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Adding a Programming Language

ActiveState Webinar

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Panelists

- **Francois Ouellet**, Director of Development Practice, *Manulife*
- **George Williams**, Director of Data Science and Chief Evangelist, *GSI Technology*

Housekeeping

- Webinar recording and slides will be available shortly
- Share questions with panelists using the Question panel
- Q&A session following presentations

Adding a Language

Track-record: 97% of Fortune 1000, 20+ years open source

Polyglot: 5 languages - Python, Perl, Tcl, Go, Ruby

Runtime Focus: concept to development to production

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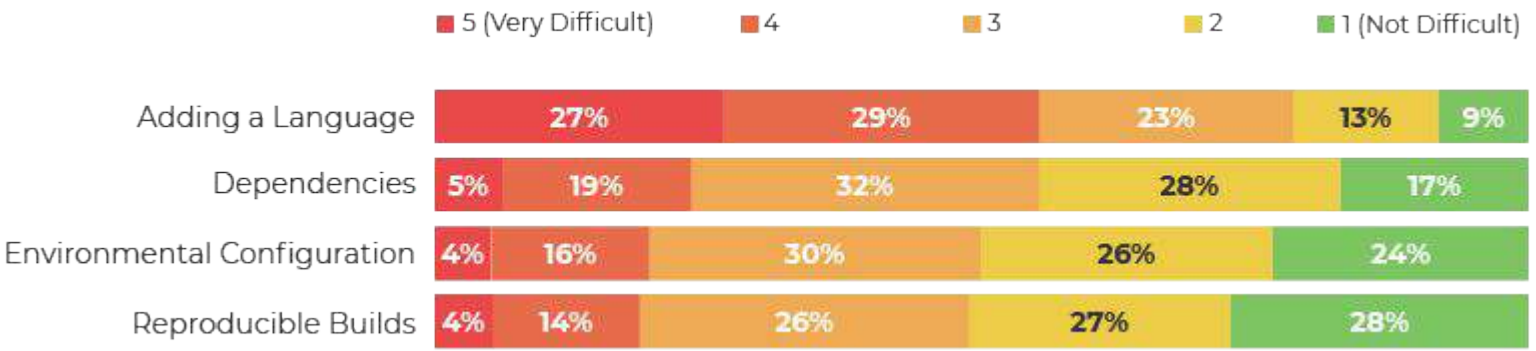
Adding a Programming Language

Gains vs Pains

Software Development Challenges



Source: ActiveState Developer Survey 2018, Open Source Runtime Pains

What's so Difficult?

- **Education** - learn the new language & its tooling
- **Tooling** - extend or replace your toolchain
- **Workflow/Processes** - update your software development lifecycle

Education Resources

Learn at your own Pace:

- **Paid Classes**: lynda.com, Codecademy, Code School, Udemy, etc
- **Free Resources**: Code Camp, Edx, MIT Open Courseware, etc

Learn from Peers:

- Learn one; do one; teach one

Tooling

Gains:

- Polyglot IDEs
- Source code repositories like Git
- Binary repositories like Nexus
- Flexible code quality tools like SonarQube
- Popular automated testing tools like Selenium

Pains:

- Unit/ integration/ functional testing tools
- Language-specific build tools
- Polyglot IDEs vs dedicated IDEs

Workflow/ Processes

Considerations:

- **Builds** of Compiled vs Interpreted languages
  - e.g., Java + Maven vs Python + individual packages

- **Quality** of Statically- vs Dynamically-typed languages
  - e.g., C/C++ maturity vs JavaScript's novelty (0 days since last new framework)

Language Distributions

Adopt a standard distribution:

- **Community** - free and ubiquitous (probably came with your OS)
  - Great way to get started learning the basics
- **Commercial** - vendor-supported; includes popular, third-party libraries
  - Best for exploring the language and its ecosystem
- **Do-It-Yourself** - don't!
  - Too complex when you're just starting out

Adding a Language

Introducing a New Programming Language

Challenges & Lessons Learned

Francois Ouellet

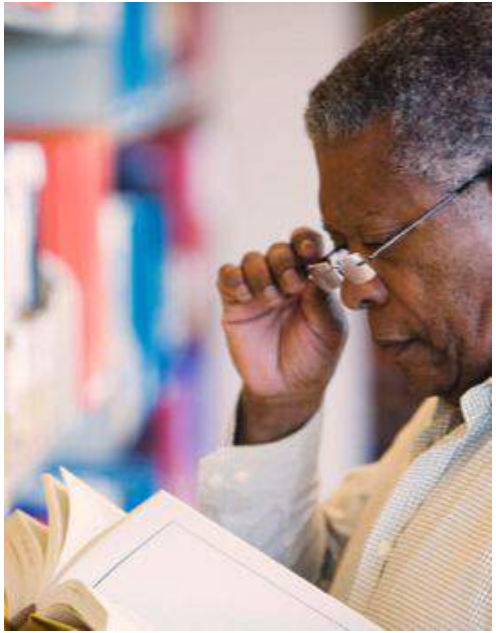
Director, Development Practice, Canadian Division

Manulife

Manulife

Developers Perspective – The Challenges

- Learning a new programming language syntax usually takes only a few days. That's the easy part!
- What's more difficult is to learn:
  - How to use the language properly?
  - Which libraries/frameworks are available and which one(s) should we leverage?

