Optimizing ROI on Data Analytics with Data Observability

**Ethan Post** Sales Engineer



## Agenda

- What is Data Observability
- What is Monte Carlo
- Product Demonstration
- Customer Case Studies

# What is Data Observability?

MC

# The three pillars of application observability



The reliability lifecycle



Analyze

## What is Data Observability?

## Detect

- ML-powered anomaly detection
- Rule-based detection
- Targeted alerts to impacted owners & downstream users

## Resolve

- Automated field-level lineage
- Impact radius assessment
- Code, data, and operational diagnostics

## Prevent

- Auto-generated and on-demand insights
- Schema change notifications
- Automated circuit breakers



Freshness | Volume | Quality | Schema | Lineage

## The problem: data downtime



# Data quality incidents are detected reactively today



## The result?

Days to weeks pass before incidents are detected and resolved

## **Business impact** from poor data quality

# ~70

high severity events each year per every 1k tables <sup>1</sup>

# 30-50%

data engineering time spent on fire drills<sup>2</sup> 12-27%

avg. annual revenue lost for companies resulting from poor data quality <sup>3</sup>

- 1. Benchmark data based on Monte Carlo customer production deployments
- 2. Monte Carlo market research and customer-reported benchmarks
- 3. Experian Data Quality; MC research via Wakefield Research Survey

# What is Monte Carlo?

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# Good news: data downtime looks similar across companies

Is this data up-to-date?

. . .

- Why does this data size look off?
- Isn't this value suspiciously high?
- Why are there so many nulls?
- Why do we have duplicate IDs?
- What reports will I break with this schema update?
- Why are there 0s on tiles that usually show 100s?

Freshness	MC Monitors Databoard Incidents Catalog Pipelines Settings May 19th 2022 15:06 PDT v All domains
	Freshness anomalies in [data-lake] awsdatacatalog:monolithexport
Volume	First event     Thurday Apr 28th 2022 06:38 PDT (21 days, 8 hours age)     2     0       Latest event     21 days, 8 hours age     2     0
	monolith_public_monolith_lineagenodemodel Table might be out of date (Wednesday Apr 27th 2022 18:04 PDT)
Quality	
Schema	4/22 4/23 4/24 4/25 4/28 4/27 4/28 4/29 4/30 5/1 5/2 5/3 5/4 5/5 5/6 5/7 ■ 0
Conoma	Fixed Expected Investigating No action needed False
Lineage	Apr 27th 2022
	Freshness anomalies in [data-lake] awsdatacatalog;monolithexport     EVENTS     KEYASSETS       First event     Wednesday Apr 27th 2022 09:42 PDT (22 days, 5 hours ago)     7 ●     0 ★
	idate-lakej avedatacatalogmonolithesport









## So... How does Monte Carlo help?

Make Data More Reliable and Trustworthy Reduce Time and Resources Spent on Data Quality Mitigate Risk and Impact of Bad Data

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# **Platform Demo**

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## Why do teams choose Monte Carlo?



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# Make Data Reliable and Trustworthy





## A book-summarizing subscription service with over 16 million users worldwide

"The self-service capabilities of data observability helped build back trust in data, as users were seeing us in action: going from a red alert to a blue "work-in-progress" to "resolved" in green." -Gopi Krishnamurthy, Director of Engineering

### **Outcomes**

- 120 engineering hours saved/week
- Faster data incident resolution
- Increased revenue: Highly reliable data, including new data SLAs, ensured marketing spend was allocated appropriately

## Challenge

When COVID-19 changed user behavior overnight, data quality issues eroded trust in the company's data.

## **Solution**

Implemented Data Observability to deliver visibility into the health of their Redshift warehouse, ETL solutions, and Periscope dashboards.





## An online pet food retailer delivering millions of meals monthly

"I now have confidence if I see a change in my numbers, it's a business change and not a data issue." – Head of Data Strategy & Insights

## **Outcomes**

- 200+ engineering hours saved by using Monte Carlo (vs. building in-house)
- Simple validation for business changes and proactive monitoring for data issues
- 20-minute implementation

## Challenge

The Farmer's Dog lacked clarity around the root cause of their data incidents and needed a way to detect changes.

