

42. ETL IN TABLEAU



ADS ISE I

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ETL IN Tableau

- Introduction to ETL in Tableau
- ETL in Tableau - Overview
- Extract Phase in Tableau
- Transform Phase in Tableau
- Load Phase in Tableau
- Advanced Calculated Fields in Tableau
- Challenges & Best Practices

Literature Survey

Data Quality:

- Clean, well-structured data is essential for producing reliable and insightful visualizations.

Performance Optimization:

- Leveraging Extract Mode and incremental updates significantly improves dashboard responsiveness.

Scalability:

- Hybrid ETL approaches (e.g., combining SQL pre-processing with Tableau's native functions) are crucial for managing large datasets.

Industry Validation:

- Numerous case studies and community examples on Tableau Public validate these advanced ETL methodologies.



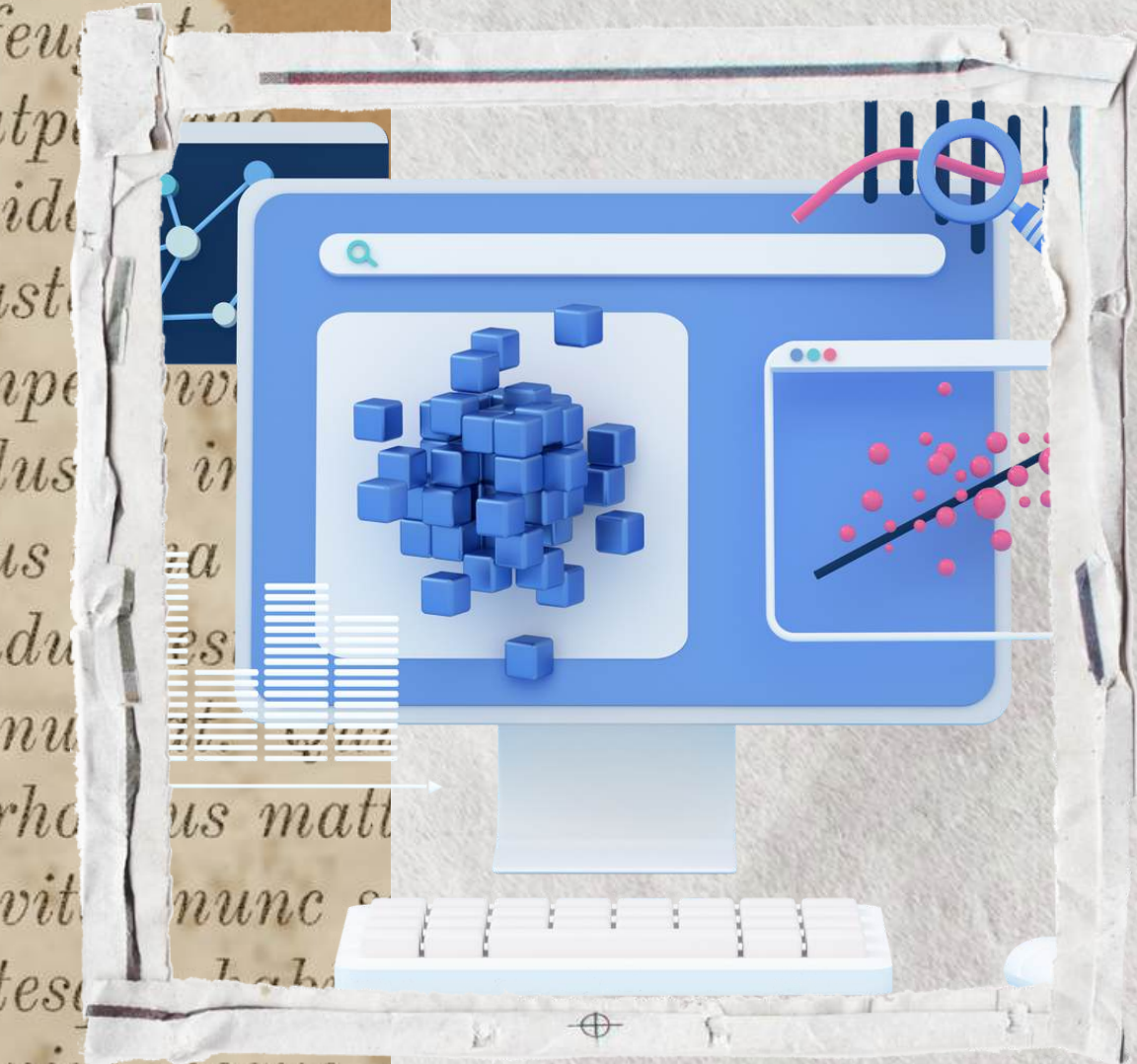
Introduction to ETL in Tableau

What is ETL?

