

MACHINE LEARNING BASED QOE TESTING IN MOBILE NETWORKS

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ROHDE & SCHWARZ

Make ideas real



CONTENTS



- Drivers for AI/ML in Mobile Network Testing
- AI/ML applied to Mobile Network Testing
- Case studies
- Conclusions

CONTEXT AND DRIVERS FOR AI/ML IN MOBILE NETWORK TESTING

Challenges

- ▶ Cost pressure
- ▶ Increased network complexity
 - 5G NR brings new use cases and flexibility
 - More critical performance and availability requirements
- ▶ Loss of Expertise
- ▶ Legacy, labor-intensive way to exploit data



...in result

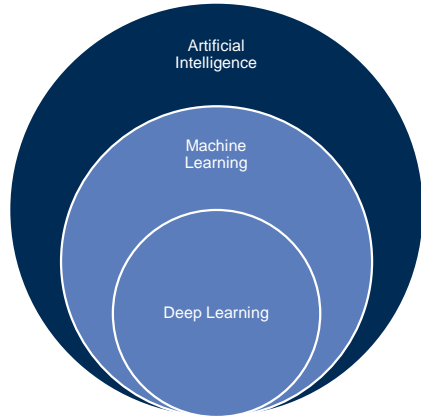
Efficiency

Guidance,
automation

Extract more information
out of the collected data



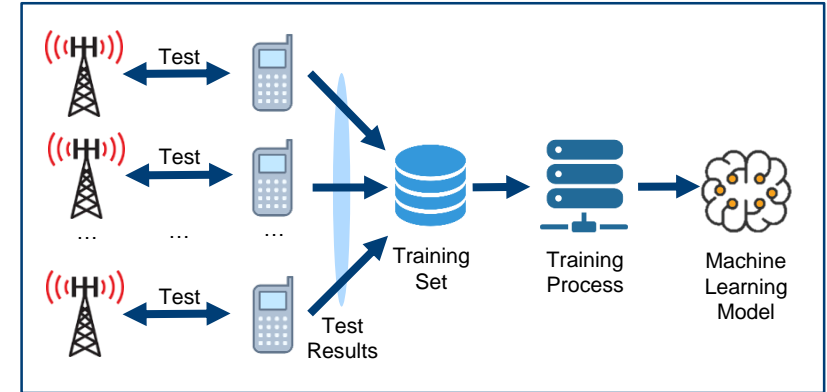
MACHINE LEARNING ON MNT



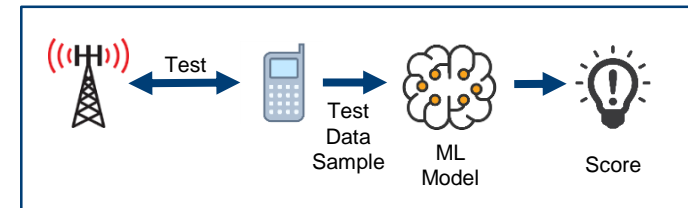
Types of machine learning:

- ▶ Supervised Learning
- ▶ Unsupervised Learning / Self-supervised Learning
- ▶ Semi-supervised Learning
- ▶ Reinforcement Learning
- ▶ Active Learning

