

# Crowdcast April 5, 2021 – Predict Wildfires in Australia

9am US Pacific, noon US Eastern, 6pm Central Europe; 8pm UAE, 9:30pm  
India

<https://www.crowdcast.io/e/predicting-australian/>

[malaika@us.ibm.com](mailto:malaika@us.ibm.com) Susan Malaika

# Call for Code Spot Challenge for Wildfires

## Announcement on Nov 12, 2020

- Nearly 3 billion animals were affected by Australia's worst wildfire season that burned from July 2019 through March 2020 [estimates Chris Dickman](#), a professor of ecology at the University of Sydney. The [human cost to Aboriginal and Torres Island Australians](#), who lost their homes and their sacred sites, is devastating.
- Join data scientists to develop models focused on forecasting wildfires in Australia for the upcoming wildfire season and enter the chance to win 5K US Dollars. To get you started we're releasing historical data sets extracted from [Weather Operations Center Geospatial Analytics](#) component ([PAIRS Geoscope](#)) Our goal is to better understand the application of machine learning techniques in this domain.
- **Useful Links**
  - The Contest landing page (this page) <http://ibm.biz/cfcsc-wildfires>
  - The Contest GitHub <https://github.com/Call-for-Code/Spot-Challenge-Wildfires>
  - The Contest leaderboard <http://ibm.biz/cfcsc-wildfires-lead>
  - Slack Workspace <http://callforcode.org/slack> Channel #cfcsc-wildfires
  - Helpful blog <https://medium.com/ibm-data-ai/predicting-australian-wildfires-with-weather-forecast-data-8d1cc983c863>

# What Happened – 4 phases

Time-series problem  
based on daily data  
provided by Pairs  
Geoscope

Five datasets provided:

- Historical wildfire
- Historical weather
- Historical weather forecasts
- Historical vegetation index
- Land classes

Data Refresh	Submissions Take Place	Contest Stage	Max Allowed Number Of Submissions
Available on 2020-11-10 Base Data - starts between 2005 - 2015 until 2020-10-31	2020-11-10 <del>2021-01-09</del> 2021-02-28	Development - Try the platform - Predict Feb 2020 (the first 28 days)	daily 10, weekly 50, total 100
Available on 2021-01-09 Refresh data to include up until 2021-01-08 (with some exceptions - <a href="#">see notes in zip file</a> )	2021-01-10 <del>2021-01-15</del> 2021-01-19	Predict Jan 2021 week 3 (Jan 16-22)	daily 5, weekly 35, total 35
Available on 2021-01-18 Refresh data to include up until 2021-01-14 (see <a href="#">zip files</a> )	2021-01-16 <del>2021-01-22</del> 2021-01-26	Predict Jan 2021 week 4 (Jan 23-29)	daily 5, weekly 35, total 35
Available on 2021-01-23 Refresh data to include up until 2021-01-22 (see <a href="#">zip files</a> )	2020-01-23 <del>2021-01-31</del> 2021-02-02	Predict Feb 2021 (Feb 1-28)	daily 3, weekly 3, total 3

Goal: Predict the size of the fire area in km squared by region in Australia for each day in February 2021 using data available up to January 29<sup>th</sup>

Call for Code Spot Challenge for Wildfires - Predict February 2021 Australia  
 The Contest leaderboard <http://ibm.biz/cfcsc-wildfires-lead>  
 Leaderboard after evaluation on Mar 2 with Feb data including Feb 28

Participant Team	Method Name	Git Hub Url	rmse	mae	tot	Last submission at
Data Warriors	N/A	N/A	19.6021	7.031	9.5452	35 day(s) ago
Schildkröte	DNN, Linear Log, 16	N/A	21.0631	7.3531	10.0951	30 day(s) ago
dss	Feb2021_ak	N/A	21.0401	8.0493	10.6474	27 day(s) ago
MLVV	N/A	N/A	20.0402	9.0974	11.286	27 day(s) ago
TomasKaminskas	N/A	N/A	19.747	10.2913	12.1824	34 day(s) ago
OborITERA	LMU	N/A	20.6271	11.0571	12.9711	27 day(s) ago
Student	N/A	N/A	24.9991	16.9296	18.5435	27 day(s) ago
Katharina Knappmann	N/A	N/A	47.4495	19.3634	24.9806	27 day(s) ago
DNAwarriors	Sub2	N/A	48.0531	25.7235	30.1894	27 day(s) ago
MM	N/A	N/A	68.3319	29.5657	37.319	28 day(s) ago
NoSmoke	Watson - AutoAI	N/A	58.4924	33.5799	38.5624	27 day(s) ago
YHA	DNN	N/A	62.4899	49.2962	51.935	27 day(s) ago
Team-Bul	N/A	N/A	111.67	46.8967	59.8513	27 day(s) ago
titania01001	N/A	N/A	169.1759	46.7604	71.2435	26 day(s) ago
ROTKK	N/A	N/A	145.94	74.6057	88.8726	28 day(s) ago

The Final  
External  
Leaderboard

Lowest Tot is  
good

Closest to  
reality

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- The datasets (Hendrik)
- A technical overview of the models from 3 teams
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Call for Code Spot Challenge for Wildfires

The datasets

Comparing prediction models from 3 leading teams

Case study at university

Do join us <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/predicting-australian/>

More info <http://ibm.biz/cfcsc-wildfires>





# Congratulations Data Warriors



**Albert Um**



**Shruti Chaturvedi**



**Divyansh Choubisa**

# Call for Code Spot Challenge for Wildfires with PAIRS Geoscope

Hendrik F. Hamann, Johannes Schmude  
IBM T.J. Watson Research Center

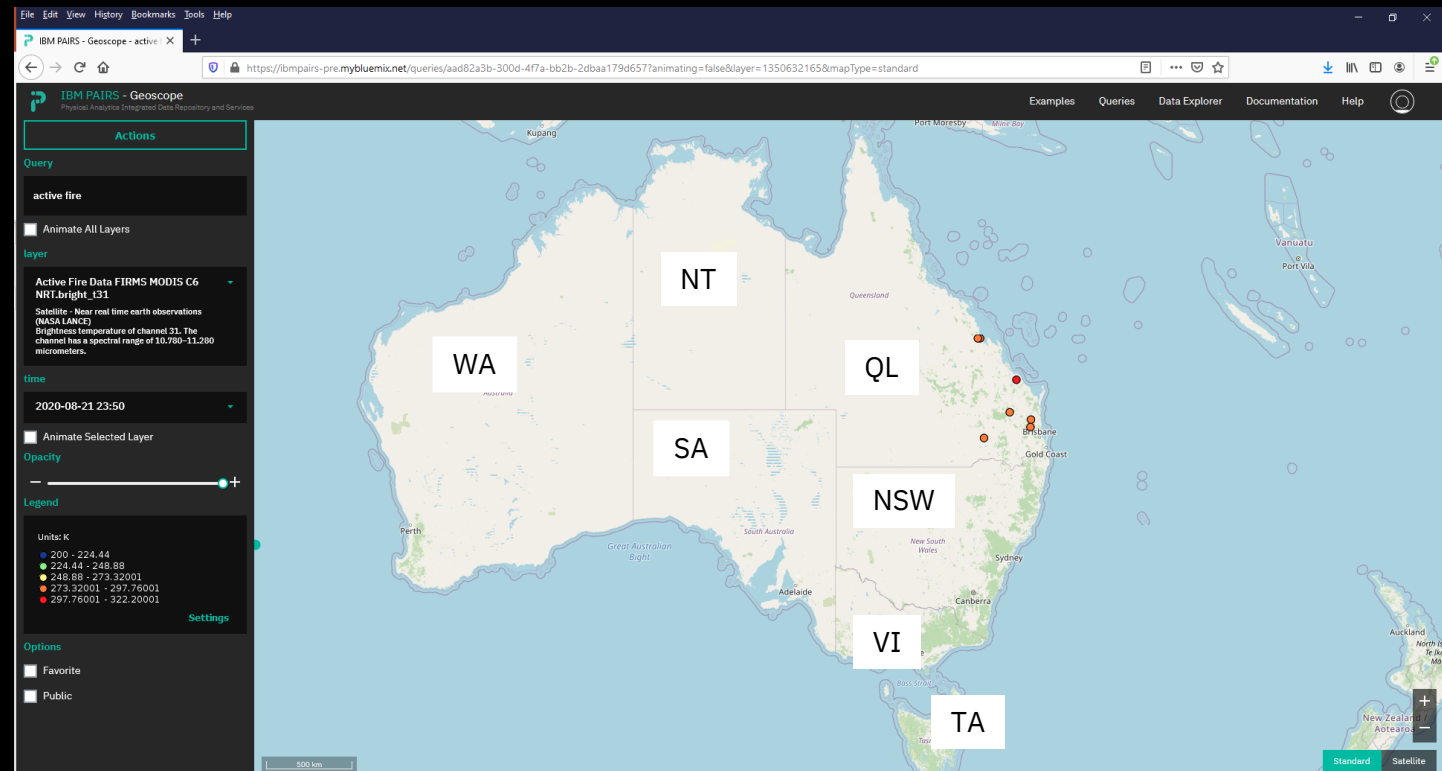


# What will be forecasted/predicted in this contest?

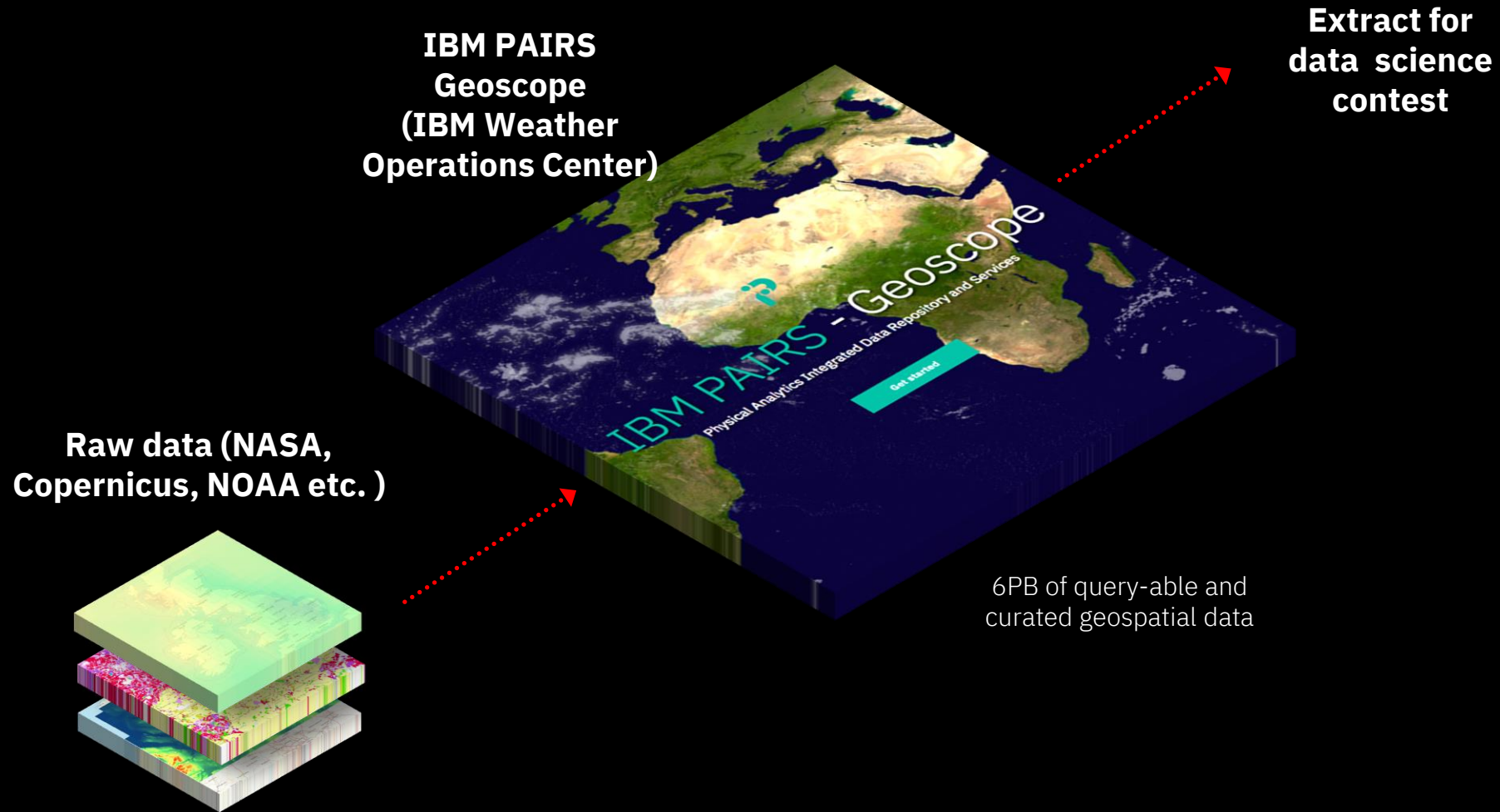
*Forecast/predict the daily total estimated fire area for 7 states in Australia for Feb. 2021?*

NSW=New South Wales\*  
NT=Northern Territory  
QL=Queensland  
SA=Southern Australia  
TA=Tasmania  
VI=Victoria  
WA=Western Australia

