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Hosted by OUC



# UtilityAnalytics<sup>®</sup> WEEK

Comprehensive Overview of MLOps and  
Governance

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Logic20/20

*Unlock the Universal Power of Data*

#UtilityAnalytics #UAWEEK

# Utilities encounter substantial challenges when embracing ML solutions to enhance their operations and services

## Utility Objectives With ML:

- ✓ Embrace Efficiency and Modern Ways of Working
- ✓ Manage Enterprise Risk and Promote Culture of Safety
- ✓ Maximize IT Investment Return

## Challenges:

- ! Siloed projects
- ! Difficult path-to-value
- ! Managing Risk (IT and Enterprise)



01

Overview Of ML Systems

02

Synergies of MLOps and Governance

03

Getting Started - Meaningful Accelerators

04

Tools for Governance

# Overview of ML Systems (In the Wild)

# What is Machine Learning?

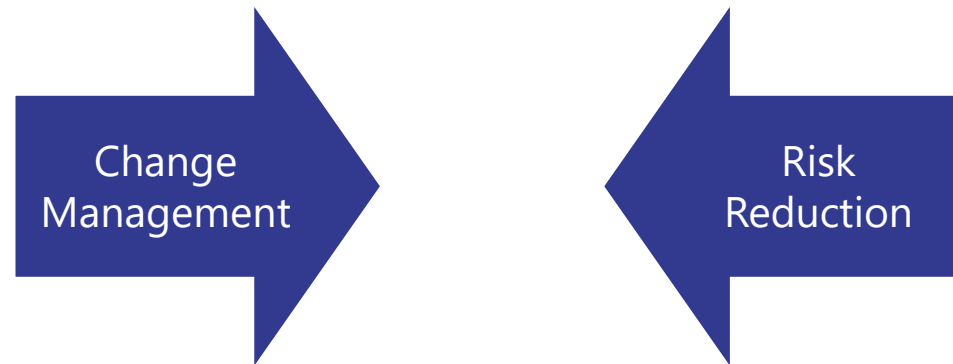
*A collection of statistical techniques that give computers the ability to "**learn**" a specific task from data without being explicitly programmed.*



# What is DevOps?

*“A set of practices intended to reduce the time between committing a change to a system **and the change being placed into normal production**, while ensuring high quality”*

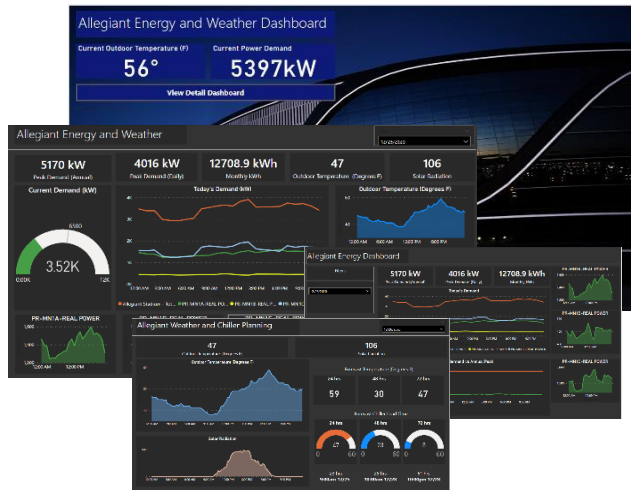
*-DevOps: A Software Architect's Perspective*





