

AI:10

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WHAT'S HOT

HOW DECISION INTELLIGENCE COULD PUT AI AT THE CENTER OF EVERY BUSINESS

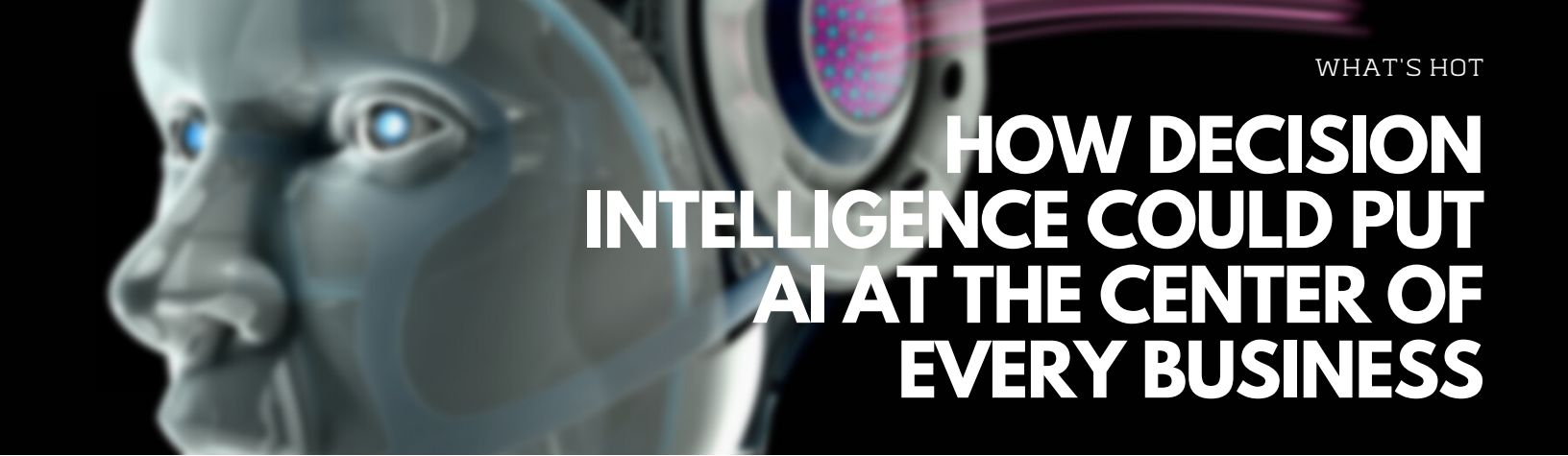
HEADLINE NEWS IN A FLASH

- Ukraine begins using controversial Clearview AI's facial recognition to ID Russians and the dead.
- DeepMind's New AI Helps Restore Damaged Ancient Texts.
- Meta's Yann LeCun is betting on self-supervised learning to unlock human-compatible AI.
- Robot 'companion' may combat memory loss and depression in people with dementia.
- New storybook introduces young children to complex AI concepts.
- Fact of the Week: Large Firms Implementing Artificial Intelligence Enjoyed Additional Productivity Growth Within Just Three Years

An Interview on
**SOCIAL
INNOVATION**
- MENTOR ASHIF

INDUSTRY FOCUS

EXECUTIVES DISCUSS TOP CHALLENGES IN DEPLOYING AI — AND HOW TO SOLVE THEM



HOW DECISION INTELLIGENCE COULD PUT AI AT THE CENTER OF EVERY BUSINESS



Data collection is skyrocketing. The amount of data created, consumed and stored worldwide is set to increase by over 50% between now and 2025. Businesses understand that evaluating their data more effectively provides a competitive edge, and that it will be artificial intelligence, not business intelligence, that will unlock this potential — but there's a striking gap between the scale of AI investment and tangible returns delivered.

Fortune 500 companies are spending an average of \$75 million on AI talent. But only 26% of AI initiatives are being put into widespread production with an organization. Decision intelligence (DI) is now helping companies bridge the gap between theoretical AI and commercial AI, with Gartner predicting that more than a third of large organizations will be using DI within the next two years.

THE IMPACT OF DI FOR TECHNICAL TEAMS

While AI can be a somewhat nebulous concept, decision intelligence is more concrete. That's because DI is outcome-focused; a DI solution is built to deliver against a business objective. As such, it can help CTOs and technical teams run data projects that deliver quantifiable results for their business.

