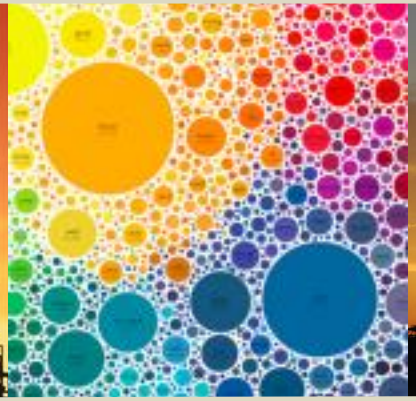
CORVELLE CONSULTING

CPA CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

Best Practices for Visual Analytics Projects



Yogi Schulz Biography

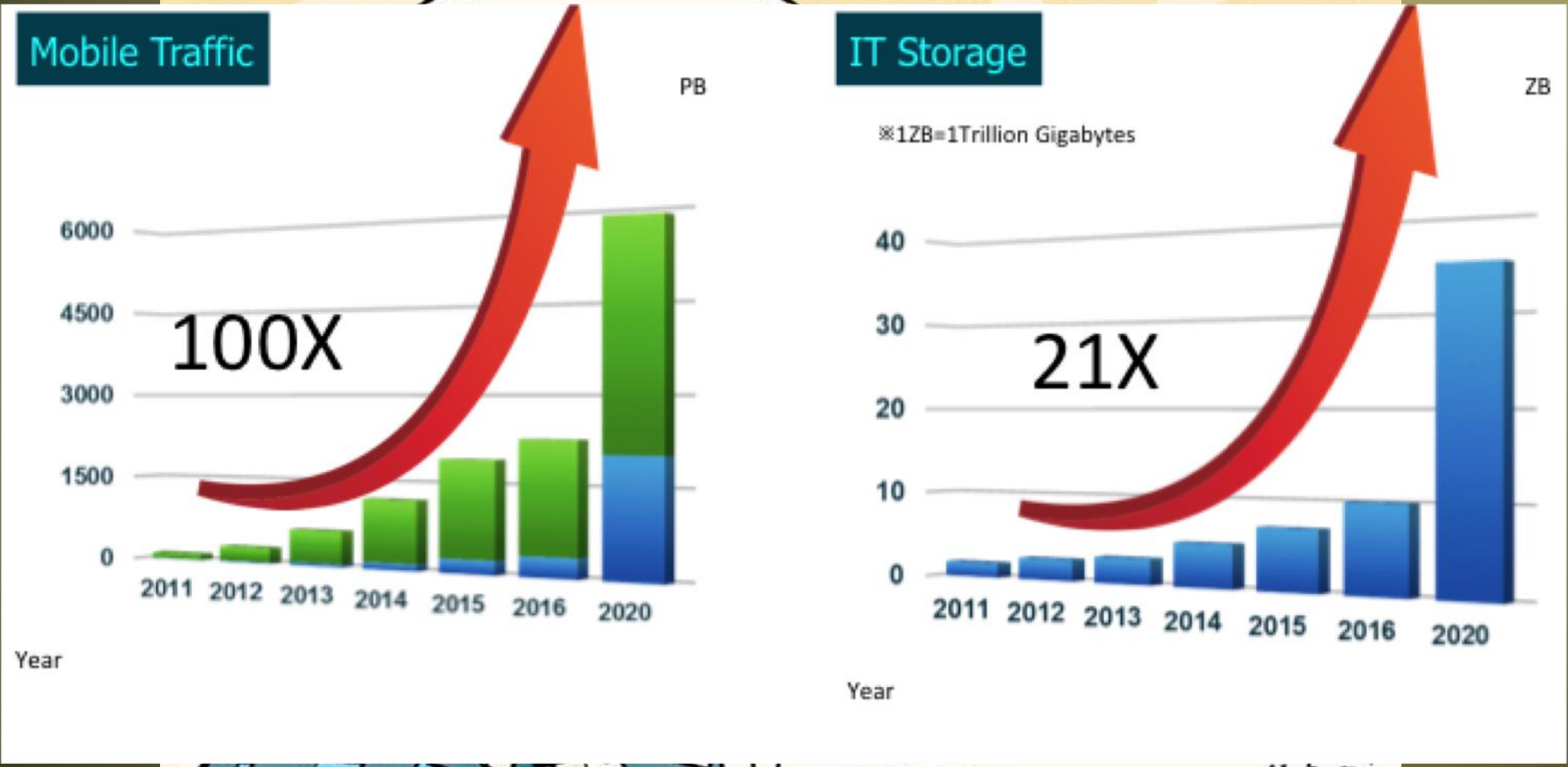
- Partner in Corvelle Consulting
- Information technology related management consulting
- IT World Canada & Microsoft columnist
- Industry presenter:
  - Project World - 6 years
  - PMI – SAC - 4+ years
  - PMI - Information Systems SIG - 2 years
  - PPDM Association - several years

