



Practical Steps for Implementing ML for SDTM Mapping

Presented by Sharon Rossouw, Director, Biostatistics, Bioforum



Meet the Speaker

Sharon Rossouw

Title: Director, Biostatistics

Organization: Bioforum

There is a farm in Africa.... I grew up on a farm in the Zimbabwean bushveld. I completed my schooling and university education in South Africa culminating with a Masters in Biostatistics.

A biostatistician over 25 years of experience providing biostatistical and medical writing services to the pharmaceutical industry and academic institutions.

I am passionate about the training and development of biostatisticians and statistical programmers and have a special interest in process development and implementation.

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• The views and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of CDISC.

• The author has no real or apparent conflicts of interest to report.

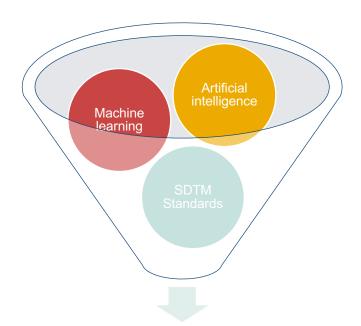




Agenda

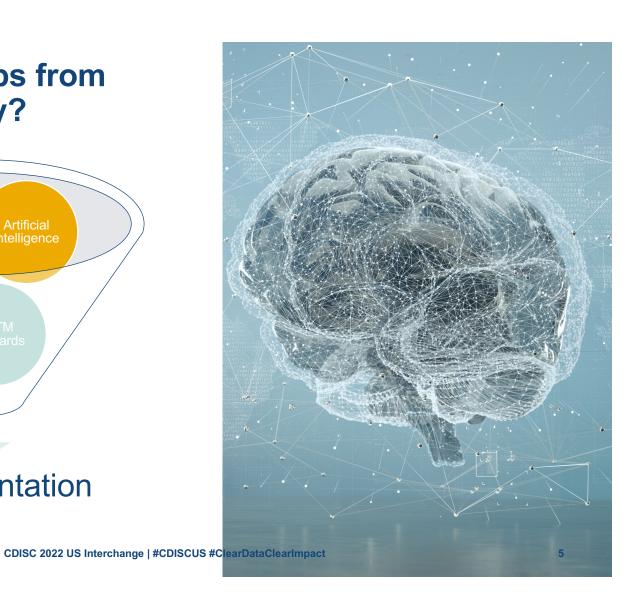
- 1. Background
- 2. Build steps: Develop the models
- 3. Taking a step back
- 4. Refine steps: Applying the models
- 5. The view from our destination

What are the steps from concept to reality?

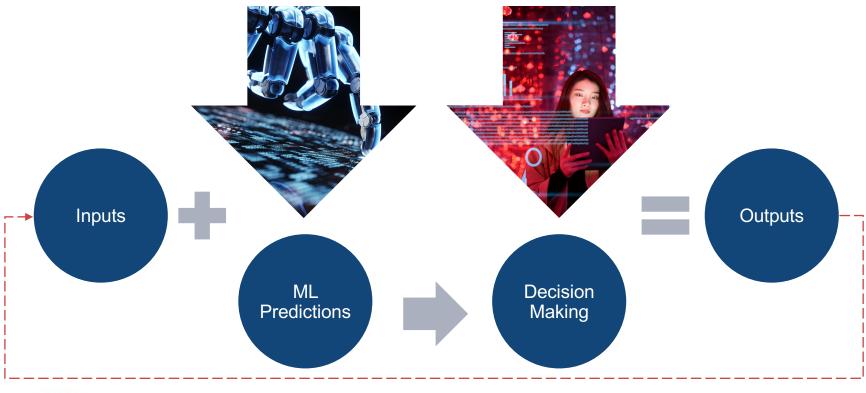


Implementation





Where to use ML in the SDTM mapping process?







Build steps: Develop the models



1st step: Identify the pieces

- Domain
- Variable
- Controlled terminology
- ...





STEP 1: Prepare

- Training set → Pre-mapped trials
- Raw variables labelled:
 - Domain(s)
 - · Variable, etc.
- Raw variable feature extraction:
 - · Raw data file characteristics
 - · Raw variable metadata
 - Variable values
 - Trial documents
- Training set was tailored to the task





STEP 2: Build the models





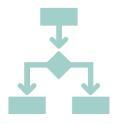
STEP 3: Evaluate the models

- Test model performance
 - Cross validation methodology
- Results
 - · Vector of probabilities for each raw variable
 - Probability = Likelihood of mapping to target
- Simple decision rule
 - · Select target with highest probability
- Compare
 - Selected target ⇔ Pre-mapped target





