Architecture Design

Analyzing Expenditure of NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog

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1. Introduction

1.1 What is Architecture design document?

Any software needs the architectural design to represents the design of software. IEEE defines architectural design as "the process of defining a collection of hardware and software components and their interfaces to establish the framework for the development of a computer system." The software that is built for computer-based systems can exhibit one of these many architectures.

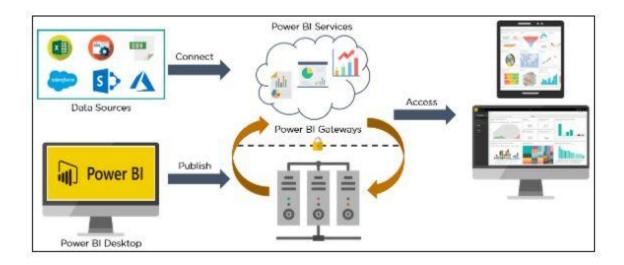
Each style will describe a system category that consists of :

- A set of components (eg: a database, computational modules) that will perform a function required by the system.
- The set of connectors will help in coordination, communication, and cooperation between the components.
- Conditions that how components can be integrated to form the system.
- Semantic models that help the designer to understand the overall properties of the system.

1.2 Scope

Architecture Design Document (ADD) is an architecture design process that follows a step-by-step refinement process. The process can be used for designing data structures, required software architecture, source code and ultimately, performance algorithms. Overall, the design principles may be defined during requirement analysis and then refined during architectural design work.

2. Architecture



2.1. Components of Power BI Architecture:

a) Data Sources



Power BI can supply information from different online sources and file types. Import the information into the Power BI or establish a live service to receive the information. If you import the file into the Power BI, it compresses the data sets up to 1GB and, uses a direct query if the compressed data sets exceed more than 1GB. Here is the list of Data Sources supported in Power BI.

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- File Types: Power BI supports XML, txt/CSV, Excel, JSON, and Share point folder type files.
- Database: It supports SQL Server Analysis Services Database, SAP HANA
 Database, SQL Server Database, SAP Business Warehouse server, Access
 Database, Google BigQuery (Beta), Amazon Redshift, Snowflake, Impala, Oracle
 Database, IBM Informix database (Beta), Teradata Database, MySQL Database,
 IBM Netezza (Beta), Sybase Database, PostgreSQL Database.
- Azure: Azure SQL Data Warehouse, Azure Blob Storage, Azure Analysis Services database (Beta), Azure SQL Database, Azure Data Lake Store, Azure Table Storage, Azure HDInsight (HDFS), Azure Cosmos DB (Beta), Azure HDInsight Spark (Beta).
- Online Services: Power BI service, Dynamics 365 (online), Microsoft Exchange Online, Common Data Service (Beta), SharePoint Online List, Visual Studio Team Services (Beta), Dynamics 365 for Financials (Beta), Microsoft Azure Consumption Insights (Beta), Salesforce Objects, Salesforce Reports, Google Analytics, Dynamics 365 for Customer Insights (Beta), GitHub (Beta), appFigures (Beta), comScore Digital Analytix (Beta), Facebook, Kusto (Beta), Planview Enterprise (Beta), MailChimp (Beta), Mixpanel (Beta), QuickBooks Online, Projectplace (Beta).
- Other Services: Hadoop File (HDFS), Vertica (Beta), Web, OData Feed, SharePoint List, Microsoft Exchange, Active Directory, R Script, ODBC, Spark (Beta), Blank Query, OLE DB.

b) Power BI Desktop



It is free software that enables you to connect, transform and visualize the data on your desktop. You can connect to various data sources with the help of Power BI Desktop and combine the data into a data model. This data model allows you to create a collection of images and graphics that make you share the information within the organization as records. The majority of the users who work on Business Intelligence projects use Power BI Desktop to create and share their reports with others.

c) Power BI Service



Power BI Service is an On-Cloud service with a web-based platform and used to share and publish the reports made on Power BI Desktop. It collaborates the data with other users and creates dashboards. Power BI Service is also called "Power BI Workspace", "Power BI Web Portal", and "Power BI Site". Power BI Service offers wonderful features like alerts and natural language Q&A.

