

# FROM CABLES TO THE CLOUD

MONETISING MARKET DATA THROUGH THE CLOUD

FEBRUARY 2023

**dataBP**

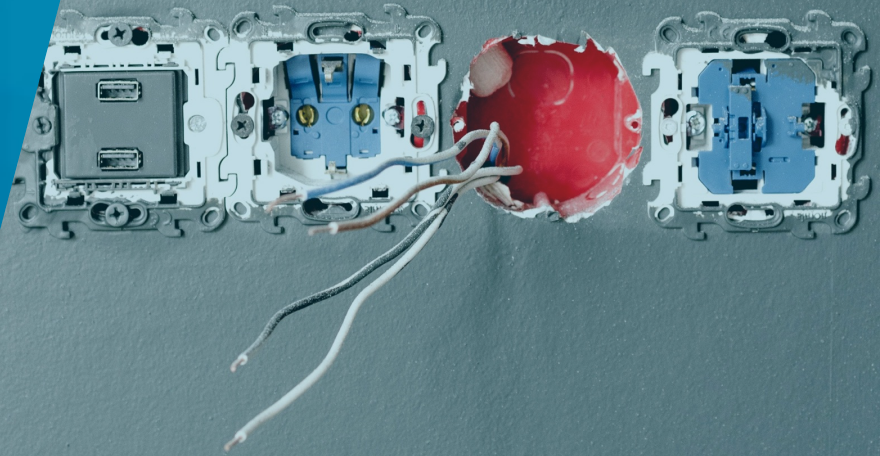
**QUINLAN**  
&ASSOCIATES

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# SECTION 1

## THE STATUS QUO

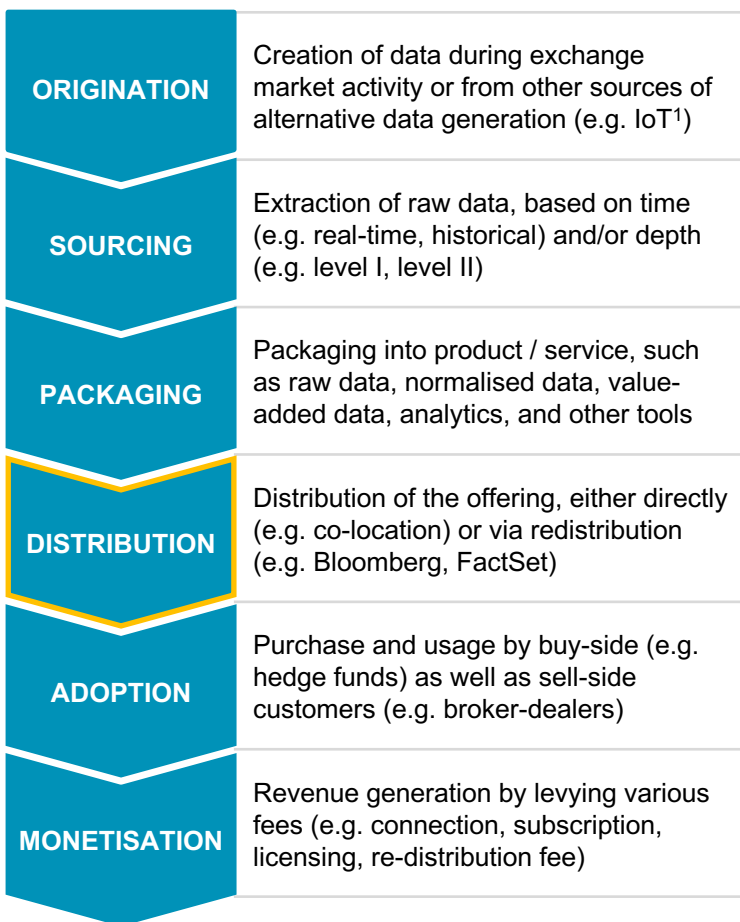


# THE DATA VALUE CHAIN

Data is fast emerging as the new oil, as exchanges and re-distributors of their data are poised to rake in USD 56 billion by 2025, through provision of information services

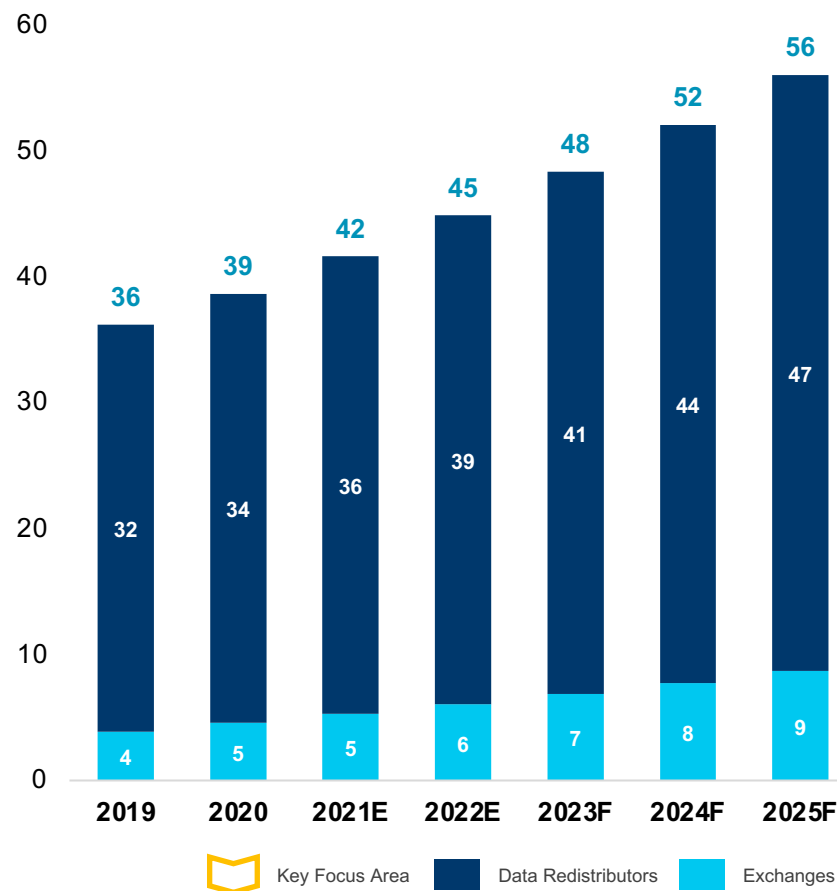
## Data Value Chain

From Origination to Monetisation



## Data Revenue

2019-2025F, USD Billion



<sup>1</sup>Internet of Things

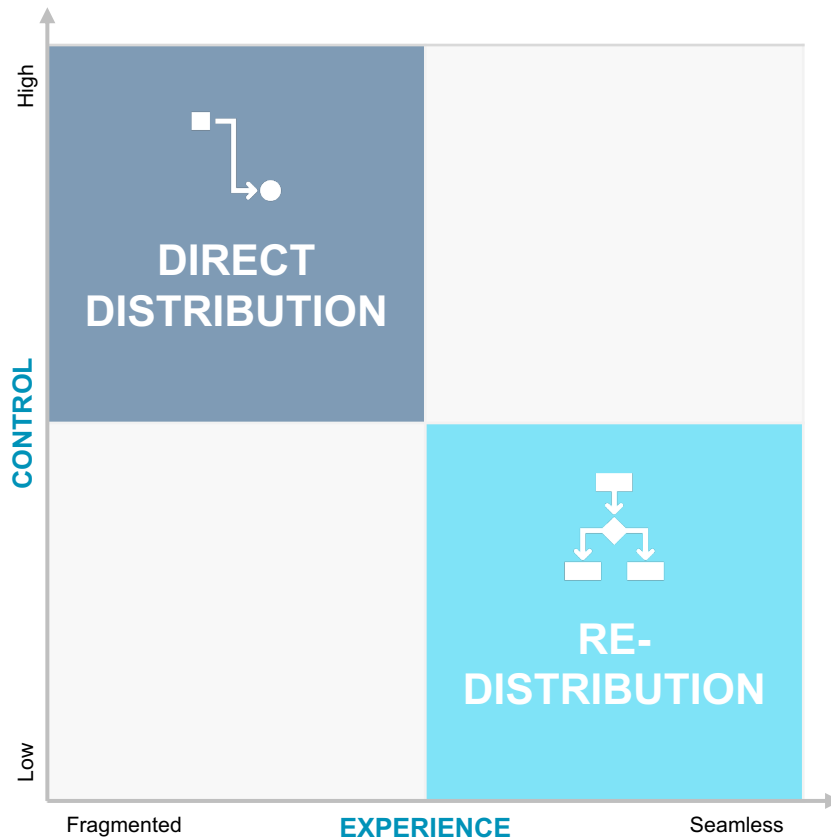
Source: World Federation of Exchanges, company disclosures, Quinlan & Associates proprietary research & estimates