## Solution

Implemented Monte Carlo to monitor freshness, volume, data, schema and lineage.



"This was one of the easiest setup process that I've ever experienced."



# FOX



## A news, media and sports powerhouse

"Data observability has become a necessity, not a luxury, for us. As the business has become more and more data-driven, nothing is worse than allowing top executives to make a decision based upon data that you don't have trust in."

### **Outcomes**

- Increased cost savings
- Better collaboration between data engineers and analysts

## Challenge

Fox was exploring a decentralized, self-service approach to their data architecture, they faced the challenge of ensuring all data available to stakeholders reliable and trustworthy.

## **Solution**

They implemented Monte Carlo's data observability platform to proactively detect and resolve incidents when they occur, before stakeholders lose trust in the data.

# clearcover



A new, smarter take on auto insurance that promises fast, hassle-free and easy to understand plans

"We no longer had to tailor specific tests to every particular data asset. All we really had to do was sign up, add the security implementation to give Monte Carlo the access that it needed, and we were able to start getting alerted on issues. Monte Carlo gave us that right out of the box."

### **Outcomes**

- 70% increase in data quality coverage
- Solve data issues faster
- 50% faster resolution times stemming from common changes such as schema drift or additional sources

### Challenge

With the proliferation of data sources, it became harder for Clearcover's data engineers to scale data quality testing across pipelines manually.

## **Solution**

They implemented Monte Carlo's automated monitoring and alerting system to increase quality coverage across raw data assets leading to proactive conversations, faster RCA, and a reduction in data incidents.

# Reduce Time and Resources Spent on Data Quality

MC

# 🤣 hotjar



Software that provides an intuitive, visual way to discover, consolidate, and communicate user needs

"Monte Carlo gives us the power to know what's going on with our data at any given point in time so we can ask the right questions when data downtime strikes, for instance 'we think something's wrong here, did you change anything, or is this expected?""

### **Outcomes**

- 3x reduction in infrastructure costs through isolating an unexpected spike in marketing events
- Faster time-to-detection (TTD)
- 99% faster incident det

### Challenge

Hotjar's in-house built solution through dbt frequently had alerting delays, and upstream tool notification settings were too infrequent

## **Solution**

evaluated data observability solutions requiring: Timely incident alerting Root cause analysis with field-level lineage for speedy resolution Field Health Restaurant point of sale and management system that helps restaurants improve operations, increase sales and create a better guest experience.

"With Monte Carlo, we got the thing up and running within a few hours and then let it go...It just cuts down on time. You're directed exactly toward what the problem could be, and from there, you can expand."

	Outcomes	
•		

### Challenge

Toast experienced hypergrowth with larger data volumes and less visibility into data health. Their homegrown data quality tool could not keep up with business needs.

## Solution

Monte Carlo provided out-of-the-box support and fast deployment for comprehensive data quality monitoring and lineage, resulting in saved time and money building and manually deploying data quality tests and more time spent on ML initiatives.



# **Mitigate Risk and Impact of Bad Data**

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# choozle



A leading digital advertising software company that gives small and medium-sized businesses access to enterprise grade advertising technology

"I can't imagine a situation where I would fire up Snowflake and not put Monte Carlo on top of it. It's become part of my go-to stack along with Looker and machine learning in GCP...I'd recommend it as a first step prior to data catalogs and other investments."

- Adam Woods, Chief Technology Officer

## Challenge

When Choozle rolled out a unified reporting capability, they faced the problem of table sprawl and data fragmentation, which caused customers to lose trust in their platform.

## Solution

Outcomes 88% reduction in data downtime Time-to-detection (TTD): "Accelerated from days to minutes." Time-to-resolution (TTR): 96% reduction

They overcame this problem by integrating an easy-to-use data observability solution with high time to value for Snowflake and Looker stack.

## optoro

Solution that provides retailers with an all-in-one returns platform to delight customers, drive revenue, and preserve the planet

"Being able to quickly identify client-facing issues and be proactive is really the key to building trust in our data. And this feature makes the data engineers' jobs much much easier—I can tell you definitely from experience here."

