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From Chaos to Clarity

How Data Contracts Turn Governance into a Growth Engine

Jean-Georges “JGP” Perrin
Senior Product Manager

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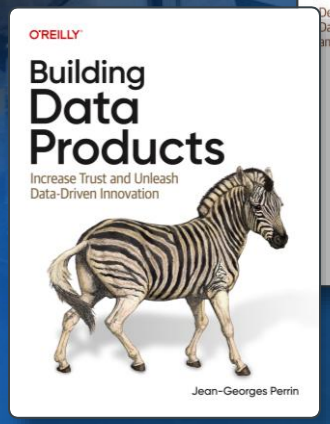

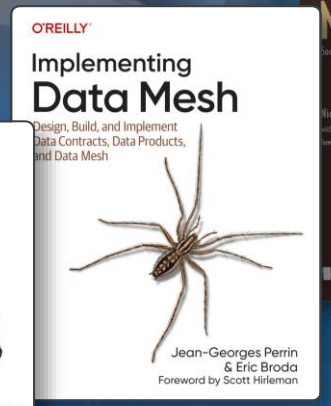

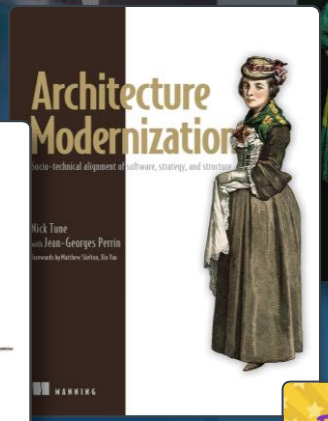

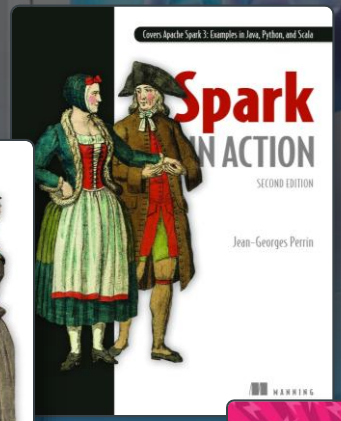

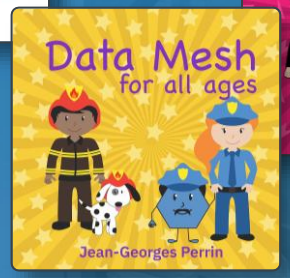

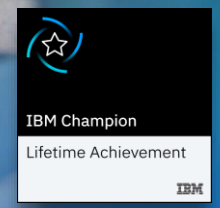

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Moving Data

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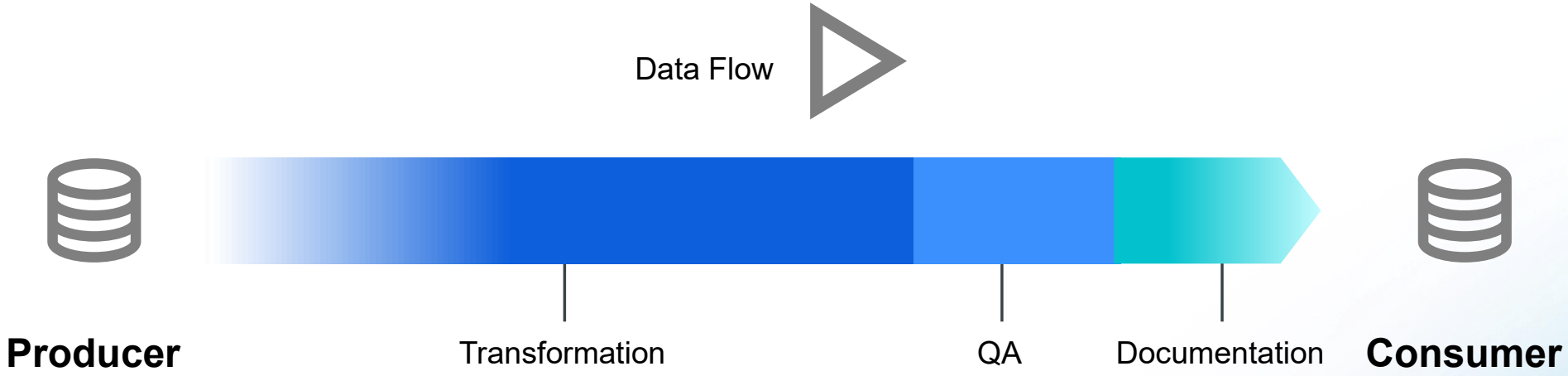
Data pipelines everywhere



