



Introduction to InterSystems IRIS Business Intelligence

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Introduction to InterSystems IRIS Business Intelligence
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Table of Contents

About This Book	1
1 Introduction to Business Intelligence	3
1.1 Purpose	3
1.2 Dashboard Visual Details	4
1.2.1 Pivot Table Widgets	5
1.2.2 Scorecard Widgets	6
1.2.3 Meter Widgets	6
1.2.4 Map Widgets	7
1.2.5 Calendar Widgets	7
1.2.6 Custom Widgets	8
1.3 Data Sources for Widgets	8
1.4 Business Intelligence Models	8
2 Introduction to the Business Intelligence User Interfaces	11
2.1 Logging On to Business Intelligence	11
2.2 Architect	12
2.3 Analyzer	13
2.4 User Portal	13
2.5 MDX Query Tool	14
2.6 Term List Manager	15
2.7 Listing Group Manager	16
2.8 Quality Measure Manager	16
2.9 Model Browser	17
2.10 Business Intelligence Logs	18
2.11 Folder Manager	19
2.12 Settings	19
2.13 Cube Manager	20
3 Introduction to the Other Business Intelligence Tools	23
3.1 BI Samples	23
3.2 MDX Shell	23
3.2.1 Accessing the MDX Shell	23
3.2.2 Viewing the Indices Used by a Query	24
3.3 Utility Methods	25
3.4 Data Connector	26
3.5 Result Set API	26
3.6 JavaScript and REST APIs	26
Business Intelligence Glossary	27

About This Book

This book briefly introduces InterSystems IRIS Business Intelligence. It includes the following sections:

- [Introduction to Business Intelligence](#)
- [Introduction to the Business Intelligence User Interfaces](#)
- [Introduction to the Other Business Intelligence Tools](#)
- [Business Intelligence Glossary](#)

For a detailed outline, see the [table of contents](#).

The other developer books for Business Intelligence are as follows:

- [*Developer Tutorial for InterSystems Business Intelligence*](#) guides developers through the process of creating a sample that consists of a cube, subject areas, pivot tables, and dashboards.
- [*Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*](#) describes how to implement Business Intelligence, apart from creating the model.
- [*Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*](#) describes how to define the basic elements used in Business Intelligence queries: cubes and subject areas. It also describes how to define listing groups.
- [*Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*](#) describes how to use the more advanced and less common Business Intelligence modeling features: computed dimensions, unstructured data in cubes, compound cubes, cube relationships, term lists, quality measures, KPIs, plug-ins, and other special options.
- [*Using InterSystems MDX*](#) introduces MDX and describes how to write MDX queries manually for use with cubes.
- [*InterSystems MDX Reference*](#) provides reference information on MDX as supported by Business Intelligence.
- [*Client-Side APIs for InterSystems Business Intelligence*](#) provides information on the Business Intelligence JavaScript and REST APIs, which you can use to create web clients for your Business Intelligence applications.

The following books are for both developers and users:

- [*Using Dashboards and the User Portal*](#) describes how to use the Business Intelligence User Portal and dashboards.
- [*Creating Dashboards*](#) describes how to create and modify dashboards in Business Intelligence.
- [*Using the Analyzer*](#) describes how to create and modify pivot tables, as well as perform ad hoc analysis.

Also see the article [*Using PMML Models in InterSystems IRIS®*](#).

1

Introduction to Business Intelligence

This chapter introduces InterSystems IRIS Business Intelligence, which enables you to embed business intelligence (BI) into your applications. This chapter discusses the following topics:

- [Purpose of Business Intelligence](#)
- [Introduction to dashboards](#)
- [Data sources for dashboards](#)
- [Business Intelligence models](#)

Note: You can use Business Intelligence only in a specifically configured web application. See “[Setting Up the Web Application](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*. Also, be sure to consult the online [InterSystems Supported Platforms](#) document for this release for information on system requirements.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of InterSystems Business Intelligence is to enable you to embed business intelligence (BI) into your applications so that your users can ask and answer sophisticated questions of their data. Specifically, your application can include *dashboards*, which can include the following:

- Interactive widgets that execute queries designed for specific user roles or for specific areas of your user interface.
- Controls such as drop-down lists and data choosers that enable users to modify these queries.
- Interactive drill options that enable users to view the displayed data in different ways.
- Options to export, print, and send alerts to other users.
- An option to launch the Mini Analyzer, which supports free-form analysis.
- Execute custom actions that are provided as buttons or other controls.

In contrast to traditional BI systems that use static data warehouses, Business Intelligence is kept closely in synchronization with the live transactional data, as required for your business.

1.2 Dashboard Visual Details

The following example shows a sample dashboard:

		Female		Male	
Age Group-	Age Bucket	Patient Count	Avg Allergy Count	Patient Count	Avg Allergy
		0 to 29	0 to 9	71	1.09
	10 to 19	60	1.03	75	
	20 to 29	60	1.16	56	
30 to 59	30 to 39	78	1.07	88	
	40 to 49	76	1	63	
	50 to 59	57	0.91	49	
60+	60 to 69	50	1.12	36	
	70 to 79	39	0.86	23	
	80+	27	1.22	14	

Favorite Color	Patient Count
None	65
Blue	149
Green	156
Orange	149
Purple	166
Red	156
Yellow	159

A dashboard consists of the following areas:

- The upper left displays the name of the dashboard and (if defined) its title.
- Depending on the system configuration and on the individual layout of a dashboard, a dashboard can include zero, one, or two worklist areas on the left. For any worklist area, the upper right corner displays icons to indicate which worklists it can display. For example:



The highlighted icon indicates which worklist is currently displayed. You can select a different icon to display the corresponding worklist in this area instead.

The **Filters** worklist is specific to the dashboard. You use this to filter the widgets shown on this dashboard.

- The right area contains one or more widgets. Each *widget* is a rectangular panel that displays data in some form.

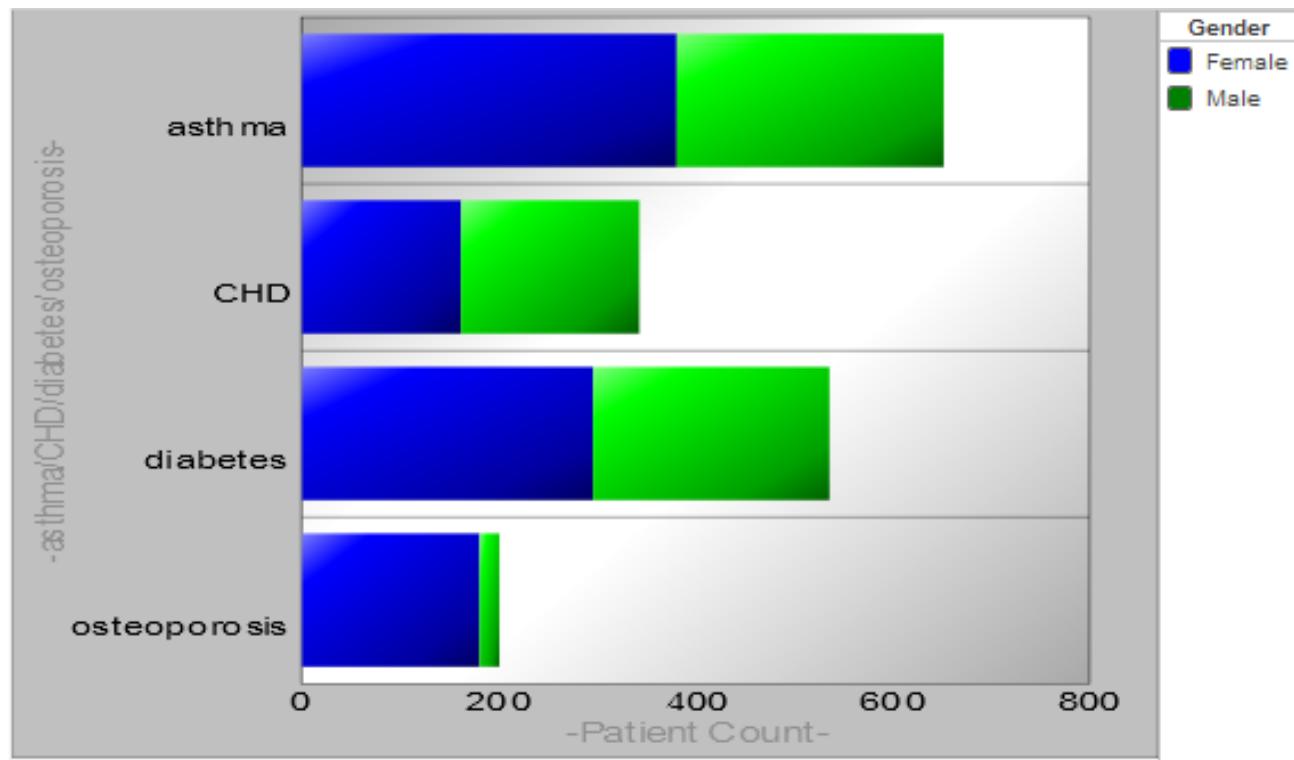
The following subsection describes the more common widgets.

