

Chapter 4

Working with SAP Extractors

This chapter discusses standard SAP extractors in different functional areas in logistics. You'll learn about the extractor types and the differences between them.

When you want to extract data from any SAP ERP system into SAP BW/4HANA, you need *extractors* or DataSources that fetch and send data between the two systems. In this chapter, you'll be introduced to the extractors in each functional area in Section 4.1.

There are many extractors that are delivered across multiple functional areas, and each functional area has its own logic to send historical and delta records to SAP BW/4HANA using DataSources. You'll learn about the types of SAP-delivered extractors in Section 4.2. You'll explore the logistics Extractors in Section 4.2.1, where we'll focus on logistics applications like sales and distribution, materials management, purchasing, plant maintenance, and so on. Then we'll talk about the finance extractors in Section 4.2.2, with extractors for areas like accounts receivable, accounts payable, and the general ledger. Finally, we'll look at human resources extractors in Section 4.2.3.

Section 4.3 looks at generic extractors, and then you'll learn about installing SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence (SAP BusinessObjects BI) content in Section 4.4. Once you complete the chapter, you'll have a strong foundation for learning about data loading from SAP S/4HANA in later chapters.

4.1 Introduction to SAP Extractors

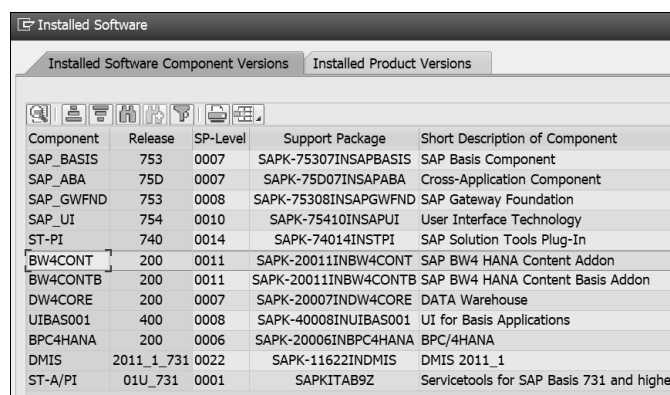
This section covers types of SAP ERP systems and their associated SAP BusinessObjects BI content and discusses the availability of SAP extractors and DataSources.

SAP ERP System and Extractors

SAP BW/4HANA can be connected to SAP ERP and SAP S/4HANA. There have been major functional-level changes between these two systems, and new tables have replaced some old tables in SAP S/4HANA. The important SAP S/4HANA versions start from SAP S/4HANA 1610, which was released in May 2016, and the latest version is SAP S/4HANA 2022. Most of the SAP business content extractors that worked with SAP ERP are still used in SAP BW/4HANA. A few DataSources are depreciated with SAP

S/4HANA. For some DataSources, alternatives have been provided in SAP S/4HANA. We'll focus on the most common application areas here and their associated extractors, where most SAP BW reporting is used.

To extract data from SAP ERP, many DataSources have been developed by SAP across multiple application components. These DataSources can be accessed using specific transactions in SAP S/4HANA or SAP ERP systems. For SAP BW systems, these DataSources have been updated and shipped using the BI_CONT add-on, which can be installed in SAP BW 7.X systems; for example, SAP BusinessObjects BI content 7.57 is the add-on for 7.5. It includes SAP HANA–optimized business content. When SAP BW/4HANA is used, you'll see two new components: BW4CONT and BW4CONTB. BW4CONTB contains objects like InfoAreas, application components, InfoObjects, and so on. BW4CONT has dataflows, aDSOs, CompositeProviders, InfoSources, and transformations. You can see the BW4CONT component in Figure 4.1.



