Beacon Trust Client Webinar: 2023 Q2 Market Review and Outlook



Source: www.TheDigeratiLife.com

Presented by Brian McGann, CFA John Longo, PhD, CFA

Beacon Trust

July 18, 2023



Important Information

Important Information: Beacon Investment Advisory Services, Inc. ("BIAS") is an SEC registered investment adviser, under the name Beacon Trust, and is wholly owned by Beacon Trust Company ("BTC"), which is a subsidiary of Provident Bank. Provident Bank is a subsidiary of Provident Financial Services, Inc., a holding company whose common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Beacon Trust does not provide investment advice for any affiliated securities or obligations. Beacon Trust may only transact business in those states where they are notice filed or qualify for a corresponding exemption from notice filing requirements. Additional information is contained in the respective Form ADV disclosure documents, the most recent versions of which are available on the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure website at http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

SECURITIES AND INVESTMENT PRODUCTS: NOT FDIC INSURED - MAY GO DOWN IN VALUE – NOT GUARANTEED BY A BANK OR BANK AFFILIATE - NOT A DEPOSIT - NOT INSURED BY ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY

This report is provided by Beacon Trust for informational purposes only. The publication is limited to the dissemination of general information pertaining to the wealth management products and services offered by Beacon Trust to U.S. residents of those states where not prohibited by applicable law. No portion is to be construed as a solicitation to effect transactions in securities or the provision of personalized investment, tax, or legal advice. Certain information contained in this report is derived from sources that Beacon Trust believes to be reliable; however there is no guarantee as to the accuracy or completeness of such information. Any holdings, asset allocation, diversification breakdowns or other composition data shown are as of the date indicated and are subject to change at any time. They may not be representative of any fund's current or future investments.

Beacon Trust is under control of BTC which may be engaged to manage a portion of the client's assets either directly as a manager of a Mutual Fund.

Investing involves risks which may lead to losses, including loss of principal. Different types of investments involve varying degrees of risk and there can be no assurance that any specific investment will be profitable. Beacon Trust does not make any representation that any of its investments on behalf of clients or any other investments will or are likely to achieve returns similar to those shown in the performance results presented.

Opinions and estimates are as of the date of publication and are subject to change without notice. Forward-looking statements are based on current views and assumptions and may involve market risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results, performance or events to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. Investing involves risks which may lead to losses, including loss of principal. Different types of investments involve varying degrees of risk and there can be no assurance that any specific investment will be profitable. BIAS does not make any representation that any of its investments on behalf of clients, or any other investments will or are likely to achieve returns similar to those shown in any performance results presented.

Past performance is not a predictor of future results. It should not be assumed that any information discussed herein will prove to be profitable or that decisions in the future will be profitable or provide similar results. Benchmark returns include reinvestment of capital gains and dividends, if any, but do not reflect any fees or expenses. Any reference to a market index is included for illustrative purposes only, as it is not possible to directly invest in an index. Indices are unmanaged vehicles that serve as market indicators and do not account for the deduction of management fees or transaction costs generally associated with investable products, which otherwise have the effect of reducing the performance of an actual investment portfolio.

Complete Investment Advisory and transaction fees schedules are available upon request. The S&P 500 Index is an index of large cap companies. Returns on all indexes are calculated from the dates set forth and include dividend reinvestments. These indexes are unmanaged and do not reflect any transaction costs. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

Proposals and hypothetical presentations are for illustrative purposes only. Investors should consider this report as only a single factor in making their investment decision.

Any discussion of tax matters contained within this communication should not be used for the purpose of avoiding U.S. tax related penalties or promoting, marketing, or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein. Beacon Trust does not provide legal advice.

Calculation methodologies are available upon request. #111728 #113612 For one on one presentation only.



