# OLAP Job Interview Questions And Answers



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# **OLAP Interview Questions And Answers Guide.**

# Question - 1:

What is OLAP?

# Ans:

OLAP is an acronym for Online Analytical Processing. OLAP performs multidimensional analysis of business data and provides the capability for complex calculations, trend analysis, and sophisticated data modeling.

# View All Answers

Question - 2:

## What are Cubes in OLAP?

# Ans:

A data cube stores data in a summarized version which helps in a faster analysis of data. The data is stored in such a way that it allows reporting easily. E.g. using a data cube a user may want to analyze weekly, monthly performance of an employee. Here, month and week could be considered as the dimensions of the cube.

# Question - 3:

Where is Data Sources in OLAP?

# Ans:

Data source is where the data comes from in data warehousing. The data collected from various sources and is cleaned. The data source can be internal or external. Efficient Analysis and cleansing of source data is the key success to data warehousing.

# View All Answers

## Question - 4:

What are Fact Tables?

## Ans:

Data in a warehouse comes from the transactions. Fact table in a data warehouse consists of facts and/or measures. The nature of data in a fact table is usually numerical. e.g. If I want to know the number of resources used for a task, my fact table will store the actual measure (of resources) while my Dimension table will store the task and resource details.

### View All Answers

# Question - 5:

What are Database roles in OLAP?

# Ans:

Database level roles are used to manage the security of the database. The role can be either fixed or flexible. Fixed roles are predefined while flexible roles can be created. Examples of some fixed database level roles are db\_owner, db\_securityadmin, db\_datawriter etc. <u>View All Answers</u>

# Question - 6:

Data that can be modeled as dimension attributes and measure attributes are called \_\_\_\_\_\_ data.

- a) Multidimensional
- b) Singledimensional
- c) Measured
- d) Dimensional

# Ans:

# a) Multidimensional

Explanation:

Given a relation used for data analysis, we can identify some of its attributes as measure attributes, since they measure some value, and can be aggregated upon.Dimension attribute define the dimensions on which measure attributes, and summaries of measure attributes, are viewed.



# View All Answers

## Question - 7:

Which one of the following is the right syntax for DECODE ? a) DECODE (search, expression, result [, search, result]... [, default]) b) DECODE (expression, result [, search, result]... [, default], search) c) DECODE (search, result [, search, result]... [, default], expression) d) DECODE (expression, search, result [, search, result]... [, default])

# Ans:

d) DECODE (expression, search, result [, search, result]... [, default]) View All Answers

# Question - 8:

Select item name, color, clothes size, sum(quantity) from sales group by rollup(item name, color, clothes size); How many grouping is possible in this rollup?

a) 8

b) 4

c) 2 d) 1

u) 1

# Ans:

b) 4 Explanation: { (item name, color, clothes size), (item name, color), (item name), () }. <u>View All Answers</u>

# Question - 9:

What do data warehouses support? a) OLAP b) OLTP c) OLAP and OLTP d) Operational databases

# Ans:

a) OLAP

View All Answers

# Question - 10:

{ (item name, color, clothes size), (item name, color), (item name, clothes size), (color, clothes size), (item name), (color), (clothes size), () }
This can be achieved by using which of the following?
a) group by rollup
b) group by cubic
c) group by
d) None of the mentioned

# Ans:

d) None of the mentioned Explanation: 'Group by cube' is used . <u>View All Answers</u>

# Question - 11:

In SQL the cross-tabs are created using: a) Slice b) Dice c) Pivot d) All of the mentioned

# Ans:

a) Slice

Explanation: pivot (sum(quantity) for color in ('dark','pastel','white')). <u>View All Answers</u>

# Question - 12:

The operation of moving from finer-granularity data to a coarser granularity (by means of aggregation) is called a \_\_\_\_\_\_ a) Roll-up b) Drill down c) Dicing d) Pivoting

# Ans:

a) Roll-up



# Explanation:

The opposite operation-that of moving from coarser-granularity data to finer-granularity data-is called a drill down. View All Answers

# Question - 13:

The process of viewing the cross-tab (Single dimensional) with a fixed value of one attribute is.

