

Connections Explorer

A new solution to your everyday problems

Summary

- Why doesn't this record show up on the dashboard?
- Is it not present at the source or was it lost in some intermediate process?
- Have all the necessary files been updated?
- What processes read or write this QVD?

If any of these questions sound familiar and you're tired of having to put together a new dashboard or access multiple files or query tools every time a question or problem arises, Connections Explorer may make your life a little easier.

In a dashboard made entirely in Qlik Sense (without extensions other than those provided in the installation package bundle) it allows you to directly browse and query the tables of the connections defined in Qlik Sense and the QVDs files. The user can choose the connection, table, file, fields to see, filter by a value or get all the records.

In addition, it adds metadata information, lineage and in case it is necessary to publish one or more QVDs to a new board without the need to write script or queries.

The dashboard and necessary scripts are provided as is free of charge. Download [Link](#) and more information.

If you need help setting it up or want to include additional information, please contact us.

Connections Explorer Sheets

Table Preview

Allows you to navigate to the QVD File/Table, get a limited rows/fields or full preview, make from to or particular selections on a field (e.g. category_id = 8). You can also create a new app out of a selected table using the Table Export ODAG button.

Table Preview

/Northwind/public

LEVEL3	Q	Size	Fields	Rows	Tables
categories		0	4	0	1
products		0	10	0	1

Clear Filter

Values

Range

INT

SMALLINT

DATE

Preview

Lineage

Fields

ALL 10 1000 10000

Records: 12

product_name	suppl...	categ...	quantity_per_unit	unit_p...	units_l...
10 Ikura		4	8 12 - 200 ml jars		31
13 Konbu		6	8 2 kg box		6
18 Carnarvon Tigers		7	8 16 kg pkg.		62,5
30 Nord-Ost Matjeshering		13	8 10 - 200 g glasses	25,889999...	
36 Inlsgd Sill		17	8 24 - 250 g jars		19
37 Gravd lax		17	8 12 - 500 g pkgs.		26
40 Boston Crab Meat		19	8 24 - 4 oz tins	18,399999...	
41 Jack's New England Clam Chowder		19	8 12 - 12 oz cans	9,6499996...	
45 Rogede silld		21	8 1k pkg.		9,5
46 Spegesild		21	8 4 - 450 g glasses		12
58 Escargots de Bourgogne		27	8 24 pieces		13,25
73 Rbd Kaviar		17	8 24 - 150 g jars		15

Table Export

Example, get all products from Northwind PostgreSQL Database with category_id = 8.

Lineage

Lineage allows you to select a particular QVD and see what App is generating and what Apps are reading that file.

Table Preview - Lineage

/QlikResource/STG

LEVEL4	Q	Size	Fields	Rows	Tables	Last Update
STG_SALES_PRODUCTS.QVD		13.780	13	77	1	7/4/2021

Preview

Lineage

Fields

LIB //QLIKRESOURCE/DATA/NORTHWIND/DATA_NORTHWIND_PRODUCTS QVD

NORTHWIND_PRODUCTS

STG_SALES_PRODUCTS

LIB //QLIKRESOURCE/STG/SALES/STG_SALES_PRODUCT!

NORTHWIND

LIB //QLIKRESOURCE/DATA/NORTHWIND/DATA_NORTHWIND_CATEGORIES QVD

DATA_NORTHWIND_CATEGORIES

product_id

unit_price

category_id

category_name

supplier_id

product_name

Table Name

folder[QlikResource\QlikResource\lib\Qlik...

folder[QlikResource\QlikResource\lib\Qlik...

folder[QlikResource\QlikResource\lib\Qlik...

folder[QlikResource\QlikResource\lib\Qlik...

folder[QlikResource\QlikResource\lib\Qlik...

folder[QlikResource\QlikResource\lib\Qlik...

Nodo Name

DATA_NORTHWIND_CATEGORIES

DATA_NORTHWIND_PRODUCTS

LIB //QLIKRESOURCE/DATA/NORTHWIND...

LIB //QLIKRESOURCE/DATA/NORTHWIND...

