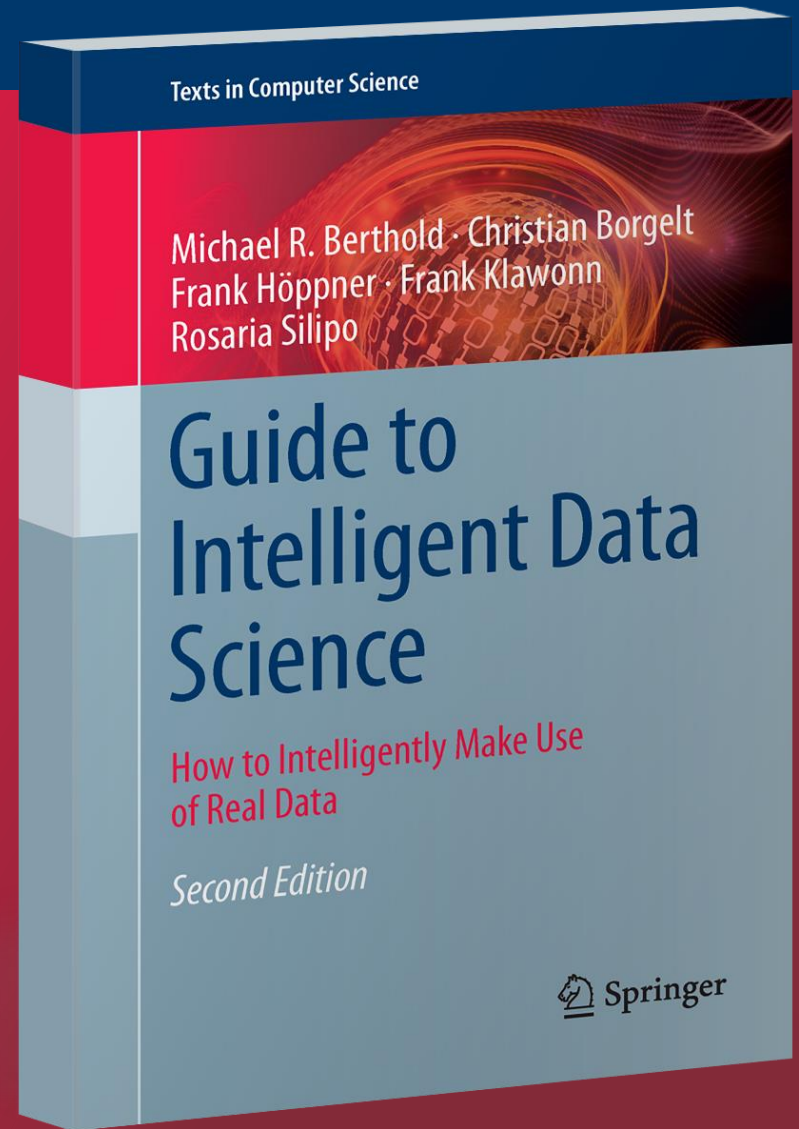


Deployment



*„Data Scientist is just a sexed up word for Statistician“
-Nate Silver*

How do we move the models to production?

**This lesson refers to chapter 10 of the GIDS book*

Content of this Lesson

- Deployment
- Model Deployment
- Model Management
- Practical Example

Deployment

The Data Science Process

— SEMMA

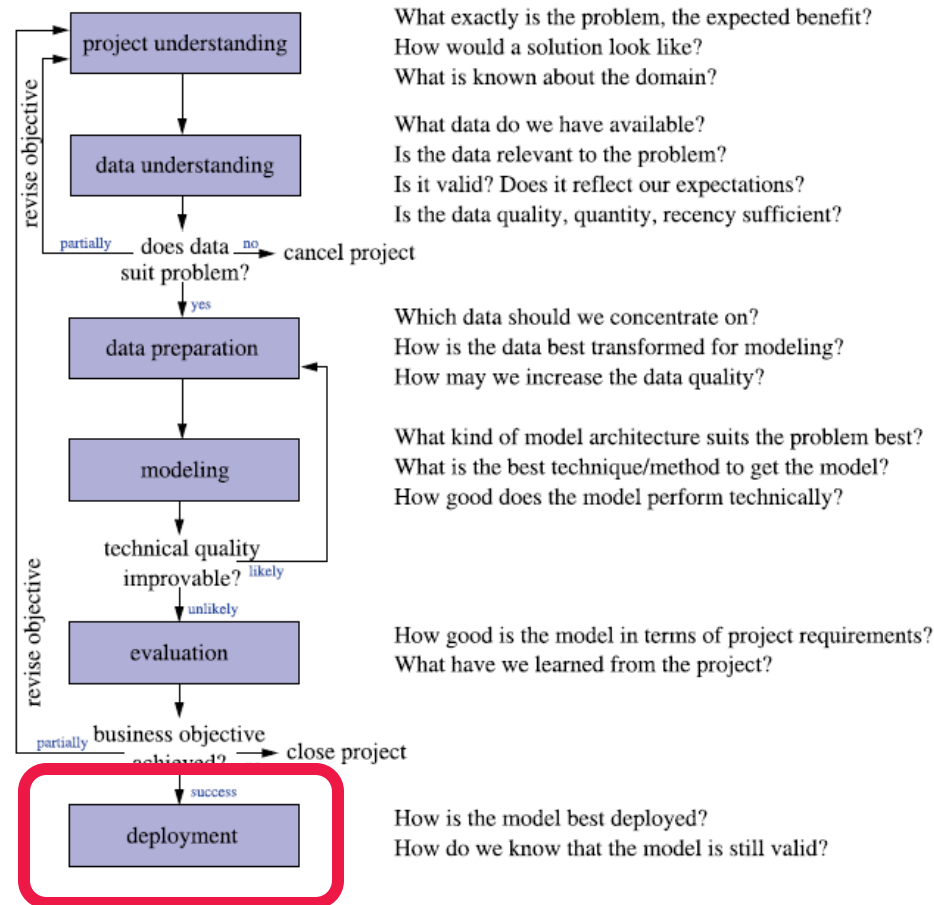
- Sample, Explore, Modify, Model, Assess