# What Can ML Offer?

## BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE



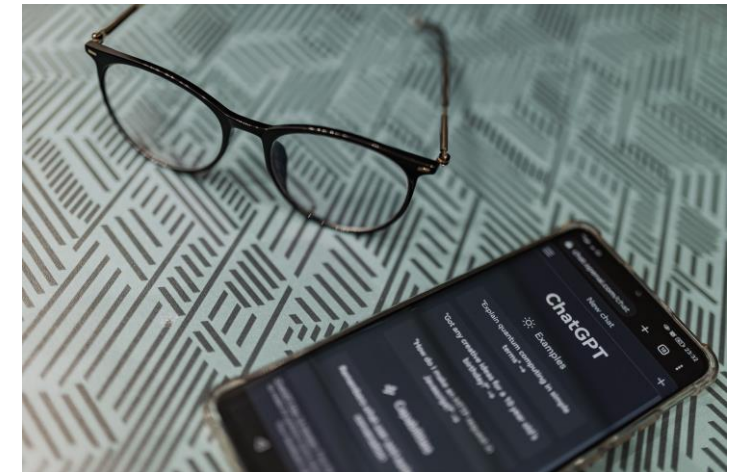
- Risk Analytics
- Load/Demand Forecasting
- Digital Twins
- Revenue Optimization
- Customer Insights

## IMAGE ANALYTICS



- Asset Inspection
- Damage Assessment
- Vegetation Management
- Site Planning

## LARGE LANGUAGE MODELS



- Semantic Search/Document Retrieval
- Decision Support
- Customer Support

# What Makes This Difficult? A Practical Example

## Present Model



## Future Challenges

Foundational IT	Solution Focus	Deployment Focus	Usage Focus	Mission Focus
 Data Availability and Quality	 Expertise	 Data and Model Drift	 Model Documentation and Transparency	 Ethics and Compliance
 Tools and IT Standards	 Integration	 Service Monitoring	 Change Management	 Enablement
 Security	 Model Versioning	 Infrastructure	 Data Governance	 Strategic Alignment



## GUIDING AI STRATEGY AND ETHICS THROUGH GOVERNANCE



### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Define AI objectives and set a clear roadmap



### ETHICAL AND COMPLIANCE OVERSIGHT

Establish guidelines for regulatory compliance and ethics in relation to AI adoption



### IT ALIGNMENT

Align AI solution design standards with broader IT strategy



### RISK MANAGEMENT

Identify and manage ML product lifecycle risks through organizational policies

## FUELING AI EFFICIENCY, POWERING INNOVATION THROUGH MLOPS



### OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Automated ML lifecycle and testing for streamlined operations



### RELIABILITY

Operational ML metrics, including service latency, data quality and data drift are monitored



### SCALE USE CASES

Templatized deployment patterns encourage reuse and align with IT standards



### TRANSPARENCY

Models are versioned in centralized model registry – explainability metrics and model drift are tracked

# Approaches to Governance

## MLOps Activities

### Scale Design Patterns and Templates

- Publish to central repository
- Work with governance body for enterprise adoption

### Automated Testing For Resiliency

- System monitoring and alerting, monitor drift
- Integration, reliability testing

### Workflow Automation for ML Pipelines

- Automation and versioning for all processes
- Establish CI/CD practices

### Experimentation Platform

- Build experimentation environment and scalable compute resources

### Data Connections

- Establish secure connections to enterprise data sources to maintain integrity



SCALABLE



RELIABLE



REPEATABLE



PLATFORM



DATA FOUNDATIONS

## Governance Activities

### Enterprise-Wide Adoption

- Enable self-service provisioning of templates
- Communication channels for best practices and insight

### Model Risk Management

- Risk assessments and management to mitigate internal and external concerns

### Policy Enforcement and Auditing

- Automate compliance checks through ML Lifecycle
- Periodic audits and assessments of process

