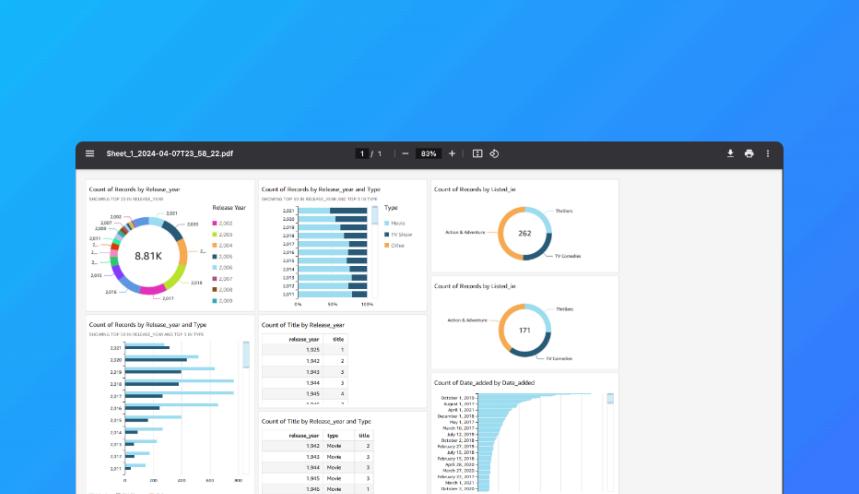




Visualize data with QuickSight



Max Lerman





Introducing Today's Project!

What is Amazon QuickSight?

Amazon QuickSight is a cloud based business intelligence service that enables users to create interactive dashboards, visualisations and reports from various data sources. It makes data analysis and sharing insights simpler for organisations.

How I used Amazon QuickSight in this project

How did I use Amazon QuickSight in today's project? I used it well, that's how

—

One thing I didn't expect in this project was...

I didn't expect how simple and fast it was to create a variety of filtered graphs and charts, each answering different questions about specific subsets of the data. The process felt intuitive, from identifying anomalies to isolating details.

This project took me...

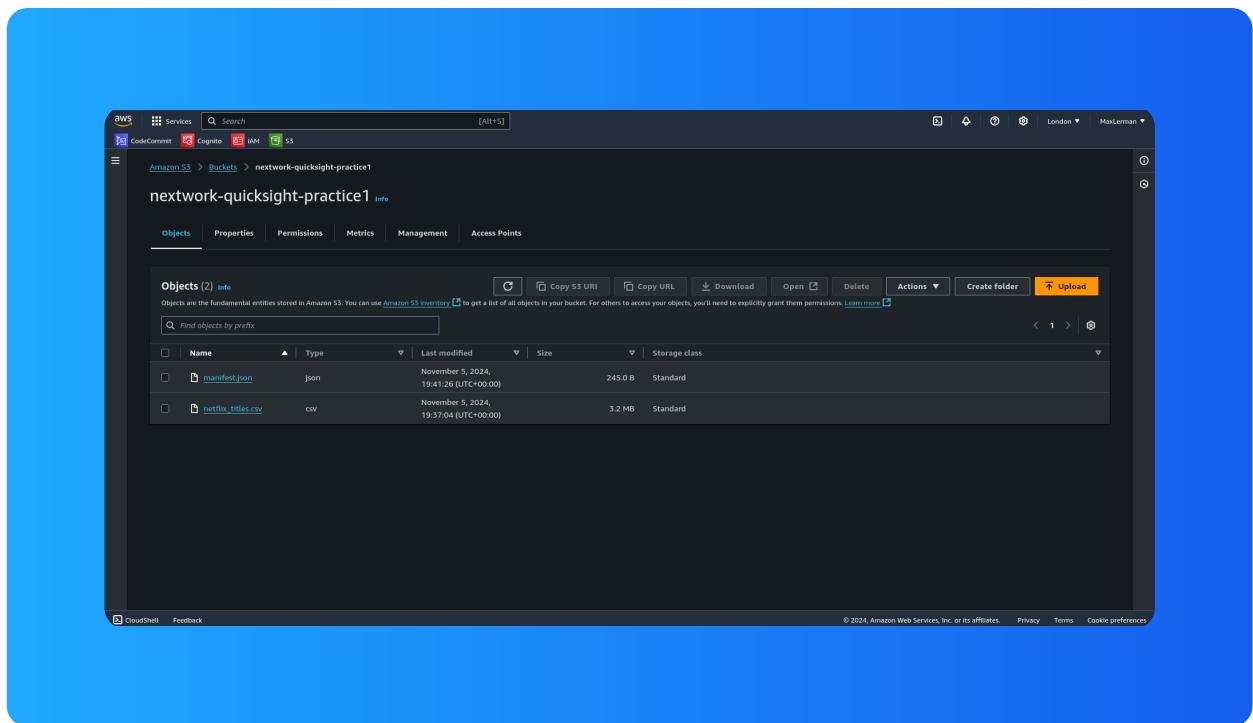
The process took 1-2 hours, I enjoyed taking my time to research around what else I could achieve and what subsets I could represent in whichever form of graph/chart representation.



