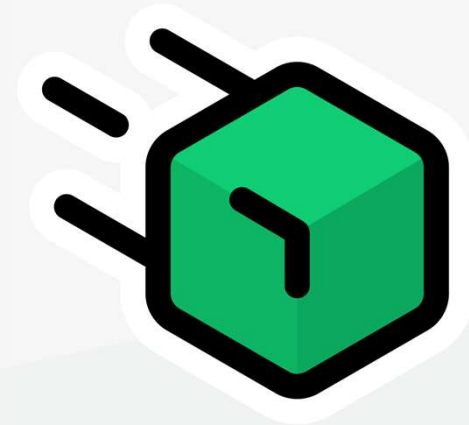# Improving DAX Development with Tabular Editor 3

Devon & Cornwall Power BI User Group

November 2024

About me
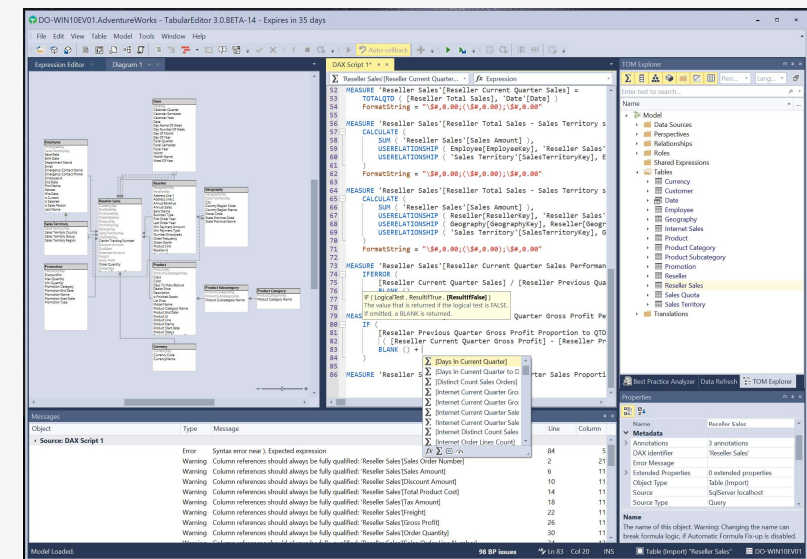

Morten Lønskov

Product Manager

➢ Tabular Editor Aps

➢ Background in BI consulting

➢ Product strategy and planning, customer success and support

➢ Working with BI and analytics since 2016

What is Tabular Editor?

- Offline **semantic model** editor for:
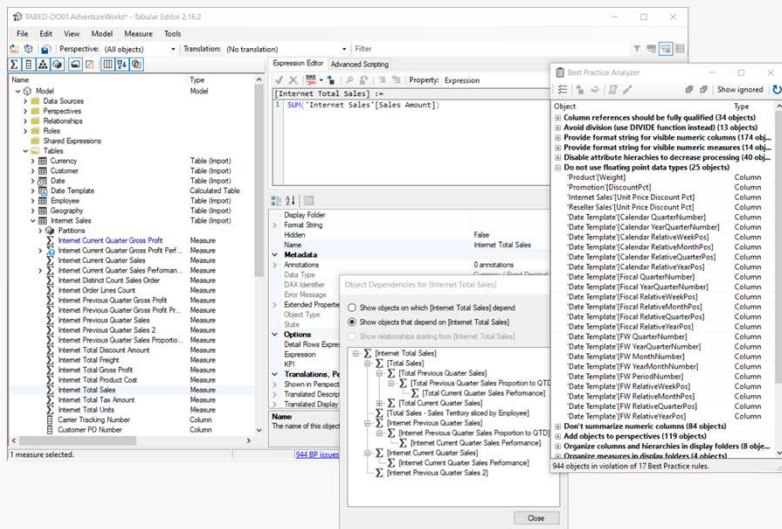
  - » SQL Server 2016+ Analysis Services (Tabular)

  - » Azure Analysis Services

  - » Power BI Desktop (External Tool)

  - » Power BI Premium / Embedded (via XMLA endpoint)

  - » Fabric (via XMLA endpoint)

- Lightning fast and feature-rich!
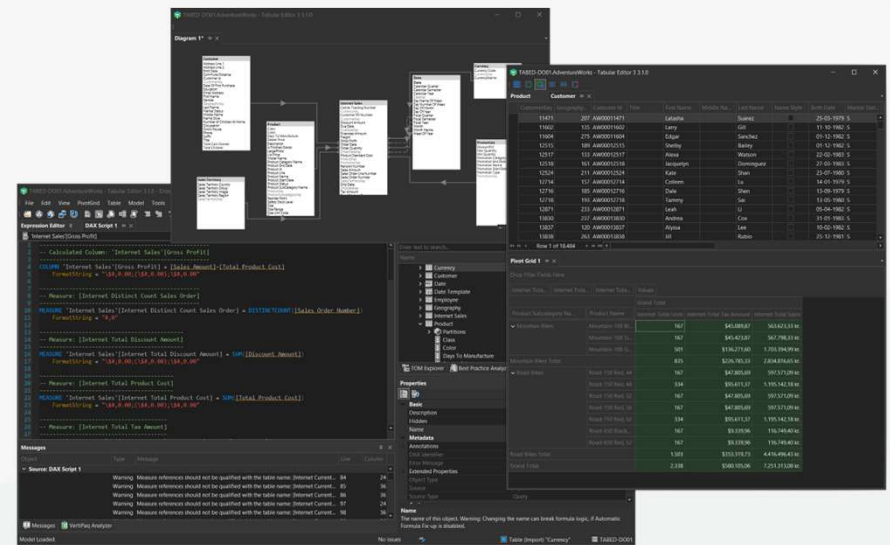
What is Tabular Editor?