Gartner

Digital Oil Field Survey

- Upstream companies struggle managing information for analytical purposes
- Data stored in applications in nonstandard formats
- Data trapped within organizational silos
- Real-time data is managed independently
- Progress in analytics requires action across multiple organizational silos

Data Volumes Growing every Year



End-users Love Visual Analytics Output

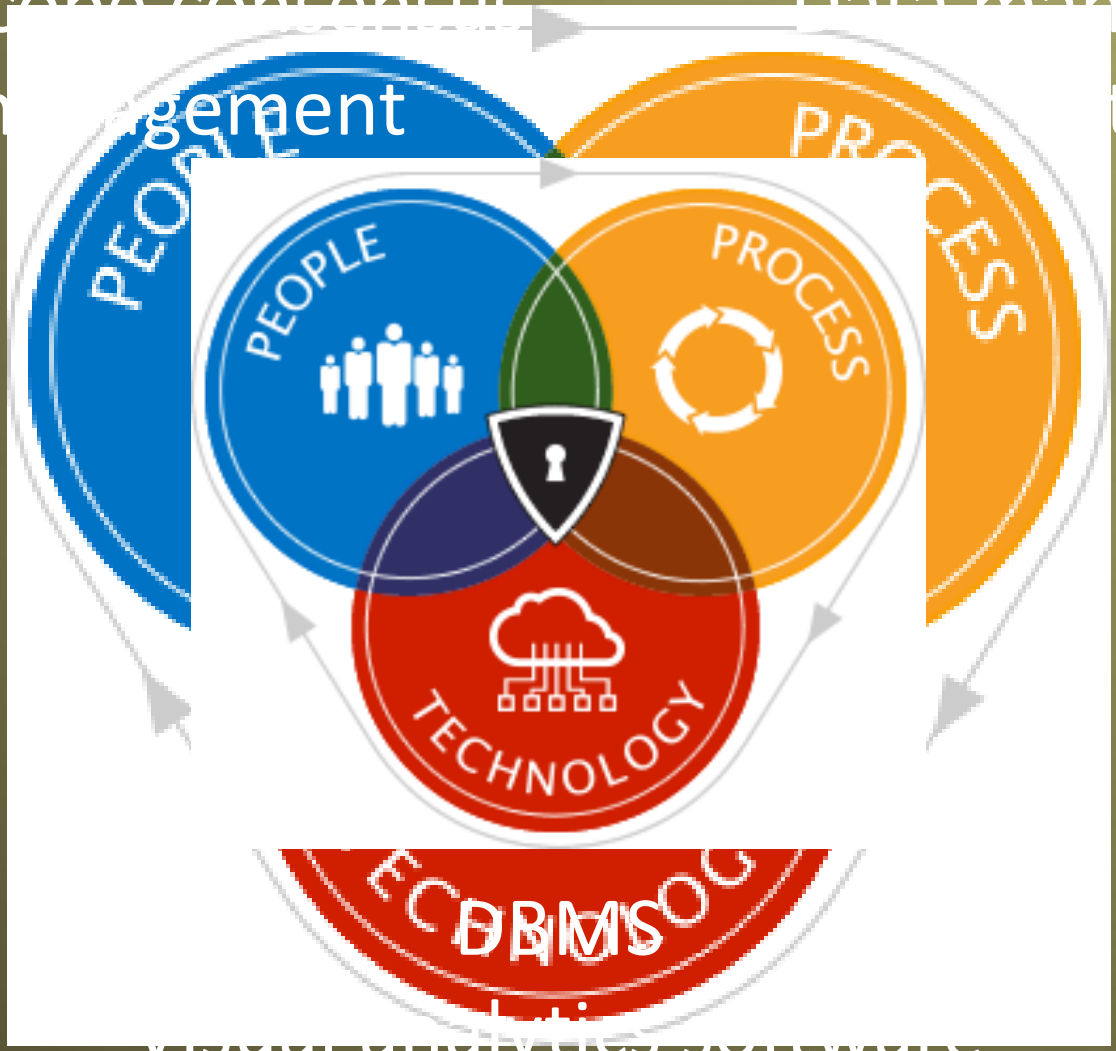
Achieve Success with Visual Analytics

Project scope consensus

Project management

Data management

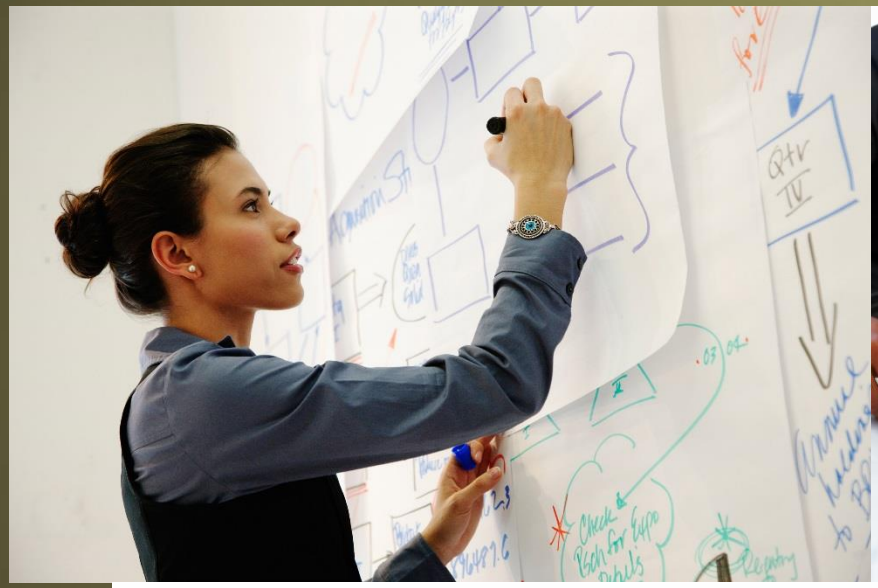
Data quality



Visual analytics software

People

Project Scope Consensus



-

People

Project Management

- Don’
  - Bel
  - Let
  - Inv
- Do’s:
  - Del
  - Exp
  - Pla

Any chance you can give me better project management for my visual analytics projects instead?

People

How do project managers combat unrealistic expectations?

A. Diplomatically educate on effort required?
B. Demo new capabilities annually?
C. Constantly communicate goals & benefits?
D. Agree with those who claim project is easy?
E. Coach project sponsor to communicate?
F. Attend few meetings with vendors?

