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Five Reasons Spreadsheet Users Will Love Cloud Analytics

Explore [five ways Alteryx Designer Cloud](#) will help you accelerate towards insights and take back your time.

Five Reasons Spreadsheet Users Will Love Cloud Analytics.

Have you ever worked with data and thought, “There’s got to be a better way than these complicated tools or learning how to code, right?” Yes, there is! Finding insights from data doesn’t have to involve painful hours of getting your data sets to play nicely together or that anxious feeling that maybe your data isn’t as accurate as you thought it was.

Explore five ways Alteryx Designer Cloud will help you accelerate towards insights and take back your time.

FIVE REASONS SPREADSHEET USERS WILL LOVE CLOUD ANALYTICS

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#1 Inputting Data From Multiple Sources

400 sources =
Average number
of data sources
orgs pull from¹

¹"How is growth affecting real-world enterprises?
4 key findings," datanami

Inputting Data From Multiple Sources

When it comes to data, the new norm is collecting as much data from as many sources as possible. Sound extremes but these zettabytes of data are important. If companies only look at one source of data, they'll miss out on seeing the whole picture.

COMMON ISSUES:

- Data from disparate sources can involve **incompatible file types and structures**
- It's difficult to take advantage of all data because it's **complex, labor-intensive, and time-consuming** to make files conform to a spreadsheet
- Employees may require **specialized skills like coding and specific tools**

ALTERYX DESIGNER CLOUD

With the Input Data Tool, drag and drop data sources into a canvas without worrying about the size, structure, or type of data. Alteryx integrates with multiple data sources, so you can quickly transform your data sets into a common structure.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

Manually exporting 3,000 Excel
databases in 3 minutes

[> READ THE ROQUETTE STORY](#)



#2 Data Profiling

Bad data costs the
US \$3 trillion/year²

²"Bad Data Costs the U.S. \$3 Trillion Per Year,"
Thomas C. Redman, HBR

Data Profiling

Data profiling helps discover, understand, and organize data by identifying its characteristics and assessing its quality. The process can reveal if data is complete or unique, catch errors and unusual patterns, and determine usability allowing companies to make more accurate analyses.

COMMON ISSUES:

- Trying to understand each field in every data set manually **can take a huge amount of time and significant effort**
- Sometimes only a subset of attributes and rows will get tested which means a **decrease in accuracy**
- Data profiling **may require specialized skills like Structured Query Language (SQL)**

ALTERYX DESIGNER CLOUD

The Basic Data Profile Tool automatically analyzes and provides metadata for each field, so you easily do structural, content, and relationship profiling. And with the Browse Tool, use charts and tables to visually explore top values, key statistics, and the overall “shape” of a data set to better understand your data as you move it through your analytic process.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

[Get a 360-degree view of your data](#)

[> EXPLORE HOLISTIC DATA PROFILING](#)



#3 Cleaning Data

**“80% of the work in
any data project is in
cleaning the data.”**

— DJ Patil, Former US Chief Data Scientist

Cleaning Data

If your data is full of errors, can you really trust your analysis? Data cleaning — removing duplicates, outliers, and irrelevancies and handling missing data and structural errors — is critical because wrong data leads to wrong decisions.

COMMON ISSUES:

- In spreadsheets, cleaning is manual, mundane, and so time-consuming that **analysts barely have enough time or energy left for analyses**
- Cutting, pasting, removing white space, changing data types, and other manual processes can lead to **miscalculations, mental errors, and duplicate records**
- **Maintaining data integrity** throughout the process is a challenge

ALTERYX DESIGNER CLOUD

Create new columns, remove rows, and change data types with a single step that applies across your data set. Or let Alteryx automatically interpret your data, assigning types and sizes appropriate for the content, so you save time cleaning data. At any point, validate the changes you made with visual insights into the health, quality, and statistical distribution of your data.

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2000+ hours saved in manual effort

[> READ THE SALVATION ARMY STORY](#)



#4 Joining Data Sets

33%

of the time data workers are
unsuccessful in data prep³

³"Data and Analytics in a Digital-First World," IDC InfoBrief
sponsored by Alteryx

Joining Data Sets

By bringing together data sets from disparate sources you'll start to see relationships you might have missed before.

COMMON ISSUES:

- Using VLOOKUPs, scripting, and multiple spreadsheets for constructing data sets can be **clunky and time-consuming**
- Once you start layering in multiple fields and sheets you **might accidentally damage your data set**
- Utilizing manual processes or relying on data scientists to build analytical data sets **isn't scalable as ad-hoc requests increase**

ALTERYX DESIGNER CLOUD

Bring data together any way you like without worrying about format. Easily join data of any type at the row level or based on multiple fields. Use fuzzy matching to handle non-exact matching customer names or addresses or add in spatial context without specialized tools.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

From weeks to just hours for prep,
blend, and analysis

[> READ THE CHICK-FIL-A STORY](#)



#5 Analytics Automation

27%

of data workers' time is spent
repeating tasks in spreadsheets³

³"Data and Analytics in a Digital-First World," IDC InfoBrief
sponsored by Alteryx

Analytics Automation

Once you've built your data set it's time to start crunching numbers and applying formulas to get insights.

COMMON ISSUES:

- As you manually apply IF statements and formulas **it's easy to forget details** like if you applied the formula everywhere it was needed or if you hid cells
- Your spreadsheet **might run slow** when you add in formulas since the default setting is to recalculate all formulas when you enter them
- Even if you need to perform the same analysis at regular intervals or with small edits for what-if analysis, spreadsheets have **very little reusability**

ALTERYX DESIGNER CLOUD

In a single action, add a field to an input table and create or update data fields based on an expression or data relationship. Alteryx workflows help you keep track of what, when, and where anything was altered. If something changes or new records are added, your logic will automatically apply. Once a workflow has been built, analysts can rerun it without repeating the entire process.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

37x process improvement

[> READ THE GYMSHARK STORY](#)

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in action

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