



# “Housekeeping”

Twitter: #ACMLearning

- Welcome to today’s ACM TechTalk, “**Agile Data Science: Achieving Salesforce-Scale Machine Learning in Production.**” The presentation starts at the top of the hour and lasts 60 minutes. Audio and video will automatically play throughout the event. On the bottom panel you’ll find a number of widgets, including Twitter and Sharing apps.
- If you are experiencing any problems/issues, **refresh** your console by pressing the **F5** key on your keyboard in Windows, **Command + R** if on a Mac, or refresh your browser if you’re on a mobile device; or close and re-launch the presentation. You can also view the Webcast Help Guide, by clicking on the “Help” widget in the bottom dock.
- To control volume, adjust the master volume on your computer. If the volume is still too low, use headphones.
- At the end of the presentation, you’ll see a survey open on your screen. Please take a minute to fill it out to help us improve your next webinar experience. You may also open the survey at any time throughout the presentation from the resources window.
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# Agile Data Science

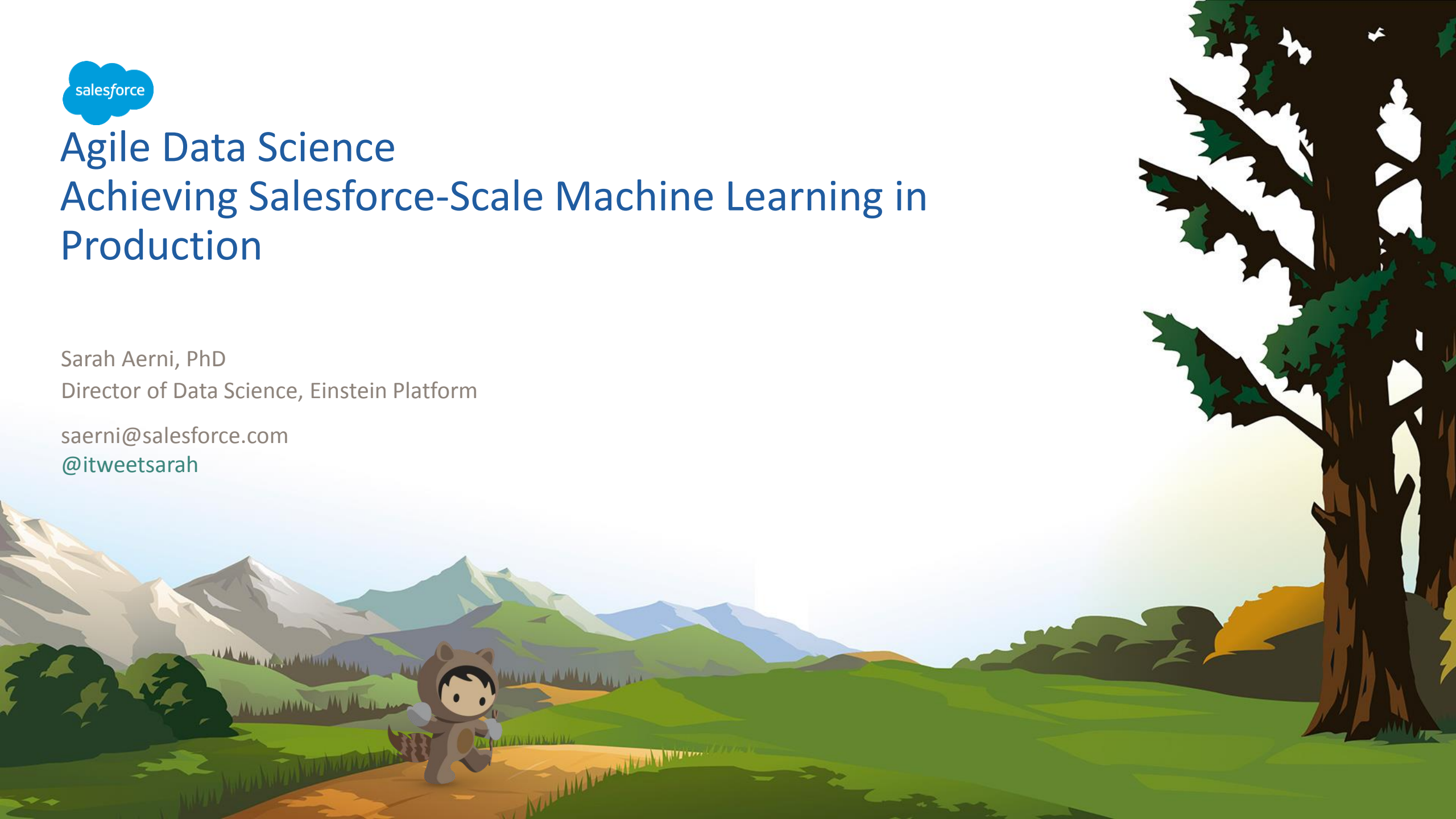
## Achieving Salesforce-Scale Machine Learning in Production

Sarah Aerni, PhD

Director of Data Science, Einstein Platform

[saerni@salesforce.com](mailto:saerni@salesforce.com)

[@itweetsarah](https://twitter.com/itweetsarah)





# ACM Highlights

- Learning Center tools for professional development: <http://learning.acm.org>
  - The Safari Learning Platform featuring the **entire Safari collection of nearly 50,000** technical books, video courses, O'Reilly conference videos, learning paths, tutorials, case studies
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  - 1,200+ books from Elsevier on the ScienceDirect platform (including Morgan Kaufmann and Syngress titles)
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  - Flagship ***Communications of the ACM (CACM)*** magazine: <http://cacm.acm.org>
  - *ACM Queue* magazine for practitioners: <http://queue.acm.org>
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- Tweet your favorite quotes from today's presentation with hashtag [#ACMLearning](#)
- Submit questions and comments via Twitter to [@acmeducation](#) – we're reading them!
- The ACM Discourse Page is available for post-talk discussion – <https://on.acm.org>

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# Different Flavors of AI and ML in Industry

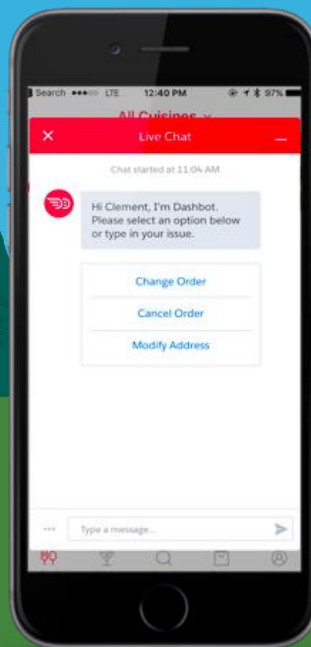
Models that inform strategic decisions



Examples

Data-driven drug discovery  
Risk models for investments

Models that are products



Examples

Chatbots  
Algorithmic Trading

Models that augment products



Examples

Predictive Lead Scoring  
Case Classification

# Adoption of AI is Considered Critical to Stay Competitive!



FIGURE 2

## AI helps organizations keep up with the (Dow) Joneses

Relative to competitors, respondents say their company's adoption of AI has allowed them to . . .



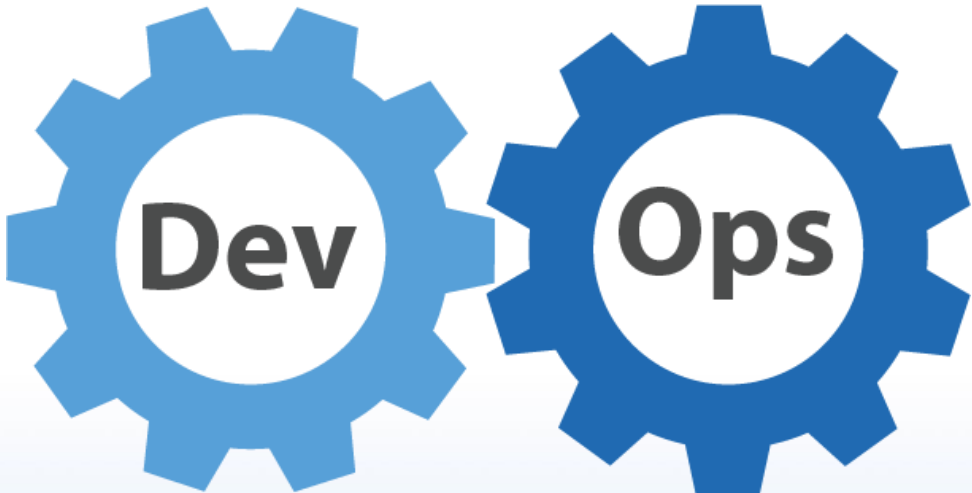
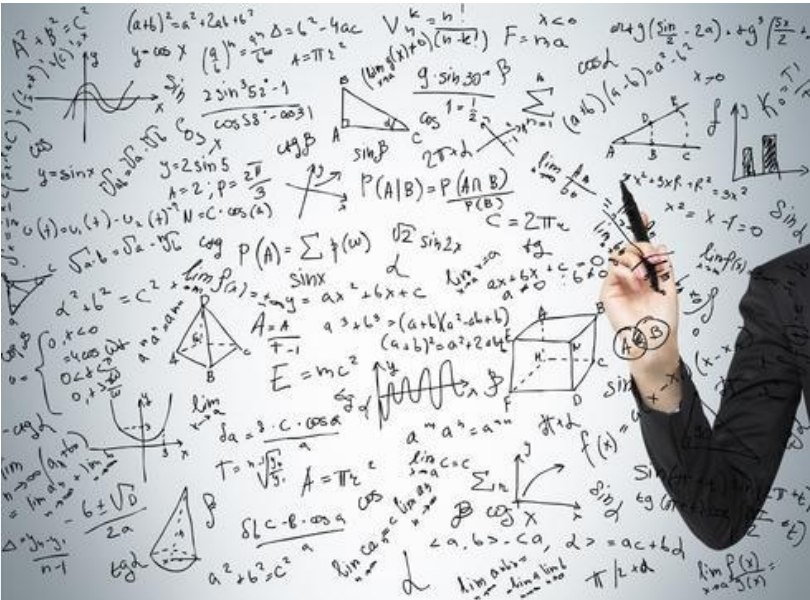
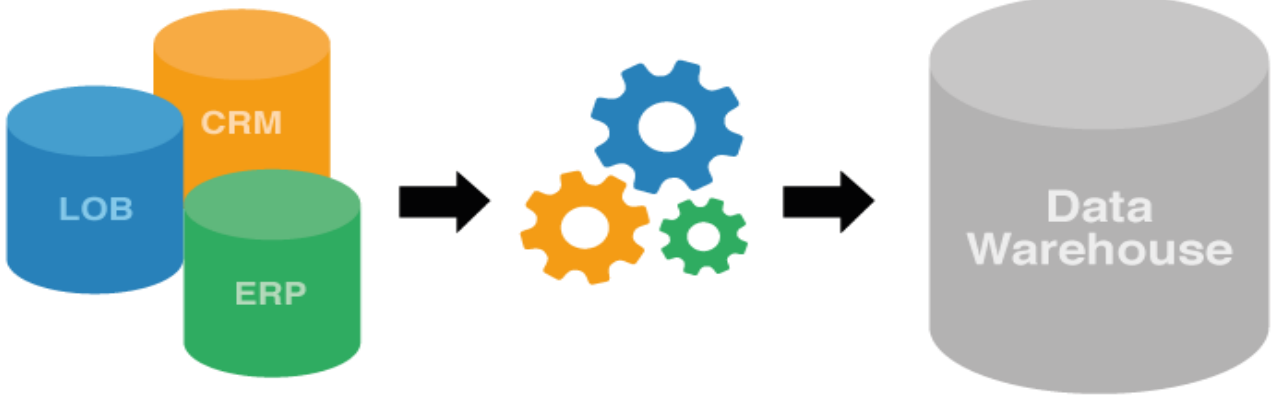
Source: Deloitte State of AI in the Enterprise, 2nd Edition, 2018.

Deloitte Insights | [deloitte.com/insights](https://deloitte.com/insights)

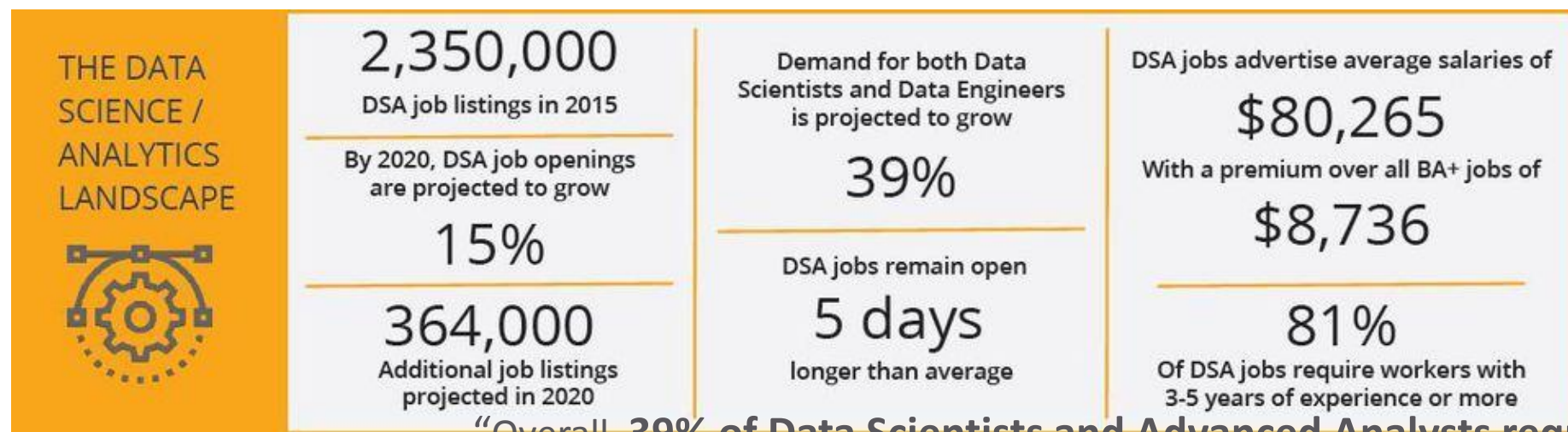




# For the Majority of Businesses, Data Science is Out of Reach



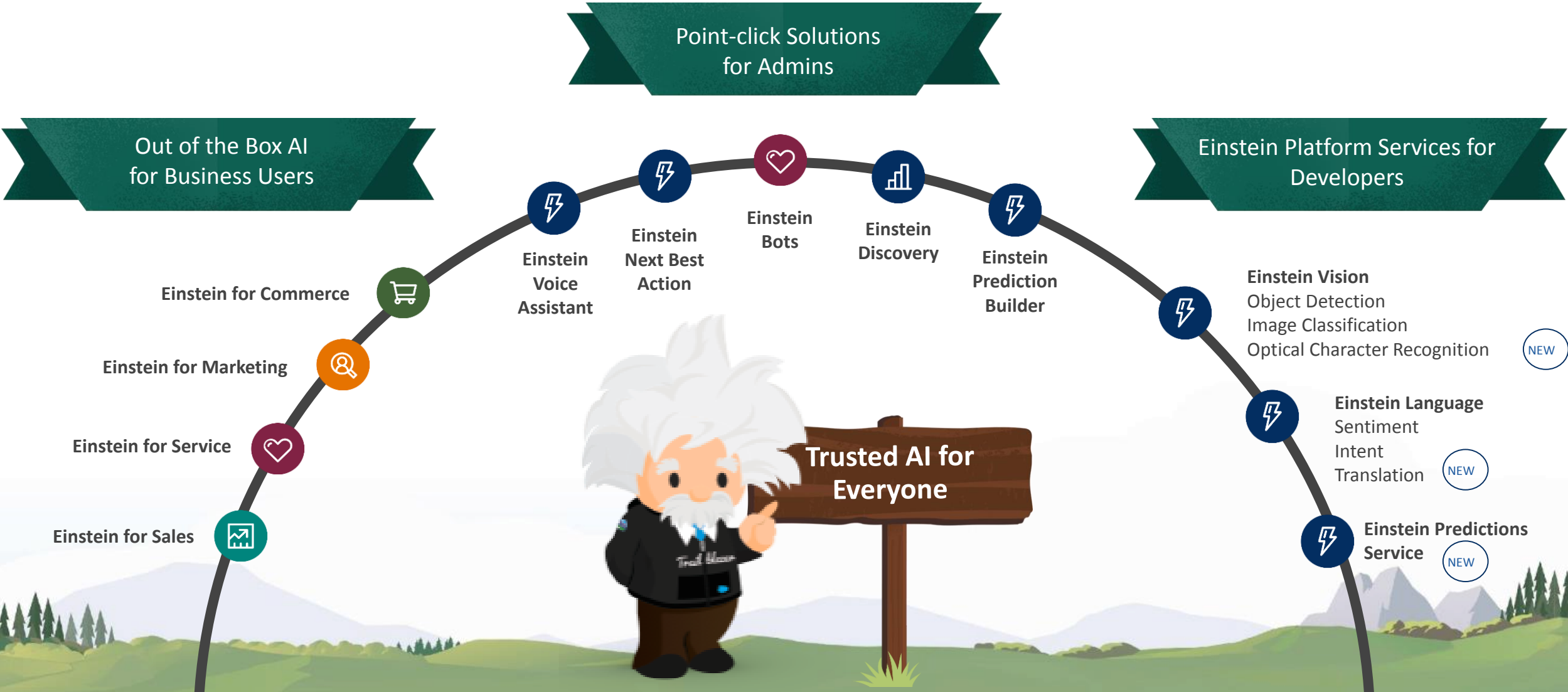
# Democratizing Data Science as the Key to Meeting Demand



