Operationalizing Data Governance at Enterprise Scale

While a data architecture focuses on technology and infrastructure design, data governance encompasses the people, processes, workflows, and architecture necessary to support governance. An entire framework—encompassing definition, discovery, execution, and monitoring—is necessary to enable and support any data governance initiative.

Key Capabilities for Operationalizing Data Governance at Enterprise Scale

1. **Data Definition**
   - Define policies, processes, and stakeholders. The definition process documents data definitions and context associated with business terminology, taxonomies, relationships, policies, rules, standards, processes, and measurement strategy.

2. **Data Discovery**
   - Capture an organization's existing data lifecycle, technical capabilities, and the state of its data. Insights uncovered define the data governance strategy, priorities, business case, policies, standards, architecture, and vision. The define and discover processes iterate as discovery drives definition, and definition drives more targeted discovery.

3. **Data Execution**
   - Operationalizes and ensures compliance with data governance policies, business rules, stewardship processes, workflows, and cross-functional roles and responsibilities. AI and machine-learning build upon common enterprise metadata to automate data governance. Cross-team collaboration and automated tools ensure data governance programs scale across the business and support every use case.

4. **Data Measurement & Monitoring**
   - Measures the effectiveness and value data governance generates. It also monitors compliance and exceptions defined by policies and rules, enabling transparency and auditability.