



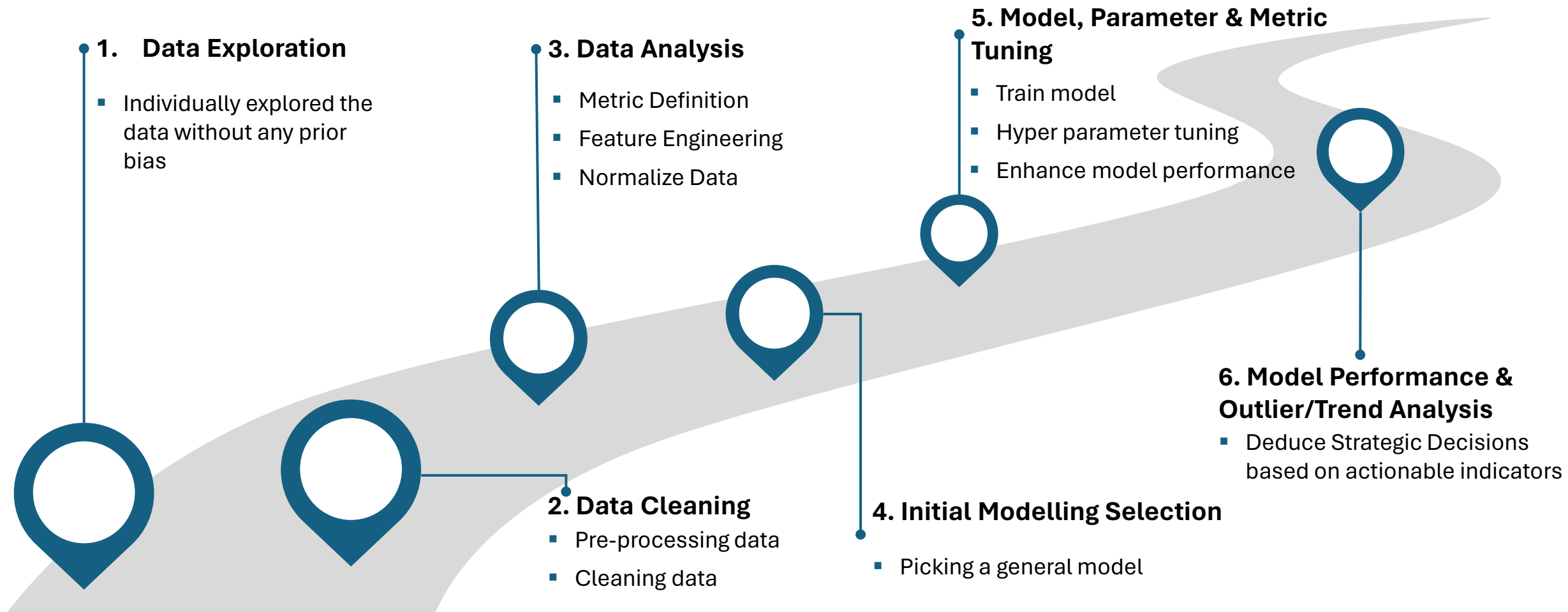
# DATATHON 2024 - UBS CHALLENGE

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- Virgillio Strozzi
- Andrea Ghirlanda
- Alexander Lerch



