

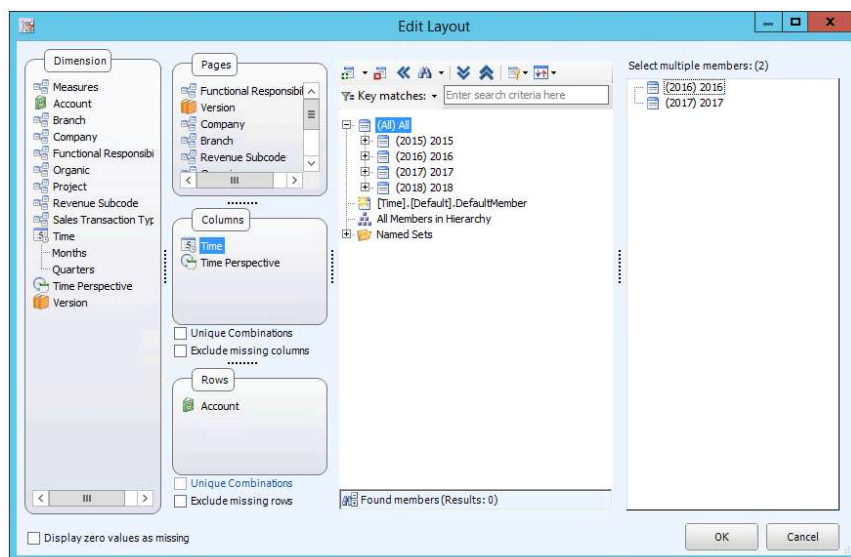
# Add Custom Time Perspective in Prophix

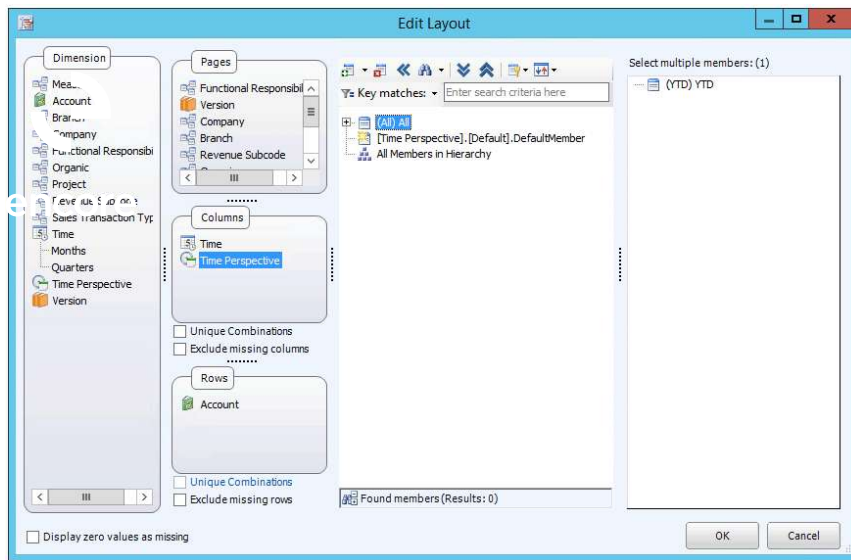
January 4th, 2018



By **Justin Song**, Senior BI Analyst

When using the Prophix business intelligence tool most users want to see the current year YTD total as well as the prior year YTD total as separate columns in the financial, budget and analysis reports. This gives them the ability to compare the point in time performance between the current and previous years. It is very easy to add columns for both of these totals within Prophix reporting through the use of dimension combinations to add Time and Time Perspective dimensions as Columns.



