FAW - Extensibility using Custom PVO via Data Augmentation & Semantic Modelling

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The following document lays out step-by-step how a Fusion Analytics Warehouse (FAW) user can go about building a completely new subject area by sourcing Fusion Apps data using data augmentation and then using the Semantic Model Extension to create reporting subject areas.

The Business Case

The majority of FAW customers need to extend the FAW data model from data sourced from Fusion instance. We have picked up one example scenario where we are needed to extend FAW content from Fusion for **Quotes** and **Consumption** custom objects.



Quotes data is part of the future release roadmap at the time of writing this blog. The focus of the blog is to help FAW users with a customization approach using this as one of the example data elements.

The Approach

Following are the steps that we have followed in this document.

- 1. Prerequisite for custom Public View Objects
- Understanding our Source data
- Data Augmentation
- 4. Data modeling tweaks for a star schema
- 5. Model using Semantic Model Extension
 - Create branch
 - Create Subject Area for Quotes
 - Create Dimensions

- Extend Dimension
- Create Fact
- Modify SA
- Re-using Quotes Subject area to create Consumption SA
- Add Dimensions in Consumption
- Add Facts in Consumption SA
- Create custom Subject Area referencing the Prebuilt custom Quotes SA
- o Create missing Dimensions in Consumer Subject Area
- 6. Publish the model
- 7. Validating the model
- 8. Deploying the model

Prerequisite for custom Public View Objects (PVO)

FAW provides several PVO's whitelisted. However, our use case uses custom PVO. We need to get the custom PVOs whitelisted before the object is available for Data Augmentation.

Step -1: Understanding our Source data Model

We need to analyze Quotes (Headers and Lines) and consumption data from Fusion.he list of objects that we need to bring via data augmentation is as follows:

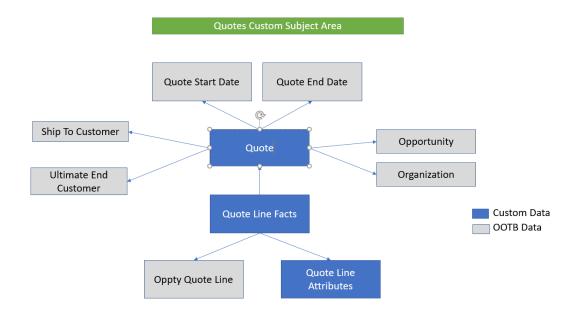
- 1. Quotes
- 2. Quote Lines
- 3. Consumption

On further analysis, we realized that our custom data model can be summarized and modeled in two distinct subject areas such as

Quotes – We would ingest data from Quotes (Header), Quotes lines Fusion objects and look to leverage the following Out of the Box (Commonly referred to as OOTB) Dimensions such as

- Date Dimension (For Quote Start and End Date)
- 2. Party Dimension (Ship to, End Customer, Organization)
- Opportunity Dimension (For Opportunities corresponding to Quote Header and Line Level)

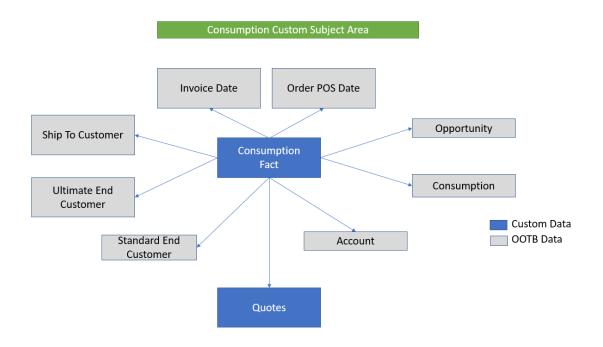
Use metrics at quote (headers and line level) as well as use attributes so our model will have them as Dimensions as well as Fact.



Consumption – We would ingest data from the **Consumption** Fusion object and look to leverage the following OOTB Dimensions such as:

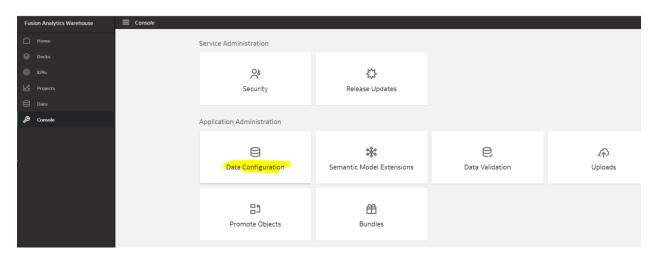
- 1. Date Dimension (For Invoice and Order POS Date)
- 2. Party Dimension (Ship to, Standard End Customer, Account, Ultimate End Customer)
- 3. Opportunity Dim (For consumption opportunities)

We have metrics at the Consumption level as well as attributes, so our model will have this object as a Dimension as well as a Fact.

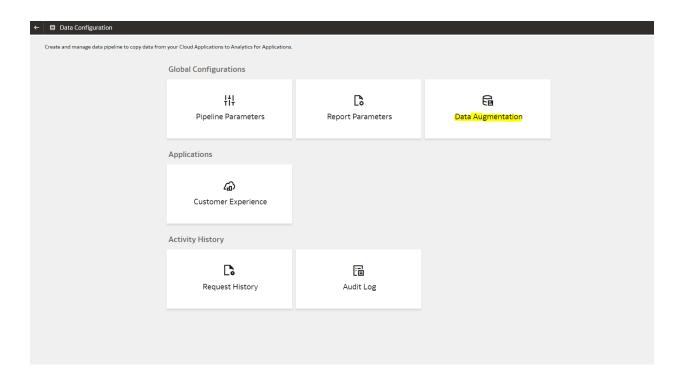


Step 2: Data Augmentation

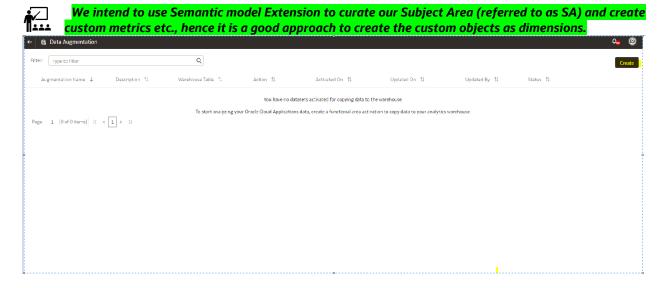
From the FAW URL, we navigate to Console and then to Data Configuration:



Then, we navigate from Data Configuration and then to **Data Augmentation**



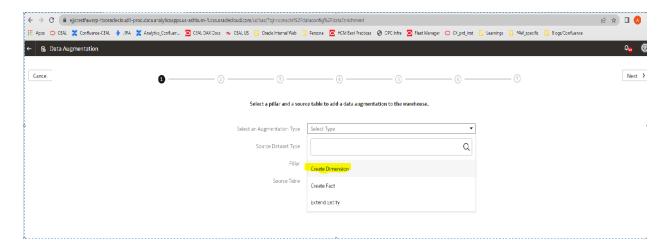
In Data Augmentation we click the option to create **Data Augmentation**, now we proceed to create various entities



Adding Quotes (headers), we get the following interface.



