

# Leveraging SQL Spatial Analytics for Making Business Decisions

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SQL Saturday #296, Melbourne

5<sup>th</sup> April 2014



#296 | MELBOURNE 2014

2013 global  
revenues of  
**USD 5.8 billion**



Client-centric,  
services-focused  
business

**73%** of Global Fortune 100 and  
**59%** of Global Fortune 500  
are **Dimension Data clients**

## Dimension Data today

Extensive experience in

**emerging  
markets**

Over **15,000**  
**employees**  
with operations in  
**52 countries**  
across **5 regions**



Over  
**6,000**  
clients across all  
**industry sectors**

# Agenda

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- What are **Location Based Services** (LBS) solutions?
- **Technical overview** and **solution architecture**
- Leveraging **SQL Spatial** functions
- data, Data, **DATA!**
- **Reporting** and **analytics**
- Questions

# What are location based services (LBS)?

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- A **value add** suite of **mobility services** that leverages Wi-Fi infrastructure
- Can **track device location, movements** and **browsing activity** in **real-time** over maps
- Can **push** interactive **services** and **content / data** back to devices

# What can they do?



## 1. Capturing Traffic, Behaviours & Patterns; opportunities to optimise or monetise

- Ex: Positioning long/short term Store location matched to traffic, time and demographics
- Ex: Attach accurate sale value to a location based on traffic direction and time of day
- Ex: Provide rules and alerting for “out of bounds” activities
- Ex: Asset tracking (medical equipment, high risk patients, high value casino chips, etc.)



## 2. Provide “Consumer” Experiences; personalised location based content & marketing

- Ex: Send personalised voucher based on location, demographic, dwell time, etc
- Ex: Activate interactive media station on location, demographic, dwell time, etc



## 3. Provide “Consumer” Services; “Where is it”, “Where am I”, “Take me to”, eCommerce

- Ex: Locate store indicated in voucher, map path to store, track conversions (QR Code)
- Ex: path finding based on capabilities and waypoints

# Key metrics captured



## 1. Primary Key (PK) – The MAC Address

- *The “unique key” of every device on the network*
- *Can also be dissected to identify device manufacturer*



## 2. Movement Measures

- *Date, Time, Map Location (X Y Z), Dwell Time, Direction of Travel, Speed of Travel, Distance*



## 3. Registration Attributes

- ***Anything you want** – but recommended to build profile slowly*
- ***Basics**; Name, DoB, Gender, Home Post Code, Email, Phone, Address, Marital Status*
- ***Nice-to-Have**; Occupation, Education, Income, Associates (ie Partner Registration)*
- ***Advanced**; Integration of purchase history, Integration of social media feeds*



## 4. Aggregation Calculations and Forecasting Capability

- *Device Crowding, cumulative dwell times, common travel paths, likely travel paths, frequency*
- *Calculated “Customer Value” based on business formula*

# But this is just the **Future...** *right?*

- Sydney Airport, **YESTERDAY** (2014-04-04)
  - Connected to free Wi-Fi (**Qantas Free Wi-Fi**) – *as I usually do*
  - Actually scanned the **T&C** this time around...

11.2 Everywhere Internet may collect and/or track certain information that is derived from your usage of the Qantas/Everywhere Internet service such as usage patterns, travel patterns and Web site page views and traffic patterns. Qantas/Everywhere Internet may use this tracking information for statistical purposes to improve our products and services and to manage our networks and systems more efficiently. Qantas/Everywhere Internet also records the MAC (Media Access Controller) address from the network card in or used with your computer or other device to enable Qantas/Everywhere Internet to accurately perform our billing functions.

- ...may **collect and/or track** certain information that is derived from your usage of the service such as **usage patterns, travel patterns and Web site page views and traffic patterns...**
- Qantas/Everywhere Internet also **records** the **MAC (Media Access Controller)...**

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# What are the solution components?

## Vendor OOTB Deployments

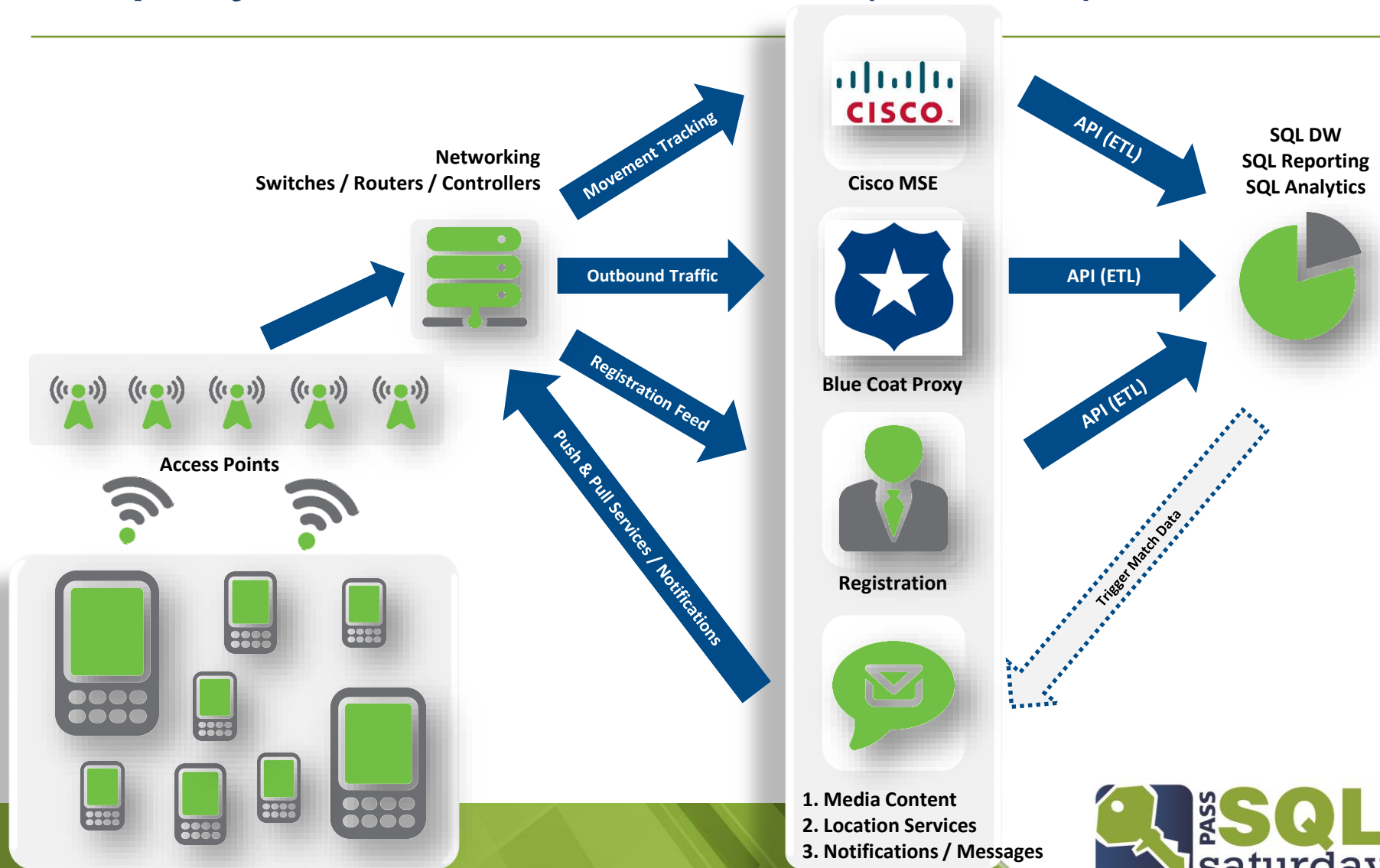
- Wi-Fi Infrastructure / kit (**Cisco**)
- Mobility Service Appliances (**Cisco MSE**)
- Web Proxy Appliance (**Blue Coat**)
- Registration Appliance / Web Service

