

Data Warehousing Reimagined: Fueling AI-powered BI at Scale



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Peter Aiken, Ph.D.

- I've been doing this a long time
- My work is recognized as useful
- Associate Professor of IS (vcu.edu)
- DAMA International (dama.org)
 - IDEAL Affinity Group
 - GenAI in Data Affinity Group
- Anything Awesome (anythingawesome.com)
- Experienced w/ 500+ data management practices worldwide
- 13 books and dozens of articles
- Multi-year immersions
 - US DoD (DISA/Army/Marines/DLA)
 - Nokia
 - Deutsche Bank
 - Wells Fargo
 - Walmart
 - HUD
 - NGA ...

\$1,500,000,000.00 USD



Program Overview

- Definitions
 - Data Warehousing
 - DM BoK guidance
 - Legacy to digital conversion (cloud) + AI
- Integration
 - Incorporate leading not bleeding edge
 - Requires an adaptive rather than a prescriptive approach
 - Emphasize engineering talent (Forward Deployed Engineer)
 - AI enables further structural formalization
- Preparation
 - Emphasis on storytelling first and visualization second
 - Analytics is both ubiquitous and not well understood
 - Keep improvements practically focused by strategy
- Best Practices
 - Cannot use what is not understood-understand what you have
 - PDCA (plan, do, check, act)
 - Iteratively refine/cull with respect to strategic direction
- Take Aways/References/Q&A



**Data
Warehousing
Reimagined:**

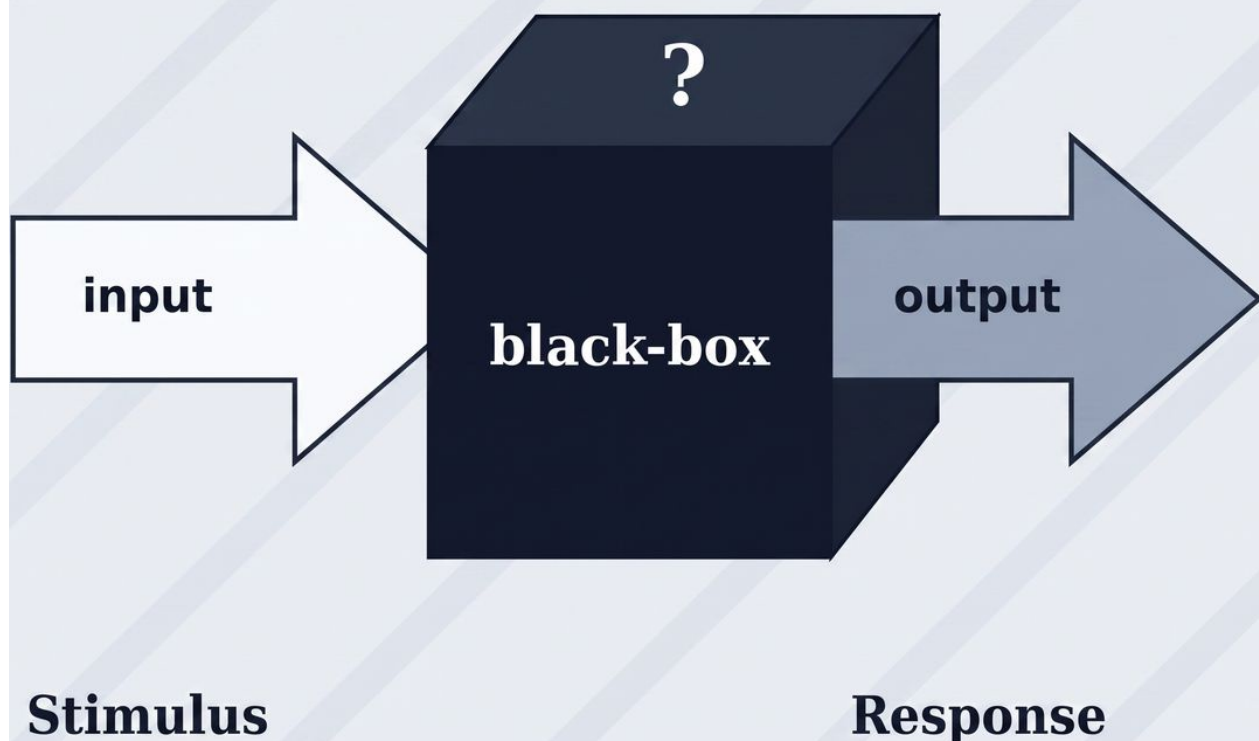
**Fueling
AI-powered
BI at Scale**



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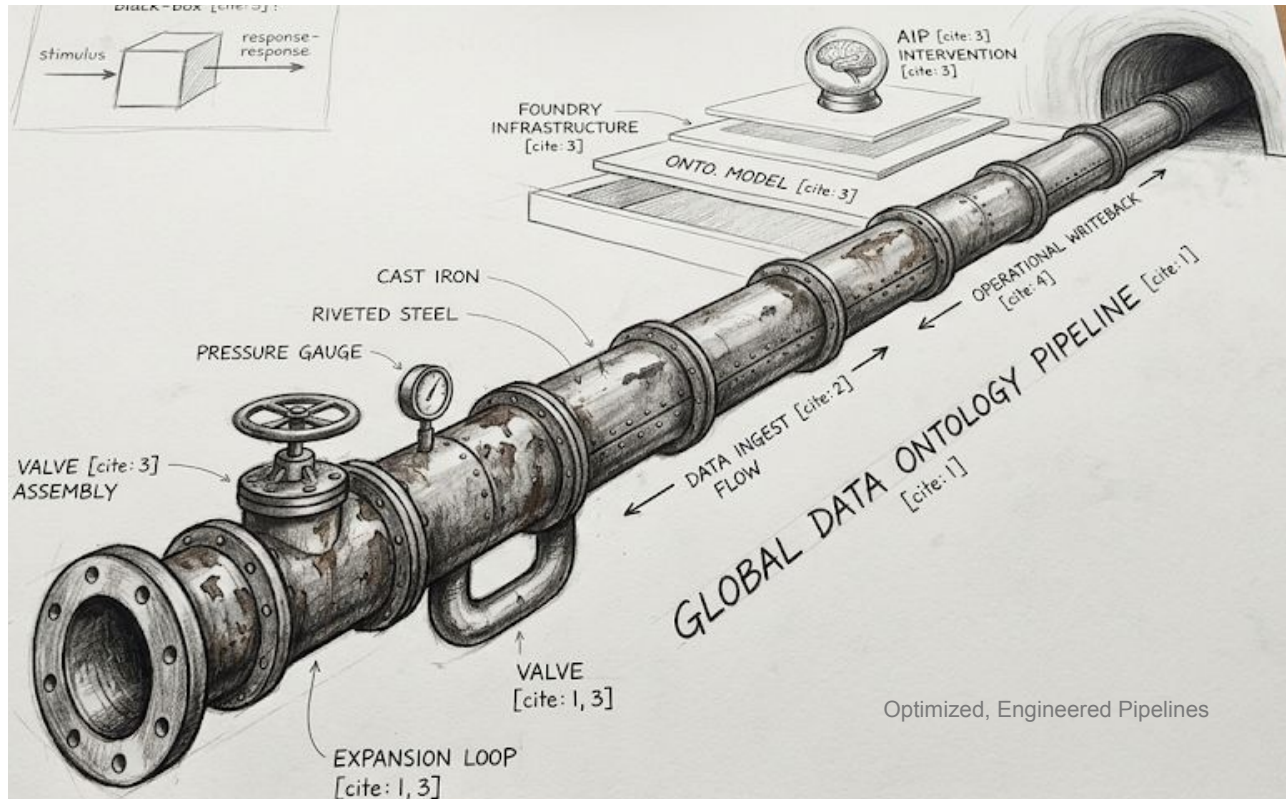
Data Management Practices are typically 'Technical'



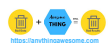
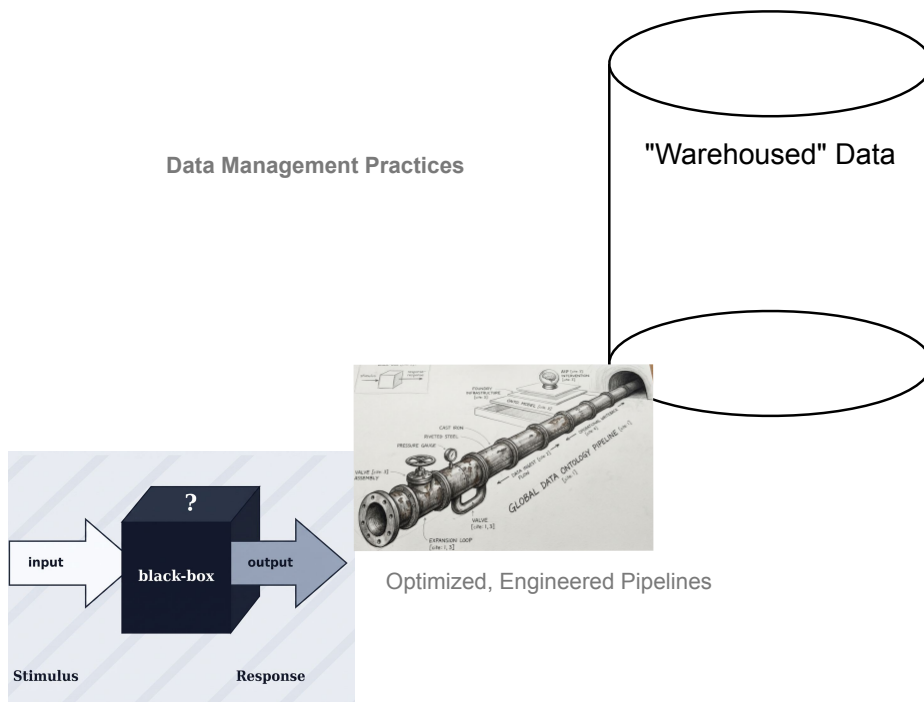
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Introducing Warehousing

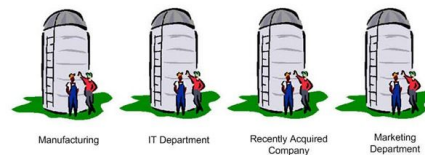
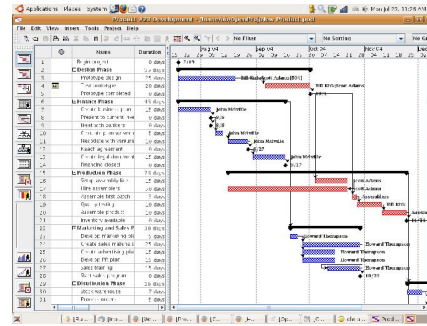


Improving Warehousing

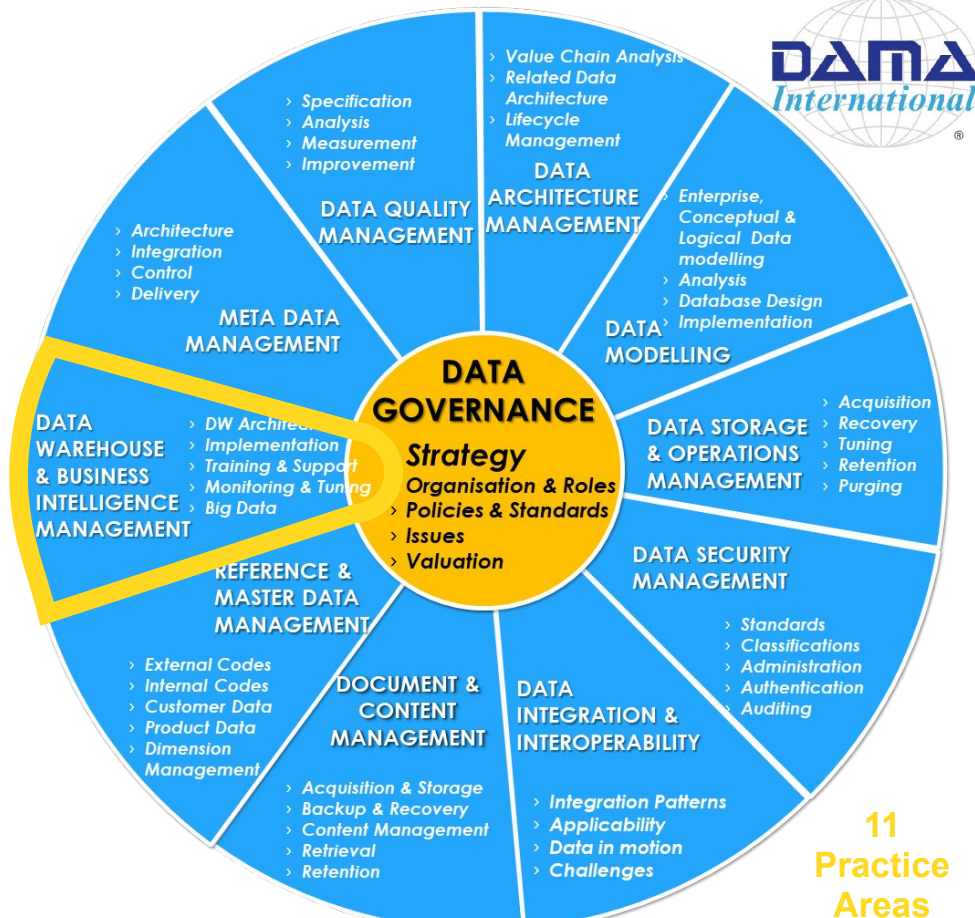


Data Warehousing is not a Project → Data Product

- Durable asset
 - An asset that has a usable life more than one year
- Reasonable project deliverables
 - 90 day increments
 - Data evolution is measured in years
- Data
 - Evolves - it is not created
 - Significantly more stable
- Readymade data architectural components
 - Prerequisite to agile development
- Only alternative is to create additional data siloes!



Data Management Body of Knowledge (DM BoK V2)

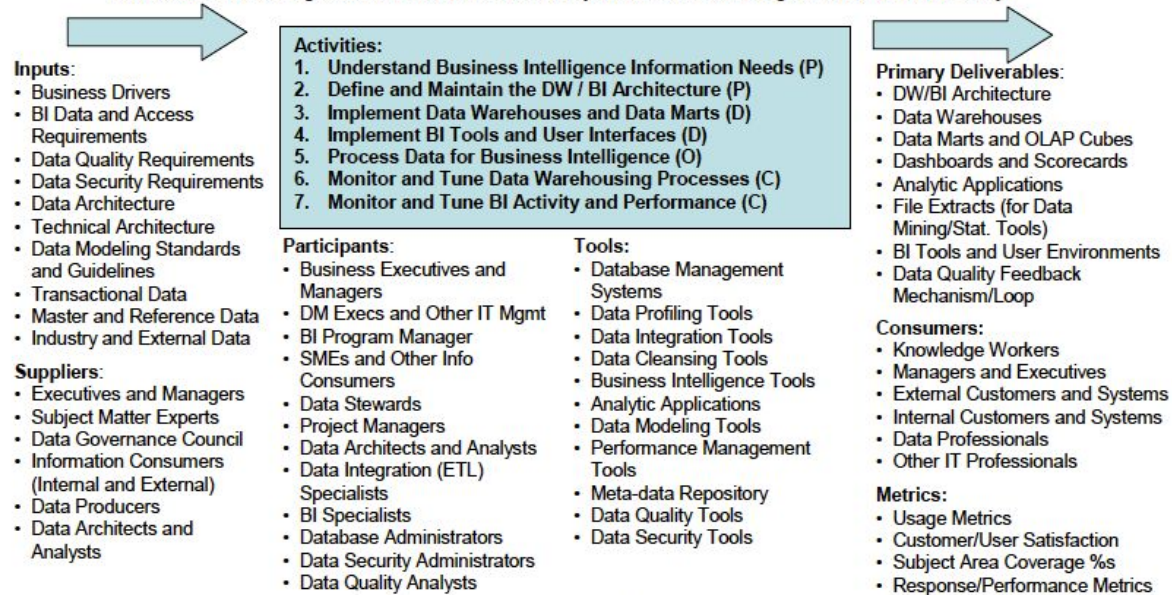


Data Warehousing & Business Intelligence Management

Definition: Planning, implementation, and control processes to provide decision support data and support knowledge workers engaged in reporting, query and analysis.

Goals:

1. To support and enable effective business analysis and decision making by knowledge workers.
2. To build and maintain the environment / infrastructure to support business intelligence activity, specifically leveraging all the other data management functions to cost effectively deliver consistent integrated data for all BI activity.



Activities: (P) – Planning (C) – Control (D) – Development (O) - Operational



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Health Care Provider Data Warehouse

- 1.8 million members
- 1.4 million providers
- 800,000 providers no key
- 29% prov_ssn $\neq$ 9 digits
- 2.2% prov_number = 9 digits (required)
- 1 User
- \$30 million



,335	\$	4,812
,280	\$	55,445
,130	\$	(118,059)
,016	\$	(18,016)
,238	\$	(70,786)
4.39	\$	(12.90)
per Visit		

"A roomful of MBAs can accomplish this analysis faster!"



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Defining Data Warehousing, BI/Analytics

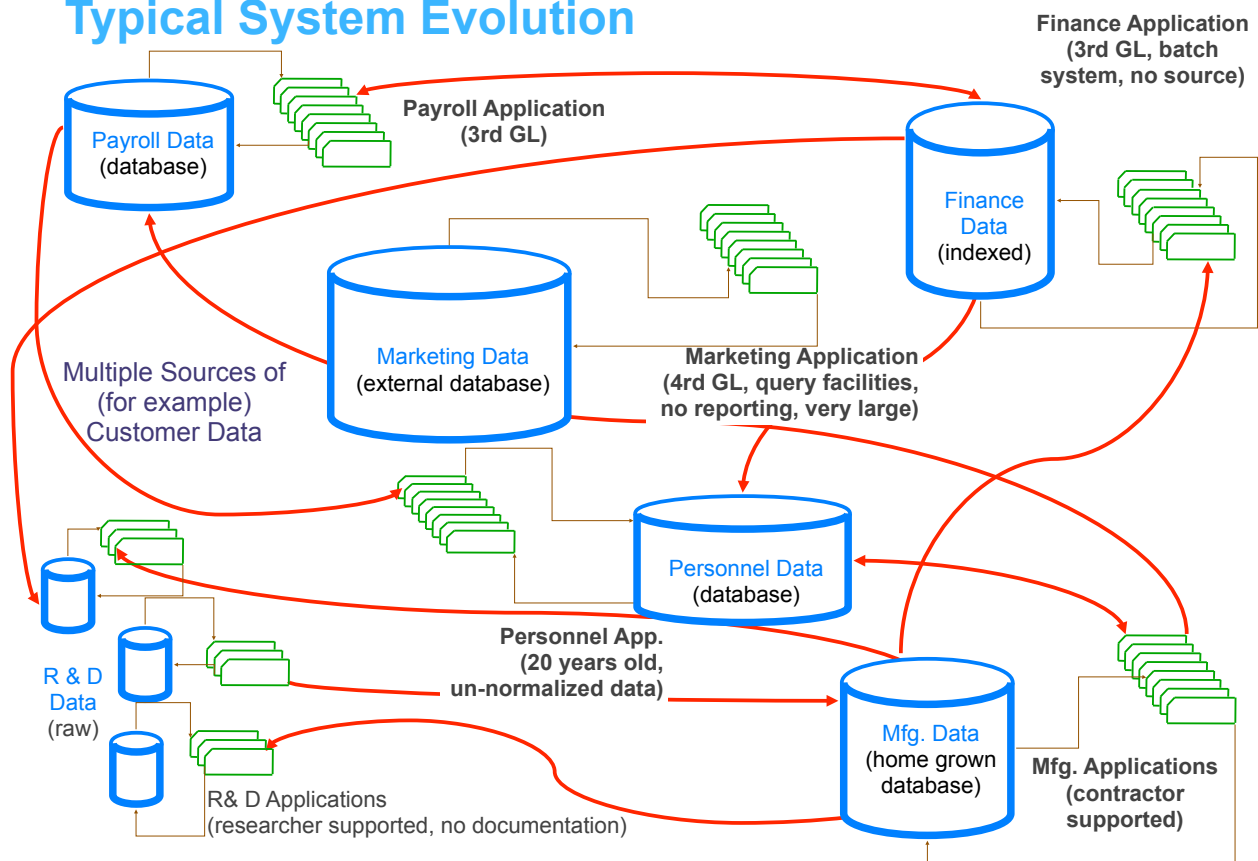
- Data Warehousing
 - A technology solution supporting ... business capabilities such as: query, analysis, reporting and development of these capabilities
 - Analysis of information not previously integrated
 - Another, often new, set of organizational capabilities
- Business Intelligence (aka. decision support)
 - Dates at least to 1958
 - Support better business decision making
 - Technologies, applications and practices for the collection, integration, analysis, and presentation of business information
 - Understanding historical patterns in data to improve future performance
 - Use of mathematics in business
- Analytics (aka.) enterprise decision management, marketing analytics, predictive science, strategy science, credit risk analysis. fraud analytics - often based on computational modeling
- Reframing the question ...
 - From: what data warehouse should we build?
 - To: how can data warehouse-based integration address challenges?



