

8 AI Use Cases



Why invest in AI?

$$\text{Profit} = \text{Revenue} - \text{Costs}$$

Increase revenue

Analyze and leverage data at large scales

Act on data faster and automatically

Decrease costs



Use Case Life Cycle



- Find relevant use cases consistent with AI strategy



- Compare the expected value with implementation complexity



- Rank cases based on high value and low complexity



- Start with the most valuable cases first



Identify use cases

- Talk to the **right people**
 - Bring together domain experts, business stakeholders and AI experts
 - Ensure that initiatives address broad organizational priorities
 - Increase adoption chances by involving end users in the application design
- **Brainstorm** sessions to keep communication lines open
 - Defer judgement and encourage wild ideas
 - Build on ideas but stay on target
 - Go for quantity, more is better at this stage
- Not AI-ready?
 - Bring in external expertise



Questions to ask - strategy

- What **goals** are driving the company right now?
 - Better customer service to increase retention
 - Increase percentage of sales made with new products
- Which **challenges** keep you up at night?
 - How to make our ads more successful?
 - How to keep customers from leaving?
- What is driving current **bottlenecks** or preventing progress?
 - High production costs
 - High storage costs
 - High employee rotation



Questions to ask - processes

- Where would you benefit from knowing the **future**?
 - Future demand or supplier prices
 - When to maintain the machinery
- Where are things done **over and over again**?
 - Repetitive processes in data entry: invoices, sales, payroll, etc.
- Which tasks involve complex **planning**?
 - Manufacturing: supply orders and maintenance
 - Scheduling & logistics: deliveries and workers shifts



Questions to ask - customer

- What's hard and **annoying** for customers?
 - Returns and refunds → streamline/automate the process
 - Poor customer service → chatbots to answer faster
- What would you like to **know**?
 - Why do customers leave?
 - What will they buy in the future?
- Are there **friction points** in the customer journey?
 - Brand awareness & leads: automatic creation of social media posts or newsletter
 - Sales & loyalty: targeted promotions and advertising



Questions to ask - data

- What things are input **manually**?
 - Emails, receipts, reimbursements, etc.
- Where do you have a lot of **relevant** data?
 - Marketing: reach of campaign & ROI from different channels
 - Retail: personal customer data & order details
- Where do you already use some data to drive **decision-making**?
 - Dashboards for ad campaigns
 - Some parts of a production are semi-automated (e.g., quality control)



Assess use cases

Value

- What is the desired output of a given AI application?
- What business value does use case bring?
- What strategic advantages does it bring?
- Over what time period will be the value derived?
- Is this a game changer or business extender?

Complexity

- What data is needed to train a given AI solution?
- Is data available in our organization?
- Is the infrastructure ready or do we need to build one?
- What AI capability is required and do we have this?
- What are the greatest obstacles to solve this problem?