## Custom Developed Components

- **Data Acquisition (ETL)** layer (.NET)
- **Data Warehouse (DW)** layer (SQL Server 2012/14)
- **Analytics & Reporting** layer (SQL Server 2012/14)
- **Device** layer (.NET / HTML5)



# Deployment architecture (macro)



# Key SQL Server tables (simplified)

<u>FactBrowsing</u>
Shopper Key
Map Hierarchy
Browse Date
Browse Time
URL Browsed
Time Taken
Host Server
Port
Bytes Sent
Bytes Received
Referrer
Categories
Method
Content Type
...
...
...

A row created  
for each URL  
browsed while  
on the network  
(*anonymous* cannot  
browse internet)

<u>DimShopper</u>
Shopper Key
MAC Address
Name
Mobile Contacts
Email Contacts
Address Contacts
Device Details
Demographics
...
...
...

A row for each  
registered shopper  
/ network user  
(incl *anonymous*)

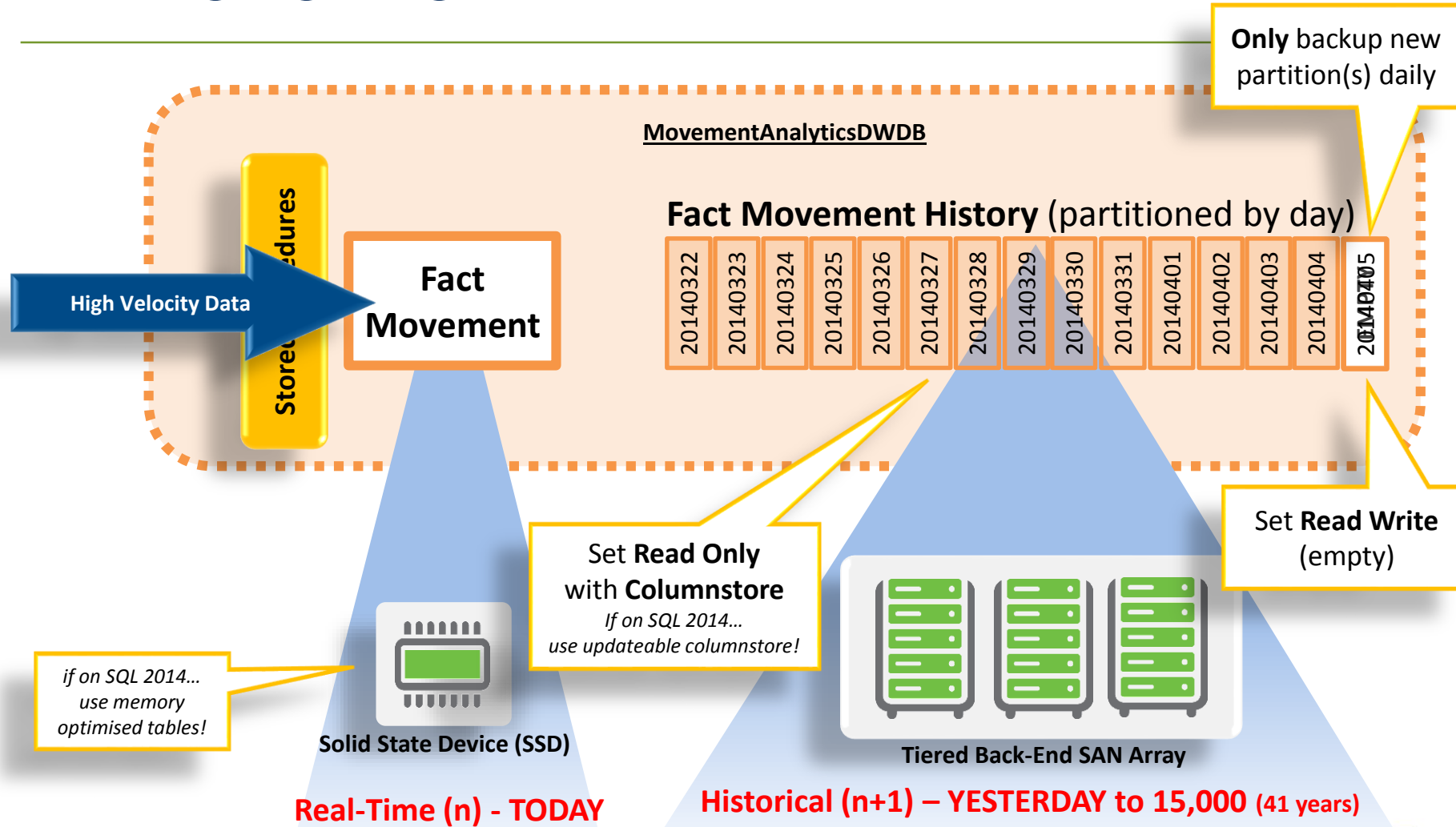
<u>FactMovement</u>
Movement Date
Movement Time
Shopper Key
Map Hierarchy
Device Location
Dwell Time

