



## Snowflake Architecture

**CLOUD SERVICES** 



QUERY PROCESSING



Virtual

Warehouse

Virtual Warehouse



Virtual Warehouse



STORAGE









### Snowflake Architecture

**CLOUD SERVICES** 



- Brain of the system -Managing infrastructure, Access control, security, Optimizier, Metadata etc.

QUERY PROCESSING



Virtual

Virtual Warehouse



Virtual

Warehouse

- Muscle of the system -

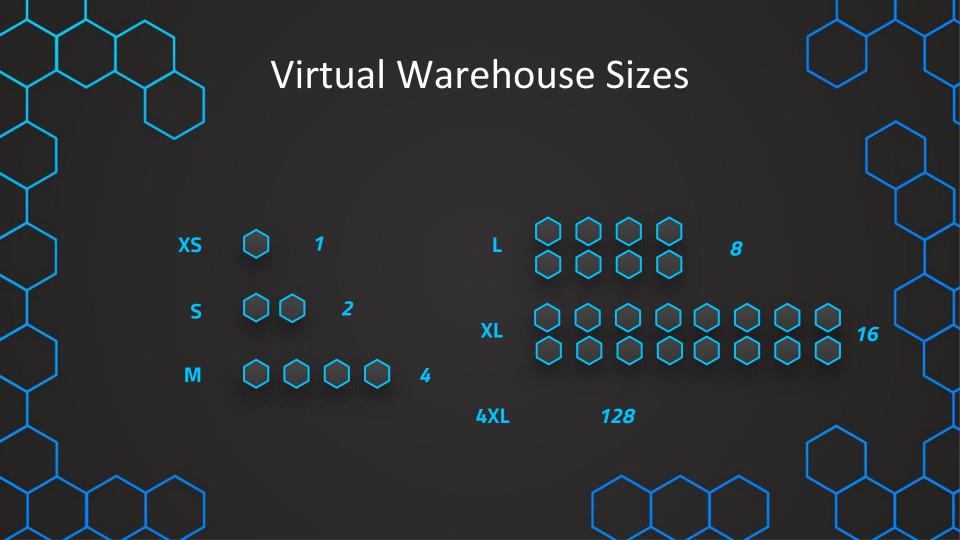
Performs MMP (Massive Parallel Processing)

STORAGE



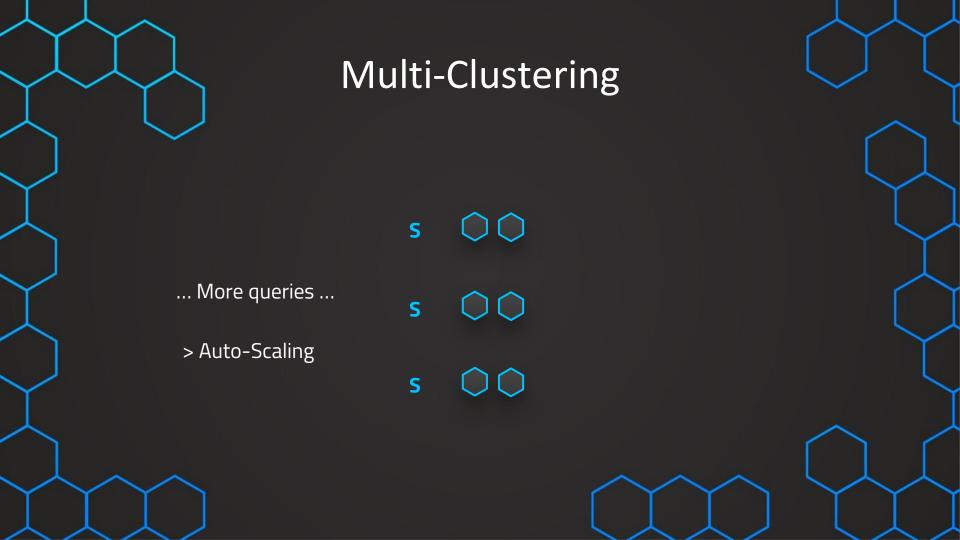


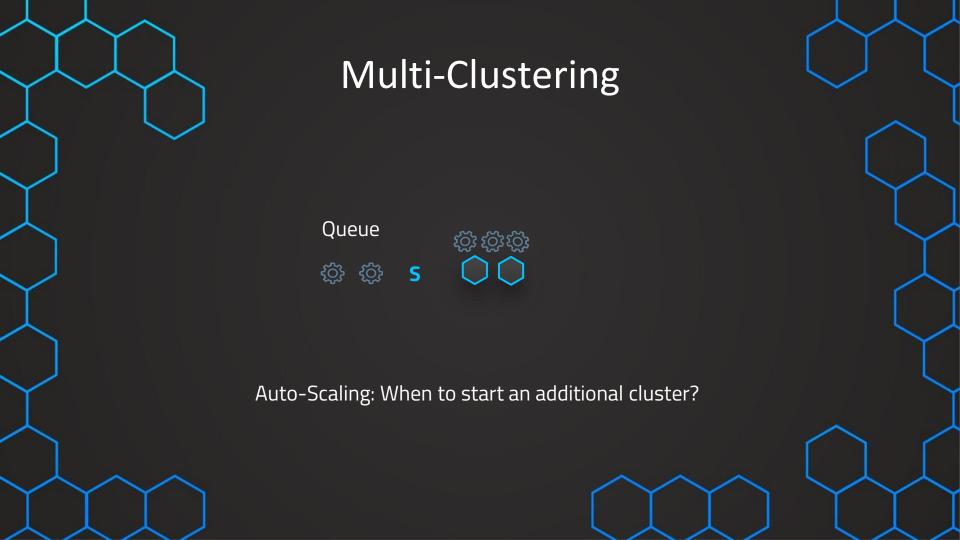
- Hybrid Columnar Storage -Saved in blobs













## Scaling policy



#### **Standard**

Favors starting additional warehouses



#### **Economy**

Favors conserving credits rather than starting additional warehouses



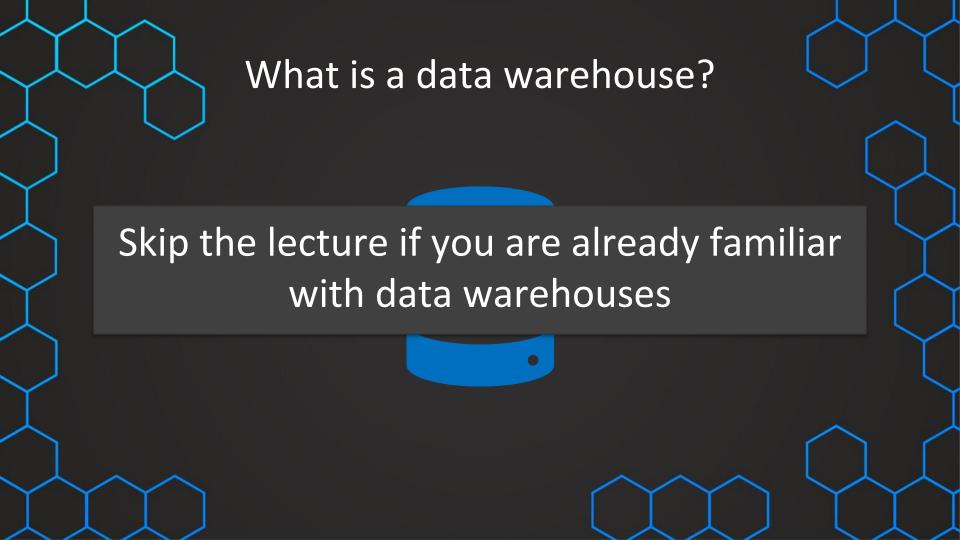


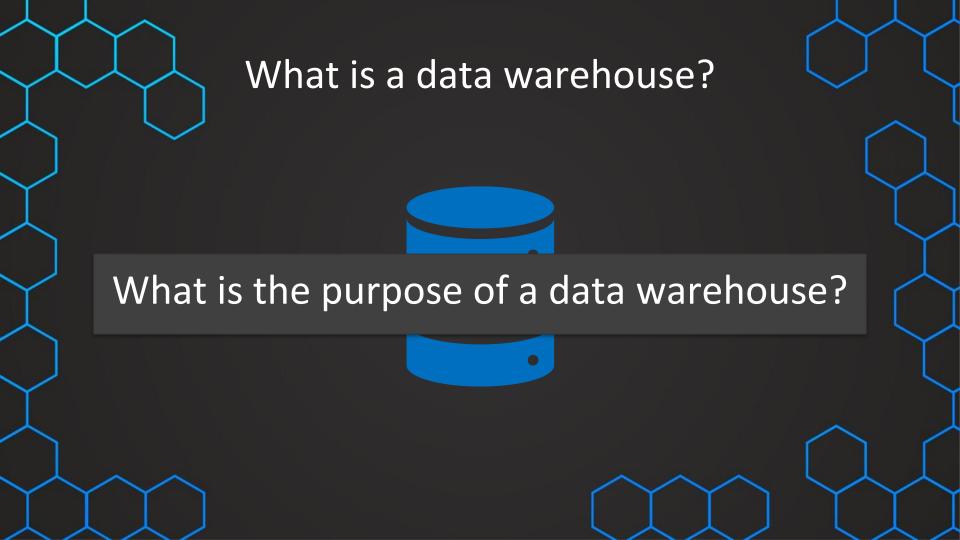
# Scaling policy

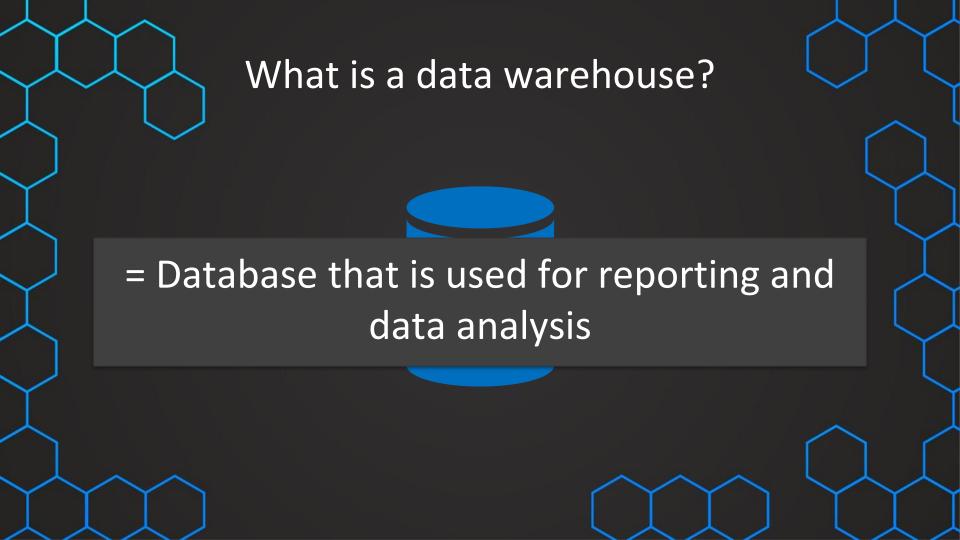
Policy	Description	Cluster Starts	Cluster Shuts Down
Standard (default)	Prevents/minimizes queuing by favoring starting additional clusters over conserving credits.	Immediately when either a query is queued or the system detects that there are more queries than can be executed by the currently available clusters.	After 2 to 3 consecutive successful checks (performed at 1 minute intervals), which determine whether the load on the least-loaded cluster could be redistributed to the other clusters
Economy	Conserves credits by favoring keeping running clusters fully-loaded rather than starting additional clusters,  Result: May result in queries being queued and taking longer to complete.	Only if the system estimates there's enough query load to keep the cluster busy for at least 6 minutes.	After 5 to 6 consecutive successful checks

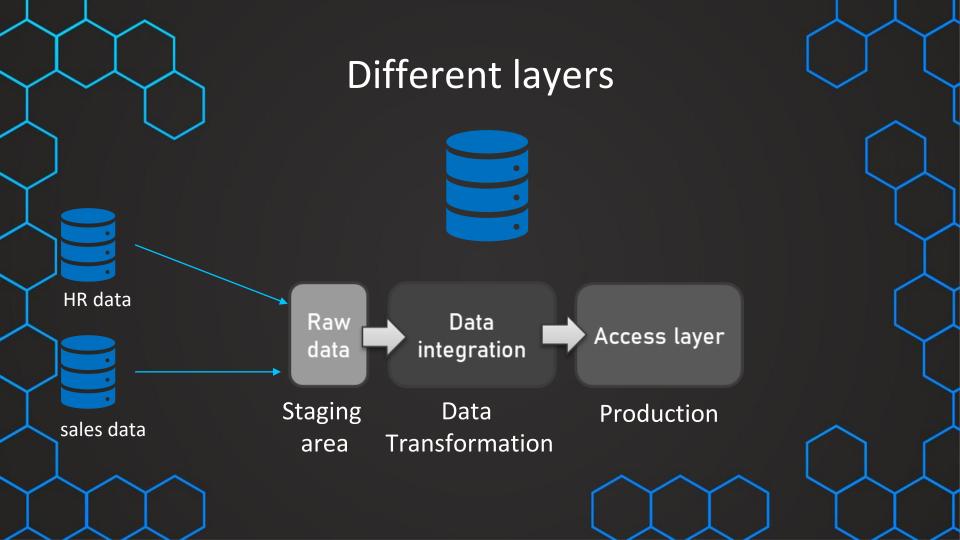


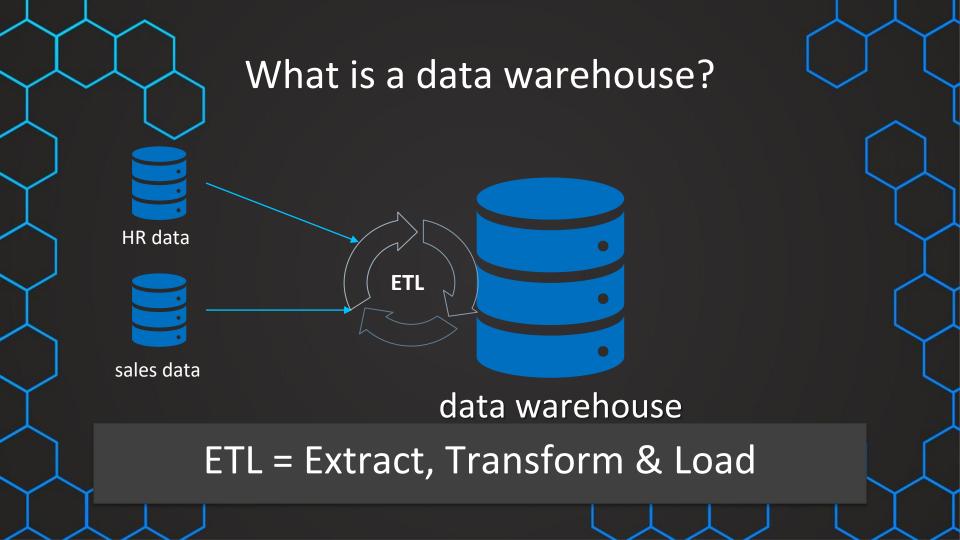


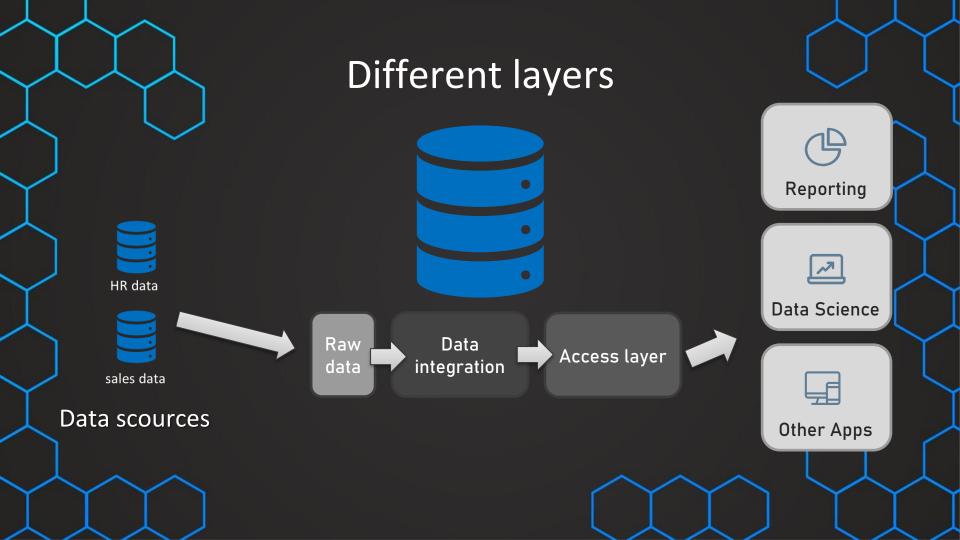


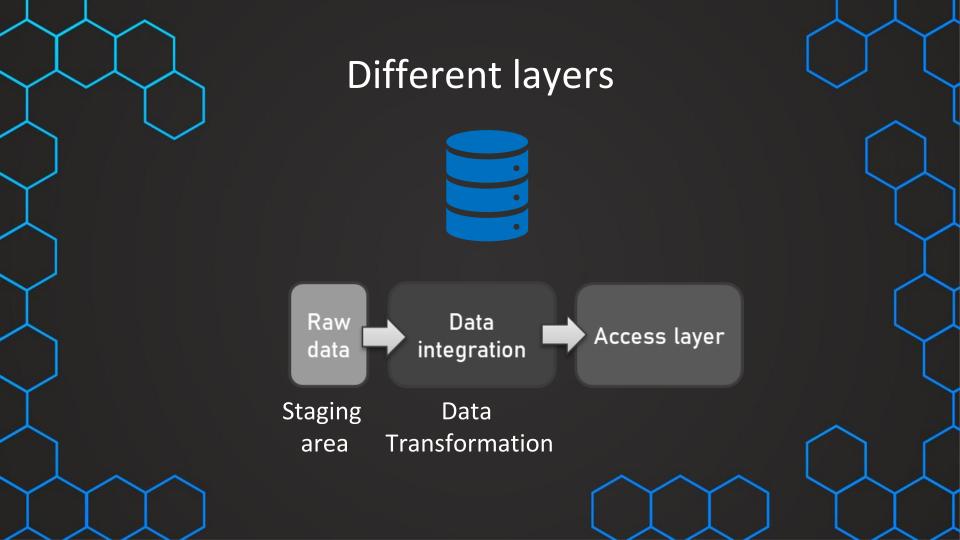


















## **Cloud Computing**

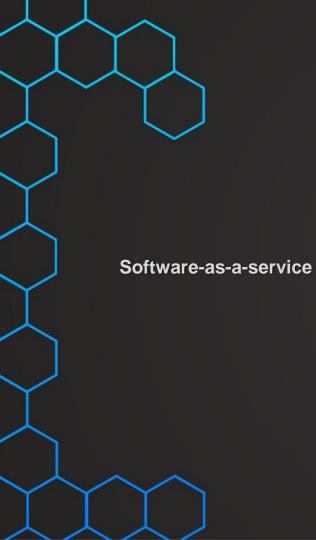


**Data Center** 

#### **MANAGED**

- Infrastucture
- Security
- Electricity
  - Software/Hardware upgrades

Software-as-a-Service



# **Cloud Computing**

Application

Databases, tables etc.

