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Technomics
Better Decisions Faster

Maintenance & Repair Reporting: Better Data and Advanced Analytics

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Authors

Paul Hardin

Paul Hardin is a Subject Matter Expert at Technomics with principal experience in methodology design and model development, including application of non-linear optimization techniques. He has over 25 years' experience leading independent cost estimates, conducting cost research initiatives and developing innovative cost estimating methods and visual data analysis tools.

Alex LoRusso

Alex LoRusso is an Associate at Technomics and graduate from Penn State University, where he studied Industrial Engineering. Since last July he has been working at Technomics in Arlington, Virginia in data analytics and supporting the development of estimates for naval programs. He hopes to grow his involvement in the cost estimating community through future efforts as an ICEAA member.

Tyler Staffin

Tyler Staffin is a Senior Associate at Technomics and Data Analytics graduate student. Since his graduation from Penn State University in 2018 (Mathematics), he has been working at Technomics in Arlington, Virginia in data analytics and cost estimating. He was introduced to the Cost community through EVM and data management, and has been involved in multiple ICEAA-related research efforts over the past two years.

Agenda

- Introduction
- M/R Reporting
- M/R Study Results
- Introduction to R
- What is Shiny?
- Dashboard Requirements
- Dataset Explanation
- M/R Dashboard Walkthrough
- Concluding Thoughts

Introduction

- Over the past few years, the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation (CAPE) has developed **additional data reporting requirements** to improve collection of sustainment cost data and related technical data from contractors with the intent of improved cost estimating capability
- One of these areas of improvement includes the **1921-M/R (Maintenance and Repair Parts) Report**
- Collection of M/R data for MDAPs is critical to improving cost management, cost reduction initiative investment and outcomes, and cost estimates of future programs
- In 2019, a Lessons-Learned Study (Army Shadow UAV Program) was performed to review (i.e., verify and validate) the actual data, identify and correct any data issues, and use data analytics to confirm the value of the reported data
- Various approaches were considered and led to the development of a dashboard prototype using **R Shiny**

M/R Reporting

- The -M/R is the Department of Defense (DoD) system for collecting actual maintenance event and repair part data as part of the Cost, Software, and Data Reporting (CSDR) System
- Total sustainment phase cost can represent **two-thirds or more** of the total life-cycle cost of a major defense acquisition program (MDAP)
- The -M/R provides critical information to program managers, systems engineers, and cost estimators to:
  - Review and evaluate maintenance event, LRU/DLR/repair part cost and failure data
  - Identify demand and cost drivers
  - Understand reasons for incurred cost and availability performance
  - Develop improved cost estimating techniques

M/R Reporting (cont.)

