

LEARNING STYLES BASED ADAPTIVE INTELLIGENT TUTORING SYSTEMS: DOCUMENT ANALYSIS OF ARTICLES PUBLISHED BETWEEN 2001. AND 2016.

M.tech Amit Kumar, Ph.D. Candidate, School of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India

Email: amitanit007@gmail.com

M.tech Ninni Singh, Ph.D. Candidate, School of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India

Email: ninnisingh1991@gmail.com

Dr. Neelu Jyothi Ahuja, School of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India

Email: neelu@ddn.upes.ac.in

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ABSTRACT

Actualizing instructional intercessions to suit learner contrasts has gotten extensive consideration. Among these individual contrast factors, the observational confirmation in regards to the academic benefit of learning styles has been addressed, yet the examination on the issue proceeds. Late improvements in web-based executions have driven researchers to re-examine the learning styles in adaptive tutoring frameworks. Adaptivity in intelligent tutoring systems is strongly influenced by the learning style of a learner. This study involved extensive document analysis of adaptive tutoring systems based on learning styles. Seventy-eight studies in literature from 2001 to 2016 were collected and classified under select parameters such as main focus, purpose, research types, methods, types and levels of participants, field/area of application, learner modelling, data gathering tools used and research findings. The current studies reveal that majority of the studies defined a framework or architecture of adaptive intelligent tutoring system (AITS) while others focused on impact of AITS on learner satisfaction and academic outcomes. Currents trends, gaps in literature and ications were discussed.

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1. INTRODUCTION

With the growth and advancement in internet technology there has been rapid progress in education delivery employing e-learning mode as (Chrysafiadi, K and Virvou, M, 2012). The motivation of e-learning is not just conveying learning material to the prospective learner on web, but also to cater to the needs of instructors, and students/learners, who are looking for developing their own subject specific repositories. E-learning offers education to different learners, without

probing into their learning preferences, needs and their knowledge level. Each individual is different and hence the learning process followed is significantly different from the other individual. There are diverse learning traits which influence the learning procedure and to a greater degree determine the learning style of the learner. Several studies have been carried out around these differences with an aim to improve the effectiveness of learning, while designing the teaching and learning environment (Bozkurt and Aydogdu, 2009; Demirbaş and Demirkan, 2003). Numerous instructive hypotheses and studies guarantee that learning gain can be improved, when the learner's learning style is recognized. when compared to the real time class room teaching, there are several shortcomings in the traditional web-based and standalone education systems, such as lack of adaptability, flexibility support and feedback, absence of synergistic support amongst learners and the tutoring system (Xu,

Corresponding Author

M.tech Amit Kumar, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India

Email: amitanit007@gmail.com



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Wang and Su, 2002). This is the reason for growing interest of the researchers towards adaptivity in e-learning, ultimately towards the goal of providing benefits to learner (Schiaffino, Garcia, and Amandi, 2008).

Adaptivity is important in learning process to provide and manage learning route adapted for each user, monitoring and interpreting user activities as per their needs and learning preferences. Adaptive feature of e-learning framework matches the activities, and personality of the learner with learning material (Park and Lee, 2003). According to Felder and Silverman (1988), many researchers believe that tutoring can be very effective and influential by coordinating the learning material with the learner's preferences and their learning styles. We identified a strong relationship between learning style and adaptive tutoring system. Different learners have different way of learning, and each learner prefers to learn in his/her own individual way that best suits as per individual's characteristics such as learner past knowledge, learning style, cognitive and intellectual ability and the like. Tutoring as per these individual characteristics of learner, make learning effective and promote use of adaptive tutoring system for improving the learning. To improve performance of learning, the teacher should anticipate which learning style is most adapted to the learner.

Learning style is characterized as the strength, quality and inclination in which individuals get and process data. It alludes that each individual has own particular strategy or set of techniques when learning (Felder, R.M and Spurlin, J. 2005). Learning style does not have a single definition, according to Jonassen and Grabowski (2012), learning style is defined as a connected intellectual style, cognitive ability in the field of learning elated one more level from unadulterated handling capacity. As confirmation of this evacuation, learning styles are generally in view of self-revealed learning inclinations. For measuring them, instruments are utilized that gather some information about their inclinations. Conversely, subjective styles are distinguished by undertaking applicable measures, which test the genuine capacity or expertise.

