



# Towards Automating Data Science Workflows at the Scale of Banking

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# Example 1: Connect retailers to customers

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## Advertising Platform



**BBVA**

Ahora que sé que nuevos clientes están interesados en mi negocio, les atraigo sin esfuerzo con **promociones personalizadas**

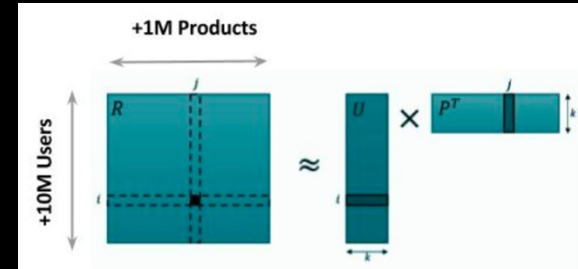
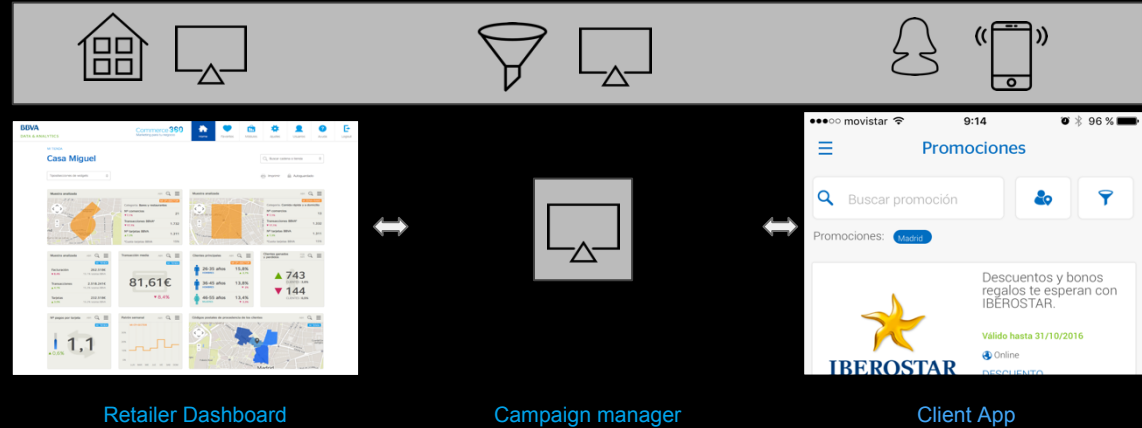
Con **One Click Campaign** BBVA identifica cuáles son los clientes más afines a tu negocio y te facilita enviarles promociones con un click pagando sólo por los que consigas atraer.

www.bbva.es

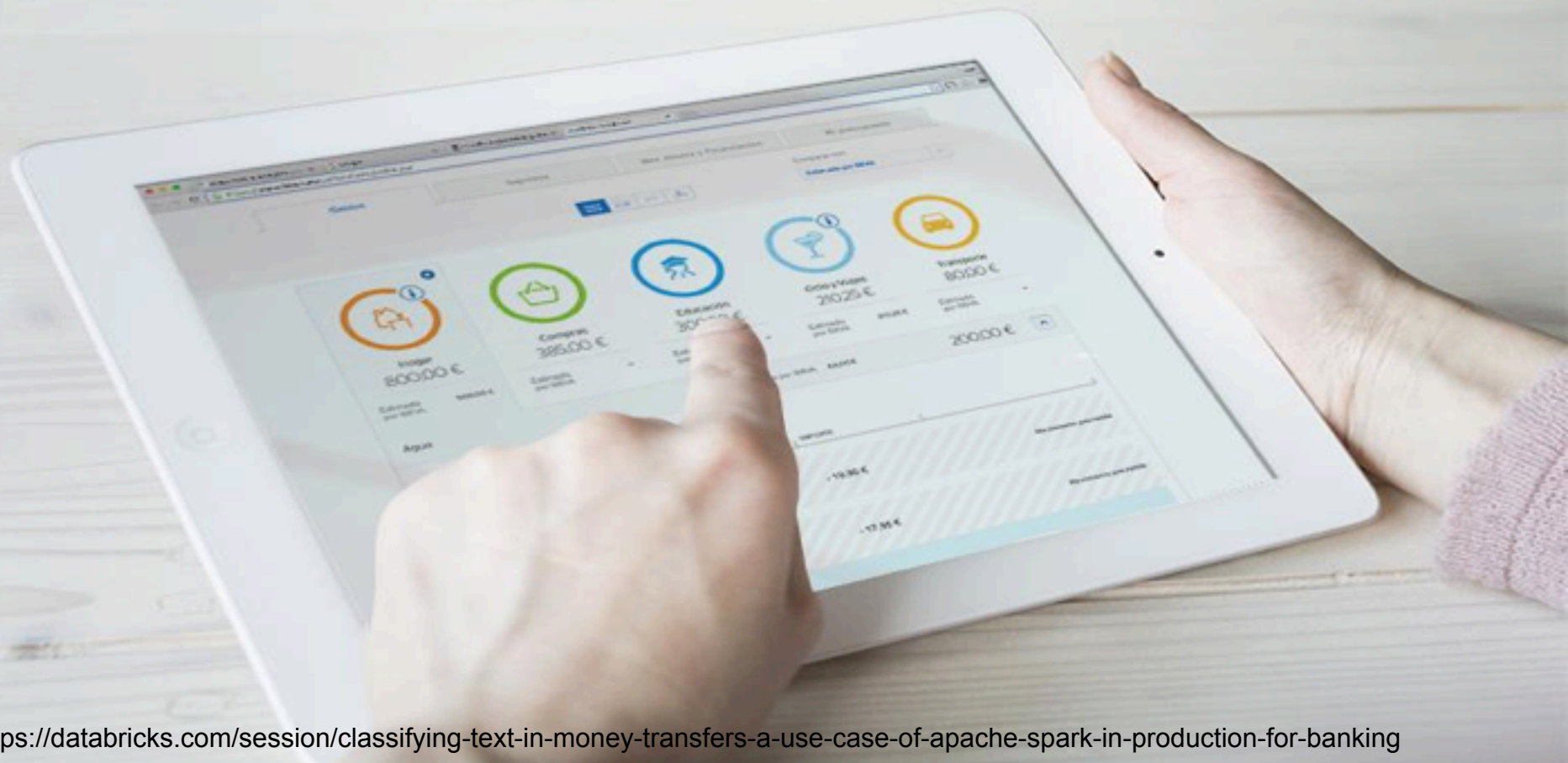
Available on the App Store | Get it on Google play