# INDUSTRY WHITE SPACE

However, there exist significant inefficiencies in present distribution models, which carry inevitable trade-offs for both data consumers as well as providers

## Market Inefficiencies

Control vs. Experience



## Description

Consumer & Provider Perspective

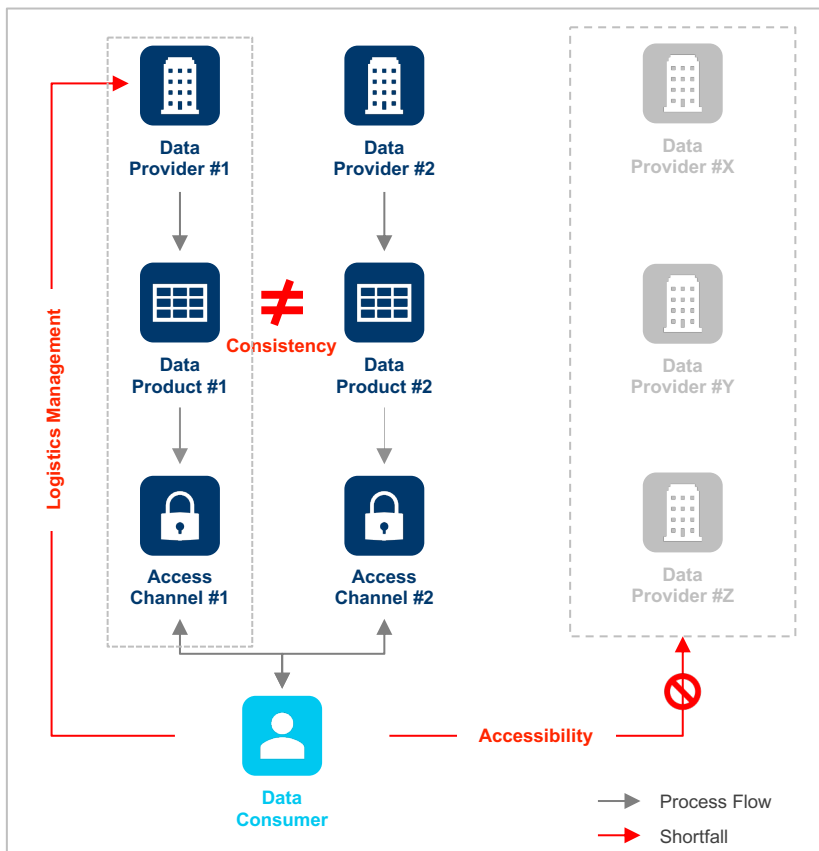
	CONTROL	EXPERIENCE
DIRECT DISTRIBUTION CONSUMER	<b>HIGH</b> Through directly subscribing to exchanges, consumers can enjoy greater control	<b>FRAGMENTED</b> Existing practices are highly fragmented / inefficient, hampering the consumption experience
DIRECT DISTRIBUTION PROVIDER	<b>HIGH</b> Through directly offering to consumers, exchanges can better control their data and business operations	<b>FRAGMENTED</b> High entry barriers and maintenance costs act as major barriers to directly offer their data
REDISTRIBUTION CONSUMER	<b>LOW</b> Most redistributors offer a full data subscription package with a substantial price tag	<b>SEAMLESS</b> Normalise and process the data for easier consumption by the customers
REDISTRIBUTION PROVIDER	<b>LOW</b> Data monetisation and the customer relationship are controlled by the redistributor	<b>SEAMLESS</b> Redistributors simplify both sourcing and licensing / billing processes for the data

# DIRECT DISTRIBUTION MODEL (1/2) – CONSUMER PERSPECTIVES

Experience remains a key pain point facing data consumers in the direct purchase model, particularly in terms of: (1) accessibility; (2) consistency; and (3) logistics management

## Direct Distribution Model

Description



## Implications

Consumer Perspective

### Level of Control

**Data Customisation**



- Data consumers can define their own data needs, sourcing only what is required for their specific business application(s)

**Subscription Fee**



- Data consumers may pay for data on-demand, without paying additional charges for an overall “data package”

### Experience

**Data Accessibility**



- Data consumers cannot easily locate and evaluate data providers in the market, given considerable market fragmentation

**Data Consistency**



- As data consumers develop and format their data products in silos, they are responsible for normalising the data (as necessary)

**Logistics Management**



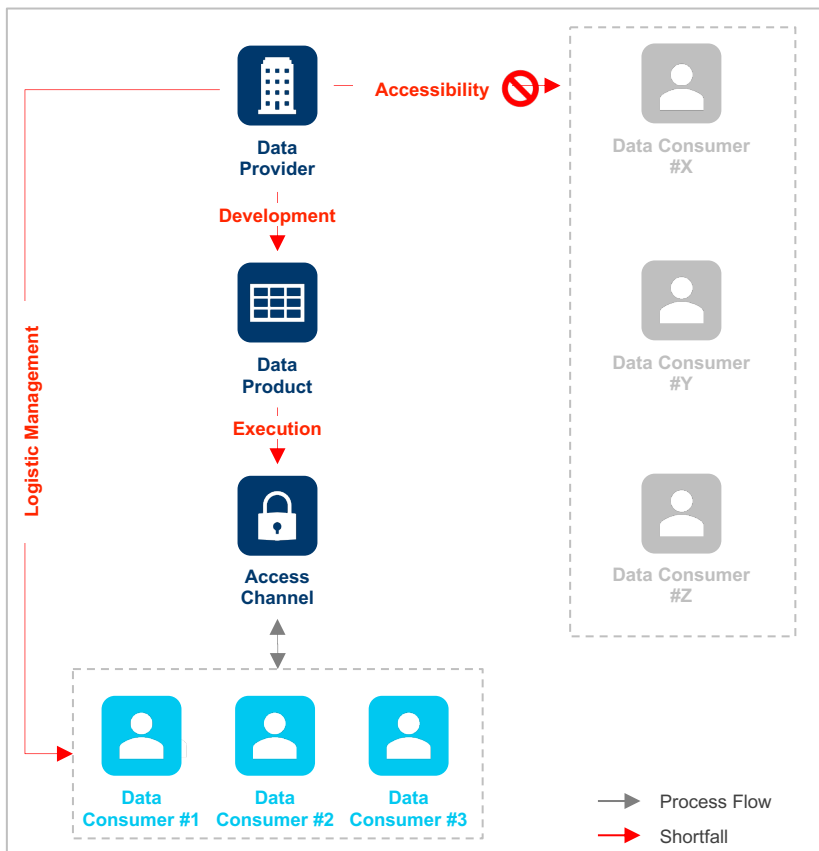
- Data consumers must deal with multiple data providers, including separate licensing, billing, and single sign-on arrangements

# DIRECT DISTRIBUTION MODEL (2/2) – PROVIDER PERSPECTIVES

Data providers suffer from a poor experience in the direct purchase model in terms of: (1) accessibility; (2) product development; (3) execution enablement; and (4) logistics

