



# AI for Process Optimization, Reliability and Safety

**Kathy Shell**  
*Executive VP of Process Safety & Strategic Client Partnerships*  
aeSolutions

**Jaidev Amrite**  
*Head of Product, DeepNLP*  
SparkCognition

## Kathy Shell, P.E.



- Executive VP, Process Safety & Strategic Client Partnerships
- Professional ChE, AIChE Fellow
- AIChE CCPS Technical Steering Committee Member, S&H Division Member
- Texas A&M Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center: Steering Team Member, Harry West Memorial Service Award Recipient (2008 and 2015), Trevor Kletz Merit Award (2019)
- International Society of Automation Excellence in Leadership Award (2016)
- AIChE S&H Division: Walton-Miller Lifetime Achievement Award (2020)
- Process Safety Consultant, Corporate Strategist, Leadership Training and Mentoring, Global and Site Management System Consultant, Lead Auditor, Incident Investigator, PHA/LOPA Facilitator
- BS ChE, University of Akron

[Kathy.shell@aesolutions.com](mailto:Kathy.shell@aesolutions.com)

614-595-0619

# Jaidev Amrite

Head of Product - DeepNLP

[jamrite@sparkcognition.com](mailto:jamrite@sparkcognition.com)

512 739-8285



- Masters in Computer Engineering from GeorgiaTech
- Led product development in Web, IoT and Embedded Systems at National Instruments, Microsoft and Larsen & Toubro
- Highly interested human-centered design of technology
- STEM education for children and young adults with FIRST, Hyperloop and GirlScouts
- Early-stage startup investor and entrepreneur



# Presentation Outline



- AI Vision for Process Safety
- AI and the Subject Matter Expert
- Maximizing Production & Improving Safety
- Proactive Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Management
- Applying AI in your own Organization
- Open Discussion

# What is your AI Vision for Process Safety



Advanced Automation  
Safe Process Optimization  
Intelligent MOC



Smart Operating Procedures  
Human Performance Factors  
Training Simulation & Feedback  
Operating Discipline



IPL Demand/Cause  
Tracking/ML  
Preemptive Loss of Control  
Predictive Maintenance



Incident Investigation  
Lesson Learning  
Emergency Response,  
Evacuation and Rescue



Safe Work Locations  
Bypass Management



Process Safety Metrics  
Predictable Performance

# AI and the Subject Matter Expert



In Industrial Environments, AI is augmenting SMEs to unlock higher quality and productivity

## How AI Creates Value from Big Industrial Data:

- Operationalizes organizational information and tribal knowledge
- Surfaces patterns and insights in large volumes of data
- Enables SMEs to focus on high value decisions



# Maximizing Production & Improving Safety



## OIL & GAS UPSTREAM

One supermajor calculated that if they improved platform availability across their fleet by one percent, they could net an annual uplift in production of ~\$300M.

### PROBLEM

- Complexity in streaming data and managing alerts
- Inefficiencies around manually maintaining model accuracy

