



Open for Business:

Define your Data with Semantic Labels
and Metadata for Faster AI and
Business Relevancy

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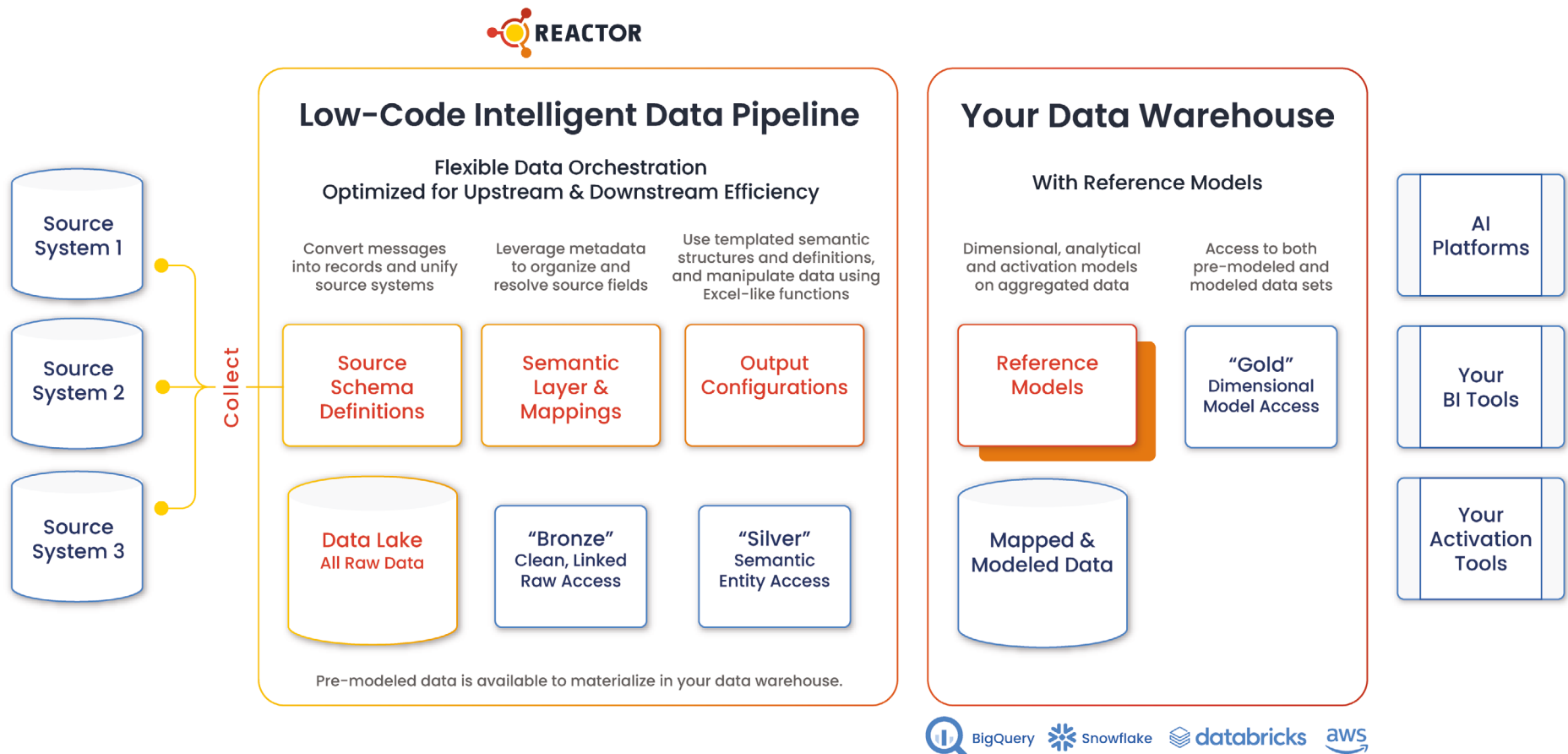
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Introduction: The cloud changes everything

Cloud data warehouses can transform the way you run your business, revealing the drivers and detractors of profitable growth. But cloud data warehouses can also become expensive dumping grounds for unusable data.

