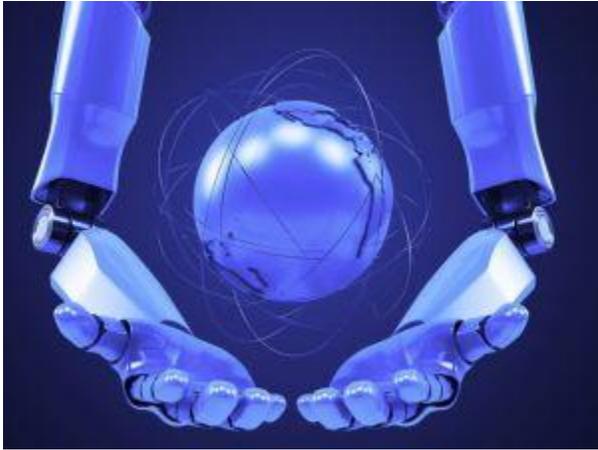


How Enterprises Can Start Building Their AI-ML Capabilities

by [Aashish Kalra](#) Apr 24, 2018



Artificial Intelligence (AI) is vital to every enterprise that is looking to be 'needed' than merely 'exist'. AI has started making inroads in every meeting of a large or small enterprise. Its presence is unquestionable as the early signs of AI making transformational changes is promising. The subject has attracted eyeballs with literally everyone making it sound like inevitable and indispensable. The question that remains unanswered is where we start from. Let us understand here.

AI is poised to become single largest revolution because of the versatility it brings to thinking and decision making in every sector. As per a report by Accenture, business revenues can be up by 38 percent by investing in AI and human-machine collaboration. Gartner estimates that clients will be able to manage 85 percent of the interactions with an enterprise without human intervention in near future. Evidently, Big Data powered by AI and Machine Learning (ML) is transforming the way businesses are defined, designed and delivered and enterprise value is captured.

The key to start building AI and ML capabilities is technology and talent. The convergence of Big Data and Cloud powered by AI and ML is real now because of access to exceptional storage and computing resources, better bandwidth and access to troves of structured and unstructured data. These three factors are instrumental in making AI a real revolutionary technology. At the same time, Human Resource departments need to rejig traditional ways of employee assessments and invest in building a multi-disciplinary workforce that can work in collaboration with AI to reap out the benefits AI is promising to human race.

Enterprises looking to build their own AI and ML capabilities need to have access to computing resources, humongous data sets highly-available bandwidth and talent. Data is the next natural resource, similar to air, oil and water. Data will affect almost all facets of our existence, ultimately influencing the way enterprises chase growth in a constructive manner.

The 4 Vs of data has been on rise and it has been challenging for enterprises to analyse structured data stored in silos with unstructured data generated by pools of social footprints, sensors and derive significant change out of it.

Businesses have to look for new ways to capture and store the data so that their data can be monetized effectively. Businesses will be able to build their AI/ML capabilities around this trove of untapped data to extract incremental value.

With the aim to create focused data sets, enterprises need to navigate through the traditional IT infrastructure and ways of analyzing data that are prone to bias and variance. The new ways of

storing data in its raw format popularly known as Data Lakes allows businesses to adopt different multi-fold cross validations which will make their models capable enough to handle all internal and external discrepancies and fetch accurate and real-time results without bias and variance.

The old ways of data warehousing is not sufficient enough to deal with real-time data, process it and provide right information to right people at the right time in right format. So, what does one do here. Thanks to existence of technologies that can create data lakes which are capable of storing data in its native format with flexible access and being future proof.

Apparently, enterprises need to work with AI solutions that can be supported and well-integrated with their current infrastructure. These hybrid platforms will help businesses in faster data processing, deeper business insights and smarter business decisions creating long term value for stakeholders.

The last generation of trillion dollars were created out of traditional IT technology businesses that were focused on back end and costs. The next trillions of dollars will be created by front end innovation driven technology companies focused on value.

The Road Ahead

As AI gets more prominent space, enterprises are going to end up with 'haves and have-nots' in the AI space. There will be businesses with capital and resources to implement AI solutions and get to decisions, and there will be businesses standing still in the 'have-not' space. The first step should therefore be with a technology partner that can drive the course of AI implementation and integrate into the mainstream business.

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