### RESULTS/ROI

**1-4% or ~\$30M**

Annual Improved  
Production

**9 days**

Failure Forewarning



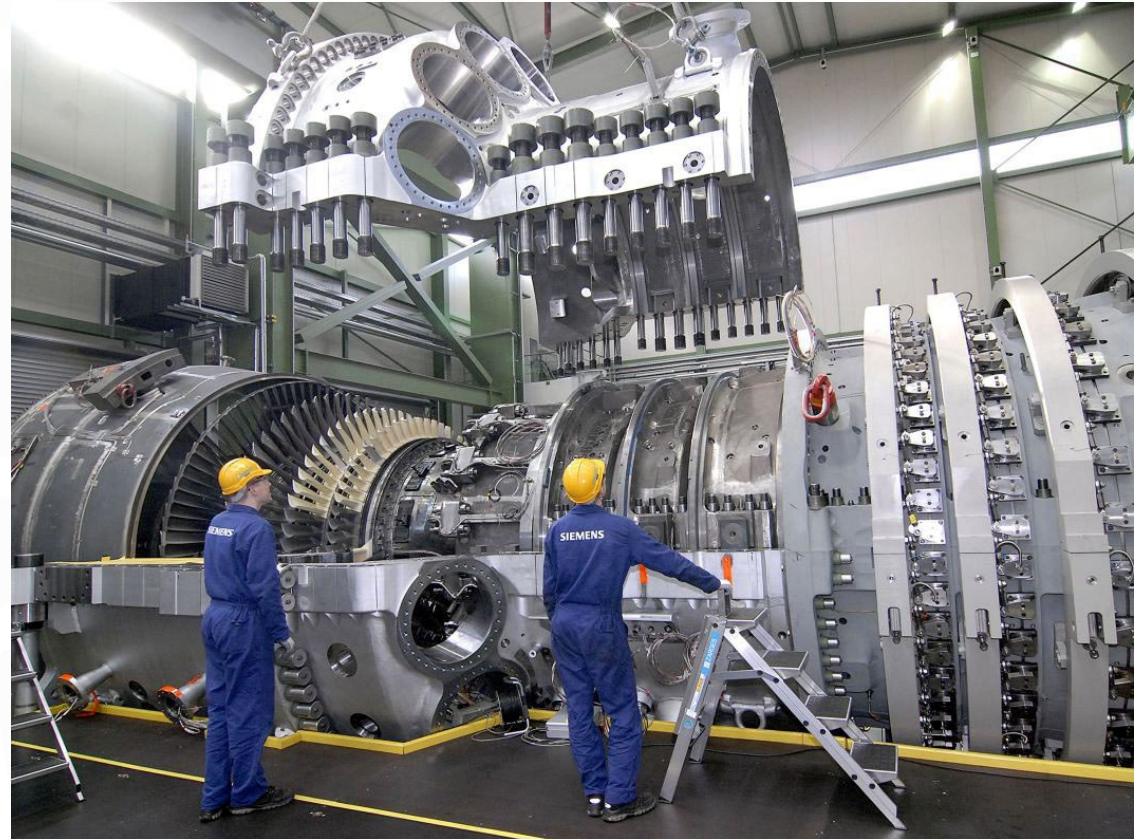
*Once deployed across fleet, the AI-powered solution will contribute a total economic impact of ~\$800M annually.*