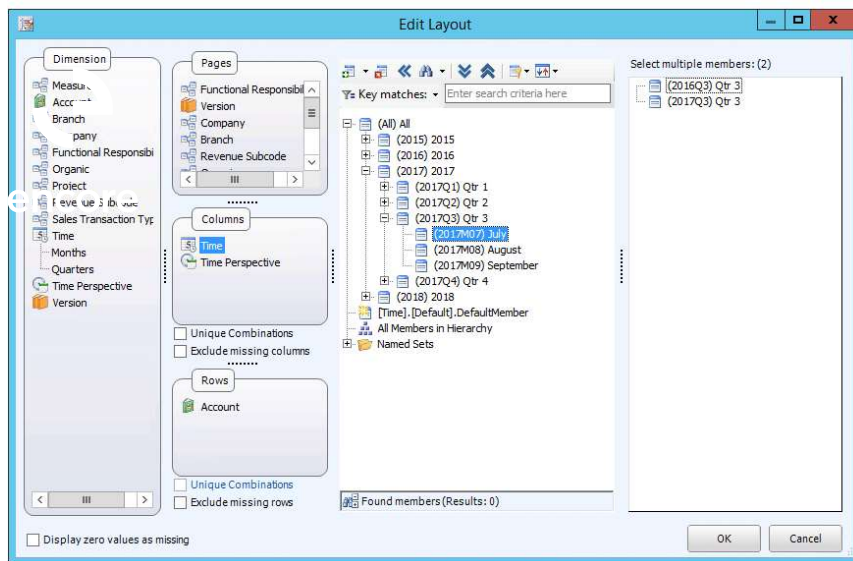


	2016 (+)	2017 (+)
	YTD	YTD
(999999) Net Income (+)	150,522.90	323,658.41

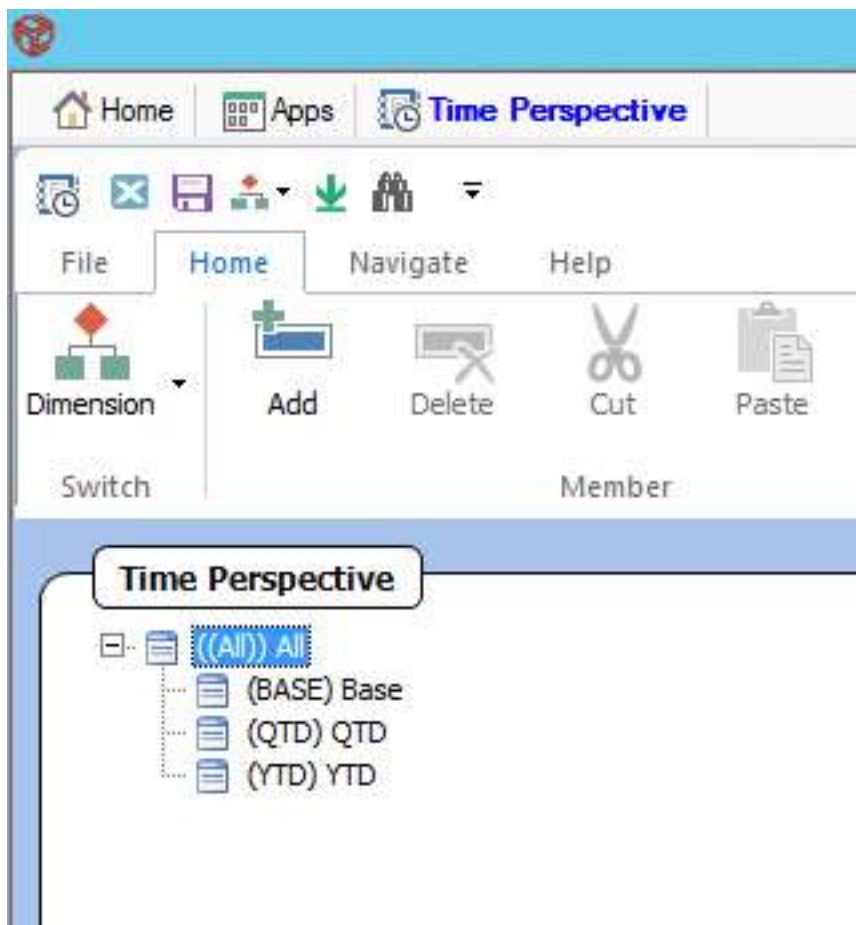
	Qtr 3 (+)	Qtr 3 (+)
	YTD	YTD
(999999) Net Income (+)	4,407,411.75	323,658.41

However, you need to update the member selection every time if you want to navigate between each period.

For example, specific months, quarters, or years.



