Power Platform World Tour

PowerBIUG PowerAppsUG FlowUG

Paginated Reports in Power BI

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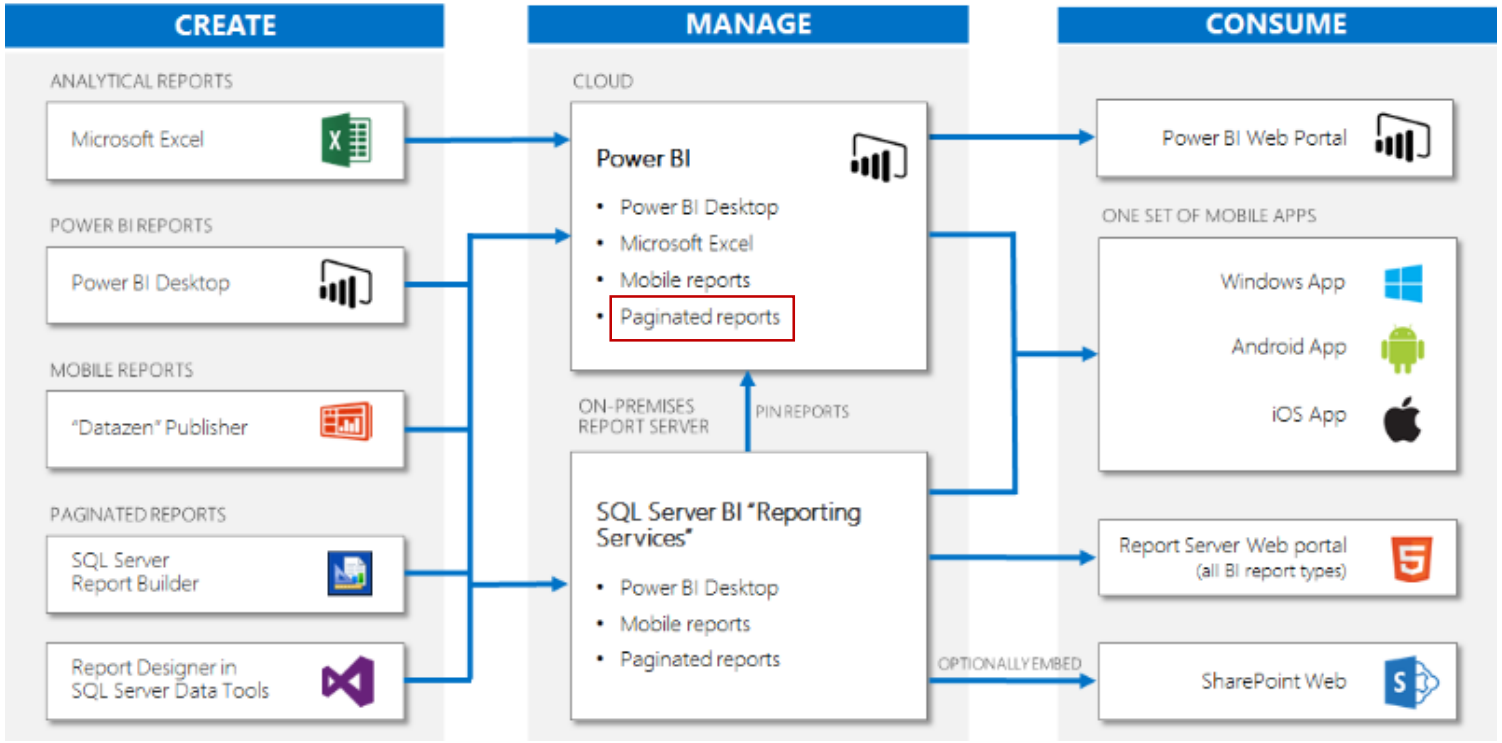
Agenda

- The background of Paginated Reports
- Strengths and weaknesses of Paginated Reports
- How to create a report
- How to publish and distribute
- The future of Paginated Reports

The background of Paginated Reports

Pixel perfect print friendly paginated reports

- Been around for years…
  - SQL Server 2000
  - Now GA in Power BI
- The Swiss Army Knife



