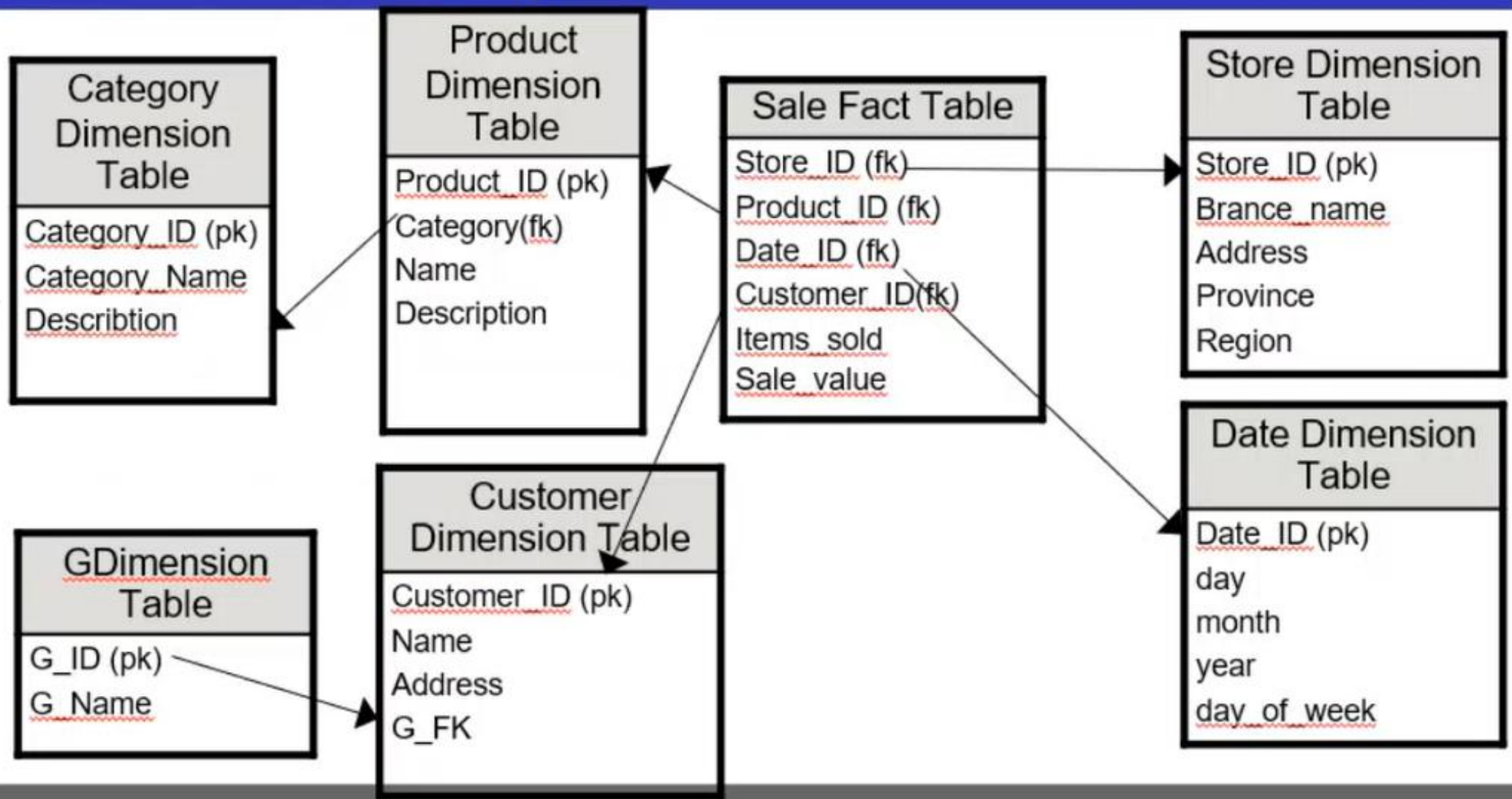


Snowflakes Example



snowflake schema normalized or denormalized



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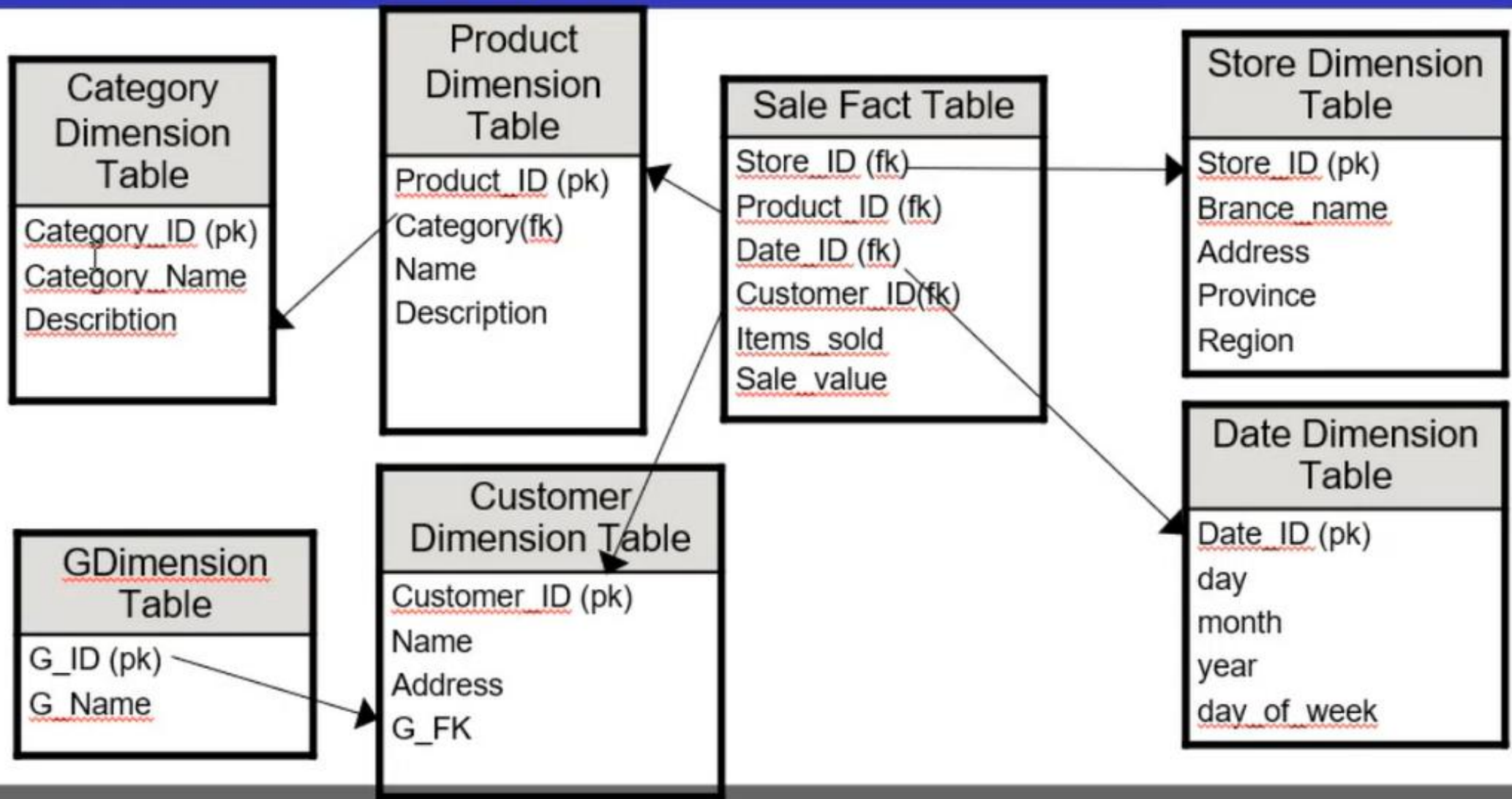
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The snowflake schema is a **fully normalized** data structure. Dimensional hierarchies (such as city > country > region) are stored in separate dimensional tables. On the other hand, star schema dimensions are denormalized.

