

Operational AI in Business Excellence from Theory to Measurable Results

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Article Info	ABSTRACT
<p>Article history:</p> <p>Received : 11.01.2025 Revised : 13.02.2025 Accepted : 20.03.2025</p> <hr/> <p>Keywords:</p> <p>Artificial Intelligence; Automation; Business Excellence; Operational Efficiency; Performance Optimization</p>	<p>With the adoption of Artificial Intelligence, expected to contribute \$15.7 trillion to global economy by 2030, businesses will no longer operate or compete like they used to. Driven to astronomical \$154 billion global AI spending in 2023 by this massive economic potential, operational AI is now a critical driver of business excellence, and company results. However, the shift to an AI powered operation is particularly obvious since nearly 80 percent of business leaders now consider AI to be critical to staying competitive. This is a view supported by real world results – these leading companies have experienced incredible improvements as a result of AI implementation, 40% shorter sales cycles, 25% higher conversion rates. In this we will examine how AI can be used to transform the way organizations operate from initial assessment to a successful roll out. In this comprehensive guide, we'll cover essential aspects of AI business models, practical AI deploys strategies, and methodologies to attempt to assess AI's effectiveness. Case study-based and conceptual approach, and practical frameworks will enable you to get and keep concrete results with operational AI, while addressing common challenges and limitations.</p>

1. Defining Operational AI and Its Business Impact

The operational AI is a tremendous business technology advancement that is ready to make itself available in the real world at the scale of commercial. This intelligent system is not related to basic AI research; it is designed for practical integration with business operations which are not ordinary [1]-[2].

1.1 The Evolution from Traditional Operations to AI-Driven Systems

This is a shift from traditional operation to AI driven businesses. Initially organizations depended on business rule based systems and no changes were permissible. Then AI has entered

dynamically, independently programmed platforms trying to read your needs and optimizing on their own. With continuous analysis of usage patterns, modern AI driven systems automate resource allocation and energy consumption for the better. It evolved through stages from manual to semi automated phases when screen based robots and intent based chatbots were responsible for performing repetitive tasks. Further to that, AI led intelligent automation introduced systems that were able to carry out tasks and make decisions based on a calculated data. Firms responded to such new information and began to learn from patterns, making possible the use of software robots for controlling the complexity of modern production processes [3]-[6].

Table 1: AI Applications in Business Excellence Domains

Domain	AI Use Case Example	Resulting Improvement
Quality Control	Defect detection using computer vision	Reduced inspection errors by 40%
Customer Service	Chatbots and virtual assistants	Improved response time by 55%
Process Optimization	Predictive analytics for workflow scheduling	Increased productivity by 30%
Supply Chain Management	Demand forecasting with machine learning	Inventory costs reduced by 25%
Human Resources	AI-based talent matching and retention models	Hiring accuracy improved by 35%

2. Key Components of Operational AI Technologies

Operational AI turns on the cornerstone of machine learning, injecting features for image recognition, speech recognition and predictive analytics into systems. With the help of Natural Language Process, machines are able to read, distinguish and understand human language and reply to user's queries. Another crucial part, computer vision aims at analyzing and understanding visual inputs so that AI algorithms could accurately identify objects.

The process involves large unstructured data being processed with deep learning through neural networks to derive meaningful insights. Specialized advisors are created by using a knowledge base for certain topics in the expert system. In the combination, the components are still working together processing large dataset to reduce the huge amount of information to provide us with the significant insight about the business operations [7]-[9].

2.1 How Operational AI Differs from Analytical AI

Both operational and analytical AI do very well with decision making in real time as compared to other approach. They integrate directly into the operational databases, and immediate actions such as dynamic pricing, real-time fraud detection, instant customer service response, can be taken. The main difference is that operational AI can make automated decisions so quickly that they act fractions of a second, with no human intercession, while processing huge quantities of real time data. Operational AI on the other hand, is built to address real time processes that included transactional information for inventory control, order processing, and financial information. This data is necessary to keep the current state of business operations and is imperative to instant decision making and performing duties. Retailers, for example, leverage operational data from point of sale systems to track how sales are taking place, which inventory levels are available in real time and when an item was shipped to and from a customer.

