Fundamentals of Designing a Data Warehouse

Sensible techniques for developing a data warehousing environment which is relevant, agile, and extensible

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Agenda

1. Overview of the Need for Data Warehousing
2. DW Design Principles
3. Dimension Design
4. Fact Design
5. When to Use Columnstore or Partitioning
6. DW Tips
7. SSDT 'Database Project' Tips
8. Planning Future Growth of the DW

All syntax shown is from SQL Server 2016.

Screen shots are from SQL Server Data Tools in Visual Studio 2015.

Fundamentals of Designing a Data Warehouse

Out of Scope

- ✓ ETL patterns and techniques
- ✓ Source control
- ✓ Deployment practices
- ✓ Master data management
- ✓ Data quality techniques
- ✓ Semantic layer, OLAP, cubes
- ✓ Front-end reporting
- ✓ Security
- ✓ Tuning & monitoring
- ✓ Automation techniques

Overview of the Need for Data Warehousing

First Let's Get This Straight…

Data Warehousing is not dead!

Data warehousing can be "uncool" but it doesn't have to be if you adopt modern data warehousing concepts & technologies such as:

- ✓ Data lake
- ✓ Hadoop
- ✓ Real-time
- ✓ Large data volume
- ✓ Data virtualization
- ✓ Hybrid & cloud
- ✓ Automation
- ✓ Bimodal environments

Transaction System vs. Data Warehouse

OLTP

Goal:
- ✓ Operational transactions
- ✓ "Writes"

Scope:
One database system

Example Objectives:
- ✓ Process a customer order
- ✓ Generate an invoice

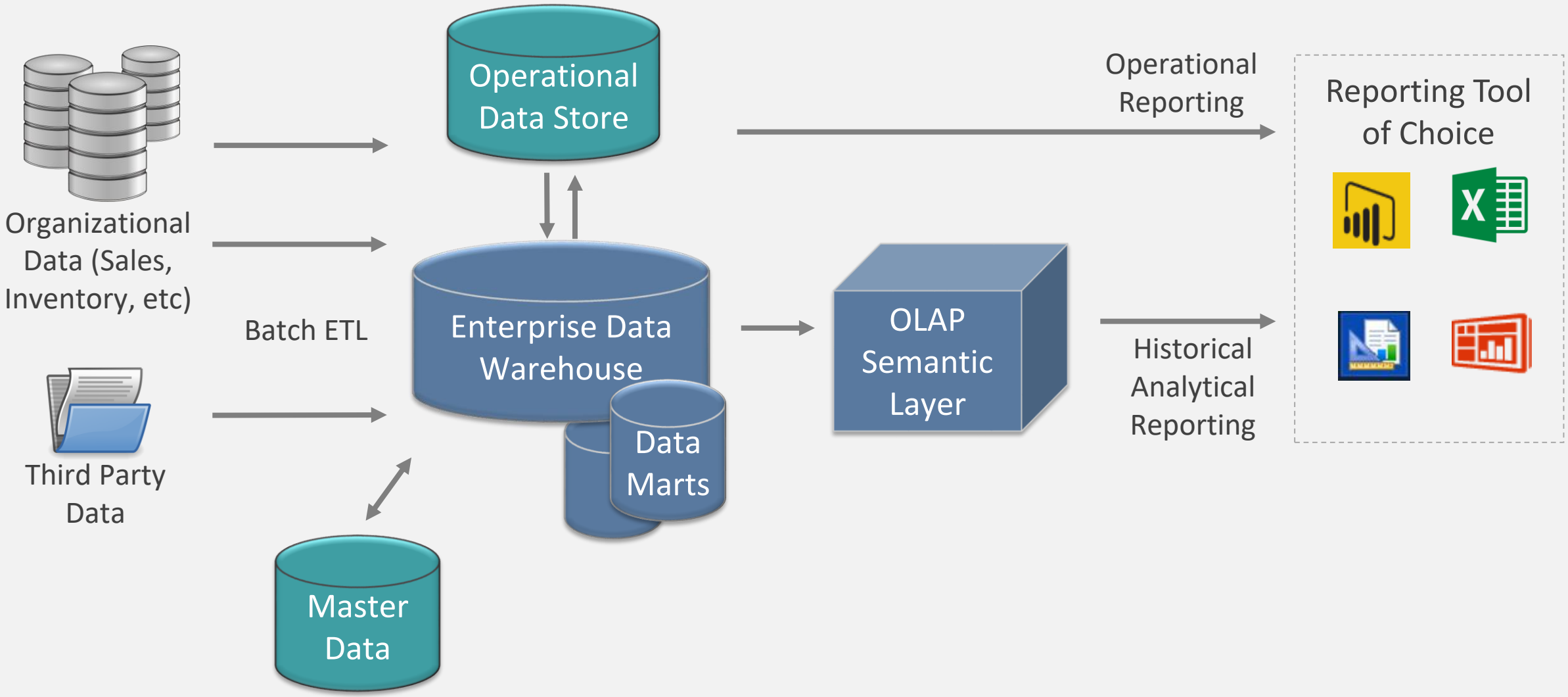
Data Warehouse

Goal:
- ✓ Informational and analytical
- ✓ "Reads"

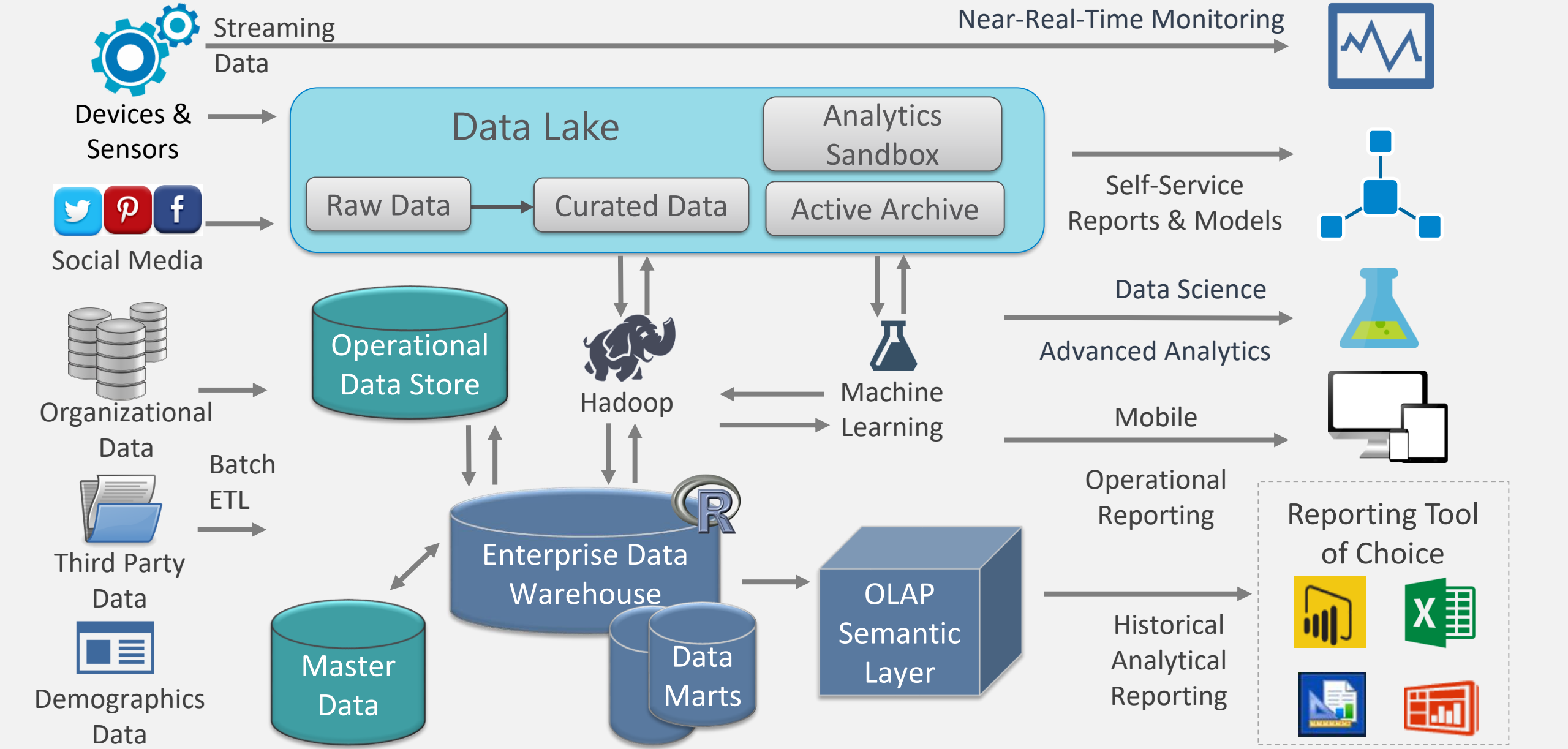
Scope:
Integrate data from multiple systems

Example Objectives:
- ✓ Identify lowest-selling products
- ✓ Analyze margin per customer

DW+BI Systems Used to Be Fairly Straightforward

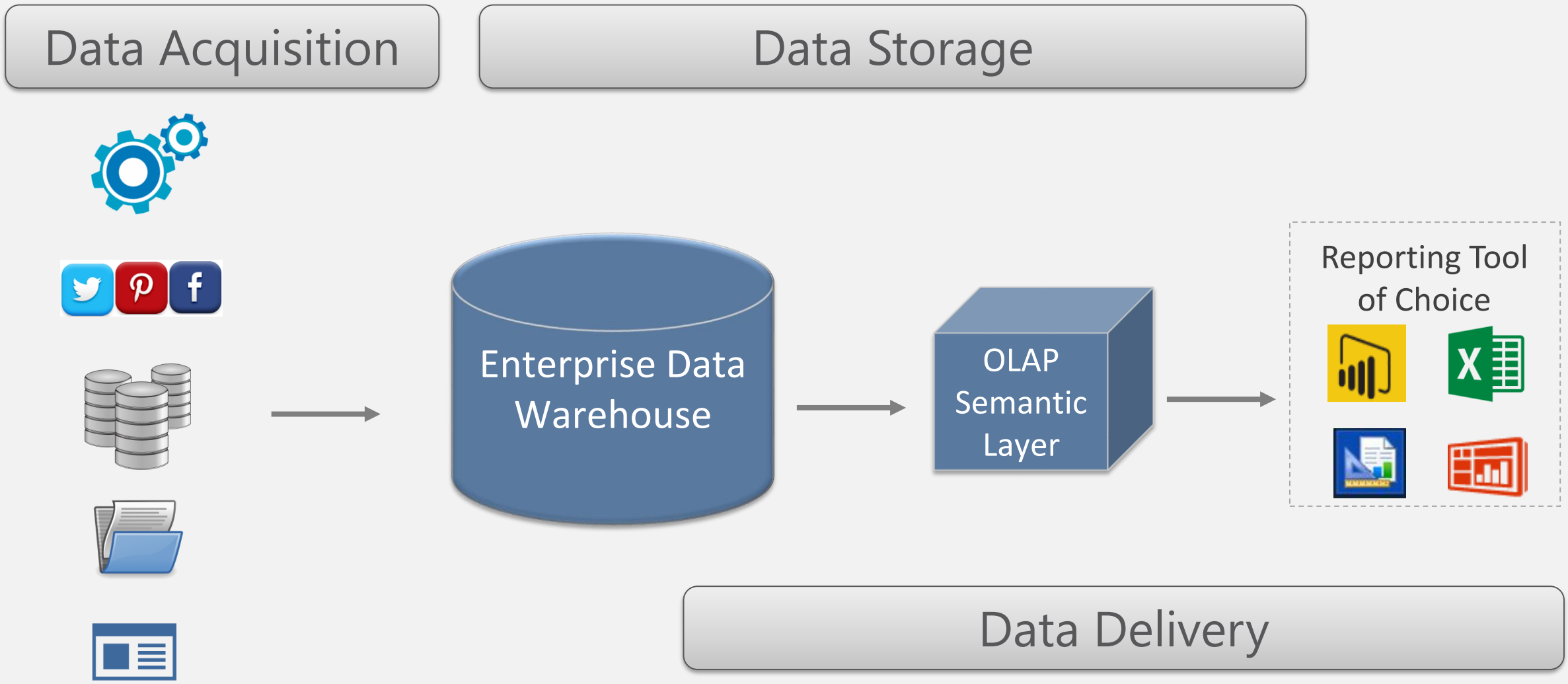


DW+BI Systems Have Grown in Complexity

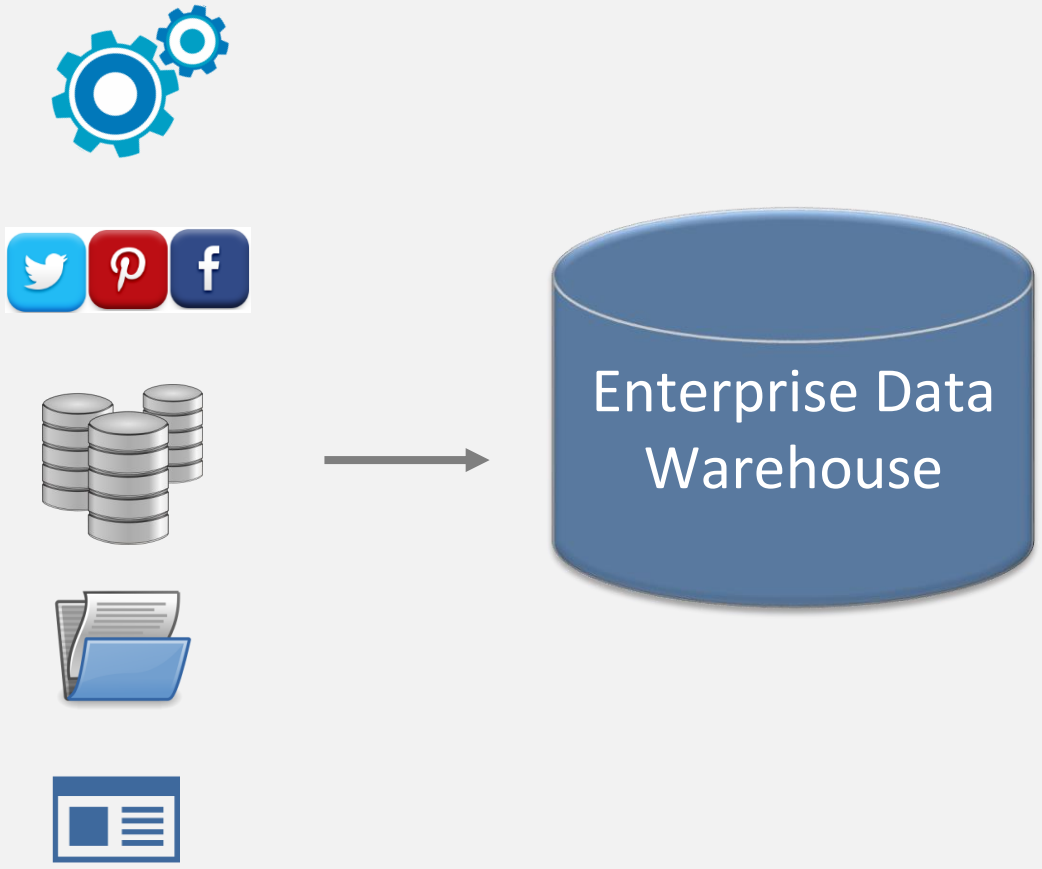


Data Warehouse Design Principles

3 Primary Architectural Areas



Integrate Data from Multiple Sources

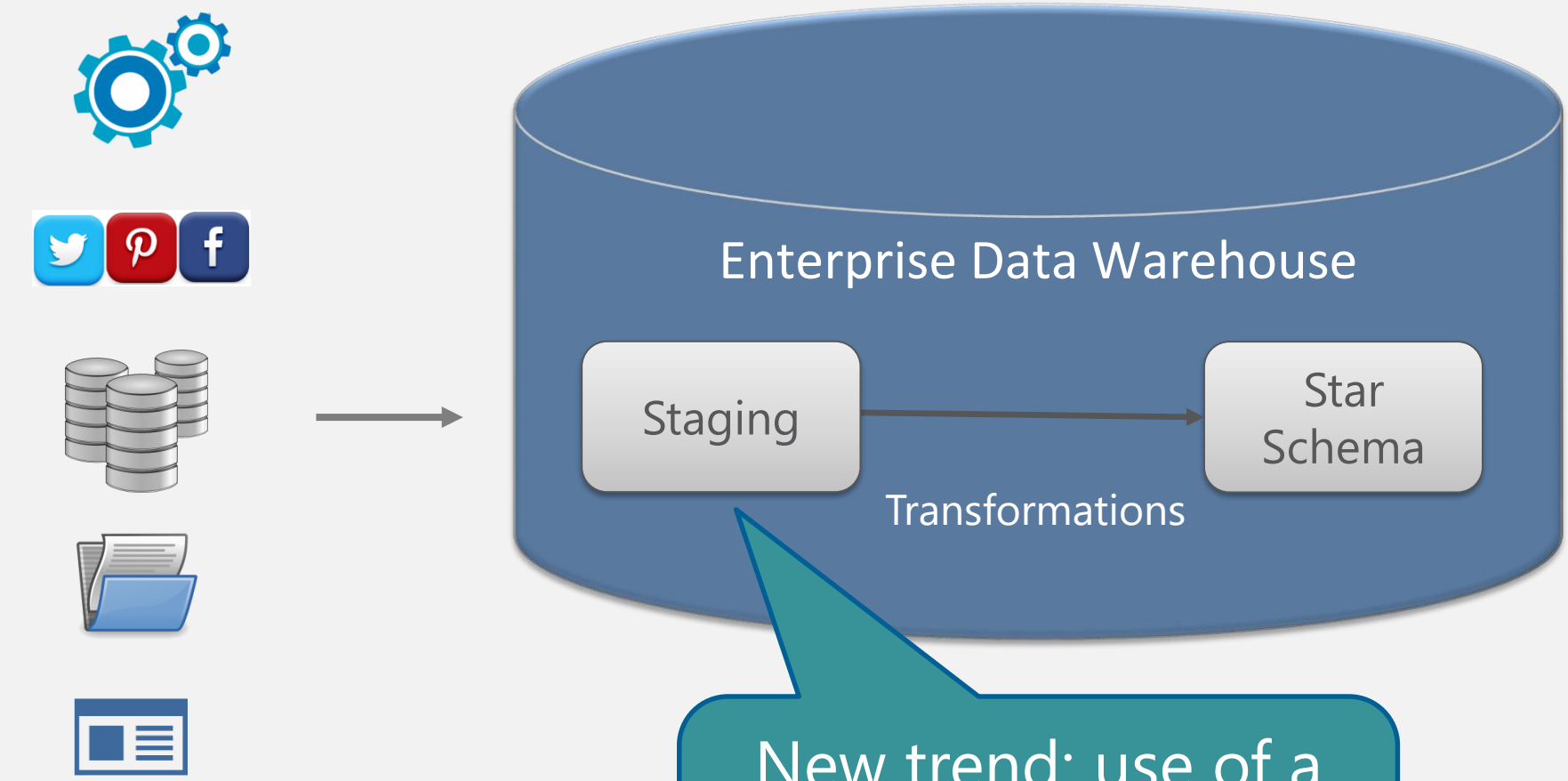


Objective:
Data is inherently more **valuable** once it is integrated.

