Getting Started with Power BI Desktop



Student Background

- What is your name?
- What are you doing with Power BI?
- Which products have you used
 - Access
 - Excel
 - SQL Server, SSRS, SSAS
 - Others



Agenda

- ➤ What Is Power BI?
- Getting Started with Power BI Desktop
- Creating Queries in Power BI Desktop
- Modeling Data in Power BI Desktop
- Designing Reports in Power BI Desktop



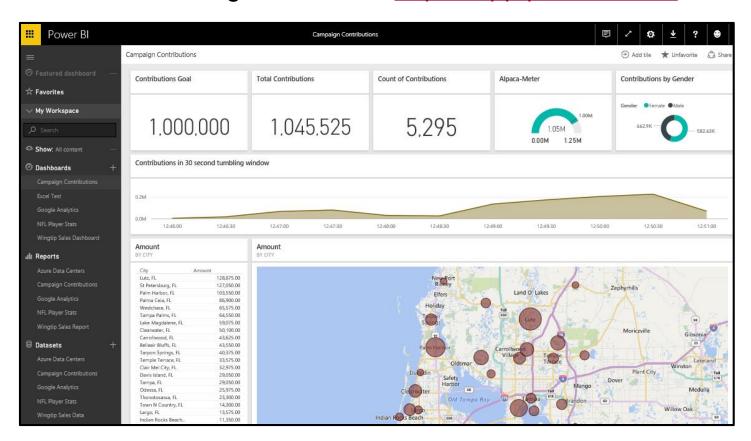
What is Power BI?

- 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
- Power BI adoption numbers (as of Q1 2016)
 - 5 million subscribers
 - 200,000 organizations
 - 40 different languages



The Power BI Service

- The Power BI Service
 - Provides cloud-based foundation for Power BI platform
 - Accessible through browser at https://app.powerbi.com





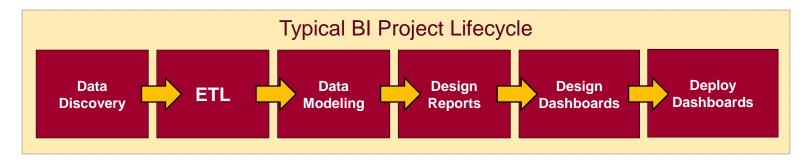
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Project Lifecycle for a Custom BI Solution

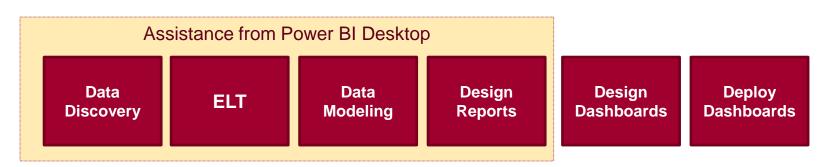
- Lifecycle of a typical BI project includes...
 - Discover where the data lives
 - Extract, transform and load (ETL) data
 - Model data to create dataset for analytics and reporting
 - Design and implement reports on top of dataset
 - Consolidate reports into one or more dashboards
 - Package project artifacts for deployment
 - Deploy to production environment





Working with Power BI Desktop

- Power BI Desktop focuses on first four phases
 - Query features for Data Discovery
 - Query features for ETL
 - Design features and DAX language for data modeling
 - Report design using a visual report designer
 - No support for designing dashboards
 - No support for packaging an entire solution





Installing Power BI Desktop

- Power BI Desktop quick & easy to install over the Internet
 - Select Power BI Desktop option from Power BI Download menu
 - Power BI Desktop downloads & installs in less than a minute

