Deploying AI and Machine Learning at scale: lessons learnt from Renault experience

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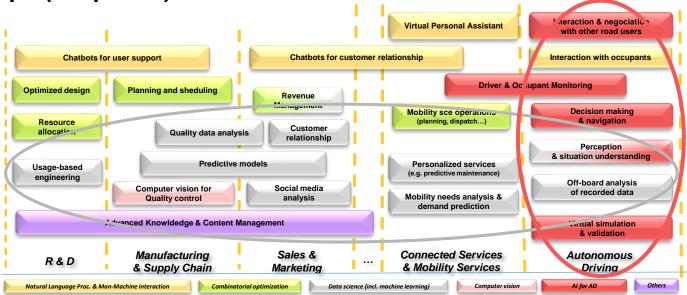
(Expert Leader Artificial Intelligence - Groupe Renault)

Business Intelligence, Analytics & Data Management Summit (Vienna, 22th - 23rd October 2019)



DEPLOYING AI AND MACHINE LEARNING AT SCALE - INTRODUCTION

RENAULT AI landscape (simplified)



- Al is everywhere
- Al is not just 'deep learning'
- With 2 main drivers: Autonomous Vehicles & Digital Transformation

GROUPE RENAULT

The Digital Transformation: making value from the data avalanche

Various data sources

- Our internal processes
 - ➤ Design, Manufacturing IoT, After-Sales...
- Our customers
 - > CRM, Renault web sites, social media...
- Our connected cars
 - vehicule data, driving environment, usage...
- The infrastructure
 - V2X, smart cities...

For multiple purposes

- Efficiency & agility of internal processes
 - > Design, Quality, Marketing...
- New personalized services
 - ➤ In the car (e.g. predictive maintenance)
 - Mobility services
- Getting value from (car) data
 - > E.g. H2020 Automat Car Data Market Place

AGENDA

- Focus on 'Big Data' and Digital Transformation
- Some achievements & lessons learnt from various points of view:
 - 1. Organization
 - 2. Competencies
 - 3. Innovation
 - 4. Launching successful projects

DATA LAKE & DATA GOVERNANCE

Building the foundations for a 'data' strategy

Renault Digital

- Launched in 2017
- A specific IS/IT unit to boost the Digital Transformation
- +250 p. including 50 data engineers / data scientists

Missions of Renault Digital

- Data Lake
- Data governance (Chief Data Officer)
- Cross-functional processes to collect and share data
- Competence center on Data Science

1 - ORGANIZATION

METIER DATA LABS

« Data Scientists are kind of autists...

There is no way to make them collaborate with problems owners »

Métier Data Labs in (almost) every function

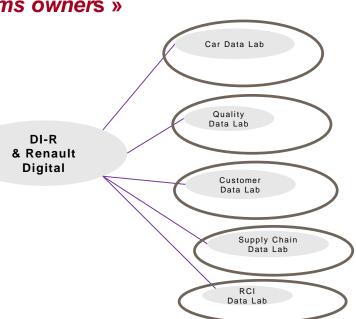
- Their role is to make the link between data scientists & PO

Activities include:

- Ideation, problem framing...
- helping define the most appropriate techniques (and sometimes acting as project leaders)

Double competencies

- AI / Data Science at a general level
- Business (processes, vocabulary, stakes...)



AI4X PROGRAMS

Scaling-up: shifting from local and opportunistic initiatives to a more systematic search for value

- Al4X Programs in each function
 e.g. 'Al for Engineering', 'Al for Manufacturing'...
- The Corp. Digital Transformation program acts as an umbrella
- Activities include
 - Broad analysis of business pain points
 - Benchmarking with similar companies
 - Defining priorities
- Dedicated AI4X Program Management teams

BUILDING AN AI CULTURE

Raising awareness on what Al can bring, limits, myths...is key for future success

- Different populations & needs
 - Managers
 - Business Process Owners
 - Project Leaders
 - **–** ...
- Specific training programs for each; internal events...
- E.g. training program for managers
 - The basics (15' of e-learning)
 - Introduction to AI (4 hours course based on Renault applications); 400 p. in 2019
 - Data Strategy for managers (2 days multi-enterprise); starting Dec. 2019

DATA SCIENTISTS

Data Scientists are scarce, but...

- We can concentrate them in a single team to maximize their contribution
 - Renault Digital as a competence center
- Hiring (some of) them is possible
 - Young specialists (PhD) or very specialized profiles
 - But to a limited extend only
- We can built on our eco-system !!
 - Research Institutes (CNRS, INRIA, CEA...), including joint labs
 - Technological Research Institutes (e.g. SystemX) & Al Institutes (ANITI, DataIA...)
 - IT / Al suppliers

AI PROJECT LEADERS

Managing Al project is a real issue!

- Shall understand both business and techno, to challenge them both
- Probably the most critical competency!
 - No time to wait for data scientists to become senior project leaders
- And they cannot be recruited!
 - They need to know AI and project management, but Business as well
- Our strategy is to built on business project leaders
 - With background in maths, computer science, stats... to train them to AI
 - Shared initiative with PSA, Valeo...

OPEN INNOVATION

Making the best of open innovation, world-wide

Innovation Lab network

- (Alliance) teams in Sillicon Valley, Israël, Korea, China...
- To scout start-ups & manage local research projects (Berkeley, Stanford...)

Alliance Corporate Ventures (launched in 2018)

- To define Innovation Territories (top priority innovation areas)
- To invest in startups (e.g. WeRide.Al in China for L4 Autonomous Driving)

But collaboration between agile startups and large industrial companies remains a complicated story...

INNOVATION ROADMAP

Issues and potential breakthroughs have to be identified to prioritize research and innovation projects

- Innovation roadmap
 - based on priorities, Make or Buy strategy, TRL (Technology Readiness Level)
- E.g. safety and robustness of Al is a major issue for autonomous driving
 - > Renault has contributed to the launch of **ANITI**, the Toulouse Institute launched in 2019 which focuses on "Certifiable AI towards autonomous critical systems"
- E.g. combining data-based with model-based (hybrid Al)
 - > Renault contributes to the IA2 Program @ SystemX

POC (« PROOF OF CONCEPT »)

POC shall not be just demos - but shall help decide or not a project

- POC are too often demos of Al algorithms, on very limited sub-problems which makes hard for (project) managers to decide (specially when they are not familiar with e.g. combinatorial / scaling-up issues)
- Applying Al & Data Sciences techniques shall not prevent:
 - to define and frame the project
 - identify risks to be assessed in preliminary phases
- But using machine learning techniques raises specific issues
 - Representativeness of data, removing biais, ensuring robustness of the model...

THE SUCESS LOOP

Success calls for success

- Al has a long history of failing on far too ambitious goals...
- Sucessfull projects will boostrap activities
- Start smaller, and deliver !
- Even limited sucess on simple projects will help promoting AI, raise awarness, and will encourage to launch more ambitious projects – or collecting more data









THANK YOU