



Accelerating the research on data-driven methodology

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1. **Introduction**
2. Research on data-driven methodology

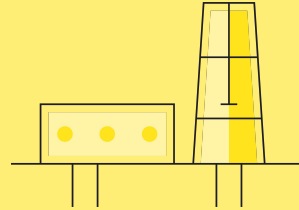
Solution Seeker: Unmatched competence & technology on production optimization



Years of experience

15

Unparalleled
experience in O&G
data-driven production
optimization



Wells

2000

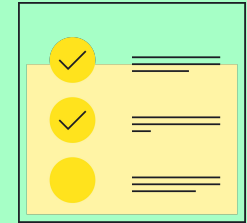
Our experience spans
2000 wells, 15 assets
and multiple operators
across the world



Data

300B+

5.5M operating points
150k well tests
6.8M/h from assets
50k data mining alg.

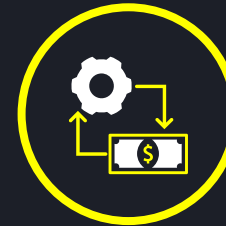


Publications

70+

Our cutting-edge
research resulted in 70
scientific publications
and 9 patents

Clients in South America, Asia and Europe



3-5% prod.
increase



15+ assets
2000+ wells

Optimal production through robust use of real-time data assuring good, safe and timely decisions

Value proposition

2-10% better utilization of your production asset

Problem statement

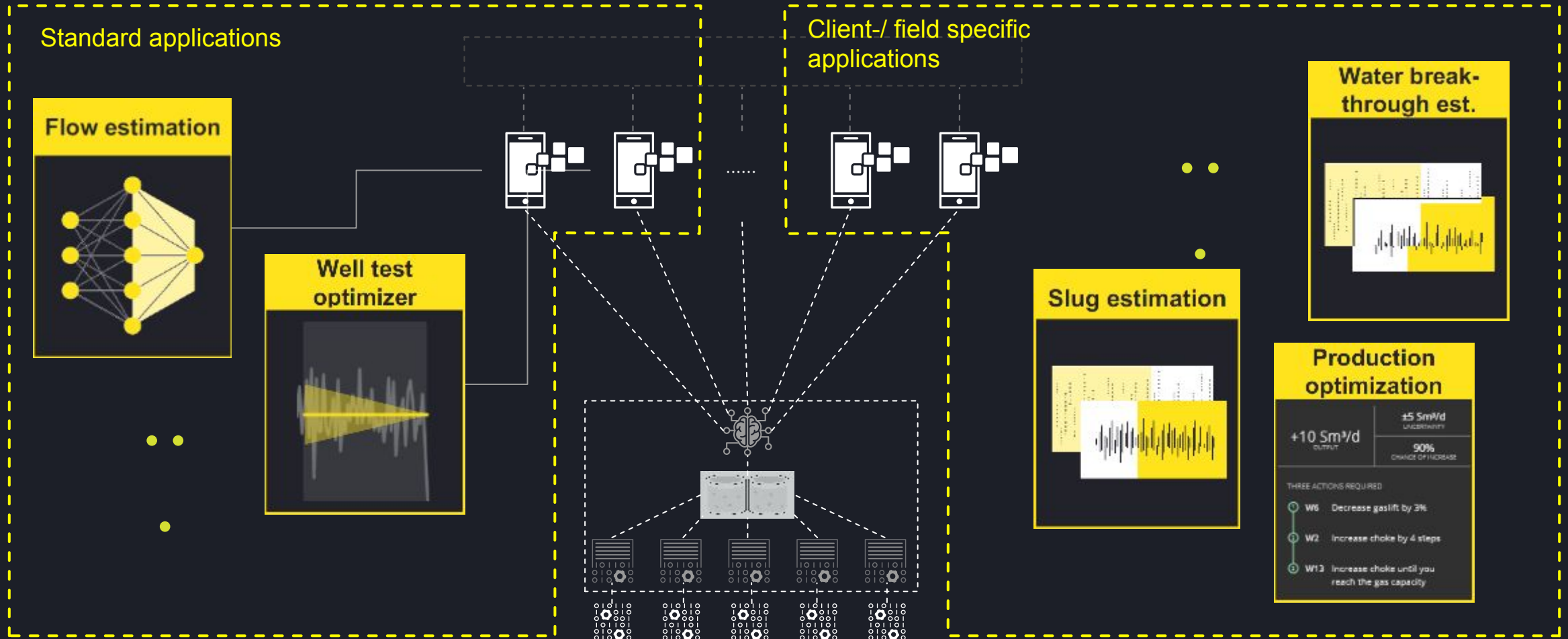
Using data in real-time to support production decisions in a timely manner, and thereby staying optimal over time, is non-trivial. The difficulties of robustly converting data into information and value is underappreciated.

