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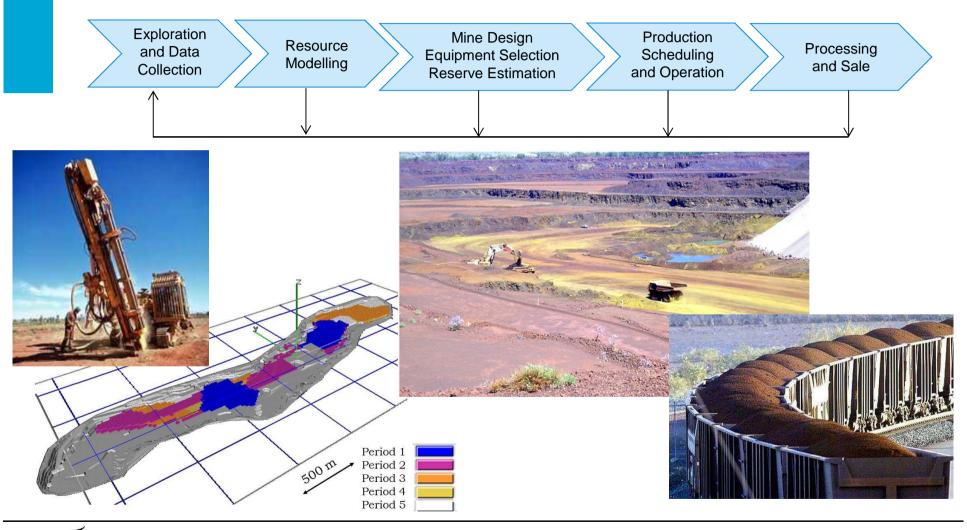
# Application of the Ensemble Kalman Filter for Improved Mineral Resource Recovery

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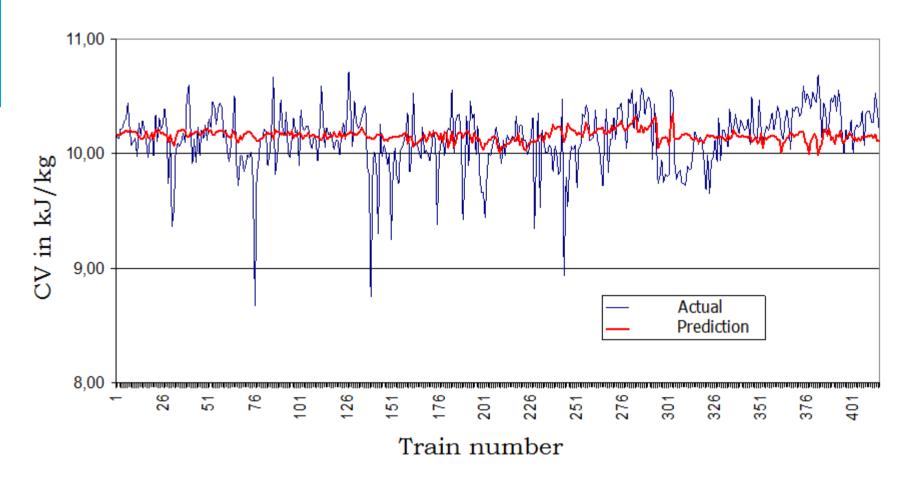


