

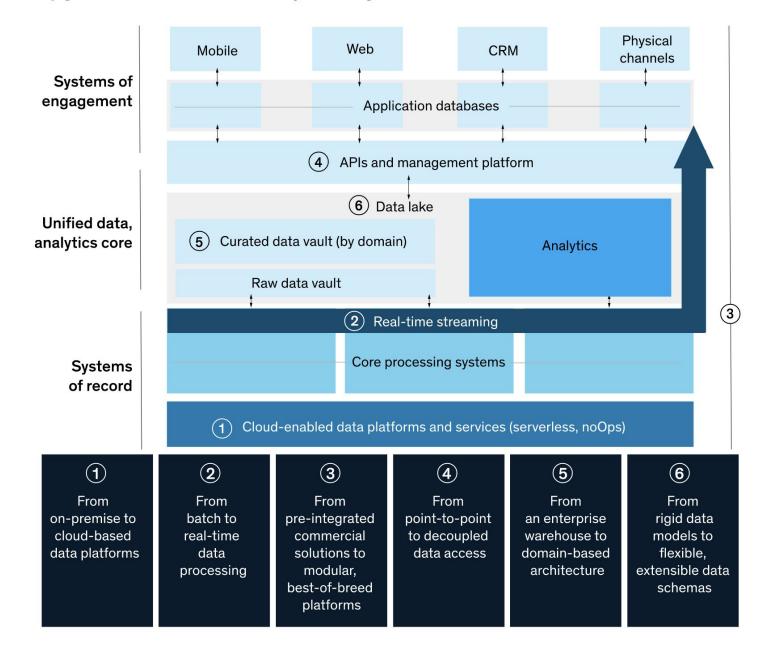


From

Fluffy Data Straty
To
Getting Data Done

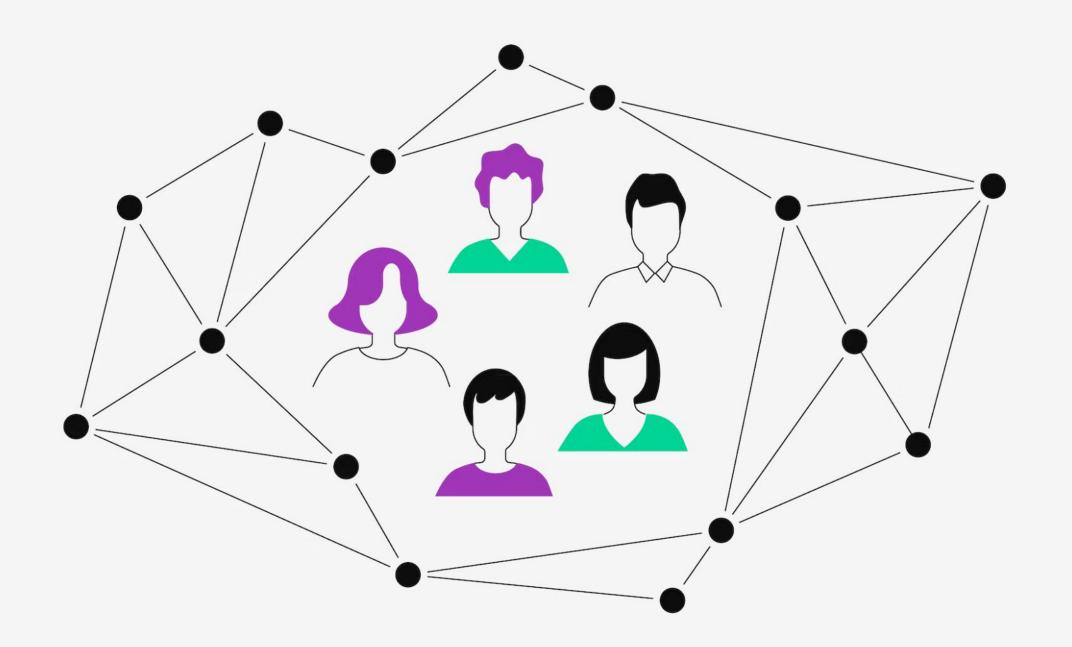


Upgrade data architecture by making six foundational shifts.













Practical approaches about how to make your data platform a success

About us



Jelle De Vleminck

Senior data engineer focused on making other engineers more productive



Kristof Martens

Senior data engineer focused on building secure, at scale data platforms in the cloud for organizations across different industries.

Business and IT are often acting like rivaling superpowers during the cold war



Business (decentralised)



IT department (centralised)

A difference in values



Business

Freedom

Speed Agility Experiments User Experience Ease of use Self Service



IT department

CONTROL

Cost
Process & Procedures
Reuse
Standardization
Operations
Security, legal, compilance
Oversight

They carry dangerous weapons



Business



IT department









Mutually Assured Destruction



Business



IT department



They build walls



Business



IT department

CONTROL

Yearly budget exercise Maintain what we built More functionality Priority calls Escalations



Freedom

Tickets Queues Inflated estimates (time / budget)
Compartmentalisation
No (budget/manpower)
Committees

As a consequence



Business



IT department

Slow and expensive



Let's build it ourselves!

Cowboys



Why is nobody using our data platform?

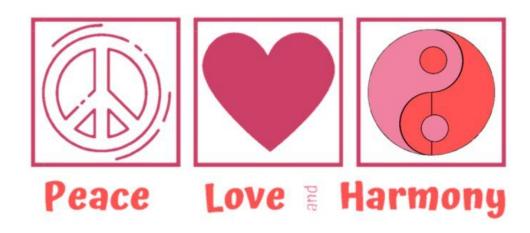
In the end, we all want the same

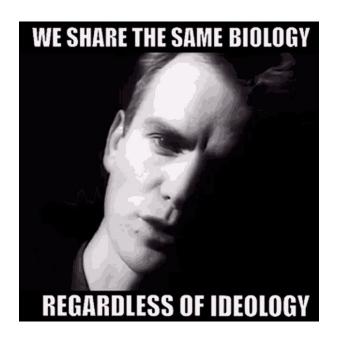


Business



IT department





How to break down walls and create mutual understanding (in data)

Instructions

Go to

www.menti.com

Enter the code

5932 4620



Or use QR code

Practical approaches about how to make your data platform a success

Tie your platform to the strategic goals of the company
Look for reasons to do things instead of finding reasons not to do it

Embrace a platform thinking approach
The platform mindset and a roadmap on how to get there

How do you get started?
Practical tips on how to approach this

Balancing the act of centralization and decentralization Values of Freedom and Control are not conflicting

Link data platform design to your strategic goals

Leverage your current company goals





Create innovative services



Become more data driven



Get closer to customers

All take a huge advantage of data analytics and data products

How can we leverage all data that we have available to us?

BUT...

How can we make sure that data projects are developed in a **technical sustainable and scalable** way?

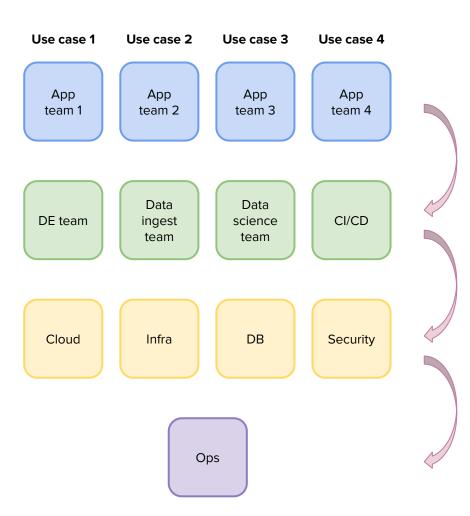
How can the business **focus on business challenges** instead of engineering and IT operational issues inherent to the data worlds?

