Naming Conventions, Attribute Standards

1. All names of tables, views, and attributes (columns) are English.
2. Names must correspond to business terms used in the Dictionary of business terms.
3. Use underscore character "_" to delimit words in names.
4. Names are hierarchical. General words come first, specific words come later.
   Example: Attribute with short quarter name can be named NAME_QUARTER_SHORT.
5. The primary quality criterion is descriptiveness of the name. Names should be narrative. Do not try to save letters, use the limit of 30 characters.
   Abbreviation are allowed, their usage should be unified. Abbreviation for a term should be defined in business dictionary.
   When using abbreviations, follow the rules:
   - Create abbreviation from hierarchical name.
   - Abbreviation starts with first letter in name.
   - Underscore can be used to delimit abbreviations.
     Example: For term *contract* abbreviations *contr* or *con* are good; for *credit*, *cred* or *cre* are possible. For *credit_contract*, you can use *cred_contr*.
6. Minor discrepancies in names due to historical changes are acceptable.

Tables and Views

1. Naming template for tables and views is *<prefix>_<table / view name>_<suffix>*.
   Following table summarizes rules for parts of table / view name.

Part of name	Syntax for fact tables	Syntax for dimension tables

<prefix>	**FT** for F act T ables. **F** for fact views.	**DCT** for D imension C urrent T ables (tables with only actual data). **DC** for views over DCT tables. **DHT** for D imension H istory T ables (tables with actual and historical data). **DH** for views over DHT tables. **CLT** for C ode L ist T ables (small dimensions with list of important values of some attribute). **CL** for views over CLT tables.
<table / view name>	Names of tables / views use singular. Names must clearly refer to semantics of stored data: identify business process and related entities. **Example:** Name of fact table is *FT_INSTALMENT_PAYMENT_AD*, not *FT_INSTALMENT_PAYMENTS_AD*.	Names of tables / views use singular. Names must clearly identify underlying entities. **Example:** Name of contract dimension table is *DCT_CONTRACT*, not *DCT_CONTRACTS*.

<suffix>	Carries information about table type and time granularity. The suffix has the two-letter format **<T><G>** where – **<T>** is table type: **T** for transactional, **A** for accumulating snapshot, **P** for periodical snapshot – **<G>** is business time granularity (validity): **T** for presize time, **H** for hour, **D** for day, **W** for week, **M** for month; notice that time granularity depends purely on business and is defined by specific date / time attribute of the table – it has nothing to do with schedule of HomeDW processing. **Example:** *FT_CONTRACT_AD* is accumulated snapshot fact table (each contract has one record in the table) with daily granularity which must be specified in documentation (for example, granularity can be defined by *DATE_APPROVAL* attribute).	Suffix is not mandatory for dimension tables. It can be used for views over driving dimension table with left-joined fact accumulated table; then suffix of fact table is used in the view name.

2. Name of view created over single table must be same as name of underlying table, except for prefix.
   Example: View over fact table *FT_INSTALMENT_PAYMENT_AD* is named *F_INSTALMENT_PAYMENT_AD*.
3. If a view is created as join over more tables, its name must use name of the driving table.
   Example: View over driving dimension table *DCT_CONTRACT* and left-joined accumulated fact table *FT_CONTRACT_AD* is *DC_CONTRACT_AD*.

Attributes

1. Attribute names must begin with a prefix for easier identification of attribute contents. The following table describes supported prefixes.

Prefix	Dimension / Fact	Business / Technical	Description	Example	Nulls allowed	Null-representing value	Data type
code	D	B	Codes are typically used for short description of types or statuses of objects, or as short object identifiers. Codes have business semantics – business people understand the codes.	code_credit_status, code_client_type		XNA, XAP	String
name	D	B	General names of objects, values.	name_account, name_adminpoint, name_first, name_birth_place		XNA, XAP	String
text	D	B	Short, usually structured texts: account number, e-mails, addresses, etc.	text_account_number, text_address, text_email		XNA, XAP	String
desc	D	B	Free text: notes, descriptions, etc.	desc_card, desc_goods_brand, desc_incoming_payment		XNA, XAP	String