Upload project files into S3

S3 is used in this project to store two files, which are: manifest.json and netflix_titles.csv.

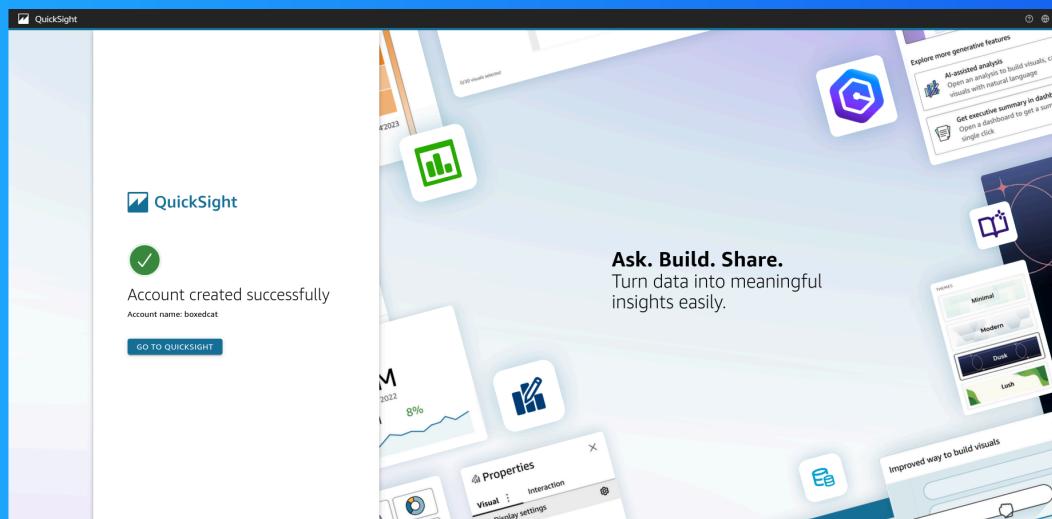
I edited the manifest.json file by opening the folder it was located in in VS Code and changing the fileLocations' URIs array. It's important to edit this file because Amazon QuickSight uses this updated URI to locate the data source CSV file.



Create QuickSight account

Creating a QuickSight account costs nothing if you make sure to use the 30-day free trial of the Enterprise Edition for up to 4 users.