Training

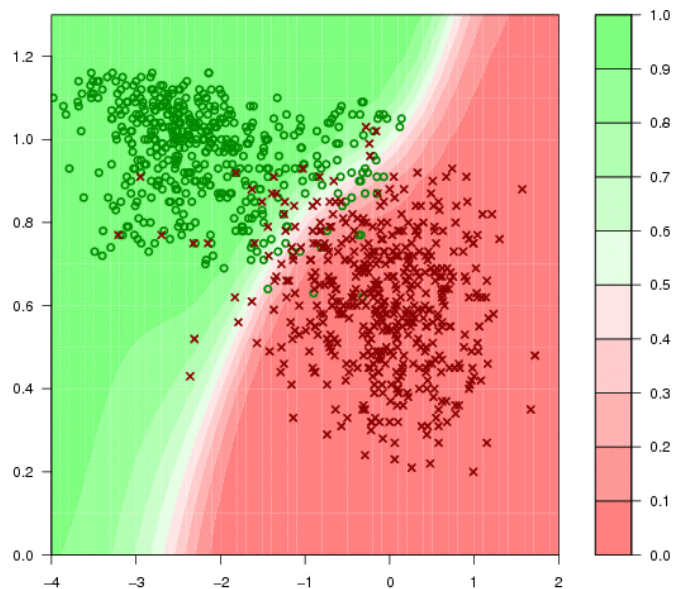


Inference

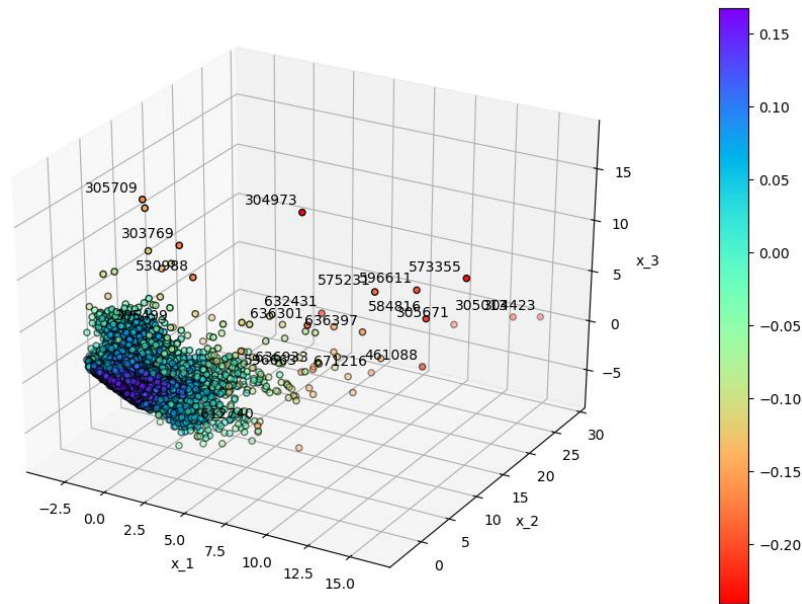


USE CASES FOR MNT

► Binary Test Scoring

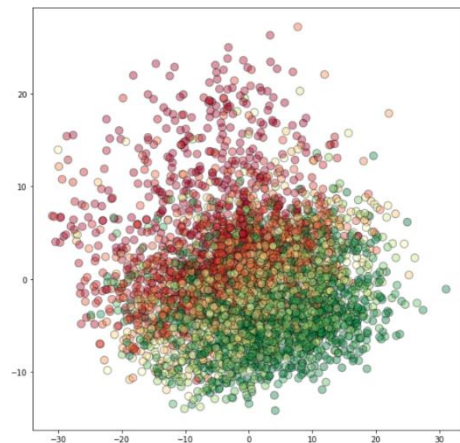


► Time-based Anomaly Detection



BINARY TEST SCORING

- ▶ Extract more value out of each test with binary result
- ▶ Patent pending
- ▶ Semi-supervised learning
- ▶ Applications:
 - Call Stability Score
 - Video Stability Score
 - Call Setup Score