James and Blank (1993), characterized learning style, as a condition under which, students most beneficially and suitably observe, process, store and recollect what they aspire to learn. After identification of learners learning style, teachers could design the tutoring strategies and provide learning material according to their learning style (Felder and Silverman

(1988). Index of learning style questionnaire defines the dimensions of learning style on a scale ranging between +11 to -11 (Felder and Silverman, 1988). In addition, Felder questionnaire due to its reliability and validity (Litzinger, Lee and Wise, 2005; Van Zwancenberg, Wilkinson and Anderson, 2000) is widely accepted for use in adaptive intelligent tutoring system (Kuljis and Liu, 2005).

An imperative issue in design of adaptive tutoring system is selection of learning characteristics specifically termed as 'attributes' or objects to be considered. Given different learner characteristics, it is important to examine each and in different learning context to be able to mark its importance for future research studies. Many studies reveal that, adaptive tutoring systems based on learning style are more productive, increase learner fulfillment level, minimize learning time and improve academic achievement of learner (Tseng, Chu, Hwang, and Tsai, 2008; Graf, Kinshuk and Liu, 2010). Learning style is a significant feature to focus on individual differences while developing an adaptive system (Graf, Liu and Kinshuk, 2009; Liegle and Janicki, 2006).

1.1. Literature Review

Recently, there has been a rapid research in the field of online learning hypermedia particularly focused on adaptation and personalization of web-based learning situations. In the recent past, there have been number of studies focused on the preferences and learning style of learner. Learning style theories and their applications have been used in practice in mid-2000 in the different fields (Ozyurt et. al., 2015). Nowadays, many educational institutes, universities prefer teaching using e-learning courses. There is little focus given to the needs, choice, and characteristics of individual learners and therefore, all learners are treated in same manner. The concentration of the present study is intelligent tutoring systems/ adaptive educational frameworks that suit learning styles. As demonstrated in advance, despite the fact that the significance of learning styles in versatile guideline has been addressed, latest research directed in technological improvements has promising ramifications (Shih et. al. 2008). Work Proposed by Stash, N. (2007) also studied the impact of learning style specifically on adaptive hypermedia systems. The results section of the proposal presents quantified evaluation

on significant improvement of user/learner's interest and understanding of specific content.

To build our comprehension about existing patterns in adaptive tutoring systems, to put together our contemplates based on learning style and to distinguish conceivable crevices to be returned to in future work, we directed a substance investigation of distributed learning style models and executions on intelligent tutoring system based on learning styles.

We trust that the present investigation adds to the field, prompts more powerful intelligent tutoring system activities, and encourages instructional creators to adapt well to the dynamic learning content creation for academically intelligible e-learning. In the following segment, inquiry and examination methods are compressed trailed by the discoveries of the detailed documents investigation, and conceivable bearings for additionally contemplates. This analysis anticipates to add to the decisions of the present circumstances, and the sorts of studies that are required in this area, its application, the impact of learning style on AITS, and the current slants in the field. Moreover, it has a huge investigation, it plans to decide the present patterns about an adaptive intelligent tutoring system in light of learning styles and existing literature gaps, which will advise for the future investigations. This analysis can add to the improvement of more proficient and gainful AITS. In addition to that, the investigation is relied upon to manage e-learning system developers on the most proficient method to make e-learning with a solid academic foundation. So along with this, the aim of this literature analysis is to do a broad investigation of articles focused on learning styles of learner published from 2001 to 2016 and answer the accompanying research questions.

1. What are the main focus, purpose, research type, and method of study of AITS addressing learning style?

2. What are the types of participants and their levels, area/field and data gathering tools employed?

3. What are the learning style applications, and learning style classification algorithms that have been used in AITS?

4. What are the learning styles models accommodated in adaptive intelligent tutoring systems?

5. What are major findings and summary concerning learning styles as an attribute of learner?

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The current study examines the learning style based AITS, which was conducted through the document analysis published from 2001 to 2016. Document investigation is depicted as systematically organizing, classifying, looking at contents and acquiring outcomes from literature (Ary et. al., 2013). The purpose behind picking the document investigation strategy is that, this joins information which are similar to each other in view of specific ideas, methods, purposes, and applications. A variety of research is being done in this field. Most of them can be classified majorly in three different dimensions such as, Search Strategies, Criteria for Inclusion and Exclusion and finally, Data Accumulation and Investigation. These are being explored in coming subsections.

