

Zachary Fong

1/27/16

Data vs Information

Database Management

Within Amazon's database some of the elements of data that are stored in the database are their user's name, address, browsed items, and bought items. One of the many databases the Amazon uses is dynamo dB which organizes all of its data in tables. Data organized into tables are categorized by field names. The field names are the column name in a table and the records would be the data. This turns the data into information. The data is now information because it has been categorized and given meaning instead of it being just a collection of random facts.

Data by itself is just raw facts until the data has been sorted and organized its completely useless. When the data is organized and given context it turns from something completely chaotic and useless to something potentially useful. One example would be finding the average of a class based on their test scores. The data would be the student's test scores and by itself it would just be bunch of numbers on its own with little to no meaning. Once the data is given context like deriving the class average this can be taken from the data. Information paired with data is important because without information data is just raw facts. Information is the outcome of interpreted data and information is also just a snapshot of the data at the time as data is always changing.