Streaming Datasets and Real-time Dashboards



Agenda

- Power BI Embedded Overview
- Working with PBIX Project Files
- Provisioning Workspaces in Azure
- Embedding Reports in a MVC Application
- Configuring Datasets for DirectQuery Mode
- Putting It All Together



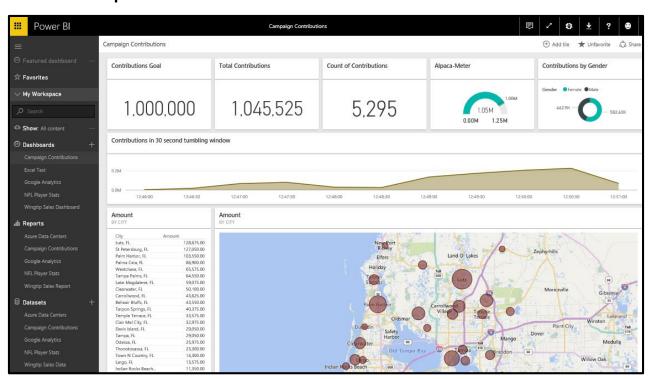
What is Power BI?

- What is Power BI?
 - Cloud-based subscription service
 - Environment which promotes self-service BI to the end user
 - BI Platform to assists with data import, analysis and visualization
- Power BI benefits from being a cloud-based service
 - It takes only 5 seconds to subscribe to the Power BI service
 - New users can create something significant in 5 minutes or less



The Power BI Service at PowerBl.com

- The Power BI service is accessible through browser
 - Provides cloud-based foundation for Power BI platform
 - Accessible through URL at https://app.powerbi.com
 - Users require Office 365 accounts and Power BI Licenses





What is Power BI Embedded?

- Power BI Embedded is an Azure Service
 - PBI Embedded service can be provisioned on-demand
 - Service provisioned in terms of workspace collections
 - PBI Embedded service requires an Azure subscription
- What is the core value of Power BI Embedded?
 - It eliminates need for Power BI license for each user
 - It eliminates need for Office 365 account for each user
 - It decouples user security from app security
 - It opens up PBI platform to commercial applications



PowerBl.com versus Power Bl Embedded

PowerBl.com

- Accessed via https://app.powerbi.com
- Requires Office 365 accounts
- Requires Power BI License
- Custom development not required
- Azure subscription not required

Power BI Embedded

- Accessed via custom URL
- No Office 365 accounts required
- No Power BI user licenses required
- Requires custom development
- Requires Azure subscription



The Big Picture for Power BI Embedded

- 1. Create > Design > Test a PBIX project file on local PC
 - Done using Power BI Desktop
 - Note that Power BI Desktop only runs on Windows
- 2. Provision Azure resources for Power BI Embedded
 - Create a Power BI workspace collection
 - Create Power BI workspaces
- 3. Upload PBIX file to Power BI Embedded workspace
 - Use PowerShell, Power BI CLI or Azure REST API
- 4. Develop Web App with Embedded Power BI Reports
 - Most easily accomplished using ASP.NET MVC



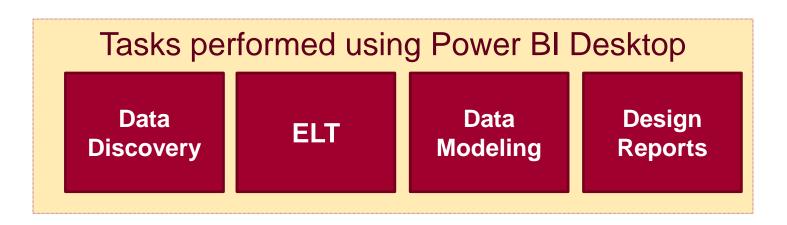
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Working with Power BI Desktop

- Power BI Desktop used to design PBIX projects
 - Data Source and Query features for Data Discovery
 - Query features for ETL (extract-transform-load)
 - Data modeling features and DAX language
 - Report design features with a visual report designer