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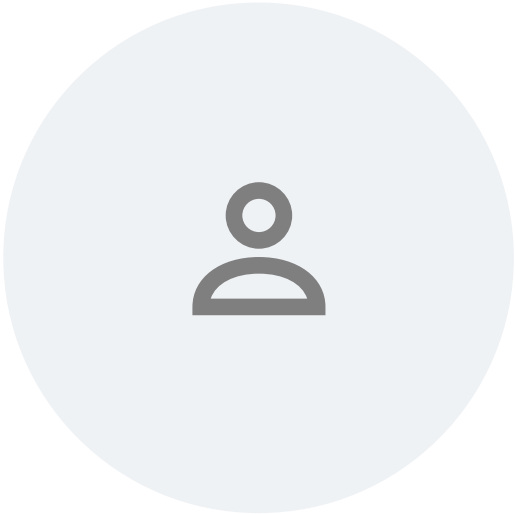
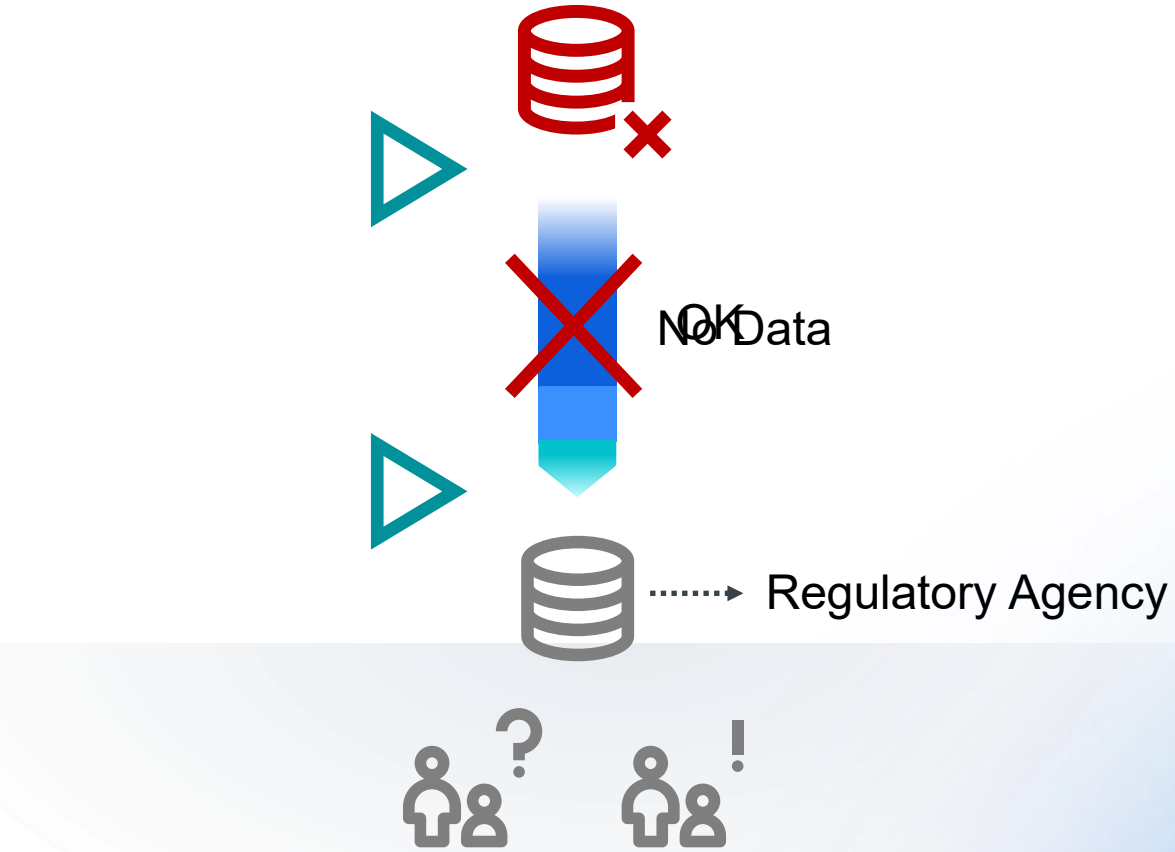
Monitor data pipeline





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I have a data contract you cannot refuse

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What is a Data Contract?

