Designing Queries with Power BI Desktop



Agenda

- Class Introduction
- Query Design Fundamentals
- SharePoint Online
- Query Folding
- Designing Data Model using a Star Schema
- Advanced Query Design



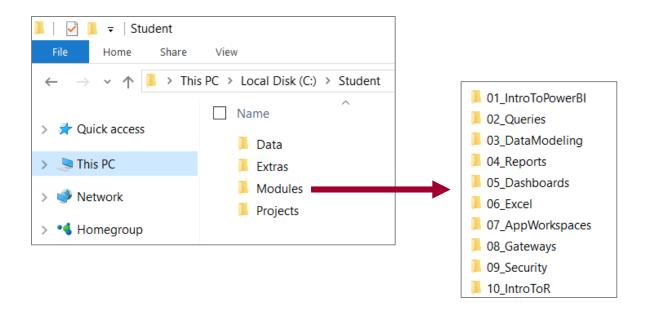
Student Background

- What is your name?
- What are you doing with Power BI?
- Which products/services have you used
 - Excel
 - Access
 - SQL Server, SSRS, SSAS
 - SharePoint and Office 365
 - Tableau
 - Dynamics 365
 - Salesforce
 - Others



Student Files for This Course

- Copy the Student folder from the master zip archive
 - Create a new local folder at C:\Student
- Each module has folder inside Student\Modules folder
 - Slides and lab writeup available through student manual (not in GitHub repository)





What is Power BI?

- What is Power BI?
 - A cloud-based analytics service for licensed subscribers
 - Environment which supports and promotes self-service BI
 - Powerful builder tools for importing, modeling and visualizing data
 - Enterprise-grade platform for deploying reports and dashboards
 - On-premises server product supporting subset of cloud features

Power BI Service

Power BI Desktop

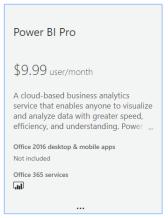
Power BI Report Server



Power BI Licensing

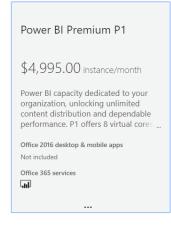
User-based licensing

Power BI (free) \$0.00 user/month A cloud-based business analytics service that enables anyone to visualize and analyze data with greater speed, efficiency, and understanding. It ... Office 2016 desktop & mobile apps Not included Office 365 services

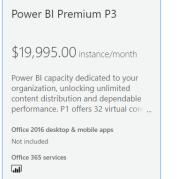


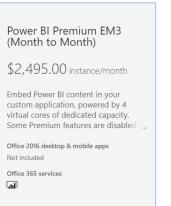


Capacity-based Licensing



\$9,995.00 instance/month Power BI capacity dedicated to your organization, unlocking unlimited content distribution and dependable performance. P1 offers 16 virtual core ... Office 2016 desktop & mobile apps Not included Office 365 services