A “hot” row for  
each device’s  
current  
location that is  
on the network  
**RIGHT NOW**  
(incl *anonymous*)

<u>FactMovementHistory</u>
Movement Date
Movement Time
Shopper Key
Map Hierarchy
Device Location
Dwell Time
Depart Speed
Depart Direction
Depart Distance

A row for each  
device’s  
historical  
location that  
was on the  
network  
(incl *anonymous*)

# Managing large database tables (simplified)



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# Leveraging SQL Spatial Functions 1 of 4

## ■ Calculating and tracking device **Movements**

- Need **2 data points** – current location (**FactMovement**) & last location (**FactMovementHistory**)
- Data points need to be related to the same device / movement pattern to make sense

## ■ Calculating **Distance**

- Can be done via geometry **STDistance** function or **mathematically** (*Pythagoras Theorem*)
- $A^2 + B^2 = C^2$

**Not** the Geography datatype  
Not on a **global scale!**

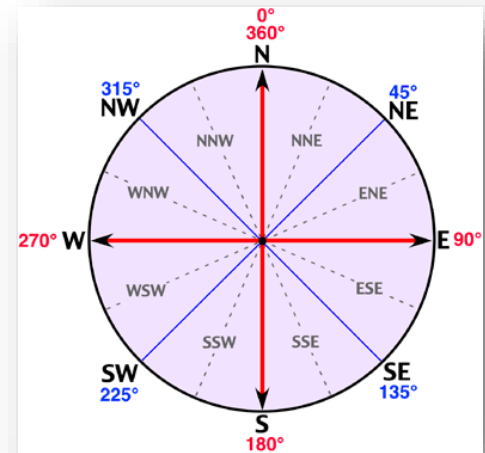
## ■ Calculating **Speed**

- **No geometry functions** to do this, has to be done **mathematically**
- $\text{Speed (m/sec)} = \text{Distance (m)} / \text{Time (sec)}$

## ■ Calculating **Direction**

- **No geometry functions** to do this, has to be done **mathematically**
- Need to use *Trigonometric functions*

## ■ **DEMO: Calculating Movement Measures**



# Leveraging SQL Spatial Functions 2 of 4

## ■ Calculating device **Proximity**

- Need **1 data point** – current or historical location (**FactMovement**) / (**FactMovementHistory**)
- Need something to search against – such as a list of stores, other devices, etc

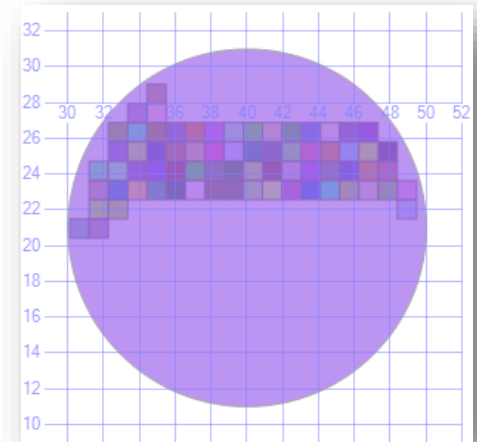
## ■ Drawing a **Radius**

- Can be done via geometry using **STBuffer** and **STContains** or **STIntersects** functions
- Can probably be done **mathematically** – *but why bother?!*

## ■ Calculating **Nearest** and **Furthest Elements**

- Can be done via geometry using **STDistance** function
- Can be done **mathematically** – *but again why bother?!*

## ■ DEMO: Calculating Proximity





# Leveraging SQL Spatial Functions 3 of 4

## ■ Calculating device **Aggregations**

- Need *LOTS* of **data points** – current or historical (**FactMovement**) / (**FactMovementHistory**)
- Need something to reference against – such as a list of stores, other devices, etc

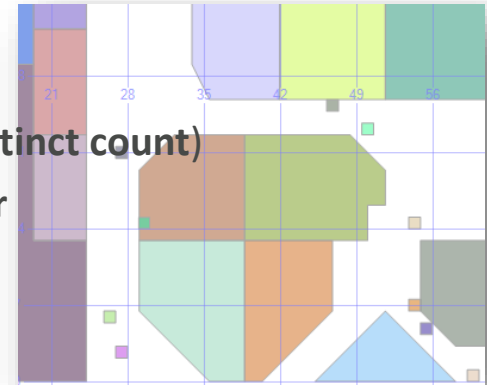
## ■ Calculating a **Dwell Time Aggregations**

- Can be done via **simple** SQL aggregation functions (avg, max, min, stdev, etc)
- Overlay with maps to **visualise** where these aggregations **occur**

## ■ Calculating a **Crowding Index Aggregations**

- Can be done via simple SQL aggregation functions (**count** & **distinct count**)
- Overlay with maps to **visualise** where these aggregations **occur**

## ■ DEMO: Calculating Aggregations





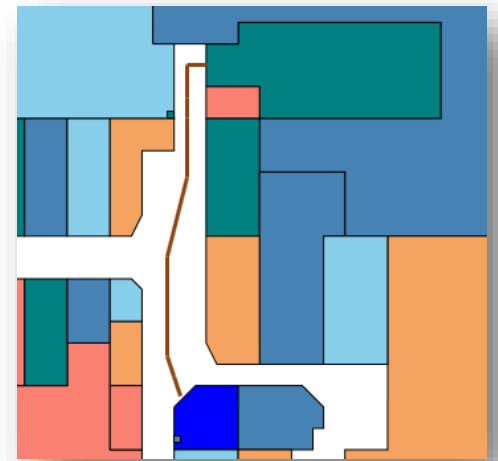
# Leveraging SQL Spatial Functions 4 of 4