Process Data Management

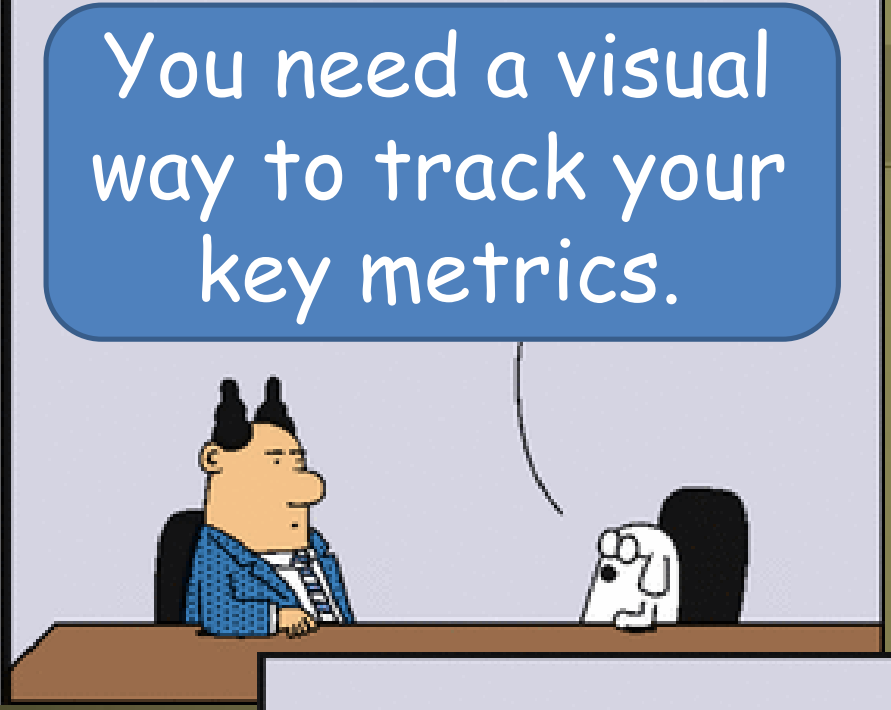
- Do's:
  - Plan to strengthen dat
  - Build data manageme

Process

Data Quality

- Don'ts:
  - Think
  - Assun ork
- Do's:
  - Plan
  - Deve ards
  - Build

Analytics in the world of Dilbert



Process

How do project teams respond to scope creep?

A. Accept all additional scope proposals?
B. Sarcastically reject all scope proposals?
C. Evaluate scope proposals?
D. Defer all scope proposals to the next release?
E. Remove scope for every scope proposal approved?
F. Insist all scope proposals be approved by project steering committee?

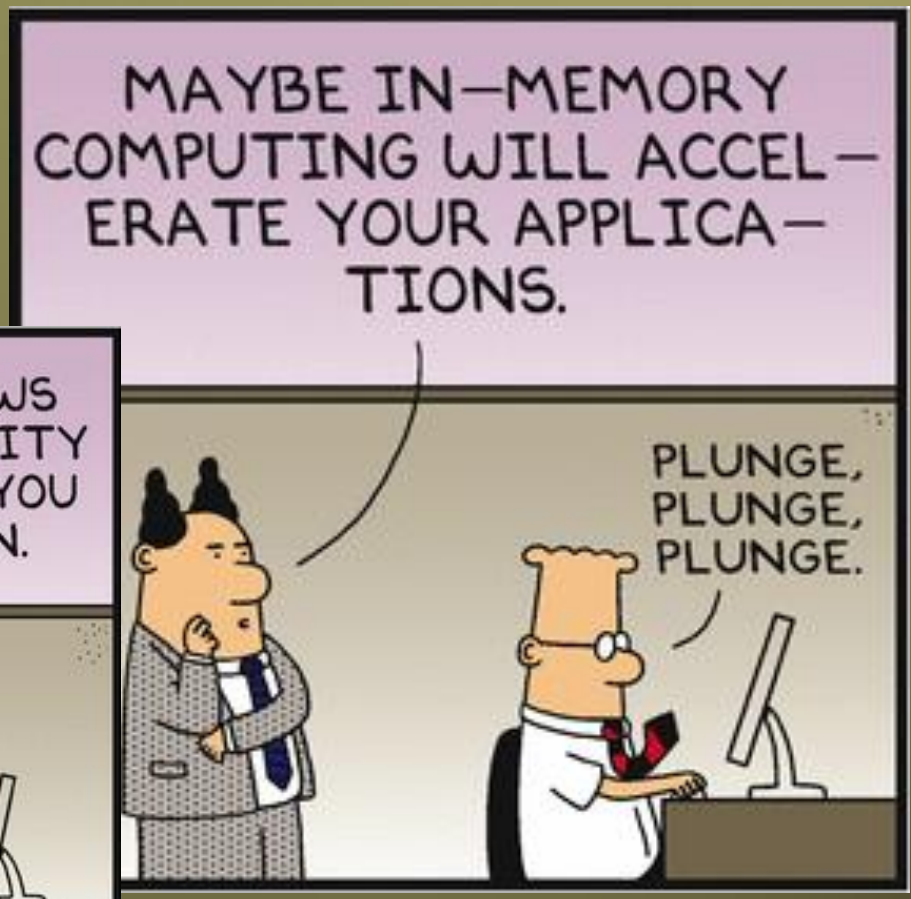
Technology Database Management System (DBMS)

