

Perceptions of AI in Veterinary Medicine: Insights from Students, Faculty, and Practicing Veterinarians in Hong Kong



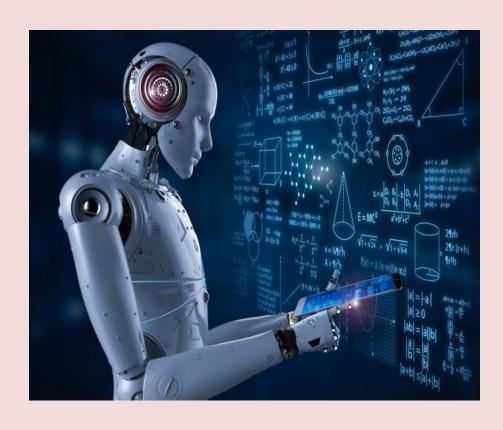
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# Outline



#### Introduction

30%

What is AI?

10%

Uses of AI

10%

Challenges

10%

AI KAP study

60%

Conclusions!

10%



#### Introduction

**1950** 

Alan Turing

1956

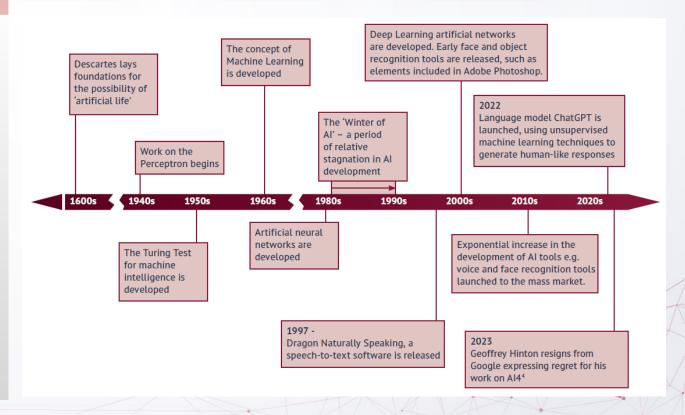
The Birth of AI John Mccarthy

2022

Language models
ChatGPT

- ✓ Artificial intelligence (AI) is a branch of computer science devoted to creating systems to perform tasks that would normally require human intelligence.
- ✓ AI is a broad term that encompasses a variety of subfields and techniques.

(Currents in One Health paper published in JAVMA in May 2022.)



# Uses of AI in Veterinary Medicine





- Virtual reality and simulation
- Virtual tutors
- Assignments
- Content creation
- Automated assessment
- Student performance feedback



# Veterinary workforce

- o Telemedicine
- o Diagnostic support
- Treatment planning and monitoring
- Workload optimization





#### **Livestock Farming**

- Precision livestock farming
- Population disease detection and prevention
- Genetic selection and breeding



# **Equine Practice**

- o Health monitoring
- Training and performance optimization
- Race prediction



#### Research

- o Perplexity
- Scite Assistant
- Consensus
- o Elicit
- ChatGPT
- o ChatPDF
- o Research Rabbit
- SciSpace

# Challenges

The ethics of AI is a complex and rapidly evolving field that raises many questions about the impact of artificial intelligence on society and the individuals within it.

Data privacy and security

AI systems collect and process large amounts of personal data, privacy and security become major ethical concerns.

Responsibility and liability

Who is responsible and liable in the event of an error or harmful outcome.

Control and transparency

There is a need for education, transparency and control in the decision-making processes of AI systems

Client acceptance

How clients respond to AI technologies.



# **Objectives**

- ✓ To evaluate the knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) of CityU students and faculty, as well as veterinarians in Hong Kong, towards the use of AI in teaching and practices.
- ✓ To identify any discrepancies (gaps) in the KAP
  of students and faculty with respect to AI.
- ✓ To explore potential applications of AI that can be integrated into veterinary teaching and practices.







# Methodology

1

#### Study design

- ✓ A cross-sectional study
- ✓ The study protocol has been reviewed and approved by the Human Ethics Review Committee of the City University of Hong Kong (Application No.: HU-STA-00000513).
- ✓ Consent form

3

#### **Target populations**

- ✓ **Students:** all CityU BVM students and PhD students with veterinary degree.
- ✓ Faculty: all CityU faculty participating in teaching BVM students.
- ✓ **Veterinarians:** all veterinarians who are member of the Hong Kong Veterinary Association.