1.2.1 Pivot Table Widgets

A pivot table widget displays data in one of three formats. First, it can display the data as a table:

Age Group		Female		Male	
		Patient Count	Avg Allergy Count	Patient Count	Avg Allergy Count
0 to 29	0 to 9	680	0.60	750	0.63
	10 to 19	756	0.66	769	0.69
	20 to 29	661	0.64	648	0.61
30 to 59	30 to 39	815	0.63	735	0.65
	40 to 49	728	0.68	741	0.61
	50 to 59	586	0.58	552	0.62
60+	60 to 69	397	0.64	319	0.68
	70 to 79	304	0.58	242	0.56
	80+	217	0.57	100	0.66

Second, it can display the data as a chart:



Third, it can display a detail listing, which is a table that shows selected fields from the lowest-level records:

	#	PatientID	Age	Gender	Home City	Test Score
	1	SUBJ_100631	0	F	Elm Heights	50
	2	SUBJ_100781	0	F	Redwood	78
	3	SUBJ_100820	0	F	Magnolia	89
	4	SUBJ_100966	0	F	Cypress	91
	5	SUBJ_101274	0	F	Pine	
	6	SUBJ_101340	0	F	Redwood	
	7	SUBJ_101466	0	F	Magnolia	81
	8	SUBJ_101532	0	F	Pine	67
	9	SUBJ_101587	0	F	Elm Heights	77
	10	SUBJ_102327	0	F	Redwood	79

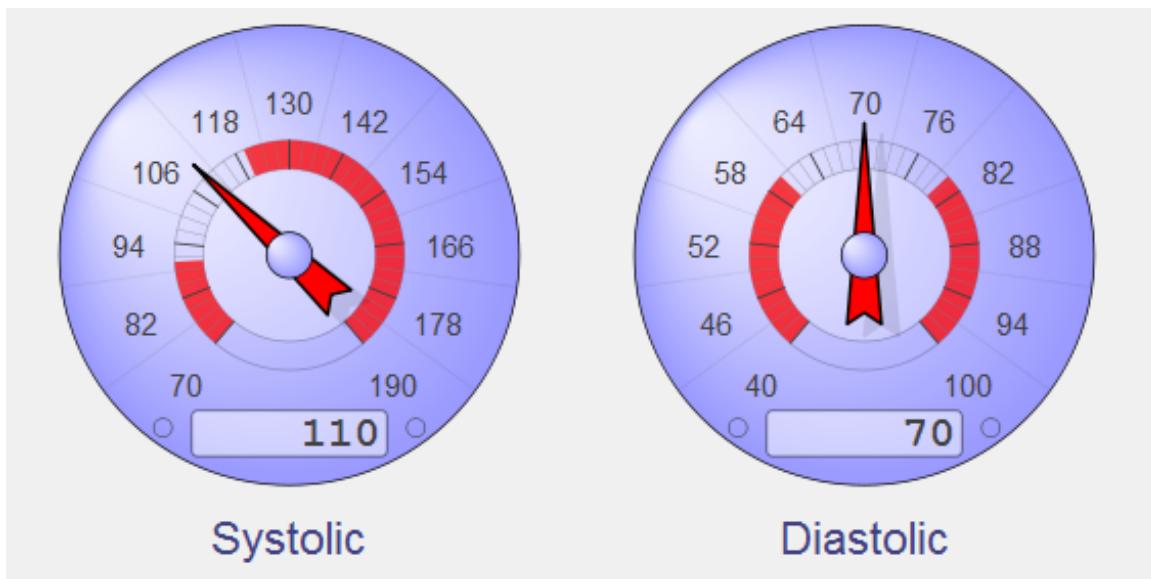
1.2.2 Scorecard Widgets

A scorecard widget displays one or more rows of data in a tabular format that also includes features such as value-dependent lamps and arrows. For example:



1.2.3 Meter Widgets

A meter widget displays one or more values, each in a graphical object as follows:



The preceding picture shows values in a speedometer. Business Intelligence supports several other forms of meters.

1.2.4 Map Widgets

A map widget shows a map with highlighted points that typically correspond to locations that are relevant to your business scenario:



1.2.5 Calendar Widgets

A dashboard can include an informational calendar widget like the following:

«	Day	Week	Month	»
May 2011				
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31	1	2
				3
				4

1.2.6 Custom Widgets

A dashboard can also include custom widgets called *portlets*. The following shows an example:

My Widget		
Sales	UP	12%
Costs	DOWN	-8%
Profits	UP	18%

1.3 Data Sources for Widgets

In a dashboard, most widgets use a data source, which is one of the following:

- A pivot table. Pivot tables are created in the Analyzer. A pivot table is a query based on a cube, which is part of a Business Intelligence model. The [following section](#) discusses Business Intelligence models.
- A KPI (key performance indicator). A KPI is a more advanced query created by a programmer; it is also part of a Business Intelligence model.

1.4 Business Intelligence Models

A Business Intelligence model includes some or all of the following elements:

- At least one cube definition. A cube describes ways that you can query a set of specific base elements (such as patients or transactions). A cube includes *levels*, which enable you to group records from the base set, and *measures*, which show aggregate values of those records. It also defines listings and other items.

You use a cube to create pivot tables. For example:

Patient Group	Avg Test Score
Group A	75.08
Group B	74.22
None	

In this pivot table, the rows correspond to the members of the Patient Group level; each member is shown as one row. The data column displays the aggregate value of the Avg Test Score measure for each of these members; for this measure, the system computes the average value. Notice that the Avg Test Score is null for the None patient group.

- Any number of subject areas. A *subject area* is a subcube that enables users to focus on smaller sets of data without the need for multiple cubes. A subject area also enables you to customize captions and defaults of the cube.
- Any number of KPIs (key performance indicators). In Business Intelligence, a KPI is an interactive dataset that can be displayed on a dashboard. It uses a custom query created by a programmer. The query can use SQL, MDX (Multi-Dimensional Expressions, which is also generated by the Analyzer), or custom code.

The KPI can also define *actions*, which a user can launch and which execute your custom code.