- **Route Finding Algorithm – A\***

**NOT NEW!**  
First described in **1968**

- Widely used algorithm for graph traversal
- The process of plotting an efficiently traversable path between points

- Finds a **least-cost path** from an **initial node** to one **goal node**
- Follows a path of the **lowest expected total cost** or **distance**
- Takes **distance already travelled** into account
- “**Complete**” algorithm – it **will** find a solution if one exists!
- **DEMO: A\* Route Finding .Net Application**



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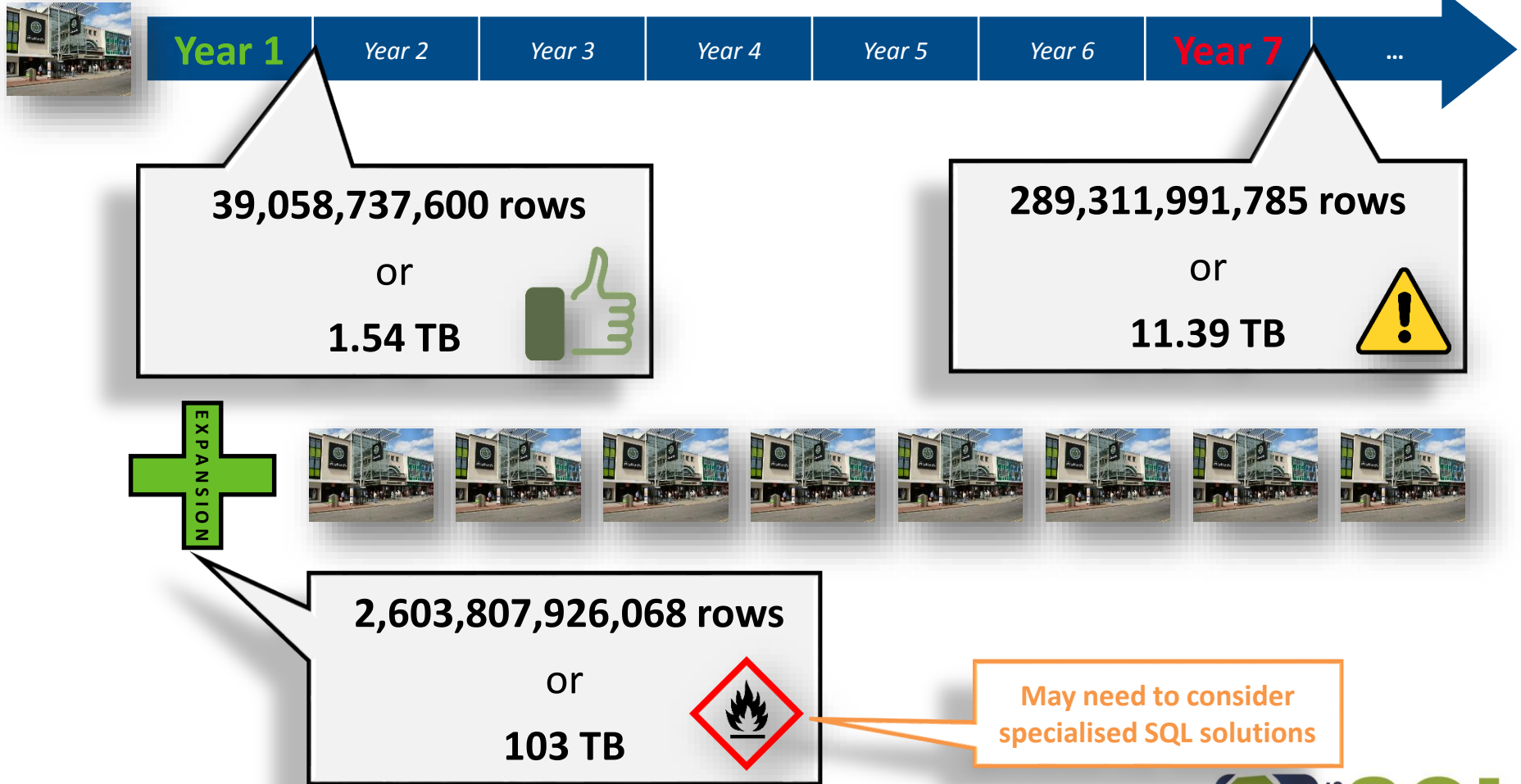
# So just how **BIG** could these solutions get?

Let's size up this **EXAMPLE** scenario...

- **Very Large Unnamed Victorian Retail Shopping Centre**
- **Open 9 hours/day, 7 days/week**
- **68,000** shoppers (@ peak hour & day)
- **Assume...** Peak of **3 hours/day** (6 hours @ **33% of peak load**)
- **Assume...** **40%** have a "trackable" device (**27,200**)
- **Assume...** **10** URL's browsed an **hour/device**
- **Assume...** **5%** YOY shopper growth rate

**(Q)** So what happens next?

# Data volumes and growth over time



# So then, is this a **BIG DATA** problem?

The industry marketing definition of **BIG DATA** is reasonably specific...

1. **[V]elocity? YES! @ 245,000 data rows/second**
2. **[V]olume? YES? @ 100+ TB of data**
3. **[V]ariety? NO! Data is well defined & structured!**

**(Q)** So how do we manage all this data?

# SQL Server can do it of course!

## @ DAY 1...

- Microsoft **SQL 2012/14 Enterprise** on **CISCO UCS & EMC Storage**
- **SMP** Compute Solution
- Calculated Compute and Storage Specifications
- Can also integrate **Big Data** from **Hadoop** via **Hive ODBC**
- **Scale > 0 TB < 100 TB**

## ▪ @ DAY 'n'...

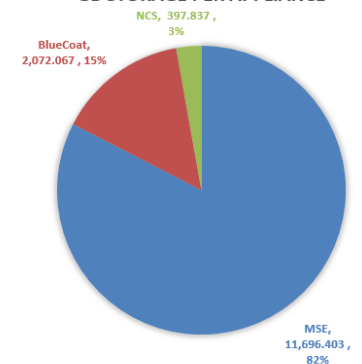
- Microsoft **SQL Parallel Data Warehouse (PDW)**
- **MPP** Compute Solution (up to 64 parallel nodes)
- Can also integrate **Big Data** from **Hadoop** via **PolyBase**
- **Scale > 1 TB < 6 PB**

