AI Notes

Session 1 : **Fundraising for AI Startups**

Generated by AI. Make sure to check for accuracy.

Meeting notes:

- **Panel Introductions:** Prashant, Ashutosh, Vardhan, Aditi, and Ankit introduced themselves, sharing their backgrounds and current roles. Prashant is a serial entrepreneur and angel investor, Ashutosh is the founder and CEO of Revarag AI, Vardhan is part of the investment team at Stellaris Venture Partners, Aditi is an operator in the startup ecosystem, and Ankit is a principal at South Park Commons.
    - **Prashant's Background:** Prashant shared his extensive experience as a serial entrepreneur and angel investor. He has been involved in several successful Silicon Valley startups, focusing on semiconductor electronic design automation, SaaS, and AI over the past 10-15 years. He is currently running a venture called CS 1st, incubating global capability centers for Series A+ startups, and is proud to represent Winsurp, a fast-growing AI startup.
    - **Ashutosh's Background:** Ashutosh introduced himself as the founder and CEO of Revarag AI. He has a background in product management and has been a founding member at Cylindel and worked at Six Sense, scaling products there. He is passionate about AI agents for BFSI, working with top lenders, insurers, and banks in the country.
    - **Vardhan's Background:** Vardhan shared his role as part of the investment team at Stellaris Venture Partners, focusing on software and deep tech investments. He has a background as a techie, having worked at Bloomberg, Lyft, and Clickup, where he was the head of AI/ML. He has experience in building pricing models and marketplace systems.
    - **Aditi's Background:** Aditi introduced herself as an operator in the startup ecosystem, having worked on both the startup and VC fronts. She has experience in product management at Razor Pay and venture capital at Boltcap, where she built a dedicated platform called Bracket. She is currently building out Lumber, an AI-based startup in the workforce construction industry.
    - **Ankit's Background:** Ankit introduced himself as a principal at South Park Commons, a new venture in India. He has been an operator all his life, having been a founder and gone through the journey in India and the US. He is now focused on helping people in their -1 to 0 journeys and investing in founder fellows.
- **Focus on Fundraising for AI Startups:** Ankit emphasized the focus of the panel on fundraising for AI startups, highlighting the diverse backgrounds of the panelists and their experience as operators.
    - **Panel Focus:** Ankit highlighted that the panel would focus on fundraising for AI startups, leveraging the diverse backgrounds and experiences of the panelists, who are all operators or have been operators in the past.

    - **Real Insights:** Ankit expressed his expectation for the panelists to share candid and real insights on what to expect in the current fundraising landscape for AI startups, considering the changes and challenges in the industry.

- **Importance of Proprietary Data and Unique Use Cases:** Prashant discussed the importance of proprietary data and unique use cases for AI startups, emphasizing the need to prove the value of the application and go deeper into verticals.
    - **Proprietary Data:** Prashant emphasized that having proprietary data is crucial for AI startups, as it provides a competitive edge and helps in proving the value of the application. He mentioned that startups with access to unique data and proprietary relationships are more likely to succeed.
    - **Unique Use Cases:** Prashant highlighted the importance of focusing on unique and specific use cases rather than generic ones. He mentioned that AI startups should aim to address complex workflows and provide real value to their customers by going deeper into verticals such as healthcare, insurance, and fintech.
    - **Verticalization:** Prashant discussed the trend of AI startups moving towards more mainstream enterprise applications, where proving the value of the use case is essential. He emphasized the need for startups to focus on verticalization and address specific industry needs to stand out in the market.
- **Founder Market Fit and Verticalization:** Ashutosh highlighted the importance of founder market fit and verticalization for AI startups, sharing his experience with Revarag AI and the need to compound knowledge in sales, marketing, and product.
    - **Founder Market Fit:** Ashutosh emphasized the importance of founder market fit, where the founders have a deep understanding of the market they are targeting. He shared his experience with Revarag AI, where the team had expertise in BFSI and AI, which helped them build a successful product.
    - **Verticalization:** Ashutosh discussed the need for AI startups to focus on verticalization, going deep into specific workflows and industries. He mentioned that Revarag AI focused on onboarding for BFSI, which allowed them to provide significant value to their customers.
    - **Compounding Knowledge:** Ashutosh highlighted the importance of compounding knowledge in various areas such as sales, marketing, and product development. He mentioned that continuously improving and building on existing knowledge is crucial for the success of AI startups.
- **Differentiation and Edge:** Vardhan emphasized the importance of differentiation and edge for AI startups, discussing the need to identify a market that nobody else is looking at and the importance of distribution.
    - **Market Differentiation:** Vardhan stressed the importance of identifying a unique market or niche that is not being addressed by others. He mentioned that having a clear differentiation and edge is crucial for AI startups to stand out in a crowded space.
    - **Distribution Edge:** Vardhan discussed the significance of having a strong distribution edge, whether it is through product quality, massive distribution channels, or unique