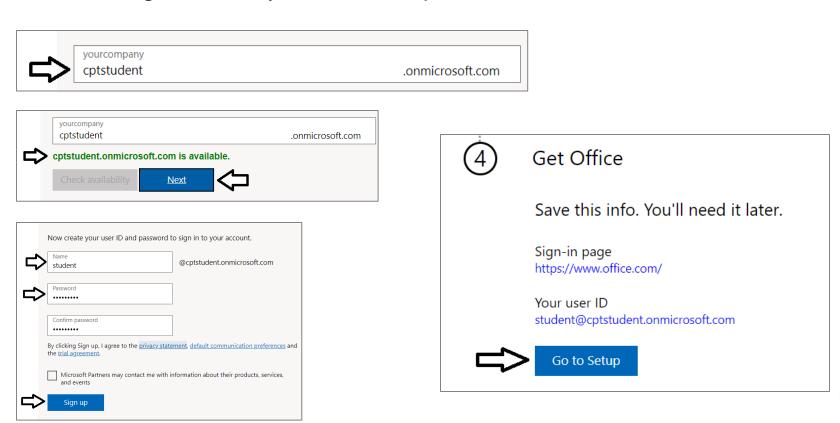






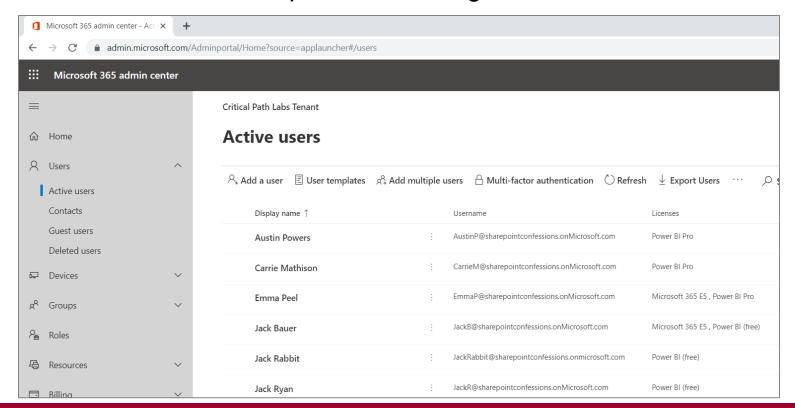
Creating a Power BI Lab Environment

- Sign up for an Office 365 E5 trial account
 - Sign up process creates new Azure AD tenant
 - Tenant created with user account which is Global tenant admin
 - Tenant gets 30-day trial subscription for 25 Office 365 E5 licenses



Microsoft 365 admin center

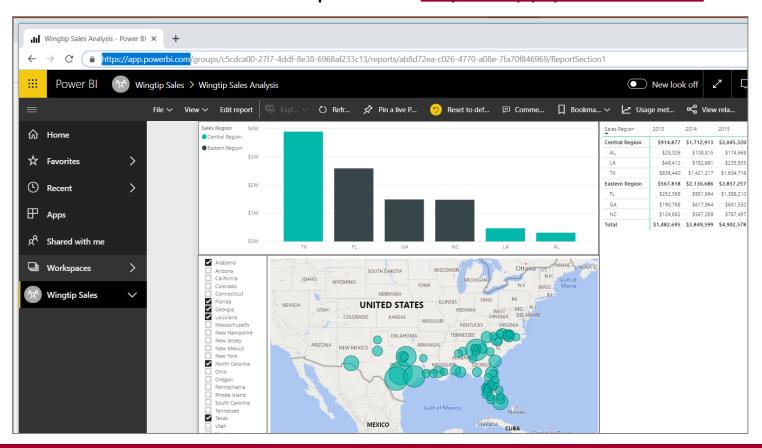
- Microsoft 365 admin center used for tenant administration
 - You will have full control because you are a Global tenant admin
 - You can create user accounts and groups
 - You can create subscriptions and assign licenses





