



Microsoft

Power BI



Building Multi-language Reports in Power BI

Ted Pattison

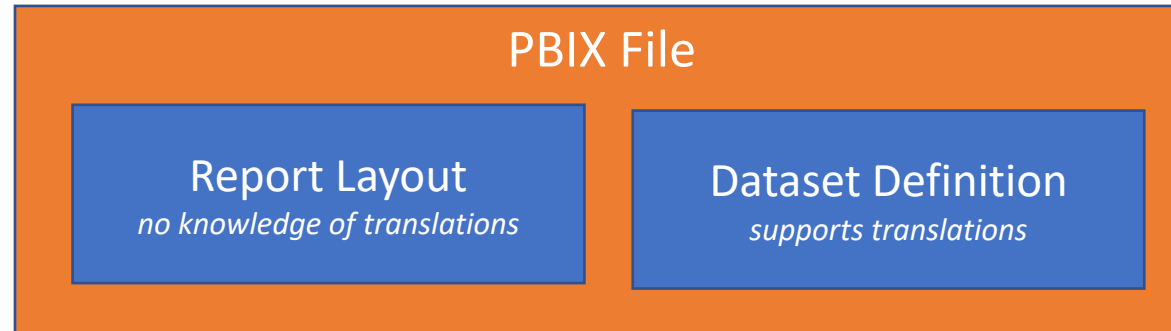
Power BI Customer Advisory Team (PBICAT)

Agenda

- Overview of Multi-language PBIX Development
 - Designing Multi-language Reports
 - Adding Metadata Translations with TOM
 - Embedding Reports with Specific Locales
 - Designing Data Models to Support Content Translations
 - Setting the Language for Current User using RLS and UserCulture

Overview of Multi-language PBIX Development

- PBIX Localization only supported for data model
 - Report designer has no knowledge of dataset localization support



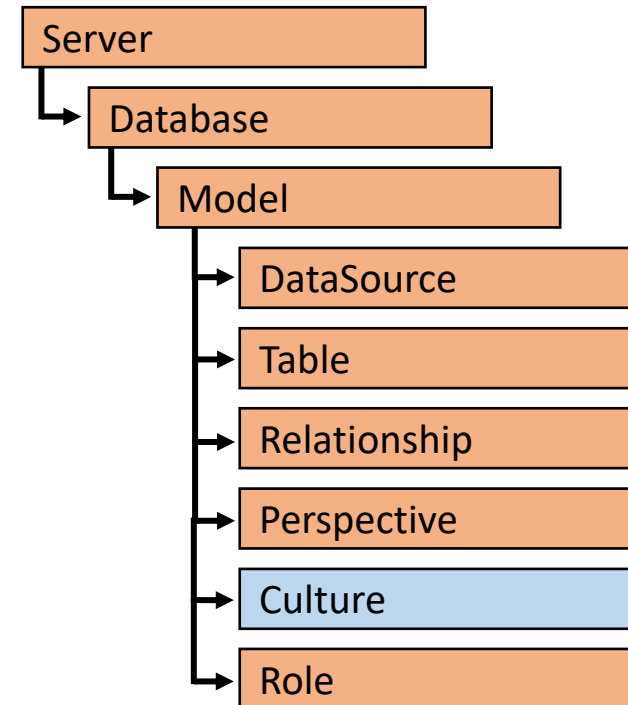
- Metadata translations supported for table names and field name
 - This technique not used to localize metadata labels but not to localize content
 - Requires tricks in the report designer to localize string content on report
- Content translations added using specific data model design
 - Best practices currently based on replicated rows pattern

Workflow for Multi-language PBIX Development

1. Use Power BI Desktop to prepare PBIX to support translations
 - Design data model with tables, columns, measure and hierarchies
 - Create **Localized Labels** table with measures with localizable names
2. Add metadata translations to PBIX
 - Add metadata translations to PBIX project using External Tool support
 - Requires using Tabular Editor or programming Tabular Object Model (TOM)
3. Design and implement content translation strategy
 - Content translation design based replicated rows pattern
 - Can be implemented using Power Query and translation lookup tables

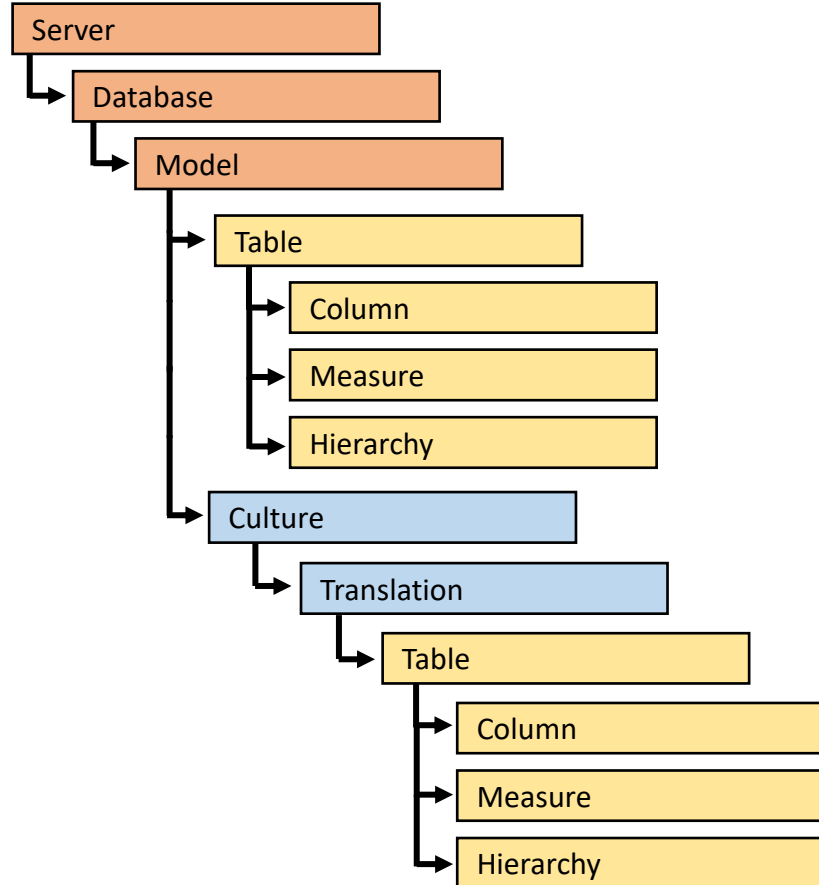
Tabular Object Model (TOM)

- TOM is extension of Analysis Management Object (AMO) client library
 - Created to support programming tabular model databases in SQL Analysis Services
 - Updated to support programming datasets in Power BI Desktop and the Power BI Service
- TOM provides a programmatic way to view/edit data models
 - Creating models
 - importing and refreshing data
 - Assigning roles and permissions
 - Adding support for secondary cultures/languages



Adding Metadata Translations

- When you create a new PBIX project...
 - It has a default culture (en-US) but contains no translations
 - You must add translations for each spoken language



```
{
  "name": "29ddb796-a33b-40d8-b61b-a2f901c0fcb7",
  "model": {
    "culture": "en-US",
    "tables": [
      { "name": "Products",
        "columns": [
          { "name": "Category", "dataType": "string" },
          { "name": "Product", "dataType": "string" }
        ]
      }
    ],
    "cultures": [
      {
        "name": "en-US",
        "translations": {
          "model": {
            "name": "Model",
            "tables": [
              { "name": "Products", "translatedCaption": "Products",
                "columns": [
                  { "name": "Category", "translatedCaption": "Category" },
                  { "name": "Product", "translatedCaption": "Product" }
                ]
              }
            ]
          }
        }
      }
    ]
  }
}
```

