

Self-Service Analytics and Governance

at Enterprise Scale with Unity Catalog

Databricks 2023



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We are your guide on the path to a data-driven company



24 years of experience in projects and technology



due to team approach in projects and flat hierarchies



18 years

Microsoft Managed Partner, more than 100 certified consultants



organic growth per year

145 colleagues

with burning passion for your data solution



from Great Place to Work in their annual comparison of Germany's best employers

820 projects

in Bl, Big Data, IoT, Data Analytics & Al



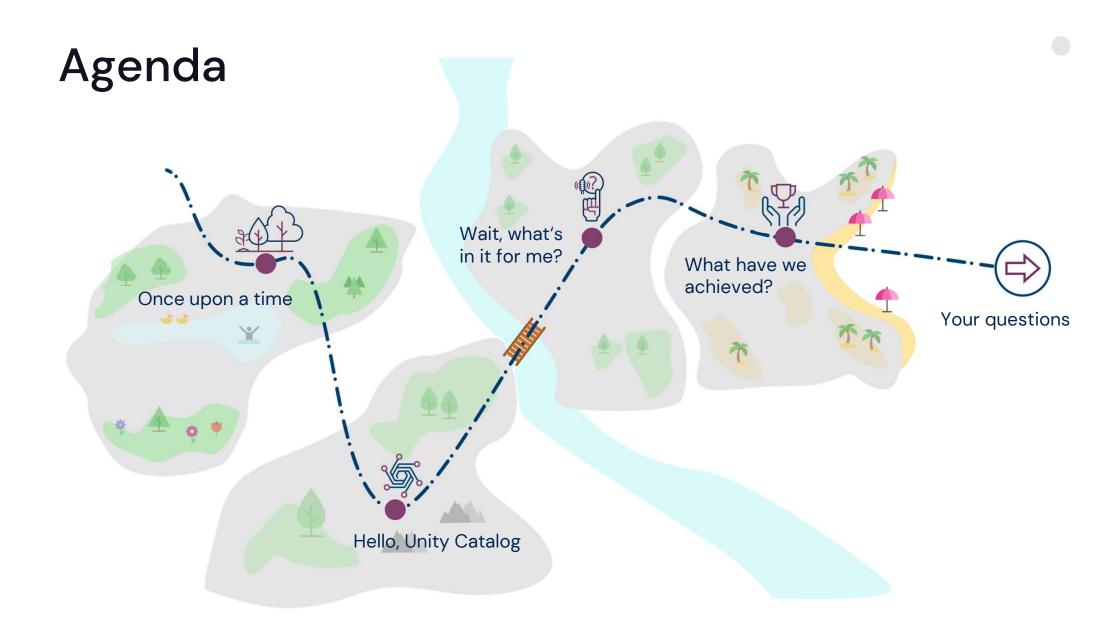
our team

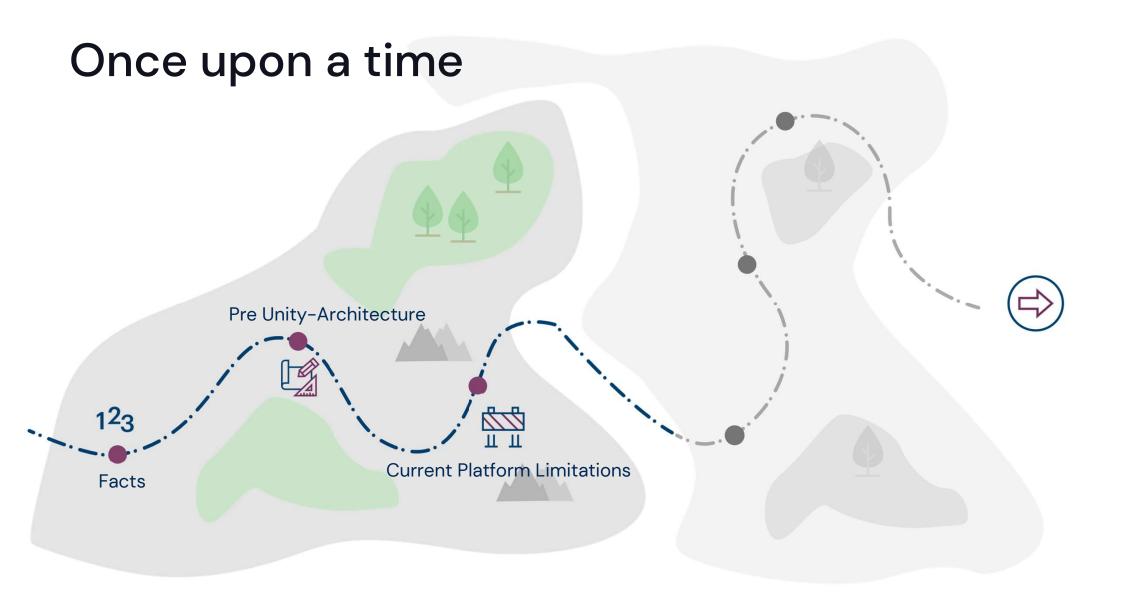
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Self-Service Analytics and Governance