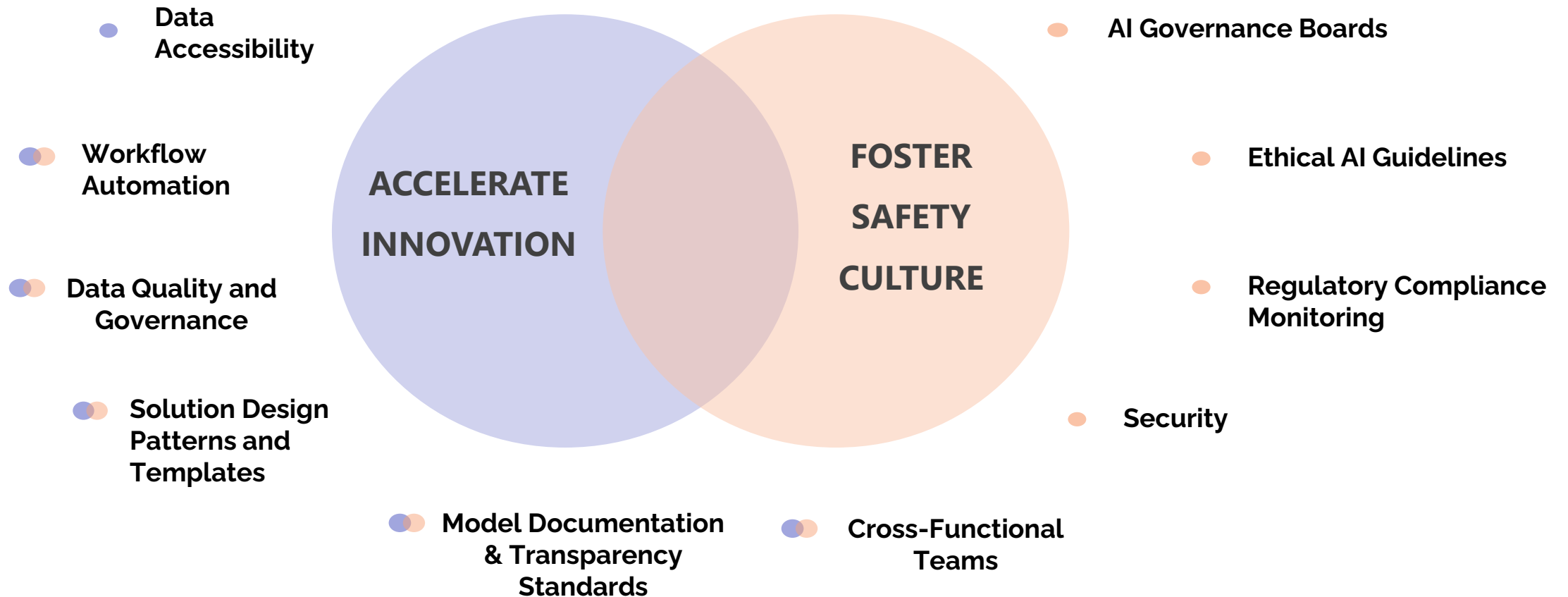
### Governance Platform Integration

- Reporting mechanisms for results
- Standardize workflows

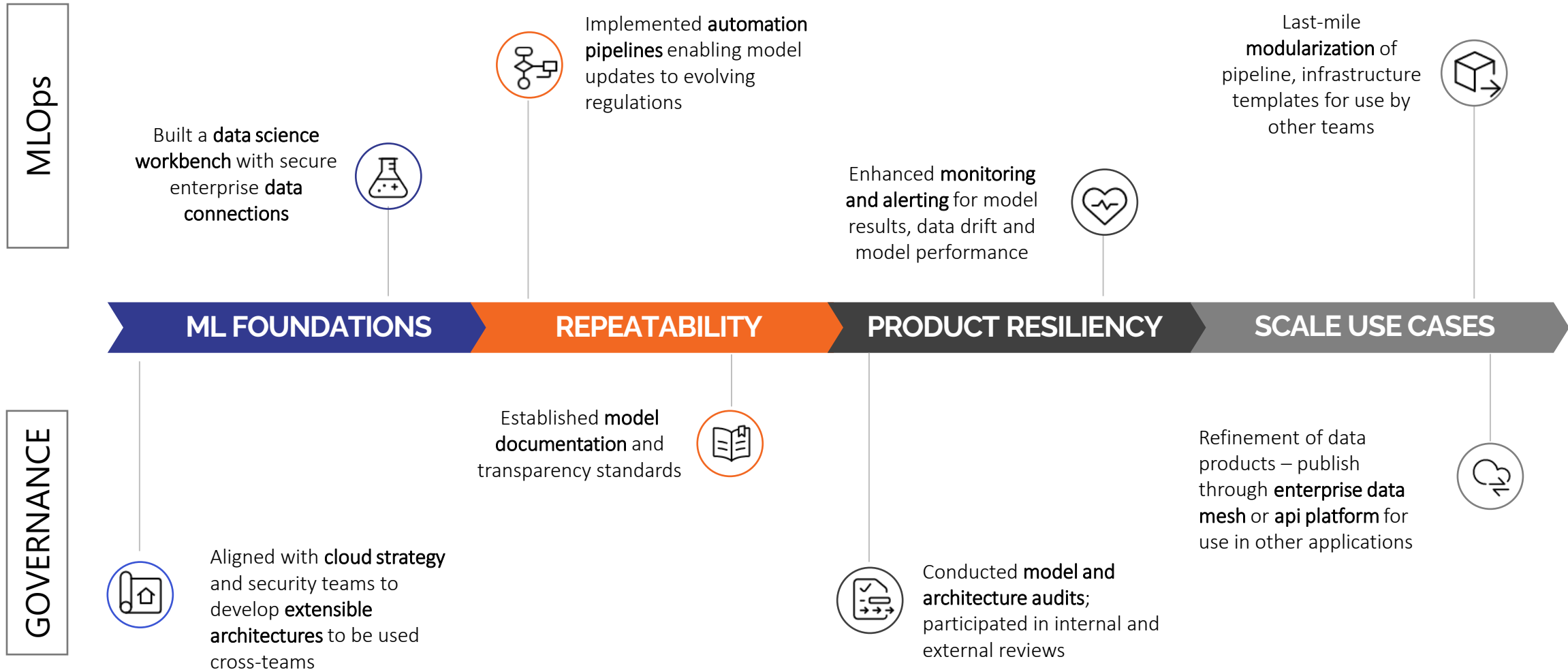
### Data Governance and Quality Assurance

- Focus on quality, lineage, security, and compliance
- Defined ownership and access controls

# Maximize the Impact of AI Adoption Responsibly Risk-Aware Accelerators



# Case Study: Maturing Wildfire Analytics





# ML Governance – Beyond One Size Fits All



## DEFINE OPERATING MODEL

Explicit definition of roles in cross-functional organizations delineate responsibilities and operating model for collaboration



## ENGAGE AND SUPPORT

Owners of dependent workstreams provide support model to stakeholder teams



## MONITOR AND ITERATE

Leverage metrics-driven approach to identify process bottlenecks and refine process

