

is power bi I'm refreshing my composite model, which has an aggregation table and dimension table, using a star schema. I'm trying to refresh a dimension using TMSL, and refresh type "dataOnly", in this scenario, will I need to process the model after the table is refreshed?

ChatGPT said:



If you're using the TMSL command with `refreshType: "dataOnly"` to refresh a dimension table in a composite model, there are a few key points to consider:

1. **dataOnly Refresh Type:** This refresh type reloads the data in the specified table without reprocessing any relationships or recalculating dependent calculations (like measures or calculated columns). It is efficient for tables where the schema remains unchanged, and only the data needs updating.
2. **Model Processing:** After refreshing a dimension table using `dataOnly`, you typically **do not** need to process the entire model again. However, there are exceptions:
 - If the refreshed dimension table has relationships with other tables (e.g., an aggregation table), and new rows or modified data could impact the aggregations or relationships, then it may be necessary to reprocess the partitions or recalculations dependent on the dimension data.
 - If you're relying on calculated columns or measures that could change based on the new data, make sure they reflect the updates correctly.
3. **Impact on Aggregations:** For models with star schemas, if your dimension refresh causes changes that could affect aggregations, you might need to trigger a partial or full refresh of those dependent aggregations. In some cases, a `dataOnly` refresh on the fact tables (or aggregations) might also be necessary.

In summary, **you may not need to process the entire model** if a `dataOnly` refresh updates a dimension table, but you should carefully verify that the model behaves as expected, especially regarding aggregations and relationships. If any issues arise, consider refreshing related tables or partitions as needed.