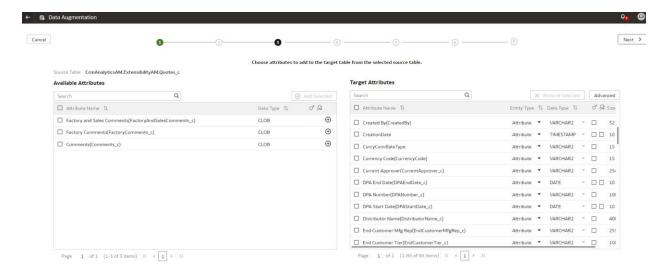
We see three options, and, as mentioned, we select the Create **Dimension** option.



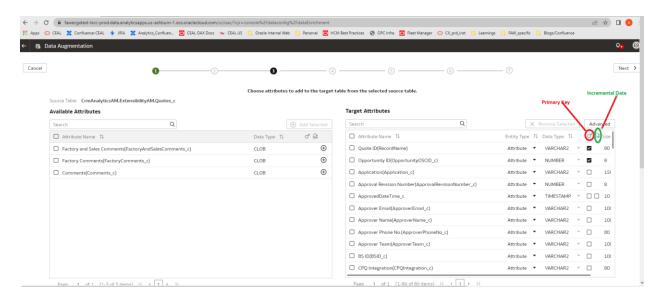
We then select the pillar corresponding to PVO and the name of PVO.



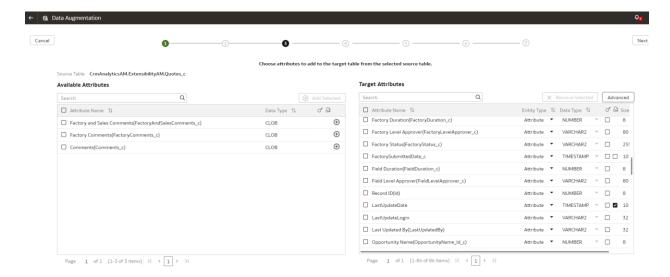
Select the attributes required. Currently, FAW supports only up to 100 attributes.



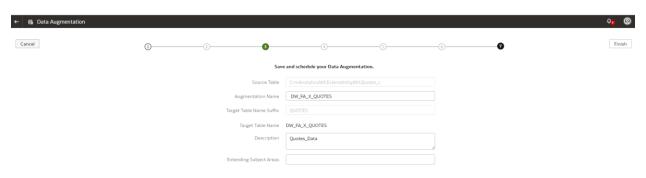
We select **Primary Key**, then we select **Incremental Date** as shown below on the screen. This is critical for this source object to be completed by daily incremental schedules.



Our Fusion PVO's has the **Last Update Date** attribute which we choose as an incremental key.



We provide a meaningful target table name suffix and FAW prefixes **DW_FA_X** on the name.



After selecting on Finish the Augmentation is scheduled and once complete, we see the status as **Activation Complete**.



Similarly, we add Quote Lines.



And we see the status as **Activation Complete** after activation.



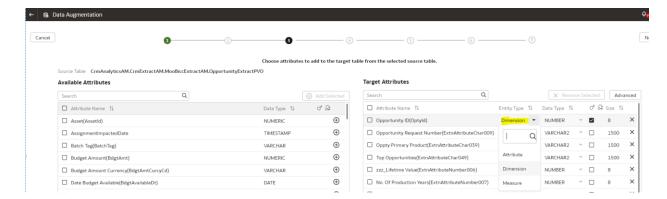
Similarly, we add the **Consumption** object.



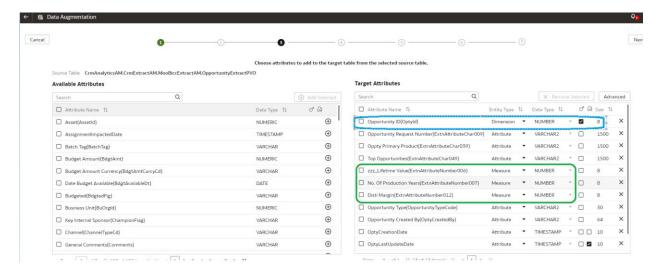
Now we finally add a Fact for opportunity.



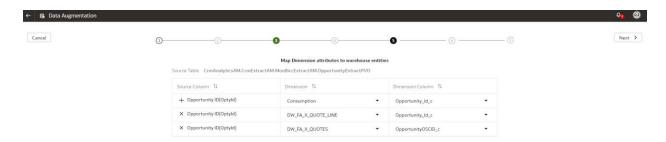
We select the attributes needed. Our Fact will join to Dimensions we created in earlier steps. We have the option of identifying keys for this and selecting Entity Type as **Dimension**.



Our **Fact** table does need some attributes which can be measures.



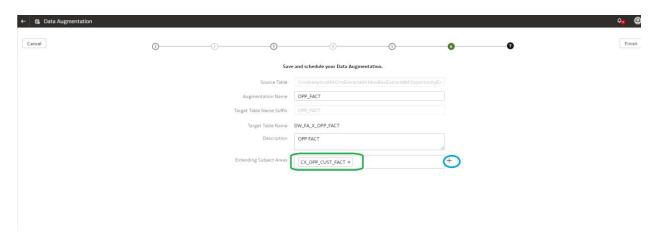
We use the **Keys** we identified to join to Dimensions we added earlier.



For measures we identified, we selected the appropriate Aggregation function applicable.