2023 Q2 Market Recap

Equities

- S&P 500: +8.7%
- R1000 Growth: +12.8%
- R1000 Value: +4.1%
- Russell 2000: +5.2%
- MSCI Int'l: +3.0%
- MSCI EM: +0.9%

Fixed Income

Barclays Agg: -0.8%

Alternatives

- Gold: -3.5%
- HFRX Global HF: +0.2%
- U.S. REIT: +2.7%
- Bloomberg Commodity: -2.6%

Reminder on 2022 (Full Year)

- S&P 500: -18.1%
- Barclays Agg: -12.0%



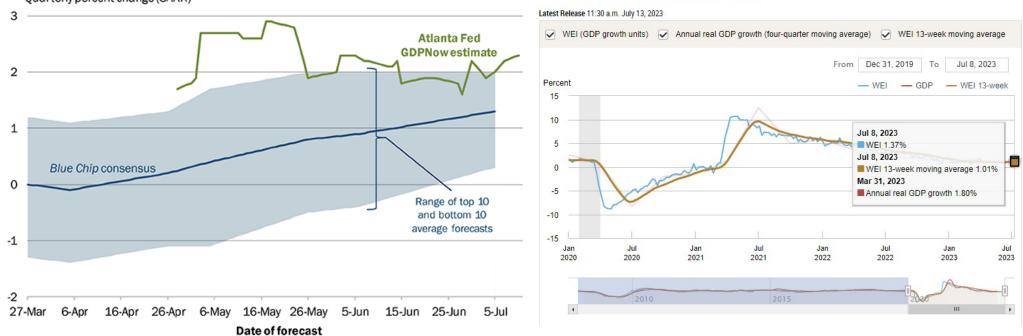
Beacon 2023 Forecasts: Midyear Report Card

Forecasts published in December of each year.

2023 Forecast	Midyear Assessment	Comment
Stocks rebound from 2022 losses and deliver positive returns	Correct	S&P 500 up 17% YTD
Bonds rebound from 2022 losses and deliver positive returns	Correct	Barclays Agg up 2.3% YTD
The Fed will raise rates and then pause	Correct	Fed raised and paused
Inflation will fall but remain ahead of the Fed's 2% target	Correct	Current CPI = 3.0%
There will be a stock market correction	Incorrect	Max YTD drop 7%
Real estate prices decelerate due to rise in rates	Correct	Case Shiller up ~ 1% YTD
The U.S. economy will enter a recession in 2023	Incorrect	Signs of recession still here
The U.S. dollar will weaken after Fed pauses	Correct	DXY down 3% YTD
Tech stocks rebound from disastrous 2022	Correct	Grand slam; QQQ up 40% YTD



GDP Was Sluggish <u>Before</u> The Banking Crisis



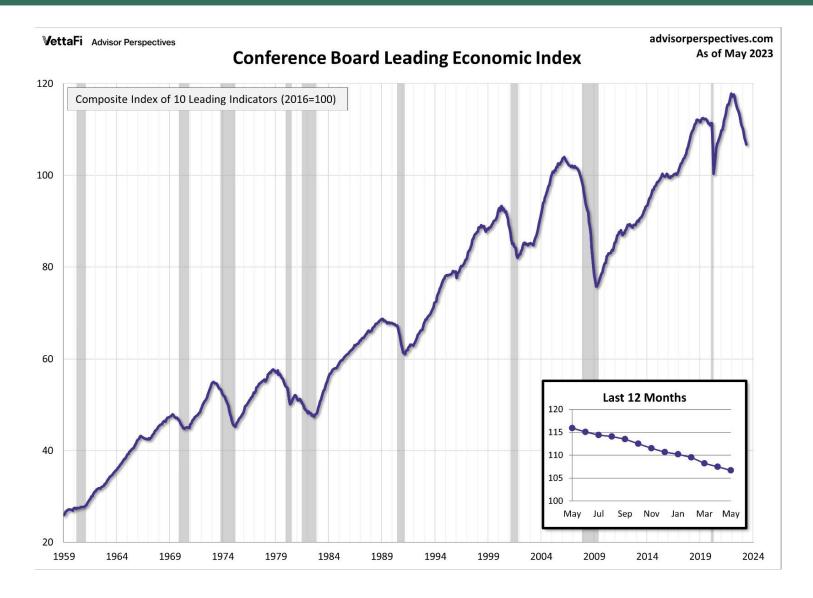
Weekly Economic Index (WEI)

Evolution of Atlanta Fed GDPNow real GDP estimate for 2023: Q2 Quarterly percent change (SAAR)

Headwinds for 2023/4: Resumption of student loan payments, dissipation of excess savings from the pandemic, tightened lending standards, higher interest rates, and a possible UPS labor strike.

