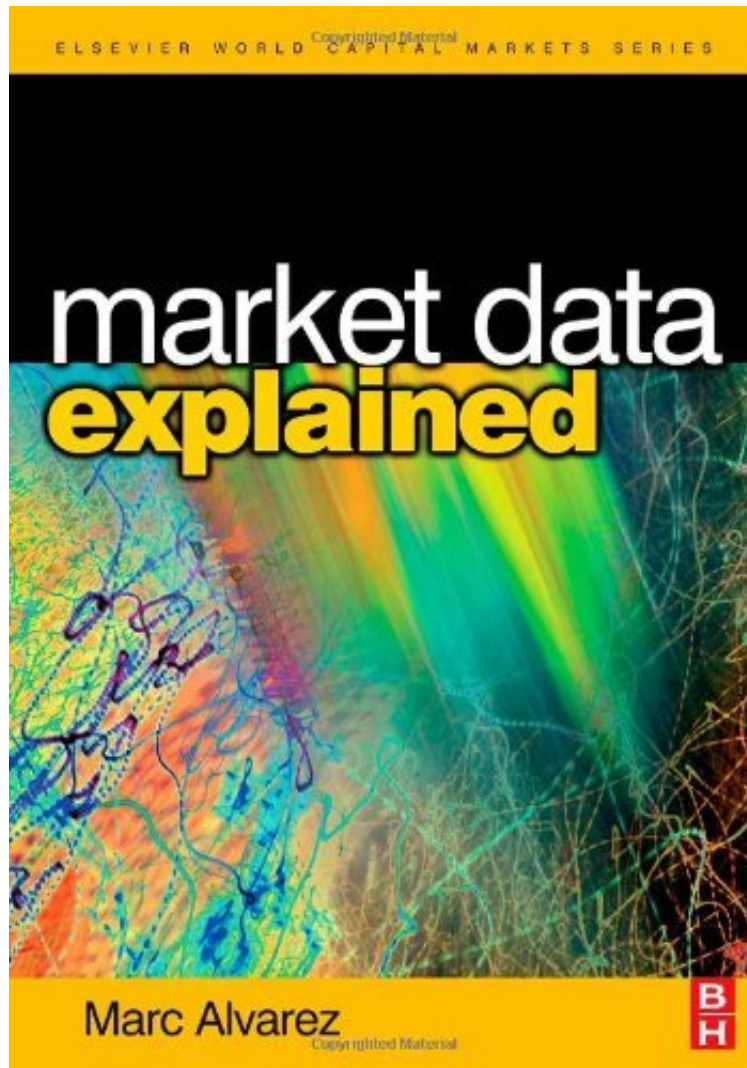


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Market Data Explained: A Practical Guide to Global Capital Markets Information (The Elsevier and Mondo Visione World Capital Markets)

Marc Alvarez

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Marc Alvarez : Market Data Explained: A Practical Guide to Global Capital Markets Information (The Elsevier and Mondo Visione World Capital Markets) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Market Data Explained: A Practical Guide to Global Capital Markets Information (The Elsevier and Mondo Visione World Capital Markets):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Comprehensive data model for trade applicationsBy Carlos Eduardo

Figueiredo Filho It's a good introductory book, offering a comprehensive data model covering general requirements for international trade IT applications. The book has helped me to understand the domains of this kind of application. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Provides only a conceptual framework, but that's useful. By Steven Barber. Market Data Explained is a rather slim volume that takes a high-level look at the kinds of capital markets data that is typically available, and finds a place for that data in a conceptual framework of the author's devising. Alvarez categorizes the data, shows how it relates both textually and with diagrams, and describes the typical attributes of each kind of record. There is a great variety of market data out there from various sources described chaotically, if at all, in proprietary ways. Every new practitioner slowly develops their own mental model of how the data fits together. This book can help speed that process. However, the book is not quite what its title or blurb leads one to believe. It is short on detailed explanation and hands-on practicality. That's not to say there isn't a lot of value in this work: the approach is clear and possibly unique. What this book does not do is actually show the reader any market data. There are no examples of market data values or transactions whatsoever -- the whole exercise is a bit abstract in that sense. If you are truly new to market data, you won't have much idea what the author is talking about. The presentation is rather repetitive, which is either a bug or a feature depending on whether one reads the book straight through or just wants to dive into a particular section. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Could have used this quite a while ago ... By B. Nichols. I've spent a good deal of the past 20 years managing technical and/or product teams in the financial services industry. One trend within these groups is increasing diversification and specialization in background. Programmers come in knowing "C++/JAVA and THIS part of THAT library/toolset" while business staff seem to be ever more specialized in deeper niches. I don't know how many times I've wished I could say "Take this book. Read it. It has a logical map in it that you need to understand. Everyone else on the team has read this and we use our combined view of the map to discuss what we are doing." Well, here's the book. If you're involved in managing or leading staff dealing with the nitty-gritty of in-the-trenches securities processing and the corresponding technical operations, this can be a cornerstone for training and communications. The book is not perfect and it doesn't cover everything. But it's the most coherently stated framework for discussions of capital markets data systems or product development for that I've seen in one place. **DISCLAIMER:** I've met and worked with Marc professionally, though not in a commercial context. I'm definitely not going to get any compensation of any type for this review ;)

