Data Mining:

Concepts and Techniques

— Chapter 3 —

Chapter 3: Data Warehousing, Data Generalization, and On-line Analytical Processing

- Data warehouse: Basic concept
- Data warehouse modeling: Data cube and OLAP
- Data warehouse architecture
- Data warehouse implementation
- Data generalization and concept description
- From data warehousing to data mining

What is Data Warehouse?

- Defined in many different ways, but not rigorously.
  - A decision support database that is maintained separately from the organization's operational database
  - Support information processing by providing a solid platform of consolidated, historical data for analysis.
- "A data warehouse is a subject-oriented, integrated, time-variant, and nonvolatile collection of data in support of management's decision-making process."—W. H. Inmon
- Data warehousing:
  - The process of constructing and using data warehouses

Data Warehouse—Subject-Oriented

- Organized around major subjects, such as customer, product, sales
- Focusing on the modeling and analysis of data for decision makers, not on daily operations or transaction processing
- Provide a simple and concise view around particular subject issues by excluding data that are not useful in the decision support process

Data Warehouse—Integrated

- Constructed by integrating multiple, heterogeneous data sources
  - relational databases, flat files, on-line transaction records
- Data cleaning and data integration techniques are applied.
  - Ensure consistency in naming conventions, encoding structures, attribute measures, etc. among different data sources
    - E.g., Hotel price: currency, tax, breakfast covered, etc.
  - When data is moved to the warehouse, it is converted.

Data Warehouse—Time Variant

- The time horizon for the data warehouse is significantly longer than that of operational systems
  - Operational database: current value data
  - Data warehouse data: provide information from a historical perspective (e.g., past 5-10 years)
- Every key structure in the data warehouse
  - Contains an element of time, explicitly or implicitly
  - But the key of operational data may or may not contain "time element"

Data Warehouse—Nonvolatile

- A physically separate store of data transformed from the operational environment
- Operational update of data does not occur in the data warehouse environment
  - Does not require transaction processing, recovery, and concurrency control mechanisms
  - Requires only two operations in data accessing:
    - *initial loading of data* and *access of data*

Data Warehouse vs. Heterogeneous DBMS

- Traditional heterogeneous DB integration: A query driven approach
  - Build wrappers/mediators on top of heterogeneous databases
  - When a query is posed to a client site, a meta-dictionary is used to translate the query into queries appropriate for individual heterogeneous sites involved, and the results are integrated into a global answer set
  - Complex information filtering, compete for resources
- Data warehouse: update-driven, high performance
  - Information from heterogeneous sources is integrated in advance and stored in warehouses for direct query and analysis

Data Warehouse vs. Operational DBMS

- OLTP (on-line transaction processing)
  - Major task of traditional relational DBMS
  - Day-to-day operations: purchasing, inventory, banking, manufacturing, payroll, registration, accounting, etc.
- OLAP (on-line analytical processing)
  - Major task of data warehouse system
  - Data analysis and decision making
- Distinct features (OLTP vs. OLAP):
  - User and system orientation: customer vs. market
  - Data contents: current, detailed vs. historical, consolidated
  - Database design: ER + application vs. star + subject
  - View: current, local vs. evolutionary, integrated
  - Access patterns: update vs. read-only but complex queries

OLTP vs. OLAP

	OLTP	OLAP
users	clerk, IT professional	knowledge worker
function	day to day operations	decision support
DB design	application-oriented	subject-oriented
data	current, up-to-date detailed, flat relational isolated	historical, summarized, multidimensional integrated, consolidated
usage	repetitive	ad-hoc
access	read/write index/hash on prim. key	lots of scans
unit of work	short, simple transaction	complex query
# records accessed	tens	millions
#users	thousands	hundreds
DB size	100MB-GB	100GB-TB
metric	transaction throughput	query throughput, response

Why Separate Data Warehouse?

- High performance for both systems
  - DBMS— tuned for OLTP: access methods, indexing, concurrency control, recovery
  - Warehouse—tuned for OLAP: complex OLAP queries, multidimensional view, consolidation
- Different functions and different data:
  - missing data: Decision support requires historical data which operational DBs do not typically maintain
  - data consolidation: DS requires consolidation (aggregation, summarization) of data from heterogeneous sources
  - data quality: different sources typically use inconsistent data representations, codes and formats which have to be reconciled
- Note: There are more and more systems which perform OLAP analysis directly on relational databases

From Tables and Spreadsheets to Data Cubes

- A data warehouse is based on a multidimensional data model which views data in the form of a data cube
- A data cube, such as sales, allows data to be modeled and viewed in multiple dimensions
  - Dimension tables, such as item (item_name, brand, type), or time(day, week, month, quarter, year)
  - Fact table contains measures (such as dollars_sold) and keys to each of the related dimension tables
- In data warehousing literature, an n-D base cube is called a base cuboid. The top most 0-D cuboid, which holds the highest-level of summarization, is called the apex cuboid. The lattice of cuboids forms a data cube.