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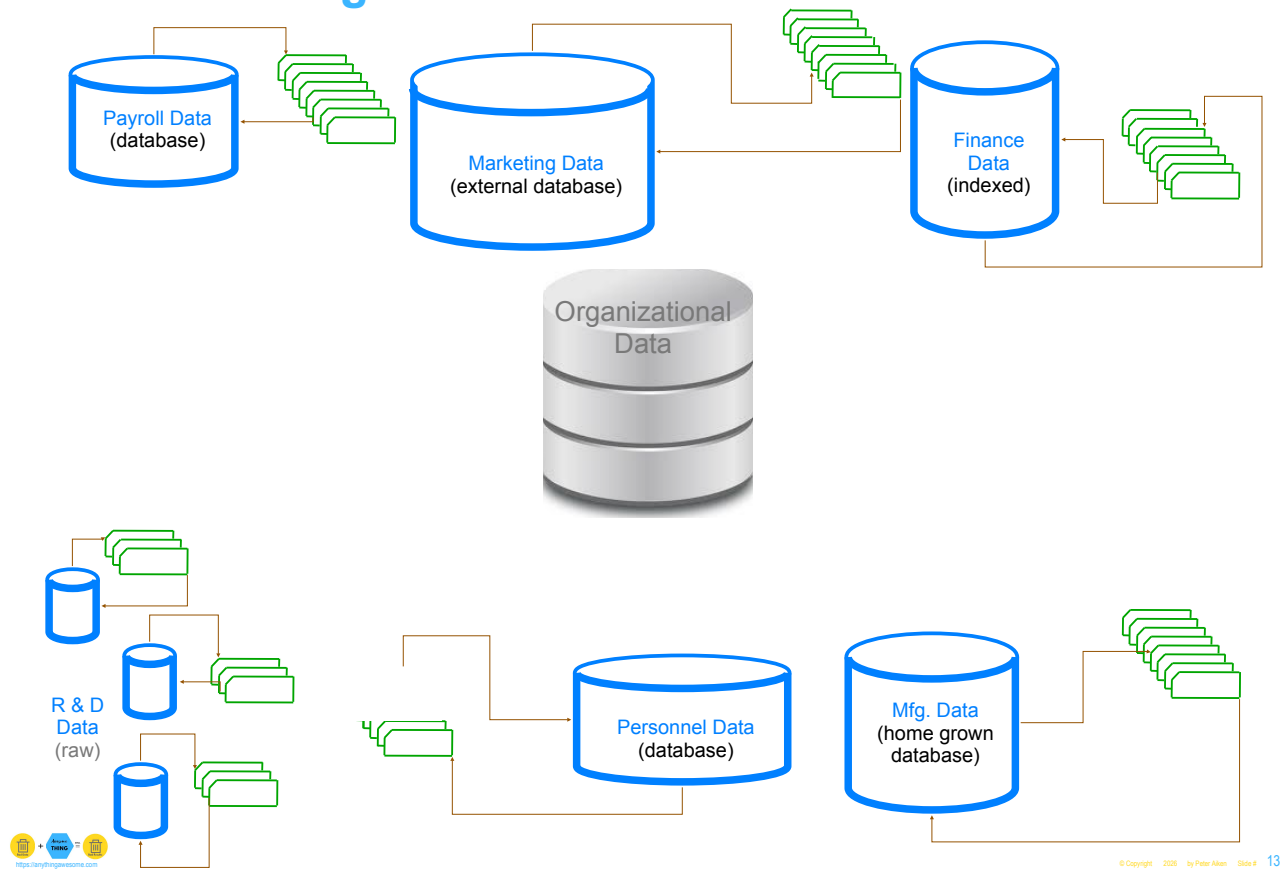
Typical System Evolution



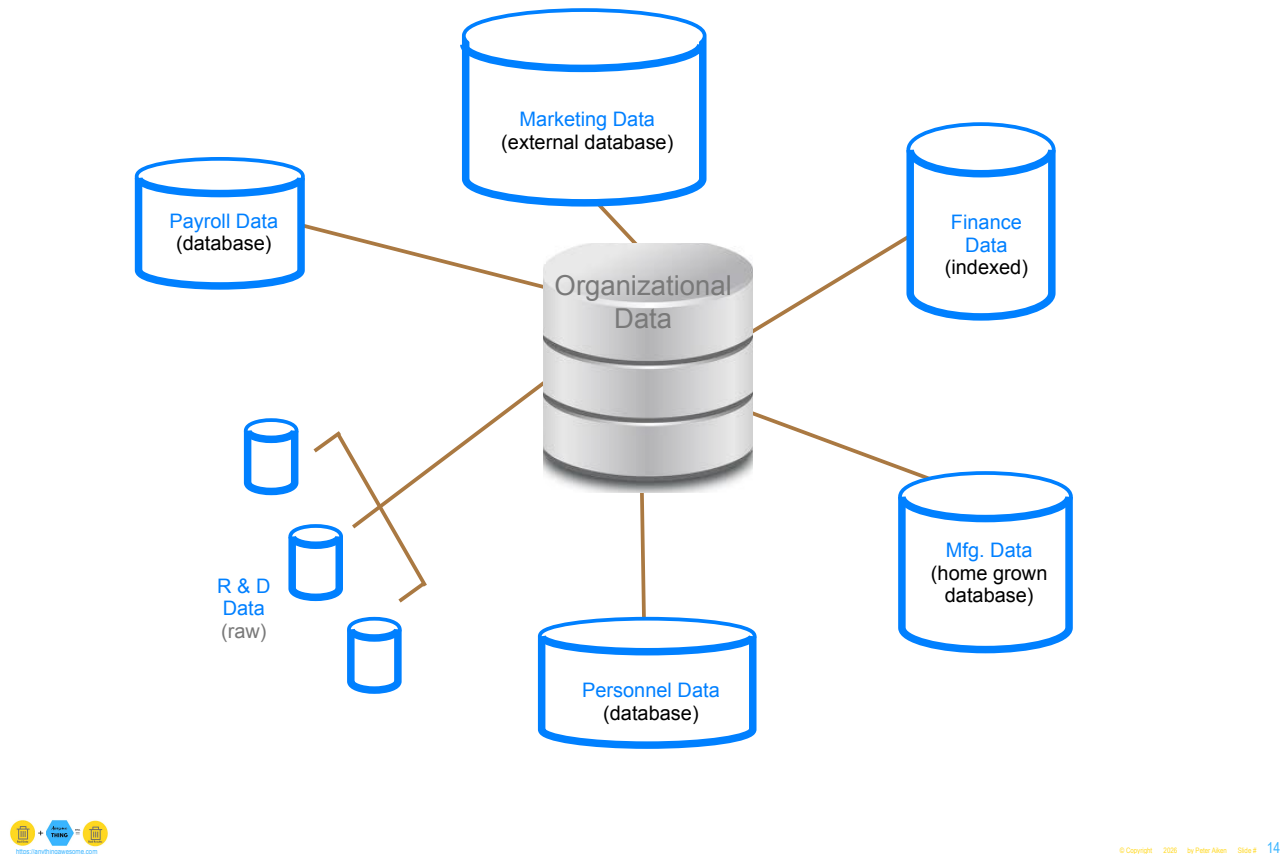
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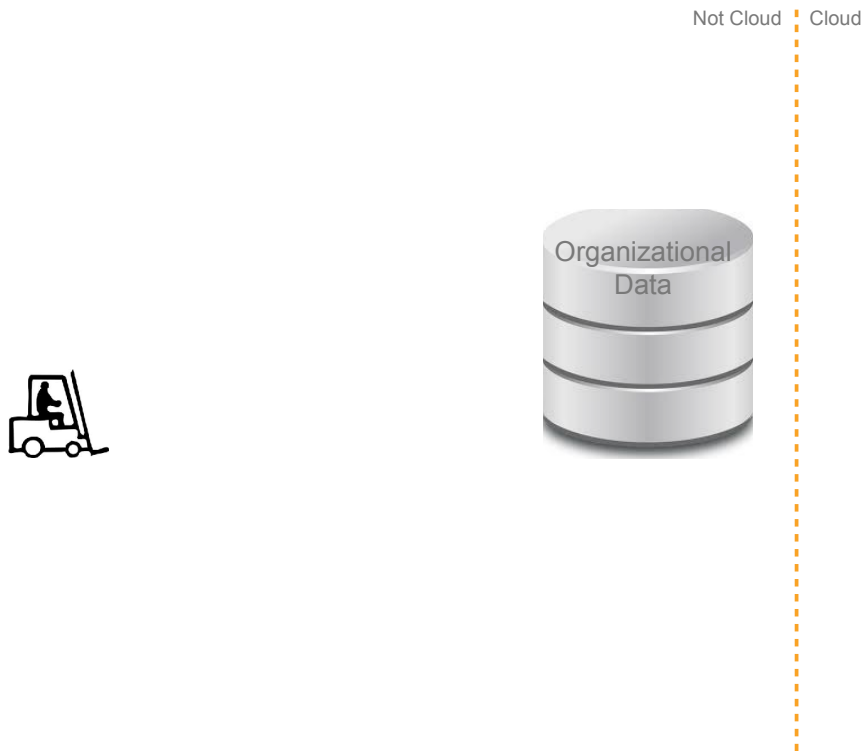
... Then Integrate



... Then Re-architect



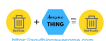
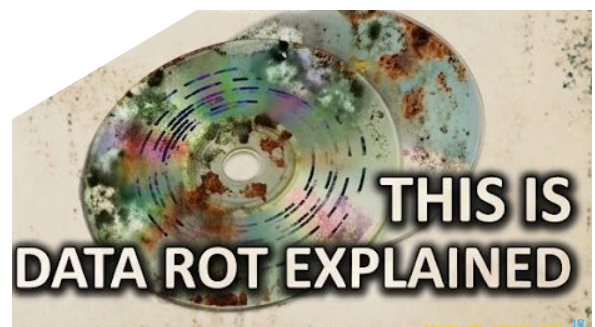
send some of all to the cloud



Organizing the Wheat Separated from the Chaff



- Better organized data increases in value
- Poor data management practices are costing organizations money/time/effort
- 80% of organizational data is **ROT**
 - **R**edundant
 - **O**bssolete
 - **T**rivial
- The question is which data to eliminate?
 - Most enterprise data is never analyzed



... Fixing Data in the Cloud is Like Using A Glovebox



Without requisite training ...



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Data in the cloud should have three attributes that data outside the cloud/warehouse should not have. It should be:

Cleaner



Smaller

Sharable-er

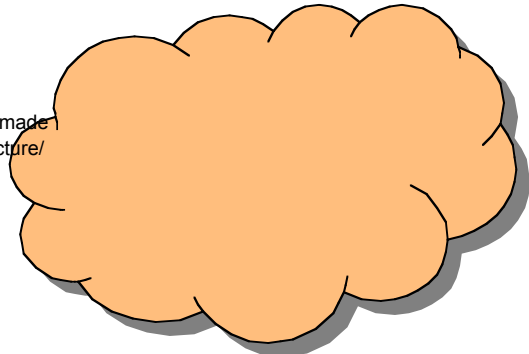


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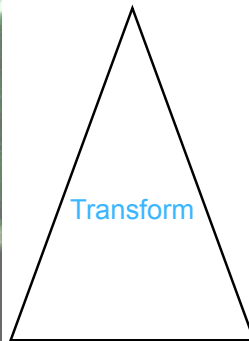
Making —Cloud— Successful



- Problems with forklifting
1. no basis for decisions made
 2. no inclusion of architecture/engineering concepts
 3. no idea that these concepts are missing from the process
 4. 80% of organizational data is ROT

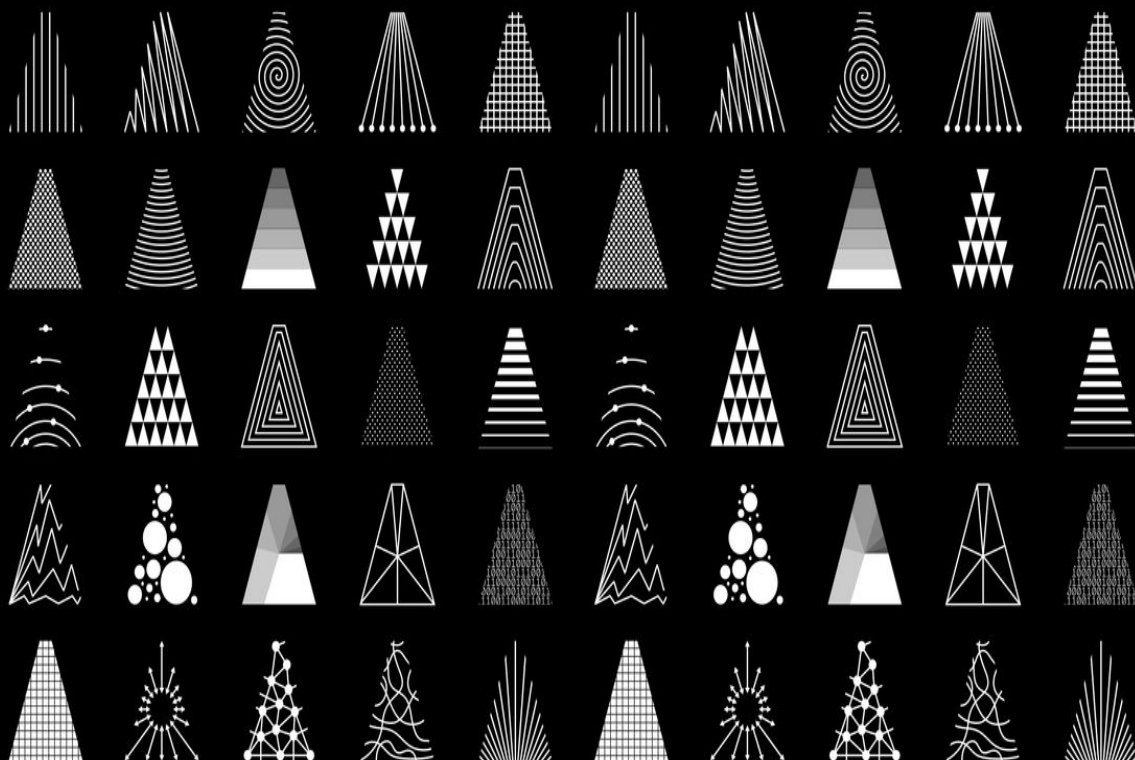


Data Branding



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Data Branding



<https://mindsparklemag.com/design/arcadia-data/>

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BUILDING THE DIGITAL TWIN: A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

1. MAP REAL-WORLD OBJECTS AS OBJECTS
(e.g., SHIPMENTS, MED SUPPLIES) 
2. BUILD SEMANTIC LINKS
(e.g., ... → PORT) 
3. DEFINE TRANSACTIONAL VERBS AS ACTIONS
(e.g., REROUTE SHIPMENT, SCHEDULE MAINTENANCE) 
4. ESTABLISH GRANULAR ACCESS CONTROLS
5. ACCELERATE SUPPLY-CHAIN DECISIONS
6. EMPOWER FRONT-LINE DECISIONS 
7. ... AND THEN ADD AI 

Without requisite training ...

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Two Basic Warehouse Purposes

- **Integration** ←
 - of disparate data sources for purpose of potential subsequent analyses
 - Most organization data is never analyzed
 - Same type of inputs as output
 - Downstream knowledge is incorporated upstream
- **Preparation** ←
 - Seen as the last mile (preparation) of the data before presentation as part of decision making activities
 - Closed ended activities
 - Final possible application of programmatic quality measures

Integration

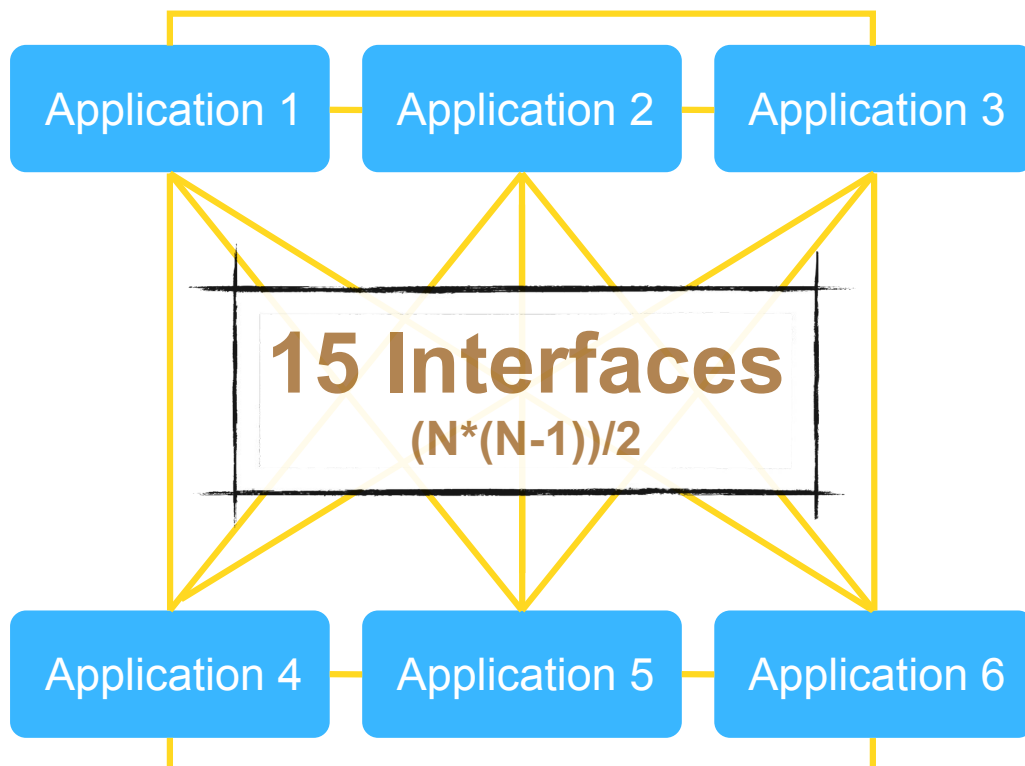


~~UNPREPARED~~



Choose One!

