

Current status and trends of technology, methods, and applications of Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII): A bibliometric research

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Abstract

This study delves into Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII), a burgeoning interdisciplinary feld that builds upon traditional Human–Computer Interaction (HCI) by integrating advanced technologies like Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning (ML). In this paper, we scrutinize 5,781 HCII papers published between 2000 and 2023, narrowing our focus to 803 most relevant articles to construct co-citation and interdisciplinary networks based on the CiteSpace Software. Our fndings reveal that the publications of the United States and China are relatively high with 558 and 616 publications respectively. Furthermore, we found that machine learning and deep learning have emerged as the prevalent methodologies in HCII, which currently emphasizes multimodal emotion recognition, facial expression recognition, and NLP. We predict that HCII will be integrated into advanced applications such as neural-based interactive games and multisensory environments. In sum, our analysis underscores HCII's role in advancing artifcial intelligence, facilitating more intuitive and efficient human–computer interactions, and its prospective societal impact. We hope that our review and analysis may guide the eforts of researchers aiming to contribute to HCII and develop more powerful and intelligent methods, tools, and applications.

Keywords Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction · Human–Computer Interaction · Artifcial intelligence · Bibliometric Research · CiteSpace

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1 Introduction

With the rise of artifcial intelligence (AI), the feld of Human–Computer Interaction (HCI) has undergone significant transformations, leading to more intuitive and efficient human–computer collaborations. Notably, Tesla's Optimus Prime humanoid robot enhances human productivity and operational efficiency, while Apple's Apple Vision Pro mixed-reality headset provides a multisensory, immersive user experience [\[1](#page-27-0), [2](#page-27-1)]. The advancements in Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Computer Vision are instrumental in these developments, presenting both opportunities and challenges in HCI [\[3–](#page-27-2)[5\]](#page-27-3). At the same time, a new paradigm known as Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII) has arisen, driven by the combined efforts of AI and HCI research [[6](#page-27-4)]. Unlike traditional HCI, HCII focuses on the naturalization and humanization of interactions, particularly in complex and specialized application domains. The application of HCII, augmented by AIcentric methodologies, has demonstrated innovative solutions and feasibility across various sectors. These include healthcare $[7-12]$ $[7-12]$ $[7-12]$, smart home systems $[13, 14]$ $[13, 14]$ $[13, 14]$ $[13, 14]$ $[13, 14]$, transportation [[15](#page-28-1)[–21\]](#page-28-2), intelligent manufacturing [[22](#page-28-3)–[25](#page-28-4)], educational frameworks [\[26,](#page-28-5) [27\]](#page-28-6), and interactive gaming [[28](#page-28-7)–[30](#page-28-8)]. The evolution in HCI and the progress of HCII have captured the attention of interdisciplinary researchers, revealing the critical role of AI in shaping the future landscape of human–computer interactions. Recent advancements in Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII) have yielded a plethora of applications in diverse domains, including emotion and gesture recognition methods [[33](#page-28-9)[–41\]](#page-29-0), as well as the integration of Augmented Reality (AR) in healthcare, education, and industrial settings [[42](#page-29-1)[–45\]](#page-29-2). These technologies will enable users to have more natural and immersive interactions with computers. Users will be able to operate computers or other digital devices using natural gestures, and they can also connect human thoughts to computers through braincomputer interfaces, facilitating a more direct and efficient mode of interaction. These technologies will signifcantly make our lives more convenient and intelligent. Despite these strides, a confation often exists between HCII and its predecessor, Human–Computer Interaction (HCI), resulting in a vague understanding of their distinct characteristics among the general public and even within the academic community.

To bridge this gap and shed light on the evolutionary trajectory and future directions of HCII, this study employs CiteSpace [\[46\]](#page-29-3) to conduct a comprehensive analysis spanning literature of two decades (2000–2023). The review and analysis are structured around the following three aspects: (1) Understanding the relationships and diferences among HCII, AI, and HCI, particularly focusing on how AI-driven methodologies have transformed HCII from traditional HCI paradigms; (2) Mapping the geographical and institutional contributions to HCII, providing a nuanced understanding of research interests and academic engagements across nations and academic communities; (3) Predicting potential important areas for HCII applications and highlight emerging avenues for innovation. By addressing these aspects, this study aims to provide a rigorous academic framework that can guide and inform future efforts in HCII research and applications.

This study represents a novel endeavor in the Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII) research landscape, leveraging CiteSpace software for the analysis and visualization of literature. This innovative methodology enables an unprecedented, nuanced understanding of HCII's evolving research themes, hotspots, and international scholarly collaborations. The analysis addresses existing challenges of correlation and clustering in conventional HCII research, thereby ofering a robust analytical lens to capture the dynamism and trends shaping this rapidly growing feld. The contributions of this study are three-fold: (1) This paper rigorously defnes HCII, elucidates its symbiotic relationship with Artifcial Intelligence (AI) technologies, and outlines the architectural paradigms and technical methodologies underpinning human–computer intelligent interactions; (2) Utilizing the CiteSpace Software, this paper visualizes and scrutinizes HCII-related literature spanning two decades. The analysis yields critical insights into emergent research hotspots, thematic clusters, and longitudinal trends in the HCII domain; (3) This paper prognosticates future trajectories for HCII, identifying prospective intelligent interaction paradigms and methodologies, thereby informing researchers with strategic directions and conceptual scafolding for future research eforts. In summary, this study aims to act as a foundational reference, providing both a thorough overview of current HCII research and a forward-thinking viewpoint to steer future academic and practical efforts.

The paper proceeds as follows. Section [2](#page-2-0) provides a critical review of existing literature on HCII, Artifcial Intelligence (AI) algorithms, and the modifcations and applications that have evolved in HCII. Section [3](#page-7-0) elaborates on the methodology employed in the study, focusing on the data screening processes, database creation, and the utilization of CiteSpace as the analytical tool. Section [4](#page-9-0) presents the study's results, featuring analyses of literature growth trends, collaborative networks, co-citation structures, and disciplinary intersections within HCII research. Section [5](#page-24-0) discusses the empirical fndings, drawing connections to existing literature and theorizing on their implications for the feld of HCII. Finally, Section [6](#page-26-0) concludes the paper, offering recommendations for future research directions in HCII.

2 Background and related work

2.1 Intelligent human–computer interaction

Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII) represents an interdisciplinary confuence of Artifcial Intelligence (AI) and Human–Computer Interaction (HCI) technologies [[4](#page-27-8)]. At its core, HCII aims to enhance computational system performance through the integration of AI methodologies [[47](#page-29-4)]. The overarching objective shared by both HCII and HCI is the optimization of the user experience [\[48\]](#page-29-5). AI technology encompasses a suite of algorithms and computational models designed to emulate human cognition and decision-making processes [\[49\]](#page-29-6). Prominent among these are machine learning (ML), natural language processing (NLP), and computer vision (CV). Conversely, HCI focuses on the design principles and implementation strategies that facilitate effective and efficient interaction between humans and computational systems [[50](#page-29-7)]. These interactions may employ a myriad of modalities, including but not limited to, visual cues, auditory signals, haptic feedback, and gestural inputs [[51](#page-29-8), [52](#page-29-9)]. The symbiotic relationship between AI and HCI gives rise to the HCII domain, as illustrated in Fig. [1.](#page-3-0) Specifcally, AI-driven techniques such as ML and NLP can be harnessed to refne HCI elements, thereby fostering smarter user interfaces, task automation, and personalized interaction experiences [[53](#page-29-10)]. This synergy further catalyzes the development and application of avant-garde technologies, including autonomous vehicular systems.

Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI) represent a specialized facet of Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII). These interfaces serve as platforms not just for information exchange but also as adaptive, user-centric operational environments. Through advancements in smart HCI technologies, IUI has given rise to multimodal forms, revolutionizing the realm of user

Fig. 1 The relationship between AI and HCI in human–computer intelligence interaction

interfaces [\[54](#page-29-11)]. These environments dynamically adjust layout, content, and interaction pathways based on user needs and behaviors, thus optimizing efficiency, efficacy, and naturalness [[55](#page-29-12)–[57\]](#page-30-0). Moreover, IUIs employ sophisticated modeling techniques, encompassing user, domain, task, conversation, and media models, to facilitate nuanced forms of interaction [\[58](#page-30-1), [59](#page-30-2)].

Contrastingly, Human–Computer Dialogue Systems extend the scope of intelligent interactions by focusing on natural language-based communication [\[60](#page-30-3)]. Unlike HCII, which primarily aims for efficient and effective interactions, these systems deploy Natural Language Processing (NLP) technologies to simulate natural conversational dynamics. These dialogue systems find extensive application in sectors like voice-activated assistants [\[11\]](#page-27-9), intelligent customer service $[61]$ $[61]$, and chatbots $[27]$ $[27]$.

Human–computer dialogue systems deploy a multi-tiered architectural framework to manage the complexity of information sensing, processing, decision-making, and control, ultimately culminating in application-specifc functionalities [[62\]](#page-30-5) (Fig. [2\)](#page-4-0). Sensor Layer: Constituting the foundational tier, the sensor layer captures a variety of human inputs, including vocal cues, visual data, and gestural signals, through specialized hardware such as microphones, cameras, and other sensors. Signal Processing Layer: As the subsequent layer, this module is tasked with the computational analysis of data amassed by the sensor layer. It employs algorithms for speech, image, and gesture recognition, serving as the bridge between raw data and actionable insights. Intelligent Decision-Making Layer: Leveraging the processed signals, this layer utilizes a range of machine learning, deep learning, and natural language processing algorithms to facilitate autonomous decision-making and control mechanisms. Interactive Interface Layer: Situated above the decision-making layer, this tier is responsible for presenting the processed information to the user. It accommodates various forms of user feedback through multiple interfaces, including graphical, vocal, and gestural pathways. Application Layer: Representing the apex of this architectural model, the application layer executes specifc functionalities based on synthesized information and user interactions, thereby realizing the system's ultimate objectives.

Fig. 2 HCII's fve levels of application architecture

2.2 AI algorithms in human–computer intelligent interaction

Machine Learning Algorithms (ML) [[63\]](#page-30-6) Encompassing supervised, unsupervised, and semi-supervised learning paradigms, these algorithms fnd applications in tasks such as classifcation, clustering, and predictive modeling.

Deep Learning Algorithms (DL) [\[64](#page-30-7)] Incorporating architectures like convolutional neural networks (CNNs), recurrent neural networks (RNNs), and generative adversarial networks (GANs), these algorithms are instrumental in image recognition and natural language processing tasks.

Decision tree algorithms These algorithms facilitate classifcation and predictive analytics by recursively partitioning feature spaces and constructing decision trees.

Support Vector Machines (SVM) Employed for classifcation and regression tasks, SVM algorithms map data into high-dimensional spaces to identify optimal hyperplanes for classifcation.

Clustering algorithms Algorithms such as K-means and hierarchical clustering serve to uncover the intrinsic structures within datasets by grouping them into clusters.

Reinforcement learning algorithms These algorithms enable agents to learn optimal decision-making strategies through a system of rewards and penalties.

2.3 Evolution and diversifcation of HCII: From HCI to multimodal interactions

Traditional HCI primarily emphasized visual interactions via interface operating systems to meet user requirements [[70](#page-30-8)]. The subsequent advent of voice interaction technology marked a pivotal junction, fostering collaboration between HCI and AI disciplines [[71](#page-30-9)]. As the feld evolved into HCII, researchers have increasingly harnessed AI techniques to explore a plethora of interaction modalities. Firstly, HCII accentuates natural user interfaces, facilitating interactions through speech, gestures, and facial expressions rather than conventional devices like mice and keyboards [[65](#page-30-10), [66\]](#page-30-11). This naturalistic interface design aligns more closely with human behavior, thereby enriching user experience and interaction efficiency.

Secondly, HCII leverages AI-driven technologies capable of intelligent recognition and physiological signal analysis [\[51,](#page-29-8) [52](#page-29-9)], thereby achieving nuanced understanding of user intentions and requirements. This level of understanding enables the provision of highly personalized and intelligent services.

Moreover, HCII integrates multimodal interactions [\[58,](#page-30-1) [67\]](#page-30-12), such as simultaneous voice and gesture recognition, amplifying the flexibility and efficacy of the interactive experience.

Lastly, emotional interaction capabilities have been incorporated [\[68,](#page-30-13) [69\]](#page-30-14), allowing the system to recognize and respond to users' emotional states through vocal and facial cues, thereby delivering a more empathetic user experience. The outcomes have been transformative, diversifying HCII implementations into the following categories: Voice Interaction: Facilitates verbal communication between users and systems; Visual Interaction: Involves graphical or image-based interfaces; Gesture Interaction: Utilizes human gestures for nonverbal communication; Multimodal Interaction: Incorporates multiple interaction channels simultaneously, such as voice and gesture [\[58,](#page-30-1) [67](#page-30-12)]; Emotional Interaction: Employs sentiment analysis algorithms to interpret user emotions for more empathetic user experiences [[68](#page-30-13), [69\]](#page-30-14).

In terms of cross-domain applications, HCII technologies are gaining traction across a wide range of sectors, including healthcare, smart homes, transportation, intelligent manufacturing, education, and interactive gaming. In these domains, HCII is principally employed for control, monitoring, administration, and service delivery. Core methodologies include: Recognition Technologies: Used for identifying voice, image, and gesture inputs; Machine Learning and Natural Language Processing: Employed for decision-making and language interpretation; Data Analytics: Utilized for extracting actionable insights

from large datasets; Virtual Reality Technologies: Employed for immersive user experiences; Sensor Technologies: Used for capturing a wide range of physical data; User Interface Design: Focuses on creating intuitive and user-friendly interfaces.