Operational AI impacts are spread throughout the full range of business functions. Financial institutions can quickly identify and prevent the fraudulent activities for fraud detection and risk management. Additionally, operational AI reduces operations costs by identifying bottlenecks in the production line and supply chain, and improves service to customers through personal interaction. These systems have predictive maintenance capabilities based on which an equipment failure can be anticipated and costly downtime avoided.

The research by Microsoft Azure shows that 95% of businesses will expand their use of AI over the course of two years. While a significant resounding, 56% of organizations have found it hard to scale and operationalize AI. For AI to be deployed operationally however, there can be no shortcuts: pilots must be run of specific high impact areas, and successful partners identified with an investment in modernizing infrastructure to support workloads for the AI [10]-[11].

2.2 Assessment of Operational Readiness for the Implementation of AI

Organizations must first conduct an assessment of their readiness before implementing operational AI. Successful AI adoption is a matter of a strategic approach of calculating the current capabilities and deciding which ones need to be improved [12]-[13].

Current Process Efficiency and Pain Points Evaluation.

However, the first step in the successful implementation of AI involves pinpointing workflow inefficiencies and bottlenecks that slow the productivity of the company. You should go through each step in your processes and find where you can have errors usually occur or a task gets delayed. Shared pain points often result from cross team collaboration as duplicated tasks that affect more than one department come to light. Clearly, there is nothing so inefficient as not having ownership for each step in the workflow.

To perform a comprehensive evaluation, a workflow must be broken down and repetitive tasks as well as error prone neighborhoods must be identified. Organizations are able to view the entire process and identify bottlenecks slowing down operations by mapping entire processes. In the actual, this evaluation is useful to determine when an AI solution can augment the operation efficiently. They should understand both human and systematic inefficiencies organizations must focus on both, because operative processes which were originally established to minimize mistakes could actually keep people busy on less valuable tasks [14]-[16].

2.3 Data Infrastructure Requirements for Operational AI

Success with AI implementations relies on data infrastructure. Research shows high quality data is of the essence in this for AI systems to learn patterns and make good predictions. As a result, organizations should measure data quality with regard to accuracy, completeness, consistency and relevance to dealing with a particular business problem (Wang, 1998). In fact, bad data quality

results in a poorer model and poorer predictions, which effectively defeat AI.

Storage solutions itself are crucial to manage the data consumed and the data being generated by AI applications. However, these systems must be able to supply the power of these fast processing and analyzing AI models while also having very high capacity and very short access times. Used for unstructured data, object storage performs best when dealing with scalability and durability in a generation of machine learning model training.

The workloads for AI are high bandwidth low latency connected infrastructure, which makes it important to have a careful consideration when setting up networking infrastructure. Advanced networking technologies such as software defined networking and network function virtualization bring in greater flexibility and scalability, whereby an organization is able to dynamically allocate resources in accordance to the AI applications' needs [17]-[19].

2.4 Organizational Skill Gap Analysis

Thorough analysis is needed to assess workforce capabilities for shifting towards the AI driven operations. According to research, these executives believe that 38 percent of their workers will require either fundamental retraining or replacement within three years in order to close workforce skills gaps. At the moment we are living in the age where talent for AI and Data is very much in demand and therefore talent attrition and retention is hard.

First, organizations should determine what skill levels they have currently based on different domains and evaluate the gap between these skill levels and the need for these skills. For example, the data science expertise, technical proficiency regarding managing AI technologies, and domain knowledge for industry applications are some key areas for assessment. There are several ways to bridge these gaps, and companies can take two or three steps; they could train their subordinates,

hire the AI specialist, or partner with AI consulting firms.

The importance of structured skill assessment is shown by the experience of Johnson & Johnson. By analyzing the abilities of all of its technologists using a large language model, the company identified 41 specific 'future ready' skills categorised into 11 capabilities on a 0 to 5 scale. With this assessment, we saw the usage of professional development ecosystem increase by 20% and 90% of technologists visiting the learning platform.

Good skill gap analysis also includes consideration of change management and organizational culture. Leadership support and employee buy-in prove crucial for successful AI adoption. For that, organizations are supposed to question with what degree the culture they have does not support innovation and continuous improvement, which are crucial factors in AI implementation success [20]-[23].

3. Creating an AI Driven Business model for Operations

To putatively create an effective AI driven business model, a systematic approach is needed where technological capabilities are directed towards operational objective. The result can be achieved by using AI's strength in operational efficiency and delivering meaningful outcomes by doing thorough mapping and redesigning workflows.

