

# Strategies for Edge Computing to Promote the Integration of Industry and Education and the Governance of Higher Education

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## Abstract:

With the continuous deepening of China's education system, promoting the Integration of Industry and Education (for the convenience of the following text, the abbreviation of Integration of Industry and Education is IIE) in Higher Education (HE) has become the general trend. However, the current HE is difficult to achieve a high degree of IIE, resulting in the loss of its own characteristics and advantages in the development of HE. This paper is based on the idea of combining EC and cloud computing with the IIE, to build an information-based HE governance platform, and provide strong support for the IIE. At present, China's HE governance evaluation still has problems such as single evaluation subject and single evaluation standard. Therefore, this paper proposed a Fuzzy Comprehensive Evaluation (FCE) method based on the combination of multiple subjects and forms. The experimental results of this paper showed that 129 teachers indicated that their governance ability has been greatly improved after using the HE governance platform built by Edge Computing (EC) and cloud computing, accounting for 43%. Only 18 teachers indicated that their governance ability has not been improved, accounting for 6%. It can be found that the HE governance platform built by EC and cloud computing is conducive to improving governance capability.

## Keywords:

Edge Computing, Integration of Industry and Education, Higher Education, Cloud Computing, Fuzzy Comprehensive Evaluation

## 1. Introduction

Against the background of China's economic and social development and deepening reform, the development of industry requires not only the training of talents, but also the accelerated integration and upgrading of industry and education. Therefore, adaptive changes must be made to achieve the overall development and coordinated progress of HE governance and social undertakings. In such a big environment, people should proceed from the overall situation of regional development and further promote the IIE. The development of HE should be guided

by industrial demand, aimed at serving local development, and centered on training excellent talents, so as to fully integrate into regional economy and optimize industrial structure.

With the change of society, EC and cloud computing have become an indispensable part of people's life. According to the overall trend of China's HE development, although the country has issued a number of policies to increase the promotion of HE and the IIE, the current school-enterprise cooperation often lacks depth and initiative, leading to the real IIE. With the promotion of EC and cloud computing technology, it can solve the problem of the integration of production and education in colleges. This is not only a need to improve the governance ability of HE, but also an effective way to meet the requirements of the times and improve the education output and talent training quality.

## 2. Related Work

The widespread use of information technology has created new conditions for the reform of HE governance, and has had a stable impact on all areas of HE. The IIE has attracted more and more attention. The goal of Liao Xianjiu was to create a talent training model integrating production and education, strengthen school-enterprise cooperation, and regard students' participation in scientific research as an effective form of education. He also hoped to strengthen the relationship between theory and practical teaching, and students' ability can be improved through the integration of production and teaching [1]. Alsharari Nizar Mohammad showed that the governance of the globalization of HE faces many difficulties, and his research found many possibilities and benefits to encourage HE to pursue internationalization. These possibilities include the general improvement of education level, the IIE, and the establishment of a globally competitive talent pool [2]. In order to critically consider the internationalization phenomenon from the perspective of the evolution of the governance structure, system and function of HE, Wihlborg Monne stressed the importance of rethinking and redefining the governance capacity of HE [3]. The above scholars believe that the governance ability of HE is very important in the process of developing HE, and should focus on how to improve the governance ability of HE.

An important strategy to accelerate the governance of HE is also a supporting strategy to promote the integration, improvement and modernization of industry and education. According to Jackson Nicole C, research was needed to determine how the digital revolution would affect the governance capacity of HE. In view of the characteristics of digital transformation, the innovation demand brought by the emergence of digital technology, and the better change of HE governance [4]. Williamson Ben believed that since HE is generally regarded as a public cultural product, it is very useful to understand and examine its unique forms, practices and HE governance data [5]. Spooner Marc investigated the governance technology in HE, and found that people have been seeking to establish and improve the governance capacity of HE, which may include the IIE. This method has improved the governance capacity of HE [6]. The above scholars found that the IIE has promoted the development of HE governance, and the improvement of HE governance ability cannot be separated from the IIE.

