RemAIning Relevant

How Economists Can Evolve Before AI Eats Their Lunch

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Economics and Generative AI

This is a big topic and could mean:

- How AI affects society and the economy
- Using AI to increase productivity, scope, and scale
- Using deep learning techniques in Economic models

I will focus on using AI tools to super-charge the workflow for Economics

The AI-Powered Economist

Economists risk obsolescence if we don't update our workflow to use Gen AI:

- Convergence of job families into a "Super IC"
- Increased impact and expanded frontier of possibilities
- Reduced dependencies on other specialists (e.g., engineers, IT, etc.)
- Must embrace short term pain to integrate AI into our workflow

Agenda

Today, I will demo a couple ways AI is changing how Economists work:

- Everyday tasks using Q CLI:
  - ▶ Working with documents (summary, assessment, writing)
  - ▶ Eliminating toil (convert whiteboard images to markdown)
  - ▶ Assessing submissions for a poster session
- Performing research and automation using Quick Suite
- Building code to answer research questions using *prompt driven development* using Q CLI or Kiro

Warning: Ownership and Quality

You remain the owner of all work you create with Gen AI:

- Trust but verify
- Don't cowboy push some vibe coded AI slop to prod. . . .
- You are still responsible for quality and ethical standards of your work
- Don't outsource your thinking to AI, use it to accelerate your workflow
- Fact-check every fact at the original source