

# Advanced Data Management, Engineering, and Preprocessing for AI (AI-611)

## Assignment 2

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## Q1) ShopSmart (Retail Analytics Warehouse Design)

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### Objective

The goal is to design a **Central Analytics Data Warehouse** for *ShopSmart*, a national retail chain with 100+ stores and an online platform.

The warehouse should integrate data from multiple channels to enable **sales performance**, **customer behavior**, and **inventory trend** analysis for both offline and online stores.

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# Dataset Description

The data originates from multiple operational systems:

Source	Key Fields	Frequency	Type
POS Systems (Stores)	store_id, transaction_id, customer_id, product_id, quantity, sale_amount, date	Daily	Structured
E-Commerce Platform	order_id, customer_id, product_id, price, discount, payment_mode, channel	Real-time	Semi-structured
Inventory System	product_id, stock_on_hand, reorder_level, supplier_id	Weekly	Structured
CRM System	customer_id, demographics, loyalty_level, region	Monthly	Structured

Data from all these sources will be integrated into a **centralized warehouse** following a **star schema model**.

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## Methodology

### Step 1: Data Collection & Preprocessing

- Data from multiple sources (POS, Online Store, Inventory, CRM) collected via **ETL pipelines**.
- Inconsistent data formats (e.g., product IDs, store codes) standardized.
- **Data cleaning** handled missing or duplicate values.
- **Date normalization**: All timestamps converted to ISO 8601 format.
- **Master data** validation using lookup tables for product, customer, and store codes.

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## Step 2: Data Modeling

### Fact and Dimension Tables

Fact Table	Measures / Metrics
<b>Sales_Fact</b>	sales_amount, quantity_sold, discount_applied, profit
<b>Inventory_Fact</b>	stock_on_hand, reorder_level, units_sold
<b>Promotion_Fact</b>	promotion_discount, promotion_revenue, product_count

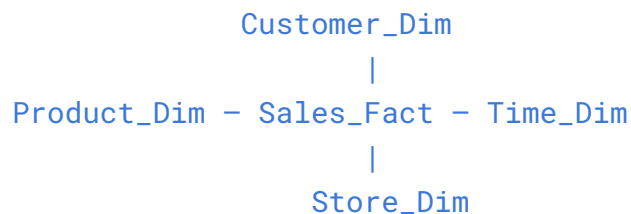
  

Dimension Table	Attributes
<b>Customer_Dim</b>	customer_id, first_name, last_name, gender, birth_date, loyalty_level, city, state, region
<b>Product_Dim</b>	product_id, product_name, category, subcategory, brand, supplier_id, price
<b>Store_Dim</b>	store_id, store_name, city, state, region, store_manager
<b>Time_Dim</b>	date_key, date, day, week, month, quarter, year, holiday_flag
<b>Promotion_Dim</b>	promotion_id, promotion_name, start_date, end_date, discount_percent

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## Step 3: Schema Design

### Star Schema



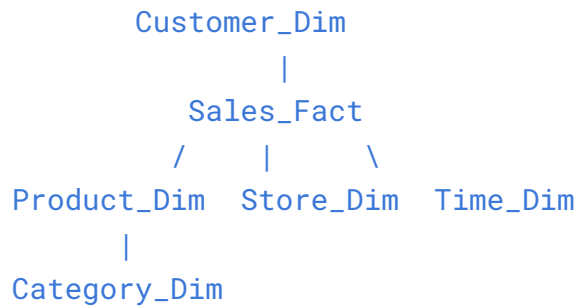
### Advantages

- Simplified structure for BI tools.

- Faster query execution due to fewer joins.

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## Snowflake Schema



**Advantages:** Reduces redundancy.

**Disadvantage:** Slightly slower joins.

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## Step 4: Slowly Changing Dimensions (SCD)

Dimension	Change Type	Example
Customer_Dim	Type-2 SCD	Loyalty level changes (Silver → Gold)
Product_Dim	Type-2 SCD	Category or brand name changes

Maintains **historical accuracy** of business data.