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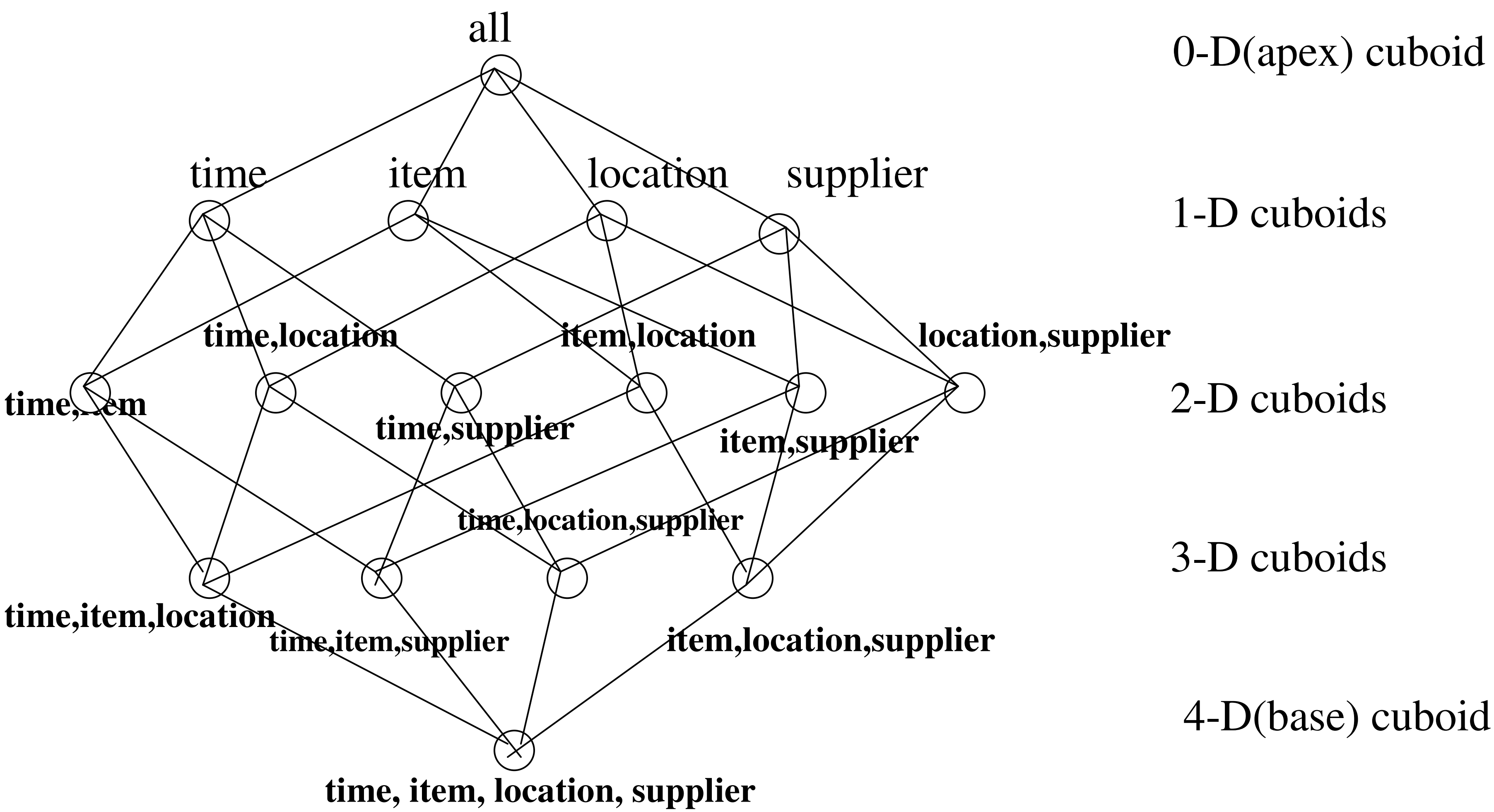
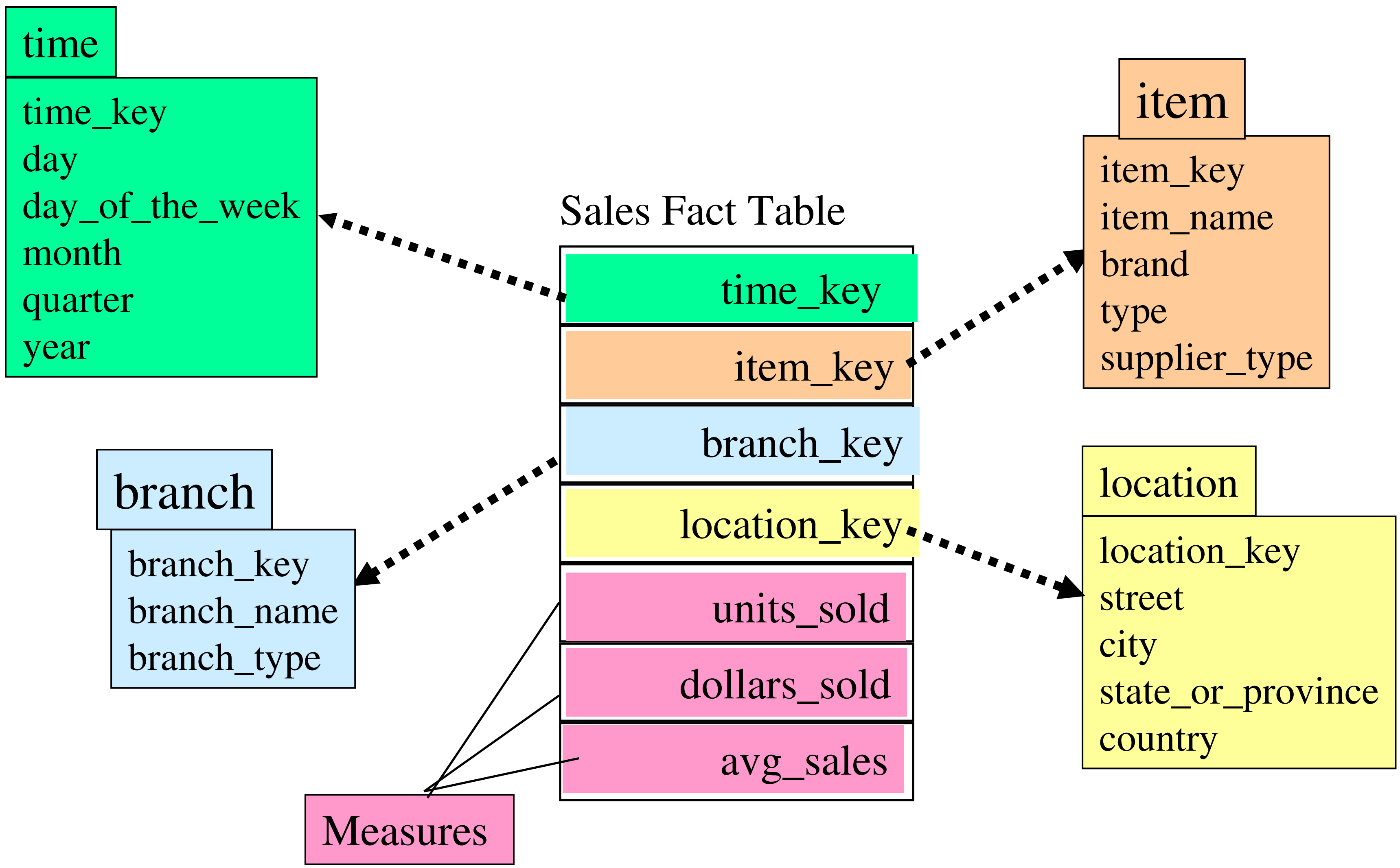
Cube: A Lattice of Cuboids