- ✓ QuestionPro
- √ 37 open- and closed-ended questions
- ✓ **Section 1:** Demographic Information
- ✓ **Section 2:** AI knowledge
- ✓ **Section 3:** Attitudes toward AI
- ✓ **Section 4:** AI Applications in Veterinary Medicine



**Data analysis** 

- ✓ Descriptive statistics and data visualization were performed using R software.
- ✓ Please note that R code was developed by ChatGPT 4.





Above 64

55-64

45-54

35-44

25-34

18-24

Under 18

#### **Section 1: Demographic Information**

- ✓ 83 completed the survey
- ✓ 57% were females

4.8

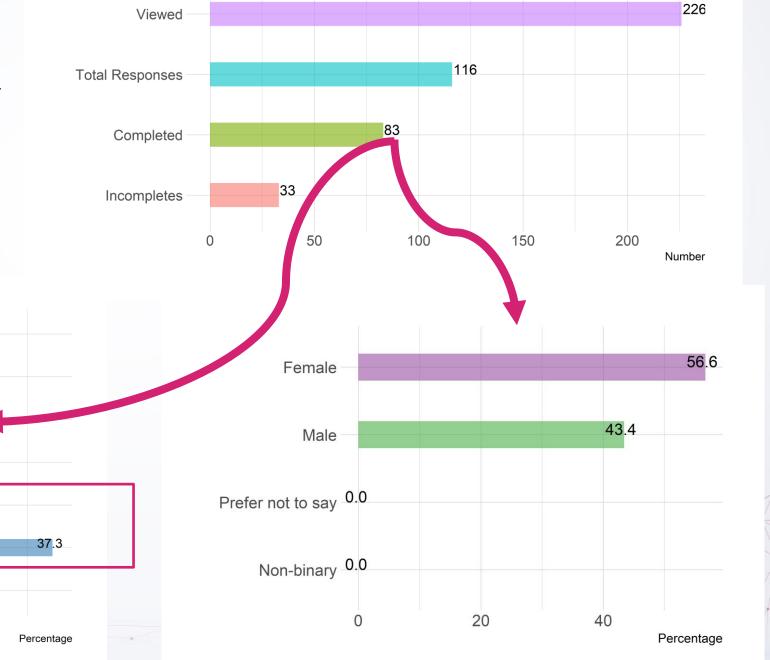
✓ 37% between 18-24 years-old

10.8

10

15.7

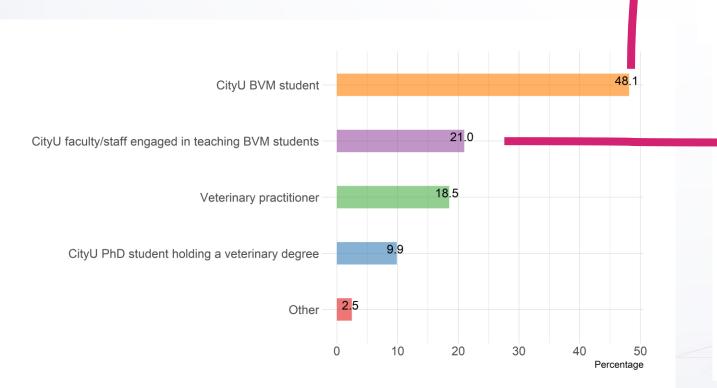
27.7

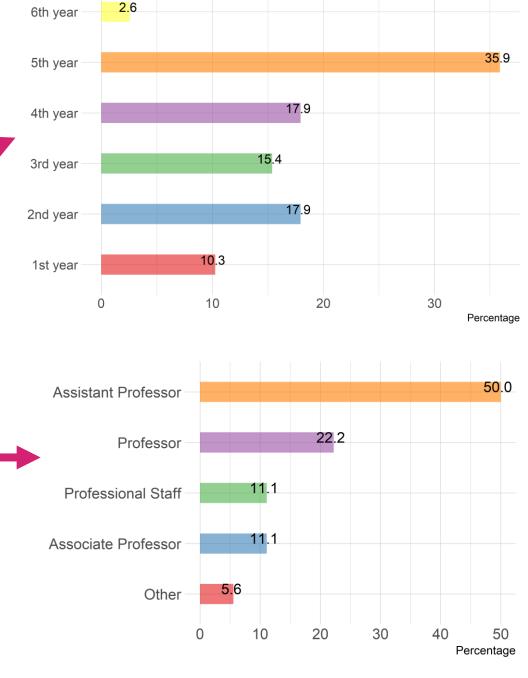


#### **Section 1: Demographic Information**

Out of 81 participants:

- ✓ 48% are BVM students
- ✓ 21% are faculty/staff

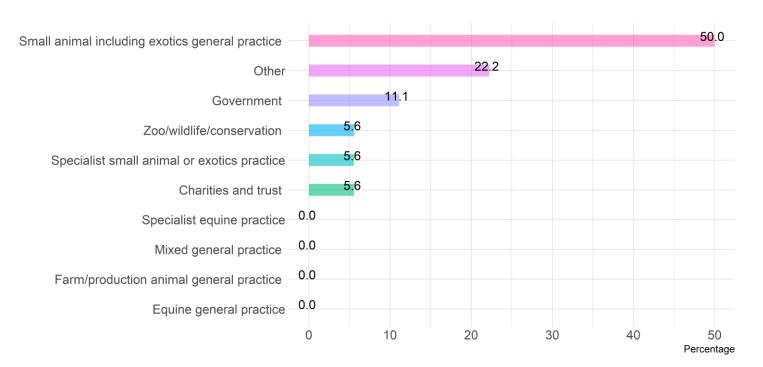


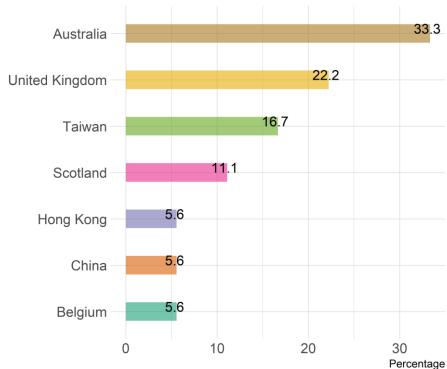


#### **Section 1: Demographic Information**

Out of 81 participants:

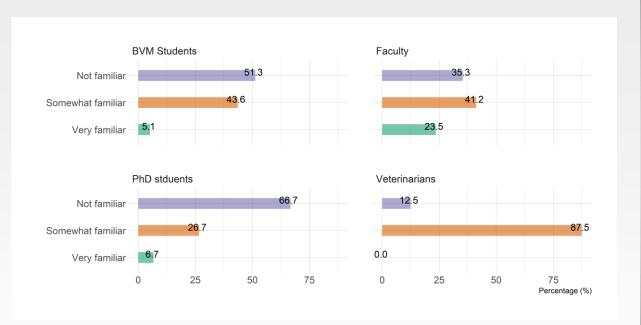
✓ 18% veterinarians







#### **Section 2: AI knowledge**



*P*-value = 0.044

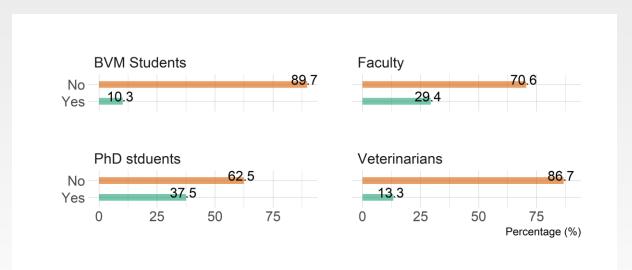
How familiar are you with the concept of AI in the context of veterinary medicine?

# How would you rate your knowledge about AI in veterinary medicine?



P-value = 0.003

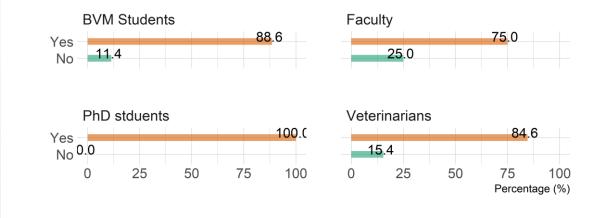
#### **Section 2: AI knowledge**



*P*-value = 0.128

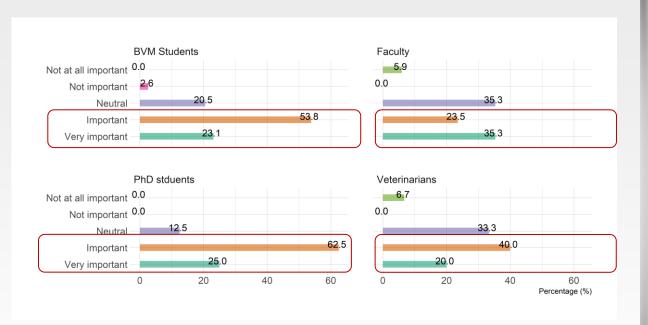
Have you received any training or education on the use of AI in veterinary medicine?