Every company is different

	TECH		
Budget	V	VVV	
Synergy and reuse	V	VVV	VV
Agility	VVV	V V	
Tech skills across organisation	VVV	✓ ✓	✓
Legal / Governance requirements	V	VV	VVV
Data platform	×	✓ (Shared)	(# Instances)

Change how business and IT interact with each other

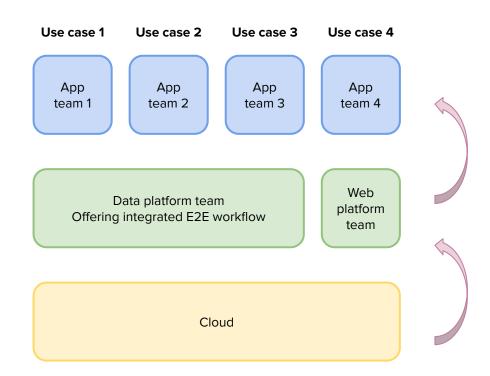
From delegating responsibilities to other teams



Change how business and IT interact with each other

To offering capabilities that enable teams to work effectively

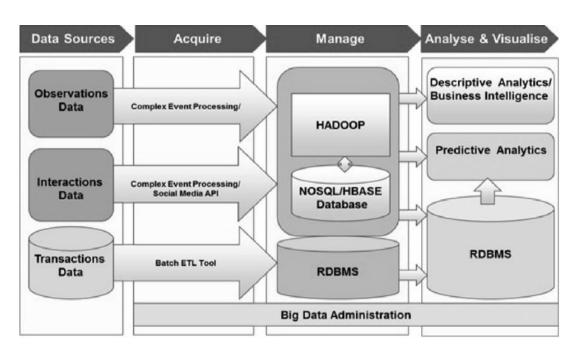
IT as enabler instead of bottleneck



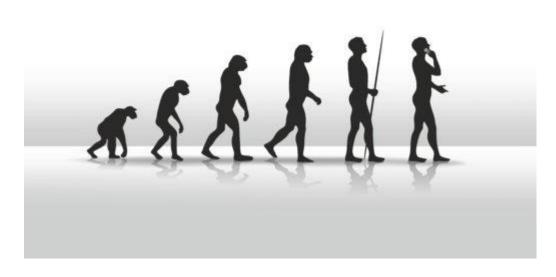
Make sure you are building the right capabilities

Beware Big Design Upfront & Analysis Paralysis

No architecture survives first contact with developers



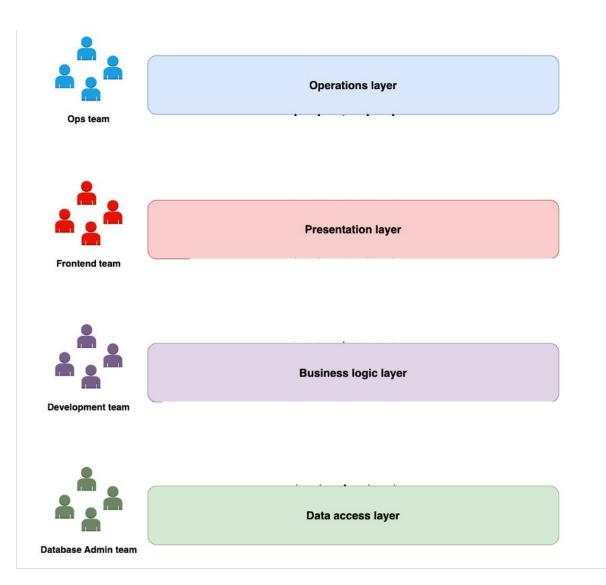
This is a wish list, not an architecture!



Accept from the beginning that your architecture will evolve, based on what you will learn. Start small, show value, lure in others!

Embrace a platform thinking approach

Classic IT departments often operate in silos with different teams owning the different key layers of the end product





Forgetting about the end-users.

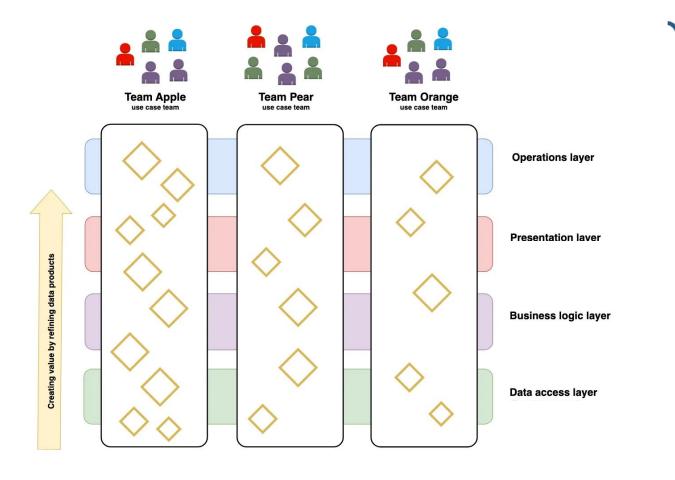


Limited ownership and accountability on decisions.



Lack of agility & business adaptability.

Moving towards long-lived product-oriented teams where people with different expertise work together towards a shared goal





A stronger feeling of ownership.



Optimised for flow of change.

