

Metric Driven Al Development

Robert Hoffmann, PhD

Data Scientist & Cloud Solution Architect

Microsoft Austria

Goals for this workshop — methodology, tooling, motivation...

- Experience on how to evaluate AI applications
- Theoretical why and how
- Tools and practical approaches using the AI Foundry and Python

Agenda 12:30 PM - 01:30 PM Check-in & Networking Lunch 01:30 PM - 03:30 PM Workshop Session 03:30 PM - 03:45 PM Coffee Break 03:45 PM - 05:00 PM Workshop Session

Setup

Audience & Requirements

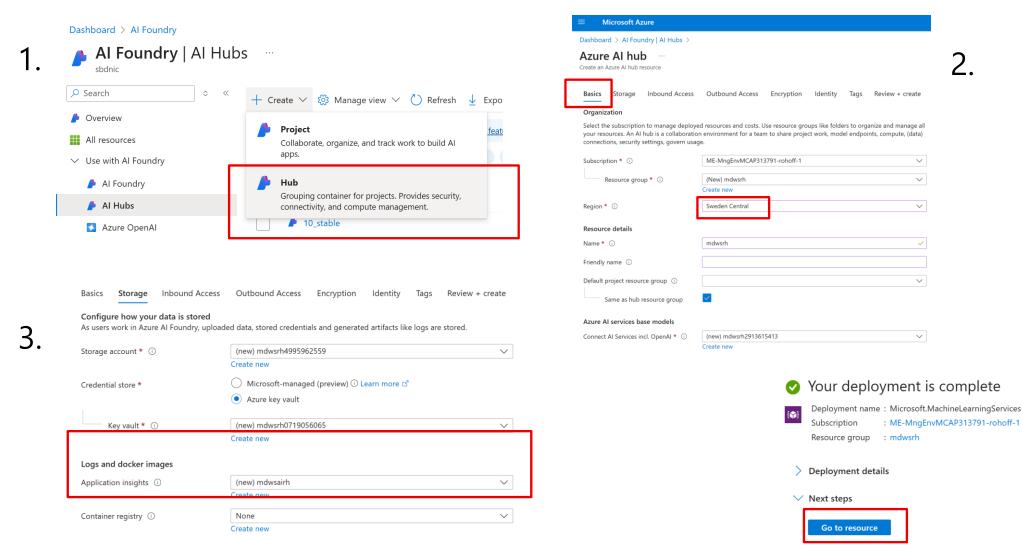
This technical workshop is intended for **developers**, **data scientists**, **and program managers**. While evaluation is an advanced and essential part of AI development, only basic experience with LLMs, RAG, and prompt engineering is required to **actively participate**. **Python knowledge is necessary** for the coding portions.

Requirements

Azure: **Azure Subscription**; permissions to create/use an Al Foundry resource; ability to deploy at least OpenAl's GPT-4o model.

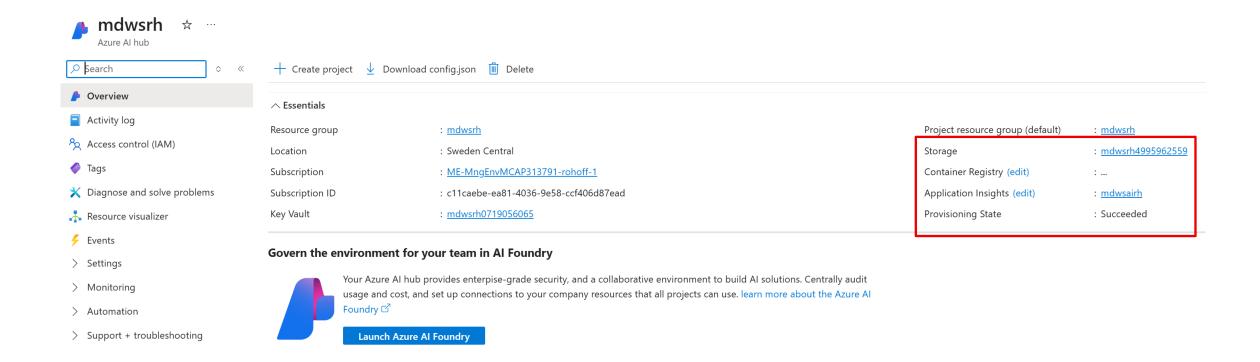
Your Notebook: Azure CLI; Python with virtual environments (e.g., Conda); permissions to install pip packages; Visual Studio Code (or equivalent) for running Jupyter notebooks.