# Roadmap



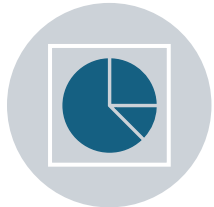
# Data Exploration



Our Goal is to get familiar with the dataset by



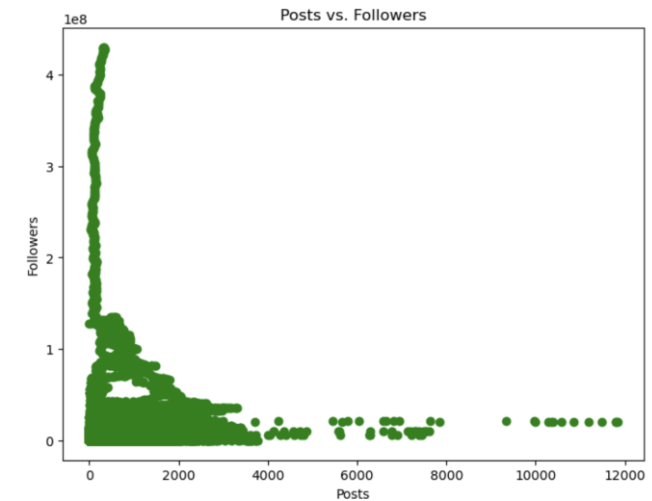
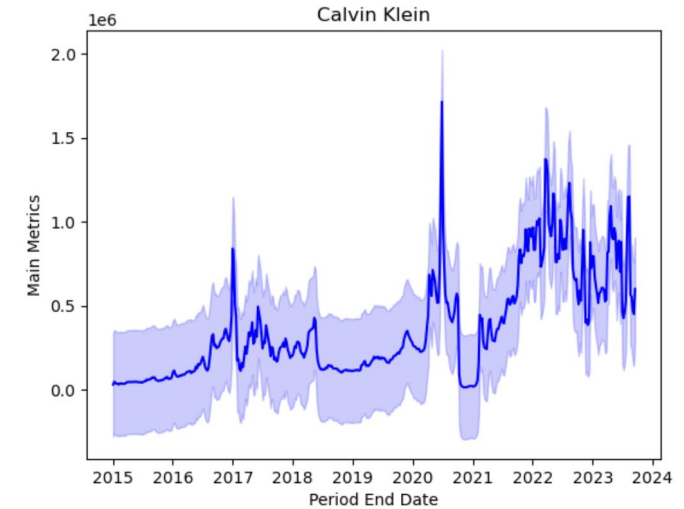
Analyzing the unique values in each column  
(business\_entity\_doing\_business\_as\_name,  
primary\_exchange\_name, etc.)



Looking at the distribution  
(amount of data available) on a yearly basis.



Finding Potential columns that could be used for features



Data Exploration

Data Cleaning

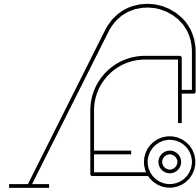
Data Analysis

Initial Modelling  
Selection

Model, Parameter &  
Metric Tuning

Model Performance &  
Outlier/Trend Analysis

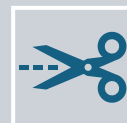
# Data Cleaning



**Our goal is to preprocess and clean the dataset. The key steps are:**



Investigating the missing values and checking for best replacement



Dropping NaN and duplicates



Removing unwanted columns



Implementing Timedelta instead of Absolute datetime (to see if there any possible benefits)

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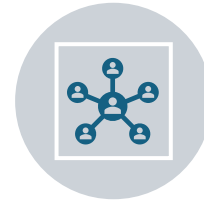
Model Performance &  
Outlier/Trend Analysis



**Our goal is to define Features/Metrics that can be passed into the model:**



We define 11 metrics that are then passed to the model



The metrics are defined based on interaction (likes & comments), followers, posts (pictures & videos) and difference in likes.

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# Initial Model Selection

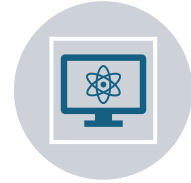


## Key Metric:



Capture local-growth and defined as: interactions/posts, where interactions is a weighted sum over likes, comments and followers per week

