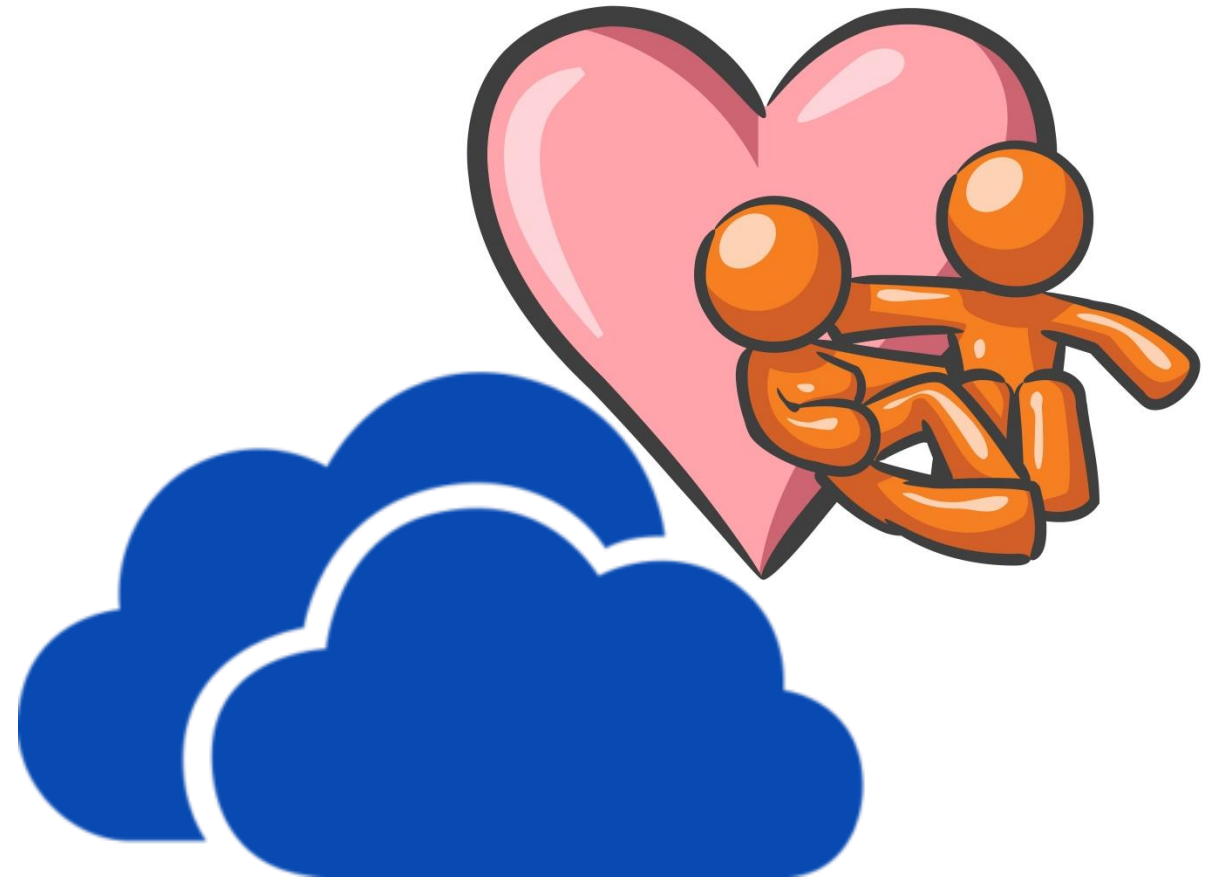# Paginated Reports in Power BI
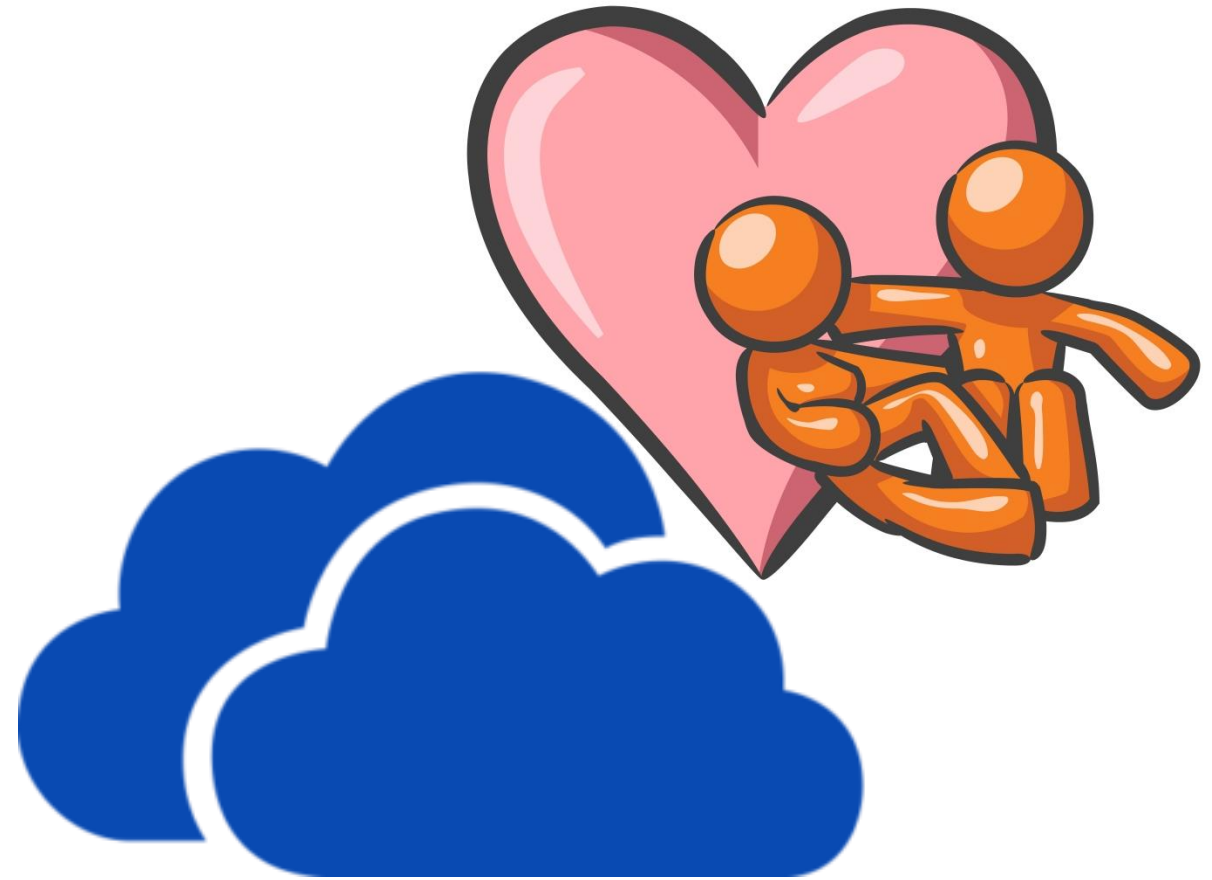
Just Thorning Blindbæk