Your key takeaways

- Governance is for all
 - is an enabler \rightarrow not a blocker
 - is essential \rightarrow not optional
 - is recurring \rightarrow not a one time task
- Your stakeholders are your key
 - as requestor & beneficiary
- Unity Catalog unifies your Lakehouse governance
 - enables accessability & security & maintenance

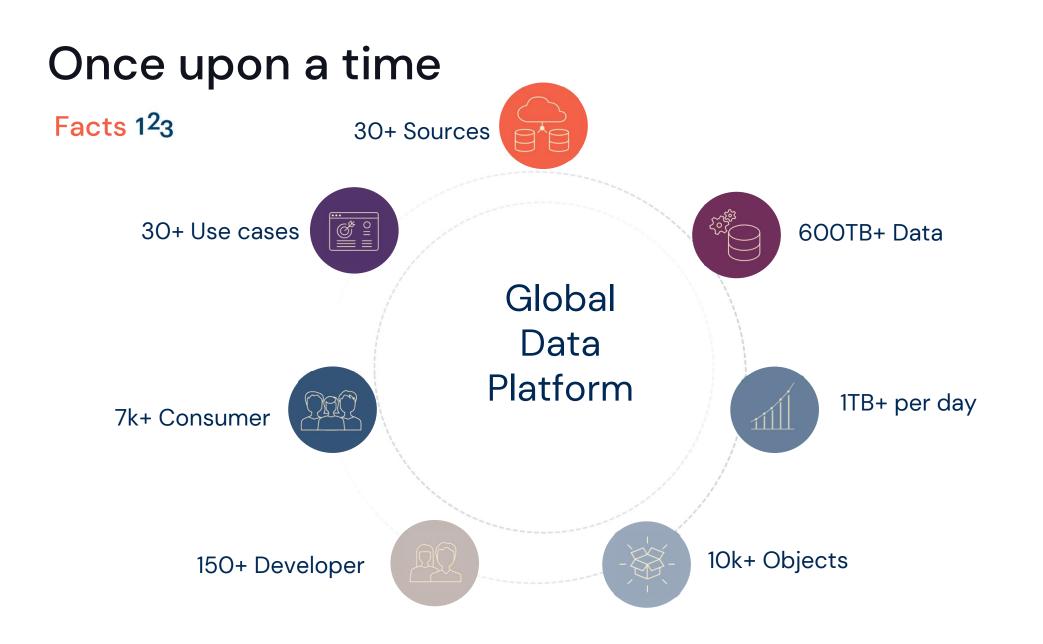




Once upon a time

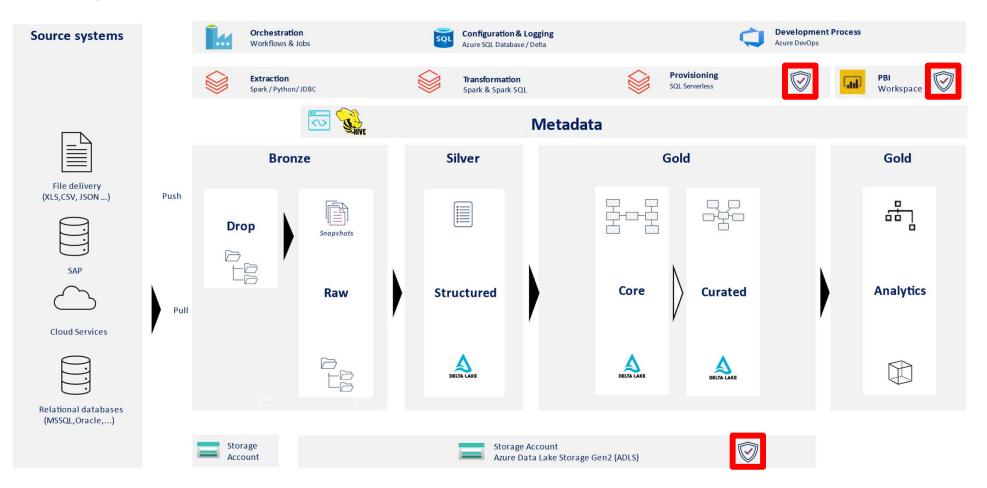
Start of our journey

- Historically grown
- Complex dependencies
- A number of active use cases & large user group
- Tool & architecture limitations
- High security expectations



Once upon a time

Pre Unity-Architecture



Once upon a time

Current platform limitations:



1. Limited access to global data



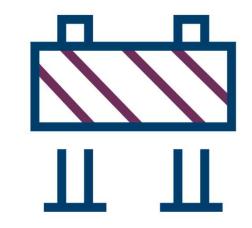
2. Limited global collaboration

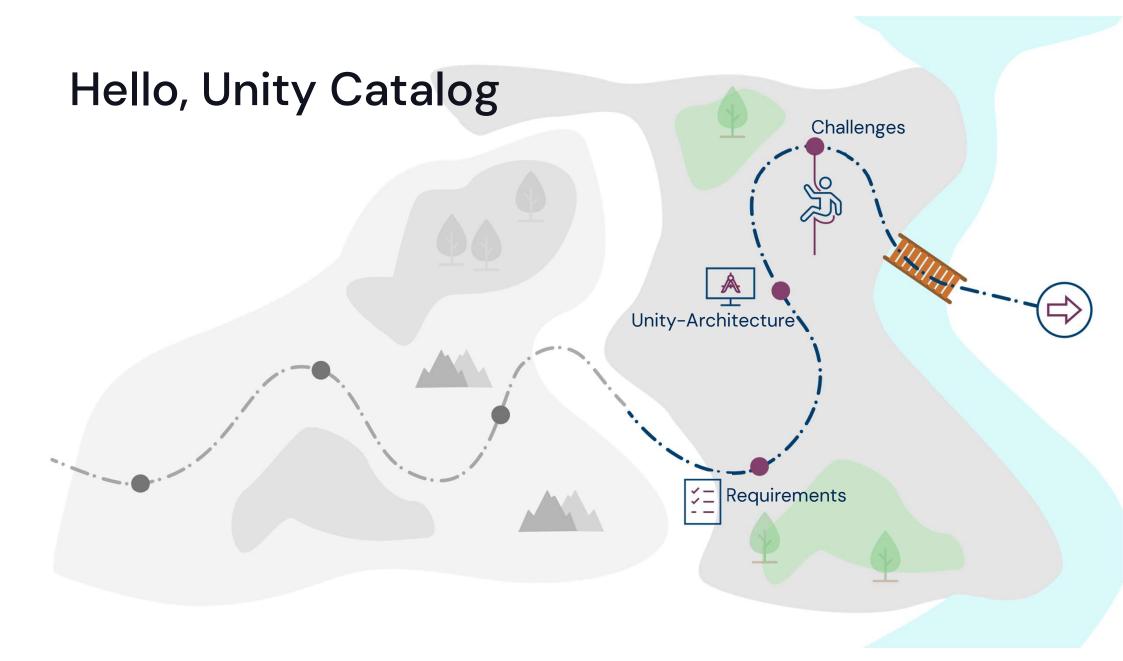


3. Missing unified governance



4. Missing compliance capabilities





Hello, Unity Catalog

Requirements



2. Enable global data access, data visibility and sharing



3. Enable global collaboration



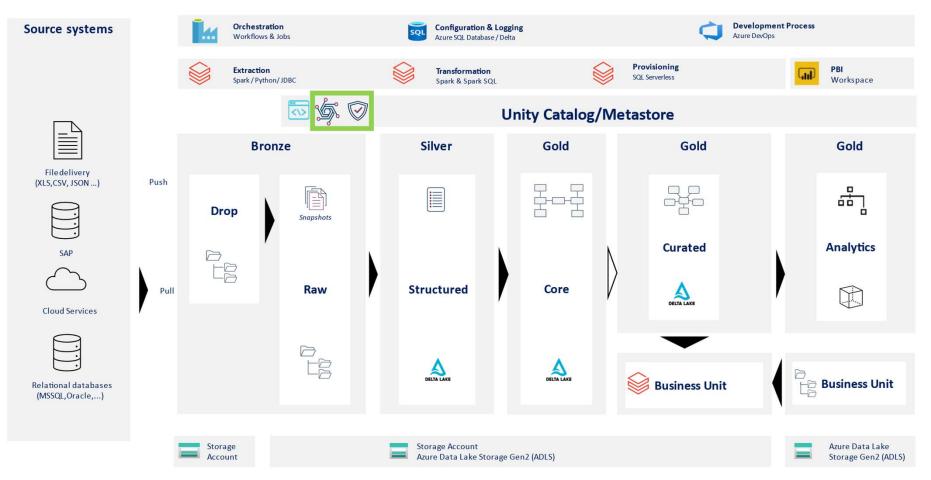
4. Support sophisticated permission concept



5. Fulfill Governance, security and compliance expectations