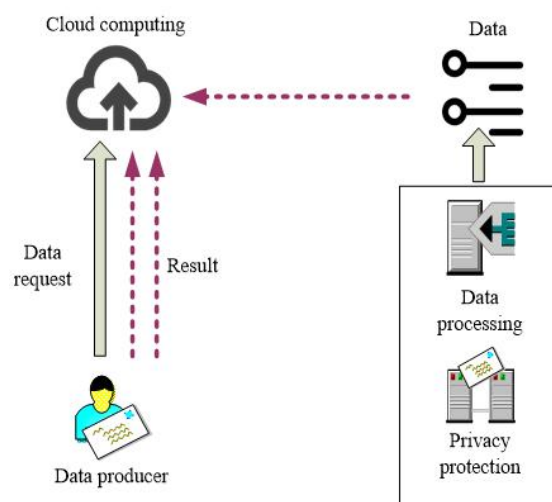
At present, China's education system reform has entered a new stage, and universities are actively exploring the development path of HE governance. In this

case, the governance methods of HE must be constantly improved to adapt to the reform of China's education system and the changing needs of talents [7,8]. In the strategy of improving the governance ability of HE, the IIE is an effective way, which has good management effect. In order to improve the quality of governance, most colleges have begun to explore the development path of IIE and seek the support and assistance of more enterprises and institutions [9]. Through the integration of production and education, the educated can not only make better use of high-quality educational resources, but also improve the overall teaching level of the school.

### 3. HE Governance Capability Based on EC

#### 3.1. EC and Cloud Computing

At present, HE is developing rapidly. The number of colleges is increasing, and the level of running schools is improving. Some universities have gradually formed their own characteristics while improving their popularity and teaching quality [10]. At present, some achievements have been made in the governance of HE, and great progress has been made in teaching concepts, teaching systems, and teaching systems. Properly improving the governance capacity of HE would help the country develop and use talents. Therefore, people must seek more innovation and breakthroughs on the basis of existing development achievements [11,12]. At present, the field of education is undergoing a new transformation and transformation. It is a win-win road to guide universities to integrate production and teaching. The structure of EC is shown in Figure 1:

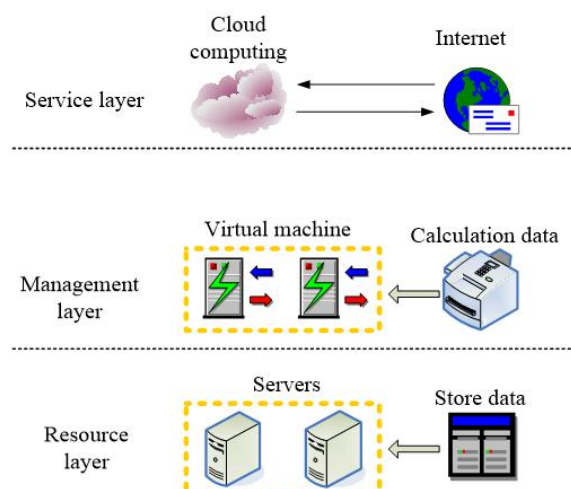


**Figure 1.** Structure of EC.

As shown in Figure 1, in EC, data producers make data requests through cloud computing, conduct data processing and privacy protection, and finally get the results. EC is the development achievement of the Internet industry, which has been widely used. It is an architecture that uses user nodes to prefetch and cache network data, and uses ultra-low latency to improve the user experience. In the era of the Internet of Things, EC is to work in a terminal or a gateway.

Cloud computing is the development of data management technology. It is a new mode of completing computing work based on a massive computer-based resource base. It also allows users to obtain computing power, storage space and provide information services at any time according to their needs. These are all completed through special software without manual operation. Cloud computing can help

improve work efficiency, reduce development costs and promote technological innovation. The cloud computing architecture is shown in Figure 2:

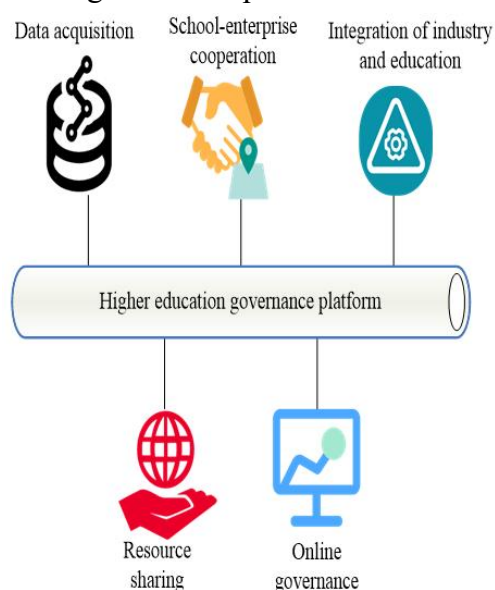


**Figure 2.** Cloud computing architecture.

As shown in Figure 2, the service layer in the cloud computing architecture includes cloud computing and the Internet. The management layer uses virtual machines to calculate data, and the resource layer stores data through servers. All countries regard cloud computing as a new development opportunity and have built cloud computing systems on cloud computing platforms. All countries regard it as a development priority. Developed countries have made rapid progress in HE governance with their own economic advantages.