**Designed for expansion™**  
Diseñado para la expansión™

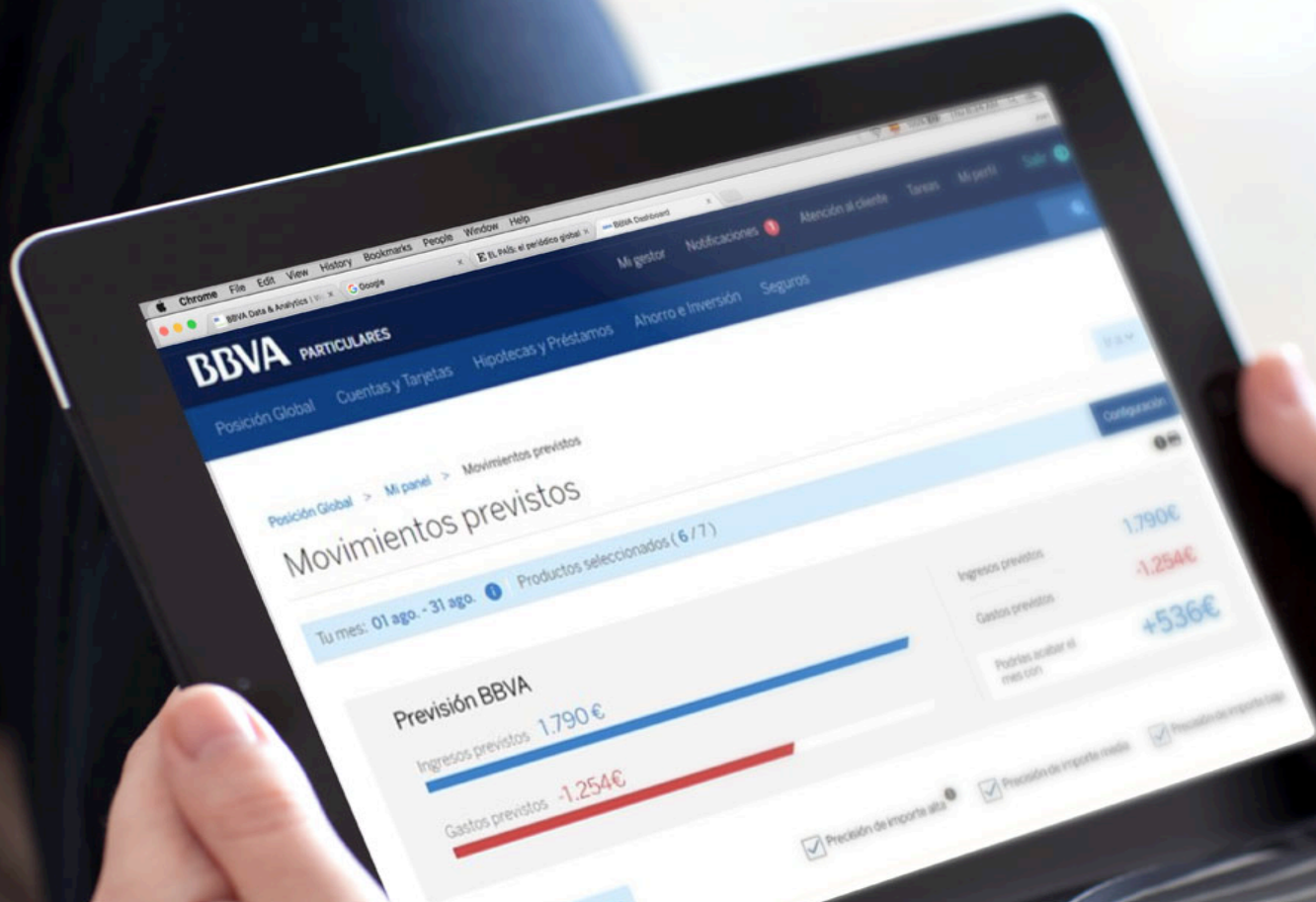
**D&A**



## Example 2: Browse expenses more meaningfully



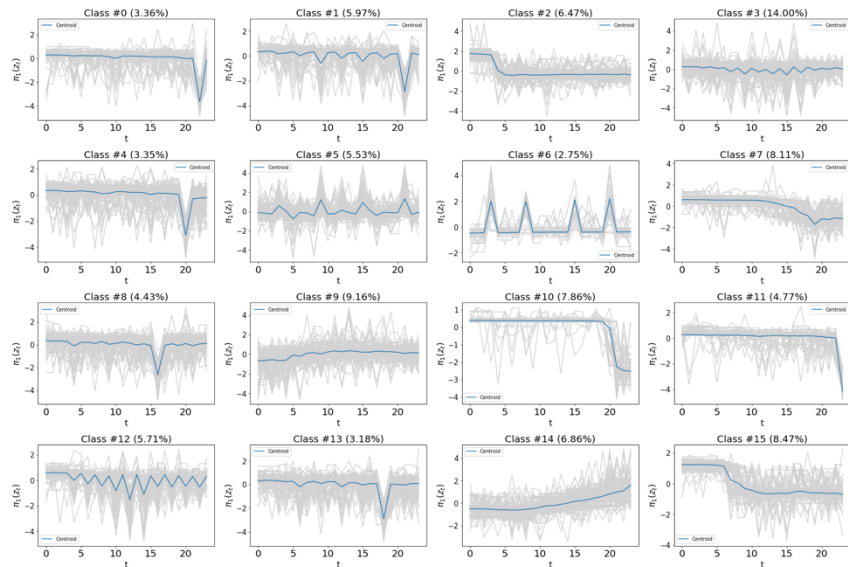
## Example 3: Forecast Expenses





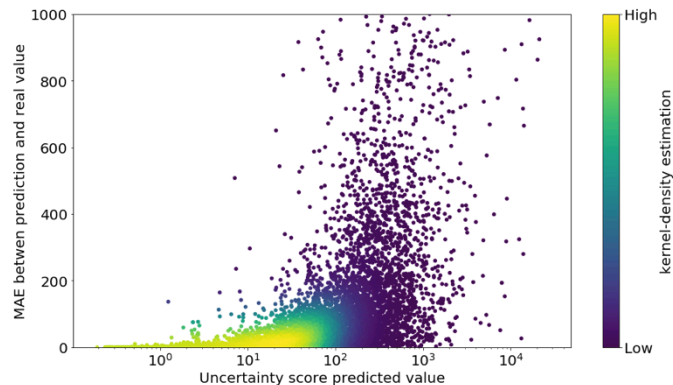
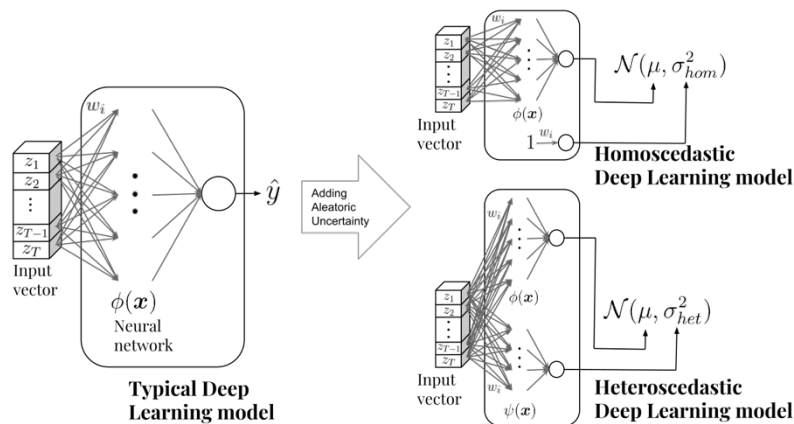
# Behind the Scenes: Expense Forecasting Research

Real-world dataset of human expenses  
> 100M time series / month



Brando et al., *Uncertainty Modelling in Deep Networks: Forecasting Short and Noisy Series*, ECML 2018

## Heteroscedastic Neural Network



but...

Data Science Workflows  
have inefficiencies  
themselves

42,020 views | Mar 23, 2016, 09:33am

# Cleaning Big Data: Most Time-Consuming, Least Enjoyable Data Science Task, Survey Says



**Gil Press** Contributor ⓘ

*I write about technology, entrepreneurs and innovation.*

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## TWEET THIS



data scientists found that they spend most of their time massaging rather than mining or modeling data.