Market Data Explained is intended to provide a guide to the universe of data content produced by the global capital markets on a daily basis. Commonly referred to as "market data", the universe of content is very wide and the type of information correspondingly diverse. Jargon and acronyms are very common. As a result, users of market data typically face difficulty in applying the content in analysis and business applications. This guide provides an independent framework for understanding this diversity and streamlining the process of referring to content and how it relates to today's business environment. The book achieves this goal by providing a consistent frame of reference for users of market data. As such, it is built around the concept of a data model -- a single, coherent view of the capital markets independent of any one source, such as an exchange. In particular it delineates clearly between the actual data content and how it is delivered (i.e., realtime data streams versus reference data). It shows how the data relates across the universe of securities (i.e., stocks, bonds, derivatives etc.). In this way it provides a logical framework for understanding how new content can be added over time as the business develops. Special features: 1. Uniqueness -- this is the first comprehensive catalog and taxonomy to be made available for a business audience 2. Industry Acceptance -- the framework described in this book is implemented as a relational data model in the industry today and used by blue chip multinational firms 3. Comprehensiveness -- there are no arbitrary distinctions made based on asset class or data type (the legacy approach). The model presented in this book is fully cross asset and makes no distinction between data types (i.e., realtime versus historical/reference data) or sources 4. Independence -- the framework is an independent, objective overview of how the data content integrates to provide a coherent view of the data produced by the global capital markets on a daily and intra-day basis. It provides a logical framework for referring to the content and entities that are so intrinsic to this industry. First and only single, comprehensive desk reference to market data produced by the global capital markets on a daily basis. Provides a comprehensive catalog of the market data and a common structure for navigating the complex content and interrelationships. Provides a common taxonomy and naming conventions that handles the highly varied, geographically and language dependent nature of the content.

"Next to people, data is one of the most important assets of a firm. And in the world of banking and finance, knowing how to manage this important asset, understanding its complexities and behaviors, is critical to a firm's efficient operation. Marc Alvarez explores this topic by breaking down the elements of Market Data into simple language. He demystifies this complex subject through easy to understand explanations and clear illustrations. Whether you are new to this subject, or a seasoned data veteran, Market Data Explained does just that - it provides a comprehensive guide to understanding Market Data and its components, how they are related, and how they fuel the engines of today's financial institutions." --John A. Bottega - Chief Data Officer - Citigroup Corporate and Investment Bank "Capital

markets can be complex and confusing. No less so the data that describe them. Alvarez's guide sheds considerable light on the subject. He explains the overall structure of market data and guides our understanding of the details. I particularly liked the figures, as they cut to the essence of some complicated ideas." -- Tom Redman, The Data Doc, Navesink Consulting Group "So again, this is more than a primer, even though it sets out to define the market data industry's framework from the bottom up. In this, it performs a much-needed service, since even the most seasoned of practitioners seem to get their proverbial data-definition knickers in a twist or else suffer from Humpty-Dumpty syndrome ("reference data shall mean whatever I choose it to mean..." and so on.). A serious read, then, that we'd recommend to all-comers, new and old." --Market Data Insight, October 2006