— CRISP-DM

- Cross Industry Standard Process for Data Mining

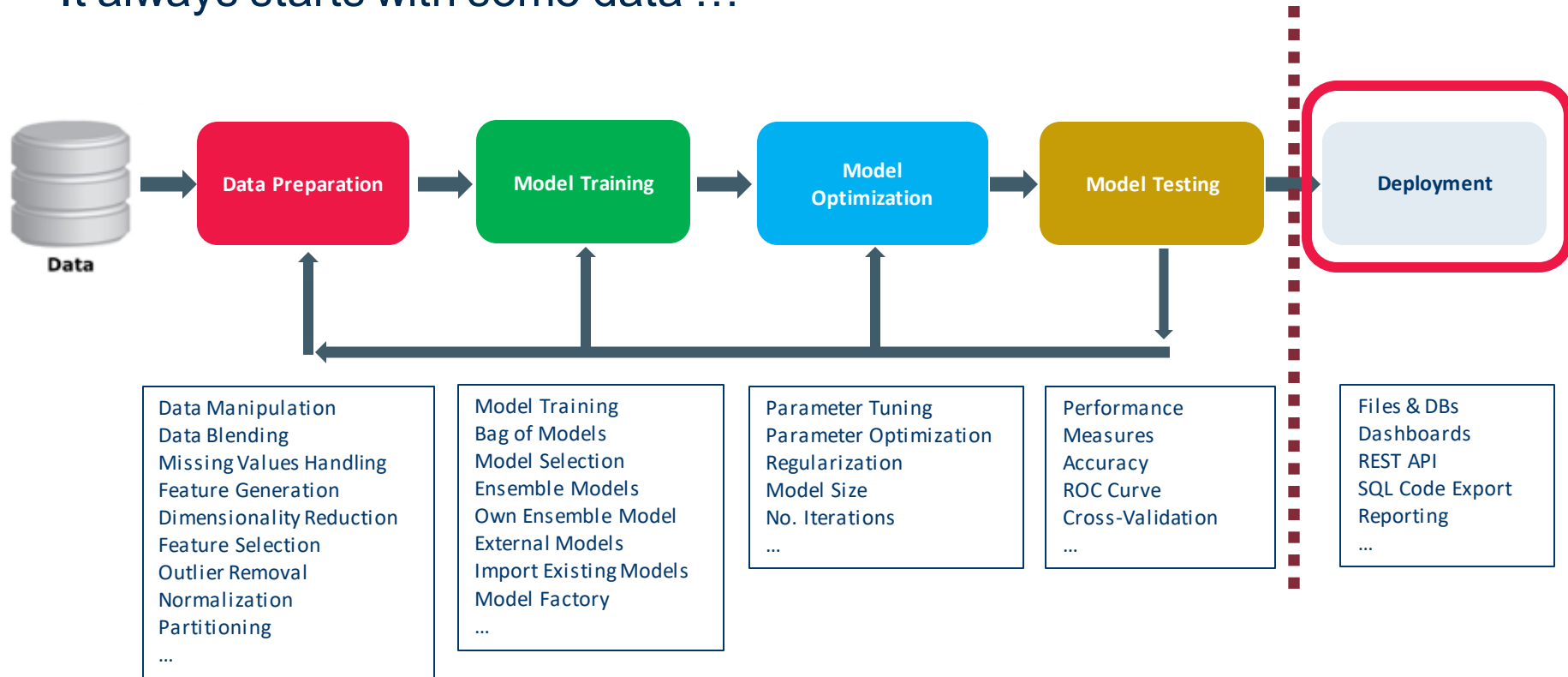
— KDD

- Knowledge Discovery in Databases

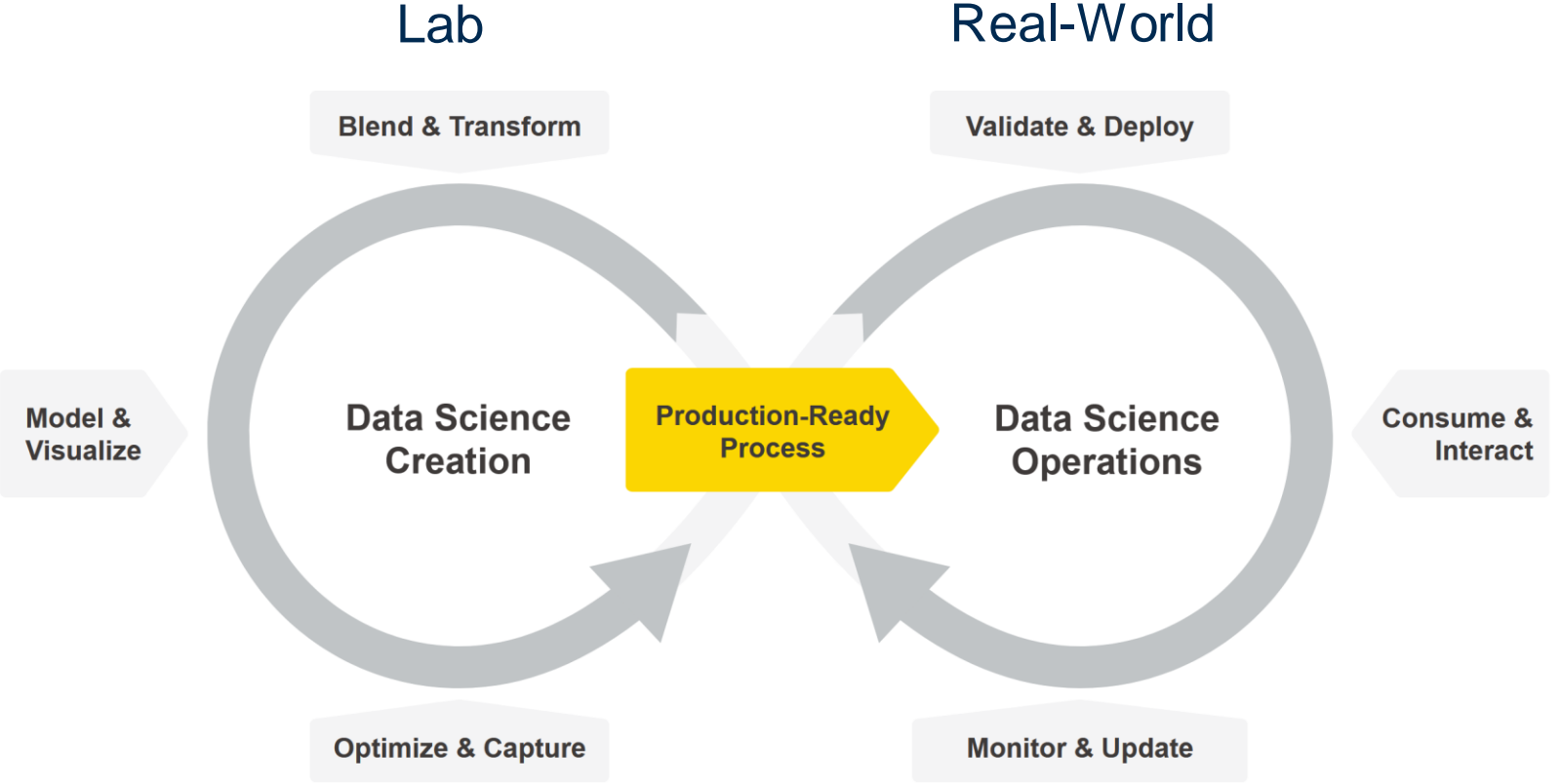


A Classic Data Science Project

- It always starts with some data ...



What comes after Deployment?



What is model deployment?

- Notice the dashed line between model testing and model deployment?
- This is where the jump **from the lab to the real world** happens
- Eventually a trained model must be included in a final application to be used **by external applications and/or end users**
- The final application is the deployment application
- The step of building the application around the trained model is called **deployment**
- Notice that the deployment application must be developed and finally put into production like all pieces of software
- When the deployment application is moved into production, so is the trained model

– Easy

- It must be easy for the application developer to include the trained model into the deployment application
- Easy to use for end users
- Easy to integrate in a Service Oriented Architecture

– Safe

- At the same time it must be correct. For example, it must include the whole data preparation part.
- Most reasons of deployment failures are in the not faithful export of the pre-processing and post-processing steps from the training application into the deployment application.
- Think of a model trained on normalized data and of a deployment application where normalization has been forgotten.

Once in the real world, the deployment application and the trained model must oblige to the laws of IT

- **Automation**
 - On demand & scheduled execution
 - Monitoring and Updating
- **Auditing**
 - Justify decisions
 - Store previous executions
 - Reproducibility
- **Security**
 - Protection of sensitive data
 - Protection of sensitive applications
 - Versioning & Disaster Recovery

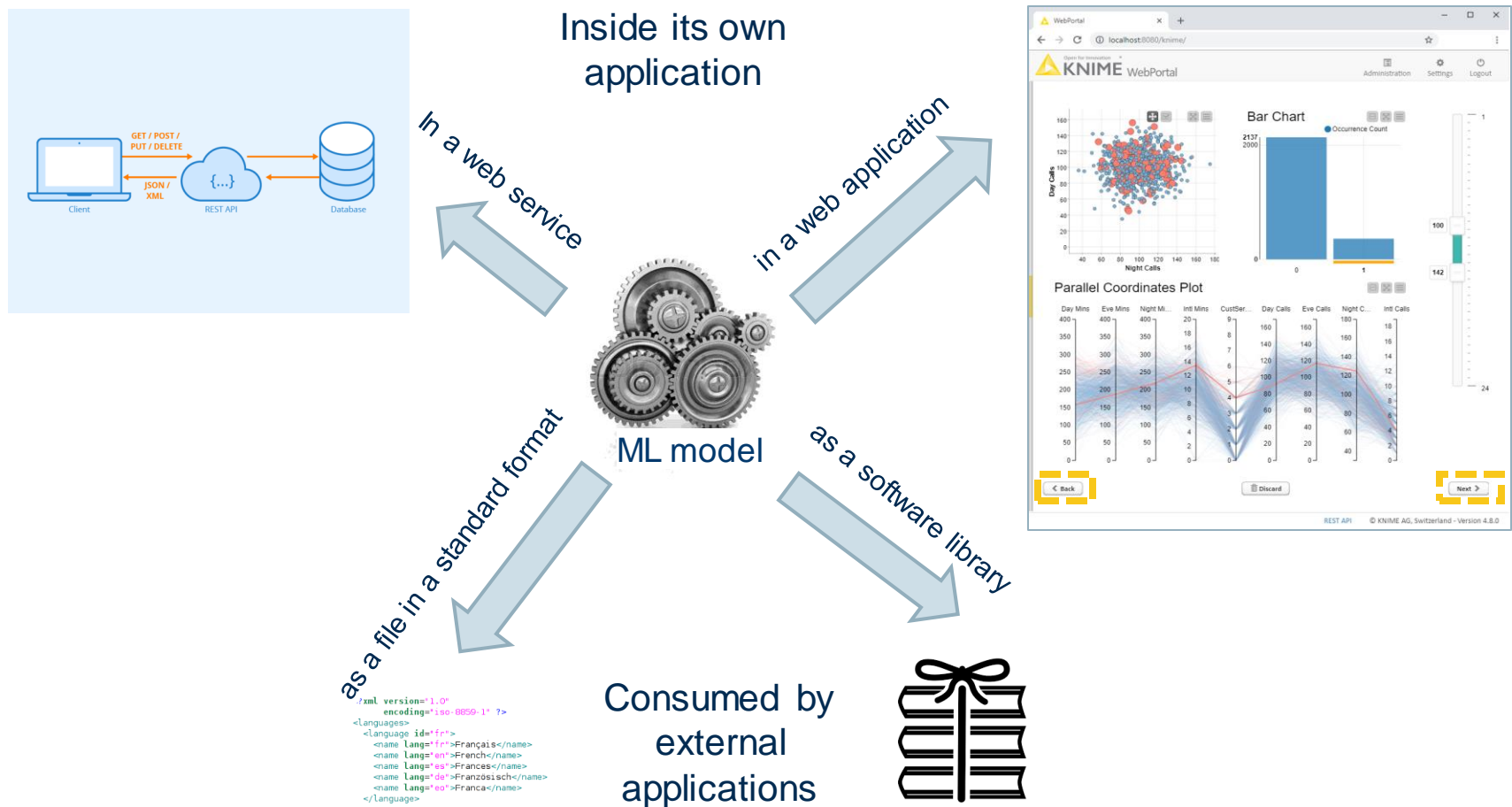
Deployment Options

Deployment

Usage of a trained model in an application to provide answers for a real-world use case

- In its own application
 - Easy to use for end users (as a web application)
 - Easy to integrate in a Service Oriented Architecture (as a web service)
- Consumed by external Applications
 - As a file in standard format
 - As a software library

Deploying the ML Model



- Easy to use for end users

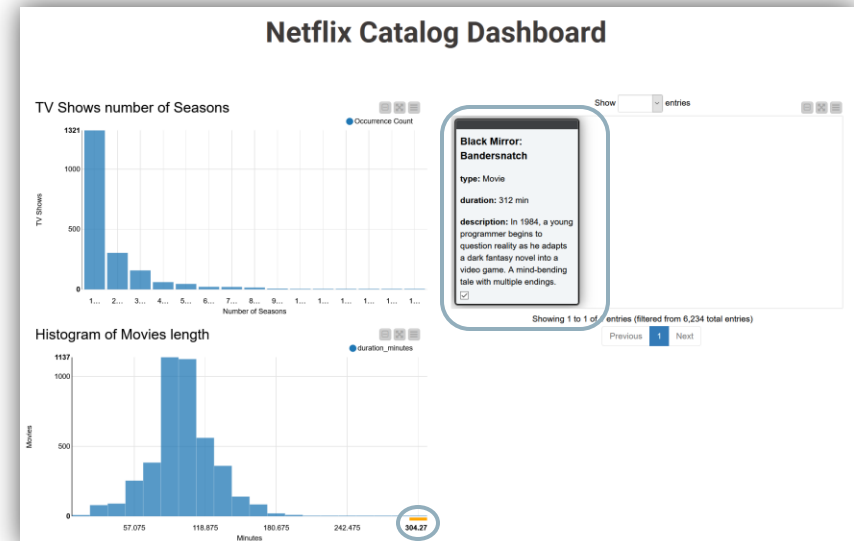
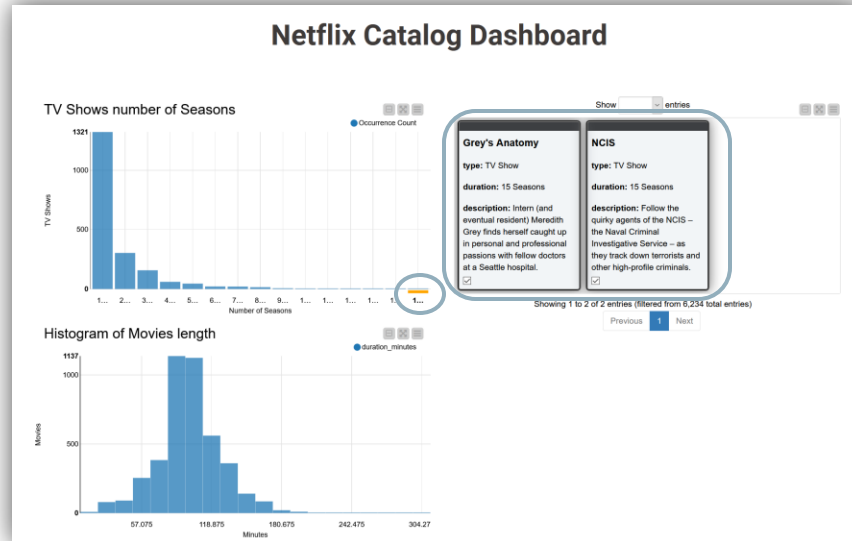
- If the model has been deployed into an application for end users, it must be easy to use also for non-experts and non-data-scientists kind of users
- As a web application from a web browser
- Hide model complexity
- Offer touchpoints for exposed parameters

