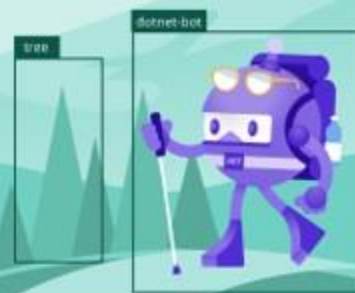


ML Systems in Vertical Slices

F# & .NET INTERACTIVE 4 THE WIN



The Virtual
ML.NET
Community Conference



Thank you to our sponsor!

Since 2002, Excella has helped clients build cutting-edge technology and transform their delivery practices

Build	Transform
Machine Learning	Modern Quality Engineering
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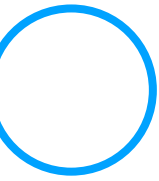
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HI Y'ALL!

- Software Engineer turned Data Scientist
 - Functional Programming Enthusiast
 - Working for HAKOM Time Series GmbH (we work with time series!)
- 



THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS TALK

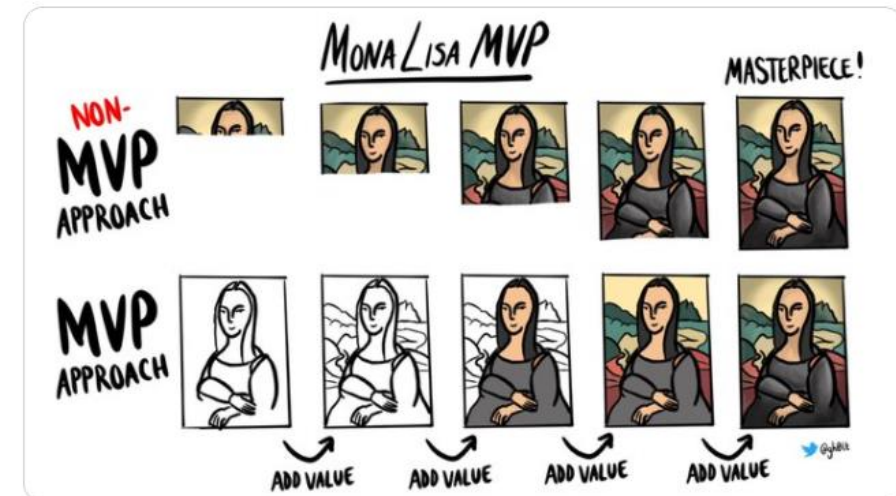
- Research and Development is a game of pitches
- ...as are Startups
- ...as is Game Development
- Launching a perfect system does seldomly happen
- Presenting a limited prototype gets feedback and wins the grant money



Greg Holt
@gh0lt



#DeliverCon2021 day 1 was excellent! A great point raised on conveying MVP and how the skateboard/car analogy doesn't quite cut it - someone suggested the Mona Lisa instead. It really stuck with me so I took a stab at drawing it.



12:02 PM · Apr 29, 2021



136



8



Share this Tweet

WE THINK SYSTEMS, NOT MODELS



- Start with a real problem
- Develop a hypothesis
- Collect enough data for prototype
- Sample and transform data
- Build and evaluate model
- Deploy model
- Test model with consumer and evaluate
- Rinse & Repeat

