

# AI in the Enterprise

John P. Cunningham, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Columbia University

Department of Statistics and Data Science Institute

07 May 2018

# Topics

Context

AI as a technology and ecosystem

AI as a driver of enterprise value

Summary

# Outline

## Context

AI as a technology and ecosystem

AI as a driver of enterprise value

Summary

# Context

## In academia

- ▶ Professor at Columbia, Fellow at Cambridge, in statistics/machine learning
- ▶ PhD at Stanford, BS Dartmouth, in EE and CS
- ▶ Research: AI/ML algorithms, applications to biosciences/industry

# Context

## In academia

- ▶ Professor at Columbia, Fellow at Cambridge, in statistics/machine learning
- ▶ PhD at Stanford, BS Dartmouth, in EE and CS
- ▶ Research: AI/ML algorithms, applications to biosciences/industry

## In industry

- ▶ Board/advisor to AI companies and traditional businesses deploying AI
- ▶ Advisor to VC/PE on AI deals, market, tech
- ▶ Formerly worked at Morgan Stanley, Cisco Systems

# Context

## In academia

- ▶ Professor at Columbia, Fellow at Cambridge, in statistics/machine learning
- ▶ PhD at Stanford, BS Dartmouth, in EE and CS
- ▶ Research: AI/ML algorithms, applications to biosciences/industry

## In industry

- ▶ Board/advisor to AI companies and traditional businesses deploying AI
- ▶ Advisor to VC/PE on AI deals, market, tech
- ▶ Formerly worked at Morgan Stanley, Cisco Systems

## Orientation

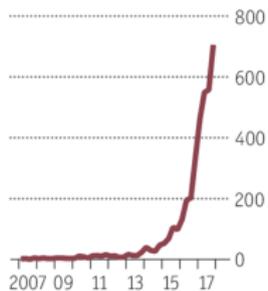
- ▶ AI as a shovel-ready, targeted technology vs. AI futurism
- ▶ Particularly interested in AI impact on enterprise value and cost structures
- ▶ Disclaimer: financial interest in some companies mentioned herein

# AI hype and value

▶ Much attention...

▶ Much hype...

Mentions of AI and machine learning on earnings calls of public companies

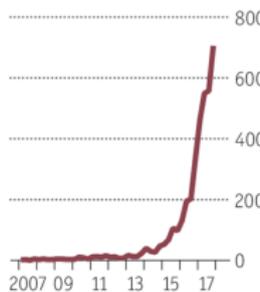


# AI hype and value

▶ Much attention...

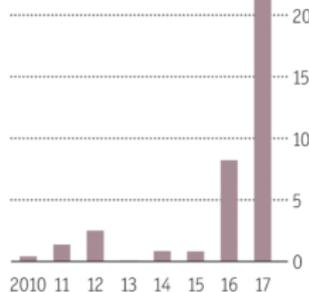
▶ Much hype...

Mentions of AI and machine learning on earnings calls of public companies

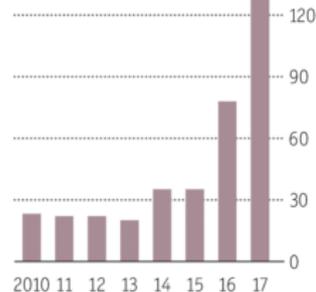


Global M&A activity in AI and machine learning

Value, \$bn



Number of deals

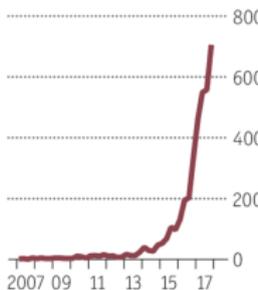


# AI hype and value

▶ Much attention...

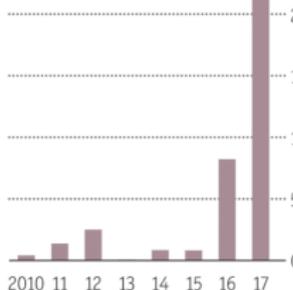
▶ Much hype...

