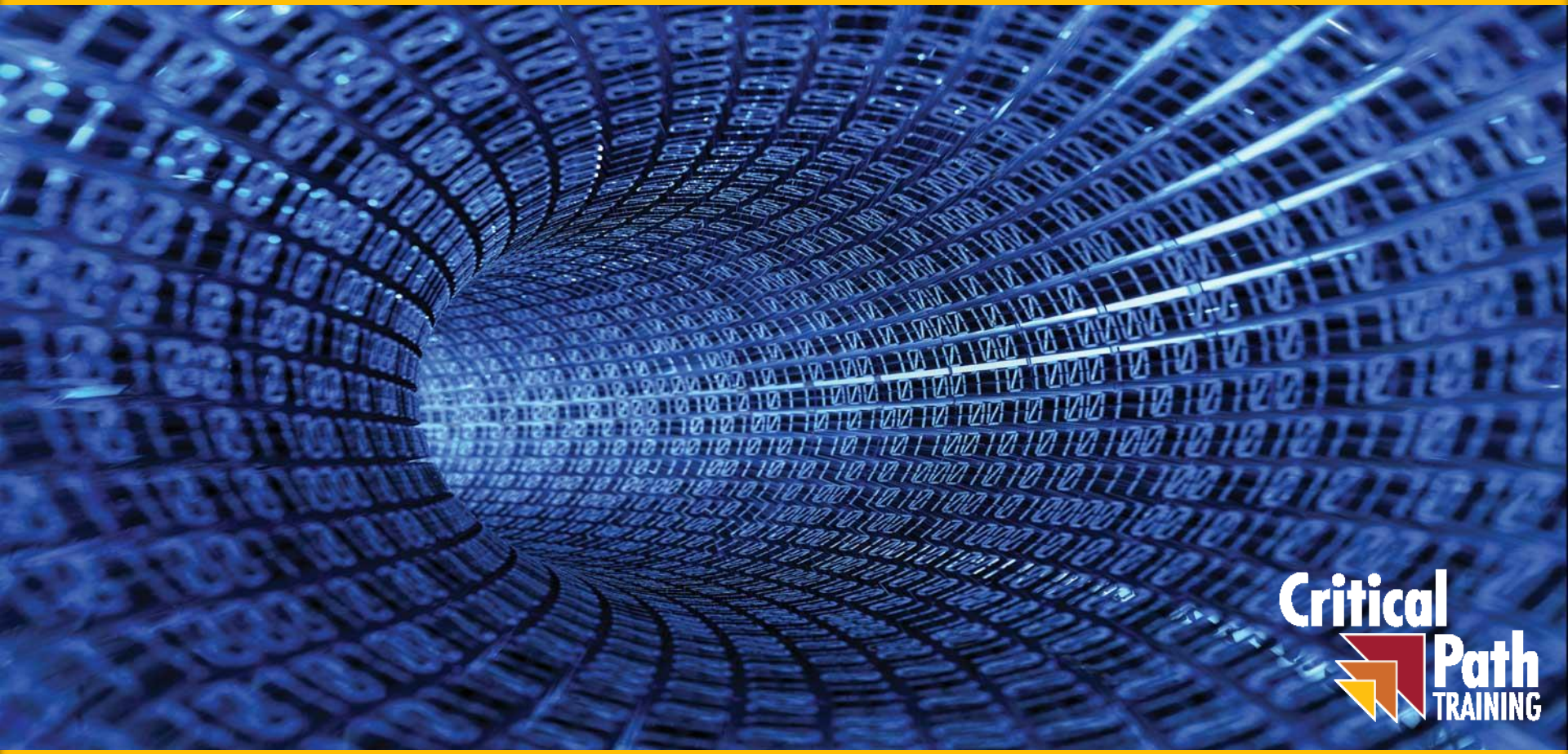
Developing with the Power BI Service API



Agenda

- Power BI Service API Overview
- Registering Applications with Azure AD
- Security Programming with Azure AD
- Importing PBIX Project Files using Code
- Programming Datasets and Data Sources

The Power BI Service API

- What is Power BI Service API?
  - API built on OAuth2, OpenID Connect, REST and ODATA
  - Allows developers to program datasets, reports and dashboards
  - Also known as **Power BI REST API** & ***Power BI API***

- What can you do with the Power BI Service API?
  - Import PBIX files
  - Perform operations on datasets and data sources
  - Embed Power BI reports and dashboards tiles in web pages
  - Create and populate streaming datasets for real-time dashboards

What Operations Are Supported in v1.0?