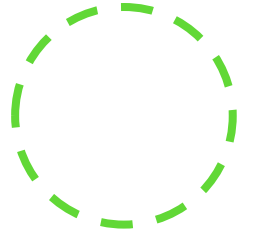
Source: <https://xkcd.com/1838/>



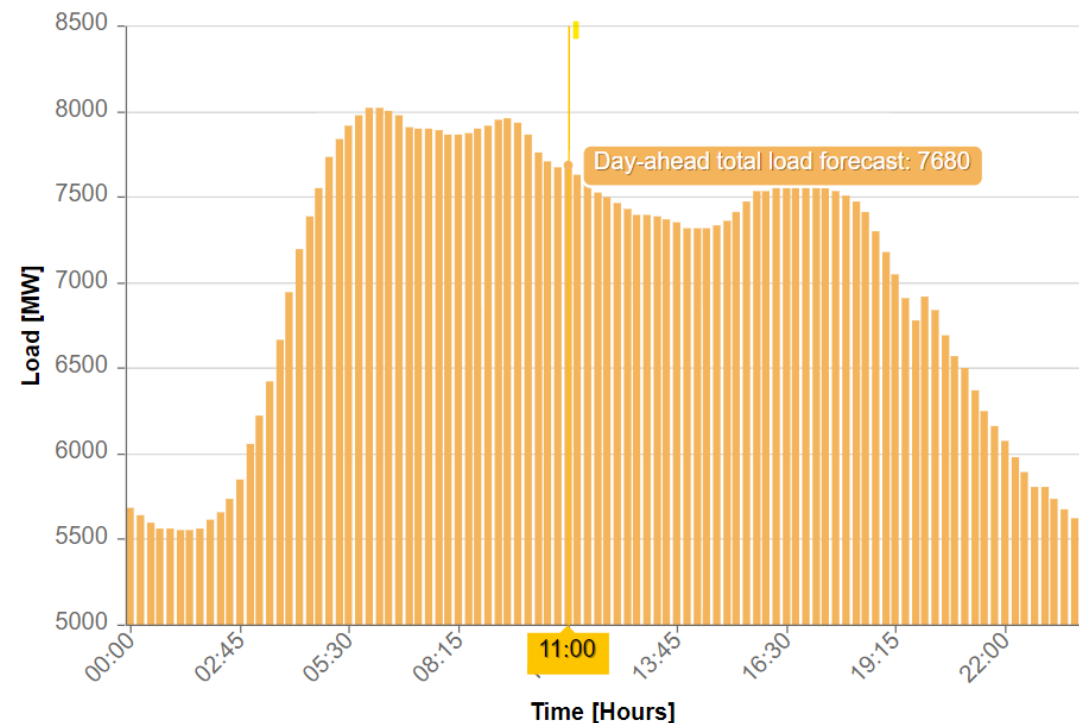
The Problem Statement

PLEASE START HERE

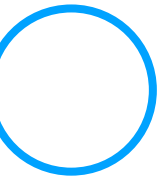
WE WANT TO FORECAST ENERGY LOAD



- As an Energy Provider...
- I want to forecast energy load...
- At least a day ahead at an hourly rate
- In order to buy/produce the right amount at the best price