2.1. Search Strategy

There is a drastic growth in the field of adaptive tutoring systems since 1990 (Morditcher, 2008). Extensive document review was conducted over electronic databases including ScienceDirect, GoogleScholar, Dissertations, InderScience, Thesis and SpringerLink. For this keywords namely "personalization", "web-based learning system", "adaptable learning systems", "personalize learning system", "adaptable tutoring system", "adaptation/adaptively learning style", "adaptability", "learning style", "adaptive hypermedia", "adaptive instruction", "adaptive behavior", "adaptive instructional system", "learning system/intelligent tutoring system", "user modeling/learner modeling/student modeling", "artificial intelligence" were used. This study is limited only to these keywords.

2.2. Criteria for Inclusion and Exclusion

The accompanying incorporation criteria were utilized for the article determination: articles which are more cited in view of learning style were preferred with an attention on mapping of experimental research for the adequacy of an adaptive intelligent tutoring system. Additionally, the articles which were resolved to be AITS works created in view of learning styles were gathered. Among the rehashed articles, just a single article was incorporated into the study. Through the document

analysis, above 90 research papers were gathered and it was observed that some of them were redundant with respect to a particular framework of learning styles. So under such conditions, the most extensive article based on a similar framework was incorporated while others were barred. The explanation behind the inclusion/exclusion was that these examinations that depended on a similar framework/item/foundation, are kept separately for isolated investigations. Consequently, superfluous redundancy was stayed away from analysis. The third aspect for inclusion is that the study must concentrate on learner characteristics i.e. learning style. Since some articles were separated that could be ordered as experimental validation of AITS effectiveness, we chose to incorporate hypothetical recommendations of such frameworks likewise, in which it was proposed that further research should concentrate on exact research findings.

2.3. Data Accumulation and Investigation

Document analysis covering several articles has been conducted. The information was sorted based on frequencies and rating of articles. The collected literature is reviewed in the light of research questions outlined earlier in this work. In the second phase, findings/outcomes of the study have been discussed, under categories, purpose, research types, methods, participant's types, participant's level, subject area/field and data gathering tools, based on learning style in adaptive tutoring system, application of Learning style and LS classification algorithms, adaptive intelligent tutoring systems accommodating learning styles, findings and summary of each study on AITS based on learning style were detected. This systematic organization of data was undertaken to ensure ease of investigation and drawing meaningful conclusions.

3. RESULTS

Over 78 studies and reviews published from 2001 to 2016, on adaptive intelligent tutoring systems and related aspects, have been critically examined. Several of these publications are published in high impact journals such as 'Expert systems with applications', 'Computers in human behavior', 'Educational technology and society' and many more. Different criteria have been identified to group

these studies and results have been tabulated. For a meaningful analysis and ease of representation, a set of criteria have been taken as one group and discussed under one heading. Considering criteria, under a group, the total number of studies are grouped, showing their comparison results in tabular formats. In the present paper, five sets of criteria are presented from section 3.1 to 3.5. Each set holds a list of criteria, which have been used to group the studies and represent the comparison quantitatively as percentage.

3.1. Main focus, purpose, research type, and methods

Considering the criteria 'main focus' of research, out of a total of over 78 studies (n=78), a total of 63 studies focused on 'adaptivity based on learning style' as their purpose of research, amounting up to 80.77%, whereas rest 15 studies focused on other learner parameters, as their purpose, making up remaining 19.23%. In addition, defining the purpose of the research, 27 of the studies (34.61 %) focused, on the proposed ITS model, based on the adaptivity. 13 of the studies (16.66 %) concerned with impact of learning style on the adaptivity of the intelligent tutoring system as their purpose. 12 of the studies (15.38 %) were about AITS usability/preferability and the learner satisfaction level with the learning contents. 10 of the studies (12.82 %) have explained the impact of AITS on the academic achievements or learning outcomes. 6 of the studies (7.69 %) were used in model for automatic learning style prediction. 8 of the studies (10.25 %) had the purpose for determining the effectiveness of the AITS and 2 of the studies (2.56 %) used the 'other parameter', concerning the adaptive tutoring system. In inspecting the motivation behind the reviews, the reviews concerned with assessing the learner execution were considered tentatively and hypothetically. In the majority of the study that is in, 47 of the studies in total (60.25 %), learners were used as participant and learner evaluation was the motivation of the study. In this review both quantitative and subjective information was assembled from the learner. 12 of the studies, in total (15.38 %) were empirical studies. At last, 'no assessment' was given in case of 19 of the reviews (24.35 %). Concerning the methods of the reviews, 33 of the reviews (42.31 %) used experimental method and 45 of the studies (57.69 %) used case studies.