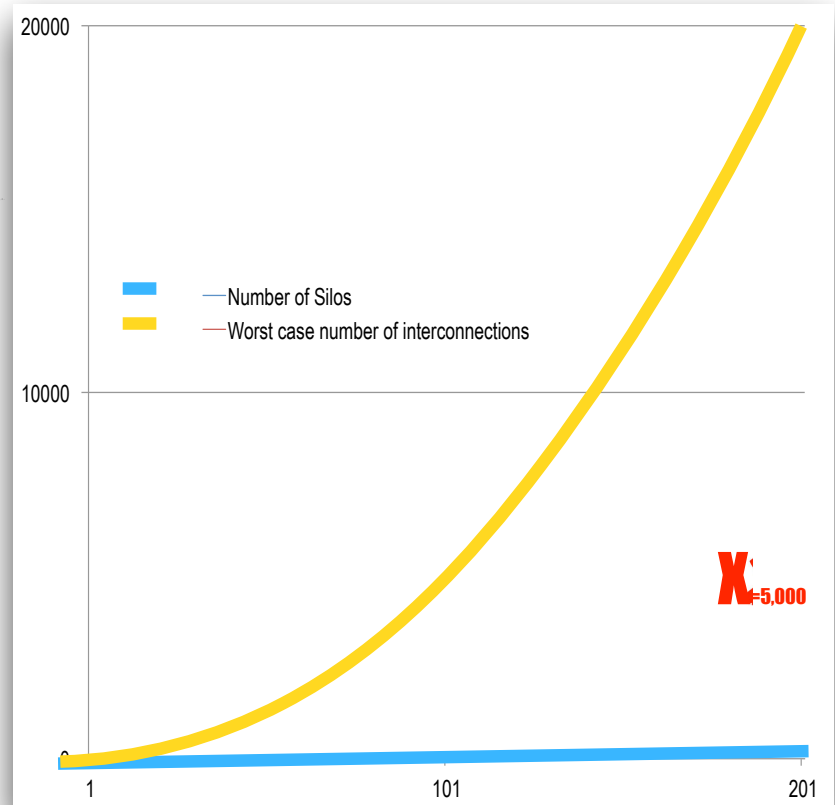
How many interfaces are required to solve this integration problem?



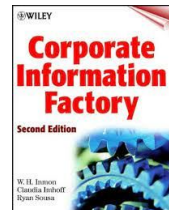
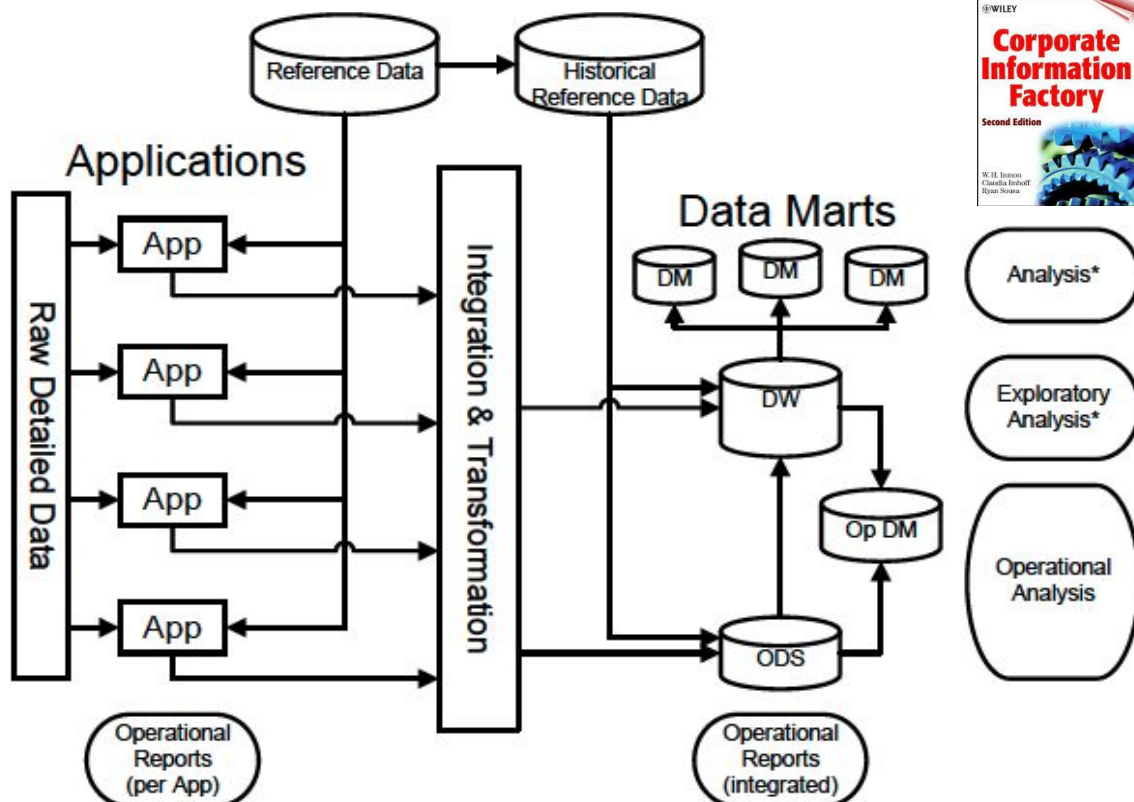
RBC: 200 applications - 4900 batch interfaces

The rapidly increasing cost of complexity

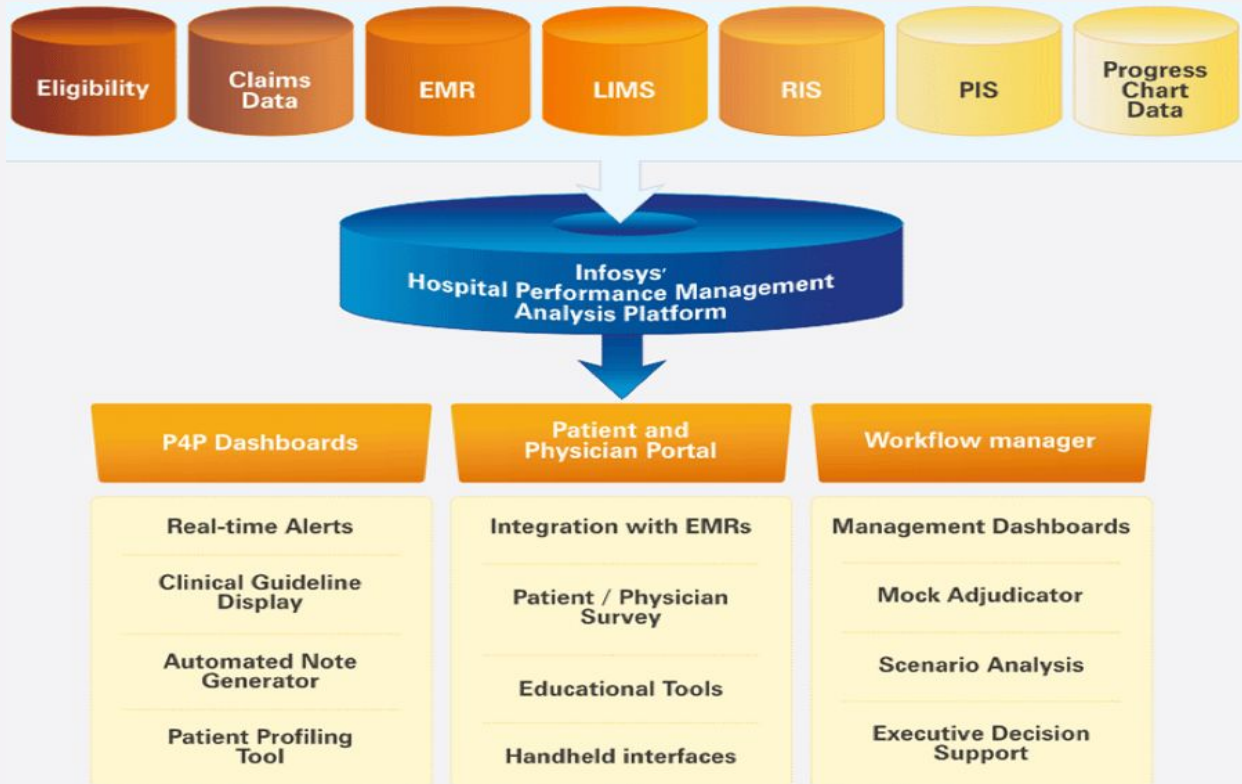
Silos / Interconnections	
6	15
60	1,770
600	179,700
200	19,900
200	5,000 (actual)



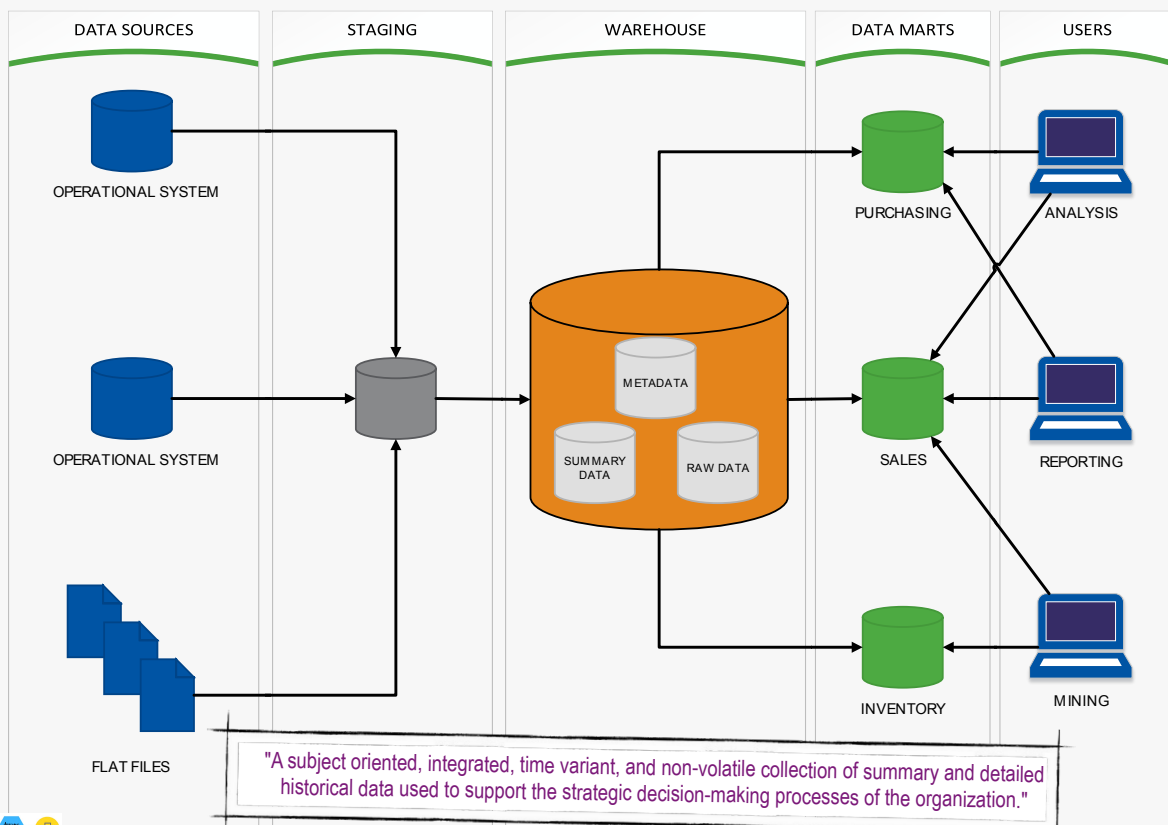
Corporate Information Factory Architecture



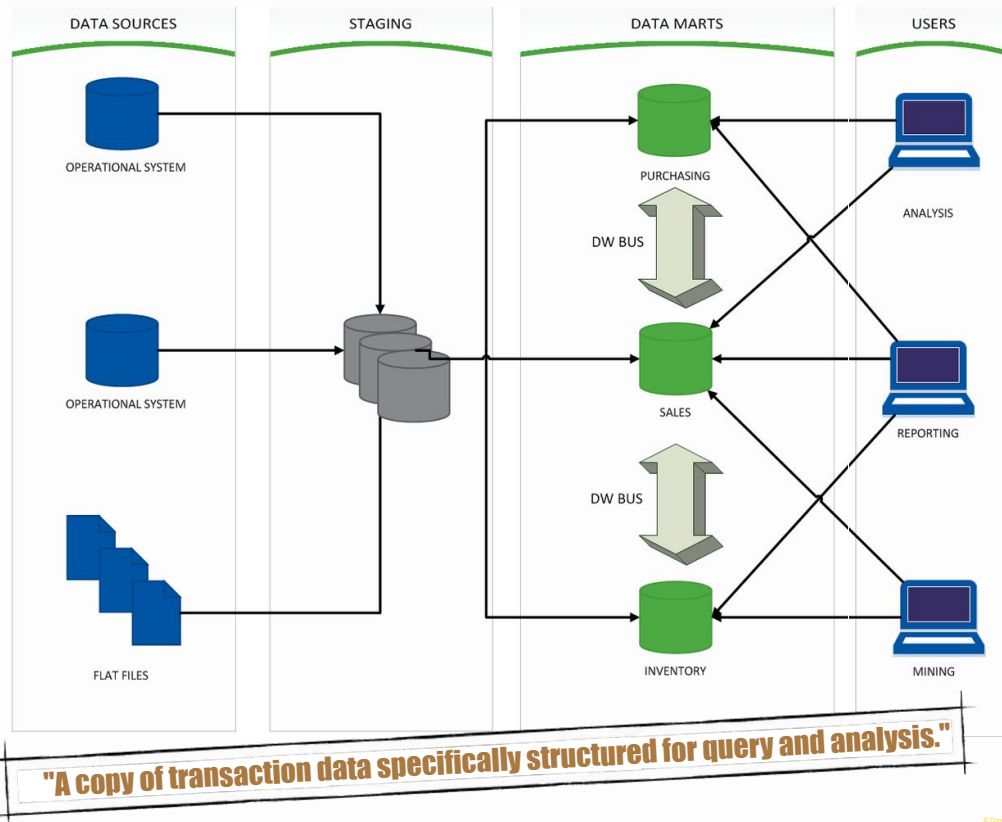
Warehousing applied to a specific challenge



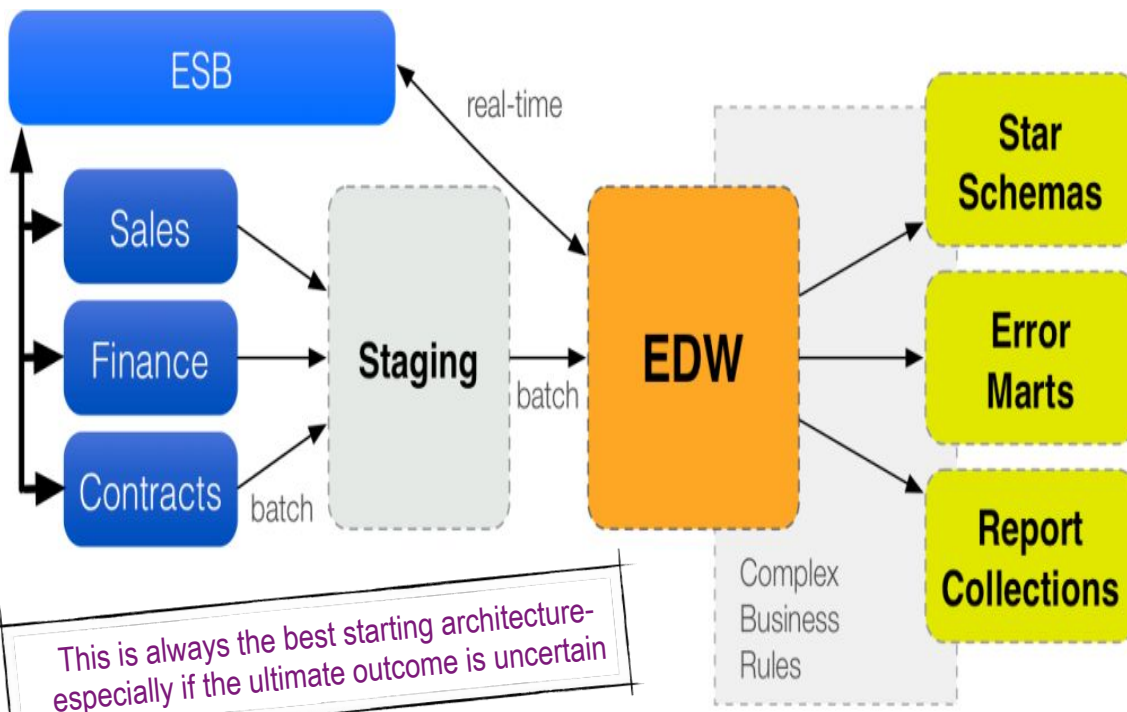
Inmon Implementation/3NF



Kimball Implementation/Dimensional

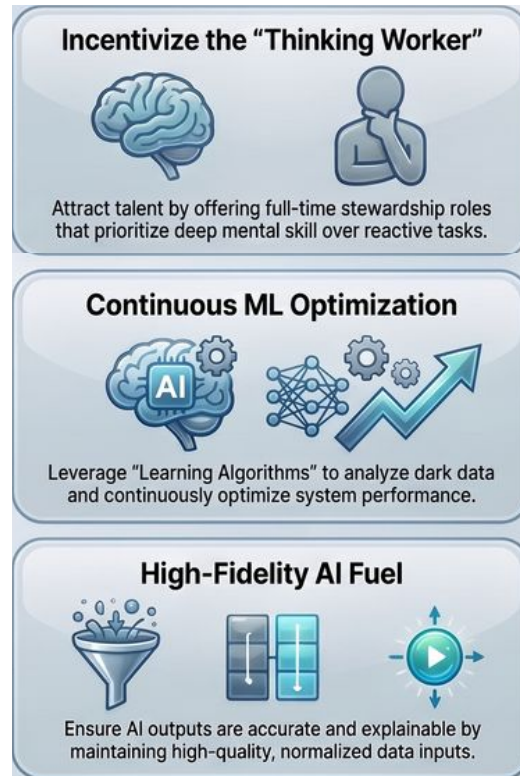


Data Vault Implementation



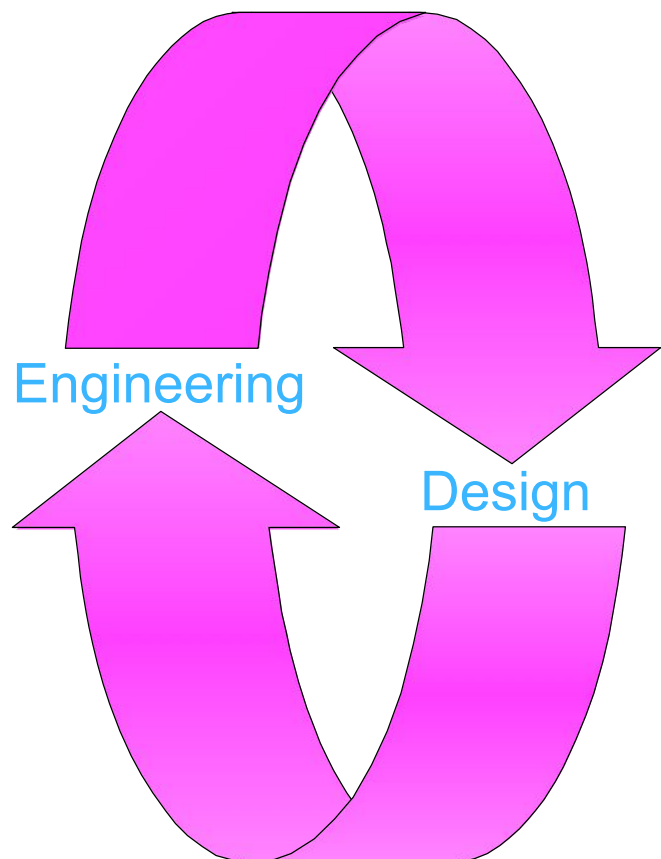
Attracting/Retaining Good Design & Engineering Talent

- Solution design is not based on semantic understanding
- Focus is often critical due to speed issues
- AI/ML focus on learning how the system performs and how to improve it



Engineering/Design Relationship

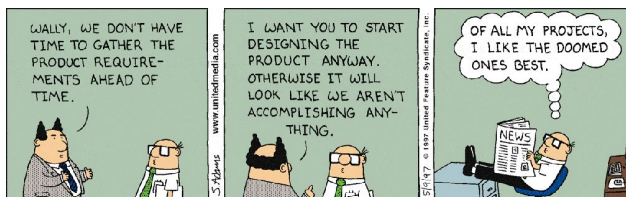
- Design is used to create and build systems too complex to be treated by engineering analysis alone
 - Require technical details as the exception
- Engineers develop the technical designs
 - Engineering/Crafts-persons deliver components supervised by:
 - Manufacturer
 - Building Contractor



sales collect requirements → engineers develop

Someone must directly go to the customer site, explore together, and use it while making changes

- Forward Deployed Engineering (FDE) originated as a proprietary operational strategy



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Basic tenants of FDE

To prevent disasters, engineers must undergo a profound, often uncomfortable mental transformation



Living with the users

1. From Outputs to Outcomes

- In traditional engineering, jobs are defined by outputs: writing code, fixing Jira tickets, passing tests, and hitting deployment deadlines. Traditional roles are structured to insulate developers from customer reality, allowing them to ship code and immediately move to the next ticket.
- Shift to owning outcomes. Work products are not judged by the elegance of their codebase, but by whether the customer actually achieves their business goals and "wins" with the solution.
You must feel the direct, personal weight of a customer depending on your work.