Software

Data

Operating System

Physical servers

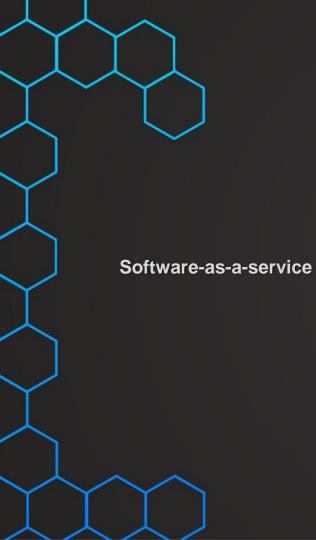
Virtual machines

Physical storage

Snowflake

Managing data storage, Virtual warehouses, Upgrades/Metadata etc.

**Cloud provider** AWS, Azure, GCP



# **Cloud Computing**

Application

Software

Data

Operating System

Physical servers

Virtual machines

Physical storage

Customer

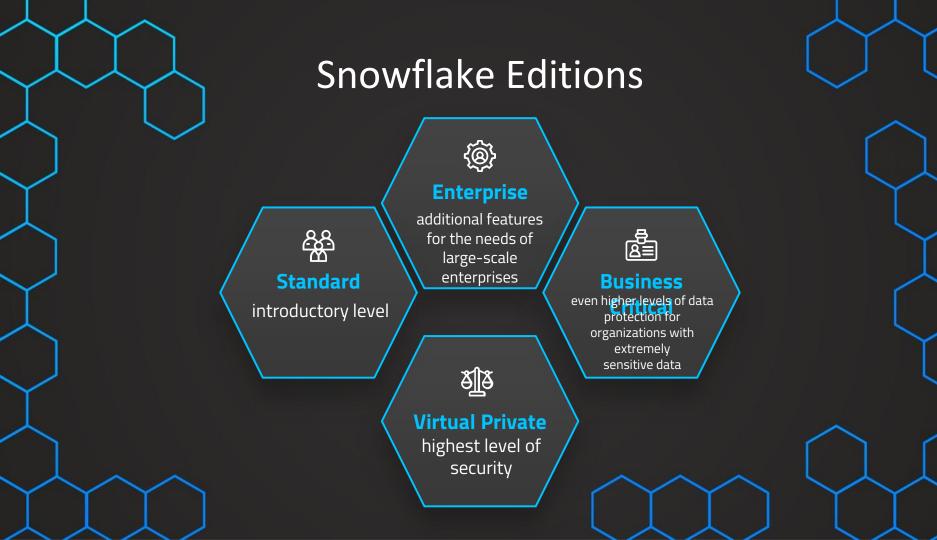
Creating tables etc.

Snowflake

Managing data storage, Virtual warehouses, Upgrades/Metadata etc.

**Cloud provider** AWS, Azure, GCP





## **Snowflake Editions**



- ✓ Complete DWH
- ✓ Automatic data encryption
- ✓ Time travel up to 1 day
- Disaster recovery for 7days beyond time travel
- ✓ Secure data share
- ✓ Premier support 24/7



#### **Enterprise**

All Standard features

Multi-cluster warehouse ✓

- / Time toward .... to 00
- Time travel up to 90 days
- ✓ Materialized views
- ✓ Search Optimization
- ✓ Column-level security



#### Business Critical

- All Enterprise features
- Additional security
   features such as Data
  - encryption everywhere
- ✓ Extended support
- ✓ Database failover and disaster recovery



#### **Virtual Private**

- ✓ All Business Ciritcal
- ✓ Dedicated virtual

environment

features

servers and completely seperate Snowflake



## **Snowflake Pricing**

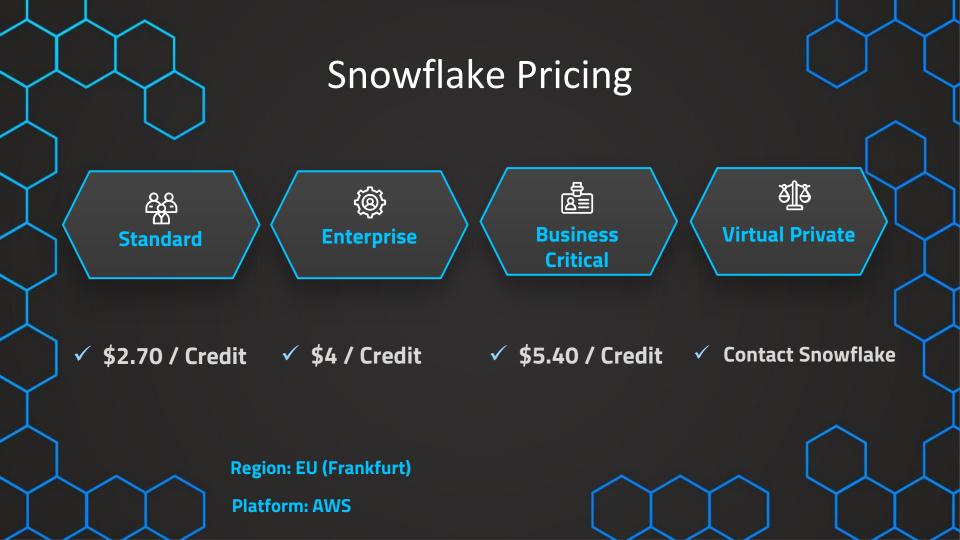


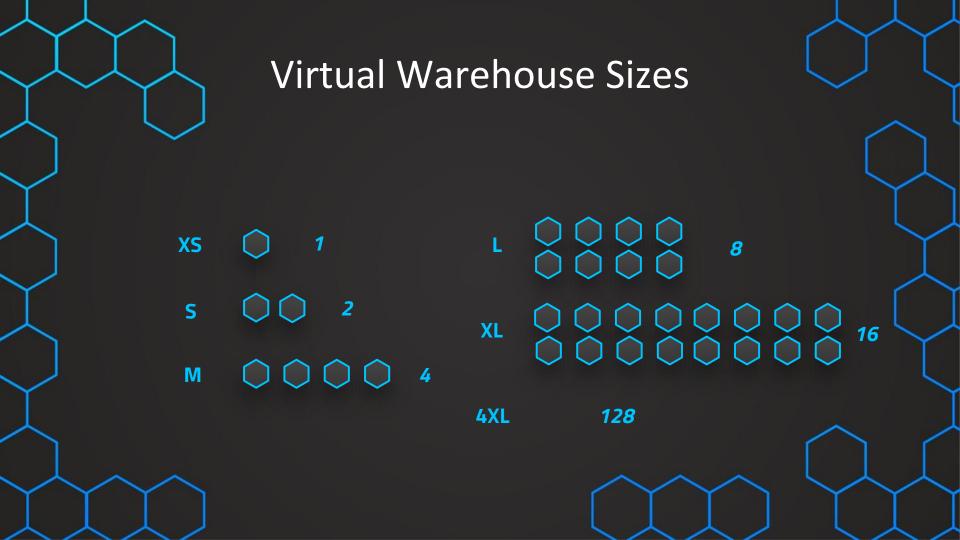
- ✓ Charged for active warehouses per hour
- ✓ Depending on the size of the warehouse
- ✓ Billed by second (minimum of 1min)
- ✓ Charged in Snowflake credits



- ✓ Monthly storage fees
- ✓ Based on average storage used per month
- ✓ Cost calculated after compression
- ✓ Cloud Providers

# **Snowflake Pricing** Compute **Storage** Consumed





#### Snowflake Pricing





We think we need 1 TB of storage



Scenario 1: 100GB of storage used

$$0.1 \text{ TB x } $40 = $4$$

Scenario 2: 800GB of storage used

Scenario 1: 100GB of storage used1 TB x \$23 = \$23

**Region: US East (Northern Virginia)** 

**Platform: AWS** 

## Snowflake Pricing

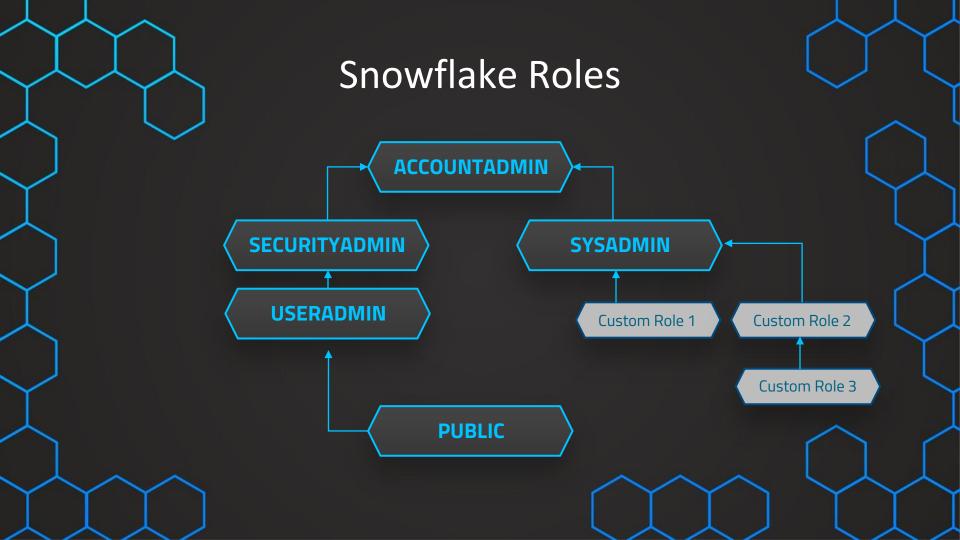






- Start with On Demand
- Once you are sure about your usage use
   Capacity storage







#### **ACCOUNTADMIN**

**SECURITYADMIN** 

**SYSADMIN** 

**USERADMIN** 

**PUBLIC** 

**SECURITYADMIN** 

system

SYSADMIN and

- top-level role in the
- should be granted only
- to a limited number of 🗸 users

- **USERADMIN** role is granted to
  - **SECURITYADMIN**
  - Can manage users and roles

  - Can manage any object grant globally

- Create warehouses and databases (and
- Recommended that all custom roles are

more objects)

assigned

- **Dedicated to user** and role
- management only
- Can create users and  $\checkmark$
- roles objects like every

**Automatically** granted to every user

Can create own

other role (available to every other

user/role



#### **Loading Data**

#### BULK LOADING

- ✓ Most frequent method
- ✓ Uses warehouses
- ✓ Loading from stages
- ✓ COPY command
- ✓ Transformations possible

### CONTINUOUS LOADING

- Designed to load small volumes of data
- ✓ Automatically once they are added to stages
- ✓ Lates results for analysis
- ✓ Snowpipe (Serverless feature)

### **Understanding Stages** ✓ Not to be confused with dataware house ✓ £525€ fon of data files where data can be loaded from **External** Internal Stage Stage

#### **Understanding Stages**

External Stage

- ✓ External cloud provider
- S3
- Google Cloud Plattform
- Microsoft Azure
- ✓ Database object created in Schema
- ✓ CREATE STAGE (URL, access settings)

Note: Additional costs may apply if region/platform differs

Internal Stage

Local storage maintainedby Snowflake



```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' ,'<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
copyOptions
```



```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' ,'<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
ON_ERROR = CONTINUE
```

```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' , '<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
VALIDATION_MODE = RETURN_n_ROWS | RETURN_ERRORS
```

✓ Validate the data files <u>instead</u> of loading them

```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' ,'<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
VALIDATION_MODE = RETURN_n_ROWS | RETURN_ERRORS
```

RETURN_N_ROWS (E.G. RETURN_10_ROWS)	VALIDATES & RETURNS THE SPECIFIED NUMBER OF ROWS; FAILS AT THE FIRST ERROR ENCOUNTERED
RETURN_ERRORS	RETURNS ALL ERRORS IN COPY COMMAND

Validate the data files <u>instead</u> of loading them

```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' ,'<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
SIZE_LIMIT = num
```

- ✓ Specify maximum size (in bytes) of data loaded in that command (at least one file)
- ✓ When the threshold is exceeded, the COPY operation stops loading

```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' ,'<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
RETURN_FAILED_ONLY = TRUE | FALSE
```

- ✓ Specifies whether to return only files that have failed to load in the statement result
- **✓ DEFAULT = FALSE**

```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' , '<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
TRUNCATECOLUMNS = TRUE | FALSE
```

✓ Specifies whether to truncate text strings that exceed the target column length

```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' , '<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
FORCE = TRUE | FALSE
```

- ✓ Specifies to load all files, regardless of whether they've been loaded previously and have not changed since they were loaded
- Note that this option reloads files, potentially duplicating data in a table

```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' , '<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
TRUNCATECOLUMNS = TRUE | FALSE
```

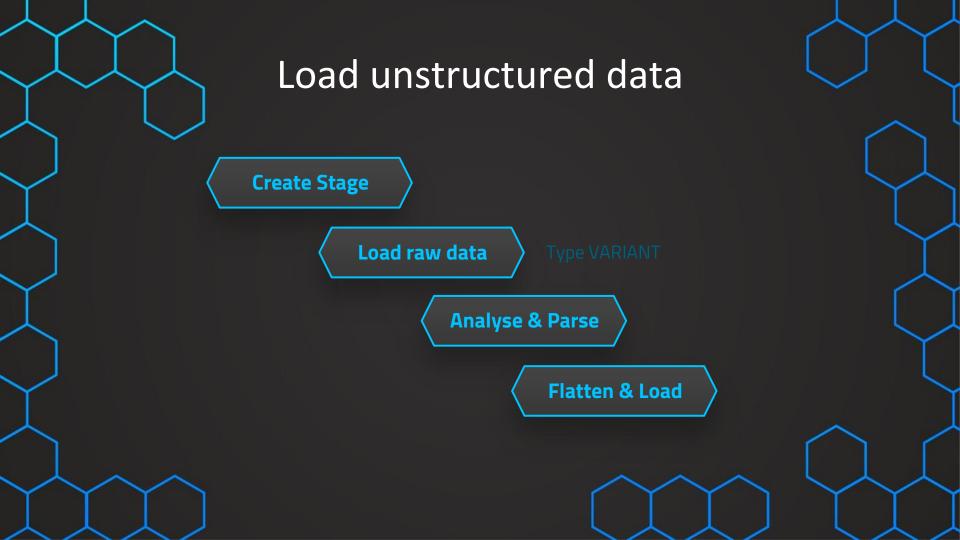
- Specifies whether to truncate text strings that exceed the target column length.
- ✓ TRUE = strings are automatically truncated to the target column length
- ✓ FALSE = COPY produces an error if a loaded string exceeds the target column length
- ✓ DEFAULT = FALSE

```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' ,'<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
SIZE_LIMIT = num
```

- ✓ Specify maximum size (in bytes) of data loaded in that command (at least one file)
- ✓ When the threshold is exceeded, the COPY operation stops
- loading
  Threshold for each file
- ✓ DEFAULT: null (no size limit)

```
COPY INTO <table_name>
FROM externalStage
FILES = ( '<file_name>' ,'<file_name2>')
FILE_FORMAT = <file_format_name>
PURGE = TRUE | FALSE
```

- ✓ specifies whether to remove the data files from the stage
  automatically after the data is loaded successfully
- ✓ DEFAULT: FALSE



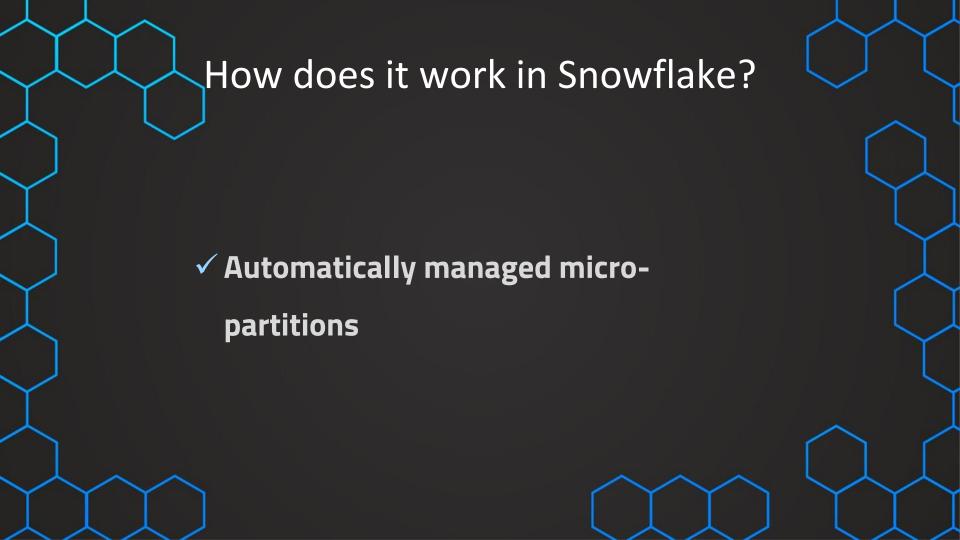




## Performance Optimization ✓ Add indexes, primary keys Create table partitions Analyze the query execution table plan ✓ Remove unnecessary full table scans

### Performance Optimization

- ✓ Add indexes, primary keys
- ✓ Create table partitions
- ✓ Analyze the query execution table plan
- ✓ Remove unnecessary full table scans



