# Dimensional Modeling:

## Module 1

# Agenda

- Dimensional Modeling:
- Star, Snowflake, and Fact Constellation Schemas,
- OLAP in the data warehouse,
- major features and functions,
- OLAP models- ROLAP and MOLAP,
- and the difference between OLAP and OLTP.

# What is a Data Warehouse?

- Defined in many different ways, but not rigorously.
  - A decision support database that is maintained separately from the organization's operational database
  - Support information processing by providing a solid platform of consolidated, historical data for analysis.
- "A data warehouse is a subject-oriented, integrated, time-variant, and nonvolatile collection of data in support of management's decision-making process."—W. H. Inmon
- Data warehousing:
  - The process of constructing and using data warehouses

# Data Warehouse—Subject-Oriented

- Organized around major subjects, such as customer, product, sales
- Focusing on the modeling and analysis of data for decision makers, not on daily operations or transaction processing
- Provide a simple and concise view around particular subject issues by excluding data that are not useful in the decision support process

# Data Warehouse—Integrated

- Constructed by integrating multiple, heterogeneous data sources
  - relational databases, flat files, on-line transaction records
- Data cleaning and data integration techniques are applied.
  - Ensure consistency in naming conventions, encoding structures, attribute measures, etc. among different data sources
    - E.g., Hotel price: currency, tax, breakfast covered, etc.
  - When data is moved to the warehouse, it is converted.

# Data Warehouse—Time Variant

- The time horizon for the data warehouse is significantly longer than that of operational systems
  - Operational database: current value data
  - Data warehouse data: provide information from a historical perspective (e.g., past 5-10 years)
- Every key structure in the data warehouse
  - Contains an element of time, explicitly or implicitly
  - But the key of operational data may or may not contain "time element"

# Data Warehouse—Nonvolatile

- A physically separate store of data transformed from the operational environment
- Operational update of data does not occur in the data warehouse environment
  - Does not require transaction processing, recovery, and concurrency control mechanisms
  - Requires only two operations in data accessing:
    - *initial loading of data* and *access of data*

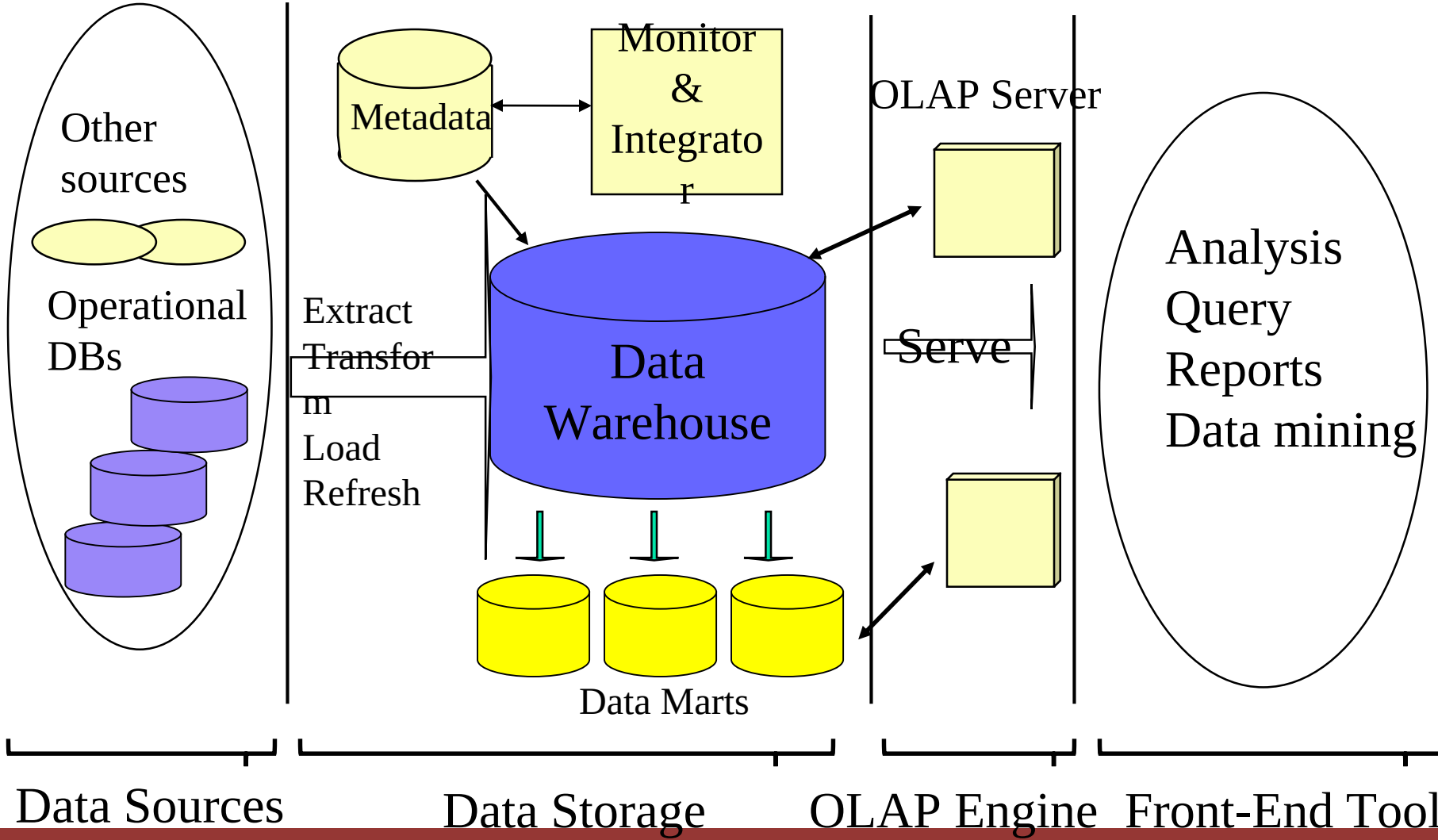
# OLTP vs. OLAP

| | OLTP | OLAP |
|---|---|---|
| **users** | clerk, IT professional | knowledge worker |
| **function** | day to day operations | decision support |
| **DB design** | application-oriented | subject-oriented |
| **data** | current, up-to-date<br>detailed, flat relational<br>isolated | historical,<br>summarized, multidimensional<br>integrated, consolidated |
| **usage** | repetitive | ad-hoc |
| **access** | read/write<br>index/hash on prim. key | lots of scans |
| **unit of work** | short, simple transaction | complex query |
| **# records accessed** | tens | millions |
| **#users** | thousands | hundreds |
| **DB size** | 100MB-GB | 100GB-TB |
| **metric** | transaction throughput | query throughput, response |

# Why a Separate Data Warehouse?

- High performance for both systems
  - DBMS— tuned for OLTP: access methods, indexing, concurrency control, recovery
  - Warehouse—tuned for OLAP: complex OLAP queries, multidimensional view, consolidation
- Different functions and different data:
  - missing data: Decision support requires historical data which operational DBs do not typically maintain
  - data consolidation: DS requires consolidation (aggregation, summarization) of data from heterogeneous sources
  - data quality: different sources typically use inconsistent data representations, codes and formats which have to be reconciled
- Note: There are more and more systems which perform OLAP analysis directly on relational databases

# Data Warehouse: A Multi-Tiered Architecture



# Three Data Warehouse Models

- Enterprise warehouse
  - collects all of the information about subjects spanning the entire organization
- Data Mart
  - a subset of corporate-wide data that is of value to a specific groups of users. Its scope is confined to specific, selected groups, such as marketing data mart
    - Independent vs. dependent (directly from warehouse) data mart
- Virtual warehouse
  - A set of views over operational databases
  - Only some of the possible summary views may be materialized

# Extraction, Transformation, and Loading (ETL)

- **Data extraction**
  - get data from multiple, heterogeneous, and external sources
- **Data cleaning**
  - detect errors in the data and rectify them when possible
- **Data transformation**
  - convert data from legacy or host format to warehouse format
- **Load**
  - sort, summarize, consolidate, compute views, check integrity, and build indicies and partitions
- **Refresh**
  - propagate the updates from the data sources to the warehouse

