

# Latest AI News

## The Great Data Integration Schlep by sarahconstantin

Source: *Featured posts* - LessWrong 2.0 viewer

Published: Fri, 13 Sep 2024 15:40:02 +0000

URL: <https://www.greaterwrong.com/posts/7L8ZwMJkhLXjSa7tD/the-great-data-integration-schlep>

Summary: The article discusses the complexities surrounding the integration of data in industrial and manufacturing contexts, particularly under the frameworks of "digital transformation," the "Fourth Industrial Revolution," and the "Industrial Internet of Things." It emphasizes that for companies to leverage artificial intelligence (AI) or even perform basic statistical analysis, they must first effectively consolidate and digitize their data. Despite generating vast amounts of data through machinery and processes, much of it remains siloed or poorly managed, making it challenging to access and analyze. Data integration is hampered by both technical and human factors. Technical challenges include digitizing paper records, standardizing data formats, and setting up necessary infrastructure. Human factors encompass corporate politics, fear of job redundancy due to automation, and strict IT policies that govern data sharing and access. The article highlights that obtaining data access can often be more labor-intensive than actual software implementation, requiring significant negotiation and relationship-building. Additionally, it portrays data cleaning as a tedious yet crucial process that often demands more time than the analysis itself. The author argues that the potential economic impact of AI hinges on overcoming these hurdles, which require not only technological solutions but also human adaptability and cooperation to realize significant innovation in business environments.