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Top Artificial Intelligence Experts to follow



INTRODUCTION

Artificial intelligence - the most talked about buzzword these days. People can't seem to get enough of it - always making it trend with some or the other hashtag. It becomes challenging in such a case to sift through the noise and listen to what really matters. You need to know the evangelists of the domain who always have something interesting to say about the matter at hand. You need to be aware of the myriads of people who have both academic as well as professional expertise in Artificial Intelligence to keep up with the gamut of constantly-emerging news.

Let's see ten such AI influencers, a blend of industrialists, researchers, and professionals who have paved the path to a more robust foundation in the AI universe. These individuals represent voices which are the most interesting, relevant, cutting-edge, and tap into this ongoing fountain of innovation which is here to stay.



Manvender Singh
Chief Data Science Mentor
INSAID

Andrew Ng, Baidu

([@AndrewYNg](#)):



Andrew Yan-Tak Ng is the former chief scientist at Baidu, where he was responsible for leading the AI team. Andrew is also known as one of the co-founders of Google Brain and Coursera.

Ng researches primarily in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Deep Learning. NG founded the Google Brain project back in 2011 which developed huge neural nets using Google's distributed computing infrastructure. This project resulted in the training of a neural network using AI algorithms on 16k CPU cores. In time, that neural network started recognizing higher-level concepts, like dogs, just after watching YouTube videos - with no knowledge of what a “dog” is.

To know more about him and his works, visit his website:
<http://www.andrewng.org/>.

Why do we recommend him?

Having been an active part in revolutionizing Artificial Intelligence, Andrew is one of the torchbearers when it comes to data science and AI. Andrew has explored the world of AI as a researcher, a teacher, and a scientist; and he always has something interest to share. Also, the fact that he has a massive following of 100k on Twitter doesn't help.

Jeff Dean

([@JeffDean](#))



Jeff Dean is a computer scientist based out of North America and is presently the head of Google's AI division. Before joining Google, Dean worked at Compaq's Western Research Laboratory where his work revolved around profiling tools, microprocessor architecture, and information retrieval. At Google, he has frequently worked on improving search results, statistical machine translation, and has significant involvement in the engineering hiring process. He's also responsible for bringing TensorFlow - the most popular Machine Learning framework of developers - to life.

Why do we recommend him?

Having academic as well as hands-on work experience with everything AI and Machine Learning, Dean is the right person to follow if you wish to crowd your feed with the latest developments in the domain. Also, besides his expertise, awards, and accolades, there's a long list of honorary jokes which make him look like a superhuman (not that we doubt his superhuman skills) - don't forget to check them out.

Mustafa Suleyman

([@mustafasuleymn](https://twitter.com/mustafasuleymn))



Mustafa Suleyman is the co-founder and Head of Applied AI at DeepMind - an AI company recently acquired by Alphabet in 2011. Before founding DeepMind, Mustafa dropped out of Oxford University when he was 19 and started Muslim Youth Helpline - a telephone counseling service. The company became one of the largest mental health support services of its kind. Suleyman started out as the Chief Product Officer at DeepMind and is now one of the three co-founders. DeepMind has been acclaimed and backed by Elon Musk, Founders Fund, and Scott Banister among others.

Why do we recommend him?

DeepMind specializes in neural networks and made news last year. Their AlphaGo program convincingly defeated the world's best Go player. Suleyman's Twitter promotes dialogues around the accountability and transparency in AI algorithms and what challenges must be resolved for the brighter future of the technology. Before OpenAI, Greg was the CTO of Stipe, a FinTech company that builds tools enabling web commerce.

Yann LeCun

([@ylecun](#))



Yann Lecun is a computer scientist having specialization in machine learning, computer vision, computational neuroscience, and mobile robotics. He is the founding father of convolutional nets and is widely acknowledged for his work on optical character recognition and computer vision using convolutional nets. He is presently the chief scientist of AI research at Facebook.

Visit his website to know more about him and his works:

<http://yann.lecun.com/>

Why do we recommend him?

LeCun founded and sat at the head of the AI research group that made Facebook the top AI company ([by some rankings](#)). LeCun uses Twitter to keep his followers abreast of FAIR's work and AI developments around the world.