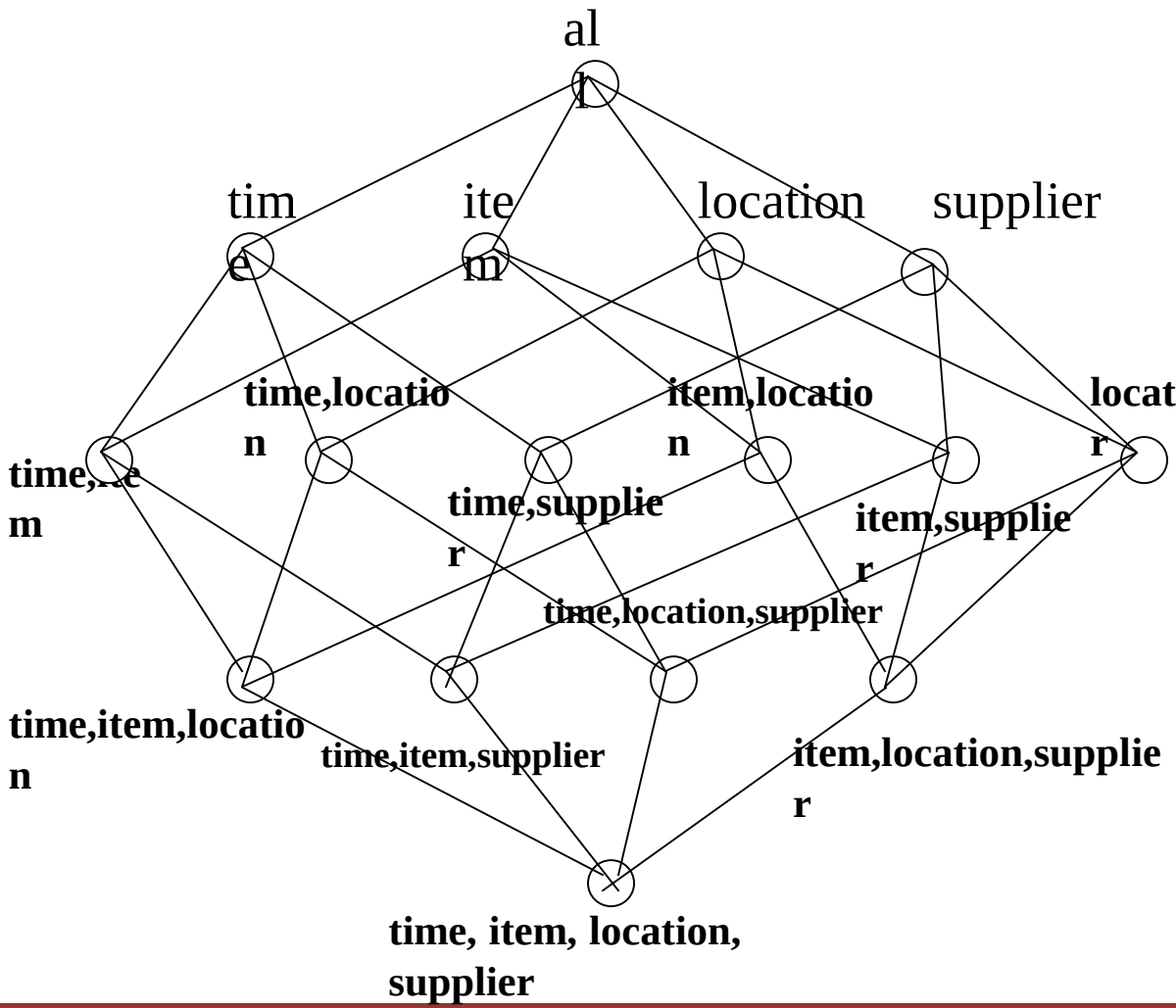
# Metadata Repository

- **Meta data** is the data defining warehouse objects. It stores:
- Description of the structure of the data warehouse
  - schema, view, dimensions, hierarchies, derived data defn, data mart locations and contents
- Operational meta-data
  - data lineage (history of migrated data and transformation path), currency of data (active, archived, or purged), monitoring information (warehouse usage statistics, error reports, audit trails)
- The algorithms used for summarization
- The mapping from operational environment to the data warehouse
- Data related to system performance
  - warehouse schema, view and derived data definitions
- Business data
  - business terms and definitions, ownership of data, charging policies

# From Tables and Spreadsheets to Data Cubes

- A **data warehouse** is based on a multidimensional data model which views data in the form of a data cube
- A data cube, such as sales, allows data to be modeled and viewed in multiple dimensions
  - **Dimension tables**, such as item (item_name, brand, type), or time(day, week, month, quarter, year)
  - **Fact table** contains **measures** (such as dollars_sold) and keys to each of the related dimension tables
- In data warehousing literature, an n-D base cube is called a base cuboid. The top most 0-D cuboid, which holds the highest-level of summarization, is called the apex cuboid. The lattice of cuboids forms a data cube.

