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**ASSESSING THE DETERMINANTS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)
ADOPTION IN LEARNING AMONG ACCOUNTING STUDENTS AT
UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA (UUM)**

By:

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Tunku Puteri Intan Safinaz School of Accountancy

Universiti Utara Malaysia

**In Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Master of Science
(International Accounting)**



Kolej Perniagaan
(College of Business)
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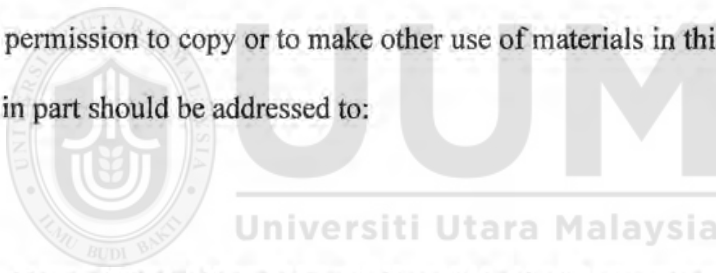
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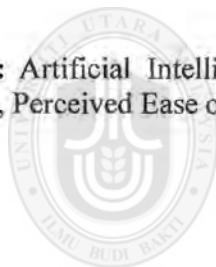
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ABSTRACT

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into the accounting profession highlights the need for future graduates to possess relevant technological competencies. This study investigates the key determinants influencing AI adoption in learning among accounting students at Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM). Based on the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) by Davis (1989), the study examines four independent variables such as Artificial Intelligence Literacy (AIL), Technology Readiness (TR), Perceived Usefulness (PU) and Perceived Ease of Use (PEOU) in relation to the Adoption of AI Technology in Learning (AAITL). A quantitative research design was employed using a structured questionnaire. The questionnaire was distributed to all Semester 6 Bachelor of Accounting students, but only 137 responses were received and analysed. The data were analysed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) through descriptive and multiple regression analyses. However, the finding indicated only PU and PEOU had a significant influence on AI adoption in learning, while AIL and TR were not significant. These results reinforce the applicability of TAM in academic contexts, showing that students are more likely to adopt AI when it is perceived as useful and easy to use. These findings provide partial support for the TAM, suggesting that students are more likely to adopt AI when they perceive it as useful and easy to use. This study contributes to a better understanding of behavioural factors influencing AI adoption in learning among accounting students at UUM and offers a basis for further research in similar academic contexts.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, AI Literacy, Technology Readiness, Perceived Usefulness, Perceived Ease of Use, Adoption AI Technology in Learning



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ABSTRAK

Integrasi teknologi Kecerdasan Buatan (AI) dalam profesion perakaunan menyerlahkan keperluan untuk graduan masa hadapan memiliki kecekapan teknologi yang relevan. Kajian ini menyelidik penentu utama yang mempengaruhi penerimaan AI dalam pembelajaran dalam kalangan pelajar perakaunan di Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM). Berasaskan Model Penerimaan Teknologi (Technology Acceptance Model, TAM) oleh Davis (1989), kajian ini menilai empat pemboleh ubah bebas iaitu Literasi AI (AIL), Kesiapsiagaan Teknologi (TR), Persepsi Kegunaan (PU), dan Persepsi Kemudahan Penggunaan (PEOU) terhadap Penerimaan Teknologi AI dalam Pembelajaran (AAITL). Reka bentuk kajian kuantitatif telah digunakan dengan soal selidik berstruktur sebagai instrumen kajian. Soal selidik telah diedarkan kepada semua pelajar Sarjana Muda Perakaunan Semester 6, namun hanya 137 maklum balas telah diterima dan dianalisis. Data telah dianalisis menggunakan Perisian Statistik untuk Sains Sosial (SPSS) melalui analisis deskriptif dan regresi berganda. Walau bagaimanapun, penemuan menunjukkan bahawa hanya PU dan PEOU mempunyai pengaruh yang signifikan terhadap penerimaan AI dalam pembelajaran, manakala AIL dan TR tidak menunjukkan kesan yang signifikan. Hasil ini mengukuhkan kebolegunaan TAM dalam konteks akademik, menunjukkan bahawa pelajar lebih cenderung untuk menerima AI apabila ia dianggap berguna dan mudah digunakan. Penemuan ini memberikan sokongan sebahagian kepada TAM, dengan menunjukkan bahawa pelajar lebih terdorong untuk menerima AI apabila mereka merasakannya sebagai sesuatu yang berguna dan mudah digunakan. Kajian ini menyumbang kepada pemahaman yang lebih mendalam mengenai faktor tingkah laku yang mempengaruhi penerimaan AI dalam pembelajaran dalam kalangan pelajar perakaunan di UUM dan menjadi asas kepada penyelidikan lanjut dalam konteks akademik yang serupa.