Time - Responsiveness - Size - Cost

# DEMO – Data Sizing Model

SQL DW DATA SIZING MODEL PARAMETERS						
Parameter	Value	Scale	Cals 1	Desc 1	Cals 2	Desc 2
# locations	9	centres				
Peak # devices/location	27,200	peak devices	244,800	burst per/sec	11.44	burst MB
Yearly Growth % on Devices	5%	YoY percent	28,560	yr 1 Size		
MSE polling Interval (Sec)	5	sec	12.00	polls/min		
NCS polling Interval (Sec)	60	sec	1.00	polls/min		
# Movements/poll/device	1	movements/poll				
Total Hours/Day (Centres Open)	9	hours per day				
Total Hours/Day (Peak Usage)	3	hours per day	6	hrs off-peak		
% Devices Off-Peak	33%	percentage	8,976	off-peak devices		
Days/Year (Location is available)	365	days				
Data retention period (Years)	7	years				
URL browsed/device/hour	10	per hour	680.00	burst per/sec	332.03	burst KB
DB index % allowance	60%	percentage				
DB data compression % allowance	50%	percentage				
DB row size - Movement (Bytes)	49	bytes	39.20	bytes	0.03828	kb
DB row size - Browsing (Bytes)	500	bytes	400.00	bytes	0.48828	kb
DB row size - Network (Bytes)	16	bytes	12.80	bytes	0.01563	kb
<b>Comments and Description</b> Australia only number of devices actively on a single centre wifi network (peak load) the % growth year on year of the number of devices on the WIFI network number of seconds interval which the MSE API is called to get device location number of seconds interval which the NCS API is called to get device network stats number of device movements for each on every MSE poll total number of hours the location is available (avg) total number of hours the location is at peak # of Devices the % of total # Location Devices when centre is in off-peak number of days per year the centre is open (avg) number of years the data is retained in the DW number of URL's browser per device per session time at the location (estimated) the % data size increase due to addition of indexes for each row the % data size reduction due to page compression DB Movement Size (KB) + 60% index allowance - 50% compression allowance DB Browsing Size (KB) + 60% index allowance - 50% compression allowance DB Net Stats Size (KB) + 60% index allowance - 50% compression allowance						

GB STORAGE PER APPLIANCE



TOTAL: ALL DATA & ALL LOCATIONS									
SINGLE LOCATION					9 LOCATIONS				
Measure	Rows	KB	GB	TB	Measure	Rows	KB	GB	TB
FACT /Sec	3,303	140	0.000	0.000	FACT /Sec	29,725	1,256	0.001	0.000
FACT /Min	198,167	8,374	0.008	0.000	FACT /Min	1,783,504	75,365	0.072	0.000
FACT /Hour	11,890,027	502,434	0.479	0.000	FACT /Hour	107,010,240	4,521,902	4.312	0.004
FACT /Day	107,010,240	4,521,902	4.312	0.004	FACT /Day	963,092,160	40,697,120	38.812	0.038
FACT /Week	749,071,680	31,653,316	30.187	0.029	FACT /Week	6,741,645,120	284,879,842	271.683	0.265
FACT /Month	3,254,894,800	137,541,193	131.170	0.128	FACT /Month	29,294,053,200	1,237,870,741	1,180.526	1.153
FACT /Year	39,058,737,600	1,650,494,321	1,574.034	1.537	FACT /Year	351,528,638,400	14,854,448,891	14,166.306	13.834
FACT /7 Years	289,311,991,785	12,225,377,185	11,659.028	11.386	FACT /7 Years	2,603,807,926,068	110,028,394,661	104,931.254	102.472



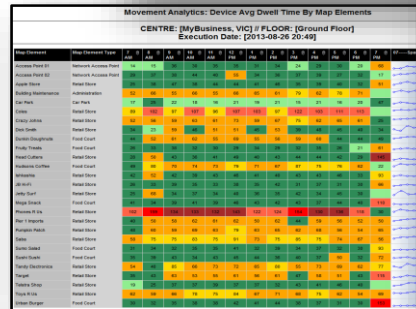
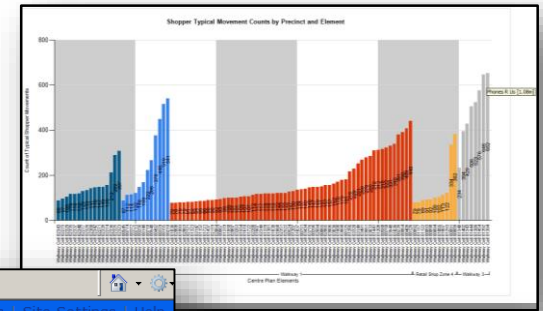
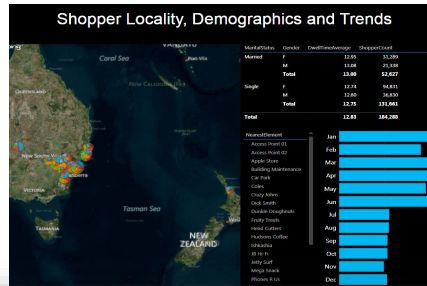
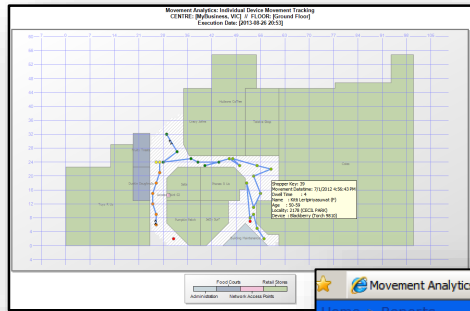
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# DEMO – Analytics and Reporting



