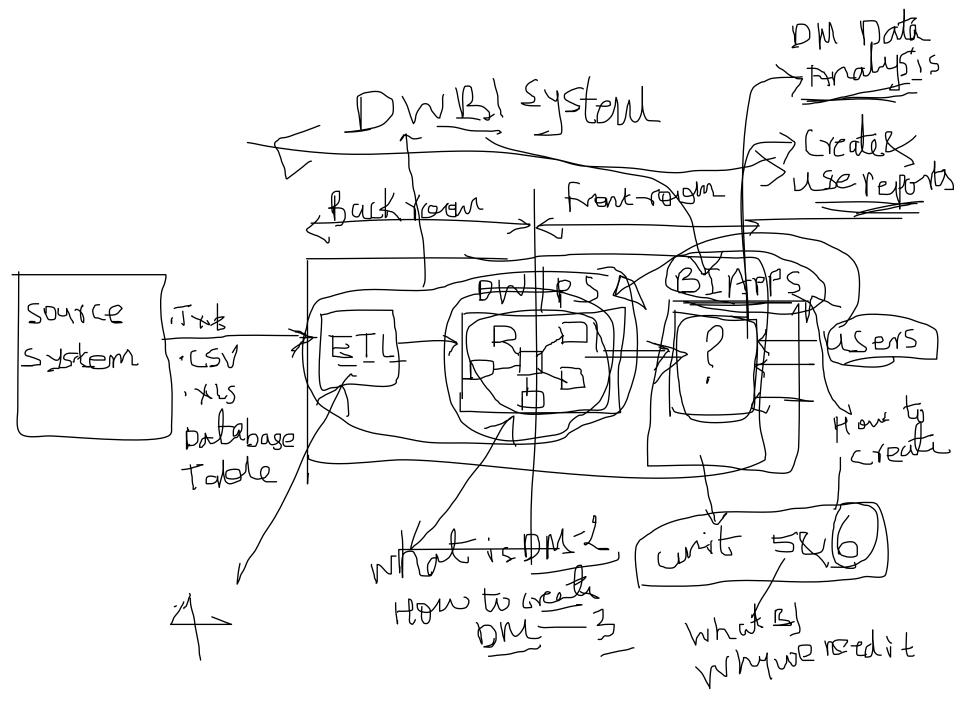
Introducing BI Applications

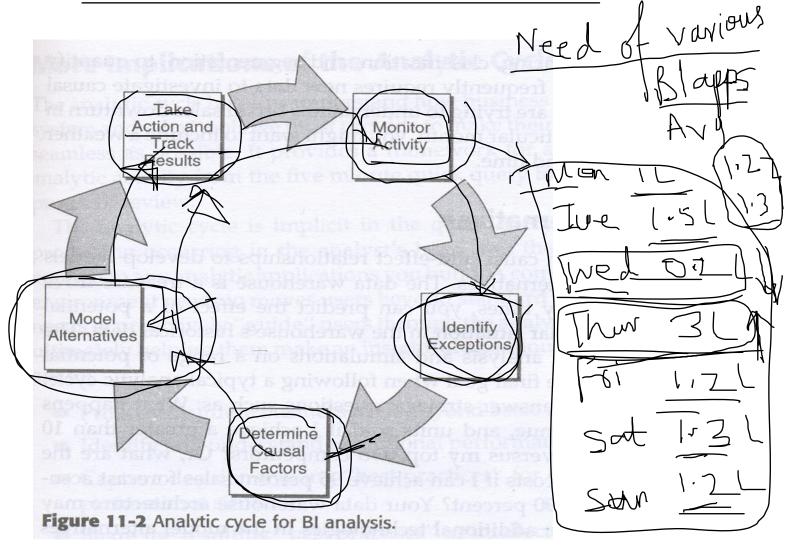


Importance of BI

- BI application must provides BI reports which BI users won't build
- Must meet design requirements including
- -Be Correct
- -Perform well
- -Be Easy to use
- -Look good
- Be a long term investment-Applications must be properly documented, maintained, enhanced and extended

- Fill the gap of data access needs of organization
- <u>Direct access query, reporting and data mining</u> for adhoc access
- Standard reports for push button access
- Analytic applications for pushbutton access
- Dashboards and scorecards for pushbutton access
- Operational BI for operational reporting

Analytic Cycle for BI



- Stage 1 Monitor Activity
- -presentation layer is useful in activity monitoring
- -includes dashboards, scorecards and portals
- Stage 2 Identify Exceptions
- -identification of problem
- -finding the opportunities
- -this stage requires additional capabilities like <u>distribution</u> servers that distribute a<u>lerts to users devices using exception</u> triggers

