What you Could do with Power BI... but really Shouldn't!

Creating a Calendar Table in DAX vs Power Query

Calendar DAX

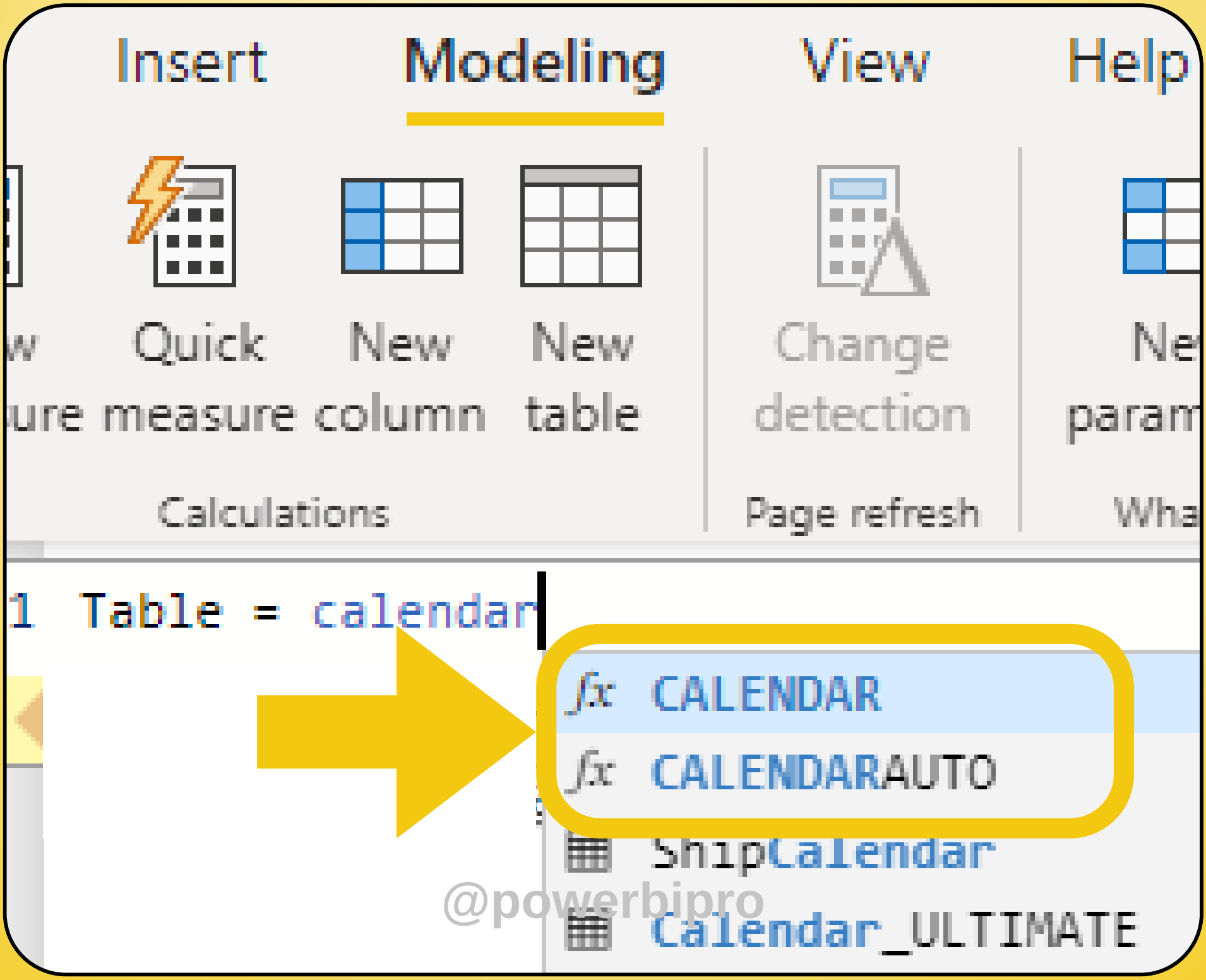
Year	Sales
2019	$7,072,084
2020	$5,762,134
Qtr 1	$1,396,834
Qtr 2	$1,327,799
Qtr 3	$1,413,530
Qtr 4	$1,623,971
2021	$16,473,618
Qtr 1	$2,744,340
Jan	$886,669
Feb	$847,414
Mar	$1,010,258
Total	$29,307,837

Calendar Power Query

Year	Sales
2019	$7,072,084
Qtr 1	$1,453,523
Jan	$473,388
Feb	$506,192
Mar	$473,943
Qtr 2	$1,812,851
Qtr 3	$1,791,698
Qtr 4	$2,014,012
2020	$5,762,134
2021	$16,473,618
Total	$29,307,837

What You Could Do

Yes, you could use DAX functions like CALENDAR() or CALENDARAUTO()...