Mentions of AI and machine learning on earnings calls of public companies

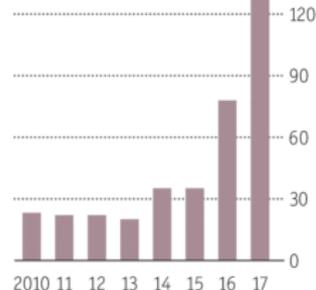


Global M&A activity in AI and machine learning

Value, \$bn



Number of deals



Potential economic-value creation from AI in the next 20 years

\$trn

Management



Marketing



Operations



Finance and IT



Other



Human resources



Product development



Strategy and corporate finance



Service operations



Source: McKinsey

▶ Even the most conservative views claim \$100bn's-trn's impact in the coming decade.

# AI technology upcycle

AI offers fundamental value reminiscent of last tech cycle... and with correspondingly ambitious forecasts:

# AI technology upcycle

AI offers fundamental value reminiscent of last tech cycle... and with correspondingly ambitious forecasts:

- ▶ labor productivity  $\uparrow$  1%
- ▶ +2.3mm jobs, -1.8mm
- ▶ +\$1-3Trn enterprise value
- ▶ +\$10's Bn rev per sector
- ▶ -\$10's Bn costs per sector
- ▶ retail, finance, healthcare, energy, agriculture, resources,...

ML/AI impact	Low	Base	High
Labor hours reduction (mn)	(1,571)	(2,969)	(4,714)
Reduction	-0.5%	-1%	-1.5%
2025 Labor hours (mn)	312,693	311,295	309,550
2025 GDP (\$bn)	25,034	25,034	25,034
Labor productivity	80.1	80.4	80.9
yoy growth (%)	1.8%	2.2%	2.8%
<b>Improvement (bps)</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>154</b>

[Gartner, McKinsey, Goldman Sachs]

# AI technology upcycle

AI offers fundamental value reminiscent of last tech cycle... and with correspondingly ambitious forecasts:

- ▶ labor productivity  $\uparrow$  1%
- ▶ +2.3mm jobs, -1.8mm
- ▶ +\$1-3Trn enterprise value
- ▶ +\$10's Bn rev per sector
- ▶ -\$10's Bn costs per sector
- ▶ retail, finance, healthcare, energy, agriculture, resources,...

ML/AI impact	Low	Base	High
Labor hours reduction (mn)	(1,571)	(2,969)	(4,714)
Reduction	-0.5%	-1%	-1.5%
2025 Labor hours (mn)	312,693	311,295	309,550
2025 GDP (\$bn)	25,034	25,034	25,034
Labor productivity	80.1	80.4	80.9
yoy growth (%)	1.8%	2.2%	2.8%
<b>Improvement (bps)</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>154</b>

[Gartner, McKinsey, Goldman Sachs]

Of course serious costs and regulatory issues go hand in hand:

- ▶ monopolization
- ▶ workforce displacement
- ▶ privacy

# AI technology upcycle

AI offers fundamental value reminiscent of last tech cycle... and with correspondingly ambitious forecasts:

- ▶ labor productivity  $\uparrow$  1%
- ▶ +2.3mm jobs, -1.8mm
- ▶ +\$1-3Trn enterprise value
- ▶ +\$10's Bn rev per sector
- ▶ -\$10's Bn costs per sector
- ▶ retail, finance, healthcare, energy, agriculture, resources,...