Table 1. Summary of main focus, purpose, research type, and method for the investigated contemplates

| | | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------|
| Main Focus (n=78) | Adaptivity based on learning style | 63 | 80.77 |
| | Other | 15 | 19.23 |
| | Proposed model of ITS based on Adaptivity | 27 | 34.61 |
| | Learning Style impact on Adaptivity | 13 | 16.66 |
| Purpose (n=78) | Determining the usability, learner level of satisfaction | 12 | 15.38 |
| | Impact of adaptive tutoring system on academic achievements/ learning outcomes | 10 | 12.82 |
| | Model for automatic learning style prediction | 6 | 7.69 |
| | Effectiveness of AITS | 8 | 10.25 |
| | Other | 2 | 2.56 |
| Research type (n=78) | Theoretical | 19 | 24.35 |
| | Empirical studies | 12 | 15.38 |
| | Learner evaluation | 47 | 60.25 |
| Method (n=78) | Experimental | 33 | 42.31 |
| | Case studies | 45 | 57.69 |

3.2. Participants type their levels, subject area/field and data gathering tools

With reference to the second research question, participant's type, their levels, subject area/field, learner modelling, modelling tools, and data gathering tools used in the studies published between the year 2001 and 2016 were examined. Information outline of these discoveries is shown in Table 2.

As displayed in Table 2, considering the 63 participants in experimental review, majority of participants were learners i.e. (n=52; 82.84 %), while only (n=7; 11.11 %) were teachers/educators and very small number (n=4; 6.34 %) were both learners and educators. Considering the criteria 'participants level', out of a total of over 73 studies, 53 of the studies (72.60 %), were conducted at advanced education level or at engineering level. 10 of the studies (13.72 %), were conducted at the secondary and elementary education level. Remaining, 10 of the studies (19.69 %) were over mixed group of participants belonging to different levels. The studies, whose level is not specified, are not included in this.

When the reviews were assessed regarding the branch of subject area/field, out of a total of over 87 studies, there were (n= 47; 54.02 %) offered in computer science/engineering making up the highest share. (n=11; 12.64%) were offered in Arithmetic, (n=7; 8.1%) were offered in chemistry, (n=6; 6.89%) were offered in Management science, (n=3; 3.45%)

were offered in Administration, (n=2, 2.3%) were offered under Social science, (n=2, 2.3%) were offered under law and some others were offered where the learning material was miscellaneous domains or was independent of a particular domain.

Considering the criteria 'tools for dynamic modelling', out of a total of over 34 studies, 9 of the studies (26.67 %) were conducted in tracking of learner behavior during tutoring, 7 of the studies (20.58%) were used in test results, 6 of the studies (17.65%) were used for examining the learner feedback, 4 of the studies (11.76%) were used in analyzing time spent on learning material, 3 of the studies (8.82%) were used to identify the individual profile of learner to provide appropriate learning material and 5 of the studies (15.70%) were based on mix types of modelling tools. These aspects listed here, such as tracking learner behavior, test result and feedback, time spent on learning material, identifying individual profile have all been considered here as the 'tools' that have been employed for 'dynamic modelling' within the system.

Data gathering tools used in current studies published from 2001 to 2016 were analyzed. It was seen that 134 data gathering tools were used in the current studies. Some articles report utilization of more than one data gathering instrument on account of more than one reason. As presented in Table 2, considering the criteria 'data gathering tools', out of a total of over 134 studies, it has been observed that a largest share of data gathering tools used was learning style inventory or questionnaire. Learning style questionnaire or inventory tools make up to (n=55; 41.04 %), learning progress test (n=26; 19.40 %) and online questionnaire (n=23; 17.16 %). In addition to these, system log report (n=14; 10.45 %), through interview form (n=7; 5.22 %), Cognitive style inventory (n=7; 5.22) and other intelligence inventory (n=2; 1.5 %) tools were employed in this studies.

