RADAR - TOOLS FOR PROJECT SERVICES

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Platforms

ADOPT

1. Orange data-mining

Visual programming to train models on client data. You can create workflows to import, transform and output data and views. You may wish to send the results to a separate visualisation package. There are libraries for Data Handling, Simple visualisation, Natural language processing, as well as several libraries for machine learning. Once you create a workflow, you can share it with others, and because data files are kept separately to calculations.... <https://orange.biolab.si/>

3. Microsoft EPM

A valuable way of structuring and scheduling projects. It is important to understand its features relative to services like Planview.

4. Salesforce (Kimble)

A key tool for understanding engagement performance.This could be used to segment the market, and understand prices for different service offerings. In the long term it would be the main generator of data for using machine learning models to understand what sort of sales and what sort of assignments succeed.

5. Sharepoint

many organisations have Sharepoint but don't really use it. By starting with a restricted vocabulary to apply to existing documents, one can start to structure this data for use. Also use Workflow features

6. Microsoft 365

A good platform that could nudge a team towards considering whether to go towards Microsoft Azure in the long term, once decided which features of a data science / ML platform are valuable.

TRIAL

2. KNIME

Visual programming to build and simulate models on client data. This is a more heavy-weight platform than Orange, although a little harder to use. It is on the leader quadrant of Gartner's 2019 Data science platforms. There are a lot of workflows that come uploaded <https://www.knime.com>

Tools

ADOPT

7. Yworks

Represent data intuitively with a view tailored to the User. There are many different templates for different types of network and tree. It takes a minute to create a network from your spreadsheet. There is also web version which has most features, although it is a little clunkier for navigation, and you can only start from a graph not a spreadsheet. <https://www.yworks.com/products/yed>

8. Devonthink iOS

Document database with tagging and search and OCR. iOS only, although there are many comparable systems in Windows (ask LR)
<https://www.devontechnologies.com/products/devonthink/devonthink-to-go.html>

TRIAL

9. Watson news

Use the knowledge graphs of others to find key suppliers, individuals and themes surrounding a client <http://news-explorer.mybluemix.net/>

14. Loopy.io

A quick visualisation and thinking tool for sketching out situations where there are feedback loops and other system effects. I have found this product useful for helping the client to understand which problem to focus on. <https://ncase.me/loopy/>

15. Power BI

Once data has been analysed and visualised (by other tools) then Power BI appears to be able to provide the client with the ability to take that visualisation, place it alongside others within a dashboard, and plug in a data pipeline that allows the visualisation to change as the data changes.
<https://powerbi.microsoft.com/en-us/>

ASSESS

11. Infranodus

Quick natural language processing to generate knowledge graphs <https://infranodus.com/>

12. Flourish plots

Quick number and text plots including story telling with many different templates <https://app.flourish.studio/login>

HOLD

10. Raw graphs

Quick plotting tool for both numerical and categorical data. You cannot use this for client data but other services are available (ask LR) <www.rawgraphs.io>

13. ListView

Compare text entries in CSV files, and see where they link across, e.g. a list of benefits, and of outcomes and of projects, and of strategic drivers <http://www.iilabgt.org/listview/>

Languages & frameworks

ADOPT

22. Digital Practitioner

This is the Digital Practitioner Body of Knowledge from the Open Group, which is a very well known consortium with companies like HP. This BOK is 400 pages long, but it is easy to find what you need in it, and covers most aspects of running a Digital Transformation Programme in setting up a more digitally oriented organisation. There is also a book that covers the same ground with exercises. I have both in pdf or you can register with Open Group and download. <https://publications.opengroup.org/s191>

TRIAL

17. KBPEDIA

Using the knowledge graphs of others. This provides a lot of the structure and vocabulary from which you can then hang off your own in-house knowledge graph. . This a key enabler for future features like automatic document tagging in the medium term and creating bots that can answer project management questions for our clients. <http://kbpedia.org/knowledge-graph/>

ASSESS

16. Protégé

Using the knowledge graphs of others to structure your client's business area

21. Wardley Mapping

Wardley mapping is important when designing a programme, to understand how the value chain changes before, during and after the implementation. Crucially, Wardley takes into account the relative maturities of the technologies along the value chain. There is a free book available online, and the attached link is a shorter implementation mini-site.

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18. Google GDELT

AccessGoogle's knowledge graph for news for a company or topic. There are many different search and result types but this is a good place to start. <https://api.gdeltproject.org/api/v2/summary/summary>

19. YAGO knowledge graph

Using the knowledge graphs of others <https://www.mpi-inf.mpg.de/departments/databases-and-information-systems/research/yago-naga/yago/downloads/>

20. Triz

Broaden the space of possible solutions during concept design, matching the need against the constraint <http://www.triz40.com/TRIZ_GB.php>

Techniques

TRIAL

24. Modular text files

Work in short text files where possible so you can easily find and recombine during subsequent work

25. Text2Folders

Once you have found a topic-breakdown that works well for a particular type of problem, generate the equivalent folders early in an assignment so your document structure matches your report structure
<http://www.dcmembers.com/skwire/download/text-2-folders/>

26. Directory List and Print

Understand your folder structures to understand the relationships between classes <https://www.infonautics-software.ch/directorylistprint/>

HOLD

23. Tagging

Tag your files in Explorer so you can surface common themes over time. This is particularly valuable within a subject area where you don't have a clear top-down view of what is important. By periodically reviewing your tags, the subject area will start to stabilise and you may be in a position to create a top down structure. In Windows it is quickest to do it from File Explorer. For pdf files a system like Evernote or Devonthink may be needed for tagging if you don't have an Acrobat license.