ML/AI impact	Low	Base	High
Labor hours reduction (mn)	(1,571)	(2,969)	(4,714)
Reduction	-0.5%	-1%	-1.5%
2025 Labor hours (mn)	312,693	311,295	309,550
2025 GDP (\$bn)	25,034	25,034	25,034
Labor productivity	80.1	80.4	80.9
yoy growth (%)	1.8%	2.2%	2.8%
<b>Improvement (bps)</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>154</b>

[Gartner, McKinsey, Goldman Sachs]

Of course serious costs and regulatory issues go hand in hand:

- ▶ monopolization
- ▶ workforce displacement
- ▶ privacy

Goal: understand AI ecosystem and how enterprises can capture this upcycle

# Outline

Context

**AI as a technology and ecosystem**

AI as a driver of enterprise value

Summary

# Early consolidation and commoditization

- ▶ Technical resource consolidated among FAANG + BAT “AI majors”



# Early consolidation and commoditization

- ▶ Technical resource consolidated among FAANG + BAT “AI majors”



- ▶ AI startup landscape is robust, but most successes are acquire exits
  - ▶ “Acquihires go for \$5-10MM per AI PhD” → priced out for most sectors

# Early consolidation and commoditization

- ▶ Technical resource consolidated among FAANG + BAT “AI majors”



- ▶ AI startup landscape is robust, but most successes are acquihire exits
  - ▶ “Acquihires go for \$5-10MM per AI PhD” → priced out for most sectors
- ▶ Notable misses leave unclear differentiation for IT services/consultancies

IBM pitched its Watson supercomputer as a revolution in cancer care. It's nowhere close

By GABBY ROSS [Entrepreneur](#) and IEE SWEETLIZE [Entrepreneur](#) / SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

MD Anderson Benches IBM Watson In Setback For Artificial Intelligence In Medicine

GE TOOK TWO-MONTH “TIME OUT” THIS YEAR TO FIX PROBLEMS WITH ITS PREDIX SOFTWARE

Published 1:01 AM ET Mon, 28 Aug 2017



# Early consolidation and commoditization

- ▶ Technical resource consolidated among FAANG + BAT “AI majors”



- ▶ AI startup landscape is robust, but most successes are acquihire exits
  - ▶ “Acquihires go for \$5-10MM per AI PhD” → priced out for most sectors
- ▶ Notable misses leave unclear differentiation for IT services/consultancies

IBM pitched its Watson supercomputer as a revolution in cancer care. It's nowhere close

By GABBY ROSS [Entrepreneur](#) and IRE KRITELITZ [Entrepreneur](#) / SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

MD Anderson Benches IBM Watson In Setback For Artificial Intelligence In Medicine

GE TOOK TWO-MONTH “TIME OUT” THIS YEAR TO FIX PROBLEMS WITH ITS PREDIX SOFTWARE

Published 1:01 AM ET Mon, 28 Aug 2017



- ▶ Open source has commoditized/democratized the technical stack



# Early consolidation and commoditization

- ▶ Technical resource consolidated among FAANG + BAT “AI majors”



- ▶ AI startup landscape is robust, but most successes are acquirement exits
  - ▶ “Acquirements go for \$5-10MM per AI PhD” → priced out for most sectors
- ▶ Notable misses leave unclear differentiation for IT services/consultancies

IBM pitched its Watson supercomputer as a revolution in cancer care. It's nowhere close

By GABBY ROSS [Entrepreneur](#) and IRE SHRETLIFF [Entrepreneur](#) / SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

MD Anderson Benches IBM Watson In Setback For Artificial Intelligence In Medicine

