

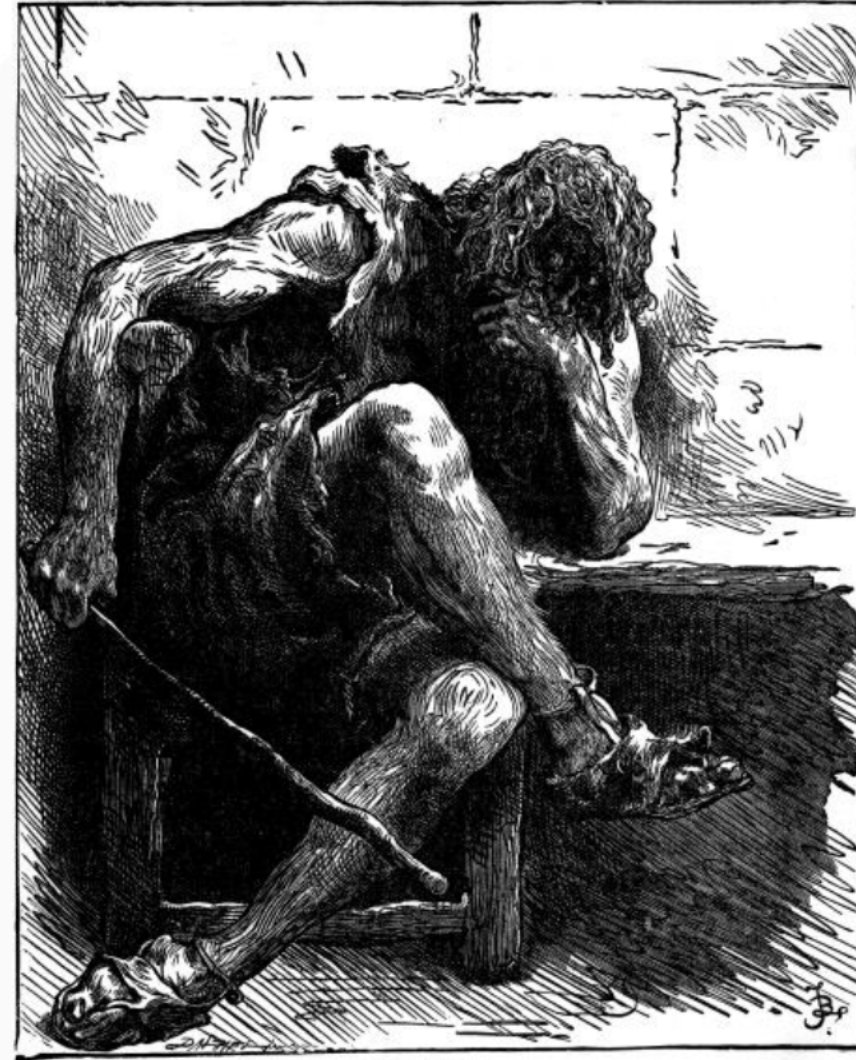
# Canvas Data and Student Retention Analysis: A Match Made In Heaven!

UC San Diego Student Activity Hub  
March, 2023

*Vince Kellen, Ph.D., Chief Information Officer*  
*Amin Qazi, Enterprise Architect*  
*Kevin Chou, J.D., Deputy CIO*

# AGENDA

1. Problems
2. Approach
3. SIS data analysis
4. Canvas LMS visuals
5. Canvas LMS & SIS data visuals
6. Wrap up



GIANT DESPAIR.

"Over this stile is the way to Doubting Castle, which is kept by Giant Despair."

# COMPLEX AND DISTRIBUTED NATURE OF INSTITUTIONS

At UC San Diego, we are not unique. Like other places, we have data that lies in nested technical and organizational silos. The reasons for this tend to fall into two categories:

1. Significant technical differences between different IT systems makes joining different data difficult or impossible
2. Organizational silos prevent bringing data from different units together



# WHAT WE DID: A THREE-PRONGED APPROACH TO THIS PUZZLE

1.

Establish a collaborative evidence-based culture that supports safe data sharing and democratization of insights



2.

Separate data analytic use from data warehouse construction through governance, enabling bringing data together



3.

Implement fast and affordable technology, making large-scale data warehousing possible, leading to insights quickly





# UC SAN DIEGO CAMPUS DATA GOVERNANCE

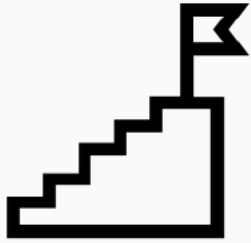
- Governance and collaboration are very location-specific. Institutional context is everything
- There is nothing like data to make the heart beat faster!
- Good governance is foundational for bringing different units and hence data together
- It is difficult to provide “cookie cutters” for governance
- We grew ours over time. It isn’t perfect and we are always seeking improvement
- Key governance duties:
  - Establish data access rules and procedures
  - Help define data
  - Establish use case priorities



## UC San Diego Data Community of Practice Principles

- Be safe and secure
  - Be collegial
- Help improve data quality
- Be open-minded and inquisitive
- Value individual uniqueness
  - Share

# How can we improve student data management collaboratively?



## OUR DESIRE

To advance the state of student data management and student analytics in order to achieve educational goals, as diverse as they may be, while protecting district and school uniqueness, control over data and privacy



## PROBLEMS

Bringing disparate data from different systems and unlocking broad educational and learning analytics is difficult. Managing the governance and politics surrounding data takes hard work and time



## APPROACH

Using next generation analytic technologies, we were able to clear the technical hurdles. We wanted to support diverse analysis use cases: including enrollment, retention, graduation, majors, grades, course outcomes and digital curriculum and LMS data



## FUTURE

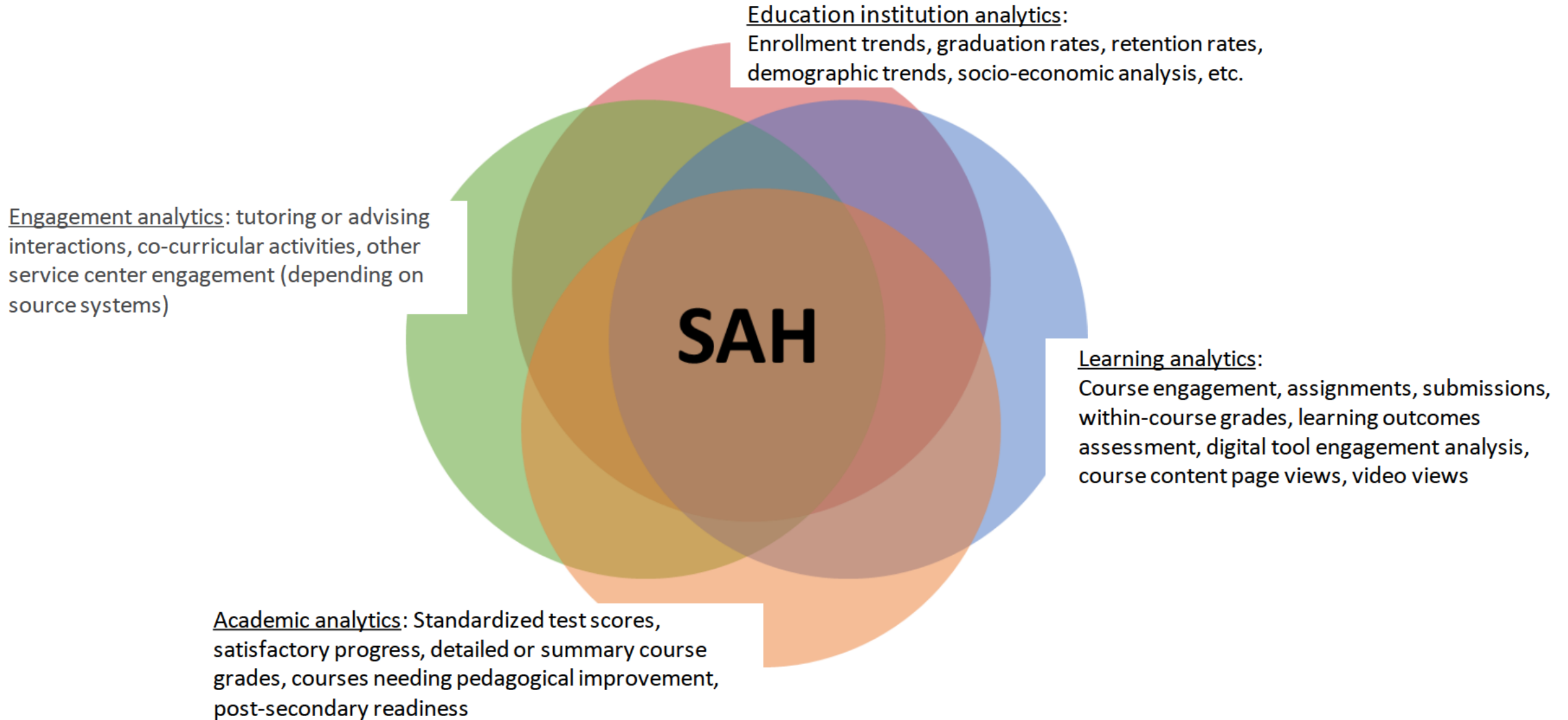
Make it easier to address organization-specific outcomes without excessive lock in with as much control over all aspects of the infrastructure as needed. Our goal is not to make a profit with this initiative, but to help organizations make a difference in their educational mission the way they want to

