

Stakeholder GTM questions (Payroll SaaS)

Sales:

Do we have enough pipeline to hit next quarter's ARR target by segment?

What's the win rate by segment and by primary competitor?

How long is the sales cycle by segment and channel (inbound vs outbound vs partner)?

Are we discounting more in certain segments, and does it improve close rate or just lower ARR?

Which reps perform best by segment (win rate + cycle time + ACV), and where do deals stall by stage?

Marketing:

Which Campaigns (or) Channels generate the highest Marketing Qualified Lead (MQL) -> Sales Qualified Lead(SQL) → Opportunity conversion in each segment?

What is the cost per opportunity and cost per won deal in each segment?

Which channels create fastest conversion pipelines in each segment?

Customer Success:

What is the time-to-go-live in each segment and point which segment has the longest time-to-go-live?

What is the gross retention and net retention in each segment and where is churn?

Number of tickets per 100 employees by segment? Do high severity tickets predict churn?

Product

Which product is notable to predict expansion by segment?

Which segments adopt most often and what is the increase in ARR?

Which segments saw an increase in retention when a module is enabled?

Leadership

See the Annual Recurring Revenue distribution and growth by segment. Are we reliant on small and medium businesses or enterprises?

Step by Step implementation of the project:

Tech stack: BigQuery + DBT + CI/CD in DBT + Git + SQL

Step 1: Setting up Bigquery

1) Create a GCP project and create datasets

raw (to store source tables, source tables are generated by SQL script here. But, in realtime, the source tables will be landed in raw layer via connectors like Fivetran (native connectors or custom connectors to sync the data via REST API or GraphQL API)

Analytics (business stakeholders consume data from this layer, generally this layer is connected to a visualization tool like looker or power bi)

dbt_sree_2798 (this schema contains the tables that will be populated with the sql transformations made in my personal development branch)

dbt_ci (this schema is for CI purpose)

Once the setup is completed, I can see the GCP UI as below

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud BigQuery interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with navigation links like 'Google Cloud', 'Payroll Analytics', 'Search BigQuery resources', and a 'Recent' section listing various datasets and tables. The main area displays a table of datasets and tables under the 'Recent' heading. The table has columns for 'Display name', 'Type', 'Last modified time', and 'Project'. Some entries include 'analytics' (Dataset), 'mart_gtm_account_daily' (View), 'stg_marketing_spend_daily' (View), 'stg_billing_contracts' (View), 'mart_marketing_funnel_daily' (View), 'raw' (Dataset), 'marketing_touches' (Partitioned table), 'product_usage_daily' (Partitioned table), 'marketing_leads' (Table), and 'marketing_campaigns' (Table). At the bottom, there are three cards for 'Try with templates': Google Sheets, CO, and Spark.

Step 2: DBT cloud + git integration

Created a github repo gtm-payroll-analytics engineering (Link: [Payroll Analytics](#))
Created a project in DBT cloud and connected the project to github repo

DBT cloud should be able to write data in Big query. So, I created a service account in BigQuery and downloaded the JSON file to import the same in DBT cloud and I set the default dataset to 'dbt_sree2798'

The screenshot shows the DBT Cloud User profile settings page. On the left, there's a sidebar with links for 'Settings', 'Account', 'Projects', 'Integrations', 'Connections', 'Users', 'Billing', 'API tokens', 'Personal tokens', 'Your profile', 'Personal profile', 'Password & Security', 'Credentials', 'CLI', 'VS Code Extension', 'Notification settings', 'Email notifications', and 'Slack notifications'. The main area is titled 'User profile' and contains sections for 'Personal information' and 'Linked accounts'. In 'Personal information', there's a placeholder for a profile picture, fields for 'First name' (Shree) and 'Last name' (T), and an 'Email' field (sreedhart668@gmail.com) with a note about verification. In 'Linked accounts', it shows a GitHub integration with the user 'sree2798' and a note about integrating with GitLab.

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud IAM & Admin / Service accounts page. It lists two service accounts:

- dbt-bqg-serv-acc@project-d89a99a2-b1ba-4699-bed.iam.gserviceaccount.com**: Enabled, No keys, Key creation date: Jan 11, 2026, OAuth 2 Client ID: 114453250832788403481.
- dbtcloudserv@project-d89a99a2-b1ba-4699-bed.iam.gserviceaccount.com**: Enabled, Key creation date: Jan 11, 2026, OAuth 2 Client ID: 110268390563080999955.

