



Teaser

Where do 90% of ML/AI models get deployed?

Where do 90% of ML/AI models get deployed?



(Allegedly, and may be outdated)

<https://towardsdatascience.com/why-90-percent-of-all-machine-learning-models-never-make-it-into-production-ce7e250d5a4a>

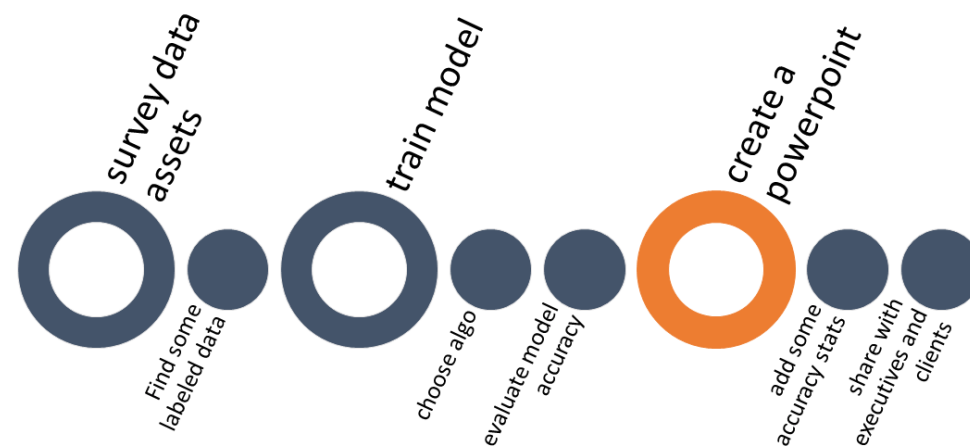
Where do 90% of ML/AI models get deployed?

ML in production: expectation

1. Collect data
2. Train model
3. Deploy model
- 4.



Reality



Many models don't get deployed for...

Things Outside Model Performance Metrics



Business Sponsorship



Good Model = Good Product?



From Model to Product: Implement ML Effectively for Insurance Underwriting

11.05.2024 at RE•WORK

Langyi Tian

Senior Data Scientist

From Model to Product: Implement ML Effectively for Insurance Underwriting

Agenda

- 1 Teaser: Are Our Models Getting Implemented?
- 2 Introduction: Model is Part of a Product
- 3 Case Study: Implementing GBMs for Insurance Underwriting



Introduction

About Me

Langyi Tian

- Senior Data Scientist, Homesite Insurance
- Background in finance and social science
- Columbia '19, CUHK '18

Homesite®

- Based in Boston, MA. Part of American Family Group
- P&C, auto, commercial



Analytics Tools & Modeling

- Mixed manpower of actuaries, DS, and engineers
- Rating tools, dashboards, rating models, etc.

ML/AI in Insurance

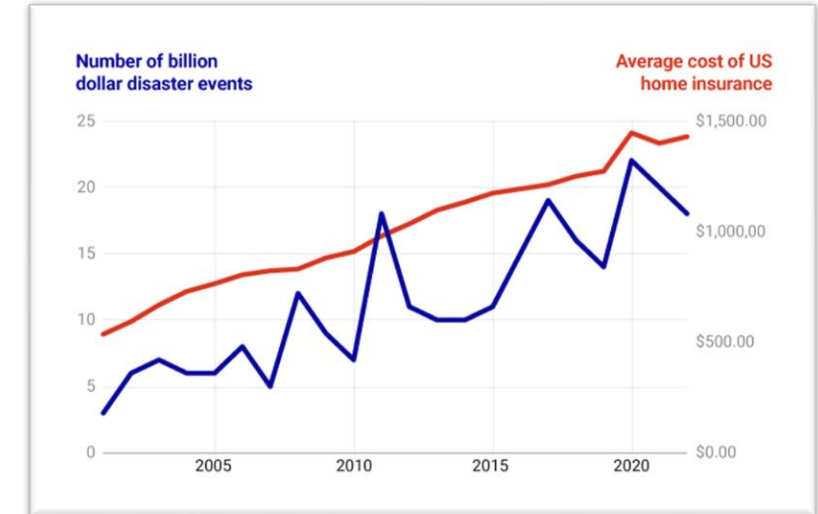
Use cases

- Pricing
- Inspection
- Customer Service
- Retention
- ... And

Underwriting

- Targeting **unpriceable** high risks at far right tail
- More crucial to **profitability**
 - Increasing inflation
 - Frequent extreme weather events

...