Example:
Full view of a customer:

- Sales activity +
- Delinquent invoices +
- Support/help requests

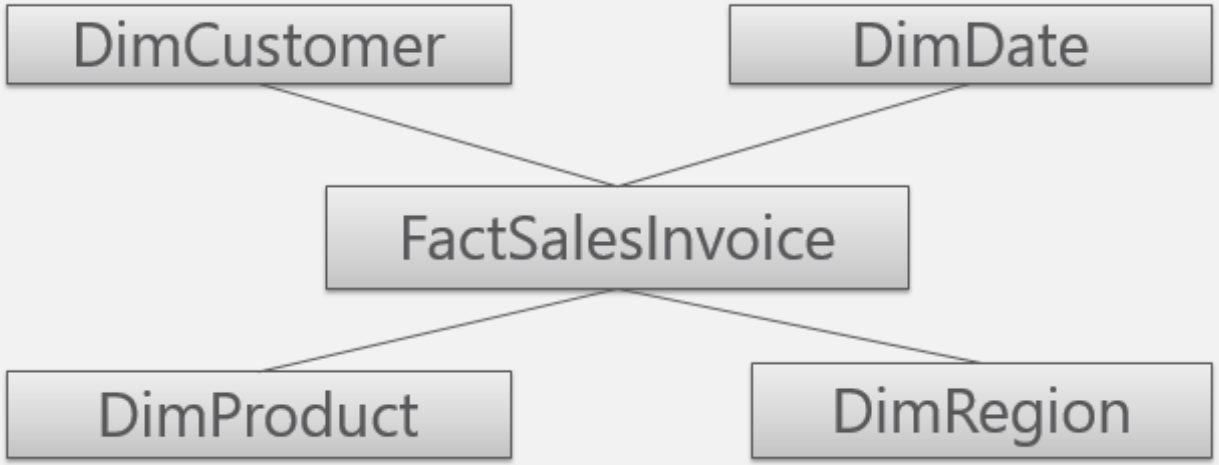
Use of Staging Environment



Staging Objectives:

- ✓ **Reduce load** on source system
- ✓ No changes to source format
- ✓ A "kitchen area"
- ✓ Snapshot of source data for troubleshooting

Usage of a Star Schema



Dimension Table

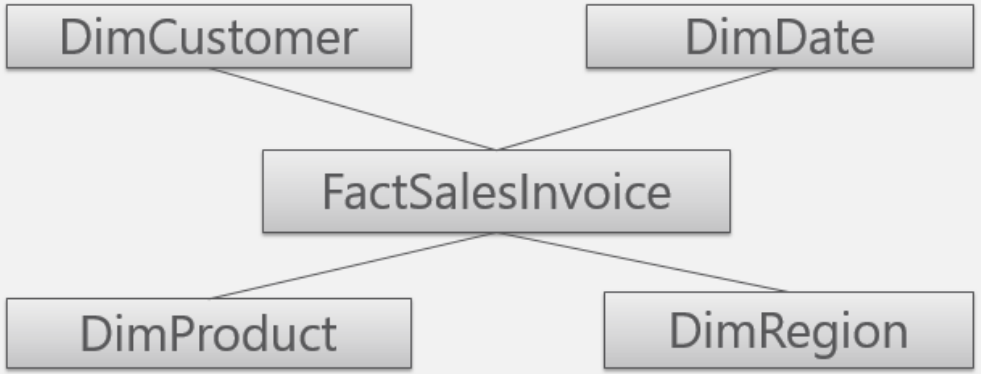
Provides the **descriptive context** – attributes with the who, what, when, why, or how

Fact Table

Fact tables contain the **numeric**, **quantitative** data (aka **measures**)

Benefits of a Star Schema

Optimal for **known** reporting scenarios



Denormalized structure, structured around **business logic**, is good for **performance** & **consistency**

Decoupled from source systems: **surrogate keys** which have no intrinsic meaning

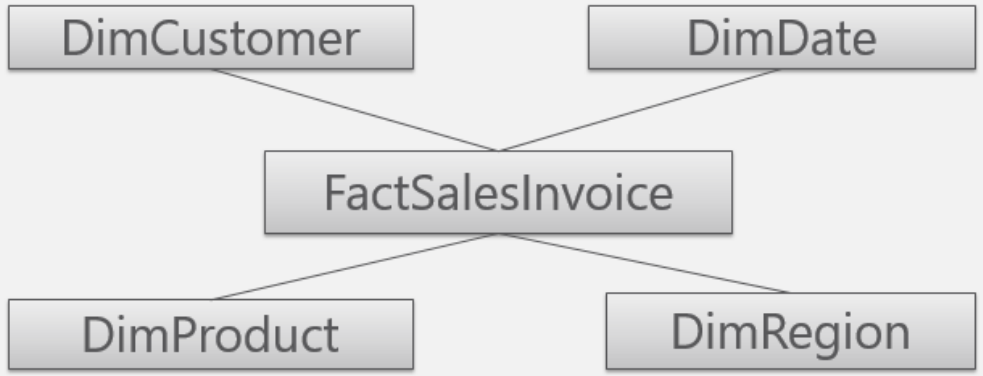
Usability:

- ✓ Stable, predictable environment
- ✓ Less joins, easier navigation
- ✓ Friendly, recognizable names
- ✓ History retention
- ✓ Integrate multiple systems

Challenges of a Star Schema

Requires **up-front analysis** ("schema on write")

Difficult to handle new & **unpredictable or exploratory scenarios**



Increasing **volumes of data**

Reducing windows of time for **data loads** (near real-time is challenging)

Data quality issues are often surfaced in the reporting layer

Not practical to contain ***all* of the data** all the time

Declare Grain of Each Table

EnterpriseDW
Bus Matrix

Contributors: Melissa Coates
Last updated: 12/1/2016

Dim Table Name:	Dim Customer	Dim Region	Dim Warehouse	Dim Employee	Dim Date	Dim SalesInvoice	Dim Product
Dim Table Type:	Standard	Standard	Standard	Parent/Child	Standard	Standard	Standard
SCD Type:	Type 2	Type 1	Type 1	Type 1	Type 1	Type 1	Type 2
Dim Granularity:	One row per customer	One row per region	One row per warehouse	One row per employee (recursive)	One row per day	One row per invoice, per AR transaction	One row per product

Subject Area:	Fact Table Name:	Fact Table Type:	Fact Purpose:	Fact Granularity:							
Sales	FactSalesInvoice	Transaction Fact	All sales/AR transactions (invoices + DM, CM, cash applications, and write-offs). This transaction is updated throughout the life of the obligation.	One row per invoice, per AR transaction, per customer	X	X	X	X	X (role-playing)	X	X (via bridge table)
Accounts Receivable	FactAR SnapshotDaily	Periodic Snapshot Fact	Daily summary of open AR (retained for a rolling 5 quarters)	One row per customer, per open AR invoice, per day	X				X		
All	FactCustomer Current	Accumulating Snapshot Fact	Current summary of balances (credit limit, open order amount, AR balances, etc + current salesperson); relevant across subject areas	One row per customer	X	X	X	X (role-playing)	X (role-playing)		
Human Resources	FactEmployee Snapshot	Periodic Snapshot Fact	Annual snapshot of employee info	One row per employee, per year		X		X	X (role-playing)		

Store the Lowest Level Detail You Have

Drill-down behavior:

You may be forced to only store aggregated data for extremely high data volumes. Or, you may choose an alternative technology (like a data lake, a NoSQL database, or Hadoop).

Dimension Design

Dimension Tables

Dimension tables: provide the **descriptive context** – attributes with the who, what, when, why, or how. They should always include **friendly names & descriptions**.

Dimension tables can contain:

Type of Column in a Dim	Example
Attributes	Customer Name
Non-additive numeric value	Customer Value to Acquisition Cost Ratio
Numeric value used *only* for filtering or grouping (usually accompanied by a “band of ranges”)	Customer Satisfaction % Customer Satisfaction Range 90%-100% 80-89% Less than 80%

*Dimension tables should *not* contain aggregatable numeric values (measures).*

Types of Dimension Tables

Most common types of dimensions:

Type of Dim Table	Description
Type 0	Values cannot change (ex: DimDate).
Type 1	Any value which changes is overwritten; no history is preserved.
Type 2 aka Slowly Changing Dimension	Certain important values which change generate a new row which is effective-dated. *(Not all columns should be type 2 - certain columns can be type 1.)*
Type 6	Hybrid of type 1 and 2 which includes a new column for the important values, as well as a new row.

Types 3, 4, 5, and 7 do exist, but are less commonly utilized.

Type 1 Dimension

Original data:

Customer SK	Customer NK	Customer Name	AuditRow UpdateDate
1	ABC	Brian Jones	6-4-2014
2	DEF	Sally Baker	10-1-2015

Change to Customer Name occurs.

Updated data:

Customer SK	Customer NK	Customer Name	AuditRow UpdateDate
1	ABC	Brian Jones	6-4-2014
2	DEF	**Sally Walsh**	**12-2-2016**

Type 2 Dimension

Original data:

Customer SK	Customer NK	Customer Name	AuditRow Effective Date	AuditRow Expired Date	AuditRow IsCurrent
1	ABC	Brian Jones	6-4-2014	12-31-9999	1
2	DEF	Sally Baker	10-1-2015	12-31-9999	1

Change to Customer Name occurs.

Updated data:

Customer SK	Customer NK	Customer Name	AuditRow Effective Date	AuditRow Expired Date	AuditRow IsCurrent
1	ABC	Brian Jones	6-4-2014	12-31-9999	1
2	DEF	Sally Baker	10-1-2015	**12-2-2016**	**0**
3	**DEF**	**Sally Walsh**	**12-3-2016**	**12-31-9999**	**1**

Type 6 Dimension

Original data:

Customer SK	Customer NK	Customer Name	Customer Name Current	AuditRow Effective Date	AuditRow Expired Date	Audit RowIs Current
1	ABC	Brian Jones	Brian Jones	6-4-2014	12-31-9999	1
2	DEF	Sally Baker	Sally Baker	10-1-2015	12-31-9999	1

Change to Customer Name occurs.

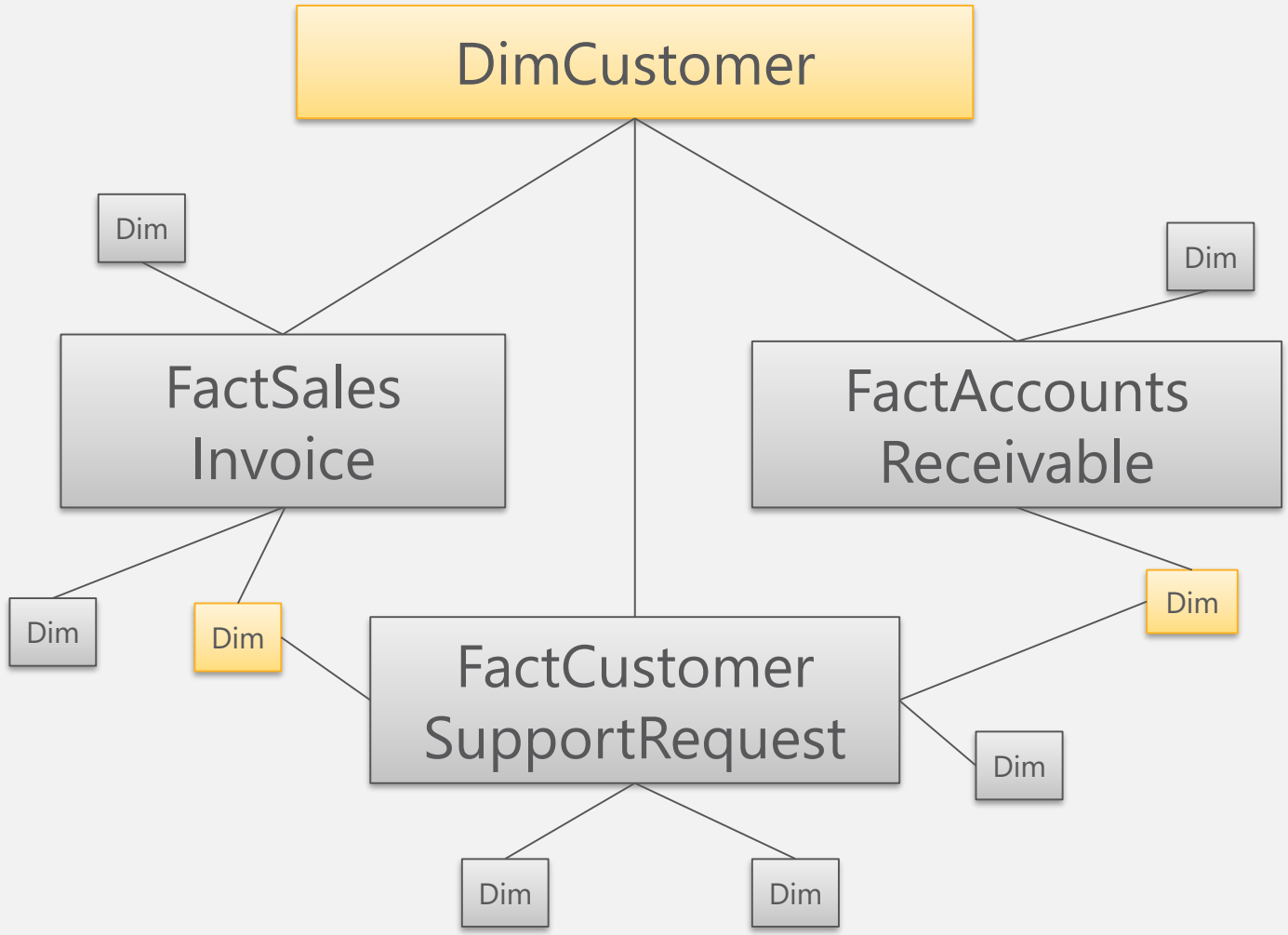
Updated data:

Customer SK	Customer NK	Customer Name	Customer Name Current	Audit Row Effective Date	AuditRow Expired Date	Audit RowIs Current
1	ABC	Brian Jones	Brian Jones	6-4-2014	12-31-9999	1
2	DEF	Sally Baker	**Sally Walsh**	**10-1-2015**	**12-2-2016**	**0**
3	**DEF**	**Sally Walsh**	**Sally Walsh**	**12-3-2016**	**12-31-9999**	**1**

Conformed Dimension

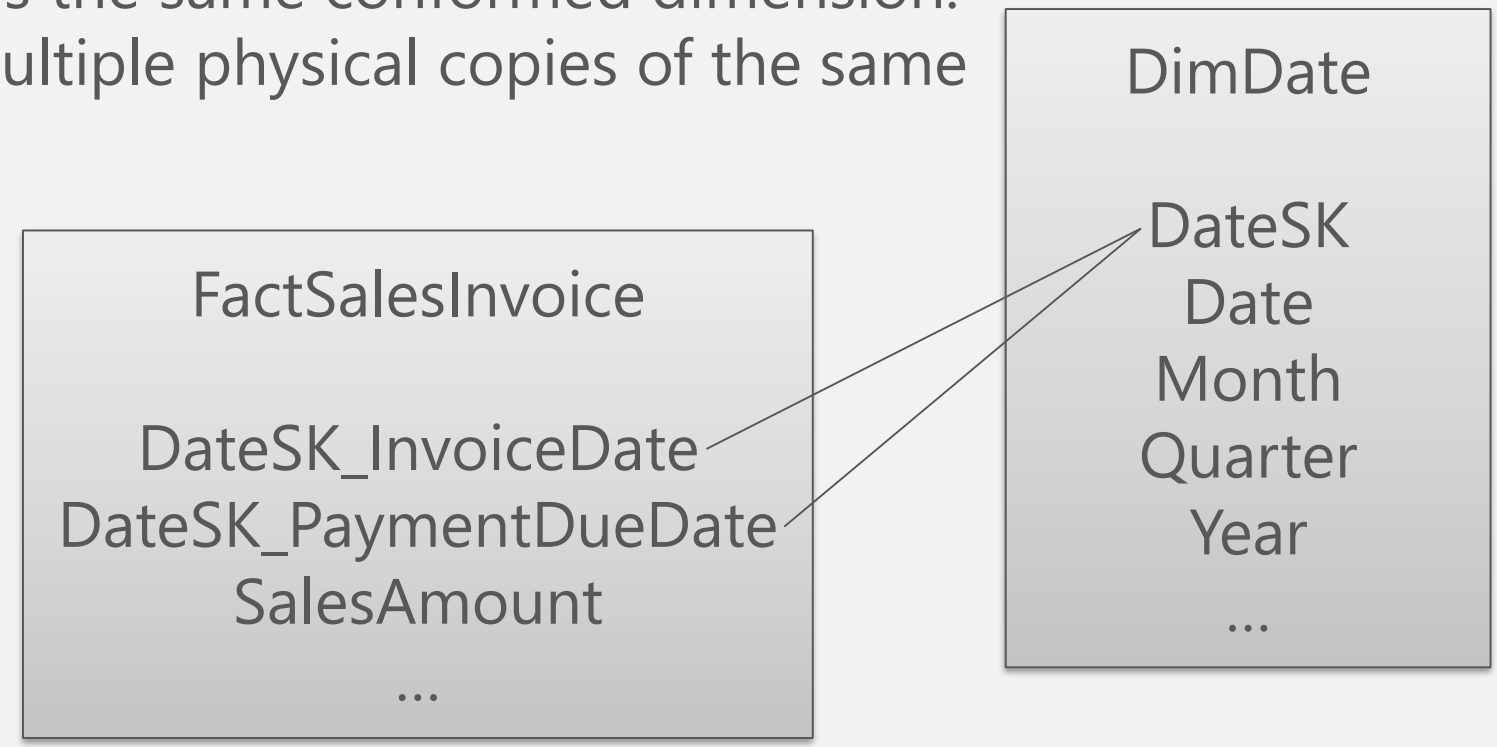
A conformed dimension **reuses the same dimension** across numerous fact tables: critical for unifying data from various sources.

Conformed dimensions provide significant value with '**drill across**' functionality, and provide a **consistent** user experience.



Role-Playing Dimension

A role-playing dimension utilizes the same conformed dimension. Objective is to avoid creating multiple physical copies of the same dimension table.




```
SELECT
     FSI.SalesAmount
    ,InvoiceDate = DtInv.Date
    ,PymtDueDate = DtDue.Date
FROM FactSalesInvoice AS FSI
INNER JOIN DimDate AS DtInv
     ON FSI.DateSK_InvoiceDate = DtInv.DateSK
INNER JOIN DimDate AS DtDue
     ON FSI.DateSK_PaymentDueDate = DtDue.DateSK
```

Hierarchies

Hierarchies are extremely useful for handling rollups, and for drill-down & drill-through behavior.

Date Hierarchy

- Year
  - Quarter
    - Month
      - Day

Geography Hierarchy

- Country
  - State or Province
    - City
      - Address

Dimension Design

```
1   CREATE TABLE [DW].[DimCustomer] (
2    [CustomerSK] INT IDENTITY (1, 1) NOT NULL
3   ,[RegionNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_RegionNumberNK] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
4   ,[CustomerNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNumberNK] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
5   ,[CustomerNumber] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNumber] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
6   ,[CustomerName] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerName] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
7   ,[CustomerNameCurrent] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNameCurrent] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
8   ,[CustomerNumberName] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNumberName] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
9   ,[CustomerNameNumber] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNameNumber] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
10  ,[CustomerFIPSCode] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AccountLocationFIPSCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
11  ,[Custome TypeCode] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
12  ,[Customer eDe                                                                          T NULL
13  ,[CustomerTy                                                                          N'') NOT NULL
14  ,[CustomerTyp                                                                         N'') NOT NULL
```

Inline syntax format works in the SSDT database project which requires "declarative development."

No alters beneath the create.