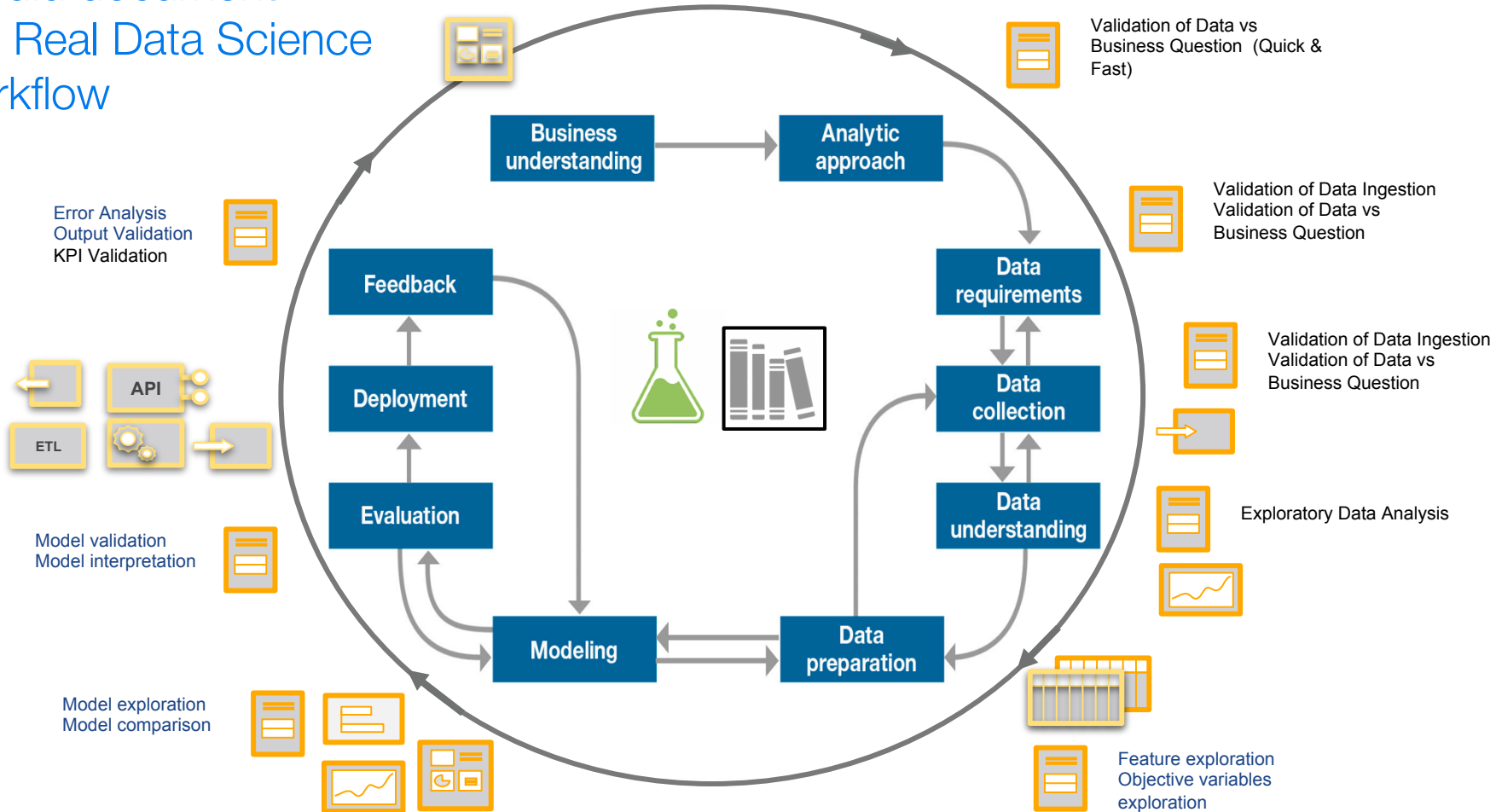


76% of data scientists view data preparation as the least enjoyable part of their work

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# We did document The Real Data Science Workflow



# There do exist attempts to automate those workflows

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Google Cloud AutoML enhances AI

Accessibility for all businesses

## The Automatic Statistician

An artificial intelligence for data science

Welcome to automatic exploratory data analysis

Making sense of data is one of the great challenges of the information age we live in. While it is becoming easier to collect and store all kinds of data, from personal medical data, to scientific data, to public data, and commercial data, there are



Consider TPOT your **Data Science Assistant**. TPOT is a Python Automated Machine Learning tool that optimizes machine learning pipelines using genetic programming.