“Overall, **39% of Data Scientists and Advanced Analysts require a master’s or Ph.D** ... Therefore, because these roles are already **undersupplied** and projected to grow rapidly, **the skills shortage is in danger of worsening.**”

# Empowering Every Admin & Developer with AI

The Einstein platform



# How we achieve Salesforce-scale!



## **Salesforce approach to democratizing AI**

Enabling our customers to build models on their own data

## **The need for platform to ship AI to production**

Bridging the communication gap between data scientists and software developers to find common ground and get to production and agility

## **Critical components of an AI platform**

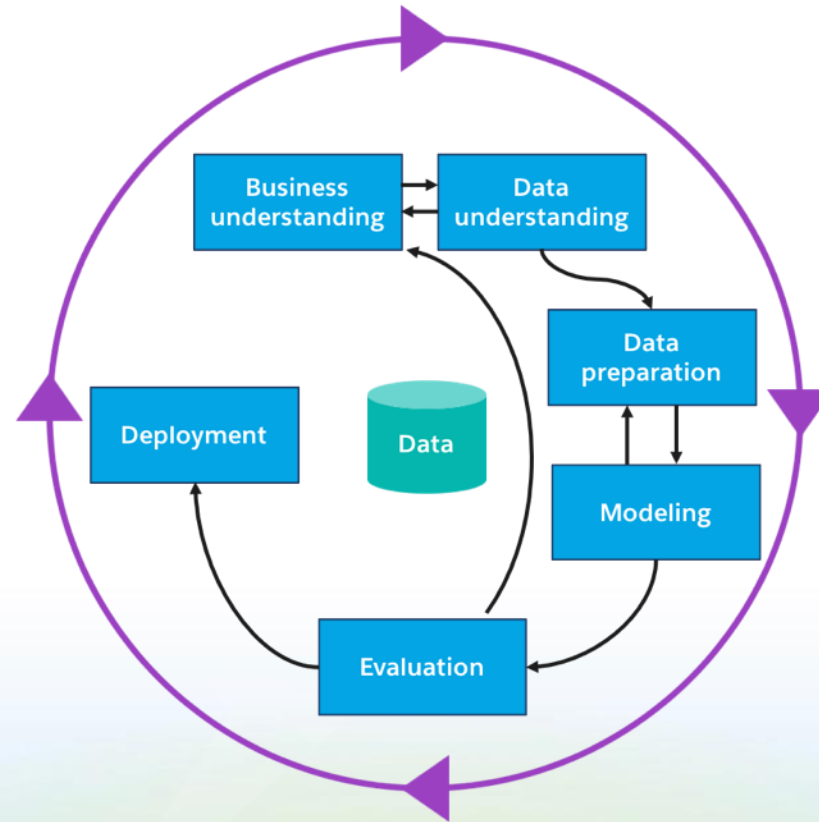
How to build a platform to support agile data science

## **How metrics drive agility and scale**

How to apply agile methodologies to rapidly improve and deploy models



# How Companies Build ML Apps

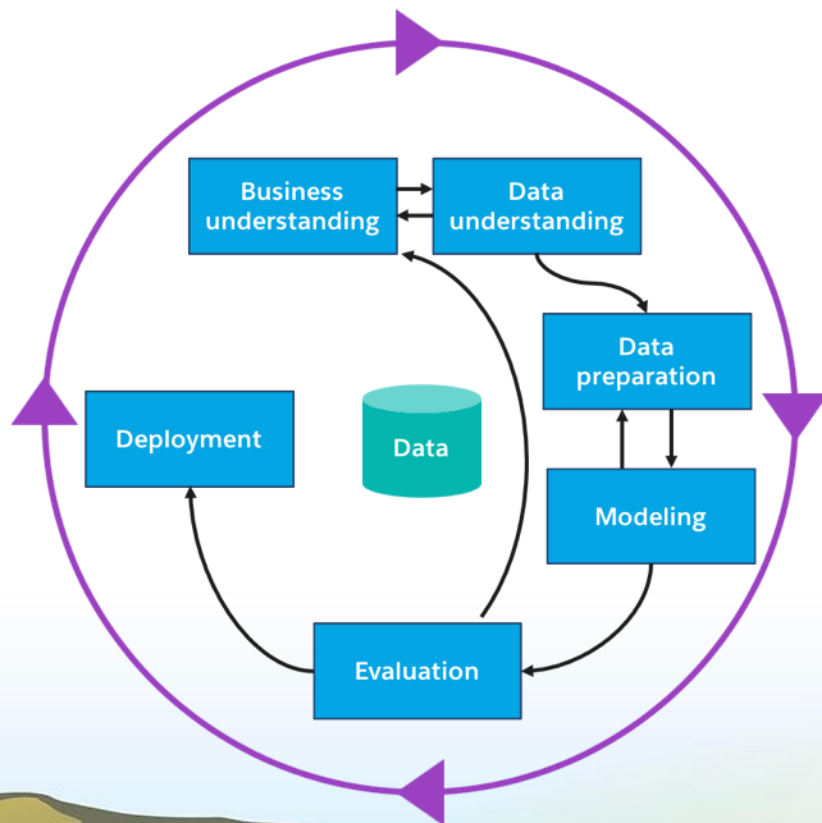




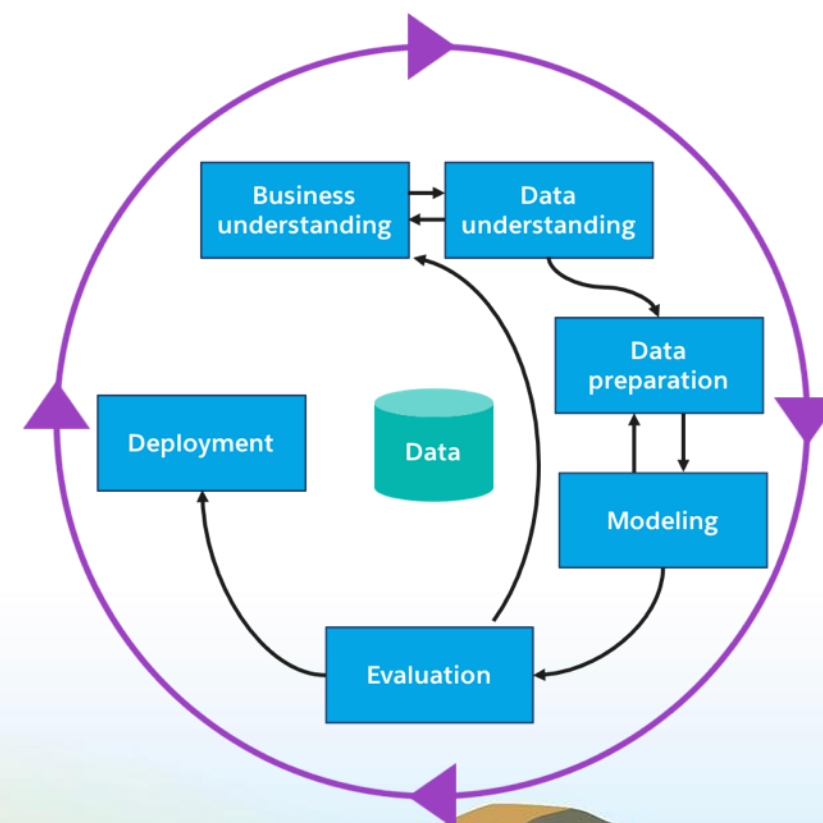
# How Companies Build ML Apps



Data Scientists on App #1



Data Scientists on App #2

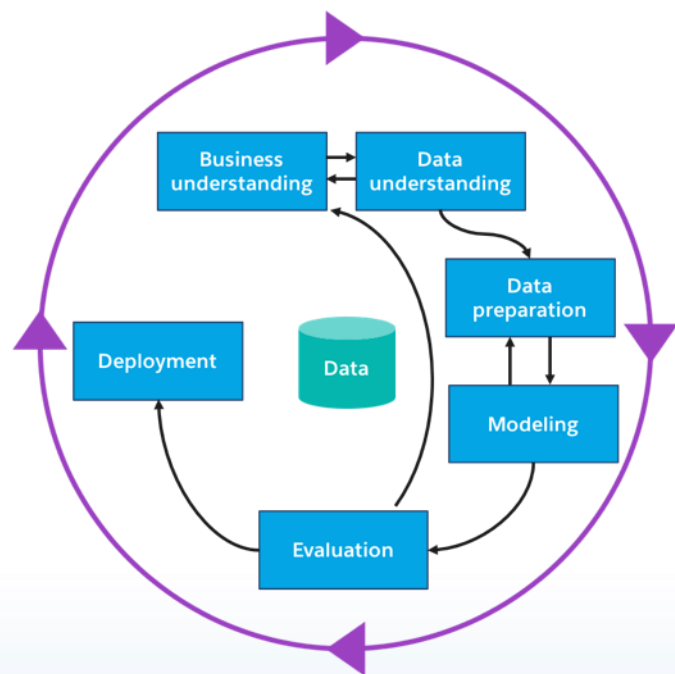




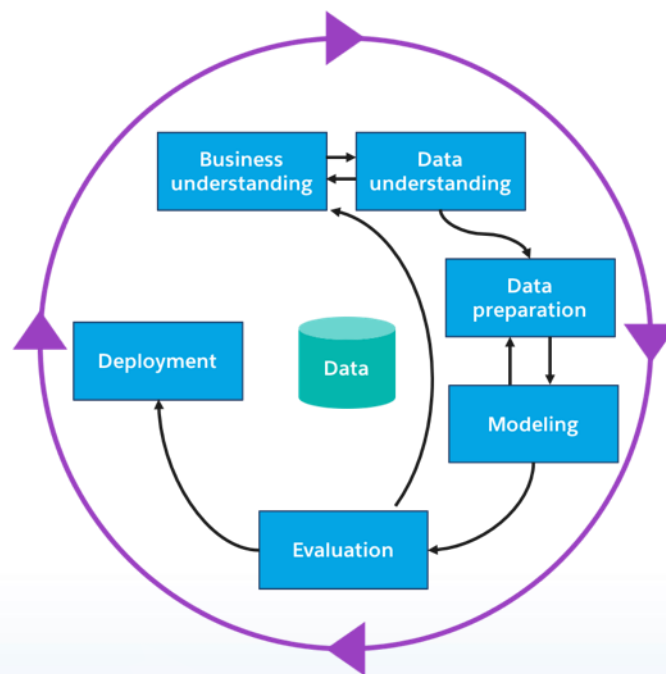
# Let's Add a Third App



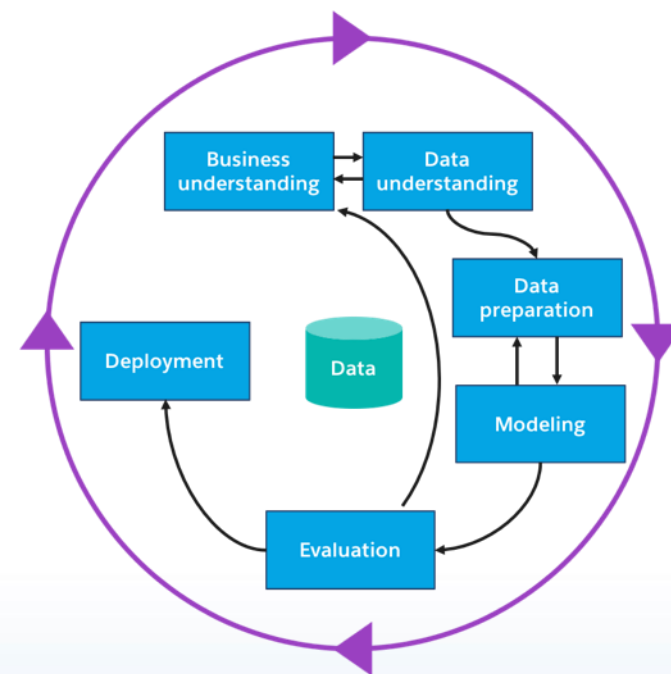
Data Scientists on App #1



Data Scientists on App #2



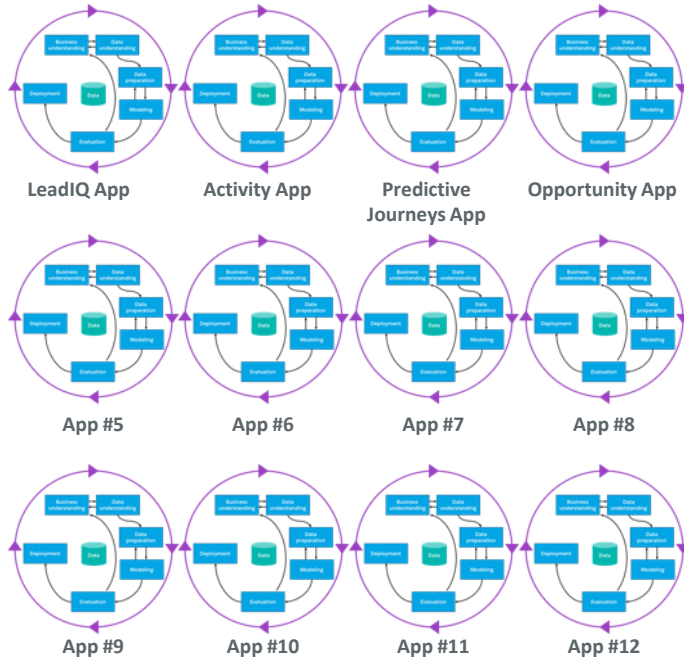
Data Scientists on App #3



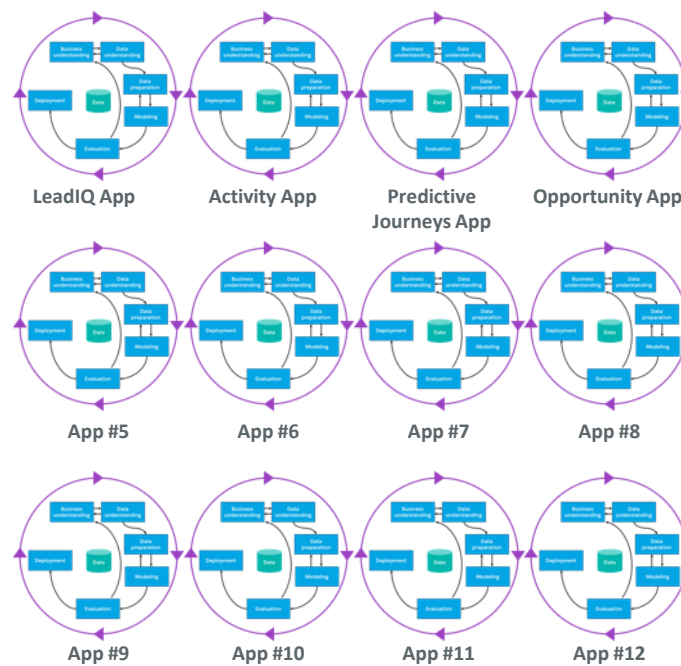
# How This Process Would Look in Salesforce