### 3.2. HE Governance Platform

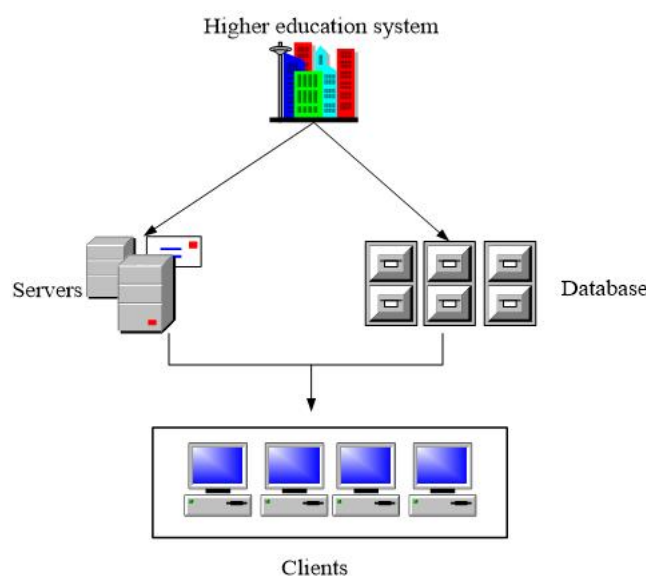
Applying EC and cloud computing on the HE governance platform can not only reduce the use of teaching resources, but also effectively improve the governance efficiency of HE governance, and also promote the development of HE governance [13]. The HE governance platform based on EC and cloud computing is based on the sharing and interaction of computer hardware resources, software resources, teaching resources and other resources to build a fully functional, stable, efficient and safe HE governance platform. The HE governance platform is shown in Figure 3:



**Figure 3.** HE governance platform.

As shown in Figure 3, the HE governance platform based on EC and cloud computing includes school enterprise cooperation module, industry education integration module, data collection module, resource sharing module and online governance module. The platform links the roles of all aspects and is closely connected with the dynamic process of the IIE, meeting the regional and special characteristics of HE governance.

This paper proposes a HE governance system based on cloud computing, and conducts in-depth research and analysis on its related theories, core architecture, interface service technology, etc. The application of cloud computing in HE governance platform is very important. Cloud computing technology is shown in Figure 4:

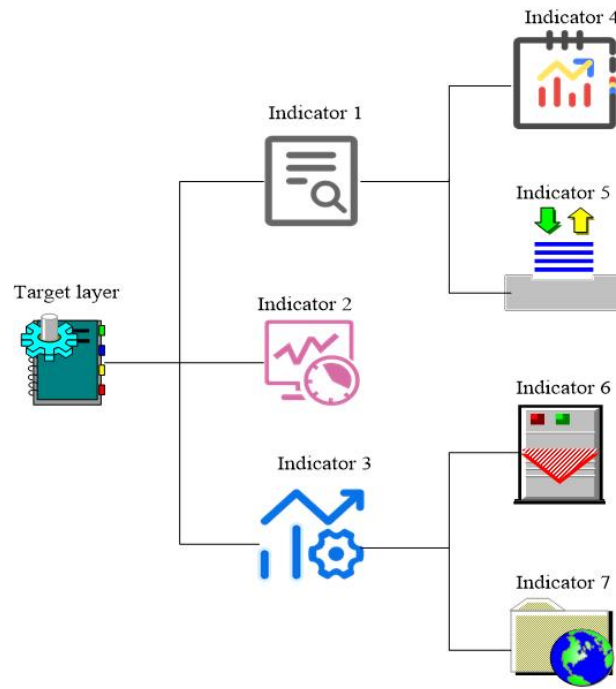


**Figure 4.** Cloud computing technology.

As shown in Figure 4, cloud computing is a huge system, which organizes a large number of servers for unified management, so that the computing power of each server is stored in the database, and the client can use it through leasing and purchasing according to its own needs. However, today, the network would no longer be an obstacle to the progress of science and technology. From the perspective of overall resource allocation, cloud computing can effectively adjust computing resources, improve the computing performance of low-cost computers, and thus improve the resource utilization of the system.

