

Sep 14, 2021

EDC Data Domain Best Practices

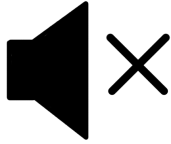
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- Today's Webinar is scheduled for **1 hour**
- The session will include a webcast and then your questions will be answered live at the end of the presentation
- All dial-in participants will be muted to enable the speakers to present without interruption
- Questions can be submitted to "All Panelists" via the **Q&A option** and we will respond at the end of the presentation
- The webinar is **being recorded** and will be available on our **INFASupport YouTube channel** and **Success Portal** - where you can download the **slide deck** for the presentation. The link to the recording will be emailed as well.
- Please take time to complete the **post-webinar survey** and provide your feedback and suggestions for upcoming topics.

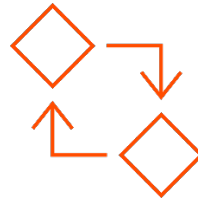
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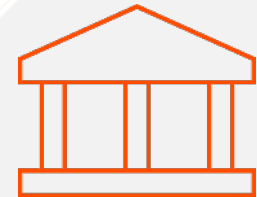
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University

<https://www.informatica.com/in/services-and-training/informatica-university.html>

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Agenda

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Data Domain
Overview

2

Data Domain
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3

Best Practices

EDC Data Domain Overview

Data Domain

EDC Data Domain Overview

A data domain is a predefined or user-defined Model repository object that enables you to discover the functional meaning of column data or column names in an asset. Examples of data domains include Social Security number, account status, IP address, Part Numbers and UPC code. You can add one or more data domains into a data domain group.

You can use data domains to identify and understand the meaning of critical source data or undiscovered source data so that you can take measures, such as data masking, to work effectively on it. For example, you might have legacy data systems that contain Social Security numbers in a Comments field. You need to find this information so that you can take appropriate measures before you move it to new data systems.

Here data domain is an INFORMATICA Enterprise Data Catalog (EDC) terminology, it is **not to be confused with** common use of the term in the industry to denote Subject Areas such as Customer, Product, Vendor etc.

Also not to be confused with common use of the terminology 'domain' in Axon , which is a used to represent a type of a top-level glossary item to represent a subject area.

How Data Domain works

EDC Data Domain configuration

Data domain discovery is the process of discovering the functional meaning of data in the data sources based on the semantics of data. After you enable data domain discovery for a resource and run the resource, the profiling scanner uses the data domains to infer matching column data or column name patterns from the metadata extracted by the resources.

EDC Administrator resource configuration UI

General

Metadata Load Settings

Custom Attributes

Data Provisioning

Permissions

Schedule

▼ Data Discovery

☒ Enable Data Discovery

Discovery Types

Discover*:

☐ Unique Key Inference☒ Profiling

Basic Profile Settings

Profile Run Option*:

Column Profile and Data Domain Discovery

Domain Discovery Type*:

Run Discovery on Both Source Metadata and Data

Sampling Option*:

First N Rows

Number of First N Sampling Rows:

10000

Priority:

☐ High☒ Low

Viewing Data Domains

In Enterprise Data Catalog 10.5 onwards, you can view DataDomain as a resource. Before 10.5 individual data domains are available as assets that can be searched for. Inferred data domains can be seen at table, column and field level in EDC.

Informatica Enterprise Data Catalog

Discovery | Data Asset Analytics

Home

Search Results

Resources

Filter

1 Results

DataDomain Resource

Informatica Enterprise Data Catalog

Discovery | Data Asset Analytics

Home

Search Results

DataDomain

Add Business Title DataDomain

Overview | Lineage and Impact | Relationships

Source Description

Tag

Resource Contains

Assets in the Resource

Informatica Enterprise Data Catalog

Discovery | Data Asset Analytics

Home

Search Results

DataDomain

Account_Id

FSERV_ACCOUNT

BirthPlace

COUNTRY

AIRPORTS

CUST_COUNTRY_I...

CRM_CUSTOMER_...