- (1) Voice Interaction Originating from spoken dialogue systems, voice interaction leverages technologies such as speech recognition, natural language comprehension, dialogue management, and speech synthesis [[72](#page-30-15)]. The ubiquity and convenience of speech have propelled voice interaction into mainstream application technologies. Voice-controlled interfaces have found signifcant applications in vehicle control [[13](#page-27-7), [17\]](#page-28-10), autonomous driving [[73](#page-30-16)], and domestic settings [[11](#page-27-9)], enhancing naturalness and precision in user interfaces [[74](#page-30-17)]. Emotional cues in voice serve as invaluable data for emotion recognition algorithms [[75](#page-30-18), [76\]](#page-30-19).
- (2) Visual Interaction: Visual interaction is integrally related to Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI), relying on cameras, sensors, and other hardware to facilitate human–machine visual communication. Innovations like virtual reality [[29](#page-28-11)–[31](#page-28-12)], augmented reality [[30](#page-28-8), [77](#page-30-20)], and digital twin technology [[78](#page-30-21)[–81](#page-30-22)] have expanded the scope of visual interaction. Its application areas include medical imaging [\[41\]](#page-29-0), robot control [[20,](#page-28-13) [21](#page-28-2)], and vehicle safety [\[14](#page-28-0)[–16](#page-28-14)].
- (3) Gesture Interaction: Gesture interaction encompasses a variety of non-verbal cues such as movements and signs [[51](#page-29-8)]. Due to the inherent complexity in gesture recognition [\[82](#page-31-0)], AI algorithms coupled with machine learning techniques are employed to enhance recognition accuracy. Gesture-based interactions are particularly relevant in robotics, somatosensory games, virtual reality, and sign language recognition [\[68,](#page-30-13) [83\]](#page-31-1). Research in this domain often focuses on pose estimation $[84]$ $[84]$ $[84]$, motion capture $[85, 86]$ $[85, 86]$ $[85, 86]$ $[85, 86]$, and gesture classifcation.
- (4) Multimodal and Emotional Interaction: Multimodal interaction fuses multiple interaction modalities to offer a more natural and efficacious user experience. Emotional interactions often leverage multimodal recognition algorithms, utilizing facial and speech recognition to model emotional states [\[69](#page-30-14), [87–](#page-31-5)[90\]](#page-31-6). Extensive research is underway in innovative applications such as personality-based fnancial advisory systems [\[91](#page-31-7)], personalized smart clothing [\[92\]](#page-31-8), interactive cultural heritage communities [[93\]](#page-31-9), and Alzheimer's disease recognition through multimodal fusion [\[94](#page-31-10)].

2.4 Related work

Similar studies from the past ten years to this paper's topic are [[4](#page-27-8), [95](#page-31-11), [96\]](#page-31-12). First, Bumak et al. [[95](#page-31-11)] identifed and analyzed the research on HCII and Intelligent User Interface (IUI) between 2010 and 2021, concluding that deep learning and instance-based AI methods and algorithms are the most commonly used by researchers. Support Vector Machines (SVMs) are the most popular algorithms for recognising emotions, facial expressions, and gestures, whereas Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are the most popular deep learning algorithms for recognition techniques. Quantitative studies have mapped the extant sensors, techniques, and algorithms used in HCII, but there are fewer quantitative studies and forecasts of future trends, which have not yet been scientifcally summarised. The combination of CNN and Long Short-Term Memory Network (LSTM) can signifcantly enhance the accuracy and precision of action recognition. With the proliferation of interactive devices such as AR/VR, they predict that diverse sensors will be combined to store and control more complicated processes. They imply that smarter human–computer interaction may

be used in some public areas, and that virtual reality glasses will be used in entertainment, gaming, and industrial manufacturing, but they have not yet specifed existing application scenarios with corresponding technical approaches. Karpov et al. [\[96\]](#page-31-12) conducted a study on the future of cognitive interfaces and the most recent HCI technologies. Similar to [[95](#page-31-11)], they simultaneously analyzed and reviewed HCII and IUI; however, the former focuses more on investigating the technology of human–computer interaction, whereas the latter focuses on the user interface. Examining the progression of user interfaces from command text to graphics to intelligent unimodal and multimodal user interfaces. It also analyses the development of multimodal interfaces between countries and derives some conclusions about HCI systems for people with disabilities and the trend towards "human-to-human" interaction.

In addition, there are a number of related and comparable review articles, such as the systematic review of HCII and AI in healthcare [[97](#page-31-13)], the research progress between human–computer interaction and intelligent robots [[98](#page-31-14)], and human–computer interaction and evaluation in AI conversational agents [\[99,](#page-31-15) [100](#page-31-16)]. There is no research that summarises the overall development of human–computer intelligent interaction and related application areas and popular trends. This paper seeks to comprehend the existing hot technologies and application areas in the feld of human–computer intelligent interaction, to create a series of hot knowledge maps using bibliometric techniques, and to investigate the emerging methods and technologies of human–computer intelligent interaction as well as the future application scenarios.

3 Methodology

3.1 Database selection and search strategy

The Web of Science (WoS) Core Collection was elected as the primary database for this research, owing to its comprehensive and reliable citation indexing for scholarly literature across scientifc and technical domains [[63](#page-30-6)]. This database was favored for its high-quality content and its capability for detailed categorization of retrieved data, encompassing attributes such as title, author, institution, and publication type. The search query was formulated to capture articles pertinent to "Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction." Given the overlapping thematic scopes of "Artifcial Intelligence" and "Human–Computer Interaction," these terms were included in the query. Further specifcity was aforded by incorporating "Machine Learning" and "Deep Learning" into the search criteria. The fnal query string was thus constructed as follows: Initial search outcomes were refned by applying category-based flters, such as "Computer Science," "Electrical and Electronic Engineering," "Human Engineering," "Psychology," "Multidisciplinary Engineering," among others. Figure [3](#page-8-0) shows the screening process of the literature in this paper. This step was implemented to exclude non-relevant literature in disparate felds like chemistry. This exercise resulted in an initial pool of 5,781 articles. Subsequently, articles appearing in journals not directly aligned with the thematic focus of HCII were excluded. Examples of such journals include but are not limited to "Lecture Notes in Computer Science," "Institute of Electrical Engineers Access," and "Sensors," yielding a fnal corpus of 803 papers. A meticulous manual screening process was conducted, wherein articles were evaluated based on their title, abstract, and keywords. The screening was narrowed to cover HCII-specifc tasks such as data mining, signal processing, feature recognition, and recommendation models, within

Fig. 3 Literature screening and utilization process

applicative domains like healthcare, smart homes, transportation, and education. A comprehensive analysis was subsequently carried out on a curated subset of 180 scholarly articles, aimed at encapsulating the existing paradigms in user-interface interactions and future directions in the feld.

