

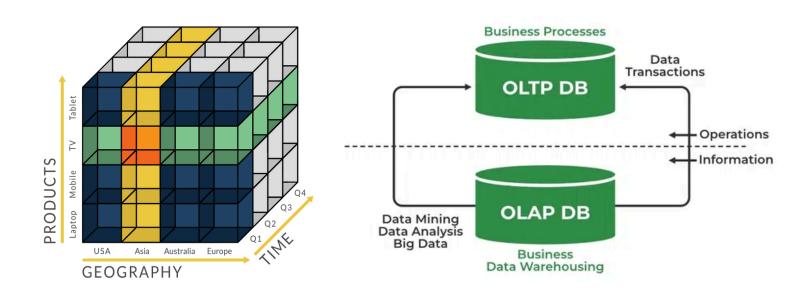
TOP 12 IMPORTANT

DATA ENGINEERING

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What makes OLTP different from OLAP?

- OLTP (Online Transaction Processing) handles dayto-day transactions, ensuring real-time data entry and retrieval.
- OLAP (Online Analytical Processing) focuses on analyzing large amounts of data, ensuring high integrity in queries and reports for decision-making.
- In short: OLTP is optimized for fast transaction processing, while OLAP is suited for complex data analysis.

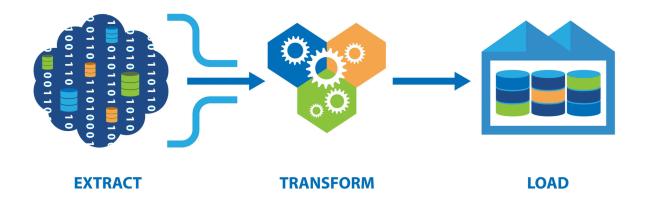


How would you approach cleaning a dataset with 10% missing values?

- Assess missing data Identify which columns have missing values and how many records are affected.
- Choose handling methods:
 - For numerical data: Use imputation (mean, median, or model-based methods) or remove rows/columns if necessary.
 - For categorical data: Use mode imputation or introduce a new category like 'Unknown.'
- Ensure no data bias Maintain data integrity and avoid losing significant patterns.

How do you design an ETL pipeline for realtime analytics?

- Extract: Utilize message queues like Kafka or APIs to fetch real-time data.
- Transform: Perform on-the-fly operations like filtering, aggregation, and enrichment using stream processing engines like Apache Flink or Spark Streaming.
- Load: Store transformed data in a real-time data warehouse such as AWS Redshift or Google BigQuery.

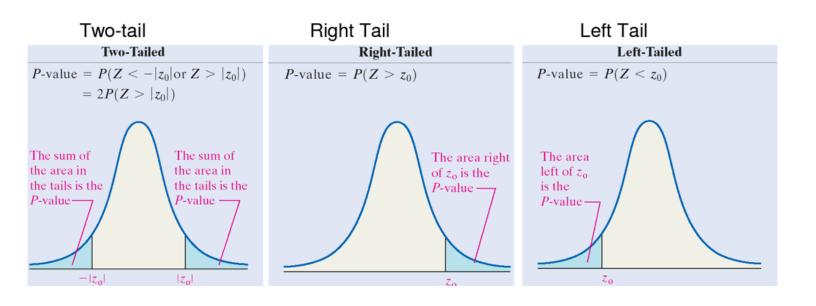


How do you ensure data quality in a project?

- Clear Data Collection Standards Define structured guidelines for data gathering.
- Data Validation Regularly validate data using automated tools.
- Data Cleaning Remove duplicates and irrelevant data.
- Timely Updates Keep the data refreshed and up to date.
- Regular Audits Periodically review data for accuracy and completeness.

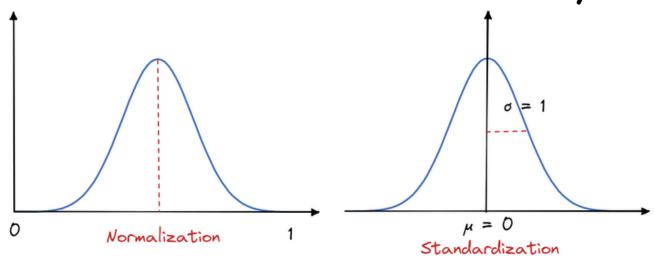
What is the importance of p-values in hypothesis testing?

- A p-value determines the statistical significance of test results.
- Low p-value (p < 0.05): Rejects the null hypothesis, supporting the alternative hypothesis.
- High p-value: Indicates insufficient evidence to reject the null hypothesis.



What is the difference between normalization and standardization?

- Normalization: Scales data within a specific range (e.g., 0 to 1).
- Standardization: Adjusts data to have a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of 1.
- When to use:
 - Use normalization when feature values have different units.
 - Use standardization when features have different scales but need uniformity.

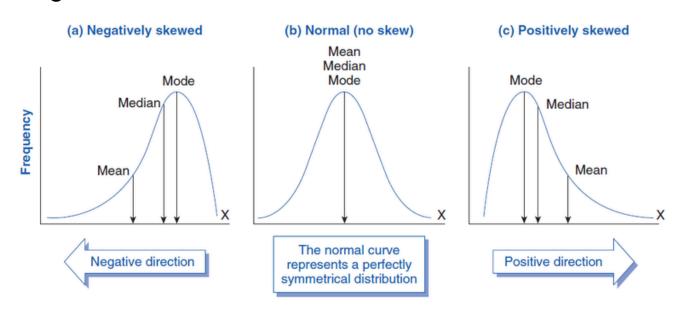


How do you optimize a SQL query for large datasets?

