

# In-Place Analytics with Live Enterprise Data with IBM DB2 Query Management Facility

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## In-Place Analytics with Live Enterprise Data with IBM QMF

October 2016

	<b>Note:</b> Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in "Notices" on page vii.
I	First Edition (October 2016)
-	This edition applies IBM DB2 Query Management Facility for z/OS V11.2.1.

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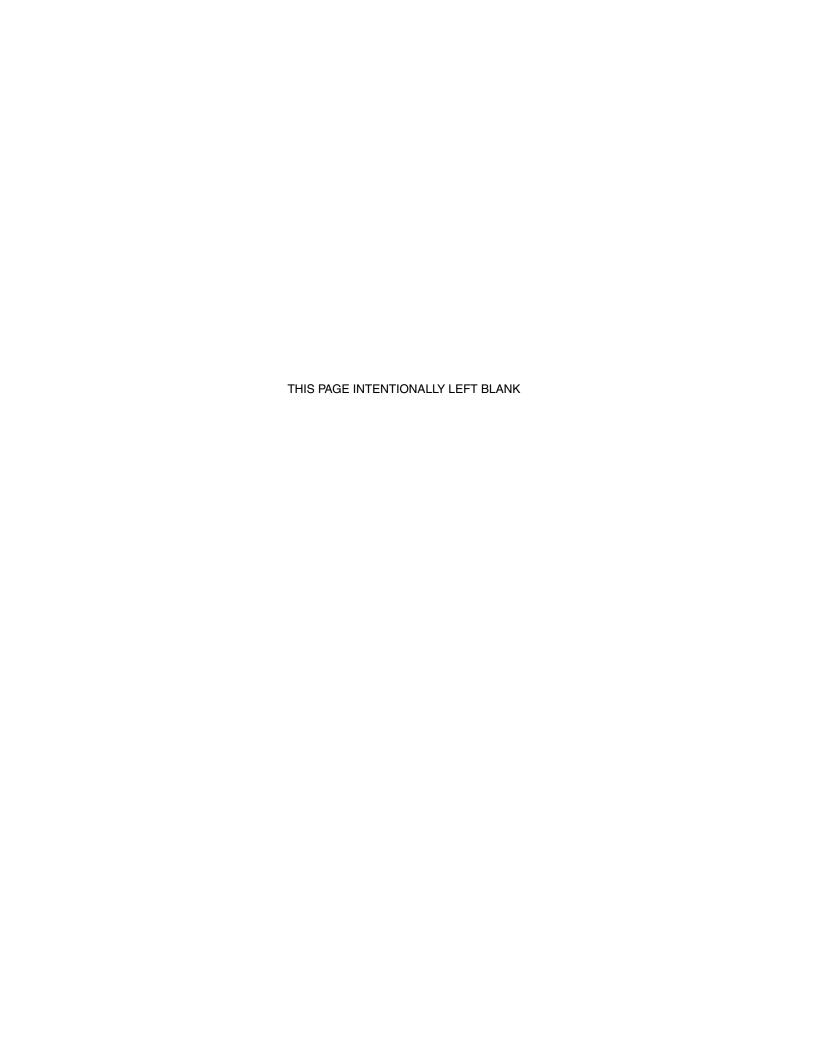
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#### **Preface**

IBM® DB2® Query Management Facility™ for z/OS® provides a zero-footprint, mobile-enabled, highly secure business analytics solution. IBM QMF™ V11.2.1 offers many significant new features and functions in keeping with the ongoing effort to broaden its usage and value to a wider set of users and business areas. In this IBM Redbooks® publication, we explore several of the new features and options that are available within this new release.

This publication introduces TSO enhancements for QMF Analytics for TSO and QMF Enhanced Editor. A chapter describes how the QMF Data Service component connects to multiple mainframe data sources to accomplish the consolidation and delivery of data.

This publication describes how self-service business intelligence can be achieved by using QMF Vision to enable self-service dashboards and data exploration. A chapter is dedicated to JavaScript support, demonstrating how application developers can use JavaScript to extend the capabilities of QMF. Additionally, this book describes methods to take advantage of caching for reduced CPU consumption, wider access to information, and faster performance.

This publication is of interest to anyone who wants to better understand how QMF can enable in-place analytics with live enterprise data.

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Special thanks to the following people for their contributions in leading this project:

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Thanks to the following people for their contributions to this project:

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# 1

# Introducing IBM DB2 Query Management Facility for z/OS

IBM DB2 Query Management Facility for z/OS V11.2.1 offers many significant new features and functions in accordance with the ongoing effort to broaden its usage and value to a wider set of users and business areas. In this book, we explore several of the new features and options that are available in this new release.

As you scan the table of contents, you might see a particular topic that holds more interest than others. Therefore, each section can be read as a stand-alone module and does not depend on another section. Look at Query Management Facility (QMF) as a multi-platform, multi-function solution that shares objects and function as much as possible across platforms and systems. For example, a typical SQL query object that is stored in the traditional QMF catalog can be used by workstation, web, and mobile users. More sophisticated objects, such as a graphical dashboard, are not available to a TSO user but can be used within the other components.

QMF radically changed since its inception as a 3270-based query and reporting tool for TSO and IBM CICS®. Its core functions remain in those environments but so much more is available to an enterprise that is seeking a business intelligence and business analytics solution for all its users. Additional resources are available beyond the scope of this book, such as videos and more, that illustrate many of the enhancements that make QMF a complete analytics solution, providing dashboarding, analytics reports, and visualizations to all users.

This chapter includes the following topics:

- ▶ What is new in IBM Query Management facility for z/OS and why do I care?
- ► Setting the stage for data access
- ► Self-service business analytics, what and why?
- Caching in QMF and the use of JavaScript
- ► TSO enhancements

Now, we delve into several of the new and exciting features of V11.2.1.

### 1.1 What is new in IBM Query Management facility for z/OS and why do I care?

Many additions and changes occurred to the QMF solution, far too many to describe in this book. The QMF solution continues to be enhanced and extended to keep pace with its position as a world-class, enterprise business intelligence and analytics suite. However, three significant new features were added based on many requests and current market trends:

- ► Easy and high-performing access to enterprise data on IBM z Systems®: IBM Information Management System (IBM IMS<sup>TM</sup>), Virtual Storage Access Method (VSAM), Sequential, System Management Facilities (SMF), and Adaptable Database System (Adabas).
- ► Enterprise data federation. Cross-data sources, such as DB2 and ADABAS, need to be joined but setting up this environment can be daunting and highly inefficient.
- ➤ Self-service Business Analytics for users. Users want to create their own analytical objects (dashboards and charts) and communicate their findings without requiring technical skills.

The current thinking among most businesses today is that they cannot afford to continue to move data and restructure data, which flood the enterprise. The new mind-set is to keep the data where it is captured and access it in place. Much of the data within any enterprise resides on the mainframe in sources, such as IMS or VSAM. Point solutions are available to access these sources but many are insufficient.

QMF has a new feature, which is called *Data Service*, that provides the access method and the federation capabilities that are in great demand. This new feature uses server-side processing and heavily uses z Systems Integrated Information Processors (zIIP) processors (up to 99%) and parallelism to deliver information from its sources with extreme efficiency.

By performing powerful data access and federation on System z and zIIP engines, enterprises can create analytics queries across different z Systems resources without affecting their CPU costs.

For the user who wants to access enterprise data and quickly create a chart or dashboard and collaborate with others about their results easily, QMF has a new feature, which is called *QMF Vision*. QMF Vision is a simple point and click, drag and drop builder interface that is designed for the rapid development of charts and dashboards with minimal required skill.

Many enhancements are available for the TSO user, too. In this book, we describe two enhancements that are interesting to the existing QMF community:

- QMF Analytics for TSO is an easy to use, menu-driven extension to QMF that provides enhanced graphics and statistical analysis for users.
- ▶ QMF Enhanced Editor is an editor that is based on Interactive System Productivity Facility (ISPF) and is tightly integrated with both QMF and ISPF. This new capability is for users who do not use the standard QMF query and procedure edit panels and functions.

#### 1.2 Setting the stage for data access

In today's business environment, we see the emergence of a seemingly endless variety of new data sources, such as Hadoop and other unstructured information. The rate at which this data is accumulated tends to make the act of collecting it and then moving it to another data source prohibitive in cost and time. And, many systems that are run on the mainframe use more traditional non-relational data stores, such as VSAM and IMS. Sometimes, it feels as though we are drowning in data.

Like it or not, much of this information can be critical to individuals who want to perform various analyses to measure, check, verify, and predict business information. So, we see a vast array of data and data types, which are spread across the enterprise and housed in external sites, that we want to include in our analytics.

Data that is contained in sources, such as IMS and VSAM, is often copied to a relational model, such as DB2 or others, to provide easier access to the data from analytics tools, such as QMF. In many cases, this data needs to be joined to other existing data. If the information is not copied to a relational source or if data sources are mixed, you are required to join it across data sources and cross-platform, which is defined as *data federation*.

In many cases, combining data can be inefficient and costly from a performance perspective. We use IMS as an example. IMS DBAs are diligent in ensuring that data is available and the access performance is optimized. They tried to use other business analytics data access solutions only to see degraded IMS performance or a slow access method.

What if you leave the data where it resides and access it from QMF in a cost-efficient and high-performing manner? What if you can combine data sources, such as IMS, VSAM, or Adabas, with other data sources efficiently? We describe this capability in Chapter 2, "Virtualizing data by using QMF Data Service" on page 7.

As you delve into the data access material, think of your own environment and what data requires access for your business analysis. Do you have IMS or VSAM data that is beneficial to users without needing to move it or perform extract, transform, and load (ETL) processes? Are you required to join (federate) data across data sources and platforms efficiently?

#### 1.3 Self-service business analytics, what and why?

The arena of business analytics is a difficult environment to navigate. Over the years, the key players and offerings changed. The supported platforms supported changed and, in particular, the user interfaces changed. If you spend enough time and acquire enough technical skill, you can eventually emerge with the answers to the business problems that you are addressing with any tool that is available. Constant shuffling and repositioning by business intelligence and analytics vendors occur to win your favor and establish their ability to solve your problems.

If you have any experience with these tools, you know that certain features and functions are easier than others to learn and apply. For years, an effort existed to create tools with a massive range of features and functions that also offered ease of use and simplicity. This task is daunting for both the vendor and prospective users.

Reality set in where everyone realized that a wide range of users and user types existed, including a large population that wanted to use an analytics tool to create and disseminate their findings but that did not require a vast array of skills to accomplish this analysis. Many of them realized that they did not have time to learn a full-function tool but that a simplified user interface with options to access key data and place it on a simple dashboard met their requirements. They might want one element (chart) in a dashboard that linked to another element so they drilled through their data for additional detail.

In today's terms, this capability is described as *self-service business intelligence* (*BI*)/*analytics*. Users want an easy, uncomplicated means of creating their own analysis. The QMF Vision component is designed to provide these capabilities and the capability to communicate the user's results with others. QMF Vision can be applied against various data sources, including QMF queries, and guide the user through a set of simple steps to produce the required results.

So what about your environment? You might already have in-house tools that perform business intelligence and analytical functions. We suggest that you look at QMF Vision and its capabilities. It is included in IBM DB2 Query Management Facility for z/OS V11.2.1 and available to all users.

#### 1.4 Caching in QMF and the use of JavaScript

Hidden capabilities are in QMF for Workstation and QMF for IBM WebSphere®, including caching in QMF and the use of JavaScript. Caching provides a means for executing a query and storing the results for repetitive use so that you do not need to execute the same query over and over.

We use the example of a shared dashboard where one of the presentation elements, a chart, is viewed by several users. The data does not change often or it might be historical and static in content. Instead of multiple users that run the same query, the first user or perhaps a scheduled task initiates the query and the results are stored in a cache. Subsequent users take advantage of the cached results, and no addition load is placed on the source database.

We emphasize the expanded number of sources of data for QMF beyond its original access to DB2 only. With the ever burgeoning amount of data that is available on various web sites, you might want to incorporate information from one of these sites in your business analyses. If you or someone in your organization is skilled in JavaScript, you can access this information and add it to one of the many available data sources. Therefore, we continue to extend the reach of QMF to new, modern data sources as they emerge.

#### 1.5 TSO enhancements

This section describes two TSO enhancements: QMF Analytics for TSO and QMF Enhanced Editor.

#### 1.5.1 QMF Analytics for TSO: New business charts and analytics

QMF Analytics for TSO extends the capabilities of the more traditional mainframe user with a 3270 terminal interface. QMF evolves with new, graphical user interfaces and options, and IBM adds value and function to improve the experience for existing users who continue to work within the more traditional terminal interface.

This new feature offers two significant functional areas:

- ► Enhanced business charts and graphs within a simple, menu-driven interface with prompts for the user and options that facilitate the creation of powerful analytics with minimal required skill.
- ► Statistical analysis methods that use the same approach as the new charts and graphs. The same menu-driven, "fill in the blanks with user prompts" approach is used here to extend the analytic capabilities of QMF so that you do not need to learn special syntax to perform complex analyses.

To see the available options and how to interact with data that is fetched by QMF, see 6.1, "QMF Analytics for TSO" on page 174. Now, a new analytics object can be saved in the QMF catalog for subsequent sharing and repetitive use.

#### 1.5.2 QMF Enhanced Editor

QMF contains an edit command panel that is simple to use but, conversely, limited in function. In a text-based 3270 environment, you do not have many of the features that are available in a graphical user interface (GUI) that you see with a workstation or web interface.

Because of the complexity and length of many QMF queries and procedures, the default editor can be a bit cumbersome to perform tasks, such as splitting lines or duplicating text and other options someone with an ISPF background prefers. In previous releases, you can always invoke ISPF as an edit option and gain benefits that way. However, in so doing, you did not interact with QMF. QMF merely gave you the ability to pass text back and forth.

The enhanced editor offers traditional ISPF interactions and several QMF interactions, such as the ability to execute QMF objects from within the editor, listing QMF objects, copying QMF objects, and previewing a small subset of the tables that are being accessed to test the data before you run the entire query.

Colorization of query and procedure syntax, such as highlighting an error in red or any of the available colors in the palette, might be customized by the user to their specifications. The enhanced editor is a tremendous productivity improvement for anyone who is creating or maintaining QMF queries and procedures. The more complex the number of lines in a query or procedure, the greater the ability of the user to interact with it.

We think that your usage of QMF and the many benefits that it offers are enhanced by this book and the new features that we describe.

6



# Virtualizing data by using QMF Data Service

This chapter includes the following topics:

- ► Overview of QMF Data Service
- ► Configuring access to the data
- ► Using QMF Data Service Studio to create virtual tables
- ► Accessing the QMF Data Service data
- Additional considerations
- ► Summary

#### 2.1 Overview of QMF Data Service

QMF Data Service (QDS) is a component of the IBM DB2 Query Management Facility for z/OS V11.2.1 product that connects to several mainframe data sources: DB2, IBM Information Management System (IMS), Virtual Storage Access Method (VSAM) files, Adaptable Database System (Adabas), System Management Facilities (SMF) records, system logs, and operation logs. QDS provides SQL access to the data in these sources. The files and tables in these sources are available to other QMF family members as tables that are all in a single SQL-compliant relational database.

Therefore, the data from these back-end data sources can be combined in a single SQL request (JOIN, UNION, or SUBQUERY). In addition, this connection, mapping, and federation can be extended to include data from DB2 on other platforms: IBM i, Windows, Linux, and AIX, including the DB2 that is used with IBM InfoSphere® Federation Server. All of the data sources that are supported by IBM InfoSphere Federation Server are available to the QDS.

To accomplish this consolidation and delivery of data, QDS stores only metadata about these data sources as objects, which are called *virtual tables*, with no actual migration, movement, or duplication of the bulk data. Instead, the source data remains in place and only the subset of the data that is specified by the SQL request is pulled and delivered on demand (Figure 2-1). A virtual table seems similar to the view in DB2 or other relational databases, which, for an introduction, is not a bad way of thinking about a virtual table.

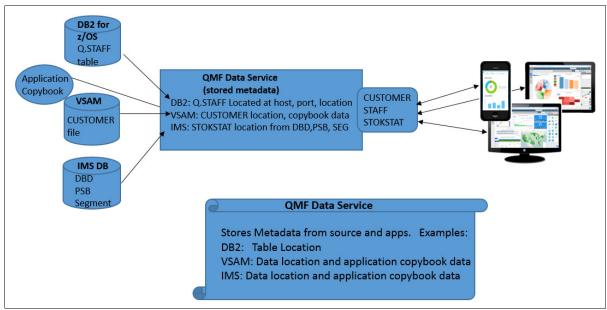


Figure 2-1 QMF Data Service

#### 2.1.1 Why is QMF Data Service useful?

QMF Data Service (QDS) makes certain data pulls easier, cheaper, and faster than they were before. Also, certain data pulls are possible that were not possible before.

For example, QDS offers the following benefits:

- ▶ Easier: QDS pulls data from multiple DB2 subsystems. Before, a client application made multiple connections in turn to one DB2 subsystem after another and pulled the data in separate query requests. Or, the user used three-part names if they were set up but then faced certain restrictions on the SQL that was supported. With QDS, the tables from many DB2 subsystems are presented as though they are in a single relational database and are available for JOINS, APPENDS, and so on.
- Cheaper: QDS requires less CPU time and offloads more workload to the z Systems Integrated Information Processor (zIIP) engine. QDS was developed to off-load up to 99% of its workload to the zIIP engine.
- ► Faster: QDS can perform by using parallel processing and implementing Map Reduce.
- Now possible: QDS makes it possible to federate (JOIN, UNION, SUB QUERY, and so on) tables on different DB2 subsystems in a single SQL statement. Furthermore, QDS makes it possible for SQL to access VSAM data, SMF data, SYSTEM log data, and other sequential files. All of this file-based data can also be federated with DB2 data in a single SQL statement. Similarly, any of the other supported data sources, such as IMS and Adabas, can be queried individually or in federation with any of the supported data sources.

#### 2.2 Configuring access to the data

This section addresses the following topics:

- ▶ Time guidance
- Configuring access to DB2
- Configuring access to IMS data
- Configuring access to VSAM data

#### 2.2.1 Time guidance

Time guidance starts after QMF Data Service (QDS) is installed and customized, as described in the documentation at the DB2 Query Management Facility Library web page at this website:

http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27048346

For more information, see the following documents:

- ▶ DB2 QMF Data Service Getting Started Guide, GC27-8806-01
- ▶ DB2 QMF Data Service Customization Guide, GC27-8807-01
- ▶ DB2 QMF Data Service Solutions Guide, GC27-8808-01
- ▶ DB2 QMF Data Service Studio User's Guide, SC27-8816-01

After the installation of QDS and the configuration of the supporting data sets and JCL members is complete, you must take two remaining steps for each data source. You must configure access to that source, and you must go through a process, which is called *mapping*, to create the virtual tables. In mapping, you select the subsets of tables, views, and files from the data source to be available to users through QDS.

The term *subset* indicates that not all tables, views, and files are mapped and that of those tables, views, and files that are mapped, not all of the columns are necessarily included. Again, this description might sound similar to the properties of a view in a relational database, and for an introduction, that is not a bad way of looking at a virtual table and mapping. In fact, QDS can create its own view objects so the rows that are exposed can also be limited.

Configuring access is quick. It involves editing the server initialization member, a REXX program, and editing the JCL member that is run for the started task. In the server initialization member, you add the connection information for the data source and set a flag to enable the connection. Collect all of the connection information for your sources ahead of time. With all of the connection information that is gathered in advance, this process might take 5 - 10 minutes for each data source. If you use DB2, an additional requirement exists to bind packages at DB2.

Creating a virtual table is a quick process. A GUI desktop wizard creates a virtual table in 1-2 minutes. However, you must map the tables, views, and files one at a time. (SMF and system log are the exceptions, and they are mapped in bulk automatically.) The time that you need depends on how many tables, views, and files exist. The following pages guide you through the process of mapping. Go through the process a few times to gain familiarity with the process. Then, plan how much time your deployment project requires.

#### 2.2.2 Configuring access to DB2

You must configure three files to set up access to DB2:

- ► The server initialization member REXX program CQDSIN00 from the SCQDEXEC data set contains the configuration information for connecting to DB2 and the other data sources.
- ► The CQD1PROC from the SCQDCNTL data set is launched as the started task. It requires references to the DB2 runtime libraries.
- ► The CQDBINDD job in the SCQDCNTL data set is used to perform the package binds at each DB2 location that is required by QDS. Unlike QMF for Workstation and QMF for WebSphere, these binds are a one-time action and typically need to be rebound only when DB2 is upgraded from one version to another version.

#### **Editing CQDSIN00**

Each type of data source has a section of the program with a flag at the top that is set to either DoThis or DontDoThis. The default is DontDoThis, which means that the configuration for this data source is disabled and ignored.

The section from CQDSIN00 for DB2 is shown in Example 2-1. It contains a preconfigured set of parameters with a default setting and a description of the parameter's role. Unless a specific need exists, leave the default values. The values in Example 2-1 are from a configured system. So, the flag is set to DoThis.

Example 2-1 CQDSIN00 for DB2

```
MODIFY PARM NAME(CLIENTMUSTELECTDRDA) VALUE(NO)"
/*----*/
/* Set the following parameter to YES to bypass sending WLM- */
/* related information to DRDA when each connection is
/* first established. The WLM information includes client name, */
/* workstation name, application name, and accounting info. */
/*----*/
MODIFY PARM NAME(DRDASKIPWLMSETUP) VALUE(NO)"
/* Set the following parameter to YES to use DRDA access
/* for CQD's logging task. If you enable DB2 logging via
/* DRDA you must configure and specify passticket values for */
/* each DRDA endpoint by including the APPLNAME keyword.
/*----*/
"MODIFY PARM NAME(DRDAFORLOGGINGTASK) VALUE(NO)"
/* The following parameter sets the package name prefix used for */
/* DRDA package selection.
/* RS - is the normal DRDA package prefix
                                                   */
/*----*/
"MODIFY PARM NAME(DRDAPACKAGEPREFIX) VALUE(DS)"
/*----*/
/* The following parameter sets the DRDA package collection */
/* name. A 1-to-18 character value should be used. The
                                                  */
/* default value is "NULLID". If you change the name here you */
/* must also rebind the DRDA packages with the alternate
/* collection name (see jobs BINDDDF and BINDDXO in the Server */
/* CNTL data set).
"MODIFY PARM NAME(DRDACOLLECTIONID) VALUE(NULLID)"
/* Each DRDA endpoint must be defined using DEFINE DATABASE
/* statements. Repeat the DEFINE DATABASE statement for each
/* DB2 subsystem for which DRDA processing is to be enabled.
```

Example 2-2 shows the key parameters that identify the connection to the DB2 system. The connection parameters of location, port number, and IP address are used in the same way for many clients of DB2, such as QMF for Workstation.

Example 2-2 Connect to the DB2 system

In addition to the standard IP address, port, and location, you must specify a TYPE and a NAME. The name is the four-character subsystem identifier (SSID). The TYPE is from the following list:

- ► GROUP if the distributed data facility (DDF) endpoint is a DB2 group director
- ► MEMBER if the DDF endpoint is a DB2 group member for z/OS
- ► LUW if the DDF endpoint is a DB2 instance or group member for Linux, UNIX, or Microsoft Windows (LUW)

Because QDS is a Distributed Relational Database Architecture (DRDA) application requestor, it can be configured to connect to all of your DB2 for z/OS and DB2 i, and DB2 LUW instances if network connectivity exists. If you are configuring for a DB2 for z/OS subsystem on the same logical partition (LPAR) as QDS, use the "loopback" address of 127.0.0.1 for the IP address.

To configure more than one DB2 subsystem, repeat the block of values for the first DB2 subsystem and then modify the NAME, LOCATION, and so on, as shown in Example 2-3.