GE TOOK TWO-MONTH “TIME OUT” THIS YEAR TO FIX PROBLEMS WITH ITS PREDIX SOFTWARE

Published 1:01 AM ET Mon, 28 Aug 2017



- ▶ Open source has commoditized/democratized the technical stack



- ▶ Result: a very different technology ecosystem vs 20 years ago

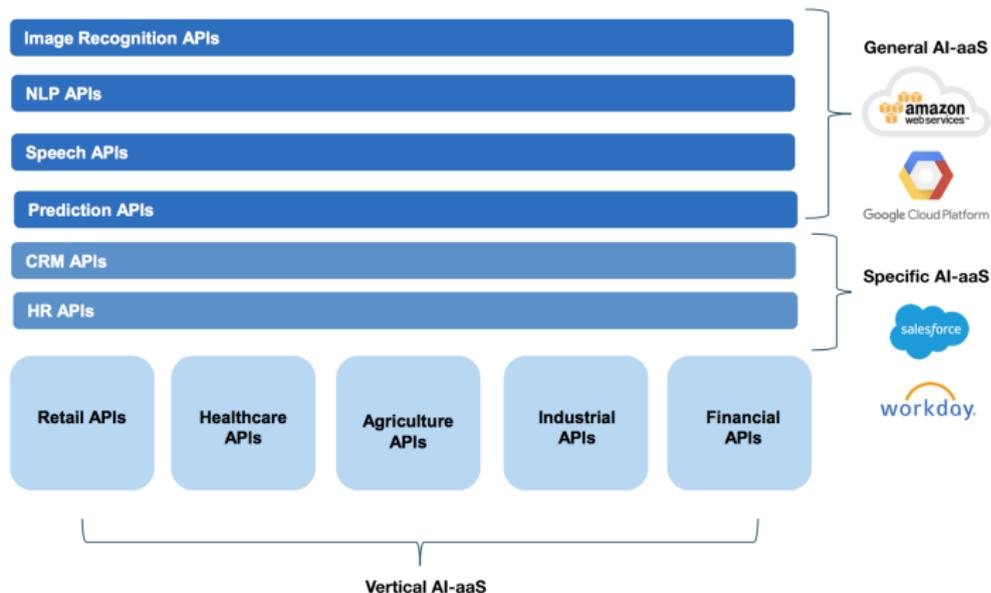
Will AI evolve to a Software-as-a-Service model?

# Will AI evolve to a Software-as-a-Service model?

- ▶ Current state of market: broad Platform-as-a-Service, not AlaaS

# Will AI evolve to a Software-as-a-Service model?

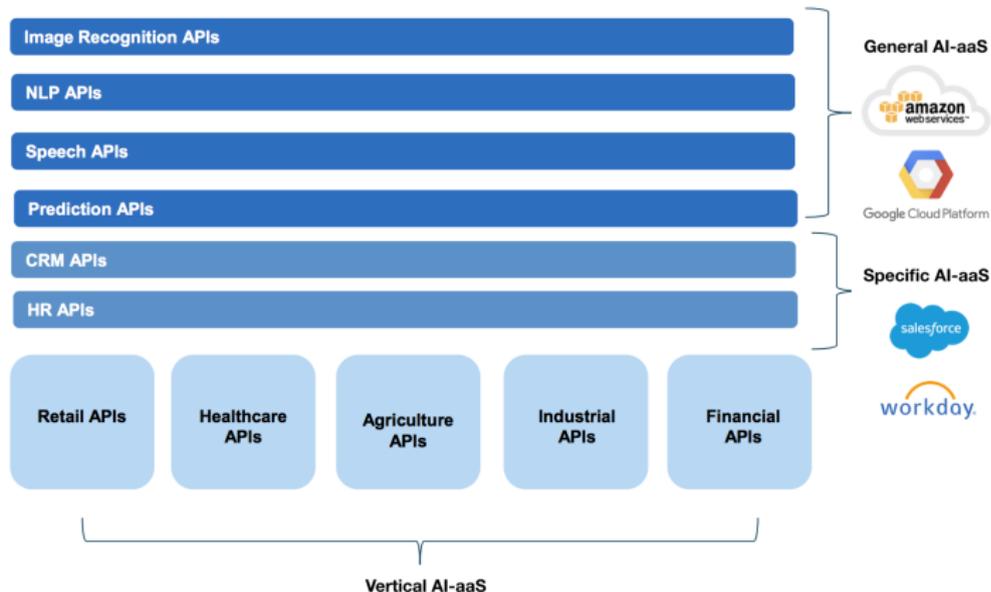
- ▶ Current state of market: broad Platform-as-a-Service, not AlaaS



[Goldman Sachs Investment Research]

# Will AI evolve to a Software-as-a-Service model?

- ▶ Current state of market: broad Platform-as-a-Service, not AlaaS



[Goldman Sachs Investment Research]

- ▶ Vertical AlaaS:

- ▶ Unclear if/when API value will outgrow strategic **value of proprietary data**
- ▶ Possible exception: data platforms in finance, energy, etc.