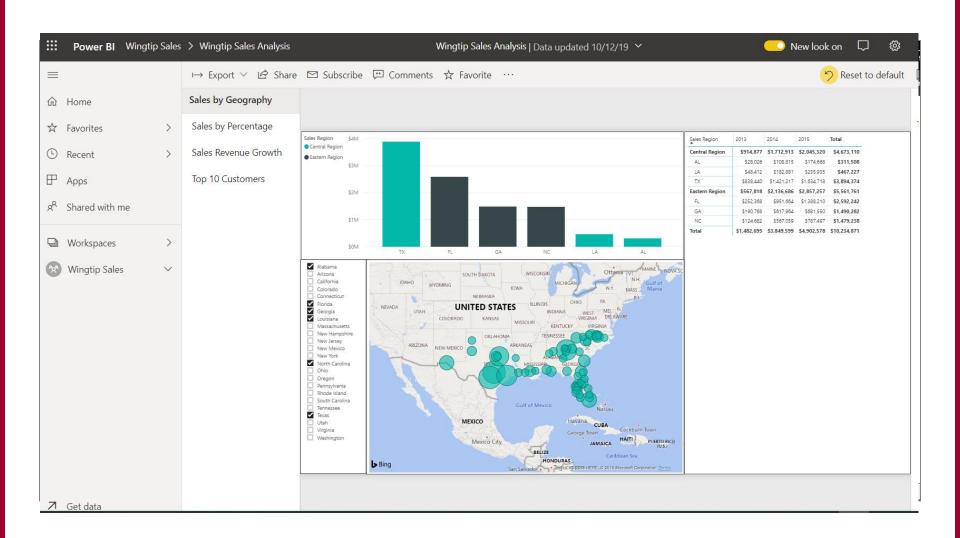
The Power BI Service

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





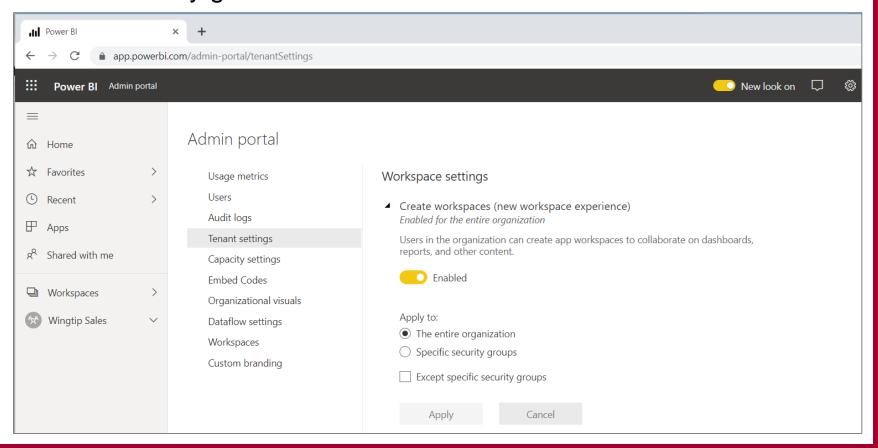
Light Grey is the New Black





The Power BI Admin Portal

- Admin portal used to configure tenant-level settings
 - Accessible at https://app.powerbi.com/admin-portal
 - Accessible by global tenant admins and Power BI Service admins



Central Power BI Concepts

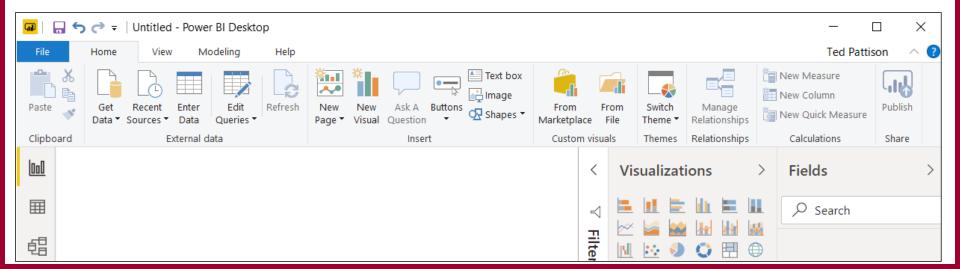
- Workspace
 - Secured container for Power BI resources
 - Created as personal workspaces and app workspaces
- Dashboard
 - Consolidated high-level view into reports and datasets
 - Provides great experience on mobile device (e.g. iPhone, Android, tablet, etc.)
- Report
 - Collection of one or more pages with tables & visualizations
 - Provides consumer with interactive control through filtering and bookmarks
- Dataset
 - In-memory data model containing one or more tables
 - Used to supply the underlying data to reports and dashboards
- Dataflows
 - Persistent data store used for more complex ETL requirements
 - Not required in most Power BI scenarios





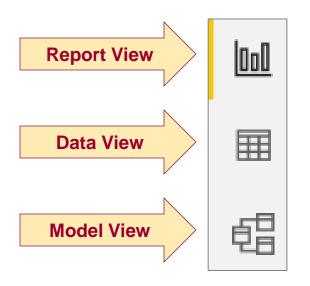
Working with Power BI Desktop

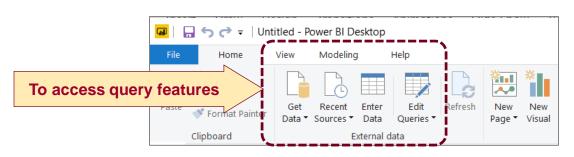
- Power BI Desktop is a Windows application
 - Work is saved and published in terms of PBIX projects
 - You can work on multiple projects at once
 - Each project runs in its own Power BI Desktop instance
 - Power BI Desktop can freeze up or act buggy
 - Quit & restart Power BI Desktop if it acts strangely



Getting Around in Power BI Desktop

- What do you need to learn to use Power BI Desktop?
 - Query features for importing data
 - Designing data model & writing DAX expressions
 - Designing reports with Power BI Desktop report designer
- Navigating between view modes



