

21st Annual GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference Chattanooga Convention Center

GIS/CAMA • Chattanooga, TN



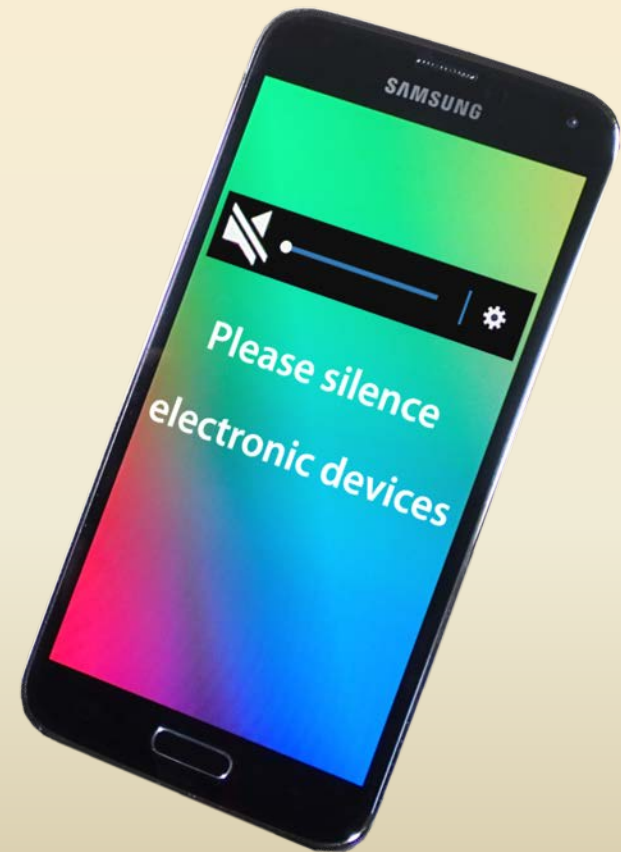
March 6-9, 2017

Continuing Education (CE) Credit

Recertification Credit forms for CE credit can be collected from the Registration Desk on Thursday.

Housekeeping

The conference proceedings will be available approximately 8 weeks after the conference.



Integrating Predictive Model Markup Language into a CAMA System

*Experiences from the
Maricopa County Assessor's Office*

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Overview

- Starting Line
 - Existing Processes
 - Background Information
- The Goal
 - Model Deployment using PMML
- From Concept to Actuality
 - Decision Process
 - Sowing Teamwork for Innovation
- Envisioning the Future
 - Alternative Models and PMML
- Code Examples





About Maricopa County



- 4.1 million residents (July 2015)
- 9,200 square miles
- 106.1°F avg summer temp
- 300 days of sunshine
- 1.58 million parcels
- \$450 billion total FCV (2016)
- 260 Assessor's Office staff
 - 8 modelers
- Two Annual Assessment Rolls
 - Notice of Value (NOV)
 - Notice of Change (NOC)