## Direct Distribution Model

Description



## Implications

Provider Perspective

### Level of Control

<b>Data Management</b>	✓	• Data providers can optimise revenue potential by directly controlling their data products, from product development to distribution
<b>Data Integrity</b>	✓	• Data providers can provide raw data to consumers directly without going through a redistributors' data normalisation processes
<b>Client Relationship Management</b>	✓	• Data providers can identify use cases of end consumers to provide better service and establish direct relationships with buyers

### Experience

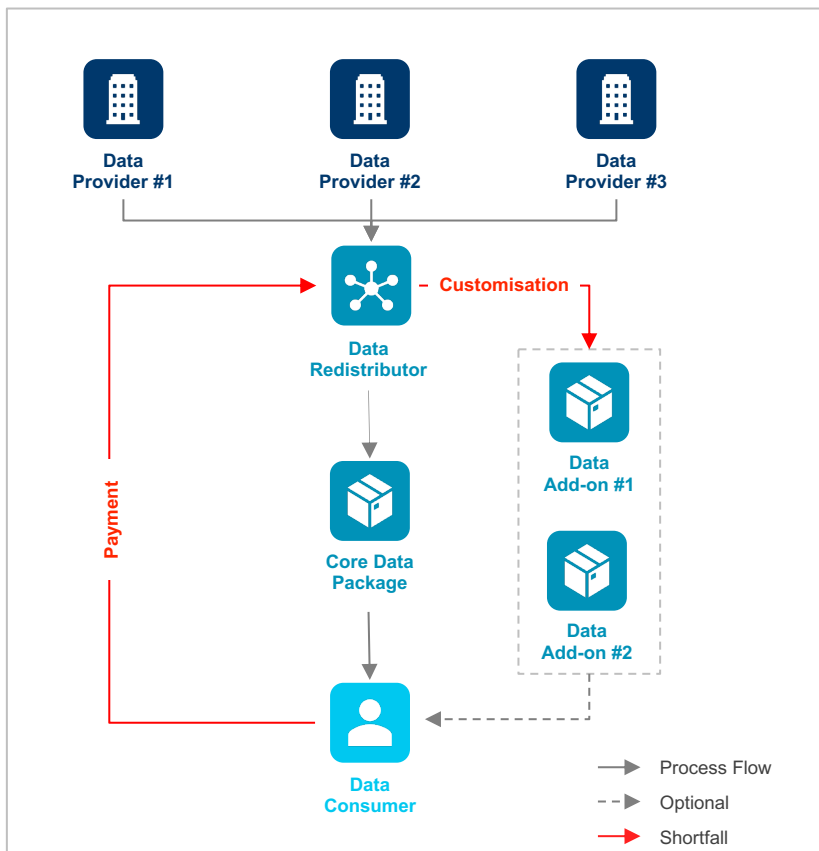
<b>Data Accessibility</b>	✗	• Data providers cannot easily gauge data demand and/or identify data consumers, given the market is highly fragmented
<b>Product Development</b>	✗	• Developing data products, from ideation to distribution, requires a considerable investment of both time and resources
<b>Execution Enablement</b>	✗	• Data businesses require upfront investment in relevant resources, such as technology infrastructure and execution teams
<b>Logistics Management</b>	✗	• Data providers must engage with a broad base of consumers with separate licensing, billing, and single sign-on arrangements

# REDISTRIBUTION MODEL (1/2) – CONSUMER PERSPECTIVES

Data consumers also experience a lack of control in the redistribution model with respect to: (1) data customisation; and (2) subscription fees

## Redistribution Model

Description



## Implications

Consumer Perspective

### Level of Control

**Data Customisation**

✖

- Data consumers are given a packaged product with wide data coverage, with limited customisable add-ons

**Subscription Fee**

✖

- Aggregation services are sold as a package, which is not only expensive, but requires consuming huge volumes of irrelevant data

### Experience

**Data Accessibility**

✓

- Data consumers can access a much larger volume of traditional and alternative datasets compiled by data redistributors

**Data Consistency**

✓

- Data consumers can use more consistently formatted data that is normalised and processed by redistributors

**Logistics Management**

✓

- Data consumers can consume multiple external data sources without managing multiple licensing / billing arrangements

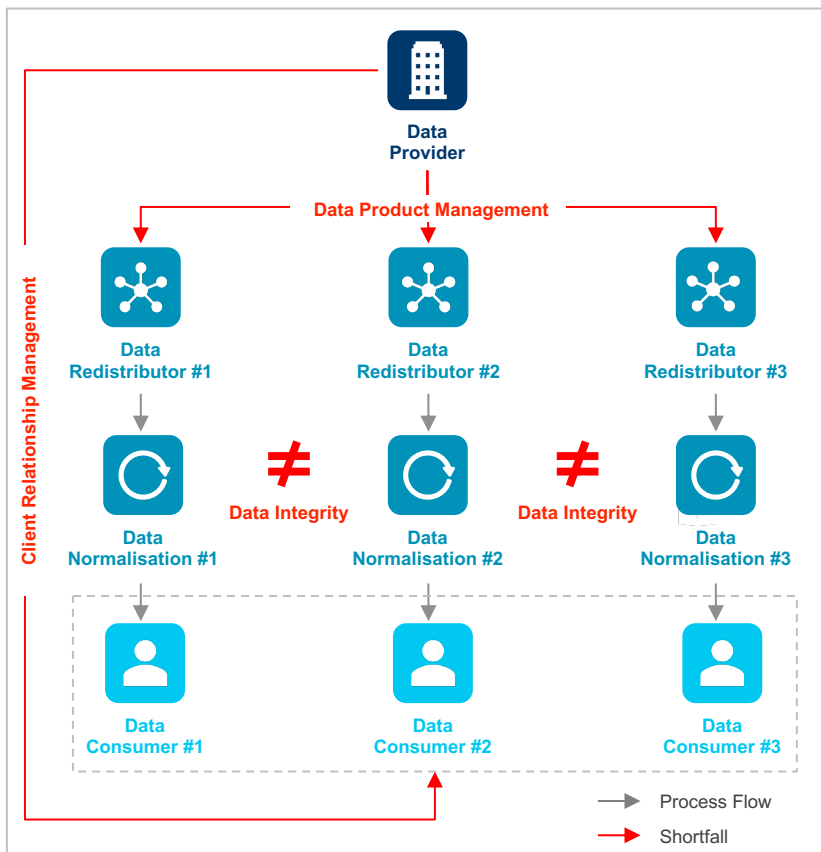


# REDISTRIBUTION MODEL (2/2) – PROVIDER PERSPECTIVES

Similarly, data providers experience a lack of control regarding: (1) data management; (2) data integrity; and (3) client relationship management

## Redistribution Model

Description



## Implications

Provider Perspective

### Level of Control

<b>Data Management</b>	✘	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data providers' reliance on data redistributors to monetise their data can limit the upside of their true revenue potential</li> </ul>
<b>Data Integrity</b>	✘	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raw data provided to data redistributors must go through a proprietary normalisation process before the data reaches consumers</li> </ul>
<b>Client Relationship Management</b>	✘	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data providers may have visibility on who their data consumers are, but the relationship is ultimately controlled by redistributors</li> </ul>

### Experience

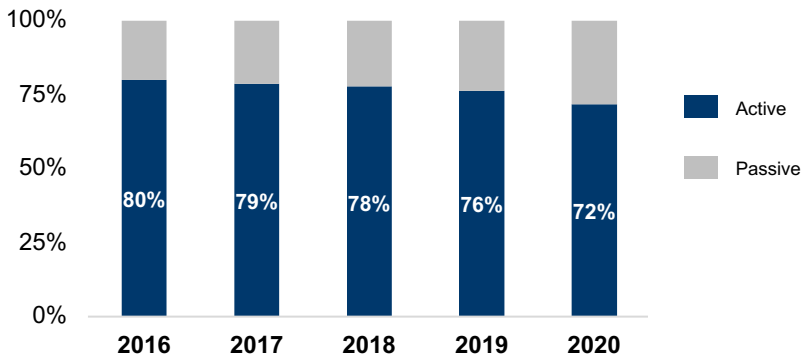
<b>Data Accessibility</b>	✔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data providers can rely on data redistributors, who have sizeable subscriber bases, to distribute and market their data products</li> </ul>
<b>Product Development</b>	✔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demand identification and data product development can all be outsourced to data redistributors with existing subscribers</li> </ul>
<b>Execution Enablement</b>	✔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data providers need not invest in both technology and talent (e.g. sales teams) that are required for data monetisation</li> </ul>
<b>Logistics Management</b>	✔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data providers can single-handedly face single redistributors for licensing, billing, and single sign-on arrangements</li> </ul>