Creates a link between a data producer and data consumers.

Creates a link between business (logical representation of the data) and technology (its physical implementation).

Describes meta meta data: rules, quality, and behavior.

A data contract is the source of truth for your metadata.

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What are the problems we are trying to solve?

Normalizing and keeping documentation relevant.

Bringing quality data in AI workflows. Describing service-level expectations.

Easing data and tools integration.

Ending painful data discovery.

Enabling data product thinking.

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ODCS: Architecture and Content

jgp.ai/odcs

Contributors to the data contract

Data Engineers | Data Scientists | Data Product Owner | Automation Tools

Open Data Contract Standard v3.1.0

Fundamentals
Name, Version, Description…

Schema*
Logical representation & physical implementation

Data Quality*
Data quality rules, Data governance policies

Pricing
Internal or external costs associated to usage

Team
History of team members

Security
Roles

SLA
Latency, retention, frequency…

Infrastructure**
Servers, environment, and storage…

Support
Support mechanisms for consumers

Business rules***
Data QoS applied to your business needs

Custom Properties
Room for custom needs

* Major evolution in v3
** New in v3
*** Scheduled for v3.2

Enterprise Data Governance | Enterprise Data Catalog | Enterprise Security and Audit | Enterprise Ops

Enterprise-level consumers and contributors

Applications | Monitoring | Observability | Notification | Tools

Contract consumers

LF AI & DATA | Bitol

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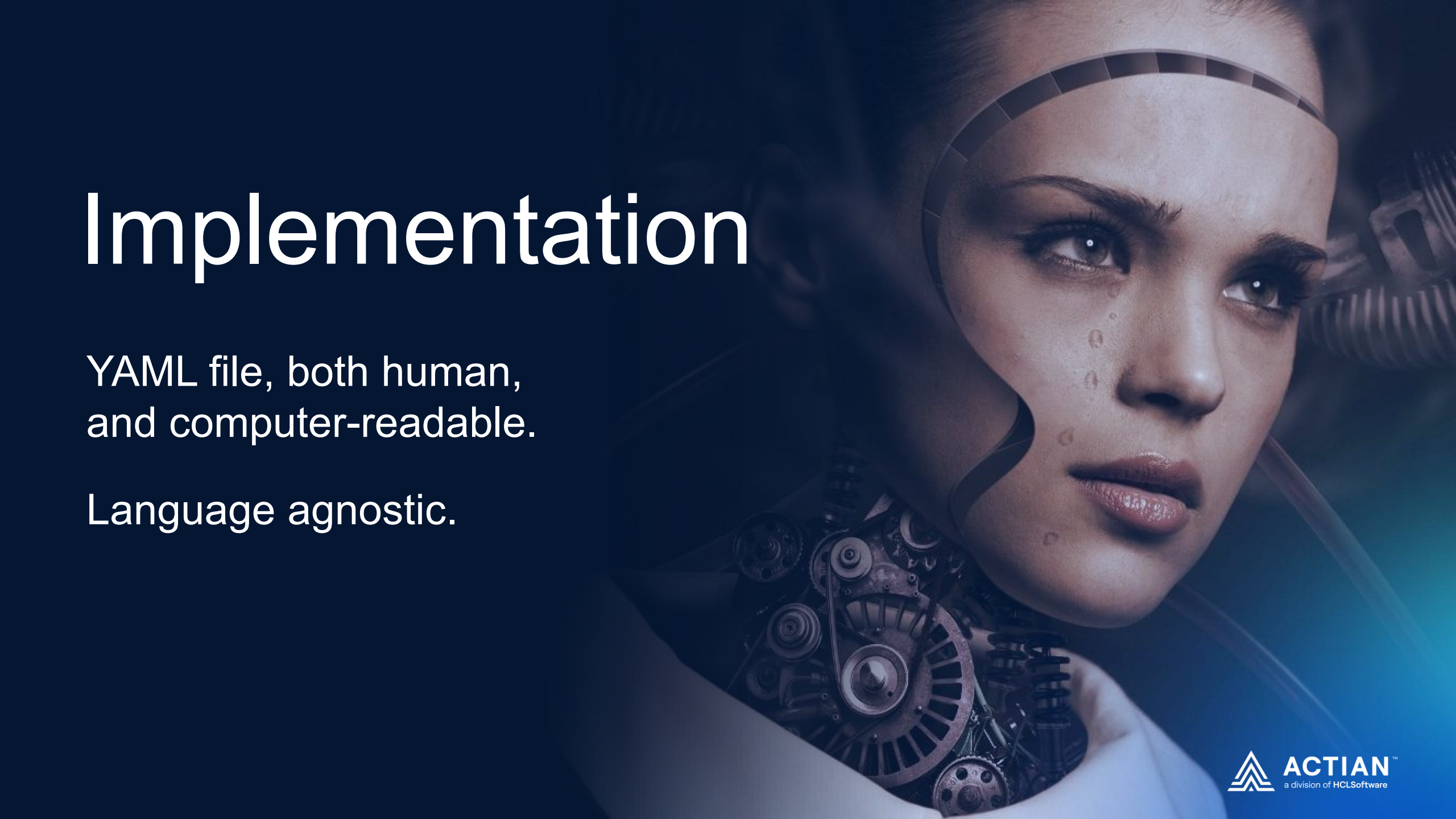
Implementation

