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Interview Questions



Question-1

Describe LOD expressions and how you would use them in Tableau.

Answer-1

Level of Detail (LOD) expressions allow control over the level of granularity you want to compute. There are three types:

- A **FIXED** LOD computes a value for a fixed level of dimensions, regardless of the view's other dimensions.
- An **INCLUDE** LOD computes a value for a specified level of dimensions while also including other dimensions in the view.
- An **EXCLUDE** LOD computes a value for a specified level of dimensions while excluding other dimensions from the view.



Question-2

What are actions?

Answer-2

In Tableau, **actions** refer to a set of interactive behaviors that allow users to navigate and interact with data visualizations. There are several types of actions in Tableau, including:

- **Filter:** applies the same filter from one view to another;
- **Highlight:** marks important information while muting others;
- **Go to URL:** redirects the user to an external resource, which can include another Tableau workbook, a file, or a web page;
- **Go to Sheet:** helps navigate between sheets, dashboards, and stories within a Tableau workbook;
- **Change Parameter:** allows users to dynamically update the visualization by changing the parameter values; and
- **Change Set Values:** allows users to dynamically update the visualization by selecting a subset of elements to include in the analysis.



Question-3

Explain the difference between twb and twbx file extensions.

Answer-3

TWB is a Tableau workbook file that contains the layout and structure of the dashboard and sheets, but not the data. **TWBX** is a packaged workbook that contains the workbook along with the local data files and background images.



Question-4

How do you increase the performance of a slow workbook?

Answer-4

To enhance workbook performance in Tableau, consider these effective strategies.

- 1. Data Source Optimization:** Enhance data source efficiency by eliminating superfluous joins, excluding irrelevant fields, and ensuring data is aggregated at the correct level. A well-optimized data source is fundamental for swift workbook operations.
- 2. Workbook Optimization:** Streamline your workbook by decluttering the layout, removing extraneous fields and sheets, and limiting complex calculations and intricate visualizations. Also, reduce dashboard elements and filters to expedite performance.
- 3. Leverage Data Extracts:** Utilize data extracts, which are pre-aggregated data subsets, to quicken workbook performance. Data extracts minimize the volume of data Tableau processes, leading to speedier performance.



4. Implement Filters: Apply filters to curtail the data volume processed by Tableau, enhancing performance. Filters help concentrate the displayed data in your visualization and eradicate unneeded data from the view.



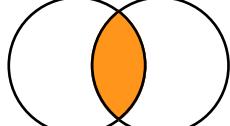
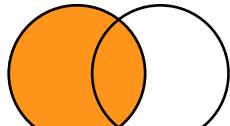
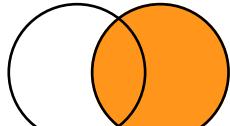
Question-5

What Are the Different Joins in Tableau?

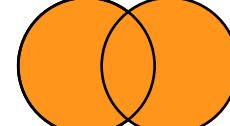
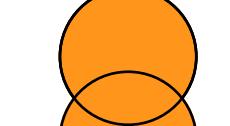
Answer-5

Joining is a method for combining related data on a common key. Below is a table that lists the different types of joins:

Joining is a method for combining related data on a common key

Join Type	Description	Result
Inner	The resultant table contains values that have matches in both tables	
Left	The resultant table contains all values from the left table and corresponding matches from the right table	
Right	The resultant table contains all values from the right table and corresponding matches from the left table	

Joining is a method for combining related data on a common key

Join Type	Description	Result
Outer	The resultant table contains all values from both tables	
Union	Union is another method for combining two or more tables by applying rows of data from one table to another	



Question-6

How can you implement version control in Tableau?

Answer-6

Version control can be implemented by integrating Tableau with third-party version control tools like Git. Saving versions of Tableau workbooks in the repository allows tracking changes, reverting to previous versions, and managing collaboration.



Question-7

Can you explain Tableau Data Blending?

Answer-7

Data Blending is a method to combine data from multiple sources. When blending, each data source contains a primary connection and possibly multiple secondary connections. Data from the secondary source is aggregated to the level of detail specified by the primary source.



Question-8

What is a Calculated Field, and How Will You Create One?

