



Vichaara

An International Journal of Management

Volume: 2

September 2015

Number:2

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The Master Algorithms

How the Quest for the Ultimate Learning Machine Will Remake Our World

Mr A.P. Raghuvaran, Assistant Professor, VIMS, Coimbatore

BOOK REVIEW

Book Author:

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Publication Details:

ALLEN LANE (2015)

ISBN: 9780241004548

This book clearly highlights the need for powerful computational technology that will tap the huge benefits from the tremendous amount data which are generated every second in all the fields from CERN to Social Media everyday. The technology which learns the nuances, trends and patterns hidden in the huge data and gives us great insights were widely discussed in this book was fascinating. The machine learning algorithms which runs behind it and does lot of work on behalf humans was elaborated with real time examples. The beautiful part of this book is, it demystifies those technologies and algorithms, and its huge applications from molecular biology to stock market. The justification for the need of understanding of machine learning given by the author shows the huge demand of human resource that have knowledge and skill set to develop machine learning programs in near future.

The recent technological break through has changed the way the machine operates. One such technology is Artificial Intelligence. Can the computer learn by itself from the real world experience? Yes it can, which was clearly elucidated in this book. The evolution of living beings to become a smarter species was witnessed this world so far. But today evolution has gone to next level. Human beings have evolved the machines through programs which make them to learn by it-self from external inputs and even make decisions and act accordingly the known best example is Google's driverless car. This is happening because of the inspirations drawn out by the humans from the nature, statistics,

laws of physics and neuroscience which they applied in machine learning was explained in this book in a holistic way.

The major parts of the book discusses the technology behind the Artificial Intelligence and how it can be applied in our day today activities from personal life to business, such as, the machine picking you the right blend of coffee you like by considering your previous preference and feedback that you have given to coffee maker, suggests you the best route to travel to the office or your targeted destination considering the traffic intensity of your planned travelling route, it also suggests you the best movie you may like based the movies so far you have watched and liked and offers cues to buy the best stocks which will have good appreciation in the future based on the past trading data and predictive analysis. But the key here is the need of vast data and deep analytical software to make the end result precise and beneficial to the end-user. It's a herculean task for the programmers to develop codes for machine to understand and achieve the targeted results. It can easily be addressed by machines with the use of the Artificial Intelligence programming that widely referred as machine learning algorithms.

The author elucidates how the traditional programming getting replaced by the machine learning algorithms (MLA) and how the complexity problem of the data and its analysis is combated by MLA with simple illustrations and logics. The computational potential of MLA which explained in this book proves the evolution of Artificial Intelligence and its future dominance in the emerging fields like Business through social media, Big Data, Cloud computing, Internet of Things and so on. The author suggested that the quest for universal learning is one of the most revolutionary and fascinating intellectual developments of all time. The Master Algorithm is the essential guide for anyone and everyone wanting to understand not just how the revolution will happen in computational technology, but how to be at its forefront.

About the Author: Pedro Domingos received an undergraduate degree (1988) and M.S. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (1992) from IST, in Lisbon and M.S. (1994) and Ph.D. (1997) in Information and Computer Science from the University of California at Irvine. He was the author or co-author of over 200 technical publications in machine learning, data mining, and other areas. He is the member of the editorial board of the Machine Learning journal, co-founder of the International Machine Learning Society, and past associate editor of JAIR. He was program co-chair of KDD-2003 and SRL-2009, and served on the program committees of AAI, ICML, IJCAI, KDD, SIGMOD,

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