

element61 Microsoft Analytics & AI Day 2025



Business oriented Technical oriented

Date: April 24th, 2025 | Venue: Kinepolis Brussels | Time: 09:30 - 17:30



















Timing	Session			
9:30 - 10:00	Coffee & Networking			
	Theater 23			
10:00 - 10:25	Kickstarting the day & Introducing element61 Steven Decerf - Partner Customer Relations & Business Development - element61			
10:30-11:10	Microsoft Fabric track Theater 23	Finance & Business track Theater 18	Data Science & AI track Theater 17	Databricks track Theater 24
	Unveiling Microsoft Fabric: A Year in Review	The Modern Data Platform: Foundation to Successful Analytics and AI	Choosing the right tool for the job: Copilot vs Copilot Studio vs AI Foundry	Take a sip of Soda in your Lakehouse
	<p>Discover the essence of Microsoft Fabric, its positioning, and typical use cases. Join us as we share insights from a year of hands-on experience, highlighting how this powerful tool can transform your data analytics landscape.</p> <p>A perfect session for those looking to harness the full potential of Microsoft Fabric in their projects.</p>	<p>In this (non-technical) session, you'll learn why a Modern Data Platform is an essential foundation to any successful Analytics and AI strategy, ensuring scalability, flexibility and innovation while maintaining a clear perspective on governance and cost.</p> <p>The session also discusses how we approach building an actionable roadmap as an excellent first step.</p>	<p>Explore the capabilities of Copilot, Copilot Studio, and AI Foundry in this comparative session. We'll break down their strengths, key features, and best use cases to help you navigate the AI landscape with confidence.</p> <p>Gain practical insights to determine the right tool for your needs and accelerate your AI initiatives effectively.</p>	<p>Data quality is paramount to deriving business value from your data. With Soda, you can monitor the data flowing through your lakehouse and even drive orchestration based on the outcome of your data quality checks.</p> <p>In this session, we will walk you through various levels of data quality monitoring: from developer testing in Databricks to full data observability with the Soda Cloud platform.</p>
	Gary Goldman - Director Analytics - element61 David Kaminski - Analytics Architect - element61	Bart Van Der Vurst - Partner Analytics - element61 Steven De Vlieger - Customer Relations & Business Development Manager - element61	Konstantin Lazarov - Analytics Architect - element61	Mathisse De Strooper - Director Customer Eng. - Soda Kamil Radomski - Senior Data Gov. Architect - element61
11:15-12:00	Databricks track Theater 23	Microsoft Fabric track Theater 18	Data Science & AI track Theater 17	Finance & Business track Theater 24
	Databricks 2025: Innovations in the Data Intelligence Platform	Streamline your Master Data Management: Profisee Inside Microsoft Fabric	ML-driven predictive maintenance to improve factory efficiency @Vynova	Supporting Planning & Budgeting in a Modern Data Platform
	<p>Get ready to dive into the latest innovations in Databricks, from the enhanced Unity Catalog experience to cutting-edge AI-driven insights. Discover exciting new features like Databricks Apps, AI/BI, and serverless compute.</p> <p>Join us for an in-depth exploration of the Databricks Data Intelligence Platform and learn how these advancements can take your data strategy to the next level.</p>	<p>Join this session to discover how Profisee's native integration as a Microsoft Fabric workload transforms master data management into a seamless, scalable experience—right within the Fabric ecosystem. With Profisee, you can centrally manage golden records while natively accelerating trusted data through the medallion architecture enabling faster, more reliable analytics and AI across your entire data estate.</p> <p>Say goodbye to fragmented workflows and disjointed tools. With Profisee and Fabric, your MDM journey becomes unified, governed, and fully Fabric-native—all in one platform.</p>	<p>Discover how Vynova uses Machine Learning (ML) to improve their operations through predictive maintenance. Learn more about their collaboration with element61 and how we managed to deliver business impact together. This session covers the full ML cycle, going from data extraction to full-scale and production-ready ML deployments using MLflow.</p>	<p>Microsoft has no solution to support Planning & Budgeting.</p> <p>Vena is the only Complete Planning Platform natively integrated with Power BI and Microsoft 365. Learn how Vena embraces Azure and Azure Open AI technologies to empower Finance teams with cutting-edge budgeting and forecasting capabilities.</p> <p>We will present and demo Vena's added value for Planning & Budgeting in a Microsoft landscape.</p>
	Jeremy Delacroix - Analytics Architect - element61 Xander De Rore - Analytics Architect - element61	Eric Melcher - CTO - Profisee Tom Bouten - Director Data Governance - element61	Jasper Penneman - Senior Data Scientist - element61	Alex Wood - VP Global Channels - Vena Solutions Buddy Roeling - Area Sales Manager - Vena Solutions
12:00 - 13:00	Sandwich Lunch			
	Theater 23			
13:05 - 13:40	A Year of Transformation in Data & AI Join us for an insightful keynote reflecting on the most significant advancements in Data & AI over the past year. Beyond the rise of Generative AI, we'll explore breakthroughs in Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG), agentic systems, and innovations in data engineering, real-time analytics, and machine learning automation. Gain a fresh perspective on how these evolving technologies are reshaping businesses, decision-making, and the future of work. Peter Depypere - Partner Data Science & Analysis - element61			
13:40 - 14:20	Ardo's Analytics journey - from idea to true acceleration For many years, Ardo has had a traditional data warehouse. Over time, it even had multiple data warehouses and quite some tools used to do analytics. In the last years, Ardo took big steps to both modernize & simplify this data estate. In this session, Sam outlines how Ardo approaches this journey step-by-step and guides us through the initiatives taken, the use cases delivered, the challenges entailed and the learnings taken. With a Lakehouse now in place on top of (among others) a rich SAP S/4HANA ecosystem, join this session to get inspired and learn some of the architecture decisions taken but also some of the concrete business outcomes realised! Sam Beelprez - Group Data and Analytics Manager - Ardo			
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Technical oriented