## Type of Model:

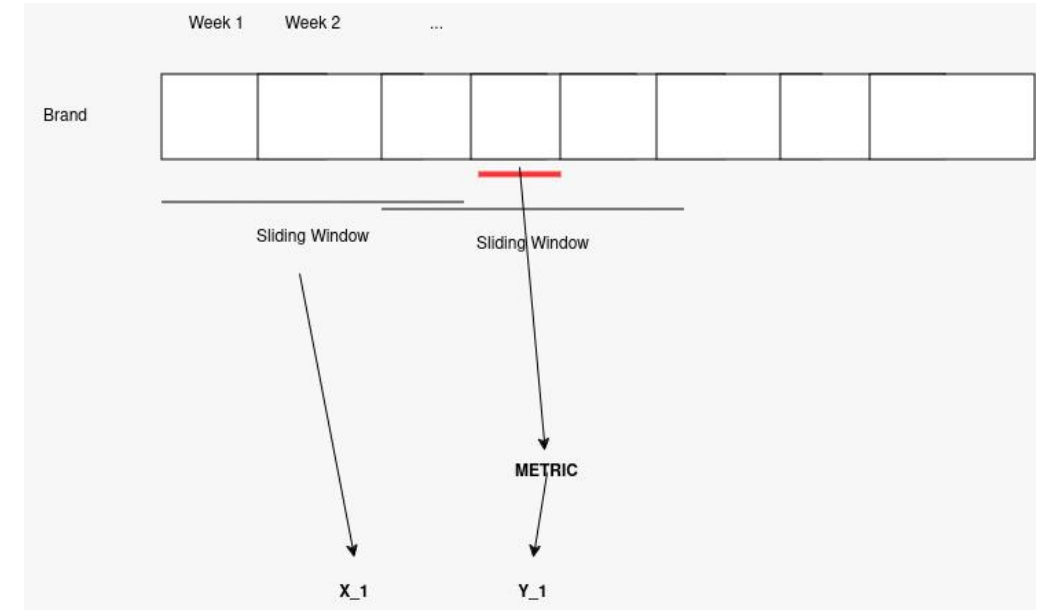


We try two models that are a simple LSTM implementation and a ConvRNN

Classification is now over a time-period

## This is good because:

- The models captures dependencies inside the window of week to predict the future metric value.
- Hence, we opt for two models which have the right bias to capture this.
- We use as a Loss a simple Mean Squared Error and we evaluate the prediction still with the Mean Squared Error



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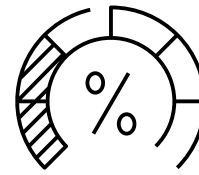
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# Model, Parameter & Metric Tuning



## Assumptions:



Don't need lots of consecutive weeks to detect a positive trend. We train over data before 2022 first and then finetune on data after 2022.



Growth locally (Brand specific)

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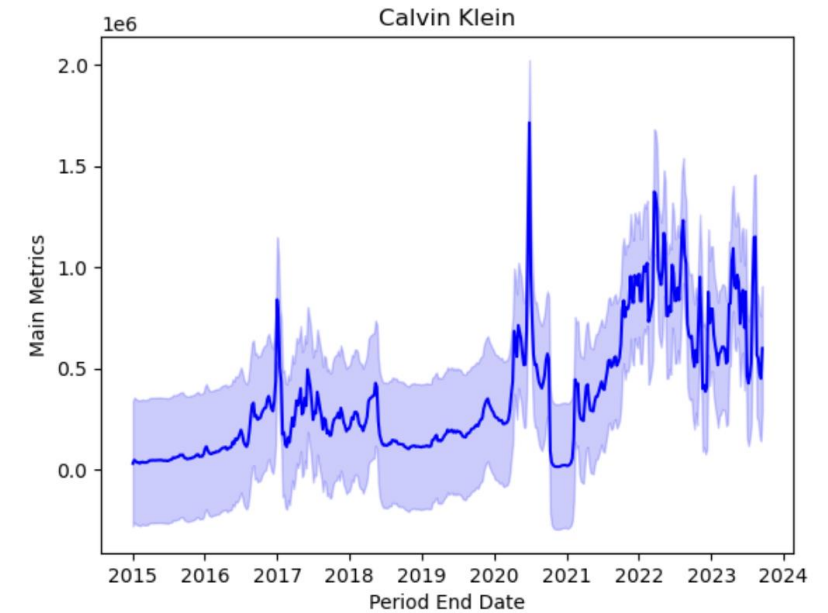
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# Model Performance & Outlier/Trend Analysis



The prediction can be used inside a Test to check if the brand is an outlier compared to its previous trend. To do that we proceed as follow:

- We evaluate the metric over the `window_length` to generate an *avg\_growth* in the past period. Moreover we compute the *std\_dev\_growth* from the metric growth for each week inside our `window_length`. Our model is then making the prediction *growth* of the metric for the future in the next  $K=1$  weeks
- We then check whether  $growth - avg\_growth > zstd\_dev\_growth$ ,  $z$  tunable (ex.  $z=2$  means in 95.47% positive outlier) to detect whether we have a **POSITIVE OUTLIER**



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# Lessons learned & Open Points



**Quickly drop irrelevant features & data records**



**Get simple model running first!**

And then improve iteratively



**Define target and key metrics**

And then improve iteratively



**Develop a model with:**

Significant deviations from observed trends → Define “interesting” deviation  
To highlight noteworthy brands based on the provided dataset

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