The screenshot shows the dbt Studio Connections / BigQuery page. It displays the following connection settings:

- Type**: BigQuery (selected)
- Connection name**: BigQuery
- Select Adapter**: BigQuery (selected)
- Settings**: A note about IP access and documentation links for upload and service account JSON.

Step 3: Generate raw data with SQL script

Refer to the SQL script in github repo here ([generate_raw_data](#))

The screenshot shows the Google Cloud BigQuery datasets / raw page. It lists the following tables:

Table ID	Type	Create time	Expiration time	Label
billing_contacts	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:20:05 AM UTC	None	None
billing_invoices	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:20:22 AM UTC	None	None
crm_accounts	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:19:19 AM UTC	None	None
crm_opportunities	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:19:48 AM UTC	None	None
crm_opportunity_stage_history	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:20:01 AM UTC	None	None
marketing_campaigns	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:19:22 AM UTC	None	None
marketing_leads	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:19:32 AM UTC	None	None
marketing_spend_daily	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:19:29 AM UTC	None	None
marketing_touches	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:19:44 AM UTC	None	None
product_usage_daily	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:20:30 AM UTC	None	None
support_tickets	Table	Jan 11, 2026, 3:20:40 AM UTC	None	None

The github repo will contain a structure as below

Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights Settings

gtm-payroll-analytics-engineering Public

main 12 Branches 0 Tags Go to file Add file Code About

No description, website, or topics provided.

sree2798 Merge pull request #12 from sree2798/add-SQL-script 1 hour ago 26 Commits

analyses creating the repo structure and example models 3 days ago

macros Added staging models along with data quality tests 2 days ago

models added comments 2 days ago

seeds Add client segmentation as a governed seed 2 days ago

snapshots creating the repo structure and example models 3 days ago

tests creating the repo structure and example models 3 days ago

.gitignore creating the repo structure and example models 3 days ago

README.md Initial commit 4 days ago

dbt_project.yml Add client segmentation as a governed seed 2 days ago

generate_raw_data.sql Create SQL script to generate raw data tables 1 hour ago

README

gtm-payroll-analytics-engineering

Step 5: Include client segmentation as a seed

dbt build-in-prod Change branch fact_contract.sql fact_opportunity_stage_history.sql employee_bands.csv dim_employee_band.sql

Dashboard Studio Canvas Orchestration Documentation

Create a pull request on GitHub

seeds > employee_bands.csv

```
1 band_id,band_label,min_employees,max_employees
2 b01,1-10,1,10
3 b02,11-50,11,50
4 b03,51-200,51,200
5 b04,201-500,201,500
6 b05,501-1000,501,1000
7 b06,1001-5000,1001,5000
8 b07,5001-10000,5001,10000
9 b08,100001+,100001,
```

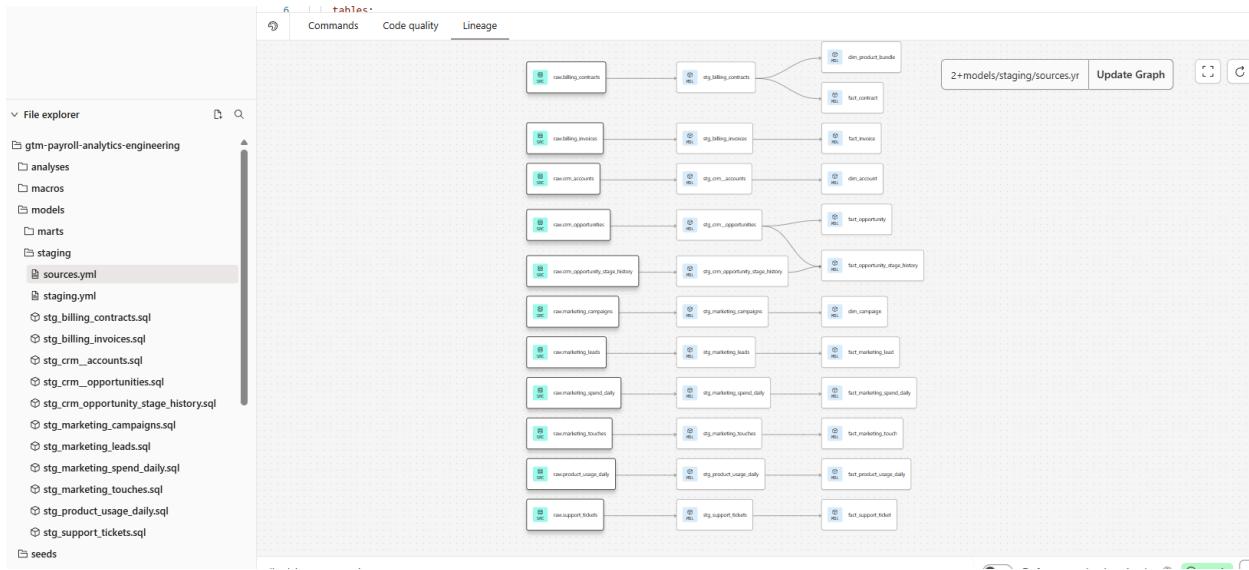
File explorer facts intermediate mart_cac_proxy_monthly.sql mart_gtm_account_daily.sql mart_marketing_funnel_daily.sql mart_onboarding.sql mart_retention_monthly.sql mart_speed_to_revenue.sql mart_stage_stall.sql schema.yml staging seeds .gitkeep employee_bands.csv snapshots target tests nitinnone