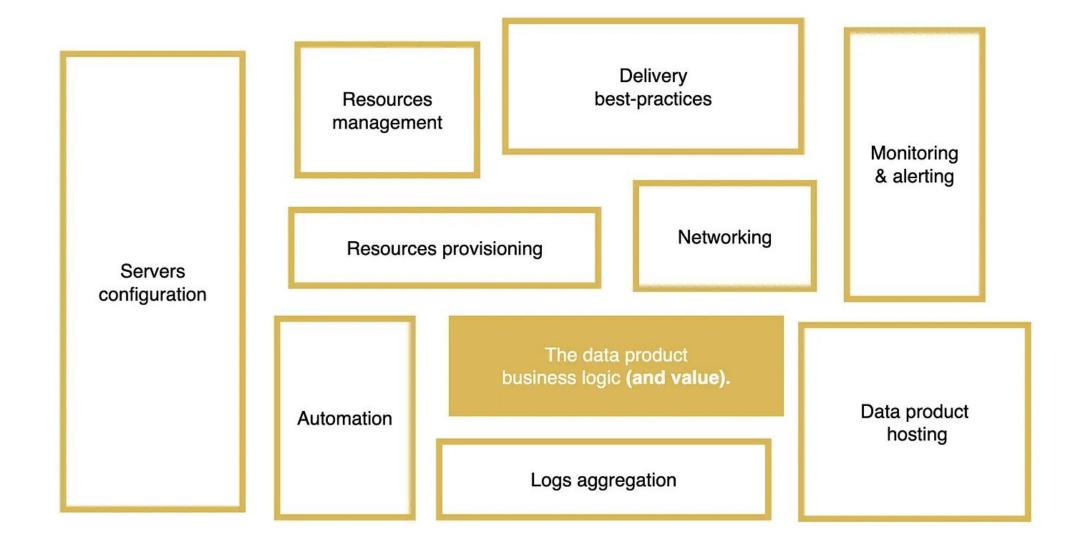


More motivation in day-to-day tasks

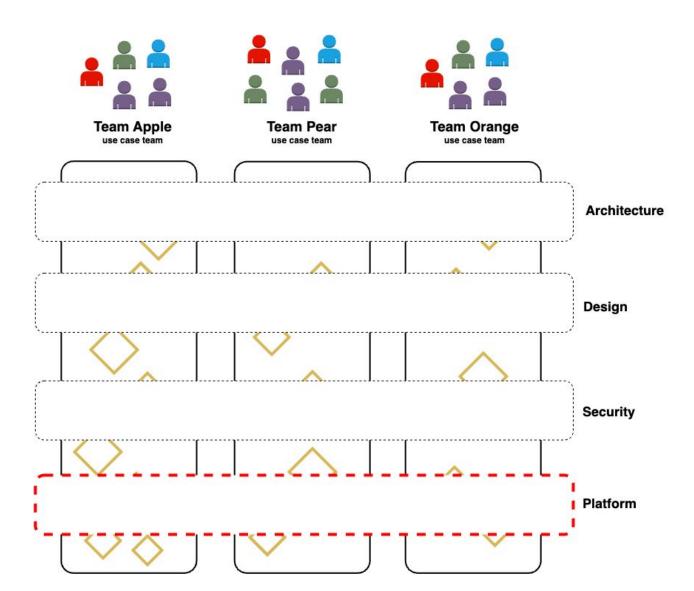


Developing skills enabling end-to-end value creation.

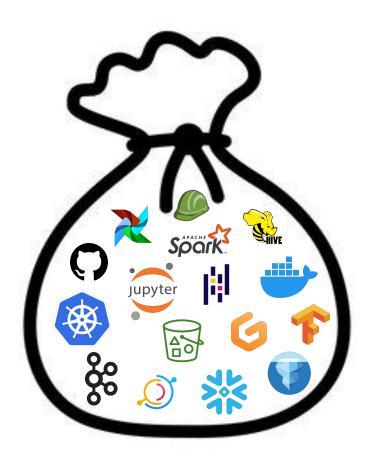
The main issue with autonomous product-oriented teams is that teams will spend a lot of their day-to-day work on tasks not directly impacting business value. We call that <u>undifferentiated heavy lifting</u>.



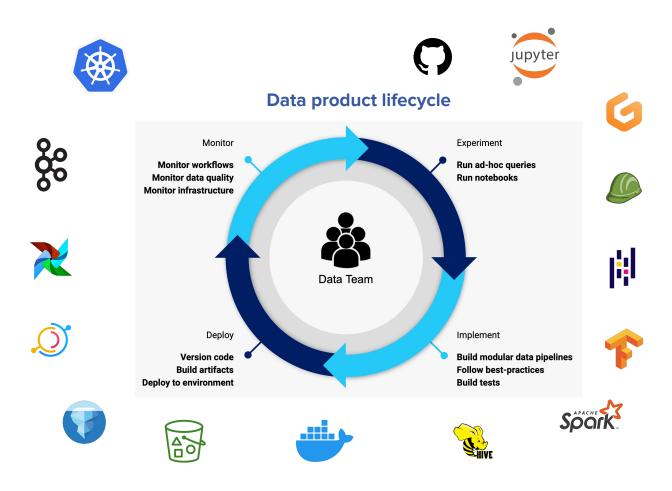
This is where the idea of a <u>platform</u> and enabling teams comes in. They support the product-oriented teams in doing their job.



Make the easy things the rights things by providing paved roads

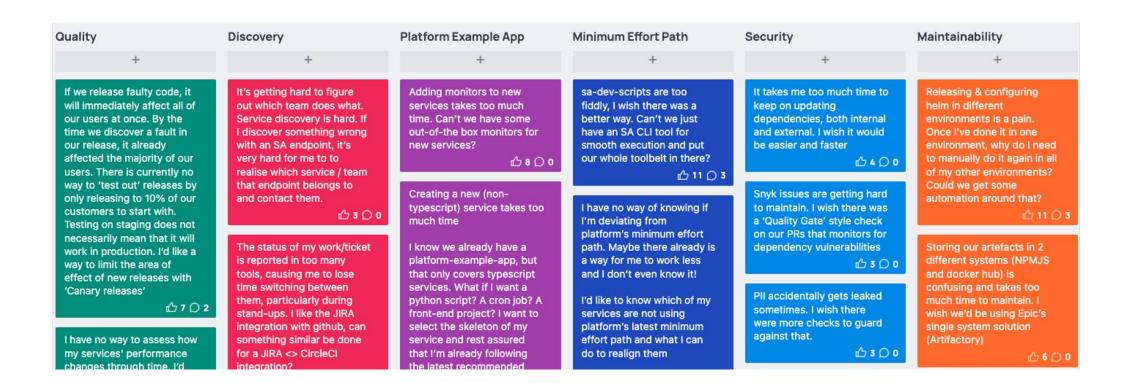


A data platform is not a bunch of tools randomly thrown together



A data platform should offer an integrated experience that guides them through all steps of the data product lifecycle by offering paved roads

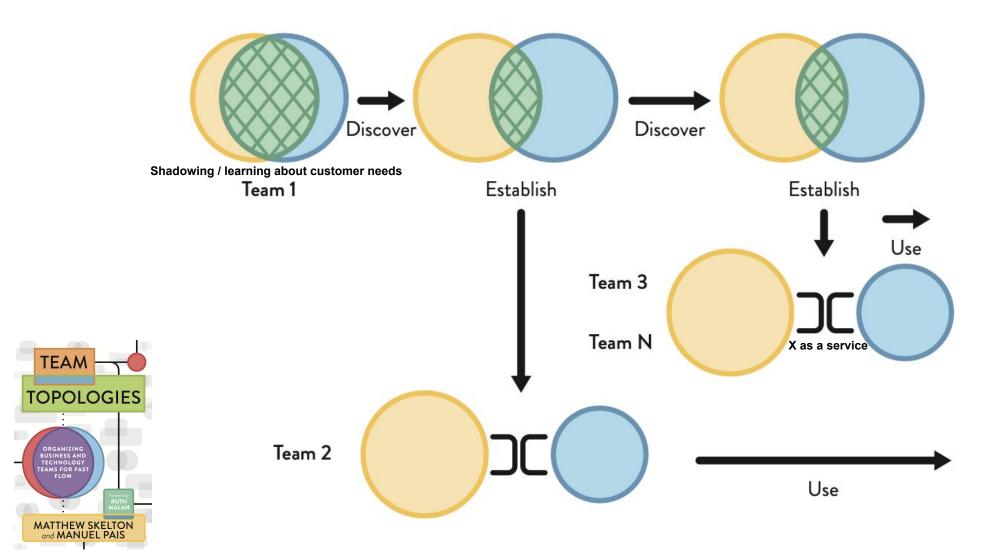
Don't force people to use the platform



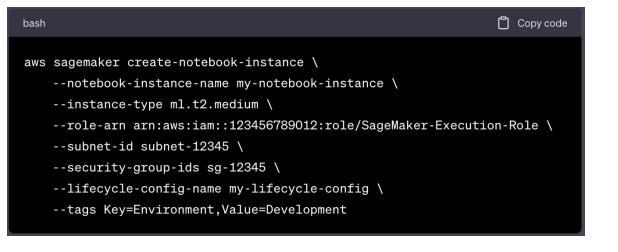
But make them want to use it. Involve them in how the platform needs to evolve.