**Movement Analytics - Report Manager**

Home | Reports | Home | My Subscriptions | Site Settings | Help

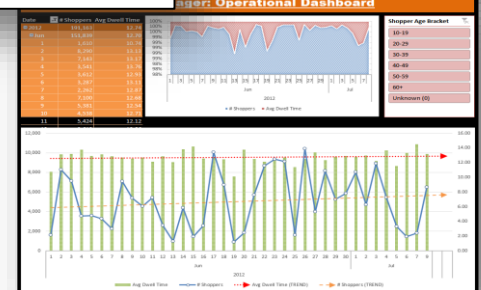
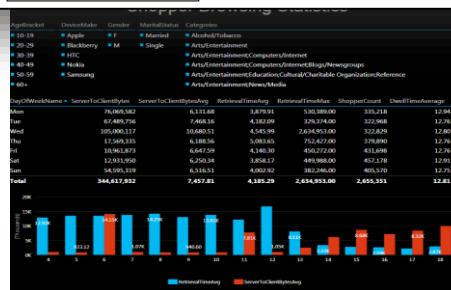
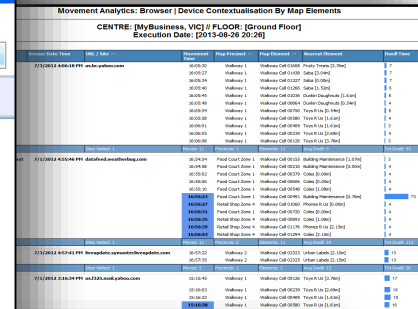
## Movement Analytics Reporting Portal

### Movement Analytics

Search

New Folder | New Data Source | Report Builder | Folder Settings | Upload File | Details View

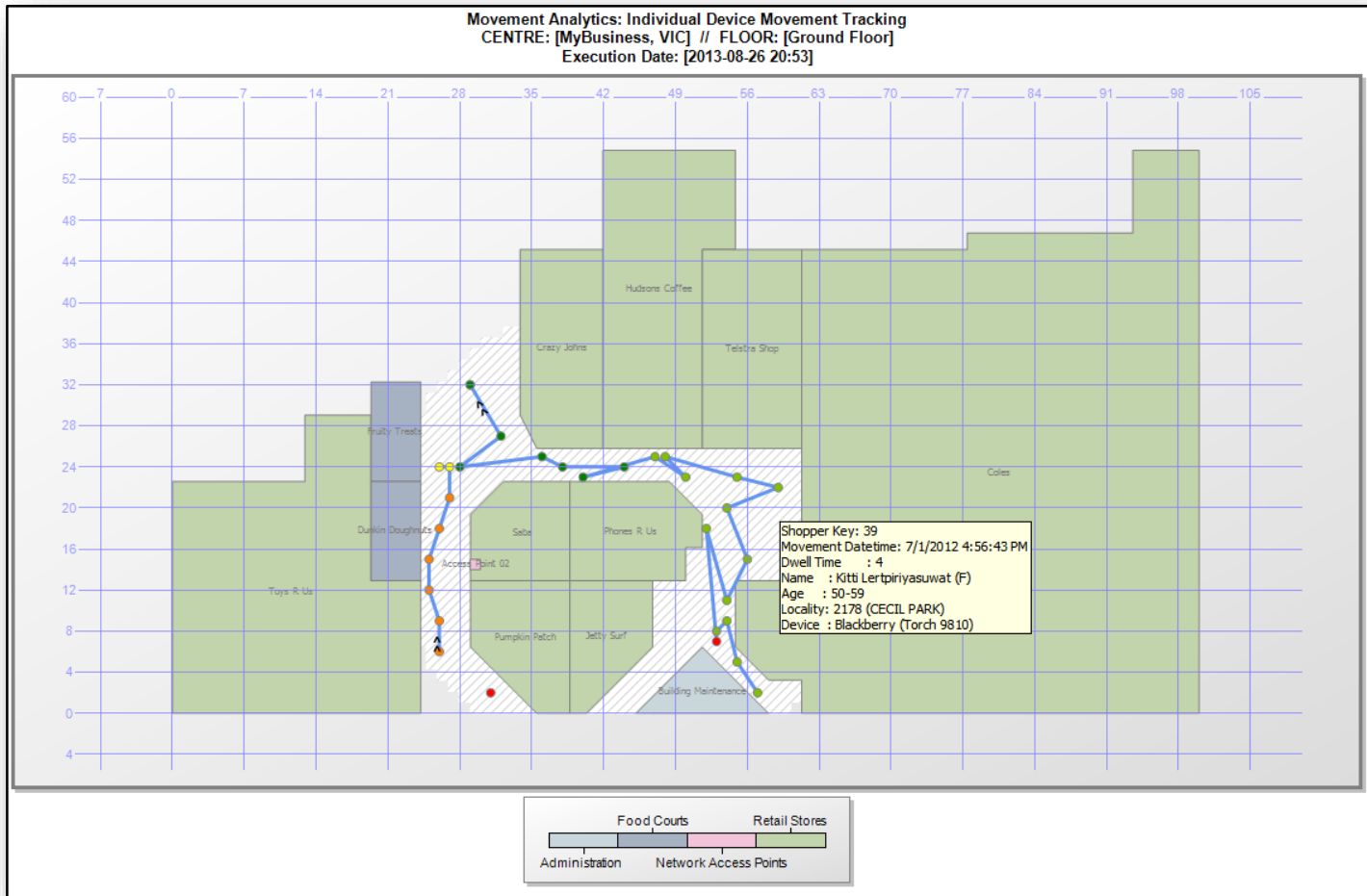
- Report\_MA001**  
Device passing near plan elements
- Report\_MA002**  
Device average time near plan elements
- Report\_MA003**  
Device browsing contextualisation
- Report\_MA004**  
Device live movements on plan
- Report\_MA005**  
Device typical movements on plan
- Report\_MA006**  
Device dwell time near plan elements
- Report\_MA007**  
Device crowding near plan elements