username	D	B	Logins of users of some system.	username_employee, username_client		XNA, XAP	String
id	D	B	Primary system identifiers that are unique within primary systems.	id_cuid, id_source		XNA, XAP	String
skp	D	T	Primary surrogate key (SKP) of dimension or code list table. SKP uniquely identifies objects.	skp_credit_type, skp_salesroom For example, each application has a unique skp_application value in dct_application.		-1, -2	Numeric
sk	D	T	Surrogate key (SK) of dimension table. SK uniquely identifies historic object records in historic dimensions (DHT tables)	sk_salesroom, sk_client For example, there can be 3 records for a client in dht_client, each with unique sk_client; all 3 records share common skp_client.		-1, -2	Numeric
skp_date	D	T	SKP of Date dimension in format YYYYMMDD.	skp_date_approval		10000101, 30000101	Numeric
flag	D	B	Two value indicator using values 'Y' or 'N'.	flag_recovery_quick, flag_camera_set, flag_car_owner		X	String
nflag	F	B	Two value numeric indicator using values 0, 1. Numeric counterpart of FLAG values (for analysis of type „number of occurence of an object with the NFLAG value set").	nflag_car_owner, ...		Y,N	Numeric
cnt	F	B	Count of objects, events, appearances, etc.	cnt_payment, cnt_active_cards, cnt_day_duration			Numeric
amt	F	B	Amount of something, typically money (financial amount).	amt_credit, amt_instalment, amt_goods_price			Numeric
rate	F	B	Values represent ratios, proportions, (exchange) rates; usually should be from the <0; 1> interval, can be any number if necessary, typically for exchange rates.	rate_interest, rate_commision			Numeric
num	F	B	General numeric values.	num_week, num_min_inst_def0_dd, num_instalment			Numeric

dtime	F	B	Date and time.	dtime_approval	✗	1.1.1000, 1.1.3000	Datetime
date	F	B	Date rounded to whole day (time portion is set to midnight and ignored).	date_approval	✗	1.1.1000, 1.1.3000	Datetime
skf	F	T	Primary surrogate key of fact table.	skf_recovery_method	✗	-1, -2	Numeric

2. Fact attribute names can have a suffix. The following table describes supported suffixes.

Suffix	Available for prefix	Description	Example
avg, max, min	cnt, amt, num, rate	Average, maximum, minimum of something, typically money (financial amount).	amt_credit_approved_avg
rank	num	Represents evaluation of some category, order, etc.	num_cumulative_def30_rank
score	num	Represents evaluation of some scoring.	num_raroi_score

   For each suffix, we also provide available prefixes. This definition is not strict, you can use other combinations if they make sense, and add information to this page.
   Historically, some suffixes were used as prefixes.
3. Dimension vs. fact type defines primary location of attribute with given prefix. Typical exceptions include
   - SKP and SK attributes are used in fact tables as foreign keys to dimensions.
   - CODE and ID attributes appear in fact tables.
   - Basically all fact business attributes can appear in dimensions, typically DATE or AMT.
4. *XNA* stands for "Value not available". Value of the attribute is expected and should be normally defined, but it was not obtained for some reason: typically, it was not specified in the primary system (the primary system attribute has the NULL value).
5. *XAP* stands for "Value not applicable". Value of the attribute is not expected and cannot be defined, because it is not relevant and meaningful for given record.
6. *XPD* stands for "Personal data is hidden". Value of the personal attribute is defined, but it is hidden from the user because he does not have the privilege to see personal data.
7. Following table lists predefined attributes.

Attribute name	Description	In fact table	In dimension table
code_source_system	This code identifies source system of a record, for example 'HOM' for Homer. In tables that consolidate data from more source systems, either code of driving system is used, or code 'DWH' indicates that record is created by HomeDW.	✓	✓
id_source	Unique identification of record used in the source system.	✓	✓

date_effective	Effective date when table record was last processed (inserted, updated) by HomeDW transformation processes. Effective date is internal parameter of HomeDW transformations that are executed on daily basis. Each daily processing has its unique effective date. Typically, daily processing that executes on April 13, 2-8 AM, has the effective date of April 12. Effective dates cannot be interpreted as business dates. Although they are related to business dates under normal operations, they are purely technical, internal dates of HomeDW transformation processes.		
date_effective_inserted	Effective date when table record was inserted into table by HomeDW transformation processes.		
date_effective_from	Effective date when validity of record in history dimension table (DHT) started.		
date_effective_to	Effective date when validity of record in history dimension table (DHT) ended.		
flag_current	Set to 'Y' in history dimension table (DHT) for records that store actual data - those with date_effective_to set to '1.1.3000'.		
flag_deleted	Set to 'Y' for HomeDW records that were deleted in source system (this should not happen often but it does).		
dtime_inserted	HomeDW system date & time (SYSDATE) when the record was inserted into table. Not visible to users.		
dtime_updated	HomeDW system date & time (SYSDATE) when the record was last updated. Not visible to users.		
skp_proc_inserted	Unique identification of HomeDW transformation process that inserted the record into table. Not visible to users.		
skp_proc_updated	Unique identification of HomeDW transformation process that last updated the record. Not visible to users.