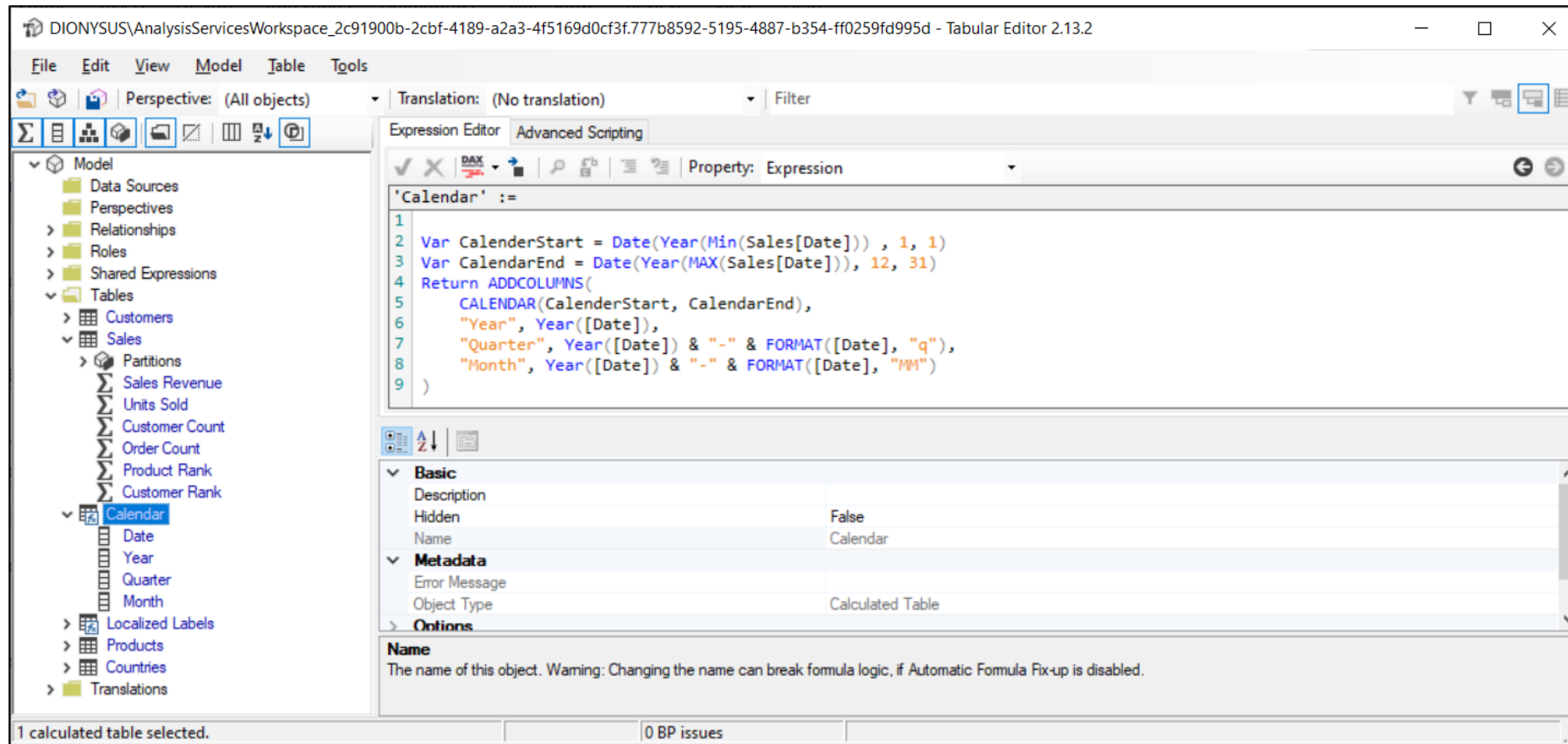
Adding Secondary Cultures

- Translations must be added for each required language
 - Contains **translatedCaption** for each translated string

```
{
  "name": "29ddb796-a33b-40d8-b61b-a2f901c0fcb7",
  "model": {
    "culture": "en-US",
    "tables": [ ...
  ],
  "cultures": [
    { "name": "en-US", ...
  },
    { "name": "es-ES", ...
  },
    { "name": "fr-FR", ...
  },
    { "name": "de-DE", ...
  },
    { "name": "nl-NL",
      "translations": {
        "model": {
          "name": "Model",
          "tables": [
            { "name": "Products", "translatedCaption": "Producten",
              "columns": [
                { "name": "Category", "translatedCaption": "categorie" },
                { "name": "Product", "translatedCaption": "product" }
              ]
            }
          ]
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

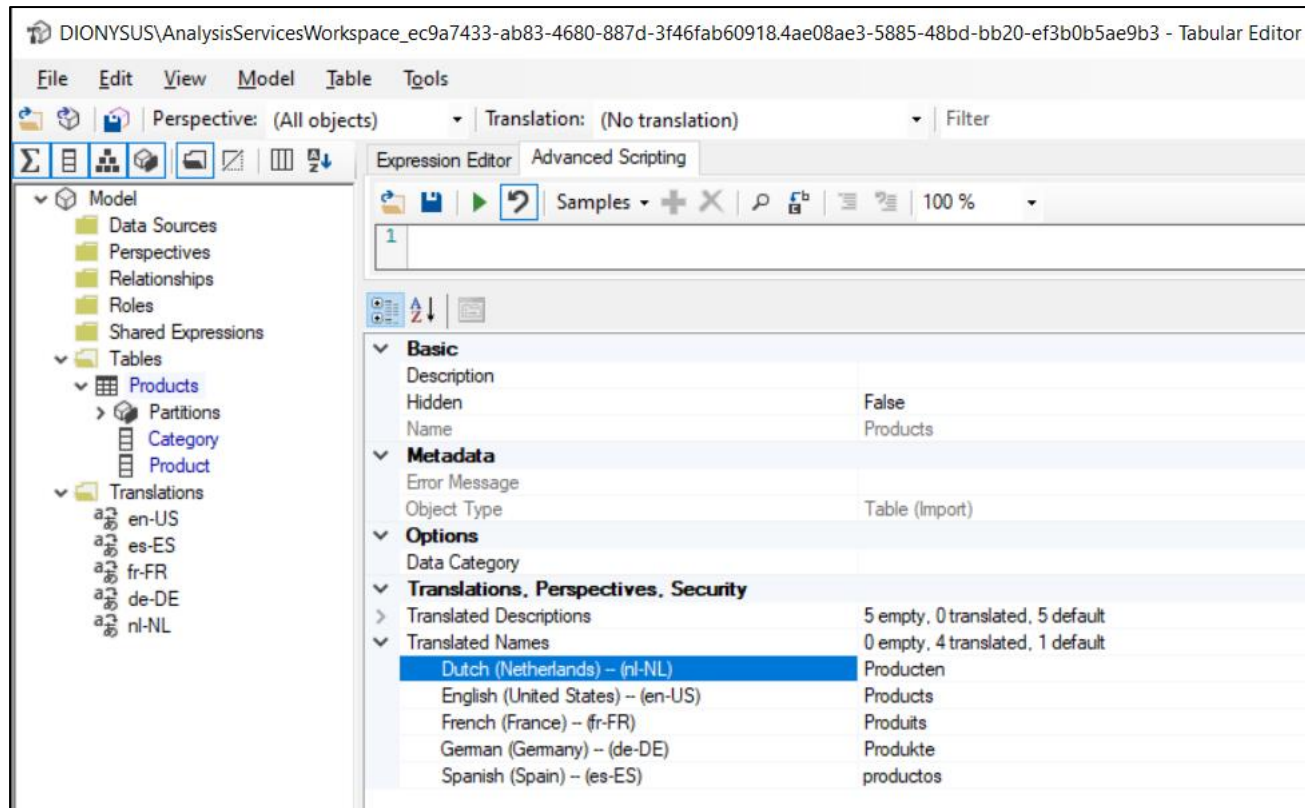
Working with Tabular Editor

- Download from <https://github.com/otykier/TabularEditor/>



Adding Translations using Tabular Editor

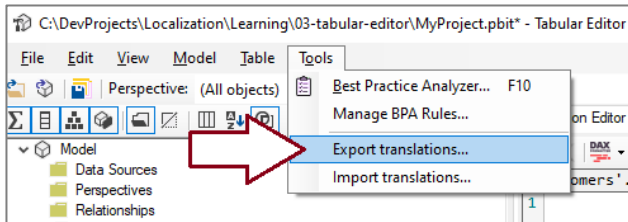
- Tabular Editor can be used to add cultures and populate translations



