



# Machine Learning based System for Vessel Turnaround Time Prediction

2<sup>nd</sup> Maritime Big Data Workshop

IEEE International Conference on Mobile Data Management (MDM 2020)

Dejan Štepec

XLAB d.o.o.

**Tomaž Martinčič**

XLAB d.o.o.

Fabrice Klein

Port of  
Bordeaux

Daniel Vladušič

XLAB d.o.o.

Joao Pita Costa

XLAB d.o.o.

**Microsoft Partner**  
Silver Application Development



Horizon 2020



# AI enabled port operations



- **Growth** across all the major cargo types
- More than **90%** of the **world's trade**
- Expected to **annually expand 3.5%** (2019 - 2024)
- Increasing pressure on **ports - turnaround times**
- Digitalization in the ports (**PCS**) and standardized data (**FAL forms**)

*Vessel turnaround time is one of the main indicators of ports efficiency and trade competitiveness\**

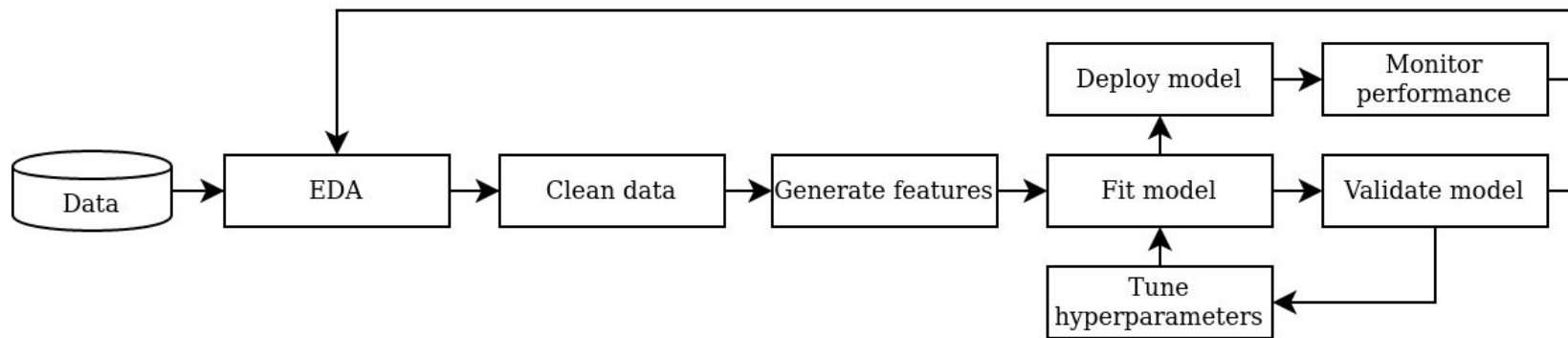
# Port of Bordeaux (GPMB)



- **Atlantic coast**, just outside of **Bordeaux**
- Focal point of a dense river, sea, air, rail and road traffic network
- Core **TEN-T** port
- 7th of French ports (8 to 9 Mt/year)
- 7 terminals
- Internal PCS - **VIGIEsip**