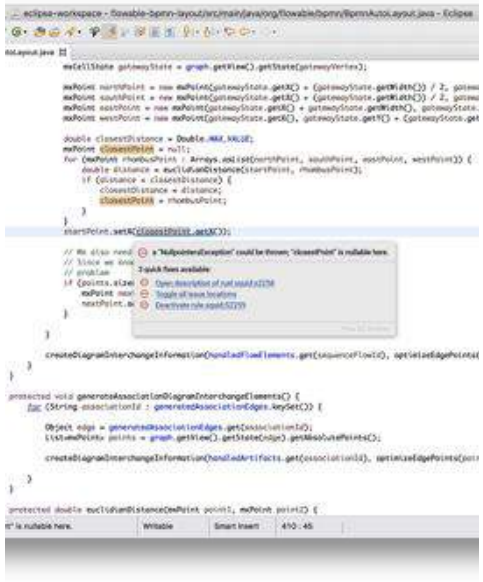


Developers Perspective – The Solutions

- Formal classroom training is usually not sufficient
- Start with a small project team doing pair programming with a mix of permanent employees and external experts/consultants.
- Once you have a few internal experts, pair them with other employees.
- Don't forget to include a few production support developers in your project team. They will need to understand and support/fix that code when it goes in production!

Developers Perspective – The Solutions

- Make sure there's at least one good linter for the new programming language and use it:
  - Great tool to help avoiding some of the common bugs and pitfalls
  - It's a great time to enforce a coding standard and style
- It's even better if the linter is integrated in your developers IDE and perform on-the-fly code review
- You are new to the language but not to the business that you are building software for
  - Great opportunity to start building some shared libraries from day one



Developers Perspective – The Solutions

- Make sure there is a large and active community of people using that programming language in the industry:
  - Google is your developers' best friend when they are looking for information and answers
  - The more people use a language the more likely you are to find a lot of code examples or open-source libraries the will help accelerate the work of your project teams.

Developers Perspective – The Solutions

- Implement proper (and automated) open-source governance:
  - There are many tools on the market that will help you assess:
    - The security vulnerabilities for each library/version (CVE databases)
    - If you can/should use a given library based on its license agreement type
    - If there are “enough” people still contributing to a library
  - You can control which open-source libraries can be used:
    - by white/black listing
    - based on their characteristics (Must not be affected by a security vulnerability, is not licensed under GPL, …)

Sonatype Nexus

BLACKDUCK

JFrog Xray

Operations Perspective - Challenges

- What do we need to introduce in our infrastructure to support that new programming language?
  - JVM
  - .Net Framework
  - V8 engine
  - …
- How do we configure that properly?
  - Memory
  - Disk
  - …
- How do we monitor an application written in that new programming language?

Operations Perspective - Solutions

- Follow at least some of the DevOps principles:
  - Implement Continuous Integration(CI) and Continuous Delivery (CD)
  - Implement proper monitoring
  - Make sure you have automated functional and performance testing
- Use Infrastructure as Code (IaC) and version control how to configure the platform/environment properly. Makes it possible to:
  - experiment and see the effect of any changes to the platform configuration
  - reapply the same configuration to other environments (UAT, Staging and Production)

Thank you

Adding A Language

George Williams

Who Am I?

