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The Retail Superstore dataset represents 4 years of data from a US-based retail organisation focussing in office furniture and supplies.

The organisation need a high-level financial summary for their Quarterly and Annual review process.

This should cater to different end users: those who are focussed purely on overall financial performance, and those who are accountable for regional sales performance. As a result, it should facilitate year-on-year comparison and enable deep-dive into areas which may be influencing sales and profit performance across the business.





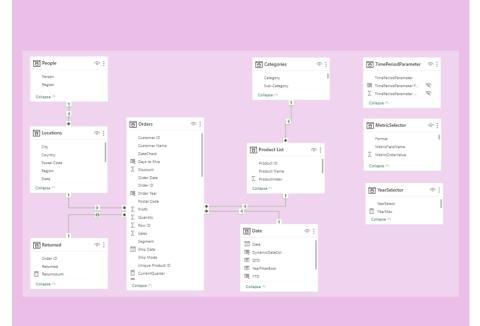
Project Lifecycle

Source ntify opensource

Raw dataset attributes at source

Build Data Model

Explore data quality, design target tables, perform transformations



Data model showing STAR schema which is extracted from original 3-table dataset

Visualise

Build Power BI charts & interactive narrative



User Journey showing movement through different

levels of analysis, each based on user parameters





Power BI User Journey

High level of detail Low level of detail





KPI Summary - Tabular



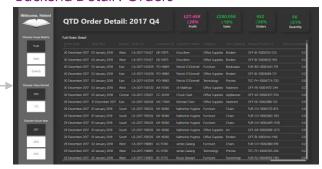
User-Controlled Plots



Mid-level Deep-Dive: Product



Backend Detail: Orders



Example user journey indicating transition through level of detail – useful either to an audience aiming to create a full narrative and perform end-to-end driver analysis, or as a hub to serve end users who will be focussed on one level of detail only.

Demonstrating ability to drill-through to different levels of detail, e.g. filtering lower-level pages based on one Region selected in Summary page.

In practice, a production dashboard will often have more pages than this, to enable modular deep dive across additional components (e.g. a mid-level focus on Customer segmentation as well as Product category, seen above).

The Power BI service allows packaging of contextually separate analysis into separate dashboards (e.g. of interest to users operating in different departments), whilst higher-level summary reports then pull individual charts from across these dashboards, allowing click-through to detail. This is tailored to the customer use case.







KPI Summary



Note – 'YoY Change' when QTD is selected results in comparing the current quarter, in this case 2017 Q4, with the same Quarter last year (2016 Q4)

User-Selected Metric Overview

- Ability to choose a metric of interest (Sales / Profit / Quantity of Units), To-Date roll up (YTD/QTD) and focus year (defaults to current/latest year)
- Time Period selection changes date x-axis to match aggregation level
- Hover to see YoY indicators on each chart
- Click to cross-filter (e.g Region)
- App-like modular design, including username detection and welcome
- Four headline KPIs consistent across all pages
- Custom KPI indicators based on YoY change increase (>= 5%), no change (-5% to +5%), decrease (<= -5%)
- This Year / Last Year comparison per chart
- Dynamic titles based on user selection
- Dynamic formatting based on active metric / time period selected
- Build includes dynamic nested calculations to prevent a build-up of static calculations (important data model management)















Identical content to Graphical view, with modified tabular layout. Including:

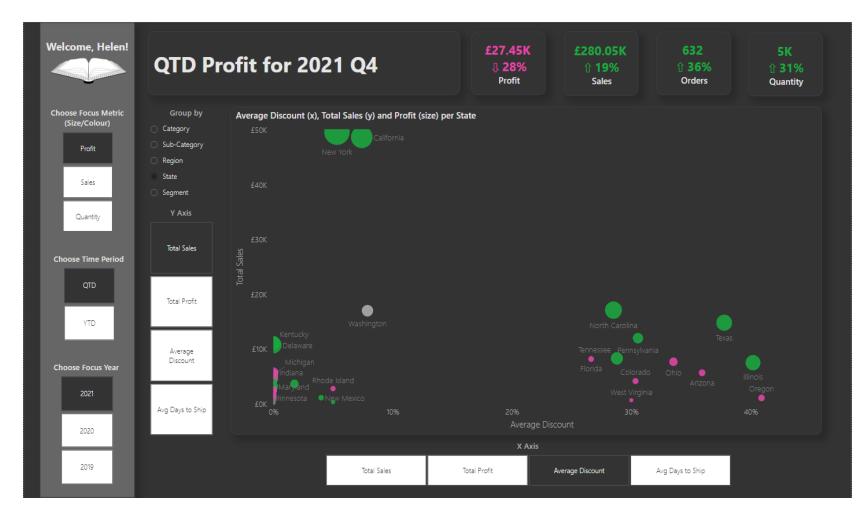
- Ability to choose a metric of interest (Sales / Profit / Quantity of Units), To-Date roll up (YTD/QTD) and focus year (defaults to current/latest year)
- Click to cross-filter (e.g Region)
- App-like modular design, including username detection and welcome
- Custom KPI card indicators based on YoY change –
 increase (>= 5%), no change (-5% to +5%),
 decrease (<= -5%). Likewise, dynamic icons used
 when in tabular form
- User can sort based on dimensions (e.g. alphabetical) or given measure.
- This Year / Last Year comparison for each dimension
- Dynamic titles based on user selection
- Dynamic number formatting based on active metric / time period selected







Self-Service Plots



Fully User-Defined Scatter plots

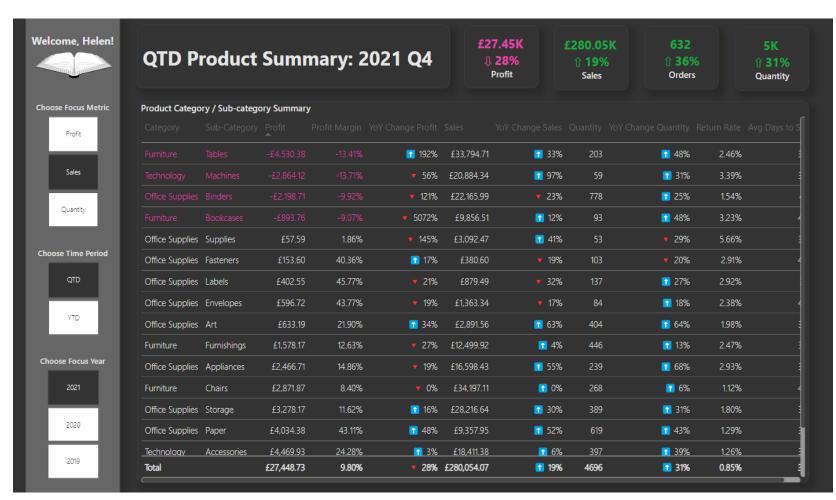
- User selects all plot measures / attributes:
 - X axis measure in this example, Avg Discount %
 - Y axis measure in this example, Total Profit
 - Bubble size (aligns with Focus Metric on other pages) in this example, Total Profit
 - Group-by attribute in this example, State
- Bubble colour is based on the YoY change indicator for the 'Focus metric' which defines bubble size: increase (>= 5%), no change (-5% to +5%), decrease (<= -5%). This aligns with the colour coding used in KPI cards throughout
- Dynamic plot title to summarise user selections
- Enables view of more granular trends than in Overview page – for instance, here we see that a higher average discount does not result in increased sales, and both profit and sales are dominated by New York and California which have a moderate average discount of ~6%.