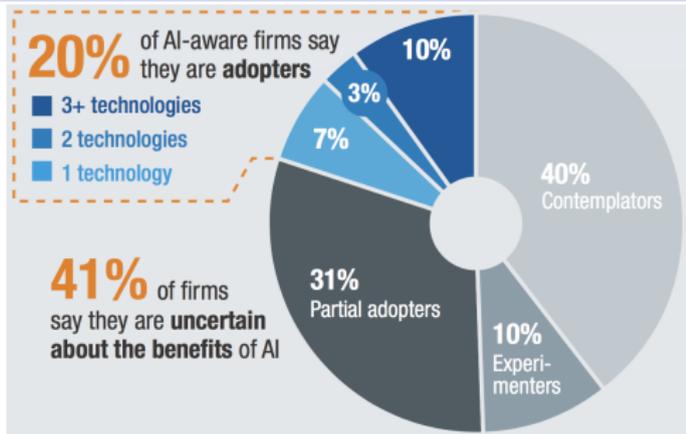
**Bloomberg**

 IHS Markit

# Result: lumpy AI ecosystem

Ecosystem (and hype) →

- ▶ AI adoption is low
- ▶ path to AI is confused
- ▶ opportunity still huge

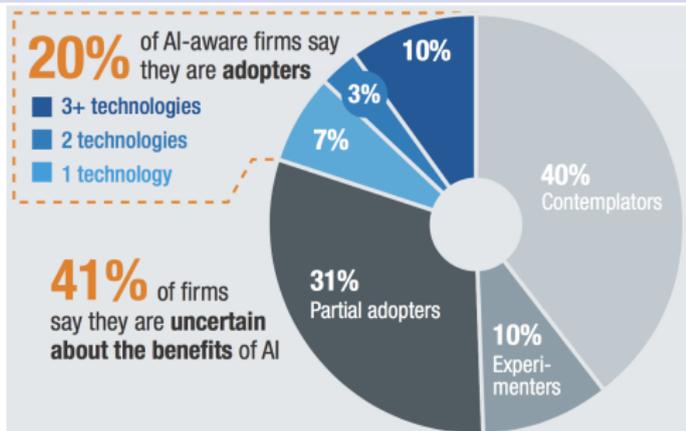


[McKinsey]

# Result: lumpy AI ecosystem

Ecosystem (and hype) →

- ▶ AI adoption is low
- ▶ path to AI is confused
- ▶ opportunity still huge



[McKinsey]

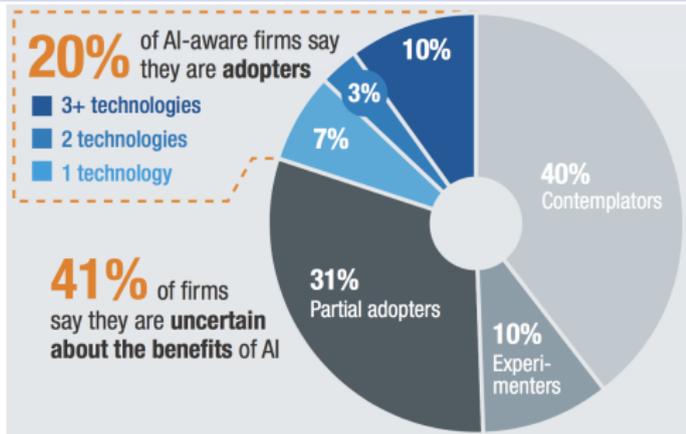
Path forward solvable for teams willing to consider new models:

- ▶ Scope value-centric opportunity
  - ▶ leverage proprietary data → primary defensible advantage
  - ▶ targeted scientific and technical advisory/implementation
  - ▶ senior ownership/evangelism