Director, GSI Technology

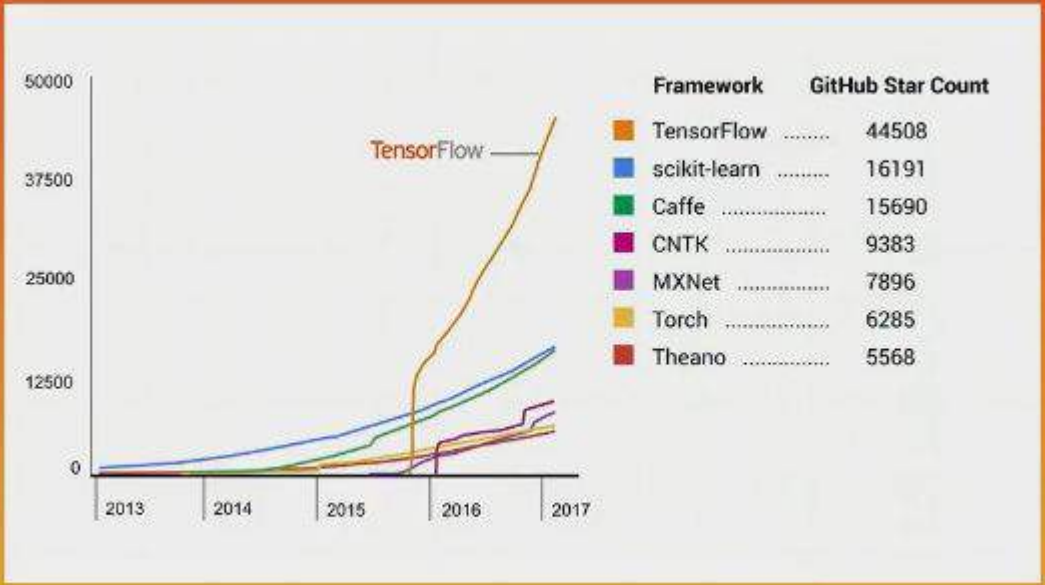
Previously, Chief Data Scientist

Senior Data Scientist

AI Research Scientist

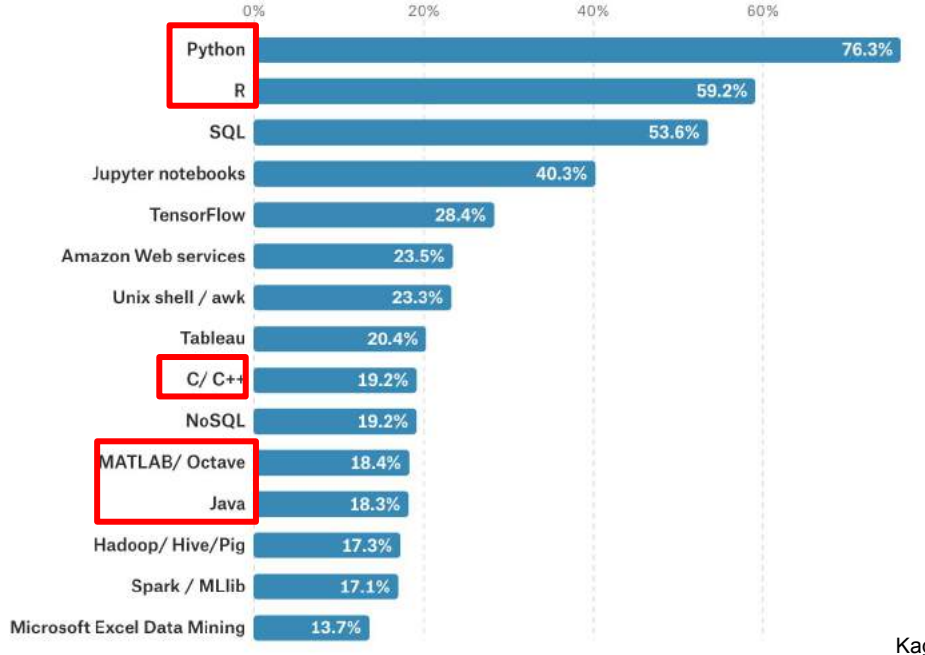
Software Engineer

“AI” Frameworks’ Explosion



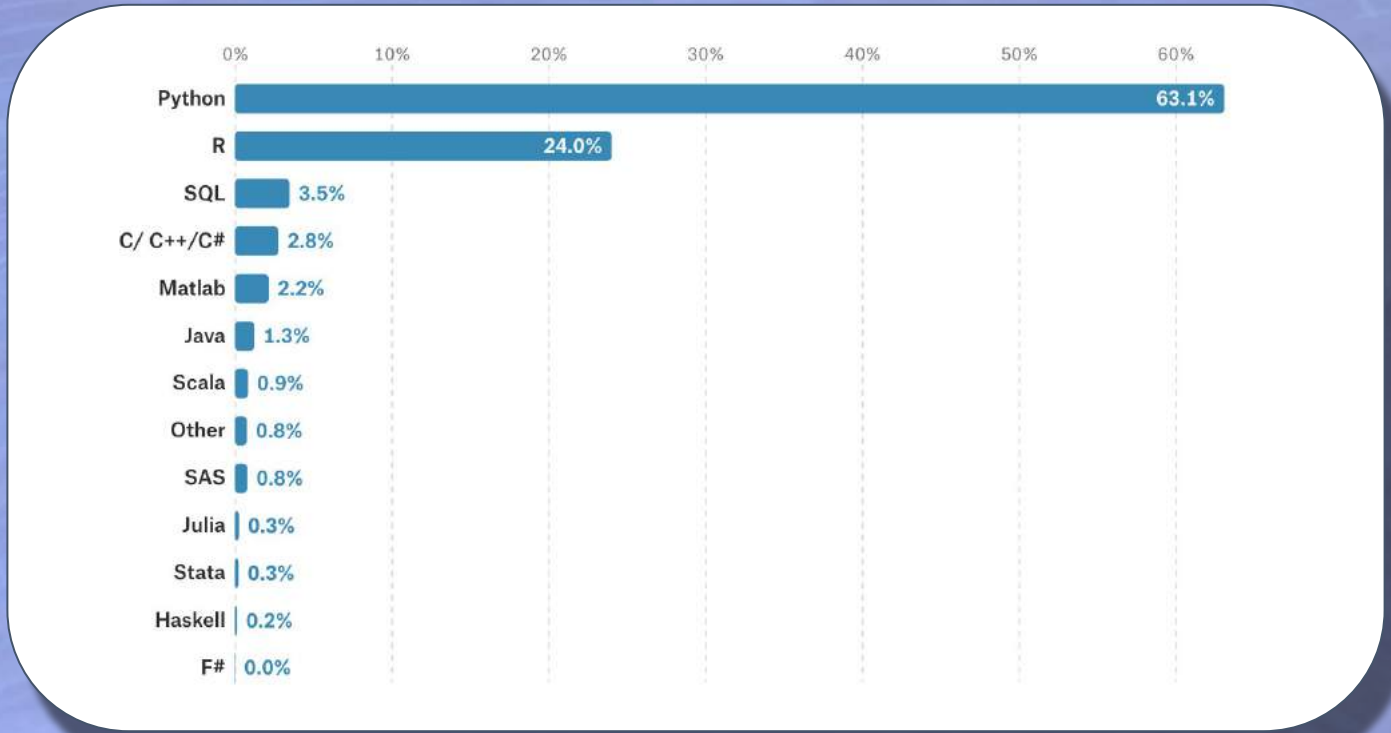
Framework	GitHub Star Count
TensorFlow	44508
scikit-learn	16191
Caffe	15690
CNTK	9383
MXNet	7896
Torch	6285
Theano	5568

