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# THE AI-DRIVEN UNIVERSITY: DREAM OR HALLUCINATION?

Amin Qazi, UC San Diego | Amass.co  
Session ID 84317

# About the Speaker

## Amin Qazi

- Enterprise Architect,  
UC San Diego
- Principal, Amass

# Key Outcomes/Objectives

1. Understand AI, and data and data warehousing roles in supporting AI
2. Show how capturing events in near-real time can manage risk
3. Where to embed AI, including data streams

# Agenda

- What is a university?
- UC San Diego's data warehouse & AI strategies
- Use cases that inform thinking, design, and implementation

# Summary

- AI is:
  - important and challenging
  - changing how you collect, store, and use data
  - critical
- UC San Diego has taken an aggressive approach to change our thinking, and adopt new processes to prepare for this change
- Accomplishing the same is possible, but may be hindered by strategy, leadership, and resources

# Universities are complex, multi-faceted ~~organizations~~ businesses.

- Finance
- HR
- Education
- Research
- Hospitality
- Medical
- Athletics
- Facilities
- Retail
- Logistics
- Investments

# They are also mired in outdated ways of thinking.

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# AI drives benefits across the organization.

Organizations implementing AI report the following benefits:



## Influencing Sales

3 in 4 increase sales of new products and services by more than 10%



## Boosting Operations

78% increase operational efficiency by more than 10%



## Engaging the Customer

75% enhance customer satisfaction by more than 10%



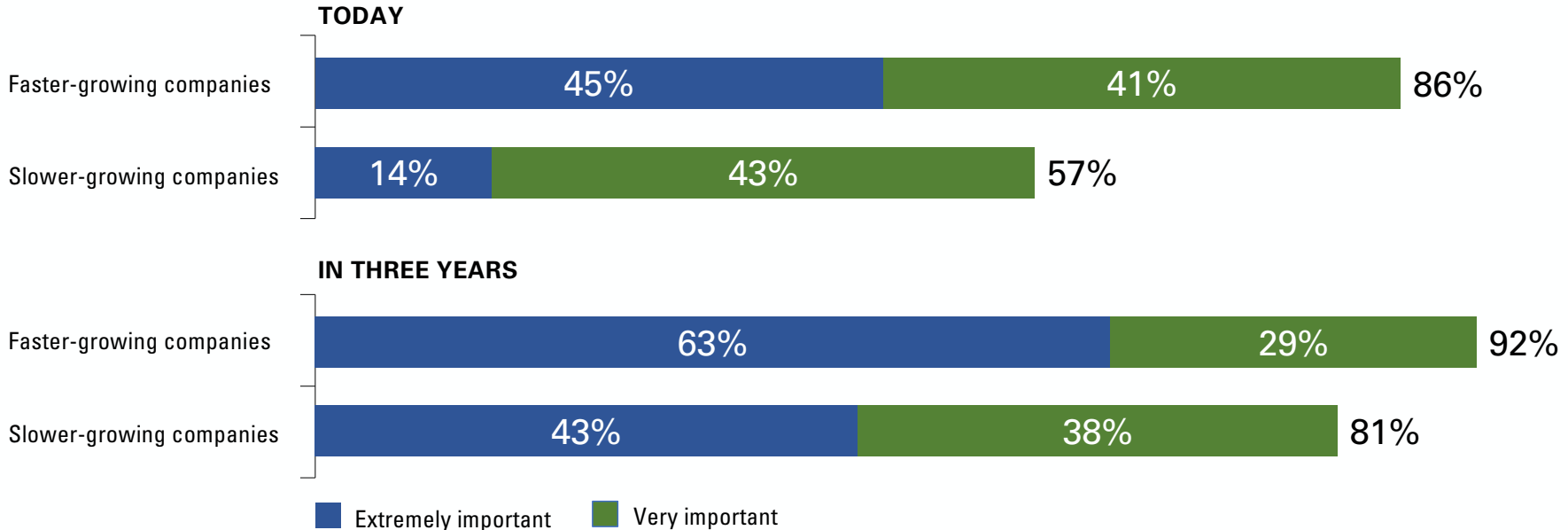
## Generating Insights

79% generate new insights and better analysis



# AI is already embraced by fast-growers\*.

Organizations' rating of the importance of AI today and in three years.



\* Fast-growing companies are defined as those whose revenue growth is "far above" industry average.  
n = 975 executives in Europe and the U.S.

# Can we get to the AI Promised Land?



# Can we get to the AI Promised Land?

## Spoiler

- Yes
- And no
- And maybe

# Can we get to the AI Promised Land?

## **Spoiler**

- Yes
- And no
- And maybe

## **Out of scope**

- Operations
- Talent management
- Regulations
- Ethics
- etc.

# What is AI?

**Artificial Intelligence** “the science of getting computers to act without being explicitly programmed” (Stanford University)

**Machine Learning** “ability to learn without being explicitly programmed” (Arthur Samuel)

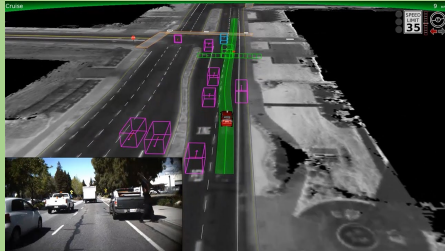
**Reinforcement Learning**

**Supervised Learning**

**Predictive Learning**

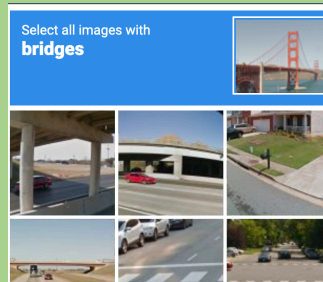
# What is AI?

## Reinforcement Learning



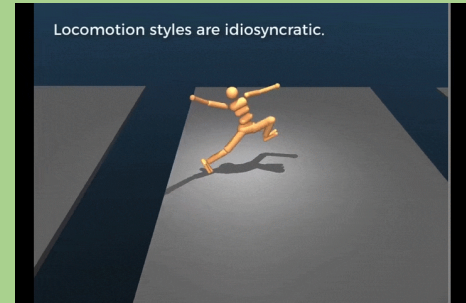
Control  
(no target variable)

## Supervised Learning



Classification  
(categorical target variable)

## Predictive Learning



Control  
(categorical target variable)

## Where was AI in 2016?



*"it makes suggestions that no human would ever make, like adding milk chocolate to a clam linguine or mayonnaise to a Bloody Mary."*

### Hoof-n-Honey Ale (by IBM Watson)

- 4 oz. India pale ale
- 1 oz. veal stock
- 2 slices peach
- 4 oz. Burgundy wine
- 1 egg white
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1 piece grilled beef
- Honey
- Warm water

# Where is AI today?

warehouses



aws

capacity planning

visual assessment





# What is AI?



*Doing the same things, better*

*Doing something radically different*

## Leaner, faster operations

- Using automation to improve the efficiency of business-as-usual processes
- Reducing the cost of simple, routine processes, while maintaining or improving quality of experience

## Tailored products and advice

- Personalizing interactions to more closely meet the unique needs of customers
- Providing convenient, high-quality service, while maintaining scalability

## Ubiquitous presence

- Making products and services available to customers in their preferred format and channel
- Expanding the reach of institutions' channels and offerings geographically and across customer segments

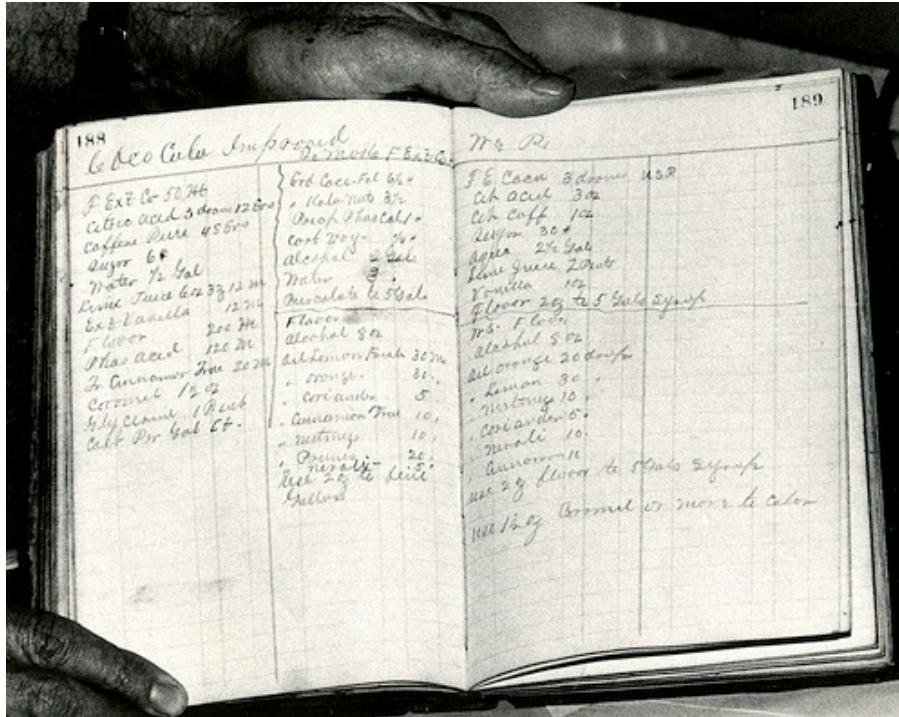
## Smarter decision-making

- Using advanced data science to optimize business outcomes (e.g., higher retention rates)
- Integrating large volumes of data to derive better insights across the university (e.g. better space management)

