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Parameters and Functions in Power Query

TECHNOLOGY
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DATABASE CONTROL



Microsoft



Hubert K. Kobierzewski



- BI Practice Lead at Codec (over 11 years)
- Trainer at Sages
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- Specialized in: Data Warehousing, ETL processes and Business Intelligence
- MS SQL Server certified (MCDBA, MCTS, MCITP, MCSE – BI, MCT)
- Co-leader of Warsaw Data Community Chapter
- Co-leader of Warsaw Power BI User Group



M formula

M formula language

- Functional language
- “Data Mashup” Queries
- Case sensitivity similar to F#
- Expressions
- Values (primitive, function, structured data)



M vs SQL

```
SELECT Orders.OrderDate, Products.OrderID,  
Products.ProductSKU FROM Products  
INNER JOIN Orders ON Products.OrderID =  
Orders.OrderID  
ORDER BY Products.ProductSKU
```

```
let  
  Joined = Table.Join( Products, "OrderID", Orders, "OrderID" ),  
  Columns = Table.SelectColumns(Joined, {"OrderDate", "OrderID",  
    "ProductSKU"}),  
  Sorted = Table.Sort( Columns, "ProductSKU" ),  
in  
  Sorted
```



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Parameters in Power Query

M Parameters

- Value container
- You may specify data type, nullability, default value
- Demo

Any

Decimal Number

Date/Time

Date

Time

Date/Time/Timezone

Duration

Text

True/False

Binary



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Functions in Power Query

M Functions

- Code that is repeated
- Parameters are optional
- Syntax
- $(a, b) \Rightarrow a * b$



Demo



Further reading

Chris Webb,

<https://blog.crossjoin.co.uk/2013/11/19/generating-a-date-dimension-table-in-power-query/>

Microsoft Docs, <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/powerquery-m/understanding-power-query-m-functions>

Ken Puls,

<https://www.excelguru.ca/blog/2018/05/30/creating-dynamic-parameters-in-power-query/>



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