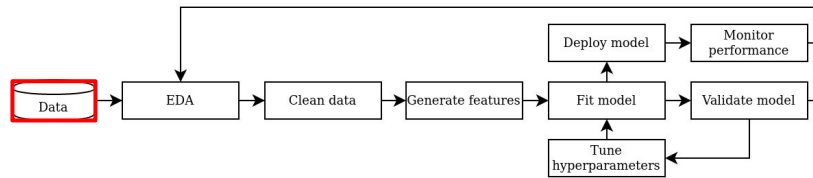


# Turnaround time / ETD workflow



# Data

## FAL forms and other

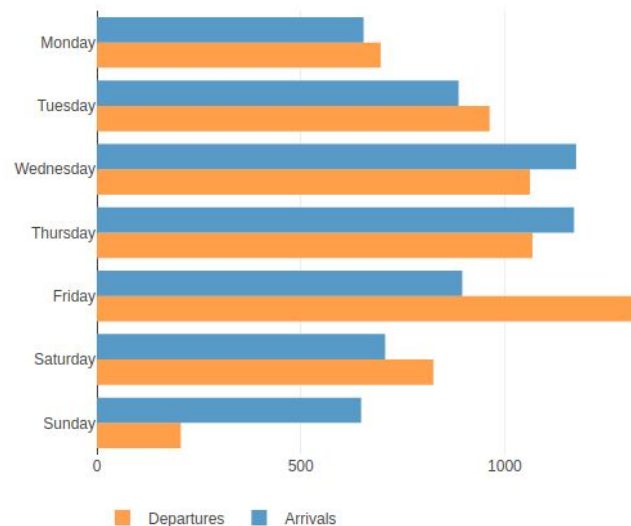
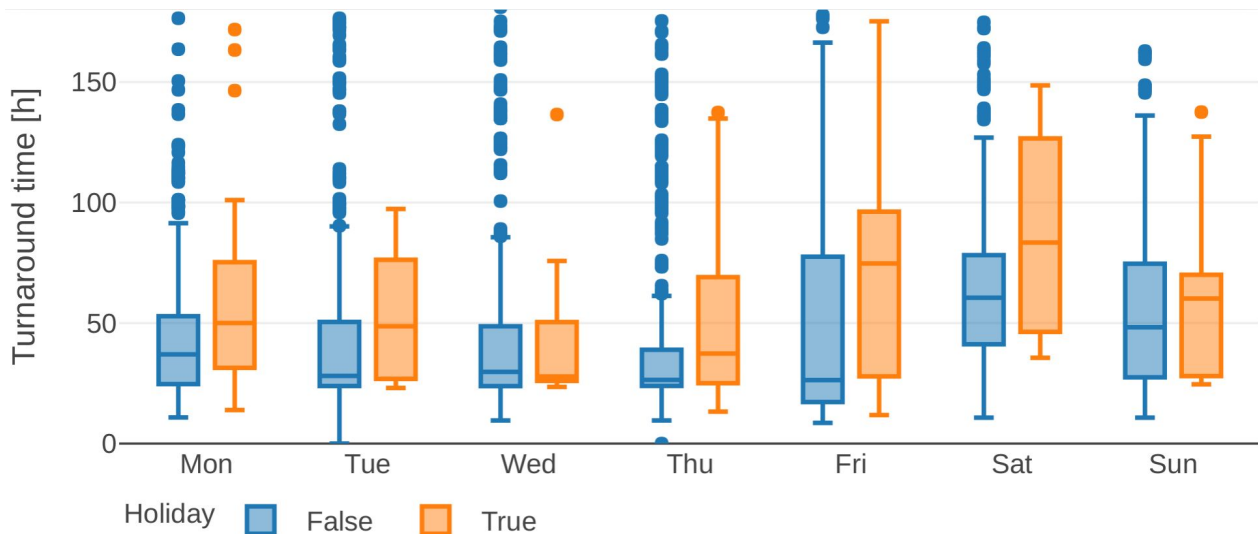
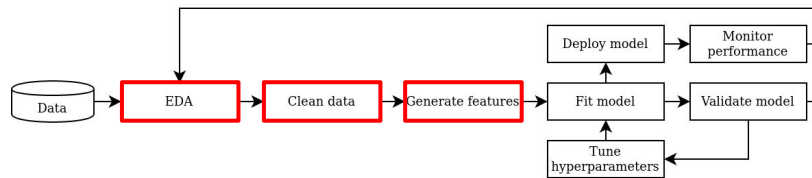