Source: <https://transparency.entsoe.eu/load-domain/r2/totalLoadR2/show>



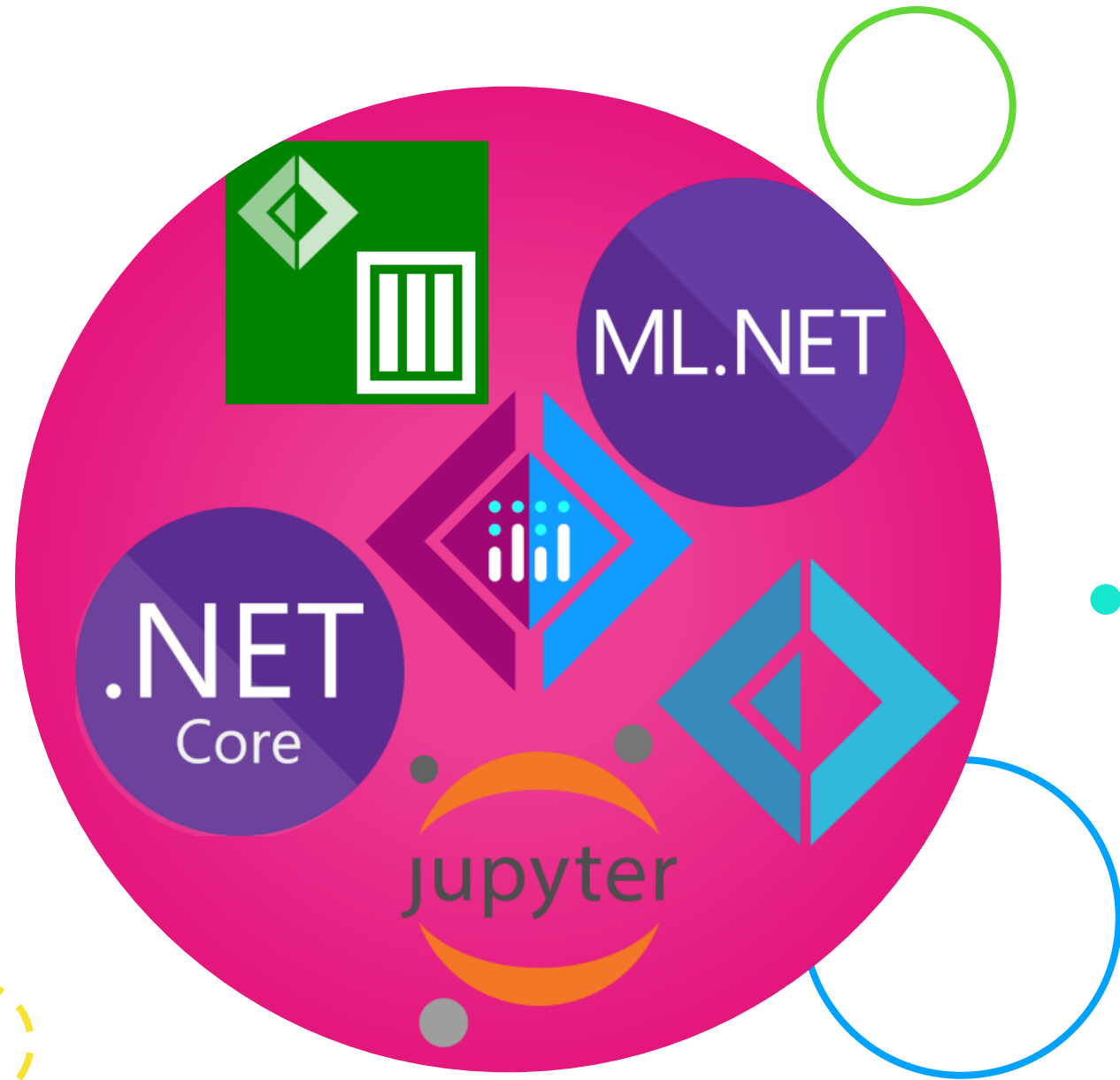
A decorative graphic featuring two thick pink arcs that curve from the top corners towards the bottom. A dashed orange circle is in the top left, a dashed green circle is in the top right, and a solid blue circle is in the bottom right. Small solid circles in yellow, cyan, and blue are also placed near the pink arcs.