Component	Release	SP-Level	Support Package	Short Description of Component
SAP_BASIS	753	0007	SAPK-75307INSAPBASIS	SAP Basis Component
SAP_ABA	75D	0007	SAPK-75D07INSAPABA	Cross-Application Component
SAP_GWFND	753	0008	SAPK-75308INSAPGWFND	SAP Gateway Foundation
SAP_UI	754	0010	SAPK-75410INSAPUI	User Interface Technology
ST-PI	740	0014	SAPK-74014INSTPI	SAP Solution Tools Plug-In
BW4CONT	200	0011	SAPK-20011INBW4CONT	SAP BW4 HANA Content Addon
BW4CONTB	200	0011	SAPK-20011INBW4CONTB	SAP BW4 HANA Content Basis Addon
DW4CORE	200	0007	SAPK-20007INDW4CORE	DATA Warehouse
UIBAS001	400	0008	SAPK-40008INUIBAS001	UI for Basis Applications
BPC4HANA	200	0006	SAPK-20006INBPC4HANA	BPC/4HANA
DMIS	2011_1_731	0022	SAPK-11622INDMIS	DMIS 2011_1
ST-A/PI	01U_731	0001	SAPKITAB9Z	Service tools for SAP Basis 731 and higher

Figure 4.1 BW4CONT and BW4CONTB

Types of SAP extractors include the following:

- **Application-specific**
 - Business content extractors—widely used
 - Customer-generated extractors—not used much with SAP S/4HANA
- **Cross-application**
 - Generic extractors
 - Custom CDS views

4.2 SAP-Delivered Business Content Extractors

For application-specific business content extractors, SAP delivers the business content completely, which means the DataSource is already developed by SAP. During the

implementation, it's enough to activate the DataSource and consume the data from the source system. SAP-delivered extractors include logistics extractors, finance extractors, and HR extractors. Let's look at these extractors in detail in the following sections.

4.2.1 Logistics Extractors

SAP has delivered many DataSources to extract data from logistics-based applications, including the following functional applications:

- Sales and distribution
- Purchasing
- Materials management
- Shop floor control
- Quality management
- Plant maintenance
- Invoice verification

The DataSources can be accessed from Transaction LBWE in SAP S/4HANA (the Logistics Cockpit), which has information about all logistics DataSources. Each logistics application is identified with a unique two-digit number, as you can see in Figure 4.2.

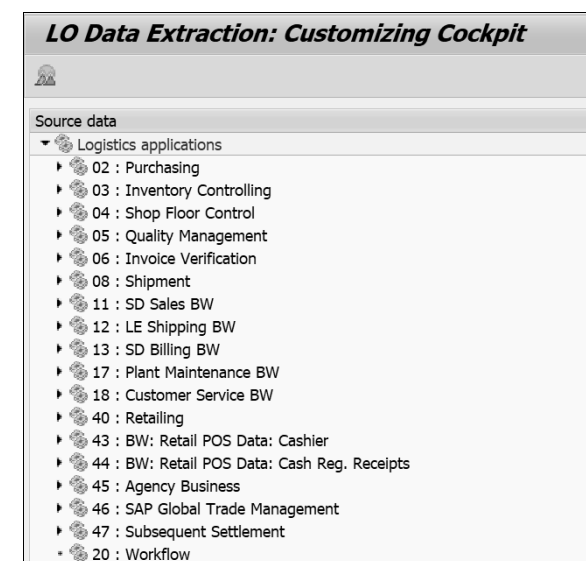


Figure 4.2 LO Cockpit

When you expand any application component number, you can see the details of the extractors that are delivered by SAP under **Extract Structures**, as shown in Figure 4.3.