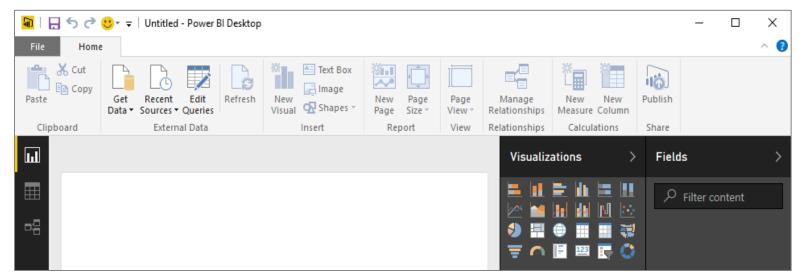






Working with Power BI Desktop

- Power BI Desktop is a Windows application
 - Work is saved and published in terms of projects
 - You can work on multiple projects at once
 - Each project runs in its own Power BI Desktop instance
 - Power BI Desktop can freeze up or act buggy
 - Quit & restart Power BI Desktop if it acts strangely

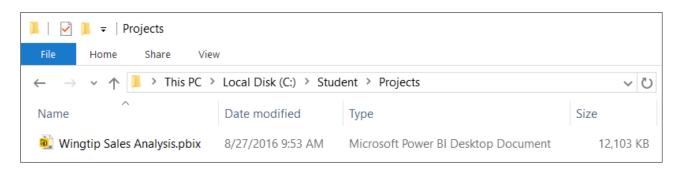




Projects and PBIX Files

- 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

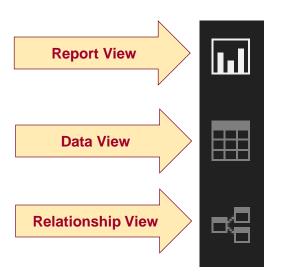


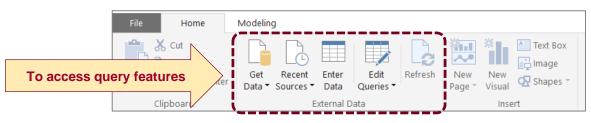




Getting Around in Power BI Desktop

- What do you need to learn to use Power BI Desktop?
 - Query features for importing data
 - Design features for modeling data
 - Report designer for creating reports
- Navigating between view modes

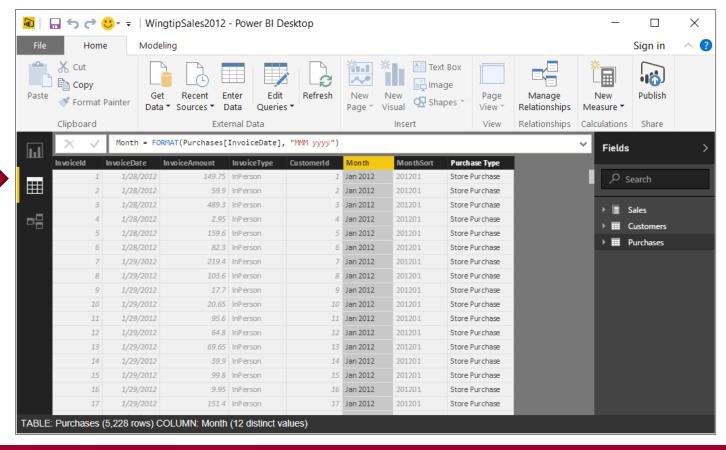






Data View

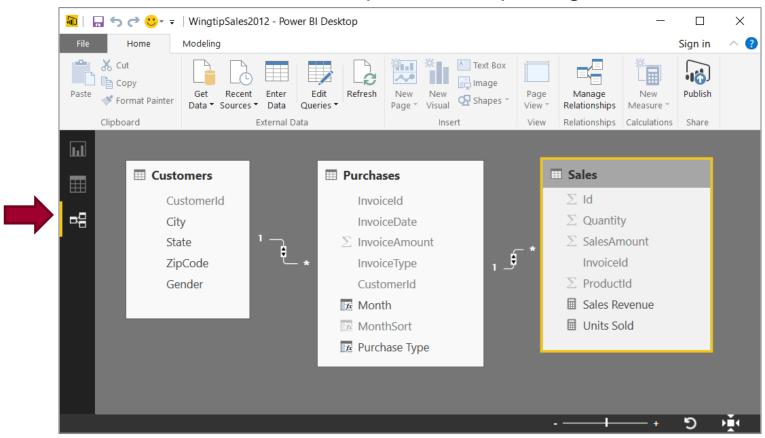
- Data view is used for data modeling
 - Data View displays columns and rows of data for each table
 - Data View used to create calculated columns and measures