How do you get started?

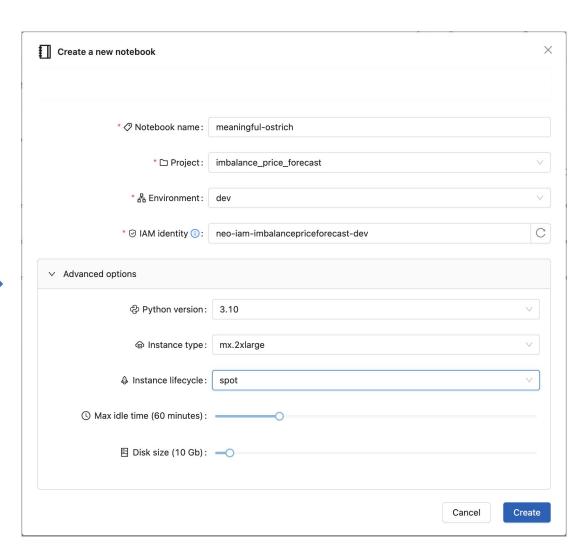
From close collaboration to limited collaboration (discovery) through to X-as-a-Service for established, predictable delivery



An example: Going from documenting API calls to experimentation as a service

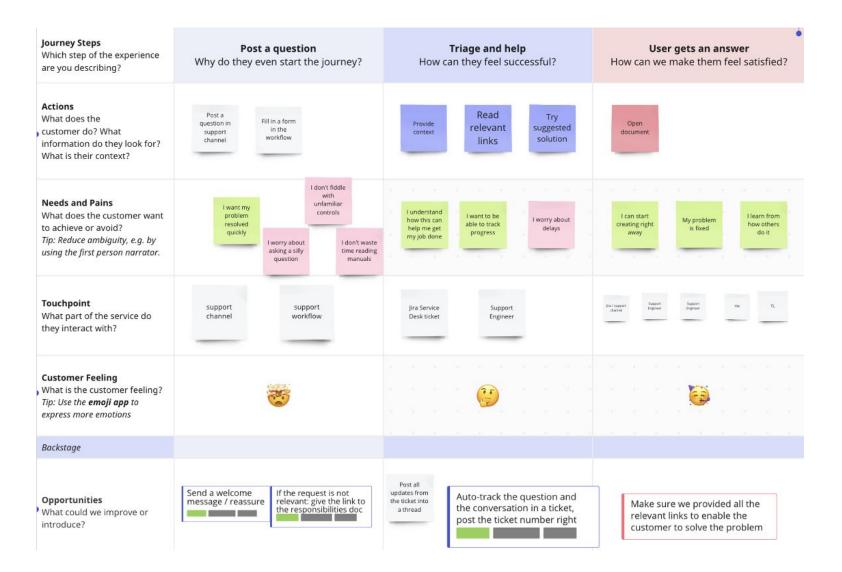








Put yourself in your users shoes



Self-service documentation is a <u>first class deliverable</u>.

Platform Documentation

- Get started
 - > Development tools setup.
- Purpose-Based Access Control
- Storing & querying data from the data lake
- Data I/O with ingress & egress buckets
- B DAGs monitoring & alerting
- >

 Data warehousing with Snowflake
- > > Version control & CI/CD with GitLab
- Realtime data layer with Kafka.
- > F Data catalog & schema registry
- > 🧸 Data Quality
- > Development & experimentation environments
- Self-service database
- > With Hosting containerized applications on AWS EKS
- > Shared resources



Audit regularly.



Make it simple.



Have an onboarding exercise.



Have consistent formats.



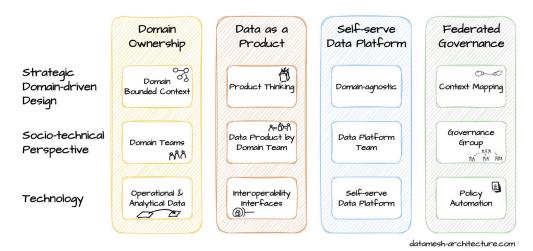
Collect feedback on every page.

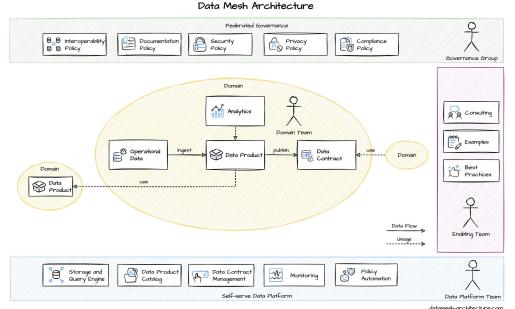
Balancing the act of centralization and decentralization

Data Mesh or Data Mess?



What Is Data Mesh?





Data mesh is not a religion: Don't be dogmatic in your principles and keep a flexible mindset.

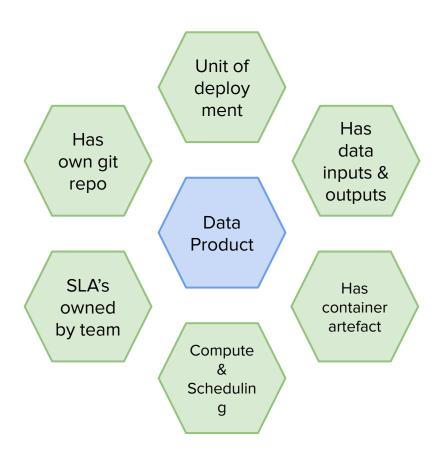
Take a practical approach: See what works and skip what doesn't work for you

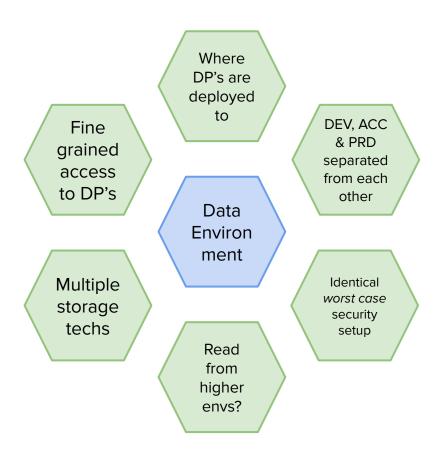
Do not decentralise everything: Data mesh principles allow for shared capabilities

Pe careful of ambiguous terminology: What is a data domain and how granular is it?

Processing vs Data ownership: Who "owns" a derived data product using data from other domains?