	Microsoft Fabric track Theater 23	Databricks track Theater 18	Data Science & AI track Theater 17	Finance & Business track Theater 24
	Bringing Analytics to the People: From Webi to Power BI and Large Scale Adoption	 Seamless Data Integration in Azure with Fivetran	Fireside Chat: Vision, Governance, and AI Adoption	The Modern Data Platform, Exmar's integration hub for Budgeting, Forecasting, ESG, BI & IoT
14:25 - 15:05	 UNIVERSITÉ DU LUXEMBOURG Join us for an in-depth look at the University of Luxembourg's journey in adopting Power BI over the past two years. This session will explore how the university successfully migrated from SAP Business Objects Web Intelligence, implemented large-scale adoption with over 500 end-users, established robust governance using Power BI CI/CD and access management, and developed a central discovery app to streamline report access and navigation. Discover the strategies and solutions that have enabled a seamless and efficient integration of Power BI into their data ecosystem!	 Meat&More is a company that paves the way forward by strategically investing in data, ensuring the right balance between technology and resources. In this session, we'll explore how Meat&More leverages Fivetran to streamline data integration across its business domains, enabling smarter, data-driven decision-making. We'll take a deep dive into the different phases of this journey, highlighting key success factors and real-world test cases, including accelerating data ingestion from SAP, Dynamics, SQL Server, and Google Analytics!	 Join us for an engaging fireside chat with industry leaders as we explore the evolving landscape of AI governance, the impact of the AI Act, and the rapid advancements in AI technology. Featuring insights from a legal expert, a customer, and a technology specialist, this discussion will provide a well-rounded perspective on the challenges and opportunities AI presents. We'll delve into the key components of AI governance, the practical implications of regulatory changes, and real-world experiences in AI adoption. Gain valuable insights into how organizations are navigating compliance, risk, and innovation in an era of accelerated AI transformation.	 A Modern Data Platform is essential for accurate and integrated Data Analytics! We will explore how it supports different kinds of use cases, including Budgeting & Forecasting, calculating Carbon emissions, streaming sensor data and many more! Join this session, to learn how such a platform at Exmar streamlines data processes, ensuring compliance and strategic insights.
	Daniel Schäfer - Data & Analytics Team Lead - University of Luxembourg Parcifal Van Gucht - Analytics Architect - element61	Pieter Coeckelberghs - Data & Cloud Architect - Meat&More Brecht Vanhee - Principal Analytics Architect & Delivery Lead Microsoft - element61	Peter Depypere - Partner Data Science & Analysis - element61	Maxim Van Gool - Application Portfolio Manager - Exmar Reiner De Smet - Analytics Architect - element61 Ben Haeverans - Senior Analytics Architect - element61
15:05 - 15:30	Coffee Break			
	Daikin's Journey from SAP BW to a Modern Multicloud Data Platform	 Scaling Healthcare Data with Azure & Databricks Lakehouse	argenx's Journey with GenAI: From POC to Breakthroughs	Accelerate Your Microsoft Fabric Journey: Smart Data Platform Automation with TimeXtender
15:35 - 16:15	 Discover the analytics journey of Daikin and how acceleration kits helped to fast-track their migration from SAP BW to a modern data platform. From integrating multiple data sources & near real time data to a multicloud provider environment unifying the analytics landscape of Daikin. See how this platform was ready for various AI capabilities before the boom. This session will cover the project scope, key differentiators, and the technical and organisational enablers for a successful big migration.	 