Inflation impact in US

	Inflation impact, \$ billion	Impact on loss cost, %
Personal auto	13.9	8.6
Homeowners	7.9	13.4

Model is Part of a Product

Requirements



Predictive

Predicts risk better than alternatives (e.g. actuarial analysis)



Regulatable

Transparent and explainable for regulator considerations



Business Oriented

Flexible to adapt to market, easy to implement, transparent UX

Stakeholders



Data Science

Collect data and build model



Regulator

Approve



IT

Implement



Product/Analysts

Monitoring and modifying



Agent/Customer

Interact

Workflow



Case Study: Implementing GBMs for Underwriting

Overview

Before

Approach:

- Automated underwriting
- Univariate/bivariate underwriting rules.

Result:

Declining **over 30%** Homeowners quotes

Issue:

Particularly bad for a **partner-based** company

After

Goal:

Decline less without sacrificing profit

Approach:

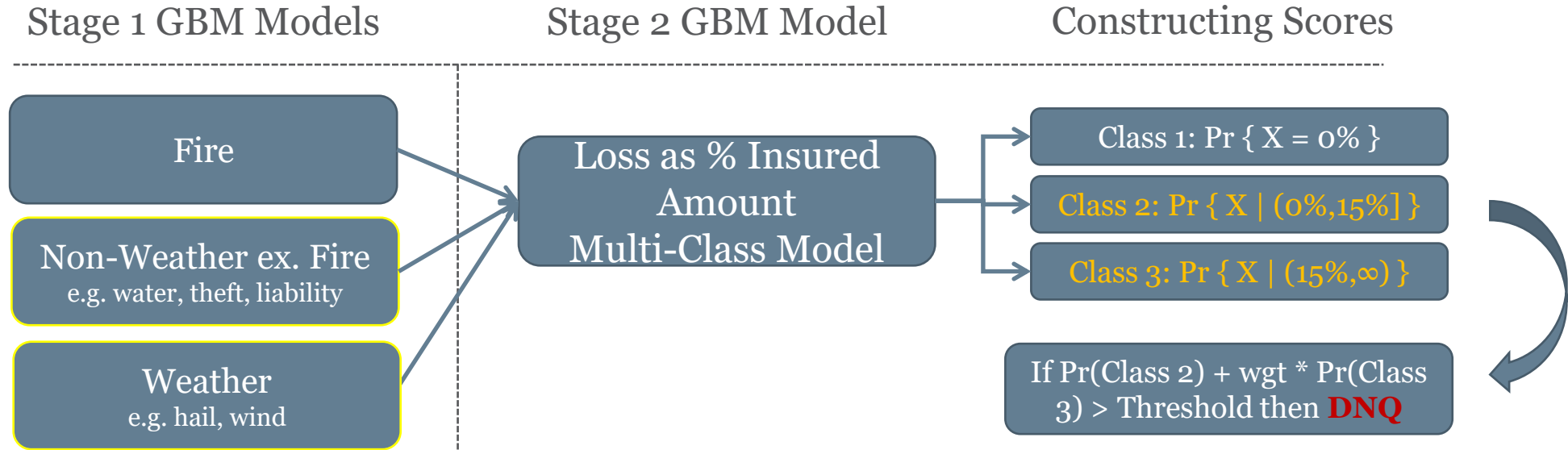
- A **2-stage** Gradient Boosting Machine (GBM) model
- **More predictors**
- Custom built IT solution to **AWS microservice**
- Additional **control table** for fine tuning DNQ
- Dashboard for **monitoring/simulating** DNQ results

Result:

- Drop in DNQ (Do Not Quote) rate by **more than 10%**
- **No significant loss difference**

Modeling Technique

Balancing Technical/Business Needs



Two-stage Design:

- Stage 1 treat **distinct causes of loss**
- Stage 2 targets **small segments of less profitable business** with optimized weights

Gradient Boosting Machine (GBM):

- Moderately **explainable** with sample trees and variable importance plots
- GLM, GBM, XGB tested. Marginal difference in performance.

Modeling Technique

Ensure Consistency in Input/Output

Common Predictors

Property-Related
e.g. Replacement Cost

Personal
e.g. Age of Customer

Credit Score

Insured Limits

Geographical Predictors

Historical Industry Losses

Catastrophe Losses

Business Requirement

Univariate UW rules

- Prior Claims

- Flat Roof

- Wood Stove

...