```
{
  "name": "29ddb796-a33b-40d8-b61b-a2f901c0fcb7",
  "model": {
    "culture": "en-US",
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  ],
  "cultures": [
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              ]
            }
          ]
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

Exporting/Importing Metadata Translations

- Tabular Editor supports exporting/importing translations
 - Export metadata after populating translations for default language
 - Design workflow with human translators to add translations
 - Import updated translation back into PBIX project using Tabular Editor

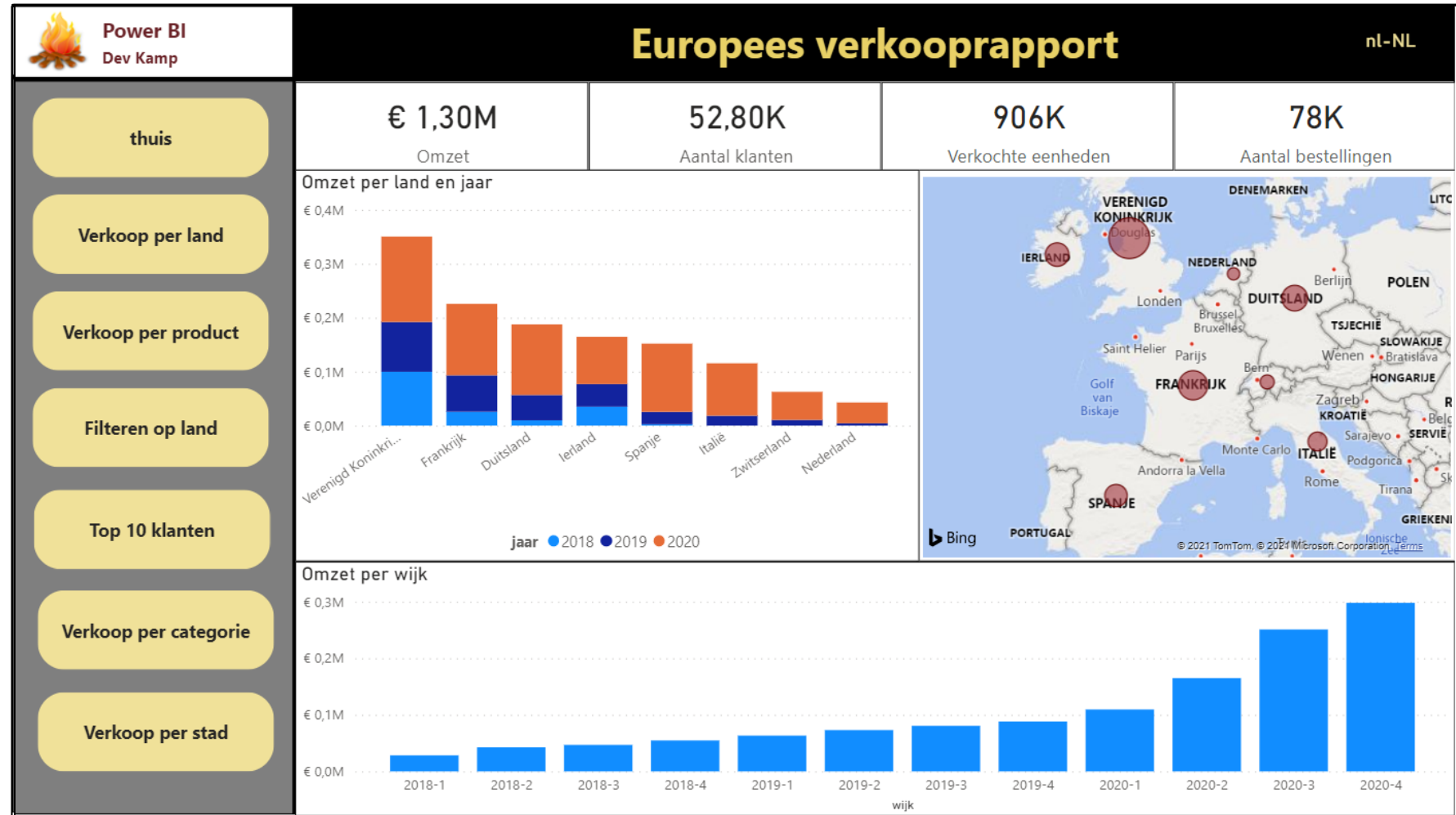


```
{
  "name": "29ddb796-a33b-40d8-b61b-a2f901c0fcb7",
  "model": {
    "culture": "en-US",
    "tables": [
      { "name": "Products",
        "columns": [
          { "name": "Category", "dataType": "string" },
          { "name": "Product", "dataType": "string" }
        ]
      }
    ],
    "cultures": [
      {
        "name": "en-US",
        "translations": {
          "model": {
            "name": "Model",
            "tables": [
              { "name": "Products", "translatedCaption": "Products",
                "columns": [
                  { "name": "Category", "translatedCaption": "Category" },
                  { "name": "Product", "translatedCaption": "Product" }
                ]
              }
            ]
          }
        }
      }
    ]
  }
}
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{
  "name": "29ddb796-a33b-40d8-b61b-a2f901c0fcb7",
  "model": {
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    "tables": [ ...
  ],
  "cultures": [
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    },
    { "name": "es-ES", ...
    },
    { "name": "fr-FR", ...
    },
