Designing Indexed Views



Gail Shaw
TECHNICAL LEAD

@SQLintheWild http://sqlinthewild.co.za



Agenda



Introducing Indexed Views
Limitations and restrictions
Where are they useful?



Introducing Indexed Views

Normally, views are just saved SELECT statements

It is possible to create a clustered index on a view

This materialises the view, persists its results as if it were a table

Contents of the view are automatically kept up to date as underlying tables change





Indexed views have a massive number of limitations



Limitations of Indexed Views

CREATE VIEW ClientsLatestShipment

```
WITH SCHEMABINDING
AS
SELECT c.*,
    (SELECT OfficialName
        FROM dbo.StarSystems ss
        WHERE ss.StarSystemID = c.HeadquarterSystemID) AS HQ
    FROM dbo.Clients c LEFT OUTER JOIN (
    SELECT s.ClientID, s.ReferenceNumber, MAX(sd.Mass) AS HighestMass,
        AVG(sd.Volume) AS AvgVolume,
        ROW_NUMBER() OVER (PARTITION BY s.ClientID ORDER BY s.CreationDate
DESC) AS RN
    FROM dbo.Shipments s INNER JOIN dbo.ShipmentDetails sd ON sd.ShipmentID =
s.ShipmentID
    GROUP BY s.ClientID, s.CreationDate, s.ReferenceNumber) sub ON c.ClientID =
sub.ClientID
WHERE sub.RN = 1
```

SET Options Required

SET ANSI_NULLS ON

SET ANSI_PADDING ON

SET ANSI_WARNINGS ON

SET ARITHABORT ON

SET CONCAT_NULL_YIELDS_NULL ON

SET NUMERIC_ROUNDABORT OFF

SET QUOTED_IDENTIFIER ON



Where Are Indexed Views Useful?

Aggregates

Simple joins with filters



Demo



Creating an indexed view and using it in queries



Downsides of Indexed Views

Additional write overhead

Additional space requirement

Require specific SET options



Summary



What indexed views are
Limitations and restrictions
Where they are useful