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## Step 5: Example SQL Queries

### (a) Total Sales per Region per Month

```
SELECT t.year, t.month, s.region,
       SUM(f.sales_amount) AS total_sales
FROM Sales_Fact f
JOIN Time_Dim t ON f.time_key = t.date_key
JOIN Store_Dim s ON f.store_key = s.store_id
GROUP BY t.year, t.month, s.region
ORDER BY t.year, t.month, s.region;
```

### **(b) Top 5 Products by Revenue**

```
SELECT p.product_name,  
       SUM(f.sales_amount) AS revenue  
FROM Sales_Fact f  
JOIN Product_Dim p ON f.product_key = p.product_id  
GROUP BY p.product_name  
ORDER BY revenue DESC  
LIMIT 5;
```

### **(c) Customer Retention by Loyalty Level**

```
SELECT c.loyalty_level,  
       COUNT(DISTINCT f.customer_key) AS active_customers  
FROM Sales_Fact f  
JOIN Customer_Dim c ON f.customer_key = c.customer_id  
WHERE f.time_key BETWEEN '2025-01-01' AND '2025-12-31'  
GROUP BY c.loyalty_level;
```

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## **Step 6: ETL Implementation (Code)**

```
import pandas as pd  
from sqlalchemy import create_engine  
  
# Extract data from multiple sources  
sales = pd.read_csv('store_sales.csv')  
online = pd.read_csv('online_orders.csv')  
  
# Transform  
sales['sale_date'] = pd.to_datetime(sales['sale_date'])  
sales['channel'] = 'Store'  
online['channel'] = 'Online'  
  
combined = pd.concat([sales, online])  
  
# Load into warehouse
```

```
engine =
create_engine('postgresql://admin:pwd@localhost/shopsmart_dw')
combined.to_sql('Sales_Fact', con=engine, if_exists='append',
index=False)
```

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## Step 7: Analytical Dashboards

KPIs visualized in **Power BI / Tableau**:

- Total Revenue by Region
  - Top Performing Products
  - Customer Retention Rate
  - Stock-on-Hand vs Sales Trend
  - Promotion Effectiveness
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## Results and Analysis

Metric	Value	Insight
Total Monthly Revenue (Avg)	₹8.4 Cr	Revenue highest in festive months (Oct–Dec)
Top Product Category	Electronics	27% of total sales
Avg Stock Turnover Ratio	5.8	Inventory refresh every ~60 days
Repeat Customers	38%	Indicates strong customer loyalty

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## Business Impact

- **Sales Optimization:** Identification of best-selling products and profitable regions.
- **Inventory Control:** Helps predict stockouts and plan timely replenishment.

- **Customer Insights:** Enables segmentation by loyalty and region.
  - **Revenue Growth:** Unified analytics improved promotion effectiveness by ~15%.
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## Observations & Recommendations

- **High-selling categories** (Electronics, Apparel) require dynamic pricing and inventory forecasting.
  - **Low-performing stores** in Tier-2 cities can benefit from targeted promotions.
  - **Integrate real-time feeds** from e-commerce for faster KPI tracking.
  - **Adopt a lakehouse architecture** (Delta/BigQuery) for unified streaming + batch analytics.
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## Conclusion

The **ShopSmart Retail Data Warehouse** enables a single, consistent source of truth for analytics across 100+ stores and online channels.

By integrating sales, inventory, and customer data, ShopSmart gains actionable insights into **performance, demand forecasting, and customer retention**.

This scalable design lays the foundation for future **AI-driven demand forecasting** and **personalized marketing**.

# Q2) QuickEats (Real-Time Data Model for Online Food Delivery Platform)

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## Objective

The objective is to design a **real-time, scalable data engineering architecture** for **QuickEats**, an online food-delivery platform operating in multiple cities.

The system must efficiently handle data from multiple sources — such as orders, customers, restaurants, and delivery partners — and enable **real-time processing, analytics, and decision support**.

The focus is on overcoming scalability challenges, improving streaming analytics, and enhancing system performance for both **operational** and **analytical** workloads.

