Managing Data and its Implications

Lecture Title: What is Data?



Lecturer: Angelito Sciberras

Date: 16 February 2025

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Self-Assessment - Session 01





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- Group 1

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- Group 6

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What is Data?





- "datum," which means "something given."
- plural form of "datum" is "data," but some people still use "data" as a singular noun
- in the early days of computing, "data" referred specifically to numerical values that were processed by machines.

- today include any kind of information that can be processed by computers, including text, images, and video.
- often used interchangeably with other terms like "information" and "knowledge"
- as technology continues to advance, the definition and scope of "data" will likely continue to evolve.

- facts
- figures
- measurements
- amounts
- descriptive information

that we gather for analysis or reference



Factual information used as a basis for

- reasoning
- discussion
- calculation
- publishing
- decision-making



"facts or information, especially when examined and used to find out things or to make decisions."

Oxford Dictionary





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Qualitative vs Quantitative



Qualitative vs Quantitative







Qualitative

• describes things, i.e., it is descriptive information





Qualitative



Appearance: Polar bears are typically white with black skin underneath. They have a large head, a long neck, and a stocky body with a thick layer of fur to help them stay warm in their cold environment.



Qualitative



Behaviour: Polar bears are excellent swimmers and can travel long distances in search of food. They are also skilled hunters and can catch fish and other prey both on land and in the water. Polar bears are generally solitary animals, except for mating and raising cubs.

Qualitative



Habitat: Polar bears live in the Arctic region and are adapted to living in a cold, snowy environment. They are often found on sea ice, where they hunt for food and rest. The melting of sea ice due to climate change is a major threat to the survival of polar bears.

Qualitative



Importance: Polar bears play a crucial role in the Arctic ecosystem and are considered a keystone species. They help regulate the population of other animals, such as seals, and are an important cultural symbol for many indigenous communities in the Arctic.

Qualitative



Other: social interactions, communication, or cultural significance.



Quantitative

numerical information, i.e., numbers, statistics,

measurements, etc.



Quantitative



Size: Adult male polar bears can weigh up to 600-800 kg (1323-1764 lbs) and can reach a length of 2.4-3 meters (7.9-9.8 feet). Females are typically smaller, weighing up to 300-500 kg (661-1102 lbs) and reaching a length of 1.8-2.4 meters (5.9-7.9 feet).

Quantitative



Population: The global polar bear population is estimated to be around 22,000-31,000 individuals, with the majority living in Canada. Polar bear populations are declining due to habitat loss and other threats from climate change.

Quantitative



Diet: Polar bears primarily eat seals, but their diet can also include fish, birds, and other mammals. A single polar bear can consume up to 50 kg (110 lbs) of food in a single meal.



Quantitative



Reproduction: Female polar bears give birth to litters of 1-4 cubs, usually in a den made of snow. Cubs stay with their mother for 1-2 years before becoming independent.



Quantitative



Behaviour: Polar bears can swim for long distances and can hold their breath for up to two minutes. They are also capable of walking long distances over sea ice and can travel up to 50 km (31 miles) in a day.

Quantitative



Other: information about their body temperature, heart rate, or metabolic rate.



