

DISTANCE LEARNING AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL

Anis Zafirah Azmi¹ and Mohd Asyraf Md Surani¹

¹Faculty of Computer and Mathematical Sciences,
Universiti Teknologi MARA, Perak Branch, Tapah Campus,
35400 Tapah Road, Perak, Malaysia

Author Correspondence, e-mail: anis9108@uitm.edu.my

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, as well as fast development in Information Technology and new improvements in learning technology has been rapidly widespread across the globe. Application of distance learning among university are popular in this modern era because it easier the student and the lecturer to interact without attend the real class but still having a class online with the real time in the virtual world. This paper describes on distance learning at the university level which is supported through advanced technology that has evolution from the past decade because of the universal presence of the Internet and also describe the impact for the university student on distance learning.

Keywords: Distance Learning; University; Technology; Evolution; Information Technology.

1. INTRODUCTION

In the modern era, the technology now is rapidly wide across the globe and become something basic need to certain people that related to it. Technology provides the opportunity for them to achieve high level and critical thinking in their study progress. Besides, some people thinking that technologies are set to turn our perceptions of how it can help us and the world we live in, upside down otherwise it can affect employment. Technology has given many impacts for student in their studies especially in higher education all institute. Most of their study greatly involve with technology to make something that difficult become easier for improving quality in education. Technology, together with commerce, has slowly robbed humans of their innate abilities and amputated

them of their capacities. The creation of all the machines and technology, along with the endless products of consumption, are useful to us, but we have become their slaves rather than their masters. Technology has important effects on business operations. No matter the size of your enterprise, technology has both tangible and intangible benefits that will help you make money and produce the results your customers demand. Technological infrastructure affects the culture, efficiency and relationships of a business. Modern technology has become so entrenched in the idea of a modern society that the two are nearly inseparable. Developing countries try to get better utilities, more vehicles, faster computers, as well as Internet and cell phone providers because that is what makes a modern society. Modern technology must be implemented in order to accomplish the feats required of a modern society.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Distance learning or education can be defined as learning without face to face between student and lecturer which are denying the face-to-face formal education because of the outsider factor such as economy, family, career and other surroundings. According to [1], distance learning can be categorized as the physical separation between student and teacher or the instructor are provided by way of technique in media which consisting of print and other ICTs. Moreover, distance learning can improve the quality of education among the university students which are distributed widely in scientific areas [2].

2.1 Applying Technologies for Distance Learning Among University Level

The common uses mechanism in distance learning is technologies which are can be anything such as the device like smartphone, standalone computer and for sure must use the Internet to access network provided and easier for the student to gain knowledge and get the sources via Internet. In the university, nowadays many classes have doing online between lecturer and student which are the student access the link provided by lecturer then they have the class only in their room without to attend the real class. This technique can either be good or bad which the intention of the student itself to gain their knowledge.

Furthermore, [1] stated that more reliable and effective learning environments have come about because of the development and following employment of important technologies, such as Thin Client Technology, JAVA, GUI, Artificial Intelligence, Soft Computing, Wireless Sensor Networks, Multimedia devices, Internet and Mobile Services, Social Media Networks

and etc. The example of wireless sensor network use in distance learning in the university level shown on the Figure 1 [1].