# Simple Rules? Not for Complex Assets



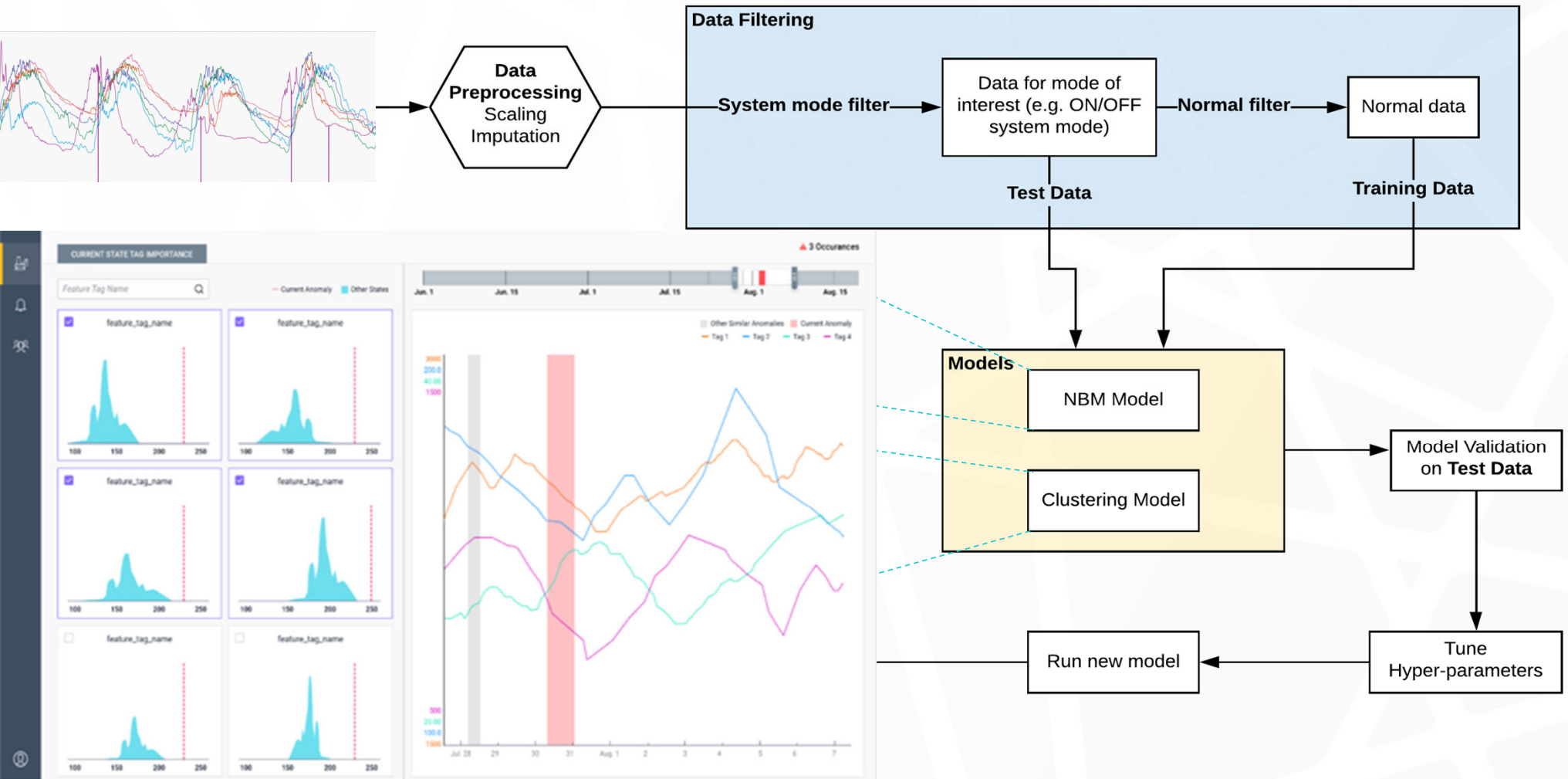
**Rules based thresholding, even with complex combinational logic is insufficient to capture system states**

- Several 100 -1000s of moving parts in complex interaction
- System state drifts with operation, condition and environment
- Very few failures to learn from
- 500 - 3000 sensors/tags per asset
- 40-60 complex assets per production platform
- False positives are expensive to address for unmanned platforms





# Novel Techniques to Analyze Time Series Data



# Prescribing Optimal Maintenance for Aircraft Faults



## INDUSTRIAL CONGLOMERATE

For commercial airlines, a one- or two-hour AOG delay can **cost between \$10K-150K per instance**, not to mention damage to the airline's reputation.