LIB //QLIKRESOURCE/STG/SALES/STG_SA...

NORTHWIND

Field Preview

Shows metadata information about QVD fields (max min avg count nulls).

PREVIEW_VALUES
2000

FIELD_TYPE1
SMALLINT

FIELD1
category_id

FILTER_SMALLI...
8

LEVEL1
QlikResource

LEVEL2
STG

Selections

Table Preview - Fields

←

/QlikResource/STG

LEVEL4	Size	Fields	Rows	Tables
STG_SALES_PRODUCTS.QVD	13.780	13	77	1

Show columns

Table Name

product_id	folder\QlikResource\QlikResource\btz\Qlik...
unit_price	folder\QlikResource\QlikResource\btz\Qlik...
category_id	folder\QlikResource\QlikResource\btz\Qlik...
category_name	folder\QlikResource\QlikResource\btz\Qlik...
supplier_id	folder\QlikResource\QlikResource\btz\Qlik...
product_name	folder\QlikResource\QlikResource\btz\Qlik...

Preview

Lineage

Fields

FIELDS: 13

field	Q	max	min	avg	Q	count	Q	count...	Q	count...	Q
discontinued		1	0	0,12987012987013		77		2		77	
category_id		8	1	4,1168831168831		77		8		77	
units_on_order		100	0	10,12987012987		77		10		77	
reorder_level		30	0	12,467532467532		77		7		77	
supplier_id		29	1	13,74025974026		77		29		77	
unit_price		263,5	2,5	28,833896092006		77		61		77	
product_id		77	1	39		77		77		77	
units_in_stock		125	0	40,506493506494		77		51		77	
category_picture	-	-	-			77		1		77	System.Byte[]
category_description	-	-	-			77		8		77	Sweet and savory sau seasonings
category_name	-	-	-			77		8		77	Seafood
quantity_per_unit	-	-	-			77		70		77	750 cc per bottle
product_name	-	-	-			77		77		77	Zaanse koeken

Publish

Allows the user to select multiple QVDs and publish them to a QVF through ODAG. It also shows what fields are present in multiple files and allows the user to select which of the will be qualified with the table name in order to avoid unwanted associations.

PATH_AUX
2 OF 241

QUALIFY_FIELDS
ALL

Selections

Publish

LEVEL4	Path Aux
DATA_NORTHWIND_CATEGORIES.QVD	folder\QlikResource\DATA\NORTHWIND\DATA_NORTHWIND_CATEGORIES.QVD
DATA_NORTHWIND_PRODUCTS.QVD	folder\QlikResource\DATA\NORTHWIND\DATA_NORTHWIND_PRODUCTS.QVD

Qualify *

Qualify Some

Qualify None

Qualify Field

Frequency

category_id	2
category_name	1
description	1
discontinued	1
picture	1
product_id	1
product_name	1
quantity_per_unit	1
reorder_level	1
supplier_id	1
unit_price	1

Path

folder\QlikResource\DATA\NORTHWIND\DATA_NORTHWIND_CATEGO...
folder\QlikResource\DATA\NORTHWIND\DATA_NORTHWIND_PRODUC...
folder\QlikResource\CONFIG\butler-spyglass-1.8.0\out\lineage\lineage...
folder\QlikResource\CONFIG\CONNECTIONS_EXPLORER\QVD\APPS...

Path Aux

folder\QlikResource\DATA\NORTHWIND\DATA_NORTHWIND_CATEGO... ✓
folder\QlikResource\DATA\NORTHWIND\DATA_NORTHWIND_PRODUC... ✓
folder\QlikResource\CONFIG\butler-spyglass-1.8.0\out\lineage\lineage...
folder\QlikResource\CONFIG\CONNECTIONS_EXPLORER\QVD\APPS...