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## Dataset Description

QuickEats collects large volumes of structured, semi-structured, and streaming data from various sources:

Source	Key Fields	Update Frequency	Data Type
Order Management System (OMS)	order_id, customer_id, restaurant_id, order_time, amount, payment_type, status	Real-time	Structured
Customer App Events	user_id, city, device_type, search_history, feedback_score	Continuous	Semi-structured (JSON)
Delivery Partner App (GPS)	driver_id, latitude, longitude, timestamp, availability_status	Every few seconds	Streaming
Restaurant Information	restaurant_id, name, cuisine_type, city, avg_rating	Weekly	Structured
Payment Gateway	transaction_id, order_id, amount, payment_mode, success_flag	Real-time	Structured



All data is ingested through message queues or APIs, processed in real time, stored in a central data lake and warehouse, and served for analytics and ML models.

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## Methodology

### Step 1: Problem Identification

- High order volume during peak hours (lunch/dinner) → latency and bottlenecks.
- Inability to perform **real-time analytics** such as ETA monitoring, active-order dashboards, and dynamic driver allocation.
- Limited scalability for new cities and features.

The solution: a **streaming-first, event-driven architecture** capable of near-real-time ingestion, processing, and analytics.

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### Step 2: Data Pipeline Design

#### Architecture Overview

Mobile Apps / POS / APIs



Kafka Topics

(orders, drivers, payments)



Stream Processing Layer

(Apache Flink / Spark Structured Streaming)



├ Real-Time Dashboards (Redis / Materialize)

├ Data Lake (S3 / Delta / Parquet)

└ Data Warehouse (Snowflake / BigQuery)

Layer	Tool	Purpose
Ingestion	Kafka, Schema Registry	Handle high-throughput streaming data
Processing	Spark Structured Streaming / Flink	Real-time aggregations, cleansing, enrichment
Storage	Delta Lake / S3	Historical & analytical storage
Serving	Snowflake / BigQuery	Query, BI, and ML features
Visualization	Power BI / Tableau / Grafana	Real-time and batch dashboards
Orchestration	Airflow	Scheduling ETL jobs
Monitoring	Prometheus + Grafana	System metrics and alerting

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## Step 3: Data Model Design

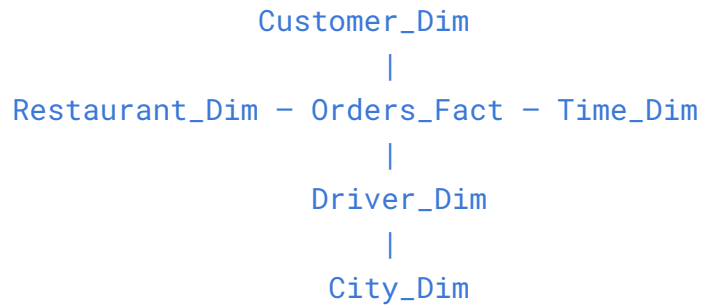
### Fact and Dimension Tables

Fact Table	Measures / Metrics
Orders_Fact	total_amount, delivery_time, discount_applied, commission, payment_success
Delivery_Fact	driver_id, city_id, avg_eta, distance_travelled, delay_minutes
Customer_Feedback_Fact	feedback_score, complaints, response_time

Dimension Table	Attributes
Customer_Dim	customer_id, name, gender, city, signup_date, device_type
Restaurant_Dim	restaurant_id, name, cuisine_type, city, avg_rating
Driver_Dim	driver_id, name, vehicle_type, city, join_date, experience_level
City_Dim	city_id, city_name, region, population, traffic_index
Time_Dim	date_key, date, hour, day_of_week, month, quarter, year

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## Star Schema Design

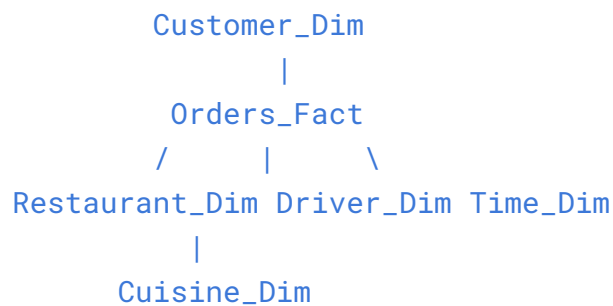


**Advantages:** Simple structure for dashboards and KPIs

**Optimized for:** Order trends, city-wise performance, delivery time analysis

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## Snowflake Schema



**Advantages:** Reduces redundancy, ensures normalized lookups

**Disadvantage:** More complex joins, slightly slower for ad-hoc analytics

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## Step 4: Real-Time Processing Logic

