Data Science & Machine Learning

Musings and some examples from OAG Norway

Jan Roar

Chief Data Scientist

OAGN Innovation Lab

The OAGN Data Science Project



Purpose

- 1. Curating data for financial and performance audit
- 2. On-demand data analytics
- 3. Promoting data science and the use of machine learning at the OAGN
- 4. Experiment with new technologies and methods

We automate the boring stuff, so you can audit the exiting stuff!

Where we come from

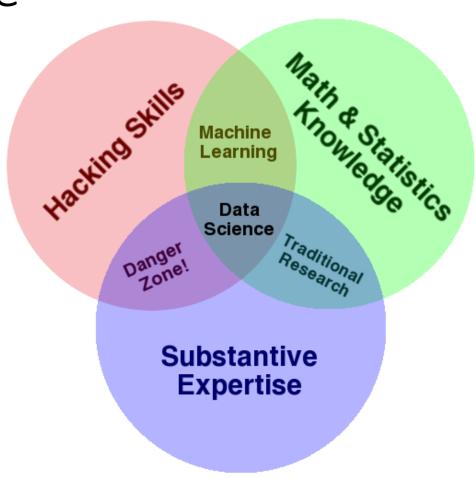
- 2 political scientists
- 1 economist
- 1 sociologist
- 1 physicist

... we're not an IT project, we're a data science project

What is Data Science

You need both:

- Coding skills
- Statistical skills
- Audit skills



http://drewconway.com/zia/2013/3/26/the-data-science-venn-diagram

The world is overflowing with data

This is difficult to manage for SAIs

Partly because of this

Law on The Office of the Auditor General of Norway § 12:

«The OAGN can, without restrictions of confidentiality, demand any information, any disclosure or any document, and execute any examination deemed necessary by the OAGN to fulfil audit tasks.»

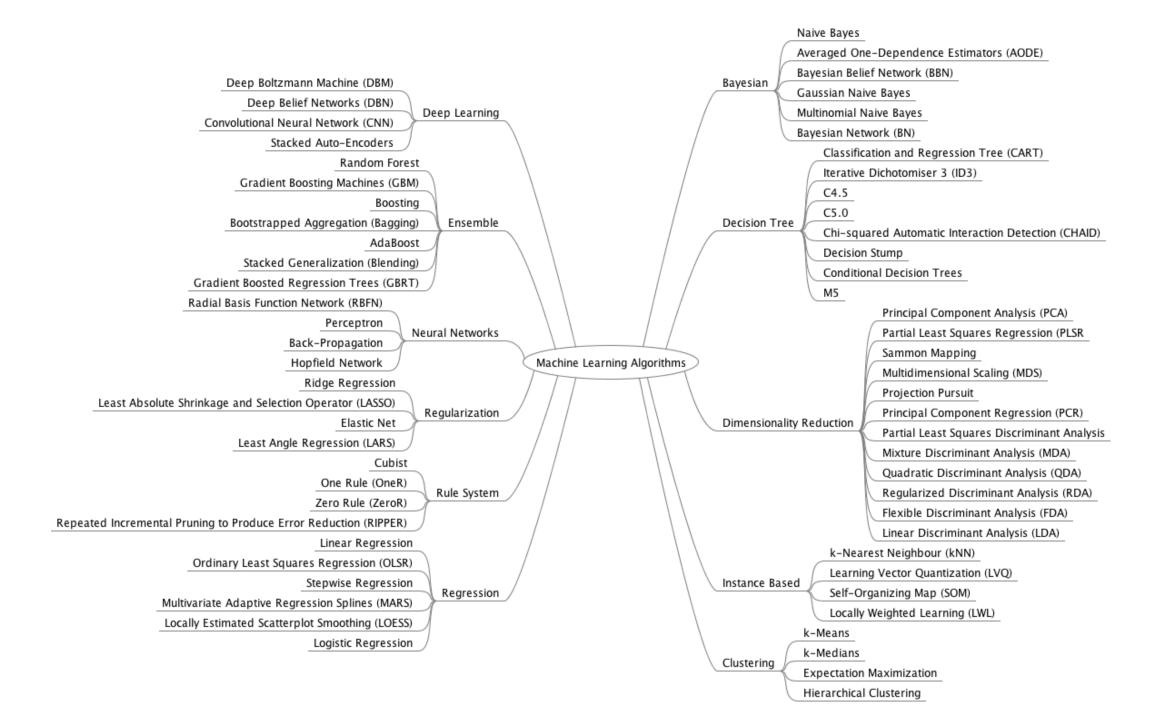
(my own highly informal translation)

Data → Information → Knowledge → Wisdom

What's all this about machine learning?