## RESULTING IMPACT (1/2) – CUSTOMER CHURN

As a result, we expect ~6.5% of clients to unsubscribe from data redistribution services, especially driven by active funds' concerns over increasing costs and algo compatibility

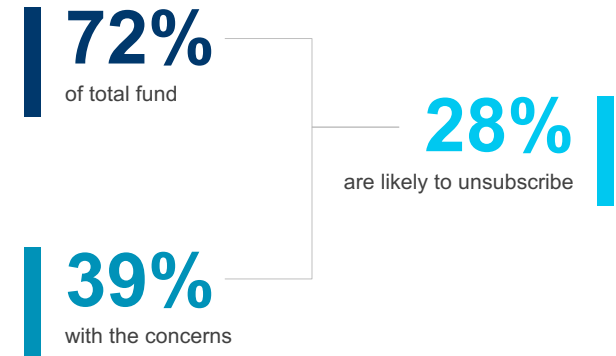
### Global Fund Asset Under Management

2016-2020, Active vs. Passive Split, %



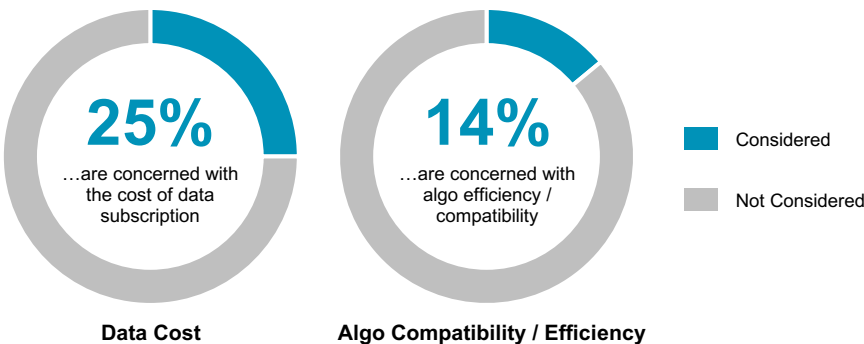
### Maximum Unsubscribing Rate

2020



### Concerns of Traders

Survey Result



	AMER	EMEA	APAC
Investment Mgmt. (% Revenue)	31.0%	29.7%	23.3%
Likelihood (% Unsubscription)	28.1%	28.1%	28.1%
Unsubscribing Rate (% Maximum)	8.7%	8.3%	6.5%

## RESULTING IMPACT (2/2) – REVENUE LOSS

Forecasting a doubling of unsubscriptions every year, we estimate that overall unsubscriptions will amount to USD 3.4 billion by 2025

### Impact on Revenues

Opportunity Cost

	2019	2020	2021E	2022E	2023F	2024F	2025F	
AMERICAS	<b>Revenue Projection</b> (USD million)	<b>15,598</b>	<b>16,434</b>	<b>17,550</b>	<b>18,743</b>	<b>20,016</b>	<b>21,376</b>	<b>22,829</b>
	<i>Unsubscribing Rate<sup>1</sup></i> (%)	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	1.0%	2.0%	4.0%	0.7%
	<b>Net Unsubscribed Amount</b> (USD million)	0.0%	0.5%	1.0%	2.0%	4.0%	8.0%	8.7%
	<b>Total Unsubscribed Amount</b> (USD million)	<b>0</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>1,613</b>	<b>1,776</b>
EMEA	<b>Revenue Projection</b> (USD million)	<b>10,706</b>	<b>11,280</b>	<b>12,046</b>	<b>12,865</b>	<b>13,739</b>	<b>14,672</b>	<b>15,669</b>
	<i>Unsubscribing Rate<sup>1</sup></i> (%)	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	1.0%	2.0%	4.0%	0.3%
	<b>Net Unsubscribed Amount</b> (USD million)	0.0%	0.5%	1.0%	2.0%	4.0%	8.0%	8.3%
	<b>Total Unsubscribed Amount</b> (USD million)	<b>0</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>1,107</b>	<b>1,162</b>
APAC	<b>Revenue Projection</b> (USD million)	6,027	6,350	6,781	7,242	7,734	8,259	8,820
	<i>Unsubscribing Rate<sup>1</sup></i> (%)	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	1.0%	2.0%	2.5%	0.0%
	<b>Net Unsubscribed Amount</b> (USD million)	0.0%	0.5%	1.0%	2.0%	4.0%	6.5%	6.5%
	<b>Total Unsubscribed Amount</b> (USD million)	<b>0</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>503</b>
<b>Unsubscribed Amount</b> (Grand Total, USD million)	<b>0</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>1,570</b>	<b>3,223</b>	<b>3,441</b>	

<sup>1</sup>The model assumes the transition rate would double every year; <sup>2</sup>Maximum Unsubscribing Rate  
Source: Quinlan & Associates estimates