Relationship View

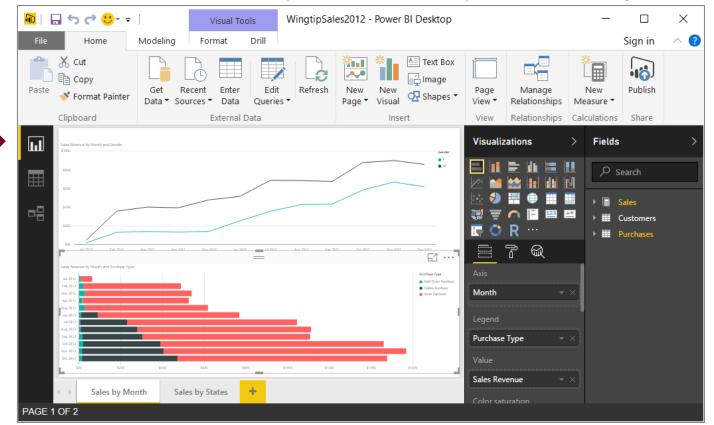
- Displays tables, fields and relationships
 - Used to view tables, fields and relationships in project's dataset
 - Used to create relationships when importing new tables





Report View

- Report view used to design report for current project
 - Report designer is very similar to Power BI service
 - Dataset can be simplified for Report View by hiding fields





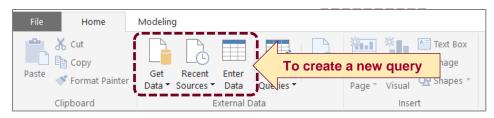
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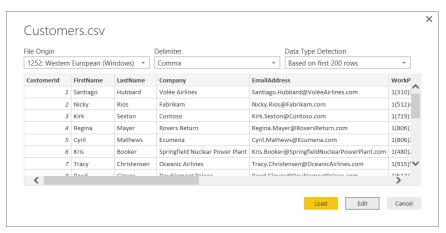


Creating Queries

- Power BI Desktop provides powerful query features
 - Get started by creating a new query



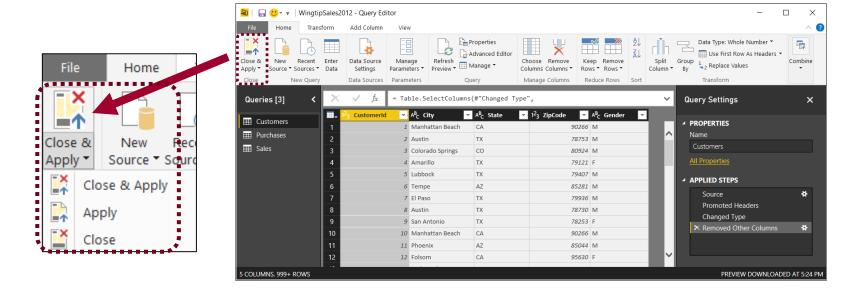
- The difference between Load versus Edit
 - Load command creates and execute new query without editing query
 - Edit command creates new query & opens it in Query Editor window





Query Editor Window

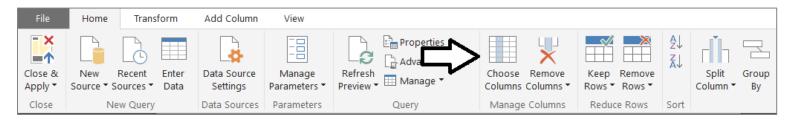
- Power BI Desktop provides separate Query Editor window
 - Provides powerful features for designing queries
 - Displays list of all queries in project on the left
 - Displays Properties and Applied Steps for selected query on right
 - Preview of table generated by query output shown in the middle
 - Query can be executed using Apply or Close & Apply command



