

## ► Snapshots

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► They are the read only, static view of the database.

► Generally snapshots are transactionally consistent with the source database as of the moment of the snapshot's creation

► A database snapshot always resides on the same server instance as its source database

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## ► Snapshots (cont.)

► As the source database is updated, the database snapshot is updated.

► Hence the longer a database snapshot exists, the more likely it is to use up its available disk space.

► Multiple snapshots can exist on a given source database

► Each database snapshot persists until it is explicitly dropped by the database owner

## ► Snapshots Advantages

► They can be used for reporting purpose.

► For Maintaining historical data for report generation

► Using a mirror database that you are maintaining for availability purposes to offload reporting

► Safeguarding data against administrative error

## ► Snapshots Limitations

- A database snapshot must be created and remain on the same server instance as the source database.
- Database snapshots always work on an entire database
- When a page getting updated on the source database is pushed to a snapshot, if the snapshot runs out of disk space or encounters some other error, the snapshot becomes suspect and must be deleted
- Snapshots are read-only. Since they are read only, they cannot be upgraded. Therefore, database snapshots are not expected to be viable after an upgrade.