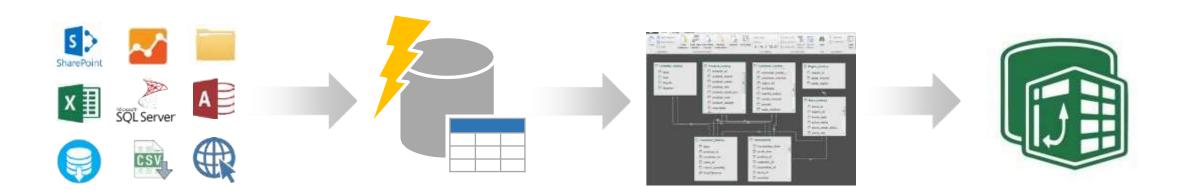
# INTRO TO "POWER EXCEL"



#### THE "POWER EXCEL" WORKFLOW

These are Excel's **Business Intelligence** tools, all of which are available directly in Excel (provided you have a compatible version); **no additional software is required!** 



#### **RAW DATA**

Flat files (csv, txt), Excel tables, databases (SQL, Azure), folders, streaming sources, web data, etc.

#### **POWER QUERY**

(aka "Get & Transform")

Connect to sources, import data, and apply shaping and transformation tools (ETL)

#### **DATA MODEL**

Create table relationships, add calculated columns, define hierarchies and perspectives, etc.

#### **POWER PIVOT & DAX**

Explore and analyze the entire data model, and create powerful measures using Data Analysis Expressions (DAX)

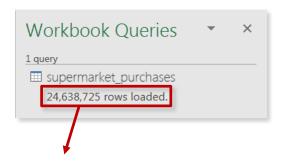


#### "THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN TO EXCEL IN 20 YEARS"

- Import and analyze MILLIONS of rows of data in Excel
  - Access data from virtually anywhere (database tables, flat files, cloud services, folders, etc.)
- Quickly build models to blend and analyze data across sources
  - Instantly connect sources and analyze holistic performance across your entire data model
- Create fully automated data shaping and loading procedures
  - Connect to databases and watch data flow through your model with the click of a button
- Define calculated measures using Data Analysis Expressions (DAX)
  - No more redundant A1-style "grid" formulas; DAX expressions are flexible, powerful and portable

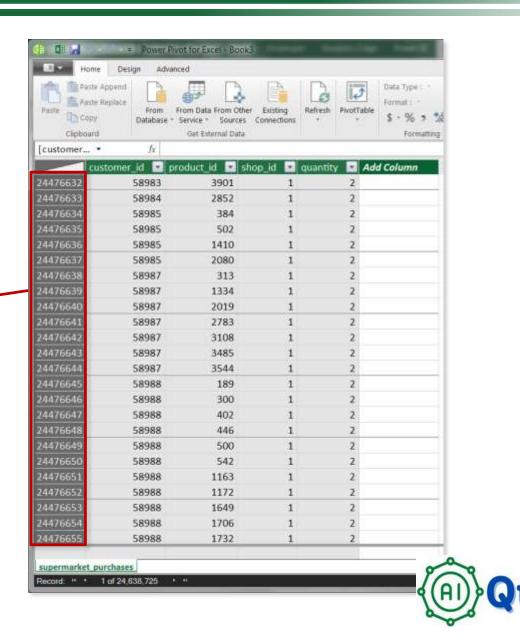


#### **#1: IMPORT & ANALYZE MILLIONS OF ROWS**

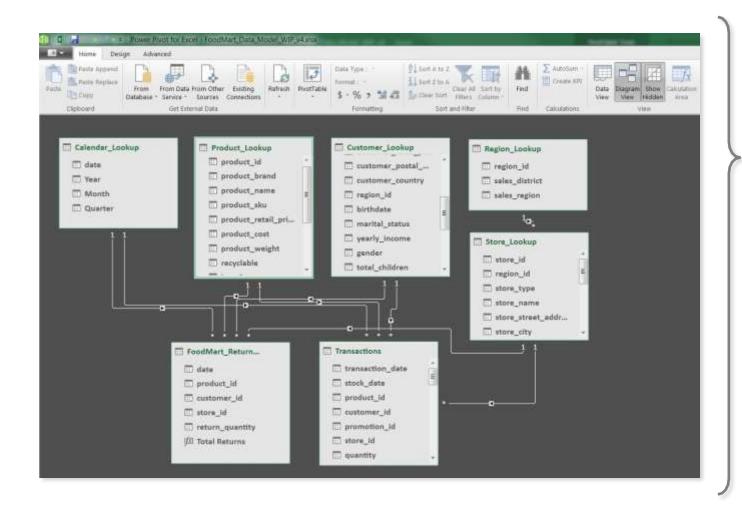


When was the last time you loaded **25,000,000** rows of data into Excel?

When you connect to data with **Power Query** and load it to Excel's **Data Model**, the data is compressed and stored in memory, NOT in worksheets (*no more 1,048,576 row limit!*)



#### **#2: BUILD DATA MODELS TO BLEND SOURCES**

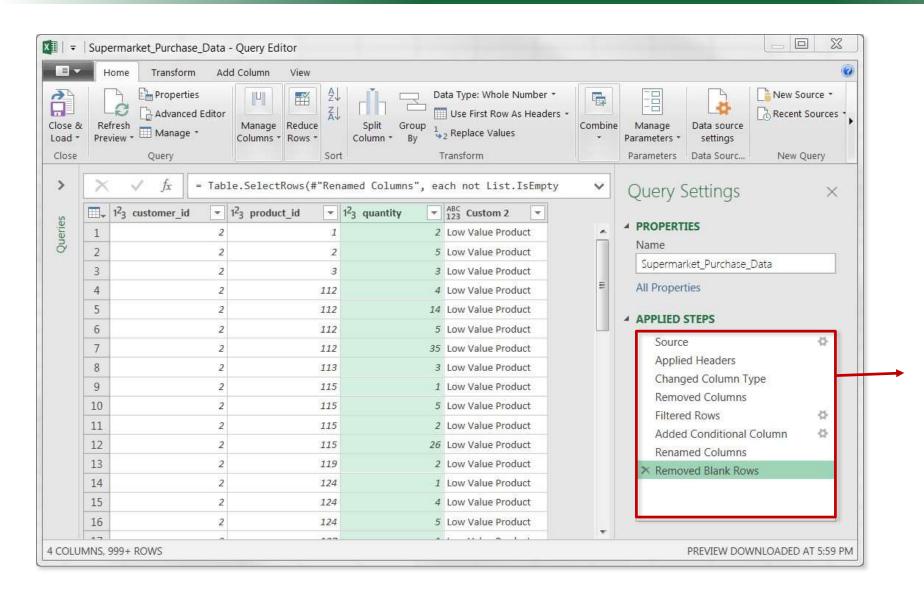


This is an example of a Data Model in "Diagram View", which allows you to create connections between tables

Instead of manually stitching tables together with cell formulas, you create *relationships* to blend data based on common fields



#### **#3: AUTOMATE YOUR DATA PROCESSING**

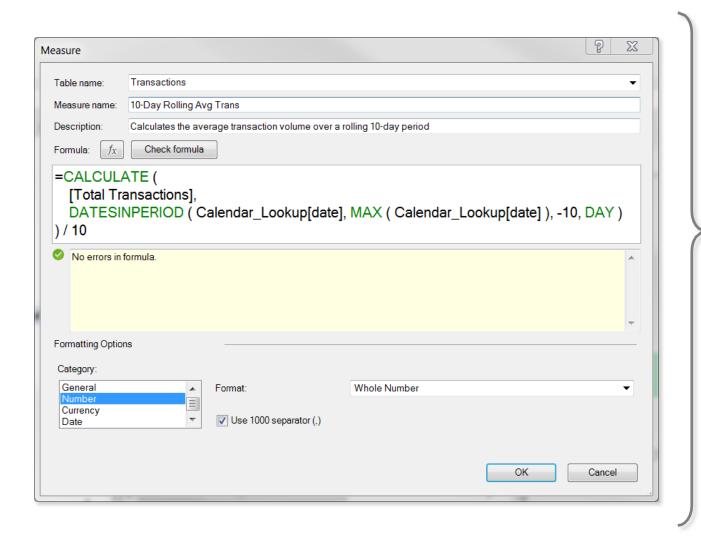


With Power Query, you can **filter**, **shape** and **transform** your raw data before loading it into the data model

Each step is automatically recorded and saved with the query, and applied whenever the source data is refreshed – like a macro!



#### **#4: CREATE POWERFUL MEASURES WITH DAX**



Measures are flexible and powerful calculations defined using **Data Analysis Expressions (DAX)** 

In this case we're using a DAX time intelligence formula to calculate a **10-day rolling average** 



## WHEN TO USE POWER QUERY & POWER PIVOT

## Use **Power Query** and **Power Pivot** when you want to...

- Analyze more data than can fit into a worksheet
- Create connections to databases or external sources
- Blend data across multiple large tables
- Automate the process of loading and shaping your data
- Unleash the full business intelligence capabilities of Excel



# POWER QUERY



## **MEET POWER QUERY**

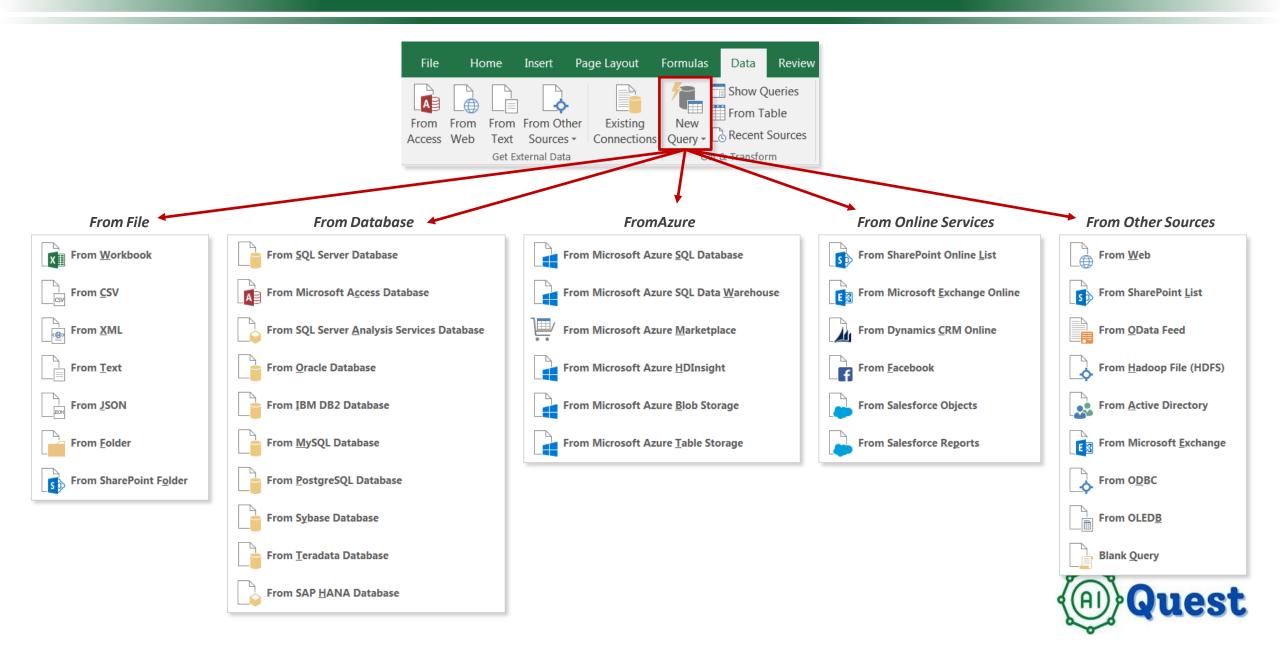
## Power Query (aka "Get & Transform") allows you to:

- Connect to data across a wide range of sources
- Filter, shape, append and transform raw data for further analysis and modeling
- Create stored procedures to automate your data prep (like a macro!)

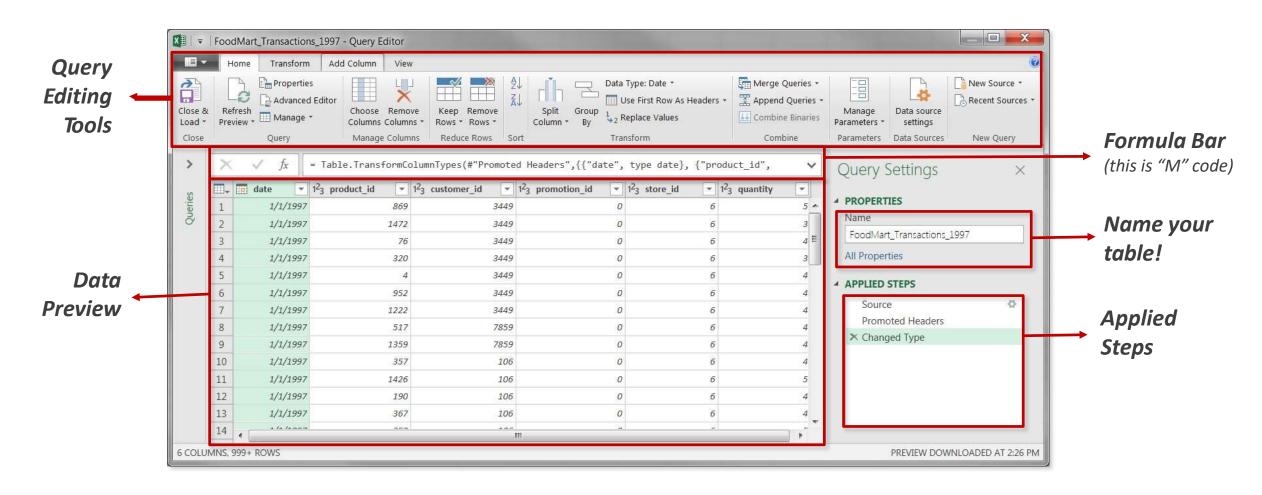




#### **TYPES OF DATA CONNECTIONS**



## THE QUERY EDITOR



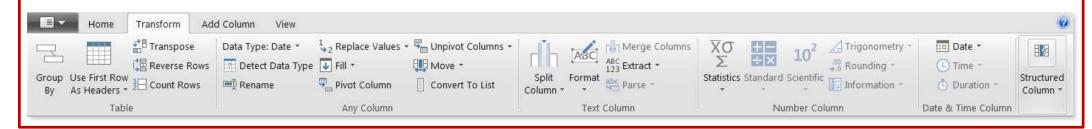
Access the **Query Editor** by creating a new query and choosing the "Edit" option, or by launching the Workbook Queries pane (**Data** > **Show Queries**) and right-clicking an existing query to edit

## **QUERY EDITOR TOOLS**

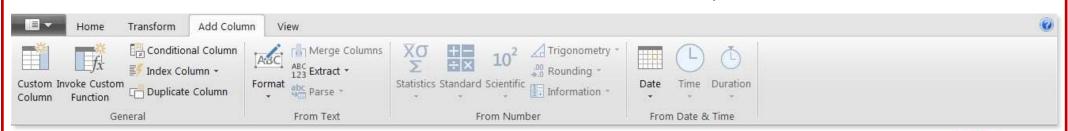
#### ————— The HOME tab includes general settings and common table transformation tools



**–** The **TRANSFORM** tab includes tools to **modify existing columns** (splitting/grouping, transposing, extracting text, etc.

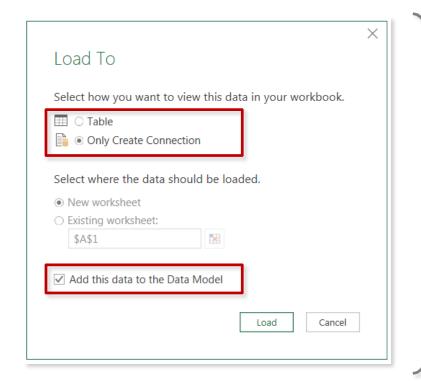


The **ADD COLUMN** tools **create new columns** based on conditional rules, text operations, calculations, dates, etc.