Implementation

Faster Modeling & Easier for IT

Before:

- 500+ trees, all custom coded and QA-ed by IT
- **Unnecessary cost** from development, test and maintenance

After:

- Train in H2O AutoML (Many alternatives such as VertexAI, DataRobot, SageMaker)
- Output models as Java objects for IT. Deployed as AWS microservice
- **Shorter time to market** with rapid implementation

h2oai/h2o-3

H2O is an Open Source, Distributed, Fast & Scalable Machine Learning Platform: Deep Learning, Gradient Boosting (GBM) & XGBoost, Random...



179
Contributors

19
Used by

31
Discussions

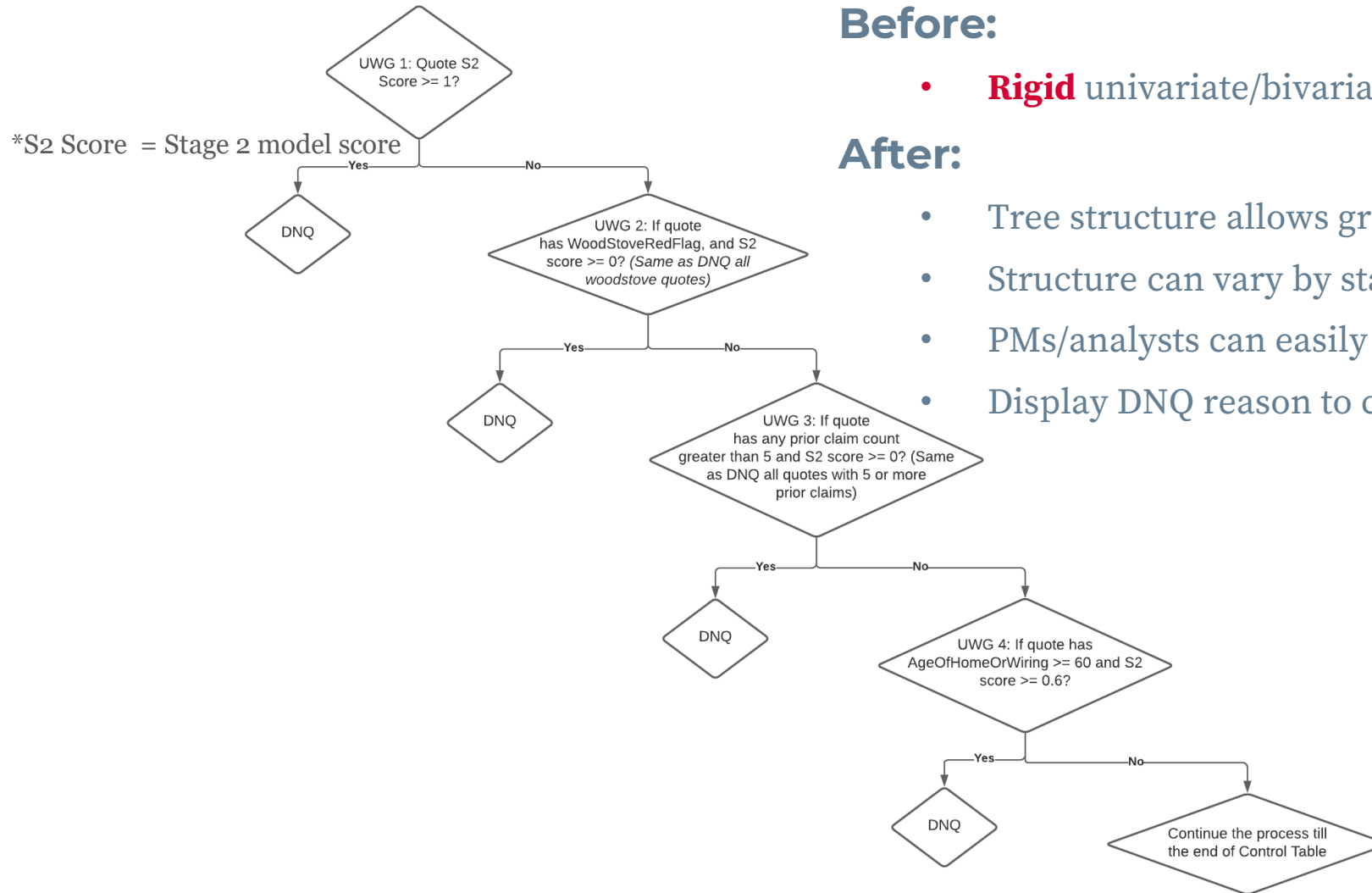
7k
Stars

2k
Forks



Control Table

Additional Layer of Control for Business Needs



Before:

- **Rigid** univariate/bivariate underwriting rules

After:

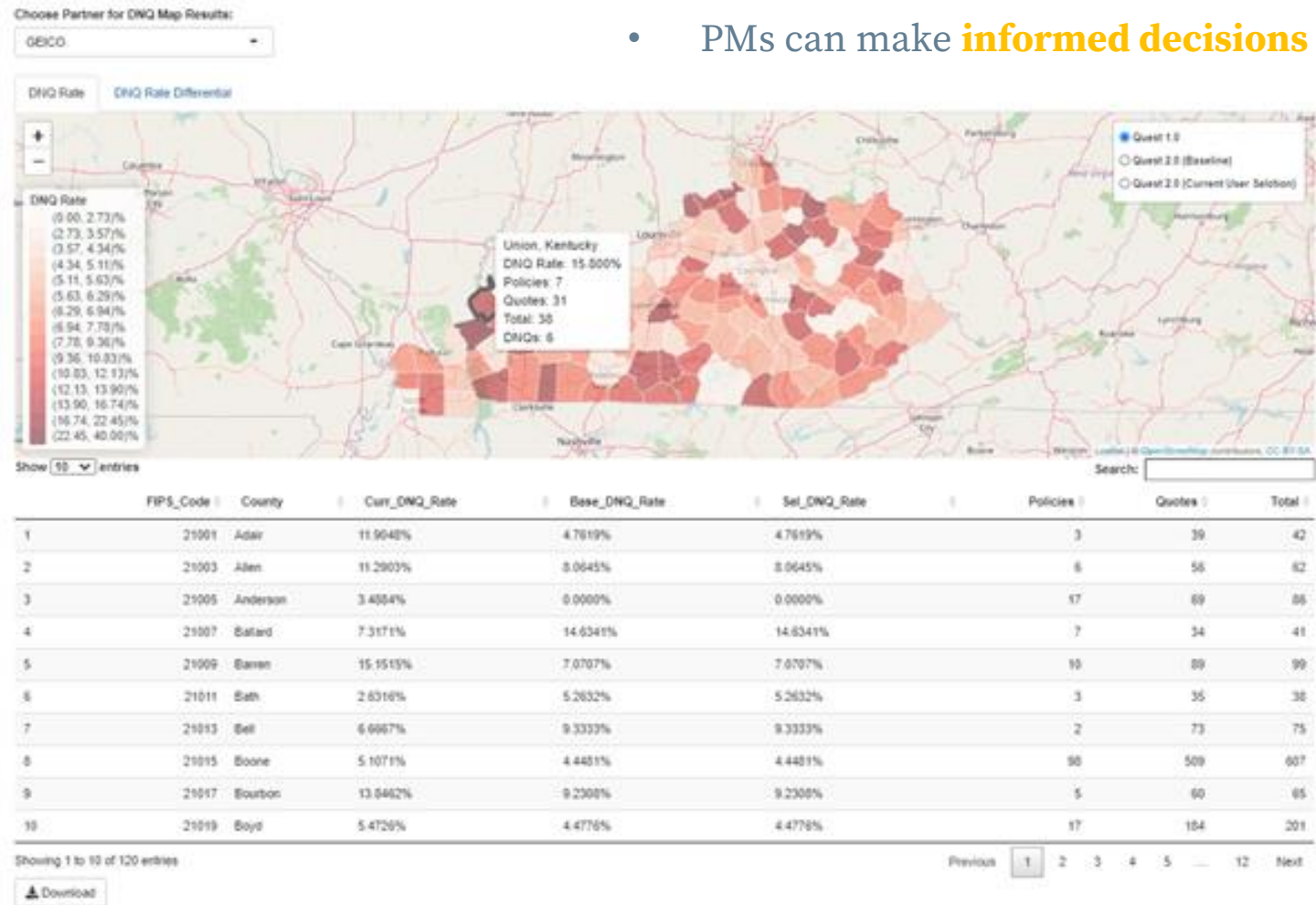
- Tree structure allows greater flexibility with more levels available
- Structure can vary by state
- PMs/analysts can easily **target poor performing segments**
- Display DNQ reason to customers for **better UX**

Dashboard

More Transparency for Product Managers

Step 4: Check summary tables and maps, then save the final control table.

- Simulate DNQ changes from adjusting thresholds/control table with real data
- PMs can make **informed decisions** for underwriting adjustments



Summary

From Model to Product: Implement ML Effectively for Insurance Underwriting



Balance Technical &
Business Needs



Consistency in
Input / Output



Faster & Easier
Implementation



Enable Flexibility
Outside Model



Tools for
Monitoring / Making
Informed Decisions



Any questions?

ltian@homesite.com / Langyi Tian on LinkedIn