



Data Angels

Our goal is to catalyse the data science ecosystem in India. www.ml-india.org provides information on research, companies, data sets and people in machine learning in India as a step in this direction. One essential part to make the ecosystem vibrant is to support companies based on machine learning.

Data Angels is an initiative to help build the world's smartest companies based on data/AI from India.

I. **Who are we?**

Angel investors/advisors for highly innovative companies based on AI/data science from India. Individuals include who have expertise in machine learning and who have built successful technology based companies/data science practices.

II. **Motivation:**

- a. India has produced some big consumer/mobile/internet driven companies.
- b. We are still waiting for global companies based on AI/data from India.
- c. In the next 3-5 years India will/should produce highly innovative IP-driven companies with a global market. We are thinking a driverless car or a Siri.

III. **Challenges faced by AI/data companies:**

- a. Lack of funding from traditional VCs due to little or no success stories as yet.
- b. Roadmap for technology start-ups is not appreciated - want fast go to market.
- c. Innovation happening in universities without precise business wisdom/business connects.
- d. Lack of geographic proximity to the ML/AI ecosystem.

IV. **Our solution:** We will support companies based on hard-core technology innovation. These companies will have the following features:

- a. Hard-core technology backed product driven by AI/data.
- b. Globally differentiated innovation big plus.
- c. Publications/patents big plus.
- d. Fusion of tech/multi-disciplinarily aka IoT, 3-d printing, biotech, crowdsourcing.

V. **What we do not support:**

- a. Companies which use data/AI in some business process; say to optimize sales using recommender system. On the other if the company sells recommender system, it will be a good target.
- b. Internet companies that use recent innovations in data infrastructure at backend, say we use Hadoop to enable real-time search on friend messages. On the other if did an innovation which makes a business proposition possible which was not so earlier, welcome!

VI. **Stage:**

- a. Technology prototype is ready and demonstrable. Doesn't require to be production ready
- b. Clear description of core IP and the innovation carried out.
- c. Proven business case and value demonstrated empirically
- d. Useful to have some beta users/customers; a business pilot big plus
- e. Product roadmap and business plan is framed

VII. **Process:**

- a. Fill a form with your company details [here](#).
- b. You will be provided with a response within 15-30 days.
- c. If you qualify, you will be invited to make an initial presentation. If you qualify this, your company details will be shared with our angels.
- d. We will facilitate connection with interested angels and investment.