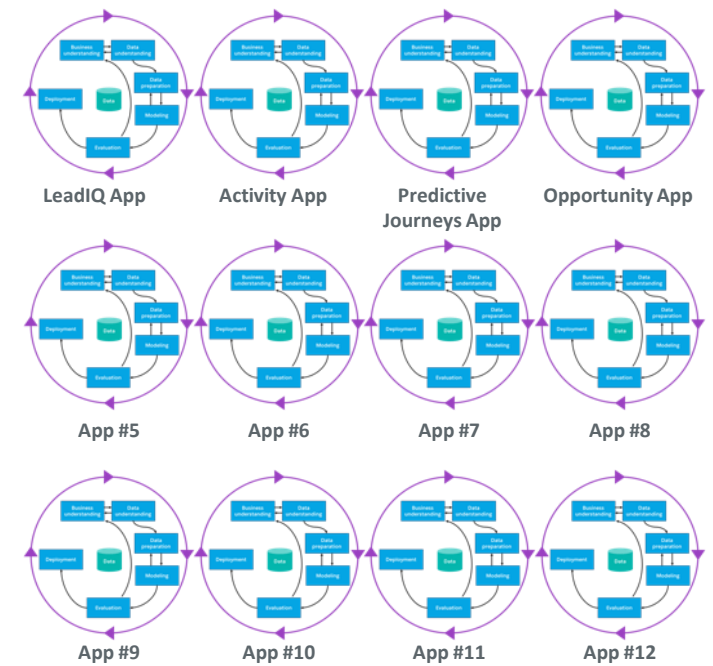
Customer #1



Customer #2



Customer #3



150,000 customers

# There are varying degrees of skillsets



# Different customers have different data sizes



# Classification is not always classification



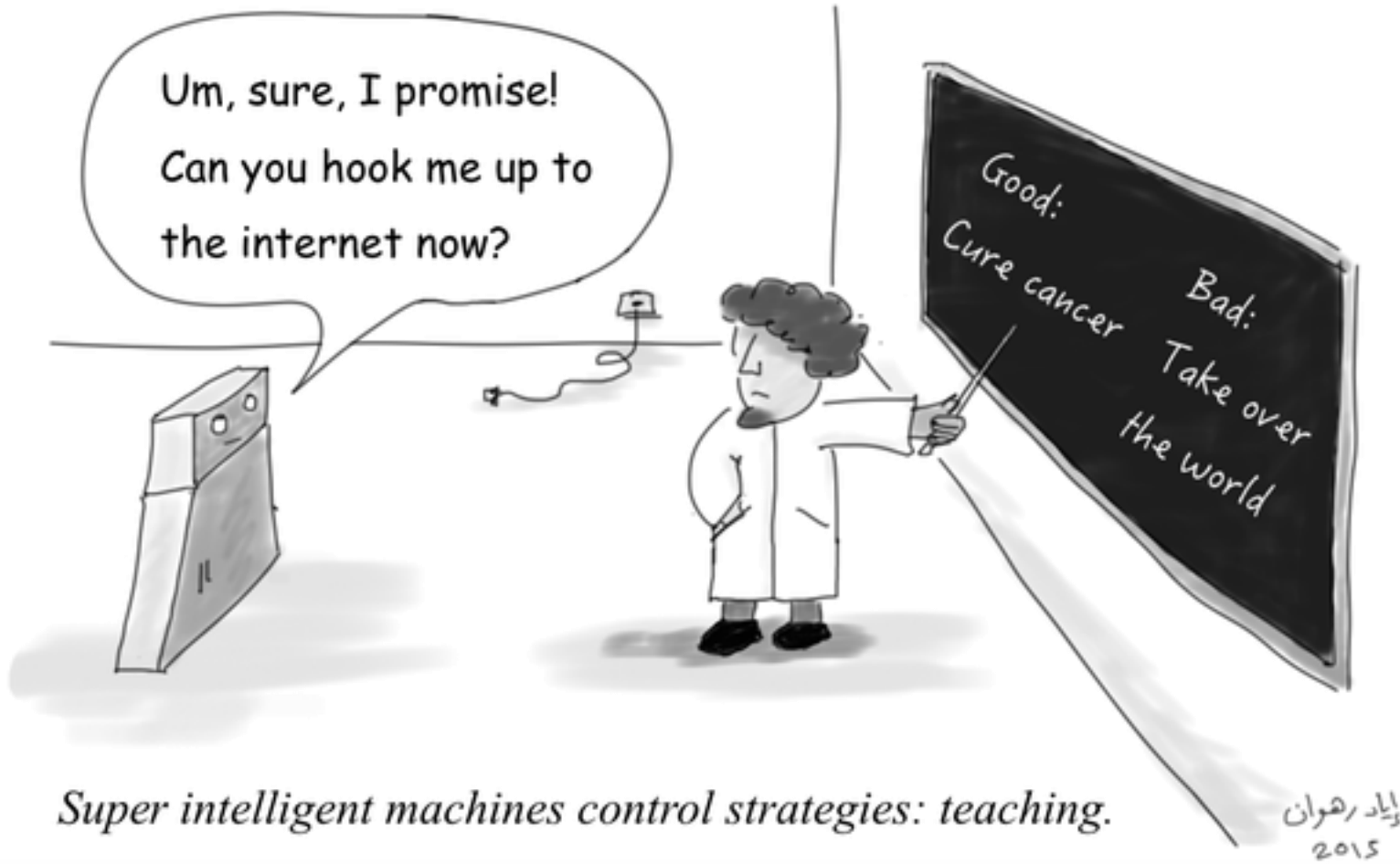




Customers love to customize




# AI needs to be trusted



*Super intelligent machines control strategies: teaching.*

# Fix your leaks



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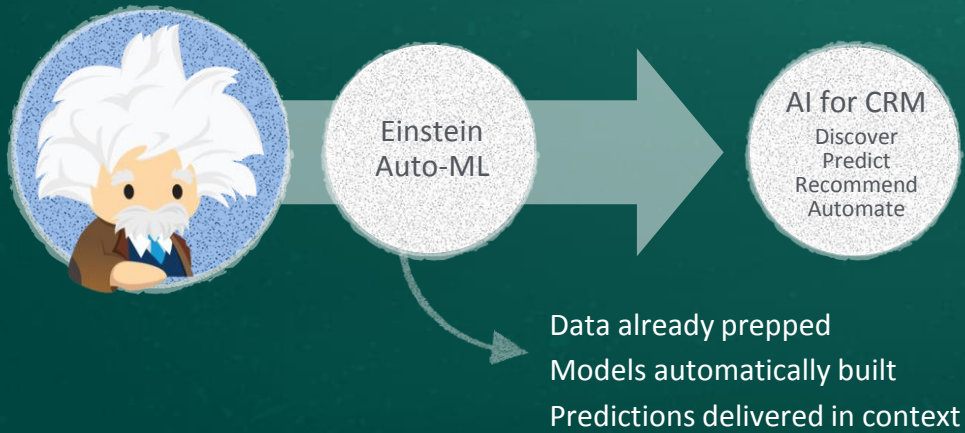
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USE PROMO CODE: GDBBA2228



# Einstein's New Approach to AI

Democratizing AI for Everyone



A black and white portrait of Albert Einstein. He is shown from the chest up, looking slightly to the right with a thoughtful expression. His hands are clasped together in front of him. The background is dark and out of focus.

**“MAKE EVERYTHING AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE,  
BUT NOT SIMPLER.”**

**ALBERT EINSTEIN**

© Lifehack Quotes

# How we achieve Salesforce-scale!



## **Salesforce approach to democratizing AI**

Enabling our customers to build models on their own data

## **The need for platform to ship AI to production**

Bridging the communication gap between data scientists and software developers to find common ground and get to production and agility

## **Critical components of an AI platform**

How to build a platform to support agile data science

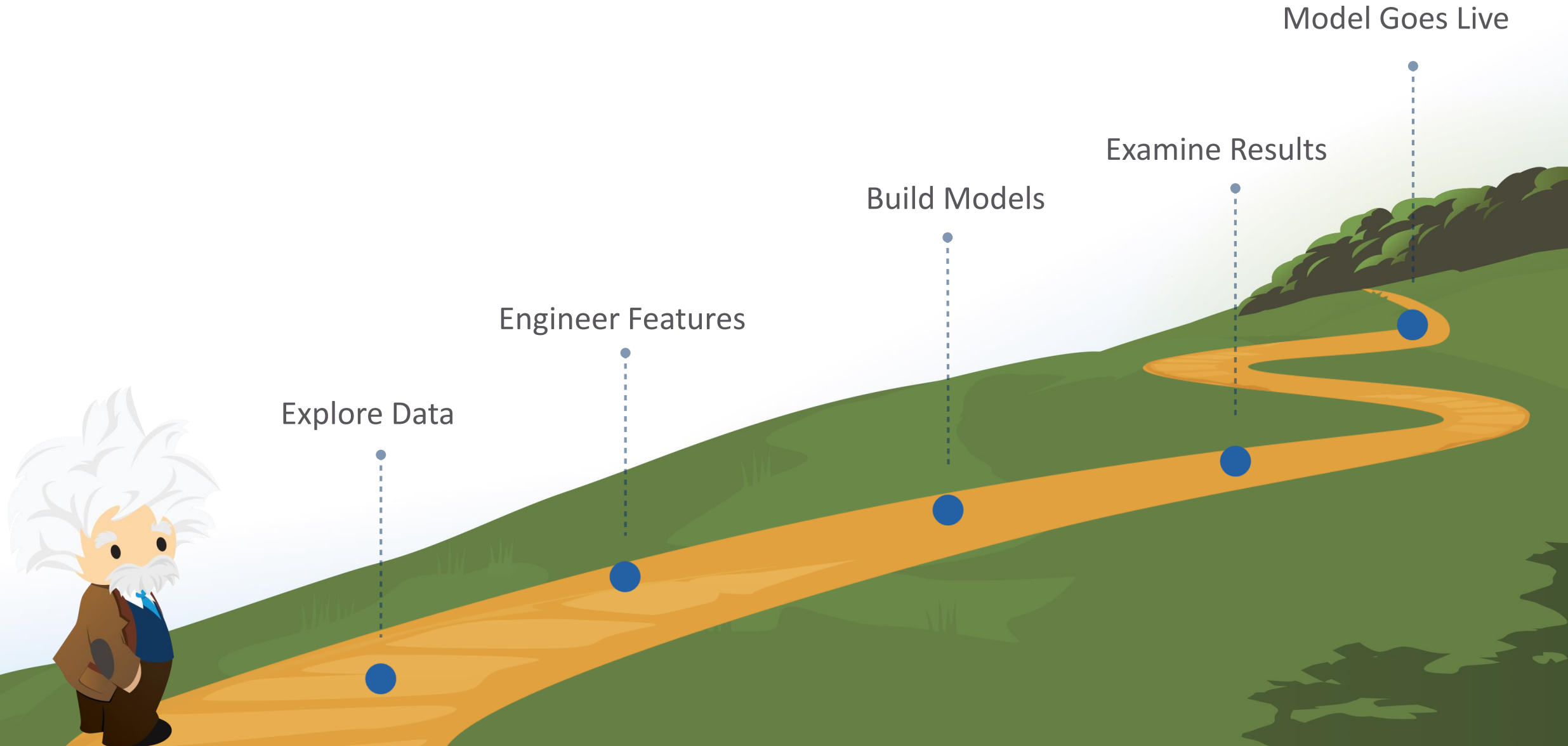
## **How metrics drive agility and scale**

How to apply agile methodologies to rapidly improve and deploy models





# A data scientist's view of the journey to building models



“The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place.”

- George Bernard Shaw



# What are critical components to shipping your app!

salesforce

**APPLICATION** to reach customers

**PIPELINES** to deliver data to **modeling** and **scoring services**

**MONITORS** to know the health of models

**EXPERIMENTATION** frameworks and **AGILE PROCESS** to iteratively improve

**WAY TO DEPLOY** new models

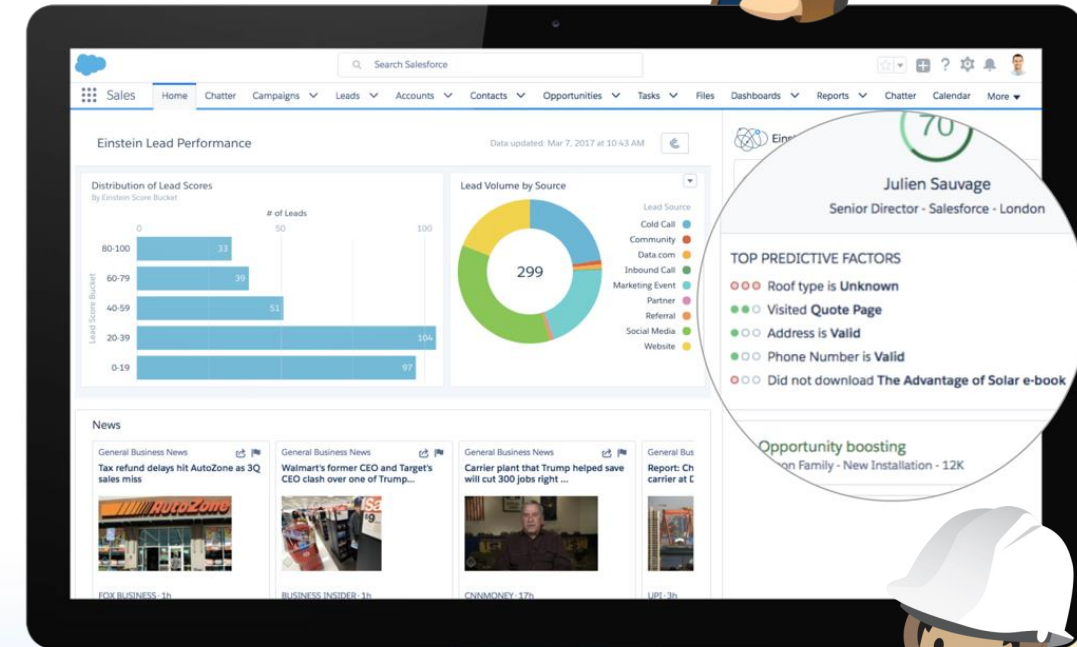
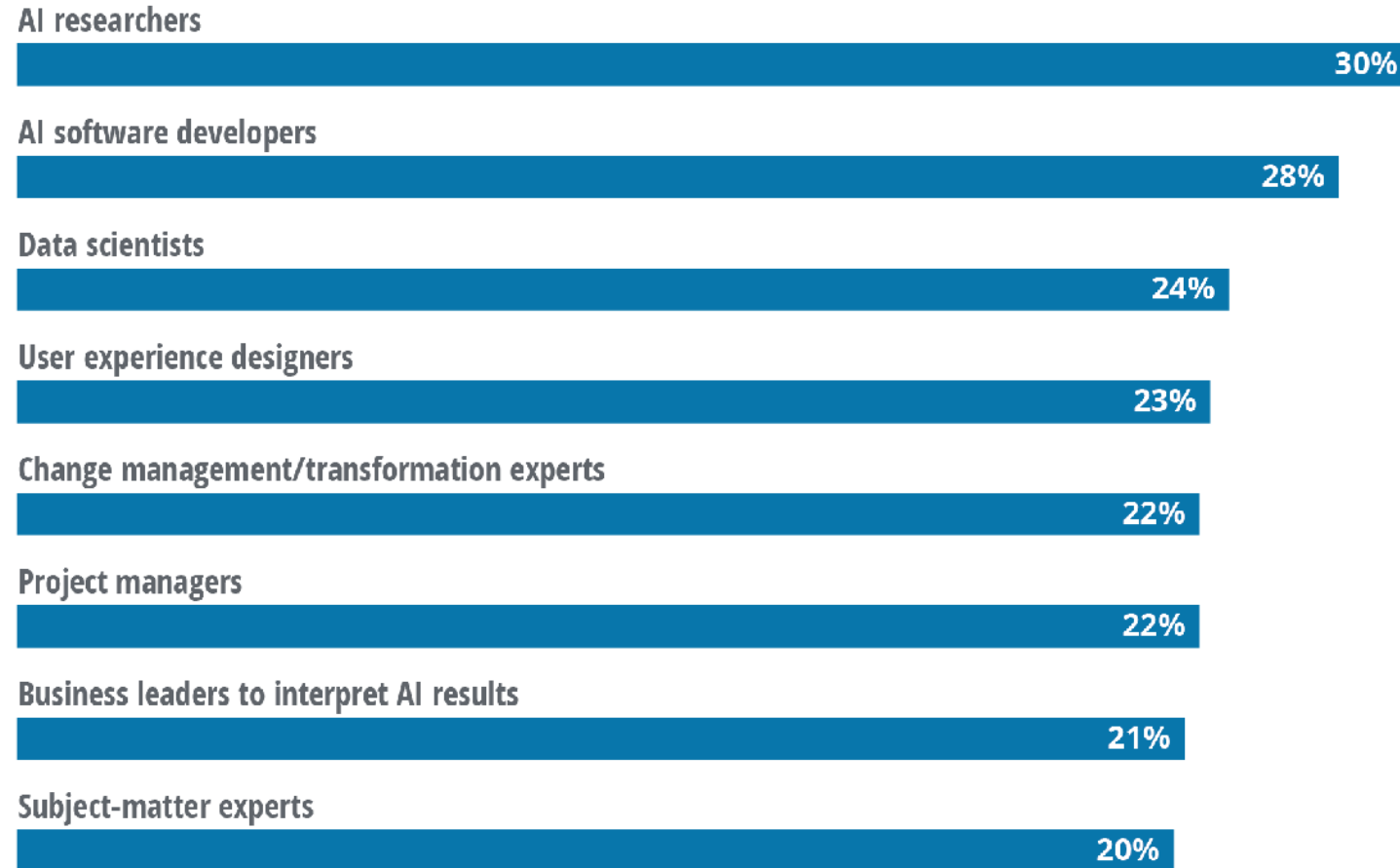


FIGURE 8

## Companies need a broad range of skills for their AI initiatives

Respondents rating each a top-2 needed skill to fill their company's AI skills gap



Note: Base = those who said that their company has moderate/major/extreme skills gap in meeting the needs of AI/cognitive projects. Sample size = 752.

Source: Deloitte State of AI in the Enterprise, 2nd Edition, 2018.