2

Introduction to the Business Intelligence User Interfaces

This chapter provides a quick look at the InterSystems IRIS Business Intelligence user interfaces. It discusses the following topics:

- [How to log on to Business Intelligence](#)
- [Architect](#)
- [Analyzer](#)
- [User Portal](#)
- [MDX Query Tool](#)
- [Term List Manager](#)
- [Listing Group Manager](#)
- [Quality Measure Manager](#)
- [Model Browser](#)
- [Logs](#)
- [Folder Manager](#)
- [Settings](#)
- [Cube Manager](#)

Note: You can use Business Intelligence only in a specifically configured web application. See “[Setting Up the Web Application](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*. Also, be sure to consult the online [InterSystems Supported Platforms](#) document for this release for information on system requirements.

For information on the PMML Model Tester, see *Using PMML Models in InterSystems IRIS®*.

2.1 Logging On to Business Intelligence

To log on to Business Intelligence, do the following in the Management Portal:

1. Switch to the appropriate namespace as follows:

- a. Select **Switch**.
 - b. Select the namespace.
 - c. Select **OK**.
2. Select **Analytics**. The system displays a list of the tools for Business Intelligence:
- **Architect** — Enables you to [define cubes](#).
 - **Analyzer** — Enables you to [define pivot tables](#).
 - **User Portal** — Launches the [User Portal](#), which includes the Analyzer and the Dashboard Designer.
 - **Tools** — Provides access to the [MDX Query Tool](#), the [Term List Manager](#), [Quality Measures](#), and the [Model Browser](#).
 - **Admin** — Provides access to the [Business Intelligence Logs](#), the [Folder Manager](#), [Settings](#), and the [Cube Manager](#).

Note: The Management Portal provides access to all Business Intelligence tools, including the back-end tools such as the Architect as well as the User Portal. Because the User Portal is intended for end users, it does not enable most users to return to the Management Portal.

2.2 Architect

The Architect enables you to define cubes and subject areas. You can use this tool, Studio, or both together.

When you first display the Architect, using the sample HoleFoods cube, you see the following:

The screenshot shows the Architect interface for the HoleFoods cube. The top navigation bar includes 'Menu', 'Home | About | Help | Logout', 'DeepSee > Architect', 'Server: SAMPLES', 'Namespace: SAMPLES Switch', 'User: SamSmith', and 'Licensed to: InterSystems Development'. Below the menu is a toolbar with 'View' (grid icon), 'New', 'Open', 'Save', 'Compile', 'Build', and 'Documentation'. The main workspace is divided into several sections:

- Source Class:** A tree view showing 'HoleFoods.Transaction' expanded, listing items like %ID, Actual, AmountOfSale, Channel, Comment, DateOfSale, Discount, Latitude, Longitude, Outlet, Product, TargetAmount, UnitsSold, and ZipCode.
- Model Elements:** A table with columns 'HoleFoods', 'Element Type', and 'Details'.
 - Measures:**

Amount Sold	measure	SUM AmountOfSale
Units Sold	measure	SUM UnitsSold
Max Units	measure	MAX UnitsSold
Big Sale	measure	SUM (expression)
Target	measure	SUM TargetAmount
Comment	measure	SUM Comment
 - Dimensions:**
 - Comments:** data dimension

H1	hierarchy
Comments	level 1
 - DateOfSale:** time dimension

Actual	hierarchy	
YearSold	level 1	Year
MonthSold	level 2	MonthYear
DaySold	level 3	DayMonthYear
- Details:** A panel on the right containing fields for 'Caption' (HoleFoods Sales), 'Domain' (HOLEFOOD), 'Source class' (HoleFoods.Transaction), 'Null replacement string' (Missing Value), 'Default listing' (Listing), and 'Owner' (Resource).

For details, see [Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence](#).

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

2.3 Analyzer

The Analyzer enables you to define pivot tables. The Analyzer looks like the following.

The screenshot shows the Analyzer interface with the following details:

- Header:** Home | About | Help | Contact | Logout | Analytics > Analyzer | Server: USE7270otian | Namespace: SAMPLES | Switch | User: UnknownUser | Licensed to: ISC Development | Instance: IRIS
- Toolbar:** View (grid icon highlighted), New, Open, Save, Save As, Restore, Delete, Auto-execute (checkbox), Preview Mode, - action - dropdown.
- Left Sidebar:**
 - Dimensions: HoleFoods Sales
 - Measures:
 - Count
 - Revenue
 - Units Sold** (selected)
 - Max Units
 - Big Sale Count
 - 5 year avg growth
 - 90th Percentile Revenue
 - Growth over last period
 - Median Revenue
 - Pct Sold
 - Product percent of total
 - Dimensions:
 - Comments
 - DateOfSale
 - Product
- Pivot Table Area:**

Product Category	Units Sold
Candy	118,425
Cereal	118,583
Dairy	58,855
Fruit	207,985
Pasta	466,158
Seafood	58,942
Snack	510,270
Vegetable	162,841

For information, see [Using the Analyzer](#).

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

2.4 User Portal

The User Portal is intended for direct use by end users (in contrast to such back end tools as Studio and the Management Portal). The User Portal includes the Analyzer and the Dashboard Designer.

The User Portal looks like the following:

Menu Home | Logout User: SSmith Licensed to: InterSystems Development

Welcome, Sam Smith

Alerts 19 new item(s)

From	Subject	Date
Keith Madison	for your demo to management	Today at 10:03:36
Olivia Randolph-Erickson	Sample Alert	Today at 10:03:57
NBAKER	PLEASE REVIEW THIS ASAP	Today at 10:03:57
L. Jones	See this recent activity	Today at 10:03:57
NBAKER	NEED YOUR INPUT HERE	Today at 10:03:57
Max Wilson	Sample low-priority alert	Today at 10:03:57
Keith Madison	for your demo to management	Today at 10:03:57
Olivia Randolph-Erickson	Sample Alert	Today at 10:04:32

Favorites

Basic Dashboard Demo	Today at 04:16:45
Sales Against Targets	

« ⌂ Search Go Show: All Personal Shared Public

Name	Type	Keywords
Basic Dashboard Demo	DASHBOARD	Patients
Demo Filter Interoperability	DASHBOARD	Patients,KPIs
Demo Linked Widgets	DASHBOARD	HoleFoods
Demo Listing with Filters	DASHBOARD	Patients
Demo OnClick Filter of Listing	DASHBOARD	HoleFoods
Demo Real Time Updates	DASHBOARD	Patients,KPIs
Demo Trend Lines	DASHBOARD	Patients,KPIs
Demo Two Subject Areas Together	DASHBOARD	Patients
HoleFoods Compound Cube	DASHBOARD	HoleFoods
KPI with Crossjoin	DASHBOARD	Patients,KPIs
KPI with Listing	DASHBOARD	HoleFoods
KPI with Switchable Rows	DASHBOARD	HoleFoods,KP
MDX Based KPI	DASHBOARD	Patients,KPIs
Patients Compound Cube	DASHBOARD	Patients
Sales Against Targets	DASHBOARD	HoleFoods,KF
Sample Bubble Chart	DASHBOARD	Patients
Sample Combo Chart	DASHBOARD	Patients

For information, see the [Using Dashboards and the User Portal](#).