- Workspace Operations
  - Get Groups
- Dataset Operations
  - Get Datasets
  - Create Dataset
- Table Operations
  - Get Tables
  - Alter Table Schema
- Table Row Operations
  - Add Rows
  - Delete Rows

More Operations

- Report Operations
  - Get Reports
- Dashboard Operations
  - Get Dashboards
  - Get Dashboard Tiles
- Import (PBIX) Operations
  - Create Import
  - Get Imports
  - Get Import by GUID
  - Get Import by File Path

Getting Started

- What you need to get started?
  - User account in an Azure AD tenancy
  - Pro license for Power BI
  - Application registration in Azure AD
  - Visual Studio

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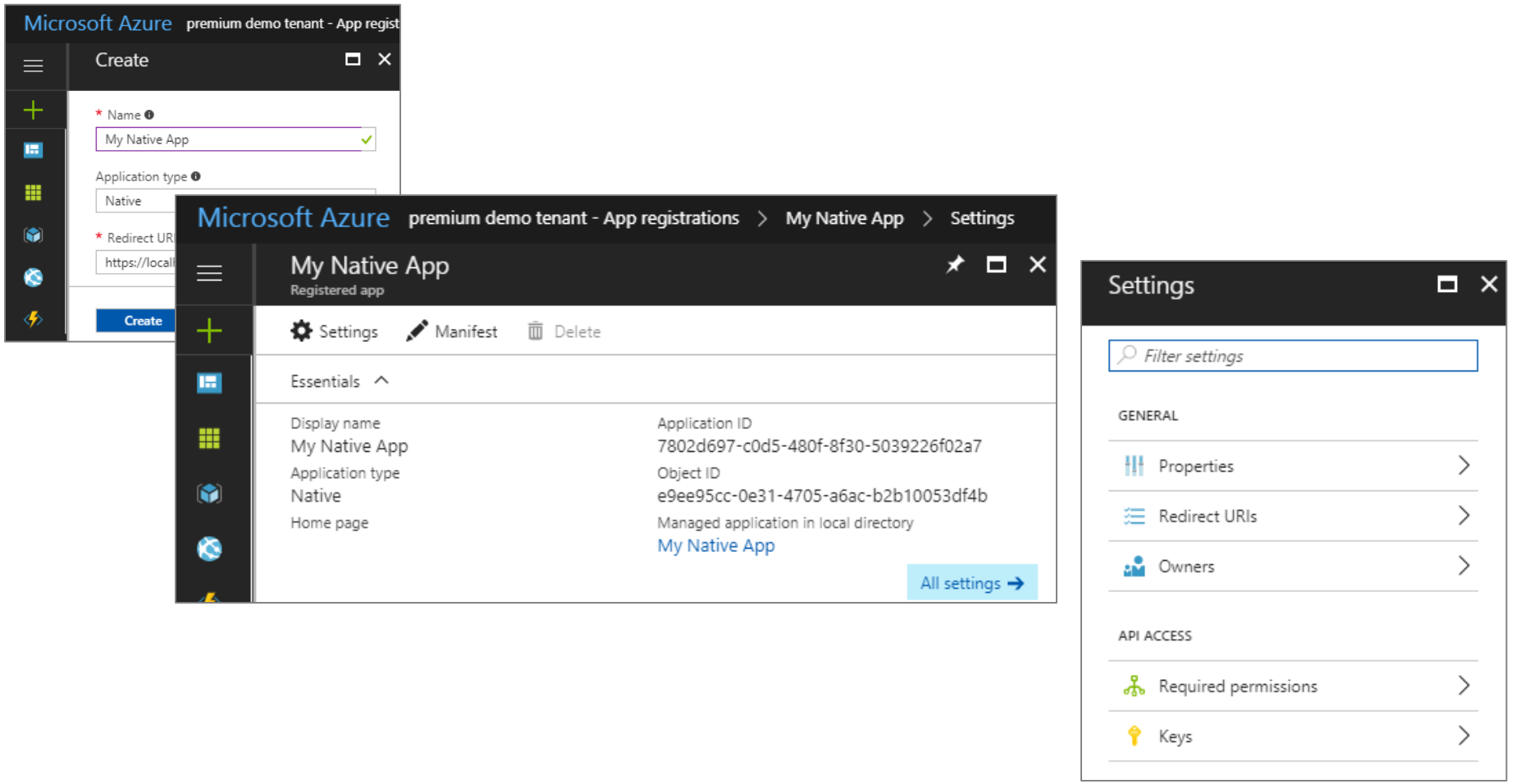
Tenants and Organizational Accounts