Kata kunci: Kecerdasan Buatan, Literasi AI, Kesediaan Teknologi, Persepsi Kegunaan, Persepsi Kemudahan Penggunaan, Penerimaan Teknologi AI dalam Pembelajaran

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

4IR	Fourth Industrial Revolution
AATL	Adoption of Artificial Intelligence Technology in Learning
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AIL	Artificial Intelligence Literacy
EY	Ernst & Young
PEOU	Perceived Ease of Use
PU	Perceived Usefulness
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science
TAM	Technology Acceptance Model
TR	Technology Readiness
VIF	Variance Inflation Factor
UUM	Universiti Utara Malaysia



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

As digitalisation accelerates, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a key driver of transformation in global professional and business practices. AI has profoundly reshaped the accounting profession that enhance the demand for graduates with strong AI competencies. Accounting firms around the world including Malaysia are increasingly implementing AI technologies to optimize the financial processes, reduce human error and enhance analytical precision. These developments require future accountants to be equipped not only with traditional accounting knowledge but also with the technological expertise necessary to operate and adapt to intelligent systems (Bui et al., 2025). Taib et al. (2022) have stated that students with higher levels of technological readiness are better to navigate and adapt to technological advancement in the accounting sector effectively and make them are better prepared to meet evolving industry expectations.

Besides that, the employers now consider AI proficiency as a crucial qualification for fresh graduates entering the accounting field. Leading firms have invested extensively in automation technologies to manage tasks that were once assigned to junior accountants and shift the expectations placed on entry-level professionals. This development encourages the students to obtain essential knowledge regarding AI tools before entering the job market. According to Mansor et al. (2022), the students enrolled in accounting programmes at UiTM Tapah were generally aware of AI but they are lacked competence and confidence in applying such technologies. This shortfall may create obstacles for graduates to compete in a digital first job environment.

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APPENDIX B: RESEARCH QUESTIONS

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. Gender:
 - i. Male
 - ii. Female

2. Age:
 - i. 17 - 19 years old
 - ii. 20 - 22 years old
 - iii. 23 years old and above

3. What is your program of study?
 - i. Bachelor of Accounting
 - ii. Bachelor of Accounting (Information System)
 - iii. Other

4. Year of study:
 - i. Year 1
 - ii. Year 2
 - iii. Year 3
 - iv. Year 4

SECTION B: AI LITERACY

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree

1	I know how AI can be used in accounting.	1	2	3	4	5
2	I understand how AI can be used in auditing and financial reporting.	1	2	3	4	5
3	I am aware of the various types of AI technologies relevant to accounting practice.	1	2	3	4	5
4	I understand the basic principles of how AI technologies work.	1	2	3	4	5
5	I am confident in my ability to learn how to use AI tools.	1	2	3	4	5
6	I know how to access and explore AI powered tools relevant to accounting.	1	2	3	4	5
7	I can use AI tools to perform basic accounting related tasks (e.g. data analysis, report generation).	1	2	3	4	5

8	I have tried using at least one AI tool or platform related to my accounting studies.	1	2	3	4	5
9	I understand the ethical considerations involved in using AI in accounting.	1	2	3	4	5
10	I understand the limitations of AI tools used in accounting processes.	1	2	3	4	5
11	I understand the impact of AI technologies on the role and responsibilities of professional accountants.	1	2	3	4	5
12	I am aware of the latest trends and developments in the use of AI in the accounting profession.	1	2	3	4	5