## New value propositions

- Differentiating offerings through new operating models and ways of working
- Building brand new pedagogies, products, services and business models that use AI at the core

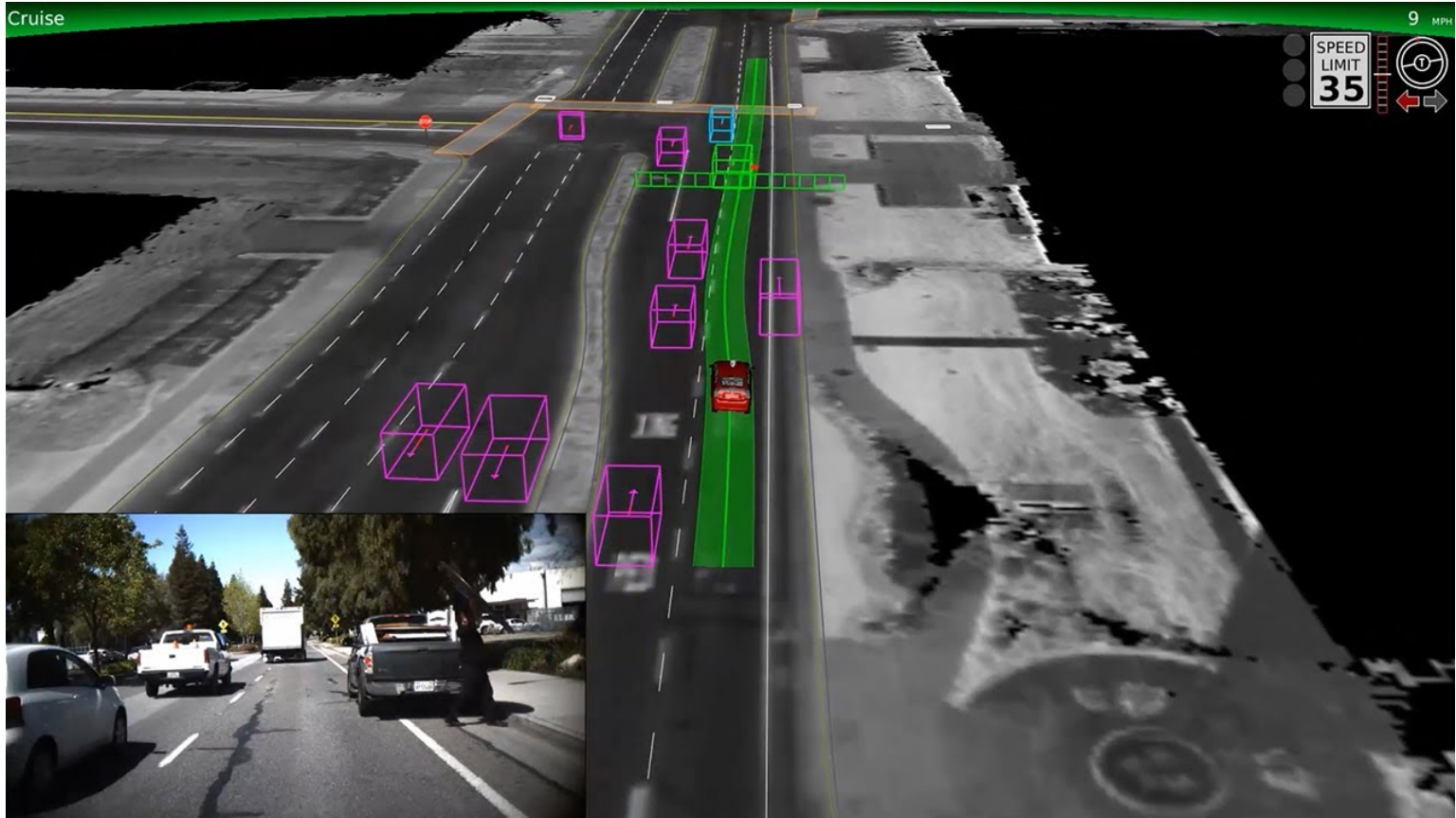
# Data are priceless.



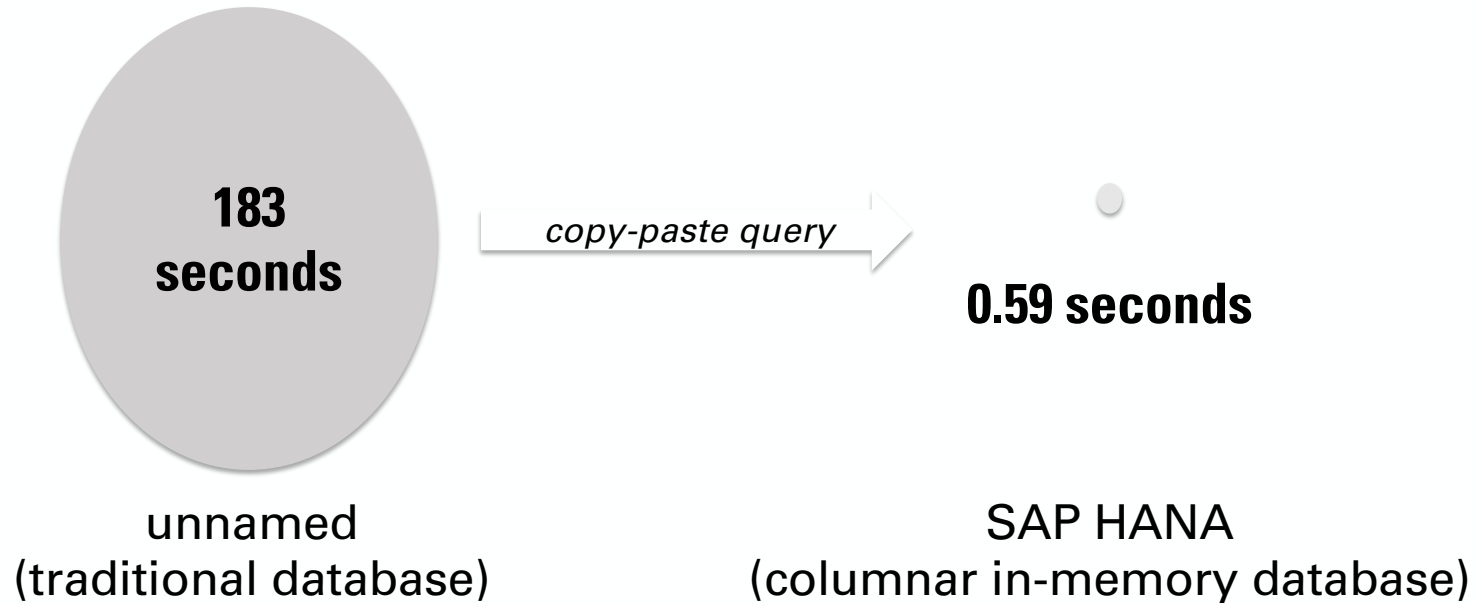
# Data collection is changing.

Not more of  
the same.

Different.



# Technology affects the realm of possibilities.



Data are different.

Data are different.

Data management needs to  
be different.

Data processing will be  
different.



Again, not more of the same.