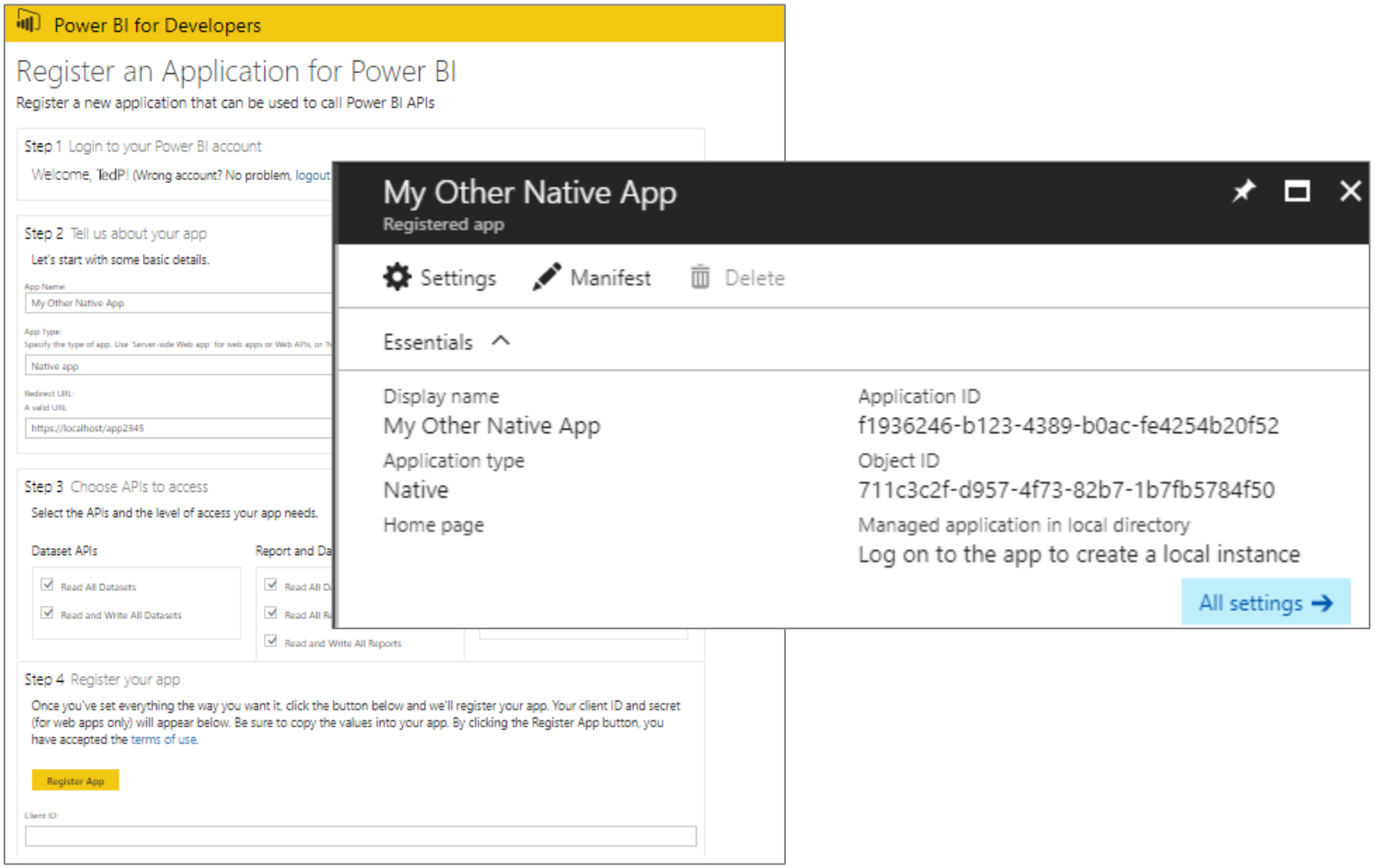
- Azure AD used to authenticate users and apps
  - PBI licenses are assigned to Azure AD user accounts
  - Organization owns a tenant (i.e. directory)
  - AAD tenant contains user accounts and groups
  - AAD tenant contains set of registered applications
- You must register your application with Azure AD
  - Requirement of calling to Power BI service API
  - Applications registered as Web app or Native app
  - Registered applications are assigned GUID for client ID
  - Application is configured with permissions