Setup — Azure Al Foundry (Hub*)



*https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/ai-foundry/what-is-azure-ai-foundry#project-types

Setup — Check AI Foundry (Hub) overview in Azure Portal



Setup — Create project in AI Foundry

■ Overview

Govern the environment for your team in Al Foundry

1.



Your Azure AI hub provides enterpise-grade security, and a collaborative environment to build AI solutions. Centrally audit usage and cost, and set up connections to your company resources that all projects can use. learn more about the Azure AI Foundry

Azure Al Foundry | Management center / Hub overview

Launch Azure Al Foundry

Name your project

Your Azure Al Foundry project is where you'll work, collaborate, and connect to data and other services.

Current hub i mdwsrh

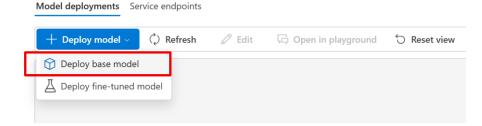
Project name * i rohoff-0016

Setup — Azure Al Foundry — Model deployment

1.

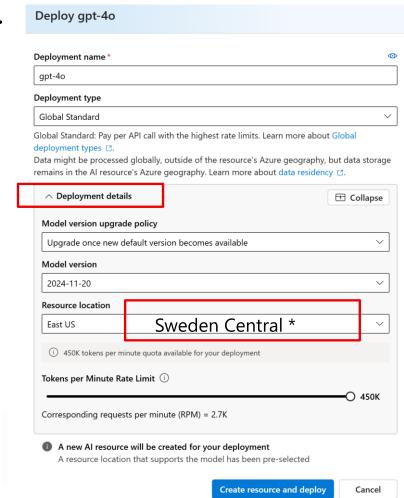


Manage deployments of your models and services



4.





Setup — Clone GitHub repo

1. Clone repo in terminal git clone https://github.com/rohoffgit/Al-eval

2. Enter repo

3. Open VSCode code .

4. Open Terminal in VSCode

5. Optionally create Python environment (Python >= 3.12), e.g. conda create -n azureai_py3_12 python=3.12

Setup — Set up VSCode for environment

- # 1. Set pyton interpreter / environment in VSCode Ctrl+Shift+P > 'Python interpreter' > choose correct environment
- # 2. Open new terminal in VSCode to confirm correct environment



- # 3. Install dependencies python ./00_setup.py
- # 4. Copy .env.template to .env

Setup — Edit .env

Azure Al Foundry AZURE_SUBSCRIPTION_ID = see https://portal.azure.com AZURE_RESOURCE_GROUP_AI = see https://portal.azure.com Azure Al Foundry rohoff-0016 🗘 Overview AZURE AI FOUNDRY PROJECT NAME = https://ai.azure.com/ AZURE AI FOUNDRY PROJECT CONNECTION STRING = **Project details** Project connection string swedencentral.api.azureml.ms:c11caebe-ea... Included capabilities Azure Al inference AZURE AI INFERENCE ENDPOINT = Use the following endpoint to call all your deployed base models: Azure OpenAl Azure Al model inference endpoint PREVIEW Azure Al Services https://rohof-mc90j3yd-eastus.services.ai.azure.com/models Included capabilities Azure Al inference # Azure OpenAl Use the following endpoint to call your Azure OpenAl models: AZURE_OPENAI_ENDPOINT = Azure OpenAl Azure OpenAl endpoint Azure Al Services https://rohof-mc90j3yd-eastus.openai.azure.com/ **API Key** AZURE OPENAI API KEY = AZURE_OPENAI_DEPLOYMENT = qpt-4o AZURE OPENAI API VERSION = 2025-01-01-preview

Tracing
APP_INSIGHTS_RESOURCE_ID = see https://portal.azure.com > App Insights > Overview > JSON view >

Resource JSON

mdwsairh

Resource ID

/subscriptions/c11caebe-ea81-4036-9e58-ccf406d87ead/resourceGroups/mdwsrh/providers/Microsoft.Insights/...

Let's go!