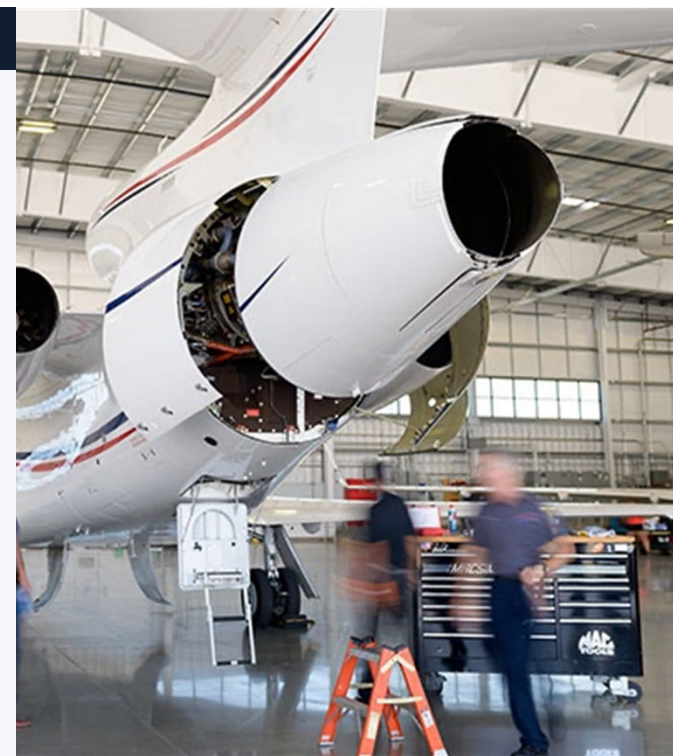
### PROBLEM

- Isolating a root cause can take hours
- Extracting value from PDFs and long technical manuals is difficult
- Tribal knowledge is lost as experienced personnel retire or leave

### RESULTS

**73% (38.6K)**  
Unnecessary subsystem  
replacements found

**120K (18 yrs.)**  
Work orders' worth of tribal  
knowledge captured



*The prescriptive recommender reduced root cause analysis effort by 90%, resulting in a 20-min. decrease of aircraft on the ground (AOG) per incident.*

## Slide 10

---

**KS2** How did you create the Work Orders worth of tribal knowledge Value?

Kathy Shell, 5/13/2021

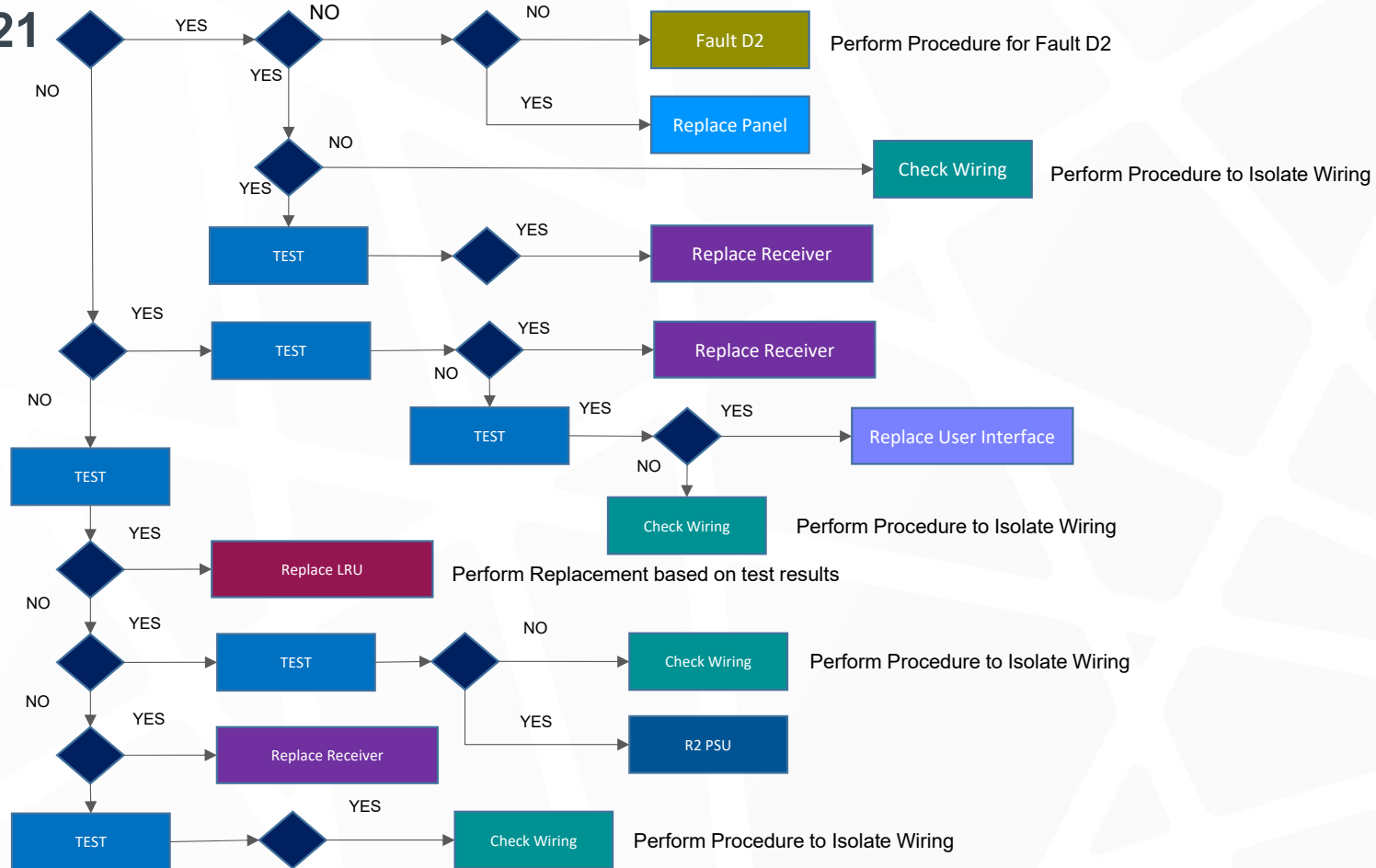
**KS3** Can we draw a corollary to manufacturing; Possibly. Consider applications across a facility or major unit operation where extracting and digitalizing degradation indicators enables a prioritized maintenance plan for an unplanned or planned outage.

