Data and the subsequent knowledge derived from information are the most valuable strategic asset an organization possesses. Despite the abundance of sophisticated technology developments, most organizations don’t have disciplines or a plan to enable data-centric principles.

DCAF 2021 will help provide clarity.

Our overarching theme for this conference is to make it REAL. Real in the sense that others are becoming data-centric, it is achievable, and you are not alone in your efforts.

Join us in understanding how data as an open, centralized resource outlives any application. Once globally integrated by sharing a common meaning, internal and external data can be readily integrated, unlike the traditional “application-centric” mindset predominantly used in systems development.

The compounding problem is these application systems each have their own completely idiosyncratic data models. The net result is that after a few decades, hundreds or thousands of applications implemented have given origin to a segregated family of disparate data silos. Integration debt rises and unsustainable architectural complexity abounds with every application bought, developed, or rented (SaaS).

Becoming data-centric will improve data characteristics of findability, accessibility, interoperability, and re-usability (FAIR principles), thereby allowing data to be exported into any needed format with virtually free integration.
AllegroGraph 7 Named a Trend Setting Product for 2021

AllegroGraph receives numerous industry awards and recognition for 2020

Franz Inc., an early innovator in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and leading supplier of Graph Database technology for Knowledge Graph Solutions, today announced that AllegroGraph has been named a Trend Setting Product in Data and Information Management by Database Trends and Applications (DBTA). In 2020, AllegroGraph has received numerous industry awards and independent analyst firms have positioned AllegroGraph 7 as a Champion and Strong Performer.

“Data management and integration demands continue to increase as organizations are faced with more data flowing in from a greater variety sources than ever before,” said Tom Hogan, Group Publisher at DBTA. “To help make the process of identifying useful products and services easier, each year Database Trends and Applications magazine presents a list of Trend-Setting Products. These products, platforms, and
services range from widely accepted offerings that continue to evolve to meet the needs of their loyal constituents to breakthrough technologies that are in the early stages of adoption. However, the common denominator for all is that they represent a commitment to innovation and seek to provide organizations with tools to address changing market requirements."

“We are honored to be recognized again by DBTA as a trend setter in data management,” said Dr. Jans Aasman, CEO of Franz Inc. “Organizations across a range of industries are realizing the critical role that Knowledge Graphs play in creating rich, yet flexible enterprise data fabrics and AI-driven applications. In just the past couple of years, we have helped our customers create large-scale, multi-model and innovative knowledge graph solutions for diverse use cases, such as healthcare real-time AI decision support, NLP 360 customer intelligence with real-time agent support, and social network data privacy compliance.”

During 2020, AllegroGraph and Franz were recognized by the following industry analysts and technology media.

* AllegroGraph named a DBTA 2021 Trend Setting Product.
* Franz was positioned as a Strong Performer in the first Forrester Wave™: Graph Database Platforms 2020, Q4.
* Bloor Research positioned AllegroGraph as a Champion in the 2020 Bloor Research Graph Database report, which recognized AllegroGraph as a multi-model RDF database.
* KMWorld named Franz an AI 50: The Companies Empowering Intelligent Knowledge Management.
* Database Trends and Applications (DBTA) named Franz a Big Data 50—Company Driving Innovation in 2020.
* AllegroGraph was a KMWorld 2020 Trend Setting Product, as
a noteworthy solution transforming information into insight.

* Franz CEO Dr. Jans Aasman was featured as an expert in The Knowledge Graph Cookbook, which was released April 22, 2020 and explains why and how to build Knowledge Graphs that help enterprises use data to innovate, create value and increase revenue.

* Franz was recognized as one of the 100 Companies That Matter Most in Data by Database Trends and Applications (DBTA).

* KMWorld’s 100 Companies that matter in Knowledge Management named Franz Inc. to this exclusive list.

AllegroGraph 7 is a breakthrough solution that allows infinite data integration through a patented approach unifying all data and siloed knowledge into an Entity-Event Knowledge Graph solution that can support massive big data analytics. AllegroGraph 7 utilizes unique federated sharding capabilities that drive 360-degree insights and enable complex reasoning across a distributed Knowledge Graph.