# SAH IS A NEW RULES ARCHITECTURE

*Today's designers of data analytics systems are using thirty-year-old mental models around scarcity of compute and are thus crippling their designs, not fully realizing how radically different 21st-century analytics has become (New Rules)*

1. Everything is a verb. Events, streams, replayable log, idempotency, eventual consistency
2. Express maximum semantic complexity. All attributes, lowest level of granularity
3. Build provisionally. Highly reusable, overlapping, curated views
4. Design for the speed of thought. Sub-second clicks, real-time ingestion as needed
5. Waste is good. Data explosion. Overlapping curated views. No user joins. Feral de-normalization
6. Democratize the data. Equal access for all. Ease of use. Information sharing is power

# SIS & INSTRUCTURE CANVAS: THE STUDENT ACTIVITY HUB (SAH)



# A SAMPLING OF SAH MEASURES

A sampling of some SAH measures:

1. How student cohorts are categorized (unlimited, but common categories here)
2. Entrance measures
3. Retention flags (which each have measures)
4. Measures for each term
5. Cumulative measures up to the given term
6. Canvas assignment LMS measures

## Term Set - Graduate Cohort

- Abc Graduate Cohort Term
- Abc Graduate Cohort Term Code
- Abc Graduate Cohort Term ID
- Abc Graduate Cohort Term Qtr
- Abc Graduate Cohort Term Year
- # Graduate Cohort Term Year (YYYY)

## Term Set - IPEDS Cohort

- Abc IPEDS Cohort Term
- Abc IPEDS Cohort Term Code
- Abc IPEDS Cohort Term ID
- Abc IPEDS Cohort Term Qtr
- Abc IPEDS Cohort Term Year
- # IPEDS Cohort Term Year (YYYY)

## Term Set - Medical Cohort

- Abc Medical Cohort Term
- Abc Medical Cohort Term Code
- Abc Medical Cohort Term ID
- Abc Medical Cohort Term Qtr
- Abc Medical Cohort Term Year
- # Medical Cohort Term Year (YYYY)

## Term Set - Pharmacy Cohort

- Abc Pharmacy Cohort Term
- Abc Pharmacy Cohort Term Code
- Abc Pharmacy Cohort Term ID
- Abc Pharmacy Cohort Term Qtr
- Abc Pharmacy Cohort Term Year
- # Pharmacy Cohort Term Year (YYYY)

## Retention

- Abc Cohort Category
- Abc Cohort Group

## Student Scores

- # ACT English Score
- # ACT Math Score
- # ACT Reading Score
- # ACT Science Score
- # ACT Writing Score
- # American College Test (ACT)
- # High School GPA - CPCG
- # High School GPA - CPCU
- # High School GPA - CPUN
- # High School GPA - EVAL
- # High School GPA - EVAL/CPCG
- # High School GPA - UCUN
- # High School of Graduation GPA Capped
- # High School of Graduation Grade Point Average
- # On Time To Degree Current Percentile
- # On Time To Degree First Term Percentile
- # On Time To Degree First Term Score
- # SAT Highest
- # SAT Math
- # SAT Reading
- # SAT Writing
- # Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)
- # UG Cumulative Transfer Units Current
- # UG Cumulative Transfer Units First

## Retention Flags

- Abc Graduated Within 1 Year Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 10 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 11 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 12 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 13 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 14 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 15 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 2 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 3 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 4 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 5 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 6 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 7 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 8 Years Flag
- Abc Graduated Within 9 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 1 Year Flag
- Abc Progressed 10 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 11 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 12 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 13 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 14 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 15 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 2 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 3 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 4 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 5 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 6 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 7 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 8 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed 9 Years Flag
- Abc Progressed Term 1 Flag
- Abc Progressed Term 2 Flag
- Abc Progressed Term 3 Flag
- Abc Retained 1 Year Flag
- Abc Retained 10 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 11 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 12 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 13 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 14 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 15 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 2 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 3 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 4 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 5 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 6 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 7 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 8 Years Flag
- Abc Retained 9 Years Flag
- Abc Retained Term 1 Flag
- Abc Retained Term 2 Flag

## Term Based Measures

- # Attempted Units Term
- # Completed Units Term
- # DF Count Term
- # DFW Count Term
- # Enrolled At Census Date Count
- # Enrolled At End of Term Count
- # GPA Term
- # Grade Point Units Term
- # Grade Points Term
- # Graduate Registration Fees Refunded Percent
- # Medical Registration Fees Refunded Percent
- # Passed Units Term
- # Pharmacy Registration Fees Refunded Percent
- # Resident Tuition for Term Count
- # Retake Count Term
- # Sections Attempted Count Term
- # Sections Completed Count Term
- # Sections Passed Count Term
- # Study Abroad for Term Count
- # UG Registration Fees Refunded Percent
- # Term Is Academic Count

## Term Based Student Flag Measures

- # Graduate Primary Major Is Self-Supporting Count
- # Student Dismissal Count
- # Student Provost Honors Term Count
- # Student Suspension Count

## Term Cumulative Measures

- # Attempted Units Term Cumulative
- # Completed Units Term Cumulative
- # GPA Term Cumulative
- # Grade Point Units Term Cumulative
- # Grade Points Term Cumulative
- # Passed Units Term Cumulative
- # Sections Attempted Count Term Cumulative
- # Sections Completed Count Term Cumulative
- # Sections Passed Count Term Cumulative
- Abc UG Cumulative Transfer Units

## LMS Measures

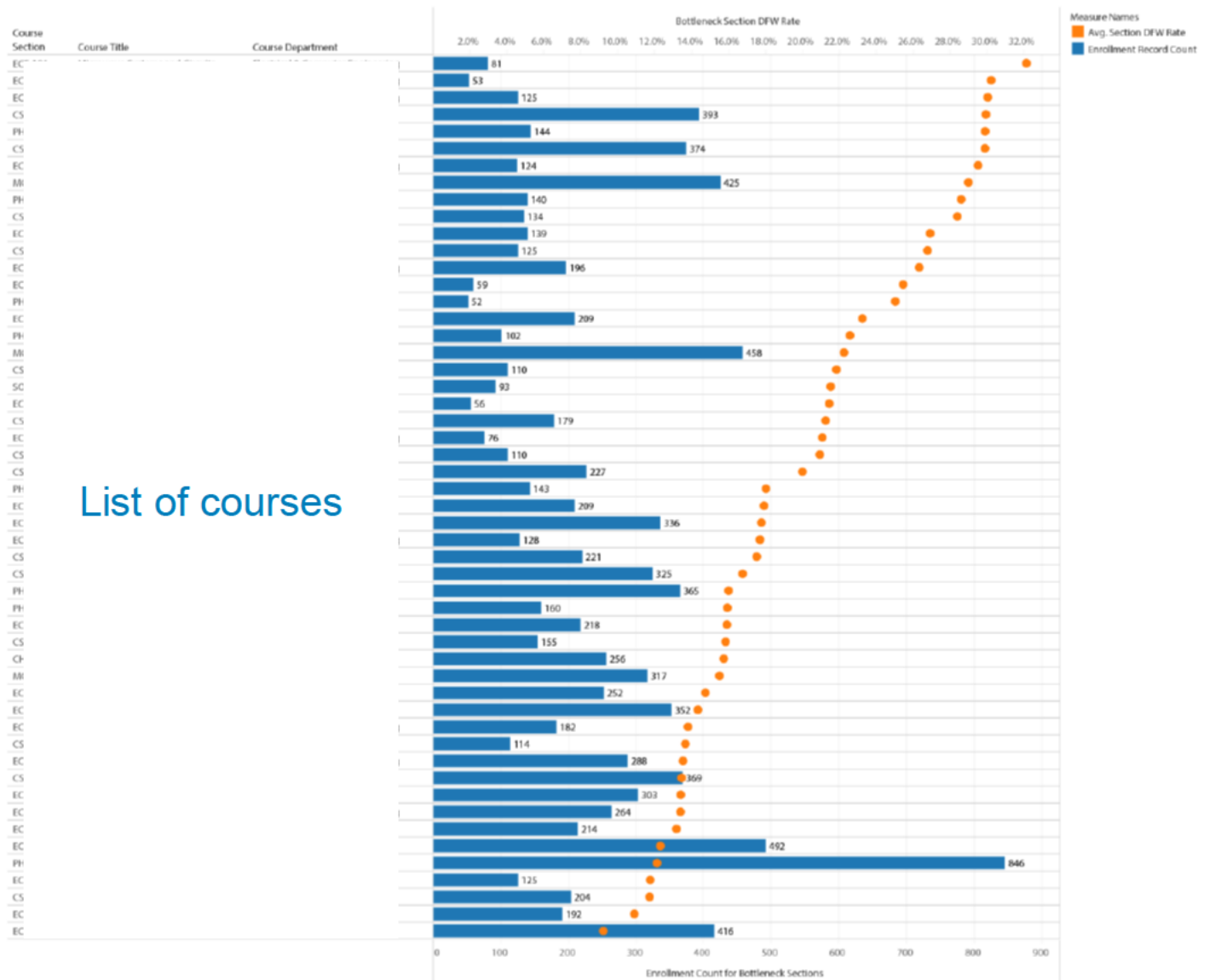
- # Assignments Submitted Count
- # Assignments Submitted Delta Hours
- # Assignments Submitted Late Count
- # Assignments Submitted Late Course Count
- # Assignments Submitted Late Hours
- # Discussion Topics Count
- # Discussion Topics Graded Count
- # Discussion Topics Pending Review Count
- # Discussion Topics Submitted Count
- # Discussion Topics Unsubmitted Count
- # Quizzes Submitted Count
- # Quizzes Submitted Delta Hours
- # Quizzes Submitted Late Count
- # Quizzes Submitted Late Course Count
- # Quizzes Submitted Late Hours
- # Submission Comments Count
- # Submission Count
- # Submissions Course Count
- # Submissions Delta Hours
- # Submissions Graded Count
- # Submissions Graded Score
- # Submissions Late Count
- # Submissions Late Course Count
- # Submissions Late Hours
- # Submissions Pending Review Count
- # Submissions Published Graded Score
- # Submissions Submitted Count
- # Submissions Unsubmitted Count
- # Submissions What If Score



