

Identify Hidden Patterns and create Demand Forecasting in Supply Chain using MS Azure AI

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Agenda



Data as a Strategic Asset (DaaS)



Digitalization & Automation of Supply Chain



Understanding Hidden Patterns in Data



Creating Demand Forecast



MS Azure AI Stack



Veraqor Offers

Supply Chain Management

- Interconnected supplies of hardware, services, operations and technology in such coordinated way that a task could not be completed unless previous task in the chain is finished.
- There are many intermediaries involved to facilitate
- Businesses demand data-centric 360-degree omnichannel view
- Data & Cloud growth and adoption rate Y-o-Y grown ~29%

~\$15 trillion

**CAGR of 16% (2020 – 2030)
projection**

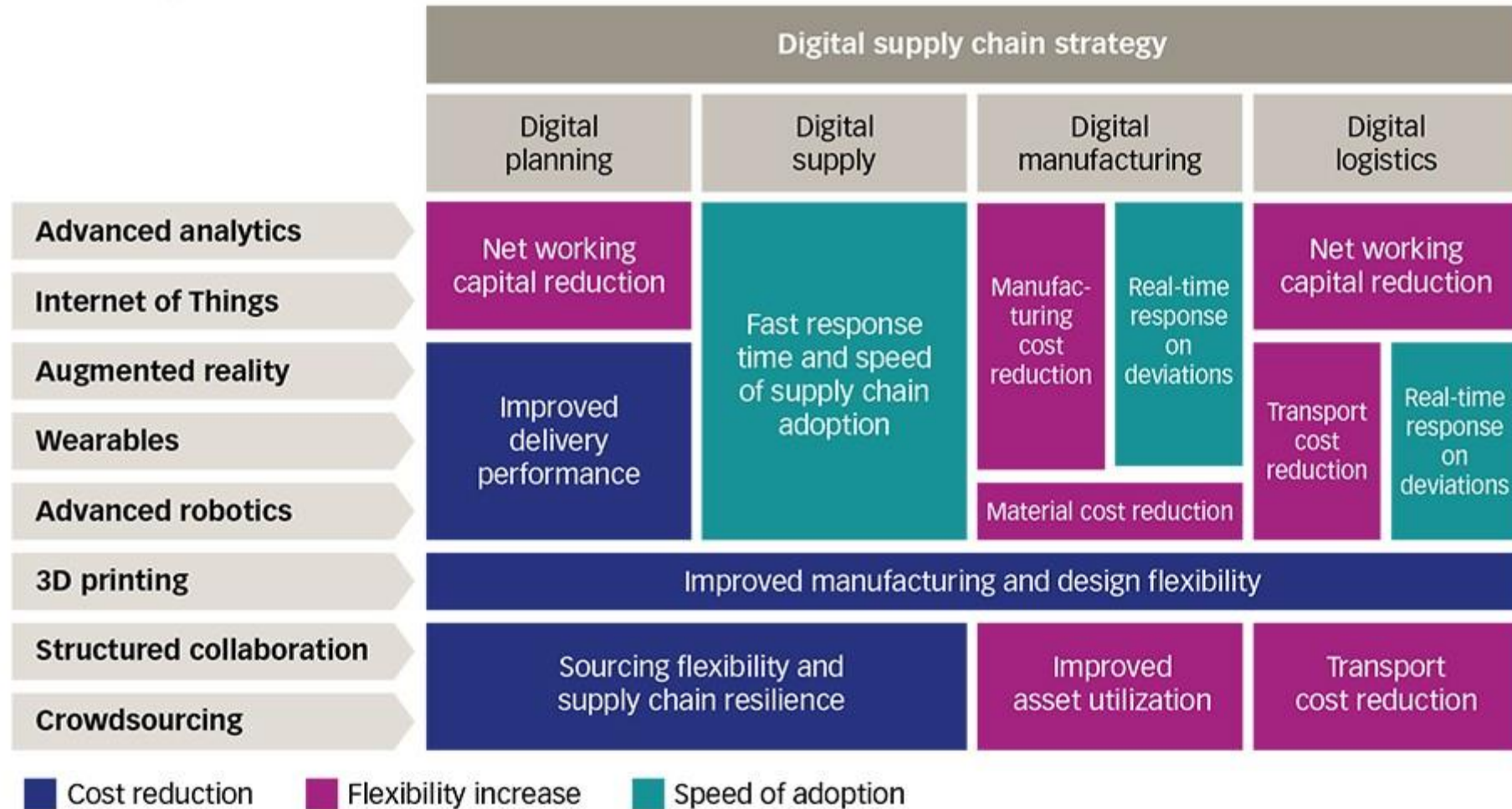
DaaSA: Data as a Strategic Asset

- Data is not just info anymore – its an asset
- Create enterprise level data strategy and framework
- Make CyberPhysical system more resilient and responsive
- It helps create 360 degree omnichannel view for customer churn
- Using advanced analytics get key insights from enterprise data