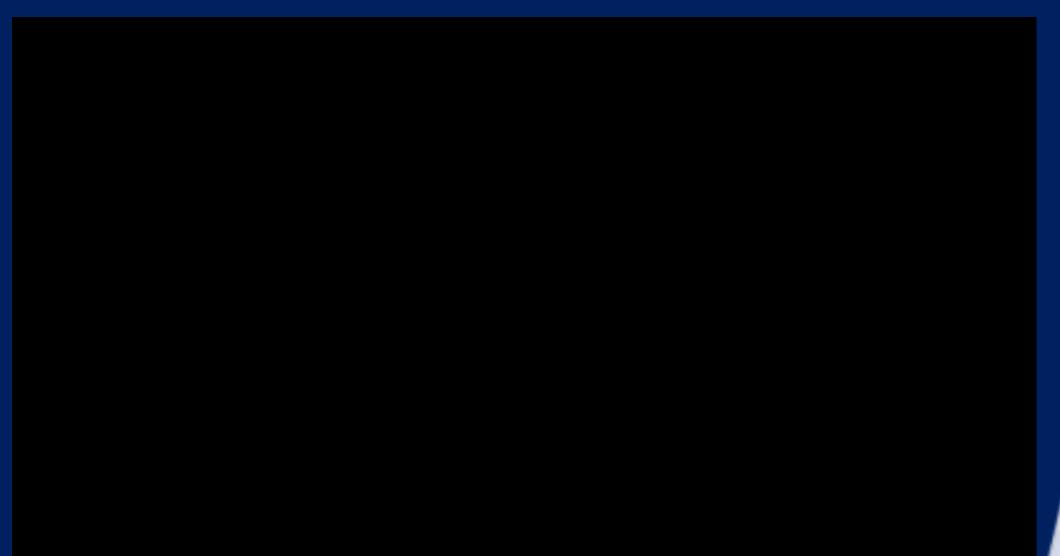




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Binary







Measuring Data



How is Data Measured?







Measuring Data

Types of data:

Text

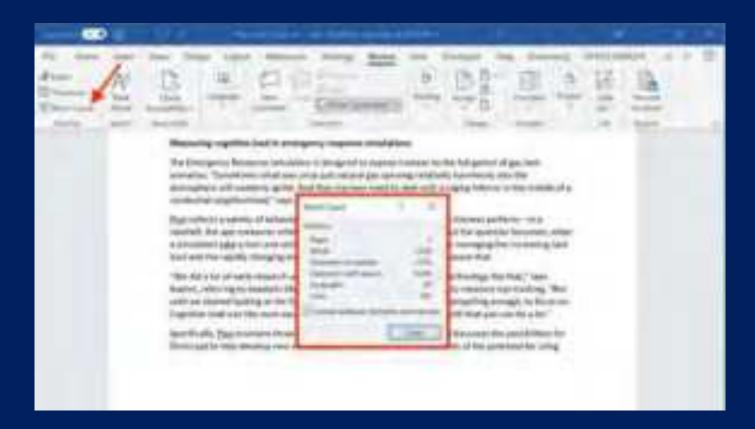
Images

Audio

Video



Text: Text data can be measured in terms of its length, typically using character or word counts.



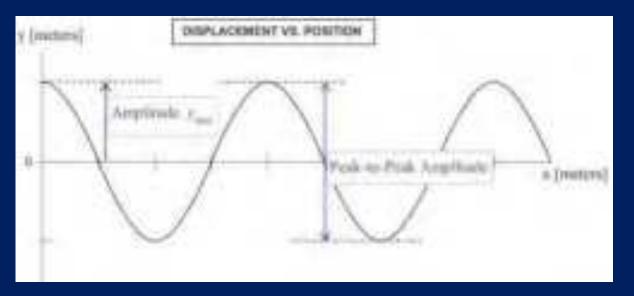


Images: Image data can be measured in terms of its resolution, which refers to the number of pixels in the image.





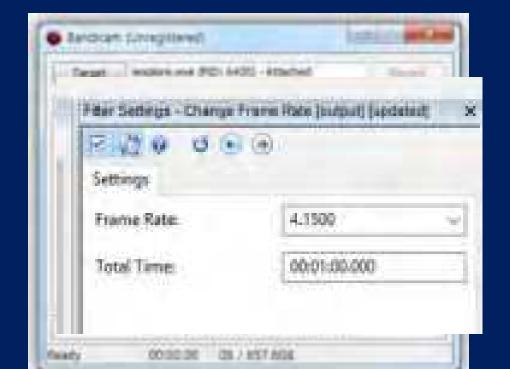
Audio: Audio data can be measured in terms of its frequency, amplitude, and duration.



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Video: Video data can be measured in terms of its frame rate, which refers to the number of frames per second.





data can also be measured in terms of its

- quality
- accuracy
- completeness

data is reliable and useful for its intended purpose







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Storing Data



How is Data Stored?