# Cube: A Lattice of Cuboids




0-D (*apex*) cuboid

1-D cuboids

2-D cuboids

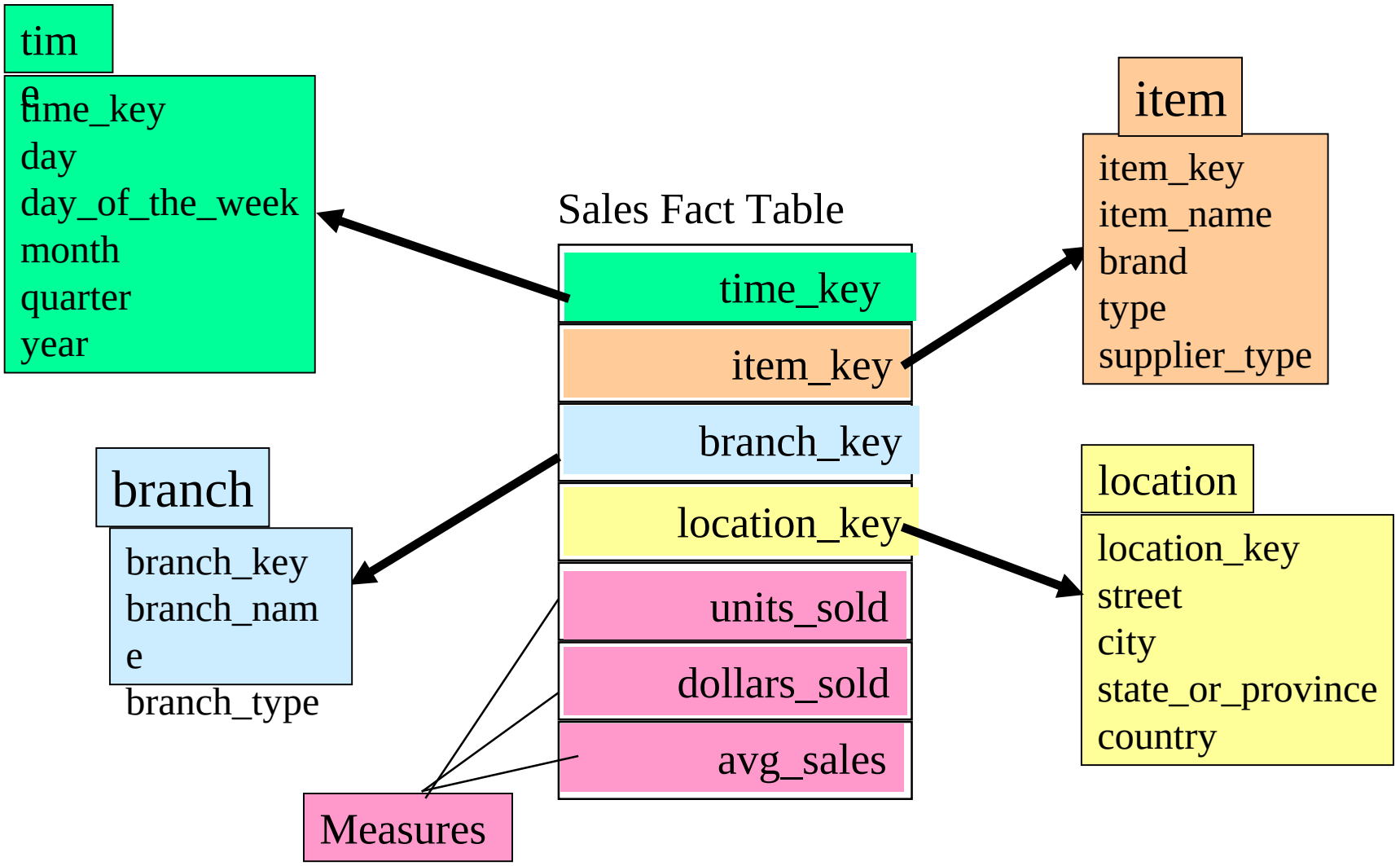
3-D cuboids

4-D (*base*) cuboid

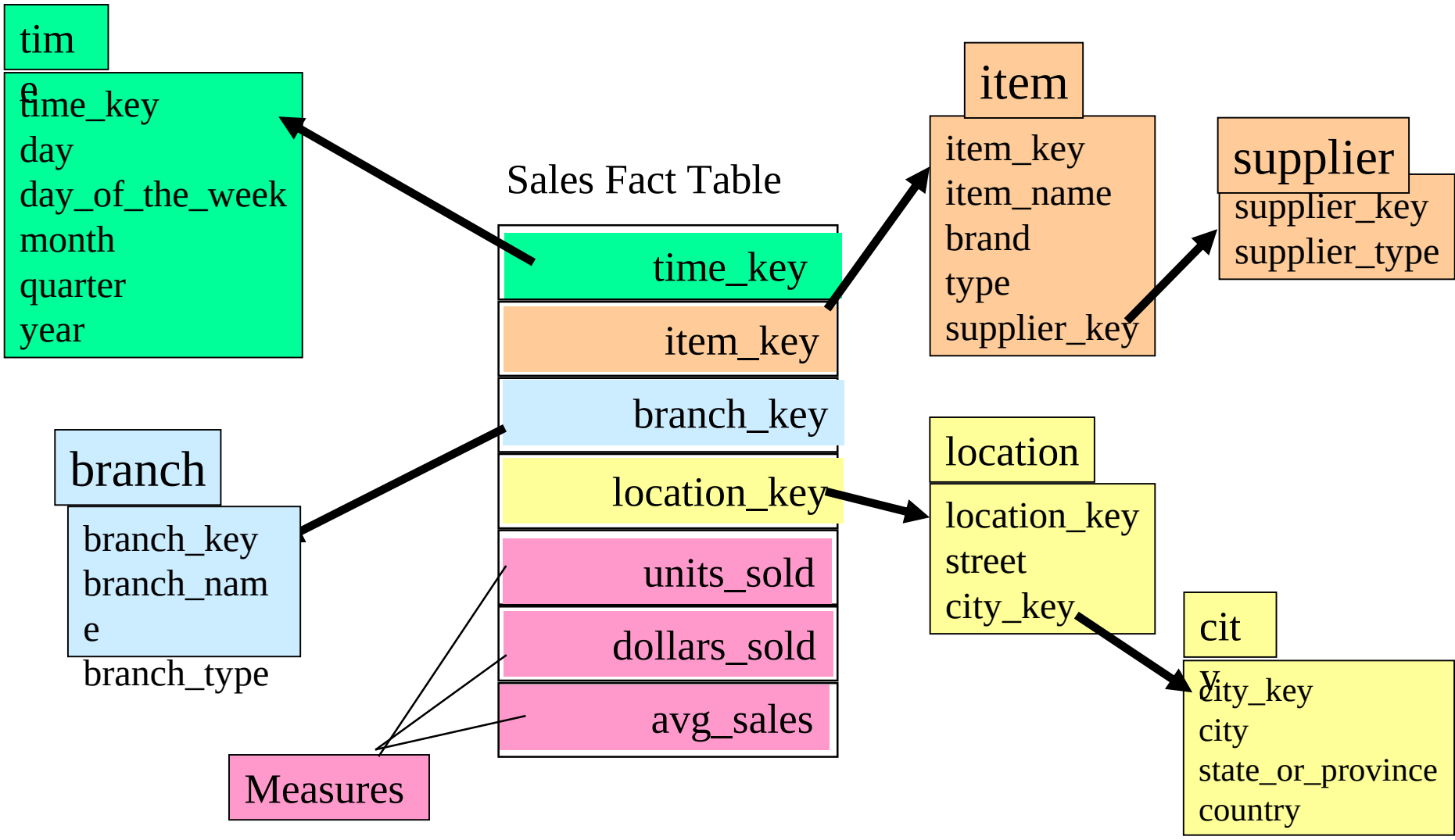
# Conceptual Modeling of Data Warehouses

- Modeling data warehouses: dimensions & measures
  - Star schema: A fact table in the middle connected to a set of dimension tables
  - Snowflake schema: A refinement of star schema where some dimensional hierarchy is normalized into a set of smaller dimension tables, forming a shape similar to snowflake
  - Fact constellations: Multiple fact tables share dimension tables, viewed as a collection of stars, therefore called galaxy schema or fact constellation

