

September-October 2020

Machine Learning

Progress

The WP1 pilot study reports and theme reports have been written, reviewed, updated and shared within the group. The WP2 on Quality report (Quality Framework for Statistical Algorithms - QA4SA) has been drafted and is being finalized for review. WP3 on Integration report will soon be drafted.

The ML project organized three half-days of presentations and discussions from October 13 to 15. The sessions were attended by nearly 70 people and addressed three main themes:

- Finalizing the ML project outputs
- Discussing the environment and structure to enable the group to continue sharing and collaborating towards the advancement in the use of ML in the production of official statistics
- Introducing new ML applications (including areas beyond the scope of the ML project), developments or other plans

The WP1 theme reports were presented. The discussion on the C&C and E&I reports were respectively discussed by Jo Edwards (Australian Bureau of Statistics) and Mark van der Loo (Statistics Netherlands).

The strategy to share and communicate the numerous outputs of the project was finalized and presented. The outputs (reports, ML code, data, learning and reference material) will be shared through the ML public wiki, Github and connect to the UN Global Platform. Most of the project outputs will be accessible before November 12, a few days prior to a webinar that will be held on November 16 and 17. People interested to attend the webinar can register from the following public [wiki page](#). The webinar was announced through the HLG-MOS workshop registration, ML group members and a twitter post (that may have been sent at the time of the meeting).

At the virtual sessions, an initial discussion was held on the future of the ML group. It is strongly felt that most project participants wish to continue to share and collaborate on advancing the use of ML in the production of official statistics. The ONS Data Science Campus have come forward with a proposal to take care of the ML group after the end of the project. Some discussion has taken place to figure out the details. Further discussion on the future direction, priorities and activities will be organized at the December ML monthly meeting. In addition, some time for a broader discussion on this will be set at the November webinar.

A [twitter post](#) on the ONS pilot study on E&I was sent for World Statistics Day.

A [twitter post](#) was also sent specifically to announce the webinar,

Next Steps

Finish and release the ML project outputs, including delivering the November webinar.

Present the work of the project at the November workshop.

Claude Julien will present the ML project at the [Virtual UNECE ModernStats World Workshop 2020](#).

Several project members have submitted a paper to the NTTS 2021 (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/content/NTTS2021_en).

Another opportunity to present the work of the ML project is the [World Statistics Congress 2021 - The Hague - 11-16 July 2021 \(virtual\)](#). Invitation to Propose **Invited Sessions for WSC 2021: Proposals due: 15 November 2020**.

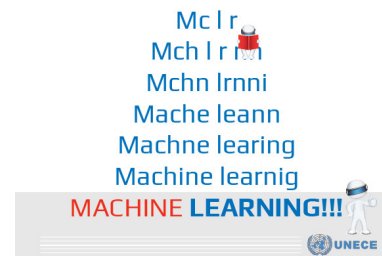
Risks and Issues

Issue	Mitigation

Input Privacy-preserving Techniques

Progress

The scope of the project is further described. The project group has determined how the potential use cases are classified and what is still needed to complete WP1.



Next Steps

The potential use cases are collected and documented in accordance with the established classification. Based on the results, the criteria are established for assessing maturity, readiness and applicability of techniques that will be tested in the following work packages.




Risks and Issues

Issue	Mitigation
Not enough active members will join the group	EB called to have their colleagues involved in the project.
Substantive expert to co-lead the project will not be provided by HLG-MOS member	EB called to provide (in-kind) a substantive expert to co-lead the group

News from the Groups

Blue-skies Thinking 	Identifying Topics /Opportunities	IN PROGRESS	Several topics were identified (7-9). These will be grouped into 2-3 activity proposals for the Modernisation Workshop.
	Synthetic Data Sets	IN PROGRESS	Although the group has now already 31 members, it will still welcome new members. The work on the two subgroups continues and a project proposal for 2021 has been prepared to be presented at the Modernisation Workshop in November
	Follow-up other selected topics	IN PROGRESS	A Chatbots Seminar is being organized to be held on 20 November. A project proposal is also seriously being considered. The Collaboration Platform concept (renamed from Data Science Lab) had proposed two pilot cases, Machine Learning and Synthetic Data Sets. There are now concrete plans with ONS to keep the Machine Learning community ongoing. For Synthetic Data Sets, a project proposal is prepared which would increase the community in the coming year.
	Other		No activity or project proposal has been submitted from outside the network.
Capabilities and Communication 	Culture Change and Internal Communications Strategy	IN PROGRESS	
	Competencies Training and Development	IN PROGRESS	
	Future of work in the context of Modernisation of the workplace	IN PROGRESS	