Table 2. Summary of participant's type and their levels, learning modelling/tools, subject area/field, and data gathering tools

| | Frequency (f) | % | | Frequency (f) | % |
|--|------------------|-------|---|------------------|-------|
| 1. Participants type (n=63) | | | 5. Data gathering tools (n=134) | | |
| Learner | 52 | 82.54 | Learning style inventory /questionnaire | 55 | 41.04 |
| Teacher/Educator | 7 | 11.11 | Learning progress test | 26 | 19.40 |
| Mixed | 4 | 6.34 | Online questionnaire | 23 | 17.16 |
| 2. Participants level (n=73) | | | System log report | 14 | 10.45 |
| Higher education/ Engineering | 53 | 72.60 | Through interview form | 7 | 5.22 |
| Secondary education | 6 | 8.22 | Cognitive style inventory | 7 | 5.22 |
| Elementary education | 4 | 5.5 | Other intelligence inventory | 2 | 1.5 |
| Mixed | 10 | 19.69 | | | |
| 3. Learner Modeling (n= 59) | | | 6. Subject area/field (n=87) | | |
| Static | 40 | 67.79 | Computer science/ Engineering | 47 | 54.02 |
| Dynamic | 19 | 32.20 | Arithmetic | 11 | 12.64 |
| 4. Tools for dynamic modelling (n=34) | | | Chemistry | 7 | 8.1 |
| Tracking learner behavior | 9 | 26.47 | Management science | 6 | 6.89 |
| Test result | 7 | 20.58 | Administration | 3 | 3.45 |
| Learner feedback | 6 | 17.65 | Social Science | 2 | 2.3 |
| Time spent | 4 | 11.76 | Law | 2 | 2.3 |
| Learner selection based on profile | 3 | 8.82 | Domain independent/ Undermined | 9 | 10.34 |
| Mixed | 5 | 14.70 | | | |

3.3. Application of learning style (LS) for developing adaptive tutoring system and learning style classification techniques

With reference to the third research question, the use of learning style for developing adaptive tutoring system is shown in table 3. It is also important to note that more than one application is targeted in one paper/article.

Table 3. Summary of Application of Learning Style in adaptive tutoring system

| Application of LS "What is adapted?" | Article (f) | References |
|--|-------------|--|
| Learning material/ learner characteristics | 22 | Ketamo, H. (2003), Alkhurajji, S., Cheetham, B., & Bamasak, O. (2011), Vassileva, D. (2006), Baldiris, S. et al. (2008), Sun, S., Joy, M., & Griffiths, N. (2007), Reategui, E., Boff, E., & Campbell, J. A. (2008), Cabada, R.Z., Barrón Estrada, M.L., & Reyes García, C.A. (2011), Cabada, R.Z. et al. (2009), Germanakos et al. (2008), Conlan, O., Dagger, D., & Wade, V. (2002), Jovanovic et al. (2009), Dwivedi, P., & Bharadwaj, K.K. (2013), Sun, S., Joy, M., & Griffiths, N. (2007), Kelly, D., & Tangney, B. (2005), Klačnja-Milićević et al. (2011), Beal, C. R., & Lee, H. (2005), Özyurt et al. (2013b), Sun et al. (2007), Del Corso, D., Ovcin, E., & Morrone, G. (2005), Tseng, J.C., Chu, H.-C., Hwang, G.-J., & Tsai, C.-C. (2008), Yang et al. (2013), and Yasir, E.A.M., & Sami, M.S. (2011). |
| Learning media, contents and resource format | 4 | Yasir and Sami (2011), Franzoni et al. (2008), Kelly and Tangney (2005), Baldiris et al. (2008) |
| Learner knowledge | 8 | Alepis et al. (2008), Mitrovic, Martin and Mayo (2002), Vassileva and bontchev (2006), Melis and Andres (2005), Mitrovic, A., Koedinger, K. R., & Martin, B. (2003), Popanikolaou et al. (2003), Xu and Wang (2006), Carmona et al. (2008), |
| Recommended tutoring materials /pedagogy | 8 | Limongelli et al. (2011), Essaid El. B., E.H.A., and Adnani, El, M. (2011), Reategui et al. (2008), Franzoni et al. (2008), Latham et al. (2014), Latham et al. (2012), Schiaffino et al. (2008), Wang et al. (2008) |
| Intelligent game | 2 | Lin et al. (2013), Feldman, J. et al. (2014). |
| Learner evaluation and practice | 3 | Wen, D. et al. (2007), Baldiris, S. et al. (2008), Cabada, R.Z. et al. (2011). |
| Other/Mixed | 6 | Sanders et al. (2010), Shute, V. J., & Towle, B. (2003), Zakrzewska, D. (2012), Beal, C. R., & Lee, H. (2005), Xu, D., & Wang, H. (2006), Alevin, V., McLaren, B., Roll, R., & Koedinger, K. (2006), |

As seen in Table 4, a systematic review of the learning style classification techniques, which have been utilized as part of adaptive tutoring systems, is displayed. While some articles have utilized one algorithm for detection/identification of learning style of learner, most others have used combination of algorithm to provide adaptivity based on learning style.