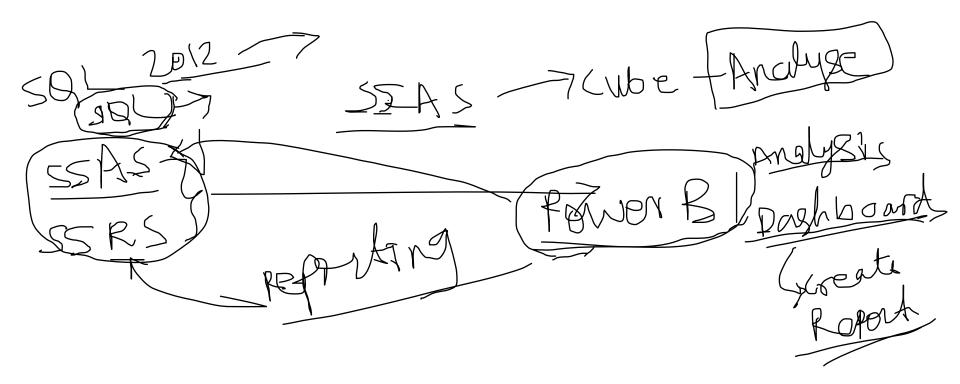
- Stage 3: Determine Causal Factors
- -this stage tries to understand root cause of exception
- -identifying relationships and interactions between variables that drive exceptional condition to occur
- -requires statistical tools , data mining algorithms
- -ex. Reason for sales down in a particular area
- Stage 4: Model Alternatives
- -Based on cause -effect relationships to develop models for evaluating decision alternatives.
- -can predict effect of a decision by finding a similar situation in warehouse data.

- Stage 5:Take action and track Results
- -feed the actions back to operational systems
- -this places additional demand on DW architecture
- -need access to operational systems
- -need to enhance dimensional models
- -technologies required are distribution services that enable users to respond recommended actions from email

Types of Business Intelligence Application

- Direct access query and reporting tools -to query dimensional model directly and define result set -simple adhoc tools gives tabular results. -advanced tools gives complex reports Data mining Standard reports -predefined ,preformatted some level of user interaction like drill down to lower detail Analytical applications
- -managed set of reports embedding domain expertise for particular business process

- Dashboard and scorecards
- -reports and charts highlighting and drilldown capabilities to analyze data from multiple business processes



Direct Access query and reporting Tools

- -direct access to dimensional model
- -used by power users
- -user can drag drop columns, set constraints, define calculations
- -end result of ad hoc query tool is report
- -ad hoc query tools should include functionality like query formulation, analysis and presentation, user experience and technical features

Query Formulation

- to formulate query
- capabilities includes
- -Multipass or multi set queries
 - -break the report into multiple queries
 - Allows drilling across different fact tables
- Alerts
- -query tool should help user identify exceptional records
- -used on dashboards and scorecards to measure performance
- Successive constraints
- -result of one query are used as limit or filter on subsequent queries
- -doctors are interested in particular group of people and analyze their progress over time

- Semi additive summations
- ANSI SQL 99 support
- -like WINDOW construct
- Direct query string entry
- -need to view and alter SQL languague generated by tools

Analysis and presentation Capabilities

- Basic calculations on result set
- -math, statistical, string, s equential processing, conditional processing
- Pivot the results
- Drill down
- Column calculations on pivot results
- Column and row calculations
- Sorting
- Complex formating
- Charting and graphs

- Compound documents
- User changeable variables

User Experience

- Following capabilities help improve users experience of analytical environment
- Ease of Use
- -participate users in tool evaluation and ask them to rate the tool about their ease of use
- Metadata access
- -context sensitive help about data
- Pick Lists
- -provide lookup of list of values for use as filters or constraints in query

- Seamless integration with other applications
- -ability to make reports available in another application
- -portal integration components let them display directly in BI portal
- Export to multiple file types
- Embedded queries

Technical Features

- Multitasking
- -user should run other programs and create and run other queries while a query is running
- -Cancel query
- -able to kill a single query without killing all without rebooting
- Scripting
- -scripting and command line is critical for automating report execution

- Connectivity
- -Connecting to all data sources- text, spreadsheets,
 XML files, other rdbms
- Schedulling
- -allow users to differ the execution of queries
- Metadata driven
- -admin should be able to define subset of warehouse such as those tables involved in a single business process

