

Embracing the Future: Understanding Generative AI's Role in the Legal Field



JOHAN STEYN

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About the author

Johan Steyn is a Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (AI) Advocate and thought leader and speaks globally at conferences on the Fourth Industrial Revolution and Emerging Technologies. 2019 award winner Best AI & Robotics Management Consultant by Wealth & Finance magazine (UK).

He is a Global AI Ambassador with Swiss Cognitive and is recognised as one of the top 50 global thought leaders in Artificial Intelligence. He is a Research Fellow at the School of Data Science and Computational Thinking at Stellenbosch University (South Africa). He is an Adjunct Professor at the School of Business at Woxsen University (India).

He was one of the finalists for the 2022 IT Personality of the Year Award (hosted by the IITPSA, Gordon Institute of Business and ITWeb).

Sean Culey, the celebrated author of Transition Point: From Steam to the Singularity, wrote that "he is now rightly recognised as Africa's leading AI commentator."

He is a published author who regularly contributes articles on thought-leadership to well-known publications such as Reuters, Business Day, the Sunday Times, Finweek, News24, ITWeb and Brainstorm Magazine.

He writes in his personal capacity and the views expressed are his own.

Johan can be reached through his web site:

www.aiforbusiness.net

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Introduction

Welcome to an exploration of the future of Artificial Intelligence, particularly Generative AI, and its transformative impact on the legal profession. This document is aimed at legal professionals, and anyone interested in the intersection of AI and law, offering an overview of AI, Generative AI, their business challenges, and how they are reshaping the legal sector.

Section 1 sets the foundation with a thorough understanding of what Artificial Intelligence is and how it operates, with a particular emphasis on Generative AI. We delve into the implications of these technologies in a business context and address the myth of robots replacing humans in the workforce.

In Section 2, we focus specifically on how Generative AI is transforming the legal profession. We discuss practical use cases, address common concerns and scepticism, and provide pragmatic steps for leveraging Generative AI in legal practice. The potential return on investment from adopting Generative AI is then assessed from multiple perspectives, such as operational efficiency, service quality, and time-gains.

Section 3 delves into the tools that make this transformation possible. A list of AI-powered tools for legal professionals is presented.

Finally, in Section 4, we envision the future of Generative AI within the legal profession, illuminating possible directions and implications for legal practitioners, their clients, and the broader society.

Section 1: Artificial Intelligence

In an era where technology is continuously evolving and revolutionizing every aspect of our lives, understanding its potential and implications becomes increasingly crucial. Particularly, the concepts of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Generative AI have taken centre stage in the digital world, fostering significant advancements across various sectors. At the same time, they present their own sets of challenges and ethical considerations that need to be addressed.

Meanwhile, in the corporate world, the concept of Shadow AI presents unique challenges and demands thoughtful, strategic responses. The future of work lies in the balance of human talent and automation, ensuring that digital transformation enhances, not replaces, the unique value of human workers. This section aims to provide an overview of these concepts and their potential impacts on our lives and workplaces.

What is Artificial Intelligence?

Artificial Intelligence, popularly known as AI, is a greatly misunderstood genre of modern software applications. On the one side of the spectrum, many people overestimate their current abilities and think AI robots will take over the world and kill all humans. On the other hand, many do not take it seriously enough, not

understanding the future ramifications of this exponentially growing technology.

AI is a specialised area of computer science that is primarily focused on developing intelligent machines capable of undertaking tasks that generally necessitate human intelligence. Its application isn't confined to a single function, but rather it spans an array of tasks, such as understanding human speech, recognising patterns, solving complex problems, and learning from past experiences.

What sets AI systems apart from conventional software is their unique capability to learn and enhance their performance over time. This learning phase transpires when AI systems are exposed to data, enabling them to identify patterns within this data. Subsequently, they can utilise these patterns to formulate predictions or decisions, even without explicit programming to perform the task. This phenomenon is known as machine learning, forming the backbone of numerous AI systems currently in operation.

I have often seen how top executives tend to delegate the business strategy revolving around AI to the obscure realms of their IT departments. Often, their technical staff is inclined towards implementing AI indiscriminately, without strategic coherence or rational judgement.

As per the *World Economic Forum*, 63% of senior executives perceive the lack of comprehension and skills amongst their workforce as a significant hurdle in

embracing AI technologies. A study by the *Industrial Development Corporation* emphasises that a quarter of organisations confront challenges due to discordance between the anticipations of business and IT executives concerning AI projects.

In a poll by *Deloitte*, 30% of the executives expressed that their organisations grappled with managing AI projects owing to ambiguous business goals. Further, *McKinsey* revealed that merely 41% of executives believed they possessed a thorough understanding of AI and its ramifications.

As we continue to explore and incorporate AI into various facets of our lives, it's crucial that we foster a comprehensive understanding and strategic approach towards its implementation. The potential of AI is immense and, when utilised with strategic foresight and understanding, can transform industries and workforces. However, bridging the knowledge gap, aligning strategic objectives with technological capabilities, and investing in upskilling are essential to reap the full benefits of AI. As we venture further into the era of AI, we must strive for informed integration of technology rather than blind adoption, turning AI from a misunderstood concept into a transformative tool.

What is Generative AI?

Recent advances in AI are becoming prevalent in various sectors. One of the most exciting and transformative forms is 'Generative AI'. It falls under the larger umbrella of machine learning, a significant branch of AI that involves teaching machines to learn from experience. Unlike conventional machine learning models that predict outcomes based on input data, generative models go a step further by generating new data.