- Extract: Retrieve raw data from various sources.
- Transform: Clean, structure, and enrich the data.
- Load: Import the processed data into Tableau for analysis.

Importance of ETL:

- Ensures data is accurate, complete, and structured.
- Improves dashboard performance and analytical accuracy.
- Enables reliable decision-making through clean visualizations.



ETL in Tableau Overview

Built-In ETL Capabilities:

- Tableau Desktop: Offers basic data cleaning and transformation functions.
- Tableau Prep: Provides advanced, visual drag-and-drop ETL workflows.

Capabilities:

- Data Extraction: From Excel, databases, cloud services, CSV, JSON, etc.
- Data Transformation: Cleaning, filtering, joining, and pivoting data.
- Data Loading: Creating extracts (.hyper files) or live connections.



Extract Phase in Tableau

Data Extraction Techniques:

- Connect to multiple data sources (Excel, CSV, JSON, SQL databases, Google Sheets).
- Options for Live Connection vs. Extract Mode.

Live vs. Extract Mode:

- Live Connection: Real-time updates but may be slower.
- Extract Mode: Uses a static snapshot (.hyper file) for faster performance.



Transform Phase in Tableau

Data Cleaning:

- Remove duplicates and handle missing values.
- Use functions like IFNULL() and ISNULL().

Data Transformation:

- Split columns (e.g., full name first and last names).
- Create calculated fields to derive new metrics (tax, profit).
- Join and blend data from multiple sources.



Load Phase in Tableau

Data Loading Strategies:

- Save cleaned data as a Tableau Extract (.hyper file) for improved performance.
- Use filters, aggregations, and calculated fields within Tableau.

Extract vs. Live Data Considerations:

- Extract Mode: Ideal for large, static datasets.
- Live Mode: Best for frequently updated, smaller datasets.

Advanced Calculated Fields in Tableau

Handling NULL Values:

- `IFNULL([Salary], WINDOW_AVG([Salary]))`

Currency Conversion (USD to INR):

- `IF [Currency] = "USD" THEN [Salary] * 83.10 ELSE [Salary] END`

Date Formatting:

- Convert date from "dd-MM-yyyy" to date format:
- `DATEPARSE("dd-MM-yyyy", [Hire Date])`

Extract:

- `YEAR([Hire Date]), MONTH([Hire Date]), DAY([Hire Date])`



Software

Challenges & Best Practices

Challenges in ETL with Tableau:

- Handling large, diverse datasets that slow performance.
- Inconsistent data formats and missing values.
- Complex joins and data blending issues.

Best Practices:


- Pre-clean Data: Use Tableau Prep for initial cleaning.
- Use Extracts: Leverage .hyper extracts for performance.
- Optimize Calculations: Pre-aggregate data and minimize complex calculated fields.
- Automate Updates: Schedule incremental refreshes and use Tableau's automation tools.



References

- “The Data Warehouse Toolkit” by Ralph Kimball(Book)
- “Data Preparation for Tableau” by Tim Costello & Lindsay Betzendahl (Book)
- Tableau Help Documentation - Covers built-in ETL features, data connections, and transformations.
Link: <https://help.tableau.com/>
- Research Paper: “Efficient ETL Processes for Big Data Analytics”
Analyzes performance challenges in large-scale ETL processes.
Discusses optimized data extraction and transformation strategies in BI tools like Tableau.





The image is a collage of various paper textures and torn edges. In the top left, there is a black line drawing of a speech bubble. The background consists of several layers of paper, including a piece of lined paper with a scalloped edge at the top right and a spiral-bound notebook page at the bottom right. The central text 'Thank you' is written in a large, bold, black, hand-drawn style font with a white outline. The text is superimposed over a piece of aged, yellowish-brown paper that has some faint, illegible text visible underneath. The overall aesthetic is rustic and handmade.

Thank you