Today, commercial AI strategies are plagued by a host of problems that limit their effectiveness. Among them, the fact that data scientists are trained to think “bottom-up” — to understand what data they have available, and devise a solution from there. More often than not, this results in lengthy technical projects that address data problems, rather than commercial needs.

By flipping this approach on its head and building with an outcome in mind, decision intelligence addresses many of the pain points that hinder businesses from quantifying value from their AI investment. Working backward from an objective, technical teams can build needed solutions and unlock value from AI faster. By rooting these solutions in the decision-making processes that drive every aspect of an organization, DI can deliver commercial benefits across an entire business.

An intelligence trained on marketing data and intended to optimize the marketing funnel will only ever do that. An intelligence trained on an organizational dataset and designed to optimize business operations holistically is not so limited.

BRINGING A DI MINDSET TO DATA ARCHITECTURE

The way we design data architecture is key to maximizing ROI. Decision intelligence's core principles can help technical teams construct architectures that are set up to deliver actionable solutions and results for the business. There are three key things that technology teams and CTOs should consider when building formatting, and organizing data:

- **Agility:** Ask yourself, are you working fluidly enough to adapt to changing business needs? Fixed rules and fixed modeling are no good. The solution needs to be able to change with the business.
- **Integration:** You need to make sure that you're set up to integrate more data as it becomes available. Perhaps you're not multichannel now, but you might be in the future. Start small, while making sure you can add more data to your architecture if necessary.

- **Objective:** Always have your eye on the business outcome. Consider running two-week sprints with a focus on the end user. Ask yourself — “how can I make the end user's life better in the next two weeks?” Of course, it's not always possible to do everything in this time frame, but it forces you to think about how to achieve outcomes quickly.

DELIVERING ON EXPECTATIONS IN A DEMANDING WORLD

Technical teams' capacity to build with outcome in mind and deliver results is critical in today's world. Every business is now a technology business, and the expectations on CTOs and technical teams to drive commercial growth are mounting.

Decision intelligence can help teams to break down tech silos and develop the connections they need to meet these expectations. Rather than being some obscure IT project, DI adoption will be driven in partnership with other departments — from marketing to manufacturing — enabling tech teams to secure valuable internal buy-in. Additionally, the outcomes-focused approach of DI can help tech teams build very targeted projects that deliver results faster, monetizing existing investments in infrastructure and data.

With departments throughout the business relying on it, DI will put AI at the center of every business. This sets CTOs on a path aligned with business leads, not just technical teams. Technology becomes more than a supporting function, it becomes a core function of the business.

Source: *venturebeat*



HEADLINE NEWS IN A FLASH

UKRAINE BEGINS USING CONTROVERSIAL CLEARVIEW AI'S FACIAL RECOGNITION TO ID RUSSIANS AND THE DEAD

Ukraine's defense ministry on Saturday began using Clearview AI's facial recognition technology, the company's chief executive said after the US startup offered to uncover Russian assailants, combat misinformation, and identify the dead. Ukraine is receiving free access to Clearview AI's powerful search engine for faces, letting authorities potentially vet people of interest at checkpoints, among other uses, added Lee Wolosky, an adviser to Clearview and former diplomat under US presidents Barack Obama and Joe Biden. The plans started forming after Russia invaded Ukraine and Clearview Chief Executive Hoan Ton-That sent a letter to Kyiv offering assistance, according to a copy seen by Reuters. Clearview said it had not offered the technology to Russia, which calls its actions in Ukraine a "special operation". Ukraine's Ministry of Defense did not reply to requests for comment.

Source: newscientist

DEEPMIND'S NEW AI HELPS RESTORE DAMAGED ANCIENT TEXTS

Many inscriptions are so decrepit that large chunks are illegible. The company's Ithaca tool assists historians in filling in the blanks. GOOGLE DEEPMIND HAS collaborated with classical scholars to create a new AI tool that uses deep neural networks to help historians decipher the text of damaged inscriptions from ancient Greece. The new system, dubbed Ithaca, builds on an earlier text restoration system called Pythia. Ithaca doesn't just assist historians in restoring text—it can also identify a text's location of origin and the date of creation, according to a new paper the research team published in the journal Nature. An interactive version of Ithaca is freely available, and the team is making its code open source.