Agenda - Love is in the air

▸ The background
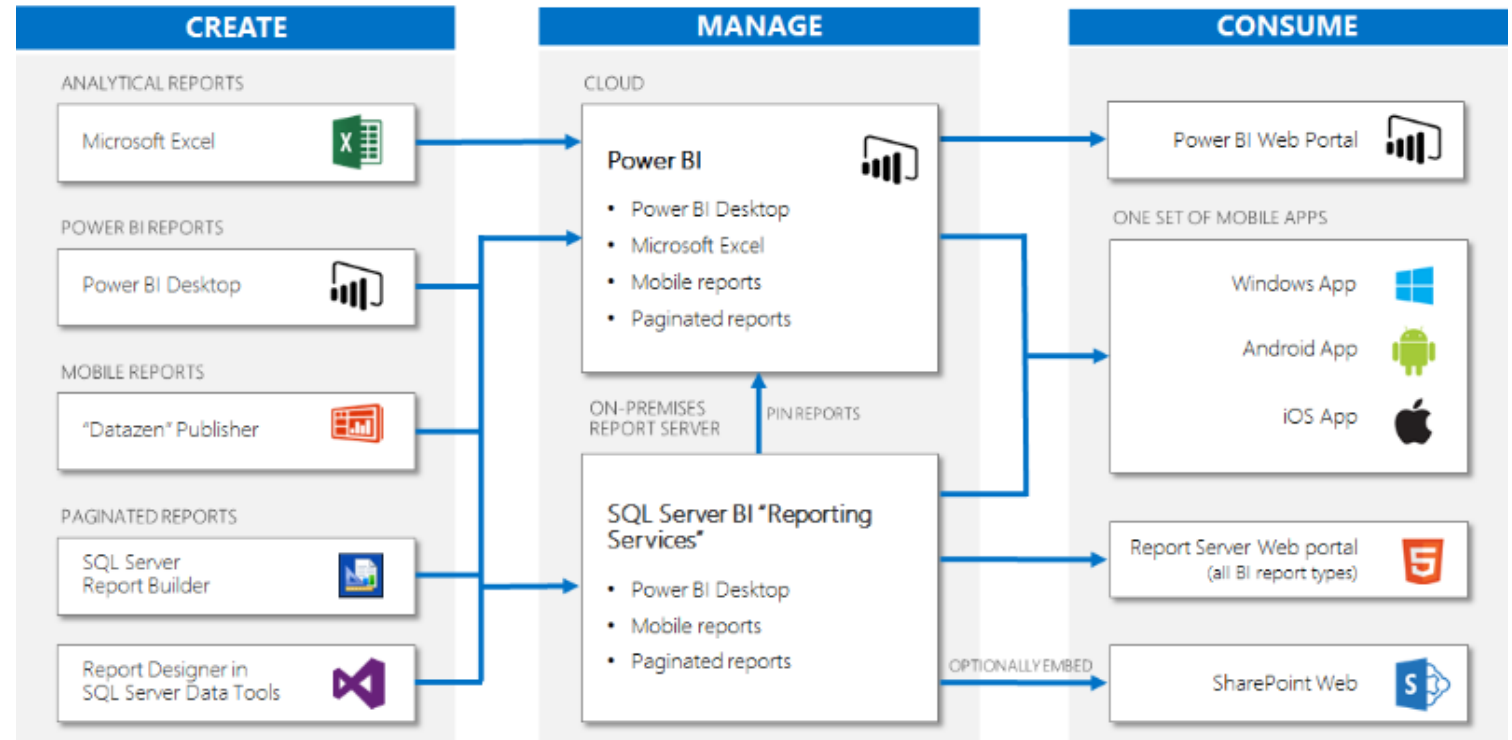▸ Use cases