3.2 Bibliometric analysis and knowledge mapping

This study adopts a bibliometric approach combined with knowledge mapping to elucidate the current state, emergent trends, and future trajectories in the domain of Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII). Knowledge mapping is an interdisciplinary methodology designed to visualize, analyze, and interpret patterns in scientifc literature, thereby contributing to the broader field of scientometrics $[101, 102]$ $[101, 102]$. There are many visualisation tools that can be used as knowledge graphs, such as VOSviewer [[103\]](#page-31-19), SciMAT [[104](#page-31-20)], etc., but CiteSpace is currently the more popular and powerful tool. We employ CiteSpace, a software application designed for the interactive and exploratory analysis of scientifc felds. It is particularly useful for generating visual co-citation networks and conducting collaborative analyses across authors, institutions, and nations $[105]$. The software also facilitates co-occurrence analyses of terms, keywords, and subject categories, as well as co-citation analyses of referenced literature, authors, and journals [\[46\]](#page-29-3). CiteSpace ofers Betweenness Centrality (BC) as a metric for identifying pivot nodes in a scientifc network. The BC value is calculated based on the shortest paths connecting the node of interest to all other nodes in the network [\[106\]](#page-32-0). The time-zone graph feature in CiteSpace provides a temporal perspective on the dataset, enabling the identifcation of citation bursts and emergent research trends [[106](#page-32-0)]. This tool has been widely applied in research felds such as sustainability and urban studies $[107–109]$ $[107–109]$ $[107–109]$ $[107–109]$ $[107–109]$. Figure [4](#page-9-1) depicts the methodological process of using the CiteSpace tool. To achieve the research objectives, several parameters

Fig. 4 CiteSpace visualization and analysis process

in CiteSpace — including time slices, node types, links, selection criteria, and pruning methods—were carefully confgured during the analytical process [[110\]](#page-32-3). The study uses CiteSpace to create various types of visual networks, including collaborative networks among countries, authors, and institutions; co-citation networks that highlight clusters of cited literature; and disciplinary category symbiosis networks that reveal the interconnections among key knowledge domains.

4 Results

4.1 Trends in literature growth

Figure [5](#page-10-0) offers a comprehensive statistical analysis based on the initial screening of 5,781 articles. The scholarly output in the Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII) domain appears to have evolved through three distinct developmental phases: an exploratory phase from 2000 to 2013, an initial development phase from 2014 to 2016, and a rapid growth phase from 2017 to 2022. During the exploratory phase, a total of 872 papers were published, accounting for approximately 15% of the total literature, indicating the feld was in its nascent stage. The initial development phase was relatively short-lived, signaling a swift uptick in research interest. The rapid growth phase,

1000

Fig. 5 Research and development trends in HCII domain data

stretching from 2017 to 2022, saw a substantial increase in applied research related to HCII. The average annual growth rate of the literature was around 100 articles during this period. Specifcally, the years 2020, 2021, and 2022 witnessed the publication of approximately 800, 883, and 913 papers, respectively. Publications in this stage make up 72.4% of the entire dataset. Given the current trajectory, it is hypothesized that scholarly contributions to the HCII feld will likely continue to proliferate at an accelerated rate.

4.2 Analysis of cooperation networks

A network analysis of author collaborations was undertaken, based on the initial screening of 5,781 articles, to identify patterns of cooperation among authors in the HCII domain.

4.2.1 Study author association analysis

Figure [6](#page-11-0) presents a visual network graph generated using CiteSpace, where each node symbolizes an individual author. The graph reveals that 713 authors have engaged in HCII-related research, resulting in 410 collaborative instances. The density of this collaboration network is measured at 0.0016, suggesting that scholarly cooperation in this field is relatively limited. Most contributions appear to be independent efforts, without the formation of extensive, collaborative research teams.

Table [1](#page-11-1) lists the top 10 prolifc authors, ranked by their publication count. The most active author in this realm has contributed to nine relevant papers, and all authors in the top 10 have published at least four articles. This analysis underscores the current state of collaboration within the HCII feld, indicating that although the feld is growing, it has yet to develop extensive networks of academic cooperation.

Fig. 6 Network diagram of research authors in the HCII domain of the WoS core database

Table 1 Top 10 research authors in the HCII domain of the WoS core database

4.2.2 Collaborative linkage analysis of research institutions

In this section, the focus shifts to the network of collaborations among research institutions engaged in HCII studies. Figure [7](#page-12-0) provides a visual depiction of this network, where each node represents an institution. The size of each node is proportional to the institution's publication count, while the links between nodes signify collaborative endeavors. An analysis reveals that 602 institutions have participated in HCII research, resulting in 466 instances of inter-institutional collaboration. The density of this

Fig. 7 Collaborative network of research institutions in the HCII area of the WoS core database

network is calculated to be 0.0026, which is notably higher than the author collaboration network, indicating tighter institutional linkages.

Table [2](#page-13-0) lists the top 10 research institutions based on their publication output. Among them, 80 key research institutions have published at least fve articles in the HCII domain. The Chinese Academy of Sciences leads the pack with 36 publications over the past two decades. It is followed by Korea University, Zhejiang University, King Saud University, Tsinghua University, Carnegie Mellon University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Arizona State University, Vellore Institute of Technology, and Shanghai Jiao Tong University, each contributing more than 10 articles.

The data suggests that while a multitude of institutions are active in HCII research, their eforts are relatively dispersed. Despite the high level of interest and attention from these institutions, there is room for enhancing collaboration and synergies. Currently, there are few institutions that have emerged as defnitive leaders in the feld.

In the last two years, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) has concentrated its eforts on several key areas within the realm of Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII). These focus areas include: CAS has been exploring the fusion of various interaction modalities to create a more natural and efective user experience. The institute

of Articles

9 Vellore Inst Technol 2020 12 10 Shanghai Jiao Tong Univ 2020 11

Table 2 Top 10 coope organizations in the H the WoS core database

has been particularly active in this domain. Researchers have employed Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) to extract and classify implicit features from normalized facial images. Techniques such as facial cropping and rotation have been deployed to optimize CNN architectures, thereby enhancing the efficiency of facial expression recognition systems [[111](#page-32-4)]. Tang Y et al. introduced a frequency neural network (FreNet) as a pioneering approach in frequency-based facial expression recognition [\[115\]](#page-32-5), achieving superior performance [\[89,](#page-31-22) [114](#page-32-6)]. CAS has also delved into the creation of human models, particularly in the context of gesture detection [\[113](#page-32-7)] and 3D spatio-temporal skeleton rendering [[7,](#page-27-5) [112](#page-32-8)]. Research at CAS has resulted in innovative medical applications based on deep learning models. These include: Skeleton-based human body recognition, facilitating 3D rendering of spatio-temporal skeletons [[7\]](#page-27-5); Surgical robots controllable via eye movements [[8,](#page-27-10) [9](#page-27-11)]; Pulse cumulative image mapping techniques using CNNs to accurately measure real heart rates $[10, 11]$ $[10, 11]$ $[10, 11]$ $[10, 11]$. Promising results have been achieved using recurrent neural networks for the recognition and classifcation of EEG signals, contributing to the feld of afective computing.

Overall, the extensive research portfolio of CAS manifests its leadership in the HCII domain, particularly in applying machine learning and deep learning techniques to tackle complex, real-world problems.

The second major contributor to the feld of Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII) is a Korean university. Their research is largely application-driven, targeting the improvement of human–computer interaction and user interfaces in smart sensing devices and virtual systems. Below are some of the key focus areas: Virtual Reality Sports [\[116](#page-32-9)]: Development of immersive virtual reality experiences tailored for sports. Gaming Fitness [[26\]](#page-28-5): Leveraging gaming elements to enhance physical ftness training. Interactive Sports Training Strategy [\[117](#page-32-10)]: Utilizing sensor data and machine learning algorithms to develop personalized and efective sports training strategies. AI Agent System for Multiple Vehicles [[17\]](#page-28-10): Deployment of intelligent agents to manage feets of vehicles. Real-time Bus Management System [[18](#page-28-15)]: Utilizing data mining technologies for real-time management and optimization of bus services. Self-driving Car Takeover Performance [[19](#page-28-16)]: Evaluating the efficiency and reliability of human takeover in selfdriving cars through machine learning techniques. Facial Recognition [[118\]](#page-32-11): Research into advanced facial recognition technologies for various medical applications. Gesture

Recognition [[119\]](#page-32-12): Active investigation into gesture-based control and monitoring systems for healthcare applications.

