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# **Earth Science Data Analytics (ESDA)**

## **Telecon XX** (that would be 20)

**Earth Science Data Analytics Cluster**

Steve Kempler, Moderator  
February 18, 2016



# Agenda

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

- In The Beginning
- After the Beginning
- A New Beginning - ESIP
- After the New Beginning – ESDA
- The Beginning of ESDA Cluster
- After the Beginning of ESDA Cluster
- Beginning to Better Understand ESDA



# Obligatory Very First Slide

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

## Earth Science Data Analytics (ESDA) Cluster Goal:

To understand where, when, and how ESDA is used in science and applications research through speakers and use cases, and determine what Federation Partners can do to further advance technical solutions that address ESDA needs. Then do it.

## ***Ultimate Goal:***

***To Glean Knowledge about Earth from All Available Data and Information***



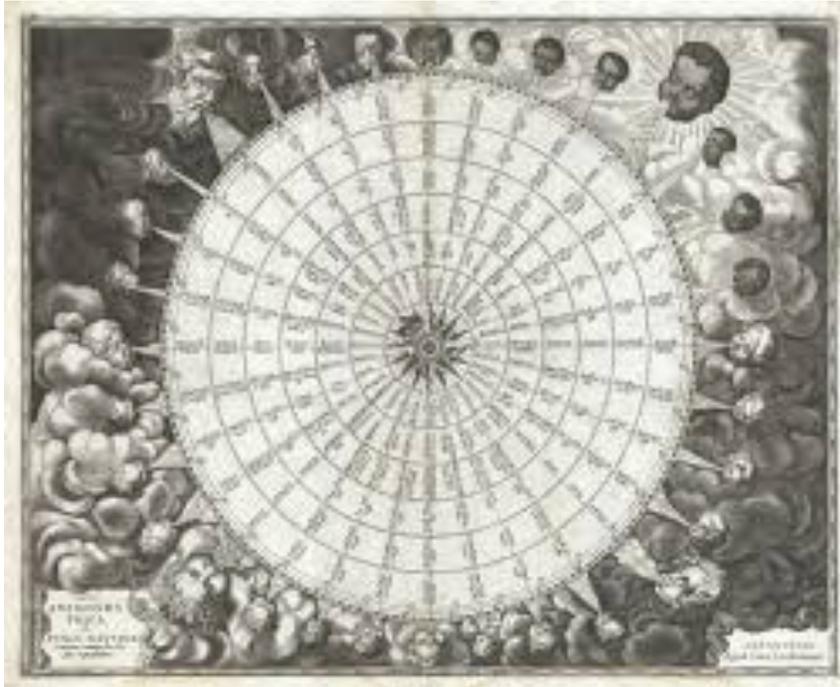
# In The Beginning



"You just stood there and *let* the glacier run over your foot?"

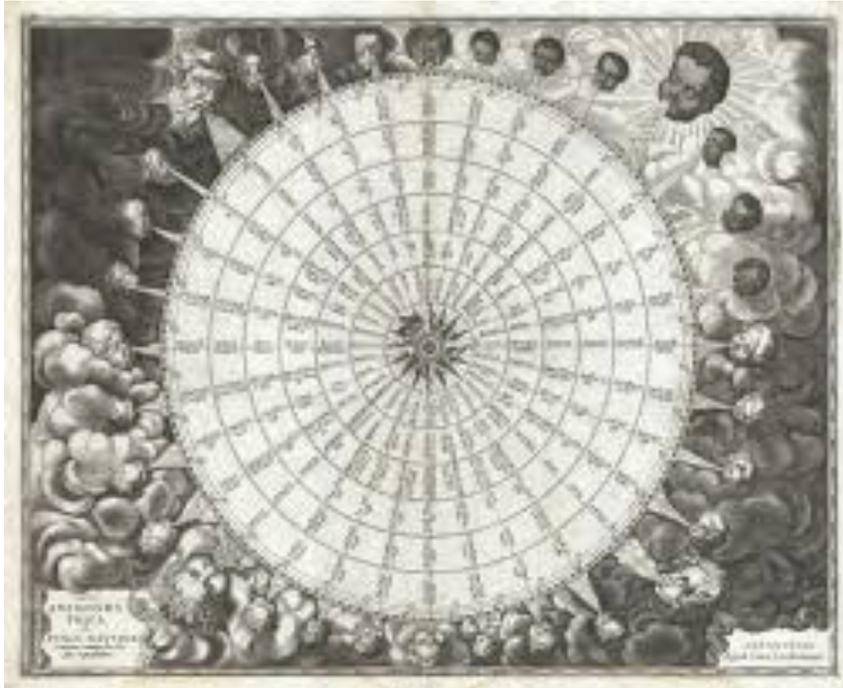


# In The Beginning



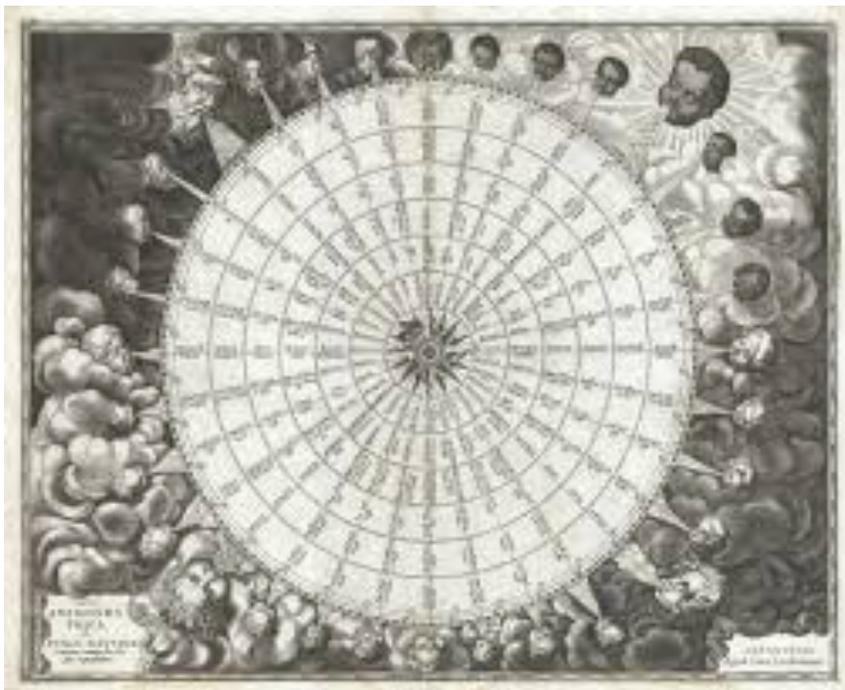


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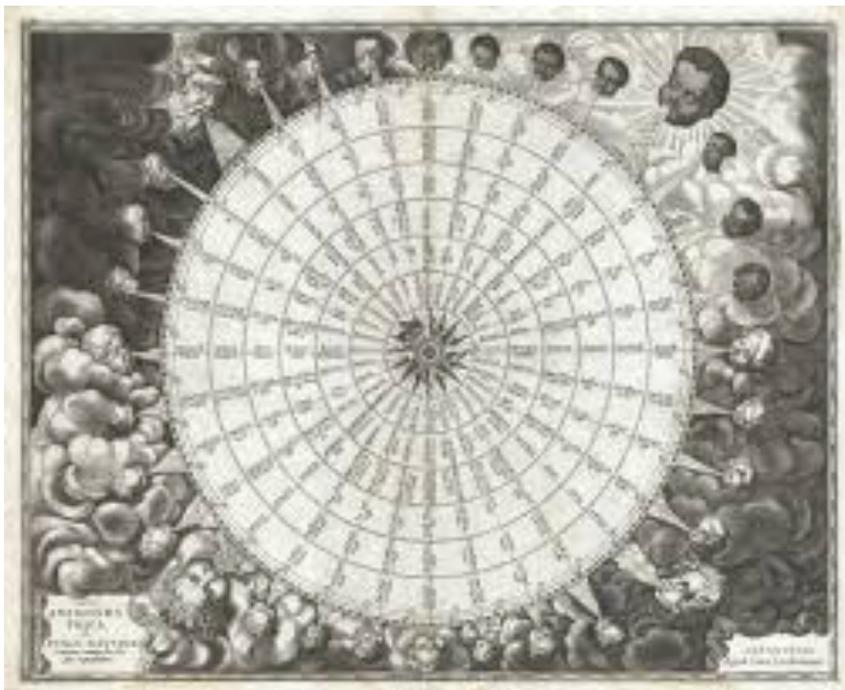


