

## The enabling capabilities of artificial intelligence in improving the supervisory performance of Iran's banking system

**Mohammad Nasr Esfahani<sup>1\*</sup>, Mahdi Ghaemi Asl<sup>1</sup>, Rahele Montazer<sup>2</sup>, Melika Esmaili<sup>1</sup>**

1. Department of Islamic Economics and Banking, Faculty of Economics, Kharazmi University, Tehran, Iran.
2. Banking, Insurance and Customs Department, Faculty of Management, Kharazmi University, Tehran, Iran.

Article Info	Abstract
<p>Original Article</p> <p>Main Object: Economics Scope: Iran</p> <p>Received: 04 January 2025 Revised: 12 January 2025 Accepted: 18 January 2025 Published online: 01 March 2025</p> <p><b>Keywords:</b> artificial intelligence, pairwise comparison method, quality of banking services.</p>	<p>Artificial intelligence, as one of the advanced technologies, plays an important role in the banking sector of Iran. This research evaluates the position of AI-enabled capabilities in improving the supervisory performance of Iran's banking system. These capabilities include fraud detection, information security and protection, risk management, and payment system improvement. Then, the importance of using artificial intelligence in Iranian banking is examined. This study also investigates the advantages and disadvantages of using artificial intelligence in banking, improving bank performance, reducing errors, increasing security, enhancing customer experience, and the challenges and obstacles in implementing artificial intelligence in banking. The statistical population in this research includes various individuals and units active in the banking sector, as well as professors from Kharazmi University who have studied the banking industry. The research results, based on the prioritization of sub-criteria and the pairwise comparison of information security and protection capabilities, fraud detection, risk management, and payment system improvement with different types of banking using the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) aided by Expert Choice software, show that token-based banking is evaluated as more important than other types of banking. The output details indicate that in token-based banking, the capability of information security and protection with a relative weight of 0.492, risk management with a relative weight of 0.489, fraud detection with a relative weight of 0.481, and payment system improvement with a relative weight of 0.444 are prioritized, highlighting the significant importance of information security and protection capabilities and risk management in improving the supervisory performance of the banking system.</p>

**Cite this article:** Nasr Esfahani M, Ghaemi Asl M, Montazer R, Esmaili M. (2026). "The enabling capabilities of artificial intelligence in improving the supervisory performance of Iran's banking system". *Countries Studies*. 3(4): 197-202. doi: <https://doi.org/10.22059/jcountst.2025.388154.1218>.



Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License  
 Website: <https://jcountst.ut.ac.ir/> | Email: [jcountst@ut.ac.ir](mailto:jcountst@ut.ac.ir) |  
 EISSN: 2980-9193  
 Publisher: University of Tehran

\* Corresponding author: ✉ [mnasr@khu.ac.ir](mailto:mnasr@khu.ac.ir),  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0161-9222>

## Extended Abstract

### Introduction

Artificial intelligence, as one of the advanced technologies, plays an important role in the field of banking in Iran. This research evaluates the role of AI-enabling capabilities in improving the supervisory performance of Iran's banking system. Examining this topic can help banks leverage the potential and benefits of using artificial intelligence in their strategic decision-making processes, as explored in this research.

### Aims

The main objective of the research, which has played a fundamental role in its formation, is to examine and analyze the role and importance of artificial intelligence in improving the supervisory performance of the banking system. Additionally, the research questions addressed during this study include: What types of artificial intelligence capabilities have the most significant impact on improving the supervisory performance of Iran's banking system, and why should banks transform into AI-based institutions? What future does an AI-based bank hold? Next, the enabling capabilities of artificial intelligence used in Iranian banking are defined. These capabilities include fraud detection, information security and protection, risk management, and improvement of payment systems. Then, the importance of using artificial intelligence in Iranian banking has been examined. In this research, the advantages and disadvantages of using artificial intelligence in banking, improving bank performance, reducing errors, increasing security, and enhancing customer experience have been examined. Additionally, the challenges and obstacles in implementing artificial intelligence in banking have also been examined.