- a) Slicing
- b) Dicing c) Pivoting
- d) Both a and b

# Ans:

d) Both a and b Explanation: For eg., The item name and colour is viewed for a fixed size. View All Answers

# Question - 14:

The generalization of cross-tab which is represented visually is \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ which is also called as data cube. a) Two dimensional cube b) Multidimensional cube c) N-dimensional cube d) Cuboid

# Ans:

a) Two dimensional cube Explanation: Each cell in the cube is identified for the values for the three dimensional attributes. View All Answers

# Question - 15:

OLAP stands for:

- a) Online analytical processing
- b) Online analysis processing
- c) Online transaction processing
- d) Online aggregate processing

# Ans:

a) Online analytical processing Explanation: OLAP is the manipulation of information to support decision making.

# View All Answers

# Question - 16:

It is because of that enables OLAP to achieve great performance for a query.

- a) Aggregation
- b) Composition
- c) Dice d) Hybrid

# Ans:

a) Aggregation

### View All Answers

# Question - 17:

Aggregations are built from the \_ \_\_\_\_\_ by changing the granularity on specific dimensions.

- a) Both c and d below
- b) schema
- c) Dimension table d) Fact table

### Ans:

d) Fact table

View All Answers

# Question - 18:

\_operation of OLAP provides alternate presentation of data by rotating it.

- a) Slice b) Roll up
- c) Dice
- d) Pivot

# Ans:

d) Pivot



### View All Answers

## Question - 19:

- What is the source of the OLAP cube's metadata?
- a) Star schema
- b) Snow flake schema
- c) Both a and b d) Database

# Ans:

## Ans:

c) Both a and b

# View All Answers

# Question - 20:

\_\_\_\_\_\_operation of OLAP involves computing all of the data relationships for one or more dimensions.

- a) Slice b) Roll up
- c) Dice d) Pivot
- u) i ivot

# Ans:

b) Roll up <u>View All Answers</u>

# Question - 21:

Can the user perform data-entry or editing tasks on OLAP data? a) Yes b) No

# Ans:

b) No

View All Answers

# Question - 22:

Following are three steps in random order for creating a data cube. 1. Chose a data source. Create the query that extracts data from the database. Create the cube from the extracted data. a) 1,2,3 b) 2,1,3 c) 3,2,1 d) 3,1,2

# Ans:

a) 1,2,3

View All Answers

# Question - 23:

Dice operation is also known as rotate. a) True b) False

# Ans:

b) False View All Answers

# Question - 24:

The output of an OLAP query is displayed as a: a) Matrix b) Pivot c) Both a and b d) excel

# Ans:

c) Both a and b

View All Answers

# Question - 25:

Which type of data models are used by databases configured for OLAP?a) Multidimensionalb) Single dimensionalc) Two dimensionald) Three dimensional



# Ans:

a) Multidimensional View All Answers

# Question - 26:

MOLAP databases generally give better performance. a) True b) False

# Ans:

a) True View All Answers

# Question - 27:

What are the applications of OLAP? a) business reporting for sales, marketing b) Budgeting c) Forecasting d) All of the above

# Ans:

d) All of the above

View All Answers

# Question - 28:

What is sparsity?

- a) A condition when each cell of the cube is filled with data and that leads to more processing time.
- b) A condition when each cell of the cube is not filled with data and that leads to less processing time.
- c) A condition when each cell of the cube is not filled with data and that leads to more processing time.
- d) A condition when each cell of the cube is not filled with data.

# Ans:

a) A condition when each cell of the cube is filled with data and that leads to more processing time. 

## View All Answers

# Question - 29:

What is the other name for OLAP cube? a) Multidimensional cube b) Hyper cube c) Cube d) Both 1 and 2

# Ans:

d) Both 1 and 2

View All Answers

# Question - 30:

Which of the following below is/are OLAP vendors? a) Cognos b) Infor c) Oracle corporation d) All of the above

## Ans:

d) All of the above View All Answers

# Question - 31:

What are the different industries which use this marketing tool?

# Ans:

Many different companies can use this tool for developing their business strategy but it is often three major industries which use this tool more. Those three industries are Consumer goods industries, Retail industries, and financial services industry. These industry's have huge amount of data in their disposal which makes then to use these tools to determine their exact customer.

# View All Answers

# Question - 32:

Explain about the database marketing application of OLAP?

# Ans:

Database marketing tool or application helps a user or marketing professional in determining the right tool or strategy for his valuable add campaign. This tool collects data from all sources and gives relevant information the specialist with their add campaign. It gives a complete picture to the developer.