# What is our job? ✓ Assigning appropriate data types ✓ Sizing virtual warehouses ✓ Cluster keys

### Performance aspects

Dedicated virtual warehouses

✓ Separated according to different workloads

Scaling Up

For known patterns of high work load

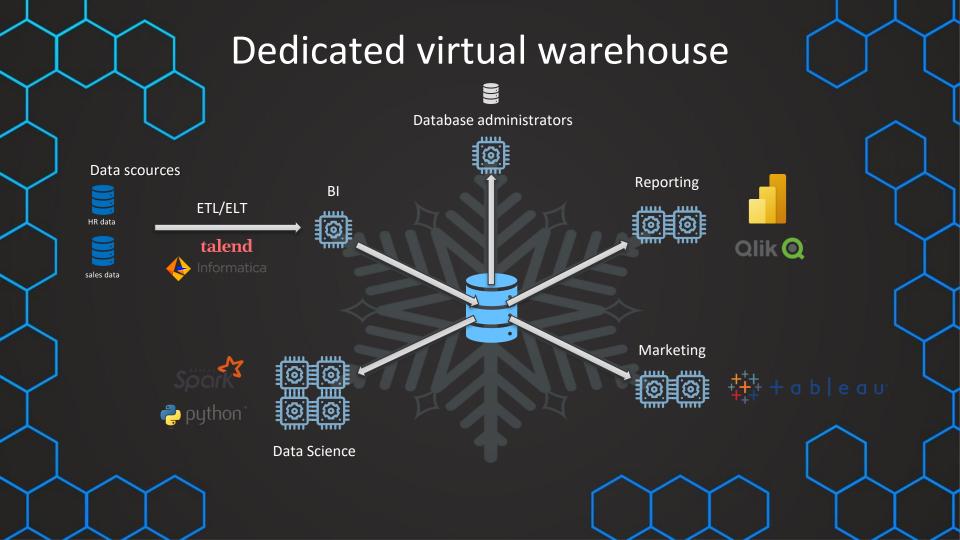
Scaling Out

Dynamically fo unknown patterns of work load

Maximize Cache Usage

✓ Automatic caching can be maximized

Cluster Keys ✓ For large tables



# Dedicated virtual warehouse

Identify & Classify

- ✓ Identify & Classify groups of workload/users
- ✓ BI Team, Data Science Team, Marketing department

Create dedicated virtual warehouses

✓ For every class of workload & assign users



#### Considerations

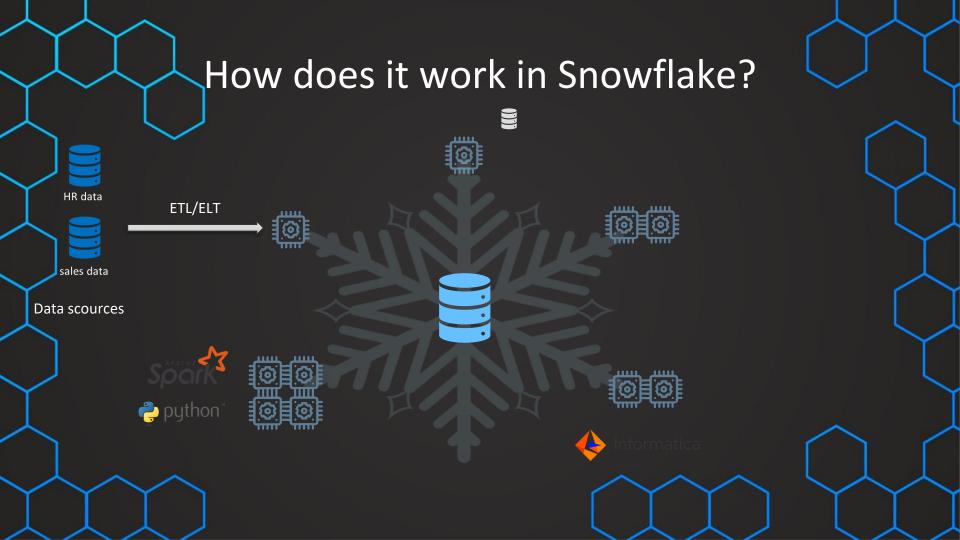
Not too many VW

✓ Avoid underutilization

Refine classifications

✓ Work patterns can change

## Considerations If you use at least Entripse Edition *all* warehouses should be Multi-Cluster Minimum: Default should be 1 Maximum: Can be very high Let's practice!

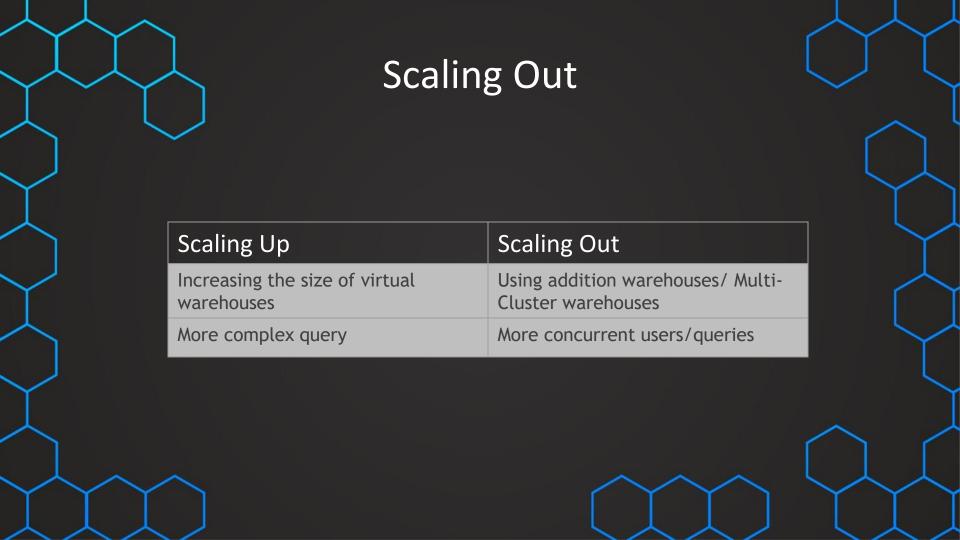




#### Scaling Up/Down

- Changing the size of the virtual warehouse
   depending on different work loads in different periods
- ✓ ETL at certain times (for example between 4pm and 8pm)
- ✓ Special business event with more work load

✓ NOTE: Common scenario is increased query complexity <u>NOT</u> more users (then Scaling out would be better)



# Scaling Out Handling performance related to large numbers of concurrent users Automation the process if you have fluctuating number of users

# Caching Automatical process to speed up the queries ✓ If query is executed twice, results are cached and can be re-used. Results are cached for 24 hours or until underlaying data has changed

# What can we do? Ensure that similar queries go on the same warehouse Example: Team of Data Scientists run similar queries, so they should all use the same warehouse

## Clustering in Snowflake ✓ Snowflake automatically maintains these cluster keys In general Snowflake produces well-clustered tables Cluster keys are not always ideal and can change over time Manually customize these cluster keys

# What is a cluster key? ✓ Subset of rows to locate the data in micro-partions For large tables this improves the scan efficiency in our queries



<b>Event Date</b>	Event ID	Customers	City
2021-03-12	134584		
2021-12-04	134586		
2021-11-04	134588		
2021-04-05	134589		
2021-06-07	134594		
2021-07-03	134597		
2021-03-04	134598		
2021-08-03	134599		
2021-08-04	134601		

<b>Event Date</b>	Event ID	Customers	City
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SELECT COUNT(\*)
WHERE Event\_Date > '2021-07-01'
AND Event\_Date < '2021-08-01'

Event Date	Event ID	Customers	City
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SELECT COUNT(\*)
WHERE Event\_Date > '2021-07-01'
AND Event\_Date < '2021-08-01'

All partitions need to be scanned!

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2021-07-03	134597		
2021-08-03	134599		
2021-08-04	134601		
2021-11-04	134588		
2021-12-04	134586		

# When to cluster? Clustering is not for all tables Mainly very large tables of <u>multiple terabytes</u> can benefit

## How to cluster? ✓ Columns that are used most frequently in WHERE-clauses (often date columns for event tables) ✓ If you typically use filters on two columns then the table can also benefit from two cluster keys Column that is frequently used in Joins Large enough number of distinct values to enable effective grouping Small enough number of distinct values to allow effective grouping

#### Clustering in Snowflake

```
CREATE TABLE <name> ... CLUSTER BY ( <column1> [ , <column2> ... ] )
```

```
CREATE TABLE <name> ... CLUSTER BY ( <expression> )
```

```
ALTER TABLE <name> CLUSTER BY ( <expr1> [ , <expr2> ... ] )
```

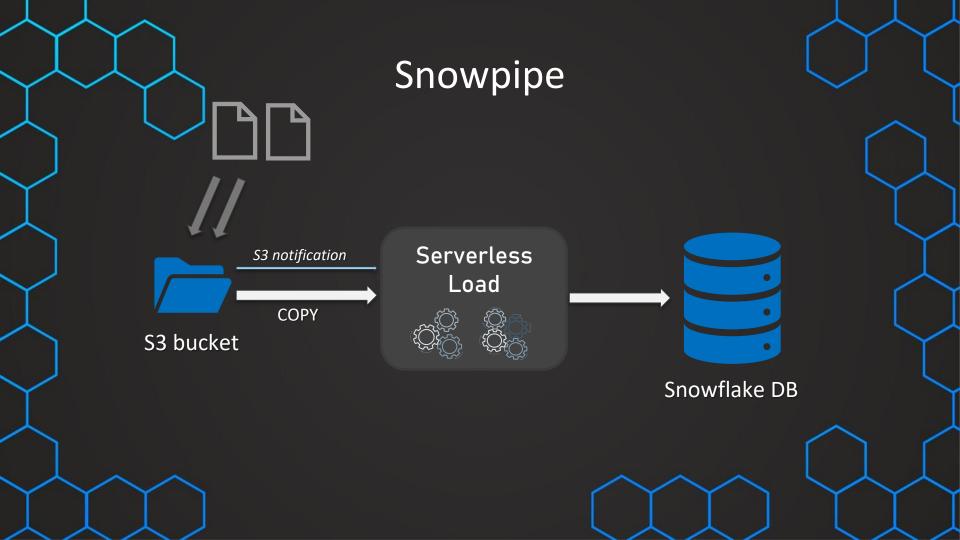
ALTER TABLE < name > DROP CLUSTERING KEY

# Clustering in Snowflake Columns that are used most frequently in WHERE-clauses (often date columns for event tables)

- ✓ If you typically use filters on two columns then the table can also benefit from two cluster keys
- ✓ Column that is frequently used in Joins
- ✓ Large enough number of distinct values to enable effective grouping Small enough number of distinct values to allow effective grouping

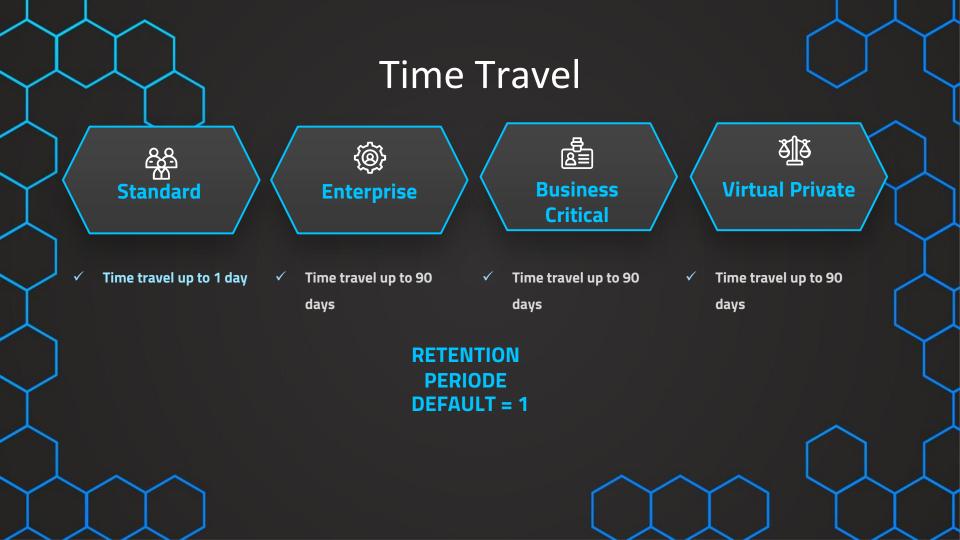


## What is Snowpipe? Enables loading once a file appears in a bucket ✓ If data needs to be available immediately for analysis ✓ Snowpipe uses serverless features instead of warehouses











#### Fail Safe

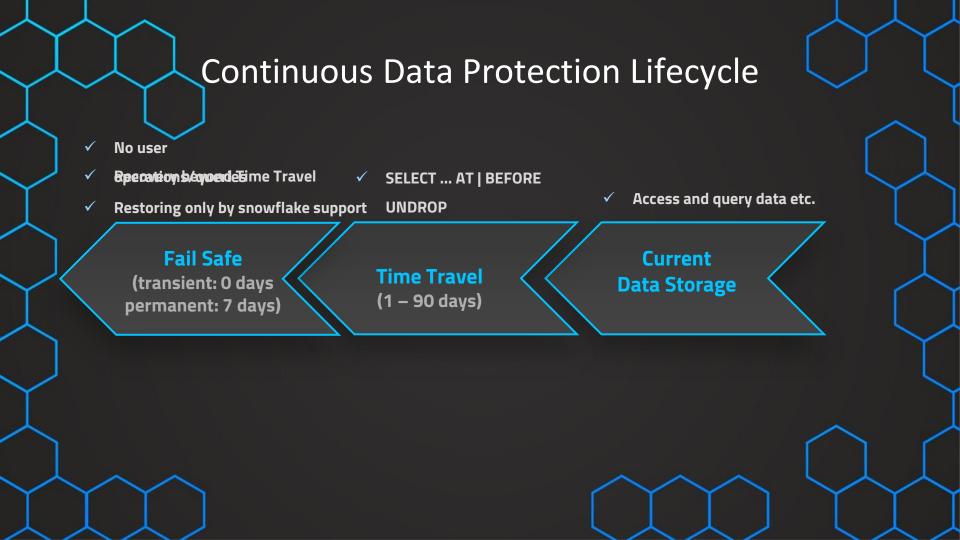
- Protection of historical data in case of
- disaster ✓ Non-configurable 7-day period for permanent
  - tables
- ✓ Period starts immediately after Time Travel period
  - ends
- ✓ No user interaction & recoverable only by
- ✓ Snowflake ✓ Contributes to storage cost

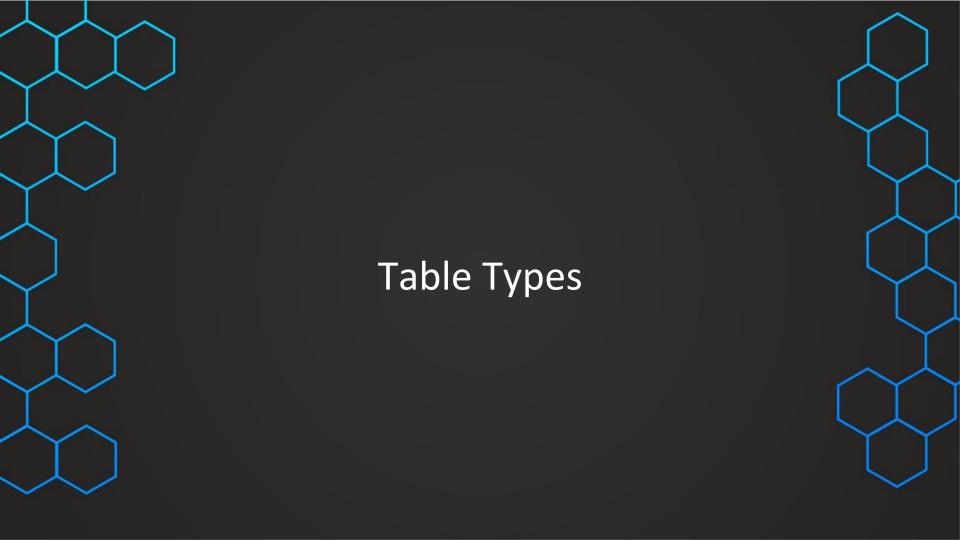


#### Fail Safe

Access and query data etc.

Current Data Storage





# Permanent data

#### Until droppe

#### **Permanent**

#### CREATE TABLE

- ✓ Time Travel Retention Period0 90 days
- ✓ Fail Safe

### Table types

Only for data that does not need to be protected

#### **Until dropped**

#### **Transient**

CREATE TRANSIENT TABLE

- ✓ Time Travel Retention Period0 1 day
- × Fail Safe

Non-permanent data

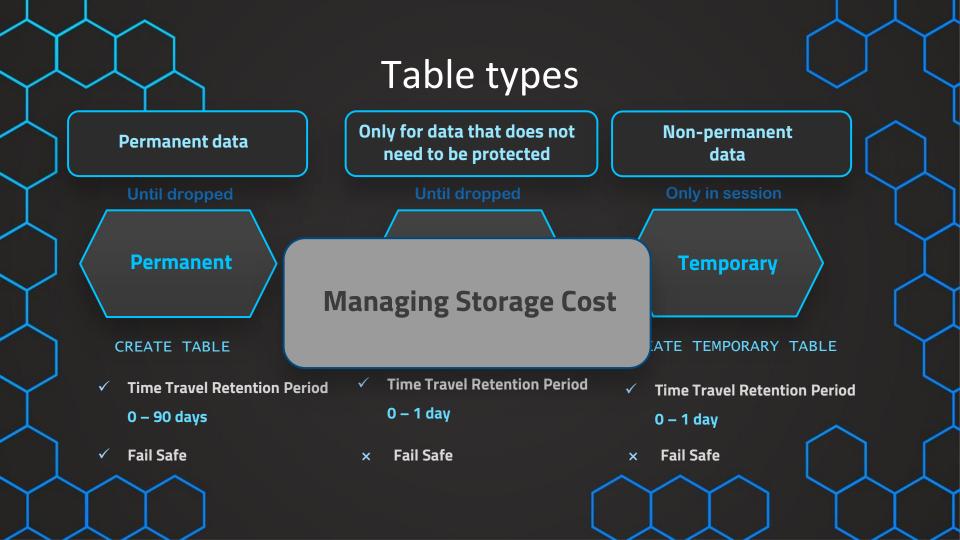
Only in session

Temporary

CREATE TEMPORARY TABLE

- √ Time Travel Retention Period
  - 0 1 day

× Fail Safe

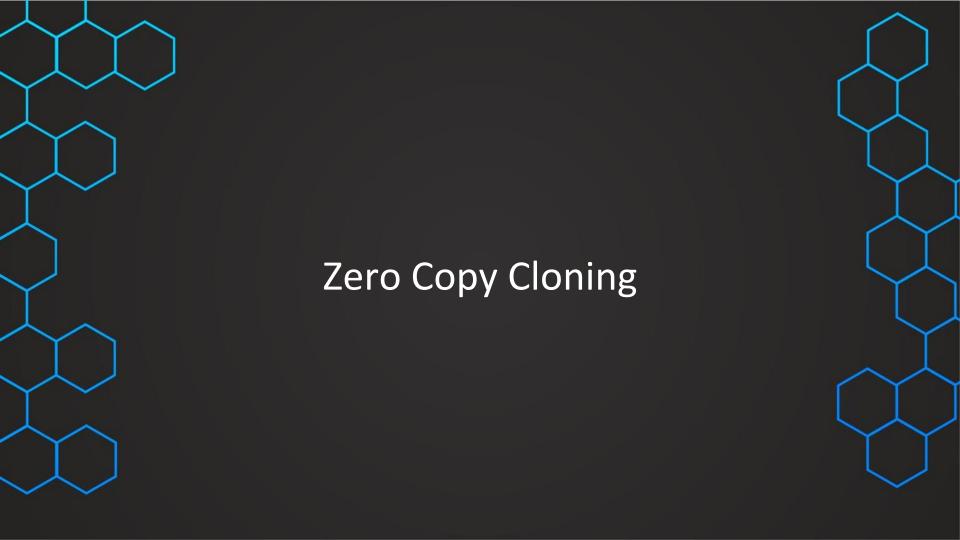




### Table types notes

- Types are also available for other database objects (database, schema etc.)
- For temporary table no naming conflicts with permanent/transient tables!

