

Data Intensive Applications

An Introduction

Tonight's Quest



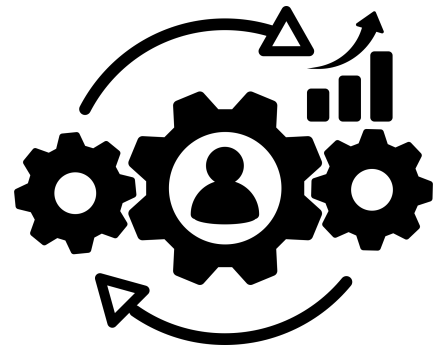
What is a Data Intensive Application -
Our definition?

What are some of the **challenges**
in building DIA?



Who Builds DIA?

How do we **classify** and **assess**
the value of a DIA?



How are DIA Built?



Data intensive applications combine a large complement of data and compute to augment or replace human decision making for the benefit of optimizing important processes.

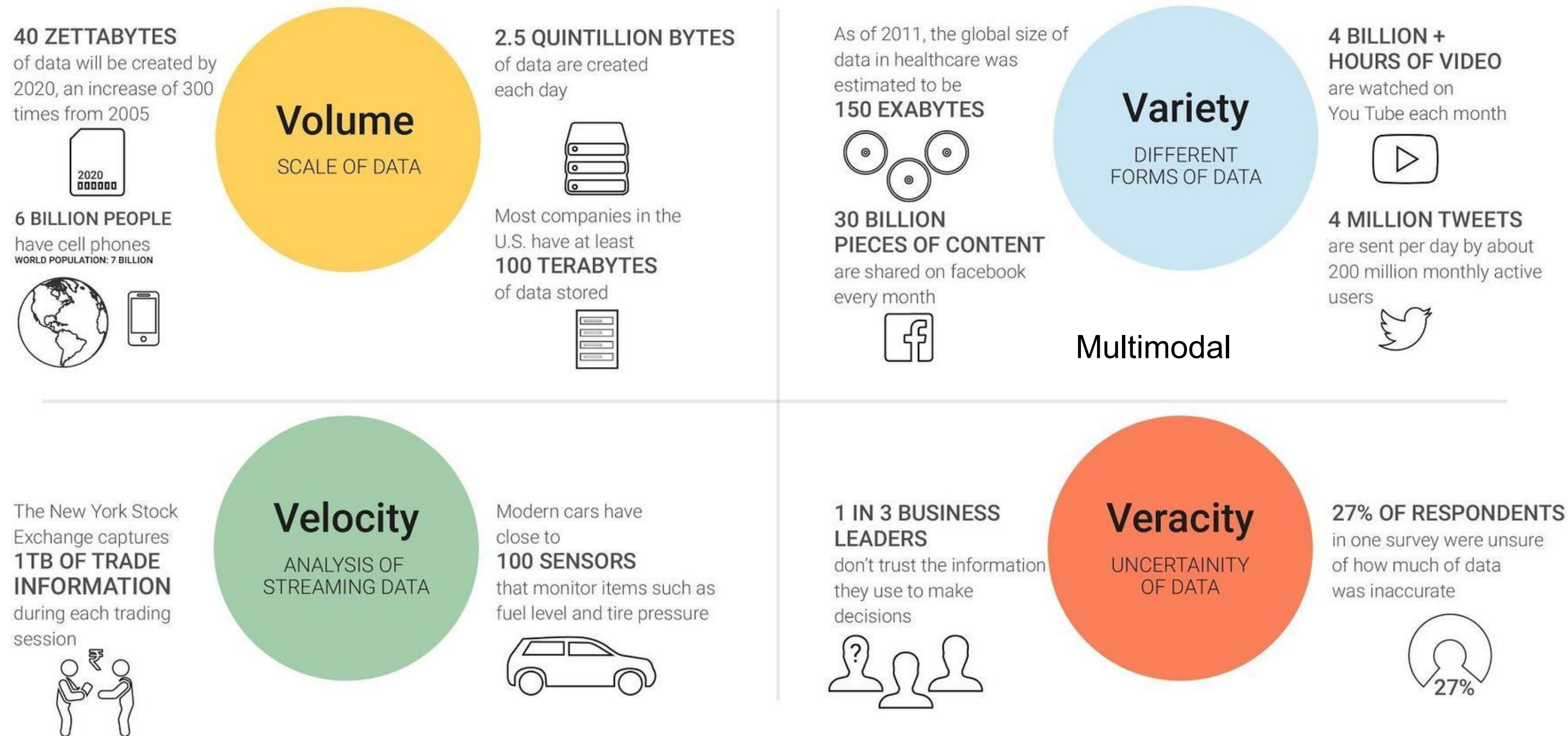


Data intensive applications combine a
large complement of **data** and **compute**
to **augment** or **replace** human **decision**
making for the benefit of **optimizing**
important **processes**.





THE 4 V'S OF BIG DATA



Reference : <http://www.ibmbigdatahub.com/infographic/four-vs-big-data>

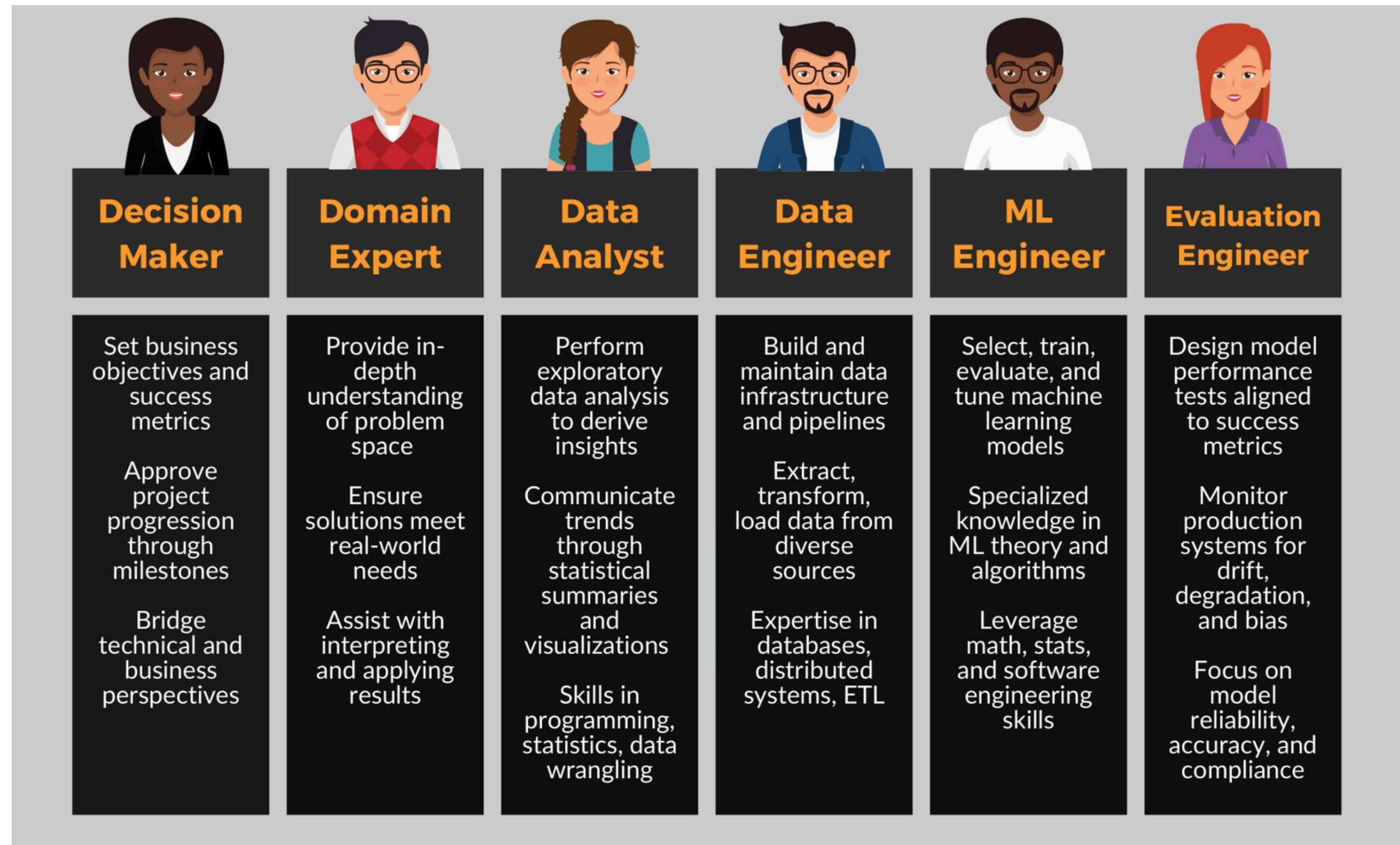
What do we mean by “large” complement of data?