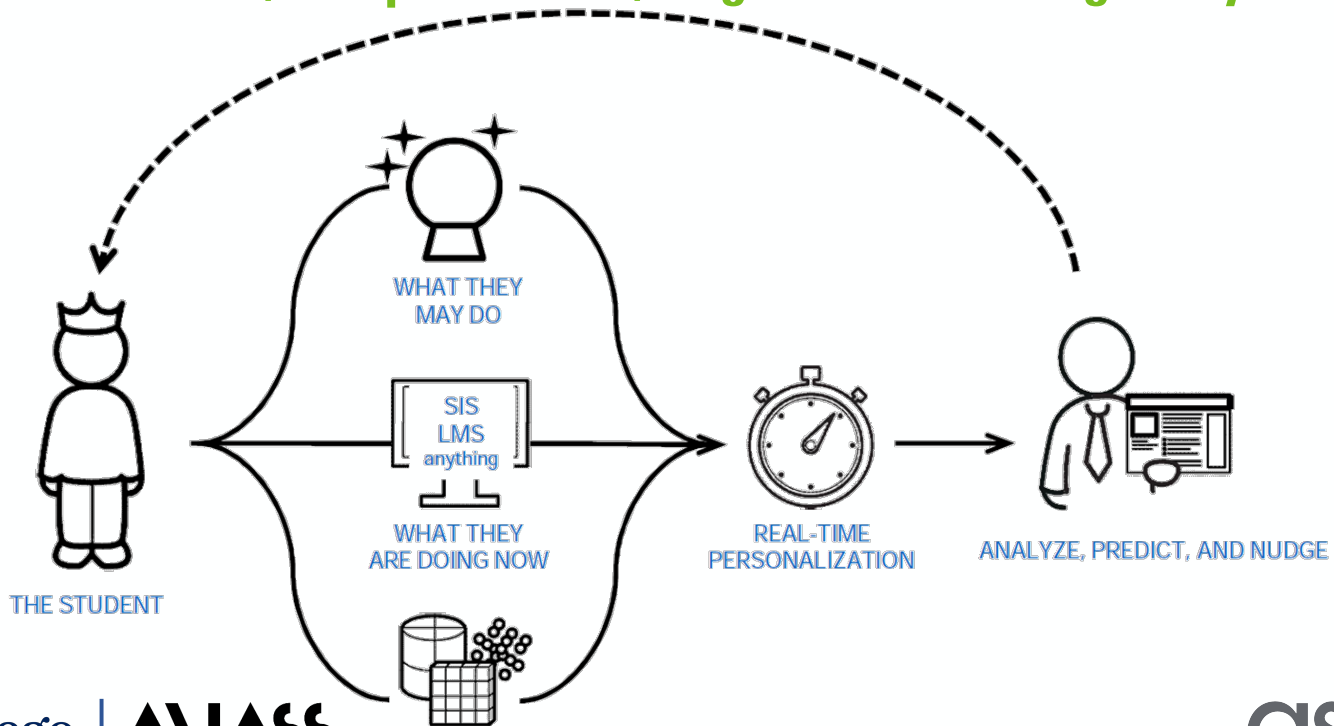
# New reference architecture for data to support AI.

# Design Principles

- 1. Everything is a verb**
  - All data are loaded into a very long, very wide, insert-only activity table. Relevant changes/deletions are new rows. Idempotency
  - Streaming is the new dominant way to move data in/out
- 2. Express maximum semantic complexity**
  - All data (attributes, rows) are added ahead of actual use
  - No aggregates. All data is stored in and processed at its lowest level of granularity
- 3. Curated views**
  - No dimensional modeling. No joins! Curated views present a long list of attributes for analysts to choose from
  - Curated views are designed for specific analysis needs (vignettes)
- 4. Speed and ease is of the essence**
  - Sub-second analyst click response. Real-time data where needed
  - Curated views must make it very easy for analysts to manipulate
  - Push logic (set and Boolean) to the back-end, free the front end for visualization
- 5. Redundancy and data explosion are good**
  - No need to conserve space. Curated views can be overlapping and duplicative
  - A hierarchy of reusable SQL code results in an OO-like, highly reusable environment
- 6. Democratize it**
  - Make it easier to understand, consume and use
  - Enable the community to share, encourage bottom-up data analysis and use

## Student analytics scope

1. Give analysts access to anonymized views
2. Enable real-time, personalized mobile messaging, alerting, etc.
3. Allow for rich, comprehensive, large scale learning analytics



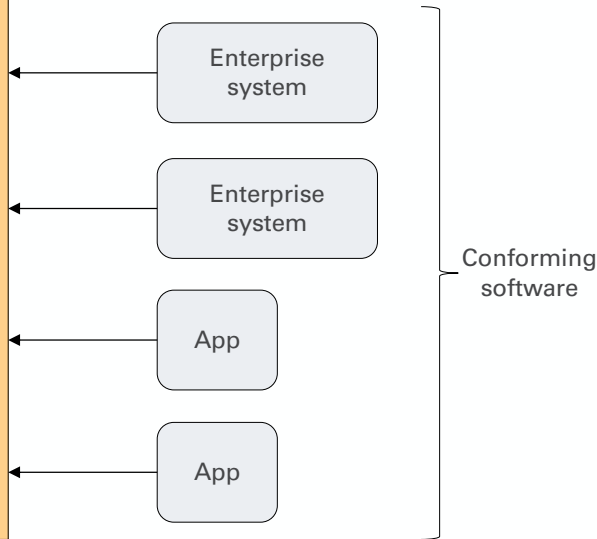
# UC San Diego's next generation data warehouse uses

Employee Activity Hub		Project Activity Hub		Research Activity Hub			
<u>Sources</u>	<u>Uses</u>	<u>Sources</u>	<u>Uses</u>	<u>Sources</u>		<u>Uses</u>	
PPS UCPath Hire Online JD Online UC Learning Kuali Protocols Employee LMS CITI Performance Management	Positions Pay Training Performance Engagement	Jira Confluence ServiceNow	IT project analysis Portfolio analysis Resource allocations	Interfolio PPS Kuali	Role/affiliates system Research scholar appointment Oracle Finance / PPM	Faculty appointment and roles Sponsored project financial analysis Research compliance analysis Research portfolio analysis	
<b>Common Tables</b>  People / Identity Organization Facilities Common Activities Hierarchies  <b>Common Tools</b>  Tableau / Cognos SPSS / R API Access Mobile Messaging  <b>Embedded Platform Tools</b>  Statistical & Predictive Machine Learning Graphing Algorithms Spatial Analysis Text Mining R				<b>Facilities Activity Hub</b>  <u>Sources</u> <u>Uses</u>  Tririga      Classroom utilization CAMS      Building utilization Walk-time IDC Analysis Maintenance Planning Event		<b>Financial Activity Hub</b>  <u>Sources</u> <u>Uses</u>  ESR Finance      Activity pattern analysis ESR Budget      Ad-hoc analysis ESR Student      Multi-fund analysis Tuition revenue modeling Budgeting and forecasting	
				<b>Student Activity Hub</b>  <u>Sources</u> <u>Uses</u>  SIS      Enrollment LMS      Demographics VAC      Majors/minors Redrock      Statistics per term, Student Event      progression Management      Retention, graduate rate, DARS      time to degree ProSam      Learning analytics Slate      Student engagement Co-curricular      Applicants/Applications record      Test scores Extension/MOOC      Scholarships Non-matriculated progress/success		<b>Advancement &amp; Alumni Activity Hub</b>  <u>Sources</u> <u>Uses</u>  BlackBaud      Constituent analysis Alumni      Financial analysis iModules      Campaign analysis	

# Streaming, message-based ingestion: incremental, scalable, burststable

Employee Activity Hub		Project Activity Hub		Research Activity	
Sources	Uses	Sources	Uses	Sources	Uses
PPS UCPath Hire Online JD Online UC Learning Kuali Protocols Employee LMS CITI Performance Management	Positions Pay Training Performance Engagement	Jira Confluence ServiceNow	IT project analysis Portfolio analysis Resource allocations	Interfolio PPS Kuali	Role/affiliates system Research scholar appointment Oracle Finance / PPM Faculty appointment and roles Sponsored project financial analysis Research compliance analysis Research portfolio analysis
<b>Common Tables</b>					
People / Identity Organization Facilities Common Activities Hierarchies					
<b>Common Tools</b>					
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<b>Embedded Platform Tools</b>					
Statistical & Predictive Machine Learning Graphing Algorithms Spatial Analysis Text Mining R					
Student Activity Hub		Facilities Activity		Financial Activity	
Sources	Uses	Sources	Uses	Sources	Uses
SIS LMS VAC Redrock Student Event Management DARS ProSam Slate Co-curricular record Extension/MOOC	Enrollment Demographics Majors/minors Statistics per term, progression to degree Retention, graduate rate, time to degree Learning analytics Student engagement Applicants/Applications Test scores Scholarships Non-matriculated progress/success	Tringa CAMS	Classroom utilization Building utilization Walk-time IDC Analysis Maintenance Planning Event	ESR Finance ESR Budget ESR Student	Activity pattern analysis Ad-hoc analysis Multi-fund analysis Tuition revenue modeling Budgeting and forecasting
Advancement & Alumni Activity		Workflow Activity Hub			
Sources	Uses	Sources	Uses		
BlackBaud Alumni iModules	Constituent analysis Financial analysis Campaign analysis	ServiceNow Finance Student Kuali Research Kuali Build Identity System	LSS Analysis Bottleneck analysis Provisioning analysis Workflow analysis		