Fei-Fei Li

[@drfeifei](#)



Fei-Fei Li is an associate professor of Computer Science at Stanford University and the director of Stanford Artificial Intelligence Lab (SAIL). Her main areas of operations are Computer Vision and Cognitive Neuroscience. She has an extensive research experience and has published over 100 scientific articles. Among her most appreciated projects is the ImageNet project which revolutionizes the field of large-scale visual recognition.

Why do we recommend her?

Fei-Fei is the recipient of many awards including the IBM Faculty Fellow Award - 2014. On Twitter, she never misses sharing any path-breaking event that happens in the field of AI.

Harry Shum

([@harryshum](#))



Harry Shum is a computer scientist and currently the Executive Vice President of AI & Research at Microsoft. He is widely known as the developer of the search engine Bing apart from his work on Computer Vision and Computer Graphics. He has written more than 200 research papers and presented and published them at international conferences and journals, most of which were focused on Computer Vision and Computer Graphics. In the last decade, he has been extensively researching on web-searches and data mining.

Why do we recommend him?

It's difficult keeping up with all of Microsoft's developments. However, Shum makes sure to keep you up to date with its AI developments. Shum highlights the progress Microsoft is making and points his followers to noteworthy AI news.

Kate Crawford

([@katecrawford](#))



Kate Crawford is many things into one - she's a writer, composer, producer, and academic. She is the Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research. Her research is mainly around social change and media technologies, particularly on the intersection of humans, mobile devices, and social networks. Kate has published and presented papers on various topics like social media, the interplay between gender and mobile devices, young people and sexting, and big data.

Why do we recommend her?

Crawford tackles important social and political questions in and around AI and its growing hold on the the digital space. She offers a perspective of the advanced technologies for both the newly curious and the experienced AI experts by sharing a wealth of technical resources and highlighting important real-world applications of AI.

Oren Etzioni

([@etzioni](#))



Oren is an American entrepreneur and professor of Computer Science at the University of Washington. He's also the CEO of the Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence. He has been associated with the University of Washington since 1991 when he joined as a faculty. Later, he went on to become the Washington Research Foundation Entrepreneurship Professor in the Department of CSE. In May 2005, he founded the university's Turing Center which investigates problems in data mining, NLP, semantic web, and other web searches topics. Also, he's responsible for the coinage of the term "machine reading".

Why do we recommend him?

Etzioni keeps his Twitter updated with the latest AI trends, technologies, and news. He is focused on the limitations and responsibilities that come with AI and is reportedly working on a Hippocratic oath for AI developers.

Reza Zadeh

([@Reza Zadeh](#))



Reza Zadeh is a Computer Scientist specializing in Machine Learning. He is the CEO at Matroid and an adjunct professor at Stanford University. As a part of his research, he created the machine learning algorithm responsible for Twitter's friend recommender system and released it open source. He has also helped create MLlib library and Linear Algebra package for Apache Spark.

Why do we recommend him?

When it comes to AI, Reza brings forth a mix of a highly technical big picture with plenty of colorful visualizations along the way. He is an expert on TensorFlow applications and focuses his academia around machine learning, distributed computing, and discrete applied mathematics.

Elon Musk

([@elonmusk](#))



You might know him as the guy who sent his car into space, yes? Elon Musk has been the talk of the town for some time now. A South African-born Canadian American business magnate, investor, and engineer. He is the founder, CEO, and lead designer of SpaceX; co-founder, CEO, and product architect of Tesla, Inc.; and co-founder and CEO of Neuralink. He is also associated for the inception of OpenAI with \$1 billion in funding with the mission to build safe artificial general intelligence (AGI) and ensure AGI's benefits are as widely and evenly distributed as possible, and to reduce the influence of the significant concentration of AI research by IBM, Google, Facebook, and Microsoft.

Why do we recommend him?

Musk is one of the most popular heroes of the tech scene today and is solely living up to the dream of Nicola Tesla. His project Tesla Motors is a prime example of that. Musk is an expert when it comes to implementing Artificial Intelligence systems and is expected to roll out fully autonomous cars powered by [Tesla-developed AI systems](#) in the next two years. He might not be a researcher in the field of AI, but when he talks, people listen.

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