Metric Driven Al Development

Understanding Metrics

Metrics are essential for evaluating the performance of AI systems, informing development strategies and decisions.

Data-Driven Development

Data-driven approaches utilize metrics to guide the development of AI systems, ensuring they meet user and business needs.

Continuous Improvement

Metric driven development fosters continuous improvement in AI systems, leading to enhanced accuracy and efficiency over time.

Testing in software development

Evaluation — the process of judging or calculating the quality, importance, amount, or value of something (Cambridge dictionary)

Tests and metrics are components of evaluation.

e.g. in software development
[unsorted items] -> [sorting functions, show code] -> [sorted items]

```
[A] -> [A]

[A, B, C] -> [A, B, C]

[C, B, A] -> [A, B, C]

[A, B, C, .....] -> [A, B, C, .....]

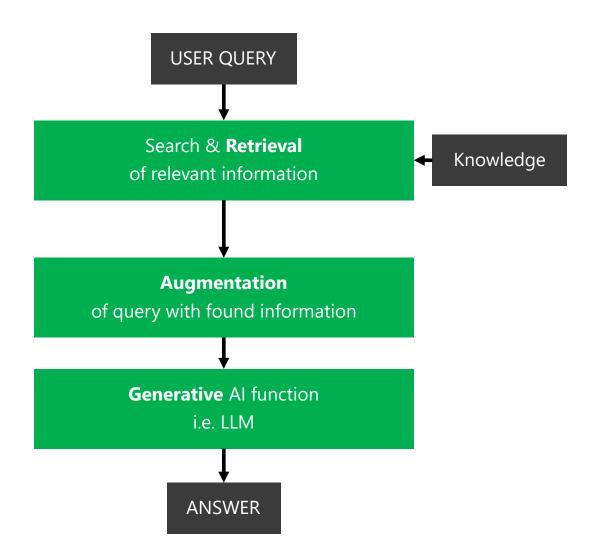
[1, A, 2, B] -> [A, B, 1, 2]

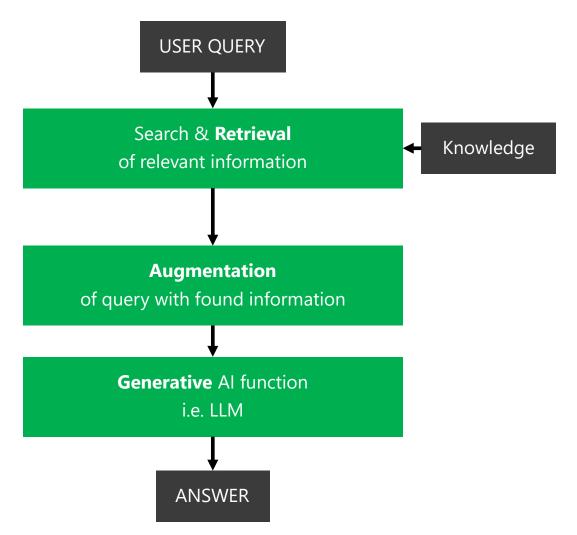
[10, A, 2, B] -> [A, B, 10, 2]
```

Are Al applications special?

[unsorted items] -> [sorting functions] -> [sorted items]

[input tokens] -> [AI function] -> [output tokens]



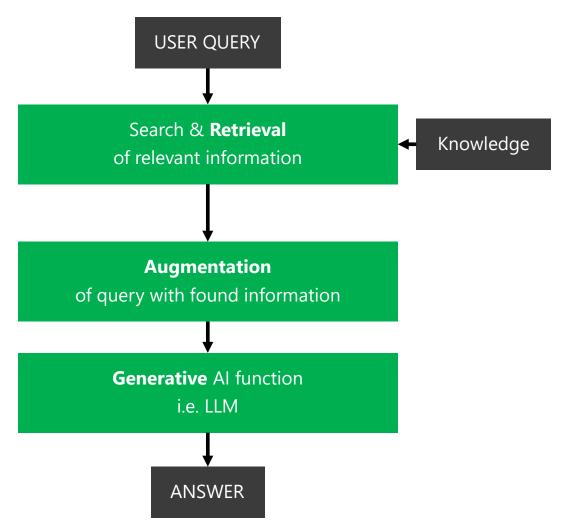


"What is measured by a Geiger counter?"