YAML file, both human,
and computer-readable.

Language agnostic.



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jgp.ai/odcs

```yaml
- name: tbl
  description: Provides core payment metrics
  dataGranularityDescription: Aggregation on columns txn_ref_dt, pmt_txn_id
  properties:
    - name: txn_ref_dt
      businessName: Transaction reference date
      logicalType: date
      physicalType: date
      description: Reference date for the transaction. Use this date in reports and
        aggregation rather than txn_mystical_dt, as it is slightly too mystical.
      examples:
        - 2022-10-03
        - 2025-01-28
```

Table name

Column name

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jgp.ai/odcs

```
- name: tbl
  properties:
    - name: rcvr_cntry_code
      businessName: Receiver country code
      logicalType: string
      physicalType: varchar(2)
      authoritativeDefinitions:
        - url: https://zeenea.app/studio/e64d/field/1b24/general
          typurl:e: Business definition
        - https://github.com/myorg/myrepo
          type: Reference implementation
```

Mapping from logical to physical

Multiple links to enterprise definitions

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jgp.ai/odcs

```yaml
team:
  - username: ceastwood
    role: dpo
    dateIn: 2014-08-02
    dateOut: 2014-10-01
    description: Clint was playing it dirty
    replacedByUsername: jwayne
  - username: jwayne
    role: dpo
    dateIn: 2014-10-01
```

Original data product owner

Current data product owner

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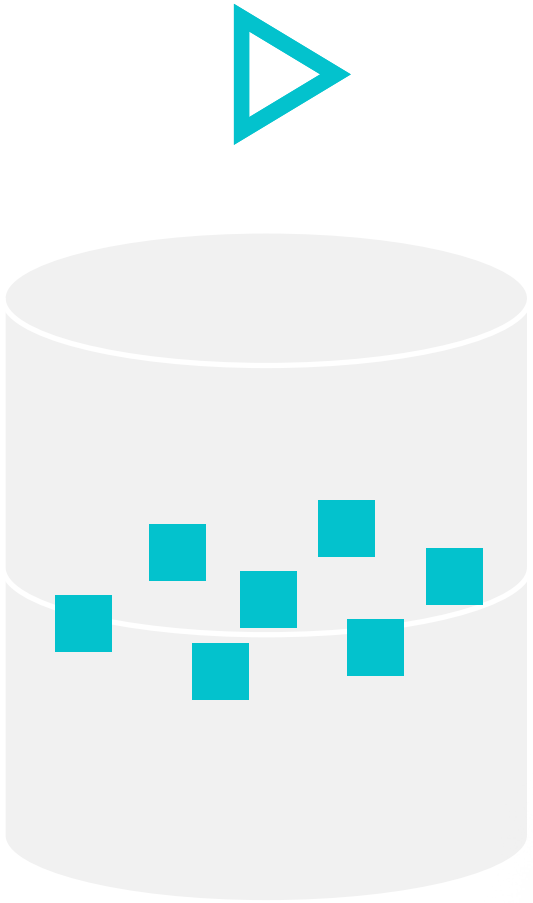
How do I get value?