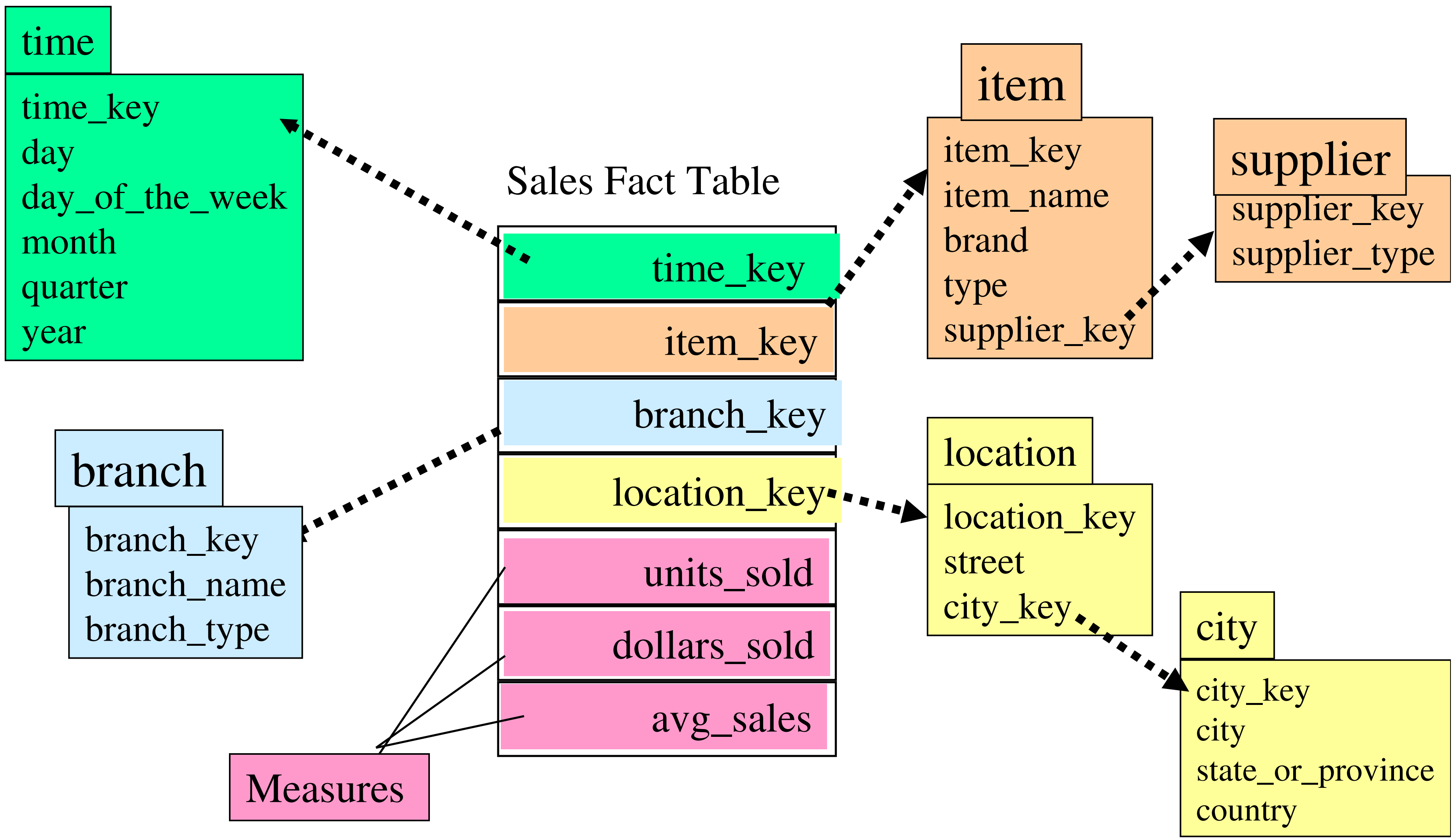
Conceptual Modeling of Data Warehouses

- Modeling data warehouses: dimensions & measures
  - Star schema: A fact table in the middle connected to a set of dimension tables
  - Snowflake schema: A refinement of star schema where some dimensional hierarchy is normalized into a set of smaller dimension tables, forming a shape similar to snowflake
  - Fact constellations: Multiple fact tables share dimension tables, viewed as a collection of stars, therefore called galaxy schema or fact constellation

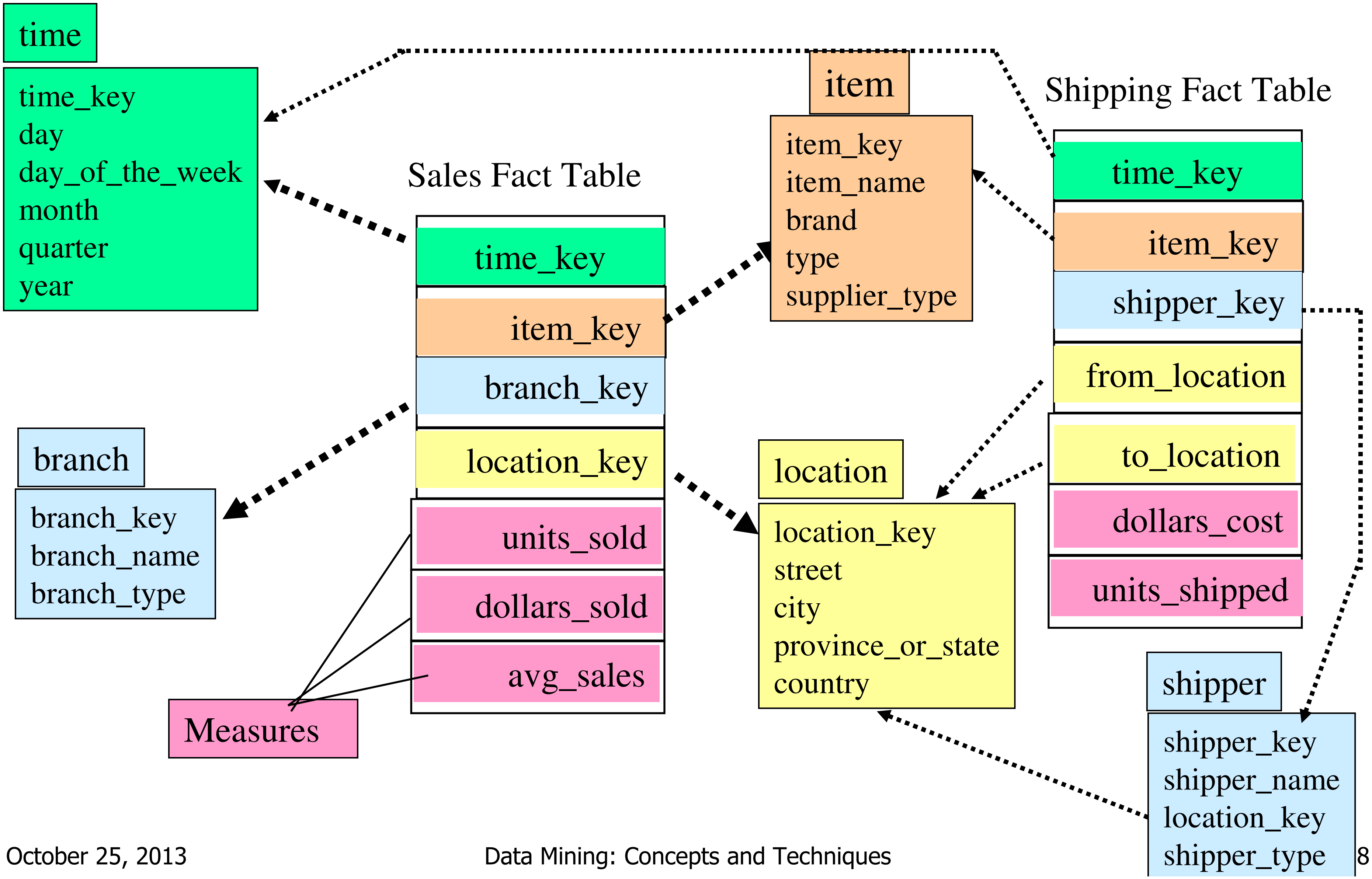
Example of Star Schema



Example of Snowflake Schema



Example of Fact Constellation



Cube Definition Syntax (BNF) in DMQL

- Cube Definition (Fact Table)

  define cube <cube_name> [<dimension_list>]: <measure_list>

- Dimension Definition (Dimension Table)

  define dimension <dimension_name> as (<attribute_or_subdimension_list>)