# Example of Star Schema



# Example of Snowflake Schema



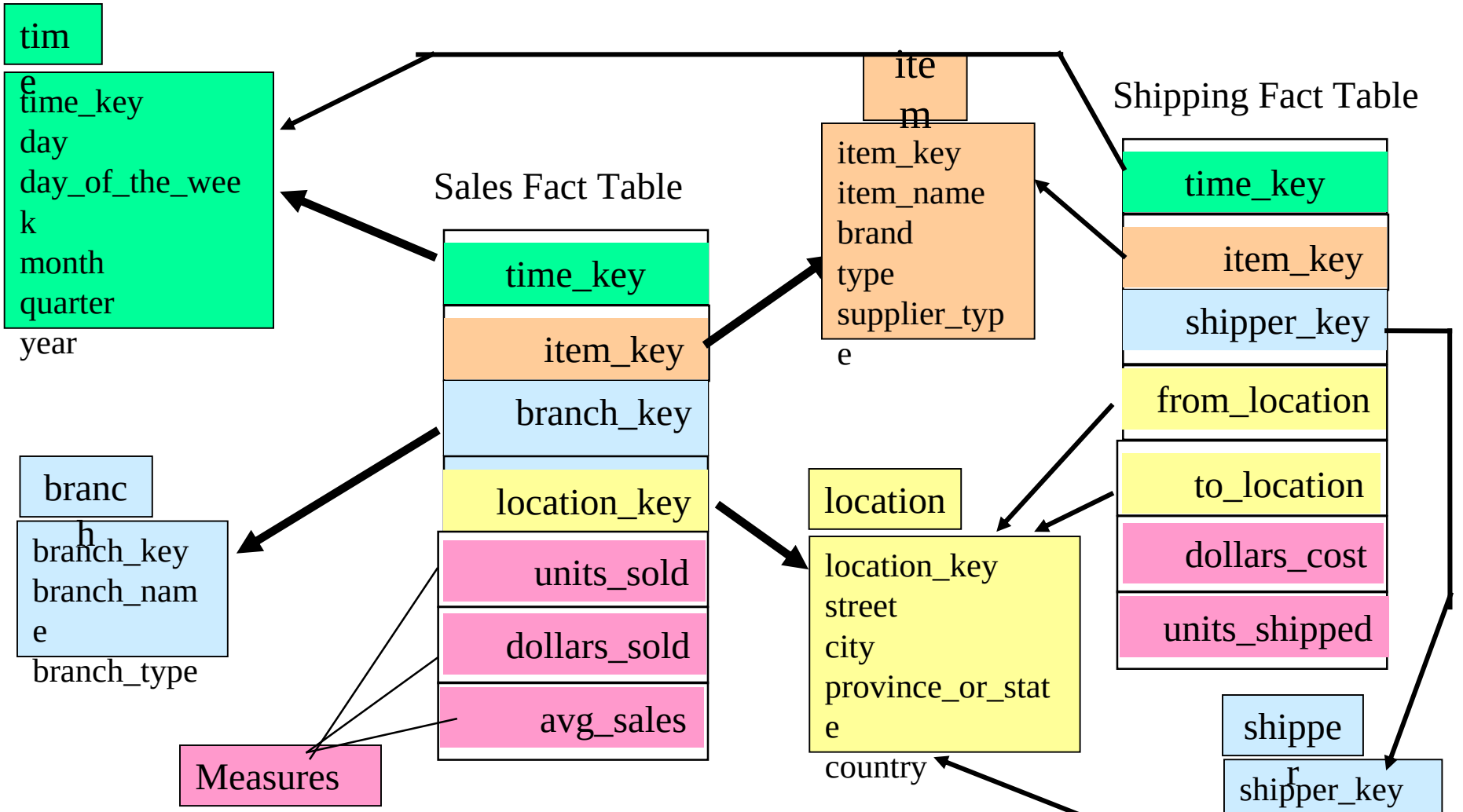
# Fact Constellation Shema

- Fact constellations: Multiple fact tables share dimension tables, viewed as a collection of stars, therefore called galaxy schema or fact constellation .

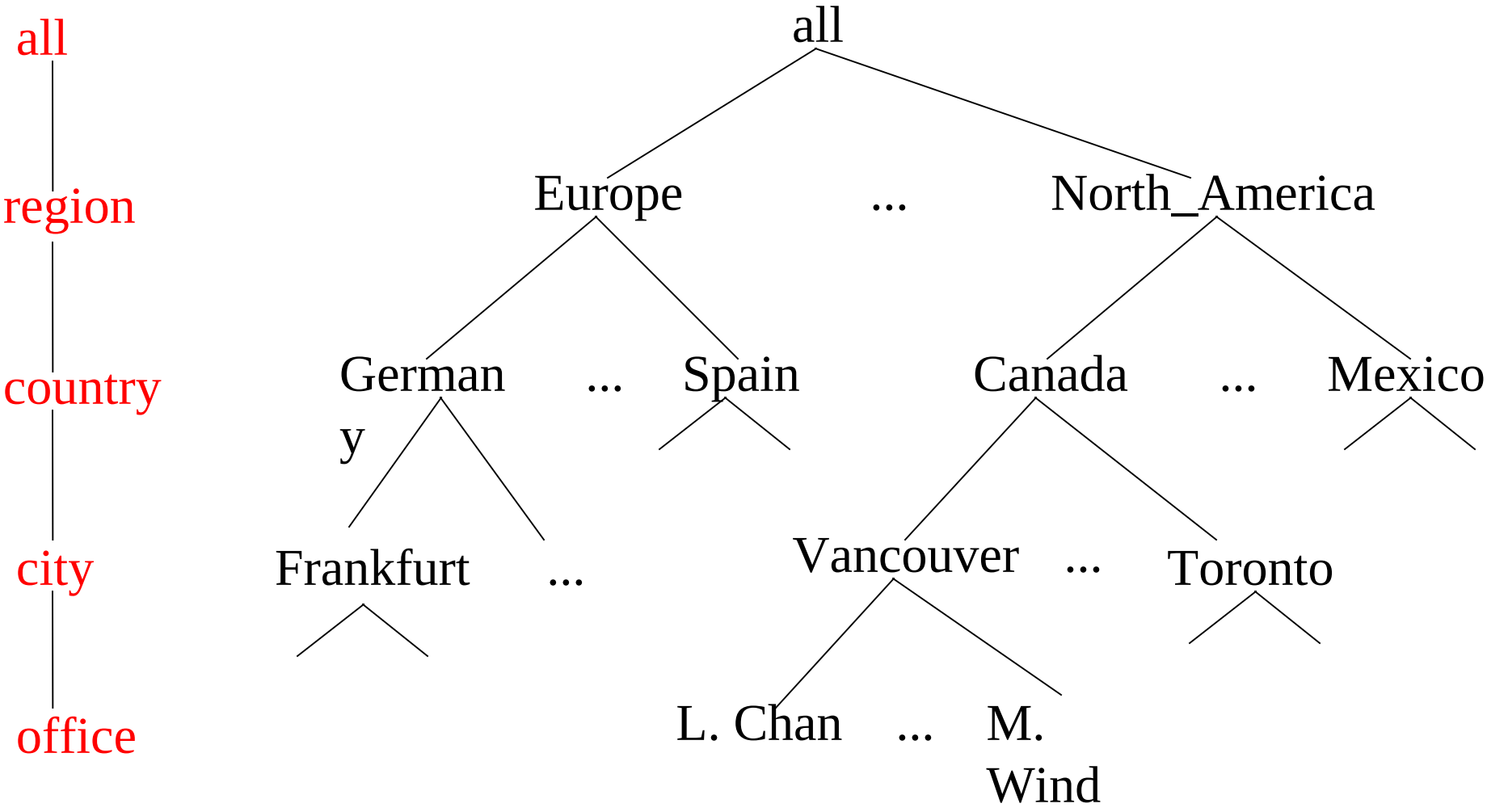
- This Schema is commonly used for data warehouses,since it can model multiple and interrelated subjects.

- For data marts,the star or snowflake schema are commonly used both are geared toward modeling single subjects,although the star schema is more popular and efficient.