Overall, the research emanating from this Korean university demonstrates a strong orientation towards applied HCII. The primary focus is on the recognition, extraction, and classifcation of human behaviors. This research is not only innovative but also fnds practical applications in critical sectors like healthcare and transportation. The work contributes to the broader goal of making human–computer interaction more natural, efficient, and benefcial across various domains.

4.2.3 Global distribution of research contributions by country

The geographic distribution of research contributions serves as an indicator of a country's signifcance and infuence in a specifc feld. Moreover, international collaboration is instrumental in fostering innovation and making strides in research. In this analysis, countries are represented as nodes, and metrics such as the number of publications and betweenness centrality are computed. Figure [8](#page-14-0) presents a symbiotic network diagram that outlines the global distribution of HCII research contributions. The network revealed that: A total of 101 countries have engaged in HCII research $(N=101)$. These countries have collaborated 374 times $(E=374)$. The collaboration density is calculated to be 0.741, signifying a high level of international collaboration. China, the United States, and France emerged as the most interconnected nations in this domain, each contributing 7 articles. This attests to a vibrant academic environment in HCII within these countries. Table [3](#page-15-0) extracts the top 15 nations based on their publication counts: China (616 publications) and the United States (558 publications) lead the pack with substantial contributions exceeding 500 publications each. Betweenness centrality values indicate that the U.S.(0.75) has a slightly higher infuence compared to China (0.55) in the feld. While Germany and France

Fig. 8 Global distribution of research countries in the HCII domain of the WoS core database

Serial No	Country or Area	Year of Debut	Number of Articles	Centrality
1	PEOPLES R CHINA	2000	616	0.55
$\overline{2}$	USA	2000	558	0.22
3	INDIA	2012	185	0.00
4	ENGLAND	2000	182	0.23
5	GERMANY	2000	179	0.44
6	SOUTH KOREA	2000	153	0.04
7	ITALY	2003	138	0.12
8	SPAIN	2004	135	0.11
9	AUSTRALIA	2000	96	0.19
10	JAPAN	2000	92	0.24
11	CANADA	2000	88	0.00
12	SAUDI ARABIA	2002	86	0.18
13	FRANCE	2014	84	0.49
14	TAIWAN	2000	72	0.26
15	PAKISTAN	2000	51	0.27

Table 3 Top 15 countries in the HCII area of the WoS core database

have fewer publications, their higher centrality scores indicate that their research contributions are of high quality and serve as pivotal nodes in the global HCII research network. In summary, the HCII feld enjoys a rich tapestry of international contributions, with China being the most prolifc contributor both in terms of publications and international collaborations. However, there is room for more active academic cooperation and integration to advance the feld. From a global standpoint, the research output from the United States exerts a greater infuence, whereas China's contributions are more abundant. For the future, there is a pressing need to encourage more diversifed and intelligent development in HCII research across the globe.

4.3 Co‑citation network analysis

Co-citation analysis ofers a lens through which the academic landscape of a feld can be examined in detail. Based on the 803 articles screened during the second phase, this section conducts both publication co-citation and literature co-citation analyses in the feld of Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII).

4.3.1 Publication co‑citation analysis

The co-citation of publications serves as a valuable metric for identifying infuential work within a scientifc domain. Academic publications constitute the building blocks of any research feld, and analyzing them can guide both researchers and practitioners toward seminal work in the area. As illustrated in Fig. [9](#page-16-0), nodes in this analysis represent cited journals. The network comprises: A total of 748 nodes $(N=748)$,1,939 links $(E=1,939)$, A collaborative density bit of 0.0069. The size of each node refects the journal's co-citation frequency. Journals with more than 60 co-citations are prominently displayed in the

Fig. 9 Co-citation network map of publications in the HCII domain of the WoS core database

network. Table [4](#page-16-1) describes the top 10 journals in terms of number of publications. Notably, "Lecture Notes in Computer Science" leads the pack with 226 publications, closely followed by "IEEE Access" with 222 citations and "Sensors" with 181 citations. The high

Serial No	Cited Journals	Year of Debut	Citations Count	
1	LECT NOTES COMPUT SCI	2006	226	
2	IEEE ACCESS	2018	222	
3	SENSORS	2014	181	
$\overline{4}$	PROC CVPR JEEE	2016	177	
5	JEEE T PATTERN ANAL	2001	136	
6	ARXIV	2018	133	
7	MULTIMED TOOLS APPL	2015	108	
8	IEEEI CONF COMP VIS	2016	94	
9	NEUROCOMPUTING	2015	94	
10	EXPERT SYST APPL	2002	85	

Table 4 Top 10 publications in the HCII area of the WoS core database

co-citation frequency of these core journals suggests that they publish research that is both in-depth and exhaustive. Their high co-citation count is indicative of their signifcant contributions to the feld and their value as reliable sources of high-impact research (Table [5](#page-17-0)).

4.3.2 Literature co‑citation analysis

Literature co-citation analysis serves as an invaluable tool for understanding the intellectual structure of a scientifc feld. By examining the co-citation relationships between academic articles, this analytical approach uncovers the seminal works that have shaped the feld, identifes infuential technologies, and elucidates current trends. The references within the HCII feld are conceptualized as nodes to form a co-citation network, as illustrated in Fig. [10.](#page-18-0) The network exhibits the following characteristics: 706 nodes $(N=706)$,1,870 links $(E=1,870)$, A collaborative density of 0.0075. Overall, the network reveals a robust pattern of citation relationships, highlighting an environment of interdisciplinary learning and cross-citation. The most frequently cited literature in the HCII feld includes, as shown in fg. [5:](#page-10-0) He, Kaiming, et al.(2016) with 26 citations, Simonyan, K. with 17 citations, Vaswani, A. with 15 citations. These works predominantly focus on foundational artifcial intelligence algorithms and architectures, especially those based on machine learning and deep learning. These algorithms are often deployed for tasks involving image and language recognition and classifcation. Specifcally, they frequently employ convolutional neural networks as the basis for more advanced algorithms [\[120](#page-32-13), [121\]](#page-32-14). The prominence of these works suggests that they have contributed significantly to the development and advancement of the HCII feld. By identifying these cornerstone publications, we can gain a comprehensive understanding of the state-of-the-art technologies and methods that currently shape HCII.