The Tools

STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF
GIANTS

INTERACTIVE AND CONCISE

- Interactive Programming makes for fast iterations
- F# is expressive and concise
- Plotly.NET is pretty and interactive
- Deedle provides data frames and time series functions
- ML.NET for modelling
- .NET Core is a rock solid, enterprise ready™ and performs very well

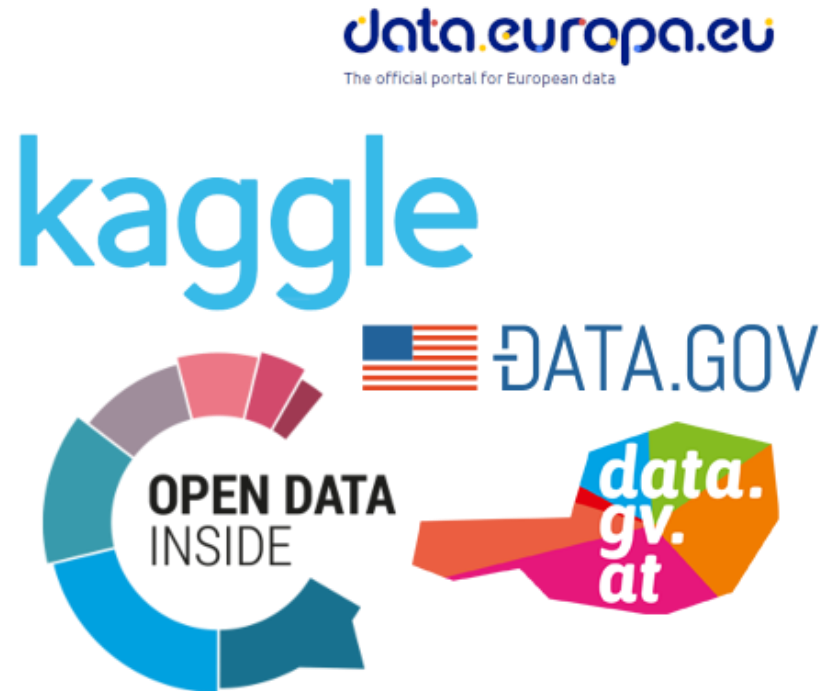




Getting Data

BECAUSE WE NEED SOMETHING TO
WRANGLE

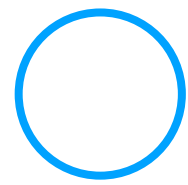
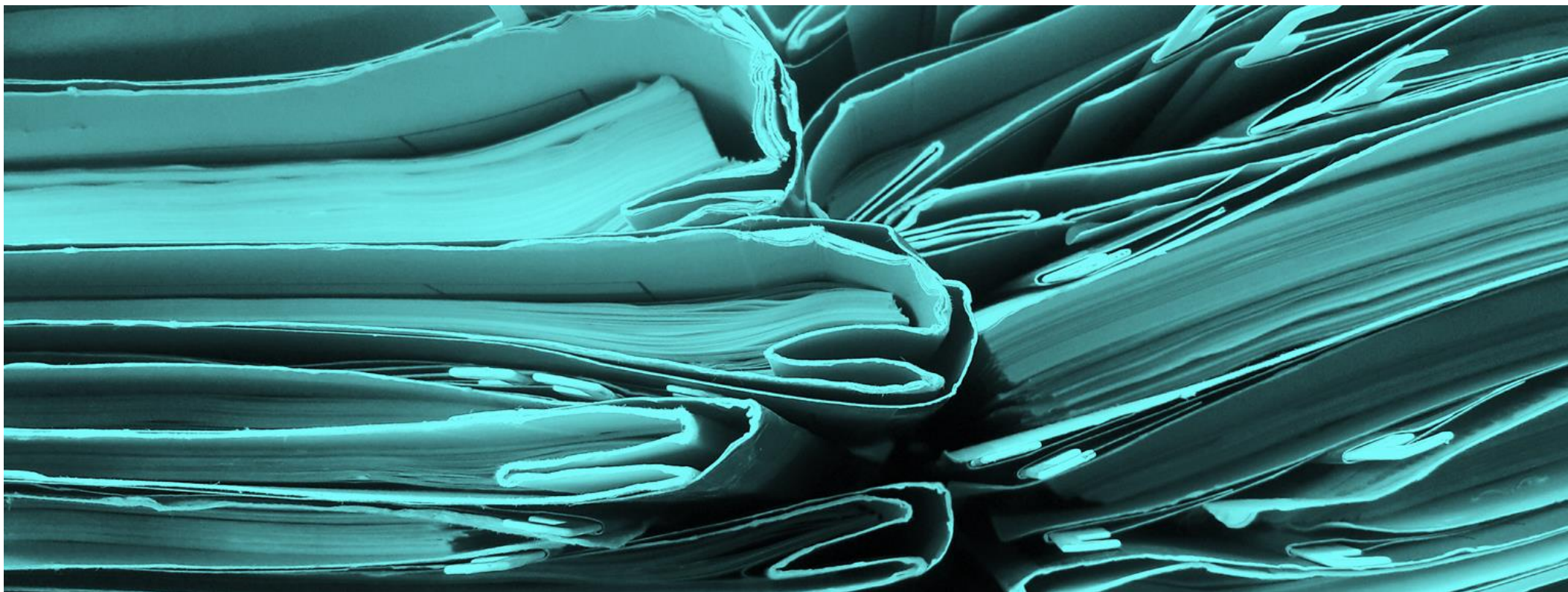
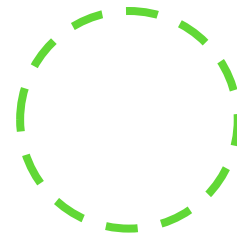
PITCH WITH REAL DATA