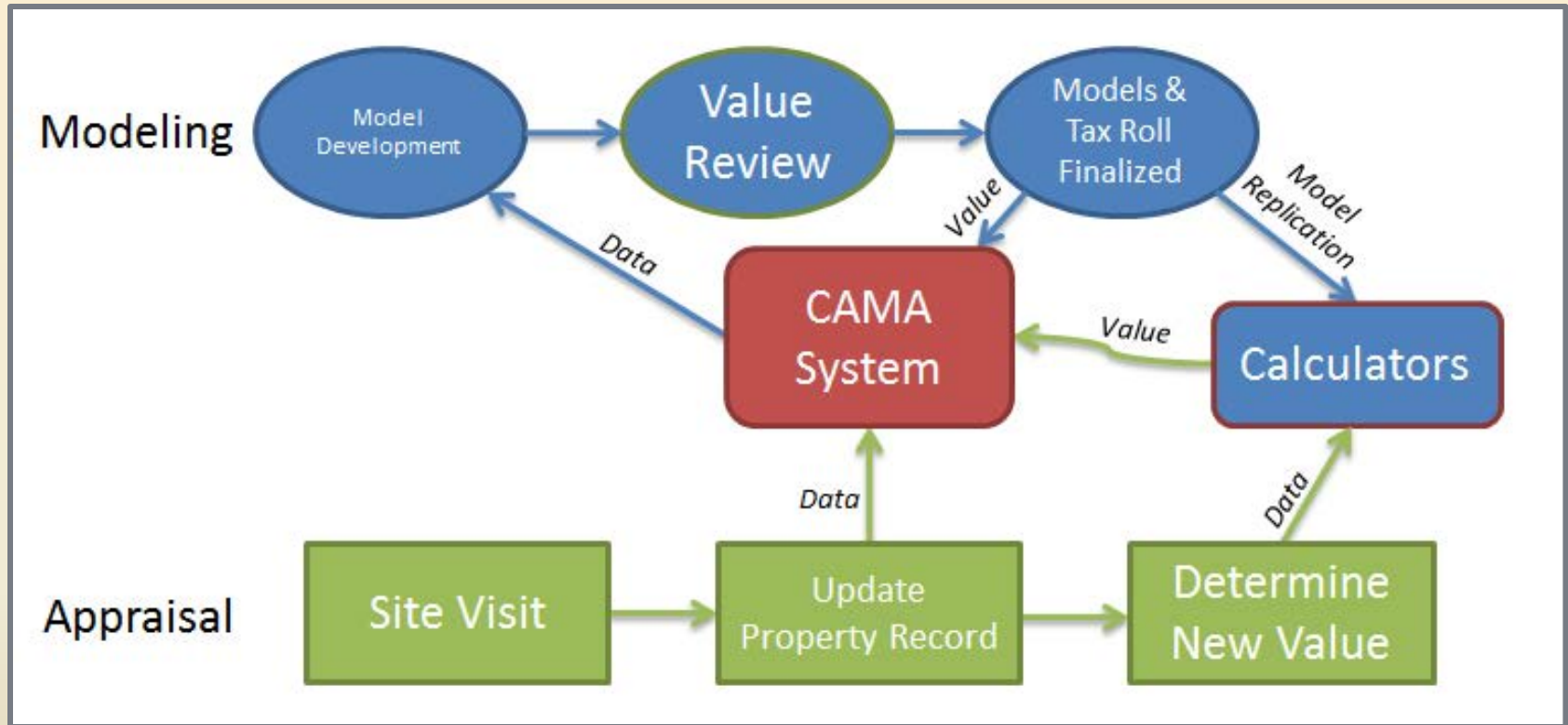
Existing Processes

- Mid-1990s
 - Mass appraisal modeling program established
 - Explosive growth demanded new efficient processes for property valuations
- Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS)
- 71 annual multiple regression analysis (MRA) models produced in 2016

Current Model Types	
Residential	Condominium
Residential Land	Commercial Land
Apartment Income & Market	Industrial Market