# In The Beginning





# In The Beginning



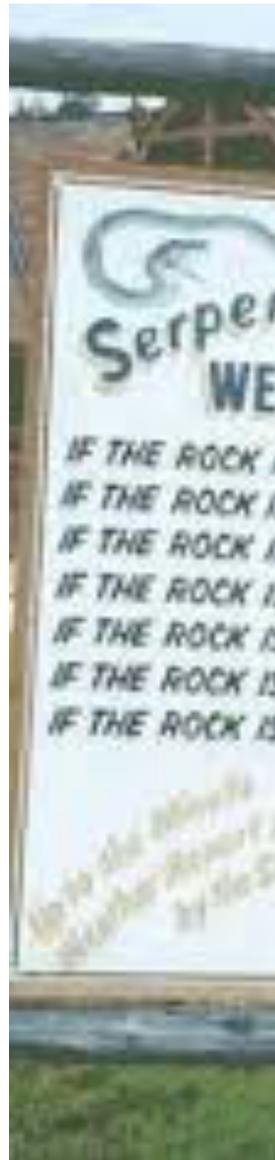


# In The Beginning





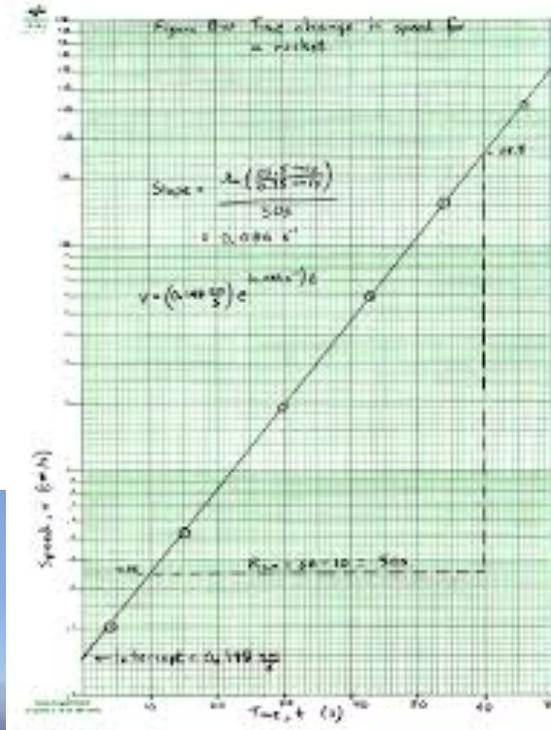
# In The Beginning





# After The Beginning

## Science Data Collecting...





# A New Beginning - ESIP

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

ESIP, ushering in an era of:

- Increasingly advancing information technologies
- Attracting the Best of the Best people in creating innovative solutions to preserve Earth science data and serve Earth science research, applications and education
- Directly responding to the data access and usage needs of Earth science data users...
- ... Such as the increasing interest in exploiting all available information in new ways, singularly, but more importantly, in combination with other information



# A New Beginning - ESIP

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

## ESIP Mission, Vision & Values (let's be reminded)

**Mission:** To support the networking and data dissemination needs of our members and the global community by linking the functional sectors of observation, research, application, education and ultimate use of Earth science.

**Vision:** To be a leader in promoting the collection, stewardship and use of Earth science data, information and knowledge that is responsive to societal needs.

<b>Values:</b>	Innovative
Agility	Neutral
Collaborative	Open
Collegial	Participatory
Community-driven	Voluntary



# A New Beginning - ESIP

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

Current ESIP Collaborative Areas. ESIP can not cover *everything*, but where there is interest, that gets covered **really** good:

Agriculture & Climate

Climate Education

Cloud Computing

Data Stewardship\*

Disasters

Discovery

Documentation

Drones

Drupal

Earth Science Data Analytics

Education

Energy and Climate

EnviroSensing

Information Quality

Information Technology &

Interoperability

Libraries

Products and Services\*

Science Communication

Science Software

Semantic Web

Sustainable Data Mgmt

Usability

Visioneers

Web Services



# After the New Beginning - ESDA

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

This Big Data thing started to pop up everywhere



© marketoonist.com



Goddard Earth Sciences  
Data Information Services Center



## NIST Big Data Definitions and Taxonomies, V 0.9

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National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Big Data Working Group (NBD-WG)  
February, 2014, [http://bigdatawg.nist.gov/show\\_InputDoc.php](http://bigdatawg.nist.gov/show_InputDoc.php), M0142

*Big Data consists of extensive datasets, primarily in the characteristics of **volume**, **velocity** and/or **variety**, that require a scalable architecture for efficient storage, manipulation, and analysis.*



# Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) Big Data Working Group

[http://external.opengeospatial.org/twiki\\_public/BigDataDwg/WebHome](http://external.opengeospatial.org/twiki_public/BigDataDwg/WebHome)

*“**Big Data**” is an umbrella term coined by Doug McLaney and IBM several years ago to denote data posing problems, summarized as the **four Vs**:*

- ***Volume** – the sheer size of “data at rest”*
- ***Velocity** – the speed of new data arriving (“data at move”)*
- ***Variety** – the manifold different*
- ***Veracity** – trustworthiness and issues of provenance*



# IEEE BigData

<http://cci.drexel.edu/bigdata/bigdata2014/callforpaper.htm>

*... in any aspect of **Big Data** with emphasis on **5Vs (Volume, Velocity, Variety, Value and Veracity)** relevant to variety of data (scientific and engineering, social, ...) that contribute to the Big Data challenges*

Ruth adds:

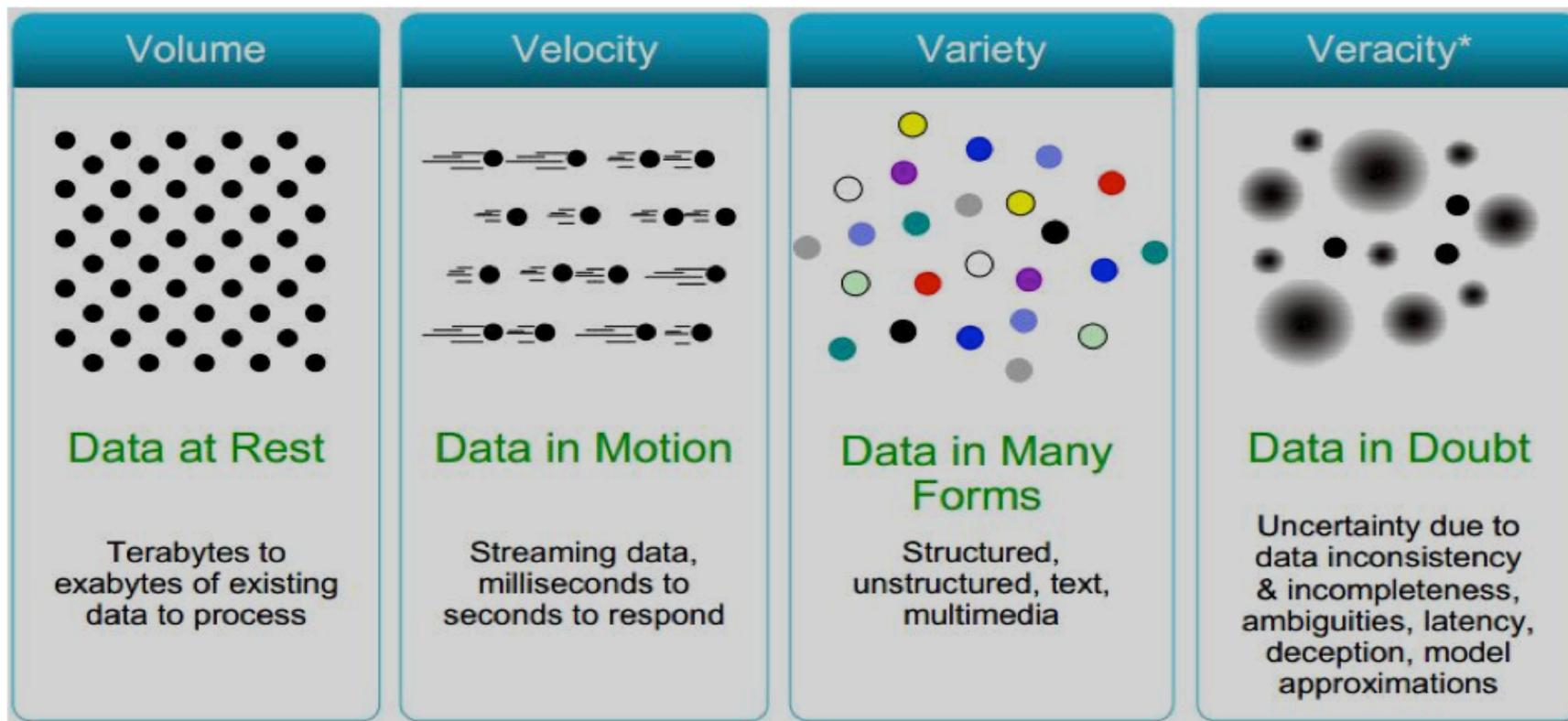
***Visibility***



# From: Demystifying Data Science

(Natasha Balac, accessible via: [http://bigdatawg.nist.gov/show\\_InputDoc.php](http://bigdatawg.nist.gov/show_InputDoc.php), M0169)

## 4 V's of Big Data



IBM, 2012



# So... What's the Big Deal about Big Data

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

If you just look at the 'Big Data' problem, it can indeed be overwhelming.

*But, what's new?... what's different?... what's the problem?*

- We have been managing large volumes of heterogeneous datasets for a long time
- Researchers have been analyzing this data for a long time
- Technology is accommodating our needs

**What is new is the need to grow and implement the ability to efficiently analyze data and information in order to extract knowledge**



# ESDA Cluster Motivation

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

Increasing Amounts of Heterogeneous Datasets being made available to advance science research

... and a lot of people/directives are addressing it

Thus, it is not necessarily about Big Data, itself.

