The Modern Geospatial Data Stack



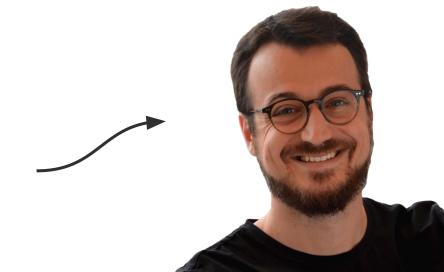
Layer by layer

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- 😘 Geospatial Data Engineer, Manager at Planet

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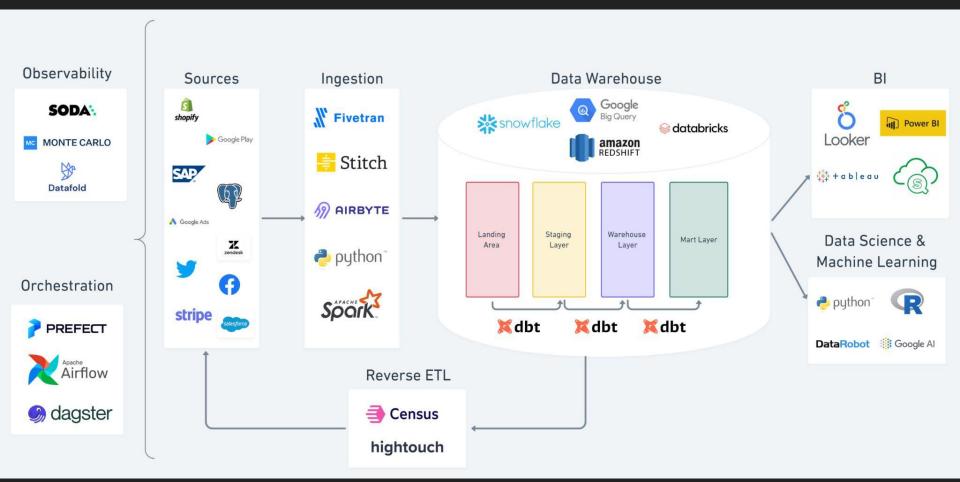


How to navigate the data mesh ③ 101 in geospatial data engineering



The MGDS Laws 🦟

- Extract the data and load it into the cloud
- Transform raw data into data models
- Expose the data models as metrics in a viz tool



Extract And Load

ELT is the new ETL

The data sources could vary from APIs, remote databases, cloud buckets...

Depending on your data source, you could do batch loads or real time ingestions, but they should be orchestrated

All big tech providers have analytical databases to store and compute your geospatial data

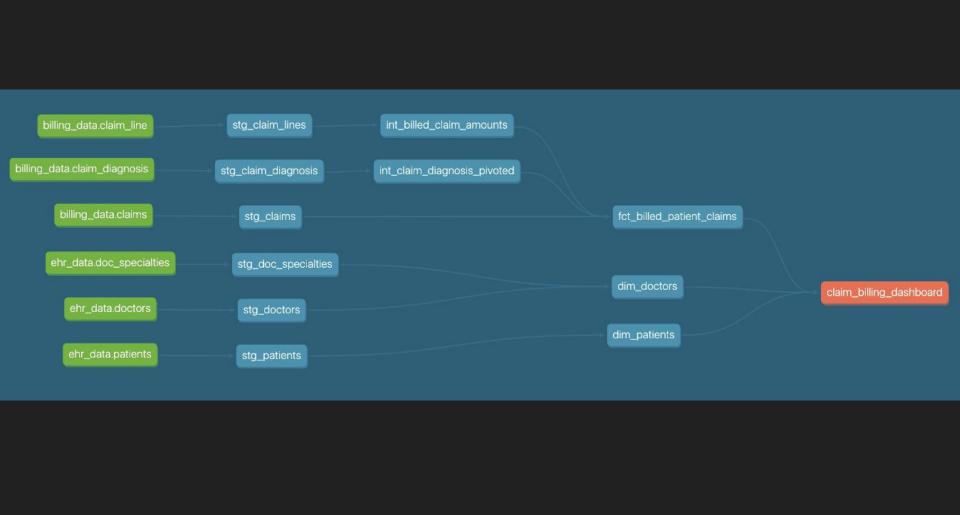
Transform 💮

dbt, dbt and dbt

SQL is the lingua franca

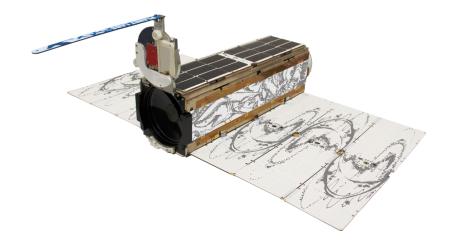
Data modeling is becoming a very demanding skill

Geospatial transformations usually mean aggregating by spatial indexes and build tilesets



Visualize 🌉

BI tools include very basic web mapping capabilities
CARTO integrates pretty smoothly into the MDS



Geospatial Data Roles 🍇 Looking for an unicorn

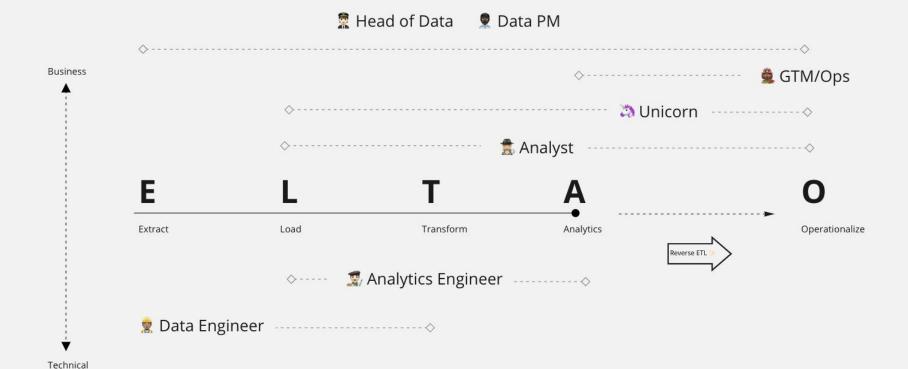


The Data Family 👭



- Data Ops
- Data Engineers
- Analytics Engineers
- Data Analysts
- 👰 Data Scientists
- ML Engineers
- Prompt Engineers







Thanks!



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References 🚛

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Rehana, S. 2022. How dbt Can Help Solve 4 Common Data Engineering Pain Points. dbt blog. [link]

Handy, T. 2021. The Magic of the Analyst. Fictional (but all-too-real) Data Teams. Technology is Not the Hard Part. [#256]. The Analytics Engineering Roundup substack. [link]

Resources 🔑

dbt. Docs [link], slack [link], newsletter [link] and github [link]

Deziel, Z. 2022. From ETL to ELT: Transforming Geospatial Data Processing with PostGIS and dbt. PostGIS Day 2022. The author explains basically the same discovery and processes I came up when implementing dbt at Planet [link]

Kahan Data Solutions. 2021. dbt - All videos. A long Youtube list of short videos to get you onboard in dbt [link]

Schott, M. 2021. The ABCs of Analytics Engineering. A book that goes letter by letter through all key concepts and tools that Analytics Engineers use, being dbt one of the most important ones [link]

Schott, M. 2021-. Learn Analytics Engineering. A substack newsletter that covers in each post an analytics engineering topic, from data modeling to data testing [link]