“AllegroGraph 7’s support of Entity-Event Data Modeling is the most welcome innovation and addition to our arsenal in reimagining healthcare and implementing Precision Medicine,” said Dr. Parsa Mirhaji, Director of Center for Health Data Innovations at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Health System, NY. “Precision Medicine is about moving away from statistical averages and broad-based patterns. It is about connecting many dots, from different contexts and throughout time, to support precision diagnosis and to recommend the precision care that can take into account all the subtle differences and nuisances of individuals and their personal experiences throughout their life. This technology is about saving lives, by leveraging data, context and analytics and is what Franz’s Entity-Event Data Modeling
brings to the table.”

AllegroGraph 7 provides users with an integrated version of Gruff, a unique browser-based graph visualization software tool for exploring and discovering connections within enterprise Knowledge Graphs. Gruff enables users to visually build queries and visualize connections between data without writing code, which speeds discoveries and enhances the ability to uncover hidden connections within data.

“Few tools exist that can quickly turn arbitrary RDF graph pattern matches into clear visualizable results,” said Michael Pool, Global Head of Semantic Modeling and Engineering, Senior Director at BNY Mellon Bank. “Gruff is invaluable in turning our knowledge graph data into useful and actionable analytic insights.”

Louis Rumanes at UnitedHealth Group Research and Development recognizes the value of using Gruff as a browser-based app and commented, “Nice job on Gruff in a browser and I think this will be a gamechanger.”

Gartner predicts “the application of graph processing and graph DBMSs will grow at 100 percent annually through 2022 to continuously accelerate data preparation and enable more complex and adaptive data science.” In addition, Gartner named graph analytics as a “Top 10 Data and Analytics Trend” to solve critical business priorities.” (Source: Gartner, Top 10 Data and Analytics Trends, November 5, 2019)

Data Fabrics and Knowledge
Graphs — A Symbiotic Relationship

Dr. Jans Aasman’s recent article in Dzone.

The data fabric notion is gaining credence throughout the analyst community, in much the same way knowledge graphs have done so for years. Both technologies link all relevant data for a specific business purpose, which is why the most successful companies in the world employ them.

Amazon’s knowledge graph retains metadata about its vast product array; Google’s captures data about an exhaustive list of web entities of interest. Lesser-known organizations regularly deploy these mechanisms for everything from comprehensive customer views to manufacturing processes.

Data fabrics have a unique, symbiotic relationship with the knowledge graph movement because they substantially streamline the processes to extract data from the myriad sources that populate these platforms. In turn, knowledge graphs provide some of the fundamental capabilities enabling data fabrics to accomplish this objective.

Read the Full Article at Dzone.
International Ontology Sharing Is Becoming A Reality

A consortium of researchers recently formed an organization dedicated to standardizing how scientists define their ontologies, which are essential for retrieving datasets as well as understanding and reproducing research. The group called OntoPortal Alliance is creating a public repository of internationally shared domain-specific ontologies. All the repositories will be managed with a common OntoPortal appliance that has been tested with AllegroGraph Semantic Knowledge Graph software. This enables any OntoPortal adopter to get all the power, features, maintainability, and support benefits that come from using a widely adopted, state-of-the-art semantic knowledge graph database.

Read the full article at HealthIT Outcomes –

As Dr. Jans Aasman, CEO of Franz Inc. explains, “When building a Knowledge Graph as your enterprise’s single source of truth, it’s critical to include ontologies and taxonomies. AI applications and complex reasoning analytics require information from both databases and knowledge bases that contain domain information, taxonomies, and ontologies to solve complex questions. To make this possible, we developed a novel hybrid sharding technology called FedShard, which facilitates the combination of data and knowledge required by applications like Montefiore’s PALM. But this approach is not unique or specific to Healthcare, it is applicable in many
other industries, which is why we are excited about OntoPortal’s plans to bring sharing of domain ontologies to a broad audience.”

Knowledge Graphs: A Single Source of Truth for the Enterprise
The notion of a “single source of truth” for the enterprise has been the proverbial moving goalpost for generations of CIOs, only to be waylaid by brittle technology and unending legacy systems. Truth-seeking visions rebuffed by technological trends have continuously confounded business units trying to achieve growth and market penetration. But technology innovation has finally led us to a point where CIOs can now deliver that truth.