Microsoft Reporting Roadmap, October 2015

Strengths and weaknesses

Strengths

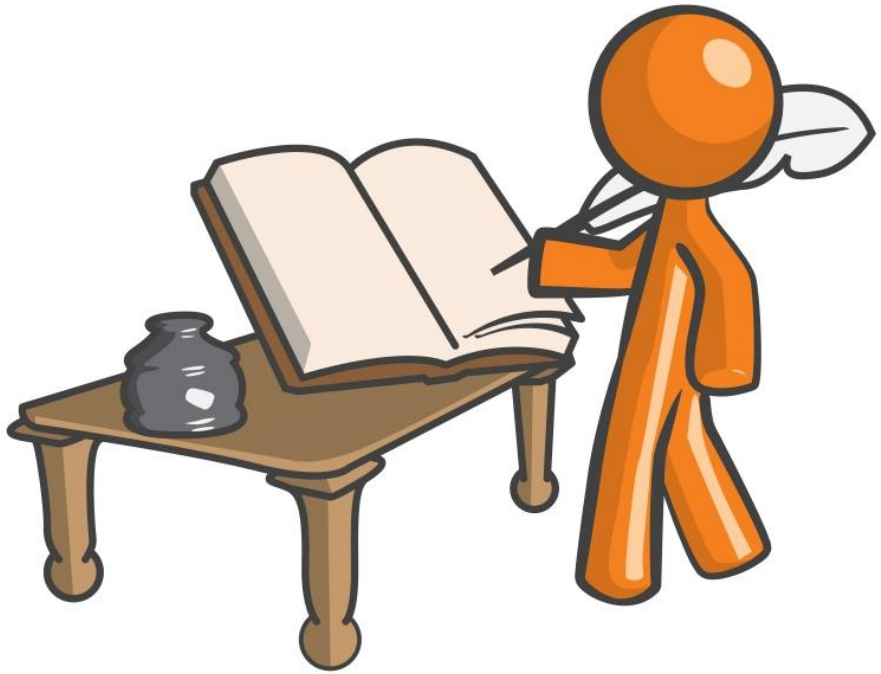
- Paginated
- Print friendly
- Pixel perfect
- Multiple export formats
- Parametrized subscriptions

Weaknesses

- Require premium
- Additional development tool

Use cases

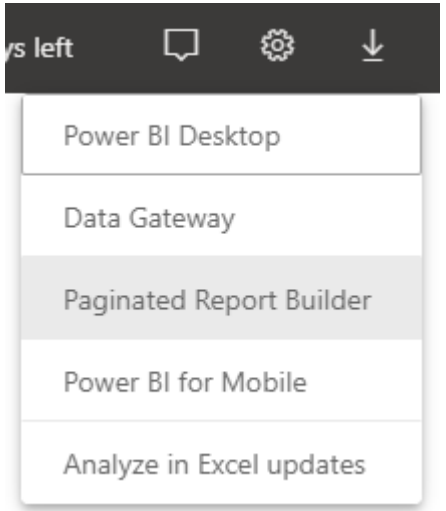
- Migration scenarios
- Complement to Power BI reports
- Print, print, print
- Push reports and/or data
- Export without row limits
- Multiple live connections in the same report



