# PowerQuery (M language) cheat sheet

### Note: M is a case sensitive language!

Kind	Literal	Comment
Null	null	Empty value, void
		1 * null = null // be careful!
Logical	true / false	
Number	0 1 -1 1.5 2.3e-5, 0xff	Whole / decimal number, number in hex
Time	#time(9, 15, 0)	#time( hour, minute, second )
		#time(24,0,0) = #time(0,0,0)
		If hour is 24, then minute and second must be 0
Data	//-lata/0040_0_00)	$0 \le \text{hour} \le 24, 0 \le \text{minute} \le 59, 0 \le \text{second} \le 59$
Date	#date(2013, 2, 26)	#date( year, month, day)
DateTime DateTimeZone	#datetime(2013, 2, 26, 9, 15, 0) #datetimezone(2013, 2, 26, 9, 15, 0, 9, 0)	#datetime( year, month, day, hour, minute, second ) #datetimezone( year, month, day, hour, minute, second,
DateTimeZone	#uatetimezone(2013, 2, 26, 9, 13, 0, 9, 0)	offset-hours, offset-minutes)
		$0 \le \text{year} \le 9999, 0 \le \text{month} \le 12, 1 \le \text{day} \le 31$
		$0 \le \text{hour} \le 23, 0 \le \text{minute} \le 59, 0 \le \text{second} \le 59$
		$-14 \le \text{offset-hours} + \text{offset-minutes} / 60 \le 14$
Duration	#duration( 0, 1, 30, 0)	#duration( days, hours, minutes, seconds )
Text	"hello"	Just text in quotes
		Special characters
		="#(cr,lf)" same as ="#(cr)#(lf)",
		string to check ="a#(cr,If)b"
		= "a#(tab)b" // a b
		= "a" & "b""c" // ab"c
Binary	#binary("AQID")	If you work with binary – you know
List	{ 1, 2, 3 }, { 1 10 },	Comma separated values in curly brackets
	{"A""Z", "a""z"}	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Record	[ A=1, B=2 ]	Comma separated "Field Name = Value" in square
		brackets
Table	Simple way:	result:
	#table( { "X", "Y" }, { { 1, 2 }, { 3, 4 } } )	. ABC X ABC Y
		1 2
		3 4
	Preferable: with specified column types	#table( list of field names,
	#table( type table	list of lists with values for <u>rows</u> of future table )
	[Digit ID = number, Name = text],	###   ####   ###   ###   ###   ###   ###   ###   ###   ###   ###   ###   ####   ####   ####   ####   ####   ####   ####   ####   ####   ####   ####   ####   ####   ####   #####   ####   ####   ####   #####   #####   ######
	{ {1,"one"},	#table( { "Field1 Name", "Field2 Name" },
	{2,"two"},	{ { "Field1 Value1", "Field2 Value1" },
	{3,"three"}	{ "Field1 Value2 , Tield2 Value2 }, { "Field1 Value3", "Field2 Value3" } } )
		( Tiolat values, Floraz values ) )
		Empty table: #table( {"A", "B"}, {} )
Function	(x) => x + 1	( arguments ) => some operations.
		"nullable" argument is optional.
		(num as nullable number) =>
		let
		step1 = if num = null then 0 else num,
		step2 = step1 * 2 in
		step2
Туре	type{ number } // list	0.072
7 F -	type table [A = any, B = text]	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•

Operator		x = y	Equal
x > y	Greater than	x<>y	Not equal
x >= y	Greater than or equal	x or y	Conditional logical OR
x < y	Less than	x and y	Conditional logical AND
x <= y	Less than or equal	not x	Logical NOT

```
Recursion (blog post)
Expressions
"Hello World" // a text value
                                                               Factorial = (n) =>
                                                                        if n <= 1 then
123 // a number
1 + 2 // sum of two numbers
                                                                        else
{1, 2, 3} // a list of three numbers
                                                                                n * @Factorial(n - 1),
[x = 1, y = 2 + 3]//a record containing two fields: x and y
                                                                        x = Factorial(5)
(x, y) \Rightarrow x + y // a function that computes a sum
                                                               // @ is scoping operator
if 2 > 1 then 2 else 1 // a conditional expression
let x = 1 + 1 in x * 2 // a let expression
error "A" // error with message "A"
```