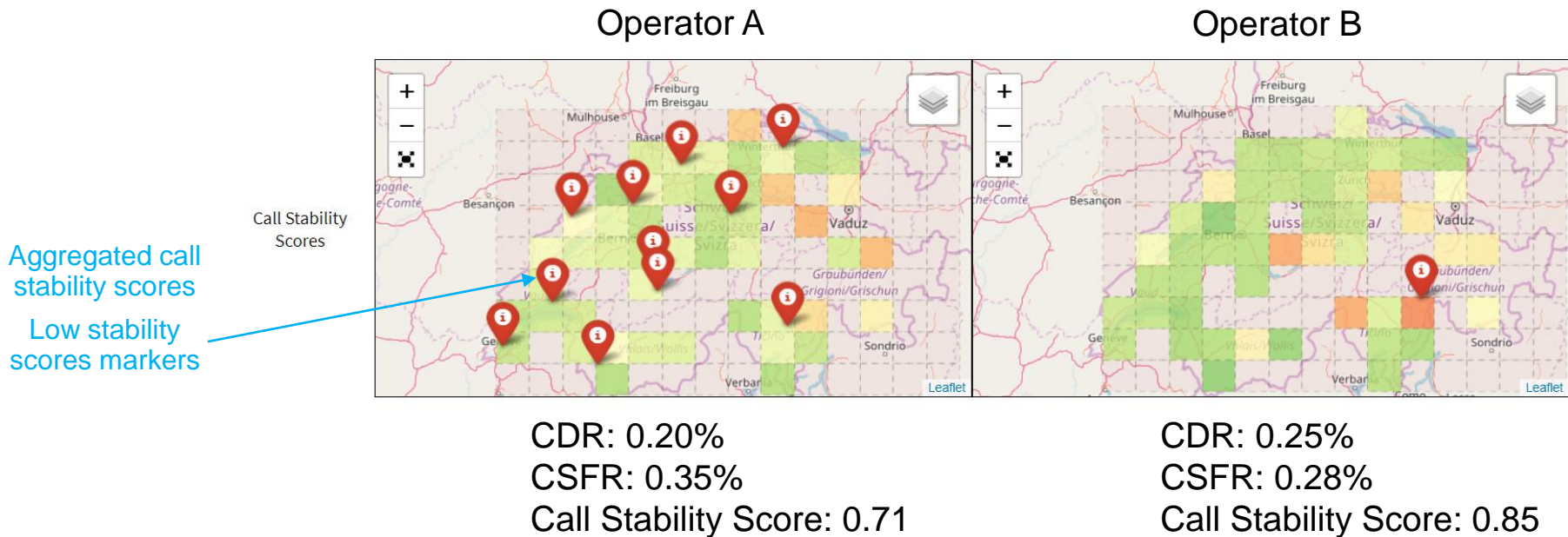


Call Stability Score:

- ▶ Call Drop Rate (CDR) is a fundamental KPI to measure network performance.
- ▶ Measured from a binary result, the call either drops or not.
- ▶ We find levels of CDR of 1% (even less)
- ▶ Large number of calls to make the result statistically significant
- ▶ Calls may drop at different locations (chance factor)