Real-time, streaming analytics connection point

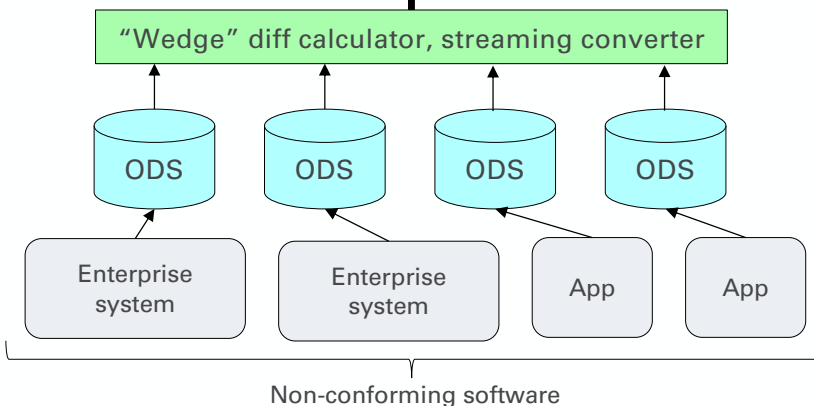


Activity hubs ingest data via a streaming message service. Curated views and activity tables should employ “duplicate safe” rendering methods, allowing for idempotent messages. This relaxes data consistency significantly, easing the integration complexity.

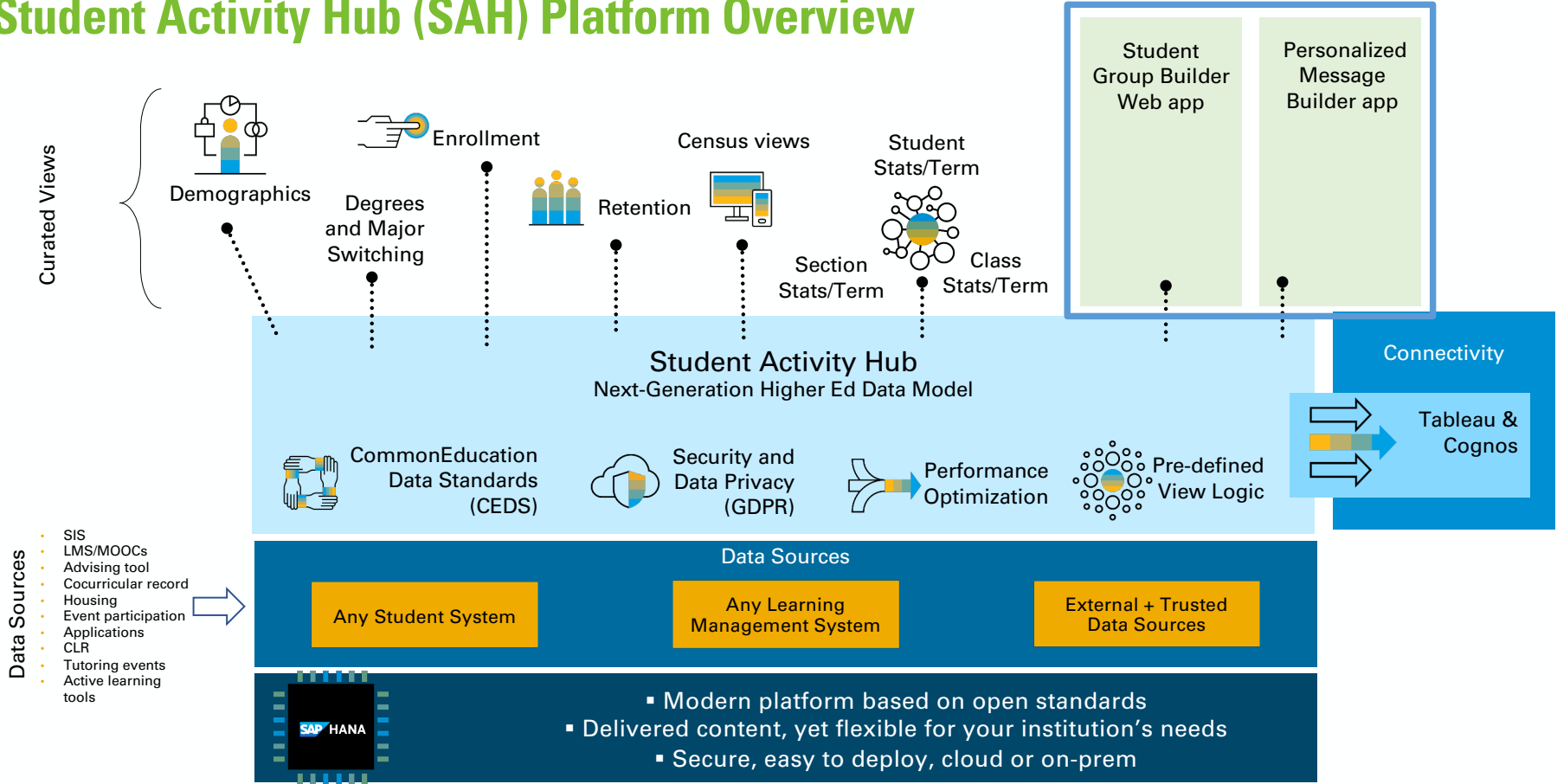
The streaming analytics connection point allows for directly connecting the streaming ingestion engine with a real-time streaming analytics machine learning platform to process inbound messages

Conforming software meets the streaming message-based ingestion method and submit directly to the activity hub message layer.

Non-conforming software needs a “wedge” integration point that helps calculate differences in snapshots to determine incremental adds, updates and deletes. The ODS and other tools for this wedge can exist in any platform(s), including HANA. The principle define choice is long-term cost and performance needs.



# Student Activity Hub (SAH) Platform Overview



**Source systems/devices**

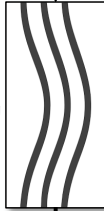
- a. Emit from point of entry, full incremental or
- b. Simulate incremental from DB



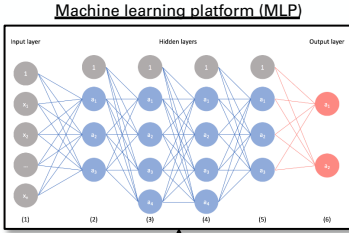
Stream in ->

**iPaaS**

- a. Simple, parallel streams
- b. Minimal hops, steps, merging
- c. Save transformation for CVs
- d. Easily restartable
- e. Save extra data in a bag

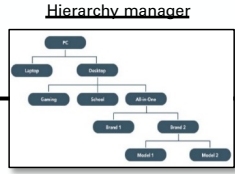


Stream in ->



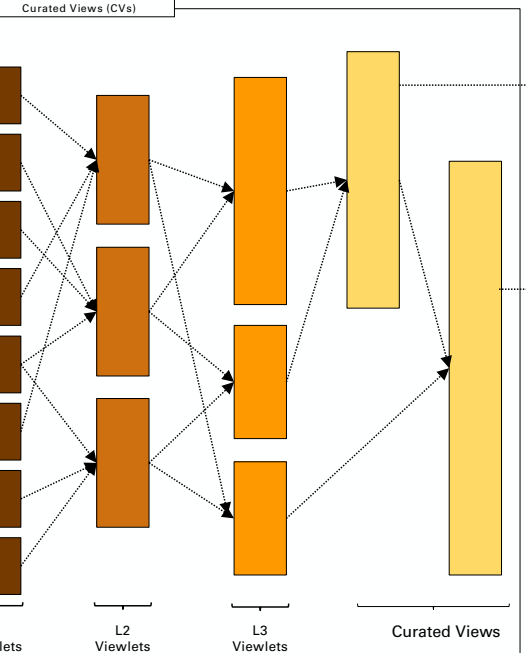
-> Model development ->

-< Hierarchy slot ID + [attributes]



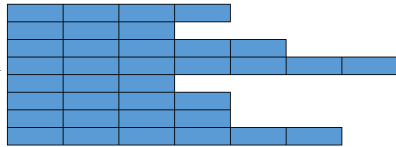
Hierarchy slot attributes ->

-< Message out



**Curated views (CVs)**

- 1. Built off of activity records only
- 2. No base tables
- 3. CVs are built on top of viewlets
- 4. CVs can also be built on top of other CVs
- 5. Viewlet reuse should be high
- 6. Reuse should be at the highest level
- 7. CVs eliminate the need for user to do joins
- 8. CVs are normally materialized
- 9. Viewlets can also be materialized
- 10. CVs handle duplicate activities (idempotency)