LO Data Extraction: Customizing Cockpit		
Source data	Structure	DataSource
Logistics applications		
02 : Purchasing		
03 : Inventory Controlling		
04 : Shop Floor Control		
05 : Quality Management		
06 : Invoice Verification		
08 : Shipment		
11 : SD Sales BW		
Extract structures		
MC11VA0HDR: Extraction SD Sales BW: Document Header	Mainten...	2LIS_11_VAHDR
MC11VA0ITM: Extraction SD Sales BW: Document Item	Mainten...	2LIS_11_VAITM
MC11VA0KON: Extraction SD Sales BW: Document Condition	Mainten...	2LIS_11_VAKON
MC11VA0SCL: Extraction SD Sales BW: Document Schedule Line	Mainten...	2LIS_11_VASCL
MC11VA0STH: Extraction MD Order Header Status	Mainten...	2LIS_11_VASTH
MC11VA0STI: Extraction MD Order Item Status	Mainten...	2LIS_11_VASTI
MC11V_0ITM: Extraction SD Sales BW: Document Item Allocation	Mainten...	2LIS_11_V_ITM
MC11V_0SCL: Extraction SD Sales BW: Allocation Schedule Line	Mainten...	2LIS_11_V_SCL
MC11V_0SSL: Extraction MD Sales: Order Delivery	Mainten...	2LIS_11_V_SSL
12 : LE Shipping BW		
13 : SD Billing BW		

Figure 4.3 Extractors in LO Cockpit

Application component 11, SD Sales BW, which is used to extract sales and distribution data, has many DataSources, as listed in Figure 4.3. Chapter 5 will discuss how to use these DataSources and extract data to SAP BW/4HANA.

When extracting the data from the logistics DataSources, you need to fill in the setup table, which is a temporary table for loading the historical data, and then use the logistics-based delta logic to get the new and changed records.

When handling scenarios like inventory management, the data should not be cumulated in SAP BW because inventory deals with the inflow and outflow of materials. To handle such scenarios, use materials management DataSources that deal with extraction of inventory data. They support noncumulative key figures in SAP BW/4HANA. When extracting data using these DataSources, there is an additional process that needs to be followed. The DataSources can be seen in the application component for inventory management, as shown in Figure 4.4.

LO Data Extraction: Customizing Cockpit		
Source data	Structure	DataSource
Logistics applications		
02 : Purchasing		
03 : Inventory Controlling		
Extract structures		
MC03BF0 : Extraction MM-BW: Goods Movements	Mainten...	2LIS_03_BF
MC03UM0 : Extraction MM-BW: Stock Revaluations	Mainten...	2LIS_03_UM

Figure 4.4 Inventory Management Extractors

4.2.2 Finance Extractors

There are many SAP standard-delivered DataSources that extract data from finance application components. The common finance applications used most commonly until SAP BW 7.5 include the following:

- Accounts receivables
- Accounts payable
- New general ledger

With SAP S/4HANA, there has been a major change in finance applications and how data is stored in the tables; many old finance tables have been replaced by table ACDOCA. With SAP S/4HANA, new DataSources based on table ACDOCA have been delivered to replace old finance DataSources. You can see the OFI_ACDOCA_10 and OFI_ACDOCA_20 DataSources in Figure 4.5.

Installation of DataSource from Business Content		
Set Section	Content Delta	Activate DataSources
OFI_ACDOCA_10		Unified Journal Entry
OFI_ACDOCA_20		Unified Journal Entry (with Currency type)
OFI_GL_1		General ledger: Transaction figures
OFI_GL_10		General Ledger: Leading Ledger Balances
OFI_GL_11		General Ledger: Balances of Leading Ledger via Line Items
OFI_GL_12		General Ledger: Balances of Leading Ledger via Delta Queue
OFI_GL_14		General Ledger (New): Line Items Leading Ledger

Figure 4.5 Table ACDOCA and Finance DataSources

Unlike logistics DataSources, there is no need for a setup table to do a historical data load here. Finance extractors use timestamps for fetching new and changed records in delta extraction. You'll learn more about this logic in Chapter 5.

4.2.3 HR Extractors

You may need to extract data from HR or SAP ERP Human Capital Management-based applications for SAP BW reporting, and SAP has delivered DataSources for these scenarios. Note that SAP SuccessFactors is also used for many HR-based activities, and SAP BW/4HANA can also extract from that application. An example of the personnel administration application is shown in Figure 4.6.