Other tables will be effectively hidden!



### **Zero-Copy Cloning**

✓ Create copies of a database, a schema or a table

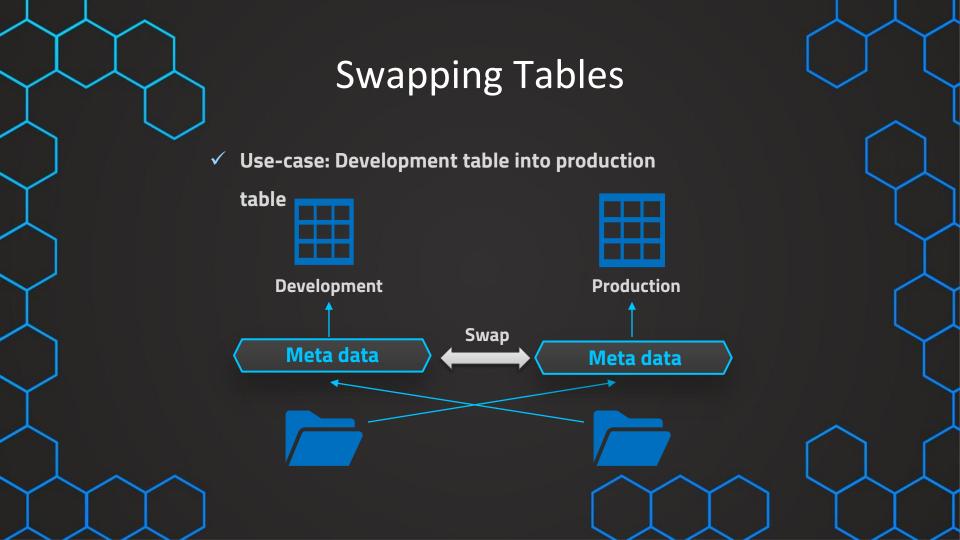


- ✓ Cloned object is independent from original
- ✓ table ✓ Easy to copy all meta data & improved storage
- ✓ management Creating backups for development purposes
- ✓ Works with time travel also

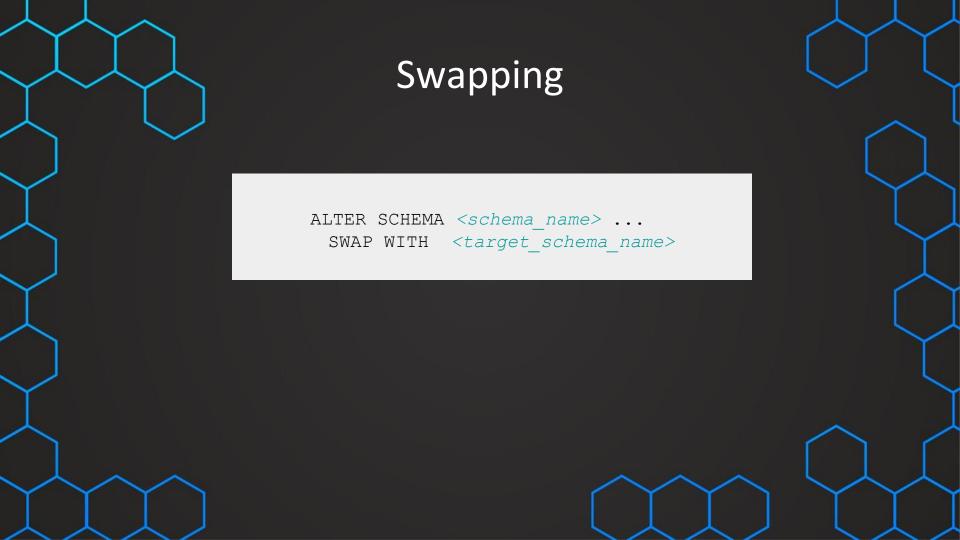
#### Zero-Copy Cloning

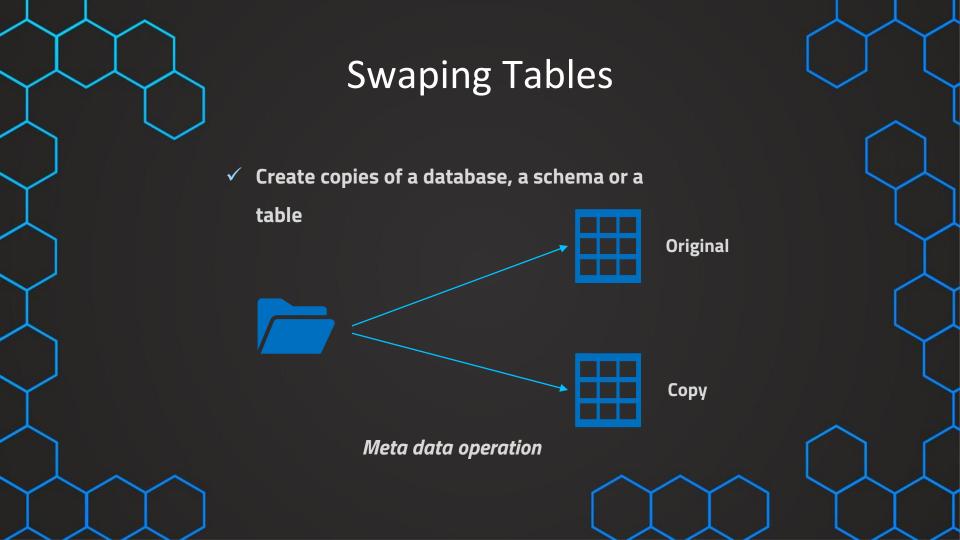
```
CREATE TABLE <table_name> ...
CLONE <source_table_name>
BEFORE ( TIMESTAMP => <timestamp> )
```