# How different are data scientist and software developers?



## Data Scientists

- Monitor the performance of their models
- Identify opportunities to improve models
- Want to explore new data/algorithms
- Need processes to test new models
- Need a way to redeploy new models
- Find opportunities for reuse

## Software Developers

- Monitor the performance of their apps
- Identify opportunities to add features
- Want to explore new technology
- Need processes to test new features
- Need a way to redeploy their app
- Find opportunities for reuse



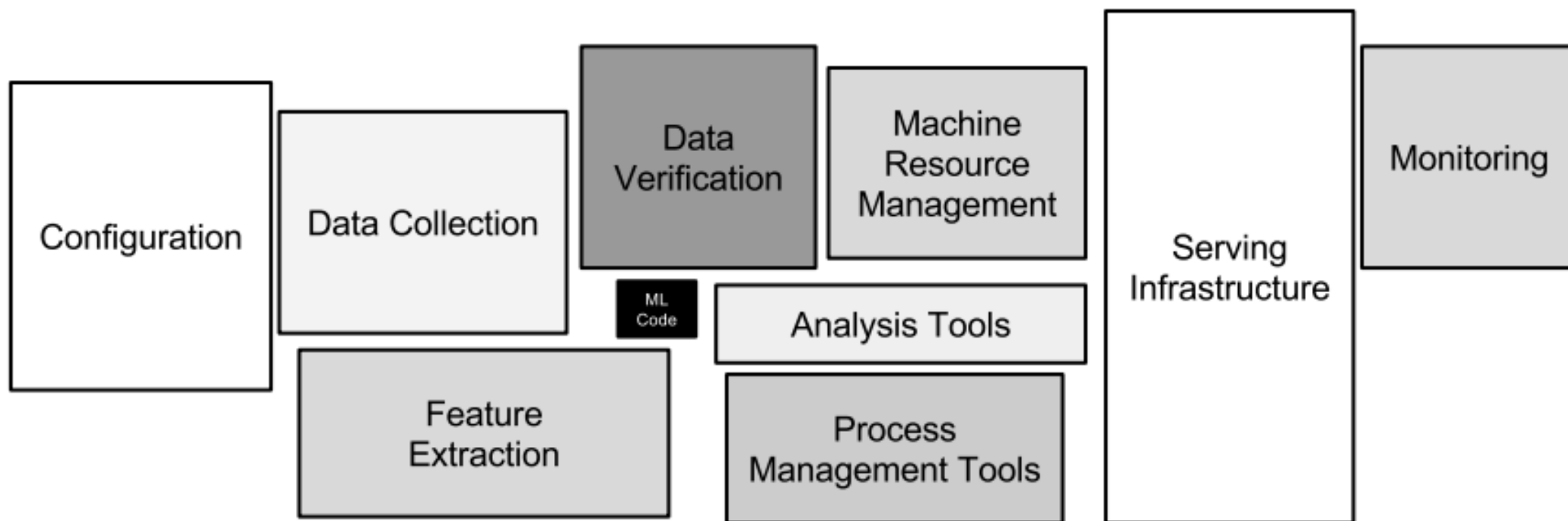


Give your team the tools they need!





# Supporting a Model in Production is Complex



Only a small fraction of real-world ML systems is composed of ML code, as shown by the small black box in the middle. The required surrounding infrastructure is fast and complex.

D. Sculley, et al. Hidden technical debt in machine learning systems. In Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS). 2015

# How we achieve Salesforce-scale!



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## **The need for platform to ship AI to production**

Bridging the communication gap between data scientists and software developers to find common ground and get to production and agility

## **Critical components of an AI platform**

How to build a platform to support agile data science

## **How metrics drive agility and scale**

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# How the Salesforce Einstein Platform Enables Data Scientists

Deploy, monitor and iterate on models in one location



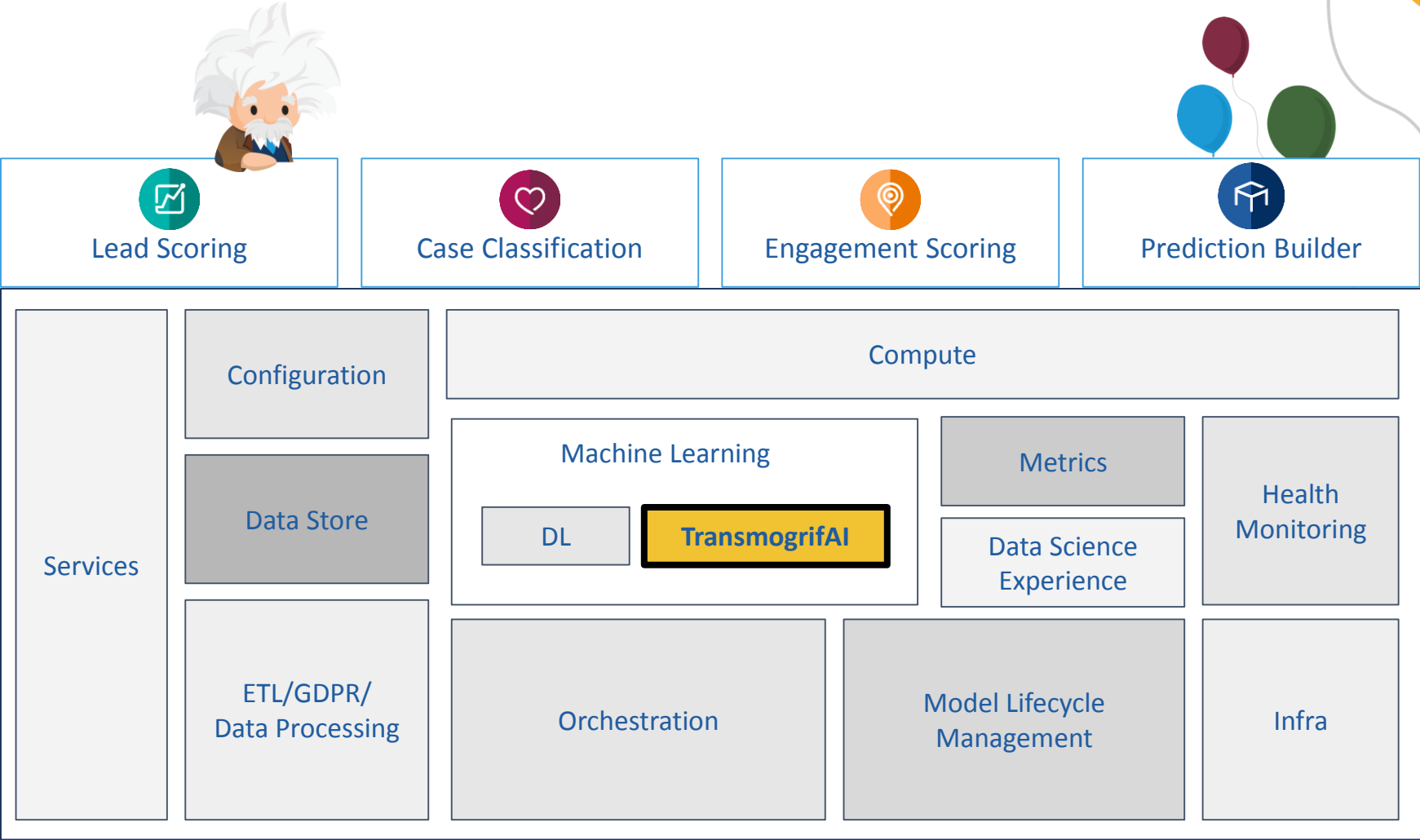
Microservice architecture

Shared feature engineering and modeling services

Customizable model-evaluation & monitoring dashboards

In-platform secured experimentation and exploration

**Data Scientists focus their efforts on engineering new features, trying new models and evaluating results**



# How do we build models? evaluate? reuse?



```
>>> from sklearn import svm
>>> from numpy import loadtxt as l, random as r
>>> clf = svm.SVC()
>>> pls = numpy.loadtxt("features.data", delimiter=",")
>>> testSet = r.choice(len(pls), int(len(pls)*.7), replace=False)
>>> X, y = pls[-testSet,:-1], pls[-testSet:-1]
>>> clf.fit(X,y)
SVC(C=1.0, cache_size=200, class_weight=None,
    coef0=0.0, decision_function_shape=None, degree=3,
    gamma='auto', kernel='rbf', max_iter=-1,
    probability=False, random_state=None, shrinking=True,
    tol=0.001, verbose=False)
>>> clf.score(pls[testSet,:-1], pls[testSet,-1])
0.88571428571428568
```

Should we try other model forms?  
Features?  
Kernels or hyperparameters?

How do we make the best decisions for  
every model in production?



Learn from the mistakes of  
others. You can't live long enough  
to make them all yourself

-Eleanor Roosevelt





# Introducing TransmogrifAI

Open Sourcing Auto-ML for Structured Data

Automated feature engineering,  
feature selection & model selection

ML abstractions that improve  
developer productivity & collaboration

Model explainability to improve  
debuggability and transparency



```
// Read the Deal data
val dealData = DataReaders.Simple.csvCase[Deal](path = pathToData).readDataset().toDF()

// Extract response and predictor Features
val (isClosed, predictors) = FeatureBuilder.fromDataFrame[RealNN](dealData, response = '

// Automated feature engineering
val featureVector = predictors.transmogrify()

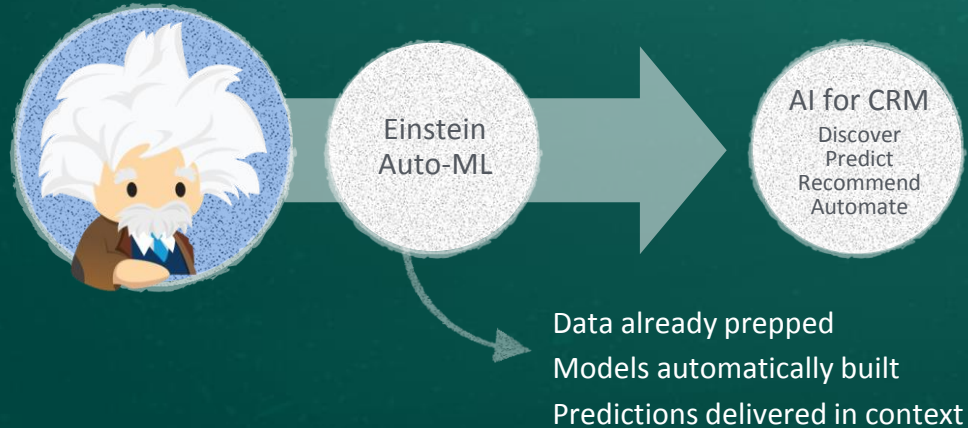
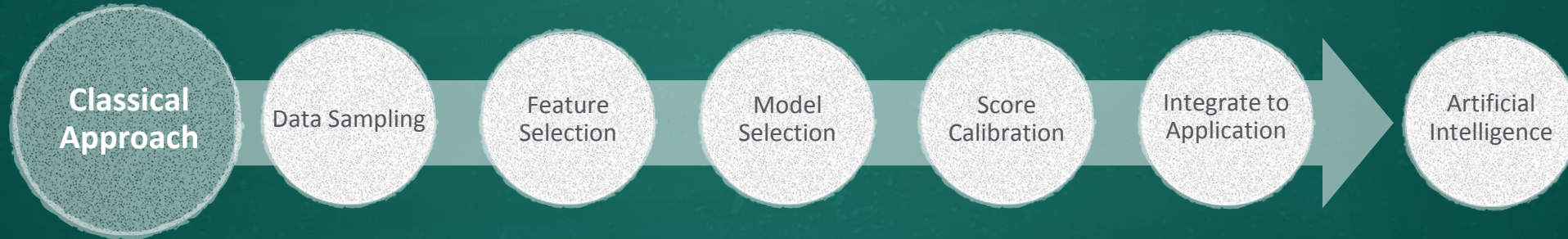
// Automated feature selection
val cleanFeatures = survived.sanityCheck(featureVector, removeBadFeatures = true)

// Automated model selection
val (pred, raw, prob) = BinaryClassificationModelSelector()
    .setInput(isClosed, cleanFeatures).getOutput()

val model = new OpWorkflow().setInputDataset(dealData).setResultFeatures(pred).train()
```

# Einstein's New Approach to AI

Democratizing AI for Everyone





# Repeatable Elements in Machine Learning Pipelines

AutoML for feature engineering

| Categorical Variables |                | Text Fields                                | Numerical Buckets   |
|-----------------------|----------------|--|---------------------|
| NAME                  | ▼ TITLE        | DESCRIPTION                                | number of employees |
| Jim Steele            | Senior VP      | A blessing in disguise                     | 90                  |
| John Gardner          | Senior VP      | Time flies when you're having fun          | 16                  |
| Andy Smith            | Vice President | Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei | 224                 |
| Test User             | Vice President | um den heißen Brei herumreden              | 192                 |
| Test User             | CEO            | We'll cross that bridge when we come to it | 335                 |
| Test User             | Vice President | You can say that again                     | 12                  |
| Test User             | Chairperson    | Your guess is as good as mine              | 621                 |
| Test User             | CEO            |  | 72                  |
|                       |                |  | 560                 |
|                       |                |  | 80                  |
|                       |                |  | 24                  |
|                       |                |  | 0                   |
|                       |                |  | 208                 |

# Repeatable Elements in Machine Learning Pipelines

AutoML for feature engineering

| Text Fields                                |            |  |  |  |
|--|------------|--|--|--|
| DESCRIPTION                                | Word Count |  |  |  |
| A blessing in disguise                     | 4          |  |  |  |
| Time flies when you're having fun          | 6          |  |  |  |
| Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei | 9          |  |  |  |
| um den heißen Brei herumreden              | 6          |  |  |  |
| We'll cross that bridge when we come to it | 7          |  |  |  |
| You can say that again                     | 5          |  |  |  |
| Your guess is as good as mine              | 7          |  |  |  |

# Repeatable Elements in Machine Learning Pipelines

AutoML for feature engineering

| Text Fields                                |            |                            |  |
|--|------------|----------------------------|--|
| DESCRIPTION                                | Word Count | Word Count (no stop words) |  |
| A blessing in disguise                     | 4          | 2                          |  |
| Time flies when you're having fun          | 6          | 3                          |  |
| Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei | 9          | 4                          |  |
| um den heißen Brei herumreden              | 6          | 4                          |  |
| We'll cross that bridge when we come to it | 7          | 3                          |  |
| You can say that again                     | 5          | 1                          |  |
| Your guess is as good as mine              | 7          | 3                          |  |



# Repeatable Elements in Machine Learning Pipelines

AutoML for feature engineering

| Text Fields                                |            |                            |            |  |
|--|------------|----------------------------|------------|--|
| DESCRIPTION                                | Word Count | Word Count (no stop words) | Is English |  |
| A blessing in disguise                     | 4          | 2                          | 1          |  |
| Time flies when you're having fun          | 6          | 3                          | 1          |  |
| Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei | 9          | 4                          | 0          |  |
| um den heißen Brei herumreden              | 6          | 4                          | 0          |  |
| We'll cross that bridge when we come to it | 7          | 3                          | 1          |  |
| You can say that again                     | 5          | 1                          | 1          |  |
| Your guess is as good as mine              | 7          | 3                          | 1          |  |

