

## EMERGING PARADIGMS IN AI: COMPARING DEEP LEARNING, GENERATIVE AI, AGENTIC AI AND TRANSFORMER-BASED ARCHITECTURES ACROSS DOMAINS

**KP Agrawal** Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune, India Email: kpa229@gmail.com  
**Mayur Dutta** Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune, India Email: duttamayur888@gmail.com

### Abstract

Recent developments in the field of AI, including Deep Learning (DL), Reinforcement Learning (RL), Generative AI (Gen AI), Agentic AI, Explainable AI (XAI), Large Language Models (LLMs), and Large Concept Models (LCMs), holds immense significance across various domains due to their transformative potential. In this survey paper, authors have tried to incorporate significance and applicability of this paradigm of AI in various domains like art generation, text synthesis, healthcare for model interpretability, natural language processing tasks, deployment in autonomous decision-making systems and understanding complex systems. This survey paper will enable reader to explore various technologies and their specific use cases under one umbrella.

### Keywords:

Deep Learning; XAI; Agentic AI; Generative AI

### 1. Introduction :

The field of Artificial Intelligence (AI) continues to evolve rapidly, with groundbreaking developments shaping various domains.

**Machine Learning (ML) :** Machine Learning is expanding with the integration of automated machine learning (AutoML) tools, which streamline the model-building process. ML is widely used in predictive analytics, recommendation systems, and anomaly detection.

**Deep Learning (DL) :** Deep Learning continues to evolve with advancements in neural network architectures, such as transformers and convolutional neural networks (CNNs), Recurrent Neural Network (RNN). Deep Learning is the backbone of modern AI, enabling machines to analyze large-scale, complex data and extract patterns. These models are being applied in various domains, including computer vision, natural language processing, and healthcare.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) :** AI is becoming more pervasive with applications in autonomous vehicles, AI-driven cybersecurity, and AI-powered virtual assistants. The focus is on creating more robust and explainable AI systems.

**Explainable AI (XAI) :** As AI systems becoming more and more complex, there's a growing demand for trust, transparency and interpretability. Techniques like SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations) and LIME (Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations) development of inherently interpretable models, with focused area which ensures trust and fairness in AI. They are also compliant with regulatory frameworks like GDPR or AI Act.

**Generative AI :** Generative AI models, such as GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer), Stable Diffusion, and DALL-E have become increasingly sophisticated. These models generate high-quality text, images, videos, and even music. Rise of multimodal models launched by various IT Giants (like OpenAI, Microsoft, Google etc) processes and generate text, images, and other data types. Some of them are free while others are paid.

**Agentic AI :** The development of Agentic AI is a shift towards autonomous agents capable of reasoning, planning, and acting in real-world environments. Examples include reinforcement-learning-based systems like AlphaZero and general-purpose agents for tasks like customer support or business process automation.

### 2. Related Work :

Deep Learning (DL) has revolutionized the AI landscape through its ability to learn hierarchical features from raw data. Key milestones include the introduction of convolutional neural networks (CNNs) for image recognition (LeCun et al., 1998), the development of recurrent neural networks (RNNs) for sequential data (Hochreiter & Schmidhuber, 1997), and the groundbreaking success of

AlexNet in the ImageNet competition in 2012 (Krizhevsky et al., 2012). DL's scalability and success have catalyzed advancements in fields like computer vision, natural language processing and robotics. Machine Learning (ML), the broader domain encompassing DL, has progressed from early statistical methods like linear regression to sophisticated ensemble methods such as random forests and gradient boosting (Breiman, 2001). Support vector machines (SVMs) and kernel-based techniques have also been instrumental in solving classification and regression problems with limited computational resources (Cortes & Vapnik, 1995). Together, these innovations laid the groundwork for modern AI systems.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has evolved from symbolic AI approaches, like expert systems of the 1980s, to connectionist approaches powered by DL. The emergence of reinforcement learning marked a critical milestone, exemplified by DeepMind's AlphaGo, which combined deep neural networks and Monte Carlo tree search to outperform human champions (Silver et al., 2016). Modern AI aims to address complex tasks ranging from autonomous systems to personalized medicine, signaling a shift toward human-centric and ethical AI practices. This evolution has been fueled by a synergy between theoretical advancements and computational power, including GPU and TPU acceleration.