2. Becoming a User Before a Builder

- Traditional developers build software based on abstract product specifications. An FDE must become a user before they become a builder.
- By rotating into the field, engineers witness how their systems actually collide with messy, real-world workflows.

3. Calibrating Engineering to Reality

- Traditional training teaches engineers to always build the most robust, scalable, and beautifully designed system possible. In the field, this is often a recipe for failure.
- FDEs must learn to calibrate their engineering to the exact situation.

4. Navigating the "Crucible" of Ambiguity

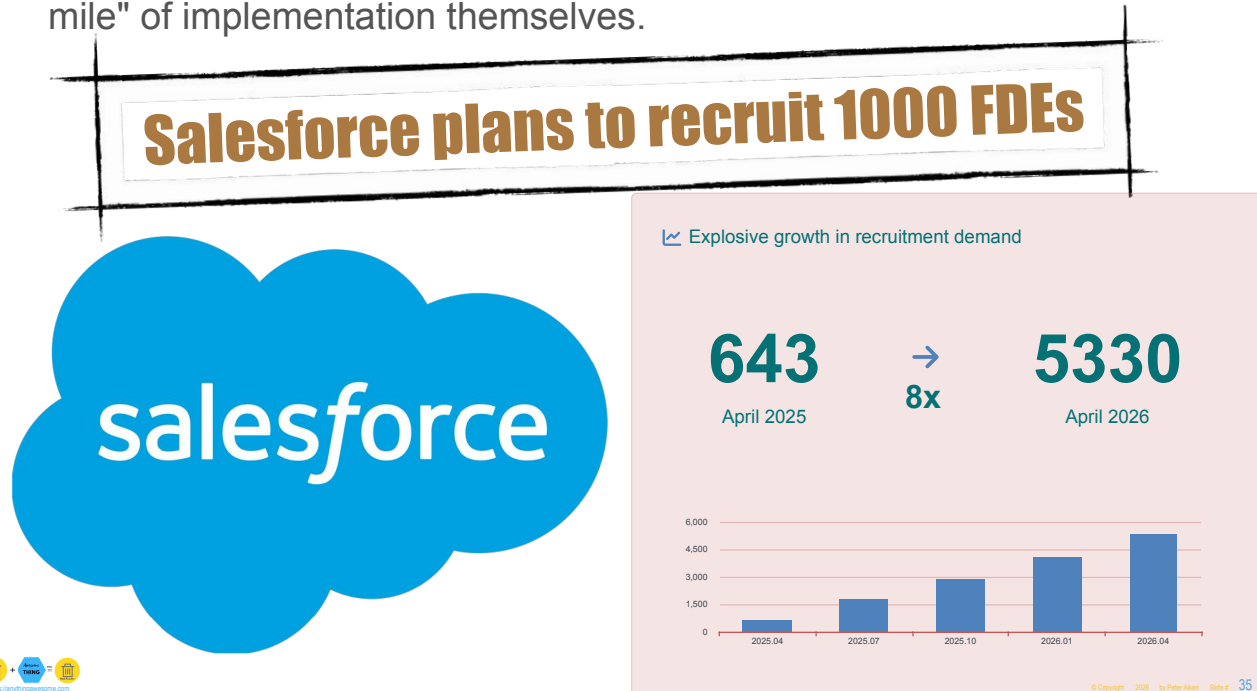
- In a centralized headquarters, developers thrive on deep focus time, clear requirements, and stable release processes. The field is chaotic, fragmented, and highly interrupt-driven.



Example Drivers

Signal

Top modeling companies are cutting off the middleman role of traditional system integrators (SIs) and taking control of the "last mile" of implementation themselves.

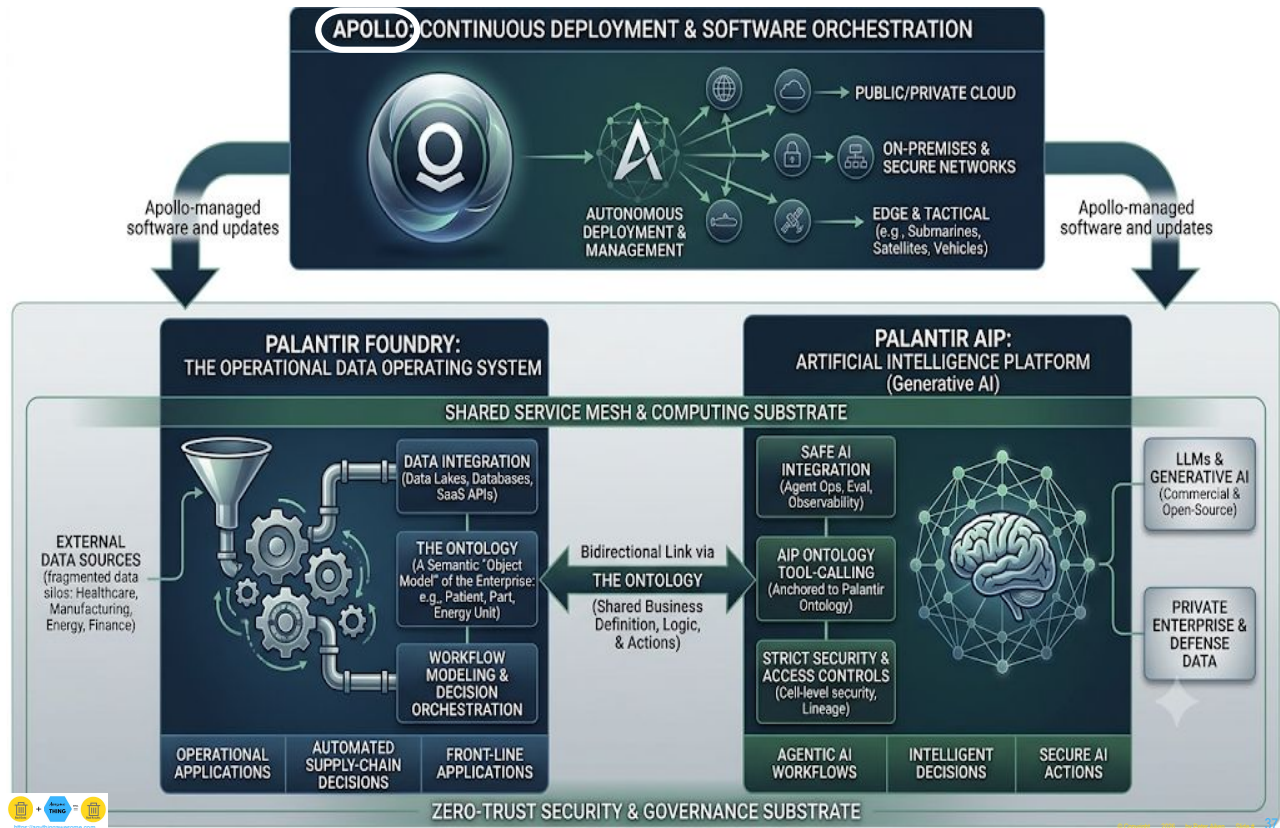


Core Primitives of the Ontology

Palantir structures enterprise twins using 2 complementary primitives:

- Semantic Elements (Nouns & Relationships):
 - **Object Types:** Instead of an orders or customers table, data maps to an entity with typed properties, identity resolution, and a primary key. A Vessel or Patient object aggregates attributes from multiple disparate systems (e.g., SAP, Salesforce, IoT feeds).
 - **Link Types:** Explicit, bidirectional relationships connecting objects (e.g., Patient → Admitted To → Bed). Users and AI models traverse these links at runtime as an operational graph rather than constructing multi-table SQL JOIN statements.
- Kinetic Elements (Verbs & State Transitions):
 - **Action Types:** Governed transactions that mutate data (e.g., Reroute Shipment, Schedule Maintenance). Actions enforce business logic, schema constraints, and audit logs before writing updates back to Foundry object indexes and downstream ERPs/source systems.
 - **Functions & Models:** Server-side logic and machine learning models registered directly to objects, providing dynamic computations (such as calculating risk scores on an asset).

Palantir Core Platforms



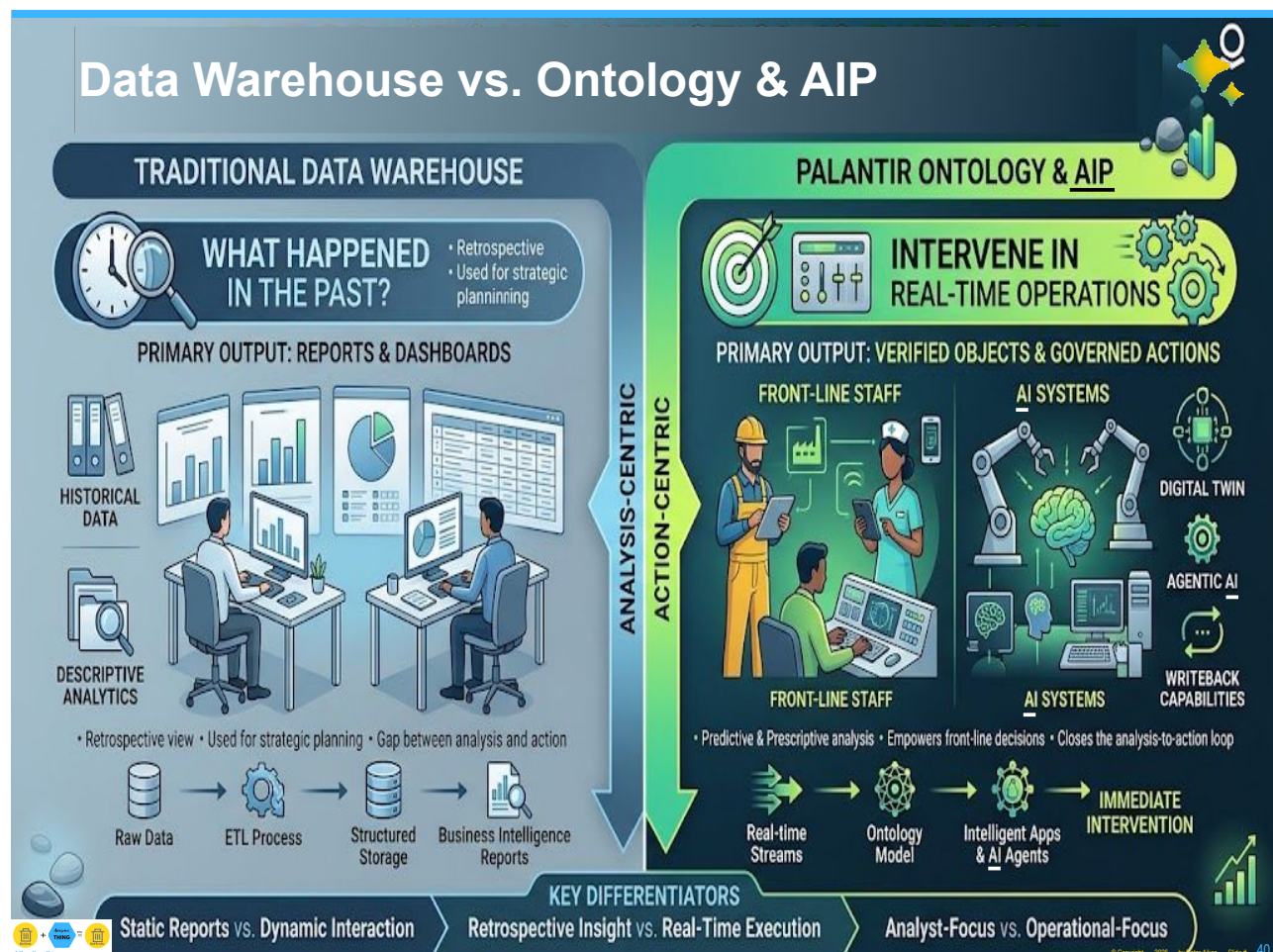
Palantir Core Platforms

- **Palantir Gotham:** Originally built for defense and intelligence agencies (such as the DoD, CIA, and FBI). It allows analysts to map relationships, track targets, detect patterns, and coordinate tactical intelligence across battlefield operations.
- **Palantir Foundry:** The commercial enterprise platform. It serves as an operational data operating system, allowing corporations in healthcare, manufacturing, energy, and finance to integrate fragmented data silos, model workflows, and automate supply-chain decisions.
- **Palantir AIP (Artificial Intelligence Platform):** Designed to safely integrate large language models (LLMs) and generative AI directly into private enterprise and defense networks, anchoring AI actions to clear ontology rules and strict security access controls.
- **Apollo:** A continuous deployment and software orchestration platform that manages updates and deployment across disconnected, secure cloud, and edge environments (including submarines, satellites, and tactical ground vehicles).

Comparing Styles

- Where a data warehouse organizes information into static relational schemas (tables, rows, and foreign keys) meant for descriptive analytics, Palantir Foundry and AIP position the Ontology as an operational layer that binds semantic definitions, computational logic, and transactional actions into a single graph.

Architectural Dimension	Traditional Data Warehouse / Lakehouse	Palantir Foundry & AIP Ontology
Core Abstraction	Tables, views, columns, dimensions, and facts	Objects, links, properties, interfaces, and actions
Primary Workload	Read-heavy aggregations, SQL analytics, BI dashboards	Read/write operational workflows, decision loops, agentic AI
Writeback & Execution	Read-only target; writebacks require external ETL/reverse-ETL	Native Action Types with validation, side effects, and sync
AI Integration (LLMs)	RAG via text/vector search or text-to-SQL over tables	Grounded agent tool-calling bounded by object types and actions
Data Governance	Role-based / row-and-column access control on tables	Fine-grained object, link, and action-level policies with lineage



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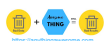
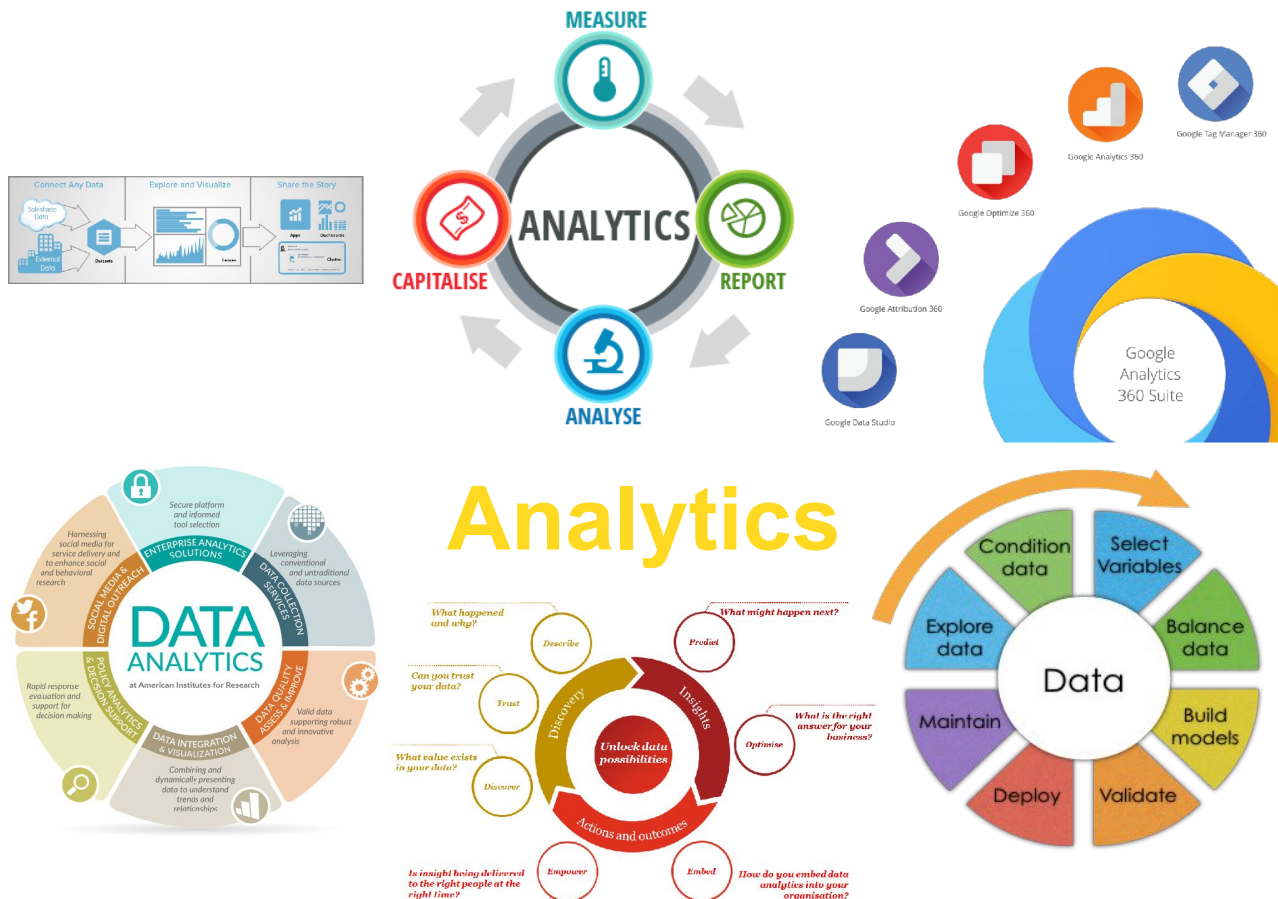
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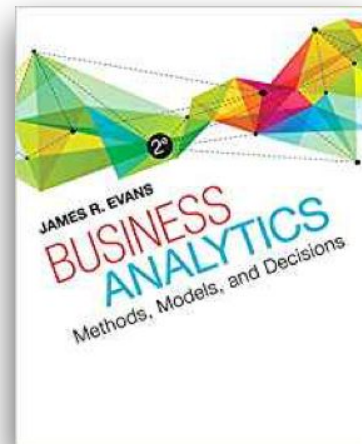


