

TECHNOLOGY
INNOVATION
DATA
KNOWLEDGE

hdk



dbWatch
DATABASE CONTROL



Microsoft



Sławomir Drzymala



Power-up your BI project
with **PowerApps**

About me

Sławomir Drzymala

- Business Intelligence Consultant
- Speaker & member of PLSSUG
- Speaker at the conferences
- Organizer of the conference and the hackathon
- Cofounder of seequality.net
- Microsoft Technology enthusiast...



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 SDrzymala

seequality 
the way to understand

Imperfect life, imperfect projects

Have you ever faced with

- Flat files and theirs import errors?
- Small ad-hoc changes?
- Hardcoded config tables?
- Managing masterdata?



Imperfect solutions

Workarounds

- Manual interventions
- Fixes and hotfixes
- Change requests
- Multiple flat files and multiple flows
- Custom interfaces (ASP.NET / Flask)

It's either slow or costly or not robust...



IT needs to meet the requirements

- Provide report configuration
- Manage tabular access
- Upload flat files
- Check imported data
- Configure hierarchies
- Approve data
- **Meant to be used by team, product owner, data stewards and some power users**



Power-up your BI project with PowerApps



One platform, unlimited opportunity
Apps that mean business

Easily build the business apps you need and extend or customize ~~the apps~~ you already use.

BI project



PowerApps

- Platform to create the web apps in easy way
- Modern, good-looking and runs everywhere
- Part of Office 365 ecosystem
- Integrated with many different sources
- Integrated with many different apps

Possible extension for your BI project...

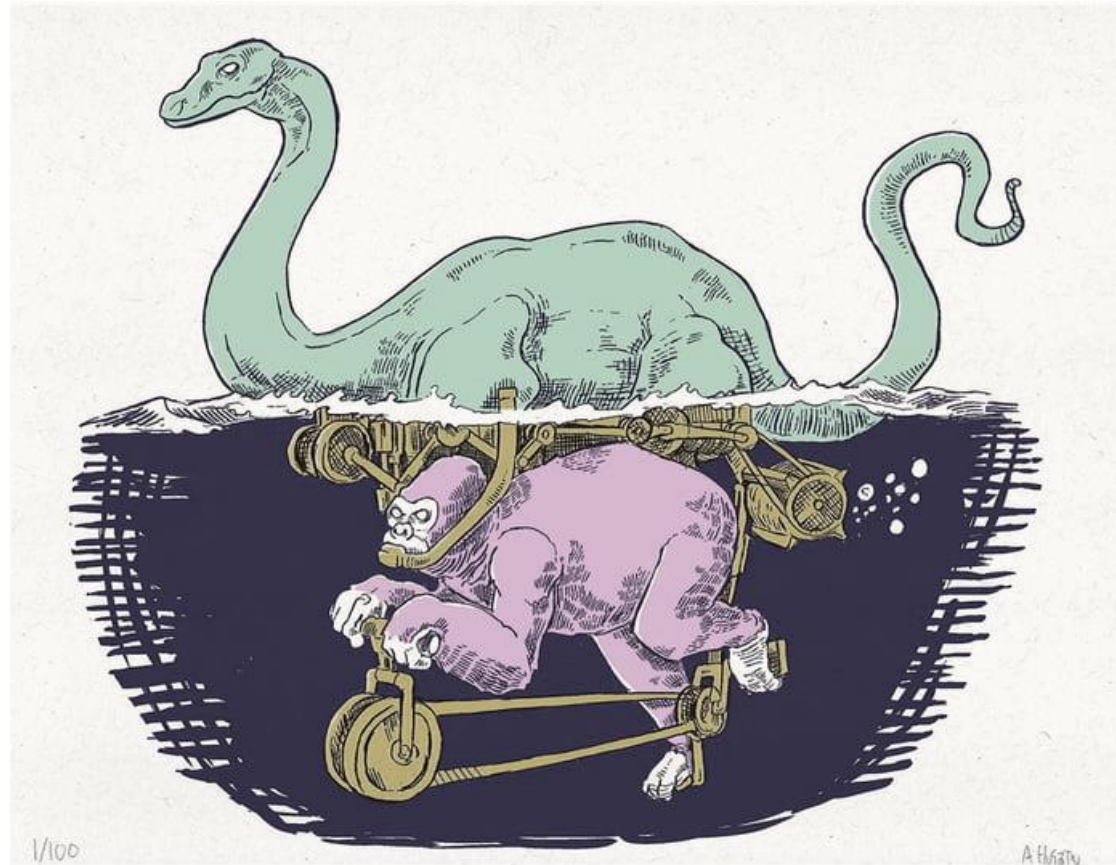




Demo?

There will be some bells and whistles too

- How to use PowerApps to extend BI project





Demo



Demo



Cool, huh?