**Graphing the Truth**

Knowledge graphs possess the power to deliver a single source of truth by linking together any assortment of data sources required, standardizing their diversity of data elements, and eliminating silos. They support the most advanced analytics options and decentralized transactions, which is why they’re now deployed as systems of records for some of the most significant, mission-critical use cases affecting our population.

Because they scale to include almost any number of applications – and link to other knowledge graphs as well – these repositories are the ideal solution for real-time information necessary to inform business users’ performances with concrete, data-supported facts. Most importantly, users can get an exhaustive array of touchpoints pertaining to any customer, product, or interaction with an organization from the knowledge graph, making it a single source of truth.

Read the full article at Dataversity.
**Gartner Hype Cycle for AI – Knowledge Graphs**

According to Gartner’s 2020 Hype Cycle for Artificial Intelligence – Despite the global impact of COVID-19, 47% of artificial intelligence (AI) investments were unchanged since the start of the pandemic and 30% of organizations actually planned to increase such investments, according to a Gartner poll. Only 16% had temporarily suspended AI investments, and just 7% had decreased them.

“AI is starting to deliver on its potential and its benefits for businesses are becoming a reality”

Gartner’s – AI Hype Cycle Article

The Hype Cycle growth is consistent with Franz’s customer interest in our Enterprise Knowledge Graph Solutions – Read our recent White Paper.
Future of AI in the Enterprise

The Future of AI in the Enterprise:

Entity-Event Knowledge Graphs for Data-Centric Organizations

Presented by: Dr. Jans Aasman

Register:
https://enterprise-kg-cdl-online-meetup.heysummit.com/

Personalized medicine. Predictive call centers. Digital twins for IoT. Predictive supply chain management, and domain-specific Q&A applications. These are just a few AI-driven applications organizations across a broad range of industries are deploying.

Graph databases and Knowledge Graphs are now viewed as a must-have by Enterprises serious about leveraging AI and predictive analytics within their organization.

See how Franz Inc. is helping organizations deploy novel Entity-Event Knowledge Graph Solutions to gain a holistic view of customers, patients, students or other important entities, and the ability to discover deep connections, uncover new patterns and attain explainable results.

Description:

To support ubiquitous AI, a Knowledge Graph system will have to fuse and integrate data, not just in representation, but in context (ontologies, metadata, domain knowledge, terminology systems), and time (temporal relationships between components of data). Building from ‘Entities’ (e.g. Customers, Patients, Bill of Materials) requires a new data model approach that unifies typical enterprise data with knowledge bases such as industry terms and other domain knowledge.
Entity-Event Knowledge Graphs are about connecting the many dots, from different contexts and throughout time, to support and recommend industry-specific solutions that can take into account all the subtle differences and nuisances of entities and their relevant interactions to deliver insights and drive growth. The Entity-Event Data Model we present puts core entities of interest at the center and then collects several layers of knowledge related to the entity as ‘Events’.

Franz Inc. is working with organizations across a broad range of industries to deploy large-scale, high-performance Entity-Event Knowledge Graphs that serve as the foundation for AI-driven applications for personalized medicine, predictive call centers, digital twins for IoT, predictive supply chain management and domain-specific Q&A applications—just to name a few.

During this presentation we will explain and demonstrate how Entity-Event Knowledge Graphs are the future of AI in the Enterprise.

Franz Inc. Named an AI 50 Company by KMWorld

AllegroGraph Powering Intelligent Knowledge Graph Solutions

Franz Inc., an early innovator in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and leading supplier of Semantic Graph Database technology for Knowledge Graph Solutions, today announced that it has been named to The AI 50 – Companies Empowering Intelligent Knowledge Management Companies by KMWorld. The annual list
reflects the urgency felt among many organizations to provide a timely flow of targeted information. Among the more prominent initiatives is the use of AI and cognitive computing, as well as related capabilities such as machine learning, natural language processing, and text analytics. This list recognizes companies based on their presence, execution, vision and innovation in delivering products and services to the marketplace.