Office Income & Market	



Existing Processes




Existing Processes

- Calculators
 - SPSS models replicated in Microsoft Excel
 - Allows appraisers to interact with models to update property values

Record 1 of 1 Add Date 1/6/2016

Year 2017 Full Cash Value Calculations
- Market Area 4 Residential -



PARCELID:

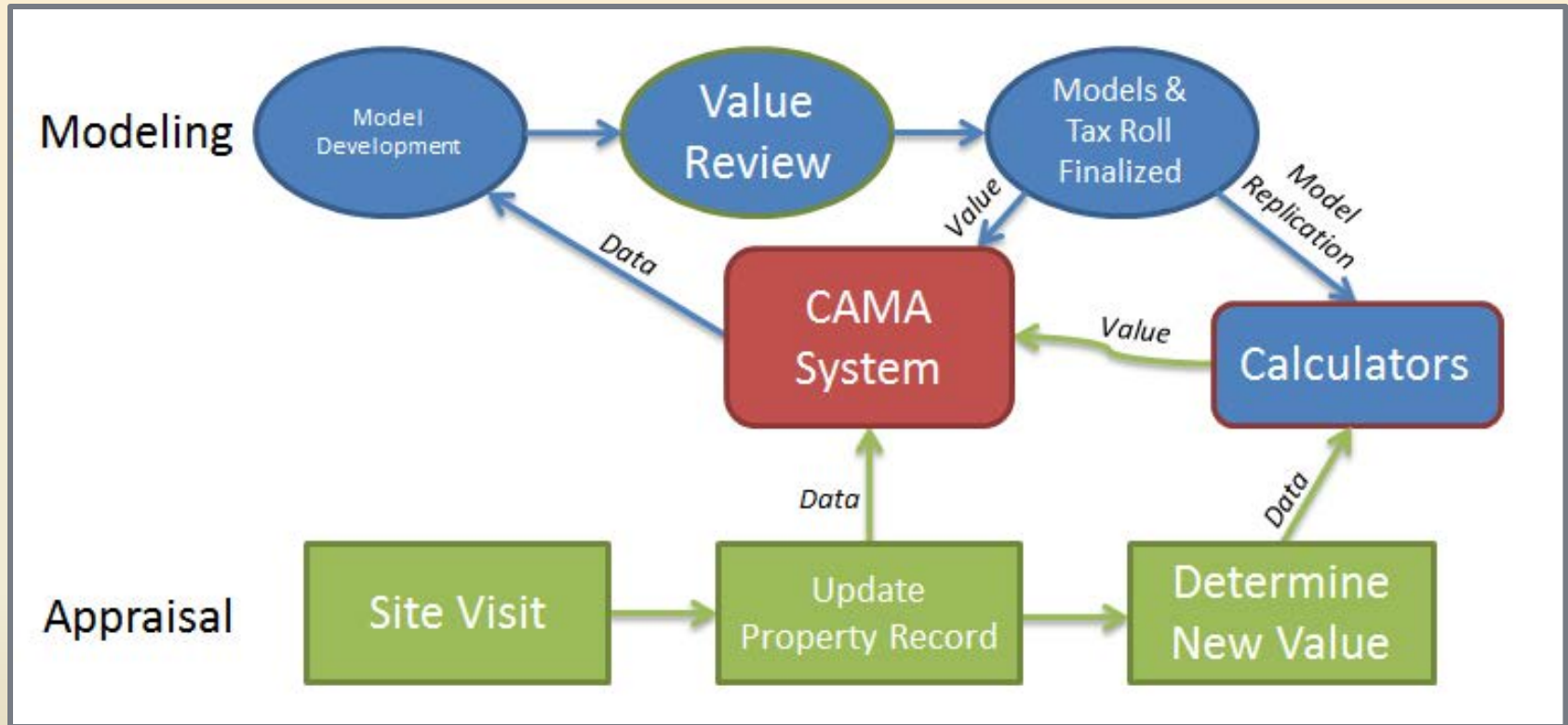
Add Components Neighborhood: MCR:
 Parcel Use Code:
 Parcel Land Size:
 Total Land Size:

Components		Percent Complete	100%	Non-Livable	Sqft	Qual	Year
Building Class	3 Average	Bath Fixtures	3	Unfinished Basement			
Patio Covd	2	Patio UnCovd	0	Storage			
Exterior Walls	Brick	Roofing	Asphalt	Workshop			
Air Conditioning	Evap/cooling	Heating	Yes	Hangar			
Areas: Main Living Area		Construction Year		Barn			
1st Floor:	840	Original	1950	Pole Barn			
2nd Floor:	0	Weighted	1950	Sport Court			
3rd Floor:	0	RD Imps Built in Cost		Tennis Court			
Bsmnt (Fin):	0		\$0	Pool			
Parcel Main:	1040	Physical Condition		Spa			
Total Main (Econ Unit):	1040		- No Modifier	Parking	Sqft	Year	
Attached Additions Floor 1:		Attached Additions 2nd Fl & Above:		Attached Garage			
Qual	Year	Sqft		Detached Garage			
				Attached Carport			
				Detached Carport			
Detached Livable Area:				Att Golf Cart			
Qual	Year	Sqft		Det Golf Cart			
				Att RV			
Economic Unit Data		Flight Zone		Det RV			
Economic Unit:	No Lead	No	None	100%	Att Porte Cochere		
Parcel Count	0		Moderate	0%	Det Porte Cochere		
Lead ParcelID			Substantial	0%			
Location		Flood Plain		Utility Data		Access Data	
Arterial	No	Mountains	No	None	100%	None	No
Corner	No	Non-contig land	No	Flood Way	0%	Electric	No
Cul-De-Sac	No	Pad Site	No	Flood Frng	0%	Water	No
EPA Site	No	Premium View	No	Flood Plain	0%	Well Water	No
Freeway Acc	No	Preserve	No	Zoning:		Nat Gas	No
Freeway Cnrr	No	Rail Road	No	City		Sewer	No
Gated	No	Adj To Apt	No	Zones	%	Septic	No
Golf	No	Adj To Cm/Ind	No	R-7	100%	GIS/CAMA Variables	
Greenbelt	No	Restricted Area	No			Weighted Elevation	1130
Lake	No	Trans Line	No				
Maj Intersection	No	Waterway	No				
		Other Neg Infl	No				
				Year 2017 Land Value \$ -			
				Year 2017 Full Cash Value \$ -			

The correct value will NOT be displayed until the Calculate button is pressed! CALCULATE



Existing Processes



The Goal



- Integrate MRA models within CAMA System
 - Instant revaluation based on an assigned model
 - Creates more efficient appraisal workflow
- **Model Deployment**
 - Data Science terminology
 - Application of an existing model to new data
 - Many different model deployment methods available



IAAO Standard on AVMs

“An AVM must be tested to ensure that it meets required accuracy standards before being **deployed**.”

(Section 2.3.6)

“The process of developing and **deploying** an automated valuation model must include safeguards to insure [sic] the accuracy of data used and the integrity of results produced.”