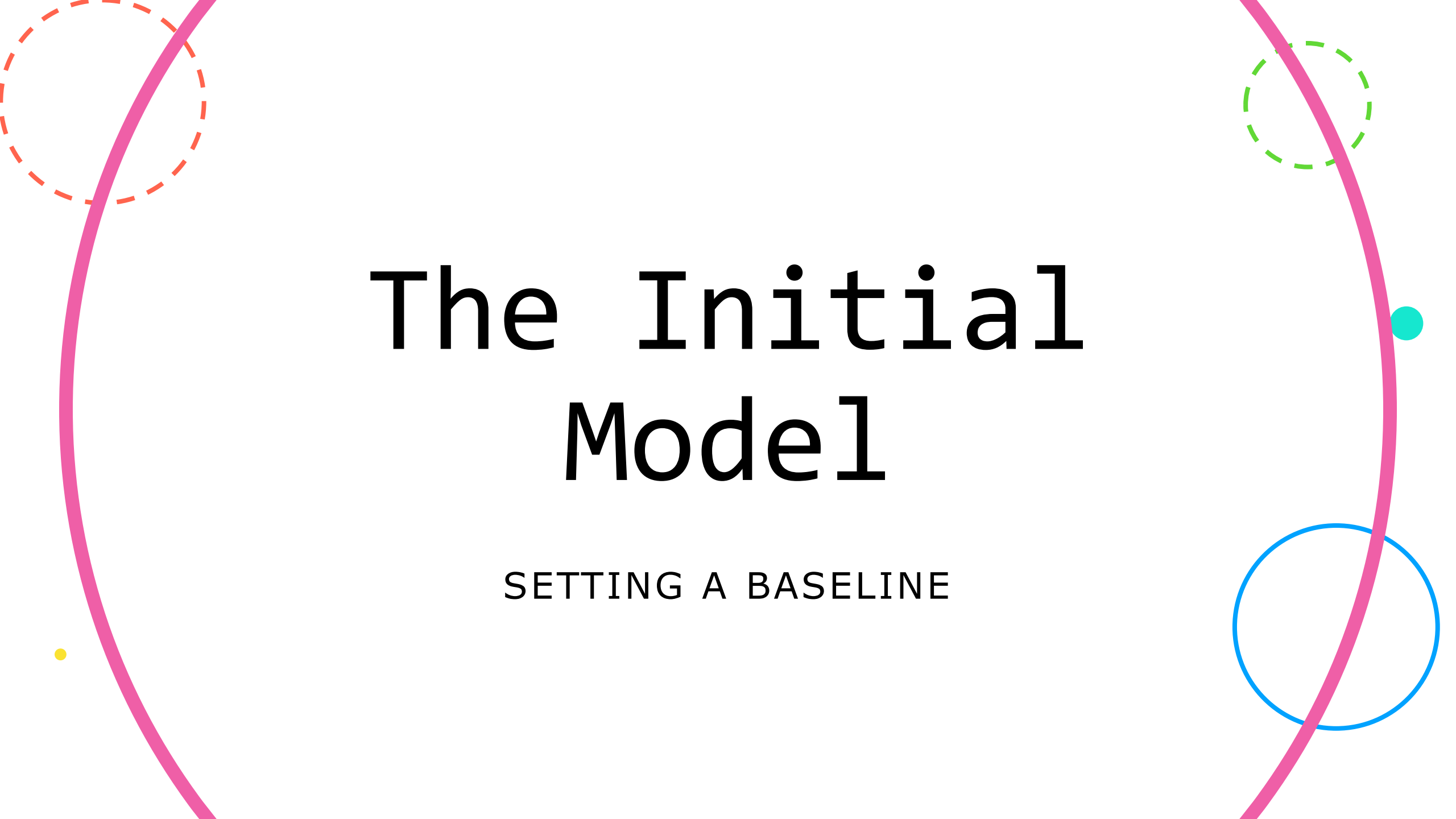


- Benchmark datasets are fun but not always useful
- There is an abundance of open data
- This data is usually not super pretty
- That is a good thing – actually
- Kaggle can be a decent first step



DEMO TIME!