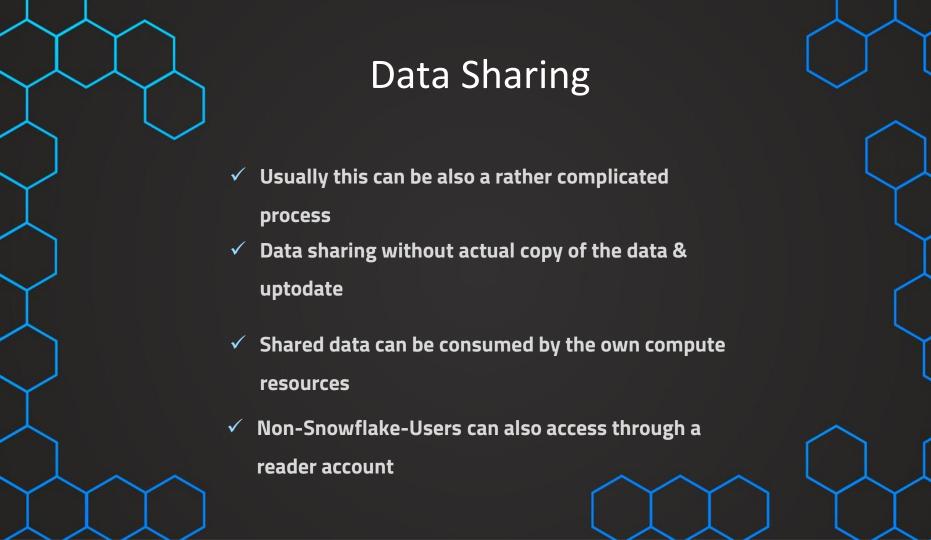


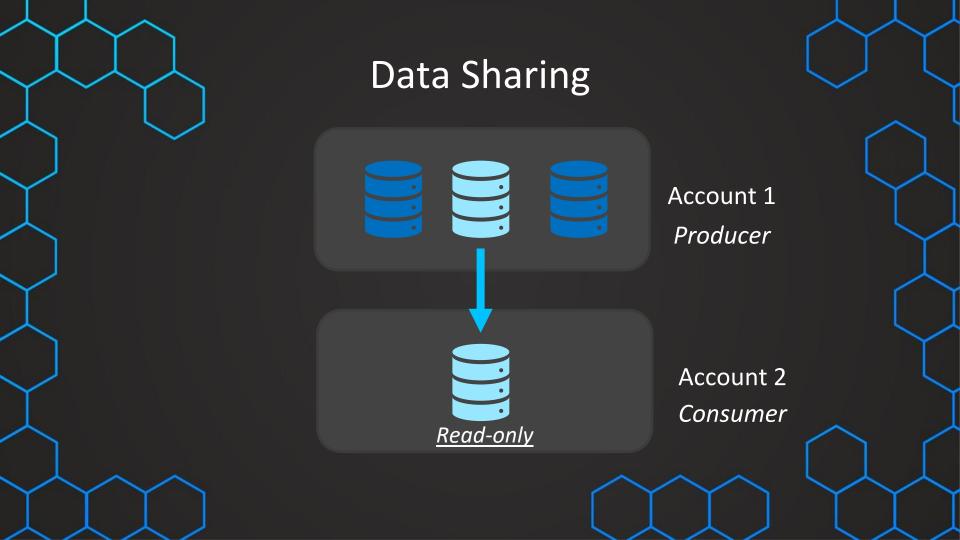


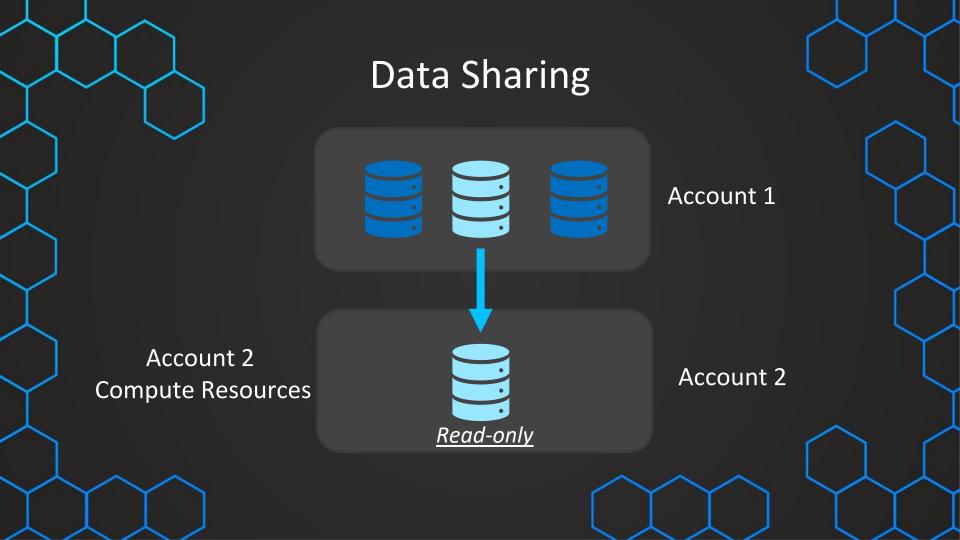


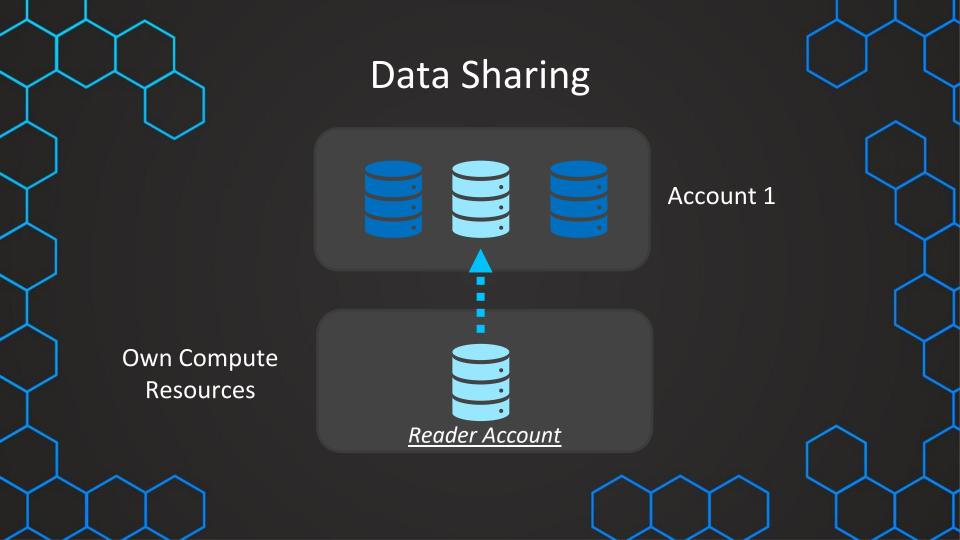


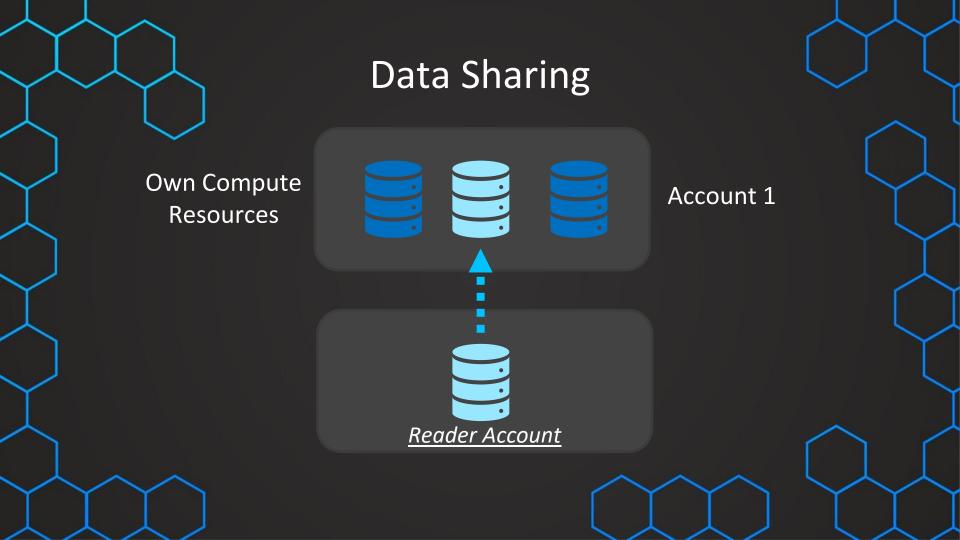


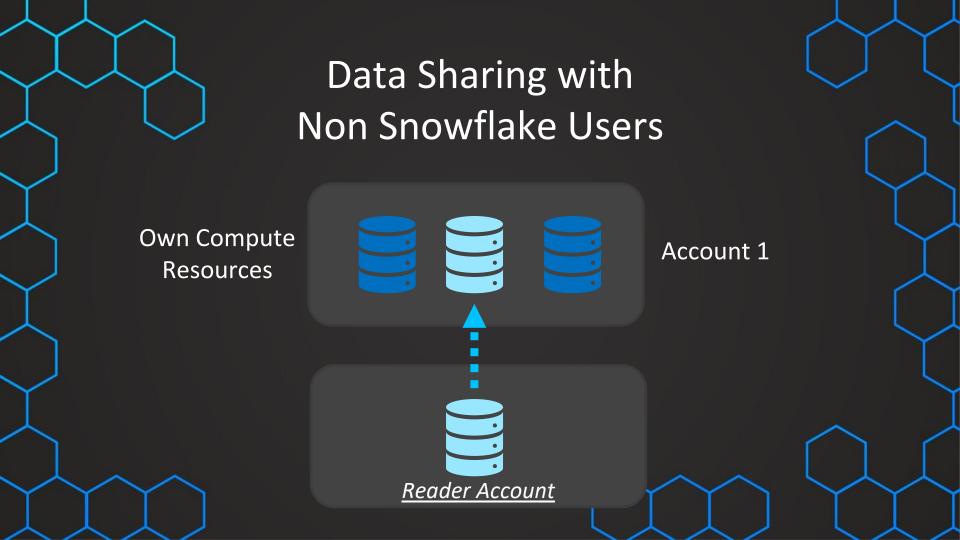












# Sharing with Non Snowflake users

New Reader Account

✓ Indepentant instance with own url & own compute resources

Share data

✓ Share database & table

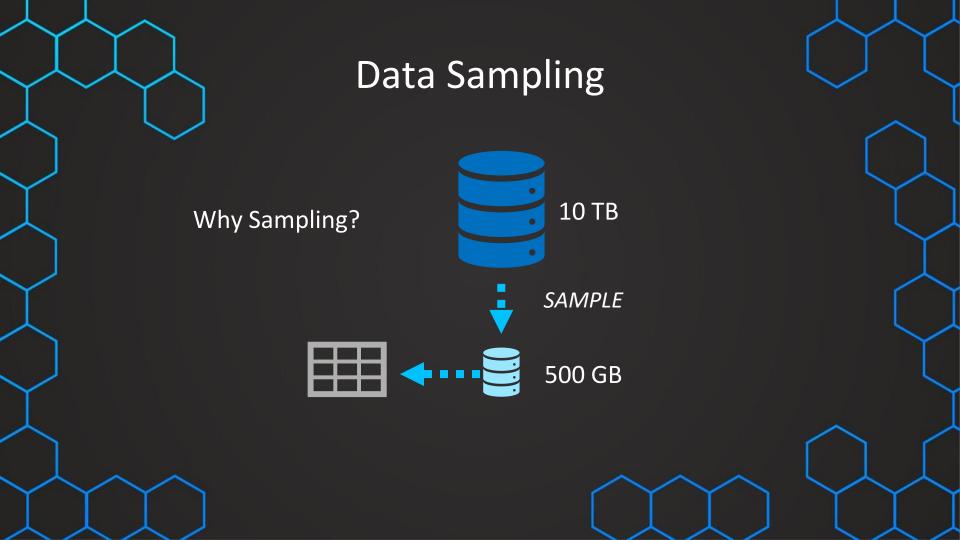
**Create Users** 

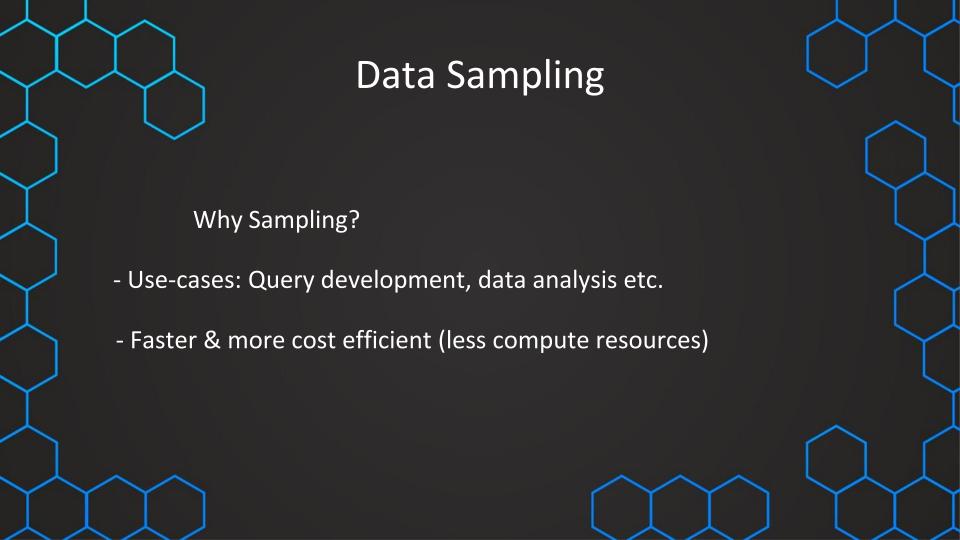
✓ As administrator create user & roles

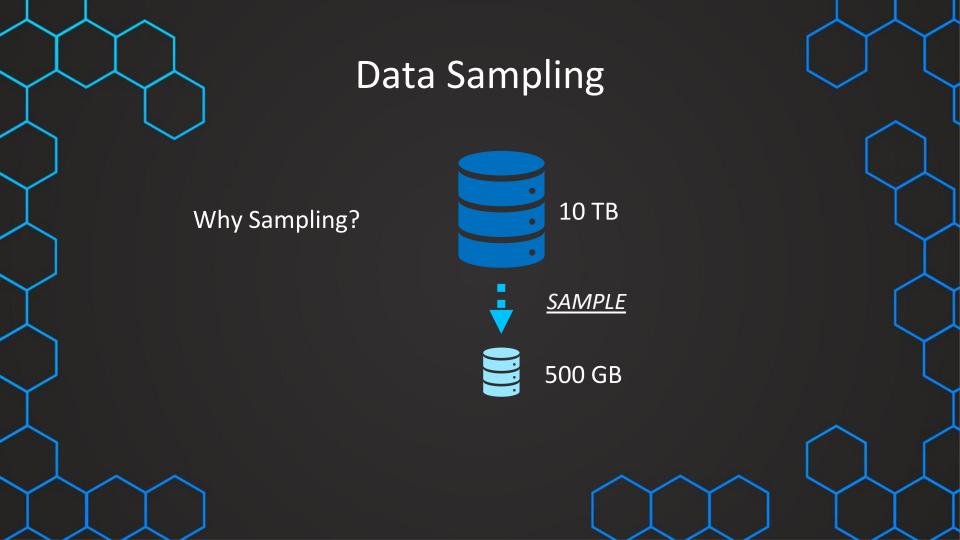
Create database

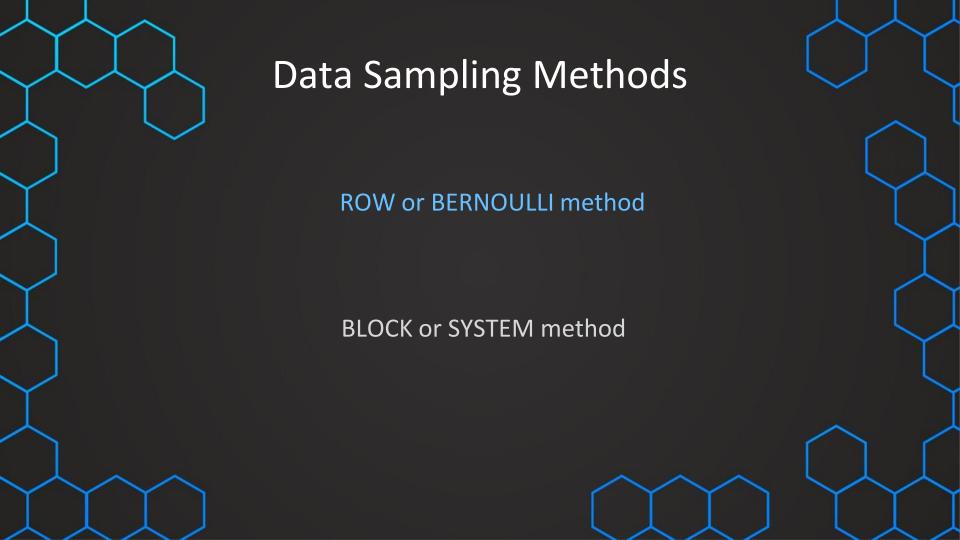
✓ In reader account create database from share













## Data Sampling Methods

ROW or BERNOULLI method

BLOCK or SYSTEM method

Every block is chosen with percentage p

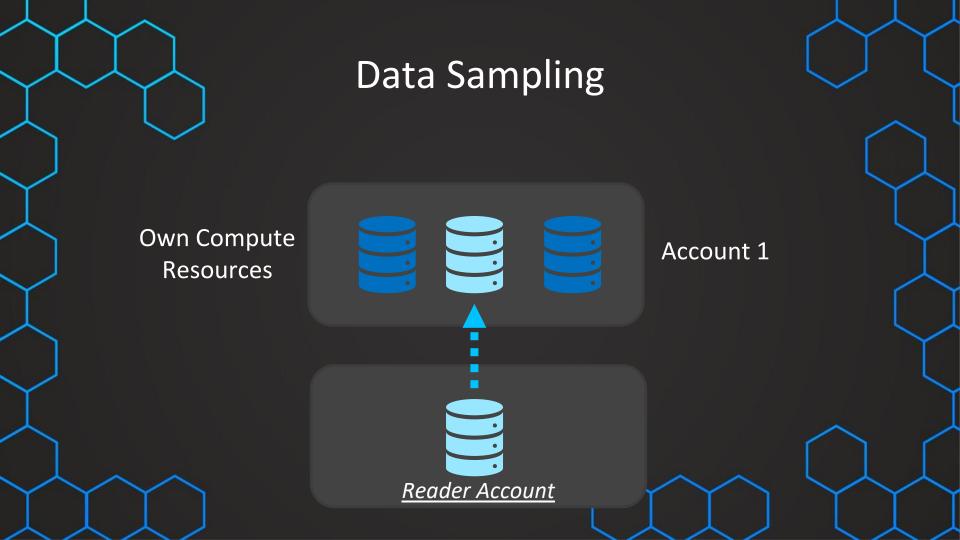
Every row is chosen with percentage p

More "randomness"

Smaller tables

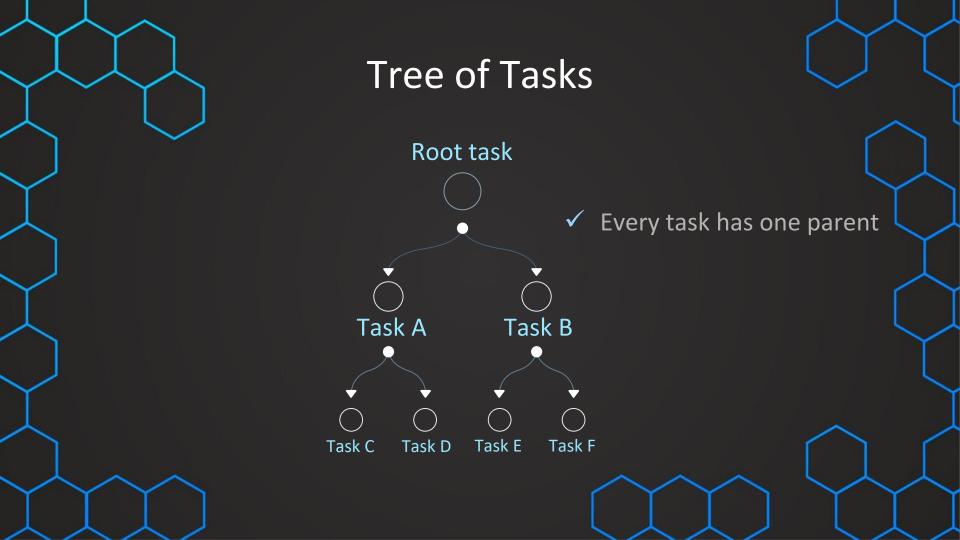
More effective processing

Larger tables





# **Scheduling Tasks** Tasks can be used to schedule SQL statements Standalone tasks and trees of tasks Create tasks **Understand** Schedule tasks tasks Tree of tasks Check task history

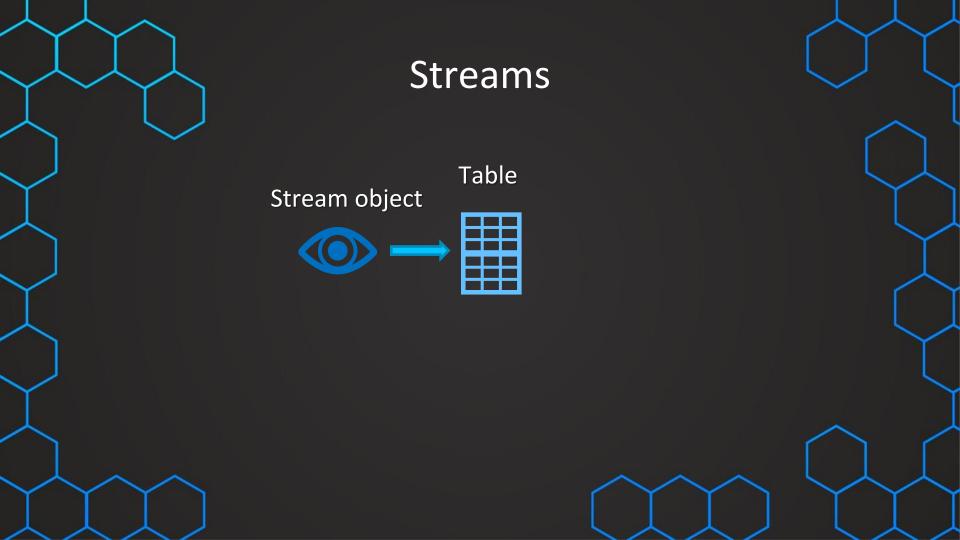


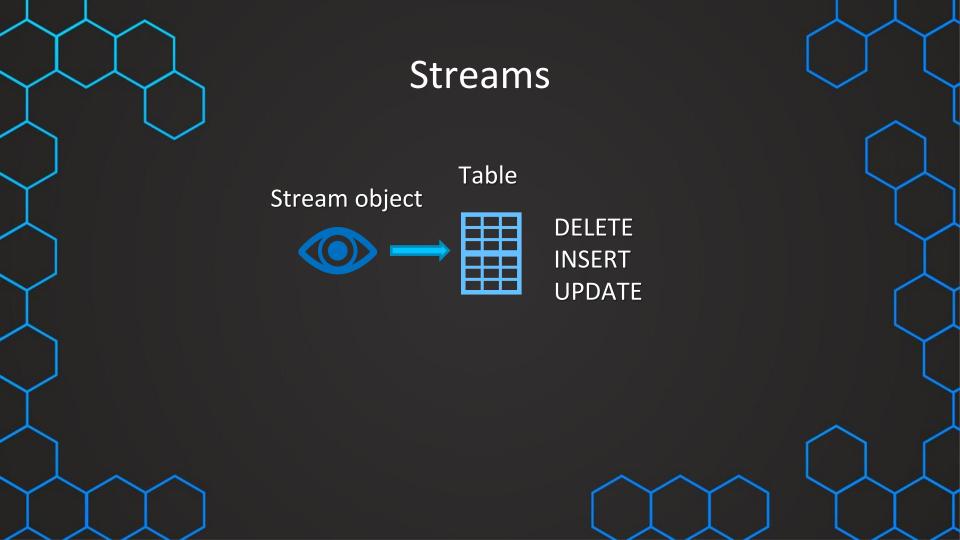


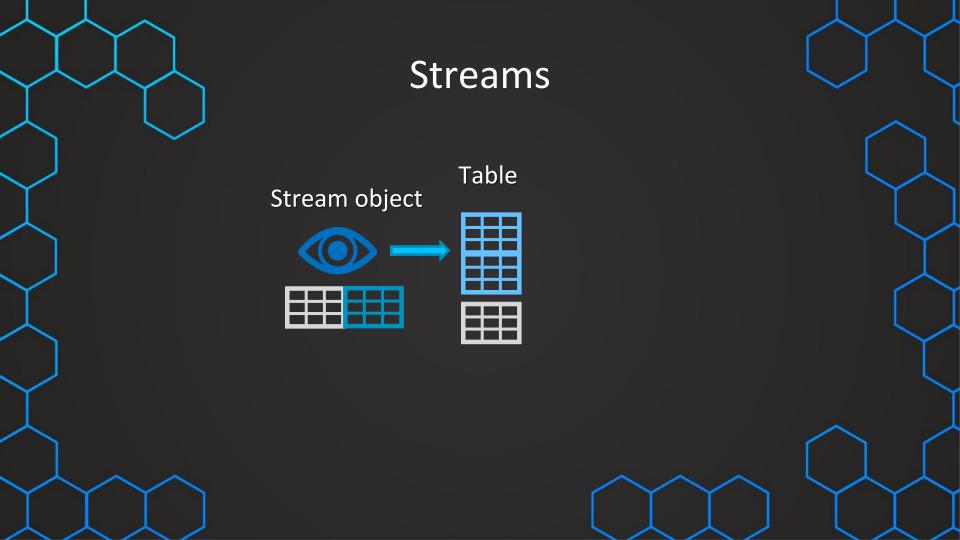
#### Tree of Tasks

CREATE TASK ...

AFTER 
parent task>
AS ...