STEP 4: Select the models



Domain & Variable mapping

Random Forest



Controlled terminology mapping

Natural Language Processing

- For simplicity, the domain model results are presented
 - Variable model results are briefly mentioned
 - Controlled terminology results are a "forthcoming attraction"



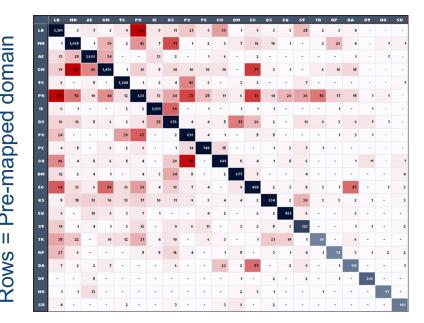
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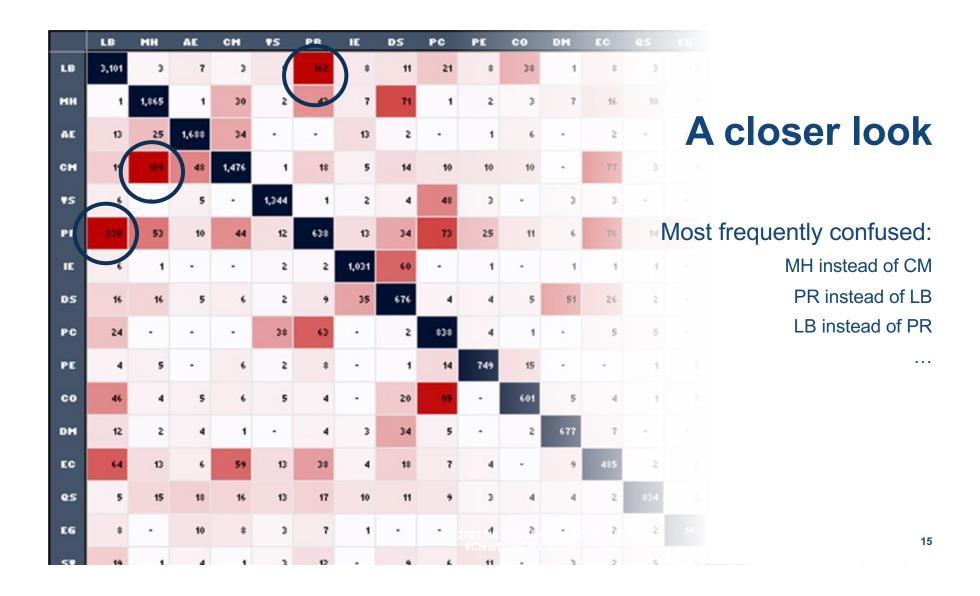
Model accuracy

- Confusion Matrix
 - → Indication of model quality
- Diagonal frequencies = correct predictions
- Model is mostly correct
- Accuracy:
 - Domain-level ⇒ 71.5% (41 trials)
 - Variable-level ⇒ 83.8% (61 trials)

Columns = Predicted domain









Reviewing the journey









So what was the next step?



Refine...



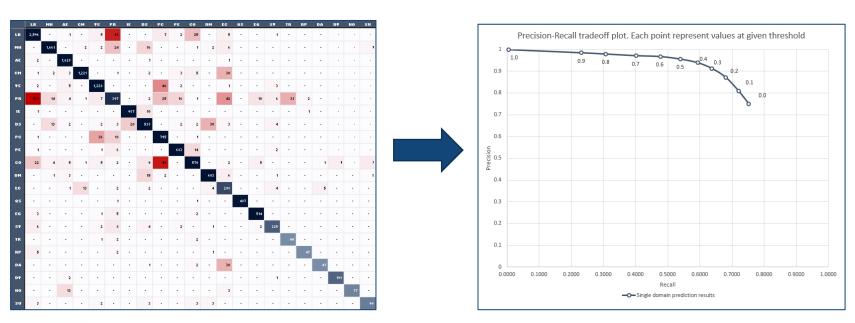




STEP 1 – Remove predictions with low confidence levels

Remove predictions if confidence $\leq 0.3 \rightarrow 69.7\%$ of variables retained

Domain precision: 91.4%, recall of 63.7% (41 trials)





STEP 1 – Impact

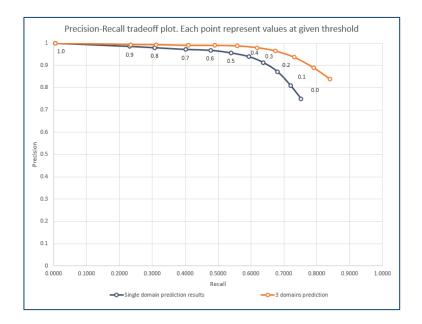
- Now our users were interested...
 - · Trust had increased
 - Some trials: nearly error-free
- Investigate mistaken predictions
 - "Correct" recommendation was 2nd/3rd on list
 - How can we adapt the implementation of the models?