- Special Case (Shared Dimension Tables)
  - First time as "cube definition"
  - define dimension <dimension_name> as <dimension_name_first_time> in cube <cube_name_first_time>

Defining Star Schema in DMQL

define cube sales_star [time, item, branch, location]:

dollars_sold = sum(sales_in_dollars), avg_sales = avg(sales_in_dollars), units_sold = count(*)

define dimension time as (time_key, day, day_of_week, month, quarter, year)

define dimension item as (item_key, item_name, brand, type, supplier_type)

define dimension branch as (branch_key, branch_name, branch_type)

define dimension location as (location_key, street, city, province_or_state, country)

Defining Snowflake Schema in DMQL

define cube sales_snowflake [time, item, branch, location]:

dollars_sold = sum(sales_in_dollars), avg_sales = avg(sales_in_dollars), units_sold = count(*)

define dimension time as (time_key, day, day_of_week, month, quarter, year)

define dimension item as (item_key, item_name, brand, type, supplier(supplier_key, supplier_type))

define dimension branch as (branch_key, branch_name, branch_type)

define dimension location as (location_key, street, city(city_key, province_or_state, country))

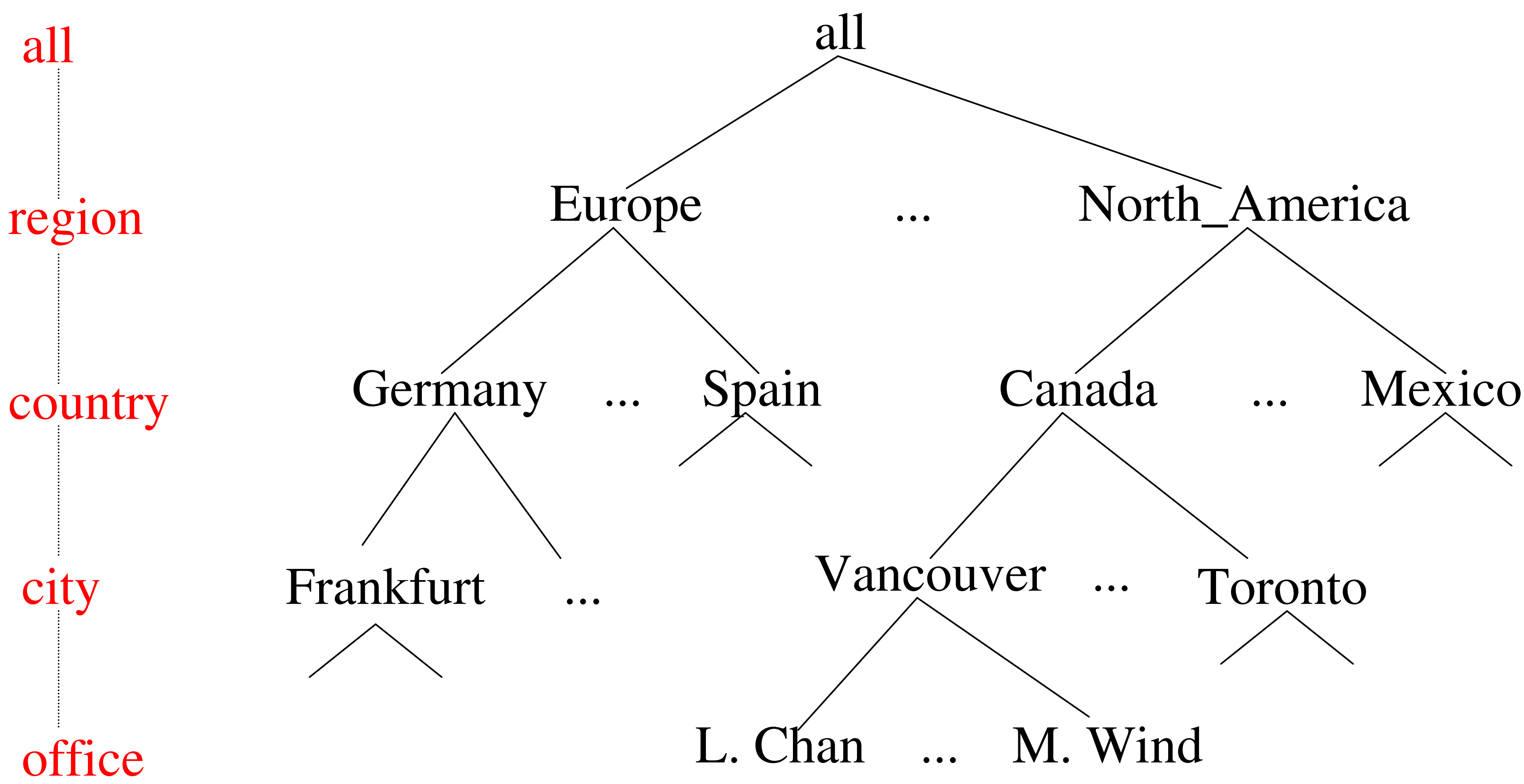
Defining Fact Constellation in DMQL

```
define cube sales [time, item, branch, location]:
        dollars_sold = sum(sales_in_dollars), avg_sales =
          avg(sales_in_dollars), units_sold = count(*)
define dimension time as (time_key, day, day_of_week, month, quarter, year)
define dimension item as (item_key, item_name, brand, type, supplier_type)
define dimension branch as (branch_key, branch_name, branch_type)
define dimension location as (location_key, street, city, province_or_state,
    country)
define cube shipping [time, item, shipper, from_location, to_location]:
        dollar_cost = sum(cost_in_dollars), unit_shipped = count(*)
define dimension time as time in cube sales
define dimension item as item in cube sales
define dimension shipper as (shipper_key, shipper_name, location as location
    in cube sales, shipper_type)
define dimension from_location as location in cube sales
define dimension to_location as location in cube sales
```