How to create a report

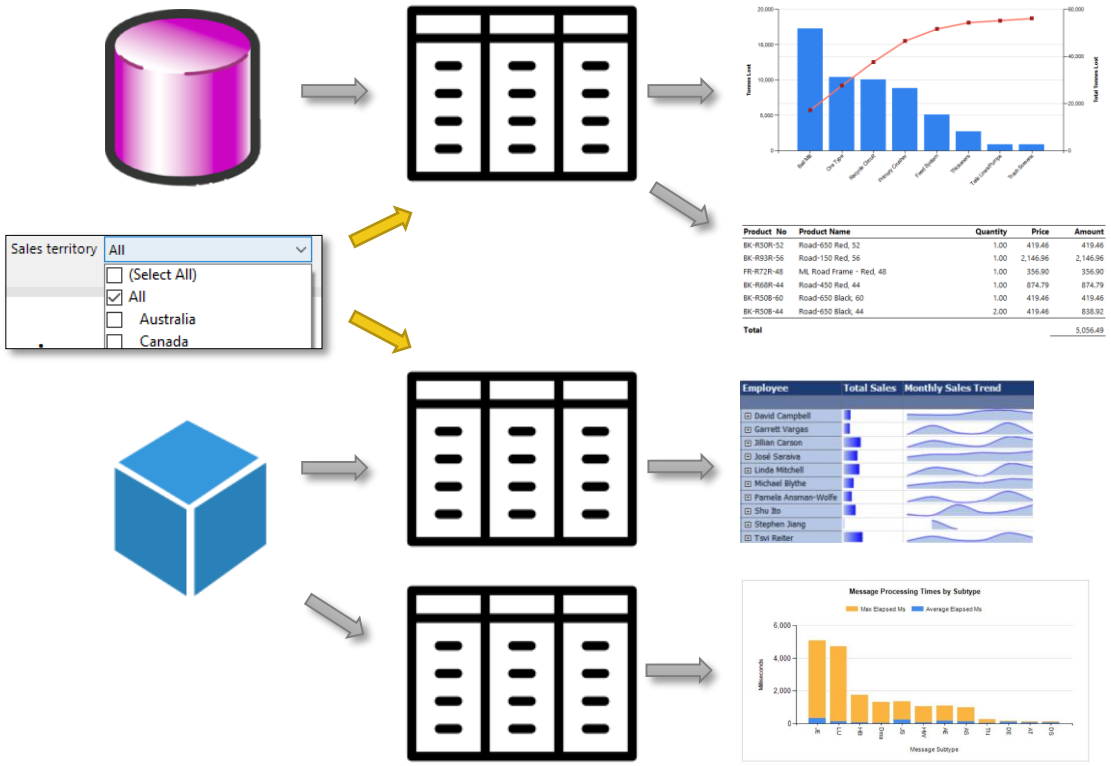
Power BI (Paginated) Report Builder

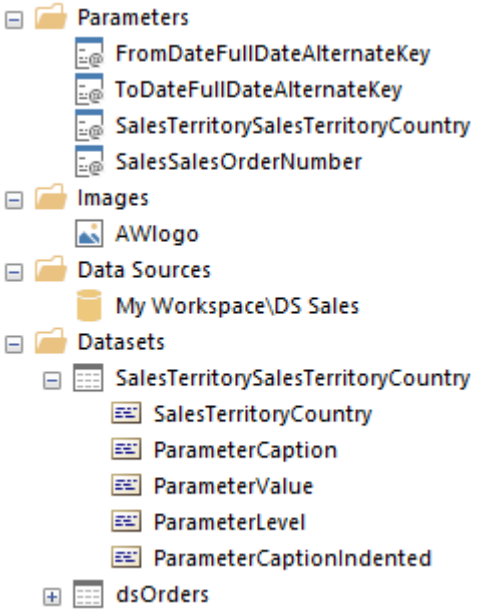
- Another development tool
  - SQL Server Report Builder + additional features
  - Not as user friendly as Power BI Desktop
- Download and install
  - Updated frequently
- Free – don’t require Premium
  - Try it out!



Report objects

- Data source
  - Connection string
- Dataset
  - Just a flat table
- Parameter
  - Input filter
- Data region
  - Tablix, chart