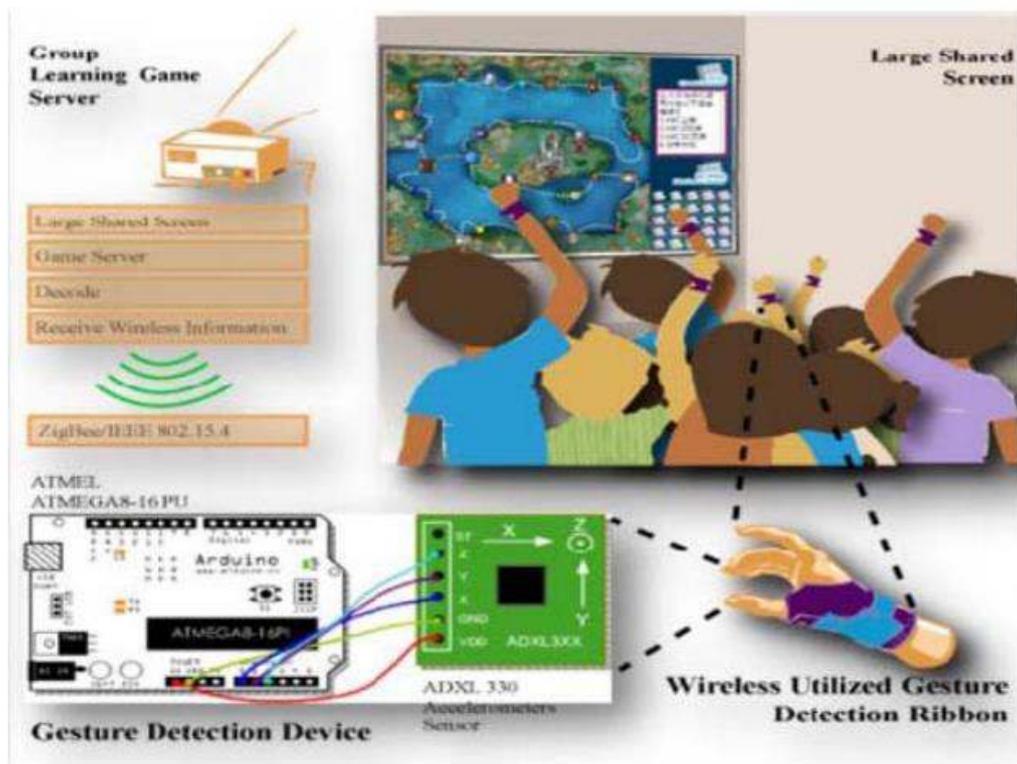


Fig.1. Gesture Detection Sensor Group

Figure 1 can be explained as the student are learning about the geographical map which are, they are worn the ribbons in the classroom which is the signal from their gestures are captured and then delivered to the admin devices to be processed more. By the applying of this software and technology in the classroom, the student be able to plan for learning is fluency building, organization for the learning and be able to use the current technology without any doubt and adapt with this era of technologies that wider rapidly.

3. VARIOUS POINTS OF VIEW IN DISTANCE LEARNING

From the previous study and research, most of the high institute of education are agreeing to apply and emerge the technology in distance learning. This will make the lecturer or instructor at the university to adapt and follow the trend which can easier for them to teach the student by using a technology in their place without to attend the class.

According to the guidelines of federal legislation and for applying E-learning and DLT in Admiral Makarov State University of Maritime and Inland Shipping was built an electronic

informational-educational environment and the main purpose of this development is to ensure the information support of the educational process [2].

Besides, [4] stated that modern distance learning and education was widespread responsiveness since it was planned and developed initial phase. A modern distance learning and education system are designed system that used in Liaoning Shihua University which can used a unique video and audio network transmission technology to reach a real online teaching, learning, communication and discussion among the student and teacher.

Moreover, according to [3], the online and communicating distance teaching using technologies was handled to be the only feasible way to train teachers and student through distance mode.

These researches were done for some purposes such as by applying the technologies in distance learning in the university can give more benefit and easier for them to delivered and gain knowledge. There are also several more studies being performed for different purposes which gives impact of applying this distance learning among university level that like the student are cheating being attend the class while the lecturer is online in teaching or give a concentration for the class. By studying several researches problem statements can be identified to be solved by some possible solutions.

However, the issues of distance learning among university level has their pros and cons which is depend on the student and teacher on how the way they want to gain and delivered the knowledge that can be useful and meaningful for each other. This will explain in the next section which are impact of distance learning among university level.

4. IMPACT OF THE DISTANCE LEARNING

There have several impact of distance learning among universities that can be described which impact is benefit or just wasting time to the high institute universities in applying it. Some researches do the survey to analyze what can be the impact on universities' student when applying distance learning. The survey is to cover the student needs analyses, motivation, social effects, organizational specifics and learning specifics based on learners needs and requirements in association with the environment and policies of the University [5]. Figure 2 shown the pie chart analysis on social effects on student which is can see that 52.46% is higher percentage impact factor of the student can always complete their task successfully while 32.79% of students can finish their work but feel uncomfortable without the instructor's presence. In other hand, 14.75% of students are rarely to finish well the task

given. According to [5], this result specify that socialization is required but not fundamental factor in distance learning course, however the recommendation is to have some at least synchronous chat sessions in cases when face-to-face interaction is not used.