Example 2-3 Configuring more than one DB2 subsystem

```
"DEFINE DATABASE TYPE(MEMBER)"
                   "NAME(SA1A)"
                   "LOCATION(RS50SA1A)"
                   "DDFSTATUS(ENABLE)"
                   "PORT(3900)"
                   "IPADDR(127.0.0.1)"
                   "CCSID(37)"
                   "APPLNAME(DSN1LU)" */
                   "IDLETIME(110)"
  "DEFINE DATABASE TYPE(MEMBER)"
                   "NAME(RA1A)"
                   "LOCATION(RS52RA1A)"
                   "DDFSTATUS (ENABLE) "
                   "PORT(3895)"
                   "IPADDR(rs52.mycomp.com)"
                   "CCSID(37)"
                   "APPLNAME(DSN1LU)" */
                   "IDLETIME(110)"
```

**Note:** The IPADDR for the second entry is not 127.0.0.1. This subsystem is at a remote LPAR. With the connection information in place, the next step is to bind the packages for QDS at each of the DB2 locations.

#### **Editing CQDBINDD**

The CQDBINDD is shipped in the SCQDCNTL data set. It contains the commands to run the binds from the SCQDDBRM member. It contains instructions about the edits that are needed (Example 2-4).

Example 2-4 CQDBINDD execution instructions

```
//*
         EXECUTING THIS JOB:
//*
//*
         0) SPECIFY VALID JOBCARD
//*
            SEE "== 0 ==>" ABOVE.
//*
//*
         1) CHANGE HLQ TO THE HIGH LEVEL QUALIFIER FOR CQD
//*
//*
         2) CHANGE DSN!!! TO THE DB2 HIGH LEVEL QUALIFIER
//*
//*
         3) CHANGE DSN? TO THE DB2 SUBSYSTEM WHERE YOU WISH TO
//*
            BIND THE PLANS.
//*
//*
         4) REVIEW PLAN(DSNTIAD) IN STEP GRNT0001 TO ENSURE IT POINTS
//*
            TO THE CORRECT DB2 VERSION OF THE DSNTIAD PLANNAME.
//*
//*
         5) IF YOU DESIRE, CHANGE THE VALUE "NULLID" TO ANY OTHER
//*
            1-TO-18 CHARACTER COLLECTION NAME. YOU MUST ALSO UPDATE
//*
            THE SERVER STARTUP PARAMETER DRDACOLLECTIONID.
```

This last comment, number 5, about the NULLID collection cross-references the CQDSIN00 setting for "MODIFY PARM NAME (DRDACOLLECTIONID) VALUE (NULLID)".

Also, back in CQDSIN00, the following PARM exists:

```
"MODIFY PARM NAME(DRDAPACKAGEPREFIX) VALUE(DS)"
```

If your internal naming standards call for a different package prefix or collection name and you change it in CQDSIN00, you must make the corresponding changes in the actual package names and collection that are called out in CQDBINDD.

For example, two pieces from CQDBINDD show the default DS prefix and the NULLID collection (Example 2-5 and Example 2-6).

#### Example 2-5 CQDBINDD part 1

```
BROWSE DVS.CQD.SV110201.SCQDCNTL(CQDBINDD)

Command ===>

SELECT MEMBER=((CQDR510A,DSOR510A))

COPY INDD=DBRMLIB,OUTDD=DBRMTMP

SELECT MEMBER=((CQDR510B,DSOR510B))

COPY INDD=DBRMLIB,OUTDD=DBRMTMP

SELECT MEMBER=((CQDR510C,DSOR510C))
```

#### Example 2-6 CQDBINDD part 2

```
FREE PACKAGE(NULLID.DSOC510A.(*))
FREE PACKAGE(NULLID.DSOC510B.(*))
FREE PACKAGE(NULLID.DSOC510C.(*))
```

**Note:** These FREE statements occur *before* the QDS BIND statements. So, if this QDS BIND is your first QDS BIND, you get a high MAX CC in the feedback for the job. Check the job status, but the message likely shows that the FREE step is the cause and that no actual problem exists.

More inspection of CQDBINDD shows that although with CQDSIN00, you specified connection information for a remote DB2 subsystem, the CQDBINDD job refers only to a system on the local LPAR (comment number 3 in Example 2-4 on page 13). To perform the binds at remote DB2 subsystems (different LPARs), you do not need to install the entire QDS application at each LPAR. You can copy CQDBINDD and the SCQDDBRM data set, which contains the members that are referenced in CQDBINDD, to the other LPARs and edit CQDBINDD and submit it for each DB2 subsystem that is local to the specific LPAR.

#### **Editing CQD1PROC**

You need to edit CQD1PROC to establish the DB2LIB parameter, which holds the value of the DB2 library that contains the DB2 interface modules, such as DSNALI and DSNHLI.

Locate this line in CQD1PROC:

DB2LIB='DSNX10'

Uncomment this line and change it to your site-specific value. It must be all uppercase characters, and it must be in single quotation marks.

The configuration of IMS connectivity is similar, but it does not require the binds. So, it consists of editing the CQDSIN00 and the CQD1PROC only.

The configuration of VSAM connectivity is even simpler. It does not require any changes to these data sets. The connection is handled during the mapping process that creates the virtual table.

Before you continue to configure other data sources, look at a case study that shows why setting up QDS can be an improvement over traditional QMF workflow and the workflow of other applications.

#### A DB2 use case

This case is based on a known client's use of QMF for Workstation WebSphere.

An organization has 20 DB2 for z/OS subsystems: DB2A, DB2B, DB2C, ... DB2T. Each DB2 subsystem has its own copy of a particular table, which is called FINANCE.COSTS, but different data is in each subsystem. A user needs to generate a report or spreadsheet that contains the data from all 20 versions of the table from the different subsystems that are concatenated.

Currently, this user runs a QMF PROC, as shown in Example 2-7.

#### Example 2-7 Current QMF PROC

RUN QUERY GETDATA
CONNECT TO DB2A
SAVE DATA AS FINANCE.SUMMARY(ACTION = REPLACE
CONNECT TO DB2B
RUN QUERY
CONNECT TO DB2A
SAVE DATA AS FINANCE.SUMMARY(ACTION = APPEND
CONNECT TO DB2C

RUN QUERY
CONNECT TO DB2A
SAVE DATA AS FINANCE.SUMMARY(ACTION = APPEND
Etc
CONNECT TO DB2T
RUN QUERY
CONNECT TO DB2A
SAVE DATA AS FINANCE.SUMMARY(ACTION = APPEND
DISPLAY FINANCE.SUMMARY
EXPORT DATA TO C:\DOCS\FINANCE.XLSX (DATAFORMAT=XLSX)

This procedure connects to each subsystem, queries the table, reconnects to the first subsystem, and inserts the results into the same temporary table. This temporary table is queried and the data is downloaded to a spreadsheet.

QDS virtualizes the 20 versions of the table into a single relational database, and the PROC is similar to this example:

RUN QUERY GETDATA

EXPORT DATA TO C:\DOCS\FINANCE.XLSX (DATAFORMAT=XLSX)

The query GETDATA now contains 20 SELECT statements that are concatenated with UNION ALL clauses.

This approach simplifies the logic and reduces the I/O during the SAVE DATA. QDS can retrieve the data in parallel while the traditional QMF PROC performed the work in a series. With QMF for Workstation or QMF for WebSphere, the connection is a DRDA connection and so up to 60% of the DB2 workload (retrieving the data and performing the INSERTS) is zIIP eligible. With QDS, the connection to DB2 is still DRDA and the DB2 workload of retrieving the data is the same. But the work of concatenating the data is shifted to QDS, and the work that is performed in QDS is up to 99% eligible. DB2 does not create a temp table and import the data into it.

So, the parallel processing provides a better response time for QMF. The workload shift to QDS provides a higher portion of zIIP offload. And, the DB2 workload at DB2A, where all of the SAVE DATAs were taking place, is eliminated.

Although this example is focused on DB2, the query in the PROC that is shown can combine IMS and DB2 and VSAM, which is a workflow that QMF was unable to perform before the QDS technology.

#### 2.2.3 Configuring access to IMS data

The back-end configuration for IMS consists of editing CQDSIN00 and CQD1PROC.

#### **Editing CQDSIN00**

Each type of data source has a section of the program with a flag at the top that is set to either DoThis or DontDoThis. The default is DontDoThis, which means that the configuration for this data source is disabled and ignored.

Locate the IMS section and perform these steps:

- 1. Change the DontDoThis to DoThis.
- 2. Enter the IMSID.
- 3. Enter the IMSDSNAME.

The result is shown in Example 2-8.

#### Example 2-8 Editing CQDSIN00

#### **Editing CQD1PROC**

You must perform a minor edit in CQD1PROC to establish the IMSLIB, which contains the IMS RESLIB/SDFSRESL data sets.

Follow these steps:

1. Locate this line in CQD1PROC:

```
IMSLIB='IMS.RESLIB'
```

2. Uncomment this line and change it to your site-specific value. It must be all uppercase characters and it must be in single quotation marks, as shown in Example 2-9.

#### Example 2-9 Editing CQD1PROC

- 3. Also, if you activated DB2LIB above this entry, go back and place a comma after it. If you previously activated any of the data sources after IMS, follow this IMSLIB entry with a comma.
- 4. Then, on the STEPLIB, uncomment the line for &IMSLIB (Example 2-10).

#### Example 2-10 STEPLIB

```
//STEPLIB DD DISP=SHR,DSN=&HLQ..SCQDLOAD
// DD DISP=SHR,DSN=&DB2LIB..SDSNEXIT
// DD DISP=SHR,DSN=&DB2LIB..SDSNLOAD
//* DD DISP=SHR,DSN=&ADALOAD
// DD DISP=SHR,DSN=&IMSLIB
```

5. Restart the CQD1PROC started task.

The rest of the work for the IMS setup occurs during the virtual table creation. To create the virtual tables, you need the location of the source files for the IMS database descriptions (DBDs) and program specification blocks (PSBs).

#### 2.2.4 Configuring access to VSAM data

Unlike DB2 and IMS, VSAM does not have management software that gives access to the data and handles communications. No configuration settings in the QDS data sets are needed to enable access to VSAM data. However, each VSAM file that QDS connects to needs an associated copybook to tell QDS about the lengths of fields and data types. So, the only preparation is to make the copybooks available.

#### 2.3 Using QMF Data Service Studio to create virtual tables

QMF Data Service Studio is an Eclipse desktop application for Windows. It is used to perform administrative tasks on a running QDS server. Because QMF Data Service Studio is an Eclipse application, it adopts certain common Eclipse terminologies, such as views, perspectives, and editors. The Help contains tutorials about this terminology.

These terms are explained:

- ► A *view* is a tabbed window with an explorer tree for drilling into settings, viewing them, and manipulating them through the right-click menu.
- ► An *editor* is a tabbed window where you edit or manipulate text and objects. The editor is often launched from a view right-click menu.
- ► A *perspective* is a collection of views, editors, menus, and buttons that are grouped because they help with a particular workflow.

#### 2.3.1 Initial setup

When the QMF Data Service Studio is started for the first time, you need to configure a connection to the mainframe systems where QDS is running:

- 1. Select Window  $\rightarrow$  Open Perspective  $\rightarrow$  Data Service.
- 2. In the central work area, click **Network**, as shown in Figure 2-2 on page 18.
- Double-click the Add New Host icon and fill out the connection information, as shown in Figure 2-2 on page 18. The Port number is OEPORTNUMBER from the CQD1IN00 program.

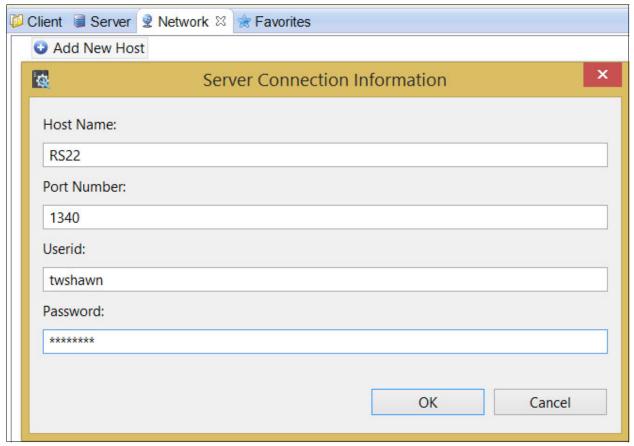


Figure 2-2 Server Connection Information

4. The server is in place, as shown in Figure 2-3. Repeat this process for each LPAR where QDS is running.

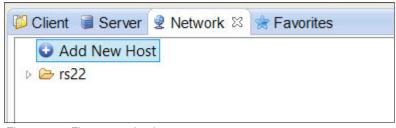


Figure 2-3 First server in place

5. Switch to **Server** in the central work area, and select **Set Server**. Choose one of the servers that you put in place on the Network tab, as shown in Figure 2-4. Click **OK**.

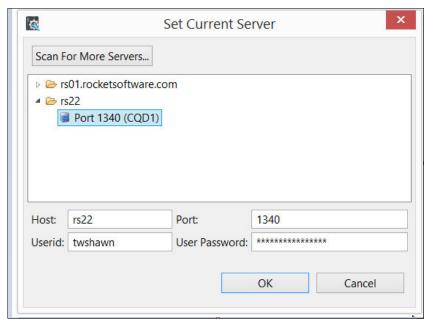


Figure 2-4 Set Current Server

**Note**: The CQD1 next to Port 1340 in Figure 2-4 is the SSID parameter from the CQD1IN00 program.

6. You are ready to create virtual tables for DB2, IMS, and so on. Expand the tree structure, as shown in Figure 2-5. Right-click **CQD1** and select **Create Virtual Table**.

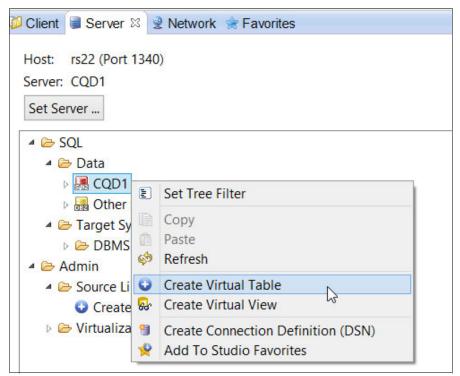


Figure 2-5 Explorer tree

**Note:** A Create Virtual View option exists. As with a DB2 view, you can create a view that is a subset of the columns and rows in an existing virtual table.

#### 2.3.2 Virtualize the DB2 data

Perform the following steps to virtualize the DB2 data:

- 1. Right-click **CQD1** under Data, as shown in Figure 2-5 on page 20, and select **Create Virtual Table**.
- 2. DB2 is a database management system (DBMS), so select **DBMS**, as shown in Figure 2-6.

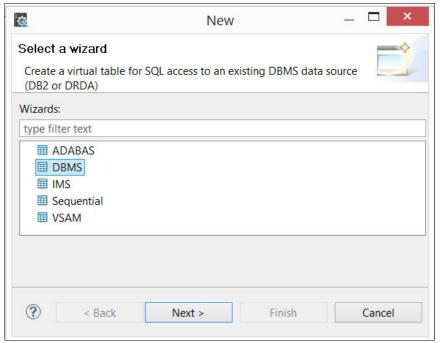


Figure 2-6 Select DBMS for the relational database management system

3. For the Name field in Figure 2-7, enter the name that the users see for the table and use in their SQL statements. No schema name shows for the virtual table.

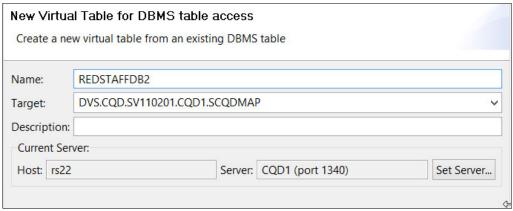


Figure 2-7 Enter the name of the virtual table

4. Select the subsystem, as shown in Figure 2-8, that you configured. (QDS discovers all of the subsystems, whether they are configured for QDS or not.)

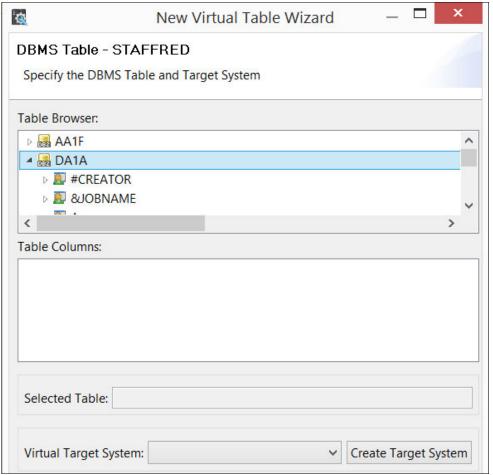


Figure 2-8 Select the DB2 subsystem

5. Scroll down to the schema name and select the table to virtualize, as shown in Figure 2-9.

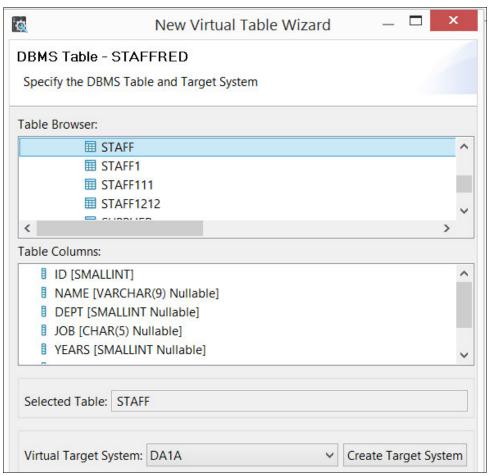


Figure 2-9 The source table and its columns

6. Click **Finish**. The virtual table is ready for QMF for Workstation and QMF for WebSphere to query it, as shown in Figure 2-10.

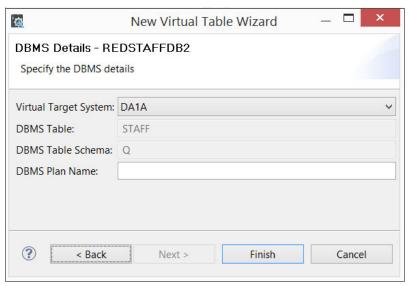


Figure 2-10 Click Finish

#### 2.3.3 Virtualize IMS data

Before you create a virtual table for IMS, you must create a source library under the Admin branch. Setup steps are required for IMS during the creation process for the first virtual table. Follow these steps:

1. Drill down into the Admin branch to the Source Libraries. Double-click the plus sign (+) icon for **Create Virtual Source Library**, as shown in Figure 2-11.

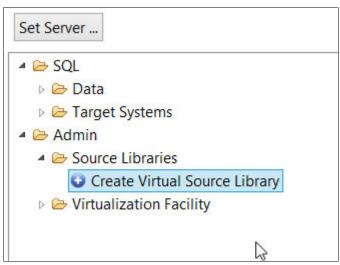


Figure 2-11 Adding a source Library for IMS

2. Enter a name for the library. Enter the IMS data set that contains the relevant DBDs, PSBs, and source copybooks (Figure 2-12).

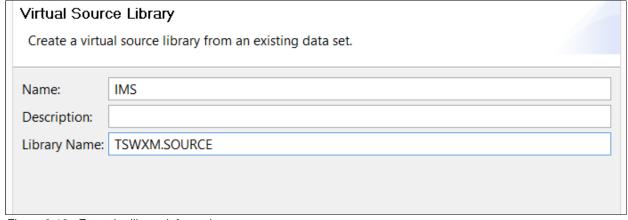


Figure 2-12 Enter the library information

3. Create a virtual table for IMS, which starts in the same way as for DB2 and all other sources, as shown in Figure 2-13.

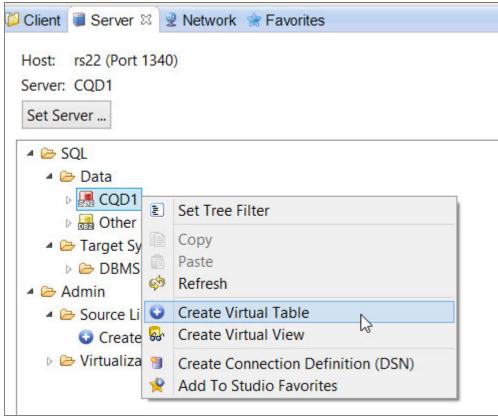


Figure 2-13 Create an IMS virtual table

4. Select **IMS** from the list of data sources, as shown in Figure 2-14, and click **Next**.

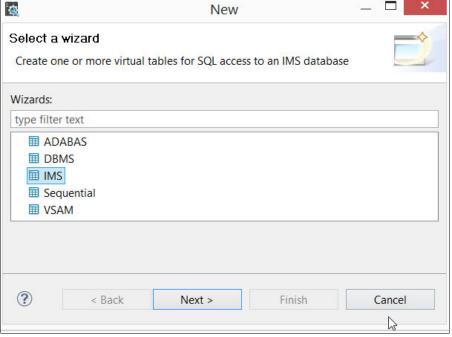


Figure 2-14 Selecting IMS

5. Extract the DBD and the PSB source definitions and copybook, as shown in Figure 2-15.



Figure 2-15 Extract DBD, PSB, and copybook

- This multistep wizard uses these copybook definitions and file locations to create the
  virtual table definition. When QDS receives an SQL query for this virtual table, it can locate
  the IMS data and format it as a relational result set. Click Extract DBD, as shown in
  Figure 2-15.
- 7. The wizard that is shown in Figure 2-16 shows the data set on the mainframe where the mapping information is sent. Click **Next**.

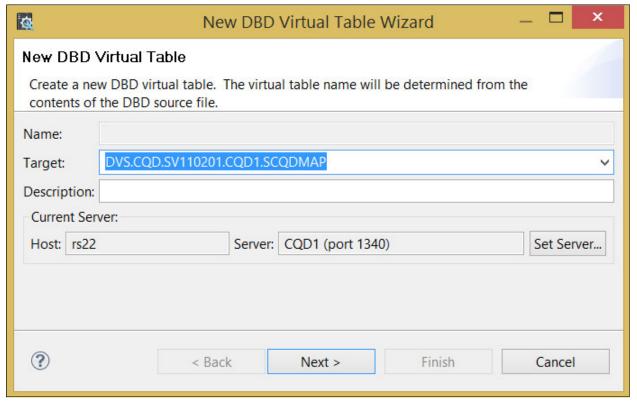


Figure 2-16 First step of the DBD extraction

8. Choose the DBD from the source library, as shown in Figure 2-17, and click Next.

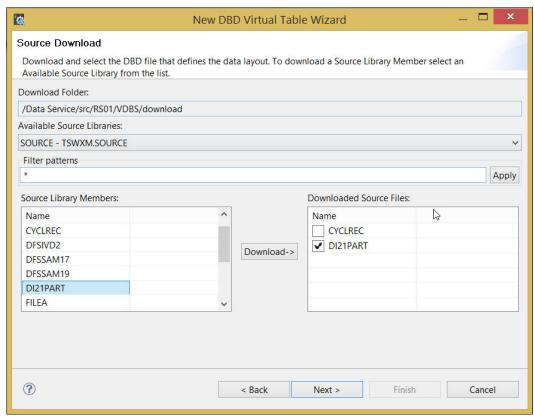


Figure 2-17 Choose the DBD

9. Examine the DBD detail and click **Finish** (Figure 2-18).

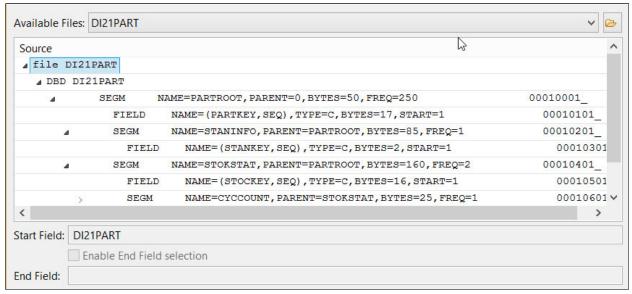


Figure 2-18 The DBD details

10. Repeat this process for the PSB, as shown in Figure 2-19.

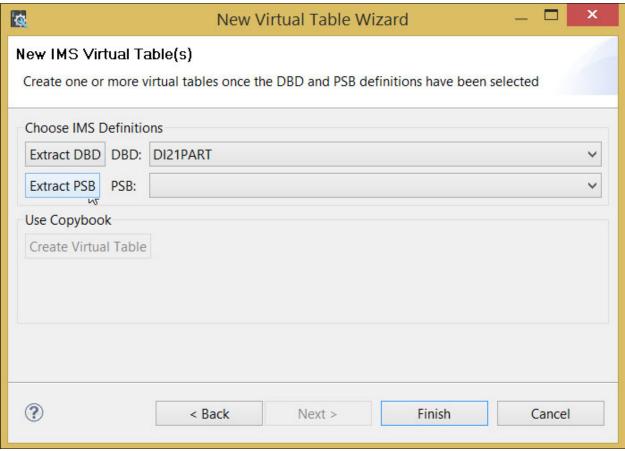


Figure 2-19 Extract the PSB

11.If you choose the wrong file, a message is displayed at top of the dialog, as shown in Figure 2-20.