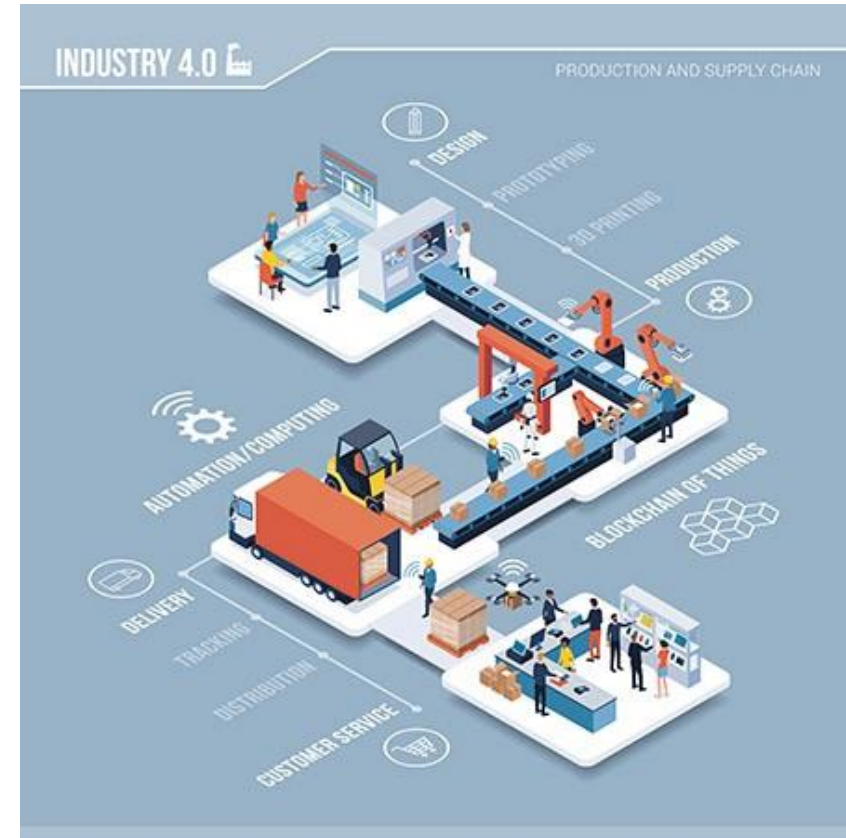
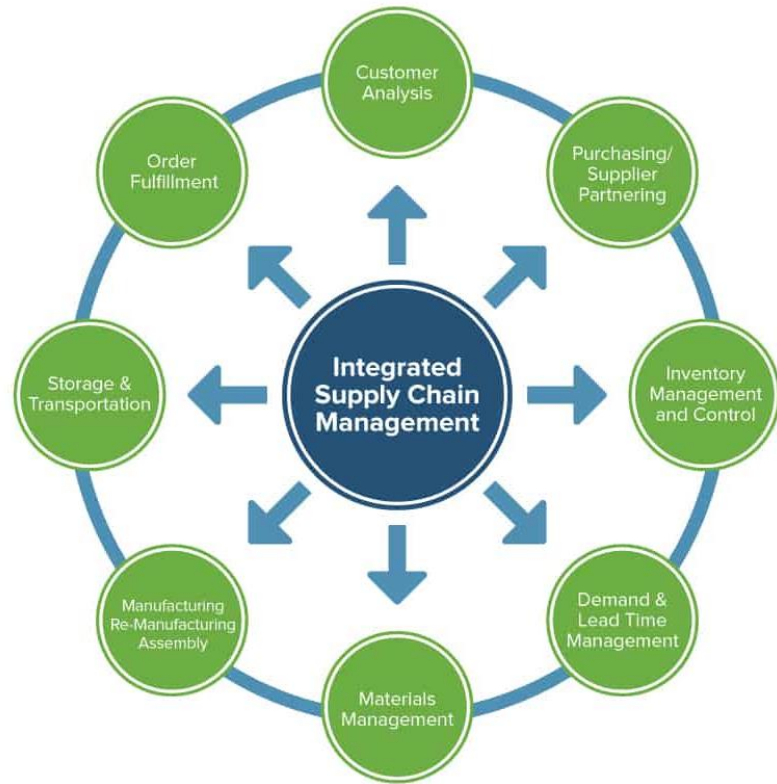
Digitization & Automation of Supply Chain

- Better control over supply chain
- Tendency for forward-planning
- Ability to connect and relate data
- Using analytics generate insights for key decision
- Improved collaboration across the board
- Improved cash flow & management
- Satisfied customer

[FIGURE 1] THE DIGITAL SUPPLY CHAIN CAN GENERATE REAL BUSINESS BENEFITS



[SOURCE: A.T. KEARNEY ANALYSIS, 2019]





Hidden Patterns within Data



Periodic Patterns

These are patterns that are seen repeating themselves after a certain lapse of time. This type of pattern is frequently encountered in time series data, biological sequences, spatiotemporal (has both time + space dimensions) data, etc.



Associative Patterns

These are like Bread and Butter/Knife and Fork, i.e., co-occurring groups of things that make more sense with each other. The members of this pattern are complementary to each other.



Abnormal Patterns

This kind of pattern occurs when the data has a clear deviation from normal behavior, an unexpected pattern appears between expected patterns and its appearance is not periodic.



Structural Patterns

Like path finding in graphs or cluster identification > An example would be low-cost residences tend to occur in suburbs whereas downtown has higher costing apartments.



Chaotic Patterns

Here the patterns appear but have no definitive characteristic related to time/space/frequency.

Graph Analytics

- Graph databases are those that use graph structures for semantic queries with nodes, edges, and properties as representations of the data and also to store data
- Graph analytics is the process of analyzing graph data to uncover hidden patterns and relationships.
- Graph databases are well-suited for applications that require the analysis of complex relationships between data elements

Types of Graph Analytics

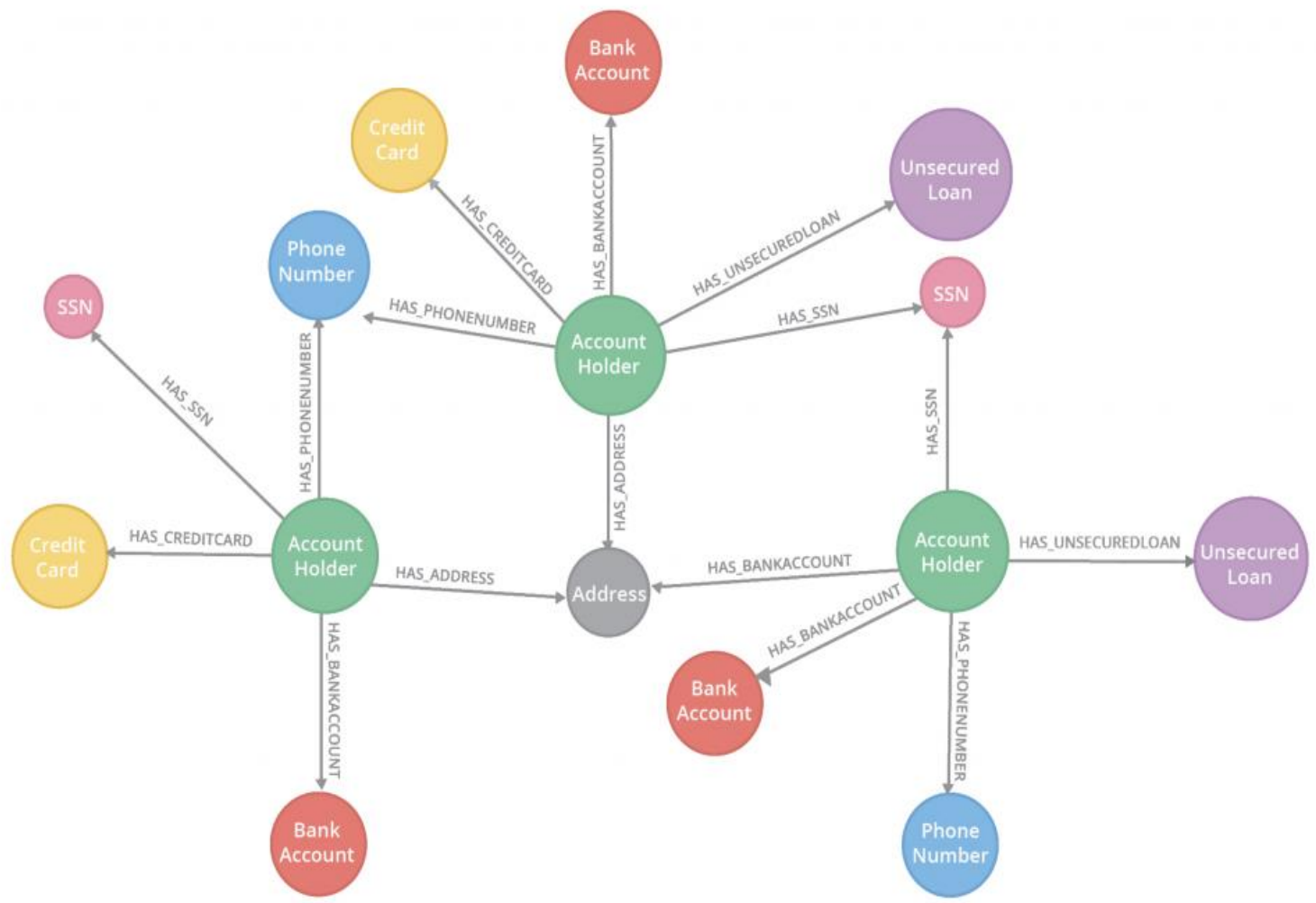
- **Pathfinding:** to find the shortest path between two nodes in a graph. This is useful for tasks such as routing and task planning.
- **Centrality measures:** to determine the importance of nodes in a graph. This information can be used to determine which nodes should be priority targets for optimization.
- **Community detection:** to find clusters of nodes in a graph. This information can be used to identify relationships between nodes and to make decisions based on those relationships.