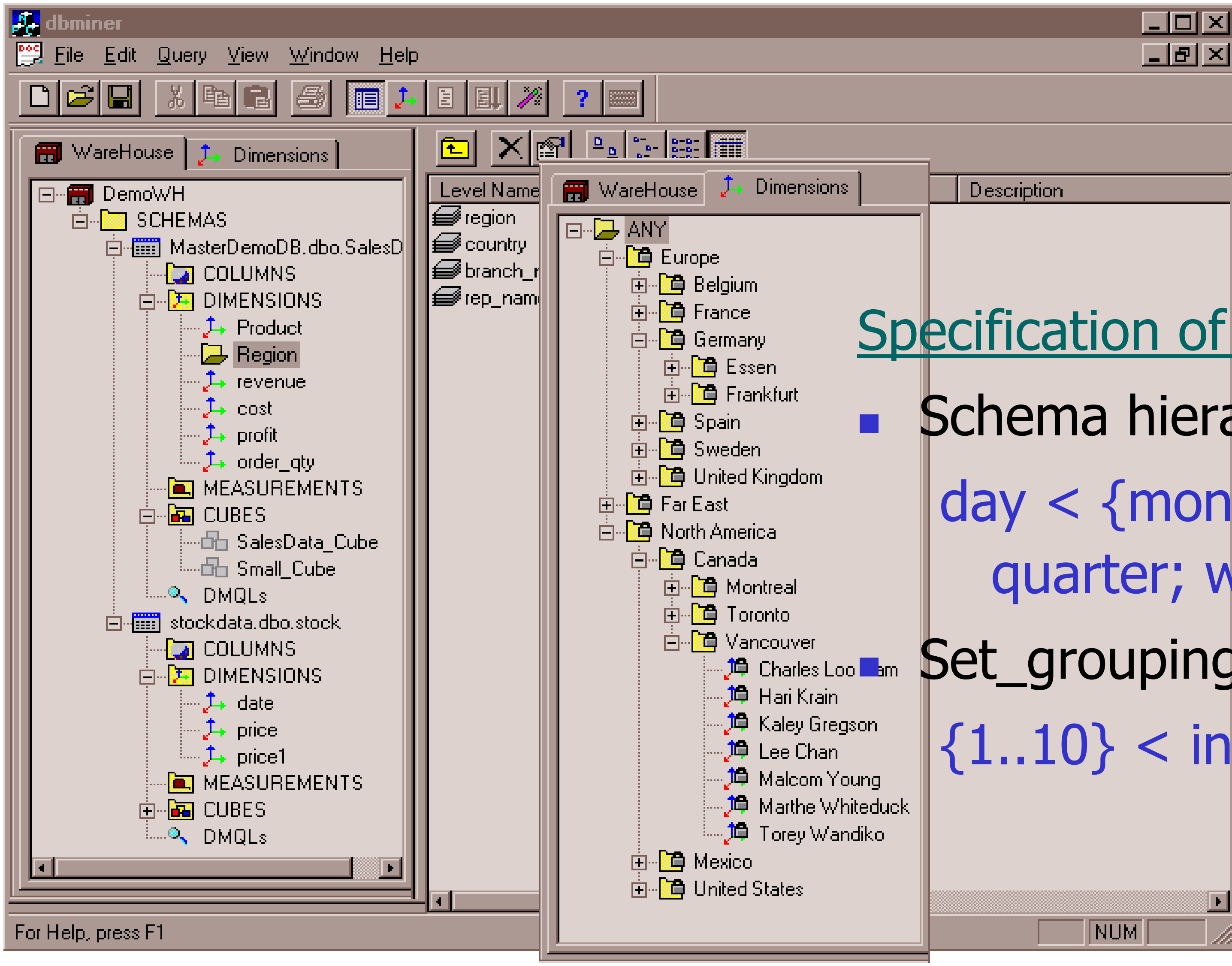
Measures of Data Cube: Three Categories

- Distributive: if the result derived by applying the function to *n* aggregate values is the same as that derived by applying the function on all the data without partitioning
  - E.g., count(), sum(), min(), max()
- Algebraic: if it can be computed by an algebraic function with *M* arguments (where *M* is a bounded integer), each of which is obtained by applying a distributive aggregate function
  - E.g., avg(), min_N(), standard_deviation()
- Holistic: if there is no constant bound on the storage size needed to describe a subaggregate.
  - E.g., median(), mode(), rank()

A Concept Hierarchy: Dimension (location)