Dimension Design

Remove the Dim or Fact prefix from user access layers.

```
1  CREATE TABLE [DW].[DimCustomer] (
2   [CustomerSK] INT IDENTITY (1, 1) NOT NULL
3  ,[RegionNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_RegionNumberNK] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
4  ,[CustomerNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNumberNK] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
5  ,[CustomerNumber] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNumber] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
6  ,[CustomerName] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerName] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
7  ,[CustomerNameCurrent] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNameCurrent] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
8  ,[CustomerNumberName] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNumberName] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
9  ,[CustomerNameNumber] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNameNumber] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
10 ,[CustomerFIPSCode] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AccountLocationFIPSCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
11 ,[CustomerTypeCode] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
12 ,[Custo  TypeDesc] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeDesc] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
13 ,[Custom  deDesc] NVARCHAR(36) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeCodeDesc] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
14 ,[C  RAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeDescCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
```

Golden rule: a column exists in one and only one place in the DW.

Dimension Design

```
1   CREATE TABLE [DW].[DimCustomer] (
2    [CustomerSK] INT IDENTITY (1, 1) NOT NULL
3   ,[RegionNumberNK] NVARCHAR(
4   ,[CustomerNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [
5   ,[CustomerNumber] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_
6   ,[CustomerName] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_Cus
7   ,[CustomerNameCurrent] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNameCurrent] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
8   ,[CustomerNumberName] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNumberName] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
9   ,[CustomerNameNumber] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNameNumber] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
10  ,[CustomerFIPSCode] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AccountLocationFIPSCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
11  ,[CustomerTypeCode] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
12  ,[CustomerTypeDesc] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeDesc] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
13  ,[CustomerTypeCodeDesc] NVARCHAR(36) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeCodeDesc] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
14  ,[CustomerTypeDescCo
```

Use a naming convention to easily identify surrogate keys & natural keys

Use the smallest datatypes you can use without risk of overflows

Make careful decisions on the use of varchar vs. nvarchar

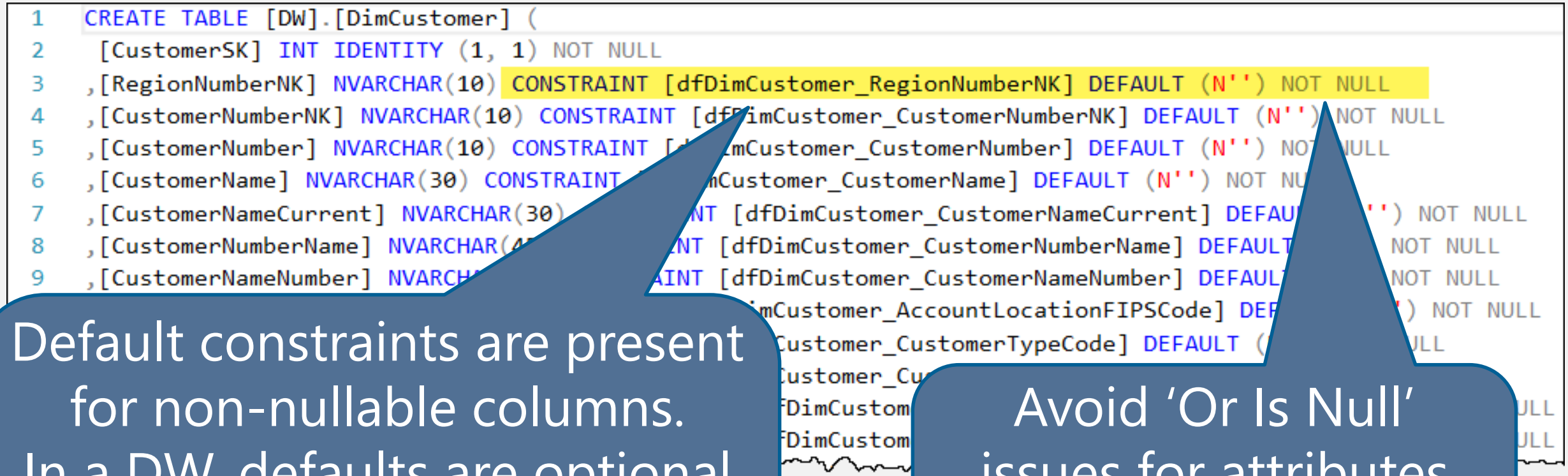
Dimension Design

```
1  CREATE TABLE [DW].[DimCustomer] (
2   [CustomerSK] INT IDENTITY (1, 1) NOT NULL
3  ,[RegionNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT
4  ,[CustomerNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10)
5  ,[CustomerNumber] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNumber
6  ,[CustomerName] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerName] DE
7  ,[CustomerNameCurrent] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerN
8  ,[CustomerNumberName] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNu
9  ,[CustomerNameNumber] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNa
10 ,[CustomerCode] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AccountLocat
11 ,[CustomerTypeCode] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeC
12 ,[CustomerTypeDesc] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeDe
13 ,[CustomerTypeCodeDesc] NVARCHAR(36) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeCodeDesc] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
14                                                CustomerTypeDescCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
```

Alternatively, could be converted in a view or semantic layer. Objective is to avoid reporting tools trying to sum.

Avoid numeric data types for non-aggregatable columns such as Customer Number.
Also useful for retaining leading 0s or for international zip codes.

Dimension Design



Default constraints are present for non-nullable columns.
In a DW, defaults are optional if ETL strictly controls all data management. *Don't let SQL Server auto-name constraints.

Avoid 'Or Is Null' issues for attributes which are commonly used in predicates.

Dimension Design

```
1   CREATE TABLE [DW].[DimCustomer] (
2    [CustomerSK] INT IDENTITY (1, 1) NOT NULL
3   ,[RegionNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [df
4   ,[CustomerNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10) CONS
5   ,[CustomerNumber] NVARCHAR
6   ,[CustomerName] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustome
7   ,[CustomerNameCurrent] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNameCurrent] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
8   ,[CustomerNumberName] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNumberName] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
9   ,[CustomerNameNumber] NVAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNameNumber] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
10  ,[CustomerFIPSCode] NVARCHAR( STRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AccountLocationFIPSCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
11  ,[CustomerTypeCode] NVARCHAR(10) [dfDimCustomer_CustomerTypeCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
12  ,[CustomerTypeDesc] NVARCHAR(30) C mCustomer_CustomerTypeDesc] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
13  ,[CustomerTypeCodeDesc] NVARCHAR(36) ustomer_CustomerTypeCodeDesc] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
14  ,[CustomerTypeDescCode] NVA                                    OT NULL
```

When designing a Type 2 (or 6) dimension, only choose the most important columns to generate a new row when it changes.

A ‘Current’ column (which is the same across all rows in a Type 6 dimension) is helpful for columns commonly used in reporting so all history shows the newest value.

Dimension Design

```
1  CREATE TABLE [DW].[DimCustomer] (
2   [CustomerSK] INT IDENTITY (1, 1) NOT NULL
3  ,[RegionNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCus
4  ,[CustomerNumberNK] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer
5  ,[CustomerNumber] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCu                tomerNumber] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
6  ,[CustomerName] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [df                ustomer_CustomerName] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
7  ,[CustomerNameCurrent] NVARCHAR(30) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNameCurrent] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
8  ,[CustomerNumberName] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNumberName] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
9  ,[CustomerNameNumber] NVARCHAR(45) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_CustomerNameNumber] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
10 ,[CustomerFIPSCode] NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AccountLocationFIPSCode] DEFAULT (N'') NOT NULL
11 ,[CustomerTypeCode] NVARCHA
12 ,[CustomerTypeDesc] NVARCHAR
13 ,[CustomerTypeCodeDesc] NVARCHA
14 ,[CustomerTypeDescCode] NVARCHAR
```

Could also be derived in views or semantic layer. Or, computed columns could be used.

Optionally, can store variations of concatenated columns such as:

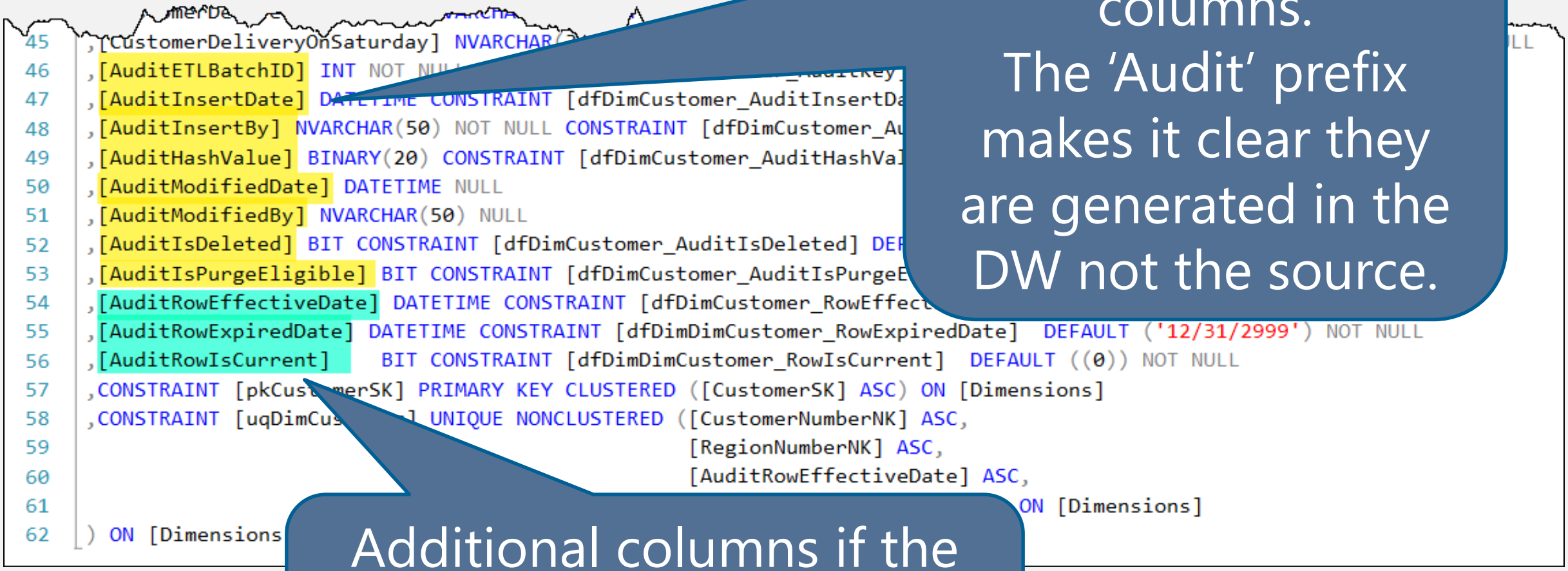
Name (Number)

Number - Name

Description (Code)

Code - Description

Dimension Design



Standard audit columns.
The 'Audit' prefix makes it clear they are generated in the DW not the source.

Additional columns if the Type 2 historical change tracking is occurring.

Dimension Design

```
45  ,[CustomerDeliveryOnSaturday] NVARCHAR(3) CONSTRAINT [df
46  ,[AuditETLBatchID] INT NOT NULL CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustome
47  ,[AuditInsertDate] DATETIME CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_Au
48  ,[AuditInsertBy] NVARCHAR(50) NOT NULL CONSTRAINT [dfDim
49  ,[AuditHashValue] BINARY(20) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_A
50  ,[AuditModifiedDate] DATETIME NULL
51  ,[AuditModifiedBy] NVARCHAR(50) NULL
52  ,[AuditIsDeleted] BIT CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AuditIsDeleted] DEFAULT ((0)) NOT NULL
53  ,[AuditIsPurgeEligible] BIT CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AuditIsPurgeEligible] DEFAULT ((0)) NOT NULL
54  ,[AuditRowEffectiveDate] DATETIME CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_RowEffectiveDate]  DEFAULT (SYSDATETIME()) NOT NULL
55  ,[AuditRowExpiredDate] DATETIME CONSTRAINT [dfDimDimCustomer_RowExpiredDate]  DEFAULT ('12/31/2999') NOT NULL
56  ,[AuditRowIsCurrent]    BIT CONSTRAINT [dfDimDimCustomer_RowIsCurrent]  DEFAULT ((0)) NOT NULL
57  ,CONSTRAINT [pkCustomerSK] PRIMARY KEY CLUSTERED ([CustomerSK] ASC) ON [Dimensions]
58  ,CONSTRAINT [uqDimCustomer] U  QUE NONCLUSTERED ([CustomerNumberNK] ASC,
59                                                   [RegionNumberNK] ASC,
60                                                   [AuditRowEffectiveDate] ASC,
61                                                   [AuditRowExpiredDate] ASC) ON [Dimensions]
62  ) ON [Dimensions];
```

All key & index suggestions are merely a starting point. As your DW grows, you might have to refine your strategy depending on ETL.

Primary key based on the surrogate key. This is also our clustered index.

Dimension Design

```
45  ,[CustomerDeliveryOnSaturday] NVARCHAR(3) CONSTRAINT [dfD
46  ,[AuditETLBatchID] INT NOT NULL CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer
47  ,[AuditInsertDate] DATETIME CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_Aud
48  ,[AuditInsertBy] NVARCHAR(50) NOT NULL CONSTRAINT [dfDimC
49  ,[AuditHashValue] BINARY(20) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_Aud
50  ,[AuditModifiedDate] DATETIME NULL
51  ,[AuditModifiedBy] NVARCHAR(50) NULL
52  ,[AuditIsDeleted] BIT CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AuditIsDelete                ((0)) NOT NULL
53  ,[AuditIsPurgeEligible] BIT CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_Audi                  Eligible] DEFAULT ((0)) NOT NULL
54  ,[AuditRowEffectiveDate] DATETIME CONSTRAINT [dfDimCus                  owEffectiveDate]  DEFAULT (SYSDATETIME()) NOT NULL
55  ,[AuditRowExpiredDate] DATETIME CONSTRAINT [dfDimDi                  tomer_RowExpiredDate]  DEFAULT ('12/31/2999') NOT NULL
56  ,[AuditRowIsCurrent]    BIT CONSTRAINT [dfDimDi                  stomer_RowIsCurrent]  DEFAULT ((0)) NOT NULL
57  ,CONSTRAINT [pkCustomerSK] PRIMARY KEY CLUSTERED ([CustomerSK] ASC) ON [Dimensions]
58  ,CONSTRAINT [uqDimCustomer] UNIQUE NONCLUSTERED ([CustomerNumberNK] ASC,
59                                                   [RegionNumberNK] ASC,
60                                                   [AuditRowEffectiveDate] ASC,
61                                                   [AuditRowExpiredDate] ASC) ON [Dimensions]
62  ) ON [Dimensions];
```

The unique constraint implicitly creates a unique index as well, which will assist with lookup operations.

Unique constraint, based on natural keys, defines the "grain" of the table. It also helps identify data quality issues & is very helpful to the SQL Server query optimizer.

Dimension Design

```
45  ,[CustomerDeliveryOnSaturday] NVARCHAR(3) CONSTRAINT
46  ,[AuditETLBatchID] INT NOT NULL CONSTRAINT [dfDimCust
47  ,[AuditInsertDate] DATETIME CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer
48  ,[AuditInsertBy] NVARCHAR(50) NOT NULL CONSTRAINT [df
49  ,[AuditHashValue] BINARY(20) CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AuditHash
50  ,[AuditModifiedDate] DATETIME NULL
51  ,[AuditModifiedBy] NVARCHAR(50) NULL
52  ,[AuditIsDeleted] BIT CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AuditIsDeleted] DEFAU
53  ,[AuditIsPurgeEligible] BIT CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_AuditIsPurgeEligi
54  ,[AuditRowEffectiveDate] DATETIME CONSTRAINT [dfDimCustomer_RowEffectiveD
55  ,[AuditRowExpiredDate] DATETIME CONSTRAINT [dfDimDimCustomer_RowExpiredDate
56  ,[AuditRowIsCurrent]    BIT CONSTRAINT [dfDimDimCustomer_RowIsCurrent]
57  ,CONSTRAINT [pkCustomerSK] PRIMARY KEY CLUSTERED ([CustomerSK] ASC) ON [Dimensions]
58  ,CONSTRAINT [uqDimCustomer] UNIQUE NONCLUSTERED ([CustomerNumberNK] ASC,
59                                                   [RegionNumberNK] ASC,
60                                                   [AuditRowEffectiveDate] ASC,
61                                                   [AuditRowExpiredDate] ASC) ON [Dimensions]
62  ) ON [Dimensions];
```

Use of non-Primary filegroups.
Ex: Dimensions, Facts, Staging, Other.

Fact Design

Fact Tables

Fact tables contain the **numeric**, **quantitative** data (aka **measures**).

Typically **one fact table per distinct business process.**
Exception: "consolidated" facts (aka "merged" facts) such as actual vs. forecast which require the same granularity and are frequently analyzed together.

Fact tables can contain:

Type of Column in a Fact	Example
Measures	Sales Amount
Foreign keys to dimension table	3392 (meaningless integer surrogate key)
Degenerate dimension	Order Number

Types of Fact Tables

Most common types of facts:

Type of Fact Table	Description	Example
Transaction Fact	An event at a point in time	FactSalesInvoice
Periodic Snapshot Fact	Summary at a point in time	FactARBalanceDaily
Accumulating Snapshot Fact	Summary across the lifetime of an event	FactStudentApplication
Timespan Tracking Fact	Effective-dated rows	FactCapitalAssetBalance

Other facts:

Type of Fact Table	Description	Example
Factless Fact Table	Recording when an event did not occur	FactPromotionNoSales
Aggregate Facts	Rollups, usually to improve reporting speed	FactSalesInvoiceSummary

Fact Design

```
1   CREATE TABLE DW.FactSalesInvoice(
2   SalesInvoiceSK INT
3       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInv ce_ARObligatio
4       CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoi imSalesInvoice REFERENCES DW.DimSalesInvoice(SalesInvoiceSK)
5   ,CustomerSK INT
6       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_ SK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
7       CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_Di REFERENCES DW.DimCustomer(CustomerSK)
8   ,RegionSK SMALLINT
9       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoi
10      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoi
11  ,DateSK_AROpenedDate INT
12      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoi
13      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoi                                          SK)
14  ,DateSK_ARClosedDate INT
15      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_ARClosedDate DEFAULT(29991231) NOT NULL
16      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimDate_ARClosedDate REFERENCES DW.DimDate(DateSK)
17  ,DateSK_ARDiscountDate INT
18      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_ARDiscountDate DEFAULT(29991231) NOT NULL
19      CONSTR  ce_DimDate_ARDi  ES DW.Date(Date
```

Even if all of the SKs are the same, avoid combining fact tables for unrelated business processes.

One fact table per distinct business process.

Fact Design

The combination of SKs might dictate the grain of the fact table, but it may not.

```
1   CREATE TABLE DW.FactSalesInvoic
2   SalesInvoiceSK INT
3       CONSTRAINT dfFact esInvoice_ARObligationSK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
4       CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimSalesInvoice REFERENCES DW.DimSalesInvoice(SalesInvoiceSK)
5   ,CustomerSK INT
6       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_CustomerSK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
7       CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimCustomer REFERENCES DW.DimCustomer(CustomerSK)
8   ,RegionSK SMALLINT
9       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_RegionSK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
10      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimRegion REFERENCES DW.DimRegion(RegionSK)
11  ,DateSK_AROpenedDate INT
12      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_AROpenedDate DEFAULT(19000101) NOT NULL
13      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimDate_AROpenedDate REFERENCES DW.DimDate(DateSK)
14  ,DateSK_ARClosedDate INT
15      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_ARClosedDate DEFAULT(29991231) NOT NULL
16      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimDate_ARClosedDate REFERENCES DW.DimDate(DateSK)
17  ,DateSK_ARDiscountDate INT
18      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_ARDiscountDate DEFAULT(29991231) NOT NULL
19      CONSTR  ce_DimDate_ARDi  ES DW.Date  te)
```

Fact Design

Some data modelers prefer the unknown member row to have its key assigned randomly.

```
1   CREATE TABLE DW.FactSalesInvoice
2   SalesInvoiceSK INT
3       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_ARObligationSK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
4       CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimSalesInvoice REFERENCES DW.DimSalesInvoice(SalesInvoiceSK)
5   ,CustomerSK INT
6       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_CustomerSK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
7       CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimCustomer REFERENCES DW.DimCustomer(CustomerSK)
8   ,RegionSK SMALLINT
9       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_RegionSK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
10      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimRegion REFERENCES DW.DimRegion(RegionSK)
11  ,DateSK_AROpenedDate INT
12      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_Date penedDate DEFAULT(19000101) NOT NULL
13      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_D ROpenedDate REFERENCES DW.DimDate(DateSK)
14  ,DateSK_ARClosedDate INT
15      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesIn RClosedDate DEFAULT(29991231) NOT NULL
16      CONSTRAINT fkFactSales _ARClosedDate REFERENCES DW.DimDate(DateSK)
17  ,DateSK_ARDiscountDate
18      CON
19      CON
```

Default equates to the ‘unknown member’ row.