Creating an Azure AD Application



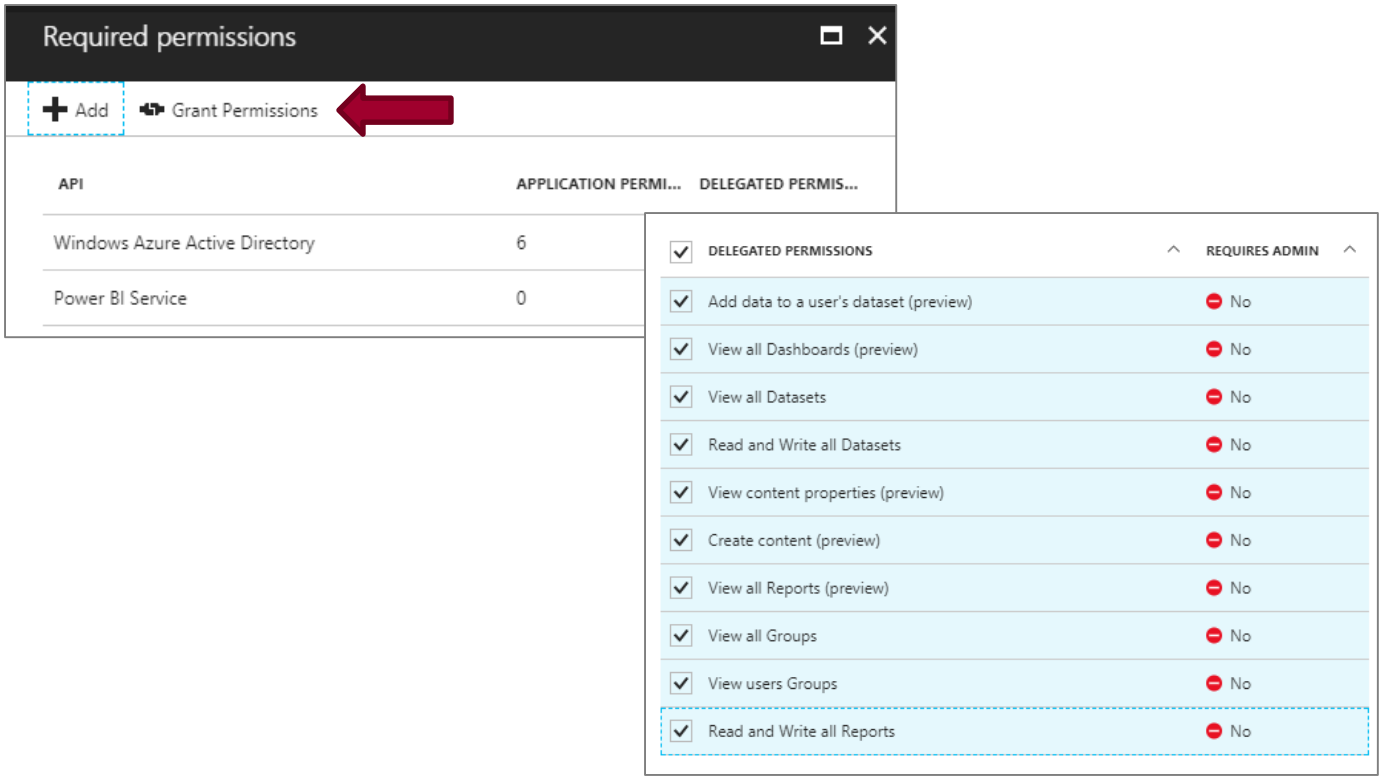
Power BI App Registration Page

- https://app.powerbi.com/apps

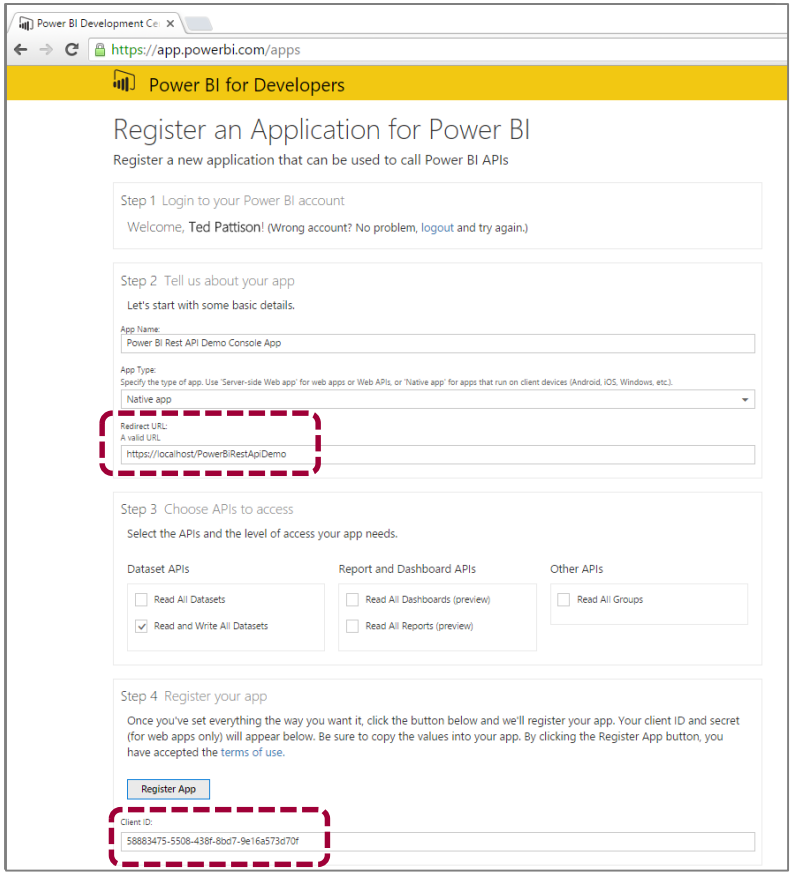


Application Permissions

- Applications can be granted permissions to other applications