It is about the **ability to examine large amounts of data of a variety of types to uncover hidden patterns, unknown correlations and other useful information.**

That is:

***To glean knowledge from data and information***



# Gleaning Knowledge about Earth from All Available Data and Information

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From a **'to advance science'** point of view:

On the continuum of ever evolving data management systems, we need to understand and develop ways that allow for the **variety** of data relationships to be examined, and information to be manipulated, such that knowledge can be enhanced, to facilitate science.

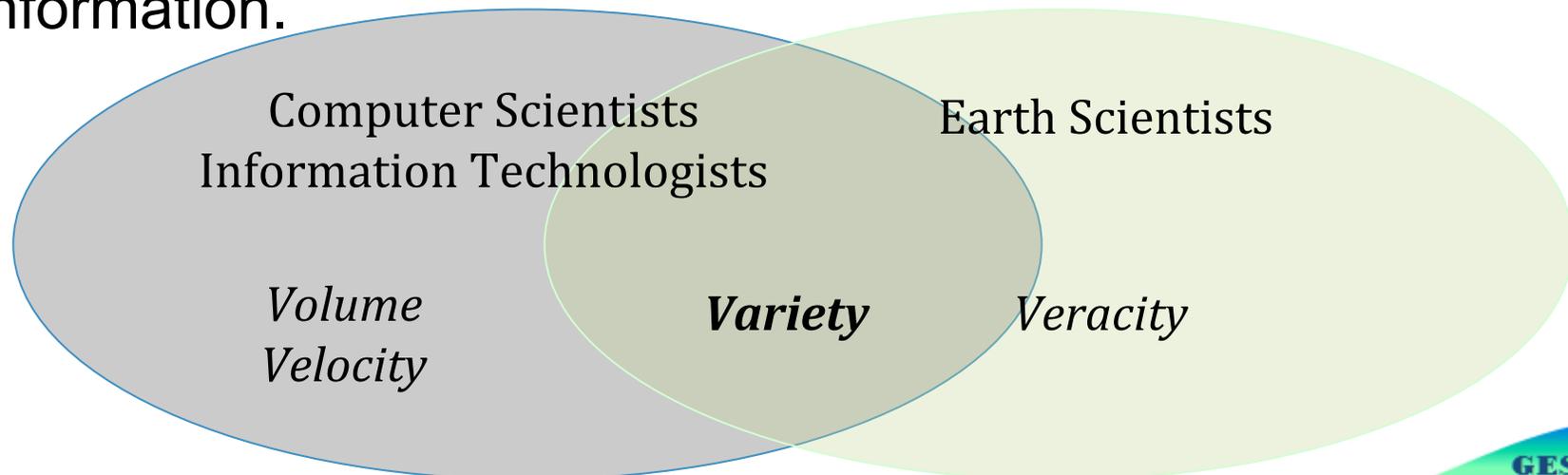
*In short, we have a lot of heterogeneous data that we really have not provided opportunity for users to holistically 'mine'.*

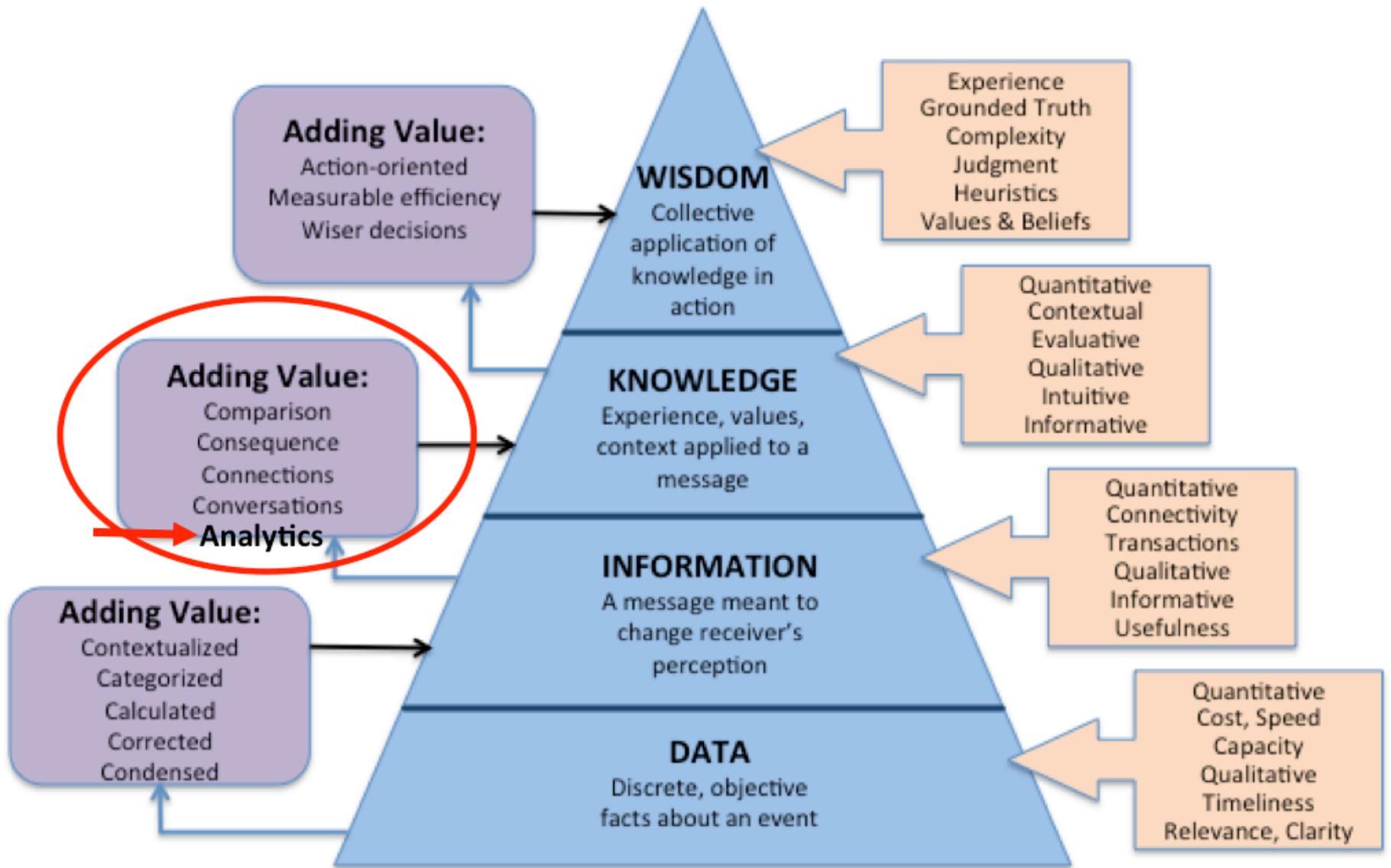
It's new... and it ain't easy...



## Tackling Variety, Because...

- ...it's new... Information technology is just beginning to provide the tools for advancing the analysis of heterogeneous datasets in a 'big' way, thus, providing opportunity to discover unobvious scientific relationships, previously invisible to the science eye.
- ... it ain't easy... It takes individuals, or teams of individuals, with just the right combination of skills to understand the data and develop the methods to glean knowledge out of data and information.





(Adapted from: <https://km4meu.wordpress.com/tag/dikw-pyramid/>)



# After the New Beginning - ESDA Cluster

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

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### ***Ultimate Goal:***

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## After the New Beginning - ESDA Cluster

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

### Mission:

- To promote a common understanding of the usefulness of, and activities that pertain to, Data Analytics and more broadly, the Data Scientist
- Facilitate collaborations between organizations that seek new ways to better understand the cross usage of heterogeneous datasets and organizations/individuals who can provide accommodating data analytics expertise, now and as the needs evolve into the future
- Identify gaps that, once filled, will further collaborative activities.



## After the New Beginning - ESDA Cluster

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

### Objectives:

- Provide a forum for 'Academic' discussions that allow ESIP members to be better educated and on the same page in understanding the various aspects of Data Analytics
- Bring in guest speakers to describe overviews of external efforts and further teach us about the broader use of Data Analytics.
- Perform activities that:
  - Compile use cases generated from specific community needs to cross analyze heterogeneous data (could be ESIP members or external)
  - Compile experience sources on the use of analytics tools, in particular, to satisfy the needs of the above data users (also, could be ESIP members or external)
  - Examine gaps between needs and expertise
  - Document the specific data analytics expertise needed in above collaborations
- Seek graduate data analytics/ Data Science student internship opportunities



## ESDA Cluster – Highlights

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

- 19 Telecons
- 7 face-to-face sessions
- 16 'guest' presentations
- Created the ESDA specific use case template
- Gathered 18 use Cases, and counting
- Defined Earth Science Data Analytics (submitted for ESIP adoption)
- Specified 3 types of ESDA definition types
- Defined 10 Earth science data analytics goals (submitted for ESIP adoption)
- Commenced ESDA Tools/Techniques requirements analysis
  - Began gathering and describing known tools/techniques
  - Began analyzing use case ESDA tools/techniques usage/needs
- Held sessions on teaching Earth science data analytics skills
- Presented our work at AGU
- Followed by 156 members (no they are not all active)



# The Beginning of ESDA Cluster

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

It did not take long to realize that ESDA was going to be a different kind of Cluster:

- The subject is new... unlike most other clusters that come with an existing knowledge base.
- When the ESDA Cluster was launched (early 2014), the literature was virtually absent of Earth science data analytics information. Bauman (*Big Data Analytics for Earth Sciences: the EarthServer approach*), but few others, have since made in roads
- Data Analytics... what does that even mean. 'I think it is something I should know about'
- What is the Cluster going to deliver? Software? An infrastructure? 'I am not sure how to contribute'
- 'How is this different from \_\_\_\_\_' – fill in the blank



# The Beginning of ESDA Cluster

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## As a result:

- Although we felt that our ultimate goal would be to identify, for ESIP members to implement, gaps between Earth science multi-data usage and available facilitating tools and techniques ...
- We realized we were going to be a cluster, initially, academic in nature, to help ESIP participants better understand the practical implementations of data analytics
- Our telecon/meeting attendance have thus far attracted over 150 people
- When surveying the audience at fact-to face meetings, ~80% still continue to attend to learn (note, however, that our scientist/data scientist attendance triple over 2 years... from 2 to 6)
- We brought in guest speakers
- We studied the literature to better understand data analytics
- We acquired use cases to help us scope data analytics
- We kept our eye on the need to nurture young Data Scientists



# Guest Speakers – Telecons and Face-to-Face

- [Wo Chang: NIST Big Data Public Working Group & Standardization Activities - 2/20/14](#)
- [Brand Niemann: Sorting out Data Science and Data Analytics - 3/20/14](#)
- [John' Schnase: MERRA Analytic Services \(MERRA/AS\) - 3/20/14](#)
- [Bamshad Mobasher: Data Analytics Masters Program at DePaul University Overview - 3/20/14](#)
- [Joan Aron: Data Analytics Needs Scenario - 4/17/14](#)
- [Rudy Husar: User-Oriented Data Analytics and Tools using the Federated Data System DataFed - 4/17/14](#)
- [Tiffany Mathews: Atmospheric Science Data Center Sample Analytics Use Cases - 4/17/14](#)
- [Peter Fox: Data Science and Analytics Curriculum development at Rensselaer \(and the Tetherless World Constellation\) - 7/10/14](#)
- [Steve Kempler: Analytics and Data Scientists, Earth Science Data Analytics 101 - 1/7/15\]](#)
- [Dave Bolvin: From Many, One \(or creating one great precipitation data set from many good ones\) - 1/7/15](#)
- [David Gallaher: Reconstructing Sea Ice Extent from Early Nimbus Satellites - 1/7/15](#)
- [Thomas Hearty: Sampling Total Precipitable Water Vapor using AIRS and MERRA - 1/7/15](#)



## Guest Speakers – Telecons and Face-to-Face

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- [Radina Soebiyanto: Using Earth Observations to Understand and Predict Infectious Diseases- 1/7/15](#)
- [Tiffany Mathews: Promising data analytics technologies - 1/7/15](#)
- [Peter Fox: Data Scientists Are Freaks of Nurture but Products of Nature - 7/14/15](#)
- [Wade Bishop: Developing a Curriculum for the Earth Science Data Scientist - 7/14/15](#)
- [Karen Stocks: Educating Data Scientists: a view from the trenches - 7/14/15](#)
- [Steve Kempler: The Need for Earth Science Data Analytics to Facilitate Community Resilience \(and other applications\) - 7/16/15](#)
- [Shea Caspersen: MaxEnt: Modeling Terrestrial Ecology Under Climate Change - 1/8/16](#)



## What the Literature Told Us

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The **data scientist**... analyzes huge volumes of data as well as other data sources that may be left untapped by conventional programs.

(<http://searchbusinessanalytics.techtarget.com/definition/big-data-analytics>)

A data scientist possesses a combination of **analytic**, machine learning, data mining and statistical skills, typically related to a discipline domain.

(<http://searchbusinessanalytics.techtarget.com/definition/Data-scientist>)



## What the Literature Told Us

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- **Data Analytics:** The process of examining large amounts of data of a variety of types to uncover hidden patterns, unknown correlations and other useful information.
- Analytics uses descriptive and predictive models to gain valuable knowledge from data...
- Thus, analytics is not so much concerned with individual analyses or analysis steps, **but with the entire methodology.**

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Analytics>)



# Data Analytics Types

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

## Why is it important to identify Data Analytics Types

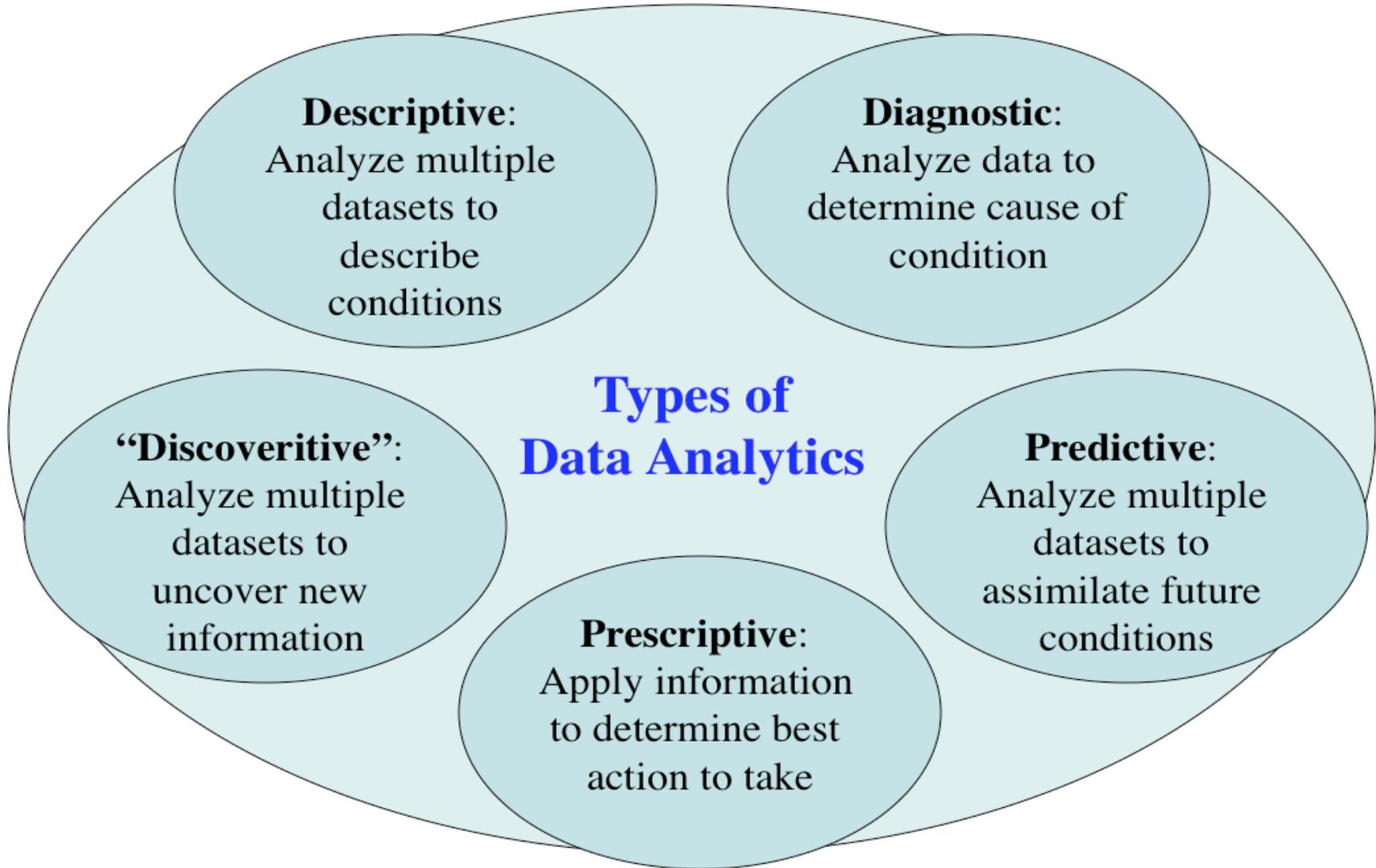
*To better identify key needs that tools/techniques can be developed to address.*

Basically, once we can categorize different types of Data Analytics, we can better associate existing and future Data Analytics tools and techniques that will help solve particular problems.



# What the Literature Told Us

## The 5 Types of Data Analytics





## What Else the Literature Told Us

**New analysis techniques and methods are being initiated to address large volumes of heterogeneous data that provide opportunities to examine data as we never did before. Growing computer capabilities facilitate this.**

- **Business and healthcare applications** have jumped on advancing Data Analytics. Of the top Data Scientist/Analytic graduate programs:
  - ~80% focus on business applications
  - ~10% focus on health related applications
  - ~50% provide coursework that can also be applied to Earth science applications (However, do not necessarily include Earth science applications as part of their curriculum)
- In addition, specific applications have been performing Data Analytics... forever: e.g., Forensics, Crime solving
- **In Earth Science Research, new data analytics techniques and methods, education, and tools are beginning to be formulated**



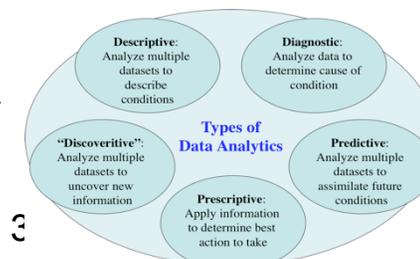
# Earth Science Data Analytics

It is our job (Information Technologists) to facilitate Data Analytics through our understanding and implementation of supportive information technologies, in close coordination with the specific data analysis needs of the **science community**

- **Data Preparation** – Making heterogeneous data so that they can ‘play’ together
- **Data Reduction** – Smartly removing data that do not fit research criteria
- **Data Analysis** – Applying techniques/methods to derive results

*Tools/Services for: Preparation are fairly generic; Reduction, and especially Analysis, are very specific research dependent (and, thus difficult for us to address without science domain expertise)*

Each component is required to some degree for each type of Data Analytics ... so we felt.