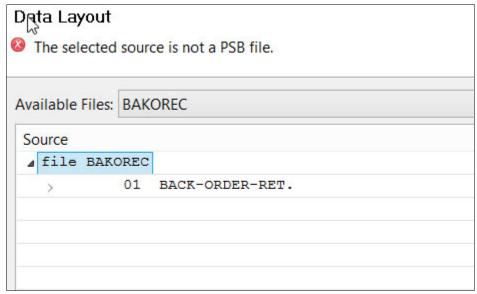


Figure 2-20 Message for the wrong file type

12. After you select the DBD and the PSB, click **Create Virtual Table**. Navigate to the windows where you choose the copybook, as shown in Figure 2-21.

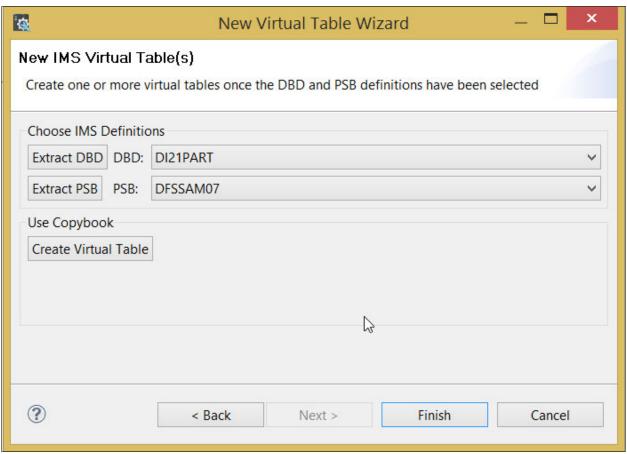


Figure 2-21 Create virtual table

13. Enter a name for the virtual table, as shown in Figure 2-22.

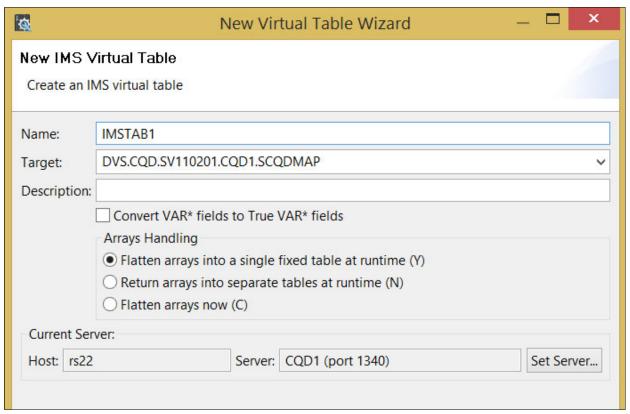


Figure 2-22 Naming the IMS virtual table

14. Select the source library with the copybook, as shown in Figure 2-23. In general, this library might not be the same library as the library that holds the DBD or PSB source. In the example that is shown here, the source files and the copybooks were all assembled in one data set ahead of time.

Available Source Libraries:			~
COPYBOOK - TSAXC.SOURCE DB2TRACES - TSSXS.COPYBO JORIS - CSCORN.MY.COPYLIE MJSOURCE - CSWONG.DVS.O NEW_SOURCE_LIBRARY - DV SOURCE - TSWXM.SOURCE	OOK COPYBOOK		
SPARK - DVS.SPARK.JCL WONGSOURCE - CSWONG.E	OVS.COPYBOOK		
WONESCONE CONTROL	Download->	DISSAINTY DI21PART PARTRREC	

Figure 2-23 Select the copybook source library

#### 15. Select the copybook, as shown in Figure 2-24.

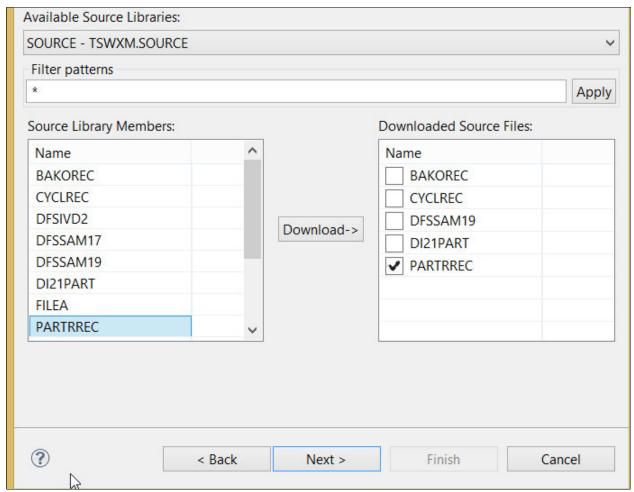


Figure 2-24 Select the copybook

16. Examine the copybook, as shown in Figure 2-25.

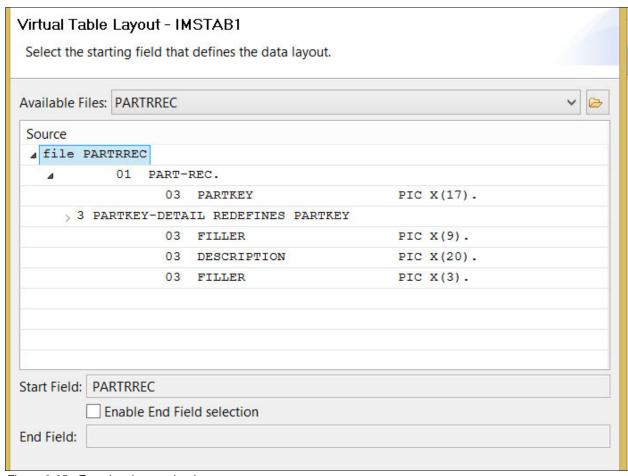


Figure 2-25 Examine the copybook

17. Select the segment, as shown in Figure 2-26.

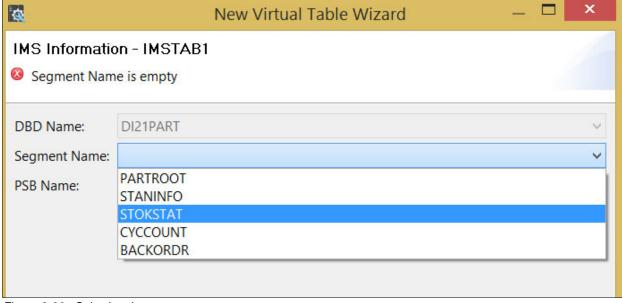


Figure 2-26 Selecting the segment

18. Run a test query on the new virtual table, as shown in Figure 2-27.

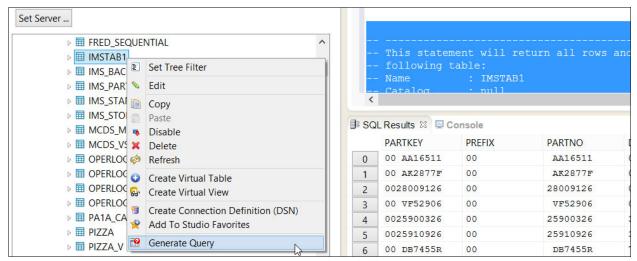


Figure 2-27 Generate a test query

#### 2.3.4 Virtualize the VSAM data

VSAM data is one of the simpler data sources to create virtual tables. Example 2-11 shows a sample of a VSAM file to virtualize.

Example 2-11 VSAM file to virtualize

Browse	DVS.CUSTOMER.VSAM	Тор	Top of 159	
Command ===>				
Scroll PAGE				
	Type KSDS	RBA <rls file=""></rls>	Format CHAR	
Key		Col 1		
<==>+10	+2+3+	4+5+6+	7+	
**** Top of da	ata ****			
USA	Daredevil Skiing	276 North Street	• • • • •	
Finland	Flip-It Frisbee	Rattipolku 3	• • • • •	
USA	Hoops Croquet Co.	Suite 415	40 Gro	
United King	gdom Gone Fishing Ltd	Unit 2	83 Pon	
USA	Match Point Tennis	66 Homer Ave	• • • • •	
United King	gdomFanatical Athletes	20 Bicep Bridge Rd	Leyton	
Finland	Body Fit Sports	Peltolantie 2		

Example 2-12 shows a sample of the COBOL copybook for this file.

Example 2-12 COBOL copybook

```
10 ADDRESS PIC X(25).
10 ADDRESS2 PIC X(19).
10 CITY PIC X(15).
10 STATE PIC X(17).
10 POSTALCODE PIC X(9).
10 CONTACT PIC X(19).
10 PHONE PIC X(14).
```

With the two files, we can create the virtual table. Follow these steps:

 In the QMF Data Service Studio, on the Set Server tab, expand the tree to Admin → Source Libraries and double-click the plus sign (+) icon for the Create Virtual Source Library, as shown in Figure 2-28.

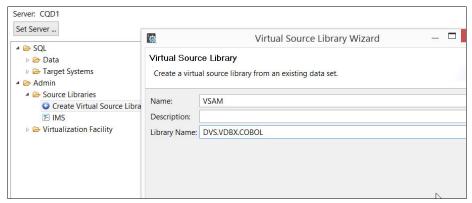


Figure 2-28 Creating a VSAM source library

- 2. Enter the data set that holds the copybook. Click Finish.
- 3. Create a virtual table by right-clicking your server and selecting **Create Virtual Table**, as shown in Figure 2-29.

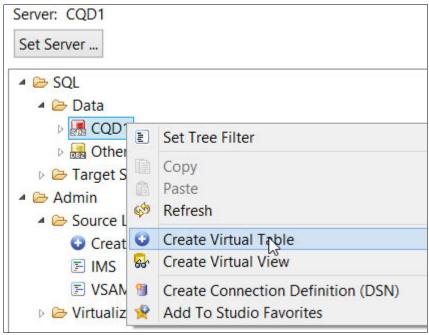


Figure 2-29 Create a virtual table

4. Select **VSAM** from the list, as shown in Figure 2-30.

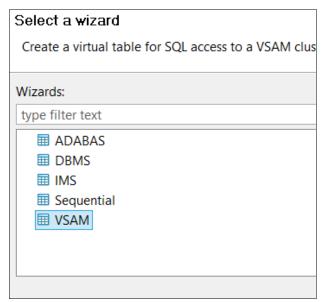


Figure 2-30 Select VSAM

5. Enter a name for the table, as shown in Figure 2-31.

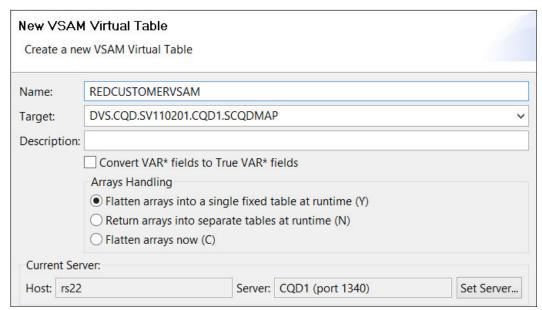


Figure 2-31 Name the table

6. Select the copybook to download, as shown in Figure 2-32.

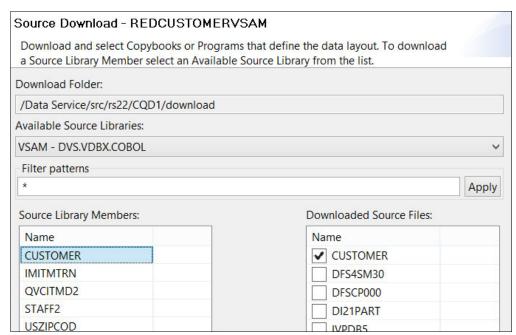


Figure 2-32 Select the copybook for the VSAM file

7. By default, all columns are selected for the virtual table, but you can specify an end field by selecting **Enable End Field selection**. We stop at POSTALCODE, as shown in Figure 2-33.

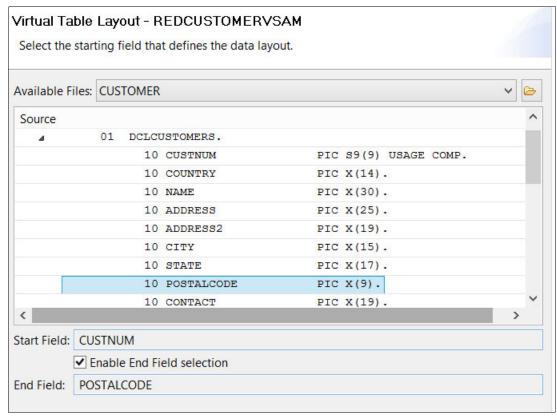


Figure 2-33 Choosing the end field

8. Enter the location of the VSAM file for the cluster name and click **Validate**, as shown in Figure 2-34.

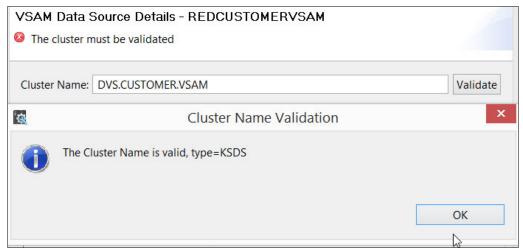


Figure 2-34 Validating the cluster

9. Click **Finish**. You can test the VSAM data access by right-clicking and selecting **Generate Query**, as shown in Figure 2-35.

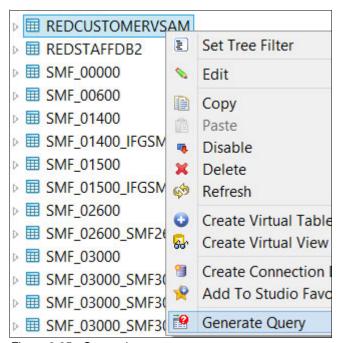


Figure 2-35 Generating a query

The data is returned in Figure 2-36.



Figure 2-36 VSAM data that is returned by using SQL

## 2.4 Accessing the QMF Data Service data

The QMF Data Server Studio itself can run SQL and return data in a rudimentary fashion. QMF for Workstation and QMF for WebSphere are robust front ends for QDS.

#### 2.4.1 Creating a QMF Data Service data source in QMF

Follow these steps:

 With QMF for z/OS V11.2.1, QMF for Workstation has a new branch in the explorer tree for QMF Data Service connections, as shown in Figure 2-37.

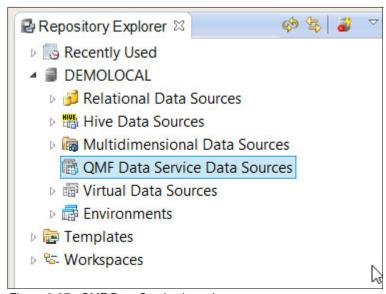


Figure 2-37 QMF Data Service branch

2. Right-click QMF Data Service and select New → QMF Data Service Data Source, as shown in Figure 2-38 to start the process.



Figure 2-38 Creating a QDS entry

3. Enter the connection information and click **Finish**, as shown in Figure 2-39.

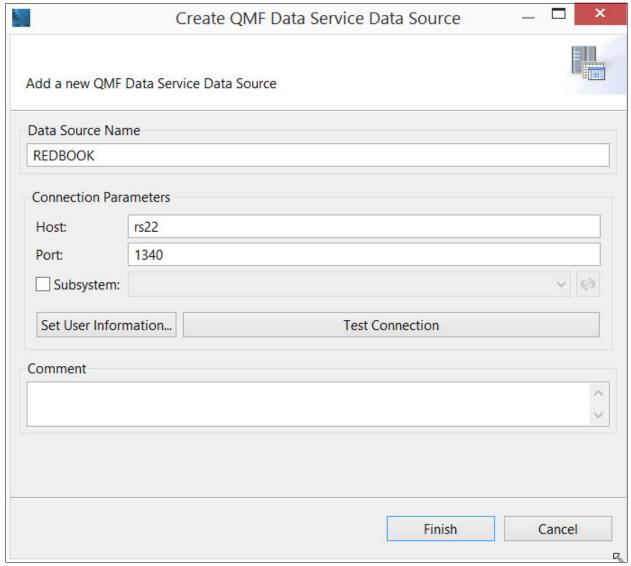


Figure 2-39 Enter the QDS connection information

4. Now, all users of this QMF repository can access these now-federated data sources. Figure 2-40 shows the DB2 data and the VSAM data side by side.

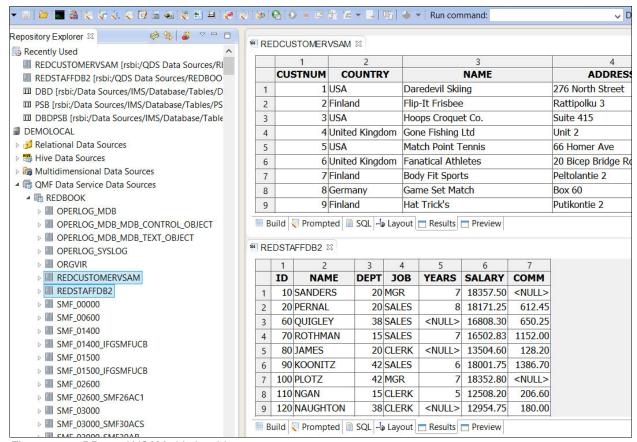


Figure 2-40 DB2 and VSAM side by side

5. Figure 2-41 shows the DB2 and VSAM data that is federated in a single result set.

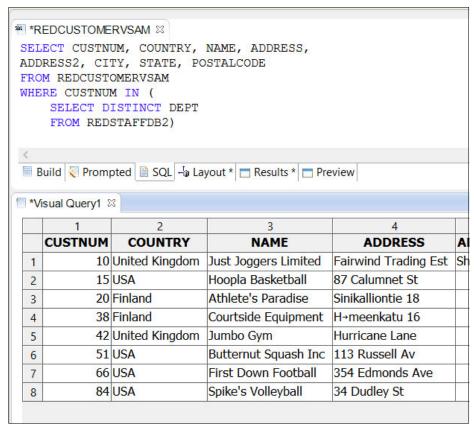


Figure 2-41 Joined DB2 and VSAM data

## 2.5 Additional considerations

Consider the following information:

- ADABAS is a supported data source. Its setup is similar to DB2 and IMS.
- ► SMF records and the system log are also data sources. The steps to set up access are brief, and they are described in detail in *DB2 QMF Data Service Solutions Guide*, GC27-8808-01.
- ► The QDS is a DRDA client, and it can connect to remote DB2 instances. So, one instance of QDS on an LPAR can map DB2 tables from all of the other locations on your network as well as the VSAM files, IMS, and ADABAS on the local LPAR.

- ▶ If you need to federate data that is not DB2 data across different LPARs, for example, IMS on several different LPARs or on different physical machines, you need to set up QDS on each LPAR. Then, on one system, set up connections to the other QDS instances as though they were DB2. Then, the virtual tables at those remote QDS instances can be mapped to a single QDS.
- ► The following statement is in the prerequisites for QMF for WebSphere in *Installing and Managing DB2 QMF for Workstation and DB2 QMF for WebSphere*, GC27-6742-02:

"QMF for WebSphere requires Java Runtime Environment (JRE) V7 or later to access QMF Data Service data sources."

As of this writing, when IBM WebSphere Application Server is installed, it comes with and uses IBM Java runtime environment (JRE) V6. As a result, QMF for WebSphere, when it is deployed with a default configuration of IBM WebSphere Application Server, does not display a QMF Data Service node in the Repository Explorer tree and does not display the built-in QMF Data Service Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) drivers.

Even if the QMF Data Service connection was already configured in QMF for Workstation and queries were written, you cannot run them in QMF for WebSphere if WebSphere Application Server (or any other Web Application Server, such as Apache Tomcat) uses the Java 6 JRE. The documentation for WebSphere Application Server describes the steps to upgrade the JRE that is in use by WebSphere Application Server.

## 2.6 Summary

After the QMF Data Service is installed and configured, you need to perform a few steps to set up connections to data sources:

- 1. Edit the CDQ1IN00 server initialization member to provide the connection information and to enable the DoThis flag.
- 2. For DB2, edit CQDBINDD and run it to bind the QDS packages at each DB2 subsystem that you need to access.
- 3. Edit the CDQ1PROC that is run as a started task to start the QDS server. You need to enter specific resource fields, depending on the data source.
- 4. After the customizations, use the desktop QMF Data Service Studio to set up the virtual tables.
- 5. Use QMF for Workstation, QMF for WebSphere, or QMF Vision to query, report, visualize, and build applications from these virtual tables.



# Using self-service business intelligence

"Self-service business intelligence" applies to user tools that are less complex for the non-technical user. They offer an intuitive interface to access data from various sources and provide easy-to-use menus and options to create dashboards, charts, and other business output. Many powerful business intelligence tools are available, but many have so much function and offer so many options that a non-skilled individual cannot effectively use them.

Now, in IBM DB2 Query Management Facility for z/OS V11.2.1 (QMF), IBM addresses the self-service user community with a new member. QMF Vision is a key enhancement to the QMF product for self-service dashboards and data exploration. Empowering users is a goal of many organizations to reduce decision-making time, reduce IT requests and involvement, increase accessibility to data, and improve the organization's agility.

Users typically know the data that they want and the application that it is in, but they do not know the database that stores that data, what the structure of the database is, or even how to gain access to it. The need for this information creates a requirement for other people, typically, the IT department and database administrators (DBAs), to create the data sets and objects to be analyzed by users. With the addition of QMF Vision, the user can build their own visualizations from provided data sets.

The user still does not need to know the database or how to build queries, but they now can quickly view the data in the manner that they need, plus all of the variations of it. Now, IT and the DBAs can produce and publish reliable data sets and tables one time. They can ensure that users are using the same clean, consistent data across the company. Users can then focus on collaborating on insights that are gained from the data without worrying whether the insights are based on the correct data.

This chapter includes the following topics:

- QMF Vision installation summary
- Interface
- Accessing data
- Creating your visualizations
- Collaboration

## 3.1 QMF Vision installation summary

This section outlines the installation process for QMF Vision.

## 3.1.1 Time guidance

When the installation process is correctly prepared, the installation process can be completed quickly. During a full QMF installation or an upgrade, a QMF Vision executable is created that can now be run on the server to which QMF Vision is installed. The executable provides an installation wizard that guides the administrator through the installation process. The preparation portion includes identifying your servers and establishing accessibility. See server requirements in 3.1.4, "Architecture" on page 46.

#### 3.1.2 Recommended personnel

Few people are involved in the installation. You need an administrator for the server that you are installing on, or you need "Run as administrator" permission when you launch the executable. A QMF Workstation/WebSphere administrator is needed for subsequent connection into the QMF environment. QMF WebSphere is required to connect QMF Vision to a QMF repository, making the queries and tables that are published in QMF Workstation/WebSphere available to the QMF Vision users. If you use Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) security, an LDAP administrator might be needed.

#### 3.1.3 Back-end activities

The QMF Vision installation requires a MongoDB instance for the storage of the metadata. During the QMF Vision installation, the installer auto-detects an existing instance of MongoDB. If an existing instance of MongoDB is not found, the directory can be manually set to an existing installation or a new instance of MongoDB can be downloaded and installed as part of the installation process. The MongoDB instance does not need to be on the same server as QMF Vision, but it can be, depending on the architecture that you want.

Data can be accessed by using either QMF WebSphere or QMF Data Service. You need to install either QMF WebSphere or QMF Data Service and configure it independently of QMF Vision. During the setup and configuration of QMF Vision, a connection is made into these environments to open published data so that the users can build their visualizations.

#### 3.1.4 Architecture

Before you begin installation, ensure that your system is configured. Figure 3-1 on page 47 shows the overall architecture of QMF Vision.