\*excluded the capital region



# Call for Code Spot Challenge for Wildfires data sets have been “extracted” from PAIRS



# The extracted data

1. Historical Wildfires

2. Historical Weather

3. Historical Weather Forecast

4. Land Class

5. Normalized Vegetation Index



Readme\_Docs.docx V2



HistorialWeatherForecasts.csv V2



HistoricalWeather.csv V2



VegetationIndex.csv



LandClass.csv V2



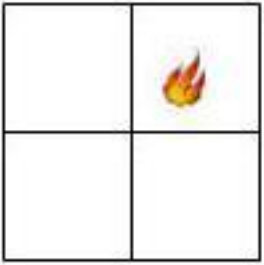
Historial\_Wildfires.csv

# Historical fire data from a NASA satellite

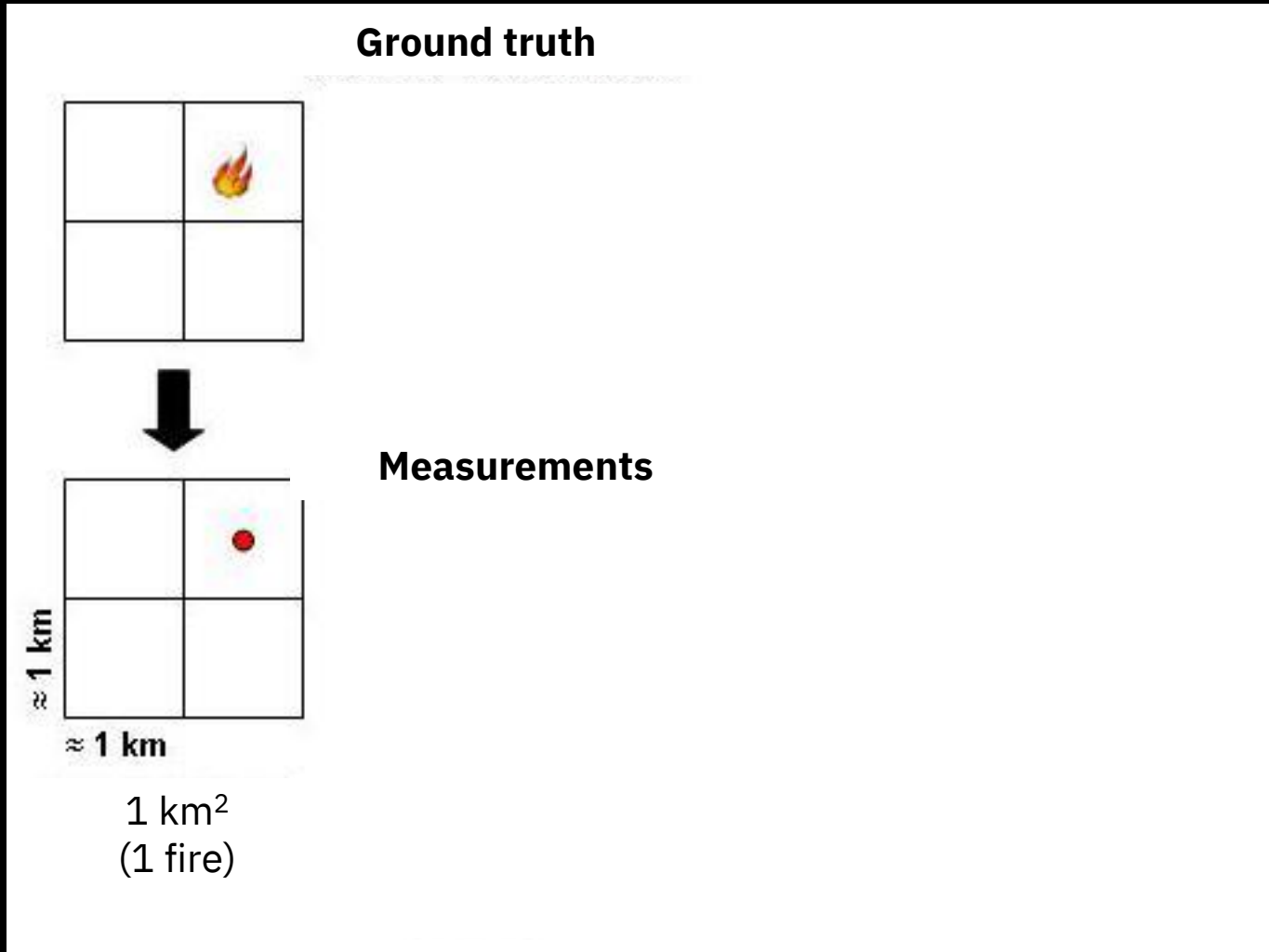


# Historical fire data – from hotspots to pixels to estimated areas

**Ground truth**

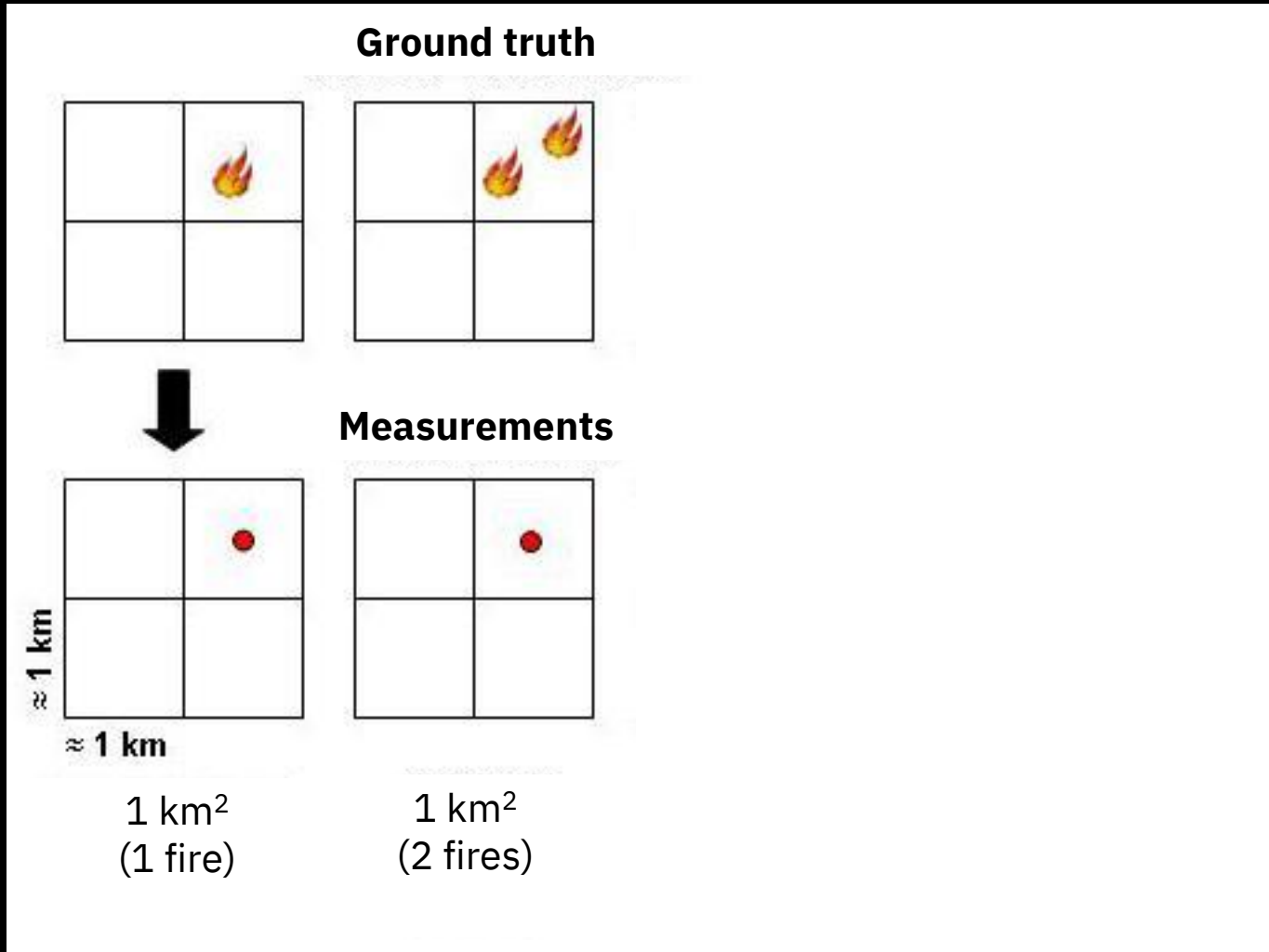


# Historical fire data – from hotspots to pixels to estimated areas

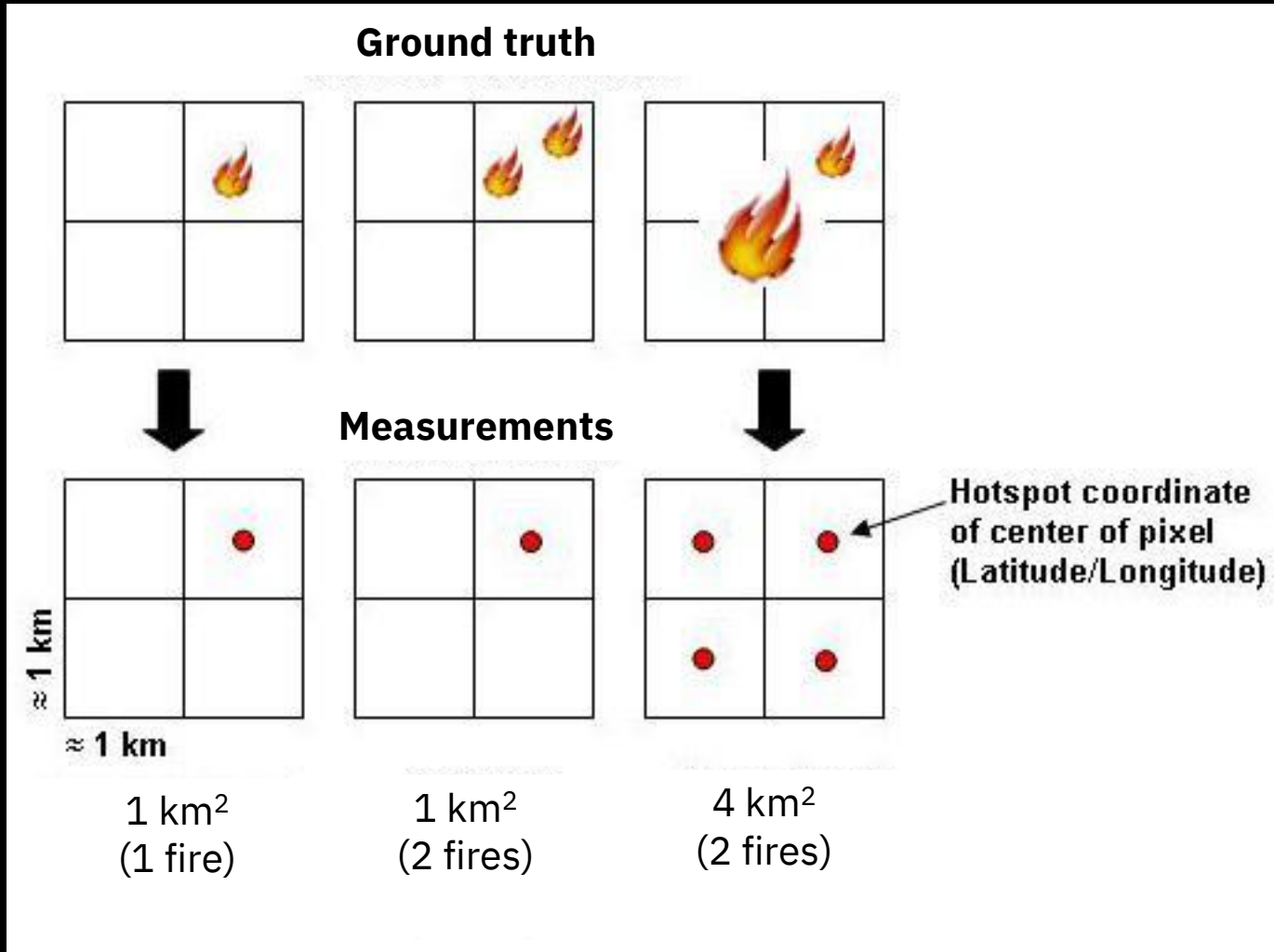




# Historical fire data – from hotspots to pixels to estimated areas

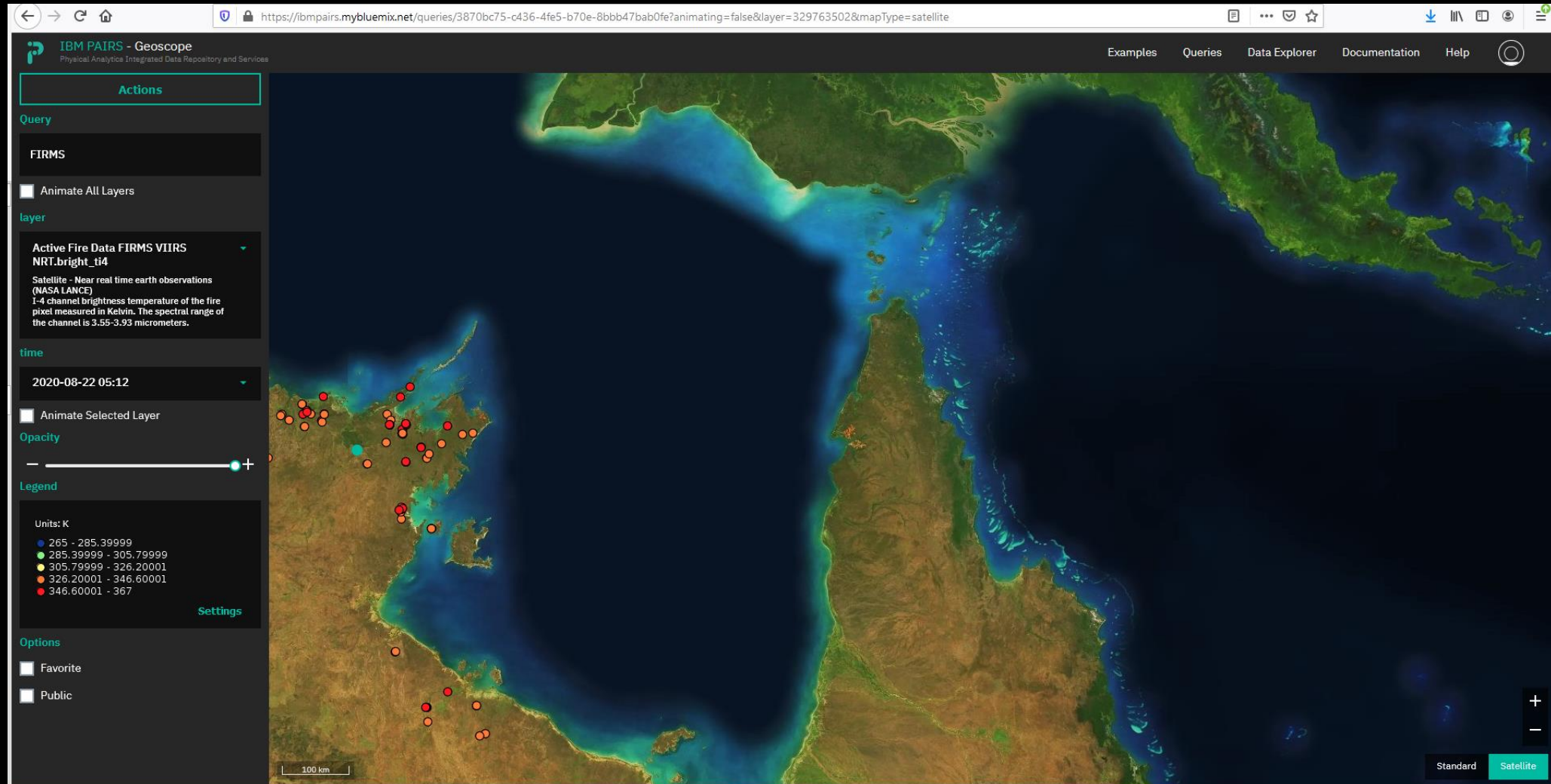


# Historical fire data – from hotspots to pixels to estimated areas



*A hotspot plotted using the MODIS thermal anomalies algorithm represents the center of an approximately one-square-kilometer pixel flagged as containing one or more thermal anomalies, which may indicate a fire (upper half of image). The hotspot “location” is the center point of the pixel, which is an approximation of the actual thermal anomaly (lower half of image). Illustration courtesy of NASA FIRMS.*

# Historical fire data – Raw data



# Historical fire data

## ***Basic processing***

1. Daily averaged
2. Spatially aggregated over 7 regions
3. Confidence of >75%
4. Inferred hotspot type = 0 meaning a presumed vegetation fire
5. Area estimated by multiplying the along scan pixel size by the along track pixel size.
6. Brightness estimated by averaging the means of both the brightness temperature 21 (obtained from channel 21/22) and brightness temperature 31 (obtained from channel 31).

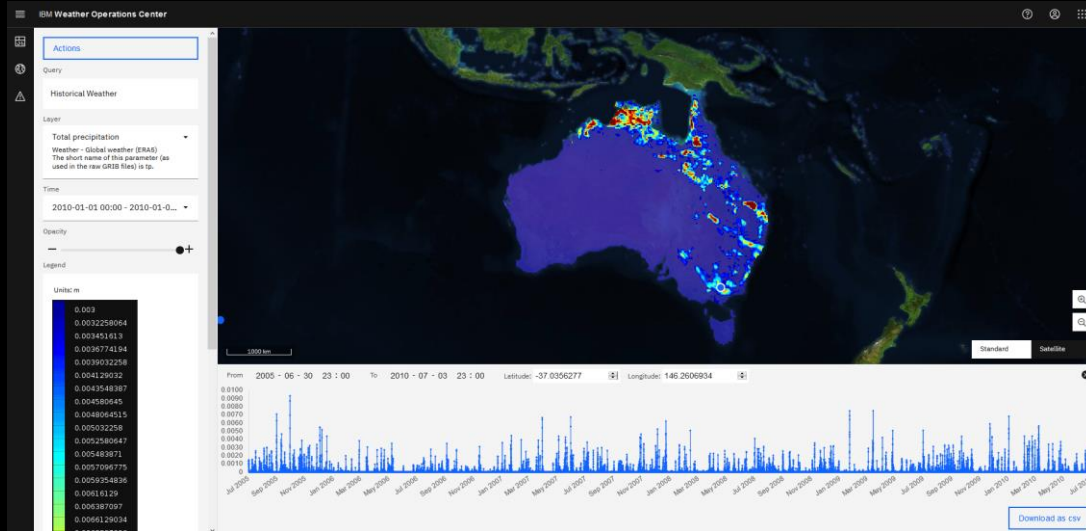
## ***Columns***

1. Region
2. Date
3. Estimated\_fire\_area [km<sup>2</sup>]
4. Mean\_estimated\_brightness [K]
5. Mean\_estimated\_fire\_radiative\_power [MW]
6. Mean\_confidence [%]
7. Std\_confidence [%]
8. Var\_confidence [%]
9. Count
10. Replaced [Y/N]

# Historical weather data

## *Basic processing*

1. Daily averaged
2. Spatially aggregated over 7 regions



## *Columns*

1. Region
2. Date
3. Parameter
  - ✓ Precipitation [mm/day]
  - ✓ Relative humidity [%]
  - ✓ Soil water content [m3 m3]
  - ✓ Solar radiation [MJ/day]
  - ✓ Temperature [C]
  - ✓ Wind speed [m/s]
4. count() [km2]
5. min(): Minimum of the spatial aggregation
6. max(): Maximum of the spatial aggregation
7. mean(): Average of the spatial aggregation
8. variance: 2nd moment of spatial aggregation

# Historical weather forecast data

## *Basic processing*

1. Daily averaged
2. Spatially aggregated over 7 regions



## *Columns*

1. Region
2. Date
3. Parameter
  - ✓ Precipitation [mm/day]
  - ✓ Relative humidity [%]
  - ✓ Solar radiation [MJ/day]
  - ✓ Temperature [C]
  - ✓ Wind speed [m/s]
4. **Lead time [day]**
5. count() [km<sup>2</sup>]
6. min(): Minimum of the spatial aggregation
7. max(): Maximum of the spatial aggregation
8. mean(): Average of the spatial aggregation
9. variance: 2nd moment of spatial aggregation



# Land class data

## *Basic processing*

1. Spatially aggregated over 7 regions
2. Data is normalized to 100 [%]



## *Columns*

1. Region
2. Type
  - ✓ Shrubs [%]
  - ✓ Herbaceous vegetation [%]
  - ✓ Cultivated and managed vegetation/agriculture (crops)
  - ✓ Urban / built up [%]
  - ✓ Bare / sparse vegetation [%]
  - ✓ Permanent water bodies [%]
  - ✓ Herbaceous wetland [%]
  - ✓ Closed forest, evergreen, broad leaf [%]
  - ✓ Closed forest, deciduous broad leaf [%]
  - ✓ Closed forest, unknown [%]
  - ✓ Open forest, evergreen broad leaf [%]
  - ✓ Open forest, deciduous broad leaf [%]
  - ✓ Open forest, unknown definitions [%]
  - ✓ Open sea [%]

# Vegetation index data

## *Basic processing*

1. Monthly aggregated