The International System of Units (SI) unit of radioactive activity is the becquerel (Bq), named in honor of the scientist Henri Becquerel...
[Wikipedia]

Answer the question "What is measured by a Geiger counter?" **based on this information:** "The International System of Units (SI)..."

"Radiation."



"What is measured by a Geiger counter?"

The International System of Units (SI) unit of radioactive activity is the becquerel (Bq), named in honor of the scientist Henri Becquerel...
[Wikipedia]

Answer the question "What is measured by a Geiger counter?" **based on this information:** "The International System of Units (SI)..."

- New versions of AI functions and models
 Open anded set of inputs and thus output
- Open-ended set of inputs and thus outputs
- · Less deterministic nature of Al
- Subjective or context dependent correct outputs
- Difficult to assess correctness
- •••

"Radiation."

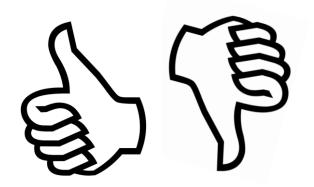
What about other AI applications?

Evaluate Quality of AI Applications and Agents Generation Agents Custom **Retrieval Augmented Generation** Intent Resolution Code-based (rule-based) (RAG) Correct Intent Identification Assertion tests for string match and other criteria Retrieval Clarification for Ambiguity Groundedness Prompt-based (semantic) **Tool Call Accuracy** Off-topic conversations Relevance Single-Step Call Accuracy General Evaluators Friendliness Parameter Extraction **Competitor mentions** Coherence Accuracy **Final Response** Fluency Task Adherence Accuracy, precision and recall **Response Completeness** Similarity F1 score BLEU/GLEU/ROUGE/METEOR

Human feedback — least effort possible

What is the effort that can reasonably be asked from users?

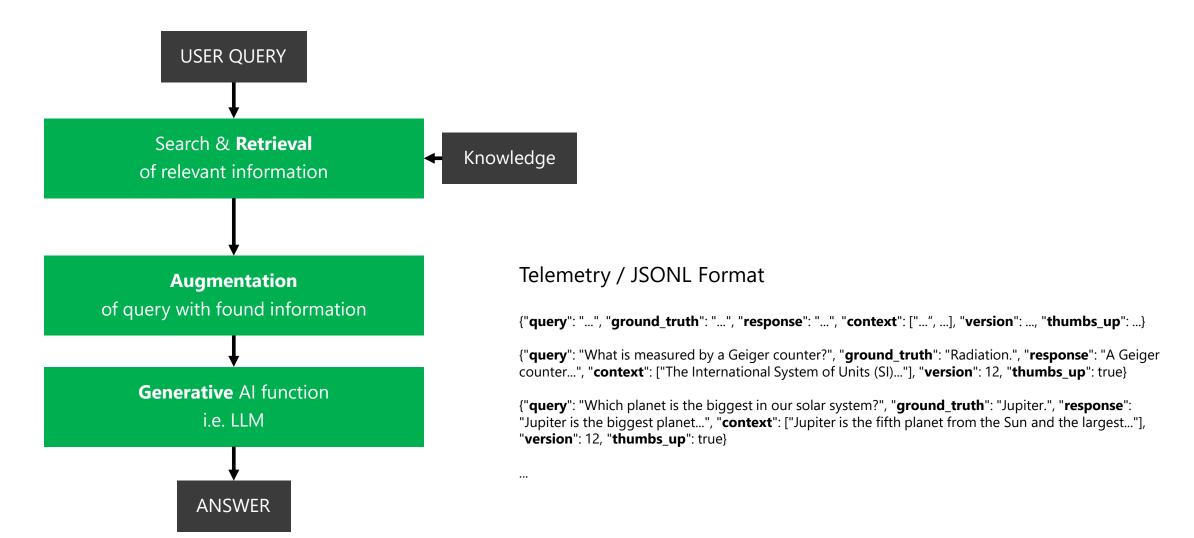
- Drop down
- Free text
- Thumbs-up



Architecture — Initial telemetry data

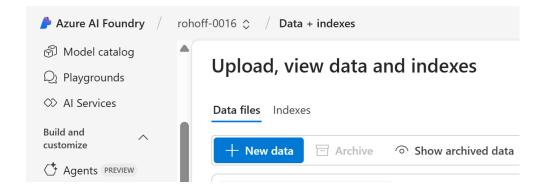
Chat application (Dev/Test)