	Ethical leadership	IN PROGRESS	The Task Team is preparing an Ethics and Ethical survey to be sent to NSOs to collect examples of practices in these areas. These will be used to create a model survey for NSOs to measure Ethics and Ethical leadership.
	Follow-up Strategic Communication Framework	IN PROGRESS	Examples for case studies are being added, The group welcomes countries to submit more case studies that can be shared. The output of the project and some additional case studies, will be turned into a formal UN publication that UNECE is preparing.
	Training of staff in communication	IN PROGRESS	
	HRMT Workshop	FINISHED	Virtual meeting on the COVID-19 response in the area of Communication and HRMT was organized on 7-11 September. Feedback and the evaluation was very positive. There were in total 38 presentations and over 110 participants in the Communication/Dissemination part and over 90 in the HRMT part of the workshop.
	Other		
<h3>Supporting Standards</h3> 			
	Linking GSBPM and GSIM	IN PROGRESS	<p>The task team is preparing a report, similar to last year, summarising the work done during 2020. The task team is also revising the mapping done during this year so to ensure harmonisation throughout the different phases that were mapped at different periods of time.</p> <p>Despite the great amount of work done by task team, an extension for 2021 is requested to complete the mapping.</p>
	Core Ontology for Official Statistics	ON HOLD	
	GSBPM for Geospatial data	IN PROGRESS	<p>The task team has completed the description of geospatial -related activities for the first 5 phases of the GSBPM. The task team is preparing a document in which geospatial-related activities are embedded in original texts of GSBPM.</p> <p>The final report is intended to be an accompanying document to the GSBPM. The GSBPM revision team that will be set up for the next GSBPM revision, will decide whether to include additional texts into GSBPM or not.</p> <p>The task team expects to complete the work in 2020, or in the first three months of 2021.</p>
	Metadata Glossary	FINISHED	
	GSIM	IN PROGRESS	<p>The task team revised the GSIM Communication paper which is available on the public wiki page.</p> <p>The task team discussed the proposals for revisions prepared by the "Linking GSBPM-GSIM" task team. The proposals concern the definition of some GSIM objects and suggest possible alternative solutions.</p> <p>The team discussed the GSIM objects named "Transformable input/transformable output" and "Process Input Specification/Process Output Specification".</p> <p>The task team started its work at the end of June, so it is expected to complete its activities in 2021.</p>

	Other	<p>The ModernStat World Workshop 2020 will take place virtually from 27-30 October 2020 (from 14:00 to 17:00).</p> <p>The Organising Committee was set up with members from the Supporting Standards and Sharing Tools Groups.</p>	
<div>Sharing Tools</div> <div>? Unbekannter Anhang</div>	Finalizing CSPA 2.0 /Digitizing/ & Communication restated CSPA	IN PROGRESS	
	Adding Services to Catalogue	ON HOLD	
	Integrating Innovations in Architecture and technology	ON HOLD	
	Other		

●
HLG-MOS, 1
March, New
York

●
Machine
Learning Sprint
1-3 April, Virtual

●
Workshop on
Statistical Data
Editing, 31
August- 2
September
2020, Virtual

●
Covid-19
response in
Dissemination
and
Communication
of Statistics 7-
11 September,
Virtual

●
Covid-19
Response in
Human
Resources
Management
and Training, 7-
11 September,
Virtual

●
Statistical Data
Collection in
times of Covid-
19, 5-9 October,
Virtual

●
Machine
Learning
Sessions, 13-1
October,
Geneva