AI Revolution in the Conduct of Labour Force Surveys

Skyla Sim, Statistical Specialist

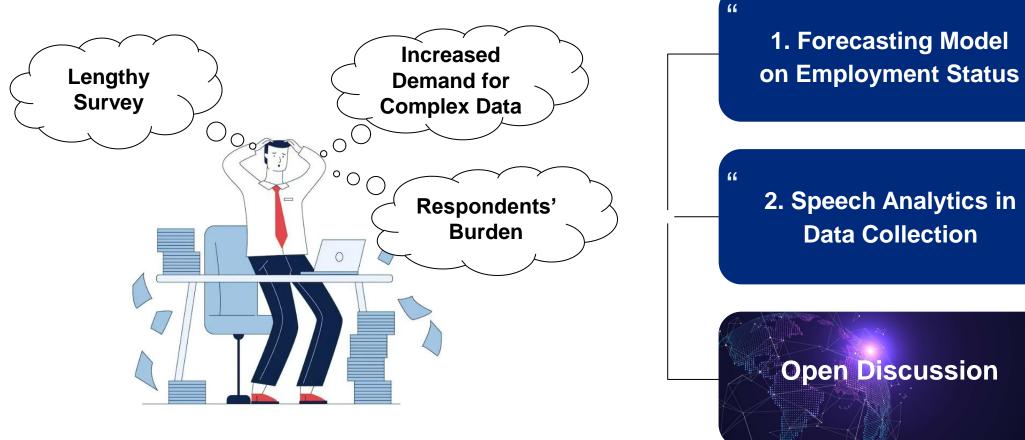
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Ministry of Manpower, Manpower Research and Statistics Department (Singapore)



Manpower Research and Statistics Department (Singapore)

As Singapore's national labour market statistics agency, the Manpower Research and Statistics Department (MRSD) delivers robust and timely data to provide labour market intelligence for policy formulation and research.





1. Towards a Smarter Labour Force Survey

MRSD conducts a **monthly Labour Force Survey**, engaging approximately **22,000 households**. Each household participates over **six consecutive months**, providing valuable insights into the labour market.



"Our employment status doesn't change that quickly..."

As MRSD, how can we reduce respondents' burden? Without compromising data quality.

Based on the Analysis...

Employment status tends to remain stable month-to-month for many individuals.

By leveraging predictive models and incorporating additional variables, we can estimate the likelihood of change without needing to recontact every respondent.





Forecasting Model Development

Problem Scoping	Data Compilation	Model Training	Testing	Deployment
Leveraging on predictive modeling to reduce manpower needs by anticipating employment status changes. Thus, driving efficiency and smarter resource allocation.	Transforming raw survey data into a format suitable for data modelling.	A CatBoost model is first trained with baseline parameters to establish a benchmark, and then iteratively tuned until the desired performance is achieved.	Backtesting is performed using holdout datasets from unseen time periods to confirm generalisability. Once validated, the model is saved, versioned, and documented.	Model is integrated in the monthly labor force surveys to predict change in employment status. A retraining plan is put in place ensuring that the model remains relevant and reliable over time.
Stage 0	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4

Note: The graph illustrates the relative time allocation across each stage of the modeling process.



Process

22,000 households (Round 1 to 6)

Survey carried out on all hosueholds in Round 1

Data was cleaned to exclude individuals retrenched, retired, unemployed, etc, to ensure the model is used only on the active workforce.

Model Prediction for households for round

2 - 6

Using **past** and **current** information to predict whether their **employment status** will change next month.

 Historical survey data was used for training the ML Model.

Outcome

Contact only response that are likely to change their employment status.

Secondary Checks

- Random Call Audits to check for False Negative.
- Validation calls to check for False positive.

~4,000 Cases left to contact

Round 1

- 3,700 cases ⁵

Round 2 onwards

- 18,300



2. Interviewers in Focus

Sustaining high data quality and response rates in the Labour Force Survey requires that respondents feel engaged, respected, and valued throughout their participation.

However, **temporary interviewers** may lack the full set of skills needed to deliver a consistent, respondent-centric experience.



How do we ensure the following?





- 2. Language and Word Choice neutral, non-leading?
- 3. Question Delivery and Adherence to Script any paraphrase?
- **4.** Responsiveness and Adaptability any follow-ups?
- **5. Engagement and Rapport-Building** do respondents feel heard or seen?



Speech to text Analytics

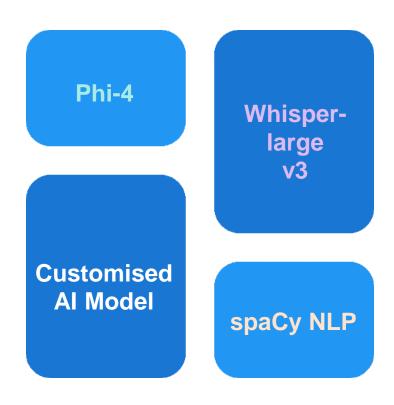
This product **automates** analysis on calls, optimise call agent monitoring and assessments while ensuring efficient operations within secured government environment.

1. Comprehensive Assessment on Performance of Call Agents

- Measure Compliance to Interview Protocols
- Assess Interviewer Service Quality

2. Real time case Monitoring and Resolution

- Detect Follow-up or Escalation
- Monitor Service Satisfaction
- Questionnaire Refinement & Operation Calibration





Avg. Call Duration

in minutes.

9.64

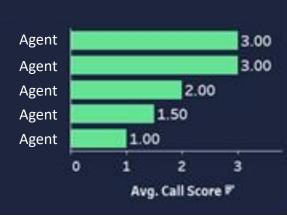
Avg. Call Score

0.14

Avg. Call Satisfaction

97%

Top Performing



Under Performance



Respondent Satisfaction



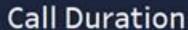
Competency

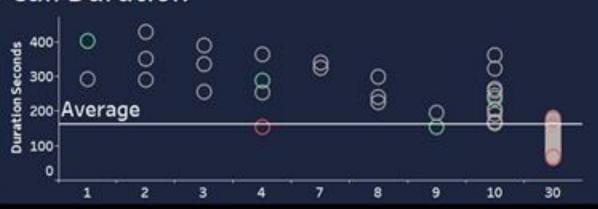
The call agent was unable to maintain a clear and coherent conversation, leading to confusion and frustration.

The call agent struggled to communicate effectively, leading to confusion and frustration for the respondent.

The call agent confused the respondent with questions about the company's name and address, and there was a lack of clarity in communication.

The call agent maintained a clear and polite conversation, ensuring the respondent understood the urgency of the survey submission.





Dashboard Indicators



This dashboard provides insights into call interactions through sentiment-based indicators—negative, neutral, and positive call satisfaction scores.

Highlights top and bottom agents based on satisfaction scores (-3 to +3) for **targeted performance insights.**





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Open Discussion