3.1 Addressing the mapping of AI Capabilities to the needs of operations

For AI to be successful, all the capabilities that AI brings should be understood in the context of how it fits business requirements. The analysis of data shows that the companies which are using AI are experiencing staggering results such as cutting off sales cycles by 40% and increasing conversion rates by 25%. Consequently, it is explained that 45% better patient outcomes have been reported by healthcare providers with AI driven operational transformation [24]-[27].

Table 2: Metrics for Measuring AI Impact on Business Excellence

Metric	Definition	Example Benchmark Value
Process Efficiency Rate	Tasks completed per time unit post-AI integration	+28% after 6 months
Customer Satisfaction Score (CSAT)	Feedback rating scale (1-10) after AI intervention	8.6 average score
Return on AI Investment (ROAI)	Financial gain relative to AI implementation cost	3.2x over 1 year
Quality Defect Rate	% of faulty outputs after AI-driven quality control	Reduced from 7% to 3%
Decision-Making Speed	Time taken from data input to action execution	45% faster on average

First, organizations need to figure out the specific areas for which AI will produce true value. Addressing corporate development and delivery operations with a thorough examination of the market opportunities for expansion and operational transformation is the key to unleashing corporate growth. The overall benefit of applying AI is not achieved if we apply it to every facet of our lives. Instead, first, we should apply AI to a select number of problems. For example, using AI in their supply chain operations they have reduced costs by 30% among logistics companies.

The AI factory framework acts as the systematic approach for converting raw data into useful insights. In this framework, the interconnected components (data pipelines and machine learning models) are used to automate decision making processes. The analysis of the capabilities of the business and the organizational structure done helps clarify the business on how it can foster collaboration across function and break down the silos of information sharing across departments [28].

3.2 Redesigning Workflows Around AI Capabilities

The workflow redesign is where one's operations fundamentally shift from the traditional way of operation to the AI integrated operation. And research shows that knowledge workers lose at least 4 hours a day on routine tasks. As a result, AI workflow automation is a concerted sequence of actions intended to simplify these processes.

And the transition will be a clean sheet approach to reinvent the workflows that are optimized for human AI collaboration. To scale up, organizations should first run pilot projects to validate the hypotheses and prove value. Businesses during this process must also create solid data

governance practices to secure data integrity, security, and regulations.

Successful workflow redesign requires cross functional collaboration. To achieve that, IT, marketing, operations and finance teams need to come together to make sure that solutions developed through AI solve real world problems. For example, those that utilize data scientists in collaborations with logistics teams have been able to implement AI models that forecast delivery delays and route optimization.

The effort on the redesign should be focused on the long term scalability and short term gains. These new rules for creating value have been successfully mastered by those companies whose market capitalizations have snowballed. This was the case with ServiceNow growing from IT service management to the broader enterprise software market with 85% growth in revenue and 90% customer retention rate.

Organizations need to monitor and optimize their AI workflows to keep the momentum. Performance metrics are regularly evaluated against and feedback from stakeholders is used to feedback in order to identify areas for improvement. Moreover, businesses should put in place employee training program, workshop and e learning modules to develop AI literacy and cultivate a safe environment for the adoption of AI [29]-[32].

3.3 Reusing existing AI capabilities to implement the AI in Core Operational Functions

The strategic AI implementation is deeply beneficial for core operational functions of the business. AI integration within organizational systems has made improvements in efficiency and productivity way more noticeable across the different industries.



Fig 1. Predictive AI for Supply Chain Optimization

Putting it simply, predictive AI makes fundamental changes to supply chain management as it processes large quantities of data to make logistics network more efficient. AI systems supervise inventory and forecast market trends in real time, and streamline documentation processes. Using AI powered simulations, supply chain managers visually see what possible disruptions entail and to prevent unnecessary downtime.

One example of IBM running with AI in supply chain is how their solutions have resulted in USD 160 million in savings while still maintaining a 100 percent order fulfilment rate even in the face of the COVID outbreak. Like smart predictive maintenance solutions have similarly reduced mining company production downtime by 30%.

3.4 Computer Vision as a Means of Manufacturing Process Enhancing.

Advanced image processing and AI processing turns computer vision technology into a revolution in manufacturing operations. These systems scrutinize production lines with a level of detail unimaginable in the past, finding anomalies and delivering valuable insight. Computer vision is used by manufacturing facilities to automate tasks hitherto performed by a human; these tasks are thereby made more precise and with fewer mistakes.

