NextWork.org

Visualize data with QuickSight

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Introducing Today's Project!

What is Amazon QuickSight?

Amazon QuickSight is a visualisation tool that can provide visual insights to data. It is useful as it can ingest large data sets and illustrate this information in simple and diverse charts & graphs.

How I used Amazon QuickSight in this project

Iused AmazonQuickSightintoday'sprojecttovisualisealargesetofNetflix data to get useful insights.

One thing I didn't expect in this project was...

Ididn'texpectdashboard toturnout sowell. It isconcise,but at thesametime detailed. It shows all the information needed to make informed decisions.

This project took me...

This project took me about 1.5 hours.

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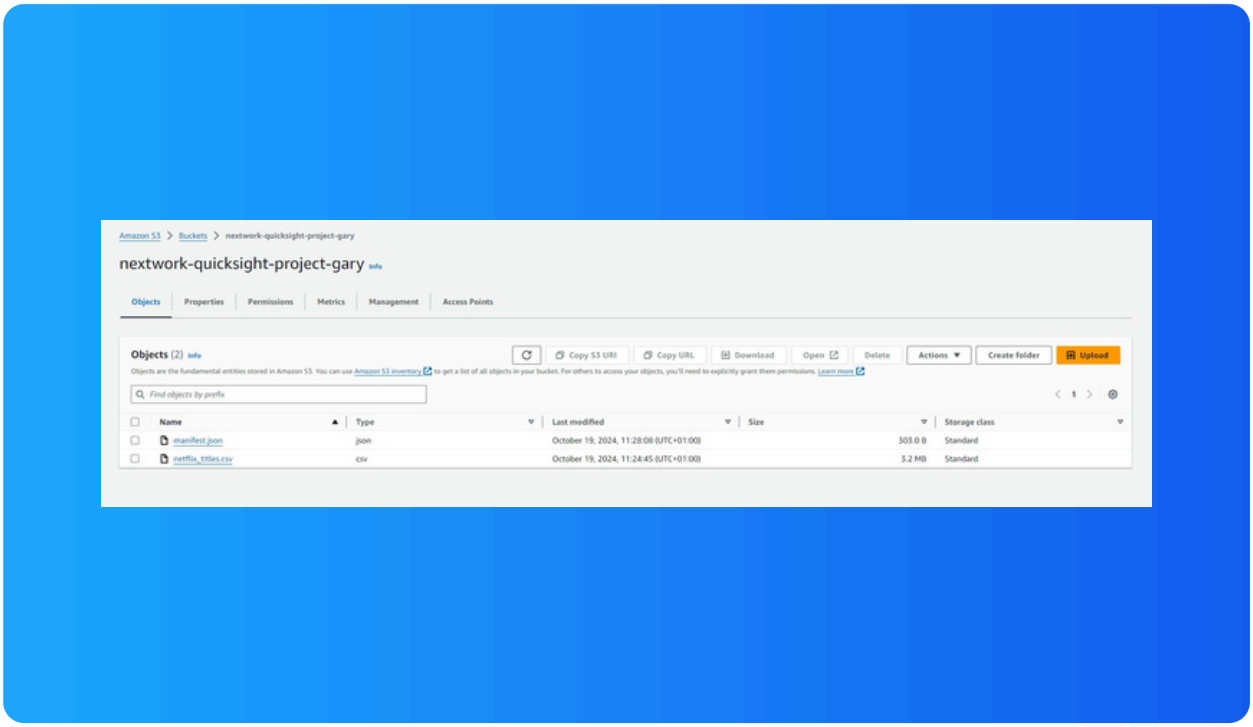
Upload project files into S3

S3 is used in this project to store two files, which are mt dataset and manifest.json file.