#### **DATA LOADING OPTIONS**



When you load data from Power Query, you have several options:

#### Table

- Stores the data in a new or existing worksheet
- Requires relatively small data sets (<1mm rows)</li>

#### Connection Only

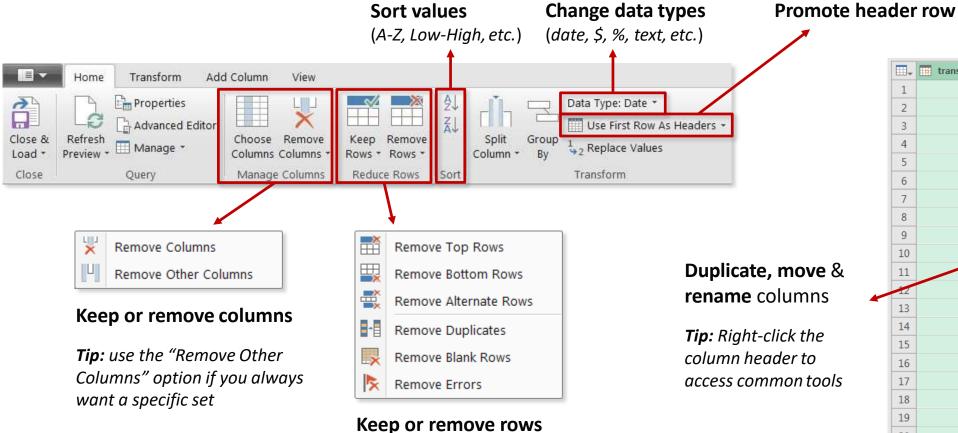
- Saves the data connection settings and applied steps
- Data does not load to a worksheet

#### Add to Data Model

- Compresses and loads data to Excel's Data Model
- Makes data accessible to Power Pivot for further analysis



#### **BASIC TABLE TRANSFORMATIONS**



**Tip:** use the "Remove Duplicates" option to create a new lookup

table from scratch

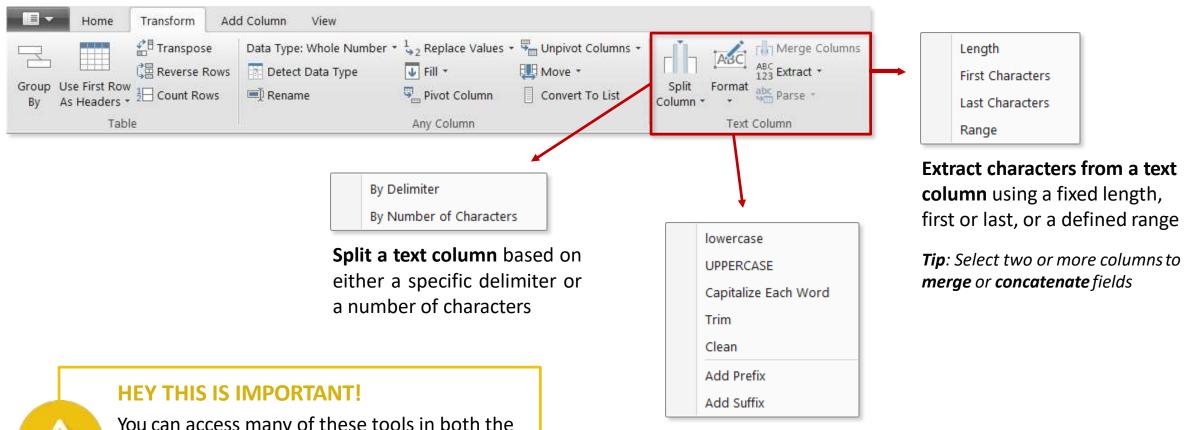
**Duplicate, move &** rename columns

**Tip:** Right-click the column header to access common tools

	transaction_date	Сору
1	درایا	Remove
2	1/1	Remove Other Columns
3	1/:	Duplicate Column
4	1/:	•
5	1/:	Remove Duplicates
6	1/:	Remove Errors
7	1/:	Change Type •
8	1/:	Transform
9	1/: 1	Replace Values
10	1/.	Replace Errors
11	1/: 2	Group By
12	1/:	Fill •
13	1/:	Unpivot Columns
14	1/:	Unpivot Other Columns
15	1/:	Rename
16	1/:	Move •
17	1/:	
18	1/:	Drill Down
19	1/:	Add as New Query
20	1/1/199	97 12/29/1996
21	1/1/199	97 12/27/1996
22	1/1/199	97 12/31/1996
23	1/1/199	97 12/26/1996



#### **TEXT-SPECIFIC TOOLS**

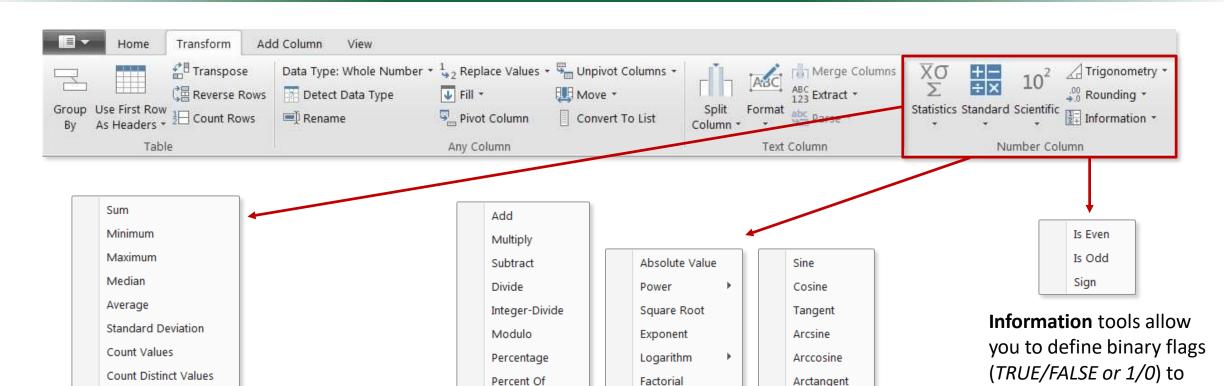


You can access many of these tools in both the "Transform" and "Add Column" menus -- the difference is whether you want to add a new column or modify an existing one

**Format a text column** to upper, lower or proper case, or add a prefix or suffix

**Tip:** Use "Trim" to eliminate leading & trailing spaces, or "Clean" to remove non-printable characters

#### **NUMBER-SPECIFIC TOOLS**



Standard

**Statistics functions** allow you to evaluate basic stats for the selected column (sum, min/max, average, count, countdistinct, etc)

**Note:** These tools return a SINGLE value, and are commonly used to explore a table rather than prepare it for loading

**Standard, Scientific** and **Trigonometry** tools allow you to apply standard operations (addition, multiplication, division, etc.) or more advanced calculations (power, logarithm, sine, tangent, etc) to each value in a column

Trigonometry

Scientific

**Note:** Unlike the Statistics options, these tools are applied to each individual row in the table



mark each row in a

column as even, odd,

positive or negative

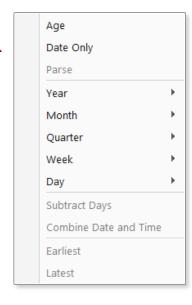
#### **DATE-SPECIFIC TOOLS**



**Date & Time** tools are relatively straight-forward, and include the following options:

- Age: Difference between the current time and the date in each row
- Date Only: Removes the time component of a date/time field
- Year/Month/Quarter/Week/Day: Extracts individual components from a date field (Time-specific options include Hour, Minute, Second, etc.)
- **Earliest/Latest:** Evaluates the earliest or latest date from a column as a single value (can only be accessed from the "Transform" menu)

**Note:** You will almost always want to perform these operations from the "Add Column" menu to build out new fields, rather than transforming an individual date/time column

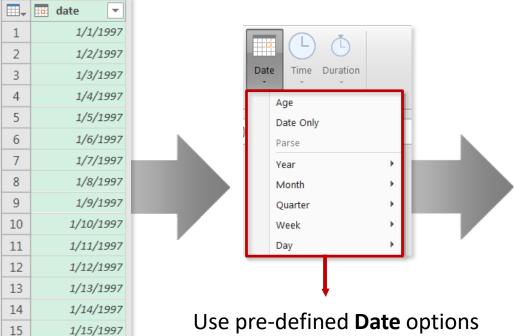




#### **PRO TIP:**

Load up a table containing a **single date column** and use Date tools to build out an **entire calendar table** 

## **CREATING A BASIC CALENDAR TABLE**



1/16/1997

1/17/1997

1/18/1997

1/19/1997 1/20/1997

1/21/1997

1/23/1997

16 17

18

19

20

23

Use pre-defined **Date** options in the "**Add Column**" menu to quickly build out a calendar table from a list of dates

-	iii date ▼	1 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> Year ▼	1 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> Month ▼	1 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> Quarter ▼	1 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> WeekOfYear ▼	A <sup>B</sup> <sub>C</sub> Day Name ▼
1	1/1/1997	1997	1	1	1	Wednesday
2	1/2/1997	1997	1	1	1	Thursday
3	1/3/1997	1997	1	1	1	Friday
4	1/4/1997	1997	1	1	1	Saturday
5	1/5/1997	1997	1	1	2	Sunday
6	1/6/1997	1997	1	1	2	Monday
7	1/7/1997	1997	1	1	2	Tuesday
8	1/8/1997	1997	1	1	2	Wednesday
9	1/9/1997	1997	1	1	2	Thursday
10	1/10/1997	1997	1	1	2	Friday
11	1/11/1997	1997	1	1	2	Saturday
12	1/12/1997	1997	1	1	3	Sunday
13	1/13/1997	1997	1	1	3	Monday
14	1/14/1997	1997	1	1	3	Tuesday
15	1/15/1997	1997	1	1	3	Wednesday
16	1/16/1997	1997	1	1	3	Thursday
17	1/17/1997	1997	1	1	3	Friday
18	1/18/1997	1997	1	1	3	Saturday
19	1/19/1997	1997	1	1	4	Sunday
20	1/20/1997	1997	1	1	4	Monday
21	1/21/1997	1997	1	1	4	Tuesday
22	1/22/1997	1997	1	1	4	Wednesday
23	1/23/1997	1997	1	1	4	Thursday



#### PRO TIP: CREATING A ROLLING CALENDAR

- 1) Create a new, blank query (*Data* > *New Query* > *From Other Sources* > *Blank Query*)
- 2) In the formula bar, generate a starting date by entering a "literal" (1/1/2013 shown below):



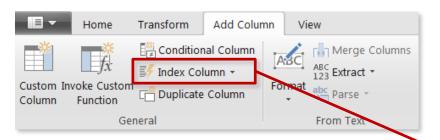
3) Click the fX icon to add a new custom step, and enter the following formula exactly as shown:



- 4) Convert the resulting list into a Table (*List Tools* > *To Table*) and format the column as a **Date**
- 5) Add calculated Date columns (Year, Month, Week, etc.) as necessary using the Add Column tools



#### **ADDING AN INDEX COLUMN**



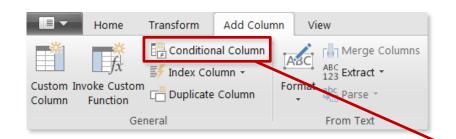
Index Columns contain a list of sequential values that can be used to identify each unique row in a table (typically starting from 0 or 1)

These columns are often used to create **unique IDs** that can be used to form relationships between tables (more on that later!)

12 <sub>3</sub> Index	· 🔻	transaction_date	stock_date 🔻	1 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> product_id	1 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub> customer_id	12 <sub>3</sub> promotion_id	1 <sup>2</sup> 3
1	0	1/1/1997	12/28/1996	761	6613	0	
2	1	1/1/1997	12/30/1996	1435	8830	0	
3	2	1/1/1997	12/29/1996	1175	8830	0	
1	3	1/1/1997	12/30/1996	1152	8830	0	
5	4	1/1/1997	12/31/1996	1245	5005	0	
6	5	1/1/1997	12/27/1996	209	5005	0	
7	6	1/1/1997	12/28/1996	1345	5005	0	
8	7	1/1/1997	12/28/1996	1468	5005	0	
9	8	1/1/1997	12/26/1996	84	7962	0	
.0	9	1/1/1997	12/30/1996	966	7962	0	
.1	10	1/1/1997	12/27/1996	1022	7962	0	
2	11	1/1/1997	12/29/1996	440	7962	0	
3	12	1/4/1997	12/28/1996	151	2274	1054	
.4	13	1/4/1997	12/28/1996	1287	8648	1054	
.5	14	1/4/1997	12/30/1996	1264	8648	1054	
.6	15	1/4/1997	12/31/1996	188	8648	1054	
.7	16	1/4/1997	1/1/1997	1526	8648	1054	
.8	17	1/4/1997	12/29/1996	518	8762	1054	
9	18	1/5/1997	12/31/1996	963	4018	0	
20	19	1/5/1997	12/29/1996	154	1418	0	
1			III				Þ



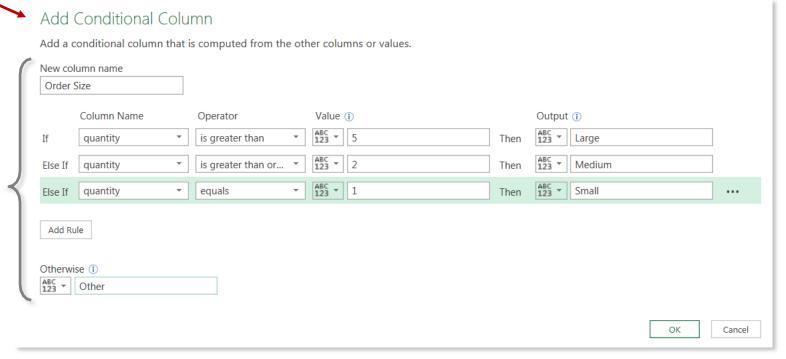
#### **ADDING A CONDITIONAL COLUMN**



**Conditional Columns** allow you to define new fields based on logical rules and conditions (*IF/THEN statements*)

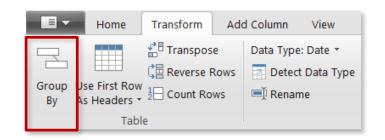
In this case we're creating a new conditional column called "Order Size", which depends on the values in the "quantity" column, as follows:

- If quantity >5, Order Size = "Large"
- If quantity is from 2-5, Order Size = "Medium"
- If quantity =1, Order Size = "Small"
- Otherwise Order Size = "Other"

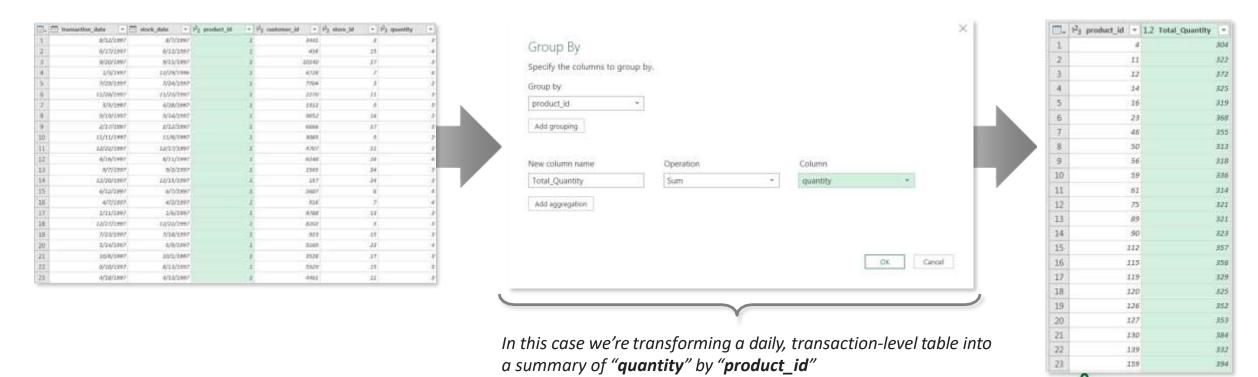




## **GROUPING & AGGREGATING DATA**



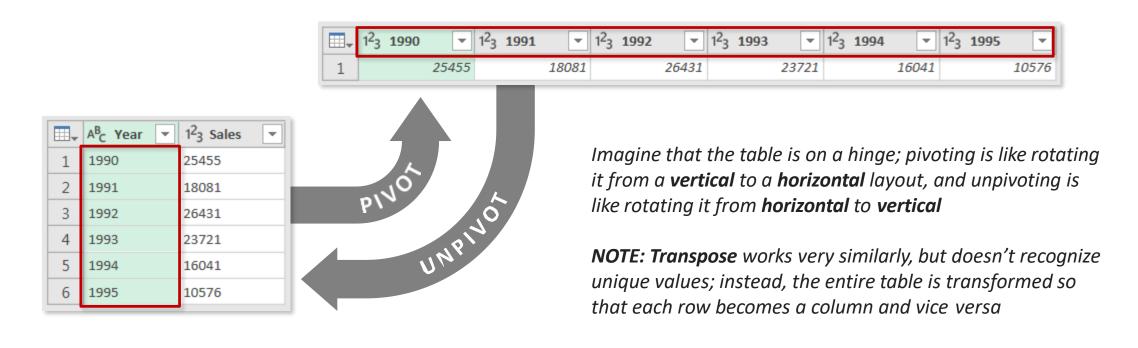
**Group By** allows you to aggregate your data at a different level (i.e. transform daily data into monthly, roll up transaction-level data by store, etc.)