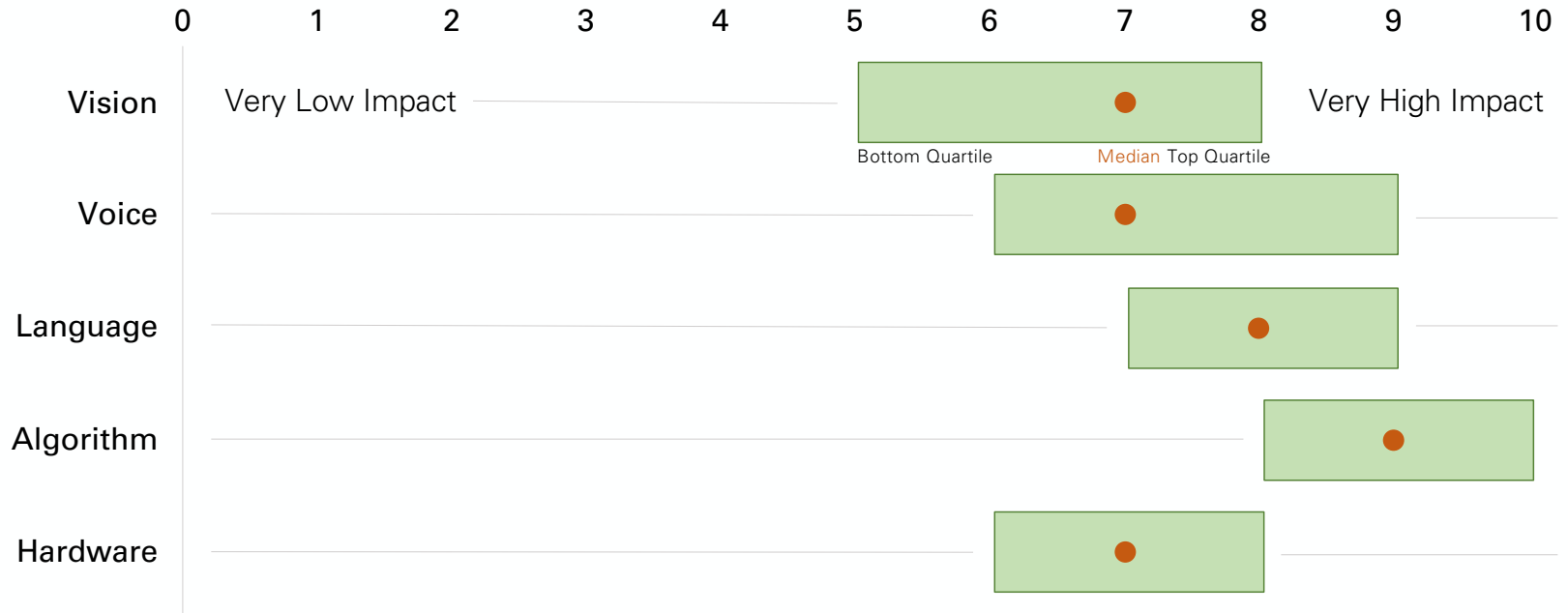
**Activity table (pile file)**

- 1. Records have different length
- 2. Record have different fields
- 3. Records are added in the order they arrive
- 4. Adds, updates, deletes are different records
- 5. Records are from idempotent stream and can have duplicates
- 6. Records have unique identifiers for resolving duplicates
- 7. An activity table is a replayable log

# Activity Hub architecture

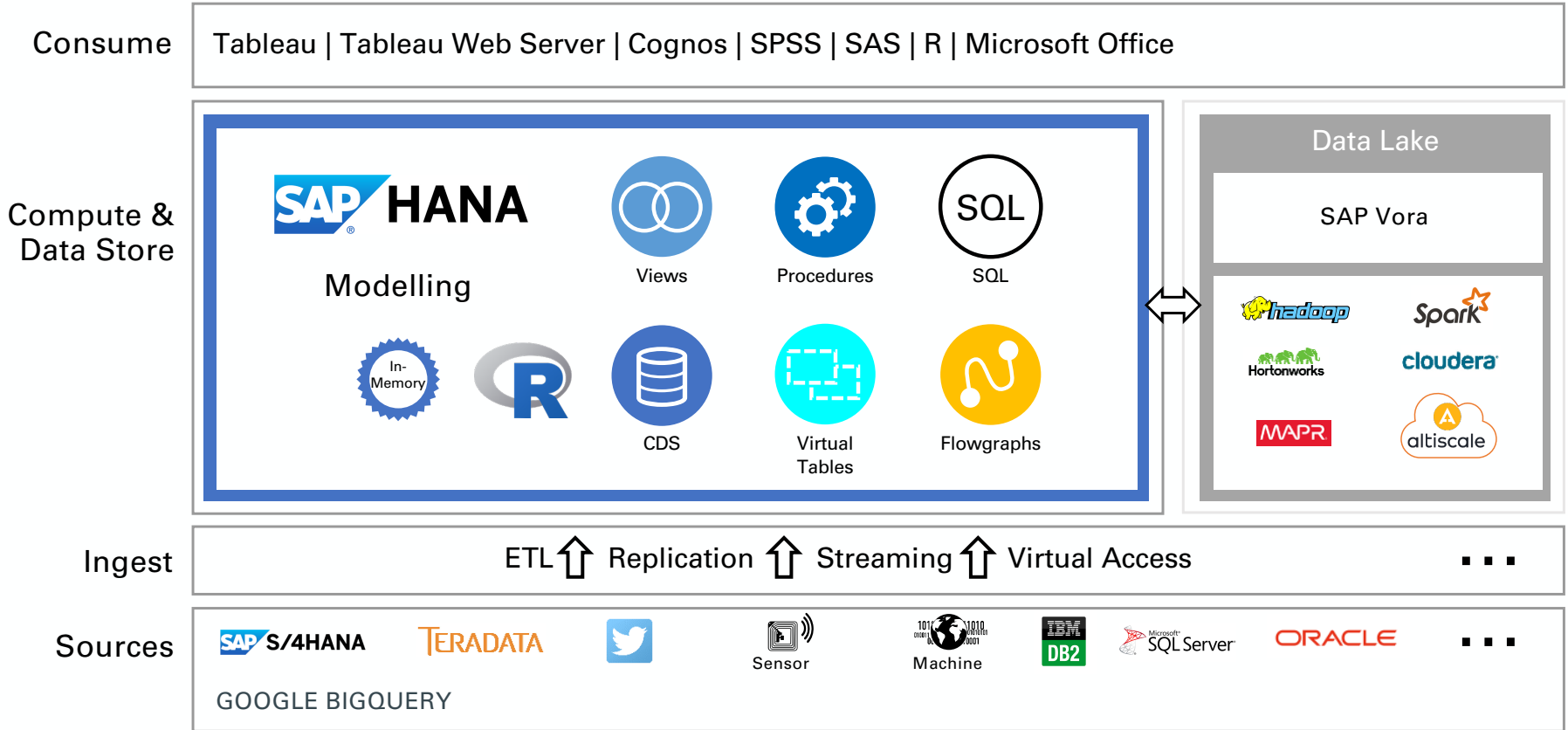


# There are very high potential and impact from algorithms; hardware and vision, less so.



# SAP HANA

## Data Ingestion and Analytics modelling overview



# Platform predictive capabilities

## Classification Analysis

- CART
- C4.5 Decision Tree Analysis
- CHAID Decision Tree Analysis
- K Nearest Neighbour
- Logistic Regression Elastic Net
- Back-Propagation (Neural Network)
- Naïve Bayes
- Support Vector Machine
- Random Forests
- Gradient Boosting Decision Tree
- Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA)
- Confusion Matrix
- Area Under Curve (AUC)
- Parameter Selection/Model Evaluation

## Regression

- Multiple Linear Regression Elastic Net
- Polynomial, Exponential, Bi-Variate Geometric, Bi-Variate Logarithmic Regression
- Generalized Linear Model
- Cox Proportional Hazards Model

## Cluster Analysis

- ABC Classification
- DBSCAN
- K-Means/Accelerated K-Means
- K-Medoid Clustering
- K-Medians
- Kohonen Self-Organized Maps
- Agglomerate Hierarchical
- Affinity Propagation
- Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)
- Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM)
- Cluster Assignment

