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DATAWARE HOUSES SCHEME

DOCUMENTATION

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I. Data WareHouses.

1. Introduction to Data Warehousing?

- Data warehousing is a process of collecting, organizing, and storing large volumes of data from various sources to support business intelligence and decision-making.
- The primary goal of data warehousing is to provide a consolidated, unified view of data from different operational systems for analysis and reporting purposes.

2. Purpose of Data Warehousing?

- Data Integration: Data warehousing integrates data from disparate sources, such as transactional databases, spreadsheets, and external systems, into a single, unified view.
- Data Consolidation: It consolidates data from multiple operational systems, allowing organizations to have a consistent and reliable source of data for reporting and analysis.
- Data Analysis: Data warehousing enables organizations to perform complex analysis, trend identification, and business intelligence to gain insights into their operations, customer behavior, and market trends.
- Performance Improvement: Data warehousing optimizes query performance by structuring data in a way that facilitates efficient retrieval and analysis.

II. Data WareHouses.

1. Definition of a Data Warehouse Schema:

- A data warehouse schema is a logical structure that defines how data is organized and structured within a data warehouse.
- It provides a blueprint or framework for storing and accessing data in a consistent and meaningful way.

2. Role of a Schema in Organizing and Structuring Data within a Data Warehouse:

- Data Organization: A schema defines the organization of data by specifying the tables, relationships, and attributes within the data warehouse.
- Data Structure: A schema determines the structure of data entities, such as fact tables and dimension tables, and their attributes.
- Data Integrity: A schema enforces data integrity by specifying constraints, such as primary keys, foreign keys, and referential integrity, to ensure data consistency and accuracy.
- Data Accessibility: A schema defines the access methods, permissions, and security mechanisms for retrieving and manipulating data within the data warehouse.
- Data Relationships: A schema establishes relationships between different data entities, enabling efficient querying and analysis across multiple tables.
- Data Aggregation: A schema facilitates data aggregation by defining how data is summarized, rolled up, or grouped at different levels of granularity for analytical purposes.

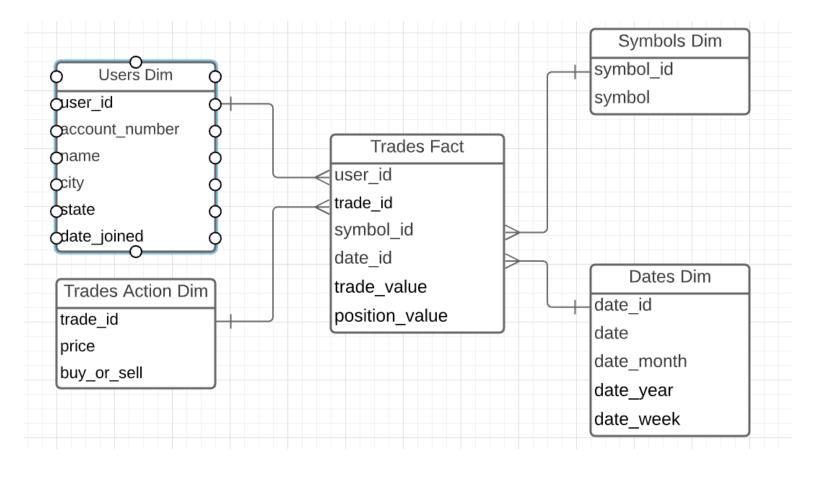
III. Star Schema.

1. Explanation:

- The star schema is a data warehouse schema design that represents data in a simple and denormalized structure.
- It consists of a central table called the fact table, which contains the measurements or metrics of interest.
- The fact table is surrounded by multiple dimension tables, which provide descriptive attributes related to the measurements.

2. Characteristics and Benefits of the Star Schema::

- Simple and Denormalized Structure: The star schema has a straightforward structure with a single fact table and separate dimension tables. It avoids complex relationships and normalization techniques, making it easier to understand and maintain.
- Fast and Efficient Query Performance: The star schema's denormalized structure simplifies queries, as it involves fewer joins compared to more normalized schemas.
 This leads to faster query performance and improved response times for analytical queries and reporting.
- Suitable for Data Marts and Dimensional Modeling: The star schema is well-suited for creating data marts, which are subsets of a data warehouse that focus on specific business areas. It supports dimensional modeling techniques, where data is organized into dimensions and facts, enabling efficient data analysis based on business perspectives.



III. Snowflake Schema Schema.

1. Explanation:

- The snowflake schema is an extension of the star schema design that further normalizes dimension tables.
- It gets its name from the shape that resembles a snowflake, where dimension tables branch out into additional levels of normalized tables.

2. Additional Levels of Normalized Dimension Tables:

- In a snowflake schema, dimension tables can be normalized by breaking down attributes into separate tables. For example, a dimension table representing a product may have separate tables for product category, subcategory, and attributes.
- The normalized tables in the snowflake schema create a hierarchical structure where dimension tables branch out into multiple levels, resulting in increased normalization and more complex relationships.

3. Characteristics and Benefits of the Snowflake Schema:

Normalized Structure Reduces Data Redundancy: The snowflake schema reduces
data redundancy by normalizing dimension tables into separate tables, eliminating
the repetition of data. This can lead to more efficient storage utilization and
reduced storage requirements.

- More Flexibility in Data Modeling and Scalability: The snowflake schema offers
 greater flexibility in modeling complex data hierarchies and relationships. It allows
 for the inclusion of additional levels of detail and relationships, accommodating a
 wide range of business requirements. It also facilitates scalability as new tables can
 be added to the schema without impacting existing tables.
- Efficient Storage Utilization: By normalizing dimension tables, the snowflake schema optimizes storage utilization as common attributes are stored only once in separate tables, reducing data redundancy.
- Suitable for Complex Data Hierarchies and Large-Scale Data Warehouses: The snowflake schema is particularly suitable for data warehouses that deal with complex data hierarchies, such as organizational structures, geographical hierarchies, or product hierarchies. It is also useful for large-scale data warehouses where efficient storage utilization and scalability are crucial.

