

Improving understanding by combining NLP and Business Analysis techniques





Who are we ?

Analyse and operational research departement : Lieutenant-Colonel Bass (Polytechnique) Capitaine Calligaro (Telecom Paris)

Main task :

Cartographic and visual representation Build improved data for better understanding of the warfield On demand, create a data visualization to enhance insights





Purpose

Events are described by two kind of data, numerical and open text.

Dashboards are usually made using numerical data. Quite often open text is basically analyzed by staff officer.

Therefore, leaders don't have a full understanding of the event and this process is costly

We want to improve the leader's understanding with a cost efficient report covering both data sources



Agenda

- Overview of 2 old challenges
- Deeply focus on a new challenge
 - Natural Language Processing approach
 - Recurrent Neural Network approach
 - Results and insights
- Conclusion







Maintenance : improve down time (MDT) prediction thanks to analysis of repair acts comments (GEN TXT)

Purpose : to predict the « waiting for parts » time (which can be a significant part of total down time)

First idea : it depends on parts references involved across all repair operations during the same « down » phase

But ... the first model has to be (dramatically) improved ...



... thanks to NLP !

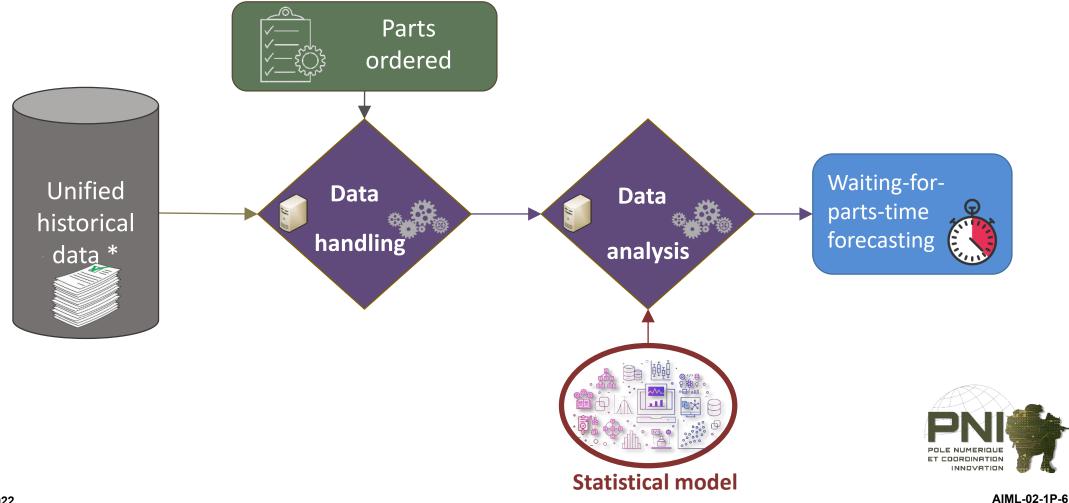




EXTENSION

General purpose : modelizing the maintenance of major combat vehicles

 ✓ Use case : modelizing the relation between waiting-for-parts time and which parts have been ordered during one same « down period » (for all-day maintenance)



NATO OR '22



- ✗ A basic machine learning is not enough :
 - Too many different references (2400 items over 5 yrs)
 - An ill-balanced data set (rare major events are underweighted but significant for higher down times : major parts !!)

Still significant forecasting errors :

- +/- 11 days compared with a time ~ 46 days for this data set
- Which parts have been ordered can not totally explain the waiting time ...

...without integrating GEN TXT exploitation, which is slightly more difficult ...

× Various data formats :

- ✤ 19-1214RMAT7LON / 1SPAHIS / VBL n°69240035 / VSEB
- Various levels of details in repair act comments :
 - REPARATIONS ++ Collecteur échappement HS + Poulie refroidissement alternateur HS + courroie alternateur manquante + joint spy reducteur AVG HS + fuite vanne thermo + réglage frein de parc + protéger flexible frein AV + remettre vis sur protection phare IR + graisser palier direction SUP G
- × Very erratic data quality :
 - ♥ VS 1 an + ctrl FT + COS

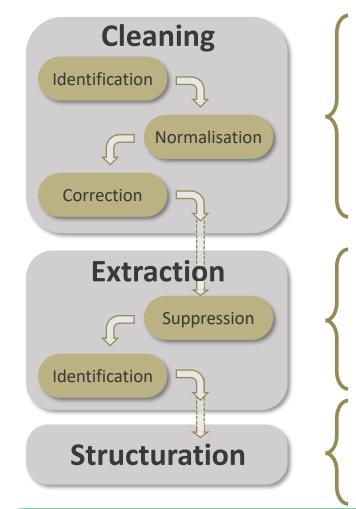
One man, one dialect !





