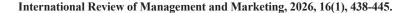


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Strategic Integration of Artificial Intelligence and Innovation Management for Enhancing Organizational Performance: The Moderating Role of Organizational Agility

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ABSTRACT

The study examined the impact of strategic integration of artificial intelligence (SAI) and innovation management (OI) on organizational performance (OP) with the moderating role of organizational agility (OA) to determine how strategic integration of artificial intelligence influences organizational performance (OP). Furthermore, the extent to which strategic artificial intelligence-driven influences on organizational agility was also examined. This study employed a quantitative approach with a targeted 250 respondents from the population, which consisted of ten (10) selected top deposit money banks presently operating in Lagos State, Nigeria, using a purposive sampling technique. Partial Least Square-Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM) was utilized to assess the structural model and test the hypothesized relationships among the variables captured. First, the study revealed that SAI significantly influences both OA and OP (0.627 and 0.583, respectively). IM has shown a strong effect on both agility (0.697) and performance (0.873). Moreover, the finding revealed that the mediating role of OA had a moderate influence on OP. The indirect effect of innovation management on performance via agility is weak (0.006); SAI had a more substantial indirect effect on performance through agility (0.039), highlighting the importance of agility in enabling the adaptability required for AI-driven success. SAI had a significant total effect on organizational agility (0.627) and performance (0.622), revealing its importance as a core component of modern business strategy. The study concluded that strategic integration of artificial intelligence influences organizational agility and organizational performance positively. Innovation management maintains a strong positive relationship with organizational performance, and organizational agility plays a slight role in mediating the relationship among strategic integration of artificial intelligence, innovation management, and organizational performance. The finding stresses the importance of strategically integrating artificial intelligence with innovation management to optimize organizational agility and, ultimately, enhance performance in dynamic environments. The study recommends that managers should align operations with strategic artificial intelligence, adopt modern technologies, and invest more in innovative practices to improve efficiency and sustainability.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Innovation Management, Nigerian Banking Sector, Organizational Agility, Organizational Performance, PLS-SEM, Dynamic Capabilities Theory

JEL Classifications: M1, M15, M19, Q3

1. INTRODUCTION

The rapid advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) have significantly transformed the way organizations manage

innovation. AI technologies, such as machine learning, predictive analytics, and natural language processing, are increasingly being integrated into innovation management processes to streamline operations and enhance decision-making capabilities

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(Dwivedi et al., 2021). In recent years, the strategic use of AI has been recognized as a key driver of innovation, providing organizations with the ability to leverage data-driven insights, automate processes, and develop innovative solutions in response to dynamic market conditions (Soto-Acosta, 2022). As global business environments become more volatile, organizational agility, defined as the ability to swiftly adapt to market shifts and disruptions, has become a critical success factor. AI plays a pivotal role in improving agility by enabling faster and more accurate decision-making, identifying emerging trends, and predicting potential market shifts (Ransbotham et al., 2022). The integration of AI in innovation management has also allowed organizations to deliver to the market when due and at customers' convenience; this has resulted in a high level of competitive advantage.

AI's impact on organizational performance, particularly in terms of cost efficiency, productivity, and customer satisfaction, is equally important. AI-driven automation has been shown to significantly reduce operational costs while improving employee productivity by allowing staff to focus on more strategic, valueadded tasks (Aboelmaged and Mouakket, 2023). Additionally, AI enhances customer experiences by enabling personalized services and interactions, which can lead to higher levels of customer satisfaction and loyalty (Jarrahi et al., 2023). However, despite the growing recognition of AI's potential, many organizations, particularly in developing economies like Nigeria, face challenges in strategically implementing AI technologies. The lack of a clear framework for integrating AI into innovation management processes limits the ability of these organizations to fully capitalize on AI's potential to enhance both agility and performance (Chui et al., 2022). This underscores the need for further research to examine how AI can be leveraged effectively within the innovation landscape to drive sustainable growth and competitive advantage.

In today's rapidly changing business environment, organizations face increasing pressure to remain competitive, agile, and innovative. The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in innovation management offers potential solutions by enhancing decision-making, automating processes, and enabling data-driven innovation. However, many organizations struggle to strategically implement AI, and the impacts on organizational agility and performance are not well understood. While AI is often lauded for its transformative capabilities, there is a gap in empirical research on how AI-driven innovation management specifically affects agility, an organization's ability to swiftly adapt to market changes, and overall performance metrics such as cost efficiency, productivity, and customer satisfaction.