The server requirements are listed:

- QMF Vision supports the following Windows versions:
  - Microsoft Windows 7 64-bit
  - Windows Server 2008 R2 Service Pack 1
  - Windows Server 2012 with .NET Framework 3.5 enabled

Ensure that your production environment has the following minimum configurations:

- 4-core microprocessor
- ► 8 GB RAM
- 250 GB free disk space

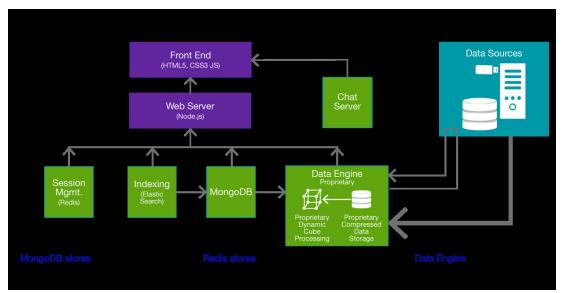


Figure 3-1 Architecture

## 3.2 Interface

The interface of QMF Vision is described.

#### 3.2.1 User access

A web browser is used to access QMF Vision. A URL is generated during the installation process in this form:

http://<servername>:3000/qmf#/login

This URL is provided to users who can access QMF Vision by using their preferred web browser. This URL does not change unless the server name or IP is changed by IT, so it can be bookmarked, saved as a favorite, or made accessible as a link from another page. Nothing is downloaded to the client machine, and no plug-ins are necessary for operation. All users access the same installation to allow object sharing and instant messaging.

Separate installations of the QMF Vision component cannot interoperate. Files cannot be transferred between separate installations of the QMF component.

Note: QMF incorporates HTML 5 responsive design, which enables mobile usage.

A user can request an account by accessing the provided URL and selecting **Create an account** within the login window, as shown in Figure 3-2.



Figure 3-2 Create an account

After the information is submitted, an administrator must approve the account before the user can access the interface.

A user can be invited to use QMF Vision by using an automated email. The email address is entered into QMF Vision, which triggers an email to the user with an invitation to finish the creation of their account and to use the software.

Other options include connecting to LDAP and uploading multiple email addresses that are listed in a Microsoft Excel file. For more information, see *Getting Started with DB2 QMF Vision*, GC27-8805-01.

#### 3.2.2 User administration

By default, the first user to create an account and log in has "administrator" permissions. All administration is handled in the same interface that users work within. The administration area is accessed by clicking your *username* and then selecting **Settings** (Figure 3-3).

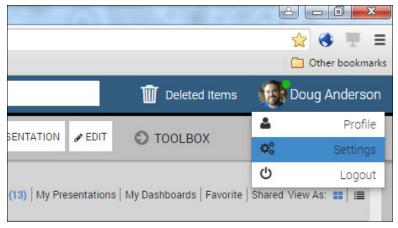


Figure 3-3 Accessing the administration area

The administrator establishes the company profile, manages users, and works with the default display settings.

**Note:** Other users can be designated as administrators by the initial administrator.

## 3.3 Accessing data

This section describes the use of QMF WebSphere and connecting to QMF Data Service.

## 3.3.1 Using QMF WebSphere

QMF WebSphere/Workstation interfaces enable connectivity to multiple data sources. Use QMF WebSphere/Workstation interfaces for the preparation of data, which can then be available to users of the QMF Vision interface. QMF Vision is most efficiently used when you need to visualize summary-level data.

A connection to QMF WebSphere can be added within the Data area. Enter the URL that links to your installed QMF WebSphere environment by using this format:

http(s)://[server]:[port]/[ContextRoot]

For example, use this format:

http://www.ibm.com:9080/QMFWebSphere112

After you enter the URL, perform the following steps:

1. Click Connect (Figure 3-4).

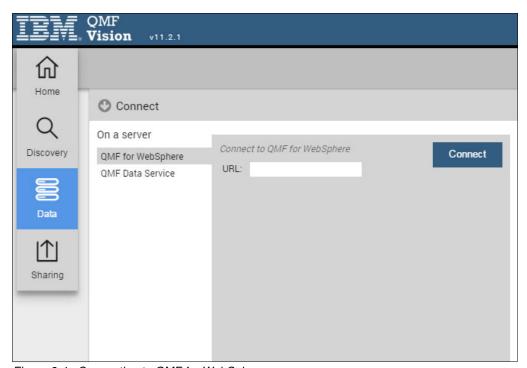


Figure 3-4 Connecting to QMF for WebSphere

2. The available Repository Connections are displayed, as shown in Figure 3-5. If the URL is entered incorrectly or a connectivity problem exists, a message box alerts you to the issue and provides the context of the problem.

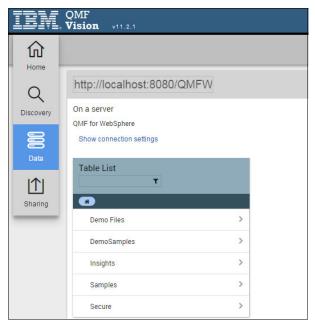


Figure 3-5 Connection settings

- 3. By default, the name of the data source is the URL that is used for the connection. This name can be changed to make it more easily identifiable. In Figure 3-5, the URL that is shown in the gray bar is the name of the connection. By clicking within this area, you can edit the name of the data source. After the connection is completed, you can browse the repository for accessible data by clicking **View**.
- 4. After you create the data source connections, they show in a list view, as shown in Figure 3-6.



Figure 3-6 Connection list

5. Data needs to be explicitly available to be accessible within the QMF Vision interface. A query or a table can be published to QMF Vision from which users can create their visualizations. You can publish a query or table from either the QMF Workstation or QMF WebSphere User or Administrator interface by right-clicking the object and selecting Publish to QMF Vision from the menu that is shown in Figure 3-7.

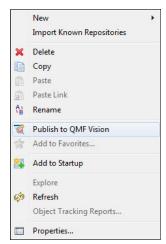


Figure 3-7 Publish to QMF Vision

6. Set the name of the object and folder location to use, as shown in Figure 3-8. You can create folders to better organize the objects. These folders are displayed in QMF Vision when a user browses through the available queries or tables.

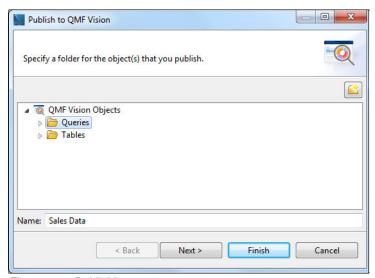


Figure 3-8 Publishing

7. Click **Next** to enter the credentials, if needed, or click **Finish** to complete the publishing process.

**Note:** Only objects that were published are visible to users.

#### 3.3.2 Connecting to QMF Data Service

The most common method of accessing data from QMF Data Service is through a connection to the WebSphere/Workstation environment. This connection to the WebSphere/Workstation environment is where most power users create queries against the available mainframe data, prepare the queries, and then publish the queries to the QMF Vision environment.

However, sometimes, a direct connection to QMF Data Service files is needed. This connection is available within QMF Vision. Direct access also allows the use of a data pack where the QMF Vision user can create manual joins between mainframe files with common data. Follow these steps:

 You can connect directly from the Data area by selecting QMF Data Service and entering the correct connection information. After you enter the connection information, click CONNECT to complete the process. See Figure 3-9.

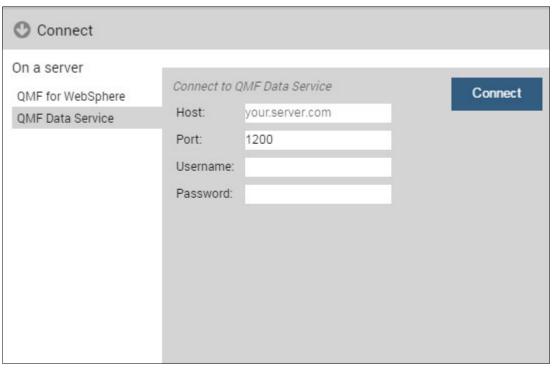


Figure 3-9 QMF Data Service connection

2. If you connect successfully, an option is presented to select the QMF Data Service database that you want, as shown in Figure 3-10 and Figure 3-11.

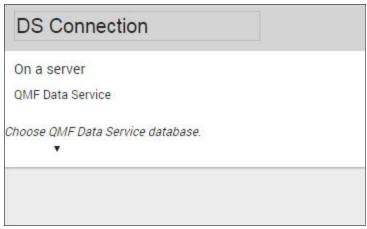


Figure 3-10 Connection made

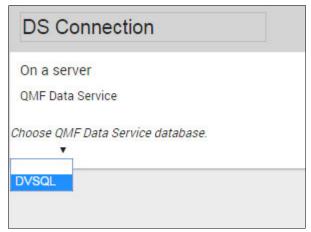


Figure 3-11 Select the QMF Data Service database

 After you select a QMF Data Service database, a blue box informs you to wait while QMF Data Service retrieves tables (Figure 3-12). This process can take time based on how many files are virtualized and available with QMF Data Service.

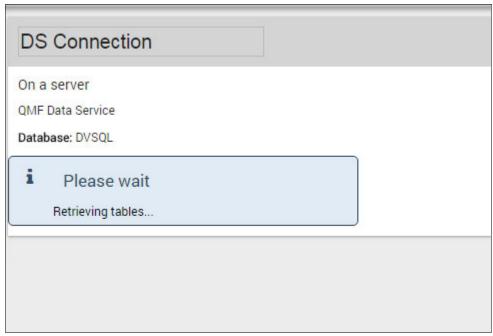


Figure 3-12 Retrieving tables

4. After the tables are retrieved, a list displays and the capability to build queries and dashboards is available. After the initial connection and retrieval, the table list is shown on the subsequent access to create objects (Figure 3-13). A specific file can be selected to create a query or dashboard. Also, the data pack can be created. This process is covered in *Getting Started with DB2 QMF Vision*, GC27-8805-01.

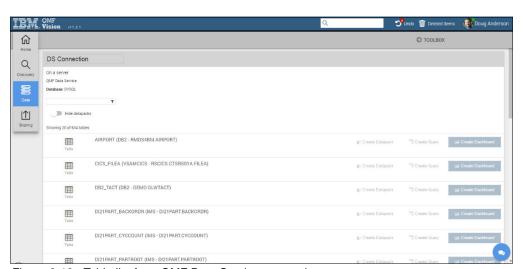


Figure 3-13 Table list for a QMF Data Service connection

5. If the QMF Data Service option under CONNECT appears in red letters and shows "Unavailable" when you click it (Figure 3-14), you must install the IBM Data Service Open Database Connectivity (ODBC) driver. The installation process is documented in *Installing and Managing DB2 QMF for Workstation and DB2 QMF for WebSphere*, GC27-6742-02.

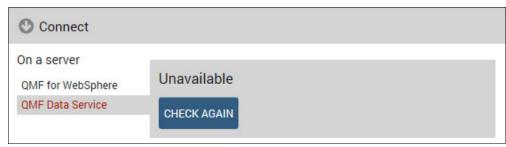


Figure 3-14 Data Service connection is unavailable

## 3.4 Creating your visualizations

This section contains the following considerations when you create visualizations:

- Understanding the initial home window
- Building a dashboard
- ► Reports and working with data
- ► Editing or replacing a query
- Coordinated highlighting and associations

## 3.4.1 Understanding the initial home window

Each user has their own home window that opens after the user logs in (Figure 3-15). If a user is new, their home window is empty until they build dashboards or until dashboards are shared with them by other users.

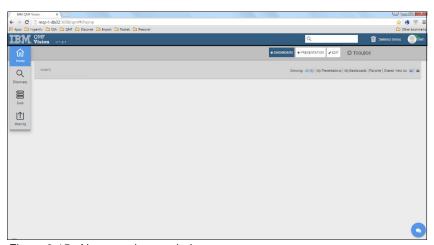


Figure 3-15 New user home window

Figure 3-16 shows the home window of an active user with a tile view of available dashboards to both view and interact. The dashboards can be shown in this tile form or in a list fashion. Other filter options are available in the upper-right area to help a user quickly access the dashboard that is needed for analysis. The user can select additional filter options, such as My Dashboard and Favorite.

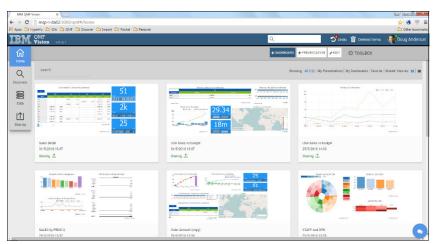


Figure 3-16 Active user home window

### 3.4.2 Building a dashboard

Many ways are available to build a dashboard. The most common method is to start from the Data window, select your data source or existing query, and build your dashboard.

**Note:** A query is created within QMF Vision when a dashboard object is created. This process differs from a query that is published to QMF Vision. The query that is published can be looked at more as a data set in this instance. The use of the query that is created in QMF Vision allows data type overrides, calculated columns, and so on. The query that is created in QMF Vision is not stored or available in the QMF Workstation or WebSphere environment.

### Follow these steps:

1. Select the data source that you need to work with. Click **View** to browse through the available data by using the connection that is shown in Figure 3-17. The key information is shown to explain the source of data. In the dark section that displays four labeled bubbles, the top bubble displays the name of the connection that is accessed.

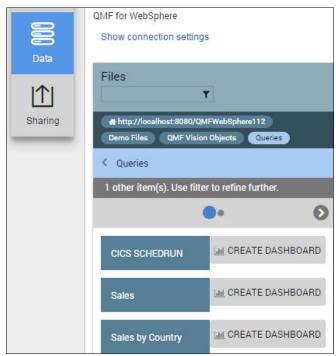


Figure 3-17 Data that is available for dashboards

2. In Figure 3-18, the URL is the name, but this name varies based on the user who created the data source connection and the name that they assigned to the connection.



Figure 3-18 Data source connection

3. Immediately under the data source connection is the repository that is accessed. In our example, the repository name is Demo Files, as shown in Figure 3-19.

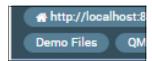


Figure 3-19 Repository connection

4. The label of QMF Vision Objects is the default level for files that are available to the QMF Vision interface. This name is constant through all QMF WebSphere connections. Any remaining bubbles are the folder structure that is created to better organize the accessible queries or tables (Figure 3-20). The folders are created in the Workstation/WebSphere environment and automatically carry over into QMF Vision, as shown in Figure 3-21.

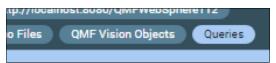


Figure 3-20 Folder structure that shows the selected Queries folder

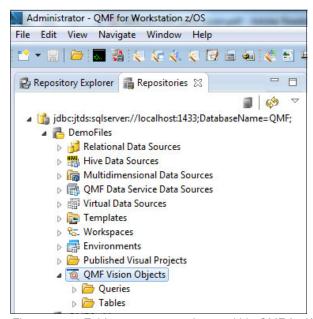


Figure 3-21 Folder structure as shown within QMF for Workstation/WebSphere

- 5. The sample structure is defined in the following manner:
  - Name of connection: http://localhost:8080/QMFWebSphere112
  - Repository name: Demo Files
  - Default folder level: QMF Vision Objects
  - User-created folder: Queries

6. After you identify the necessary data, click **Create Dashboard** next to the object to start the dashboard creation process. The window changes to display a column chart with a single data element that is displayed in multiple columns, as shown in Figure 3-22.

**Note:** An algorithm quickly analyzes the data and selects a data element that allows a column chart to display and present a few columns. You do not need to use this data. This data is offered only to create a visual start position.

Data is analyzed and identified as either a dimension/context column or a measure column. The dimension or context columns are character and date columns. The measure columns are numeric values.

**Note:** Color labels around the column names are used to quickly identify the column data type that is assigned. Blue is used for dimension/context columns and green is a measure column.

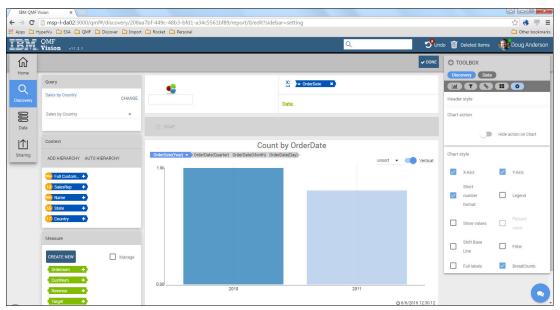


Figure 3-22 Initial view of the dashboard after creation

7. Columns can be added to the chart by clicking the plus sign (+) to the right of the column name. Columns can be removed from the chart by clicking the multiplication sign (x) to the right of the column name if it is used. When a column is added or removed, it automatically moves to the correct area.

By adding multiple dimension/context columns, you create a drill-down capability. By adding multiple measure columns, you create a drill-across capability.

Also, you can create a drill-down hierarchy manually or automatically to allow the single-click addition of the hierarchy to the chart. A *hierarchy* is a predefined hierarchical structure of context columns that can be reused. The hierarchies are saved with the underlying query of the chart. If the automatically generated hierarchies are selected, they are created, identifying multiple relationships that can be used in charts. These hierarchies can be removed and edited.

The manual hierarchy can be created by clicking **ADD HIERARCHY**. They display as shown in Figure 3-23. Click the label of the column to set as the top level of the hierarchy.

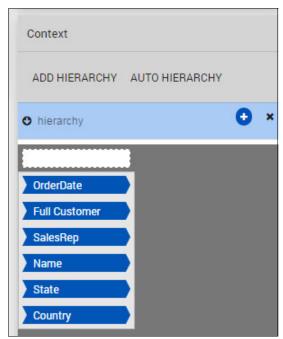


Figure 3-23 Add hierarchy option

8. After you select the top-level column, click in the plain white box to add the next level to the hierarchy and repeat for any additional levels. The name for the hierarchy can also be edited to better identify data. To edit the name, click in the box that is labeled hierarchy, as shown in Figure 3-24. After the hierarchy is completed, you can add the hierarchy to the chart by clicking the blue circle that contains a plus sign (+).

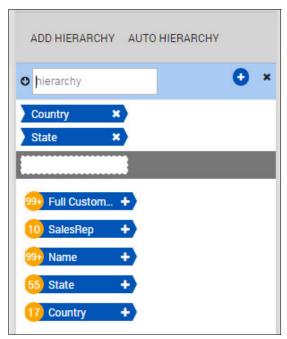


Figure 3-24 Modifying the hierarchy and adding it to the chart

**Note:** A date column automatically generates a calendar hierarchy to enable views of the data by common periods. If this calendar hierarchy is not completed, the column is not set as a date format. This hierarchy is contained within the column itself and not shown in the hierarchy list.

9. You can alter settings in each chart to customize how the chart looks and behaves. These settings are in the TOOLBOX area and vary based on the chart type. The TOOLBOX is on the right side of the window. The TOOLBOX can be collapsed by clicking the down arrow next to the word TOOLBOX. Figure 3-25 shows the chart settings that are specific to the Column Chart.

**Note:** The TOOLBOX is a multiple-purpose area for you to use for several interactions in QMF Vision.

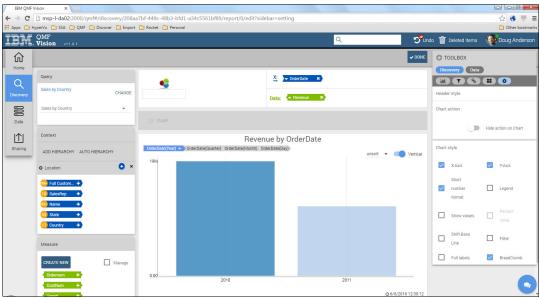


Figure 3-25 Chart setup

10. After the chart is complete, click **DONE** to move to the dashboard Discovery area (Figure 3-26) where the dashboard can be accessed, shared, or modified.

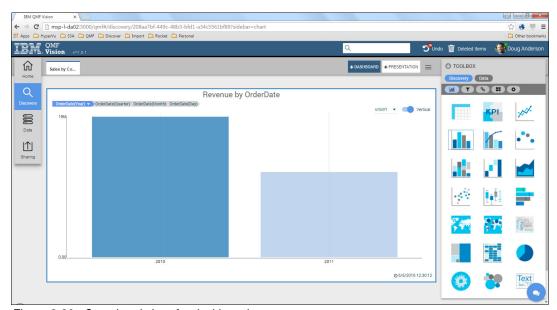


Figure 3-26 Completed chart for dashboard

11. The dashboard can be left as-is or added to by dragging a chart from the TOOLBOX area onto the dashboard, as shown in Figure 3-27. The position of the new chart is shown by the large blue box on the right side, and the existing chart will resize and move location based on the addition of the new chart.

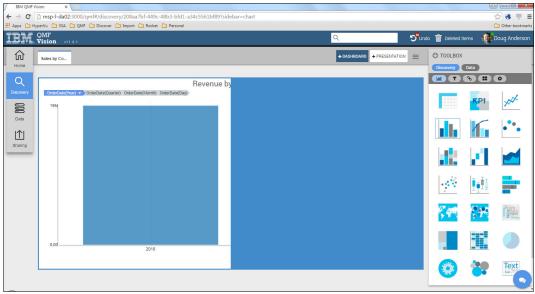


Figure 3-27 Adding another chart to the dashboard

12. After the new chart is added, a data source needs to be selected. Click the cylinders icon in the middle of the new chart view and choose the data source from the TOOLBOX area, as shown in Figure 3-28. Data sources and queries are listed in the TOOLBOX, and the same query can be used multiple times or a new source can be used.

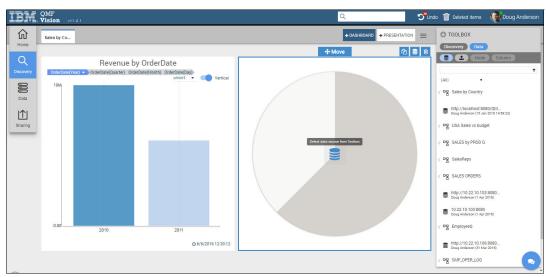


Figure 3-28 Selecting the data source for the new chart

13. By following the creation steps, another chart is added to the dashboard. Additional charts can be added at any time. The sizing and location of each chart can be manually positioned, as needed.

14. You can edit a chart after you create it by hovering over the chart that needs modification and selecting the **EDIT** icon for that chart. See Figure 3-29 and Figure 3-30.

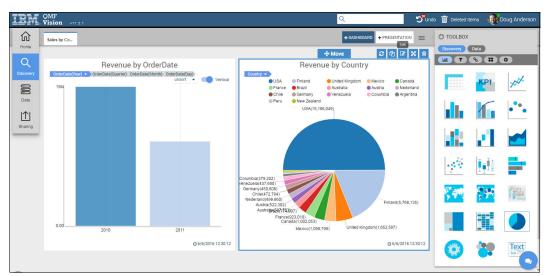


Figure 3-29 Editing a chart on a dashboard



Figure 3-30 Edit icon

15. The TOOLBOX displays automatically so that you can adjust chart settings or change the chart type. Click the new chart type to switch the view. The same data columns are displayed, but they can be modified, if needed. See Figure 3-31, Figure 3-32, and Figure 3-33 on page 66. If an existing chart is not selected when a new chart is selected, the new chart is added to the dashboard as another object.

**Note:** Certain chart types require different types of data to display correctly, so certain settings and data columns must be changed.

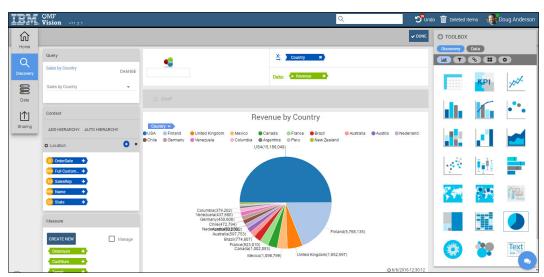


Figure 3-31 Changing the chart



Figure 3-32 Geo Map icon

### 16. Figure 3-33 shows the Geo Map view.



Figure 3-33 Geo Map view

17. The use of a hierarchy creates a drill-down structure that you can add with a single click and reuse in different charts. You do not need to use a hierarchy to create a drill-down scenario. Add multiple context/dimension columns (blue label columns) to create the drill-down capability from a summary level to a detailed level. You can use this drill-down capability for two or more levels. Figure 3-34 shows an example of a GEO MAP chart that highlights summary data at a country level with the ability to drill down to a state level.



Figure 3-34 Adding drill-down function

18. After a second level is added to the x-axis, the drill-down capability is automatically enabled. You can test the drill capability by double-clicking an area on the chart, as shown in Figure 3-35.