- Easy to integrate in a Service Oriented Architecture

- As a web service
- Via standard interfaces for web services

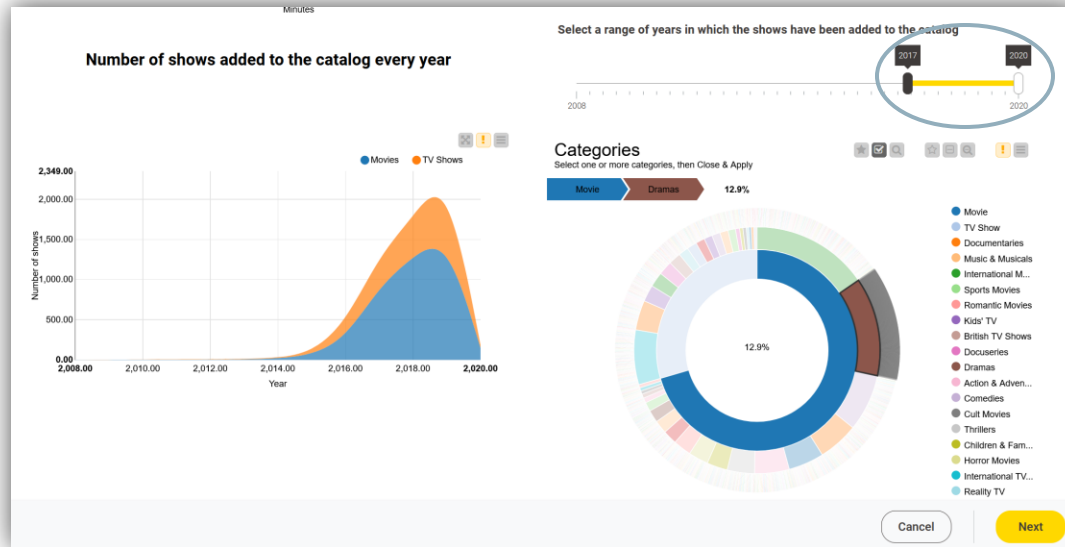
Deployment in a web application

- One page usually includes an Interactive Dashboard to show the results
- Fast and intuitive decision support even for non expert users
- Can show model prediction and more complex interactive data visualization



Deployment in a web application

- Interactive plots and charts
- Data selection across plots, charts, and tables
- Items such as: range slider, selection bullets, menus, ...

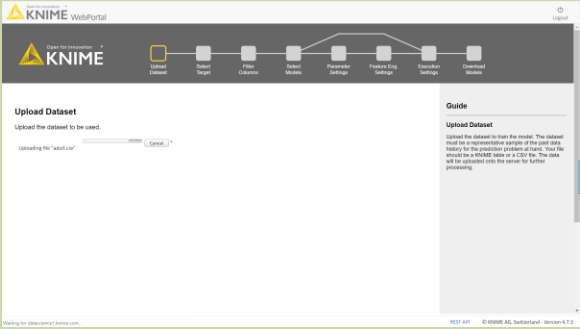


- One final dashboard page → to show results
- What about having touchpoints that require end user interaction?
- Hide complexity in automated snippets
- Expose parameters interesting to the end users via touchpoints
- Example: Guided Automation.
 - Train a number of models on the selected training set
 - Sequence of Touchpoints could be:

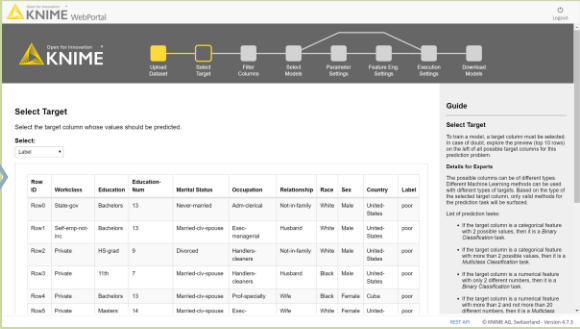


Guided Automation: An example

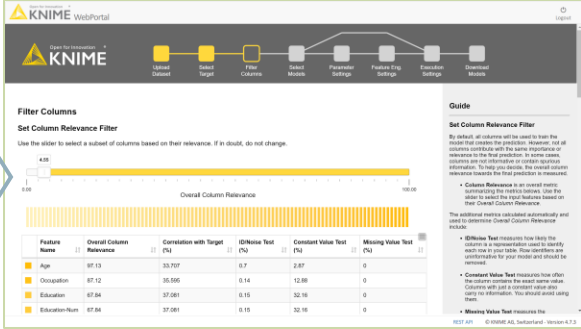
1. Load Data



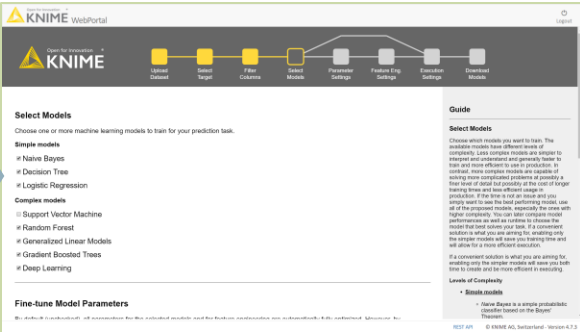
2. Select Target



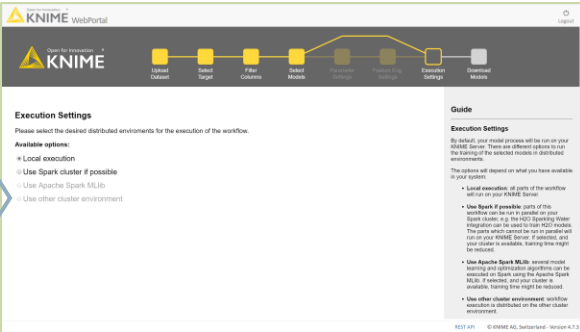
3. Filter Columns



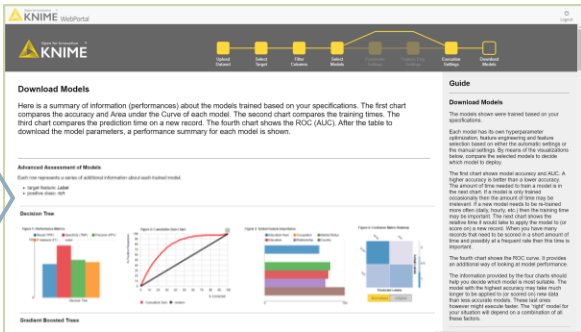
4. Select Models



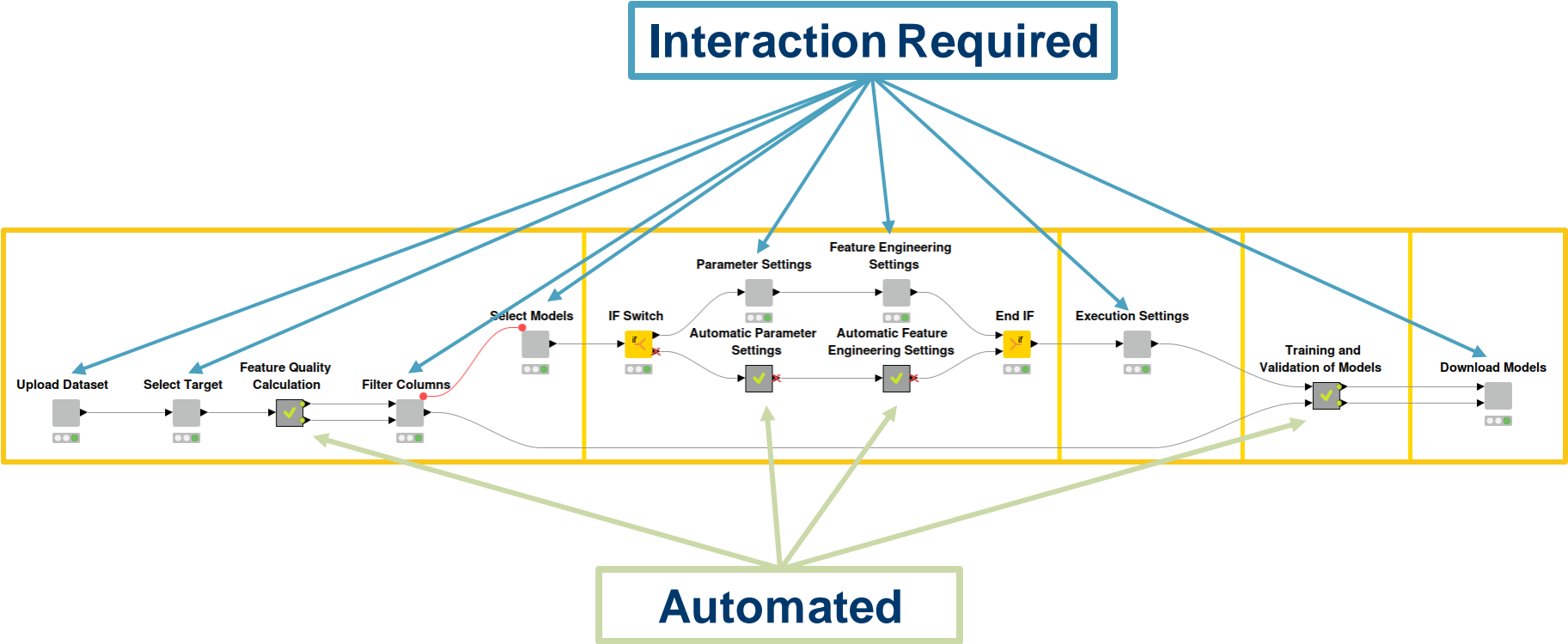
5. Select Execution Engine



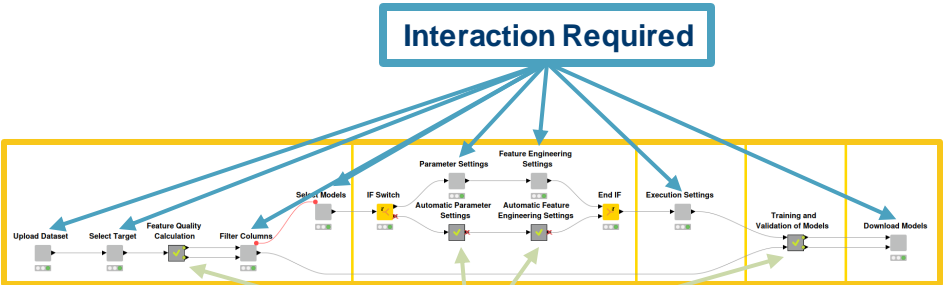
6. Show Results



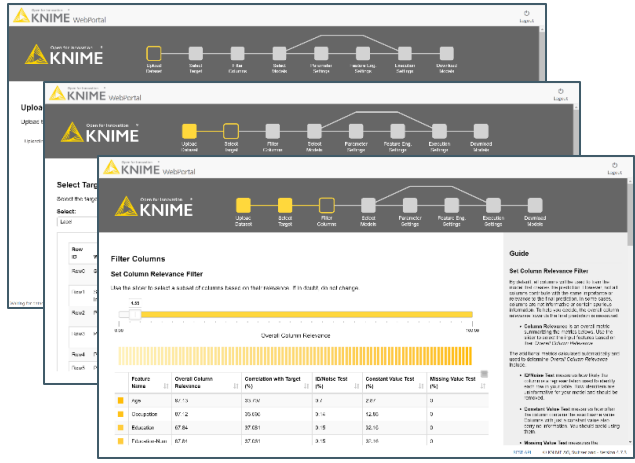
Building a Guided Automation Workflow



KNIME's Guided Automation: Automation + Interaction



<http://myserver.com>    



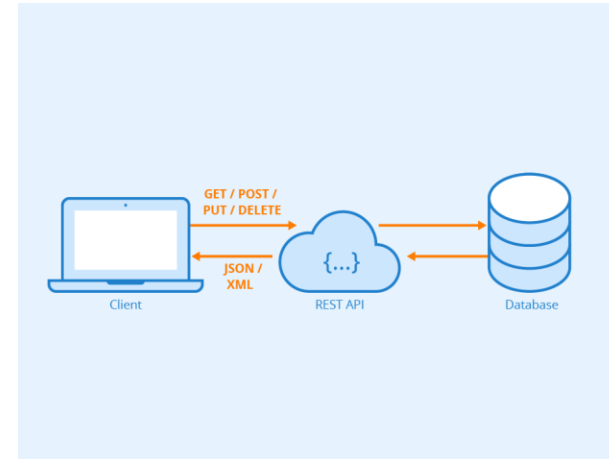
KNIME Server

**analytical application
for business users
from web browser**

- A web service provides interoperability between computer systems
 - over the internet
 - through a web technology, such as HTTP
 - to transfer machine-readable file formats such as XML and JSON.
- Web Services with REST architecture are the current state of the art
- What is a REST architecture
 - **Representational State Transfer (REST)** is a software architectural style introducing a set of constraints for web services.
 - Web services that conform to the REST architectural style, are called *RESTful* (REST) web services.
 - **REST services** allow the requesting systems to access and manipulate representations of web resources by using a **uniform** and **predefined** set of stateless operations. You cannot make up your own arbitrary set of operations, as in SOAP web services.
 - Stateless protocol and standard operations => fast execution, easy to manage

– Operations in a REST web service (over HTTP)

- GET
- HEAD
- POST
- PUT
- PATCH
- DELETE
- CONNECT
- OPTIONS
- TRACE

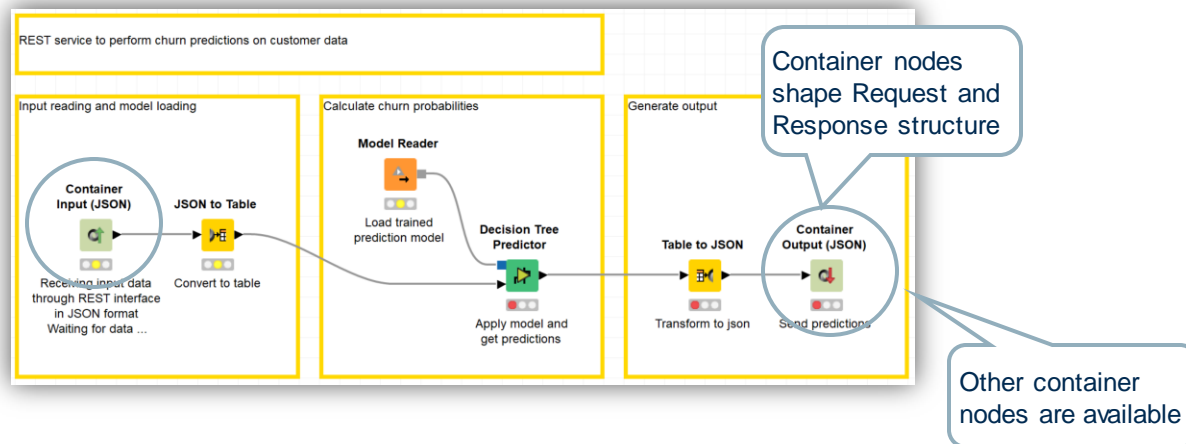


– The Request and Response objects

- Data is exchanged via a Request object and a Response object
- The **Request object** sends data to the REST service, together with the required operation
- The **Response object** passes the result back to the calling system

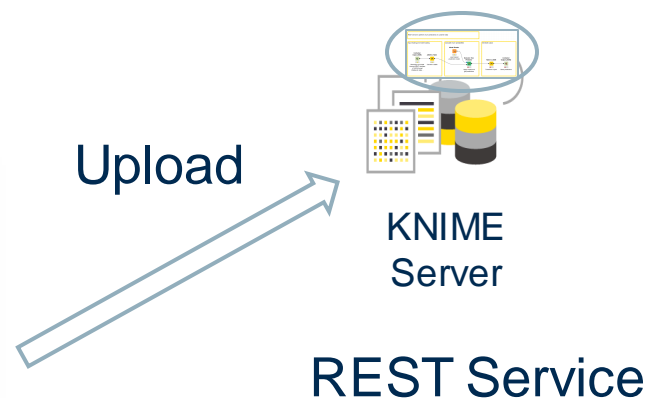
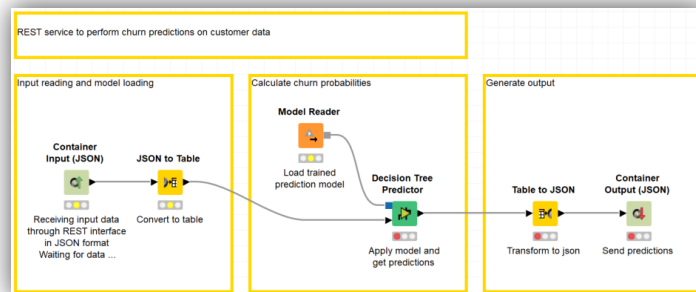
Building a web service

- Building a REST service requires:
 - To shape the structures of the Request and Response objects
 - To enable the REST API
- Solutions:
 - Container nodes shape the Request and Response objects
 - All workflows uploaded on the KNIME Server are available as REST services



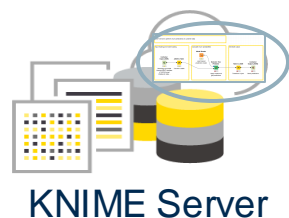
Building a web service

1



2

REST Service



- Standard formats allow for external applications to consume the network/model
- **PMML**
 - **Predictive Model Markup Language (PMML)** is based on XML
 - Embeds a wide range of predictive models along with aspects of the required pre-processing
 - Can be directly loaded into database systems and applied to data tables
 - PMML works well with standard ML models (decision tree, logistic regression)
 - Representation of new complex models (ensemble, deep learning...) is problematic, either because a standard representation has not been defined or because the size of the resulting file is too large
 - Less and less used
- **ONNX**
 - ONNX = Open Neural Network for eXchange
 - Open **standard** dedicated to represent **neural networks** and **deep learning networks**
 - ONNX represented networks can then be stored into files
 - Standard ensures the portability of the represented network across systems

Note: Data processing (transformation/integration) must be part of the deployed model in production

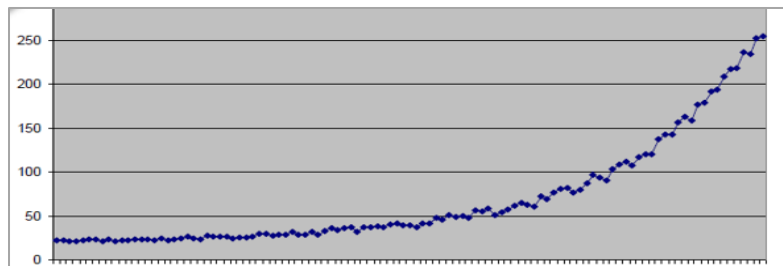
- Data Science projects often fail in deployment. Why?
- Common reasons:
 - **Bad project design**: consequences can appear only in deployment phase. For example, a feature, transformation, or a data source that is not available in production.
 - **Data leakage**: data in the test set mixes up with data in the training set. Model scores do not reflect the performances in the real-world.
 - **Dynamic domains**: Features and target variable end up having different domains in the training data vs. the real-world. New values are not handled properly.
 - **Change in Business Objectives**: During or after deployment the business objectives of the project have changed for some reason. For example, the business strategy of the company has changed.
 - **Invalidated assumptions**. What we thought it was true about the data, it is not. Maybe we did not extract a representative sample from the world data.
 - **Shift from inter- to extrapolation**: atypical data (i.e. data not used during training). What to do? Shall we stop everything?
 - **The world changes**: e.g. if new products offered or customers change habits, the data used to build and optimize the model are no longer representative of the reality