customer insights. He emphasized that startups need to leverage their strengths to gain a competitive advantage.

    - **Founder Market Fit:** Vardhan reiterated the importance of founder market fit, where the founders have a deep understanding of the market and can leverage their expertise to build a successful product. He mentioned that this fit is a key factor in achieving differentiation and edge.

- **Customer Insights and Efficiency:** Aditi discussed the importance of customer insights and efficiency for AI startups, sharing her experience with Boltup and the need to save time and cost for customers.
    - **Customer Insights:** Aditi emphasized the importance of building AI products based on unique customer insights. She shared that understanding customer needs and pain points is crucial for developing solutions that provide real value.
    - **Efficiency and Cost Savings:** Aditi highlighted the need for AI startups to focus on efficiency and cost savings for their customers. She mentioned that products should aim to save time and reduce costs, which are key factors in gaining customer adoption and satisfaction.
    - **Experience with Boltup:** Aditi shared her experience with Boltup, where they introduced AI verticals based on customer insights and the need for efficiency. She mentioned that some companies launched AI features later to ensure they were addressing real use cases and providing value.
- **Challenges and Opportunities for Indian Founders:** The panelists discussed the challenges and opportunities for Indian founders building AI startups for the global market, emphasizing the need for strong technical understanding, GTM skills, and cultural awareness.
    - **Technical Understanding:** The panelists emphasized the importance of having a strong technical understanding for Indian founders building AI startups. They mentioned that Indian founders often have a strong technical background, which is a significant advantage.
    - **GTM Skills:** The panelists discussed the need for strong go-to-market (GTM) skills for Indian founders. They highlighted that understanding the market, building a solid GTM strategy, and having the right sales and marketing skills are crucial for success in the global market.
    - **Cultural Awareness:** The panelists emphasized the importance of cultural awareness for Indian founders. They mentioned that understanding the cultural differences and nuances of the target market, especially in the US, is essential for building successful relationships and closing deals.
    - **Opportunities for Indian Founders:** The panelists highlighted the opportunities for Indian founders, such as leveraging the strong technical talent pool, the growing AI ecosystem in India, and the potential to build products for both the Indian and global markets. They also mentioned the importance of building relationships with US investors and customers.

- **Complex Workflows and Proprietary Data:** Prashant shared insights on targeting complex workflows and proprietary data for AI startups, highlighting industries such as healthcare, insurance, fintech, and defense.
- **Fundraising Tips for AI Startups:** Ashutosh provided tips for preparing for a fundraise, emphasizing the importance of structuring the deal, picking the right VC, and being prepared for due diligence.
- **Contrarian Bets in AI:** Vardhan discussed contrarian bets in AI, highlighting the potential of human-in-the-loop AI services and the importance of guaranteeing outcomes.
- **Valuations for AI Startups:** Aditi shared insights on valuations for AI startups, discussing the typical ranges for pre-seed and seed rounds and the importance of focusing on traction.
- **Speed and Execution:** Prashant emphasized the importance of speed and execution for AI startups, highlighting the need for a united GTM strategy and quick iterations.

Session 2 : **Building and Implementing AI Agents & Solutions**

Generated by AI. Make sure to check for accuracy.