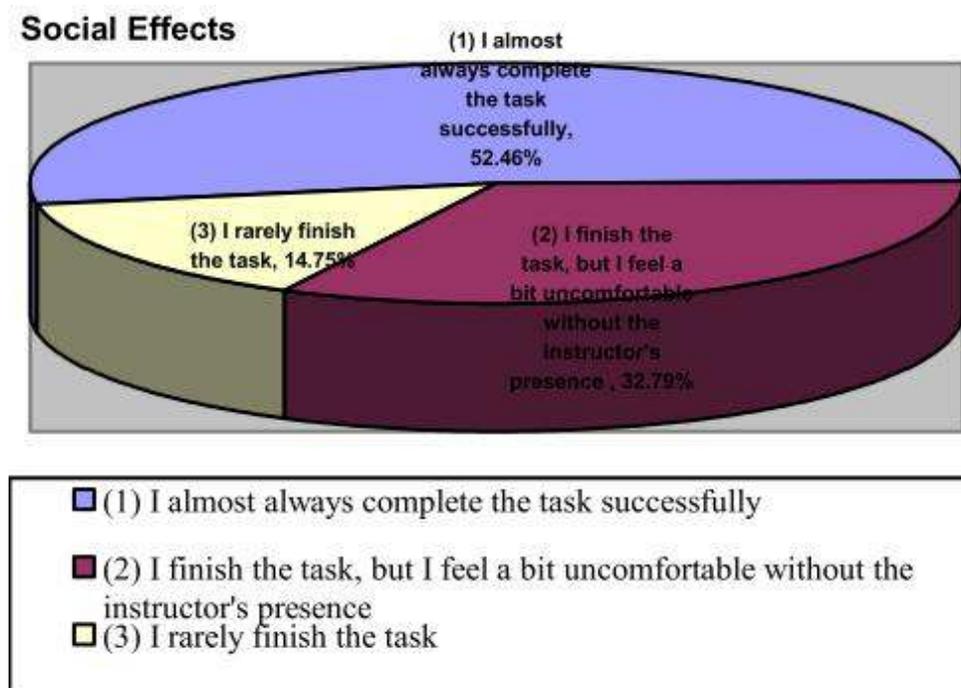


Fig.2. Survey Analyses of Social Effects

Moreover, Figure 3 shown that analyses survey of organizational specific on students prefer more on “Distance education course facilitated by an instructor who requires completed assignments and discussions with peers situated in the same physical location” with the percentage of 54.10%. The least percentage analysis from students is a self-paced distance education course completed independently by 14.75% percentage. This finding show that students prefer distance education courses with direct instructor with discussions with their peers situated at the same location. By this analysis, the recommendation of this learning is using a videoconferencing in real time distance education courses-synchronous distance education. With this recommendation, this can avoid of cheating problem for student that not attend the class because it uses an advanced technology which is real time distance learning that the instructor or lecturer can know who are online.

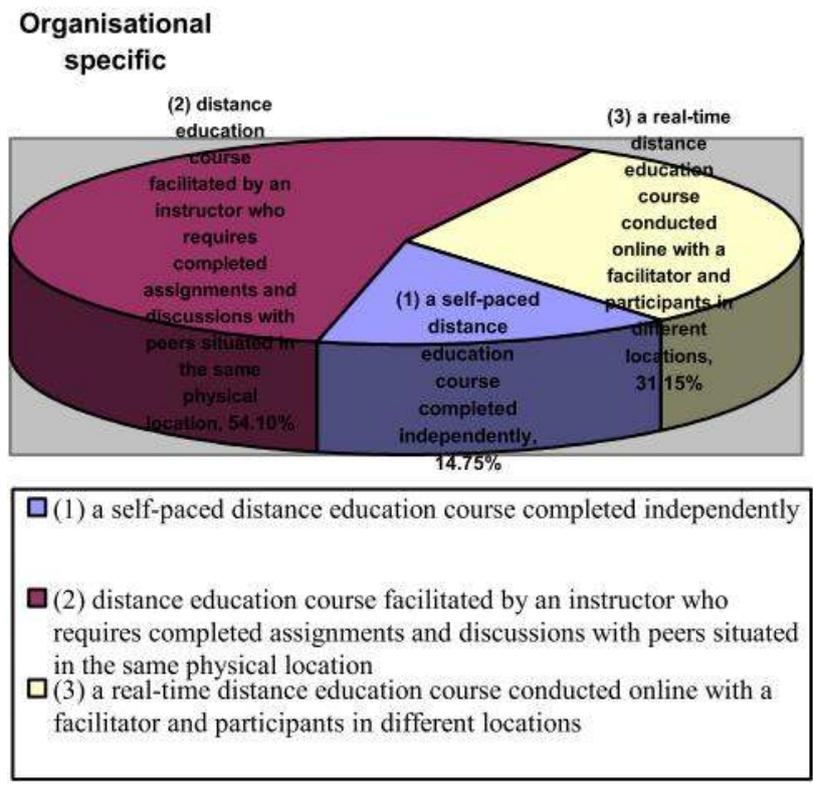


Fig.3. Survey Analyses of Organizational Specific

In conclusions, there are some impact on university level on distance learning which are mostly can give more benefit for students and instructor to adapt in the modern trends of technologies. The analysis survey gives the result of impact of various distance learning that students and instructor are agreed and applying it in their class.

5. CONCLUSIONS

According to the researches previous studies, there are some factor that distance learning are suitable to apply in some university because in the modern era, there are a lots of advanced technology that can be used in distance education course and easier for students and lecturers become more interactive and more discussion online and make the learning are so productive and efficient. But still some students are comfortable having a class with face-to-face with the lecturer so that what they do not understand in the discussion, they can ask directly to the instructors or lecturers and make them more understanding on that discussion topic. It is depending on the students and lecturers if they are suitable to study with distance learning or direct contact in class because the way we study is different with other people.

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