Technology

Visual Analytics Software

- Don’t:
  - Let
  - Ma
  - Let is dicta[illegible] the solution
- Do’s:
  - Decide if additional softw
  - Expect to require a dedic
  - Favor license over build

Big Data Analytics in Dilbert's world



Technology

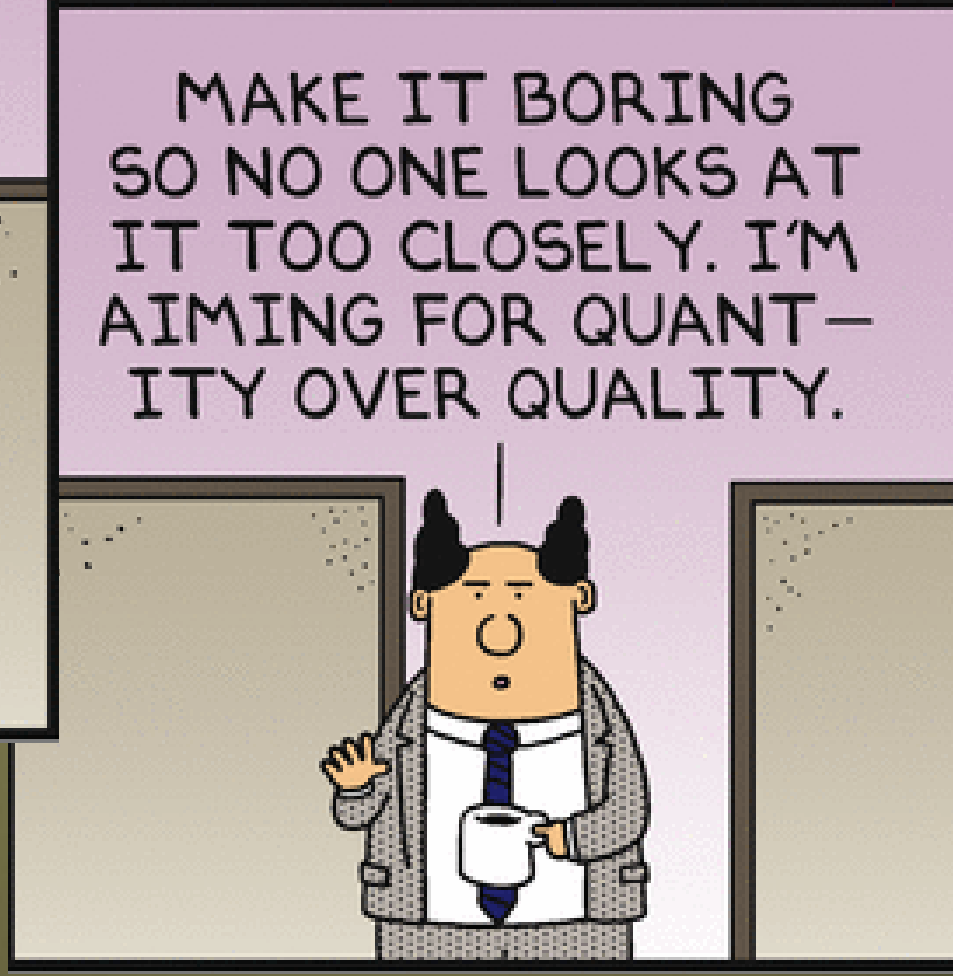
How do project teams explain visual analytics?

