From Research to Application

In Data Science Teams

Hinda Haned, PhD
Owls & Arrows | University of Amsterdam
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Background



- Entrepreneur | Data Science ~ 2022
- Endowed professor data science ~ 2018
- Lead data scientist retail/pharma ~ 2015-2020
- Forensic statistician ~ 2010 2015
- PhD applied statistics ~ 2010

Question I will (try to) address in this talk

What were the issues/ problems/ difficulties you have encountered in your Startup journey and how did you solve the issues/ problems/ difficulties eventually

What I do

- Product focused on algorithmic auditing
- What I (actually) do:
 - Help organisations organise their data science/data analytics capabilities
 - Understand the requirements to generate value with data
 - Implement rigorous ways of working
 - Understand the landscape/possibilities
 - Education-focused

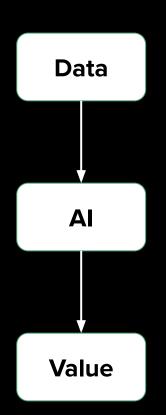
Motivation

Gap between expectations and reality of leveraging data and data science in a business context



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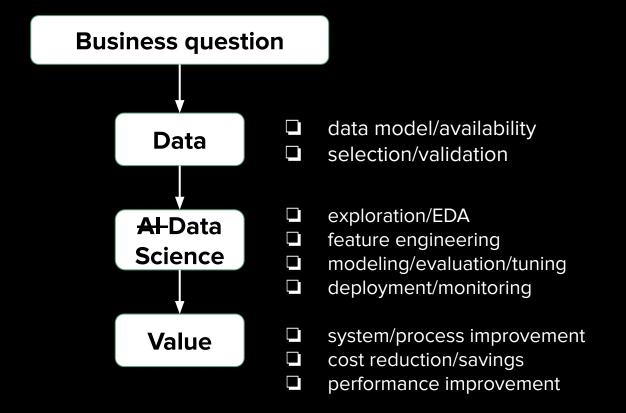
Data science in the wild



'Here is the data, put it in your magical box, see you later with the results! '-Robert X, SVP of stuff



Data science in the wild





- data quality
- resources
- regulation
- infrastructure
- domain expertise

Main challenge

Finding committed, meaningful partnerships or collaborators

" three failed projects



- tested my ideas with potential clients
- got started on my own!

Lessons learned so far...

- Ask for help (e.g. mentors, online communities)
- Get started (don't wait to be ready you never will be totally ready)
- Be flexible but don't forgo your values (e.g. working hours)
- Fail quickly > don't dwell, learn!
- Make a concrete plan (\$ /time)
- Don't work for free
- Get organised (use tools, platforms, e.g. Notion.so)

Thank you

https://hindantation.github.io/