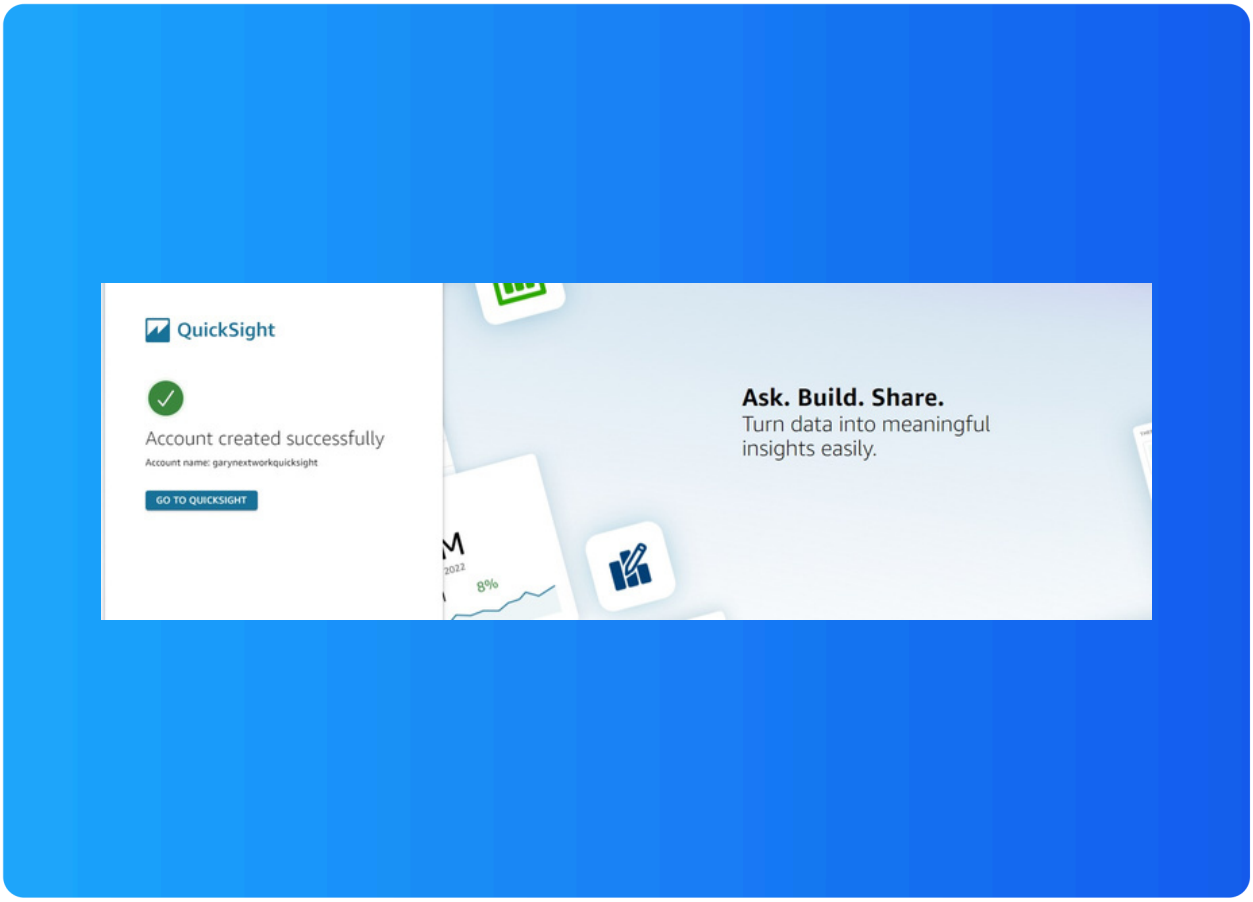
I edited the manifest.json file by updating the S3 URI of my dataset. Itś' important to edit this file because keeping an outdated S3 URI means that manifest.json would be directing to the wrong adddress.



Create QuickSight account

It is free to create a QuickSight account (the free trail lasts for 30 days).