# Example of Fact Constellation

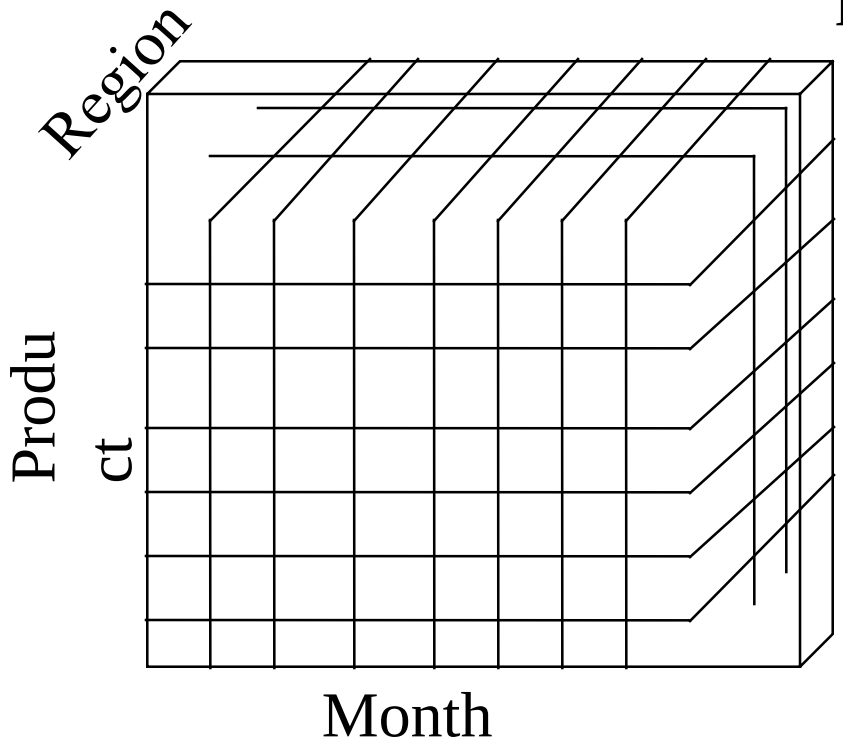


# A Concept Hierarchy: Dimension (location)

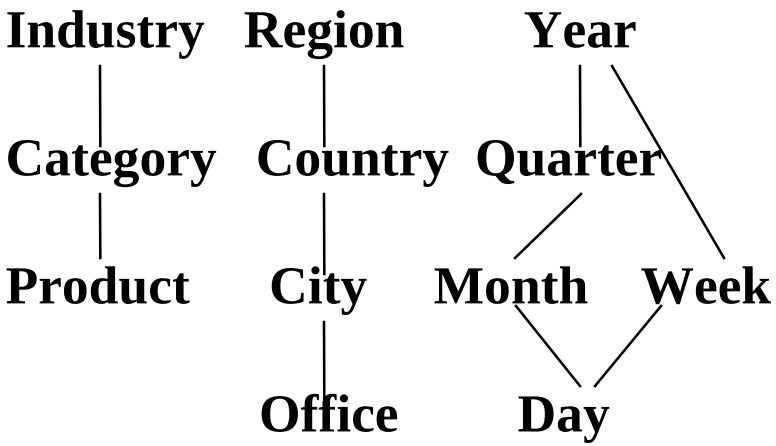


# Multidimensional Data

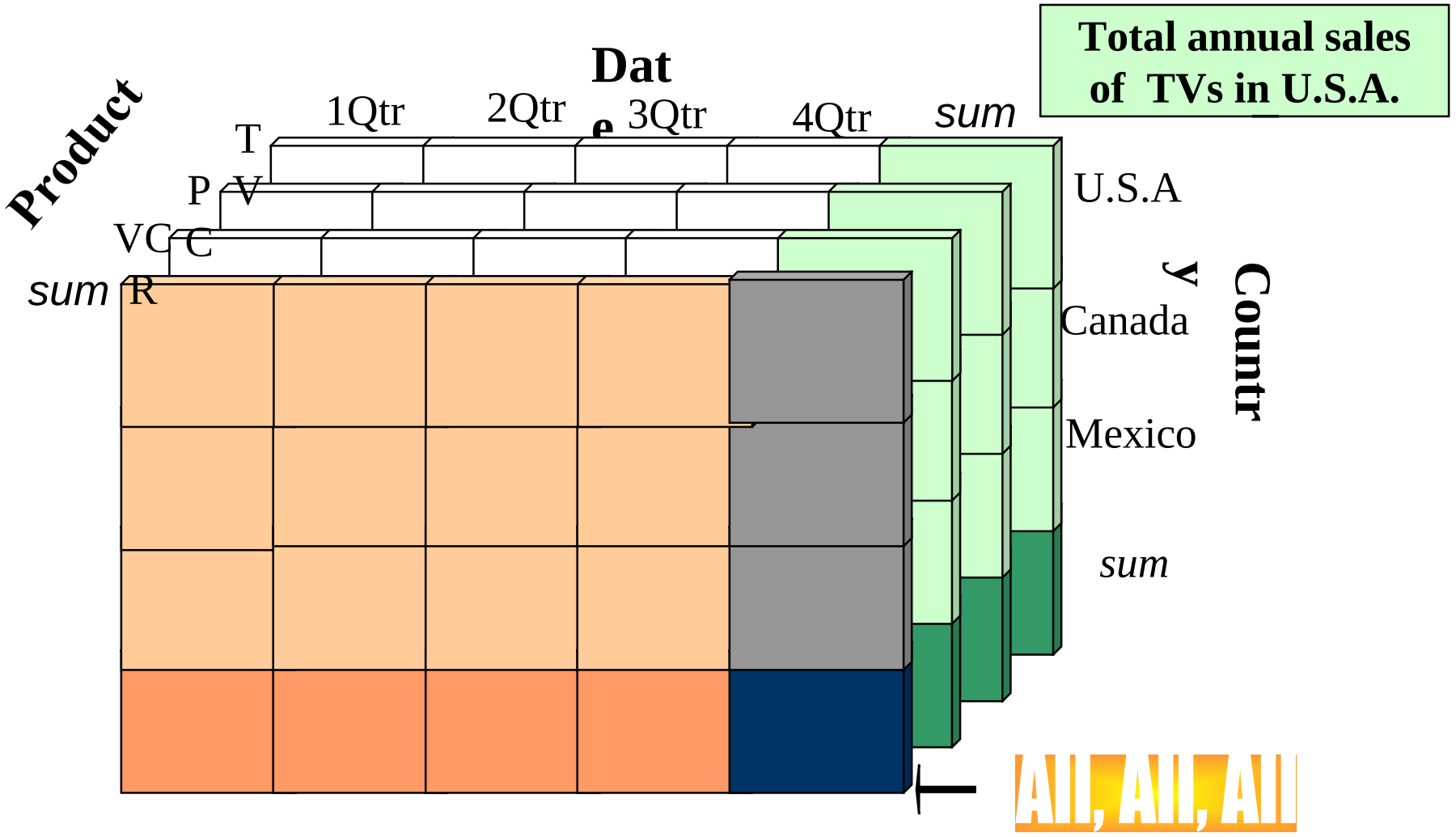
- Sales volume as a function of product, month, and region