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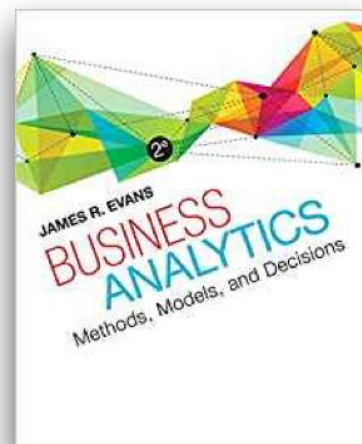
Business Analytics or simply analytics, is:

- is the use of data, information technology, statistical analysis, quantitative methods, and mathematical or computer-based models to help managers gain improved insight about their business operations and make better, fact-based decisions.
- is “a process of transforming data into actions through analysis and insights in the context of organizational decision making and problem solving.”
- supported by various tools such as Microsoft Excel and various Excel add-ins, commercial statistical software package such as SAS or Minitab and more complete business intelligence suites that integrate data with analytical software



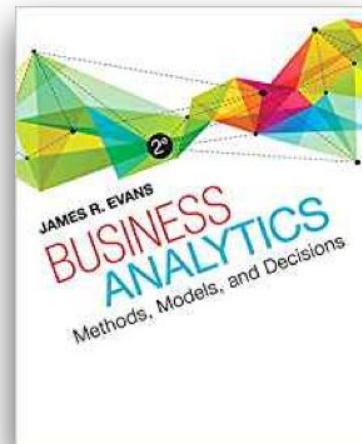
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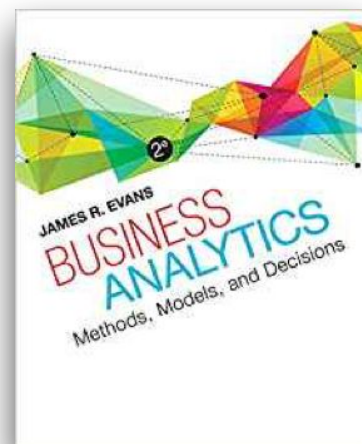
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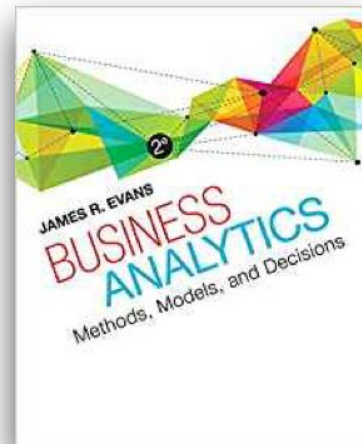
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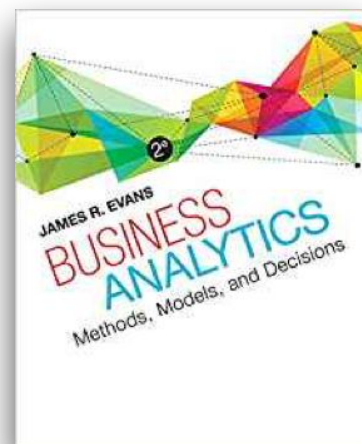
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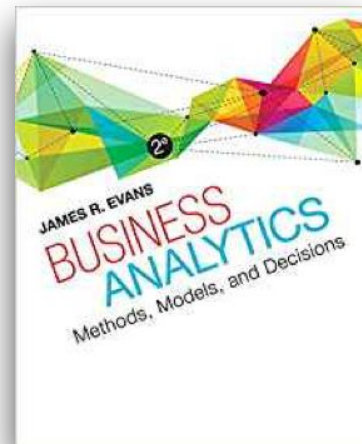
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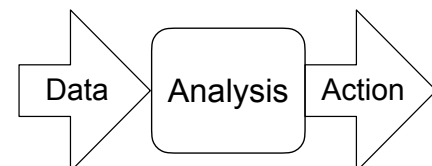
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- the process of transforming data into actions through analysis to solve problems
- supported by various tools such as Microsoft Excel and various Excel add-ins, commercial statistical software package such as SAS or Minitab and more complete business intelligence suites that integrate data with analytical software

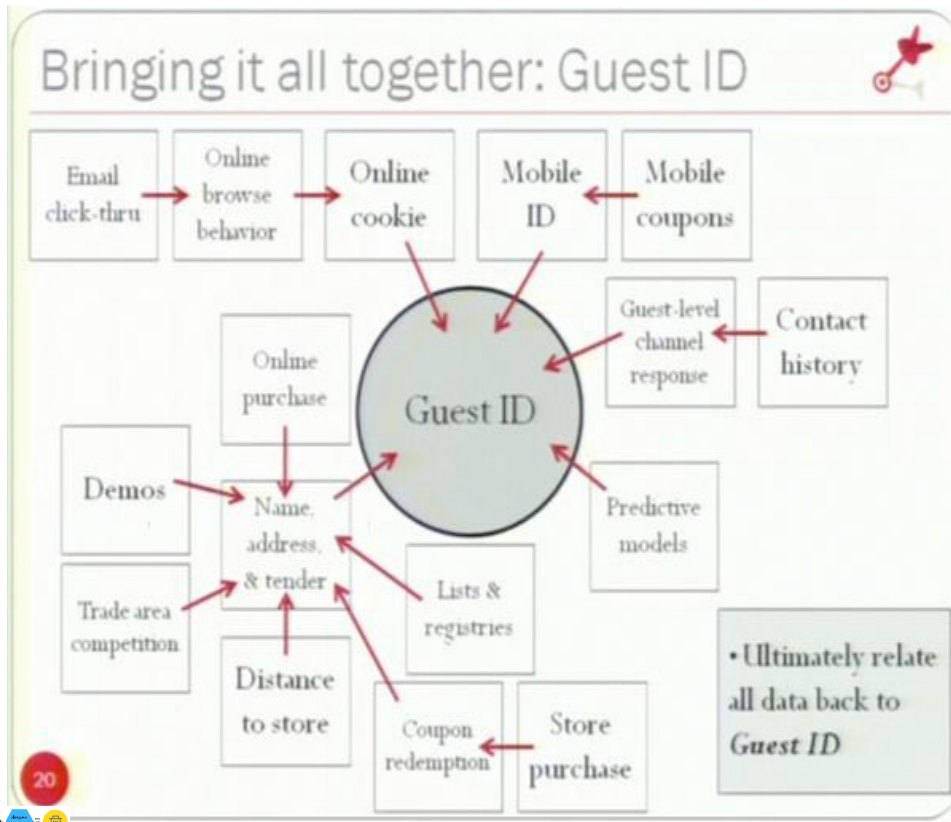


Analytics (31 words almost 1/3 of original)

- is the use of data, hardware/software, quantitative methods, and models to help managers make better decisions- the process of transforming data into actions through analysis to solve problems using tools



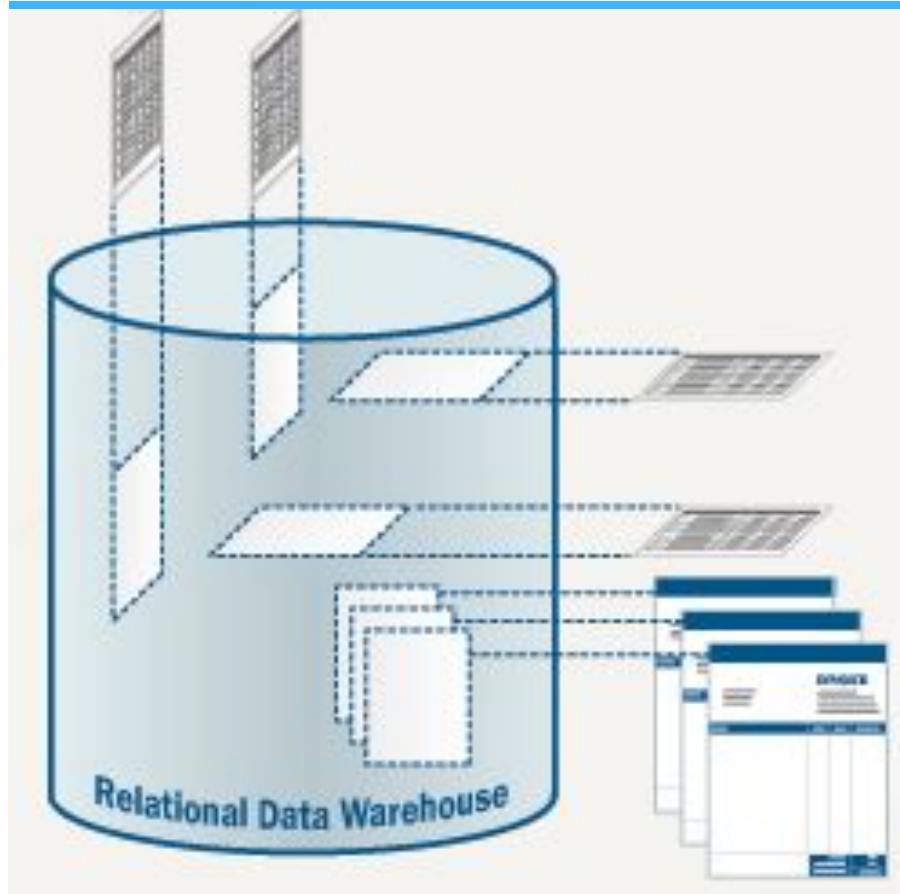
Target Isn't Just Predicting Pregnancies



Mission

- Advance change in America by ensuring equitable access to nutritious food for all in partnership with food banks, policymakers, supporters, and the communities we serve
- Great understanding and skill executing rapid response to local needs
- What else could be done with their data?
- Rerouting busses = eliminating food deserts for thousands of residents





Basics

- Users can "drill" anywhere
- Entire collection "cube" is accessible
- Summaries to transaction-level detail

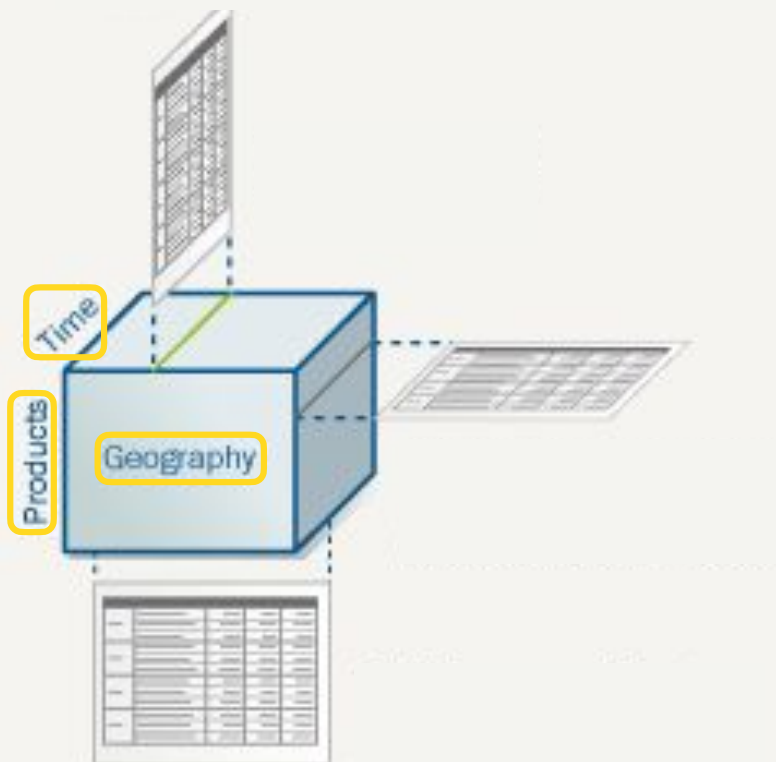


MicroStrategy

Better Business Decisions Every Day: *Integrating Business Reporting & Analysis*

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Sample questions ...



- Emphasis on the "cube"
- 'N' dimensions
- Permits different users to "slice and dice" subsets of data
- Viewing from different perspectives

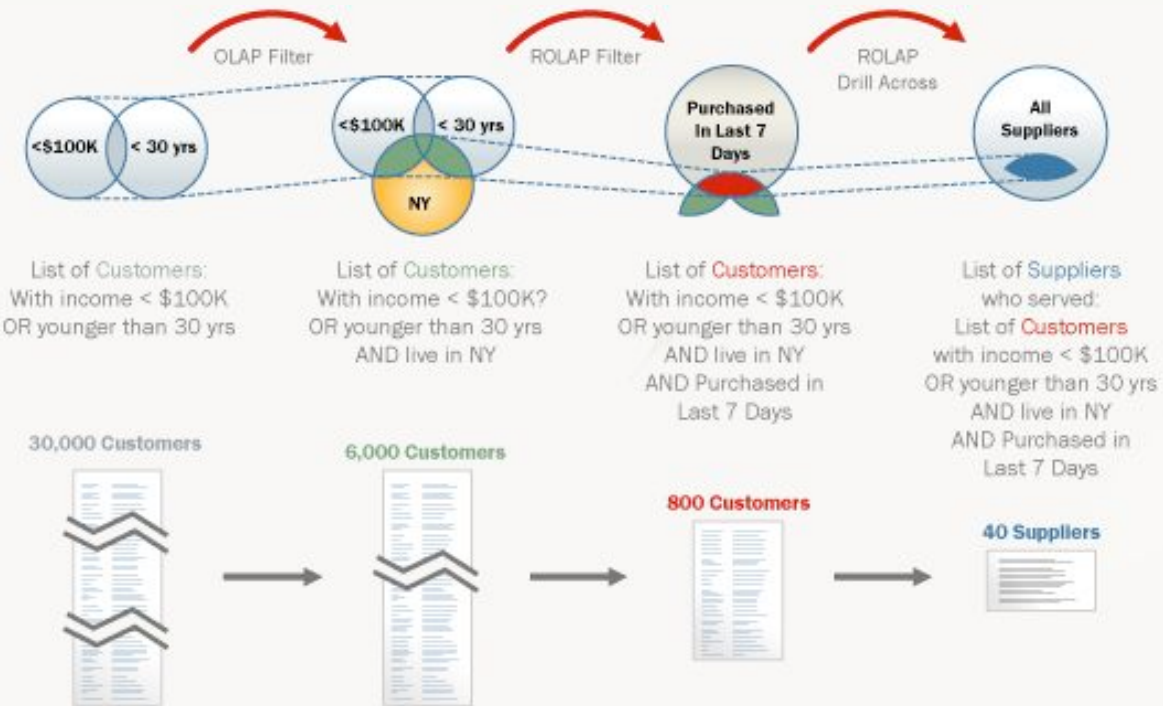


MicroStrategy

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Example: Set Analysis

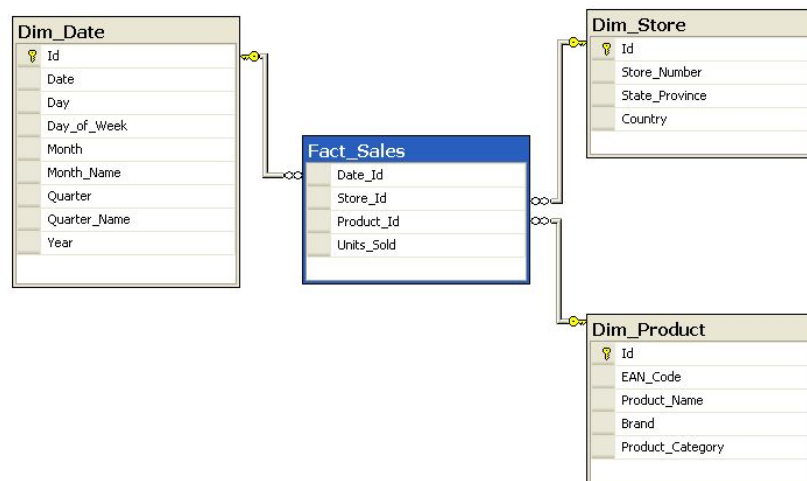


MicroStrategy

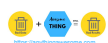
Better Business Decisions Every Day: Integrating Business Reporting & Analysis

55

Star Schema



- Comprised of “fact tables” that contain quantitative data, and any number of adjoining “dimension” tables
- Optimized for business reporting
- Use Cases
 - OLAP (Online Analytic Processing)
 - BI



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Everyone wants to do better data analysis ...

100% Some data preparation is inevitable

- What would a 'good' ratio be?
- "Everyone knows"

75%

50%

25%

0%

If everyone knows, then why do we not budget accordingly?

20%

80%

Data Analysis

Data Preparation



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When asked to incorporate data

Too many organizations have simply put data in the hands of employees and expected them to make a success of it

- Data appreciation isn't translating into employee adoption
 - 48% frequently make gut decisions
 - 66% for C-suite executives
- Lack of data skills is limiting workplace productivity
 - 36% said they would find an alternative method to complete the task without using data
 - 14 percent avoid the task entirely

Incorporate Data
34%

Defer to Gut
66%

Avoid Task Entirely
14%

Find Alt. Method
36%

Incorporate Data
50%



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<http://TheDataLiteracyProject.org>