PA-PA Personnel Administration	
PA-PA-IO	Personnel Administration Master Data
OHR_PA_0	Employee
OHR_PA_1	Personnel Actions
OHR_PA_4	Employee Headcount
OHR_PA_5	Actions
OHR_PA_6	Reminder of dates with Direct Access
OHR_PA_8	Salary Overview
OPAY_FREQ_TEXT	Pay Frequency

Figure 4.6 HR Personnel Administration DataSources

You can also see the DataSources for payroll and time management in Figure 4.7.

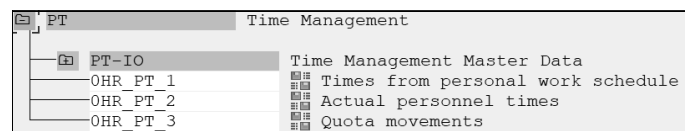


Figure 4.7 HR Time Management DataSources

SAP HANA-Optimized Business Content

When you install the latest SAP BusinessObjects BI content add-on, you'll get SAP HANA-optimized business content objects. There are many in-memory objects, like aDSOs and SAP HANA composite providers. These objects support new data models that follow recommendations based on Layered Scalable Architecture++ (LSA++).

DataSource Enhancement

In any SAP-delivered extractor, there is an option to enhance the standard extractor. If you have a business requirement that can be achieved by enhancing a standard extractor, like adding a few fields, that's possible with DataSource enhancement. You need to enhance the DataSource fields and, if required, write the enhancement logic to extract the data for the enhanced fields. If the business requirement is so complex that an enhancement won't be enough, then the only option is to create a custom DataSource based on the business requirement by creating your own extractor, as we'll discuss in the next section.

4.3 Generic Extractors

When the SAP-delivered business content-based extractors can't meet your business requirements, then you can create generic extractors or user-developed extractors. The end-to-end process of creating an extractor and enabling the delta process should be done by the extractor developer who is implementing the solution. SAP has provided multiple methods to create custom DataSources, including the following:

- Generic DataSource based on views
- Generic DataSource based on InfoSets
- Generic DataSource based on function modules
- SAP BW BAdI providers
- Custom CDS views
- Custom SAP HANA calculation views

When you want to create a generic DataSource in SAP S/4HANA, you can use Transaction RSO2. It will have various options to create the DataSource, as shown in Figure 4.8.

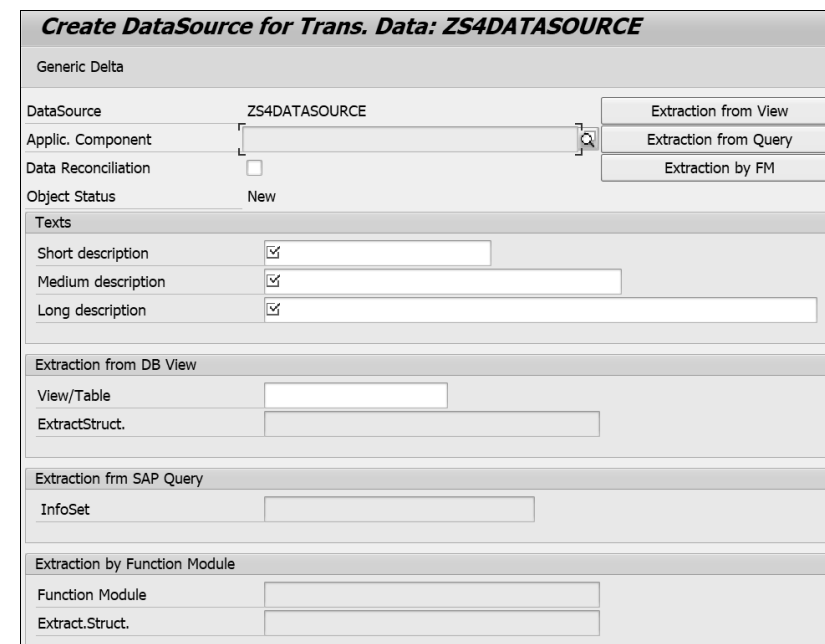


Figure 4.8 Generic DataSource Creation: Transaction RSO2

Transaction RSO2 will work only in the SAP S/4HANA or SAP ERP source system. In SAP BW/4HANA, you can only display the DataSource; the **Create** option will be disabled, as shown in Figure 4.9.