# BOTTLENECK CLASSES EXAMPLE

Courses with high failure rates (orange dots) showing course enrollment (blue bar)

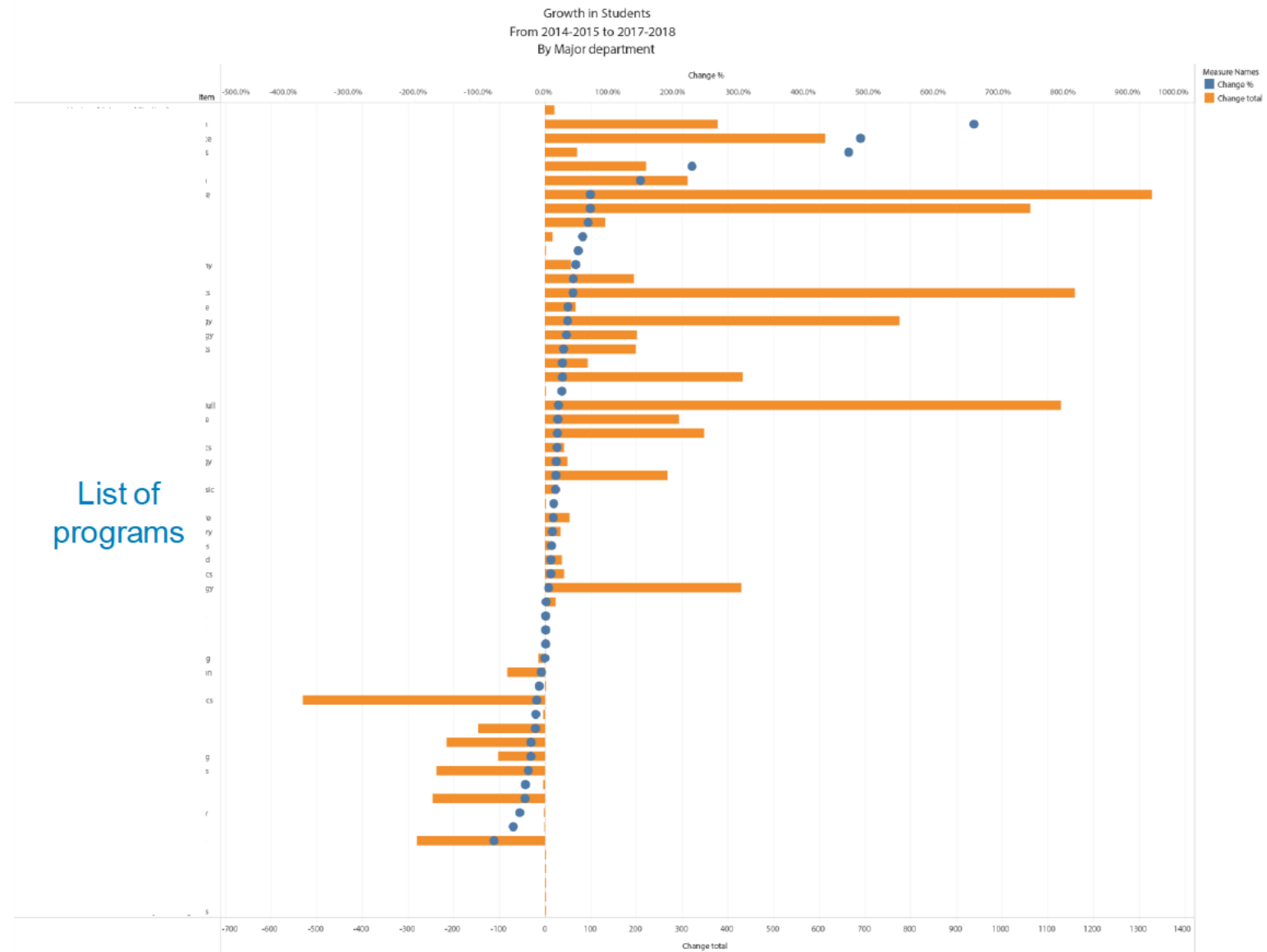
Courses with Bottleneck Sections



List of courses

# ACADEMIC PROGRAM GROWTH EXAMPLE

Program enrollment growth (orange bar) and growth percentage change (blue dot)

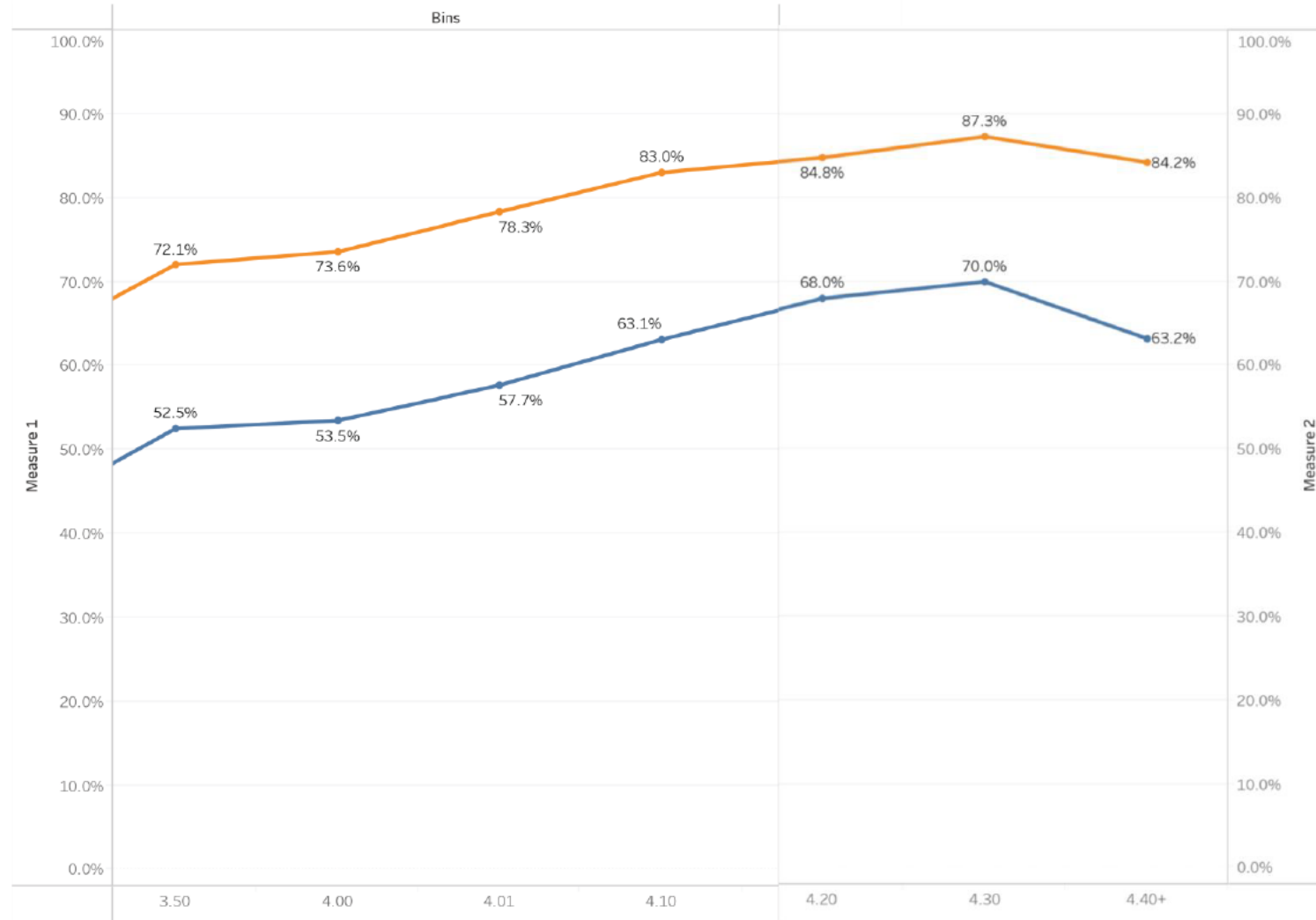


List of programs

# RETENTION AND ENTRANCE SCORES EXAMPLE

5-year (orange line) and 4-year (blue lines) graduation rates (binned)