Introduce simple concepts that are repeatable and easy to understand





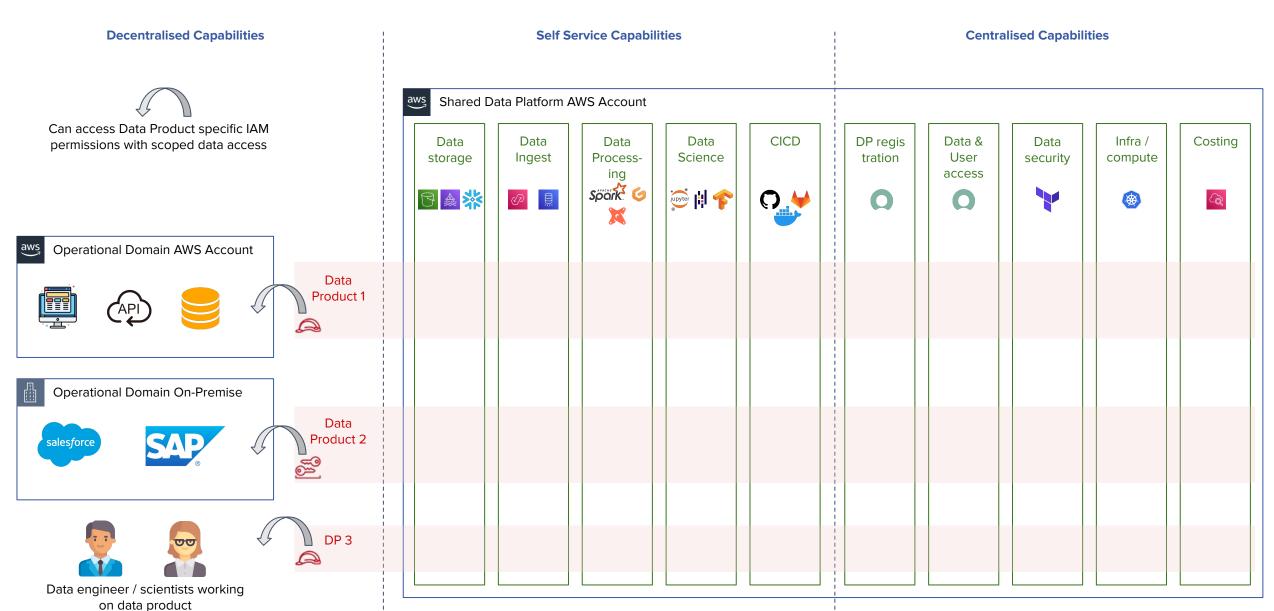
Infrastructure environment

Decide upfront how you want to offer the capabilities of your data platform

Data platform capability	Centralised	Self service	Decentralised
Ingestion		•	
Processing	•		
Access & sharing	•		
Security	•		
ML / Al capabilities		•	
BI capabilities		•	
Data modelling			•
Dashboards		•	
Build/release/deploy			•
API hosting		•	
Data product serving		•	
Governance	•		

An example (AWS Focussed)

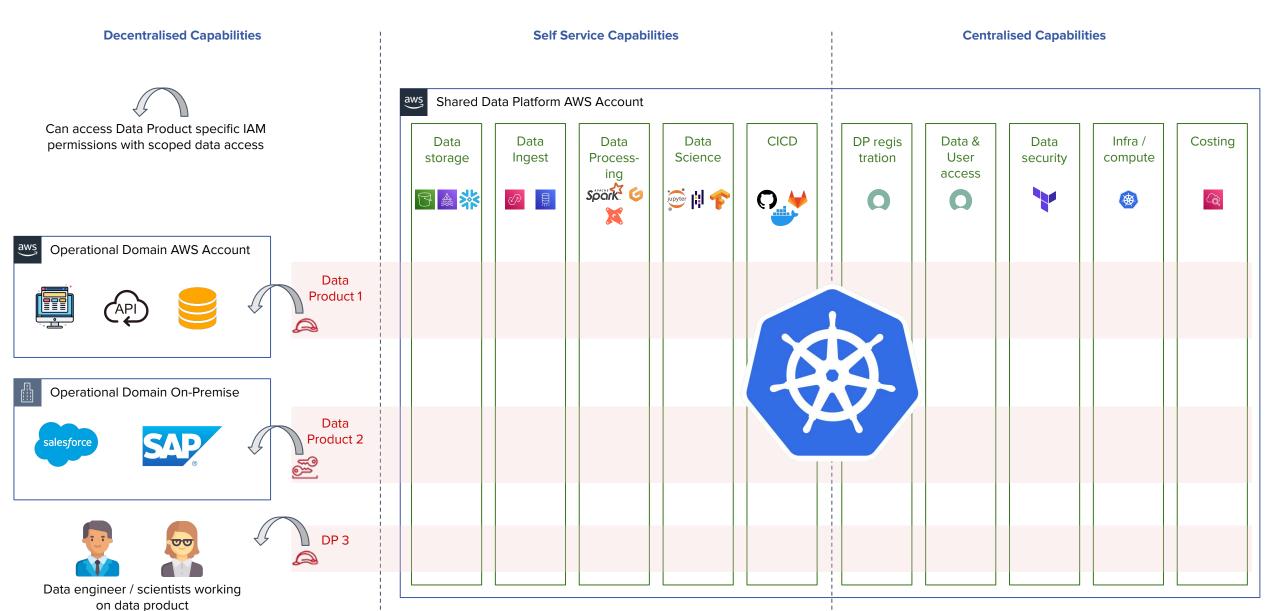
Domain or Business team



Paved roads provided by Data Platform (or Enabling) team

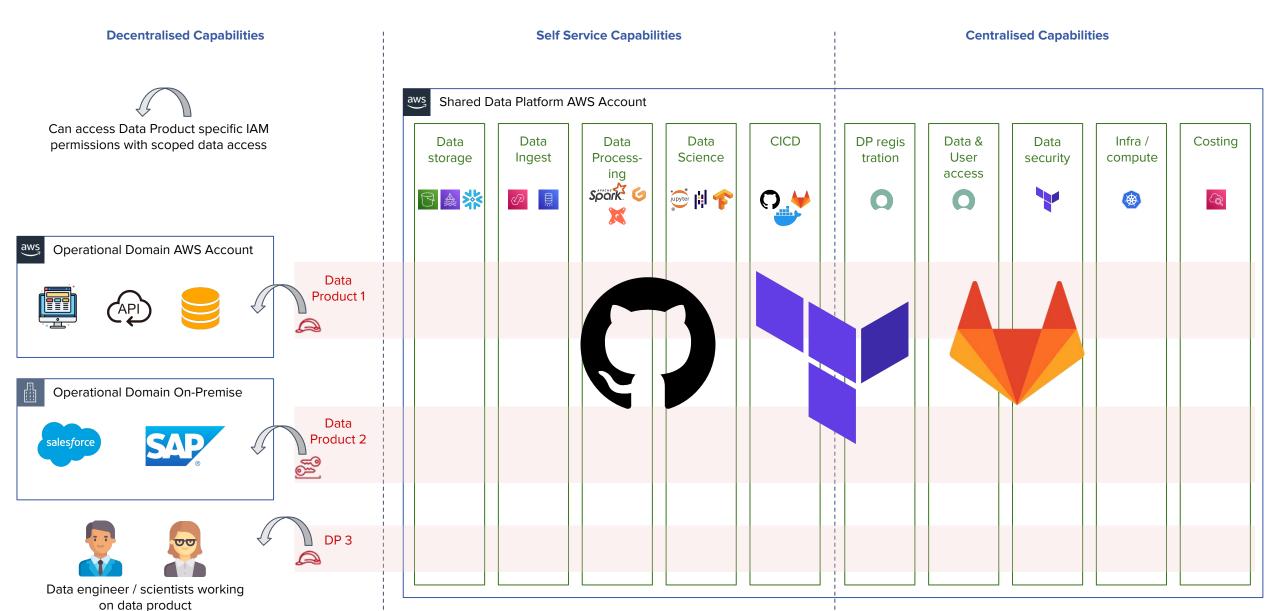
Pro tip: Leverage Kubernetes to manage separation