### **3.3 Fuzzy Comprehensive Evaluation**

Today, with the rapid economic development, HE has broken away from the isolated and closed state in the past, and the governance of HE has entered the core of society. Today, people's acceptance of HE is higher and higher, and the management and evaluation of HE is also increasing [14,15]. The development of HE governance capacity is closely related to evaluation. In the process of popularization and even popularization of HE, the quality of colleges has attracted the high attention of the government and society. Many countries have carried out quality evaluation, quality audit and other forms of assurance, thus promoting the diversification, democratization and socialization of HE. The FCE is shown in Figure 5:



**Figure 5.** FCE.

As shown in Figure 5, FCE is a comprehensive evaluation method for multi-factors, and it is also a very effective multi-factor decision-making method. It emphasizes the position and role of multiple interest subjects in the evaluation, and confirms the needs and value judgments of each subject in educational activities. This is a new management idea, which regards evaluation as the expression and appeal of interests between different subjects and as a platform for participation, supervision and sharing of HE quality.

There are differences in the relative importance of each evaluation index under a certain evaluation objective, which can be described by the weight coefficient. When both the evaluated objective and the evaluation index have been given, the final result depends on the weight. The rationality of the weight coefficient directly affects the credibility of the evaluation results, so how to determine the weight coefficient is particularly important. Therefore, the weight coefficient  $\omega_j$  can be defined as:

$$\omega_j = \frac{M_j}{\sum_{k=1}^m M_k} \quad (1)$$

In practical operation, it is difficult to determine the evaluation index due to the influence of the environment, the subjective will of the evaluation subject and other factors. Therefore, in many cases, the weight coefficient is usually determined in a subjective way, that is, according to the degree of people's subjective attention to each indicator. It is assumed that the judgment matrix A is:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1j} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2j} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \dots & a_{ij} \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

The index of element  $a_{ij}$  in the judgment matrix A represents the relative importance of a certain evaluation objective. On this basis, an ideal judgment matrix should meet the consistent conditions:

$$a_{ij} = \frac{a_{ik}}{a_{jk}} \quad (3)$$

However, due to the constraints of experts' knowledge level and individual preferences, the actual judgment matrix A is difficult to meet the requirements of consistency. In order to ensure the reliability and accuracy of its results, it is necessary to carry out consistency test on its judgment matrix  $CI$  :

$$CI = \frac{\lambda_{\max} - m}{m - 1} \quad (4)$$

In order to find a threshold that can be used for the consistency check at the m level, the similarity of the matrix must be considered at the same time.

In order to check the consistency of the judgment matrix, the maximum eigenvalue  $\lambda_{\max}$  of the judgment matrix A is used in the consistency index  $CI$  , which requires the calculation of  $\lambda_{\max}$  :

$$\lambda_{\max} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} \omega_j}{\omega_i} \quad (5)$$

The FCE proposed in this paper has played a positive role in improving the governance ability of HE and mobilizing all forces to participate in the governance of HE. In the new era, the evaluation system of HE governance must be continuously improved, and a mechanism for evaluating and guaranteeing the quality of HE with Chinese characteristics and international standards should be built, so as to make greater contributions to the realization of the connotative development of China's HE and the construction of a powerful country in HE.

### 3.4. Strategies for Improving the Governance Capacity of HE

HE governance capacity is an method to solve the contradiction in the growth of HE. Its emergence is the practical dilemma of China's HE governance from disorder to order [16]. The governance ability of HE is the fundamental countermeasure to solve the dilemma of HE governance, which mainly includes promoting the cooperation between schools and enterprises, integrating resources and strengthening the construction of governance soft power.

#### (1) Resource integration

Reasonable government management is an effective way to realize resource allocation, coordinate urban and rural development, and maximize the governance capacity of HE. The effective management of urban and rural HE needs to effectively utilize and integrate HE, and coordinate the advancement of urban and rural HE. To solve the defects of China's HE governance, people must integrate the resources of universities and rebuild China's HE governance system.

It is necessary to establish a urban-rural integrated HE governance information network to provide support for the development of urban-rural HE, enhance the governance and exchange of HE between urban and rural areas, and maximize the allocation of resources. In the process of urban-rural integration, the government has played a leading role in formulating strategic planning, promoting the reform of governance system, and strengthening governance supervision, while the market has spontaneity, which has promoted the rational allocation of HE resources.

## (2) Improvement of governance soft power

The cultural connotation of HE makes it have inherent cultural characteristics. In the new era, HE must be led by advanced culture. In contemporary HE governance, culture is regarded as an implicit governance force. It is a governance ability with special significance to integrate it into HE governance. It is also the key to build a HE governance culture with Chinese characteristics and improve the level of HE governance to guide the governance of HE with advanced cultural ideas and make it fully reflected in the governance process.