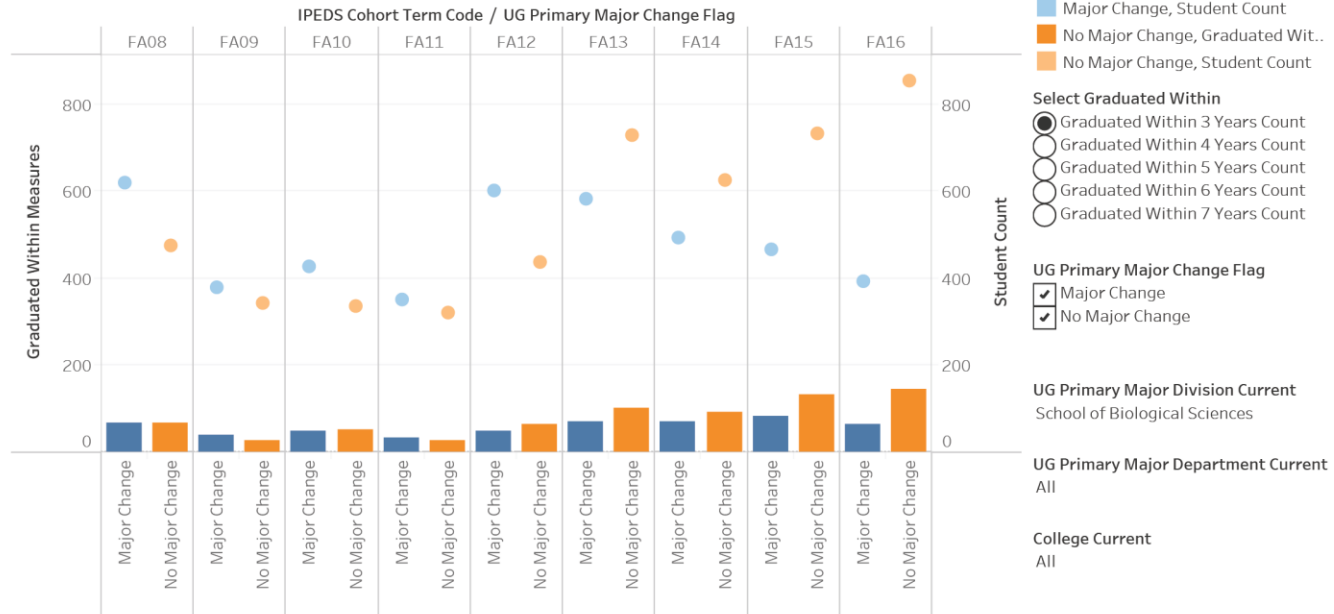
Measure 1: 4 year graduation rate (blue line) and Measure 2: 5 year graduation rate measure (orange line) by HS GPA distribution for Cohort years: 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014



# MAJOR SWITCHING EXAMPLE

IPEDS cohort dashboard comparing students who changed their major versus those who did not across different graduation time frames

Major Changes to Graduation

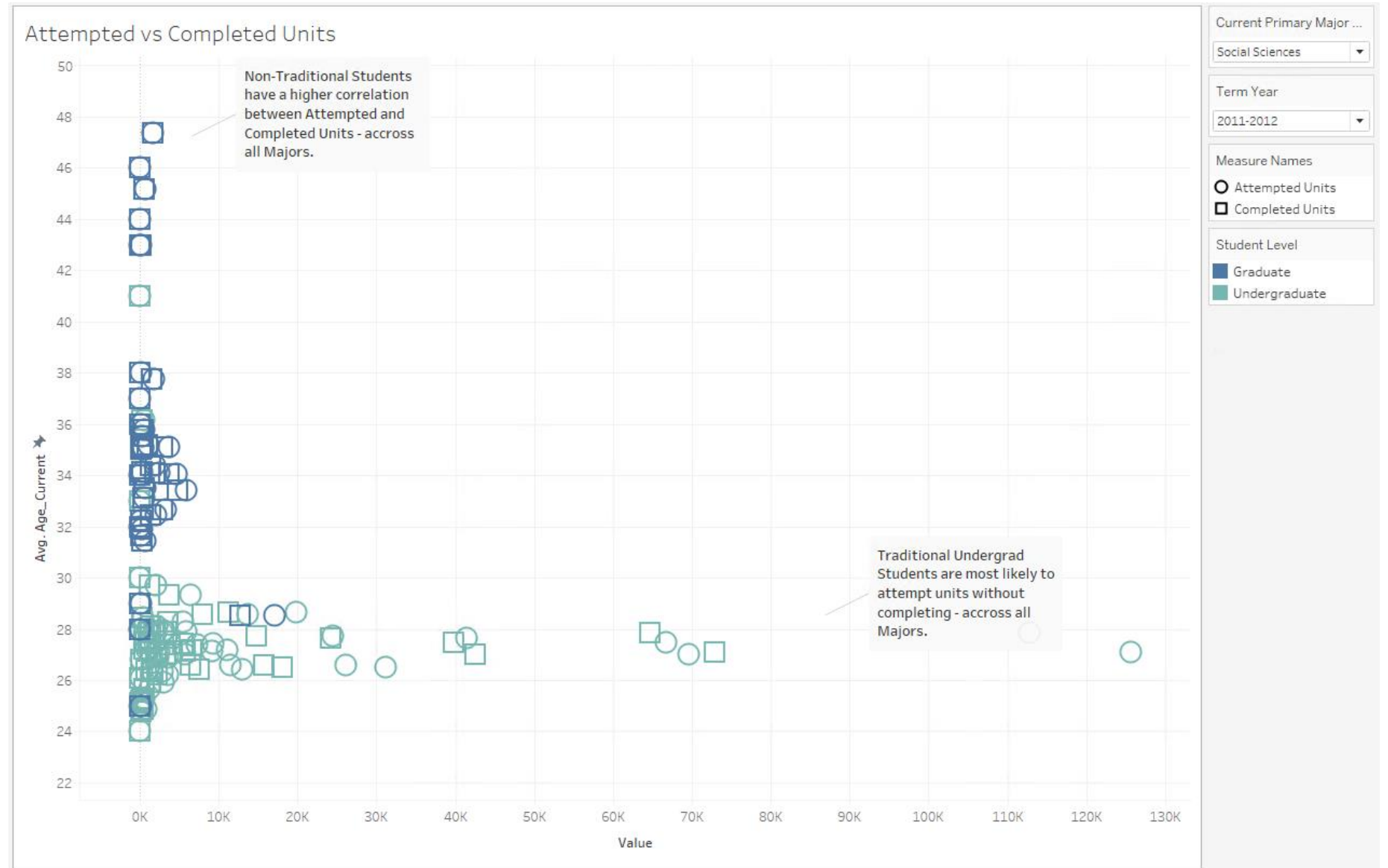


IPEDS Cohort Term Code	UG Primary Major Change Flag	Student Count	Graduated Within 3 Years Count	Graduated Within 4 Years Count	Graduated Within 5 Years Count	Graduated Within 6 Years Count	Graduated Within 7 Years Count
FA08	Major Change	620.0	69.0	378.0	547.0	568.0	575.0
	No Major Change	476.0	69.0	351.0	417.0	427.0	429.0
FA09	Major Change	380.0	40.0	267.0	352.0	359.0	361.0
	No Major Change	344.0	29.0	248.0	309.0	312.0	313.0
FA10	Major Change	428.0	51.0	293.0	396.0	415.0	416.0
	No Major Change	337.0	53.0	260.0	319.0	320.0	321.0
FA11	Major Change	352.0	34.0	219.0	301.0	312.0	319.0
	No Major Change	322.0	27.0	218.0	276.0	280.0	280.0
FA12	Major Change	602.0	51.0	432.0	532.0	546.0	550.0
	No Major Change	498.0	54.0	355.0	488.0	497.0	498.0

- UG Primary Major Change Flag, Meas..
- Major Change, Graduated Within ..
- Major Change, Student Count
- No Major Change, Graduated Wit..
- No Major Change, Student Count
- Select Graduated Within
- Graduated Within 3 Years Count
- Graduated Within 4 Years Count
- Graduated Within 5 Years Count
- Graduated Within 6 Years Count
- Graduated Within 7 Years Count
- UG Primary Major Change Flag
- Major Change
- No Major Change
- UG Primary Major Division Current
- School of Biological Sciences
- UG Primary Major Department Current
- All
- College Current
- All

# ATTEMPTED VERSUS EARNED CREDITS (UNITS) EXAMPLE

Correlation analysis between Attempted Units and Completed Units, by student age, primary major, term year and student level.