    { "name": "de-DE", ...
    },
    { "name": "nl-NL",
      "translations": {
        "model": {
          "name": "Model",
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              "columns": [
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              ]
            }
          ]
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

European Product Sales Demo

- Live demo at <https://multilanguagereportdemo.azurewebsites.net/>
 - English
 - Spanish
 - French
 - German
 - Dutch



GitHub Repository for Multilanguage-Reports Sample

All sample code for this developer samples available for download

<https://github.com/PowerBiDevCamp/Multilanguage-Reports>

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for **PowerBiDevCamp / Multilanguage-Reports**. The repository has 1 branch (main) and 0 tags. It features a table of recent updates and a sidebar with repository information.

Commit Hash	Time Ago	Commits
b7e8b70	16 hours ago	19 commits

File/Folder	Update	Time Ago
CustomVisuals	Updates	6 days ago
Data	Updates	17 hours ago
Design	Updates	6 days ago
Docs	Updates	2 days ago
PBIX	Updates	17 hours ago
TranslationsBuilder	Updates	16 hours ago
README.md	Update README.md	6 days ago

About
Developer Sample for Building Multilanguage Reports in Power BI
[Readme](#)

Releases
No releases published
[Create a new release](#)

Packages
No packages published
[Publish your first package](#)

Agenda

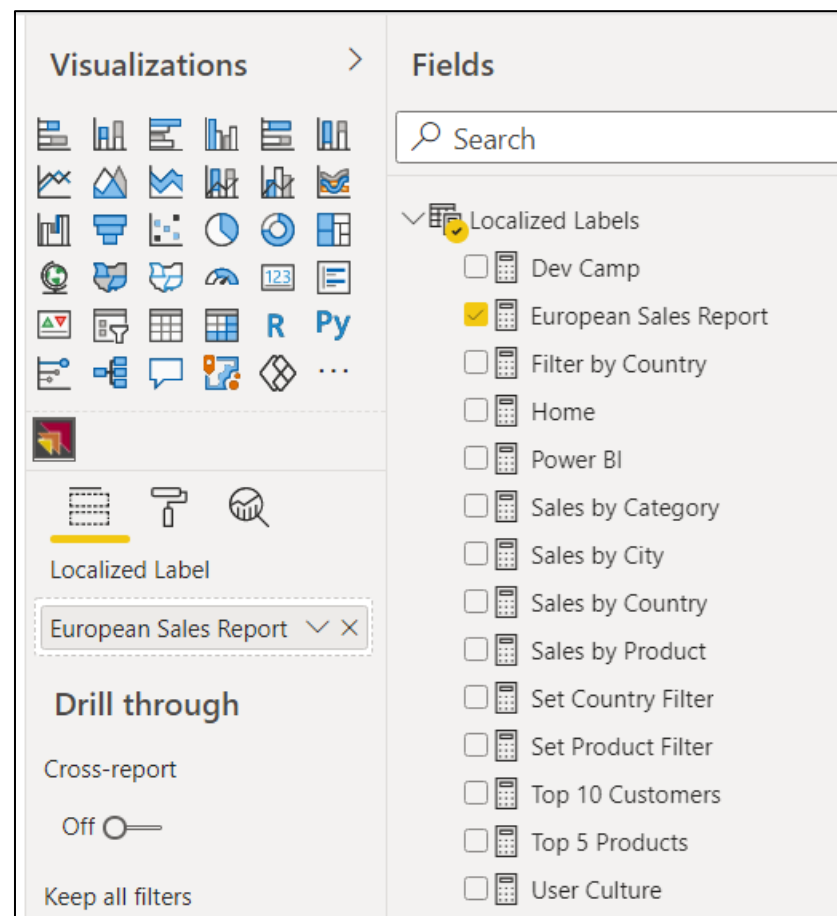
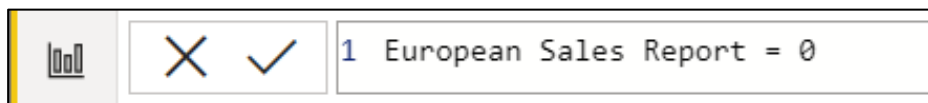
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Preparing a PBIX Project for Translations

- Plan localization from the start
 - Much harder to work with pre-existing PBIX created without localization in mind
- Plan for content growth
 - Some languages have content wider than English