Data Science “Tools”

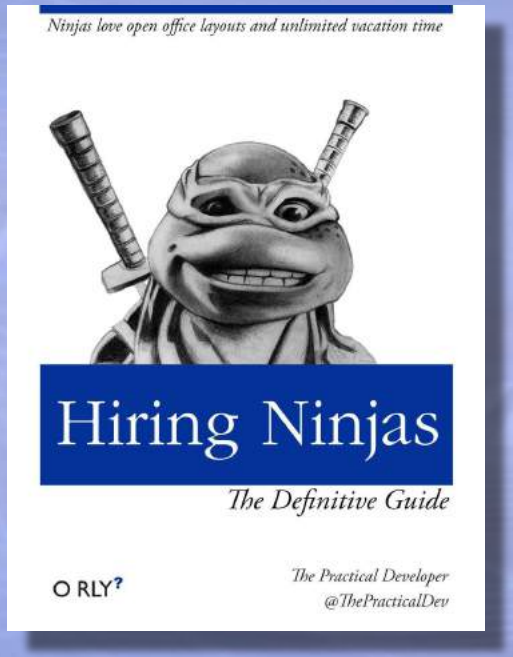


Kaggle, 2017

Recommended Languages



Hiring Data Science “Ninjas”



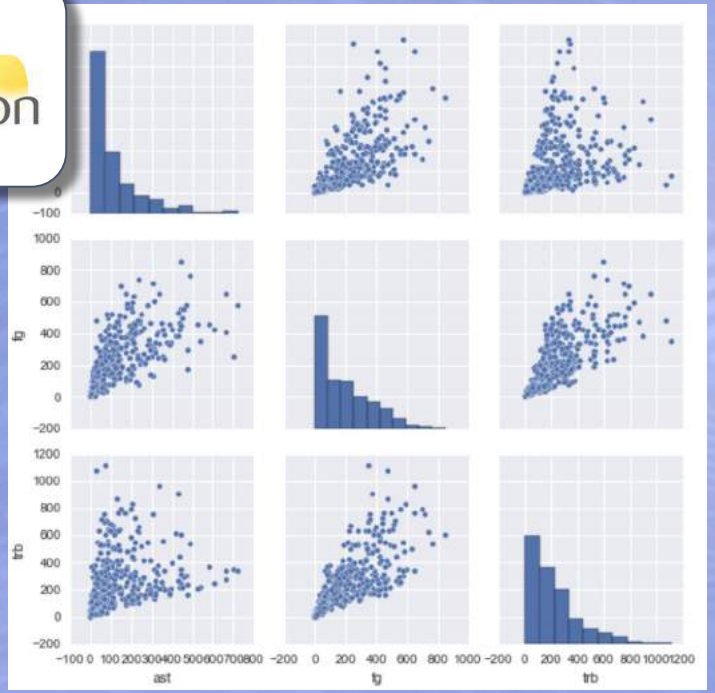
Statistical Analysis

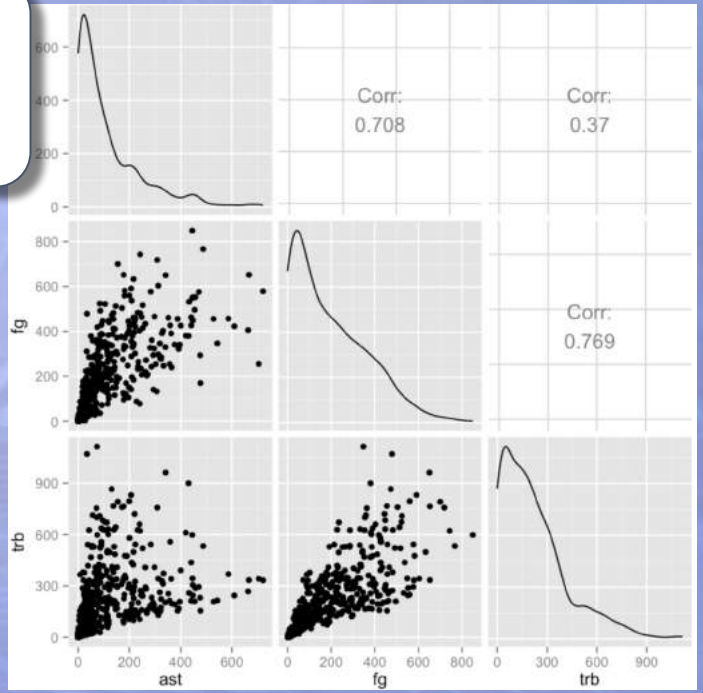

```python
import seaborn as sns
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
sns.pairplot(nba[["ast", "fg", "trb"]])
plt.show()
```


```r
library(GGally)

nba %>%
  select(ast, fg, trb) %>%
  ggpairs()
```