▸ How to create a report
▸ How to publish and distribute
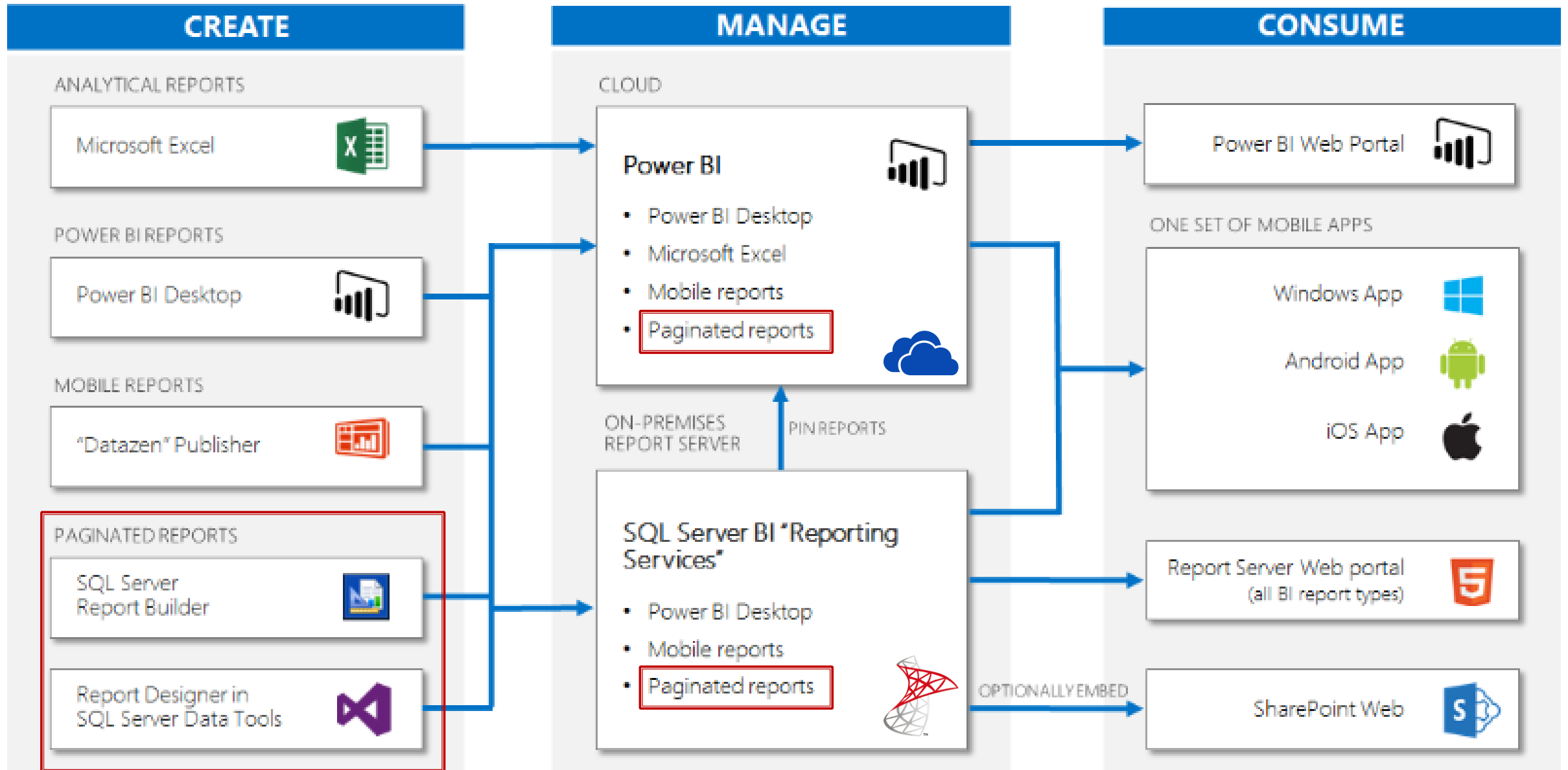▸ The future