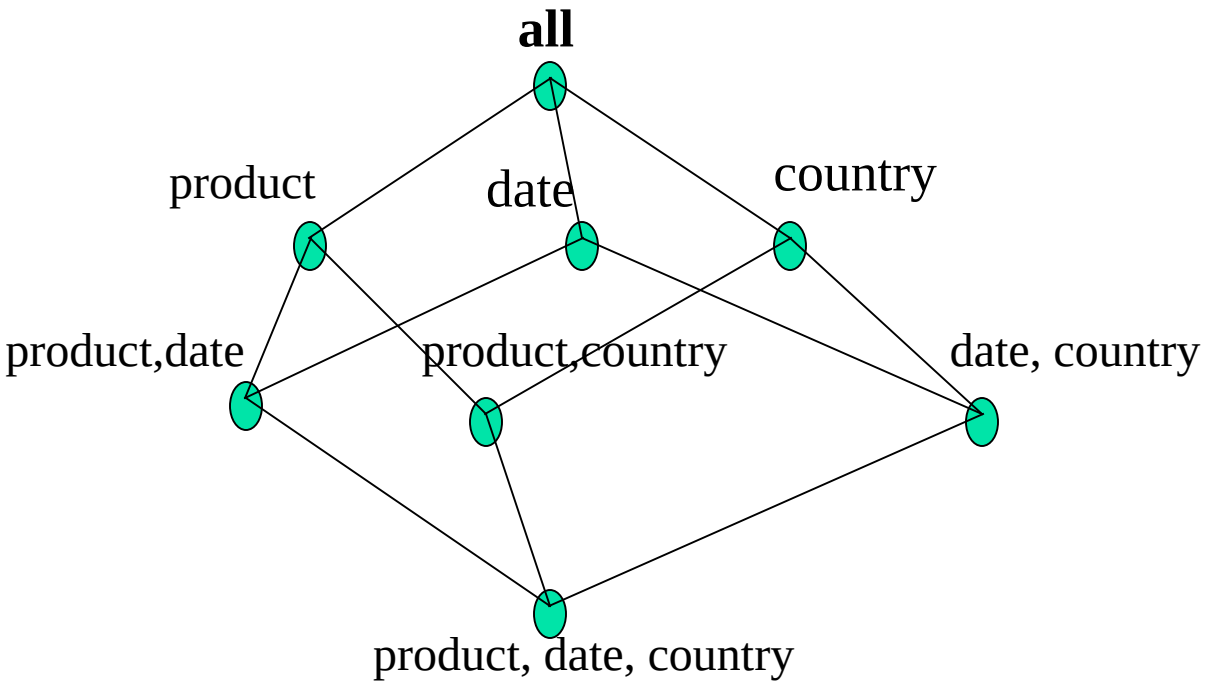

**Dimensions: *Product, Location, Time***
**Hierarchical summarization paths**



# A Sample Data Cube



# Cuboids Corresponding to the Cube




0-D (*apex*) cuboid

1-D cuboids

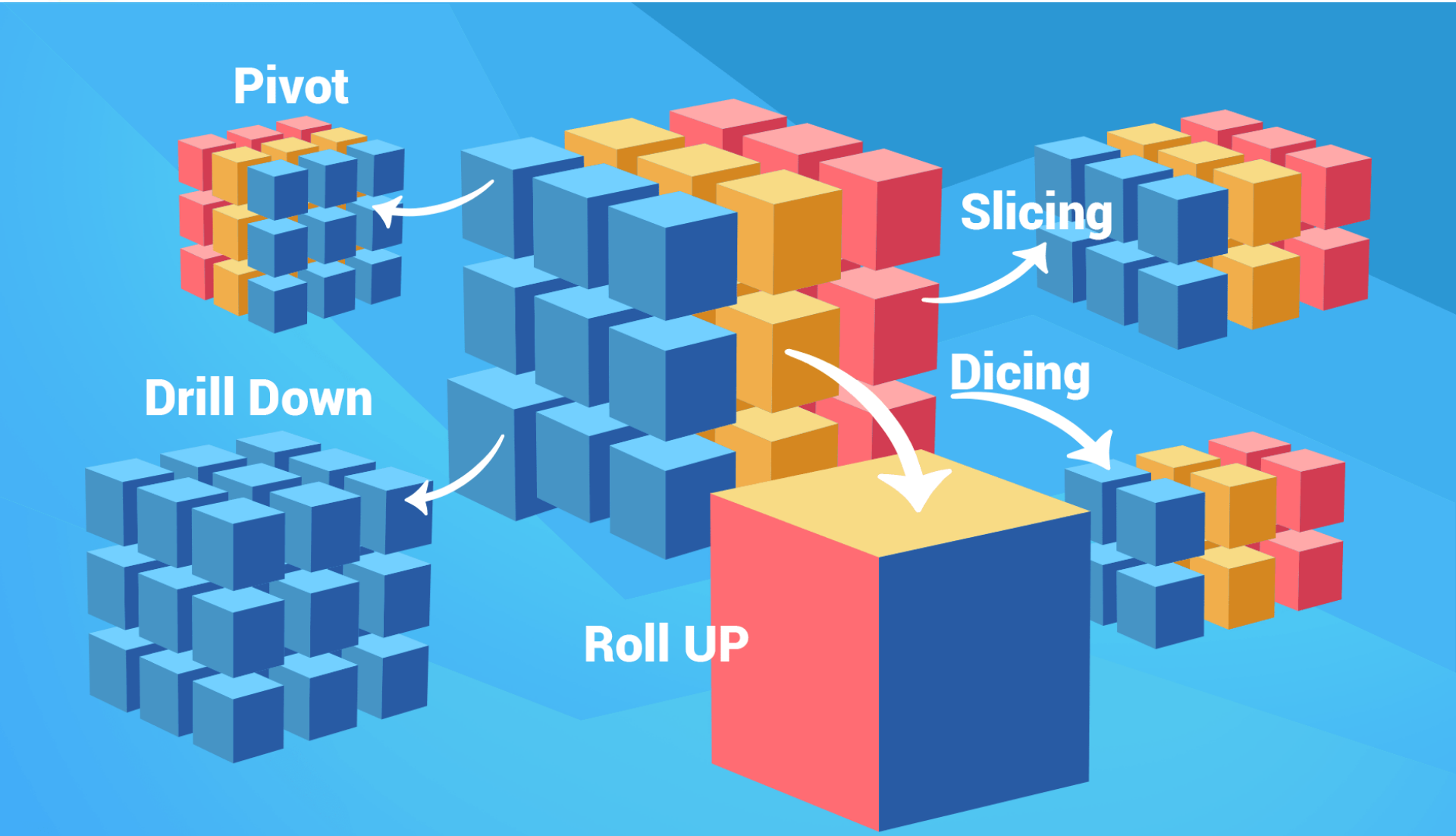
2-D cuboids

3-D (*base*) cuboid

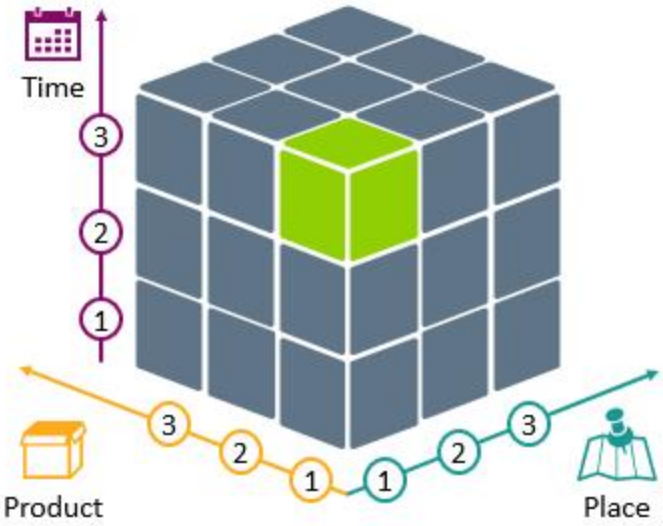
# Typical OLAP Operations

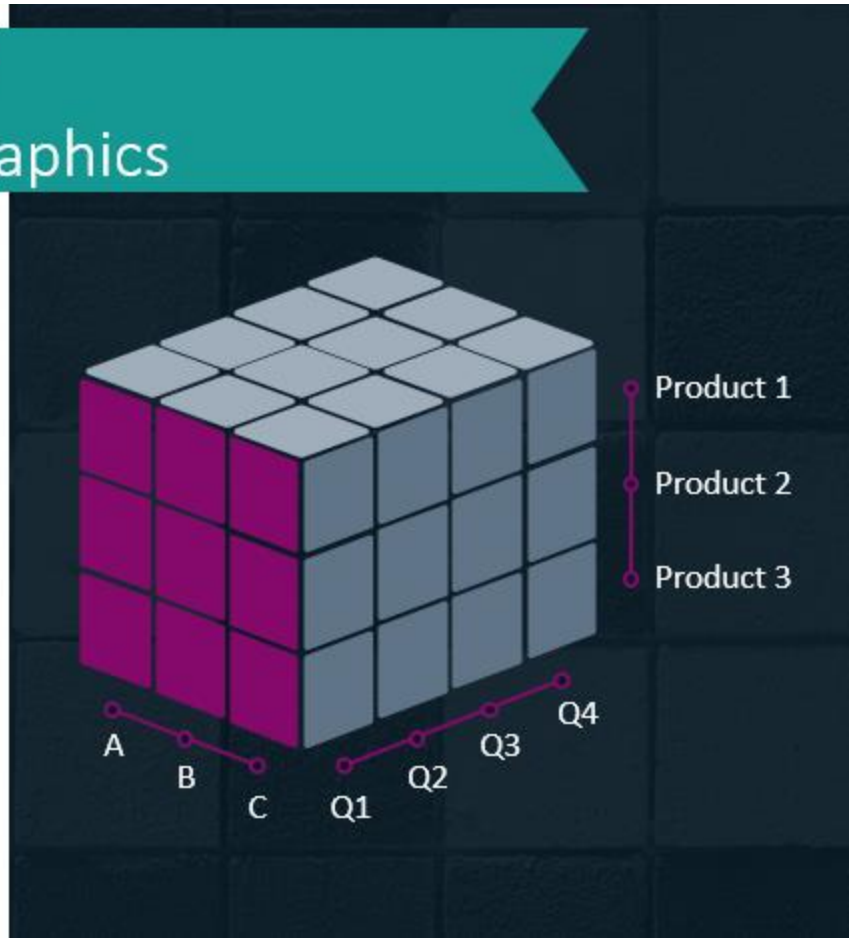
- Roll up (drill-up): summarize data
  - by climbing up hierarchy or by dimension reduction
- Drill down (roll down): reverse of roll-up
  - from higher level summary to lower level summary or detailed data, or introducing new dimensions
- Slice and dice: project and select
- Pivot (rotate):
  - reorient the cube, visualization, 3D to series of 2D planes
- Other operations
  - drill across: involving (across) more than one fact table
  - drill through: through the bottom level of the cube to its back-end relational tables (using SQL)