A. Displaying data as pretty pictures?
B. Using overly complex terms as a way of over-stating their importance?
C. Representing data for analysis and insights in ways that resonate?
D. Over-analyzing data to avoid reaching any actionable conclusions?
E. Using a superior alternative to Excel?

Conclusions

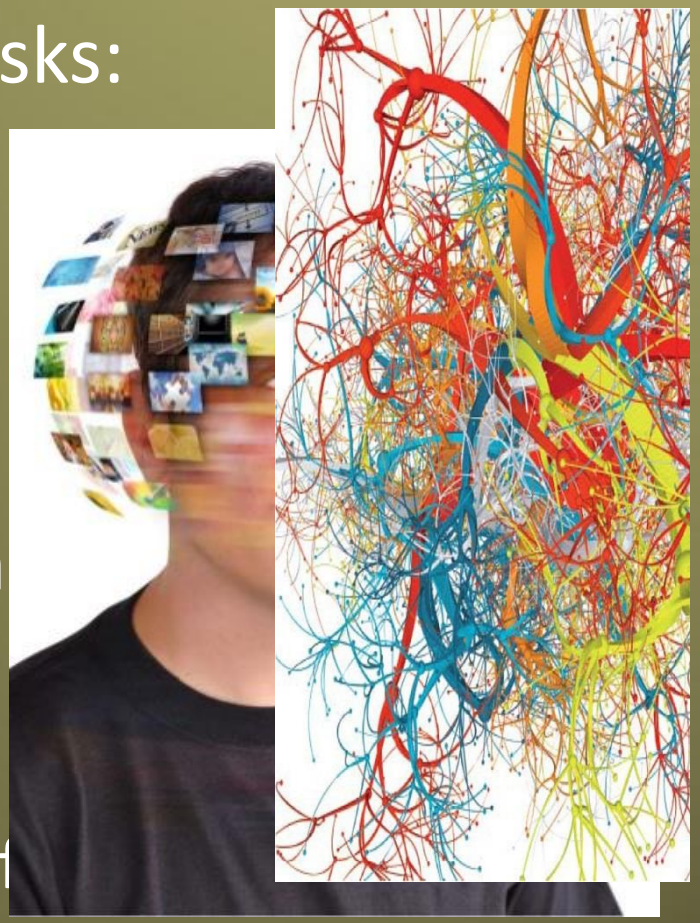
- Best practices produce project success
- Visual analytics is a valuable technology
- Visua

Questionable Analysis Goals



Recommendations

- Mitigate common project risks:
  - Ultra-high expectations
  - Uneven data integration
  - Inadequate project staffing
  - Insufficient data quality
- Avoid over-investing in tech
  - DBMS & ETL
  - Data warehouse
  - Visualization development so



Questions & Discussion

Can you help us achieve value from visual analytics?

Please fill out evaluation form

Best Practices for Visual Analytics

Yogi Schulz

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Information technology related management consulting