4.4 Analysis of disciplinary symbiotic networks

4.4.1 Keyword co‑occurrence analysis

Keywords serve as the intellectual core of an academic article, encapsulating the paper's primary focus, themes, methodologies, and research scope. They provide a snapshot of the research domain, methodologies, and specifc topics covered. By

N ₀	Cited Literature	Count	Year	DOI
$\mathbf{1}$	He, Kaiming et al.	26	2016	DOI https://doi.org/10.1109/cvpr.2016.90
$\overline{2}$	Simonyan K et al	17	2015	DOI https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1409.1556
3	Vaswani A et al	15	2017	DOI https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1706.03762
$\overline{4}$	Krizhevsky A et al	14	2017	DOIhttps://doi.org/10.1145/3065386
5	Devlin. J et al.	13	2019	DOIhttps://doi.org/10.18653/v1/N19-1423
6	Szegedy C et al	11	2015	DOIhttps://doi.org/10.1109/CVPR.2015.7298594
7	Lawhern VJ et al	10	2018	DOI https://doi.org/10.1088/1741-2552/aace8c
8	Ren SO et al	10	2015	DOI https://doi.org/10.1109/TPAMI.2016.2577031
9	LeCun Y et al	9	2015	DOI https://doi.org/10.1038/nature14539
10	Huang G et al	9	2017	DOI https://doi.org/10.1109/CVPR.2017.243

Table 5 Top 10 cited documents in the HCII domain of the WoS Core Database

Fig. 10 Co-citation network of literature in the HCII domain of the WoS core database

analyzing keyword co-occurrence, we can construct a network graph that refects the thematic concentration of the feld. In Fig. [11](#page-19-0), the size of each node represents the frequency of keyword occurrence. Nodes with purple edges indicate higher centrality values. The larger the purple circle, the more central the keyword is to the feld. The keyword co-occurrence network consists of: 379 Keywords ($N = 379$), 850 Links (E=850), A density of 0.0119.

This indicates a strong interrelation between the keywords, revealing a cohesive and robust correlation network for the HCII feld. Table [6](#page-19-1) lists the top 15 most frequently occurring keywords, their frst year of appearance, their frequency, and their centrality measures. The most frequently occurring keywords are "Deep Learning" and "Machine Learning," with the latter having the highest mediational centrality. This suggests that machine learning serves as a foundational keyword within the feld. Deep learning is commonly applied in areas such as multimodal human–computer interaction [[4](#page-27-8)] and user interface evaluation [\[122](#page-32-15)]. The next most frequent keywords are: Human–Computer Interaction, Feature Extraction, Artifcial Intelligence, Neural Network, Convolutional Neural Network, Model, System, Emotion Recognition, Gesture Recognition.

These keywords suggest that the primary focus of HCII research is on the "human" aspect of human–computer interaction. Specifcally, there is a strong emphasis on recognizing various human senses, postures, and emotions. This is enabled by technologies such as artifcial intelligence, and the most frequently used models aim to optimize the system for enhanced user interface usability and increased HCI efectiveness in a range of tasks. The keyword co-occurrence analysis provides valuable insights into the overarching themes and focal points of HCII research. The analysis reveals a strong emphasis on machine learning technologies, with a particular focus on deep learning, and highlights the role of AI in enhancing human–computer interactions.

Fig. 11 Keyword co-occurrence network diagram for the HCII domain of the WoS core database

Serial No	Keywords	Year of Debut	Frequency	Centrality
1	Deep learning	2015	127	0.06
2	Machine learning	2007	80	0.25
3	Human-computer interaction	2007	72	0.14
4	Feature Extraction	2017	54	0.07
5	Artificial Intelligence	2003	49	0.18
6	Neural Network	2001	43	0.00
7	Convolutional Neural Network	2016	41	0.11
8	Model	2003	38	0.04
9	System	2001	35	0.35
10	Emotion Recognition	2012	34	0.10
11	Gesture Recognition	2016	31	0.01
12	Recognition	2014	31	0.02
13	Classification	2017	30	0.08
14	Design	2014	21	0.09
15	Network	2004	20	0.09

Table 6 Top 15 high-frequency keywords in the HCII domain of the WoS core database

4.4.2 Keyword clustering

Keyword clustering is an advanced technique used to group related keywords together, providing a lens through which to view various research hotspots within the domain. This kind of clustering can reveal the knowledge structure of a given feld, ofering insights into its core components and emergent trends. In this analysis, keywords were clustered using the Log-Likelihood Ratio (LLR) algorithm. The parameter for the "K clusters showing the largest in the cluster" was set to 14 to isolate the top 14 clusters within this research area. This resulted in the keyword clustering map for the HCII research domain shown in Fig. [12.](#page-20-0) Modularity Value = $0.791 > 0.3$, $Q = 0.791 > 0.3$: Indicates that the clusters have a significant structure. Average Silhouette Value = $0.9056 > 0.5$, S = $0.9056 > 0.5$: Suggests that the clusters are well-defined and signifcant. The most prominent clusters identifed were: Data Models (#0), Facial Expression Recognition (#1), Adaptation Models (#2). These clusters indicate that extensive research has been conducted in these specifc areas.

The complete list of clusters, in order of prominence, includes: Data Models (#0), Facial Expression Recognition (#1), Adaptation Models (#2), Performance (#4), Brain-Computer Interface (#5), Artifcial Intelligence (#6), Speech Emotion Recognition (#7), Brain Modeling (#8), Digital Signal Processing (#9), Human–Computer Interaction (#10), Action Recognition (#11), Natural Language Processing (#12), Feature Extraction (#13). The keyword clustering analysis reveals a well-defned and structured feld

Fig. 12 Network diagram of keyword clustering mapping for HCII domains in the WoS core database

with several key areas of focus. This provides a comprehensive overview of the current state of HCII research, highlighting major themes and pointing to potential avenues for future exploration.

A preliminary analysis indicates that current research in the Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII) feld predominantly lies at the intersection of three disciplines: Human Behavior (Cluster 4), Artifcial Intelligence (Cluster 6), Human–Computer Interaction (HCI) (Cluster 10). The primary data source is human behavior, which is integrated with HCI and AI-related knowledge and technology to enhance the efectiveness and user experience of intelligent user interfaces (IUI) [\[123](#page-32-16)]. The remaining clusters can be manually screened and reorganized into fve main groups: Data Processing, Brain-Computer Interface, Multimodal Emotion Recognition, Action Recognition, Language Processing.