# Typical OLAP Operations



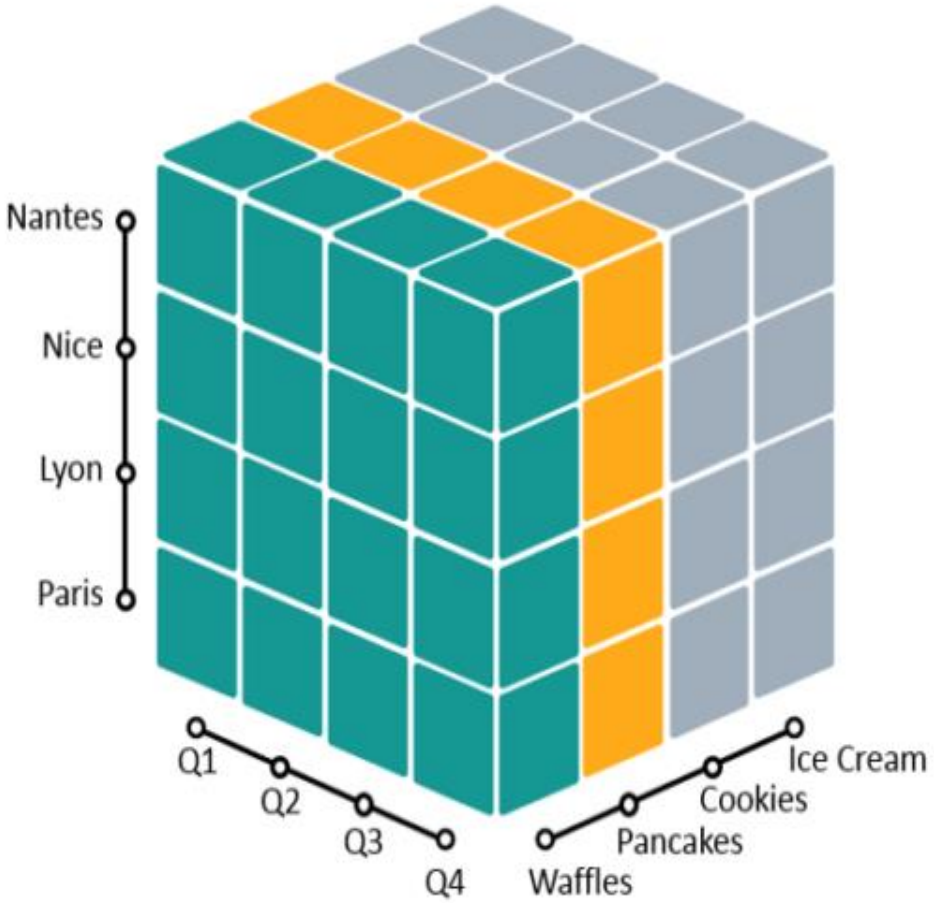
# Explaining OLAP Concept with Cube PowerPoint Graphics



# 3-dimensional Cube in Data Warehousing Example

with dimensions Location, Quarter, Product categories




Example: You want to summarize sales by specific product, by the time, and by store location. These are data cube dimensions.

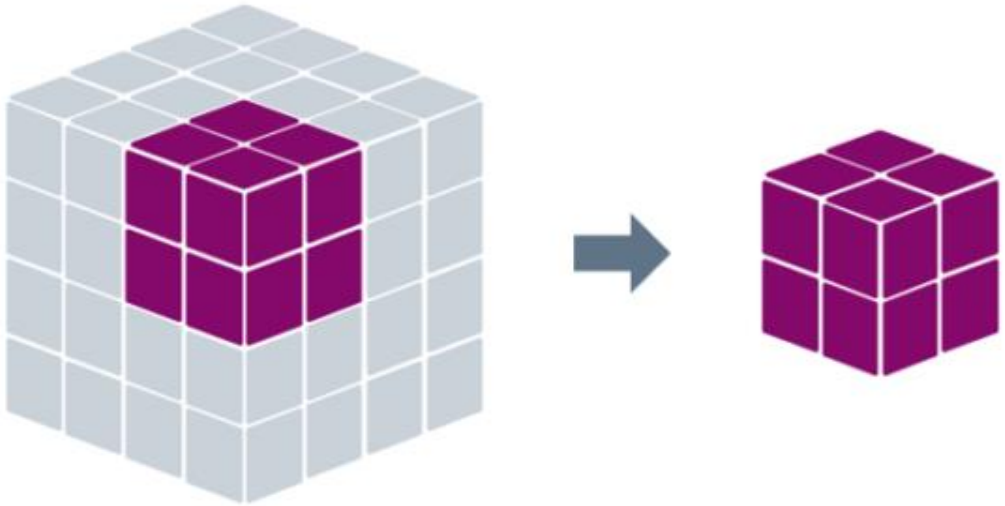
# What Is a Slice in Online Analytical Processing

## OLAP Slice

Slice is a term for a dimension which is held constant for all cells so that multi-dimensional information can be shown in a two-dimensional physical space of a spreadsheet or pivot table.

Source: Wikipedia

# Dicing - OLAP Operation Explanation Template



Dicing is an operation of creating a sub-cube from the main one.
(...) add your own description here

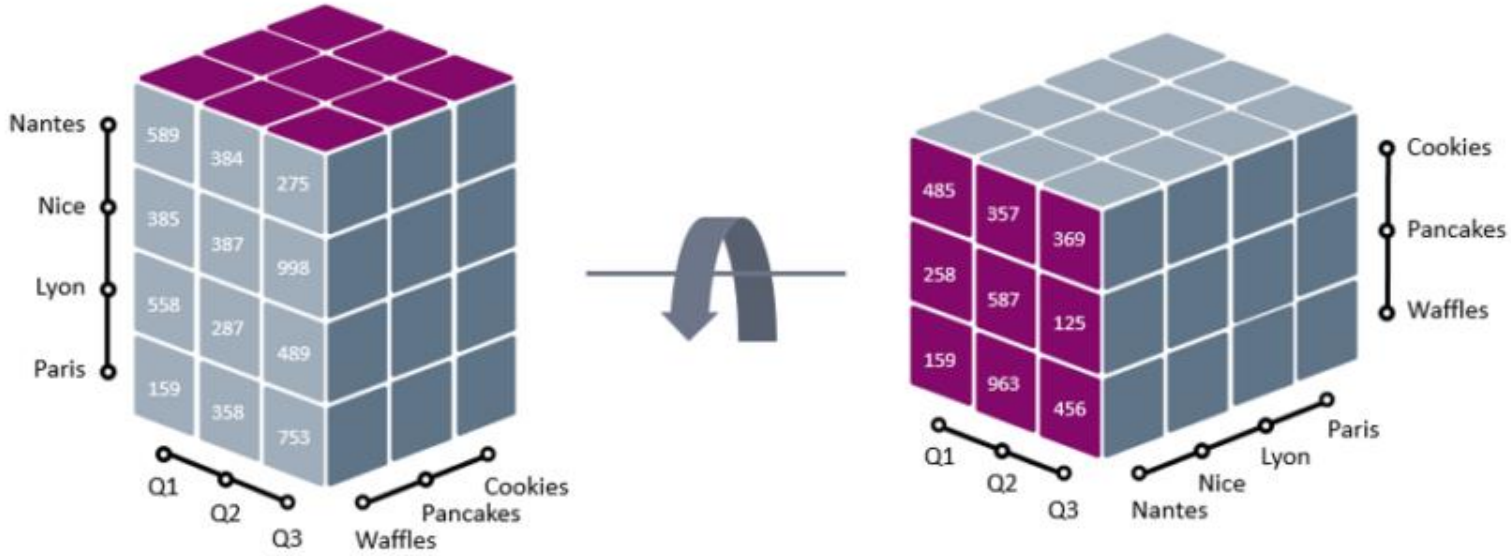
# Roll-up - OLAP Operation Explanation Template