From the Back Cover[Back cover]Business/Finance [shelving code]"The release of Market Data Explained couldn't be timed better. Data content, along with the requirements for precise meaning, granularity, quality and interchange, has finally emerged as the third leg of operations (to complement technology and asset servicing) and is being rightly recognized as a core infrastructure asset within the financial industry. Marc Alvarez does an outstanding job of putting data issues into context and has successfully detailed the underlying ontology necessary to enable managers at all levels to understand the complexities of the data content landscape. Make no mistake, data content management is the new denominator for model-based investment strategy, risk mitigation, operational efficiency and new business development. Read this book, and then read it again, because data content (which is different from data processing and distribution) matters. --Michael Atkin, Managing Director, Enterprise Data Management Council"Next to people, data is one of the most important assets of a firm. And in the world of banking and finance, knowing how to manage this important asset, understanding its complexities and behaviors, is critical to a firm's efficient operation. Marc Alvarez explores this topic by breaking down the elements of Market Data into simple language. He demystifies this complex subject through easy to understand explanations and clear illustrations. Whether you are new to this subject, or a seasoned data veteran, Market Data Explained does just that - it provides a comprehensive guide to understanding Market Data and its components, how they are related, and how they fuel the engines of today's financial institutions.--- John A. Bottega, Chief Data Officer, Citigroup Corporate and Investment Bank"An excellent primer on securities information. This should be essential reading for every financial tech IT professional."--Ken Marlin, Managing Partner and Founder of Marlin Associates, New York, NY, a boutique investment banking and strategic consulting firm"Finally a book for computer literate people who ever thought to invent the next great thing for Wall Street. Alvarez has compiled a comprehensive market data dictionary that gives us all a concise roadmap to Wall Street's global information highway. An insider's view of the complex of data that lies just below the visible surface of stock symbol and price. Easy to read and understand, it should serve both industry practitioners and laymen alike who ever wondered about the data infrastructure of Wall Street." --Allan D. Grody, President, Financial InterGroup, USA, Emeritus Adjunct Professor, Stern Graduate School of Business, New York University Founding Partner (Retired), Financial Services Consulting Division, Coopers Lybrand "It's good to see someone with Marc Alvarez's credentials share his expertise with the industry. His book fills a long-standing gap in the marketplace. In fact, I wish I'd written it myself. --Andrew Delaney, Editor-in-Chief, A-Team Group, publisher of Market Data Insight newsletter

Market Data Explained provides the first and only comprehensive desk reference to the universe of data content generated by the global capital markets. Marc Alvarez is a principal with TAP Solutions Inc., a financial software applications firm headquartered in Vancouver, BC, Canada. His clients include market data creators and users worldwide.

[Inside Front Flap]Market Data Explained

Marc Alvarez

The data generated by the global capital markets on a daily basis can seem complicated and confusing. As a result, working with this data content can be a daunting experience. Market Data Explained provides the first and only comprehensive desk reference to this universe of data content, bringing a degree of order to what appears, on the surface at least, to be chaos. Built around the concept of a data model, Market Data Explained provides a single, consistent view of capital markets information independent of any particular data source. It delineates clearly between the data content itself and the means by which it is delivered, such as streaming real-time data versus reference data. Market Data Explained is an accessible read, providing a detailed catalogue of the market data and a common structure for navigating the complex content and interrelationships. It shows how the data relates across the universe of securities (such as stocks, bonds and derivatives) and puts forward a logical framework for understanding how the data content can be extended over time in response to the creation of new and more complex financial instruments. Market Data Explained is extremely versatile: Its common taxonomy and naming conventions handle the highly varied, geographically and language dependent nature of the content. Comprehensible, avoiding industry jargon and acronyms, this book will enable the market data user to apply the content to analysis and business applications. [Back Inside Flap]

[Insert photo]

Marc Alvarez is Executive Vice President, Products Marketing, at TAP Solutions Inc., a financial software firm headquartered in Vancouver, BC, Canada, with clients worldwide. He is a veteran of over twenty years in the financial information industry, spent between London, New York, Toronto and now the West Coast. At TAP he leads all research development, product management and strategic marketing activities, with particular focus on automating and streamlining the acquisition, management, and application of capital markets content for financial services firms.

About the Author

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financial software firm headquartered in Vancouver, BC, Canada, with clients worldwide. He is a veteran of over twenty years in the financial information industry, spent between London, New York, Toronto and now the West Coast. At TAP he leads all research development, product management and strategic marketing activities, with particular focus on automating and streamlining the acquisition, management, and application of capital markets content for financial services firms.