y} = 22.251 (EA) + 0.641 (AI) \quad 1 = 22.892 \tag{5}$$

The second hypothesis (A statistically significant effect exists between artificial intelligence applications and the quality of financial reports).

The results of the fundamental linear regression analysis conducted through SPSS to test this hypothesis were as follows (Table 5).

Table 5. Relationship between artificial intelligence and quality of financial reports.

		Quality of financial reports	Artificial intelligence
Pearson Correlation	quality of financial reports	1.000	.667
	artificial intelligence	.667	1.000
Sig. (1-tailed)	quality of financial reports	.	.000
	artificial intelligence	.000	.
N	quality of financial reports	217	217
	artificial intelligence	217	217

Table 5 depicts the variables included in the regression matrix. The correlation coefficient between the quality of financial reports and artificial intelligence is 0.667, which is statistically significant at a level below 0.05. The Sig value of 0.00 demonstrates a strong and statistically significant correlation between artificial intelligence and the calibre of financial reports.

Table 6. Regression function coefficients for the second hypothesis (Coefficients^a).

Model		Unstandardised Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	23.090	2.945		7.841	.000
	quality of financial reports	.627	.048	.667	13.121	.000

According to Table 6, the regression equation had a constant term of 23.090. The regression equation yielded a slope of 0.627, which signifies AI's influence on the quality of financial reports via component B. The positive coefficient indicates a substantial and straightforward correlation between the two variables. An increase of one unit in (artificial intelligence) leads to a precise 62.7% increase in the quality of financial reports. This indicates that the provided sample data offers

substantial evidence to support the alternative hypothesis. **A statistically significant effect exists between artificial intelligence applications and the quality of financial reports.**

The equation of the regression line can be derived from the data presented in the table above in the following manner:

$$\hat{y} = 23.090 (QR) + 0.627 (AI) \cdot 1 = 23.717 \quad (6)$$

The third hypothesis (Electronic accounting and the quality of financial reports have a statistically significant relationship).

The results of the fundamental linear regression analysis conducted through SPSS to test this hypothesis were as follows (Table 7).

Table 7. Relationship between e-accounting and quality of financial reports.

		Quality of financial reports	Electronic Accounting
Pearson Correlation	Quality of Financial Reports	1.000	.709
	Electronic Accounting	.709	1.000
Sig. (1-tailed)	Quality of Financial Reports	.	.000
	Electronic Accounting	.000	.
N	Quality of Financial Reports	217	217
	Electronic Accounting	217	217

Table 7 depicts the variables included in the regression matrix. The correlation coefficient between the quality of financial reports and electronic accounting is 0.709, which is statistically significant and less than 0.05. The electronic accounting Sig value of 0.00 and the integrity of financial reports Sig value of 0.00 show a robust and statistically significant correlation between the two variables.

Table 8. Regression function coefficients for the third hypothesis (Coefficients^a). Note: a. Dependent Variable: quality of financial reports.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	20.513	2.795		7.339	.000
	EA	.667	.045	.709	14.747	.000

According to Table 8, the regression equation had a constant term of 20.513. The regression equation gave a slope of 0.667, which indicates the impact of electronic accounting on the quality of financial reports, and this indicates that there is a significant and direct relationship between the two variables, which means that an increase of one unit in electronic accounting leads to a 66.7% increase in the quality of financial reports. This suggests that the given sample data provide evidence to favor the alternative hypothesis. **Electronic accounting and the quality of financial reports have a statistically significant relationship.**

The equation of the regression line can be derived from the data presented in the table above in the following manner:

$$\hat{y} = 220.513 (QR) + 0.667 (EA) \cdot 1 = 221.18 \quad (7)$$

The fourth hypothesis (Artificial intelligence applications and electronic accounting statistically affect the quality of financial reports).

The results of the fundamental linear regression analysis conducted through SPSS to test this hypothesis were as follows (Table 9):

Table 9. Relationship between artificial intelligence, e-accounting, and quality of financial reports.