Fact Design

```
1   CREATE TABLE DW.FactSalesInvoice(
2   SalesInvoiceSK INT
3       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_AR
4       CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_Di                                    eSK)
5   ,CustomerSK INT
6       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_Cu
7       CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimC
8   ,RegionSK SMALLINT
9       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_RegionSK DEFAULT ((                T NULL
10      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimRegion REFERENCES D        Region(RegionSK)
11  ,DateSK_AROpenedDate INT
12      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_AROpenedDate DEFAULT(19000101) NOT NULL
13      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimDate_AROpenedDate REFERENCES DW.DimDate(DateSK)
14  ,DateSK_ARClosedDate INT
15      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_ARClosedDate DEFAULT(29991231) NOT NULL
16      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimDate_ARClosedDate REFERENCES DW.DimDate(DateSK)
17  ,Dat
18
```

Optionally can use two types of Date defaults: one in the past, one in the future. Helps with 'Less than' or 'Greater than' predicates.

It's also fine for a date SK to be an actual date datatype instead of an integer.

Fact Design

Having a PK in a fact is personal preference. Usually you don't want a clustered index on it though.

```
1   CREATE TABLE DW.FactSalesInvoice(
2   SalesInvoiceSK INT
3       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_ARObligationSK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
4       CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimSalesInvoice REFERENCES DW.DimSalesInvoice(SalesInvoiceSK)
5   ,CustomerSK INT
6       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_CustomerSK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
7       CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimCustomer REFERENCES DW.DimCustomer(CustomerSK)
8   ,RegionSK SMALLINT
9       CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_RegionSK DEFAULT (( )) NOT NULL
10      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimRegion REFEREN    DW.DimRegion(RegionSK)
11  ,DateSK_AROpenedDate INT
12      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_AROpene       EFAULT(19000101) NOT NULL
13      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimDate_AROp         REFERENCES DW.DimDate(DateSK)
14  ,DateSK_ARClosedDate INT
15      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_AR            EFAULT(29991231) NOT NULL
16      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimDate              REFERENCES DW.DimDate(DateSK)
17  ,DateSK_
18      CONS                                               29991231) NOT NULL
19      CONS                                               ES DW.DimDate(DateSK)
```

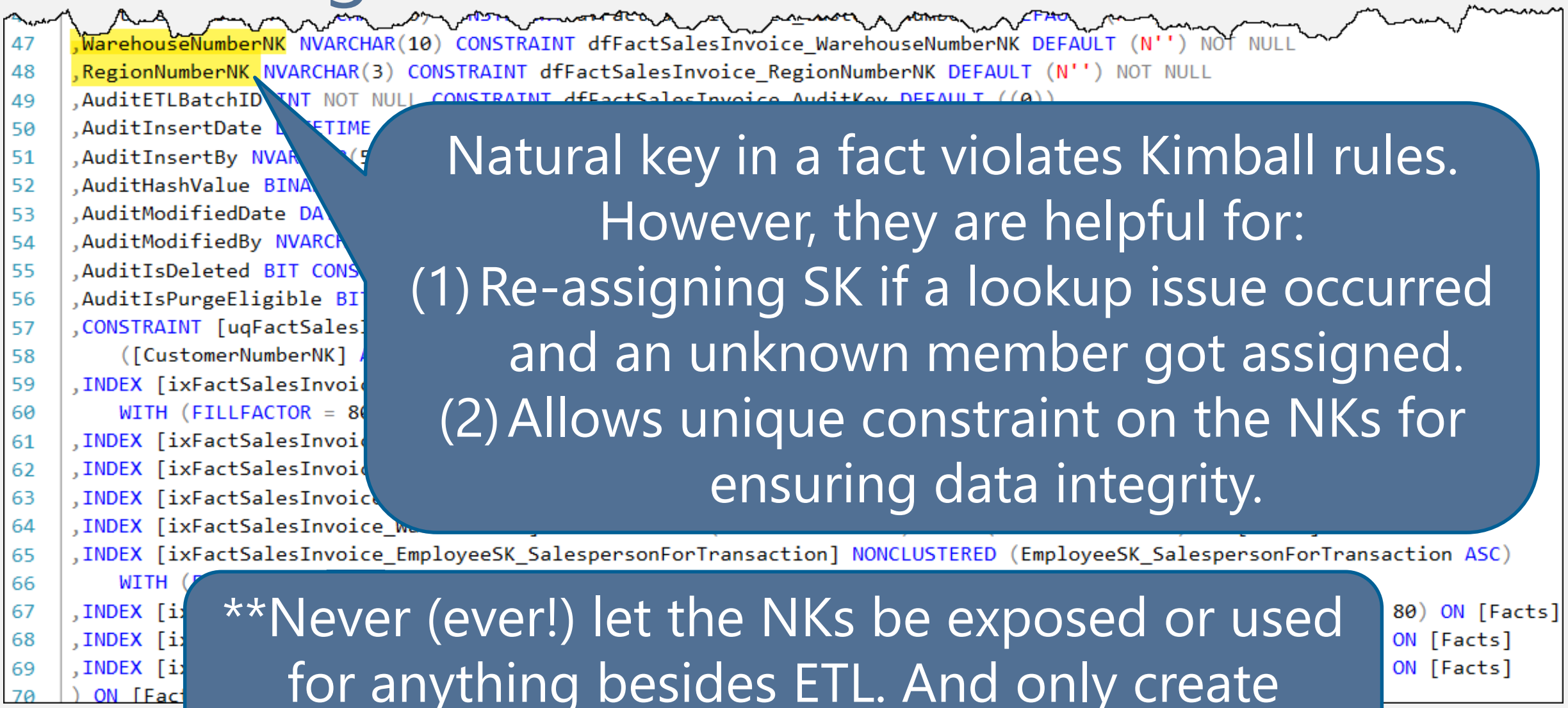
Foreign key constraints mitigate referential integrity issues.

Fact Design

```
23  ,WarehouseSK INT
24      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_WarehouseSK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
25      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimWarehouse REFERENCES DW.DimWarehouse(WarehouseSK)
26  ,ProductSK INT
27      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_ProductSK DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
28      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimProduct REFERENCES DW.DimProduct(ProductSK)
29  ,EmployeeSK_SalespersonForTransaction INT
30      CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_EmployeeSK_SalespersonForTransaction DEFAULT ((-1)) NOT NULL
31      CONSTRAINT fkFactSalesInvoice_DimEmployee_SalespersonForTransaction REFERENCES DW.DimEmployee(EmployeeSK)
32  ,NumberOfInvoices INT NULL
33  ,TotalInvoiceAmount DECIMAL(10,2) NULL
34  ,GrossSalesAmount DECIMAL(10,2) NULL
35  ,FreightAmount DECIMAL(10,2) NULL
36  ,TaxAmount DECIMAL(10,2) NULL
37  ,NetSalesAmount DECIMAL(10,2) NULL
38  ,DiscountAmount DECIMAL(10,2) NULL
39  ,InvoiceNumberNK NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT dfFa                    NOT NULL
40  ,InvoiceItemNumberNK NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT                     T NULL
        be  NVARCHAR(10)  NSTRAINT dfF
```

Measures are sparse, therefore nullable.
0s are not stored except in a factless fact table.

Fact Design



Natural key in a fact violates Kimball rules. However, they are helpful for:

(1) Re-assigning SK if a lookup issue occurred and an unknown member got assigned.

(2) Allows unique constraint on the NKs for ensuring data integrity.

Never (ever!) let the NKs be exposed or used for anything besides ETL. And only create minimum # of NKs to identify the row.

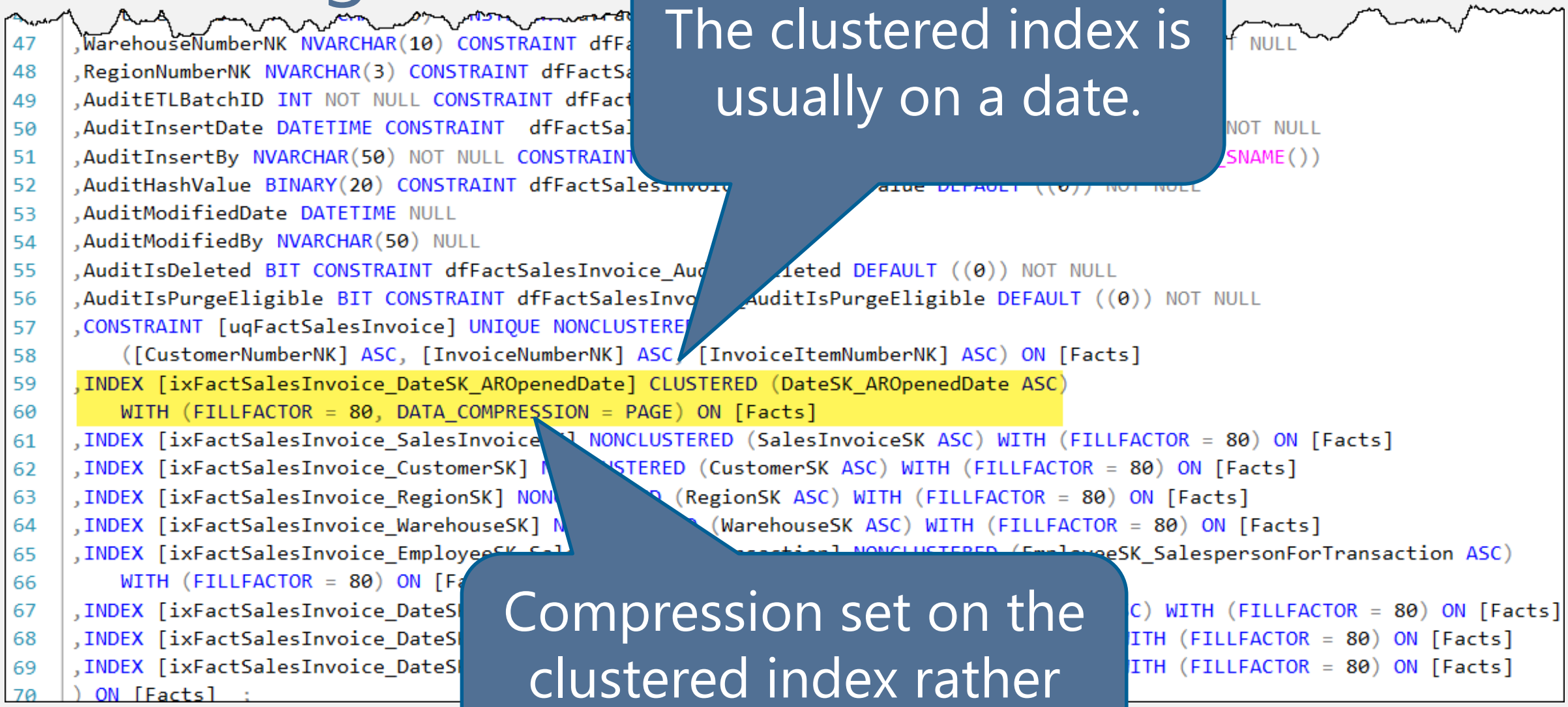
Fact Design

```
47  ,WarehouseNumberNK NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoi
48  ,RegionNumberNK NVARCHAR(3) CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_F
49  ,AuditETLBatchID INT NOT NULL CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice
50  ,AuditInsertDate DATETIME CONSTRAINT  dfFactSalesInvoice_Au
51  ,AuditInsertBy NVARCHAR(50) NOT NULL CONSTRAINT dfFactSales
52  ,AuditHashValue BINARY(20) CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_Au
53  ,AuditModifiedDate DATETIME NULL
54  ,AuditModifiedBy NVARCHAR(50) NULL
55  ,AuditIsDeleted BIT CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_AuditIsDel      EFAULT ((0)) NOT NULL
56  ,AuditIsPurgeEligible BIT CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_AuditIsPurgeEligible DEFAULT ((0)) NOT NULL
57  ,CONSTRAINT [uqFactSalesInvoice] UNIQUE NONCLUSTERED
58      ([CustomerNumberNK] ASC, [InvoiceNumberNK] ASC, [InvoiceItemNumberNK] ASC) ON [Facts]
59  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoic  DateSK_AROpenedDate] CLUSTERED (DateSK_AROpenedDate ASC)
60      WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80,      COMPRESSION = PAGE) ON [Facts]
61  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_      iceSK] NONCLUSTERED (SalesInvoiceSK ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
62  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_C      ONCLUSTERED (CustomerSK ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
63  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_Re      ERED (RegionSK ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
64  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_War      RED (WarehouseSK ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
65  ,INDEX [ixFactSal                                                    Transaction ASC)
66      WITH (FILLFA
67  ,INDEX [ixFactS                                                    R = 80) ON [Facts]
68  ,INDEX [ixFactS                                                    80) ON [Facts]
69  ,INDEX [ixFactS                                                    80) ON [Facts]
70  ) ON [Facts]  ;
```

The unique constraint implicitly creates a unique index as well, which will assist with lookup operations.

Unique constraint, based on natural keys, defines the “grain” of the table & helps identify data quality issues.

Fact Design



The clustered index is usually on a date.

Compression set on the clustered index rather than the table.

Fact Design

```
47  ,WarehouseNumberNK NVARCHAR(10) CONSTRAINT dfFactSal
48  ,RegionNumberNK NVARCHAR(3) CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesIn
49  ,AuditETLBatchID INT NOT NULL CONSTRAINT dfFactSales
50  ,AuditInsertDate DATETIME CONSTRAINT  dfFactSalesInv
51  ,AuditInsertBy NVARCHAR(50) NOT NULL CONSTRAINT dfFa
52  ,AuditHashValue BINARY(20) CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInv
53  ,AuditModifiedDate DATETIME NULL
54  ,AuditModifiedBy NVARCHAR(50) NULL
55  ,AuditIsDeleted BIT CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_Aud
56  ,AuditIsPurgeEligible BIT CONSTRAINT dfFactSalesInvoice_
57  ,CONSTRAINT [uqFactSalesInvoice] UNIQUE NONCLUSTERED
58      ([CustomerNumberNK] ASC, [InvoiceNumberNK] ASC, [Inv          mberNK] ASC) ON [Facts]
59  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_AROpenedDate] CLUST          (DateSK_AROpenedDate ASC)
60      WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80, DATA_COMPRESSION = PA   ) ON [Facts]
61  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_SalesInvoiceSK] NONCLUSTERED (SalesInvoiceSK ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
62  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_CustomerSK] NONCLUSTERED (CustomerSK ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
63  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_RegionSK] NONCLUSTERED (RegionSK ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
64  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_WarehouseSK] NONCLUSTERED (WarehouseSK ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
65  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_EmployeeSK_SalespersonForTransaction] NONCLUSTERED (EmployeeSK_SalespersonForTransaction ASC)
66      WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
67  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_ARDiscountDate] NONCLUSTERED (DateSK_ARDiscountDate ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
68  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_ARNetDueDate] NONCLUSTERED (DateSK_ARNetDueDate ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
69  ,INDEX [ixFactSalesInvoice_DateSK_ARClosedDate] NONCLUSTERED (DateSK_ARClosedDate ASC) WITH (FILLFACTOR = 80) ON [Facts]
70  ) ON [Facts]  ;
```

Nonclustered index on each surrogate key. Useful for smaller fact tables (which don't justify a clustered columnstore index).

When to Use Columnstore Indexes or Partitioning

Handling Larger Fact Tables

Clustered Columnstore Index

Useful for:

- ✓ Reducing data storage due to compression of redundant values
- ✓ Improving query times for large datasets
- ✓ Improving query times due to reduced I/O (ex: column elimination)

Table Partitioning

Useful for:

- ✓ Improving data load times due to partition switching
- ✓ Flexibility for maintenance on larger tables
- ✓ Improving query performance *(possibly)* due parallelism & partition elimination behavior

Clustered Columnstore Index

Simplified & conceptual

Rowstore:

Page

CounterName	Disk	DateMeasurementTaken	TimeMeasurementTaken	Measurement
Avg. Disk sec/Read	G:\	1/30/2017	4:48:41 PM	0.01818
Avg. Disk sec/Read	L:\	1/30/2017	4:48:41 PM	0.00385
Avg. Disk sec/Read	T:\	1/30/2017	4:48:41 PM	0.00780
Avg. Disk Bytes/Read	G:\	1/30/2017	4:48:41 PM	53120.73782
Avg. Disk Bytes/Read	L:\	1/30/2017	4:48:41 PM	42362.51095
Avg. Disk Bytes/Read	T:\	1/30/2017	4:48:41 PM	47951.40657

Columnstore:

Page

CounterName
Avg. Disk sec/Read
Avg. Disk Bytes/Read

Page

Disk
G:\
L:\
T:\

Page

DateMeasurementTaken
1/30/2017

Page

TimeMeasurementTaken
4:48:41 PM

Page

Measurement
0.01818
0.00385
0.00780
53120.73782
42362.51095
47951.40657

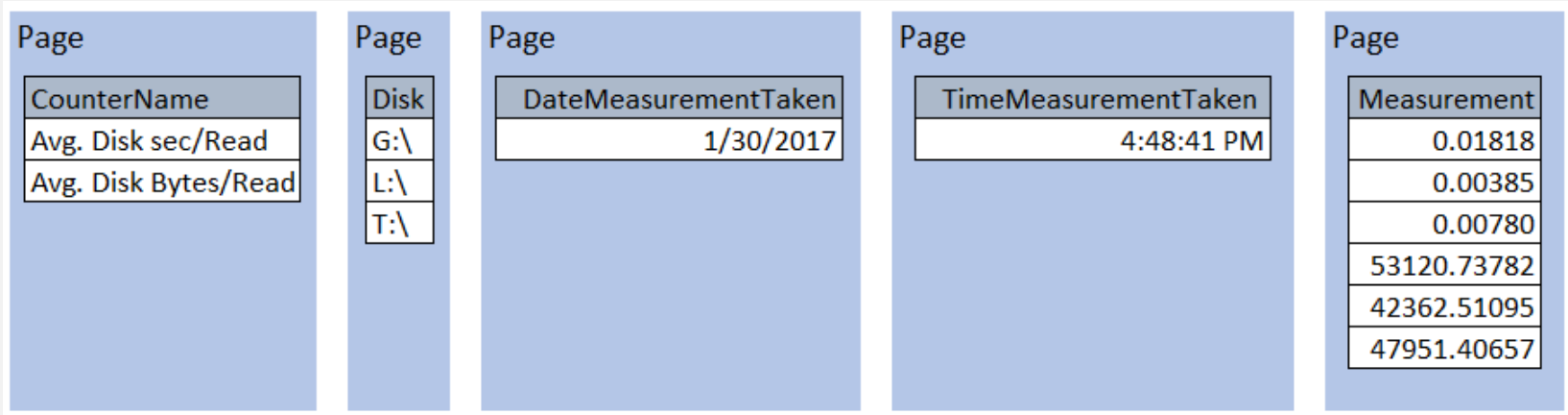
Reduced storage for low cardinality columns