Note that we lose any field not specified in the Group By settings

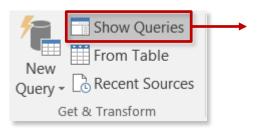
#### **PIVOTING & UNPIVOTING**

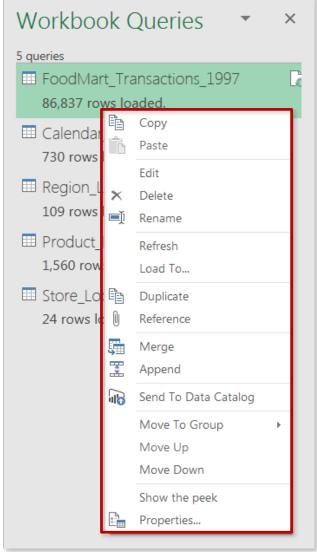
"Pivoting" is a fancy way to describe the process of turning distinct row values into columns ("pivoting") or turning columns into rows ("unpivoting")





## **MODIFYING WORKBOOK QUERIES**





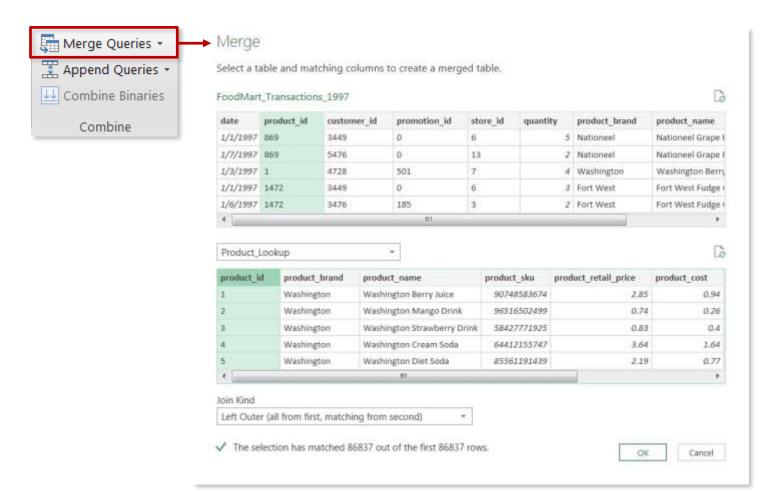
Click on **Show Queries** to launch the **Workbook Queries** pane

Right-click any individual query to access common options and tools:

- Edit (launches the Query Editor)
- Delete
- Rename
- Refresh
- Duplicate
- Merge
- Append



## **MERGING QUERIES**



- Merging queries allows you to join tables based on a common column (like VLOOKUP)
- In this case we're merging the FoodMart\_Transactions\_1997 table with the Product\_Lookup table, which share a "product\_id" column

**TIP:** Merging **adds columns** to an existing table



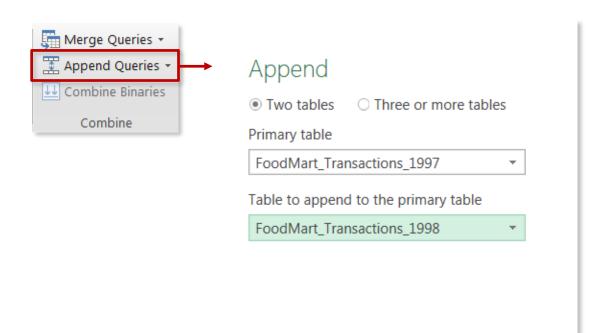
#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

Just because you *can* merge tables, doesn't mean you *should*.

In general, it's better to keep tables separate and define **relationships** between them (*more on that later!*)



## **APPENDING QUERIES**



- Appending queries allows you to combine (or stack) tables that share a common structure and set of columns
- In this case we're appending the
   FoodMart\_Transactions\_1998 table to the
   FoodMart\_Transactions\_1997 table, since they
   contain the same set of columns and data types

**TIP:** Appending **adds rows** to an existing table



#### **PRO TIP:**

Use the "From Folder" query option to automatically append all files from within the same folder



## **POWER QUERY BEST PRACTICES**



## Give your queries clear and intuitive names, before loading the data

- Define names immediately; updating query & table names later can be a headache, especially if you've already referenced them in calculated measures
- Don't use spaces in table names (otherwise you have surround them with single quotes)



## Do as much shaping as possible at the source of the data

• Shaping data at the source (i.e. SQL, Access) minimizes the need for complex procedures in Power Query, and allows you to create new models without replicating the same process



## When working with large tables, only load the data you need

• Don't include hourly data when you only need daily, or product-level transactions when you only care about store-level performance; extra data will only slow you down



# DATA MODELING



#### MEET EXCEL'S DATA MODEL

The **Data Model** provides simple and intuitive tools for building relational databases directly in Excel. With the data model you can:

- Manage massive datasets that can't fit into worksheets
- Create table relationships to blend data across multiple sources
- Define custom hierarchies and perspectives

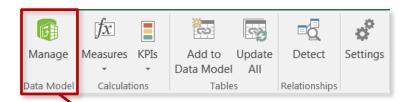




Access the **Data Model** through the **Power Pivot** tab or the **Data** tab

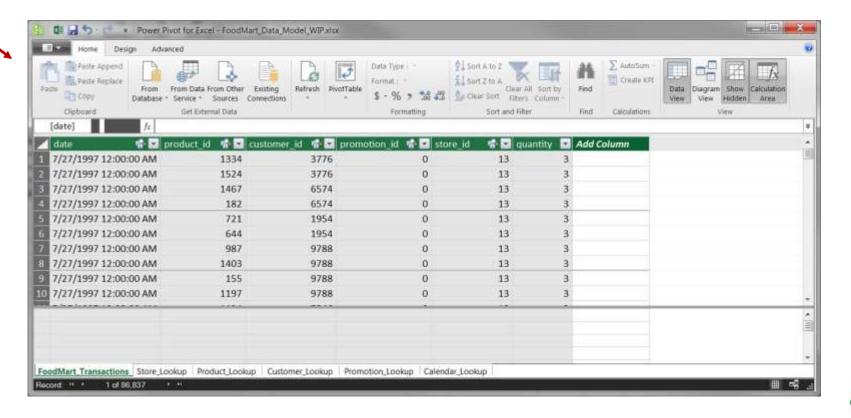
(Note: you may need to enable the Power Pivot tab via File > Options > Add-Ins > Manage COM Add-Ins)

#### THE DATA MODEL WINDOW



The **Data Model** opens in a separate Excel window, where you can view your data tables, calculate new measures, and define table relationships

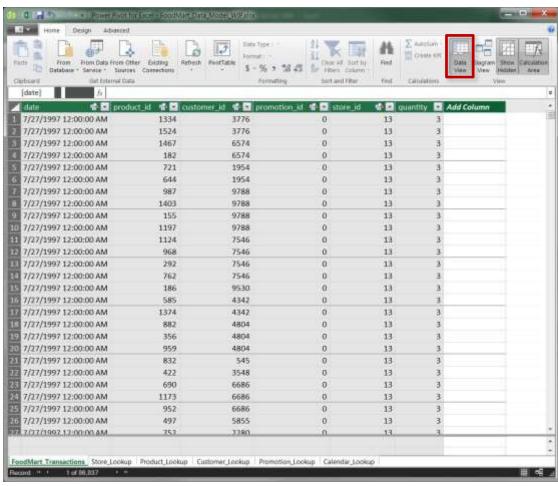
**Note:** Closing the Data Model window does NOT close your Excel workbook





#### DATA VIEW VS. DIAGRAM VIEW

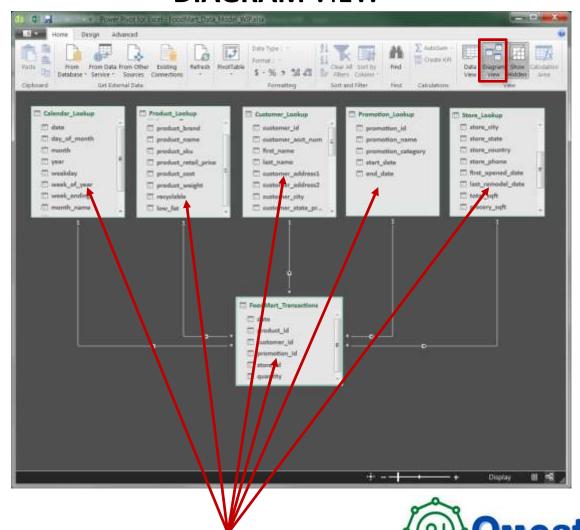
#### **DATA VIEW**





Tables organized in **tabs** 

#### **DIAGRAM** VIEW



Tables organized as **objects** 

#### **DATABASE NORMALIZATION**

**Normalization** is the process of organizing the tables and columns in a relational database to reduce redundancy and preserve data integrity. It is commonly used to:

- Eliminate redundant data to decrease table sizes and improve processing speed & efficiency
- Minimize errors and anomalies from data modifications (inserting, updating or deleting records)
- Simplify queries and structure the database for meaningful analysis

In a normalized database, each table should serve a **distinct** and **specific** purpose (i.e. product information, calendar fields, transaction records, customer attributes, etc.)

date 📧	product_id *	quantity -	product_brand -	product_name T	product_sku 😁	product_weight
1/1/1997	869	5	Nationeel	Nationeel Grape Fruit Roll	52382137179	17
1/7/1997	869	2	Nationeel	Nationeel Grape Fruit Roll	52382137179	17
1/3/1997	1	4	Washington	Washington Berry Juice	90748583674	8.39
1/1/1997	1472	3	Fort West	Fort West Fudge Cookies	37276054024	8.28
1/6/1997	1472	2	Fort West	Fort West Fudge Cookies	37276054024	8.28
1/5/1997	2	4	Washington	Washington Mango Drink	96516502499	7.42
1/1/1997	76	4	Red Spade	Red Spade Sliced Chicken	62054644227	18.1
1/1/1997	76	2	Red Spade	Red Spade Sliced Chicken 6205464422		18.1
1/5/1997	3	2	Washington	Washington Strawberry Drink	58427771925	13.1
1/7/1997	3	2	Washington	Washington Strawberry Drink	58427771925	13.1
1/1/1997	320	3	Excellent	Excellent Cranberry Juice	36570182442	16.4

When you **don't** normalize, you end up with tables like this; all of the duplicate product records could be eliminated with a lookup table based on **product\_id** 

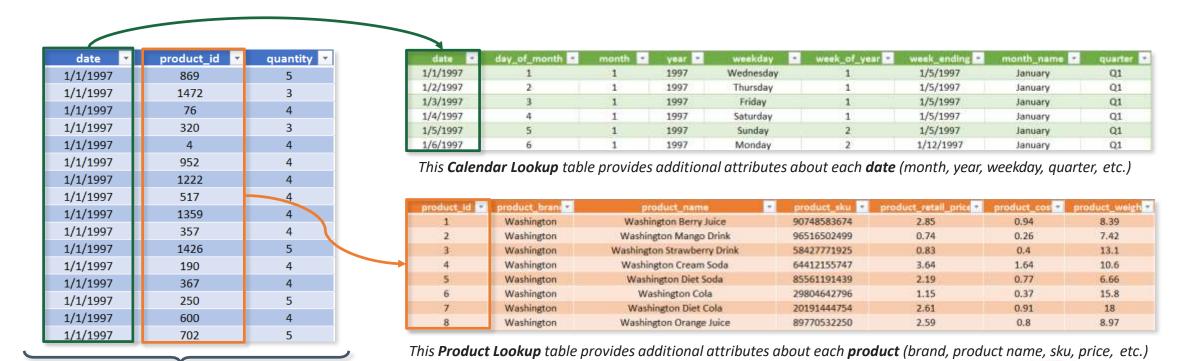
This may not seem critical now, but minor inefficiencies can become major problems as databases scale in size



#### DATA TABLES VS. LOOKUP TABLES

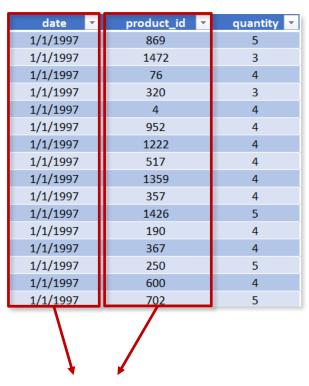
Models generally contain two types of tables: data (or "fact") tables, and lookup (or "dimension") tables

- **Data tables** contain numbers or values, typically at the most granular level possible, with ID or "key" columns that can be used to connect to each lookup table
- Lookup tables provide descriptive, often text-based attributes about each dimension in a table

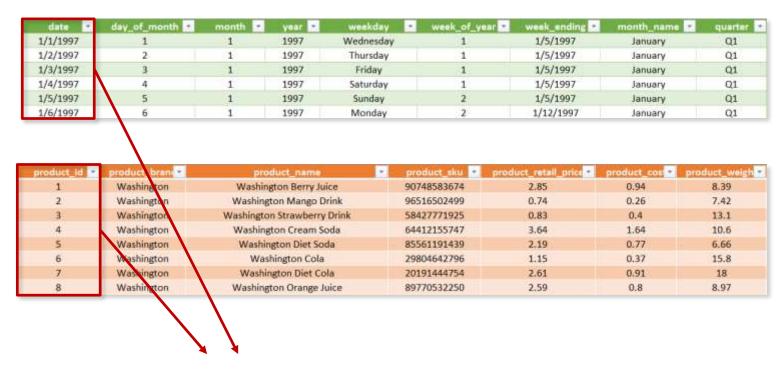


This **Data Table** contains "quantity" values, and connects to lookup tables via the "date" and "product\_id" columns

#### **PRIMARY & FOREIGN KEYS**



These columns are **foreign keys**; they contain *multiple* instances of each value, and are used to match the **primary keys** in related lookup tables



These columns are **primary keys**; they *uniquely* identify each row of a table, and match the **foreign keys** in related data tables



#### **RELATIONSHIPS VS. MERGED TABLES**



Can't I just **merge queries** or use **LOOKUP** or **RELATED** functions to pull those attributes into the fact table itself, so that I have everything in one place??