## MIT News

ON CAMPUS AND AROUND THE WORLD

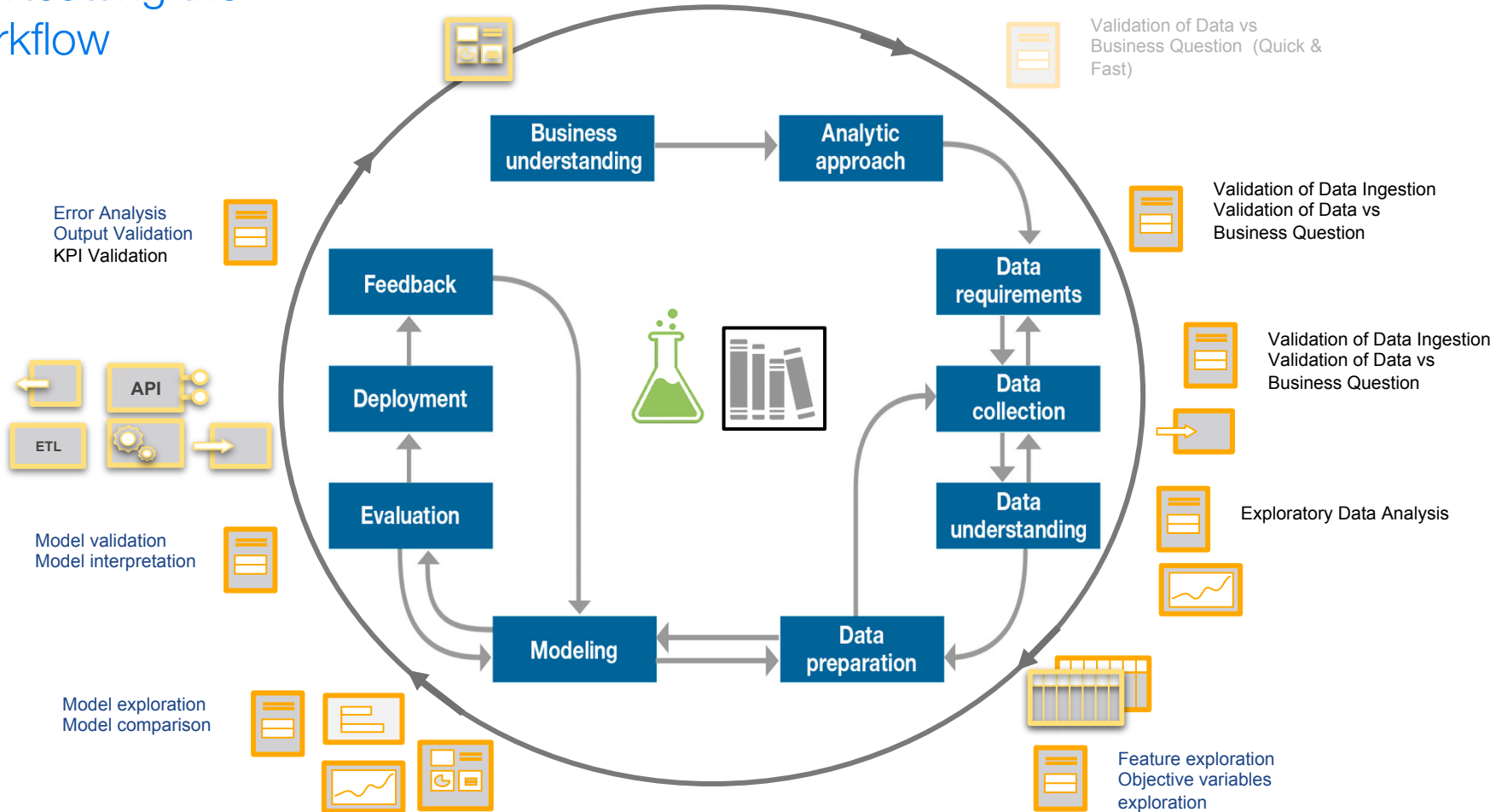
### Auto-tuning data science: New research streamlines machine learning

A new automated machine-learning system performs as well or better than its human counterparts — and works 100 times faster.

