

Steve Pieczko

Artificial Intelligence for Project Management

Solving Project Overrun with Al



Quick Question

Raise your hand if you've every worked on a failed project.



The problem that we need to solve

Solving Project Overrun with Al

The most expensive part of every ERP project is Project Overrun (missed milestones, recalibration, etc.)

70% of ERP implementations fail to meet their objectives

While we have turned around > 15 projects,

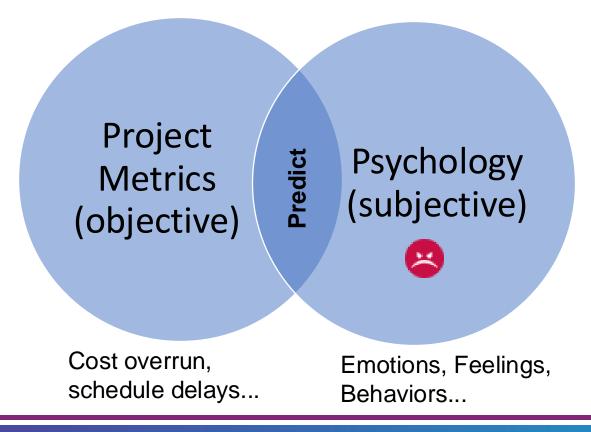
How do we solve or improve this problem?



Our Hypothesis (2010-2014)



Is the answer to addressing project failure, found by combing objective and subjective data points of people and projects?



Our theory: Is this Venn diagram the path to finding a Solution?

Our Research (Inductive Reasoning)



RelMap Software; could AI (NLP) predict people and project failures?

Inductive Reasoning involves: Observations, Patterns and Hypothesis

We took 2 approaches (focused on communications)

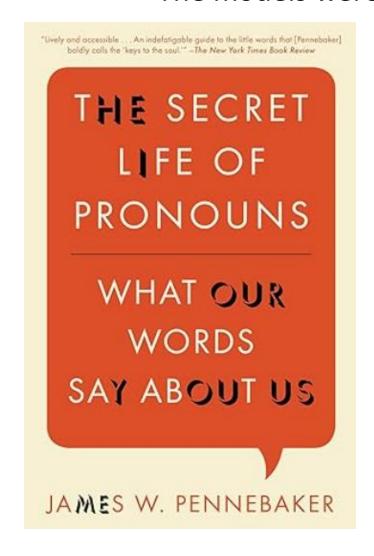
- Build a large data set of emotions and outcomes (Psycho Linguistics) via Natural Language Processing (NLP)
 - Data was from known criminals: Enron, al-Qaeda, Unabomber
- 2. Build a dataset of data from known failures or nearly failing projects (survey approach)
 - Quantified lessons learned

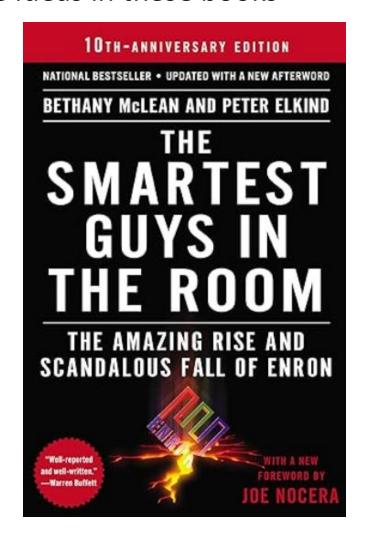
#1 Psycho Linguistics



- Psycho Linguistics is the psychology of language, which is the study of the interrelation between linguistic factors and psychological aspects.
- Used in criminal analysis (threat analysis, employee theft)
- The FBI/CIA/NSA use Psycho Linguistics to identify intent to cause harm (bad outcomes)
- Can this technique be used to identify when people fail?

