

## Degenerate Dimensions

by Sudheer Sharma - Tuesday, November 30, 2010

<http://dwhnotes.com/archives/1547>

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We sometimes want to store identifiers coming from source systems transaction tables in the data warehouse, for purposes of grouping rows, tracking where the data come from or using them as primary keys in fact tables. We don't create a separate dimension for these attributes as they would contain only one field, so we store them directly on the fact table and call them degenerate dimensions (for example observation id, encounter id).

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