A useful and cost effective data infrastructure requires more than just a data warehouse filled with raw data, dependent upon brute-force data engineering to map and model data into useful business output.



In the science fiction drama **Arrival**, linguist Dr. Louise Banks discovers that (spoiler alert!) the language shared by visiting aliens is a rosetta stone that unites Earth's global powers by **enabling shared understanding across countries and cultures**. This shared language provides a common "semantic" layer for the people of Earth to communicate and understand each other.

When we use the word semantic to describe a data model, we are basically talking about a conceptual model of the data, including objects or entities, how they are classified, and their relationships. A semantic model might include metadata (descriptive data describing the original data) as labels to help capture the essence and meaning of the information. In retail, examples of entities are customers, orders, shipments, and digital advertisements. Entities might also include stores and warehouses, units of inventory, and parcel post shipments. Metadata labels might describe how COGS is assigned to order items, or how net revenue is calculated for a certain order given promotional discounts and markdowns.



What's the value of this semantic understanding, and how does it help businesses thrive using data as a competitive advantage?

In general terms, defining data with detailed, industry-specific semantic labels and metadata can provide several benefits to business end-users, including:

Improved Data Relevance:

Semantic labels and metadata can help end-users quickly identify and locate the data they need for their specific business needs. By using industry-specific labels and metadata, data can be categorized and organized in a way that is familiar and relevant to the end-user's business domain, making it easier to find and use the data.

Increased Data Understanding:

Semantic labels and metadata can help end-users better understand the data they are working with by providing a standardized and consistent way of describing the data. By using industry-specific labels and metadata, end-users can better understand the context and meaning of the data, making it easier to interpret and analyze.

More Accurate Analysis:

Semantic labels and metadata can help end-users perform more accurate and precise data analysis by providing a clear and consistent way of describing the data. By using industry-specific labels and metadata, end-users can reduce the risk of errors and inaccuracies in their analysis, resulting in more reliable and trustworthy results.

Improved Collaboration:

Semantic labels and metadata can help end-users collaborate more effectively by providing a common language and framework for discussing and sharing data. By using industry-specific labels and metadata, end-users can better communicate and collaborate with colleagues, resulting in more effective teamwork and better decision-making.

Overall, defining data with detailed, industry-specific semantic labels and metadata can provide significant benefits to business end-users in the field of data analytics, including improved data relevance, increased data understanding, more accurate analysis, improved collaboration, and better data governance and compliance.

In the field of retail analytics, defining data with detailed, **industry-specific semantic labels and metadata** can provide several benefits to business end-users, including:

Improved Sales Insights:

Semantic labels and metadata can help end-users understand sales data better by providing context and detailed information about products, promotions, channels, and customer segments. By using industry-specific labels and metadata, end-users can gain deeper insights into customer behavior, preferences, and trends, resulting in more effective sales strategies.

Better Inventory Management:

Semantic labels and metadata can help end-users manage inventory more effectively by providing information about product attributes, such as size, color, and style. By using industry-specific labels and metadata, end-users can better track and manage inventory levels, reducing stockouts and overstocking, resulting in better cost control.

Enhanced Customer Experience:

Semantic labels and metadata can help end-users improve the customer experience by providing information about customer behavior, preferences, and demographics. By using industry-specific labels and metadata, end-users can tailor marketing campaigns, product assortments, and pricing strategies to meet customer needs, resulting in higher customer satisfaction and loyalty.

More Accurate Forecasting:

Semantic labels and metadata can help end-users make more accurate sales and inventory forecasts by providing historical data and trend analysis. By using industry-specific labels and metadata, end-users can identify patterns and anomalies in the data, leading to more accurate forecasting and better resource allocation.