Commands CSV Preview Lineage

2+seeds/employee_bands.csv Update Graph

```
graph LR; employee_bands --> dim_employee_band; dim_employee_band --> dim_account
```

Step 6: Add sources to DBT which point to the raw tables created by the SQL script



Step 7: Build staging models

Build one staging model per raw table

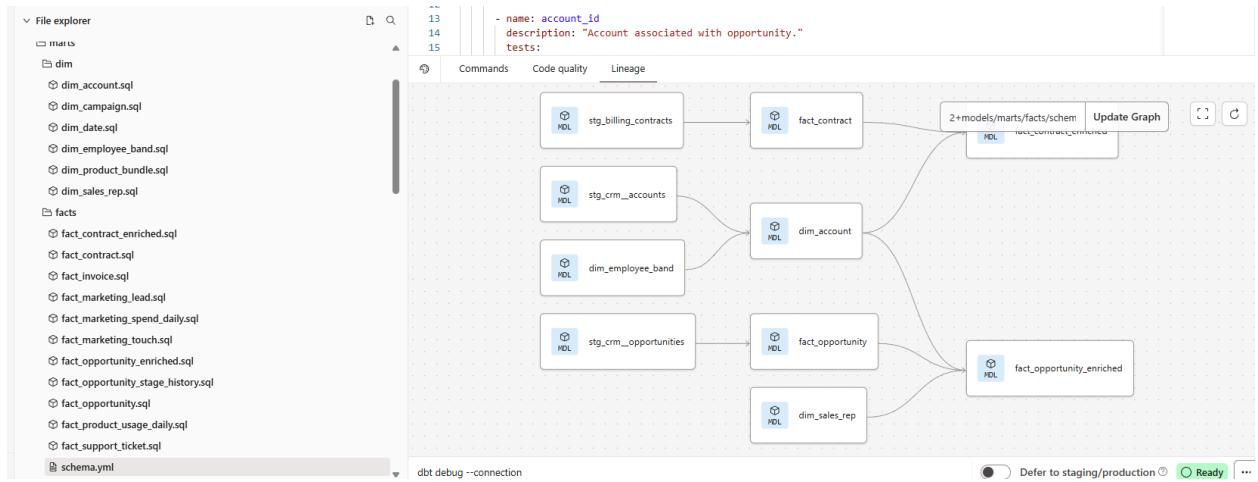
Each staging model cast the data types, standardizes the naming and deduplicates if needed

Also, add tests in staging.yml, this file contains

In realtime environment, to optimize build time in DBT, we can implement staging models only to the tables that are actually required to create required dimensions and facts

Also, we include only the required columns in staging layer to build the metrics

Step 9: Build dimensions and facts:



Step 10:

Build the gold layer to answer stakeholder questions

Create `mart_gtm_account_daily` with a grain of one row per account per day

With current ARR, daily rollups, rolling 30 day payroll runs, rolling 30 day ticket counts and segment

- ⌚ `mart_cac_proxy_monthly.sql`
- ⌚ `mart_gtm_account_daily.sql`
- ⌚ `mart_marketing_funnel_daily.sql`
- ⌚ `mart_onboarding.sql`
- ⌚ `mart_retention_monthly.sql`
- ⌚ `mart_speed_to_revenue.sql`
- ⌚ `mart_stage_stall.sql`
- 📄 `schema.yml`

The screenshot shows the dbt Studio interface. On the left, the sidebar includes links for Dashboard, Studio (selected), Canvas, Orchestration, Documentation, Set up CLI, Leave feedback, Ask support assistant, Get resources, Personal, and a Gitkeep link. The main area has tabs for build-in-prod, Change branch, bands.csv, sources.yml, staging.yml, stg_billing_contracts.sql, mart_cac_proxy_monthly.sql (selected), schema.yml, and fact_product_usage_daily.sql. A dropdown menu for Version control shows 'Create a pull request on GitHub'. The File explorer shows a tree structure for gtm-payroll-analytics-engineering, including analyses, macros, models, marts, dim, facts, intermediate, and various SQL files like mart_cac_proxy_monthly.sql. The lineage graph on the right visualizes the data flow between tables such as fact_marketing_spending, fact_marketing_lead, fact_opportunity, fact_marketing_funnel, fact_marketing_spending_daily, fact_marketing_lead_daily, fact_opportunity_daily, fact_marketing_funnel_daily, and mart_cac_proxy_monthly.