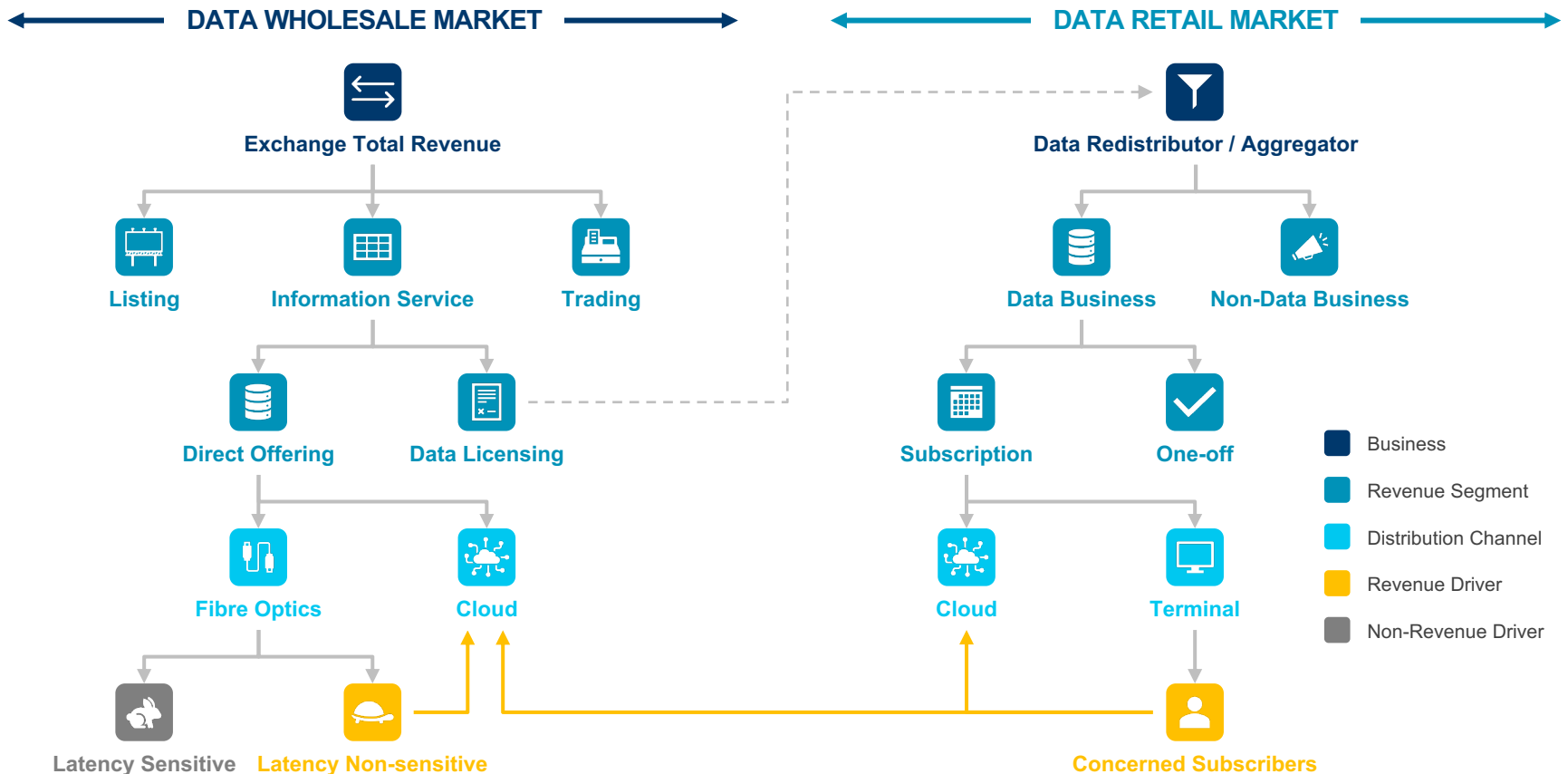
## SECTION 2

# CLOUD TO THE RESCUE



# CLOUD-BASED DISTRIBUTION

There are two major models for cloud-based distribution of data, namely: (1) data wholesale market and (2) data retail market



*Non latency sensitive (e.g. middle / back office functions) will naturally shift from cable to cloud distribution model*

*Subscribers with data compatibility and cost management challenges will shift to exchange-ran cloud data subscription*

# CLOUD TECHNOLOGY

There are three types of cloud infrastructures with different operating characteristics that are offered as IaaS,<sup>1</sup> PaaS,<sup>2</sup> and SaaS<sup>3</sup> models

## Types of Cloud

Illustrative

1

### Private Cloud

Cloud infrastructure dedicated to a single company that can either be managed by the company itself or a third-party vendor

2

### Public Cloud

Cloud infrastructure provided by a third-party vendor under a shared hardware environment with virtual storage / computation power

3

### Hybrid Cloud

Combined infrastructure that utilises private cloud, public cloud, and even on-premise databases for different business purposes

## Cloud Servicing Models

Illustrative

Management	LEGACY	CLOUD		
	On-Premise	IaaS	PaaS	SaaS
Applications	✓	✓	✓	-
Data	✓	✓	✓	-
Runtime	✓	✓	-	-
Middleware	✓	✓	-	-
Operating System	✓	✓	-	-
Virtualisation	✓	-	-	-
Servers	✓	-	-	-
Storage	✓	-	-	-
Network	✓	-	-	-



Managed by User



Out-sourced to Service Provider

<sup>1</sup>Infrastructure-as-a-Service, <sup>2</sup>Platform-as-a-Service, <sup>3</sup>Software-as-a-Service  
Source: Quinlan & Associates publication – Banking on the Cloud

## KEY ADVANTAGES

Many companies across the globe are migrating to cloud environments, given both cost and time effectiveness in managing data (and data-related business)

### Cost Effectiveness

Illustration



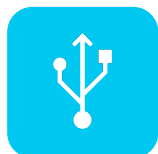
#### Reduce Hardware Costs

Instead of managing in-house equipment, the costs to acquire, repair, and replace hardware are passed on to the vendors



#### Minimise Software Costs

With software mgmt. outsourced to third-party vendors, the upfront cost of licensing and price of constant upgrades can be eliminated



#### Lessen Electricity Costs

As the need for excessive power is significantly reduced, electricity costs can be meaningfully decreased



#### Lower Labour Costs

The responsibilities of managing, repairing, and replacing infrastructure are passed on to vendors, drastically lowering labour costs

### Time Effectiveness

Illustration



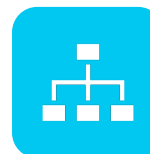
#### Eliminate Real Estate Acquisition

Real-estate acquisition time can be significantly reduced without having to purchase extra space for idle equipment



#### Reduce Installation Time

Instead of wasting weeks or months for a standard company-wide installation, cloud deployment can be done in a matter of hours



#### Facilitate Administrative Tasks

Cloud services can facilitate administrative tasks, saving time for sharing task lists, calendars, or attachment over e-mail



#### Improved Efficiency





Businesses can react to new and/or sudden developments or requirements as and when they arrive, improving operational efficiency

## ONGOING PIVOT (1/2) – EXCHANGES

As a result, many exchanges are already transitioning towards cloud-based data product / service offerings distribution

### Cloud Migration

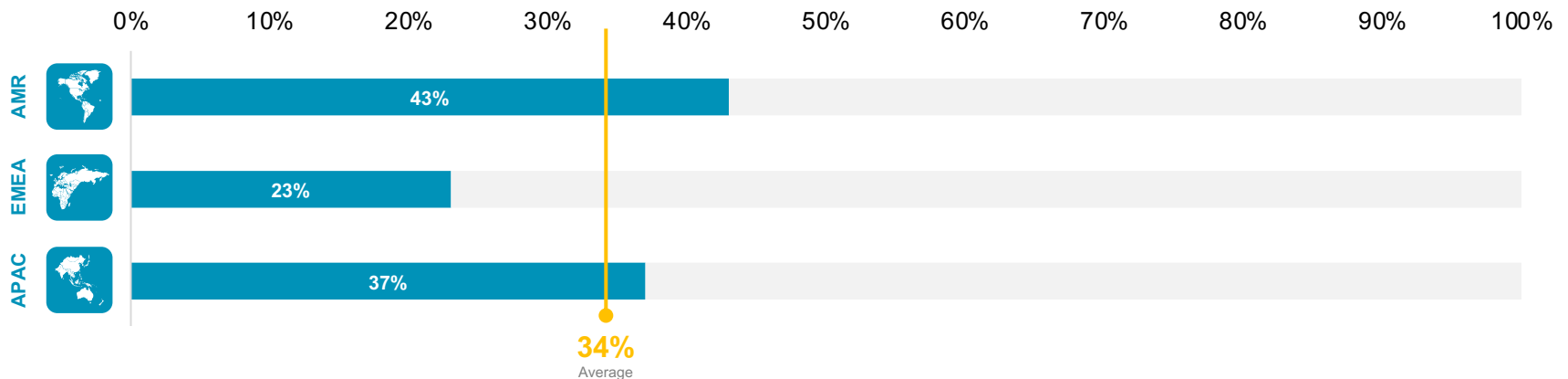
Exchanges

Companies (Exchanges / Redistributors)	CLOUD DATA SERVICE		DATA OFFERINGS		Name of the Offering (Cloud / Real-time Data)	Cloud Partner (Infra. Provider)
	Cloud-Native Data Feed	Cloud-Based Real-time	Raw Data	Normalised Data		
 Nasdaq	✓	✓	✓	*	Nasdaq Cloud API	AWS
 Cboe	✓	✓	✓	*	Cboe Global Cloud	AWS
 CME Group	✓	✓	✓	*	CME Smart Stream	Google
 iX	✓	✓	✓	*	N/A	Xignite

✓ Offered   
 - Unspecified / Not Applicable   
 \* Not Offered

### Public Cloud Offering Rate

2022E, #, By Count



Source: Company disclosures, Quinlan & Associates estimates




## ONGOING PIVOT (2/2) – REDISTRIBUTORS

Likewise, more redistributors are also offering cloud-based real-time market data services, but not all of them provide the data in a raw format