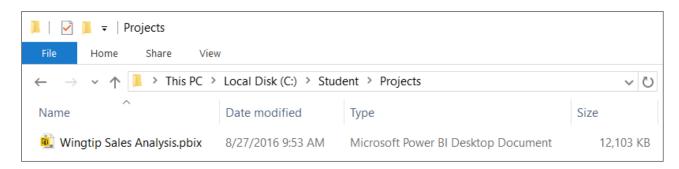




Projects and PBIX Files

- 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







Publishing a Power BI Desktop Project

- Power BI Desktop provides Publish command
 - Used to publish project to Power BI service



Requires logging into your Office 365 account





Published articles added to target workspace



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Data Discovery

- Data can live in a variety of sources
 - Files (e.g. CSV file, Excel workbook)
 - OLTP Databases
 - OLAP Databases
 - SharePoint Lists and Document Libraries
 - Azure-based services
 - Online services & SaaS applications
- You Must Determine Measurable Objectives
 - Financial (revenue, expenses, profit margin, etc.)
 - Business processes efficiency
 - Customer Satisfaction Levels



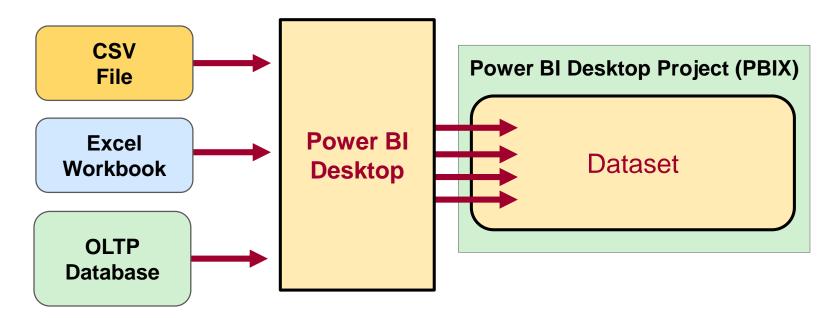
Defining Grain Statements

- Grain statements should be defined in initial design phase
 - Grain statements helps determine requirements for BI queries
 - Grain statements can be created & understood by business users
- Example grain statements for BI project at Wingtip Toys
 - What was the total sales revenue over the last 4 years?
 - What was the sales revenue by year, quarter and month?
 - What was the sales revenue by region, state, city and zip code?
 - What was the sales revenue by category, subcategory and product?
 - What was the growth in sales revenue from month to month in 2013?
 - What was profit margin for each product by year, quarter and month?
 - Have their been any products with significantly decreasing profit margin?



Power BI Desktop is an ETL Tool

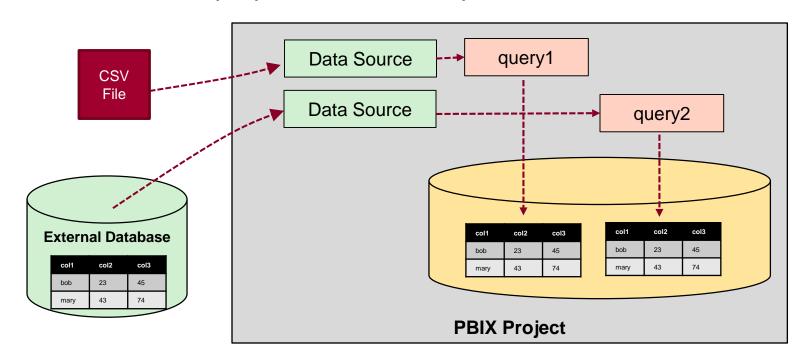
- ETL process is essential part of any BI Project
 - Extract the data from wherever it lives
 - Transform the shape of the data for better analysis
 - Load the data into dataset for analysis and reporting





Understanding Query Input and Output

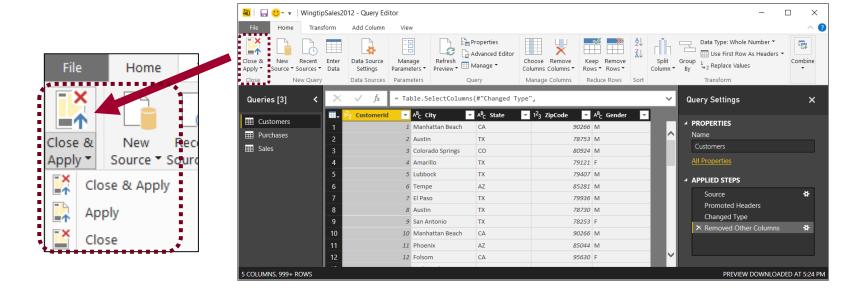
- PBIX project is container for data sources and queries
 - Queries created and saved within scope of Power BI project
 - Queries can pull data from local files
 - Queries can pull data from external content sources
 - Queries main purpose is to load imported data into data model





