

Is Your DAX Slow? Fix It Outside Power BI.



Why DAX Studio?

- Isolate and analyze your DAX code independently
- See the exact query being sent to the data model
- Get precise performance timings for each query step
- Uncover hidden performance bottlenecks easily
- Test changes without altering your main Power BI file
- Essential for complex data models and reports



Installation Made Easy

- Download it for free from daxstudio.org
- It is a standalone application, not a Power BI plugin
- Installation is a simple and quick process
- Connects seamlessly to your Power BI Desktop
- Also works with Analysis Services and Power BI datasets



Connecting to Your Model

- Open your PBIX file in Power BI Desktop
- Launch DAX Studio on your computer
- Select the local Power BI instance from the connect menu
- See all your open data models listed
- You are now ready to run and analyze queries



The All Important Server Timings

- Run a DAX query and click Server Timings
- This is your most powerful debugging tool
- Shows the total duration of the query
- Breaks down time spent in the formula engine vs storage engine
- Reveals the number of storage engine queries run
- Highlights which part of your DAX is causing delays



Spotting Common Bottlenecks

- High formula engine time indicates complex calculations
- Many storage engine queries suggest poor filter context
- Look for high "SE CPU" and "SE Queries" in the results
- This points to the model needing optimization
- Identify specific measures or visuals causing the issue
- Use this data to know exactly what to fix



Optimize with Best Practices

- Reduce storage engine queries by simplifying filters
- Use variables to avoid repeated measure calculation
- Prefer calculated columns over complex measures where possible
- Review relationships and ensure they are efficient
- Check for unnecessary columns in your tables
- Test the impact of each change using Server Timings



Beyond Performance: Other Features

- Export data to Excel, CSV, or clipboard for further analysis
- View detailed metadata about your data model
- Write and execute EVALUATE queries for advanced analysis
- Trace all queries generated by a Power BI report
- Use the built-in formatting tool to clean up your code



Your Debugging Superpower

- DAX Studio provides clarity on DAX performance
- Move from guessing to measuring and knowing
- It is an indispensable tool for serious Power BI developers
- Integrates the process of debugging and optimization
- Start using it to build faster, more efficient reports
- Unlock the full potential of your data models today



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