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The background

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Pixel perfect print friendly paginated reports

▶ Been around for years...
  ◦ Reporting Services (SSRS)
 ◦ SQL Server 2000
  ◦ Now GA in Power BI

▶ The Swiss Army Knife

Microsoft Reporting Roadmap, October 2015

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CREATE

ANALYTICAL REPORTS

Microsoft Excel

POWER BI REPORTS

Power BI Desktop

MOBILE REPORTS

"Datazen" Publisher

PAGINATED REPORTS

SQL Server Report Builder

Report Designer in SQL Server Data Tools

MANAGE

CLOUD

Power BI

- Power BI Desktop
- Microsoft Excel
- Mobile reports
- Paginated reports

ON-PREMISES REPORT SERVER

PIN REPORTS

SQL Server BI "Reporting Services"

- Power BI Desktop
- Mobile reports
- Paginated reports

OPTIONALLY EMBED

CONSUME

Power BI Web Portal

ONE SET OF MOBILE APPS

Windows App

Android App

iOS App

Report Server Web portal (all BI report types)

SharePoint Web

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Use cases

Use cases

1. ## Migration scenarios
   - All ready a large investment in Paginated reports
   - Gather them with your Power BI analytical reports

2. ## Complement to Power BI reports
   - Print, print, print
   - Push reports and/or data
   - Export without row limits
   - Multiple live connections in the same report
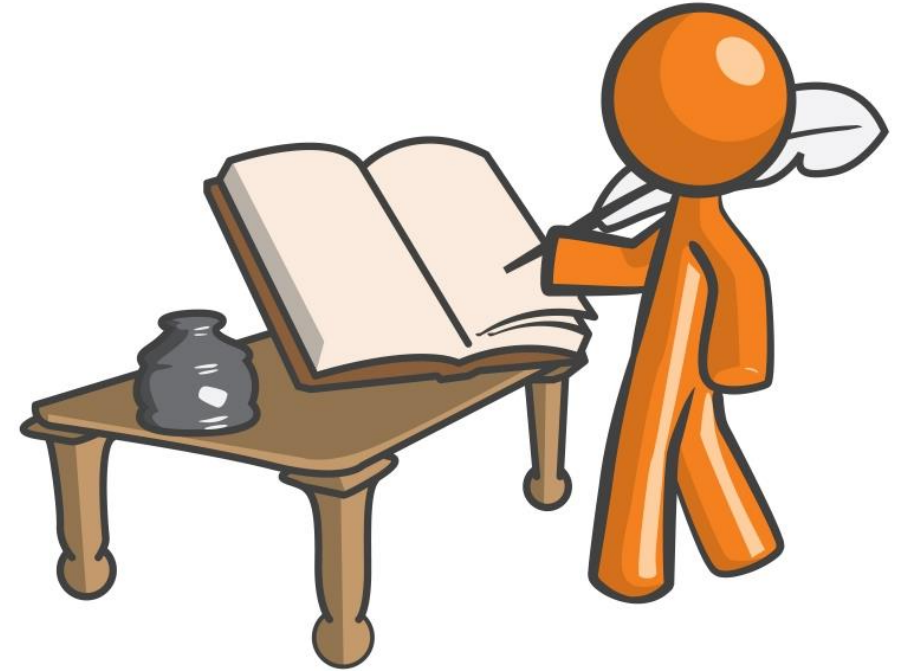
Strengths

▸ Paginated

▸ Print friendly

▸ Pixel perfect

▸ Multiple export formats

▸ Parametrized subscriptions

▸ Require premium

Weaknesses

▸ Additional development tool

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How to create a report

Power BI (Paginated) Report Builder

▸ Another development tool
- ◦ SQL Server Report Builder + additional features
- ◦ Not as user friendly as Power BI Desktop

▸ Download and install
- ◦ Updated frequently

▸ Free – don't require Premium
- ◦ Try it out!