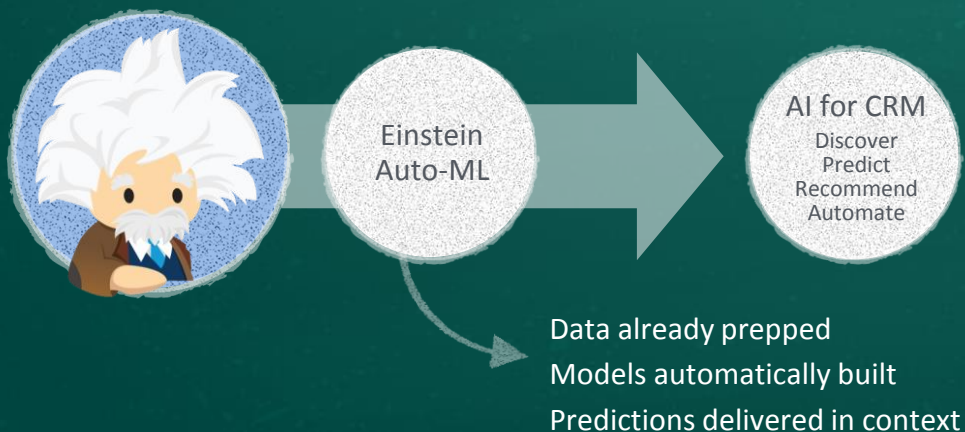
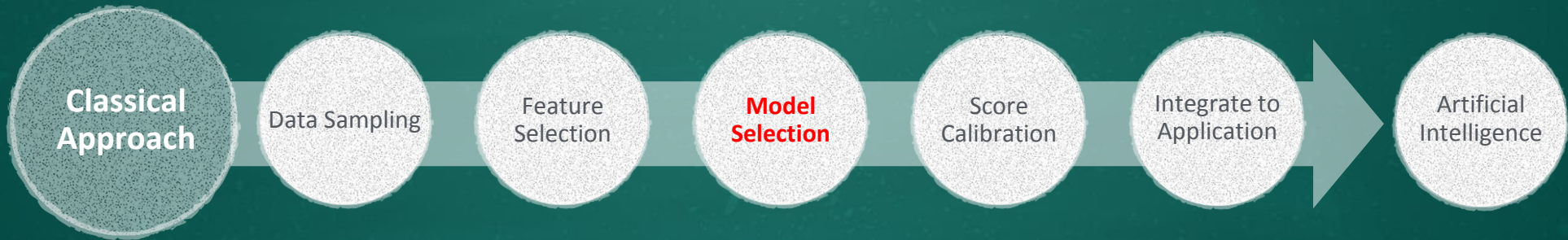
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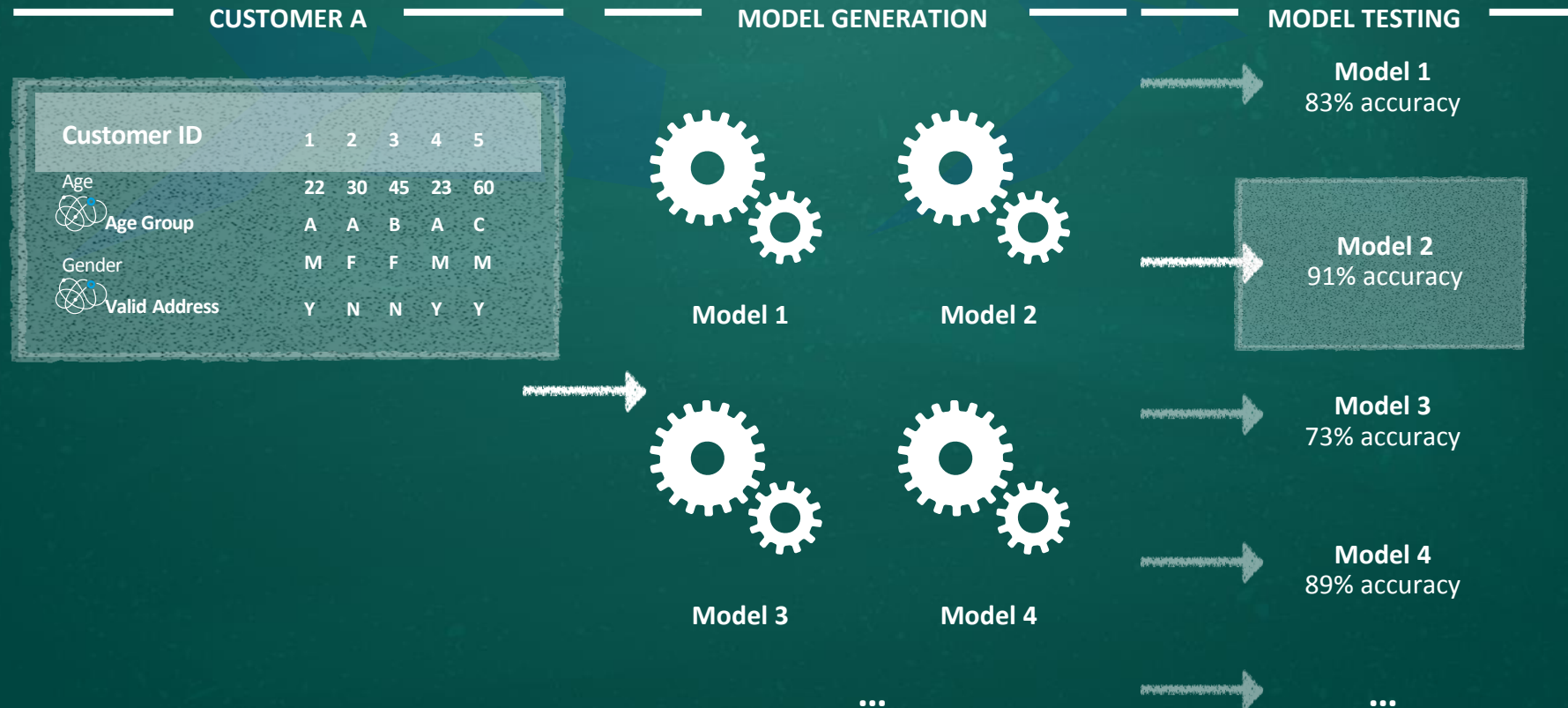
| Text Fields                                |            |                            |            |           |
|--|------------|----------------------------|------------|-----------|
| DESCRIPTION                                | Word Count | Word Count (no stop words) | Is English | Sentiment |
| A blessing in disguise                     | 4          | 2                          | 1          | 1         |
| Time flies when you're having fun          | 6          | 3                          | 1          | 1         |
| Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei | 9          | 4                          | 0          | 0         |
| um den heißen Brei herumreden              | 6          | 4                          | 0          | -1        |
| We'll cross that bridge when we come to it | 7          | 3                          | 1          | 0         |
| You can say that again                     | 5          | 1                          | 1          | 0         |
| Your guess is as good as mine              | 7          | 3                          | 1          | 0         |

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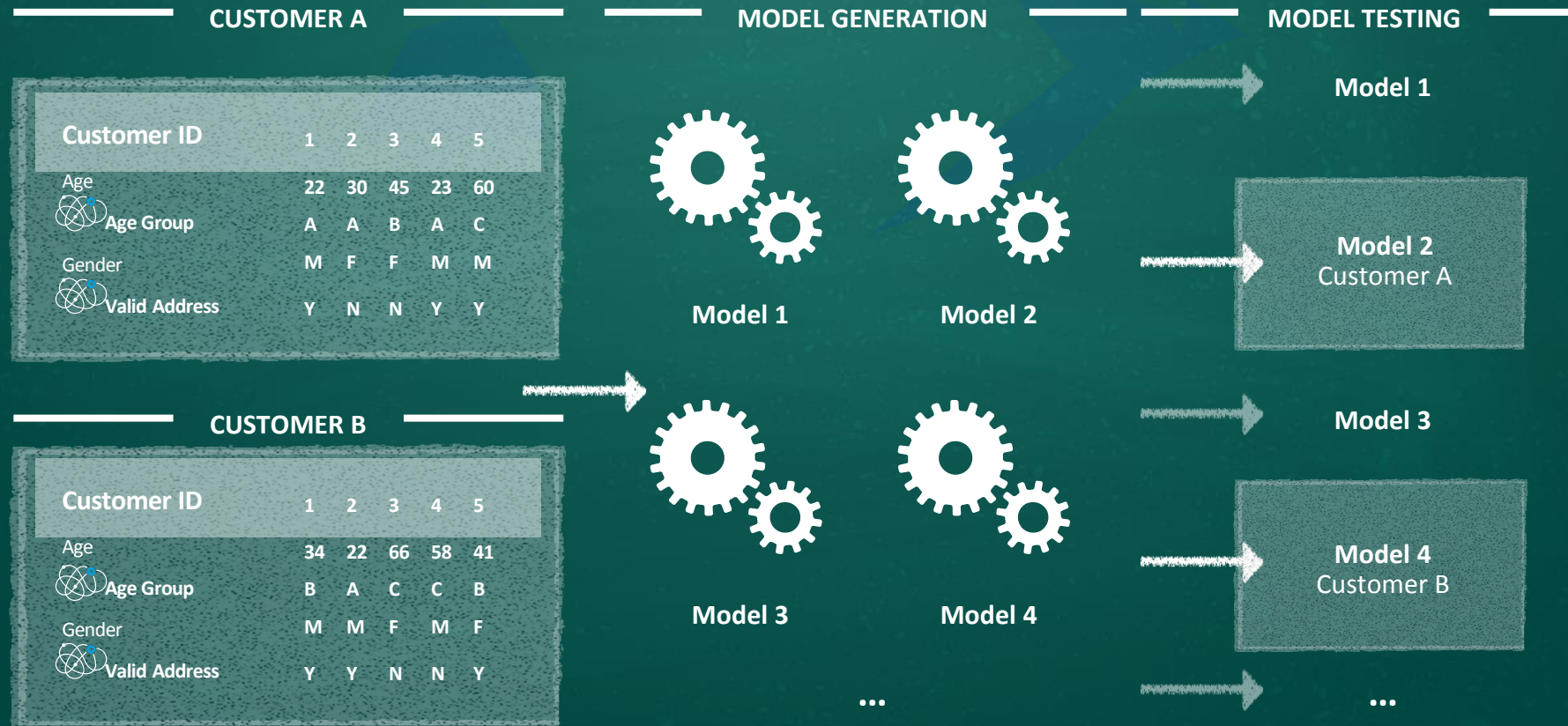


# A tournament of models!





# A tournament of models!





# How the Salesforce Einstein Platform Enables Data Scientists

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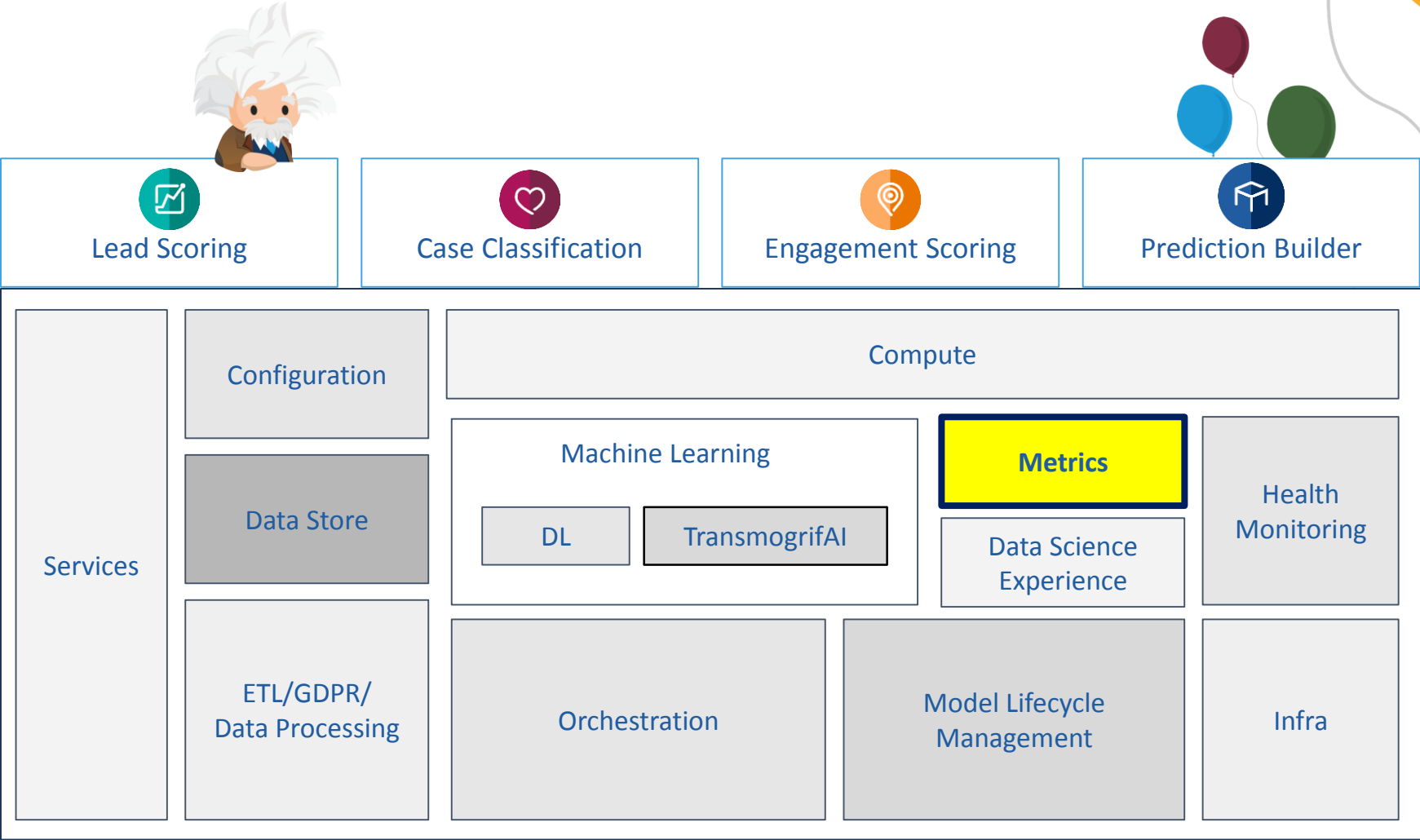
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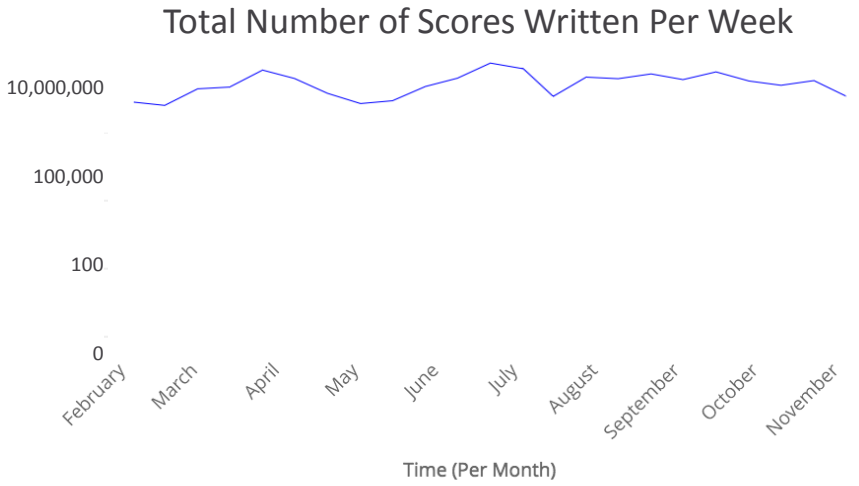
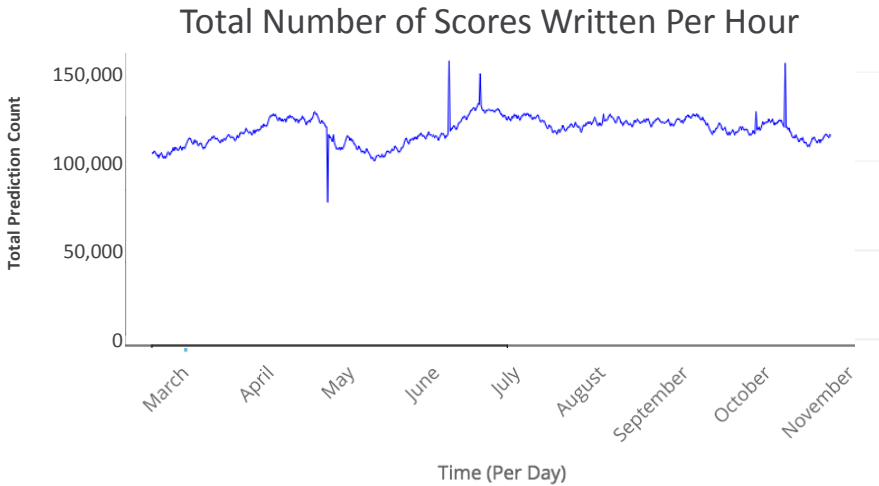




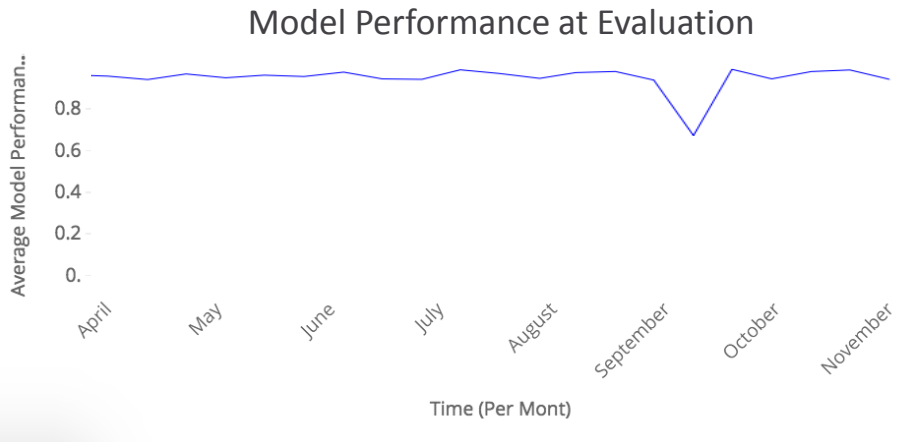
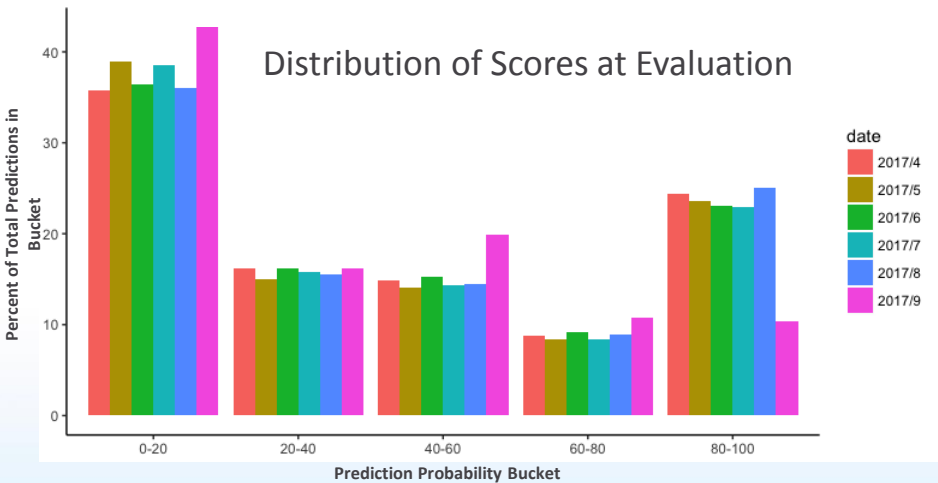
# Monitoring your AI's health like any other app component

Pipelines, Model Performance, Scores – Invest your time where it is needed!