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Snowflakes Example



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Snowflake Schema Characteristics

- **Extension:** Snowflake is an extension of the Star Schema.
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Star Vs. Snowflake Schema

Star Schema	Snowflake Schema
Dimension represented by one-table	Dimension tables are expanded into multi-tables
Fact table surrounded by dimension tables	Fact table surrounded by Hierarchy of dimension tables
Less join	Requires many joins
Simple Design	Very Complex Design
De-normalized Data structure	Normalized Data Structure
High level of Data redundancy	Very low-level data redundancy
Maintenance is difficult	Maintenance is easier
Cube processing is faster.	Cube processing might be slow because of the complex join.

A Fact table usually contains two types of columns: Measures and Foreign keys.

A Relationship connects two tables together to allow Filtering and Further Analysis.

Fact Tables store accumulations of Business Events, Like Sales orders or currency exchange rates. Business Measures.

Filter>>Group>>Summarize.



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Understand star schema and the importance for Power BI

Article • 02/27/2023 • 11 contributors

In this article

- Star schema overview
- Normalization vs. denormalization
- Star schema relevance to Power BI models
- Measures
- Show 8 more

This article targets Power BI Desktop data modelers. It describes star schema design and its relevance to developing Power BI data models optimized for performance and usability.

This article isn't intended to provide a complete discussion on star schema design. For more details, refer directly to published content, like *The Data Warehouse Toolkit: The Definitive Guide to Dimensional Modeling* (3rd edition, 2013) by Ralph Kimball and others.

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Slowly Changing Dimensions

Type-3 Change

- Add new column that stores previous value
- Allow user to view new and previous values at the same time

Inserted new column



Product ID	Name	Brand	Previous Brand	Serial No.
12345	TV20"	Panasonic	National	ABC00-X

Slowly Changing Dimensions

Type-2 Change

- Add new row with the new information
- Surrogate keys required
- Allows tracking history (versioning)
- Used most often in DW

Product ID	Name	Brand	Serial No.
12345	TV 20"	National	ABC00-X
25984	TV 20"	Panasonic	ABC00-X

Inserted new row



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Schema Types

- Star Schema.
- Snowflake Schema.
- Fact constellation(Galaxy Schema)