Source: wired

META'S YANN LECUN IS BETTING ON SELF-SUPERVISED LEARNING TO UNLOCK HUMAN-COMPATIBLE AI

Yann LeCun, Chief AI Scientist at Meta and the recipient of the 2018 Turing Award, is betting on self-supervised learning, machine learning models that can be trained without the need for human-labeled examples. LeCun has been thinking and talking about self-supervised and unsupervised learning for years. But as his research and the fields of AI and neuroscience have progressed, his vision has converged around several promising concepts and trends. In a recent event held by Meta AI, LeCun discussed possible paths toward human-level AI, challenges that remain, and the impact of advances in AI.

Source: thenextweb

ROBOT 'COMPANION' MAY COMBAT MEMORY LOSS AND DEPRESSION IN PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA

A new research project will study whether a robot "companion" can reduce memory loss and depression in people with dementia. Powered by artificial intelligence (AI), the "desktop robot" called Furhat has human-like expressions and is able to speak. The same project, running over the next four years, will also trial on a larger scale the effect of a graphic character on a tablet, which will be easier and cheaper for people to access in the short term. In both cases a "companion" powered by AI will prompt memories using pictures, video and sound, both from a person with dementia's own life, and cultural events during their lifetime.

Source: scotsman

NEW STORYBOOK INTRODUCES YOUNG CHILDREN TO COMPLEX AI CONCEPTS

Binary code, machine learning and data can be unwieldy concepts to grasp - even more so for young children. But this is exactly what AI Singapore hopes to achieve with a children's storybook launched by the national artificial intelligence (AI) programme on Sunday (March 13). Aimed at lower primary pupils, the book marks the first time AI Singapore's literacy programme AI For Kids (AI4K) is extended to young children to help them understand technology and how to use it effectively and responsibly. Sponsored by Meta, 10,000 free copies of the illustrated book titled Daisy And Her AI Friends will be handed to low-income families. The books are stocked in public libraries and not for sale. The 40-page book centres on Daisy, a computer with legs, who is lost on her first day in school as she is able to speak only in binary code.

Source: straitstimes

FACT OF THE WEEK: LARGE FIRMS IMPLEMENTING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ENJOYED ADDITIONAL PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH WITHIN JUST THREE YEARS

A recent study from the Center of Innovation Research at Lund University overcomes previous issues with data availability on AI implementation by analyzing job advertisements seeking candidates with AI-related skills as a way to approximate firms implementing AI technologies. Their analysis over panel data from 2016 to 2019 identified a strongly positive, statistically significant relationship between AI and productivity, while simultaneously identifying nuances that help explain previous literature challenges to quantify this relationship. The positive impact on firm productivity associated with AI adoption became more pronounced in later years, indicating that previous sparseness in the literature is explained by the immaturity of AI technology that had not yet fully developed its productivity-enhancing benefits.

Source: itif

AN INTERVIEW ON

SOCIAL INNOVATION

AI FOR POSITIVE IMPACT



MENTOR ASHIF

Chairman, Light Over Light & Co

01 *Your thoughts and views on the disadvantaged groups on employability issues and what can be done to help them.*

The important thing we must understand is why there are disadvantaged groups in the first place, and how we can ensure an environment that allows them to elevate from this group.

Disadvantaged groups exist due to lack of Financial Support, Lesser Technical Education and Work Skills, and are separated from Social Norms - leading them to a higher risk of poverty and inequality in lifestyles.

For them to elevate into Social Inclusion, they need employability skills and employment opportunities to apply the learned skills - this is where Vocational Institutes will play an important role. Disadvantaged groups are not the right fit for normal/standardized education - they need employable education that matches directly with industry needs. They must go through an Earning while Learning cycle, otherwise, there will be immense financial and socio-economic pressure on them - that may discontinue their growth journey.

Virtual Education support will be key, where they can learn Numeric, Reasoning and Analytical Skills, enhanced with Decision Making Ability - for them to address industry challenges with these technical skills.

Many disadvantaged groups are not informed or aware of what needs to be done for their “move beyond disadvantage” and become employable, and having continuous mentors in their journey will then achieve their desired growth. Industries should look to provide Apprenticeship opportunities for these groups - helping to go from learning to earning. In addition, previously disadvantaged individuals who are now successful can become their Role Models and Mentors - inspiring them to achieve and believe that “We Can!”.