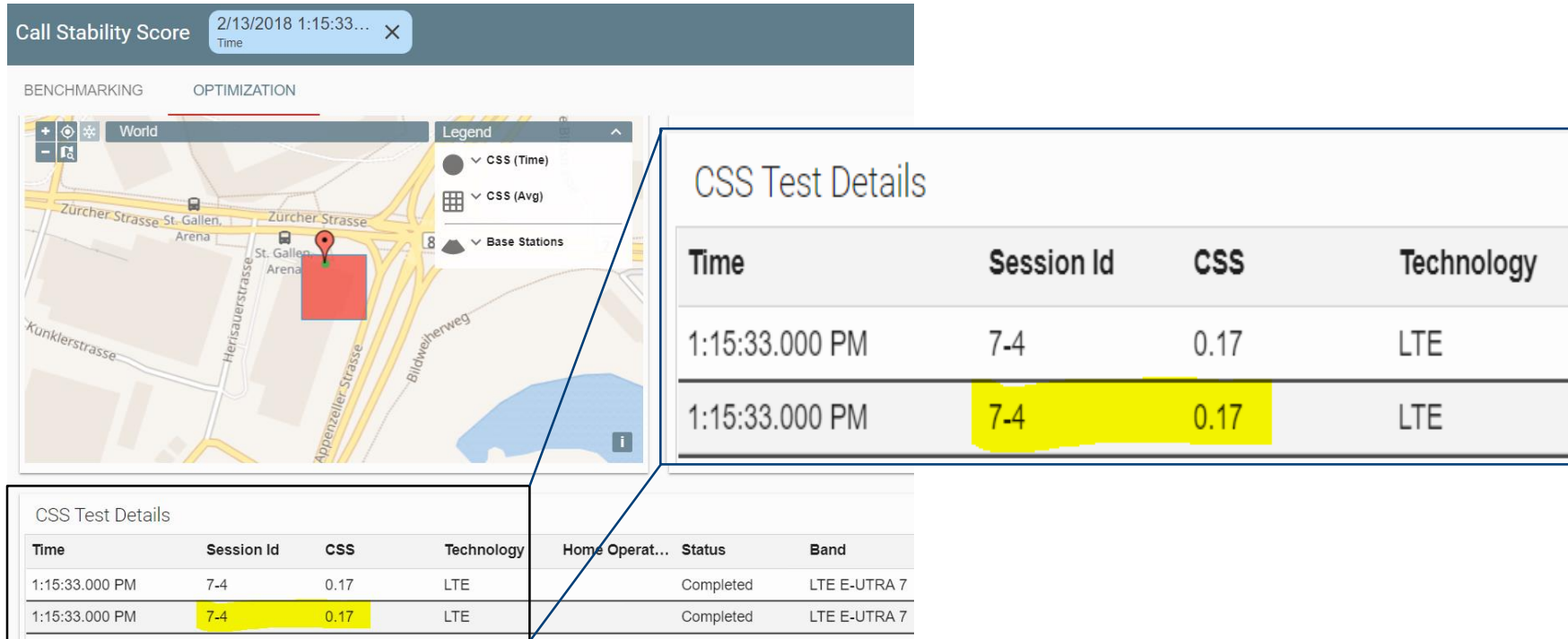
CREATING MORE INSIGHTS THROUGH MACHINE LEARNING

VISUALIZATION EXAMPLE



CALL STABILITY SCORE – PROACTIVE IDENTIFICATION OF RISKY AREAS

1. Drill-down: poor performing CSS area → and a guilty session with poor CSS, 0.17 (call was successful)
2. Next step: straightforward session analysis

