



# **DYNAMIC DATA MASKING OVERVIEW**

**Snowflake Professional Services**

# The need to protect data according to runtime context



# Dynamic Data Masking

**Policy** based

One policy per any number of **columns**. In the future,  
applied across any number of tables (via tags)

BYO masking algorithm

Object owner **can** be denied access to sensitive data,  
if desired



# Before vs After DDM

```
--PREVIOUSLY, masking as clause per column
CREATE OR REPLACE SECURE VIEW CUSTOMERS_SECV AS
SELECT name, city,
       CASE WHEN CURRENT_ROLE() = 'CLEARANCE_ROLE' THEN socsecno
       ELSE '***MASKED***'
       END AS socsecno
FROM customer_table;

CREATE OR REPLACE SECURE VIEW EMPLOYEES_SECV_HR AS
SELECT name, dept,
       CASE WHEN CURRENT_ROLE() = 'CLEARANCE_ROLE' THEN socsecno
       ELSE '***MASKED***'
       END AS socsecno
FROM employee_table;
```

*Governance and more complex scenarios more difficult*

*Policy mgmt easy to run part of governance process*

```
--NOW, masking as policy as option per object (view, udf etc)
CREATE MASKING POLICY socsecno_mask AS
(val string) returns string ->
CASE
  WHEN current_role() IN ('CLEARANCE_ROLE') THEN val
  ELSE '***MASKED***'
END;

ALTER TABLE customer_table SET MASKING POLICY = socsecno_mask on column socsoecno;
ALTER TABLE employee_table SET MASKING POLICY = socsecno_mask on column socsoecno;
```



# Ingestion And Consumption

## Dynamically mask protected (PII, PHI) column data at query time

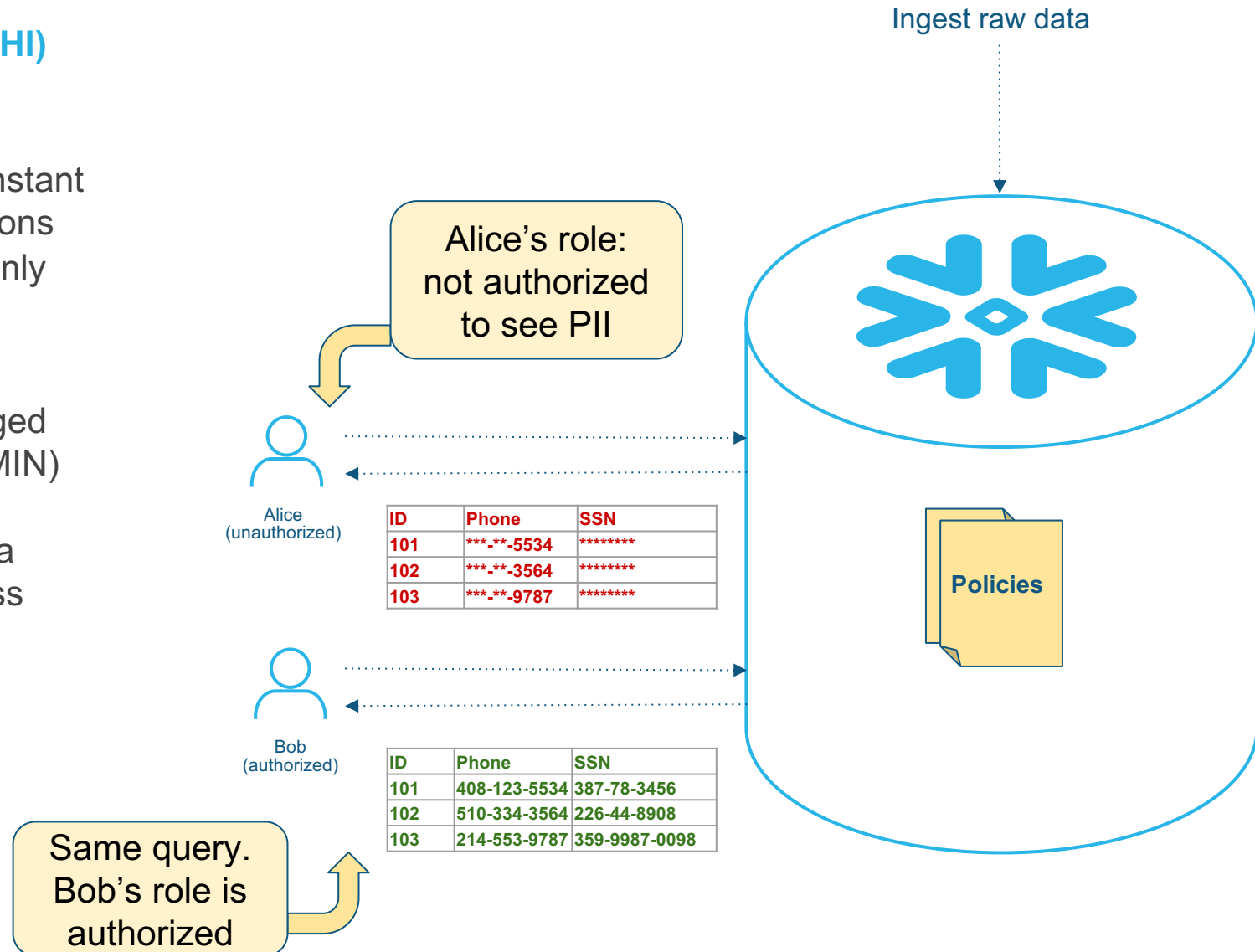
- No change to the stored data
- Mask or partial mask using constant value, hash, and custom functions
- Unmask for authorized users only