# Result: lumpy AI ecosystem

Ecosystem (and hype) →

- ▶ AI adoption is low
- ▶ path to AI is confused
- ▶ opportunity still huge



[McKinsey]

Path forward solvable for teams willing to consider new models:

- ▶ Scope value-centric opportunity
  - ▶ leverage proprietary data → primary defensible advantage
  - ▶ targeted scientific and technical advisory/implementation
  - ▶ senior ownership/evangelism
- ▶ Upskill and bootstrap software engineering resources
  - ▶ commoditized technical stack lowers point of entry for capable dev teams
  - ▶ buy/build once problem is well scoped and economics are understood

# Outline

Context

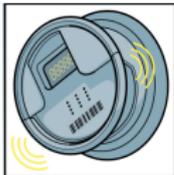
AI as a technology and ecosystem

**AI as a driver of enterprise value**

Summary

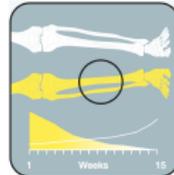
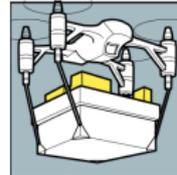
# How AI adds value to businesses

## Strategic intelligence



adtech/personalization, trading/decision making,...

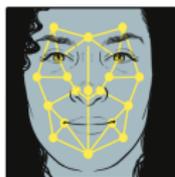
## Capital efficiencies



customer/retail interactions, logistics, diagnostics...

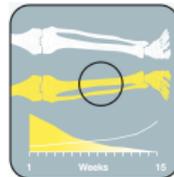
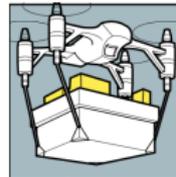
# How AI adds value to businesses

## Strategic intelligence



adtech/personalization, trading/decision making,...

## Capital efficiencies



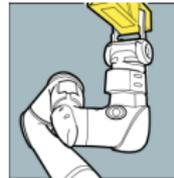
customer/retail interactions, logistics, diagnostics...

## Risk mitigation



insurance, credit, fraud, cyberthreat,...

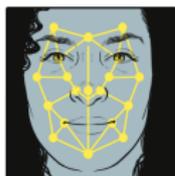
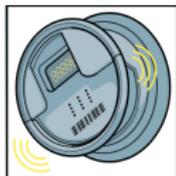
## Optimization of value-centric processes



core machinery, skill enhancement, precision control,...

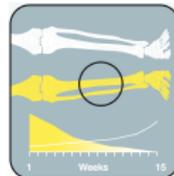
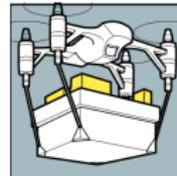
# How AI adds value to businesses

## Strategic intelligence



adtech/personalization, trading/decision making,...

## Capital efficiencies



customer/retail interactions, logistics, diagnostics...

## Risk mitigation



insurance, credit, fraud, cyberthreat,...

## Optimization of value-centric processes



core machinery, skill enhancement, precision control,...

## Key themes:

- ▶ Core opportunity is in **proprietary data that is core to enterprise value**
- ▶ AI requires rationalizing a business problem as a quantitative objective