### **Outcomes**

 50% of engineering capacity recovered from faster incident resolution

### Challenge

The team at Optoro didn't have a method for understanding when data might be missing, when it might go stale, or if the data wasn't what they expected. When data issues did occur, customers were often the first to know.

## **Solution**

With data observability in place, the data team is now able to automatically and proactively identify and resolve - saving their engineers 44 hours each week on support tickets.



# O'Reilly's Data Quality Fundamentals

Learn what it takes to build more reliable data lakes at scale.



https://www.montecarlodata.com/oreilly-data-quality-fund amentals-early-release/

# **⊖toast**

#### Overview

Restaurant point of sale and management system that helps restaurants improve operations, increase sales and create a better guest experience.

Industry

SaaS / Fintech

Data stack & comms channel



- Context: The data team was deploying a new data platform that with a decentralized model that emphasized self-service for analysts and positioned the data team in a more consultative role; the change arose due to:
  - Rapid growth of the business
  - Growing volume of data

Situation

- Increased number of people relying on that data
- Limited data engineering resources
- Challenge: ensure data quality for ever-growing volumes of mission-critical data
  - Attempted to build monitors in house, but couldn't keep up with new data sources and integrations
- Solution: data observability implementation that provided:
  - Fast implementation
  - Scalability as the business and data dependencies continued to grow

#### Results

"

#### Speed of implementation + ease of use

After spending months building and maintaining freshness monitors, the team implemented Monte Carlo within a few hours, including automated:

- Freshness monitors
- Volume monitors
- Quality monitors
- Schema change monitors
- Custom rules & tests
- Root cause analysis tools, including lineage

#### Data engineering hours saved

Data engineering team now has the time to focus on enriching data and enabling Toast teams

With Monte Carlo, we got the thing **up and running within a few hours** and then let it go...It just cuts down on time. You're **directed exactly toward what the problem could be**, and from there, you can expand."

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## optoro

#### Overview

Solution that provides retailers with an all-in-one returns platform to delight customers, drive revenue, and preserve the planet

Industry

SaaS (Tech), E-commerce

Data stack & comms channel



 Context: high data volumes, with regular updates generated by their customers inventory tracking systems feeding into their application to identify areas for improvement

Situation

- **Challenge:** prevent data quality issues from negatively impacting the customer experience
  - The need to alert on stale data and pipeline changes such as schema drift
  - Ongoing monitoring, with new rules automatically being generated to handle new datasets
- Solution: data observability implementation that provided:
  - Automated lineage graphs to help quickly identify how data flows and where resolution is needed
  - Out of the box monitors that create checks freshness, volume, and schema changes based on historical behavior

#### Results

"

Save engineering time spent on issue discovery

**50%** of engineering capacity recovered from faster incident resolution

#### End-to-end visibility

Ability to quickly deploy Monte Carlo across all data marts and tables in the warehouses and BI tools to understand both downstream and upstream impact

#### Increased customer trust in results

Proactively discovering when data quality has been affected to quickly resolve customer-facing incidents

Being able to quickly identify client-facing issues and be proactive is really the key to building trust in our data. And this feature makes the data engineers' jobs much much easier—I can tell you definitely from experience here.

## clearcover

Overview

A new, smarter take on auto insurance that promises fast, hassle-free and easy to understand plans

Industry

Fintech (insurance)

Data stack & comms channel



 Context: 50+ data sources being brought into their data warehouse along with multiple teams working on modeling and curating data

Situation

- Challenge: keeping up with a proliferation of data generated by multiple business departments without requiring data source domain expertise
  - Data stack also continued to evolve with new orchestration, transformation, and warehouse tooling
- **Solution:** deploying Monte Carlo across every table to identify trends in data resulting in:
  - Reduced implementation times with out of the box coverage for new datasets
  - Alerting with customized tags to a dedicated Slack channel
  - Automated data lineage creation to isolate and remediate incidents
  - Custom field health thresholds to meet internal SLAs

#### Results

Holistic dataset coverage

**70%** increase in data quality coverage

Solve data issues faster

**50%** faster resolution times stemming from common

changes such as schema drift or additional sources

#### Futureproof their data strategy

Out of the box ML monitors deployed across their dataset in days ensures that all future initiatives are covered

We no longer had to tailor specific tests to every particular data asset. All we really had to do was sign up, add the security implementation to give Monte Carlo the access that it needed, and we were able to start getting alerted on issues. Monte Carlo gave us that right out of the box.