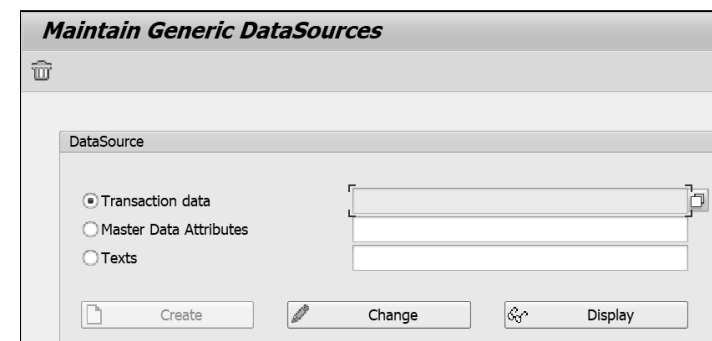


Figure 4.9 Transaction RSO2: SAP BW/4HANA

Because Transaction RSO2 is not available in SAP BW/4HANA, the alternate option is to create the generic DataSource within the SAP BW/4HANA system, using the following options:

■ ABAP CDS views (using custom logic)

ABAP CDS views help you create complex and semantically rich data models. Using CDS views, you can create views based on table fields according to application-specific needs for your business. These CDS views are a kind of virtual data model that allows direct access to the tables.

■ SAP HANA calculation views (custom calculations)

An SAP HANA calculation view is a type of information view that you can use to define more advanced slices of data available in the SAP HANA database. You can create joins and projections on tables that reside in the database.

■ BAdI InfoProvider as an ODP SAP BW provider

A BAdI InfoProvider is an InfoProvider that you can enhance by means of ABAP implementation. It's created using the RSO_BADI_PROVIDER BAdI.

4.4 Installing SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Content

When you need to use SAP-delivered business content objects or dataflows in SAP BW/4HANA, you need to install the SAP BusinessObjects BI content. Execute Transaction RSA1, and you can find the **BI Content** button, as shown in Figure 4.10.

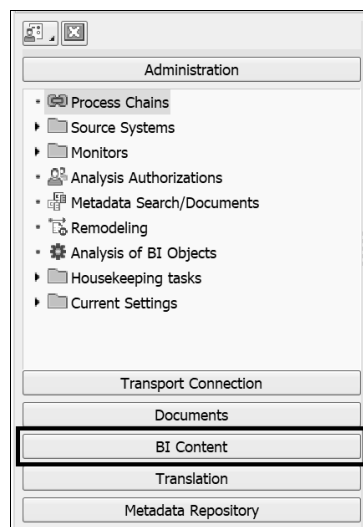


Figure 4.10 BI Content Option

Once you choose **BI Content**, you will have the option to install required objects, as shown in Figure 4.11:

- ❶ Choose **Object Types**.
- ❷ Choose the object type that you need to install and click **Choose Objects**. The system will show a popup with a list of available objects based on the type.

- ❸ Select the SAP BusinessObjects BI content object that you want to install (you can use the **Search** icon to find an object).
- ❹ Choose **Transfer Selections**, which will collect all the related objects upward and downward for installation. For example, if you choose an aDSO, then the downwards objects in the dataflow for the aDSO are InfoObjects, DataSources, and transformations. The upwards objects are SAP HANA composite providers and the associated queries. All these objects will be collected for the installation.