2. Spatially aggregated over 7 regions



## *Columns*

1. Region
2. Date
3. Vegetation\_index\_mean
4. Vegetation\_index\_max
5. Vegetation\_index\_min
6. Vegetation\_index\_variance

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# Call for Code Spot Challenge for Wildfires

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The yau\_yee\_Italy's Approach for developing the Solution

## Team Members

Marco De Ieso

Andrea Ongaro

Giulia Plotti

Guglielmo Sanchini

22 Febbraio 2021



# The IBM Wildfire Challenge

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Time-series problem based on daily data provided by **Earthdata Nasa** and **Pairs Geoscope** describing wildfire extension per region in Australia, meteo condition and other properties



Five **dataset** provided:  
Historical Wildfire  
Historical weather  
Historical weather forecasts  
Historical vegetation index  
Land classes



**Predict** the size of the fire area in km squared by region in Australia for each day in **February 2021** using data available up to January 29<sup>th</sup>



# The yau\_yee\_Italy Team



**Marco De Ieso**

IBM Senior Data  
Scientist – Leader



**Andrea Ongaro**

IBM Data Scientist



**Giulia Plotti**

IBM Data Scientist



**Guglielmo Sanchini**

IBM Data Scientist



# The phases of the project



## Preparation

Study of the Literature and approaches already implemented



## Development

Application of the CRISP-DM Methodology to the wildfire challenge



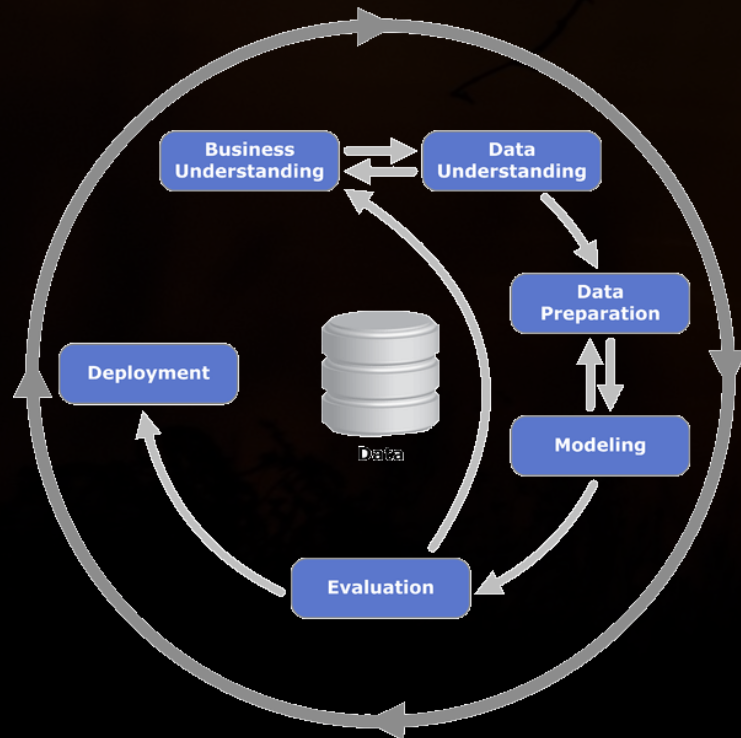
## Review & Dissemination

Sharing of results, feedbacks and lessons learned



# CRISP-DM: Overview of the Methodology

Cross-industry standard process for data mining (CRISP-DM) is an open standard process model that describes common approaches used by data mining experts. It includes six main phases:



**Business Understanding**

Understand business Context, Objectives, and Requirements

**Data Understanding**

Data collection, review and exploration of available data

**Data Preparation**

Construction of the data set(s) for modeling

**Modeling**

Application of algorithms and procedures

**Evaluation**

Model performance Evaluation & Business Value Estimation

**Deployment**

Result application/Operational implementation



# Data understanding – Variables that impact wildfires

## Territory



### Regions

Number and intensity of fires vary across different regions  
Events in neighbouring regions can influence wildfires in a given territory

Autoregressive component (the presence of wildfires in the preceding days)



### Seasonality

Wildfires are particularly intense during the “Bushfire Season” which goes from October to February.

This observation will affect the way in which training and test set are divided.

## Soil and Atmospheric conditions



### Weather & soil

Precipitations and Drought is strictly related with fires  
Comparison between historical and historical forecasted weather



### Vegetation

There is a positive correlation between the variation in the vegetation index and the intensity of fires.



### Land usage

Land utilization might be relevant for predicting the extension of wildfires. However, this data was available only as a constant – for every region; thus it was **not** included in the model.



# Data Preparation

## Perimeter of analysis

**Strategy:** one model for each couple (T,R) where T is the time of advance and R is a Region

According to the strategy we built for every (T,R) the subset of data with which we want to feed into the model.

Computation of the target variable – what we want to predict – for each time unit T included in the perimeter.

## Preprocessing

We created all the covariates that might be relevant for predicting the target value, based on the insights from the Data Understanding phase.

Before computing variables, it is necessary to assess the quality of data, by eliminating outliers, correcting any erroneous data or replacing missing one.