### The Flow of Information





### **Uncertainty in Model-based Prediction**







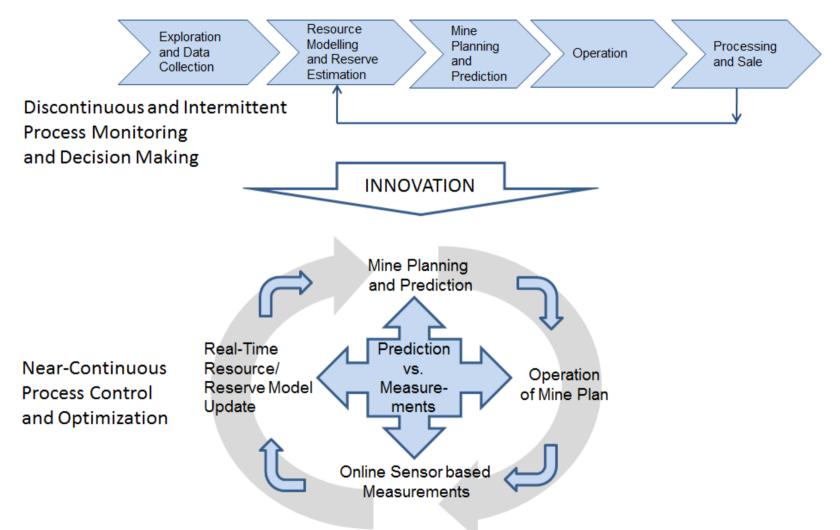
### Content

#### How can we make best use of the available data?

- Closing the Loop: A feed-back framework for Real-Time Resource Model **Updating** 
  - A Kalman Filter Approach
- Using Online Data for Improved Production Control
- Illustrative Case Study: Coal