At its core, Generative AI involves algorithms that can produce something new from the patterns they have learned. For instance, these algorithms can be trained on thousands of images of faces, after which they can generate a new image of a face that doesn't exist but is realistic and believable.

Generative AI operates on two primary algorithms, namely *Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)* and *Variational Autoencoders (VAEs)*. GANs involve two neural networks: one, the generator, creates new data instances, while the other, the discriminator, evaluates them for authenticity. In contrast, VAEs focus on creating a defined latent space from which new instances can be sampled and generated.

So, how does Generative AI impact us? Its potential applications are vast and varied, ranging from art and design to scientific research and legal profession. In the art world, it can create new pieces of music or visual art.

In design, it can generate new prototypes or models. Scientists can use it to discover new chemical compounds, and in the legal field, it can automate document creation.

However, Generative AI is not without its challenges and ethical considerations. As it can generate highly realistic data, it brings up concerns about the creation of deepfakes that can be hard to distinguish from real images or videos. Privacy and security issues also arise when these models are trained on sensitive data.

To navigate these challenges, it is crucial to develop a thorough understanding and a set of guidelines for Generative AI use. Striking a balance between leveraging the benefits of this promising technology and mitigating its potential risks will be a critical aspect of our digital future.

Generative AI: a business challenge

In the evolving landscape of AI adoption, corporations face both fresh challenges and exciting opportunities. One emerging issue is the rise of "Shadow AI", a term that refers to the unregulated use of AI applications within a corporation without proper governance and supervision. Like the persistent problem of Shadow IT, Shadow AI is proliferating at an accelerated pace due to the rapid adoption of AI technologies.

As freely available Generative AI platforms become increasingly available and democratised, some business functional areas might independently adopt AI tools without adequate central control. This fragmentation in AI deployment can potentially fuel the spread of Shadow AI within a corporation.

Shadow AI introduces several business risks beyond data leakage and breaches of data governance. By bypassing established governance systems, Shadow AI minimises transparency and accountability, complicating a corporation's ability to maintain control and oversight over AI operations.

Leading tech companies like Apple and Samsung have initiated measures to restrict their employees from using AI-enhanced services like ChatGPT and Github's Copilot. Similarly, Amazon and JPMorgan Chase have curtailed the use of ChatGPT due to concerns surrounding potential regulatory issues and the exposure of confidential data.

Other banking giants, including Bank of America, Citigroup, Deutsche Bank, Wells Fargo, and Goldman Sachs, have implemented prohibitions on their staff members' use of AI chatbots. These actions underscore an emerging cautionary trend among corporations and financial institutions regarding the handling of sensitive data via AI-powered tools.

While outright prohibition of unregulated AI services might seem appealing, it's crucial to address the

underlying issues promoting Shadow AI's adoption. A corporation's approach should concentrate on education, transparency, offering approved alternatives, and strengthening governance and compliance mechanisms. A blanket ban might be counterproductive, necessitating a thoughtful, strategic response.

Corporate leaders should routinely assess the AI systems accessed by their employees and consider their motivations. Perhaps employees are merely experimenting with these tools, or they might have discovered tools that enhance their work efficiency. The key question should be why the existing technology platforms are falling short, and leaders should approach new ideas with an open and careful attitude.

Managing Shadow AI effectively requires a well-rounded approach, integrating a robust governance strategy and clear policies. Many corporations are transitioning towards a centralised platform for AI deployment rather than relying on isolated solutions within departments. A centralised strategy allows for superior monitoring, control, scalability, and deployment of AI solutions, thereby curbing the spread of Shadow AI. Key components such as access control, monitoring, deployment management, and security measures are essential to mitigate the risks associated with Shadow AI.

AI can take the robot out of the human

Over the past few years, the business landscape has seen a significant shift. A considerable number of businesses have either explored or implemented automation in their business processes using software algorithms. A prominent player in this domain is Robotic Process Automation (RPA), a technology platform that automates lower-value, repetitive, and administrative tasks previously carried out by human workers through a clearly defined set of instructions.

Consulting firms, eager to maximise sales, often push their customers to purchase as many licenses as they're willing to accommodate. Unfortunately, this approach can lead to an over-investment in automated 'robots' that are either underutilised or not utilised at all, failing to provide the expected return on investment.

The core philosophy behind AI and automation goes beyond merely replacing human tasks with machines. Ideally, these technologies should be harnessed to liberate employees from mundane, repetitive work, effectively "taking the robot out of the human". The goal is not to replace humans, but to empower them to concentrate on higher-value tasks that require human attributes - intuition, experience, and the ability to solve complex problems - thus leveraging people's unique value to the workplace.

Work that is rule-based and predictable is prime territory for digital virtual agents, chatbots, and automated decision-making systems. With high accuracy levels, round-the-clock operation, and immunity to fatigue or illness, these digital entities are well-suited to handle a major chunk of administrative back-office tasks.

However, it's important to note that as digital technology becomes more integrated into business operations, not all employees will be entirely liberated from lower-value tasks. This presents a conundrum for business leaders: what to do with employees whose roles are highly susceptible to automation?

As we venture further into this era of digital transformation, business leaders must strategically balance the use of automation with the irreplaceable value that human workers bring to the table. Ultimately, the objective is to create a symbiotic relationship between human talent and technology to drive efficiency, innovation, and growth in the modern enterprise.

Section 2: Generative AI and the Legal Profession

Introduction

The legal profession, traditionally seen as a stronghold of human expertise, is witnessing the burgeoning influence of Generative AI. Its potential applications are extensive and transformative.

In legal research, generative AI can analyse and cross-reference thousands of legal documents in seconds, a task that would take a human several weeks or even months. This not only saves time but also improves the quality of legal research by minimizing human error and oversight.