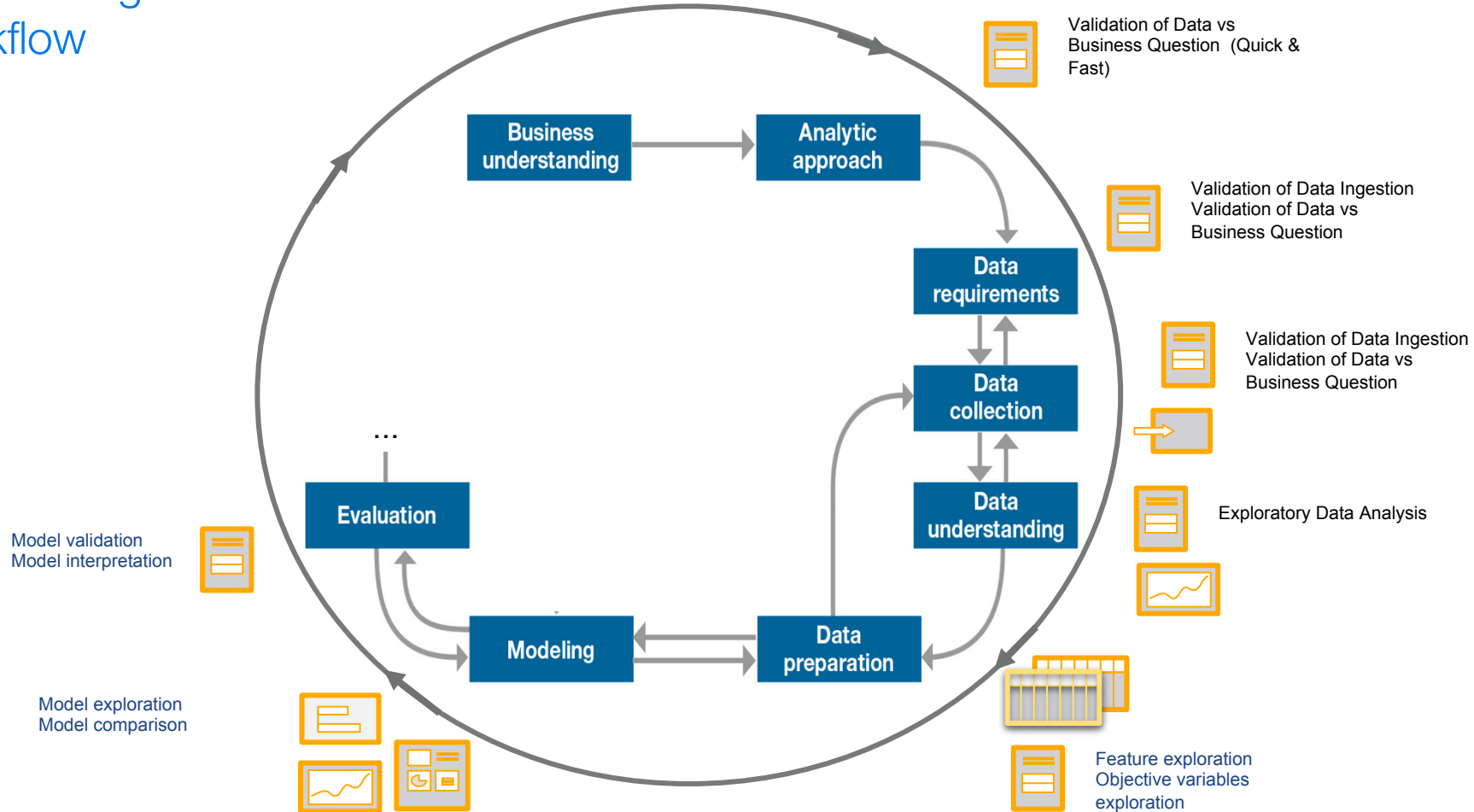
# Towards Increased Data Science Efficiency at BBVA Data & Analytics



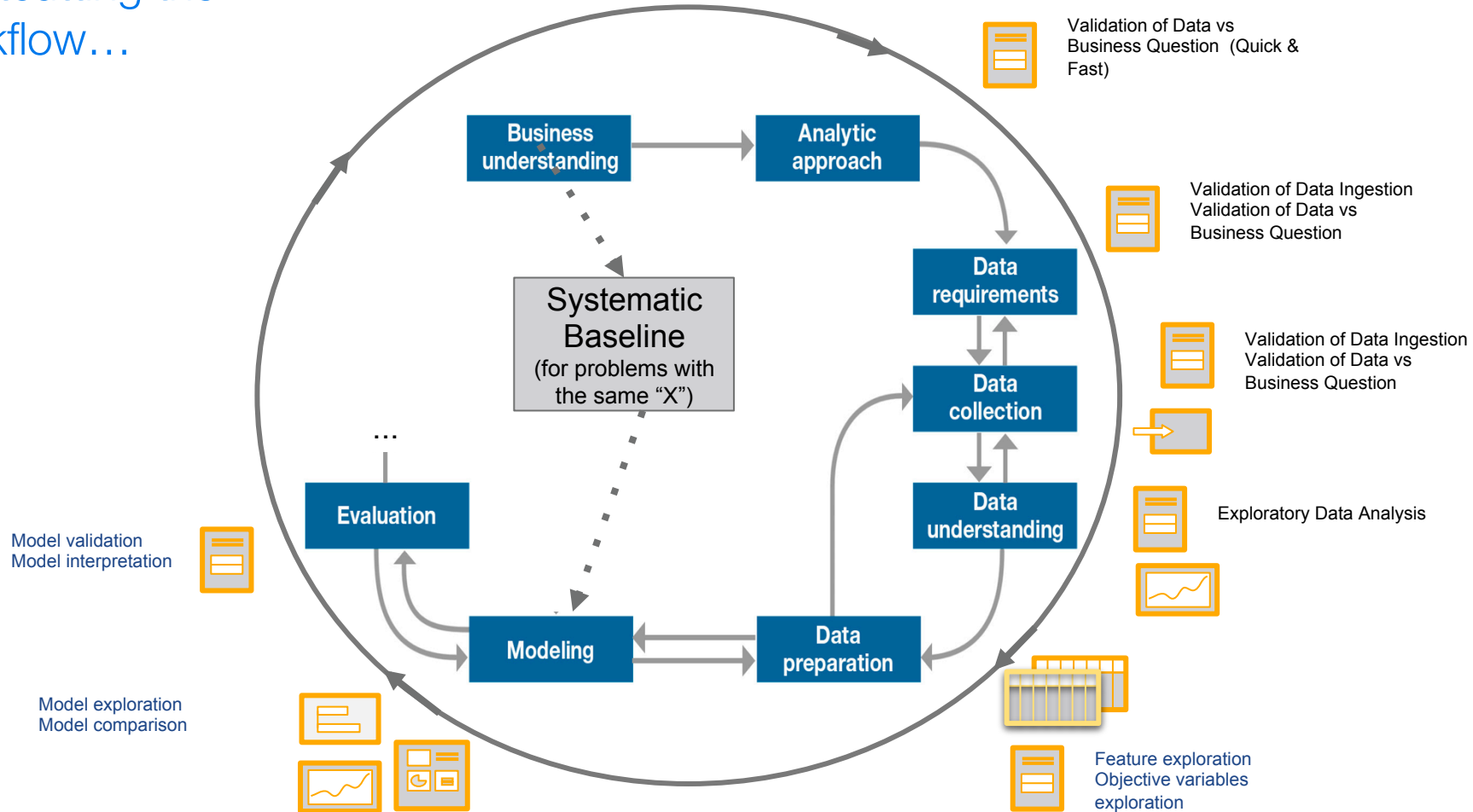
# Shortcutting the Workflow



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# Shortcutting the Workflow...