Kathy Shell, 5/13/2021

# Troubleshooting can take hours, even for experienced maintainers



## Fault 34-21



# Extracting Actionable Prescriptions from Maintenance Records



Maintenance records are not “natural language”

IT WAS PERFORMED IR FAILURE IAW FIM 34-21 TASK 803 REV 60, STEP E, ITEM 1 AND WAS PERFORMED ADIRS BITE PROCEDURE IAW FIM 34-21 TASK 801 REV 60, STEP B, ITEM 1-E AND WAS FOUND MAINTENANCE MESSAGE ( 34-21002 - IR FAILURE ) AND ( 34-21007 - ADR DATA INVLD ) AND ( 34-21020 - ADR FAIL ). IT WAS PERFORMED INSPECTION IN ADIRU LH AND FOUND WATER ON ADIRU AND WAS REPLACED ADIRU LH IAW AMM 34-21-01/401 REV 60. IT WAS PERFORMED NEW ADIRS BITE PROCEDURE IAW 34-21 TASK 801 REV 60, AND MAINTENANCE MESSAGE DOES NOT SHOW ON THE CDU, THE STATUS CODE DOES NOT SHOW IN ISDU AND THE FAULT LIGHT ON THE MSU DOES NOT COME ON, AND WAS CORRECTED THE FAULT.

IT WAS FOUND FAULT COD 34-21002 (IR FAILURE) IAW FIM 34-21 TASK 801 REV. 60, PERFORMED FIM 34-21 TASK 803 REV. 60 , REPLACED ADIRU IAW AMM 34-21-01/401 REV. 60 , SYSTEM OK IAW AMM 34-21-00-710-801 REV. 60.