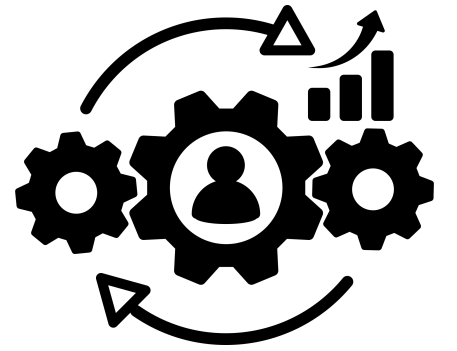
Our work in this class is focused on “handling” these data challenges.



What do we mean by “large” complement of compute?

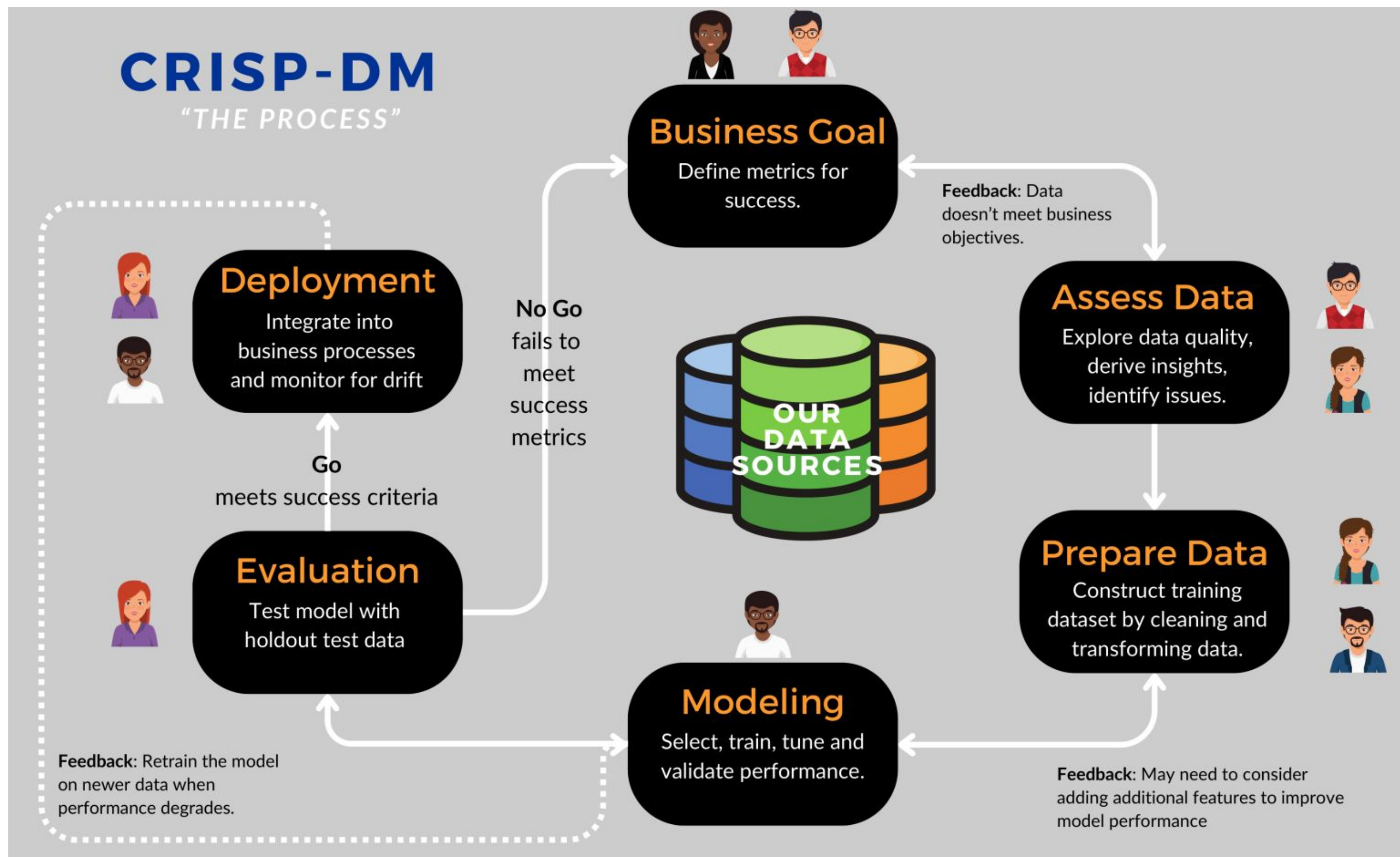
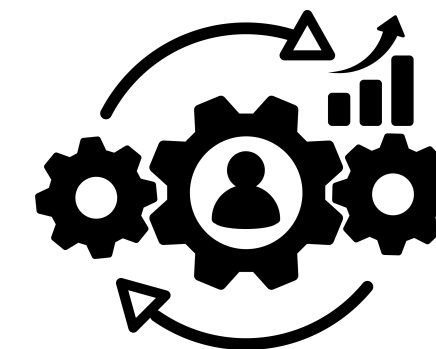
Building Data Intensive Applications is a team sport.