### View All Answers

### Question - 33:

Explain about multidimensional features present in OLAP?

### Ans:

Multidimensional support is very essential if we are to include multiple hierarchies in our data analysis. Multidimensional feature allows a user to analyze business and organization. OLAP efficiently handles support for multidimensional features.

### \_\_\_\_\_

Question - 34:

Explain about analysis?

# Ans:

Analysis defines about the logical and statistical analysis required for an efficient output. This involves writing of code and performing calculations, but most part of these languages does not require complex programming language knowledge. There are many specific features which are included such as time analysis, currency translation, etc.

# View All Answers

# Question - 35:

Explain about shared features of OLAP?

### Ans:

Shared implements most of the security features into OLAP. If multiple accesses are required admin can make necessary changes. The default security level for all OLAP products is read only. For multiple updates it is predominant to make necessary security changes.

# View All Answers

Question - 36:

Explain about API s of OLAP?

### Ans:

Microsoft in the late 1997 introduced a standard API known as OLE DB. After which XML was used for analysis specification and this specification was largely used by many vendors throughout the world as a standard specification. MDX is the standards specification for OLAP.

# Question - 37:

What is Hybrid OLAP?

# Ans:

When a database developer uses Hybrid OLAP it divides the data between relational and specialized storage. In some particular modifications a HOLAP database may store huge amounts of data in its relational tables. Specialized data storage is used to store data which is less detailed and more aggregate.

### Question - 38:

Explain about candidate check?

## Ans:

The process which is underlined during the check of base data is known as candidate check. When performing candidate check performance varies either towards the positive side or to the negative side. Performance of candidate check depends upon the user query and also they examine the base data.

# View All Answers

# Question - 39:

Explain about Binning?

### Ans:

Binning process is very useful to save space. Performance may vary depending upon the query generated sometimes solution to a query can come within few seconds and sometimes it may take longer time. Binning process holds multiple values in the same bin.

# View All Answers

### Question - 40:

Explain about Encoding technique used in bitmaps indexes?

# Ans:

Bitmaps commonly use one bitmap for every single distinct value. Number of bitmaps used can be reduced by opting for a different type of encoding. Space can be optimized but when a query is generated bitmaps have to be accessed. <u>View All Answers</u>

# Question - 41:

Explain about the role of bitmap indexes to solve aggregation problems?

# Ans:



Bitmaps are very useful in start schema to join large databases to small databases. Answer queries and bit arrays are used to perform logical operations on the databases. Bit map indexes are very efficient in handling Gender differentiation; also repetitive tasks are performed with much larger efficiency. View All Answers

# Question - 42:

Explain about the view selection problem?

# Ans:

Often calculating all the data is not possible by aggregations for this reason some of the complex data problems are solved. In order to determine which data should be solved and calculated, developers use View selection application. This solution is often used to reduce calculation problem.

# View All Answers

# Question - 43:

Explain about aggregations?

# Ans:

OLAP can process complex queries and give the output in less than 0.1 seconds, for it to achieve such a performance OLAP uses aggregations. Aggregations are built by aggregating and changing the data along the dimensions. Possible combination of aggregations can be determined by the combination possibilities of dimension granularities.

# View All Answers

## Question - 44:

What is ROLAP?

## Ans:

Functioning of ROLAP occurs simultaneously with relational databases. Data and tables are stored as relational tables. To hold new information or data new tables are created. Functioning of ROLAP depends upon specialized schema design. View All Answers

# Question - 45:

Explain about MOLAP?

## Ans:

Classic form of OLAP is known as MOLAP and it is often called as OLAP. Simple database structures such as time period, product, location, etc are used. Functioning of each and every dimension or data structure is defined by one or more hierarchies.

# View All Answers

# Question - 46:

Explain about the functionality of OLAP?

# Ans:

Hyper cube or multidimensional cube forms the core of OLAP system. This consists of measures which are arranged according to dimensions. Hyper cube Meta data is created by star or snow flake schema of tables in RDBMS. Dimensions are extracted from dimension table and measures from the fact table. View All Answers

Question - 47:

# Explain about OLAP?

## Ans:

OLAP is known as online analytical processing which provides answers to queries which are multi dimensional in nature. It composes relational reporting and data mining for providing solutions to business intelligence. This term OLAP is created from the term OLTP. View All Answers

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