Grabbing value from GEN TXT with AI

A method has been created to perform following steps :



- Identify the categories related to FR MoD ✤ Units, equipments, events, operations ...
- Normalize maintenance expressions ✤ acronyms, problems, actions, parts ...
- Get a corrected an unified semantics Scorrect errors and extract lexical domains (through AI)
- Erase informations already given by structured data
 - Repair act # / Vehicle # / Type of equiment / Repairing unit / ...
- Identify data of interest
 - \clubsuit Maintenance operations frequency, conducted actions, technical orders, normalized maintenance tasks, ... problems

actions

orders 13481

corrosion

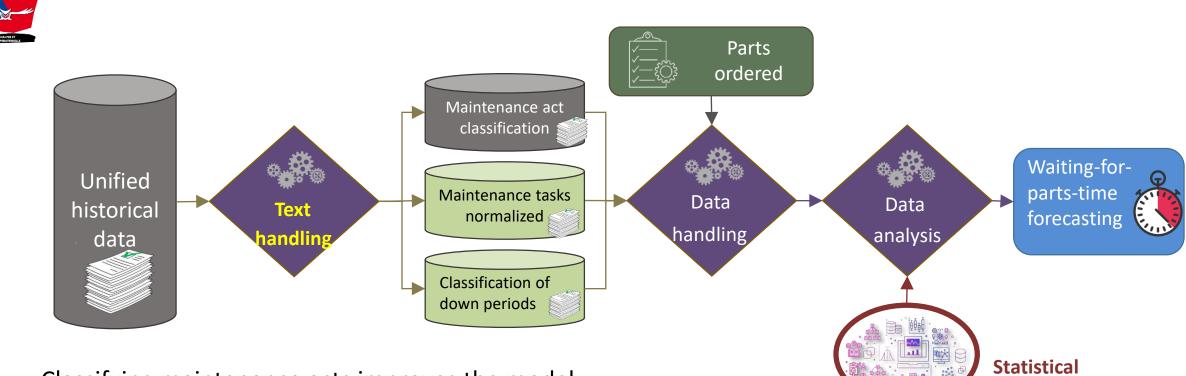
Application commande

application de la FT 13481 ++ Commande prévisionnelle du KIT Extincteur avec début de corrosion

The information can now be exploited in models !



C2E - 27/05/2021 - DPS/SARO



Classifying maintenance acts improves the model :

+Forecasting error is lower (+/- 9j)

The structured information is retained as #1 criterion !

⇒ Way ahead :

- ✓ Classify the type of « down » period (first cause ?)
- \checkmark Maintenance tasks classification ?

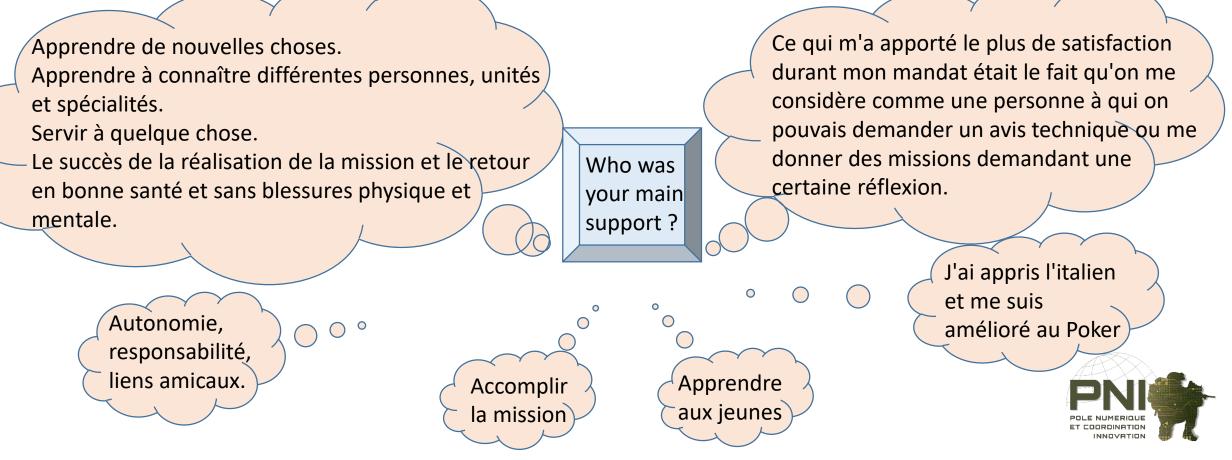


model



Improve psychological analysis

Pre-processing of short answers to an open-ended question





A psychologist, provided with a form, must produce a study on the general psychological state of the military returned from mandate.