Statistical Analysis





Packages

- pandas
- scikit-learn
- seaborn
- tensorflow
- pytorch
- matplotlib

- ggplot
- dplr
- shiny
- tidyr
- quantmod
- caret

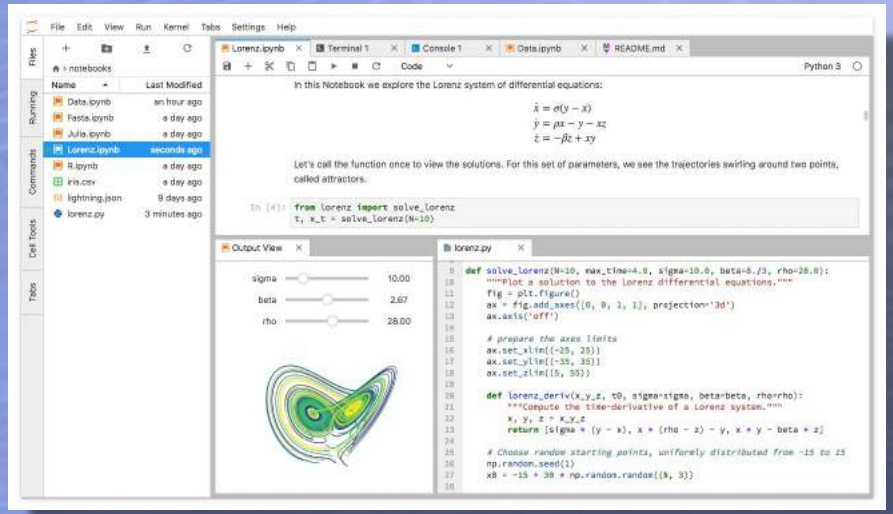
Package Management

- pip/virtualenv
- pypi
- (ana)conda