The models were based on the ideas in these books





Linguistic Patterns Data Points and Outcomes

Criminal Data Summary (when people fail)



















Truthfulness Analysis

 Jeffrey Skilling was about as truthful as al-Qaeda and the Unabomber. Not the case for Tom Skilling (weather guy)

Cohesion Analysis

 Individuals that are eventually found guilty of securities and wire fraud exist in highly cohesive groups

Passive Aggressiveness Analysis

Summary of this research will be published in our book, which will be promoted on **BecomingResilient.com**

 Individuals that commit or direct physical harm to others exhibit passiveness aggressive behaviors

Emotion Trend Analysis (can this be extended to Project Management?)

 An emotional decrease of 2 or more levels for 3 weeks or more can indicate that something bad has occurred or will occur which can include death.

Predictions: Al for Project Management (RelMap)



Generative AI (Chat GPT, CoPilot) will automate the role of the Project Coordinator

- Build me a communications plan using these data points
- Build me the foundations of a project plan
- What are lessons learned on ERP projects, identify risks, etc.
- Al Automation
 - Follow up on tasks...

General AI (in 2 years) and AI Agents will make Project Managers smarter

- Critical Path Analysis
- Why and where is my project failing?
- What can I do to get my project back on track?

Large Language Models will include project information

Easy Predictions: Al for Project Management (RelMap)



Wave 1 – AI Gantt Chart Automation

- Chatbot: The project plan has you completing the task (Order Processing Requirements) today, can you provide the % complete?"
- Steve: "its 90% done"
- The project plan is updated and an alert "Steve missed his date" is sent to the Program Manager

Easy Predictions: Al for Project Management (RelMap)



Wave 2 – Helper chatbots that include psychology

- Chatbot: "Steve can you tell me what's remaining on your task assignment (order processing requirements)"
- Steve: "I didn't complete the return process steps for order processing"
- Chatbot: "Ok, would you like some help with that?"
- Steve: "Yes, I'm stuck on the step where we need to decide if we charge the customer a restocking fee"
- Chatbot: "Did you seek help from Bobby in the returns department?"
- Steve: "Yes"
- Chatbot: What did he say?
- Steve: "Bobby told me that I have to figure this out on my own and this is something that I should already know and he's surprised that I didn't already know the answer"

Emotion: Humiliation Shame, Anger Loathing



<u>"</u>

Chatbot: "would you like me to escalate the request for help or follow up with Bobby?"



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Al Predictions



The race for AI to solve complex Project Management problems has started...

- Al will automate Project Coordinator tasks and provide the data to make Project Managers smarter
- There are at least 10 Psychology Chatbots to interact with people: ADA, Chai, Elomia, Mindspa, Nuna, Serenity, Stresscoach, Woebot, Wysa, Youper
- The next wave of chatbots will mix Gantt Chart automation with psychology and be capable of predicting people and project failures

Until we get there, we have a tool for you...

#2 survey approach to predict project failure





Infor Resilience Score							
Category						# Red I	
<u>Complexity</u>	3		Around \$6M spent so far; For sure more than 10 here; Project is already at 20 months; Several throw away interfaces;			1	
Coverage	2		Only since PM's arrival 1 y	ear in;		0	
Scalability	4		none exist;			0	
Reliability	2		Testing, and document revi	ews;		0	
Best Practices	2		No PMO. Steering Committee yes; Not by design;			0	
<u>Support</u>	3		It's the Steering Committee; New CIO fulfilling this role; Steering Committee; Wait and see attitude;			0	
Resources	2		Lost one Key Technical SME; Not really partmering with client; some areas need more help;		0		
Culture	2		Wait and see attitude;			0	
Communications	4		Not yet;			0	
Execution	3		Go live date yet to be determined; Not a comprehensive budget; off budget; off schedule; several times;		2		
Total Average Score	2.64	2.64			Total Number of Red Flag	s 3	
tesilience Score	3				Total Number of Critical Success Factor	s 38	
Complexity Return to Summary					Community	Dod St	
Question Algorithmetic complexity - how many complex algorithm		Answer None		Score 0	Comments Not sure	Red Fla	g Critic
Question Algorithmetic complexity - how many complex algorithmetic built?	ms need to	None		0	Comments Not sure	No	Yes
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We created a 65 question survey that measured and quantified 10 project areas Point: quantify and graph your lessons learn surveys (remove subjectivity)