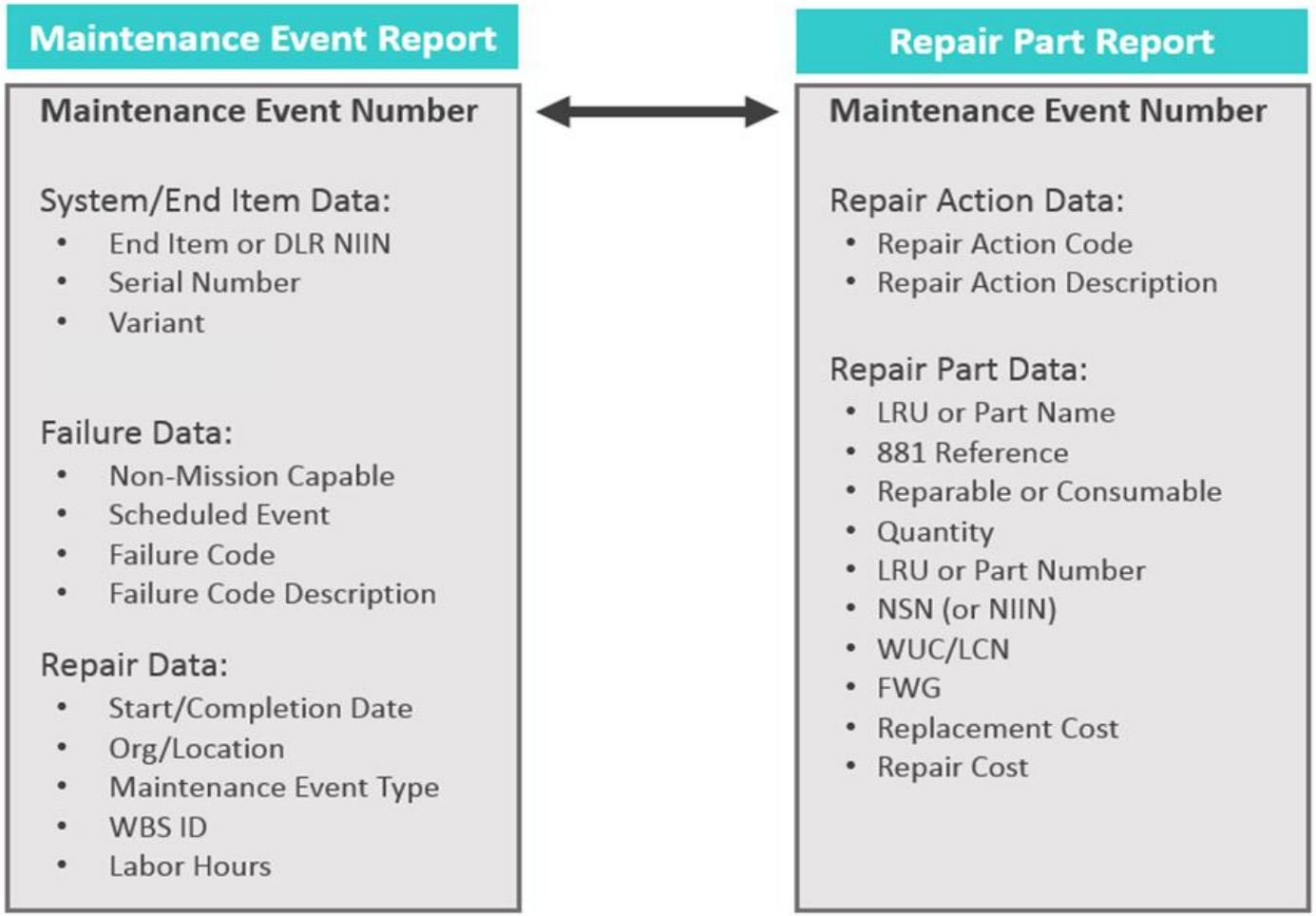
The -M/R consists of two separate reports:

Maintenance Event Report

- Collects information such as the specific system being repaired, location where the repair activity occurred, reason for failure, day failure was identified, and day repair activity was completed.

Repair Part Report

- Identifies LRUs, DLRs and/or repair parts associated with each maintenance event.