Graph Analytics & Hidden Patterns in Data

- Graph analytics is a powerful tool that can help you uncover hidden patterns and relationships in your data.
- Gain insights that would be difficult to find using other methods.
- Use graph analytics to find communities of users with similar interests or to identify potential fraudsters by looking for unusual patterns of behavior.
- Can be used on any type of data, including social media data, financial data, and web data.

Graph Analytics: Case Study

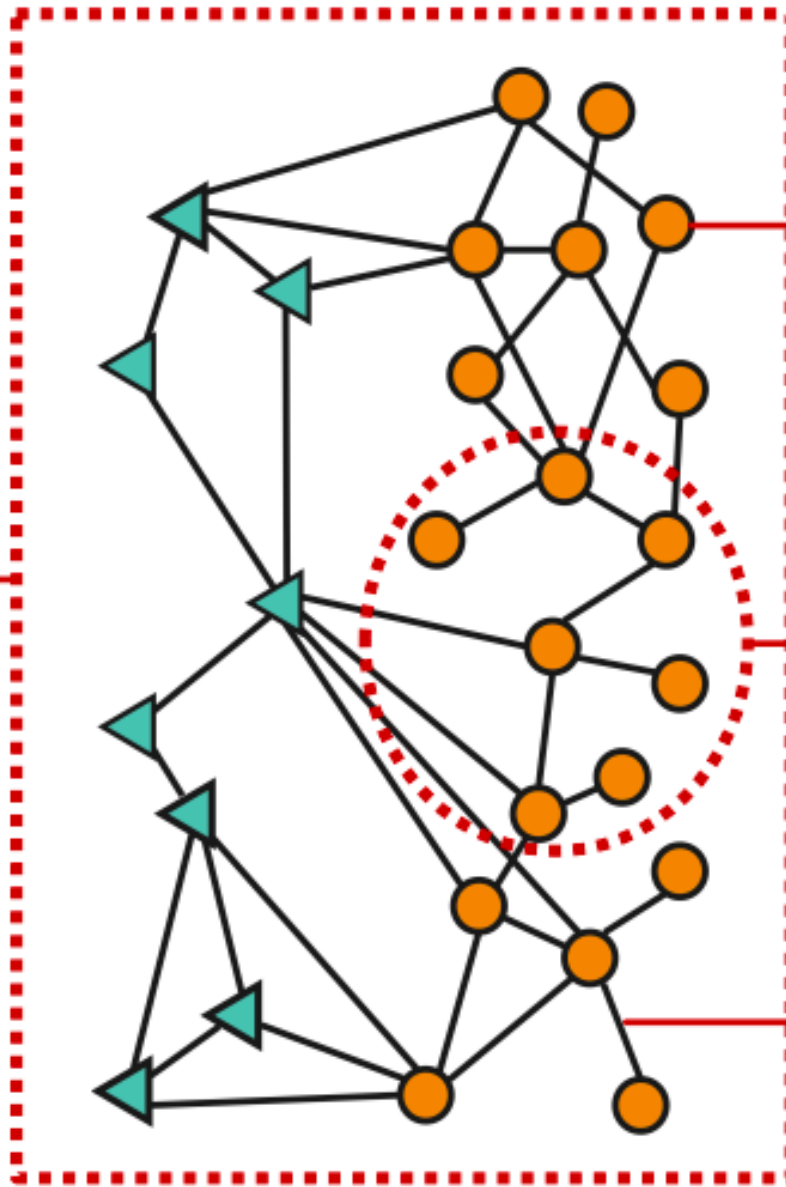
- Retailer Uses To Detect Fraud:
- A major retailer used graph analytics to detect fraudulent activity. By analyzing the connections between data points, the retailer was able to identify patterns of behavior that suggested fraud. For example, the retailer was able to detect unusual patterns of purchase activity, which suggested that someone was trying to defraud the company. By using graph analytics, the retailer was able to prevent a large financial loss and prevent fraud from occurring in the future.



Graph Analytics: Case Study

- Food Company Uses To Improve Product Taste:
- A food company used graph analytics to improve product taste. By analyzing the connections between data points, the food company was able to identify which ingredients were most responsible for flavor and texture. This information was then used to reformulate products to improve the taste. By using graph analytics, the food company was able to improve the overall quality of its products and increase sales.