# CANVAS LMS EVENTS BY DAY OF TERM EXAMPLE

The 'heart beat' of LMS activity

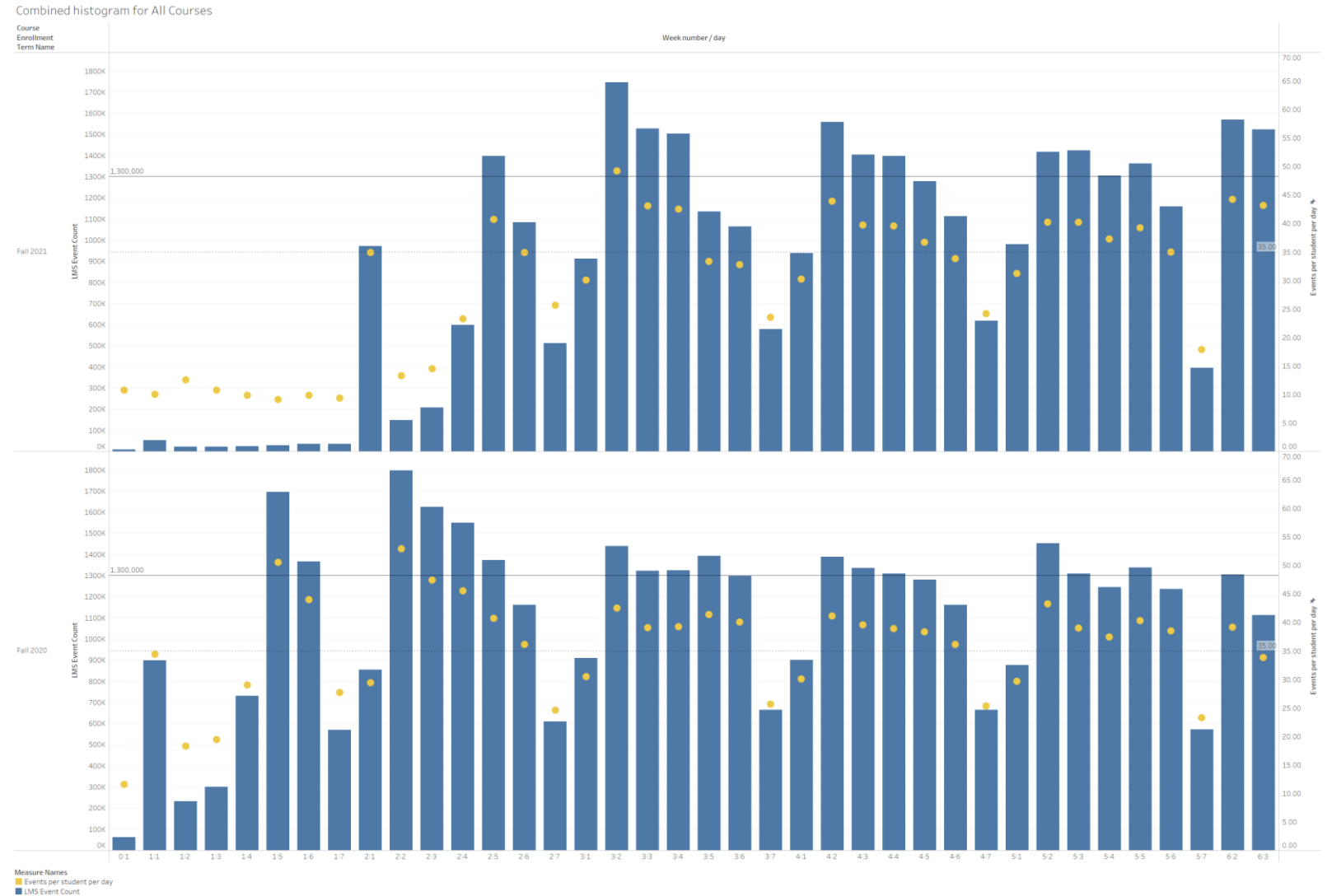
Fall 2020 – all classes remote

Fall of 2021 – back in the class, but with hybrid options

Yellow dot: average Canvas events per day per student

Blue bar, total events overall per day

Canvas and Kaltura activity activity table size: 1.6 billion rows!