Query Editor Window

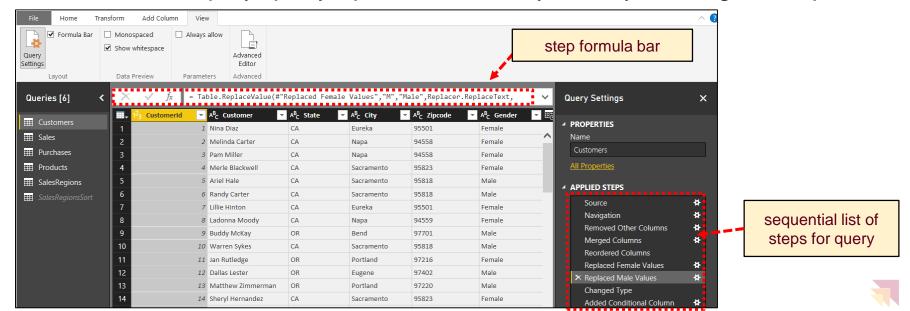
- Power BI Desktop provides separate Query Editor window
 - Provides powerful features for designing queries
 - Displays list of all queries in project on the left
 - Displays Properties and Applied Steps for selected query on right
 - Preview of table generated by query output shown in the middle
 -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





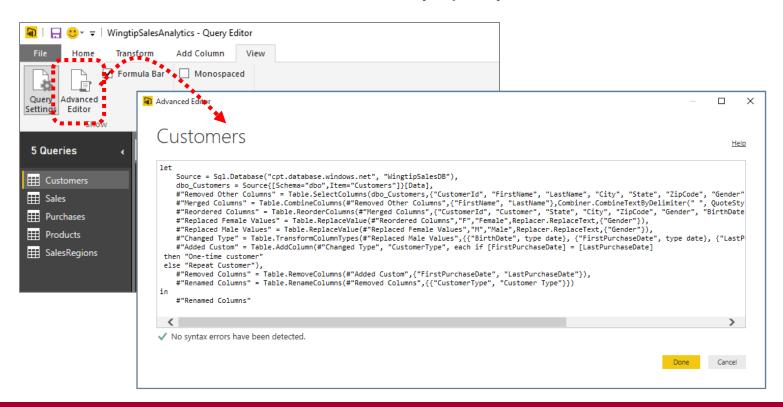
Query Steps

- A query is created as a sequence of steps
 - Each step is a parameterized operation on the data
 - Each step has formula which can be viewed/edited in formula bar
 - Query starts with Source step to extract data from a data source
 - Additional steps added to perform transform operations on data
 - You can replay query operations one by one by clicking on steps



Advanced Editor

- Power BI Desktop based on "M" functional language
 - Query in Power BI Desktop saved as set of M statements in code
 - Query Editor generates code in M behind the scenes
 - Advanced users can view & modify query code in Advanced Editor





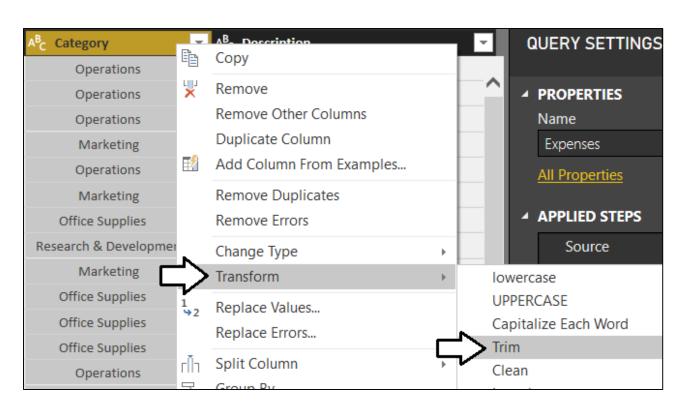
Examples of Basic Power BI Desktop Steps