# First Earth Science Data Analytics Use Case Analysis Attempt

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

	Descriptive	Diagnostic	Discoveritive	Predictive	Prescriptive
<b>Use cases</b>	Bolvin (multi-dataset) Gallaher (single-dataset)	Hearty		Soebiyanto	
Techniques					
Tools					
User Types	Look at user matrix marked up				
Skills/ Expertise					



# The Beginning of ESDA Cluster

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

We discovered:

- Use Case types should be Goal Oriented
- Our Use Cases did not always fit cleanly into the 5 types of Data Analytics identified
- Maybe, the 5 types of data analytics, appropriate for the business world, do not accommodate goal oriented Earth science data analytics.

That is, in Earth science, we do not necessarily come up with the answers, but typically come up with discoveries that explain, at least for now, an answer.



# After the Beginning of ESDA Cluster

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

Our studies and discussions began to focus on the uniqueness of Earth science data analytics



# Earth Science Data Analytics Definition

(currently being discussed for adoption by ESIP)

The process of examining, preparing, reducing, and analyzing large amounts of spatial (multi-dimensional), temporal, or spectral data using a variety of data types to uncover patterns, correlations and other information, to better understand our Earth.

This encompasses:

- **Data Preparation** – Preparing heterogeneous data so that they can be jointly analyzed
- **Data Reduction** – Correcting, ordering and simplifying data in support of analytic objectives
- **Data Analysis** – Applying techniques/methods to derive results



# Data Analytics Goals

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

Why is it important to identify Data Analytics Goals

*To better identify key needs that tools/techniques can be developed to address.*

Basically, once we can categorize different goals of Data Analytics, we can better associate existing and future Data Analytics tools and techniques that will help solve particular problems.



# Earth Science Data Analytics Goals

(currently being discussed for adoption by ESIP)

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

(read: Earth science data analytics needed ...)

1. To calibrate data
2. To validate data (note it does not have to be via data intercomparison)
3. To assess data quality
4. To perform coarse data preparation (e.g., subsetting data, mining data, transforming data, recovering data)
5. To intercompare datasets (i.e., any data intercomparison; Could be used to better define validation/quality)
6. To tease out information from data
7. To glean knowledge from data and information
8. To forecast/predict/model phenomena (i.e., Special kind of conclusion)
9. To derive conclusions (i.e., that do not easily fall into another type)
10. To derive new analytics tools



# ESDA Use Case Template

- Use Case Title
- Author/Company/Email
- Actors/Stakeholders/Project URL and their roles and responsibilities
- **Use Case Goal**
- Use Case Description
- Current technical considerations to take into account that may impact needed data analytics.
- Data Analytics tools applied
- Data Analytics Challenges (Gaps)
- Type of User
- Research Areas
- Societal Benefit Areas
- Potential for and/or issues for generalizing this use case (e.g. for ref. architecture)
- More Information and relevant URLs (e.g. who to contact or where to go for more information)



# Use Cases (gathered so far) Mapped to ESDA Goals

Use Cases	Earth Science Data Analytics Goals									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 MERRA Analytics Services: Climate Analytics-as-a-Service										√
2 MUSTANG QA: Ability to detect seismic instrumentation problems			√	√				√		
3 Inter-calibrations among datasets	√	√			√					
4 Inter-comparisons between multiple model or data products					√					
5 Sampling Total Precipitable Water Vapor using AIRS and MERRA		√			√					
6 Using Earth Observations to Understand and Predict Infectious Diseases								√	√	
7 CREATE-IP - Collaborative REAnalysis Technical Environment - Intercomparison Project					√					
8 The GSSTF Project (MEaSURES-2006)						√				
9 Science- and Event-based Advanced Data Service Framework at GES DISC					√					√
10 Risk analysis for environmental issues								√		
11 Aerosol Characterization					√				√	
12 Creating One Great Precipitation Data Set From Many Good Ones						√				
13 Reconstructing Sea Ice Extent from Early Nimbus Satellites	√			√						
14 DOE-BER AmeriFlux and FLUXNET Networks *						√			√	
15 DOE-BER Subsurface Biogeochemistry Scientific Focus Area *								√		
16 Climate Studies using the Community Earth System Model at DOE's NERSC center *								√	√	√
17 Radar Data Analysis for CReSIS *						√				
18 UAVSAR Data Processing, Data Product Delivery, and Data Service *						√				

\* - Borrowed, with permission, from NIST Big Data Use Case Submissions [<http://bigdatawg.nist.gov/usecases.php>]



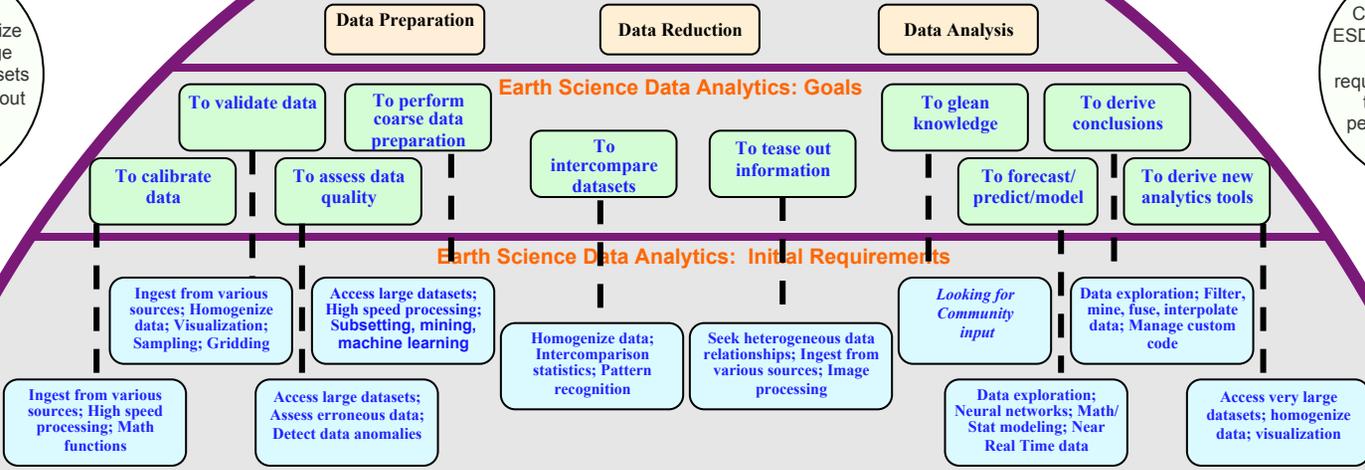
# Deriving Earth Science Data Analytics Requirements

**Goal oriented Earth Science Data Analytics (ESDA)**  
 reveal requirements for needed data  
 analytics tools/techniques

**Motivation**  
 How can we maximize the usability of large heterogeneous datasets to glean knowledge out of the data?

**Methodology**  
 Categorize/Analyze ESDA use cases; derive data analytics requirements; associate tools/techniques; perform gap analysis

**Earth Science Data Analytics: Definition**  
 The process of examining, preparing, reducing, and analyzing large amounts of spatial (multi-dimensional), temporal, or spectral data using a variety of data types to uncover patterns, correlations and other information, to better understand our Earth.



## Earth Science Data Analytics: Exemplary Tools, Techniques, Integrated Systems

Types of Analytics	Tools	Techniques	Integrated Systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data Preparation</li> <li>Data Reduction</li> <li>Data Analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>R, SAS, Python, Java, C++</li> <li>SPSS, MATLAB, Minitab</li> <li>CPLEX, GAMS, Gauss</li> <li>Tableau, Spotfire</li> <li>VBA, Excel, MySQL</li> <li>Javascript, Perl, PHP</li> <li>Open Source Databases</li> <li>PIO, NCL, Parallel NetCDF</li> <li>AWS, Cloud Solutions, Hadoop</li> <li>MPI, GIS, ROI-PAC, GDAL</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statistics functions</li> <li>Machine Learning</li> <li>Data Mining</li> <li>Natural Language Processing</li> <li>Linear/Non-linear Regression</li> <li>Logical Regression</li> <li>Time Series Models</li> <li>Clustering</li> <li>Decision Tree</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Factor Analysis</li> <li>Principal Component Analysis</li> <li>Neural Networks</li> <li>Bayesian Techniques</li> <li>Text Analytics</li> <li>Graph Analytics</li> <li>Visual Analytics</li> <li>Map Reduce</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EarthServer (<a href="http://www.earthserver.eu">http://www.earthserver.eu</a>)</li> <li>NASA Earth Exchange (<a href="https://nex.nasa.gov/nex/">https://nex.nasa.gov/nex/</a>)</li> <li>EDEN (<a href="http://cda.ornl.gov/projects/eden/#">http://cda.ornl.gov/projects/eden/#</a>)</li> <li>EARTHDATA (<a href="https://earthdata.nasa.gov">https://earthdata.nasa.gov</a>)</li> <li>Giovanni (<a href="http://giovanni.gsfc.nasa.gov/giovanni/">http://giovanni.gsfc.nasa.gov/giovanni/</a>)</li> </ul>			

Compiled from: <http://practicalanalytics.co/practice-analytics-101/> and <http://cda.ornl.gov/research.shtml>

### Earth Science Data Analytics: Enabling Organizations

Research Data Sharing without barriers

Federation of Earth Science Information Partners  
 Fostering connections to make data matter

NIST National Institute of Standards and Technology  
 U.S. Department of Commerce

OGC® Making location count.