Computer vision applications are more than basic inspection; they include automated assembly, motor stator assembly and automated part picking. Comprised of real time visual monitors, these systems analyze visual data in order to identify wear, misalignment, or overheating in machinery. For instance, one of the automobile manufacturer was able to accurately identify defects at 97 percent utilizing the AI based visual inspection systems, significantly higher than humans inspectors who are able to spot defects at 70 percent.

4. Customer Service Automation with Conversational AI

A conversational AI is an application of using natural language processes and machine learning to make sense and respond effectively to human language in customer service operations.

Measurement: This technology determines intent in customer messages in order to anticipate customer needs and provide fast, correct solutions for service teams.

It's only by showcasing the impact of conversational AI with a case study like Bouygues Telecom that one can project savings, such as the 30 per cent decrease in pre- and post call operation through personalized solutions, upwards of USD 5million. These AI powered systems pick up and respond to routine questions and keep the human agents free to respond to questions requiring critical thinking and empathy. Conversational AI chatbots also show remarkable efficiency in translating support queries to as high as 50 percent, without error.

4.1 Quality Control Systems with Machine Learning

Predictive modeling and in real time monitoring are how machine learning enhances quality control processes. They use deep learning algorithms especially Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) to spot even tiniest defects with precise accuracy. Powered by AI, quality control systems analyze patterns and trends of production data and then allow manufacturers to preventively address problems.

This is effective across different industries including electronics, automotive manufacturing. Deep learning is used to overcome traditional hand crafted defects algorithms shortcomings and have unprecedented accuracy in defective detection. These systems progressively learn and adapt to become more and more capable of predicting the quality of their products and thereby help in reducing waste.

4.2 Materials and Methods for Successful AI Deployment

The deployment of operational AI is successful only if attention is paid to technology selection, implementation strategy and system integration in a very meticulous way. But it doesn't have to be this way — organizations can plan carefully for the full rollout, all the while minimizing disruption to the current state of affairs.



Fig 2. Technology Stack Selection Criteria

Successful operational deployment of a robust AI tech stack is the foundation. Processing intensive AI workloads depend on a number of CPUs, GPUs, and specialized hardware on high performance computing infrastructure. Since large datasets and model artifacts can lead to these systems, storage solutions in fact must handle them efficiently and can do so faster than the time of access. Ingestion of data from plethora of sources requires data collection and aggregation, which is achieved by data ingestion tools. The ability to interact with these tools and even preprocess automatically before training a model makes sure that the data involved is of good quality and standardized. Additionally, Jupyter Notebooks and PyCharm are all great development environments that are required for code experimentations and testing. With the emergence of monitoring tools that can track various metrics, such as model accuracy, latency and resource utilization, monitoring tools become essential tools for tracking several metrics. Continuous assessment of the system performance of an AI is possible using solutions like PowerBI, Datadog, and AWS CloudWatch. In parallel, model versioning and management tools ensure

reproducibility and traceability of AI implementations.

4.3 Phased Implementation Approach

An approach taken in a structured and phased manner reduces risks to help sustain AI adoption. A mega project is broken down into one to two high-opportunity areas and the idea is given a controlled pilot project. This method enables teams to be really close with their results and also fine tune systems before broad deployment. The first phase is to set up governance and change management strategies based on pilot learnings. Organizations then gradually ramp AI out across end to end operations with close human oversight and cross functionality. This methodical approach expands with potential problems coming to the surface and corrected early departing from a large failure.

Data quality is paramount during implementation phases. There is an enormous need for robust data management strategies, and 41 per cent of companies lead with this. The importance remains to build a skilled team during implementation also, as 36% of organizations have identified talent acquisition as a major challenge.