In this form, there will be an open-ended question and people will answer it with a short sentence.

We want to analyze and summarize all the answers, giving a first generalist approach to the psychologist.

The result will be a Data Visualization...





A Word Cloud is a data visualization that turns text into an image. The font is directly related to the importance of the word. Shape, color and orientation are just a style choice.





Sort bon

A PLANE BURE

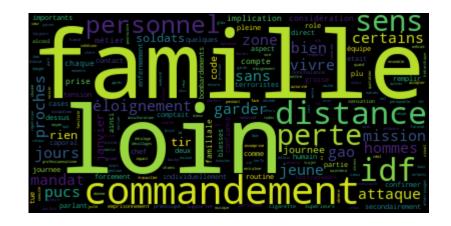


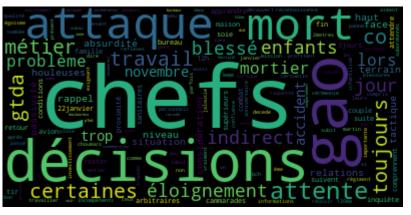
Who has been your main support during this mandate ?





What was your main difficulty during this mandate ?









Gain :

The specialist estimated that he saved 30% of the time on the analysis of the questionnaire

User feedback :

The specialist quickly gained confidence in the result. He easily appreciates and absorbs the proposed "data viz" He considers that it gives him a good vision of insgihts

Conclusion :

The specialist must be accompanied in his work and not replaced. Start with simple things then accumulate, do not try to do better than the specialist The choice of data viz is essential





Exploit data from old mission report Produce structured data from open text

-	•	—	-				
Report Date (Local)	Title	Description	Location Details	Actions Taken	Personnel Details	Equipment Details	KMs
	DETECTION INDIRECT FIRE BY RADAR COBRA	[21161607A] 9LAB COND CHEF 9 LAB REPORT who RICM Where: 33VWC5568092406 MANSAMALA When : 21MAR18 AT 1500Z 1. 1 VEHICULE VBL DESTROY 2. 10 line EOD report send by MAIL . 3. NO WIA NO KIA	LOCALISATION ENY 33 VWC 56614 / 82865 33 VWC 51916 / 76407 LOCALISATION IMPACTS 33VWC 27952 / 83111 33VWC 27611 / 84661	Recce	Ltn Duchateau Adj Lebonvieu Sgt Gouzman Sgt Anderson Sgt Chatillo	VBL 12 Famas VBL + Cobra Radar	200





Natural Language Processing approach

The Natural Langage Processing is a set of statistical method applied to text.

Used to extract information from text.

Two ways to analyze :

- The syntax of word (key word)
- The semantics of sentences (Part of Speech)





Key Word / Theme

- Group word by theme (ex : weapon, location ...)
- A specialist is mandatory to create lists of words and themes

070806ZMAR2018 08h04Z liaicellinsbctops From SBCT: The company had an .50mm accidental discharge while attempting to clear a weapons jam. The AD damaged a locals property. The round went through the side of the house causing shrapnel that wounded a 12 year old girl. The BDE CDR personally visited the family to smooth things over. The neighborhood in which the AD happen have been instrumental to HUMINT as it pertains to cell movements. MEDEVAC requested and 9 line submitted.

Green : Location Red : Weapon Bleu : Civil Purple : Relation Orange : Military acronym

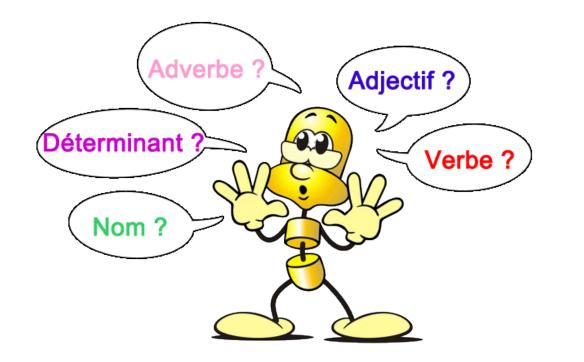




Part Of Speech

PoS : Grammatical identification of words within a whole sentence

Grammatical groups : Noun, Pronoun Verb, Adverb Adjective, Conjunction Preposition, Interjection