Domain or Business team



Paved roads provided by Data Platform (or Enabling) team

Pro tip: Leverage automation to do this at scale and integrate all components

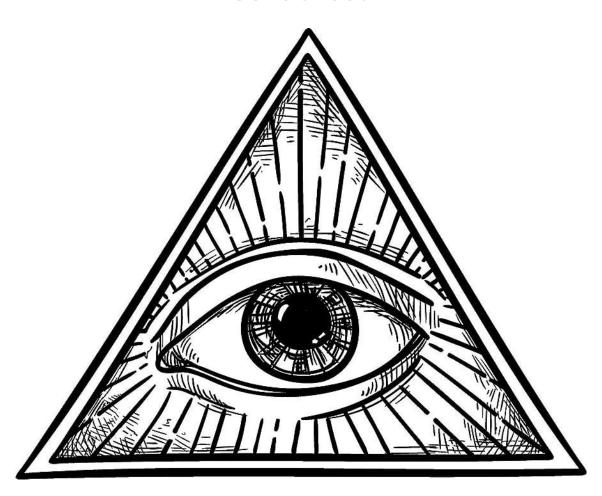


 $d\dot{m}$

Domain or Business team

If done properly you can strike the right balance...

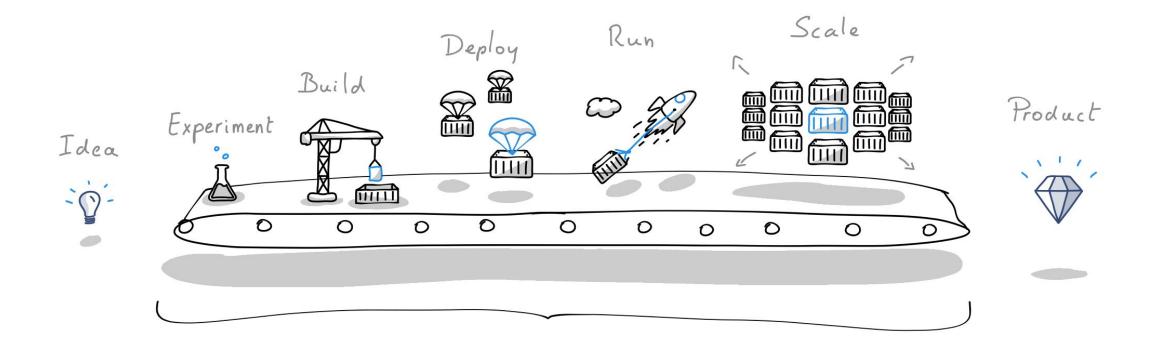
Centralised



Self Service

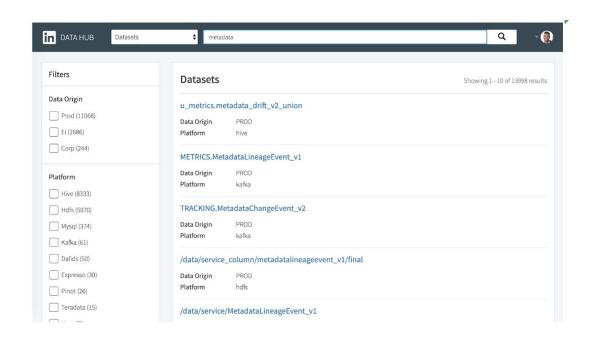
Decentralised

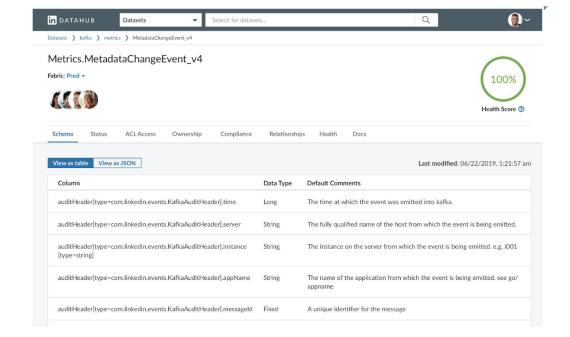
Example of a paved road





Browse available data sources in the data catalog





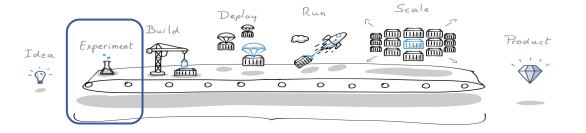


Register a new potential data product purpose & request data access.

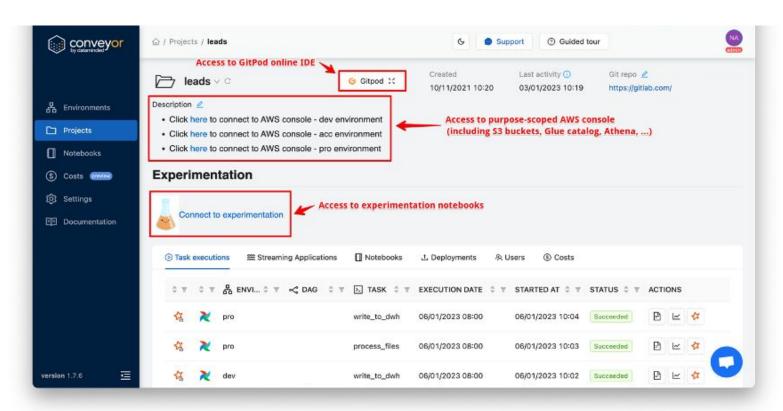


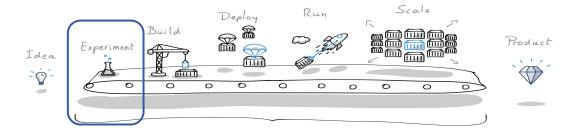
Data owners validate the purpose and whether data can be used for that.

After approval everything is set up automatically.

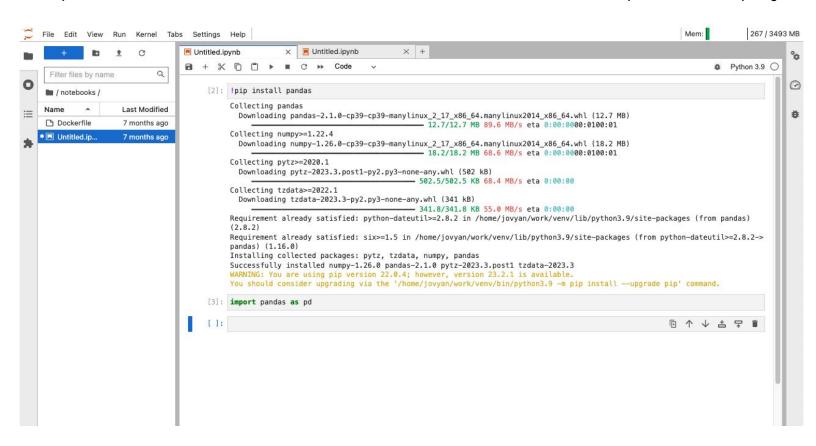


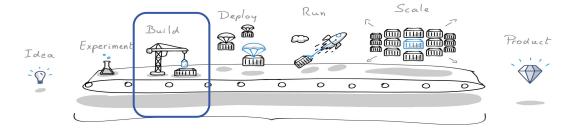
Ideally offer an integrated user experience for data scientists/engineers/analysts