View of Warehouses and Hierarchies



Specification of hierarchies

- Schema hierarchy

  day < {month < quarter; week} < year

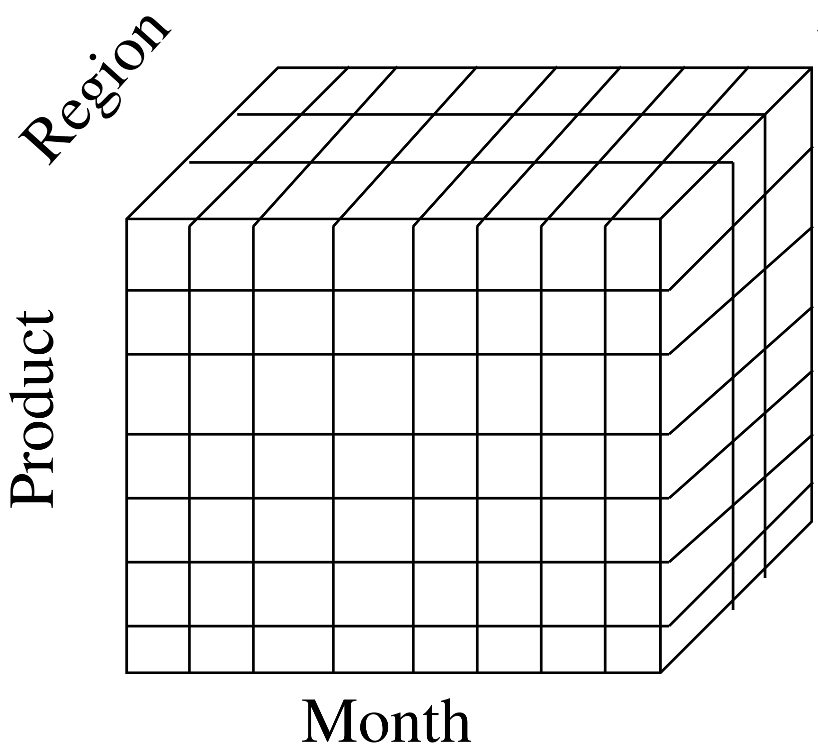
- Set_grouping hierarchy

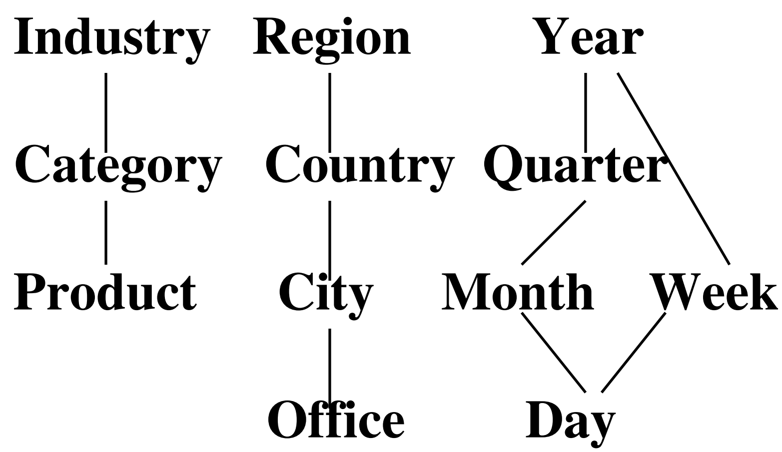
  {1..10} < inexpensive

Multidimensional Data

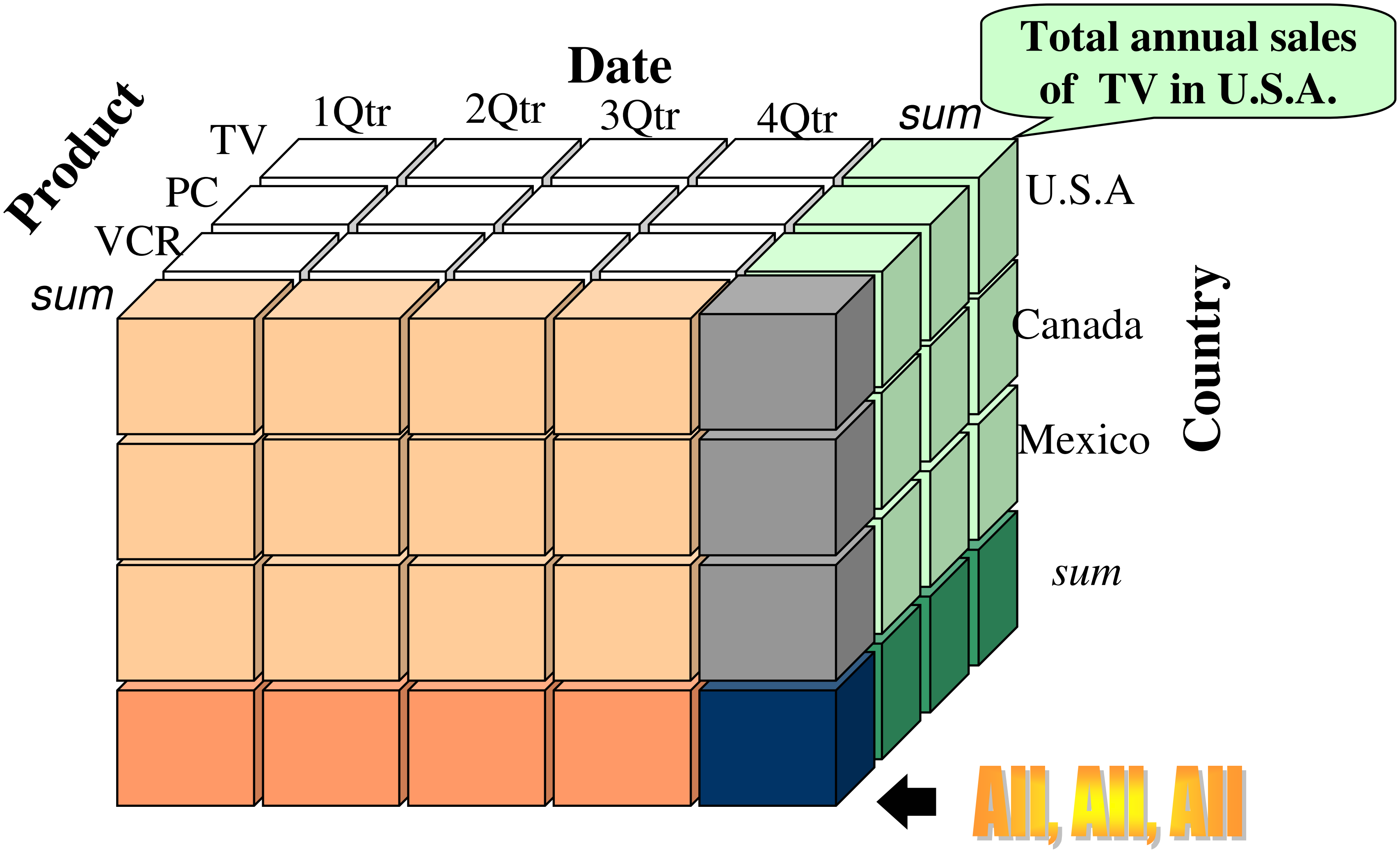
- Sales volume as a function of product, month, and region