### The good news... Earth Science Data Analytics: Preparing for the Future

Central England NERC Training Alliance **CENTA**

Big data analysis to fuel environmental research at Reading University

2nd Annual Graduate Workshop on Environmental Data Analytics  
 July 27-31, 2015

Hosted by the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, CO

... offering degrees in Data Science  
 ... summer school on Big Data Analytics  
 ... online master's degree in data analytics

### Earth Science Data Analytics: Looking Ahead

Complete Gap Analysis between ESDA requirements and current tools/technologies

Continue to evolve tools/techniques to address growing scope of the 'Internet of Things'

The Internet of Things connects all manner of end-points, unraveling a treasure trove of data

Ubiquitous networks and device proliferation enable access to a massive and growing amount of traditionally siloed information

Analytics and business intelligence tools empower decision makers as never before by extracting and presenting meaningful information in real-time, helping us be more predictive than reactive

IoT, Big Data, Analytics

FROST & SULLIVAN

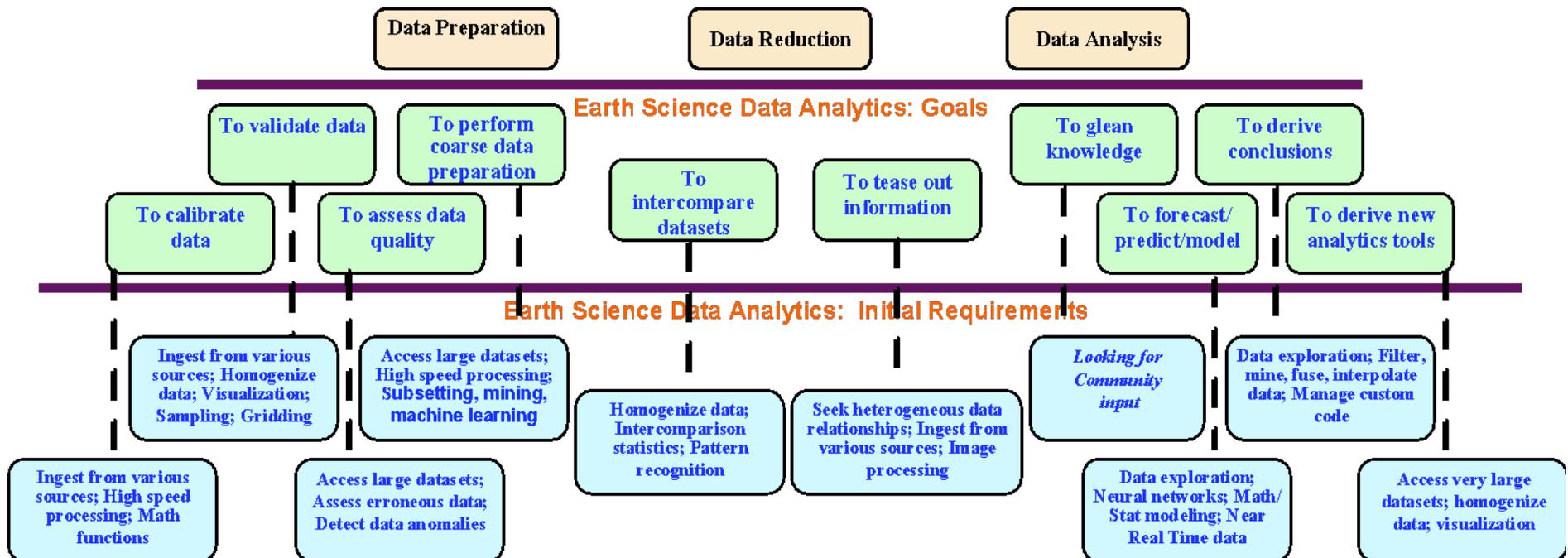
\* Thanks to the work of the Earth Science Information Partners (ESIP) Federation, Earth Science Data Analytics (ESDA) Cluster



# Deriving Earth Science Data Analytics Requirements

## Earth Science Data Analytics: Definition

The process of examining, preparing, reducing, and analyzing large amounts of spatial (multi-dimensional), temporal, or spectral data using a variety of data types to uncover patterns, correlations and other information, to better understand our Earth.





# Earth Science Data Analytics

## Exemplary Tools, Techniques, Integrated Systems

Types of Analytics	Tools	Techniques	Integrated Systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data Preparation</li> <li>• Data Reduction</li> <li>• Data Analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R, SAS, Python, Java, C++</li> <li>• SPSS, MATLAB, Minitab</li> <li>• CPLEX, GAMS, Gauss</li> <li>• Tableau, Spotfire</li> <li>• VBA, Excel, MySQL</li> <li>• Javascript, Perl, PHP</li> <li>• Open Source Databases</li> <li>• PIO, NCL, Parallel NetCDF</li> <li>• AWS, Cloud Solutions, Hadoop</li> <li>• MPI, GIS, ROI-PAC, GDAL</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statistics functions</li> <li>• Machine Learning</li> <li>• Data Mining</li> <li>• Natural Language Processing</li> <li>• Linear/Non-linear Regression</li> <li>• Logical Regression</li> <li>• Time Series Models</li> <li>• Clustering</li> <li>• Decision Tree</li> <li>• Factor Analysis</li> <li>• Principal Component Analysis</li> <li>• Neural Networks</li> <li>• Bayesian Techniques</li> <li>• Text Analytics</li> <li>• Graph Analytics</li> <li>• Visual Analytics</li> <li>• Map Reduce</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EarthServer (<a href="http://www.earthserver.eu">http://www.earthserver.eu</a>)</li> <li>• NASA Earth Exchange (<a href="https://nex.nasa.gov/nex/">https://nex.nasa.gov/nex/</a>)</li> <li>• EDEN (<a href="http://cda.ornl.gov/projects/eden/#">http://cda.ornl.gov/projects/eden/#</a>)</li> <li>• EARTHDATA (<a href="https://earthdata.nasa.gov">https://earthdata.nasa.gov</a>)</li> <li>• Giovanni (<a href="http://giovanni.gsfc.nasa.gov/giovanni/">http://giovanni.gsfc.nasa.gov/giovanni/</a>)</li> </ul>



# We Began Describing Identified Tools/Techniques/Integrated Systems

Tool/Technique/ Integrated System	Description	Author
R	R is a programming language and software environment for statistical computing and graphics supported by the R Foundation for Statistical Computing. The R language is widely used among statisticians and data miners for developing statistical software and data analysis. (Wikipedia)	Steve
SAS	SAS (Statistical Analysis System) is a software suite developed by SAS Institute for advanced analytics, multivariate analyses, business intelligence, data management, and predictive analytics. SAS was developed at North Carolina State University from 1966 until 1976, when SAS Institute was incorporated. (Wikipedia)	Steve
Python	Python is a widely used general-purpose, high-level programming language. Its design philosophy emphasizes code readability, and its syntax allows programmers to express concepts in fewer lines of code than would be possible in languages such as C++ or Java. The language provides constructs intended to enable clear programs on both a small and large scale. (Wikipedia)	Sean
Java		Steve
C++		Steve
SPSS		Sean
MATLAB		Sean
Mintab		Steve
CPLEX		Steve
GAMS		Steve
Gauss		Steve
Tableau	A tool that enables data visualization using a drag and drop interface.	Thomas
Spotfire	A tool that enables data mining and visualization of very large data sets. Similar to Excel but apparently easier to use for large data sets.	Thomas
VBA	(Visual Basic for Applications) An implementation of Visual Basic that enables user defined functions and interaction with Windows API and libraries.	Thomas
Excel	A spreadsheet program created by Microsoft that enables data analysis and visualization. It includes VBA.	Thomas