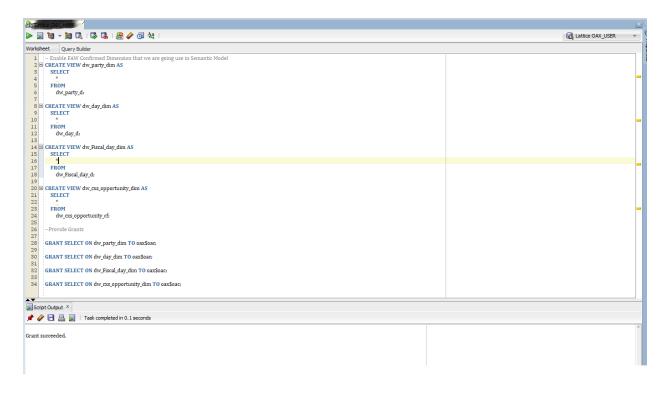
Then, we provide the subject area name.



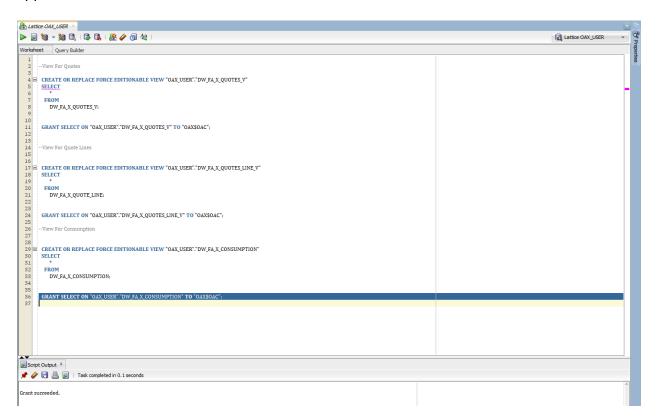
Step 3: Data modeling tweaks for a star schema

The best flexibility FAW provides is the highly descriptive pre-modeled content that can be used as confirmed Dimensions in our case. Also, this content is part of managed services and hence the responsibility of the data pipeline team. We do not have direct access to these Dimensions; hence we have to create custom views with necessary grant privilege as shown in the screen below before we can use them in our semantic model. We have the following OOTB Dimensions we are looking to use.

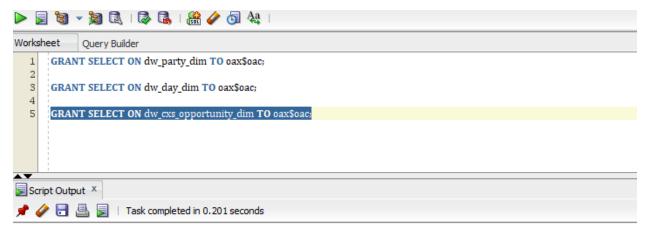
- 1. DW_DAY_D For Normal Calendar
- 2. DW_FISCAL_DAY_D For Enterprise Calendar
- 3. DW_PARTY_D For various role-playing dimensions
- 4. DW_CXS_OPPORTUNITY_CF For Opportunity specific metadata.



Next, we focus on the objects that we created by our data augmentation. We follow the same approach.

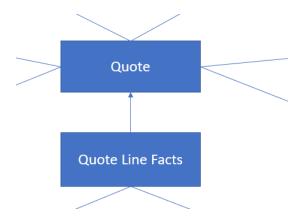


Grant as shown here.



Grant succeeded.

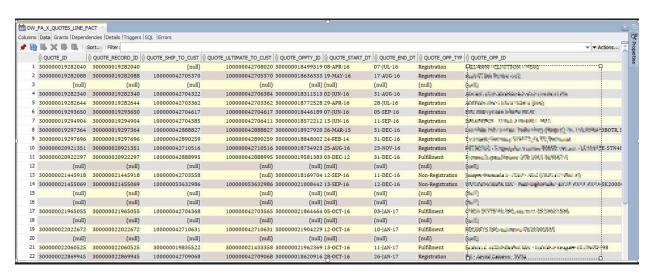
Our last issue is that our data model has Dimensions joining at both quotes header and Line level. Since the two tables are logically related, it is much easier to build this relationship at the database level.



We create a Fact with a left outer join since all **Quote lines** would correspond to **Quotes** but not necessarily vice versa. FAW users can modify the approach depending upon their specific use case. A full outer join though is not recommended for performance reasons.

```
☐ Welcome Page × 🔝 Lattice OAX_USER ×
Lattice OAX_USER
Worksheet Query Builder
   1 ☐ create view dw_fa_x_quotes_line_FACT as
       SELECT
       AS
         SELECT
           q.id
                           quote_id,
           q.shiptocustomername_id_c quote_ship_to_cust,
           q.ultimateendcustomer_id_c quote_ultimate_to_cust,
           q.opportunityname_id_c quote_oppty_id,
q.startdate_c quote_start_dt,
  10
           q.enddate_c
                               quote_end_dt,
           q.opportunitytype_c quote_opp_typ,
q.opportunity_c quote_opp_id,
  11
  12
13
           quote_threater,
q.source_record_id quote_threater,
qline.*
           q.standardendcustomer_c quote cust,
  15
16
           dw_fa_x_quotes_line_mv qline,
  18
            dw_fa_x_quotes_mv q
  20
         WHERE
           q.id (+) = qline.quotes_id_c;
       grant select on DW_FA_X_QUOTES_LINE_MV to OAX$OAC;
```

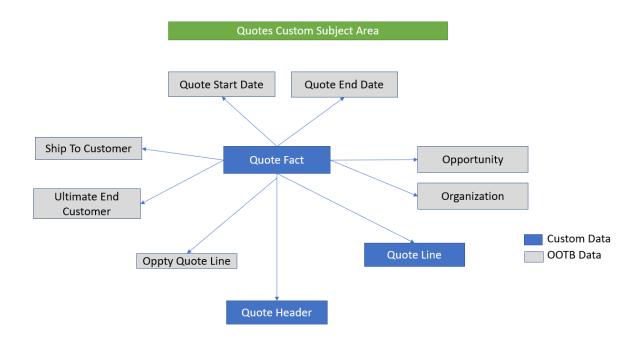
We now check and validate the data in the Fact table.





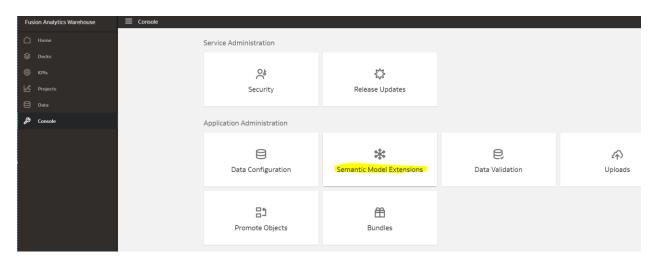
It is always a good practice to test out all the entity relationships in the database and confirm the results with business before proceeding to model them in the FAW.

