



Artificial Intelligence and Its Applications in Smart disastersManagement

Dr. Afshin Yaganeh¹*.eng.Sajad Jalilian²

1- Institute of Higher Education-Hilal Iran(Afshin.yeganeh@ut.ac.ir)

2- Master of Environmental Sciences, Tehran University, Tehran,
Iran(sajadjalilian@ut.ac.ir)

Article Info

Volume 6, Issue 15, Nov 2024

Received: 15 Sep 2024

Accepted: 25 Oct 2024

Published: 21 Nov 2024

doi:

10.48047/AFJBS.6.15.2024.14740-14748

Abstract

In recent decades, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a powerful tool in managing crises and natural disasters. This technology, through processing vast amounts of data and extracting complex patterns, assists organizations and governments in predicting, responding to, and recovering from crises. Machine learning algorithms can predict natural disasters and aid authorities in taking preventive measures. In response, AI uses robots and drones to quickly assess affected areas and optimize resource allocation. In recovery, this technology aids in planning and managing reconstruction projects. Despite challenges such as data privacy and the need for high-quality data, there are numerous opportunities to improve crisis management. International cooperation and the development of appropriate infrastructure are essential to fully exploit this potential.

Keywords: Crisis Management, Artificial Intelligence, Prevention, Technology, Social Participation

Introduction

Crisis management encompasses a set of activities aimed at reducing the impacts of disasters and crises on society. These activities include prediction, preparedness, response, and recovery, each playing a crucial role in minimizing human and financial losses. With technological advancements, AI has emerged as a key tool in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of these activities. AI, with its capabilities in processing large data sets and analyzing complex patterns, can aid in more accurate disaster predictions and enable organizations to respond swiftly and effectively to crises. Additionally, AI can play a significant role in optimizing resource allocation and planning for post-crisis recovery.

This article examines the role of AI in crisis management and analyzes its various applications across different stages of crisis management. It also discusses the challenges and opportunities in this field to provide solutions for better utilization of this technology.

Concept of Crisis Management

Crisis management refers to a set of actions and processes aimed at reducing the negative impacts of critical events, improving preparedness and rapid response, and rebuilding after a crisis. This process includes planning and coordinating necessary actions to combat crises and reduce the vulnerability of communities and infrastructure. Crises can occur naturally (such as earthquakes, floods, storms) or be human-induced (such as terrorist attacks, industrial accidents, and wars). Crisis management involves creating preparedness, making effective decisions, and implementing appropriate strategies to combat various threats, thereby reducing human, material, and environmental damages. The primary goal of crisis management is to save lives, ensure public health, reduce damages, and quickly return to normal conditions.

Stages of Crisis Management

Crisis management is typically divided into four main stages, each playing a vital role in preventing crises or mitigating their impacts:

Prevention (Prevention or Mitigation): This stage involves actions aimed at reducing or preventing the occurrence of crises and minimizing their potential impacts. These actions are designed to reduce the vulnerability of society and infrastructure to crises. Prevention activities include risk analysis, identifying weaknesses, and implementing necessary measures to reduce risk.

Preparedness: This stage involves a set of actions designed to equip communities, organizations, and individuals to deal with crises. These actions are designed to ensure a quick and effective response in the event of a crisis. In this stage, education and public awareness, creating appropriate infrastructure, and operational planning are considered.

Response: The response stage refers to actions taken immediately after a crisis occurs. The goal of this stage is to save lives, reduce casualties, provide services to the affected, and control the critical situation. This stage is very sensitive and requires quick and effective coordination and cooperation among various organizations.

Recovery and Rehabilitation: The recovery stage involves actions taken after the end of critical conditions, aimed at returning the community to normal conditions. This stage can include rebuilding infrastructure, providing psychological support to affected individuals, and planning to improve the community's economic situation. Recovery not only involves returning to previous conditions but also strengthening the community to face future crises.

Definition of Artificial Intelligence and Its Types

Definition of Artificial Intelligence: Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a branch of computer science that focuses on creating systems and machines capable of performing tasks and solving problems that typically require human intelligence. These tasks can include learning, logical reasoning, problem-solving, understanding natural language, pattern recognition, and decision-making in complex situations. The main goal of AI is to create systems that can independently analyze

information and act based on it. These systems are usually built using advanced mathematical techniques and machine learning algorithms.

