

Numerical transformations in Power Query

DATA PREPARATION IN POWER BI



Maarten Van den Broeck

Content Developer at DataCamp

Why should you clean data?

- Cost of bad data = \$3.1 trillion
- The 1-10-100 rule
 - \$1 to verify
 - \$10 to clean
 - \$100 if you do nothing

**Harvard
Business
Review**

¹ <https://hbr.org/2016/09/bad-data-costs-the-u-s-3-trillion-per-year>

What is clean numerical data?

- Free from missing values / errors / outliers
- Mathematical transformations are applied (if applicable):
 - Absolute value
 - Logarithm (Natural / Base 10)
 - Multiplying by / adding a scalar value
- Data is rounded to the appropriate amount of digits

On date columns

- Date (and time) is considered a separate data type in Power Query
- Special transformations can be applied to a date column:
 - Extract year, quarter, month, week, day
 - Start/end of year, quarter, month, week
 - Extract age
 - Other