Discover how AZ Maria Middelares leverages Azure Data Platform to overcome scalability challenges in healthcare. This session will explore the architecture, features, and ongoing use cases, including machine learning for predicting emergency admissions and in-depth analysis of patient data. Learn how to achieve seamless integration and data governance in a collaborative environment	 Salman will take us through argenx's journey of embracing Generative AI—from an initial proof of concept to real-world impact with multiple AI applications live. He'll share key challenges, unexpected breakthroughs, and the lessons that shaped their path to innovation. Join us to discover how argenx turned AI potential into reality, pushing the boundaries of what's possible with GenAI.	 Discover how TimeXtender revolutionises Microsoft Fabric migration, making it seamless and cost-efficient. Optimise resource utilisation with automated scaling and multi-threading. Leverage Data Quality, Master Data Management, and orchestration to build robust, low-debt data platforms. Join this session to see how TimeXtender accelerates Microsoft Fabric adoption, ensures maintainable solutions, and why we mutually highly value this long-term partnership!
	Michiel Laporte - Section Manager Data & Analytics - Daikin Europe Pascal Boekestijn - Senior Analytics Architect & Delivery Lead Microsoft - element61	Jorick Vandoorne & Vita De Vos - Data Engineer Analyst - AZ Maria Middelares Michiel Van Nijverseel - Analytics Architect - element61	Salman Saif - Senior Director Digital Transformation & (Gen) AI & Data Analytics - argenx	Alex Van Wijnen - Solution Specialist Lead - TimeXtender
	Cultivate Power BI adoption with purposeful reporting	 The ABC of DLT (Delta Live Tables): Simplifying your ETL one run at a time!	 Bring your SAP data to Azure in real-time with Qlik Talend Cloud	Accelerate from zero to insights & improve the Data Culture and success rate of your BI projects
16:20 - 17:00	 Join us for an insightful session on data visualization, where you'll discover a powerful 4-step framework to transform your reports and drive adoption. Through real-world examples, we'll show how small but strategic tweaks can make your visuals clearer, more engaging, and easier to interpret. Walk away with practical tips to create compelling, user-friendly reports that not only inform but inspire action!	 Delta Live Tables within Databricks are revolutionizing data engineering by enabling you to transition from batch to streaming ETL with a simple click in the DLT UI. This powerful tool offers out-of-the-box task orchestration, insightful lineage tracking, and robust data quality checks, empowering you to streamline your ETL processes and elevate data reliability. Join us to explore the world of DLT and discover how it can transform your daily data engineering tasks.	 Discover how Qlik Talend Cloud simplifies real-time data ingestion from SAP, mainframe and other data sources into Azure and Fabric platforms. This session will demonstrate the seamless integration process, ensuring efficient and reliable data flow to enhance your analytics capabilities. Join us to unlock the full potential of your data with Qlik Talend Cloud	 Our solution with pre-packaged data engineering and business engineering best practices will accelerate and inspire you on general business processes so you can focus on what is unique for your business. In this session, we explore how to empower your team with self-service capabilities in Power BI or Qlik, foster a stronger data-driven culture, and significantly increase the success rate of your BI initiatives.
	Justine Hanssens - Data Scientist - element61	Parcifal Van Gucht - Analytics Architect - element61	Ching Leung Ruan - Field Channel Account Executive - Qlik Reinout Lesage - Senior Analytics Architect & Delivery Lead Qlik - element61	Mélanie Vercaempt - Customer Relations & Business Development Manager - element61
17:00	Networking Reception (+demos @booths)			

Any questions, feel free to email: info@element61.be



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