Meeting notes:

- **AI Adoption Challenges:** Amit initiated a discussion on the challenges faced by Indian startups in moving beyond prototypes in AI adoption. Sujit highlighted that core problem statements and enterprise-wide adoption challenges, such as integration, security, and compliance, are often not addressed early in the innovation cycle, leading to friction and limited deployment.
    - **Core Problem Statements:** Sujit mentioned that enterprises often find that the core problem statements of AI solutions are not aligned with their needs, leading to friction during adoption. This misalignment results in limited deployment beyond pilots or POCs.
    - **Integration Challenges:** Sujit emphasized that seamless integration with existing systems is a significant challenge for AI adoption. Enterprises require solutions that integrate well with their current infrastructure to ensure smooth operations.
    - **Security and Compliance:** Sujit pointed out that security and compliance are critical concerns for enterprises when adopting new AI technologies. Ensuring that AI solutions meet these requirements is essential for widespread adoption.
    - **Resource Constraints:** Sujit noted that innovative startups often face resource constraints, making it difficult to address the extensive requirements of enterprise-scale deployments. This limitation hinders the transition from prototypes to full-scale implementations.
- **Enterprise AI Adoption:** Ganesh shared a different perspective, emphasizing the significant demand and board-level interest in AI adoption. He noted that enterprises are conducting AB

tests and gradually increasing the volume of AI use cases in production, driven by the fear of missing out (FOMO) and consulting firm pushes.

    - **Board-Level Interest:** Ganesh highlighted that there is a strong board-level interest in AI adoption, with management pushing for AI integration in core functions to achieve cost savings and revenue increases.
    - **AB Testing:** Ganesh explained that enterprises are conducting AB tests to compare new AI systems with existing ones. This approach allows them to gradually increase the volume of AI use cases in production, ensuring a smooth transition.
    - **FOMO and Consulting Push:** Ganesh mentioned that the fear of missing out (FOMO) and the push from consulting firms are significant drivers of AI adoption. Enterprises do not want to fall behind their competitors in leveraging AI technologies.
    - **Incremental Adoption:** Ganesh noted that enterprises are adopting AI incrementally, starting with a small percentage of their operations and gradually increasing the scope as they see positive results. This cautious approach helps mitigate risks associated with large-scale deployments.

- **Data Access and Compliance:** Imran discussed the challenges of data access and compliance in deploying AI solutions in enterprises. He emphasized the need for enterprise controls, audit logs, and measures to ensure data security and compliance, which are critical for successful AI deployments.
    - **Data Access Challenges:** Imran highlighted that accessing enterprise data is a significant challenge for AI deployments. Enterprises are cautious about sharing their data due to security and compliance concerns.
    - **Enterprise Controls:** Imran emphasized the importance of having robust enterprise controls in place to manage data access and usage. These controls include authentication, authorization, and audit logs to ensure data security.
    - **Compliance Measures:** Imran discussed the need for compliance measures to meet regulatory requirements. Ensuring that AI solutions comply with industry standards and regulations is crucial for successful deployments.
    - **Data Security:** Imran stressed that data security is a top priority for enterprises. Implementing measures to protect sensitive data from unauthorized access and breaches is essential for gaining trust and facilitating AI adoption.
- **Autonomous AI Agents:** Ganesh explained that building truly autonomous AI agents requires more than just plugging into ChatGPT. He highlighted the importance of solving enterprise problems in the right way and differentiating the solution. He also mentioned the use of autonomous voice agents for specific tasks in various industries.
    - **Beyond ChatGPT:** Ganesh emphasized that building autonomous AI agents involves more than just integrating with ChatGPT. It requires addressing specific enterprise problems and providing differentiated solutions.
    - **Enterprise Problem Solving:** Ganesh highlighted the importance of solving enterprise problems effectively. AI solutions must be tailored to address the unique challenges and requirements of different industries.