-Anonymous confused man

Original Fact Table fields

Attributes from **Calendar Lookup** table

Attributes from **Product Lookup** table

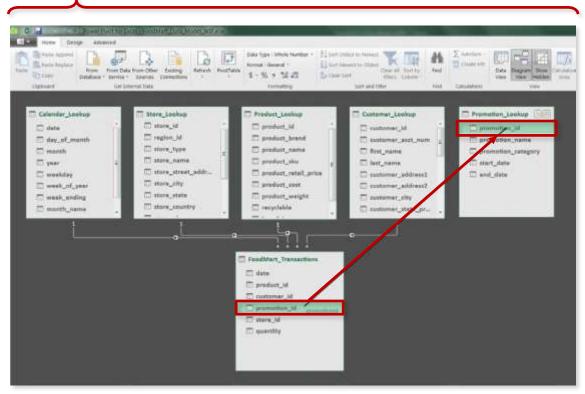
											•	
date 🔻	product_id -	quantity -	day_of_month -	month -	year T	weekday *	month_name -	quarter 🔻	product_brand -	product_name	product_sku	product_weight -
1/1/1997	869	5	1	1	1997	Wednesday	January	Q1	Nationeel	Nationeel Grape Fruit Roll	52382137179	17
1/7/1997	869	2	7	1	1997	Tuesday	January	Q1	Nationeel	Nationeel Grape Fruit Roll	52382137179	17
1/3/1997	1	4	3	1	1997	Friday	January	Q1	Washington	Washington Berry Juice	90748583674	8.39
1/1/1997	1472	3	1	1	1997	Wednesday	January	Q1	Fort West	Fort West Fudge Cookies	37276054024	8.28
1/6/1997	1472	2	6	1	1997	Monday	January	Q1	Fort West	Fort West Fudge Cookies	37276054024	8.28
1/5/1997	2	4	5	1	1997	Sunday	January	Q1	Washington	Washington Mango Drink	96516502499	7.42
1/1/1997	76	4	1	1	1997	Wednesday	January	Q1	Red Spade	Red Spade Sliced Chicken	62054644227	18.1
1/1/1997	76	2	1	1	1997	Wednesday	January	Q1	Red Spade	Red Spade Sliced Chicken	62054644227	18.1
1/5/1997	3	2	5	1	1997	Sunday	January	Q1	Washington	Washington Strawberry Drink	58427771925	13.1
1/7/1997	3	2	7	1	1997	Tuesday	January	Q1	Washington	Washington Strawberry Drink	58427771925	13.1
1/1/1997	320	3	1	1	1997	Wednesday	January	Q1	Excellent	Excellent Cranberry Juice	36570182442	16.4

#### Sure, but it's extremely inefficient.

 Merging data in this way creates redundant data and utilizes significantly more memory and processing power than creating relationships between multiple small tables

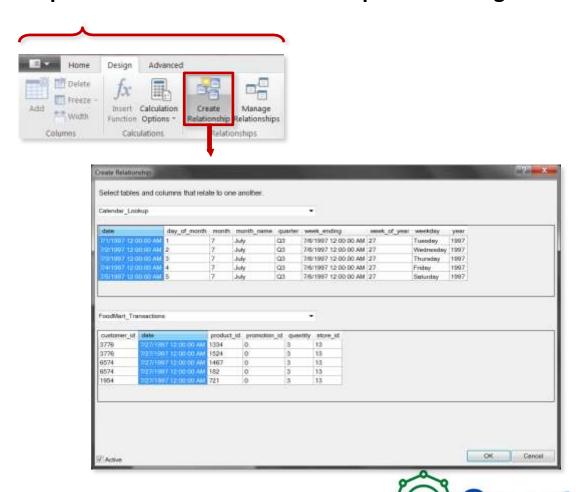
### **CREATING TABLE RELATIONSHIPS**

#### Option 1: Click and drag relationships in Diagram View

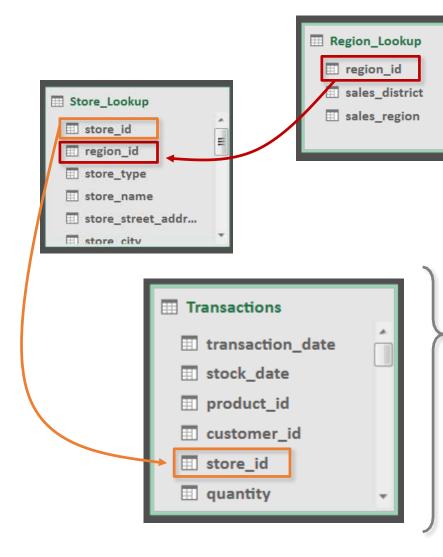


Tip: Always drag relationships from the Data table to the Lookup tables

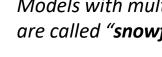
#### **Option 2:** Use "Create Relationship" in the **Design** tab



### **CONNECTING LOOKUPS TO LOOKUPS**



#### **PRO TIP:**



Models with multiple related lookup tables are called "snowflake" schemas

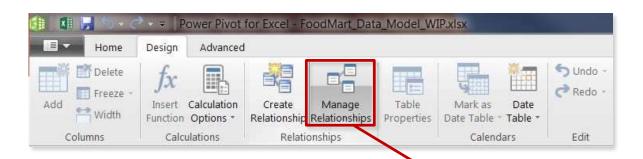
Models with a single table for each lookup or dimension are called "star" schemas

This **Transactions** data table can connect to **Store Lookup** using **store id**, but does not contain a **region\_id** to connect to the **Region\_Lookup** table

By creating a relationship between **Store\_Lookup** and **Region\_Lookup** (using **region\_id**), we have essentially connected **Transactions** with **Region\_Lookup**; filter context will now flow all the way down the chain

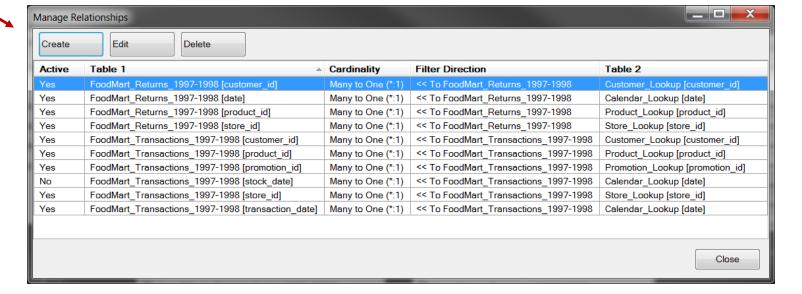


### **MODIFYING TABLE RELATIONSHIPS**



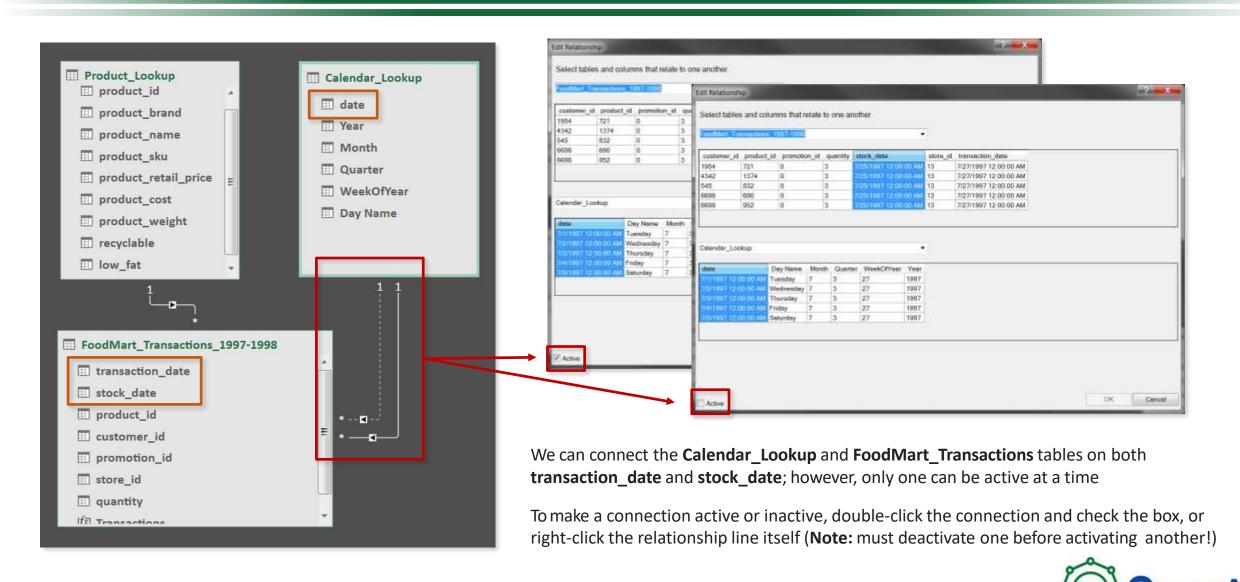
The Manage Relationships window allows you to create, edit or delete any connection in the data model

- Use this to see all table relationships, as well as table names, cardinality and filter direction
- Note: double-click a single connection in diagram view to edit an individual relationship

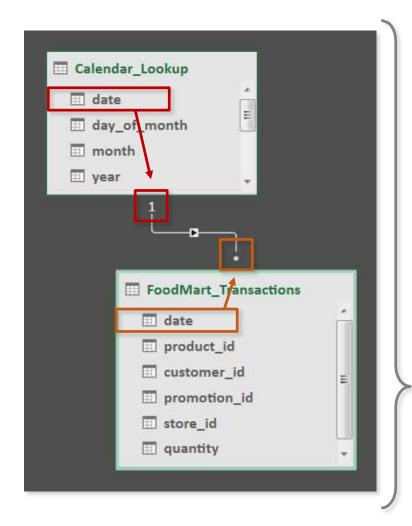




### **ACTIVE VS. INACTIVE RELATIONSHIPS**



### **RELATIONSHIP CARDINALITY**



Cardinality refers to the uniqueness of values in a column

In Power Pivot, all relationships in a data model should follow a "one-to-many" cardinality

Each column (or "key") used to join tables can only have one
instance of each unique value in the lookup table (these are the
primary keys), but may have many instances of each unique
value in the data table (these are the foreign keys)

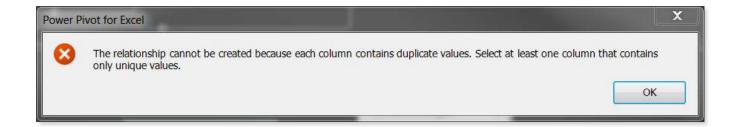
In this case we're joining the **Calendar\_Lookup** table to the **FoodMart\_Transactions** data table using the **date** column as our key

There is only **one** instance of each date in the lookup table (noted by the "1"), but **many** instances of each date in the data table (noted by the asterisk "\*"), since multiple transactions occur each day



### **BAD CARDINALITY: MANY-TO-MANY**

oduct_id 🔽	product_name 🔻	product_sku 🔻	da	ite 📑	product_id
4	Washington Cream Soda	64412155747	1/1/	2017	4
4	Washington Diet Cream Soda	81727382373	1/2/	2017	4
5	Washington Diet Soda	85561191439	1/3/	2017	4
7	Washington Diet Cola	20191444754	1/1/	2017	5
8	Washington Orange Juice	89770532250	1/2/	2017	5
0	Washington Orange Juice	69770332230	1/1/	2017	7



- If we try to connect these tables using the **product\_id** field, we'll have a **many-to-many** relationship since there are multiple instances of each ID in both tables
- Even if we *could* create this relationship in Power Pivot, how would you know which product was actually sold on each date *Cream Soda* or *Diet Cream Soda*?

### **BAD CARDINALITY: ONE-TO-ONE**

product_id 🔻	product_name 🔻	product_sku 🔻
4	Washington Cream Soda	64412155747
5	Washington Diet Soda	85561191439
7	Washington Diet Cola	20191444754
8	Washington Orange Juice	89770532250

- In this case, connecting the tables above using the **product\_id** field creates a **one-to-one** relationship, since each ID only appears once in each table
- Unlike many-to-many, there is nothing illegal about this relationship; it's just inefficient

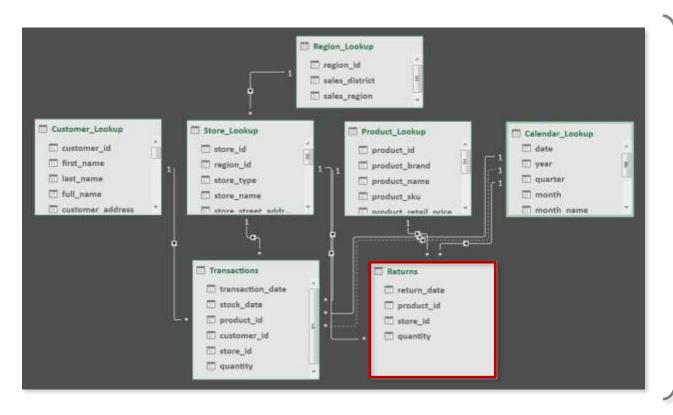
To eliminate the inefficiency, you could simply **merge the two tables** into a single, valid lookup

**Note:** this still respects the laws of normalization, since all rows are unique and directly related to the primary key

product_id 🔻	product_name 💌	product_sku 💌	product_price 🔻
4	Washington Cream Soda	64412155747	\$3.64
5	Washington Diet Soda	85561191439	\$2.19
7	Washington Diet Cola	20191444754	\$2.61
8	Washington Orange Juice	89770532250	\$2.59



### **CONNECTING MULTIPLE DATA TABLES**





#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

**NEVER** try to connect data tables directly to each other; **ALWAYS** connect them indirectly via shared lookup tables!

Here we've loaded a second data table named **Returns**, containing records of returns by date, product and store

- This table connects to each lookup exactly like the **Transactions** table did, except that there is no way to connect the Returns table to Customer\_Lookup
- This allows us to analyze data across both tables in the same pivot, as long as we only filter or segment the data using lookups that are <u>common to both</u>
  - In other words, we know which **product** was returned, which **store** it was returned to, and which **date** the return occurred, but NOT which **customer** was responsible

### FILTER DIRECTION IS IMPORTANT



This model includes two data tables (**Transactions** and **Returns**), both connected to the **Calendar\_Lookup** 

Note the filter directions (shown as arrows) in each relationship; in Power Pivot (2016) these will always point from the "one" side of the relationship (lookups) to the "many" side (data tables)\*

- Filtering a table will impact any tables "downstream" of it, as defined by the filter relationship (i.e the direction of the arrow)
- Let's say we're analyzing both Transactions and Returns in the same PivotTable; filtering by the Calendar\_Lookup date field will return correctly filtered data from both data tables, but filtering by the Transactions date field will yield unfiltered Returns values

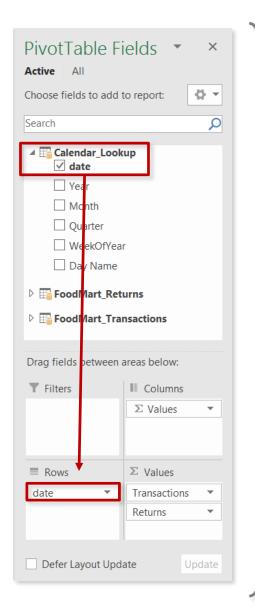


#### **PRO TIP:**

Arrange your lookup tables **above** your data tables in diagram view to remind you that filters always flow "downstream"



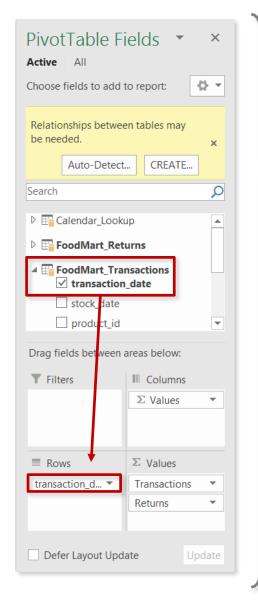
## FILTER DIRECTION IS IMPORTANT (CONT.)





	Α	В	С
1	Row Labels 🔻	Transactions	Returns
2	1/1/1997	348	3
3	1/2/1997	635	6
4	1/3/1997	589	7
5	1/4/1997	20	
6	1/5/1997	966	10
7	1/6/1997	993	11
8	1/7/1997	1,265	8
9	1/8/1997	35	
10	1/9/1997	525	9
11	1/10/1997	460	5

Calendar\_Lookup filters flow "down" to both the Transactions and Returns tables, so we can filter or segment those metrics using any field from the Calendar table



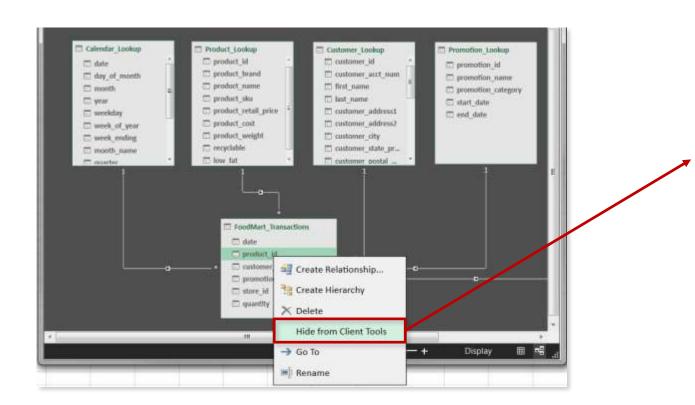


	Α	В	С
1	Row Labels 🔻	Transactions	Returns
2	1/1/1997	348	8,289
3	1/2/1997	635	8,289
4	1/3/1997	589	8,289
5	1/4/1997	20	8,289
6	1/5/1997	966	8,289
7	1/6/1997	993	8,289
8	1/7/1997	1,265	8,289
9	1/8/1997	35	8,289
10	1/9/1997	525	8,289
11	1/10/1997	460	8,289

Filtering by date in the **Transactions** table yields incorrect, unfiltered values from the **Returns** table, since filter context cannot flow "upstream" to the Calendar table



### HIDING FIELDS FROM CLIENT TOOLS



When you hide a field from Client Tools, you make it invisible to tools outside of the data model (i.e. Power Pivot)

This can be used to prevent users from filtering or segmenting on invalid fields, or to hide irrelevant metrics from view



#### **PRO TIP:**

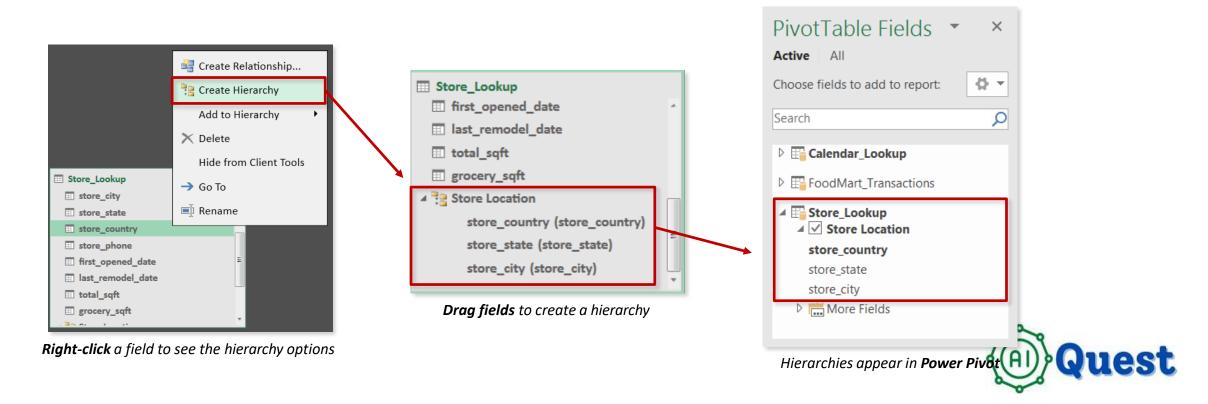
Always hide the **foreign key columns** in your data tables to prevent users from accidentally filtering on them!