Summarizing data along a dimension (unlike dicing, it's not picking a sub-cube).
(...) add your own description here

# Drill-down OLAP Operation Explanation Template

Drill-down is an operation opposite to roll-up.
(...) add your own description here

# Pivoting Rotation - OLAP Operation Explanation Template




Pivoting allows to see another perspective on the dataset, by rotating the whole cube in space.
(...) add your own description here

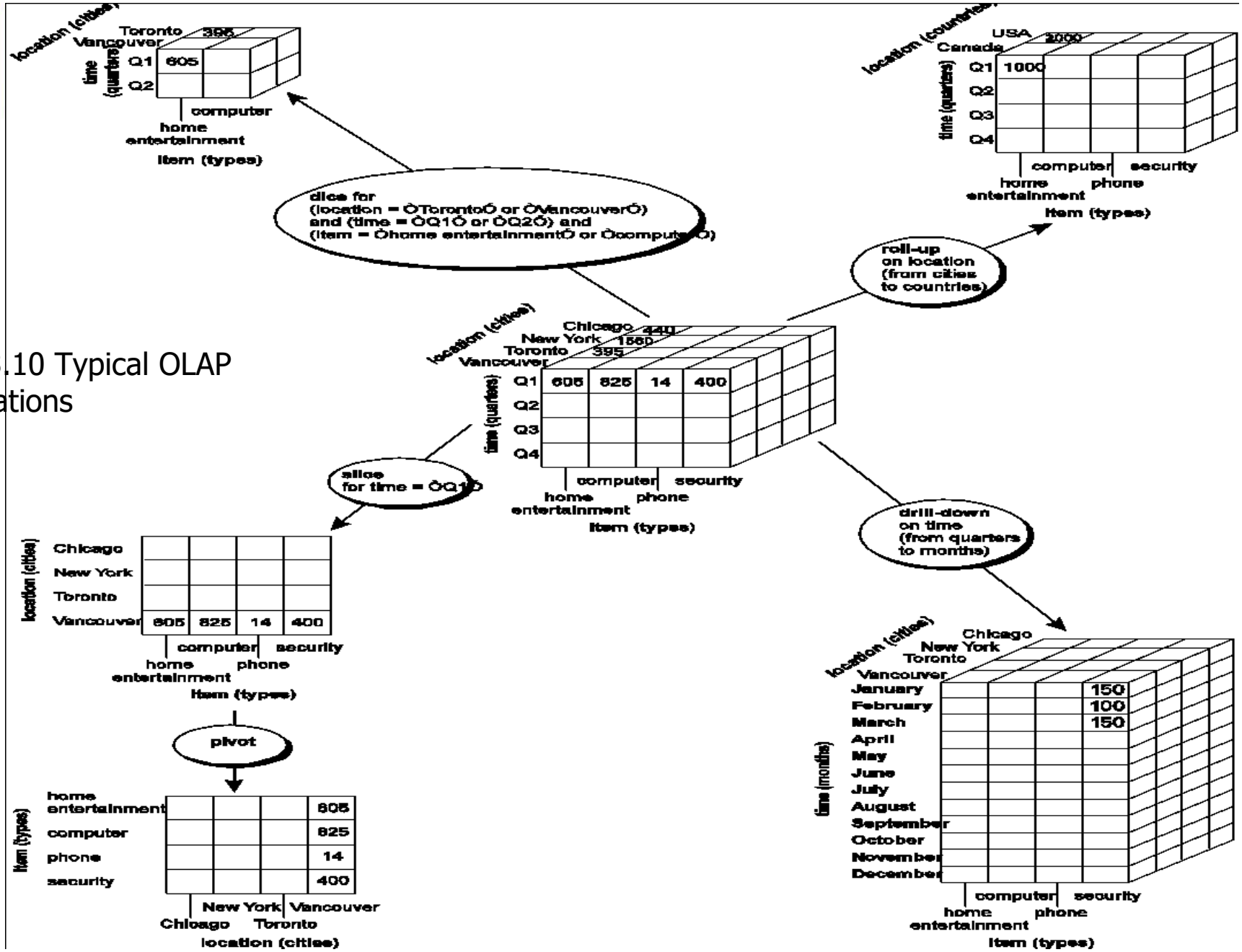



Fig. 3.10 Typical OLAP Operations

# Design of Data Warehouse: A Business Analysis Framework

- Four views regarding the design of a data warehouse
  - Top-down view
    - allows selection of the relevant information necessary for the data warehouse
  - Data source view
    - exposes the information being captured, stored, and managed by operational systems
  - Data warehouse view
    - consists of fact tables and dimension tables
  - Business query view
    - sees the perspectives of data in the warehouse from the view of end-user

# Data Warehouse Design Process

- **Top-down, bottom-up approaches or a combination** of both
  - Top-down: Starts with overall design and planning (mature)
  - Bottom-up: Starts with experiments and prototypes (rapid)
- **From software engineering point of view**
  - Waterfall: structured and systematic analysis at each step before proceeding to the next
  - Spiral: rapid generation of increasingly functional systems, short turn around time, quick turn around
- **Typical data warehouse design process**
  - Choose a business process to model, e.g., orders, invoices, etc.
  - Choose the *grain* (*atomic level of data*) of the business process
  - Choose the dimensions that will apply to each fact table record
  - Choose the measure that will populate each fact table record

# Data Warehouse Usage

- Three kinds of data warehouse applications
  - Information processing
    - supports querying, basic statistical analysis, and reporting using crosstabs, tables, charts and graphs
  - Analytical processing
    - multidimensional analysis of data warehouse data
    - supports basic OLAP operations, slice-dice, drilling, pivoting
  - Data mining
    - knowledge discovery from hidden patterns
    - supports associations, constructing analytical models, performing classification and prediction, and presenting the mining results using visualization tools

# OLAP Server Architectures

- Relational OLAP (ROLAP)
  - Use relational or extended-relational DBMS to store and manage warehouse data and OLAP middle ware
  - Include optimization of DBMS backend, implementation of aggregation navigation logic, and additional tools and services
  - Greater scalability
- Multidimensional OLAP (MOLAP)
  - Sparse array-based multidimensional storage engine
  - Fast indexing to pre-computed summarized data
- Hybrid OLAP (HOLAP) (e.g., Microsoft SQLServer)
  - Flexibility, e.g., low level: relational, high-level: array
- Specialized SQL servers (e.g., Redbricks)
  - Specialized support for SQL queries over star/snowflake schemas

| S.NO | ROLAP | MOLAP |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | ROLAP stands for **Relational Online Analytical Processing.** | While MOLAP stands for **Multidimensional Online Analytical Processing.** |
| 2. | ROLAP is used for large data volumes. | While it is used for limited data volumes. |
| 3. | The access of ROLAP is slow. | While the access of MOLAP is fast. |
| 4. | In ROLAP, Data is stored in relation tables. | While in MOLAP, Data is stored in multidimensional array. |
| 5. | In ROLAP, Data is fetched from data-warehouse. | While in MOLAP, Data is fetched from MDDBs database. |
| 6. | In ROLAP, Complicated sql queries are used. | While in MOLAP, Sparse matrix is used. |
| 7. | In ROLAP, Static multidimensional view of data is created. | While in MOLAP, Dynamic multidimensional view of data is created. |

# Summary

- Data warehousing: A multi-dimensional model of a data warehouse
  - A data cube consists of *dimensions* & *measures*
  - Star schema, snowflake schema, fact constellations
  - OLAP operations: drilling, rolling, slicing, dicing and pivoting
- Data Warehouse Architecture, Design, and Usage
  - Multi-tiered architecture
  - Business analysis design framework
  - Information processing, analytical processing, data mining, OLAM (Online Analytical Mining)
- Implementation: Efficient computation of data cubes
  - Partial vs. full vs. no materialization
  - Indexing OALP data: Bitmap index and join index
  - OLAP query processing
  - OLAP servers: ROLAP, MOLAP, HOLAP
- Data generalization: Attribute-oriented induction

# Thank you