Generative AI can be an invaluable tool in document generation and review. By training on numerous legal contracts, it can draft and review contracts, identifying areas of concern or potential improvement. This automation of routine tasks frees legal professionals to focus on more complex, value-adding tasks.

Generative AI can provide personalised services to clients. For instance, it can generate responses to client queries based on previous case data, allowing law firms to provide round-the-clock customer service without additional manpower.

The adoption of Generative AI in the legal field is not without challenges. Concerns about ethical considerations, security and privacy, and accuracy of AI-generated content exist and are valid. Mitigating these risks will involve technical measures, ongoing education, and a willingness to adapt to new ways of legal practice.

The intersection of Generative AI and the legal field offers exciting possibilities. This technology, far from replacing lawyers, has the potential to augment their capabilities and redefine the legal profession. As we delve deeper into this session, we hope to provide a comprehensive understanding of Generative AI and inspire thoughtful discussions on how to harness its potential effectively and ethically in the legal context. It's time for the legal profession to embrace the promise of Generative AI, understanding it as an ally that can help navigate the complexities of the legal world.

Practical Use Cases of Generative AI in Legal Practice

As legal professionals, understanding and adapting to new technologies is essential to stay competitive and efficient. Generative AI, with its revolutionary potential, is one such technology that is poised to transform the legal landscape. This section will delve into the practical use

cases of generative AI in legal practice, discussing the advantages and innovations it brings to the table.

The deployment of Generative AI within law firms can create a myriad of opportunities for efficiency and innovation. Several practical use cases have already emerged in recent months, offering a glimpse into the transformative power of this technology. Let's explore a few of them.

Efficiency and Productivity: Generative AI can significantly enhance efficiency and productivity within law firms. By automating routine tasks like contract review or legal research, it frees up lawyers' time, allowing them to focus on more complex tasks that require human judgment and expertise.

Enhanced Legal Research: Legal research, an essential yet time-consuming task, can be significantly improved with generative AI. It can sift through and analyse vast amounts of legal data, cases, and statutes in mere seconds. This technology can identify relevant precedents, interpret legal jargon, and even predict potential case outcomes based on previous data. The result is comprehensive, fast, and precise research that outperforms traditional methods.

Document Generation and Review: Another potential use case lies in document generation and review. Generative AI can learn from thousands of legal documents to generate draft contracts, motions, and briefs. Further, it can review legal contracts, identify

potential risks, and suggest improvements. This automation not only saves time but also reduces the chances of human error.

Improved Client Services: Generative AI also has the potential to enhance client services. AI-powered chatbots can answer client queries and provide legal advice based on previous case data. These tools can provide clients with instant responses at any time, improving client satisfaction and freeing up lawyers for more complex inquiries.

The advantages and innovations brought about by generative AI are transformative. The technology not only reshapes legal practice but also offers the promise of better legal outcomes. However, as with any innovation, it also presents challenges that need to be addressed carefully. The key to leveraging generative AI's potential lies in embracing its capabilities, addressing the risks, and being open to the revolutionary changes it brings. For the legal professionals ready to take on this challenge, the future holds unprecedented possibilities.

Dealing with Scepticism and Addressing Concerns

In the realm of law, generative AI has positioned itself as an influential tool, promising to enhance efficiency and

precision. However, the advent of this technology has often been met with scepticism among legal professionals. This section aims to address these concerns, specifically, those related to ethical considerations, security and privacy, and the accuracy of AI-generated content, while providing ways to mitigate these risks.

Ethical Considerations: AI can be a double-edged sword, serving as a tool for good but equally capable of misuse. The ethical implications of generative AI in law, particularly regarding transparency, accountability, and fairness, underpin many reservations. For example, a lawyer's decision-making process, while not infallible, can be questioned and evaluated, offering transparency. With AI, the decision-making process can be 'black-boxed', where the reasoning behind a recommendation remains obscured.

The challenge lies in ensuring that generative AI adheres to the ethical standards of legal practice. Mitigation can begin by imposing rigorous ethical guidelines on AI's use. This includes developing AI in a way that its decision-making process can be explained and scrutinized, maintaining accountability, and promoting fairness.

Security and Privacy: Generative AI often requires a vast quantity of data for training and functioning. This data could be sensitive, especially in legal contexts, raising concerns about security and privacy. AI systems,

just like any other digital system, are susceptible to cyber-attacks, potentially compromising client confidentiality.

Protecting the integrity of data begins with robust cybersecurity measures. AI applications should have end-to-end encryption and be subject to routine security audits. Additionally, data anonymization techniques can be used to prevent the identification of individuals from the data, thereby preserving client confidentiality.

Accuracy of AI-Generated Content: Legal professionals may question the reliability and accuracy of AI-generated content, considering its potential to misinterpret context or nuances, especially in complex legal scenarios. The fear is that these inaccuracies could result in sub-optimal legal advice or poorly drafted legal documents.

To address this concern, a hybrid approach can be taken. Generative AI can be used to handle large-scale, repetitive tasks, while human oversight ensures accuracy and context-appropriateness. Lawyers can function as 'pilots' for AI, guiding and correcting its course as required.

Mitigating Risks and Addressing Concerns: Understanding the scepticism towards generative AI is the first step towards addressing it. Mitigation involves both technical and cultural change. From a technical standpoint, working with AI experts and developers can

help tailor AI to the unique needs of legal practice, ensuring it operates ethically, securely, and accurately.