- Rename column
- Convert column type
- Trim and clean column values
- Replace column values
- Format column values
- Expanding related column
- Merging columns
- Splitting columns



Cleaning Data

- Special steps available to clean up string-based data
 - Transform > Trim removes whitespace
 - Transform > Clean removed non-printable characters





Converting Column Types

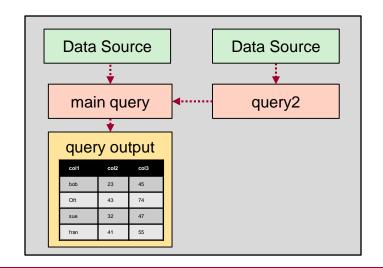
- Transform data to make it more reliable
 - Convert date-time column to date column
- Transform data to make it more efficient
 - Convert decimal to fixed decimal number for currency

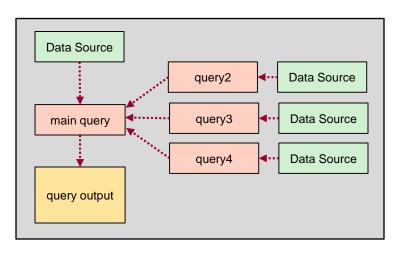
| ## PurchaseDate | 1 ² ₃ Quantity | \$ SalesAmount | \$ | ProductCost ~ |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1/28/2012 | 1 | 2.95 | 1.2 | Decimal Number |
| 1/28/2012 | 6 | | \$ | Fixed Decimal Number |
| 1/28/2012 | 1 | 19.95 | 1 ² 3 | Whole Number |
| 1/28/2012 | 5 | 249.75 | <u></u> | Date/Time |
| 1/28/2012 | 1 | | | Date |
| | | | | |



Combining Queries

- Query can be merged or appended with another query
 - Merge operation allows you combine columns from two tables
 - Append operation allows you to combine rows from two tables
- Two queries are combined into single output for loading
 - Load settings of main query determines where output is loaded
 - Secondary query acts as source for main query
 - Secondary query be can created with connection-only load setting



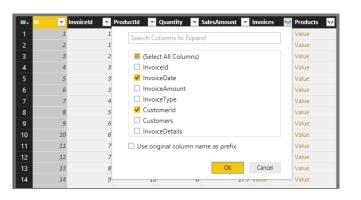




Expanding Related Columns

- Used to pull data from related tables
 - Saves you from performing SQL joins or VLOOKUP





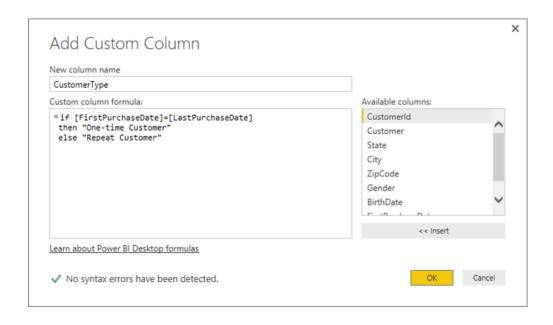




Adding a Custom Column

- Custom column provide custom logic
 - Logic must be written in M programming language





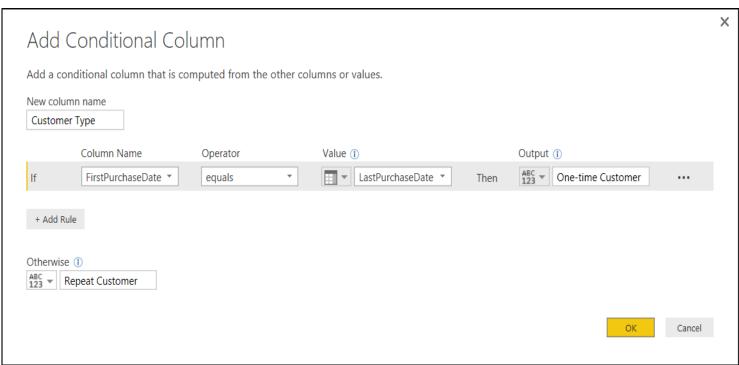
| FirstPurchaseDate 🔻 | LastPurchaseDate 🔻 | CustomerType ~ |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1/28/2012 | 1/28/2012 | One-time Customer |
| 1/29/2012 | 11/22/2015 | Repeat Customer |
| 1/29/2012 | 10/2/2015 | Repeat Customer |
| 1/29/2012 | 1/29/2012 | One-time Customer |
| 1/29/2012 | 5/6/2015 | Repeat Customer |
| 1/29/2012 | 1/29/2012 | One-time Customer |