AI is gradually being applied in many fields, including medicine, transportation, industry, security, and even in everyday life. AI has various types and levels of capabilities, ranging from limited and simple systems to complex theories like general AI. Currently, most AI applications are in the field of narrow AI, but research and advancements in general and even superintelligent AI are ongoing. The development of these technologies in the coming years could bring about significant changes in human societies, but it will also be accompanied by ethical and security challenges.

Successful Experiences in Crisis Management with AI

In recent years, the use of AI in crisis management has led to successful outcomes. Here are some of these experiences:

Early Prediction and Warning of Natural Disasters: In Japan, machine learning algorithms have been used to develop early earthquake warning systems that can alert a few seconds before an earthquake occurs. These systems have significantly helped in reducing human casualties and financial losses.

Rapid and Efficient Response: In Australia, during widespread wildfires, AI-equipped drones were used to quickly assess affected areas and identify critical points. This technology helped rescue teams access areas in need of assistance more quickly and accurately.

Health Crisis Management: In South Korea, during the COVID-19 pandemic, AI was used for contact tracing and analyzing health data. This helped health authorities quickly control the spread of the disease and implement effective preventive measures.

Recovery and Reconstruction Post-Crisis: In the United States, after severe storms, AI was used to analyze historical and current data for reconstruction planning. These analyses helped reduce the time and costs of reconstruction and provided effective strategies for rebuilding.

These experiences demonstrate that AI can significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of crisis management. However, to fully exploit this technology, the development of appropriate infrastructure and international cooperation is necessary.

Role of AI in Crisis Management

AI can play a key role in every stage of crisis management. Some of its important applications are as follows:

Prediction and Prevention: AI algorithms can identify potential risks and predict events by analyzing historical data and complex patterns. For example:

Earthquake prediction: Analyzing seismic data and changes in the earth's crust.

Flood prediction: Using weather data, river levels, and topographic maps.

Identifying infectious diseases: Tracking disease outbreaks through health and social data.

Preparedness and Planning: AI can be used to simulate various crises and evaluate the impact of different strategies. AI-based modeling can show how changes in infrastructure or environmental changes can lead to improved preparedness. Simulation tools help crisis managers optimize operational and training plans.

Timely Response: During a crisis, AI systems can process real-time data and make quick decisions. For example:

Intelligent traffic management systems: These systems can optimize emergency evacuation routes and prevent traffic congestion.

Rescue robots: Robots that can search for and rescue survivors in hazardous environments (such as earthquake zones).

Warning systems: Alerting individuals at risk using environmental and social data analysis.

Recovery and Rehabilitation: After a crisis, AI can be used to assess damages, allocate resources, and plan for effective reconstruction. For example, using drones and image analysis techniques can help identify affected areas and determine reconstruction priorities.

Challenges of Using AI in Crisis Management

Although AI has significant potential to improve crisis management, there are challenges in this field:

Access to Quality Data: Accurate and comprehensive data is needed for the efficiency of algorithms.

Social and Cultural Resistance: Some communities may be reluctant to adopt AI technologies due to lack of awareness or privacy concerns.

Complexity of Crises: Crises often have complex social, political, and economic dimensions that make prediction and management difficult.

Future of AI in Crisis Management

With rapid advancements in AI, this technology will play a more vital role in crisis management. The combination of AI with technologies like the Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data, and advanced analytics will lead to the creation of comprehensive and intelligent crisis management systems. These systems can not only respond to crises but also enhance the ability to prevent and reduce community vulnerabilities.

AI is becoming a powerful tool for managing crises. This technology, with its ability to quickly analyze data, make more accurate predictions, and provide optimal responses, can help reduce human casualties and financial losses. However, successful implementation of this technology requires attention to related social, ethical, and technical issues. To maximize the benefits of AI in crisis management, development and investment in data infrastructure, education, and public awareness are essential.

By employing AI in crisis management, communities can better prepare for upcoming challenges and leverage the power of this technology to build a sustainable and safe future.

Examining the Importance of Using AI in Crisis Management

The importance of using AI in crisis management: AI is rapidly becoming a key factor in managing crises as an efficient and advanced tool. Crises can include natural disasters, human-made disasters, disease outbreaks, and security threats.

Prediction and Simulation of Crises: One of the main applications of AI in crisis management is predicting and simulating critical situations. Using machine learning algorithms, historical data patterns can be analyzed to predict crises. For example:

Weather prediction models: AI advancements can help predict floods or storms and give relief organizations enough time to prepare and respond quickly.