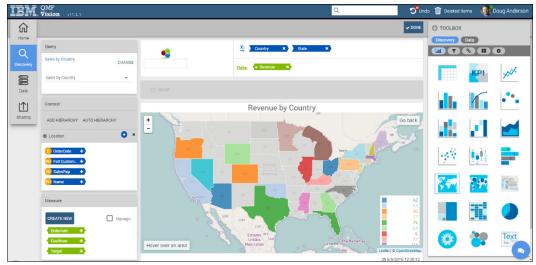


Figure 3-35 Drill-down test

19. After all edits are complete, accept the changes by clicking the blue **DONE** check box in the upper-right corner. This selection returns you to the full dashboard view, as shown in Figure 3-36.

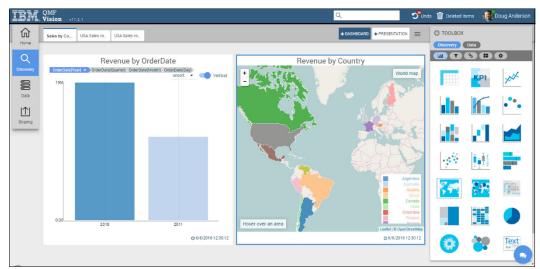


Figure 3-36 Click Done and go back to the full dashboard view

**Note:** Geo maps do not require any shape files or latitude/longitude coordinates. A column of data is needed with an appropriate label that identifies the corresponding area.

## 3.4.3 Reports and working with data

A common use question for QMF Vision is reporting in addition to using the dashboards. While several traditional reports can be built within the QMF Vision environment, the reports are still created as a chart on the dashboard. The TABLE chart can be used for report-like views of data. This chart includes several options for customizing the look and feel with the type of interactions that can be incorporated for the users. The process of building a dashboard in 3.4.2, "Building a dashboard" on page 56 started with a data source and the selection of a query that was published to QMF Vision. Follow these steps:

1. A QMF Vision query is automatically created when a new dashboard object is generated. These queries can be selected and reused in multiple charts. See Figure 3-37.

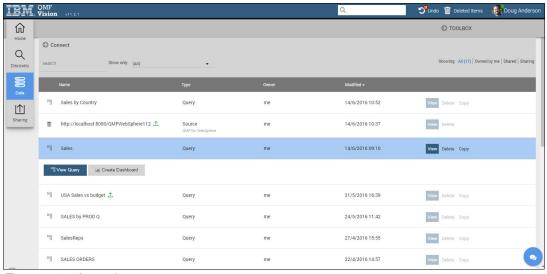


Figure 3-37 Accessing a query

Figure 3-38 shows the two available methods. The blue VIEW option is available when you
hover over the query. The VIEW QUERY and CREATE DASHBOARD options are
displayed if you click an area within the query that is not a button. The area expands to
show the two additional options. When you click VIEW or VIEW QUERY, the actual data of
the query appears.

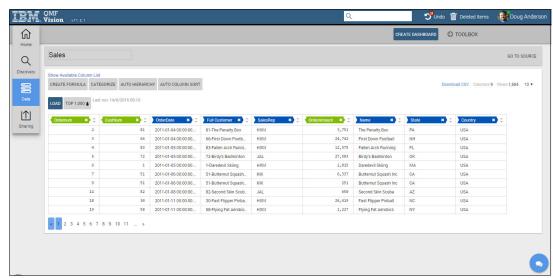


Figure 3-38 Query view

3. By default, the first 10 rows of data are shown, but you can change the number of rows. Near the upper-right corner of the Data area (Figure 3-39), a drop-down arrow is displayed to change the number of rows. A summary shows the total number of columns and rows. You can use the remaining option to download the full data set into a comma-separated values (CSV) file.



Figure 3-39 Query view

4. Data is analyzed and assigned as either a dimension/context or a measure type. The dimension or context columns are character and date columns. The measure columns are numeric values. You can override the assignments so that data can be used in a different manner than the original interpretation. Selecting a column both highlights it and shows the column properties in the TOOLBOX, as shown in Figure 3-40.

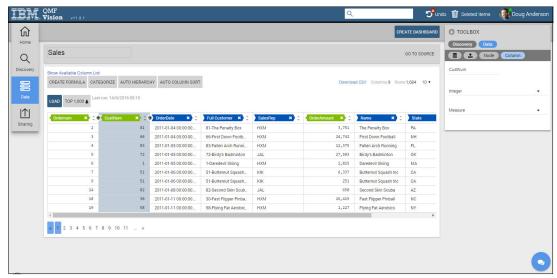


Figure 3-40 Changing the data type

Figure 3-41 shows the data type identifiers.

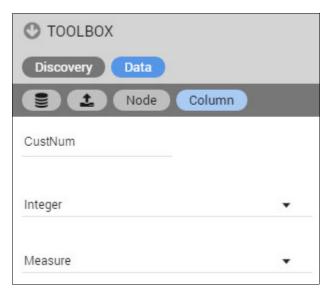


Figure 3-41 Data type identifiers

5. For this data set, the CustNum column needs to be changed from a measure to a dimension so that the data can be used differently in charts. After the column is selected, you can change the value of Measure to Dimension. Selecting the value that you want populates the change in the data automatically and the column heading changes colors. Figure 3-42 shows this process.



Figure 3-42 Drop-down list to change the data type

Figure 3-43 shows the changed column.

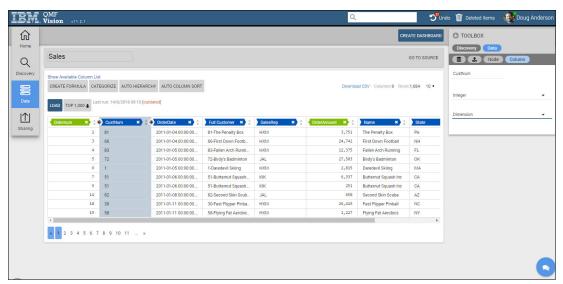


Figure 3-43 Data type is changed

6. You can add formula columns and categorizations while you view the query. For more information, see *Getting Started with DB2 QMF Vision*, GC27-8805-01.

After you set the data to the format that you need, start the build process by clicking **CREATE DASHBOARD** in the upper-right part of the window. You can change the initial display of a column chart to TABLE CHART for the report view that is shown in Figure 3-44.

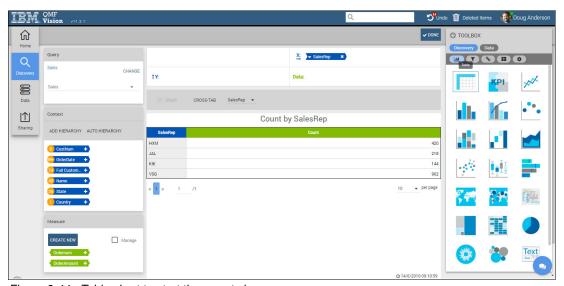


Figure 3-44 Table chart to start the report view

7. After you change the chart type, add the measure (Figure 3-45) to modify the output. You can add multiple measures to display additional columns of values. If a single dimension is used, it is shown as the first column of data. The corresponding values are displayed to the right.

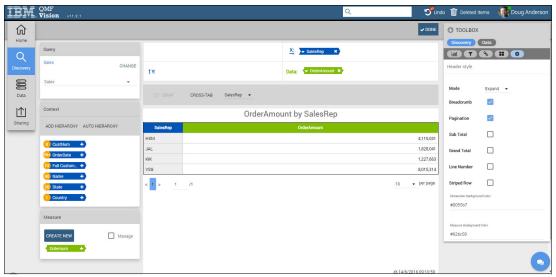


Figure 3-45 Adding a measure

8. Adding a dimension value to the y-axis does not automatically change the data that is displayed, but it enables additional functionality. Figure 3-46 shows how the addition of State to the y-axis does not change the data that is shown.

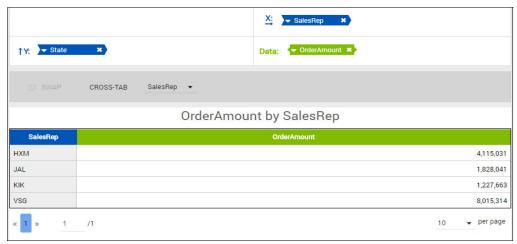


Figure 3-46 Setting the y-axis

9. After you add the y-axis, Figure 3-47 shows the cross tabulation (crosstab) feature, which is in the gray bar. Click CROSS-TAB to highlight the function, which changes to SIMPLE-TAB. Use this crosstab function to revert to the original view, if needed. The cross-tab moved the x-axis column data to the columns and summarized the measures according to the y-axis (rows). You can use multiple columns for the y-axis but only by using a hierarchy. This capability adds another level of measure breakdown, which is useful when you add subtotals to a report.

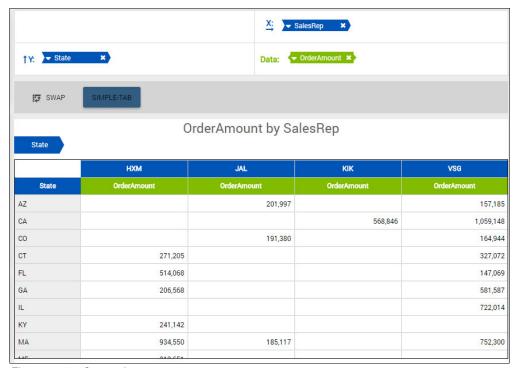


Figure 3-47 Crosstab

10. Within the TOOLBOX, you can use the available options (Figure 3-48) to set the report type as static or expanding, set subtotals, enable striped rows, and more.

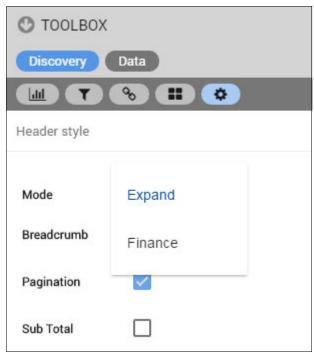


Figure 3-48 Report format

11.By changing the mode of the report from Expand to Finance, you change the look of the view to a financial report, as shown in Figure 3-49.

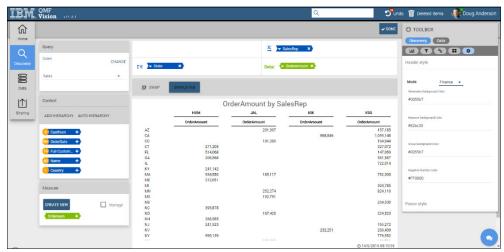


Figure 3-49 Finance report

## 3.4.4 Editing or replacing a query

After you create a chart, you can modify it. Another common question is whether a query that is in use with a chart can be edited or replaced? The answer is yes.

After the chart is in edit mode, the name of the query shows in the upper-right area of the workspace. Figure 3-50 shows a query that is named Sales. By clicking the name, you can edit the query.

**Important:** Any other charts that use the same query can be affected by your changes when you edit a query. For independence from other objects, create a duplicate query to replace the current query and then perform the edits.

Clicking **CHANGE** opens other sources and queries in the TOOLBOX. Use this function to select a replacement query. However, you must reestablish the data columns that are used in the chart.



Figure 3-50 Edit query

# 3.4.5 Coordinated highlighting and associations

A common request for dashboards is for the capability to control secondary objects when you click a specific chart. You can pass a value from one object to another object. If a dashboard object was built by using the same underlying query, this functionality is enabled, by default.

If you do not want to use this function, you can turn off the function by disabling **Coordinate Highlighting** in the settings in the TOOLBOX for a specific dashboard, as shown in Figure 3-51.



Figure 3-51 Coordinated Highlighting function

A change to this setting is applied only to the dashboard that is open and under construction. This capability provides individual settings for each dashboard so that you use the functionality that you want on a case-by-case basis.

On a dashboard with enabled coordinated highlighting, a single click to a column or pie wedge captures the value that is selected and passes that value to other objects with the associated value and column name. The value is highlighted in the lower-left corner of the object that is coordinated (Figure 3-52). If this setting is disabled, each object is independent of each other and unable to pass values between them.



Figure 3-52 Coordinated value

Most dashboards consist of different underlying queries and therefore are not automatically able to pass values from one object to another. You can pass values from one object to another by using the ASSOCIATION (Figure 3-53) feature from the TOOLBOX for a specific dashboard.



Figure 3-53 Association

To create an association, click the plus sign (+) in the blue circle, as shown in Figure 3-54.

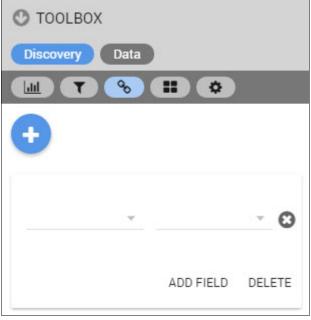


Figure 3-54 Create an association

Use the first drop-down box to select the query. Use the second drop-down box to the right of the query to select the column to be part of the association. After you complete the first two selections, click **ADD FIELD** to create the next set of drop-down selections. Choose the next query and column with data in common with the first column selection (Figure 3-55). You can repeat this process, if needed, for additional queries in the dashboard that contain the same data columns.

If another association exists, you can repeat the process by clicking the plus sign (+) again to create another set of associations and leave the previous associations in place.

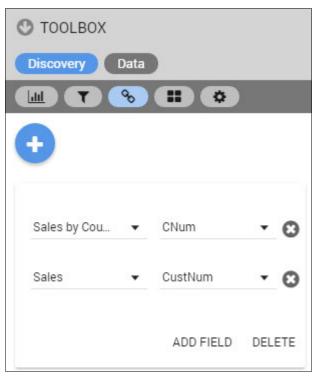


Figure 3-55 Completed association

# 3.5 Collaboration

This section describes collaborative capabilities by using shared data sources and built-in messaging.

# 3.5.1 Sharing data sources, queries, and dashboards

Each user has their own objects within QMF Vision, and, by default, no one else can see or access them. An object can be shared with individual users and groups of users. After an object is shared, it is available to other users. A shared dashboard shows on their home window. A shared data source and query are listed in their Data area, as shown in Figure 3-56.

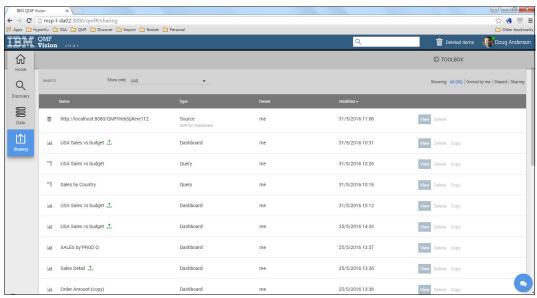


Figure 3-56 Sharing

The following icons are described:

- ▶ 🗓 indicates that this object is shared with me by other users.
- ▶ indicates that this object is shared by me with other users.

Different permissions are available, depending on the object that is shared. All objects need to be designated if the user or group can view or edit.

Additionally, with secured data sources, you can elect to share with the object with credentials or the user can enter their own credentials, as shown in Figure 3-57. Sharing can also be removed by clicking the circle with an x next to the user or group that you are sharing with.

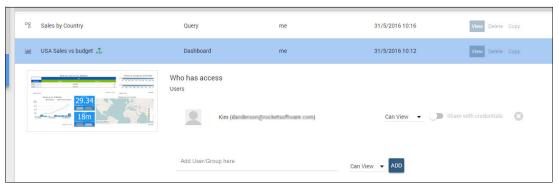


Figure 3-57 Sharing permissions

Dashboards can be shared from your home window, as well. Hovering over the lower-right corner of a dashboard tile shows four icons. Each icon identifies the action while you hover over the icon. Figure 3-58 shows the icon for sharing the dashboard with other users.



Figure 3-58 Sharing from the dashboard tile

## 3.5.2 Built-in messaging

A chat capability is built into QMF Vision so that users can communicate with each other directly in the software without requiring the integration of a third-party tool. Messages can be sent back and forth to individuals or groups. A blue circle icon displays in the lower-right corner of the window (Figure 3-59). Click the icon to start the chat process.



Figure 3-59 Chat icon

If a message is sent to a user who is not online, a message indicator displays on their next login to alert the user to new unread messages, as shown in Figure 3-60.



Figure 3-60 Unread message indicator

Clicking the chat icon displays a dialog box (Figure 3-61) so that you can select a message recipient. Any previous conversations display so that you can reengage where the previous message left off.

Start a new conversation by clicking the icon that shows two people with a plus sign (+) sign. The dialog box changes to show a list of users to select from or you can use the search option to find a user based on the characters that are entered.

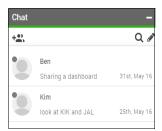


Figure 3-61 Dialog box to find a message recipient

If you open a previous conversation, the messages and any shared dashboard tiles display, as shown in Figure 3-62.



Figure 3-62 Open conversation

You can type messages in the dialog box and send them to the recipients. A dashboard can be dragged into the conversation from the home window, as shown in Figure 3-63.

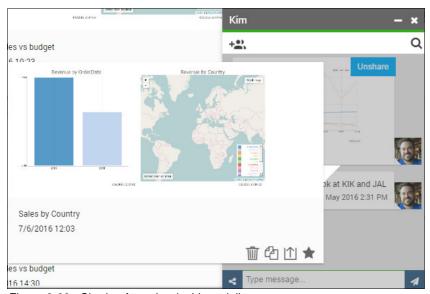


Figure 3-63 Sharing from the dashboard tile

The dashboard shows in the conversation, as shown in Figure 3-64, so that you can share the dashboard with the recipients. The dashboard shows both in the conversation and in their home window.

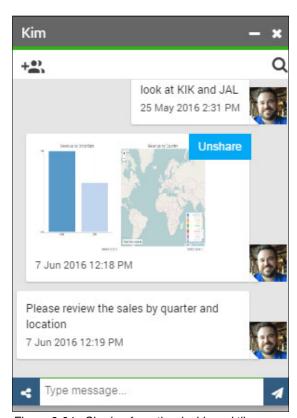


Figure 3-64 Sharing from the dashboard tile

Conversations are retained and available to open and review. A conversation can be removed by clicking the pencil icon in the upper-right corner of the chat window, as shown in Figure 3-65.

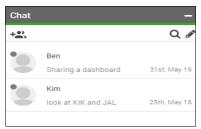


Figure 3-65 Removing a conversation

That chat window changes and a red circle with a minus sign (-) appears next to each conversation. Clicking this red circle with a minus sign (-) icon removes the conversation from the list (Figure 3-66). If necessary, you can start a new conversation with the persons that were part of the deleted chat. Any objects that are shared during a chat are still in shared mode even after you delete the conversation.

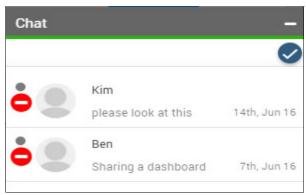


Figure 3-66 Editing chats

# **Using JavaScript in QMF**

IBM DB2 Query Management Facility for z/OS V11.2.1 (QMF) contains an embedded JavaScript engine. This engine allows application developers to use JavaScript to further extend the capabilities of QMF. JavaScript can be used to create virtual tables that are based on web service data, in calculated columns in a result set, to create new functions in Visual applications, or to extend the logic that can be used in QMF procedures.

This chapter describes several examples of how to use JavaScript in QMF to expand the capabilities of the product.

This chapter includes the following topics:

- Using JavaScript tables to access data on the web
- Using JavaScript functions in calculations, visual dashboards, and visual reports
- ▶ JavaScript procedures

**Note:** The implementation of JavaScript in QMF contains the core language only. It does not contain objects or methods for manipulating HTML documents.

# 4.1 Using JavaScript tables to access data on the web

This section describes the creation, population, and use of JavaScript tables.

# 4.1.1 Overview of JavaScript tables

Sometimes, data that you need to access might be available through web services only. You can use JavaScript tables to collect the data from these services and process it in the form of relational tables.

In this example, information is stored in a list on a Microsoft SharePoint server. Figure 4-1 shows a sample of the list in SharePoint.

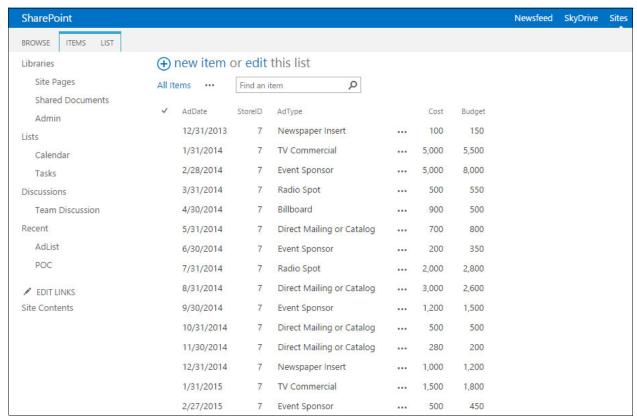


Figure 4-1 Sample AdCostBudget list that is stored in SharePoint

## 4.1.2 Creating a JavaScript table

**Important**: You must add a JavaScript table to a virtual data source. If no virtual data source exists, you must create a virtual data source. For more information, see "Creating a virtual data source" in the online help.

In this example, we created a virtual data source that is called Sharepoint Data.

### Follow these steps:

 Create a JavaScript table to be the container for the data that is pulled in from the web service. In the Repository Explorer tab in either QMF Workstation or QMF for WebSphere, expand Virtual Data Sources → Sharepoint Data → Database → Tables, as shown in Figure 4-2.

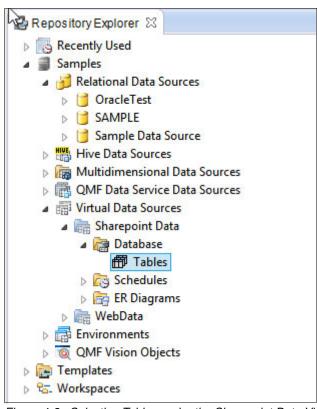


Figure 4-2 Selecting Tables under the Sharepoint Data Virtual Data Source

 Right-click Tables. Select New → JavaScript Table, as shown in Figure 4-3, to open the JavaScript Table wizard.

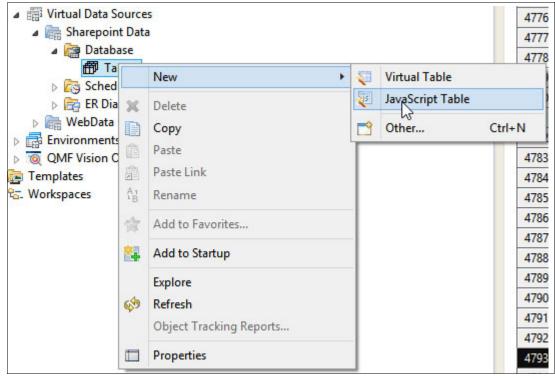


Figure 4-3 Launching the JavaScript Table wizard

 Enter a logical name for the JavaScript Table and verify that the correct Virtual Data Source is selected from the drop-down list. In this example, we get information about various advertising campaigns. After you enter the name and select the data source, click Next (Figure 4-4).

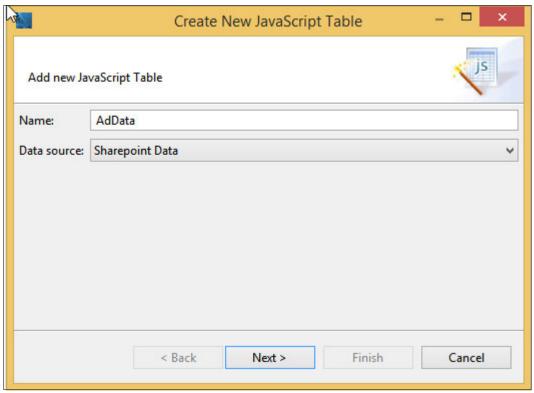


Figure 4-4 The JavaScript Table wizard

4. Add columns that correlate to the fields that are returned from the web service. A wide variety of character, numeric, date, and time data types are available (Figure 4-5).

