

**Advances in
Digital Technology
and Data-Driven
Business Practices**

Navigating Data Science

**Unleashing the
Creative Potential
of Artificial
Intelligence**

Edited by

**Babita Singla
Kumar Shalender
Nripendra Singh**

Navigating Data Science

ADVANCES IN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AND DATA-DRIVEN BUSINESS PRACTICES

Series Editor: Nripendra Singh, Pennsylvania Western University, USA

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Navigating Data Science: Unleashing the Creative Potential of Artificial Intelligence

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Preface

The combined use of data science (DS) and artificial intelligence (AI) is increasing by the day. Businesses across the industry vertical are using these technologies to explore new opportunities in addition to strengthening their current market positions. *Navigating Data Science: Unleashing the Creative Potential of Artificial Intelligence* takes a comprehensive look into the combined capability of DS and AI with specific reference to real-world business scenarios. From analysing the use of New Age innovations in marketing to science and technology and the healthcare sector, the authors have contributed to enhance the body of knowledge in the field of DS and AI. The ethical considerations of using AI tools in education, academic research and gig workers are also discussed. The impact of technology in moulding the overall well-being of employees within the specific framework of their work life has been discussed by the authors. Among the key highlights of the title is the comprehensive and holistic approach that the authors have taken while contributing chapters. The global perspective enhances the usability and relevance of the book for a wider set of audiences. Especially in relation to the science and technology domain, the use of the DS and AI will encourage stakeholders to come together and contribute to harness the potential of these technologies on a larger scale. The ethical concerns related to the use of AI are also analysed. This is critical for the field of propagating AI as the use of the technology has been surrounded by myriad issues with policymakers across the globe debating very passionately about setting a framework for the use of AI. The discussion and implications offered by this book can prove instrumental in finally developing an AI framework that will lead to the right use of the technology within the set boundaries. The implications of using big data to generate information from AI are also part of the contents covered by the book. The chapter on using the DS and AI in the healthcare sector also features some crucial implication for the policymakers. As the role of technology is very crucial in offering quality and affordable healthcare services, the chapter will help industry stakeholders deliberate on the use of technology for benefitting patients. It is essential to note that taking things forward in the technology domain, especially in relation to the DS and AI, stakeholders need to come together and collaborate in a constructive manner. This approach will help to reduce the burden of the

resources to develop new use case of these technologies that, in turn, will lead to widespread adoption of these innovations at a mass level. Summarily, this book is a valuable addition to the knowledge body and will help academics, professionals and policymakers.

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Chapter 1

Data Science and Artificial Intelligence: Exploring Collaborative Potential for Healthcare Sector

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Abstract

Exploring the game-changing potential of the data science and artificial intelligence (AI) in the healthcare sector, this chapter specifically looks into the use cases to develop practical guidelines for the industry to implement the technology at a higher level. By analysing the use cases of data science and AI in the healthcare industry, the chapter identifies key areas where the combined use of these technologies is bringing superior benefits to the stakeholders. These cases then become a base for the development of practical guidelines that can be adopted by the healthcare industry to adopt, integrate and intensify the use of technology in relevant areas of business performance. The chapter concludes with the fact that adoption of the holistic approach is required for the long-term adoption of the data science and AI in the healthcare sector. The study also emphasises close collaboration between industry and policymakers so that the process of technology is adoption can be sustained for a longer period of time.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence (AI); collaboration; data science; healthcare sector; policymakers; stakeholders