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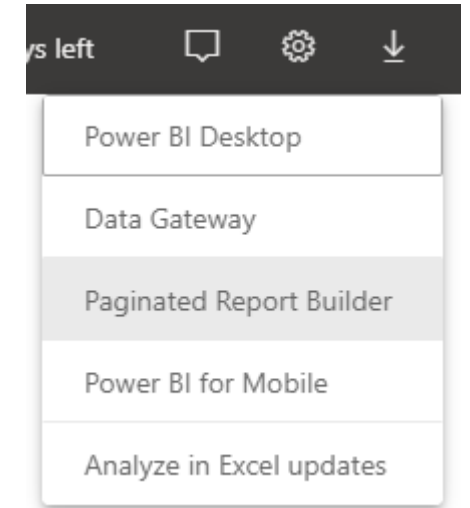
Report objects

- Data source
  - Connection string
- Dataset
  - Just a flat table
- Parameter
  - Input filter
- Data region
  - Tablix, chart
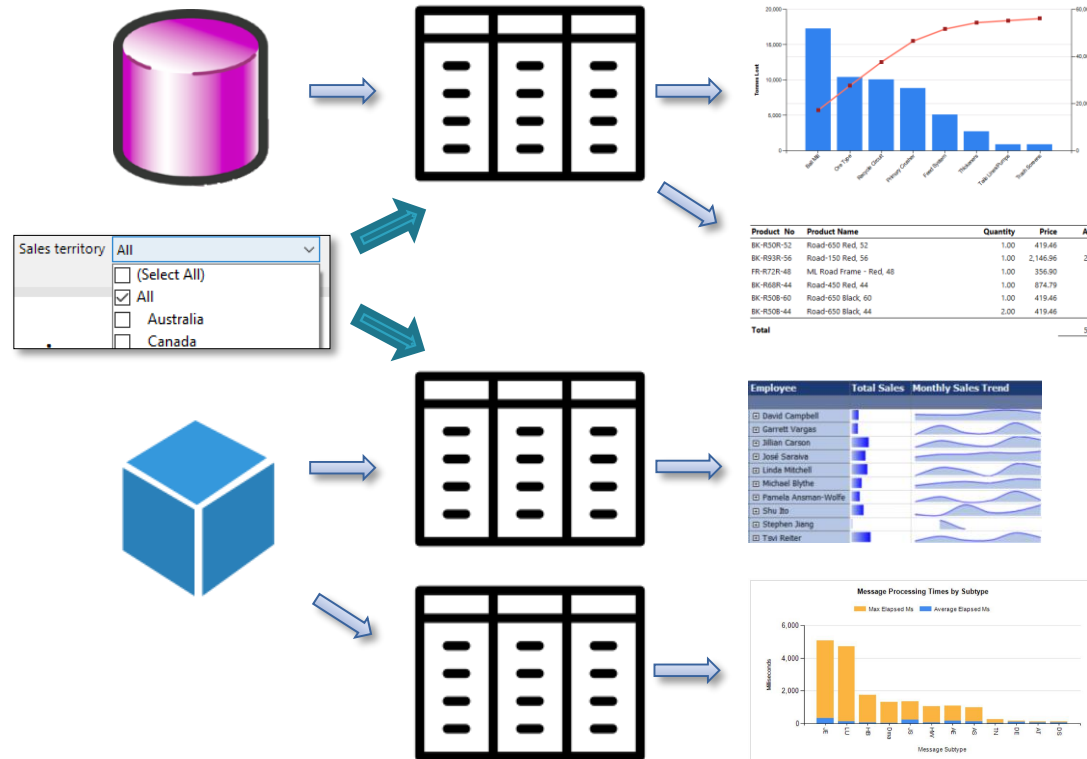
Data sources for the Power BI Developer

Reuse what you have already build!

▶ Power BI Datasets
- Premium
- Non-premium

▶ Analysis Services
- On-prem (Tabular and MOLAP)
- Azure

▶ Other sources
- SQL Server On-prem
- Azure SQL DB
- Azure SQL DW
- Oracle
- Teradata

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Datasets

▸ Not a Model

▸ No import mode

▸ Just a query
  ○ Live/direct connection
  ○ Returns a flat table
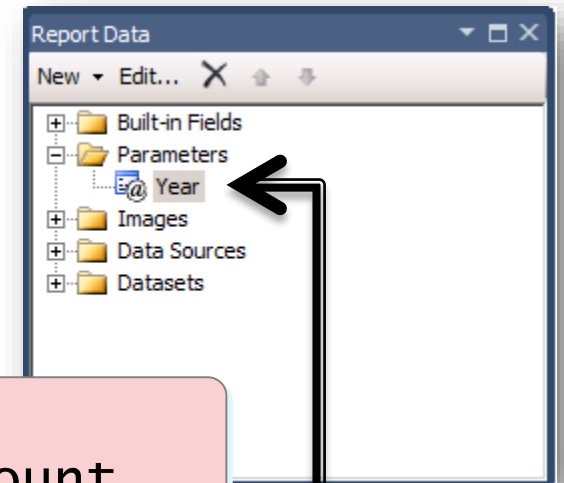
▸ Query designer
  ○ Generates DAX or SQL