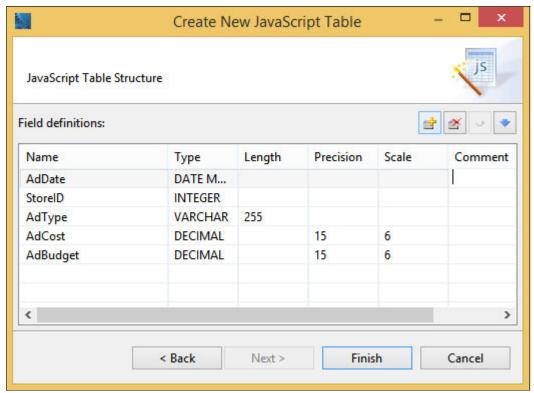


Figure 4-5 Setting the JavaScript table structure

After you create the table, you can add, delete, and modify columns.

**Video:** If documentation does not exist about the data that is returned by the web service, it is helpful to launch the URL in a browser to see the data that is returned.

See the example at this website:

https://youtu.be/QPumjy5sWpc

The code that is provided in this example does not handle the Sharepoint Data if it returns rows with a different number of columns than the number that is defined for the JavaScript table structure. SharePoint does not include a column that has a null value. If you plan to include a column in the JavaScript table, you must set the column in the SharePoint list so that it does not allow null values.

5. After you add all of the columns, click **Finish**. The script editor for the JavaScript table opens, containing basic code that is based on the columns that were added (Figure 4-6).

```
var data = [];
var row = [];
var addate = "05/23/2016";
var storeid = 72;
var adtype = "value";
var adcost = 2.238034;
var adbudget = 39.188604;
row.push(addate);
row.push(storeid);
row.push(adtype);
row.push(adcost);
row.push(adbudget);
data.push(row);
table.replaceData(data);
```

Figure 4-6 Basic auto-generated code for a new JavaScript table

6. This example uses the SharePoint application programming interface (API) to pull values from a SharePoint list into a JavaScript table. You can use the code that is shown in Example 4-1 with most SharePoint lists. To use this code, you must change the three items in bold (s, dt, and url) to fit your environment.

```
Note: First, you must obtain the list ID for the SharePoint list. See the video:

https://nickgrattan.wordpress.com/2008/04/29/finding-the-id-guid-for-a-SharePoint-list/

After you obtain the list ID for the SharePoint list, retrieve the s and dt values by viewing the XML data URL in a browser. To see how to formulate this URL, see the article at this website:

https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/kaevans/2009/05/01/getting-xml-data-from-a-SharePoint-list-the-easy-way/
```

#### Example 4-1 Using the populateJSTable function

```
var namedata = populateJSTable();
function populateJSTable(){
  table.eraseData();
  var xmlData = obtainXMLData();
  var totalRows = xmlData["totalRows"];
  for (var i = 0; i \le totalRows; i++){
     table.appendData(populateRow(xmlData, i));
function populateRow(innerXMLData, rowIndex){
  var data = [];
  row = [];
  var columnNames = innerXMLData["columnNames"];
  var columnLabels = innerXMLData["columnLabels"];
  var rows = innerXMLData["rows"];
  for (var columnIndex = 0; columnIndex<columnNames.length; columnIndex++){</pre>
     var columnValue = rows[rowIndex]["@"+columnNames[columnIndex]].toString();
     row.push( columnValue );
```

```
log(columnValue);
    data.push(row);
    return data;
function obtainXMLData(){
  var s = new Namespace("uuid:BDC6E3F0-6DA3-11d1-A2A3-00AA00C14882");
  var dt = new Namespace("uuid:C2F41010-65B3-11d1-A29F-00AA00C14882");
  var rs = new Namespace("urn:schemas-microsoft-com:rowset");
  var z = new Namespace("#RowsetSchema");
  var str = getXMLData();
  var xml = XML(str);
  var schema = xml.s::Schema.s::ElementType.s::AttributeType;
  var rows = xml.rs::data.z::row;
  var columnNames = [];
  var columnLabels = [];
  for (var key in schema) {
     log("key: " + key);
     columnNames[key] = schema[key].@name;
     log("col name "+columnNames[key]);
     columnLabels[key] = schema[key].@rs::name;
     log("col label "+columnLabels[key]);
  };
  var maxRowIndex = -1; for (var key in rows) {maxRowIndex = key;}
  var outputData = {};
  outputData["totalRows"] = maxRowIndex;
  outputData["rows"] = rows;
  outputData["columnNames"] = columnNames;
  outputData["columnLabels"] = columnLabels;
  return outputData;
function getXMLData()
    var url =
'https://www.xxxxxxxx.com/US/_vti_bin/owssvr.dll?Cmd=Display&List=%7Be7ebba2a-e0ae
-41bf-a809-29fcf441744a%7D&XMLDATA=TRUE';
  var request = new RSBIHttpRequest();
  request.ignoreCertificates();
  request.open("GET", url, false, &DSQQW DQ&USERNAME&DSQQW DQ,
&DSQQW_DQ&PASS&DSQQW_DQ, &DSQQW_DQ&DOMAIN&DSQQW_DQ);
  var response = '';
  request.onreadystatechange = function()
     if(request.readyState === 4)
        response = request.responseText;
  request.send(null);
  return response;
```

**Note:** In this example, the user is prompted for the SharePoint username, password, and domain when a query is run. This information is specified in the following line:

&DSQQW\_DQ&USERNAME&DSQQW\_DQ, &DSQQW\_DQ&PASS&DSQQW\_DQ, &DSQQW\_DQ&DOMAIN&DSQQW\_DQ

The username, password, and domain are wrapped in the double-quotation mark global variable, *&DSQQW\_DQ*. You can hardcode these values by using a service account, also.

# 4.1.3 Populating the JavaScript table

The JavaScript table populates by using the Source Script when a query is run against the JavaScript table.

Depending on how much data is returned and how often the data changes, an administrator might want to set up an expiration schedule to cache the data that is stored in the JavaScript table. This expiration schedule prevents QMF from going to the web service and pulling the data. Instead, the data is stored on the system for as long as the cache is valid. By caching the data, potentially large performance gains are possible.

**Video:** The following video shows an example of setting up and applying a schedule to a virtual data source:

https://youtu.be/C\_QaVQXyisw

## 4.1.4 Using the JavaScript table

You can use JavaScript tables like any other relational database tables. One of the easiest ways to start to use a JavaScript table, such as the AdData table that is created in the example, is to follow these steps:

1. Navigate to the JavaScript table in the Repository Explorer tab, as shown in Figure 4-7.

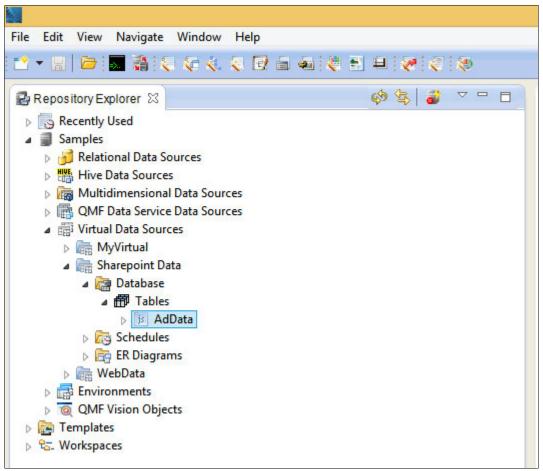


Figure 4-7 JavaScript table in a virtual data source

2. Double-click the JavaScript table, which is AdData in this example, to open the table in the SQL Query Editor (Figure 4-8).

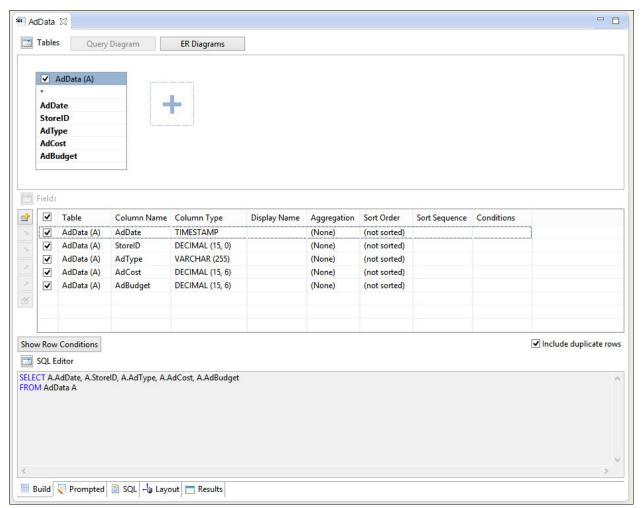


Figure 4-8 SQL Query Editor

3. Use the SQL Query Editor to modify the query, as needed.

**Note:** The JavaScript tables store the results in the embedded Apache Derby database. If you modify the SQL, ensure that you follow the standards that are implemented in Apache Derby. For more information, see this website:

https://db.apache.org/derby/

4. When the query is ready, click **Run query** to view the query results (Figure 4-9).

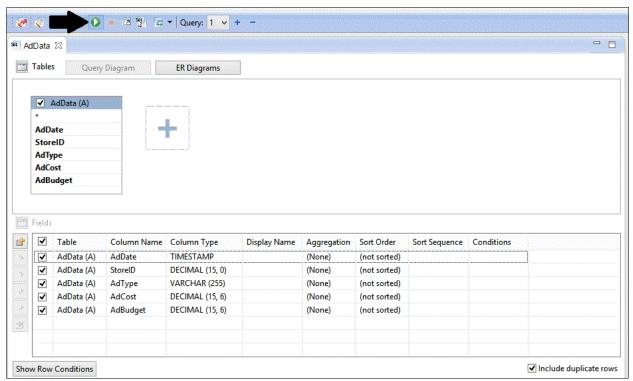


Figure 4-9 The run query icon in the SQL Query Editor

Figure 4-10 shows the results.

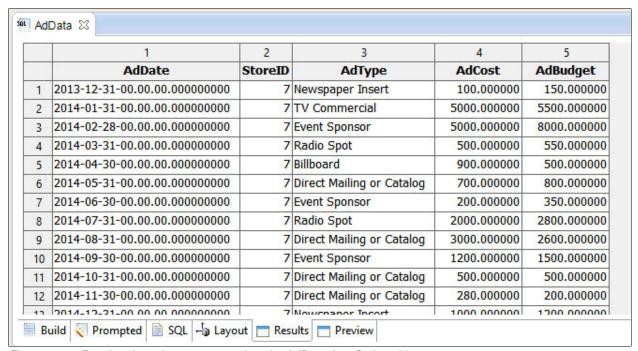


Figure 4-10 Results of running a query against the AdData JavaScript table

5. You can save the query and use it in the same way that you use any other relational database query in QMF.

# 4.2 Using JavaScript functions in calculations, visual dashboards, and visual reports

JavaScript is a powerful, cross-platform, object-oriented scripting language. It is one of the most common programming languages in the world, with many tutorials that are readily available online. QMF users use the standard library of objects that are included with JavaScript, such as Array, Date, and Math, and the core set of language elements, such as operators, control structures, and statements, to build their own powerful functions in QMF. JavaScript popularity also provides many existing examples and samples that you can use in QMF.

In this example, we create a JavaScript function to produce the latitude and longitude for a specific address so that the address can be marked on a map.

## 4.2.1 Creating a JavaScript module

Follow these steps to create a JavaScript module:

1. Click **File**  $\rightarrow$  **New**  $\rightarrow$  **Other** (Figure 4-11).

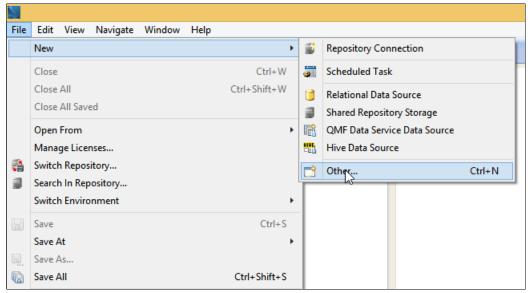


Figure 4-11 Launching the Select a wizard window

2. In the Select a wizard window, expand QMF Objects (Figure 4-12).

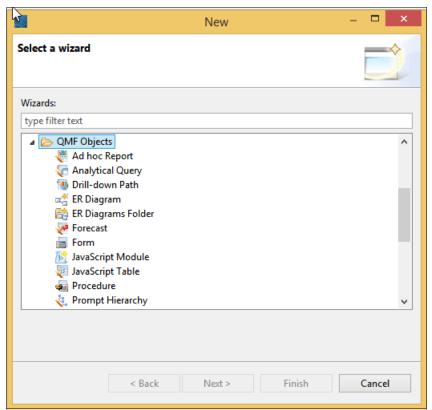


Figure 4-12 List of QMF object wizards

3. Select JavaScript Module (Figure 4-13), and click Next.

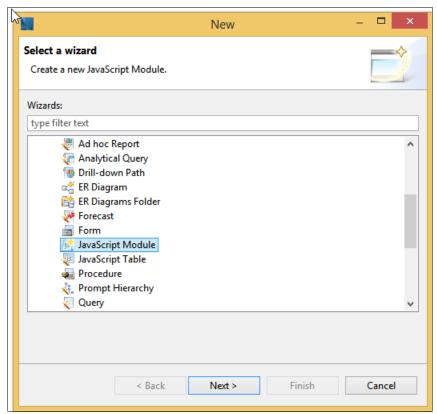


Figure 4-13 Selecting the JavaScript Module wizard

4. Enter a name for the JavaScript module and click **Finish** (Figure 4-14).

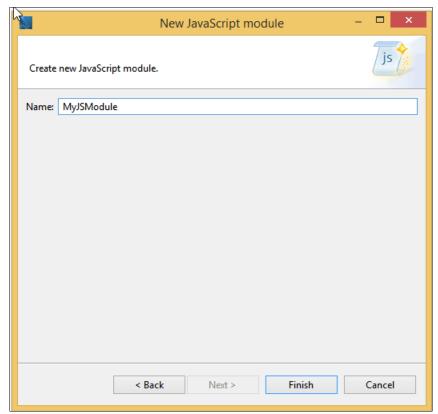


Figure 4-14 The JavaScript module wizard

5. A blank JavaScript Editor window opens (Figure 4-15).



Figure 4-15 Empty JavaScript Editor for a new JavaScript module

6. QMF users can use this editor to create their JavaScript functions (Figure 4-16).

```
🌃 *MyJSModule 🖾
  * getLocation(address) - Returns address' geo coordinates
  * @param address address string
  * @category geo
  * @return lan/lng
 function getLocation(address)
     var request = new RSBIHttpRequest();
     request.open('GET','http://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/geocode/json?address='
         + address + '&sensor=false', false);
     var response = '';
     request.onreadystatechange = function()
             if(request.readyState === 4)
                  -{
                         response = request.responseText;
     }
     request.send(null);
     var x = JSON.parse(response);
     return x.results[0].geometry.location;
 }
```

Figure 4-16 JavaScript function that produces geo coordinates that are based on a specified address

7. Example 4-2 provides this code.

Example 4-2 JavaScript function that produces geo coordinates that are based on a specified address

```
/**
 * getLocation(address) - This function returns address' geo coordinates from the
Google API
 * @category Geo
* Oparam address address string
 * @return lat/lng
 */
function getLocation(address)
     var request = new RSBIHttpRequest();
        var address en = encodeURIComponent(address.trim());
   request.open('GET','http://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/geocode/json?address='
+ address_en + '&sensor=false', false);
  var response = '';
   request.onreadystatechange = function()
         if(request.readyState === 4)
                 response = request.responseText;
   request.send(null);
   var x = JSON.parse(response);
   return x.results[0].geometry.location;
```

**Note:** If a comment is added before the function, the application interprets this comment as the description of the function. This comment is shown when the function is selected in the Expression Designer in a Visual Application or the Calculated Column Expression builder for a query.

You can use the @category tag to add the function to an existing function category or to create a category for the function. If no @category is specified in the comment, the function is added to the JavaScript Modules category.

8. After the function is finished, click the (highlighted) **Check JavaScript Syntax and Structure** icon to validate the JavaScript function (Figure 4-17).

```
v es
                          v

■ *MyJSModule 

□

 * getLocation(address) - This function returns address' geo coordinates from the Google API
 * @param address address string
 * @category geo
 * @return lan/lng
function getLocation(address)
    var request = new RSBIHttpRequest();
    request.open('GET','http://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/geocode/json?address='
        + address + '&sensor=false', false);
    var response = '';
    request.onreadystatechange = function()
            if(request.readyState === 4)
                {
                        response = request.responseText;
                 1
    }
    request.send(null);
    var x = JSON.parse(response);
    return x.results[0].geometry.location;
 JavaScript Module
```

Figure 4-17 Check JavaScript Syntax in the JavaScript Editor

9. If the JavaScript in the module is valid, the message that is shown in Figure 4-18 is returned.



Figure 4-18 Successful verification message

If the validation fails, an Application Error message shows with additional information about where the error occurred in the code (Figure 4-19).



Figure 4-19 Validation failure

10.If the code is valid, save the JavaScript module to the repository so that users can load the module for use with their queries or Visual Applications. Click File → Save as (Figure 4-20).

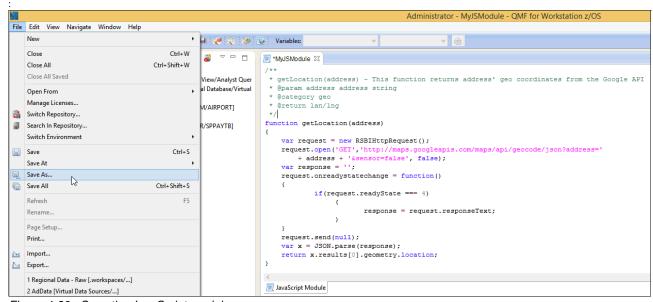


Figure 4-20 Save the JavaScript module

## 11. Select Save to Repository (Figure 4-21).

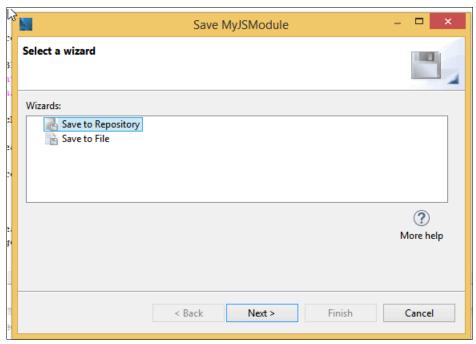


Figure 4-21 Launching the Save to Repository wizard to save the JavaScript module

12.In the Save to Repository window, select the workspace to save the JavaScript module in and click **Finish** (Figure 4-22).

In this example, we created a JavaScript folder in the Business Analyst View workspace. We named the JavaScript module MyJSModule and saved it to the JavaScript folder.

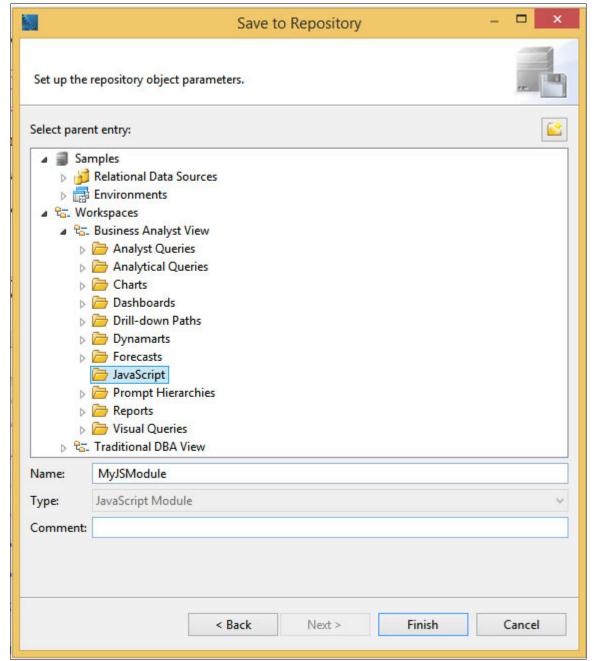


Figure 4-22 Saving the JavaScript module to the repository

# 4.2.2 Using a JavaScript module in a calculated column

You can use JavaScript functions in the Expression Designer when you add calculated columns to queries. Users can reuse existing JavaScript by loading the module in the query. Follow these steps:

1. Open the query to which you want to add a JavaScript module with the functions in the query editor. The following example is a visual query (Figure 4-23).

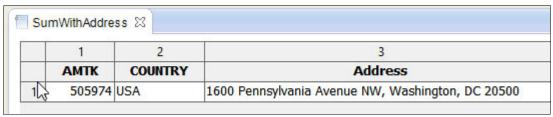


Figure 4-23 Sample result set

This query contains a total, country, and full address. This example uses the function that we created in the JavaScript module to produce calculated columns that provide the latitude and longitude for the address.

2. From the main menu, select **Query** → **Manage JavaScript Modules** (Figure 4-24).



Figure 4-24 Selecting Manage JavaScript Modules from the Query menu

3. The JavaScript Modules window opens (Figure 4-25).

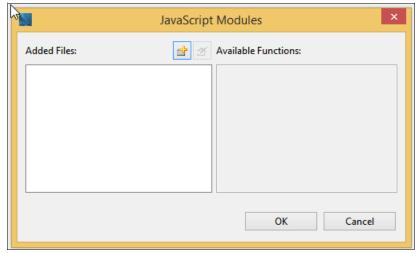


Figure 4-25 JavaScript Modules window

4. Click the Add JavaScript Module plus sign (+) icon. The Open from Repository window opens (Figure 4-26).

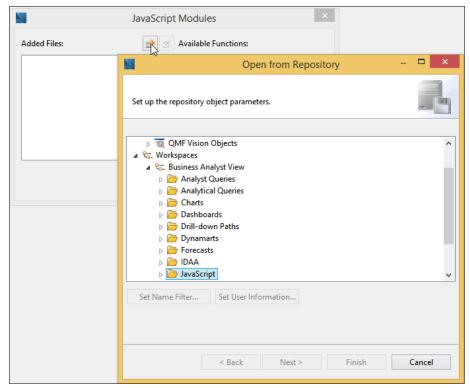


Figure 4-26 Opening a JavaScript module from the repository

5. Select the JavaScript module that you want to add, and click **Finish**. In this example, we navigated to the MyJSModule JavaScript module in the JavaScript folder that we previously created (Figure 4-27).

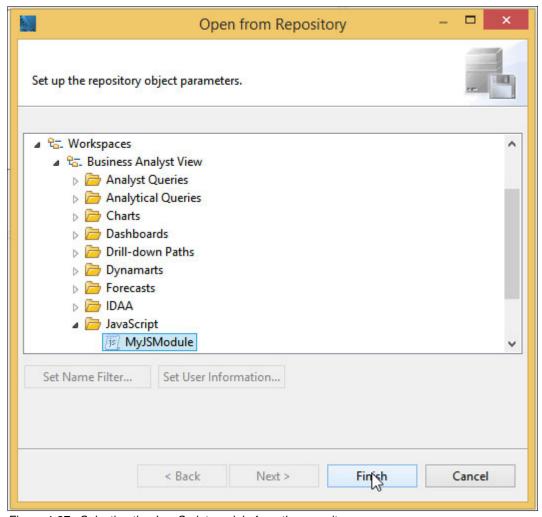


Figure 4-27 Selecting the JavaScript module from the repository

6. After the module is added, the available functions are listed (Figure 4-28).

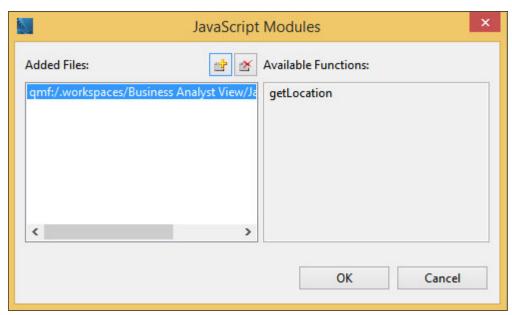


Figure 4-28 JavaScript module pane after the module is added

7. Click **OK** to return to the query that the JavaScript module was loaded into.

8. Right-click a column in the query. (We selected the Address column.) Select **Add Calculated Column After** (or Before). See Figure 4-29.