Product Overview



Product Category / Sub-category Overview Table

- Ability to choose time period of interest (YTD / QTD).
 This defaults to YTD of the latest year.
- Highlights loss-incurring subcategories e.g. for which profit is negative in either YTD/QTD as selected
- Includes indication of YoY change
- Click to cross-filter (e.g Region)
- Custom KPI card indicators based on YoY change –
 increase (>= 5%), no change (-5% to +5%), decrease
 (<= -5%). Likewise, dynamic icons used when in tabular
 form
- User can sort based on dimensions (e.g. alphabetical) or given measure.
- This Year / Last Year comparison for each dimension
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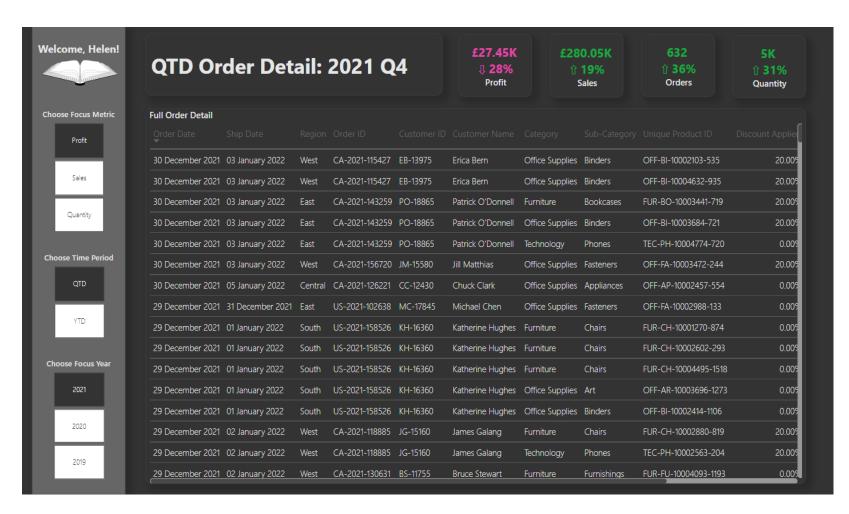
Other mid-level deep-dive pages may include:

Customer Segment analysis (graphical), Regional-State performance, Return rate vs Product Category analysis, Up-and-Coming Products with increasing demand, etc.







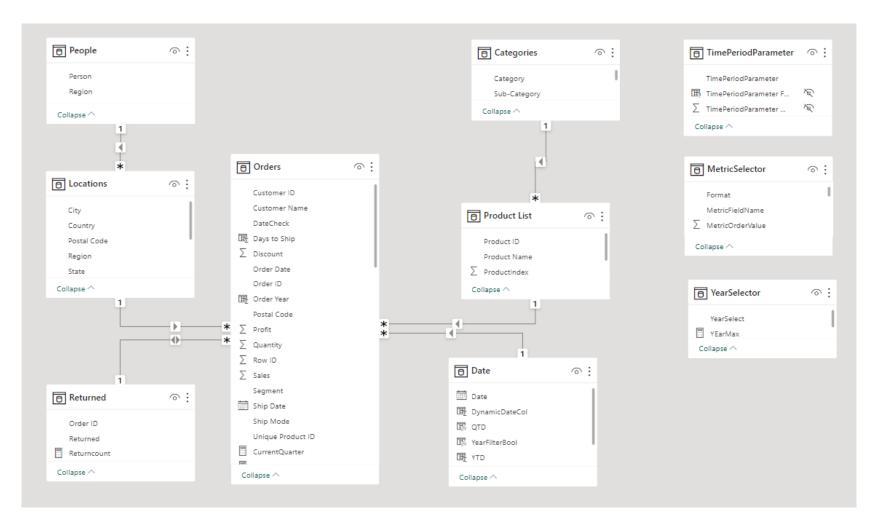


Full Order Details

- Level of detail only available to selected users
 e.g., those responsible per Region.
- Ability to choose time period of interest (YTD / QTD). This defaults to YTD of the latest year.
 On this page, this controls the aggregation of KPI cards and the selection of records visible it does not modify any aggregation of records within the table, which is at full granularity.
- Full detail allows view of days between order and shipping, discount applied, region, postal information, etc.
- Enables QA of backend data both to identify problem transaction/orders, and to verify Power BI data model







STAR model with satellite parameter tables

- All data modelling performed within Power Query (e.g. Power BI native)
- Use of a standardised Date table (best practice for performance)
- Segmentation into semantic tables e.g. Categories, Locations, People
- Use of unique reference keys to link tables
- Central Fact table represents base order details. Granularity of this table is one row per unique product ([Unique Product ID]) per order ([Order ID])
- Correction of some fields required to standardise values
- Satellite tables are vital to generate interactivity seen in the dashboard – e.g. time period selection and choice of different focus metrics







Project Lifecycle

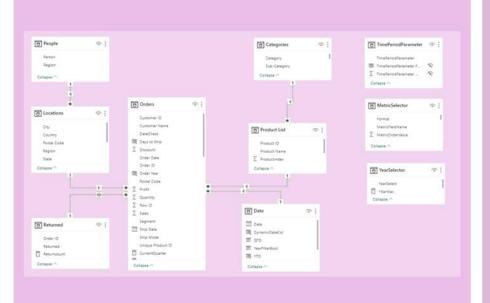
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