- pyenv

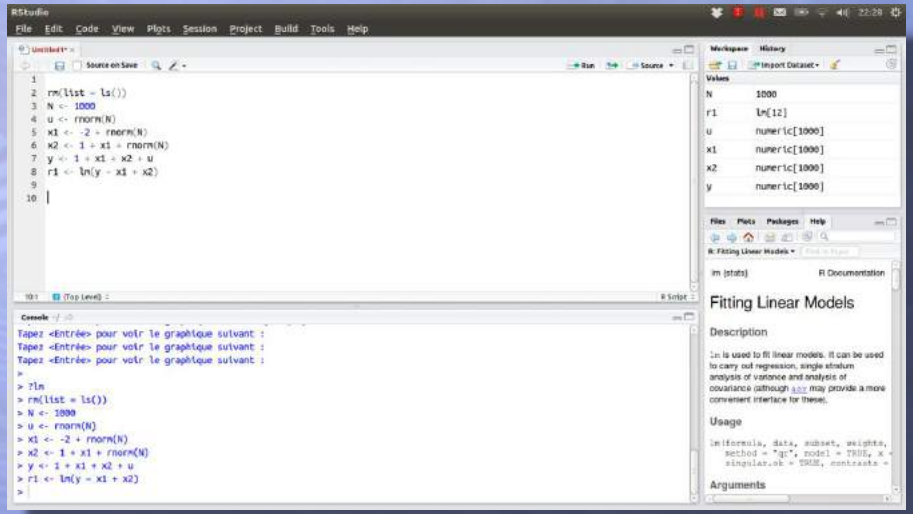
- builtin
- CRAN
- (ana)conda

Integrated Development Environment

Jupyter Lab

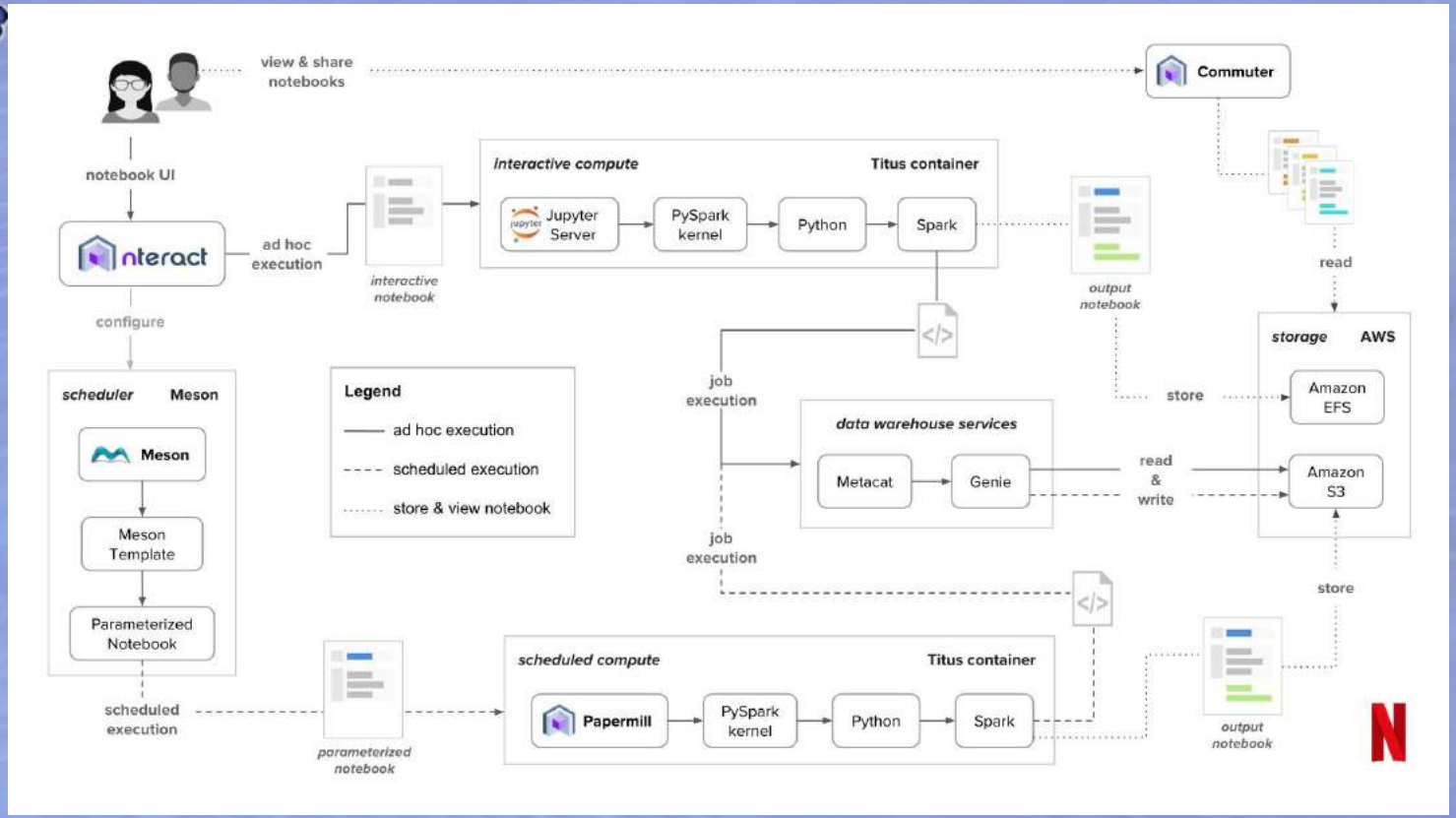


R Studio

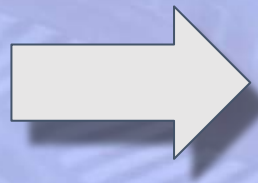


Analytics Back-End Integration

