

Parameter-Driven Data Ingestion in Power BI

Duration: 1 hour

Session Overview

This session introduces the concept of Parameters in Power Query Editor and demonstrates how they can be effectively used to make data ingestion more flexible, reusable, and dynamic in Power BI. Participants will learn what parameters are, why they are used, how to create them, and how to apply them in real-world data ingestion scenarios such as switching data sources, controlling filters, and managing environments. The session is designed to be beginner-friendly with practical examples to help learners move beyond static queries and build more adaptable Power BI solutions.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Understand what parameters are in Power Query Editor and how they work
- Identify practical use cases where parameters simplify data ingestion
- Create parameters with appropriate data types and default values
- Apply parameters within Power Query to control source paths, filters, and logic
- Build more reusable and maintainable Power BI queries using parameters

Session Agenda

Introduction & Context Setting

- Brief overview of data ingestion in Power BI
- Common challenges with hardcoded values in Power Query

What Are Parameters in Power Query?

- Definition of parameters in Power Query Editor
- Types of parameters (Text, Number, Date, Logical, etc.)
- Difference between hardcoded values and parameter-driven values
- Where parameters fit in the Power Query workflow

What Purpose Do Parameters Serve?

- Making data ingestion dynamic and configurable
- Reusing the same query logic across datasets and environments
- Simplifying maintenance and reducing manual changes

How Are Parameters Created?

- Creating parameters using Power Query Editor UI
- Setting data types, allowed values, and default values

- Best practices for naming and documenting parameters

How Are Parameters Used in Queries?

- Applying parameters in data source definitions
- Replacing hardcoded values with parameters
- Common mistakes and how to avoid them