Without clear insights into these relationships, organizations may either underutilize AI or misallocate resources, leading to missed opportunities for competitive advantage. This study seeks to address this gap by exploring the strategic integration of AI in innovation management and its direct and measurable impacts on organizational agility and performance, providing evidence-based guidance for businesses aiming to leverage AI technologies effectively.

1.1. Research Questions

- 1. How does the strategic integration of artificial intelligence influence organizational performance?
- 2. To what extent are strategic artificial intelligence-driven influences on organizational agility?
- 3. What level of relationship exists between innovation management and organizational performance?
- 4. What role does organizational agility play in mediating the relationship between strategic integration of artificial intelligence and organizational performance?
- 5. How does organizational agility mediate the relationship between innovation management and organizational performance?

1.2. Objectives of the Study

The main objective of the study is to evaluate the moderating role of organizational agility on the relationship among strategic integration of artificial intelligence, innovation management, and organizational performance, while other specific objectives are to:

- 1. Examine the influence of strategic integration of artificial intelligence on organizational performance;
- 2. Access the influence of strategic artificial intelligence on organizational agility;
- 3. Determine the relationship between innovation management and organizational performance;
- 4. Critically examine the moderating role of organizational agility in the relationship between strategic integration of artificial intelligence and organizational performance; and
- 5. Determine the moderating role of organizational agility in the relationship between innovation management and organizational performance.

1.3. Research Hypotheses

- H₀₁: Strategic integration of artificial intelligence does not significantly influence organizational performance.
- ${
 m H}_{02}$: Strategic artificial intelligence-driven does not significantly influence organizational agility.
- ${
 m H}_{03}$: There is no significant relationship between innovation management and organizational performance.
- H₀₄: Organizational agility does not play a significant mediating role in the relationship between strategic integration of artificial intelligence and organizational performance.
- H₀₅: Organizational agility does not play a significant mediating role in the relationship between innovation management and organizational performance.

1.4. Significance of the Study

The significance of this study lies in its exploration of the strategic integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in innovation management and its impact on organizational agility and performance. As organizations face increasing pressure to innovate and remain competitive in a rapidly evolving global market, this research provides critical insights into how AI can be leveraged to enhance responsiveness and adaptability. By examining the relationship between AI-driven innovation management and organizational agility, the study will help organizations understand how to harness AI technologies to respond quickly to market changes and disruptions, thereby maintaining a competitive edge in dynamic environments (Ransbotham et al., 2022).

Furthermore, the study's focus on organizational performance, including operational efficiency, quality products, and customer satisfaction, offers valuable guidance for businesses looking to optimize their operations through AI integration. The outcome will be particularly relevant for organizations that seek to survive in a dynamic market environment.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into innovation management enables organizations to unlock new levels of efficiency, creativity, and strategic foresight. AI technologies such as machine learning and predictive analytics allow firms to analyze large datasets, uncover patterns, and make data-driven decisions that improve the innovation process (Dwivedi et al., 2021). By automating repetitive tasks and streamlining workflows, AI frees up human resources to focus on higher-level strategic thinking and creative tasks. This capability is particularly crucial in today's fastpaced markets, where organizations must innovate rapidly to stay ahead of competitors and meet evolving customer demands (Soto-Acosta, 2022). AI also enhances the ability of organizations to be more agile by enabling faster decision-making and more accurate forecasting. Through predictive analytics, AI helps businesses anticipate market trends and customer preferences, reducing the time-to-market for new products and services (Ransbotham et al., 2022). Moreover, AI-driven innovation management systems can facilitate collaborative innovation across departments and geographies, improving responsiveness to external changes. This heightened organizational agility, achieved through AI integration, is essential for companies aiming to adapt to market disruptions and emerging opportunities quickly (Jarrahi et al., 2023).