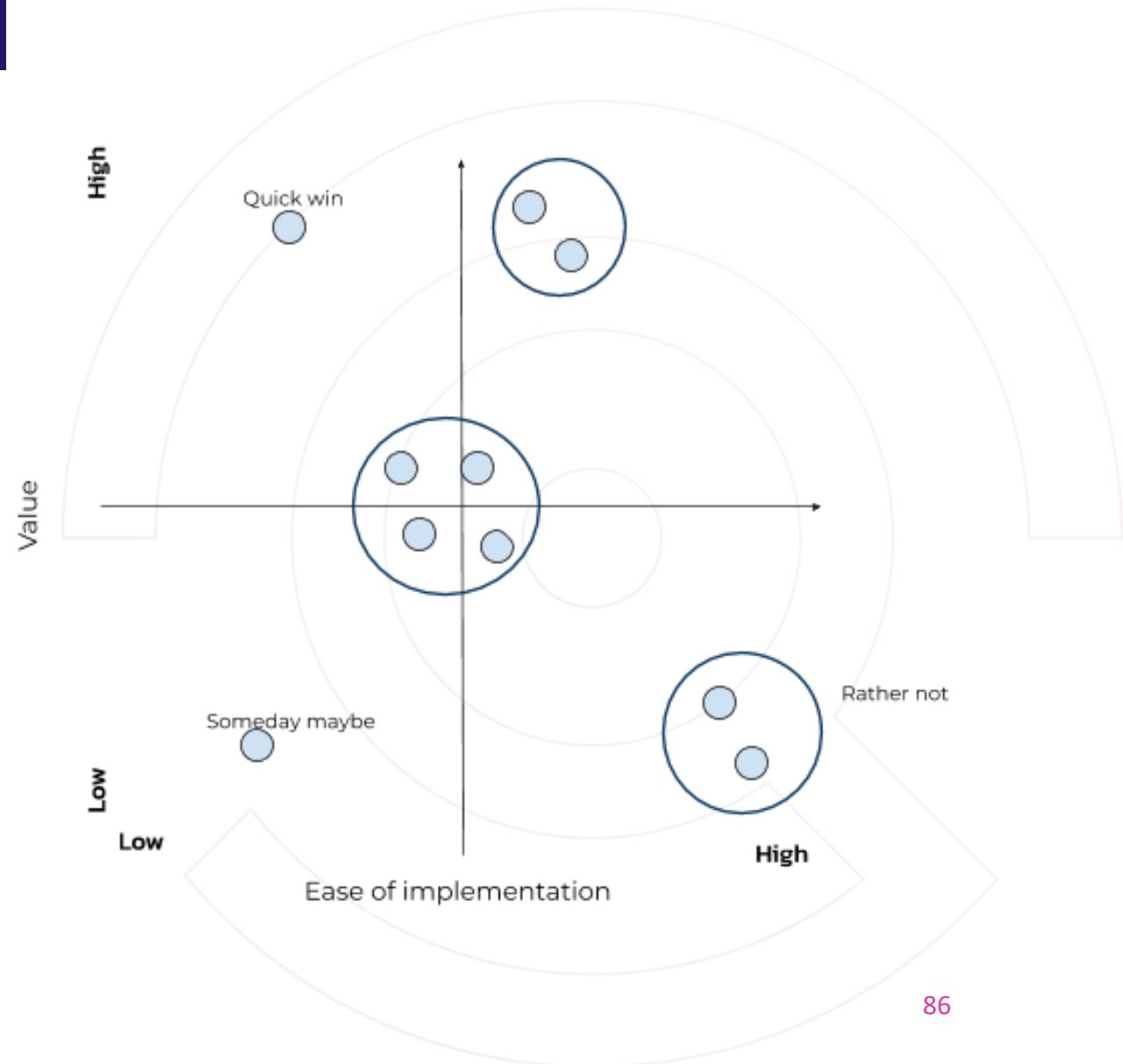
Score use cases

- **Value**
 - Score from 1 (no value) to 5 (lot of value)
- **Complexity**: average the following three components
 - **Data**: score from 1 (we have all data) to 5 (need to collect a lot of data, possibly hard to get)
 - **AI skills**: score from 1 (easy to implement) to 5 (requires research and experimentation from the team or even external experts)
 - **Infrastructure**: score from 1 (infrastructure is ready) to 5 (infrastructure needs to be built with lots of processing power and storage space)



Prioritize use cases

- Rank **individual cases** according to value and complexity scores
 - Plot value vs complexity
- **Cluster** use cases that are close
 - Prioritize clusters by value added and number of use cases
- Are there any **quick wins**?
 - Start with these





Churn modeling

- Why **important**?
 - Losing clients affects company revenue numbers and profits
- How does it **benefit business**?
 - Customer retention increases revenue and decreases costs
 - Understanding churn behavior leads to more effective retention strategies
- What **data** is needed?
 - Customer behavior, transactions, demographics, product usage/patterns, etc.