 - Include padding for translated content
- Avoid report design techniques that do not support localization
 - Don't add literal text in visuals such a textboxes or button
 - Don't display page tabs - their content cannot be localized

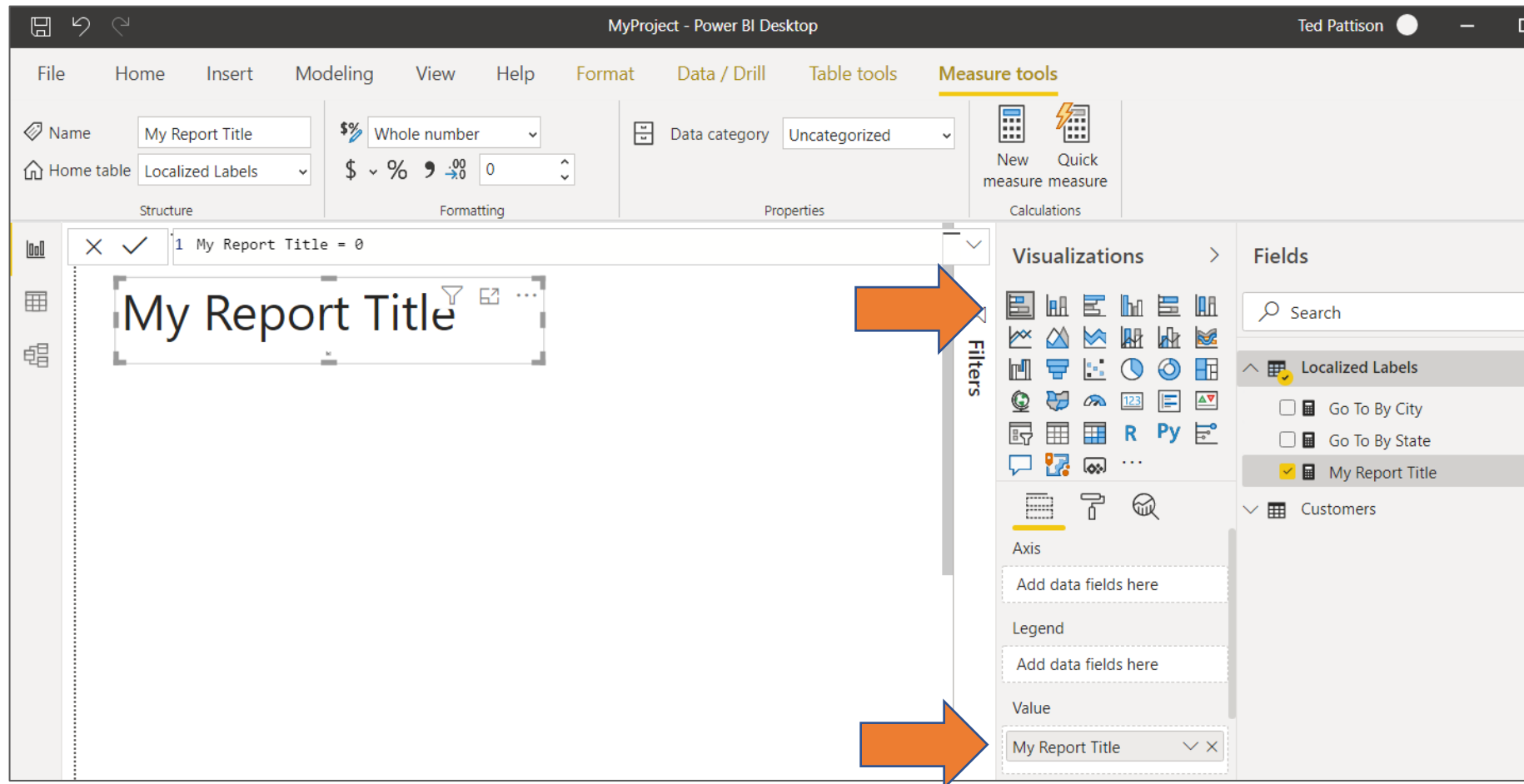
Localized Labels Table

- Create a new table in data model named **Localized Labels**
- Add a measure for any string content that needs to be localized
- Set measure expressions to 0



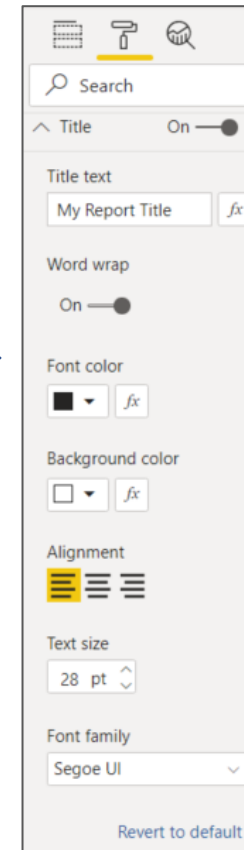
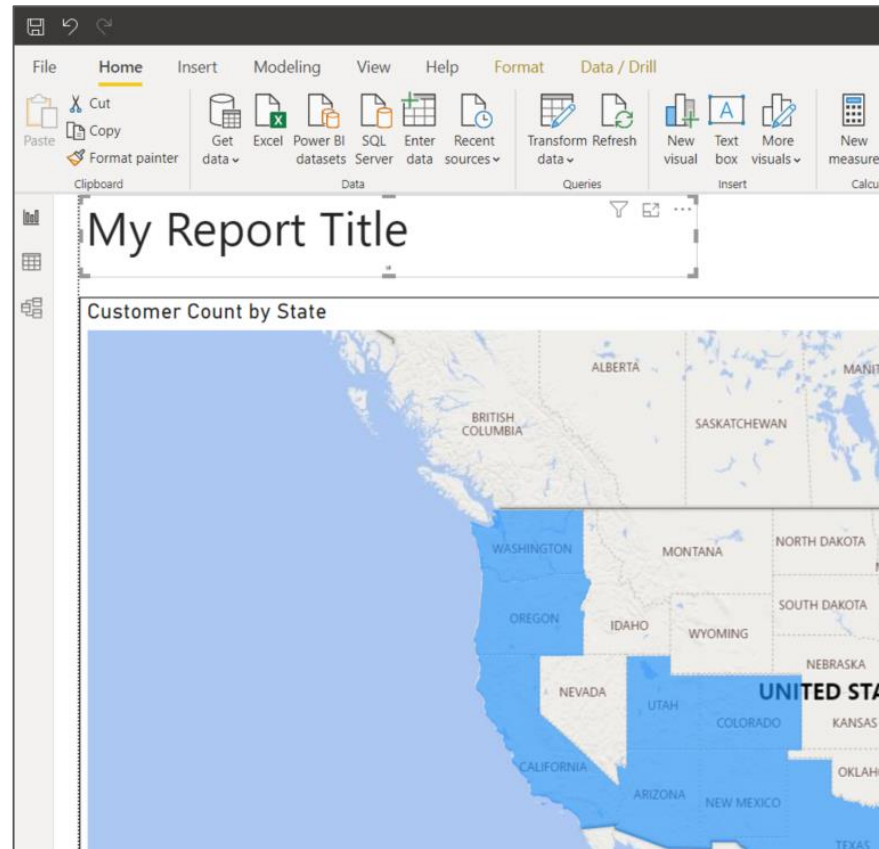
Surfacing a Localized Label

- You can surface localized label using one of core Power BI visuals
 - Add Stacked Barchart visual and add localized label in **Values** data roles



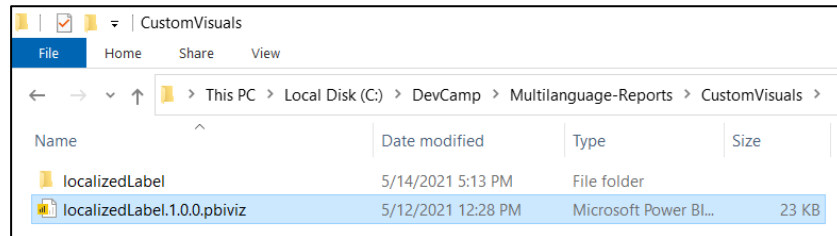
Configuring Localized Label Display Properties

- Using Format pane to configure label display properties
 - Design experience for this technique is limited

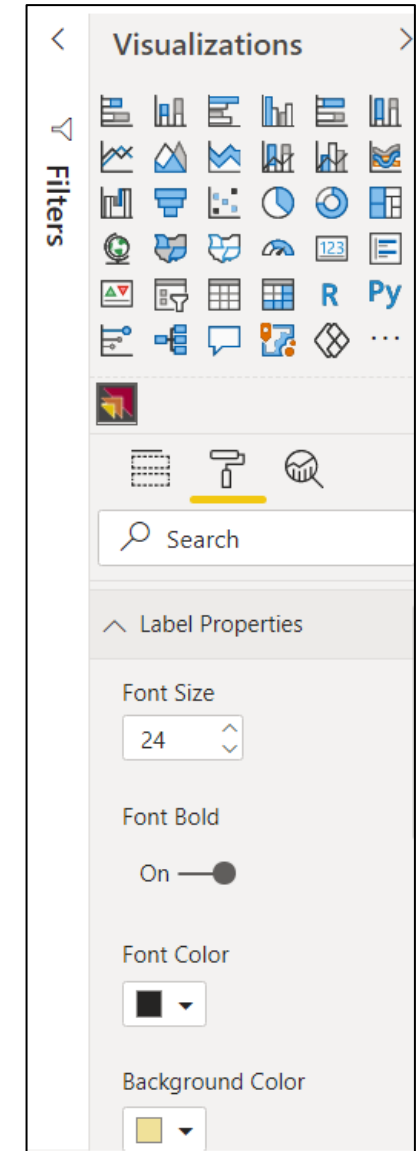
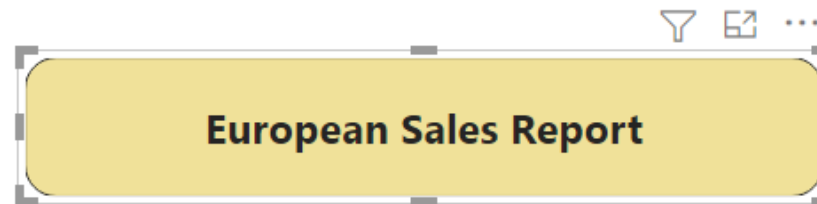
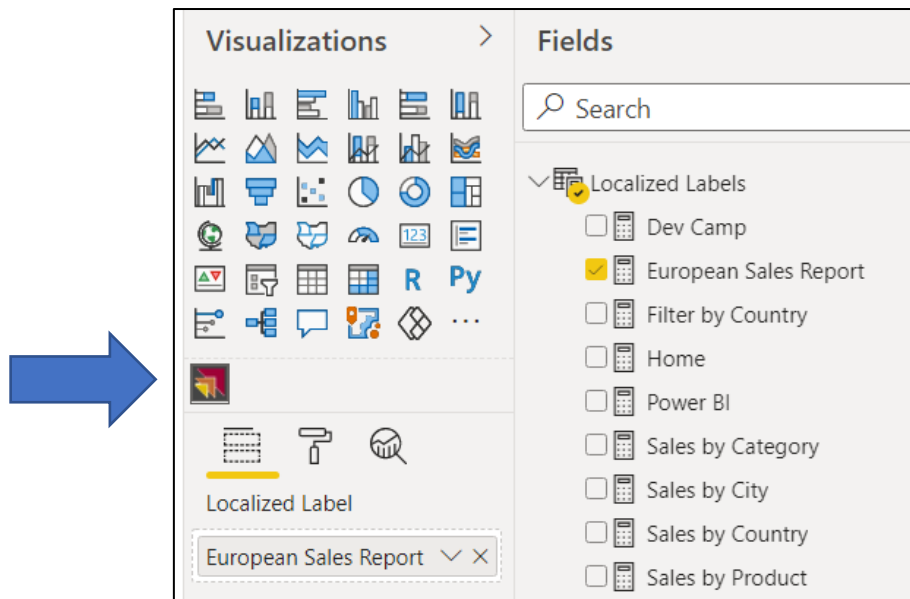


Developing a Custom Visual: LocalizedLabel

- Using a custom visual to surface localized labels
 - Sample provides custom visual project



- Provides more flexibility in configuring display properties

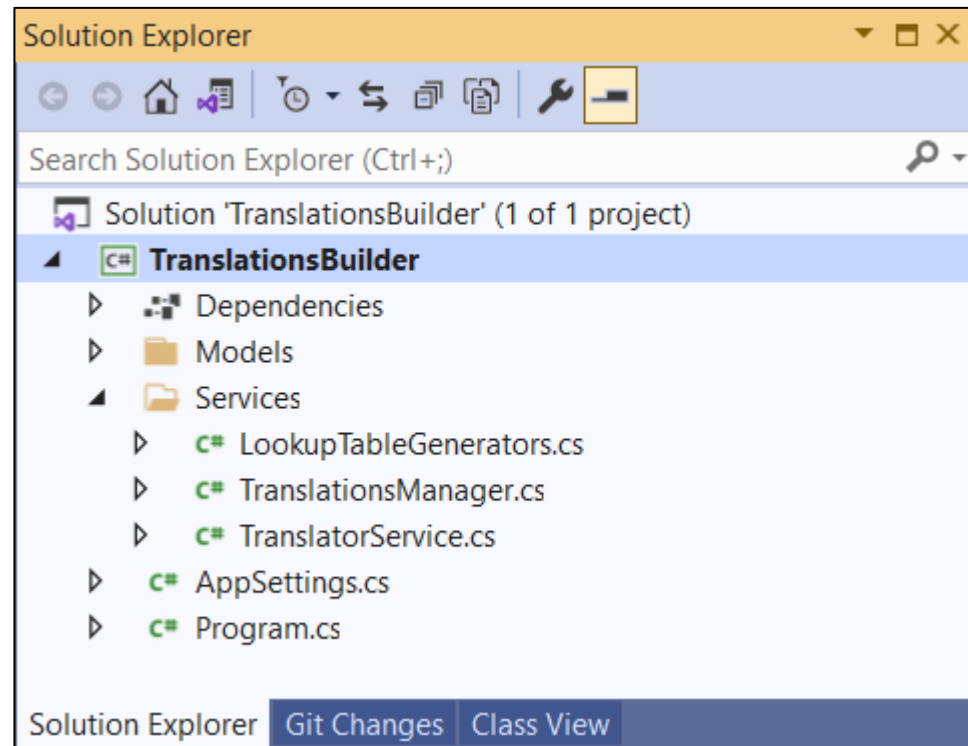


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Translations Builder sample application

- C# console application which programs TOM to add translations
 - Provides code to populate translations of default culture
 - Provides code to add secondary cultures and populate their translations
 - Calls to Microsoft Translator Service to create starting set of translations for each language



TranslationsManager class

- TranslationsManager class contains logic to add cultures and add translations