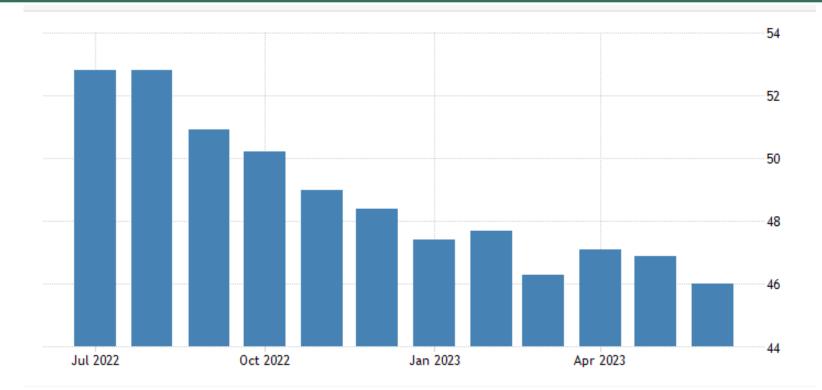


LEI Falls for 14th Consecutive Month





ISM Manufacturing \rightarrow Expected Contraction

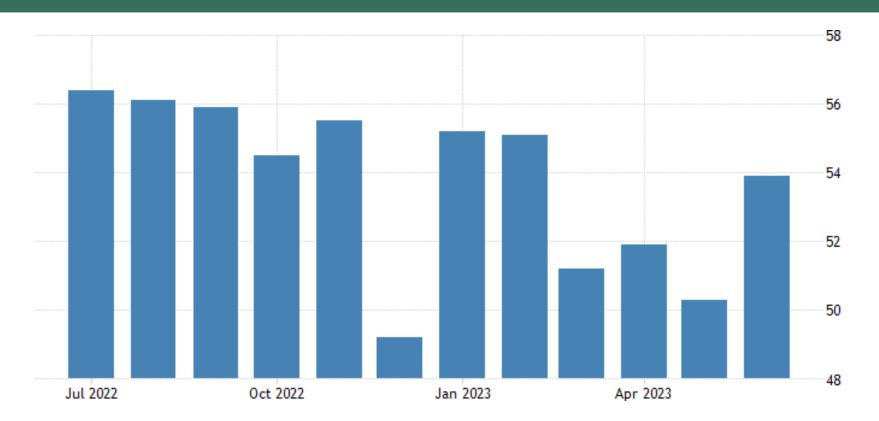


The ISM Manufacturing PMI in the United States fell to 46 in June 2023, from 46.9 in May and below forecasts of 47. The reading pointed to a faster rate of contraction in the manufacturing sector since May 2020, with companies managing outputs down as softness continues and optimism about the second half of 2023 weakening. "Demand remains weak, production is slowing due to lack of work, and suppliers have capacity. There are signs of more employment reduction actions in the near term", Timothy Fiore, Chair of the ISM said. In June, declines were seen in new orders (45.6 vs 42.6), production (46.7 vs 51.1), employment (48.1 vs 51.4), inventories (44 vs 45.8) and backlog of orders (38.7 vs 37.5). Also, price pressures eased (41.8 vs 44.2) and the supplier deliveries index increased to 45.7 from 43.5, a sign manufacturing lead times improved again. On the other hand, the customers' inventories index dropped into 'too low' territory (46.2 vs 51.4), a positive for future production. source: Institute for Supply Management



7

ISM Services \rightarrow Expected Growth



The ISM Services PMI unexpectedly jumped to 53.9 in June of 2023, pointing to the strongest growth in the services sector in four months, and well above 50.3 in May and forecasts of 51. Production (59.2 vs 51.5) and new orders (55.5 vs 52.9) rose much faster while employment rebounded (53.1 vs 49.2) and price pressures eased (54.1 vs 56.2). Also, the supplier deliveries index improved and registered 47.6 percent, 0.1 percentage point lower than in May and inventories rose for a second month (55.9 vs 58.3). Meanwhile, "the majority of respondents indicate that business conditions remain stable; however, they are cautious relative to inflation and the future economic outlook", Anthony Nieves, Chair of the ISM Services Business Survey Committee said. source: Institute for Supply Management