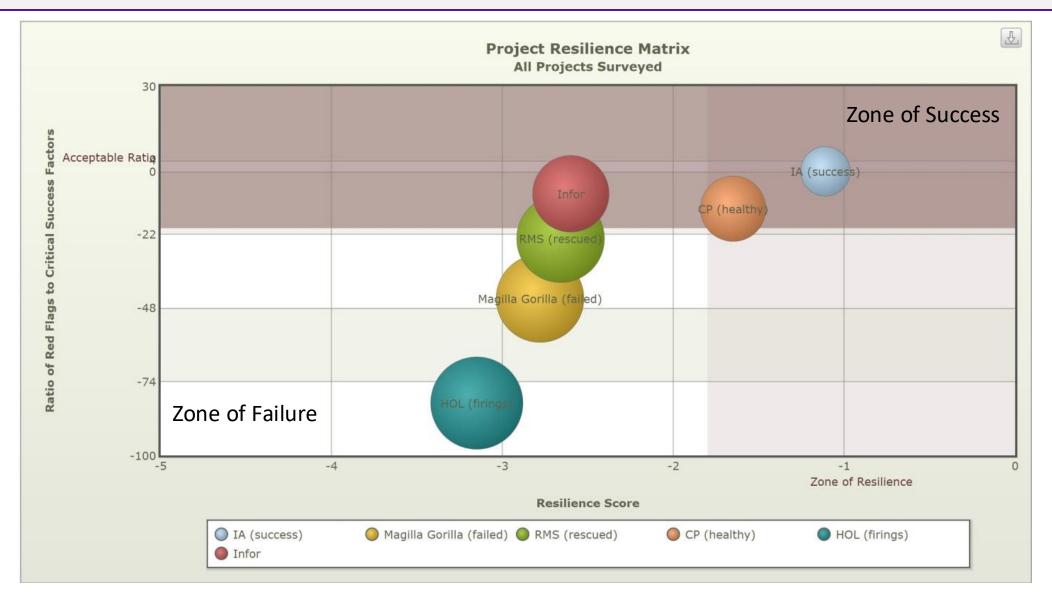
#2: Quantify Your Post Mortem Analysis



Category	Score	Comments	# Red Flags			
	2		m Neo Hago			
Complexity	3	about 200 migrations (Historical load of data + ongoing);				
Coverage	3	No comprehensive Requirements Management process;				
<u>Scalability</u>	4	Not a major issue as moderate growth was sized in.;				
<u>Reliability</u>	3	Did not exist during requirements gathering:	0			
Best Practices	3		3			
<u>Support</u>	2		1			
Resources	2	high turnover, lots of knowledge left.;	1			
<u>Culture</u>	3	Vendor and Staff Aug required;	0			
Communications	2		0			
Execution	3		0			
Total Average Score	2.66	Total Number of Red Flags 9				
Resilience Score	3	Total Number of Critic	r of Critical Success Factors 38			
		Percentage of Red Flags to Critical Success Factors 23.68				

#2: Quantify Your Post Mortem Analysis





Using AI to Solve Project Overrun



Project Based Large Language Models

Generative Al

General Al

Artifact Creation Task Automation Project Failure
Al Agents

Al for you!



What can you do today?

- Build a large language model of your projects (a corporate instance)
- Start building AI task automation (focus on tasks that a coordinator does)
- Explore risk assessments or critical path analysis
- Look at PM AI tools: Asana, Click Up, Monday.com, Basecamp, Trello, Motion, OneCal, Notion, Slack, Loom
- Quantify your lessons learned and put them into your LLM so the artifacts on the next project include these lessons learned.
- Interesting AI Companies
 - Start Up, Abnormal Security, scans corporate emails to identify when an account has been compromised (using analysis of changing tones)



Thank You!



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