Clustered Columnstore Index

Simplified & conceptual

CCI most suitable for:

- ✓ Tables over 1 million rows



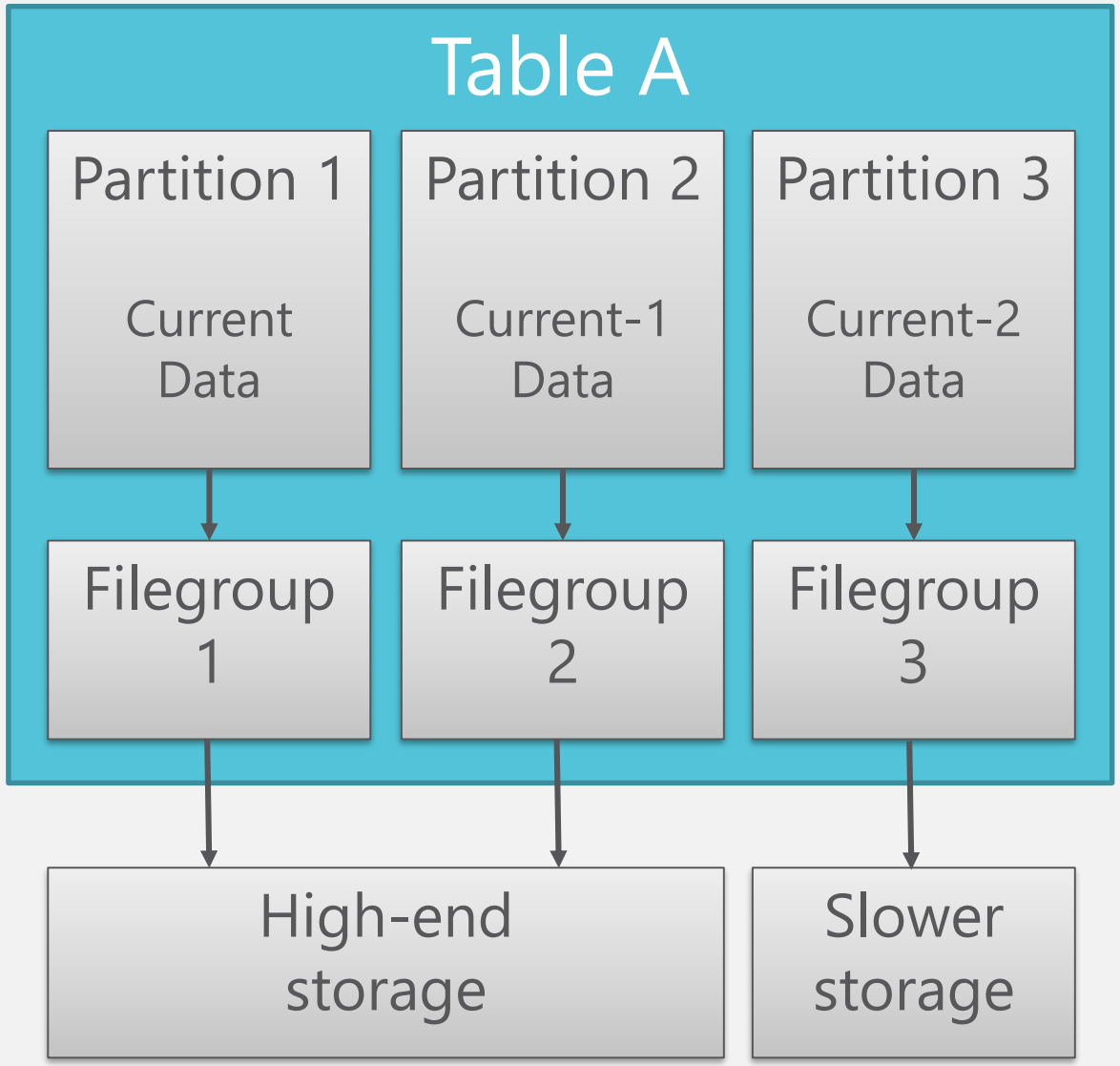
- ✓ Data structured in a denormalized star schema format (DW not OLTP)
- ✓ Support for analytical query workload which scans a large number of rows, and retrieves few columns
- ✓ Data which is not frequently updated ('cold' data not 'hot')
- ✓ Can selectively be used on insert-oriented workloads (ex: IoT)

(A nonclustered columnstore index targets analytical queries on an OLTP rather than a data warehouse.)

Partitioned Table

Useful for:

- ✓ Speeding up ETL processes
  - ✓ Large datasets (50GB+)
  - ✓ Small maintenance windows
  - ✓ Use of a sliding window
- ✓ Storage of partitions on separate drives (filegroups)
  - ✓ Older (cold) data on cheaper storage
  - ✓ Historical data on read-only filegroup
- ✓ Speeding up queries *(possibly)*
  - ✓ Partition elimination
  - ✓ Parallelism



Partitioned View

Useful for:

- ✓ Query performance (similar to partitioned table)
- ✓ Sharing of a single table (“partition”) across multiple views
- ✓ Displaying info from > 1 database or server (via a linked server)

Requires “Check” constraints on the underlying tables (usually on a date column)

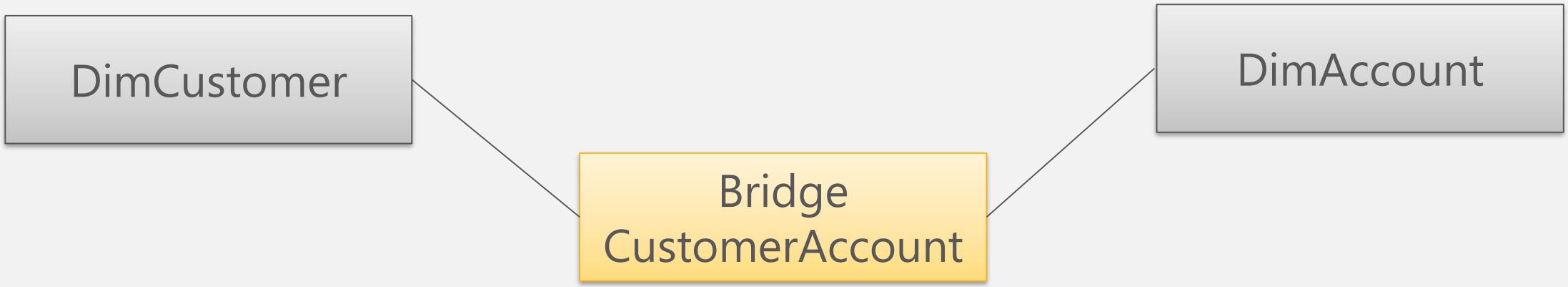
```
1  CREATE VIEW DW.vwFactSales
2  WITH SCHEMABINDING
3  AS
4
5  SELECT SalesInvoiceSK
6        ,CustomerSK
7        ,DateSK_AROpenedDate
8        ,TotalInvoiceAmount
9        ,GrossSalesAmount
10 FROM DW.FactSalesCurrent
11
12 UNION ALL
13
14 SELECT SalesInvoiceSK
15       ,CustomerSK
16       ,DateSK_AROpenedDate
17       ,TotalInvoiceAmount
18       ,GrossSalesAmount
19 FROM DW.FactSalesHistory;
20
```

Data Warehouse Tips

Handling Many-to-Many Scenarios

Classic many-to-many scenarios:

- ✓ A sales order is for many products, and a product is on many sales orders
- ✓ A customer has multiple bank accounts, and a bank account belongs to multiple customers



Ways to Track History in a DW

Most common options for tracking history:

1. Slowly changing dimension
2. Fact snapshot tables
3. Timestamp tracking fact

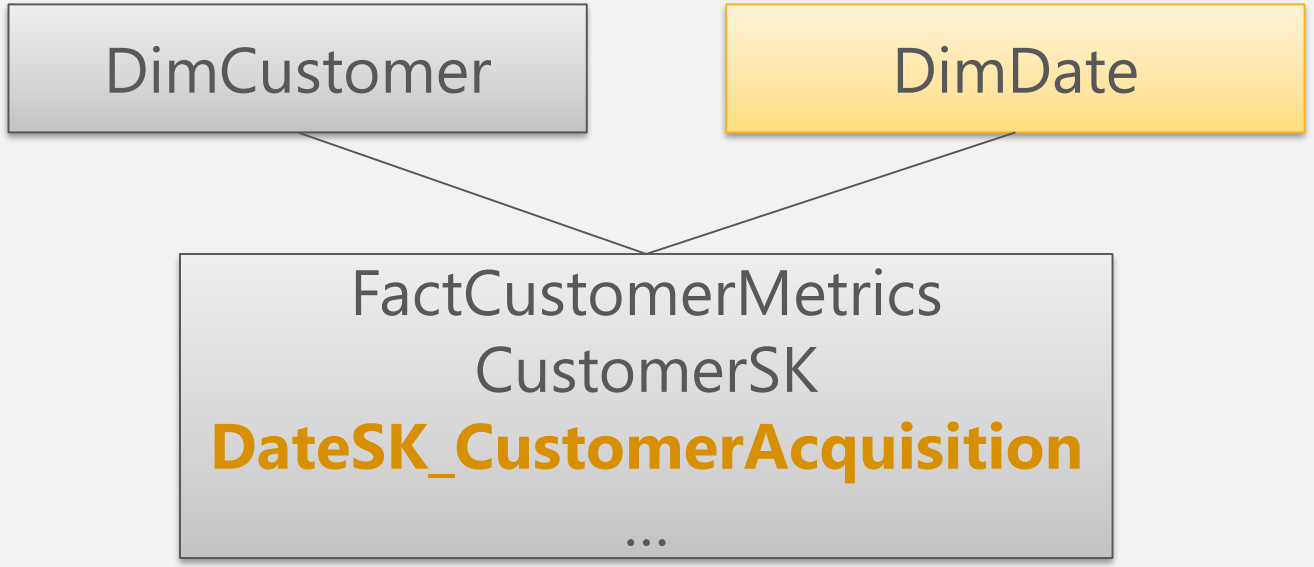
New option in SQL Server 2016:

4. Temporal data tables → *Not a full replacement for slowly changing dimensions, but definitely useful for auditing*

“Smart Dates” vs. “Dumb Dates” in a DW

A “dumb date” is just an attribute:

A “smart date” relates to a full-fledged Date dimension which allows significant time analysis capabilities:



Handling of Nulls in Dimensions

Remember the NOT NULL and default constraints

Rule of thumb is to **avoid nulls** in attribute columns.

What happens with this:

```
SELECT CustomerType WHERE CustomerType <> 'Retail'
```

Too easy to forget:

```
SELECT CustomerType WHERE CustomerType <> 'Retail'
                          OR CustomerType IS NULL
```

Handling of Nulls in Facts

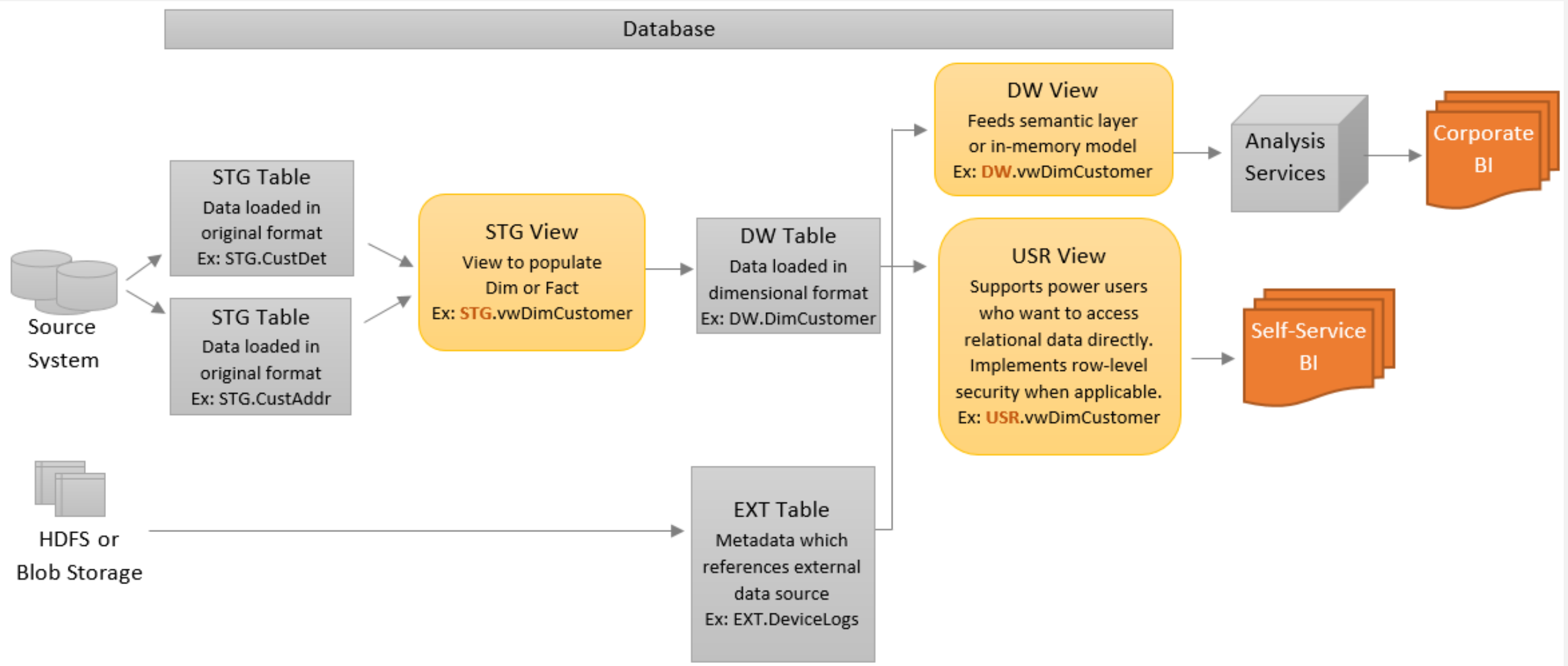
Best practice is to **avoid nulls in foreign keys**. (However, nulls are ok for a measure.)

By using an 'unknown member' relationship to the dimension, you can:

- ✓ Safely do inner joins
- ✓ Allow the fact record to be inserted & meet referential integrity
- ✓ Allow the fact record to be inserted which avoids understating measurement amounts

  Ex: Just because one key is unknown, such as an EmployeeSK for who rang up the sale, should the sale not be counted?

Views Customized for Different Purposes



Recap of Important DW Design Principles

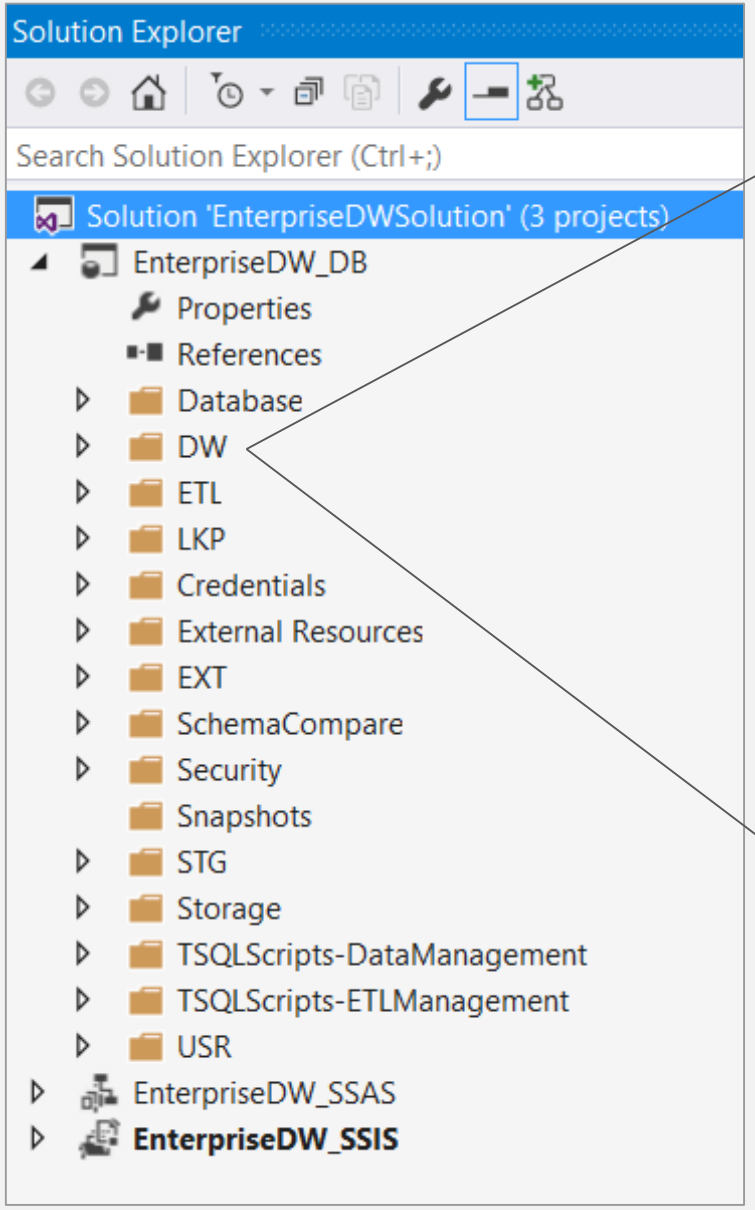
- ✓Staging as a “kitchen” area
- ✓Integrate data from multiple systems to increase its value
- ✓Denormalize the data into a star schema
- ✓A column exists in one and only one place in the star schema
- ✓Avoid snowflake design most of the time
- ✓Use surrogate keys which are independent from source systems
- ✓Use conformed dimensions
- ✓Know the grain of every table
- ✓Have a strategy for handling changes, and for storage of history
- ✓Store the lowest level of detail that you can
- ✓Use an ‘unknown member’ to avoid understating facts
- ✓Transform the data, but don’t “fix” it in the DW
- ✓Structure your dimensional model around business processes

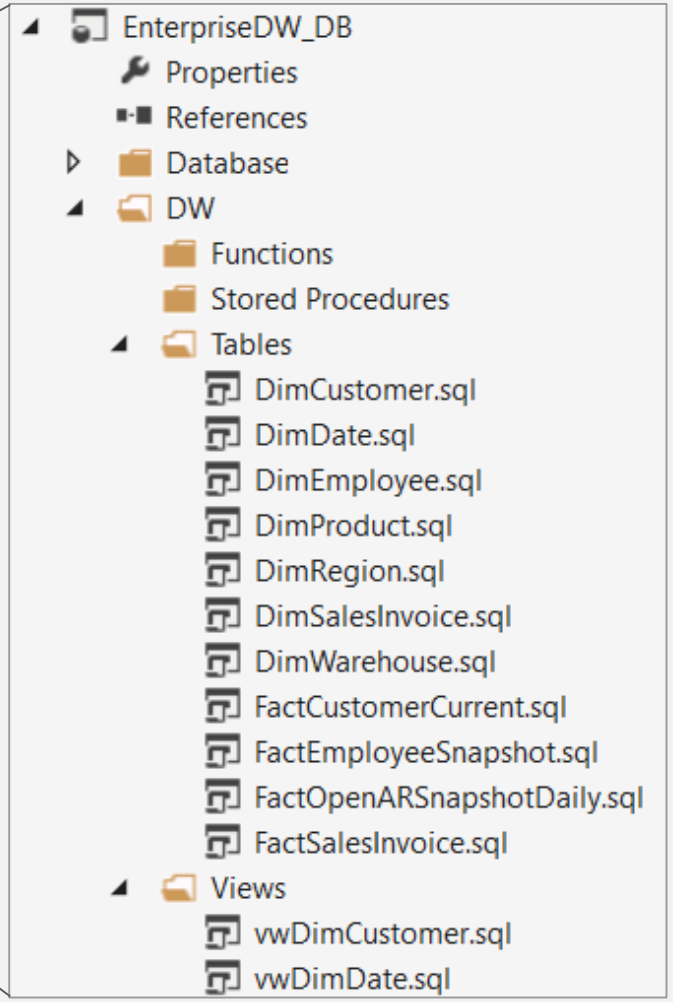
Recap of Important DW Design Principles

- ✓Design facts around a single business event
- ✓Always use friendly names & descriptions
- ✓Use an explicit date dimension in a “role-playing” way
- ✓Utilize bridge tables to handle many-to-many scenarios
- ✓Plan for complexities such as:
  - ✓Header/line data
  - ✓Semi-additive facts
  - ✓Multiple currencies
  - ✓Multiple units of measure
  - ✓Alternate hierarchies and calculations per business units
  - ✓Allocation of measures in a snowflake design
  - ✓Reporting of what didn’t occur (factless facts)
  - ✓Dimensional only analysis