## Partitioning Strategy

The mining table is divided in different subset to assure that the model created is robust and precise :

- 1. Training set**
- 2. Test set**

We used the last 3 February and January 2021 as test set. For each test month, we trained the algorithm until month – 1.

# Data Preparation

## Preprocessing: Feature Extraction

We created four classes of variables. In order to reduce the complexity of the problem and to avoid multicollinearity we applied PCA technique

### AUTOREGRESSIVE VARIABLES

Lag features of the target variable  
Rolling functions [min, max, mean, sdev] applied to the target variable  
Distance in days from the last fire event

### WEATHER DATA

Using both historical data and forecasting we extracted:  
Weather variables (precipitation, temperature,...)  
Lag features of weather variables.  
Index on drought like PET and SPI

### SEASONALITY

The Australian Bureau of Meteorology defines five “fire danger season”, being times of peak bushfire activity. Therefore, we add the following features:  
Month  
Day in the year

### VEGETATION INDEX

Derive daily VI by interpolation. Using this, we then construct:  
Rolling mean  
Lag features



# Modeling

## Choice of the Algorithms

The main criteria for selecting the algorithms has been the ability to perform well on out-of-sample

### Supervised Algorithms

- *XGboost*
- *Random Forest*
- *LightGBM*

## Feature Selection

Several methods have been applied to select the set of relevant features

### Methods adopted

- *Correlation Matrix*
- *Backward Elimination*
- *Recursive Feature Elimination*

## Tuning of Parameters

Optimization of those parameters whose values cannot be estimated from the data has been performed

### Techniques

- experimented:
- *Grid Search*

## Ensembling

The accuracy is increased by combining the algorithms to construct better predictive performance

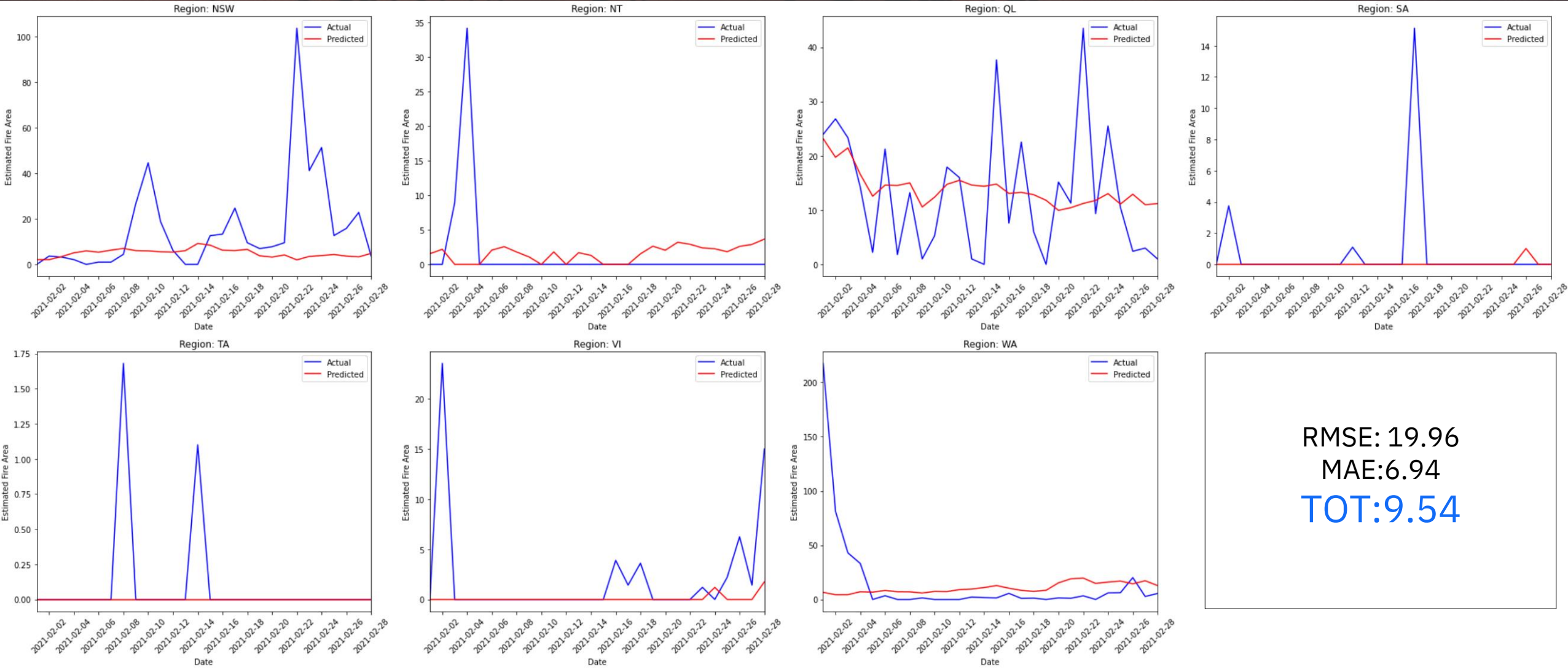
### Ensembling Techniques

- *Averaging*
- *Based on the forecast advance*



# Results

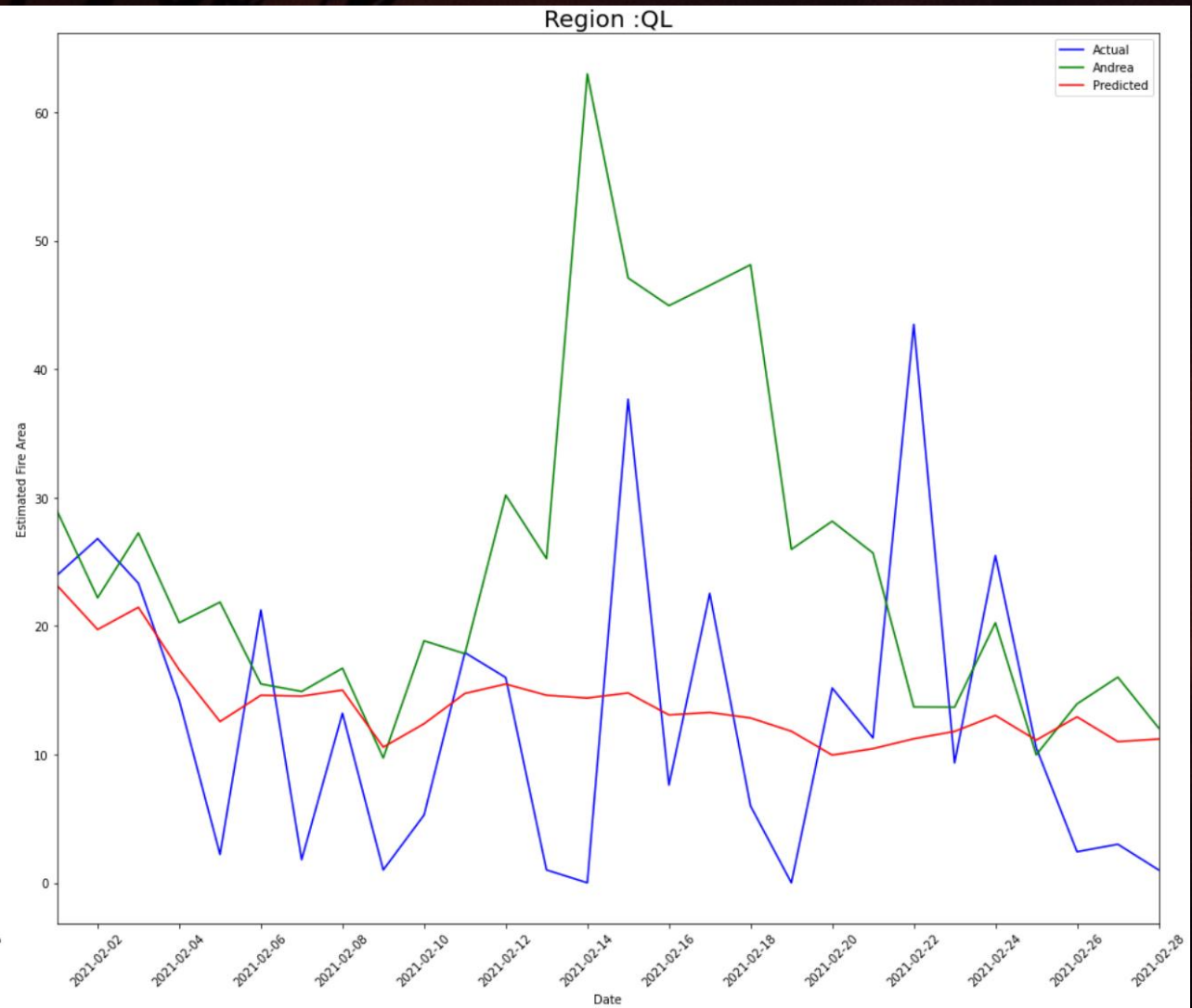
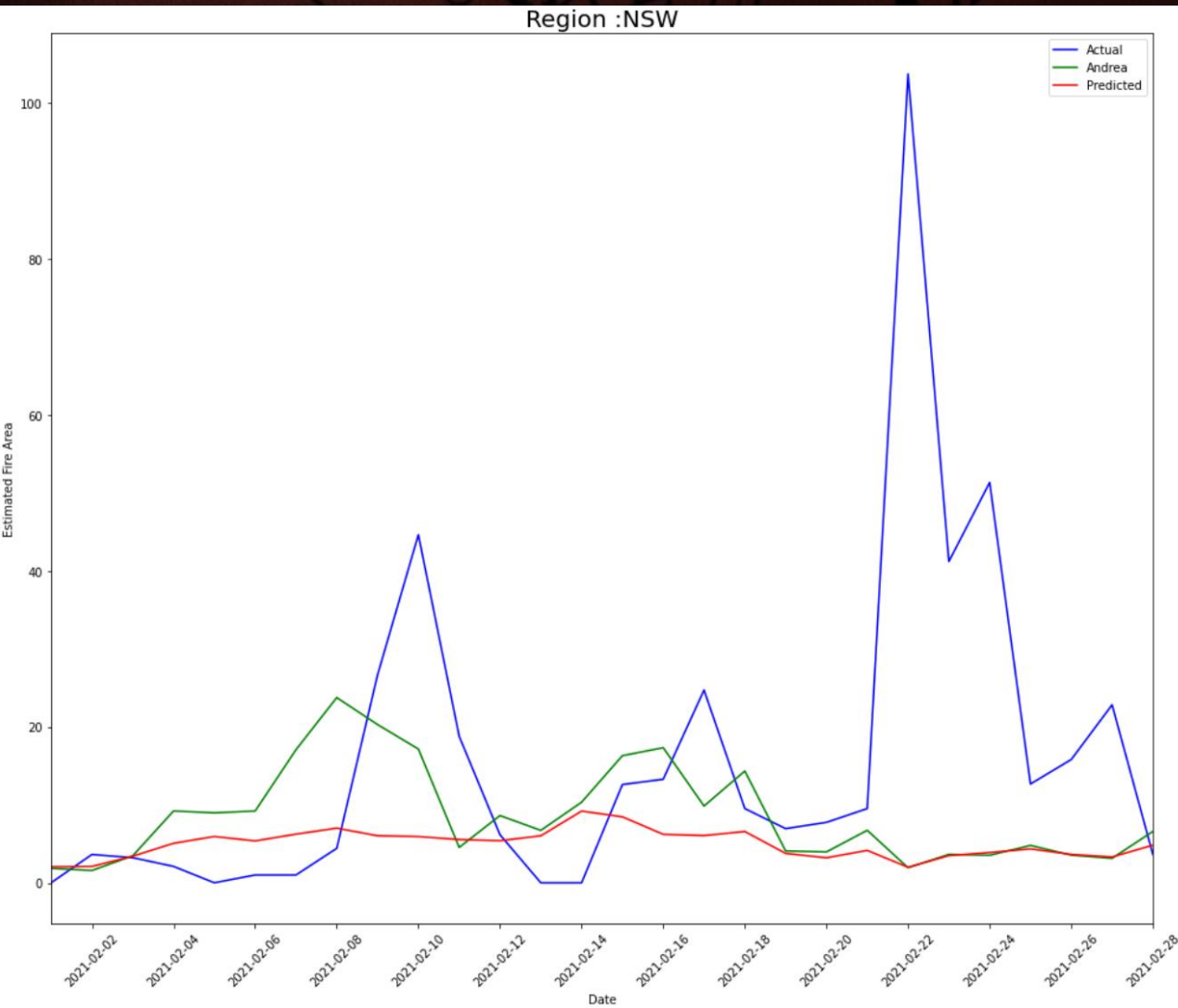
## Actual vs Predicted on Feb 2021



RMSE: 19.96  
MAE: 6.94  
TOT: 9.54

# Results

## Actual vs Predicted on Feb 2021



# Call for Code Spot Challenge: Australian Wildfires

Data Warriors



# Data Warriors: Introduction



**Albert Um**

- Data Scientist
- Bachelors in Finance
- Manufacturing Consultant
- Certified in Production and Inventory Management



**Shruti Chaturvedi**

- Azure AI Engineer
- DevOps Developer at [Connexa.ai](https://connexa.ai)
- Harvard WECODE'21 Lead Tech Fellow
- Bit Project ML Instructor



**Divyansh Choubisa**

- Machine Learning Engineer
- Bachelors in Computer Science Engineering



# Competition Objective



Predict daily fire areas(in km<sup>2</sup>) by region for February 2021:

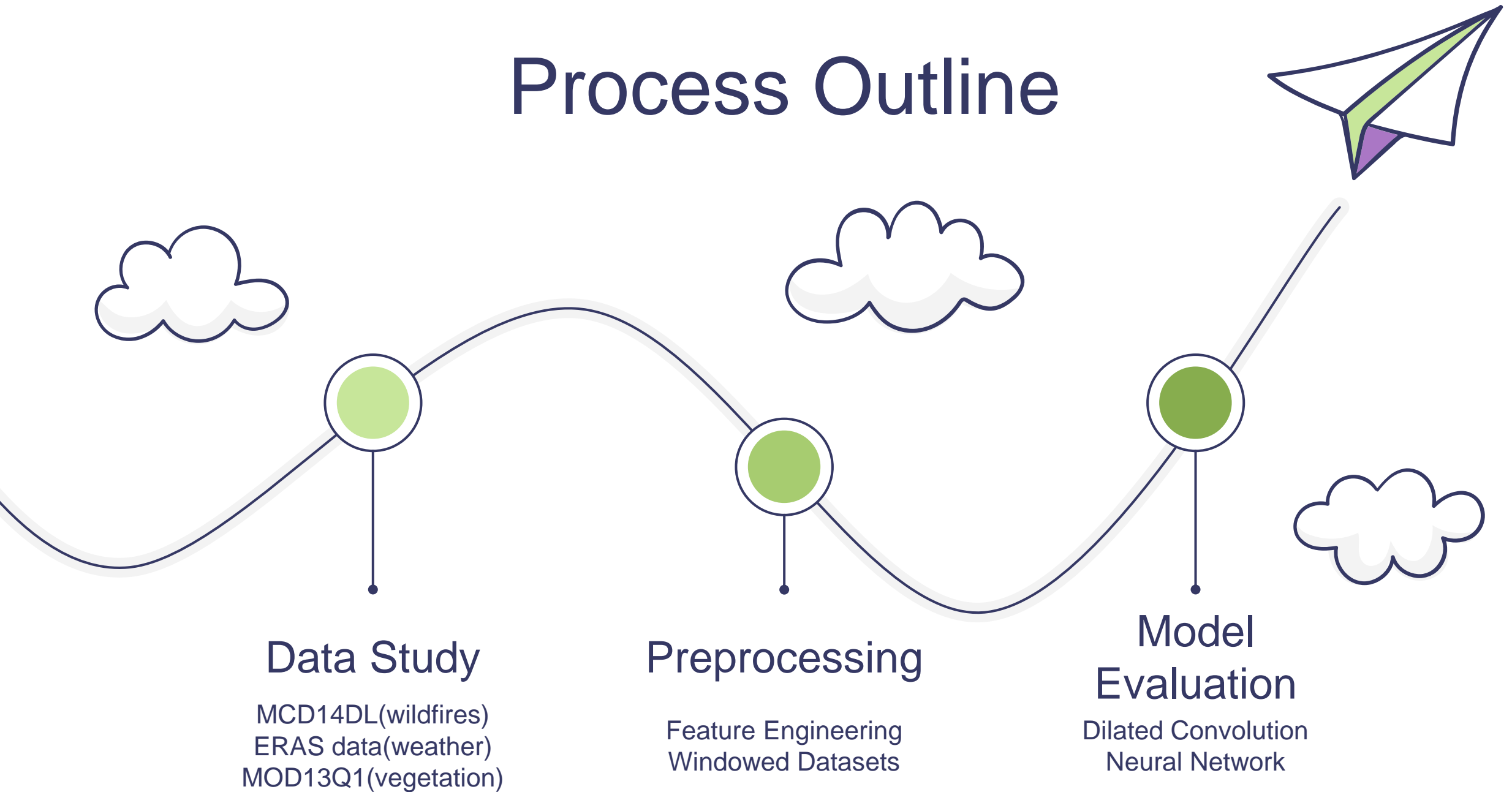
- NSW - New South Wales
- NT - Northern Territory
- QL - Queensland
- SA - South Australia
- TA - Tasmania
- VI - Victoria
- WA - Western Australia

Leaderboard Evaluations:

- 80% MAE (Mean Absolute Error)
- 20% RMSE (Root Mean Squared Error)

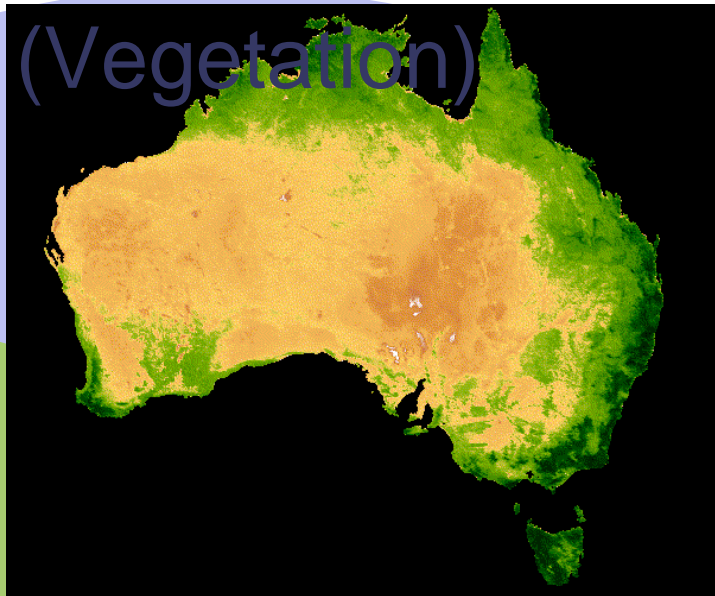


# Process Outline



# Data Study

- MCD14DL (Wildfires)
- ERAS Data (Weather)
- MOD13Q1



*Historical\_Wildfires.csv*

*HistoricalWeather.csv*

*VegetationIndex.csv*





# Preprocessing Features

## Weather & Vegetation Means

Precipitation,  
Relative Humidity,  
Soil Water Content,  
Solar Radiation,  
Temperature, Wind  
Speed, NDVI

## Log Scale

Wildfires have a  
power law-like  
distribution. Log  
transform the  
estimated fire areas.

## Surface Area

Feature engineer  
the expansion  
variable for wildfire  
areas.



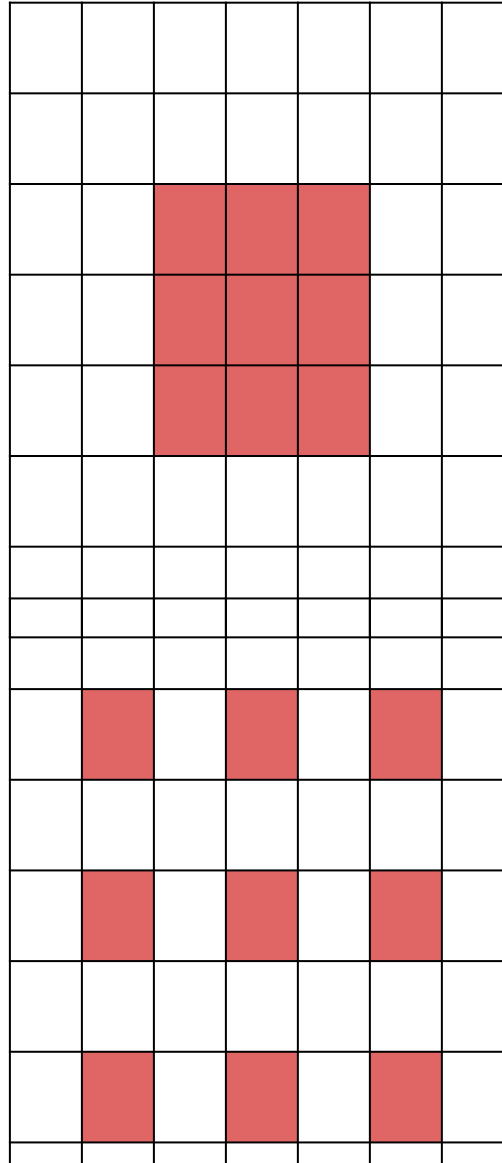
# Feature Engineering: Surface Area

## Conglomerated • • •

Assume the fire area pixels are united to one large block per region.

## Separated • • •

Assume the fire area pixels are dilated and each pixel has equal area.



Let :

$SA$  = Surface Area

$C$  = Count

$$SA_c = 4 * \sqrt{Area}$$
$$SA_c = \sqrt{Area}$$

$$SA_s = \begin{cases} C * \sqrt{\frac{Area}{C}} & \text{if } C > 0. \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

# Model Evaluation

...

Predict up to February 28, 2021.

Dataset ends on January 18, 2021.

The output steps will be 41 days  
(41 days + Jan. 18 = Feb 28)