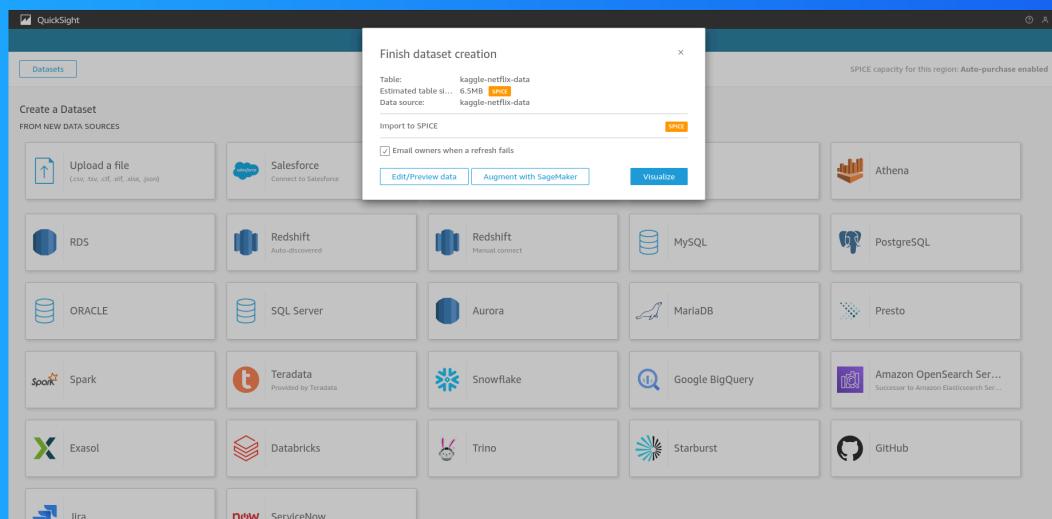
Creating an account took me roughly three minutes.



Download the Dataset

I connected the S3 bucket to QuickSight by visiting the Datasets section and selecting the data source option S3.

The manifest.json file was important in this step because it acts as a descriptor that tells QuickSight how to locate and interpret the data that's stored in the S3 bucket.



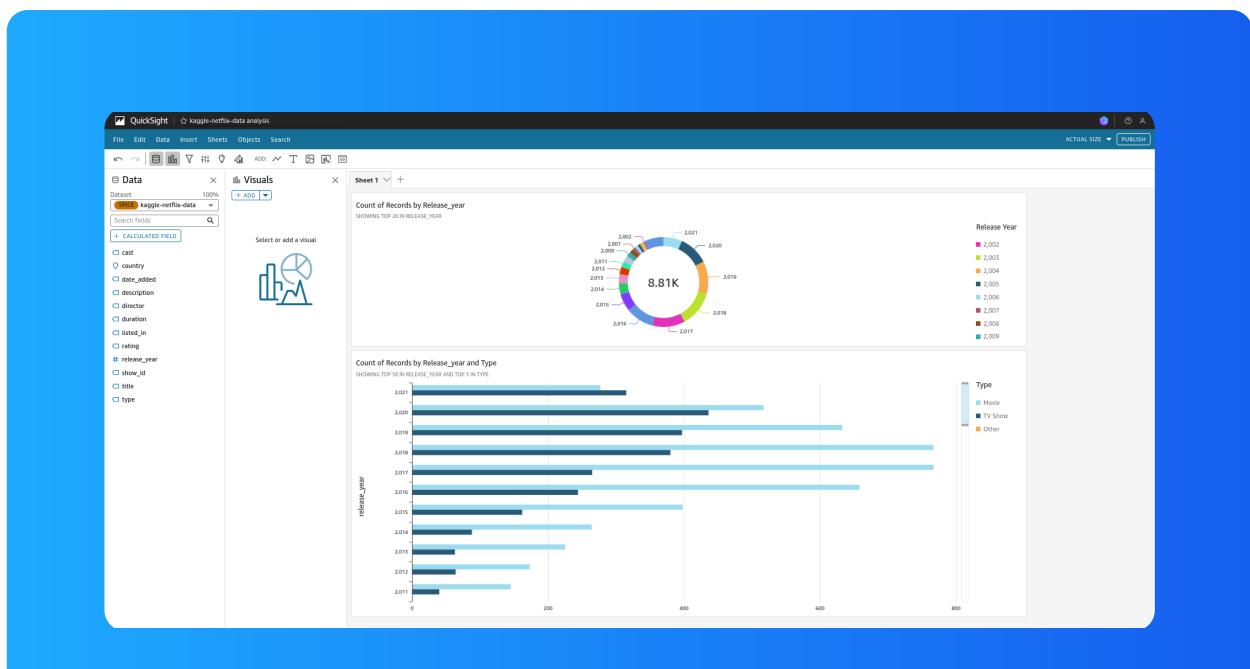


My first visualization

To create visualisations on QuickSight, I clicked the ADD button and selected how I wanted the data to be represented. In the case of the screenshot, I chose donut and horizontal bar charts.