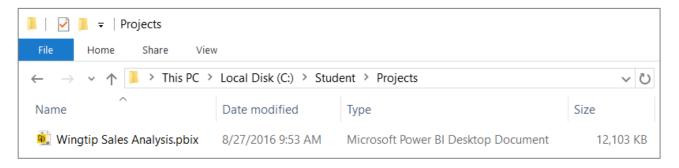




Projects and PBIX Files

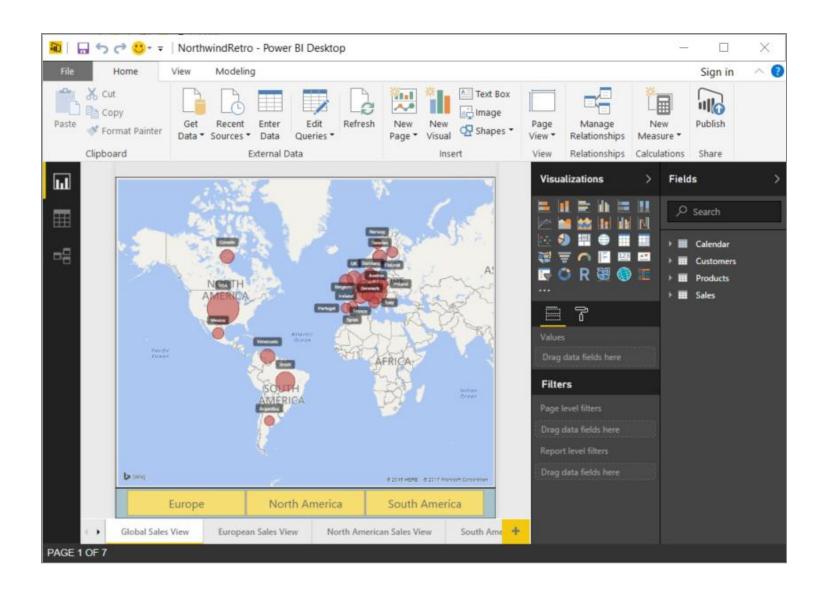
- Power BI Desktop projects saved using PBIX files
 - PBIX file contains data source definitions
 - PBIX file contains query definitions
 - PBIX file contains data imported from queries
 - PBIX file contains exactly one data model definition
 - PBIX file contains exactly one report
 - PBIX file never contains data source credentials







Demo: NorthwindRetro.pbix





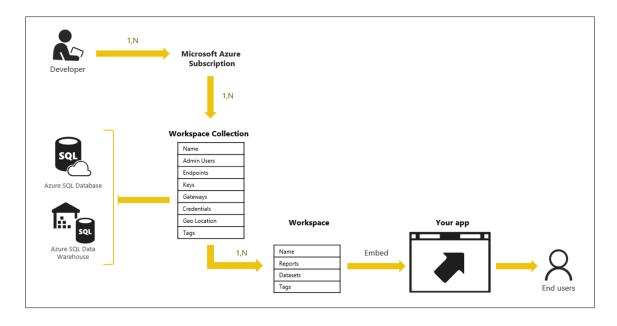
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Power BI Embedded Service in Azure

- Creating a Power BI workspace collection
 - Can be done by hand in Azure portal
 - Can be done with PowerShell and PowerBI-CLI utility
 - Can be done using C# and Azure ARM APIs
 - Workspace collection contains access keys





Create-Workspace-Collection.ps1

```
Create-Workspace-Collection.ps1 X
      Login-AzureRmAccount -Credential Scredential | Out-Null
 19
 20
 21
      Slocation = "southcentralus"
 22
      $resourceGroupName = "powerbi-demo"
 23
      $resourceGroup = Get-AzureRmResourceGroup -Name $resourceGroupName -ErrorAction Ignore
 24
 25
      # Create resource group if it doesn't already exist
 26
    ∃if(!$resourceGroup){
 27
        Write-Host "Resource group named" $resourceGroupName "does not exist - now creating it"
 28
        $resourceGroup = New-AzureRmResourceGroup -Name $resourceGroupName -Location $location
 29
 30
 31
      SworkspaceCollectionName = "wingtip-sales"
 32
      SworkspaceCollection = Get-AzureRmPowerBIWorkspaceCollection
 33
                                   -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName
 34
                                   -WorkspaceCollectionName SworkspaceCollectionName
 35
                                   -ErrorAction Ignore
 36
 37
      # Create new workspace collection if it doesn't already exist
 38
    ∃if(!SworkspaceCollection){
 39
        Write-Host "Workspace collection named" SworkspaceCollectionName "does not exist - now creating it"
 40
        $workspaceCollection = New-AzureRmPowerBIWorkspaceCollection
 41
                                     -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName
 42
                                     -WorkspaceCollectionName SworkspaceCollectionName
 43
                                     -Location Slocation
 44
 45
 46
      Write-Host
     Write-Host "Workspace Collection Name: " + $workspaceCollection.Name
Write-Host "Workspace Collection Location: " + $workspaceCollection.Location
47
48
      Write-Host "Workspace Collection ID: " + SworkspaceCollection.Id
 49
 50
      Write-Host
```