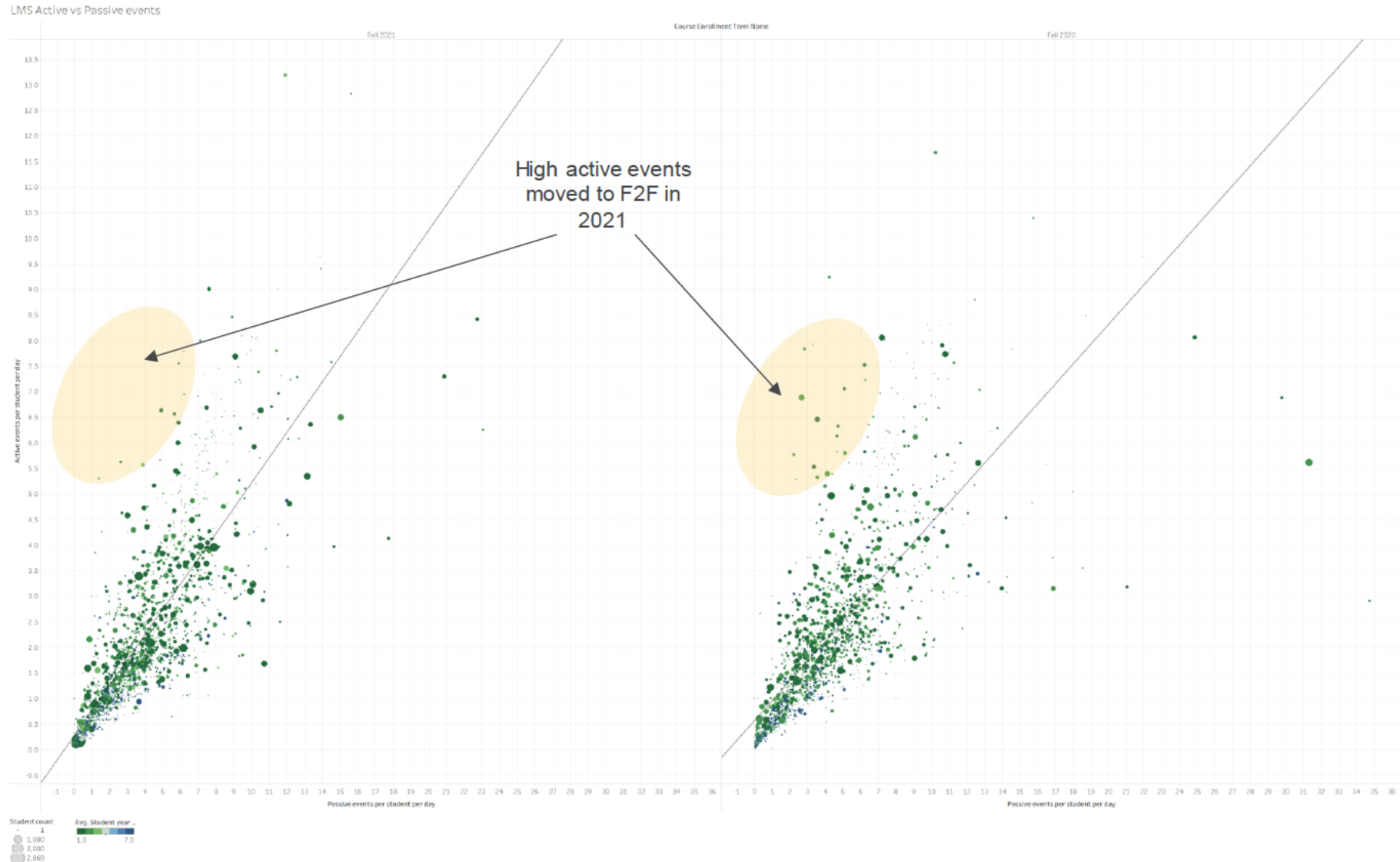


# CANVAS LIVE EVENTS ANALYSIS EXAMPLE

## Canvas events by day Fall 2021 vs Fall 2020

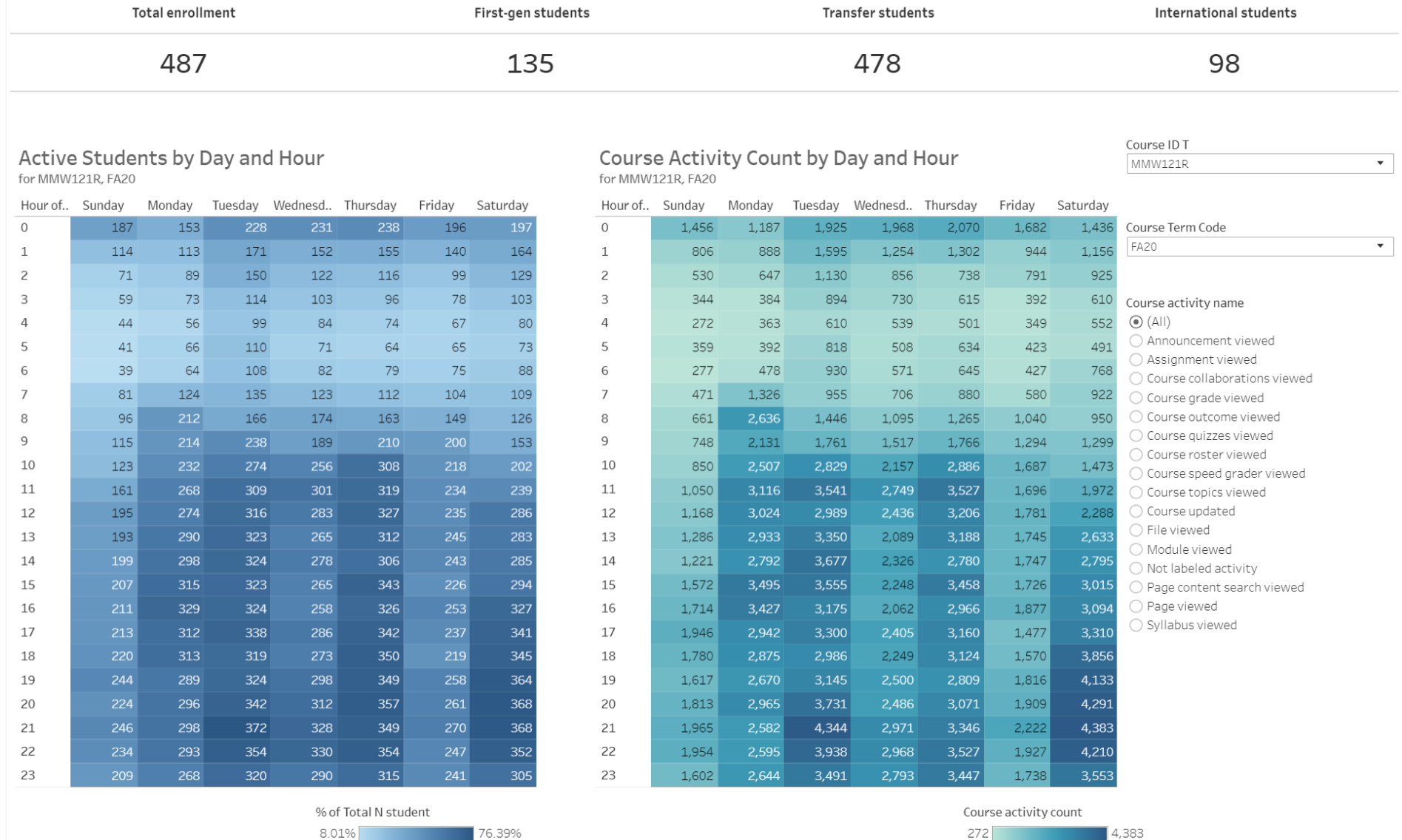
### Active vs Passive events

Active events include things like assignments submitted or done online, discussion posts, searching and tagging pages. Passive events include things like viewing course announcements, syllabi, etc. Course interactivity is slightly more active this term (slope of the line is steeper for Fall 2021), although a small number of courses with high interactivity has dropped (orange oval), which is probably appropriate



# CANVAS LIVE EVENTS BY DAY OF WEEK AND HOUR EXAMPLE

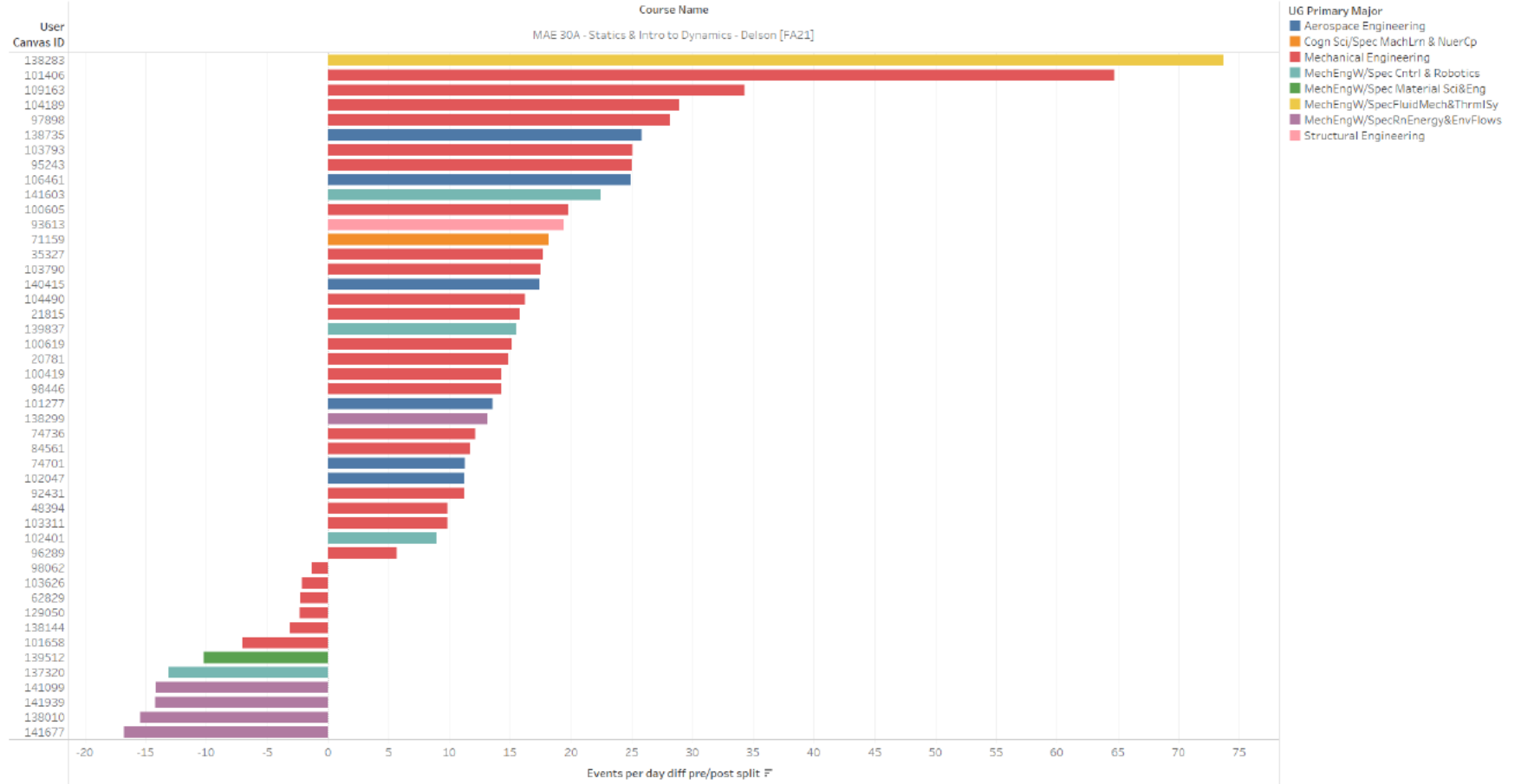
Count of active students and student activity in Canvas LMS by day of the week and hour of the day, for a specific course



# CANVAS LIVE EVENTS AND STUDENT DISENGAGEMENT EXAMPLE

Pre-post split, which students are decreasing versus increasing their interactivity, comparing early in the term to later in the term, showing the undergraduate major (color)

Course events change chart for MAE 30A  
From term day number 0 to 36, split on day number 25