The introduction of advanced cultural concepts into HE governance can not only meet the needs of post-industrial society for HE governance, but also meet the needs of modern society for HE governance, and also meet the construction of human spiritual home. In terms of the governance subject, the value orientation centered on governance is the cornerstone of cultural identity, and the interests of the subject are guaranteed through the standardized mechanism. From the perspective of governance content, injecting culture into colleges and guiding the combination of excellent corporate culture and campus culture can promote the development of college education governance.

## 4. Current Situation and Measures of HE Governance

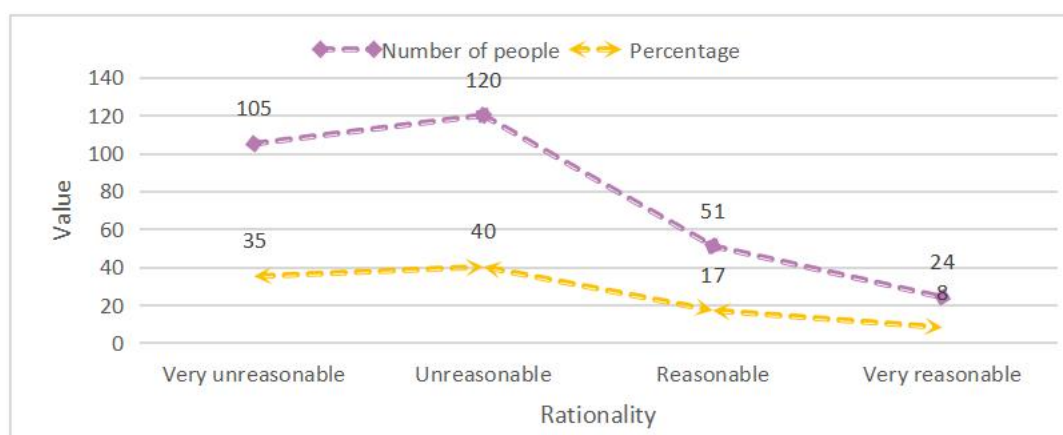
### 4.1. Dilemma of HE Governance

#### (1) Waste and unreasonable resource allocation

The dynamic relationship between HE and industrial upgrading determines that HE governance must closely implement the IIE, deepen the cooperation between schools and enterprises, and provide effective governance means for local economic development. At present, China's HE governance has problems such as waste of resources allocation and unreasonable waste of resources allocation, which highlights the defects of the HE governance system. This paper surveyed 300 teachers of HE in a city. The waste and unreasonable degree of resource allocation are shown in Figure 6:



(a) Waste degree of resource allocation



(b) Unreasonable degree of resource allocation

**Figure 6.** Waste and unreasonable degree of resource allocation

As shown in Figure 6, according to Figure (a), 111 teachers thought that resource allocation was very wasteful in HE governance, accounting for 37%; 99 teachers thought that resource allocation was wasteful, accounting for 33%; 60 teachers thought that resource allocation was economical, accounting for 20%; 30 teachers thought that resource allocation was very economical, accounting for 10%.

According to Figure (b), there were 105 teachers, accounting for 35%, who showed that the allocation of resources in HE governance was very unreasonable; 120 teachers, accounting for 40%, showed that the allocation of resources was unreasonable; there were 51 teachers, accounting for 17%, who showed that the allocation of resources was reasonable; there were 24 teachers who showed that the allocation of resources was very reasonable, accounting for 8%.

Restricted by the idea of urban and rural development, the imbalance of the governance system of HE within the region has led to the irrational allocation of resources. Integrating resources and coordinating urban and rural HE are the joint efforts of the state, local governments, colleges and other social entities. Due to the lack of resource allocation, the practical purpose of HE governance is unclear, and it is difficult to form the overall synergy of HE governance.