#### Braun Reyes

# \prime hotjar

Overview

Software that provides an intuitive, visual way to discover, consolidate, and communicate user needs.

Industry

Tech (SaaS)

Data stack & comms channel



- Context: a need to monitor end-to-end pipelines, including marketing data, being hosted and analyzed in Segment, their customer data platform
  - Other data sources include CRM, digital ads, and payments software
- **Challenge:** in-house built solution through dbt frequently had alerting delays, and upstream tool notification settings were too infrequent
  - Another recent example includes a broken link in a live customer survey, requiring immediate attention to ensure a successful campaign
- Solution: evaluated data observability solutions requiring:
  - Timely incident alerting
  - Root cause analysis with field-level lineage for speedy resolution
  - Field Health

Situation

#### Results

Decrease inefficient spend on data tools

 $3\chi$  reduction in infrastructure costs through isolating an

unexpected spike in marketing events

Faster time-to-detection (TTD)

**99%** faster incident detection(**2 hours** vs default notification time of **8 days**)

In-app resolution tools End to end lineage graphs used for root cause analysis

> Monte Carlo gives us the power to know what's going on with our data at any given point in time so we can ask the right questions when data downtime strikes, for instance 'we think something's wrong here, did you change anything, or is this expected?'

Pablo Recio Senior Data Engineer

# **i** Blinkist

Overview

With over 16 million users worldwide, Blinkist helps time-strapped readers fit learning into their lives through their ebook subscription service

Industry

Media

Data stack & comms channel



- Challenge
- **Context:** 40% YoY revenue growth target to be fueled by:
  - Increased marketing spend
  - User experience campaigns
  - Faster innovation cycles
  - A/B testing and experimentation
- Challenge: CXOs and campaign managers were reliant on data to make decisions, but data engineering team spent 50% of their time firefighting data drills
- Solution: selected Monte Carlo to adopt and meet data reliability engineering principles:
  - Data governance
  - Data quality
  - Refactoring systems

#### Results

**Higher engineering productivity** 

**120** engineering hours saved per week

#### **Increased revenue**

Highly reliable data, including **new data SLAs**, ensured marketing spend was allocated appropriately

### Increased data product adoption

The self-service capabilities of data observability helped **build back trust in data**, as users were seeing us in action: going from a red alert to a blue "work-in-progress" to "resolved" in green. They knew who was accountable, they knew the teams were working on it, and **everything became crystal clear**.

**Gopi Krishnamurthy** Director of Engineering

# \prime hotjar

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#### Braun Reyes

Senior Manager of Data Engineering



Overview

Subscription-based, online fresh pet food service

Industry

E-commerce

Data stack & comms channel



#### Situation

- Context: as the data strategy has evolved, so has the number of tools involved in the entire data stack, and the number of downstream team impacted by data delivery
- **Challenge:** a desire to improve visibility into how to identify, receive notifications for, and resolve data issues that may occur across the entire pipeline
  - Future-proofing trust in the data team by providing dependent teams on the ability to troubleshoot their own data issues
- **Solution:** evaluated data observability solutions requiring:
  - End-to-end visibility into the entire pipeline, to discover issues that were previously unknown
  - Ease of deploying the solution, including notifications into their preferred communications channel

#### Results

#### **Save engineering resources**

 $\mathbf{5}$  months saved time versus building an in-house tool

#### **Broader incident coverage**

Monitoring data and movement between sources provided insights into issues that otherwise wouldn't have been discovered

#### Improved self-service troubleshooting

Lineage graphs are used by others outside of the data team to identify where the issues are occuring

### Monte Carlo has been exceptional at

catching upstream errors. And being able to tell you that something is amiss and guide your focus with such precision! Pointing not only to the specific table but the lineage that quickly gets you to the root of the error. It's just absolutely incredible.