- (1) Data Model Processing: Cluster 0 (Data Models): This cluster focuses on the concept of data models, which are tools used in database design to abstract real-world scenarios for better data description [[124](#page-32-17)]. Data models are the core foundation of any database system [[125](#page-32-18)]. In the context of HCII, researchers predominantly use visual data, such as video and still images, or rely on sensor data to acquire target data [\[126\]](#page-32-19). Wearable sensors and computer vision technology are signifcant tools for acquiring human data models [\[127,](#page-32-20) [128\]](#page-32-21). Additionally,3D data models of digitized products often require a depth sensor for data acquisition and processing [[129\]](#page-32-22). Cluster 2 (Adaptation Models): This cluster has gained popularity across various felds recently. Adaptation models serve as one of the most efective ways to improve the performance of data models. They are often used for dataset training in webpage recommendation models [\[130\]](#page-33-0). By recording user behavior during webpage interactions, a fuzzy inference system is constructed to evaluate and continually optimize user experience [[131](#page-33-1)]. Domain adaptation, when applied to complex and large image tasks with the same training dataset, signifcantly improves model performance [[132,](#page-33-2) [133\]](#page-33-3). Within the HCII domain, the AI methods predominantly used are Deep Learning (DL) models, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), Long Short-Term Memory networks (LSTM), and Support Vector Machines (SVM). Researchers employ various network models to acquire datasets, which are then compared and analyzed experimentally. Based on these experiments, suitable models are selected, and optimizations are proposed to improve the precision or robustness of experimental results. In summary, the HCII feld is a multidisciplinary area that has been making signifcant strides in integrating human behavior analytics, artifcial intelligence, and HCI to create more intelligent, efective, and user-friendly interfaces.
- (2) Brain-Computer Interface: Cluster 5 (Brain-Computer Interface): This cluster is an emerging hot topic that bridges the HCII and biomedical felds. It primarily relies on EEG signals to control external devices, incorporating signal processing, classifcation techniques, and control theories to manage complex environments or execute fne motions [[134\]](#page-33-4). Applications often target individuals with paralysis and include Deep Learning (DL) technology-based assistive rehabilitation devices with IoT modules [[61](#page-30-4), [135](#page-33-5)], as well as assistive mobility devices for disabled patients [[136\]](#page-33-6). The technology's success has also fueled the growth of the neurogaming industry. In this context, EEG signals form datasets, Support Vector Machines (SVMs) and Long Short-Term Memory networks (LSTMs) train learning algorithms for in-game decision-making [\[27](#page-28-6)], and sensor devices host the game engine for user testing. Research in brain-computer interaction games primarily targets the enhancement of human–computer interaction

and user experience and is mainly applied to board games like mahjong [[137](#page-33-7)] and backgammon [[75](#page-30-18)].

- (3) Multimodal Emotion Recognition: Cluster 3 (Emotion Recognition): This cluster is a key research area in HCII. Emotion detection enables more natural computer interaction and the design of human-centered user interfaces and systems. The cluster encompasses Cluster 1 (Facial Expression Recognition) and Cluster 7 (Speech Emotion Recognition), both of which are hot topics. Facial expression recognition is particularly robust; it allows for direct assessment of user emotions. Researchers have enhanced the accuracy of such recognition by refning convolutional neural network (CNN) approaches [[88](#page-31-23), [89](#page-31-22)]. Speech emotion recognition, on the other hand, focuses on extracting emotional cues from discourse [\[76\]](#page-30-19) and has shown improved classifcation capabilities with one-dimensional CNNs (1D CNNs). These technologies underscore the importance of speech emotion recognition in intelligent interaction and illustrate that most research in this area employs deep learning techniques to improve data model accuracy [\[90](#page-31-6)]. In line with the multimodal nature of emotion recognition models, existing frameworks like CNN and Gated Recurrent Units (GRU) are also being used to extract emotional features from videos, actions, and even brain activity, aiming to enhance multi-dimensional recognition accuracy [[87,](#page-31-5) [138\]](#page-33-8). Overall, the HCII feld is making strides in integrating advanced AI methodologies with human-centered approaches across various applications, from healthcare and rehabilitation to gaming and emotion recognition. These advances not only improve the user experience but also open new avenues for research and application in real-world scenarios.
- (4) Action Recognition: Cluster 11 (Action Recognition): This cluster has a broad range of applications, including human–computer interaction, healthcare, intelligent surveillance, autonomous driving, and virtual reality. The research within this cluster mainly targets human pose estimation, human action capture, and hand action recognition. Human pose estimation often begins with refning a dataset that captures various joints and key body parts, which can be applied in various studies [[84](#page-31-2)]. There are a growing number of studies focusing on human motion capture and recognition, largely based on deep learning techniques. For example, local error convolutional neural network models [\[85\]](#page-31-3) and hybrid deep learning-based activity recognition models like QWSA-HDLAR [\[86](#page-31-4)] offer significant insights into action recognition.
- (5) Language Processing: Cluster 12 (Natural Language Processing): NLP technologies have been successfully integrated into the HCII feld, especially in dialogue systems across various sectors. These include human-like dialogue systems for industrial robots [[22,](#page-28-3) [23\]](#page-28-17), entertainment chatbots for the elderly to promote digital inclusion [\[32,](#page-28-18) [139](#page-33-9)], smart home systems with voice commands [[12](#page-27-6)], and educational systems [[24](#page-28-19)]. Additionally, there is a wealth of research in text mining and sentiment analysis. For example, semantic networks are being used for humor recognition in text [\[140\]](#page-33-10), evaluations in VR games [\[28](#page-28-7)], and assessments of learning forum discussions [\[25\]](#page-28-4). Image caption generation is another growing area within this cluster [\[141\]](#page-33-11).

The research in the HCII feld is increasingly becoming interdisciplinary, merging advanced computational methods with a deep understanding of human behavior and needs. Whether it is through the lens of action recognition for healthcare and surveillance or natural language processing for more interactive and intuitive user interfaces, the advancements in HCII are setting the stage for a future where technology is not just a tool but an extension of human capability.

4.4.3 Keyword timeline analysis

The keyword timeline serves as a visual tool to track the development, duration, and interconnections among the hotspots in HCII research. By plotting the 14 clusters in a timeline view, as demonstrated in Fig. [13,](#page-23-0) several key insights emerge: Interconnected Research: The clusters within the HCII feld are interconnected, refecting an increasing trend in interdisciplinary studies. Longevity and Impact: Clusters such as #0 data models,#4 performance, and #7 speech emotion recognition have been around for a long time and have remained persistent in the feld. For instance, data models have been pivotal since the early stages of HCII research, indicating their foundational role. Emerging Focus Areas: In recent years, areas like facial expression recognition, brain-computer interface, speech emotion recognition, brain modelling, and natural language processing have gained prominence. While clusters like #1 (facial expression recognition),#5 (brain-computer interface), and #8 (brain modelling) are relatively new, they show strong connections with other clusters, suggesting that they are extensions or innovations based on foundational research and current needs. Leading Clusters: The keywords 'sentiment recognition,' 'model,' 'design,' and 'user interface' frequently appear across the timeline, especially in cluster #3. This indicates the leading role and extensive, highquality research value of cluster #3 in the HCII feld. Bridging Research: Digital signal processing (cluster #9) may have appeared later in the timeline but shows an extended duration and links with other clusters, serving as a bridge in the overall research landscape. These insights not only offer a historical perspective but also help to identify enduring and emerging areas of interest, thereby providing a comprehensive understanding of the feld's evolution. It is clear that as HCII research matures, it is becoming increasingly interdisciplinary, integrating more closely with emerging technologies and user needs.