SECTION C: TECHNOLOGY READINESS

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree

1	New technologies can improve the quality of my learning and future accounting work.	1	2	3	4	5
2	AI technologies provide more flexibility and efficiency in completing accounting tasks.	1	2	3	4	5
3	I believe I can achieve more by using new technologies in accounting.	1	2	3	4	5
4	AI and digital technologies give me better control over managing my accounting studies.	1	2	3	4	5
5	My peers often seek my advice on using new AI or accounting technologies.	1	2	3	4	5
6	I am usually among the first to explore new AI tools relevant to accounting.	1	2	3	4	5
7	I like experimenting with new AI or digital tools that can enhance my accounting skills.	1	2	3	4	5
8	I actively follow new developments in AI applications in accounting.	1	2	3	4	5
9	I often feel that AI tools in accounting are too complicated for me to use.	1	2	3	4	5
10	When learning to use new AI based accounting systems, I often find the instructions unclear.	1	2	3	4	5
11	Many AI based tools lack user-friendly guidance or support.	1	2	3	4	5
12	I feel uncertain about relying entirely on AI technologies for accounting decisions.	1	2	3	4	5

13	I am concerned about system errors when using AI in accounting processes.	1	2	3	4	5
14	I trust the judgment of human accountants more than AI systems in complex accounting situations.	1	2	3	4	5

SECTION D: PERCEIVED USEFULNESS (PU)

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree

1	I could enhance my learning in accounting by using AI tools.	1	2	3	4	5
2	AI technologies would improve the efficiency of my accounting tasks.	1	2	3	4	5
3	AI tools would help me perform accounting work more accurately.	1	2	3	4	5
4	AI technologies would help me complete accounting tasks faster.	1	2	3	4	5
5	AI tools would improve my ability to analyze accounting data.	1	2	3	4	5
6	Using AI in my accounting studies would give me a competitive advantage in my future career.	1	2	3	4	5

SECTION E: PERCEIVED EASE OF USE (PEOU)

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree

1	Learning to use AI tools in accounting is easy for me.	1	2	3	4	5
2	I find it easy to become skillful at using AI tools.	1	2	3	4	5
3	I find AI tools easy to navigate and operate.	1	2	3	4	5
4	Interaction with AI technologies is clear and understandable.	1	2	3	4	5
5	I can quickly learn how to use new AI tools in accounting.	1	2	3	4	5
6	I feel confident using AI tools for accounting-related tasks.	1	2	3	4	5

SECTION F: ADOPTION AI TECHNOLOGY IN LEARNING (AAITL)

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree

1	I intend to use AI tools to support my learning in accounting.	1	2	3	4	5
2	I plan to use AI tools in my future accounting profession.	1	2	3	4	5
3	I will actively seek opportunities to learn more about AI technologies.	1	2	3	4	5
4	I am willing to adopt AI technologies in my accounting work.	1	2	3	4	5
5	I expect to use AI tools frequently in my accounting-related activities.	1	2	3	4	5



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APPENDIX C: SPSS OUTPUT (VALIDITY TEST FOR PILOT TEST)

a) AI Literacy (Knowledge and Awareness)

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
1. I know how AI can be used in accounting.	1.000	.710
2. I understand how AI can be used in auditing and financial reporting.	1.000	.788
3. I am aware of the various types of AI technologies relevant to accounting practice.	1.000	.787
4. I understand the basic principles of how AI technologies work.	1.000	.689
5. I am confident in my ability to learn how to use AI tools.	1.000	.529
6. I know how to access and explore AI powered tools relevant to accounting.	1.000	.624

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

b) AI Literacy (AI Usage and Professional Consideration)

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
7. I can use AI tools to perform basic accounting related tasks (e.g. data analysis, report generation).	1.000	.504
8. I have tried using at least one AI tool or platform related to my accounting studies.	1.000	.752
9. I understand the ethical considerations involved in using AI in accounting.	1.000	.619
10. I understand the limitations of AI tools used in accounting processes.	1.000	.817
11. I understand the impact of AI technologies on the role and responsibilities of professional accountants.	1.000	.869
12. I am aware of the latest trends and developments in the use of AI in the accounting profession.	1.000	.912

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

c) Technology Readiness (Optimism)

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
1. New technologies can improve the quality of my learning and future accounting work.	1.000	.927
2. AI technologies provide more flexibility and efficiency in completing accounting tasks.	1.000	.931
3. I believe I can achieve more by using new technologies in accounting.	1.000	.696
4. AI and digital technologies give me better control over managing my accounting studies.	1.000	.801