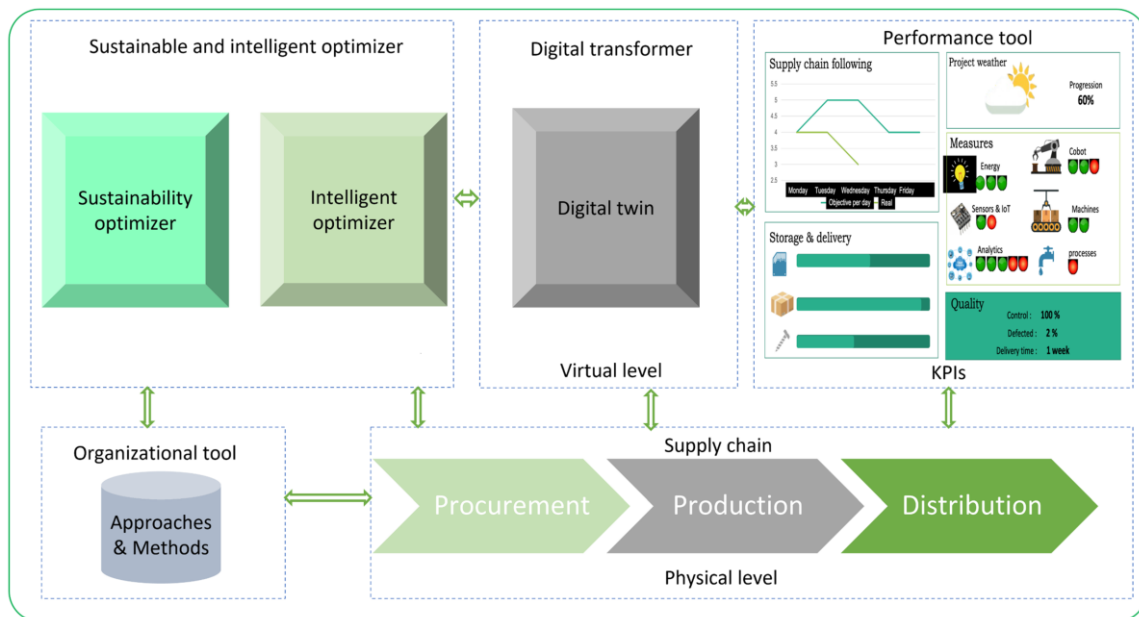


Fig 3. Integration with Legacy Systems

The integration of AI into legacy infrastructure is not possible unless the existing system limitations and capabilities are fully considered. First, organizations have to assess their legacy systems to get a hold on the constraints and points of integration in these systems. This assessment is a means with which AI can be identified and its immediate value be measured without causing significant disruption to critical operations.

Not only are APIs good ways to bridge between legacy systems and AI, but they are also great ways communication can happen without having too much code restructure. Solutions of the middleware nature allow for data exchange while minimizing introduction of changes to an existing infrastructure. However, such infrastructure limitations can challenge the AI processing capabilities such as outdated hardware and a lack of computing power.

Such data quality improvement initiatives as cleaning, validation and governance policies are setting legacy data up for use in AI. Security consideration must also be addressed by organizations as these legacy systems generally come without robust built-in security features required to protect AI powered processes. With proper planning prior to implementation and smooth execution, business can successfully modernize their operation while maintaining the stability of existing systems.

4.4 Measuring Operational AI Performance

An approach to measure operational AI effectiveness, as a whole, has to include traditional metrics and AI specific performance metrics. Organizations can systematically evaluate their AI implementations and continuously monitor them, so they can get the most out of AI in practice for their business.

AI in Operations Key Performance Indicators

Precise operational metrics give us a glimpse on to the performance and business outcomes of an AI system. Call and chat containment rates are metrics who measure how well the AI solutions handle incoming customer interactions as a measure of how much of that can be automated and scaled efficiently. It also includes average time for human and AI agent to resolve customer inquiries in terms of minutes.

These are the fundamental indicators of operational efficiency and are based on process times and error rates. However, when these metrics are being tracked, the associated organizations often see a significant improvement, some of which report a 35% reduction in downtime through AI implementation. One can draw on customer satisfaction score or customer churn rate to have a sense of the degree to which AI has impacted a service quality with an inverse correlation ruling the day as a general rule.

Measuring the amount of revenue generated per visit and number of visits also quantify the financial impact of AI implementations. The three times more likely are organizations utilizing AI driven KPIs than organizations that lack AI driven KPIs. A reduction in labor costs, as well as reduction in error rates and improvement in process efficiency brings operational cost savings.

4.5 Before-and-After Measurement Methodologies

To measure AI's impact in a structured way, you need to set baseline measurements before you implement the AI. To make this meaningful comparison, organizations need to collect complete data about the current performance levels on identified KPIs. Once cool, pilot projects

are first introduction of a solution, during which times, organizations gather some initial data and fine tune the solution.

