Faculty Development Program on Teaching Machine Learning: The Missing Links

Date: November 06, 2023

Venue: Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Technology, Delhi.
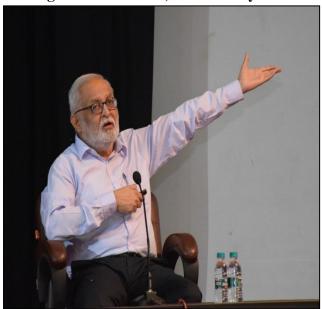
Speaker: Prof. (Dr.). J.V. Desai, Distinguished Alumnus, IIT Bombay

Speaker's profile:

Prof. (Dr.). J.V. Desai
Distinguished Alumnus, IIT Bombay

Prof. (Dr.) J.V. Desai is a distinguished alumnus of IIT Bombay with a remarkable career spanning over 40 years in academia and the professional world. He has served in several institutions of repute in leading administrative academic profiles including as Dean, Director and also as Vice Chancellor for successive tenures. He is presently working in the leadership team at Ramaiah Technology Campus, Ramaiah University of applied sciences.

Dr. J.V. Desai's expertise primarily revolves around the ever-evolving realms of Machine Learning and Deep Learning. Notably, he has guided research scholars in crafting predictive models based on Machine Learning, which find applications in both engineering and business analytics. In addition to his academic pursuits, Dr. Desai has played pivotal roles in various national and international academic and accreditation bodies, including NBA, NAAC, and ABET. His influence extends to several prestigious universities where he has held senior management positions, leaving a lasting impact on the academic landscape. Dr. Desai's commitment to knowledge knows no bounds, as he has crisscrossed the globe to participate in seminars and deliver enlightening lectures across a spectrum of subjects.

Key Highlights:

Prof. J.N. Desai started the talk with a roadmap for an AI engineer. He stressed on learning fundamentals of statistics, probability, Linear Algebra and calculus which are the pillars for machine learning. He gave a beautiful example on how different statistical models should be selected based on their application and what assumptions should be considered while selecting these models.

Prof. Desai stressed on understanding the problem rather than focussing on model parameters. He also discussed the significance of data in framing of the model and how explicitly the model presents the data. He highlighted the role of teachers in building the fundamentals of machine learning which are rarely discussed in the classroom.

Prof. Desai talked about the inclusion of Real Time Operating System (RTOS) and how this system can be embedded in the Machine Learning course. He also suggested that including courses like IOT, Data Science, Block Chain, Cyber Security etc. in the form of minor programs in graduate courses could increase the employability of the students.

The event also saw the launch of the book titled "Decoding Artificial Intelligence" authored by Prof. (Dr.) Sachin Gupta (Dean of Research and Innovation at MAIT, Delhi) and Dr. Bhoomi Gupta (Associate Professor in the IT Department at MAIT, Delhi). The book launch took place in the presence of notable individuals, including Dr. N.K. Garg (Founder and Chief Advisor, MATES), Prof. S.K. Garg, (Director General, MAIMS), Dr. Subodh Jindal (Chairman, Silver Jubilee Celebration, MATES), Prof. J.V. Desai (Event speaker), Prof. Neelam Sharma (Director, MAIT), Prof. S.S. Deswal (Dean, Academics) and various other distinguished guests.

Finally, the event was concluded with the Vote of Thanks by Prof. Neelam Sharma.