Database connections

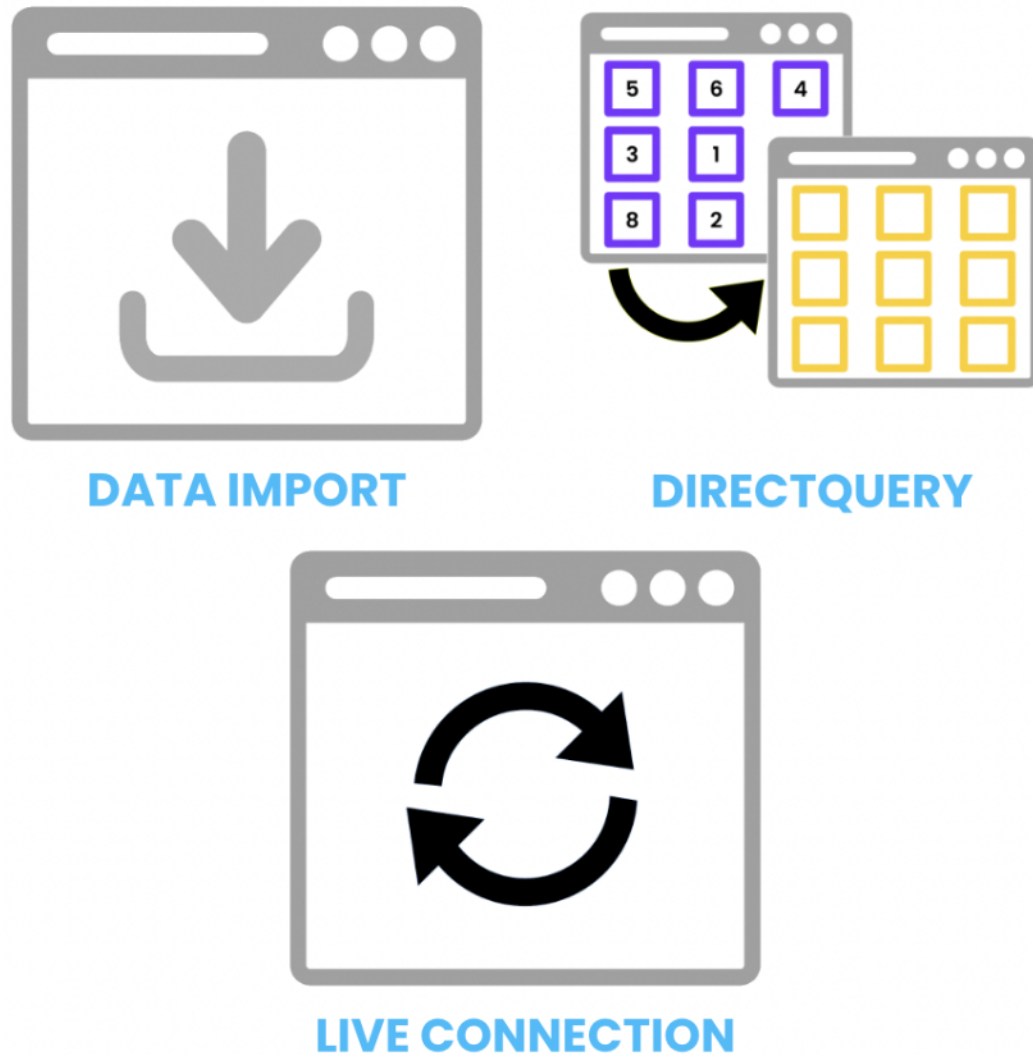## DATA CONNECTIONS IN POWER BI

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datacamp

Databases in Power BI

- More than 35 different databases supported

- Power BI connects to local and cloud-based databases

- Databases are a type of data source

- Datasets are a collection of the data source and data itself

Storage modes

DATA IMPORT

DIRECTQUERY
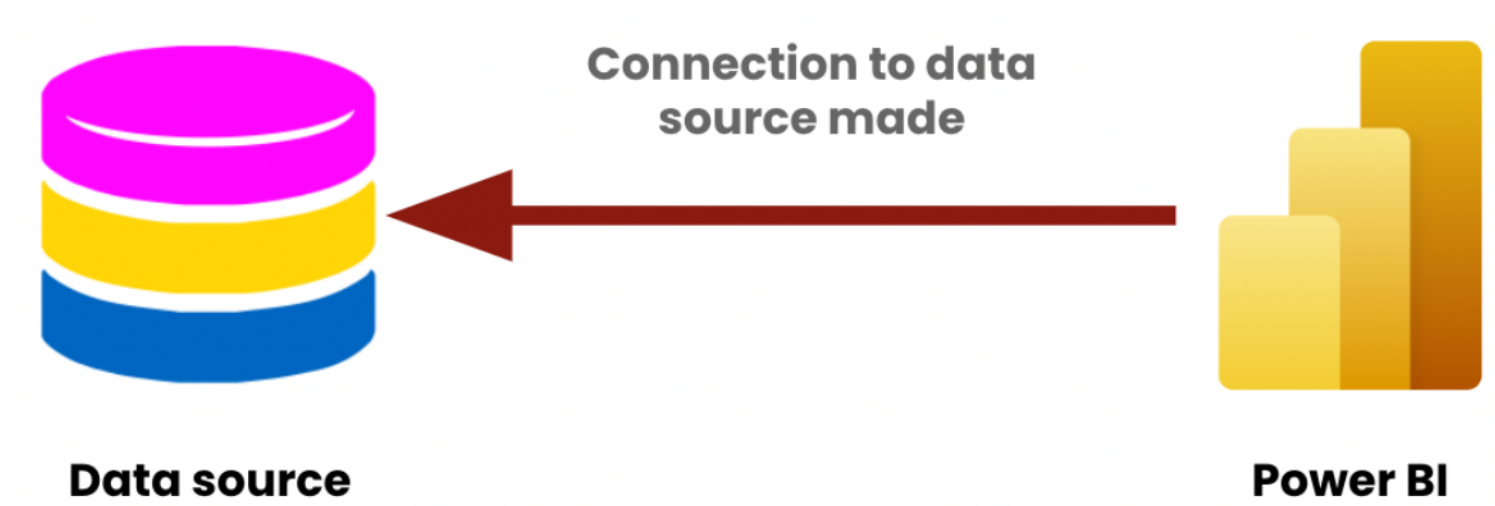
LIVE CONNECTION

- Data sources, such as databases, can have multiple connection types - also referred to as storage modes

- There are 3 main connection types:
  - Import
  - DirectQuery
  - Live

- Import storage mode is the default option