Schema Types

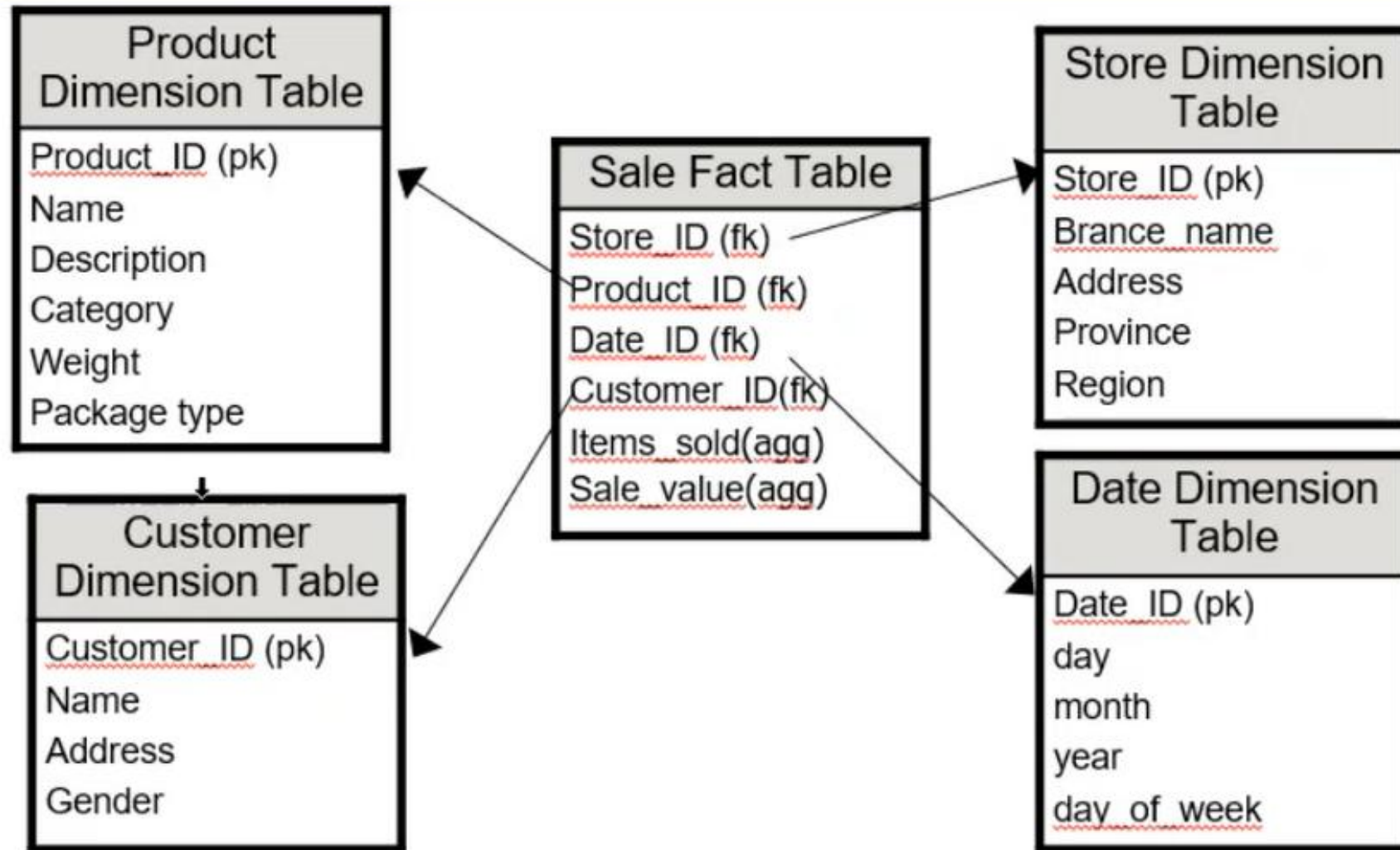
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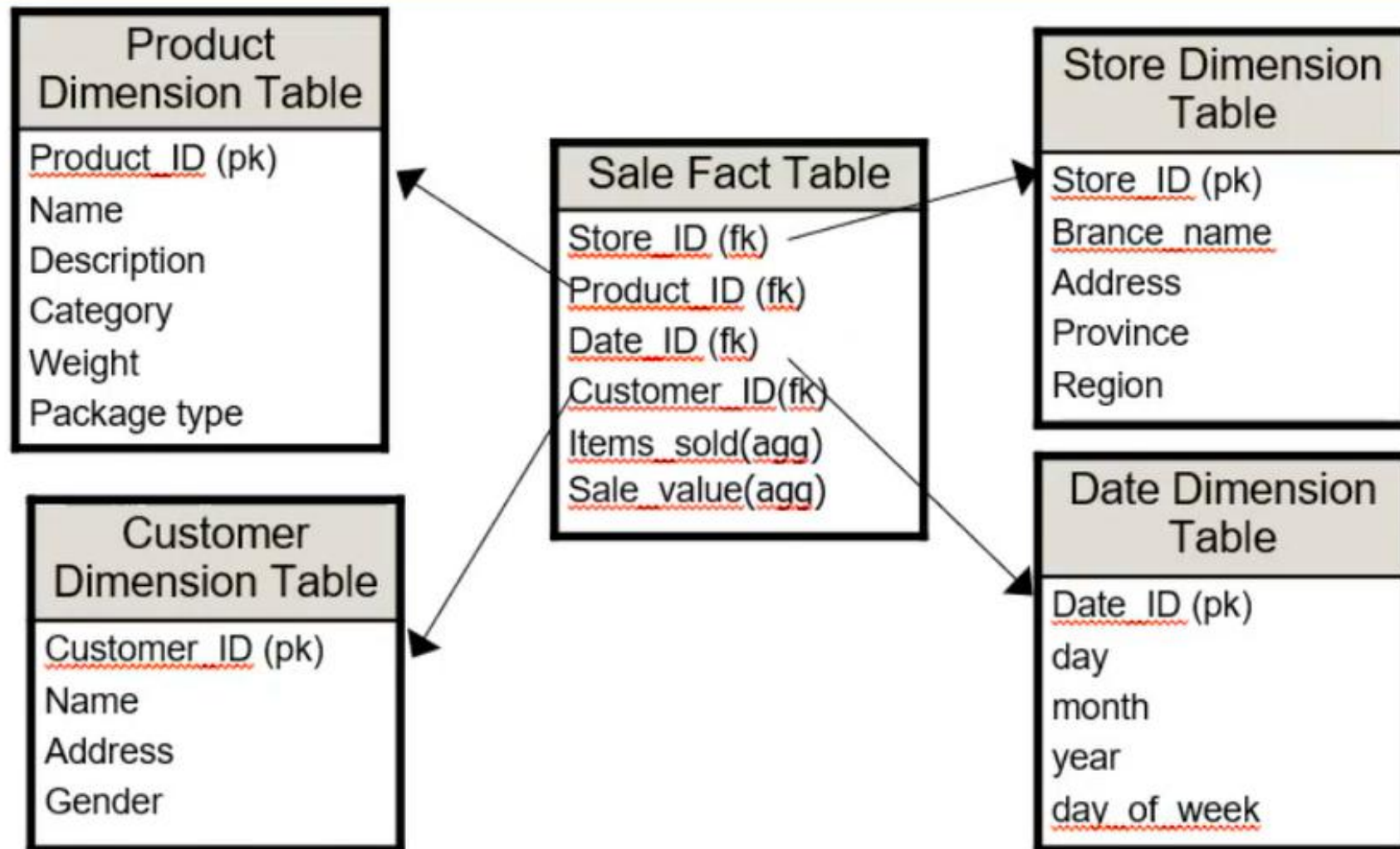
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Star Schema Example