The cultural change involves ongoing learning and adaptation. Regular training and educational programs can help demystify AI, dispel fears, and encourage its ethical adoption. Fostering open conversations about AI's role in law can address concerns and contribute to creating a constructive approach towards AI.

While scepticism towards generative AI is understandable, it should not prevent the exploration and adoption of this promising technology in law. By understanding and addressing these concerns head-on, and by creating an environment where the use of AI is guided by ethical, secure, and accurate practices, the legal profession can confidently embrace the transformative power of generative AI.

Practical Steps to Leverage Generative AI in Legal Practice

In the rapidly evolving landscape of legal practice, generative AI stands as a promising tool that can transform traditional methodologies and improve overall efficiency. Despite the scepticism surrounding its adoption, the benefits generative AI provides cannot be overlooked. As legal professionals grapple with the ever-increasing complexity of law, generative AI's capabilities in legal research, document review, and client services make it an indispensable ally. Here are some practical steps to leverage generative AI in your legal practice.

Step 1: Embrace Your Role as 'Pilot,' Content Creator, and Legal Designer: Legal professionals need not fear being replaced by AI; instead, they should focus on harnessing its capabilities. Lawyers are emerging as 'pilots,' content creators, and legal designers in the new AI-infused landscape. As a 'pilot,' lawyers can guide AI's application, ensuring it aligns with legal principles and ethics. As content creators, they can feed the AI relevant information, enabling it to produce desired results. Finally, as legal designers, lawyers can tailor the AI's output to meet client needs.

Step 2: Employ Generative AI for Maximum Impact: Understanding where to implement AI within your legal practice can lead to meaningful change. Generative AI can be used in contract review to identify potential risks,

in legal research to suggest relevant case laws, or in document generation to create drafts swiftly. Generative AI can also be used to answer clients' common queries, thereby freeing lawyers to focus on more complex legal issues.

Step 3: Engage in Small-Scale Experimentation:

Embarking on the AI journey does not necessitate a complete overhaul of your current operations. Start small. Deploy Generative AI in one aspect of your legal practice to observe its impact. This could involve using AI to automate contract creation or using an AI tool for legal research. The results from these small-scale experiments will provide valuable insights into how AI can be further integrated into your practice.

Step 4: Collaborate with AI Experts: The legal field's intricacies require AI applications to be precise and reliable. Thus, working with AI experts can ensure that the generative AI tools used are properly configured to meet your specific needs. These experts can also provide valuable advice on how to mitigate potential risks and tackle any technical issues that may arise.

Step 5: Prioritize Ongoing Learning and Adaptation:

Generative AI is continually evolving. It is important for legal professionals to stay updated with these advancements. This involves not just understanding the latest AI tools but also keeping abreast of the ethical, legal, and social implications of these technologies.

Regular training sessions and workshops can foster a culture of continual learning and adaptation.

Adopting generative AI in legal practice can seem daunting. However, the potential benefits significantly outweigh the perceived challenges. By following these practical steps, legal professionals can navigate this transition smoothly, leveraging AI's capabilities to revolutionize their practice. The aim should not be to replace the human element of law but to use AI as a tool that complements and enhances a lawyer's capabilities. Ultimately, the integration of generative AI into the legal field paves the way for a more efficient, innovative, and client-centred practice.

The ROI of Generative AI: (1) Operational Efficiency & Service Quality

The dynamic world of legal practice is witnessing a paradigm shift with the advent of generative AI. As an AI subset, generative models can synthesize new data from existing examples, opening avenues for automation and optimization in the legal sphere. In this context, understanding the Return on Investment (ROI) of Generative AI in legal tasks becomes essential.

Generative AI has the potential to streamline various legal tasks, improving efficiency and reducing the time spent on repetitive activities. In essence, the technology

has an impact on two key areas: operational efficiency and service quality.

Operational Efficiency

Document Review and Generation: Legal professionals spend a significant chunk of their time reviewing and generating documents. Generative AI can help automate these tasks, cutting down the time spent significantly. The reduction in man-hours translates into substantial cost savings.

Legal Research: AI-powered research tools can quickly comb through vast repositories of legal data, providing relevant case law, statutes, and legal arguments within seconds. The use of such tools could reduce research time, saving billable hours and increasing lawyers' productivity.

Contract Analysis: Generative AI tools can review contracts, extract key clauses, and even suggest improvements based on best practices. These tasks, which might take a human hours to complete, can be accomplished within minutes, greatly enhancing efficiency.

Service Quality

Predictive Analysis: Generative AI can assist in predicting case outcomes by analysing historical data and drawing parallels with current cases. Such foresight

could lead to better case strategies and improve the winning rate, enhancing the firm's reputation.

Improved Client Services: AI-enabled chatbots and virtual assistants can provide instant responses to routine client inquiries, ensuring prompt service round the clock. This leads to improved client satisfaction and increased client retention.

The financial impact of these benefits can be calculated by quantifying the time saved, improved productivity, reduction in error rates, and enhanced client satisfaction. However, the value of generative AI is not limited to these tangible metrics. The technology can free up lawyers to focus on higher-value tasks, foster innovative problem-solving, and promote proactive legal strategies.

Nonetheless, generative AI adoption also requires investment. Firms need to invest in the right tools, train their staff, and possibly reengineer processes to gain maximum advantage. These upfront costs can be substantial, but the long-term benefits can significantly outweigh these initial expenditures.

The ROI of Generative AI: (2) Distribution of Time in Legal Practice

As we venture into a consideration of Generative AI in the world of legal practice, it becomes crucial to understand the diverse roles lawyers play and how they allocate their time across these responsibilities. The

day-to-day life of a lawyer is far from uniform, as their schedule and tasks are influenced by factors such as the nature of their legal practice, their specific role, and the unique demands of each case or client.