Guaranteed by Contract

Monitored Schema

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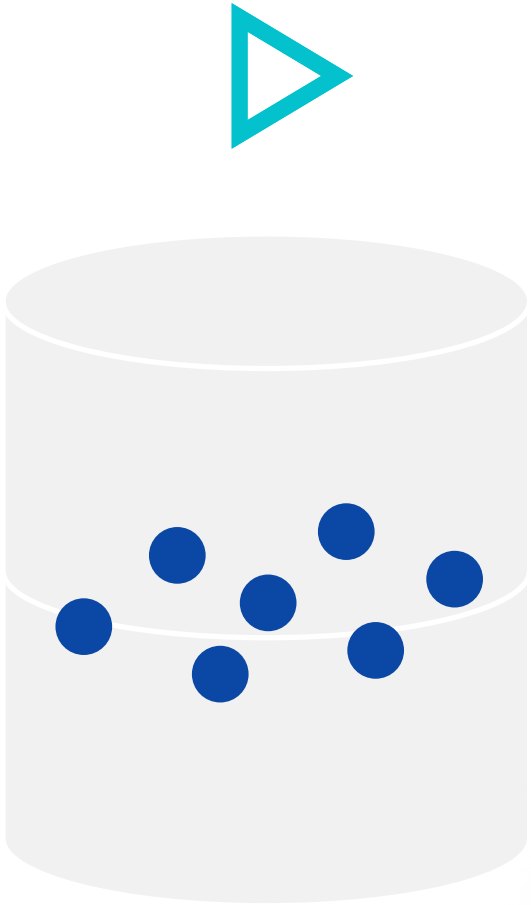
How do I get value?



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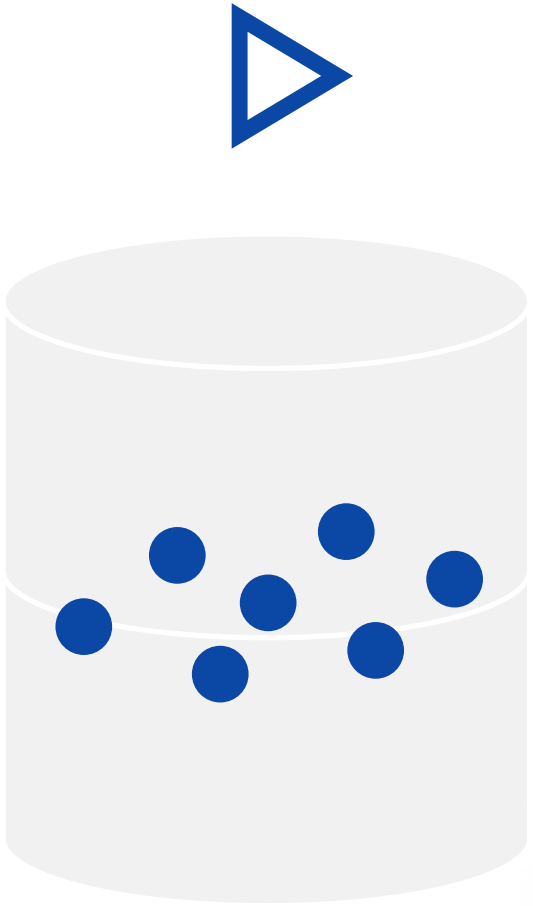
How do I get value?