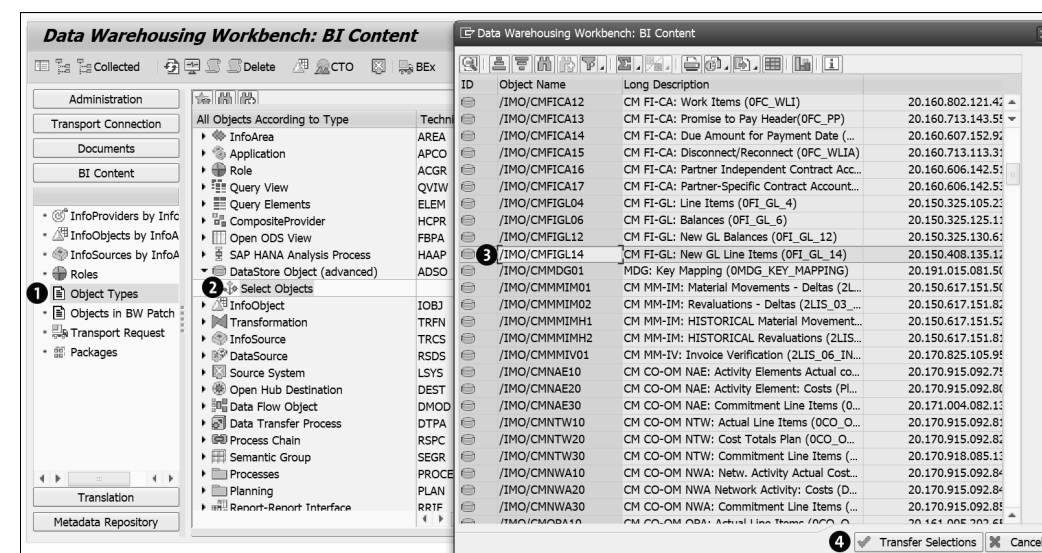


Figure 4.11 Object Types in SAP BusinessObjects BI Contents

When installing, you will have option to group objects as shown in Figure 4.12, with the following options:

- **Only Necessary Objects** will collect the important objects for the required SAP BW object that needs to be installed.
- **Data Flow Before** will collect all the objects that connect to the current object; for example, for an aDSO, you'll get the InfoObject, transformations, and so on.
- **Data Flow Afterwards** will collect all objects above the current installation object. For example, the aDSO will get all objects that have queries and other reporting elements.
- **Data Flow Before and After** will collect all data flow-based objects like InfoObjects, transformations, aDSOs, queries, and so on.

Once you've decided on a grouping option, you can install the object with the **Install** option, as shown in Figure 4.13.

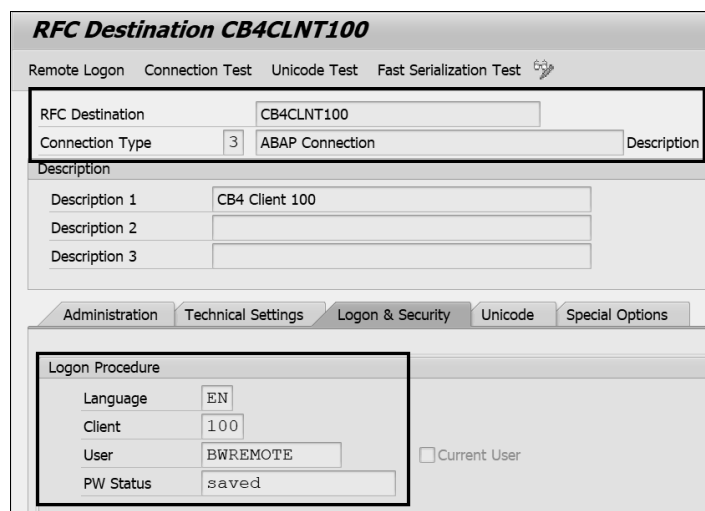


Figure 4.12 Grouping

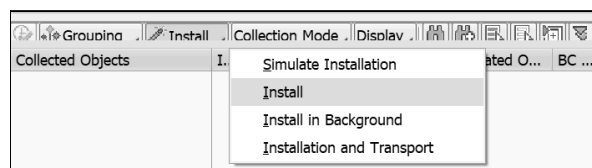


Figure 4.13 Install SAP BusinessObjects BI Content Object

4.5 Summary

In this chapter, you learned the basics of SAP extractors. We looked at the different types of extractors across different functional areas. We walked you through the standard-delivered extractors in the LO cockpit and explained how the application numbers are used in logistics extractors. We also walked through the different categories of extractors in finance applications. Finally, we looked at the extractors used in HR applications. You also learned about generic extractors and the steps to install the BI content objects in an SAP BW/4HANA system. These basics will be used as the foundation for data staging from the next chapter on.