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Parameters

- ▸ Report Parameters
  - ◦ Values specified when rendering a report
  - ◦ By a user viewing a report interactively
  - ◦ In a report subscription
- ▸ Dataset/query Parameters
  - ◦ Used to restrict query results
  - ◦ Mapped to a report parameter

Report Data

New ▾ Edit... ✕ ⬆ ⬇

- ⊞ 📁 Built-in Fields
- ⊟ 📂 Parameters
  - 📄@ Year
- ⊞ 📁 Images
- ⊞ 📁 Data Sources
- ⊞ 📁 Datasets

```
-- Dataset query
SELECT SalesOrderNumber, SalesAmount
FROM FactInternetSales
WHERE YEAR(OrderDate) = @Year
```

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Data regions

Like Visuals in Power BI

▶ Tablix
  ◦ Tables
  ◦ Matrixes
  ◦ Lists
▶ Charts
▶ Gauge
▶ Maps

Table Report

Matrix Report

List Report

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Report-Level Properties

▸ Report Layout
  ◦ Interactive size
  ◦ Page size
  ◦ Margins
  ◦ Language
▸ Body size
▸ Header and footer

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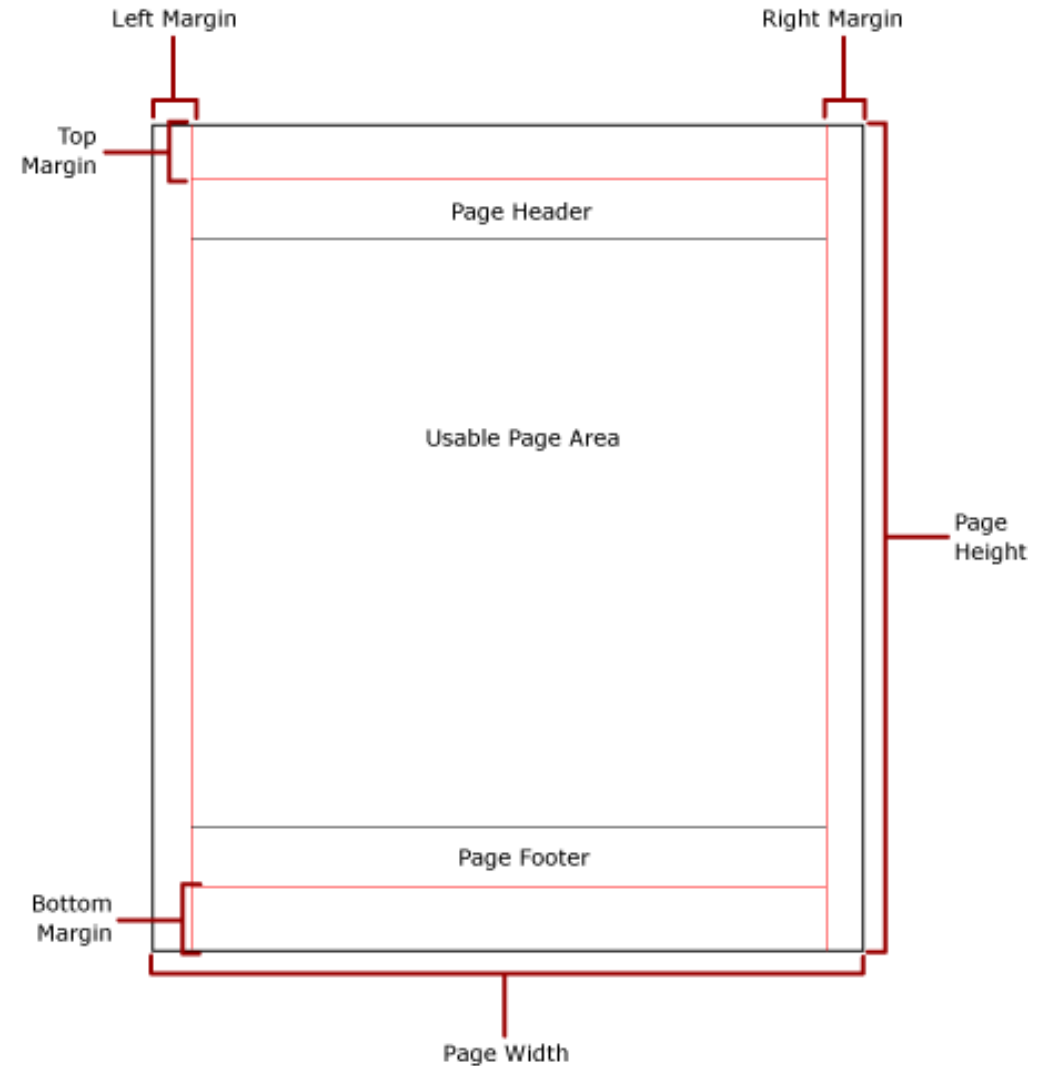
Item Properties