Publish

QVDs

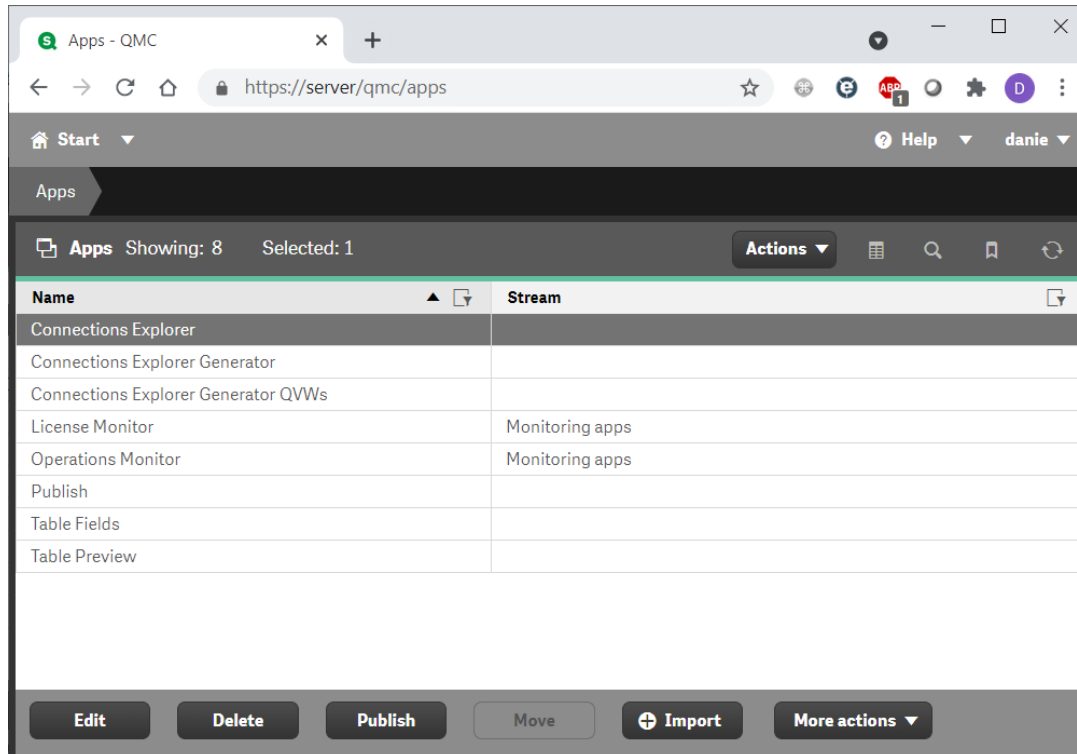
Shows all the QVDs in the Connections Folders and the last time each file has been read (Last time an App that reads that file has run) and written (File time).

Metadata

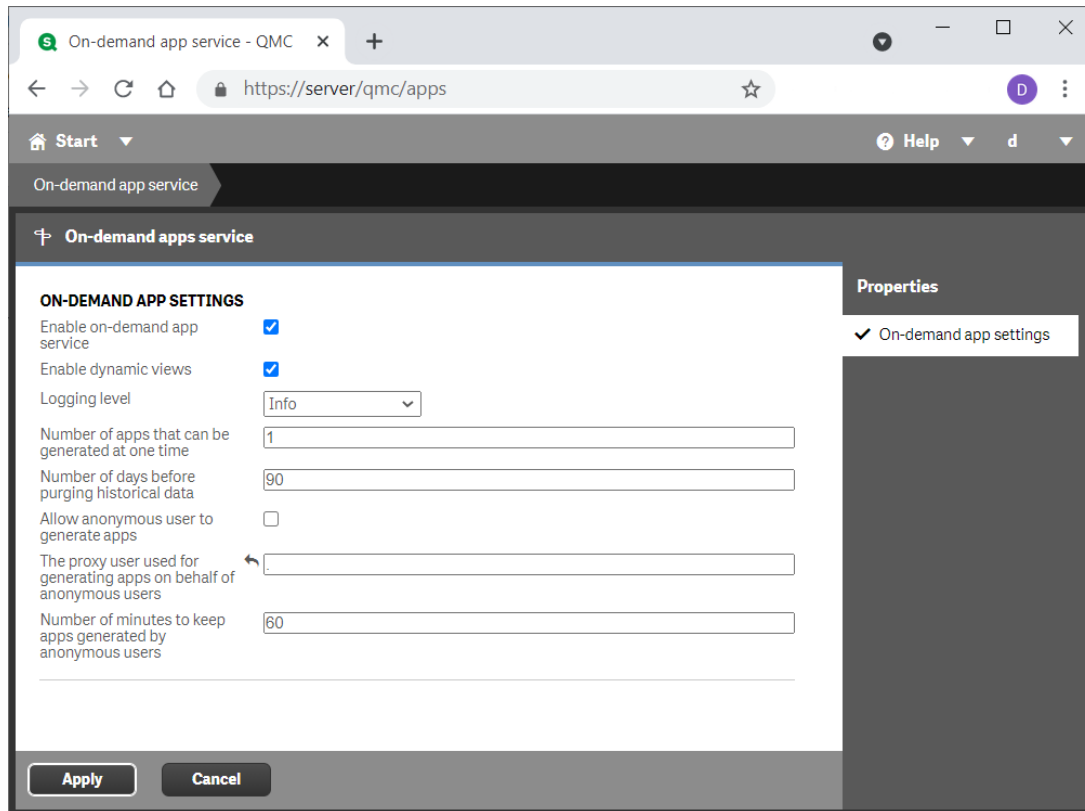
Shows available metadata from QVD Files and Databases