### ML Governance Board



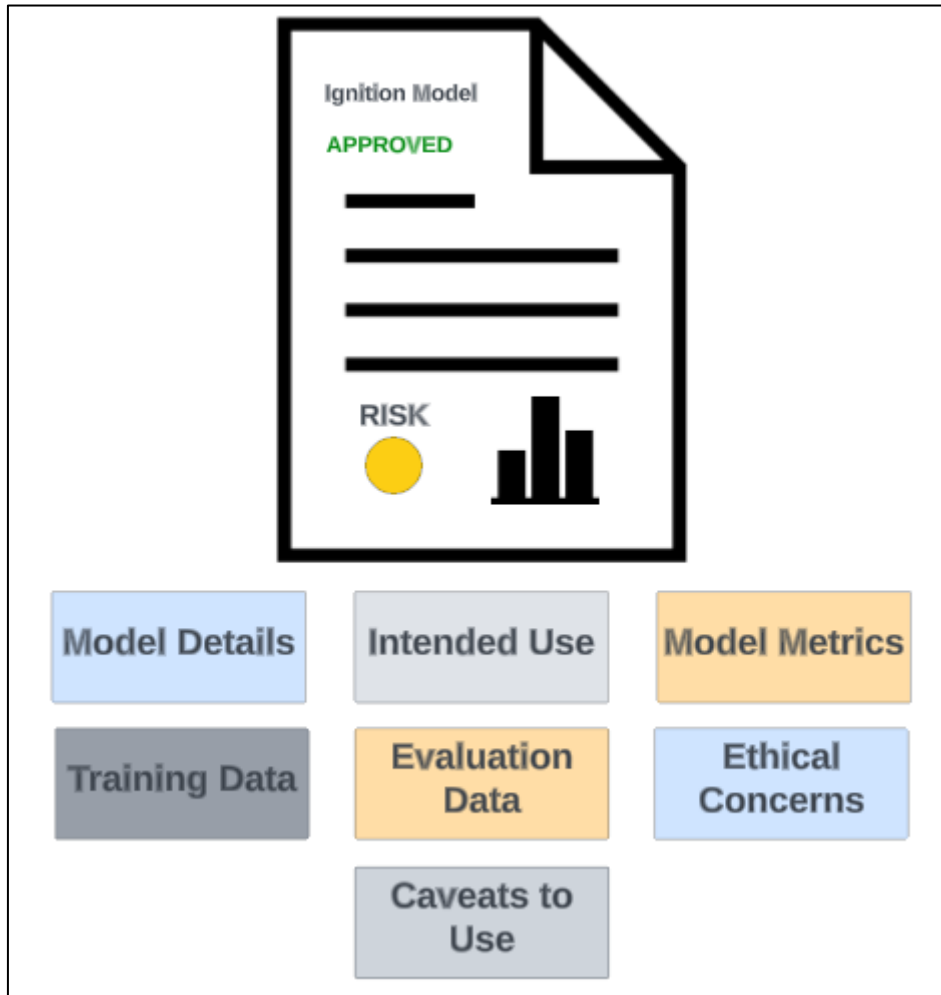
Develop Strategic Vision and Playbook



Ethical and Risk Oversight



Tool and Infrastructure Governance



- ▶ RECOGNIZED BY KEY PLAYERS
  - Originated from Google Research in 2019
  - **Supported by Major Cloud Platforms** – GCP, AWS SageMaker, Azure (Preview)
  - Embraced by Data Science Community (HuggingFace, Kaggle)
- ▶ NO DEEP EXPERTISE NEEDED
  - Consumable by all-regardless of domain and technical expertise
  - Usage guidelines drive accelerators for **model reuse and transparency**
- ▶ RISK AND COMPLIANCE
  - Supports **proactive risk management** by disclosing limitations and potential challenges.
  - **Eases regulatory reporting** by providing standardized information for audits and assessments

# Tools For Governance – Risk Management Framework

## ▶ CROSS-DISCIPLINARY

- First Release January 2023 under directive from US Congress
  - Developed by National institute of standards and technology
- Developed in collaboration with over 250 organizations private, public, academic, and non-profit sectors
- **Voluntary, Open, Non-Industry Specific**

## ▶ GOVERNANCE AT CORE

- Transparency and Organizational Process to AI-driven activities
- Drive to approach to **map, measure, and manage risk** across all areas of the business

## ▶ ORGANIZATIONAL LEVEL DIRECTIVES

- Build culture around **trustworthiness, responsible AI**, and enhance AI capabilities
- Include input and perspective for all AI Actors
- Structured Approach to Legal and Regulatory Compliance



**NIST**

# Key Takeaways – How Do I Start?



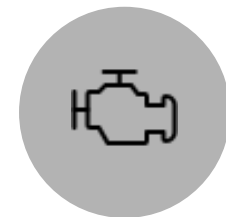
## Start Small With A Solid Foundation

- Prioritize use cases – inventory regulatory, ethical, and compliance risk factors
- Select meaningful, manageable pilots
- Develop plan how business will support models



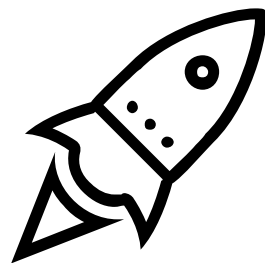
## Set North Star with Effective Governance

- Define strategy and establish roles
- Ensure alignment with organization values and industry standards



## Maintain Momentum with Process and Tools

- Continuously refine processes and embrace automation
- Leverage modern tools and technologies
- Establish iteration cycle



# THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?

Prior MLOps - (Hosted for UAI Members):

<https://tinyurl.com/yww9j5xn>