### **DEFINING HIERARCHIES**

### Hierarchies are groups of nested columns that reflect multiple levels of granularity

- For example, a "Geography" hierarchy might include Country, State, and City columns
- Each hierarchy is treated as a single item in PivotTables and PivotCharts, allowing users to "drill up" and "drill down" through different levels of the hierarchy in a meaningful way



### DATA MODEL BEST PRACTICES



## Normalize your data model before you do anything else

- Make sure that each table in your model serves a single, distinct purpose
- Use relationships vs. merged tables; long & narrow tables are better than short & wide



## Organize lookup tables above data tables in the diagram view

• This serves as a visual reminder that filters always flow "downstream"



## Hide fields from client tools to prevent invalid filter context

 All foreign key columns should be hidden from data tables, so that users are only able to use valid fields for filtering and segmentation



# POWER PIVOT & DAX



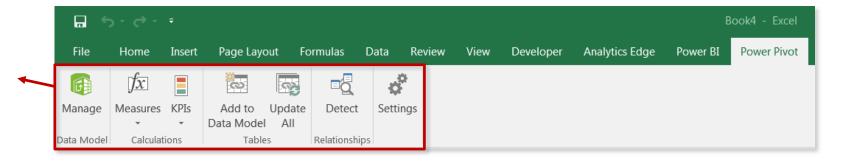
### **MEET POWER PIVOT**

A "Power" Pivot is just like a normal PivotTable, except it sits on top of an entire data model rather than a single table or range. This allows you to:

- Explore massive datasets consisting of multiple sources and tables, using familiar, user-friendly PivotTable tools and options
- Create powerful and flexible calculations using Data Analysis Expressions (DAX)

The **Power Pivot** tab includes tools to manage the data model and define new measures

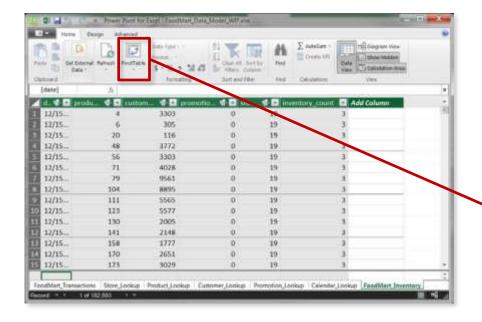
(Note: you may need to enable this tab by selecting File > Options > Add-Ins > Manage COM Add-Ins)

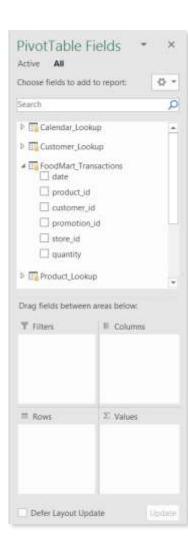




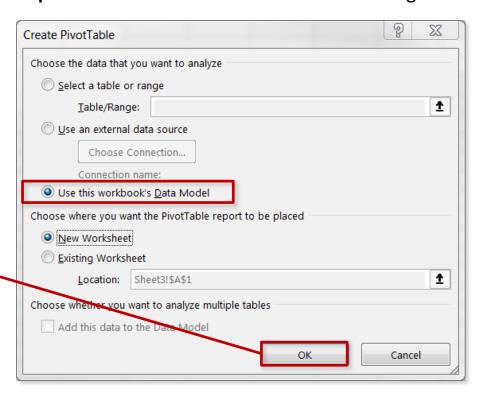
### **CREATING A "POWER" PIVOT TABLE**

#### Option #1: From the Data Model





**Option #2:** From the *Insert > PivotTable* dialog box





### "NORMAL" PIVOTS VS. "POWER" PIVOTS



- Can analyze data from one table at a time;
   multiple tables must be flattened or
   "stitched" together with cell functions
- Restricted to the data capacity of a single
   Excel worksheet (1,048,576 rows)
- Limited to relatively basic calculated fields, using a sub-set of Excel functions



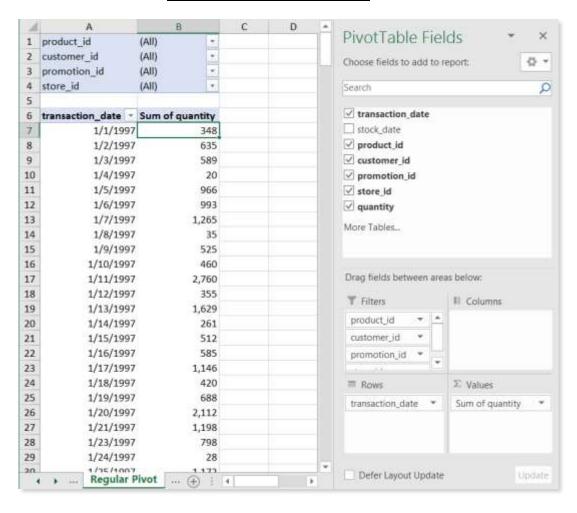
- Can analyze an entire data model, consisting of multiple tables connected via relationships rather than cell functions
- Virtually unlimited data capacity as tables are compressed outside of normal worksheets
- Performs complex calculations using Data Analysis Expressions (DAX)

**NOTE**: It's not the *PivotTable* itself that's different; it's the *data behind it* 

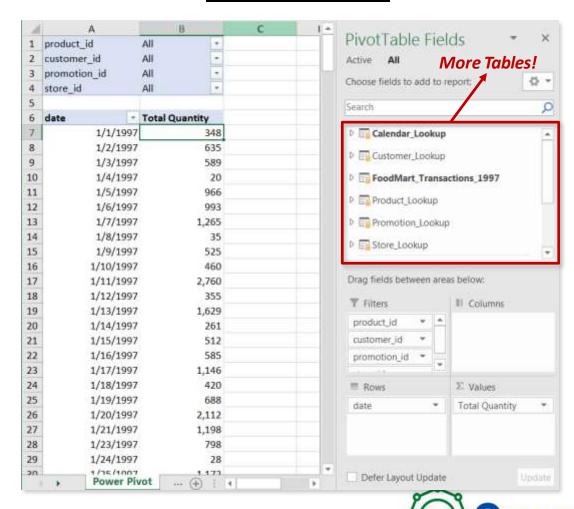


### "NORMAL" PIVOTS VS. "POWER" PIVOTS

### **Normal Pivot**

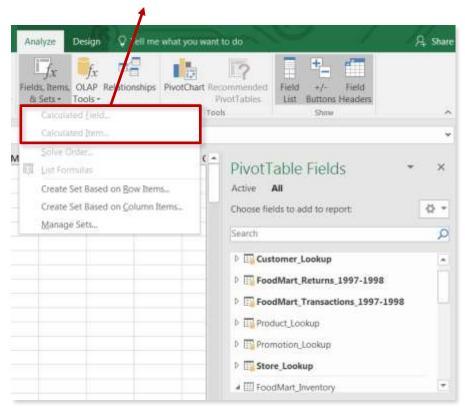


### **Power Pivot**



### NO MORE "CALCULATED FIELDS"

#### Oh rats, where are my calculated fields??



One of the key Power Pivot features is the ability to create *much* more robust calculated fields, known as **measures**\*

Because these measures interact directly with the data model (including tables stored in memory), traditional cell formulas won't do the trick

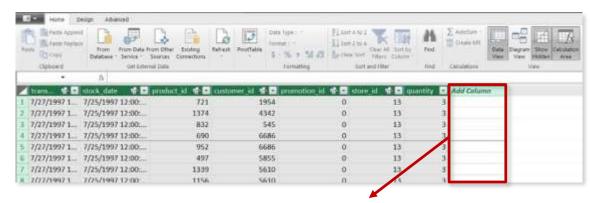
 Instead, we'll use a new (but familiar) formula language called Data Analysis Expressions (DAX)

## DATA ANALYSIS EXPRESSIONS (DAX)

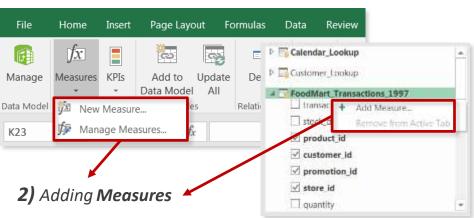
**Data Analysis Expressions**, commonly known as **DAX**, is the formula language that drives Power Pivot. With DAX, you can:

- Add calculated columns and measures to your model, using intuitive syntax
- Go beyond the capabilities of traditional "grid-style" formulas, with powerful functions built specifically to work with relational data

#### Two places to use DAX:









### **CALCULATED COLUMNS**

### Calculated columns allow you to add new, formula-based columns to tables

- No "A1-style" references; calculated columns refer to entire tables or columns
- Calculated columns are computed at the row-level, and values are stored with the table (this eats up memory)
- Calculated columns understand row context; they're great for defining new properties based on information in each row, but generally useless for aggregation (SUM, AVERAGE, COUNT, etc.)



#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

As a rule of thumb, **ONLY** use calculated columns if you want to "stamp" static, fixed values to each row in a table (or use Power Query!)

**DO NOT** use calculated columns for aggregation formulas, or to calculate fields for the "Values" area of a pivot (use **measures** instead)

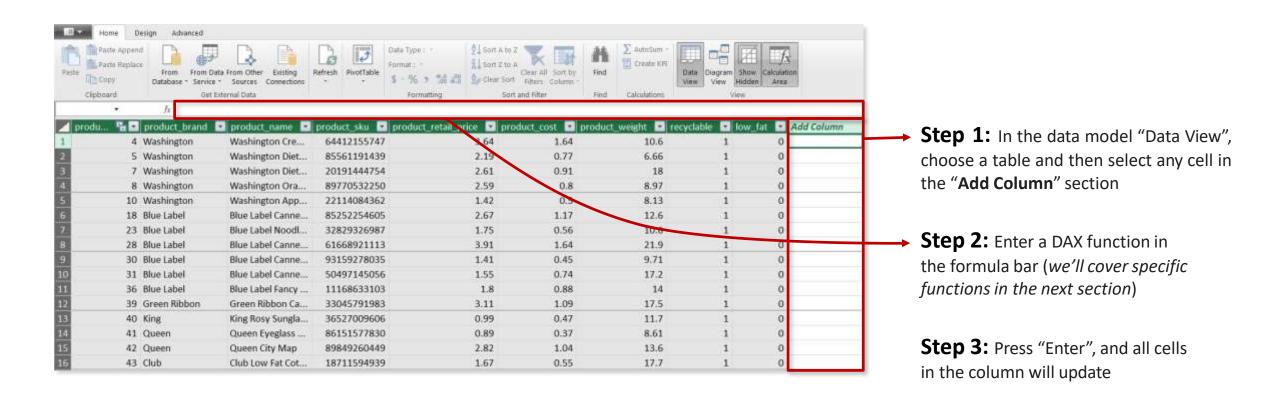


#### **PRO TIP:**

Calculated columns are typically placed in the **Filters, Slicers, Rows** or **Columns** areas of a pivot

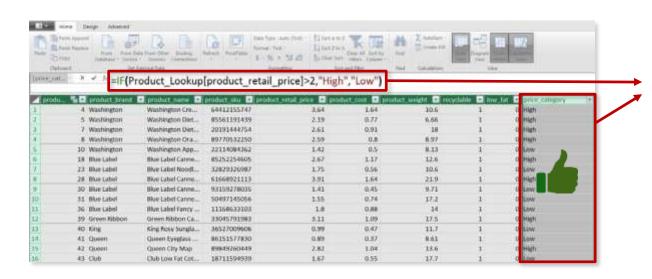


### **CREATING CALCULATED COLUMNS**





### **CALCULATED COLUMNS: GOOD & BAD**

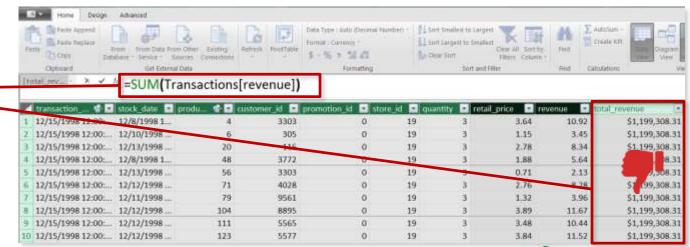


In this case we've added a **calculated column** called **price\_category**, which equals "**High**" if the retail price is >\$2, and "**Low**" otherwise (just like you would write in Excel!)

- Since calculated columns understand row context, a new value is calculated in each row based on that row's price
- This is a valid use of calculated columns; it creates a new row "property" that we can now use to filter or segment any related data within the model

Here we're using an aggregation function (SUM) to calculate a new column named **total\_revenue** 

- Since calculated columns do not understand filter context, the same grand total is returned in every single row of the table
- This is not a valid use of calculated columns; these values are statically "stamped" onto the table and can't be filtered, sliced, subdivided, etc.





### **DAX MEASURES**

### Measures are DAX formulas used to generate dynamic values within a PivotTable

- Like calculated columns, measures reference entire tables or columns (no A1-style or "grid" references)
- Unlike calculated columns, measures don't actually live in the table; they get placed in the values area of a PivotTable and dynamically calculated in each individual cell
- Measures are evaluated based on the filter context of each cell, which is determined by the PivotTable layout (filters, slicers, rows and columns)



#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

As a rule of thumb, use measures (vs. calculated columns) when a single row can't give you the answer (i.e. requires aggregation)

Measures can **ONLY** be placed in the values area of a PivotTable

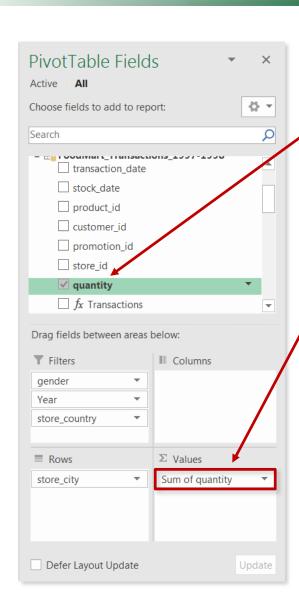


#### PRO TIP:

Use measures to create values that users can explore with a pivot (Power Pivot version of a "Calculated Field")



### **CREATING IMPLICIT MEASURES**



**STEP 1:** Check the box next to a value field in a data table, or manually drag it into the "Values" box

**STEP 2:** Pat yourself on the back, you just created a measure!

#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**



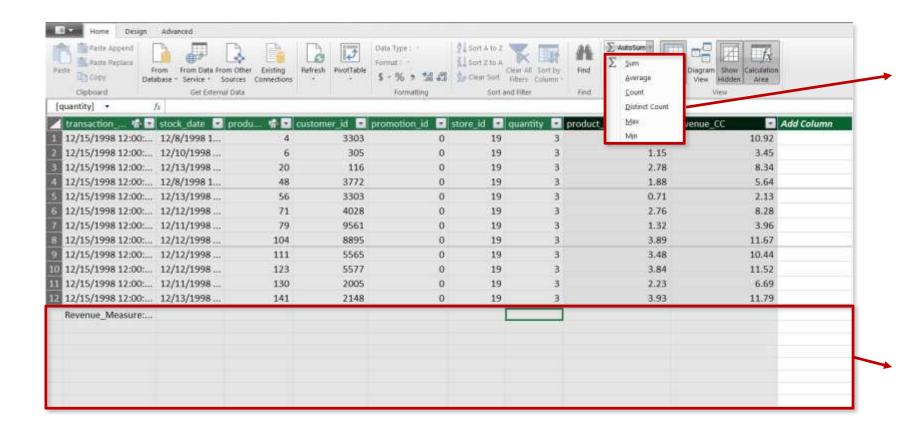
Before you pop the champagne, there's a catch. When you drag a raw data field into the values section of a pivot, you create what's called an **implicit measure**. While there's nothing *wrong* with implicit measures, they are extremely limited.