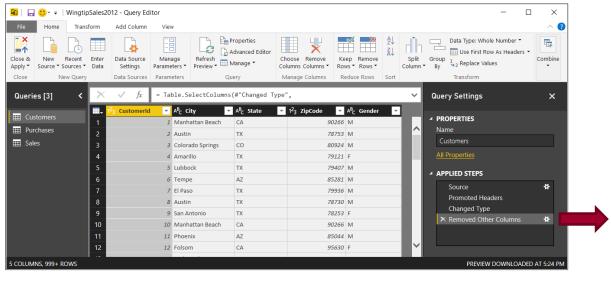


Queries Are Defined as Sequence of Steps

- Here is an example of adding a query step
 - Click a column header then click Choose Column button in ribbon



Query definition is modified by adding new step









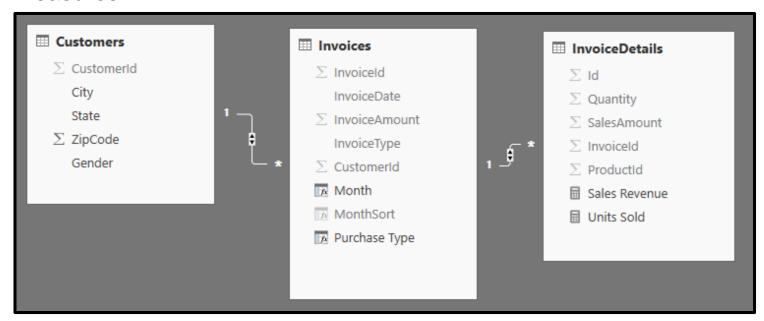
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The Project's Data Model

- Each PBIX project defines a data model
 - Data model contains tables, fields and relationships
- Tables contain three different types of fields
 - Native columns
 - Calculated columns
 - Measures





Data Analysis eXpression Language (DAX)

- Calculated columns and measures created using DAX
 - DAX is programming language used by tabular database model
 - Calculated columns and measures created with DAX Expressions

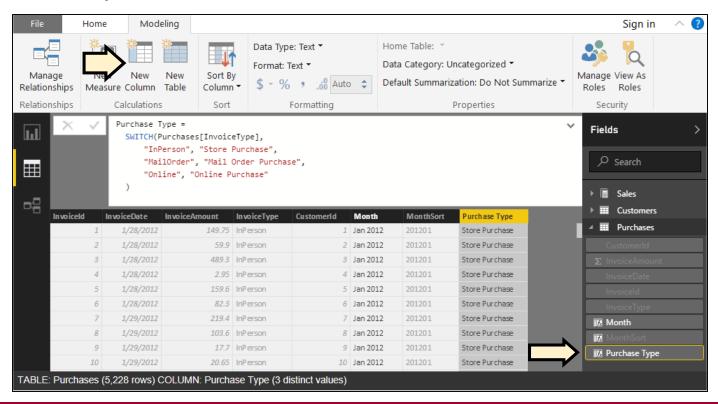
```
=SUM('Sales'[SalesAmount])
```

- DAX expressions are similar to Excel formulas
 - They always start with an equal sign (=)
 - DAX provides many built-in functions just like to Excel
- DAX Expressions are not the same as Excel formulas...
 - DAX expressions cannot reference cells (e.g. A1 or C4)
 - Instead DAX expressions reference columns and tables



Creating Calculated Columns

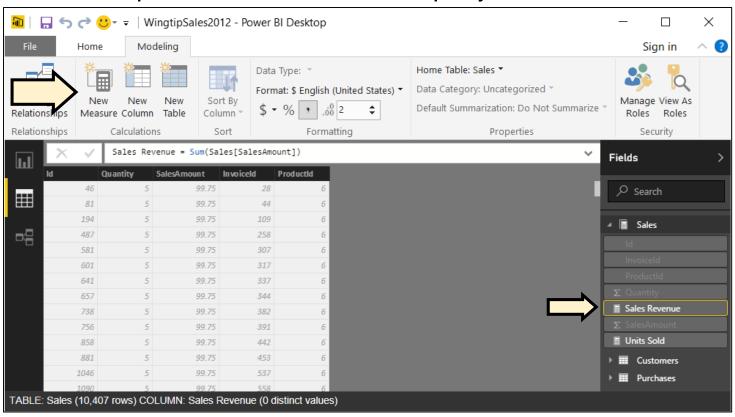
- Calculated column can be added to table
 - Calculated column created by clicking New Column button
 - Calculated column created as named DAX expression
 - DAX expression for calculate column evaluated at table load time