Hello, Unity Catalog

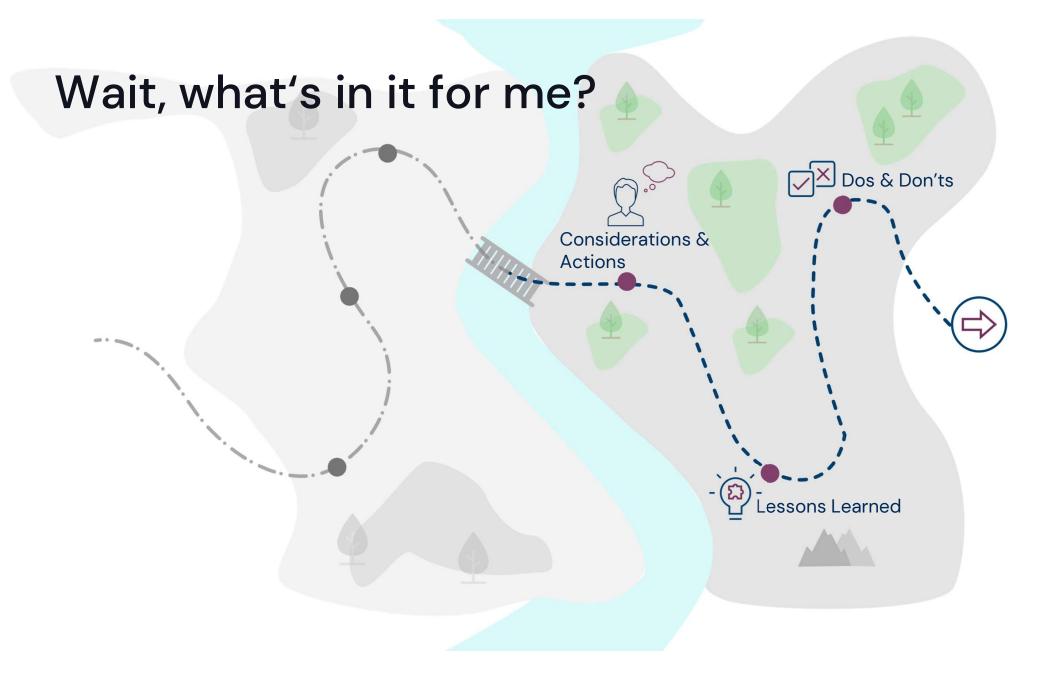
Unity-Architecture



Hello, Unity Catalog

Challenges

- Perform upgrades over multiple Runtime versions
- Some limitations for shared clusters (now documented)
- A super tight project deadline
- An incomplete migration path
- Struggle with SCIM Connector collaboration in AAD
- To set up a complex access concept



Considerations & Actions



Our questions:

- XLarge platform
- Distributed storages
- Big Bang or rolling wave ?