Factors Used To Determine Recession

Variables used by the NBER in making recession determination*

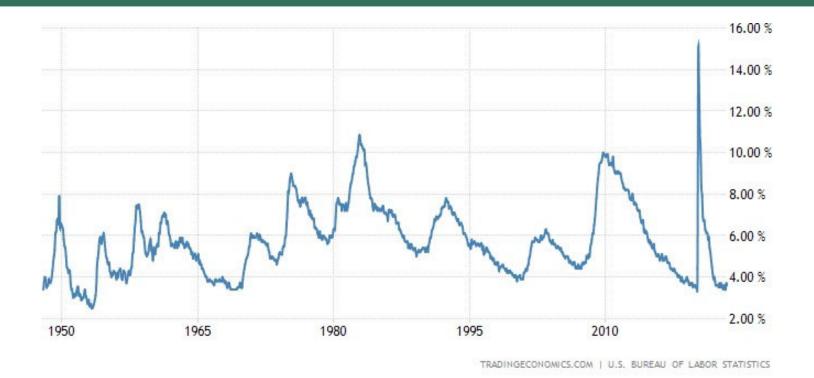
% change month-over-month



Source: JP Morgan



Unemployment Rate Is Still Very Low



The unemployment rate in the US decreased slightly to 3.6 percent in June 2023, which is lower than May's seven-month high of 3.7 percent and in line with market expectations. The jobless rate has fluctuated between 3.4 percent and 3.7 percent since March 2022, indicating a consistently tight labor market and allowing the Federal Reserve the flexibility to continue raising interest rates as a means to combat inflation. The number of unemployed people decreased by 140 thousand to 5.96 million and employment levels rose by 273 thousand to 160.99 million. The so-called U-6 unemployment rate, which also includes people who want to work, but have given up searching and those working part-time because they cannot find full-time employment, rose to 6.9 percent in June from 6.7 percent in May. The labor force participation rate was unchanged at 62.6 percent, remaining at its highest level since March 2020.

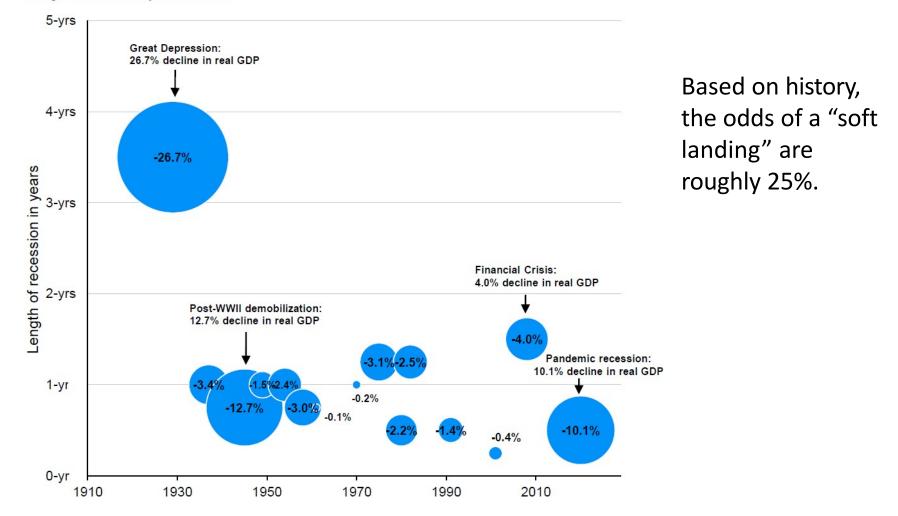
source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



Not All Recessions Are The Same

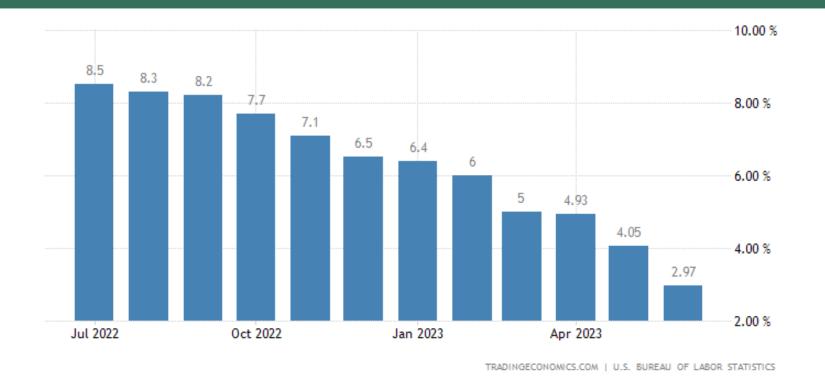
The Great Depression and post-war recessions