Experiment with data via one-click access to notebooks scoped to that project





Industrialise via Cloud IDE's that are scoped to that project

```
\equiv
      EXPLORER
                                             [Preview] README.md
                                                                        ▷ ~ □ …
                                              src > ingestion > cleaning > & jobs.py > datetime
                                                     from datetime import datetime
      > .conveyor
      > .github
                                                     import boto3
      > dags
                                                     from pyspark.sql import SparkSession
      > notebooks
                                                     from pyspark.sql import functions as sf
      > scripts
                                                     from ingestion.cleaning.south_africa import fix_south_africa

√ src/ingestion

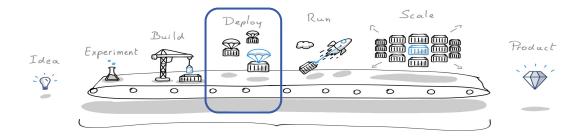
                                                     from ingestion.common.spark import SparkLogger

✓ cleaning

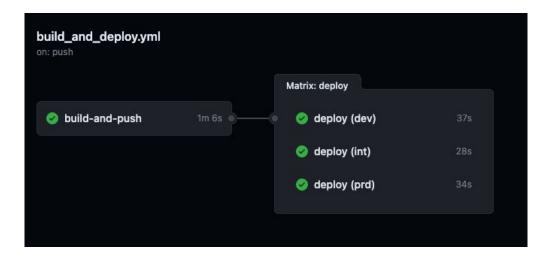
        __init__.py
                                                10
        jobs.py
                                                11
                                                     class IngestionJob:
                                                12
                                                         def __init__(
        south_africa.py
                                                13
                                                            self,
       > common
                                                14
                                                             spark: SparkSession,
       -init_.py
                                                15
                                                            env: str,
       app.py
                                                16
                                                            datetime_string: str,
                                                17
      > tests
                                                            data_source: str,
                                                18
                                                             source_type: str,
      .dockerignore
                                                19
      .gitignore
                                                20
                                                             self.spark = spark
      .gitpod.dockerfile
                                                21
                                                             self.env = env
      ! .gitpod.yml
                                                22
                                                             self.datetime_string = datetime_string
                                                23
                                                            self.datetime = datetime.strptime(datetime_string, "%Y%m%d")
      .python-version
                                                24
                                                             self.data_source = data_source
      E dev-requirements.in
                                                25
                                                            self.source_type = source_type
      = dev-requirements.txt
                                                26
                                                             self.datalake_bucket = IngestionJob.get_datalake_bucket(
      27
                                                28
      ! notebooks.yaml
                                                29
                                                            self.source_path = f"s3://{self.datalake_bucket}/raw/{self.data_source}/{self.datetime_string}"
       pytest.ini
                                                30
                                                            self.destination_path = f"s3://{self.datalake_bucket}/trusted/{self.data_source}/{self.datetime_string}"

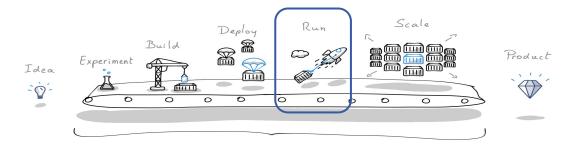
 README.md

                                                31
                                                            self.logger = SparkLogger(spark)
      = requirements.in
                                                32
       = requirements.txt
                                                33
                                                             self.logger.info(f"Datalake bucket: {self.datalake_bucket}")
                                                34
      e setup.py
                                                35
                                                         def get_datalake_bucket(environment: str):
                                                36
                                                            ssm_client = boto3.client("ssm")
                                                37
                                                             response = ssm_client.get_parameter(
     > OUTLINE
                                                38
                                                                Name=f"/platform/{environment}/public/datalake_bucket"
```

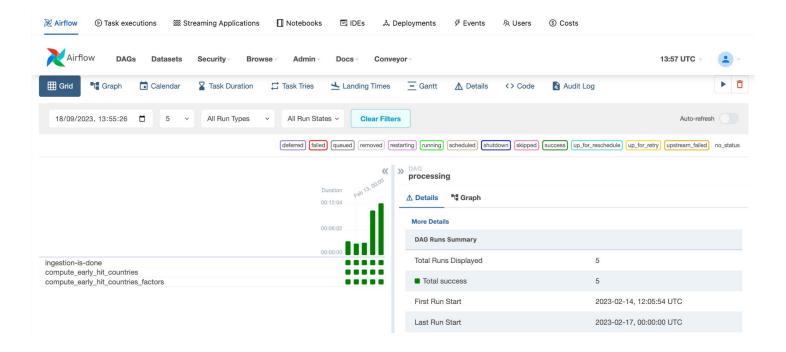


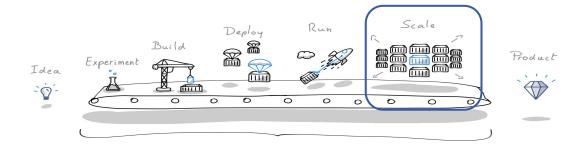
Build and deploy via standardized tooling and templates offered via paved roads



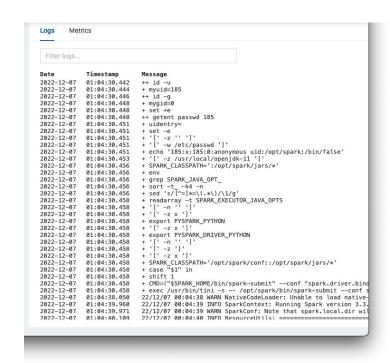


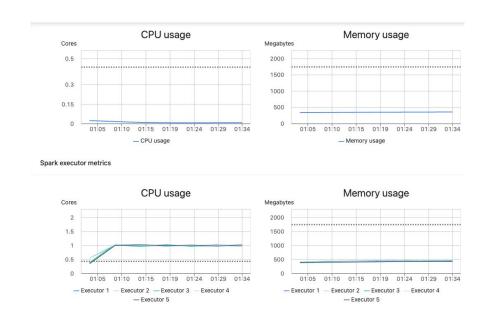
Schedule your data pipelines via Airflow or a different scheduler