**Explicit measures** (defined using DAX) will give us *much* more flexibility, as well as the ability to reuse measures in multiple places (measure trees!)

FROM NOW ON, JUST SAY "NO" TO IMPLICIT MEASURES



## **CREATING EXPLICIT MEASURES (AUTOSUM)**



**AutoSum** is a shortcut for creating simple DAX formulas (*Sum, Average, Count, Distinct Count, Max and Min*)

#### To use AutoSum:

- Click on a cell in the Measures Pane (see below), within the column you want to evaluate
- Select the AutoSum menu and choose an option from the list

The **Measures Pane** sits beneath the data in the "Data View" of the model



#### PRO TIP:

**AutoSum** is a nice way to get comfortable with basic DAX and quickly add measures; just don't rely on them when things start to get more complicated!



## **CREATING EXPLICIT MEASURES (POWER PIVOT)**

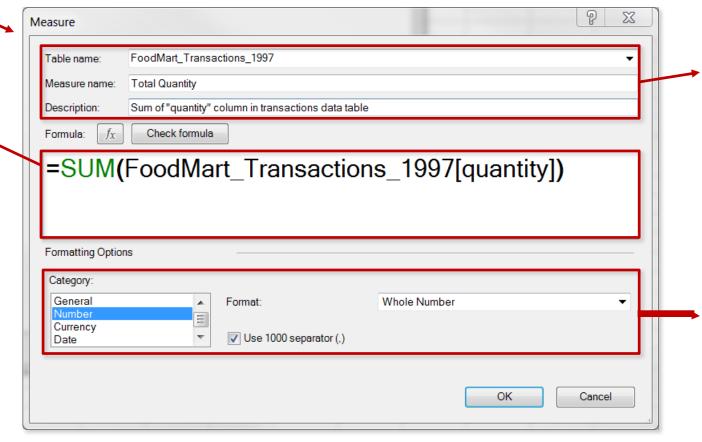


The **Formula** pane contains the actual DAX code, as well as options to browse the formula library or check syntax

**Note:** just start typing, and "Intellisense" will kick in to help you auto-populate formula names and tables



The Measure Dialog Box



Each measure is assigned to a table and given a measure name (as well as an optional description)

Use the Formatting
Options to specify a
format for each
measure



### **UNDERSTANDING FILTER CONTEXT**

Measures are calculated based on **filter context**, which is the set of filters (or "coordinates") determined by the PivotTable layout (filters, slicers, row labels and column labels)



#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

Each measure cell in the pivot calculates independently, based on its coordinates (think of each cell as an island)
When you change the pivot layout (by updating filters/slicers, row labels or column labels), each measure cell
detects its new coordinates and then recalculates its value

customer_city	▼ Total Quantity
Acapulco	16,428
Camacho	26,024
Hidalgo	52,888
La Cruz	10,251
Merida	40,994
Mexico City	10,666
Orizaba	27,334
San Andres	10,861
Santa Anita	11,834
Santa Fe	4,717
Tixapan	12,440
Guadalajara	2,401
Grand Total	226,838

The coordinate for this measure cell is **Customer\_Lookup[customer\_city] = "Hidalgo"** 

• Given this coordinate, Excel filters down to the "Hidalgo" rows in the **Customer\_Lookup** table, filters all related tables (based on the relationships in data model), then evaluates the arithmetic in the table defined by the measure (in this case **Total Quantity** equals the **sum of quantity** from the transactions data table)

This cell does NOT add up the values above it (it's an island, remember?)

• Total rows represent a **lack of filters**; since this cell does *not* have a customer\_city coordinate, it evaluates the Total Quantity measure across the entire, unfiltered Customer\_Lookup table

### FILTER CONTEXT EXAMPLES



#### **Cell coordinates:**

- Calendar\_Lookup[Year] = 1997
- Customer Lookup[customer country] = "USA"
- Customer\_Lookup[customer\_city] = "Altadena"



Year

■ 1997		266,773
	1	66,291
	2	62,610
	3	65,848
	4	72,024
□ 1998		289,126
	1	69,785
	2	68,855
	3	68,574
	4	81,912
Grand Total		555,899

▼ Quarter ▼ Total Quantity

#### **Cell coordinates:**

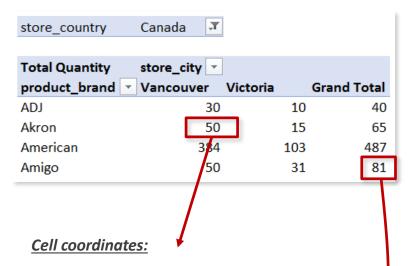
- Calendar\_Lookup[Year] = 1997
- Customer\_Lookup[customer\_country] = "USA"

#### **Cell coordinates:**

- Calendar Lookup[Year] = 1998
- Calendar Lookup[Quarter] = 1
- Customer\_Lookup[customer\_country] = "USA"

#### **Cell coordinates:**

Customer\_Lookup[customer\_country] = "USA"



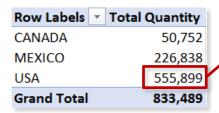
- Store\_Lookup[store\_country] = "Canada"
- Store\_Lookup[store\_city] = "Vancouver"
- Product Lookup[product brand] = "Akron"

#### **Cell coordinates:**

- Store Lookup[store country] = "Canada"
- Product\_Lookup[product\_brand] = "Amigo"



### STEP-BY-STEP MEASURE CALCULATION



### How exactly is this measure calculated?

• **REMEMBER:** This all happens *instantly* behind the scenes, every time a measure cell calculates

### STEP 1

Detect pivot coordinates & apply filter context

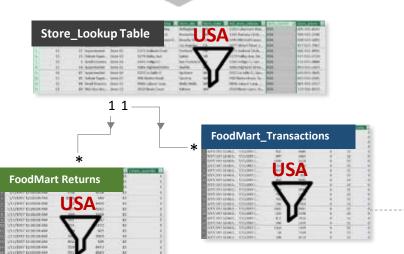


Store\_Lookup[store\_country] = "USA"



### STEP 2

Carry filters "downstream" & apply to all related tables



### STEP 3

Evaluate the measure formula against the filtered table





Sum of Transactions[quantity] when store\_country = "USA" = 555,899



### **RECAP: CALCULATED COLUMNS VS. MEASURES**

### **CALCULATED COLUMNS**

- Evaluated in the context of each row of the table to which it belongs (has row context)
- Appends static values to each row in a table and stores them in the model, increasing file size
- Only recalculated on data source refresh or changes to component columns
- Primarily used as rows, columns, slicers or filters

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Calculated columns "live" in tables



#### **MEASURES**

- Evaluated in the context of each cell of the PivotTable in which it is displayed (has filter context)
- Does not create new data in the tables themselves, and does not increase file size
- Recalculated in response to any change in the PivotTable view
- Can only be used as PivotTable values



Measures "live" in **PivotTables** 





### **POWER PIVOT BEST PRACTICES**



## Avoid using implicit measures whenever possible

 Implicit measures are limited in functionality and restricted to the pivot in which they were created; explicit measures are more portable and powerful



## Don't use a calculated column when a measure will do the trick

- Only use calculated columns to "stamp" static, fixed values to each row in a table
- Use measures when aggregation is necessary, or to create dynamic values in a pivot



## Know your data model inside and out!

 It's easy to produce incorrect results in Power Pivot if you don't respect the model's table relationships, and errors are often difficult to spot without a thorough QA



# COMMON DAX FUNCTIONS



### **DAX SYNTAX**

#### **MEASURE NAME**

 Note: Measures are always surrounded in brackets (i.e. [Total Quantity]) when referenced in formulas, so spaces are OK Referenced
TABLE NAME
COLUMN NAME

ransactions[quantity]]

Total Quantity: =SUM(Transactions[quantity])

#### **FUNCTION NAME**

- Calculated columns don't always use functions, but measures do:
  - In a calculated column, =Transactions[quantity]
     returns the value from the quantity column in
     each row (since it evaluates for each row)
  - In a measure, =Transactions[quantity] will return an error since Excel doesn't know how to evaluate that as a single value in a pivot (you need some sort of aggregation)

This is a "fully qualified" column, since it's preceeded by the table name

**Note:** Table names with spaces must be surrounded by **single quotes**:

- Without a space: **Transactions**[quantity]
- With a space: 'Transactions Table' [quantity]



#### PRO TIP:

For **column** references, use the fully qualified name (i.e. **Table[Column]**) For **measure** references, just use the measure name (i.e. **[Measure]**)



## **DAX OPERATORS**

Arithmetic Operator	Meaning	Example
+	Addition	2+7
-	Subtraction	5 – 3
*	Multiplication	2 * 6
/	Division	4/2
۸	Exponent	2 ^ 5

Comparison Operator	Meaning	Example
=	Equal to	[City]="Boston"
>	Greater than	[Quantity]>10
<	Less than	[Quantity]<10
>=	Greater than or equal to	[Unit_Price]>=2.5
<=	Less than or equal to	[Unit_Price]<=2.5
<b>&lt;&gt;</b>	Not equal to	[Country]<>"Mexico"

Hey! Pay attention to these!

Text/Logical Operator	Meaning	Example
&	Concatenates two values to produce one text string	[City] <b>&amp;</b> " <b>* &amp;</b> [State]
&&	Create an AND condition between two logical expressions	([State]="MA") <b>&amp;&amp;</b> ([Quantity]>10)
(double pipe)	Create an <b>OR</b> condition between two logical expressions	([State]="MA") <b>  </b> ([State]="CT")
IN	Creates a logical <b>OR</b> condition based on a given list (using curly brackets)	'Store Lookup'[State] <b>IN</b> { "MA", "CT", "NY" }



<sup>\*</sup>Head to <u>www.msdn.microsoft.com</u> for more information about DAX syntax, operators, troubleshooting, etc.

### **COMMON FUNCTION CATEGORIES**

# MATH & STATS Functions

Basic **aggregation**functions as well as **"iterators"** evaluated at
the row-level

#### **Common Examples:**

- SUM
- AVERAGE
- MAX/MIN
- DIVIDE
- COUNT/COUNTA
- COUNTROWS
- DISTINCTCOUNT

#### **Iterator Functions:**

- SUMX
- AVERAGEX
- MAXX/MINX
- RANKX
- COUNTX

# **LOGICAL** Functions

Functions for returning information about values in a given conditional expression

#### Common Examples:

- IF
- IFERROR
- AND
- OR
- NOT
- SWITCH
- TRUE
- FALSE

# **TEXT** Functions

Functions to manipulate text strings or control formats for dates, times or numbers

#### **Common Examples:**

- CONCATENATE
- FORMAT
- LEFT/MID/RIGHT
- UPPER/LOWER
- PROPER
- LEN
- SEARCH/FIND
- REPLACE
- REPT
- SUBSTITUTE
- TRIM
- UNICHAR

# **FILTER** Functions

**Lookup** functions based on related tables and **filtering** functions for dynamic calculations

#### **Common Examples:**

- CALCULATE
- FILTER
- ALL
- ALLEXCEPT
- RELATED
- RELATEDTABLE
- DISTINCT
- VALUES
- EARLIER/EARLIEST
- HASONEVALUE
- HASONEFILTER
- ISFILTERED
- USERELATIONSHIP

# **DATE & TIME**Functions

Basic date and time functions as well as advanced time intelligence operations

#### **Common Examples:**

- DATEDIFF
- YEARFRAC
- YEAR/MONTH/DAY
- HOUR/MINUTE/SECOND
- TODAY/NOW
- WEEKDAY/WEEKNUM

#### Time Intelligence Functions:

- DATESYTD
- DATESQTD
- DATESMTD
- DATEADD
- DATESINPERIOD



### **BASIC MATH & STATS FUNCTIONS**

SUM()

Evaluates the sum of a column

=SUM(<column>)

**AVERAGE()** 

Returns the average (arithmetic mean) of all the numbers in a column

=AVERAGE(<column>)

MAX()

Returns the largest value in a column or between two scalar expressions

**=MAX**(<column>) *or* **=MAX**(<exp1>, <exp2>)

MIN()

Returns the smallest value in a column or between two scalar expressions

**=MIN**(<column>) *or* **=MIN**(<exp1>, <exp2>)

DIVIDE()

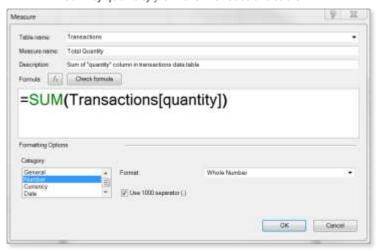
Performs division and returns the alternate result (or blank) if div/0

**=DIVIDE**(<numerator>, <denominator>, <other>)

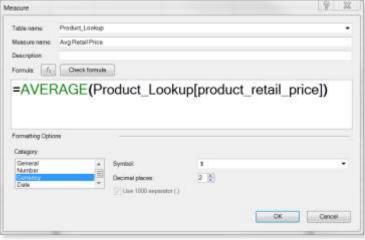


## **BASIC MATH & STATS FUNCTIONS** (EXAMPLES)

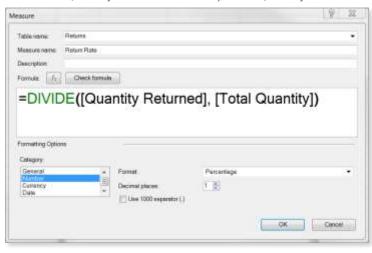
**Sum of quantity** from the Transactions table



**Average** of product\_retail\_price



**Quantity Returned** divided by **Total Quantity** 





#### **PRO TIP:**

Even though it might seem unnecessary, **creating measures for even simple calculations** (like the sum of a column) allows you to use those measures within other calculations, anywhere in the workbook



### COUNT, COUNTA, DISTINCTCOUNT & COUNTROWS

**COUNTROWS()** 

Counts the number of rows in the specified table, or a table defined by an expression

=COUNTROWS()

COUNT()

Counts the number of cells in a column that contain numbers

=COUNT(<column>)

COUNTA()

Counts the number of non-empty cells in a column (numerical and non-numerical)

=COUNTA(<column>)

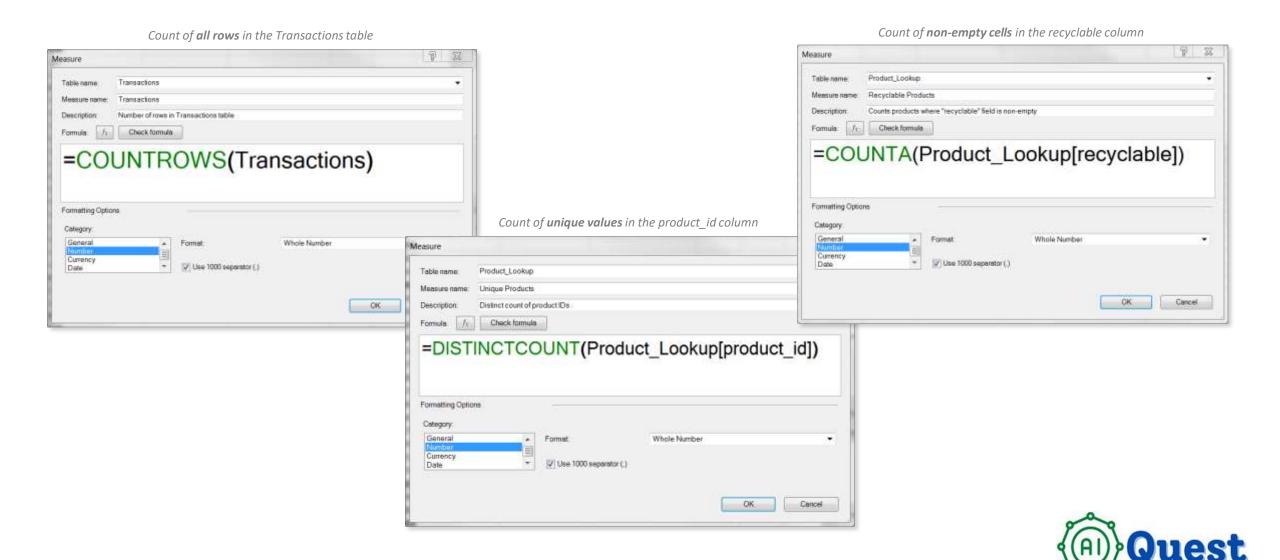
**DISTINCTCOUNT()** 

Counts the number of different cells in a column of numbers

=DISTINCTCOUNT(<column>)