PowerBI-CLI

- PowerBI-CLI is command-line utility for Power BI
 - Maintained at https://github.com/Microsoft/PowerBI-Cli
 - Installed using Node Package Manager
 npm install powerbi-cli -g
 - Supported on Windows, Mac and Linux
 - Can be accessed using any command prompt
 - Can be automated using PowerShell script

Import-PBIX-Into-Workspace.ps1

```
Import-PBIX-Into-Workspace.ps1 X
 43
     $keys = Get-AzureRmPowerBIWorkspaceCollectionAccessKeys *
 44
                 -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName
 45
                 -WorkspaceCollectionName SworkspaceCollectionName
 46
 47
     $accessKev = $kevs[0].Value
 48
 49
 50
      # determine if there are any workspaces in this workspace collection
 51
     Sworkspaces = Get-AzureRmPowerBIWorkspace
                        -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName *
 52
                       -WorkspaceCollectionName SworkspaceCollectionName
 53
 54
 55
    mif(!Sworkspaces) {
         Write-Host "This workspace collection has no workspaces. Creating new workspace..."
 56
 57
         powerbi create-workspace -c SworkspaceCollectionName -k SaccessKey
 58
          Sworkspaces = Get-AzureRmPowerBIWorkspace
 59
                            -ResourceGroupName $resourceGroupName
 60
                            -WorkspaceCollectionName SworkspaceCollectionName
 61
 62
     # create variable to referecne first workspace in workspace collection
 63
     $workspace = $workspaces[0].Name
 65
     Write-Host "Importing PBIX file into workspace with name of Sworkspace ..."
 66
 67
     $pbixFilePath = "C:\qit\PowerBIEmbedded\PBIX\NorthwindRetro.pbix"
 68
     SreportName = "Wingtip Sales"
 69
 70
     SimportResult = powerbi import -c SworkspaceCollectionName -k SaccessKey -w Sworkspace -f SpbixFilePath -n SreportName
 71
     Write-Host "PBIX Import information"
     Write-Host "-----"
 73
 74
     SimportResult
 75
     $createEmbedTokenResult = powerbi create-embed-token -c $workspaceCollectionName -w $workspace -r $reportName -k $accessKey
 76
 77
     Write-Host "Embed Token"
     Write-Host "-----"
 78
 79
      $createEmbedTokenResult
 80
```



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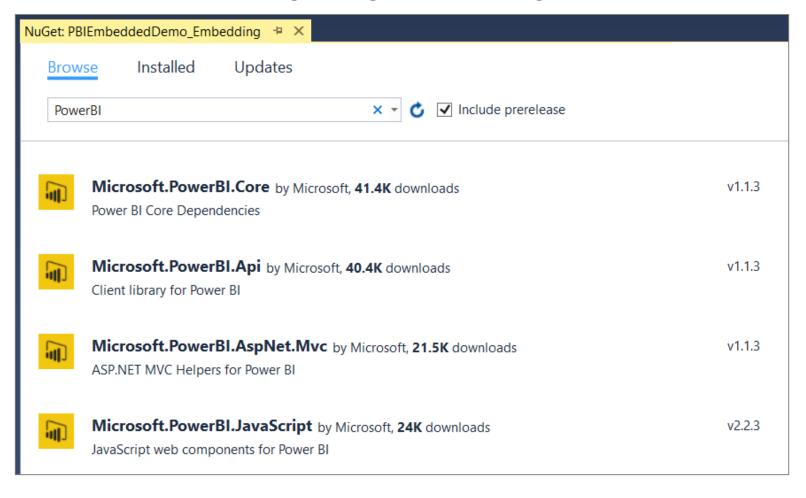
Embedding Internals

- How are Power BI Reports Embedded?
 - It's done using an iFrame
 - iFrame requires event to load embed token