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Every Day Low Price



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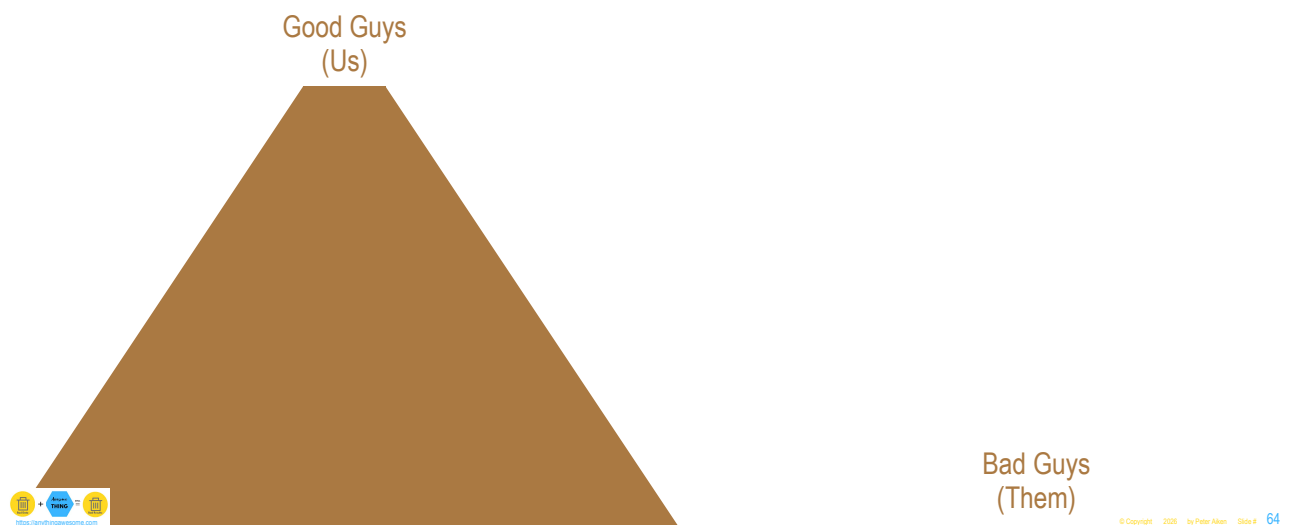
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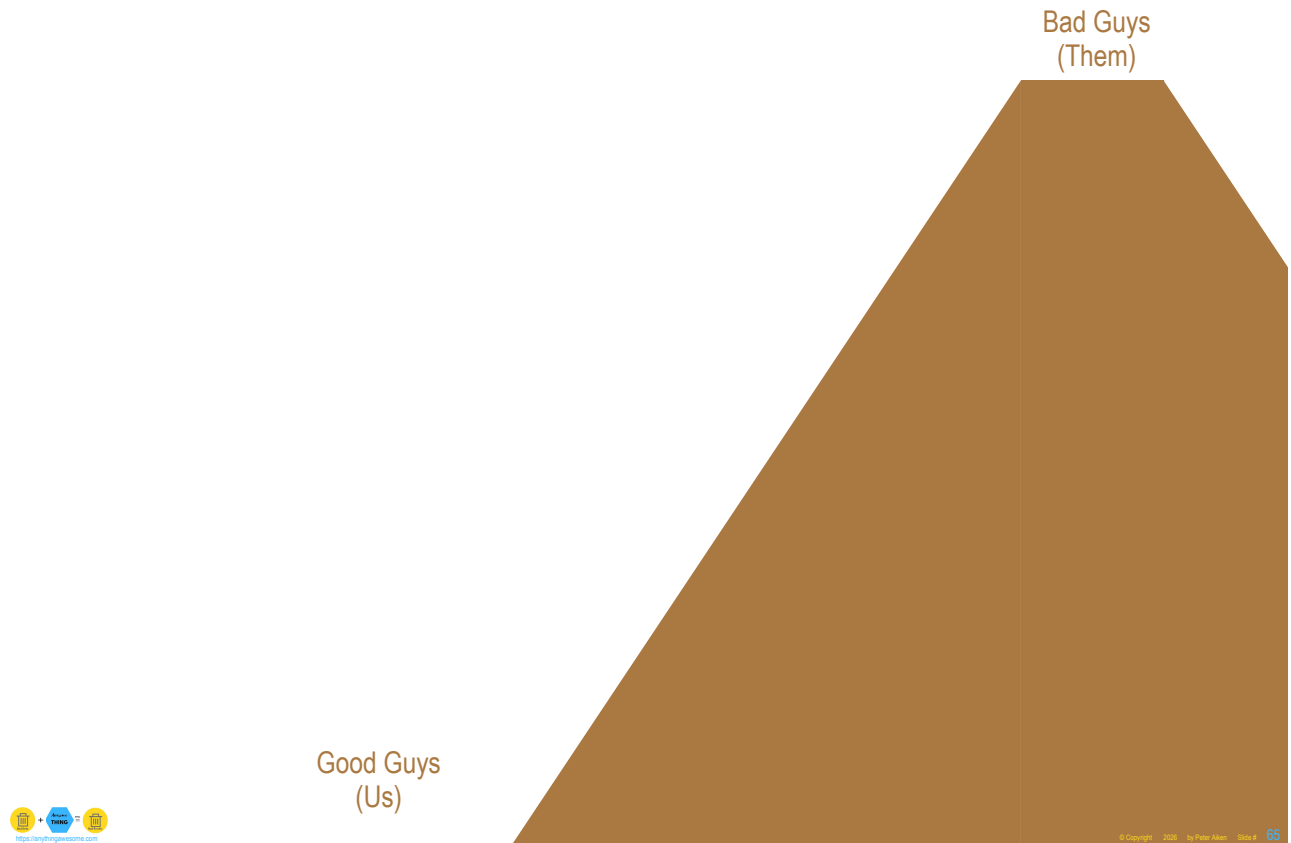
Strategy Example 3



Strategy Example 3



Strategy Example 3

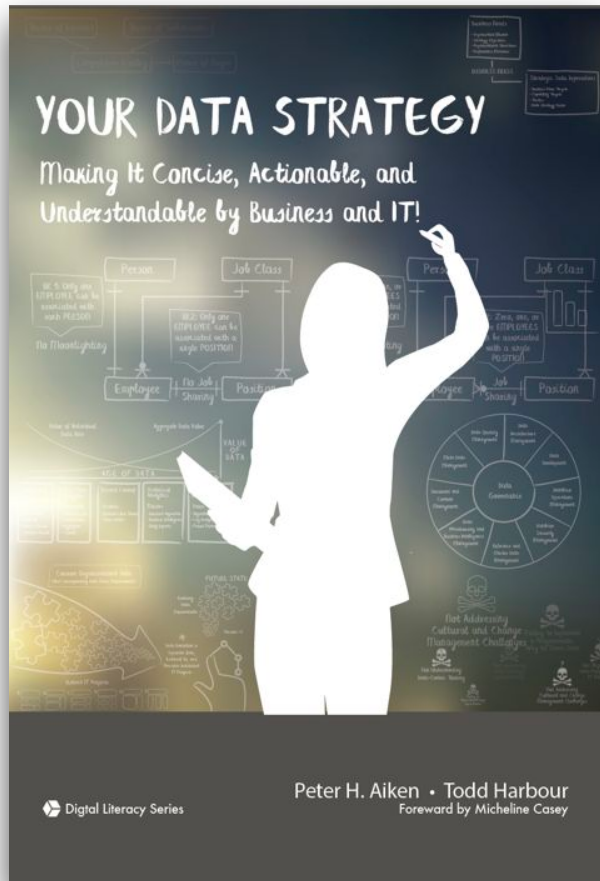


Strategy Guides Workgroup Activities

A pattern
in a stream
of decisions

Your Data Strategy

- Highest level data guidance available ...
- Focusing data activities on business-goal achievement ...
- Providing guidance when faced with a stream of decisions or uncertainties
- Data strategy most usefully articulates how data can be best used to support organizational strategy
- This usually involves a balance of remediation and proactive measures



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Program Overview

- Definitions
 - Data Warehousing
 - DM BoK guidance
 - Legacy to digital conversion (cloud) + AI
- Integration
 - Incorporate leading not bleeding edge
 - Requires an adaptive rather than a prescriptive approach
 - Emphasize engineering talent (Forward Deployed Engineer)
 - AI enables further structural formalization
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 - Emphasis on storytelling first and visualization second
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 - Keep improvements practically focused by strategy
- Best Practices
 - Cannot use what is not understood-understand what you have
 - PDCA (plan, do, check, act)
 - Iteratively refine/cull with respect to strategic direction
- Take Aways/References/Q&A



Data Warehousing Reimagined:

Fueling AI-powered BI at Scale



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Reframing the question

From: [How shall we build this data warehouse?](#)

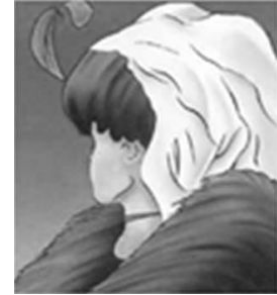
- (or worse) ... What should go into this warehouse?

To: [How can warehousing capabilities solve this business challenge?](#)

- (better still) ... How can warehousing capabilities solve this class of business challenges?

Other examples

- Are you ready for warehousing?
 - Foundational practices
 - Project deliverables
- Will you get it right the first time?
 - Is the business environment constantly evolving?
 - Do you have an agreed upon enterprise-wide vocabulary?
- Is your data warehouse intended to be the enterprise audit-able system of record?
 - Extract, transform and load requirements
 - Data transformation requirements
 - How fast do you need results?
 - Performance of inserts vs reads



<https://aiinstitute.hbs.edu/platform-digit/submission/skywise-bringing-data-analysis-to-the-airline-industry/>

Skywise



DIGITAL INNOVATION AND TRANSFORMATION
MBA STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment: Competing with Data

Skywise: Bringing Data Analysis to the Airline Industry

By Crimson Ranger

Alumni

POSTED NOV 13, 2019

Airbus launched its Skywise system to allow its airline customers to collect and better analyze their aircraft data with the goal of improving operations and reducing costs.

The global airline industry is constantly looking for ways to manage controllable costs (maintenance, fleet optimization, aircraft performance) as it responds to cost trends outside of its control (fuel prices, taxes, global growth trends, macroeconomic shocks). Against this backdrop, aircraft manufacturers seek to differentiate themselves by offering superior after sale services to further reduce the operating costs of their aircraft. In June 2017, Airbus launched its open aviation data platform, Skywise, "to support the digital transformation of the industry and add value for our customers' operations"^[1].

Data Fragmentation, Scale, and Complexity

**In aviation, data isn't just large—it's disconnected.
Five million parts across thousands of global
suppliers.**

Fragmented Ecosystem

Data was siloed across flight ops, maintenance logs, engineering specs, and supply chain ERPs. Decision-making required weeks of manual ETL and cross-departmental alignment.

High-Frequency Telemetry

Modern aircraft like the A350 generate massive volumes of sensor data that legacy data warehouses struggle to operationalize in real-time.

Calculation for per-flight telemetry volume (Up to 1TB/day).

Kinetic Primitives of Skywise

Objects



The digital twins of physical assets. Every engine part is a distinct, governed object in Skywise.

Links



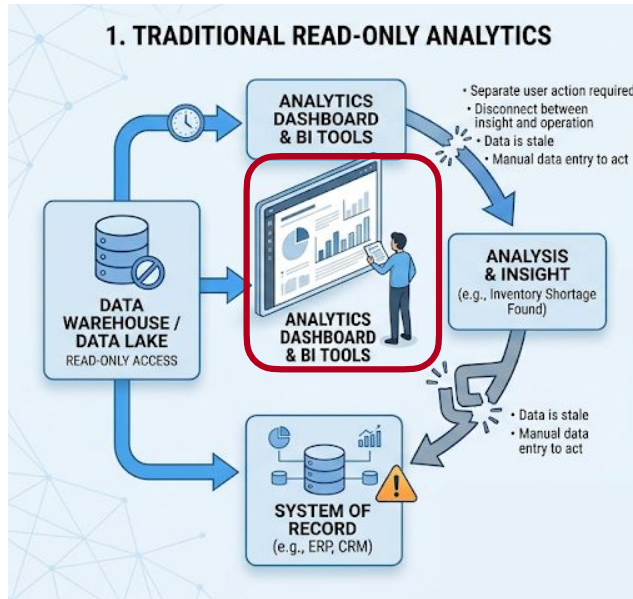
The relationships between objects. Connecting sensor telemetry directly to specific tail numbers.

Actions

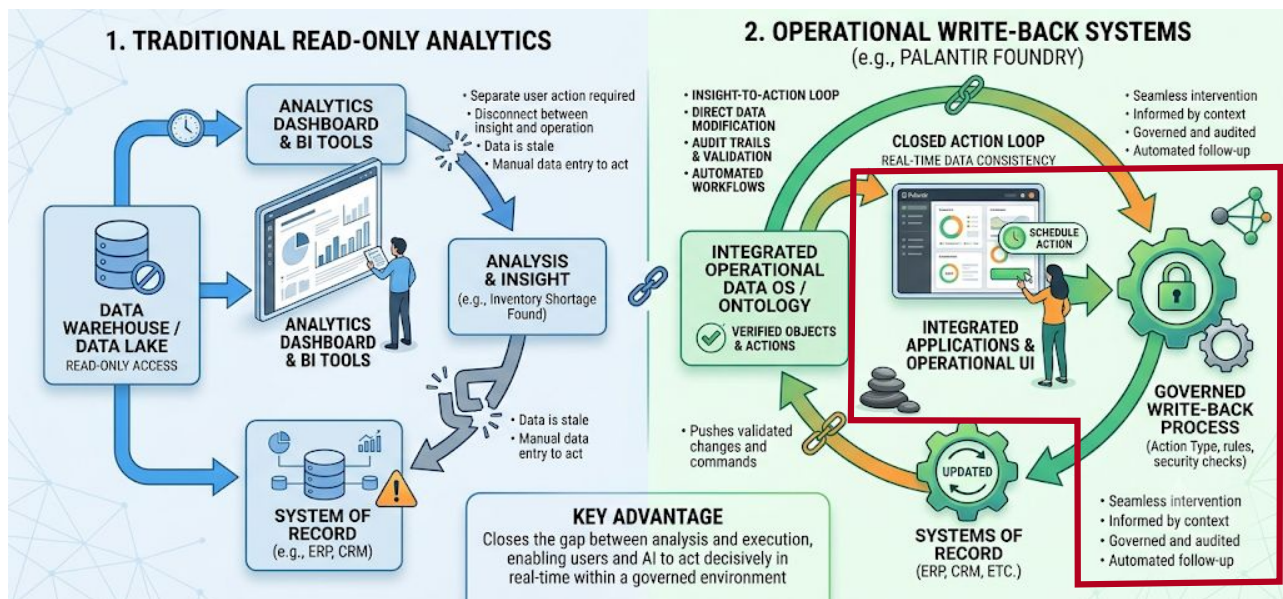


Governed ~~Writ Back~~ ~~Back~~ ~~Back~~ allow shop-floor engineers to trigger procurement directly from analytics.

Write-Backs (e.g., Palantir Foundry, BI tools)



Write-Backs (e.g., Palantir Foundry, BI tools)



- The dashboard or application layer allows users—or automated agents—to click a button, edit a table row, or trigger a workflow that immediately writes changes back to the production databases or source tools.
- An engineer or AI agent doesn't just read an alert saying an aircraft engine valve is worn out; they execute a "Schedule Inspection" or "Reroute Part" action.
- The platform runs validation rules, checks user permissions, logs an audit trail, updates the internal ontology state, and pushes the change out via API directly to the underlying transactional systems (like an ERP).

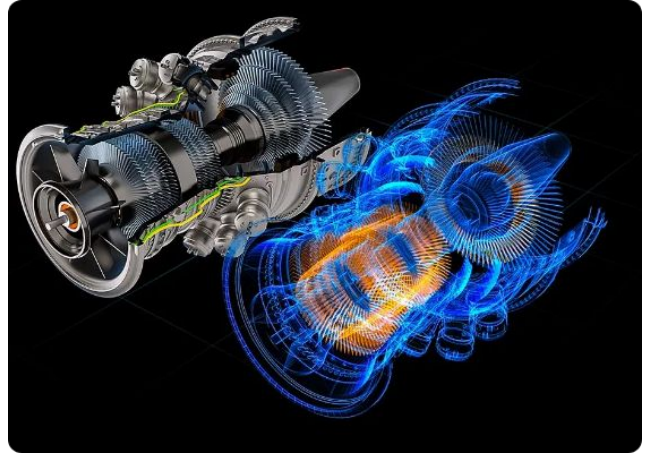
The Ontology: Mapping Reality

- Extensions beyond rows and columns
- Foundry maps relational data into a Digital Twin. Instead of querying tables, data professionals interact with high-level Objects:

✈ **Aircraft:** Aggregates flight history, sensor feeds, and age.

⚙ **Components:** Links parts to maintenance cycles and serials.

🕒 **Maintenance:** Connects labor availability to parts inventory.



Production Acceleration by Synchronizing the Supply Chain

Reduction in A350 Lead Time

33% AIRBUS

Eliminated supply chain bottlenecks—integrating five million parts across thousands of global suppliers.

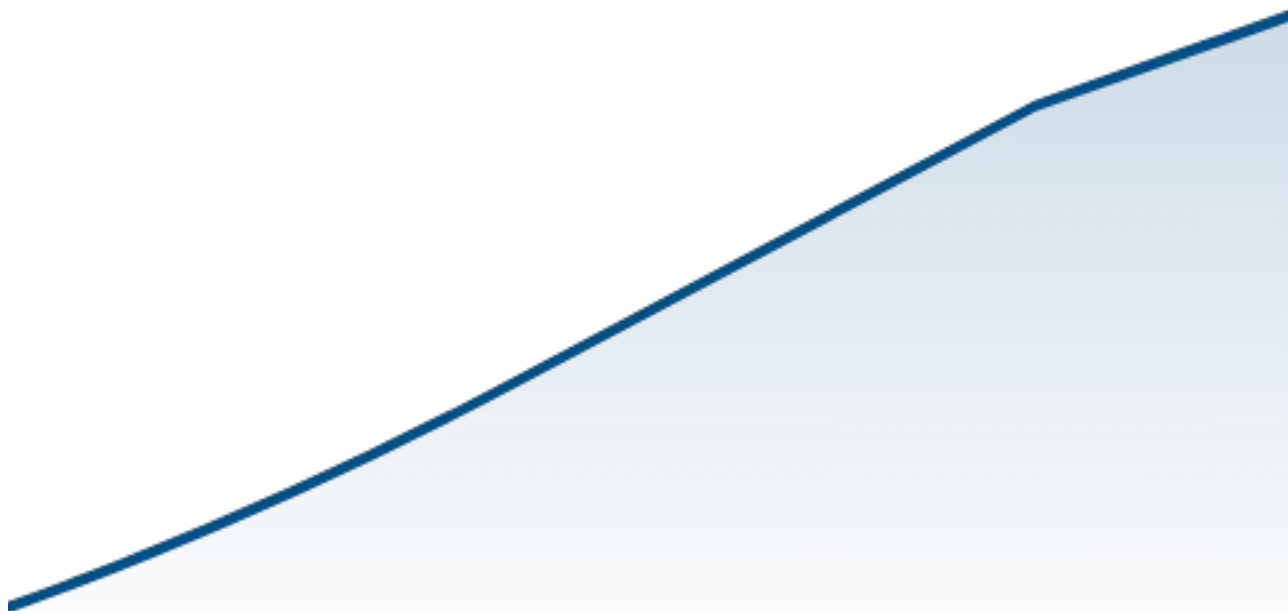
 <https://daryngawson.com>

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Operational ROI: Predictive Maintenance



Skywise Growth-Total Aircraft Connected



Launch 2017

500 Airlines and 12k Aircraft

By the Numbers

<i>Capability</i>	<i>Status / Metric</i>	<i>Impact</i>
<i>Fleet Connectivity</i>	<i>12,300+ Aircraft</i>	<i>Total global visibility.</i>
<i>Daily Data Ingest</i>	<i>~1 Terabyte A350</i>	<i>Petabyte-scale time series management.</i>
<i>Data Throughput</i>	<i>Petabyte Scale</i>	<i>Industrial-grade processing.</i>
<i>Global Users</i>	<i>55,000+ Personnel</i>	<i>Democratized data access.</i>
<i>Partner Airlines</i>	<i>150+ Companies</i>	<i>Global industry standard.</i>
<i>Certified App Partners</i>	<i>20+</i>	<i>Extensible API-first ecosystem.</i>

skywise.