## (2) Lack of school-enterprise cooperation in the IIE

A typical feature of the IIE is the dual main body, that is, colleges and enterprises are mainly focused on cultivating talents. In general, the college has a strong intention of cooperation and would actively seek cooperation opportunities through the coordination of all parties. However, most enterprises are not enthusiastic about school-enterprise cooperation. Only under the pressure of the government and society can they carry out limited cooperation. The lack of school-enterprise cooperation in IIE is shown in Table 1:

**Table 1.** Lack of school-enterprise cooperation in industry-education integration.

| Lack degree        | Number of people | Percentage |
|--------------------|------------------|------------|
| Very scarce        | 132              | 44%        |
| Relatively lacking | 81               | 27%        |
| General lack       | 33               | 11%        |
| Not lacking        | 30               | 10%        |
| Very rich          | 24               | 8%         |

As shown in Table 1, 132 teachers believed that there was a very lack of school-enterprise cooperation in the IIE, accounting for 44%; 81 teachers believed that there was a lack of school-enterprise cooperation in the IIE, accounting for 27%; 33 teachers believed that there was a general lack of school-enterprise cooperation in the IIE, accounting for 11%; there were 30 teachers who believed that there was no lack of school-enterprise cooperation in the IIE, accounting for 10%; there were 24 teachers who believed that school-enterprise cooperation in the IIE was very rich, accounting for 8%.

At present, an important factor behind the development of the IIE in China's HE is the lack of school-enterprise cooperation, which makes it difficult to realize industrialization. On the whole, school-enterprise cooperation can provide a direct driving force for the integration of production and education in colleges. However, due to the lack of internal power, the college would rely heavily on the support of the government, and it is difficult to achieve school-enterprise cooperation. This not only leads to the shortage of existing educational resources, but also increases the difficulty of the IIE.

### (3) Lax supervision and management

With the rapid development of HE, the governance of colleges is facing many problems, such as imperfect supervision and management, laxity and daily management confusion. China's current HE governance system is somewhat unscientific and its quality is difficult to guarantee. The strict degree of supervision and management is shown in Table 2:

**Table 2.** *Strict degree of supervision and management.*

| Severity          | Number of people | Percentage |
|-------------------|------------------|------------|
| Very strict       | 105              | 35%        |
| Relatively strict | 102              | 34%        |
| General strict    | 51               | 17%        |
| Not strict        | 27               | 9%         |
| Very lax          | 15               | 5%         |

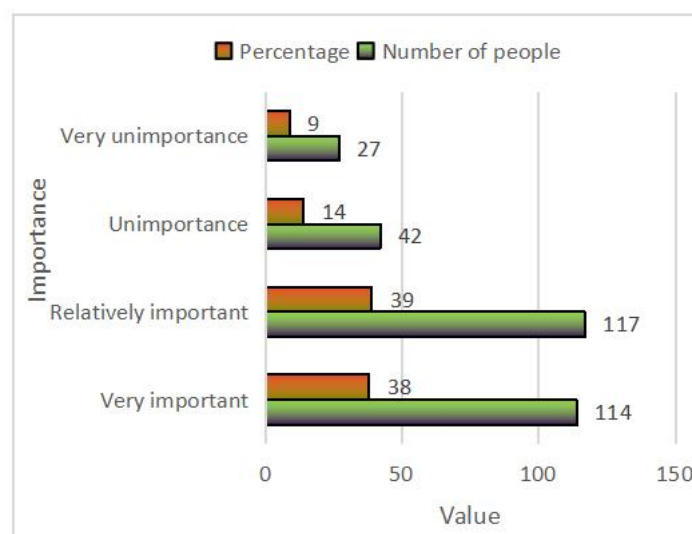
As shown in Table 2, there were 105 teachers who thought that the supervision and management of HE governance was very strict, accounting for 35%; the number of teachers who thought that supervision and management were relatively strict was 102, accounting for 34%; there were 51 teachers who thought that supervision and management were generally strict, accounting for 17%; there were 27 teachers who thought that supervision and management were not strict, accounting for 9%; there were 15 teachers who thought that supervision and management were very lax, accounting for 5%.

In the case of lax supervision and management, promoting the IIE is likely to have some defects in the governance of HE. For example, university administrators have greater autonomy, and different administrators have different governance concepts. Without clear direction and non-standard governance, it is difficult for colleges to form a standardized governance model, and it is difficult to evaluate it.

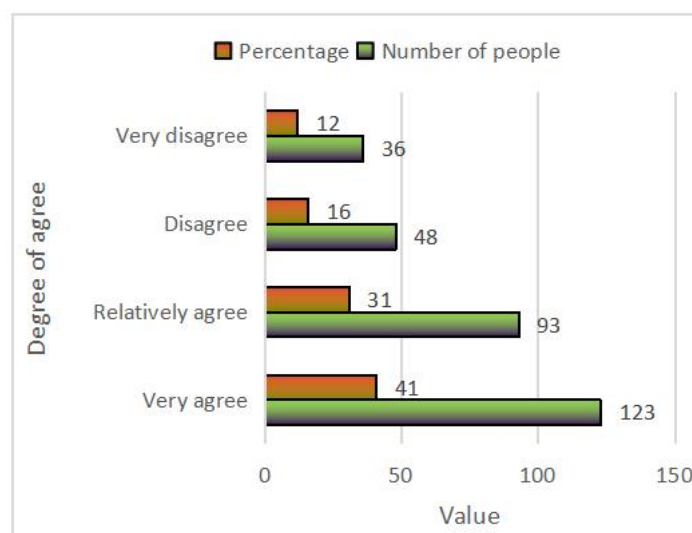
## 4.2. *Effects of EC and Cloud Computing*