## Training set

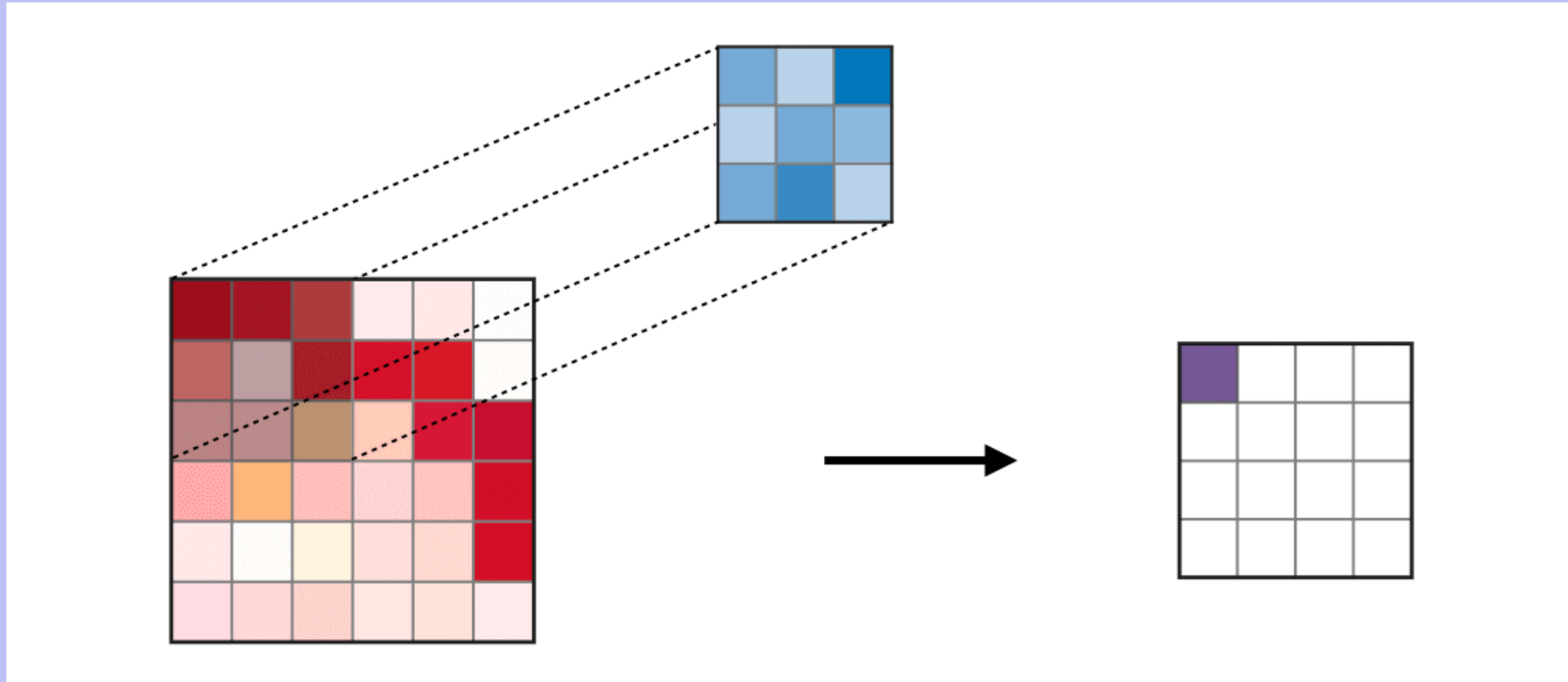
January 01, 2005 -  
November 30, 2020

## Testing set

December 01, 2020 -  
January 11, 2021

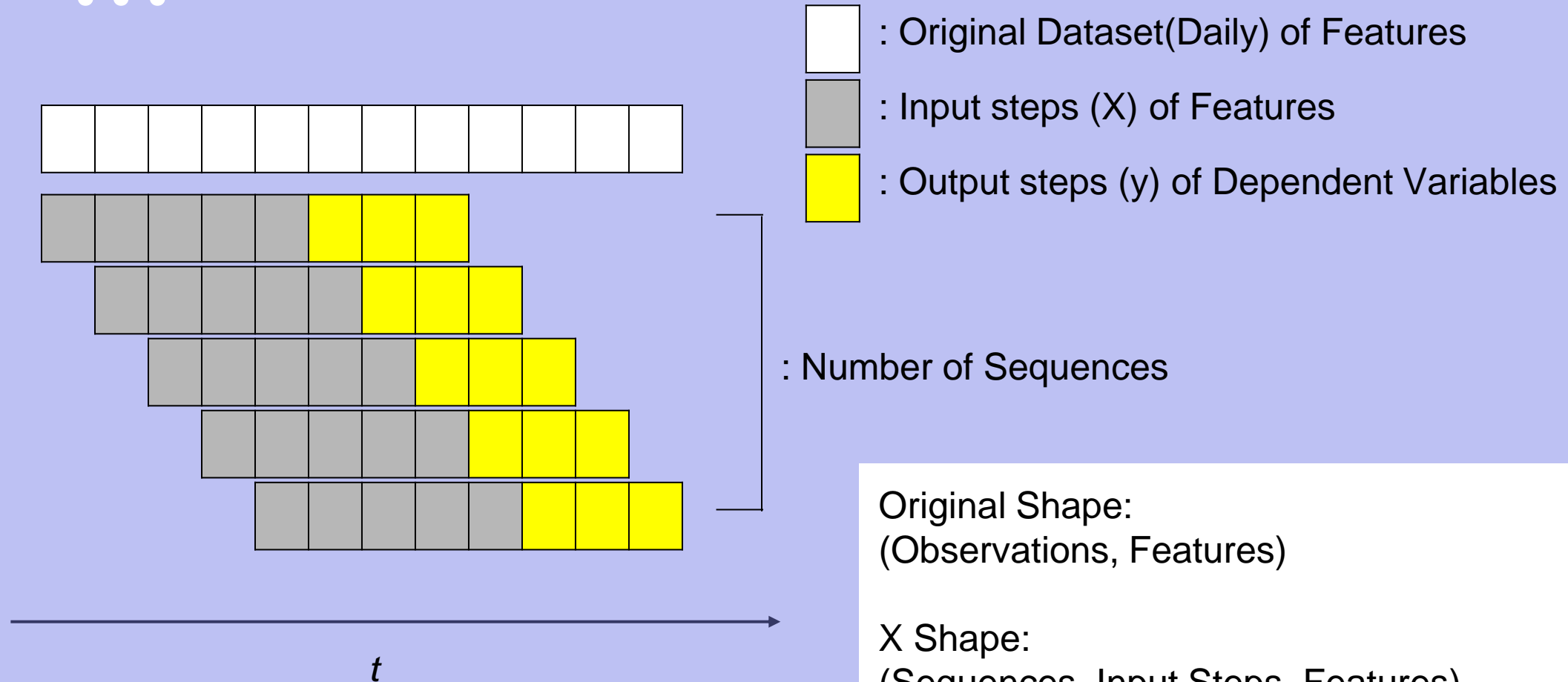
# Convolutional Neural Network

• • •



Source: <https://stanford.edu/~shervine/teaching/cs-230/cheatsheet-convolutional-neural-networks>

# Windowing Dataset



Original Shape:  
(Observations, Features)

X Shape:  
(Sequences, Input Steps, Features)

Y Shape:  
(Sequences, Output Steps, Dependents)

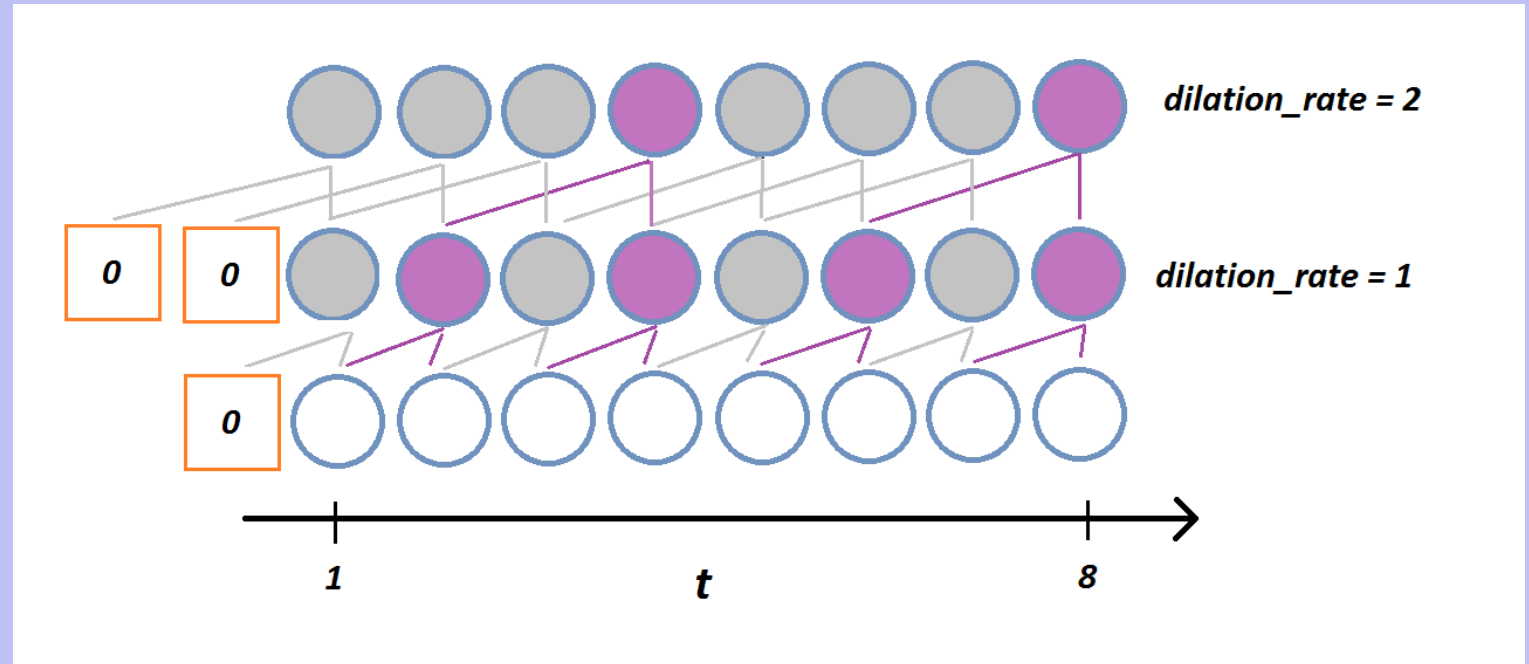
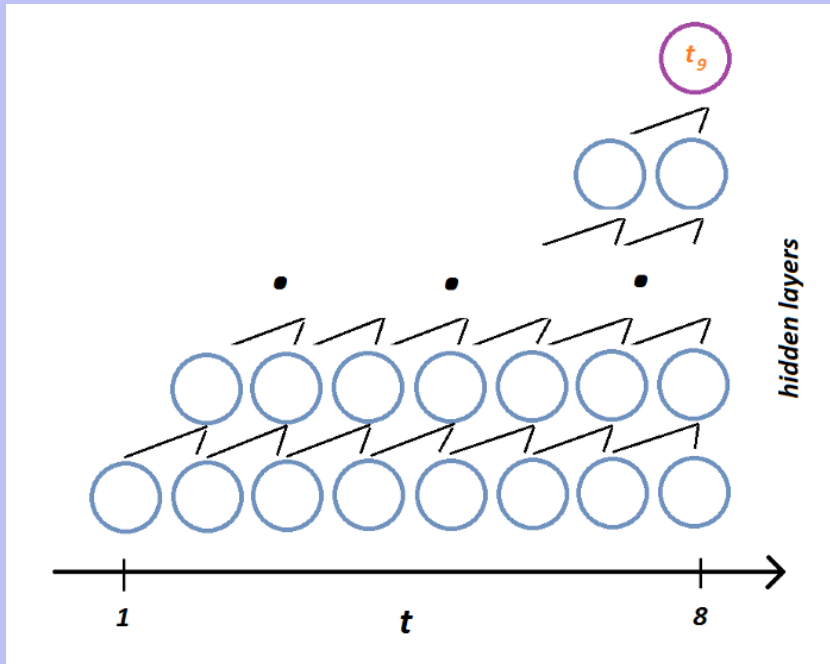
# Conv1D Layers

*Input Steps: 120, Output Steps: 41*

Without Padding/Dilation With Padding and Dilation

...

...



# Current Standings

February 01, 2021 - February 28, 2021

Mean Absolute Error: 7.03

Root Mean Squared Error: 19.60





# Further Steps



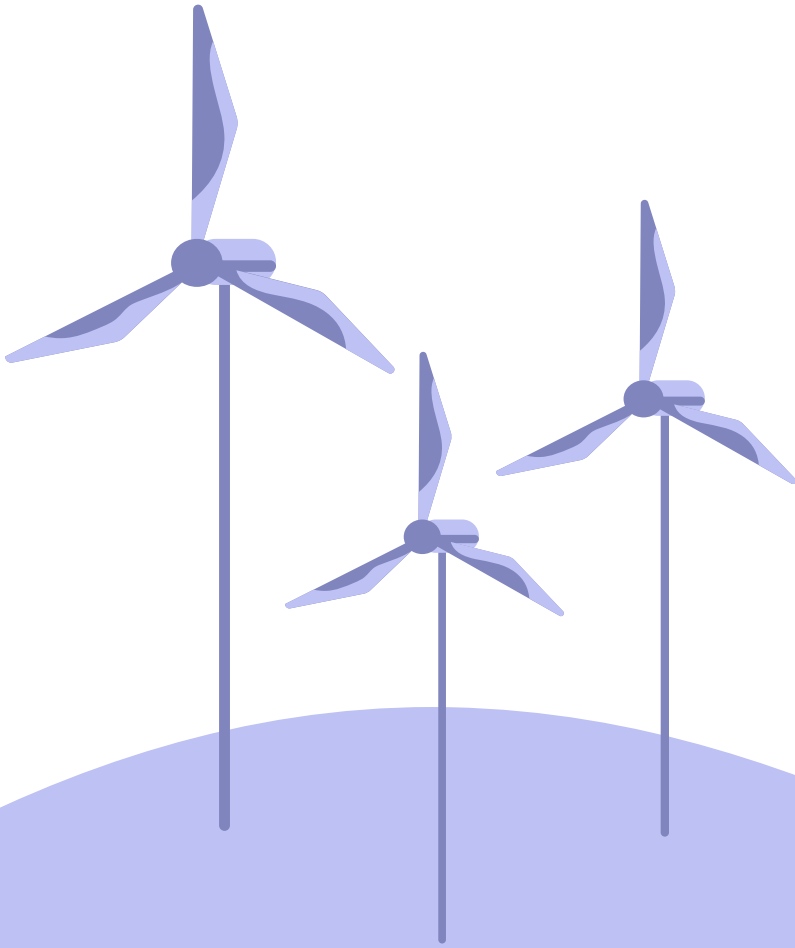
## AutoRegressive

Incorporate  
autoregressive mode  
into model.



## Google Earth Engine

Reaggregate data to  
administrative level 2  
or custom hexagon  
shape.





...

# Thank you!

[https://github.com/albertum1/cfc\\_team](https://github.com/albertum1/cfc_team)

# Australian Wildfires Spot Challenge

# Introduction:

Australian Wildfires Spot Challenge

IBM | Team NA



**Brianne Boldrin**

Business Analyst & Technical  
Delivery Manager

Goals for the challenge:

- Increase experience with Python
- Exposure to new real data sets & use cases
- Practice!



**Ned Bader**

Advisory Engineer & Master Inventor

This data challenge allowed me to grow in:

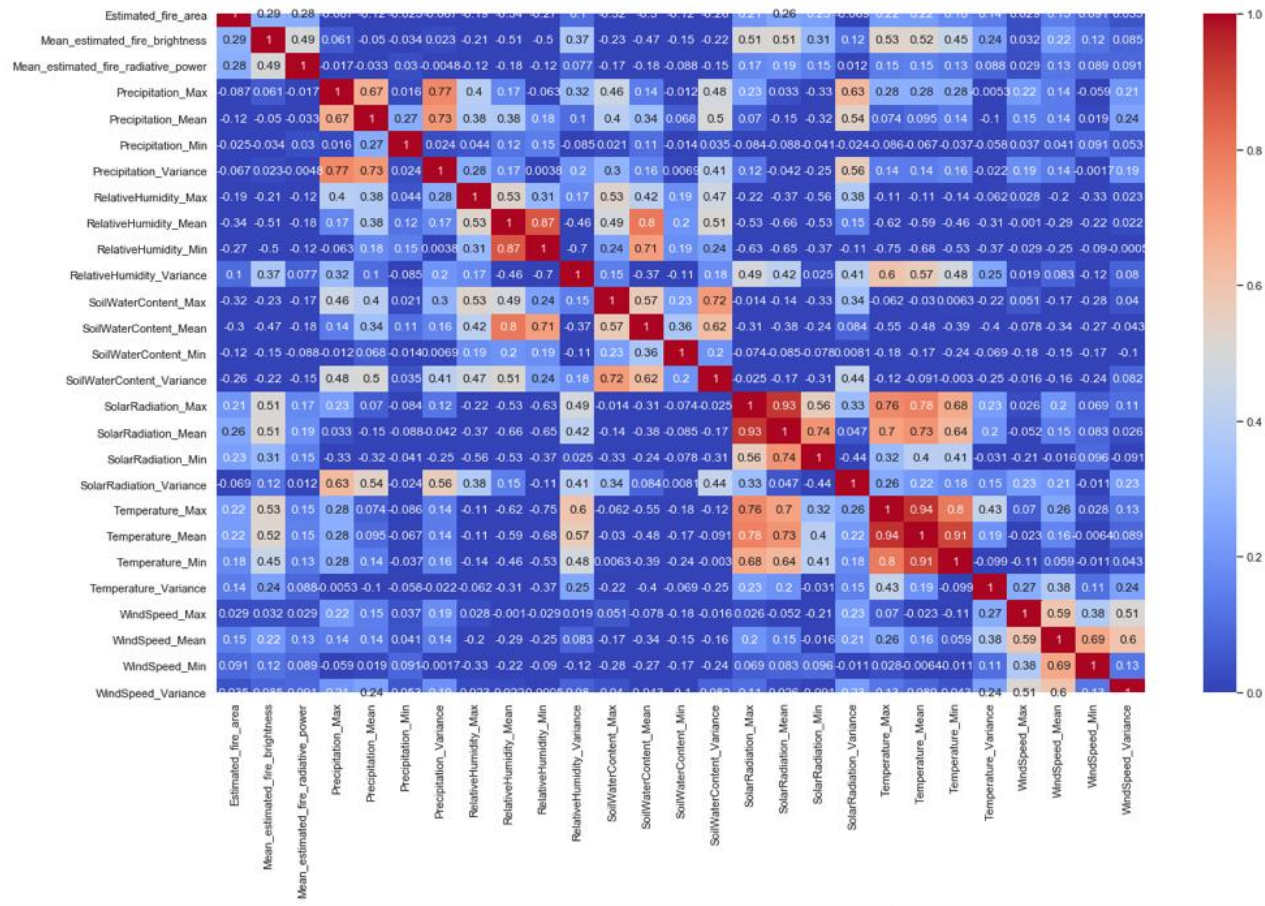
- Understanding real problems
- Working with real data sets
- Evaluating different processing methodologies