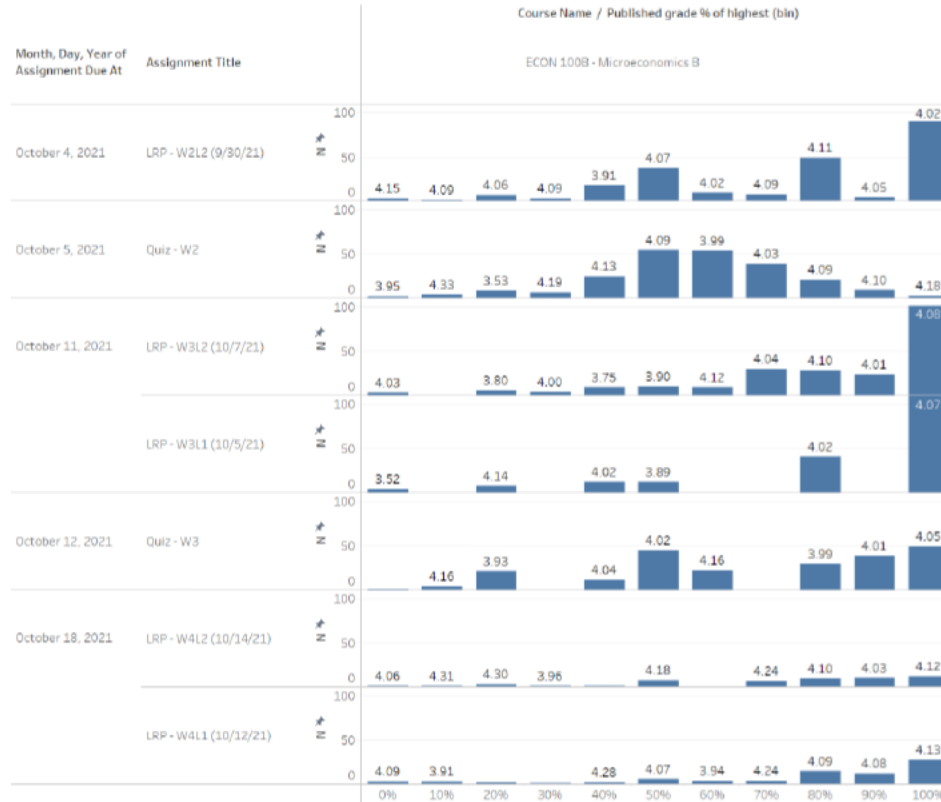


# CANVAS ASSIGNMENT AND SIS DATA EXAMPLE

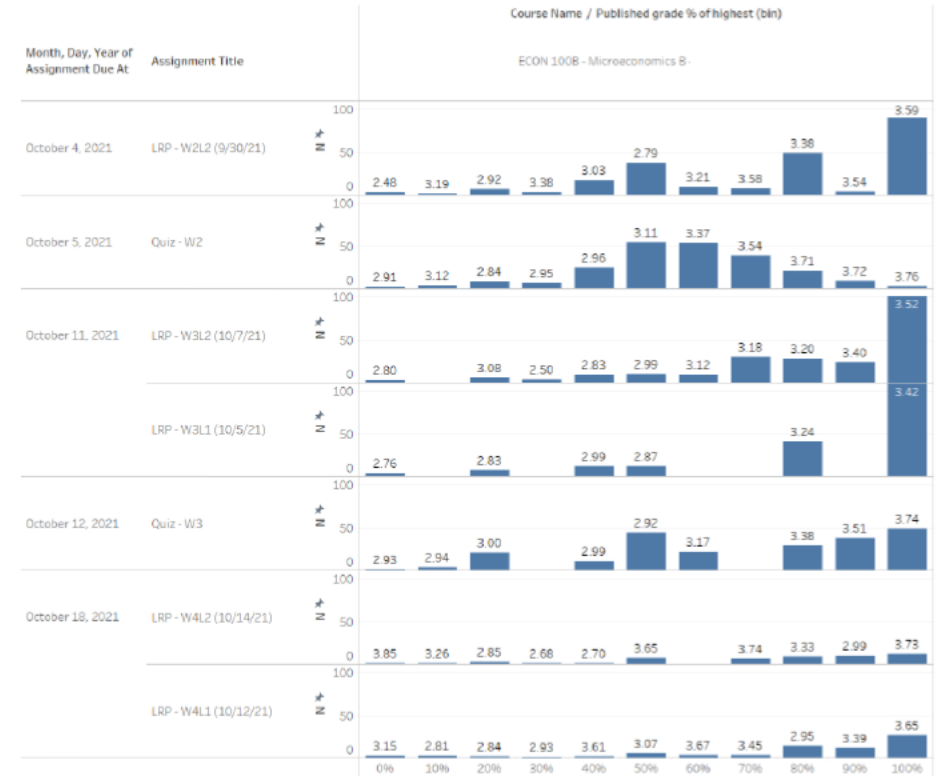
Assignments in canvas grades annotated with student HS GPA (left) and current university GPA (right)

Joining of SIS data and Canvas data

Grade distribution (% of highest) with HS GPA



Grade distribution (% of highest) with current GPA





# CANVAS DATA AND RETENTION METRICS EXAMPLE

Students higher number of Canvas late assignment submissions and retention, progression and GPA metrics

(Sample data)

## Submission & Progression Summary

	Excessive late Canvas submissions		Grand Total
	Yes	No	
Student Count	212	4,487	4,699
Progressed terms per student	6.39	8.59	8.78
Passed units (credits) per student	4.4	15.1	9.8
1 year retention %	87.3%	86.4%	86.5%
2 term retention %	93.4%	97.2%	97.1%
Avg. GPA Current Cumulative	3.61	3.70	3.70

# SUMMARY

- Over the past seven years, we worked hard to design the Student Activity Hub to seamlessly integrate data from our student information system (SIS) with Canvas data and Canvas Live events
- The SAP HANA platform makes short work of very large table sizes, billions of rows of Caliper Events. For us this includes Canvas, Kaltura, OpenEdX and our advising system (VAC). It speeds up analysis by our users and it also dramatically speeds up our own development
- With our platform, we have found that the linkages between a SIS and Canvas are fairly straightforward. The inclusion of Canvas data (nightly data and real-time Live Events) is also simple. We can handle data from a variety of systems and we can handle different integration demands
- The new rules architecture unlocks the potential in the data. It's easy for analysts, who do not have to fashion core metrics. The user never has to join data. All this is handled in the SAH views
- Canvas and SIS data is a match made in heaven!

# Questions?



Fedot Sychkov. *Collective Farm Market*. 1936

<https://www.facebook.com/moscowart/photos/a.471911309576816.1073742330.276754345759181/654936557940956/>

# FOLLOW-UP

## People you can contact

- Kevin Chou, Deputy CIO ([kcchou@ucsd.edu](mailto:kcchou@ucsd.edu))
- Greg Stinsa, Collaborations Manager ([gstinsa@ucsd.edu](mailto:gstinsa@ucsd.edu))
- Joe Salwach, Collaborations Support ([jsalwach@ucsd.edu](mailto:jsalwach@ucsd.edu))
- Vince Kellen, CIO, UC San Diego ([vkellen@ucsd.edu](mailto:vkellen@ucsd.edu))

## Partners

- Moran Technology Consulting (<https://www.morantechnology.com>)
- Tata Consultancy Services (<https://www.tcs.com>)
- Slower Inc. (<https://slower.ai>)

## Web site

<https://studentactivityhub.com>

## Upcoming webinars

- <https://csc.ucsd.edu/webinars/index.html>

# Additional slides



# RECENT CANVAS EVENT COUNTS

## Canvas Events

LMS Event Category L1	LMS Event Category L2	LMS Event Name			
<b>Announcements</b>	Announcements	Announcement viewed	1,868,112		
<b>Assessments</b>	Assessment	Assessment grade created	3,184,147		
		Assessment quiz viewed	8,774,536		
		Assessment submitted	1,355,748		
<b>Assignments</b>	Assignments	Assignment created	15,960		
		Assignment edited	88,887		
		Assignment grade override created	7,398		
		Assignment grade override edited	15,299		
		Assignment submitted	1,264,657		
		Assignment viewed	22,511,415		
<b>Collaborations</b>	Collaborations	Collaboration viewed	9,151		
<b>Document</b>	Document	Document viewed	24,866,699		
<b>Enrollment</b>	Course enrollment	Course enrollment created	435,465		
		Course enrollment state created	12		
		Course enrollment updated	70,315		
		Course enrollment viewed	80,937		
<b>Forums</b>	Forum thread	Forum thread created	30,445		
		Forum thread viewed	10,385,738		
<b>Groups</b>	Groups	Group announcements viewed	23,165		
		Group calendar feed viewed	4,695,702		
		Group category created	980		
		Group collaborations viewed	129		
		Group created	9,569		
		Group files viewed	26,300		
		Group membership created	34,051		
		Group pages viewed	21,883		
		Group roster viewed	36,961		
		Group topics viewed	83,708		
		Media	Files	File viewed	1,296,918
<b>Messages</b>	Messages	Message sent	298,127		
<b>Module</b>	Module	Module viewed	9,246,870		
<b>Other Event</b>	Attachment	Attachment created	884,126		
		Attachment deleted	13,355		
		Attachment modified	5,922		
		External tool	External tool accessed	7,022,495	
	LTI tool	LTI tool accessed	61,424		
	Submission	Submission modified	4,948,590		
<b>Pages</b>	Section/course page	Calendar event viewed	9,042		
		Calendar feed viewed	31,549,730		
		Course collaborations viewed	196		
		Course grade viewed	3,330,962		
		Course outcome viewed	480		
		Course quizzes viewed	737,358		
		Course roster viewed	628,312		
		Course speed grader viewed	246,285		
		Course topics viewed	1,619,229		
		Page content search viewed	37,151,629		
		Page tagged	807,741		
		Page viewed	65,347		
			Wiki page	Wiki page created	5,044
				Wiki page deleted	1,818
				Wiki page updated	29,045
			Wikipage	Wiki page viewed	8,331,977
		<b>Session</b>	Session	User log in	3,109,893
User log off	56,329				
<b>Syllabi</b>	Syllabi	Syllabus viewed	1,035,280		
<b>System</b>	Course	Course updated	5,542		
		User	User account association created	284,584	
		User calendar feed viewed	6,849,972		
		User files viewed	23,558		
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>199,554,549</b>		