Here's a general breakdown of common tasks performed by lawyers:

Case Preparation: This involves research, discovery, reviewing case law, drafting pleadings, and preparing for depositions, hearings, trials, or negotiations.

Client Representation: This includes actual court appearances, depositions, negotiations, and client meetings.

Legal Writing and Document Review: Lawyers spend a substantial amount of time drafting legal documents such as contracts, wills, pleadings, briefs, and other legal correspondence.

Communication: This includes all forms of communication: phone calls, emails, and correspondence with clients, opposing counsel, court personnel, and others involved in a case or legal matter.

Administrative Tasks: These are the necessary non-billable tasks, like time and billing management, scheduling, maintaining client files, and other office management duties.

Professional Development: Attorneys also spend time maintaining their professional development, which includes continuing legal education, reading up on recent legal developments, and attending seminars or networking events.

The ROI of Generative AI: (3) Time-gains calculation

A good first step in any efficiency-enhancing business initiative is to gage the relevant workforce members to determine their views on a high-level indication of how their typical daily tasks are distributed: what are they currently spending their workday time on? As part of the survey, they should also indicate what the ideal picture would look like: what would they like to be spending their time on in an ideal situation?

The focus should be on alleviating the workers from lower-level tasks that take up the bulk of their time to set them free to focus on higher-level tasks that would result in greater efficiencies and income generation. We can call this a “taking the robot out of the human” initiative.

The questionnaire in a typical legal firm can take the shape of an online form to be completed by the relevant workers. It should be stressed that this data will be anonymised and that the individual identities of the respondents will not be visible to the management team responsible for reviewing the data. This will enhance

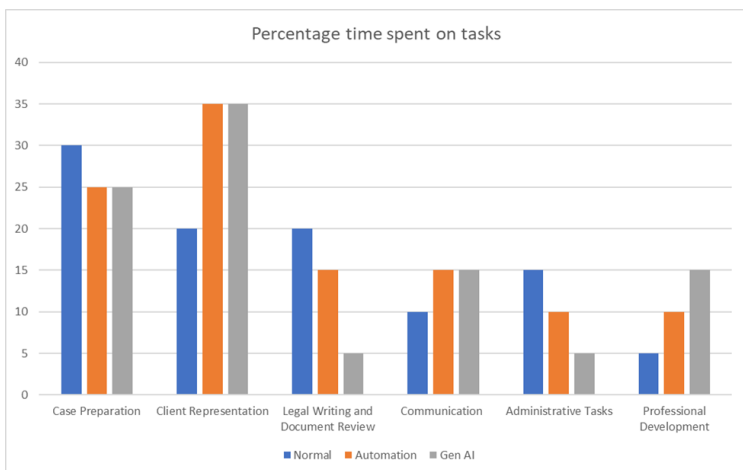
participation and honest feedback, without fear of reprisal or other perceived negative consequences.

The data is to be collated so that an organisation-wide view is produced. The trends will help senior leaders determine areas of focus and to prioritise efficiency-enhancing initiatives. These initiatives could include a) better utilisation of existing software platforms, b) training staff members to better utilise these platforms, and c) a review of new platforms for consideration.

Percentage time spent on tasks	Current	Ideal
Case Preparation		
Client Representation		
Legal Writing and Document Review		
Communication		
Administrative Tasks		
Professional Development		
	0	0

The breakdown below is an example of how the typical law firm time allocation could be improved through automation initiatives (i.e., through RPA), with a further estimated improvement through Generative AI tools:

Percentage time spent on tasks	Normal	Automation	Gen AI
Case Preparation	30	25	25
Client Representation	20	35	35
Legal Writing and Document Review	20	15	5
Communication	10	15	15
Administrative Tasks	15	10	5
Professional Development	5	10	15
	100	110	100



Section 3: Generative AI tools for lawyers

Generative AI is making its mark in the legal profession through these innovative tools. These applications can take over time-consuming tasks like legal research, contract review, and document drafting, freeing lawyers to focus on strategic decision-making and client interactions. By embracing these AI tools, legal professionals can enhance their efficiency and accuracy, redefine their workflow, and ultimately deliver better legal outcomes.

Each of these tools offers unique features and capabilities, so it's crucial to choose ones that align with your specific needs and use cases in the legal field. Remember, AI tools are most effective when used as an extension of the skills and knowledge of legal professionals, not a replacement. The future of law lies in the effective collaboration between lawyers and AI.

Rating AI-powered legal tools is usually based on several key factors

Accuracy: This refers to how accurately the tool can perform its intended functions. For legal AI tools, this may mean the ability to accurately analyse legal documents, predict case outcomes, or identify relevant case law.

Ease of Use: How user-friendly the tool is. A tool that is intuitive and easy to navigate can save a user significant time and effort.

Features and Functionality: This refers to the variety of tasks the tool can perform, and how well it performs them. The best tools often offer a wide range of capabilities and integrate seamlessly with other software.

Customer Support: Good customer support can be crucial for resolving any issues that arise. This can include technical support, but also effective onboarding and ongoing training resources.

Value for Money: This considers the cost of the tool relative to the benefits and features it offers. More expensive tools may offer more advanced features but may not always provide the best value for every user.

Security and Compliance: Particularly for legal tools, it's crucial that the software complies with all relevant data security and privacy laws.

User reviews and industry analyst reports can provide insights into how a tool is rated based on these factors. Websites such as [G2](#), [Capterra](#), and [Software Advice](#) host user reviews of a wide range of software, including AI-powered legal tools. For more in-depth analysis, reports by industry research firms like *Gartner* and *Forrester* can provide comprehensive evaluations of these tools.