Fig. 13 WoS core database HCII domain keyword clustering timeline

5 Analysis and discussion of results

5.1 HCII application area hotspot time zone map

The time-zone diagram, depicted in Fig. [14](#page-24-1), focuses on the four most prevalent application areas in HCII research: industrial manufacturing, healthcare, smart homes, and vehicles & transportation. The diagram serves multiple purposes: Identifying Common Hotspots: Keywords like "computational modelling," "programming," and "model" frequently appear across these sectors, signaling these as common areas of research focus. Unveiling Technical Methods: "ML/DL" (Machine Learning/Deep Learning) emerge as hot keywords, indicating that the future of HCII is increasingly intertwined with advancements in artifcial intelligence. Computational modelling stands out as the most commonly used technique. Emotion Computing and Recognition: This has become a signifcant area of interest, especially in healthcare, smart homes, and industrial settings. The potential for emotion recognition technology to be integrated into a broader range of applications is high, aiming for increased accuracy and enhanced user experience. The Rise of IoT: In recent years, the Internet of Things (IoT) has gained signifcant attention, particularly in vehicles, transportation, and industrial applications. IoT technology combined with HCII can revolutionize various sectors: In Transportation: Smart parking, smart navigation, and traffic flow supervision are a few areas where this amalgamation can be benefcial. In Industry: Applications extend to smart warehousing, smart supply chains, and smart robotic arms, among others. In Smart Homes: Home appliance interconnection, home health, and security can be improved through IoT and HCII integration. The time-zone diagram analysis reveals that

Fig. 14 Industrial manufacturing (**a**), healthcare (**b**), smart home (**c**), vehicles and transportation (**d**) with HCII domain keyword time zone map

HCII is moving towards a future deeply integrated with emerging technologies like artifcial intelligence and IoT. Emotion recognition, once limited to specifc contexts, is fnding broader applications and is expected to evolve further. These developments present both opportunities and challenges for HCII research. On one hand, there is enormous potential for breakthroughs in improving human–computer interactions in various sectors. On the other, these advancements also demand a multidisciplinary approach to address complex challenges in data accuracy, user experience, and system integration.

In alignment with the Industry 4.0 paradigm, HCII in this sector is rapidly incorporating digital twin and IoT technologies. Decision tree algorithms, a classical AI technique, are also being applied to optimize manufacturing processes and decision-making. HCII is increasingly prevalent in healthcare, particularly in psychological diagnosis, psychotherapy, and emotional well-being. Brain-computer interface technology is being integrated into HCII and is expected to fnd applications in rehabilitation therapy, neuro-gaming, and telemedicine. HCII research in smart homes spans a broad and complex range, from foundational studies to practical applications, aimed at making homes more interactive, secure, and user-friendly. In this sector, the focus is primarily on human body recognition technologies, like head and facial gesture and action recognition. These technologies aim to improve the robustness and accuracy of HCII systems, leading to more intelligent and natural advanced vehicle systems. This also becomes a challenge for future HCII.

Archaeological site detection [\[142](#page-33-12)] HCII can facilitate the use of AI systems to assist archaeologists in identifying potential sites in aerial or satellite images. Semantic segmentation models can be used to draw accurate maps, enhancing operational efficiency.

Cultural heritage [\[143](#page-33-13)] Digital collections and 3D visualizations are becoming new user requirements. An intelligent framework, built on AI technology, can allow museum visitors to interact virtually with cultural artifacts.

Aerospace [[144\]](#page-33-14) HCII technology could be extremely useful in hazardous fying missions in complex high-altitude environments. AI technology can simulate spatial orientation obstacles and provide enhanced navigation functions. The applications of HCII are not limited to the above-mentioned felds. Future research could extend into space and deep-sea explorations, indicating the limitless potential and versatile applications of HCII. The feld promises to continuously evolve, integrating with other emerging technologies to address increasingly complex human–computer interaction challenges across a myriad of scenarios.

5.2 Research hot spots and trends in HCII

Based on our analysis, the three main centers of contemporary research in Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII) are as follows: Multimodal and Emotion Recognition Technology: The future of HCII lies in developing more diverse databases and achieving higher accuracy and better user experiences. The objective is to make human–computer dialogues and collaborations more natural and akin to "human-to-human" interactions. New Interaction Media and Scenarios: Innovations in interaction mediums like VR glasses and smart medical care are on the horizon. These mediums will likely make interactions more efficient and versatile. Advancements in AI Algorithms: Natural language processing

has already become mainstream in AI, and the continuous improvements in deep learning algorithms are making computerized natural language more robust, accurate, and diverse.

Brain-computer interface development: The integration of neurology and HCII is poised to allow physically handicapped patients to interact with external devices through EEG signals. This would significantly enhance their quality of life and offer applications like multi-modal neuro-interactive games and intelligent rehabilitation devices. Intelligent Human–Computer Interaction Systems: Future systems will have more complex computing capacities. Intelligent User Interfaces (IUIs) will ofer a variety of sensory options and may even become de-physicalized, ofering more natural and intuitive user experiences. Emerging Applications and Industries: HCII systems are expected to fnd applications in various emerging scenarios and industries. These could range from intelligent customer service in the fnancial sector, smart shopping carts in retail, intelligent control of urban facilities, to more realistic and engaging virtual reality interactions in the gaming industry. In summary, the feld of HCII is rapidly evolving, with promising avenues for research and practical applications. The integration of advanced algorithms, new interaction mediums, and multidisciplinary approaches are expected to revolutionize how humans interact with computers, thereby impacting various sectors from healthcare to industrial manufacturing and beyond.

6 Conclusion

This paper ofers a comprehensive analysis of the evolution of Human–Computer Intelligent Interaction (HCII), elucidating its core concepts, defnitions, and research hotspots. It afrms that HCII is a cross-discipline that synergizes Human–Computer Interaction (HCI) and Artifcial Intelligence (AI) technologies. This synergy not only amplifes the capabilities of HCI through AI but also guides the development of AI technology itself, thereby producing signifcant research results across various application scenarios.

There are our main fndings: Interaction Modes: The paper identifes and analyzes the fve primary interaction modes in HCII—voice interaction, visual interaction, gesture interaction, multimodal interaction, and emotional interaction—contrasting them with traditional HCI to ofer a roadmap for future technological advancements in HCII. Research Hotspots: Utilizing CiteSpace for bibliometric analysis, the paper pinpoints the key research areas in HCII over the past fve years, including data processing, brain-computer interfaces, multimodal emotion recognition, action recognition, and language processing. Future Trends: The paper predicts broader application scenarios and greater research value for HCII in the future, particularly in the realms of multimodal interaction and emotion recognition. The development of more accurate algorithms and models, complex databases, and intelligent user interfaces is imminent. Innovations like neural interaction games, multi-sensory interaction, and de-physicalized interfaces are on the horizon. Complex and Natural Interactions: The use of advanced algorithms will likely make HCII systems more intuitive, allowing for more complex and natural interactions between humans and computers. Multimodal Emotion Recognition: Advances in this area will enable more nuanced and efective human–computer interactions, further narrowing the gap between human-tohuman and human-to-computer communication. Societal Contributions: As HCII continues to evolve, it is set to offer more intelligent, intuitive, and efficient methods of interaction, thereby contributing signifcantly to the advancement of various sectors of human society. In summary, HCII is at a pivotal point in its development, with the potential for transformative impact on how humans interact with technology. As it continues to integrate

advancements from both HCI and AI, HCII is poised to revolutionize various sectors, from healthcare to industrial manufacturing, and beyond.

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Data availability My manuscript has data included as electronic supplementary material.

Declarations

Conficts of interest The authors declare that they have no confict of interest.

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