Measurement methodologies place great deal on the quality of data. In order to derive reliable data, organizations evaluate how complete, timely, unique and reliable the data that is being tracked is. Data are better if it is of high quality, which results in more accurate predictions and decisions. Bias detection indicators help avoid distorted outcomes by assessing and addressing the potential biases in the datasets.

Process capacity measurements are used to evaluate the maximum output that can be obtained under different conditions. We look at knowledge extensibility metrics which characterize the degrees to which processed information can adapt to changing applications. Such measures serve to help organizations grasp both the short and long term consequences of their AI implementations.

5. Real-time Monitoring Systems for AI Performance

Continuous individual performance of an AI system is available through advanced monitoring tools. With real time insight, organisations can perform to correct it to right the perusing issues and realize the way AI performs inside the careful parameters. Teams check performance metrics via automated monitoring tools and receive alerts when something deviates or shows up anomaly.

Response time and throughput indicators measure the efficiency of the system as faster and more efficient the time of handling a request by the system. Evaluation metrics for AI models that robustly perform in face of unexpected data. These measurements of real time help organizations keep the system in performance and reliability.

However, AI greatly improves the detection of anomalies given the huge volumes of telemetry data to analyze and identify deviations from the normal behavior. Machine learning driven predictive analytics take a look at previous trends and predict that the system will have a potential failure or a performance bottleneck before it even happens. The intelligent observability tools with AI driven data correlation technique automatically analyze and surface the most likely root causes when the problems occur.

5.1 Case Studies: Measurable Results from AI in Operations

Operational AI in the real world has shown that there are increases in all areas of various industries. By studying successful deployments, organizations can gain valuable insights as to what the practical benefits of AI driven operations are.

Manufacturing Sector: 35% Reduction in Downtime

Major results were achieved by an AI powered factory assistant that was implemented to optimize an equipment maintenance. The system used sensors' data and historical maintenance records to predict possible machine failures. By monitoring equipment continuously, the AI assistant could identify early signs of equipment wear and tear, giving it the opportunity to perform the maintenance proactively.

A quick look at the results yielded unplanned downtimes were reduced by 35%. This resulted in a 20% increase in the overall productivity to that of the increased uptime of the machines. Besides, the manufacturing company also reported an 80 percent increase in the compliance of materials management and a reduction by 26 percent of the loss.

5.2 Logistics Company: 28% Improvement in Delivery Accuracy

AI also brought changes in logistics operations. Integration of AI-driven solutions reported a 28% better delivery success rates, and a 40% reduction of delivery related customer complaints. However, its order accuracy rates exceeded 99.9%, while processing time and operational costs decreased significantly.

Delivery routes were optimized by AI powered routing and scheduling systems based on multiple factors such as delivery points, traffic patterns, road conditions, fuel consumption. It led to a comprehensive approach that minimized travel time and costs as well as carbon emissions. The AI automation helped cut warehouse operations costs by up to 50% and safety by 90%.

Healthcare Provider: 40% Faster Patient Processing

AI implementation also brought huge impact to the efficiency of patient care within the healthcare sector. The processing speed and accuracy of healthcare providers using AI powered systems were significantly improved. A Medicare reimbursement for an AI algorithm it agreed to Medicare reimbursement for an AI algorithm that reached 87% sensitivity and 90% specificity in detecting diabetic retinopathy condition.

Other findings showed that primary care physicians saved an average of one hour per day using AI to perform their tasks. In addition to reducing administrative burdens, 66% of healthcare providers were affected. By integrating AI based in radiotherapy planning, waiting time for life saving treatments were cut by up to 90 percent for head and neck cancer treatments. As these case studies demonstrate, there are concrete and

tangible operational AI benefits across various different industries. Practical value of AI driven operations: The manufacturing sector's success in reducing downtime through predictive maintenance, logistics industry's achievement in delivery accuracy and healthcare's advancement in patient processing efficiency. The operational metrics of these organizations, the costs and service quality, tend to improve dramatically.

5.3 Limitations and Challenges in Operational AI

Although the operational AI holds the very promising potential, it is still far from being possible what organizations want to introduce and optimize. Since businesses need to understand these challenges to develop appropriate mitigation strategies, the lack of standard benchmarks makes it difficult for them to fully reap benefits from their investments in AI.