- Captured in VIGIEsip PCS - FAL forms data
- **6055** (1905 unique) vessel arrivals (**2008 - 2018**)
  - Availability to live operational data
- **55** unique loading and **46** unloading cargo types
- Arrival & departure times validated with **AIS data**
- Weather, holidays, AIS and water height

|   | name               | arrival_dock           | departure_dock         | unloading_berth | unloading_cargo_type | unloading_cargo_fiscal_type | unloading_tonnage | unloading_agent | loading_berth | loading_cargo_type | loading_cargo_fiscal_type | loading_tonnage | loading_agent |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 0 | ISIS               | 2008-01-02<br>14:30:00 | 2008-01-05<br>03:30:00 | 433             | UREE VRAC            | SOL.V                       | 5593              | SEAINVEST       | 433           | None               | SOL.V                     | 0               | SEAINVEST     |
| 1 | CEC STAR           | 2008-01-02<br>23:00:00 | 2008-01-03<br>21:20:00 | 432             | CONTENEURS           | P.C.                        | 1849              | CGM             | 432           | CONTENEURS         | P.C.                      | 3084            | CGM           |
| 2 | INGRID<br>JAKOBSEN | 2008-01-03<br>00:25:00 | 2008-01-05<br>03:15:00 | 436             | None                 | LIQ.V                       | 0                 | SEAINVEST       | 436           | HUILE COLZA        | LIQ.V                     | 6000            | SEAINVEST     |
| 3 | HANSEATIC<br>SCOUT | 2008-01-03<br>12:30:00 | 2008-01-04<br>13:35:00 | 449             | None                 | SOL.V                       | 0                 | SURSOL          | 449           | TOURNESOL VRAC     | SOL.V                     | 2612            | SURSOL        |
| 4 | JAC                | 2008-01-04<br>15:05:00 | 2008-01-08<br>18:20:00 | 413             | ALCOOLS VRAC         | LIQ.V                       | 1572              | WORMS SM        | 413           | None               | LIQ.V                     | 0               | WORMS SM      |

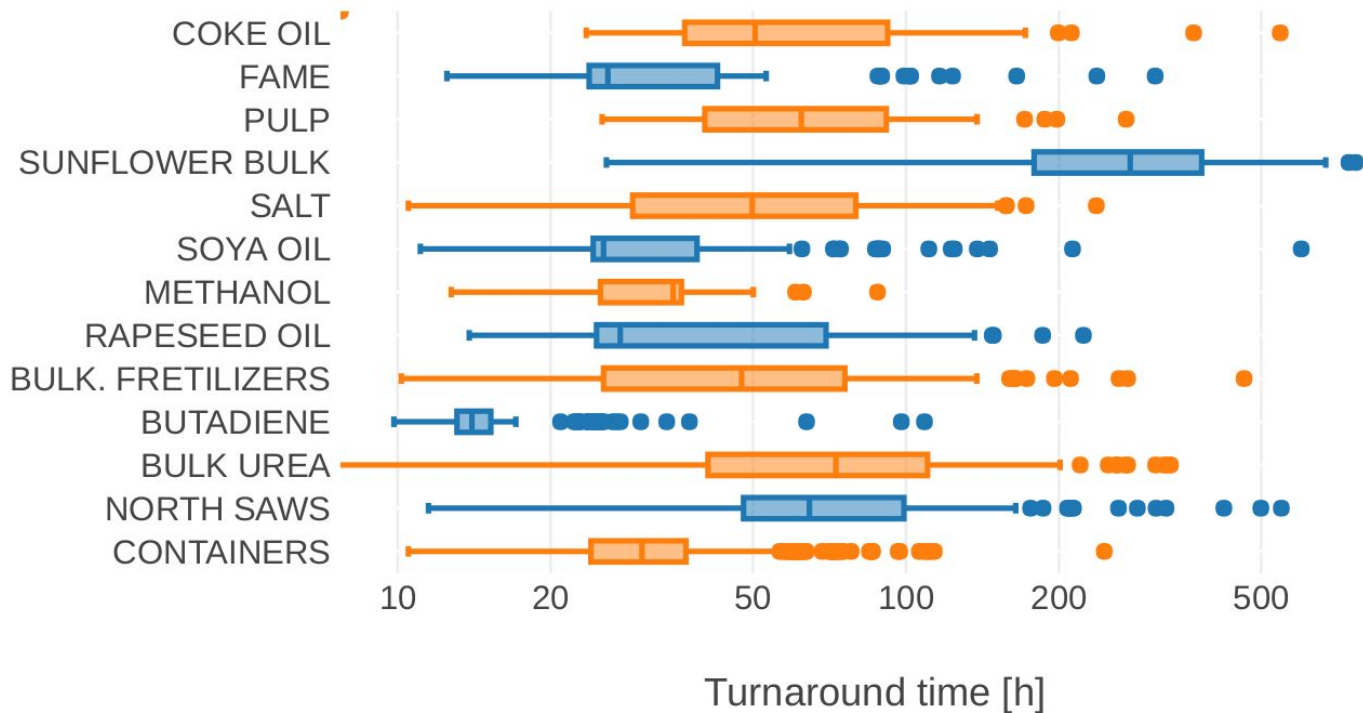
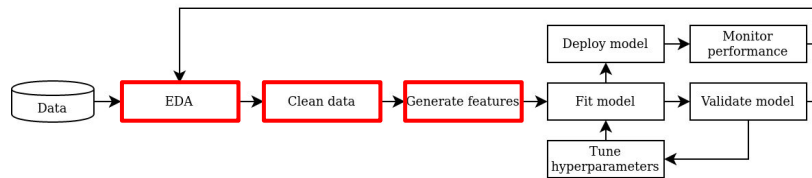
# EDA