In the next chapter, we'll focus on extracting data from SAP logistics applications to SAP BW/4HANA. This will be one of the most important chapters in the book. We'll detail the steps thoroughly so that the data staging can be understood from end to end.

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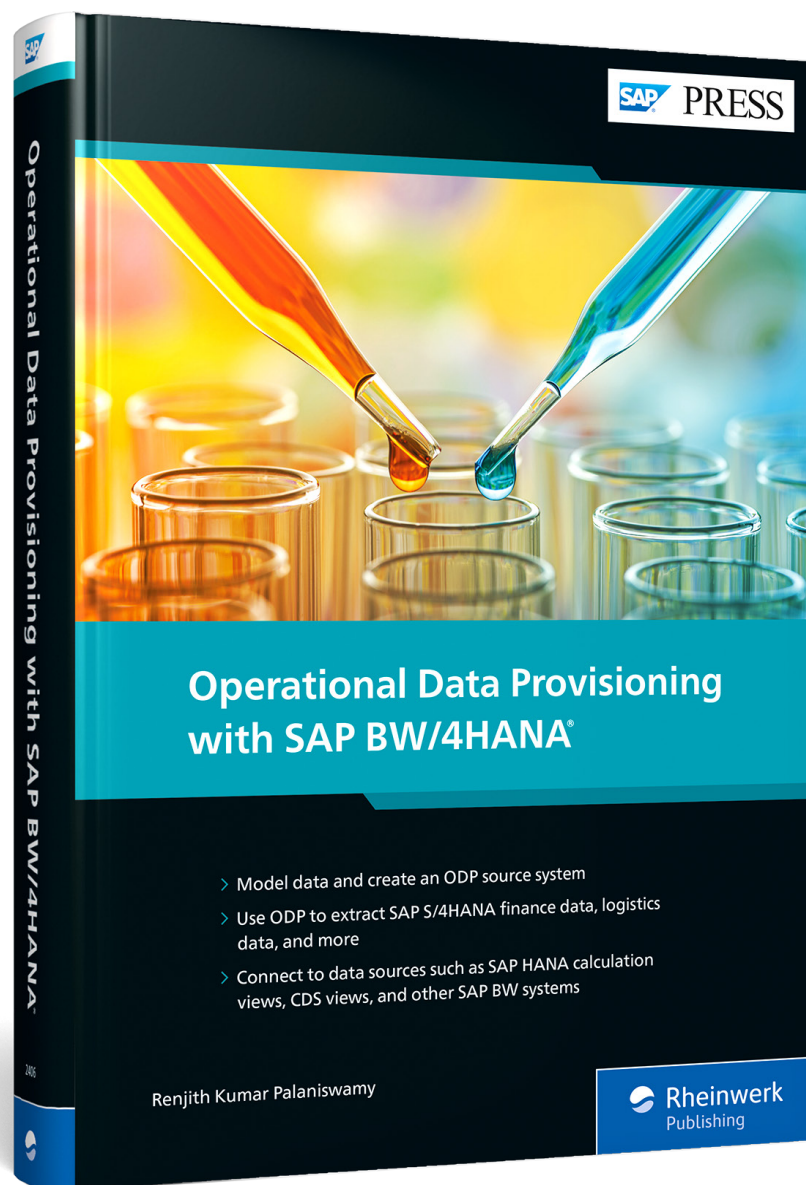
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native SAP S/4HANA modeling, and SAP BW/4HANA greenfield implementations and remote conversions.

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