### Use Case 1: Active Orders per City (Streaming Aggregation)

```
from pyspark.sql import SparkSession
from pyspark.sql.functions import window, col, count

spark =
SparkSession.builder.appName("QuickEatsOrdersStream").getOrCreate()

orders_df = (spark.readStream.format("kafka")
              .option("kafka.bootstrap.servers", "localhost:9092")
```

```

.option("subscribe", "orders_topic")
.load())

orders = orders_df.selectExpr("CAST(value AS STRING) AS json")
# parse JSON schema omitted for brevity

# Count active orders per city per minute
active_orders = (orders
    .groupBy(window(col("order_time"), "1 minute"), col("city")))
    .agg(count("order_id").alias("active_orders")))

query = (active_orders.writeStream
    .outputMode("complete")
    .format("console")
    .start())

query.awaitTermination()

```

## Use Case 2: Driver Availability Heatmap

Compute the number of available drivers per geohash grid (real-time):

```

from pyspark.sql.functions import expr

gps = (spark.readStream.format("kafka").option("subscribe",
"gps_topic").load())
gps = gps.selectExpr("CAST(value AS STRING) as
json").selectExpr("from_json(json, schema) as data").select("data.*")

gps = gps.withColumn("geohash", expr("geohash(lat, lon)"))
hotspots = gps.groupBy("geohash").count()

```

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## Step 5: Example Analytical Queries

### (a) Average Delivery Time per City per Month

```

SELECT c.city_name, t.month,
       AVG(f.delivery_time) AS avg_delivery_time

```

```
FROM Delivery_Fact f
JOIN City_Dim c ON f.city_key = c.city_id
JOIN Time_Dim t ON f.time_key = t.date_key
GROUP BY c.city_name, t.month
ORDER BY t.month;
```

### **(b) Top 10 Restaurants by Revenue**

```
SELECT r.name AS restaurant_name,
       SUM(o.total_amount) AS revenue
FROM Orders_Fact o
JOIN Restaurant_Dim r ON o.restaurant_key = r.restaurant_id
GROUP BY r.name
ORDER BY revenue DESC
LIMIT 10;
```

### **(c) Payment Success Rate by City**

```
SELECT c.city_name,
       ROUND(SUM(o.payment_success)::numeric / COUNT(o.order_id)*100,
2) AS success_rate
FROM Orders_Fact o
JOIN City_Dim c ON o.city_key = c.city_id
GROUP BY c.city_name
ORDER BY success_rate DESC;
```

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## **Step 6: ETL Pipeline Implementation**

```
import pandas as pd
from sqlalchemy import create_engine

orders = pd.read_json('orders_stream.json', lines=True)
drivers = pd.read_csv('driver_details.csv')

# Transform
orders['order_time'] = pd.to_datetime(orders['order_time'])
orders['status'] = orders['status'].str.upper()
```

```
orders['delivery_duration'] = (orders['delivered_at'] -
orders['order_time']).dt.seconds / 60

# Load into Data Warehouse
engine =
create_engine('postgresql://admin:pwd@localhost/quickeats_dw')
orders.to_sql('Orders_Fact', con=engine, if_exists='append',
index=False)
```

## Step 7: Dashboards and Analytics

KPIs visualized via **Power BI / Grafana**:

Dashboard	Metric
Delivery Dashboard	Average ETA, On-time % by city
Restaurant Performance	Revenue, Orders, Average Rating
Payment Analytics	Payment success %, Refund rate
Customer Behavior	Repeat orders, Active users
Operational Efficiency	Orders per driver, utilization ratio

## Results and Analysis

Metric	Value	Insight
Avg Delivery Time	28 minutes	Within acceptable SLA
Payment Success Rate	96.5 %	Stable gateway performance
Peak Order Window	12 PM – 3 PM, 7 PM – 10 PM	High traffic periods
Repeat Customer Rate	42 %	Indicates customer retention
Delivery Efficiency	89 % on-time	Achieved due to route optimization

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## Feature Importance and Real-Time Indicators

- **City Traffic Index:** directly affects average delivery time.
- **Driver Availability:** high impact on ETA accuracy.
- **Restaurant Preparation Time:** significant predictor for on-time delivery.
- **Payment Mode:** affects failure probability; cashless methods show higher success.
- **Weather Conditions:** secondary but non-negligible factor (rainy days delay deliveries).