- DirectQuery storage mode not as widely available as Import

- Live storage mode not as commonly used

Storage modes: Pros and cons

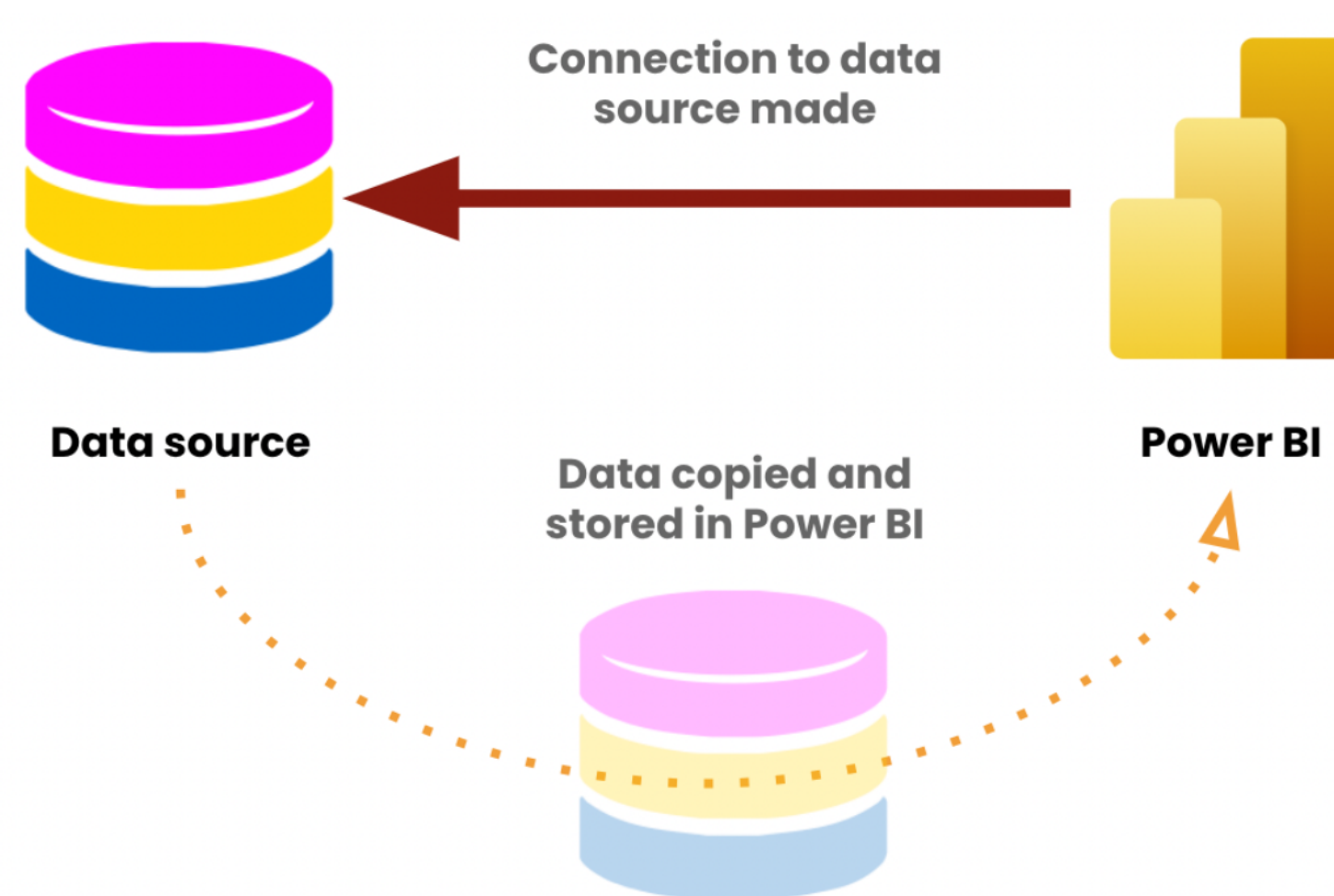| Storage Mode	Pros	Cons
Import	• Fastest possible connection • Full Power Query transformations • Full set of DAX functions available	• Power BI file size limitations • Regular refreshes required • Time consuming refreshes
DirectQuery	• Supports use of large scale datasets • Reports and dashboard "near real-time"	• Any Power BI features have to be in native queries understood by data source • Quick Insights not supported
Live	• Supports use of large scale datasets • Refresh frequency unlimited	• No Power Query • Slower connection type