What we need in a process?

Structured Approach	Colaboration	Iteration	Predictability	Flexibiliy	Focus
Defines a clear, methodical sequence of steps to guide the end-to-end data value creation.	Clearly defines roles & responsibility to coordinate work across teams with diverse skills.	Allows folding back to previous steps when needed to refine the solution.	Following consistent standard methodology improves predictability.	The methodology can be tailored to fit different project needs and constraints.	Business goals anchor the process to ensure work stays aligned with delivering value.



10 Ways Your Data Project Might Fail






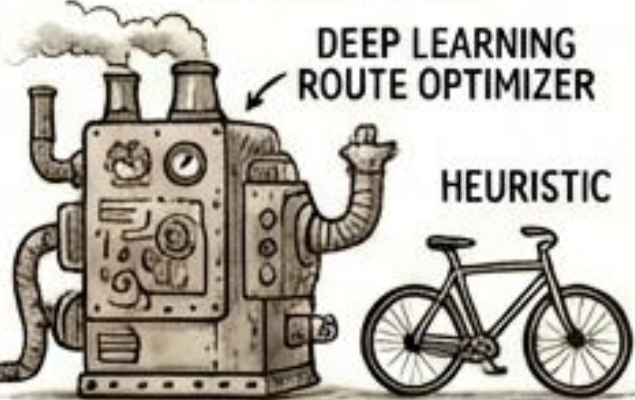

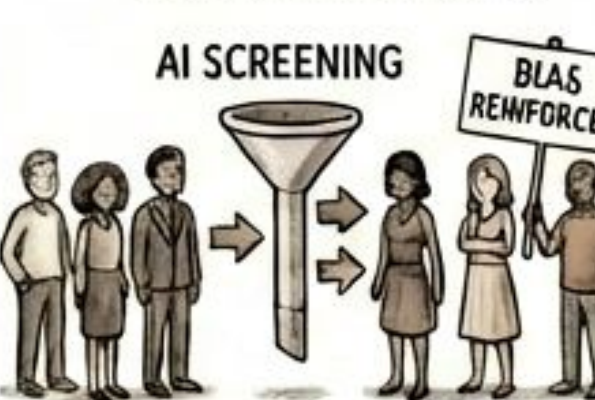

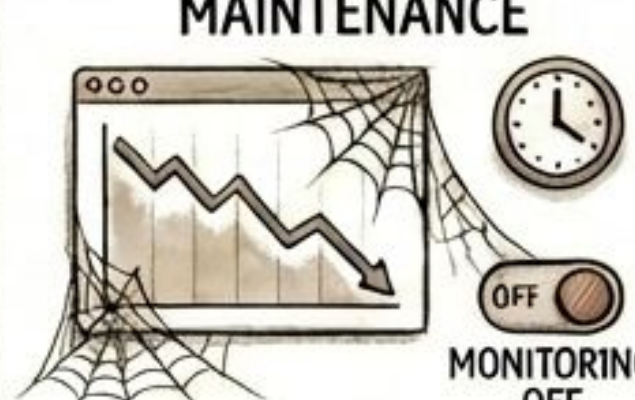
- Lack of Clear **Objectives**
- Insufficient **Data Quality**
- Poor **Data Management**
- Inadequate **Skills & Expertise**
- Ignoring **Business Context**
- **Overcomplicating Solutions**
- Poor **Communication & Collaboration**
- Ignoring **Ethical Considerations**
- Lack of **Scalability**
- Insufficient **Monitoring & Maintenance**

Source: Adapted from Martin Goodson, "[Ten Ways Your Data Project Is Going To Fail](#)"



TEN WAYS YOUR DATA PROJECT IS GOING TO FAIL

Source: Martin Goodson's Analysis. *Pitfalls for Data Science Practitioners*.

<p>1 LACK OF CLEAR OBJECTIVES</p>  <p>Example: Nonprofit aims to 'increase donor engagement' without defining metrics (frequency vs. size vs. retention). Result: Generic reports, dissatisfied stakeholders.</p>	<p>2 INSUFFICIENT DATA QUALITY</p>  <p>Example: Healthcare predictive model for at-risk patients relies on inconsistent EHRs (missing fields, errors). Result: Unreliable predictions, ineffective project.