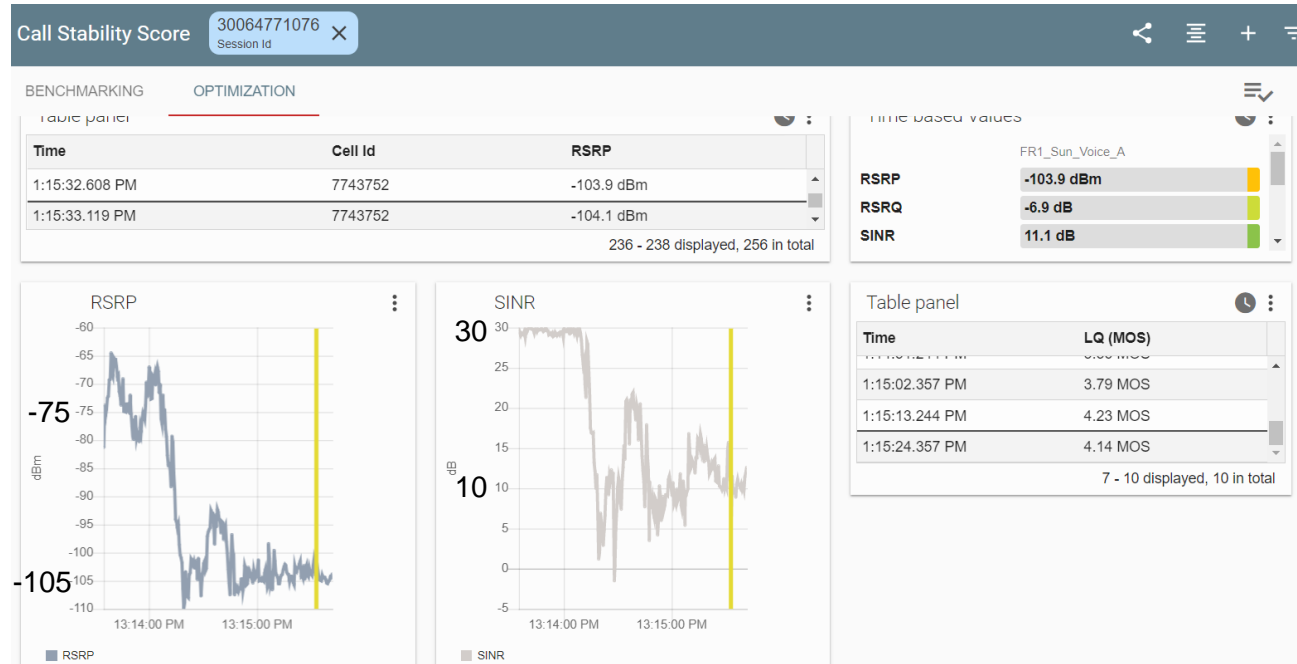


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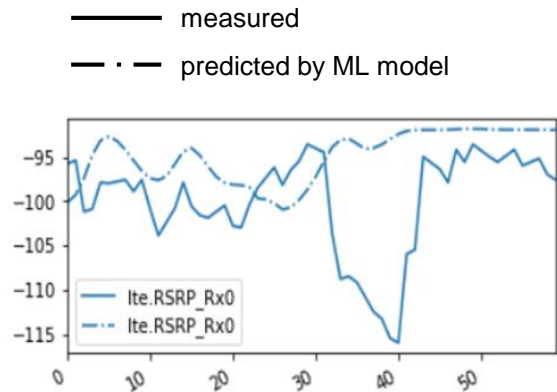
- ▶ Sudden drop of LTE RSRP and SINR
- ▶ Machine learning model provides a poor score
- ▶ Model learnt that calls with this behavior often dropped

- ▶ Proactive identification of risky areas
- ▶ Obtain more value out of the collected data
- ▶ Expose previously hidden information

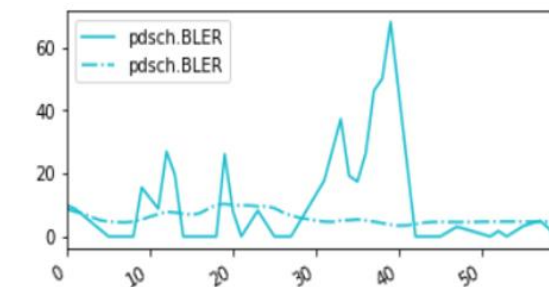
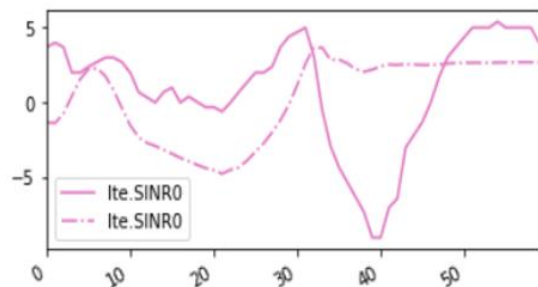
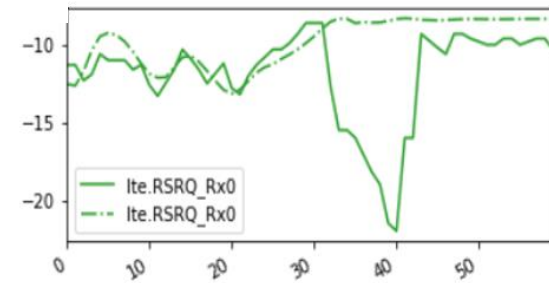


TIME-BASED ANOMALIES

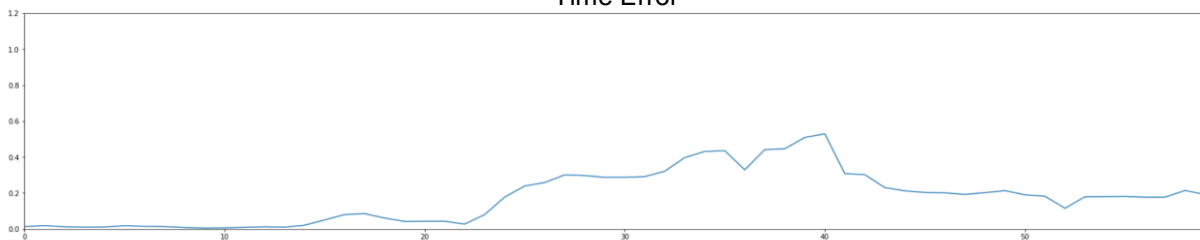
- ▶ Automate optimization by focusing on detected anomalies
- ▶ Unsupervised Learning
- ▶ Applications:
 - Call Setup
 - Capacity Download
 - Capacity Upload
 - Video Streaming
 - ...