1. Introduction

The transformative potential of data science and artificial intelligence (AI) has just begun to find mention across the academic world and corporate sectors. Technology is enabling businesses to make sweeping changes in their products

and services and helping them to deliver superior value to the target market. From the automobile industry to the FMCG sector and the consumer durable industry to exports, the use of data science and AI is opening new avenues of growth and opportunities for the industry players. Against this specific background, this chapter explores the transformative potential of data science and AI for the healthcare industry. The healthcare sector is very important not only in terms of its contribution to the economy but also in ensuring that the masses continue to receive quality healthcare services at affordable prices. There is no doubt about the role of technology in guaranteeing that quality healthcare services can be offered to people without charging very high prices. Data science and AI has a great potential that can be realised by the healthcare sector, and by integrating the technology in its functional department as well as operational mechanisms, the sector can utilise the technology to achieve new heights of growth and profitability. Another important facet of data science and AI is its crucial role in catalysing innovation for the industry. Technology can be used to come up with different kinds of products and services that can help the entire healthcare sector to come up with new methods and mechanisms for delivering superior healthcare services to patients. Such is the large scope of applications related to generative intelligence in the healthcare sector that businesses across the verticals are now investing in data science and AI to come up with products specifically related to healthcare management (Aggarwal et al., 2020). The chapter is organised into the following sections: the use cases related to data science and AI in the healthcare sector have been discussed that is followed by the development of the conceptual framework that can help the industry holders to use the technology in healthcare practices. The Development of the Framework is then followed by the Conclusion and Discussion while the authors also detail the important implications related to the use of data science and AI in the healthcare industry. The study has important implications for all the stakeholders in the healthcare ecosystem, and by focusing on the specific benefits related to the value chain of the industry, this chapter will set the tone for future research (Bisam, 2024). Researchers and academicians are likely to benefit greatly from the study and can utilise the chapter in order to come up with innovative practices for making sure that they deliver superior patient care services to the masses. The research will also contribute to the cause of making superior healthcare services available to the masses and by implementing and integrating data science and AI in the day-to-day working of the healthcare industry; the significant benefits can be reaped by the concerned stakeholders.

2. Data Science and AI in Healthcare: Use Cases

2.1 Screening Patients

Data Science and AI is increasingly finding used in screening of the patients in hospitals. The technology is proving very successful and instrumental in reducing the load of the practitioners so that they can strategically invest their time in taking care of the patients. With the help of generative AI, the various images

related to the medical records of the patients can be analysed quickly, and accordingly, the data can be forwarded to the doctors for further analysis and treatment procedures (Bughin et al., 2017). The fast completion of the preliminary process is of critical importance as it can help the doctors and practices to deliver the patient care services without any kind of unnecessary delay. It is also important to understand that the inclusion of the technology has also made the process more cost-efficient which means the vision of delivering affordable healthcare services to all can be realised quickly and efficiently. Another significant benefit of using technology in screening patients is the fast processing as unlike human beings that technology do not require any kind of a break or rest period. This means patients can be continuously screened by the technology, and accordingly, analysis is offered to the doctors for taking the remedial actions. There are many machines to which the integration of data science and AI can be done, and satisfactory results on the Diagnostic front can be achieved. The potential of making errors also happens to be quite low in the case of data science and AI, and by ensuring that the right kind of data is fed into the machine, the optimum results can be obtained from the technology (Dhiman et al., 2018). More and more hospitals are now investing in data science and AI to come up with the right kind of a diagnostic techniques and mechanisms, and it is just a matter of time before we start witnessing that technology becomes a means of operations related to patient diagnostics and treatment procedures. By simultaneously increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of diagnostic procedures, the use of data science and AI can also play a crucial role in furthering the concept of affordable healthcare in the world. Especially when it comes to the developing and under-developed economies, the role of technology in providing good healthcare services is very crucial. These countries require a proper investment in the healthcare infrastructure, and by using the technology, the cost efficiency related to the healthcare management practices, healthcare services and allied issues can also be tackled effectively. The role of policymakers becomes also very important in encouraging the use of technology in the healthcare industry. By promoting new investment in the sector and encouraging technology developers, entrepreneurs and allied players in the ecosystem, renewed progress can be achieved in the healthcare industry (Dorn, 2024).