## Time Series Analysis

- Single/Double/Brown/Triple Exponential Smoothing
- Forecast Smoothing
- Auto – ARIMA/ Seasonal ARIMA
- Croston Method
- Forecast Accuracy Measure
- Linear Regression with Damped Trend and Seasonal Adjustment
- Test for White Noise, Trend, Seasonality
- Fast Fourier Transform (FFT)
- Correlation Function

## Association Analysis

- Apriori
- Apriori Lite
- FP-Growth
- KORD – Top K Rule Discovery
- Sequential Pattern Mining

## Probability Distribution

- Distribution Fit/Weibull analysis
- Cumulative Distribution Function
- Quantile Function
- Kaplan-Meier Survival Analysis

## Outlier Detection

- Inter-Quartile Range Test (Tukey's)
- Variance Test
- Anomaly Detection
- Grubbs Outlier Test

## Recommender

- Factorized Polynomial Regression Models

## Link Prediction

- Common Neighbors
- Jaccard's Coefficient
- Adamic/Adar
- Katzβ

## Statistical Functions

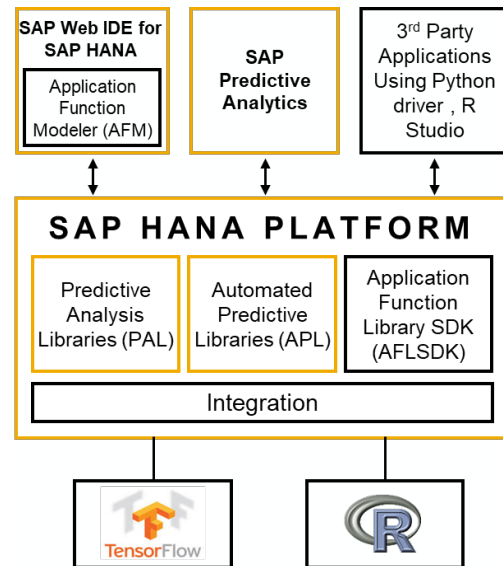
- Mean, Median, Variance, Standard Deviation, Kurtosis, Skewness
- Covariance Matrix
- Pearson Correlations Matrix
- Chi-squared Tests:
  - Test of Quality of Fit
  - Test of Independence
- F-test (variance equal test)
- Data Summary
- ANOVA
- One-sample Median Test
- T Test
- Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test

## Data Preparation

- Sampling
- Binning
- Scaling
- Partitioning
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)/ PCA Projection

## Other

- Weighted Scores Table
- Substitute Missing Values



- 90+ prepackaged machine learning/predictive algorithms
- Supports association, clustering, classification, regression, time series, ...
- Supports different types of data – structured, streaming and series data
- Real-time scoring for several algorithms
- Integrated with open source machine learning libraries – TensorFlow and R

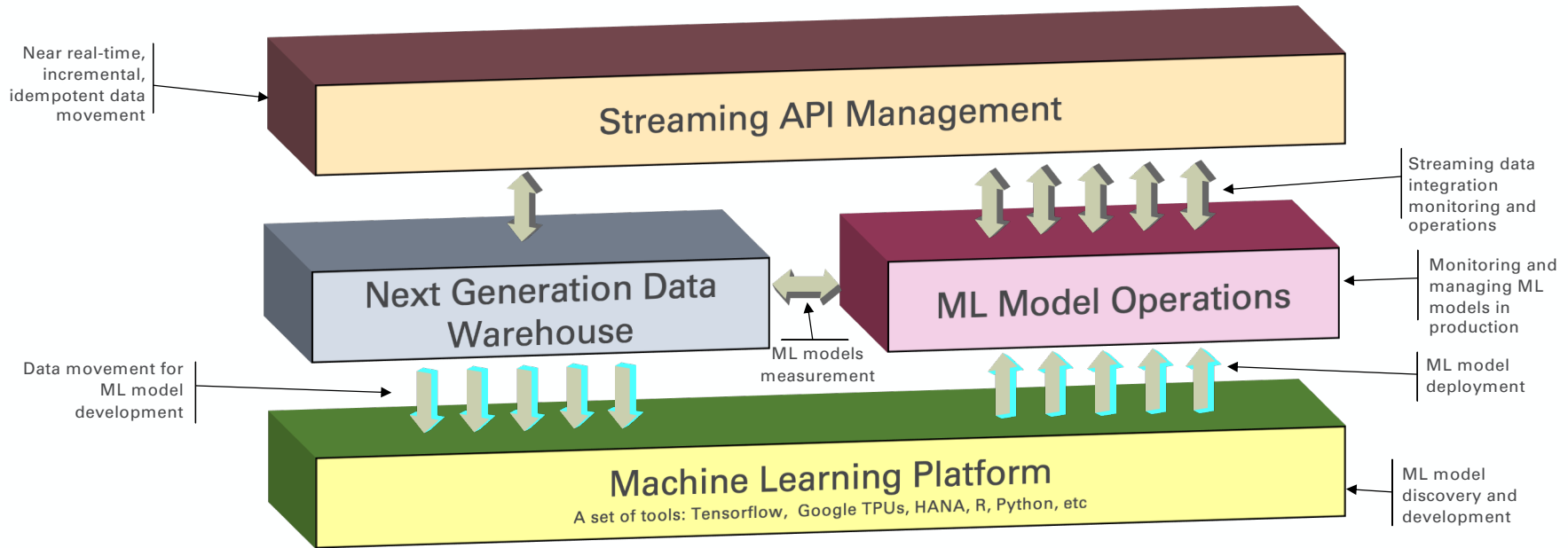
# Managing multiple ML models in the next generation analytics

How can we use machine learning to improve administrative processes, student success, research outcomes?

- Multiple models may be active per each business opportunity (e.g., student learning feedback, student success intervention, financial activity fraud detection)
- Multiple models will be developed and trained based on prior streams of data
- Multiple models will be deployed to actively interact with real-time streams of data, interacting with requesting systems and users, activating workflows
- Multiple models can be managed within a 'single pane of glass.' Operations can ensure reliability, detect anomalies, bring up and take down models
- Model measurement data feeds back into the next generation data warehouse to guide further model development
- Faculty experts can utilize this infrastructure to help provide needed expertise rather than use consultants
- The data within this environment can serve workbench for data science and research activities
- The next generation data warehouse (SAP HANA) has best-in-class de-identification capabilities transparent to the end-user, enabling safe use for researchers

# Managing multiple ML models in the next generation analytics

How can we use machine learning to improve administrative processes, student success, research outcomes?



# What are our ingredients for technology?

- Data warehouse
- Data management
- Machine Learning
- Analysis
- Application / Interaction / Intervention

# Back to how ML/AI might apply at a university.

- Hospitality
- Medical
- Education
- Athletics
- Facilities
- Retail
- Logistics / Transportation
- Investments

# Without a clear goal, AI initiatives may be doomed from the start.

	Defined Success Criteria
Finance	+
HR	+
Education	-
Research	+
Hospitality	-
Medical	+
Athletics	+
Facilities	+
Retail	+
Logistics	+
Investments	+



# A common ontology greatly supports organization of data.

	Defined Success Criteria	Common Ontology
Finance	+	+
HR	+	-
Education	-	-
Research	+	-
Hospitality	-	-
Medical	+	+
Athletics	+	-
Facilities	+	+
Retail	+	-
Logistics	+	+
Investments	+	+

# In many areas, data are either not collected, or are scattered, de-centralized, and disorganized.

	Defined Success Criteria	Common Ontology	Structured Data
Finance	+	+	+
HR	+	-	+
Education	-	-	-
Research	+	-	-
Hospitality	-	-	-
Medical	+	+	-
Athletics	+	-	-
Facilities	+	+	+
Retail	+	-	+
Logistics	+	+	+
Investments	+	+	+