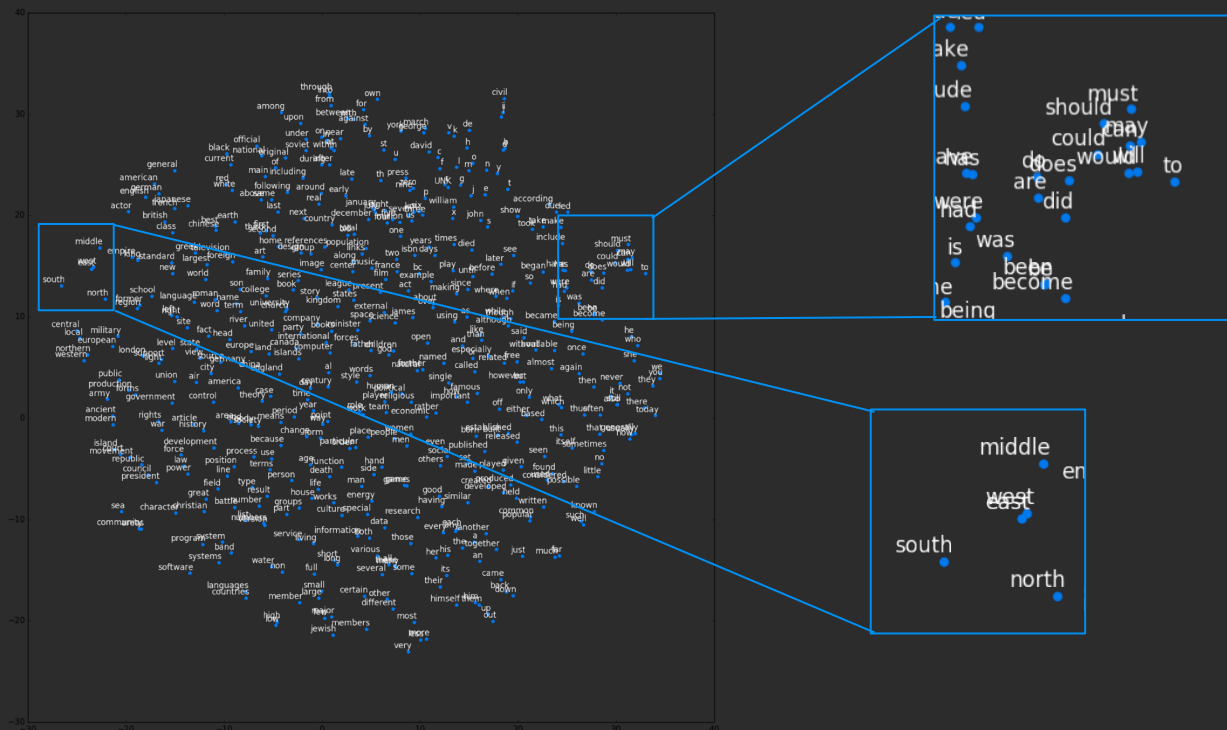




# Do Generic Attributes Exist?

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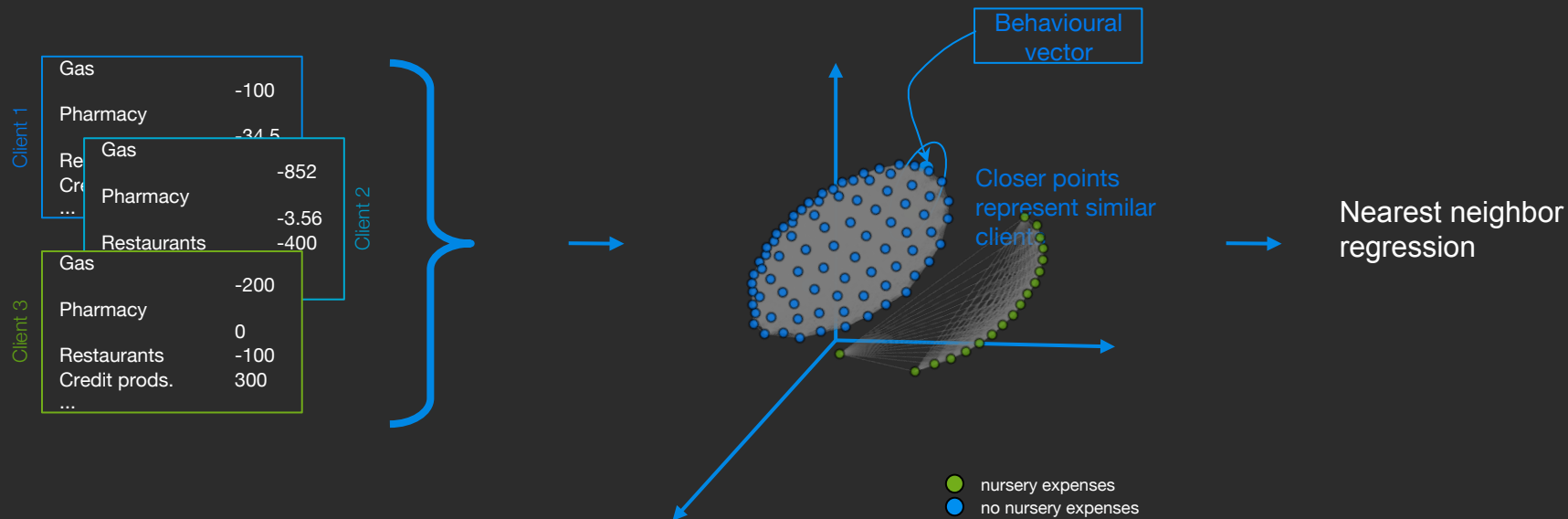