Example parameters

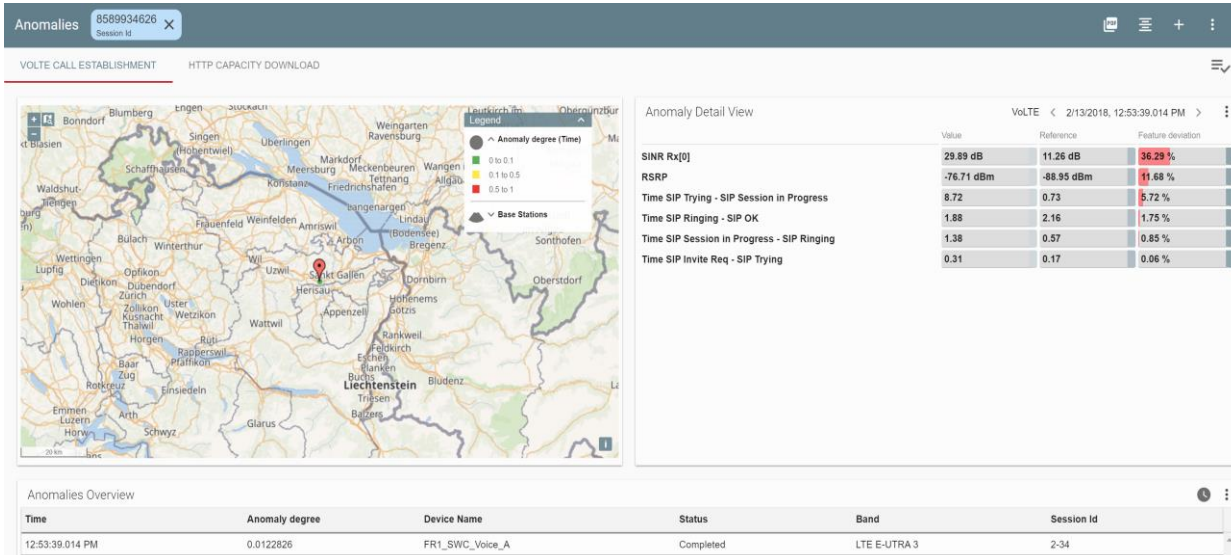


Time Error



ANOMALY DETECTION – GUIDING OPTIMIZATION

1. VoLTE call establishment
2. Establishment time is long (~13 sec) whilst having a very good radio environment



Anomaly Detail View VoLTE

SINR Value: 29.89 dB

RSRP Value: -76.71 dBm

Statistics based value list

Swisscom

SIP Call Access: 12294 ms

SIP Dial Accept Delay: 311 ms

SIP Dial Accept Delay Success: 1

SIP Dial Response Delay: 9030 ms

Call Setup Time (CST): 12.98 s

➤ Very good RSRP + very good SINR + very long CST = Anomaly!

➤ 5G: Time-based anomalies important due to many new parameters and high flexibility of data/configurations

CREATING MORE INSIGHTS THROUGH MACHINE LEARNING

SUMMARY OF THE BENEFITS

Extract **more value** out of the collected data

Efficiency

- ▶ Automatic calculation of the call stability score for every call. Every result becomes more meaningful. We **maximize the number of usable/actionable test results by a dramatic factor**
- ▶ Obtain **meaningful results** also from places where the “traditional” test result would not indicate any problem
- ▶ Less test data needed → **save time** in data collection
- ▶ Proactive identification of risky areas → **ease network optimization**
- ▶ Streamline analysis: **Guided optimization**
- ▶ 5G: ML-based models to **detect and predict beam-forming related** topics would be of high advantage

LEARNINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Increasing network complexity and cost-pressure

- More efficient / less labor-intensive methodology to extract key metrics

Machine Learning extremely valuable for mobile network analytics to extract deep insights into network performance

Call Stability Score and Anomaly Detection: identify risky areas and trends; guide optimization efforts

Outlook: 5G and Industry 4.0 offers many more use cases (high reliability → “data connection stability”, etc.)

<https://blog.mobile-network-testing.com>
www.rohde-schwarz.com/MNT-5G