# Strategic intelligence

Data upvalues customers or improves core value-based decisions

- ▶ Retail, adtech have led

# Strategic intelligence

Data upvalues customers or improves core value-based decisions

- ▶ Retail, adtech have led
- ▶ Healthcare forecasts:  
\$2-10Trn AI impact

# Strategic intelligence

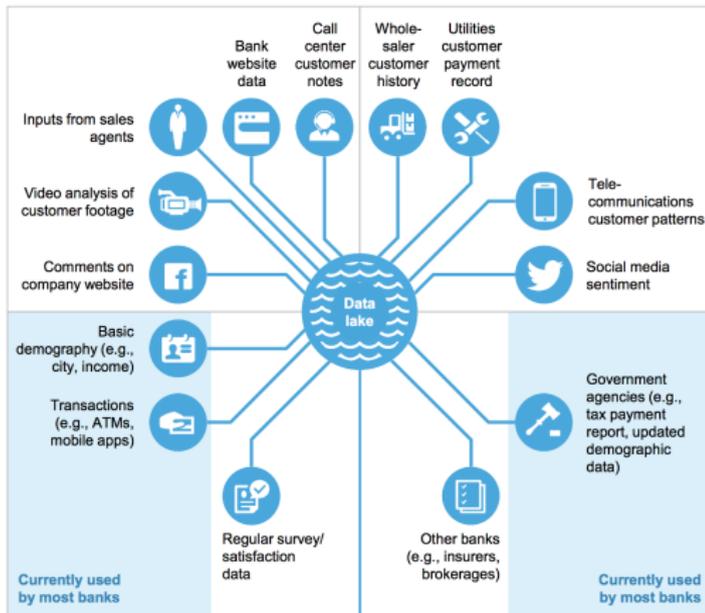
Data upvalues customers or improves core value-based decisions

- ▶ Retail, adtech have led
- ▶ Healthcare forecasts:  
\$2-10Trn AI impact
- ▶ (fundamental to quant  
finance for decades)

# Strategic intelligence

Data upvalues customers or improves core value-based decisions

- ▶ Retail, adtech have led
- ▶ Healthcare forecasts: \$2-10Trn AI impact
- ▶ (fundamental to quant finance for decades)
- ▶ Retail/commercial fintech coming...



[McKinsey Global Institute]

# Capital efficiencies

Classic role of technology in administrative and low-skill work replacement

- ▶ Automation: factories, trucking,...

# Capital efficiencies

Classic role of technology in administrative and low-skill work replacement

- ▶ Automation: factories, trucking,...
- ▶ Back office administration

# Capital efficiencies

Classic role of technology in administrative and low-skill work replacement

- ▶ Automation: factories, trucking,...
- ▶ Back office administration
- ▶ Mitigate rising costs of compliance and regulation?

# Capital efficiencies

Classic role of technology in administrative and low-skill work replacement

- ▶ Automation: factories, trucking,...
- ▶ Back office administration
- ▶ Mitigate rising costs of compliance and regulation?
- ▶ Healthcare example: low-skill data processing functions highly vulnerable

Health Information Technicians (HIT)	
US Median annual pay	\$51,636
Number of jobs in US	218,776
<b>US Annual cost (\$mn)</b>	<b>\$11,297</b>
US healthcare spend (\$mn)	\$2,998,469
Global healthcare spend (\$mn)	\$7,536,116
US share	40%
<b>Global HIT cost (\$mn)</b>	<b>\$28,392</b>

[Goldman Sachs Investment Research]

# Capital efficiencies

Classic role of technology in administrative and low-skill work replacement

- ▶ Automation: factories, trucking,...
- ▶ Back office administration
- ▶ Mitigate rising costs of compliance and regulation?
- ▶ Healthcare example: low-skill data processing functions highly vulnerable

Health Information Technicians (HIT)	
US Median annual pay	\$51,636
Number of jobs in US	218,776
<b>US Annual cost (\$mn)</b>	<b>\$11,297</b>
US healthcare spend (\$mn)	\$2,998,469
Global healthcare spend (\$mn)	\$7,536,116
US share	40%
<b>Global HIT cost (\$mn)</b>	<b>\$28,392</b>

[Goldman Sachs Investment Research]

History → new functions will replace, others will remain protected

- ▶ Those interested might read Frey and Osborne (2017), *The future of employment: how susceptible are jobs to computerisation?*