Star Schema Example



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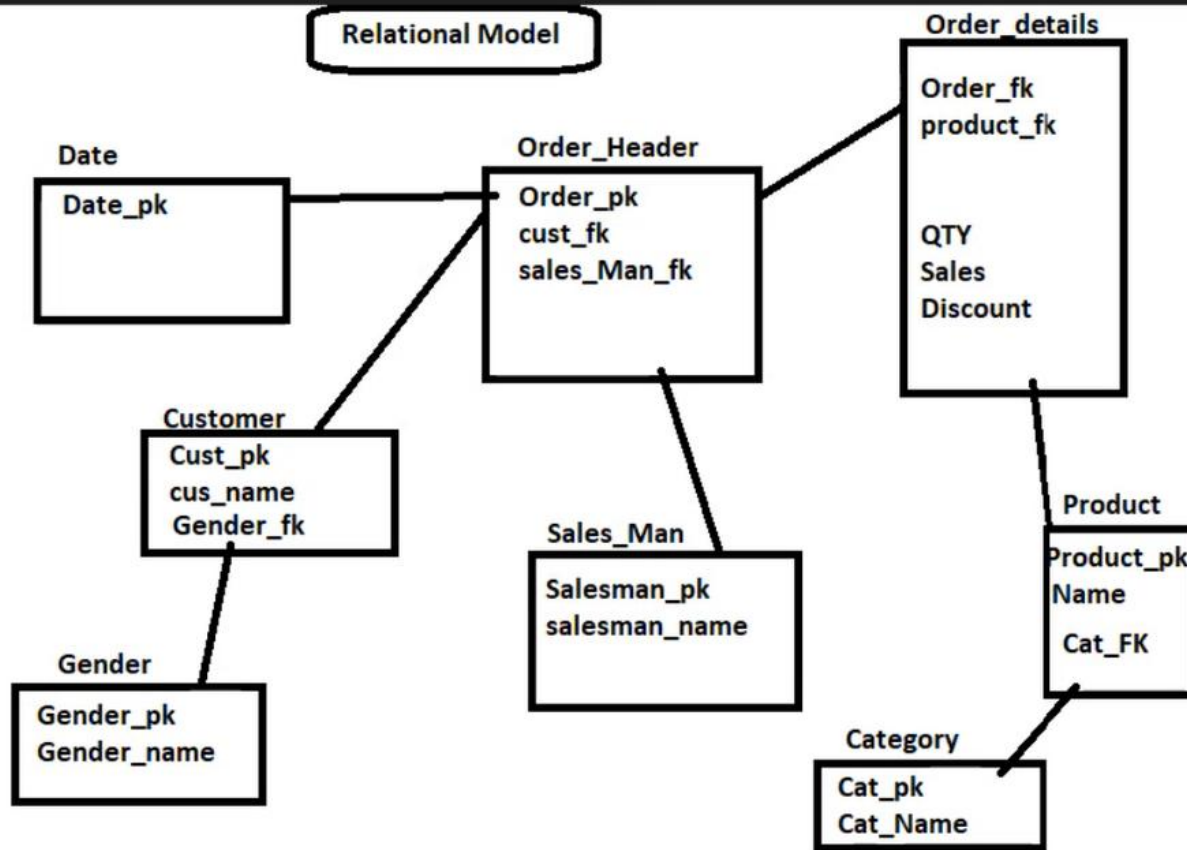
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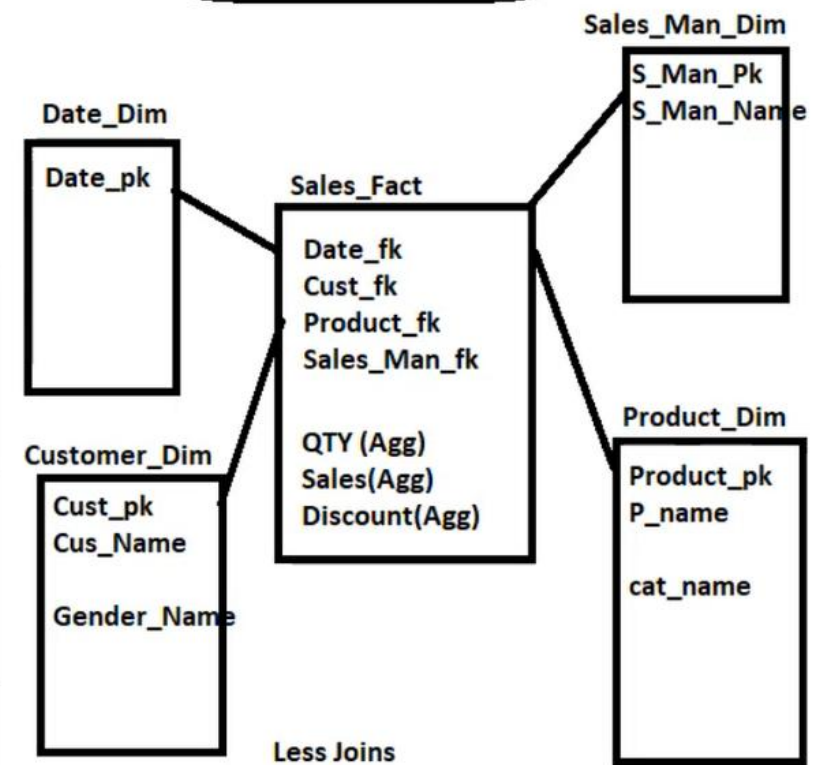
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- Data integrity is not enforced due to the de-normalized structure.

Relational Model



Dimensional model



Less Joins

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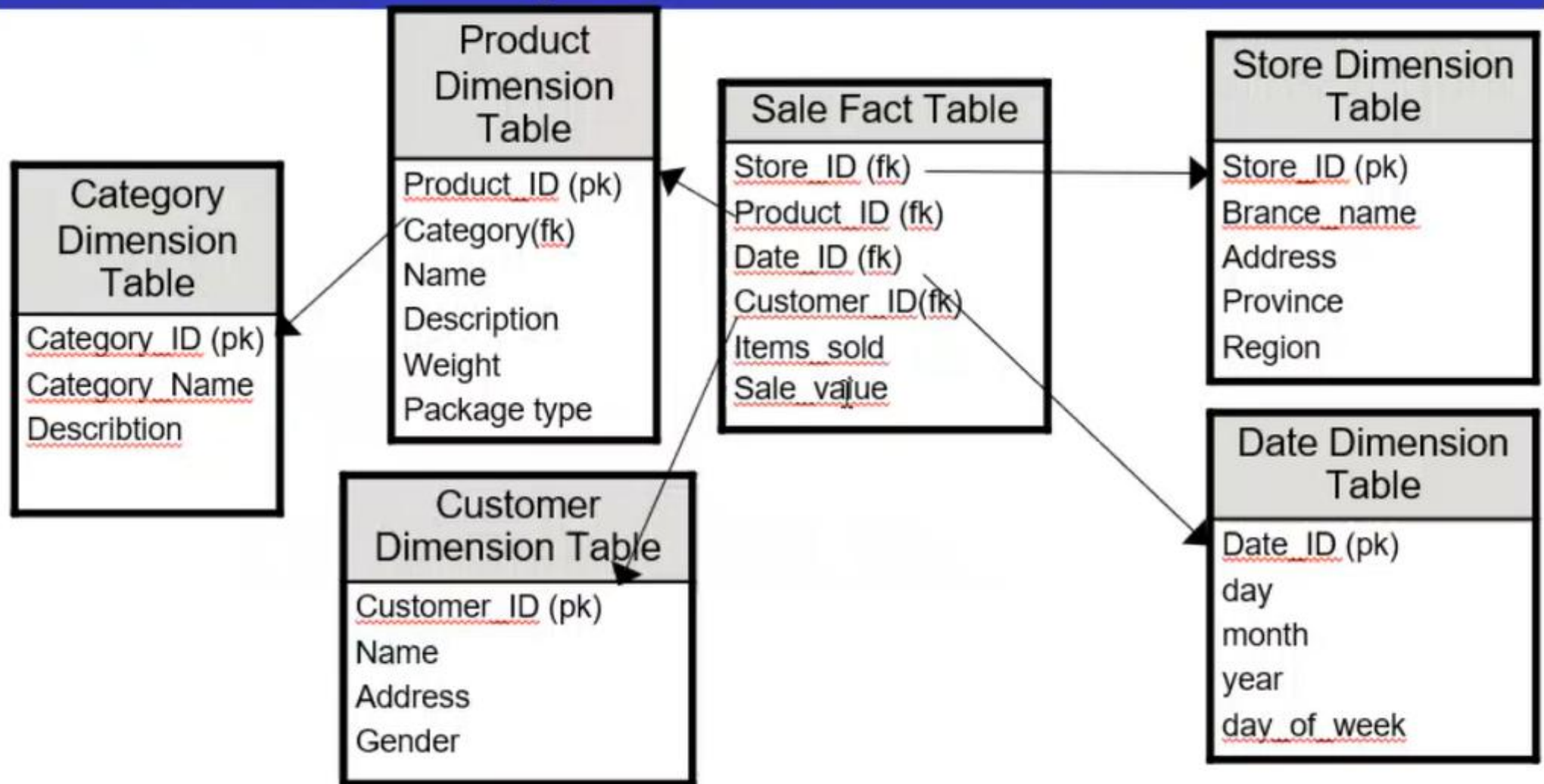
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Snowflakes Schema

