

Data Governance: improving Data Accountability and Business Processes

> Philip Howard Research Director Bloor Research



Agenda

What is data governance?

- Where does it apply?
- Why aren't conventional data quality tools enough?
- What is actually involved in data governance per se?



What is data governance

"Data governance is a discipline that embodies a convergence of data quality, data management, data policies, business process management, and risk management surrounding the handling of data in an organisation.... Data governance consists of a set of processes that ensure that important data assets are formally managed throughout the enterprise. Data governance ensures that data can be trusted and that people in the business can be made accountable for any adverse event that happens because of low data quality. It is about putting people in charge of fixing and preventing issues with data so that the enterprise can become more efficient."

- Wikipedia (edited)



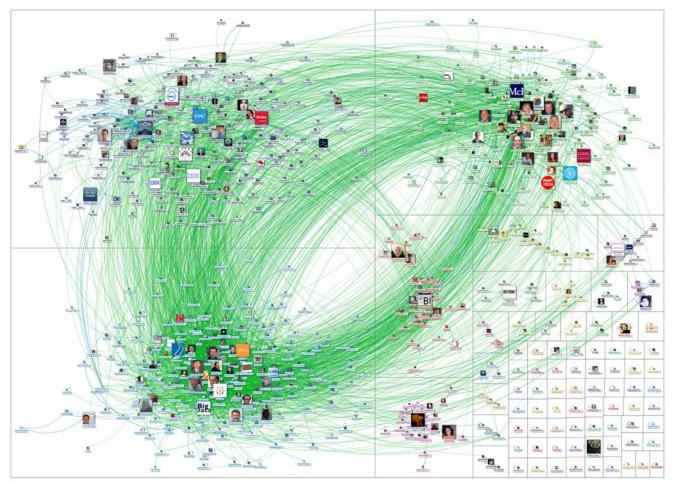
But...

- Does data governance encompass compliance and/or security? Is data masking, for example, a part of the remit?
- The data quality tools mentioned tend to be focused on structured data—what about unstructured data? Spreadsheets? Machine-generated data?
- To what extent does data governance apply to 'big data'?
- Traditionally, data governance has been run by a Data Governance Council but should this be the role of the Chief Data Officer?





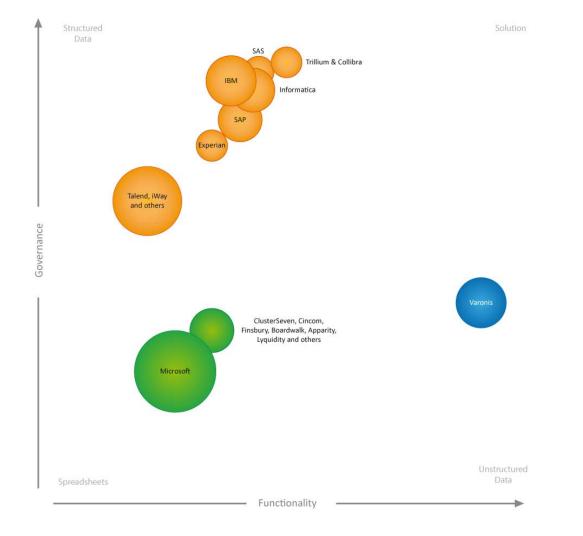
Social media network connections among Twitter users



Created with NodeXL (http://nodexl.codeplex.com) from the Social Media Research Foundation (http://www.smrfoundation.org)



The Data Governance landscape



telling the right story



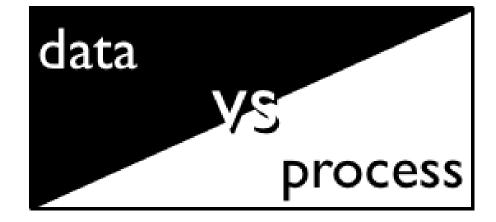
Traditional vendors

Functions typically offered by Data Quality vendors





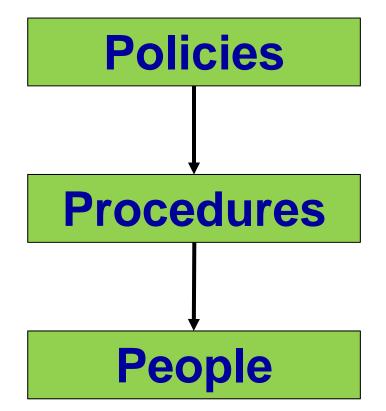
But ...



telling the right story



The structure of data governance



telling the right story



What's needed?

- Policy management
 - Workflow
 - Collaboration
 - Monitoring
- Procedure management
 - Issue tracking
 - Traceability
 - Proof points
 - Monitor policies



And ...

- Data governance is essentially a business issue, which means:
 - Reference data management (may be MDM) and business rule management
 - Business (semantic) Glossary
 - Managing responsibility
 - Interface for data stewardship





- Data governance is about the processes involved in managing data to meet business goals
- Data governance applies to all sort of data
- The focus of data quality is on the processes involved in its management
- You need tools that support the policies and procedures involved in data governance