It is available in three versions. They are as follows:

- Premium version
- Pro version
- Free version

d) Power BI Report Server



Power BI Report Server is similar to the Power BI Service. It is an On-Premises server platform. Using Power BI Report Server, organizations can secure their data. It enables the users to create reports and dashboards and allows you to share the reports with other users or organizations with proper security protocols. To use this service, you need to have a Power BI premium license.

e) Power BI Gateway



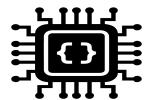
Power BI Gateway is used to maintain fresh information by connecting to your on-site data sources without transferring the data. It provides secure data and allows you to transfer the data between Microsoft cloud services and on-premise services. Microsoft cloud services include PowerApps, Power BI, Azure Analysis Services, Microsoft Flow, and Azure logic apps. By using a gateway, organizations can maintain the databases and other data sources securely in cloud services.

f) Power BI Mobile Apps



Using Power BI Mobile Apps, you can stay connected with on-premises data from anywhere. Power BI apps are available for iOS, Windows, and Android platforms.

g) Power BI Embedded



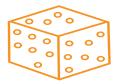
Power BI Embedded is an On-premises service in Azure. It offers APIs for embedding the reports and dashboards into custom applications. Till now, we have been discussing major components of the Power BI, and now, we will talk about the remaining components of Power BI as well.

h) Power BI Query



Power Query is the data connectivity that enables the business users to access the data which is stored in multiple data sources and redesign it to satisfy their business requirements. Power Query offers custom connectors SDK so that third-party users can create their data connectors.

i) Power Maps



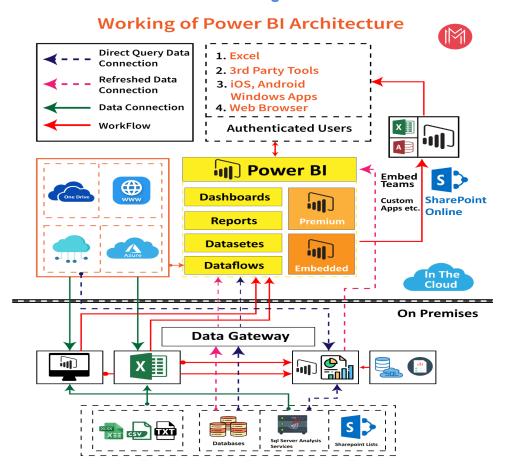
Power BI Query is used to display how the values vary in proportion across the region. It also shows differences with the shadings that range from dark to light. It offers a 3D geospatial data visualization tool.

j) Power Pivot



Power Pivot is an element that stores the information in memory and allows highly compressed data storage and incredibly quick aggregation and calculation. It is also accessible as part of Excel and can be used within an Excel workbook to build a data model. Power Pivot can load information on its own, or Power Query can load information into it. It is highly comparable to the tabular model of SSAS (SQL Server Analysis Services), which is like a Power Pivot server-based variant.

2.2 Power BI Architecture - Working



In the above diagram, it is clear that the upper half part represents On-Cloud services, and the lower half part represents the On-Premise services.

If you observe in the top of the image excel, web browsers and other sources are streaming into Power BI components, and they are called data sources. These data sources are authenticated users. Power BI has different data sources like On-Premise, Cloud databases, direct connections, etc.

a) On-Premise:

Power BI Desktop is accomplished with the authenticating, development and publishing tools. You can transfer the data from data sources to Power BI Desktop. And also, it allows users to create and publish reports on the Power BI Report Server or Power BI Service.

