

Big Plateaus of Big Data on the Big Island

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ABSTRACT

In ancient texts, 40 was a magic number. It meant a “lot” or “a long time.” 40 years represented the time it took for a new generation to arise. A look back at 40 years of VLDB suggests that this applies to database researchers as well – the young researchers of the early VLDBs are now the old folks of the database world, and a new generation is creating afresh. Over this period many plateaus of “Big Data” have challenged the database community and been conquered. But there is still no free lunch – database research is really the science of trade-offs, many of which are no different today than 40 years ago. And of course the evolution of hardware technology continues to swing the trade-off pendulum while enabling new plateaus to be reached. Todd will take a look back at customer big data plateaus of the past. He will look at where we are today, then use his crystal ball and the lessons of the past to extrapolate the next several plateaus – how they will be the same and how will they be different. Along the way we will have a little fun with some VLDB and Teradata history.

and functionality. He holds more than a dozen Teradata patents and is a Teradata Fellow, the highest technical award granted by the company. Todd served for more than ten years as Chief Technical Officer of Teradata Labs, responsible for vision, strategy and technical leadership of the Teradata product line before taking on his current strategic consulting role.

Speaker Biography

Todd Walter is the Chief Technologist for Teradata across the Americas region. With substantive expertise in big data, database engineering and systems architecture, he works closely with Teradata customers, colleagues, and alliance partners to evaluate and prioritize initiatives – and implement data strategy and analytics. As a pragmatic visionary, Walter helps customer business analysts as well as technologists better understand all of the astonishing possibilities of big data and analytics in view of emerging as well as existing capabilities of information infrastructures. Todd works with organizations of all sizes and levels of experience, from start-ups to Fortune 100 companies at the leading edge of adopting big data, data warehouse and analytics technologies.

Walter has been with Teradata for nearly 28 years, contributing significantly to Teradata’s unique design features

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