2.2 Vaccine Discovery

The large number of iterations are required before formerly a vaccine is introduced in the market. These trials are very costly and by making use of the generative AI, pharmaceutical companies and researchers can save a lot of money and resources. The technology uses offered them the opportunity to conduct these iterations in a cost-effective and efficient manner. The insightful information offered by the data science and AI can also help in trials and by correlating the results of different kinds of vaccine trials the technology can help further bring down the cost factor. The industry has already started using data science and AI in the vaccine discovery process, and while using the technology in different kinds

of procedures, the overall time and cost related to drug discovery will definitely going to be shorter than before (Floreano & Wood, 2015). The machine learning aspect of data science and AI is very helpful in the vaccine discovery phase, and training the machines on identifying the ideal candidates for the trials of the vaccines and then correlating the results of how the trials have brought a positive change is very important and significant for the vaccine discovery process. The technology also very useful in managing the impact of the new vaccines, the data and analysing its impacts, the data science and AI can be widely used for preserving the data management related to the important vaccine discovery for the future too. The process related to cleaning the data and generation of the various queries related to the possible impact of the new vaccines on health can also be preserved with the help of generative AI. Especially when it comes to the decoding process related to various biomedical processes, the usability of the data science and AI is very crucial. In fact, the utility of data science and AI in discovering new drugs and vaccines is holistic and encompassing. From identifying the molecules related to the targeted diseases to finding the right candidate for administration of the vaccine under the trial and tracking the results with the purpose of preserving the information for the years to come, all things can be done very efficiently with the help of the generative AI. The primary benefit related to the use of technology in drug and vaccine Discovery is a reduction in the cost as many research reports have predicted that the then use of data science and AI can bring down the cost to one-tenth of the total amount required as an investment to come up with a new vaccine (Fox, 2024).

2.3 Automating Administrative Processes

In comparison to the other sectors, the automation enabled by the data science and AI in healthcare is very critical for improving the overall delivery experience to the patients. Speed of processing the requirements to refer the patient to the doctor can become very critical and even decide the fate of the entire treatment procedure. It also makes sense as the focus of the healthcare management services must be on delivering superior patient care rather than focusing on completing files, managing bills and other associated aspects related to the healthcare sector. By achieving better efficiency in the administrative processes, data science and AI can play a crucial role in enhancing the overall diagnostic and treatment procedures for patients (Ghosh, 2024). The automated process can also be related to gathering the data and information of patients, and by combining it with the analysis of their present conditions, a complete record related to particular patient can be made for reference purposes. The sharing of the report among the participating stakeholders in the healthcare ecosystem will then lead to the creation of a dynamic and vibrant healthcare sector. The need or to meet processes and treatment procedures is also being felt to divert the critical human resources on other important parameters of the healthcare system (Hurley & Adebayo, 2017). The utilisation of the manpower in the hospital must be done in a judicious manner, and by automating healthcare features and systems with minimum

human intervention, the enhancement in the efficiency of the system can be achieved in a significant manner. The automation of data collection, analyses and processing is another significant benefit of generative AI. Of specially, the ability of the technology to extrapolate the data for to predicting future business scenarios is quite commendable. The current crunch of manpower that the World Health Care ecosystem is experiencing today is very acute. According to the leading authority in the field of healthcare ecosystem, it is estimated that around 30 million people are required to fill management positions in hospitals, dispensaries and infirmaries in order to provide satisfactory healthcare services to the targeted people. This number is bound to increase in the coming times with the population expected to rise and reach the level of 9 billion by the end of 2050. In order to offer quality and affordable healthcare services to such a number of people across the globe, technology adoption is a prerequisite and primary criterion to focus upon by all players in the healthcare ecosystem (Kopalle et al., 2020). The use of data science and AI can also be done to issue different kinds of statements required by both regulatory bodies and customers along with filling out records of the patients in relation to their medical conditions. These are things in addition to the enormous utility of data science and AI in digitising the records that can be used for a whole lot of purposes by both industry players and regulatory organisations.