Uniqueness

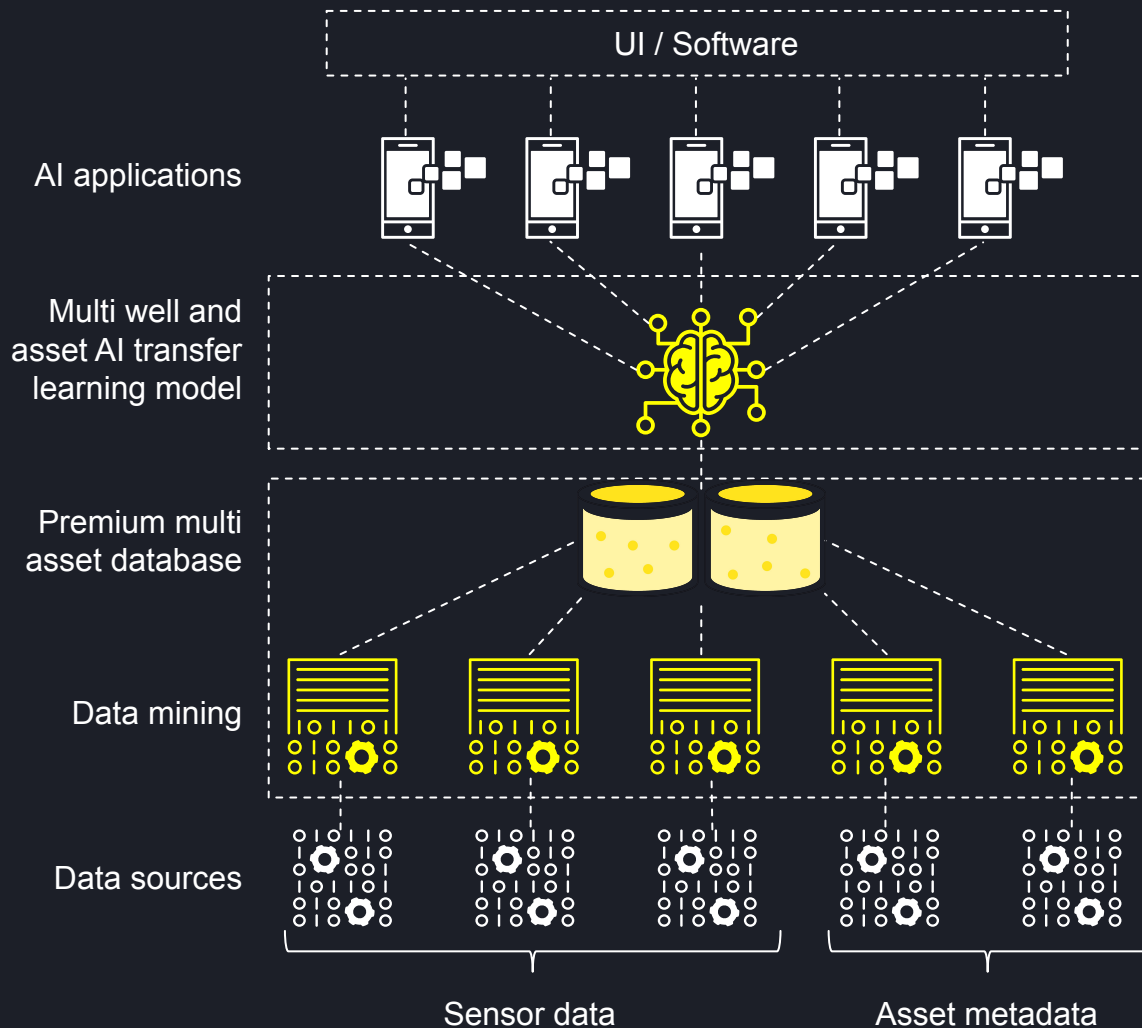
Our ability to at scale:

- **Prepare production data in real-time** for decision support and automatic ML
- Apply ML on sensor data to find and **model patterns of physical systems** that often has low observability
- **Build and operate tailored applications** that fuse operator workflow with data transformation flow, to enable faster and better decisions that taps into asset specific value pools

Deploying both standard and tailored apps



The data feed and modeling provides the basis for insight



- **Library of flagship use cases (with UI)**
 - Data-driven Virtual Flow Metering
 - Well test Optimization
- **Modeling (multi-patented)**
 - Cross asset learning from thousands of wells through patented transfer learning technology
 - Model development, deployment, maintenance, operation, and with online learning
- **Automated Data Mining (multi-patented)**
 - Identification of asset events, slicing of data set (time interval) and computation of event statistics (e.g., mean value, pressure build-up transient, dynamic responses)
 - Cleaning, ingestion and compacting of raw data to produce optimal data set / database
- **Sensor data and asset metadata:**
 - Pressure, temperatures, flow rates, valve position, ESP speed, gas lift rates...



1. Introduction
2. **Research on data-driven methodology**

Solution Seeker tech backed by more than 70 research publications

Products & Solutions Careers Journal [Book a demo](#) [Log in](#)

Research

We are proud of our R&D effort and routinely publish our content in various journals, or through Master's and Doctorate theses.

2022

Publications

Passive learning to address nonstationarity in virtual flow metering applications

Hotvedt, M., Grimstad, B. & Imsland, L.S. Expert Systems With Applications

[Link](#)

On a hybrid approach to model learning applied to virtual flow metering

Hotvedt, M. Supervised by Imsland, L.S., Grimstad & B. Ljungquist, D. Ph.D. Thesis.

When is gray-box modeling advantageous for virtual flow metering?

Hotvedt, M., Grimstad, B. Ljungquist, D. & Imsland, L.S. IFAC-PapersOnLine.

[Link](#)

On gray-box modeling for virtual flow metering

Hotvedt, M., Grimstad, B. Ljungquist, D. & Imsland, L.S. Control Engineering Practice.

[Link](#)

2021

Publications

Multi-task learning for virtual flow metering

Sandnes, A.T., Grimstad, B. & Kolbjørnsen, O. Knowledge-Based Systems.

[Link](#)

Bayesian Neural Networks for Virtual Flow Metering: An Empirical Study

Grimstad, B., Hotvedt, M., Imsland, L.S., Kolbjørnsen, O. & Sandnes, A.T. Applied Soft Computing.

[Link](#)

Identifiability and physical interpretability of hybrid, gray-box models - a case study

Hotvedt, M., Grimstad, B. & Imsland, L.S. 16th IFAC Symposium on Advanced Control of Chemical Processes: Venice, Italy.

[Link](#)

MLOps - challenges with operationalizing machine learning systems

Kjetså, T.I.S., supervised by Grimstad, B. MSc thesis.

2020

Publications

Mathematical programming formulations for piecewise polynomial functions

Grimstad, B. & Knudsen, B.R. Journal of Global Optimization.

[Link](#)

Developing a Hybrid Data-Driven, Mechanistic Virtual Flow Meter - a Case Study

Hotvedt, M., Grimstad, B. & Imsland, L.S. Conference, 21st IFAC World Congress: Berlin, Germany.

[Link](#)

Real-Time Data-Driven and Hybrid Modeling of Two-Phase Flow in Oil and Gas Wells

Almås, I.V.A. & Sjulstad, C.F., supervised by Grimstad, B. MSc thesis.

A spatial branch-and-bound method for ReLU network-constrained problems

Masdal, E., supervised by Grimstad, B. MSc thesis.

Probabilistic deep learning with variational inference - Uncertainty quantification using variational inference for deep neural networks modelling oil and gas production

Hegnar, E., supervised by Grimstad, B. MSc thesis.

2019

Publications

Application of online learning to Bayesian neural networks for petroleum optimization

Baugstø, S.W., supervised by Grimstad, B. MSc thesis.

Integrating Machine Learning Techniques in Real-Time Production Optimization

Andreassen, R.S. & Westby, E.M., supervised by Grimstad, B. MSc thesis.

Slug Flow Root Cause Analysis A Data-Driven Approach

Sandnes, A.T., Uglane, V. & Grimstad, B. Offshore Technology Conference: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

[Link](#)

ReLU Networks as Surrogate Models in Mixed-Integer Linear Programs

Grimstad, B. & Andersson, H. Computers & Chemical Engineering.