</p>	<p>3 POOR DATA MANAGEMENT</p>  <p>Example: Media company has terabytes of unstructured, siloed customer data without governance. Result: Impossible to extract insights for recommendation system.</p>	<p>4 INADEQUATE SKILLS & EXPERTISE</p>  <p>Example: Retail chain hires data scientist without domain expertise. Result: Complex, impractical model incompatible with inventory workflows.</p>	<p>5 IGNORING BUSINESS CONTEXT</p>  <p>Example: Bank's accurate fraud model ignores manual approval process. Result: Overwhelming false positives, delayed transactions, frustrated staff.</p>
<p>6 OVERCOMPLICATING SOLUTIONS</p>  <p>Example: Logistics company uses complex deep learning when simple heuristic could achieve 90% benefit. Result: unsustainable resource & expertise requirements.</p>	<p>7 POOR COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION</p>  <p>Example: E-commerce customer segmentation model built without marketing input. Result: Model too technical, misaligned with campaigns, underutilized.</p>	<p>8 IGNORING ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS</p>  <p>Example: Recruitment AI uses historical hiring data, reinforcing bias against underrepresented groups. Result: Public backlash, reputational damage.</p>	<p>9 LACK OF SCALABILITY</p>  <p>Example: Startup's personalized email system on a simple database fails as customer base grows. Result: Delays, failures, frustrated customers.</p>	<p>10 INSUFFICIENT MONITORING & MAINTENANCE</p>  <p>Example: Social media recommendation engine deployed without performance monitoring. Result: Relevance drift due to behavior changes, decreased engagement.</p>

Course Note: Success requires balancing technical rigor with clear goals, domain context, and ongoing stewardship. Avoid these traps!