(Section 8)



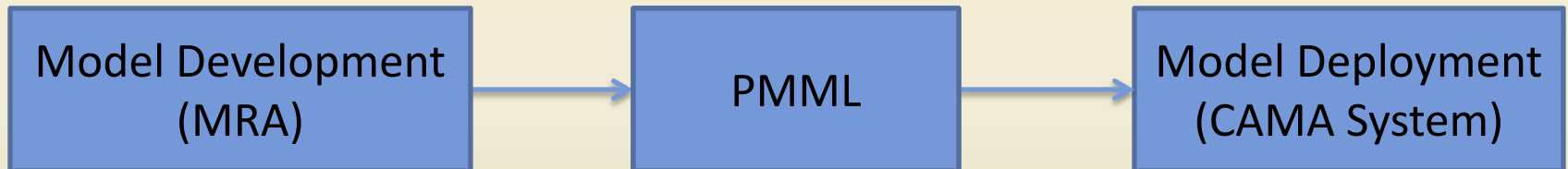
PMML Background

- Predictive Model Markup Language
- XML-based language
- Developed by Data Mining Group (DMG)
- Open standard for representing and sharing predictive models between different applications
- Version 0.7 developed in 1997; now on 4.3



PMML and Model Deployment

- Many industries (healthcare, insurance, banking, government) develop predictive models to determine credit risk, targeted audiences, fraud detection, quality control, etc



Making a Decision

- Considered numerous deployment methods
- Focused on three options:
 - Iron Python (Python integrated with .NET framework)
 - Custom vendor built program
 - PMML



Making a Decision

- Key questions:
 - Could the option successfully calculate within a CAMA System?
 - What impact would the option have on existing modeling processes?
 - How much time would it take to annually convert 70+ models from SPSS Syntax to PMML?
 - Could conversion be automated?
 - How quickly could values be calculated (both batch [anticipating upwards of 2 million parcels in the near future] and single)?
 - Was the option flexible in form and language (i.e., adaptive to non-regression model types or other statistical programs)?
 - Did the option present any potential database security issues?



Making a Decision

- PMML selected
 - Suitable for multiple types of predictive models
 - Compatible with numerous statistical programs
 - Portable for different operating systems and uses
 - Batch calculations surpassed speed expectations
 - Calculated 250,000 values in less than 2 minutes



Making a Decision

- Challenges of existing SPSS/PMML tools
 - SPSS Syntax allows certain types of unconventional coding
 - Overwriting original variables
 - $SQFT = SQFT - FINISHED_BASEMENT$ <-bad for PMML
 - $SQFTM = SQFT - FINISHED_BASEMENT$ <-good for PMML
 - SPSS Version 22 supports PMML 4.1
 - PMML 4.2 is preferable
 - Modeling processes could be adjusted to accommodate, but would require significant time and effort
 - Amount of work required to utilize existing SPSS to PMML conversion tools limited attraction



Making a Decision

- Positives of switching to R
 - Free, open source program for statistical computing
 - Supports PMML- conversion packages already exist
 - Increasingly taught in higher education
- Challenges of switching to R
 - Maintenance of SPSS-based legacy models
 - Modelers still need to complete some manual manipulation for PMML
 - Unless custom R package developed to support transformations and customizations required



Making a Decision

- Existing options presented problems
 - Modeling process dictated by statutorily-defined calendar
 - Not enough time to manually code PMML
 - Increasing staff size unlikely
- Envisioned ideal SPSS to PMML process
 - Long-term, stable, and easy to use solution
 - Modelers should remain modelers
 - Minimal time requirements for model deployment
 - Write PMML in parallel with modeling activities



PMML Methodology Decisions

- Custom PMML Code Generator
 - Recognizes existing modeling processes
 - Eliminates teaching modelers how to manually manipulate PMML code
 - Reduces errors
 - Allows modelers to focus on modeling
- Verification Program
 - Ensures PMML calculated values = SPSS modeled values



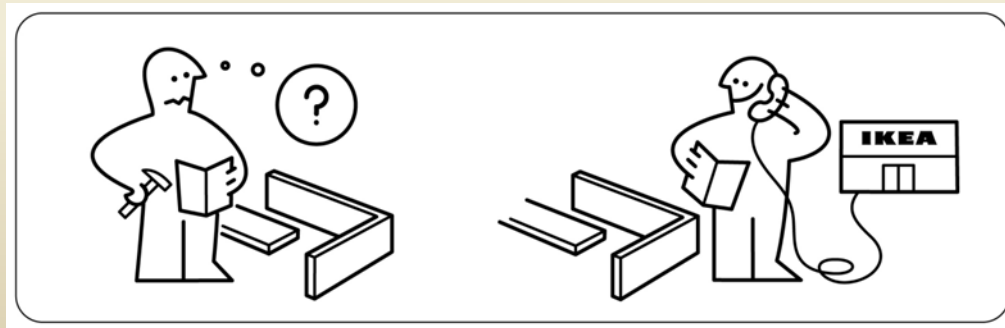
PMML Methodology Decisions

- High-level understanding of database
- Supported model types
- Transformation mathematics
- Eight slightly different modeling styles
- Tests to ensure accuracy
 - Adheres to schema
 - Produces expected values