Rule-based is one of the most popular methods that has been used widely and applied by the 17 articles that help researchers to generate learning style rules to provide system adaptivity. Graf et al. (2009) used Felder index of learning style questionnaire and emphasized that active dimension of learning style

model is best among four LS dimensions. The second well known strategy is Bayesian networks methodology which is based on Bayes theorem or Bayes hypothesis. Garcia et al. (2007), Schiaffino et al. (2008) and Garcia et al. (2008) use Bayesian network technique that utilizes Bayes condition to estimate the probability that a learner has preference for a specific learning style when given an activity. Over critical review 7 studies applied this technique, while other 5 studies utilized the Naïve Bayes method, which is also the extended form of Bayesian networks method. 5 studies used artificial neural network techniques, 3 studies used decision tree method, 5 studies used Naïve Bayes techniques, 2 of

the studies used Markov and Reinforcement model, 1 study used Genetic algorithms, and a remainder of 7 of the studies used, other techniques or mixed techniques for learning style classification.

Table 4. Summary of Learning Style Classification techniques

| Classification technique | Article (f) | References |
|---------------------------|-------------|---|
| Rule- based | 17 | Scott et al. (2014), Tseng, J.C., Chu, H.-C., Hwang, G.-J., & Tsai, C.C.(2008), Ketamo, H. (2003), Dorça et al. (2013b), Sun, S., Joy, N Griffiths, N. (2007), Graf, Kinshuk, & Liu (2008), Latham et al. (2011), Melis, E., & Andres, E. (2005)., Graf, Kinshuk, Maguire, & Shtern (Ray, R. D., & Belden, N. (2007)., Xu, D., & Wang, H. (2006)., Graf (2009), Sangineto et al. (2008), Romero et al. (2006), Alevan, V., Mc B., Roll, R., & Koedinger, K. (2006). |
| Bayesian technique | 7 | Aslan, B. G.et al. (2014)., Botsios, S., Georgiou, D., & Safouris, N. (Garcia et al. (2007), Mc Quiggan, S. et al. (2008)., Conati, C. et al. (2 Garcia et al. (2006), Carmona, C. et al. (2008)., |
| Artificial Neural Network | 5 | Cabada et al. (2011), Cabada et al. (2009), Fazlollahtabar and Mahdavi (2009), Kelly, D., & Tangney, B. (2005), Koutsojannis and Hatzilygeroudis (2003), Villaverde, J. E. et. al. (2006). |
| Decision Tree method | 3 | Cha, H.J, et al. (2006), Mc Quiggan et al. (2008), Özpolat, E., & Akar (2009). |
| Naïve Bayes | 5 | Feldman et al. (2014), Kelly, D. (2008), McQuiggan et al. (2008)., Zakrzewska (2012), Kelly, D., & Tangney, B. (2005). |
| Reinforcement Learning | 1 | Dorça et al. (2013), Balasubramanian, V., Margret Anuncia, S.(2016 |
| Markov model | 1 | Cha, H. J. et al. (2006). |
| Genetic Algorithms | 1 | Chang, Y. C. et al. (2009). |
| Other | 7 | Read, T. et. al. (2006), Vassileva, D., & Bontchev, B. (2006), Hong, I Kinshuk, D. (2004)., Reategui, E. at al. (2008). , Sanders and Bergas: (2010), Fazlollahtabar, H., & Mahdavi, I. (2009), Koutsojannis, C., & Hatzilygeroudis, I. (2003). |

3.4. Adaptive intelligent tutoring system accommodating learning style model

With reference to the fourth research question, 78 studies were examined. Analysis reveals that some of studies have more than one purpose, for example identifying learning styles, learning style classification, listing learning style predictor elements and data gathering tools. Some of the reviews used combination of more than one learning style model, for example both Felder and Kolb learning style models were utilized as a part of some studies. Therefore, these kinds of learning styles are termed as mixed learning styles. With reference to the first research question, 'learning styles used in adaptive intelligent tutoring system', the research review articles published from 2001 to 2016 were analyzed. Critical analysis reveals that Felder-Silverman

learning style model was the most popular learning style model used in adaptive intelligent tutoring system. Felder-Silverman learning style (n=30, 42.85%), trailed by Kolb (n=4, 14%), VARK learning style (n=2), and other are (n=3). Apart from these, limited number of studies include Honey and Mumford (n=3), Myers-Briggs type indicator (n=2) used in the analyzed studies.