**105,874**  
Scores Written Per Hour(1 day moving avg)



**0.86**  
Evaluation auROC



# How we achieve Salesforce-scale!



## **Salesforce approach to democratizing AI**

Enabling our customers to build models on their own data

## **The need for platform to ship AI to production**

Bridging the communication gap between data scientists and software developers to find common ground and get to production and agility

## **Critical components of an AI platform**

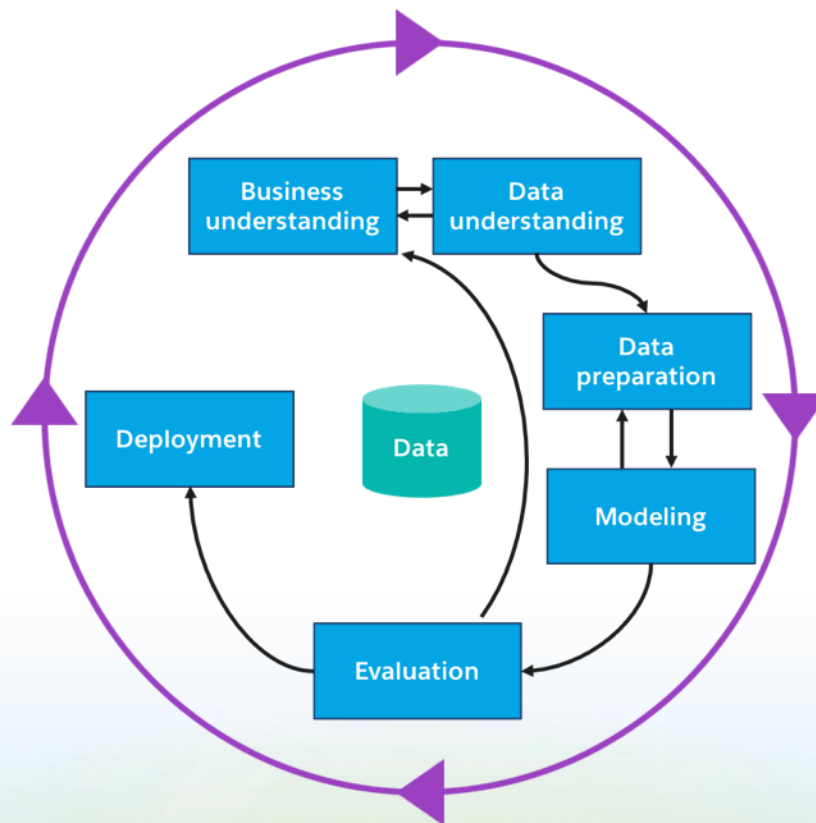
How to build a platform to support agile data science

## **How metrics drive agility and scale**

How to apply agile methodologies to rapidly improve and deploy models



# What happens after you deploy?



# HOW TO BUILD A MINIMUM VIABLE PRODUCT

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# Focusing on MVP with Agile Processes



HOW TO BUILD A MINIMUM VIABLE PRODUCT

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1 2 3 4 5

image by [blog.fastmonkeys.com](http://blog.fastmonkeys.com) original idea: spotify product team

## Prioritized Backlog


- ☐ As a rider I want a comfortable seat so I can ride a longer time
- ☐ As a rider I want a self-powered vehicle so I can go further
- ☐ As a rider I want protection because I get hit by bugs
- ☐ As a rider I want shelter because I get wet when it rains
- ☐ As a rider I want to go faster so I can shorten my travel time

# Focusing on MVP with Agile Processes



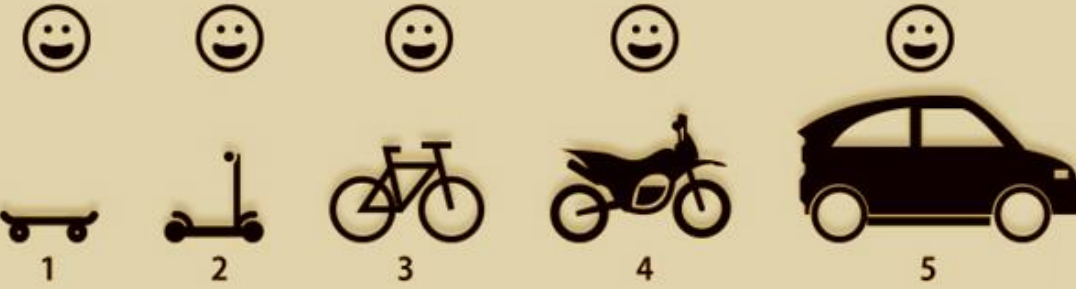
HOW TO BUILD A MINIMUM VIABLE PRODUCT

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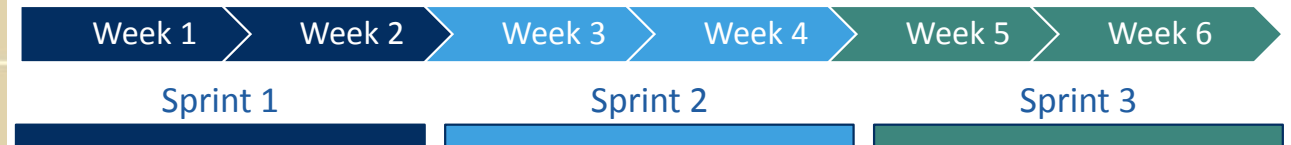


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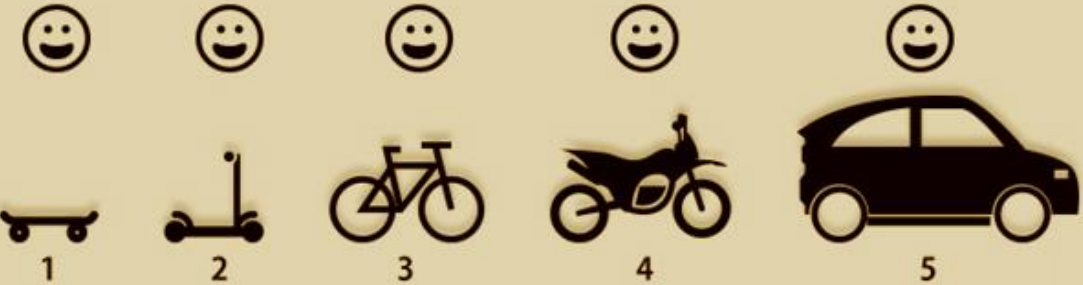
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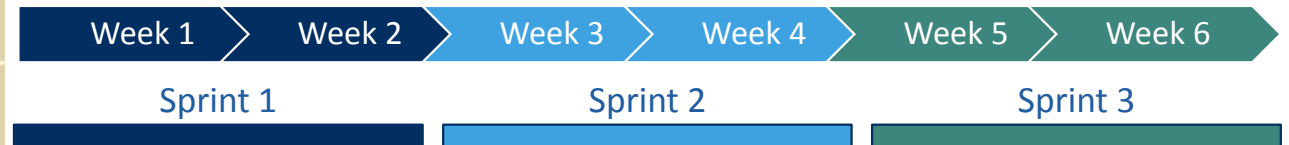


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- ☐ As a rider I want a comfortable seat so I can ride longer distances
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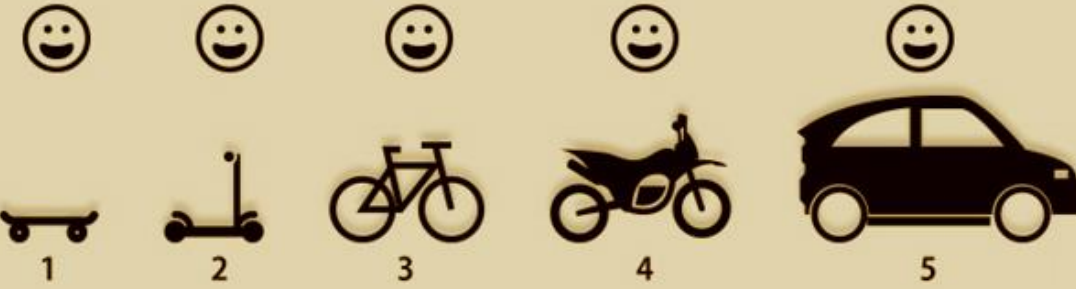
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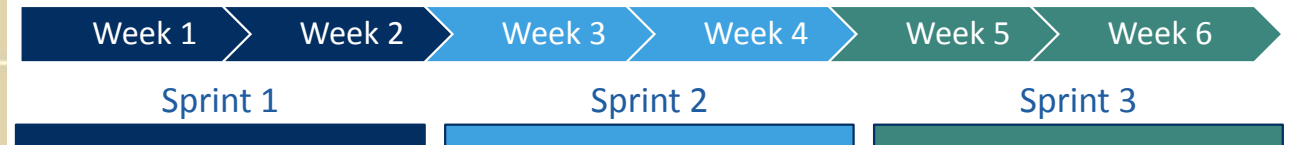


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## Prioritized Backlog

- ☐ As a rider I want more room because I travel with 3 people
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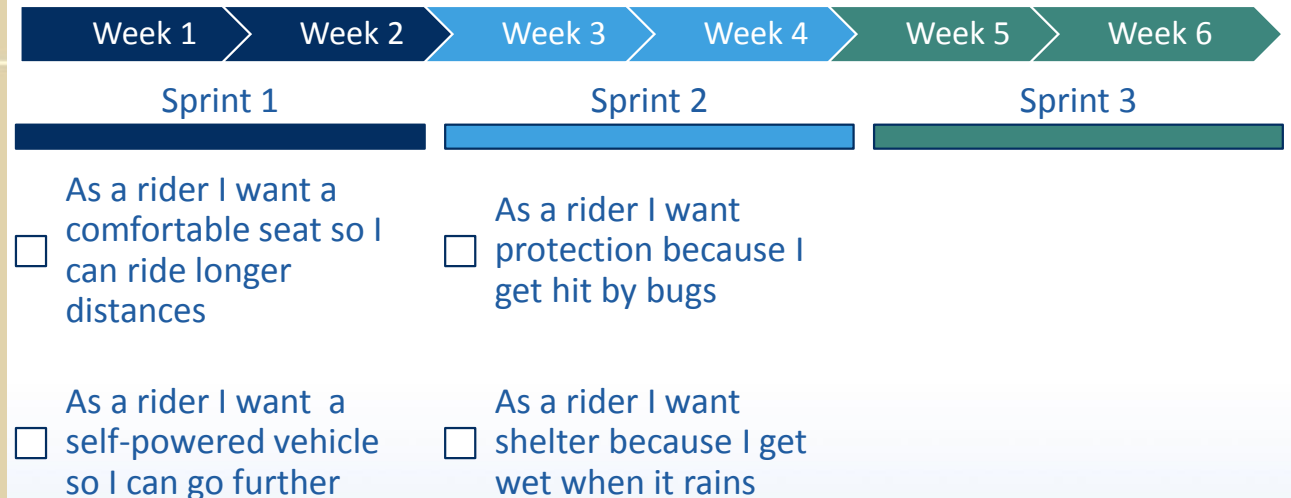
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# Focusing on MVP with Agile Processes



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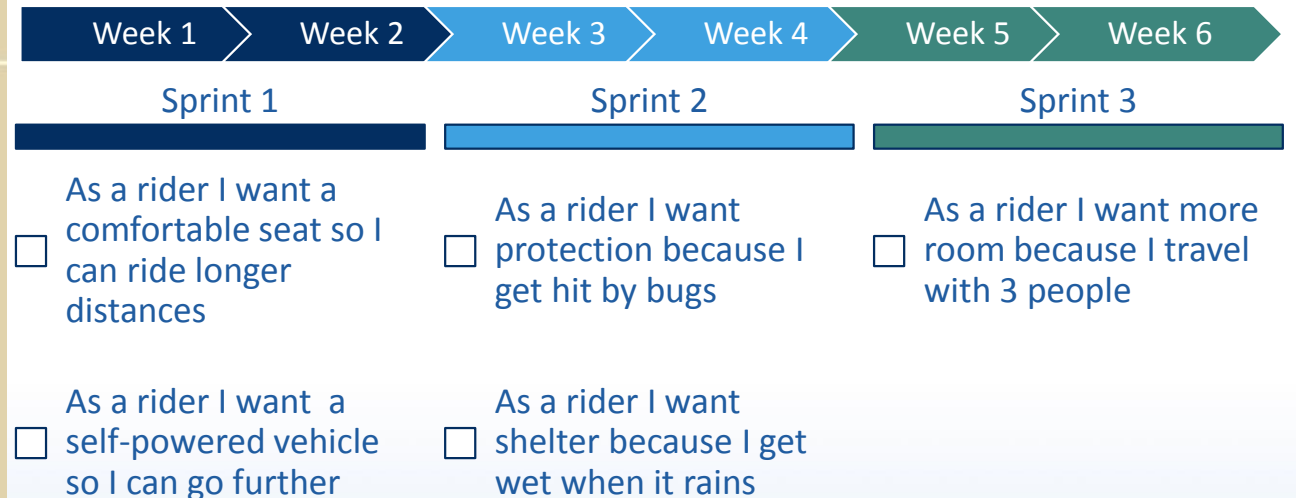


# Focusing on MVP with Agile Processes




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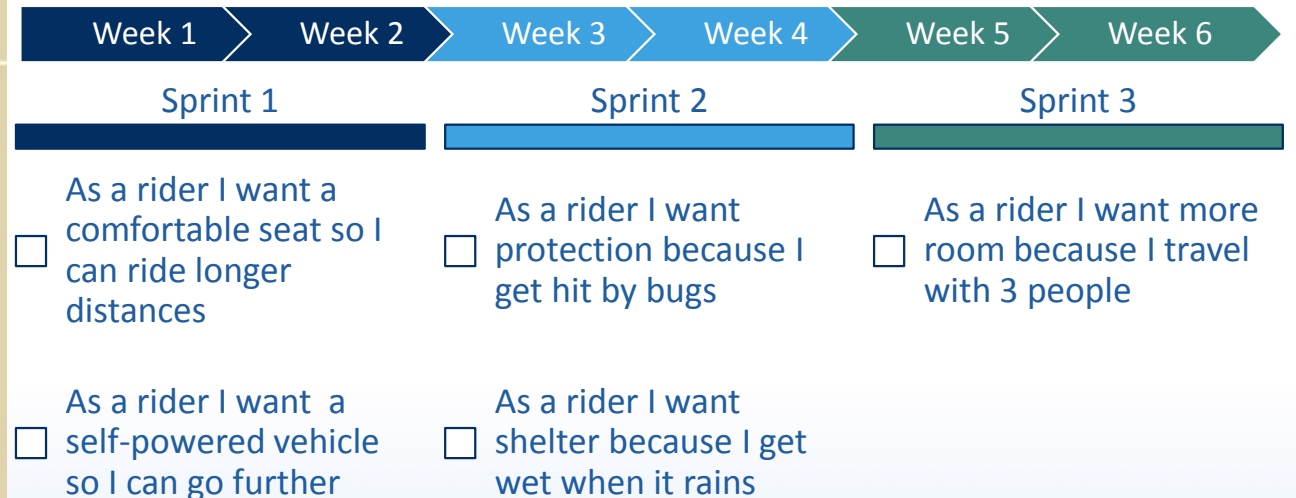
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# Focusing on MVP with Agile Processes





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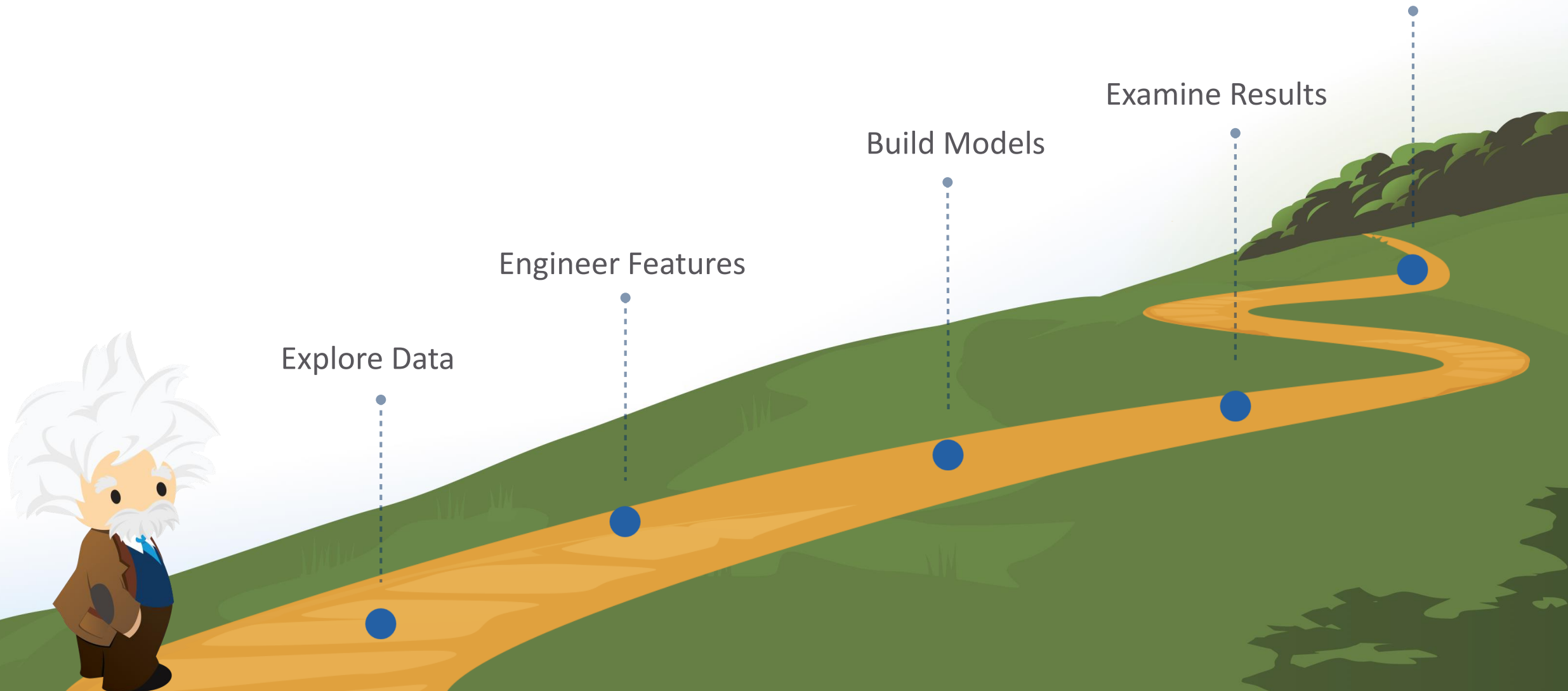
  
  
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# Iterative, Agile, MVP, PSPI, User Stories WTH does this have to do with Models?