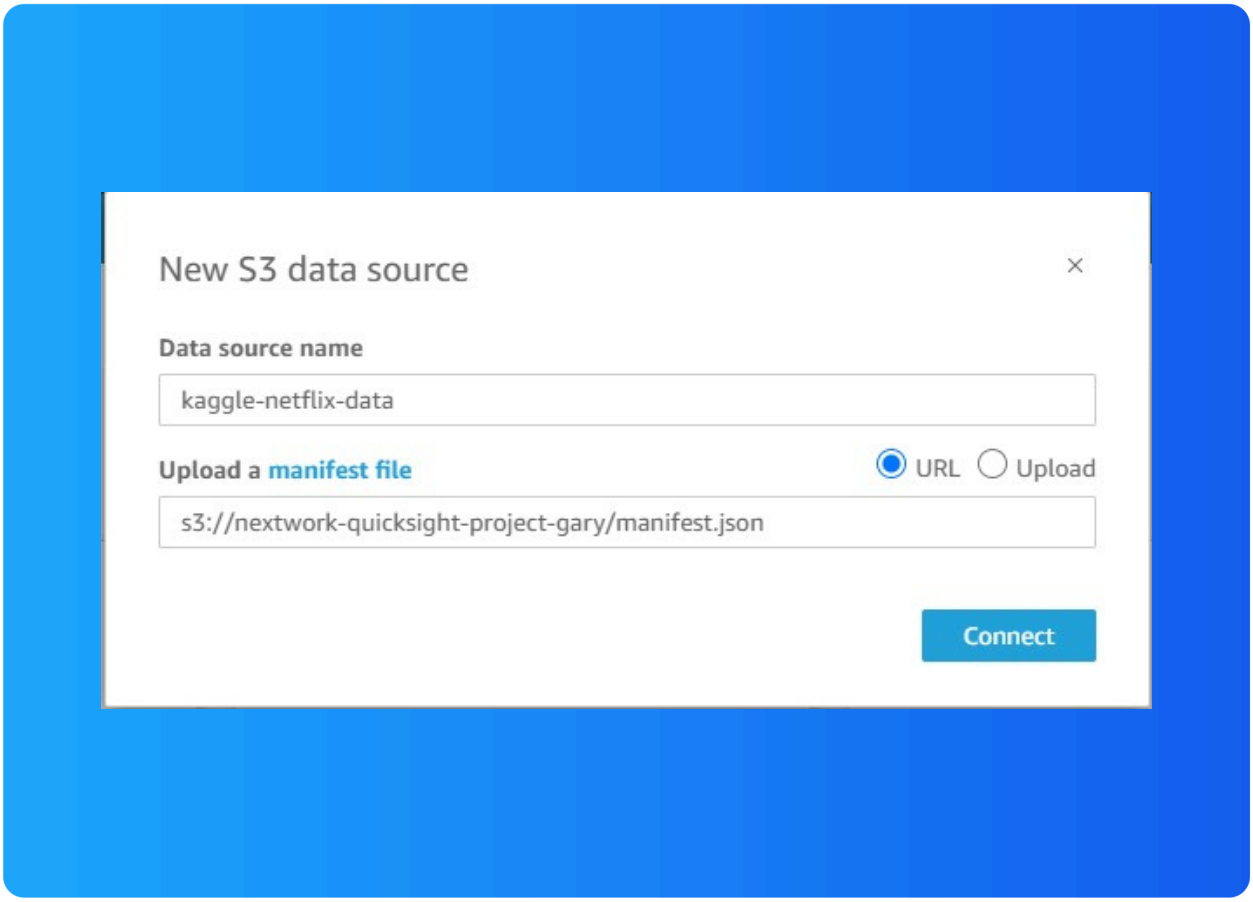
It took less then 5 minutes to setup and wait for account creation. I also had to enable QuickSight's access to S3 because my dataset is stored in an S3 bucket - and specific access to that bucket is required for QuickSight to process that data.



Download the Dataset

I connected the S3 bucket to QuickSight by visiting the S3 bucket and inporting the S3 URI into QuickSight.