**Graph-level
prediction,
Graph
generation**



Node level

**Community
(subgraph)
level**

Edge-level

Applications

- Sentiments & Trends Analysis
- Image Analysis & Computer Vision
- Forecasting & Probabilistic Estimation
- Speech Recognition

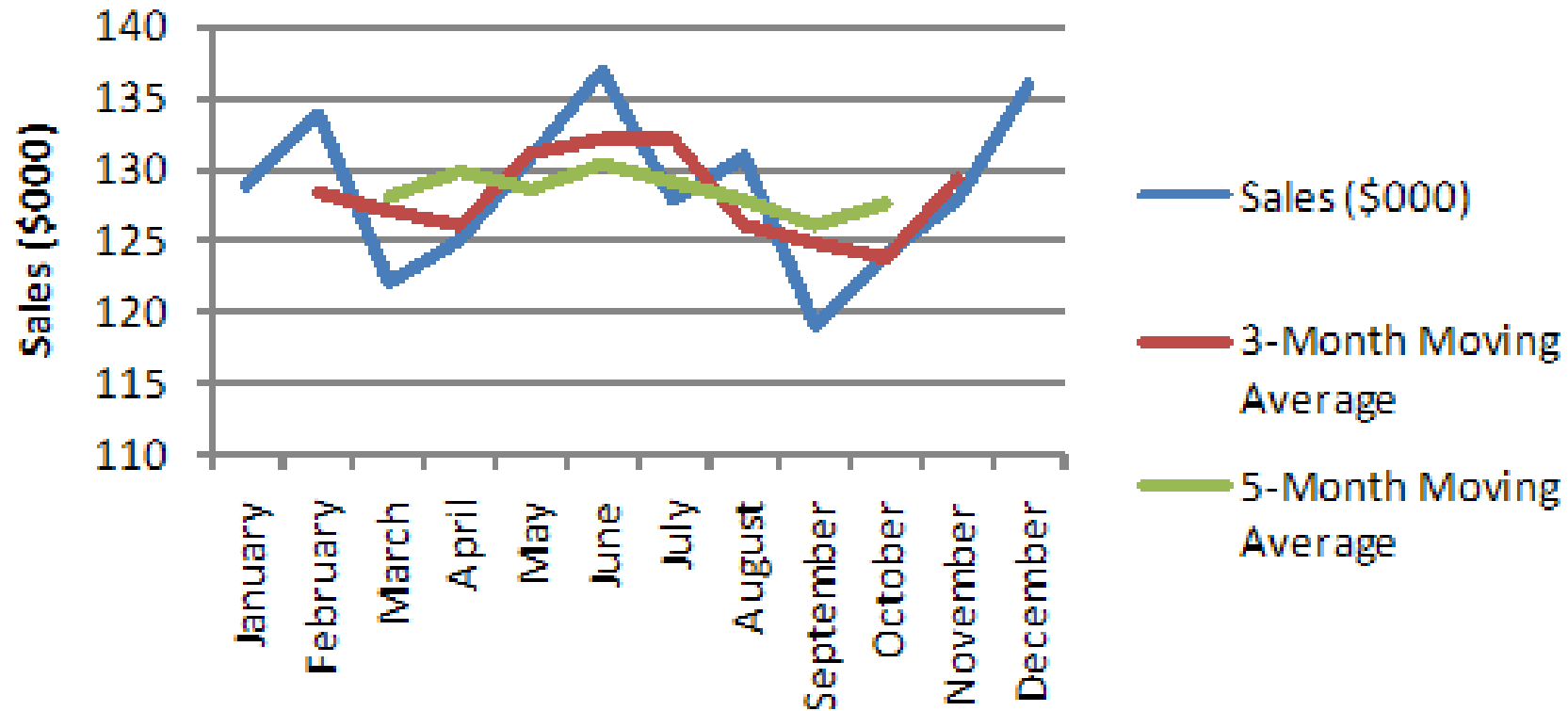
Making Demand Forecasting

- Moving Average Forecasting
- Exponential Smoothing
- Auto-regressive Integrated Moving Average
- Multiple Aggregation Prediction Algorithm
- Bottom-Up Forecasting

Moving Average Forecasting

- The moving average is a statistical method used for forecasting long-term trends. The technique represents taking an average of a set of numbers in a given range while moving the range.
- Simple moving average (SMA): Simple moving average (SMA) is a form of moving average (MA) that is used in time series forecasting. It is calculated by taking the arithmetic mean of a given set of data over a certain period of time.
- Exponential moving average (EMA): Exponential moving average (EMA) is a type of moving average that places more weight on recent data points and helps smooth out the data points in a time series. Unlike simple moving averages, which give equal weight to all data points, EMAs give more weight to recent data points. This makes it more responsive to new information than a simple moving average.