Disease outbreak simulation: In cases like pandemics, AI models can simulate various scenarios and predict the spread of the disease.

Real-time Monitoring and Data Analysis: AI can perform real-time monitoring of information and data. AI systems can collect data from various sources such as sensors, cameras, and social networks and analyze and process them.

Sentiment analysis on social networks: By analyzing social media data, public reactions and sentiments towards a crisis can be identified, aiding in better decision-making.

Environmental monitoring systems: Using smart sensors, environmental conditions can be continuously monitored to identify unusual changes.

Intelligent Decision-Making: AI can help improve decision-making processes. By analyzing existing data and making predictions, AI algorithms can suggest the best options for responding to crises.

Resource management: In critical situations, optimal allocation of resources (such as personnel, equipment, and food) is essential. AI can assist managers in decision-making for resource allocation during crises.

Communication and Coordination: Effective communication and coordination among various organizations and institutions are crucial in crisis situations. AI can help create an optimal and efficient communication system.

Intelligent communication platforms: These platforms can facilitate rapid and effective information exchange, allowing organizations to simultaneously access new information and coordinate responses.

Training and Simulation: AI can also be effective in training and simulating crises. Using realistic simulations, organizations can practice various scenarios and increase their readiness to face real crises.

Simulated exercises: Using virtual and augmented reality techniques, staff can face critical scenarios and acquire necessary skills.

Improving Services and Responsiveness: Using AI can improve the quality of services and responsiveness to crises. By automating some processes, response time can be reduced, and service quality can be increased.

Chatbots and automated systems: These systems can effectively respond to general inquiries and provide information to citizens during crises.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the use of AI in crisis management can significantly reduce the impacts of crises and improve responses and services. This technology can lead to the creation of a more efficient and responsive crisis management system that, through intelligent prediction, monitoring, decision-making, and communication, helps improve conditions during critical times. Given the increasing challenges in the field of crises, integrating AI as a key tool in crisis management strategies seems essential.

References

- L.F. Bari, I. Ahmed, R. Ahamed, T.A. Zihan, S. Sharmin, A.H. Pranto, Md R. Islam
Potential use of artificial intelligence (AI) in disaster risk and emergency health management: a critical appraisal on environmental health
Environ. Health Insights, 17 (2023), Article 11786302231217808,
- I.R. Orimoloye, T.C. Ekundayo, O.O. Ololade, J.A. Belle
Systematic mapping of disaster risk management research and the role of innovative technology
Environ. Sci. Pollut. Res., 28 (2021), pp. 4289-4306, 10.1007/s11356-020-10791-3
- S. Behl, A. Rao, S. Aggarwal, S. Chadha, H.S. Pannu
Twitter for disaster relief through sentiment analysis for COVID-19 and natural hazard crises
Int. J. Disaster Risk Reduct., 55 (2021), p. 102101, 10.1016/J.IJDRR.2021.102101
- M. Yu, C. Yang, Y. Li
Big data in natural disaster management: a review
Geosciences, 8 (2018), p. 165, 10.3390/geosciences8050165
- R. Soden, D. Wagenaar, A. Tijssen Responsible AI for Disaster Risk Management The World Bank (2021) Google Scholar
- B. Mittelstadt, C. Russell, S. Wachter
Explaining explanations in AI
Proceedings of the Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency, ACM (2019), pp. 279-288, 10.1145/3287560.3287574
- S. Barocas, A.D. Selbst
Big data's disparate impact
Calif. L. Rev., 104 (2016), p. 671, 10.15779/Z38BG31

J. Fjeld, N. Achten, H. Hilligoss, A. Nagy, M. Srikumar
Principled artificial intelligence: mapping consensus in ethical and rights-based approaches to principles for AI
SSRN Electron. J. (2020), 10.2139/SSRN.3518482

GFDRR
Machine Learning for Disaster Risk Management
GFDRR (2018)

H. Kemper, G. Kemper
Sensor fusion, GIS and AI technologies for disaster management
Int. Arch. Photogramm. Remote Sens. Spat. Inf. Sci. ISPRS Arch., 43 (2020), pp. 1677-1683, 10.5194/ISPRS-ARCHIVES-XLIII-B3-2020-1677-2020

A.T. Zagorecki, D.E.A. Johnson, J. Ristvej
Data mining and machine learning in the context of disaster and crisis management
Int J EmergManag, 9 (4) (2013), pp. 351-365, 10.1504/IJEM.2013.059879