Telemetry data (JSONL)

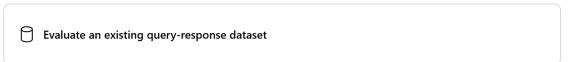


Hands-on

- VSCode looking at sample telemetry data, JSONL
- Using Excel to explore JSONL superficially
- Using Al Foundry to upload data



- Evaluation > New Evaluation
- Sideline Discuss Metrics Options



Qualitative Metrics for Evaluation

Qualitative metrics focus on the human experience, assessing aspects like readability, creativity, and appropriateness.

Metric	Definition	Example	Interpretation
Coherence	The degree to which the output is logically consistent and makes sense.	Assess whether the generated output for an AI creative writing assistant follows a logical sequence and maintains consistent character development throughout the story	Assessed on a scale of 1.0–5.0. High coherence means the content is easy to follow and understand as a whole.
Fluency	The smoothness and readability of the output, with correct grammar and syntax.	Assessing a chatbot's responses to ensure they're grammatically correct and easy to read.	Assessed on a scale of 1.0–5.0. High fluency means the text flows well and sounds natural to a native speaker.
Groundedness	The extent to which the output is based on factual information or given context.	Verifying that a generated news article accurately reflects the facts and sources provided.	Assessed on a scale of 1.0–5.0. High groundedness means the model's output is factually accurate and consistent with the given context or known information.
Groundedness Pro	Detects whether the generated text response is consistent or accurate with respect to the given context in a retrieval-augmented generation question and answering scenario.	When you need to verify that AI-generated responses align with and are validated by the provided context. It's essential for applications where contextual accuracy is key, like information retrieval and question and answering.	False if response is ungrounded and True if it's grounded
Relevance	How well the output aligns with the given context or user query.	Assess how well generated article summaries match users' interests for an Al-powered personalized news aggregator.	Assessed on a scale of 1.0–5.0. High relevance means the content is closely aligned with the user's intent or the subject matter being discussed.
Retrieval	Measures the quality of search without ground truth. It focuses on how relevant the context chunks (encoded as a string) are to address a query and how the most relevant context chunks are surfaced at the top of the list.	Suitable for applications where the model engages in generation using a retrieval-augmented approach to extract information from your provided documents and generate detailed responses, usually multi-turn.	Assessed on a scale of 1.0–5.0 High quality means the output is highly relevant, well ranked, and no bias is introduced.

Quantitative Metrics for Evaluation

Quantitative metrics are often data-driven and based on specific algorithms or statistical analysis.

Metric	Definition	Example	Interpretation
Similarity	The degree of resemblance between the generated output and the reference text.	Assess that the Al-generated content aligns with established legal practices and terminology by comparing Al generated contract clauses with a database of standard legal language.	Assessed on a scale of 1.0–5.0 A high similarity score indicates that the compared texts or concepts have similar meanings or convey essentially the same information, even if using different words.
F1 Score	A measure of a model's accuracy that combines precision (relevance of retrieved items) and recall (completeness of retrieval).	Assess how well a model correctly identifies and classifies various skin conditions for an Al app that assists doctors in diagnosing skin conditions from images.	Assessed on a scale of 0–1. A high F1 score indicates that the model has low false positives and low false negatives.
ROUGE	Recall-Oriented Understudy for Gisting Evaluation, measures the overlap of n-grams (word sequences) between the generated and reference texts. It's useful for assessing if key information is retained in summaries.	Assess how Al-generated summaries of scientific papers capture key findings from the original research papers, comparing them against human-written reviews.	Assessed on a scale of 0–1. Higher ROUGE scores indicate better coverage of the reference content.
BLEU	Bilingual Evaluation Understudy measures how many words overlap between the machine translation and reference translations, considering exact matches and near matches. It focuses on precision and aims to capture translation adequacy and fluency.	Assess the quality of Al-generated posts in various languages for a multilingual content generation tool for a social media platform. Compare the Al generated posts against human-translated versions.	Assessed on a scale of 0–1. Higher BLEU scores suggest better translation quality.
METEOR	Metric for Evaluation of Translation with Explicit ORdering, designed to improve some of the weaknesses of BLEU. METEOR is an automatic metric for machine translation evaluation. It considers synonyms and paraphrases and aligns words between the machine translation and reference.	An e-learning platform developing an AI tutor that explains complex concepts in simpler terms uses METEOR to evaluate the quality of its explanations. This metric helps assess whether the AI-generated explanations effectively convey the same meaning as expert-written materials, even if using different words.	Assessed on a scale of 0–1. A high METEOR score suggests that the generated text closely matches the reference text in terms of content and meaning.
GLEU	A variant of BLEU developed by Google for evaluating machine translation. GLEU is similar to BLEU but calculates the minimum of precision and recall for n-grams, making it more sensitive to changes in translation quality that affect both precision and recall.	A company creating an Al system for generating product descriptions uses GLEU to fine-tune their model. They compare the Al-generated descriptions against professionally written ones, using GLEU's sensitivity to both precision and recall to incrementally improve the system's ability to create compelling and accurate product narratives.	Assessed on a scale of 0–1. A high GLEU score indicates a high degree of overlap in n- grams between the generated text and reference translations. A high GLEU score generally suggests fluency and adequacy in translation, and good precision in word choice and word order.