```
using System;
using System.Diagnostics;
using System.IO;
using System.Text;
using Microsoft.AnalysisServices.Tabular;
using TranslationsBuilder.Models;

namespace TranslationsBuilder.Services {

    class TranslationsManager {

        static Server server = new Server();
        static Model model;

        static TranslationsManager() {
            server.Connect(AppSettings.connectString);
            model = server.Databases[0].Model;
        }

        public static void PopulateDefaultCultureTranslations() ...

        public static void PopulateTranslations(string CultureName) ...

        static string TranslateContent(string Content, string ToCultureName) ...

        public static void ExportTranslations(TranslationSet translationSet) ...

        private static void OpenCsvInExcel(string FilePath) ...

    }
}
```

TranslationsManager.PopulateDefaultCultureTranslations

- This code adds translation to the default culture

```
public static void PopulateDefaultCultureTranslations() {  
  
    Culture defaultCulture = model.Cultures[model.Culture];  
    Console.WriteLine("Settings data model translations for default culture of " + defaultCulture.Name);  
  
    /*** enumerate through tables  
    foreach (Table table in model.Tables) {  
        Console.WriteLine(".");  
        defaultCulture.ObjectTranslations.SetTranslation(table, TranslatedProperty.Caption, table.Name);  
        /*** enumerate through columns  
        foreach (Column column in table.Columns) {  
            if (column.Type != ColumnType.RowNumber) {  
                Console.WriteLine(".");  
                defaultCulture.ObjectTranslations.SetTranslation(column, TranslatedProperty.Caption, column.Name);  
            }  
        };  
        /*** enumerate through measures  
        foreach (Measure measure in table.Measures) {  
            Console.WriteLine(".");  
            defaultCulture.ObjectTranslations.SetTranslation(measure, TranslatedProperty.Caption, measure.Name);  
        };  
        /*** enumerate through hierarchies  
        foreach (Hierarchy hierarchy in table.Hierarchies) {  
            Console.WriteLine(".");  
            defaultCulture.ObjectTranslations.SetTranslation(hierarchy, TranslatedProperty.Caption, hierarchy.Name);  
        };  
    }  
    // save changes back to data model  
    model.SaveChanges();  
    Console.WriteLine();  
}
```

```
{  
  "name": "29ddb796-a33b-40d8-b61b-a2f901c0fcb7",  
  "model": {  
    "culture": "en-US",  
    "tables": [  
      { "name": "Products",  
        "columns": [  
          { "name": "Category", "dataType": "string" },  
          { "name": "Product", "dataType": "string" }  
        ] }  
    ],  
    "cultures": [  
      {  
        "name": "en-US",  
        "translations": {  
          "model": {  
            "name": "Model",  
            "tables": [  
              { "name": "Products", "translatedCaption": "Products",  
                "columns": [  
                  { "name": "Category", "translatedCaption": "Category" },  
                  { "name": "Product", "translatedCaption": "Product" }  
                ] }  
            ] }  
          }  
        ] }  
      }  
    ] }  
  }  
}
```

TranslatorService class

- Abstracts away call to Microsoft Translator service to translate content

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Net.Http;
using System.Text;
using Newtonsoft.Json;

namespace TranslationsBuilder.Services {

    class TranslatorService {

        private static readonly string endpoint = "https://api.cognitive.microsofttranslator.com";
        private static readonly string location = AppSettings.AZURE_TRANSLATOR_SERVICE_LOCATION;
        private static readonly string subscriptionKey = AppSettings.AZURE_TRANSLATOR_SERVICE_KEY;

        private class TranslatedText {
            public string text { get; set; }
            public string to { get; set; }
        }

        private class TranslatedTextResult {
            public List<TranslatedText> translations { get; set; }
        }

        public static string TranslateContent(string textToTranslate, string language) {
            string[] languages = { language };
            var translationsResult = GetTranslations(textToTranslate, languages);
            return translationsResult[0].text;
        }

        static private List<TranslatedText> GetTranslations(string textToTranslate, string[] languages) { ...
    }
}
```

TranslatorService.GetTranslations

```
static private List<TranslatedText> GetTranslations(string textToTranslate, string[] languages) {  
  
    string targetLanguages = "";  
    foreach (string language in languages) {  
        targetLanguages += "&to=" + language;  
    }  
  
    string route = "/translate?api-version=3.0&from=en" + targetLanguages;  
    object[] body = new object[] { new { Text = textToTranslate } };  
    var requestBody = JsonConvert.SerializeObject(body);  
  
    using (var client = new HttpClient())  
    using (var request = new HttpRequestMessage()) {  
  
        // prepare HTTP request  
        request.Method = HttpMethod.Post;  
        request.RequestUri = new Uri(endpoint + route);  
        request.Content = new StringContent(requestBody, Encoding.UTF8, "application/json");  
        request.Headers.Add("Ocp-Apim-Subscription-Key", subscriptionKey);  
        request.Headers.Add("Ocp-Apim-Subscription-Region", location);  
  
        // transmit HTTP request  
        HttpResponseMessage response = client.Send(request);  
  
        // extract translated content from HTTP response body  
        string result = response.Content.ReadAsStringAsync().Result;  
        List<TranslatedTextResult> convertedResult = JsonConvert.DeserializeObject<List<TranslatedTextResult>>(result);  
        return convertedResult[0].translations;  
    }  
}
```