Import mode

- Default setting that brings in data from data source

Connection to data source made

Data source

Power BI

Import mode

- Default setting that brings in data from data source

- Can transform and manipulate data
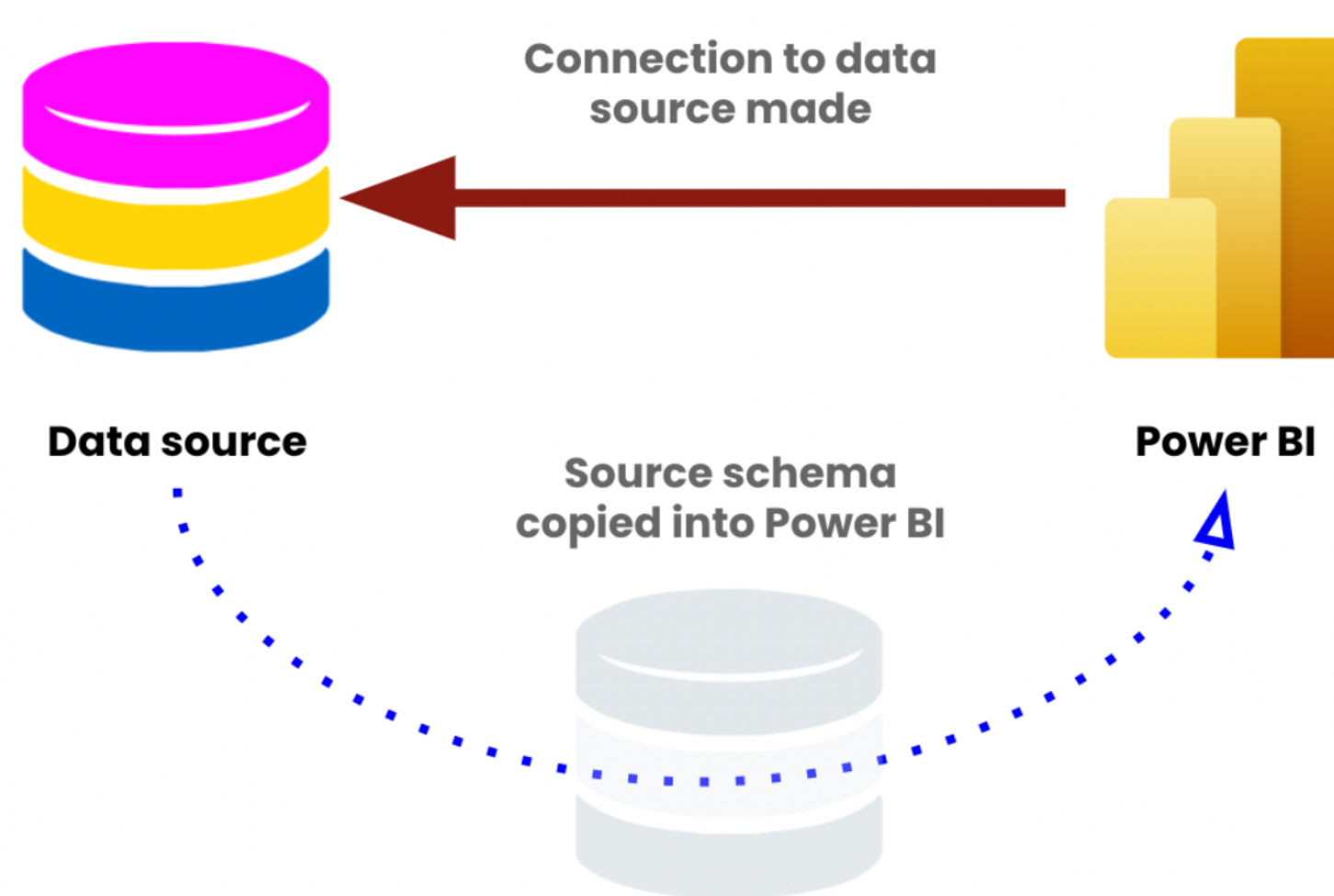
- Access to full capabilities of Power BI

