Taming the Data Beast Using DataHub

Data Engineering Melbourne Meetup Nov 25, 2020 Mars Lan

MARS LAN



- Co-creator of DataHub
- CTO @ Metaphor Data 1w
- TL @ LinkedIn Metadata Team 4y

- SWE @ Google (GCP, Android) 3.5y
- UCLA CS PhD
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I'M A KIWI!



"Software is eating the world"

-Marc Andreessen, 2011

"Data is eating the world"

-Everyone, 2020

MACRO TRENDS

- Data Democratization ⇒ More Organic
 - Data mesh, decentralized data governance, self-service, remote work
- Role Specialization \Rightarrow More Personas
 - Data scientists/analysts/engineers, AI/ML engineers, business analysts/users, ...

- Explosion of Data Systems & Tools ⇒ More Complexity
 o Hadoop, Spark, Flink, Kafka, Presto, TensorFlow, Elasticsearch, MongoDB
- Adoption of Cloud Computing ⇒ More Data
 Easier & cheaper than ever to create more data
- Increasing Regulatory Pressure ⇒ More Controls
 GDPR, CCPA, LGPD, BCBS 239, MIFID II, FRTB, CCAR

PROBLEMS

- Finding data is hard
 - \circ Data lake ⇒ Data swamp
 - Siloed teams \Rightarrow Siloed data
 - \circ Specialized systems \Rightarrow Specialized data

- Managing data is hard
 - Governance
 - Compliance
 - Policy-driven data management

- Trusting data is hard
 - Lineage
 - Data availability

- Data quality & health
- Data profiling & distribution
- Ownership & documentation
- Certification & curation

Metadata, Metadaťa, Metadata

WHAT IS METADATA?

Who created this?

What does each column mean?

Nhen	was	it las	st upo	lated?

	A	В	С	D	
1	ID	Name	Date	Value	
2	7792	June	2013/05/14	4	
3	2675	April	2020/09/01	0	
4	4190	Joe	1987/12/2	NULL	
5	3655	May	2005/11/17	3	
б					
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me	from?			Why is	there NULL valu

Where did data come from?

How was Value column computed?

LINKEDIN METADATA JOURNEY





METADATA PLATFORM (GMA)

• Scalable

- \circ Web-scale stack
- Distributed storage, indexing & serving
- four/five 9's uptime
- Decentralized metadata modeling

Enrichable

- Beyond read-only aggregator
- Collaborative edits
- Human curation

- Queryable
 - Key-value
 - Distributed joins
 - Full-text search
 - Graph traversal

Real-time

- \circ Stream-based ingestion
- Event-driven architecture

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• Trigger-based applications

WHY STREAMS (KAFKA)?

- Near real-time
 O(seconds) delay
- Loose coupling
 - \circ Non-blocking, fire-and-forget

- Queuing
 - Smooth out bursty traffic
 - Async consumption

- Schema Compatibility
 - Easy to enforce via schema registry

Scalable

- Multi-readers/writers
- Partition-level parallelism
- Persistent storage
 - Sequential key-value store
 - Bootstrap & backfill

INGESTION MODES

• Existing metadata services

- Crawler: uninstrumentable
- Direct event emission: instrumentable
- Event conversion: existing events

• New metadata services

• DAO: "man-in-the-middle" integration

Metadata in Git

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- Build-time: tooling emits event
- Publish-time: events artifact
- Deploy-time: services/jobs emit events

METADATA MODELING

Nodes

Entities, e.g. datasets, partitions, features, users, groups, experiments, ...

Edges

Relationship, e.g. OwnedBy, DerivedFrom, Contains, HasMember, ...

Documents

Metadata, e.g. ownership, membership, upstreams, configs, compliance metadata, ...



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ADOPTION

- LinkedIn (within 18 months)
 - Integrated with 40 teams/projects
 - 30+ entities, 200+ types of metadata
 - Use cases
 - Search & discovery
 - Data privacy compliance
 - Access control
 - Life-cycle management
 - Data Ops
 - Al DevOps

- OSS (within 6 months)
 - 8 companies running in production
 - 20 companies building POC or seriously evaluating

- Success stories
 - Expedia: Data-driven tech company
 - Saxo Bank: Investment bank going through digital transformation
 - SpotHero: Cloud-native small startup (3 data engs & 50 data users)

OSS ROADMAP

New Entities & Relationships

- $\circ~$ Jobs & flows*
- Dashboards*
- AI features/models*
- Business glossary*
- Schemas
- Metrics
- \circ Services

Integrations

- BI: Looker*, Mode, Redash, Superset
- Scheduler: AirFlow, Dagster, Azkaban
- Data Quality: Great Expectations

Features

- Entity insights
- Data privacy
- Governance
- SSO: OIDC & SAML

Platform

- Gremlin-based query DAO
- Aspect-specific events
- GraphQL API
- NoSQL backend (e.g. MongoDB)

• OLAP index (e.g. Pinot, Druid)



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	Mars Lan Staff Software Engineer, System ASK ME ABOUT (metadata) TL for the metadata team	s Infrastructure	TEAM (datahub) (gma)	Edit profile MANAGER Tai Tran	
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GitHub: linkedin/datahub

Monthly town hall Slack workspace PRs welcome! Do you have any questions?

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THANKS

DISCLAIMER: A large portion of this deck is based on the published Budapest Data Forum 2020 talk I gave as an employee of LinkedIn.

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