2.4 Remote Operations

The use of data science and AI is increasingly finding favour among stakeholders, thanks to its capability to offer remote assistance to patients. This utility is specifically significant for elderly people who find it difficult to commute to the hospitals for their appointments with healthcare professionals. Also, people who are suffering from acute diseases which leave them almost in still positions can also utilise the technology to get remote assistance from the doctors and physicians. With the help of data science and AI and IoT, the dream of receiving quality healthcare services is fast becoming a reality (Olsen, 2024). This aspect of getting assistance remotely is also proving beneficial for countries in developing and underdeveloped economies. The small towns and villages in these countries do not have quality healthcare services, and by using advanced technology such as telemedicine applications, the patients get a chance to have treatment from the best doctors in the world. This also saves time for the practitioners by allowing them to offer treatment services to a large number of people without actually needing to visit them in person. By combining the generative aspect of AI with natural language processing (NLP) models, desirable progress can be achieved in delivering quality healthcare services to target patients. The primary advantage of these telemedicine applications is their round the clock availability, which is a big plus for patients (Pal & Shalender, 2021). The best thing about remote assistance is that not only physicians or doctors offer medical services but people associated with the medical fraternity are also able to offer these services to patients. Nurses, junior doctors and attendants can use the telemedicine services to offer assistance

to patients worldwide. The concept of virtual nurses is fast gaining prominence across the world is also natural extension of the generative AI. The critical role of the data scientists in making the processes more efficient and effective is also recognised across the globe. The data science has proved instrumental in bringing the AI revolution in the healthcare sector, and by offering the collection, analysis and evaluation of the relevant data, the healthcare sector is becoming increasingly effective in treating patients cost-effectively and affordably. The significance here lies in integrating data science with data science and AI as the combination is the one that has the transformative capability to change the very face of the global healthcare sector (Pelley, 2024). The cost associated with travelling and bringing the patients in person for the treatment process can also be significantly decreased with the help of data science and AI technologies. Another important point to note is that all these revolutions are catalysed by the availability of high-speed internet, and by ensuring that the connectivity remains available across the globe, policymakers can ensure that the healthcare sector will continue to benefit from the combined capabilities of data science and AI.

3. Development of Holistic Framework

3.1 Develop Vision

In order to take the organisation through the adoption process of data science and AI, the healthcare ecosystem must have a collective vision of the direction they want to head into (refer Fig. 1.1). This vision is one of the primary requirements for making the technology adoption a successful process. It is also important to integrate the technology adoption with long-term profitability of the company so that each and every person recognises the importance of becoming a coriander in the constantly changing business environment. Organisations usually ignoring of specific technology visions but given the importance of new-age innovations in offering the sustainability and a competitive edge to organisations, this development is a must (Shalender & Yadav, 2018, 2019). The delegation of the top management in this development must have input from the business and functional level people; these are the persons who will be directly responsible for the implementation of the data science and AI strategy in the company. It would be more useful if the entire ecosystem of healthcare could develop a collective vision towards adoption of the technology, and by sharing the cost in terms of the resources required to do this digital transformation, the organisations in the healthcare sector can save a lot of money in the process. It is therefore necessary that healthcare companies must be attention to development of the technology vision and align that with the overall goals, objectives and values of the organisation.

3.2 Start Small

The very first recommendation is to adopt these technologies in an incremental manner, and rather than changing the entire system and replacing it with the