Length and severity of recession





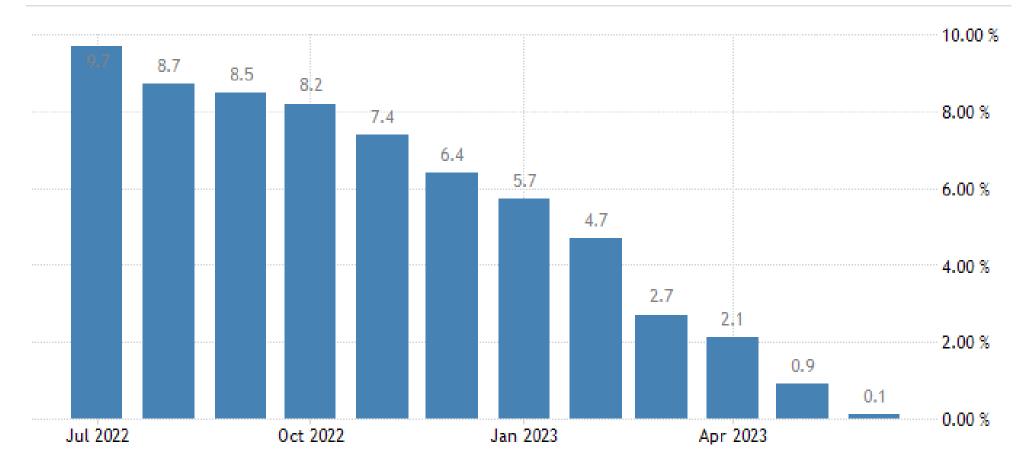
Inflation Continues To Decelerate



The annual inflation rate in the US slowed to 3% in June of 2023, the lowest since March of 2021 and compared to 4% in May and expectations of 3.1%. The slowdown is partly due to a high base effect from last year when a surge in energy and food prices pushed the headline inflation rate to 1981-highs of 9.1%. Energy cost slumped 16.7% (vs -11.7% in May), with prices falling 36.6% for fuel oil, 26.5% for gasoline, and 18.6% for utility gas service. Electricity prices increased by 5.4%. Also, inflation slowed for food (5.7% vs 6.7% in May) and shelter (7.8% vs 8%). Smaller price increases were also recorded for new vehicles (4.1% vs 4.7%), apparel (3.1% vs 3.5%), and transportation services (8.2% vs 10.2%). The cost of medical services was down 0.8% and prices of used cars and trucks declined 5.2%. The core inflation rate dropped to 4.8%, the lowest since October of 2021. source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



PPI Falls Sharply \rightarrow Future Inflation Contained



TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Annual producer inflation in the US slowed to 0.1% in June of 2023, the lowest since deflation in 2020 and below forecasts of 0.4%. source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



3Q 2023 Federal Reserve Outlook

July projection \rightarrow 95% chance of a 25bps rate hike



Dec. projection \rightarrow < 20% chance of 1 more 25bps rate hike



Narrow Stock Market Leadership (YTD - 7/12/23)

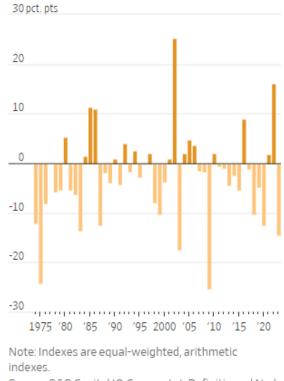




Narrow Leadership: Dividend Paying Stocks Lag

Investors Spurn Dividend-Paying Stocks as AI Booms

The shares have suffered their worst first-half performance relative to nonpayers since 2009