# We Began Describing Identified Tools/Techniques/Integrated Systems

MySQL		Thomas
Javascript	A high level interpreted language used by most websites and browsers.	Thomas
Perl	A high level interpreted scripting language frequently used on UNIX computers. It is frequently used to wrap other programs together.	Thomas
PHP	A scripting language designed for web development. It can be used to create CGI (Common Gateway Interface) executable for web pages.	Thomas
Open Source Databases		Steve
PIO		Steve
NCL		Steve
Parallel NetCDF		Steve
AWS		Steve
Cloud Solutions		Steve
Statistics functions		-
Machine Learning	Machine learning is a subfield of computer science that evolved from the study of pattern recognition and computational learning theory in artificial intelligence. Machine learning explores the study and construction of algorithms that can learn from and make predictions on data.	Chung-Lin
Data Mining	Data mining, an interdisciplinary subfield of computer science, is the computational process of discovering patterns in large data sets ("big data") involving methods at the intersection of artificial intelligence, machine learning, statistics, and database systems. The overall goal of the data mining process is to extract information from a data set and transform it into an understandable structure for further use.	Chung-Lin
Natural Language Processing	natural language processing (NLP) is a field of computer science, artificial intelligence, and computational linguistics concerned with the interactions between computers and human (natural) languages. As such, NLP is related to the area of human-computer interaction. Many challenges in NLP involve natural language understanding, that is, enabling computers to derive meaning from human or natural language input, and others involve natural language generation.	Chung-Lin



# We Began Describing Identified Tools/Techniques/Integrated Systems

Linear/Non-linear Regression	<p>In statistics, linear regression is an approach for modeling the relationship between a scalar dependent variable <math>Y</math> (e.g., a sounding temperature) and one or more explanatory variables (or independent variables) denoted <math>X</math>, (or <math>X_1, X_2, \dots</math>) (e.g., the satellite retrieved temperature(s)). The case of one explanatory variable is called simple linear regression.</p> <p>In statistics, nonlinear regression is a form of regression analysis in which observational data (e.g., <math>Y</math>) are modeled by a function which is a nonlinear combination of the model parameters (e.g., <math>aX + bX^2 + \dots</math>) and depends on one or more independent variables (e.g., <math>X</math> or <math>X_1, X_2, \dots</math>). The data are fitted by a method of successive approximations.</p>	Chung-Lin
Logical Regression		Bob
Time Series Models	Time Series Models are used to represent trends, often graphically, by applying temporal measurements within a sequence.	Bob
Clustering	Clustering is an approach to organize objects into a classification and can be accomplished utilizing various methods, including statistical techniques.	Bob
Decision Tree	A Decision Tree is a graphical representation of the sequence of decisions to be completed when answering a particular question.	Bob



## Then We Discovered...

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

“The Field Guide to DATA SCIENCE”, Booz/Allen/Hamilton, 2015  
(Thanks Ethan)

- This opened our eyes to a great resource that associates computational techniques to specific data science ‘stages’:
  - Describe, Discover, Predict, Advise
    - These stages are described in terms of increasing maturity
    - Interpreted for Earth science, each stage would have independent maturity levels. We would call them ‘goals’, albeit at a different level
    - However, these ‘stages’ provide organization towards the utilization of techniques and tools to achieve analytics goals



# “The Field Guide to DATA SCIENCE”

## Booz/Allen/Hamilton, 2015

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

### Data Science:

- Describe
  - Processing
    - Filtering, Imputation, Dimensionality Reduction, Normalization/Transformation
  - Aggregation
  - Enrichment
- Discover
  - Clustering
  - Regression
  - Hypothesis Testing
- Predict
  - Regression
  - Recommendation
- Advise
  - Local reasoning
  - Optimization
  - Simulation



# “The Field Guide to DATA SCIENCE” Booz/Allen/Hamilton, 2015

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

Also described are the different classes of techniques:

Transforming

Learning

Predictive



# “The Field Guide to DATA SCIENCE” Booz/Allen/Hamilton, 2015

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

These classes pretty much correspond to ESDA types:

Transforming → Data Preparation, Data Reduction

Learning → Data Analysis

Predictive → Data Analysis



# What we have to do

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

- Review/Understand technology descriptions
- Categorize them by ESDA types
- Determine what goals they can support



## Then We Went to AGU ...

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

### Our Analytics Session

- “Geophysical Science Data Analytics Use Case Scenarios”
- 12 Posters
- Will be acquiring additional Use Cases
- Analytics methodologies highlighted include: Decision Trees, Machine Learning, Data Mining, Decision Tree



## But also, at the AGU ...

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

Visited science posters to better understand research methodologies...  
umm, analytics used:

- Looked for presentations that discussed the co-analysis of multiple datasets
- Looked for presentations that described methodology techniques employed
  
- 'Scanned' 100's of posters, identifying presentations (and through discussion with authors) that provide sought after information
  - 31 Atmospheric Science research projects identified
  - 12 Hydrology Science research projects identified
  - (Don't read into the numbers, this is just as far as we got)
- Science research methodology techniques being used ...



# Science research methodology techniques being used (AGU findings)

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

- In Atmospheric Research (study of gases):
  - Correlation Analysis; Bias Correlation
  - Regression Analysis; Bivariant Regression
  - Decision Tree
  - Machine Learning
  - Data Mining
  - Data Fusion
  - Computational Tools
  - Constrained Variational Analysis
  - Model Simulations
  - Ratios
  - Time Series Analysis
  - Spectral Analysis
  - Temporal Trending; Trend Analysis
  - Spatial Interpolation
  - Revised Averaging Scheme
  - Forward Modeling; Inverse Modeling
  - Radiative Transfer Model
  - Bayesian Synthesis Inversion
  - Temporal Stability
  - Gaussian Distribution
  - Exponential Differentiation



# Science research methodology techniques being used (AGU findings)

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

- In Hydrology Research (study of liquid):
  - Linear Regression
  - Monte Carlo
  - Darcy Equation
  - Poisson Regression
  - Multi-variate time series analysis
  - BUDYKO formula
  - Smoothing (Gaussian)
  - Filtering (Destriping)
  - MESH Model



# Framework for Putting it All Together

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

ESDA Goals	Data Preparation		Data Reduction		Data Analysis	
	ESDA Requirements	ESDA Tools/ Techniques	ESDA Requirements	ESDA Tools/ Techniques	ESDA Requirements	ESDA Tools/ Techniques
1.To calibrate data						
2.To validate data (note it does not have to be via data intercomparison)						
3.To assess data quality						
4.To perform coarse data preparation (e.g., subsetting data, mining data, transforming data, recovering data)						
5.To intercompare datasets (i.e., any data intercomparison; Could be used to better define validation/quality)						
6.To tease out information from data						
7.To glean knowledge from data and information						
8.To forecast/predict/model phenomena (i.e., Special kind of conclusion)						
9.To derive conclusions (i.e., that do not easily fall into another type)						
10.To derive new analytics tools						



# Framework for Putting it All Together

ESDA Goals	Data Preparation		Data Reduction		Data Analysis	
	ESDA Requirements	ESDA Tools/ Techniques	ESDA Requirements	ESDA Tools/ Techniques	ESDA Requirements	ESDA Tools/ Techniques
1.To calibrate data	Ingest from various sources				High speed processing; Math functions	
2.To validate data (note it does not have to be via data intercomparison)	Ingest from various sources; Homogenize data		Sampling		Visualization; Gridding	
3.To assess data quality	Access large datasets				Assess erroneous data; Detect data anomalies	
4.To perform coarse data preparation (e.g., subsetting data, mining data, transforming data, recovering data)	Access large datasets		Subsetting, mining, machine learning		High speed processing	
5.To intercompare datasets (i.e., any data intercomparison; Could be used to better define validation/quality)	Homogenize data				Intercomparison statistics; Pattern recognition	
6.To tease out information from data	Seek heterogeneous data relationships; Ingest from various sources				Seek data relationships; Image processing	
7.To glean knowledge from data and information	<i>Looking</i>	<i>for</i>	<i>Community</i>	<i>input</i>		
8.To forecast/predict/model phenomena (i.e., Special kind of conclusion)	Data exploration; Near Real Time data		Neural networks		Math/Stat modeling	
9.To derive conclusions (i.e., that do not easily fall into another type)	Data exploration; code		Filter, mine, fuse, interpolate data		Manage custom code	
10.To derive new analytics tools	Access very large datasets; homogenize data				Visualization	



# Beginning to Better Understand ESDA

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

- Looking for more use cases.....
- Getting our arms around the usefulness of existing tools and techniques for ESDA data preparation, data reduction, data analysis... our current effort
- We see that analytics useful for Data Analysis is the most difficult to develop an approach for:
  - Science research/analysis is very individual
  - Libraries of mathematical tools already exist
  - The plethora of specific research models are unique, and well understand by the researcher, rendering us no real opportunity to add value for large groups of users per model.



# Beginning to Better Understand ESDA

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)

- We see that heterogeneous Data Preparation is where the most pain points are, and tools/techniques that target heterogeneous data preparation should be targeted first.
  - Addressing Data Preparation needs will directly help Data Analysis
  - To help, we need to invite more scientists to our cluster to provide more insights to their experiences and needs regarding the co-analysis of heterogeneous data.
  - Institute a 'science advisory board' (maybe ESIP would/will)??
  - Include applications researchers
  - Engage young data analytics scientists



# Thank you

... and thanks to all who have peeked in to the cluster...