The donut chart shown is a breakdown of how many records were released in 20 different release years. Years 2002-2021 each have their own chart segment and Other is the 20th segment, a sum of the records released before 2002 and after 2021.

I created this chart by dragging the "release_year" data tag and dropping it on the Y-axis of the horizontal bar graph, then changing the visual type to donut chart.

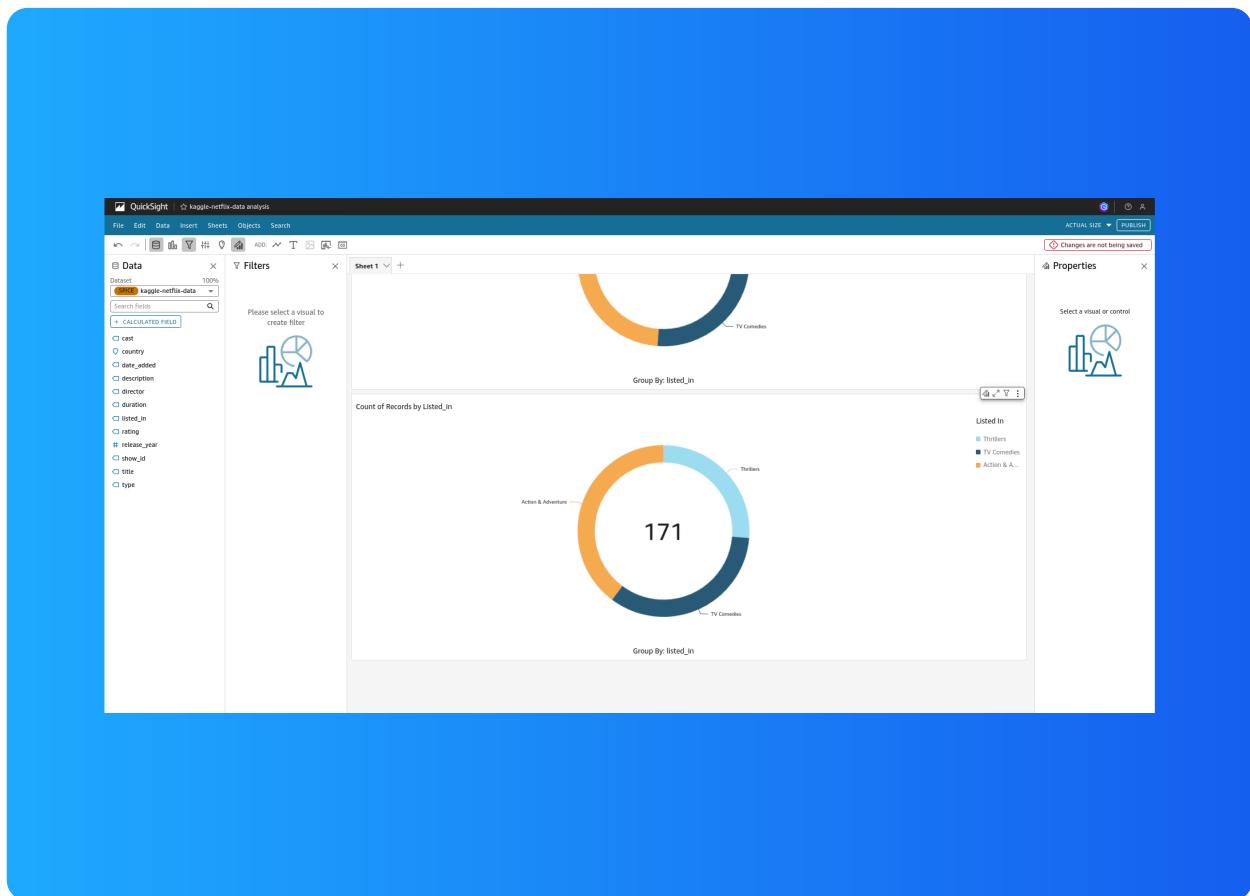




Using filters

Filters are useful for refining, focusing and exploring data effectively. They help to narrow down data being explored to specific subsets or conditions, creating meaningful and actionable insights from large datasets.