Creating Measures

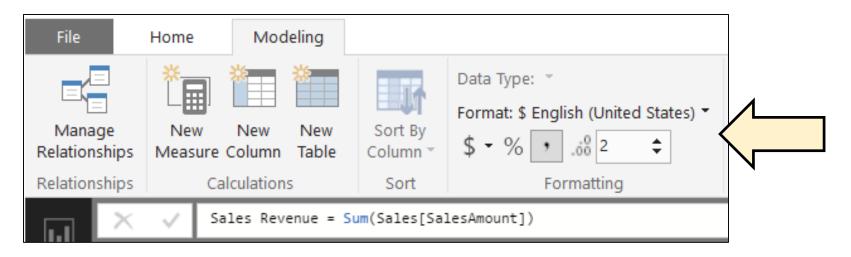
- Measure defined as named DAX expression
 - Measure created by clicking New Measure button in ribbon
 - Measure expression is evaluated at query time



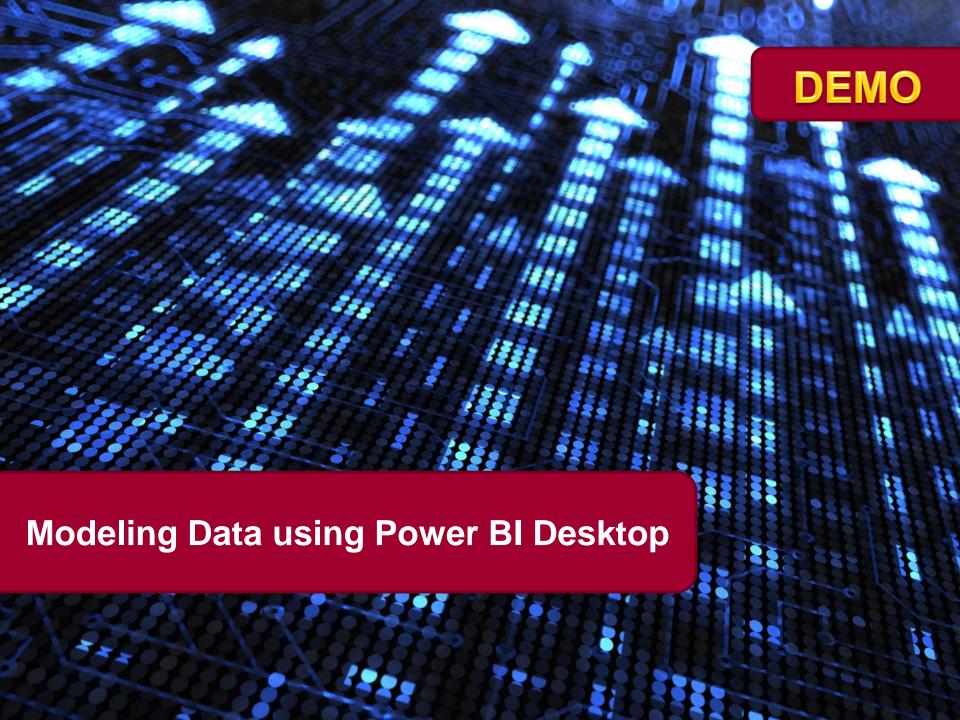


Formatting Columns and Measures

- Each column & measure has formatting properties
 - Make sure you set formatting for columns and measures