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

2.5 MDX Query Tool

The Business Intelligence MDX Query Tool enables you to run ad hoc MDX queries. It looks like the following:

Menu Home | About | Help | Logout DeepSee > Query Tool

Server: hayden6410 Namespace: SAMPLES Switch
User: SamSmith Licensed to: InterSystems Development Instance: CACHET

Change Subject Area Query Tool

View: Cube Members

▼ Measures
 ► Count
 ► Amount Sold
 ► Units Sold
 ► Max Units
 ► Big Sale
 ► Target
 ► 5 year avg growth
 ► Pct Sold
 ► Percent of total
 ► Year over Year growth

▼ Dimensions
 ► Comments
 ► DateOfSale
 ► Product
 ▼ Outlet
 ► All Outlet
 ► Region
 ► Country

MDX statement

```
SELECT [Product].[P1].[Product Name].Members ON 1
FROM holefoods WHERE channel.retail
```

Execute Show Plan Export to Excel

Bagels (dozen)	29
Bundt Cake	28
Calamari (frozen)	8
Cheerios (box)	31
Donuts (dozen)	19

To execute an MDX query, type the query into the text box and then select **Execute**. You can also drag and drop items from the left area into the **MDX statement** area; if you do, the dropped items are added to the end of the query.

The bottom area on the right then displays the results.

To see the plan for the query, select **Show Plan**. For example:

```

Query execution plan:
SELECT [%SEARCH] ON 0,[PRODUCT].[P1].[PRODUCT NAME].MEMBERS ON 1 FROM [HOLEFOODS_CUBE]
WHERE [CHANNEL].[RETAIL]

Execute dimension query: (%FindMemberByName)
SELECT TOP 1 %ID,DxChannel MKEY,DxChannelExt FROM HoleFoods_Cube.StarChannel WHERE DxChannelExt=? ORDER BY DxChannelExt

Execute dimension query: (%GetMembers)
SELECT %ID,DxProduct MKEY, DxrNameViaProduct FROM HoleFoods_Cube.StarProduct ORDER BY DxrNameViaProduct

Compute cell values in parallel
  
```

1 / 1 x 1 Tasks

For an introduction to MDX, see [Using InterSystems MDX](#). For reference information on MDX, see the [InterSystems MDX Reference](#).

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

2.6 Term List Manager

The Term List Manager enables you to build term lists, which provide a way to modify a Business Intelligence model without programming. It looks like the following:

Term List Manager

New Open Save Save As Delete Export

Terms

A term list defines a set of key/value pairs that you can use with your DeepSee data models.
Use the Open command to load an existing term list or New to create a new one.

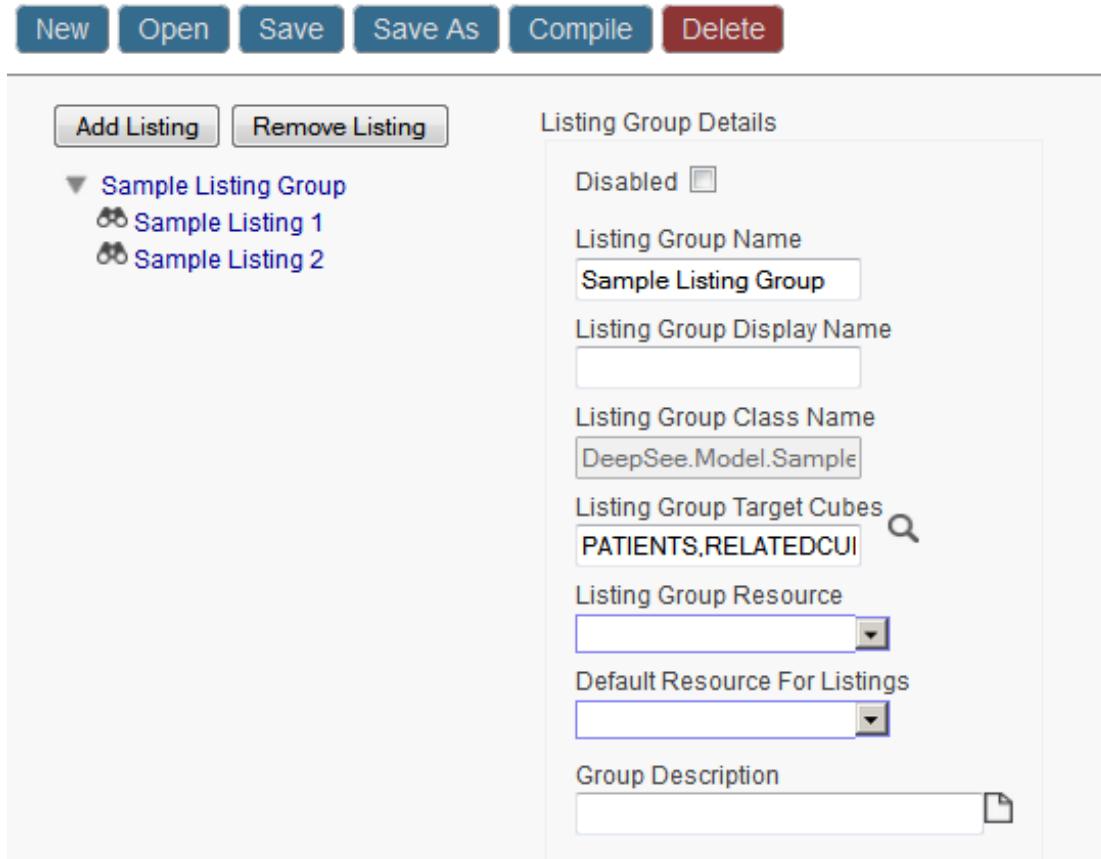
CSV File to import Import

For information on creating term lists, see the [Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence](#).

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

2.7 Listing Group Manager

The Listing Group Manager enables you to define listings that are not contained in any cube definition. The purpose of this tool is to enable you (and your customers, if appropriate) to define listings outside of cube definitions and without needing access to the Architect. The Listing Group Manager looks like this:



For information, see “[Defining Listing Groups](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

2.8 Quality Measure Manager

The Quality Measure Manager enables you to define quality measures, a kind of calculated measure that can be reused in multiple contexts. It looks like the following:

The screenshot shows the Model Browser interface with the following details:

- Top Navigation:** Menu, Home | About | Help | Logout, Analytics > Quality Measure Manager.
- User Information:** Server: SAMPLES, Namespace: SAMPLES Switch, User: Sam Smith, Licensed to: InterSystems Development.
- Main Area:** A blue header bar says "Quality Measures". Below it are buttons: Browse, Open, Edit, New, Save, Save As, Remove.
- Catalog Content:** A section titled "Preventive health care" under "Children and adolescents" contains six items in a grid:

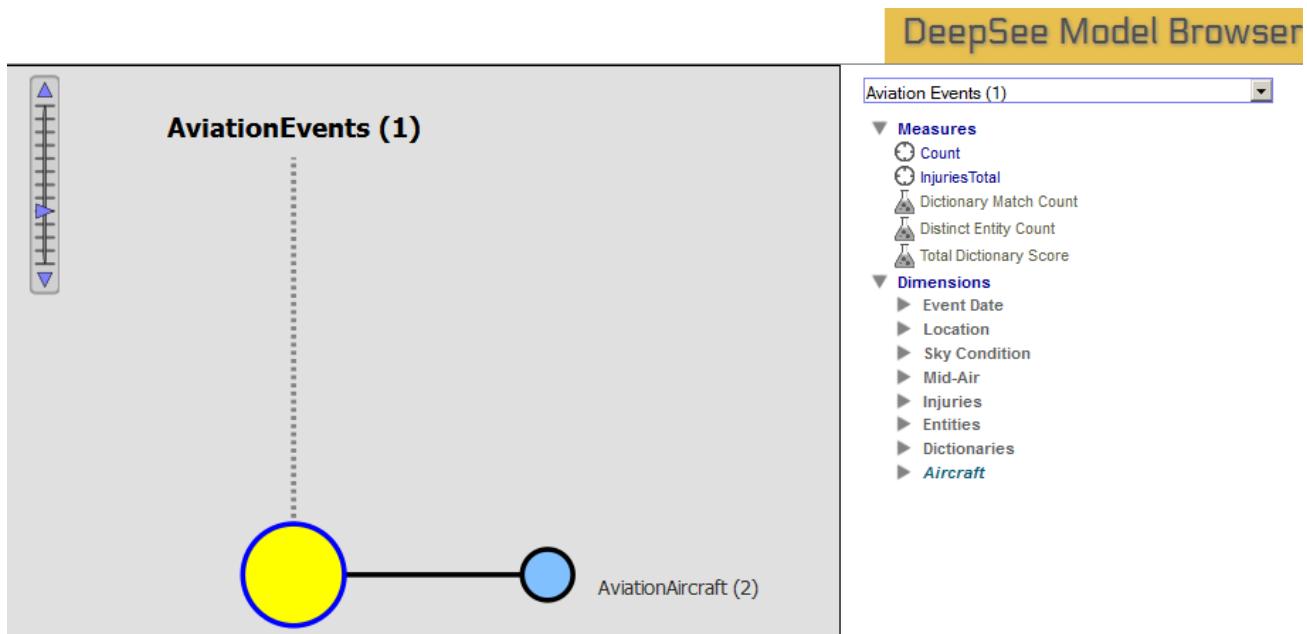
WA Weight assessment and counseling for nutrition and physical activity for children and adolescents View	ADHD Follow-up care for children prescribed ADHD medication View
WC0-15m Well-child exams (0-15 months) View	WC3-6y Well-child exams (3-6 years) View
WC12-21y Well-child exams (12-21 years) View	IMM-CH Childhood immunization View
IMM-AD Immunizations for Adolescents View	LEADSCR Lead screening in children (Medicaid only) View
- Note:** To the left of the catalog, a note says "The complete set of available metrics are displayed on the right."

For information, see the [Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence](#)

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

2.9 Model Browser

The Model Browser is a useful way of viewing relationships among cubes. It looks like the following:



For information, see [Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence](#).

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

2.10 Business Intelligence Logs

The **Logs** option displays the Business Intelligence log file, which the system generates when it builds cubes. It looks like the following:

The screenshot shows the Log File Viewer interface. At the top, there's a menu with "Menu", "Home | About | Help | Logout", and "DeepSee > Log File Viewer". Below that is a dark blue header bar with "Log File Viewer". To the right of the header, it says "Server: LexiHayden6410", "Namespace: SAMPLES", "User: UnknownUser", and "Licensed to: InterSyste". At the bottom of the header, there are "Refresh" and "Delete" buttons. The main area contains a log file entry:

```
[Goto Bottom]
C:\InterSystems\Cache\mgr\DeepSeeTasks_SAMPLES.log
2013-06-11 15:33:35
-----
2013-02-22 17:47:35.067      8548 TaskMaster Create background agents..
2013-02-22 17:47:35.267      8548 TaskMaster Background agents created: 16
2013-03-01 09:12:49.677      6932 TaskMaster Create background agents..
2013-03-01 09:12:49.677      6932 TaskMaster Background agents created: 16
```

For information on the permissions needed to access this page, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

2.11 Folder Manager

The Folder Manager enables you to manage items within user folders. It looks like the following:

Name	Type	Created by	Public
Basic Dashboard Demo	DASHBOARD	Yes	X
Custom Drilldown Spec	DASHBOARD	Yes	X
Data Driven Colors	DASHBOARD	Yes	X
Date Filter Demo	DASHBOARD	Yes	X
Drill Options	DASHBOARD	Yes	X
Dynamic Dashboard	DASHBOARD	Yes	X
HoleFoods Compound Cube	DASHBOARD	Yes	X
Listing with Filters	DASHBOARD	Yes	X
Listing with OnClick Filter	DASHBOARD	Yes	X
Patients Compound Cube	DASHBOARD	Yes	X

You can use this to export pivot tables and dashboards so that you can package their definitions into a class definition. See the [Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence](#).

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

2.12 Settings

The **Settings** option lets you specify settings that affect the appearance of Business Intelligence within this namespace. It looks like the following:

The screenshot shows a web-based application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Menu', 'Home | About | Help | Logout', and 'Analytics > Settings'. Below this, a dark blue header bar displays the text 'Settings'. To the right of the header, it shows 'Server: SAMPLES', 'Namespace: SA', 'User: SamSmith', and 'Licensed to: Int'. A large blue 'Save' button is located below the header. The main content area has a title 'User Portal settings for namespace SAMPLES.' and a sub-instruction 'Press Save to apply changes.' Below this, there is a tabbed navigation bar with 'General' (selected), 'Worklists', 'Run-time Variables', and 'User-defined Icons'. The 'General' tab contains several configuration fields: 'General Color Scheme' (dropdown menu set to 'Simple'), 'Chart Series Color Scheme' (dropdown menu set to 'Default'), 'Home page title' (text input field), 'Title for Portal Home page' (text input field), 'Company Name' (text input field), 'Company name to display in Portal title.' (text input field), 'Company Logo' (text input field), and 'URL of icon to display in Portal title.' (text input field).

For information, see the [Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence](#).

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in [Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence](#).

2.13 Cube Manager

The Cube Manager enables you to easily update cubes. You use it to determine how and when to update cubes. It adds automated tasks that rebuild or synchronize cubes at the scheduled dates and times that you choose. It looks like the following:

Menu		Home About Help Logout	DeepSee > Cube Registry		Server: SAMPLES	Namespace: SAMPLES Switch		
Cube Registry		User: UnknownUser			Licensed to: InterSystems Sales Engineers	Instance: 1		
View:			Save	Expand All	Collapse All			
Undo								
Filter:		Page size: 0	Max rows: 1000	Results: 17	Page: 1 of 1			
Cube Name	Group Name	Registered	Exclude	Group Build Order	Update Plan	Supports Synchronize	Build Every	Synch Every
CITIES	Group 2	Yes	Yes	1	Build Only	No	1 Week	
CITYRAINFALL	Group 3	Yes	Yes	1	Build and Synch	Yes	1 Week	1 Day
HOLEFOODS	Group 8	Yes	No	1	Build and Synch	Yes	1 Week	1 Day
PATIENTS	Group 10	Yes	No	1	Build and Synch	Yes	1 Week	1 Day
RELATEDCUBES/CITIES	Group 12	Yes	Yes	1	Build Only	No	1 Week	
RELATEDCUBES/DOCTORS	Group 12	Yes	Yes	2	Build Only	No	1 Week	
RELATEDCUBES/CITYRAINFALL	Group 12	Yes	Yes	3	Build and Synch	Yes	1 Week	1 Day
RELATEDCUBES/PATIENTS	Group 12	Yes	Yes	4	Build and Synch	Yes	1 Week	1 Day
AVIATIONEVENTS	Group 1	No	Yes			No		
AVIATIONAIRCRAFT	Group 1	No	Yes			No		
AVIATIONCREW	Group 1	No	Yes			No		
COMPOUNDCUBE/CITYRAINFALL	Group 4	No	Yes			Yes		
COMPOUNDCUBE/DOCTORS	Group 5	No	Yes			No		
COMPOUNDCUBE/PATIENTS	Group 6	No	Yes			Yes		
CONNECTORCUBE	Group 7	No	Yes			No		
HOLEFOODSBUDGET	Group 9	No	Yes			Yes		
PATIENTSQUERYCUBE	Group 11	No	Yes			No		

For details, see “[Keeping the Cubes Current](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

For information on the permissions needed to use this tool, see “[Setting Up Security](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

3

Introduction to the Other Business Intelligence Tools

This chapter introduces the other tools for working with InterSystems IRIS Business Intelligence.

3.1 BI Samples

Most of the samples in this book are part of the Samples-BI sample (<https://github.com/intersystems/Samples-BI>) or the Samples-Aviation sample (<https://github.com/intersystems/Samples-Aviation>).