Our new star schema is logically summarized below:

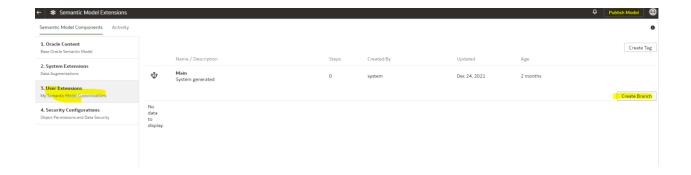


Step 4: Model using Semantic Model Extensions

We navigate from Console to **Semantic Model Extensions**, here:

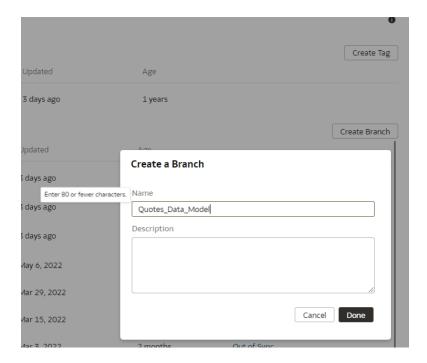


Our interface for the semantic model appears as follows and the left panel has several options, we would click on **User Extensions:**



Our first step is to **Create a Branch.** This is exactly like various source versioning software where an individual developer has an option of versioning. During the customizations in the branch, the changes can be published (option **Publish Model** as seen in the screenshot) and tested and after successful validation and due diligence, the changes could be finalized.

4.1. Create a Branch - Click on the option and name the branch by a distinct name



We now see a screen like below, select **Add Step:**



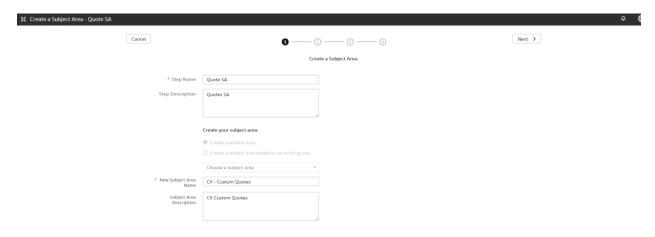
We see several options – We select Create a Subject Area for customization:



We are presented with two options:

- **I. Create a Subject Area –** If we want to create a subject area from scratch.
- **II. Create a Subject Area based on the existing one –** In case we want to leverage some confirmed dimensions from OUT OF BOX i.e. *Date, Currency, Ledger, Operating Unit*

We will use **Create a Subject Area**:



Click on **Next** and then we'll see the screen where to select **Finish**:



4.2. Add Dimensions

Always add all the Dimensions first before Fact is added so that we can correctly adjust the content level of Fact.

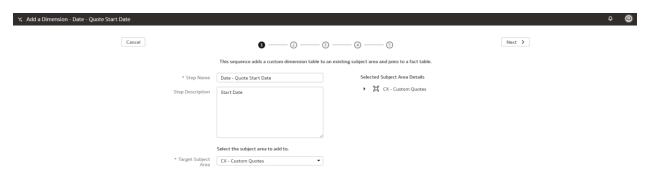


Content level is used to identify the grain or level of detail or aggregation level at which the Fact table associates with a Dimension

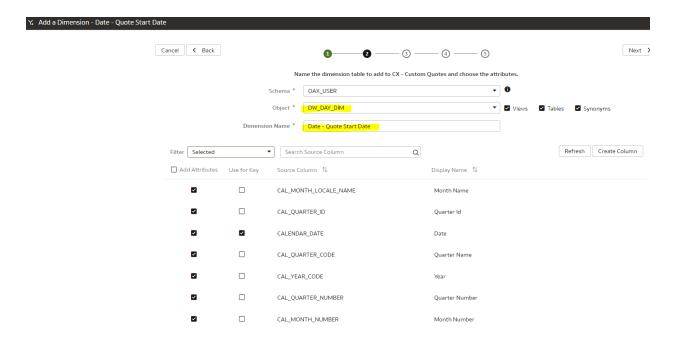
Now to Add a Dimension:



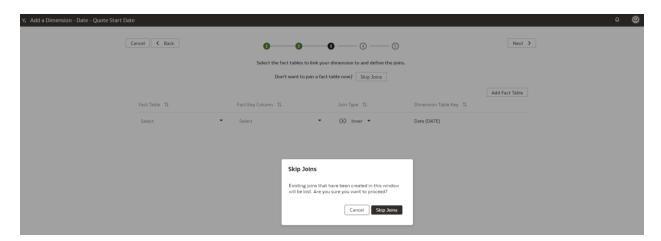
We define the step name, description and select the **Target Subject Area** that we created in an earlier step:



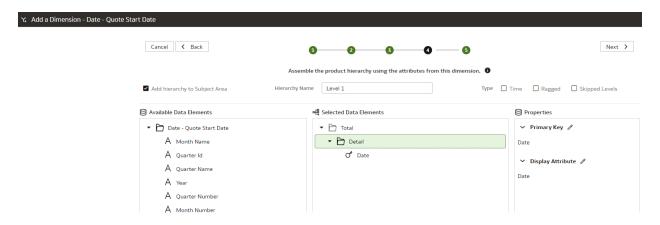
We move on to define keys, in our case the primary Dimension table is a foreign key for joining to the Fact. This is the most usual scenario, also we have an option of providing a more business-friendly display name for our columns which we have done.



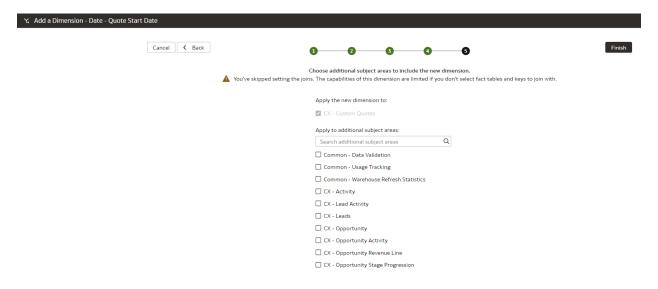
Since we haven't yet added the Fact table, we chose to skip joins for now.



We provide the Primary key and display attribute. In our case, this is the date.