Please remember that the effectiveness of a tool can be very context-dependent, and a tool that works well for one law firm or legal department might not work as well for another. It's always a good idea to conduct a careful needs assessment and consider a tool's rating within the context of your specific requirements.

List of AI tools for the Legal Profession

Below is an alphabetically sorted names list of available AI tools for consideration by legal professionals. Although it is a long list it is by no means exhaustive. Also, keep in mind that the validity of each tool needs to be considered based on different legal jurisdictions. Furthermore, we are sure to see new tools released on a regular basis. It is also worth keeping in mind that, although these tools utilise AI technology, they may not all be based on Generative AI technology in the strict sense of the word.

Anaqua

Website: <https://www.anaqua.com/>

Anaqua is a comprehensive, AI-powered Intellectual Property (IP) management platform that aids law firms in

managing patents, copyrights, trademarks, and more. Its cutting-edge machine learning technology can analyse trends and project outcomes, giving firms the advantage of predictive insights. The tool also centralizes IP assets, making portfolio management more efficient. However, Anaqua is primarily focused on IP management, which may limit its versatility for law firms with more generalized needs. The platform's complexity could also pose a learning curve for new users.

Ayfie

Website: <https://www.ayfie.com/>

Ayfie provides text analytics solutions using natural language processing and machine learning for legal tasks such as eDiscovery and due diligence. It excels at structuring and extracting information from large, unstructured datasets. This can significantly streamline the review process and improve the accuracy of information extraction. On the downside, Ayfie may not be as useful for tasks outside of its specialized focus areas.

BigHand

Website: <https://www.bighand.com/en-us/>

BigHand offers an AI-powered legal budgeting and resource management tool that helps predict legal costs. By providing a clearer picture of legal costs, it enables better budgeting and planning. However, its effectiveness hinges on the accuracy of the input data. For instance, incorrect time estimates for various tasks can lead to inaccurate cost predictions.

Blue J Legal

Website: <https://www.bluejlegal.com/>

Blue J Legal uses machine learning to predict court outcomes, providing lawyers with data-driven insights for case strategy. Its predictive analytics capabilities could significantly enhance the quality of legal advice given to clients. The platform is also intuitive and user-friendly, facilitating easy adoption. However, the predictions are based on historical data and patterns and may not always accurately anticipate novel or unique legal scenarios.

Brightflag

Website: <https://www.brightflag.com/>

Brightflag applies AI to legal spend management, helping firms predict, manage, and reduce costs. It provides real-time analytics and reports on legal spend, enabling a proactive approach to cost management. Its language analysis technology also helps in spotting billing errors. While Brightflag has proven to be a valuable tool for cost management, its features might not be as beneficial for firms looking to use AI for legal research or document review.

BRYTER

Website: <https://bryter.io/>

BRYTER is an AI-driven platform that allows lawyers to build interactive and automated applications to improve service delivery and client experience. It is intuitive and doesn't require coding expertise, making it accessible to legal professionals. This tool is versatile and can be used to automate a wide range of services.

Casetext

Website: <https://casetext.com/>

Casetext is a legal research tool that uses AI to help lawyers find relevant cases and statutes more efficiently. Its AI tool, CARA, analyses legal documents and provides case recommendations. This not only makes the research process faster but also ensures more comprehensive results. However, it is primarily focused on US law, making it less useful for international legal research.

Casepoint

Website: <https://www.casepoint.com/>

Casepoint provides AI-powered eDiscovery services, streamlining the management of litigation data. It has strong capabilities in data processing, analysis, and review. Its intuitive interface and advanced analytics can reduce the time and cost associated with eDiscovery.

Clarilis

Website: <https://www.clarilis.info/>

Clarilis is an AI-powered platform that automates the process of creating legal documents. It's designed to

increase efficiency in document creation and reduce the risk of human error. It can be a powerful tool for firms with high volumes of document generation. However, the platform requires initial setup and training for each type of document to be automated. The time and cost associated with this setup might deter smaller firms or those with lower volumes of document creation.

Cognitiv+

Website: <https://www.cognitivplus.com/>

Cognitiv+ uses AI to assist lawyers with legal research, due diligence, and risk management. It can extract insights from legal data, helping to identify potential risks and opportunities. The platform's predictive analysis can also forecast legal outcomes based on past data.

Contract Express

Website:

<https://www.thomsonreuters.in/en/products-services/legal/contract-express.html>

Contract Express, a product of Thomson Reuters, uses AI to automate the creation of legal documents. It can significantly reduce the time taken to draft standard documents and reduce errors associated with manual

drafting. However, while it's great for routine documents, it may not be as effective for complex, unique, or highly specialized documents.

Contract Mill

Website: <https://www.m-files.com/ment/>

Contract Mill leverages AI to create high-quality legal documents efficiently, streamlining the document generation process. Its user-friendly interface and robust functionality make it a popular tool among law firms. However, initial setup of the platform can be time-consuming, and it requires regular updates to ensure the documents produced are in line with the latest laws and regulations.

DISCO

Website: <https://www.csdisco.com/>

DISCO provides an end-to-end eDiscovery solution that uses AI to streamline the discovery process, making it faster and more accurate. Its intuitive design and powerful search features can significantly reduce the time spent on eDiscovery.