- Use Indexes Index frequently queried columns and JOIN keys.
- Limit Result Set Use LIMIT or TOP to reduce processing time.
- Avoid SELECT * Fetch only necessary columns.
- Use Efficient Joins Prefer INNER JOIN over OUTER JOIN when possible.
- Apply WHERE Filters Early Minimize the number of rows processed.
- Optimize Subqueries Replace subqueries with joins where possible.
- Analyze Execution Plan Use EXPLAIN to identify performance bottlenecks.

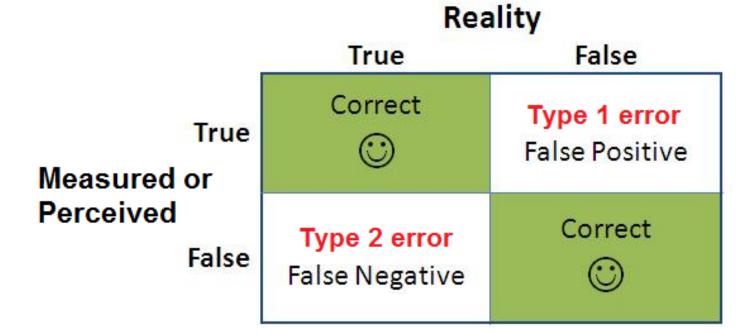
How do you handle skewed data distributions?

- Log Transformation Apply log or square root transformation to normalize skewed data.
- Winsorization Cap extreme values to reduce the impact of outliers.
- Resampling Use oversampling or undersampling for imbalanced data.
- Model Selection Use robust models like tree-based algorithms that handle skewed data well.



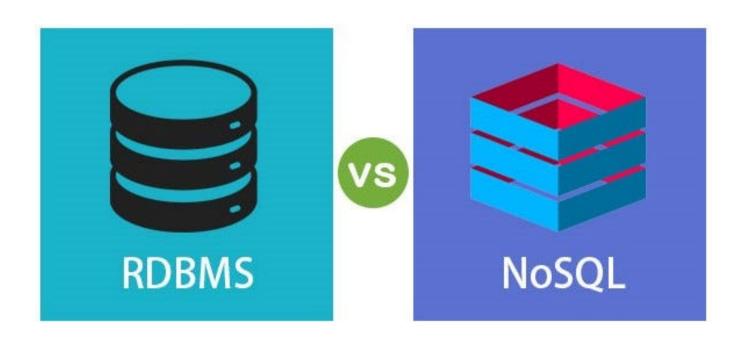
What are Type I and Type II errors?

- Type I Error (False Positive): Rejecting a true null hypothesis.
 - Example: A medical test wrongly detects a disease in a healthy person.
- Type II Error (False Negative): Failing to reject a false null hypothesis.
 - Example: A medical test fails to detect a disease in an infected person.



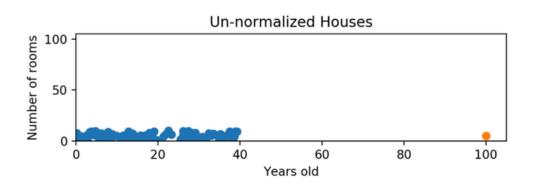
How do you decide between RDBMS and NoSQL for a project?

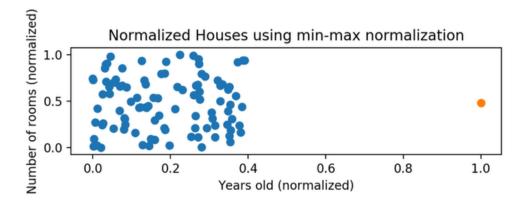
- RDBMS (e.g., MySQL, PostgreSQL) Best for structured data, complex relationships, and transactional consistency.
- NoSQL (e.g., MongoDB, Cassandra) Ideal for semi-structured or evolving data with scalability needs.



What is data normalization in databases?

- Data normalization reduces redundancy and improves data integrity.
- It involves breaking large tables into smaller ones and establishing relationships using foreign keys.
- Normalization improves database efficiency and ensures consistency.





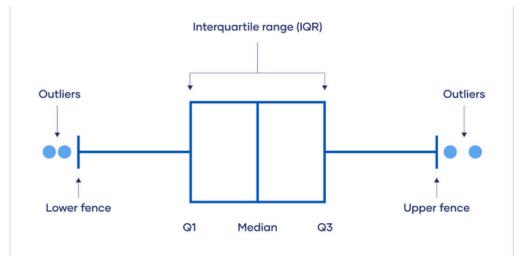
How do you detect and handle outliers in a dataset?

• Detect Outliers:

- Use visual methods like box plots and scatter plots.
- Use statistical methods like the IQR rule or Z-score.

Handle Outliers:

- Remove If due to errors or irrelevance.
- Transform Apply log transformations.
- Cap/Impute Replace outliers with median or reasonable limits.





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