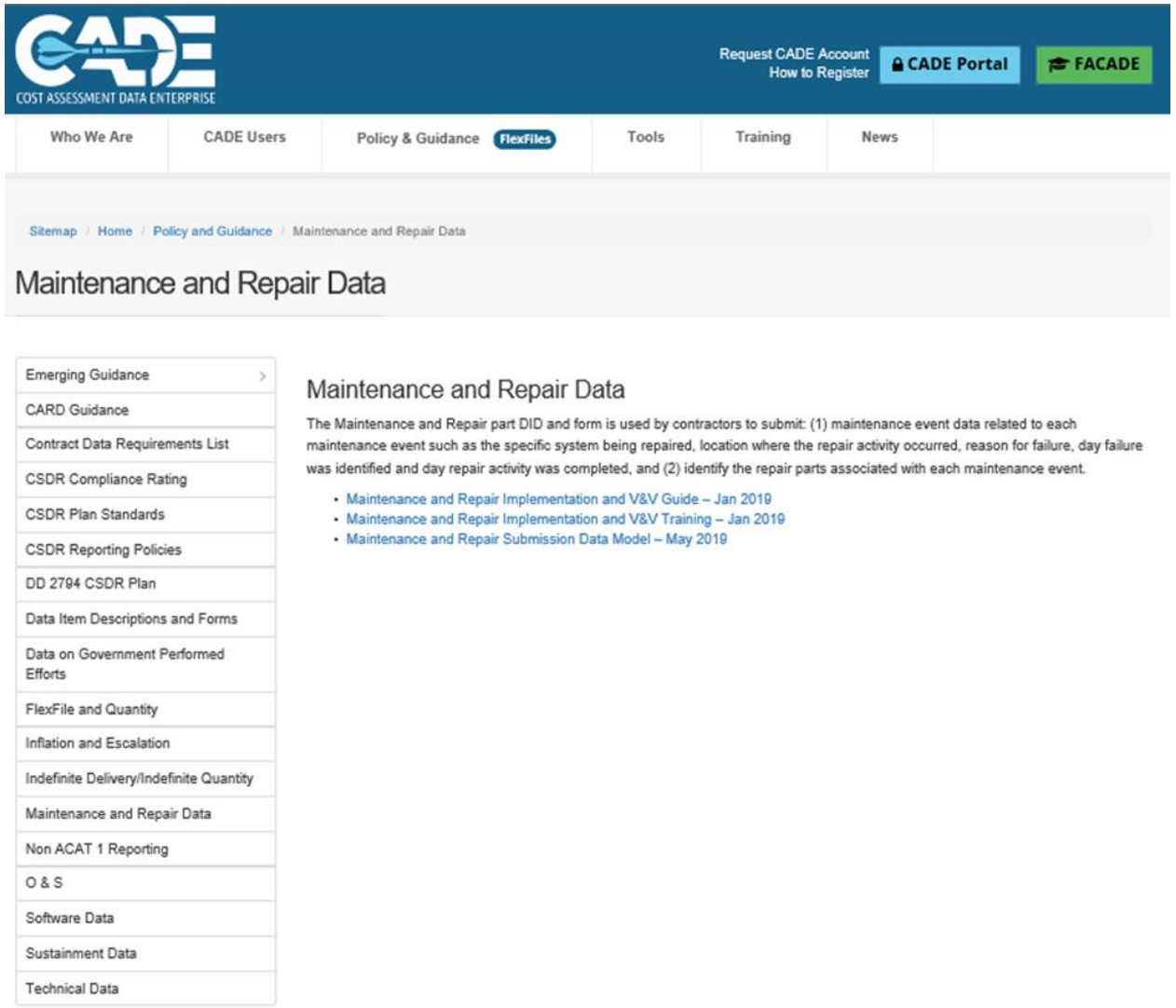


M/R Study Results

- The **2019 MR Lessons-Learned Study** (Army Shadow UAV) was conducted to both validate and assess the value of actual reported data
- The study resulted in a number of **recommendations** for improving aspects of the data and the application of data analytics
- Value of M/R Data
  - Assess and better understand top drivers by cost or demand
  - Identify top reasons for failure (i.e., failure codes) for key Repair Parts
  - Determine trends in data to improve cost estimates and decision-making
  - Identify changes in cost and demand over time to determine problem areas and develop potential improvements and solutions
  - Capture critical maintenance management metrics such as:
    - Scheduled versus Unscheduled Activity
    - Hours per different maintenance event types
    - Days associated with events and/or repair parts
    - Current Replacement Cost of Repair Parts
    - Repair versus Replace Cost Ratios and Activity
    - Comparison of components to predicted reliabilities
    - Failures occurring faster than, or not as quickly as expected

M/R Study Results

- For more information visit OSD CADE: https://cade.osd.mil/policy/maintandrepair