## Day of arrival



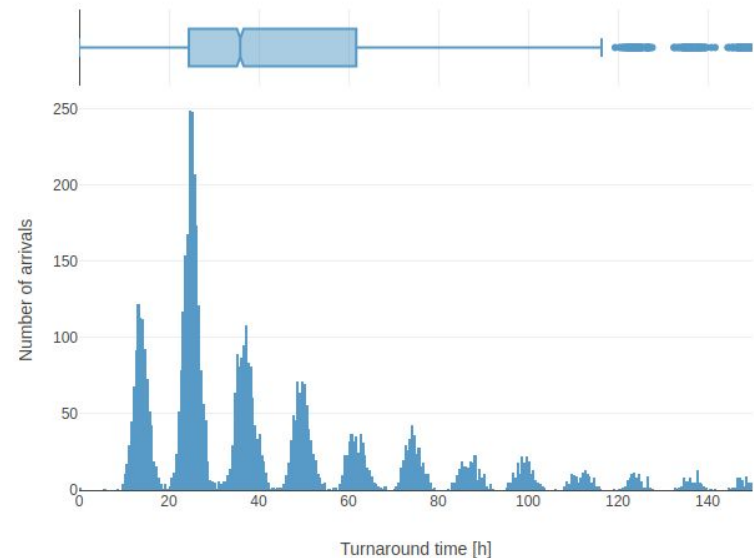
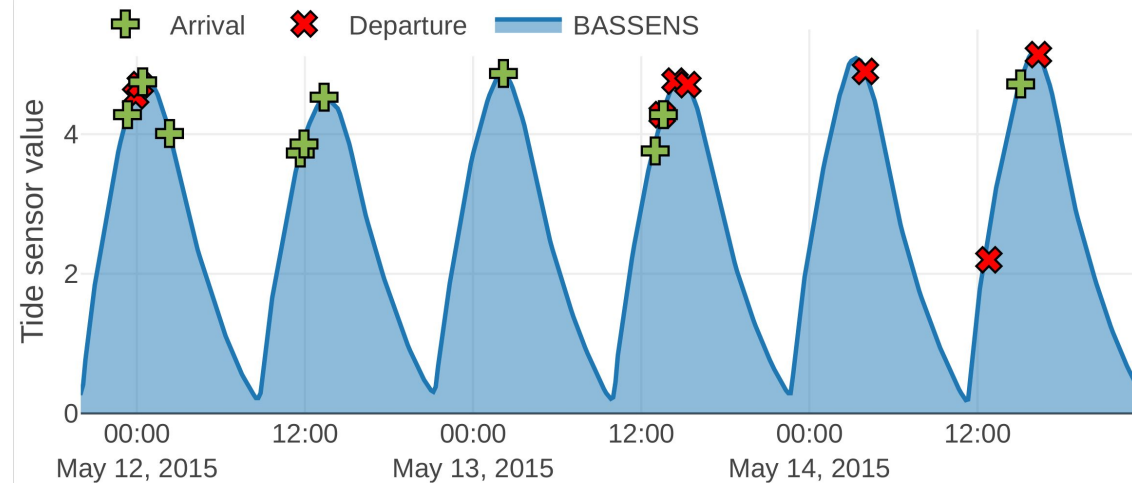
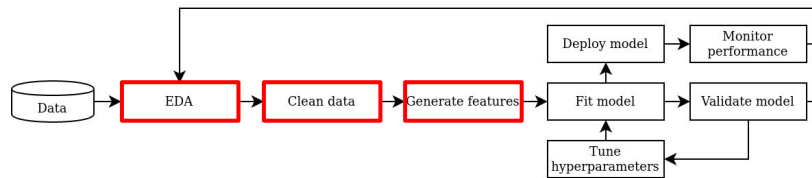
# EDA