The manifest.json file was important in this step because manifest.json tells QuickSight what your dataset looks like, so QuickSight knows how to understand the data and show it in charts or graphs.



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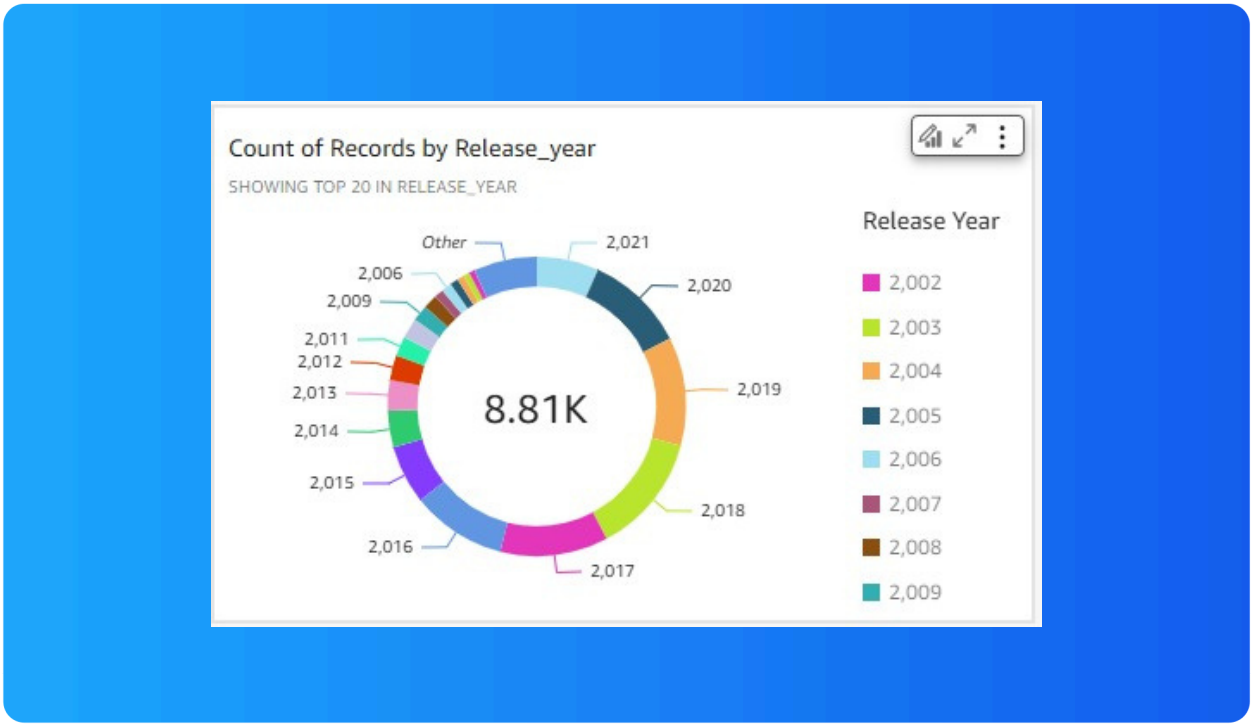
My first visualization

To create visualizations on QuickSight, I linked the data from my S3 bucket, imported it into QuickSight and then started to create my visualisations in QuickSight. We can have different visuals by manipulating the data in QuickSight.

The chart shown here is a breakdown of the top 20 records released by year. We can see the largest number of releases occuring in 2018. We can also see the dip in 2019-2021 which was impacted by COVID.

I created this graph by dragging and dropping the release_year label into the Y-axis heading and the type label into the Group/Colour heading.