word2vec: Embeddings of similar words are close together

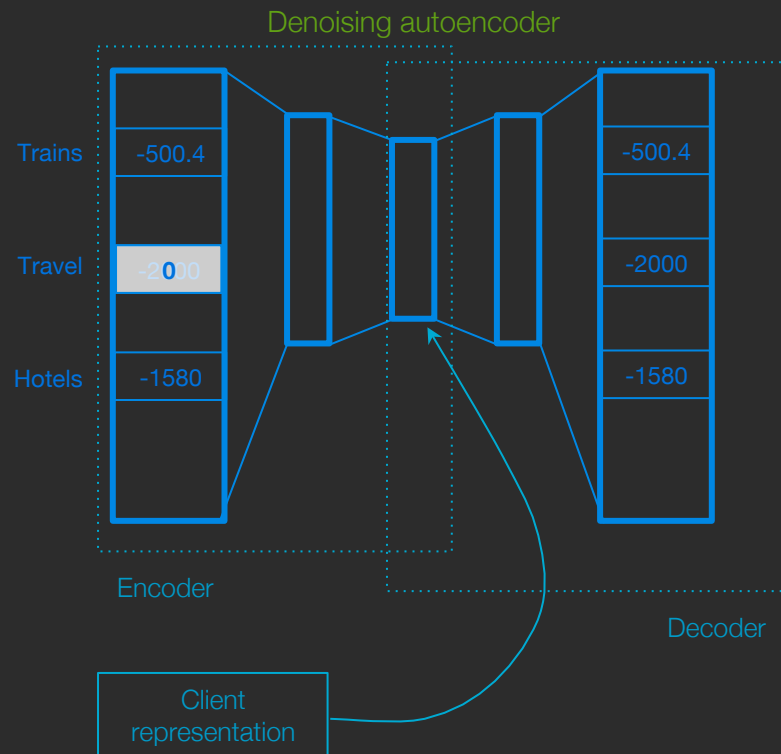
# Our Systematic Baseline

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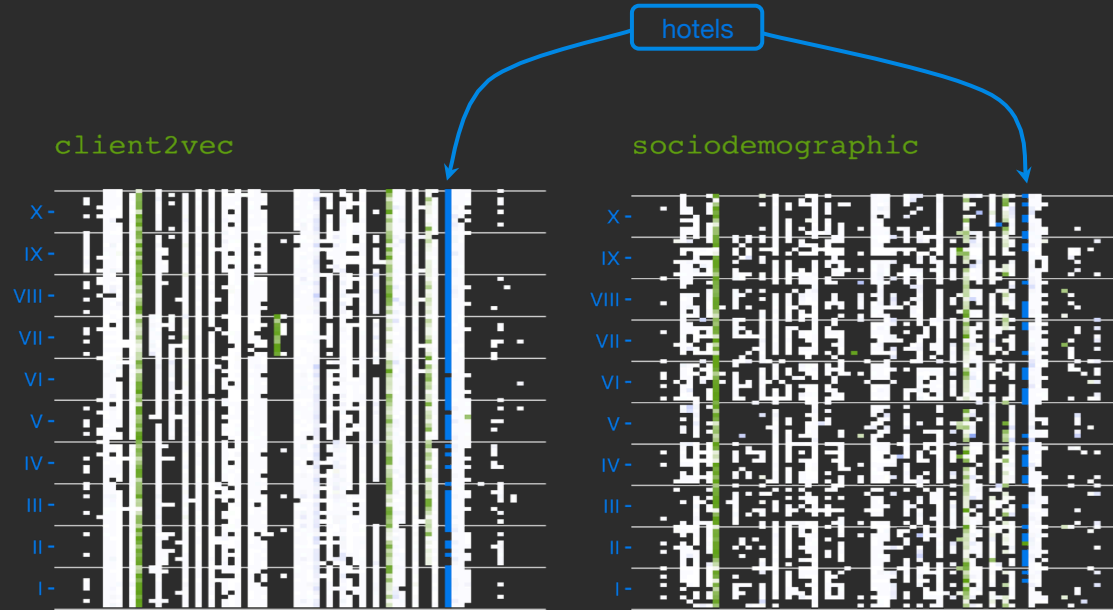
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# Computing the generic representation



- Learn to reconstruct corrupted data
- Reconstruction  $\approx$  similarity
- Marginalized stacked denoising autoencoders (Chen et al, ICML 2012)



Sociodemographic variables don't capture typical behaviour

# +61.6%

## Client clustering

Group similar clients and compare their expenses in a target category

# +76.1%

## Category prediction

By looking at similar clients, guess whether a client had an expense in a target category

## DATA &amp; ANALYTICS

## Algorithmic research

Explore, evaluate and generate  
state-of-the-art algorithms

- State-of-the-art algorithm
- Best performance in our use cases

## Implementation

Deliver algorithmic solutions  
as a software package

- Lightweight training
- Works on bank's infrastructure

## Product enablement

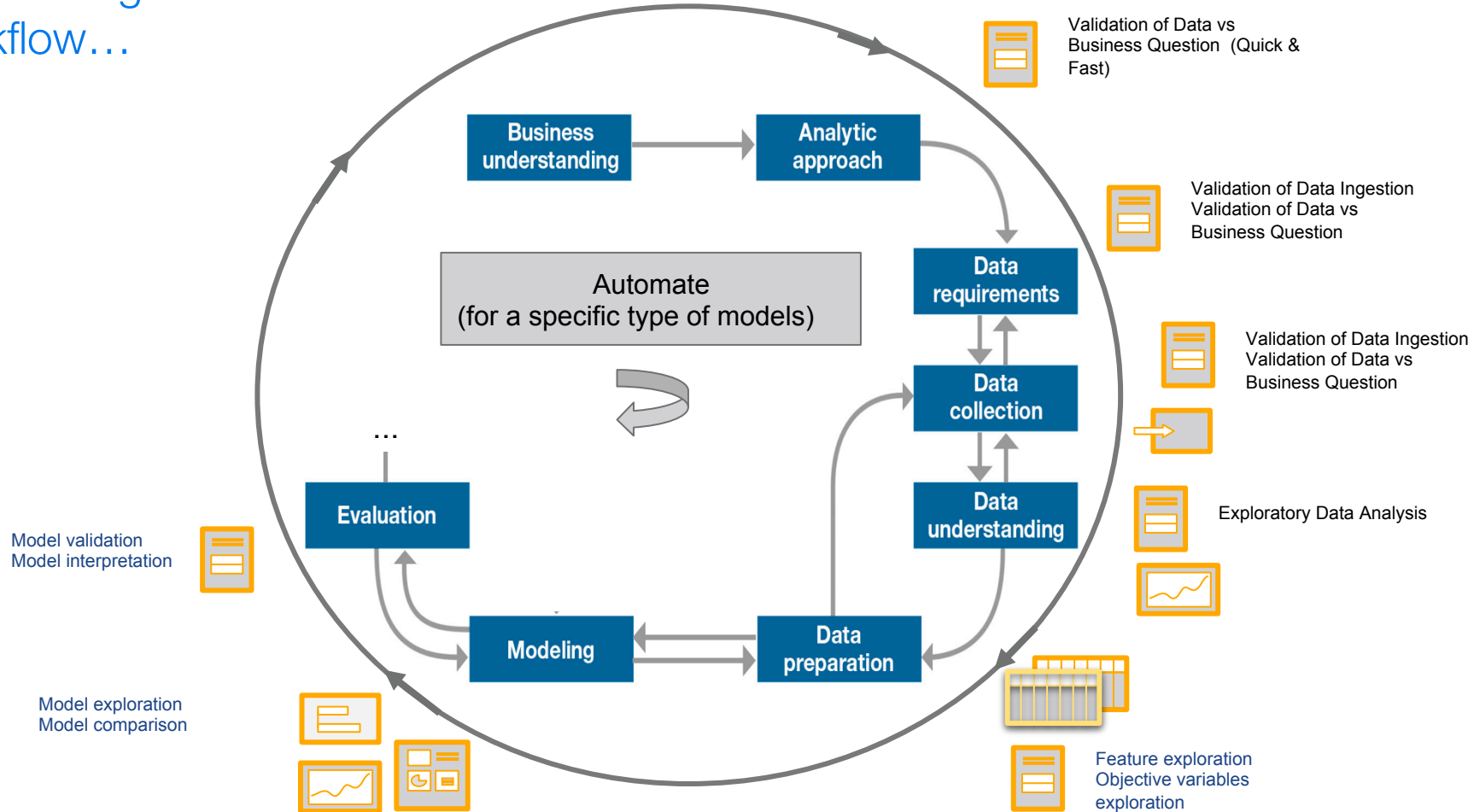
Generate capabilities to  
accelerate product  
development

