

CogniViz™ for Enterprise Architecture

In recent years, Enterprise Architecture (EA) has become a vital component to competitive advantage by managing complex layers and categories of IT and business data. However, EA solutions have limitations. Often they organize information in discreet repositories or have relied on cryptic, time-consuming report programming languages. Leveraging them for more than pre-planned queries makes answering strategic “Monster Questions” difficult.

CogniViz for Enterprise Architecture is the strategic analytics solution that delivers clear answers to Monster Questions, yielding strategic insight from the complex information locked in Enterprise Architecture (EA) repositories. It is designed to revolutionize EA querying and reporting by quickly tapping into the data housed inside today’s architecture repositories and configuration management databases (CMDDBs).

Why is it so hard to get answers from Enterprise Architecture data?

Challenge 1: Harvesting from Multiple Dimensions and Multiple Hierarchies

Enterprise Architecture data is complicated. Whether you employ TOGAF, Zachman, FEA or a custom framework, successful architecture efforts require mastering significant volumes of highly interconnected data. The multiple hierarchical dimensions of Process, Applications, Organization, Data, and Infrastructure must be captured and linked. Efficient reporting of this varied information requires pulling together data that reside up, down, and across the multi-level data hierarchies in all of these functional areas.

Challenge 2: Dealing with Change

Your organization is in a state of constant change, with shifting processes, people, and applications. Nothing stands still. Yet the value of your architecture data depends on it being continuously maintained and updated. This requires continual, comprehensive access to your data entities and the links between them at any point in time.

Challenge 3: Knowing the Question

Because of the breadth, depth and interconnectedness of your architecture data, the range of potential questions is countless. Does the CIO want to know all applications impacted by a component change? Or the infrastructure impacts of a new process? No current system with static hierarchies and canned reports can anticipate these queries. More importantly, they can’t quickly provide the answers.

Challenge 4: Seeing the Answer

Complex questions often require complex answers. Understanding the impact of a significant change to a complex system requires more than a pie chart. CogniViz’s advanced visualization approaches quickly and accurately convey this information in a way that isn’t possible with traditional reporting formats that are in use today.

How CogniViz Bridges the Gap

Combining powerful integration tools with a state-of-the-art visualization engine, CogniViz sits on top of your existing architecture solutions to bridge the current reporting gap. By rendering real-time visibility into the complex universe of Enterprise Architecture data, CogniViz maximizes the return on existing investments, delivering on Enterprise Architecture’s promises of strategic agility and competitive advantage. When you deploy CogniViz, you:

- Make EA information more visual
- Take control of multi-hierarchical, dynamically changing data elements at their lowest levels through advanced intake and storage methods
- Realize the power of a patent-pending querying, reporting and visualization techniques that create an end-to-end EA strategic analytics solution

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CogniViz and How It Works

Though it's easy to use and operates much like a traditional data warehouse, CogniViz not only collects and centralizes numerical data from source systems, it also centralizes non-numerical information objects and the links among them. In essence, CogniViz constructs a "Knowledge Warehouse," and enables powerful visual access to it through four key capabilities:

Technical Architecture

CogniViz is a 100% Java application that is developed and deployed on the widely supported Eclipse platform. Taking advantage of industry leading open source technologies, CogniViz can be implemented on all standard relational databases and operating systems.

1 – Data Intake

CogniViz imports data from existing EA repositories, CMDBs and documents at regular intervals. Current tools aren't replaced or changed, but act as ongoing data sources for the CogniViz data store. The intake process can also serve to identify data consistency and formatting problems that must be corrected.

2 – Data Storage

CogniViz keeps a central, analytical repository of the imported data that gets augmented with each new import. This lets companies reproduce data and relationships as they existed at previous points in time, providing an audit trail for all changes that occur to the architecture.

3 – Query Authoring

Using CogniViz's patent-pending Tree & Tunnel Query™ (TTQ) interface, analysts and managers can quickly formulate complex questions to be answered from the CogniViz data store. TTQ is designed to query up, down, and across multiple linked hierarchies of information, a task that is difficult or impossible with current tools.

4 – Information Output

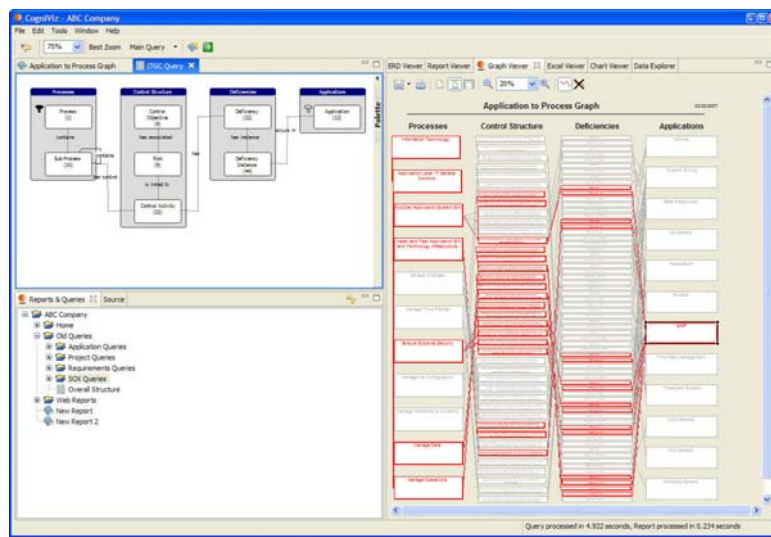
Often the most time consuming task in data analysis is formatting answers for different audiences and purposes. CogniViz employs a flexible framework of templates and style sheets that transform raw data from queries into reports, graphics, web pages, spreadsheets, documents, and presentations.

About Cogniscape

Based just outside Philadelphia, Cogniscape is a strategic analytics innovator that bridges the gap between information and strategic business insight. Through our flagship solution, CogniViz, we work at the intersection of powerful technology

and simple, clear answers that increase corporate agility and, in turn, competitive advantage.

For more information and to see how CogniViz can help you get more return from your investments in Enterprise Architecture, please contact us.



CogniViz bridges the current gap between complex architecture data and powerful querying, reporting and visualization.