    - **Autonomous Voice Agents:** Ganesh mentioned the use of autonomous voice agents for specific tasks in industries such as banking, financial services, automotive, and consumer durables. These agents handle tasks like customer service, underwriting, and claims processing.
    - **Copilot Use Cases:** Ganesh noted that while some tasks can be fully automated, others are better suited for copilot use cases, where AI assists human workers in performing their tasks more efficiently.
- **Multi-Agent Orchestration:** Jithin and Sujit discussed the increasing deployment of multi-agent systems and their real-world use cases. They highlighted the importance of orchestrating multiple agents to handle complex enterprise workflows and the challenges of data silos and contextualizing data for effective AI deployment.
    - **Multi-Agent Systems:** Jithin and Sujit discussed the deployment of multi-agent systems, where multiple AI agents work together to handle complex workflows. This approach allows for more efficient and effective AI solutions in enterprises.
    - **Real-World Use Cases:** They highlighted real-world use cases of multi-agent systems, such as in airlines for booking, rescheduling, and cancellations, and in insurance for claims submission and approval. These use cases demonstrate the practical applications of multi-agent orchestration.
    - **Data Silos:** Sujit pointed out that data silos are a significant challenge in deploying multi-agent systems. Enterprises need to address the issue of fragmented data to enable seamless AI workflows.
    - **Contextualizing Data:** Sujit emphasized the importance of contextualizing data for effective AI deployment. Ensuring that data is clean, relevant, and accessible is crucial for the success of multi-agent systems.
- **Optimizing Cost and Performance:** Imran and Sujit provided insights on optimizing cost and performance for scalable real-time AI agents. They emphasized the importance of container-native infrastructure, GPU utilization, and hybrid models to achieve cost efficiency and high performance in AI deployments.
    - **Container-Native Infrastructure:** Imran and Sujit emphasized the importance of using container-native infrastructure to optimize GPU performance. This approach allows for better utilization of GPU resources and reduces costs.
    - **GPU Utilization:** They discussed the need to maximize GPU utilization to achieve cost efficiency. Ensuring that GPUs are used to their full capacity helps reduce the overall cost of AI deployments.
    - **Hybrid Models:** Imran and Sujit highlighted the benefits of hybrid models, which combine public cloud, private cloud, and on-premises infrastructure. This approach provides flexibility and cost savings for enterprises.
    - **Cost Efficiency:** They provided insights on achieving cost efficiency in AI deployments by optimizing infrastructure choices and ensuring high GPU utilization. This helps enterprises manage their budgets effectively while scaling AI solutions.

- **Enterprise Readiness:** Ganesh outlined the key factors for making AI solutions enterprise-ready, including compliance, scalability, integration readiness, and demonstrating use cases in similar industries. He stressed the importance of having the necessary certifications and being prepared for integration with various enterprise systems.
    - **Compliance:** Ganesh emphasized the importance of compliance in making AI solutions enterprise-ready. Ensuring that AI solutions meet industry standards and regulatory requirements is crucial for gaining enterprise trust.
    - **Scalability:** He highlighted the need for AI solutions to be scalable, capable of handling large volumes of data and transactions. Demonstrating the ability to scale is essential for enterprise adoption.
    - **Integration Readiness:** Ganesh discussed the importance of integration readiness, ensuring that AI solutions can seamlessly integrate with existing enterprise systems. This includes having ready integrations with common CRMs and other tools.
    - **Use Case Demonstration:** He stressed the importance of demonstrating successful use cases in similar industries. Showing that AI solutions have been effectively implemented in comparable scenarios helps build confidence among potential enterprise customers.
- **Regulations and Self-Regulation:** The panelists discussed the evolving regulations around autonomous decision-making in AI. They agreed that self-regulation and focusing on use case-specific guardrails are essential to ensure compliance and avoid stifling innovation.

Session 3 : **How to Learn and Upskill in AI: Practical Pathways for Professionals and Students**

Generated by AI. Make sure to check for accuracy.

Meeting notes:

- **Introduction of Panelists:** Pavan introduced the panelists, highlighting their expertise and contributions in various fields, including marketing, AI, industrial operations, and education.
    - **Rohit's Introduction:** Pavan introduced Rohit as a marketing professional with nearly two decades of experience across various sectors, emphasizing his role in Bloom's thought leadership and his work with leaders in the VC ecosystem.
    - **Paritosh's Introduction:** Pavan introduced Paritosh from AI, highlighting his belief in the power of communities and his passion for creating content in Indian languages.
    - **Derek's Introduction:** Pavan introduced Derek from Accenture, noting his background from BITS Pilani and his contributions to AI in industrial operations.
    - **Satvik's Introduction:** Pavan introduced Satvik from Buildfast with AI, mentioning his cross-functional expertise and his advisory role to professionals in Fortune 100 companies on leveraging generative AI.

    - **Pavan's Introduction:** Pavan introduced himself as the CEO and founder of BCL India, a multinational advisory and compliance management firm, and mentioned his foundation, Mentors for Kids, focusing on upskilling commerce graduates in rural Karnataka.