# Would you be interested in receiving such training or education?



*P*-value = 0.556

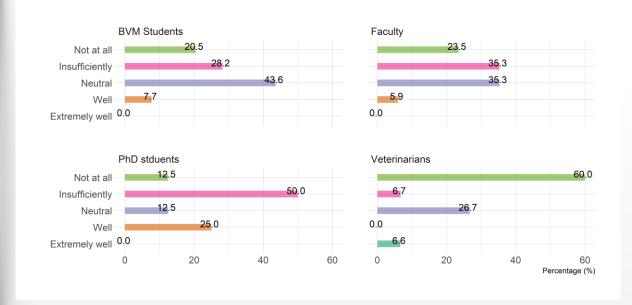
#### **Section 2: AI knowledge**



*P*-value = 0.459

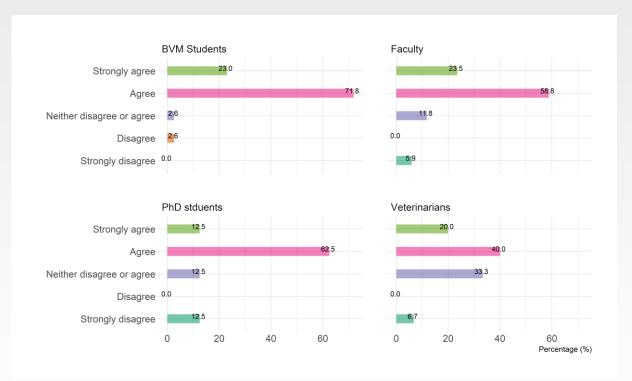
In your opinion, how important is it for veterinary students to have a foundational understanding of AI concepts in their education?

# To what extent do you think your veterinary school curriculum adequately covers/covered topics related to AI in veterinary medicine?



P-value = 0.035

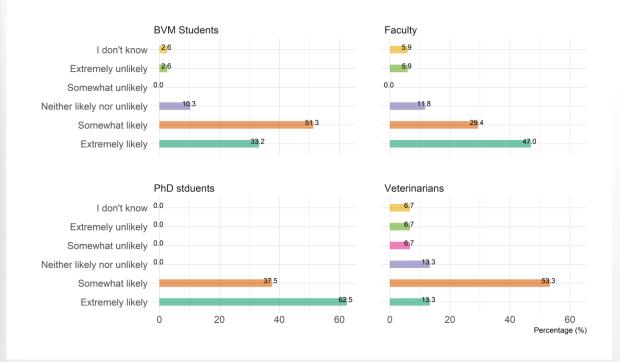
#### **Section 3: Attitudes toward AI**



*P*-value = 0.068

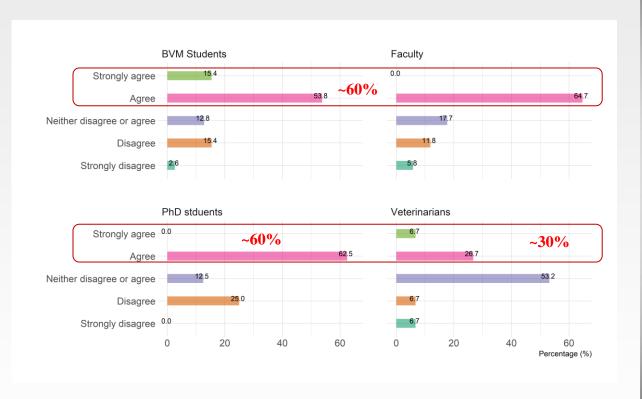
Do you think that AI can enhance veterinary teaching/practice?

# How likely are you to incorporate AI tools into your veterinary teaching/practice in the future?



P-value = 0.444

#### **Section 3: Attitudes toward AI**



*P*-value = 0.116

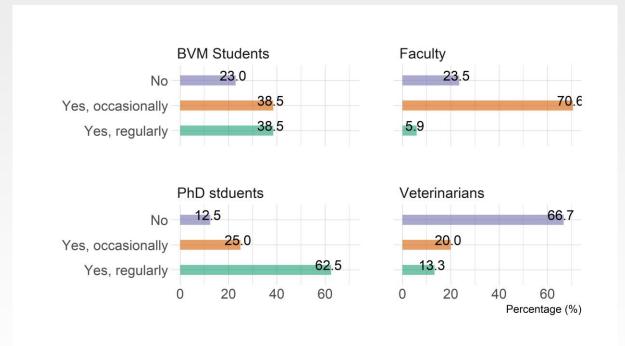
Do you agree that AI technologies could eventually replace certain aspects of traditional veterinary teaching and practice methods?