Learning the Fundamentals

- Limited PMML resources
- PMML Class from UC San Diego Extension Program
 - *Predictive Models with PMML*
 - Conclusions:
 - Modelers are not computer programmers
 - Achieving end goal with PMML was going to be difficult

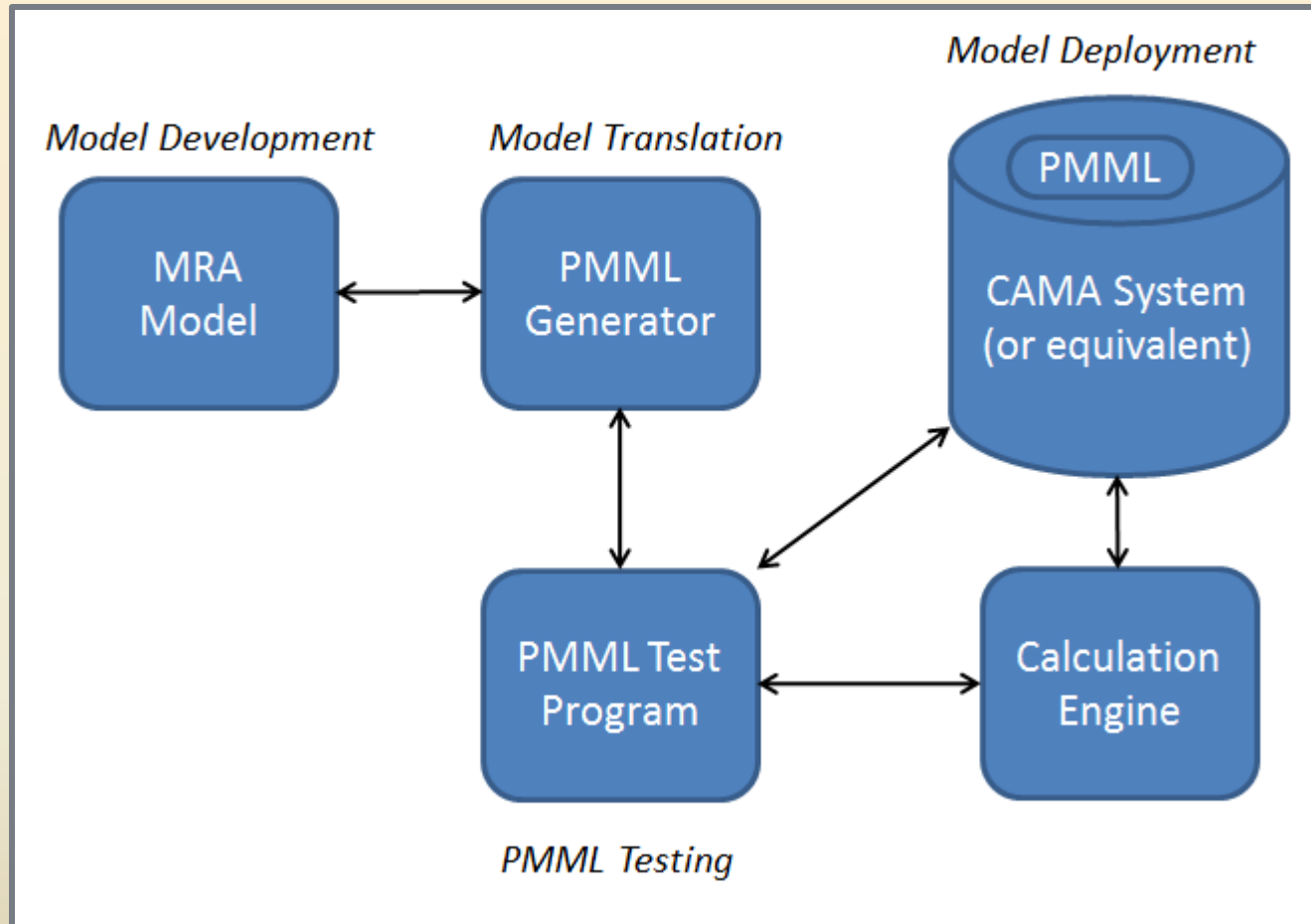


Learning the Fundamentals

- Basic programming training for modelers
- University of Michigan + Coursera MOOC
 - Series of online Python Courses
 - Collectively applied knowledge to familiar scenario
- Established foundational programming skills necessary to read code and troubleshoot



Transforming Processes



Innovation has nothing to do with how many R&D dollars you have. When Apple came up with the Mac, IBM was spending at least 100 times more on R&D. It's not about money. It's about the people you have, how you're led, and how much you get it.