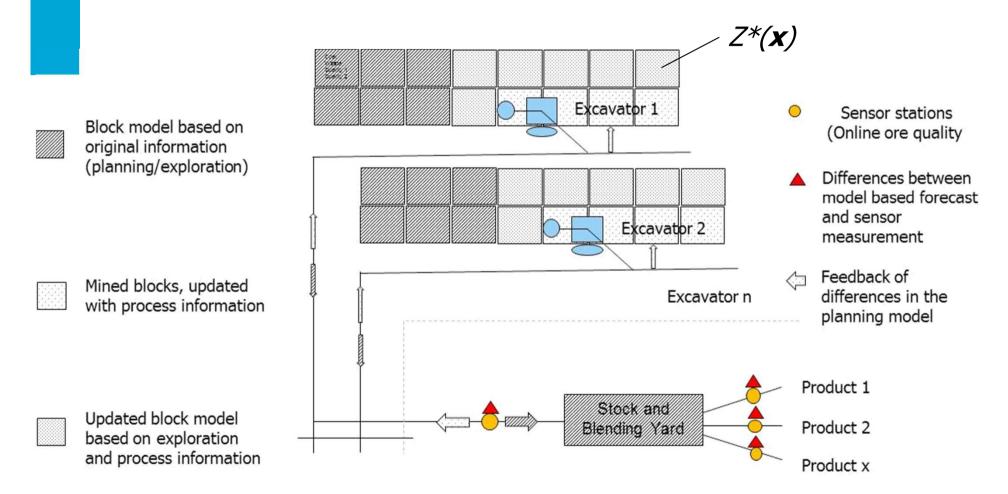


## **Towards Closed-Loop Management**



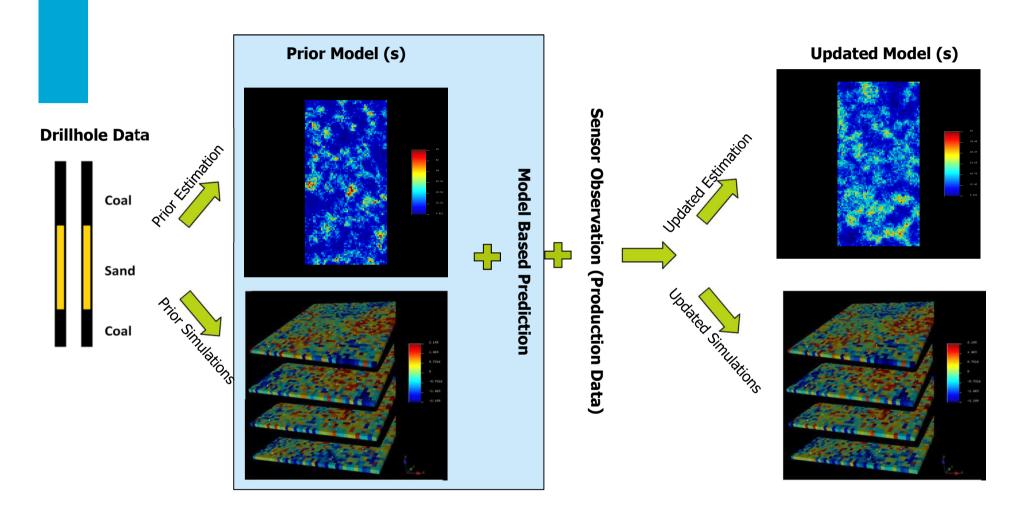


## **Towards Closed-Loop Management**





## **Towards Closed-Loop Management**



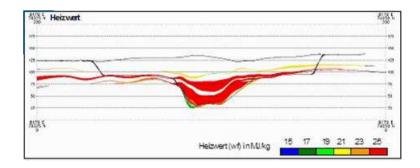


### Resource Model

#### Generation of Prior Models

#### **Interpolation** (Kriging)

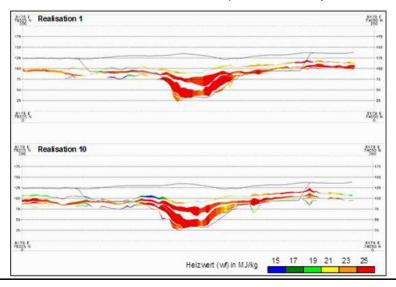
- Best local estimation,
- Minimization of error-variance estimate.



Seam Geometry and CV

#### **Simulation Realisation 1&10** (Conditional Simulation)

- Represent possible scenarios about the deposit,
- Represent structural behavior of data (in-situ variability),
- Modelled by many different realizations,
- Differences between realizations capture uncertainty



(Benndorf 2013)



## **Closed-Loop Concept**

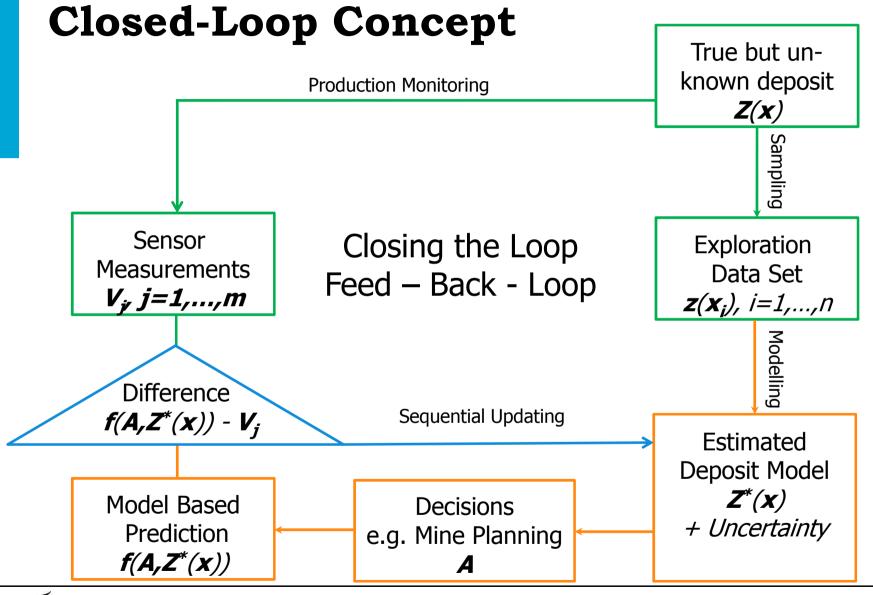
True but unknown deposit Z(x)Sampling Exploration Data Set  $z(x_i)$ , i=1,...,nModelling **Estimated** Deposit Model  $Z^*(x)$ + Uncertainty

Feed – Forward - Loop

**Model Based** Prediction  $f(A,Z^*(x))$ 

**Decisions** e.g. Mine Planning A

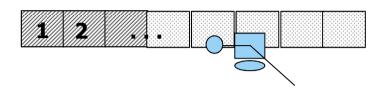


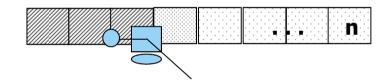




### Linking Model and Observation

- *n* mining blocks
- each of the blocks contributes to a blend, which is observed at a sensor station at time t<sub>i</sub>
- *m* measurements are taken
- a<sub>i,i</sub> proportion block i contributes to the material blend, observed at time *j* by measurement  $I_i$





Production sequence – Matrix A

$$\begin{array}{c} \textit{Mining Blocks} \\ a_{1,1} & \cdots & a_{1,m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n,1} & \cdots & a_{n,m} \end{array}$$

Sequential Model Updating - A Kalman Filter Approach

$$Z^*(x) = Z^*_0(x) + K(v - AZ^*_0(x))$$

 $Z^*(x)$  ... updated short-term block model (a posteriori)

