

Understanding Dimensions & Measures

Dimension Column

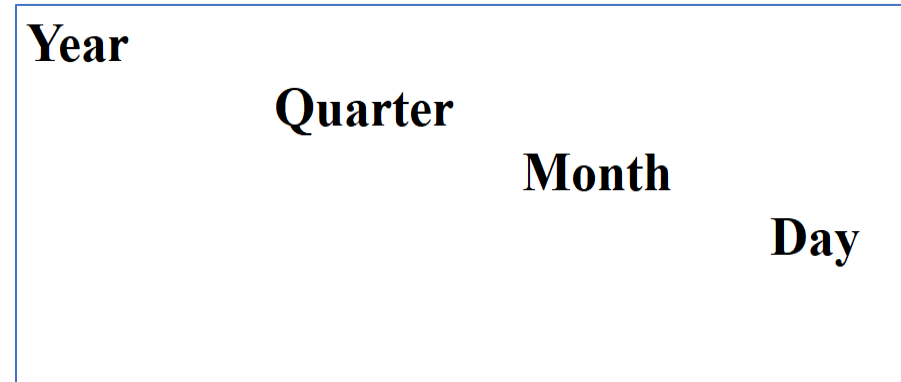
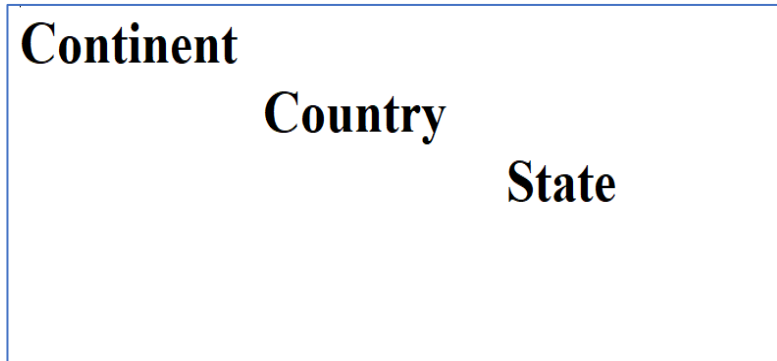
- Dimension is that type of column **"for whom"** we need the Summaries.
- Examples:
 - Continent, Country, State, City, Area, Sub Area
 - Year, Quarter, Month, Week, Day
 - Education, Marital Status, Gender, Blood Group
 - Payment_Mode, Pre-Paid, Post-Paid
- Dimension column will have **categorical values** for whom summaries are created.
- Dimension column values will **repeat** for multiple rows, i.e., they have **low cardinality**.
- Dimension column values will be **Grouped**. For each grouped value aggregation will be done.
- **Text** or **Date** columns suitable as Dimension Columns by default.
- But some **Numeric columns** also can be Dimension columns.
 - Examples: Deptno, Pincode, ProdCatNo, LoanTypeID

Measure Column

- Measure is that type of column "**of whom**" we need the Summaries.
- That means any column whose **aggregation makes sense** from business angle.
- **Numeric columns** which are useful for aggregation are Measures
- **Examples:**
 - Salary, Incentives, Bonus, Arrears, Tax, Allowance
 - Quantity, Cost, Sales, Amount, Profit, Loss, Inventory_Levels
- Measures are stored in **Fact Tables**

Hierarchies

- **Hierarchy** can be created using Dimension Columns
- Examples



- Hierarchies stored in Dimension tables help us to create **Drill-Down** reports.

More about Dimension & Fact Tables

- Dimension Tables

- Number of **Dimension tables** will be more
- Number of **rows** in each dimension table **will not be more.**
- Number of rows **will not grow daily**, but periodically as business has some changes.

- Fact Tables

- Number of Fact Tables **will be less** (1 or max 2)
- Number of **rows in each fact table will be high**
- Number of **rows will grow daily.....**