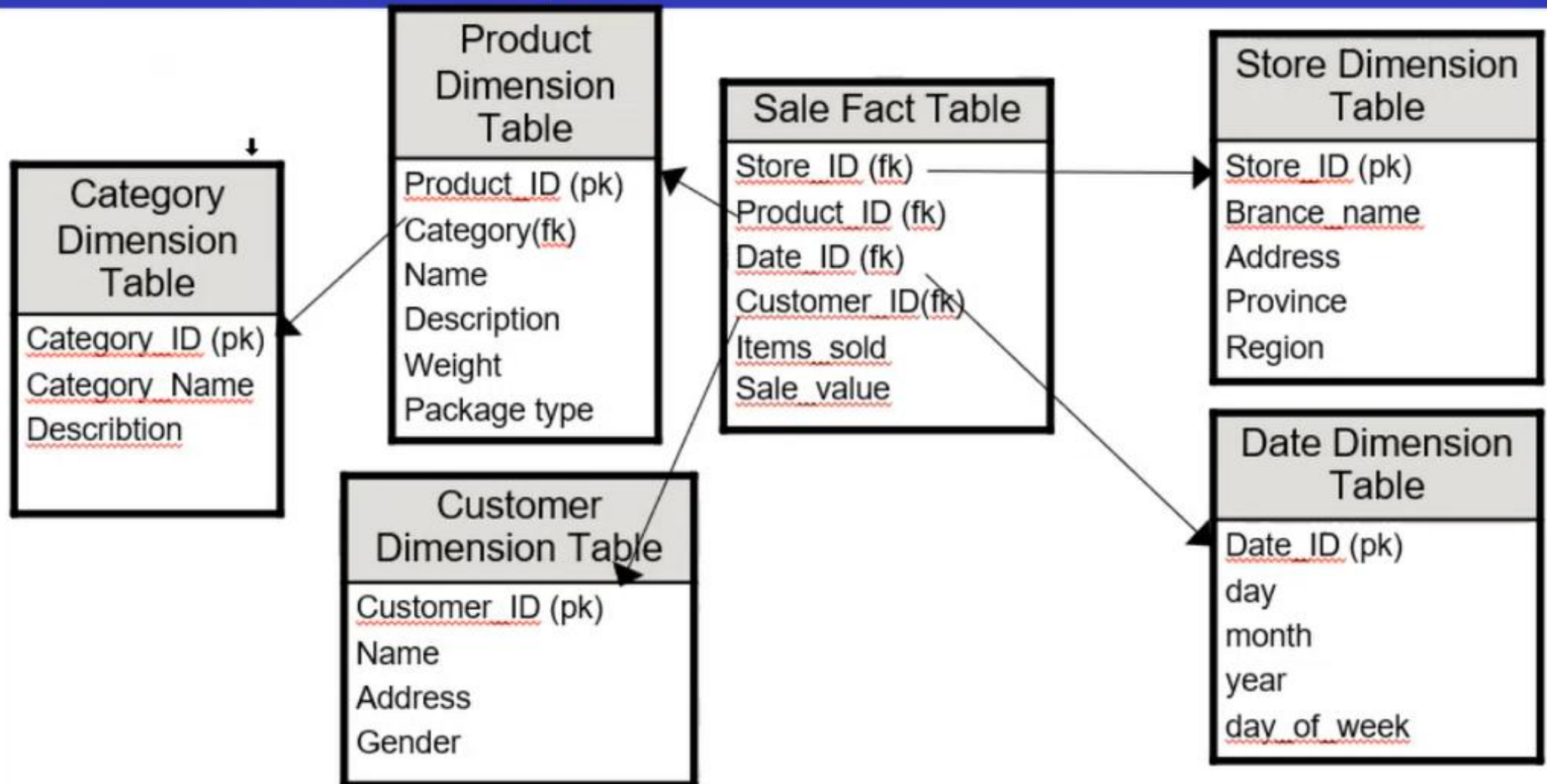
- **Snowflakes schema** : an extension of star schema where the diagram resembles a snowflake in shape