Add Business Title CRM_CUSTOMER_ADDRESS

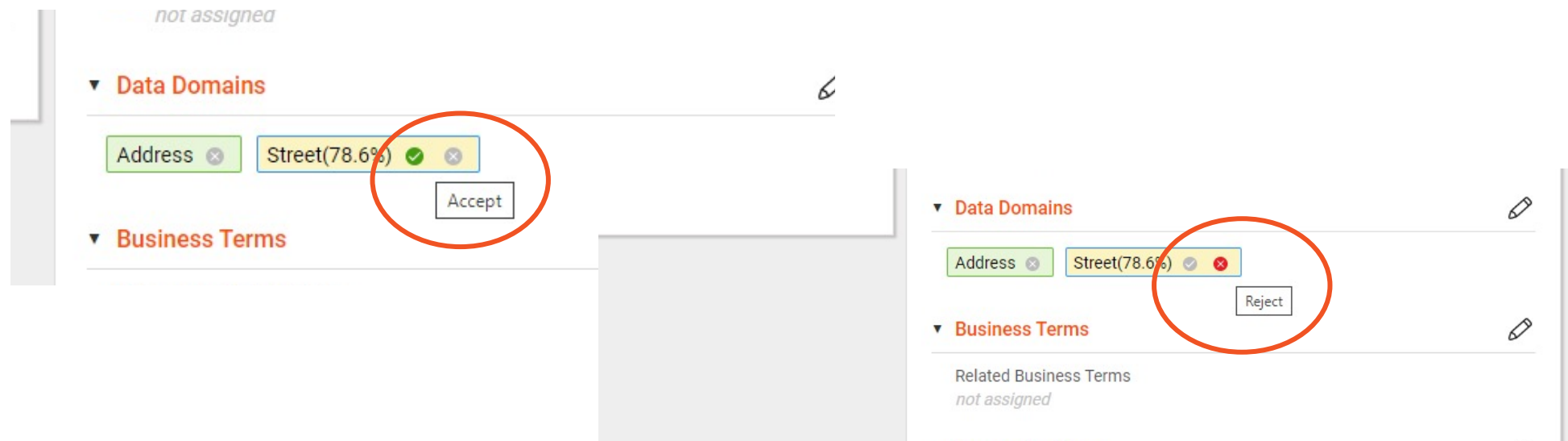
New_Data_Store > XE > ACME_CRM

Overview | Columns | Keys | Lineage and Impact | Relationships | Reviews | Questions

Name	Business Title	Data Domains	Null Distinct Non-Distinct %	Source Data Type Inferred Data Types
1 CUST_ID		Salary +2 more		NUMBER (15)
2 CUST_ADDRESS		Address +1 more		VARCHAR2 (100)
3 CUST_POSTCODE		Salary +1 more		VARCHAR2 (20)
4 CUST_CITY		City +2 more		VARCHAR2 (50)
5 CUST_PROVINCE		Bank_Routing_Number_ABA... +5 more		VARCHAR2 (50)
6 CUST_COUNTRY		Address +3 more		VARCHAR2 (50)
7 CUST_HOUSENAME				VARCHAR2 (100)
8 CUST_STREET		Address		VARCHAR2 (100)

Curating Data Domains

You can accept or reject the inferred assets for the data domain. You can also view the data domains for tabular, column, and field assets. These data domains are inferred for the asset from the profile results or from similar columns. You can accept or reject a inferred data domain for a tabular, column, or field asset.



EDC Data Domain types

There are three categories of data domains.

- **Rule based**
- **Smart data domains**
- **Composite Data Domain**

Rule based data domain

Rule based data domains are the ones where the semantic meaning of a column can be discovered based on a rule.

- ***The rules can be “metadata based” or a “data rule”.***
- The rules can be out of box shipped with Informatica or custom created as per the requirement.
- There are three general categories of rules.
 - **Regex-based rule:** Regex to determine if the metadata or data follows a pattern.
 - **Reference table-based rule:** If there is a finite set of data and typically non-overlapping, then it can be validated against a reference table.
 - **Mapplet Rules:** These are mapplets created using Informatica’s Developer tool and can involve a combination of “regex”, “reference table”, “lookups” and several other expressions for example to check whether a value falls in a range or not.