... and the 'regulars':

Joan Aron, The Barberie Twins, Rob Casey, Robert Downs,  
Beth Huffer, Ethan McMahon, Erin Robinson, Chung-Lin  
Shie, and of course, Tiffany Mathews

... any everyone in between

[http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth\\_Science\\_Data\\_Analytics](http://wiki.esipfed.org/index.php/Earth_Science_Data_Analytics)



# BACKUP



# Data Scientist in the context of analytics

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## Data Scientist

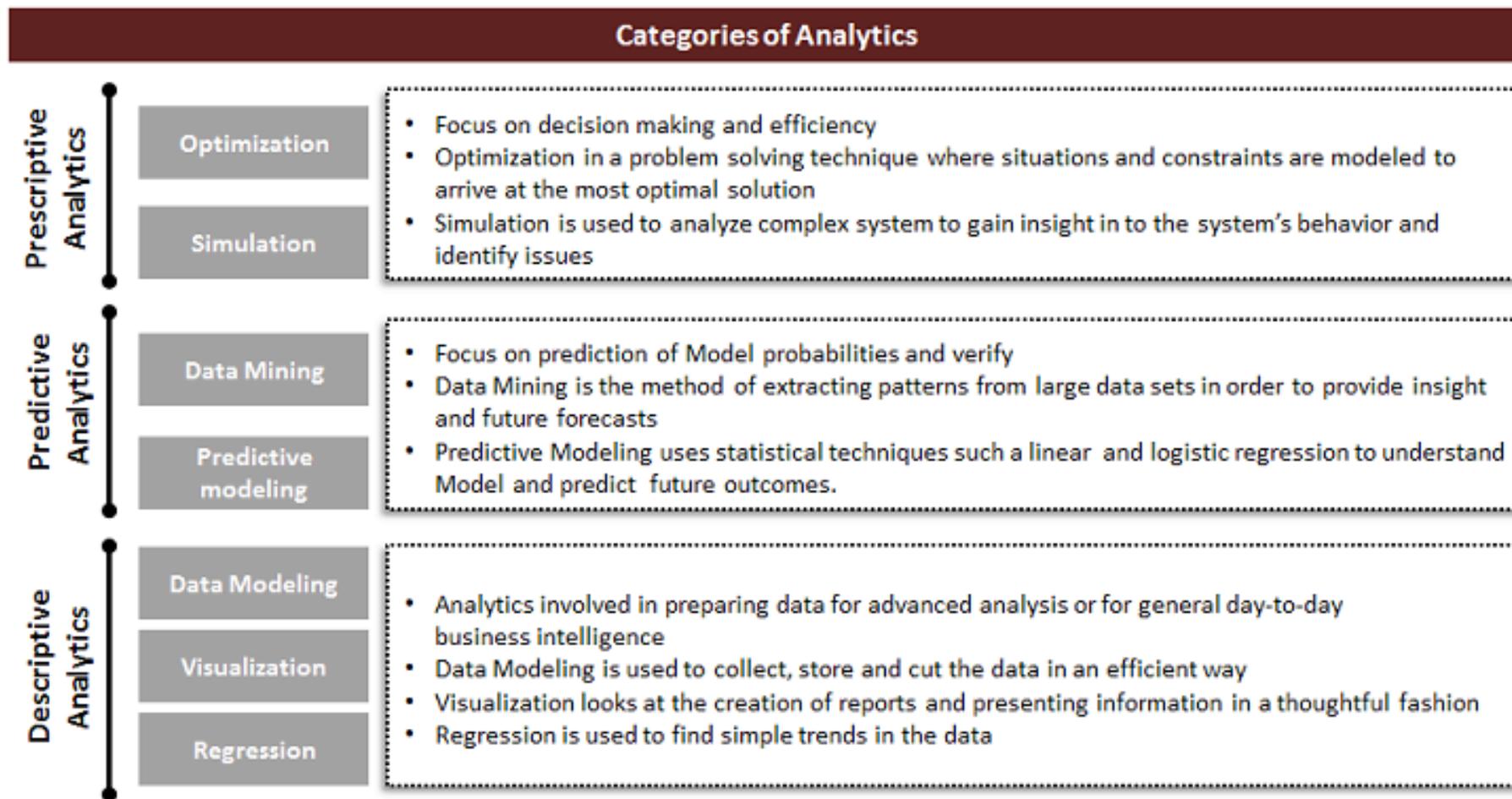
A data scientist possesses a combination of analytic, machine learning, data mining and statistical skills as well as experience with algorithms and statistical skills as well as experience with algorithms and coding. Perhaps the most important skill a data scientist possesses, however, is the ability to explain the significance of data in a way that can be easily understood by others. (Source: <http://searchbusinessanalytics.techtarget.com/definition/Data-scientist>)

Rising alongside the relatively new technology of [big data](#) is the new job title data scientist. **While not tied exclusively to [big data](#)** projects, the data scientist role does complement them because of the increased breadth and depth of data being examined, as compared to traditional roles. (Source: <http://www-01.ibm.com/software/data/infosphere/data-scientist/>)



# Analytics

(<http://steinvox.com/blog/big-data-and-analytics-the-analytics-value-chain/>)

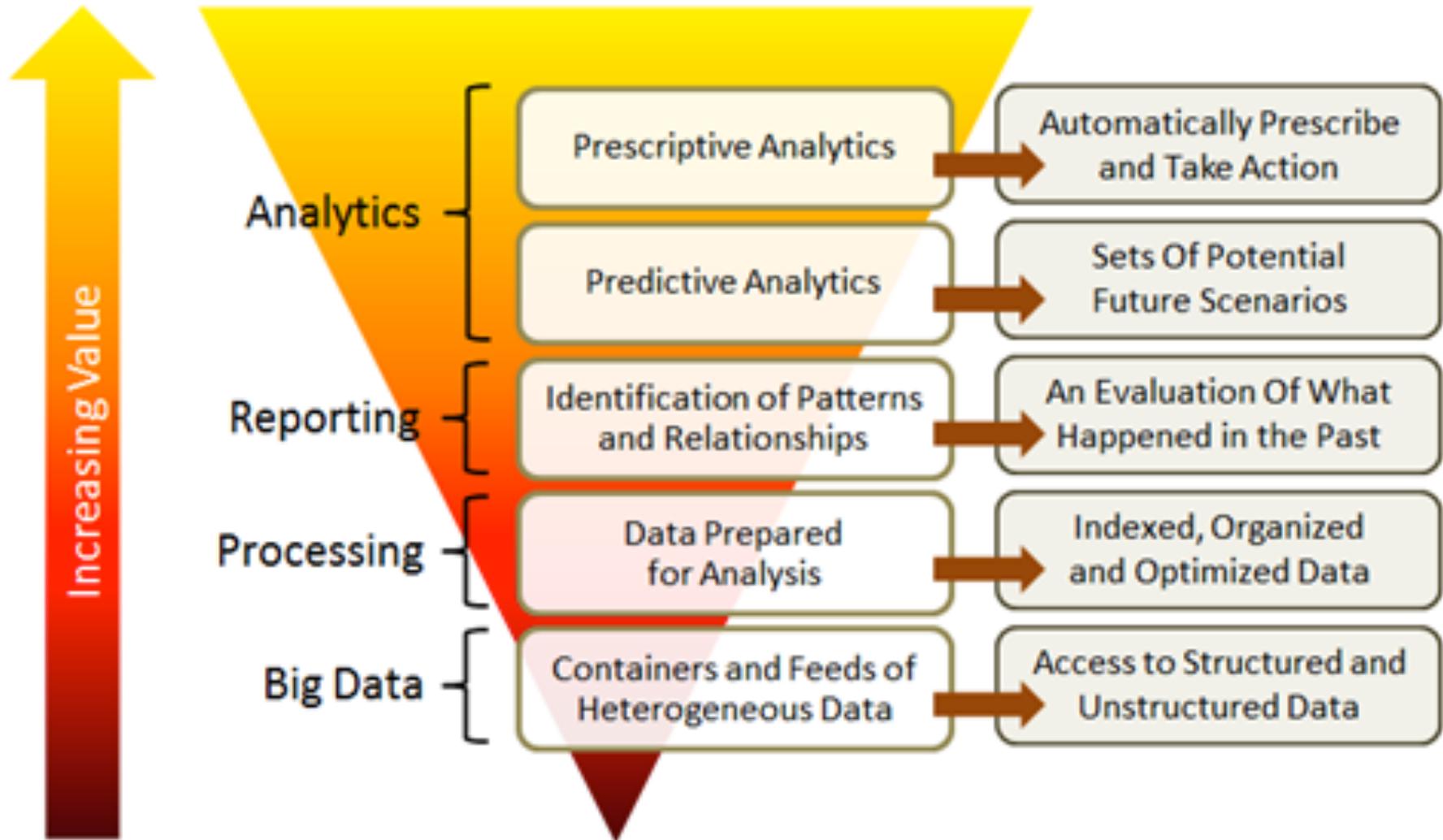


Source: Cap Gemini Blog, May 27, 2011



# Another look at Analytics

(<http://steinvox.com/blog/big-data-and-analytics-the-analytics-value-chain/>)





## A 2011 McKinsey report suggests suitable technologies include...

([http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/business\\_technology/big\\_data\\_the\\_next\\_frontier\\_for\\_innovation](http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/business_technology/big_data_the_next_frontier_for_innovation))

...A/B testing, association rule learning, classification, cluster analysis, crowdsourcing, data fusion and integration, ensemble learning, genetic algorithms, machine learning, natural language processing, neural networks, pattern recognition, anomaly detection, predictive modelling, regression, sentiment analysis, signal processing, supervised and unsupervised learning, simulation, time series analysis and visualisation.