Snowflakes Example



Snowflakes Example

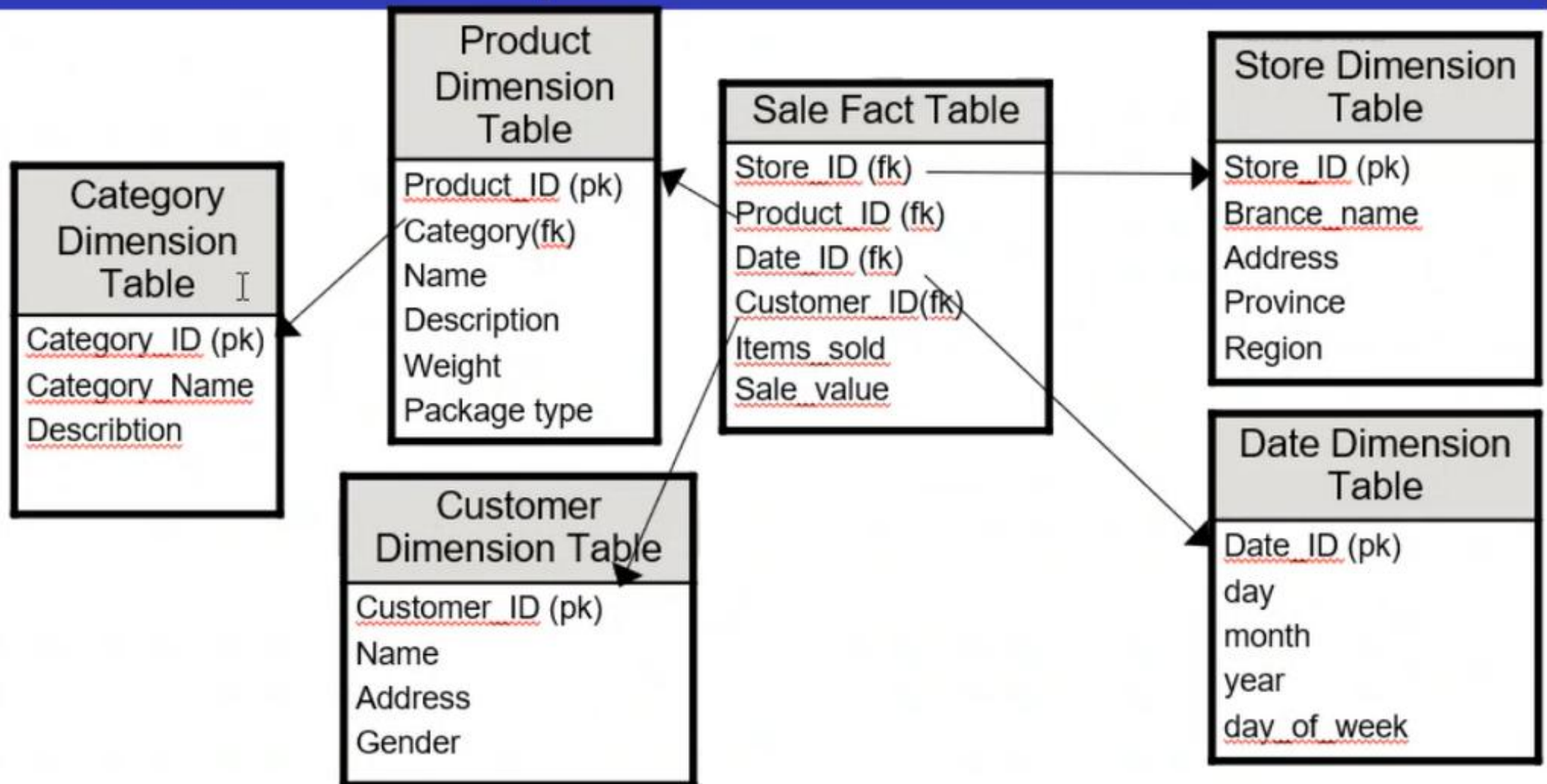




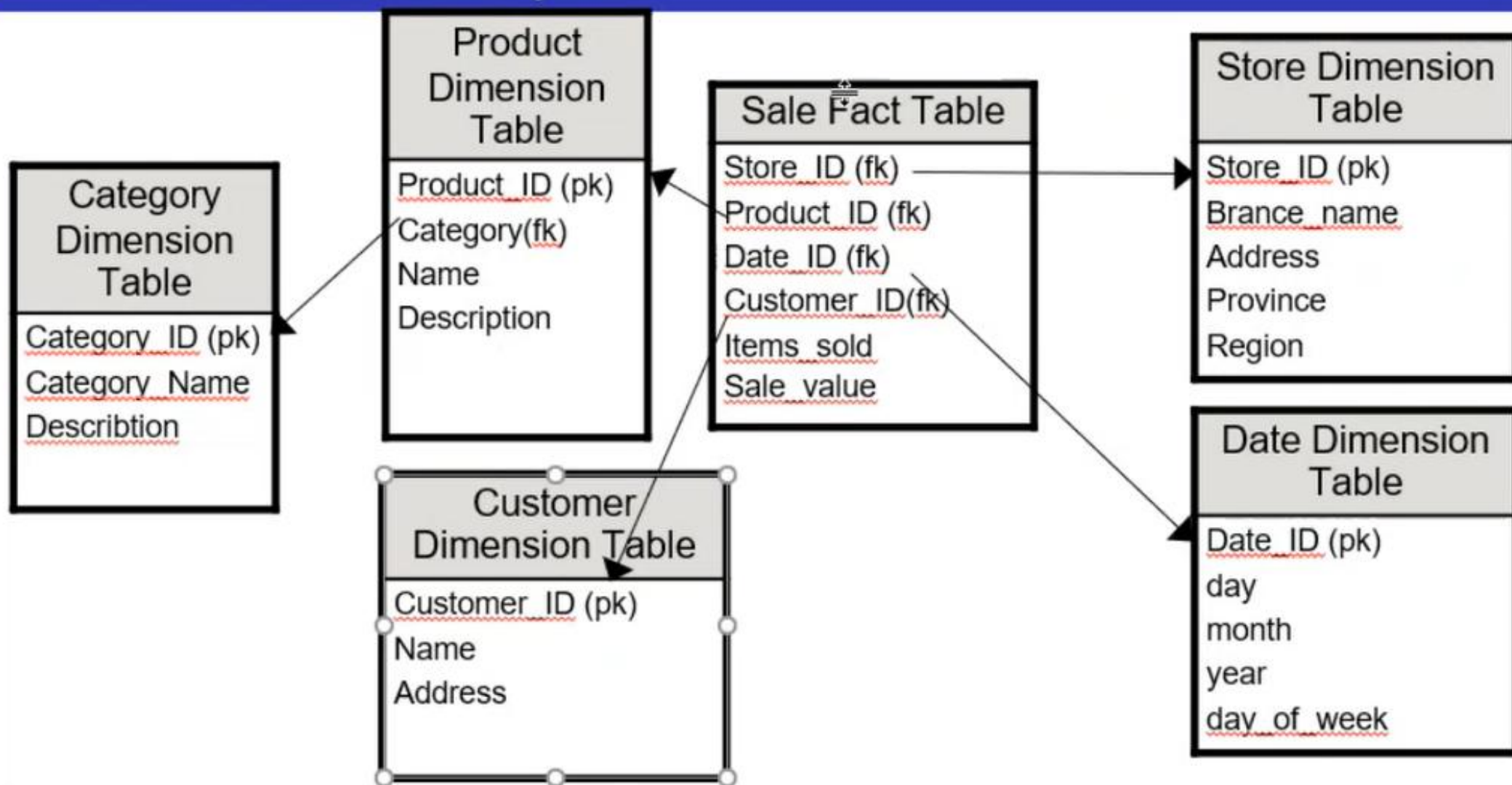


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