- Software administration
- Security
- -need to provide authorization functions, limiting users to access to those reports they are allowed to use
- Querying
- -direct querying of database should be supported

- Standard reports
- -basic end of BI application
- -used by non technical users ,push button users every day
- Consist of what most of the users asked during requirements analysis
- Offer parameter selection facility
- Serve official source of enterprise metrics
- Examples are
- YTD(year to date) sales vs Forecast by sales Rep
- Monthly Churn rate by service plan
- Five year Drop out rate Time series by school
- Direct mail response rates by promotion by product
- YTD claims Vs Forecast by vehicle type

Analytical Applications

- More complex than standard reports
- Targeted at a specific business process
- Used to solve specific problems and used by specific users
- Used by promotions managers, sales managers, cost center managers and brand managers on regular basis
- Sold as stand alone applications
- Include like
- Promotion effectiveness
- Fraud Detection
- Category management

- Promotion effectiveness analytic application might allow the user to investigate impact of several variables on response rate to credit card promotion
- Include several panes, each one containing graph or report
- Main pane shows overall response rate
- Each pane show response rates associated with major variables of campaign

Pre-Built Analytic applications

- Broad range of pre-built applications available from major BI tool vendor and from companies with hands on industry and functional experience
- Comes with domain expertise
- If suites to your requirements then better to buy than built
- Comes with ETL components & dimensional models

Read/Write Analytic applications

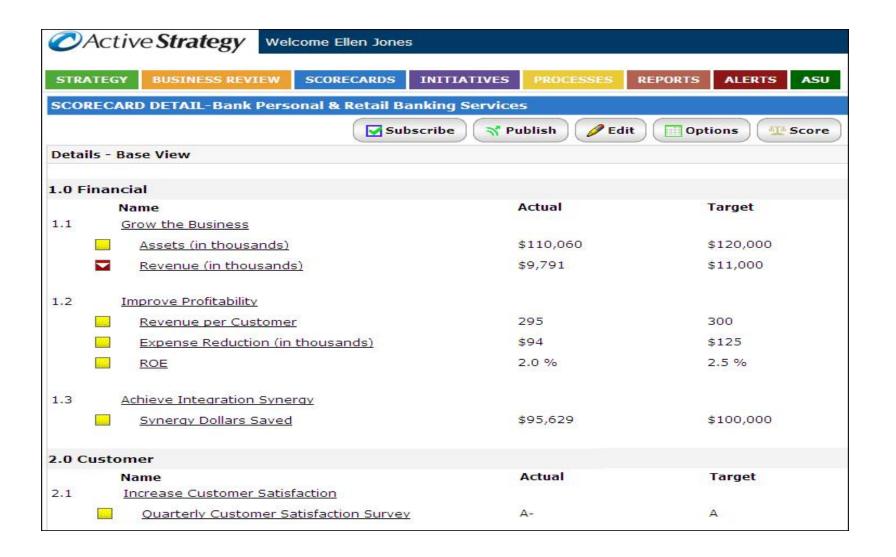
- Requires both read and write access
- Include planning, budgeting, forecasting
- Basically transaction systems but some times connected to DW/BI systems if input data is from DW
- Forecasting process takes historical sales info and projects it into future

Dashboards and Scorecards

- Used by executives
- Dashboard provide interface tools that support status reporting and alerts
- Drilldown to more detailed data
- Aimed for specific user type
- Scorecards used as means to manage performance across organization
- Objective based specific measures are identified
- Measures are used to track performance

Dashboard





Data Mining

- Process of data exploration with an intent to find patterns or relationships that can be made useful to organization
- Helps in understand and predict behavior, identify relationships or group items into sets
- The resulting model can take form of rules or equations
- These models are used to provide guidance, alerts or indicators to user
- Also called as KDD
- Five major categories:
- Clustering, classifying, estimating and predicting, affinity grouping and anomaly detection

- Clustering
- Techniques used are statistics, neural networks and decision trees
- Classification
- Techniques used are statistics, neural networks genetic algorithms and decision trees

- Estimating and predicting
- -numerical measure as result
- -prediction is estimation of event that will occur in future
- Techniques used are neural networks
- Affinity grouping
- -special kind of clustering that identifies events that occur simultaneously
- -market basket analysis
- Anomaly detection
- -identification of process that deviate from norm
- -fraud detection
- -clustering is used

Navigating Application via BI portal

- Usable
- Content rich
- Clean and should not confuse people
- Current
- Interactive
- Value oriented
- Density and structure

Additional portal functions

- Search
- Metadata browser
- User forum
- Personalization
- Information center