In terms of performance, AI-driven innovation management has shown significant potential to improve key metrics such as cost efficiency, productivity, and customer satisfaction. By automating labor-intensive processes, AI helps reduce operational costs and minimizes human errors, leading to higher profitability (Aboelmaged and Mouakket, 2023). Additionally, AI enhances productivity by supporting employees in data analysis, trend forecasting, and strategic decision-making. When applied to customer-facing functions, AI can also improve customer experiences by offering personalized solutions and automating customer service functions, ultimately boosting satisfaction and loyalty (Jarrahi et al., 2023). The strategic integration of AI into innovation management is therefore critical for organizations aiming to remain competitive and drive long-term performance growth.

2.2. Innovation Management

Innovation management refers to the systematic process of managing an organization's innovation procedures, from the initial generation of ideas to the development and implementation of new products, services, or business models. It involves the strategic planning, organization, and control of innovation activities within an organization to ensure that new ideas are successfully translated into value-creating offerings. Effective innovation management is critical for organizations to remain

competitive in today's rapidly changing markets, as it helps in fostering creativity, streamlining processes, and enhancing organizational agility (Soto-Acosta, 2022).

A key component of innovation management is the ability to adapt to evolving market conditions, consumer needs, and technological advancements. Organizations with strong innovation management capabilities are better equipped to respond to external disruptions and capitalize on emerging opportunities. This requires the integration of cross-functional teams, a culture that encourages experimentation, and efficient resource allocation to support innovation initiatives (Dwivedi et al., 2021). As digital transformation accelerates, AI is increasingly playing a pivotal role in enhancing innovation management by enabling organizations to gather and analyze data more effectively, predict trends, and automate decision-making processes (Ransbotham et al., 2022). Innovation management also focuses on balancing risk and reward. It involves creating a portfolio of innovation projects that ranges from incremental improvements to breakthrough innovations.

Managing this portfolio requires careful assessment of potential risks, resource requirements, and alignment with strategic goals. Companies that excel in innovation management are those that can continuously innovate while maintaining operational efficiency and aligning their innovation efforts with their long-term objectives. By integrating AI into innovation management processes, organizations can not only accelerate innovation cycles but also increase the likelihood of success for new ventures (Aboelmaged and Mouakket, 2023).

2.3. Organizational Agility

Organizational agility refers to a company's ability to rapidly adapt to market changes and environmental shifts while maintaining high performance. Agility enables organizations to respond swiftly to customer demands, technological advancements, and competitive pressures, ensuring long-term survival and growth in volatile business environments. Achieving organizational agility requires a flexible structure, responsive decision-making processes, and a culture that embraces change and innovation (Ransbotham et al., 2022). In today's fast-paced market landscape, agility has become a key determinant of competitive advantage, allowing businesses to pivot quickly and seize emerging opportunities while minimizing disruptions. The rise of digital technologies, particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI), has significantly enhanced organizational agility by enabling real-time data analysis, automation of routine tasks, and predictive analytics. AI helps organizations gather insights more efficiently, anticipate market trends, and make data-driven decisions, thus accelerating response times and improving adaptability (Soto-Acosta, 2022). For instance, AI-powered tools can optimize supply chain processes, enhance customer service, and streamline product development, all of which contribute to a more agile and responsive organization. These capabilities are particularly critical in industries that experience rapid shifts, such as technology, finance, and retail (Aboelmaged and Mouakket, 2023).

In addition to technology, organizational agility also relies on leadership and a culture that supports flexibility and continuous learning. Agile organizations encourage cross-functional collaboration, empower employees to make decisions, and foster an environment where innovation is embraced and failure is seen as a learning opportunity. Agility also involves the ability to pivot between different business strategies when necessary, allowing organizations to remain resilient in times of uncertainty. By combining AI-driven innovation with a culture of adaptability, organizations can achieve higher levels of agility, enabling them to thrive in complex and rapidly changing markets (Dwivedi et al., 2021).

2.4. Organizational Performance

Organizational performance refers to how effectively an organization achieves its objectives in areas such as profitability, productivity, customer satisfaction, and overall efficiency. It encompasses both financial and non-financial metrics that assess the success of an organization in delivering value to stakeholders, including shareholders, employees, and customers. High organizational performance is typically marked by sustained growth, competitive advantage, and operational excellence. Achieving this requires optimizing processes, leveraging resources efficiently, and continuously innovating to meet market demands (Aboelmaged and Mouakket, 2023). The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into organizational processes has become a key driver of improved performance. AI technologies enhance operational efficiency by automating repetitive tasks, reducing errors, and enabling faster decision-making. Moreover, AI-powered analytics provide insights that help organizations optimize their strategies and improve resource allocation. For instance, AI can predict customer behaviors, streamline supply chains, and enhance product development, all of which contribute to better performance metrics such as increased revenue, lower operational costs, and enhanced customer satisfaction (Dwivedi et al., 2021).