Data Storage

Physical

Cabinets

Paper

Photographs

Magnetic Tape

Electronic

Flash Drives

CDs, DVDs, Blue Ray

Hard Drives

Servers



Storage: units used to measure the size or capacity of digital storage devices such as hard drives, solidstate drives (SSDs), or flash drives.





Computer bit and byte

A bit is a value of either a 1 or O (on or off).

Nibble

A nibble is 4 bits.

Byte

Today, a byte is 8 bits.

1 character, e.g., "a", is one byte.





Megabyte (MB)

1,048,576 bytes or 1,024 kilobytes.

4 books (200 pages or 240,000 characters).



1,024 megabytes, or 1,048,576 kilobytes.

4,473 books (200 pages or 240,000 characters).



Terabyte (TB)

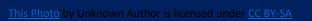
1,024 gigabytes, or 1,048,576 megabytes. 4,581,298 books (200 pages or 240,000 characters).



1,048,576 gigabytes, or 1,073,741,824 megabytes.

4,691,249,611 books (200 pages or 240,000 characters





Term	Capacity	Althreviation
Tirt.	Our 1 value	h:
Tiyne	0 bits	The state of the s
Klinbyte	1034" System	625
Megaliytic	1024 (3)	Miss
Gigaliyee	1024 148	68
Terraloyte	1024 CB	.70
Petaligha	9024 TE	195
Basbyte	5024 992	in.
Zettsbyte	7024 EB	28
natrabyte	300A 29	9%





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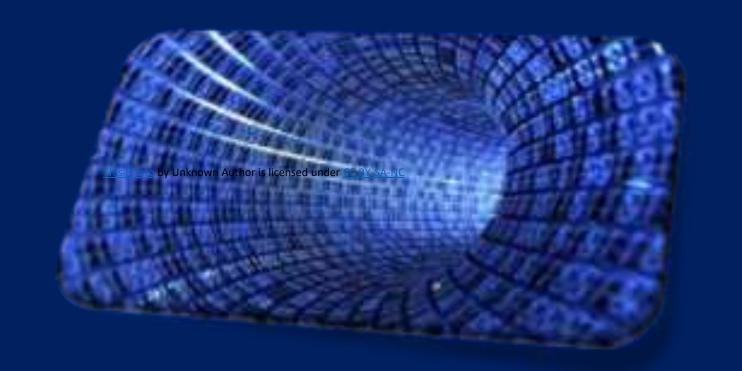
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Big Data



Big Data

• consists of at least one petabyte of information.





Big Data

sets of information that are too large or too complex to handle, analyse or use with standard methods

- Oxford Dictionary



The 7Vs of Big Data



Volume

2,300,000 employees

37 million customers per day

Data of 145 million US customers

300,000 social mentions every week

2.5 petabytes of unstructured data from 1 million customers every hour

10,500 stores worldwide of which 4,500 in the USA





Volume



Halloween sales

Special Cookie very popular in most stores

Two stores not selling any at all

Why?



Variety

Data being stored and needs to be processed

- audio files
- video files
- Photos
- GPS data
- medical files

- instrument measurements
- Graphics
- web documents
- bonus cards
- internet search behaviour



Variety

Predictability

Lookalikes

Identification of potential customers



Velocity

involves the condition that you need to process your data within minutes or seconds to get the results you're looking for.



Velocity

Every day, some 93,000 flights take off from approximately 9,000 airports. At any given time, there are between 8,000 and 13,000 airplanes in the air.



Velocity

Can you imagine if the information is not real-time?

How does it work?





Value

What value you can get from which data and how big data gets better results from stored data

how meaningful the data



Value

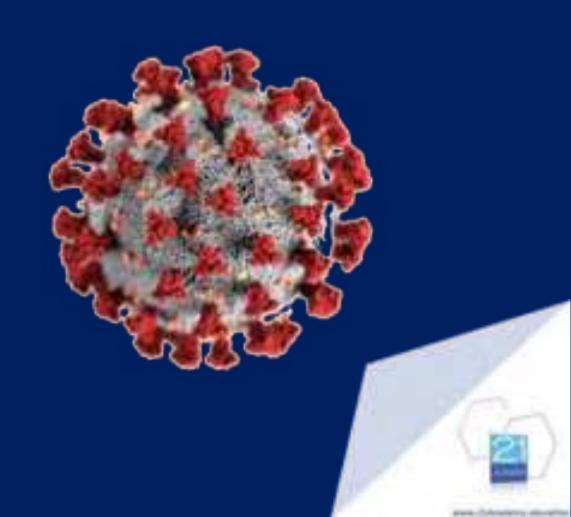
Identify customer location and need for more infrastructure



Veracity/Validity

the truth and authenticity of the data, and what can you do with it

the accuracy and reliability of the data





Variability

to what extent, and how fast, is the structure of your data changing?