A data scientist's view of the journey to building models



Explore Data

Engineer Features

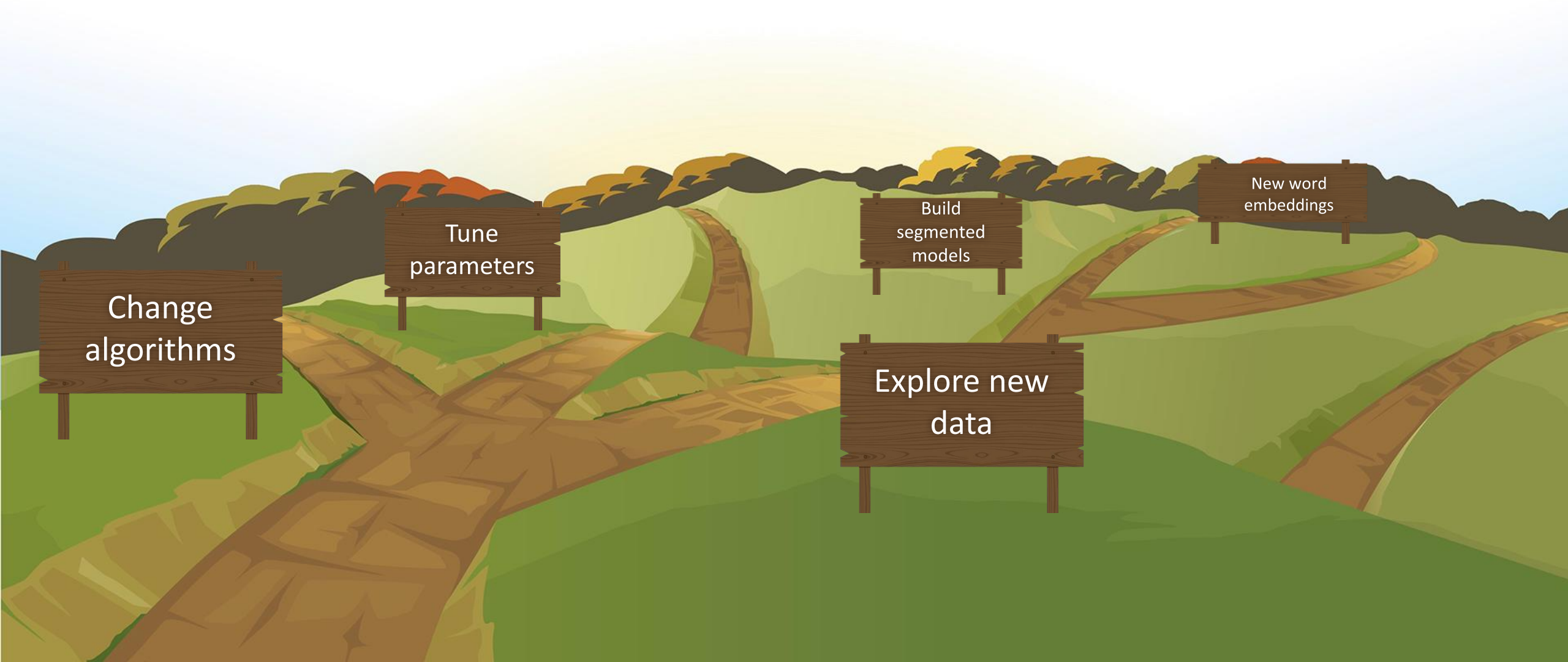
Build Models

Examine Results

Model Goes Live

# Iterative, Agile, MVP, PSPI, User Stories WTH does this have to do with Models?

Endless choices for ways to improve!



Change  
algorithms

Tune  
parameters

Explore new  
data

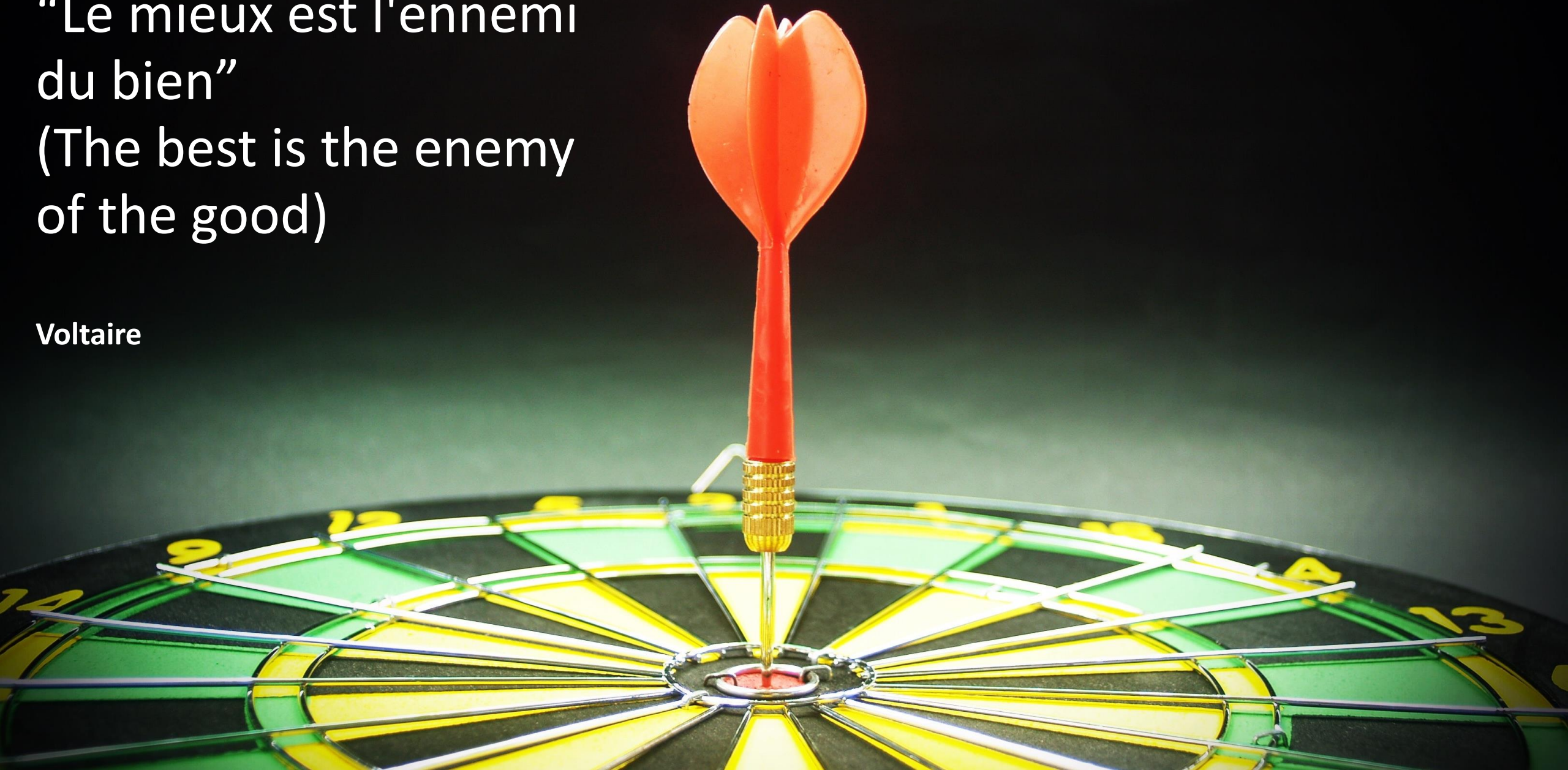
Build  
segmented  
models

New word  
embeddings



“Le mieux est l'ennemi  
du bien”  
(The best is the enemy  
of the good)

Voltaire



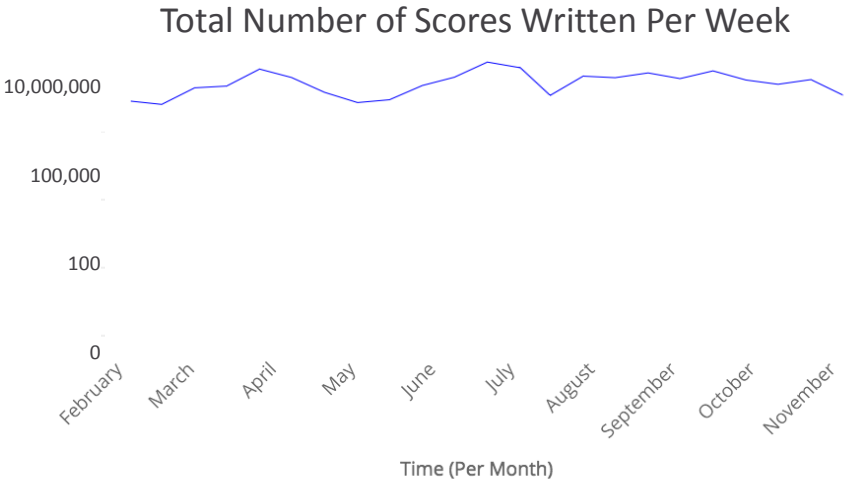
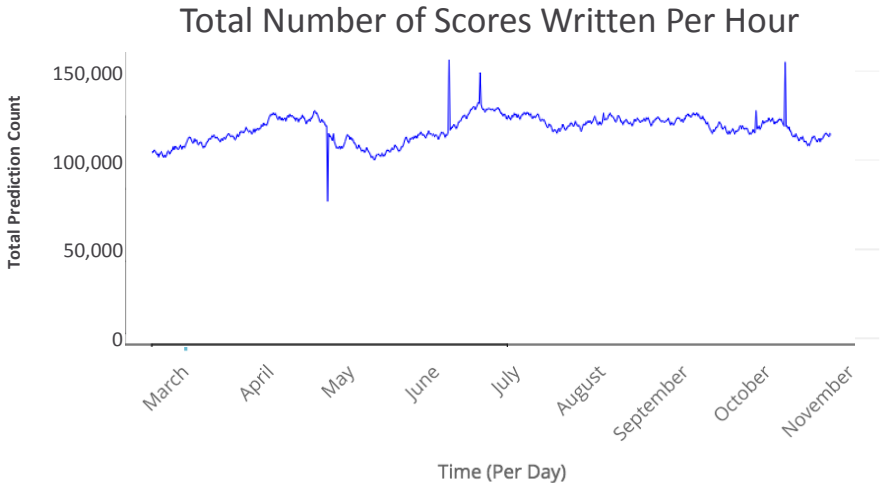




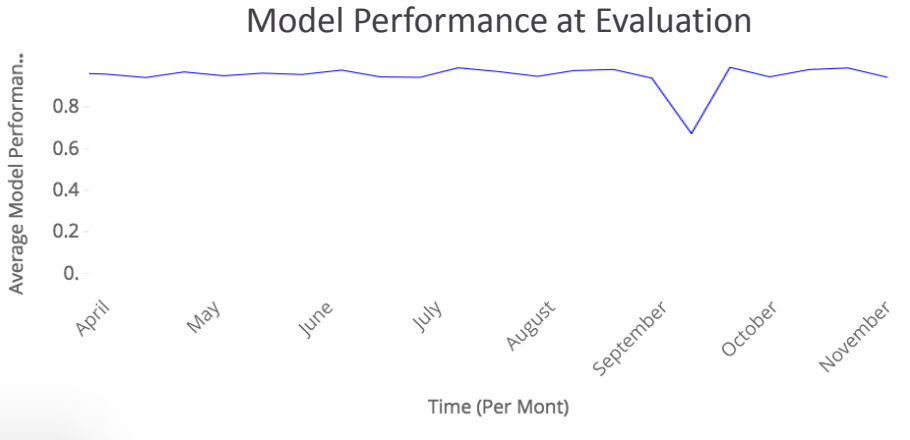
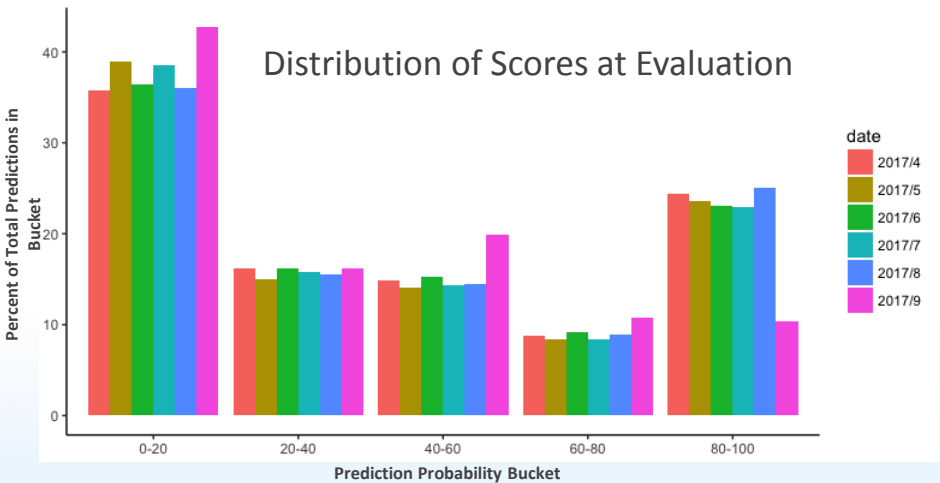
# Invest your time where it is needed!

## Pipelines, Model Performance, Scores – Monitors!

**105,874**  
Scores Written Per  
Hour(1 day moving  
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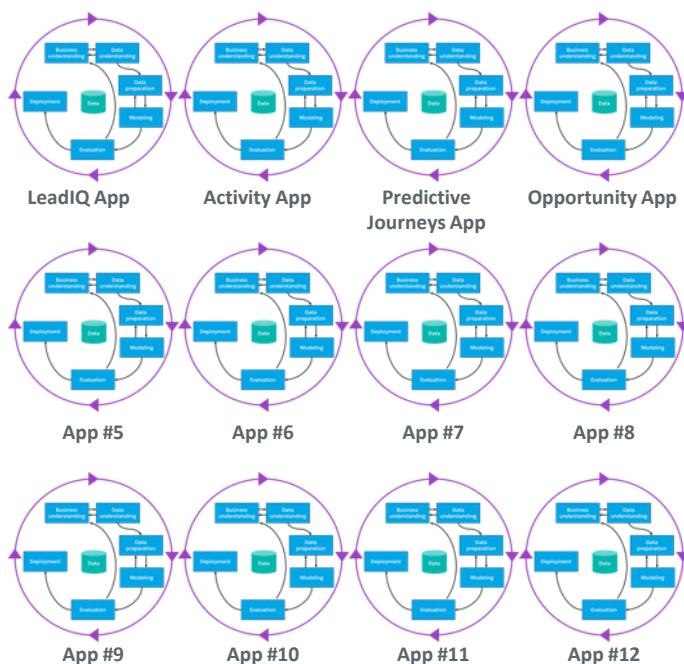
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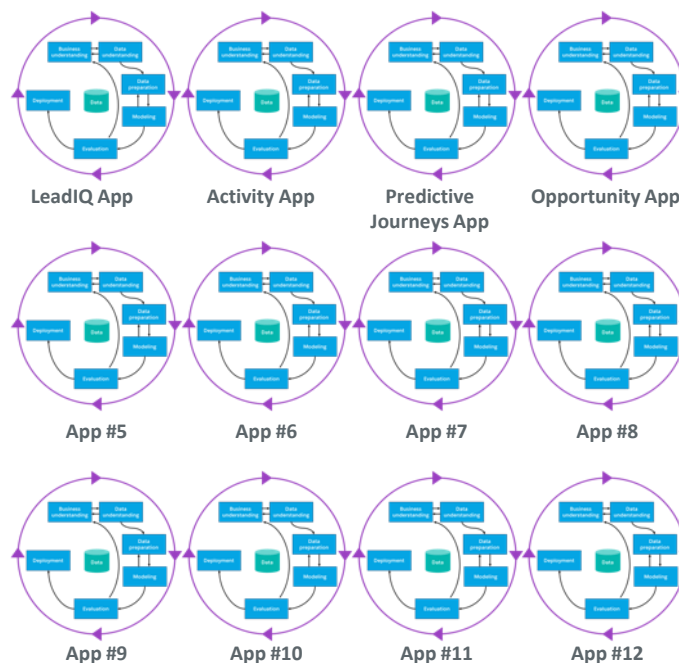
# Remember Our Scale at Salesforce