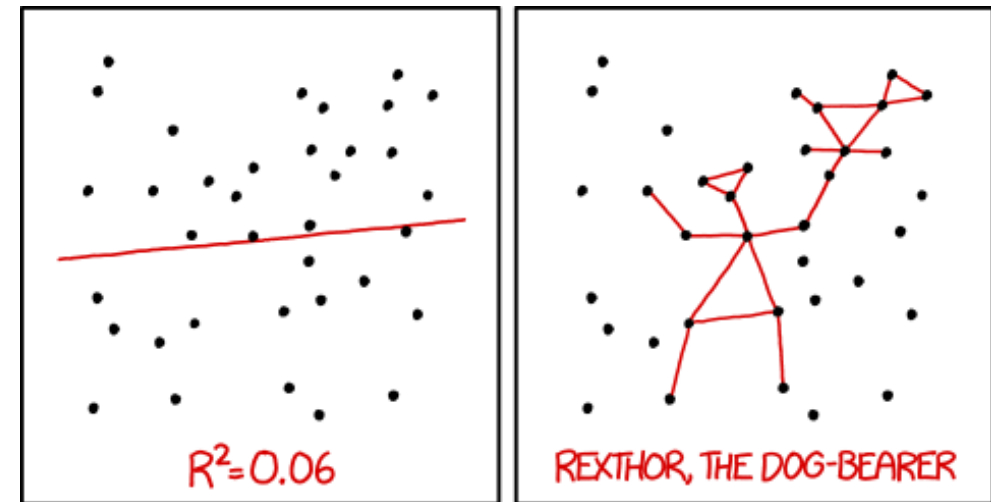


The Initial Model

SETTING A BASELINE

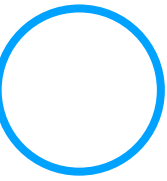
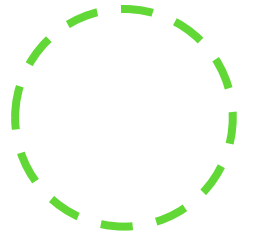
LINEAR MODELS AND HOW TO WIELD THEM

- Linear models usually offer a good baseline
- ...either they are flexible enough to be good
- ...or they are really bad and offer a good lower bound
- For systematically stable time series linear models are a good “first throw”



I DON'T TRUST LINEAR REGRESSIONS WHEN IT'S HARDER TO GUESS THE DIRECTION OF THE CORRELATION FROM THE SCATTER PLOT THAN TO FIND NEW CONSTELLATIONS ON IT.

DIRECTLY INTO THE DEMO WE GO!





Deploy Or It Did Not Happen

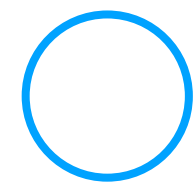
THE THING THAT IS REALLY EASY IN
.NET



YOU FIT A MODEL, AND NOBODY CALLS IT...