Adding a Conditional Column

Abstracts away need to write M code









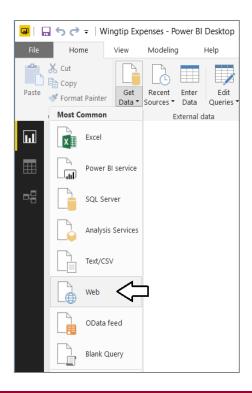
Agenda

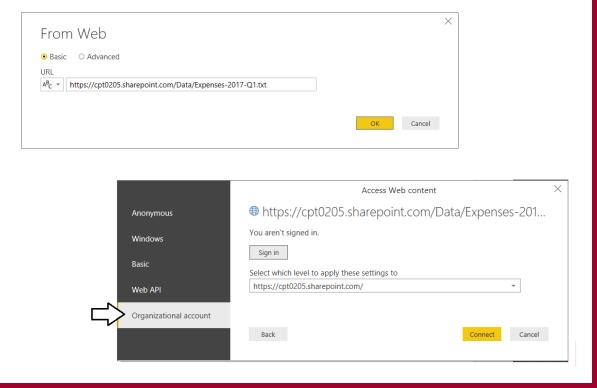
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Importing Files using the Web Datasource

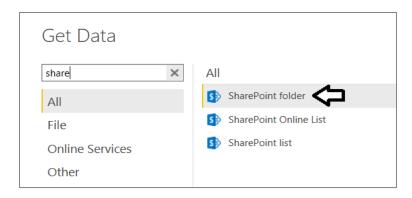
- Files in SharePoint document library exposed via HTTPS
 - Use Web datasource to import files in SharePoint Online
 - Use the absolute path to file in document library
 - Authenticate using Organizational account



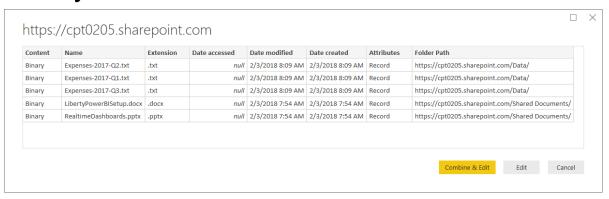


Importing using the SharePoint Folder

Select the SharePoint folder datasource



Query returns a row for each file in the site







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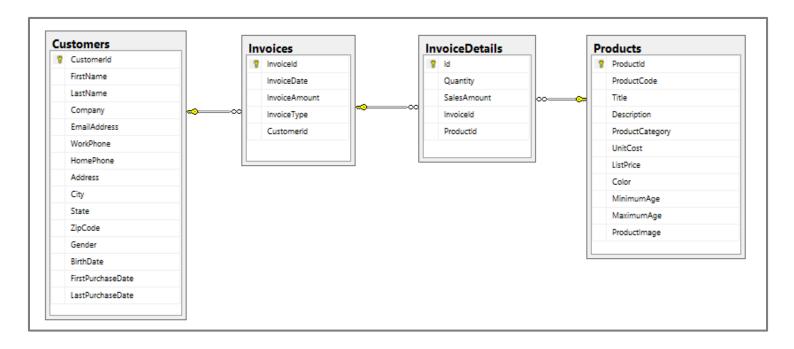


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Sample OLTP Database: WingtipSalesDB

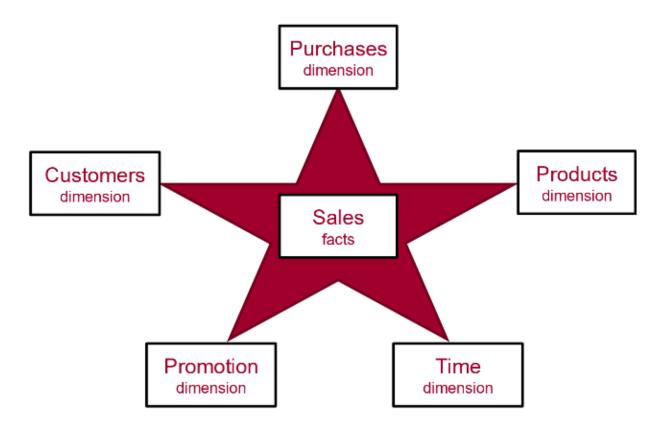
- Online Transaction Processing (OLTP) System
 - Used for real-time data access and transaction-based data entry
 - Optimized for faster transactions (e.g. inserts, updates & deletes)
 - Tables normalized to reduce/eliminate redundancies
 - Table schemas can be hard for business users to understand