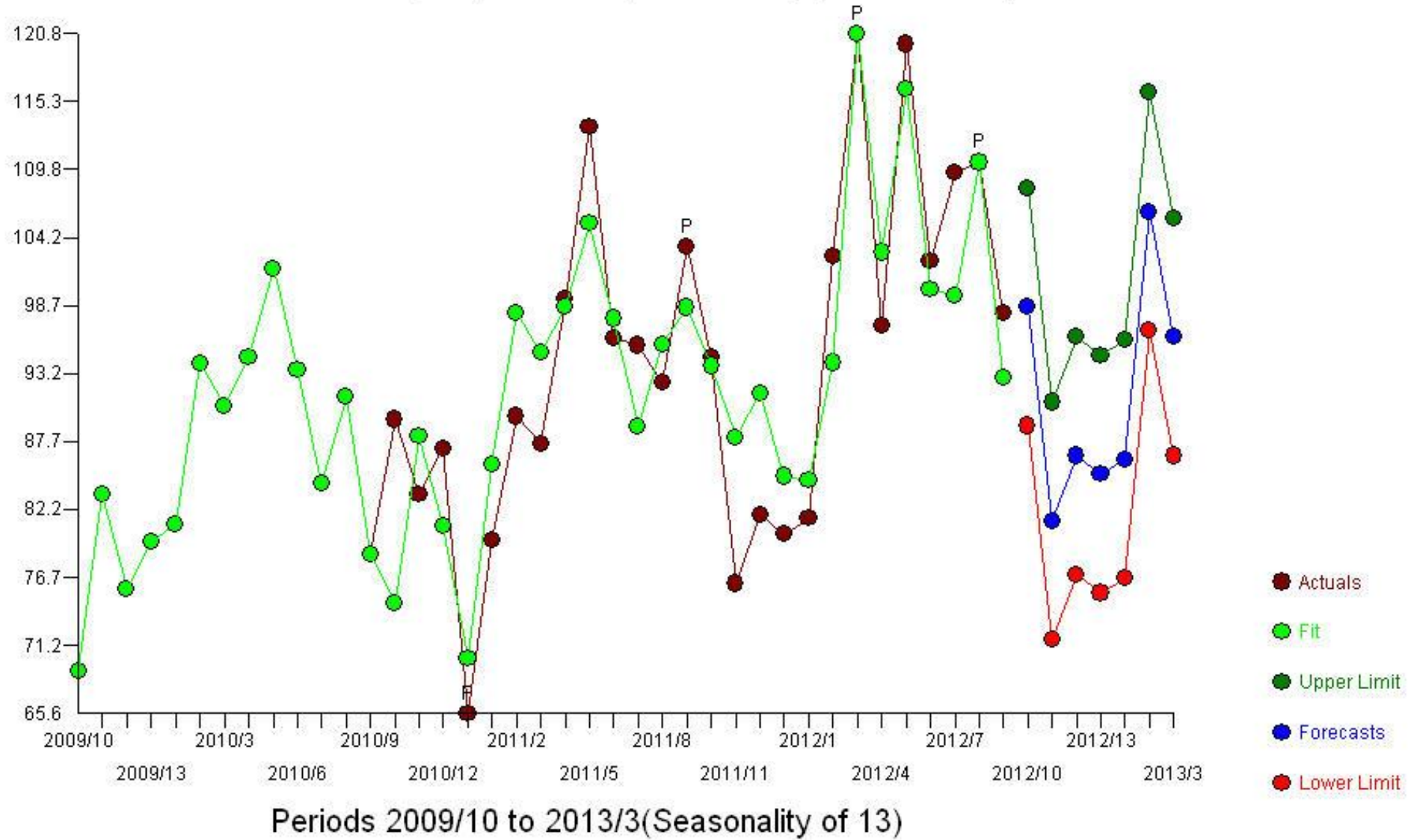
Monthly Sales for the Year



Exponential Smoothing

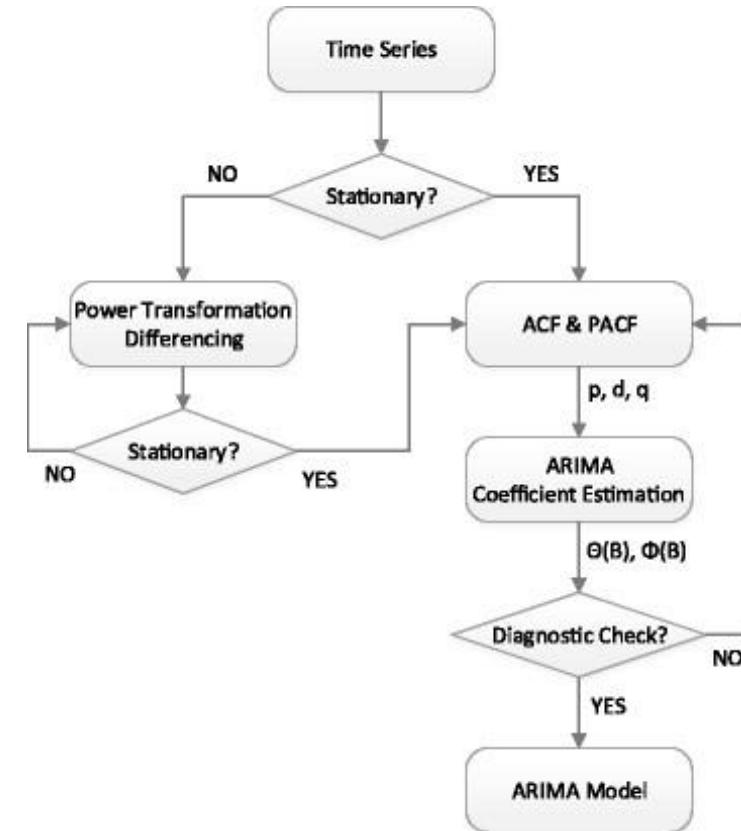
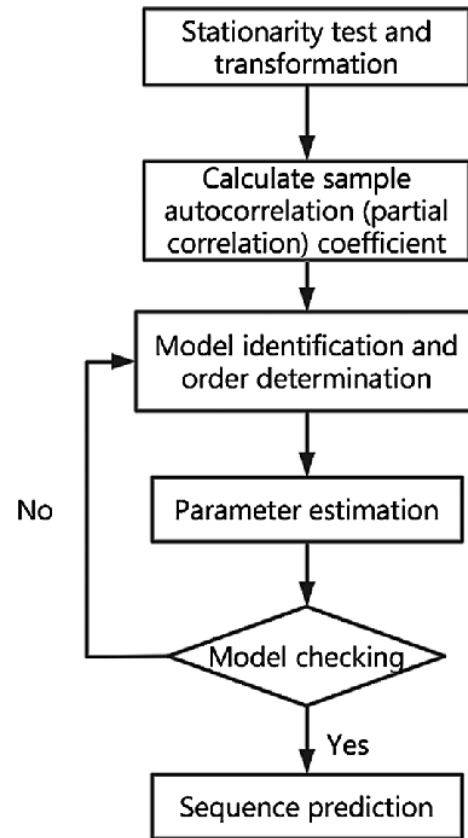
- Exponential smoothing forecasting methods are similar in that a prediction is a weighted sum of past observations, but the model explicitly uses an exponentially decreasing weight for past observations.
- Single, double and triple exponential smoothing
- Additive Seasonality: Triple Exponential Smoothing with a linear seasonality.
- Multiplicative Seasonality: Triple Exponential Smoothing with an exponential seasonality.

Actuals, Fit, Forecasts, Lower & Upper Limits - triple



Auto-Regressive Integrated Moving Average

- An auto-regressive integrated moving average, or ARIMA, is a statistical analysis model that uses time series data to either better understand the data set or to predict future trends
- They are widely used in technical analysis to forecast future security prices.
- Therefore, they can prove inaccurate under certain market conditions, such as financial crises or periods of rapid technological change.