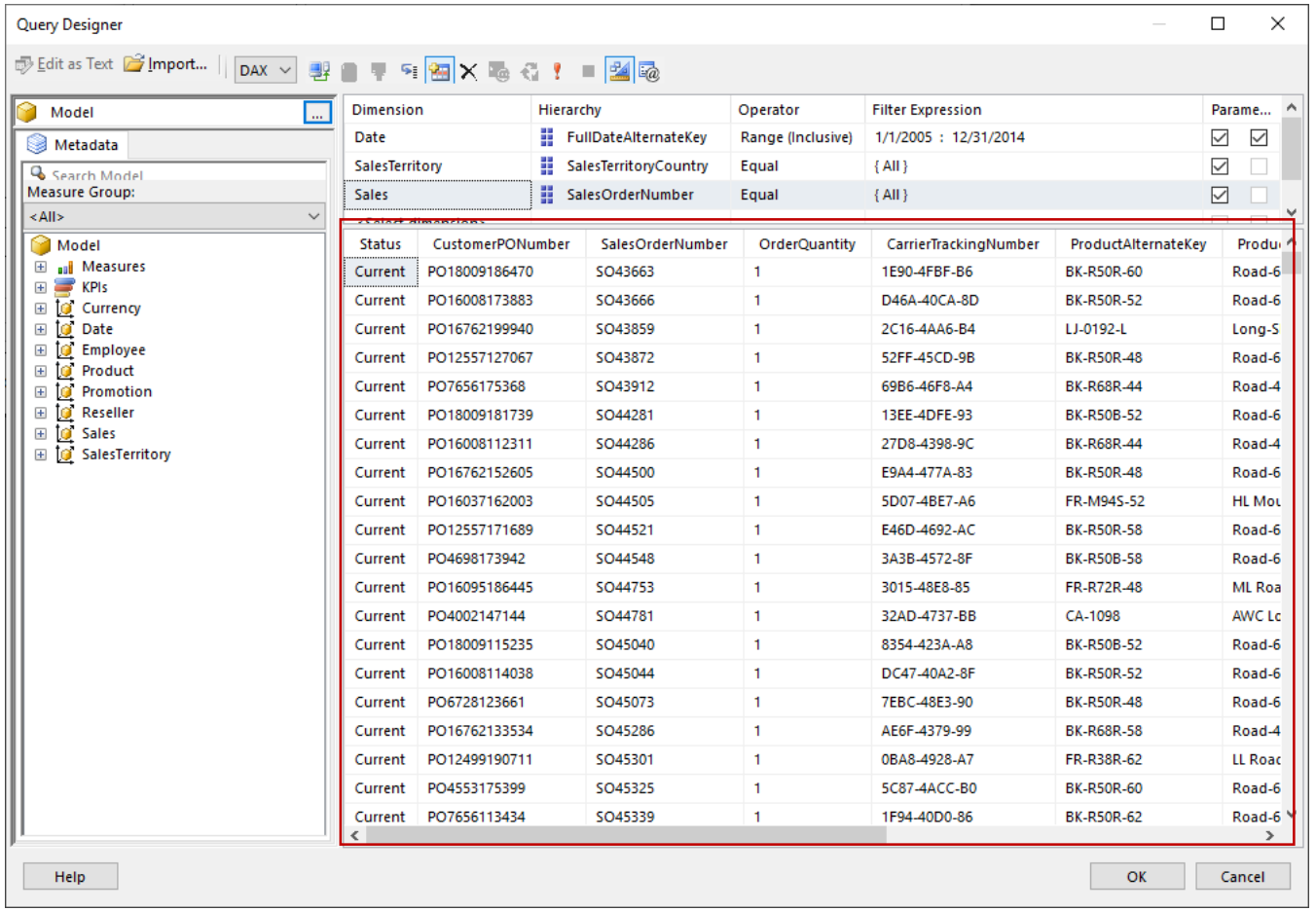
Data sources for the Power BI Developer

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

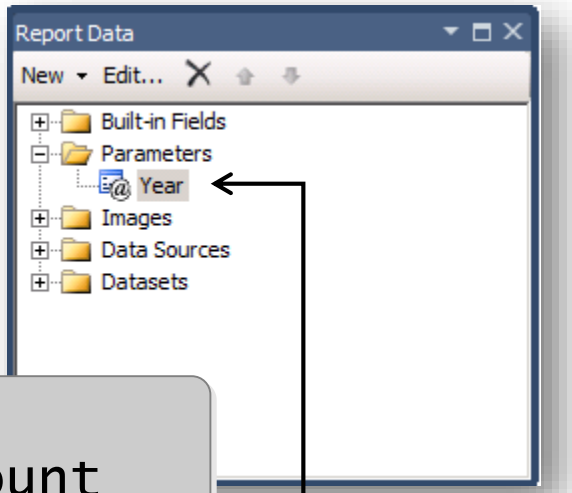
Datasets

- Not a Model
- No import mode
- Just a query
  - Live/direct connection
  - Returns a flat table
- Query designer
  - Generates DAX or SQL