“As the drive for digital transformation becomes an imperative for companies seeking to compete and succeed in all industry sectors, intelligent tools and services are being leveraged to enable speed, insight, and accuracy,” said Tom Hogan, Group Publisher at KMWorld. “To showcase organizations that are incorporating AI and an assortment of related technologies—including natural language processing, machine learning, and computer vision—into their offerings, KMWorld created the “AI 50: The Companies Empowering Intelligent Knowledge Management.”

“Franz Inc. has a rich history in AI and we are honored to receive this acknowledgement for our efforts in delivering AI Knowledge Graph Solutions,” said Dr. Jans Aasman, CEO, Franz Inc. “In the past year, we have seen demand for Intelligent Data Fabrics take off across industries along with recognition from top technology analyst firms that Knowledge Graphs provide the critical foundation for Enterprise Wide Data Fabrics. Our recent launch of AllegroGraph 7 with FedShard, a breakthrough that allows infinite data integration to unify all data and siloed knowledge into an Entity-Event Knowledge Graph solution will catalyze Data Fabric deployments across the Enterprise.”

Gartner’s Top 10 Trends in Data and Analytics for 2020 noted “Relationships form the foundation of data and analytics value. By 2023, graph technologies will facilitate rapid contextualization for decision making in 30% of organizations worldwide. Graph analytics is a set of analytic techniques
that allows for the exploration of relationships between entities of interest such as organizations, people and transactions. Data and analytics leaders need to evaluate opportunities to incorporate graph analytics into their analytics portfolios and applications to uncover hidden patterns and relationships. In addition, consider investigating how graph algorithms and technologies can improve your AI and ML initiatives.” (Source: Gartner, Top 10 Trends in Data and Analytics for 2020, June 9, 2020).

“Graph databases and knowledge graphs are now viewed as a must-have by enterprises serious about leveraging AI and predictive analytics within their organization,” said Dr. Aasman “We are working with organizations across a broad range of industries to deploy large-scale, high-performance Entity-Event Knowledge Graphs that serve as the foundation for AI-driven Data Fabrics for personalized medicine, predictive call centers, digital twins for IoT, predictive supply chain management and domain-specific Q&A applications – just to name a few.”

**Forrester Shortlists AllegroGraph**

AllegroGraph was shortlisted in the February 3, 2020 Forrester Now Tech: Graph Data Platforms, Q1 2020 report, which recommends that organizations “Use graph data platforms to accelerate connected-data initiatives.” Forrester states, “You can use graph data platforms to become significantly more productive, deliver accurate customer recommendations, and quickly make connections to related data.”

**Bloor Research covers AllegroGraph with FedShard**

Bloor Research Analyst, Daniel Howard noted “With the 7.0 release of AllegroGraph, arguably the most compelling new capability is its ability to create what Franz refers to as “Entity-Event Knowledge Graphs” (or EEKGs) via its patented FedShard technology.” Mr. Howard goes on to state “Franz
clearly considers this a major release for AllegroGraph. Certainly, the introduction of an explicit entity-event graph is not something I’ve seen before. The newly introduced text to speech capabilities also seem highly promising.”

AllegroGraph Named to DBTA’s 100 Companies That Matter Most in Data

AllegroGraph was also recently named to DBTA’s 100 Companies That Matter Most in Data. The DBTA 100 showcases organizations that delivering solutions for customers to meet the need for real-time, data-driven insights.

Franz Knowledge Graph Technology and Services

Franz’s Knowledge Graph Solution includes both technology and services for building industrial strength Entity-Event Knowledge Graphs based on best-of-class tools, products, knowledge, skills and experience. At the core of the solution is Franz’s graph database technology, AllegroGraph with FedShard, which is utilized by dozens of the top F500 companies worldwide and enables businesses to extract sophisticated decision insights and predictive analytics from highly complex, distributed data that cannot be uncovered with conventional databases.

Franz delivers the expertise for designing ontology and taxonomy-based solutions by utilizing standards-based development processes and tools. Franz also offers data integration services from siloed data using W3C industry standard semantics, which can then be continually integrated with information that comes from other data sources. In addition, the Franz data science team provides expertise in custom algorithms to maximize data analytics and uncover hidden knowledge.

About Franz Inc.

