

Power BI – Under The Covers

Liesel Hughes Cloud Solution Architect Data & Analytics





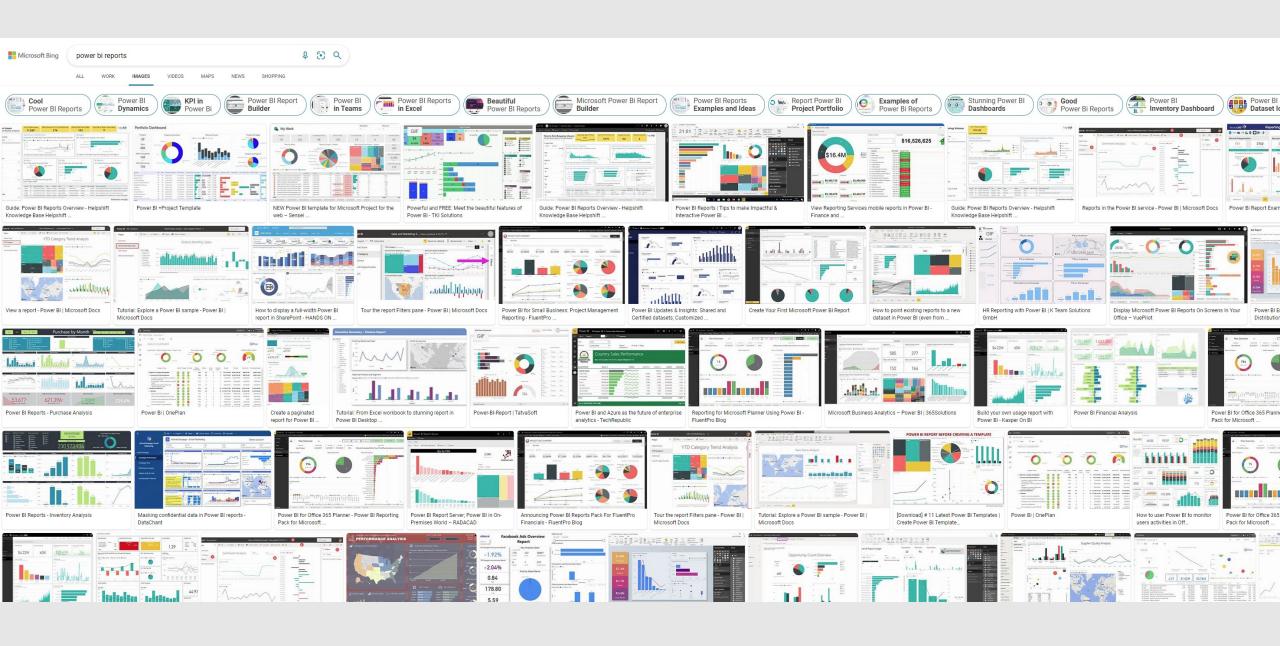
Let's connect





linkedin.com/in/lieselhughes

lieselhughes.com



Inside Power BI in 20_{ish} mins

(Featuring TayTay, Britney, and Sandy & Danny)

Nice to meet you, Where you been?
I could show you incredible things

The Vertipaq Engine

→ Oops I Did It Again

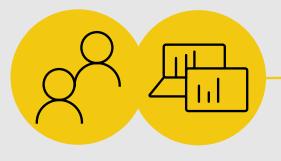
Common Gotchas

→ Tell Me More, Tell Me More

Links and Learning

Disclaimer

- The exact algorithms and implementation of Power BI are proprietary.
 - · I love my job, no spoilers tonight
- The various generic algorithms employed are well-known and describe, to a useful level, how the internals operate allowing us to build better models.



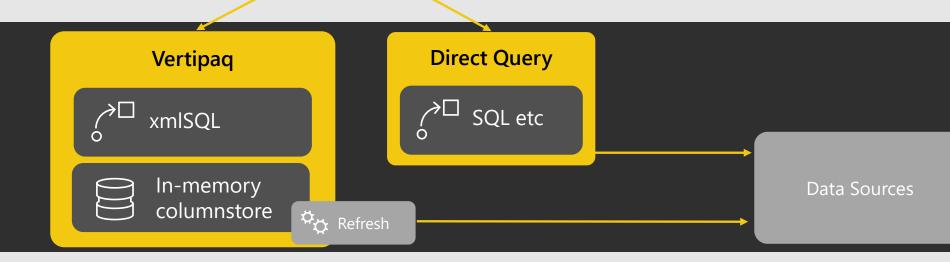
Formula Engine DAX/MDX Calculations

Request Processor +Query Plan Executor

MDX / DAX Queries

Storage Engine

Data Retrieval



Column vs Row Store

ID	Invoice	Product	Cost
1	10123	Cheese	\$17.23
2	10673	Cheese	\$21.37
3	11086	Cheese	\$19.88
4	10734	Cheese	\$18.76
5	10967	Not-Cheese	\$9.50

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Compression – Value Encoding



Compression – Dictionary Encoding

Product

Cheese

Cheese

Cheese

Cheese

Not-Cheese

→ Hash (Dictionary) Encoding

ID	Product
0	Cheese
1	Not-Cheese

Product
0
0
0
0
1

Compression



Compression

Product

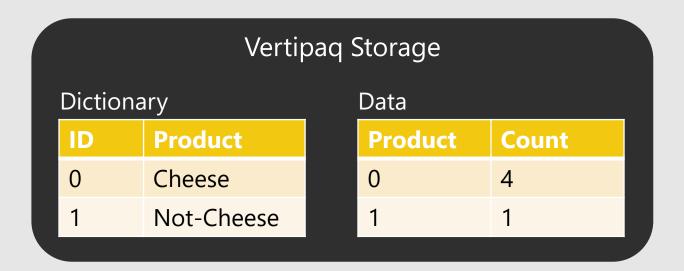
Cheese

Cheese

Cheese

Cheese

Not-Cheese



68 Bytes

37 Bytes

Other Secret Sauce

- → Hierarchies MDX Excel
- → Relationships
 - → "Mapping" between FK values and primary table row index
- → Segments and Partitions
 - → Data is processed blocks of 1M rows, one thread per segment
- → Materialisation
 - → SE to FE results materialized in-memory, uncompressed
- **→** Aggregations

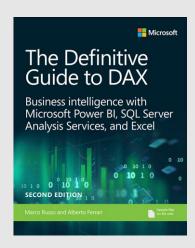
Exploring Vertipaq – A Demo!

Oops I Did It Again - Gotchas

- → Trying to Store Everything
 - → Strings
- → Types
 - → Precision
- → Calculated Cols
 - → Optimising Boolean filters
- → Column Splits
 - → Date and Time
 - → Transaction IDs, Invoice Numbers

- → Over-partitioning
- → Attribute Hierarchies
 - → isAvailableInMDX
- → Auto DateTime
- → Believing DMVs

Tell Me More, Tell Me More



The Definitive Guide to DAX – 2nd Edition

<u>Performance Tuning of Tabular Models in SQL Server 2012 Analysis Services | Microsoft Docs</u> https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/previous-versions/sql/sql-server-2012/dn393915(v=msdn.10)

<u>Data reduction techniques for Import modeling - Power BI | Microsoft Docs</u>

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/power-bi/guidance/import-modeling-data-reduction

Best practice rules to improve your model's performance | Microsoft Power BI Blog

https://powerbi.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/best-practice-rules-to-improve-your-models-performance/



Thank You