# Risk mitigation

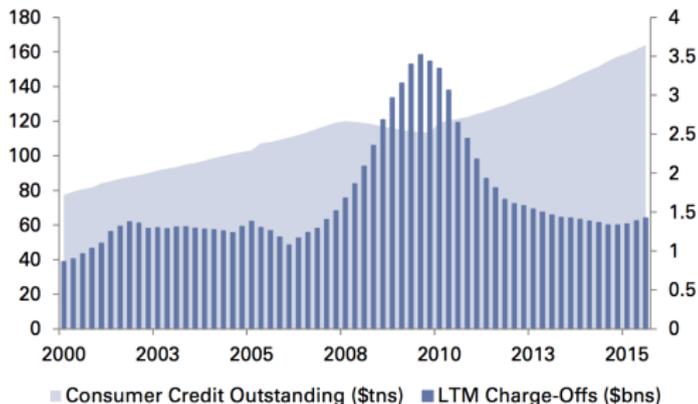
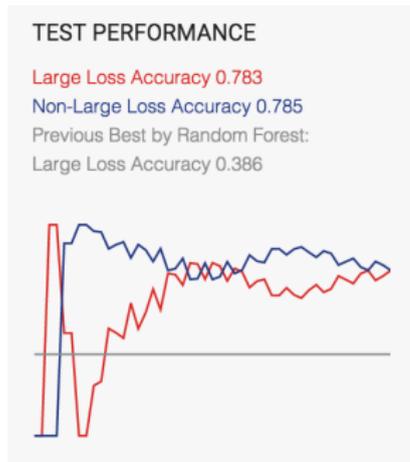
AI/ML offer as much to understanding variability as to mean performance

- ▶ Large-loss insurance estimates across automotive, health,...

# Risk mitigation

AI/ML offer as much to understanding variability as to mean performance

- ▶ Large-loss insurance estimates across automotive, health,...
- ▶ Example: consumer credit charge-offs around \$60Bn annually; estimates for reductions up to 10-25% in coming 5-10 years.



# Optimization of value-centric processes

Understand core-value processes as rational functions to be optimized

# Optimization of value-centric processes

Understand core-value processes as rational functions to be optimized

- ▶ Complex, interacting systems are the norm across many sectors

# Optimization of value-centric processes

Understand core-value processes as rational functions to be optimized

- ▶ Complex, interacting systems are the norm across many sectors
- ▶ *Not* big data: parameter spaces are large, data days are small

# Optimization of value-centric processes

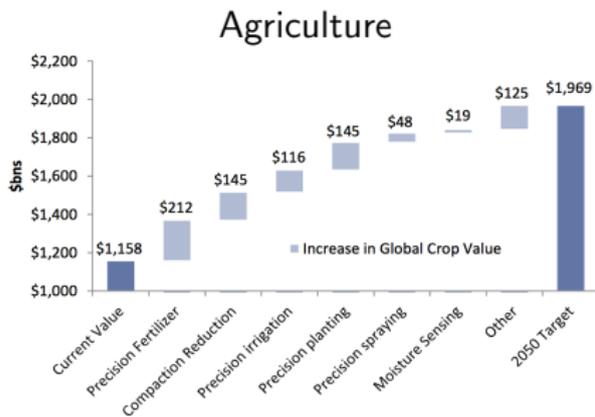
Understand core-value processes as rational functions to be optimized

- ▶ Complex, interacting systems are the norm across many sectors
- ▶ *Not* big data: parameter spaces are large, data days are small
- ▶ Taylor scientific management has compartmentalized function
  - ▶ → local optimality, global suboptimality

# Optimization of value-centric processes

Understand core-value processes as rational functions to be optimized

- ▶ Complex, interacting systems are the norm across many sectors
- ▶ *Not* big data: parameter spaces are large, data days are small
- ▶ Taylor scientific management has compartmentalized function
  - ▶ → local optimality, global suboptimality
- ▶ Editorial comment: least discussed but most impactful opportunity for AI



### Mining and Resources



# Outline

Context

AI as a technology and ecosystem

AI as a driver of enterprise value

**Summary**

# Conclusion

- ▶ AI will continue to drive major change across the economy
- ▶ Enterprises access this value via:
  - ▶ capital efficiency
  - ▶ strategic intelligence
  - ▶ optimization of value-centric processes
  - ▶ risk mitigation
- ▶ Building capabilities requires nimble teams, and offers outsized ROI

Thank you

John P. Cunningham  
jpc2181@columbia.edu