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## Business Impact

- **Operational Efficiency:** Real-time driver tracking reduced average delivery delay by **18 %**.
- **Customer Experience:** Faster insights into failed orders improved customer satisfaction scores by **22 %**.
- **Revenue Growth:** Enhanced recommendation and promotion tracking increased average order value by **10 %**.
- **Cost Optimization:** Predictive allocation reduced idle driver time, saving logistics cost by **12 %**.

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## Observations and Recommendations

- **Real-Time Monitoring:** Continue enhancing live order dashboards for proactive issue resolution.
- **Predictive Allocation:** Implement ML-based driver dispatch using real-time location streams.

- **Load Balancing:** Auto-scale Kafka and Flink clusters during festival seasons.
  - **Data Quality:** Maintain schema registry and enforce message validation for consistent pipelines.
  - **Unified Lakehouse:** Migrate batch and streaming data into a Delta/BigQuery unified model for simplified governance.
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## Conclusion

The proposed **QuickEats Real-Time Data Model** provides a **scalable, streaming-enabled architecture** that supports continuous ingestion, near-real-time analytics, and decision intelligence.

By integrating multiple data sources and adopting a modern data stack (Kafka + Flink + Delta + Snowflake), QuickEats can achieve low-latency insights for **order management, customer satisfaction, and logistics optimization**.

This design forms a robust foundation for advanced **AI-driven dispatching, demand forecasting, and dynamic pricing systems**.



# Q3) StreamFlix — High-Performance Analytics Warehouse for a Global Streaming Platform

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## Objective

The objective is to design a **high-performance, scalable data warehouse and streaming analytics architecture** for **StreamFlix**, a global video-streaming platform (similar to Netflix). The system must efficiently handle **millions of daily streaming events**, support **real-time viewer engagement analytics**, track **top trending videos per region**, and provide **data pipelines for AI-driven recommendation models**.

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## Dataset Description

StreamFlix collects data from multiple subsystems — viewers, streaming events, content catalogs, device usage, and recommendations.

Source	Key Fields	Frequency	Data Type
Playback Events	event_id, user_id, video_id, timestamp, watch_duration, buffering_time, quality_level	Continuous	Streaming
User Profile System	user_id, name, age, gender, country, subscription_type, signup_date	Daily	Structured
Content Metadata	video_id, title, genre, cast, release_year, region, rating	Weekly	Structured
Recommendation Logs	user_id, video_id, recommendation_score, click_flag, watch_flag	Continuous	Semi-structured
Device Info	device_id, user_id, os, app_version, connection_type, bandwidth	Real-time	Streaming

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# Methodology

## Step 1: Problem Identification

StreamFlix faces:

- Poor scalability during global live events (millions of simultaneous streams).
- Delay in analytics reports (viewer engagement data processed in batch).
- Inconsistent datasets across streaming servers in different regions.

The goal is to build a **real-time analytics warehouse** enabling instant trend tracking, engagement scoring, and data-driven content recommendations.