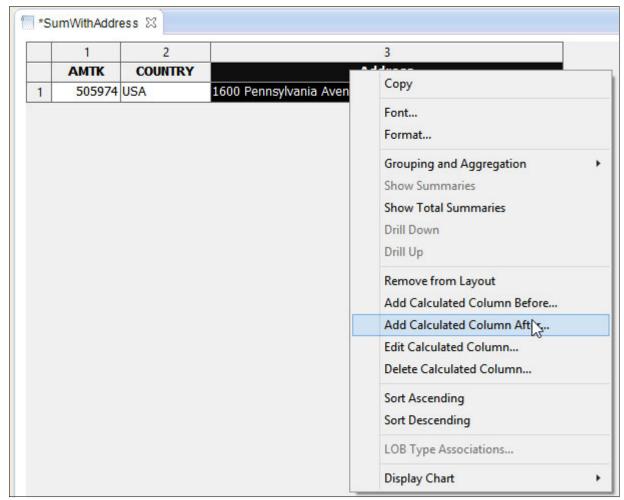


Figure 4-29 Selecting the Add Calculated Column After option from the column menu

9. The Expression Designer opens for a new calculated column. We named the column Latitude because we pull the latitude from the location object that is returned from the API. Latitude is a Decimal data type with a scale of 10. We expanded the Geo category to see the new getLocation function that we added (Figure 4-30).

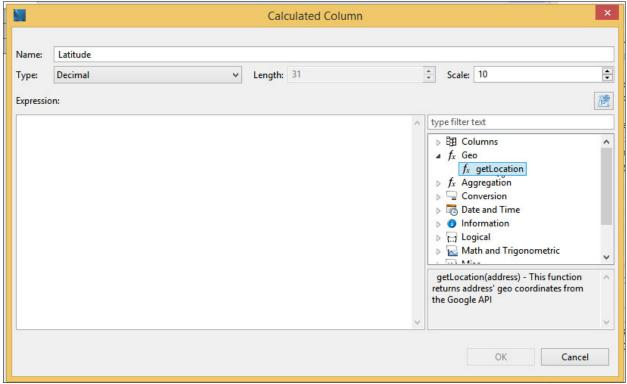


Figure 4-30 Calculated Column window

Calculated Column B Name: Latitude Length: 31 Scale: 10 Type: Decimal 沙 Expression: type filter text var resu = getLocation(@[Address]); resu.lat; DE Columns ٨ ⊳ f<sub>x</sub> Geo  $f_x$  Aggregation Date and Time ▶ 6 Information Math and Trigonometric Misc

10. We entered the expression, as shown in Figure 4-31, and clicked **OK**.

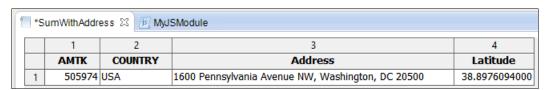
Figure 4-31 Calculated Column window with the code for the Latitude column

Example 4-3 shows the code.

### Example 4-3 Expression

var resu = getLocation(@[Address]);
resu.lat;

11. The Latitude calculated column for the address column is shown in the results (Figure 4-32).



OK

Cancel

Figure 4-32 Query results with the Latitude calculated column

12.Add another calculated column by following steps 8 - 10. Name the new calculated column Longitude and modify the formula to provide the longitude instead of the latitude. See Figure 4-33.

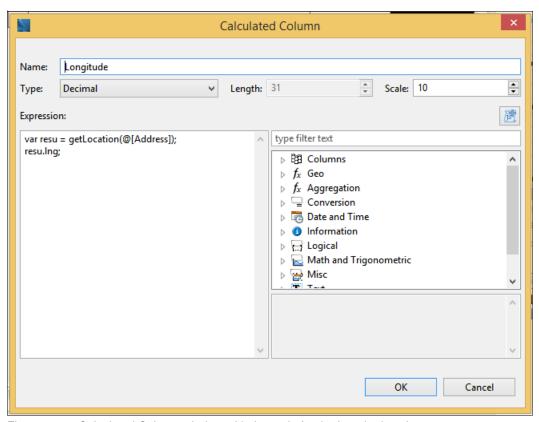


Figure 4-33 Calculated Column window with the code for the Longitude column

Example 4-4 shows the code for the Longitude calculated column.

#### Example 4-4 Expression for the longitude

```
var resu = getLocation(@[Address]);
resu.lng;
```

**Video:** You can add this query to a Visual Project and the Longitude and Latitude columns can be used to map the point on a map object. See this video:

https://youtu.be/2CTCLAenshw

## 4.2.3 Using a JavaScript module in a visual application

You can use JavaScript functions to further extend the expressions that are used in visual applications. In this example, a JavaScript module is loaded into a visual dashboard. This module provides two additional JavaScript functions in the Expression Designer: getLocationLat() and getLocationLng(). Then, we can use these new functions to plot an address on a map.

The example assumes that a JavaScript module exists that is called MyJSModule, which contains the code that is shown in Example 4-5.

#### Example 4-5 MYJSModule

```
/**
* getLocationLat(address) - This function returns address' geo coordinates from
the Google API
* @category Geo
* Oparam address address string
* @return lat
*/
function getLocationLat(address)
     var request = new RSBIHttpRequest();
        var address en = encodeURIComponent(address.trim());
  request.open('GET','http://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/geocode/json?address='
+ address en + '&sensor=false', false);
  var response = '';
  request.onreadystatechange = function()
  {
         if(request.readyState === 4)
                 {
                 response = request.responseText;
  }
  request.send(null);
  var x = JSON.parse(response);
  //log(x.results[0].geometry.location);
  return x.results[0].geometry.location.lat;
/**
 * getLocationLng(address) - This function returns address' geo coordinates from
the Google API
* @category Geo
* Oparam address address string
* @return lng
*/
function getLocationLng(address)
     var request = new RSBIHttpRequest();
        var address en = encodeURIComponent(address.trim());
  request.open('GET','http://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/geocode/json?address='
+ address en + '&sensor=false', false);
  var response = '';
  request.onreadystatechange = function()
  {
         if(request.readyState === 4)
```

```
{
    response = request.responseText;
}
}
request.send(null);
var x = JSON.parse(response);
//log(x.results[0].geometry.location);
return x.results[0].geometry.location.lng;
}
```

This code differs slightly from the JavaScript that we used in the last example. Instead of returning the location object (and needing to parse the latitude and longitude from this object), this code uses separate functions. The getLocationLat() function returns the latitude for an address and the getLocationLng() returns the longitude for an address.

Perform the following steps:

1. Create a visual dashboard by clicking the **New Visual Dashboard** icon on the toolbar (Figure 4-34).



Figure 4-34 New Visual Dashboard icon in the toolbar

2. Enter the name (MapUsingJS in this example) for the new dashboard, and click **Finish** (Figure 4-35).

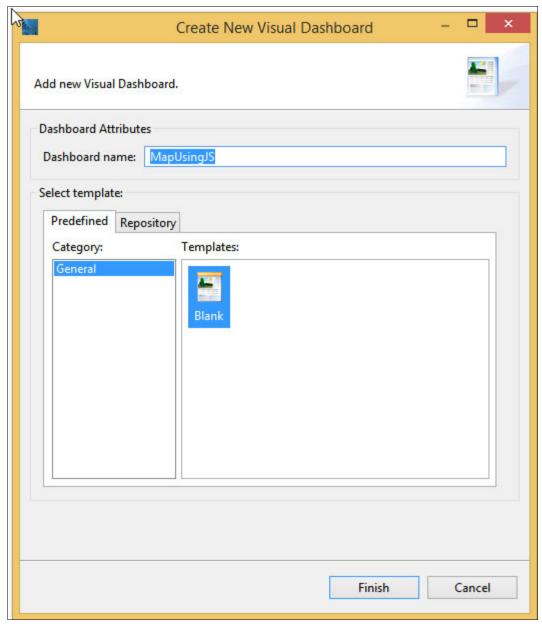


Figure 4-35 Create a visual dashboard

3. An empty visual dashboard opens for you to work with. You need to load the JavaScript module.

4. In the Project Explorer, navigate to JavaScript Modules under **Globals** in the new visual dashboard project. Right-click **JavaScript Modules** and select **Insert JavaScript Module** (Figure 4-36).

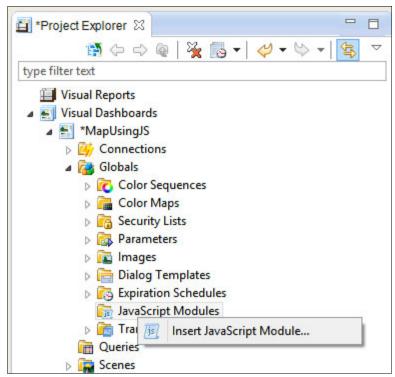


Figure 4-36 Inserting a JavaScript module into the Project Explorer

5. In the Insert JavaScript Module wizard, enter a name for the module. In this example, the JavaScript module name is MapJS. Then, click the ellipses (...) to browse to the JavaScript module in your repository. If needed, you can create a JavaScript module to attach to the dashboard. After the module is selected, click **Finish** (Figure 4-37).

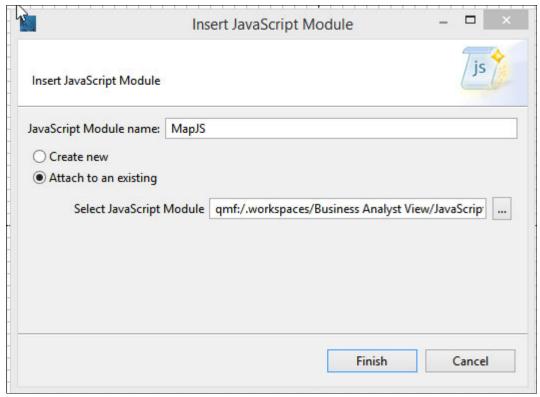


Figure 4-37 Using the Insert JavaScript Module window with an existing module

6. The new module is loaded into the project. The new module shows in the Project Explorer under JavaScript Modules (Figure 4-38).

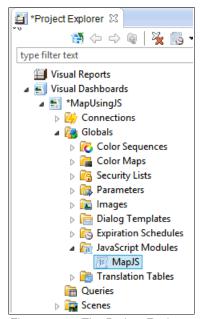


Figure 4-38 The Project Explorer after the JavaScript module is added

7. Create a global parameter to store the address value that is used in this example. In an actual dashboard, you can use an event to change the value of this parameter (for example, a text box where users type an address and the map changes when the user clicks Submit). In the Project Explorer, navigate to Parameters under Globals in your visual dashboard project. Right-click **Parameters** and select **Insert Parameter** (Figure 4-39).

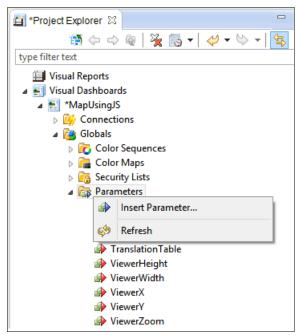


Figure 4-39 Adding a global parameter in the Project Explorer

8. On the Insert Parameter window, enter a name for the parameter, set the Data type to Text, enter a description, check Public at runtime, and check Has default value. We used the address of the White House for the default address. Figure 4-40 shows the finished window.

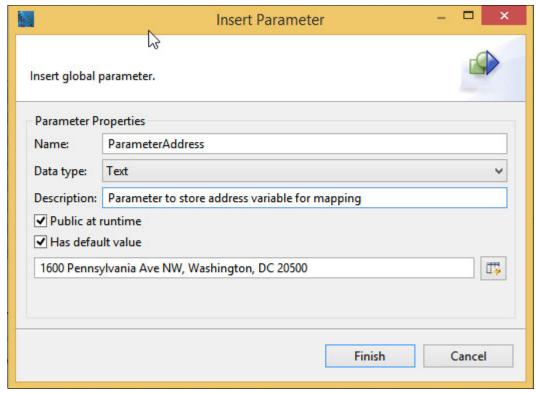


Figure 4-40 New global parameter window with the ParameterAddress parameter information

9. The new parameter (with the blue icon) shows in the list of parameters with the built-in parameters (with the red icons). See Figure 4-41.

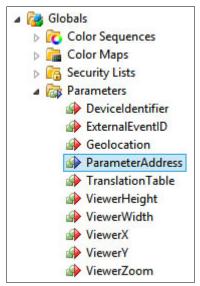


Figure 4-41 The Project Explorer with the new ParameterAddress that is added

**Note:** The parameter can be given any name. However, it is helpful to prepend Parameter, for example, ParameterAddress. You can more easily identify where it is used in a visual project.

10. Now that the JavaScript module is loaded and the address parameter with a default value is created, we use the two to plot a point on a map. In the Palette, double-click the **GoogleMap** tool under the Map folder (Figure 4-42).

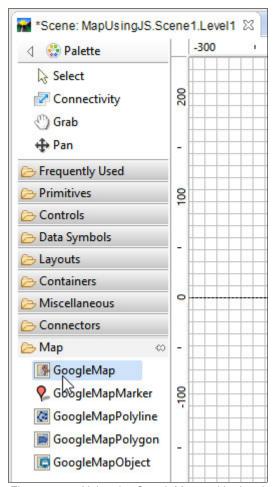


Figure 4-42 Using the GoogleMap tool in the visual dashboard palette

11. Clicking GoogleMap launches the GoogleMap Wizard. On the first page, select the view point and control options (Figure 4-43). After you select the options, click **Next**.

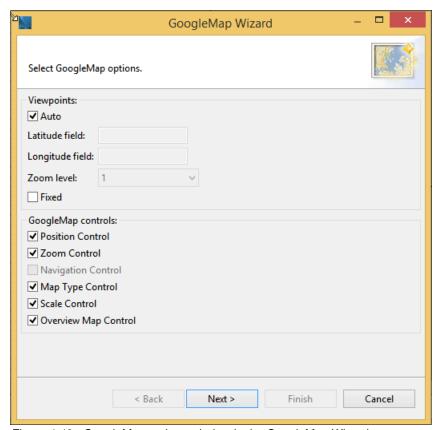


Figure 4-43 GoogleMap options window in the GoogleMap Wizard

**Note:** You can change the options after you add the map. You can adjust the values for the map object in the Properties pane.

12. Use the defaults in the map type options window (Figure 4-44). Click **Next**.

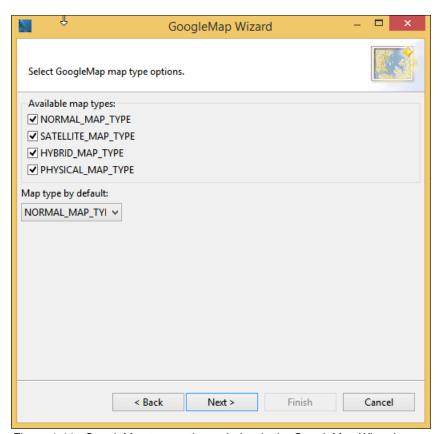


Figure 4-44 GoogleMap type options window in the GoogleMap Wizard

13.In this example, we selected Marker for the address parameter to use on the map. Figure 4-45 shows the Define map content window. After the options are selected, click Next.



Figure 4-45 Defining map content in the GoogleMap Wizard

14. On this window, define the data to populate the component. In this example, an underlying query is not used to populate the marker. A parameter is manually populated, so click **No** (Figure 4-46).

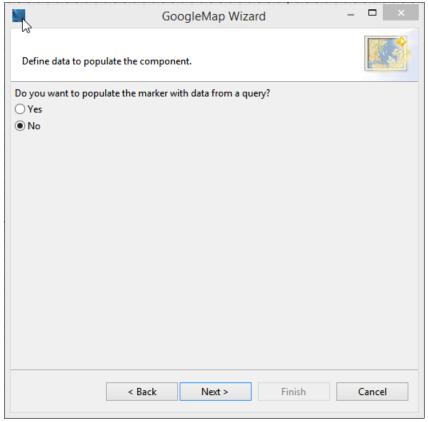


Figure 4-46 Defining how the data is populated in the GoogleMap Wizard

15.On the next window, the properties for the marker are set. You can change the properties for the marker after you create the map. We use the Expression Designer to add the functions. Enter a numeric value for the latitude and longitude. This dummy data must be entered. If the fields are left empty, a marker is not created. After you enter values, click **Finish** (Figure 4-47).

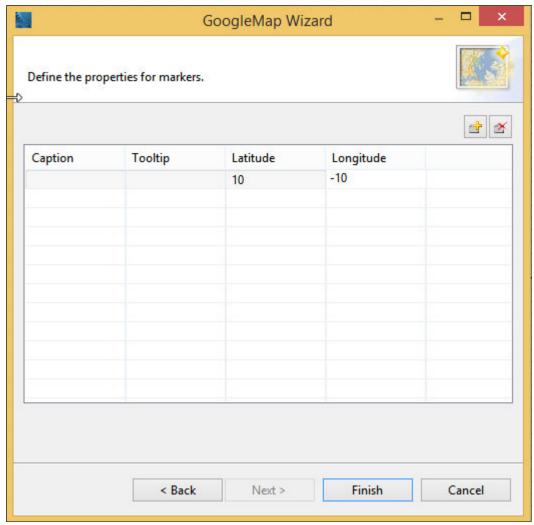


Figure 4-47 Defining the properties for the GoogleMap marker

16.A map object opens on the window with the properties that were set by using the GoogleMap Wizard.

17. Instead of using the dummy values that were specified in the wizard, the latitude and longitude need to be generated by using the JavaScript functions on the address parameter. The latitude and longitude properties for the map marker must be set to use the JavaScript functions. Navigate to the marker object in the Project Explorer (Figure 4-48).

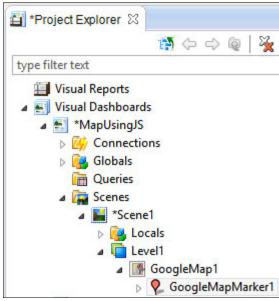


Figure 4-48 Selecting the GoogleMap marker in the Project Explorer

18. After this selection, the properties for the marker are listed in the Properties pane, as shown in Figure 4-49.

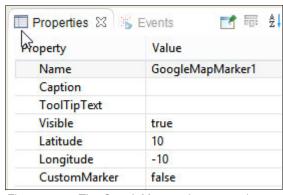


Figure 4-49 The GoogleMap marker properties

19. Click the value (10) in the value box for Latitude one time. When the value is highlighted, double-click the **Latitude** value box (or click **Edit with Expression Designer**) to open the Expression Designer for the value. See Figure 4-50.

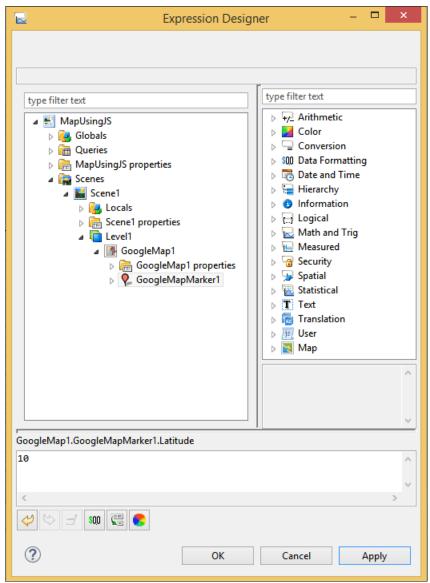


Figure 4-50 The Expression Designer for the Latitude value for the GoogleMap marker

20. The Expression Designer is populated with the hardcoded value. In the function list on the right, expand the **User** list of functions. The getLocationLat() and getLocationLng() functions are listed, as shown in Figure 4-51.

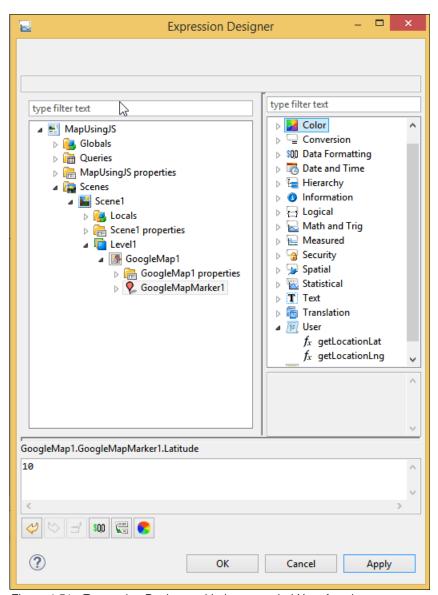


Figure 4-51 Expression Designer with the expanded User functions

21.In the Expression Designer window, highlight the value (10) and double-click the **getLocationLat()** function in the list, which replaces your value with the function (Figure 4-52).

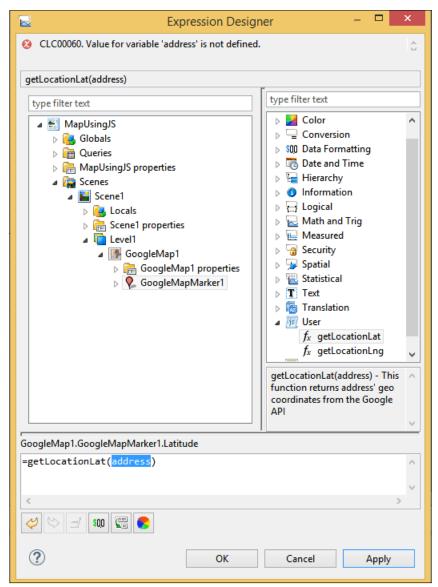


Figure 4-52 Setting the getLocationLat() function to populate the Latitude value

22. The getLocationLat() function expects an address value, which is populated by the address parameter that we created earlier. Highlight **address** in the function.

23. Navigate to the ParameterAddress parameter by using MapUsingJS → Globals → Parameters. Double-click ParameterAddress to replace the address placeholder with the ParameterAddress parameter (Figure 4-53).

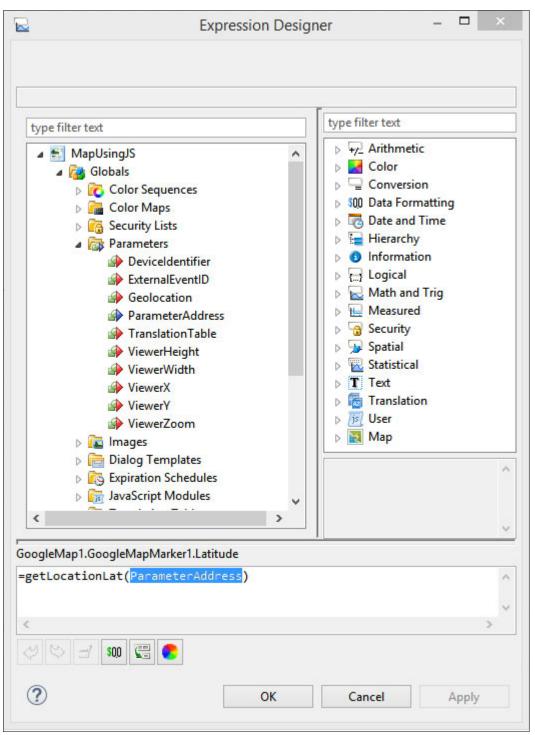


Figure 4-53 Setting the getLocationLat() function to use the ParameterAddress parameter

24. After the function is set to use the parameter, click **OK**. The value for the Latitude property is set to =getLocationLat(ParameterAddress).

Use the same steps to populate the Longitude value (by using the getLocationLng function). However, the formula can be typed directly in the value box. Because the formula's format is similar to the function that is used for Latitude, you can type =getLocationLng(ParameterAddress) directly.

25. Click **Runtime** at the bottom of the canvas (Figure 4-54).



Figure 4-54 Runtime tab

26. The dashboard shows a GoogleMap with a marker on the White House (Figure 4-55).

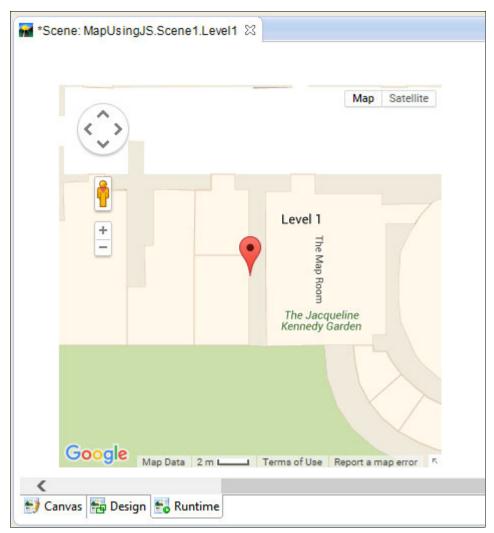


Figure 4-55 GoogleMap that shows the marker for the address in a visual dashboard

# 4.3 JavaScript procedures

The regular QMF procedure is sometimes called a *linear procedure* because the commands execute one at a time, in sequence. If any command fails, the procedure ends and the rest of the commands are not executed. With JavaScript procedures, QMF users can create more complex procedures and non-linear procedures.