Microsoft Canada columnist & CBC Radio host

Industry presenter

Former PPDM Association board member

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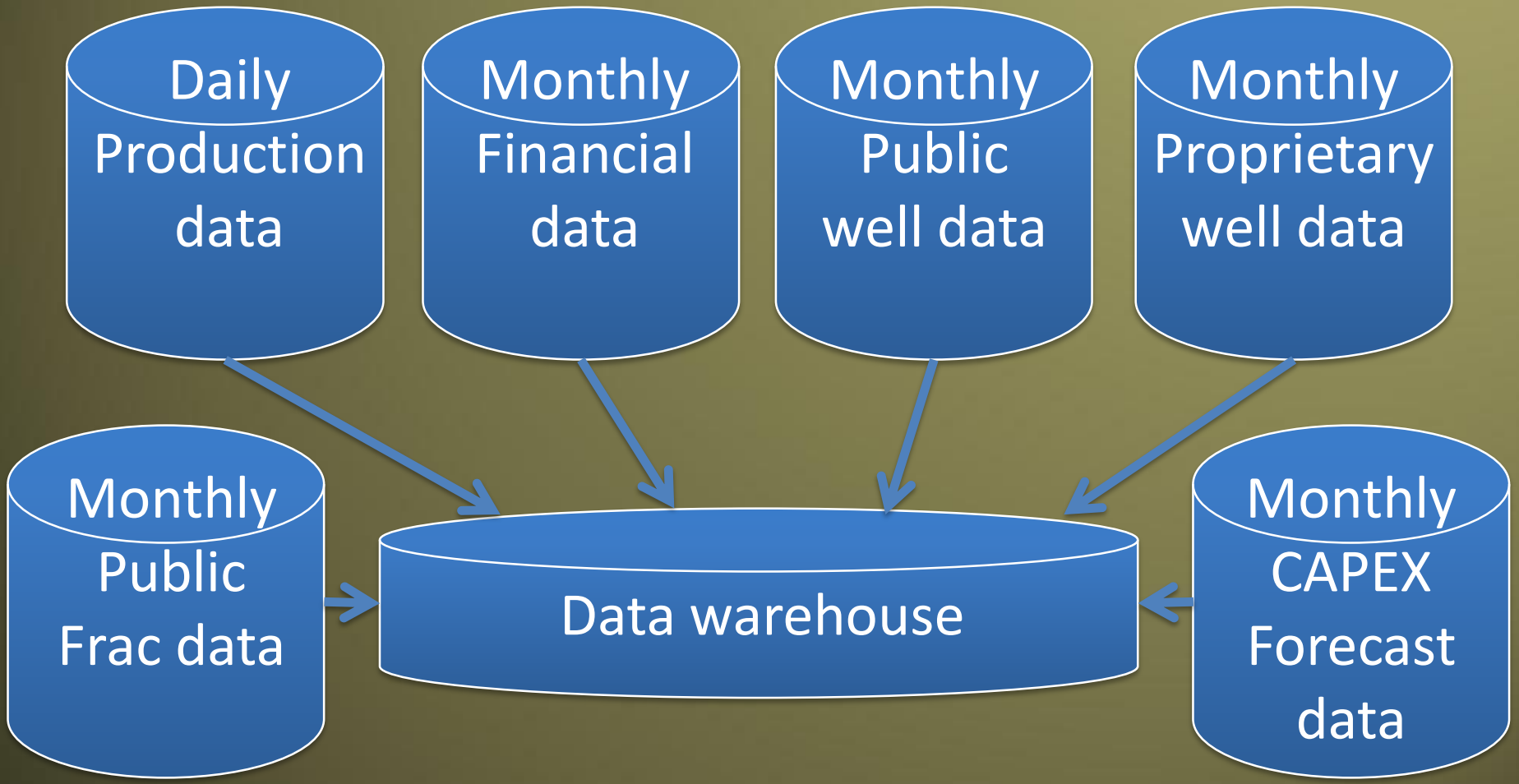
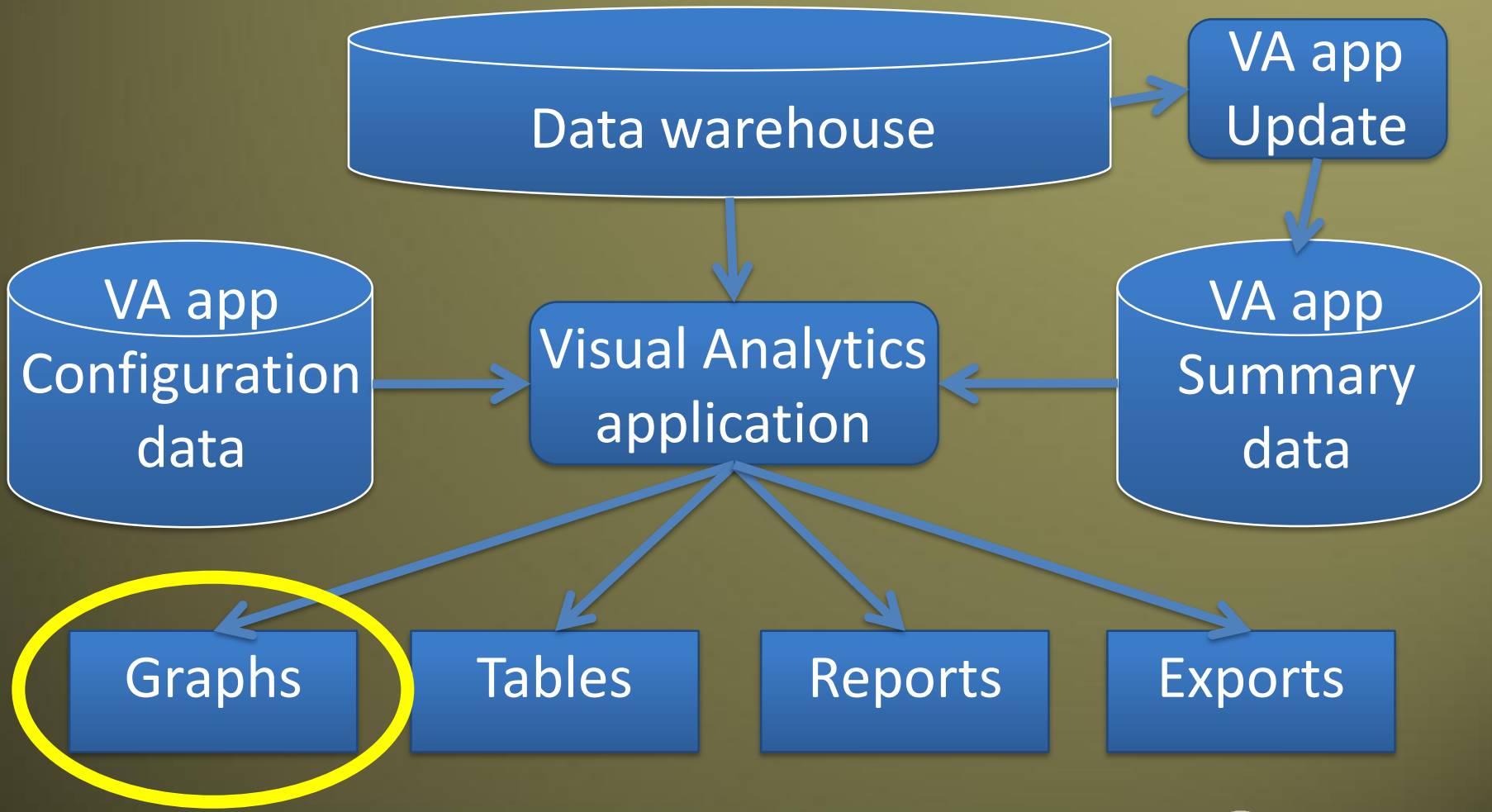
Oil & Gas Data Warehouse Context Diagram