## Policy based control

- Table/View owners and privileged users (such as ACCOUNTADMIN) unauthorized by default
- **Centralized** policy mgt. Make a change centrally: applied across any number of columns

## Ease of Management

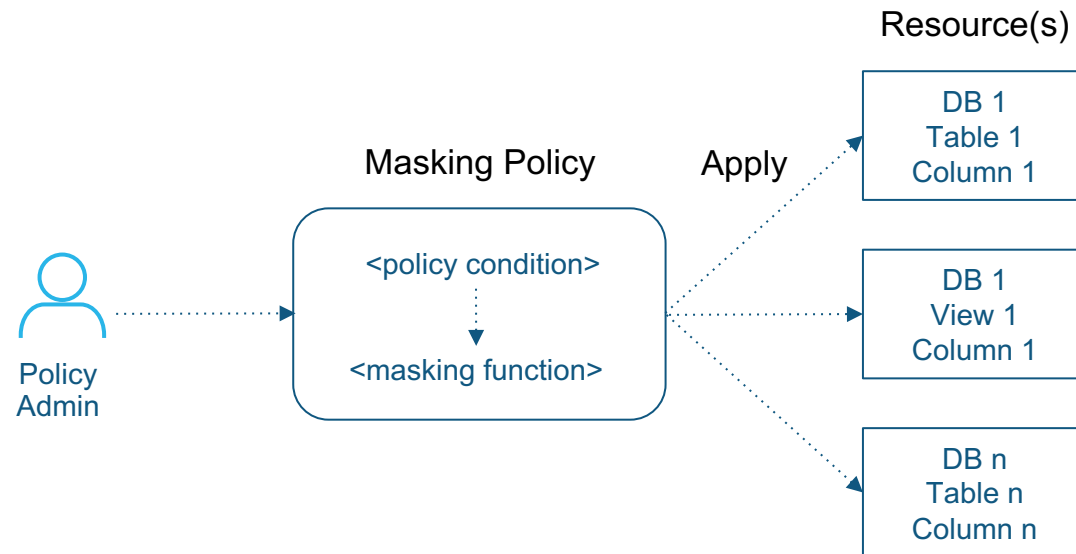
- Apply single policy to multiple columns
- Prevent secure view explosion



# Dynamic Data Masking Policies

## Masking Policy

- Policy defines a **masking function** and its required **conditions**
- Policy is applied to one or more table, view, or external table **columns** in an account
- Nested policy execution for views - policy on table **executed before** policy on view(s)



## Masking Policy Example

```
Unmask .....> val
Partial mask .....> WHEN invoker_role() IN ('pii_role') THEN
Mask .....> regexp_replace(val, '.*\@', '*****@')
               ELSE '*****'
               END ;
```

## Supports

- All data types, including variant
- Data sharing
- Streams
- Cloning: carries over policy associations



# Create Masking Policy

```
CREATE MASKING POLICY <name> AS  
(val <data_type>) returns <data_type> -> (SQL expression on val);
```

## Example:

```
CREATE MASKING POLICY email_mask AS  
  
(val string) returns string ->
```

```
CASE
```

```
    WHEN current_role() IN ('ANALYST') THEN val
```

```
    ELSE    '***MASKED***'
```

```
END;
```



# Masking Policy Examples

Use Case	Policy Example
NULL	<pre>CASE   WHEN current_role() IN ('ANALYST') THEN val   ELSE null END;</pre>
Constant value	<pre>CASE   WHEN current_role() IN ('ANALYST') THEN val   ELSE '*****' END;</pre>
Hash (useful for join conditions -- hash can act as key)	<pre>CASE   WHEN current_role() IN ('ANALYST') THEN val   ELSE sha2(val) END;</pre>
Partial mask	<pre>CASE   WHEN current_role() IN ('ANALYST') THEN regexp_replace(val, '.*\@', '*****@')   ELSE '*****' END;</pre>