Table 5. Summary of Learning Styles models utilized in AITS summarized in analyzed studies

| Learning style models | Frequency (f) | References |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| Felder-Silverman model | 30 | Adetunji, A. & Ademola, A. (2014), Alkhurajji, Cheetham, and Bamasak (2011), Alfonseca, E. et al. (2006), Baldiris, S. et al. (2008), Alkhurajji et al. (2011), Lin, C.F., Yeh, Y., Hung, Y.H., & Chang, R.I. (2013)., Essalmi et al. (2010), Feldman et al. (2014), Filippidis, S. K. & Tsoukalas, I. A. (2009), Franzoni et al. (2008), Garcia, P., Schiaffino, S., & Amandi, A. (2008)., Garcia, P., Amandi, A., Schiaffino, S., & Campo, M. (2007)., Graf, S., Kinshuk, K.D., & Liu, T.-C. (2008)., Graf, Kinshuk, Maguire, & Shtern (2010), Graf, S. et al. (2009), Hong, H., & Kinshuk, D. (2004). , Limongelli, C., Sciarrone, F., Temperini, M., & Vaste, G. (2011). , Huang, E. Y., Lin, S. W., & Huang, T. K. (2012)., Hwang, G.-J., Sung, H.-Y., Hung, C.-M., & Huang, I. (2013). Kinshuk, Liu, T. C., & Graf, S. (2009)., Klačnjak-Milic´evic´, A., Vesin, B., Ivanovic´, M., & Budimac, Z. (2011)., Latham, A., Crockett, K., McLean, D., & Edmonds, B. (2012). , Jovanovic, Gašević, and Devedžić (2009), Kelly and Tangney (2005), (2011), Lin et al. (2013), Sancho et al. (2005), Mahnane et al. (2013)., Sanders and Bergasa-Suso (2010), |
| Kolb Model | 4 | Akkoyunlu, B. and Soyulu, M. Y. (2008), Moura et al. (2013), Lu, H., Jia, L., Gong, S. H., & Clark, B. (2007), Manochehr, N. N. (2006). |
| VARK model | 2 | Yasir and Sami (2011), Wnah et al. (2008) |
| Honey and Mumford Model | 3 | Anthony, P. et al. (2013), Del Corso et al. (2005), Kurilovas et al. (2014) |
| Myers-Briggs Types Indicators (MBTI) | 2 | Essaid E. B. et al. (2011), Kim, J., Lee, A., & Ryu, H. (2013). |
| Other | 3 | Yang, T.-C., Hwang, G.-J., & Yang, S.J.-H. (2013), Read, T., Barros, B., Bárcena, E., & Pancorbo, J. (2006), Sun, S., Joy, M., & Griffiths, N. (2007). |

3.5. Findings and rundown of current reviews on AITS in light of learning styles

With reference to the last research question, discoveries and outline of the reviews on adaptive intelligent tutoring systems distributed from 2001 to 2016, which address the learning style, were analyzed. Considering the discoveries and outlines of the present reviews, estimation of learning style and adaptability in view of learning style, shows high accomplishment levels with all said being done. Besides, it can be reported that there are high positive opinions concerning learner fulfillments and usability with these situations and their impact on academic accomplishments as well as their learning preferences and needs. Overall finding has been classified under ten main titles as shown in Table 6. Seven of these indicate positive prospective towards adaptive tutoring system while rest indicate negative prospective. The positive findings have a largest share (n= 95; 90.47 %) and negative findings are (n= 12; 9.52%) which is very lim-

ited or less. Data summary of the discoveries/ results is displayed in Table 6.

Table 6. Rundown of findings in the analyzed studies

| | Frequency (f) | Percentage (%) | |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------|-------|
| Positive perspectives (n=95) | Learner satisfaction, preferences, usability, and adaptivity based on learning style | 30 | 28.57 |
| | Correct prediction learning style | 13 | 12.38 |
| | Relationship between learning style and other learner characteristics or navigation | 8 | 7.62 |
| | Positive effect on learner learning | 18 | 17.14 |
| | Positive effect on learning achievements | 15 | 14.29 |
| Negative perspectives (n= 10) | Positive effect of learner modelling | 11 | 10.48 |
| | No correct prediction of learning style | 5 | 4.76 |
| | Not making constructive outcome on academic and learners achievements | 3 | 2.86 |
| | No effect on learner modeling | 2 | 1.90 |

4. DISCUSSION AND OUTCOMES

This study concentrates on the learning style based AITS, which is an innovative

field of computerized learning at present days. This study is significant, because it puts forward crucial findings regarding the development of multiple areas, such as, adaptive intelligent tutoring systems, types of courses, types of participants, various applications of the field, classifying algorithms and current research trends in the field through literature gaps which opens the door for future studies. This study incorporates different research perspectives, model designs and findings that may be utilized blindly for the development of the learning style based educational system. However, we welcome all the distinct viewpoint, ideas, and personal perspective based on experience in the educational research.