The ability to process vast amounts of data allows organizations to make informed decisions that directly impact performance outcomes. In addition to operational benefits, AI also enhances performance through improved customer experience. By enabling personalized services, AI helps organizations tailor offerings to individual customer preferences, leading to higher customer satisfaction and loyalty. This is particularly relevant in sectors like retail, finance, and healthcare, where customer-centric approaches drive competitive advantage (Soto-Acosta, 2022). Ultimately, the strategic integration of AI into various facets of the organization contributes to sustained high performance by fostering innovation, improving agility, and enhancing the overall efficiency of business operations (Ransbotham et al., 2022).

2.5. Theoretical Review

This study was anchored on dynamic capabilities theory. Dynamic capabilities theory was introduced by Teece et al. (1997) and emphasizes an organization's ability to integrate, build, and reconfigure internal and external resources to respond to rapidly changing environments. In the context of AI, the theory posits that firms can develop dynamic capabilities by leveraging AI to enhance innovation processes, enabling them to anticipate market changes, adjust strategies quickly, and maintain competitiveness.

AI helps firms develop new capabilities in decision-making, resource allocation, and market forecasting, fostering agility and better adaptability to disruptions (Teece, 2020). The theory suggests that AI-driven innovation management becomes a dynamic capability that allows firms to pivot swiftly in response to external challenges, thus improving organizational agility.

2.6. Empirical Review

Smith and Lee (2024). The study provides a clear framework linking AI and innovation to performance outcomes, offering a novel perspective on how agility influences the relationship between these factors. The methodology appears robust, with a solid theoretical base, and relevant data from the respondents were analyzed. The result makes a significant contribution to the understanding of AI and innovation management in organizational contexts, especially in relation to agility, although future research could further refine the practical applications of these findings.

Aboelmaged and Mouakket (2023) did their study on the role of AI in enhancing business process management and organizational performance. Aboelmaged and Mouakket (2023) conducted an empirical investigation using data from 150 organizations across various sectors in the UAE. The study found that AI significantly improves operational efficiency by automating routine tasks, optimizing resource allocation, and enabling better decision-making processes. These improvements directly contributed to enhanced organizational performance metrics, such as reduced costs and improved productivity. Their findings underscore the positive relationship between AI integration and operational outcomes, highlighting how AI can improve an organization's agility and overall performance.

Ransbotham et al. (2022) conducted an empirical study analyzing the relationship between AI adoption and organizational agility across multiple industries. Their research, which surveyed over 1,500 global companies, found that AI implementation significantly enhances an organization's ability to respond to environmental disruptions and market changes. The study also showed that organizations utilizing AI were more agile, with faster response times and a greater ability to anticipate shifts in consumer demand. Their findings suggest that AI-driven innovation management contributes to a firm's capacity for adaptation and resilience in competitive markets.

Dwivedi et al. (2021) explored the impact of AI on innovation and business processes in 200 organizations across Europe. The study demonstrated that AI enhances organizational performance by accelerating innovation cycles and enabling real-time decision-making. It also revealed that companies leveraging AI technologies experienced a 20% increase in innovation output and a significant reduction in time-to-market for new products. The empirical evidence from this study highlights how AI supports faster, data-driven innovation processes that improve organizational outcomes.

Chalmers et al. (2022) examined the effects of AI integration on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the UK, focusing on innovation and competitive performance. Using survey data from 300 SMEs, their empirical findings revealed that AI adoption significantly improved firms' innovation capabilities and market performance. The study highlighted that AI-enabled SMEs were more likely to introduce new products and services, increase customer engagement, and achieve higher revenue growth compared to their non-AI counterparts. The research suggests that AI plays a critical role in enhancing the innovative capabilities and competitiveness of SMEs.