With Skywise, unleash the full potential of every aircraft

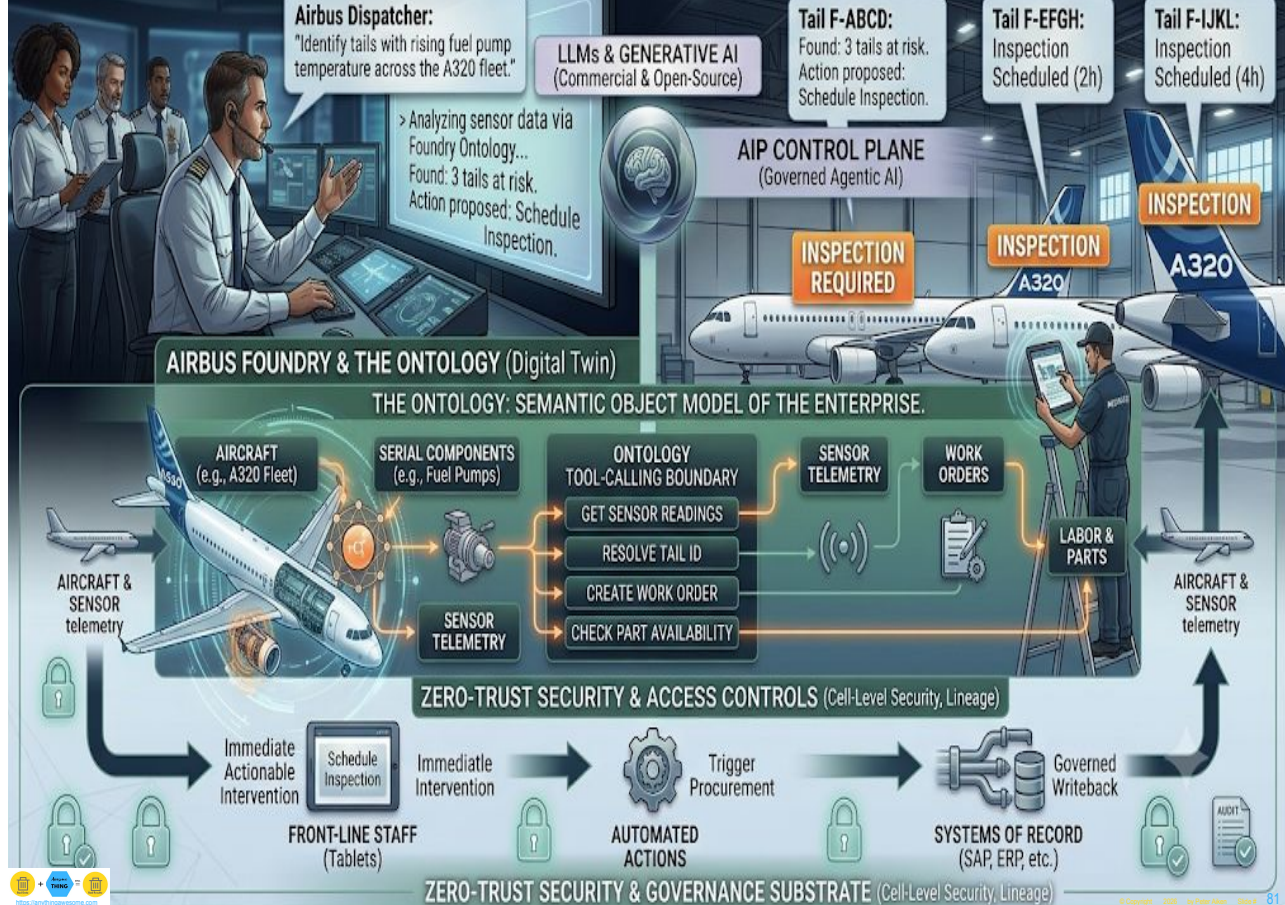


<https://anythingskywise.com>



<https://anythingskywise.com>

AIP: Next Phase



Program Overview

- Definitions
 - Data Warehousing
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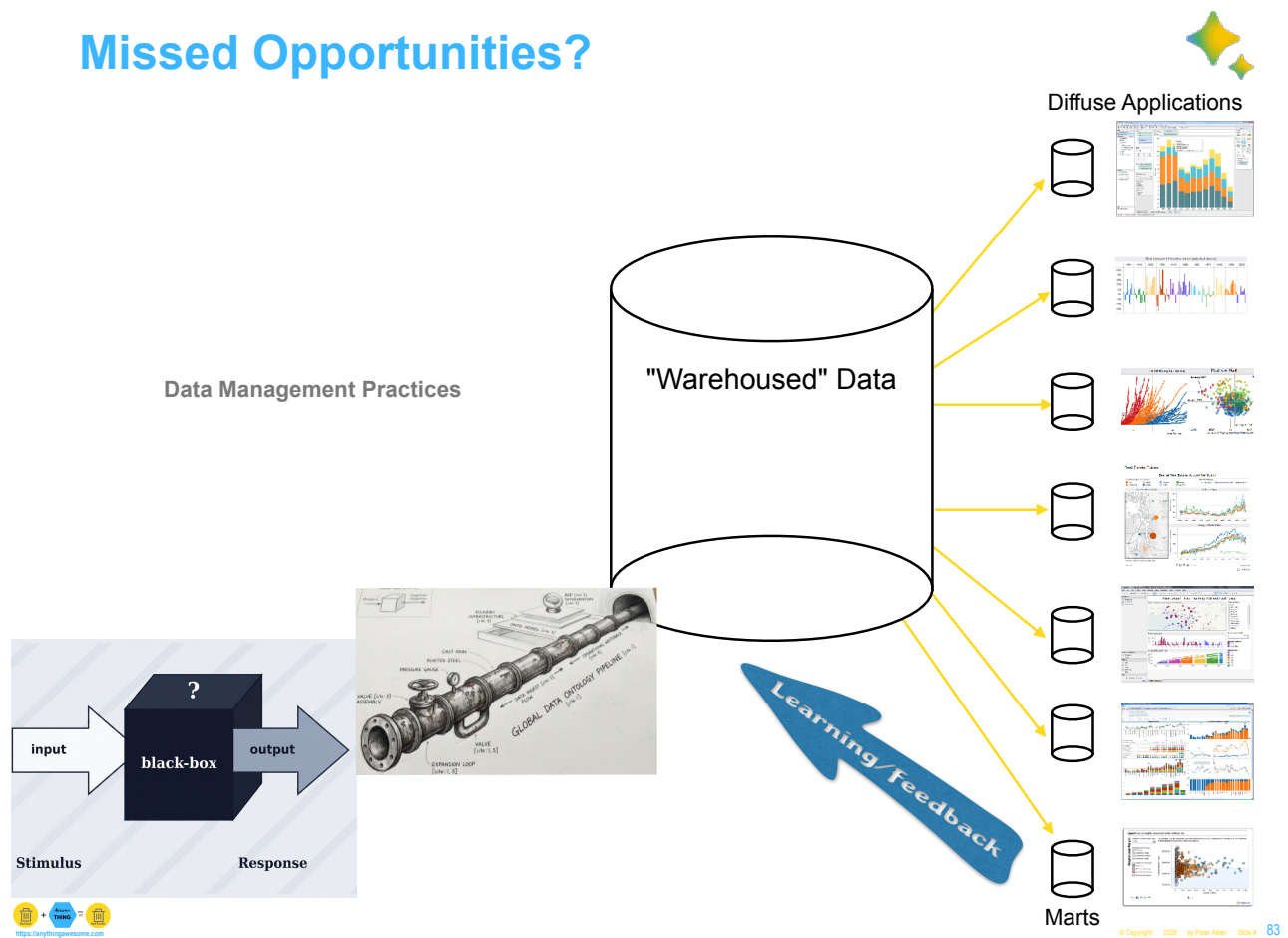


**Data
Warehousing
Reimagined:**

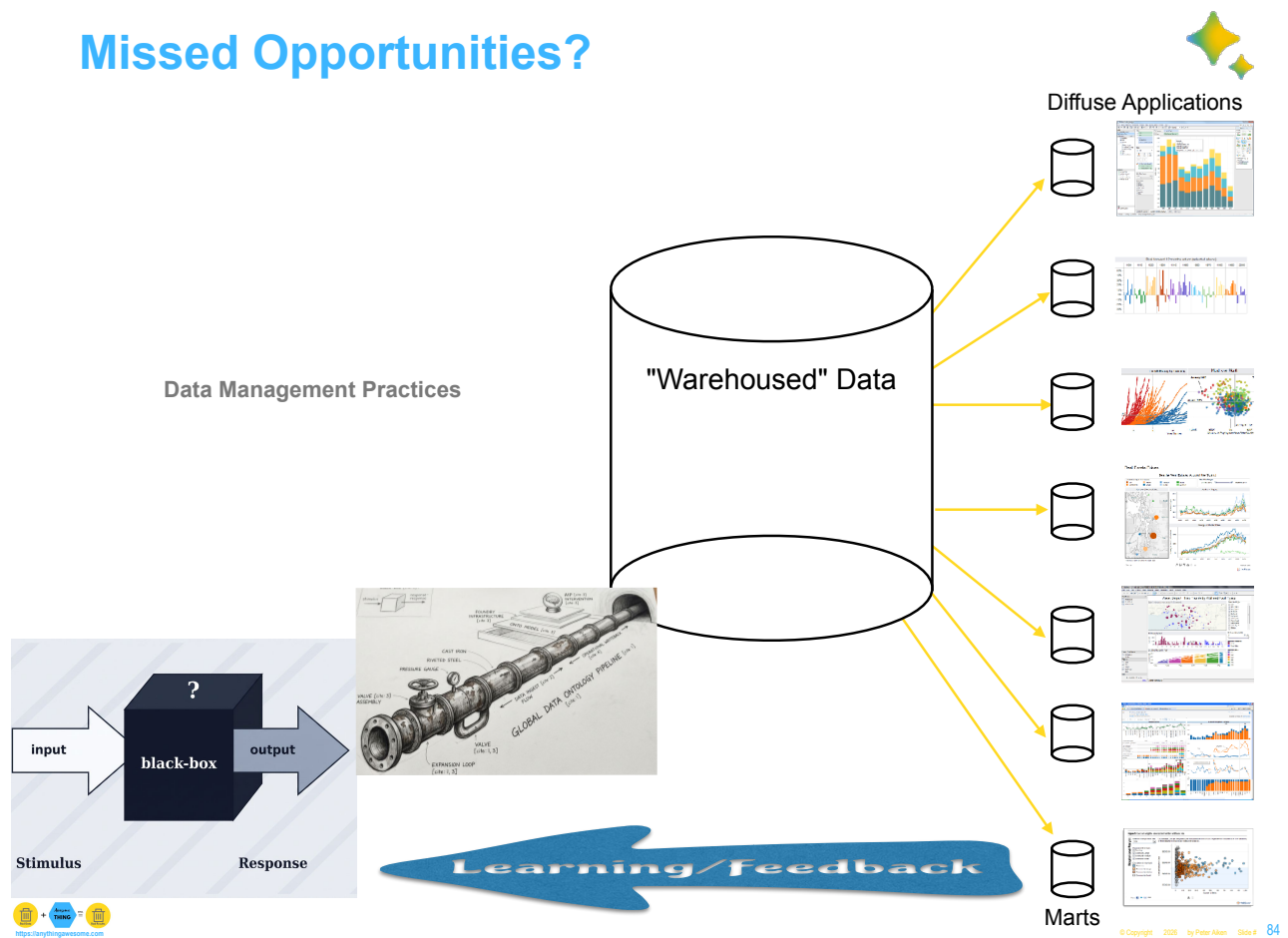
**Fueling
AI-powered
BI at Scale**



Missed Opportunities?



Missed Opportunities?

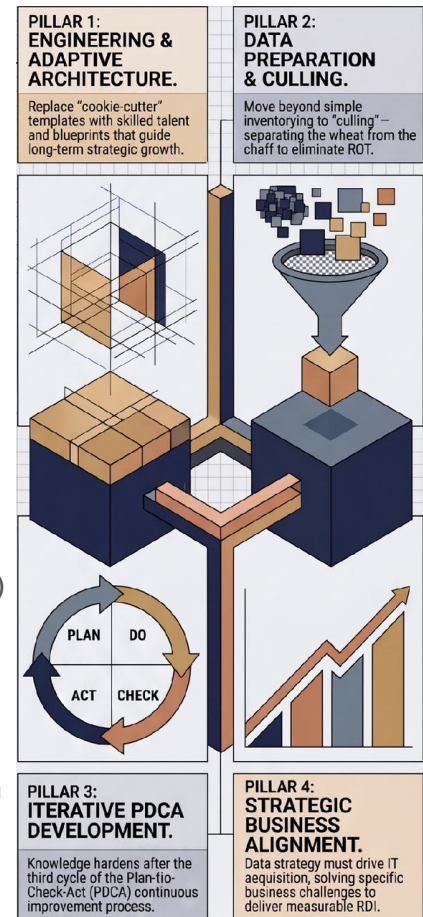


In Sum

- Engineering and Architecture
 - Effective data warehousing requires skilled engineering talent and a holistic, adaptive architectural approach, rather than a prescriptive, cookie-cutter method.
- Data Preparation and Quality
 - The absolute the need to separate "the wheat from the chaff," with a focus on eliminating redundant, obsolete, or trivial (ROT) data before it enters the warehouse.
- Iterative Development
 - Continuous improvement cycle (plan, do, check, act) iteratively refines the data warehouse capabilities in alignment with strategic business direction.
- Business Alignment
 - Stressing that data warehousing must be driven by business needs and a clear strategy, with a focus on using warehousing capabilities to solve specific business challenges rather than just building a large repository.

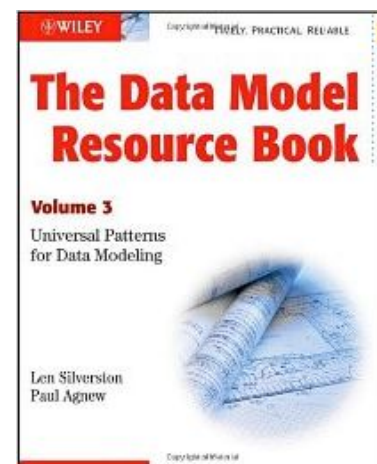
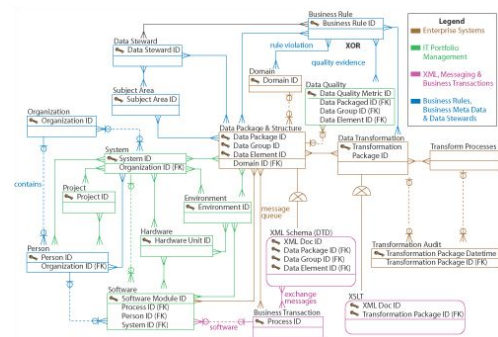
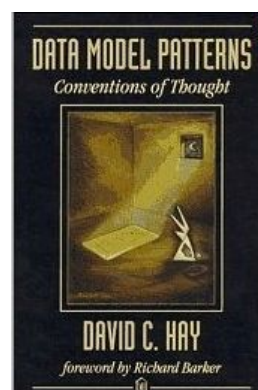
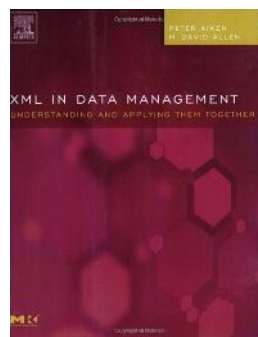
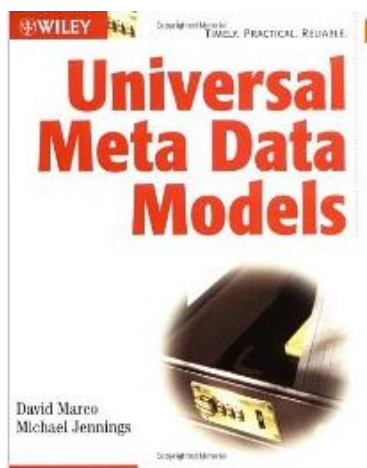


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Meta Data Models



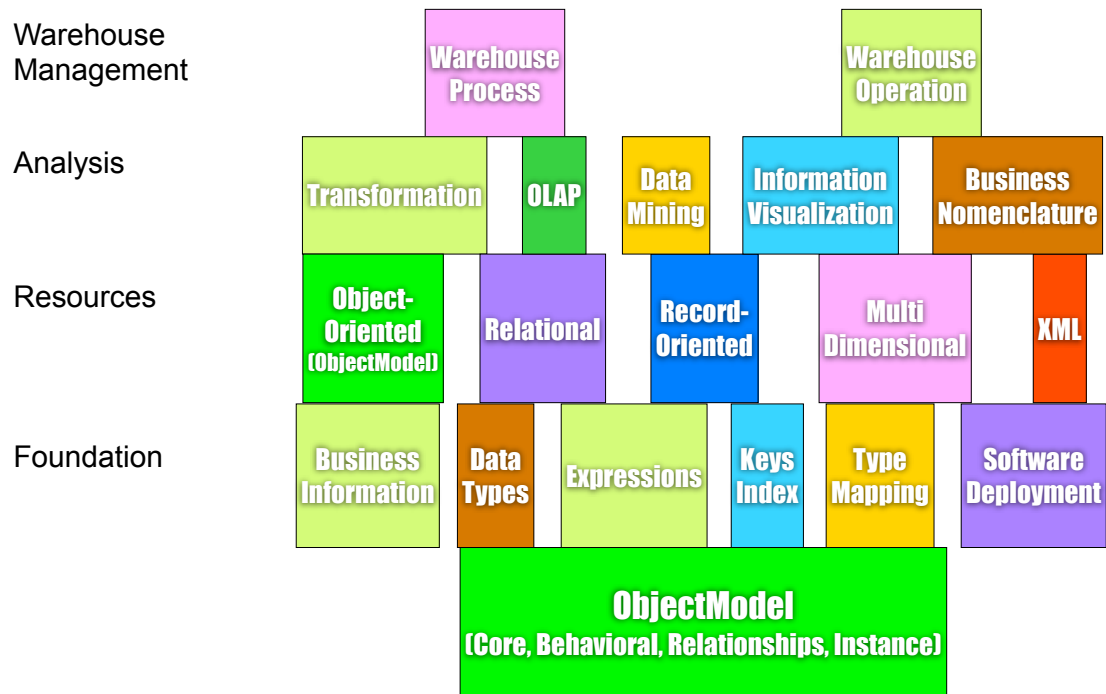
Source: http://dmreview.com/article_sub.cfm?articleID=1000941