InterSystems recommends that you create a dedicated namespace called SAMPLES (for example) and load samples into that namespace. For the general process, see *Downloading Samples for Use with InterSystems IRIS®*.

3.2 MDX Shell

The system provides a shell in which you can issue MDX queries to explore your cubes and subject areas. This section introduces this shell and lists the supported MDX options and functions.

For an introduction to MDX queries, see [Using InterSystems MDX](#), which contains many examples.

Also see the [InterSystems MDX Reference](#).

3.2.1 Accessing the MDX Shell

To access the MDX shell, start the Terminal and do the following:

1. Switch to the namespace in which you defined the cube or subject area.
2. Enter the following command:

```
Do ##class(%DeepSee.Utils).%Shell()
```

Now you can enter MDX queries like the following:

```
SELECT MEASURES.[%COUNT] ON 0, birthd.decade.MEMBERS ON 1 FROM patients
```

When you do so, the shell executes the query, displays its results to the console, and redisplays the shell prompt, as follows:

```
Patient Count
1 1910s          71
2 1920s          223
3 1930s          572
4 1940s          683
5 1950s          1,030
6 1960s          1,500
7 1970s          1,520
8 1980s          1,400
9 1990s          1,413
10 2000s         1,433
11 2010s         155
-----
Elapsed time: .014128s
```

In the shell:

- To display a list of cubes and subject areas, enter `cube`
- To see the contents of a cube or subject area, enter `cube name_of_cube_or_subject_area`

Note: This command does not display calculated members and named sets, although you can use these elements in the shell and elsewhere.

For a subject area, this command lists all elements, even if those are specified as hidden in the subject area.

- To exit the shell, enter `q`
- To enable query caching, enter `cache on`
- To enable the asynchronous mode, enter `async on`
- To build a cube, enter `build cubename`
- To reset the query cache, enter `reset`
- For a list of additional shell options, enter `?`

3.2.2 Viewing the Indices Used by a Query

The Business Intelligence shell provides a quick way to see the indices that a query uses:

1. Issue the following shell command:

```
stats on
```

2. Enter the query, preceded by `%SHOWPLAN`. For example:

```
%SHOWPLAN SELECT aged.[age group].members ON 0, allerd.H1.MEMBERS ON 1 FROM patients WHERE colord.red
```

```
0 to 29          30 to 59          60 +
1 additive/colorin    27           19          14
2 animal dander     15           25          8
3 ant bites         15           19          11
4 bee stings        24           27          7
5 dairy products    25           25          4
6 dust mites        28           23          10
7 eggs              19           21          13
8 fish              26           17          11
9 mold              23           23          6
10 nil known allerg 80           82          21
11 No Data Availabl 216          194         92
12 peanuts           26           15          8
13 pollen            29           22          11
14 shellfish         29           23          14
15 soy               25           25          6
16 tree nuts         22           18          8
17 wheat             16           17          8
----- Query Plan -----
```

```
***SHOWPLAN SELECT [AGED].[AGE GROUP].MEMBERS ON 0,[ALLERD].[H1].MEMBERS ON 1 FROM [PATIENTS] WHERE
[COLORD].[RED]**
**DIMENSION QUERY (%FindMemberByName): SELECT TOP 1 %ID,Dx327553094 MKEY,Dx327553094 FROM
Cubes_StudyPatients.Star327553094 WHERE Dx327553094=? ORDER BY Dx327553094**
**EXECUTE PARALLEL: 1x1 task(s) **
**CONSOLIDATE**
----- End of Plan -----
```

Line breaks were added here for readability.

The system captures all the indices used by the query and reports them. Note that the query results are not necessarily correct because the query is only partially run; the purpose of %SHOWPLAN is to enable you to see the indices, not to get the query results.

3.3 Utility Methods

- The class %SYSTEM.DeepSee includes the most commonly used utility methods. These include:
 - **BuildCube()**
 - **KillCube()**
 - **ListCubes()**
 - **Reset()**
 - **Shell()**
 - **SynchronizeCube()**

This class is available via the special variable \$SYSTEM, as are all classes in the %SYSTEM package. For example, to build a cube, you can use the following:

```
Do $system.DeepSee.BuildCube( "MyCube" )
```

- The class %DeepSee_Utils includes a large set of utility methods, including:
 - **%ExportExcelToFile()** — exports a Business Intelligence query or KPI to a file in Microsoft Excel format
 - **%ExportPDFToFile()** — exports a Business Intelligence query or KPI to a file in PDF format
 - **%GetAgentCount()** — gets the current agent count
 - **%GetBaseCube()** — gets the name of cube on which a subject area is based
 - **%GetCubeFactClass()** — gets the name of fact table class associated with a cube
 - **%GetCubeLevels()** — gets the levels, measures, and relationships defined in a cube
 - **%GetDimensionMembers()** — gets the list of members of a dimension
 - **%GetMetricList()** — gets all production business metrics visible to current user
 - **%GetSQLTableName()** — gets SQL table name for a given class
 - **%ProcessFact()** — updates a single fact for a cube
 - **%GetMDXFromPivot()** — returns the MDX query defined by a pivot table
 - **%ExecutePivot()** — runs the MDX query defined by a pivot table and optionally returns an instance of %DeepSee.ResultSet
 - **%GetResultSetFromPivot()** — returns an instance of %DeepSee.ResultSet that holds the MDX query defined by a pivot table and optionally runs that query

- The class %DeepSee.UserLibrary.Utils includes methods that you can use to programmatically perform the tasks supported in the Folder Manager. These methods include:
 - **%AddFavorite()**
 - **%DeleteFolderContents()**
 - **%DeleteFolderItem()**
 - **%Export()**
 - **%GetFolderList()**
 - **%ImportContainer()**

3.4 Data Connector

The data connector class (%DeepSee.DataConnector) enables you to make arbitrary SQL queries available for use in cubes and listings. See the [Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence](#).

3.5 Result Set API

The class %DeepSee.ResultSet enables you to execute MDX queries programmatically and access the results.

For information, see the [Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence](#).

3.6 JavaScript and REST APIs

The Business Intelligence JavaScript API is provided by the file DeepSee.js, which is in the *install-dir/CSP/broker* directory. This JavaScript library enables you to interact with Business Intelligence from a client that is based on JavaScript. The functions in this library are a wrapper for a REST-based API for Business Intelligence. You can also use the REST API directly.

For information, see [Client-Side APIs for InterSystems Business Intelligence](#).

Business Intelligence Glossary

This glossary summarizes terms found in the InterSystems IRIS Business Intelligence documentation. If you have not yet done so, InterSystems highly recommends that you read “[Basic Concepts](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

action

An operation that a user can start by using a [control](#) (such as a button) on a dashboard. The system provides a set of standard actions (such as applying a filter, navigating to another dashboard, and others), and you can add custom actions. See “[Defining Custom Actions](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

age dimension and age level

An age dimension is a [dimension](#) that contains [age levels](#). An age level groups data by an age, relative to the cube build time, computed from a date or time value in the source data. Age dimensions and age levels are not generally recommended, because they require nightly [rebuilds](#).

age measure

A [measure](#) that provides an aggregated age value in days. Age measures are not generally recommended, because they require nightly [rebuilds](#).

All level and All member

The All level is a special, optional [level](#), which appears in all the hierarchies of a [dimension](#). If defined, this level contains one [member](#), the All member, which corresponds to all records in the cube. You can use the All member to create a summary line in a pivot table.