***CRISP-DM** covers a lot of ground, but must be complemented by strong communication, ethical considerations, and scalability planning.*


CRISP-DM Stage	What Pitfall does it help mitigate?
Business Goal	1: Clear Objectives & ROI - Defines success metrics upfront.
Assess Data	2: Data Quality - Identifies and addresses data issues early.
Prepare Data	2: Data Quality - Cleans & transforms data for reliability. 3: Data Management - Supports documentation and governance.
Modeling	4: Expertise - Emphasizes model validation & performance. 6: Overcomplicating - Promotes pragmatic solutions.
Evaluation	10: Monitoring - Tests model with holdout data prior to deployment.
Deployment	3: Data Management - Supports integration. 5: Context - Integrates into business processes. 10: Monitoring - Provides framework for monitoring after integration.

DATA + COMPUTE


necessary / not sufficient

MODELING + OPTIMIZATION

deliver the value

		Human Decision Making	
		Augment - Narrow	Replace - General
Optimizing For ...	More	Skin lesion Classification > Correct Diagnosis	Trading Bots > profits
	Less	Delivery Route Planning < Fuel use	Self driving car < Accidents

Key Reason DIA are important: Data 2 Optimal Decisions

		Decision Frequency	
		High	Low
Decision Impact	High	Prime Value Target E.g. medical diagnosis and autonomous vehicles	Mixed Bag
	Low	May be worth the investment E.g. route planning and recommendations	Forget It! Too Costly

Key Reason DIA are important: Data 2 Optimal Decisions



Save ~100M
driving miles and
\$350–400M per
year with ORION
route optimization
system

		Decision Making	
		Augment	Replace
Optimizing For ...	More		
	Less	X Routes - Fuel	
		Decision Frequency	
		High	Low
Decision Impact	High		
	Low	X aggregation	


Augmenting

Planners and Drivers frequent decision process (every day). Low impact on a given delivery although aggregation across the high number of deliveries.

Outcome

Use Less fuel (KPI) by suggesting routes for each days deliveries.

Example: [UPS Route Optimization](#)



Reduced methane emissions by 74% and increased production by 22% in wells with Kelvin sensor system

		Decision Making	
		Augment	Replace
Optimizing For ...	More	X Oil Produced	
	Less	X GHG	

		Decision Frequency	
		High	Low
Decision Impact	High	X	
	Low		

Augmenting
Oil field operators with “digital twin” simulations leading to optimizations of operational parameters (flow and pressure) across the large scale operations.

Outcome
Less GHG and higher production. (KPI)

Example: [BP's New Oilfield Roughneck Is An Algorithm](#)



Increased booking conversion rate by ~4% by modeling likelihood of host acceptance

		Decision Making	
		Augment	Replace
Optimizing For ...	More		X (rec)
	Less		

		Decision Frequency	
		High	Low
Decision Impact	High		
	Low	X (agg)	

Outcome
More booking revenue (KPI) by recommending listings that are likely to accept the renter.
Beware of ethical considerations of algorithmic bias!

Replace
Replacing travel agent. Low impact on a given listing although aggregation across the high number of listings.

Example: [AirBnB Recommendation - increase booking revenue](#)

NETFLIX

Generate more than 80% of content views through ML recommendation system

		Decision Making	
		Augment	Replace
Optimizing For ...	More		X (rec)
	Less		

		Decision Frequency	
		High	Low
Decision Impact	High		
	Low	X (agg)	