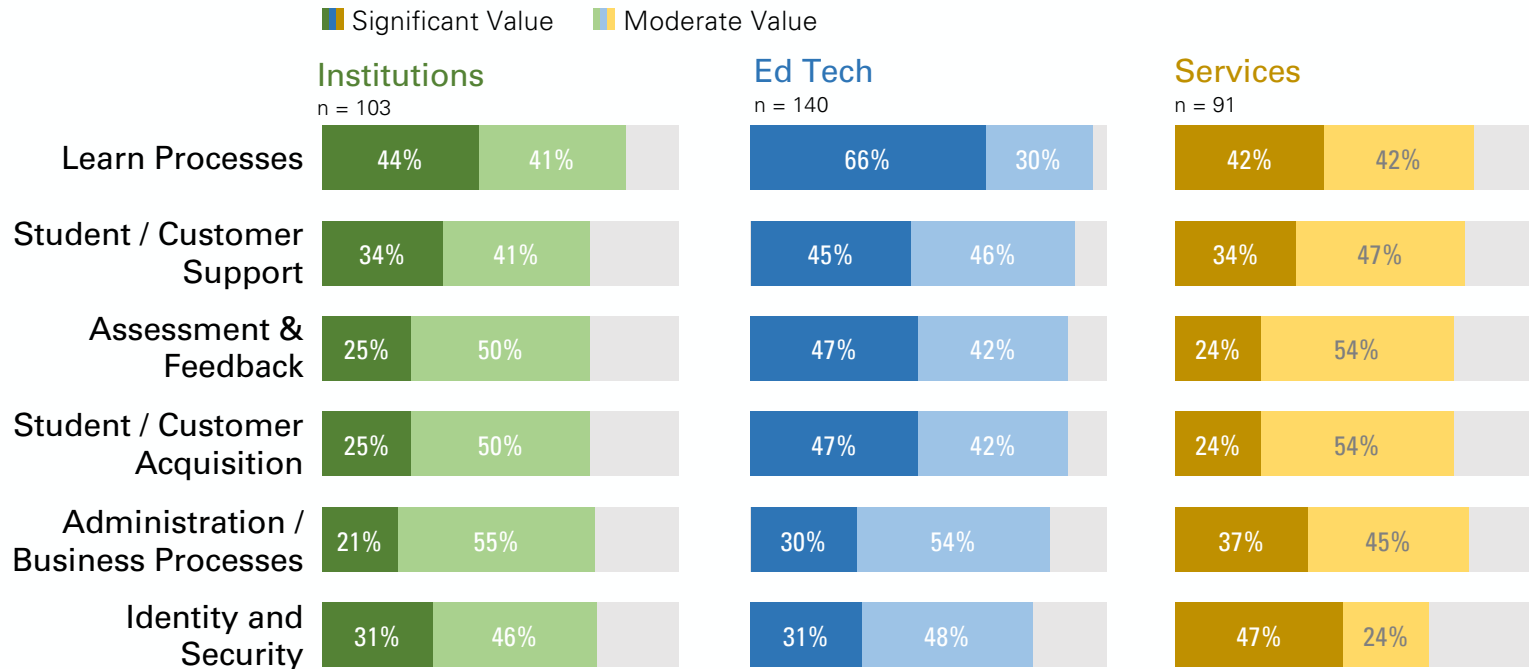
# Many data are subjective, making machine learning more challenging.

	Defined Success Criteria	Common Ontology	Structured Data	Data Indep. of Human Variables
Finance	+	+	+	+
HR	+	-	+	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Research	+	-	-	+
Hospitality	-	-	-	-
Medical	+	+	-	-
Athletics	+	-	-	-
Facilities	+	+	+	+
Retail	+	-	+	+
Logistics	+	+	+	+
Investments	+	+	+	+

# Much of a university's operations can benefit from the use of AI.

	Defined Success Criteria	Common Ontology	Structured Data	Data Indep. of Human Variables	Overall
Finance	+	+	+	+	+
HR	+	-	+	-	+
Education	-	-	-	-	-
Research	+	-	-	+	-
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-
Medical	+	+	-	-	+
Athletics	+	-	-	-	-
Facilities	+	+	+	+	+
Retail	+	-	+	+	+
Logistics	+	+	+	+	+
Investments	+	+	+	+	+

# There are still opportunities to extend the value of AI in many domains.



# Much of a university's operations can benefit from the use of AI.

	Defined Success Criteria	Common Ontology	Structured Data	Data Indep. of Human Variables	Overall
Finance	+	+	+	+	+
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Education	-	-	-	-	-
Research	+	-	-	-	-
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-
Medical	+	+	-	-	+
Athletics	+	-	-	-	-
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Retail	+	-	+	+	+
Logistics	+	+	+	+	+
Investments	+	+	+	+	+

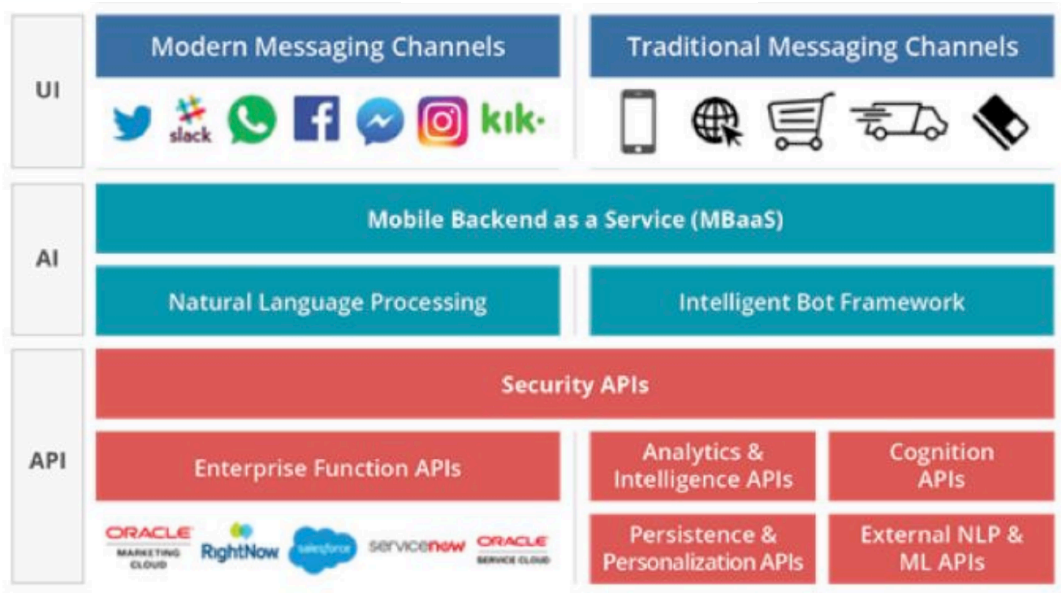
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Student Activity Hub		Common Tables People / Identity Organization Facilities Common Activities Hierarchies  Common Tools Tableau / Cognos SPSS / R API Access Mobile Messaging  Embedded Platform Tools Statistical & Predictive Machine Learning Graphing Algorithms Spatial Analysis Text Mining R		Facilities Activity Hub	Financial Activity Hub
<u>Sources</u>	<u>Uses</u>			<u>Sources</u>	<u>Uses</u>
SIS LMS VAC Redrock Student Event Management DARS ProSam Slate Co-curricular record Extension/MOOC	Enrollment Demographics Majors/minors Statistics per term, progression Retention, graduate rate, time to degree Learning analytics Student engagement Applicants/Applications Test scores Scholarships Non-matriculated progress/success	Tririga CAMS	Classroom utilization Building utilization Walk-time IDC Analysis Maintenance Planning Event	ESR Finance ESR Budget ESR Student	Activity pattern analysis Ad-hoc analysis Multi-fund analysis Tuition revenue modeling Budgeting and forecasting
		Advancement & Alumni Activity Hub		Workflow Activity Hub	
		<u>Sources</u>	<u>Uses</u>	<u>Sources</u>	<u>Uses</u>
		BlackBaud Alumni iModules	Constituent analysis Financial analysis Campaign analysis	ServiceNow Finance Student Kualii Research Kualii Build Identity System	LSS Analysis Bottleneck analysis Provisioning analysis Workflow analysis

# Streamlining student interactions with AI.

University of Adelaide used Oracle Intelligent Bots to reduce call center wait times by 97% and resulted in 60% “Awesome” rating from students.

“The AI/natural language means the bot infers what a user means *without having to hard-code every possible question*. This vastly improves the bot’s ability to provide a correct answer.”





# Matching student credentials with job descriptions using AI.



Greenlight (glcredentials.com) provides **secure, simple, and instant sharing and validation of candidate records** for academic admissions and transfers, internships, scholarships, and job applications.

They streamline manual processes using distributed ledger technology, or blockchain, allowing employers to digitally receive records that are secure and instantly tamper evident.

The screenshot shows the Greenlight dashboard interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Dashboard, My Credentials, Opportunities, Inbox, and Statistics. Below this, there are sections for Existing Credentials, Shared Credentials, and Accomplishment Portfolio. A list of credentials is shown, including Western Michigan University (Bachelor of Science in Liberal Sciences) and Dallas Independent School District (High School Diploma in Distinguished Achievement Program). A detailed view of a transcript from Western Michigan University is displayed, showing a table of courses with columns for College Code, Course Number, Course Title, FOS, Core Credit, Semester Hours, and Grade. The transcript lists various courses such as Japanese, Mathematics, Physics, Calculus, Technical Communications, Business Computer Applications, Electrical Circuits, and Computer Science. A blue arrow points from the transcript to the text on the right.