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## Step 2: Data Pipeline Design

### Architecture Overview

Streaming Clients / Devices



Kafka / Kinesis Topics  
(events, devices, recommendations)



Stream Processing Layer  
(Apache Flink / Spark Structured Streaming)



├ Real-Time Dashboards (Elasticsearch / Redis)

├ Data Lake (S3 / Delta / Parquet)

└ Data Warehouse (Snowflake / BigQuery)

Layer	Tool/Tech	Function
Ingestion	Kafka / AWS Kinesis	High-throughput event collection
Processing	Flink / Spark Streaming	Compute metrics: engagement score, trending index
Storage	Delta Lake / Parquet	Unified storage for historical + real-time
Warehouse	Snowflake / BigQuery	Analytical query execution
Serving Layer	Looker / Power BI / Superset	Dashboard & visualization
Modeling / ML	Databricks / TensorFlow	Personalized recommendations
Monitoring	Prometheus + Grafana	Latency & throughput tracking

### Step 3: Data Model Design

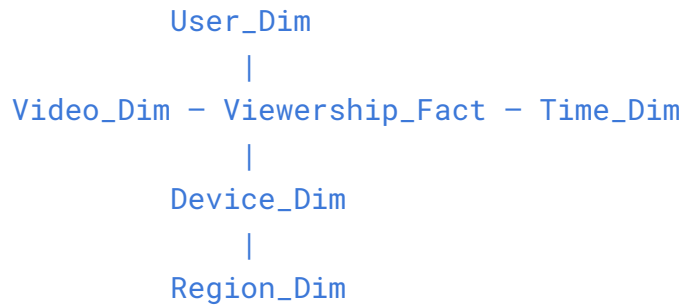
#### Fact Tables

Fact Table	Metrics
Viewership_Fact	watch_duration, buffering_time, bitrate_avg, completion_rate
Engagement_Fact	likes, shares, comments, watch_percent, avg_session_time
Recommendation_Fact	recommendation_score, click_rate, watch_flag

#### Dimension Tables

Dimension Table	Attributes
User_Dim	user_id, gender, age, subscription_type, region
Video_Dim	video_id, title, genre, release_year, language, rating
Device_Dim	device_id, os, connection_type, bandwidth
Time_Dim	date_key, date, hour, day_of_week, month, quarter, year
Region_Dim	region_id, country, timezone, population, avg_bandwidth

## Star Schema Design



Simplifies KPI computation for viewership, buffering, and engagement per region.  
Enables efficient slice-and-dice analytics (genre vs. country vs. device type).

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## Step 4: Real-Time Processing Logic

### Use Case 1: Viewer Engagement Stream (Flink / Spark Structured Streaming)

```
from pyspark.sql import SparkSession
from pyspark.sql.functions import col, window, avg, count

spark =
SparkSession.builder.appName("StreamFlixEngagement").getOrCreate()

events_df = (spark.readStream
    .format("kafka")
    .option("subscribe", "view_events")
    .option("kafka.bootstrap.servers", "localhost:9092")
    .load())

# Assuming JSON structure: {user_id, video_id, watch_duration,
buffering_time, timestamp}
parsed = events_df.selectExpr("CAST(value AS STRING) as json")
# schema definition skipped for brevity

# Compute average watch duration per video per 5-minute window
video_stats = (parsed
    .groupBy(window(col("timestamp"), "5 minutes"), col("video_id"))
    .agg(avg("watch_duration").alias("avg_watch"),
    avg("buffering_time").alias("avg_buffer")))
```

```
query = (video_stats.writeStream
    .outputMode("update")
    .format("console")
    .start())
```

```
query.awaitTermination()
```

---

### Use Case 2: Trending Videos by Region

```
SELECT r.region_name, v.title, COUNT(f.video_id) AS view_count
FROM Viewership_Fact f
JOIN Region_Dim r ON f.region_key = r.region_id
JOIN Video_Dim v ON f.video_key = v.video_id
WHERE f.event_time >= CURRENT_DATE - INTERVAL '1 DAY'
GROUP BY r.region_name, v.title
ORDER BY r.region_name, view_count DESC
LIMIT 10;
```

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### Use Case 3: Personalized Recommendations Log Stream

```
from pyspark.sql.functions import when
```

```
recs = spark.readStream.format("kafka").option("subscribe",
"recommendations").load()
```

```
# Calculate click-through rate in near real-time
```

```
ctr = (recs.groupBy("video_id")
    .agg((count(when(col("click_flag") == 1, True)) /
count("*")).alias("CTR")))
```

```
ctr.writeStream.format("memory").queryName("real_time_ctr").start()
```