Model Management

- The world change, the business requirement change
- **Model Management** puts in place some mechanisms to ensure that the model keeps performing as expected
- Model Management includes:
 - Model Monitoring
 - Model Update & Retraining
 - Model Factories

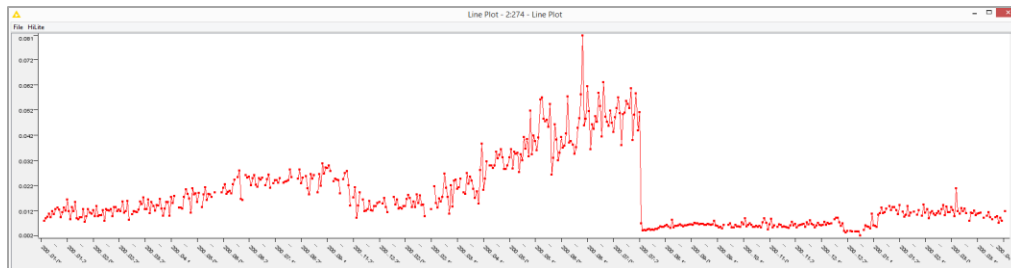
Data Drifts and Data Jumps

- The world changes, the data change
- Data Drift (data changing slowly over time)



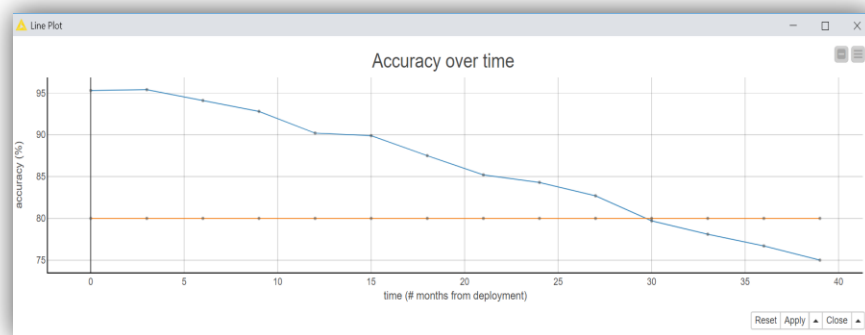
The state of a mechanical piece, the temperature going towards winter, the price of items due to inflation, etc ...

- Data Jump (Data changing suddenly at some point)



The breaking of a mechanical piece, the crash of the stock market, etc ...

- A model with an accuracy of 90% in the past can slowly (or suddenly) degrade to a much lower accuracy over time.
- This is called **Model Drift**



- Periodically check model performance
 - On which data?
 - How often is periodically?
- If model performance below threshold, retrain
 - What threshold value?

- To spot the Model Drift (due to an outdated model), you should use **recent data**
- It is of course useless to test the model on data acquired at the time when the training data were collected.
- At every run, production data are stored for monitoring purposes, till a sufficiently large dataset is collected.
- Manually annotated data are also added to test **border cases**
- The model is then tested again on this newly collected dataset.
- No action is taken if performance drops within an acceptable interval. Contrarily, actions for model retraining must be taken, if performance goes below the acceptance threshold.

- What does “periodically” mean?
- Shall I test my model performance once a week, once a month, or once a year?
- It depends on the data and on the business case:
 - Stock prices change every minute → model re-evaluation every few days
 - The taste of a customer segment will be the same for a few weeks
→ model re-evaluation every few months
- Same for the evaluation threshold: the value depends on the data and on the business case

– (Automatic) Model Updating

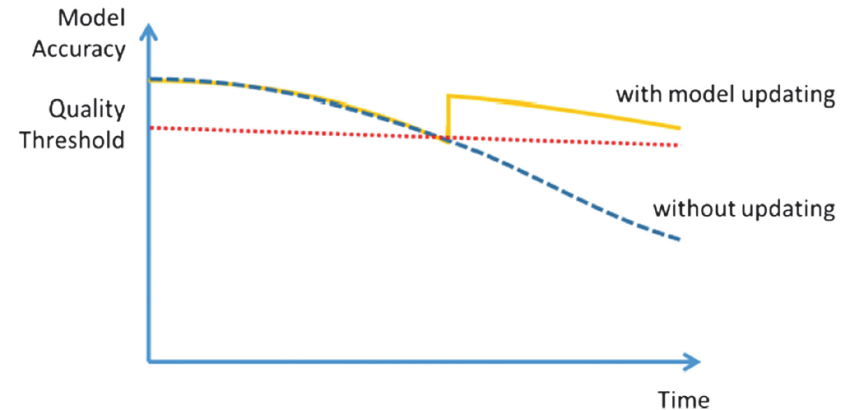
- Feed new data points to be incorporated into the model
- In this way old data are less important (are forgotten)

– Retraining

- Use sampling to provide the right mix of past and more recent data

– Caveats:

- Seasonality can be a problem. Specialized models or season knowledge manually injected
- Pre-existing knowledge (e.g. border case handling) better incorporated using a separate rule model instead of manual knowledge injection



– **Model Replacement**

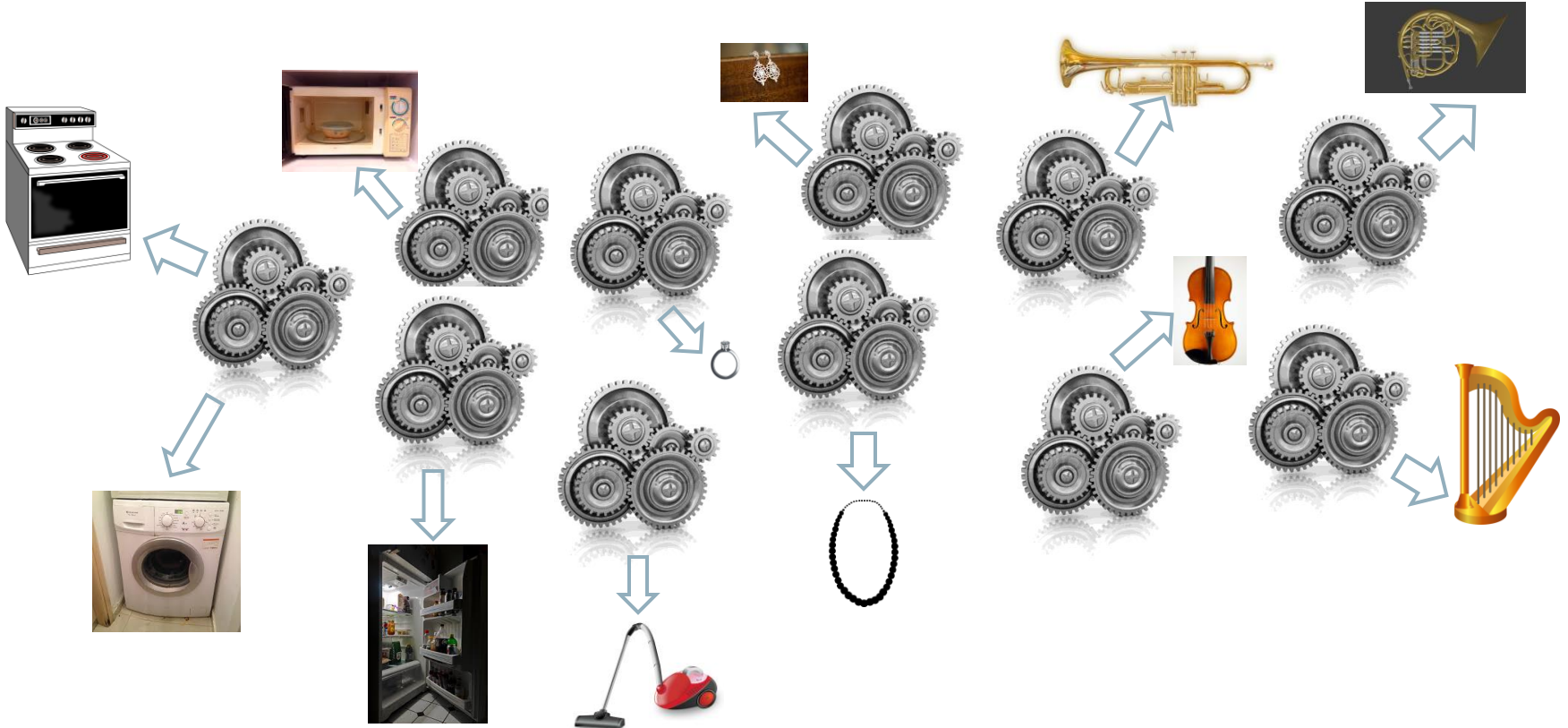
- We have retrained a new model. Are we sure it is better than the previous one?
- New model is the ***challenger***
- Former model is the ***champion***

IF challenger's performance > champion's performance THEN replace
OTHERWISE keep champion model

– Caveats:

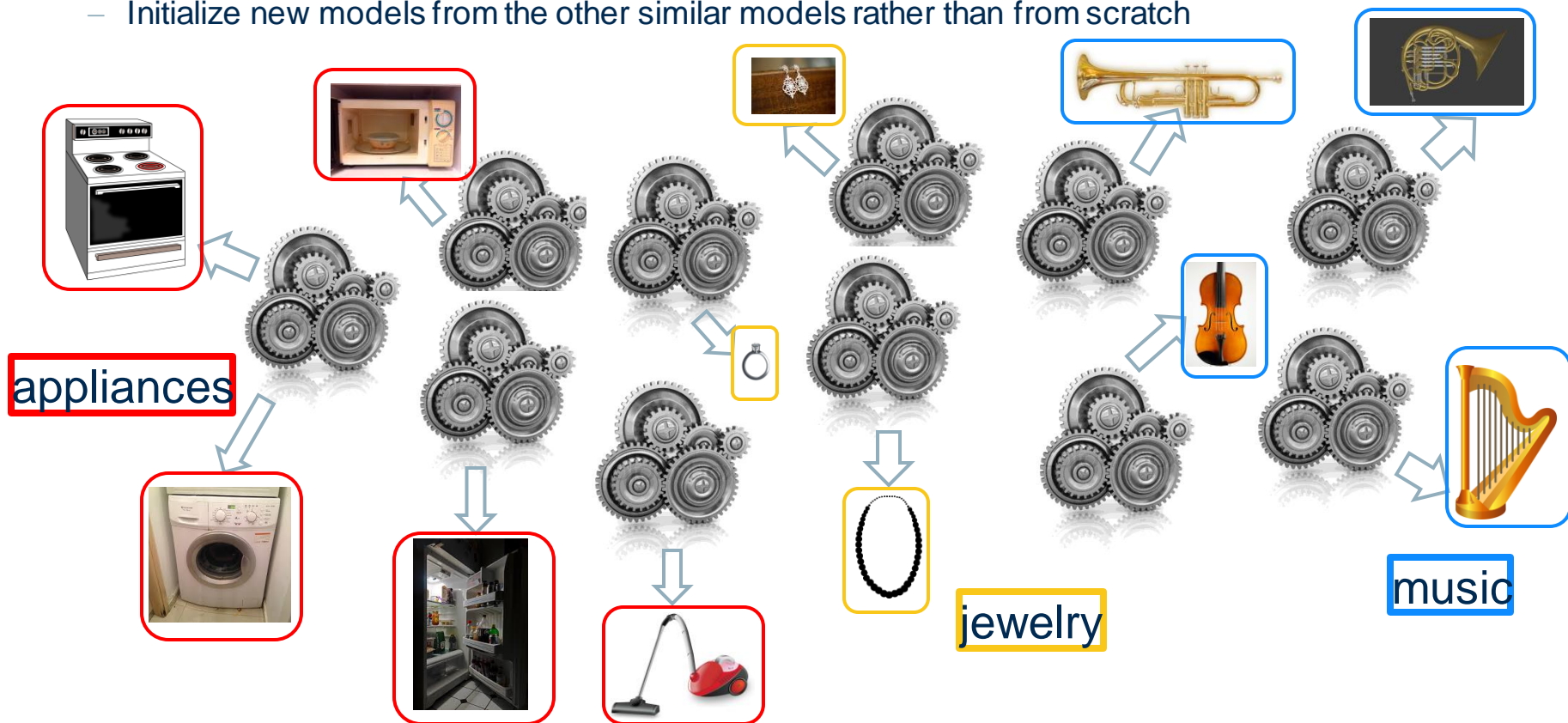
- Resources and time demanded

- Orchestration of a set of models – e.g. predicting prices



– How to manage a set of models?

- Exploit grouping (families of similar models rather than single ones)
- Initialize new models from the other similar models rather than from scratch



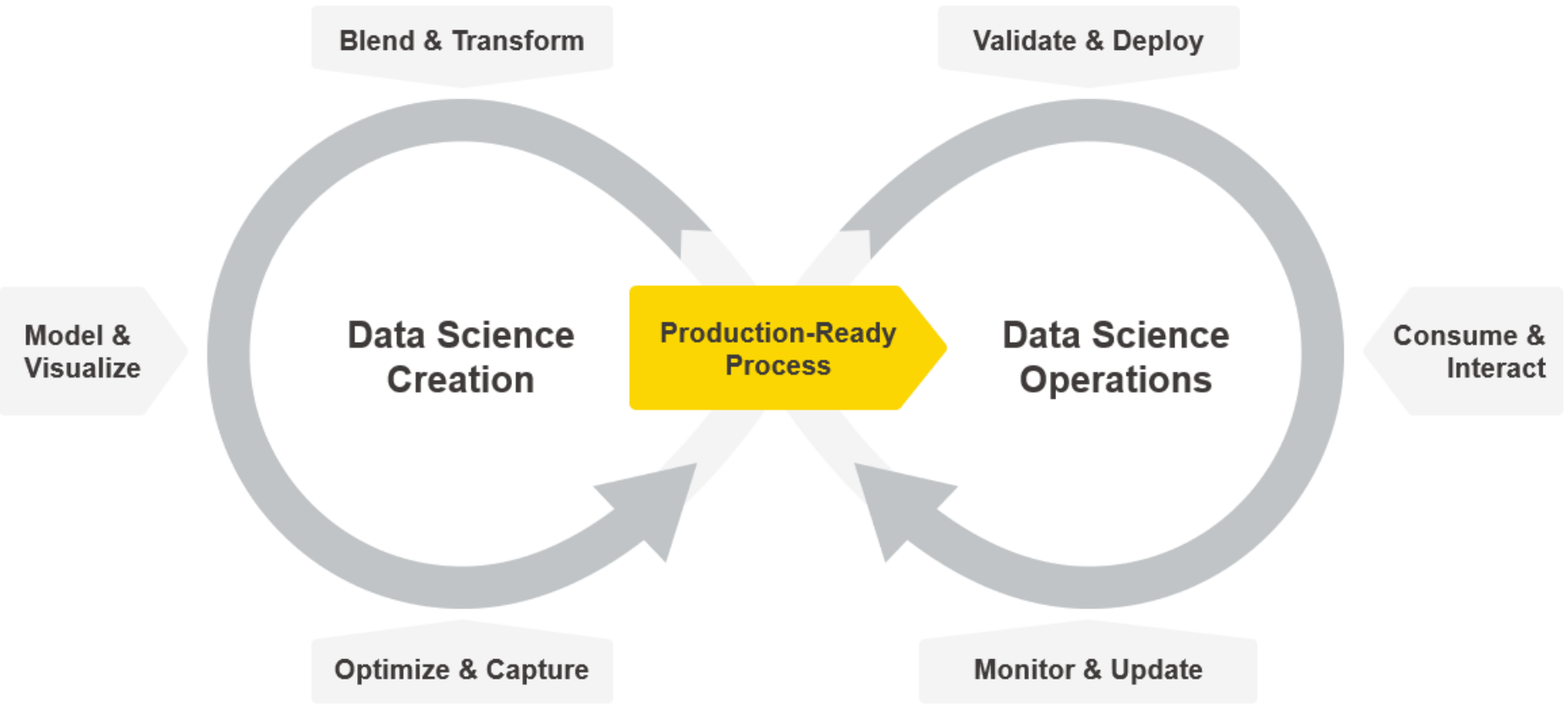
- How to communicate to the user the status of thousands of models?
 - An application for the frontend
- Who controls the process and the dependencies?
 - A separate program that handles the management process in the correct order

category	music				jewelry			appliances				
item	horn	trumpet	violin	harp	ring	Ear-rings	Neck-lace	fridge	wash. mach.	micro wave	stove	Vacuum cleaner
Threshold on accuracy	0.75	0.90	0.85	0.85	0.9	0.9	0.85	0.7	0.8	0.75	0.75	0.8
retrain	If 3 out of 4 perform below threshold				If all perform below threshold			If one performs below threshold				

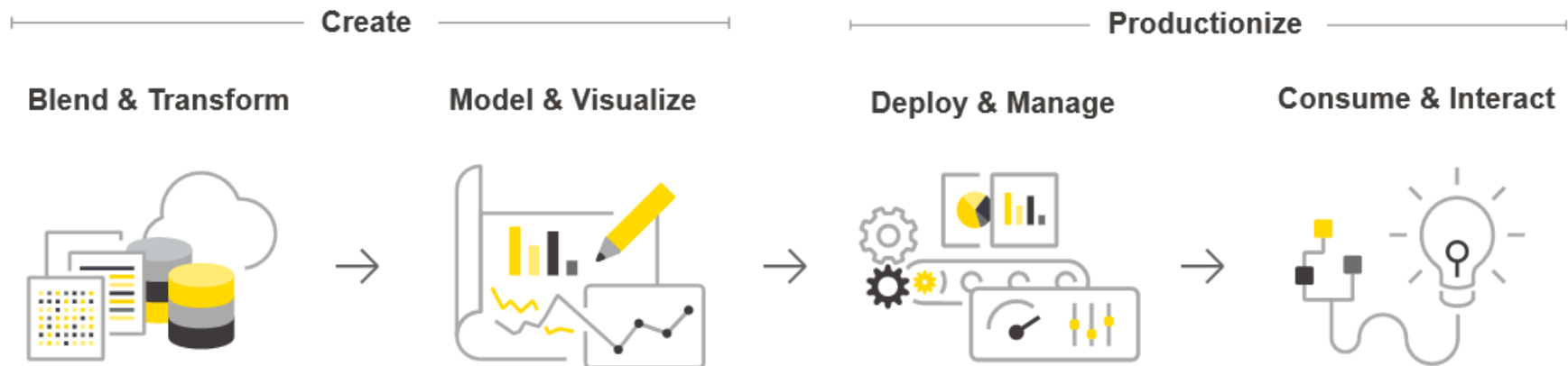
- The term **MLOps** (or **DataOps** or **DSOps**) refers to all those operations required to deploy, monitor, update/retrain a model and comply with the general company rules for auditing and data protection.
- In a sense they are similar to DevOps for software applications in a production environment, only that they deal with Machine Learning models and data science operations in general.
- **MLOps Examples**
 - Deployment and moving into production
 - Monitoring of Model Performance
 - Triggering of Retraining[s]
 - Storage of Information for Auditing Purposes