### Competitive Benchmarking

2022, Cloud-based Real-time Data Specific

Companies (Redistributors)	Data Source (#)	CLOUD DATA SERVICE		DATA OFFERINGS		Name of the Offering (Cloud / Real-time Data)	Cloud Partner (Infra. Provider)
		Cloud-native Data Feed	Cloud-based Real-time	Raw Data	Normalised Data		
<b>Bloomberg</b>	<b>330+</b> (Exchanges)	✓	✓	✓	✓	B-PIPE	AWS
<b>REFINITIV</b> 	<b>500+</b> (Exchanges)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Refinitiv Real-Time Optimised	AWS
<b>xignite</b>	<b>560+</b> (Exchanges)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Cloud Streaming	AWS
<b>FACTSET</b>	<b>50+</b> (Sec. Exchanges)	✓	✓	-	✓	Exchange DataFeed	AWS
<b>S&amp;P Global</b>	<b>302+</b> (Exchanges)	✓	✓	-	✓	S&P Capital IQ	AWS
<b>QUODD</b> <small>FINANCIAL INFORMATION SERVICES</small>	<b>28</b> (Sec. Exchanges)	✓	✓	-	✓	QUOOD	AWS
<b>dxFeed</b>	<b>36</b> (Sec. Exchanges)	✓	✓	✓	✓	dxFeed Cloud Platform	AWS
<b>ALPHA VANTAGE</b>	<b>9</b> (Sec. Exchanges)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Alpha Vantage	AWS
<b>polygon.io</b>	<b>6</b> (Sec. Exchanges)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Polygo.io	Google Cloud
<b>IIX</b>	-	✓	✓	-	✓	Market Data Feed	AWS
<b>barchart</b>	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	OnDemand	AWS
<b>IHS Markit</b>	-	✓	✓	-	✓	WSO	AWS
<b>IEX Cloud</b>	-	✓	✓	-	✓	IEX Cloud	AWS
<b>DOW JONES</b>	-	✓	✓	-	-	Developer Platform	Google

✓ Offered   
 - Unspecified / Not Applicable   
 \* Not Offered

# NASDAQ CASE STUDY (1/3) – OVERVIEW

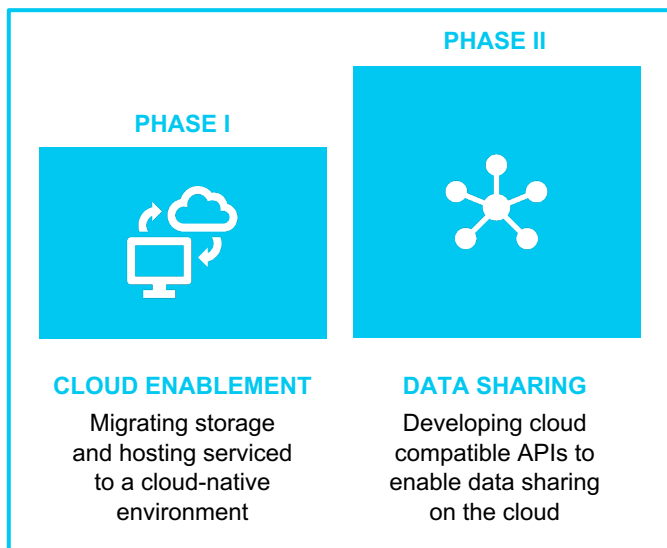
Nasdaq conducted a two-stage transformation process, including cloud enablement and data sharing through partnering with AWS

## Nasdaq Description



Nasdaq is an American stock exchange based in New York City. Currently ranked second on the list of stock exchanges by market capitalisation of shares traded, the exchange has amassed 4,000+ company listings.

## Nasdaq Cloud Migration



## Nasdaq Historical Journey



### RISE TO PROMINENCE

Founded in 1971, Nasdaq has developed into one of the world's largest and most reputable stock exchanges

### DATA MONETISATION

Recognising the lucrative opportunities up for grabs in the market data space, Nasdaq built out its information services business

### CLOUD MIGRATION

In order to improve its data offerings, Nasdaq partnered with AWS, embarking on a two-stage transformation process

### REVENUE GROWTH

As a result, Nasdaq saw a boom in information services revenue, which reached **USD 414 million in 2021**

## NASDAQ CASE STUDY (2/3) – CLOUD ENABLEMENT

By facilitating cloud enablement, Nasdaq has yielded substantial benefits, including: (1) higher storage capabilities; (2) efficient data loading; and (3) efficient data querying

### Cloud Enablement

Description



2014



#### Data Warehouse Migration

Migrated from on-premise data warehouse to an AWS warehouse

#### Improved Data Ingestion

Ingested financial market data from thousands of different sources on a daily basis

2018



#### Data Lake Formation

Built the foundation for a new data lake on Amazon S3

#### Compute / Storage Separation

Enabled separation of computing and storage, facilitating flexibility and scalability

2018



#### Data Archive & Backup

Used Amazon S3 Glacier for data archiving and long-term backup

#### Enhanced Cost Management

Data can be archived at a lower cost, facilitating cost management

### ✓ Higher Storage Capability

*Data ingestion reached 70 billion records per day, on average, with a whopping peak volume of 113 billion*

### ✓ Efficient Data Loading

*Reached its 90% mark for market data loading completion 5 hours earlier than before*

### ✓ Efficient Data Querying

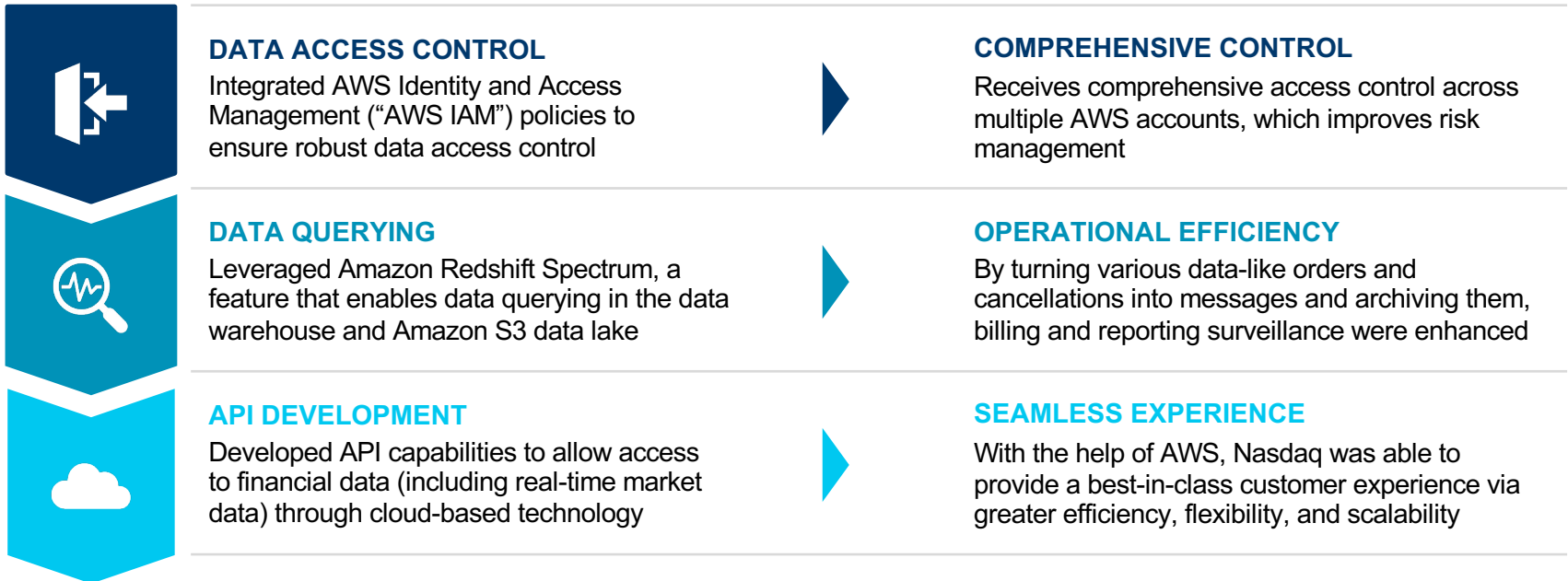
*By optimising its data warehouse, Nasdaq was able to run Amazon Redshift queries 32% faster*