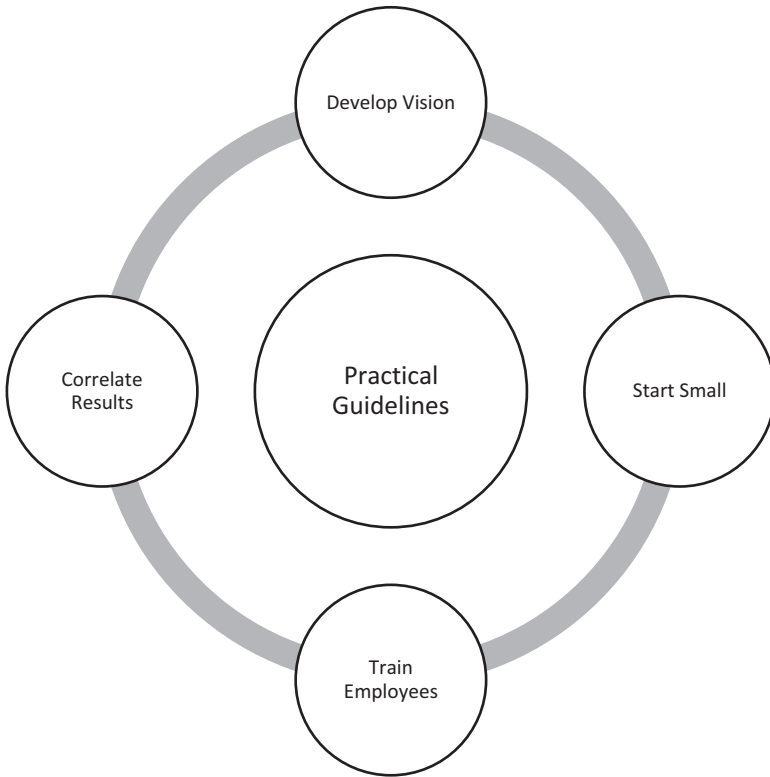


Fig. 1.1. Practical Guidelines. *Source:* Authors' conceptualisation.

technology part, it is better to start using data science and AI in an implemental manner (Shalender & Sharma, 2022). This will not only save the cost associated with the adoption of the technology but will also help the organisations to tackle resistance that might arise due to adoption of the technology in a big way. Especially when it comes to the legacy systems which are operational for a long period of time in healthcare organisations, replacing all those systems with data-driven decision-making might not augur well to the adoption process. Top management must take into confidence each and every employee about the adoption prospects of data science so that the resistance related to this adoption process can be minimised.

This approach will help in gaining the confidence of the shareholders who might also not like the process of a comprehensive change in a single instance (Shalender, 2018). As resources required for the transformation and adoption of the technology has to be approved by the shareholders of the organisation, the positive attitude of the shareholders is a prerequisite for determining the success of the process. It is also helpful if the top management conveys their idea about adopting data science and the return form and circulating that memorandum to

all the employees so that they can have a clear idea about the digital strategy of the organisation (Shalender et al., 2024). This clarity will help in making sure that adoption of the data science and AI will be accomplished in a satisfactory manner.

3.3 Train Employees

This is one of the most neglected issues and has to be addressed on a priority basis as far as the adoption of data science and AI in the healthcare sector is concerned. By investing in the training and development of employees, organisations can make them ready to use the technology efficiently (Singla & Shalender, 2024). This is also a credible method to reduce the opposition to the technology adoption as informed and trained employees are more likely to adopt the technology without any kind of inhibition than others. Of course investing in the training and development is a function of resources and once again if the healthcare sector decides to train employees on the new age innovations, it will cost them money. The approval for training and development of employees on the technology from usually comes from the top management of the organisation with corporate-level people in turn asking shareholders for the same in order to get the approval. The entire process can become more streamlined and smoother if the technology adoption in the company is associated with the long-term profitability of the organisation (Singla et al., 2024). It is the responsibility of technology team to demonstrate the benefits associated with the technology adoption, and by offering tangible benefits that can be showcased in front of top management and shareholders, the way forward to adopt and implement the technology can be smoothed. Investing in the training and development of the employees has always been a good idea as it inculcates a sense of belongingness and familiarity among employees. This will also help to reduce role stress and work disengagement, leading to better performance on critical parameters such as growth, market share, customer retention, etc.

3.4 Correlate Results

One of the significant steps that companies often field to implement is to correlate the results of technology adoption with the market parameters. As an organisation, you must demonstrate that because of the implementation of the technology adoption, crucial parameters related to the performance have been infected positively. Correlating the data science and use of AI with enhanced patient satisfaction, delivery of superior value to patients and offering affordable healthcare services is a part of the process that you must complete to enhance the implementation of the technology in your organisation. By demonstrating superior results to the top management, healthcare companies can ensure that they get hold of more resources in order to take the use of technology in their companies to a higher level. Communicating the results with the positive framework is not only related to the technology adoption in the healthcare company at the present stage