TranslationsManager.PopulateTranslations

- Add translations for each of the secondary languages

```
public static void PopulateTranslations(string CultureName) {
    // add culture to data model if it doesn't already exist
    if (!model.Cultures.ContainsName(CultureName)) {
        model.Cultures.Add(new Culture { Name = CultureName });
    }
    // load culture metadata object
    Culture culture = model.Cultures[CultureName];

    /*** enumerate through tables
    foreach (Table table in model.Tables) {
        // get/set translation for table name
        var translatedTableName = TranslateContent(table.Name, CultureName);
        culture.ObjectTranslations.SetTranslation(table, TranslatedProperty.Caption, translatedTableName);
        /*** enumerate through columns
        foreach (Column column in table.Columns) {
            if (column.Type != ColumnType.RowNumber) {
                // get/set translation for column name
                var translatedColumnName = TranslateContent(column.Name, CultureName);
                culture.ObjectTranslations.SetTranslation(column, TranslatedProperty.Caption, translatedColumnName);
            }
        };
        /*** enumerate through measures
        foreach (Measure measure in table.Measures) {
            // get/set translation for measure name
            var translatedMeasureName = TranslateContent(measure.Name, CultureName);
            culture.ObjectTranslations.SetTranslation(measure, TranslatedProperty.Caption, translatedMeasureName);
        };
        /*** enumerate through hierarchies
        foreach (Hierarchy hierarchy in table.Hierarchies) {
            // get/set translation for hierarchy name
            var translatedHierarchyName = TranslateContent(hierarchy.Name, CultureName);
            culture.ObjectTranslations.SetTranslation(hierarchy, TranslatedProperty.Caption, translatedHierarchyName);
        };
    }
    model.SaveChanges();
    Console.WriteLine();
}
```

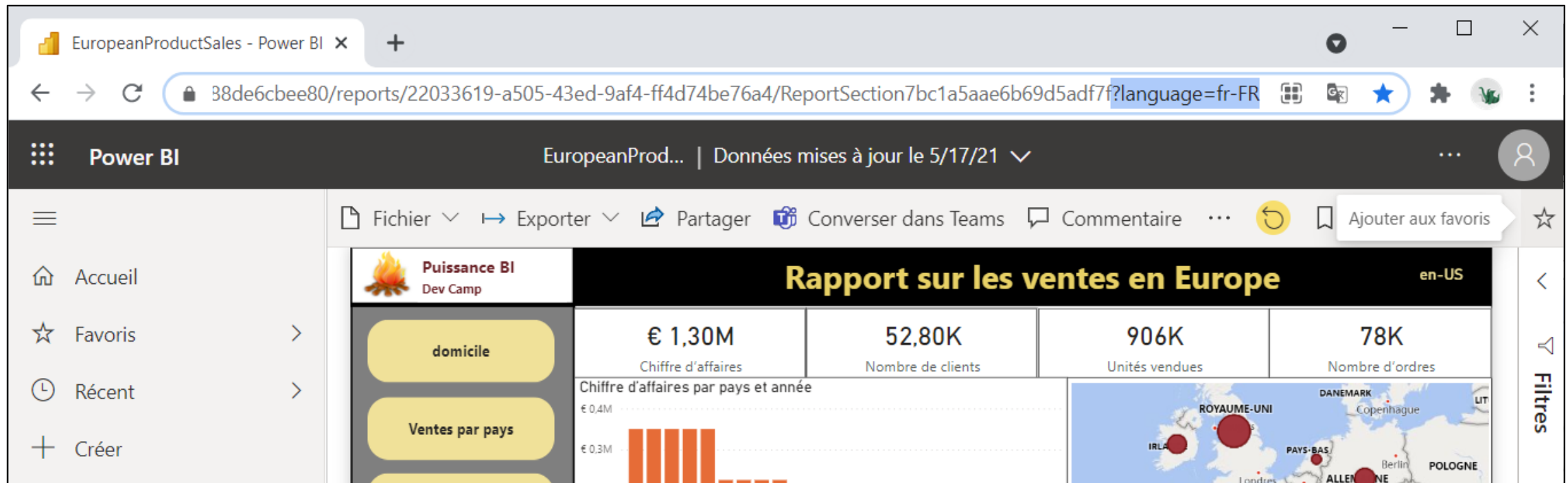
```
{
  "name": "29ddb796-a33b-40d8-b61b-a2f901c0fcb7",
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    "tables": [ ...
  ],
  "cultures": [
    { "name": "en-US", ...
  },
    { "name": "es-ES", ...
  },
    { "name": "fr-FR", ...
  },
    { "name": "de-DE", ...
  },
    { "name": "nl-NL",
      "translations": {
        "model": {
          "name": "Model",
          "tables": [
            { "name": "Products", "translatedCaption": "Producten",
              "columns": [
                { "name": "Category", "translatedCaption": "categorie" },
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              ]
            }
          ]
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

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Loading Reports with Locale using a Query String Parameter

- You can load report using specific locale
 - Add language query string parameter to report URL
 - Requires workspace in dedicated capacity
 - This technique **will not** change result for UserCulture function in DAX

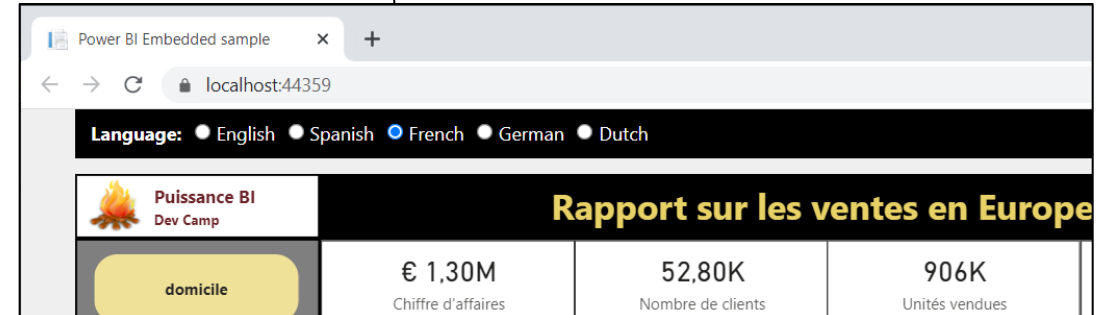


Using localeSettings in Embed Config

- You can load report using specific locale by adding **localeSettings** in embed config
 - This technique **will** change result for **UserCulture** function in DAX

```
config = {
  type: "report",
  id: reportId,
  embedUrl: embedUrl,
  accessToken: embedToken,
  tokenType: models.TokenType.Embed,
  settings: {
    panes: {
      pageNavigation: { visible: false },
      filters: { visible: false }
    }
  },
  localeSettings: { language: "fr-FR", formatLocale: "fr-FR" }
};