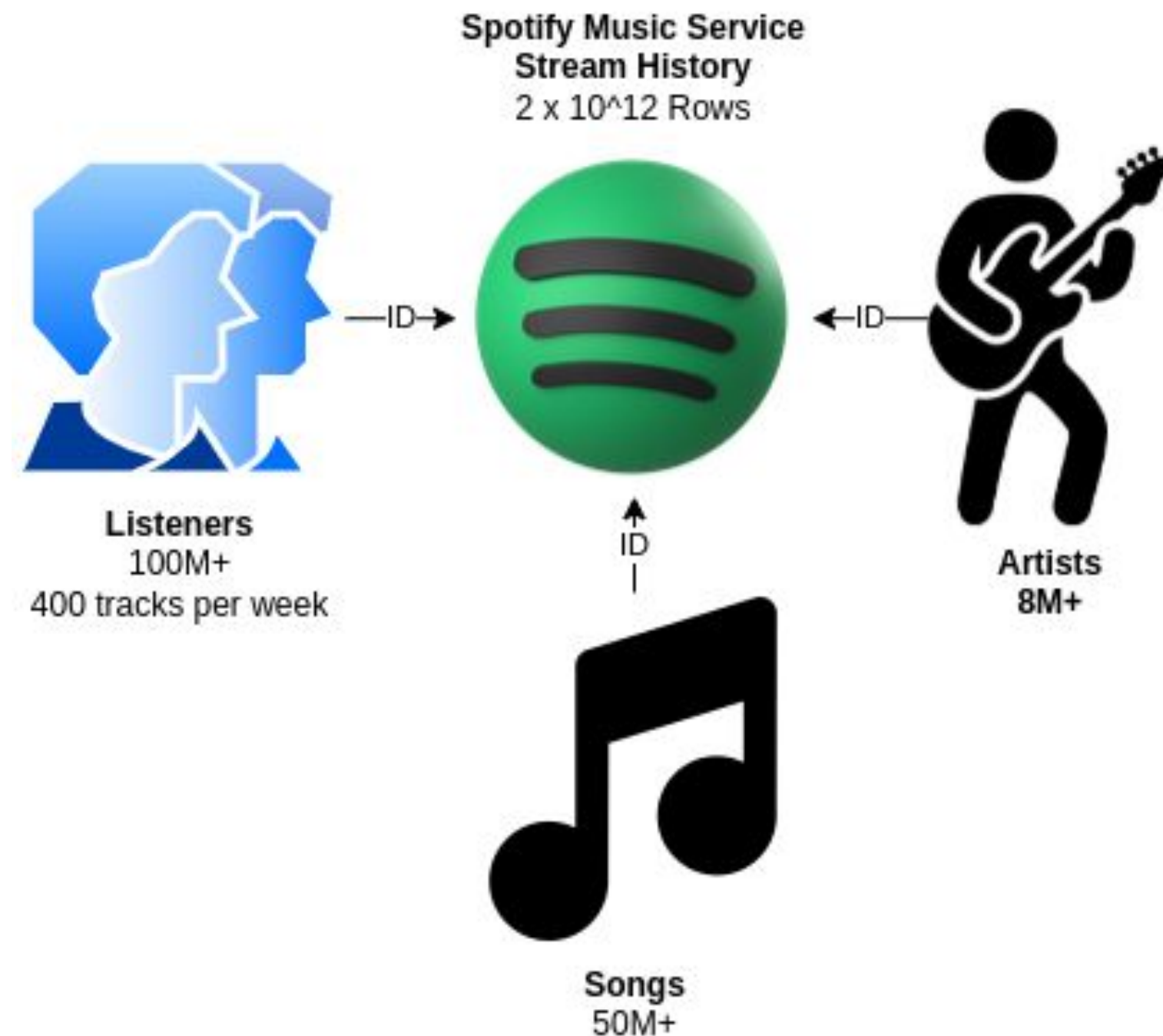
Replacing
Search results based on user entered criteria. Low impact on a given search although aggregation across the high number of searches.

Outcome
Increase engagement - watch time (KPI) by recommending movies.

Example: [Netflix Recommendation - 80% of views](#)


A DATA & COMPUTE STORY


How Spotify ran the largest Google Dataflow job ever for Wrapped 2019



```
SELECT
  L.UserName,
  A.ArtistName,
  S.Track,
  COUNT(1) as ListenCount
FROM Stream_History SH
JOIN Artists A on A.ID = SH.AID
JOIN Songs S on S.ID = SH.SID
JOIN Listeners L on L.ID = SH.LID
GROUP BY L.UserName, A.ArtistName, S.Track
ORDER BY ListenCount DESC
```


Spotify Wrapped is a data-intensive application designed to:

		Decision Making	
		Augment	Replace
Optimizing For ...	More	X (engagement)	
	Less		

		Decision Frequency	
		High	Low
Decision Impact	High		X (agg)
	Low		

Outcome

Strengthen emotional connections to the platform.

Drive business value through engagement, retention, and brand promotion.

Augement

Increases the users self-awareness of their listening habits Analytics for the people.

That's a Wrap!

Get going on your Labs!