Complete control over every element in the report

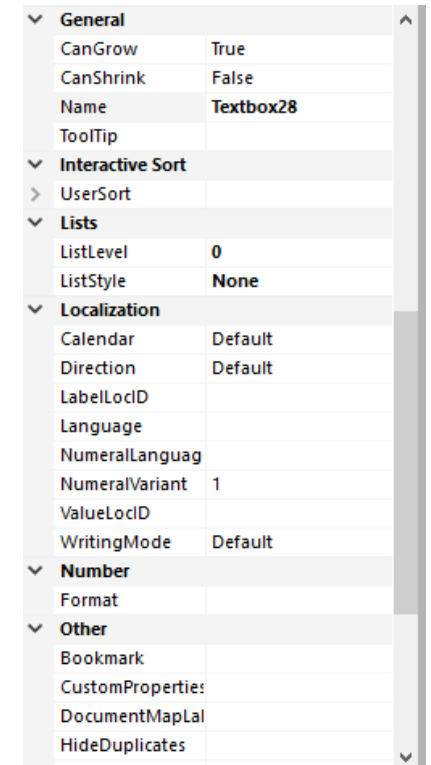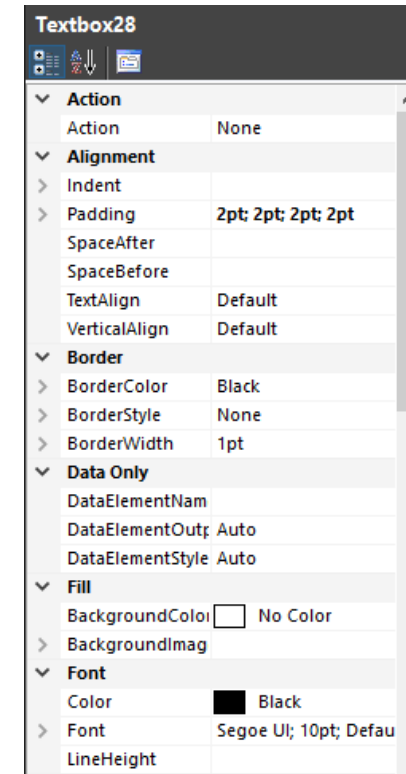▸ Fonts and colors

▸ Date and number formatting

▸ Naming of report objects

▸ Expressions!

You can make it pixel perfect ☺

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How to publish and distribute