# Data Analysis



# Data Analysis:

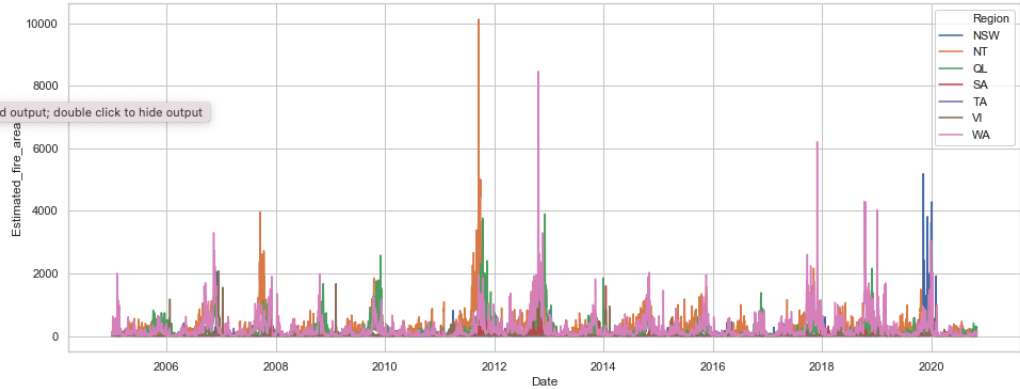
## Correlation Analysis: Identifying Similar Variables



## Variable Statistics:

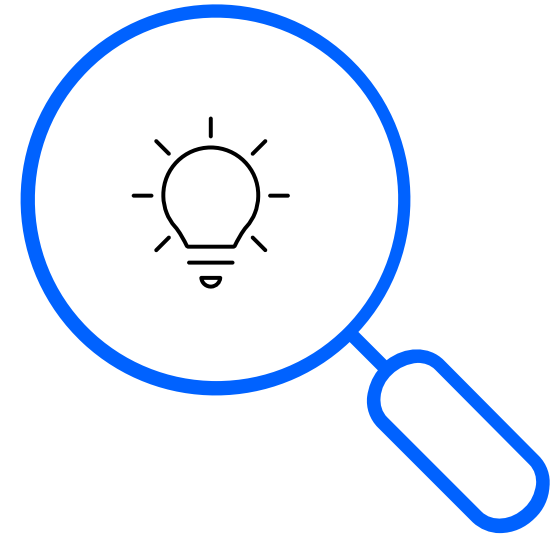
	count	mean	std	min	25%	50%	75%	max
Estimated_fire_area	26406.0	144.297966	314.453847	1.000000	8.911875	3.843409e+01	146.951278	10120.943170
Mean_estimated_fire_brightness	26406.0	319.662078	8.862005	290.700000	313.933333	3.197844e+02	325.403144	381.950000
Mean_estimated_fire_radiative_power	26406.0	83.621258	67.510022	0.000000	44.150391	6.713333e+01	103.123611	2178.600000
Mean_confidence	26406.0	87.574735	4.371972	76.000000	85.000000	8.777143e+01	90.498403	100.000000

## Actual Fire Area by Region



# Hypotheses:

- Predicting data for entire month will be challenging, as daily averages are heavily correlated to each other
  - Strategy: Find the average fire area weekly vs day by day to account for variability
- Yearly weather conditions may predict the type of wildfire year
  - Strategy: look for an annual pattern for January wildfires
- If we know the weather conditions, we can better predict the wildfire area.
  - Strategy: Use the weather conditions to predict wildfire area, eliminate weather conditions that are correlated to each other to reduce the number of variables.



# Methodology

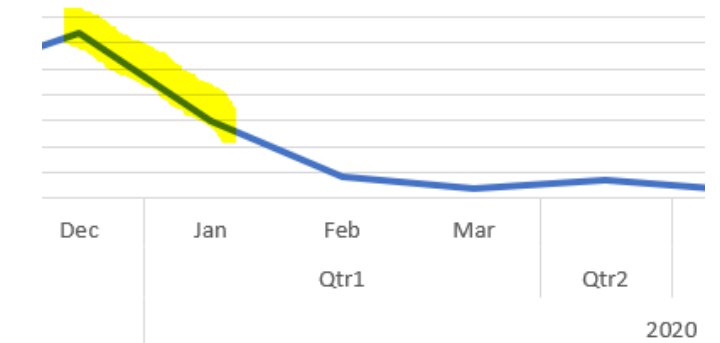
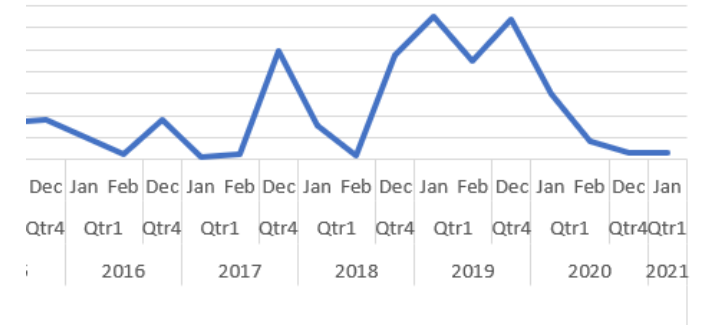
# Method Pivot and Smash:

Using Pivot functionality from EXCEL

- Initially used to provide visualization of the fire data and periodization across the years
- Simple predications were created to have a submittal for the first phase of the competition

Final Process (Trend analysis) included the following steps

- Pivoting the historical fire data
- Normalized the daily averages to account for zero dates (e.g. data cleaning)
- For each region
  - Checked trends (ratios) for December and January for the last 5 years
  - Determined which trend fit the present December/January data
  - Then used the ratio of the best fit to calculate this year's Feb weekly averages



Avg	Dec	Jan	Feb	Feb/Jan	Jan/Dec
2016	178.77	94.97	20.27	0.213426	0.531224
2017	172.58	6.58	21.87	3.324724	0.038114
2018	493.81	153.32	18.84	0.122892	0.310477
2019	472.03	651.16	446.92	0.686345	1.379493
2020	634.84	289.09	76.71	0.265354	0.455371
2021	27.99	31.73			1.133789



# Retrospective

## What we learned:

- Start by understanding the data & problem
  - What values are missing? What variables may be correlated? How does each variable impact our fire prediction? What is the daily fire variability?
- Important steps for cleaning data sets
  - Missing values, etc.
- Start simple - don't get trapped in micro-calculations
- Power of a diverse team
  - With teammates from different backgrounds, sharing results and ideas helped our models!

## If we had more time:

- More automation - data collection, cleaning, and processing
- Time series analysis
- Including more data (geospatial data, etc.) and external data sources --- if area burns one year, would it be likely to burn again?

# Thank you

**Call for Code Spot Challenge for  
Wildfires Predictions –  
A summary comparison of the modeling  
approaches**

**April 5, 2021**



## Introduction:



**Wiktor Mazin**

Chief Data Scientist, IBM

Data & AI, MVP team, Nordics  
wiktor.mazin@ibm.com

# Comparing approaches

← → ↺ 🏠

🔒 https://developer.ibm.com/blogs/call-for-code-spot-challenge-for-wildfires-predictions-comparing

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Blog Post

## Call for Code Spot Challenge for Wildfires Predictions: Comparing approaches

☆ Save 👍 Like

Take a look at three top performing teams' very different approaches to predicting the wildfires in Australia for February 2021

By Wiktor Mazin  
Published March 25, 2021



Wildfires are among the most common forms of natural disasters in some regions, including

<https://developer.ibm.com/blogs/call-for-code-spot-challenge-for-wildfires-predictions-comparing-approaches/>

Site feedback

# Crowdcast April 5, 2021 – Predict Wildfires in Australia

- Welcome and Call for Code Overview (Upkar)
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- Call for Code Close and Q&A (Upkar)

# ALPHAware

---

Mohamed Moataz  
Amna Ibrahim  
Afreen Saif  
Ibrahim Maher  
Mohamed Abdelhady

*Team in Sharjah University Software  
Engineering Class*



Alphaware Co.



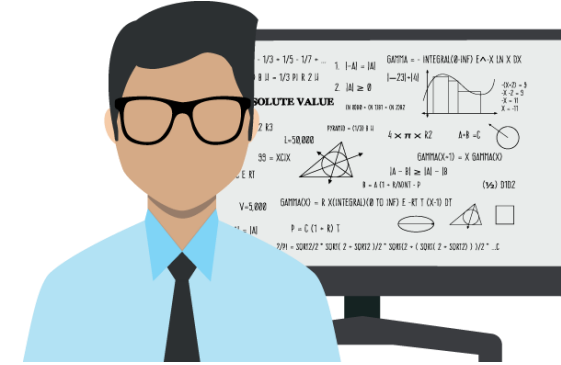
# ROLES

## SOFTWARE ENGINEER

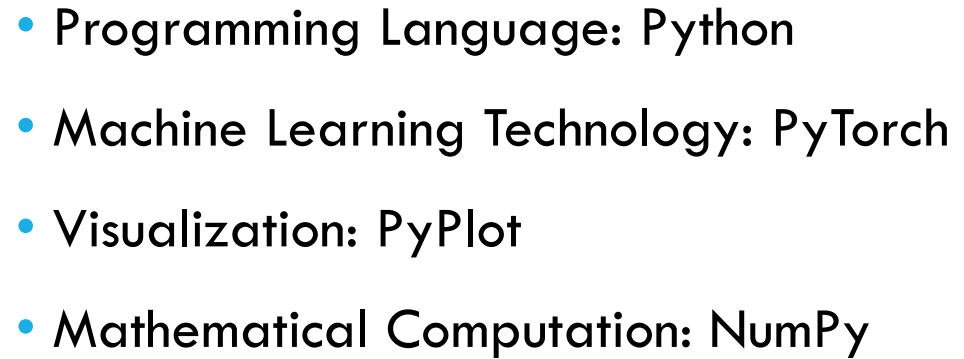


- Modeling Database
- Implementing Backend APIs
- Implementing Frontend Views
- Networking Protocol
- Authentication and Authorization

## DATA SCIENTIST



- Follow Data Science Methodology
- Studying Data Requirements
- Collecting Data
- Feature Engineering and Normalization
- Building Prediction Model
- Maintaining and Upgrading Prediction Model

[illegible]

# SOFTWARE ENGINEER



## TECHNOLOGY STACK

- Database: MySQL
- Frontend: Bootstrap 4 and React
- Backend: Python Framework (Django or Flask)
- Networking: TCP/IP and REST API

## FEATURES

- Pinpointing Nearest Shelter
- Displaying Charts
- Send Warning Messages (SMS)
- Raising Awareness Through Social Media Platforms





4SIGHT

PREDICTION FOR PREVENTION

# Wildfire Prediction in Australia

Emad Aldawoud  
(U18102200@sharjah.ac.ae)