«Everybody» keeps fussing aboutmachine learning and artificial intelligence these days... and you can get a bit worried...

... when seeing stuff like this...



However...

Found on LinkedIn

What's the point – an example

You have 10 000 pages of procurement contract documents (text)

And you have regulations for procurement

Then you want to compare the 10 000 pages and the regulations

To uncover illegal purchases

Can machines do this for us?

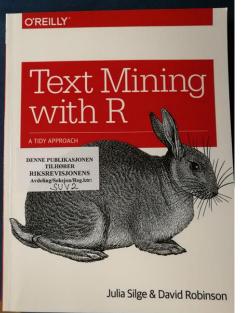
Natural Language Processing

What it is and why it matters

Natural language processing (NLP) is a branch of artificial intelligence that helps computers understand, interpret and manipulate human language. NLP draws from many disciplines, including computer science and computational linguistics, in its pursuit to fill the gap between human communication and computer understanding.

Source:

https://www.sas.com/en_us/insights/analytics/what-is-natural-language-processing-nlp.html



NLP in practice – from speech to text



Why Google Solutions Products Pricing Getting started

AI & Machine Learning Products

Cloud Speech-to-Text

Speech-to-text conversion powered by machine learning and available for short-form or long-form audio.

GO TO CONSOLE

View documentation for this product.

Powerful speech recognition

Google Cloud Speech-to-Text enables developers to convert audio to text by applying powerful neural network models in an easy-touse API. The API recognizes 120 languages and variants to support your global user base. You can enable voice command-andcontrol, transcribe audio from call centers, and more. It can process real-time streaming or prerecorded audio, using Google's machine learning technology.



Convert your speech to text right now

Select a language and click "Start Now" to begin recording



Google Home



Algorithms – Economic, but Effective?

- government have started using machine learning, for example in awarding grants
 - even for decisions involving discretionary considerations

 we will need performance auditors that can look into "the black box of algorithms"

to evaluate and conclude on decisions made by machines

If you understand this, you have understood machine learning

$$Y = f(x) + e$$

Some concrete examples

Example: Webapp for DEA-analysis

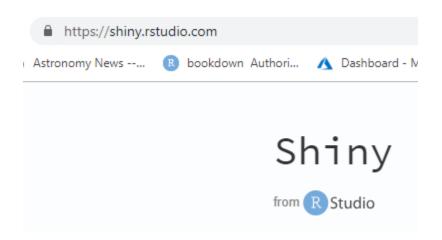
DEA = Data Envelopment Analysis

Benchmark analysis based on Output vs. Input

- Example:
 - District courts how many judges/office clerks vs. how many cases handled
- Productivity Analysis

DEA – efficiency in the form of productivity

- DEA an important method for performance audit, but
- Most software for DEA is old and/or user unfriendly
- Several packages in R for doing DEA # but not easy to use
- So: we wrote a Shiny app for DEA
- We named it pioneeR



We're open!

pioneeR is open source (free to use and free to edit the source code)!

You can find us on GitHub*:

github.com/Riksrevisjonen/pioneeR

Takeaway:

Program code is universal

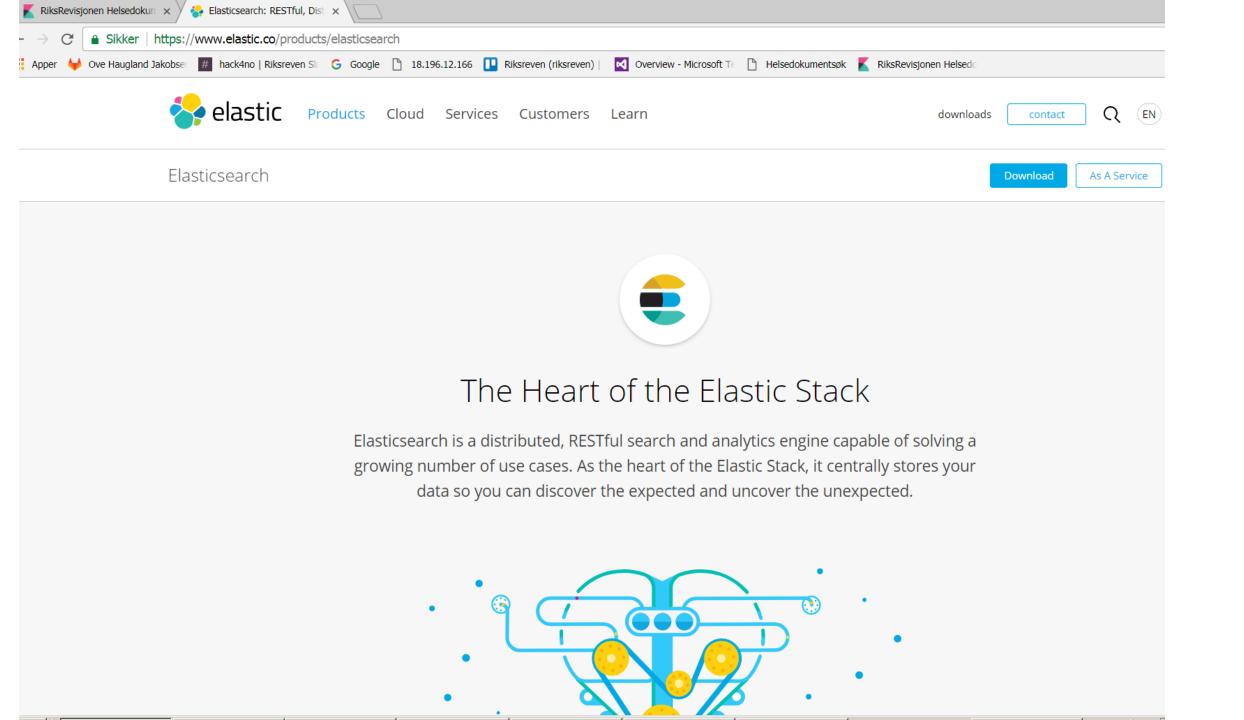
As such very easy to share

Search: 19 000 PDFs – what to do

We have 19 000 PDF documents from Norwegian hospital boards

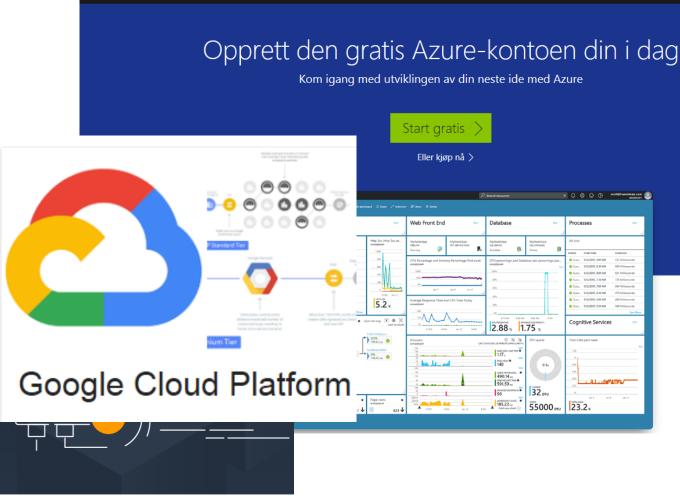
25 hospital boards, 12-14 board meetings a year, last 5 years)

All documents published on the web (25 different websites)



Cloud Platform: The big 3





Produkter V Dokumentasjon Priser Opplæring Markedsplass Partnere V Støtte V Blogg Mer V