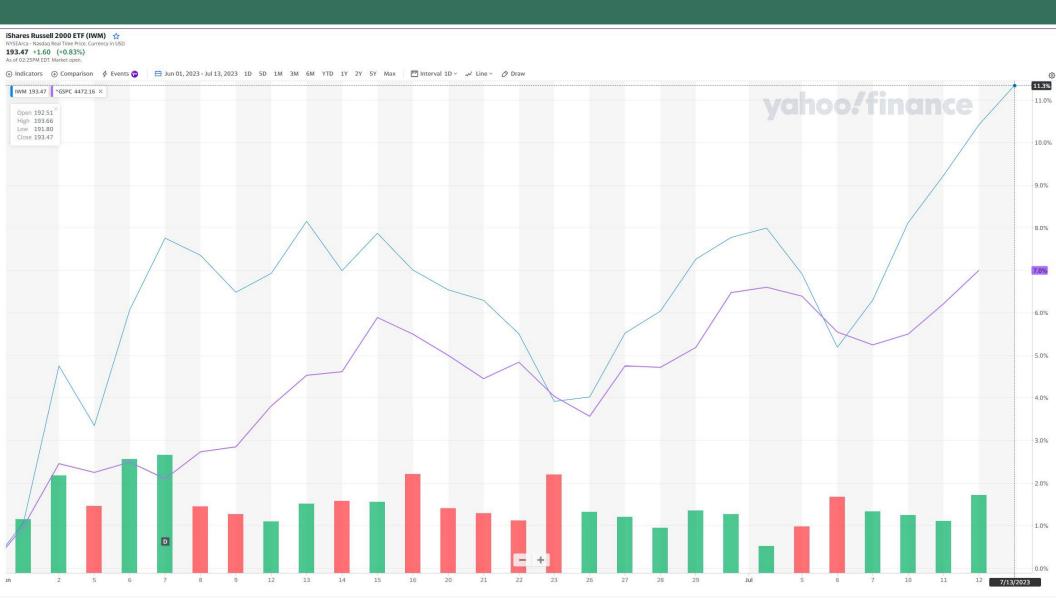


Davis Research

Dividend payers performance minus nonpayers through the first half of a year



Small Caps Showing Recent Signs of Life (6/1-7/12)





Signs Rally Is Broadening: 1 Month (Ending 7/12/23)





Future Stocks Gains Est. ~ EPS Growth + Dividends

S&P 500 Index: Forward P/E ratio





Some Pockets of Value in Stocks (7/12/23)

S&P 500 Stocks: Forward P/E Ratio





S.T. Caution: Fear Greed Index Swings To Greed



7 FEAR & GREED INDICATORS



Don't Forget Great Returns Since 2008/2009

S&P 500 Price Index Jan. 3, 2022 P/E (fwd.) = 21.4x Jul. 12, 2023 4.800 4.797 P/E (fwd.) = 19.2x 1/3/2022 7/12/2023 Characteristic 3/24/2000 10/9/2007 2/19/2020 4,472 4.500 1.527 3.386 4,797 Index Level 1.565 4,472 P/E Ratio (fwd.) 25.2x 15.1x 19.2x 21.4x 19.2x 4.200 **Dividend Yield** 1.4% 1.9% 1.9% 1.3% 1.6% +114% +25% 10-yr. Treasury 6.2% 4.7% 1.6% 1.6% 3.9% 3,900 -259 Feb. 19, 2020 3,600 P/E (fwd.) = 19.2x Oct. 12, 2022 3,386 P/E (fwd.) = 15.7x 3,300 3,577 3.000 2.700 +401% 2.400 2,100 Mar. 23, 2020 Oct. 9, 2007 P/E (fwd.) = 13.3x Mar. 24, 2000 P/E (fwd.) = 15.1x 1.800 2.237 P/E (fwd.) = 25.2x 1,565 1.527 1.500 49% -57% +106% 1,200 Oct. 9, 2002 Dec. 31, 1996 Mar. 9, 2009 900 P/E (fwd.) = 14.1x P/E (fwd.) = 15.9x P/E (fwd.) = 10.4x 777 741 677 600 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22



Artificial Intelligence (AI) In Action

An ancient language with nearly a million undeciphered texts just got a translator that does the job in seconds: A.I.

Dead languages are famously hard to decipher. It took 23 years to crack the Egyptian hieroglyphics on the Rosetta Stone. It took nearly two centuries to understand Mayan glyphs. And it took over 3,000 years to reveal Linear B, the earliest form of Greek. When techno-optimists talk about the game-changing potential of A.I., they cite difficult problems like this, and even for languages that have already been translated, challenges remain. Consider Akkadian cuneiform, one of the world's oldest written languages. There are so few people who can read the extinct language that nearly a million Akkadian texts still haven't been translated to date—but now an A.I. tool can decode them within seconds.

An interdisciplinary group of computer science and history researchers published a journal article in May describing how they had created an A.I. model to instantly translate the ancient glyphs. The team, led by a Google software engineer and an Assyriologist from Ariel University, trained the model on existing cuneiform translations using the same technology that powers Google Translate.



Questions?