

Lab Exercise: Direct Connections in Power BI

Scenario

In this exercise, you will create a Power BI Desktop report and use DirectQuery to pull data from a database hosted in Azure. You will then publish this report to the Power BI service, so that this information is also available for cloud use.

The main tasks for this exercise are as follows:

- Prepare the Lab Environment
- Direct Connectivity from the Power BI Desktop
- Direct Connectivity from the Power BI Service

Task 1: Prepare the Lab Environment

1. Ensure that the 20778A-MIA-DC, 20778A-MIA-SQL, and MSL-TMG1 virtual machines are running, and then log on to 20778A-MIA-SQL as ADVENTUREWORKS\Student with the password Pa\$\$w0rd.
2. Run Setup.cmd in the D:\Labfiles\Lab07\Starter folder as Administrator.
3. If you do not already have a Power BI login, browse to <https://powerbi.microsoft.com/en-us/documentation/powerbi-admin-signing-up-for-power-bi-with-a-new-office-365-trial>, and then follow the steps to create an account.
4. Download and install Microsoft Power BI Desktop from <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=45331> using the default options.

Task 2: Direct Connectivity from the Power BI Desktop

1. Start with a blank Power BI Desktop file.
2. Connect to Azure SQL Database AdventureWorksLT, using DirectQuery.
3. Load the SalesLT.Product and SalesLT.SalesOrderDetail tables.
4. Create a chart based on the Card visualization.
5. Add the OrderQty field from the SalesLTSalesOrderDetail table to the chart.
6. Create a slicer based on the Slicer visualization.

7. Add the SellStartDate field from the SalesLT Product table to the slicer.
8. Save the desktop file as D:\Labfiles\Lab07\Starter\Module07.pbix.

Task 3: Direct Connectivity from the Power BI Service

1. Publish the report to the Power BI service; sign in using the account you used to sign up for Power BI service.
2. Go to <http://www.powerbi.com> and sign in using your account.
3. Go to the newly created dataset and edit the credentials required.
4. To configure the dataset settings for a DirectQuery data source, you need a Power BI Pro account.
5. Sign in using the credentials you used to sign up for Power BI service.
6. Go to the newly created report. You should already have a card visualization for the OrderQty and a slicer for the SellStartDate.
7. Create a chart based on the Card visualization.
8. Add the LineTotal field from the SalesLTSalesOrderDetail table to the chart.
9. Close Internet Explorer, and Power BI Desktop.

Results: At the end of this exercise, data from the AdventureWorks Azure SQL Database will be available for use in Power BI Desktop and in a desktop report that has been published to the Power BI service.