  - Application permissions are app-only permissions
  - Delegated permissions are (app + user) permissions
  - Delegated permissions requires 1-time consent from user



Power BI App Registration



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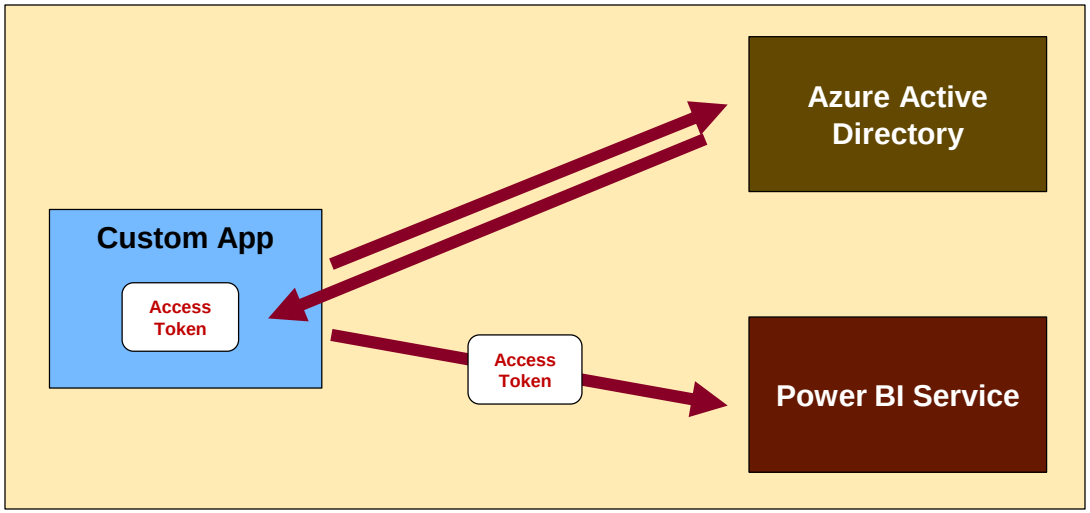
Authentication Flows