Netflix Notebook Infrastructure

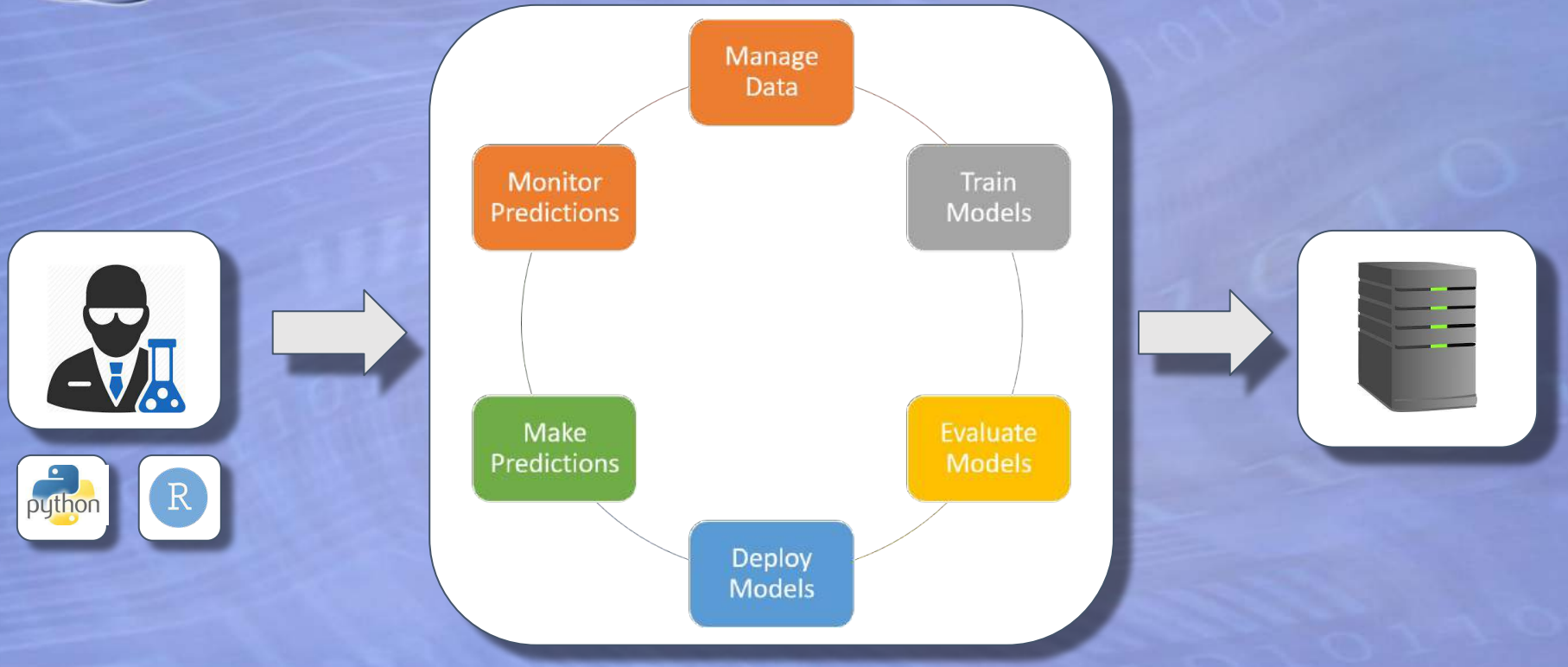


Productionalization

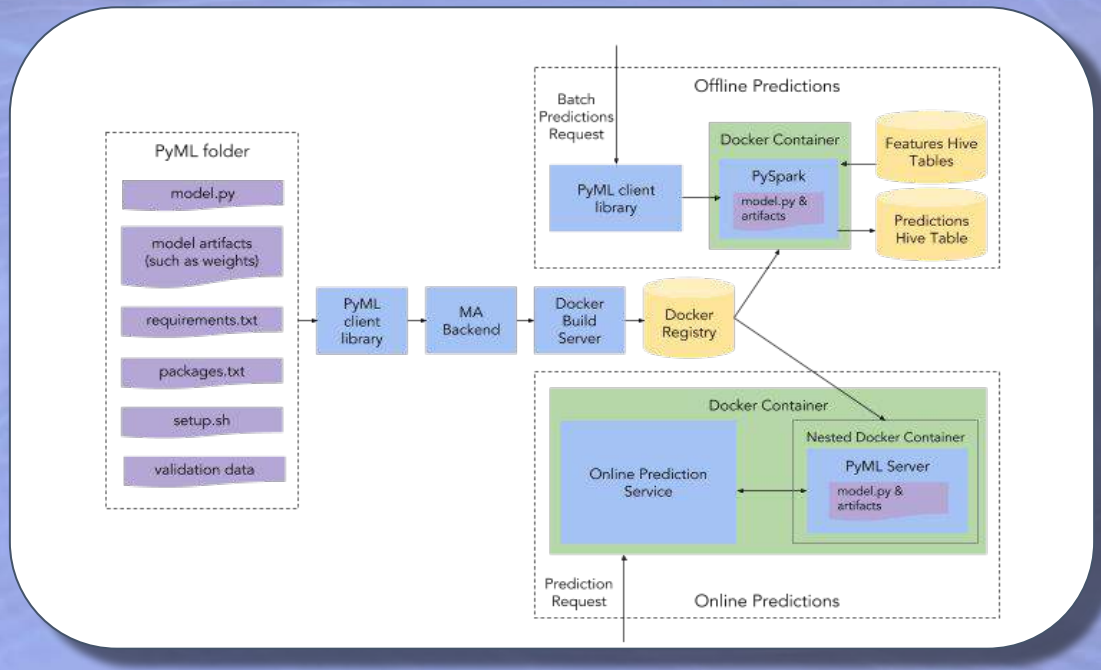


Experiments **Production**

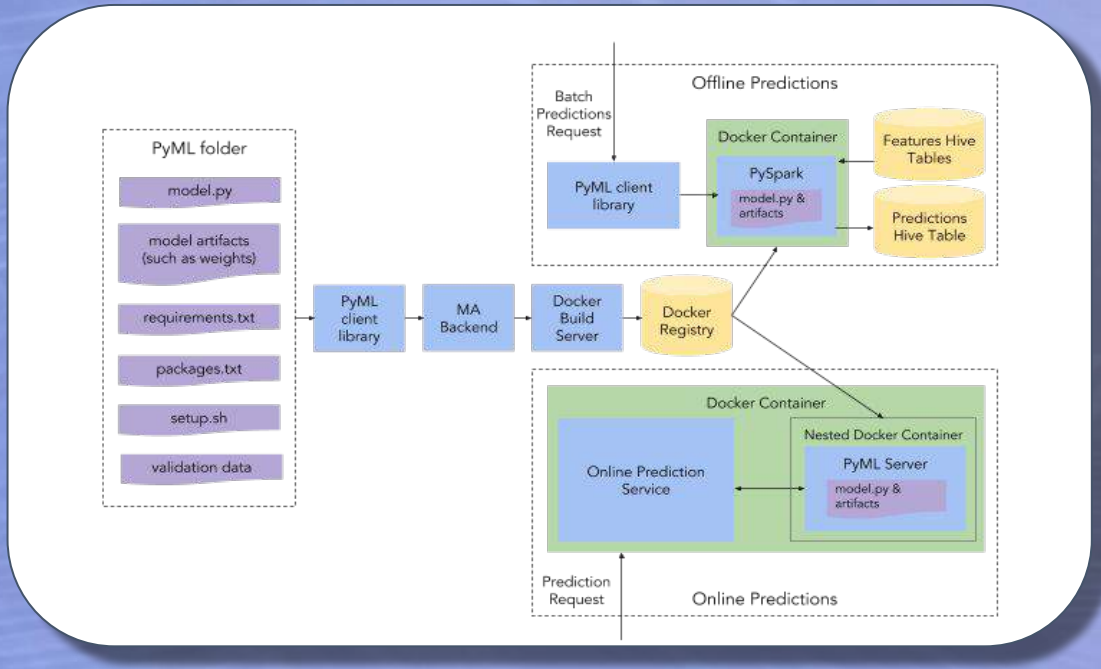
{Data Science, ML,AI} - As - A - Service