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




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

Data regions

Like Visuals in Power BI

- Tablix
  - Tables
  - Matrixes
  - Lists
- Charts
- Gauge
- Maps

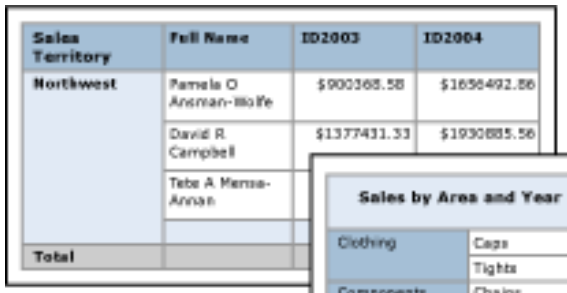
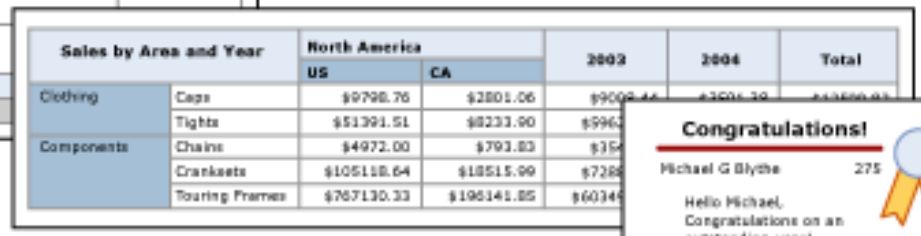
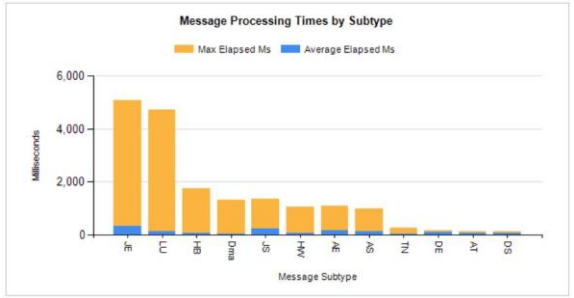