## Cargo types



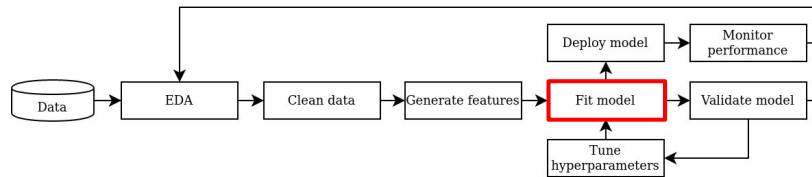
# EDA

## Water height - Tides





# Model & experimental setup



- **Gradient boosting** (ensemble of weak tree based models)
- **CatBoost** python library (<https://catboost.ai/> - Yandex)
  - CatBoost can handle categorical features
  - SOTA in comparison with other methods (XGBoost, RF, NN)
- **Cross-validation** 11 splits and final evaluation on 2 months live data
- MAE, RMSE, MAPE



CatBoost

# Results (historical data)



|                        | Unloading    |              |          |          |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------|----------|
|                        | MAE [h]      |              | RMSE     | MAPE [%] |
| Unloading cargo type   | CatBoost     | Linear R.    | CatBoost | CatBoost |
| BUTADIENE              | <b>2.51</b>  | 4.46         | 4.33     | 13.87    |
| METHANOL               | <b>2.69</b>  | 6.18         | 4.25     | 8.51     |
| SOYA OIL               | <b>7.16</b>  | 8.47         | 13.28    | 22.49    |
| CONTAINERS             | <b>7.23</b>  | 8.42         | 9.79     | 22.81    |
| RAPESEED OIL           | <b>11.12</b> | 11.68        | 17.84    | 22.81    |
| SALT                   | <b>16.67</b> | 19.3         | 25.4     | 41.15    |
| BULK. FRETILIZERS      | <b>17.49</b> | 18.76        | 27.87    | 34.84    |
| BULK UREA              | <b>23.19</b> | 26.7         | 32.03    | 37.07    |
| NORTH SAWS             | <b>24.87</b> | 26.83        | 33.31    | 45.84    |
| SUNFLOWER BULK         | 83.03        | <b>82.37</b> | 105.47   | 41.53    |
| Top 10 cargo types (U) | <b>14.62</b> | 16.33        | 27.46    | 28.43    |
| All cargo types (U)    | <b>15.75</b> | 17.55        | 28.22    | 30.46    |