 $Z_0^*(x)$  ... prior block model based (without online sensor data)

... vector of observations (sensor signal at different points in time t)

... design matrix representing the contribution of each block per time interval to the production observed at sensor station

... updating factor (Kalman-Gain) K

Sequential Model Updating – A "BLUE"

**Estimation error:** 

$$e(x)_{t+1} = z(x)_{t+1} - z^*(x)_{t+1}$$

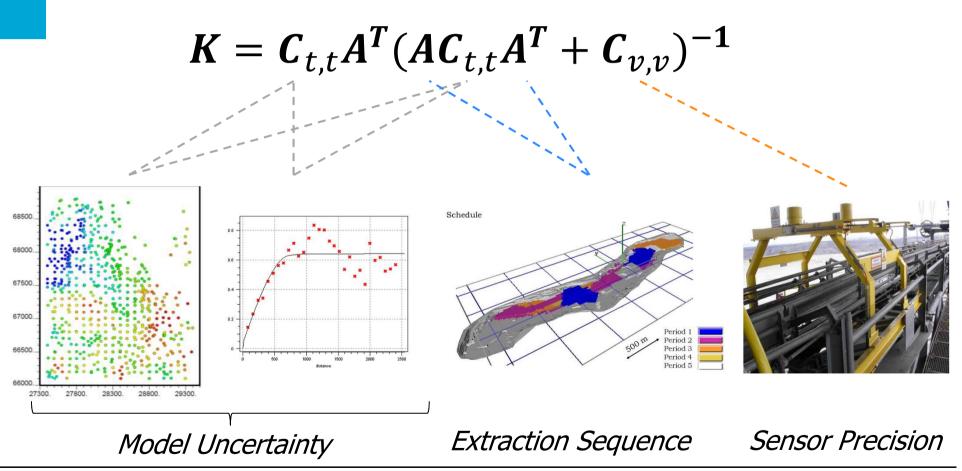
Estimation variance to be minimized:

$$C_{t+1,t+1} = E[e(x)_{t+1}e(x)_{t+1}^T]$$

**Updating factor:** 

$$K = C_{t,t}A^T(AC_{t,t}A^T + C_{v,v})^{-1}$$

Sequential Model Updating – The Integrative Character

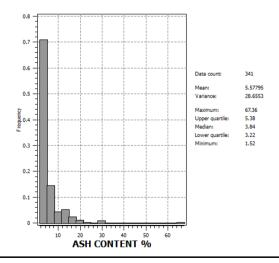


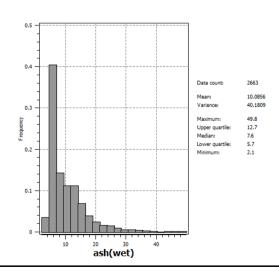


Sequential Model Updating

### Main challenges:

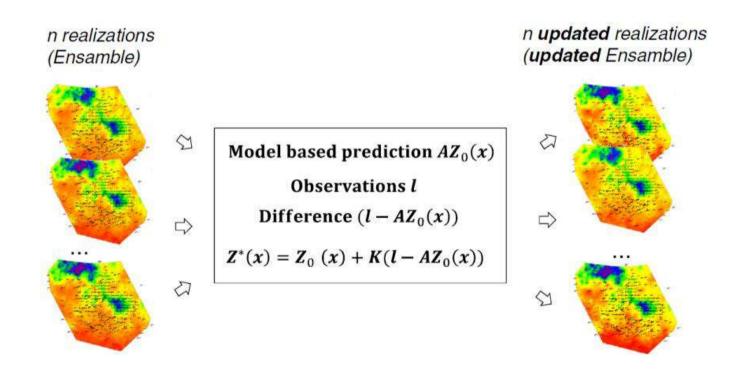
- Large grids
  - Industrial Case: 4,441,608 blocks
- Non-linear relationships between model and observation
- Non-Gaussian data