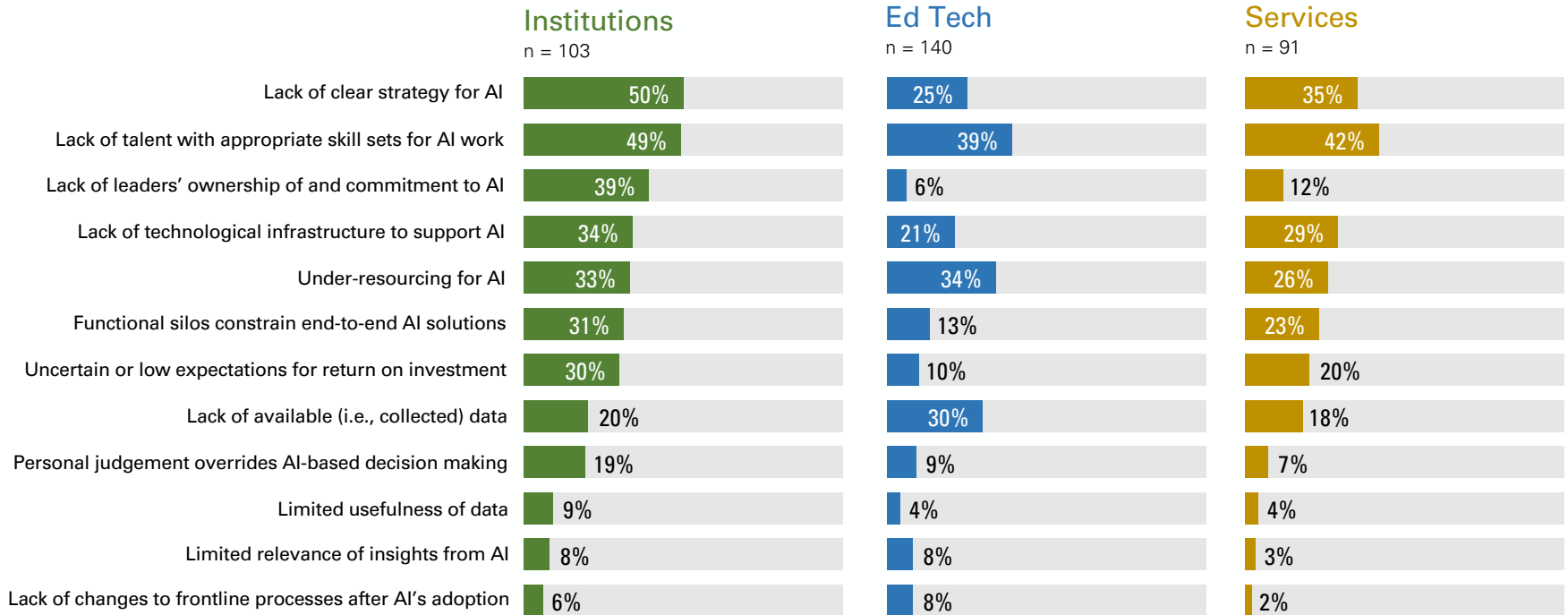
**Meijer Logistics Internship**  
Job Type: Full-time  
Min Education Level: Associate's Degree  
Compensation: \$15000 to \$18000 per year  
Job Location: Grand Rapids, MI, USA  
Sign-on Bonus: \$1000  
Expiration Date:  
Skills Required: logistics

**Qualifications:**

- Must be enrolled in Associate of Science or Bachelor of Science in Logistics, Supply Chain or Materials Management programs
- In-depth knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, database reporting tools and Lean Logistics.
- Excellent communication skills – able to illustrate complex issues to senior management in a clear and concise manner
- Knowledge of small parcel, regional carriers and LTL logistics providers ( GM role- Freight forwards and Ocean carriers)
- Demonstrated change management skills/experience
- Demonstrated ability to set and carry out priorities effectively
- Proven ability to handle multiple tasks and provide the leadership to implement solutions to complex problems using the best available technology
- Business orientation and acumen, fast and assertive decision-making based on analytical thinking.
- Flexibility and agility to respond quickly and effectively in a highly dynamic, changing environment.
- Capability to establish good relationships with others who have different values, cultural styles, and perspectives. Setting high and ambitious goals and standards for oneself and others, continuously raising the bar.
- Demonstrated knowledge of business work as it relates to supply chain operations.

AI to match student academic records and professional interests to open opportunities.

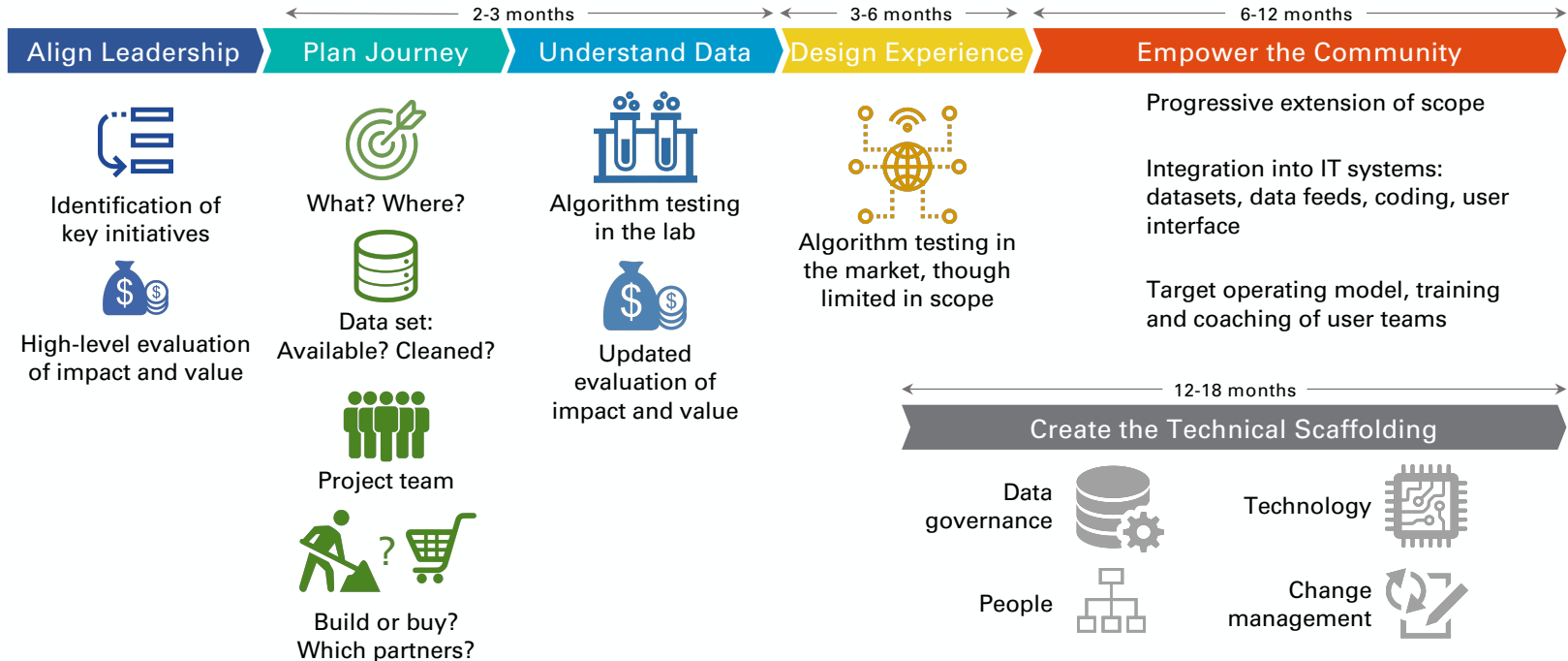
# Institutions struggle most with basics: strategy, talent, and leadership.



# The foundation for this transformation is exemplified in six key capabilities.



# But it's possible to start now.



# It's not about rich; it's about light.

- Users should be able to decide how they want to use data to meet their needs
- The technology should be easy to replace
- Your solution needs to be bespoke: balance re-inventing the wheel with following the herd

# Summary

- AI is:
  - important and challenging
  - changing how you collect, store, and use data
  - critical
- UC San Diego has taken an aggressive approach to change our thinking, and adopt new processes to prepare for this change
- Accomplishing the same is possible, but may be hindered by strategy, leadership, and resources

# Thanks

# Take the Session Survey.

We want to hear from you! Be sure to complete the session evaluation on the SAPPHIRE NOW and ASUG Annual Conference mobile app.





# Presentation Materials

Access the slides from 2019 ASUG Annual Conference here:  
<http://info.asug.com/2019-ac-slides>

# Q&A

For questions after this session, contact me at  
amin@amass.co  
or  
amqazi@ucsd.edu.

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