3. METHODS

This study employed a quantitative approach to examining AI integration and innovation management on the firm performance with the moderating role of organizational agility in selected deposit money banks in Nigeria. The study's target population consisted of twenty (10) selected top deposit money banks presently operating in Lagos State, Nigeria (https://nairametrics.com). The banks were chosen from this location using the purposive sampling technique, considering factors such as overall market share, total assets managed, and where 95% of the headhunters of banks are located with advanced uses of technologies. Each participating bank had a respondent population of 25 employees, bringing the overall population of the study to 250. The study used the total population as the sample size in this study.

The survey instrument used in this study was developed by adapting and modifying existing validated scales from the literature. The strategic integration of AI in innovation management was measured using a 14-item scale adapted from the study by Wamba et al. (2015), which provides a framework for integrating big data and AI into business processes. Organizational agility was assessed using an adapted 18-item scale developed by Tallon and Pinsonneault (2011), which measures various aspects of organizational flexibility and responsiveness. Organizational performance was captured using an adapted 12-item scale from the studies by Mikalef and Pateli (2017) and Elbashir et al. (2011), which assess the impact of strategic initiatives and absorptive capacity on performance outcomes. All items were measured using a 5-point Likert-type scale, ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). The survey instrument was reviewed by a panel of experts in innovation management and artificial intelligence to ensure content validity.

4. DATA ANALYSIS

The data analysis for this study involves quantitative analysis. Partial Least Square - Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM) was utilized to assess the structural model and test the hypothesized relationships. PLS-SEM was chosen due to its suitability for complex models, ability to handle multiple path relationships among the variables captured in this study and focus on maximizing the explained variance of the dependent constructs (Hair et al., 2021).

Table 1 revealed the specific indirect effects that quantify how innovation management and strategic artificial intelligence (AI) influence organizational performance through the mediating role of organizational agility. The indirect effect of 0.006 indicates a

Table 1: Specific path indirect effect

Constructs	Specific indirect effects
Innovation management -> Organisational agility -> Organisational performance	0.006
Strategic artificial intelligence -> Organisational agility -> Organisational performance	0.039

slight contribution to performance by innovation management via agility, suggesting that while innovation fosters some level of adaptability, its major impact on performance is primarily direct from other variables apart from organizational agility. The result revealed that agility may not be the primary mechanism through which innovation drives organizational sustainability but instead works in tandem with other factors like operational processes or strategic alignment.

Strategic artificial intelligence (AI) has a more distinct indirect effect of 0.039 on performance through agility. This implies that AI enhances organizational adaptability, which in turn improves performance outcomes. The indirect effect of AI compared to innovation management highlights its capacity to empower agility by enabling real-time decision-making, process automation, and rapid responses to market changes. However, the relatively small magnitude of both indirect effects suggests that while agility contributes to performance, the substance of the impact from innovation and AI is exerted through direct pathways, indicating that agility alone cannot account for their full influence on organizational performance.

Table 2 provides insights into the direct and indirect influence of the variables on each other within the model. Innovation management has a moderate total effect of 0.097 on organizational agility and a more substantial total effect of 0.348 on organizational performance. This indicates that while innovation management plays a notable role in driving organizational agility, its impact is more pronounced on organizational performance, likely because innovation directly enhances operational efficiency and overall performance outcomes.

Strategic artificial intelligence (AI) demonstrates a significant total effect of 0.627 on organizational agility and a slightly lower but still significant total effect of 0.622 on organizational performance. These values revealed the roles of strategic AI as a major determinant in present-day business for both organizational agility and performance. The stronger effect on agility suggests that AI technologies and applications enable organizations to adapt quickly to changing environments and streamline all activities. The effect on performance highlights the broader strategic applications of AI, including enhancing productivity and enabling innovation, which directly contributes to the performance of an organization. Organizational agility has a total effect of 0.062 on organizational performance, suggesting that agility contributes to performance moderately. These dynamics highlight the importance of an integrated approach where innovation and AI are leveraged simultaneously to enhance agility and drive overall performance.

Table 3 revealed the latent variable correlations, which measure the strength and direction of relationships between the variables.

Innovation management shows strong positive correlations with organizational performance (0.942) and strategic artificial intelligence (0.955), indicating that innovation practices are closely tied to performance improvements. Organizational agility has moderate correlations with innovation management (0.696). It also maintains strong associations with organizational performance (0.720) and strategic artificial intelligence (0.720); this suggests that agility plays a supportive but less dominant role in these relationships. Lastly, the result shows that a very strong correlation exists between organizational performance and strategic artificial intelligence integration (0.954), indicating that enhanced performance is closely determined by the strategic use of AI.