This study does not contribute only in evaluations, but also helps to propose models, designs and frameworks. In addition, this covers the learners and teacher's views in light of the learning style focused on adaptivity for AITS (Klasanja-Milicevic et. al., 2011). Some students or researchers look for different methods and techniques to improve the performance of the e-learning environment, this in turn makes the system easy and efficient. In this way, AITS is developed to support the current educational system and needs the teacher to review for the correct assessment of learner. Getting their views would increase the effectiveness of the intelligent tutoring system, which will make education productive and will also have a great importance in the future studies of this field.

The finding in Section 3.1 reveals that, considering the empirical and theoretical study, the learning style contributes to a vital role for adaptivity in ITS. AITS that accommodates learning styles has a strong impact on academic achievements and learning outcomes. As shown in section 3.2, the learning style questionnaire/survey is mostly used for the identification of the learning style. This approach is suitable for the traditional teaching where it is difficult to analyses the learner's preference. In this sense, this type of survey suffers from disadvantages like, it depends only on the learner's decisions or it may be biased. While many studies reveal that learning styles can change over time and fixing this makes classification incorrect and inaccurate (Vermount, 1998). This section reveals that the highest participants were learners, and belonged to higher education. Section 3.3 reveals that learning style is mostly utilized to: provide adaptive learning materials to the learner, recommend the best suited pedagogy and to provide correct evaluation of the learner to im-

prove the effectiveness of the tutoring system.

The contribution of this research finding is not only to be a guide for the adaptive intelligent tutoring system developer, but also serves to improve the effectiveness of the learning style classification algorithms. The finding in Section 3.4 reveals that the automatic learning style prediction algorithms are Rule-Based, Bayesian, Artificial Neural Networks, Decision Tree, Naïve, Reinforcement Learning and Markov Model in which Rule-Based was one of the most popular technique for learning style classification.

The above findings also reveal that a lot of studies of ITS based on learning style were published in high impact national and international journals, in-fact some of them were related to proposing new models. Most of the studies focused on the impact of learning styles on education, productivity of learning system, learning gain, their usability, and higher learner satisfaction. The findings in Section 3.5 reveals that, accommodating learning styles in the intelligent tutoring system makes learning easier, effective and increases learner satisfaction levels towards learning. The positive perspective for accommodating this analyzed study based on the learning style in AITS holds the largest share of about 90%, and holds a very limited negative perspective i.e. about 10%.

5. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

As many as 78 studies on adaptive intelligent tutoring systems between the period 2001 to 2016 have been critically examined, classified and compared uncovering developments, trends, research gaps and future prospective. It has been concluded that many of the researchers have used Felder-Silverman learning style models and successfully integrated them in educational/tutoring systems for adaptivity. It has been observed that 'learning style' characteristic of learner has been widely explored to make the systems increasingly adaptive.

Analysis of reviews reveals that learning style highly impact on academic accomplishments, learning performance, and learner satisfaction level. This analysis also reveals the selection and evaluation criteria's of the learning style classification algorithms. Rule-Based and Bayesian Network algorithms were increasingly used for automatic prediction of learning style of learner.

Through the findings and discussion of the studies recommendation and future scope have been put forward. Firstly, there is a chance to investigate a fusion of learning style models in adaptive education systems/ tutoring systems. So it is recommended to explore mixed learning style models for implementation of adaptability in educational system. Though Felder learning style model has been widely used, it would be interesting to note how other contemporary models such as Kolb, Honey & Mumford model have been used and contributed to adaptivity, based on their specific strengths and weaknesses. Additionally, there is an opportunity to apply algorithms for detection of mixed learning styles for improving the adaptivity in tutoring systems. Finally, as a learner attribute, learning style is sufficiently explored, other learner attributes too deserve to be explored and analyzed.

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Conflict of interests

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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