SSDT “Database Project” Tips

Database Project Format





This project is organized by:

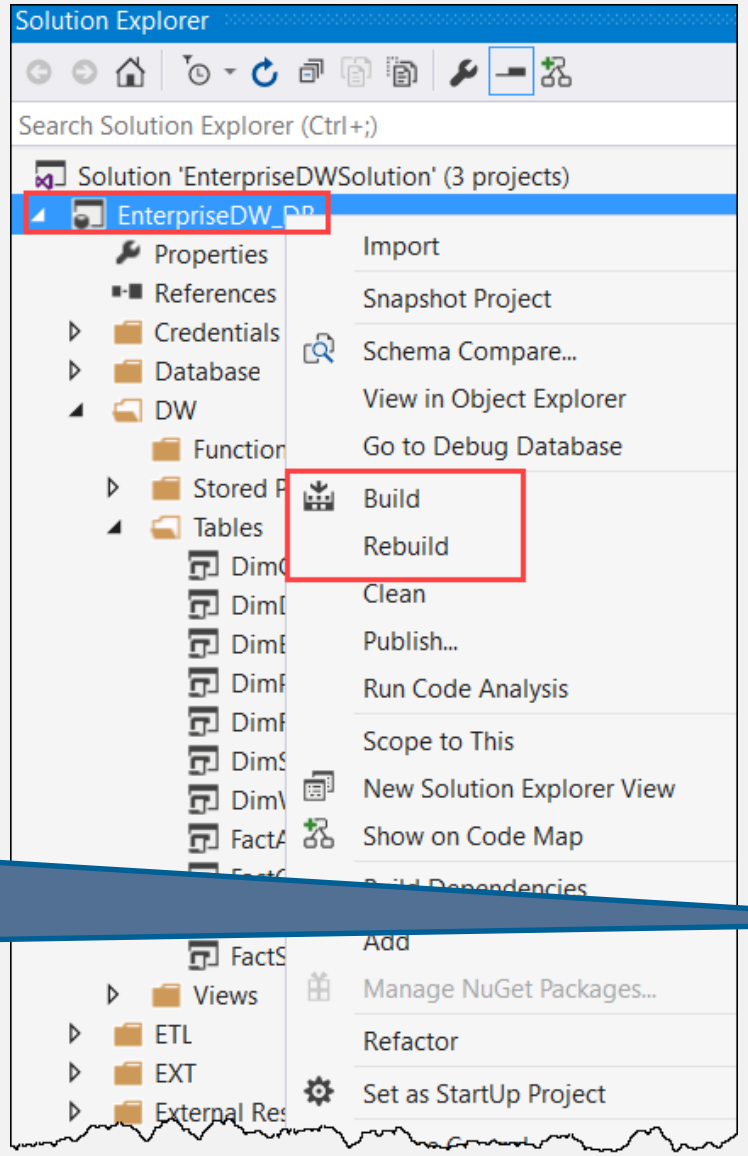
1 – Schema (or Category)

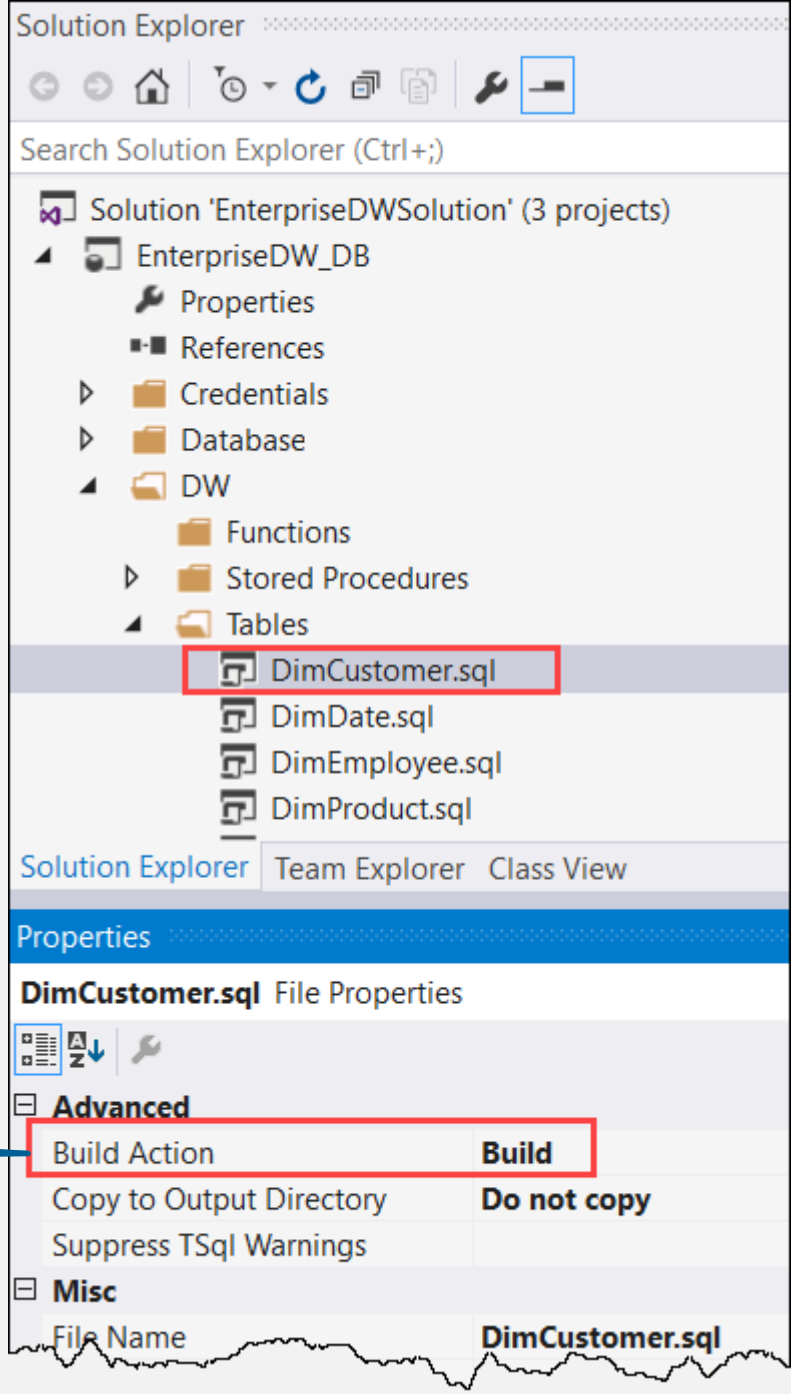
2 – Object Type

3 – Object

Building the Database Project

Build frequently to verify no errors or missing references





Nearly all objects should be set to Build

Database Design

```
1   USE [master]
2   GO
3
4   CREATE DATABASE [EnterpriseDW]
5   CONTAINMENT = NONE
6   ON  PRIMARY
7   ( NAME = N'EnterpriseDW', FILENAME = N'G:\MSSQL\Data\Enterpris
8     SIZE = 64MB , MAXSIZE = UNLIMITED, FILEGROWTH = 256MB ),
9
10  FILEGROUP [Dimensions]  DEFAULT
11  ( NAME = N'EnterpriseDW_dimensions', FILENAME = N'G:\MSSQL\Data\EnterpriseDW_di
12    SIZE = 3GB , MAXSIZE = UNLIMITED, FILEGROWTH = 256MB ),
13
14  FILEGROUP [Facts]
15  ( NAME = N'EnterpriseDW_facts', FILENAME = N'G:\MSSQL\Data\EnterpriseDW_facts.ndf' ,
16    SIZE = 3GB , MAXSIZE = UNLIMITED, FILEGROWTH = 256MB ),
17
18  FILEGROUP [Staging]
19  ( NAME = N'EnterpriseDW_staging', FILENAME = N'G:\MSSQL\Data\EnterpriseDW_staging.ndf' ,
20    SIZE = 2GB , MAXSIZE = UNLIMITED, FILEGROWTH = 256MB ),
21
22  FILEGROUP [Other]
23  ( NAME = N'EnterpriseDW_other', FILENAME = N'G:\MSSQL\Data\EnterpriseDW_other.ndf'
24    SIZE = 1GB , MAXSIZE = UNLIMITED, FILEGROWTH = 256MB )
25
26  LOG ON
27  ( NAME = N'EnterpriseDW_log', FILENAME = N'L:\MSSQL\Log\EnterpriseDW_log.ldf' ,
28    SIZE = 256MB , MAXSIZE = 2048GB , FILEGROWTH = 256MB )
```

Pre-sized files

Auto-grow allowed in sizeable increments (just in case)

Separate disks to locate data & log

Unknown Member Row

The SK reference in a fact table if the real value is unknown or does not exist.

Build action = none since this is DML

```
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
--Step 1. Permit an explicit value to be inserted into identity column
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
SET IDENTITY_INSERT [DW].[DimCustomer] ON;
GO


--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
--Step 2. Insert unknown member row
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
INSERT INTO [DW].[DimCustomer]
           ([CustomerSK]
           ,[RegionNumberNK]
           ,[CustomerNumberNK]
           ,[CustomerNumber]
           ,[CustomerName]
           ,[AuditRowIsCurrent])
     VALUES
           (-1
           ,N'Unknown'
           ,N'Unknown'
           ,N'Unknown'
           ,N'Unknown'
           ,'1901-01-01'
           ,'2999-12-31'
           ,1
           );
GO


--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
--Step 3. Disable ability for an explicit value to be inserted into identity column
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
SET IDENTITY_INSERT [DW].[DimCustomer] OFF;
GO
```

Identity_Insert does require elevated permissions

Manually Maintained Data

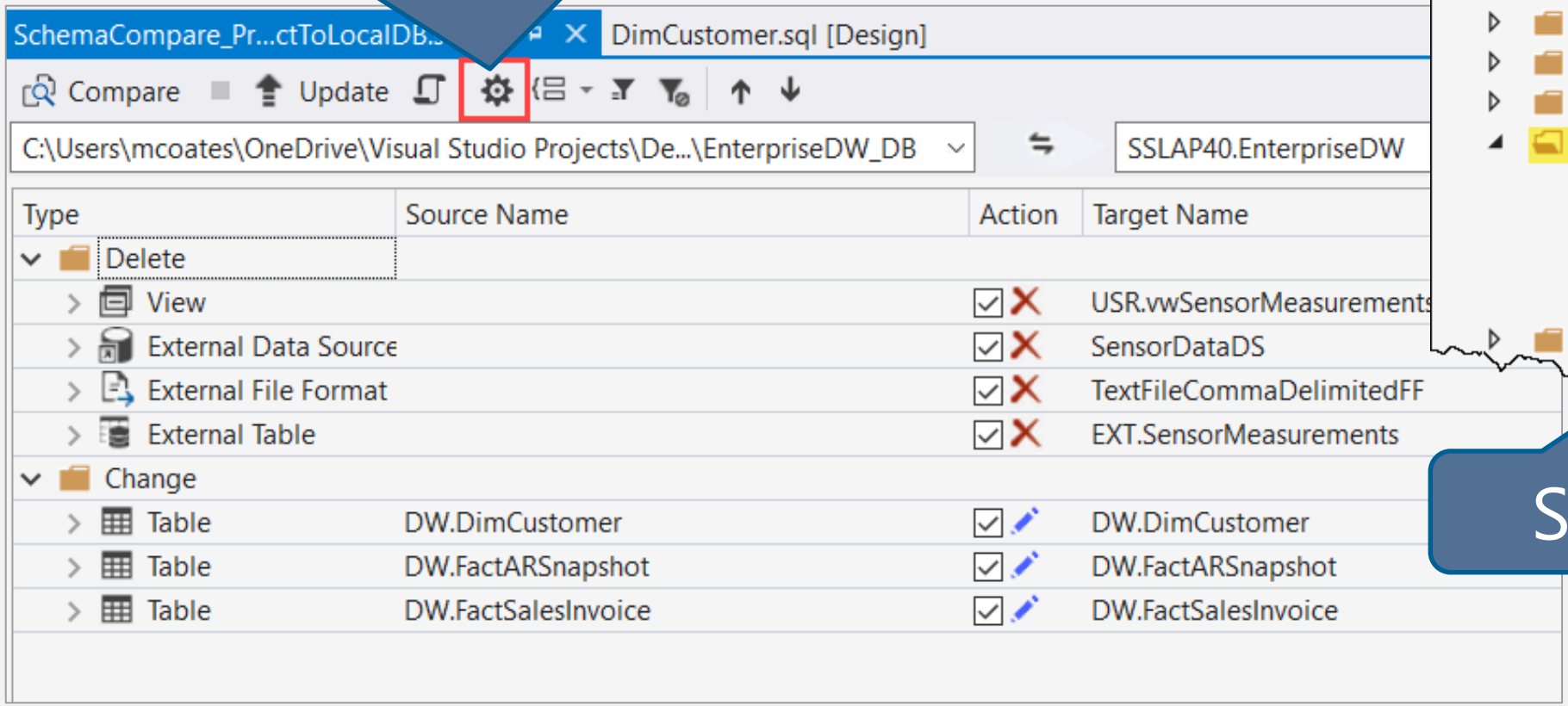
Maintain a DML script in a Lookup (LKP) table instead of hard-coding in the ETL.

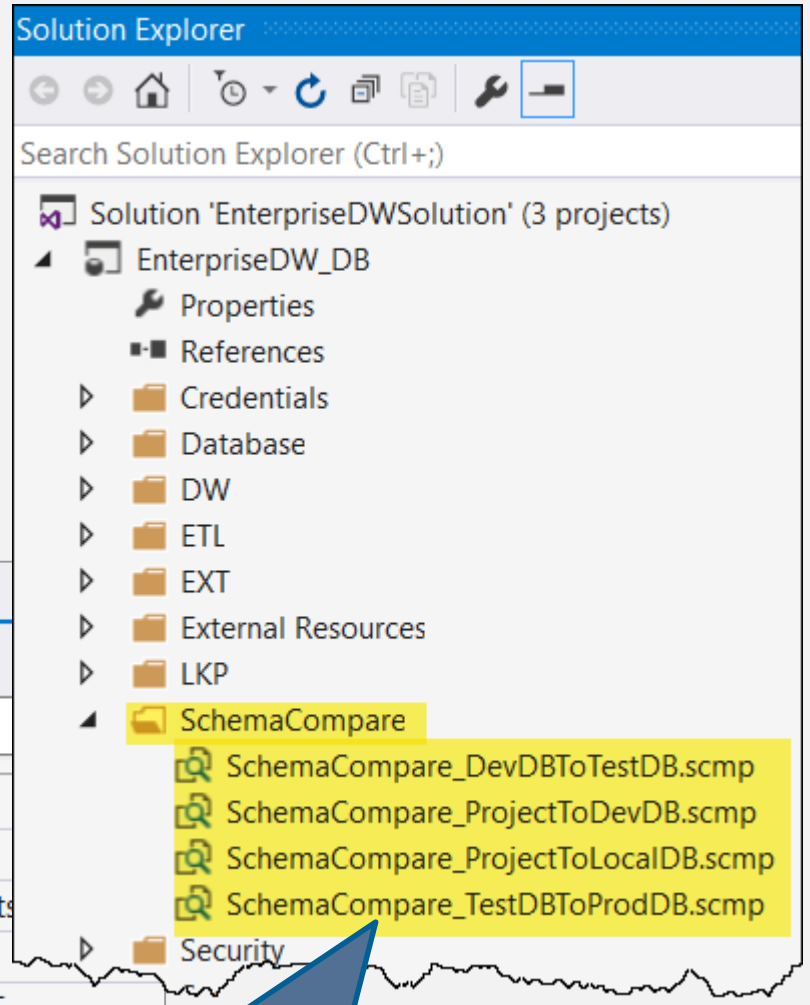
```
INSERT [LKP].[SalesInvoiceOrderType] (
[OrderTypeCode], [OrderTypeDescription], [OrderTypeChannel], [AuditUpdateDate], [AuditUpdateBy])
VALUES ('C  ', 'Warehouse Credit', 'Warehouse', GETDATE(), SUSER_SNAME() )
GO
INSERT [LKP].[SalesInvoiceOrderType] (
[OrderTypeCode], [OrderTypeDescription], [OrderTypeChannel], [AuditUpdateDate], [AuditUpdateBy])
VALUES ('D  ', 'Direct Sale', 'Direct', GETDATE(), SUSER_SNAME() )
GO
INSERT [LKP].[SalesInvoiceOrderType] (
[OrderTypeCode], [OrderTypeDescription], [OrderTypeChannel], [AuditUpdate
VALUES ('R  ', 'Direct Credit', 'Direct', GETDATE(), SUSER_SNAME() )
GO
INSERT [LKP].[SalesInvoiceOrderType] (
[OrderTypeCode], [OrderTypeDescription], [OrderTypeChannel], [AuditUp
VALUES ('S  ', 'Reload Sale', 'Reload', GETDATE(), SUSER_SNAME() )
GO
INSERT [LKP].[SalesInvoiceOrderType] (
[OrderTypeCode], [OrderTypeDescription], [OrderTypeChannel], [AuditUpdateDate], [AuditUpdateBy])
VALUES ('T  ', 'Reload Direct', 'Reload', GETDATE(), SUSER_SNAME() )
```