[Link](#)

Dynamic Real-Time Optimisation of a CO2 Capture Facility

Hotvedt, M., Hauger, S.O., Gjertsen, F. & Imsland, L. Conference, 12th IFAC Symposium on Dynamics and Control of Process Systems, including Biosystems: Florianópolis, Brazil.

[Link](#)

2018

Publications

Data Driven Real-Time Petroleum Production Planning Using Optimization and Neural Networks

Malvik, A.G. & Witzøe, B., supervised by Grimstad, B. MSc thesis.

Petroleum production optimization – A static or dynamic problem

Foss, B.A., Knudsen, B.R. & Grimstad, B. Computers & Chemical Engineering.

A MIQCP formulation for B-spline constraints

Grimstad, B. Optimization Letters.

2017

Publications

Predictive modeling with applications in decision support systems for oil and gas production

Cenar, U.A., supervised by Grimstad, B. MSc thesis.

2016

Publications

Data driven analysis in oil and gas operations

Nordmo, M., supervised by Grimstad, B. & Sandnes, A.T. MSc thesis.

Contributions to production optimization of oil reservoirs

Codas, A., supervised by Foss, B.A. & Gunnerud, V. PhD thesis.

Global optimization of multiphase flow networks using spline surrogate models

Grimstad, B. et al. Computers and Chemical Engineering.

[Link](#)

A Simple Data-Driven Approach to Production Estimation and Optimization

Grimstad, B., et. al. Conference, SPE Intelligent Energy International Conference and Exhibition: Aberdeen, Scotland, UK.

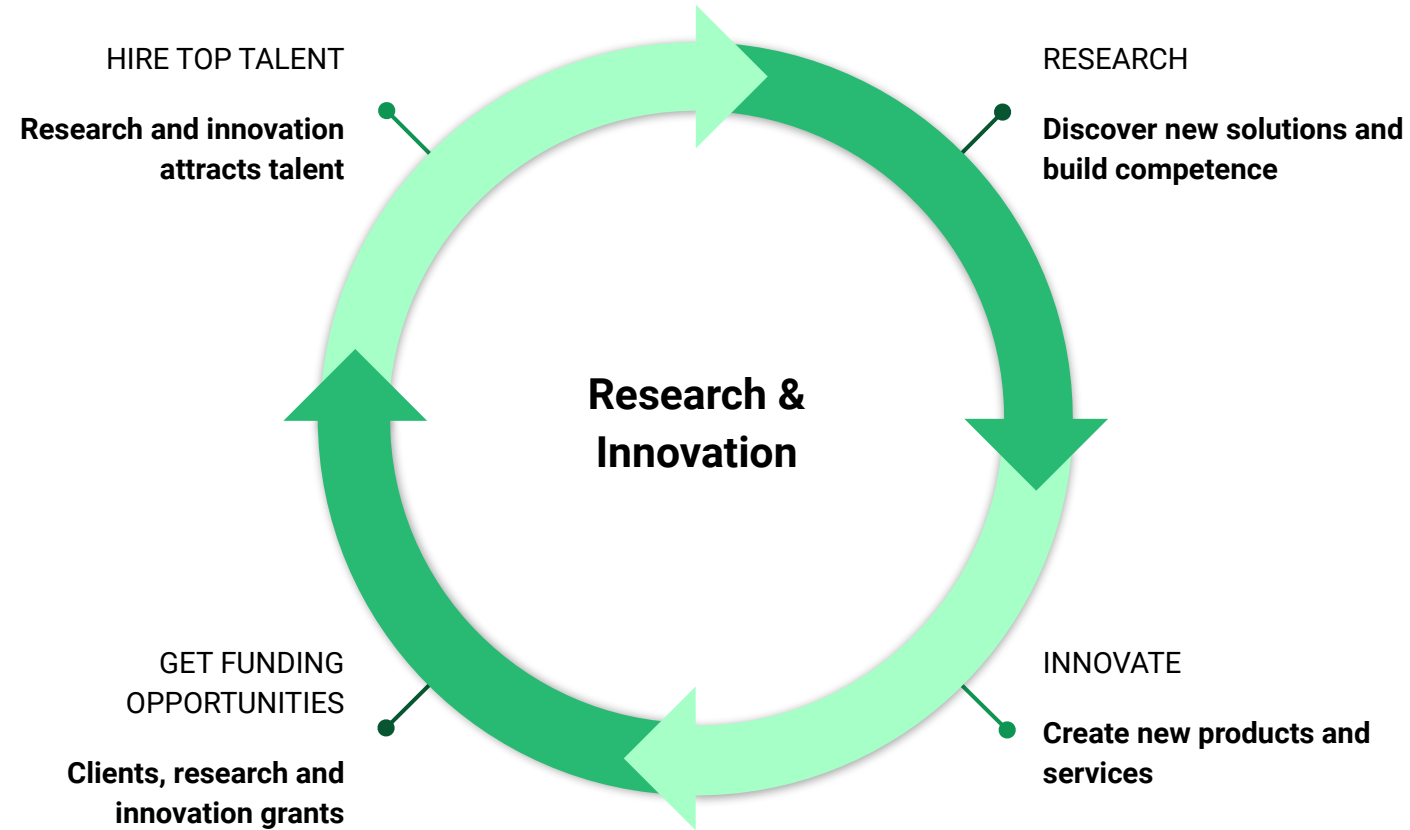
[Link](#)