Explainable AI (XAI) emerged as a critical subfield to address the "black-box" nature of DL models, enabling users to interpret and trust AI predictions. Techniques like SHAP (Lundberg & Lee, 2017) and LIME (Ribeiro et al., 2016) have been pivotal in providing model-agnostic explanations, making AI solutions more transparent and ethically sound. Generative AI (Gen.AI), another transformative area, has witnessed breakthroughs like GANs (Goodfellow et al., 2014), which excel at generating realistic data, and diffusion models, which have set new benchmarks in image synthesis (Ho et al., 2020).

Agentic AI, which combines autonomy and adaptability, has advanced with models designed for complex, real-world decision-making environments, particularly in robotics and multi-agent systems (Russell & Norvig, 2020).

Large Concept Models (LCMs) represent an evolution in AI's ability to generalize across diverse tasks, driven by innovations in transfer learning and meta-learning (Finn et al., 2017).

Pretrained transformers and attention mechanisms, first introduced in the seminal "Attention is All You Need" paper (Vaswani et al., 2017), have revolutionized natural language processing, leading to large-scale models like GPT and BERT. These technologies underpin modern AI applications, from chatbots to recommendation systems, reshaping how humans interact with machines.

### 3. Comparison and Trade-off among various technologies :

Why this comparison? As it can help in selecting the most suitable technology based on the requirement of problems to be addressed and underlying constraints.

**Table 1 : Comparison and Trade-off among various technologies**

| Technology           | Accuracy         | Efficiency | Explainability | Computational Cost |
|----------------------|------------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Deep Learning        | High             | Low        | Poor           | High               |
| Machine Learning     | Moderate-High    | High       | Moderate-High  | Low                |
| Explainable AI       | Depends on Model | Moderate   | High           | Moderate           |
| Generative AI        | High             | Low        | Poor           | High               |
| Agentic AI           | Moderate         | Moderate   | Low            | High               |
| Large Concept Models | High             | Low        | Poor           | Very High          |
| Transformers         | Very High        | Moderate   | Moderate       | High               |

### 4. Key features, Use cases/applicability of new set of evolving technologies :

#### Generative AI

- Generative AI models, such as **GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer)**, **Stable Diffusion**, and **DALL-E**, have become increasingly sophisticated. These models generate high-quality text, images, videos, and even music. These can be used in area such as :
  - Chatbots and conversational agents (e.g., ChatGPT, Google Bard).

- AI-driven art and creative industries.
- Synthetic data generation for model training and privacy preservation.
- The rise of multimodal models which process and generate text, images, and other data types like OpenAI's GPT-4.

## 2. Explainable AI (XAI)

- As AI systems becoming more complex day by day, there's a growing demand for trustworthy, transparency of the systems and their interpretability.
- Techniques like **SHAP** (SHapley Additive exPlanations) and **LIME** (Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations).
- Development of inherently interpretable models.
- Along with Ensuring trust and fairness in AI.
- Compliance with regulatory frameworks like GDPR or AI Act.

## 3. Large Concept Models (LCMs)

- Building upon the success of Large Language Models (LLMs), LCMs integrate domain-specific knowledge, enabling better reasoning and problem-solving.
- Healthcare: Diagnosing diseases and personalizing treatment plans.
- Climate modeling and environmental studies.

## 4. Agentic AI

- This is a kind of shift towards **autonomous agents** capable of reasoning, planning, and acting in real-world environments, may combine multiple sub-agents within the main agent.
- As an examples reinforcement-learning(RL)-based systems like **AlphaZero** and general-purpose agents for tasks like customer support or business process automation.

## 5. Pretrained Transformers and Attention Mechanisms

- Transformer models dominate AI due to their scalability and ability to handle large datasets.
- As far as their use cases are concerned, they can be useful in -
  - Language translation (Google Translate).
  - Speech recognition (Whisper AI).
  - Protein folding predictions (AlphaFold).
- **Attention Mechanism:** Continues to improve model performance by paying attention by way of allowing models to focus on the most relevant parts of input data.

## 6. Responsible AI and Ethics

- Owing to the involvement of risks (like fraudulence activities, development of deepfake technology, emphasis on ensuring AI systems are ethical, fair, and free from biases have been increased. Which includes trends like:
  - Auditing AI systems for bias and discrimination.
  - Designing AI systems that align with societal values and ethical standards.

## 7. AI in Edge Computing

- Deployment of AI models on edge devices (e.g., smartphones, IoT devices) to enable real-time, low-latency decision-making (unlike keeping data on clouds). In this direction, the advancements which are happening are :
  - Lightweight models optimized for edge hardware.
  - Energy-efficient inference techniques.
- Which includes applications like: Smart home devices, autonomous vehicles, and wearable technology.