Model Deployment and Management in Practice with KAP and KNIME Server

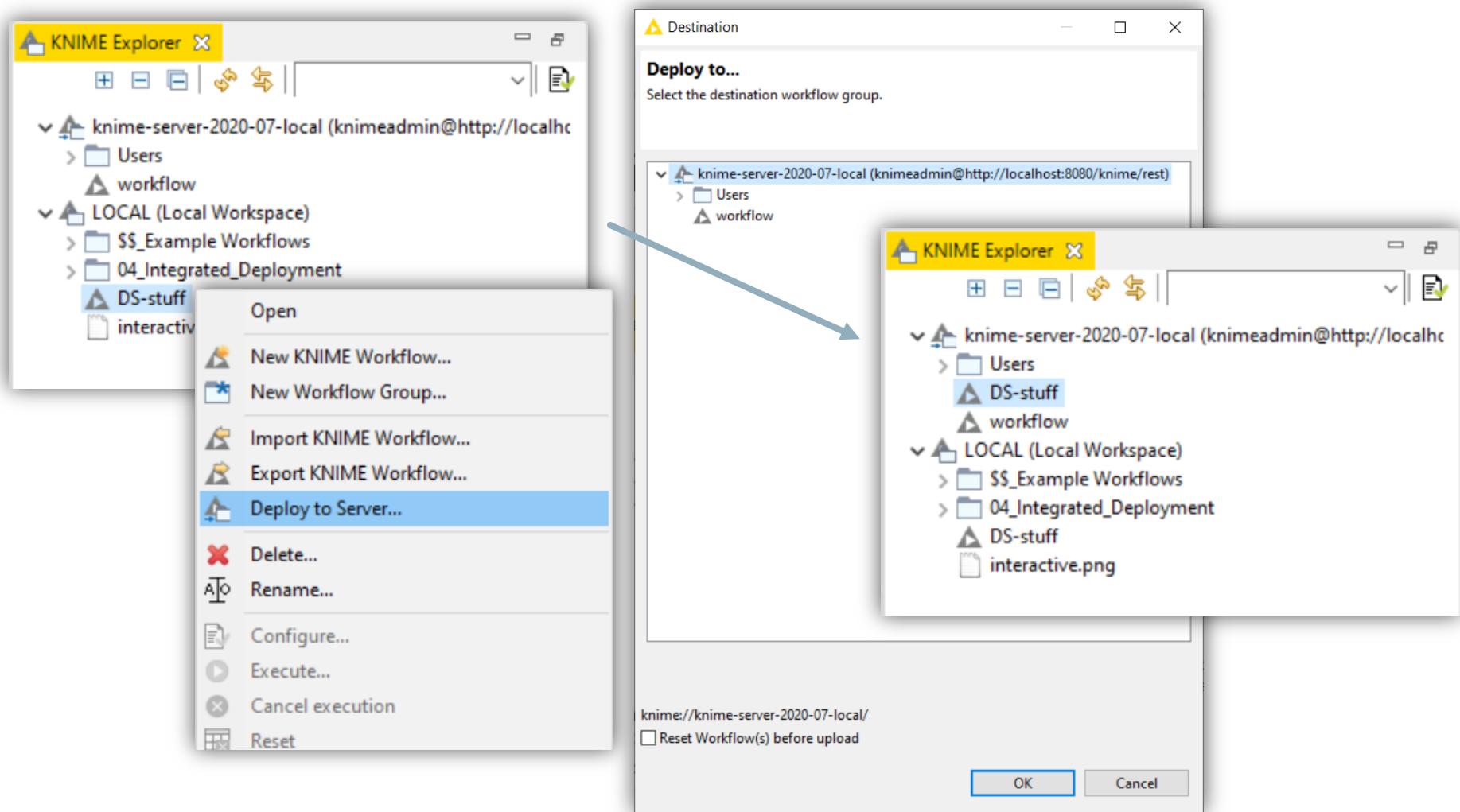
Creating and Productionizing Data Science



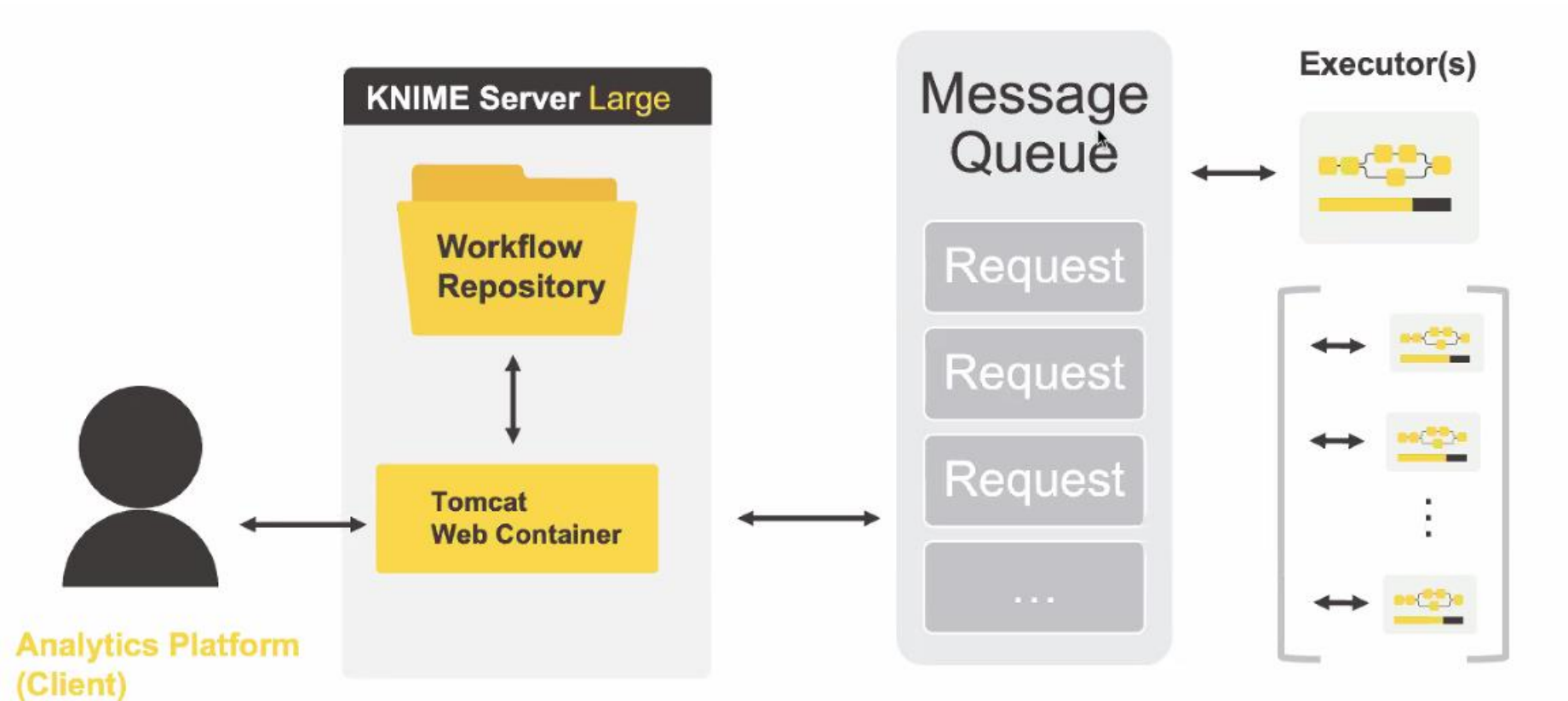
KNIME Software – One Ecosystem



How does deployment actually look like in KNIME?