STEP 2 - Provide the top 3 most likely predictions

- Change the decision rule:
 - "Correct" target in the top 3 most likely recommendations
- Using the 0.3 threshold:
 - Precision → 96.6% (STEP 1: 91.4%)
 - Recall → 67.3% (STEP 1: 63.7%)





STEP 2 – Impact

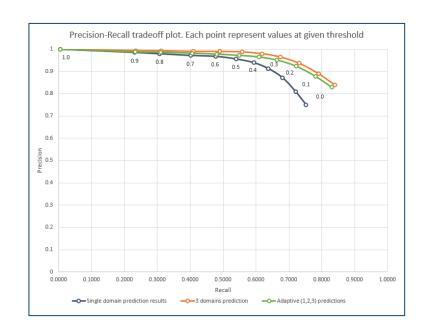


- Users loved this!
- ↑ accuracy = ↑ interest
- Next step:
 - Users had to continuously evaluate 3 options, even when the "perfect" fit was obvious
 - Is there somewhere in between?



STEP 3 - Dynamic predictions based on cumulative confidence thresholds

- Alternative method investigated:
 - · Dynamic cumulative approach
- Tradeoff:
 - Provide a single target
 - Need for high confidence





STEP 3 – Impact

- Maintained high precision
- Single target for about 60% of predictions
 - Other variables: Users could select the prediction from the list
- User approved

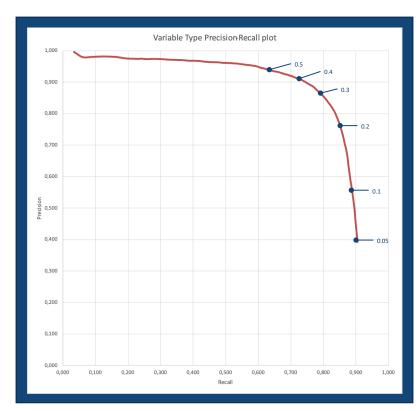






STEP 1 – Provide predictions above a static threshold

- Present if likelihood > threshold
 - Up to a maximum of 3 predictions
- Variable-level at 0.3 threshold (61 trials):
 - Precision: 86.9%
 - Recall of 78.6%
- It works to only suggest what you are sure about!





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STEP 2 - Dynamic predictions based on cumulative confidence thresholds

[Top 1] > 0.7

1 Prediction

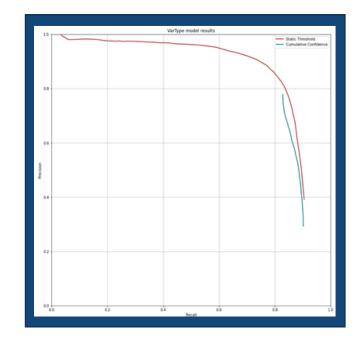
[Top 1+2] > 0.7

2 Predictions

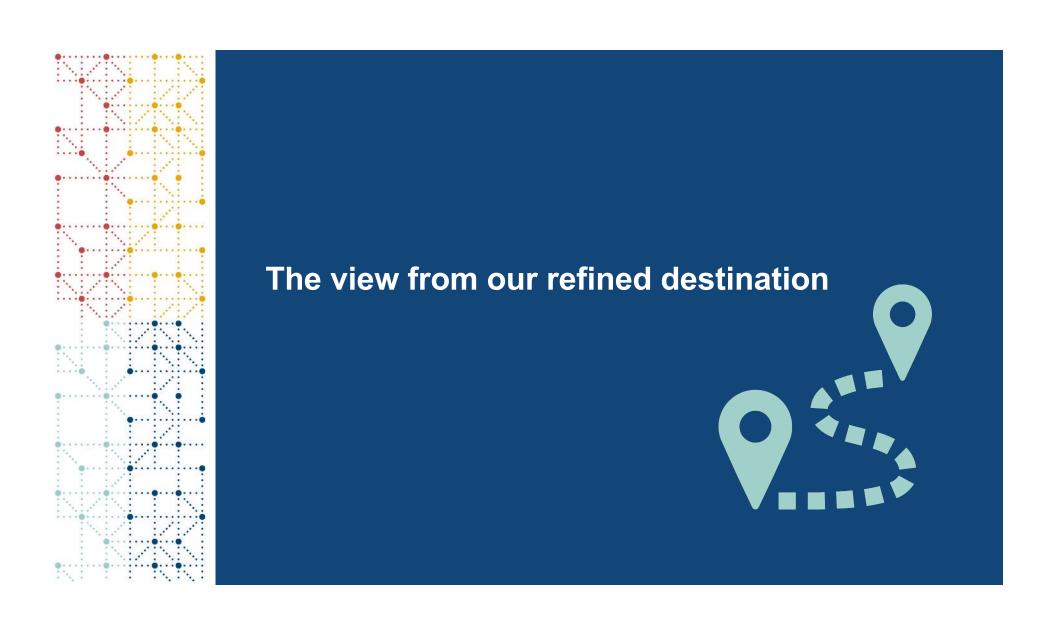
[Top 1+2+3] > 0.3

3 Predictions

Be practical when implementing ML models!