Docket Alarm

Website: <https://www.docketalarm.com/>

Docket Alarm is an AI-powered research and analytics platform providing legal insights and helping lawyers track cases, predict outcomes, and get timely updates. The tool's broad coverage of court cases and its ability to provide real-time alerts make it an asset to litigation attorneys. However, its effectiveness is limited by the data available in public court records, which may be incomplete or delayed.

Documate

Website: <https://www.documate.org/>

Documate is a no-code platform for creating legal products and automating documents. It's particularly useful for law firms looking to automate routine tasks and generate documents more efficiently. On the downside, its no-code nature, while enabling non-technical users to automate workflows, might limit more advanced customization. Furthermore, the platform requires initial setup and document templating, which can be time-consuming.

eBrevia

Website: <https://www.ebrevia.com/>

eBrevia leverages AI to extract data from contracts and other legal documents, aiding lawyers in performing due diligence more efficiently. It can accurately identify legal concepts and obligations in contracts, saving time and reducing errors. However, as the tool relies on machine learning, the precision of its analyses is dependent on the quality and volume of training data it has received. It also might not fully capture nuanced meanings in complex legal language.

Everlaw

Website: <https://www.everlaw.com/>

Everlaw is an AI-powered platform that helps lawyers with eDiscovery, enabling them to uncover relevant information more efficiently. The tool's ability to process and analyse large volumes of data can drastically improve the speed and accuracy of discovery. However, user proficiency with the platform is crucial for maximizing its potential.

Evisort

Website: <https://www.evisort.com/>

Evisort is an AI contract management platform that aids law firms in extracting and analysing key contract information. The system is adept at organizing and managing a contract portfolio, helping firms avoid missed deadlines and stay in compliance with contract terms. However, it may struggle with more complex or unusual contract structures that deviate from the norm. Also, the initial implementation can be labour-intensive as existing contracts must be uploaded and categorized within the system.

Harvey

Website: <https://www.harvey.ai/>

Harvey, a forward-looking AI platform, envisions AI not merely as a supportive chatbot but as the foundation of workflow, partnering with whole firms to create customized solutions. This involves gaining a deep understanding of real-world issues faced by clients, thereby creating AI solutions that can address these challenges. Building trust is a crucial aspect of Harvey's strategy, replicating tried-and-tested methods such as tiered review and natural language feedback, while innovating new systems for AI alignment and validation.

Jus Mundi

Website: <https://www.jusmundi.com/>

Jus Mundi provides AI-powered international law and arbitration research, helping legal professionals navigate complex international cases. Its comprehensive database and sophisticated search engine can significantly enhance the efficiency of research. However, as it focuses on international law and arbitration, its utility is more limited for practitioners working in other areas.

Kira Systems

Website: <https://www.kirasystems.com/>

Kira Systems offers an AI-powered contract analysis tool. It's designed to analyse and summarize contracts, aiding with due diligence and general contract reviews. The machine learning technology can significantly cut down the time and effort required for contract review. However, it may have difficulties interpreting complex or ambiguous language in contracts.

LawGeex

Website: <https://www.lawgeex.com/>

LawGeex utilizes AI for contract review. It's designed to understand legalese and can review contracts, identify potential issues, and suggest edits. However, it might struggle with poorly scanned documents or contracts with unconventional layouts or wording.

Legal Decoder

Website: <https://www.legaldecoder.com/>

Legal Decoder uses AI to analyse legal bills and identify billing errors, helping law firms manage costs more effectively. It's a valuable tool for corporate legal departments and law firms looking to ensure billing accuracy. However, if bills are not detailed or coded correctly, it may not be able to identify all potential errors or inefficiencies.

Legal Robot

Website: <https://www.legalrobot.com/>

Legal Robot uses AI to translate legalese into plain English, making legal documents easier to understand. It can also review documents and flag potential issues.

However, it might not fully capture the nuances and implications of complex legal terms.

LegalSifter

Website: <https://www.legalsifter.com/>

LegalSifter is an AI tool that reviews and provides advice on contracts, helping lawyers manage contracts more efficiently. However, the system might not catch all potential issues, especially in complex or unusual contracts. Furthermore, the advice it provides is generalized and may not be appropriate for every situation or jurisdiction.

LinkSquares

Website: <https://www.linksquares.com/>

LinkSquares uses AI to analyse legal contracts, identify key information, and manage the lifecycle of a contract. While it's an effective tool for contract management, it might struggle with highly complex or poorly structured contracts.

Logikcull

Website: <https://www.logikcull.com/>

Logikcull offers cloud-based eDiscovery and document review services, leveraging AI to streamline the process and reduce costs. It provides a user-friendly interface and robust search capabilities, enabling legal teams to manage eDiscovery in a more controlled and cost-effective manner.

Luminance

Website: <https://www.luminance.com/>

Luminance provides AI-powered document review and analysis, mainly for due diligence, contract negotiation, and regulatory compliance. Its technology can help identify risks and issues faster than manual review, potentially saving firms time and money. However, like all AI tools, it can struggle with complex or ambiguous language.

Neota Logic

Website: <https://www.neotalogic.com/>

Neota Logic uses AI to create applications that automate routine tasks, provide guidance, and assist with decision

making in the legal field. This can significantly increase efficiency and consistency in legal service delivery. However, developing and maintaining these applications requires technical expertise and ongoing effort..

Pactly

Website: <https://www.pactly.com/>

Pactly is a contract review tool that uses AI to identify potential risks and provide explanations for complex legal terms, aimed at making contract review more efficient and accessible. While it can handle routine contracts well, it may not fully capture the nuances and implications of highly complex contracts.

