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My 5 questions

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Preamble

As 2020 draws to a close I look back on it and see the utter devastation that data has had on the world's economy. Every single data base is designed to provide management with the capability to make the right decisions at the right time and deliver the most benefits for all.

Sadly the database designs that count the most (those designed to protect the health of the world's population) seem to have only caused hardships. Every database has been designed by following the instructions of someone who has had an enormous influence so now I would like to ask the following 5 questions to see if you can discover for yourselves where you might have made a mistake agreeing with the person (or people) who influenced you the most.

My 5 questions

1) Who influenced your thinking that makes you think that you are an authority on your viewpoint?
2) What makes you think that your influencer/s understood their viewpoint?
3) When did your influencer/s arrive at their conclusion/s?
4) How did they prove that their viewpoint was 100% accurate?
5) Why do you believe that their viewpoint is still valid?

My answers

1) Influenced by and when:

Accepted	1.1	Prof. A Bleksely	1967
	1.2	Michael A Jackson	1977
Rejected	1.4	Andersen's Method/1	1988
	1.5	Balanced Scorecard	1987
	1.6	Ed Yourdon	1979
	1.7	IBMers (BSP)	1975
	1.8	Peter Drucker	1984
	1.9	Rene Descartes	1992
	1.10	TAFIM	1985
	1.11	Ted Codd	1976

2) Basis for influencer's thinking:

1.1	Prof. A Bleksely	Applied mathematics
1.2	Michael A Jackson	Logical thinking
1.4	Andersen's Method/1	Project management
1.5	Balanced Scorecard	4 measurement perspectives
1.6	Ed Yourdon	Functional structuring
1.7	IBMers (BSP)	Interconnecting data, processes, strategies, aims and organizational departments
1.8	Peter Drucker	Objectives and strategies
1.9	Rene Descartes	Thinking first, existence second
1.10	TAFIM	NIST Application Portability Profile and the POSIX (or IEEE P1003.00SE) model.
1.11	Ted Codd	Normalising data

3) Dates of conception:

1.1	Prof. A Bleksely	c1925
1.2	Michael A Jackson	c1975
1.4	Andersen's Method/1	c1960
1.5	Balanced Scorecard	c1987
1.6	Ed Yourdon	c1972
1.7	IBMers (BSP)	c1970
1.8	Peter Drucker	c1942
1.9	Rene Descartes	c1619
1.10	TAFIM	c1986
1.11	Ted Codd	c1970

4) Proof that their work was 100% accurate.
None of them actually proved anything as there is no record of any successful implementation of their work. There are multiple examples of their failures.

5) Validity of their work.
Why I believe their work is relevant. Every influencer has a part of the picture. None of them have managed to piece together all of the parts:

1.1	Prof. A Bleksely	Based on calculus: • Limits • Differentiation • Integration
1.2	Michael A Jackson	Program logic is derived from the structure of the data
1.4	Andersen's Method/1	Project management is important but only if based on established business priorities
1.5	Balanced Scorecard	Measuring business perspectives is important but only if business Values are fully understood
1.6	Ed Yourdon	Data is important but data does not flow
1.7	IBMers (BSP)	Interconnecting data, processes, strategies, aims and organizational departments is important but has to governed by limiting the number of objects, differentiating between the multitude of objects, integrating all the objects and providing a method to focus on priorities
1.8	Peter Drucker	Objectives and strategies are important but have to be limited. There is no focus on business knowledge and no integration between objectives and strategies
1.9	Rene Descartes	Based on 3 dreams. Dreams are visions and visions cannot become reality without fully understanding all the parts
1.10	TAFIM	Having standards is important. This provides some form of governance but governance has to have a structure. TAFIM was based on 2 standards which were never fully integrated and therefore leaves far too many gaps
1.11	Ted Codd	Normalising data was a good idea as it attempts to limit, differentiate and integrate data items. It fails because the end result depends on the viewpoint of the person viewing the data items (datum)

Conclusion
In 1989 I had spent 19 years of my career battling to come to terms with the 11 influences that I had exposure to. I simply had to find a better way and in 1990 I succeeded by developing an approach that incorporated the strengths of the 11 and rejected their weaknesses.

If you think your approach is superior to mine then all I can do is wish you the very best.

Wishing you all a better 2021

Regards
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