#### **Relative dates**

```
Today= Date.From(DateTime.FixedLocalNow()),
Yesterday= Date.AddDays(Date.From(DateTime.FixedLocalNow()), -1),
#"End of last month" = Date.EndOfMonth(Date.AddMonths(DateTime.FixedLocalNow(), -1)),
#"Start of Current Year" = Date.StartOfYear( DateTime.FixedLocalNow() ),
#"Start of Previous Year"= Date.AddYears(Date.StartOfYear(DateTime.FixedLocalNow()), -1),
#"ISO Date format"=Date.ToText( Date.From(DateTime.FixedLocalNow()), "yyyy-MM-ddT00:00:00"),
#"Start of Month 12 months ago Excluding cur month"=
       Date.StartOfMonth(Date.AddMonths(DateTime.FixedLocalNow(), -12)),
#"Start of Month 12 months ago Including cur month"=
       Date.StartOfMonth(Date.AddMonths(DateTime.FixedLocalNow(), -11)),
// Generate Calendar – (blog post)
// List of dates for PrevYear - Today
let
     start = Date.AddYears(Date.StartOfYear(DateTime.FixedLocalNow()), -1), // start of prev year
     end = Date.From(DateTime.FixedLocalNow()), // today
     duration = Duration.Days(end - start) + 1,
     list_of_dates = List.Dates(start, duration, #duration(1,0,0,0)),
     #"Table from List" = Table.FromList(list_of_dates, Splitter.SplitByNothing(), null, null, ExtraValues.Error)
in
       #"Table from List"
Get working days
       Option 1: Parse table from TimeAndDate.com
       Option 2: Use API TimeAndDate.com
       Russia: читать в блоге, function on GitHub
```

# PowerQuery code shortcuts

### IF / THEN / ELSE

Result = if [Column1]>0 then [Column A] else [Column B] // low case if / then / else, M is case sensitive

### TRY / CATCH – error handling

Result = try A/B otherwise 0 // low case "try [some action] otherwise [some action/object]"

### **Excel cell value (Named Range consisting of one cell)**

Result = Excel.CurrentWorkbook(){[Name="CELLNAME"]}[Content]{0}[Column1]

### Rename Columns according to "Renaming Table"

where RENAMING\_TABLE looks like

Old Name	New Name
Α	В
С	D

### Rename using List.Zip, when you know order of your columns (blog post)

Renamed\_Columns = Table.RenameColumns(TARGET,

List.Zip( { Table.ColumnNames( Source ), { "Sales Org", "Territory Key" } }), MissingField.Ignore),

#### Create a table from thin air

For example, when response is null but you want to keep structure of your PowerPivot table

= #table( {"A", "B"}, {} ) – empty table, simple approach

Or with defined column types

- = #table( type table [A = text, B = number], {}) empty table
- = #table( type table [My Column A = text, B = number], { {"one", 1}, {"two", 1} } )

### ISNUMBER() analog

= Value.Is(Value.FromText( VALUE ), type number)

Or:

= "sample" is number // false, = 123 is number // true

### ISTEXT() analog

= Value.Is(Value.FromText( VALUE ), type text)

Or:

= "sample" is text // true, = 123 is text // false

### Convert all columns of table Source to text data type

= Table.TransformColumnTypes(Source,

List.Transform( Table.ColumnNames(Source), each { \_, type text } ) )

```
Expand from nested table all not existing in current table
       = Table.ExpandTableColumn( buffer, "NewColumn",
       List.Difference( Table.ColumnNames( buffer[NewColumn]{0}), Table.ColumnNames( buffer )),
       List.Difference( Table.ColumnNames( buffer[NewColumn]{0} ), Table.ColumnNames( buffer ) ) )
Expand from nested table only specified in list "fields"
Safe way to expand - it takes only intersection of Difference vs fields
       // take column Attribute from INPUT_TABLE
       fields = List.Buffer(InputTable[Attribute]),
       #"Expanded NewColumn" = Table.ExpandTableColumn( buffer, "NewColumn",
                    List.Intersect( { List.Difference( Table.ColumnNames( buffer[NewColumn]{0} ),
               Table.ColumnNames( buffer ) ), fields } ),
                    List.Intersect( { List.Difference( Table.ColumnNames( buffer[NewColumn]{0} ),
               Table.ColumnNames( buffer ) ), fields } ) ),
Expand from nested table specified in special list "fields" + rename + add prefix
       fields = List.Buffer(InputTable[Attribute]),
       #"Expanded NewColumn" = Table.ExpandTableColumn( buffer, "NewColumn",
            List.Intersect( { Table.ColumnNames( buffer[NewColumn]{0} ), fields } ),
               // add prefix to each field
                List.Transform( // rename according to RENAME_TABLE by replacing items in list
                       List.ReplaceMatchingItems(List.Intersect({Table.ColumnNames(buffer[NewColumn]{0}),
                                                                      fields }),
                                          Table.ToColumns( Table.Transpose(RENAME_TABLE)) ),
            each "Parent " & _ )
           ),
Query Folding for SQL (blog post)
// Use filter as one of the first actions in Power Query after Sql.Database
// replicate "IN" clause using List.Contains
       Table.SelectRows(Source, each [OrganizationKey]=11 and
               List.Contains( {6,7}, [DepartmentGroupKey] ) )
```

### Operations with date and time in Power Query

### Time

### #time( hour, minute, second )

Operator	Left Operand	<b>Right Operand</b>	Meaning
x + y	time	duration	Date offset by duration
x + y	duration	time	Date offset by duration
x - y	time	duration	Date offset by negated duration
x - y	time	time	Duration between dates
x & y	date	time	Merged datetime

### Date

### #date( year, month, day)

Operator	Left Operand	Right Operand	Meaning
x + y	date	duration	Date offset by duration
x + y	duration	date	Date offset by duration
x - y	date	duration	Date offset by negated duration
х - у	date	date	Duration between dates
x & y	date	time	Merged datetime

### **DateTime**

### #datetime( year, month, day, hour, minute, second )

Operator	Left Operand	Right Operand	Meaning
x + y	datetime	duration	Datetime offset by duration
x + y	duration	datetime	Datetime offset by duration
x - y	datetime	duration	Datetime offset by negated duration
x - y	datetime	datetime	Duration between datetimes

### **Duration**

### #duration( days, hours, minutes, seconds )

#duration(0, 0, 0, 5.5) // 5.5 seconds

#duration(0, 0, 0, -5.5) // -5.5 seconds

#duration(0, 0, 5, 30) // 5.5 minutes

#duration(0, 0, 5, -30) // 4.5 minutes

#duration(0, 24, 0, 0) // 1 day

#duration(1, 0, 0, 0) // 1 day

Operator	Left Operand	Right Operand	Meaning
x + y	datetime	duration	Datetime offset by duration
x + y	duration	datetime	Datetime offset by duration
x + y	duration	duration	Sum of durations
x - y	datetime	duration	Datetime offset by negated duration
x - y	datetime	datetime	Duration between datetimes
x - y	duration	duration	Difference of durations
x * y	duration	number	N times a duration
x * y	number	duration	N times a duration
x/y	duration	number	Fraction of a duration

# Recommended blogs

https://bondarenkoivan.wordpress.com/ - Ivan Bondarenko (@ Ivan Bond)

https://blog.crossjoin.co.uk/ - Chris Webb (@Technitrain)

http://datachant.com/ - Gil Raviv (@gilra)

https://www.excelguru.ca/blog - Ken Puls (@kpuls)

https://querypower.com/ - Igor Cotruta (@igocrete)

http://exceleratorbi.com.au/ - Matt Allington (@ExceleratorBI)

http://excel-inside.pro/ - Maxim Zelensky (@Hohlick)

http://www.thebiccountant.com/ - Imke Feldman (@TheBiccountant)

https://powerpivotpro.com/ - Rob Collie, Avi Singh and others (@powerpivotpro)

In Russian:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/Excelforever/

http://www.excel-vba.ru/?s=power+query

http://needfordata.ru/blog/

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