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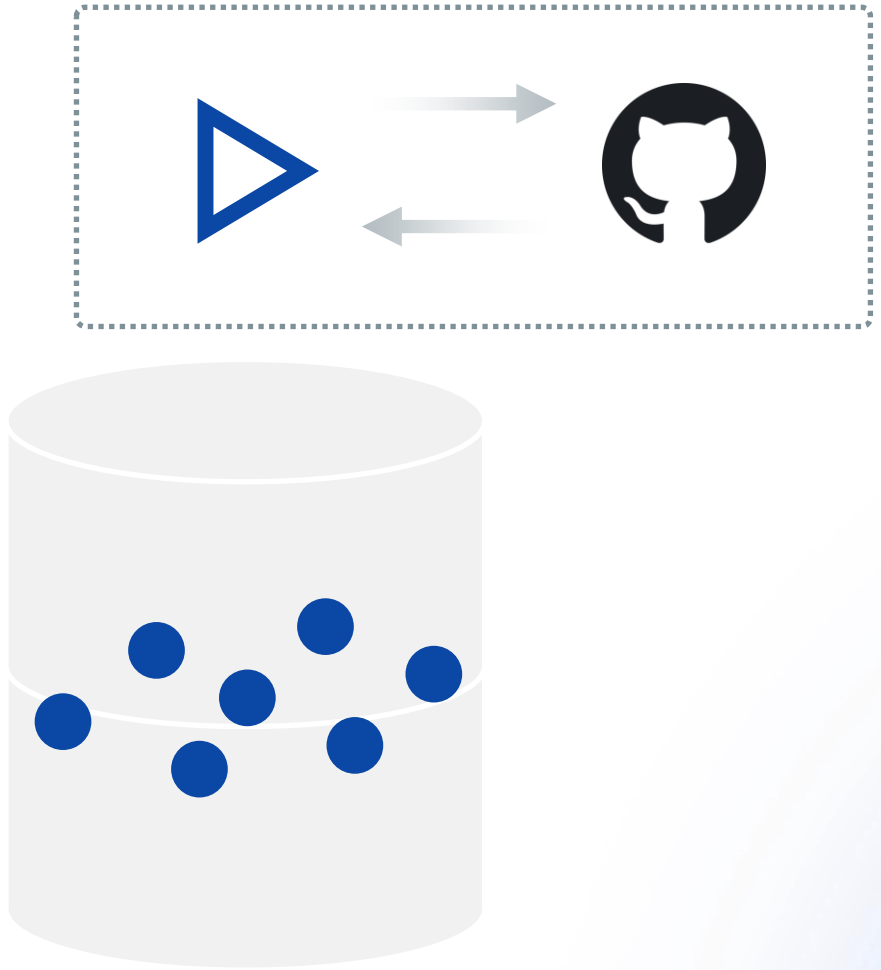

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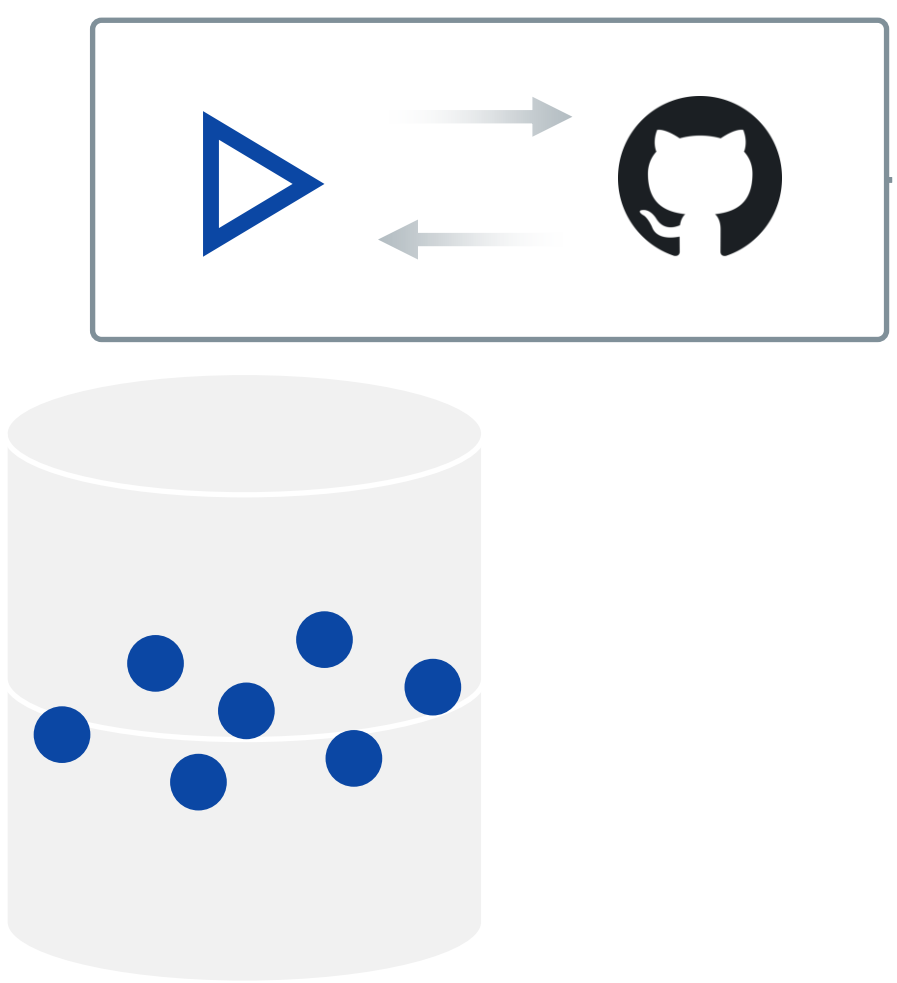
How do I get value?