Modelling and Optimization of Real-Time Petroleum Production Using robust regression, bootstrapping, moment matching, and two-stage stochastic optimization

Morken, M.L. & Sandberg, P.T., supervised by Grimstad, B. & Gunnerud, V. MSc thesis.

<https://www.solutionseeker.no/company/publications/>

Why do we invest in research?



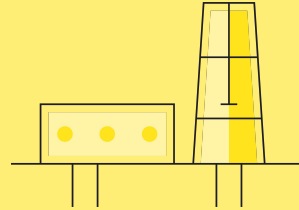
How do we conduct research?



Funding

NFR, IN, ERC, EIC, ...

Competition and project
quality assurance



Problem owner

Clients (companies in O&G,
energy, fish farming, ...)

Problem, data and domain
knowledge



Research lead

Solution Seeker

Technology (data collection
and processing, ML, ...) and
competence



Research partner

Universities (NTNU, UiO, ...) and
business partners (BCG)

Research, education,
competence

How do we accelerate our research?

Technology

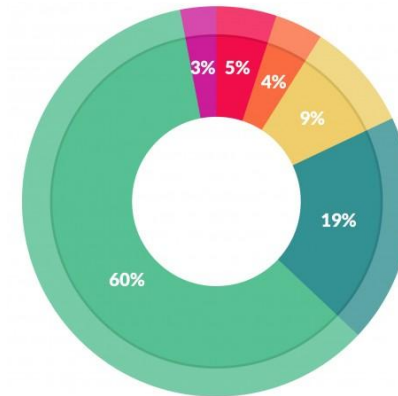
- Considerable SW & HW engineering is often a requirement for AI/ML research
- Data processing tech can speed up the research process considerably (produce large datasets of high quality data much faster – with built-in best practices)
- Infrastructure and software tools

Work practices

- Open research to avoid wasting resources
- Agile methodology to manage projects

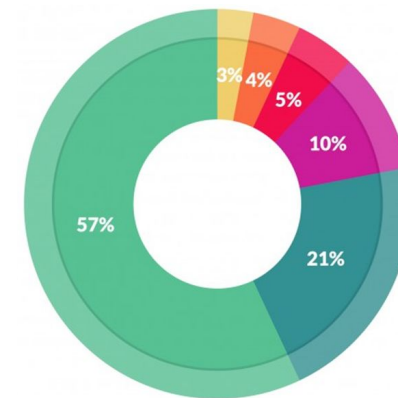
Research quality

- Focus on high impact research
- Use large and rich (cross-asset) datasets to develop methods that generalize



What data scientists spend the most time doing

- Building training sets: 3%
- Cleaning and organizing data: 60%
- Collecting data sets: 19%
- Mining data for patterns: 9%
- Refining algorithms: 4%
- Other: 5%



What's the least enjoyable part of data science?

- Building training sets: 10%
- Cleaning and organizing data: 57%
- Collecting data sets: 21%
- Mining data for patterns: 3%
- Refining algorithms: 4%
- Other: 5%

At our tenth anniversary in 2023, we established the non-profit company ***Solution Seeker Research***



Its purpose is to conduct ***ambitious research on data-driven methodology*** by

- Building a new Norwegian AI/ML competence hub
- Influencing the AI/ML research agenda
- Researching openly (sharing tools, methods, data)
- Competing for research funding (some problems are too hard to solve with poor funding)
- Simplifying research partnerships (sharing IP)



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