Multiple Aggregation Prediction Algorithm

Step 1

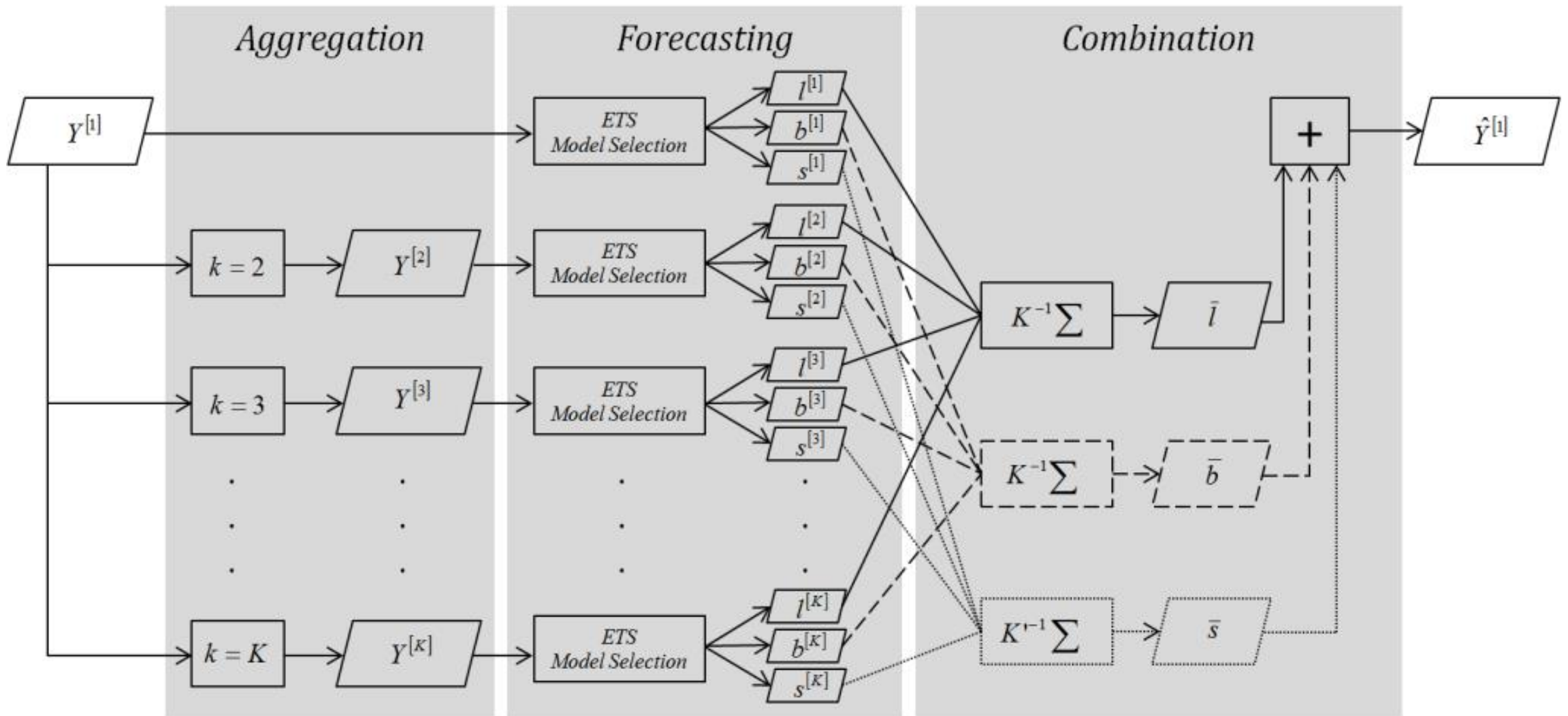
given time series is aggregated into multiple levels using consecutive non-overlapping temporal aggregation

Step 2

An independent ETS model is fitted to each temporal level

Step 3

The components of individual ETS models are extracted and combined to produce the final forecast



The algorithm is split into 3 distinct steps. The aggregation, the forecasting, and the combination step. In the aggregation step, non-overlapping temporal aggregations are used to construct each hierarchical level. Then in the Forecasting step, a separate ETS model is fitted on every constructed level to produce a forecast. Finally, in the last step, the state space components of the ETS models are combined to produce the final forecast.

Bottom-Up Forecasting

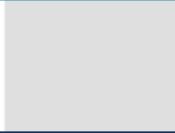
- How much inventory to buy and when
- Customer behavior for specific product service
- Incentivize and attract target audience
- Estimating demand for a new product launch
- Forecasting a demand during a promotion

Bottom-up forecasting is a projection of micro-level inputs to assess revenue for a given year or set of years. For example, revenue teams often use this method to estimate the business's future performance based on individual sales or rep performance.

Company Revenue

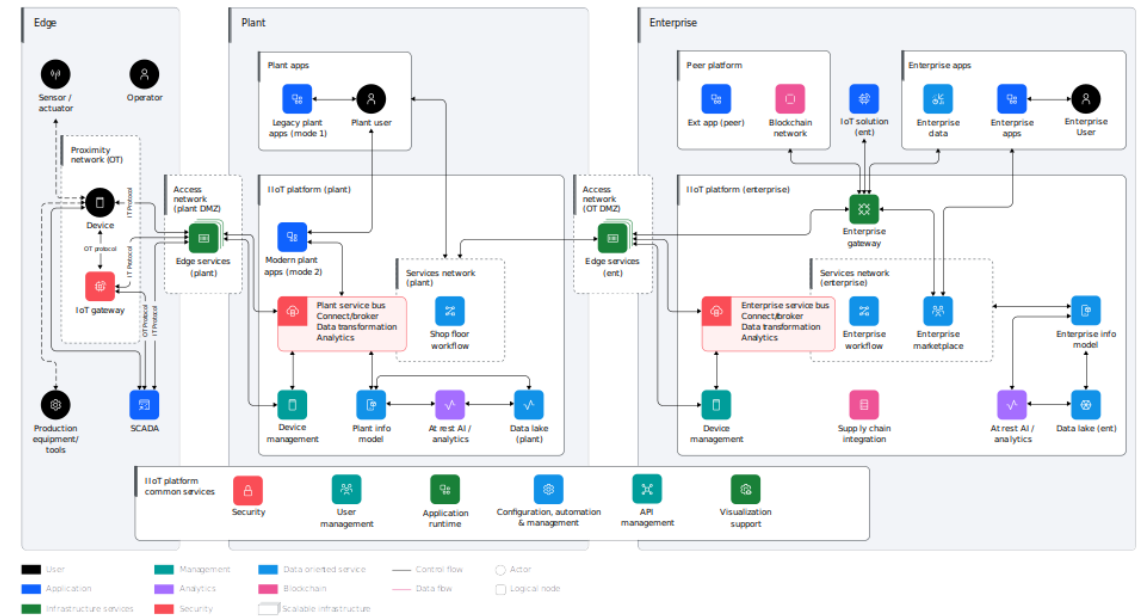
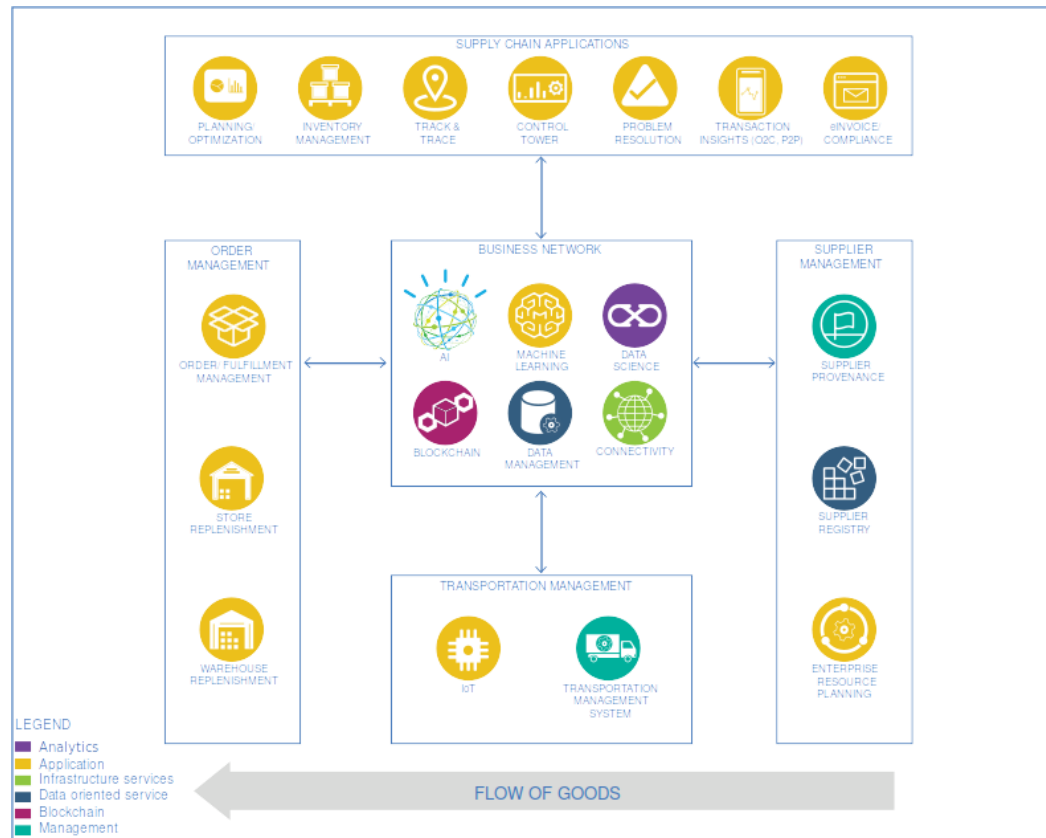