Step 11: CI/CD in DBT cloud

Create 3 environments in DBT cloud.

Dev → dbt_sree2798 (models built in dev will be visible in the given schema)

Dbt_ci → This schema is for CI purpose

Prod → The schema ‘analytics’ will contain the tables that are built in prod environment (consumption layer)

Create 2 jobs

PR CI job → This job will be triggered on a pull request (dbt build)

Prod deploy job → This job will be triggered when branch merges to main

The screenshot shows the dbt Cloud interface with the URL <https://bt985.us1.dbt.com/deploy/70471823522907/projects/70471823540738/environments>. The left sidebar has a 'Orchestration' section selected. The main content area is titled 'Environments' and lists three environments: CI (selected), STG, and DEV. Each environment entry includes a status icon (green for CI, grey for STG, blue for DEV) and a note: 'Latest (Formerly known as Versionless)'.

Environment	Status	Note
CI	Green	Latest (Formerly known as Versionless)
STG	Grey	Latest (Formerly known as Versionless)
DEV	Blue	Latest (Formerly known as Versionless)

Few sample runs triggered during PRs in github

The screenshot shows the dbt Orchestration Run history page. The left sidebar includes links for Dashboard, Studio, Canvas, Orchestration, and Documentation. The main area displays a table of recent runs:

Run Type	Run ID	Description	Triggered At	Took
PR CI Check	#70471861521913	Deprecations detected File CI Latest ⚡ main → #d166btd GitHub Pull Request #12 dbt_cloud_pr_70471823549552_12	Triggered 2h 38m ago	Took 22s
Prod deploy	#70471861488313	Prod deploy Run #70471861488313 File Prod Latest ⚡ main → #bcb4932 Scheduled run	Triggered Jan 13, 2026, 6:08 PM CST	Took 1m, 9s
Prod deploy	#7047186148785	Prod deploy Run #7047186148785 File Prod Latest ⚡ main → #bcb4932 Scheduled run	Triggered Jan 13, 2026, 6:08 AM CST	Took 1m, 5s
Prod deploy	#70471861350216	Prod deploy Run #70471861350216 File Prod Latest ⚡ main → #bcb4932 Scheduled run	Triggered Jan 12, 2026, 6:08 AM CST	Took 1m, 6s
Prod deploy	#70471861280225	Prod deploy Run #70471861280225 File Prod Latest ⚡ main → #bcb4932 Scheduled run	Triggered Jan 12, 2026, 6:08 AM CST	Took 1m, 9s
Prod deploy	#70471861268987	Prod deploy Run #70471861268987 Deprecations detected File Prod Latest ⚡ main → #bcb4932 Triggered manually	Triggered Jan 12, 2026, 4:41 AM CST	Took 58s
PR CI Check	#70471861268935	PR CI Check Run #70471861268935 Deprecations detected File CI Latest ⚡ main → #2c033eb GitHub Pull Request #11 dbt_cloud_pr_70471823549552_11	Triggered Jan 12, 2026, 4:40 AM CST	Took 35s
PR CI Check	#70471861267055	PR CI Check Run #70471861267055 Deprecations detected File CI Latest ⚡ main → #b0c16b7 GitHub Pull Request #10 dbt_cloud_pr_70471823549552_10	Triggered Jan 12, 2026, 4:14 AM CST	Took 30s
PR CI Check	#70471861258000	PR CI Check Run #70471861258000 Deprecations detected File CI Latest ⚡ main → #ba872e9 GitHub Pull Request #9 dbt_cloud_pr_70471823549552_9	Triggered Jan 12, 2026, 2:49 AM CST	Took 21s

The screenshot shows a GitHub pull request merge screen for repository `sree2798/gtm-payroll-analytics-engineering`. The pull request has been merged successfully:

Pull request successfully merged and closed
You're all set — the branch has been merged.

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Markdown is supported Paste, drop, or click to add files

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You're receiving notifications because you modified the open/close state.

1 participant

Lock conversation