## NASDAQ CASE STUDY (3/3) – DATA SHARING

Supported by cloud enablement, robust data access controls, and efficient data querying, Nasdaq was able to share a variety of data via cloud APIs

### Data Sharing

Description



### Data Sharing

Offerings

**1** REAL-TIME  
MARKET DATA

**2** HISTORICAL  
MARKET DATA

**3** FINANCIAL  
NEWS

# BLOOMBERG CASE STUDY (1/2) – OVERVIEW

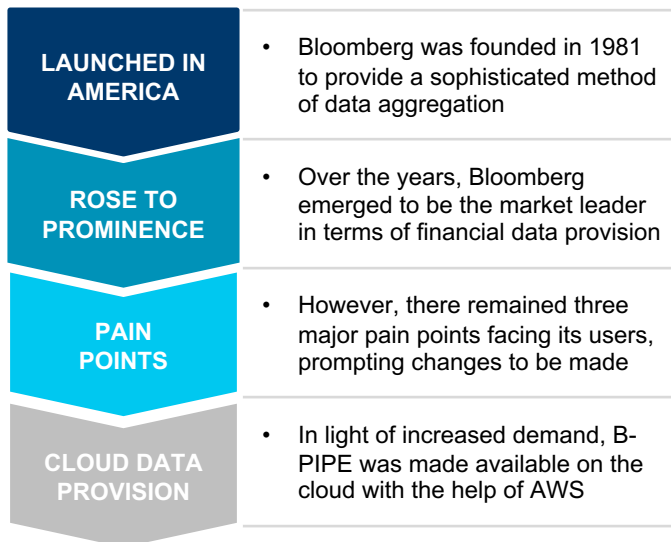
Apart from exchanges, data redistributors such as Bloomberg have also migrated to the cloud in order to address historical user pain points

## Case Study Bloomberg

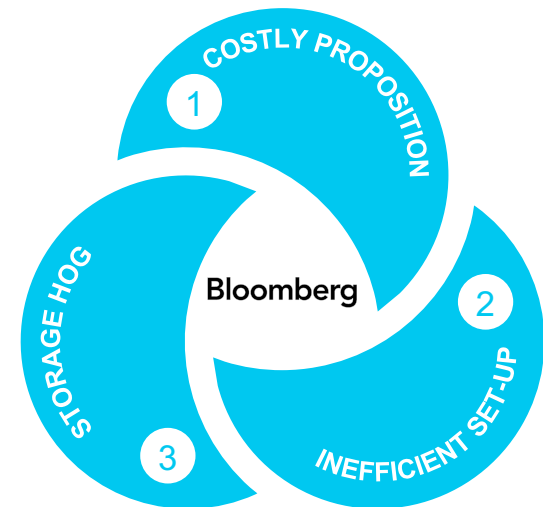
# Bloomberg

Founded in 1981, Bloomberg is a privately held company providing real-time and historical market data, news, and data analysis for financial professionals.

## Bloomberg Historical Journey



## Bloomberg User Pain Points



### COSTLY PROPOSITION

Bloomberg terminals are extremely expensive, with each terminal costing USD 24,000 per year



### INEFFICIENT SET-UP

Given that physical installation is required, shipping, installation, and configuration takes considerable time



### STORAGE HOG

Bloomberg circuits, servers, and switches consume significant rack space

## BLOOMBERG CASE STUDY (2/2) – CLOUD DATA PROVISION

As a result, Bloomberg has been able to achieve numerous benefits, including: (1) cost effectiveness; (2) time effectiveness; (3) space saving; and (4) holistic offering

### Cloud Value Proposition

B-PIPE

1

#### LOWER COST

Without installing any Bloomberg equipment or circuits to connect, costs have been streamlined

2

#### RAPID DEPLOYMENT

Without the need for physical connectivity, it takes just minutes to install and set up B-PIPE

3

#### REDUCED SPACE

By migrating to the cloud, the use of rack space and network ports has been minimised

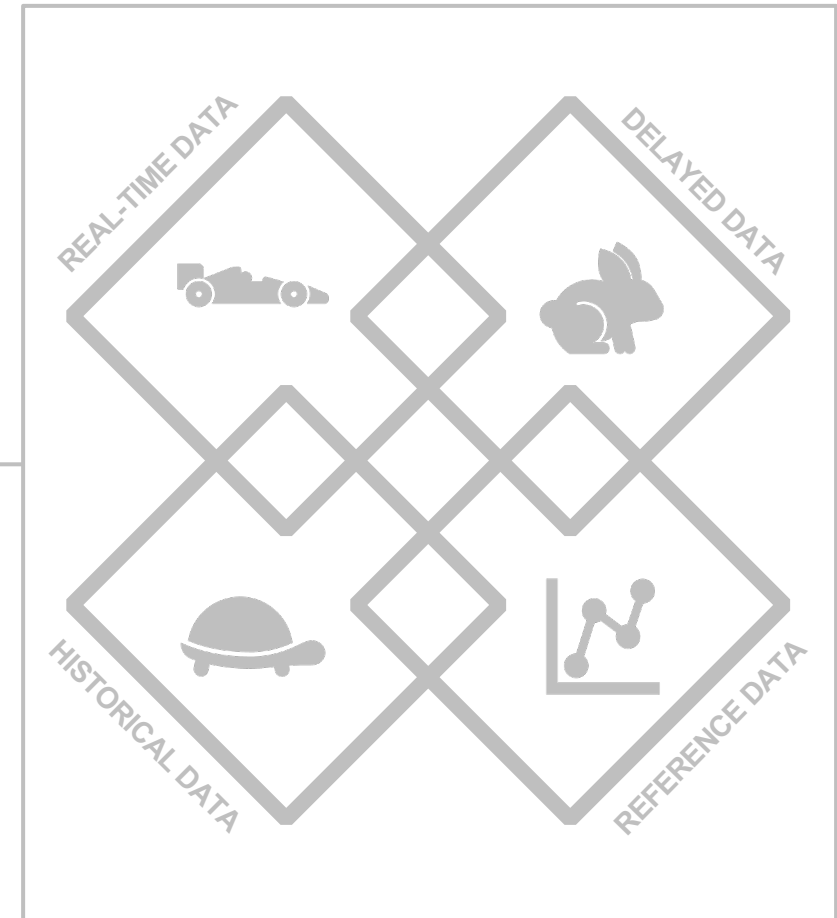
4

#### HOLISTIC OFFERING

Users can gain unfettered access to the entire Bloomberg universe of content via APIs