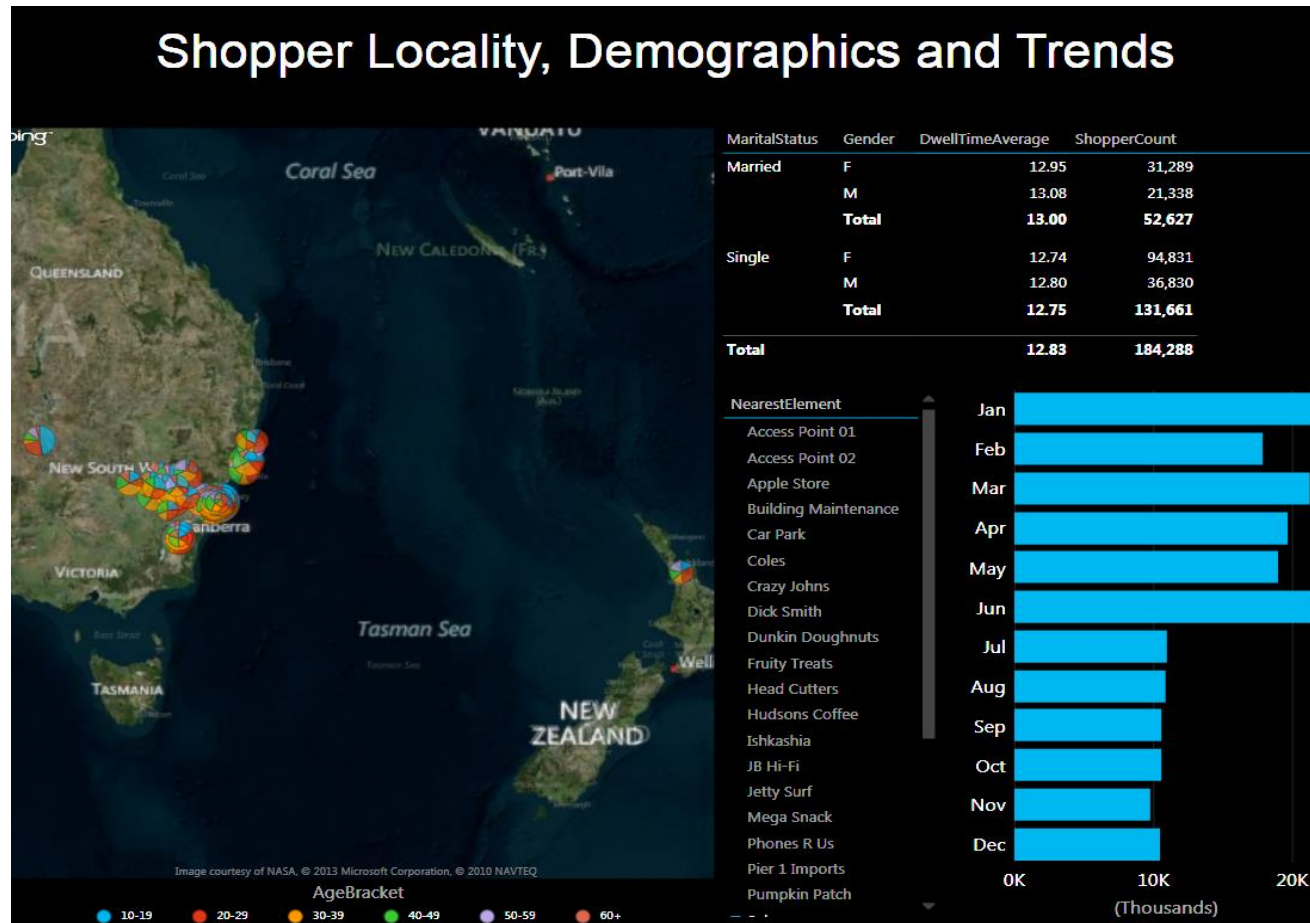
# SSRS – Browser Contextualisation

Movement Analytics: Browser   Device Contextualisation By Map Elements							
CENTRE: [MyBusiness, VIC] // FLOOR: [Ground Floor] Execution Date: [2013-08-26 20:26]							
Shopper	Browse Date Time	URL / Site	Movement Time	Map Precinct	Map Element	Nearest Element	Dwell Time
Brenda Diaz	7/3/2012 4:06:18 PM	us.bc.yahoo.com	16:05:20	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 01608	Fruity Treats [3.76m]	7
			16:05:27	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 01438	Saba [3.04m]	7
			16:05:34	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 01327	Saba [0.00m]	7
			16:05:40	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 01266	Saba [1.52m]	6
			16:05:45	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 01036	Dunkin Doughnuts [1.61m]	5
			16:05:49	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 00864	Dunkin Doughnuts [0.54m]	4
			16:05:54	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 00750	Toys R Us [0.54m]	5
			16:05:58	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 00580	Toys R Us [1.61m]	4
			16:06:01	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 00409	Toys R Us [1.61m]	3
			16:06:05	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 00239	Toys R Us [2.69m]	4
			16:06:08	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 00126	Toys R Us [3.76m]	3
Totals (Shopper: 16)		Sites Visited: 1	Moves: 11	Precincts: 1	Elements: 11	Avg Dwell: 5	Tot Dwell: 55
Kitti Lertpiriyasuwat	7/1/2012 4:55:46 PM	datafeed.weatherbug.com	16:54:54	Food Court Zone 1	Walkway Cell 00155	Building Maintenance [1.07m]	3
			16:54:58	Food Court Zone 1	Walkway Cell 00210	Building Maintenance [0.00m]	4
			16:55:02	Food Court Zone 1	Walkway Cell 00379	Coles [0.00m]	4
			16:55:06	Food Court Zone 1	Walkway Cell 00606	Coles [0.00m]	4
			16:55:10	Food Court Zone 1	Walkway Cell 00548	Coles [1.08m]	4
			16:56:23	Food Court Zone 1	Walkway Cell 00491	Building Maintenance [0.76m]	73
			16:56:27	Retail Shop Zone 4	Walkway Cell 01060	Phones R Us [0.00m]	4
			16:56:31	Food Court Zone 1	Walkway Cell 00720	Coles [0.00m]	4
			16:56:35	Retail Shop Zone 4	Walkway Cell 00893	Coles [1.08m]	4
			16:56:39	Retail Shop Zone 4	Walkway Cell 01176	Phones R Us [2.15m]	4
			16:56:43	Retail Shop Zone 4	Walkway Cell 01294	Coles [2.15m]	4
Totals (Shopper: 39)		Sites Visited: 1	Moves: 11	Precincts: 2	Elements: 11	Avg Dwell: 10	Tot Dwell: 112
Marc Ingle	7/3/2012 4:57:41 PM	liveupdate.symantecliveupdate.com	16:57:22	Walkway 2	Walkway Cell 02323	Urban Labels [2.15m]	13
			16:57:35	Walkway 2	Walkway Cell 02325	Urban Labels [2.15m]	13
Totals (Shopper: 71)		Sites Visited: 1	Moves: 2	Precincts: 1	Elements: 2	Avg Dwell: 13	Tot Dwell: 26
Ranjit Varkey Chudukatil	7/1/2012 3:16:34 PM	us.f325.mail.yahoo.com	15:15:45	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 00126	Toys R Us [3.76m]	17
			15:16:03	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 00239	Toys R Us [2.69m]	18
			15:16:22	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 00409	Toys R Us [1.61m]	19
			15:16:38	Walkway 1	Walkway Cell 00580	Toys R Us [1.61m]	16