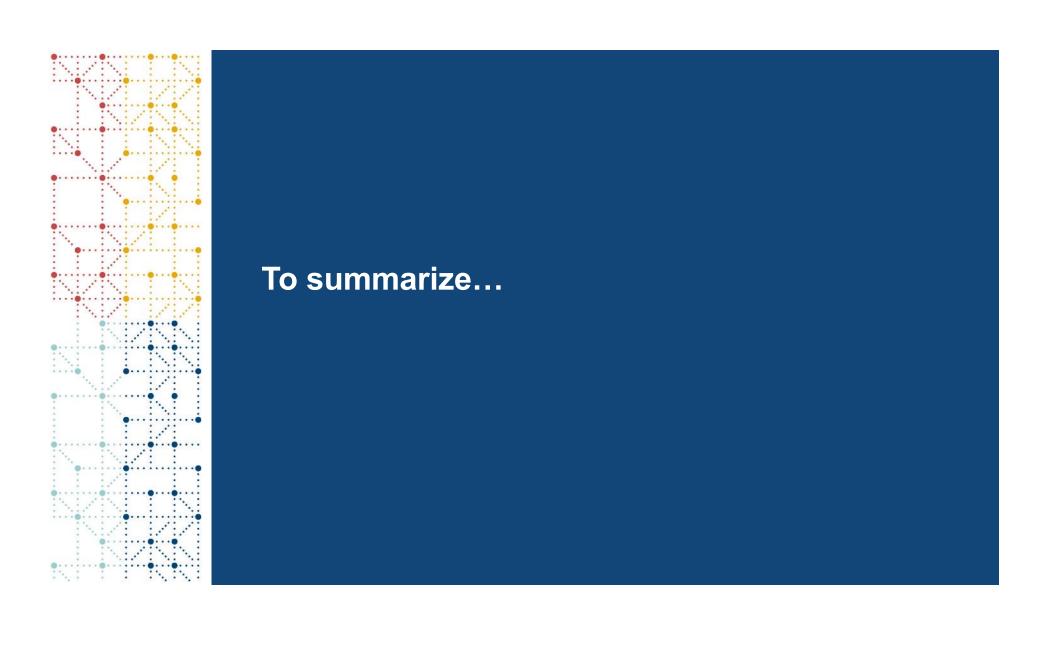
Where did the journey take us?



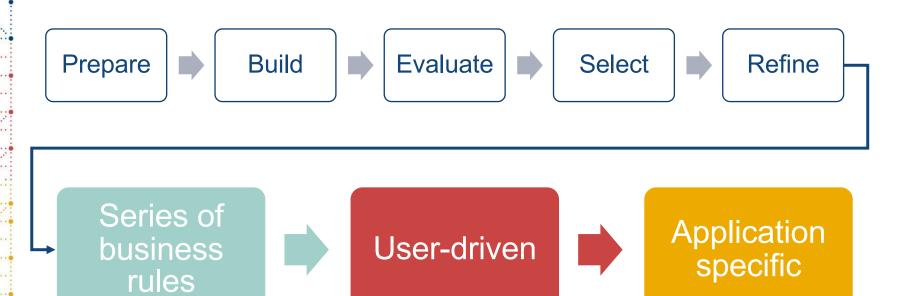






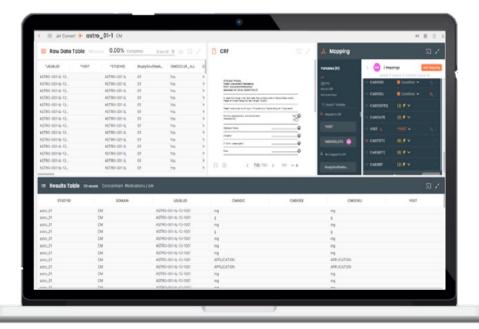


Practical steps for implementing ML for SDTM Mapping





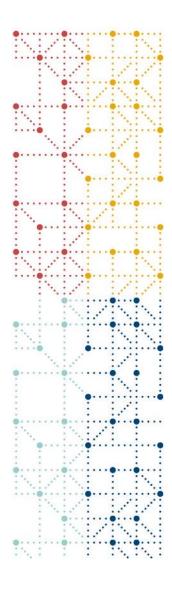
Using ML in the SDTM mapping process is a reality











Thank You!



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