### Methods

The statistical population in this research includes various individuals and units active in the banking sector, such as the board of directors of Bank Mellat, IT experts from Bank Melli, experts from the Monetary and Banking Research Institute, and professors from Kharazmi University who have studied the banking industry. Additionally, this research includes the formulation of questions and the examination of the importance and necessity of improving artificial intelligence systems in the Iranian banking industry, and it has been conducted as a scientific study focusing on banking, artificial intelligence, and the evaluation of enabling capabilities of artificial intelligence. Data analysis is of particular importance for examining the accuracy and validity of research questions or hypotheses. Nowadays, in most research studies that rely on data collected from the subject of investigation. Data analysis is one of the most fundamental and important parts of research, and therefore, after introducing the research

method, it is necessary to test the hypothesis or research questions using data and statistical methods. Subsequently, by utilizing statistical techniques and operational research methods, including the hierarchical data analysis technique that aligns with the research method and the type of variables, the collected data have been analyzed, and the research questions have been tested. To conduct this research quickly and accurately, the Expert Choice software was used, which ultimately revealed the research results.

### **Findings**

Among the importance and necessity of this research in Iranian banking, one can mention the improvement of banking processes, as artificial intelligence, being a new and powerful technology, offers many capabilities for enhancing banking processes. This research can help identify the enabling capabilities of artificial intelligence in improving banking services, increasing speed and accuracy in operations, reducing errors, and enhancing customer experience. Also, the evaluation of AI enabler capabilities can help banks optimize their resources and increase efficiency and productivity. By better understanding the capabilities and limitations of artificial intelligence in banking, banks can make better decisions regarding the use of this technology in their processes and services, leading to a transformation in customer experience, as artificial intelligence can enhance customers' experiences in banking. By utilizing the capabilities of artificial intelligence, such as natural language processing and machine learning, banks can offer personalized services and intelligent recommendations to customers. Increasing security, where artificial intelligence can play an important role in enhancing security in banking. By using algorithms and artificial intelligence technologies, banks can identify and implement fraud detection algorithms, detect unusual patterns, and facilitate the improvement of security against cyber-attacks. The development of innovation, which research on evaluating the enabling capabilities of artificial intelligence in Iranian banking can contribute to, can help advance innovation and the progress of banking technologies. By better understanding the capabilities and limitations of artificial intelligence, banks can offer innovative solutions to improve banking systems and provide more advanced services to customers. International competitiveness, considering the rapid growth of artificial intelligence in the global banking industry, research in this area can help Iranian banks take effective steps in competing with international banks and companies. By utilizing the capabilities of artificial intelligence and incorporating it into banking processes and services, Iranian banks can enhance their competitiveness and achieve a stronger position in the banking market.

### Conclusion

Considering the prioritization of sub-criteria and the pairwise comparison of security and information protection capabilities, fraud detection, risk management, and payment system improvement with various types of banking using the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP), the output obtained with the Expert Choice software indicates that token-based banking is evaluated as more important than other types of banking. The output details show that in token-based banking, the capability of security and information protection has the highest importance with a relative weight of 0.492. Risk management with a relative weight of 0.489 is in second place, and fraud detection with a relative weight of 0.481 is in third place.

### Conflict of interest

The authors declared no conflicts of interest.

### Authors' contributions

All authors contributed to the original idea, study design.

### Ethical considerations

The authors have completely considered ethical issues, including informed consent, plagiarism, data fabrication, misconduct, and/or falsification, double publication and/or redundancy, submission, etc. This article was not authored by artificial intelligence.

### Data availability

The dataset generated and analyzed during the current study is available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