# Masking Policy Examples (cont'd)

Use Case	Policy Example
Using UDF  Useful if masking logic is complex. Entire case statement can be wrapped in UDF as well.	<pre><b>CASE</b>   <b>WHEN</b> current_role() <b>IN</b> ('ANALYST') <b>THEN</b> val   <b>ELSE</b> mask_udf(val) <b>END;</b></pre>
Policy on variant data  OBJECT_INSERT: quickest, if val is at first level.	<pre><b>CASE</b>   <b>WHEN</b> current_role() <b>IN</b> ('ANALYST') <b>THEN</b> val   OBJECT_INSERT(val, 'USER_IPADDRESS', '****', <b>true</b>) <b>END;</b></pre>
Using custom entitlement table	<pre><b>CASE</b>   <b>WHEN</b> current_role() <b>IN</b>     (<b>SELECT</b> role <b>from</b> &lt;db&gt;.&lt;schema&gt;.entitlement       <b>where</b> mask_method='unmask') <b>THEN</b> val   <b>ELSE</b> '*****' <b>END;</b></pre>



# Apply Masking Policy To Column(s)

```
ALTER {TABLE | VIEW} <name> MODIFY COLUMN <col_name> [UN]SET MASKING POLICY <name>;
```

## Example:

```
ALTER TABLE customer MODIFY COLUMN email SET MASKING POLICY email_mask;
```

```
ALTER VIEW customer_v MODIFY COLUMN email SET MASKING POLICY email_mask;
```

Note: policies can also be applied to external tables.



# Masking Policy Execution

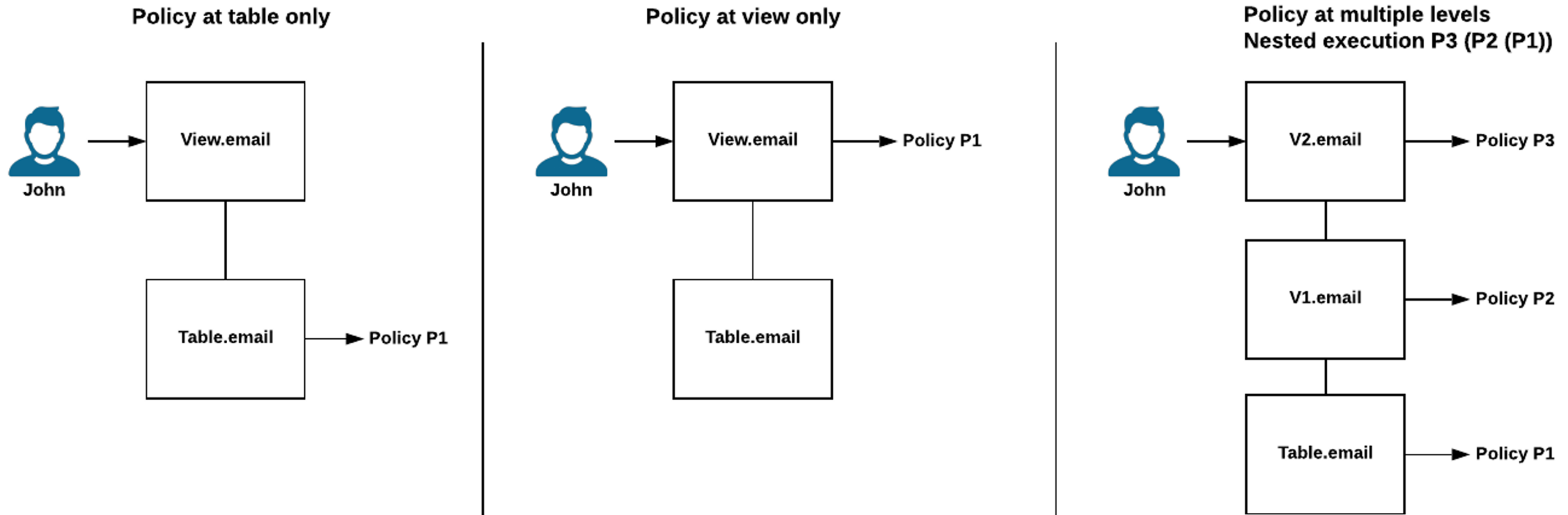
- Query is rewritten at runtime applying the policy expression on protected column(s) in the query
- The result set cache reuse is disabled for queries with masking columns

Query shape	User submits query	After query rewrite
Simple query	<pre>select name, email from customers;</pre>	<pre>select name, email_mask(email) from customers;</pre>
Query with protected column in the where clause predicate	<pre>select name, email from customers where email = 'bob@acme.com';</pre>	<pre>select name, email_mask(email) from customers where email_mask(email) = 'bob@acme.com';</pre>
Query with protected column in join predicate	<pre>select distinct d.city from emp_basic as b join emp_details as d on b.email = d.email;</pre>	<pre>select distinct d.city from emp_basic as b join emp_details as d on email_mask(b.email) = email_mask(d.email);</pre>



# Masking Policy Execution For Views

- Performs nested policy execution; policy not required at every level
- Table level policy (if available) executed first





THANK YOU