The emergence of EC and cloud computing provides many useful references for building a modern HE governance platform. Therefore, in the future cloud computing environment, how to build a HE governance platform has become an urgent problem. Governance ability is the premise of improving HE governance. The importance of

EC and cloud computing in HE governance and teachers' agreement on the application of EC and cloud computing in HE governance are shown in Figure 7:



(a). Importance



(b). Degree of agreement

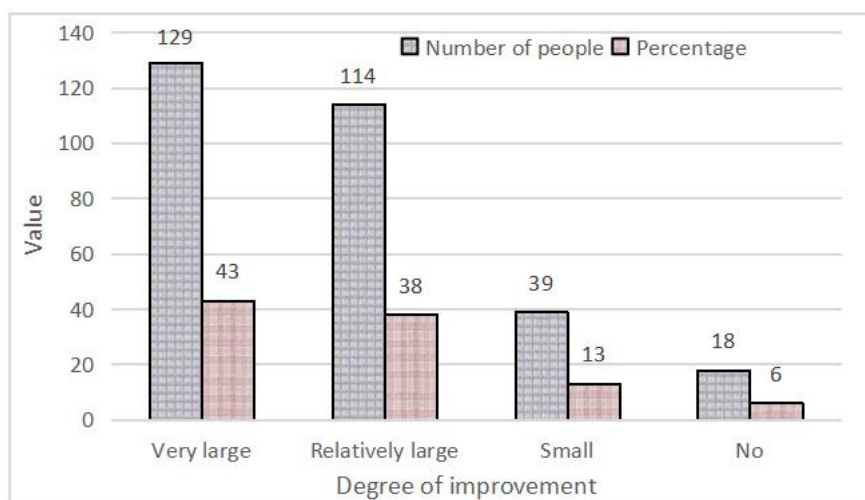
**Figure 7.** The importance of HE governance and the agreement of teachers.

As shown in Figure 7, according to Figure (a), 114 teachers indicated that EC and cloud computing were very important in HE governance, accounting for 38%; 117 teachers said they were important, accounting for 39%; 42 teachers said they were unimportant, accounting for 14%; 27 teachers said it was very unimportant, accounting for 9%.

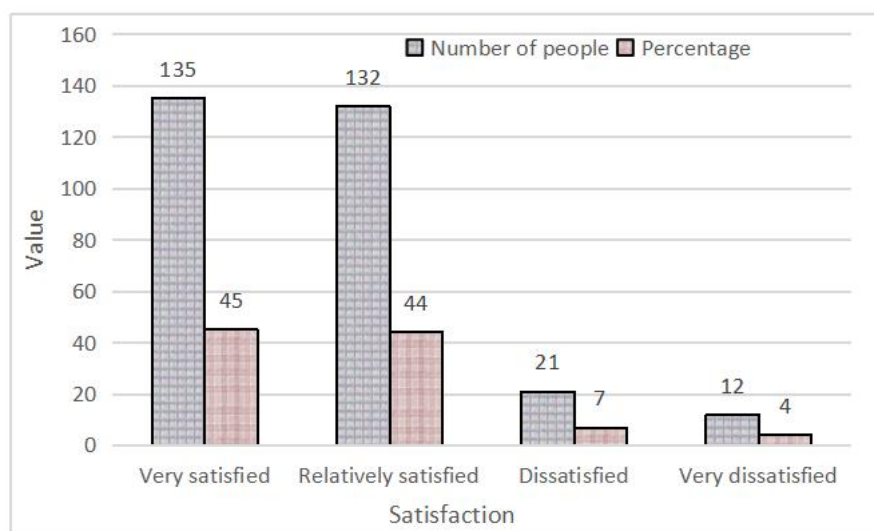
According to Figure (b), 123 teachers strongly agreed with the application of EC and cloud computing in HE governance, accounting for 41%; 93 teachers agreed, accounting for 31%; 48 teachers disagreed, accounting for 16%; there were 36 teachers who disagreed very much, accounting for 12%.

