**Zero Copy Cloning**

Zero-Copy Cloning in Snowflake lets us instantly clone databases, schemas, or tables without actually duplicating the data, which saves storage and cost. The clone intially just references the original data (meta data - level copy) so it doesnt consume extra storage. Data storage cost only for the data changes stored in partitions. We can do modification on clones object without affecting the main object. We can do clone for database, schema, tables, stages, file formats, sequence, streams, tasksand foreign key constraints. We can't do cloning for External tables and Internal Named stages. I used it in my projects for creating test environments from production data and for point-in-time backups

create or replace table PRACTICE\_DB.SNOWFLAKE.CUSTOMER\_ADDRESS\_CLONE

clone PRACTICE\_DB.SNOWFLAKE.CUSTOMER\_ADDRESS copy grants;

create or replace schema PRACTICE\_DB.SNOWFLAKE\_CLONE

clone PRACTICE\_DB.SNOWFLAKE;

show grants on database practice\_db;

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create or replace file format my\_ff\_csv

type='csv'

field\_delimiter = ','

skip\_header = 1

field\_optionally\_enclosed\_by = '\047'

record\_delimiter = '\n';

create or replace stage my\_stg\_csv

file\_format = 'my\_ff\_csv';

create or replace database practice\_db\_clone

clone practice\_db ;

select \* from PRACTICE\_DB.SNOWFLAKE.CUSTOMER\_ADDRESS\_CLONE;

show tables like 'customer\_address%';

drop database practice\_db\_clone copy grants;

drop schema practice\_db.snowflake\_clone;

delete from practice\_db.snowflake.CUSTOMER\_ADDRESS\_CLONE;

create or replace table practice\_db.snowflake.CUSTOMER\_ADDRESS\_CLONE\_TT

clone practice\_db.snowflake.CUSTOMER\_ADDRESS\_CLONE before (statement => '01bed196-3201-e9e5-000f-43660005d0c6');

desc table practice\_db.snowflake.CUSTOMER\_ADDRESS\_CLONE\_TT;

select get\_ddl('table','practice\_db.snowflake.CUSTOMER\_ADDRESS\_CLONE\_TT');

alter table practice\_db.snowflake.CUSTOMER\_ADDRESS\_CLONE\_TT

set data\_retention\_time\_in\_days = 90;

show tables history;