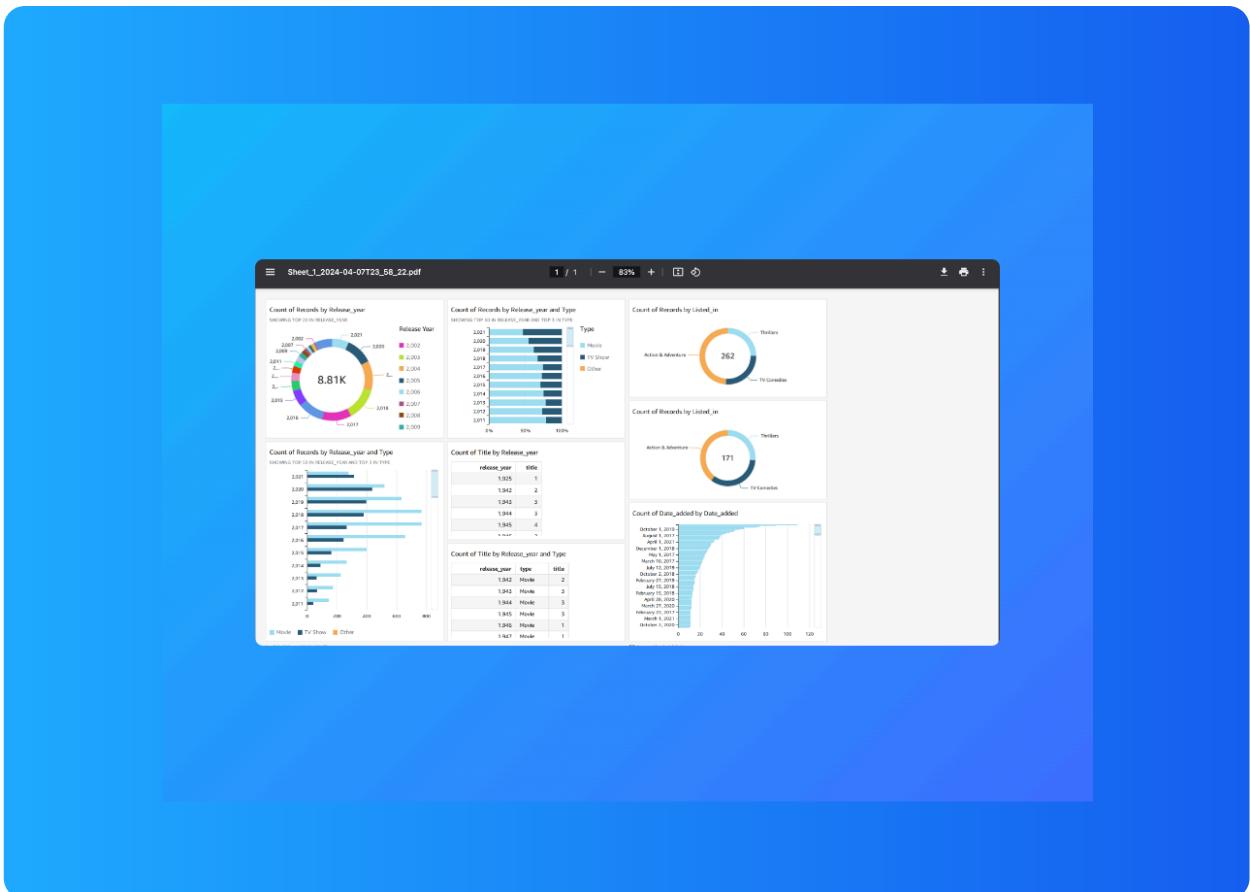
This visualisation is a breakdown of how many records that are listed as either Action & Adventure, Thriller or TV Comedy released between the years 2015-2021. I added a filter by selecting "release_year" and only choosing years 2015 to 2021.



Setting up a dashboard

As a finishing touch, I forgot auto-save was turned off by QuickSight and so publishing my dashboard reverted back to an incomplete draft. I have attached the example finishing touch as evidence of a working dashboard.

Did you know you could export your dashboard as PDFs too? I did (not need to do) this by clicking the export button, generate PDFs and then download once the file was ready.





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