Code limitations

Challenges to tackle:

- Libraries (Pandas, Excel, ...)
- Limit Python UDF's
- No Scala, no RDD



How to design for:

- Cross unit
- How to use global data

Considerations & Actions



Our experience:

- Big Bang \rightarrow failed
- Rolling wave \rightarrow worked
- Segmentation is easier

Code limitations

Our solution:

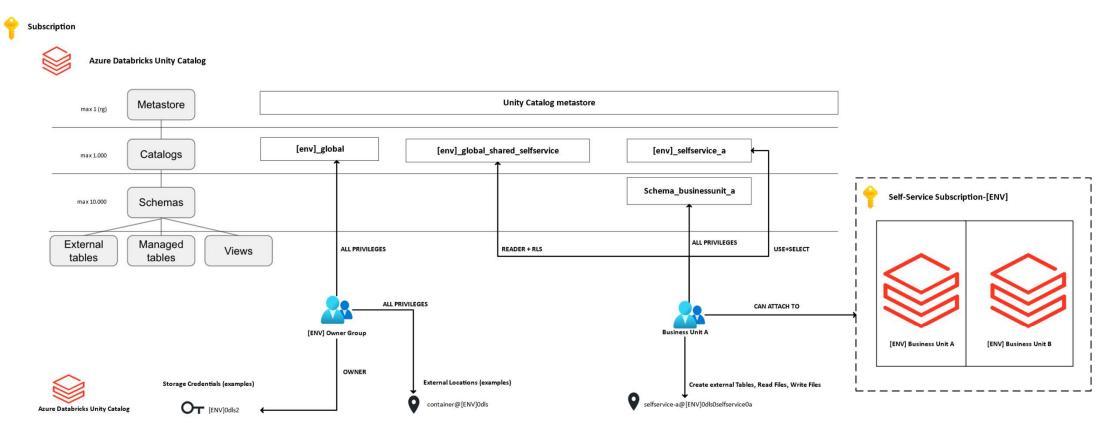
- Get rid of technical debt
- Review & replace
- Simplify & use Spark

Data visibility

Our solution:

• Layer concept

Layer concept



Considerations & Actions



Things to keep in mind:

- Early adopter challenges
- Hard & soft limits
- 3 Tier architecture ?



Challenges to tackle:

- Libraries & Init scripts
- Code languages

Objects to migrate

What to migrate and how:

- Tables & Views
- Functions
- Referenced tables
- Metastore database

Considerations & Actions



Solution:

- Architecture adaption
- Unity Catalog workspace binding
- Close exchange with vendor
- Previews (talk with vendor)



Solution:

- Divide & conquer
- Processing architecture
- Capsulation

Solution:

 On-board resources (sync)

Objects to migrate

- Scripts
- APIs

Lessons Learned



- Always talk with your stakeholders
- Define operating processes
- Work out a role concept



- Global AAD Admin
- Object types
- Runtime changes
- Clean up your code
- Representative test
- Try & catch
- SCIM connector



- Migration plan
- Multilayer architecture

Dos

- Upgrade to the latest LTS version
- Check infrastructure
- Choose the right access mode
- Set up logging
- Clean your code & test it
- Review & simplify code



Don'ts

- Upgrade multiple DBRs at once
- Skip runtime LTS versions
- Migrate in Big Bang
- Think "I don't need logging"
- Think "I will fix it later"
- Do it via GUI only





What have we achieved?

Business Value



Enablement

- Add governance path
- New user groups
- Data democratization
- Data Sharing
- Sophisticated security & permission



- Self service capabilities
- Data federation
- Accelerate growth
- Improved access mgmt.
- Lineage capabilities
- Higher user orientation
- Operational cost reduction



- Foundation for new Business Cases
- Data Mesh architecture
- Comprehensive data governance
- Usage monitoring
- Query Tuning

What have we achieved?

Project Outlook

- Use of Query Federation
- Attribute based access control ("Tagging")
- Classification Tagging
- Global rollout Unity Catalog data lineage
- Use of Volumes

What have we achieved?

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