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Premium ☹

▶ Require P1, P2, P3 or A4, A5, A6
  ◦ Support for A3 is coming

▶ How to test with out Premium?
  ◦ Azure Portal
  ◦ Create Power BI Embedded
  ◦ Scale to A4 - $8 per hour
  ◦ Assign capacity to workspace
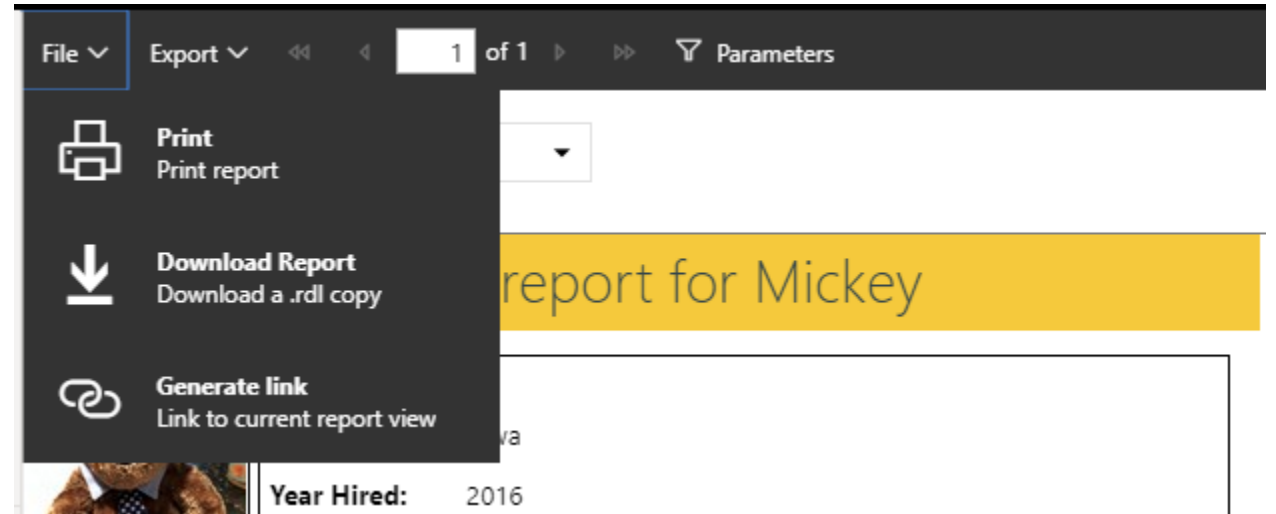
ORANGEMAN
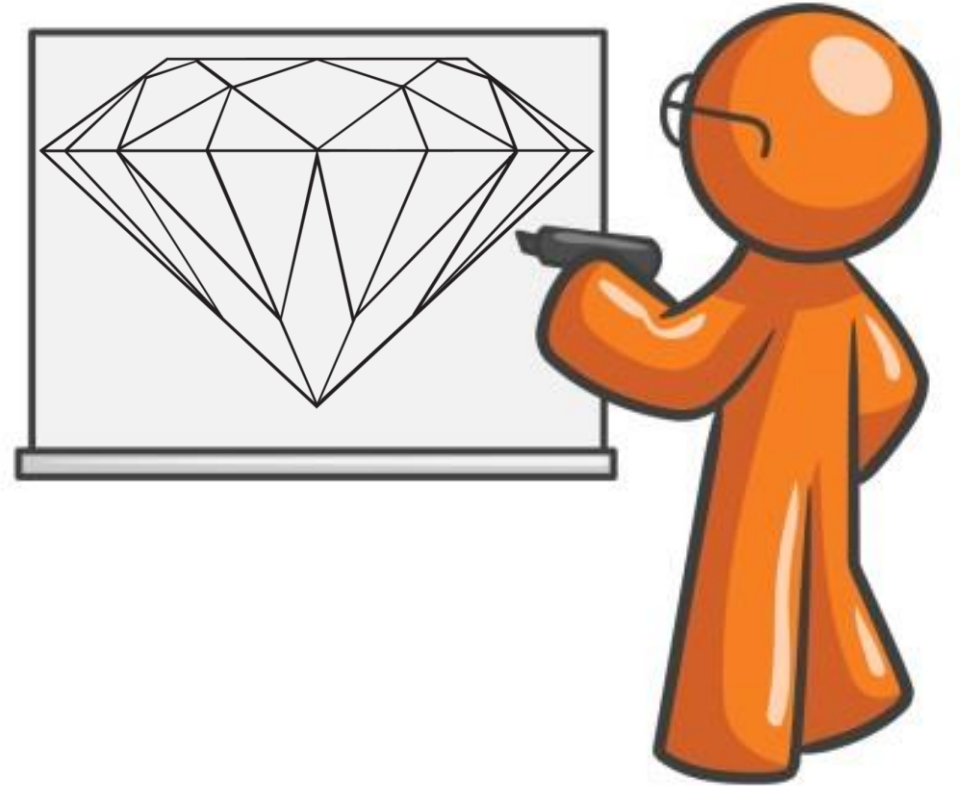
Print, Export and Subscriptions

▸ Print, print, print

▸ Export
  ◦ PDF, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Web

▸ Subscriptions
  ◦ Hourly, Daily, Weekly

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Bonus: Integration between reports

- ▶ Drill trough scenarios
  - ○ Paginated -> Paginated
  - ○ Power BI -> Paginated
- ▶ URL parameters
  - ○ Link to report
  - ○ rp:parameter=value
  - ○ rdl:format=PDF

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The future

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Additional features we can expect to come

▸ Data driven subscriptions

▸ Shared data sources and datasets

▸ Power Query as data source

▸ More admin options in portal

▸ Migration tool

▸ Support for Pro users?

   ◦ Ideas: https://ideas.powerbi.com/forums/265200-power-bi-ideas/suggestions/35959420

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Questions

Just Thorning Blindbæk

▶ Self-employed Consultant in justB
▶ Trainer at Orange Man
▶ Founder
  ◦ Danish Microsoft BI Comminity (MicrosoftBI.dk)
  ◦ Power BI UG Denmark (PowerBI.dk)
▶ Strong focus on the front-end tools
  ◦ Analysis Services
  ◦ Reporting Services
  ◦ PerformancePoint Services
  ◦ Excel and Power Pivot
  ◦ Power BI
▶ just@blindbaek.dk / blog.justB.dk / @justblindbaek

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