Creating an ASP.NET MVC Application

Add the following Nuget Packages





Power BI.NET APIS

- ■ Microsoft.PowerBI.Core
- ▷ {} Microsoft.PowerBI
- ▲ () Microsoft.PowerBI.Security
- () Microsoft.PowerBI.Security
- ▶ ॡ PowerBIToken
- PowerBIToken.ClaimTypes
- TokenManager

- Microsoft.PowerBI.Api

- () Microsoft.PowerBI.Api.V1
- Datasets
- DatasetsExtensions
- dateways
- GatewaysExtensions
 - IDatasets
 - IGateways
 - Ilmports
- ▶ Imports
- ▶ ★ ImportsExtensions
 - IPowerBIClient
 - IReports
 - IWorkspaces
- ▶ № PowerBIClient
- ▶ t
- ReportsExtensions
- WorkspacesExtensions

- () Microsoft.PowerBI.Api.V1.Models
- BasicCredentials
- D 🥞 Column
- Dataset
- Datasource
- ▷
 † Import
- ▷ Importinfo
- 🕨 🔩 ODataResponseListDataset
- ODataResponseListDatasource
- ODataResponseListImport
- 🕨 🔩 ODataResponseListTable
- ODataResponseListWorkspace
- 🕨 🔩 Report
- ▷ 🤩 Row
- D 🤩 Table



MVC Helper Classes

- ■ Microsoft.PowerBI.AspNet.Mvc
 - {} Microsoft.PowerBl.AspNet.Mvc.Html
 - ▶ ॡ ReportExtensions
 - TokenExtensions
- Microsoft.PowerBl.AspNet.Mvc
 - ▲ () Microsoft.PowerBI.AspNet.Mvc.Html
 - ▶ ★ ReportExtensions
 - TokenExtensions

- PowerBIReport(System.Web.Mvc.HtmlHelper, string, Microsoft.Pow
- PowerBIReport(System.Web.Mvc.HtmlHelper, string, string, object)
- PowerBIReportFor<TModel, TProperty>(System.Web.Mvc.HtmlHel

- ■ Microsoft.PowerBI.AspNet.Mvc
 - {} Microsoft.PowerBI.AspNet.Mvc.Html
 - ▶ ॡ ReportExtensions
 - TokenExtensions

- PowerBIAccessToken(System.Web.Mvc.HtmlHelper, string)
- PowerBIAccessTokenFor<TModel, TProperty>(System.Web.M)







Power BI JavaScript API

- Used to generate iFrame required for embedding
 - Call to powerbi.embed creates iFrame for embedding

```
var reportConfig = {
   settings: {
     filterPaneEnabled: false,
     navContentPaneEnabled: false
   }
};

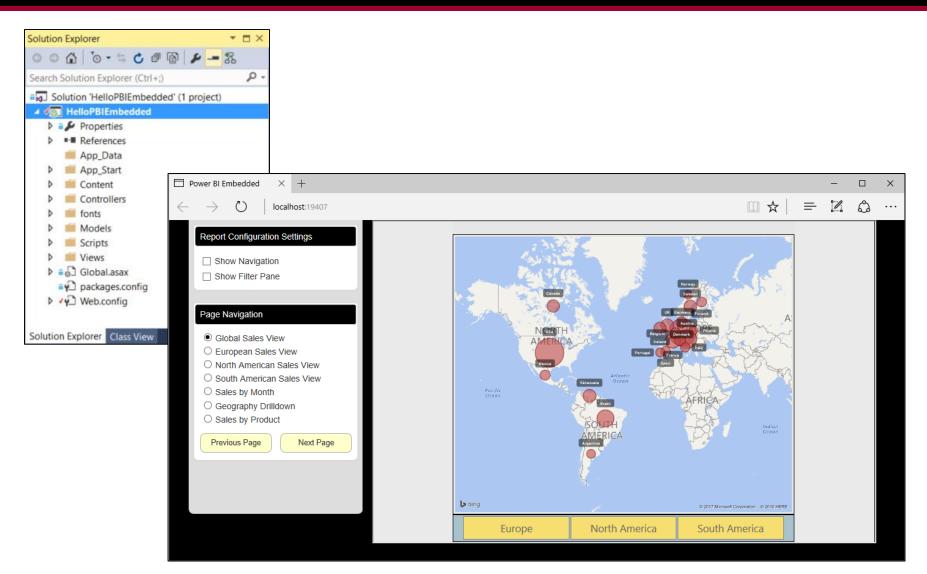
var reportContainer = document.getElementById("pbi-report");
var report = powerbi.embed(reportContainer, reportConfig);
```