Table Report



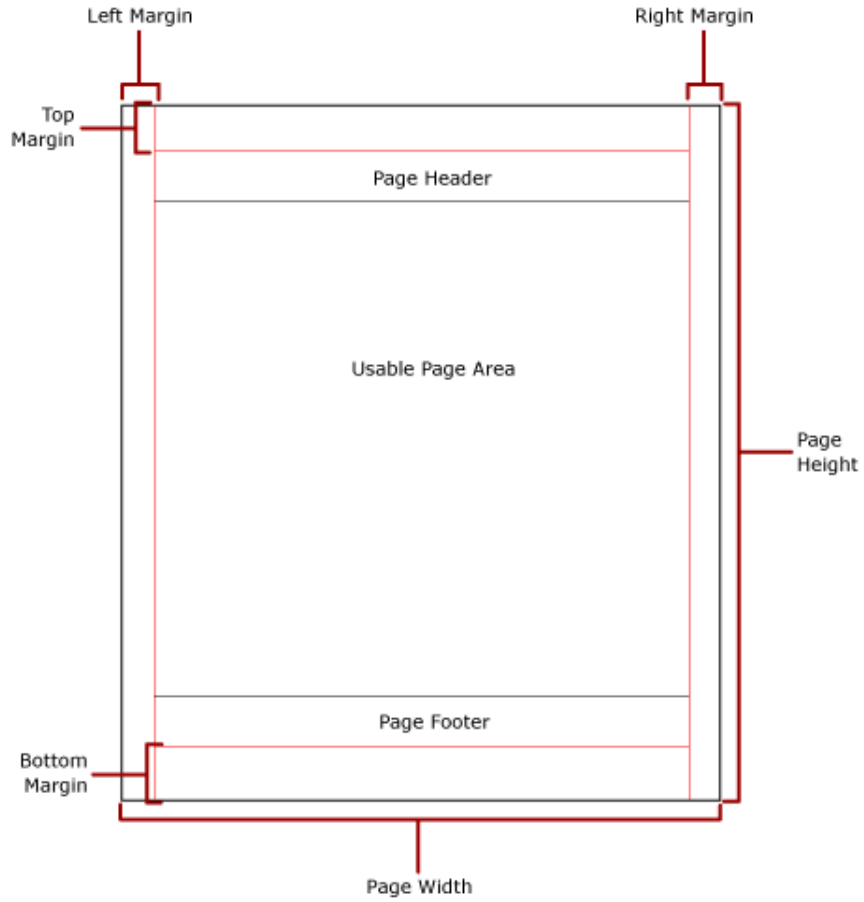
Matrix Report

List Report



Report-Level Properties

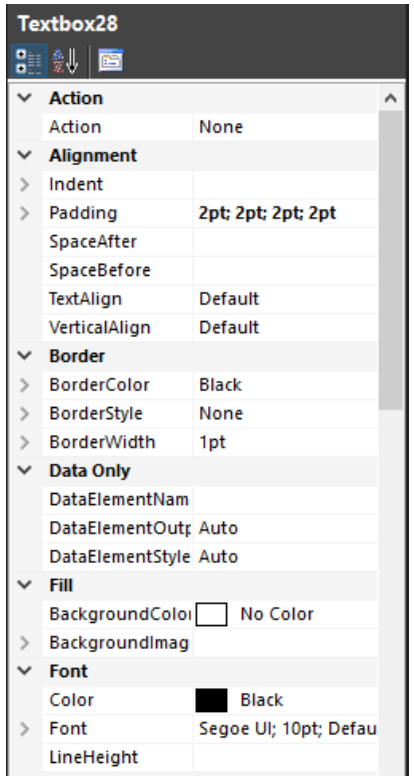
- Report Layout
  - Interactive size
  - Page size
  - Margins
  - Language
- Body size
- Header and footer

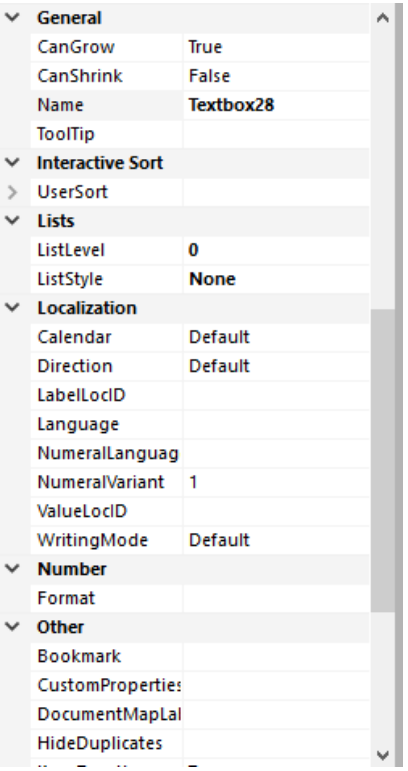


Item Properties

Complete control over every element in the report

- Fonts and colors
- Date and number formatting
- Naming of report objects
- Expressions!