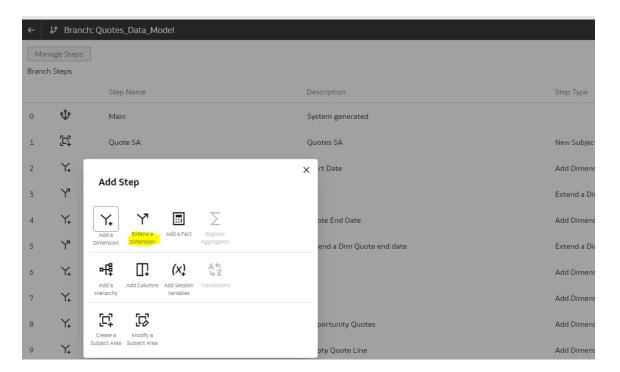


Then we click on the highlighted **Finish** button to finalize the steps that we have defined previously or use **Back** navigation if we need to re-check anything we have defined. **Cancel** would undo all the steps we did and exit from the step.

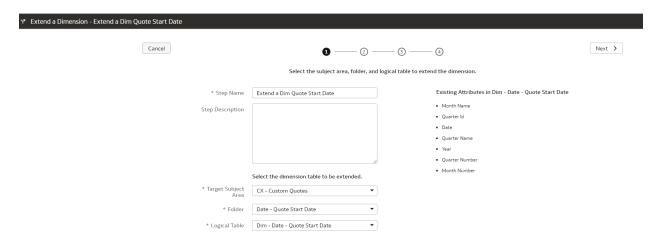


4.3. Extend a Dimension

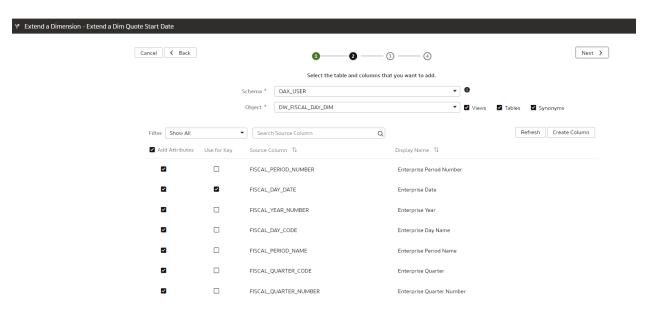
In our previous step we added the date calendar. We also need an enterprise calendar. We use the option of **Extend a Dimension** to incorporate this.



Then select the Dimension that we are extending and the same folder name. This allows all our date attributes to be neatly organized.



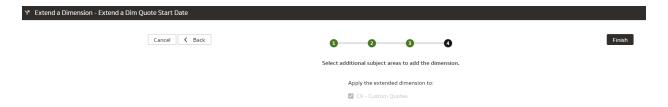
OOTB Dimensions usually have several attributes. It is a good practice to keep only the attributes needed for analysis. This helps easier user navigation and usage.



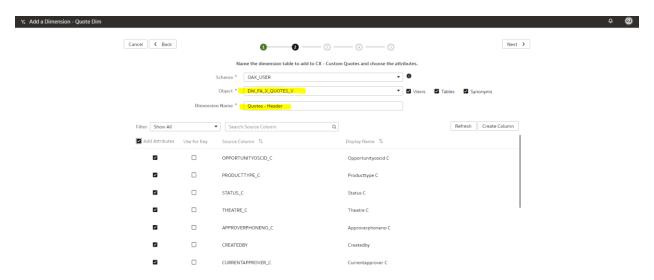
We join this extended Dimension on the date.



Our date now has attributes from both the calendars.

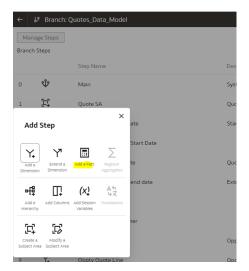


The same approach is applied in adding all the other Dimensions. For example in the Quotes header, we would select the **Quotes** view that we have created in the earlier step.

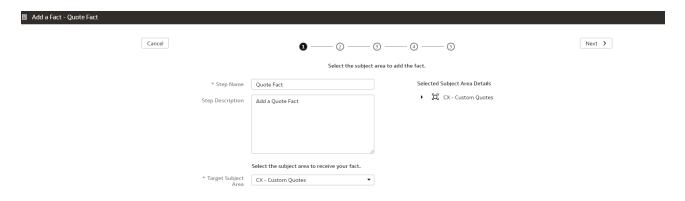


4.4. Add Fact Table

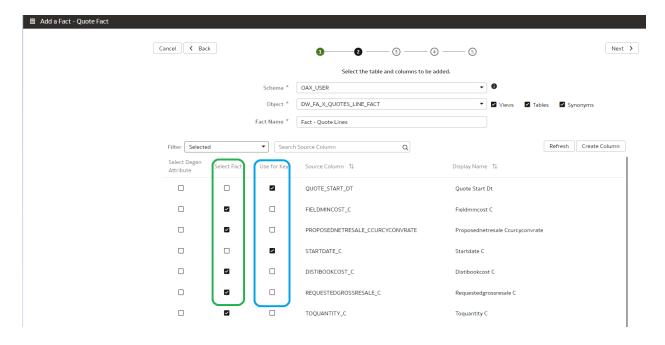
Now that our Dimensions are all added we add a new step for the **Fact** table.



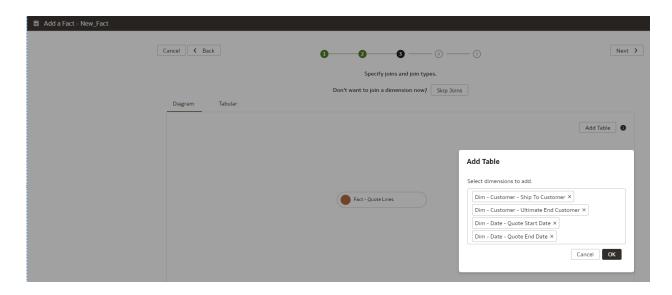
Then provide step name /desc and choose the target Subject Area, which we created earlier.