BI

Business intelligence, a set of tools and techniques that transform raw data into insights that can improve the operation of a business or other organization. BI is intended to support a measurement-based approach to making strategic and tactical decisions.

building a cube

The process of iterating through the [source class](#) for a cube and populating the [fact table](#) (and building the indices for that table). See also [synchronizing a cube](#).

For details, see “[Compiling and Building Cubes](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence* and “[Keeping the Cubes Current](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*

business metric

A two-dimensional array of data generated by a running production and generally providing data relevant to or about that production. Like [pivot tables](#), business metrics can be displayed on a [dashboard](#), within a [widget](#). For information on creating production business metrics, see *Developing Productions*.

business rule

A concept that allows nontechnical users to change the behavior of business processes within a production. You can use them in source expressions in cubes; see “[Details for Source Expressions](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*. For details on production business rules, see *Developing Business Rules*.

calculated measure

A measure that is based on other measures via an [MDX](#) expression. The phrase *calculated measure* is not standard in MDX, but this documentation uses it for brevity. Formally, a calculated measure is a [calculated member](#) that belongs to the Measures dimension.

calculated member

A member that is based on other members via an [MDX](#) expression. You can define two kinds of calculated members:

- A calculated measure is a measure based on other measures. (In MDX, each measure is a member of the Measures dimension.)

For example, one measure might be defined as a second measure divided by a third measure.

The phrase *calculated measure* is not standard in MDX, but this documentation uses it for brevity.

- A non-measure calculated member typically aggregates together other non-measure members. Like other non-measure members, this calculated member is a group of records in the fact table.

See “[Defining Calculated Members](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

compound cube

A special kind of [subject area](#) that combines multiple cube definitions (typically two) and that enables you to create pivot tables that contain elements from multiple cubes. See “[Defining Shared Dimensions and Compound Cubes](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

computed dimension

A special kind of Business Intelligence dimension whose members are computed at runtime via an SQL or [MDX](#) expression. See “[Defining Computed Dimensions](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

Computed dimensions do not have any association with calculated members. A computed dimension is specific to Business Intelligence. A calculated member is a standard concept in MDX.

container class

A class that extends %DeepSee.UserLibrary.Container. This class can contain the definitions of pivot tables, dashboards, and other Business Intelligence [folder items](#). When you compile this class, the system generates those folder items, replacing any current definitions that they might have. See the [Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence](#).

control

An interactive element on a [dashboard](#). Controls include drop-down lists and buttons.

cube

An model of your data that defines elements that can be used in [MDX](#) queries. These elements determine how you can query your data, specifically, a set of specific records (such as patient records or transaction records). The set of records is determined by the [source class](#) for the cube. For an introduction, see “[Basic Concepts](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

cube inheritance

A mechanism in Business Intelligence that enables you to define multiple similar cubes. This mechanism has no relationship to class inheritance. See “[Using Cube Inheritance](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

custom listing

A [listing](#), specifically one of the following special kinds of listings:

- A listing that uses a custom SQL query that retrieves fields from some other table, not the source table used by the cube, and not a data connector. See “[Defining Listings](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.
- A listing that consists of listing fields chosen by the user, in the Analyzer. See “[Performing Ad Hoc Analysis](#)” in *Using the Analyzer*.

dashboard

An interactive display of data, particularly data that provides a high-level data of a business. See [Creating Dashboards](#).

data connector

A class that extends %DeepSee.DataConnector. A data connector maps the results of an arbitrary SQL query into an object that can be used as the source of a [cube](#). Typically, a data connector accesses external data not in an InterSystems database, but you can also use it to specify an SQL query against an InterSystems database, including an SQL query on a view. See “[Defining and Using Data Connectors](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

detail listing

See [listing](#).

dimension

A container for [levels](#). A dimension contains one or more [hierarchies](#), which in turn contain levels. For example, a single dimension might contain multiple hierarchies related to allergies. There is no formal relationship between two different hierarchies or between the levels of one hierarchy and the levels of another hierarchy. The practical purpose of a dimension is to define the default behavior of the levels that it contains — specifically the All level.

See “[Defining Dimensions, Hierarchies, and Levels](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

dimension table

The table in which Business Intelligence stores the members of a level and any properties they have. See “[Details for the Fact and Dimension Tables](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

drill down

Examine a row of a pivot table and see the data for that row displayed in a more granular way. For example, a row might display data for a year, and you would drill down to see data for that year, broken out by month. Business Intelligence supports multiple forms of drill down. See “[Performing Ad Hoc Analysis](#)” in *Using the Analyzer*.

Informally (although not in this documentation), the phrases [drill through](#) and [drill down](#) are sometimes used interchangeably, and it is wise to double-check which phrase is intended.

drill through

Formally, *to drill through* means to display a [listing](#). Internally, the system uses the MDX [DRILLTHROUGH](#) statement when it displays a listing. See “[Performing Ad Hoc Analysis](#)” in *Using the Analyzer*.

Informally (although not in this documentation), the phrases [drill through](#) and [drill down](#) are sometimes used interchangeably, and it is wise to double-check which phrase is intended.

expression

An expression (<expression> element) whose value is available while the system is **building** a row in the **fact table**. You can define an expression that uses complex or time-consuming logic, and then you can base multiple cube elements on the expression. Expressions are for use during cube build only and are provided for efficiency.

See “[Other Options](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

fact

A row in the **fact table**.

fact table

A generated structure that the system queries directly. When you compile a **cube** definition, the system generates a fact table class. When you build a cube, the system creates records for this table and indexes them. See “[Basic Concepts](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

filter

A restriction on the data. The system provides two simple ways to filter data: member-based filters and measure-based filters. You can combine these, and more complex filters are also possible, especially if you write MDX queries directly. For an introduction, see “[Filters](#)” in “[Basic Concepts](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

folder item

Any of the following Business Intelligence items:

- Pivot tables
- Saved widgets
- Dashboards
- Themes

Business Intelligence folder items are visible in the Studio **Workspace** window, where they are shown in the **Other** folder.

geo listing

See [map listing](#).

hierarchy

An organization of **levels**. Levels belong to hierarchies (which belong to **dimensions**). A hierarchy can contain only single level or can contain multiple levels. If it contains multiple levels, the “higher” levels of the hierarchy are less granular than the “lower” levels. That is, each **member** of a higher level contains a larger set of records than does a member of a lower level.

In casual usage, a higher level is called the parent of the lower level. However, it is useful to remember that the hierarchy is actually a hierarchy among members. Thus it is more accurate to state that a member of the higher level is the parent of one or more members of the lower level. Conversely, any member of a lower level is the child of exactly one member of the higher level.

Hierarchies provide additional features beyond those provided by levels; see “[Hierarchies and Dimensions](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*. Also see “[Defining Dimensions, Hierarchies, and Levels](#)” in the same book.

NLP dimension

A special kind of [dimension](#) that analyzes an [NLP measure](#), which in turn is a measure based on [unstructured text](#). See “[Using Text Analytics in Cubes](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

NLP measure

A special kind of [measure](#) that is based on [unstructured text](#). You cannot display NLP measures directly in pivot tables. Their purpose is to provide data for use by [NLP dimensions](#). See “[Using Text Analytics in Cubes](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

KPI

A class based on `%DeepSee.KPI`. In most cases, a KPI uses a query and displays a result set. Like [pivot tables](#), KPIs can be displayed on a [dashboard](#), within a [widget](#). You can also use KPIs as building blocks for [calculated members](#) (including calculated measures). See “[Defining Basic KPIs](#)” and the chapters that follow it, in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

level

A [cube](#) element that enables you to group records. A level consists of members, each of which is a set of records. See “[Basic Concepts](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*. Also see “[Details of Defining Levels](#)” in the same book.

list-based level

A [level](#) that is based upon a list value. For example, a patient can have multiple diagnoses. The [Diagnoses](#) level groups patients by diagnosis. With a list level, it is possible for a given record of the source class to have multiple values and thus for that record to belong to multiple members of the level.

listing

An SQL query that accesses the lowest-level records associated with one or more cells of a pivot table. See “[Defining Listings](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

listing group

A class that defines a group of listings. Listing groups are created in the Listing Group Manager. The purpose of this tool is to enable you (and your customers, if appropriate) to define listings outside of cube definitions and without needing access to the Architect. See “[Defining Listing Groups](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

listing field

A `<listingField>` element defined in a cube definition. Users can select the listing fields to include, when they create [custom listings](#) in the Analyzer. See “[Defining Listing Fields](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

This phrase can also refer more generally to any field in any listing.

map listing

A [listing](#) that contains location data and is displayed as a map. Each pin on the map corresponds to a source record.