## **COUNT FUNCTIONS** (EXAMPLES)



## BASIC LOGICAL FUNCTIONS (IF/AND/OR)

**IF()** 

Checks if a given condition is met, and returns one value if the condition is TRUE, and another if the condition is FALSE

=IF(<logical test>, <value\_if\_true>, <value\_if\_false>)

IFERROR()

Evaluates an expression and returns a specified value if the expression returns an error, otherwise returns the expression itself

=IFERROR(value, value\_if\_error)

AND()

Checks whether both arguments are TRUE, and returns TRUE if both arguments are TRUE, otherwise returns FALSE

=AND(<logical1>, <logical2>)

OR()

Checks whether one of the arguments is TRUE to return TRUE, and returns FALSE if both arguments are FALSE

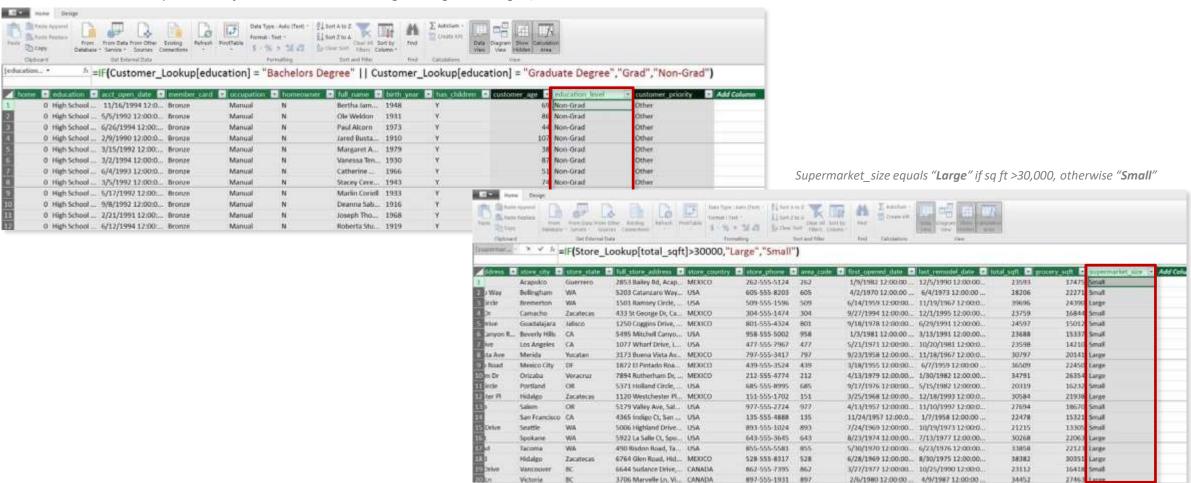
=OR (<logical1>, <logical2>)

**Note:** Use the **&&** and **||** operators if you want to include more than two conditions!



### **BASIC LOGICAL FUNCTIONS (EXAMPLES)**

Education level equals "Grad" if customer has a bachelors degree or a graduate degree, otherwise "Non-Grad"





## **SWITCH & SWITCH(TRUE)**

## SWITCH()

Evaluates an expression against a list of values and returns one of multiple possible result expressions

=SWITCH(<expression>, <value1>, <result1>, <value2>, <result2>, ... <else>)

Any DAX expression that returns a single scalar value, evaluated multiple times (for each row/constant)

#### **Examples:**

- Calendar\_Lookup[month\_num]
- Product\_Lookup[product\_brand]

#### **PRO TIP:**



Use the **SWITCH(TRUE()** combo to generate results based on Boolean (True/False) expressions (instead of those pesky nested IF statements!)

List of values produced by the expression, each paired with a result to return for rows/cases that match

#### **Examples:**

```
=SWITCH(Calendar_Lookup[month_num],
```

1, "January",

2, "February",

etc...

#### =SWITCH(TRUE(),

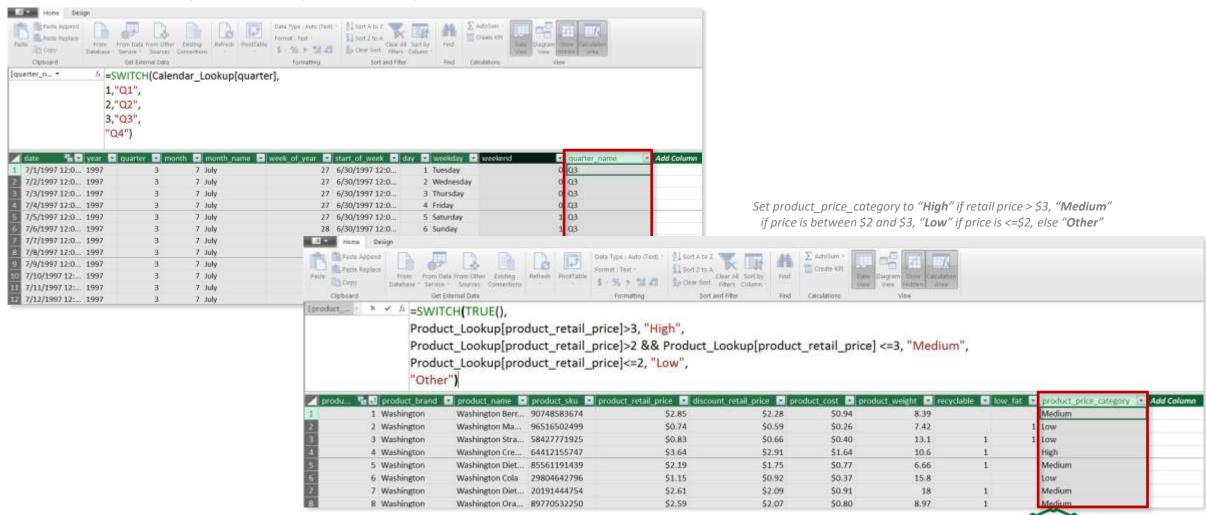
```
[retail_price]<5, "Low Price",
AND([retail_price>=5, [retail_price]<20), "Med Price",
AND([retail_price>=20, [retail_price]<50), "High Price"
"Premium Price")</pre>
```

Value returned if the expression doesn't match any value argument



## **SWITCH & SWITCH(TRUE)** (EXAMPLES)





### **TEXT FUNCTIONS**

LEN()

Returns the number of characters in a string

=LEN(<text>)

**Note:** Use the **&** operator as a shortcut, or to combine more than two strings!

**CONCATENATE()** 

Joins two text strings into one

=CONCATENATE(<text1>, <text2>)

LEFT/MID/ RIGHT()

Returns a number of characters from the start/middle/end of a text string

=LEFT/RIGHT(<text>, <num\_chars>)

=MID(<text>, <start\_num>, <num\_chars>)

UPPER/LOWER/ PROPER()

Converts letters in a string to upper/lower/proper case

=UPPER/LOWER/PROPER(<text>)

**SUBSTITUTE()** 

Replaces an instance of existing text with new text in a string

=**SUBSTITUTE**(<text>, <old\_text>, <new text>, <*instance*>)

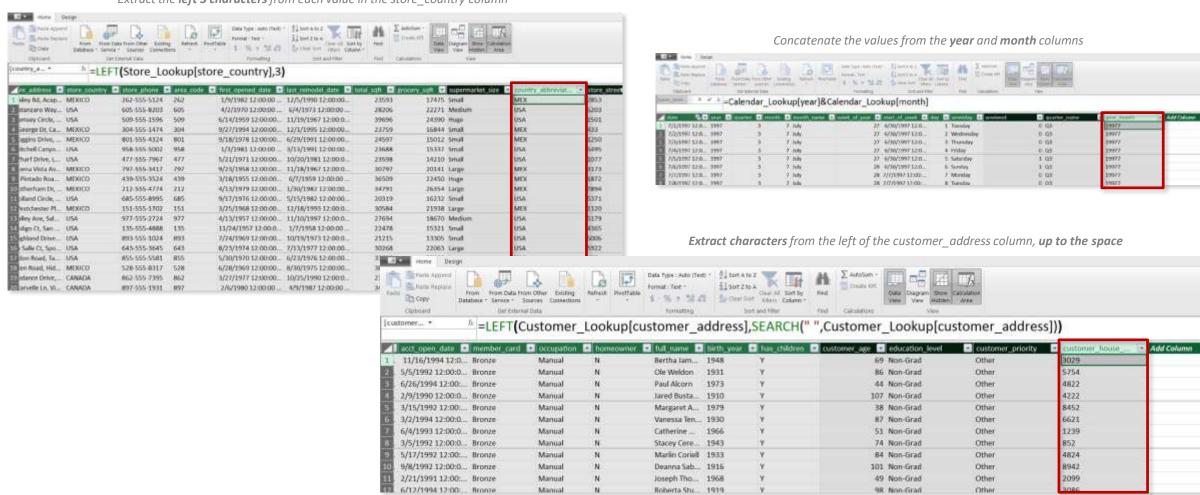
**SEARCH()** 

Returns the position where a specified string or character is found, reading left to right

=**SEARCH**(<find\_text>, <within\_text>, <start\_num>, <NotFoundValue>)

### **TEXT FUNCTIONS** (EXAMPLES)

Extract the **left 3 characters** from each value in the store country column





### **CALCULATE**

### CALCULATE()

Evaluates a given expression or formula under a set of defined filters

=CALCULATE(<expression>, <filter1>, <filter2>,...)

Name of an existing measure or a formula for a valid measure

#### **Examples:**

- [Total Transactions]
- SUM(Transactions[quantity])

List of simple Boolean (True/False) filter expressions (note: these require simple, fixed values; you cannot create filters based on measures)

#### Examples:

- Store\_Lookup[store\_country]="USA"
- *Calendar[Year]=1998*
- Transactions[quantity]>=5

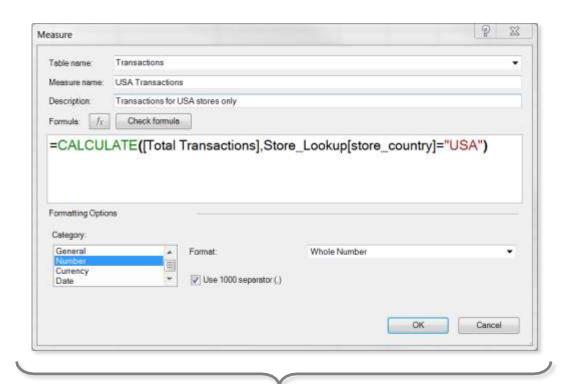


#### **PRO TIP:**

CALCULATE works just like **SUMIF** or **COUNTIF**, except it can evaluate measures based on ANY sort of calculation (not just a sum, count, etc); it may help to think of it like **"CALCULATEIF"** 



## **CALCULATE** (EXAMPLE)



In this case we've defined a new measure named "USA Transactions", which evaluates the "Total Transactions" measure when the store country equals "USA"

store_country 🔻	<b>Total Transactions</b>	<b>USA Tra</b>	nsactions
CANADA	16,091		180,823
MEXICO	72,806		180,823
USA	180,823		180,823
Grand Total	269,720		180,823

Why do we see the same repeating value when we add **store\_country** to rows? Shouldn't these cells have filter contexts for Canada and Mexico?

#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**



The CALCULATE function **modifies filters** and **overrules** any competing ones defined by the PivotTable coordinates!

In this example, the MEXICO cell has a filter context of store\_country= "MEXICO" (defined by the row label) AND story country= "USA" (defined by the CALCULATE function)

Both cannot be true at the same time, so the MEXICO filter is overwritten and CALCULATE takes priority



### CALCULATE CHANGES THE FILTER CONTEXT



Modify filters if measure contains CALCULATE

Store\_Lookup[store\_country] = "USA"

Store\_Lookup Table

If the measure being evaluated contains a **CALCULATE** function, filter context is modified between **Step 1** & **Step 2** 

#### STEP 1

Detect pivot coordinates & apply filter context



store_country	<ul> <li>Total Transactions</li> </ul>	USA Transactions
CANADA	16,091	180,823
MEXICO	72,806	180,823
USA	180,823	180,823
Grand Total	269,720	180,823

Store Lookup[store country] = "MEXICO"



#### STEP 2

Carry the filters across all table relationships



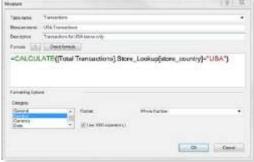




#### STEP 3

Evaluate the formula against the filtered table





Total Transactions where store\_country = "USA" = 180,823



#### **FILTER**

### FILTER()

Returns a table that represents a subset of another table or expression

### =FILTER(, <filter expression>)

Table to be filtered

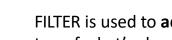
#### **Examples:**

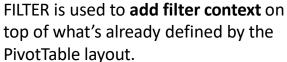
- Store Lookup
- Product Lookup

A Boolean (True/False) filter expression to be evaluated for each row of the table

#### **Examples:**

- Store Lookup[store country]="USA"
- Calendar[Year]=1998
- [retail price]>AVERAGE[retail price]





**HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!** 

Since FILTER returns a table (as opposed to a scalar), it's almost always used as an input to other functions, like enabling more complex filtering options within a **CALCULATE function** (or passing a filtered table to an iterator like SUMX)





#### PRO TIP:

Since FILTER iterates through each row in a table, it can be slow and processor-intensive; never use FILTER when a normal CALCULATE function will accomplish the same thing!