Introduction to R

- When working and analyzing large quantities of data, R is a highly suitable option
- R is a free, functionally-oriented language and integrated platform developed for **statistical computing**, **data manipulation**, and **advanced graphical display**[1]
- The R platform consists of a variety of specialized packages with a nearly unlimited supply of documentation/examples online
- The RStudio Integrated Development Environment (IDE) is a software application that simplifies working with the language
- In addition to creating the IDE, RStudio also develops a number of well-maintained packages, including `shiny` and the `tidyverse` package family

[1]https://www.r-project.org/about.html
Image: https://rstudio.com/

"Shiny allows you to take your work in R and expose it via a web browser so that **anyone can use it**. Shiny makes you look awesome by making it **easy** to produce polished **web apps** with a minimum amount of pain[2]."

– Hadley Wickham, Chief Scientist at RStudio

[2]http://www.mastering-shiny.org

What is Shiny?

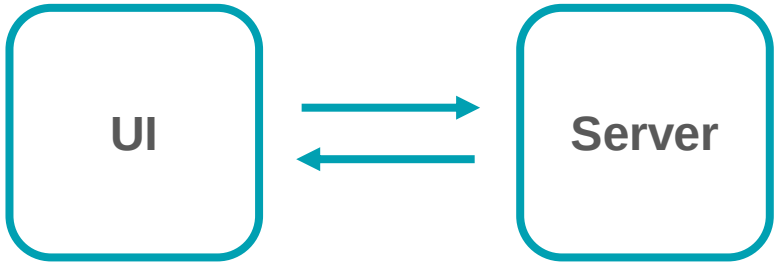
- Built by RStudio, the `shiny` package provides an **easy** way to build dynamic, **interactive dashboards** in R
- Shiny applications are "directories containing a user-interface definition, a server script, and any additional data, scripts, or other resources required to support the application[3]."
- The package enables users to construct dashboards **without** requiring knowledge of full-stack web development
- Shiny dashboards are **fully customizable**, and provide users with deeper insight into their data with a **simple interface**
- Each dashboard consists of two main components: **User Interface (UI)** and **Server**

[3]https://rstudio.github.io/shiny/tutorial

What is Shiny? (cont.)

User Interface (UI)

- The portion of code where user-facing controls are established
- May consist of inputs (i.e. drop-down lists, buttons, sliders, fields, etc.), panels, sidebars, and other visual components
- Most of what is seen on the screen is controlled by the defined structure of the UI.