Actian Data Intelligence Platform

Actian Data Observability

Any ODCS-compliant tool

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Interactive Tutorials

Hands-on Tutorial

Production-grade services

Free to use

Digital badge

https://jgp.ai/hands-on-bitol

The Data Intelligence Platform

BITOL NEWS

So You Want to Work With Data Contracts and Data Products?

Let's be honest: data contracts and data products sound like something between legal paperwork and something you'd find in a warehouse. Let's change that.

JEAN-GEORGES PERRIN
AUG 01, 2025

17 2 4 Share

However, in reality, they're the backbone of modern data ecosystems. And once you understand how to create, version, evolve, and document them, you'll never look at a CSV the same way again.

Let's play with data contracts & data products.

That's why I created a short series of four hands-on tutorials to help you not just understand the concepts, but apply them. No buzzwords. No 50-slide decks. No BS.

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Open Standards
>
Open Source
LF AI & DATA
Bitol
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Getting Value Every Step

Data Contract

- Better documentation
- Better Data QoS
- Faster discoverability

Data Product

- Better isolation
- Faster time to market
- Easier evolution
- Higher security
- Standardized way of consuming data
- Consistent view of observability

Data Mesh

- Better cross-domain communication
- Enhanced lineage
- Enterprise standard to access and consume data
- Federated data governance