Data Modeling using a Star Schema

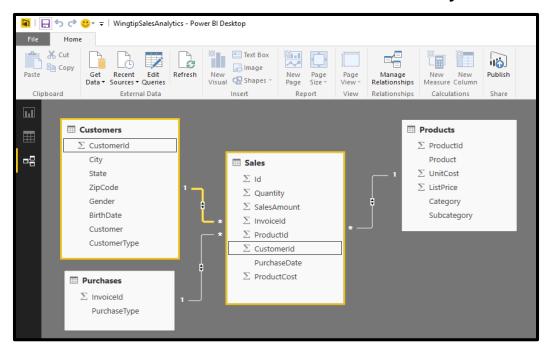
- OLAP Modeling often based on Star Schema
 - Tables defined as fact tables or dimension tables
 - Fact tables related to dimension table using 1-to-many relationships





Designing Queries to Build a Star Schema

- Converts OLTP Data Model to OLAP Data Model
 - Sales table is modeled as a OLAP Fact Table
 - Other tables are modeled as OLAP Dimension tables
 - Requires pulling CustomerId column into Sales table
 - All dimension tables should be directly related to fact table





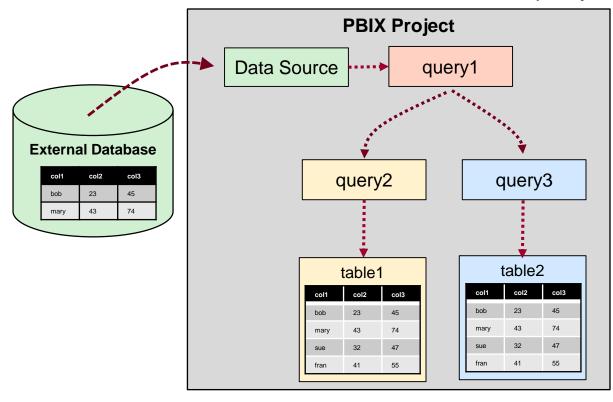


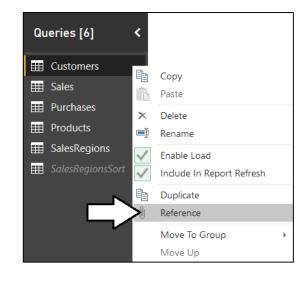
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Query Composition

- Query can serve as source for other queries
 - Allows for creation of reusable base queries & query composition
 - Complexity can be hidden in base queries
 - Reference command creates new query based on another query







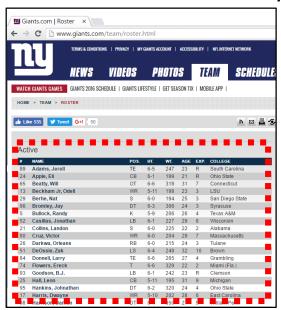
- Deciding What To Measure
- Query Design Fundamentals
- Designing Data Model using a Star Schema
- ✓ Working with the Query Editor Window
- ✓ Importing Content From SharePoint Online
- Designing with Function Queries
- Understanding Parameters and Template Files

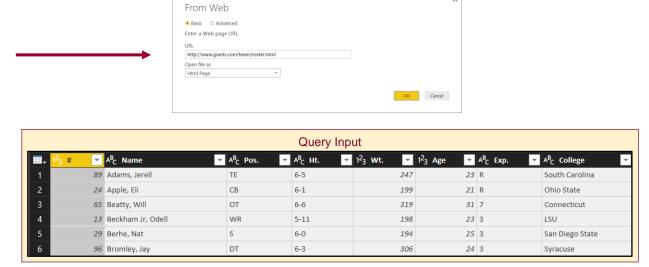




Working with Web Data Sources

- Many public websites publish data using HTML tables
 - Power BI desktop can scrape data from tables in HTML pages







Summary

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- Designing Data Model using a Star Schema
- ✓ Advanced Query Design