- **Journey of AI:** Rohit discussed the rapid adoption and evolution of AI, noting the significant decrease in the cost of compute and the emergence of multimodal capabilities.
    - **Rapid Adoption:** Rohit highlighted the unprecedented pace of AI adoption by consumers, surpassing predictions by experts and venture funds, with examples like OpenAI's 400-500 million active users and Meta's AI integration in apps used by a billion users.
    - **Cost of Compute:** Rohit explained the drastic reduction in the cost of compute, which has decreased by almost 100x to 200x, enabling more experimentation and diverse use cases in AI.
    - **Multimodal Capabilities:** Rohit mentioned the evolution of generative AI from text and image-based models to multimodal capabilities, and the emergence of agentic frameworks as the next big trend in AI.
- **AI Models in Industrial Settings:** Derek explained the key tasks of AI in industrial settings, emphasizing perception, reasoning, and autonomous execution, and highlighted OpenAI's strength in reasoning.
    - **Perception:** Derek described the importance of AI's ability to perceive its environment in industrial settings, such as monitoring equipment and human activities related to operations.
    - **Reasoning:** Derek emphasized the critical role of AI in reasoning, particularly in root cause analysis of equipment failures, and noted OpenAI's superior performance in this area.
    - **Autonomous Execution:** Derek highlighted the ability of AI to execute actions autonomously in industrial environments, which is essential for efficient operations.
    - **Model Agnosticism:** Derek explained that certain tasks, like assessing the health of equipment, are model agnostic, while reasoning tasks benefit significantly from advanced models like OpenAI.
- **AI in Education:** Satvik shared insights on how AI is influencing education, reducing the feedback loop for learning, and automating content creation, while also highlighting the need for curriculum changes.
    - **Feedback Loop:** Satvik discussed how AI has shortened the feedback loop for learning by providing instant answers to students' questions through tools like ChatGPT.
    - **Content Creation:** Satvik mentioned the automation of content creation in education, such as generating lesson plans and questions, which previously required large teams of educators.

    - **Curriculum Changes:** Satvik emphasized the need for curriculum changes to adapt to the rapid evolution of skills required in the AI-driven world, suggesting a shift from teaching specific skills to training for adaptability.

- **Embedding AI in Curriculum:** Paritosh advocated for introducing AI in the curriculum from Class 4th, emphasizing the importance of teaching students how to use AI tools effectively.
    - **Early Introduction:** Paritosh shared his experience of teaching AI to young students and advocated for introducing AI in the curriculum from Class 4th to harness their potential early on.
    - **Teaching Frameworks:** Paritosh highlighted the importance of teaching frameworks like QDPRC (Question, Data, Patterns, Reasoning, Communication) to help students effectively use AI tools and develop critical thinking skills.
    - **Practical Examples:** Paritosh provided examples of young students successfully creating AI applications, demonstrating the feasibility and benefits of early AI education.
- **Liabilities of AI in Education:** Derek discussed the potential liabilities of introducing AI too early in education and stressed the importance of unlearning and experimentation in the learning process.
    - **Early Introduction Risks:** Derek cautioned against introducing AI too early in education, suggesting that children should first develop their neural connections through traditional learning methods.
    - **Unlearning Importance:** Derek emphasized the importance of unlearning outdated methods and embracing experimentation to adapt to the rapidly changing AI landscape.
- **AI for Indian Languages:** Derek and Satvik highlighted the importance of developing AI models that support Indian languages to unlock the potential of talent in small towns and ensure inclusivity.
    - **Language Barriers:** Derek stressed the need for AI models that support Indian languages to enable people to learn and express themselves in their native languages, unlocking their full potential.
    - **Model Development:** Satvik shared his experience with AI models trained in other countries, which often fail to recognize Indian cultural elements, highlighting the need for India-specific AI models.
    - **Government Initiatives:** Satvik mentioned the Indian government's initiatives to fund the development of AI models that cater to Indian languages and contexts, aiming to bridge the gap in AI accessibility.
- **AI in Workforce:** Rohit emphasized the need for critical reasoning, analytical skills, and soft skills in the workforce, as AI takes over many desk-based tasks.
    - **Skill Collapse:** Rohit discussed the collapse of traditional desk-based skills due to AI, with many tasks now being performed by AI models, reducing the need for entry-level professionals in certain roles.