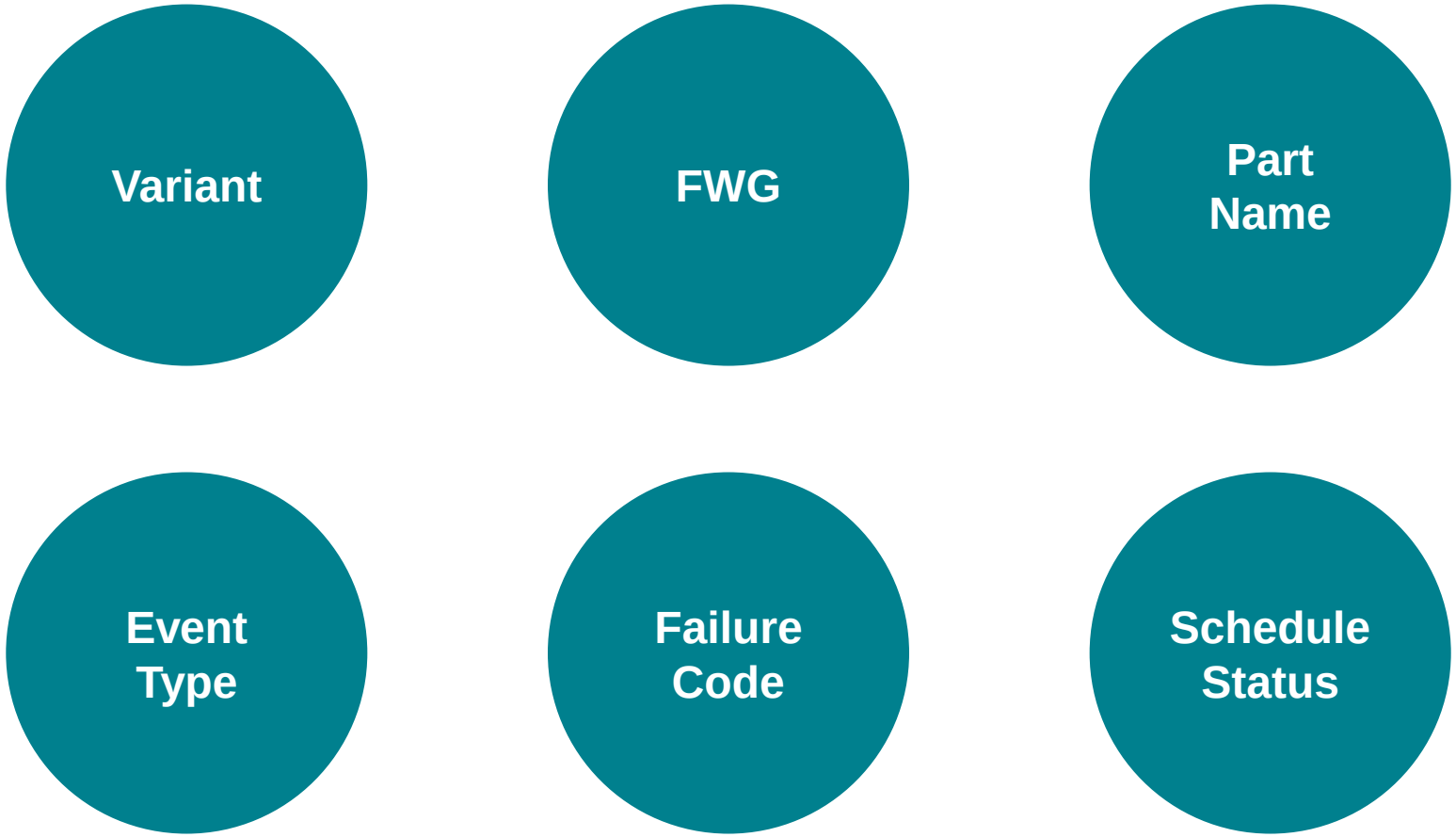
Server

- The part of the application that enables R to accept given user input and generate a conditional response or output
- This can include generating plots, updating drop-down lists, exporting files, running scripts, connecting to databases, and much more
- Anything that can be performed in R can be executed on the server-side