Smart Data Domains

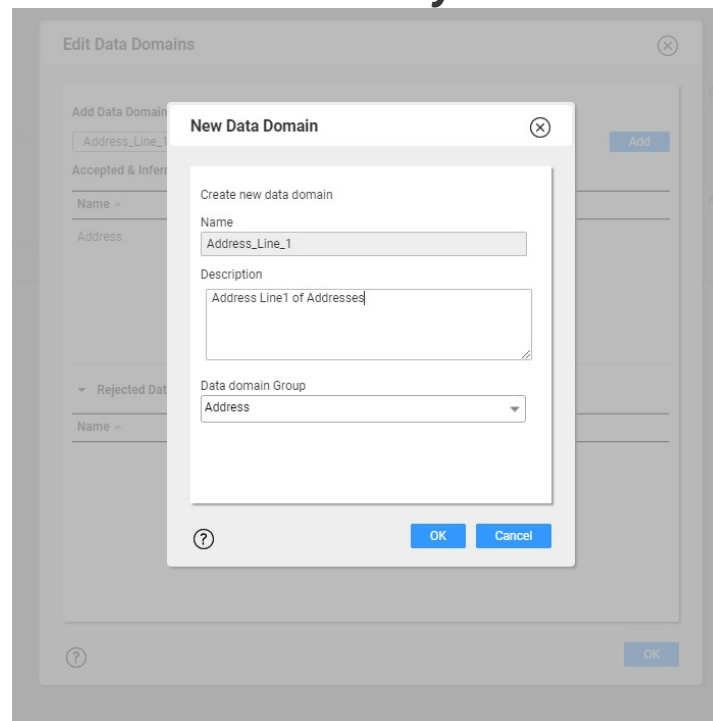
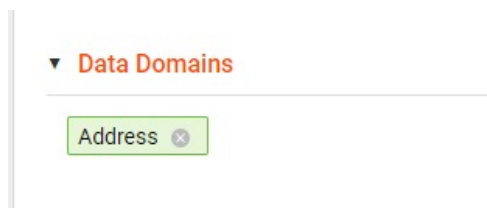
This data domain does not have any rule. It is also called “example based” data domain. This is more like a user “tagging” a column by observing various factors like the name of the column and the profiling statistics like “pattern” or min or max values.

- The users can in such cases can tag the column with a data domain.
- This data domain can be created on the fly. It does not necessarily have to exist in the catalog at the time of creation.

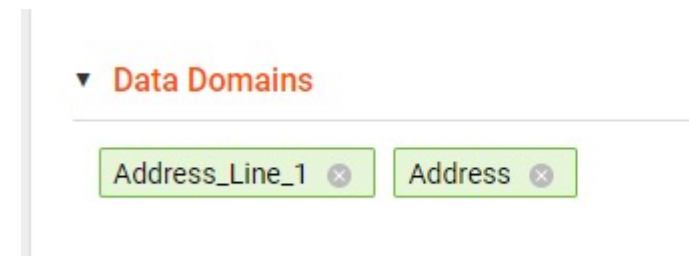
After creating smart data domain, propagate it to all the assets by running the **SimilarityDiscovery** scanner and **DataDomainPropagation** scanner in Catalog Administrator to discover assets that contain a similar pattern.

smart data domain created by user in EDC UI on the fly

Before smart data domain



After smart data domain creation



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- ## New Composite Data Domain

 Add Business Title
Person

Name*:

Description:

Contains data domains

Overview

Columns

Keys

Lineage and Impact

Relationships

Reviews

Questions

▼ Description

No description found. Click the "✎" icon to add a description for this asset.

▼ Tag

No details found. Click the "✎" icon to add details to this section.