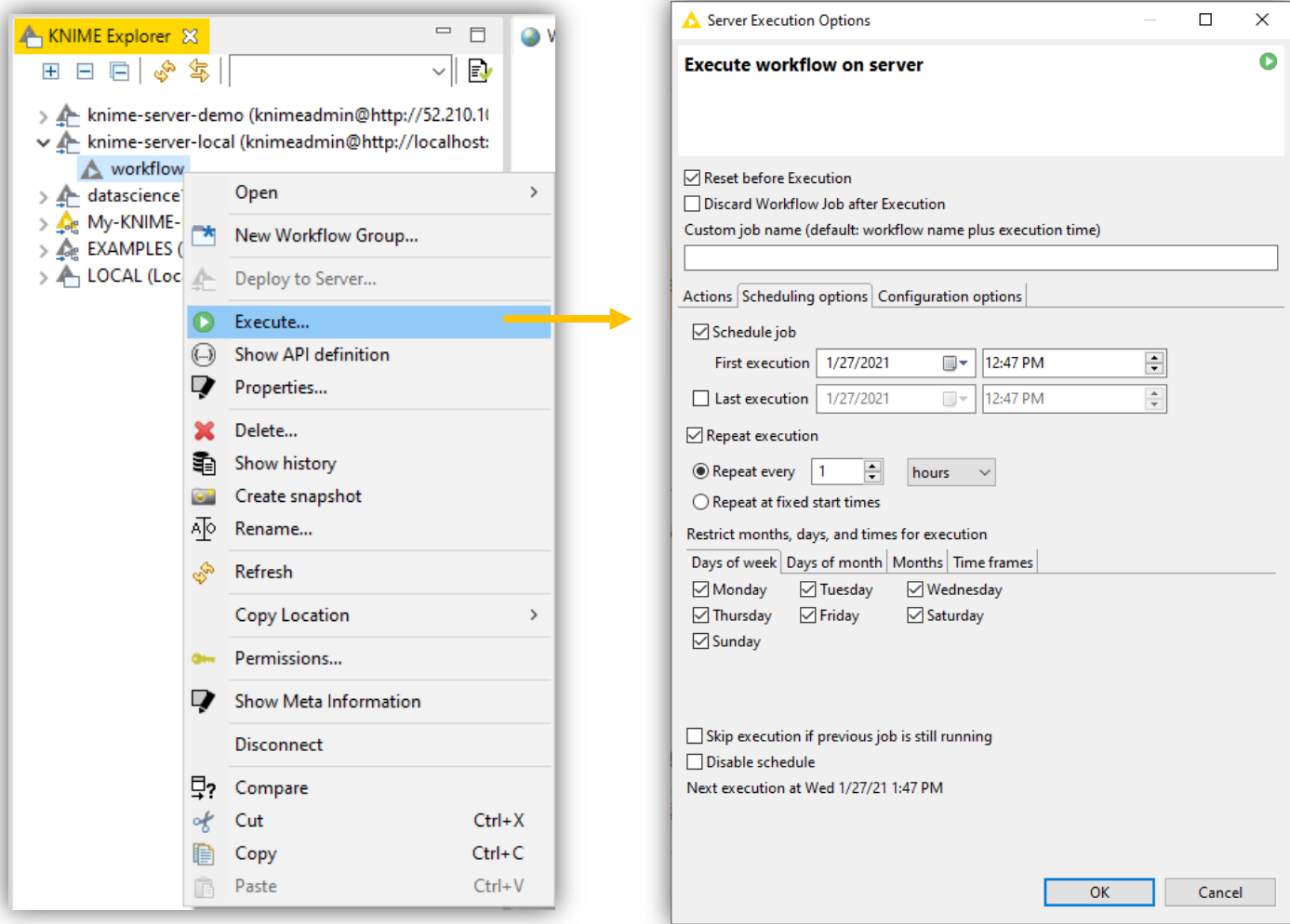


KNIME Server Architecture



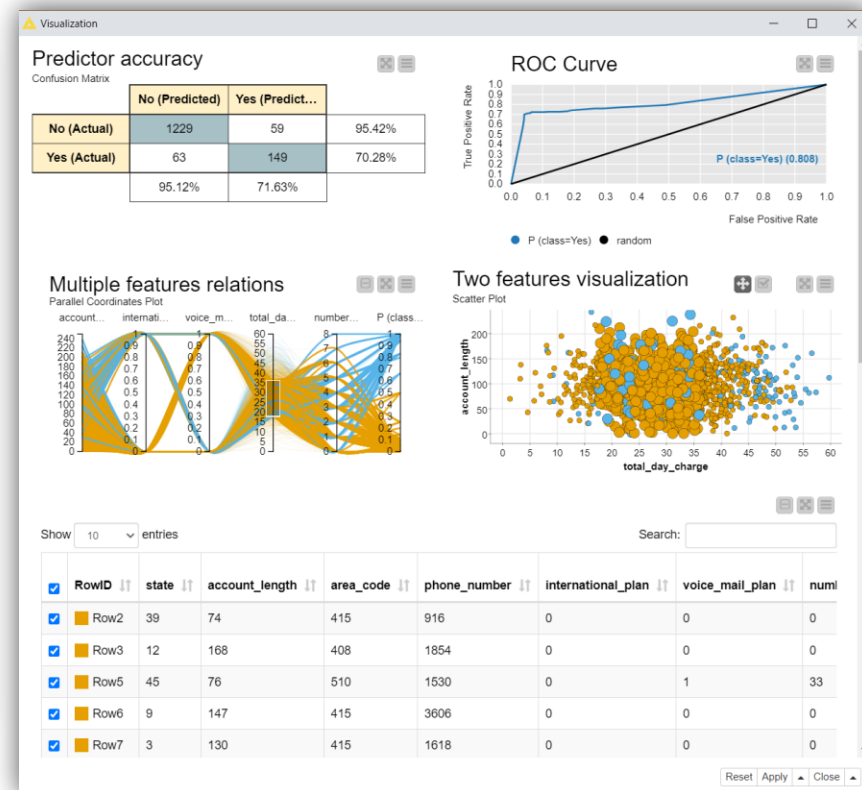
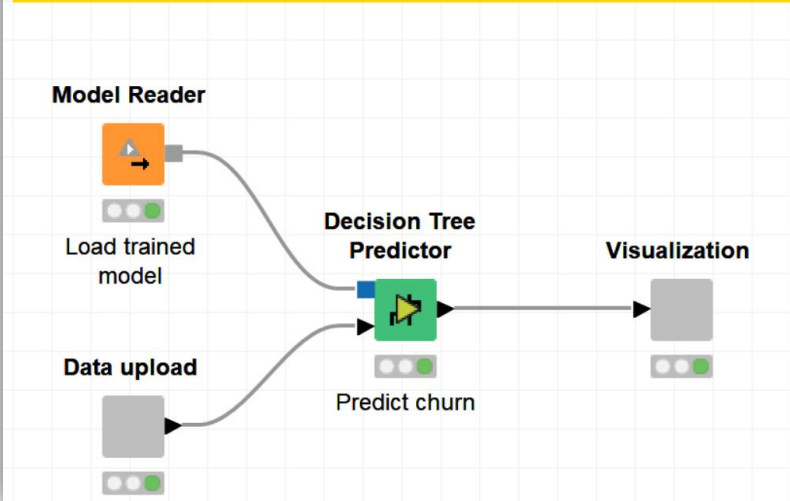
- Deployment by Scheduling Automation
- Deployment to Guided Analytics Application
- Deployment as a REST Service

Deployment by Scheduling Automation



Deployment to Guided Analytics Application

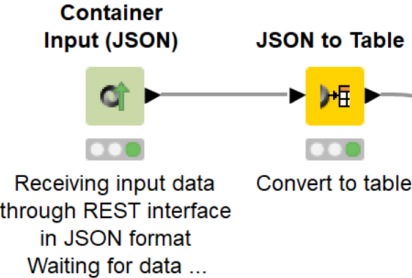
Prediction dashboard. The visualization component shows predictor accuracy and data insights



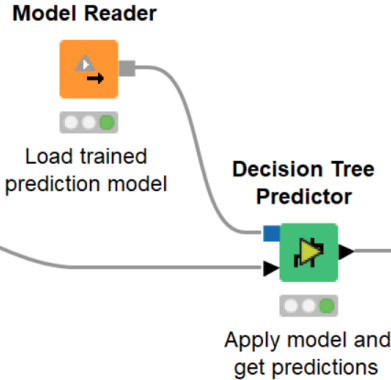
Deployment as a REST Service

REST service to perform churn predictions on customer data

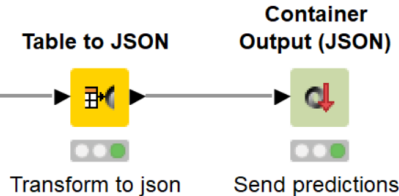
Input reading and model loading



Calculate churn probabilities



Generate output



manually

- Deployment by Scheduling Automation
 - Deployment to Guided Analytics
 - Deployment as a REST Service
-
- Integrated Deployment

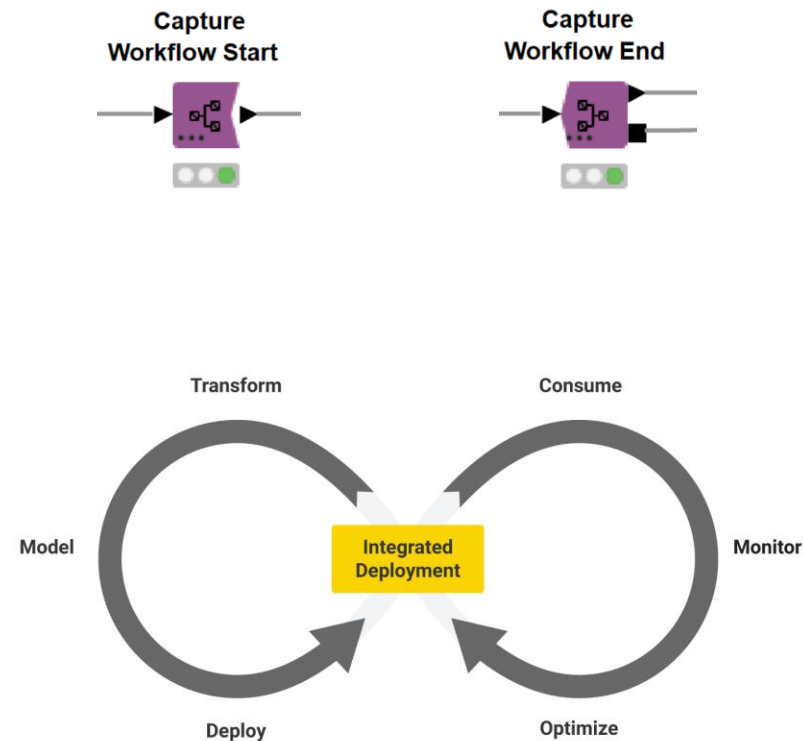
Deployment can be a repetitive task:

- *Monitor & Update*
(from cycle)

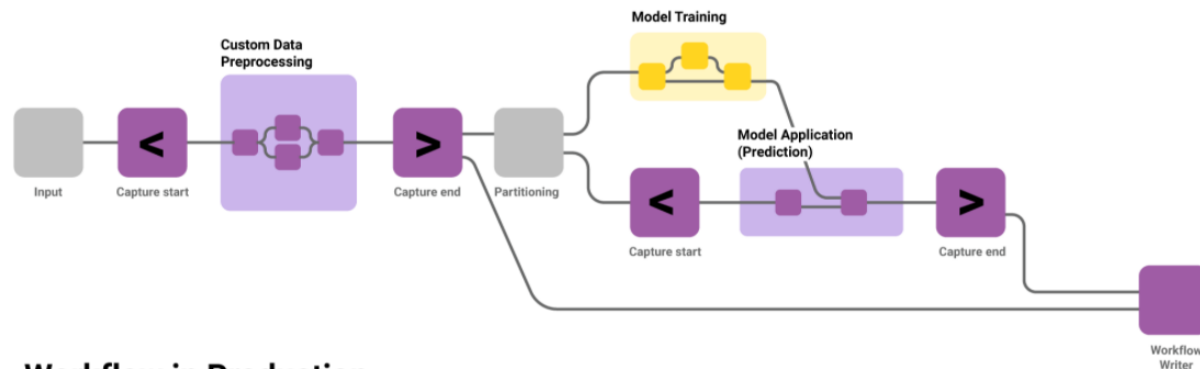
Automating deployment
of any of the above,
especially **REST Service**

Integrated Deployment

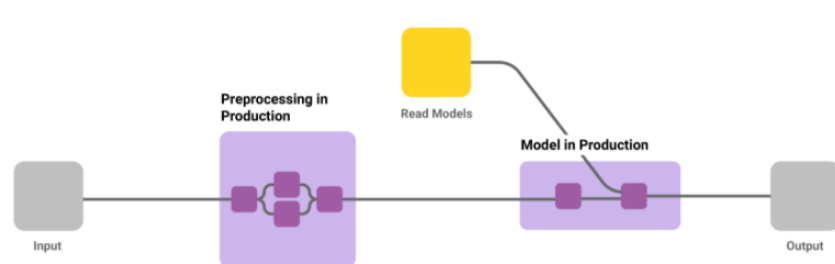
- Build an optimal model
- Isolate core parts of the workflow (preprocessing, model building...) with the special nodes *Capture Workflow Start* and *Capture Workflow End* from the training workflow
- Export the extracted pieces to build the deployment workflow



Creating Prediction Model



Workflow in Production



- Automatically build and deploy deployment workflows
- Mostly used to automatically capture and deploy a model as REST API from the workflow which trains and validates the model

Thank you

For any questions please contact: education@knime.com