API supports binding to report-level events

```
report.on('loaded', onReportLoaded);
report.on('pageChanged', onReportPageChanged);
function onReportLoaded()...
function onReportPageChanged(e)...
```



Demo: HelloPowerBIEmbedded.sln





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Imported Datasets Versus DirectQuery

Imported Dataset

- Data is imported into storage within Power BI cloud
- Entire dataset loaded into memory when in use
- Reports and Datasets query data in imported dataset
- Dataset size is maxed out at 1GB
- Dataset must be refreshed when source data changes

DirectQuery Dataset

- No data is imported or cached in the Power BI cloud
- Reports and Datasets query for data using live connection
- No need to refresh data
- No need to worry about 1GB dataset size limitation
- Limitation are placed on features for querying and data modeling



Supported Data Sources

Data source	Live/DirectQuery	User configured manual or scheduled refresh
Analysis Services Tabular	Yes	Yes
Analysis Services Multidimensional	Yes	Yes
SQL Server	Yes	Yes
SAP HANA	Yes	Yes
Oracle	Yes	Yes
Teradata	Yes	Yes
File	No	Yes
Folder	No	Yes
SharePoint list (on-premises)	No	Yes
Web	No	Yes
OData	No	Yes
IBM DB2	No	Yes
MySQL	No	Yes
Sybase	No	Yes

Limitations of DirectQuery

- DirectQuery imposes the following limitations
 - All tables must come from a single database
 - Many types of query steps are not supported
 - Relationship filtering limited to single direction
 - Time intelligence capabilities are not available
 - No special treatment of date columns
 - Calculated columns not allowed
 - By default, limitations placed on DAX in measures



Demo: WingtipSalesDirectQuery.pbix

- Power BI Embedded does not support dataset refresh
 - Now way to refresh imported dataset different than PowerBI.com
 - Requires delete and reimporting updated PBIX project
 - DirectQuery mode can be used to eliminate the refresh problem



Provisioning with C# and Azure REST APIs

- Can be programmed in simple Console app
 - Use same Nuget packages as shown earlier

- Dataset management is important
 - Credentials cannot be included in PBIX
 - Credentials must be configured after PBIX import
- Terminology confusion
 - Remember that "Import" = "Dataset" = "Report"



Configuring a Dataset for DirectConnect

```
static void UpdateAzureSqlDataSource(string workspaceCollectionName, string workspaceId, string datasetId) {
  using (var client = CreatePowerBIClient()) {
    IList<Dataset> datasets = client.Datasets.GetDatasetsAsync(workspaceCollectionName, workspaceId).Result.Value;
    foreach (Dataset dataset in datasets) {
      if (dataset.Name == datasetId) {
        var datasources = client.Datasets.GetGatewayDatasourcesAsync(workspaceCollectionName, workspaceId, dataset.Id).Result;
        // Reset your connection credentials
        var delta = new GatewayDatasource {
          CredentialType = "Basic",
          BasicCredentials = new BasicCredentials {
            Username = azureSqlUser,
            Password = azureSqlPassword
        };
        // Update the datasource with the specified credentials
        client.Gateways.PatchDatasourceAsync(workspaceCollectionName,
                                             workspaceId,
                                             datasources.Value[0].GatewayId,
                                             datasources.Value[0].Id,
                                             delta).Wait();
```



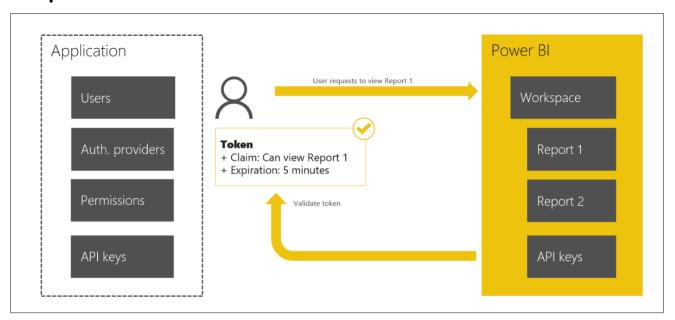
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Security with Power BI Embedded

- Power BI Embedded defers to your app...
 - to perform all the necessary user authentication
 - to provide an authorization scheme



PBI Embedded supports row-level security (RLS)



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