Data Quality and Availability Issues

A poor data quality is the biggest obstacle for AI operations, potentially damaging directly the model performance and reliability. Inaccurate or biased data can also produce inappropriate predictions, jeopardizing the completion of entire projects. Lacking data, the datasets are poorly labeled or data that do not reflect the real world.

Since the attackers can inject malicious or misleading information into the dataset, data poisoning is quite a threat. This of course distorts model training itself and is overall unreliable. Synthetic data also establishes ongoing feedback loops that can lead to further model decline over time, and ultimately, learn artificial patterns that deviate from physics in the real world.

Change Management Hurdles

Adopting AI poses challenging problems of organizational resistance. According to studies, 74 percent of leaders state that they include employees in change management, but only 42 percent of employees report that they actually do. However, this disconnect underscores the existence of a significant perception gap between the focus areas of leadership and the workforce in regards to implementing AI.

Employee resistance can be from fear of the unknown because 38 percent are worried about changes and 39 percent were not aware of the reasons for change. In addition, 41 percent of workers did not trust any organizational changes. However, overcoming these concerns involves transparent communication and inclusive implementation strategies, in order to be successful.

5.4 Ethical Considerations in Automated Decision-Making

Although privacy, surveillance and discrimination are critical to address when it comes to the ethical aspect of AI systems, some believe that it dwarfs its utility. The private companies use AI software without oversight to make important decisions in relation to health, employment, and creditworthiness. Particularly in banking the industry has undergone scrutiny because of the possibility that the nature of the AI models could perpetuate the historical bias that has caused the systematic disparate treatment of consumers along marginalized identities.

For ethical AI deployment, either robust governance frameworks or clear accountability measures are needed. To address this, organizations must reflect transparency in how AI models work by making stakeholders aware of the way in which the decisions are made. While this compliance is necessary, both within the law and beyond its boundaries, there's also the matter of data privacy and security concerns when dealing with sensitive information.

5.5 Cost-Benefit Analysis Challenges

There are tremendous difficulties in evaluating financial implications of AI implementation. I have friends who are decision makers – and very smart and thoughtful people – who are conscious about the importance and value of AI, but find many AI tools that don't necessarily have the capability to prove a compelling enough payoff based on just quantifiable efficiency gains. When assessing AI investments organizations need to think about tangible and intangible benefits.

However, these very intangible benefits are difficult to quantify, but they have a tremendous impact on business performance. Some of the advantages include reduced error, improved skills of the workforce, better response to changes, and increased competitive advantages. These benefits, while intuitively serving to improve business performance, are difficult to add into traditional ROI calculations because they are speculative.

There is very little a company can do to offset the very steep AI adoption costs that come from acquiring technology, updating infrastructure, and training personnel. Maintenance, cloud storage, data management and, most importantly, paying utility costs for running AI systems are ongoing expenses. Therefore, organizations should weigh how much to spend on these expenditures against the potential benefits keeping in mind both near term efficiency improvements as well as longer term strategic advantages.

6. CONCLUSION

Operational AI is a behavioral force that contributes substantially to the value on manufacturing, logistics, and healthcare sectors. AI-driven operations result in dramatic improvements, like a 35 percent reduction of manufacturing downtime and 40 percent speed of processing for patient in the healthcare facilities. There are several vital factors to consider and deal with if one wants to succeed. The infrastructure and skilled teams make it possible to have good data quality implementation. As with all things, despite some challenges in the ethical consideration and change management, if approached with a structured approach and robust governance framework organizations can overcome these challenges. AI has a real life impact on business excellence as it has been demonstrated by real world results. Predictive maintenance boosts the productivity of the manufacturing companies and AI powered routing better optimizes delivery for the logistics providers. You see that AI is not just good for one sector so much as it is versatile to all of them. It helps with streamlining patient care. Operational success of AI still relies on measurement. Better outcomes stem from organizations tracking specific metrics and using real time monitoring system. It is found that companies using AI driven KPIs deliver three times more financial benefits than companies without structured measurement approach. A bright future for operational AI is expected, as global AI spend reached \$154bn in 2023. Organisations that are embracing operations based on AI will benefit over the years and continue to benefit from sustained competitive advantage. However, success in any of this will require the willingness of any organisation to admit to continuous learning, continuous adaptation, continuous change and continuous improvement. To achieve operational excellence via AI implementation, businesses have to focus on building robust data infrastructure, data literacy among the teams, and maintaining ethical standards.

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