Y.K. Wong
Dealing crisis management using AI
Int J Eng Trends Appl (IJETA), 8 (5) (2021), pp. 95-102, 10.5121/csit.2021.111409

D. Wu, Y. Cui
Disaster early warning and damage assessment analysis using social media data and geo-location information
Decision SuppSyst, 111 (April) (2018), pp. 48-59, 10.1016/j.dss.2018.04.005

W. Sun, P. Bocchini, B.D. Davison
Applications of artificial intelligence for disaster management
Nat Hazards, 103 (3) (2020), pp. 2631-2689, 10.1007/s11069-020-04124-3

A.A. Soofi, A. Awan
Classification techniques in machine learning: applications and issues
J Basic ApplSci, 13 (2017), pp. 459-465

R. Saleem, B. Yuan, F. Kurugollu, A. Anjum, L. Liu
Explaining deep neural networks: a survey on the global interpretation methods
Neurocomputing, 513 (2022), pp. 165-180, 10.1016/j.neucom.2022.09.129

S. Salim, B. Turnbull, N. Moustafa
Data analytics of social media 3.0: privacy protection perspectives for integrating social media and internet of things (SM-IoT) systems
Ad Hoc Networks, 128 (November 2021) (2022), Article 102786, 10.1016/j.adhoc.2022.102786

Muhammad Arslan, et al.

A review on applications of big data for disaster management
The 13th International Conference on Signal Image Technology & Internet Based Systems, Dec 2017, Jaipur, India (2017) fhal-01678238f

A. Bohr, K. Memarzadeh
Chapter 2 - the rise of artificial intelligence in healthcare applications
Bohr A., Memarzadeh K. (Eds.), *Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare*, Academic Press (2020), pp. 25-60, 10.1016/B978-0-12-818438-7.00002-2

R.I. Ogie, J.C. Rho, R.J. Clarke
Artificial intelligence in disaster risk communication: a systematic literature review
2018 5th International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies for Disaster Management, ICT-DM 2018 (2019), pp. 1-8, 10.1109/ICT-DM.2018.8636380

S. Guha, R.K. Jana, M.K. Sanyal
Artificial neural network approaches for disaster management: a literature review
Int J Disaster Risk Reduct, 81 (2022), Article 103276, 10.1016/j.ijdrr.2022.103276

A. Khan, S. Gupta, S.K. Gupta
Multi-hazard disaster studies: Monitoring, detection, recovery, and management, based on emerging technologies and optimal techniques
Int J Disaster Risk Reduct, 47 (2020), Article 101642, 10.1016/j.ijdrr.2020.101642

F. Taghikhah, E. Erfani, I. Bakhshayeshi, S. Tayari, A. Karatopouzis, B. Hanna
Artificial intelligence and sustainability: solutions to social and environmental challenges
Artificial Intelligence and Data Science in Environmental Sensing, Elsevier (2022), pp. 93-108

H.S. Munawar, M. Mojtahedi, A.W.A. Hammad, A. Kouzani, M.A.P. Mahmud
Disruptive technologies as a solution for disaster risk management: a review
Sci. Total Environ., 806 (2022), Article 151351, 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.151351

L. Tan, J. Guo, S. Mohanarajah, K. Zhou
Can we detect trends in natural disaster management with artificial intelligence? A review of modeling practices
Nat. Hazards, 107 (3) (2021), pp. 2389-2417, 10.1007/s11069-020-04429-3
V. Deparday, C.M. Gevaert, G. Molinario, R. Soden, S. Balog-Way
Machine Learning for Disaster Risk Management (2019)

Melinda Morton, J. Lee Levy
Challenges in disaster data collection during recent disasters
Prehospital Disaster Med., 26 (3) (2011), pp. 196-201, 10.1017/S1049023X11006339
UN Global Assessment on Disaster Risk Reduction
National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence in Disaster Management
AI Applications in Disaster Management - Doctoral theses from institutions like MIT and Stanford

Data-Driven Decision Making in Crisis Situations - Theses related to crisis management using AI

Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach - Stuart Russell & Peter Norvig

Deep Learning - Ian Goodfellow, YoshuaBengio, & Aaron Courville

Practical Machine Learning with Python - TarekAmr

The Hundred-Page Machine Learning Book - AndriyBurkov

“How AI is Transforming Disaster Relief Efforts” - TechCrunch

MIT Technology Review articles on AI applications in emergencies

Google Research Blog on AI and Crisis Management