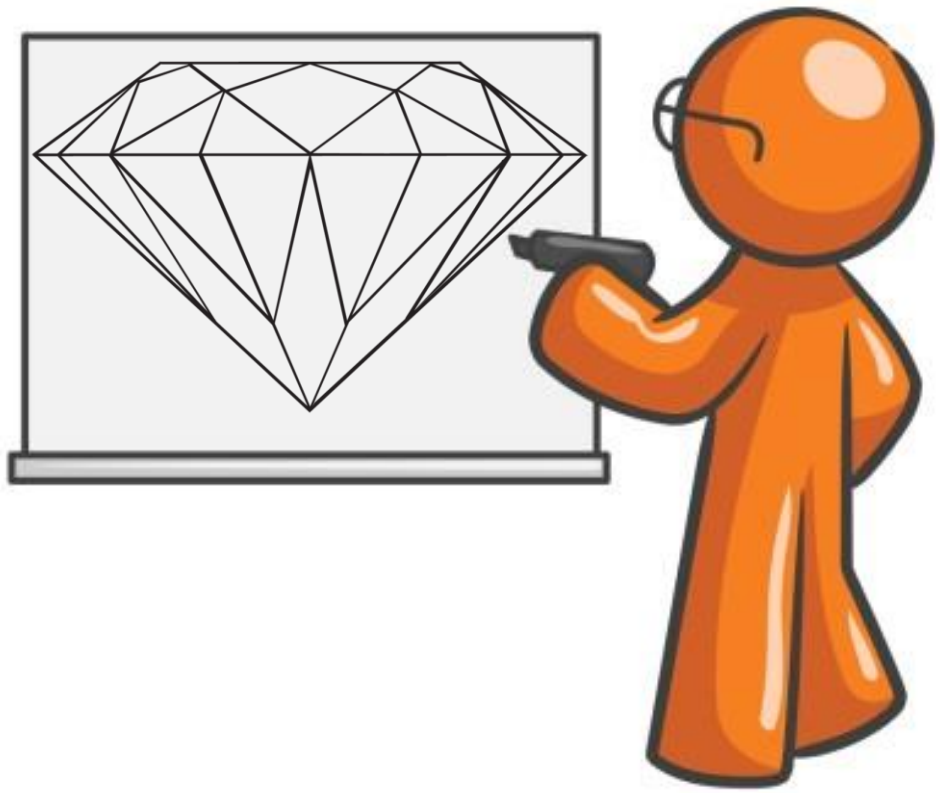




How to publish and distribute

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

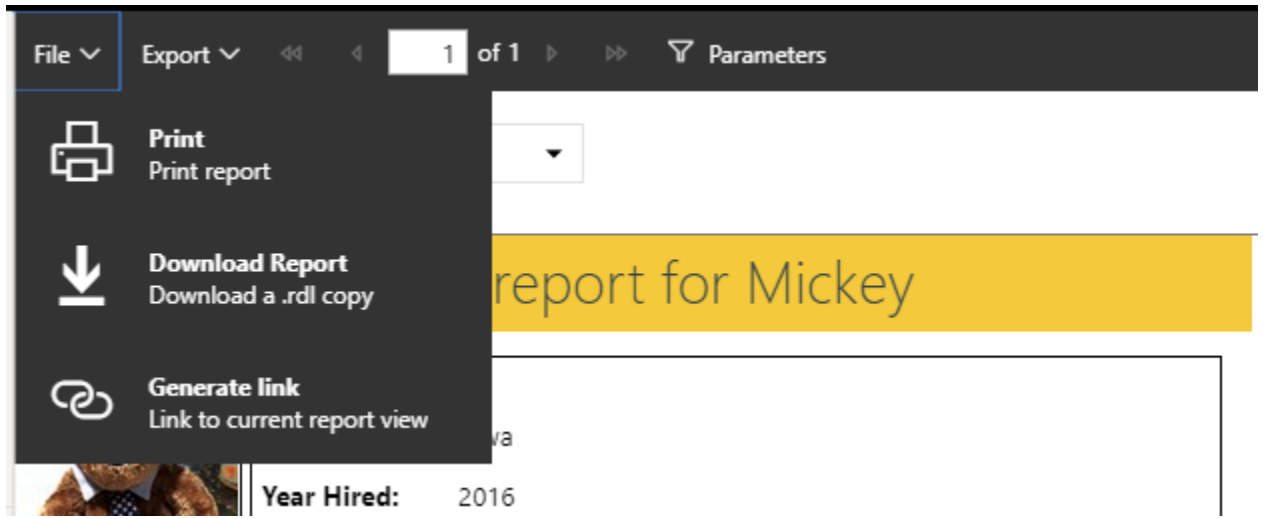


Print, Export and Subscriptions

- Print, print, print
- Export
  - PDF, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Web
- Subscriptions
  - Hourly, Daily, Weekly

Bonus: Integration between reports

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



The future of Paginated Reports

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

Questions