- Client Credentials Grant Flow *(confidential client)*
  - Authentication based on SSL certificate with public-private key pair
  - Used to obtain access token when using app-only permissions
- Authorization Code Grant Flow *(confidential client)*
  - Client first obtains authorization code then access token
  - Server-side application code never sees user's password
- Implicit Grant Flow *(public client)*
  - Used in SPAs built with JavaScript and AngularJS
  - Application obtains access token w/o acquiring authorization code
- User Credentials Flow *(public client)*
  - Used in Native clients to obtain access code
  - Requires passing user name and password

Authenticating with Azure AD

- User must be authenticated against Azure AD
  - User authentication used to obtain access token
  - Can be accomplished with the Azure AD Authentication Library
  - Access token pass to Power BI Service API in call REST calls



Important Application Constants

- Power BI Service API requires Client ID and several URLs
  - These values are tracked as application constants

```
class ProgramGlobalConstants {

  public const string AzureAuthorizationEndpoint = "https://login.microsoftonline.com/common";
  public const string PowerBiServiceResourceUri = "https://analysis.windows.net/powerbi/api";
  public const string PowerBiServiceRootUrl = "https://api.powerbi.com/v1.0/myorg/";

  public const string ClientID = "bc6b8f66-390b-4ad5-9dc6-9637f7f9841f";
  public const string RedirectUri = "https://localhost/PowerBiRestApiDemo";

  public const string DatasetName = "My Custom Dataset";

}
```

Using ADAL to Retrieve an Access Token

```
class PowerBiWorkspaceManager {

  #region "Authentication Details"

  protected string AccessToken = string.Empty;

  protected void GetAccessToken() {

1 // create new authentication context
    var authenticationContext = new AuthenticationContext(ProgramGlobalConstants.AzureAuthorizationEndpoint);

2 // use authentication context to trigger user sign-in and return access token
    var userAuthnResult = authenticationContext.AcquireToken(ProgramGlobalConstants.PowerBiServiceResourceUri,
                                                             ProgramGlobalConstants.ClientID,
                                                             new Uri(ProgramGlobalConstants.RedirectUri),
                                                             PromptBehavior.Auto);
3 // cache access token in AccessToken field
    AccessToken = userAuthnResult.AccessToken;

  }

  #endregion
```

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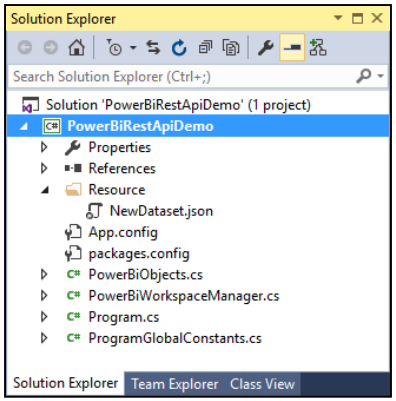
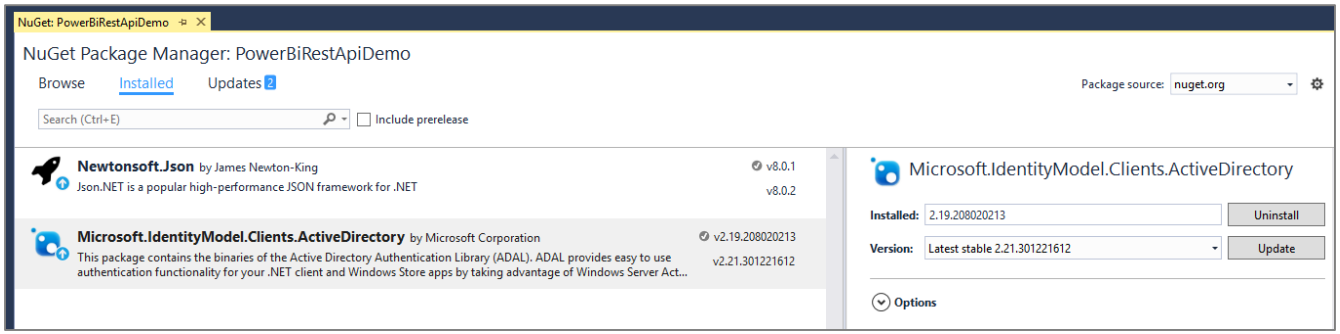
The PowerBiRestApiDemo Sample Project