Configurations

1. Log into QMC and Import apps
 - Connections Explorer.qvf
 - Connections Explorer Generator.qvf
 - Publish.qvf
 - Table Fields.qvf
 - Table Preview.qvf



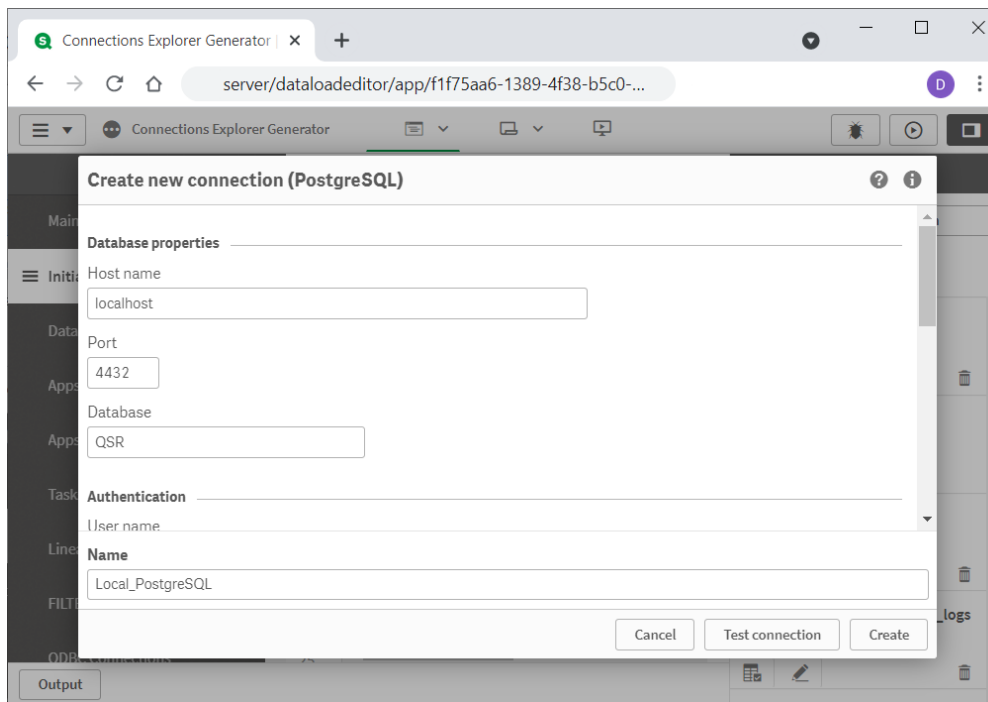
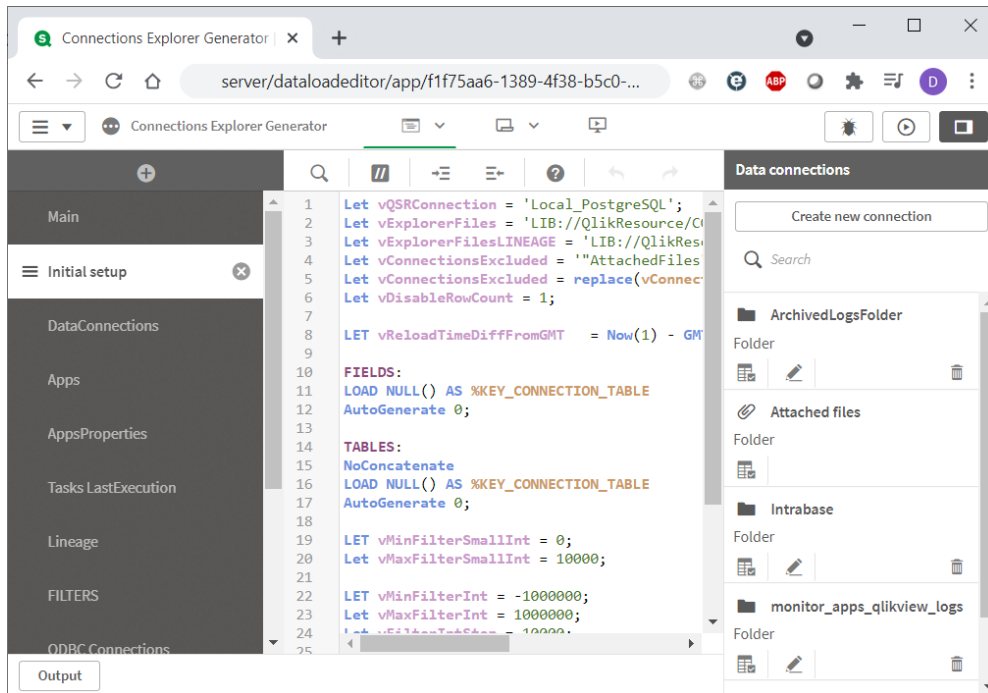
2. Enable ODAG and Dynamic Views and hit apply