And how often does the meaning or shape of your data change?

Can have an impact on the quality of data



Visibility

degree of ease through which an enterprise can monitor display analyse data from disparate sources



Visibility

The most important benefit is that you get more data from which to make informed business decisions



 The average person generates 1.7 MB of data per second.

• The world has 175 zettabytes* of data as of 2025.

 97.2% of businesses are investing in big data and Al.



• The global big data market value is more than \$131.4 billion (2025) by annual revenue. This was \$56 billion in 2022.

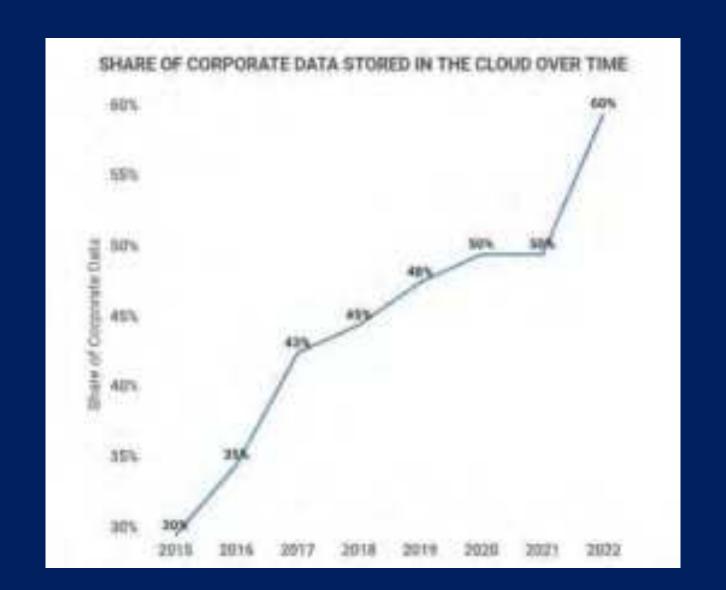


• 90% of the world's data has been created in the last two years.

• The global average cost of a data breach hit an all-time high of €4.88 million in 2024 - up almost 10% in two years

 As of 2024, 60% of corporate data worldwide is stored in the cloud. It was only 30% in 2015.







 Companies that use big data solutions increase profits by an average of 8%.

• 24% of executives say they'd describe their companies as data-driven.

• 97.2% of business executives say their organisations are investing in big data and Al projects.



 The average company doesn't use 60-73% of its data for analytics.

• 95% of businesses consider the need to manage unstructured data a problem they face

 Retailers that use big data fully can increase their operating profits by 60%.









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What Data do they collect about us?