▼ Sample Columns

Show All

Name	Business Title	Data Domains
Source		
MatchKey		
SourceID		
IndividualName		
DOB		BirthDay +1 more

▼ People

👤 Data Owner

not assigned

👤 Data Steward

not assigned

▼ Composite Data Domains

EU_Citizen

Person

Address_Information

Customer

▼ Business Terms

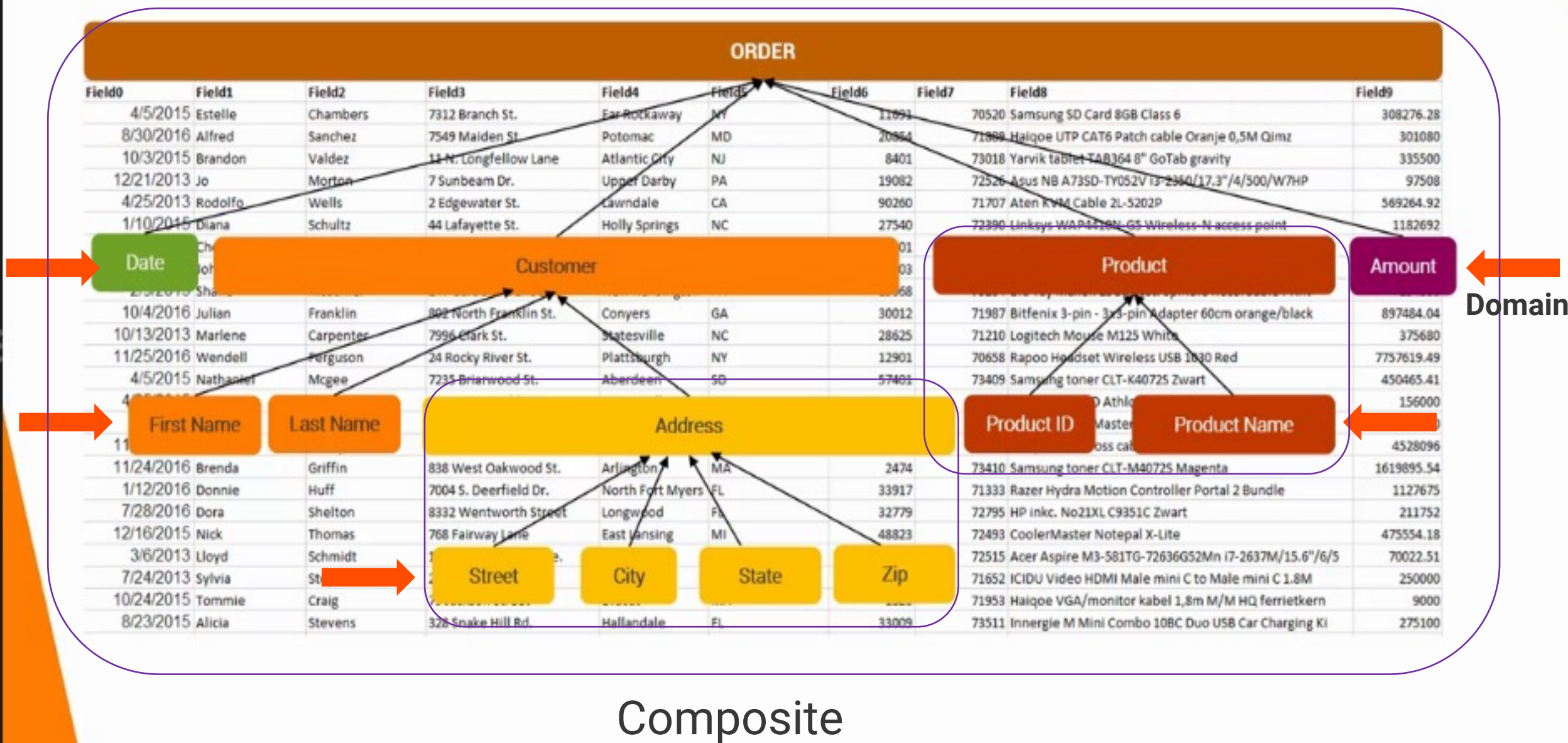