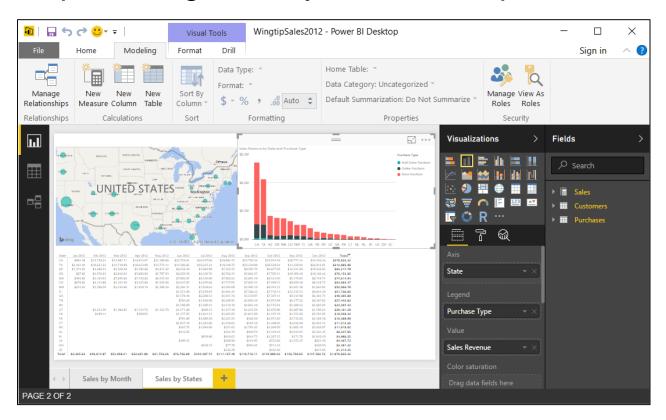
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Designing Reports

- Report View is used to design reports
 - You design reports by adding visuals & configuring them
 - Report design is very similar to experience in browser





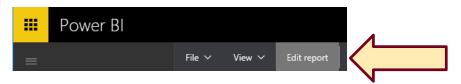
Reports and Pages

- Reports contain one or more pages
 - A report can be designed with a single page
 - A report can be designed with many pages
 - Tabbed navigation located at bottom of report view
 - Each report is associated with exactly one dataset

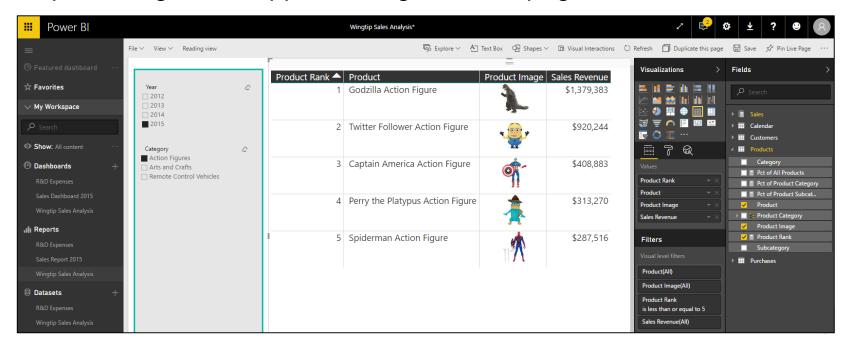


Report Authoring

- Report initially opens in reading view
 - Click Edit report to switch to edit mode



Report design tools appear on right side of page

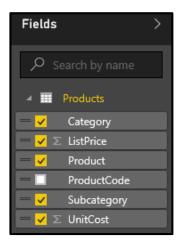


Visuals (aka Visualizations)

- Reports are designed using visual (aka visualizations)
 - Each visuals is based on an underlying visualization type
 - Visualization type can be changed using Visualizations pane



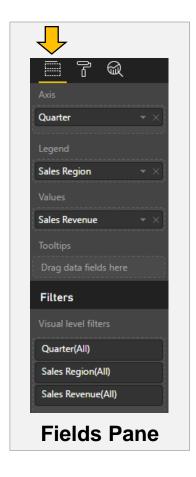
Visuals creating by using fields from tables inside Fields list

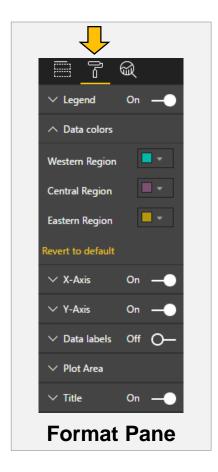




Editing Visual Properties

- Visual properties modified using three property panes
 - Visual properties vary greatly depending on type of visualization



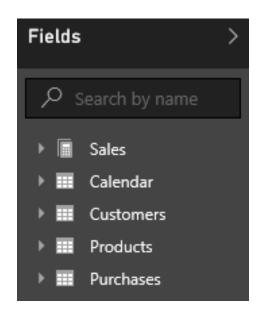


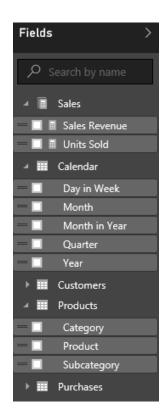




Report and Datasets

- Each report is based on an underlying dataset
 - Fields list in report designer shows tables and fields
 - Report author sees tables & fields as dataset consumer









Summary

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