Uber's PyML


PyML folder
model.py
model artifacts (such as weights)
requirements.txt
packages.txt
setup.sh
validation data
PyML client library
MA Backend
Docker Build Server
Docker Registry
Offline Predictions
Batch Predictions Request
PyML client library
Docker Container
PySpark
model.py & artifacts
Features Hive Tables
Predictions Hive Table
Docker Container
Online Prediction Service
Nested Docker Container
PyML Server
model.py & artifacts
Prediction Request
Online Predictions

Uber's PyML



Train An ML Model:

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from sklearn.datasets import load_breast_cancer

# Prepare the dataset
dataset = load_breast_cancer()
feature_columns = [name.replace(' ','_') for name in dataset.feature_names.tolist()]
pandas_df = pd.DataFrame(data= np.c_[dataset.data, dataset.target],
                         columns=feature_columns + ['target'])

# Train logistic regression
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split

X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(dataset.data,
                                                    dataset.target,
                                                    random_state=42)
log_reg = LogisticRegression()
log_reg.fit(X_train, y_train)
```

Dockerize:

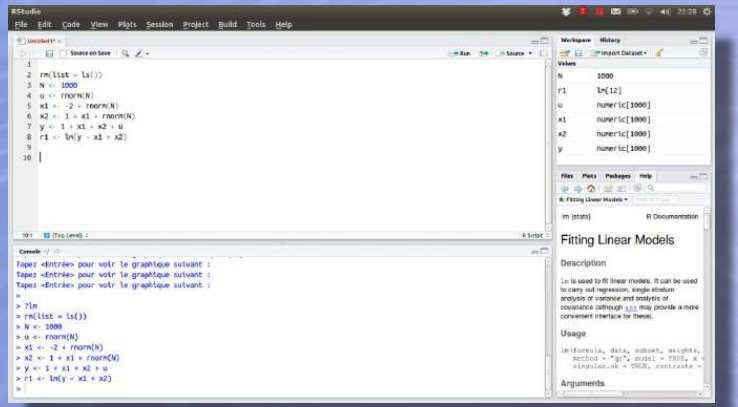
```
from pyml import Client
client = Client(user_email="kstumpf@uber.com", team_name="michelangelo")

# Upload the model and build the model's Docker image
model_id = client.upload_model(pyml_model)
```

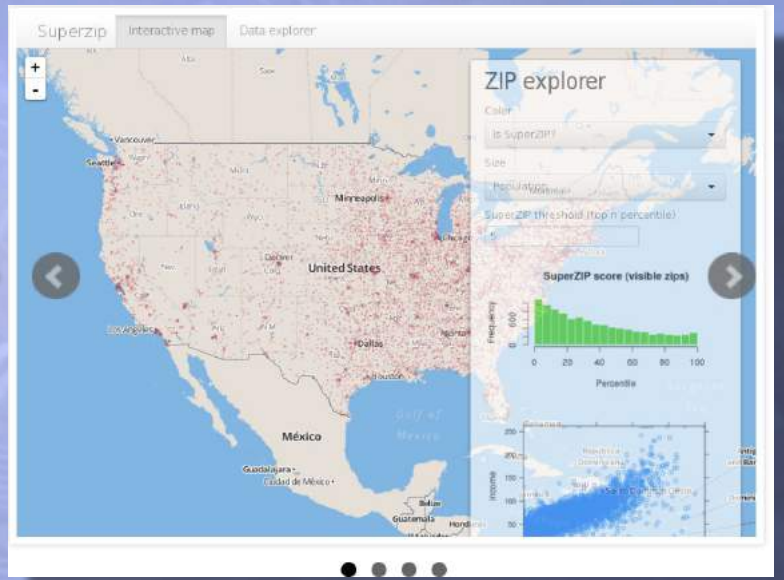
Deploy:

```
client.deploy_model(model_id)
```

R Server


RStudio
File Edit Code View Plots Session Project Build Tools Help
rm(list = ls())
N <- 1000
u <- rnorm(N)
x1 <- -2 + rnorm(N)
x2 <- 1 + x1 + rnorm(N)
y <- 1 + x1 + x2 + u
r1 <- lm(y ~ x1 + x2)
Fitting Linear Models
Description
Usage
Arguments


Shiny


Superzip
Interactive map
Data explorer
ZIP explorer
SuperZIP score (visible zips)
United States
México
Percentile

Who's Better ?

VS

Adding A Language

- It’s not just about the language.
- Consider the broader ecosystem.
- The IDE is just as important as the language
- Does it fit within a platform / pipeline ?

Q & A

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Thank you to our panelists

- **Francois Ouellet**, Director of Development Practice, *Manulife*
- **George Williams**, Director of Data Science and Chief Evangelist, *GSI Technology*

What's Next

- Watch a demo: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5AIxN9ehrI
- Get a demo marketing@activestate.com
- Contact us for the language build you need: platform@activestate.com

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Where to find us

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Website: **www.activestate.com**

Twitter: **@activestate**

Facebook: **/activestatesoftware**

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