But You Should Use Power Query

Why?

1. It's the **Kitchen of Power BI** — prep data here before loading to the model

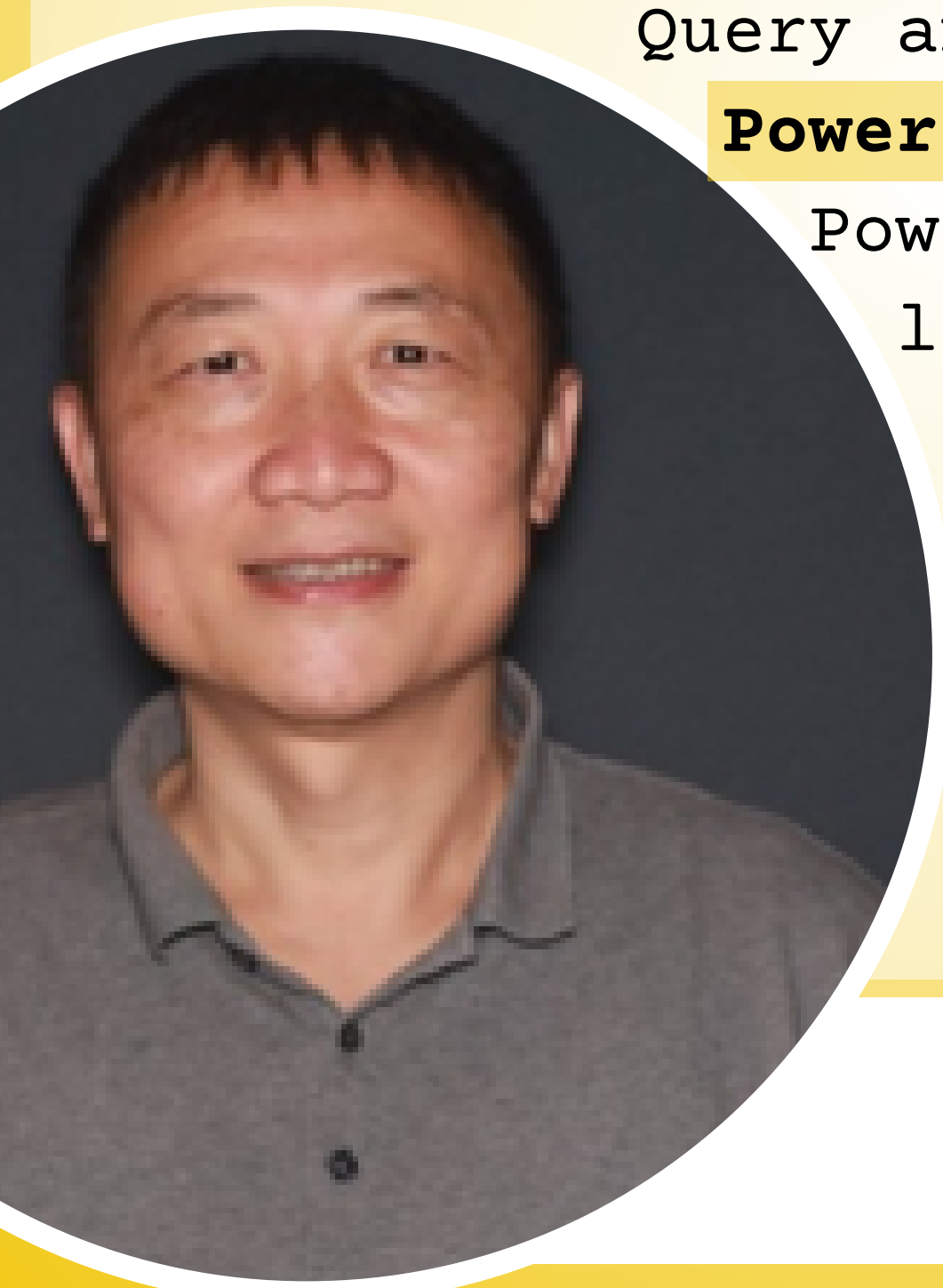
2. **Step-by-step logic** makes complex columns easy to manage

3. Most importantly...

The Final Reason?

Because Jeffrey Wang says so!

…I'd like to address some confusion regarding the **creation of the calendar table in M versus in DAX.** Generally, if an operation can be performed in both Power Query and DAX,**opting for Power Query is preferable.**



Power Query serves as the logical layer for ETL ,and all tables loaded into the semantic model...should be part of this layer…

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What's something you learned, that you could do in Power BI, but shouldn't?

@powerbipro

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We'll feature the best in a future post!