# To what extent do you think the use of AI in veterinary medicine aligns with the ethical principles of the profession?



P-value = 0.401

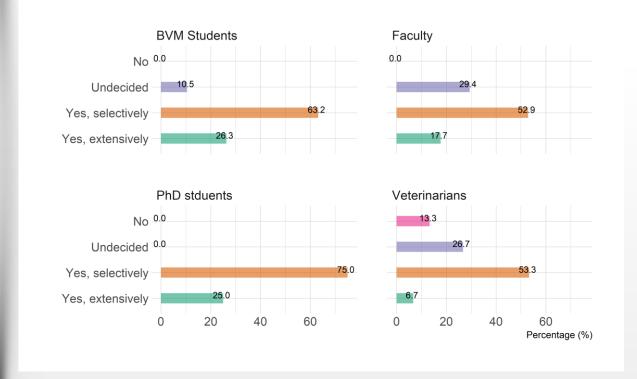
# **Section 4: AI Applications in Veterinary Medicine**



*P*-value = 0.001

Have you ever used any AI tools or applications for veterinaryrelated tasks (learning, research, and practice activities)?

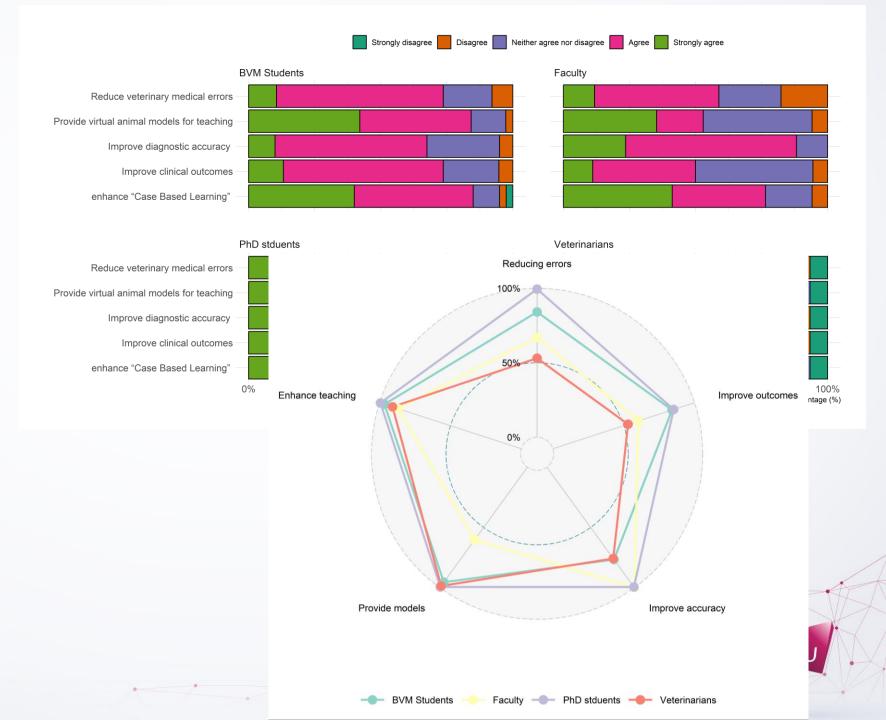
# Are you open to integrating AI technologies into your veterinary teaching/practice, and if so, in what capacity?