Related Business Terms

not assigned

▼ Custom Attributes

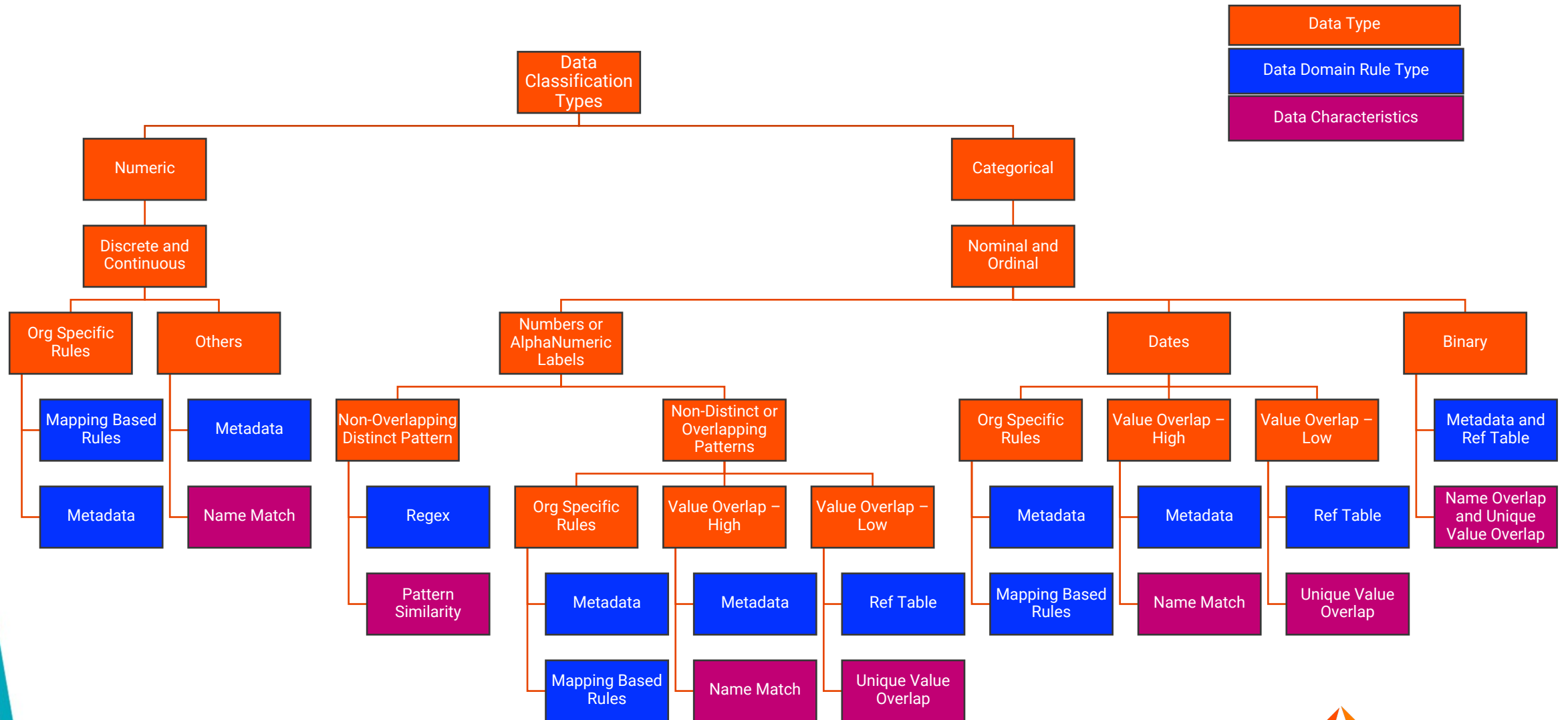
Data Center

Entity Recognition using Composite Domains



Data Domain Best Practices

Understand your data / Apply right methodology



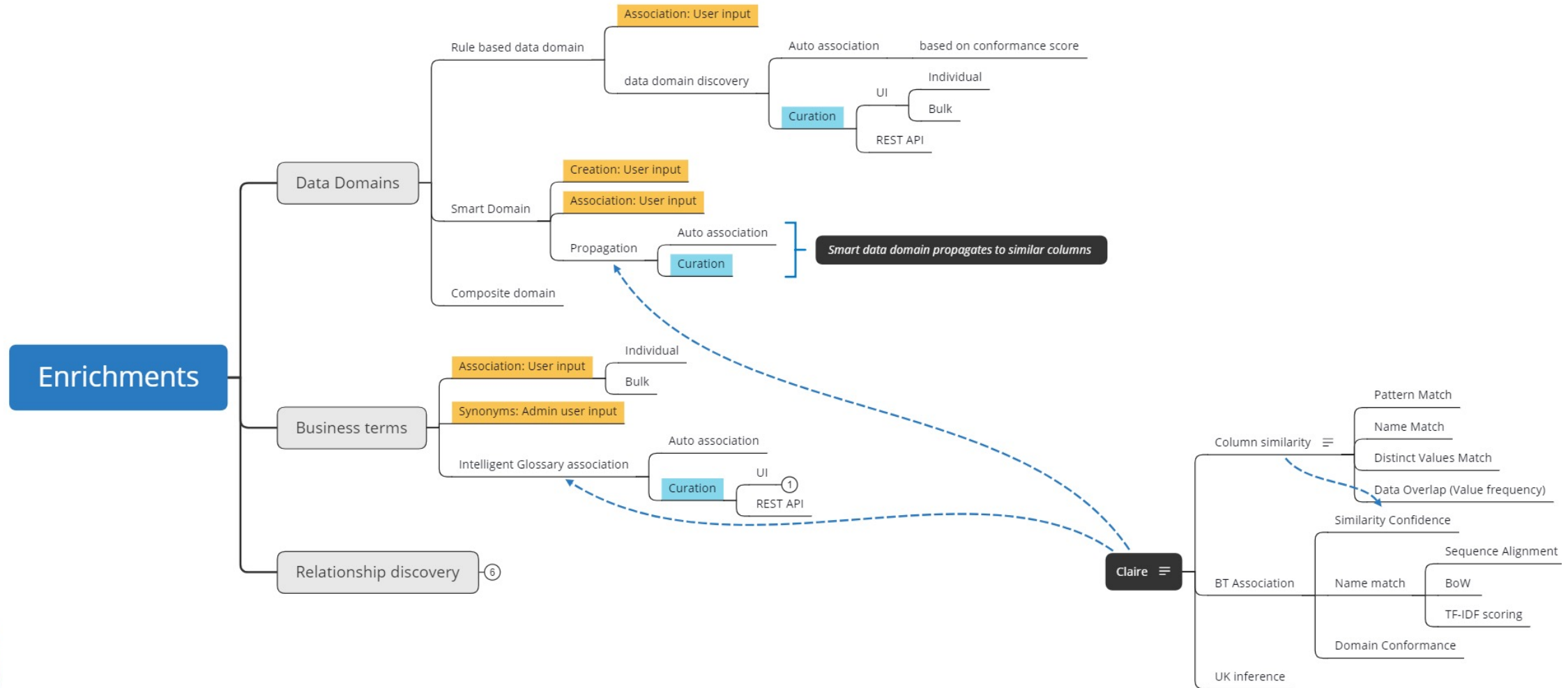
- Understand your data types – use the best suited method (rule) of discovery
 - For example: Credit card numbers are best identified by a regular expression
 - Another example is Part Numbers / Order Numbers created in an organization based on organization specific rules works best with Mapplet rule and Metadata Rule combination.