## 8. AI for Sustainability

- AI is increasingly used to address environmental challenges:
  - Renewable energy (Solar, Wind etc) optimization.
  - Climate modeling and weather prediction.
  - Air Quality Index (AQI) Carbon footprint tracking and reduction.

## 9. AI-Augmented Creativity

- Integration of AI tools into creative workflows:
  - Content generation for marketing.

- Game development
- Film and video production (AI-driven special effects and editing).

#### **10. Reinforcement Learning (RL) Advancements**

- RL (where the objective is to maximize reward points) is being combined with evolutionary computing and deep learning for solving complex, real-world problems.
- Like :
  - Robotics and autonomous systems including autonomous car/vehicle.
  - Financial portfolio management.
  - Game AI and simulation.

#### **11. Federated Learning**

- To enhance privacy and security, a decentralized approach to AI training where data remains on local devices, by virtue of this approach this can be used in :
  - Healthcare: Collaborative model training without sharing patient data.
  - Mobile: AI-powered features like personalized suggestions.

#### **12. AI in Healthcare**

- Revolutionizing healthcare through applications such as:
  - Drug discovery and development (e.g., generative models predicting drug efficacy).
  - Diagnostic imaging (e.g., detecting cancers and heart conditions).
  - Personalized treatment recommendations.

#### **13. Autonomous Systems**

- Advancements in autonomous vehicles, drones, and robots.
- Focus on improving reliability, safety, and decision-making in dynamic environments.

#### **14. AI for Cybersecurity**

- AI systems for threat detection, risk assessment, and automated response.
- Use of generative adversarial networks (GANs) to identify vulnerabilities in networks.

#### **15. Low-Code/No-Code AI Development**

- Tools enabling non-experts to build and deploy AI solutions with minimal programming knowledge.
- Examples: Microsoft Power Platform, Google AutoML.

#### **16. AI in Education**

- Adaptive learning platforms for personalized education.
- AI-driven assessment tools for grading and feedback.
- Generative AI for creating educational content.

#### **17. Advancements in Quantum AI**

- Combining quantum computing with AI to solve optimization and machine learning problems faster.
- Applications in finance, drug design, and material science.

#### **18. AI for Mass Communication**

- Content generation for journalism and media.
- Sentiment analysis and audience behavior prediction.
- Deepfake detection to ensure media authenticity.

#### **19. Collaborative AI**

- Development of AI systems capable of collaborating effectively with humans in areas such as medicine, education, and creative industries.

#### **20. AI and IoT Integration**

- AI-powered IoT devices for smart cities, healthcare, and industrial automation.
- Predictive maintenance and real-time analytics for connected devices.

These advancements reflect AI's growing role in shaping the future across industries, addressing complex challenges, and transforming the way humans interact with technology.

### **6. Conclusion and Future Direction :**

The rapid evolution of AI technologies, including advancements in Deep Learning (DL), Machine Learning (ML), Explainable AI (XAI), Generative AI (Gen.AI), Agentic AI, Large Concept Models

(LCMs), and Pretrained Transformers, has transformed the landscape of intelligent systems. Each milestone in AI development has addressed critical challenges, such as improving prediction accuracy, enhancing computational efficiency, and fostering interpretability. From the revolutionary impact of CNNs in computer vision to the paradigm shift enabled by attention mechanisms in natural language processing, these technologies continue to drive innovation across domains such as healthcare, finance, and autonomous systems.

Looking ahead, several future directions warrant exploration. There is a growing need for scalable and energy-efficient AI models that align with sustainability goals. Efforts to improve model interpretability and fairness are essential to ensure responsible AI deployment. Furthermore, the integration of Agentic AI and LCMs promises enhanced generalization and autonomy, opening new possibilities in robotics, multi-agent systems, and real-world decision-making. Lastly, the intersection of AI with emerging fields such as quantum computing and edge AI presents exciting opportunities to tackle previously unsolvable problems, paving the way for the next generation of intelligent systems.

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16. Deep learning has shown significant progress in tasks involving unstructured data, such as image and speech recognition (Lecun et al., 2015; Schmidhuber, 2015).
17. Transformers revolutionized NLP with their attention mechanisms, achieving state-of-the-art results in tasks like machine translation (Vaswani et al., 2017; Radford et al., 2019).
18. XAI frameworks like LIME and SHAP are critical for understanding AI decisions in sensitive domains such as healthcare (Ribeiro et al., 2016; Zhang & Yang, 2021).
19. Generative AI models, including GANs, have enabled realistic content generation but remain resource-intensive (Goodfellow et al., 2014)