PatentBots

Website: <https://www.patentbots.com/>

PatentBots is a chatbot that can check and register trademarks, ensuring that the trademark you plan to use is not already taken. While this can be a quick and cost-effective way of checking trademark availability, it may not provide the comprehensive search and analysis that a human expert can. It also does not provide legal advice on the potential risks and issues with a proposed trademark.

Premonition

Website: <https://www.premonition.ai/>

Known as a 'litigation database', Premonition uses AI to analyse court data and predict outcomes, which can be used to identify winning strategies and successful lawyers. While it can provide valuable insights, its predictions are not foolproof. The outcomes of legal cases can be influenced by many factors that are difficult to quantify and predict.

PERSUIT

Website: <https://www.persuit.com/>

PERSUIT is an AI-driven platform that allows law firms to respond to RFPs, RFIs, and AFAs, simplifying the bidding process and fostering competition. The tool can increase the efficiency of the bidding process and help law firms win more business. However, the effectiveness of the platform is also largely dependent on the quality of the information provided by the law firms in their bids.

ROSS Intelligence

Website: <https://blog.rossintelligence.com/>

ROSS Intelligence leverages AI to streamline legal research. It can sift through vast amounts of legal data and provide precise, legally sound answers, reducing the time lawyers spend on research. However, it may not be effective in areas of law where there is less case law or where the law is rapidly changing.

Text IQ

Website: <https://www.qualtrics.com/uk/iq/text-iq/>

Text IQ uses AI to uncover sensitive information and prevent legal and compliance disasters. Its technology can help identify risks that might be overlooked in manual reviews. However, it may not catch everything, especially in more complex or ambiguous cases.

UniCourt

Website: <https://unicourt.com/>

UniCourt uses AI to facilitate legal research and litigation tracking, offering access to case data from numerous courts. Its strengths include the ability to automate court case data retrieval and the capability to create case

tracking alerts. However, the accuracy and usefulness of UniCourt's services are highly dependent on the quality of the court data, and incomplete or inaccurate court records can limit its effectiveness.

Section 4: The future of Generative AI in the legal profession

The intersection of AI and the legal industry is no longer a mere speculation, but a burgeoning reality. Among the numerous AI technologies disrupting the legal landscape, generative AI has the potential to reshape legal operations profoundly, propelling the sector into an era of greater efficiency, accuracy, and democratization.

Generative AI, characterized by its ability to create new, original content from a given input, is revolutionizing a broad array of legal processes. From automating legal document generation to enhancing legal research and due diligence, this technology has demonstrated tremendous value. As we cast our gaze into the future, it becomes clear that generative AI will continue to be a potent catalyst for transformation in the legal industry.

A significant area where generative AI will contribute is in the realm of legal research and case prediction. By processing vast amounts of historical case data, AI can offer predictive analysis of potential case outcomes, facilitating lawyers in their case strategy. Machine learning algorithms can also be employed to sift through extensive databases of legislation, case law, and legal literature to generate relevant research material swiftly and accurately. As these technologies mature, we can

expect to see smarter, faster, and more precise legal research tools.

The automation of document creation and review will also be further enhanced by generative AI. Currently, AI tools are being utilized to draft and review contracts, wills, and other legal documents, significantly saving time and minimizing human error. Looking ahead, these technologies will evolve to handle more complex and nuanced legal documents. We may even see AI systems that can learn an individual lawyer's or a law firm's drafting style and adapt accordingly, leading to highly personalized and efficient drafting tools.

Client interaction is another area ripe for AI intervention. As generative AI models become better at understanding and replicating human language, AI-powered virtual legal assistants will become increasingly sophisticated. These digital aides will be capable of answering a wide range of legal queries, scheduling appointments, and even guiding clients through various legal processes, thereby enhancing the client-lawyer relationship.

The adoption of generative AI will democratize access to legal services. By automating routine legal tasks and making legal advice more readily available, AI can help to lower the cost of legal services, making them more accessible to those who traditionally could not afford them. This could lead to a more equitable legal landscape where quality legal support is not just the privilege of a few.

However, the future of generative AI in the legal profession is not without its challenges. Concerns around ethics, privacy, and the reliability of AI-generated content continue to surface. It will be incumbent upon the legal profession and regulatory bodies to formulate robust guidelines and regulations to govern the use of AI, ensuring its ethical and responsible application.

As AI continues to automate routine tasks, it will inevitably change the nature of the roles within the legal profession. Lawyers will need to shift their focus to more complex, strategic aspects of legal work that require a human touch, such as counselling, negotiation, and courtroom advocacy. Continuous learning and upskilling will become a prerequisite for legal professionals to stay abreast with these changes.

The future of Generative AI in the legal profession is one of immense potential and inevitable challenges. By embracing this technology, the legal industry stands to enhance efficiency, precision, and accessibility, while also reshaping the roles of legal professionals. As we navigate this transformative journey, a thoughtful and considered approach will be key to leveraging the benefits of AI while addressing its challenges, ensuring a future where technology and human expertise coalesce for the betterment of the legal profession.

Embracing the Future

Understanding Generative AI's Role in the Legal Field

Welcome to an exploration of the future of Artificial Intelligence, particularly Generative AI, and its transformative impact on the legal profession. This document is aimed at legal professionals, and anyone interested in the intersection of AI and law, offering an overview of AI, Generative AI, their business challenges, and how they are reshaping the legal sector.

Johan Steyn is a Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence advocate and thought leader. He was recognised by Swiss Cognitive as one of the top 50 global voices on AI. He is a Research Fellow at the School of Data Science and Computational Thinking at Stellenbosch University and an Adjunct Professor at the School of Business at Woxsen University. He was a finalist for the 2022 IT Personality of the Year Award.