Type	Sub Type	data type	Characteristic	Discovery methodology
Pure number values	continuous or discrete	Numeric - Discrete Ex. Order Number - Continuous Ex. Age / Flight status No of Arrivals that gives trend	Organization specific rule	Mapplet rule & Metadata rule
			General/Others	Metadata rule
Categorical	Nominal and Ordinal	Alphanumeric - Nominal data Ex. Nationality / Gender - Ordinal data Ex. Rating (agree / disagree) FICO Score	Unique Value overlap with other data elements = None	Regex rule
			Unique Value overlap with other data elements = High	Metadata rule
			Unique Value overlap with other data elements = Low	Reference table rule
			Organization specific rule	Mapplet rules & Metadata rule
		Dates Ex. Date of Birth Order Date Purchase Date	Unique Value overlap with other data elements = High	Metadata rule
			Unique Value overlap with other data elements = Low	Reference table rule
			Organization specific rule	Mapplet rule & Metadata rule
		Binary Ex. Flags (Y / N) True / False 0 / 1	Not Applicable	Metadata rule & Reference table rule

Understand Column Similarity and its role in smart data domain propagation

- Manual curation of labels or tags will take forever and tedious. Identification of, therefore, similar columns in an automated fashion becomes important. One column gets a tag(s) and that gets propagated to the similar columns. This will save a lot of curation effort.
- In EDC, column similarity is CLAIRE functionality, and it is based on unsupervised clustering and computed based on 4 factors:
 - Name similarity
 - ✓ Match fields based on names and descriptions and identify fields even if abbreviated
 - ✓ CNTRY-CD and COUNTRY_CODE
 - Pattern similarity
 - ✓ Data patterns identified from the profiling results will be used to find similar columns and propagate smart data domains
 - Value frequency similarity (aka data similarity)
 - Unique value similarity

Understanding CLAIRE in Data Domain Propagation



Best Practices continued...

- Set Profiling sampling size to the max recommended value i.e., 17K for better results. Profiling and Data domain discovery is resource intensive, we recommend to do sizing and tuning of your EDC environment.
- Do data domain discovery against test data / non prod data only if your use case demands, expect false positives for data domain discovery for test/non prod data.
- Use what you need
 - Instead of "All Data domains", choose what is needed. Specific groups or data domains
 - It simply adds to time and curation effort.
- Use "bulk curation" creatively and wherever applicable
 - Data lands in Zone A – EDC scans Zone A and data domains are curated.
 - Zone A data moves to Zone B encrypted. Zone B's objects are same as "Zone A"
 - One can simply curate Zone B using the bulk import
- Override rules for data domains
 - Use conflict resolution option to minimize false positives
 - Use Proximity Data Domains for tie brakers

Conflict resolution / Override rules

Specify rules for this data domain: ☐ No ☒ Yes

You must specify either the Data Rule or the Column Name Rule created using the Informatica Analyst Tool or the Informatica Developer Tool.

Data Rule:

Column Name Rule:

Conflict Resolution:

Data Conformance

Minimum conformance: %

Auto accept if more than: %

Row Count:

Select Data Domain Group

Select the data domain groups to which you want to add the data domain. If you do not make a selection, the data domain is grouped under the default data domain group titled Undefined.

Data Domain Groups

Name ^	Description
Address	Contains rules looking for address...

Proximity Data Domains


Tie-breaker

- EDC uses proximity data domains to narrow down the inferred results to identify close-to-identical columns or fields for a data domain.
- EDC displays the results as a match score for the data domain. The match score is the ratio of number proximal data domains discovered in the data source to the number of configured proximal data domains for an inferred data domain.
- To use proximity data domains in the data domain discovery process, perform the following tasks
 - When you create or edit a data domain, add one or more data domains as proximity data domains.
 - When you create or edit a resource and enable data domain discovery, add the proximity data domains to the data domain.
 - When you enable data discovery and run the resource, the profiling scanner scans the data source for the data domain and the proximity data domains in the resource and displays a match score in Enterprise Data Catalog

Proximity Domain - Example

- Proximity Domains are one of the factors that help determine the data type of a column. They are useful as a tie-breaker when all the other factors result in inference of two or more domains with equal conformance/probability.
- Imagine three data domains: EMPLOYEE ID, NODE ID and CUSTOMER ID. All three are 7 digit numbers that are each picked randomly from a distribution of all 7 digit numbers.
- Now imagine a file called “data.csv”. It has the following columns:
 - Col1 – All 7 digit numbers
 - Col2 – First Names
 - Col3- Last Names
 - Col4- Department Names