- Steve Jobs, *Fortune*, November 9, 1998

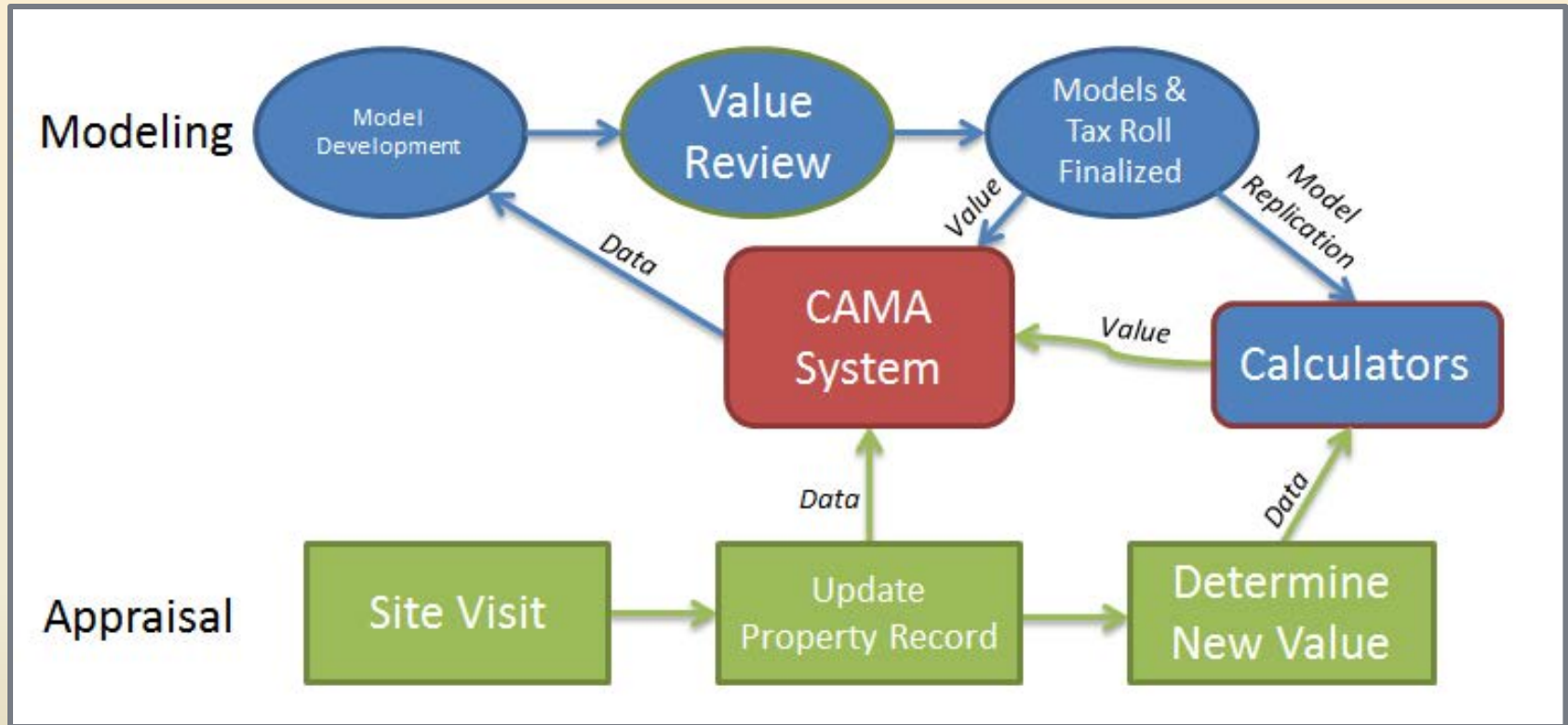


Sowing Teamwork for Innovation

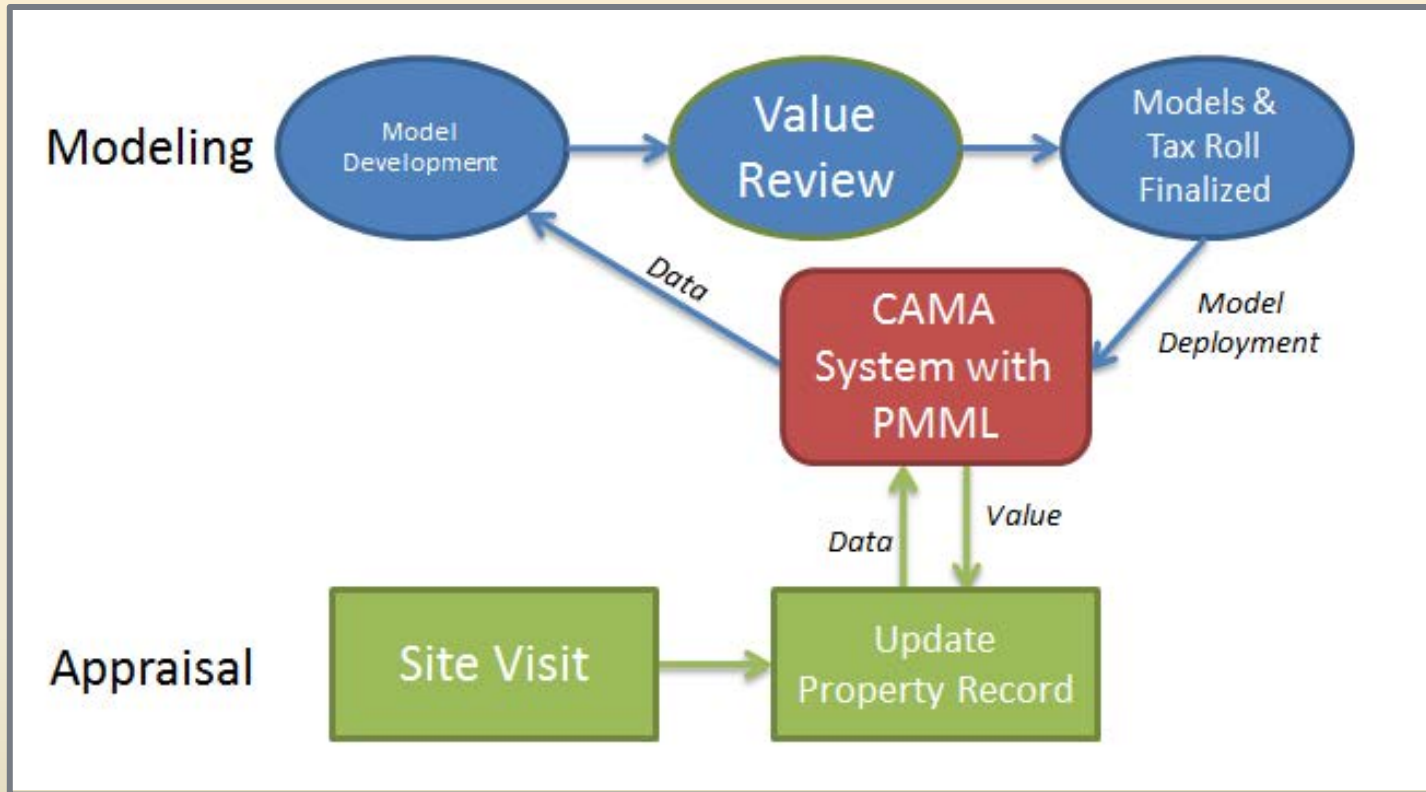
- Workload assignment
 - PMML Project added to overall workload
 - Each modeler took on additional work
- Change and challenges
 - This wasn't easy
 - Many roadblocks along the way
 - Lots of discussion and spirited debate
- The Point
 - Keep focused on the goal and future benefits