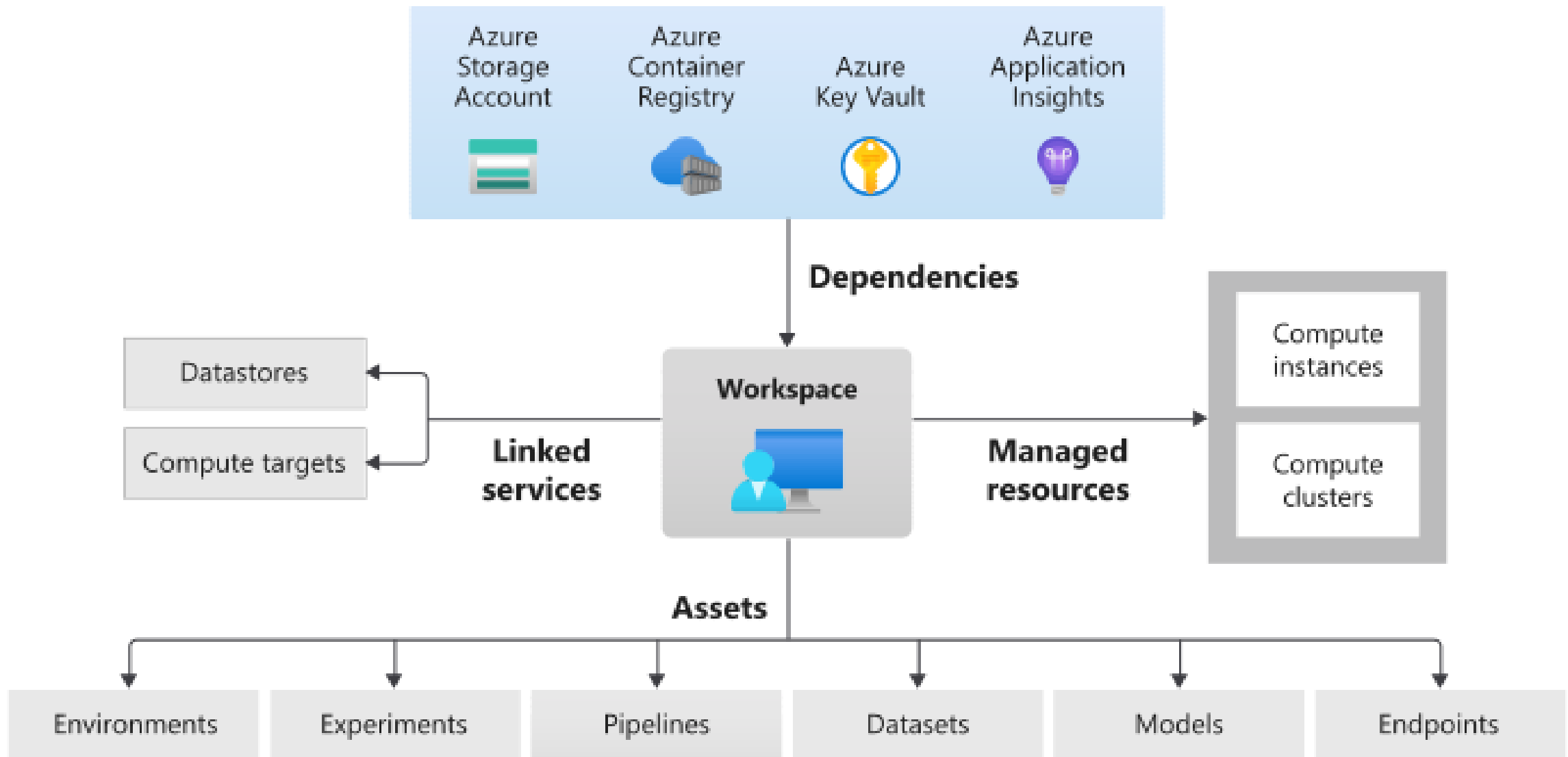
Volumes and Prices



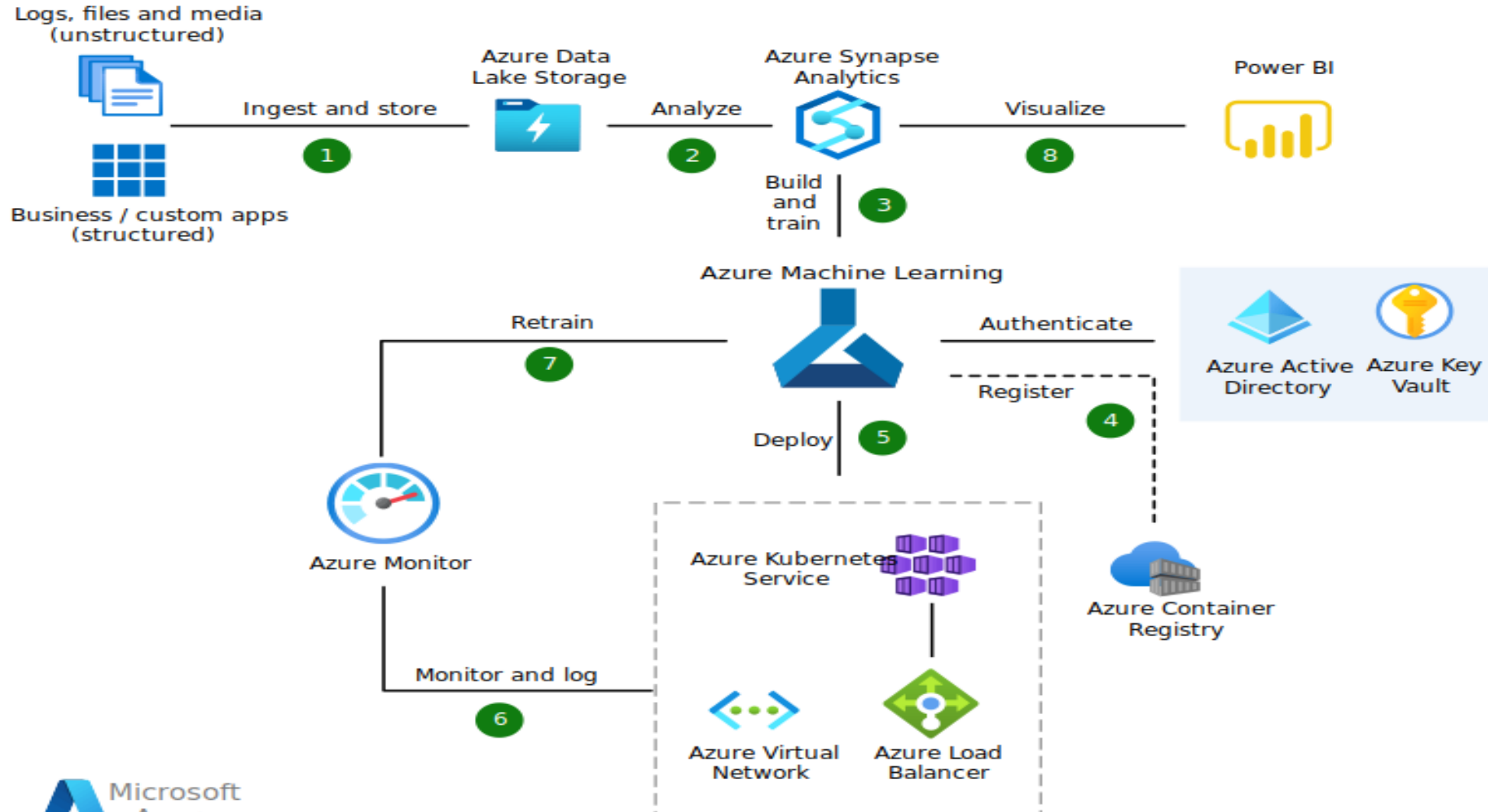
Products/Services

Technical Reference Architecture