### References

- Adossi A. (2019). *Elephant in the Dark: The Adventures of Digital Banking*. Tehran: Hameesha Publications. [in Persian]
- Almustafa E, Assaf A, Allahham M. (2023). "Implementation of artificial intelligence for financial process innovation of commercial banks". *Revista de Gestão Social e Ambiental*. 17(9): 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.24857/rgsa.v17n9-004>.
- Azari Nejad B. (2019). *Artificial Intelligence and Banking*. Tehran: Azari Mehr Publications. [in Persian]
- Bahoo S, Cucculelli M, Goga X, Mondolo J. (2024). "Artificial intelligence in Finance: a comprehensive review through bibliometric and content analysis". *SN Business & Economics*. 4(2): 23. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43546-023-00618-x>.
- Bakhtiari M, Yaghoubpor S. (2024). "Investigating the relationship between risk governance mechanisms and risk-taking behavior in the banking industry". *Mieaoi*. 13(48): 2. <http://mieaoi.ir/article-1-1593-fa.html>.
- Balaji K. (2024). "Harnessing AI for financial innovations: Pioneering the future of financial services". In *Modern Management Science Practices in the Age of AI* (pp. 91-122). IGI Global. <https://doi.org/10.4018/979-8-3693-6720-9.ch004>.
- Boubier T. (2018). *Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Banking*. Translated by Movahedi Gh. Tehran: Farahorufeh. [in Persian]
- Candiwan C, Annikmah RR. (2024). "Exploring the impact of artificial intelligence

- on user satisfaction and acceptance in digital banking services in Indonesia". *IEEE 30th International Conference on Telecommunications (ICT)* (pp. 1-8). <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICT62760.2024.10606022>.
- Chen H, Chiang RH, Storey VC. (2022). "Business intelligence and analytics: From big data to impactful insights". *MIS Quarterly*. 36(4): 1165-1188. <https://doi.org/10.2307/41703503>.
- Cimpeanu IA, Dragomir DA, Zota RD. (2023). "Banking chatbots: How artificial intelligence helps the banks". *Proceedings of the International Conference on Business Excellence*. Sciendo. 17(1): 1716-1727. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2478/picbe-2023-0153>.
- Davenport T. (2019). *Artificial Intelligence: HBR's Latest Thoughts on the Future of Business*. Translated by Heidari H, Gharayagh Zandi Y. Tehran: Dibagaran Tehran. [in Persian]
- Doumpos M, Zopounidis C, Gounopoulos D, Platanakis E, Zhang W. (2023). "Operational research and artificial intelligence methods in banking". *European Journal of Operational Research*. 306(1): 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejor.2022.04.027>.
- Edunjobi TE, Odejide OA. (2024). "Theoretical frameworks in AI for credit risk assessment: Towards banking efficiency and accuracy". *International Journal of Scientific Research Updates*. 7(01): 092-102. <https://doi.org/10.53430/ijrsu.2024.7.1.0030>.
- Ferreira J, Albuquerque P. (2020). "Artificial intelligence and financial regulation: Challenges and Opportunities". *Journal of Financial Regulation and Compliance*. 28(2): 189-203. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781803926179>.
- Ghodsipour SH. (2010). *Analytical Hierarchy Process AHP*. Amirkabir University Press. [in Persian]
- Hamidi NA, Rahimi GKM, Nafarieh A, Hamidi A, Robertson B. (2013). "Personalized security approaches in e-banking employing flask architecture over cloud environment". *Procedia Computer Science*. 21: 18-24. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.procs.2013.09.005>.
- Hickock J, Richmond Sh. (2017). *Goodbye Banks? How Retail Banking Is Being Replaced by Tech Startups and What Banks Must Do to Save It*. Translated by Ghorbani R, Vali M. Tehran: Rah-e-Bahad. [in Persian]
- Iran Mahd M, Bahar Moghdam M, Abousaiedi M. (2024). "Presenting the acceptance model of computer-based auditing tools and techniques with the ISM technique". *International Journal of Nonlinear Analysis and Applications*. 15(12): 297-310. <https://doi.org/10.22075/ijnaa.2023.31610.4682>.
- Jomon Jose M, Aithal PS. (2023). "An analytical study of applications of artificial intelligence on banking practices". *International Journal of Management, Technology, and Social Sciences (IJMTS)*. 8(2). <https://doi.org/10.47992/IJMTS.2581.6012.0275>.
- Karangutkar A. (2023). "The impact of artificial intelligence on job displacement and the future of work". *International Journal of Advanced Research in Science, Communication and Technology*. 3(1): 635-638. <https://doi.org/10.48175/ijarsct-12096>.
- Kaur DN, Sahdev SL, Sharma D, Siddiqui L. (2020). "Banking 4.0: The influence of artificial intelligence on the banking industry & how AI is changing the face of modern day banks". (pp. 577-585). SSRN. <http://dx.doi.org/10.34218/IJM.11.6.2020.049>.
- Kolleshi M, Golemi E. (2024). "Impact of artificial intelligence on the Albanian banking system". *Interdisciplinary Journal of Research and Development*. 11(2): 75-75. <https://doi.org/10.56345/ijrdv11n210>.
- Leung CKS. (2014). "Big data mining and analytics". *Encyclopedia of Business Analytics and Optimization* (pp. 328-337). IGI Global. <https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-4666-5202-6.CH030>.