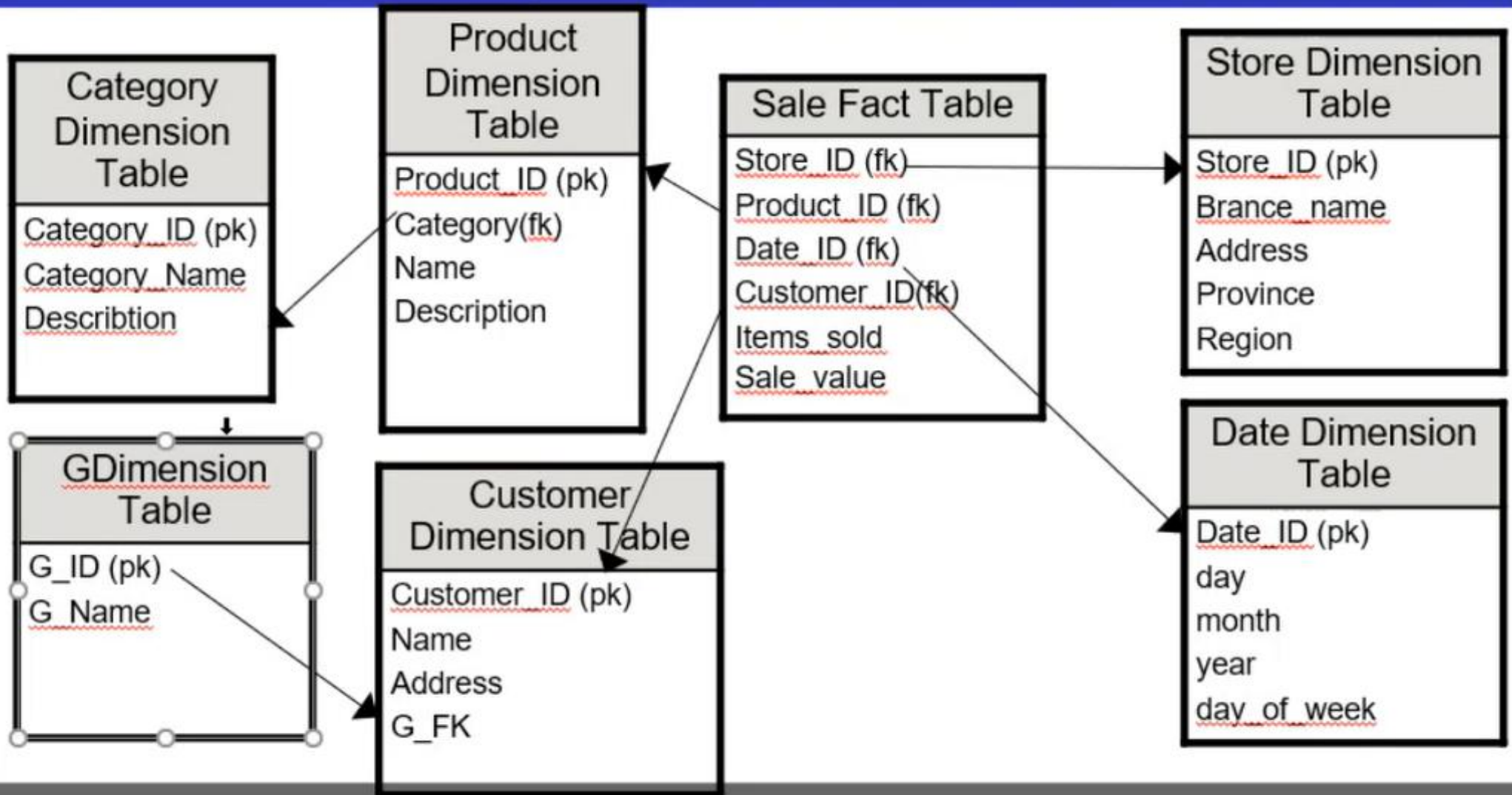
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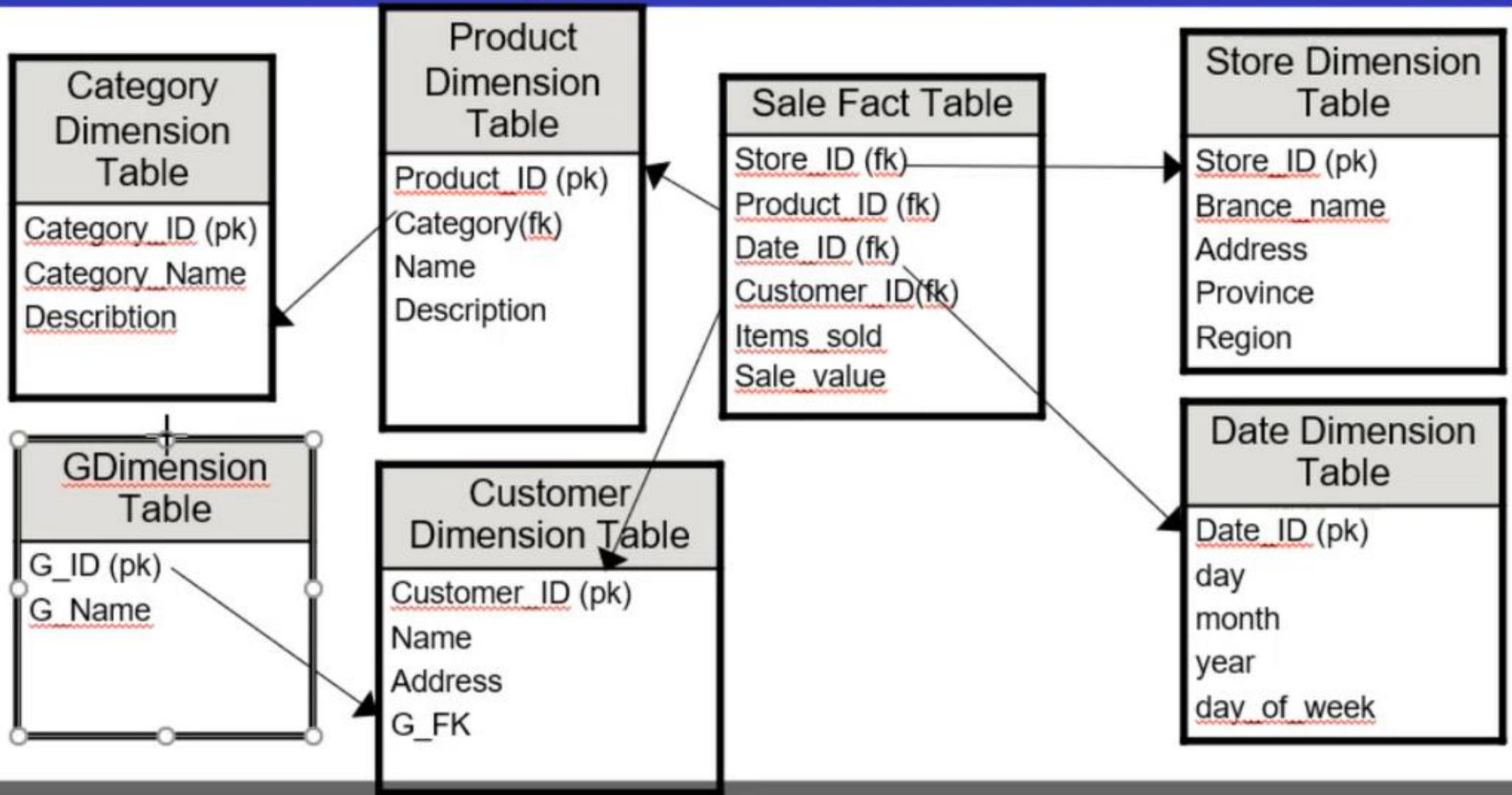
Snowflakes Example