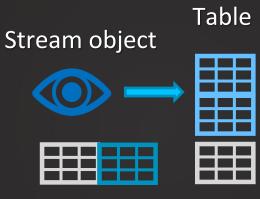




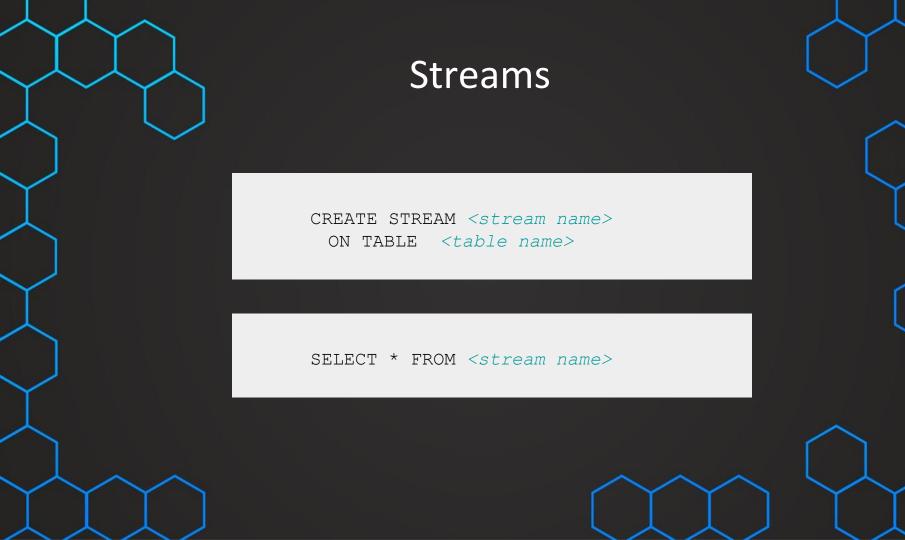


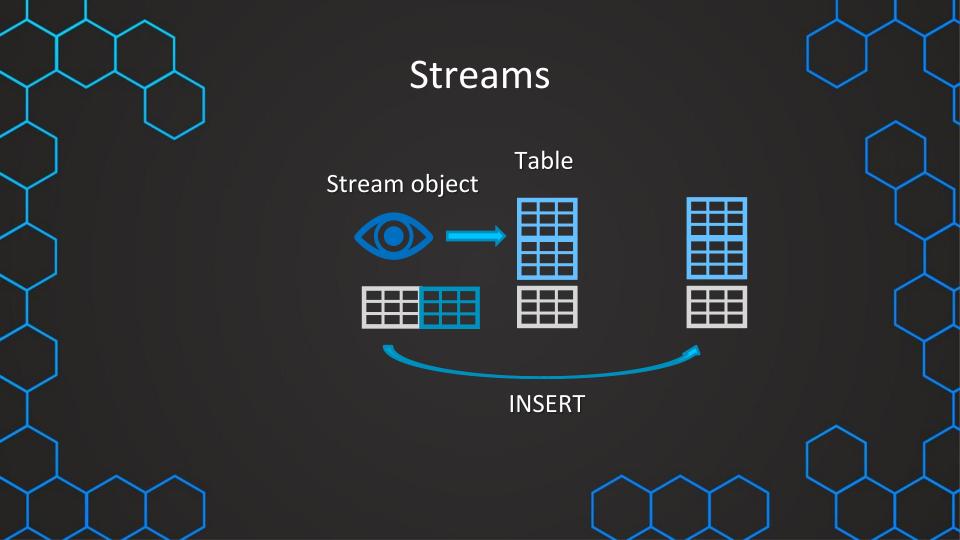


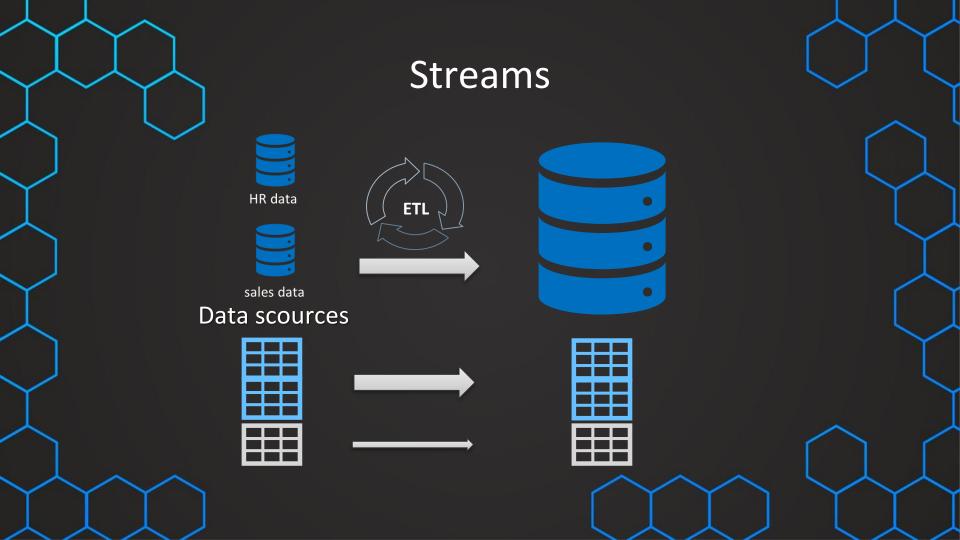
#### Streams

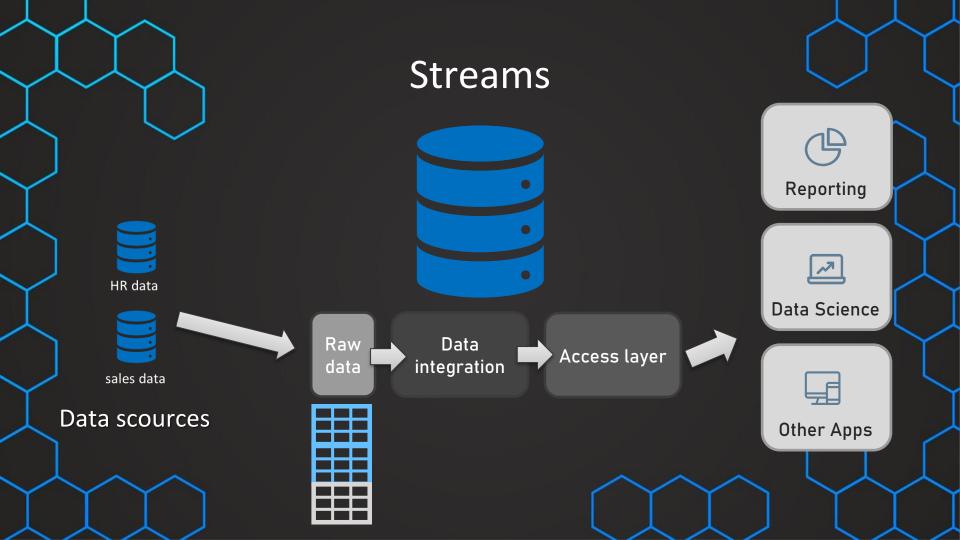


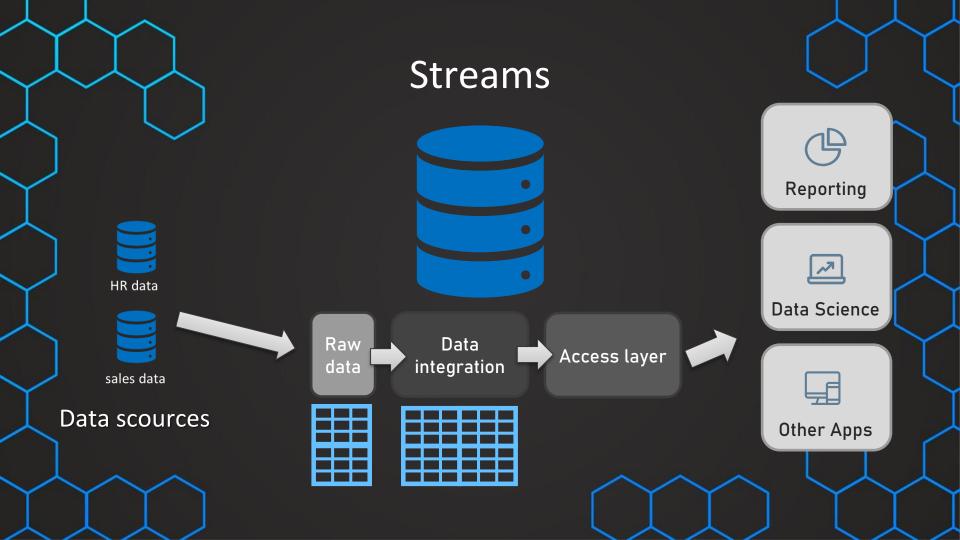
METADATA\$ACTION METADATA\$UPDATE METADATA\$ROW\_ID

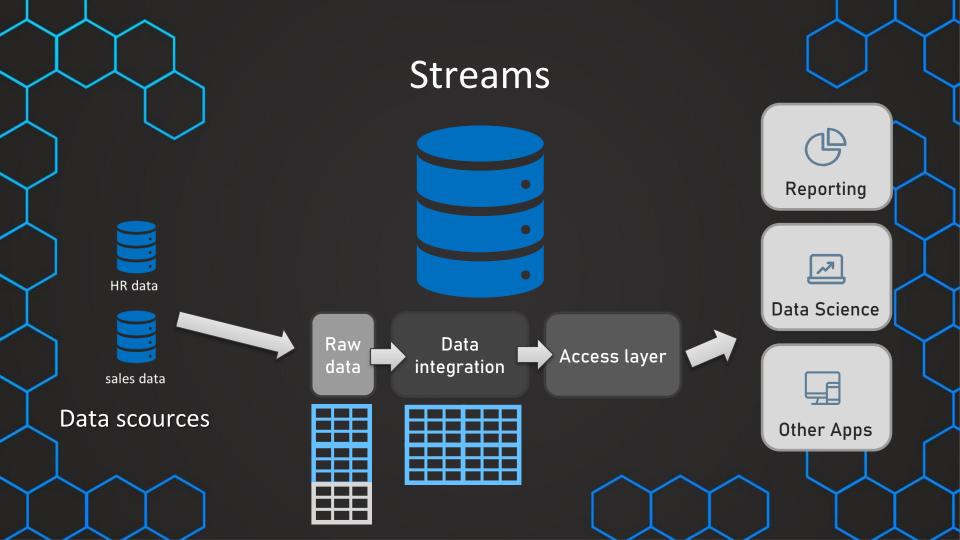


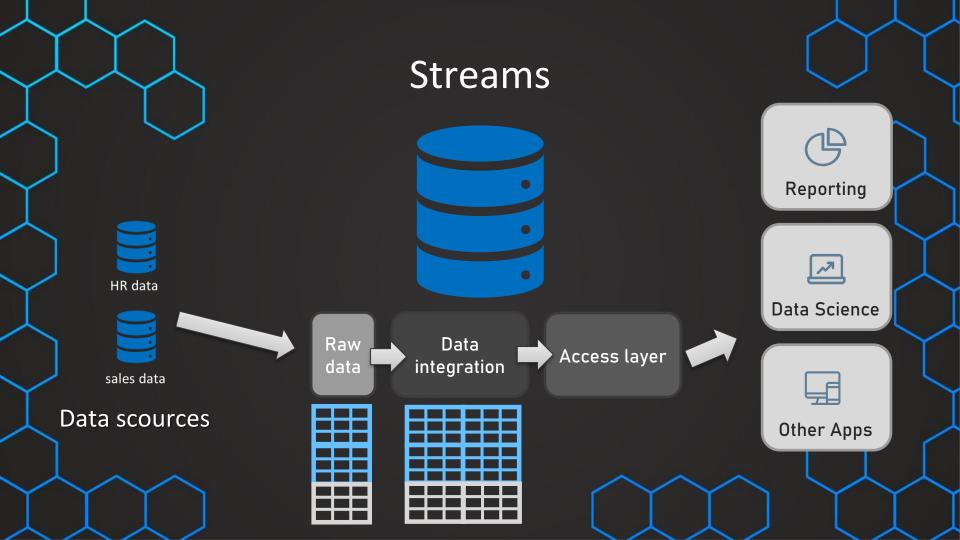


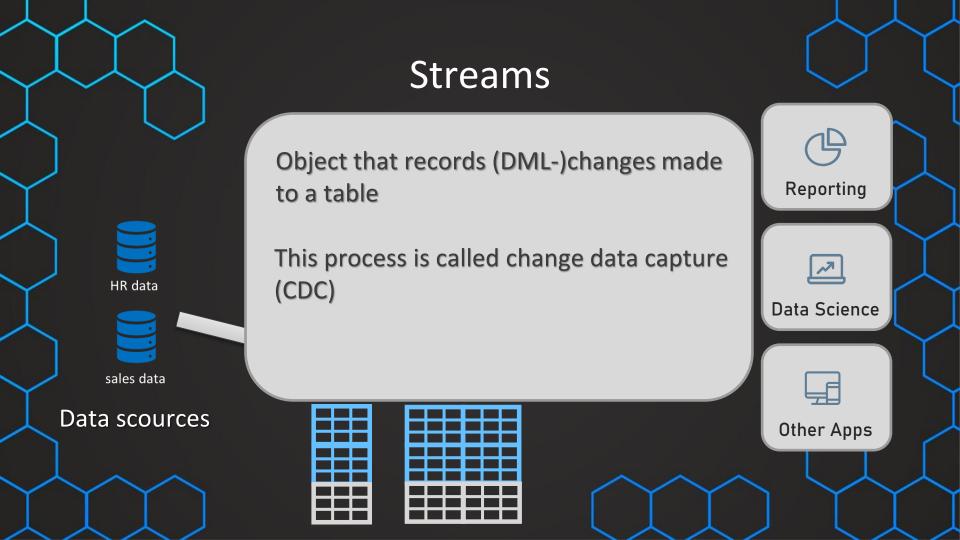


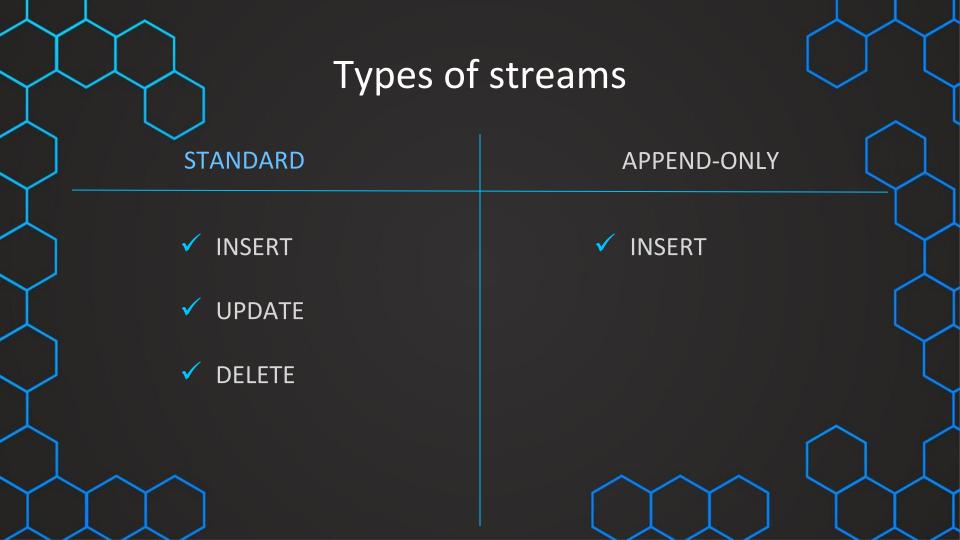














### Syntax

CREATE STREAM <stream name>
ON TABLE 
APPEND\_ONLY = TRUE





#### Materialized views

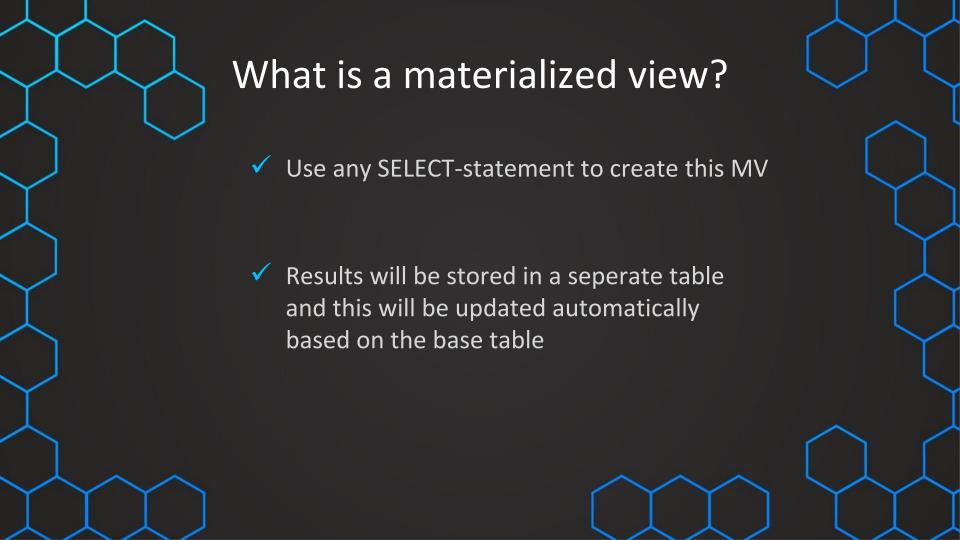
- ✓ We have a view that is queried frequently and that a long time to be processed
- Bad user experience
- More compute consumption



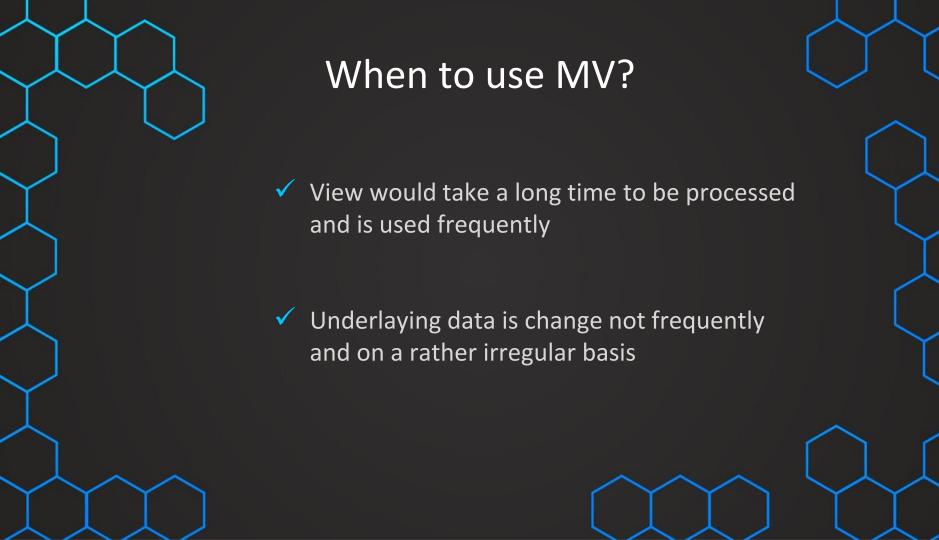
#### Materialized views

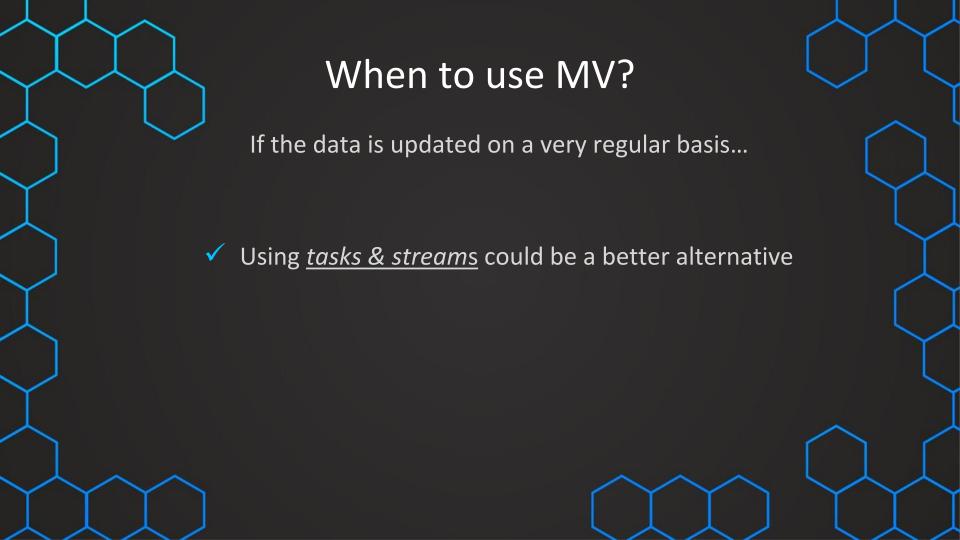
✓ We have a view that is queried frequently and that a long time to be processed

