Review of: "Cultural and Regional Influences on Global AI Apprehension"

P. Alison Paprica[1]

1 University of Toronto, Canada

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Version 3 of the manuscript has been improved relative to version 2. This is an important topic, and I encourage the author to respond to reviewer feedback on the preprint so that their findings can be published.

It is surprising (and seems unlikely) that every count of articles in the PRISMA diagram ends in 00 or 50 (e.g., precisely 200 records were added to the 1500 records identified through database searches). The author is encouraged to double-check the counts for all articles presented in Section 4.2.

The manuscript would be strengthened if it included exact search terms as opposed to the language "A total of 1,500 studies were initially found through database searches on JSTOR, Google Scholar, and ScienceDirect using keywords like "AI apprehension," "cultural perspectives on AI," "regional AI governance," and "AI ethics in non-Western societies." In particular, it would be good to know if the author included terms like "machine learning" and "deep learning" in their searches.

The author has added a rationale for the focus of the comparative analysis on 9 non-Western countries (Middle East: Saudi Arabia, UAE, Egypt, Africa: Kenya, South Africa, Asia: Japan, China, Latin America: Argentina, Brazil) but only includes 4 of those countries in section 6.1. The author should be clear about whether the literature search explicitly focused on the 9 (or 4 countries) because of their "leadership in AI adoption and policy development," or whether the focus on the 9 (or 4 countries) emerged after the 150 included articles were analyzed. If the latter, then the text about the rationale for the focus should be moved lower in the methodology section.

I note that many of the author's claims in the manuscript seem to be supported by a single reference. It would help me to understand the author's findings if they modified Table 1 so that it identifies all the articles that support each finding.

The author should define "Western" societies.

There is unnecessary presentation of the text "artificial intelligence (AI)" after the abbreviation "AI" has been defined.

Appreciating that the text "Artificial intelligence is making poverty reduction possible by improving the collection of poverty-related data through poverty maps" is a direct quote from the abstract of Mhlanga 2021 (and should be identified as a quote if it is included), my personal view is that the claim is overstated because AI is not the only thing that makes poverty reduction possible, and articles cited in Mhlanga 2021 make weaker claims (e.g., that AI-developed poverty maps can help with poverty reduction).