Proximity Domain - configuration

 Informatica | New ▾


Overview


Library

Resource

Monitoring

Data Domains ✕

 Employee_ID ✕

 **Employee_ID**

General

Name	Employee_ID
Description	Employee ID data domain
Data Rule	rule_Valid_Number
Column Name Rule	rule_Luhn_Algorithm5
Conflict Resolution	Match data and column name rule
Minimum conformance	40.0
Auto accept if more than	80.0
Row Count	1

Proximity Data Domains

dept_id , FirstName , LastName

Proximity Domain – Example

- Intuitively we can recognize that data.csv may contain EMPLOYEE information and Col1 is EMPLOYEE ID from the description above. How did we come to that conclusion? It is because of the presence of:
- Col2 and Col3: Contains data about people – either employees, customers, shareholders etc. Certainly not nodes, as they do not have first and last names.
- Col4 – Department Name which narrows it down to employees. Customers and Shareholders generally may not have department names assigned to them.
- Proximity domains are a mechanism to bring the above intuition into the discovery process. While defining EMPLOYEE ID, users indicate that it generally occurs with FIRST NAMES, LAST NAMES and DEPARTMENT NAMES. The last three are also data domains. During discovery, the system associates Col1 with all the three domains EMPLOYEE ID, NODE ID and CUSTOMER ID because of the equal conformance score. However because of the identified proximity domains defined it will nudge the user to mark it as an EMPLOYEE ID because it found all the proximal domains for it.

General information about custom data domain creation

Data Domain Sync between EDC and IDQ

- When custom data domains are created in Analyst or Developer tool and not in Catalog administrator, make sure to run the DataDomain internal resource in Catalog Administrator to sync data domains from the Model Repository Service (MRS) with the Catalog. This is valid when same MRS is used for EDC and DQ.
- If MRS for DQ is separate from MRS for EDC, then export the data domains from DQ MRS and import the data domains in EDC MRS to make sure that the custom data domains are available for use in EDC.

Options to create rules and using them in custom data domains

- Use Informatica **Developer Tool** to create Rules which can be associated with custom data domains in Analyst, Developer or Catalog Administrator tool.
- The business user can create rule specifications in the **Analyst tool** and then generate the rule to save as mapplet in the Developer tool. The mapplet can be validated as a Rule in the Developer tool which will then be available as a reusable rule for Data Domains.
- In the **Catalog administrator**, custom data domains can be created either by selecting predefined rules created in Developer, or using RegEx, or using Reference table.
- If the user is a business user and has access only to the Analyst tool, then the user can use pre-defined rules from the Developer tool which are available as **reusable rules** in the Analyst tool to create custom data domains.
- To modify any rule logic for the data domains, use the Developer tool to edit the mapplet for the rule.

References

EDC Data domain FAQ

- <https://docs.informatica.com/data-catalog/enterprise-data-catalog/h2l/1230-using-data-domains-in-enterprise-data-catalog/using-data-domains-in-enterprise-data-catalog.html>
- <https://docs.informatica.com/data-catalog/enterprise-data-catalog/h2l/1230-using-data-domains-in-enterprise-data-catalog/appendix/faq.html>

Composite Data Domain Article

- https://knowledge.informatica.com/s/article/Usage-of-Composite-Data-Domains-in-EDC?language=en_US&type=external

EDC Data domain article for quick reference

- https://knowledge.informatica.com/s/article/Data-Domain-Discovery-in-EDC?language=en_US&type=external

EDC Performance guide

- <https://docs.informatica.com/data-catalog/enterprise-data-catalog/h2l/1505-tuning-enterprise-data-catalog-performance-in-10-4-1/abstract.html>

EDC sizing guide

- <https://docs.informatica.com/data-catalog/enterprise-data-catalog/h2l/1505-tuning-enterprise-data-catalog-performance-in-10-4-1/tuning-enterprise-data-catalog-performance-in-10-4-1/enterprise-data-catalog-sizing-recommendations.html>

Q & A

Thank you

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