- Better method to compare clients
- Tools to evaluate embedding methods





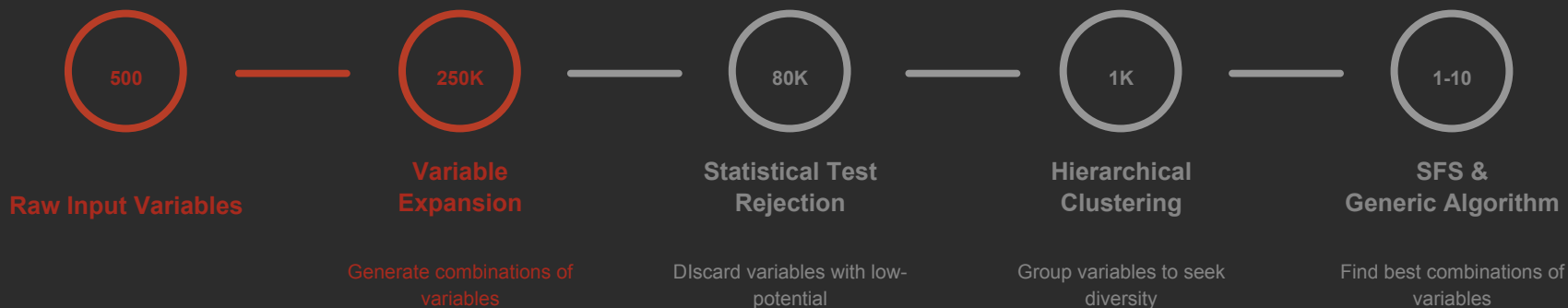
# Shortcutting the Workflow...



## Pipeline to seek

- Linear Models
- “Interpretable” variable meanings
- Across multiple metrics (e.g. model quality vs number of features)

(Number of variables in circles)



Finished

13 CANDIDATE  
MODELS

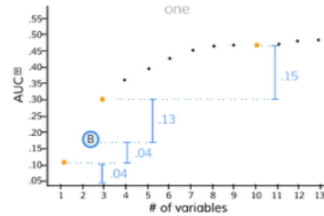
0 SELECTED  
DECISION RULES

COMPARE &  
EXPORT


Candidate Models settings

## Candidate models

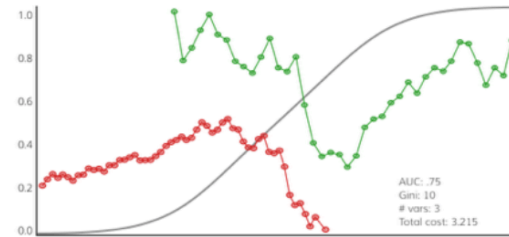
Shift+Click to compare two models  
Highlighted models are better than the prior one



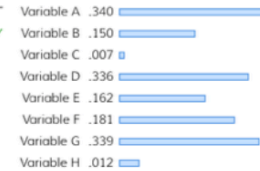
Model	#vars	Gini	X2	ΔGini
A	1	2.55	2.55	+0.04
B	2	2.55	2.55	+0.04
C	3	2.55	2.55	+0.13
d	4	2.55	2.55	+0.01
e	5	2.55	2.55	+0.02
f	6	2.55	2.55	+0.03
g	7	2.55	2.55	+0.04
h	8	2.55	2.55	+0.05
I	9	2.55	2.55	+0.15

## Logistic Curve

Click to add a decision rule

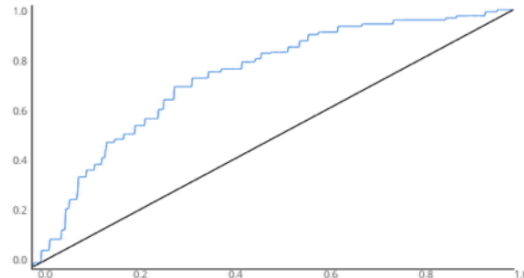


## Coefficients



## ROC Curve

Click to add a decision rule



## Learnings

- Tools to make data science projects more efficient
  - Generic Customer Attributes
  - Linear, Interpretable Model Construction
- Real tools available to Data Scientists & Data Engineers
- The philosophy somewhat experimental
  - The “experiment” is ongoing and subject to important checks: e.g. real reusability

# Take-Home Message:

## A Buy-vs-Make Learning

- Commoditization of ML algorithms is a reality
- Speed-up for “mainstream” problems (image classification, text classification)
- Still a long tail of problems need very specific domain knowledge and are not addressed by these tools (e.g. classification of text in bank transactions, pricing, etc)
- Still room for “commoditizing” internally

# Acknowledgements

Many thanks for providing insights & part of the contents:

- Leonardo Baldassini
- Roberto Maestre
- Alberto Rubio
- César de Pablo
- Juan Arévalo
- Axel Brando
- Javier Lopez



# Thanks!

Questions?

Get in touch at “Office Hours” @ DataEngConf:

**2:15 PM - 3:00 PM**

Or visit **[bbvatada.com](https://bbvatada.com)**