Build action = none since this is DML

Schema Compare

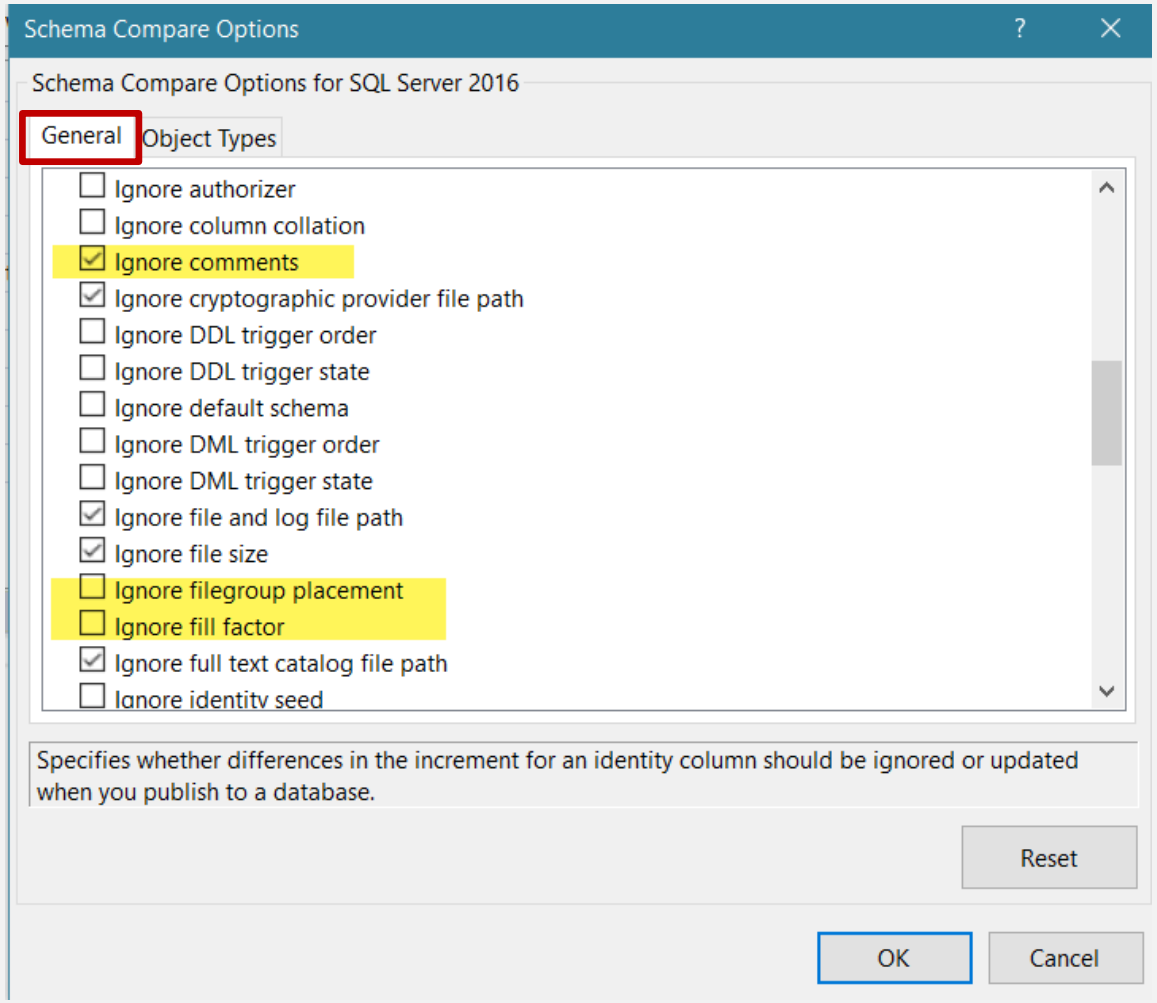
Settings to exclude permissions, users, etc + options to ignore

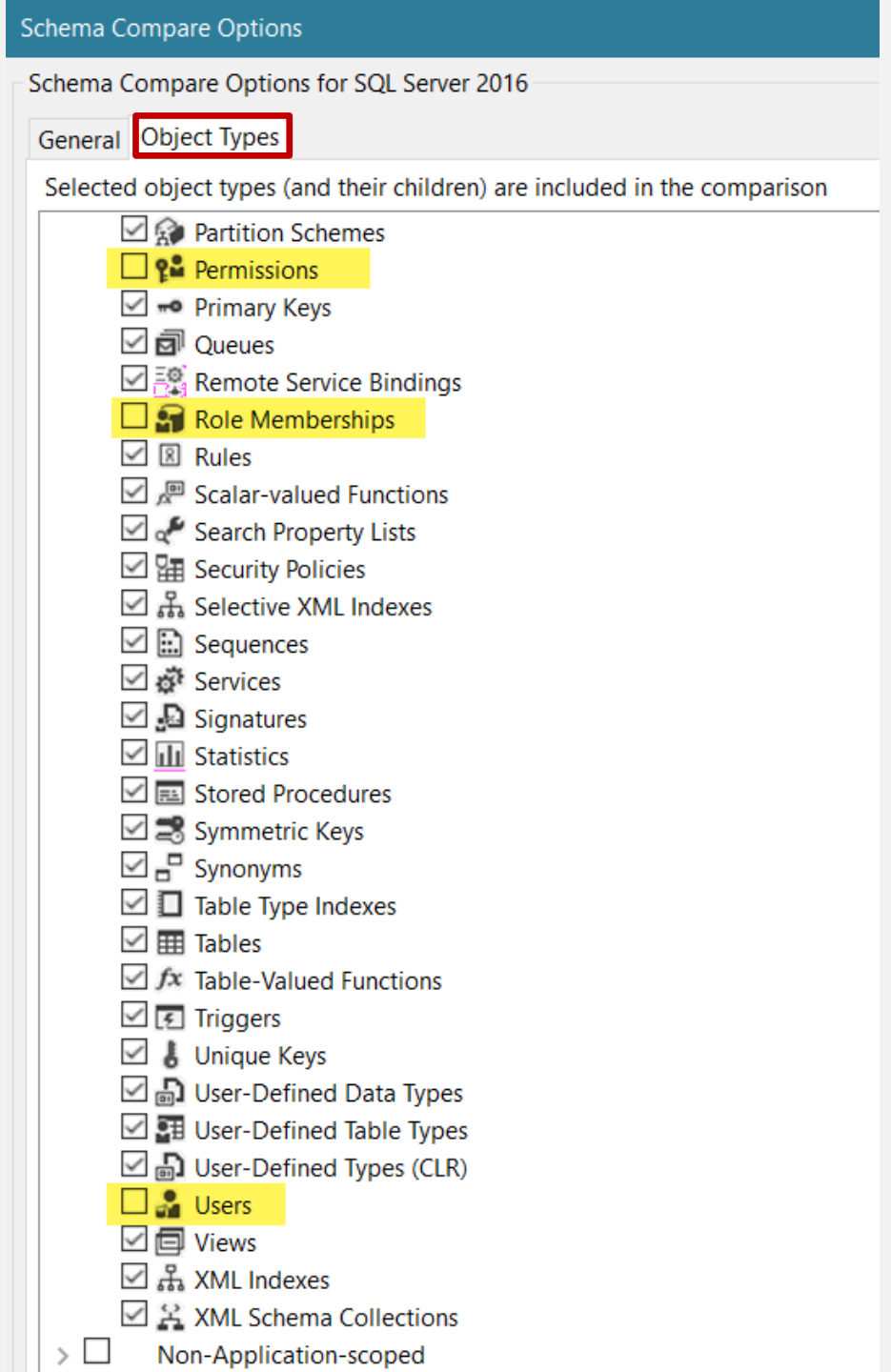




Saved settings

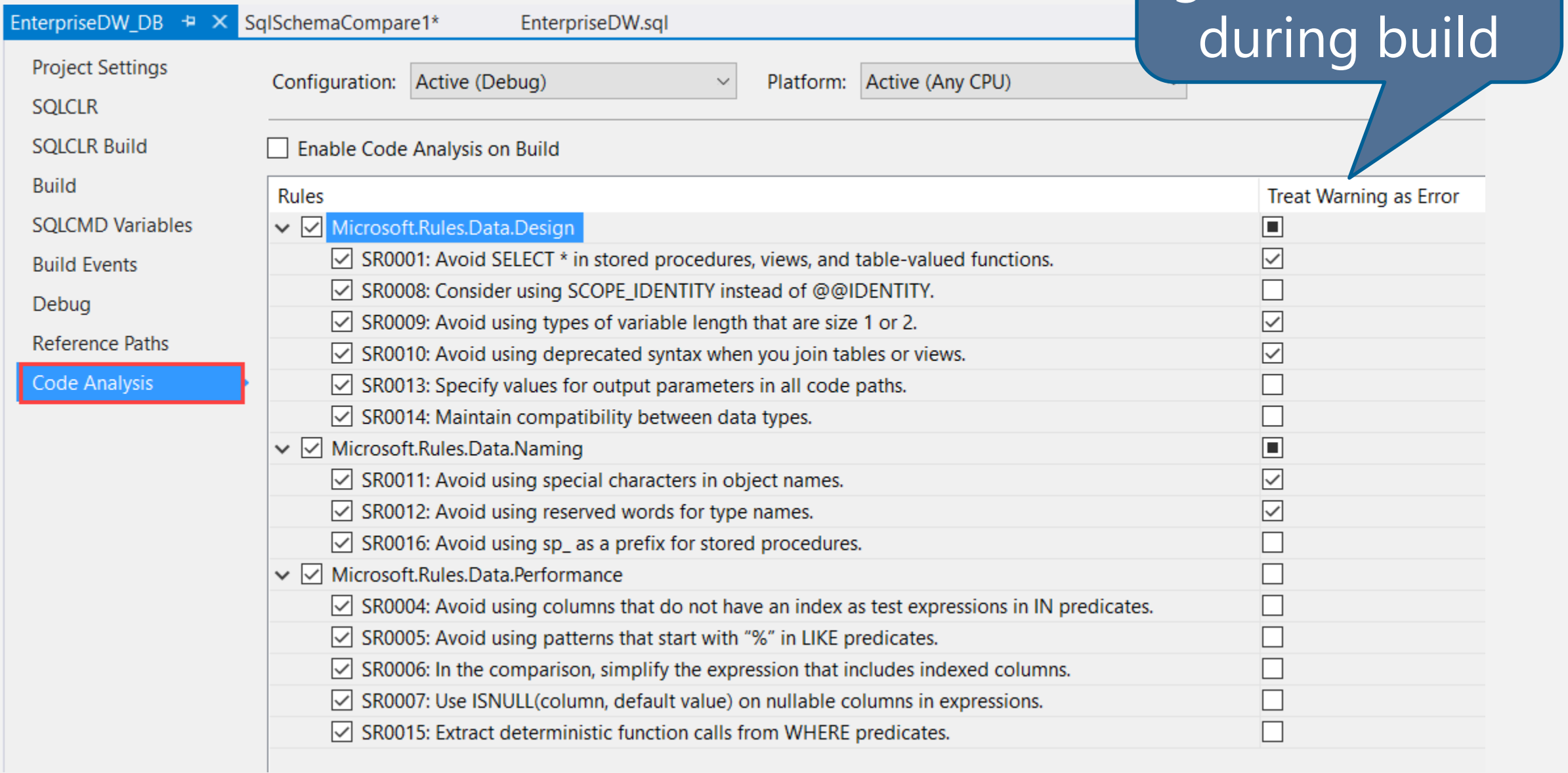
Schema Compare Options





Project Properties

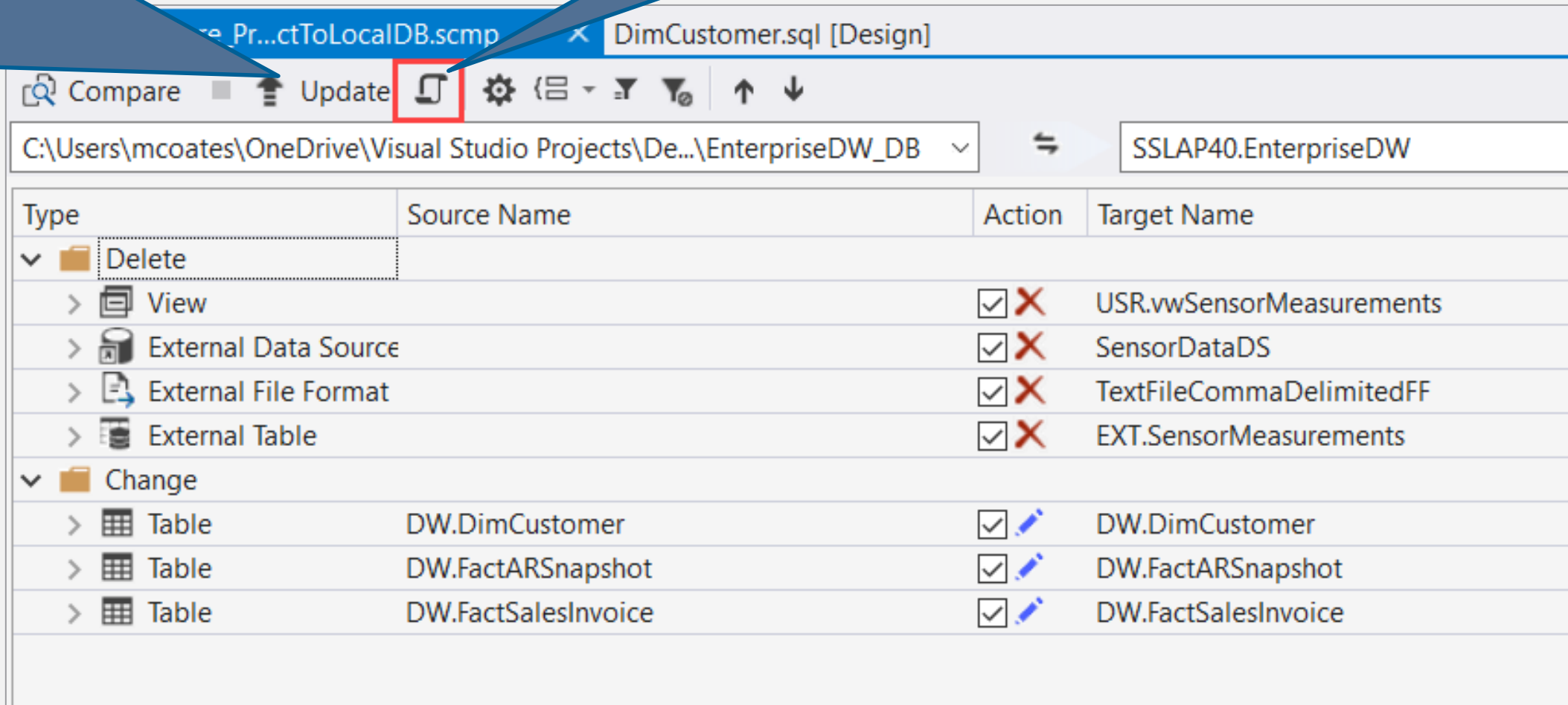
Option to generate error during build



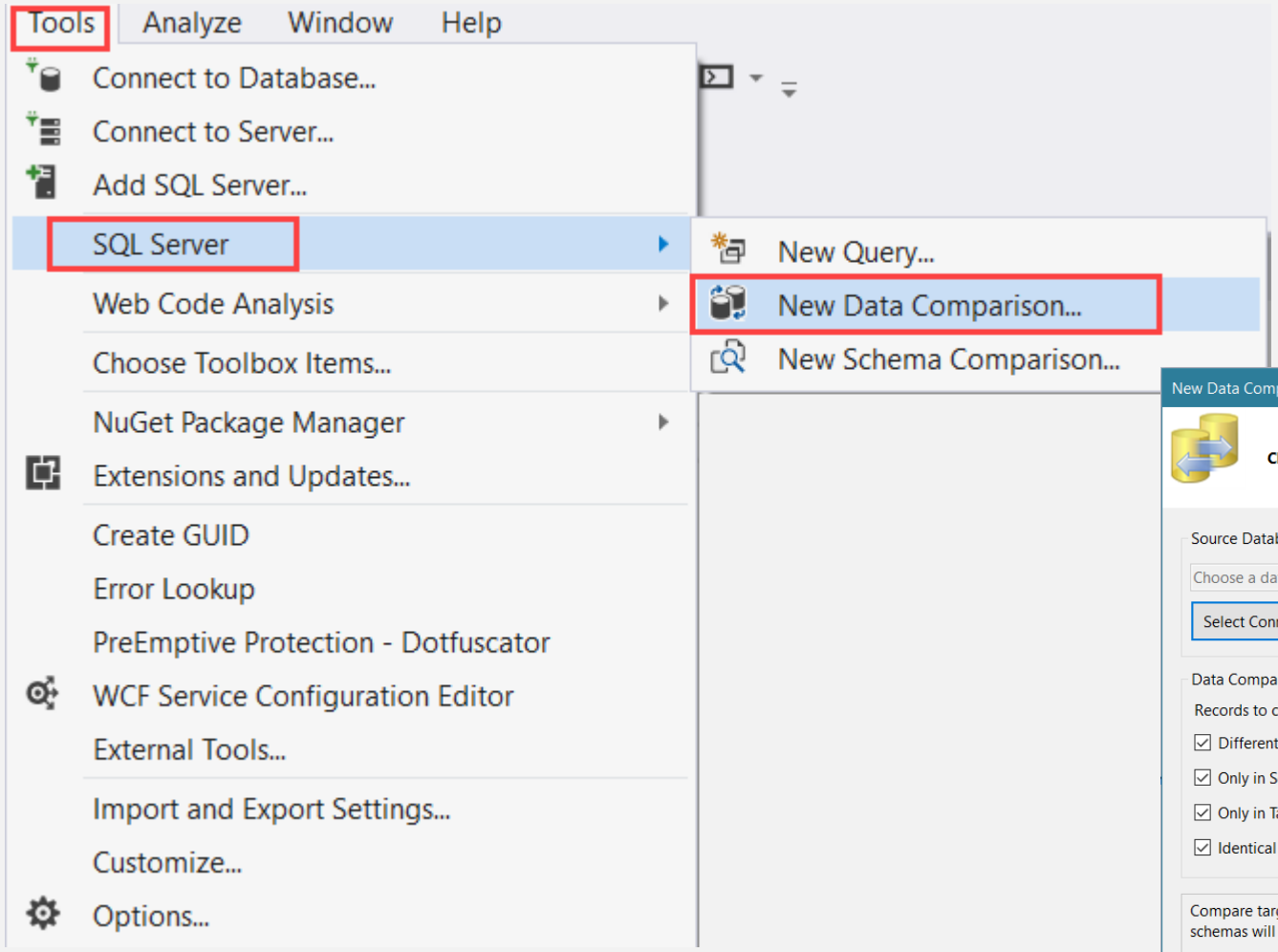
Schema Compare

Usually don't want to let the target update directly

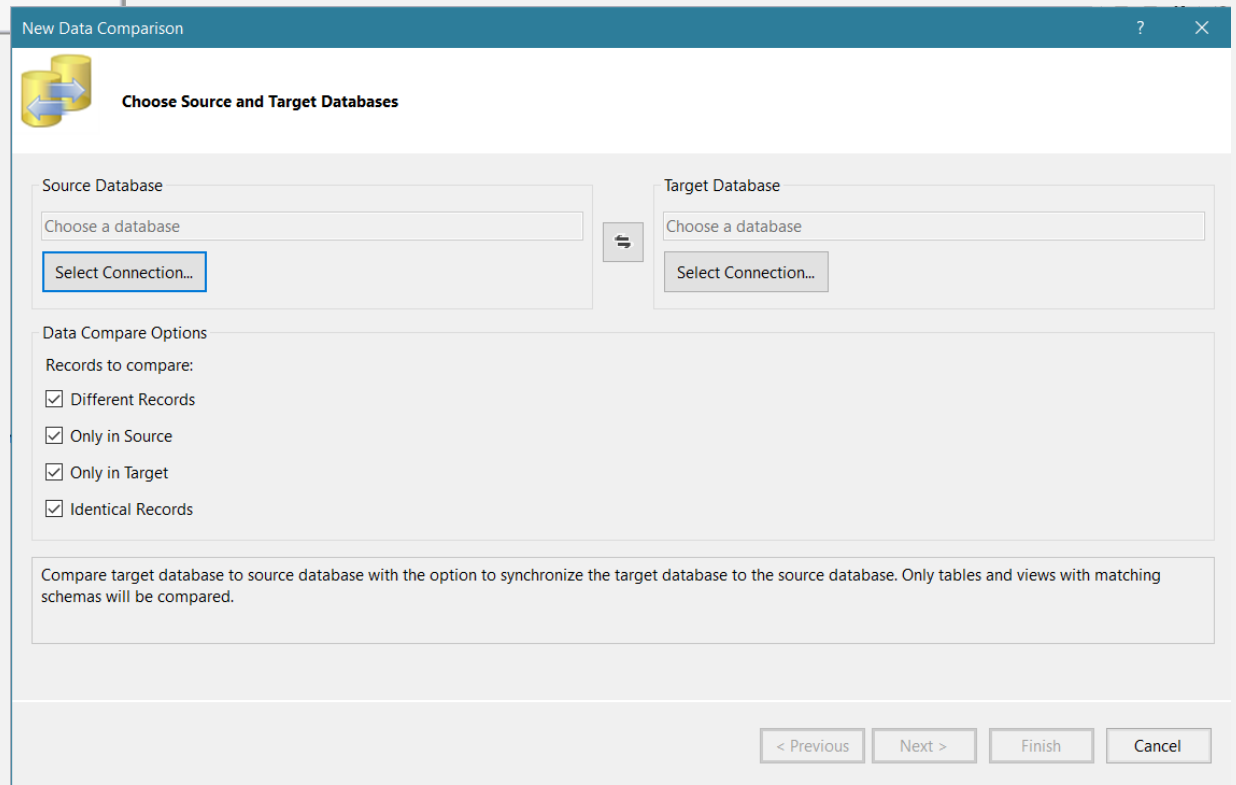
Generates a script to use for deployment



