MANTA | CASE STUDY

INDUSTRY
Investment/Finance

CASE
Effective migration to the cloud
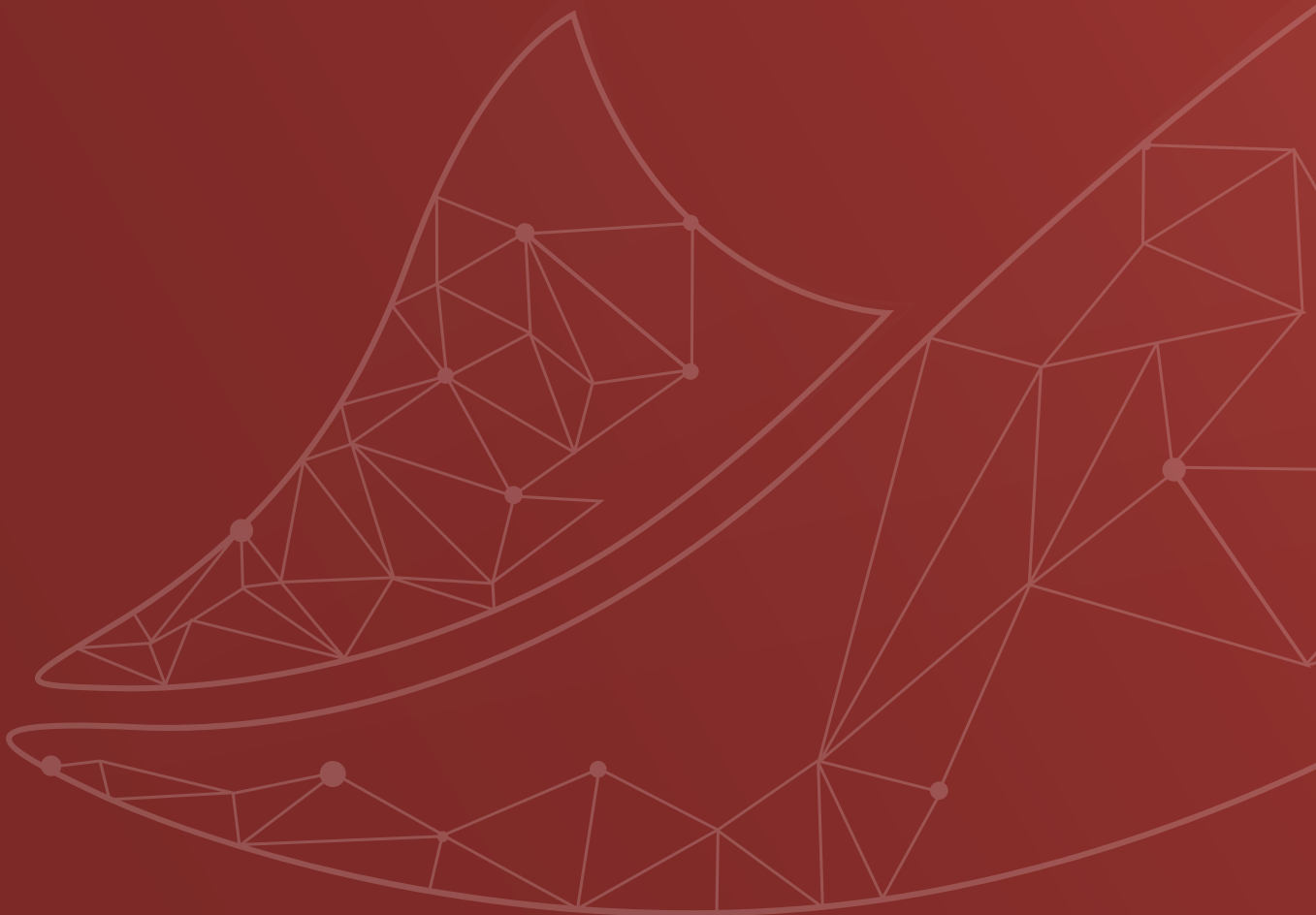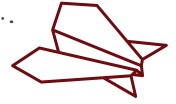
MANTA

CUSTOMER	International Investment Company
INDUSTRY	Investment/Finance
CASE	Effective migration to the cloud

PROBLEM

The customer, an international investment company, stored all their data in a large on-site data warehouse for many years. To cut down on hardware expenses and adopt an effective overall approach to data warehousing and analytics, the company decided to migrate their environment to the cloud. Because migration to the cloud is a complex process, it is usually expensive. The customer would not only have to pay for the cloud hardware but also for the consultants who would implement the migration. Therefore, to migrate their DWH in the most effective way possible, they decided to only migrate certain parts of the data. The reports and tables that already had a history and were somewhat stable, meaning that it was unlikely that they would change or expand in volume, could be safely kept on-site. The customer also wanted to complete the migration within the next 8–14 months.

SOLUTION

Given the tight schedule and the complexity of the customer's data environment, it would have been impossible to manually track all the dependencies between the reports and tables to complete the migration in time. Automation was the only option. Therefore, the customer decided to use MANTA to automate the process of gathering data lineage and tracking dependencies from reports to tables in the data warehouse and even further, all the way back to the source systems.

RESULT

MANTA now helps the customer automatically visualize the relations and detailed dependencies between different parts of their data environment. This allows the customer to get immediate answers to questions such as "What else is there left to migrate?" and "Have I migrated all the crucial parts of my data warehouse?". When the customer wants to migrate a certain report, MANTA shows them exactly which tables they will need to be able to run the report successfully. The customer can then migrate only the necessary tables, which helps them optimize the BI environment and save money.

SIDE STORY: TO MIGRATE OR NOT TO MIGRATE?

While the customer was dealing with their data migration project, something unexpected came up. When MANTA helped the customer see the relations and detailed dependencies between all the reports, the customer came to realize that multiple reports in the environment were sharing tables with each other. But the reports were of different levels of importance.

The customer could migrate all the reports and tables involved, but that would inconveniently inflate the amount of data being migrated. Alternatively, the customer could skip these reports and tables and not include them in the migration, but then they would not be able to use the reports in the newly established cloud environment. The customer could duplicate all of the data, but what if something changed? Having the same data in multiple places always requires effective synchronization to make sure the data is identical and up-to-date everywhere, which is usually a really complex problem.

MANTA's ability to show all the dependencies within the environment prior to migration helped the customer approach the problem proactively as a complex matter. This saved the customer a lot of time and allowed them to avoid future complications. Otherwise, the customer may have found these relations much later, such as after the migration when one of the reports stopped working properly. Then they would have needed to go through thousands of tables manually to see where the problem was. MANTA enabled the customer to be prepared and gave them the opportunity to make the necessary decisions ahead of time, before any problems occurred.