		Quality of Financial Reports	Artificial Intelligence	E-Accounting
Pearson Correlation	Quality of Financial Reports	1.000	.667	.709
	Artificial Intelligence	.667	1.000	.641
	E-Accounting	.709	.641	1.000
Sig. (1-tailed)	Quality of Financial Reports	.	.000	.000
	Artificial Intelligence	.000	.	.000
	E-Accounting	.000	.000	.
N	Quality of Financial Reports	217	217	217
	Artificial Intelligence	217	217	217
	E-Accounting	217	217	217

Table 9 illustrates the variables in the regression matrix. The correlation coefficient between electronic accounting and the quality of financial reports is 0.709, while the correlation coefficient between electronic accounting and artificial intelligence is precisely 0.641. The significance level of 0.00 for all variables confirmed the strong correlation between the study variables.

Table 10. Regression function coefficients for the third hypothesis (Coefficients^a). Note: a - Dependent Variable: Quality of Financial Reports.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	13.079	2.839		4.606	.000
	Artificial Intelligence	.339	.054	.360	6.238	.000
	E-Accounting	.450	.054	.478	8.278	.000

According to Table 10, the regression equation had a constant term of 13.079. The regression equation gave a slope of 0.339, indicating the impact of artificial intelligence on the quality of financial reports through component B. A one-unit increase in (artificial intelligence) leads to a 33.9% increase in (financial reporting quality). The regression equation for electronic accounting was 0.450, indicating an association between electronic accounting and the quality of financial reports. This means that a one-unit increase in artificial intelligence leads to a 45% increase in the quality of financial reports. The table above shows that artificial intelligence and electronic accounting are statistically significant at the 0.00 level. This suggests that the presented sample data provide evidence to endorse the alternative hypothesis. These findings, which reveal the significant impact of artificial intelligence and electronic accounting on the quality of financial reports, are novel and will undoubtedly pique the interest of the academic and professional community.

The equation of the regression line can be derived from the data presented in the table above in the following manner:

$$\hat{y} = 13.079 (QR) + 0.339 (AI) + 0.450 (EA) \quad *1 = 13.868 \tag{8}$$

Below is Figure 1, which shows the normal distribution of the dependent variable (quality of financial reports):

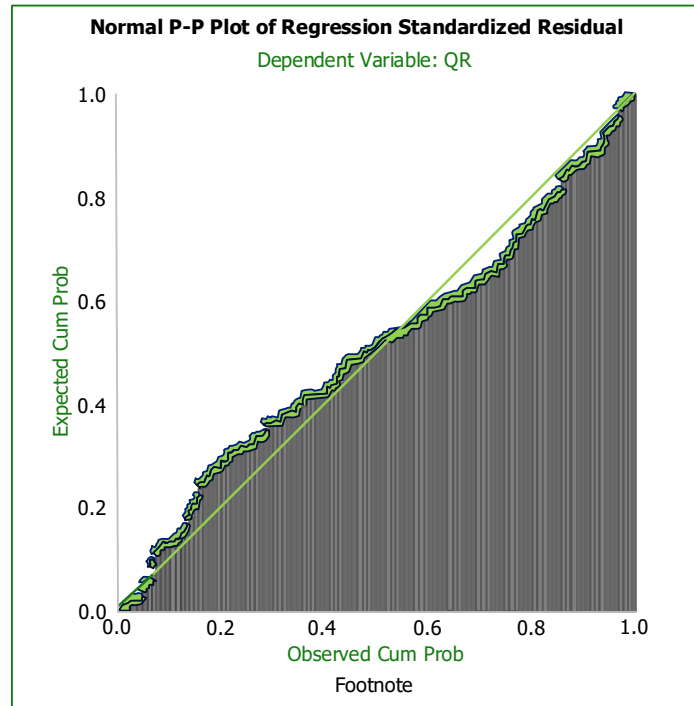


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the quality of financial reports.

DISCUSSION

Electronic accounting solutions are now in the early stages of development in Iraqi banks and have yet to be fully embraced. There are no AI-based features in electronic accounting systems right now. This could be because they cannot check for transaction errors before approval or offer customer phone services. Moreover, several Iraqi banks have not yet wholly implemented their electronic accounting programs, which hinders the advancement of AI-based systems that have the potential to enhance the accuracy of their financial reporting. The current study's findings suggest that the brief implementation of AI technologies in banks' electronic accounting systems harms financial data quality. This is due to a strong correlation between AI applications and electronic accounting. Nevertheless, the existence of these technologies is undesirable and offers significant prospects for additional advancement. The presence of AI-based technologies in traditional accounting systems is limited and rudimentary, which explains why accountants in traditional accounting systems are responsible for most duties. AI-based accounting systems do not undermine the integrity of financial data produced by electronic accounting programs. The Central Bank of Iraq should guide banks to improve and adopt more advanced systems to benefit the economy and society.