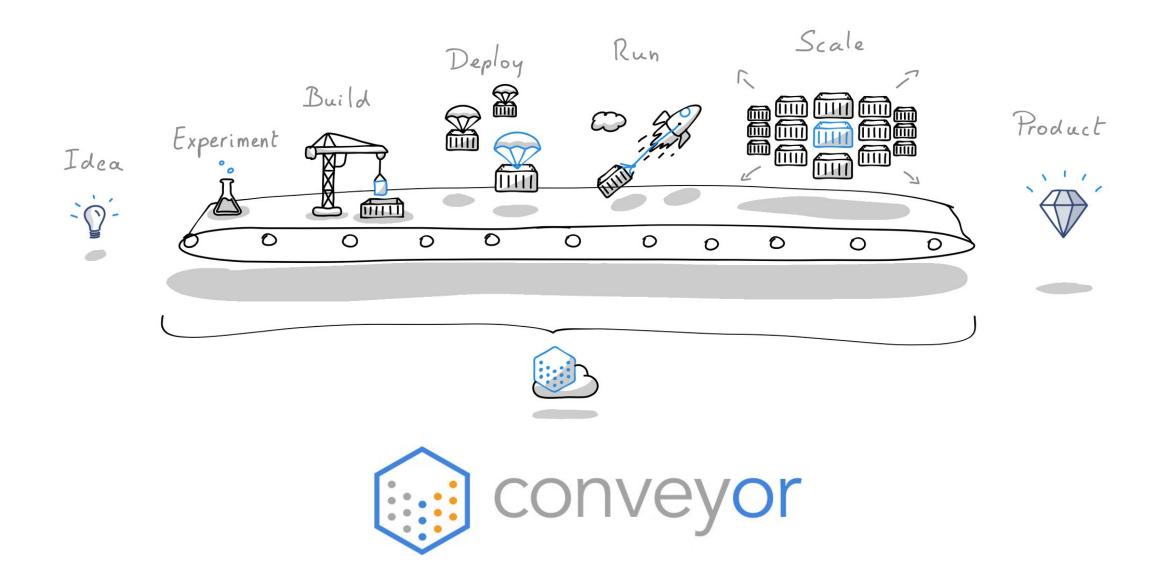


Follow up on alerts and offer easy access to logs and metrics if needed





It is possible to build this yourselves, or give yourselves a head start



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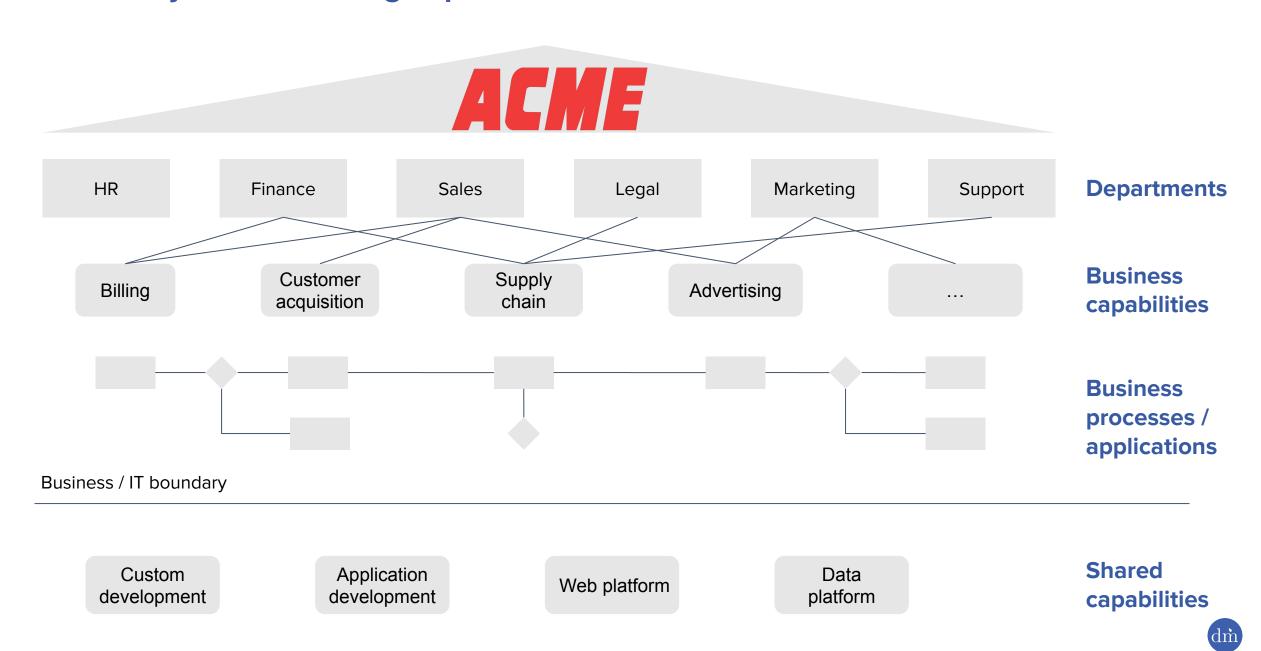
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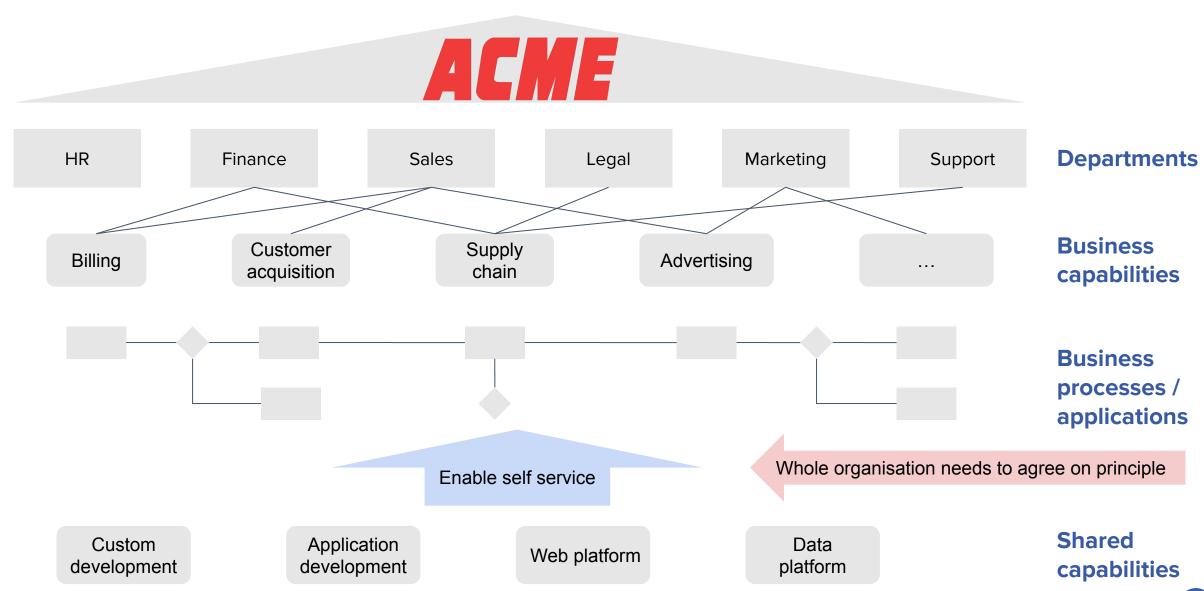




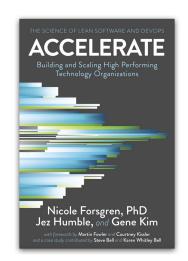
Make sure you are building capabilities the business needs

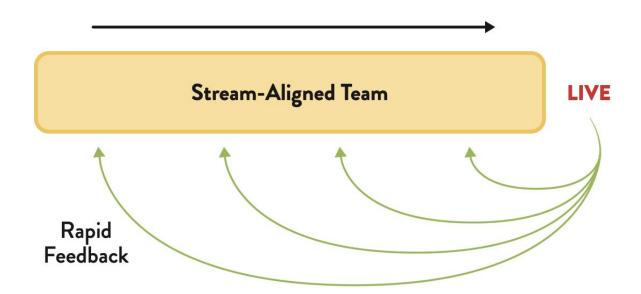


Make sure you are building capabilities the business needs



"we must ensure delivery teams are cross-functional, with all the skills necessary to design, develop, test, deploy, and operate the system on the same team."







Pro tip: own the perception of how teams look at you as a platform team



Support your users by defining your commitments, support channels and support workflow for each type of request





Data Mesh is not an excuse to decentralise everything (AWS focused)