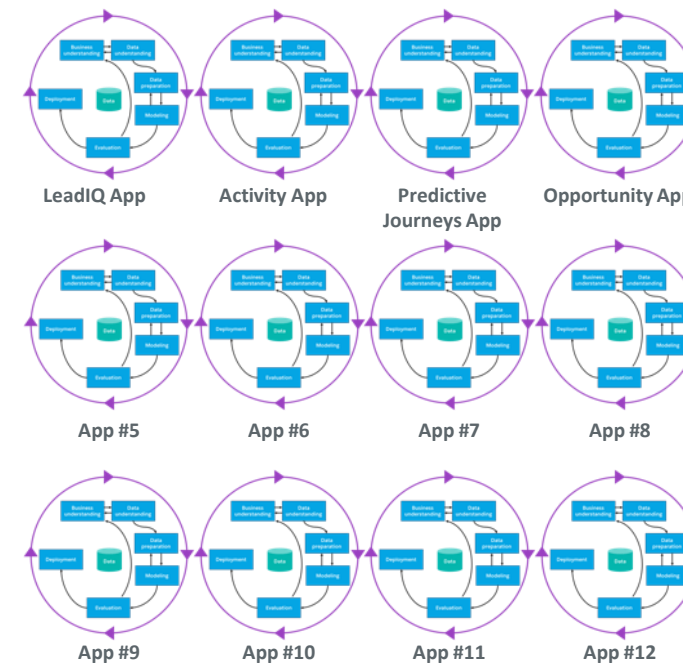
Customer #1



Customer #2



Customer #3



150,000 customers

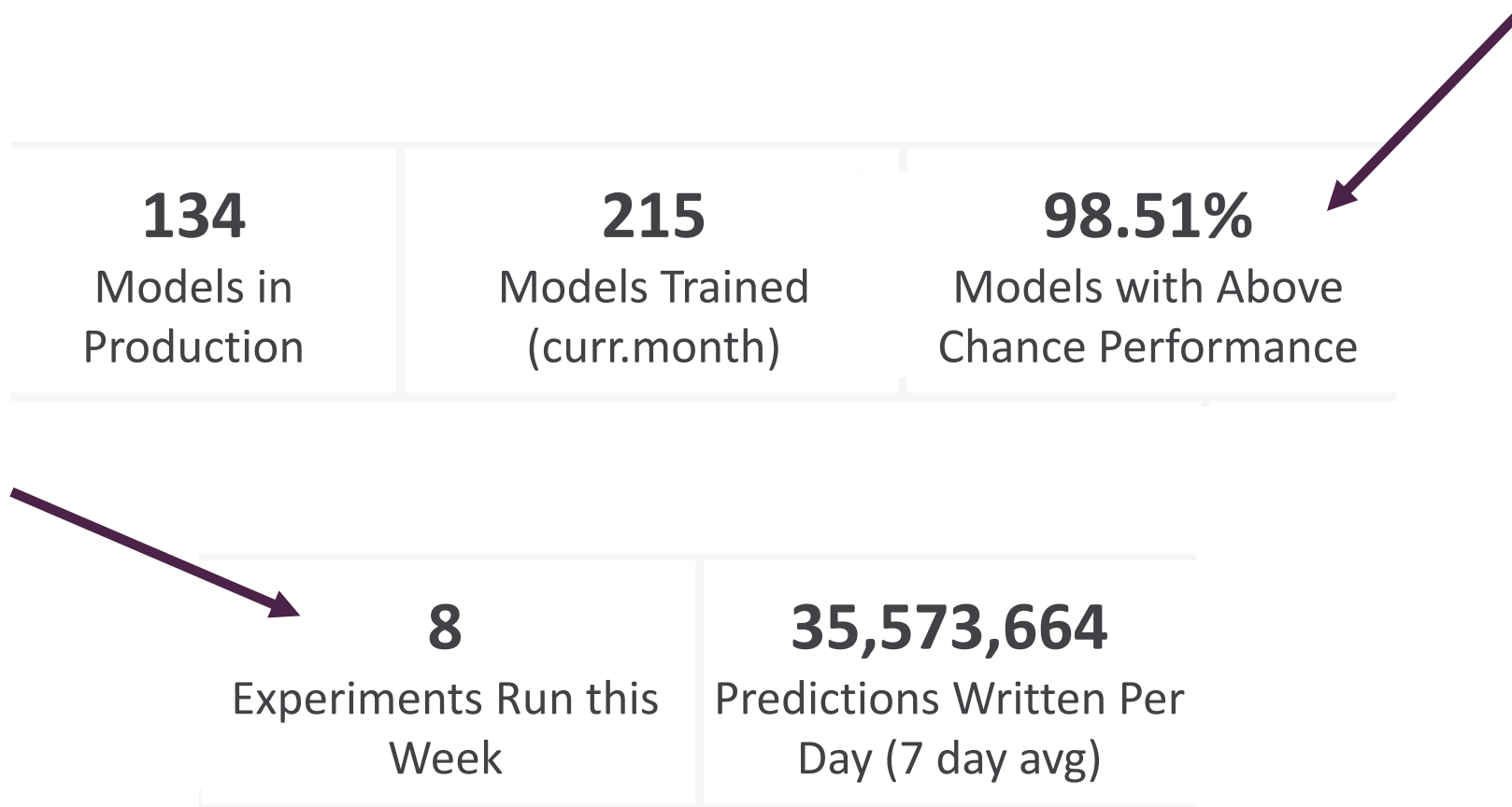


**WHERE DO WE SPEND OUR  
TIME?**



**WHERE DO WE SPEND OUR  
TIME?**

# Deploy Monitors, Monitor, Repeat!





# What is a sprint? What is a story? What is an investigation? How can agile work in Data Science?

salesforce

What should be shipped?

Identify opportunity for improvement

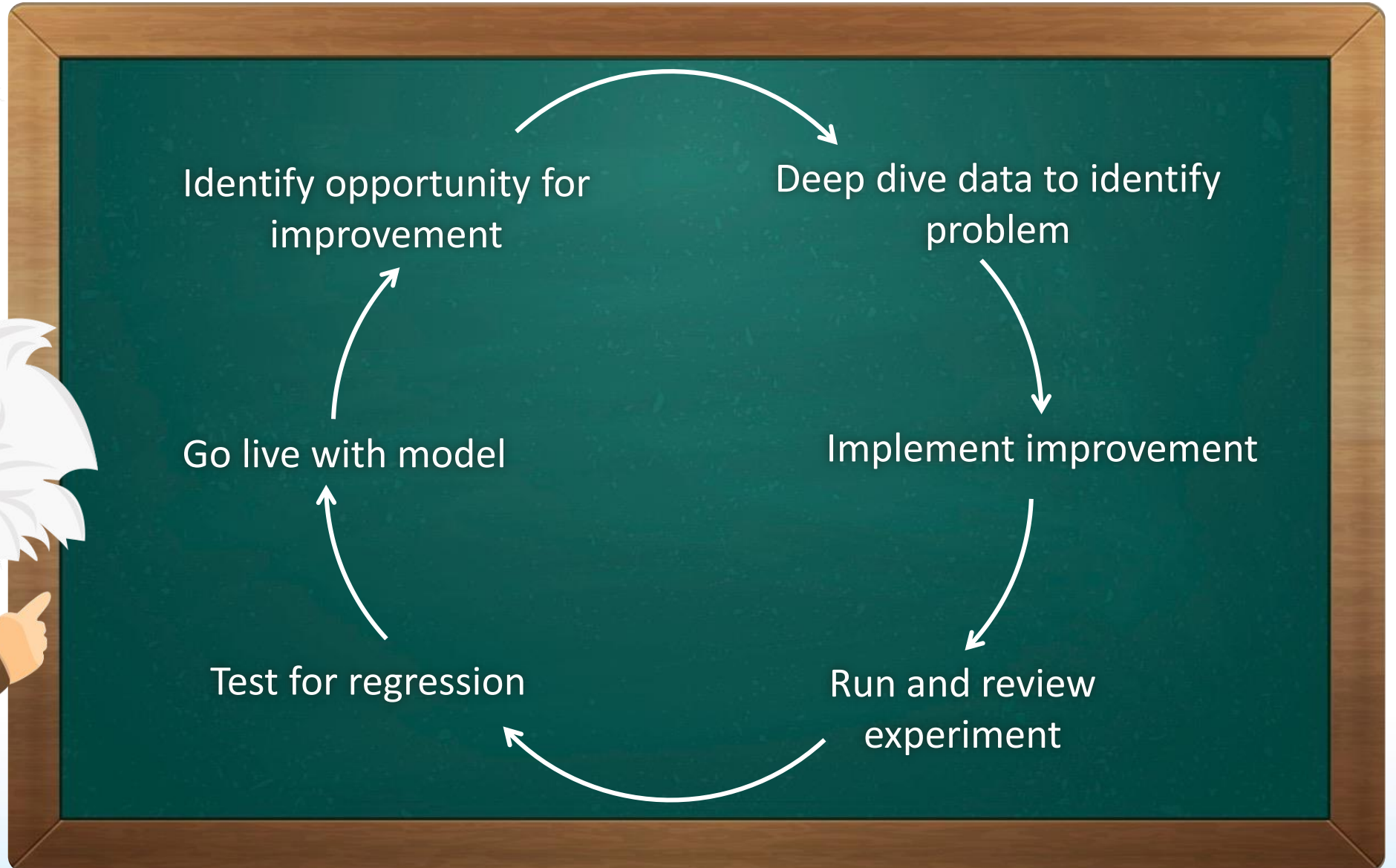
Deep dive data to identify problem

Go live with model

Implement improvement

Test for regression

Run and review experiment



# Creating tickets, user stories with clear acceptance criteria

## Investigation:

Drop in auROC for model XYZ

AC: Deep dive of model and recent dataset, identify source of issues, create stories for follow-up fixes

## User Story:

Add lead data object into model

AC: Engineer features from lead object, add to existing model, provide metrics to assess go-live

## SPIKE:

Segmented models

AC: Design doc reviewed and approved by design board, follow-up stories created

## User Story:

Identify new hyperparameters settings for random forest

AC: Provide output of experiment with various settings, assess go-live

## Bug:

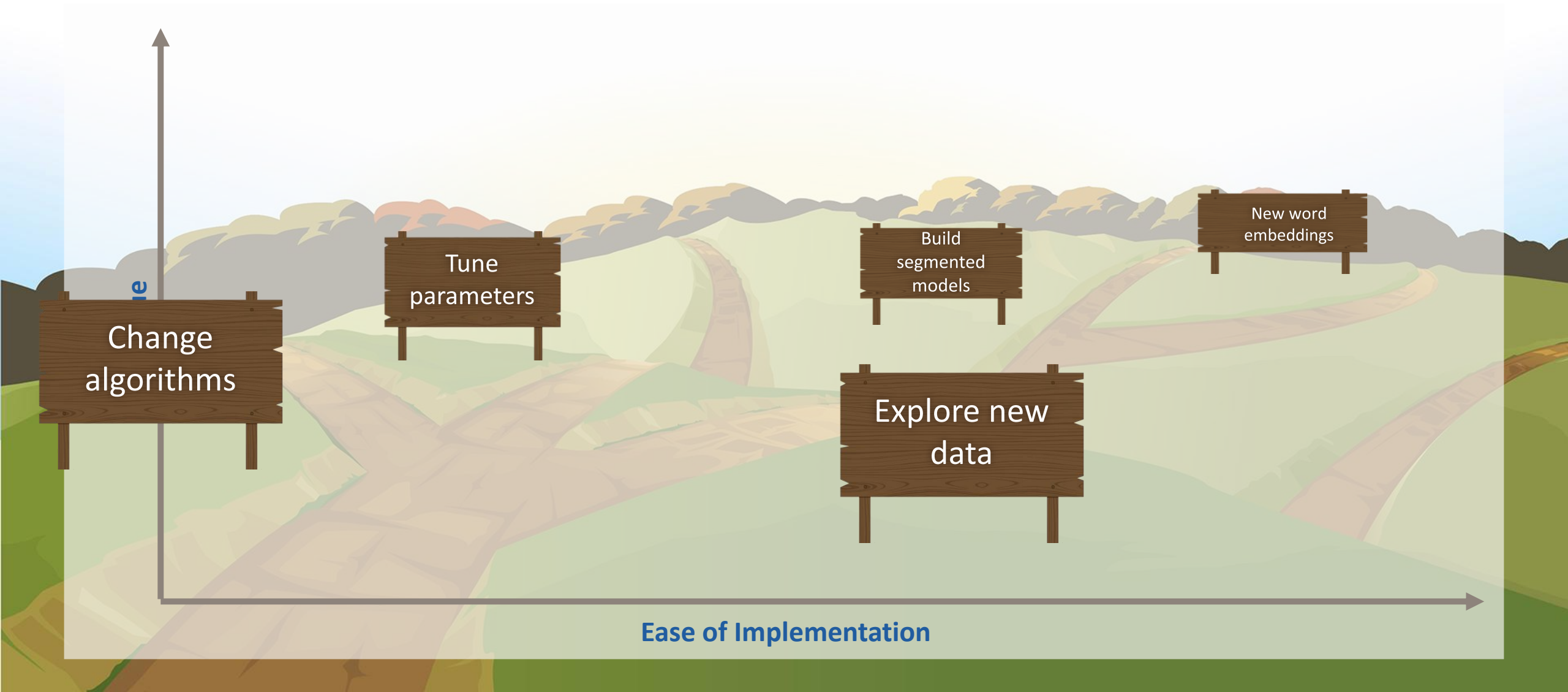
Blank text in field A not being treated as nulls



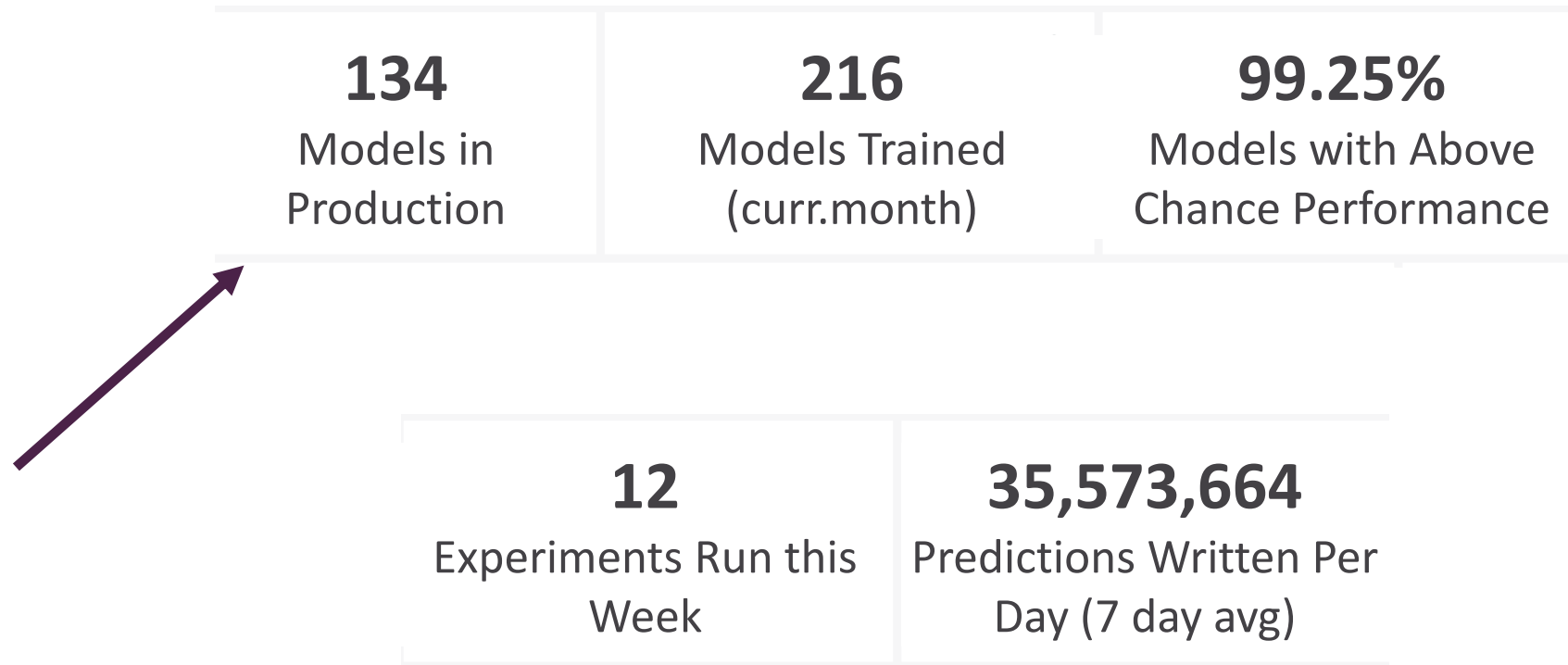
# Creating your prioritized backlog: Value vs Ease of Implementation



Endless choices for ways to improve!



# Deploy Monitors, Monitor, Repeat!





# Key Takeaways

- Plan for multiple apps... **always**  
Identify opportunities for reusability in all aspects, even your machine learning pipelines
- Understand your data scientists  
Build a platform to enable their productivity
- Don't fly blind  
Make sure you can monitor your model health
- Never deploy without a plan for iteration  
How can your data scientist experiment?  
How can your data scientists redeploy?  
What will you do with your old predictions?





**Go to [github.com/salesforce/TransmogrifAI](https://github.com/salesforce/TransmogrifAI)  
to learn more!**

# Introducing: New Einstein Services for Admins & Developers



Build custom AI you can trust

## Einstein Platform Services:

Deploy NLP & Computer Vision inside of Salesforce using APEX Code or Lightning Web Components

## Einstein Predictions Service:

Extend predictions outside of Salesforce into any external system like finance, HR, ERP & more

## Trusted AI:

Ensure your AI is transparent, responsible & accountable





# THANK YOU

@itweetsarah



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