### Cloud Offerings

B-PIPE

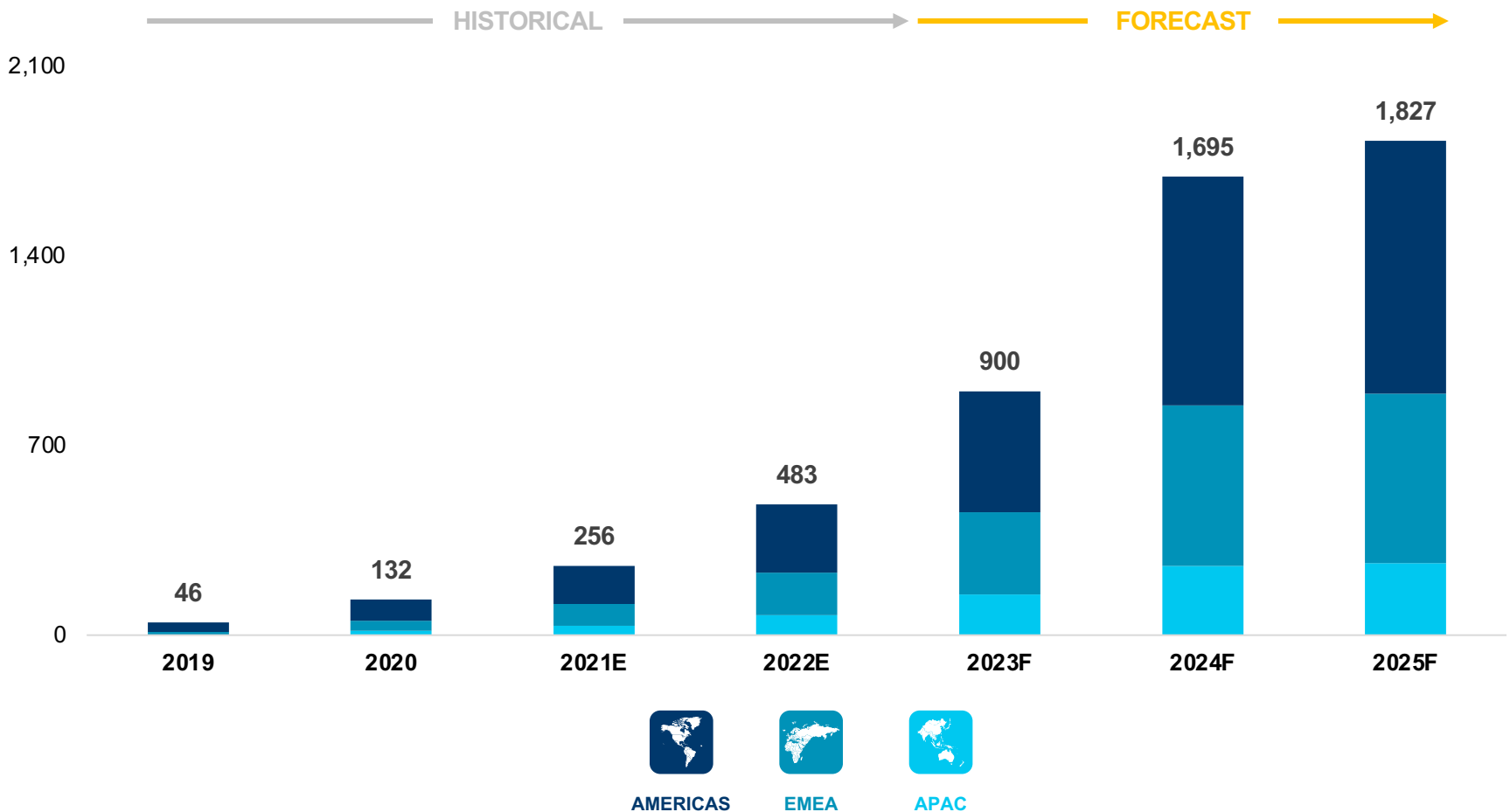


## REVENUE OPPORTUNITY

Combining the wholesale and retail market transition together, the cloud-based data distribution market is expected to reach approximately USD 1.8 billion by 2025

### Cloud-based Data Distribution Market Size

2019-2025F, USD Million, By Region



# SECTION 3

# CONSIDERATIONS



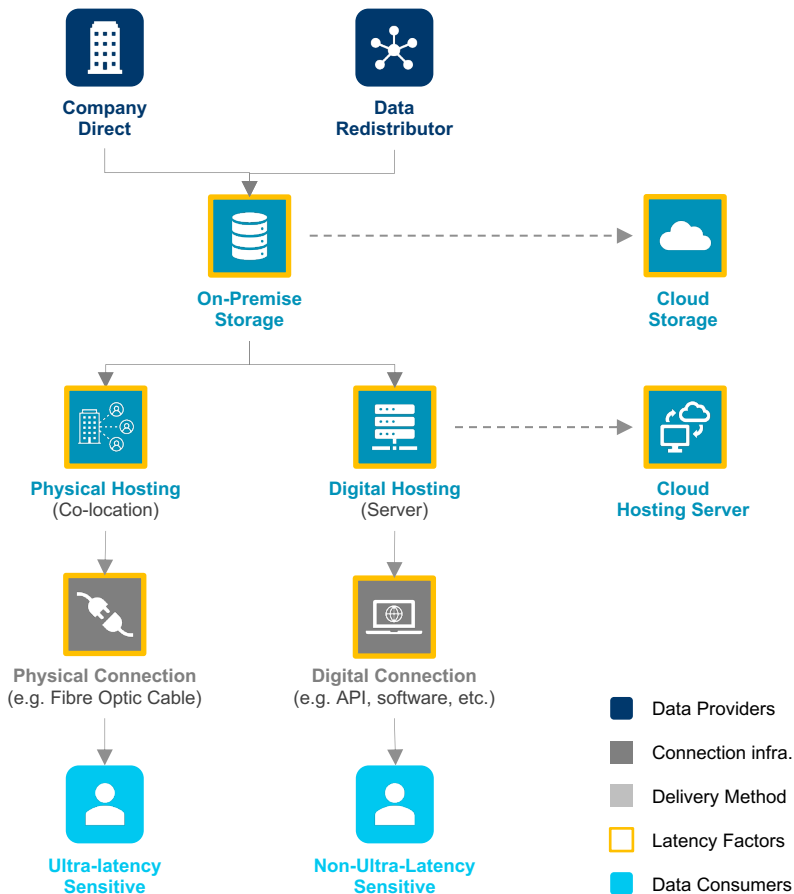


# NOTABLE DISADVANTAGES

As cloud environments rely on data transfer via non-physical connections, speed of delivery (i.e. latency) is a key consideration for cloud migration

## Data Distribution

Illustrative



Source: Quinlan & Associates analysis

## Latency Factors

Illustrative

- ### Storage Server (Upload: From Data Originators)

Since the only way to upload information to the cloud is via the internet, the speed of data transfer may be comprised vs. optic fiber

  - On-Premise: Physical / Internet connection for uploading
  - Cloud: Internet Connection for uploading
- ### Hosting Server (Connect: For End-user Access)

The hosting server is required to deliver data through digital channels, adding additional hurdles that affect the latency of data transfer

  - Physical Hosting: No additional hosting server required
  - Digital Hosting: Additional hosting server required
- ### Delivery Methodology (Download: To End Users)

Similar to uploading, the speed of data transfer is more stable (and faster) via physical cable connections when compared to digital connections

  - Physical Connection: Fast
  - Digital Connection: Dependent on internet speed

## KEY DELIBERATIONS

As such, there remain an array of: (1) strategic; (2) operational; and (3) financial factors, which data providers need to deliberate upon, before taking the plunge

### How We Can Help

Strategic, Operational, and Financial Questions



#### STRATEGIC

##### TARGET CUSTOMER

How should you appropriately segment customers based on objective factors and which segment(s) should you target?

##### PRODUCT / SERVICE OFFERING

What product(s) / service(s), such as data types, analytics, and other tools, should you deliver via the cloud in particular?

##### DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL

What type of cloud-based technologies should you leverage to distribute the product / service offering(s)?

##### MONETISATION MODEL

What kind of pricing model, structure, and fee range should be adopted, such as tiered / non-tiered, flat / proportional, fee level, etc.?



#### OPERATIONAL

##### PEOPLE / TALENT

How should you assess whether your current crop of talent is well-suited to cloud-based operations, groom them, and recruit more?

##### ORGANISATION / GOVERNANCE

How can you best distinguish governance of your cloud-based operations vis-à-vis other, more traditional operations?

##### RISKS / COMPLIANCE

While transitioning from traditional to cloud-based distribution, how can you remain in compliance with salient regulations?

##### IT<sup>1</sup> INFRASTRUCTURE

Should you build organically, acquire an existing provider with relevant capabilities, or partner with a third-party to execute?



#### FINANCIAL

##### REVENUE POTENTIAL

How sizeable is the potential upside for top-line growth via adoption of cloud-based distribution?

##### COSTS BUDGETING

What are the various cost components and their estimated size, which will have to be incurred by you?

##### PROFITABILITY

What is the overall profitability profile, in terms of break-even timeline, gross / operating / net margins, etc.?

##### OVERALL BUSINESS CASE

What is the overall opportunity cost of not adopting cloud or on the flip side, the economic case against adopting it?

<sup>1</sup>Information Technology  
Source: Quinlan & Associates analysis

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