Improved Data Governance and Compliance:

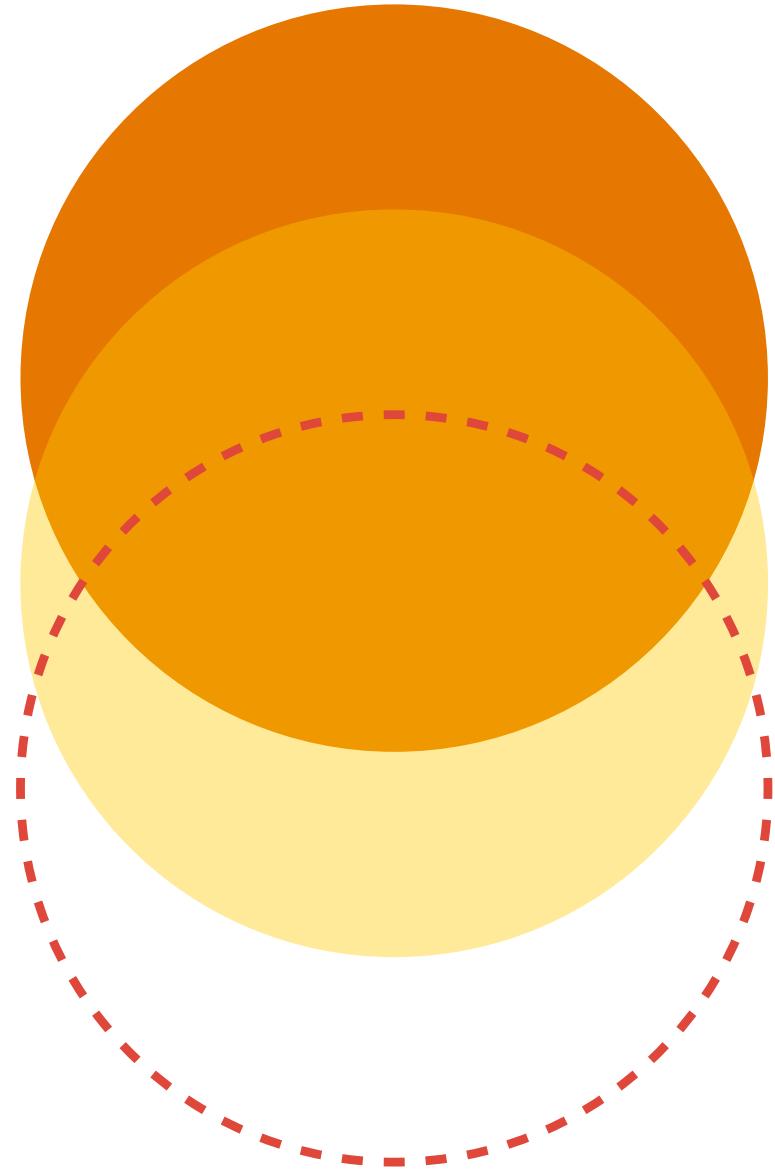
Semantic labels and metadata can help end-users ensure compliance with data regulations and governance policies by providing a standardized and consistent way of categorizing and managing data. By using industry-specific labels and metadata, end-users can reduce the risk of data breaches and ensure that data is being used in a compliant and ethical manner.

Define your Data

Overall, defining data with detailed, industry-specific semantic labels and metadata can provide significant benefits to business end-users in the field of retail analytics, including improved sales insights, better inventory management, enhanced customer experience, more accurate forecasting, and improved data governance and compliance.

Are the departments and teams at your brand operating more like the twelve disconnected global tribes at the beginning of Arrival?

You may need a semantic layer for your data (applied early and holistically) to promote shared understanding of key concepts and calculations, and **unite the factions to achieve global harmony!**





Put Your Data to Work.

Future Proof your Data Stack with a Semantic Layer

Defining your data with detailed, industry-specific semantic labels and metadata can provide significant benefits to your business end-users, including improved sales insights, enhanced customer experience, more accurate forecasting, and improved data governance and compliance.

Find out more about all **nine characteristics of a Future-Proof Cloud Data infrastructure** in our comprehensive [exclusive ebook](#).

Contact Reactor to learn more and get started today!



Get the Full E-Book



Reactor provides the fastest, most efficient path to useful, business-ready data for generative AI, analytics and activation. Built for retailers of any size or complexity, Reactor transforms your unique data infrastructure into an easy-to-use, no-code environment that's accessible to everyone — no engineering degree required. Reactor onboards and ingests data from business critical systems and applications, landing clean, well-defined data modeled directly in your data warehouse.

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