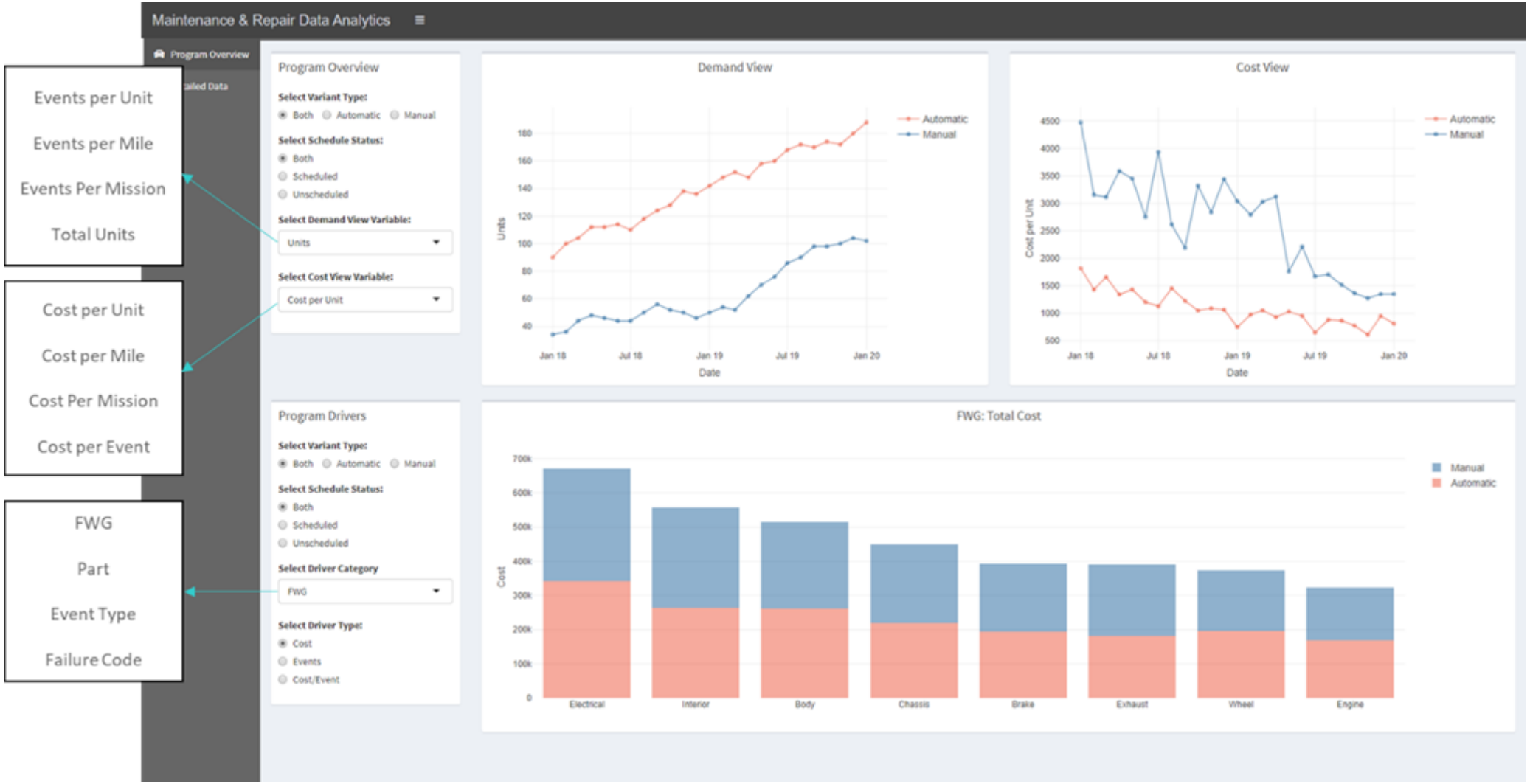
Dashboard Requirements

1. Navigate from high-level to low-level information
2. Visuals should have near-limitless customization
3. Visuals render dynamically and show varying levels of detail based on user inputs
4. User input functions are easy to use
5. All visuals must be interactive
6. Dashboard must be dynamic without sacrificing speed