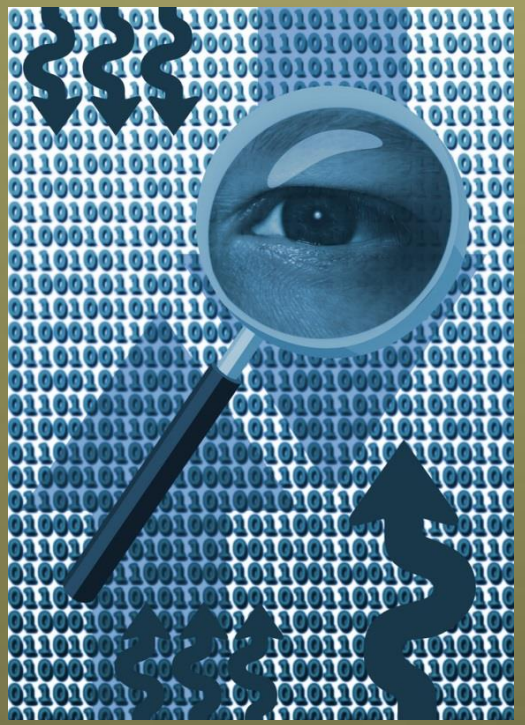


Visual Analytics Application Context Diagram



Value of Visual Analytics

- Make data-driven decisions "very frequently"
- Make decisions "much faster" than market peers
- Execute decisions as intended "most of the time"



Vendor Demo Risk