    - **Critical Skills:** Rohit highlighted the importance of critical reasoning, analytical skills, and soft skills, such as relationship management, in the AI-driven workforce.
    - **AI Proficiency:** Rohit emphasized the necessity for professionals to be proficient in using AI tools to stay relevant and competitive in the job market.
- **Demographic Dividend and AI:** Derek, Satvik, and Paritosh discussed the impact of AI on India's demographic dividend, highlighting the need for targeted training in specific niches and the importance of communication and business skills.
    - **Targeted Training:** Derek suggested focusing on specific niches like industrial AI, where India can leverage its existing skills and infrastructure to become a global hub for AI-driven industrial monitoring.
    - **Communication Skills:** Paritosh emphasized the importance of teaching communication skills in native languages to unlock the potential of talent in small towns and ensure inclusivity in the AI-driven economy.
    - **Business Skills:** Paritosh advocated for teaching business skills alongside technical skills to enable individuals to create and manage their own ventures, contributing to economic growth.

Session 4: **Breaking Barriers: Women Leading AI Startups, Product and Investments**

Generated by AI. Make sure to check for accuracy.

Meeting notes:

- **Panel Introduction:** Malthi introduced the panel on women in AI, highlighting the diverse backgrounds of the participants, including Aditi Nanda from Intel, Vidya from Streamingo Solutions, Rashmi from Leo Capital, and Shubhangi from Sense AI Ventures.
- **Aditi's Journey:** Aditi shared her journey in tech and business, currently working at Intel with 18+ years of experience, focusing on ecosystem and industry collaboration to bring new solutions to life.
    - **Career Path:** Aditi described her career path, starting in tech and transitioning to business, currently working at Intel with over 18 years of experience. She emphasized her role in ecosystem and industry collaboration to bring new solutions to life.
    - **Role at Intel:** Aditi elaborated on her current role at Intel, where she engages with various parts of the ecosystem, including startups and enterprises, to foster innovation and bring new solutions to market.
- **Vidya's Journey:** Vidya discussed her experience in product development for 30 years, co-founding Streamingo Solutions, and working on various AI technologies like speech, vision, and NLP.

    - **Product Development:** Vidya shared her extensive experience in product development, spanning 30 years. She co-founded Streamingo Solutions and has worked on various AI technologies, including speech, vision, and NLP.
    - **AI Technologies:** Vidya highlighted the different AI technologies she has worked on, such as speech models, vision models, and NLP, emphasizing the evolution and challenges in these areas.
- **Rashmi's Journey:** Rashmi shared her background as a chartered accountant, working in VC firms like Sequoia Capital and Leo Capital, and her role in helping early-stage startups with finance-related issues.
    - **VC Experience:** Rashmi discussed her journey from being a chartered accountant to working in venture capital firms like Sequoia Capital and Leo Capital. She highlighted her role in assisting early-stage startups with finance-related issues.
    - **Finance Role:** Rashmi elaborated on her responsibilities in helping startups navigate financial challenges, including compliance, financial projections, and due diligence.
- **Shubhangi's Journey:** Shubhangi talked about her experience as an ML engineer and her transition to leading investments at Sense AI Ventures, focusing on AI startups.
    - **ML Engineering:** Shubhangi shared her background as an ML engineer, detailing her work in machine learning and research before transitioning to the investment side.
    - **Investment Role:** Shubhangi described her current role at Sense AI Ventures, where she leads investments in AI startups, leveraging her technical background to evaluate and support innovative companies.
- **Evaluating AI Startups:** Shubhangi explained the importance of long-term motivation, defensibility, and IP in evaluating AI startups, emphasizing the need for a clear thought process for market sustainability.
    - **Evaluation Criteria:** Shubhangi outlined the key criteria for evaluating AI startups, including long-term motivation, defensibility, and intellectual property. She stressed the importance of a clear thought process for market sustainability.
    - **Defensibility:** Shubhangi emphasized the need for startups to build defensibility through unique data, algorithmic improvements, or other forms of IP to ensure long-term success.
- **Building Defensibility in AI:** Vidya highlighted the importance of data, use cases, and ROI in building defensibility for AI startups, cautioning against relying solely on open-source models.
    - **Data Importance:** Vidya stressed the critical role of data in building defensibility for AI startups, noting that unique and proprietary data can provide a significant competitive advantage.
    - **Use Cases:** Vidya discussed the importance of identifying and solving specific use cases with AI, rather than using AI as a solution in search of a problem.