Mohamad Abdallah

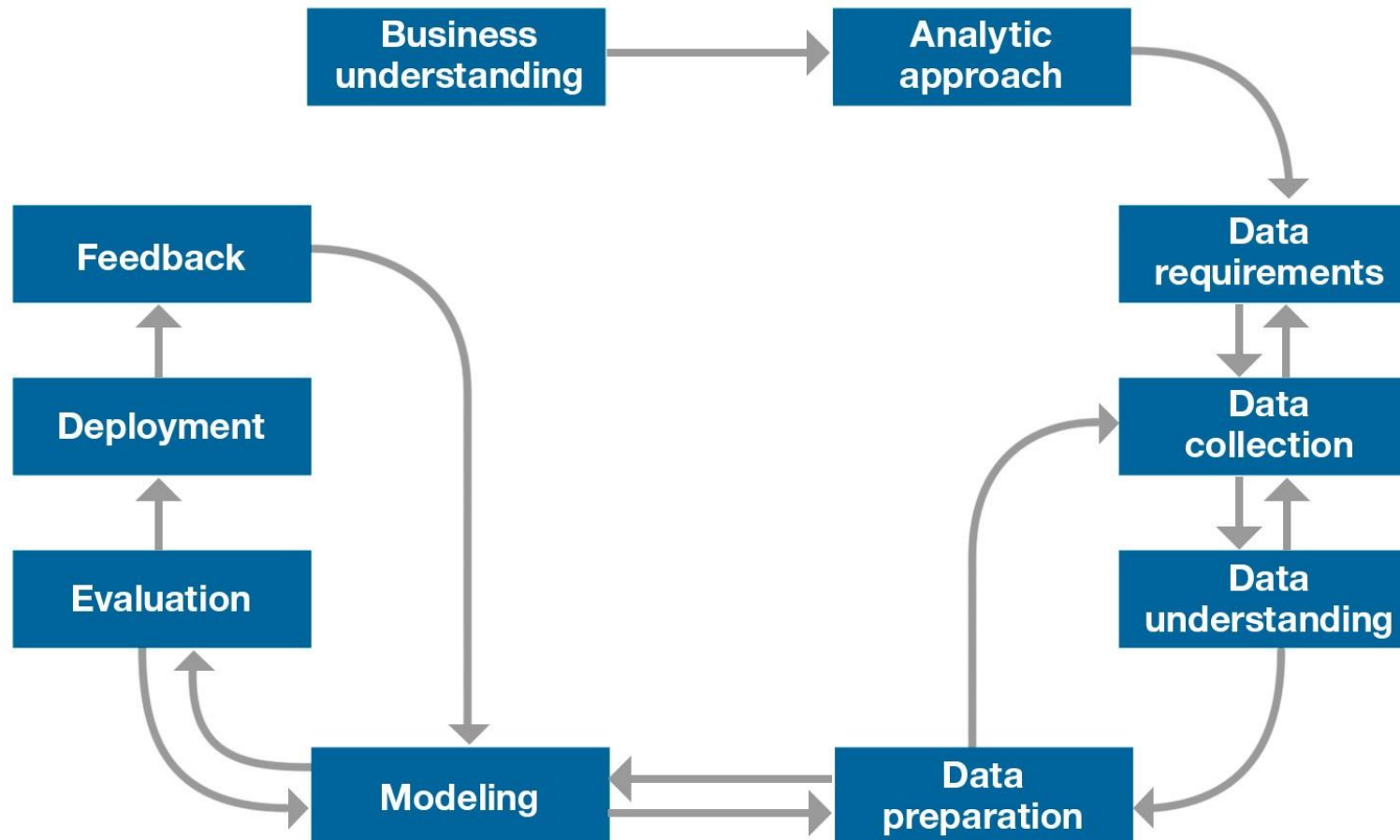
Omar Ibrahim

Amro Tariq

Rashad Zingstra







# References for Data

<https://github.com/Call-for-Code/Spot-Challenge-Wildfires>

Fires in Australia: <https://earthdata.nasa.gov/earth-observation-data/near-real-time/firms/active-fire-data>

Weather data:

<https://cds.climate.copernicus.eu/#!/search?text=ERA5&type=dataset>

Forecast data: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/data-access/model-data/model-datasets/global-forecast-system-gfs>

# Final Processed Data

Input

Target

Date	Region	Season	TemperatureMean	PrecipitationMean	RelativeHumidityMean	SoilWaterContentMean	SolarRadiationMean	WindSpeedMean	Estimated_fire_area
3/1/2001	NSW	Autumn	23.8109531	0.0363	0.528446777	130.313305	8.820266699	2.695024485	20.06
3/2/2001	NSW	Autumn	23.2040798	0.072	0.500738441	130.631899	9.009442656	3.203867011	1.68
3/3/2001	NSW	Autumn	23.0666664	0.0154	0.503350336	126.462815	9.344296126	3.580806255	1.92
3/4/2001	NSW	Autumn	22.5970704	0.0629	0.503551064	123.618531	9.142151851	5.130313151	8.36
3/5/2001	NSW	Autumn	22.2639871	0.0938	0.521986927	122.590034	9.046004902	6.104190629	6.42
3/6/2001	NSW	Autumn	22.4570422	0.154176	0.563481684	123.516032	8.790426445	5.566320245	16.34
3/7/2001	NSW	Autumn	23.1381605	0.202306	0.560820609	123.477349	8.674506335	5.394594011	4.68
3/8/2001	NSW	Autumn	23.7792837	0.33642	0.562015615	124.949674	8.283104302	6.545845019	20.84
3/9/2001	NSW	Autumn	23.9007759	0.192651	0.581465425	129.436044	7.81726084	5.68789694	4.18
3/10/2001	NSW	Autumn	24.4514461	0.122327	0.619175807	131.987019	7.513944327	2.543288998	0
3/11/2001	NSW	Autumn	24.0347302	0.201372	0.635195148	141.56751	7.503210637	1.208794973	0
3/12/2001	NSW	Autumn	20.2732422	0.186545	0.572750452	160.369259	7.412102624	3.27440231	2
3/13/2001	NSW	Autumn	19.778475	0.0148	0.474290332	151.356269	9.254013131	2.518657371	0
3/14/2001	NSW	Autumn	21.4970974	0.015	0.484759186	145.147364	8.85545092	2.487315155	37.44
3/15/2001	NSW	Autumn	23.1032272	0.0135	0.515528793	140.779796	8.552042441	3.581368409	7.98
3/16/2001	NSW	Autumn	21.5678339	0.449342	0.690499064	182.656918	7.06461404	4.077979531	2.925409228
3/17/2001	NSW	Autumn	17.9032116	0.251586	0.641763208	201.126684	6.63651944	2.989840838	0
3/18/2001	NSW	Autumn	18.2741303	0.056	0.647512542	182.144704	8.345103107	3.285506556	1.21
3/19/2001	NSW	Autumn	19.6475978	0.0173	0.651146256	168.385667	8.219579722	1.024999716	7.8
3/20/2001	NSW	Autumn	22.1376803	0.0408	0.579814199	157.287825	8.336651207	3.083045807	0
3/21/2001	NSW	Autumn	18.19684	0.446736	0.662458666	166.937224	6.27872664	3.129228312	0
3/22/2001	NSW	Autumn	18.2480132	0.0317	0.626268593	162.94852	7.70821849	3.032039203	0
3/23/2001	NSW	Autumn	20.9809391	0.0177	0.592813003	155.909001	7.994522212	1.971663026	1
3/24/2001	NSW	Autumn	21.3114341	0.0933	0.715360013	163.107496	4.849813693	2.482294082	0
3/25/2001	NSW	Autumn	20.2869473	0.297117	0.674327754	180.955783	6.304720125	2.900365109	1.32
3/26/2001	NSW	Autumn	18.8984211	0.0247	0.581330453	168.860176	8.236528617	2.841659086	0
3/27/2001	NSW	Autumn	17.9299386	0.0473	0.562666386	158.566974	8.556354588	4.182017937	3.35
3/28/2001	NSW	Autumn	16.5100695	0.0175	0.54063254	150.520132	8.380364163	5.066316388	42.4705477
3/29/2001	NSW	Autumn	17.5634371	0.0201	0.559559189	144.146139	7.962810316	3.476067622	0
3/30/2001	NSW	Autumn	19.5319901	0.018	0.544454314	140.172362	7.837811809	2.647859288	7.25
3/31/2001	NSW	Autumn	20.6557291	0.01	0.53439558	135.947121	7.772911378	2.399603395	14.74
4/1/2001	NSW	Autumn	20.3475783	0.0183	0.545675955	132.284221	7.585496036	0.598376142	5.06
4/2/2001	NSW	Autumn	19.2793526	0.0468	0.541121764	131.250797	7.335603974	3.813080756	6.48
4/3/2001	NSW	Autumn	18.736903	0.0275	0.549500583	131.328659	7.082598101	1.727558868	10.44
4/4/2001	NSW	Autumn	19.2509452	0.00288	0.50906609	128.671835	7.811589699	0.780215585	10.28



Region

Season

NSW

Winter

NT

Spring

QL

Summer

SA

Autumn

TA

VI

WA

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- Call for Code Close and Q&A (Upkar)

# What's Next

## **Session on April 26 - Prometeo – Firefighters Health Platform, a Call for Code Open Source Project**

- Register : <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/prometeo-a-call-for-code/>
- A prototype sensor which sends environmental telemetry processed by AI to monitor fire fighter health risk.

## **Call for Code Global Challenge 2021**

- Register here: <https://callforcode.org/global-challenge/>
- If you are a student remember to say that you are when you register
- If you are an IBMer go to the IBM internal slack channel #call-for-code

**Pull together the resources created for the Wildfires challenge – & publish as resources for the global call for code**

- <https://github.com/Call-for-Code/Spot-Challenge-Wildfires>



# Call for Code Global Challenge 2021

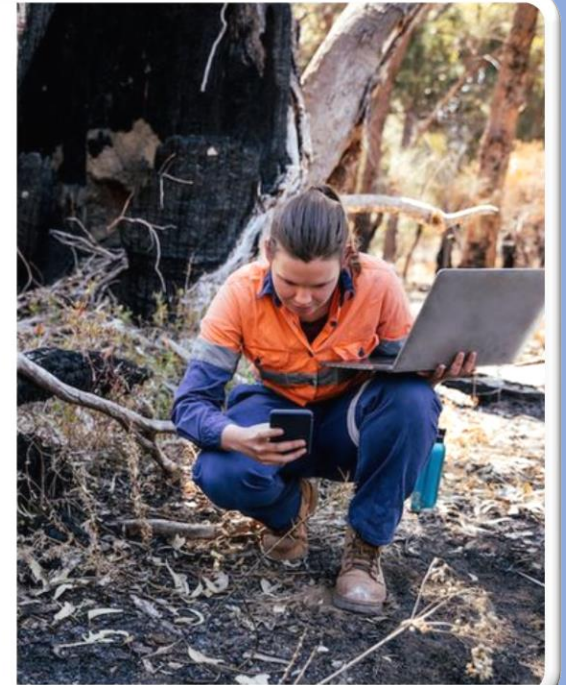
Calling all students: Call for Code Global Challenge 2021. An excellent activity for students seeking tech for good projects (& prizes). This year's themes include clean water and sanitation, zero hunger, responsible production, green consumption. Please share with student clubs, enthusiasts, colleagues

- Register here: <https://callforcode.org/global-challenge/> If you are a student please indicate in registration. You will then start receiving invitations to activities to help you along
- Watch the kick-off event: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pcw24VWeCRM> (Mami Mizutori United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Chelsea Clinton & more)
- Get started

## What is the Call for Code Global Challenge?

In the Call for Code Global Challenge, you can join the fight against climate change by building and deploying open source solutions in the cloud. By participating, you'll build critical skills for yourself and your teams and deploy solutions to help communities across the globe.

Built on open source principles, the Call for Code Global Challenge asks developers and problem solvers to form teams and develop solutions that address specific problems in unique, clearly demonstrable ways. The most successful solutions are those scoped to have the greatest community impact with the smallest technological footprint. Last year's winner Agrolly is a perfect example, with its mobile application to help small farmers better understand what to plant, based on weather patterns and crop characteristics.



# Materials created as we went along

## Useful Links

- The Contest landing page <http://ibm.biz/cfcsc-wildfires>
- The Contest GitHub <https://github.com/Call-for-Code/Spot-Challenge-Wildfires>
- The Contest leaderboard <http://ibm.biz/cfcsc-wildfires-lead>
- [Education materials to get started with the Call for Code Spot Challenge for Wildfires](#)
- [The Finale : Call for Code Spot Challenge for Wildfires](#)
- [Call for Code Spot Challenge for Wildfires Predictions: Comparing approaches](#)
- Slack Workspace <http://callforcode.org/slack> Channel #cfcsc-wildfires
- Helpful blog <https://medium.com/ibm-data-ai/predicting-australian-wildfires-with-weather-forecast-data-8d1cc983c863>

## Office Hours - From Dec 15 2020 – Jan 26, 2021

## Crowdcasts

- Nov 23 about notebooks and exploring the datasets <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/call-for-code-spot/>
- Nov 30 about datasets and how to submit to leaderboard <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/call-for-code-spot-2/>
- Dec 7 about how to use AutoAI with the data <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/call-for-code-spot-3>
- Jan 11 introducing the Contest and Leaderboard <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/call-for-code-spot-4/>
- Jan 18 hear from Team WildFireNet who participated in another hackathon <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/call-for-code-spot-5>
- Jan 25 to hear about Hypothesis Testing for Time Series <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/call-for-code-spot-6>
- Feb 22 to hear from IBMers building models for the wildfires challenge <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/call-for-code-spot-7>
- Apr 5 to hear from the leading teams <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/predicting-australian/> and from students at the University of Sharjah using the [spot challenge as a case study](#)
- Apr 26 to hear from Prometeo – Firefighters Health Platform, a Call for Code Open Source Project <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/prometeo-a-call-for-code/>
- Join Call for Code Global Challenge 2021 - Register : <https://callforcode.org/global-challenge/>
  - *This year's themes include clean water and sanitation, zero hunger, responsible production, green consumption*