

## CASE STUDY

# Private Equity – Expense Analysis

**Client:**

US based private equity firm managing \$10b+ in funds. Working with 450+ vendors (e.g. consultants, lawyers, etc.) across 30+ deals.

**Problem:**

CFO did not trust the analysis of their expenses with each vendor. Analysis was being produced by an antiquated Access database and manual data manipulation.

**Solution:**

Transparent, automated solution, consistent with the knowledge of subject matter experts. 80% reduction in manual effort.

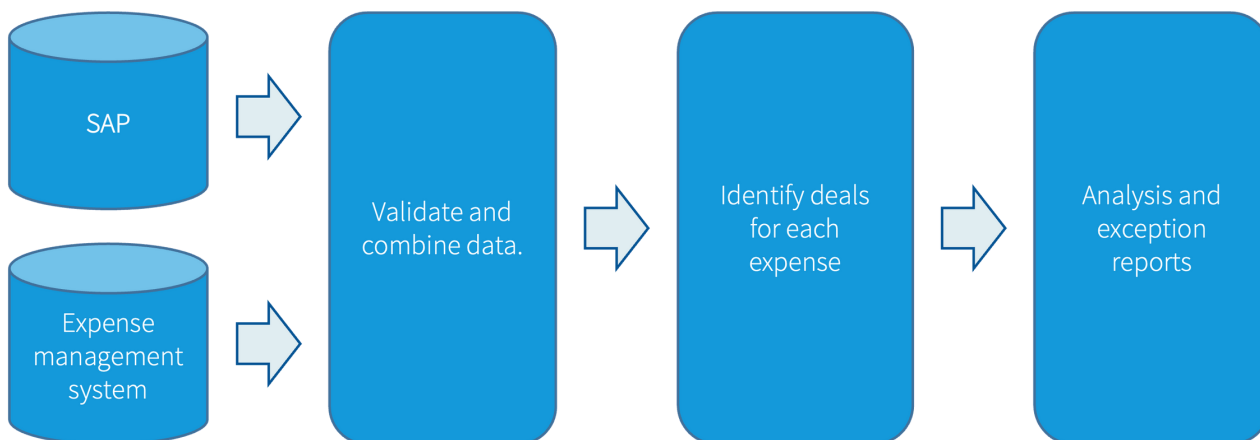
**Before:**

- Access database with VBA coding. Not able to access the VBA code due to password being forgotten.
- Identification of deals for each expense embedded in free-form text field. Only a low percentage of deals being identified by access database - requiring further manual effort.
- Little confidence in the accuracy of the data being produced.

**After:**

- Transparent and documented solution that matches the expectations of the subject matter experts.
- Automatic deal identification with 5x hit rate for identifying deals from free-form text.
- CFO has confidence that the expense analysis being produced is accurate and credible for decision making purposes.

## PROCESS FLOW



## IDENTIFICATION OF DEALS

"Took John and Lily to dinner at 34 Arthur Blvd. This is for 2341 as part of the initial costing discussions"



Copy

Copy cell formulas

Copy cell values

Copy chart

Copy column

Copy keys selectively

Copy row

Copy rows by key

Copy rows selectively

Copy worksheet

Extract text and copy

Rules for splitting text found in cells

☐ Use text splitting
 ☒ Use regular expressions

Regular expression(s) : Separate multiple expressions with a new line

(?<=^\D)\d{4}(?=\$\D)



| Expense ID | Deal code | Deal            |
|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| 92412      | 2341      | Mega Corp       |
| 92418      | 2341      | Mega Corp       |
| 97510      | 2008      | Super Mega Corp |

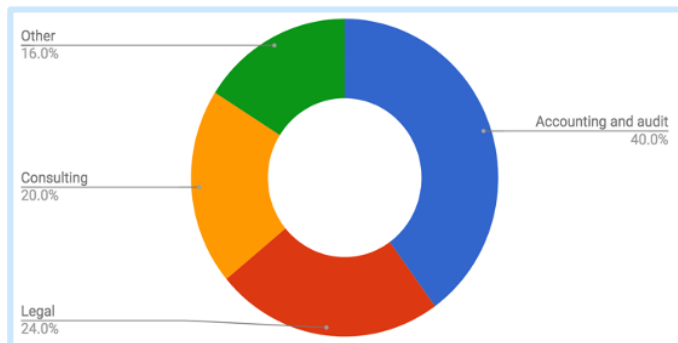
Text field containing deal identifier (four digit code).