What's cool

What's cool

- Easy to create
- Easy to access
- Easy to use
- Many great features
- Great integration with many data sources
- Integration with Office 365 echosystem
- Integration with Power BI



What's cool, language

- `Set(variable, "value");`
- `Update({variable: "value"});`
- `Refresh('[schema].[tableName]')`
- `Navigate(screenName, ScreenTransition.Fade)`
- `Distinct('[schema].[table]', Attribute)`
- `Patch(
 '[schema].[table]',
 First(
 Filter(
 '[schema].[table]',
 AttributeKey = TextInput1.Text)
),
 {
 Attribute: TextInput2.Text
 }
);`



What's cool, there is much more


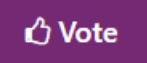


- Custom connectors
- Common data services
- Entities
- Model driven apps
- Business logic
- Integration with Dynamics 365
- **Really helpful community**


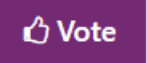





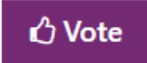




What's not cool

PowerApps are not perfect as well

968  **Share with external users**
tpatel on 07-15-2016 11:49 AM ·
   **PLANNED** [linhtran \(PowerApps Staff\)](#) responded





746  **Printing**
Migrated_User on 04-26-2016 02:37 AM ·
   **STARTED** [rc \(PowerApps Staff\)](#) responded



558  **Attach a file to form**
michowl on 02-01-2017 09:56 PM ·
   **COMPLETED** [Audrie-MSFT \(Administrator\)](#) responded

331  **QR-code scanning**
Larsen1000 on 10-06-2016 08:02 AM ·
   **COMPLETED** [FilipK \(PowerApps Staff\)](#) responded

451  **Opening for using the app outside your domain**
Migrated_User on 04-26-2016 04:20 AM ·
  **UNDER REVIEW**

415  **Save attachments to SharePoint list item**
KREI on 10-14-2016 01:26 PM ·
   **COMPLETED** [Audrie-MSFT \(Administrator\)](#) responded

401  **Submit captured image to SharePoint List**
Jingjing on 06-13-2016 12:57 PM ·
   **STARTED** [sarafankit \(PowerApps Staff\)](#) responded

459  **PowerApps must also see SQL Azure Queries, not only Tables**
Migrated_User on 04-26-2016 03:01 AM ·
   **COMPLETED** [EvanChakiMSFT \(PowerApps Staff\)](#) responded

More: <https://powerusers.microsoft.com/t5/PowerApps-Ideas>



What's not cool

- IDE...
- Missing support for stored procedures
- Working with source control
- Working with many environments
 - Deploying (changing connections, flows)
 - Data synchronization
 - Continuous integration
- Working with more complex applications
 - Multiple pages
 - Missing templates





What's so-so

Pricing

X times Plan 2 for Developers/DevOps
X times Plan 1 for Users

Area	PowerApps for Office 365	PowerApps Plan 1 (\$7 per user per month)	PowerApps Plan2 (\$40 per user per month)	PowerApps for Dynamics 365 Applications	PowerApps Plan 2 for Dynamics 365
Positioning	Extend Office 365 apps	Run custom canvas apps	Run custom canvas and model driven apps	Extend Dynamics 365 apps in the context of app use rights	Extend Dynamics 365 apps + run custom apps
Applications	Unlimited standalone canvas apps	Unlimited standalone canvas apps	Unlimited standalone canvas/model driven apps	Only customized Dynamics 365 applications; Cannot run standalone apps	Unlimited standalone canvas/model driven apps
Common Data Service (CDS)—Entities	None	Unlimited custom entities Simple entities only	Unlimited custom entities • Read only access to D365 restricted entities Complex entities supported	15 custom entities per app • CRUD access to D365 restricted entities if within app use rights Complex entities supported	Unlimited custom entities • CRUD access to D365 restricted entities if within app use rights Complex entities supported
Common Data Service—Workflows	• Microsoft Flow	• Microsoft Flow • Background workflows	• Microsoft Flow • Background workflows • Real time workflows • Business process flows	• Microsoft Flow • Background workflows • Real time workflows • Business process flows	• Microsoft Flow • Background workflows • Real time workflows • Business process flows
Connectors	Standard connectors only*	Standard, premium, on-prem and custom connectors	Standard, premium, on-prem and custom connectors	Standard, premium, on-prem and custom connectors	Standard, premium, on-prem and custom connectors
Administration			☑		☑
Capacity (per license, pooled across tenant)		20 MB relational data	200 MB relational data	n/a	n/a
	2,000 Flows per month	4,500 Flow runs per month	15,000 Flow runs per month	2,000 Flow runs per month	15,000 Flow runs per month

Note: SQL Azure is not a standard connector... For the Free plan this is valid only for the Office 365 ecosystem



Security

- It looks awesome okey-ish
- Environments
- Connectors
 - Built-in
 - On-Premisses Gateways
 - CDS Security
- Apps (one app can open any other app)
- Inside App
 - Naïve
 - Environment
 - Role based using Graph API
- **There might be an issue when using SQL Server**





Verdict

Recap

- There is still a lot of work to do
- This can really power-up Business Intelligence or any other – project
- The Integrations and features are just awesome
- **Already seems to be a nice option for small applications in any-size BI project**
- **Let's power users help to build the project**
- Start trying and check for updates!



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