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Wrap up

1 Data contracts **are more important than you think**

2 Data contracts **provide immediate value and fast ROI**

3 **Open standards** are making interoperability easier

4 **Actian fully embraces open standards**, such as Bitol ODCS & ODPS

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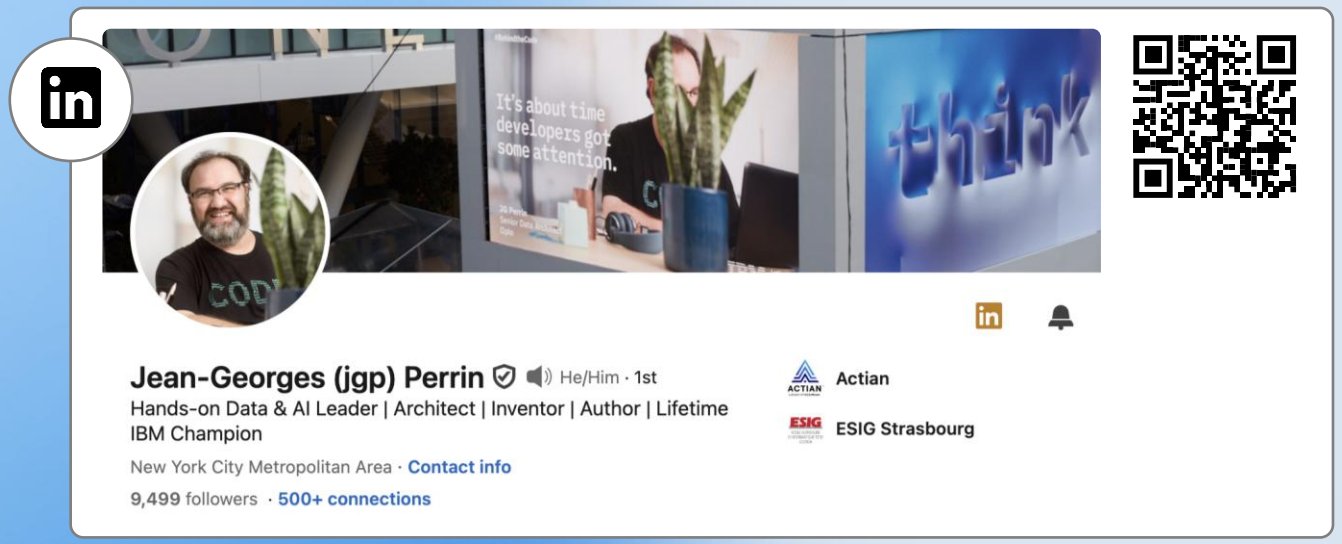
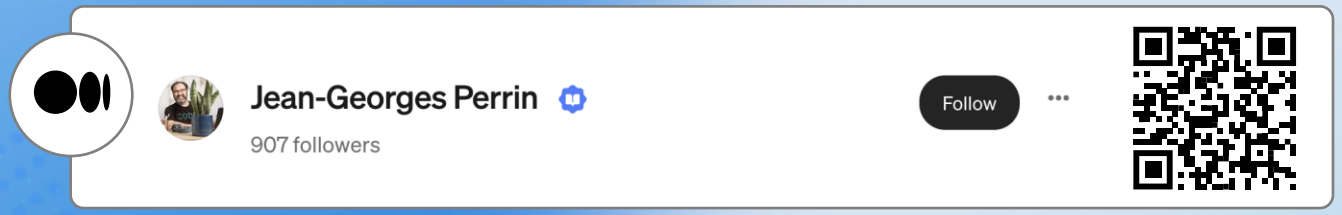
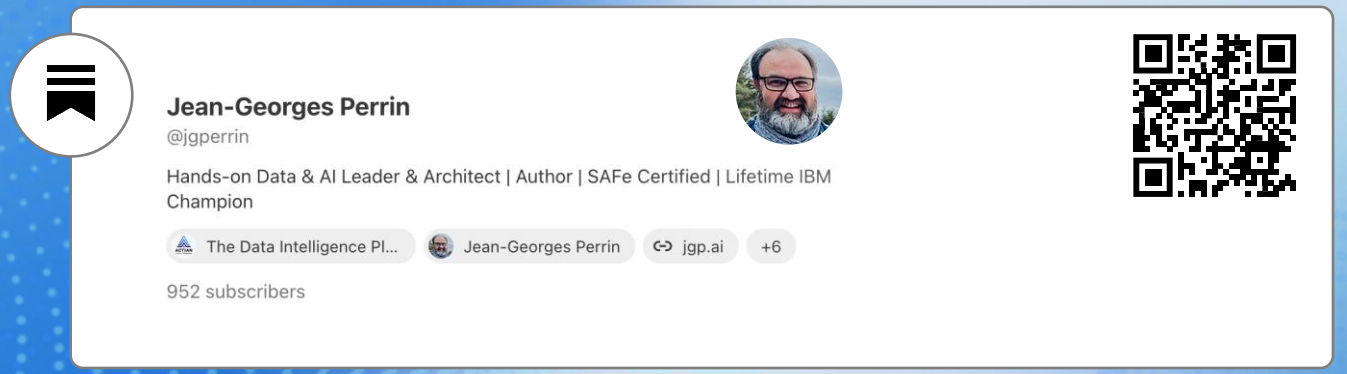
Connect, subscribe and engage







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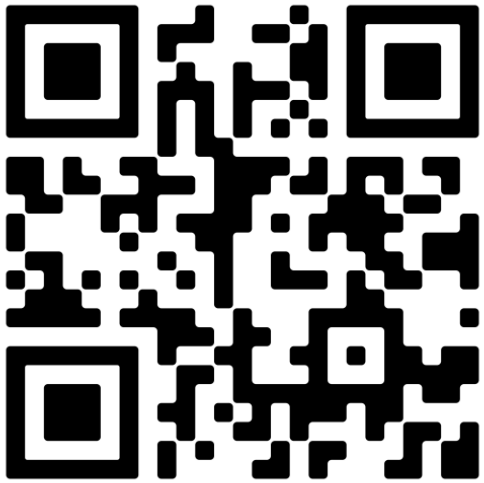
Come meet us at
Booth #33 to continue
the conversation



Take a Product Tour

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