- Liébana-Cabanillas F, Nogueras R, Herrera L, Guillén A. (2013). "Analysing user trust in electronic banking using data mining methods". *Expert Systems with Applications*. 40(14): 5439-5447. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eswa.2013.03.010>.
- Macmillan J. (2021). *The End of Banks: Why We Don't Need Banks Anymore*. Translated by Behzadnia Z, Behzadnia Z. Tehran: Jihad Daneshgahi, Publishing Organization. [in Persian]
- Malali AB, Gopalakrishnan S. (2020). "Application of artificial intelligence and its powered technologies in the indian banking and financial industry: An overview." *IOSR Journal of Humanities And Social Science*. 25(4): 55-60. <https://doi.org/10.9790/0837-2504065560>.
- Malczewski, J. (1999). *GIS and Multicriteria Decision Analysis*. John Wiley & Sons.
- McKinsey & Co. (2019). *Building a Bank Based on Artificial Intelligence*. Translated by Haghighi H, Nabizadeh H, Shirijian M. Tehran: Rah Barad. [in Persian]
- Malali AB, Gopalakrishnan S. (2020). "Application of artificial intelligence and its powered technologies in the indian banking and financial industry: An overview". *IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science*. 25(4): 55-60. <https://doi.org/10.9790/0837-2504065560>.
- Pattnaik D, Ray S, Raman R. (2024). "Applications of artificial intelligence and machine learning in the financial services industry: A bibliometric review". *Heliyon*. 10(1). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e23492>.
- Rahman M, Ming TH, Baigh TA, Sarker M. (2023). "Adoption of AI in Malaysian banking services". *International Journal of Emerging Markets*. 18(10), 55-72. <https://doi.org/10.1108/ijoen-06-2020-0724>.
- Ruzbahani AM. (2024). "AI-protected blockchain-based IoT environments: Harnessing the Future of Network Security and Privacy". *arXiv Preprint arXiv*. 2405.13847. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2405.13847>.
- Sharma M. (2023) "A study: How AI is incorporated in the Middle East banking". *Journal for Research in Applied Sciences and Biotechnology*. 2(3). <https://doi.org/10.55544/jrasb.2.3.27>.
- Sharma M, Matoria P. (2018). "Mobile banking transactions using fingerprint authentication". *International Journal of Digital Banking*. 12(2): 45-67. <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICISC.2018.8399016>.
- Shin S, Lee WJ, Odom DO. (2014). "A comparative study of smartphone users perception and preference towards mobile payment methods in the US and Korea". *Journal of Applied Business Research (JABR)*. 30(5): 1365. <https://doi.org/10.19030/JABR.V30I5.8793>.
- Udeh EO, Amajuoyi P, Adeusi KB, Scott AO. (2024). "The role of big data in detecting and preventing financial fraud in digital transactions". *World Journal of Advanced Research and Reviews*. 22(2): 1746-1760. <https://doi.org/10.30574/wjarr.2024.22.2.1575>.
- Vasileiadis A. (2014). "Security concerns and trust in the adoption of m-commerce". *Socialinès Technologijos*. 4(01): 179-191. <https://doi.org/10.13165/ST-14-4-1-12>.
- Wind Y, Saaty TL. (1980). "Marketing applications of the analytic hierarchy process". *Management Science*. 26(7): 641-658. <https://doi.org/10.1287/mnsc.26.7.641>.