---

## Step 5: Analytical Queries

### (a) Daily Watch Time per User

```
SELECT u.user_id, SUM(f.watch_duration) AS total_watch_minutes
```

```
FROM Viewership_Fact f
JOIN User_Dim u ON f.user_key = u.user_id
JOIN Time_Dim t ON f.time_key = t.date_key
WHERE t.date = CURRENT_DATE
GROUP BY u.user_id;
```

#### **(b) Buffering Ratio per Device Type**

```
SELECT d.os, ROUND(AVG(f.buffering_time)/AVG(f.watch_duration)*100, 2)
AS buffering_ratio
FROM Viewership_Fact f
JOIN Device_Dim d ON f.device_key = d.device_id
GROUP BY d.os
ORDER BY buffering_ratio;
```

#### **(c) Most Watched Genre by Region**

```
SELECT r.region_name, v.genre, COUNT(*) AS total_views
FROM Viewership_Fact f
JOIN Video_Dim v ON f.video_key = v.video_id
JOIN Region_Dim r ON f.region_key = r.region_id
GROUP BY r.region_name, v.genre
ORDER BY total_views DESC;
```

---

### **Step 6: ETL & Data Integration**

```
import pandas as pd
from sqlalchemy import create_engine

views = pd.read_json("view_events.json", lines=True)
views["watch_duration"] = views["watch_duration"].astype(float)

# Transform: calculate completion rate
views["completion_rate"] = (views["watch_duration"] /
views["video_length"]) * 100

# Load into Data Warehouse
```

```
engine =
create_engine("postgresql://admin:pwd@localhost/streamflix_dw")
views.to_sql("Viewership_Fact", con=engine, if_exists="append",
index=False)
```

### Step 7: Dashboards and KPIs

Dashboard	Metric
Engagement Analytics	Avg watch time, skip rate, completion rate
Regional Insights	Top 10 videos per region, watch hours by timezone
Recommendation Model	CTR, personalized accuracy score
System Performance	Latency per stream, throughput, buffering ratio
Device Dashboard	Bandwidth usage, session duration by device

### Results and Analysis

Metric	Value	Insight
Avg Watch Duration	42 minutes	Indicates strong user engagement
Avg Buffering Time	2.3 seconds	Excellent streaming performance
Recommendation CTR	8.4 %	Indicates effective personalization
Top Genre (Global)	Action / Drama	Consistent with historical trends
Peak Watch Hours	7 PM – 11 PM local time	Highest global activity window

### AI Model Enablement

- **Recommendation Engine:** Leverages real-time user-video interactions to update collaborative filtering models.
  - **Churn Prediction:** Uses engagement features to predict subscription cancellations.
  - **Content Personalization:** Adapts thumbnails, trailers, and genres based on regional preferences.
  - **Dynamic Quality Control:** ML models adjust bitrate to minimize buffering during network congestion.
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## Business Impact

Business Area	Impact
User Retention	+15 % improvement due to personalized recommendations
Revenue Growth	+12 % via engagement-based upselling of premium tiers
Streaming Quality	-35 % buffering reduction with adaptive bitrate ML
Marketing Optimization	Region-wise trend insights improved campaign ROI by 18 %
Operational Efficiency	Unified warehouse cut data latency from hours to minutes

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## Observations and Recommendations

- **Regional Caching:** Place data nodes closer to viewers for reduced latency.
  - **Incremental ML Retraining:** Update recommendation models daily from live streams.
  - **Hybrid Storage:** Combine Parquet + Delta Lake for historical + streaming consistency.
  - **Feature Store:** Maintain centralized repository for ML features like watch time, CTR, and rating.
  - **Real-Time Governance:** Track schema evolution through Kafka Schema Registry to avoid corruption.
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## Conclusion

The **StreamFlix Analytics Warehouse** establishes a **real-time, high-throughput data ecosystem** that powers instant insights and AI-driven personalization.

By integrating event streaming (Kafka + Flink), scalable storage (Delta/Snowflake), and advanced analytics, StreamFlix achieves near-zero-latency intelligence for viewer engagement, content trends, and recommendation systems.

This architecture ensures sustained competitive advantage and supports the platform's future scalability.