- Console application project in Visual Studio 2015



- PowerBiRestApiDemo project contains two NuGet packages
  - Newtonsoft.Json used to convert JSON data to and from and C#
  - Azure ADAL used to get access tokens from Azure Active Directory



Executing Power BI Service API Calls

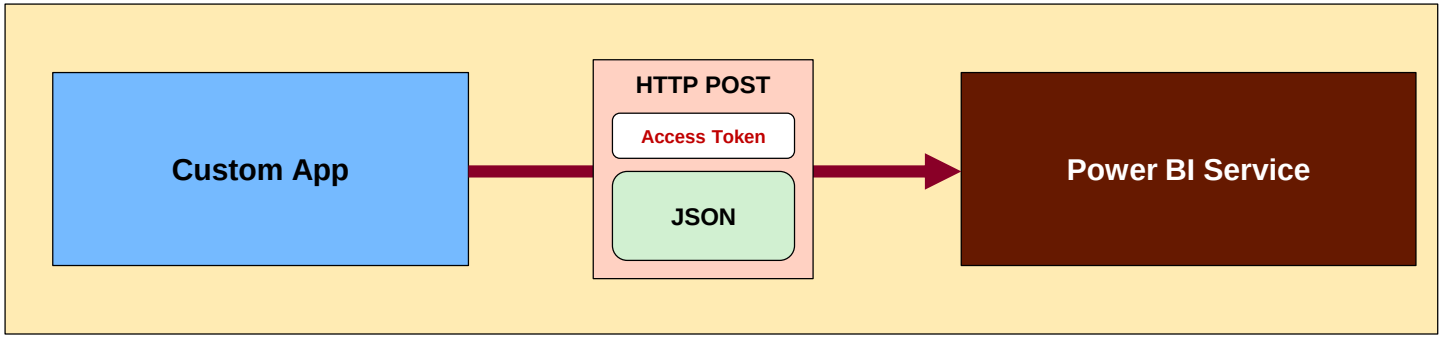
- Generic helper methods designed to execute HTTP operations

```
private void ExecutePostRequest(string restUri, string postBody) {
  // prepare REST call
  HttpContent body = new StringContent(postBody);
  body.Headers.ContentType = new MediaTypeWithQualityHeaderValue("application/json");
  HttpClient client = new HttpClient();
  client.DefaultRequestHeaders.Add("Accept", "application/json");
  client.DefaultRequestHeaders.Add("Authorization", "Bearer " + AccessToken);

  // execute REST call
  HttpResponseMessage response = client.PostAsync(restUri, body).Result;
}
```

1

2



Using JSON to Create a Custom Dataset

- Dataset created using JSON-formatted Table Schema

```
{ "name": "My Custom Dataset",
  "tables": [
    { "name": "Countries",
      "columns": [
        { "name": "Country", "dataType": "string" },
        { "name": "Population", "dataType": "Int64" },
        { "name": "Continent", "dataType": "string" }
      ]
    },
    { "name": "States",
      "columns": [
        { "name": "State", "dataType": "string" },
        { "name": "Abbreviation", "dataType": "string" },
        { "name": "Founded", "dataType": "Int64" },
        { "name": "SquareMiles", "dataType": "Int64" },
        { "name": "Population", "dataType": "Int64" },
        { "name": "PopulationDensity", "dataType": "Double" },
        { "name": "CapitalCity", "dataType": "string" }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

Creating a Custom Dataset

- Dataset created by executing HTTP POST operation
  - One-time operation done as application begins running

```
// prepare call to create new dataset
string restUrlDatasets = ProgramGlobalConstants.PowerBiServiceRootUrl + "datasets";
string jsonNewDataset = Properties.Resources.NewDataset_json;
// execute REST call to create new dataset
string json = ExecutePostRequest(restUrlDatasets, jsonNewDataset);
// retrieve Guid to track dataset ID
Dataset dataset = JsonConvert.DeserializeObject<Dataset>(json);
CustomDatasetId = dataset.id;
```

1
2
3