|                        | Loading      |              |          |          |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------|----------|
|                        | MAE [h]      |              | RMSE     | MAPE [%] |
| Loading cargo type     | CatBoost     | Linear R.    | CatBoost | CatBoost |
| CONTAINERS             | <b>7.24</b>  | 8.41         | 9.79     | 22.79    |
| BULK CORN              | <b>8.65</b>  | 10.51        | 13.89    | 29.64    |
| PROD.CHIM.LIQ. AUTRES  | <b>9.42</b>  | 11.48        | 15.58    | 32.78    |
| BULK WHEAT             | <b>10.04</b> | 11.53        | 14.98    | 31.34    |
| OTHER MINERALS         | <b>12.12</b> | 13.55        | 17.53    | 38.25    |
| SUNFLOWER BULK         | <b>13.34</b> | 14.62        | 21.41    | 38.88    |
| SUNFLOWER OIL          | 13.64        | <b>13.54</b> | 18.58    | 29.27    |
| SCRAP                  | <b>22.6</b>  | 26.5         | 32.22    | 34.15    |
| SUNFLOWER PELLETS      | <b>23.06</b> | 24.47        | 33.02    | 35.75    |
| FAME                   | <b>23.61</b> | 28.83        | 39.77    | 42.34    |
| Top 10 cargo types (L) | <b>10.64</b> | 12.37        | 17.93    | 29.53    |
| All cargo types (L)    | <b>11.57</b> | 12.74        | 19.99    | 30.81    |

# Results (live data)



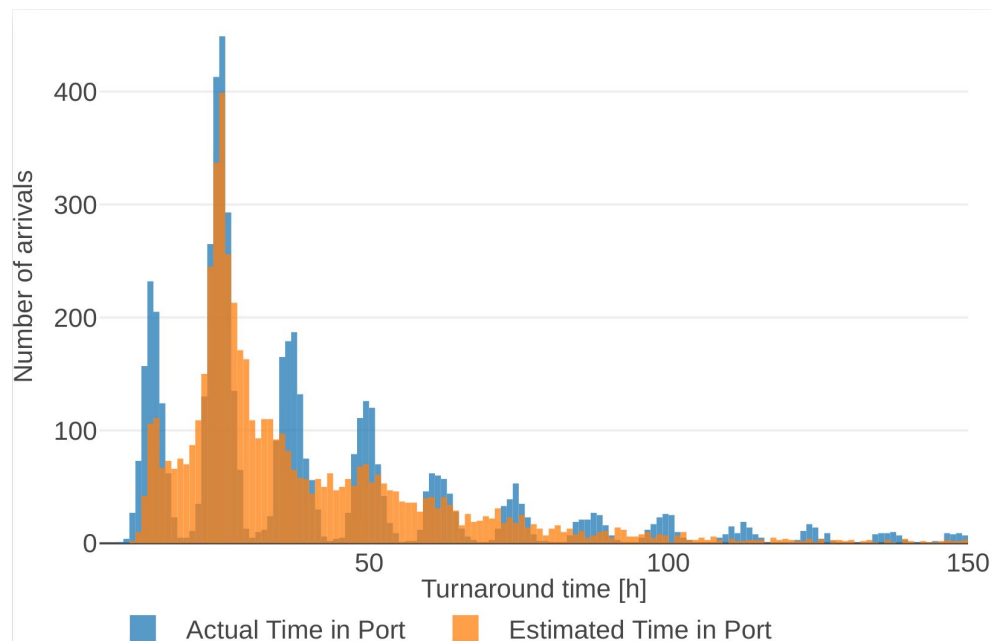
| Cargo type     | Unloading           |                 |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
|                | CatBoost<br>MAE [h] | Port<br>MAE [h] |
| ENGR.LIQUIDES  | <b>2.03</b>         | 18.66           |
| METHANOL       | <b>2.34</b>         | 9.49            |
| RAPESEED OIL   | <b>2.58</b>         | 32.16           |
| BUTADIENE      | <b>3.39</b>         | 16.73           |
| SOYA OIL       | <b>6.84</b>         | 24.74           |
| TALL OIL       | <b>7.32</b>         | 25.49           |
| BULK UREA      | <b>16.93</b>        | 57.29           |
| NORTH SAWS     | <b>25.37</b>        | 55.48           |
| SUNFLOWER BULK | <b>89.77</b>        | 188.93          |
| Combined       | <b>16.52</b>        | 45.81           |

| Cargo type    | Loading             |                 |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|
|               | CatBoost<br>MAE [h] | Port<br>MAE [h] |
| BULK CORN     | <b>8.35</b>         | 19.41           |
| CRUSHED TYRES | 10.75               | <b>9.75</b>     |
| BULK WHEAT    | <b>10.78</b>        | 17.72           |
| SUNFLOWER OIL | <b>12.68</b>        | 14              |
| SCRAP         | <b>13.56</b>        | 56.88           |
| Combined      | <b>9.97</b>         | 22.75           |