# SSRS – Device Movements



# PowerView – Locality & Demographics



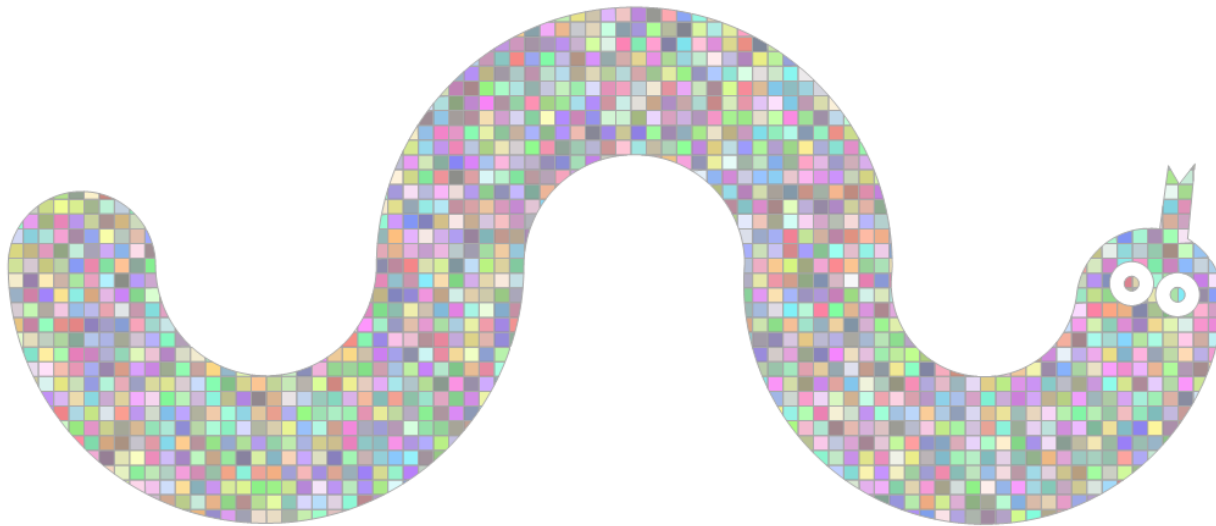
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# Some SQL Spatial Geometry Fun...

- SQL Spatial can do **more** than just **boring *business* stuff... tsk!**
- We can create our own **Patch Work Animals!**
- 



- A **BIG** kudos to **Alastair Aitchison (MVP & MCTS)**
  - <http://alastaira.wordpress.com/2012/04/13/gridding-geometries-or-creating-patchwork-animals-in-sql-server/>

# Questions?

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Please complete an Evaluation Form and return it to the Room Monitor

Please make sure you visit our fantastic sponsors:





*And a final parting note to leave you with...*



*...and in other news...*

According to this sign  
one of the **great benefits**  
of a pregnant woman  
on a bus is the...

**Free Wi-Fi !**

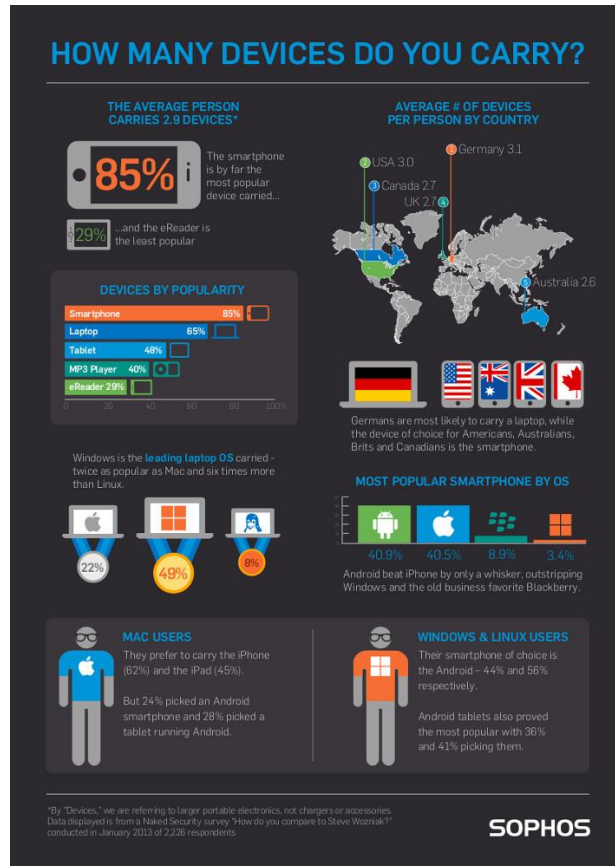


# References

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- Location Based Services – A WIKI Definition
  - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Location-based\\_service](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Location-based_service)
- Cisco Mobility Services Engine (MSE)
  - <http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/wireless/mobility-services-engine/index.html>
  - [http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/collateral/wireless/mobility-services-engine/white\\_paper\\_c11-728970.html](http://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/products/collateral/wireless/mobility-services-engine/white_paper_c11-728970.html)
- Gridding Geometries - Alastair Aitchison Blog
  - <http://alastaira.wordpress.com/2012/04/13/gridding-geometries-or-creating-patchwork-animals-in-sql-server/>
- A\* Search Algorithm
  - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A\\*\\_search\\_algorithm](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A*_search_algorithm)

# Appendix



- **Australia** has **2.6 devices per person**
- **Germany** has the highest at **3.1 per person**
- Majority of Devices are **Smart Phones**
- **Android** is the **most popular** Smart Phone OS
- **Windows** is the **least popular** Smart Phone OS
- **Windows** is the **most popular** Laptop OS