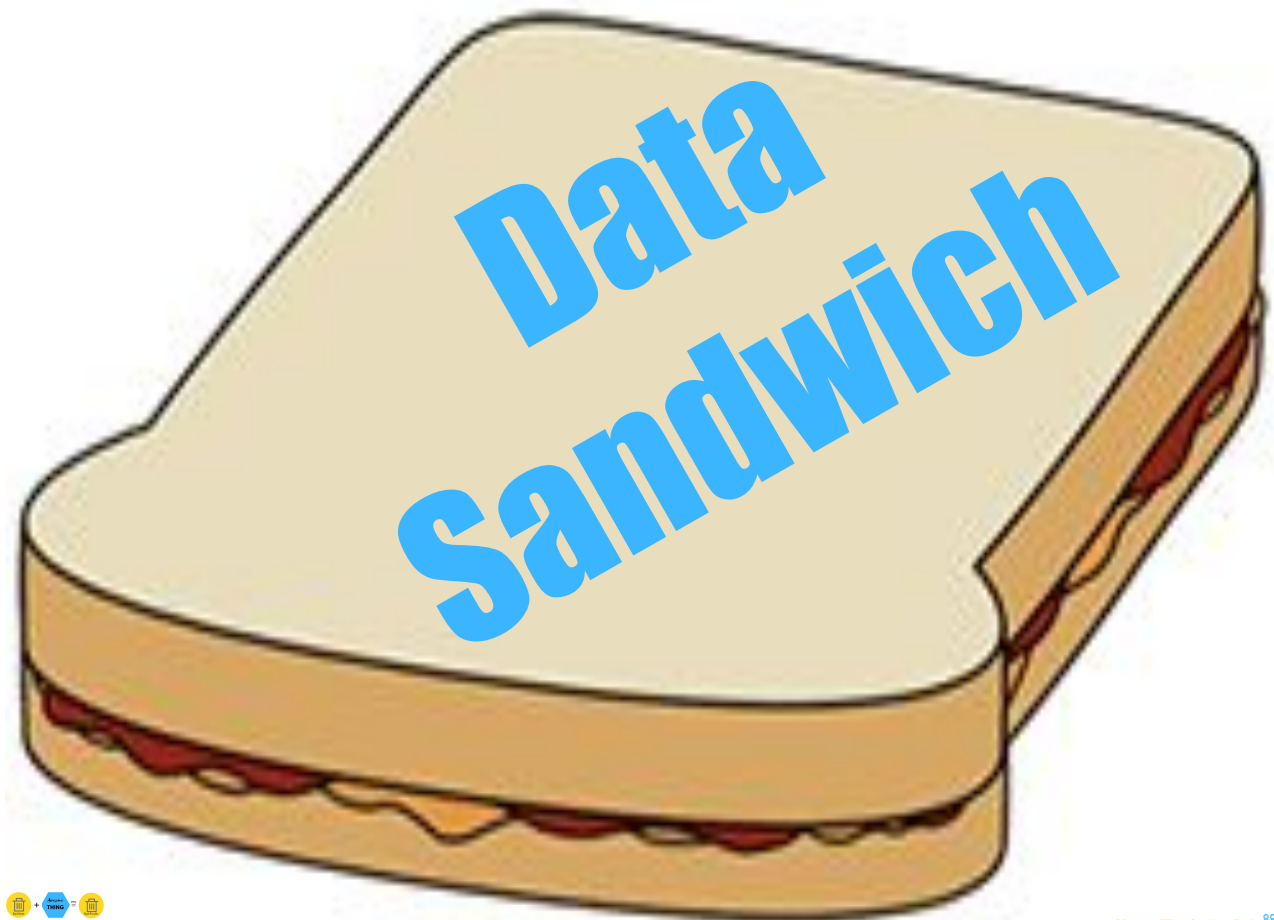
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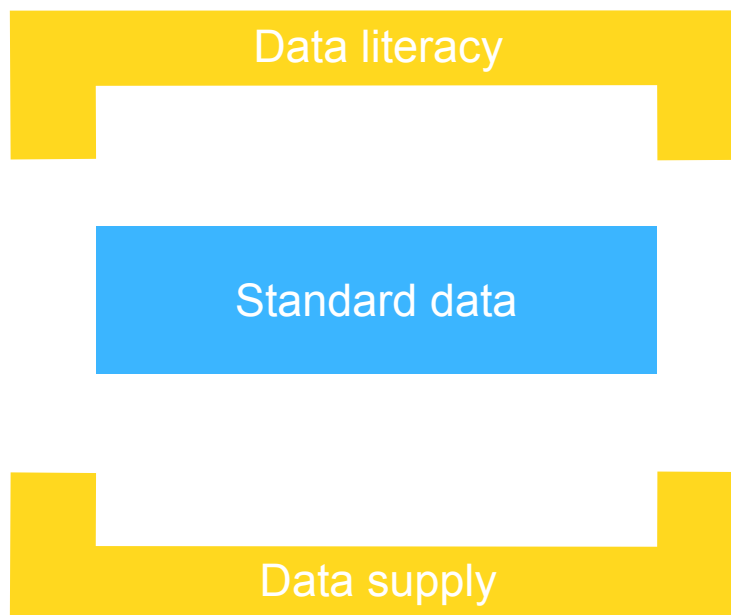
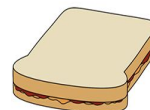
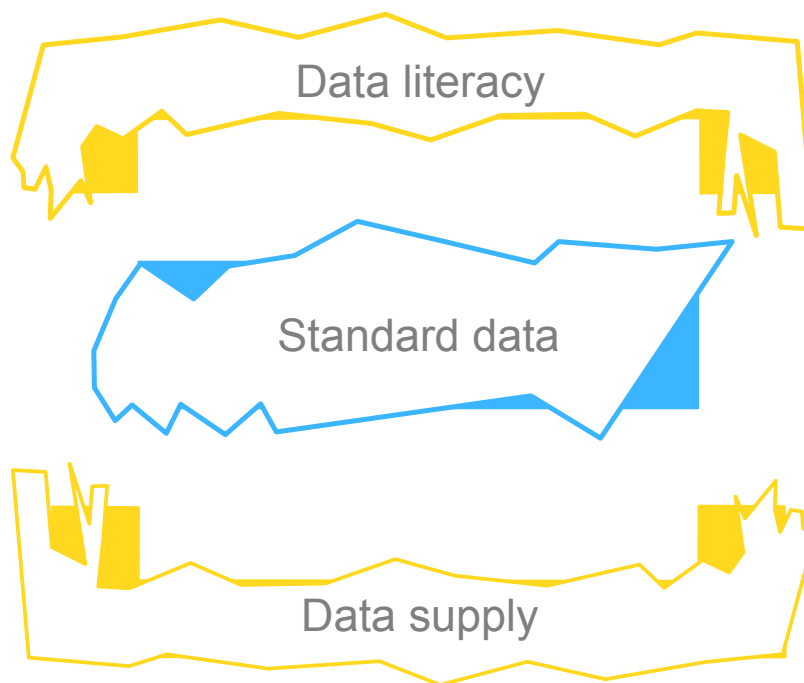
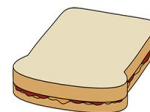
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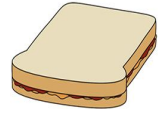
Overview of CWM Metamodel



http://www.omg.org/technology/documents/modeling_spec_catalog.htm





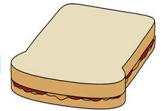


This cannot happen without investments in engineering and architecture!

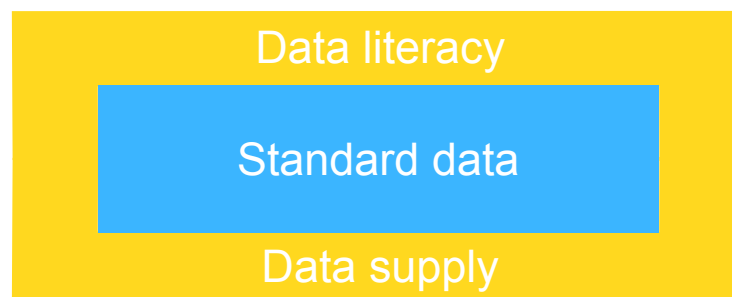


**Quality engineering/
architecture work products
do not happen accidentally!**

Leverage point - high performance automation



*This cannot happen without investments in **data** engineering and architecture!*



**These are necessary but
insufficient prerequisites to
successful AI augmentation**

Upcoming Events

Time: 19:00 UTC (2:00 PM NYC) | Presented by: Peter Aiken, PhD

Metadata Matters: Powering AI Data Discovery and Context

13 October 2026

Data Quality by Design: Ensuring Reliable Inputs for AI Systems

10 November 2026

Data Governance/Stewardship in Action: Governing AI's Data for Long-Term Value

8 December 2026

PUT THESE
ON YOUR
CALENDAR



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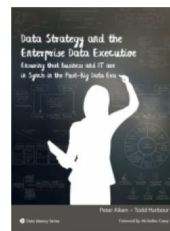


Note: In this .pdf, clicking any webinar title opens the registration link

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Event Pricing on Peter's Books

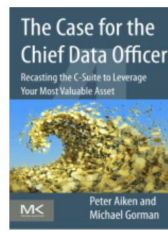
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Data Strategy and the Enterprise Data Executive

Ensuring that Business and IT are in Synchrony in the Post-Big Data Era

Learn More of Data Strategy



The Case for the Chief Data Officer

Recasting the C-Suite to Leverage Your Most Valuable Asset

(The Chinese Translation Title is: Chief Data Officer Combat)

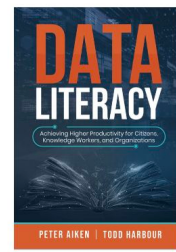
Learn More of the Case for Data Leadership



Monetizing Data Management

17 Case Studies Illustrating How Data Leveraging (Big and Small) Can Produce Quantifiable Results That Are of Keen Interest to C-Suite Occupants

Learn More of Monetizing Data



Data Literacy: Achieving Higher Productivity for Citizens, Knowledge Workers, and Organizations

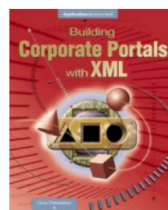
Citizens and organizations need to improve their data literacy to 'do more with data'

Learn More of Data Literacy



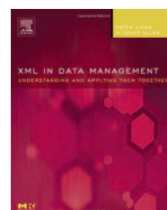
Data Reverse Engineering

Learn More of Data Reverse Engineering



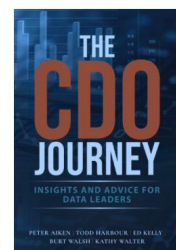
Building Corporate Portals with XML

Learn More of Corporate Portals (& XML)



XML in Data Management

Learn More of XML and Data Management

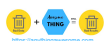


The CDO Journey: Insights and Advice for Data Leaders

Learn More of the CDO Journey

anythingawesomes

Apply coupon



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Critical Design Review?



Reverse Engineering Expertise?

Executive Data Literacy Training?

Collaboration?



+



=



Independent Verification & Validation

Peter.Aiken@AnythingAwesome.com +1.804.382.5957

Hiring Assistance?

Thank You!

Use your data more strategically?

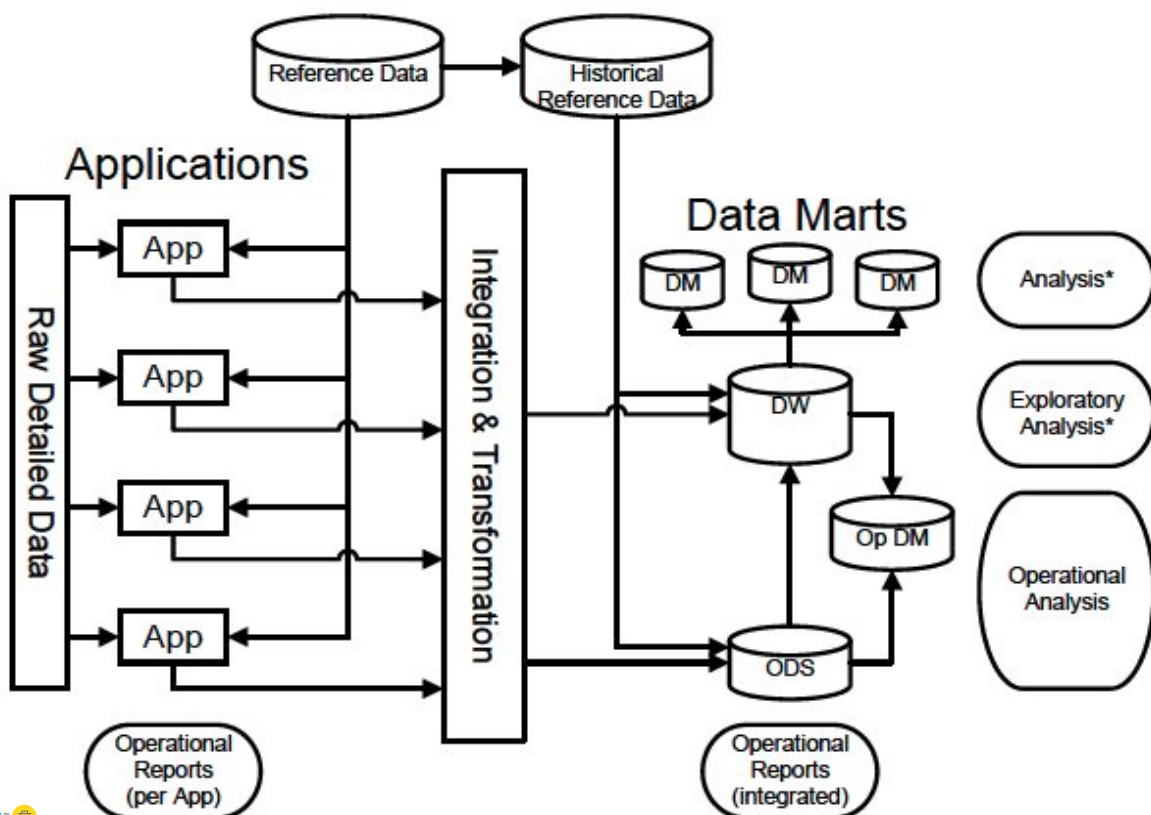
Tool/automation evaluation?

Book a call with Peter to discuss anything - <https://anythingawesome.com/OfficeHours.html>



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Corporate Information Factory Architecture



Corporate Information Factory Architecture

Raw Detailed data	Operational / Transactional Application data of the enterprise. The raw detailed data provides the source data to be integrated into the Operational Data Store (ODS) and DW components. They can also be in database or other storage or file format.
Integration and Transformation	This layer of the architecture is where the un-integrated data from the various application sources stores is combined / integrated and transformed into the corporate representation in the DW.
Reference Data	Reference data was a precursor to what is currently referred to as Master Data Management. The purpose was to allow common storage and access for important and frequently used common data. Focus and shared understanding on data upstream of the Data Warehouse simplifies the integration task in the DW.
Historical Reference Data	When current valued reference data is necessary for transactional applications, and at the same time it is critical to have accurate integration and presentation of historical data, it is necessary to capture the reference data that was in place at any point in time. For more discussion on reference data, see Chapter 8 Master and Reference Data Management.

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Corporate Information Factory Architecture

Operational Data Store (ODS)	The focus of data integration is meeting operating and classically operational reporting needs that require data from multiple operational systems. The main distinguishing data characteristics of an ODS compared to a DW include current-valued vs. DW historical data and volatile vs. DW non-volatile data. Note: ODS is an optional portion of the overall CIF architecture, dependent upon specific operational needs, and acknowledged as a component that many businesses omit.
Operational Data Mart (Oper-Mart)	A data mart focuses on tactical decision support. Distinguishing characteristics include current-valued vs. DW historical data, tactical vs. DW strategic analysis, and sourcing of data from an ODS rather than just the DW. The Oper-Mart was a later addition to the CIF architecture.
Data Warehouse (DW)	The DW is a large, comprehensive corporate resource, whose primary purpose is to provide a single integration point for corporate data in order to serve management decision, and strategic analysis and planning. The data flows into a DW from the application systems and ODS, and flows out to the data marts, usually in one direction only. Data that needs correction is rejected, corrected at its source, and re-fed through the system.
Data Marts (DM)	The purpose of the data marts is to provide for DSS / information processing and access that is customized and tailored for the needs of a particular department or common analytic need.



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Corporate Information Factory Architecture

Applications	Isolated Operational Reports	Limited to data within one application instance
ODS	Integrated Operational Reports	Reports requiring data from multiple source systems. Typically, they have more operational than analytical orientation, with little historical data.
DW	Exploratory Analysis	The complete set of corporate data allows for discovery of new relationships and information. Many BI data mining tools work with flat-file extracts from the DW, which can also offload the processing burden from the DW.
Oper-Mart	Tactical Analytics	Analytic reporting based on current-values with a tactical focus. Dimensional data modeling techniques employed.
Data Mart	Analytics – classical management decision support, and Strategic Analytics	Inmon's early focus was on "departmental analysis", which was experientially true for real-world organizational issues, such as political and funding expediency. Later work expanded concepts to common-analytic needs crossing departmental boundaries.


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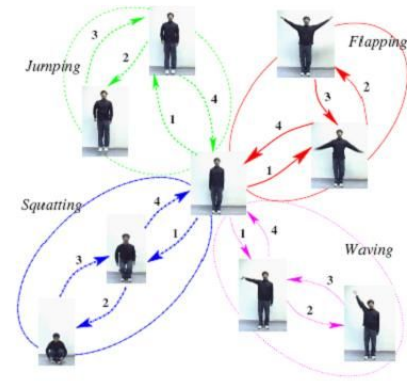
Goals and Principles

1. To support and enable effective business analysis and decision making by knowledgeable workers
2. To build and maintain the environment/infrastructure to support business intelligence activities, specifically leveraging all the other data management functions to cost effectively deliver consistent integrated data for all BI activities


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Activities

- Understand BI information needs
- Define and maintain the DW/BI architecture
- Process data for BI
- Implement data warehouse/data marts
- Implement BI tools and user interfaces
- Monitor and tune DW processes
- Monitor and tune BI activities and performance



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Primary Deliverables

- DW/BI Architecture
- Data warehouses, marts, cubes etc.
- Dashboards-scorecards
- Analytic applications
- Files extracts (for data mining, etc.)
- BI tools and user environments
- Data quality feedback mechanism/loop



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Roles and Responsibilities

• Suppliers

- Executives/managers
- Subject Matter Experts
- Data governance council
- Information consumers
- Data producers
- Data architects/analysts

• Participants

- Executives/managers
- Data Stewards
- Subject Matter Experts
- Data Architects
- Data Analysts

- Application Architects
- Data Governance Council
- Data Providers
- Other BI Professionals

• Consumers

- Application Users
- BI and Reporting Users
- Application Developers and Architects
- Data integration Developers and Architects
- BI Vendors and Architects
- Vendors, Customers and Partners



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Technology

- ETL
- Change Management Tools
- Data Modeling Tools
- Data Profiling Tools
- Data Cleansing Tools
- Data Integration Tools
- Reference Data Management Applications
- Master Data Management Applications
- Process Modeling Tools
- Meta-data Repositories
- Business Process and Rule Engines



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Guiding Principles

- Obtain executive commitment and support.
- Secure business SMEs.
- Be business focused and driven. Let the business drive the prioritization.
- Demonstrate data quality is essential.
- Provide incremental value.
- Transparency and self service.
- One size does not fit all: Find the right tools and products for each of your segments.
- Think and architect globally, act and build locally.
- Collaborate with and integrate all other data initiatives, especially those for data governance, data quality and metadata.
- Start with the end in mind.
- Summarize and optimize last, not first.



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More Analytical Applications

Typical Analytical Applications for Internal Processes

Activity-based costing (ABC). The first step in activity-based management is to allocate costs accurately to aspects of the business such as customers, processes, or distribution channels; models incorporating activities, materials, resources, and product-offering components then allow optimization based on cost and prediction of capacity needs.

Bayesian inference (e.g., to predict revenues). A numerical estimate of the degree of belief in a hypothesis before and after evidence has been observed.

Biosimulation (e.g., in pharmaceutical “in silico” research). Manipulation of biological parameters using mathematics and/or rule bases to model how cells or other living entities react to chemical or other interventions.

Combinatorial optimization (e.g., for optimizing a product portfolio). The efficient allocation of limited resources to yield the best solution to particular objectives when the values of some or all of the variables (e.g., a given number of people) must be integers (because people can't be split into fractions) and there are many possible combinations. Also called *integer programming*.



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More Analytical Applications (continued)

Constraint analysis (e.g., for product configuration). The use of one or more constraint satisfaction algorithms to specify the set of feasible solutions. Constraints are programmed in rules or procedures that produce solutions to particular configuration and design problems using one or more constraint satisfaction algorithms.

Experimental design (e.g., for Web site analysis). In the simplest type of experiment, participants are randomly assigned to two groups that are equivalent to each other. One group (the program or treatment group) gets the program and the other group (the comparison or control group) does not. If the program results in statistically significant differences in the outcome variable, it is assumed to have the hypothesized effect.

Future-value analysis. The decomposition of market capitalization into current value (extrapolation of existing monetary returns) and future value, or expectations of future growth.

Monte Carlo simulation (e.g., for R&D project valuation). A computerized technique used to assess the probability of certain outcomes or risks by mathematically modeling a hypothetical event over multiple trials and comparing the outcome with predefined probability distributions.



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More Analytical Applications (continued)

Multiple regression analysis (e.g., to determine how nonfinancial factors affect financial performance). A statistical technique whereby the influence of a set of independent variables on a single dependent variable is determined.

Neural network analysis (e.g., to predict the onset of disease). Systems modeled on the structure and operation of the brain, in which the state of the system is modified by training until it can discriminate between the classes of inputs; used on large databases. Typically, a neural network is initially “trained,” or fed large amounts of data and rules about data relationships—for example, “A grandfather is older than a person’s father.”

Textual analysis (e.g., to assess intangible capabilities). Analysis of the frequency, semantic relationships, and relative importance of particular terms, phrases, and documents in online text.

Yield analysis (e.g., in semiconductor manufacturing). Employing basic statistics (mean, median, standard deviation, etc.) to understand yield volume and quality, and to compare one batch of items with another—often displayed visually.