

# Data Architecture

## 1. Introduction to Data Architecture

- A. What is Data Architecture?
- B. Role of data architecture in analytics & AI
- C. Data types and sources (structured, semi-structured, unstructured)
- D. Relational vs non-relational systems
- E. Data lifecycle in organizations

## 2. Data Modeling Fundamentals

- A. Conceptual, logical, and physical data models
- B. Entity-Relationship (ER) modeling
- C. Dimensional modeling overview
- D. Star schema, Snowflake schema, Fact and Dimension tables
- E. Slowly Changing Dimensions (SCD)
- F. Normalization vs Denormalization
- G. Data dictionary and metadata concepts

## 3. Data Warehouse Architecture

- A. What is a Data Warehouse?
- B. Batch and real-time analytics systems
- C. Data staging layer, integration layer, presentation layer
- D. Three-tier DW architectures
- E. Operational Data Store (ODS)
- F. Data Marts
- G. OLTP vs OLAP systems
- H. Metadata repositories

## 4. Extract, Transform, Load (ETL/ELT) Concepts

- A. Overview of ETL and ELT processes
- B. Data extraction from heterogeneous sources
- C. Data transformation: cleaning, integration, enrichment
- D. Loading strategies: batch vs incremental
- E. Change data capture
- F. ETL tools overview (Talend, SSIS, Informatica, dbt)
- G. Scheduling and workflow orchestration

## 5. Data Warehousing Design & Implementation

- A. Warehouse building lifecycle
- B. Kimball vs Inmon architectures
- C. Schema design for performance

- D. Data cube and multidimensional models
- E. OLAP operations (slice, dice, drill-down/up)
- F. Partitioning and indexing strategies
- G. Data quality and governance

## 6. Data Pipelines & Modern Architectures

- A. Fundamentals of data pipelines
- B. Batch vs real-time pipelines
- C. Tools and frameworks (Apache Kafka, NiFi, Airflow)
- D. Medallion/Lakehouse architecture (bronze, silver, gold layers)
- E. Cloud data pipelines (AWS/Azure/GCP)
- F. Pipeline monitoring, error handling, retries

## 7. Big Data & Lakehouse Concepts

- A. Data lakes vs data warehouses
- B. Lakehouse fundamentals (Delta Lake, Iceberg, Hudi)
- C. Integration with warehouse systems
- D. Data cataloging and governance
- E. Security and compliance considerations

## 8. Data Governance & Quality

- A. Importance of data governance
- B. Data quality frameworks
- C. Master data management (MDM)
- D. Lineage and metadata management
- E. Compliance (e.g., GDPR)

## 9. Tools & Platforms

- A. SQL & database systems
- B. Data modeling tools (ERwin, PowerDesigner)
- C. ETL tools (Talend, SSIS)
- D. Orchestration (Airflow)
- E. Cloud platforms (AWS Glue, Azure Data Factory)
- F. Warehouse solutions (Redshift, Snowflake, BigQuery)

## Mini Projects:

- Design a data warehouse for business requirements
- Build ETL/ELT pipelines ingesting data from real systems
- Implement staging and presentation layers
- Model and optimize analytics schemas
- Document architecture and governance plan