Connection to data source made

Data source

Data copied and stored in Power BI

Power BI

DirectQuery mode

- Available for certain data sources

Data source

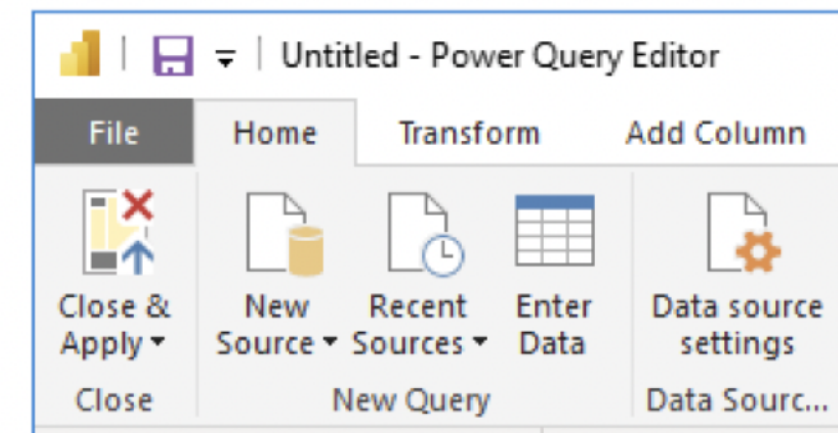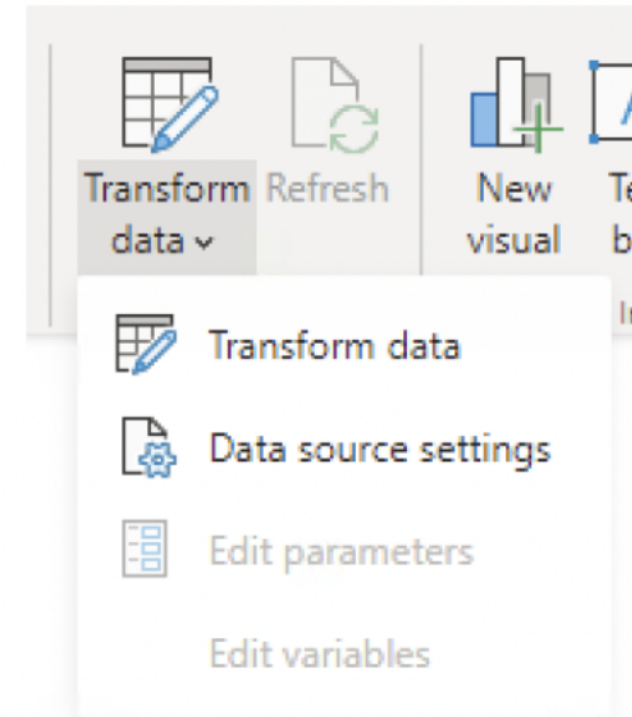Connection to data
source made

Power BI

DirectQuery mode

- Available for certain data sources

- Power BI queries data source when required

- Allows for reduced size of data connections

Connection to data source made

Data source

Source schema copied into Power BI

Power BI

Changing data connections

- Data sources are fluid and can change regularly

- Data connections can be amended after being made

- Users can alter a data connection using a number of options in Power BI Desktop

- A refresh button is available for quick updates

Let's practice!

DATA CONNECTIONS IN POWER BI

Exploring connections

DATA CONNECTIONS IN POWER BI

Full Name
Content Developer, DataCamp

Let's practice!

DATA CONNECTIONS IN POWER BI