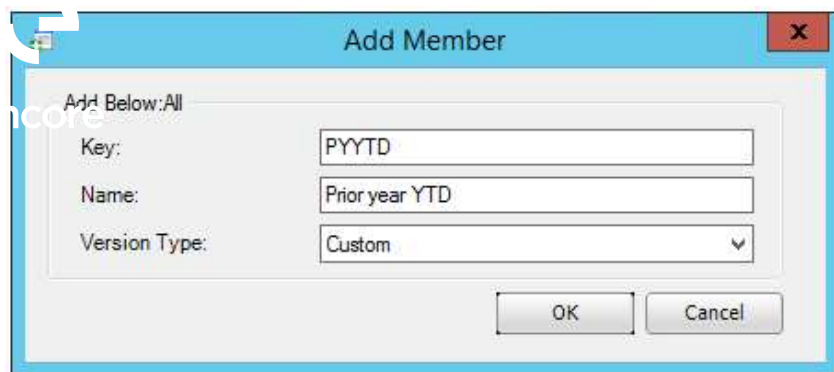
But, here is some good news for you! You can do this with a simple MDX (Multidimensional Expressions) calculation. There are three dimension values in Time Perspective available to you out of the box: Base, QTD, and YTD.



Using these, let's create a custom time perspective:

1. Click Add button

2. Enter Key and Name
3. Select Custom Version Type then hit OK button



**Add Member**

Add Below: All

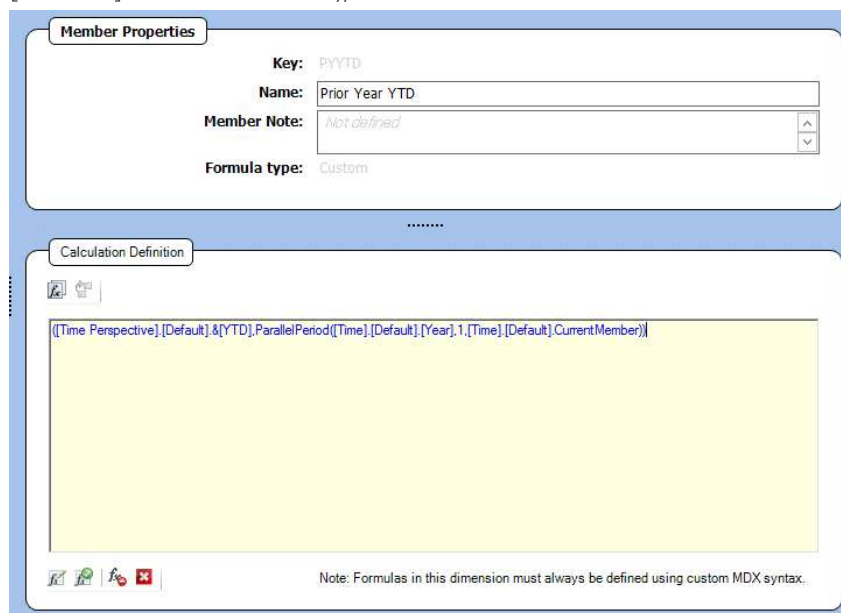
Key: PYYTD

Name: Prior year YTD

Version Type: Custom

OK Cancel

4. Enter MDX code below in Calculation Definition  
([Time Perspective].[Default].&[YTD],ParallelPeriod([Time].[Default].[Year],1,[Time].[Default].CurrentMember))



**Member Properties**

Key: PYYTD

Name: Prior Year YTD

Member Note: Not defined

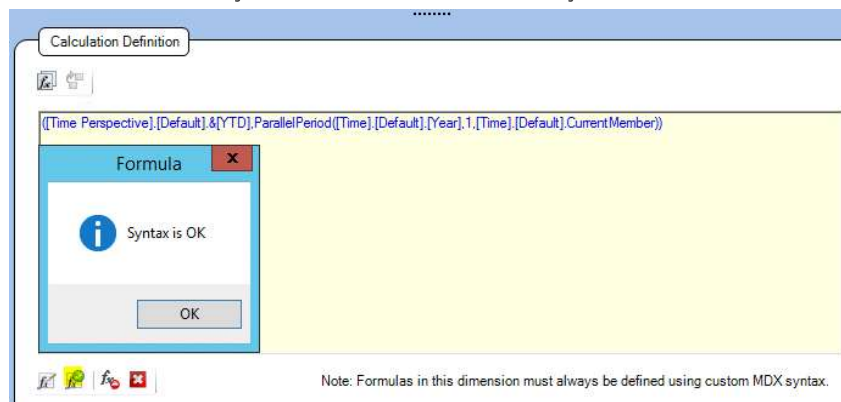
Formula type: Custom

**Calculation Definition**

MDX Formula: ([Time Perspective].[Default].&[YTD],ParallelPeriod([Time].[Default].[Year],1,[Time].[Default].CurrentMember))

Note: Formulas in this dimension must always be defined using custom MDX syntax.