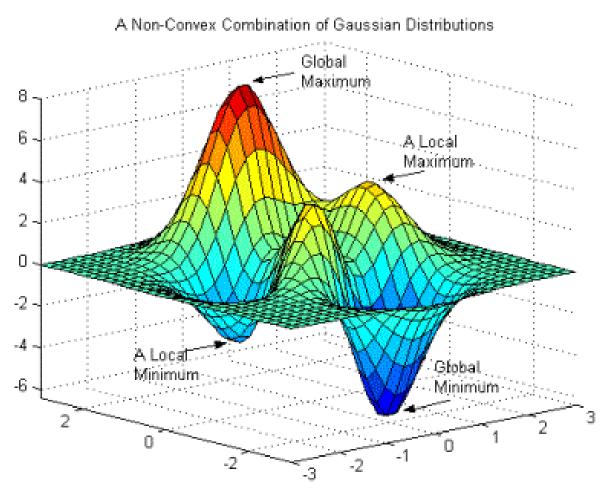
Risk and safety metrics

Metric	What it Measures	Assessment Output
Hateful and Unfair Content Defect Rate	Measures the frequency of Al-generated content that contains hate speech or unfair biases.	Severity level: 0–7, Severity label: Very low, Low, Medium, and High
Sexual Content Defect Rate	Measures the occurrence of Al-generated content containing inappropriate sexual references.	Severity level: 0–7, Severity label: Very low, Low, Medium, and High
Violent Content Defect Rate	Evaluates the frequency of content that depicts or incites violence.	Severity level: 0–7, Severity label: Very low, Low, Medium, and High
Self-Harm Related Content Defect Rate	Measures the generation of content that encourages or glamorizes self-harm.	Severity level: 0–7, Severity label: Very low, Low, Medium, and High
Jailbreak Defect Rate	Measures how often AI systems can be manipulated to bypass safety protocols and restrictions. A jailbreak occurs when a user finds a way to get the AI to produce content it's designed to prevent.	True or False
Indirect Attack Rate	Measures the susceptibility of AI to indirect prompt injections, where seemingly harmless prompts elicit inappropriate responses. An indirect prompt injection occurs when the AI is tricked into generating harmful content through a series of seemingly innocuous prompts.	True or False
Protected Material Defect Rate	Evaluates how often AI systems generate content that infringes upon protected material, such as copyrighted text.	True or False