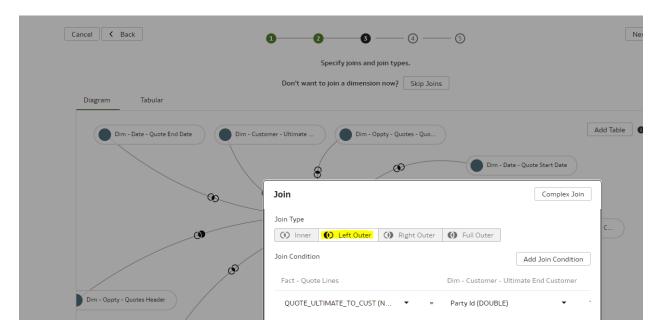
We now have a screen where we have an option of providing a more business-friendly display name. More importantly, we need to select all the keys that our Fact is going to use while joining with the Dimensions that we created earlier. We also select all Facts (measures) that we look to aggregate.



Now we proceed to provide all the joins between dimensions and Facts. We do this by selecting **Add Table**.



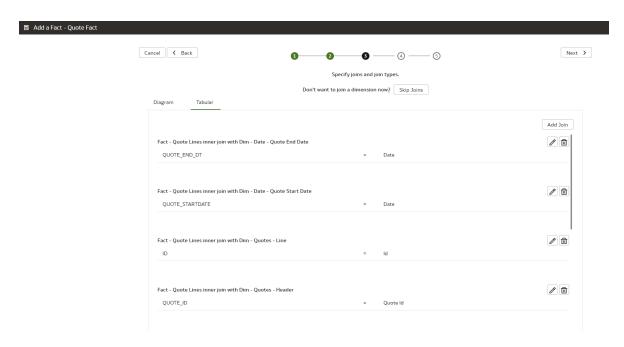
Once all Tables are included, we create joins by dragging the cursor between Facts and each Table helps us provide the join details (the click from Fact to Dimension creates a link diagram below). Note that we have options for outer joins, and complex joins. For our purpose, we have Dimensions that may be missing data, so we choose to create left outer joins for certain relationships as shown below



The final star schema model for **Quotes** is now complete.



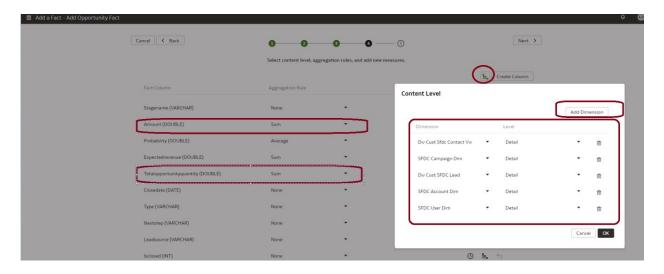
We can validate all of the joins we've entered by selecting the tab **Tabular** next to the diagram. If we miss any Dimension to Fact joins, this will cause our semantic model to fail.



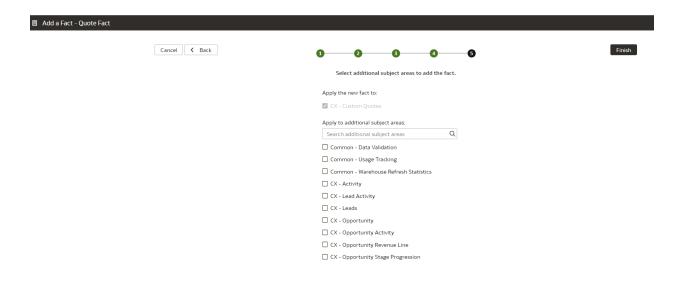
We see several options

1. Set Aggregation rule

- 2. Set Hierarchy (Next to create Column) Choose the level of detail at which Fact would join to the Dimension
- 3. Create Column

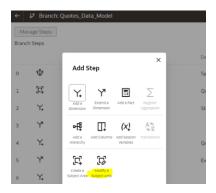


Once again, we have an option of adding our custom Fact to other OOTB subject areas as well. However, our dataset is independent, and we choose to skip it.

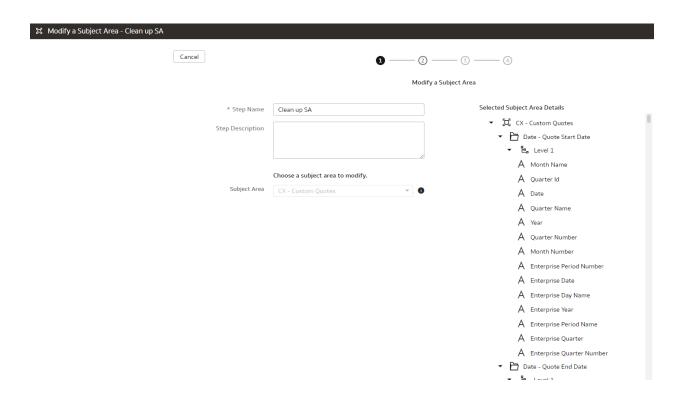


4. Modify Subject Area

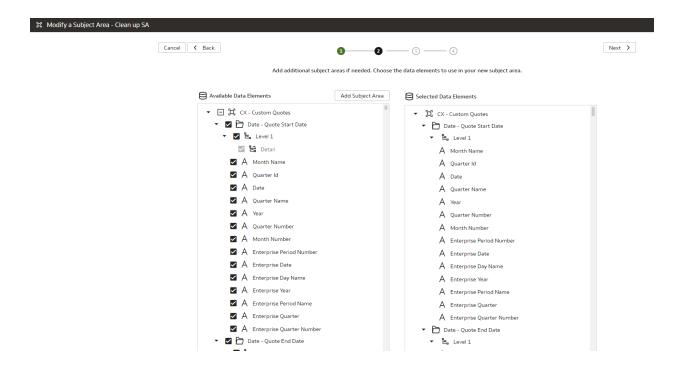
Add a step and select **Modify Subject Area**. This is the final step and an opportunity for us to clean up the look and feel of our subject area. In the first step, we have the option of filtering the columns we want.



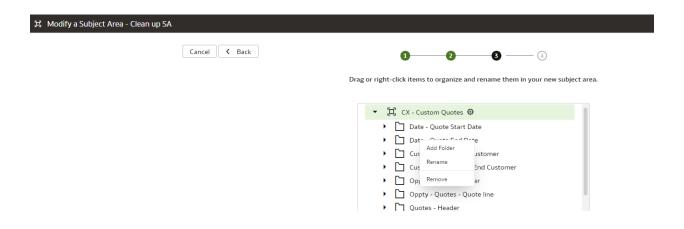
For a multiple dimension data model, this step is critical to revise the nomenclature, rearrange the columns within folders, and create new folders.



We select any attributes that we might want to skip in the first screen.