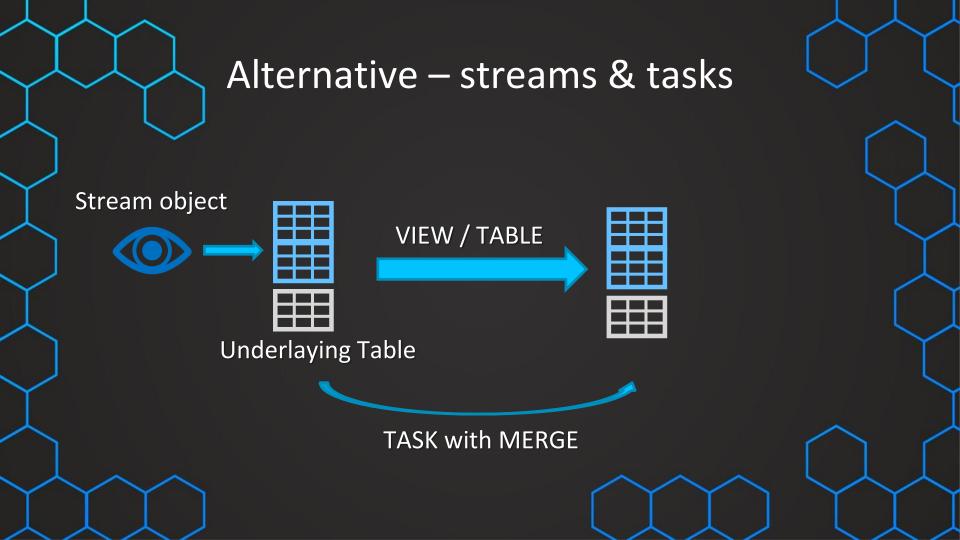
 We can create a materialized view to solve that problem





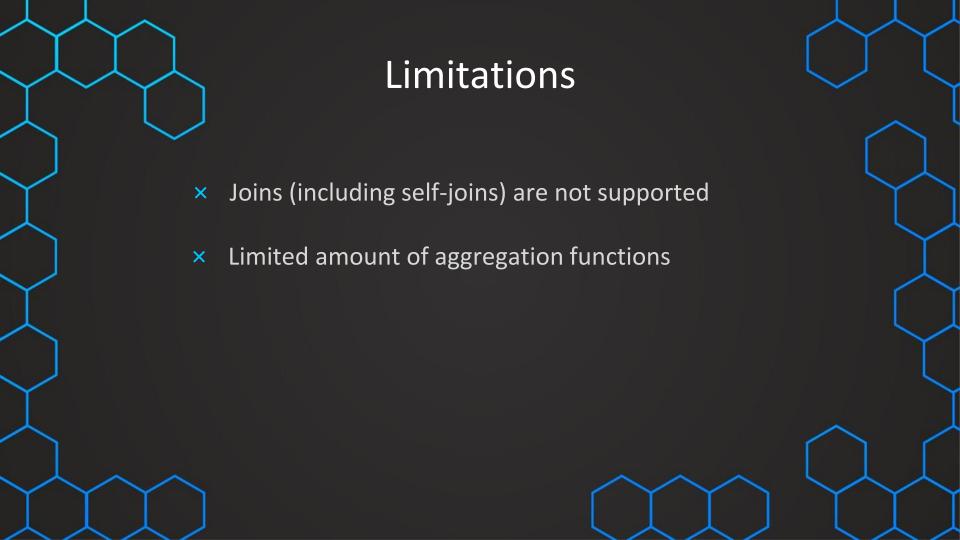


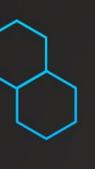












## Limitations

- Joins (including self-joins) are
- Limited amount of aggregation

APPROX\_COUNT\_DISTINCT (HLL).

AVG (except when used in PIVOT).

BITAND\_AGG.

BITOR\_AGG.

BITXOR\_AGG.

COUNT.

MIN.

MAX.

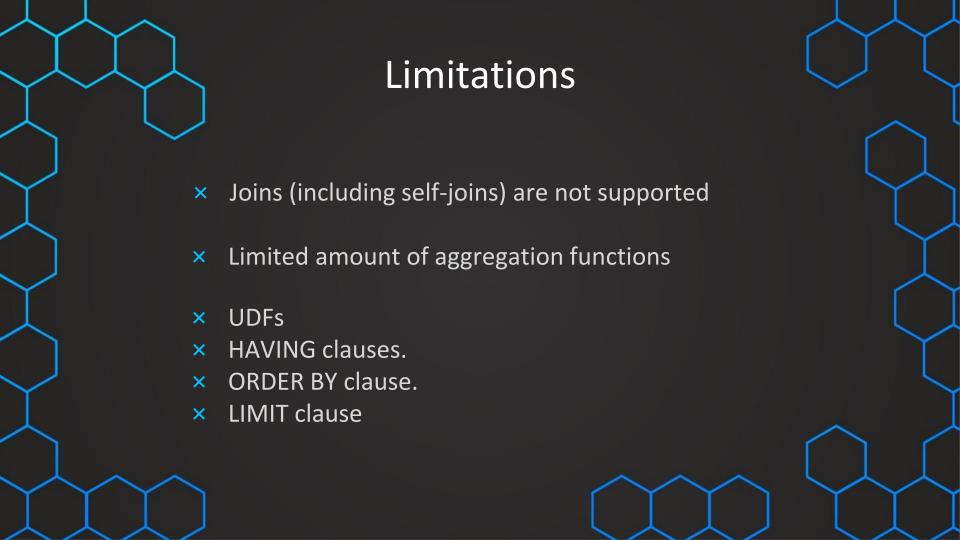
STDDEV.

STDDEV\_POP. STDDEV\_SAMP.

SUM.

VARIANCE (VARIANCE\_SAMP, VAR\_SAMP).

VARIANCE\_POP (VAR\_POP).







## Data Masking

FULL_NAME	EMAIL	PHONE
Lewiss MacDwyer	lmacdwyer0@un.org	262-665-9168
Ty Pettingall	tpettingall1@mayoclinic.com	734-987-7120
Marlee Spadazzi	mspadazzi2@txnews.com	867-946-3659



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FULL_NAME	EMAIL	PHONE
******	*****	##-###-##
L	1	## <sup>-</sup> ### <sup>-</sup> ##
T*****	t******	##-###-##
M*****	m******	##-###-##

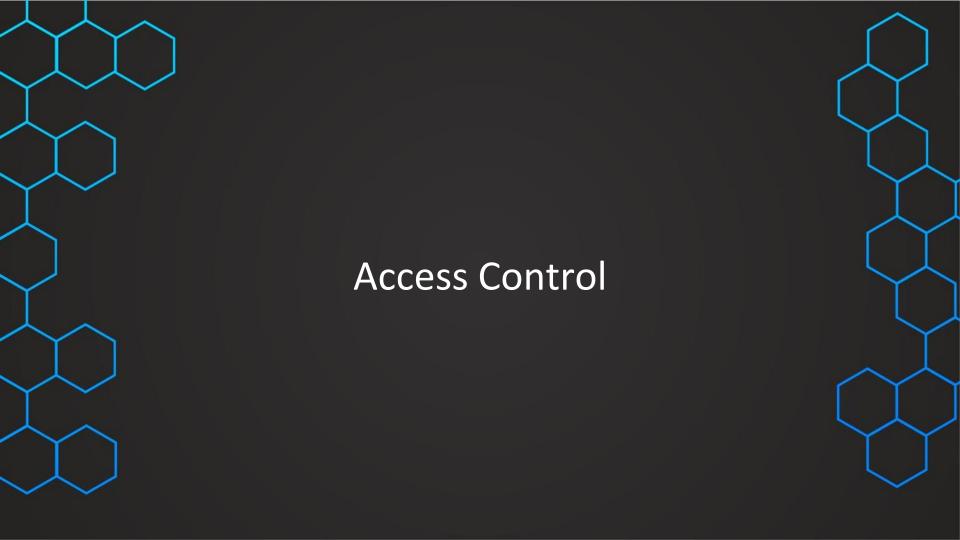


## Data Masking

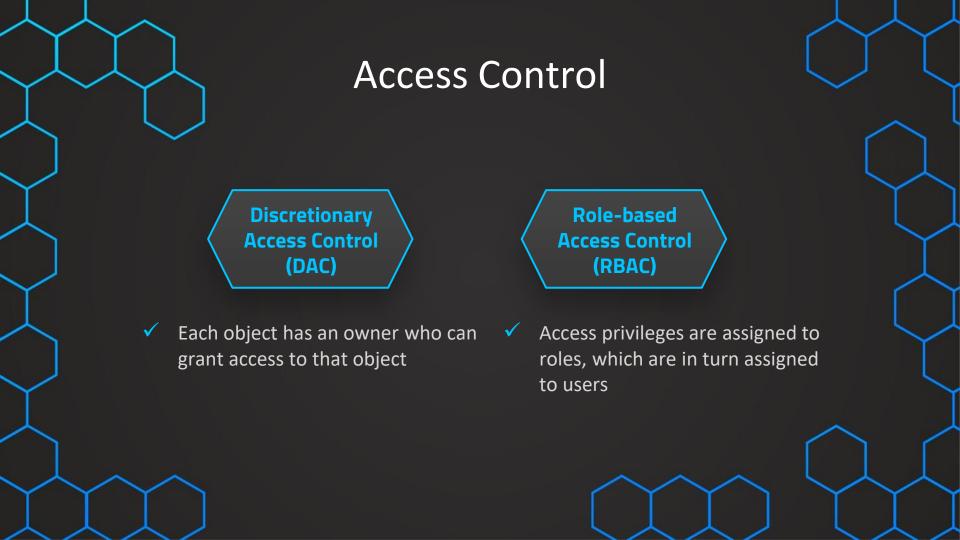
## Column-level Security

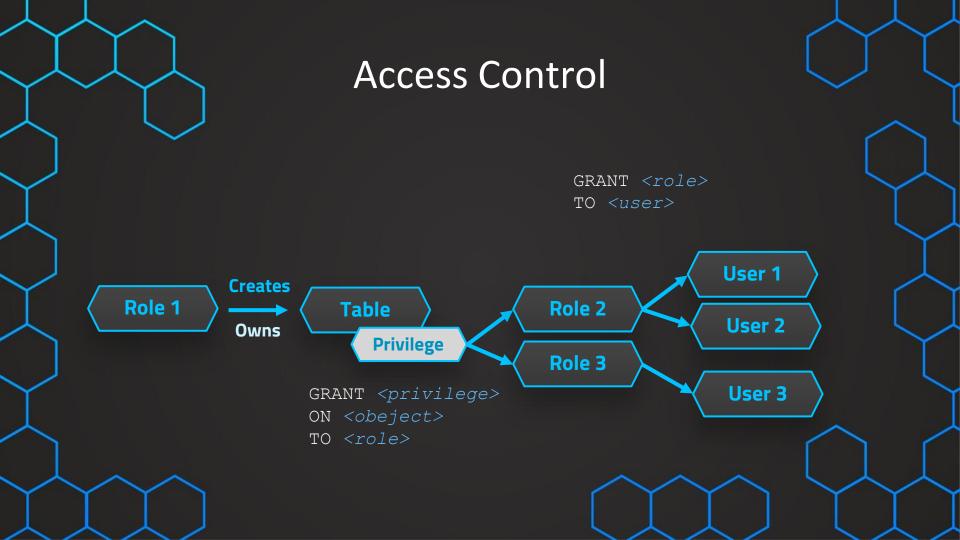
FULL_NAME	EMAIL	PHONE
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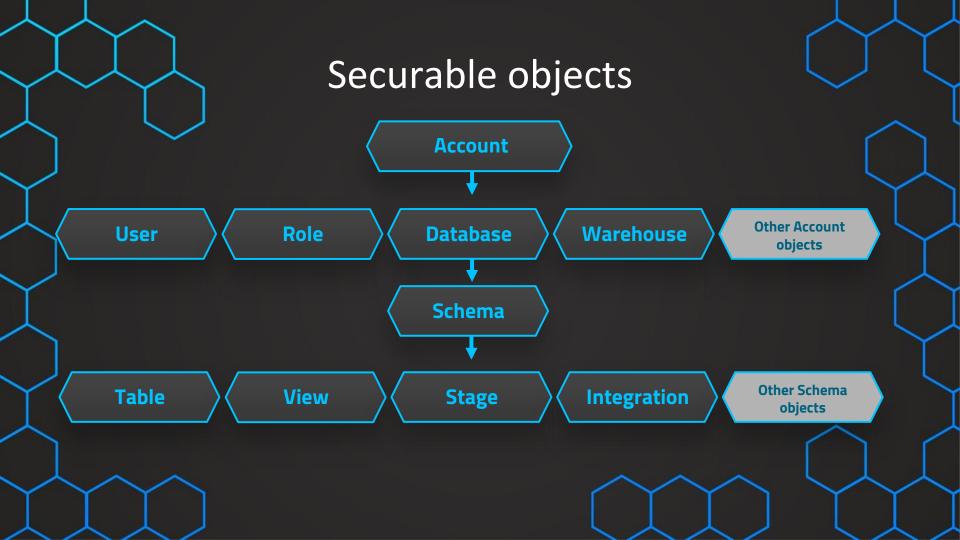
FULL_NAME	EMAIL	PHONE
L******	*****	##-###-##
T*****	t******	##-###-##
M*****	m*****	##-###-##



# **Access Control** ✓ Who can access and perform operations on objects in Snowflake ✓ Two aspects of access control combined



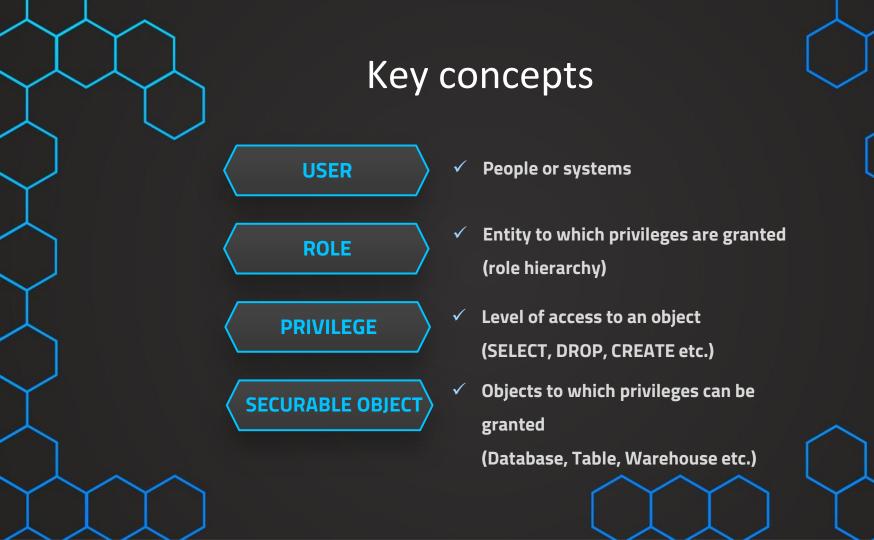


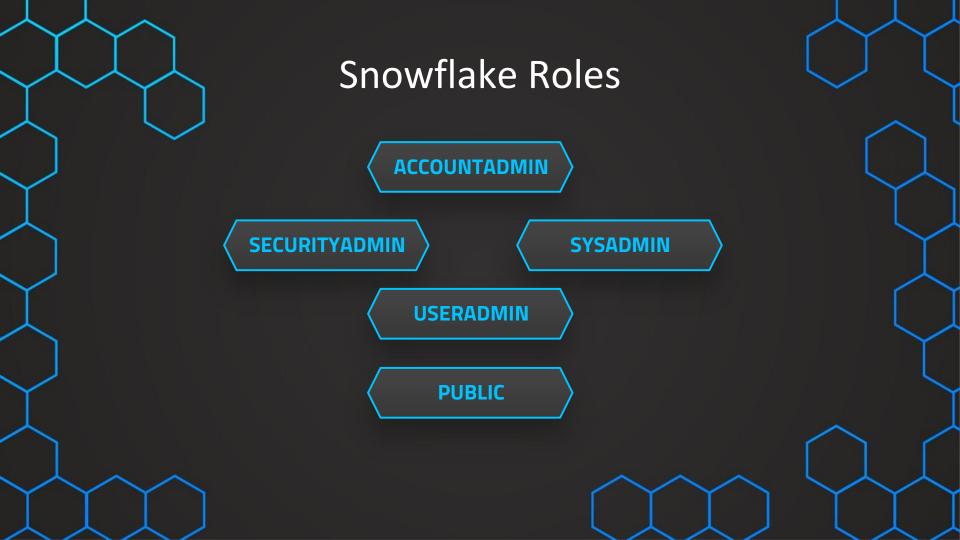


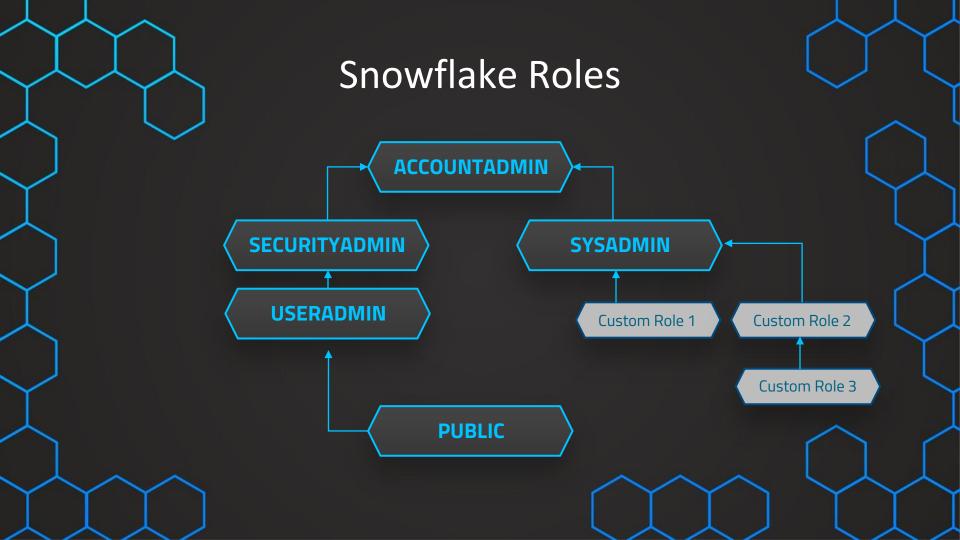
## **Access Control**



- Every object owned by a single role (multiple users)
- Owner (role) has all privileges per default