Kontakt salgsavdelingen: 800-62-116







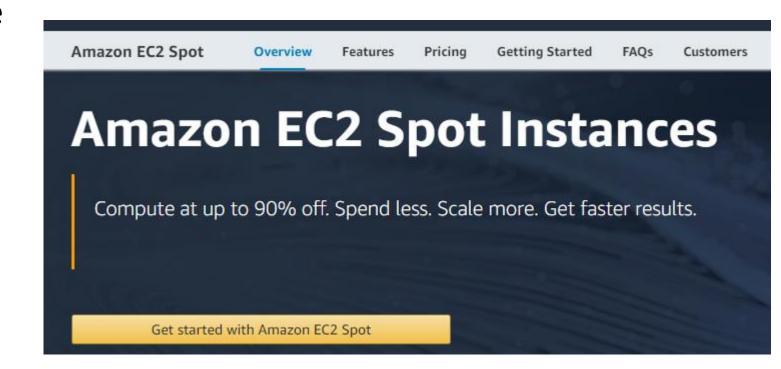


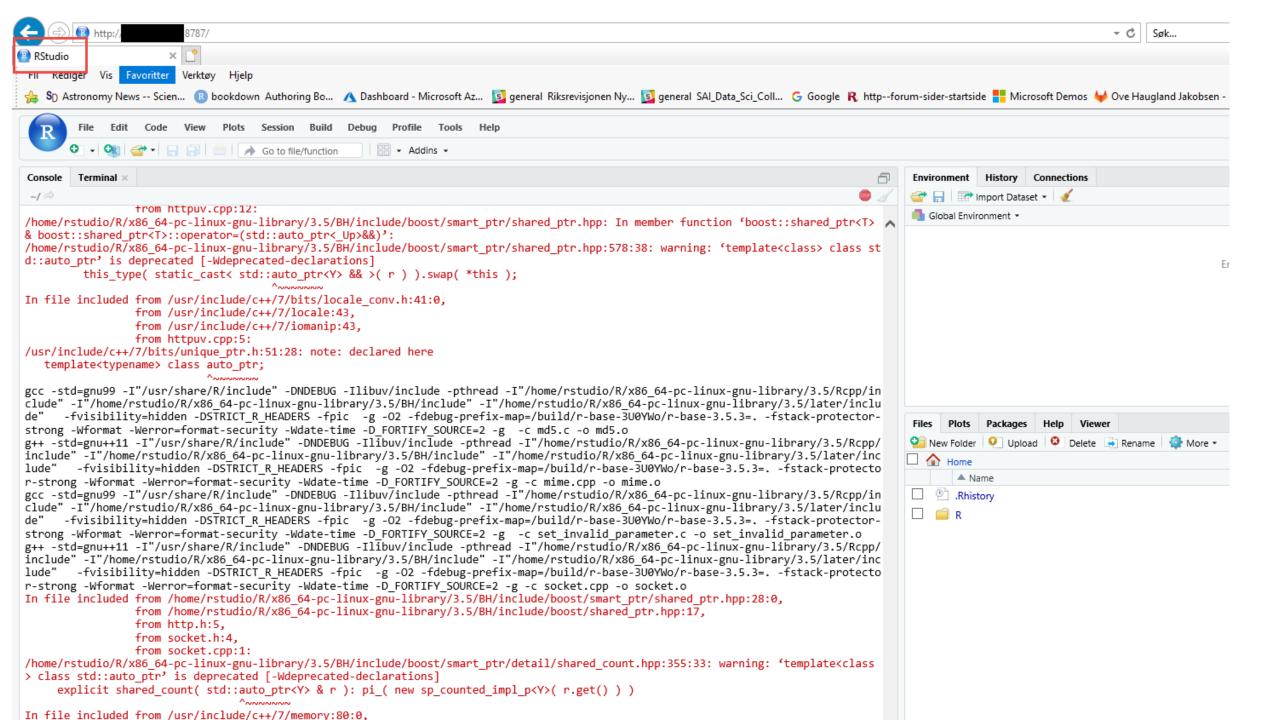
Cloud computing

 You need heavy computing machinery to run machine learning on large datasets

• Buy an on-prem machine for \$ 10 000?

Or rent one in the cloud for \$ 50 a week?





Summary: Some success factors

- We were given full freedom to experiment
- Recruited people from audit, not IT
- There were no detailed planning only the "what", not the "how"
- Full support from top management
- Short development cycles # agile development
- Prioritise solutions to long standing issues

www.saireports.org

A final snack before we adjourn