# SAP HANA and Activity Hubs

## UC San Diego Activity Hubs

For trained decision makers and analysts across campus

Designed for "blended" analysis and data curation

Works in tandem with app-specific reports

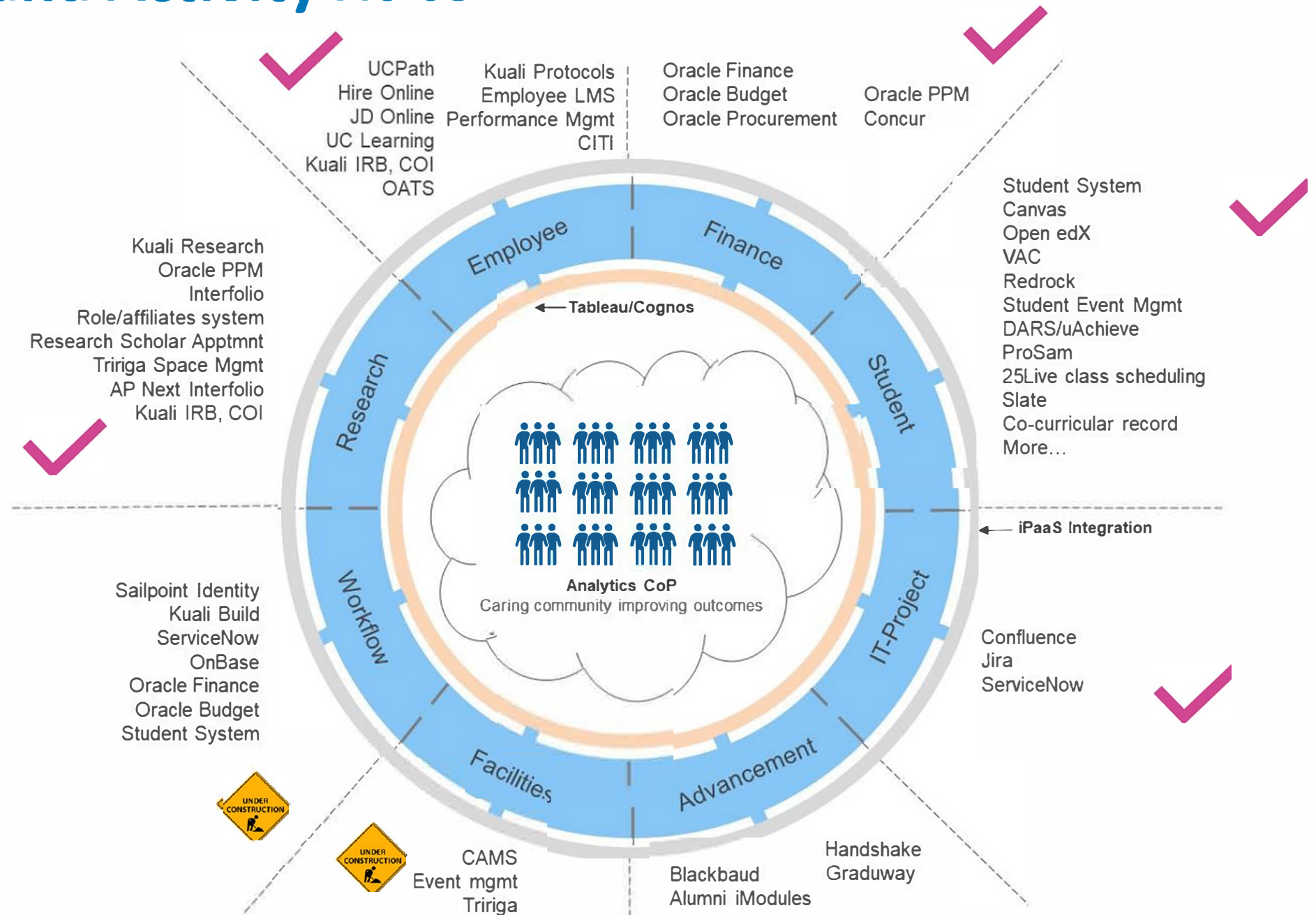
Community-driven environment

Secure. Private. Safe.

Includes data from all major systems

Local systems access via secure integration (iPaaS)

Integrated with mobile and advanced analytic & ML technologies



# Platform predictive capabilities

## Classification Analysis

- CART
- C4.5 Decision Tree Analysis
- CHAID Decision Tree Analysis
- K Nearest Neighbour
- Logistic Regression Elastic Net
- Back-Propagation (Neural Network)
- Naïve Bayes
- Support Vector Machine
- Random Forests
- Gradient Boosting Decision Tree
- Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA)
- Confusion Matrix
- Area Under Curve (AUC)
- Parameter Selection/Model Evaluation

## Regression

- Multiple Linear Regression Elastic Net
- Polynomial, Exponential, Bi-Variate Geometric, Bi-Variate Logarithmic Regression
- Generalized Linear Model
- Cox Proportional Hazards Model

## Cluster Analysis

- ABC Classification
- DBSCAN
- K-Means/Accelerated K-Means
- K-Medoid Clustering
- K-Medians
- Kohonen Self-Organized Maps
- Agglomerate Hierarchical
- Affinity Propagation
- Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)
- Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM)
- Cluster Assignment

## Time Series Analysis

- Single/Double/Brown/Triple Exponential Smoothing
- Forecast Smoothing
- Auto – ARIMA/ Seasonal ARIMA
- Croston Method
- Forecast Accuracy Measure
- Linear Regression with Damped Trend and Seasonal Adjustment
- Test for White Noise, Trend, Seasonality
- Fast Fourier Transform (FFT)
- Correlation Function

## Association Analysis

- Apriori
- Apriori Lite
- FP-Growth
- KORD – Top K Rule Discovery
- Sequential Pattern Mining

## Probability Distribution

- Distribution Fit/Weibull analysis
- Cumulative Distribution Function
- Quantile Function
- Kaplan-Meier Survival Analysis

## Outlier Detection

- Inter-Quartile Range Test (Tukey's)
- Variance Test
- Anomaly Detection
- Grubbs Outlier Test

## Recommender

- Factorized Polynomial Regression Models

## Link Prediction

- Common Neighbors
- Jaccard's Coefficient
- Adamic/Adar
- Katzβ

## Statistical Functions

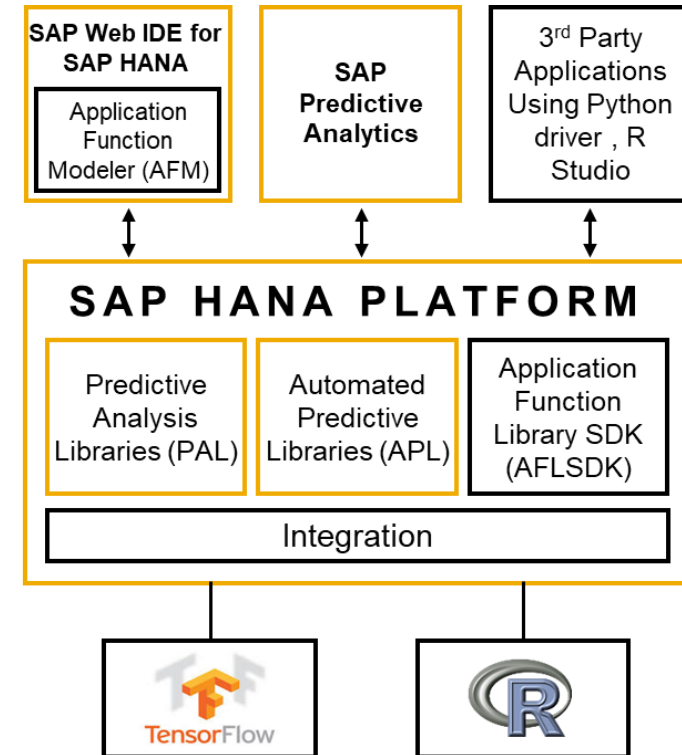
- Mean, Median, Variance, Standard Deviation, Kurtosis, Skewness
- Covariance Matrix
- Pearson Correlations Matrix
- Chi-squared Tests:
  - Test of Quality of Fit
  - Test of Independence
- F-test (variance equal test)
- Data Summary
- ANOVA
- One-sample Median Test
- T Test
- Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test

## Data Preparation

- Sampling
- Binning
- Scaling
- Partitioning
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)/ PCA Projection

## Other

- Weighted Scores Table
- Substitute Missing Values



- 90+ prepackaged machine learning/predictive algorithms
- Supports association, clustering, classification, regression, time series, ...
- Supports different types of data – structured, streaming and series data
- Real-time scoring for several algorithms
- Integrated with open source machine learning libraries – TensorFlow and R
- Integration with other tools via data virtualization or other access, e.g., Google Big Query, Google TPUs, AWS Trainium, etc.

UC San Diego