IT WAS PERFORMED IR FAILURE IAW FIM 34-21 TASK 803 REV 60, STEP E, ITEM 1 AND WAS PERFORMED ADIRS BITE PROCEDURE IAW FIM 34-21 TASK 801 REV 60, STEP B, ITEM 1-E AND WAS FOUND MAINTENANCE MESSAGE ( 34-21004 - ALIGN FAULT ). IT WAS PERFORMED ALIGN FAULT IAW FIM 34-21 TASK 805 REV 60, STEP F, ITEM 1 AND WAS PERFORMED STEPS FROM THE CDU AGAIN TO ENTER THE PRESENT POSITION AND THE STATUS CODE DOES NOT SHOWS ON THE ISDU AND CORRECTED THE FAULT. FLT 5617 ASSUMED BY ACFT PR-GXT.

- Fault Code
- Symptom
- Procedure Reference
- Effectiveness
- Corrective Action

**Prioritized Corrective Actions - 342-070-41**

FLY	PROBABLE CAUSE	CONFIDENCE	AVG TIME
AMM 34-21-01-803	REPLACE ADIRU LH	79.27	70
AMM 34-21-00-805	ALIGN ADIRS	16.22	55
AMM 34-21-01-801	REPLACE ADIRU RH	8.11	70
AMM 20-60-05	TRIP RESET CB ADIRU LH/RH	2.7	30

**PDF LOG**

1. MOUNTING

1.2.1 Desktop Mounting

**Fixing with KB fixing metal**

- Fix the KB fixing metal to the bottom of the control unit.
- Fix the unit with self-tapping screws (Sx2), local supply.

**Fixing without KB fixing metal**

- Drill four mounting holes of 5 mm (RCU-024) or 4 mm (RCU-026) diameter referring to the outline drawing at the back of the manual.
- Fix the control unit with four screws (RCU-026: M4, RCU-026: M3) from under side of the desktop. (The M4 screws with a sufficient length for the thickness of the desktop should be provided locally.)

Control unit RCU-024

FEEDBACK  
Solved my problem

# Proactive Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Management



## GAS PROCESSING AT NATIONAL OIL COMPANY

In 2019, 48 O&G companies (and contractors) reported 21,899 days of work lost through injuries

### PROBLEM

- Safety function is typically poorly staffed with 1-2 Safety Supervisors per plant
- HSE management is "retroactive", learning from historical incidents
- Truly catastrophic incidents are rare, <sup>KS4</sup> it learning opportunities

### RESULTS

#### 1.3% High Severity Risks

Correctly identified LOTO as root cause for high severity electrical risk despite minimal examples

#### 2000+ Observations

Automatically evaluated with 75%+ accuracy



*The HSE solution enables SMEs to train/fine tune models and automates weeks of manual work in minutes*

## Slide 13

---

**KS4** What do you want to convey with this. As stated, it really isn't a problem. From our earlier conversations, maybe Incident learning must come from lower Tier events.  
Kathy Shell, 5/13/2021

# Natural Language Challenges

Operational records are functional and terse with high variability

## Functional Language

*“received a cwp diagnosis for ee. ee was termed on 1/23/2013.”*

## Non-standard grammar and vocabulary

*“we have chemical store that contain different kind of chemical that we handle it in the area, employee may expose to them at any time, There is no CHB around that location for any craft to know the hazard of that chemicals.”*

## Terse

*“Plug chute alarm”*

## Spelling/Typographical errors

*“Box glass **broking**.”*

*“LADDER FOR PZV ON AIR RECEIVER TANK **WHIT OUT** SAFETY GUARD”*

## Technical jargon/colloquialisms

*“breakers shut without LOTO”*

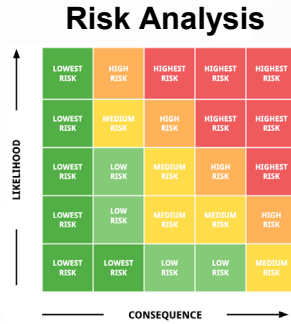
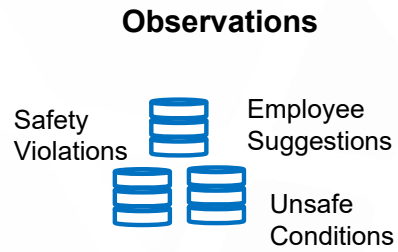
*“Several breakers found in OFF position and not locked”*