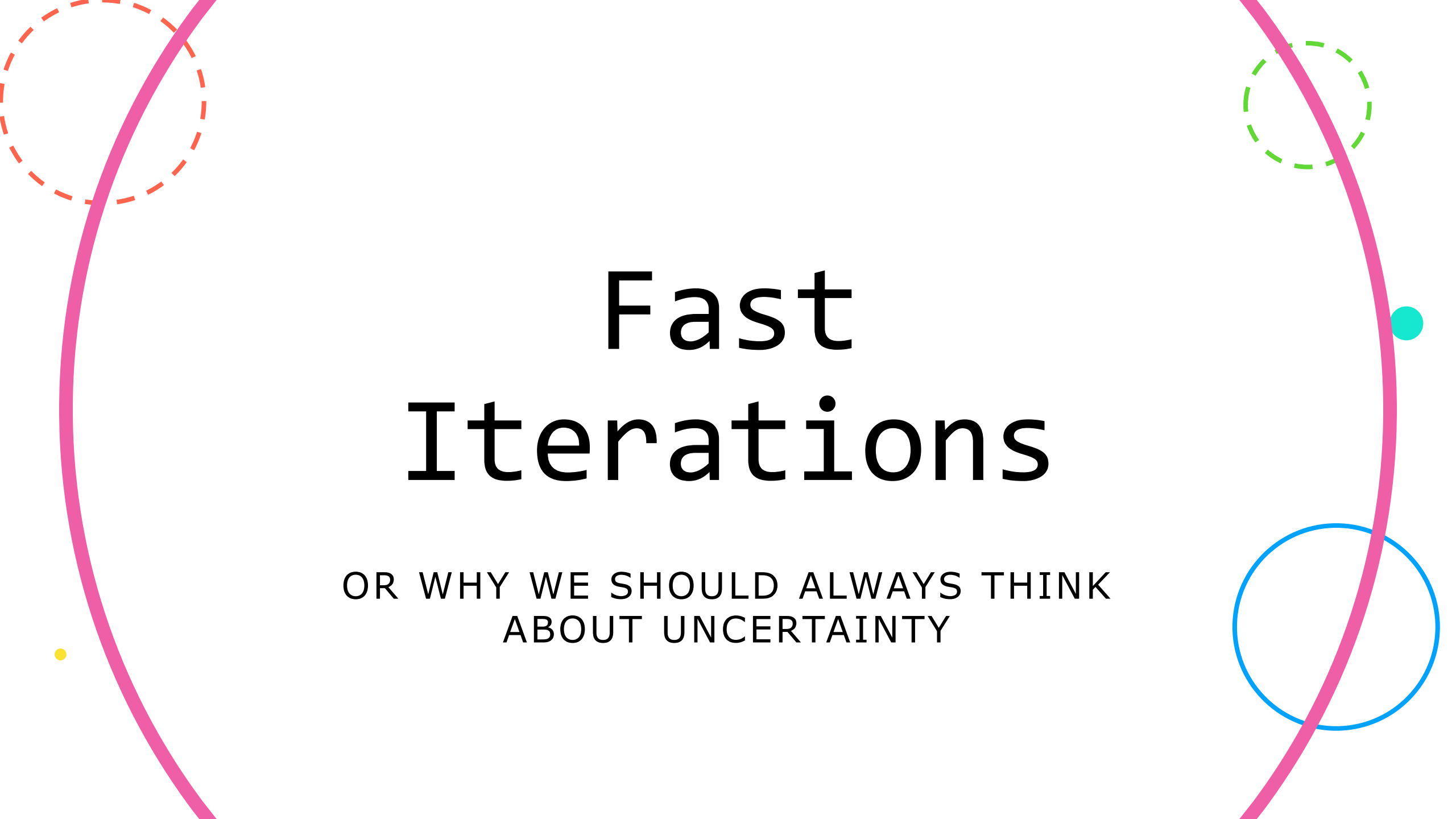


- ...does it really exist?
- .NET isn't primarily known for Data Science or ML
- But we are brilliant at getting stuff into production
- An MVP needs to be usable if you want to pitch it
- ...even if the usage is very limited



YOU GUESSED IT... HERE WE GO!

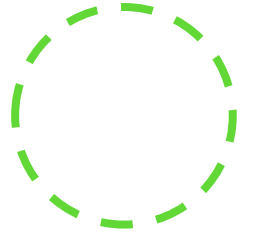




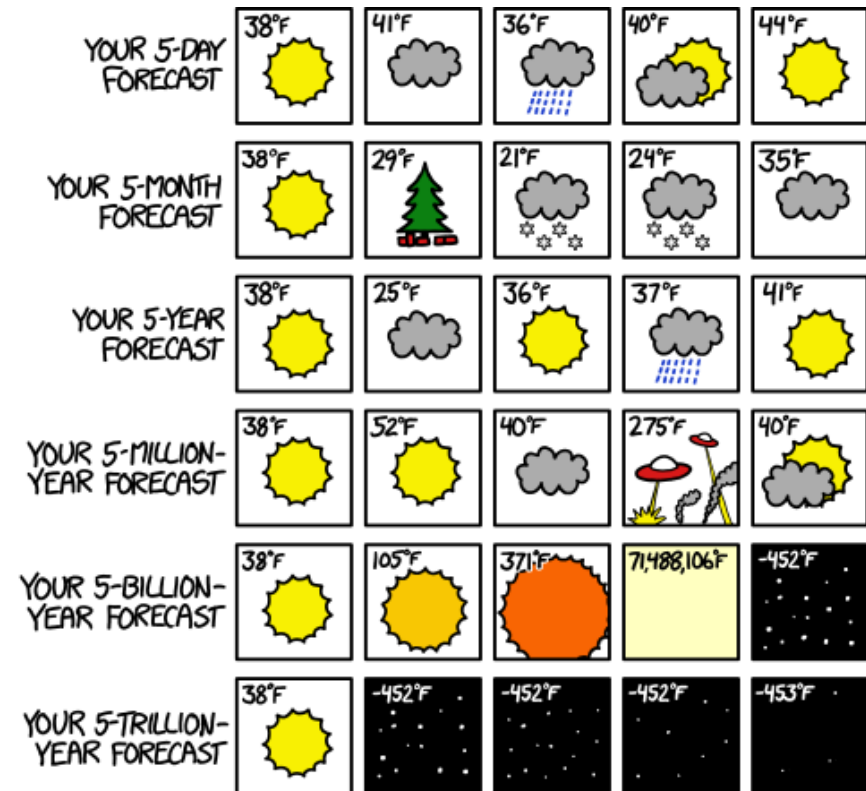
Fast Iterations

OR WHY WE SHOULD ALWAYS THINK
ABOUT UNCERTAINTY

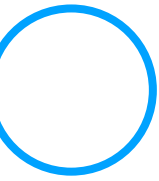
ALL FORECASTS ARE WRONG...