CONCLUSIONS

Many banks are considering implementing artificial intelligence in electronic accounting solutions to suit consumer demands. In Iraq, banks have started offering banking services to their consumers, while some banks still need to adopt these new technologies. Moreover, implementing artificial intelligence in generating financial reports will benefit stakeholders, requiring the integration of artificial intelligence capabilities into existing electronic accounting software. This functionality is currently absent in certain local institutions. The study seeks to assess the influence of artificial intelligence on the calibre of financial reports generated by computerized accounting tools. Artificial intelligence-generated financial reports exhibit a remarkable correlation with the quality of financial reports generated by the electronic ledger in Iraqi banks. Electronic ledgers that generate reports solely by inputting raw numerical data will not adhere to international financial reporting standards. Artificial intelligence will generate accurate and reliable financial reports, enabling it to identify any deceptive information that management might manipulate to enhance their financial standing. Simultaneously, conventional electronic accounting tools provided by Iraqi banks, without artificial intelligence components, are reliable and generate satisfactory financial reports. We will use artificial intelligence in these applications to augment the calibers of the reports produced by the electronic ledger. Hence, it is imperative to extensively revise electronic accounting programs to deliver top-notch financial reports that cater to the needs of all stakeholders.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors have contributed equally.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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ВЗАЄМОЗВ'ЯЗОК МІЖ ШТУЧНИМ ІНТЕЛЕКТОМ І ПРОГРАМАМИ ЕЛЕКТРОННОГО ОБЛІКУ: ВПЛИВ НА ЯКІСТЬ ФІНАНСОВОЇ ЗВІТНОСТІ В ІРАКСЬКИХ БАНКАХ

У цьому дослідженні розглянута кореляція між програмним забезпеченням електронного обліку й програмами штучного інтелекту та їхній вплив на якість фінансових звітів у банківському секторі Іраку. Для досягнення цієї мети дослідники розробили опитувальник, що складається з трьох вимірів. Початковий набір питань стосувався використання додатків штучного інтелекту досліджуваним зразком банку або для цілей обслуговування клієнтів, або для досягнення цілей банку. Друга група питань стосувалася використовуваних бухгалтерських програм, їхніх переваг і недоліків, а також їхньої сумісності з досягненнями в царині технологій і комунікацій. Третій вимір охоплював дослідження основних атрибутів, необхідних для якості фінансової звітності за критеріями, встановленими міжнародними стандартами фінансової звітності та Центральним банком Іраку. Із 46 банків, зареєстрованих на Іракській фондовій біржі 2024 року, було обрано вибірку з 31 установи. Серед них було 12 ісламських банків і 19 комерційних банків. Загалом було роздано 217 анкет для аналізу, при цьому кожний банк отримав по сім анкет для директорів із фінансів, внутрішнього аудиту, інформаційних систем, інспекції, досліджень і розробок, а також їхніх помічників для відповідей на запитання дослідження. Гіпотези були перевірені за допомогою IBM SPSS 29.0.10 із використанням практичного аналізу й простої та множинної лінійної регресії. Результати дослідження свідчать про те, що всі банки в Іраку використовують електронний бухгалтерський облік. Однак якість програм відрізняється в різних банках залежно від масштабу фінансової діяльності та кількості грошей, якими вони оперують. Дослідження також визначило, що штучний інтелект прогресує в додатках банків, за винятком Банку розвитку, Банку Багдаду та Першого банку Іраку. Дослідження також показує стійку кореляцію між упровадженням штучного інтелекту в бухгалтерський облік і його сприятливим впливом на точність і надійність фінансової звітності.

Ключові слова: штучний інтелект, програми електронного обліку, якість фінансових звітів, комерційні банки

JEL Класифікація: O32, M41, L86, M49