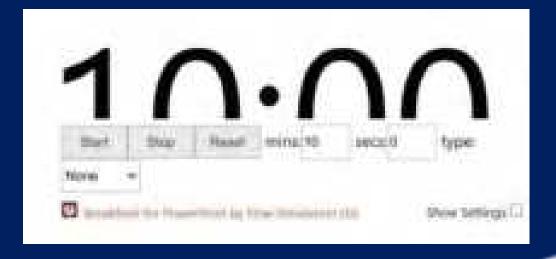






















https://adssettings.google.com

Share with us what Google knows about you







Company Data

- Sources
- Use
- Examples



Company Data

Sources

- Clients
- Service Providers
- Employees



Company Data

Sources

Clients Data: Record Keeping

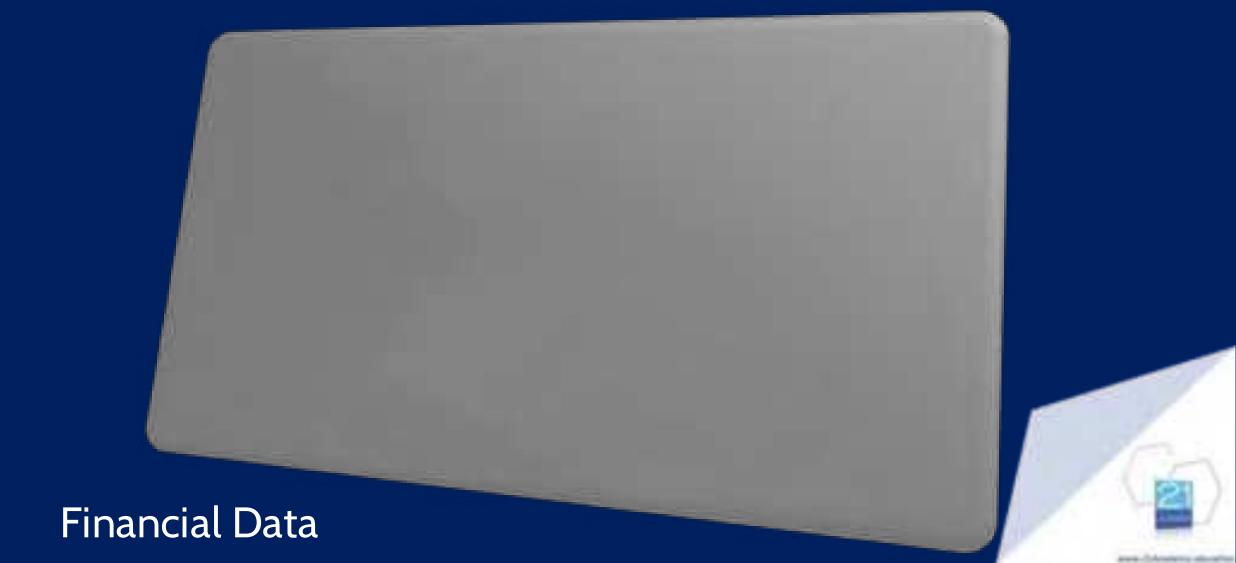
Marketing

Security

Service Providers: Record Keeping
Security



Company Data - Clients & Service Providers



- Personal contact details such as name, title, addresses, telephone numbers, and personal email addresses.
- Date of birth.
- Gender.
- Marital status and dependants.
- Next of kin and emergency contact information.
- National Insurance number.
- Bank account details, payroll records and tax status information.
- Salary, annual leave, pension, and benefits information.
- Start date.
- Location of employment or workplace.

- Copy of driving licence.
- Recruitment information (including copies of right to work documentation, references and other information included in a CV or cover letter or as part of the application process).
- Employment records (including job titles, work history, working hours, training records and professional memberships).
- Compensation history.
- Performance information.
- Disciplinary and grievance information.
- CCTV footage and other information obtained through electronic means such as telephone calls' recordings.
- Information about your use of our information and communications systems.
- Photographs









Company Data - Marketing



Company Data - All



Company Data - All



Media

- Paper
- Optical
- Magnetic
- Solid State
- Network Attached Storage (NAS)
- Cloud Storage





Types of storage media

Paper, optical, magnetic, & solid state



Media

- Paper
- Optical
- Magnetic
- Solid State
- Network Attached Storage (NAS)
- Cloud Storage







Tomorrow's company's

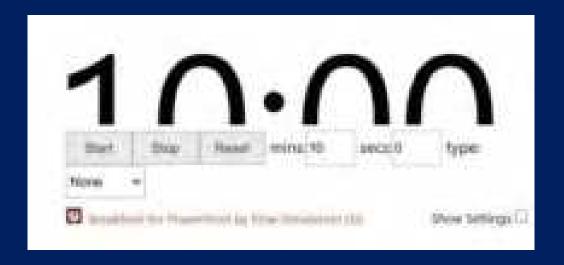


Metawerse



What is Metaverse?







Tomorrow's company's





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