Franz Inc. is an early innovator in Artificial Intelligence
(AI) and leading supplier of Semantic Graph Database technology with expert knowledge in developing and deploying Knowledge Graph solutions. The foundation for Knowledge Graphs and AI lies in the facets of semantic technology provided by AllegroGraph with FedShard and Allegro CL. The ability to rapidly integrate new knowledge is the crux of the Knowledge Graph and Franz Inc. provides the key technologies and services to address your complex challenges. Franz Inc. is your Knowledge Graph technology partner.

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AllegroGraph Named to 100 Companies That Matter Most in Data

Franz Inc. Acknowledged as a Leader for Knowledge Graph Solutions

Lafayette, Calif., June 23, 2020 — Franz Inc., an early innovator in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and leading supplier of Semantic Graph Database technology for Knowledge Graph Solutions, today announced that it has been named to The 100 Companies That Matter in Data by Database Trends and Applications. The annual list reflects the urgency felt among many organizations to provide a timely flow of targeted information. Among the more prominent initiatives is the use of AI and cognitive computing, as well as related capabilities such as machine learning, natural language processing, and text analytics. This list recognizes companies based on their presence, execution, vision and innovation in delivering
products and services to the marketplace.

“We’re excited to announce our eighth annual list, as the industry continues to grow and evolve,” remarked Thomas Hogan, Group Publisher at Database Trends and Applications. “Now, more than ever, businesses are looking for ways transform how they operate and deliver value to customers with greater agility, efficiency and innovation. This list seeks to highlight those companies that have been successful in establishing themselves as unique resources for data professionals and stakeholders.”

“We are honored to receive this acknowledgement for our efforts in delivering Enterprise Knowledge Graph Solutions,” said Dr. Jans Aasman, CEO, Franz Inc. “In the past year, we have seen demand for Enterprise Knowledge Graphs take off across industries along with recognition from top technology analyst firms that Knowledge Graphs provide the critical foundation for artificial intelligence applications and predictive analytics.

Our recent launch of AllegroGraph 7 with FedShard, a breakthrough that allows infinite data integration to unify all data and siloed knowledge into an Entity-Event Knowledge Graph solution will catalyze Knowledge Graph deployments across the Enterprise.”

Gartner recently released a report “How to Build Knowledge Graphs That Enable AI-Driven Enterprise Applications” and have previously stated, “The application of graph processing and graph databases will grow at 100 percent annually through 2022 to continuously accelerate data preparation and enable more complex and adaptive data science.” To that end, Gartner named graph analytics as a “Top 10 Data and Analytics Trend” to solve critical business priorities. (Source: Gartner, Top 10 Data and Analytics Trends, November 5, 2019).

“Graph databases and knowledge graphs are now viewed as a
must-have by enterprises serious about leveraging AI and predictive analytics within their organization,” said Dr. Aasman “We are working with organizations across a broad range of industries to deploy large-scale, high-performance Entity-Event Knowledge Graphs that serve as the foundation for AI-driven applications for personalized medicine, predictive call centers, digital twins for IoT, predictive supply chain management and domain-specific Q&A applications – just to name a few.”

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 Ubiquitous AI Demands A New Type Of Database Sharding

Forbes published the following article by Dr. Jans Aasman, Franz Inc.’s CEO.
The notion of sharding has become increasingly crucial for selecting and optimizing database architectures. In many cases, sharding is a means of horizontally distributing data; if properly implemented, it results in near-infinite scalability. This option enables database availability for business continuity, allowing organizations to replicate databases among geographic locations. It’s equally useful for load balancing, in which computational necessities (like processing) shift between machines to improve IT resource allocation.

However, these use cases fail to actualize sharding’s full potential to maximize database performance in today’s post-big data landscape. There’s an even more powerful form of sharding, called “hybrid sharding,” that drastically improves the speed of query results and duly expands the complexity of the questions that can be asked and answered. Hybrid sharding is the ability to combine data that can be partitioned into shards with data that represents knowledge that is usually un-shardable.

This hybrid sharding works particularly well with the knowledge graph phenomenon leveraged by the world’s top data-driven companies. Hybrid sharding also creates the enterprise scalability to query scores of internal and external sources for nuanced, detailed results, with responsiveness commensurate to that of the contemporary AI age.

Read the full article at Forbes.