Answer-8

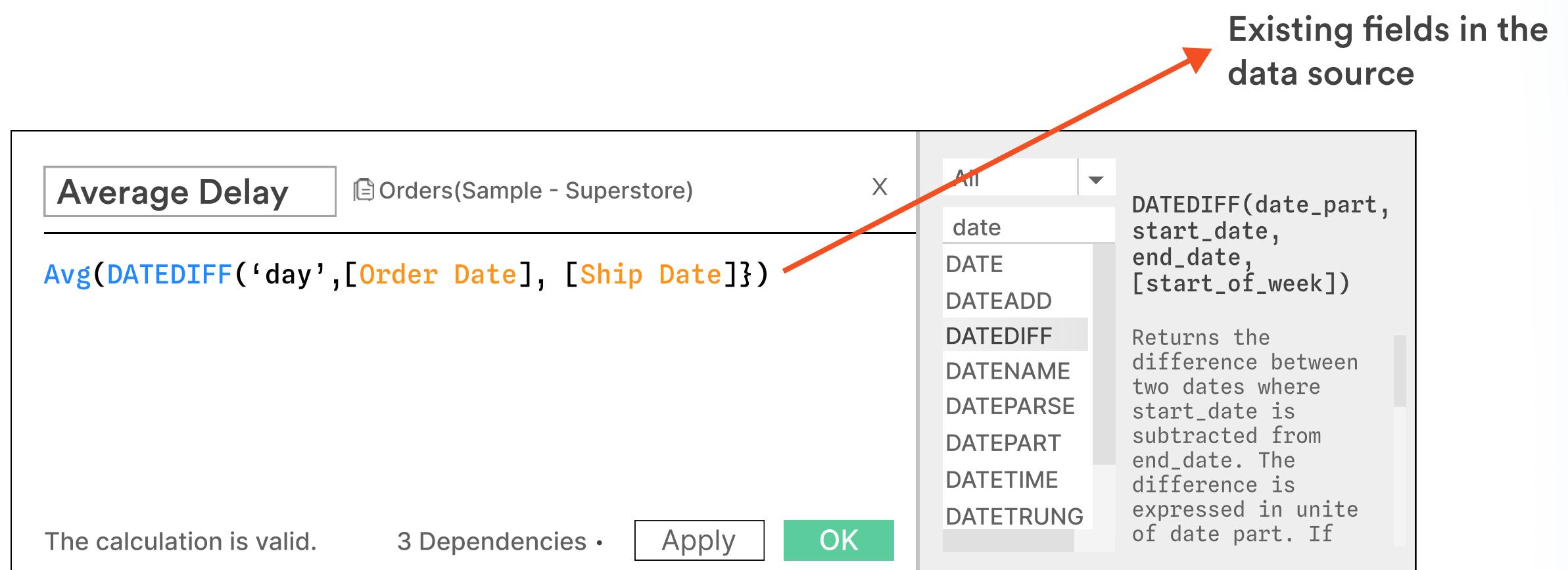
A calculated field allows for the generation of new fields based on existing data, enriching visualizations without altering the original dataset.

Consider calculating "average delay to ship" from a dataset detailing order and ship dates across four regions. Here's how to create a calculated field:

1. Go to Analysis and select Create Calculated Field.
2. A calculation editor pops up on the screen. Provide a name to the calculated field: Shipping Delay.
3. Enter the formula: DATEDIFF ('day', [Order Date], [Ship Date])
4. Click on Ok.
5. Bring Shipping Delay to the view.



- Repeat steps 1 to 5 to create a new calculated field 'Average Shipping Delay' using the formula: AVG (DATEDIFF ('day,' [Order Date], [Ship Date]))
- Drag Region field to Rows shelf and SUM(Average Shipping Delay) to the marks card; the average delay for each region gets displayed.



Scenario-Based Tableau Interview Questions for your practice

Multiple Data Sources Scenario:

Question

A Tableau dashboard you created is performing slowly. What steps would you take to diagnose and fix the performance issues?

Expected Answer

Detail the process of using Tableau's Performance Recording feature to identify slow queries or visualizations. Discuss strategies like optimizing extracts, reducing the number of filters and quick filters, using context filters wisely, and minimizing the use of complex calculated fields.



Dynamic Dashboard Scenario:

Question

You are asked to create a dashboard that allows users to dynamically change the metrics displayed on the dashboard. How would you set this up in Tableau?

Expected Answer

Explain the use of parameters to allow users to choose the metrics they want to see. Discuss how to create calculated fields that use these parameters and how to incorporate them into the visualizations.



Performance Optimization Scenario:

Question

A Tableau dashboard you created is performing slowly. What steps would you take to diagnose and fix the performance issues?

Expected Answer

Detail the process of using Tableau's Performance Recording feature to identify slow queries or visualizations. Discuss strategies like optimizing extracts, reducing the number of filters and quick filters, using context filters wisely, and minimizing the use of complex calculated fields.



Complex Calculation Scenario:

Question

You need to create a calculated field that shows the rolling average of sales for the last three months, updated daily. How would you accomplish this in Tableau?

Expected Answer

Describe how to create a calculated field using a window function like WINDOW_AVG() and how to set up the calculation to consider only the last three months of sales data.



User-Specific View Scenario:

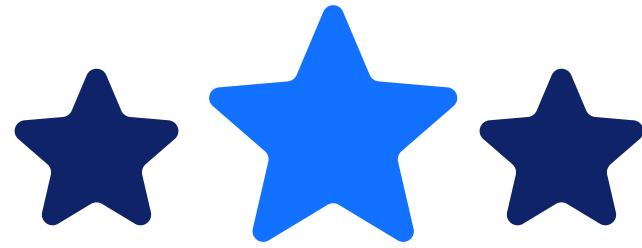
Question

You are required to create a dashboard where each user should only see the data relevant to their region. How would you implement this in Tableau while ensuring data security?

Expected Answer

Talk about implementing Row Level Security using user filters or through database security. Mention how to dynamically set the user filters based on the login information and how to test the setup to ensure data security.





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