Hands-on

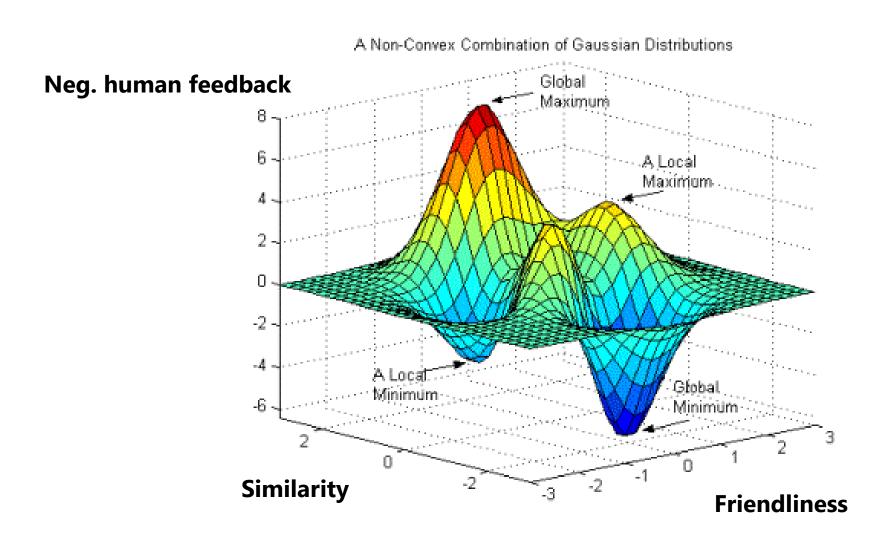
- Continue Evaluation, select evaluators, i.e. Grounding, Similarity, METEOR
- Discuss, Report and data
- Where to go from here?
- Show how to download from Logs > instance_results.json
- Switch to VSCode > data
- Explore evaluated file with Excel
- 10_manual_evaluation_analysis_1_of_2
- 20_programatic_evaluation_local_dev why and custom evaluators
- 30_manual_evaluation_analysis_2_of_2 check out custom evaluators

Exploring the optimal configuration space (for an AI application)



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stochastic gradient Langevin dynamics

Exploring the optimal configuration space (for an AI application)



Architecture — Cloud evaluation

Chat application (Dev/Test)

Telemetry data (JSONL)

Developed custom evaluation (incl. Custom evaluators), Locally

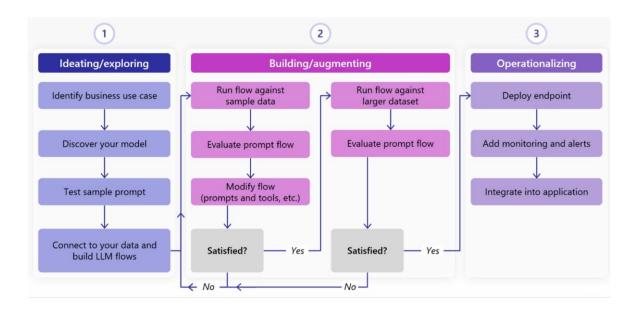
Cloud evaluation incl. custom evaluators

Hands-on

- 40_register_custom_evaluators_for_cloud_evaluation
- 50_cloud_evaluation

Phases of development & evaluation

- Initial ideation
- Productive application development
- Continuous development



Architecture — Tracing and Online evaluation

Chat application (Dev/Test)

Telemetry data (JSONL)

Developed custom evaluation (incl. Custom evaluators), Locally

Cloud evaluation incl. custom evaluators

Tracing

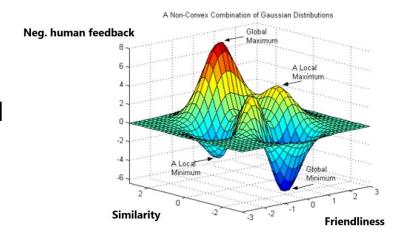
Online cloud evaluation

Hands-on

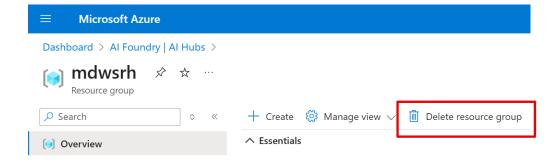
- 60_tracing
- 70_manually_query_traces
- [80_advanced_online_eval]

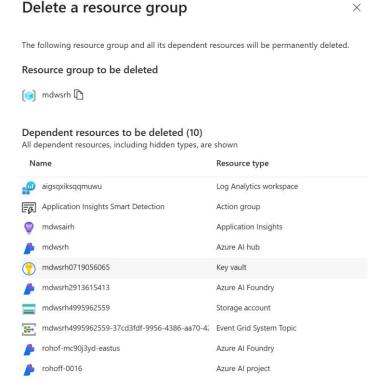
Evaluation is a continuous and iterative process

- Collect and analyse telemetry data
- Develop & test your hypothesis
- Improve your application
- Keep your progress versioned, documented and organized



Delete resource group — To avoid running costs









Thank you