Figure 1 highlights the relationships that exist among Strategic SAI, OA, and OP. The path coefficients and R-squared values provide the strength of these relationships and the model's overall explanatory power. SAI has a strong direct path coefficient to OA at 0.720, indicating that SAI is a significant driver of agility. This suggests that AI technologies enhance an organization's ability to adapt to changing environments by improving restructuring operations and fostering flexibility. Moreover, the direct impact of SAI on OP is highly significant, with a path coefficient of 0.909. This reflects the significant role of AI in improving organizational performance in terms of operational efficiency, product quality, and innovation outcomes (OP1, OP2, and OP3, respectively).

Organizational Agility (OA) plays a more moderate role in influencing Organizational Performance, with a direct path coefficient of 0.067. While this contribution is relatively trivial,

it indicates that agility acts as a complementary mechanism for enhancing performance. The indirect effect of SAI on performance through agility further supports this dynamic, showing that agility partially mediates the relationship but does not dominate the direct impact of SAI. The R-square values of 0.518 for OA and 0.918 for OP demonstrate the model's robustness, indicating that the predictors explain 51.8% of the variability in agility and a substantial 91.8% in performance. These high explanatory powers suggest that the model is well-fitted and provides a strong understanding of the factors driving organizational outcomes.

The measurement model also reinforces the validity and reliability of the constructs. The factor loadings for all observed variables are consistently high (e.g., SAI1 = 0.903, OA1 = 0.905, OP1 = 0.924), , indicating that the indicators effectively represent their latent constructs. This strengthens the model's structural interpretation and ensures that the relationships are based on reliable measurements. Overall, Figure 1 emphasizes that OA plays a supportive role, but SAI is the critical driver of both adaptability and performance. This underscores the importance of organizations integrating AI technologies into their strategic framework to be outstanding in dynamic environments.

Figure 2 explained that IM has a positive, strong, and direct influence on organizational performance, with a path coefficient of 0.873. This indicates that organizations with robust innovation practices such as product development, process improvement, and strategic creativity experience (IM1, IM2, and IM3, respectively) significantly improved operational efficiency, product quality, and innovation

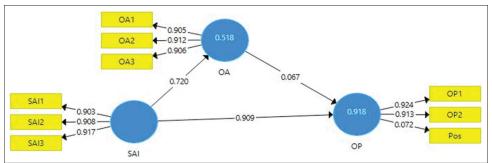
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Variables/Constructs	Innovation	Organisational	Organisational	Strategic artificial	
	management	agility	performance	intelligence	
Innovation management		0.097	0.348		
Organisational agility			0.062		
Organisational performance					
Strategic artificial intelligence		0.627	0.622		

Table 3: Latent variable correlations

	Innovation	Organisational	Organisational	Strategic artificial
	management	agility	performance	intelligence
Innovation management	1.000	0.696	0.942	0.955
Organisational agility	0.696	1.000	0.720	0.720
Organisational performance	0.942	0.720	1.000	0.954
Strategic artificial intelligence	0.955	0.720	0.954	1.000

Figure 1: The structural equation model (SEM) showing the relationships among strategic artificial intelligence (SAI), organizational agility (OA), and organizational



outcomes. Additionally, IM strongly impacts OA with a path coefficient of 0.697, suggesting that innovation practices enhance the organization's ability to adapt to uncertainties in the environment.

Organizational agility demonstrates a dual role, acting as both a dependent and an independent variable. Its path coefficient to organizational performance is 0.108, indicating that while agility contributes positively to performance, its effect is modest compared to the direct impact of innovation management. The indirect effect of innovation management on organizational performance through organizational agility further supports this interpretation, showcasing agility as a complementary pathway through which innovation enhances performance.

The measurement model validates the constructs, as indicated by the high factor loadings of the observed variables (e.g., IM1 = 0.943, OA1 = 0.907, OP1 = 0.898). These loadings demonstrate the reliability and validity of the indicators in capturing their respective latent variables. The R-square values for organizational agility (0.486) and organizational performance (0.905) indicate that

the model explains 48.6% of the variance in agility and 90.5% in performance, meaning that the model has strong explanatory power, especially for performance outcomes. Overall, the model emphasizes that while agility provides incremental benefits to performance, the primary driver is innovation management. This implies that organizations that intend to enhance performance should prioritize innovation practices while leveraging agility as a complementary strategy for survival and resilience.

