

DATAWAREHOUSE CONCEPTS

A blog where you can explore everything about Datawarehouse, OBIEE, Informatica, Hadoop, Oracle SQL-PLSQL, Cognos and much more....

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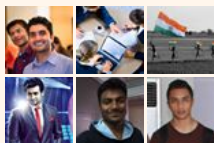
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Thursday, 13 September 2012

SCD Type 2, Slowly Changing Dimension Use, Example, Advantage, Disadvantage

In Type 2 Slowly Changing Dimension, a new record is added to the table to represent the new information. Therefore, both the original and the new record will be present. The new record gets its own primary key.

In our example, recall we originally have the following table:

Customer Key	Name	State
1001	Williams	New York

After Williams moved from New York to Los Angeles, we add the new information as a new row into the table:

Customer Key	Name	State
1001	Williams	New York
1005	Williams	Los Angeles

Advantages

- This allows us to accurately keep all historical information.

Disadvantages

- This will cause the size of the table to grow fast. In cases where the number of rows for the table is very high to start with, storage and performance can become a concern.
- This necessarily complicates the ETL process.

Usage

About 50% of the time.

When to use Type 2

Type 2 slowly changing dimension should be used when it is necessary for the data warehouse to track historical changes.

You might also like:

- [SCD Type 1, Slowly Changing Dimension Use, Example, Advantage, Disadvantage](#)
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at 14:54

Labels: [SCD](#), [Slowly Changing Dimensions](#)

3 comments:

Terry Sickler 31 October 2012 18:52

In a history table, we should have a column called CURR_ROW_IND (Current Row Indicator) as a CHAR (Y/N). The current row would be Y, and all other history rows would be N. In this example, we assume that the most current address would be the one with the largest CUSTOMER_KEY for the customer. To build a query, we would have to use a GROUP BY clause and a MAX function on the CUSTOMER_KEY. Returning the results could be sluggish with a large history file. Using the clause WHERE CURR_ROW_IND = Y, returns results much faster.

Reply

Sonal 10 August 2013 19:38

Hi,

thnx for sharing this, Can anyone explain how the customer key can be changed?

Reply

Anonymous 2 October 2013 00:43

No increased complex ETL with Pentaho Data Integration, for it has a dedicated step for Dimension treatment. SCD 1 or 2 is click away. No need for 3.

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Datawarehouse and DataMart: Definition & Difference

What are new features of INFORMatica 9 compared to INFORMatica 8.6

Types of Dimensions

How can we do Performance Tuning in Informatica

Visitors

IN 339,353
US 270,517
GB 29,409
CA 17,739
SG 13,611
AU 12,753
DE 7,702
PK 6,617
FR 6,431
NL 5,687
BR 5,196
ES 4,755

204 flags

FLAG Counter

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Correlated Sub Queries

Session Manager in OBIEE

Cache Manager in OBIEE

Nested Sub query VS Correlated query

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