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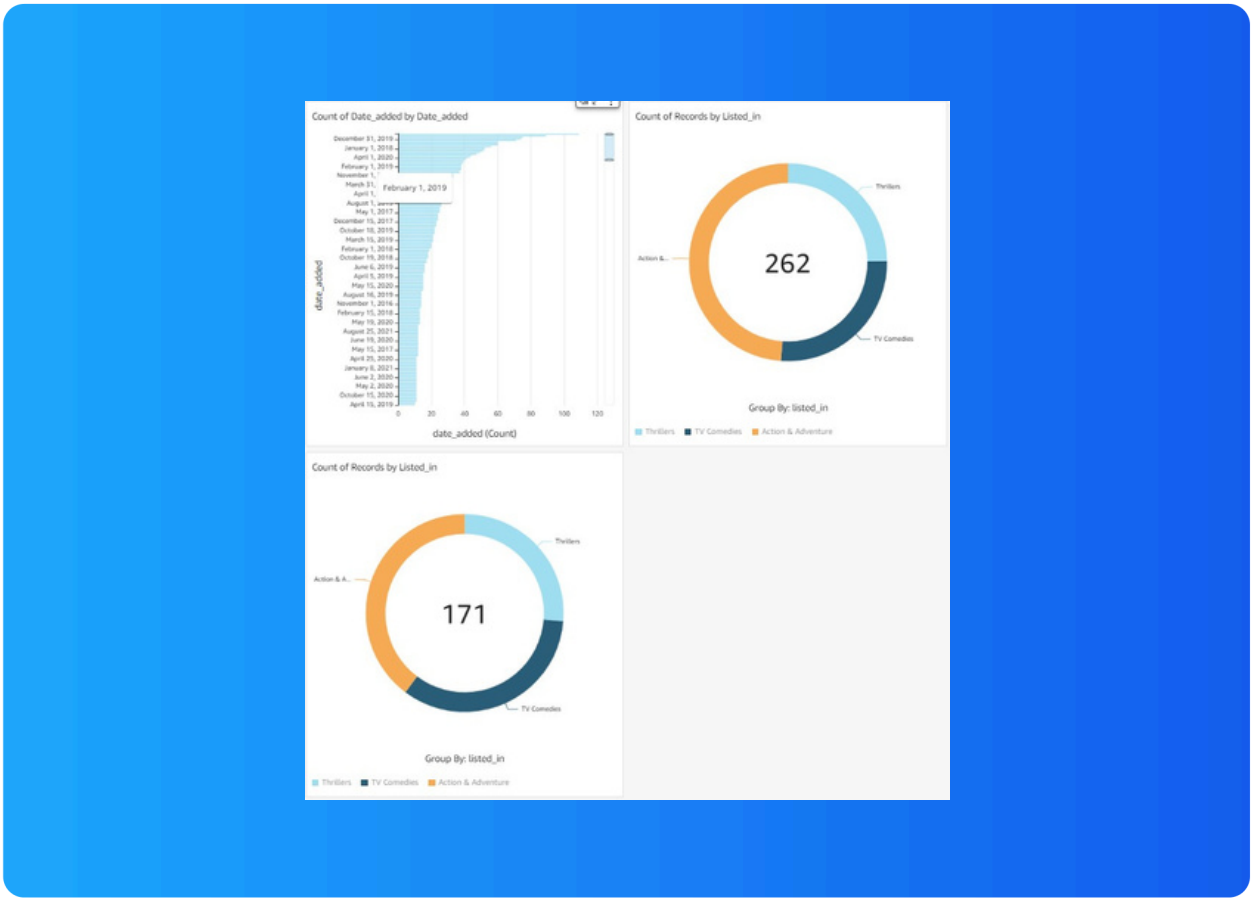
Using filters

Filters are useful for manipulating the data to show useful insights. Through the use of filters we can slice and dice the data to show various different scenarios to allows informed decisions to be made.

This visualization is a breakdown of the date with the most records added (January 1st 2020), the number of records across three genres and finally those genres within a secified date range (2015 - 2021).



Setting up a dashboard

As a finishing touch, I adjusted all the charts so the dashboard is visualy pleasing. I also added title to each chart so they are easily understandable to anyone that viewed the dashboard.

Did you know you could export your dashboard as PDFs too? I did this by publishing the dashboard and then navigating to the export button in the top right hand side of the page and selecting export as pdf.