

The Promise of AI: Building a Better World

Artificial Intelligence (AI) stands at the forefront of technological innovation, offering transformative solutions across diverse sectors and promising to revolutionize the way we live and work. Here are the key takeaways from the discussion on 'The Promise of AI: Building a Better World', providing a comprehensive overview of how AI can be harnessed to create positive change and address core societal challenges.

Key Takeaways:

Improving healthcare outcomes

In healthcare, AI applications ranging from diagnostic imaging to predictive analytics offer innovative solutions for saving lives and improving efficiency. For example, the BeatProfiler, a tool developed by Columbia University's biomedical engineers, automates the analysis of heart cell function from video data. It is the first system to integrate the analysis of different heart function indicators, thus speeding up analysis and reducing the chance for errors. In another study among post-heart attack patients, the use of AI assistants with interfaces such as WhatsApp increased adherence to medication and lifestyle guidelines from about 25% to 75%. This approach reduced second heart attacks from 15% to 3%, demonstrating AI's potential to enhance healthcare efficiency while complementing human roles.

Enhancing agricultural efficiency

In India, where farming techniques vary every 110 kilometres, the need for data collection, standardization, and scalable operational models is met through AI. Innovations in micro weather prediction and livestock management that leverage data analytics are emerging as crucial adjacencies.

Elevating education outcomes

AI can significantly transform education by bridging the gap between literacy and intellect, as one only needs intellectual acumen to articulate problems, regardless of language. This is particularly impactful in a diverse and populous country like India. With AI tutors and advisors, educational challenges such as teacher shortages and multilingual instruction can be addressed. Furthermore, AI can improve exam integrity through enhanced monitoring. This underscores the potential of AI to elevate governance and educational outcomes by providing personalized learning and support at scale.

Sending customers the right message faster

With AI, companies can boost their marketing productivity by aggregating and analyzing useful information, improving customer relationship management. AIpowered platforms such as Instagram allow for quick testing and optimization of marketing content and reduce creative life cycle timelines.



Driving inclusivity in finance

In finance, AI is helping to redefine credit assessment, allowing for a more inclusive approach that goes beyond traditional credit history evaluation. By leveraging AI to analyze a variety of data, including SMS data and other sources, financial institutions can increase the number of approved individuals, offering opportunities to those previously excluded from traditional lending practices.

Early warning systems and better accountability in conflict zones

In conflict prevention, AI-driven early warning systems and predictive modeling provide real-time alerts and insights, improving safety and response measures. AI helps in the documentation and analysis of human rights abuses, enabling better evidence collection and accountability.

AI as an augmentative tool, not a replacement

Implementing AI requires significant cultural shifts within organizations, preserving core values while becoming more agile. Legacy institutions, including government and large corporations, face challenges in adapting to AI due to entrenched systems and processes and resistance to change.

AI skills across the value chain

The AI skills one needs to acquire will depend on one's position in the value chain. About 65% of the roles in AI will be focused on building neural networks and engines such as ChatGPT and Gemini, requiring core computing skills such as machine learning and neural networks. Another 25% will be domain specific roles requiring a combination of computer science and domain knowledge to develop models tailored to specific business needs. The remaining 10% will be C-suite positions, where executives will need to leverage AI for product enhancement and process innovation, driving incremental impact and efficiency.

Code of ethics and contextual regulation

Regulations play a crucial role in the implementation of AI, however, they cannot be universally standardized; they will vary by use case, industry, and region. For example, while the European Union may prioritize privacy and data security, India might focus on improving healthcare access through AI due to its doctor-to-patient ratio. Effective AI implementation requires regulatory frameworks tailored to specific contexts, fostering innovation while protecting societal interests.

From enhancing healthcare outcomes to transforming agriculture and education, the discussion underscored AI's immense potential to drive positive change that improves efficiency and quality of life. It also offered a more nuanced understanding of AI's role in the workplace. Rightly used, AI can synergistically collaborate with human workers, enhancing productivity and paving the way for new opportunities, rather than usurping human roles. However, realizing this potential requires careful consideration of ethical frameworks, contextual regulations, and cultural adaptability.