Power BI Publisher allows you to publish the Excel workbooks to the Power BI Report Server. Report Publisher and SQL server Data tools help in creating the KPIs, datasets, paginated reports, mobile reports, etc. All kinds of reports are published at the Power BI Report Server, and from there, reports are distributed to the end-users.

b) On-Cloud:

Power BI Gateway is the essential component in the Power BI architecture. The Power BI Gateway acts as a bridge or secure channel to transfer the data from On-premise data to On-cloud data sources or apps.

Cloud side architecture consists of a lot of components including Power suite having datasets, dashboards, reports, Power BI Premium, Power BI Embedded, etc. Users can embed the dashboards, reports into applications, SharePoint, Teams, etc. There are Cloud data sources and they are connected to the Power BI tools.

2.3 Power BI Service Architecture

In the previous section, you have learned how to publish the created reports in the Power BI Service.

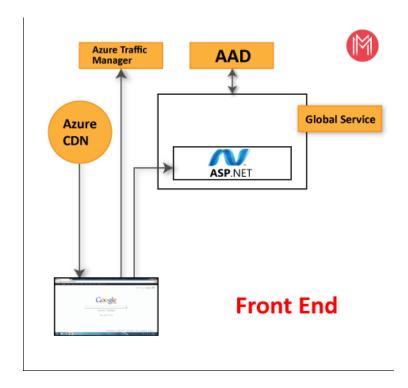
Power BI Service enables the users to create and access the reports, dashboards from the client platforms like mobile devices, websites, etc. User needs to interact with the Power BI Service whenever they want to access the data that is created on the Power BI. So, now, we will learn how the Power BI Service works.

Power BI Service Architecture consists of two clusters. The following are the two clusters.

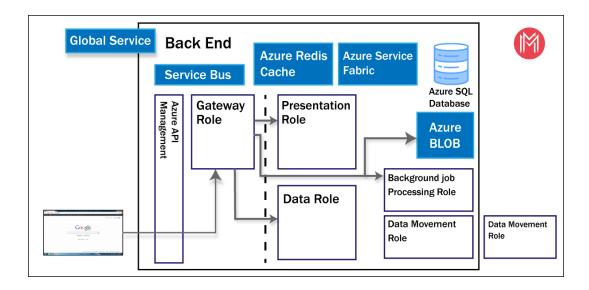
- Front End Cluster
- Back End Cluster

Now, we will discuss the two clusters in detail.

a) Front End Cluster: Front end cluster acts as an intermediate between the back end cluster and the clients. It is also called a Web Front End Cluster. It establishes the initial connection and authenticates the users or clients using the Azure Active Directory. After user authentication, Azure Traffic Manager directs the user requests to the nearest data centers and Azure Content Delivery Network (CDN) allocates the statice files/content to the users or clients based on the geographical locations.



b) Back End Cluster: It manages the datasets, reports, storage, visualizations, data refreshing, data connections, and other services in the Power BI. At the back end cluster, the web client has only two direct points to interact with the data, i.e., Gateway Role and Azure API Management. These two components are responsible for authorizing, load balancing, routing, authentication, etc.



c) Working Of Power BI Service

- Power BI stores the data in two leading repositories, i.e., Azure SQL Database and Azure Block Storage. Azure Block Storage enables the users to store the datasets, and all system-related data and metadata are stored in the Azure SQL database.
- It authenticates the user requests and sends them to the Gateway Role. It
 processes the requests and assigns them to the appropriate components like
 Background Job Processing Role, Data Movement Role, Presentation Role, and
 Data Role.
- The presentation role manages all the associated visualization queries like reports and dashboards.
- Presentation Role sends requests to the Gateway Role to the Data Movement Role or Data Role for all relevant datasets.
- Azure Service Bus is used to connect and fetch the data from the On-Premises
 data sources with the cloud. It sends a request to execute the queries On-Premises
 data source and retrieve the data from its cloud service.

- The Azure Service Fabric allows all components and microservices which are related to the Power BI Service.
- Azure Cache helps in reporting the data that is stored in the in-memory of the Power BI system.