Tabular Editor 2

» Used and loved by semantic model developers since 2016

» Open-source & free

» Basic semantic model editing

Tabular Editor 3

» Evolution of Tabular Editor 2

» Commercial license

» Professional IDE for semantic models

Why **Tabular Editor 3**?

- More features – one-stop-shop for semantic modelling
- Premium features with years of investment
- Dedicated team of developers
- Dedicated support channel
  - » Can also offer guidance and best practices
- New features and updates 6-8 times per year

Tabular Editor 2 remains free, open-source, and fully supported

What's new for DAX in Tabular Editor 3?

Improving DAX Development

Write better DAX, faster

Code Actions

One-click refactoring of DAX through discrete suggestions to improve your DAX code

DAX Optimizer Integration

Speed up your models by pinpointing and addressing DAX bottlenecks. Free access for Enterprise Edition customers

DAX Debugger: Inspect locals

Pop out the intermediate values of your DAX measure and examine them row by row.

Other Improvements

🔲 **Migrated to .NET8**   🔲 **Pivot Grid Overhaul**   🔲 **Direct Lake support**   🔲 **... and more**

Demo

Meet Borp

Borp is an Developer at
SpaceParts Co and today
he has to create a new
measures in an existing
semantic model – lets
help him out.

What are Code Actions?

Improvements

Recommendations to

Follow best practices

Avoid common pitfalls and anti-patterns

Avoid obsolete or deprecated DAX features

Write better, more performant DAX code

Readability

Suggestions to

Simplify complex expressions, when possible

Remove redundant or unnecessary code

Applying consistent formatting and naming conventions

Rewrites

Refactoring to

Convert DAX "syntax sugar" to more verbose, but more explicit code

Rename all occurrences of a variable or an extension column

Format code

How to use the Debugger Windows

DAX Map
Navigate the code steps to investigate specific areas

Debugger + Call Tree

Compass
Check the filter and row context for how intermediate values are obtained

Evaluation Context

Landmarks
Check intermediate values to get your bearings as you navigate

Locals

Binoculars
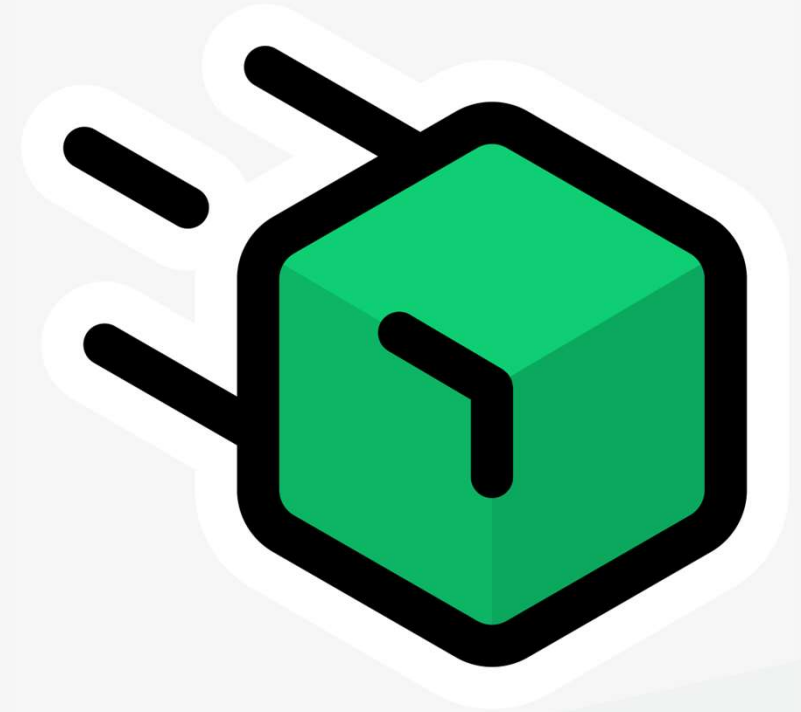*Evaluate other model DAX as landmarks to investigate what's going on*

Watch

DAX Query

[Measure]

DAX Optimizer

- Online service performing static analysis

- DAX performance optimizations

- Prioritizes issues detected based on potential impact (CPU / memory)

- Provides suggestions and guidance for fixing performance issues

- Integrates with Tabular Editor 3

  1 model / 4 runs per day included with TE3 Enterprise Edition subscription

Tabular Editor Learn

Explore our interactive learning platform

- 25+ hours of **free** content
- Create better data models, faster
- Master every aspect of Tabular Editor
- Help Borp, Zip & Tropphus at Spaceparts Co.

https://tabulareditor.com/learn

Thank you