Data Compare



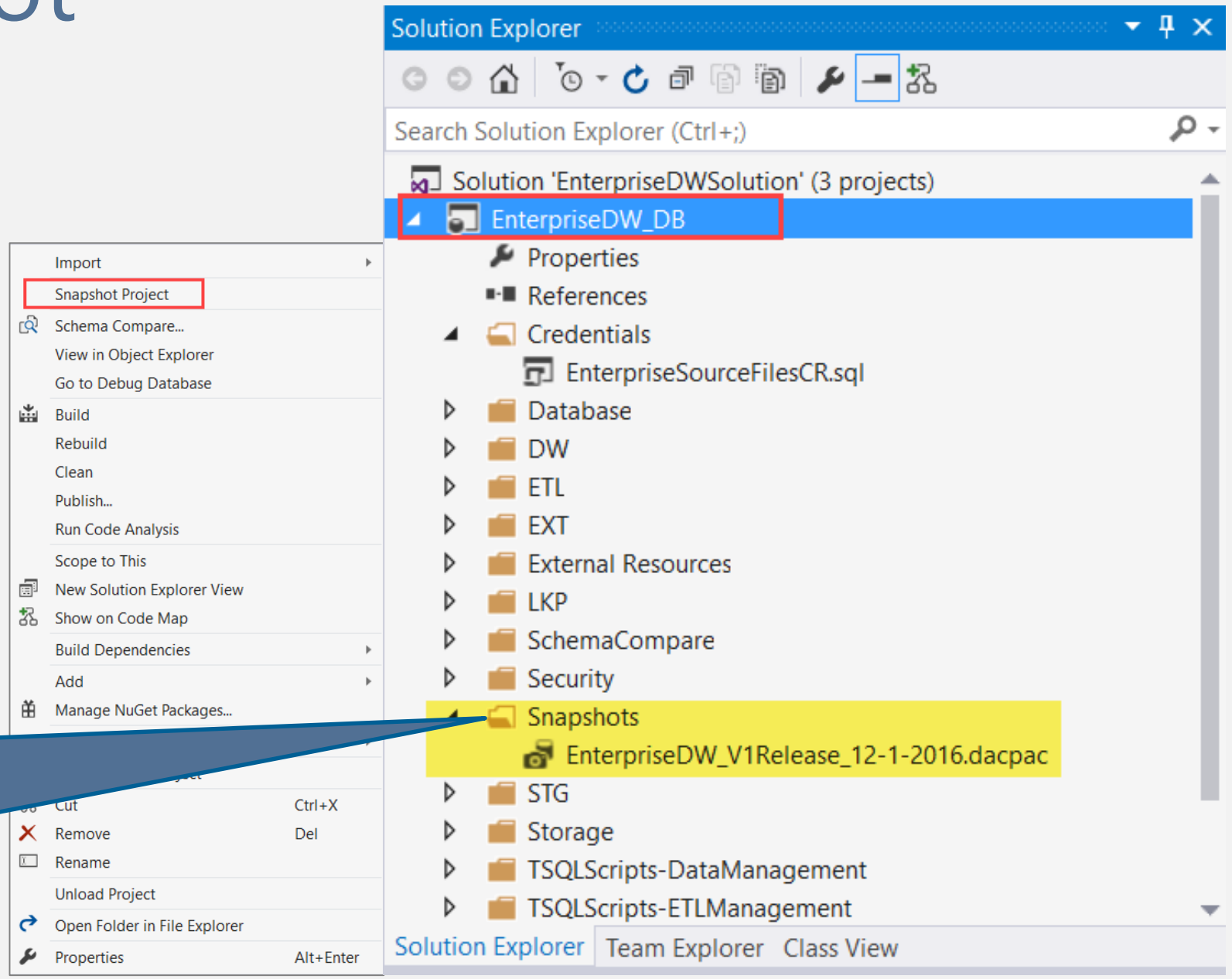
Basic functionality to compare data between two tables -- schema must match.



Project Snapshot

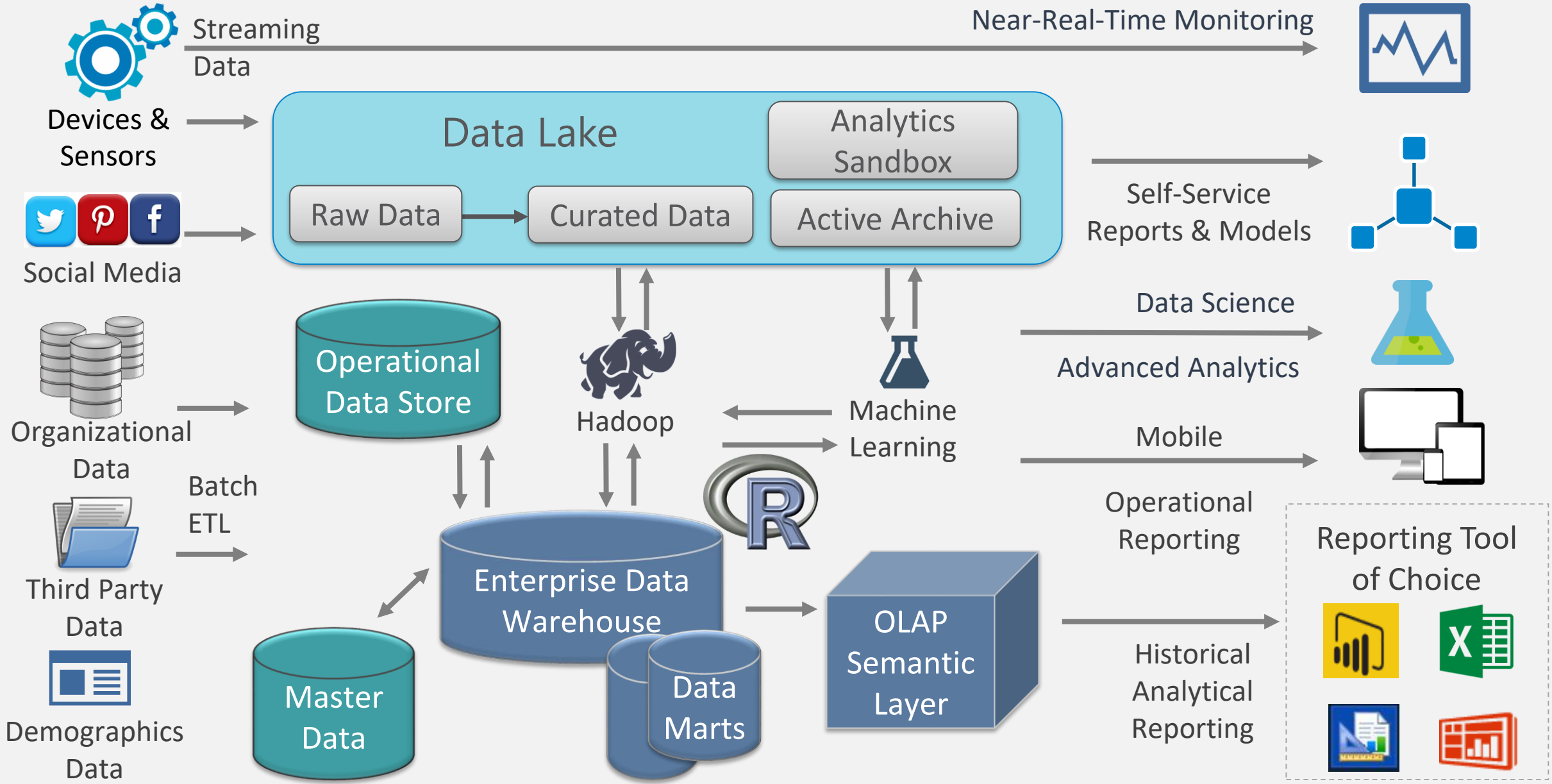
Snapshot of the database schema at a point in time (ex: major release points).

Store the .dacpac file in the project if desired



Planning Future Growth of the Data Warehouse

Modern /DW/BI/Analytics Systems

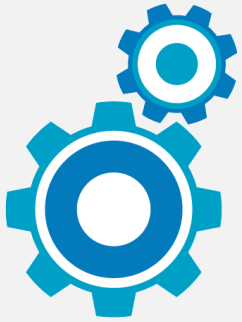


Growing your DW/BI/Analytics Environment

Cloud & Hybrid Platforms

Modern DW Multi-Platform Architecture

Advanced Analytics



Real-Time Reporting

Self-Service BI

Agile, Nimble Solutions

Achieving Extensibility in a DW

Design with change in mind. Ex: Create a lookup table with code/descriptions, or implement in a view, rather than hard-coding in ETL.

Plan for a **hybrid** environment with **multiple architectures**.

Introduce **conformed dimensions first** whenever possible.

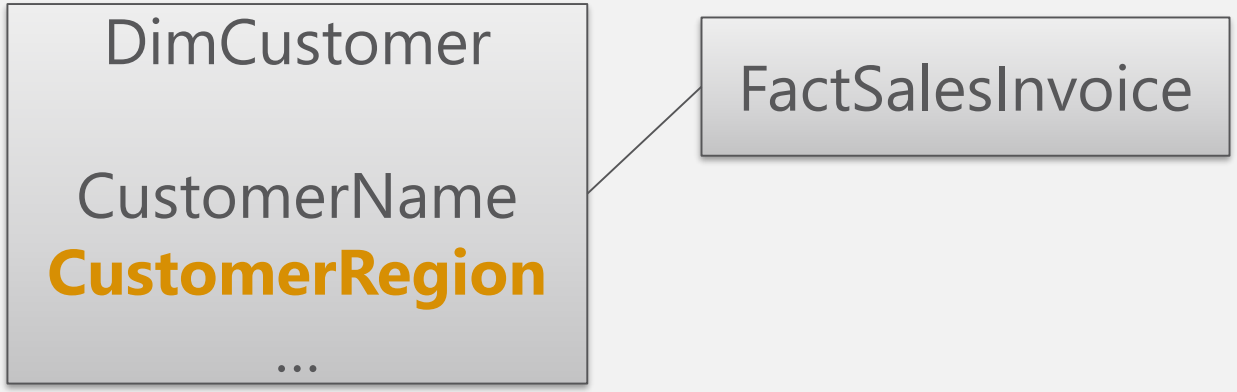
Try to **avoid isolated "stovepipe" implementations** unless the isolation is absolutely intended.

Conduct **active prototyping sessions** with business users to flush out requirements. A data modeling tool like Power BI works well for this.

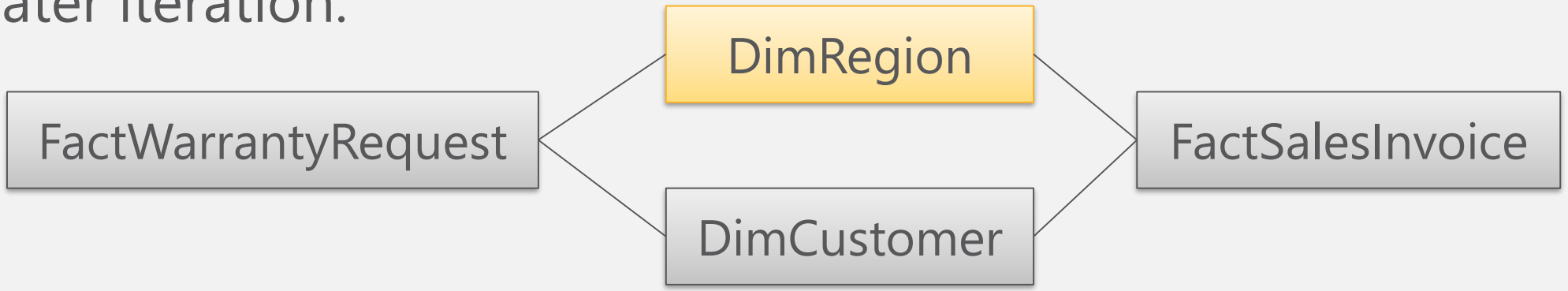
Achieving Extensibility in a DW

Be prepared to do some **refactoring** along the way. Ex: converting an attribute to be a conformed dimension.

First implementation:



Updated in a later iteration:



Achieving Extensibility in a DW

Introducing new measures:

- Can be a new column in a fact table as long as it's the same grain & the same business process

Introducing new attributes:

- Can be a new column in a dimension, or
- Can be via a new foreign key in a fact table as long as it doesn't affect the grain

Agility for the things that usually require the most time investment:

- Data modeling
- ETL processes
- Data quality

Achieving Extensibility in a DW

Reusability Downstream ⟷ Speed of Change Implemented

Consider using an ***OLAP cube or in-memory model*** (like Analysis Services) for:

- Summary data (as opposed to summary tables in your DW)
- Year-to-Date type of calculations
- Year-over-Year type of calculations
- Aggregate level calculations (as opposed to row-by-row calculations)

Modern DW: Important Concepts to Know

Polygot Persistence

Using the most effective data storage technology to handle different data storage needs

Lambda Architecture

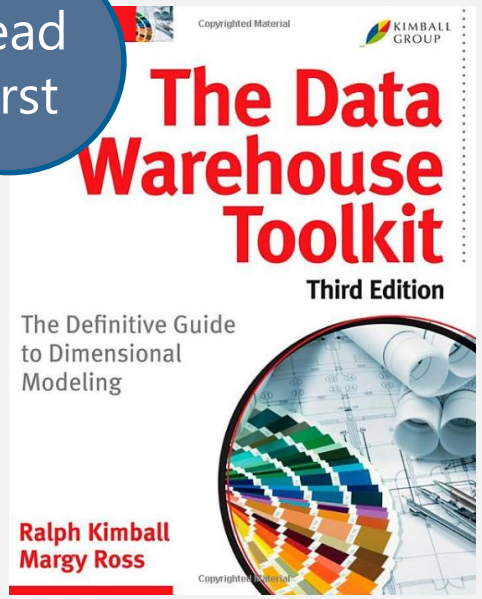
Data processing architecture which supports large amounts of data via a speed layer, batch layer, and serving layer

Schema on Read

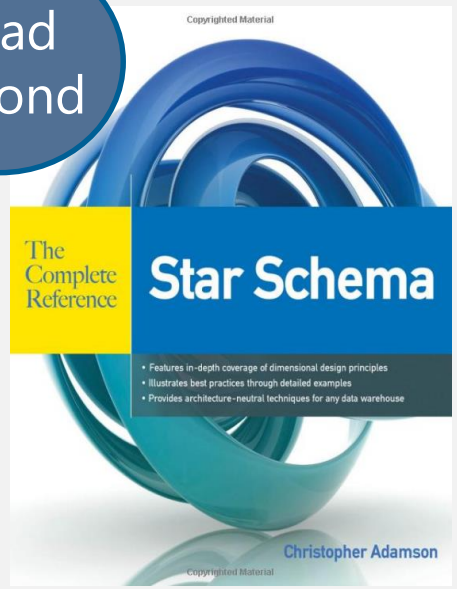
Data structure is applied at query time rather than when the data is initially stored

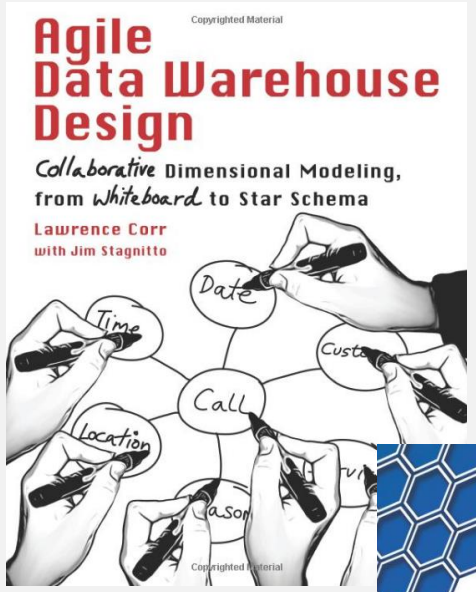
Recommended Resources

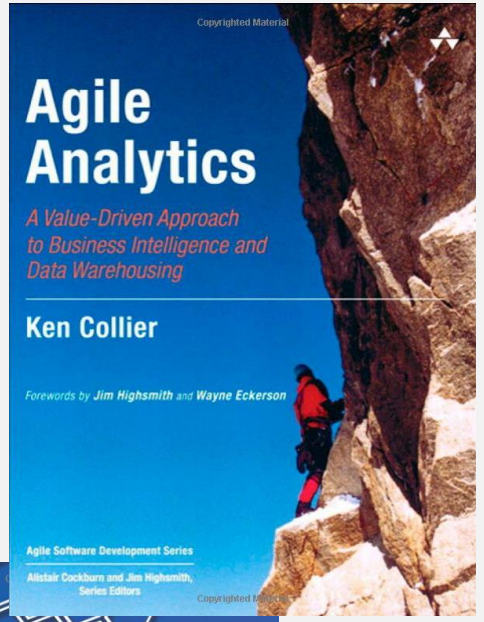
Read First

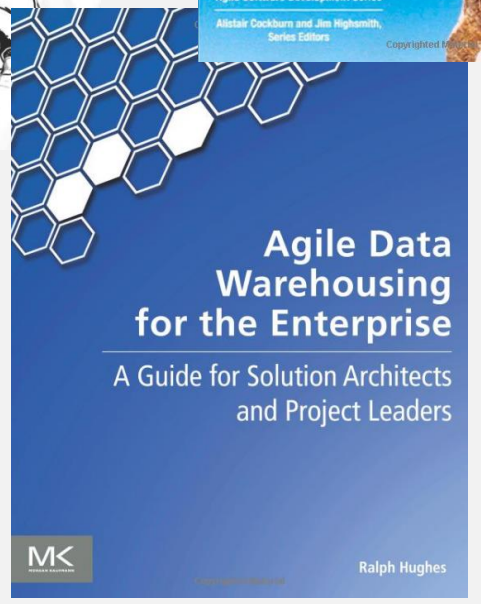


Read Second









Thank You for Attending

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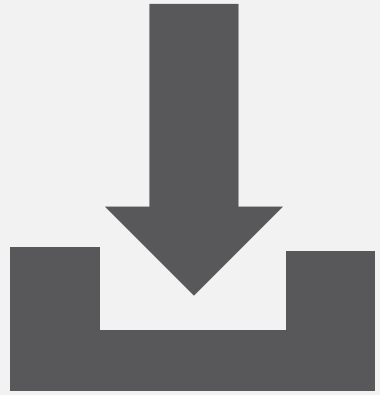

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