Existing Processes

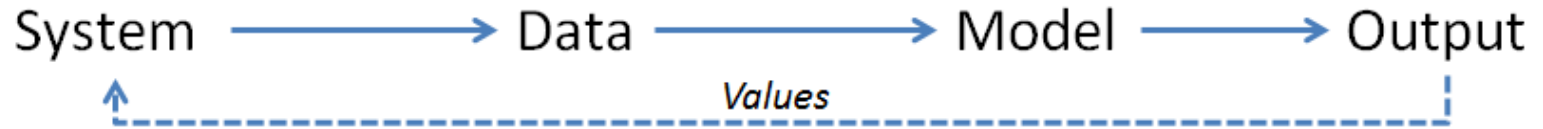


Envisioning the Future

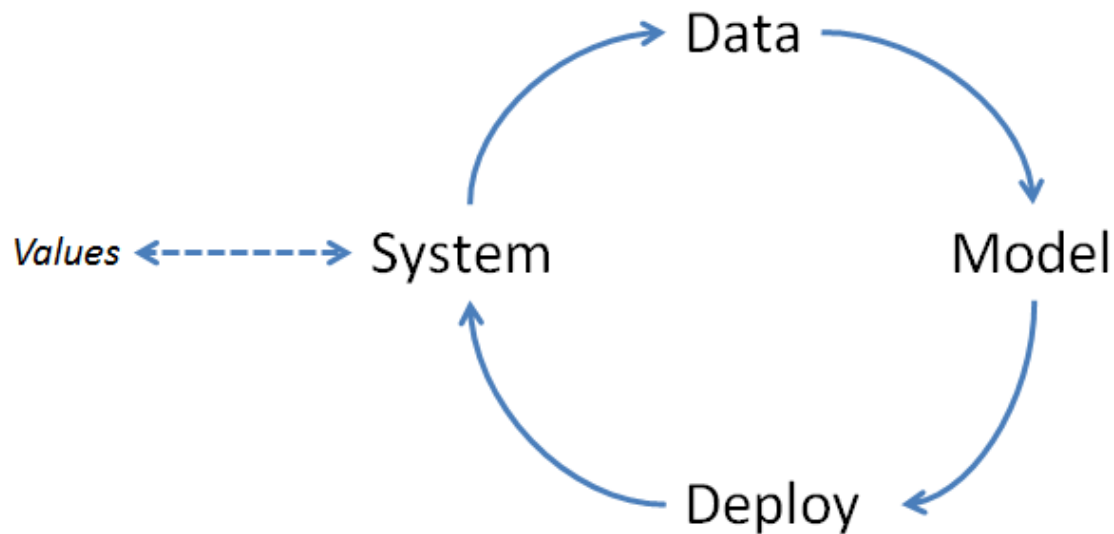


Envisioning the Future

CAMA System without Model Deployment



CAMA System with Model Deployment



Envisioning the Future

- There are all types of predictive model types supported by PMML
 - Deploying PMML-based predictive models for other mass appraisal uses
 - Comparable Sales
 - Data Collection- Effective Age scenarios
 - Data Integrity- Sales Verification
 - Decision Processes- Routing permits or appeals



Example of a Recode Statement

SPSS Syntax:

```
recode nbhd (15006=1) (else=0) into nbhd15006.
```

R Code:

```
data$nbhd15006 <- ifelse(data$nbhd== 15006,1,0)  
*where data is the name of the data frame
```

PMML Code:

```
<DerivedField dataType="double" name="nbhd15006" optype="continuous">  
  <Apply function="if">  
    <Apply function="equal">  
      <FieldRef field="nbhd"/>  
      <Constant dataType="double">15006</Constant>  
    </Apply>  
    <Constant dataType="double">1</Constant>  
    <Constant dataType="double">0</Constant>  
  </Apply>  
</DerivedField>
```



Example of a Compute Statement for a Continuous Variable

SPSS Syntax:

```
compute sqftm = sqft - finished_basement.
```

R Code:

```
data$sqftm <- data$sqft - data$finished_basement  
*where data is the name of the data frame
```

PMML Code:

```
<DerivedField dataType="double" name="sqftm" optype="continuous">  
  <Apply function="-">  
    <FieldRef field="sqft"/>  
    <FieldRef field="finished_basement"/>  
  </Apply>  
</DerivedField>
```


Example of a Compute/If Statement for a Binary Variable

SPSS Syntax:

```
compute lake_n4 = 0.  
if (nbhd eq 10004 and lake eq 1) lake_n4 = 1.
```

R Code:

```
data$lake_n4 <- ifelse(data$nbhd==10004 & data$lake==1, 1 ,0)  
*where data is the name of the data frame
```

PMML Code:

```
<DerivedField dataType="double" name="lake_n4" optype="continuous">  
  <Apply function="if">  
    <Apply function="and">  
      <Apply function="equal">  
        <FieldRef field="nbhd"/>  
        <Constant dataType="double">10004</Constant>  
      </Apply>  
      <Apply function="equal">  
        <FieldRef field="lake"/>  
        <Constant dataType="double">1</Constant>  
      </Apply>  
    </Apply>  
    <Constant dataType="double">1</Constant>  
    <Constant dataType="double">0</Constant>  
  </Apply>  
</DerivedField>
```



Key Points

- Model Deployment is now achievable
 - Mass appraisal models and CAMA Systems can now be integrated
 - Improved work processes benefit both modelers and appraisers
 - PMML makes models portable
- New potential uses for predictive models in mass appraisal environment



Questions?

Look for us:

- In Fair & Equitable
- At the 2017 IAAO Annual Conference in Las Vegas

Acknowledgments:

The Honorable Paul Petersen, Maricopa County Assessor

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Eric Bails, Chief Technology Officer

Uwe Hohoff, Chief Modeler

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