Part Of Speech

Category Code	Title	Description	Location	_ocation Details				
	The	REPORT FROM 1 RIMA - 121330ZMAR18 -A VBL OF THE 1RST ESC HAS GOT A TRAFFIC INCIDENT AGAINST CIVILIAN VEHICULE IN THE TOWN OF KOSTA.						
CIVRTA 1	TRAF	A CIVILIAN FEMALE IS A LITTLE INJURED ;THERE IS NO MILITARY INJURED TWO CHILDRENS ARE SAFE IN THE CAR. AFF THE VBL HAS A BROKEN WHEEL.	KOSTA	Human	Destruction			
				yes	Yes	Civilan Female		
A CIVILIAN FEMALE IS A LITTLE INJURED. THERE IS NO MILITARY INJURED .				No	Military Two Children			
TWO CHILDRENS ARE SAFE IN THE CAR.				No	Yes	VBL		
THE VE	3L	HAS A BROKEN WHEEL.			No			





Conclusion on NLP

• 40% of the information can be found and extracted

 Requires continuous update of key words & rules ... (vocabulary and rules are linked to activities operation !)

- Difficulties on :
 - Writing quality (spelling, grammar)
 - Coreference (Paul arrived, He brought his shoes (who is the 'he'))





Recurrent Neural Network approach

Recurrent Neural network is the state-of-the-art algorithm for sequential data, where word order is important.

It is the first algorithm that remembers its input, thanks to an internal memory.

The one dedicated to text is named BERT.





BERT and the Question Answering

Output

Answer

Amazonia

- BERT (EN) / CamenBERT (FR)
- Question / Answering



Inputs

Question

Which name is also used to describe the Amazon rainforest in English?

Context

The Amazon rainforest, also known in English as Amazonia or the Amazon Jungle Question Answering Model

CamemBERT





How we use Question Answering

We produce one question per structured data that we can / want to produce.

Some simple questions :

Where, When, What, who

Some more complex questions :

When did the accident / meet appen

Who was imply in the accident / meet

The difficulty is when a question is not relevant for a text.





An unrelevant question

• Text:

2 unknown males with binoculars observing own field radar. When approached by subunits, the car left in western direction. Probably red Ford focus. Licences plate unknown

• Question:

When did the accident happened ?

• Model's answer:

Binoculars observing own





Results on BERT & Question Answering

- 80% of accuracy on the best part of question set Excluing the unrelevant question
- 20% of accuracy on the whole question set include unrelevant question

The main difficulties encountered were :

- Is the question is relevant?
- Is the answer is coherent ?





Work on 'Is the answer coherent' Theory and working basis

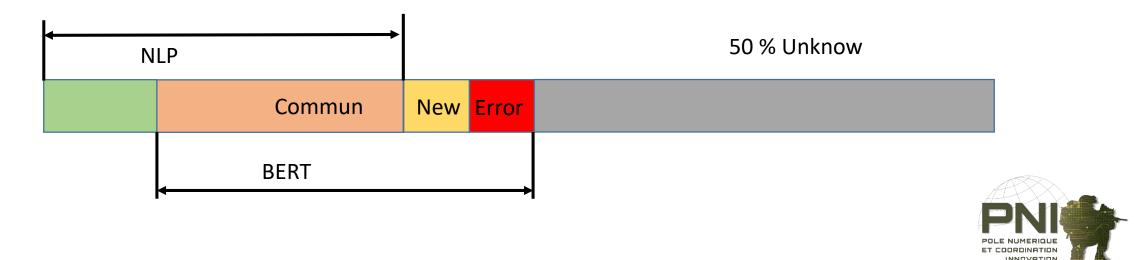
- Goal :
 - Identify and reject anwsers where the sentence is not syntactically correct
- How :
 - We will ask to a BERT model if it could have produced this sentence
- Prospect :
 - As for image recognition we will use a BERT GAN
 - With a BERT 'add word' we will check for the next word (End of sentence)





Conclusion on BERT and NLP

- 50% of information stays unidentified
- 10% provided only by NLP
- 30% identified by NLP & BERT
- BERT provides 5% more information and 5% more error than NLP





Way ahead

- Technological watch on Q&A models and their evolution
- Work on Automatic detection if an answer is consistent (GAN Bert)
- Automatic detection if a question is relevant





Final Conclusion

- All solutions are complementary
- NLP requires continuous update and control
- BERT goes futher than NLP but the technology isn't yet fully matured
- Both processes are still costly