The path coefficients in Figure 3 revealed the strength and direction of the association among the variables captured. IM has a strong direct impact on OA(0.097) but a fair one on OP(0.342). This means that innovation contributes to agility, but its influence speaks more volume on performance outcomes. SAI has a significant direct effect on both OA(0.627) and OP(0.583). These coefficients highlight the critical role of AI in fostering adaptability and directly enhancing OP.

The mediating role of organizational agility is also evident, though to a lesser degree. The direct path from OA to OP (0.062) suggests that agility alone makes a moderate and fair contribution

Figure 2: The structural equation model (SEM) showing the relationships among innovation management (IM), organizational agility (OA), and organizational performance (OP)

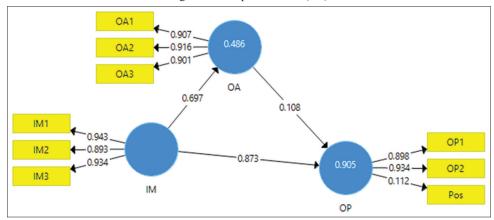
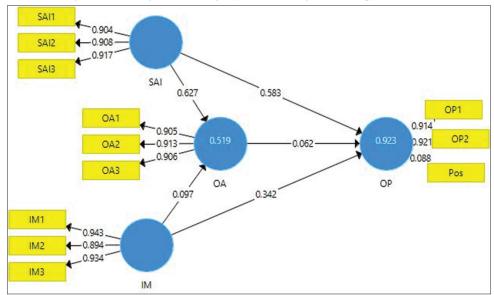


Figure 3: The structural equation model (SEM) for the relationships among four variables: Innovation management (IM), strategic artificial intelligence (SAI), organizational agility (OA), and organizational performance (OP)



to performance. The indirect effects further illustrate this dynamic: Innovation management and strategic AI contribute to performance via agility with coefficients of 0.006 and 0.039, respectively. While these effects are relatively small, they highlight that agility functions as a complementary mechanism through which innovation and SAI influence performance. In addition, the high R-squared values for OA (0.519) and OP (0.923) indicate that the model explains a substantial portion of variance in these constructs, emphasizing its robustness and predictive strength. The findings suggest that while agility enhances adaptability, the major drivers of OP in this model are SAI and IM.

Moreover, from the model, the role of measurement indicators and their reliability in defining each construct. The outer loadings for the observed variables are consistently high across all constructs, with values exceeding 0.9 in most cases (e.g., SAI1 = 0.904, IM1 = 0.943, OA1 = 0.905, OP1 = 0.914). These values indicate strong convergent validity, meaning that the indicators are highly effective in measuring their respective latent variables. This adds credibility to the model's structural relationships and ensures that the constructs are well-represented by their observed variables.

Strategic artificial intelligence (SAI) as a driver of both OA and OP with the strongest path coefficients (0.627 and 0.583, respectively) reflects the pervasive impact of AI technologies in enabling dynamic capabilities and optimizing performance. Moreover, the relatively low contribution of organizational agility (0.062) to performance reinforces the idea that agility is an important and significant factor but weak when it works alone. There should be a synergy with robust innovation and AI strategies to maximize organizational outcomes.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The SEM analysis the importance of strategic artificial intelligence alignment and innovation management in driving organizational performance. Also, organizational agility plays a less significant role; its integration with other strategic capabilities may enhance its effectiveness. The findings emphasize the importance of strategic alignment in achieving superior organizational performance. The study supports the finding of Chalmers et al. (2022) and Dwivedi et al. (2021) that AI and adoption of IM enhance organizational performance.

Organizations should focus on aligning strategies with longterm objectives to optimize agility and performance. While agility is valuable, its limited direct impact on performance suggests that it should be integrated with other capabilities to maximize its effectiveness. Managers should align operations with strategic artificial intelligence, adopt modern technologies, and invest more in innovative practices to improve efficiency and sustainability. While agility is valuable, its influence on performance is less pronounced, suggesting that organizations should integrate agility with other capabilities to maximize its impact.

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