30th June – 9th July 2021

Tech Sprint

On the explainability of machine learning

Fintech-Innovation Hub, ACPR

Hosted by the ACPR's Fintech-Innovation Hub in partnership with key actors of the French financial sector, this will be the first event of its kind: a regulatory hackathon. The Tech Sprint on explainability is designed for all professionals and students ready to challenge themselves to decipher algorithms only available as "blackboxes".

The challenge is straightforward: credit risk predictive models have been designed and trained by banking institutions, the goal is to explain them!

Subject

The Tech Sprint is part of an innovative approach. The ACPR acts as a facilitator and has partnered with voluntary credit institutions which designed and trained machine learning models to predict which loans to individual customers are likely to default.

Tech Sprint participants (fintechs, banks or other financial actors, researchers and students in data and computer science, etc.) will play the role of analysts: their task is to explain the behaviour of those models and to elucidate their nature and characteristics.

Explainability is a critical asset for building trust in processes based on artificial intelligence as it facilitates understanding an algorithm's output as well as validating and monitoring predictive models.

The goals of this Tech Sprint include:

- Shedding light on regulatory challenges, particularly with respect to risk management, governance and consumer protection
- Exploring which explainability methods apply to a concrete use case, and the kinds of explanations that can be provided to a variety of stakeholders (auditors, domain experts or customers)
- Promoting knowledge sharing and collaboration initiatives fostered by the ACPR and involving actors of the financial sector
- Showcasing the French expertise and tradecraft in data science.

Format

- 2 sessions (professionals / students) of 1.5 day each
- 12 teams maximum per session, of 2-5 members each
- Mentoring by the ACPR's Fintech-Innovation Hub
- Networking opportunities among participants, partner banks and guests
- For the students session:
    - meeting the data and innovation experts from Banque de France
    - a €150 gift card for each member of the 3 winning teams.