5. Click "Check formula syntax" button to make sure that syntax is ok.  
Please note that your dimension name may be different than the one used here.



**Calculation Definition**

MDX Formula: ([Time Perspective].[Default].&[YTD],ParallelPeriod([Time].[Default].[Year],1,[Time].[Default].CurrentMember))

**Formula**

Syntax is OK

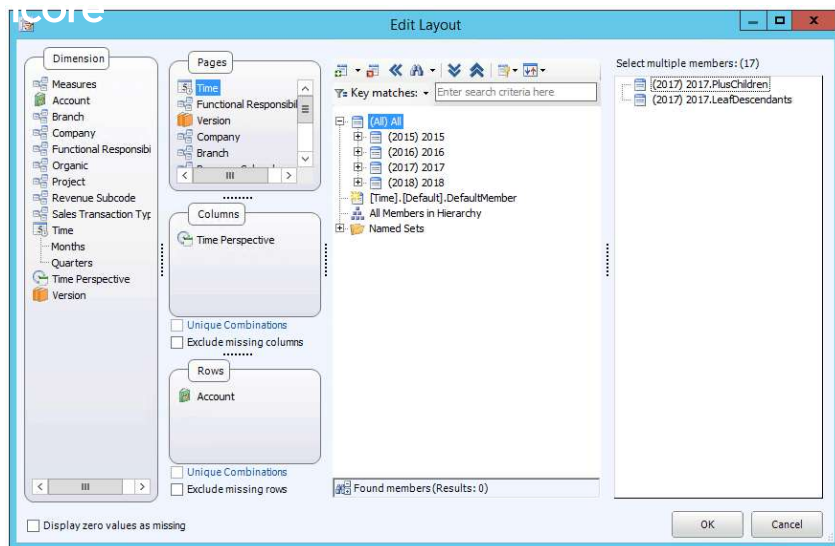
OK

Note: Formulas in this dimension must always be defined using custom MDX syntax.

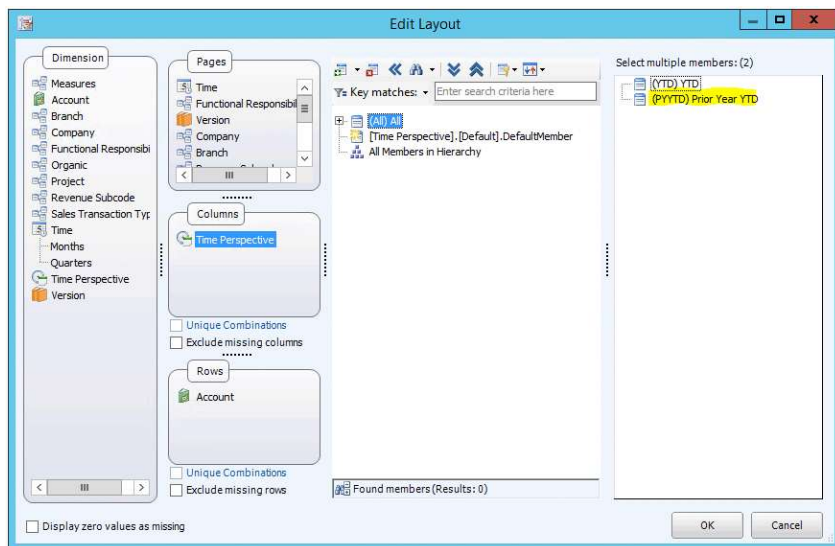
6. Click save, and you're all set!

Now let's update the data view:

1. Move Time dimension to the pages
2. Select members for current year



3. Add the custom time perspective that you created



4. Click OK

Now you can navigate your measures (both current and prior year) by Time dimension as a filter from page.

	YTD	Prior Year YTD
(999999) Net Income (+)	323,658.41	150,522.90

## Time

2017

2017

Qtr 1

Qtr 2

Qtr 3

Qtr 4

January

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

I hope you found those steps helpful! If you have any questions about Prophix or other business intelligence solutions, please [contact us](#).

Categorized In: [General](#)

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Author



## Justin Song

Justin is a highly qualified Senior Business Intelligence and Data Analyst who holds numerous professional certifications in accounting, business intelligence, project management, data, development and a wide range of technologies.

[More from Justin Song](#)







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