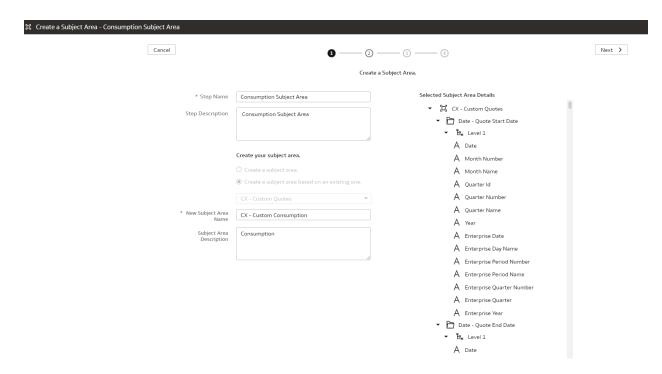
After clicking on next, we get an option to **Add Folder, Rename** columns, or **Remove** columns.



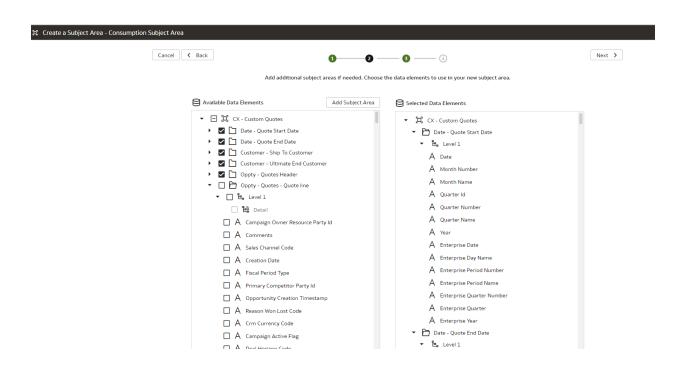
Post some renaming we are done with **Finish!**

5. Create custom Subject Area referencing the Prebuilt custom Quotes SA

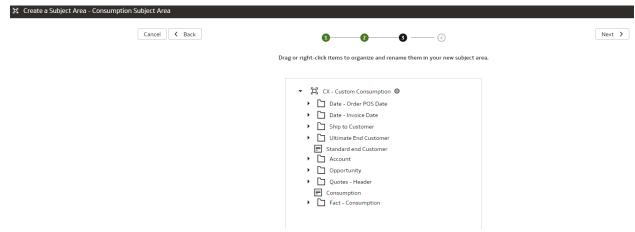
Our custom Consumption Subject Area leverages many Dimensions that we have already created. So we went ahead and added a step in this branch to create a Subject Area based upon Quotes SA.



We select the Dimensions applicable to our new Subject Area.

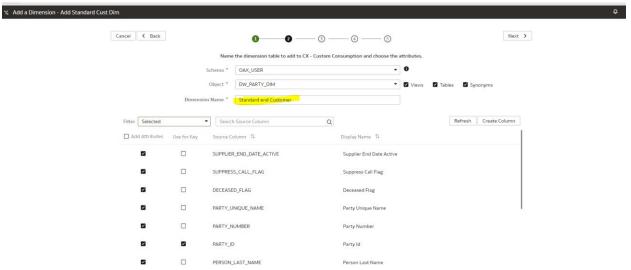


We create folders as placeholders corresponding to the Dimensions which we are yet to create.

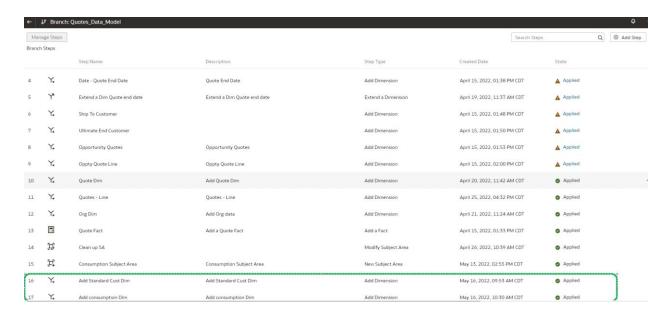


6. Create missing Dimensions in Consumer Subject Area

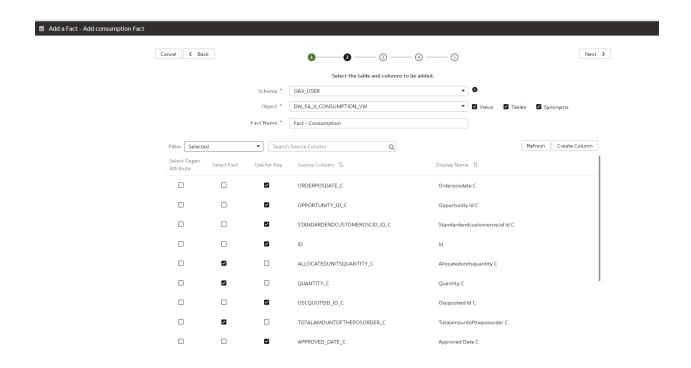
Now we create Dimensions and fill in placeholders that we created in the previous steps. First, we create the Dimension **Standard end Customer**.



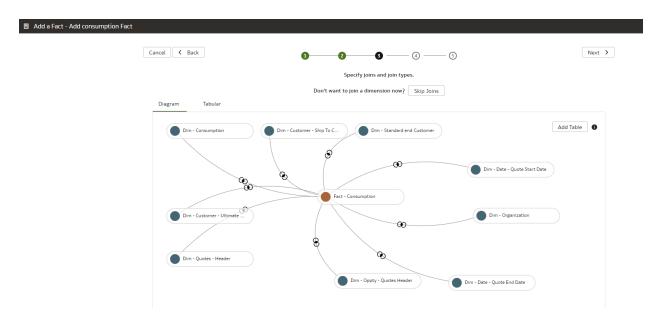
Next, we create the **Consumption Dimension**.



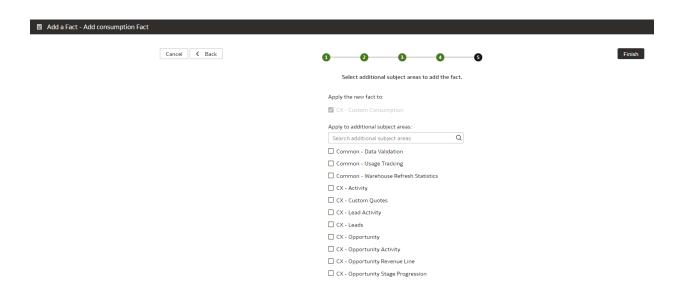
Finally, we add the **Consumption Fact** table from the consumption view object that we created from the Subject Area. We select all the keys for joining Dimensions and measures that we would like at aggregate.