Instruction (robot) for extracting specific text from a string, including the ability to use regular expressions for more advanced pattern identification.

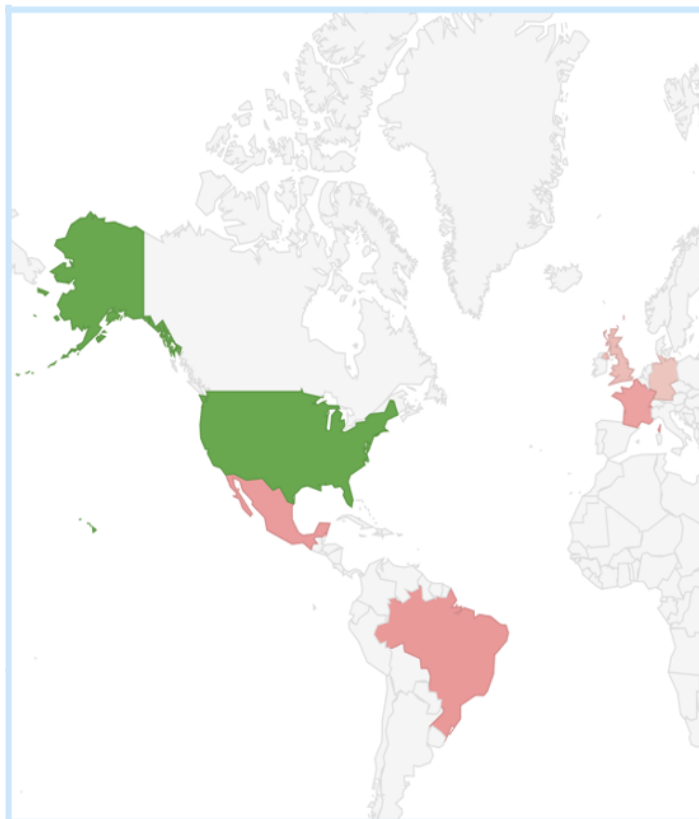
Final output, with the deal code and deal name identified for each expense record.

# EXAMPLE OUTPUT

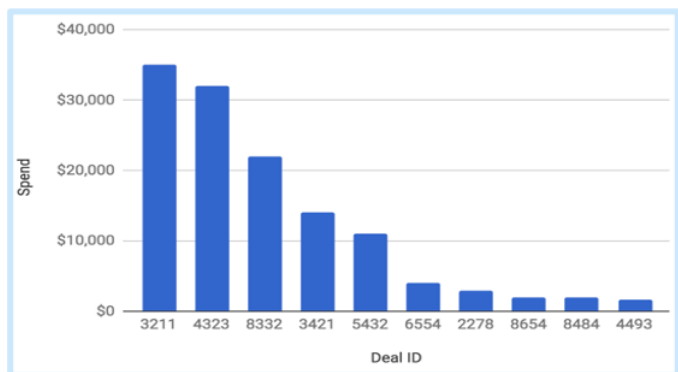
Spend by category:



Spend by region:



Top 10 deals by spend:



## KEY METRICS



**PROTOTYPE CREATED WITHIN 1 WEEK.**



**OVER 270,000 DIFFERENT COMBINATIONS OF EXPENSES ABLE TO BE ANALYSED.**



**FULL AUTOMATION DELIVERED 1 MONTH.**



**80% REDUCTION IN MANUAL REWORK (DUE TO AUTOMATED DEAL IDENTIFICATION).**



**AUTOMATION OF AROUND 40 BUSINESS RULES AND LOGIC STEPS.**



**MANUAL EFFORT REDUCED FROM 1 DAY DOWN TO A COUPLE OF HOURS.**



**HANDLES DATA FOR 450+ VENDORS AND OVER 20 EXPENSE CATEGORIES.**

## ABOUT SOLVEXIA

SolveXia is an automation, data management and analytics platform used by banks, general and life insurers and other companies. The tool is particularly well suited to complex and specialised processes that are repetitive and would otherwise rely on spreadsheets, Access databases or macros. Users automate processes by configuring a series of drag-and-drop “robots” capable of collecting, validating, transforming and calculating data.

SolveXia executes processes faster (at least 10x), produces more credible and consistent information and enforces transparency and audit controls. By doing so, organisations are more easily able to achieve strategic objectives in areas such as compliance, customer/partner engagement and risk-mitigation.