Most teachers believe that EC and cloud computing are important for HE governance, but a small number of teachers hold different opinions on this, and do not recognize the advantages of EC and cloud computing.

The platform built in this paper was tested, and the improvement of governance ability and the satisfaction of teachers were investigated. The improvement of governance ability and the satisfaction of teachers are shown in Figure 8:



(a) Improvement of governance capacity



(b) Teachers' satisfaction

**Figure 8.** Improvement of governance ability and satisfaction of teachers.

As shown in Figure 8, it is observed from Figure (a) that 129 teachers felt that their governance ability has been greatly improved after using the HE governance platform built by EC and cloud computing, accounting for 43%; 114 teachers felt that their governance ability had been greatly improved, accounting for 38%; 39 teachers felt that the improvement of governance ability was small, accounting for 13%; 18 teachers felt that their governance ability had not been improved, accounting for 6%.

According to Figure (b), there were 135 teachers who were very satisfied with the platform, accounting for 45%; 132 teachers were satisfied with the platform, accounting for 44%; 21 teachers were dissatisfied with the platform, accounting for 7%; there were 12 teachers who were very dissatisfied with the platform, accounting for 4%. It showed that most teachers were satisfied with the HE governance platform.

Through the experiment of the platform, people can not only detect the development effect of the platform, but also find the problems in time. By testing the satisfaction of teachers with the platform, people can ensure and verify that the platform provides guarantee for the IIE and the governance of HE.

### **4.3. Solutions**

#### **(1) Actively promoting school-enterprise cooperation**

In recent years, more and more people have put forward countermeasures to promote the development of school-enterprise cooperation, and build a long-term mechanism of school-enterprise cooperation on this basis. People should establish an incentive mechanism to encourage the development of HE governance, formulate preferential tax policies for school-enterprise cooperation for technological transformation and new product development in school-enterprise cooperation, and provide preferential policies for pilot units of school-enterprise cooperation reform. It is necessary to establish a school-enterprise cooperation evaluation system, and the relevant departments would evaluate the school-enterprise relationship according to the school-enterprise cooperation status. To ensure the effective implementation of school-enterprise cooperation, a guarantee mechanism must be established.

The government should strengthen the IIE, and strengthen the information construction of school-enterprise cooperation. Through the establishment of a public platform for cooperation information among industry associations, colleges and enterprises, the relevant cooperation intentions and cooperation information of colleges and enterprises are released, and the employment status, talent supply and demand information and demand forecast report of talents by industry and post are regularly released. This is of great significance to enterprises in selecting partners and closely connecting schools and enterprises. It is necessary to timely adjust the professional setting and training mode, help students understand the basic situation of enterprises, and enable students to make reasonable choices when selecting enterprises.

#### **(2) Strengthening supervision and management**

Strengthening supervision and management is an important way to promote the integrated development of industry and education. To solve the problems in the governance of HE, people must take supervision and management as the guidance and accurately determine the governance purpose. Only under the premise of standardized management and sound governance system can the IIE develop in an orderly manner and avoid irreparable mistakes. Therefore, to promote the IIE, it is necessary to have strong theoretical and social support, so as to generate a continuous development momentum.

In the supervision and management, people should strengthen the construction of the education system and optimize the teaching plan. Only by properly handling these problems can people ensure the integrated development of industry and education. People can adopt a new mode of industry-education integration to make the industrialization development of HE more prominent. From the perspective of the practice of the development of HE, by promoting the construction of the governance system of HE, the IIE can be guaranteed institutionally, and an incentive mechanism to promote the participation of social forces can be established to a certain extent. In order to improve the overall governance level of HE and promote the IIE, people must

first establish a set of scientific and reasonable management system, so that the whole HE governance has the characteristics of standardization and order.

## 5. Conclusions

The extensive use of EC and cloud computing has greatly changed people's life, learning and work, not only bringing a huge impact on the governance of HE, but also bringing new challenges to the IIE. HE governance is an important part of the development of HE. Its governance informatization construction requires a large number of high-quality and high-skilled talents facing production, construction, management and service. Science and technology is the key to realize the informatization of HE governance. In the new era of development, there are more and more cooperation and exchanges between countries, and the market competition is becoming increasingly fierce. HE directly provides reliable talent guarantee for regional economic development, and plays an important role in the development of the whole society. This paper studied the IIE in colleges, summarized the current development situation of HE governance in Chinese colleges, and put forward the development ideas of the IIE on this basis.

## Conflicts of Interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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