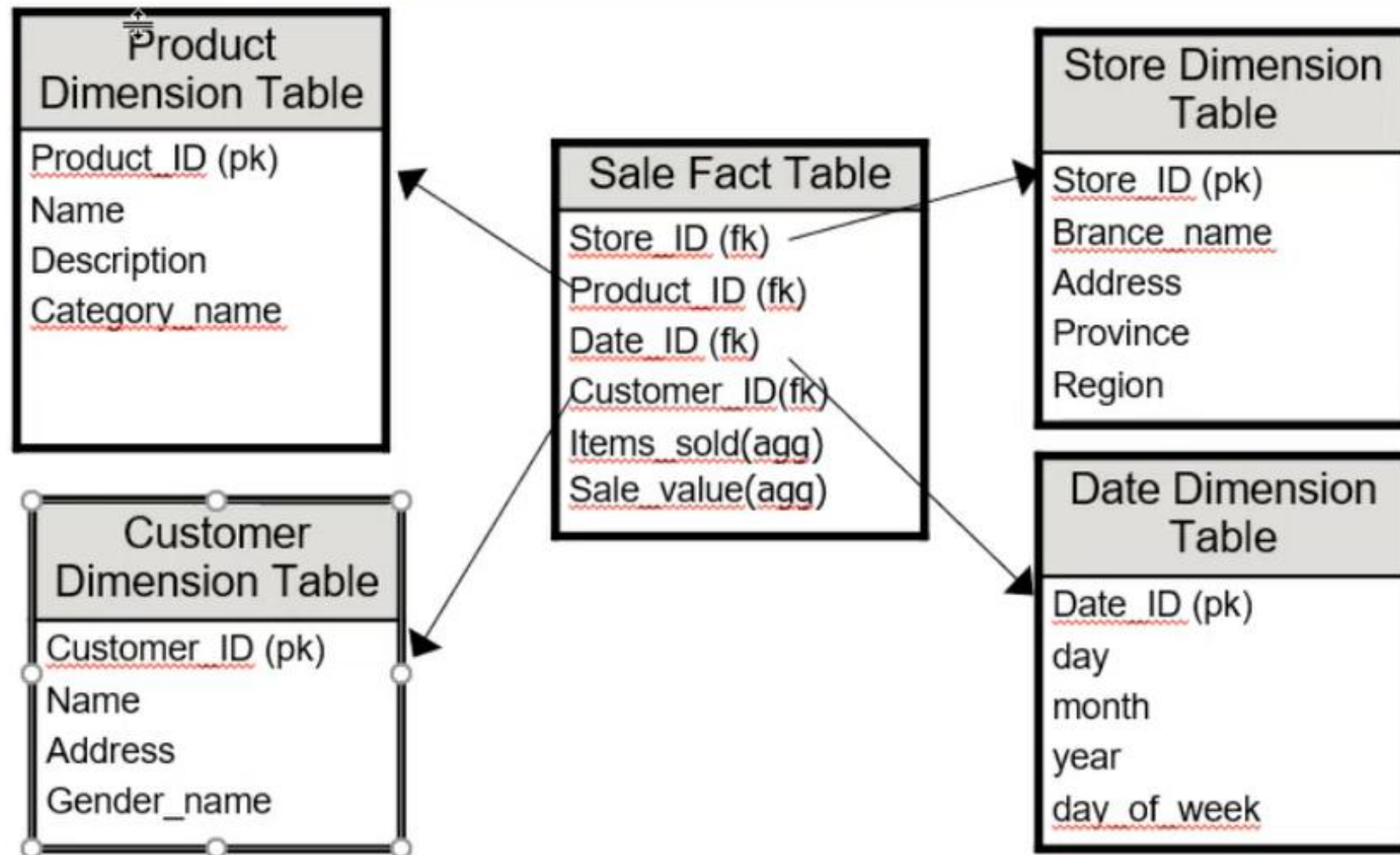
Snowflakes Example



Snowflakes Example



Star Schema Example



Star Schema Example