The goal is to improve their Self Esteem, leading to Self Confidence, so they can go through the behavioural journey from Dependence to Independence to Interdependence.

02 *The types of schemes that could be considered and formulated by policy makers to help address employment and education issues.*

Policy Makers must identify their needs using a Bottom-Up Approach - with the support of previously Disadvantaged Individuals, and Coaches / Social Workers directly supporting these groups.

These policies will only act as a benchmark, as the solutions must be specific and personalized to each group and individual in their upskill journey - from their Education to Employment. This will provide regular monitoring of their progress, and personalized advice on their way forward. The key education will be the “Utility of Change” - where they must be Accountable and know their Responsibilities for their progress.



EXECUTIVES DISCUSS TOP CHALLENGES IN DEPLOYING AI — AND HOW TO SOLVE THEM

Hastened by a widespread move to digitize operations, the enterprise is enthusiastically embracing AI. According to IDC's 2022 AI InfrastructureView survey, 31% of companies say that they now have AI in production while the majority are actively piloting AI technologies. Increasingly, adopting AI is leading to boosted profitability, with 27% of businesses responding to a December 2021 McKinsey survey claiming that at least 5% of their earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) are now attributable to AI.

But there remain many hurdles to successfully implementing AI. Of the companies participating in the AI InfrastructureView poll, only one-third claim to have reached a "mature" state of adoption wherein their entire organization is benefitting from an enterprise-wide AI strategy. Moreover, while nearly two-thirds of companies in the McKinsey survey say that they'll continue to increase their investments in AI over the next three years, half admitted experiencing higher-than-expected AI project costs.

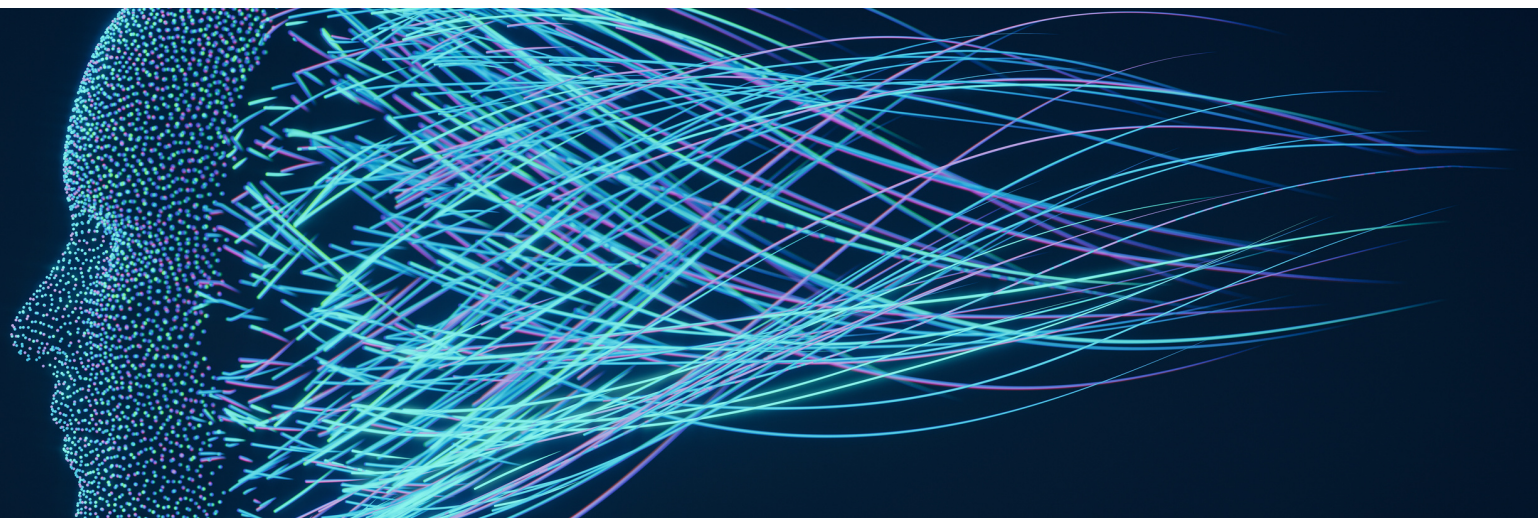
DATA SCIENCE DISCONNECT

Why is getting AI projects into production so challenging? The reasons vary, according to Jeff Boudier, head of product and growth at AI language startup Hugging Face. But commonly, companies fail to establish systems that would allow their data science teams — the teams responsible for deploying AI technologies — to properly version and share AI models, code, and datasets, he says. This creates more work for AI project managers, which have to keep track of all the models and datasets created by teams so that they don't reinvent the wheel for each business request.