*“Breaker in OFF position but it was not locked and tagged out”*

***Keywords/ontologies and Off-the-shelf language models are ineffective on operational records***



# Natural Language Analysis of "Observations"



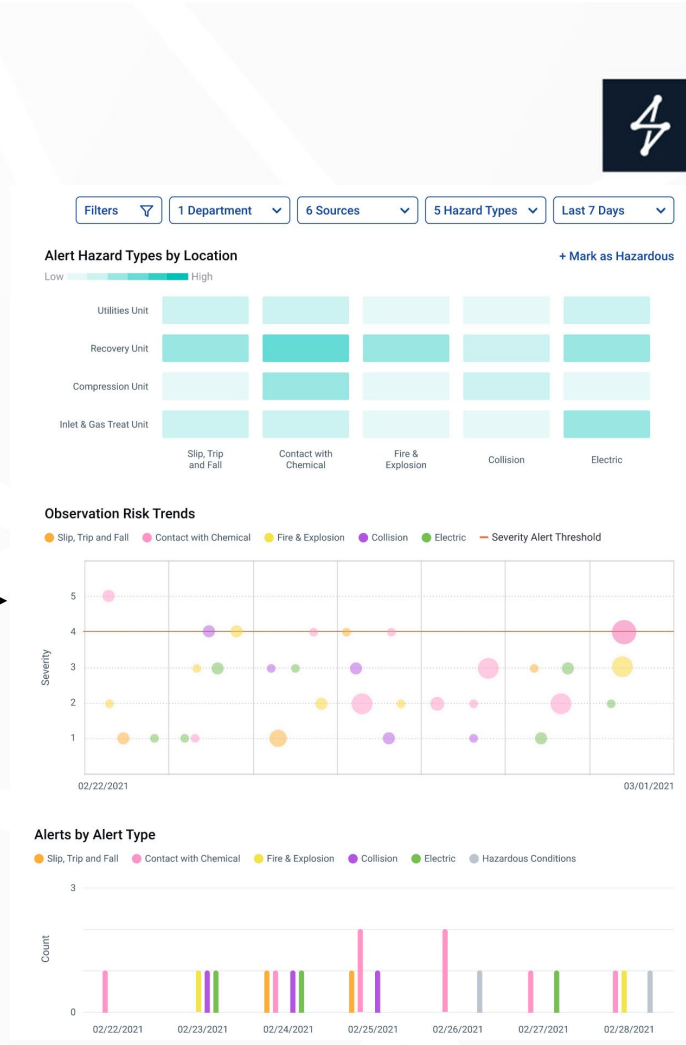
## Time-based Patterns



## Historical Reports



## Language Similarity



# Getting Started with AI in your Organization



1. Explore un-utilized/underutilized data sources in high cost/tedious/critical processes
2. Consult SMEs to understand current process, gaps, desires
3. Utilize development accelerators from discovery → operationalization – DS is an iterative process

Data Type	Common Source	Application
Time series sensor data for vibration, temperature, strain, pressure, current, voltage etc.	OSI PI	<b>Predictive Maintenance</b>
Maintenance records	Maximo, Oracle	<b>Prescriptive Maintenance</b>
Safety observations, MOCs, PHA Recs, Incident Records	SAP/Custom/Excel	<b>HSE Management Incident Anticipation</b>
Service tickets – disruptions, IT requests, call centers	SAP, EMC2, JIRA, ORACLE	<b>Operational Analytics, Business Process Automation</b>

*Where does AI fit in your Process Safety and Operational Excellence Vision?*



# Thank you for your attention!

[Kathy.shell@aesolutions.com](mailto:Kathy.shell@aesolutions.com)  
614-595-0619

[jamrite@sparkcognition.com](mailto:jamrite@sparkcognition.com)  
512 739-8285