# Model analysis



| Feature                 | Importance |
|-------------------------|------------|
| cargo type (U)          | 17.4       |
| cargo tonnage (U)       | 16.15      |
| day of entry            | 12.71      |
| berth (U)               | 11.13      |
| cargo type (L)          | 8.54       |
| hour of entry (round 4) | 8.21       |
| berth (L)               | 8.03       |
| fiscal cargo type (L)   | 6.7        |
| fiscal cargo type (U)   | 5.56       |
| cargo tonnage (L)       | 4.72       |
| holiday on entry        | 0.31       |
| holiday in 2 days       | 0.2        |
| holiday 1 day ago       | 0.18       |
| holiday in 1 day        | 0.16       |



# Conclusion



- We present first machine learning turnaround time prediction model based on FAL forms
- We evaluated it on 11 years of historical data and on live data
- It performs better than current manual system used in GPMB
- Integrating port specific equipment and HR information (future work)



Get IT done.

# Port of Bordeaux (GPMB)

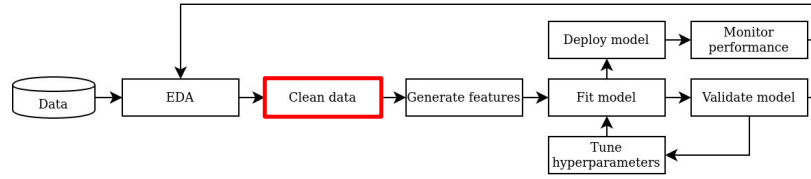
## Bassens



- Grand Port Marit
- 39 Forme de Rad
- 40 Entretien
- 41 Dalle impermé

# GPMB - ETD

## Data cleaning

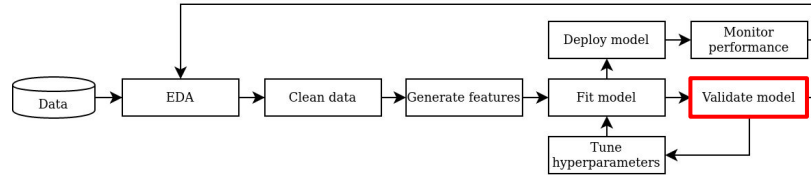


- Has cargo
- Not on maintenance berth
- “Normal” turnaround time
  - At least 1 h
  - Within 2 x std. from the median for cargo type
- At least 5 arrivals with same cargo types combination



# GPMB - ETD

## Cross-validation



All Data

|                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |           |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Split 01         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Split 02         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Split 03         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Split 04         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Split 05         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Split 06         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Split 07         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Split 08         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Split 09         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Split 10         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Split 11         | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |           |
| Final evaluation | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | Live data |

■ Train  
■ Test

# Training and prediction times



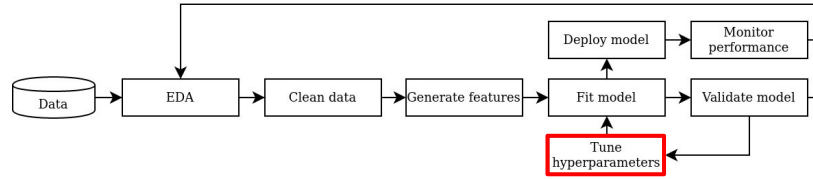
- Training of each fold takes about **35 seconds**
- Predictions are **almost instant**

## Hardware:

- Intel i7-6700 CPU @ 3.40GHz
- Nvidia GeForce GTX 1050 Ti
- 32 GB RAM
- SSD

# GPMB - ETD

## Hyperparameters tuning



GridSearchCV method:

- Checks all combinations of passed hyperparameters (number of trees, learning speed, max trees depth ...)
- Using cross validation to find the best combination of hyperparameters