

Data Sources & Exercise B

Data Sources

Power BI can read from many data sources, here we look at:

Excel spreadsheets – *reading* standard tabular data.

Power BI Queries – *shaping* data for visualization.

Data Wrangling (also known as shaping)

Almost always necessary to format or convert data to the form you need for a visualization.

Decision is whether to do this inside or outside Power BI.

Loading Data into Power BI



Get Data menu is easiest way to load new data sets.

Loading Data into Power Bl

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Click to select Sheet 1 and click load.

Loading Data into Power Bl

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Every column in the spreadsheet appears on the right.

Queries in Power Bl

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Click on Edit Queries to shape the data.

Shaping your data



Use Choose Columns and unselect the ten columns specific to Film. Click OK then click Close and Apply to apply the filters to the data.

Shaped data



Result is the shaped data – the active fields shown are only those we decided to keep. NB you can go always back and edit the queries.

Creating a Visualization

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Click on the icon for *Clustered Bar Chart* to create an empty visual.

Creating a Visualization



Select TTWA and then e.g. 2007_All creative industries_business.count

Data Sources Key Points

Data sources can be many things for Power BI.

Spreadsheets can be an easy source of tabular data (Excel or CSV).

Data Shaping (Wrangling)

Queries filter the data and can e.g. exclude irrelevant details. But... decide if shaping is better done inside or outside Power BI.

Once the data is shaped it can be very quick and easy to visualize it.