(SECURITYADMIN

**SYSADMIN** 

**USERADMIN** 

**PUBLIC** 

SECURITYADMIN

system

users

SYSADMIN and

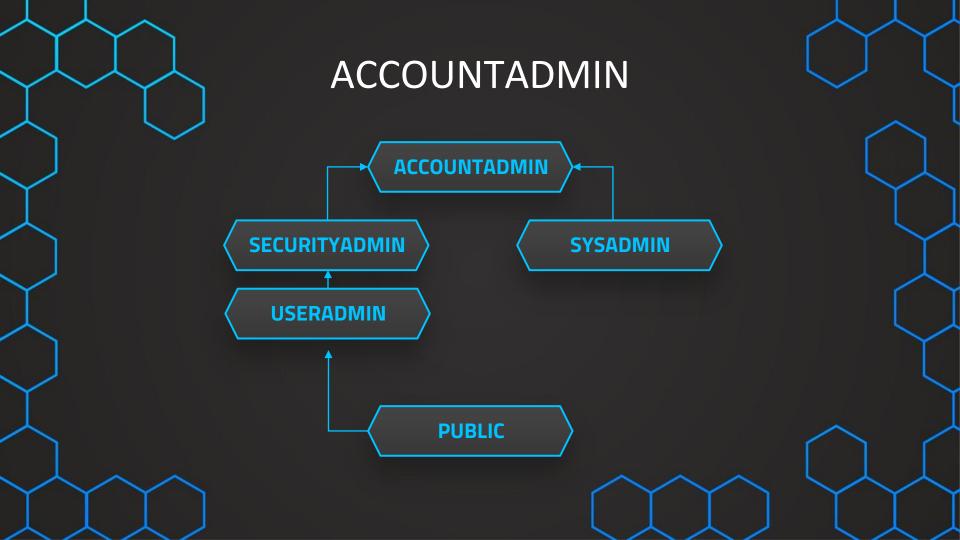
- top-level role in the
- should be granted only to a limited number of

- ✓ USERADMIN role is granted to
  - SECURITYADMIN
  - Can manage users and roles
  - allu roles
  - Can manage any object grant globally

- Create warehouses
  - and databases (and more objects)
- Recommended that all custom roles are
  - assigned

- Dedicated to user and role
- and role
- management only

  Can create users and ✓
- roles
- Automatically granted to every user
- Can create own
- objects like every other role (available
- to every other



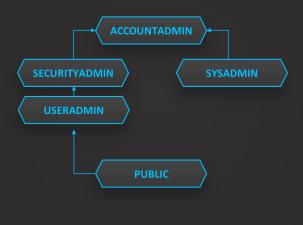
### **Top-Level-Role**

- ✓ Manage & view all objects
- ✓ All configurations on account level
- Account operations(create reader account, billing
- ✓ First user will have this role assigned
- ✓ Initial setup & managing account level objects

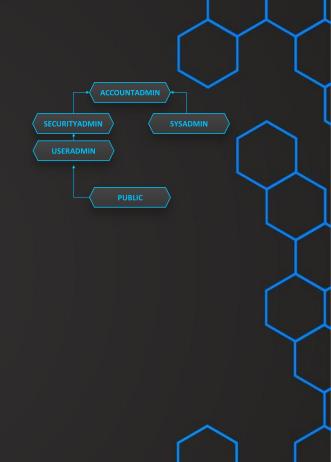
## **Best practises**

- ✓ Very controlled assignment strongly recommended!
- ✓ Multi-factor authentification
- ✓ At least two users should be assigned to that role
- Avoid creating objects with that role unless you have to





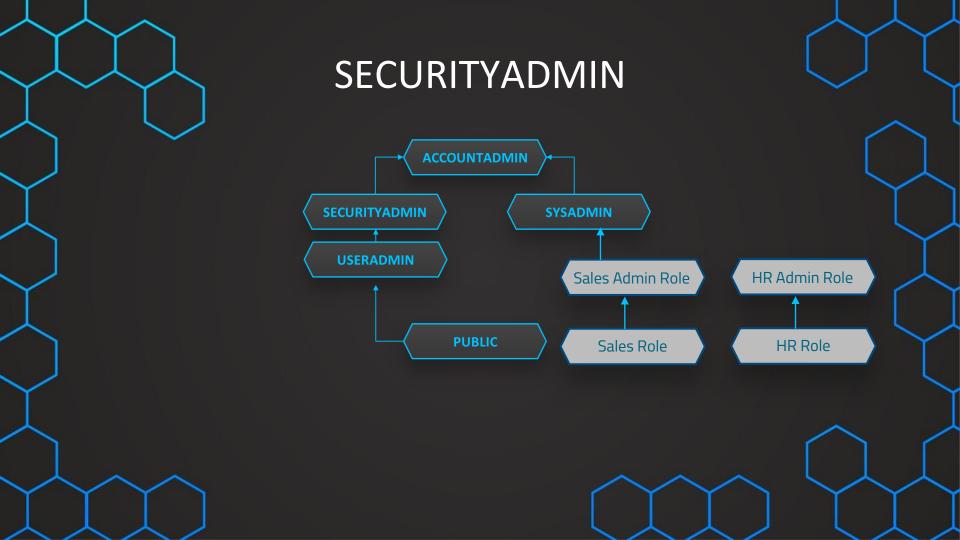
- ✓ Account admin tab
- ✓ Billing & Usage
- ✓ Reader Account
- ✓ Multi-Factor Authentification
- ✓ Create other users





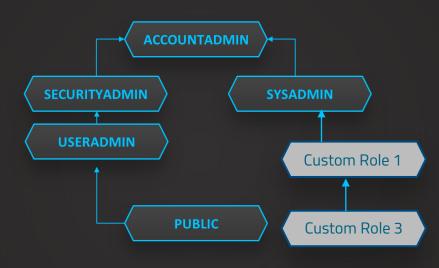
- ✓ USERADMIN role is granted to SECURITYADMIN
- ✓ Can manage users and roles
- Can manage any object grant globally







## **SECURITYADMIN**

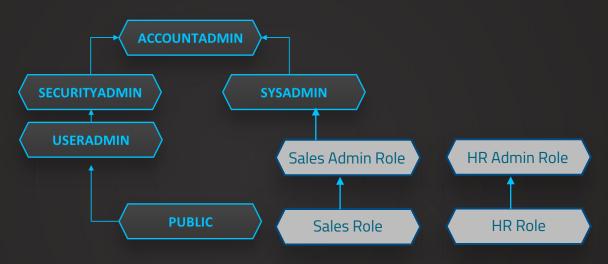


## **SYSADMIN**

- ✓ Create & manage objects
- Create & manage warehouses,databases, tables etc.
- Custom roles should be assigned to the
   SYSADMIN role as the parent

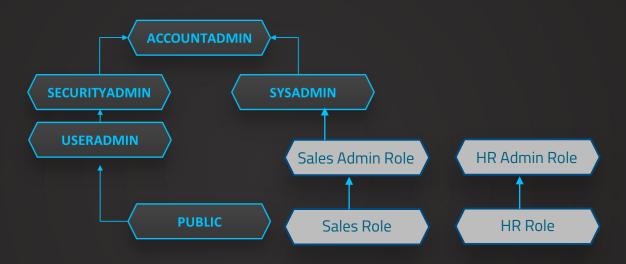
Then this role also has the ability to grant privileges on warehouses, databases, and other objects to the custom roles.

## **SYSADMIN**



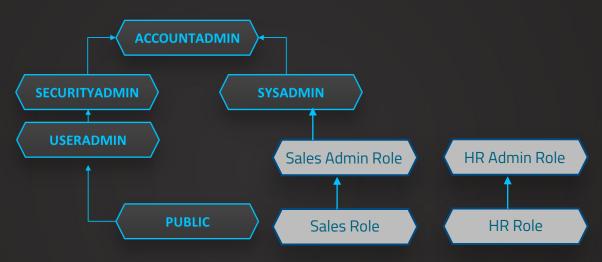
- ✓ Create a <u>virtual warehouse</u> & assign it to the custom roles
- ✓ Create a <u>database and table</u> & assign it to the custom roles

## **Custom roles**

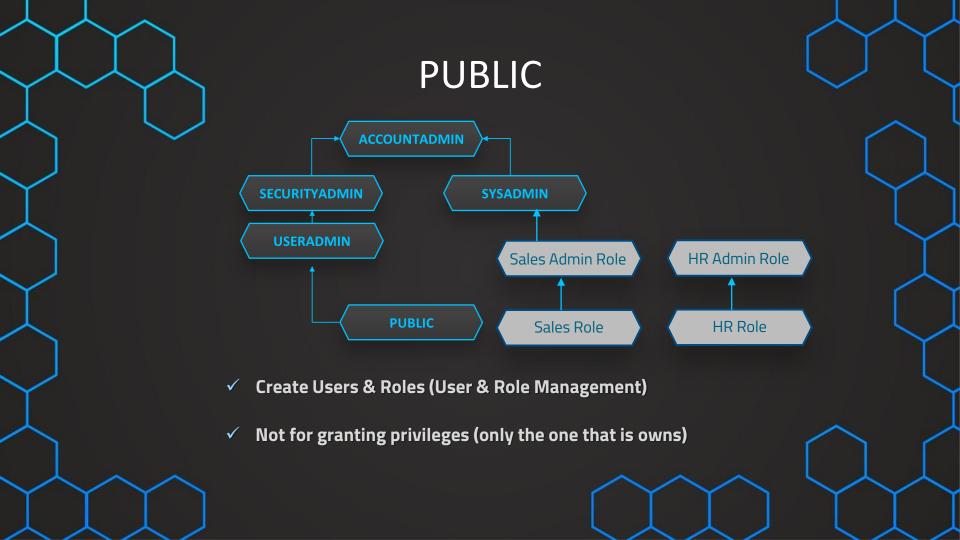


- ✓ Customize roles to our needs & create own hierarchies
- ✓ Custom roles are usually created by SECURITYADMIN
- ✓ Should be leading up to the SYSADMIN role

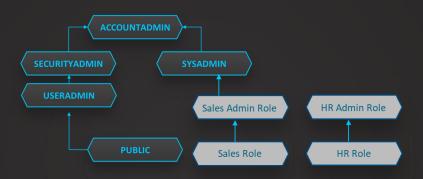
# USERADMIN



- ✓ Create Users & Roles (User & Role Management)
- ✓ Not for granting privileges (only the one that is owns)

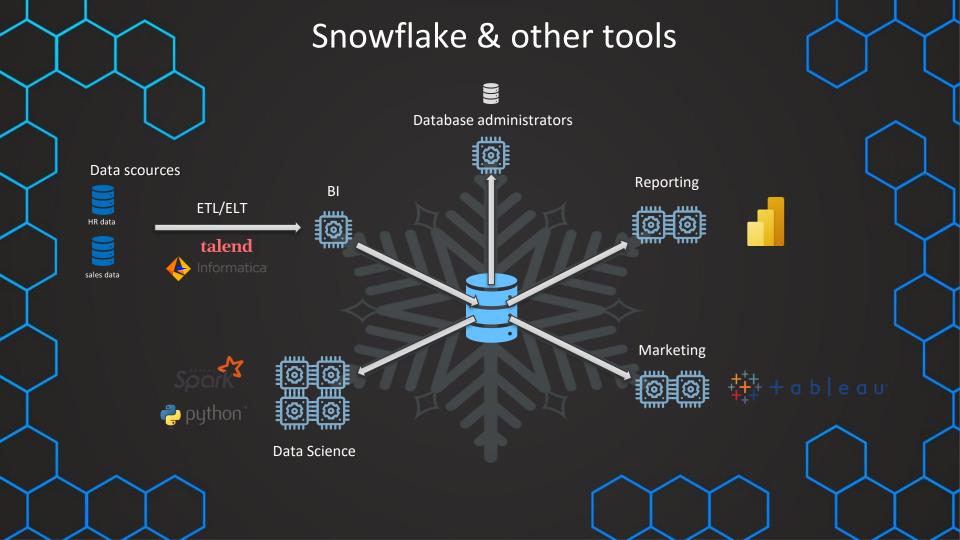


#### **PUBLIC**

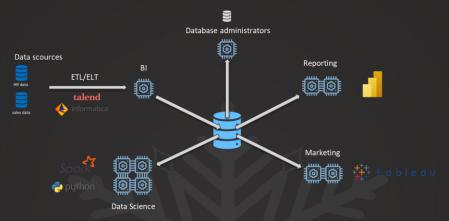


- Least privileged role (bottom of hierarchy)
- ✓ Every user is automatically assigned to this role
- ✓ Can own objects
- √ These objects are then available to everyone

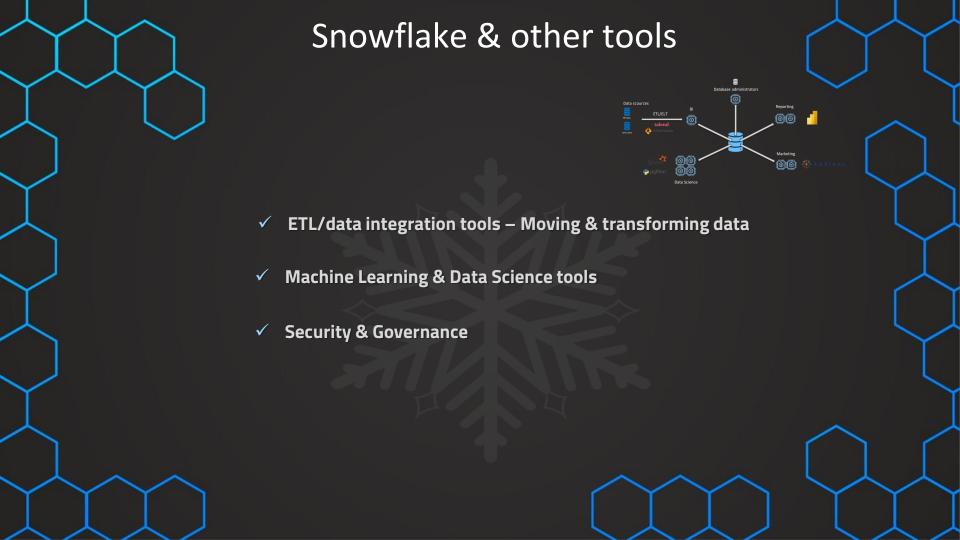




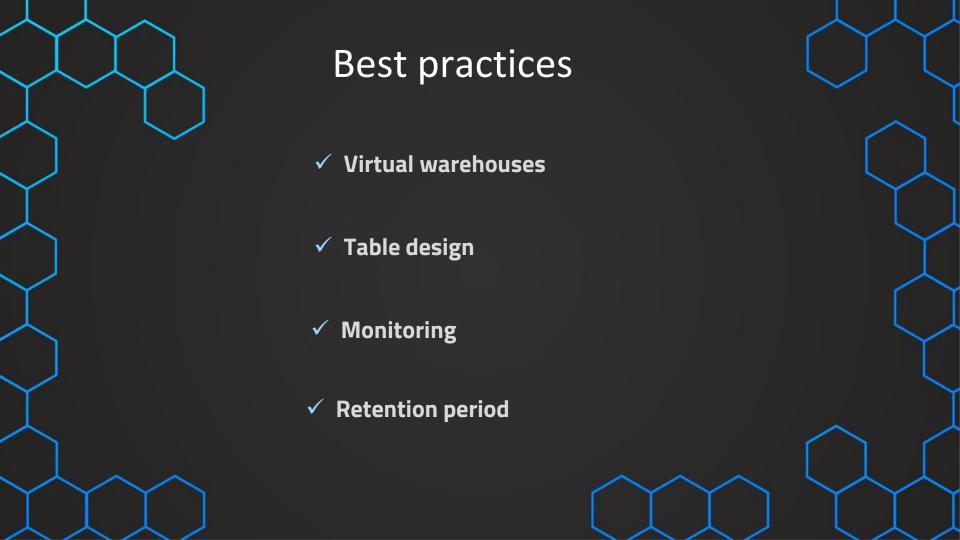
#### Snowflake & other tools

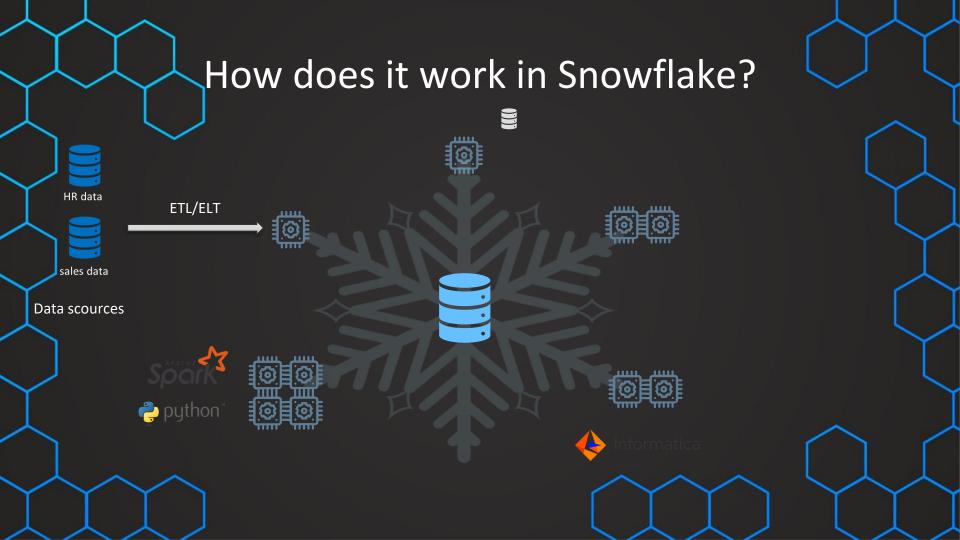


- Create easily trial accounts with Snowflake partners
- ✓ Convenient option for trying 3<sup>rd</sup>-party tools









#### Virtual warehouse

✓ Best Practice #1 – Enable Auto-Suspend

✓ Best Practice #2 – Enable Auto-Resume

✓ Best Practice #3 – Set appropriate timeouts

	ETL / Data Loading	BI / SELECT queries	DevOps / Data Science
Timeout	Immediately	10 min	5 min

# Table design ✓ Best Practice #1 – Appropiate table type ✓ Staging tables – Transient **Productive tables – Permanent Development tables – Transient**

## Table design ✓ Best Practice #1 – Appropiate table type ✓ Best Practice #2 – Appropiate data type ✓ Best Practice #3 – Set cluster keys only if necesarry ✓ Large table ✓ Most query time for table scan **Dimensions**

### Retention period

✓ Best Practice #1: Staging database – 0 days (transient)

✓ Best Practice #2 – Production – 4-7 days (1 day min)

 ✓ Best Practice #3 – Large high-churn tables – 0 days (transient)

	Active	Time Travel	Fail Safe
Timeout	20GB	400GB	2.8TB