// embed report with specific locale
let report = powerbi.embed(reportContainer, config);
```

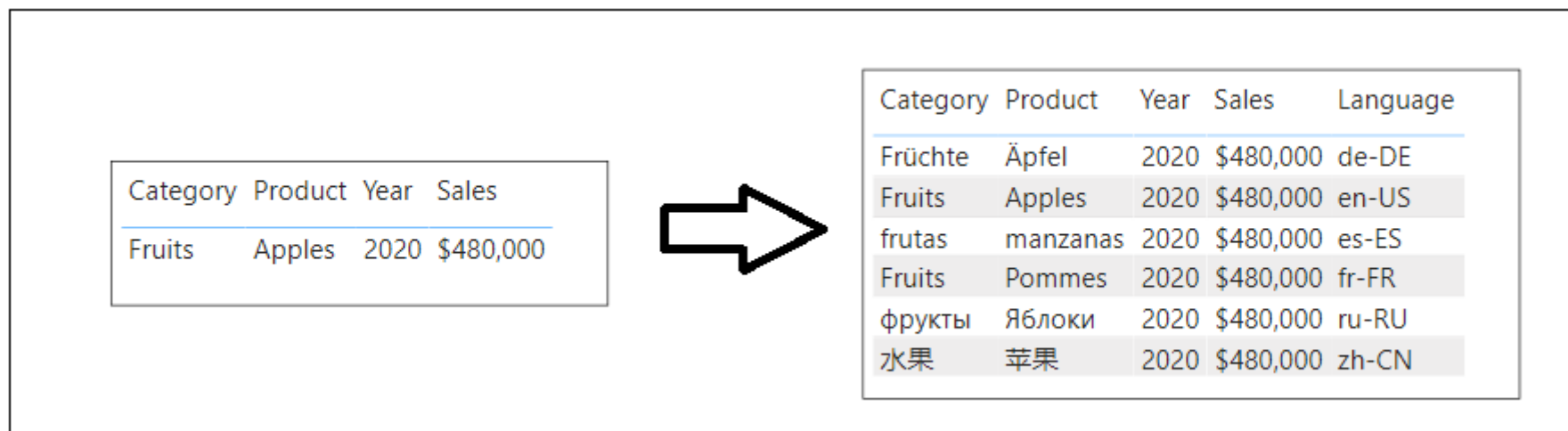


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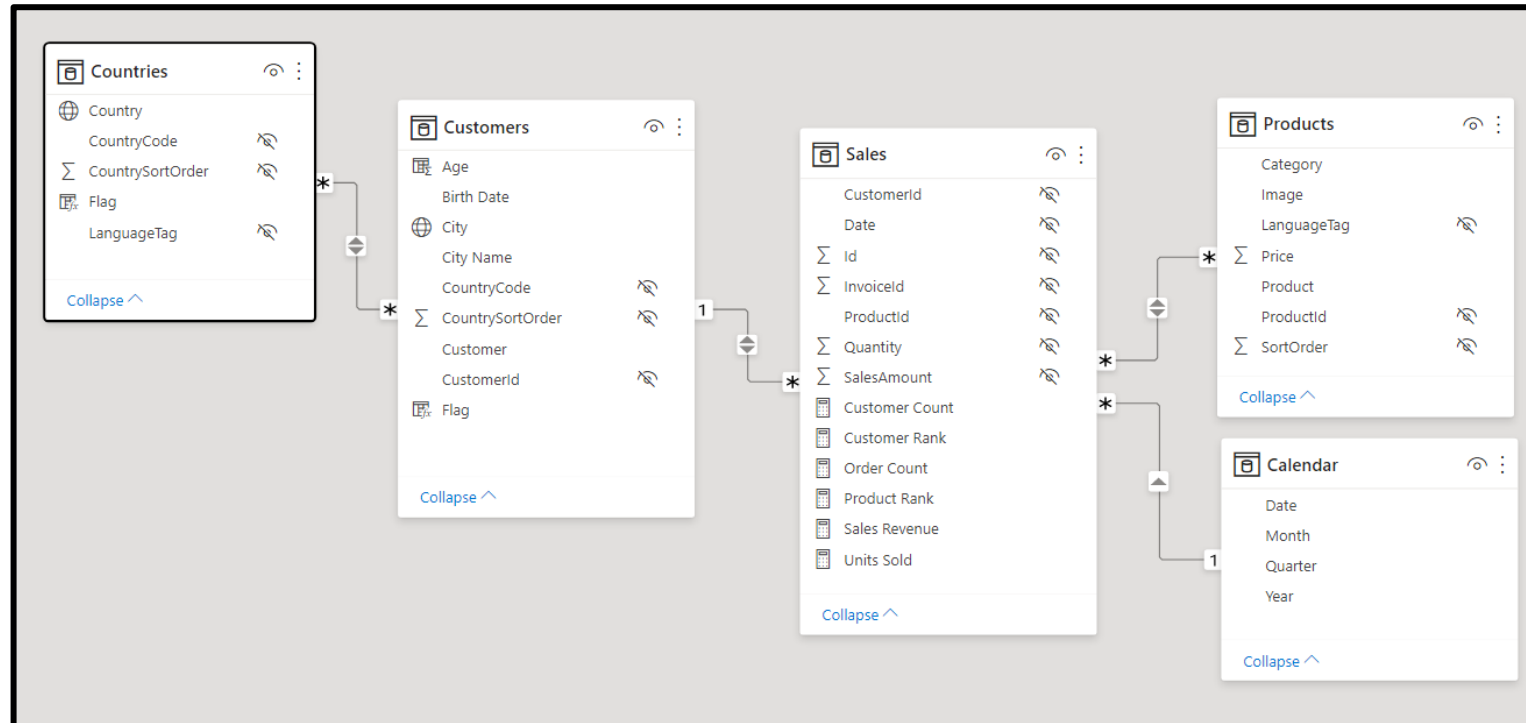
Content Localization Through Row Replication

- Power BI does not currently support dynamic column evaluation
 - When this support is added, it will drastically change the strategy
 - Until then, row replication is best way to localize content in addition to metadata
- Row replication strategy involves adding separate rows for each language
 - Strategy implemented on dimension tables with text values requiring localization
 - Row filtering used to exclusively filter rows to one specific language



Data Model Implementation of Row Replication Strategy

- Row replication requires configuring many-to-many relationships
 - Many-to-many relationships can have significant impact on performance and scale
 - Row replication used for **Products** table
 - **Customers** table too big for row replication
 - Country names factored into **Countries** table to localize country named



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Loading Report with Replicated Row Strategy

- App-Owns-Data developer can load report using Row-level Security roles
 - Create RLS role named **LocalizedUser**
 - Create RLS filter expression to filter translated rows using **UserCulture**

Manage roles

Roles	Tables	Table filter DAX expression
LocalizedUser ... <div>Create Delete</div>	Calendar ... Countries ... Customers ... Localized Labels ... Products ... Sales ...	Countries[LanguageTag]=UserCulture()

Manage roles

Roles	Tables	Table filter DAX expression
LocalizedUser ... <div>Create Delete</div>	Calendar ... Countries ... Customers ... Localized Labels ... Products ... Sales ...	Products[LanguageTag]=UserCulture()

Generating the Embed Token with LocalizedUser Role

```
public async Task<ReportEmbedData> GetReportEmbeddingData() {

    PowerBIClient pbiClient = GetPowerBiClient();

    var report = await pbiClient.Reports.GetReportInGroupAsync(workspaceId, reportId);
    var datasetId = report.DatasetId;

    var userName = "user1@domain1.com";
    var datasetList = new List<string> { datasetId };

    var roles = new List<string> { "LocalizedUser" };
    var effectiveIdentity = new EffectiveIdentity(userName, datasetList, roles);

    GenerateTokenRequest generateTokenRequestParameters = new GenerateTokenRequest(accessLevel: "View", effectiveIdentity);

    // call to Power BI Service API and pass GenerateTokenRequest object to generate embed token
    string embedToken = pbiClient.Reports.GenerateTokenInGroup(workspaceId, reportId, generateTokenRequestParameters).Token;

    // return report embedding data to caller
    return new ReportEmbedData {
        ReportId = reportId.ToString(),
        EmbedUrl = report.EmbedUrl,
        EmbedToken = embedToken
    };
}
```

Summary

- ✓ Overview of Multi-language PBIX Development
- ✓ Designing Multi-language Reports
- ✓ Adding Metadata Translations with TOM
- ✓ Embedding Reports with Specific Locales
- ✓ Designing Data Models to Support Content Translations
- ✓ Setting the Language for Current User using RLS and UserCulture

Summary

- ✓ Overview of Multi-language PBIX Development
- ✓ Programming Translations with TOM
- ✓ Designing Workflows to Manage Translations
- ✓ Multi-language Report Design with Translations
- ✓ Embedding Reports with Specific Locales