Recommender system

- Why **important**?
 - Increasing sales via personalized offers and an enhanced customer experience
- How does it **benefit business**?
 - Accurately guiding prospective buyers to your products increases revenue
 - Set-up of cross-selling possibilities
- What **data** is needed?
 - Customer data, user ratings and system interaction data (e.g., clicks, searches, visits, purchases, favorites)



Demand forecasting

- Why **important**?
 - Used for strategic business plans (e.g., budgeting, financial planning, sales and marketing plans, capacity planning, risk assessment and mitigation plans)
- How does it **benefit business**?
 - Improved inventory availability can increase revenue
 - Reducing storage waste can decrease costs
- What **data** is needed?
 - Sales data, product demand, market conditions, ecommerce, etc.



Fraud detection

- Why **important**?
 - Fraud increases costs and thereby leads to profit loss
- How does it **benefit business**?
 - Fraud prevention decreases costs
 - Identifying fraudsters leads to prevention of unnecessary payments
- What **data** is needed?
 - Customer behavior and transaction data

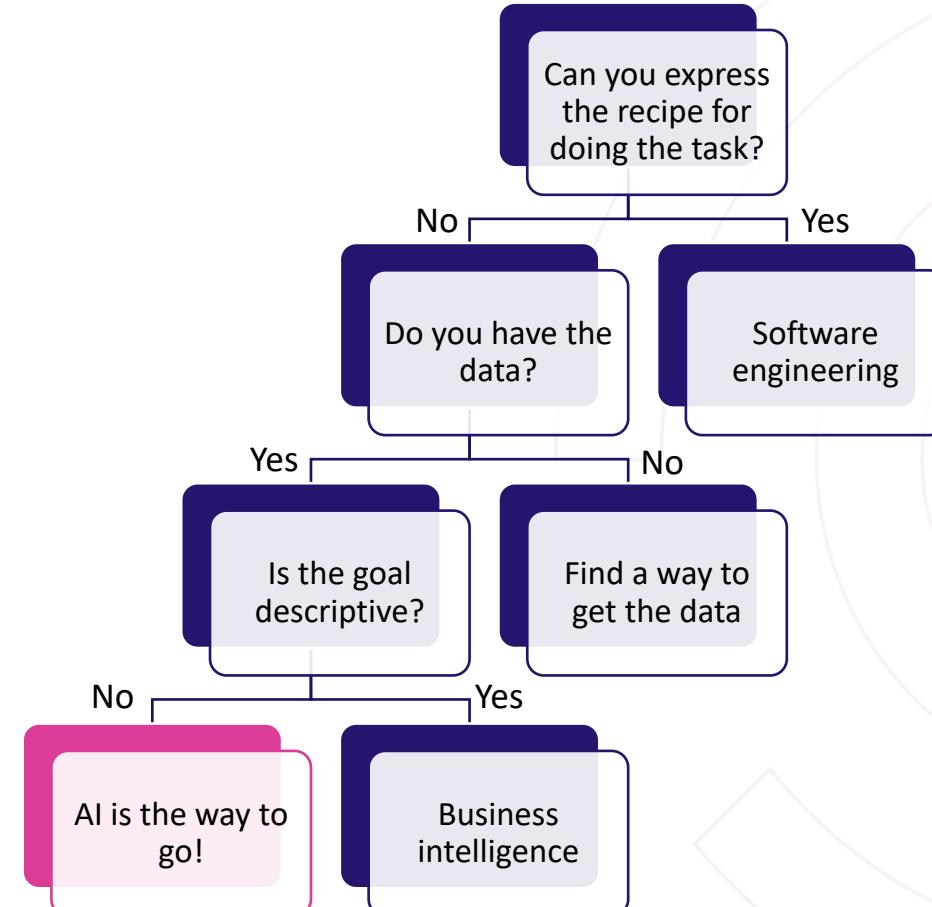


Targeted advertising

- Why **important**?
 - Cost-effective approach as it minimizes wasted advertising
- How does it **benefit business**?
 - Sales go up and customer satisfaction increases (less annoyed by random ads)
 - Targeting successfully leads to increased revenue and decreased costs
- What **data** is needed?
 - Purchase history & client personality, attitude, opinions, lifestyle and interests



Is AI the answer to your problem?





AI⁴Business



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