Similarly, we've now created the star schema joining the Dimensions that we selected with the Fact table that we just added based on keys.

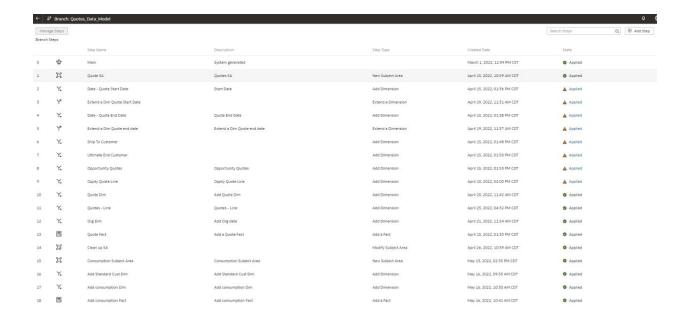


We now complete setting the context level for all the dimensions as in previous steps. Once we have completed, we finalize the subject area by selecting **Finish**.

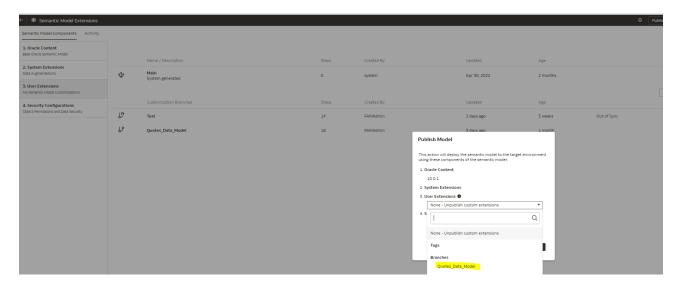


Step 5: Publish the Model

Our finalized model!



We go back to Semantic Model Extensions, and see the option **Publish Model** on the top right corner of the screen. By clicking in the popup window, we see models of all the other users as well. Under user extensions, we scroll and choose our Model and click on **Publish** button



In the activity tab we can see the progress of publishing, and wait on **In Progress** status to turn into **Done**.



We track the status of the **Publish** process.

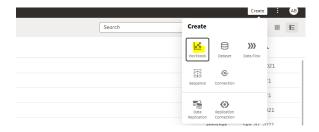


Step 6: Validation of data model /Create custom Reports

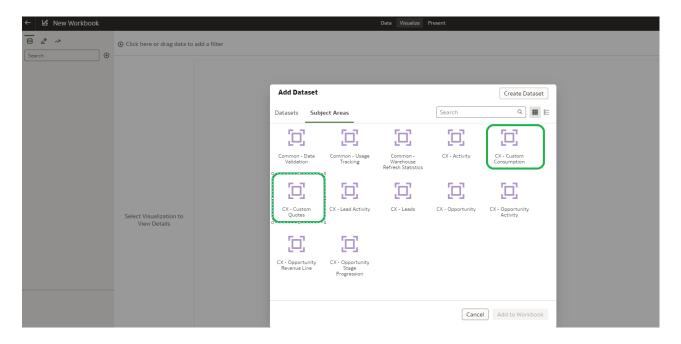
We navigate to **Catalog** from the main menu and see the option **Create** on the top right corner of the screen. Select **Create**.



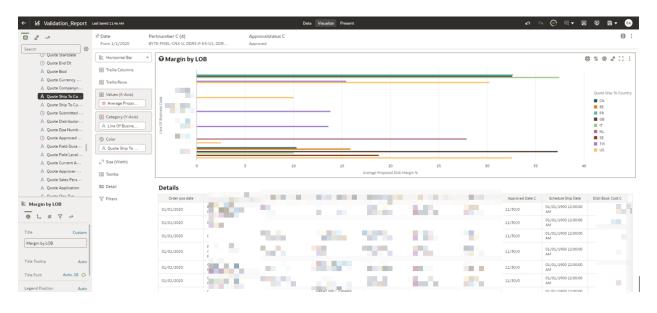
Select Workbook from the popup.



We get an option to select available datasets, on the right tab for Subject Areas we see our Subject Area and we select.



We create a small test report to validate all the Dimensions and Facts we created.



Our data model is now ready for consumption by a larger audience.

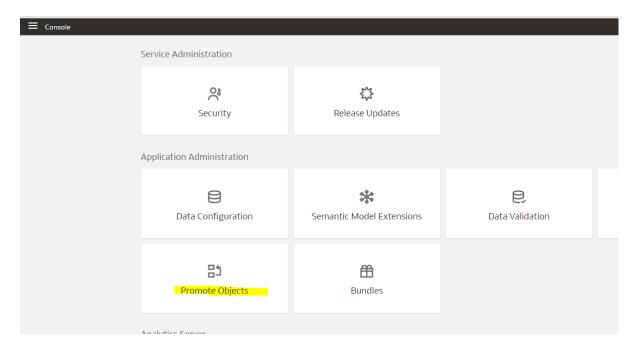
Step 7: Deploying the model

After we are satisfied that our data model has all the entity relationships modeled and working as intended, we can merge the model that we have with the semantic repository model which FAW uses. For this, we go to our model and on the right-hand corner with the option 'Merge to Main Branch'.

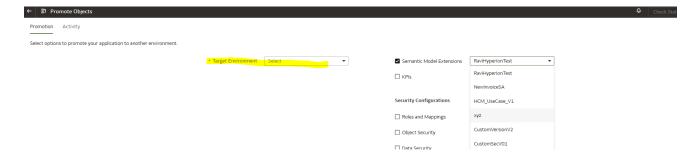


This option should be used cautiously only after we are done with all the changes since the changes cannot be reverted. We always create the model initially in the development instance and then promote it to production. Before we promote the model, we need to ensure that we have the custom data tables and the ELT data extraction jobs also promoted.

The promotion can be performed by the user with Admin privileges in FAW. There are two approaches here. We use the **Promote Objects** option.



It presents us with a simple interface that helps us select the target environment which will be our prod environment and then select the semantic model that we created from the drop-down



Our data model is now deployed in production.

Summary

In this article, we have attempted to showcase an example for extending a FAW content with data elements (entities) from Fusion in our FAW

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