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

d) Technology Readiness (Innovativeness)

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
5. My peers often seek my advice on using new AI or accounting technologies.	1.000	.800
6. I am usually among the first to explore new AI tools relevant to accounting.	1.000	.846
7. I like experimenting with new AI or digital tools that can enhance my accounting skills.	1.000	.832
8. I actively follow new developments in AI applications in accounting.	1.000	.904

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

e) Technology Readiness (Discomfort)

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
9. I often feel that AI tools in accounting are too complicated for me to use.	1.000	.967
10. When learning to use new AI based accounting systems, I often find the instructions unclear.	1.000	.914
11. Many AI based tools lack user-friendly guidance or support.	1.000	.898

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

f) Technology Readiness (Insecurity)

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
12. I feel uncertain about relying entirely on AI technologies for accounting decisions.	1.000	.842
13. I am concerned about system errors when using AI in accounting processes.	1.000	.906
14. I trust the judgment of human accountants more than AI systems in complex accounting situations.	1.000	.685

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

g) Perceived of Usefulness

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
1. I could enhance my learning in accounting by using AI tools.	1.000	.882
2. AI technologies would improve the efficiency of my accounting tasks.	1.000	.935
3. AI tools would help me perform accounting work more accurately.	1.000	.874
4. AI technologies would help me complete accounting tasks faster.	1.000	.870
5. AI tools would improve my ability to analyze accounting data.	1.000	.853

6. Using AI in my accounting studies would give me a competitive advantage in my future career.	1.000	.885
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------	------

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

h) Perceived Ease of Use

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
1. Learning to use AI tools in accounting is easy for me.	1.000	.883
2. I find it easy to become skillful at using AI tools.	1.000	.905
3. I find AI tools easy to navigate and operate.	1.000	.884
4. Interaction with AI technologies is clear and understandable.	1.000	.890
5. I can quickly learn how to use new AI tools in accounting.	1.000	.907
6. I feel confident using AI tools for accounting-related tasks.	1.000	.692

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

i) Adoption AI Technology in Learning

Communalities

	Initial	Extraction
1. I intend to use AI tools to support my learning in accounting.	1.000	.860
2. I plan to use AI tools in my future accounting profession.	1.000	.811
3. I will actively seek opportunities to learn more about AI technologies.	1.000	.827
4. I am willing to adopt AI technologies in my accounting work.	1.000	.895
5. I expect to use AI tools frequently in my accounting-related activities.	1.000	.890

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

APPENDIX D: SPSS OUTPUT (RELIABILITY TEST FOR PILOT TEST)

1. AI Literacy (Knowledge and Awareness)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.907	6

2. AI Literacy (AI Usage and Professional Consideration)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.822	6

4. Technology Readiness (Optimism)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.935	4

5. Technology Readiness (Innovativeness)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.939	4

6. Technology Readiness (Discomfort)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.954	3

7. Technology Readiness (Insecurity)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.883	3

8. Perceived of Usefulness

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.973	6

9. Perceived Ease of Use

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.967	6

10. Adoption AI Technology in Learning

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.957	5

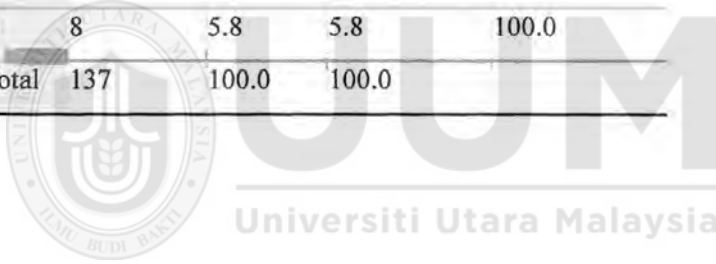
APPENDIX E: DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

1. Gender

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	56	40.9	40.9	40.9
	Female	81	59.1	59.1	100.0
	Total	137	100.0	100.0	

2. Age

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	2	129	94.2	94.2	94.2
	3	8	5.8	5.8	100.0
	Total	137	100.0	100.0	