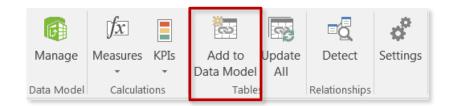


## PRO TIP: FILTERING WITH DISCONNECTED SLICERS (PART 1)

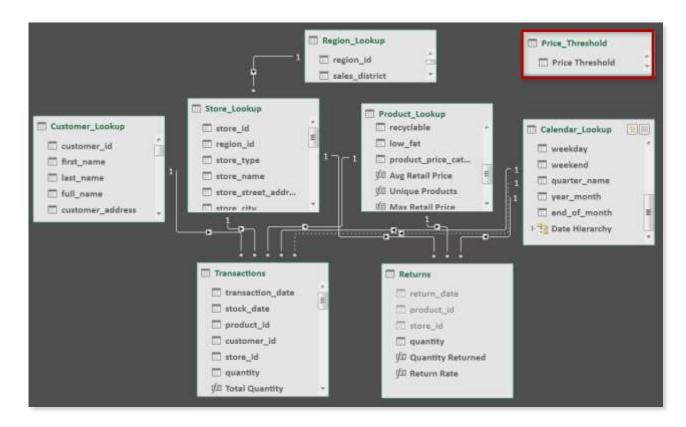
**STEP 1:** Create an Excel table containing a list of values to use as thresholds or parameters:



**STEP 2:** Add the table to the **Data Model** (from **Power Pivot** tab):



**STEP 3:** Make sure that your table loaded, and is NOT connected to any other table in the model:



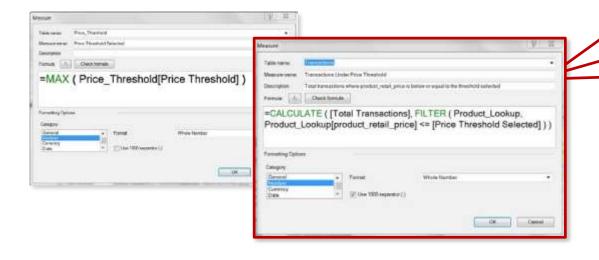


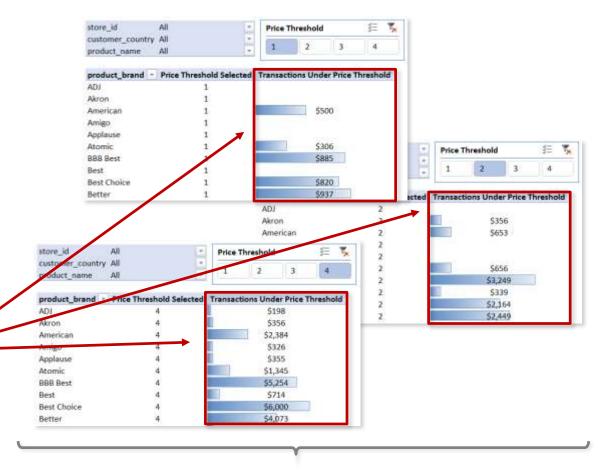
## PRO TIP: FILTERING WITH DISCONNECTED SLICERS (PART 2)

**STEP 4:** Place your new table on the pivot as a slicer:



**STEP 5:** Create a measure to capture the slicer selection, then reference it in a **FILTER** statement within **CALCULATE**:



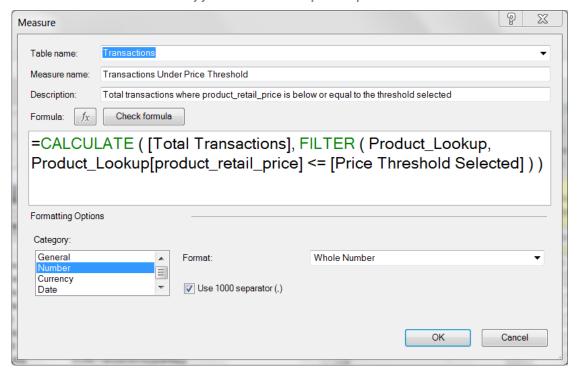


The **Transactions Under Price Threshold** measure calculates Total Transactions **when the product price is below the selected threshold** 

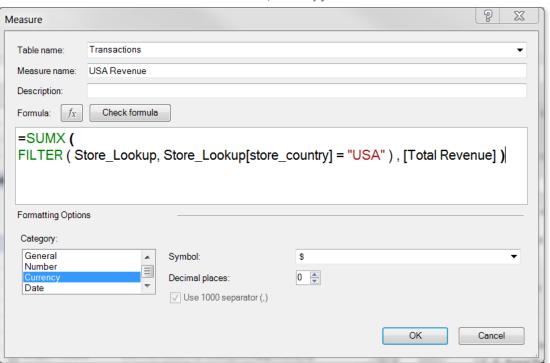


## **FILTER** (EXAMPLES)

Calculate Total Transactions only for cases where the product price is below a selected threshold



Calculate Total Revenue, but only for USA stores





#### ALL

## ALL()

Returns all rows in a table, or all values in a column, ignoring any filters that have been applied

The table or column that you want to clear filters on

#### **Examples:**

- Transactions
- Product Lookup[product brand]

List of columns that you want to clear filters on (optional)

#### Notes:

- If your first parameter is a table, you can't specify additional columns
- All columns must include the table name, and come from the same table

#### **Examples:**

- Customer\_Lookup[customer\_city], Customer\_Lookup[customer\_country]
- Product\_Lookup[product\_name]

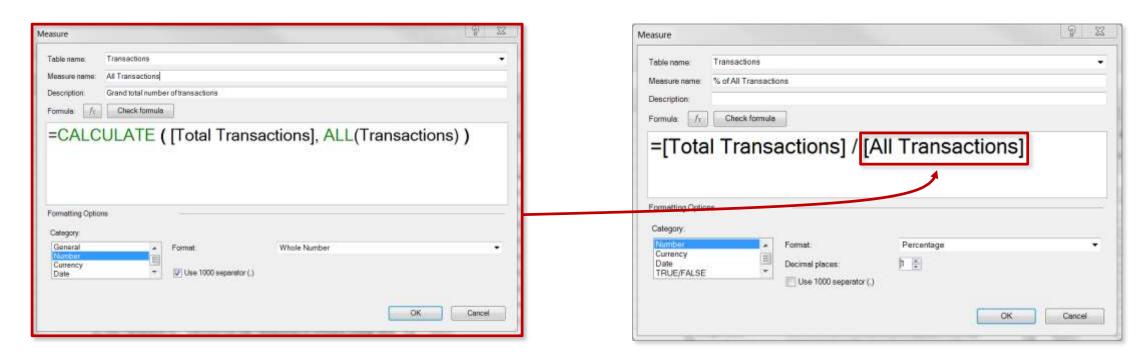


#### **PRO TIP:**

ALL is like the opposite of FILTER; instead of adding filter context, ALL **removes filter context**. This is often used when you need unfiltered values that won't be skewed by the PivotTable layout (i.e. Category sales as % of Total)



## **ALL** (EXAMPLE)



- In this example, we use **ALL** to calculate total transactions across *all rows* in the Transactions table, **ignoring any filter context from the PivotTable** 
  - By dividing the original [Total Transaction] measure (which responds to PivotTable filter context as expected) by the new [All Transactions] measure, we can correctly calculate the percentage of the total no matter how the PivotTable is filtered

#### RELATED

## RELATED()

Returns related values in each row of a table using relationships with other tables

### =**RELATED**(<column>)

The column that contains the values you want to retrieve

#### **Examples:**

- Product\_Lookup[product\_brand]
- Store\_Lookup[store\_country]



#### **HEY THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

**RELATED** works almost *exactly* like a **VLOOKUP** function – it uses the relationship between tables (*defined by primary and foreign keys*) to pull values from one table into a new column of another.

Since this function requires row context, it can only be used as a **calculated column** or as part of an **iterator function** that cycles through all rows in a table (FILTER, SUMX, MAXX, etc.)



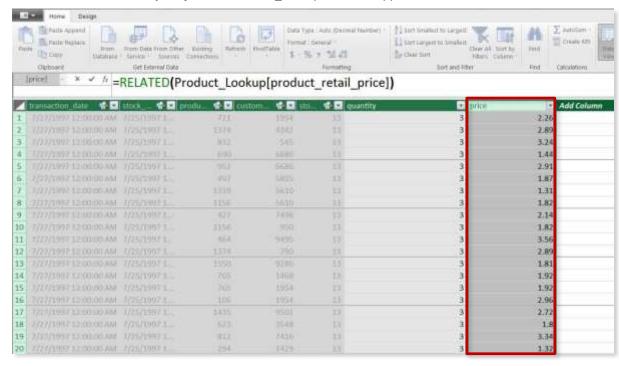
#### **PRO TIP:**

Avoid using RELATED to create redundant calculated columns unless you absolutely need them, since those extra columns increase file size; instead, use RELATED within a measure like FILTER or SUMX

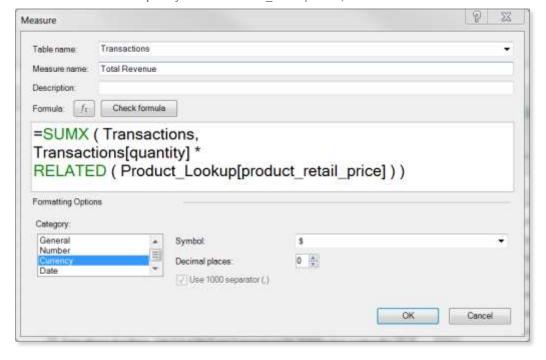


### **RELATED** (EXAMPLES)

Retrieve the **retail price** from the Product Lookup table and append it to the Transactions table



Multiply the **quantity** in each row of the Transactions table with the related **retail price** from the Product Lookup table, and sum the results





## **ITERATOR ("X") FUNCTIONS**

**Iterator** (or "X") **functions** allow you to loop through the same calculation or expression on *each row of a table*, and then apply some sort of aggregation to the results (SUM, MAX, etc.)

=SUMX(, <expression>)

Aggregation to apply to calculated rows\*

Table in which the expression will be evaluated

#### **Examples:**

- SUMX
- COUNTX
- AVERAGEX
- RANKX
- MAXX/MINX

#### **Examples:**

- Transactions
- FILTER(Transactions, RELATED(Store\_Lookup[country])="USA")

Expression to be evaluated for each row of the given table

#### **Examples:**

- [Total Transactions]
- Transactions[price] \* Transactions[quantity]



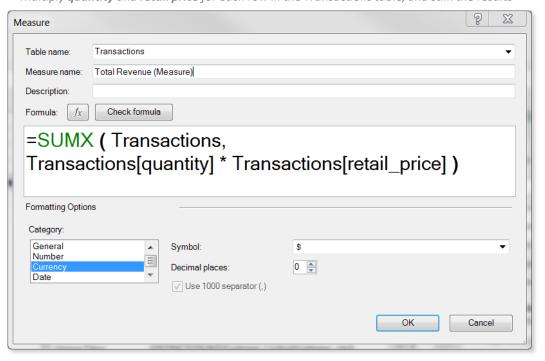
#### **PRO TIP:**

Imagine the function **adding a temporary new column** to the table, calculating the value in each row (based on the expression) and then applying the aggregation to that new column (like SUMPRODUCT)

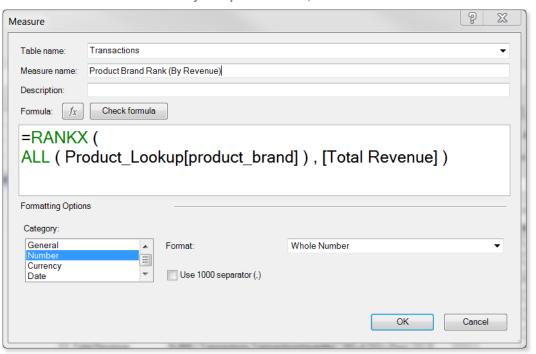


## **ITERATOR ("X") FUNCTIONS** (EXAMPLES)

Multiply **quantity** and **retail price** for each row in the Transactions table, and sum the results



Calculate the rank of each product brand, based on total revenue





### **BASIC DATE & TIME FUNCTIONS**

DAY/MONTH/ YEAR()

Returns the day of the month (1-31), month of the year (1-12), or year of a given date

**=DAY/MONTH/YEAR**(<date>)

HOUR/MINUTE/ SECOND()

Returns the hour (0-23), minute (0-59), or second (0-59) of a given datetime value

=HOUR/MINUTE/SECOND(<datetime>)

TODAY/NOW()

Returns the current date or exact time

=TODAY/NOW()

WEEKDAY/ WEEKNUM()

Returns a weekday number from 1 (Sunday) to 7 (Sunday), or the week # of the year

=WEEKDAY/WEEKNUM(<date>, <type>)

**EOMONTH()** 

Returns the date of the last day of the month, +/- a specified number of months

**=EOMONTH**(<start\_date>, <months>)

DATEDIFF()

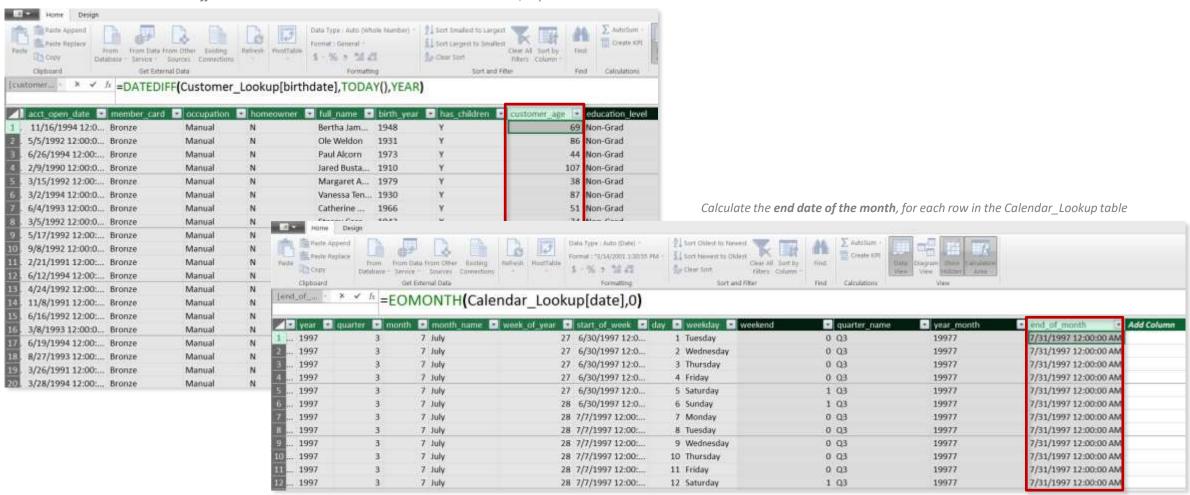
Returns the difference between two dates, based on a selected interval

**=DATEDIFF**(<start\_date>, <end\_date>, <interval>)



### **BASIC DATE & TIME FUNCTIONS (EXAMPLES)**

Calculate the time difference between the customer birthdate and current date, in years





### TIME INTELLIGENCE FORMULAS

**Time Intelligence** functions allow you to easily calculate common time comparisons:

Performance **To-Date** 

=CALCULATE(<measure>, DATESYTD(Calendar[Date]))

Use **DATESQTD** for Quarters or **DATESMTD** for Months

**Previous** Period

=CALCULATE(<measure>, DATEADD(Calendar[Date],-1,MONTH))

Running Total

Select an interval (DAY, MONTH, QUARTER, or YEAR) and the # of intervals to compare (i.e. previous month, rolling 10-day)

**=CALCULATE**(<measure>,

**DATESINPERIOD**(Calendar[Date], MAX(Calendar[Date]),-10,DAY))



#### PRO TIP:

To calculate a **moving average**, use the running total calculation above and divide by the # of intervals!



### **SPEED & PERFORMANCE CONSIDERATIONS**



## Avoid using unnecessary slicers, or consider disabling cross-filtering

- When you use multiple slicers, they "cross-filter" by default; in other words, options in **Slicer B** are automatically grayed out if they aren't relevant given a selected value in **Slicer A**
- To disable, select Slicer Tools > Slicer Settings and uncheck "Visually indicate items with no data"



## Eliminate redundant columns; keep data tables narrow

• Data tables should ideally only contain quantitative values and foreign keys; any extra descriptive columns should live in a related lookup table



## Imported columns are better than calculated columns

• When possible, create calculated columns at the source (i.e. in your raw database) or using Power Query; this is more efficient than processing those calculations in the Data Model/Power Pivot



## Minimize iterator functions (FILTER, SUMX, etc.)

 Functions that cycle through each row in a table are "expensive", meaning that they take time and consume processing power

### **DAX BEST PRACTICES**



## Write measures for even the simplest calculations (i.e. Sum of Sales)

 Once you create a measure it can be used anywhere in the workbook and as an input to other, more complex calculations



## Break measures down into simple, component parts

• DAX is a difficult language to master; focus on practicing and understanding simple components at first, then assemble them into more advanced formulas



## Reference columns with the table name, and measures alone

• Using "fully qualified" column references (preceeded by the table name) helps make formulas more readable and intuitive, and differentiates them from measure references



# WRAPPING UP



### DATA VISUALIZATION OPTIONS

There are several options for building **visuals** and **reports** from a data model:

### **PivotCharts & Conditional Formatting**

Check out my Data Analysis with Excel PivotTables course for a deep dive

Available within Excel

### Spreadsheet-based dashboards built with CUBE functions

- Use CUBE functions to pull values from the data model for custom Excel reports (no pivots)
- Power View, Power Map, etc.
  - Excel plug-in with Power Pivot and other BI tools; recommend PowerBI as a better option

Standalone product (desktop + online)

#### **Microsoft PowerBl**

Brand new (free!) self-service BI product for loading, shaping, modeling, and visualizing data



### **SNEAK PEEK: POWERBI**



**PowerBI** is a standalone Microsoft business intelligence product, which includes both desktop and web-based applications for loading, modeling, and visualizing data

For info about plans & pricing: powerbi.microsoft.com



Figure 1. Magic Quadrant for Business Intelligence and Analytics Platforms





### "POWER EXCEL" VS. POWERBI

#### "POWER EXCEL"

#### **POWERBI**

PivotTables

**PivotCharts** 

Power View

Data Shaping (Power Query)

Data Modeling (Power Pivot)

Calculated Measures (DAX)

Drag & Drop Reports & Dashboards

Custom Visuals (cards, maps, R, etc.)

Cloud collaboration and publishing tools

"Power Excel" and PowerBI are built on top of the *exact same engine*!

PowerBI takes the same data shaping, modeling and analytics capabilities and adds new reporting and visualization tools

Transitioning is easy; you can import an entire data model directly from Excel!

**CUBE Functions** 