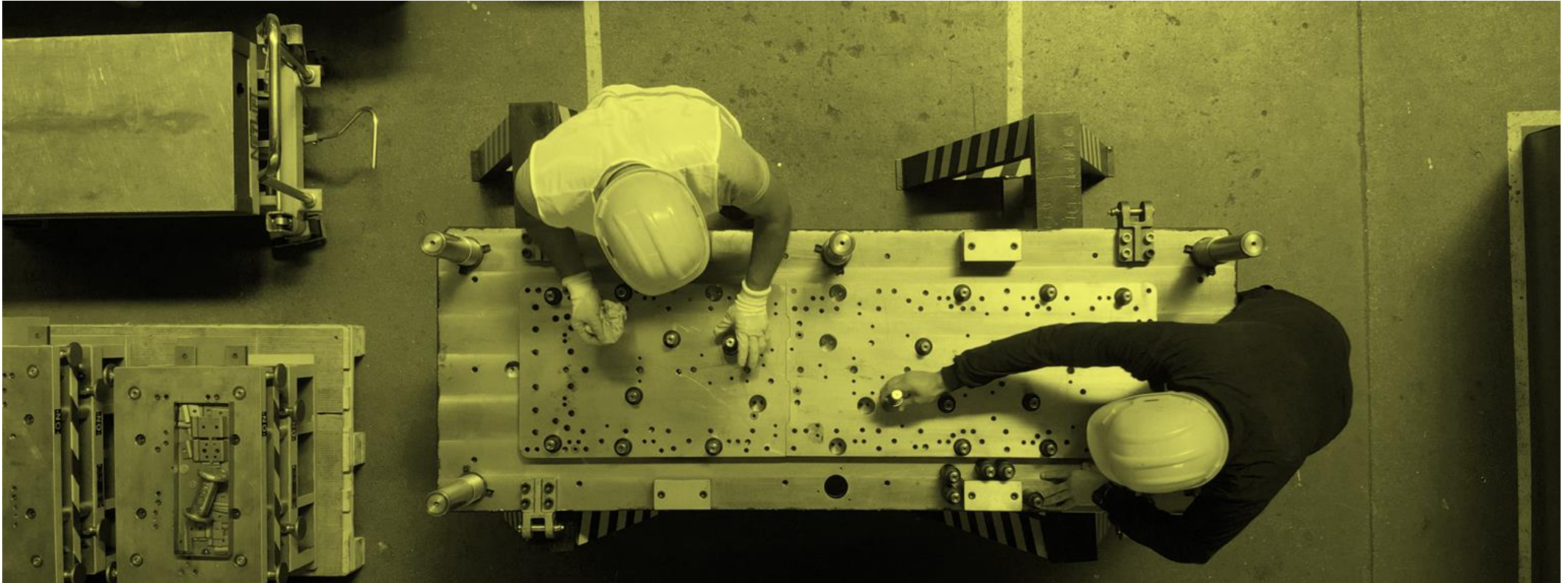
- ...but some are useful
- Currently we are far off the mark
- Worse than that: we don't factor in uncertainty
- ML.NET offers more advanced forecasting models
- As we only have one predictor, we can use Singular Spectrum Analysis



Source: <https://xkcd.com/1606/>



BACK TO WORK!





Where To Go From Here

YOUR SYSTEM'S LIFE AFTER THE PITCH



POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS

- Implement experiment tracking
 - MLOps.NET
- Get more domain knowledge
- Try new models
 - Hierarchical Time Series Forecasting
 - Recurrent Neural Networks
- Get more (and better) data





SHAMELESS PLUG!

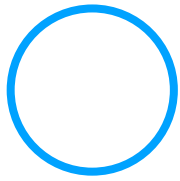


HAKOM

— TIME SERIES —


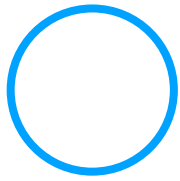
- SQLite and CSV doesn't scale
- Manage hundreds of thousands of Time Series
- Don't worry about common Time Series transformation tasks
- Extras like auditing, meta data, compression, etc.
- Years of experience in the field
- Someone you can call if you have a problem

Source: <https://xkcd.com/1725/>





USEFUL COMMUNITY LINKS

- [HAKOM YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMxvNphrg6qdYV280i1awxw)
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMxvNphrg6qdYV280i1awxw>
 - [The .NET Discord](https://aka.ms/dotnet-discord)
<https://aka.ms/dotnet-discord>
 - [The FSharp Foundation Slack](https://fsharp.org/guides/slack/)
<https://fsharp.org/guides/slack/>
 - [The FsLab GitHub Discussions](https://github.com/fslaborg/FsLab/discussions)
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