    - **ROI Focus:** Vidya highlighted the need for AI startups to demonstrate clear ROI for their solutions, as this can be a key factor in attracting investment and achieving market success.

- **Investment Perspective:** Rashmi discussed the importance of thorough due diligence, founder background checks, and financial projections in evaluating early-stage AI startups, emphasizing the need for compliance and realistic projections.
    - **Due Diligence:** Rashmi explained the importance of thorough due diligence in evaluating early-stage AI startups, including detailed background checks on founders and their track records.
    - **Financial Projections:** Rashmi emphasized the need for realistic financial projections and compliance with regulatory requirements, noting that accurate financial planning is crucial for securing investment.
- **Bias in AI:** Aditi addressed the issue of bias in AI models, emphasizing the need for diverse and inclusive teams to ensure unbiased data and outputs, and the potential of AI to remove barriers and create opportunities.
    - **Bias Examples:** Aditi provided examples of bias in AI models, such as gender and racial biases in image search results, highlighting the importance of addressing these issues.
    - **Diverse Teams:** Aditi emphasized the need for diverse and inclusive teams in AI development to ensure unbiased data and outputs, suggesting that diverse perspectives can help mitigate bias.
    - **AI Opportunities:** Aditi discussed the potential of AI to remove barriers and create opportunities, particularly for underrepresented groups, by providing access to education and resources.
- **Women in AI Investments:** Shubhangi shared her observations on the increasing number of women founders in AI, highlighting the importance of supporting female founders and the unique perspectives they bring to the table.
    - **Increasing Numbers:** Shubhangi noted the increasing number of women founders in AI, observing that more women are entering the field and bringing valuable perspectives to the industry.
    - **Support for Women:** Shubhangi emphasized the importance of supporting female founders in AI, suggesting that mentorship and networking opportunities can help women succeed in the industry.
- **Emerging AI Trends:** Vidya discussed emerging AI trends like Agentic AI, MCP, and world intelligence models, encouraging women to stay updated and overcome their fears to stay relevant in the AI field.
    - **Agentic AI:** Vidya highlighted Agentic AI as a significant emerging trend, explaining its potential impact on the AI landscape and encouraging women to stay informed about its developments.
    - **MCP:** Vidya discussed the Model Context Protocol (MCP) as another important trend in AI, suggesting that understanding MCP can help women stay relevant in the field.

    - **World Models:** Vidya mentioned the development of world intelligence models, noting that these models aim to introduce physical world understanding to AI systems, and encouraged women to explore this area.

- **AI in Finance:** Rashmi explained the various applications of AI in finance, including fraud detection, customer support, and process enhancement, while also highlighting the challenges and potential risks.
    - **Fraud Detection:** Rashmi described how AI is used in fraud detection within the finance sector, identifying unusual transaction patterns and preventing fraudulent activities.
    - **Customer Support:** Rashmi explained the role of AI in enhancing customer support, providing automated responses and improving customer service efficiency.
    - **Process Enhancement:** Rashmi highlighted the use of AI in process enhancement, such as automating vendor payments and reducing manual workload for finance teams.
    - **Challenges:** Rashmi discussed the challenges of implementing AI in finance, including data confidentiality concerns and the need for finance professionals to upskill in technology.
- **Ecosystem Collaboration:** Aditi described the role of big tech companies in supporting AI startups through incubators, mentorship, and matchmaking with enterprises, emphasizing the importance of creating an impact and solving real-world problems.
- **Encouraging Women in AI:** Vidya, Shubhangi, Aditi, and Rashmi encouraged women to embrace AI, overcome self-doubt, and continuously learn to stay relevant in the rapidly evolving AI landscape.
- **Learning AI Agents:** Vidya and Shubhangi suggested resources like deep learning courses and structured learning plans to help individuals learn about AI agents and stay updated with the latest developments.
- **Non-Dilutive Funding:** Rashmi and Shubhangi provided information on private and government grants available for early-stage AI startups, including programs like SheSparks and India AI Mission.