Dimensions: Product, Location, Time
Hierarchical summarization paths

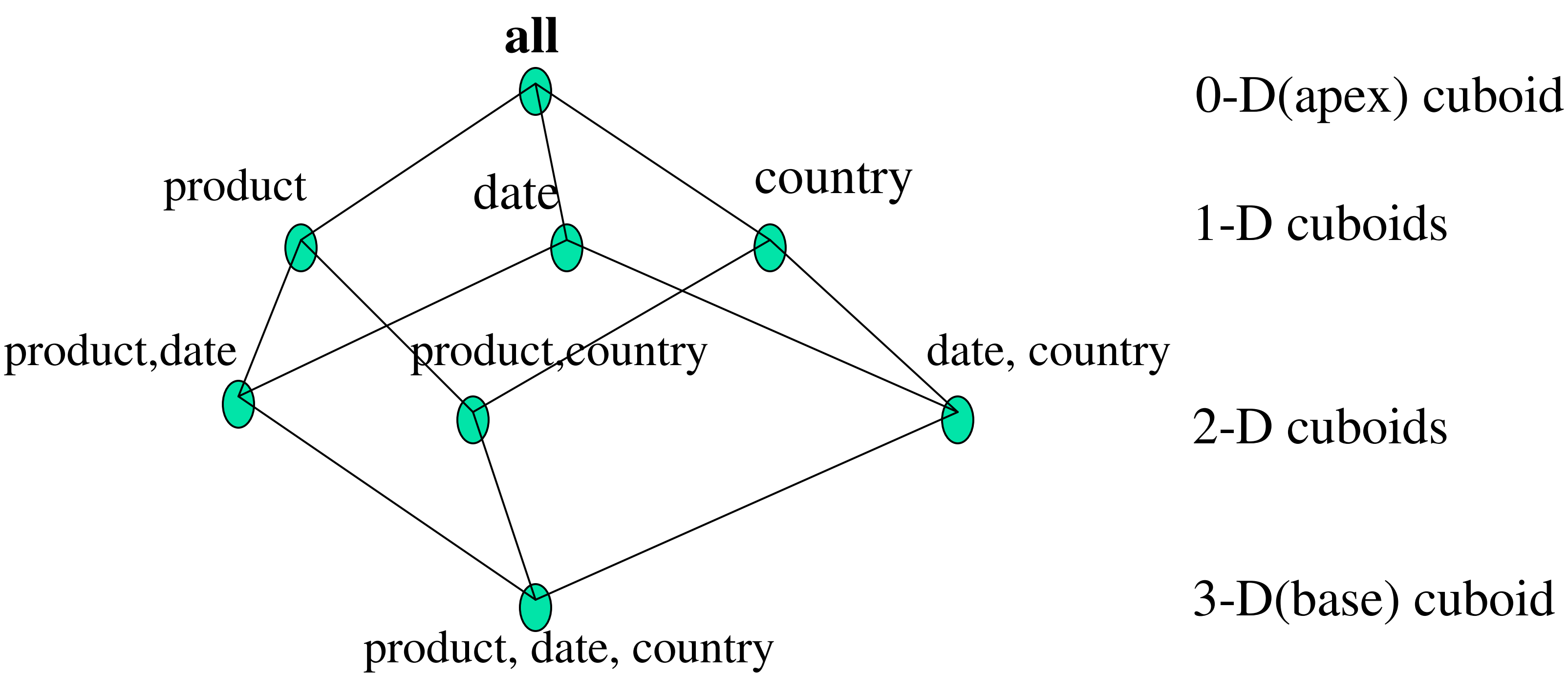




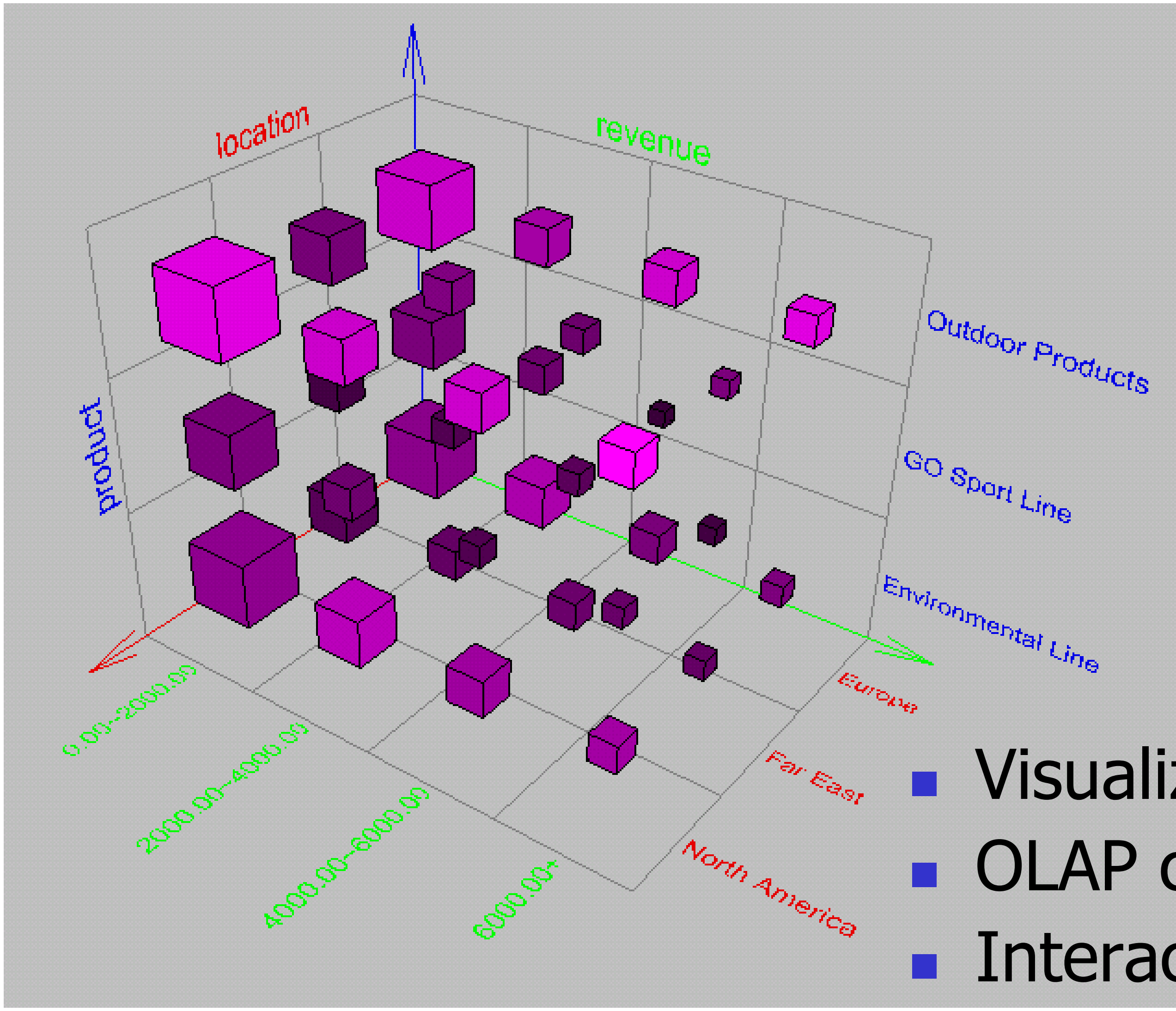
A Sample Data Cube



Cuboids Corresponding to the Cube



Browsing a Data Cube

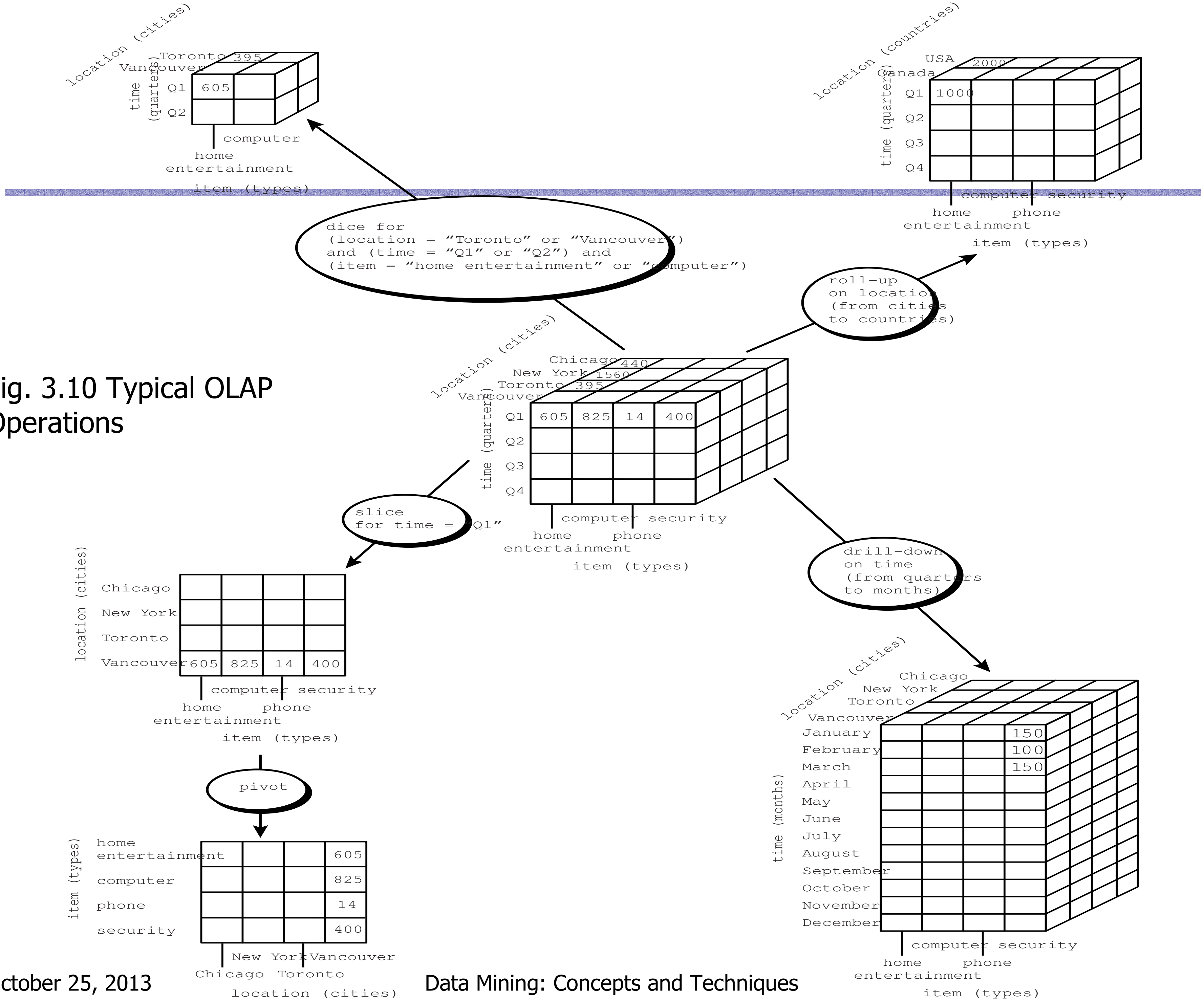


- Visualization
- OLAP capabilities
- Interactive manipulation

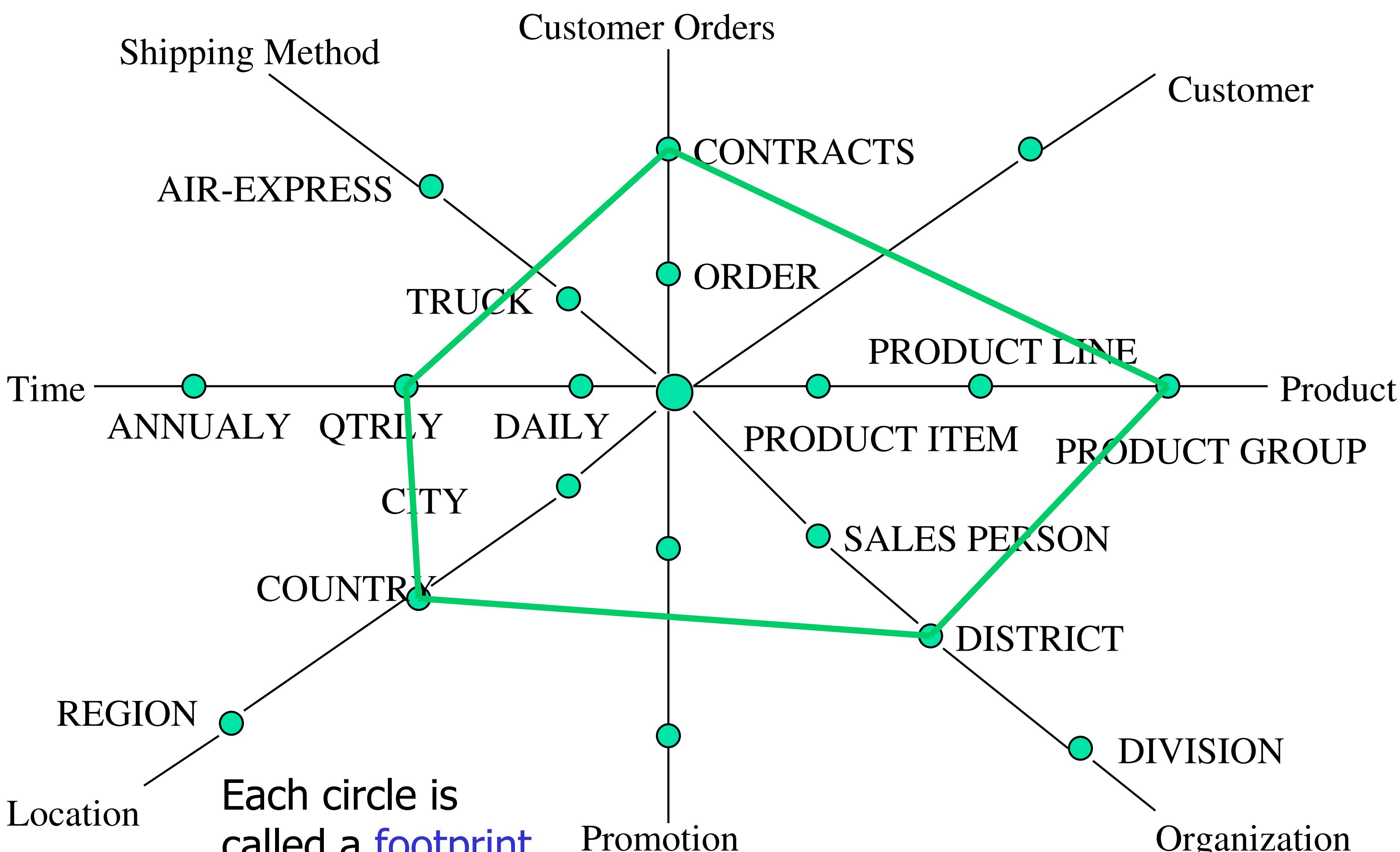
Typical OLAP Operations

- Roll up (drill-up): summarize data
  - *by climbing up hierarchy or by dimension reduction*
- Drill down (roll down): reverse of roll-up
  - *from higher level summary to lower level summary or detailed data, or introducing new dimensions*
- Slice and dice: *project and select*
- Pivot (rotate):
  - *reorient the cube, visualization, 3D to series of 2D planes*
- Other operations
  - *drill across: involving (across) more than one fact table*
  - *drill through: through the bottom level of the cube to its back-end relational tables (using SQL)*

Fig. 3.10 Typical OLAP Operations



A Star-Net Query Model



Each circle is called a footprint