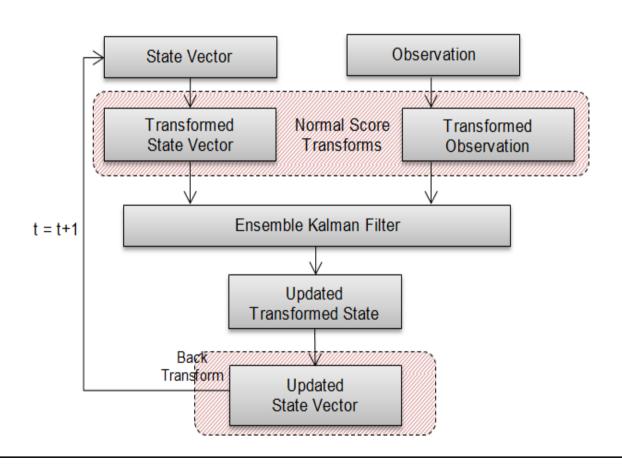
Sequential Model Updating A Non-Linear Version – The Ensemble Kalman Filter







Sequential Model Updating To handle Non-Gaussian Data... N-Score-Ensemble Kalman Filter\*



\*Z Haiyan, J J Gomez-Hernandez, H H Franssen, L Li. 2011. An approach to handling non-Gaussianity of parameters and state variables. Advances in Water Resources, 844-864.



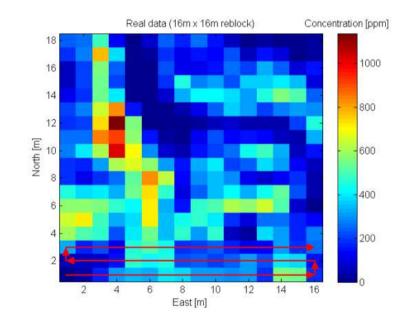
Updating the Calorific Value in a Large Coal Mine

Case Study: Walker Lake Data Set

(Exhaustive "true" data are available)

#### **Model based prediction:**

- Estimated block model (5200t/block)
- Capacity Excavator 1: 500 t/h
- Capacity Excavator 2: 1.000 t/h

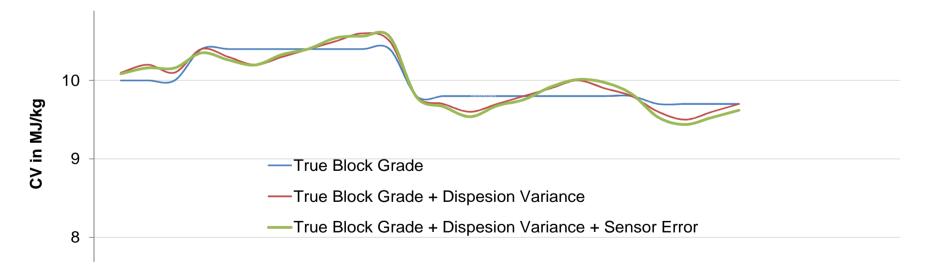




Updating the Calorific Value in a Large Coal Mine

#### **Sensor Observations:**

- Artificial sensor data for a 10 minute average (representing 250 t)
- Relative sensor error is varied between 1%, 5% and 10%
- Sensor data obtained:
  - Model based prediction + dispersion variance + sensor error

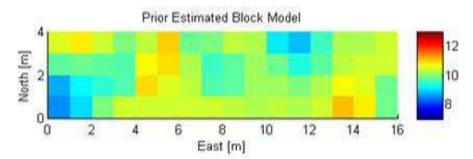


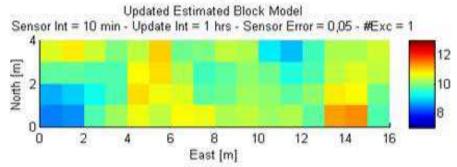


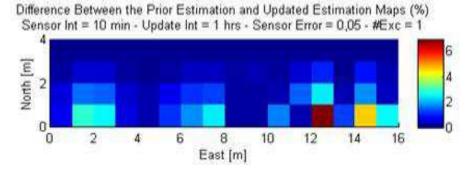
Prior Block Model based on Exploration Data