APPENDIX F: SPSS OUTPUT (RELIABILITY TEST FOR PILOT TEST)

1. AI Literacy (Knowledge and Awareness)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.949	6

2. AI Literacy (AI Usage and Professional Consideration)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.953	6

3. Technology Readiness (Optimism)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.951	4

4. Technology Readiness (Innovativeness)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.884	4

5. Technology Readiness (Discomfort)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.915	3

6. Technology Readiness (Insecurity)

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.872	3

7. Perceived Usefulness

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.954	6

8. Perceived Ease of Use

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.956	6

9. Adoption of AI Technology in Learning

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.949	5

APPENDIX G: SPSS OUTPUT (DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS)

1. AI Literacy (AIL)

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
AIL_KnowledgeAndAwareness	137	1.50	5.00	3.8309	1.10923
AIL_AIUsageAndProfessionalConsideration	137	1.50	5.00	3.8029	1.11880
Valid N (listwise)	137				

2. Technology Readiness (TR)

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
TR_Optimism	137	1.25	5.00	3.91	1.239
TR_Innovativeness	137	1.25	5.00	3.77	1.039
TR_Discomfort	137	1.33	5.00	3.75	1.268
TR_Insecurity (INS)	137	1.67	5.00	3.87	1.100
Valid N (listwise)	137				

3. Perceive Usefulness (PU)

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
PU	137	1.33	5.00	3.83	1.170
Valid N (listwise)	137				

4. Perceive Ease of Use (PEOU)

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
PEOU	137	1.00	5.00	3.84	1.148
Valid N (listwise)	137				

5. Adoption AI technology in Learning (AAITL)

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
AAITL	137	1.20	5.00	3.79	1.184
Valid N (listwise)	137				



APPENDIX H: SPSS OUTPUT (COAKES ASSUMPTION)

1. Coefficients^a

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		Collinearity Statistics		
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.	Tolerance	VIF
1	(Constant)	-.129	.086		-1.513	.133	
	AIL	-.027	.085	-.025	-.315	.753	.062
	TR	.156	.095	.145	1.639	.103	.050
	PU	.308	.073	.304	4.187	.000	.074
	PEOU	.584	.068	.566	8.597	.000	.090

a. Dependent Variable: AAITL

2. Inter-Item Correlation Matrix

	AIL_MEAN	TR_MEAN	PU_MEAN	PEOU_MEAN
AIL_MEAN	1.000	.963	.944	.938
TR_MEAN	.963	1.000	.954	.944
PU_MEAN	.944	.954	1.000	.936
PEOU_MEAN	.938	.944	.936	1.000

3. Model Summary^b

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				Sig. F Change	Durbin-Watson
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2		
1	.974 ^a	.948	.947	.273	.948	606.419	4	132	.000	2.140

a. Predictors: (Constant), PEOU, PU, AIL, TR

b. Dependent Variable: AAITL

4. Descriptive Statistics

	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
AAITL	3.7854	1.18387	137
AIL	3.8169	1.10188	137
TR	3.8306	1.10147	137
PU	3.8321	1.16990	137
PEOU	3.8370	1.14786	137



APPENDIX I: SPSS OUTPUT (MULTIPLE REGRESSION ANALYSIS)

1. ANOVA^a

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	180.773	4	45.193	606.419	.000 ^b
	Residual	9.837	132	.075		
	Total	190.611	136			

a. Dependent Variable: AAITL

b. Predictors: (Constant), PEOU, PU, AIL, TR

2. Coefficients^a

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		Collinearity Statistics		
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.	Tolerance	VIF
1	(Constant)	-.129	.086		-1.513	.133		
	AIL	-.027	.085	-.025	-.315	.753	.062	16.175
	TR	.156	.095	.145	1.639	.103	.050	20.061
	PU	.308	.073	.304	4.187	.000	.074	13.491
	PEOU	.584	.068	.566	8.597	.000	.090	11.095

a. Dependent Variable: AAITL

3. Model Summary^b

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics			Sig. F Change	Durbin-Watson	
					R Square Change	F Change	df1			df2
1	.974 ^a	.948	.947	.273	.948	606.419	4	132	.000	2.140

a. Predictors: (Constant), PEOU, PU, AIL, TR

b. Dependent Variable: AAITL