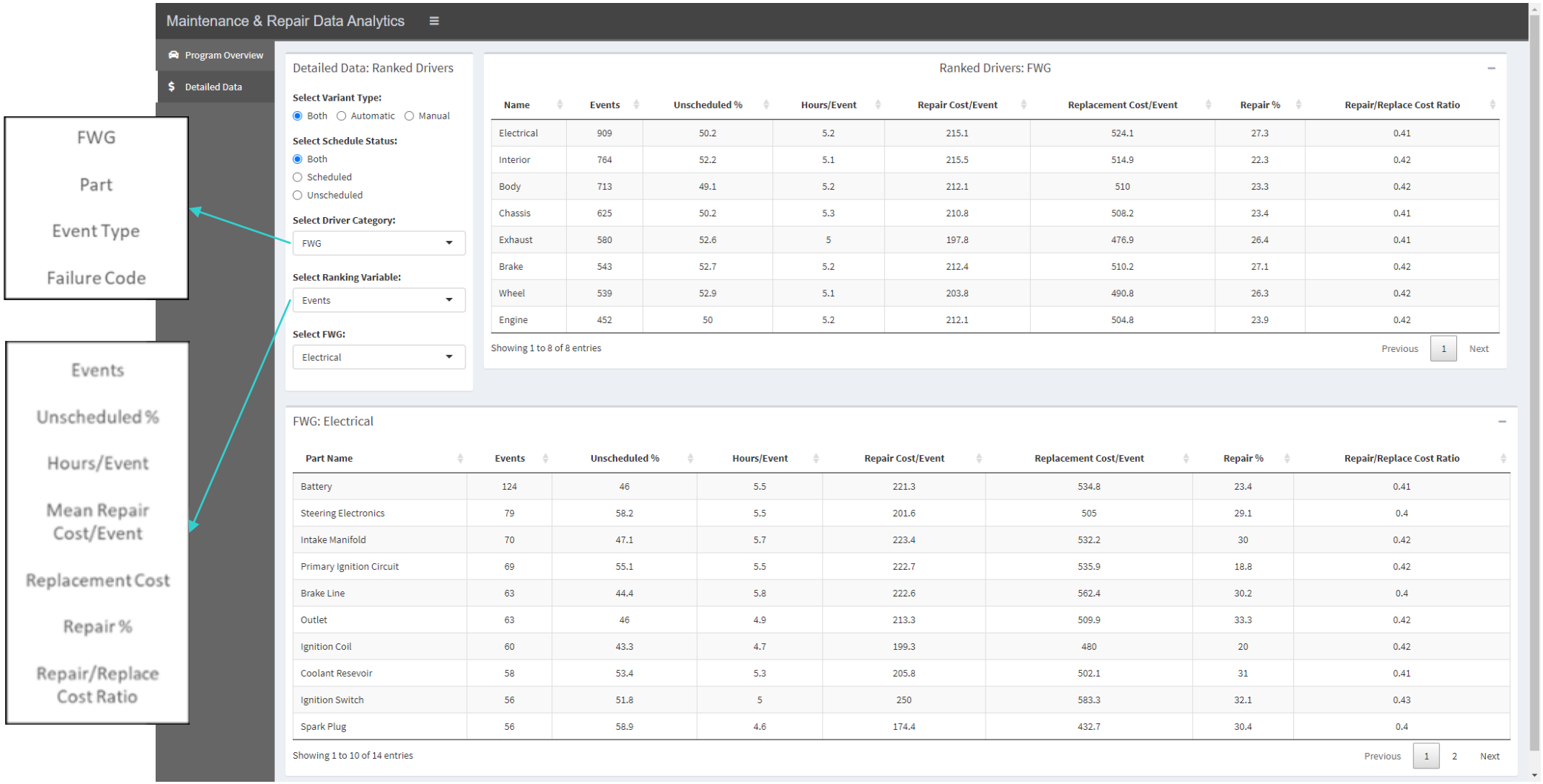
Dataset Explanation



M/R Dashboard Walkthrough – Part I



M/R Dashboard Walkthrough – Part II



Concluding Thoughts

- **Collection** of M/R data is **vital** to improving cost management, cost reduction initiative investment and outcomes, and cost estimates of future programs
- **Understanding** maintenance-related cost drivers well enough to pose the 'right' questions is **critical** to estimating, managing, and reducing costs
- Using latest technology to develop improved data analytics environments enable program managers, systems engineers, cost estimators, and managers to **effectively exploit** and **analyze** M/R data or any data
  - And provides a more efficient way to V&V data
- Collecting contractor maintenance and repair-related data and advancing data analytics capabilities are **essential** for improving our cost community capability

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Questions?

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