**Updated Block Model Integrating Sensor Data** 

Differences





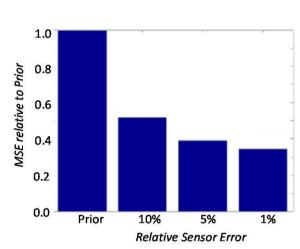




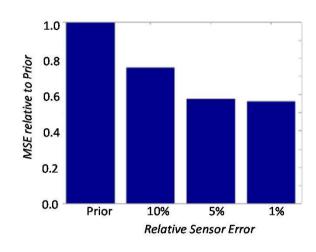
Comparison to Reality

**Kalman-Filter: 2 Excavators** 

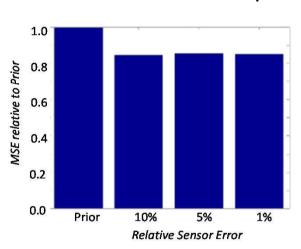
MSE-mined



MSE- adjacent blocks

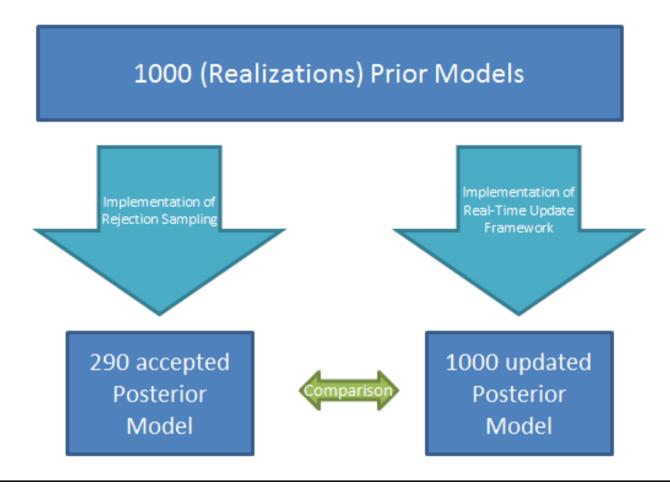


MSE- 2 blocks away



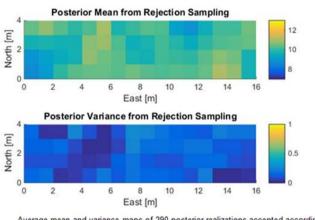
$$MSE = \frac{1}{N} \sum\nolimits_{i=1}^{N} (z^*(\textbf{x}_i) - z(\textbf{x}_i))^2$$

Rejection Sampling

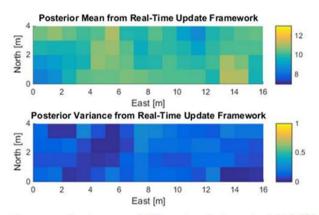




### Rejection Sampling



Average mean and variance maps of 290 posterior realizations accepted according to rejection sampling method



Average mean & variance maps of 1000 posterior realizations updated with EnKF framework

#### The Difference Between The Accepted Posterior Realizations Mean (from Rejection Sampling) and The Updated Posterior Realizations Mean (from Real-Time Update Framework) -0.5 12 East [m]

Difference map between the accepted posterior realizations from rejection sampling and updated posterior realizations from real-time update framework



### **Illustrative Case Study - Results**

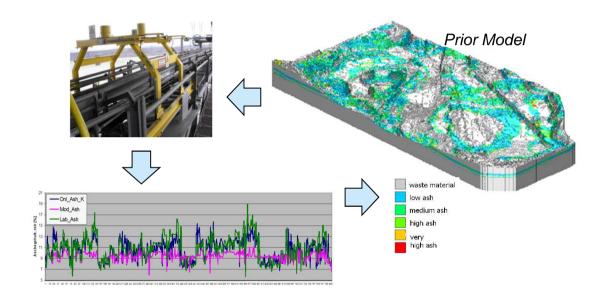
- Significant improvement in prediction
- Increased confidence in dispatch decisions
  - Less miss-classified blocks (ore/waste)
  - Less shipped train loads out of spec
- Increased customer satisfaction and revenue
- Magnitude of improvement depends on level of exploration, variability and sensor error



### **Current Work**

**Research Fund** for Coal & Steel

**EU - RFCS funded project RTRO-Coal** 



with partners:











### **Conclusions**

- Modern ICT provides online data, which can be the basis for (near-) continuous process monitoring at different stages of the mining value chain
- Utilizing these data for (near-) real-time decision making offers huge potential for more sustainable extraction of mineral resource
- Closed Loop Concepts offer:
  - Integration of prediction and process models with data gathering
  - Interdisciplinary and transparent project communication (breaking the silos)
  - More complex use of data for increased resource efficiency