3. Optional Step Install and run [butler-syglass-1.0.0](#). Thanks to Göran Sander and PTARMIGAN LABS.

If you don't do this step Lineage information won't be available.

4. Open a Qlik Sense app Connection Explorer Generator and create a new connection to your local PostgreSQL DB.



5. Configure the following variables and run the script

Let vQSRConnection = 'Local_PostgreSQL'; //The connection just created.

Let vExplorerFiles = 'LIB://QlikResource/CONFIG/CONNECTIONS_EXPLORER/QVD'; //Folder to store generated QVD files

```
Let vExplorerFilesLINEAGE =  
'LIB://QlikResource/CONFIG/butler-spyglass-master/out/lineage'; //Folder where to find  
Lineage information generated with butler-spyglass-1.0.0
```

```
Let vConnectionsExcluded = '"AttachedFiles","Local_PostgreSQL","QLogs"'; //Any  
connections you'd like to exclude from Connection Explorer.
```

6. Open Connections Explorer and configure the following variable to the same value as the previous step.

```
Let vExplorerFiles = 'LIB://QlikResource/CONFIG/CONNECTIONS_EXPLORER/QVD';
```

7. In Connections Explorer create the following dynamic views
 - a. Table Preview and add it to the Table Preview sheet
 - b. Table Fields and add it to the Fields Preview sheet
8. Create an on demand app navigation link and add it to the Table Preview sheet

Create new on-demand app navigation link

Name:

Template app:

Expression:

Maximum row count:

Generated apps

Maximum number:

Retention time:

Default view when opened:


Publish to:

9. Create an on demand app navigation link and add it to the Publish sheet

Create new on-demand app navigation link

Name:

Template app:

Expression:
 

Maximum row count:

Generated apps

Maximum number:

Retention time:

Default view when opened:

Publish to:

CancelCreate

10. Enjoy!