Important: A map listing uses the Google Maps API. Be sure that your usage of this API is consistent with the Terms of Use, which you can access via a link displayed in this listing.

Note that in order to use the Google Maps API, you must obtain an API key. See [Specifying Basic Settings](#) in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence* for more information.

map widget

A [dashboard widget](#) that contains location data and is displayed as a map. Each pin on the map corresponds to a member of a level, particularly a level that refers to locations.

Important: A map widget uses the Google Maps API. Be sure that your usage of this API is consistent with the Terms of Use, which you can access via a link displayed in this widget.

Note that in order to use the Google Maps API, you must obtain an API key. See [Specifying Basic Settings](#) in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence* for more information.

MDX

MultiDimensional eXpressions, a standard query language for OLAP (online analytical processing) databases and used in many [BI](#) applications. See [Using InterSystems MDX](#) and [InterSystems MDX Reference](#).

measure

A [cube](#) element that (with rare exceptions) aggregates values across multiple records. Each measure is based on a source value, which is either a class property or an ObjectScript expression. The definition of a measure also includes an aggregation function, which specifies how to aggregate values for this measure. See “[Basic Concepts](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*. Also see “[Defining Measures](#)” in the same book.

member

A set of records. Every [level](#) has one or members. See “[Basic Concepts](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*. Also see “[Details of Defining Levels](#)” in the same book.

named filter

A reusable [filter](#) that is defined in the Analyzer. See “[Filtering Pivot Tables](#)” in *Using the Analyzer*.

named set

A reusable MDX [set](#) that is defined within a [cube](#). See “[Defining Named Sets](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

pivot table

An interactive, drillable display of data, generally with rows and columns, designed for specific user roles or for specific areas of your user interface. A pivot table is based on an MDX query that is executed at runtime can respond to input such as filter selections made by the user. Internally it obtains values from a [cube](#). See [Using the Analyzer](#).

pivot variable

An element that is intended to be used in pivot tables, specifically, in selected parts of the query that defines the pivot table. When a dashboard displays the pivot table, that dashboard can include a [control](#) with which the user can change the value of the corresponding pivot variable. See “[Defining and Using Pivot Variables](#)” in *Using the Analyzer*.

Pivot variables are entirely different from [runtime variables](#).

portlet

A custom [widget](#) that can be displayed on [dashboards](#). For information on creating portlets, see the *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

plugin

A specialized form of [KPI](#) that defines one or more computations to use in the Analyzer and in queries. Plug-ins are especially appropriate for complex or time-consuming computations. For example, you might have a computation that uses several different parts of the source record, as well as external information; a plug-in would be suitable in this case. See “[Defining Plug-ins](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

property

A value that is specific to a [member](#) of a given [level](#). If a level has a property, then each member of that level has a value for that property; other levels do not have values for the property. You can use properties in queries in much the same way that you use measures. In Business Intelligence, you can also use properties for other purposes such as controlling member names and controlling the order in which member are sorted. See “[Defining Properties](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

quality measure

A quality measure is similar to a [calculated measure](#) because it is defined by a formula that combines [MDX](#) expressions. You specify the subject area or subject areas in which it is available, and you can control whether the quality measure is *published* (and thus available in the Analyzer). Each quality measure is a subclass of %DeepSee.QualityMeasure.QualityMeasure.

For information, see “[Defining Quality Measures](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

related cube

A [cube](#) whose [dimensions](#), [hierarchies](#), and [levels](#) are available within another cube, because there is a [relationship](#) between the two cubes.

relationship

A connection between two cubes that makes the dimensions of one cube available in the other cube (and possibly vice versa). If you define relationships, you can define a level once rather than multiple times, which minimizes the sizes of fact tables and their indices. See “[Cube-Cube Relationships](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

runtime variable

A special element that is intended for use as the default value of a filter on a dashboard (currently this is their only use). The definition of a runtime variable is an ObjectScript expression that is evaluated at runtime. See “[Configuring Settings](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

Runtime variables are entirely different from [pivot variables](#).

searchable measure

A [measure](#) that enables you to apply a [filter](#) that considers the values in the [source records](#). Searchable measures are an InterSystems extension to MDX. In standard MDX, a filter can be based only on [members](#). See “[Defining Measures](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

set

A list of multiple MDX items, typically used for rows or columns of a pivot table. The items can be any combination of literal values, [members](#), and [tuples](#). For an introduction, see “[Working with Sets](#)” in *Using InterSystems MDX*. For reference information, see “[Set Expressions](#)” in *InterSystems MDX Reference*.

shared dimension

A dimension that can be used in more than one cube. That is, more than one cube can use members of the dimension for rows or columns or for filtering. A dimension can be shared formally or informally. If the dimension is shared formally, you can define a [compound cube](#) that combines the cubes that use this dimension. See “[Defining Shared Dimensions and Compound Cubes](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

source class, source records

The source class is the class that contains the data upon which a [cube](#) is based. Every cube has a source class, which is usually a persistent class. A source class has a set of source records. For an introduction, see “[Basic Concepts](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

star table

See [dimension table](#).

subject area

A view of a [cube](#) with optional overrides. A subject area uses the fact table and related tables of the associated cube and does not require independent updates. You define subject areas to enable users to focus on smaller sets of data without the need for multiple cubes. See “[Defining Subject Areas](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

synchronizing a cube

The process of updating the [fact table](#) and indices for a [cube](#), based on incremental changes to the source class. See “[Compiling and Building Cubes](#)” in *Defining Models for InterSystems Business Intelligence* and “[Keeping the Cubes Current](#)” in *Implementing InterSystems Business Intelligence*

See also [building a cube](#).

term list

A simple (but extendable) list of key and value pairs. Term lists provide a way to customize a Business Intelligence model without programming. See “[Defining Term Lists](#)” in the *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

time dimension and time level

A time dimension is a [dimension](#) that contains time [levels](#). A time level groups data by a date or time value in the source data.

tuple

A type of MDX value that consists of an intersection of members. If the tuple refers to each dimension in the cube, the tuple is *fully qualified*. Otherwise, it is *partially qualified*.

For an introduction, see “[Tuples and Cubes](#)” in *Using InterSystems MDX*. For reference information, see “[Tuple Expressions](#)” in *InterSystems MDX Reference*.

unstructured data

Data that is written as text in a human language such as English or French. The Analytics Engine analyzes unstructured data. For a general introduction, see “Conceptual Overview,” in *Using InterSystems IRIS Natural Language Processing (NLP)*.

You can use unstructured data within cubes, if the source table for a cube includes a property that contains unstructured data. See “[Using Text Analytics in Cubes](#)” in *Advanced Modeling for InterSystems Business Intelligence*.

widget

A rectangular area that lies within a [dashboard](#) and that (in most cases) displays data obtained from Business Intelligence. See [Creating Dashboards](#).