*P*-value = 0.127

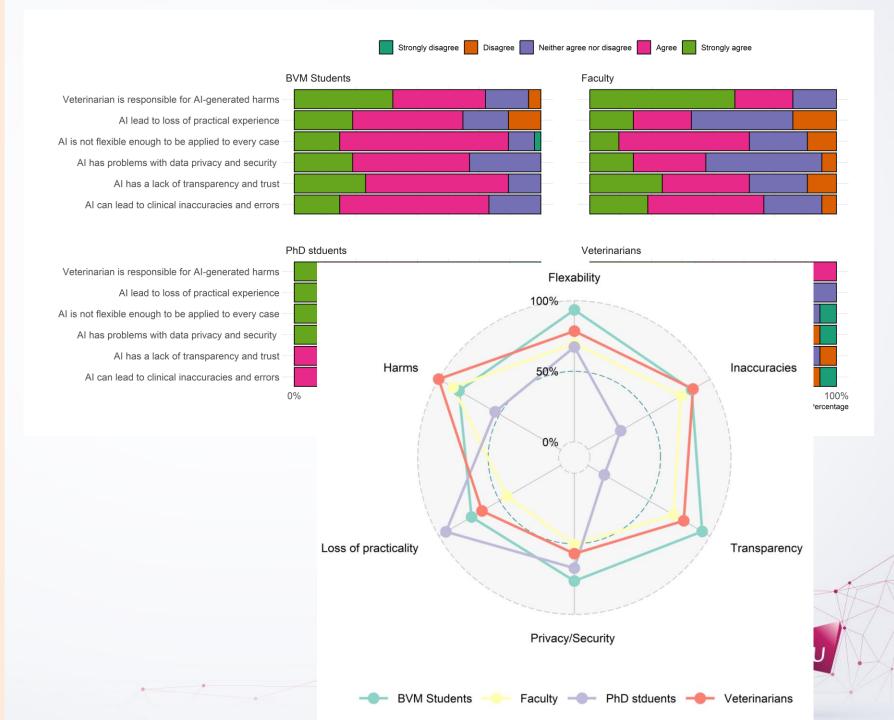
# **Section 4: AI Applications in Veterinary Medicine**

In order to better understand the benefits of using AI in veterinary medicine? Do you agree or disagree that:



# **Section 4: AI Applications in Veterinary Medicine**

In order to better understand problems/concerns regarding the application of AI in veterinary medicine do you agree or disagree that:



### **Conclusions**

Participants knowledge and attitude towered AI use in veterinary medicine teaching and practices are comparable:

- ✓ Majority were low to none familiar with AI application in veterinary medicine.
- ✓ Majority did not receive any AI training or education and are highly interested to receive such training.
- ✓ Majority showed positive attitude towered integration of AI in veterinary teaching and practices.

**Students** 

**Faculty** 

**Veterinarians** 

- ✓ The response mode that AI could enhance teaching through providing virtual animal models.
- ✓ However, they agreed that AI need to be flexible and transparent
- ✓ The response mode that AI could improve diagnostic accuracy and veterinarians will be responsible about in harms come out from AI use.
- ✓ The response mode that AI could enhance teaching through providing virtual animal models.
- ✓ However, they agreed that they are responsible for any AI-generated harms

# Acknowledgements

- CityU BVM/PhD Students
- CityU Faculty
- Hong Kong Veterinary Association
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- Prof. Santiago Alonso Sousa (CityU)
- Prof. Jessica McArt (Cornell University)



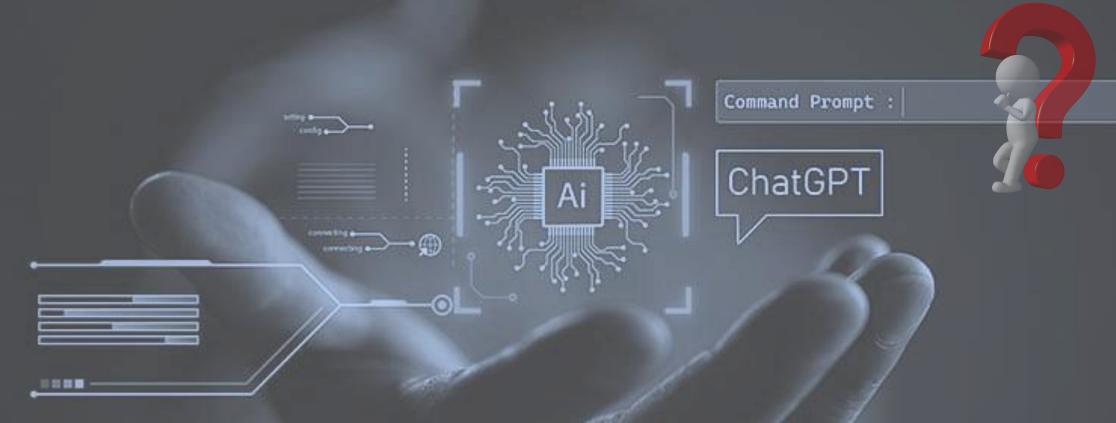












"AI will not take your job ... The person who use AI will take your job ... Use AI as fast as you can!"