"Today, data science is largely done in 'single player' mode, where code lives in notebooks on local machines," Boudier told VentureBeat via email. "It's how business software was done 15 years ago, before modern version control systems and ... collaboration workflows changed the day."

The emerging discipline of MLOps, which stands for "machine learning operations" (a term coined by Gartner in 2017), aims to address the disparate and siloed nature of AI development by establishing practices for collaboration between data scientists. By simplifying AI management processes, the goal of MLOps is to automate the deployment of AI models into the core software systems of an organization.

For example, startups like ZenML enable data scientists to express their workflows as pipelines that, with configuration changes, can accommodate different infrastructure and dev tools. These can build into a framework to solve reproducibility and versioning problems, reducing the need to coordinate between DevOps teams and data scientists.



INCREASING SIZE — AND DATA REQUIREMENTS

But collaboration isn't the only hurdle facing companies adopting AI. Others are consequences of machine learning models continuing to exponentially increase in size, according to Boudier. Large models often don't fit on commodity hardware and can be slow and expensive to run. Or they're locked into proprietary APIs and services and dubiously touted as universal problem solvers.

"[Proprietary models hamper] AI adoption as ... teams can't dive into the code and properly evaluate or improve the models, and continues to create confusion on how to approach AI problems pragmatically," Boudier said. "Deploying large models in production to be applied on large amounts of data requires diving into the model graph down to the hardware, which requires skills most companies do not have."

Sean Hughes, ecosystem director at ServiceNow, says that companies often expect too much from AI models without doing the work necessary in order to adapt them for their business. But that can lead to other problems, including a lack of data available to fine-tune the models in each context where they'll be used. In a 2019 Dun & Bradstreet survey, companies rated a lack of data on par with a lack of internal expertise as the top setbacks to further implementing AI across their organizations.

"Hype and sensationalism generated when AI research scientists open source work that achieves new state-of-the-art benchmark results can be misinterpreted by the general public as being the same as 'problem solved.' But the reality is that state-of-the-art for a specific AI solution might only achieve 78% accuracy for a well-defined and controlled configuration," Hughes told VentureBeat via email. "[A major challenge is] the expectation of the enterprise user that [an off-the-shelf] model will understand the nuances of the enterprise environment in order to be useful for decision-making ... [Without the required data,] even with the potential for AI to suggest a directionally correct next best action, it can't, since it doesn't understand the context of the user intent in that enterprise."

ON THE SAME PAGE

Feiyu Xu, SVP and global head of AI at SAP, concurs, adding that AI projects have the best chance of success when there's alignment between lines of business and AI technology teams. This alignment can foster "focused" and "scalable" solutions for delivering AI services, she asserts, and touch on ethical problems that might crop up during ideation, development, or deployment.

"The best use cases of AI-powered applications ensure the AI technologies are fully embedded and automated for end users. Also, AI systems work best when experts securely use real business data to train, test, and deploy the AI services," Xu said. "Companies need to clearly define guidelines and guardrails to ensure that ethical issues are carefully considered in the development of new AI services from the outset. In addition, it's important to include external, independent experts to review cases and topics in question on a regular basis."

On the subject of data-related challenges in AI deployment, Xu points to the emergence of platform-as-a-service solutions designed to help both developers and non-developers link data sources across different backend systems. [Torch.AI](#), for instance, connects apps, systems, services, and databases to enable reconciliation and processing of both unstructured and structured data for AI applications.

"AI plays a key role in empowering companies and industries to become intelligent enterprises," Xu said. "Most users of AI have little experience in software development to design, change, and improve their own workflows and business applications. This is where an intuitive, no-code development environment for functions like intelligent process automation, workflow management, and robotic process automation can really help."

Source: *venturebeat*



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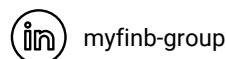
3 LEVELS



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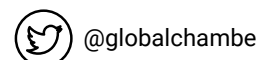
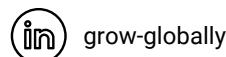
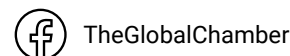
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