

1/29/2024

Data/Information Lifecycle – managing the data  
Data Science/Analysis Lifecycle

Data Lifecycle Management vs. Information Lifecycle Management  
“electronic” vs. includes “paper” data

- 1) Data Creation – survey data, sensor data from IoT, satellite data, entering data into a database, etc.
- 2) Data Storage – locally, in the cloud, hard drive, tape data, floppy disks, etc.
- 3) Data Maintenance – validation, consistency, accuracy, etc.
- 4) Data Reuse – data collected for one particular task can be repurposed
- 5) Data Retention – how long do you hold on to your data?
- 6) Data Destruction – when do you decide to delete/destroy data (and do it securely)

Data Science/Analysis Lifecycle

- 1) Data Discovery – creation? Finding old data? Collecting new data?
- 2) Data Preparation or Manipulation – include pulling data out of an old database, old format paper or floppies, natural language processing, data format might not be correct or corrupted and have to be converted to a modern format or another programming language, summarizing the data, merging with other data sets, etc.
- 3) Data Exploration and Model Planning – starting to analyze, summarize, does the data match expectations, does it differ from previous results; what kinds of hypothesis tests can we do on the data? What kind of relationships do we see in the data? Data visualization? Regression or ML models?
- 4) Model Building – build a model: regression/classification, etc. test whether the model is valid.
- 5) Communicate the results – communicate with experts/non-experts, what does the model mean? What are you trying to predict? Why the audience should care.
- 6) Operationalize – put the analysis into practice/testing the model, doing something with the knowledge you’ve gained from the analysis.

Resources:

1. <https://www.usgs.gov/data-management/data-lifecycle>
2. <https://www.datasciencecentral.com/the-lifecycle-of-data/>
3. <https://spinsucks.com/communication/data-lifecycle-part-2/>
4. <https://www.audienceplay.com/blog/what-is-data-lifecycle/>
5. <https://www.bmc.com/blogs/data-lifecycle-management>
6. <https://www.upgrad.com/blog/data-analytics-lifecycle/>
7. <https://flylib.com/books/en/4.264.1/>

Extended commentary:

The Data Management lifecycle refers to a series of stages that data goes through from its initial creation or capture to its ultimate disposal. These stages include:

**Planning:** This is the initial stage where the purpose, scope, and data requirements for a project are established. This stage involves defining the data needs, deciding on the type of data to be collected, and identifying the data sources.

**Collection:** This stage involves the actual gathering of data from various sources. Data can be collected through surveys, interviews, sensors, social media, or other means. It is important to ensure that the data is of high quality, relevant, and accurately represents the population or phenomena of interest.

**Processing:** In this stage, the collected data is cleaned, transformed, and prepared for analysis. This may include activities such as removing missing or incorrect values, converting data into a standardized format, and creating derived variables.

**Analysis:** This stage involves using statistical or other analytical techniques to explore and understand the data. It is important to choose appropriate analysis methods that are tailored to the research question and the type of data being analyzed.

**Preservation:** This stage involves ensuring the long-term preservation and accessibility of the data. This may involve activities such as creating metadata, storing data in a secure and backed-up location, and ensuring that data is properly documented.

**Sharing:** This stage involves making the data available to others for reuse or further analysis. It is important to ensure that data sharing complies with legal and ethical requirements, and that the data is properly documented and cited.

**Disposal:** This is the final stage of the data management lifecycle, where data is properly disposed of when it is no longer needed or has reached the end of its useful life. This may involve activities such as securely deleting data or transferring it to an archive or repository for long-term preservation.

The Data Analysis lifecycle is a framework that outlines the various stages of a data analysis project, from defining the problem to communicating the results. The lifecycle typically consists of the following phases:

**Problem definition:** This involves identifying the problem or question you want to answer and defining the scope of the project. This phase involves consulting with stakeholders and subject matter experts to ensure that the problem is well-defined and understood.

**Data collection:** In this phase, data is collected from various sources and prepared for analysis. This includes cleaning and formatting the data, dealing with missing values, and performing other data preprocessing tasks.

**Data exploration:** In this phase, the data is visualized and analyzed to gain insights and understand the relationships between different variables. This is often an iterative process, with analysts refining their understanding of the data as they explore it.

**Data modeling:** In this phase, statistical or machine learning models are developed to analyze the data and make predictions or identify patterns. This may involve selecting appropriate algorithms, tuning parameters, and validating the models.

**Interpretation and communication:** Finally, the results of the analysis are interpreted and communicated to stakeholders. This may involve creating reports, visualizations, or dashboards to effectively communicate insights and findings.

It is worth noting that the Data Analysis lifecycle is not always strictly linear - it is often an iterative process, with analysts returning to previous phases as new insights are gained or new data becomes available. Additionally, effective communication is important throughout the entire lifecycle, as it ensures that stakeholders are engaged and informed throughout the process.

Data Lifecycle Management (DLM) and Information Lifecycle Management (ILM) are two related but distinct approaches to managing data and information within an organization.

DLM is a comprehensive approach to managing data throughout its lifecycle, from creation to deletion or archiving. It encompasses activities such as data collection, storage, processing, analysis, dissemination, and archiving or disposal. DLM aims to ensure that data is managed in a secure, efficient, and compliant manner, and that it is available and accessible when needed.

ILM, on the other hand, is a broader approach that encompasses not only data but also other forms of information, such as documents, records, and other digital assets. ILM is concerned with the entire lifecycle of information, from creation to destruction, and involves processes such as capture, storage, retention, retrieval, and disposal.

While there is some overlap between DLM and ILM, they differ in their scope and focus. DLM is primarily concerned with managing the lifecycle of data and ensuring its integrity and accessibility, whereas ILM takes a more holistic view of information management and seeks to optimize the value and utility of all types of information within an organization.

Both DLM and ILM are important components of a comprehensive data and information management strategy and require careful planning, implementation, and ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure their effectiveness.