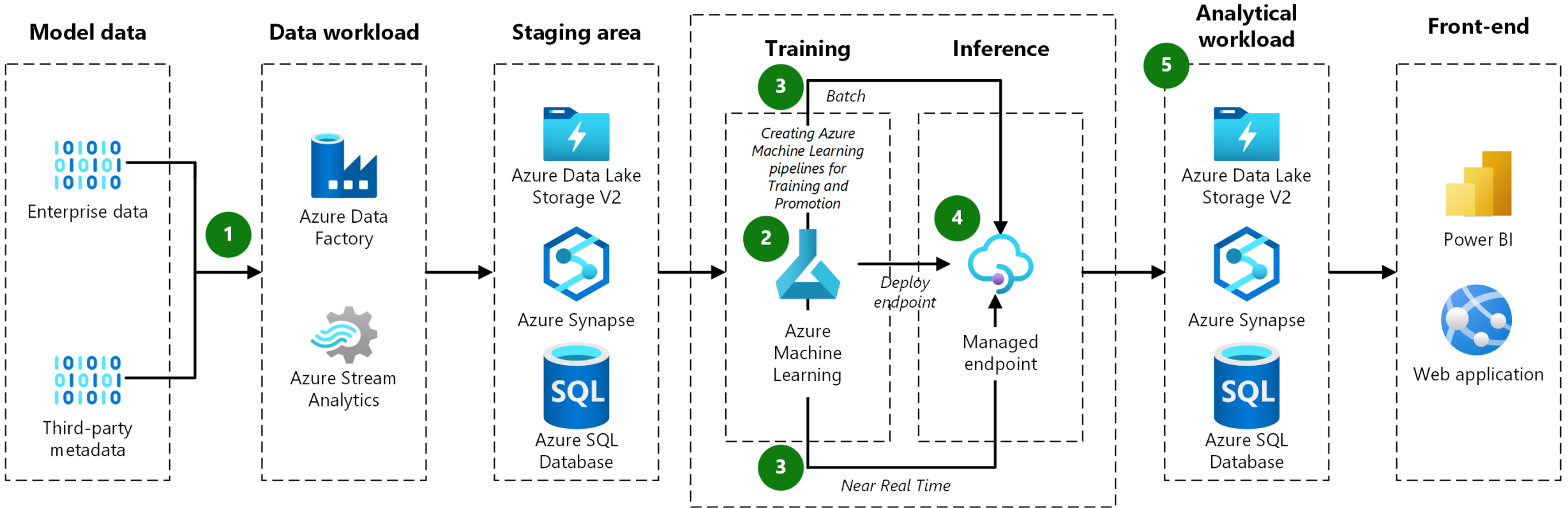




Microsoft Azure AI & Stack



Artificial Intelligence



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