```
{ "name": "My Custom Dataset",
  "tables": [
    { "name": "Countries",
      "columns": [
        { "name": "Country", "dataType": "string" },
        { "name": "Population", "dataType": "Int64" },
        { "name": "Continent", "dataType": "string" }
      ]
    },
    { "name": "States",
      "columns": [
        { "name": "State", "dataType": "string" },
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        { "name": "Population", "dataType": "Int64" },
        { "name": "PopulationDensity", "dataType": "Double" },
        { "name": "CapitalCity", "dataType": "string" }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

Designing C# Classes to Convert to JSON

- C# class can be created to facilitate reading & writing JSON
  - Newtonsoft.Json package contains classes for performing conversions

```
public class CountryRow {
  public string Country { get; set; }
  public int Population { get; set; }
  public string Continent { get; set; }
}

class CountryTableRows {
  public CountryRow[] rows { get; set; }
}
```

```
class SampleData {

  public static CountryTableRows GetCountries() {
    CountryRow[] Countries = {
      new CountryRow { Country="China", Population=1385566537, Continent="Asia" },
      new CountryRow { Country="India", Population=1252139596, Continent="Asia" },
      new CountryRow { Country="United States", Population=320050716, Continent="North America" },
      new CountryRow { Country="Indonesia", Population=249865631, Continent="Asia" },
      new CountryRow { Country="Brazil", Population=200361925, Continent="South America" },
      new CountryRow { Country="Pakistan", Population=182142594, Continent="Asia" },
      new CountryRow { Country="Nigeria", Population=173615345, Continent="Africa" },
      new CountryRow { Country="Bangladesh", Population=156594962, Continent="Asia" },
      new CountryRow { Country="Russia", Population=142833689, Continent="Asia" },
      new CountryRow { Country="Japan", Population=127143577, Continent="Asia" },
      "More countries"
    };
    return new CountryTableRows { rows = Countries };
  }

  public static StateTableRows GetStates() ...
}
```

Adding Rows to a Table in a Dataset

- Executing POST to add rows to Countries table

```
public void AddCountryRows() {
  string restUrlDatasets = ProgramGlobalConstants.PowerBiServiceRootUrl + "datasets/";
  CountryTableRows countryRows = SampleData.GetCountries();
1 string jsonCountryRows = JsonConvert.SerializeObject(countryRows);
  string restUrlCountryTableRows = string.Format("{0}/{1}/tables/Countries/rows", restUrlDatasets, CustomDatasetId);
2 string json = ExecutePostRequest(restUrlCountryTableRows, jsonCountryRows);
}
```

```
{ "rows": [
    { "Country":"China", "Population":1385566537, "Continent":"Asia" },
    { "Country":"India", "Population":1252139596, "Continent":"Asia" },
    { "Country":"United States", "Population":320050716, "Continent":"North America" },
    { "Country":"Indonesia", "Population":249865631, "Continent":"Asia"},
    { "Country":"Brazil", "Population":200361925, "Continent":"South America"},
    { "Country":"Pakistan", "Population":182142594, "Continent":"Asia"},
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    { "Country":"Bangladesh", "Population":156594962, "Continent":"Asia"},
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    { "Country":"Japan", "Population":127143577, "Continent":"Asia"}
  ]
}
```

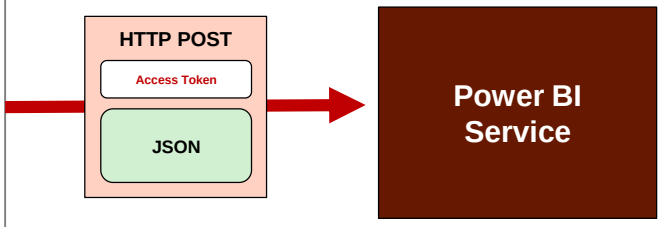

Countries Table

Country	Population	Continent
China	1385566537	Asia
India	1252139596	Asia
United States	320050716	North America
Indonesia	249865631	Asia
Brazil	200361925	South America
Pakistan	182142594	Asia
Nigeria	173615345	Africa
Bangladesh	156594962	Asia
Russia	142833689	Asia
Japan	127143577	Asia

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