**Note:** The **ERASE TABLE** command, which **DROPS** a table, does not cause the procedure to end if it fails. If the table does not exist, the "failure" is treated as a warning and the procedure continues.

In this example, a JavaScript procedure is used to check for the existence of objects before you run a query against the object. Conditional IF statements can be used in JavaScript procedures. Therefore, the procedure can run different commands that are based on meeting different conditions.

The flow of the procedure is shown:

- 1. The procedure prompts for a department (DEPT) value and places it in a GLOBAL VARIABLE to use by the query and forms in the procedure.
- 2. The procedure runs the query.
- 3. The procedure presents the form with the results from the query and emails the form to a user.
- 4. If no results occur from the query, a different form with follow-up instructions is shown and the administrator is notified.

Perform the following steps:

 Create a query that might get a result set, depending on the value that is supplied for the prompt. The following query can be used against the Q.STAFF table that is provided in the Sample repository:

SELECT \* FROM Q.STAFF WHERE DEPT = &DEPT

2. Run the query. A value of 10 can be used for the DEPT substitution variable (Figure 4-56).

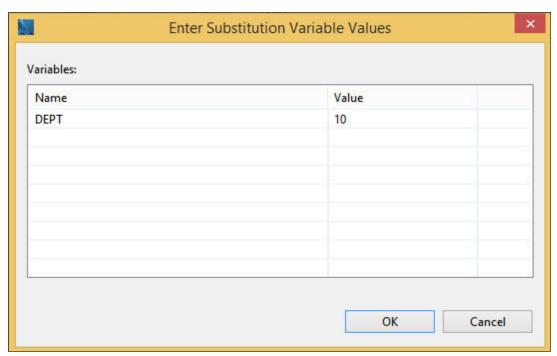


Figure 4-56 Enter Substitution Variable Values window

3. Figure 4-57 shows the results.

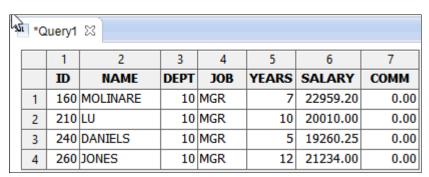


Figure 4-57 Results of the query against the Q.STAFF table

- 4. Save the query in the repository. Enter a name of Department.
- 5. The next step is to create two forms, one form for the case with a result set and one form for the case with no result set. With the query open, click the **New Form** icon in the toolbar (Figure 4-58).



Figure 4-58 New Form icon

6. A basic form, which is based on the result set, is generated, as shown in Figure 4-59.

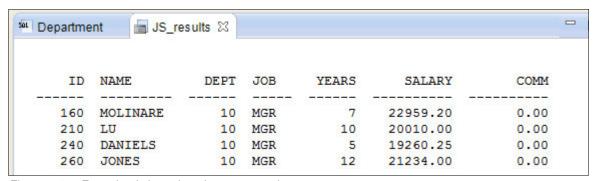


Figure 4-59 Form that is based on the query results

- 7. Save the form in the repository with a name of JS\_results.
- 8. Run the Department query again. This time, use a value for the DEPT variable that does not exist, for example, 1000. This query produces an empty result set (Figure 4-60).

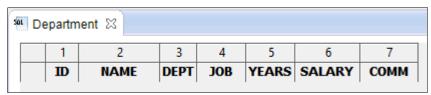


Figure 4-60 Empty result set

9. Click **New Form** again. Figure 4-61 shows the new form for the empty result set.



Figure 4-61 New form for the empty result set

10. Modify the report to provide more information to a user that receives an empty report. Click the **Design** tab (lower-left area of the window) of the form, as shown in Figure 4-62.

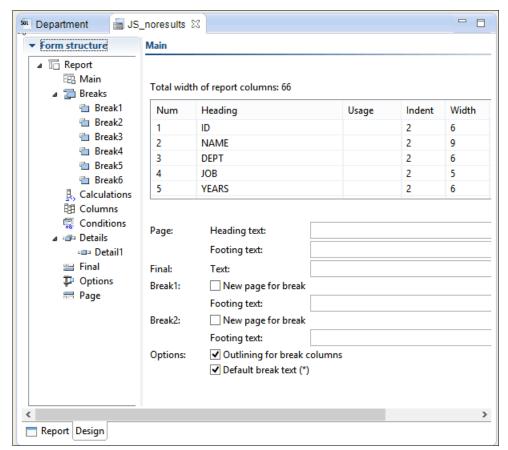


Figure 4-62 Design view for the form

11.In the Form structure pane, expand **Details** and click **Detail1**. While you are in this window, change Enable from YES to **NO** (Figure 4-63).

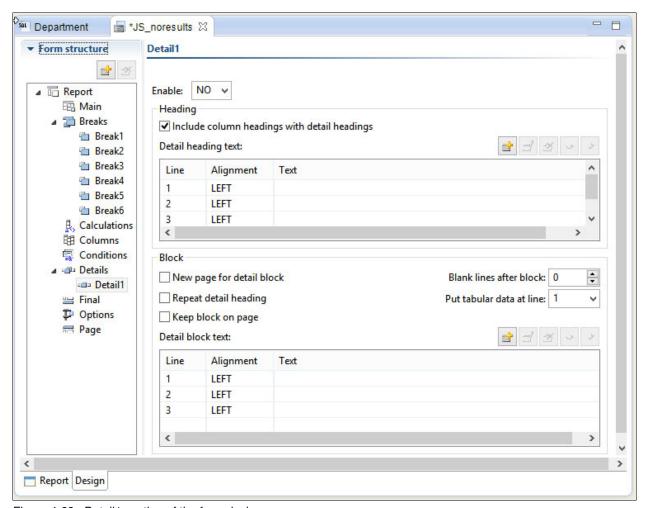


Figure 4-63 Detail1 section of the form design

12.In the Form structure pane, click **Page** for the page settings. In the Page heading text area, enter the text to match Figure 4-64. Ensure that you add a fourth line.

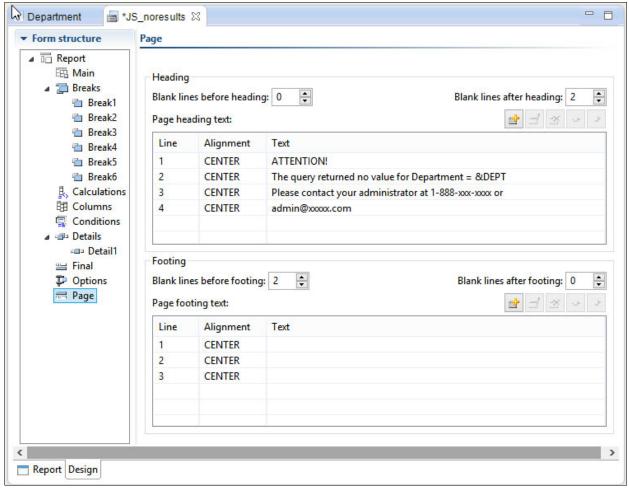


Figure 4-64 Changing the page settings for the form

13. Click the **Report** tab (lower-left area of the window). Type the substitution variable for &DEPT (1000). Figure 4-65 shows the report.

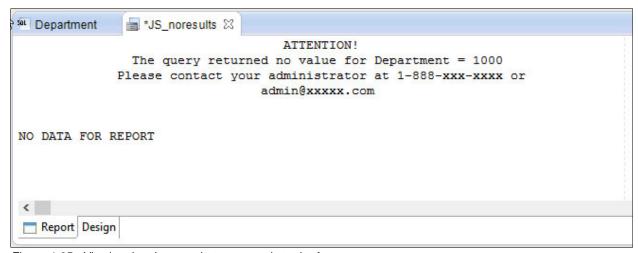


Figure 4-65 Viewing the changes that were made to the form

- 14. Save the report to the repository. Type JS noresults for the name.
- 15. Click the **New Procedure** icon in the toolbar (Figure 4-66).



Figure 4-66 New Procedure icon

16. An empty procedure window opens (Figure 4-67).

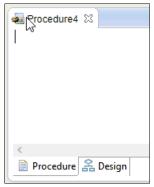


Figure 4-67 Empty procedure window

17. Paste the following procedure (Example 4-6) in the empty procedure window.

#### Example 4-6 Procedure

SET GLOBAL (DEPT=&Please\_Enter\_Dept\_Value RUN QUERY "qmf:/.workspaces/Business Analyst View/JavaScript/Department" DISPLAY FORM "qmf:/.workspaces/Business Analyst View/JavaScript/JS\_results" DISPLAY FORM "qmf:/.workspaces/Business Analyst View/JavaScript/JS\_noresults" MAIL REPORT TO XXXXXQXXXXX.com

- + (BODY="The report failed with this value of DEPT"
- + FORMAT=HTML FROM=XXXXXX@XXXXX.com
- + SMTPSERVER=MAIL.XXXXXXXXXX.COM
- + SUBJECT="JSQ Report Failure"
- 18. Change XXXXX@XXXXX.com to the email address that you want to use for the example. Change the MAIL.XXXXXXXXXXXX COM value to match your Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) server.

**Important:** Paths, such as "qmf:/.workspaces/Business Analyst View/JavaScript/", match the paths that we used to save the objects in our repository. If you used different paths, you must modify the paths, also.

19. When you click the **Design** tab, the following procedure is shown (Figure 4-68).

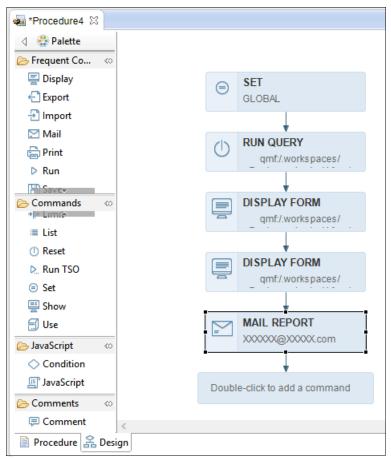


Figure 4-68 Design view for the specific procedure

20. Insert a condition to check the results of the RUN QUERY step. In the Palette, click Condition under the JavaScript section to activate the item. While Condition is active, click the DISPLAY FORM task in the procedure (Figure 4-69).

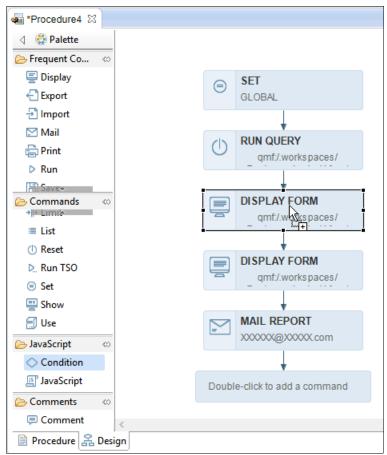


Figure 4-69 Inserting a JavaScript Condition task into the procedure

21. The JavaScript Condition window opens so that you can insert the step into the procedure (Figure 4-70).

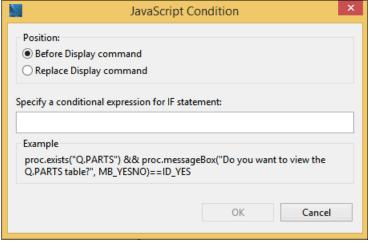


Figure 4-70 JavaScript Condition window

22. Leave **Before Display command** selected because the step is inserted before the forms are generated. For the condition, the built-in proc.getNumRows() function is used (Figure 4-71). This function is used to check whether the results (number of rows) from the query run are more than 0. The formula is shown:

proc.getNumRows() > 0

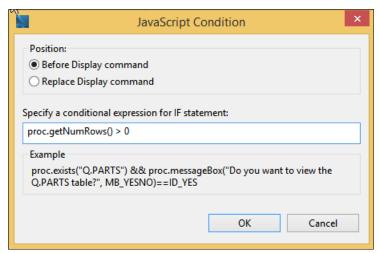


Figure 4-71 JavaScript Condition window with the conditional expression

## 23. Figure 4-72 shows the resulting procedure structure.

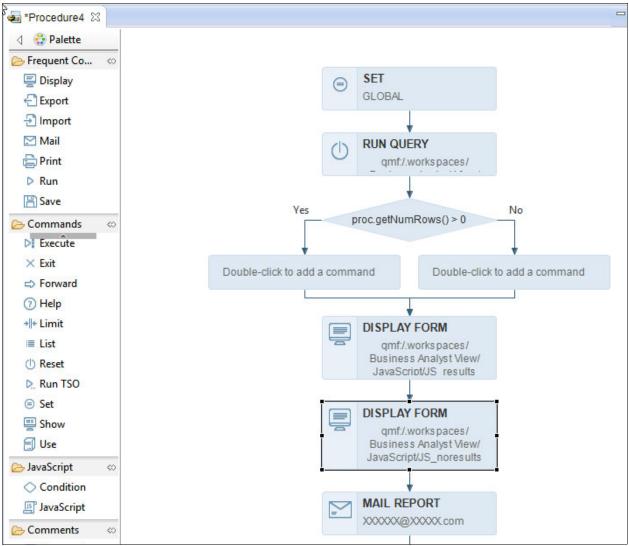


Figure 4-72 Resulting procedure layout after the JavaScript condition is added

24. The DISPLAY FORM for a query with results can be dragged above the empty node for the Yes result of the JavaScript Condition Node (Figure 4-73).

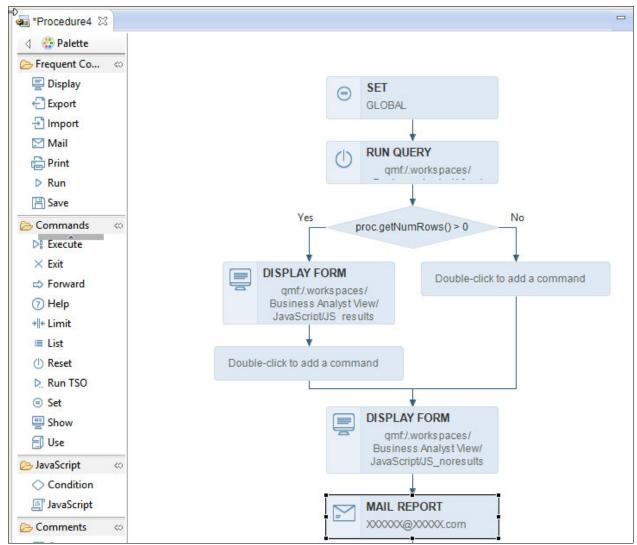


Figure 4-73 Design window for the procedure after the task is moved

25. The DISPLAY FORM and MAIL REPORT for a query with no rows in the result set can be dragged above the empty node for the No result of the JavaScript Condition Node. Figure 4-74 shows the changes.

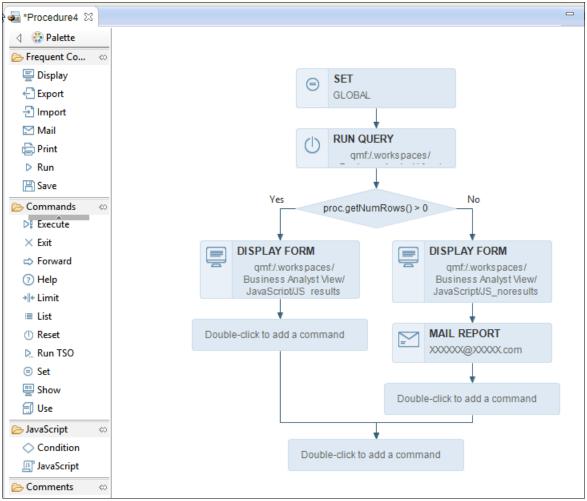


Figure 4-74 Design window for the procedure after the DISPLAY FORM and MAIL REPORT tasks are moved

26.Add a MAIL task for the form that contains values in the report. The easiest way is to copy the mail task for the failure. Right-click the MAIL REPORT task and select Copy (Figure 4-75).

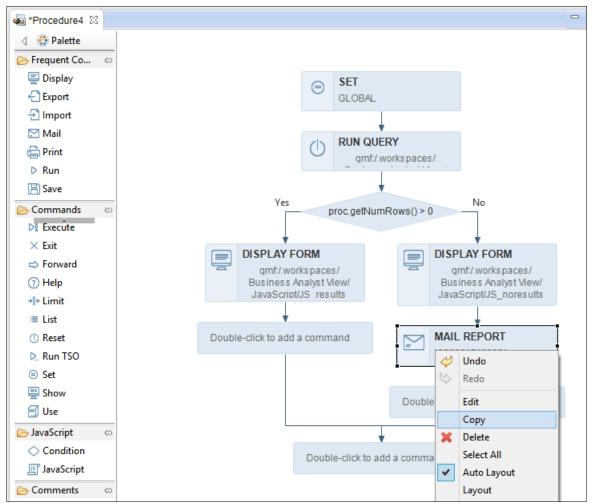


Figure 4-75 Copying the MAIL REPORT task

27. Right-click the empty **Double-click to add a command** node under the DISPLAY FORM under the Yes condition and select **Paste** (Figure 4-76).

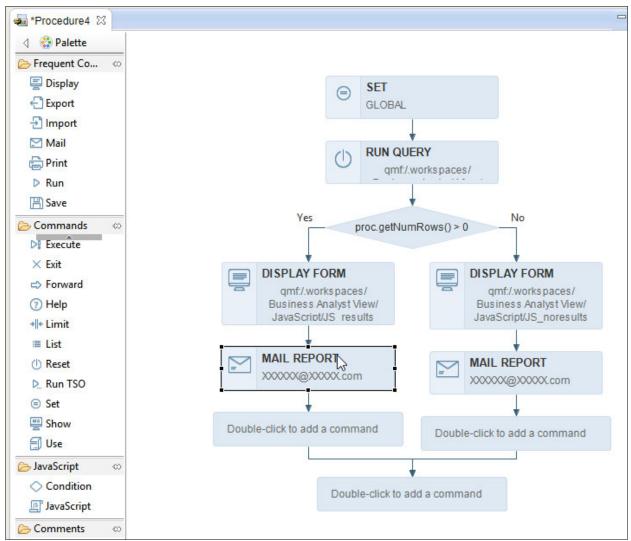


Figure 4-76 Pasting the copied MAIL REPORT task into the procedure

28. Click the new MAIL REPORT node and edit the body and subject values for the node properties, removing the indication that the report failed. See Figure 4-77 for an example.

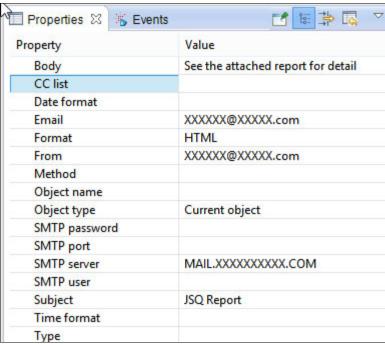


Figure 4-77 Changing the properties of the MAIL REPORT task

#### 29. Figure 4-78 shows the modified procedure.

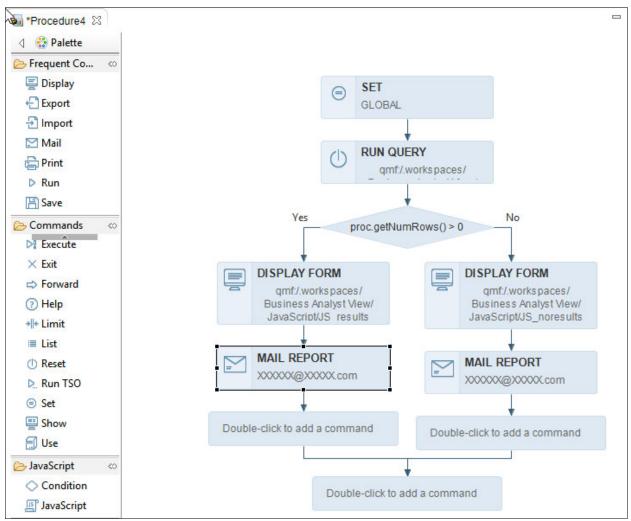


Figure 4-78 Final layout of the sample JavaScript procedure

30. To test the procedure, run the procedure with a value of an existing department number. Then, run the procedure again with an invalid department number. The procedure emails the two forms (one form for a result set with values and the other form for the empty result set). If the tests are successful, save the procedure to the repository.

You can edit the procedure text directly in the Procedure tab. Figure 4-79 shows an example procedure.

```
**Procedure4 \( \) /*JavaScript*/
proc.exec('SET GLOBAL (DEPT=&Please_Enter_Dept_Value');
proc.exec('RUN QUERY "qmf:/.workspaces/Business Analyst View/JavaScript/Department if (proc.getNumRows() > 0) {
    proc.exec('DISPLAY FORM "qmf:/.workspaces/Business Analyst View/JavaScript/JS_proc.exec('MAIL REPORT TO lolson@rocketsoftware.com (BODY="See the attached re}) else {
    proc.exec('DISPLAY FORM "qmf:/.workspaces/Business Analyst View/JavaScript/JS_proc.exec('MAIL REPORT TO lolson@rocketsoftware.com (BODY="The report failed tell") }

**Procedure** Design**
```

Figure 4-79 Procedure edit window

However, if a user makes editing changes that cannot be replicated in the Design editor, the user cannot switch back to the editor, even if the procedure is still valid. Figure 4-80 shows a sample error message.

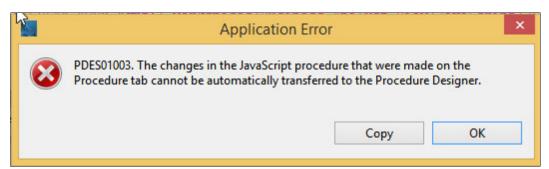


Figure 4-80 Message when the procedure syntax cannot be converted to the Design editor

The MAIL command can be difficult to manipulate in JavaScript. The MAIL commands contain body text that tends to span multiple lines and that needs to be encased in quotation marks. The subject text needs to be in quotation marks. Both the subject and body might need to include values from variables or query results.

The recommended approach is to specify FORMAT=HTML, which refers to the format of the email. With this format, HTML tags can be included to control the look of the body (Example 4-7).

#### Example 4-7 FORMAT=HTML

To insert values from Global variables or from query results into the email subject or body, you can use the following approach. Define the sections of the MAIL command as variables, and then piece them together with the concatenation symbol to avoid issues with quotations within quotations and continuation characters (Example 4-8).

Example 4-8 Global variables and query results

```
/*JavaScript*/
proc.exec('SET GLOBAL (DEPT=&Please_Enter_Dept_Value');
proc.exec('RUN QUERY DB2ADMIN.JSQ_STAFF');
var M ='MAIL REPORT TO xxxxxx@xxxxx.com ';
var B ='(BODY="The report failed with this value of DEPT "';
var F =' FORMAT=HTML FROM=ssullivan@rs.com ';
var S =' SMTPSERVER=MAIL.XXXXXXXXXXXXXXCOM ';
var SU =' SUBJECT="JSQ Report Failure for Dept = '
+ proc.getVariable('DEPT') + '"' ;

if (proc.getNumRows() >0) {
   proc.exec('DISPLAY FORM DB2ADMIN.JSF_STAFF1');
}
else {
   proc.exec('DISPLAY FORM DB2ADMIN.JSF_STAFF2');
   proc.exec(M + B + F + S + SU);
}
```



# Caching

IBM DB2 Query Management Facility for z/OS V11.2.1 (QMF) for Workstation and QMF for WebSphere employ caching in several areas. In QMF, *caching* refers to the act of pulling information from a data source and keeping it in memory, a temporary file, or a permanent file at the client machine. Then, when follow-up requests are made for that same information, the locally saved version of the information is used. The typical use cases are listed:

- ► Reducing CPU consumption at the remote database server
- Providing information to users without direct database access
- ▶ Delivering faster performance for the business user

This chapter explores these use cases, the user experience with the different types of caching, the types of information that can be cached, and the refresh mechanisms for the caching. Three types of caching are described:

- Query caching: An administrator enables query caching and sets the caching on a group by group basis, including whether group members can update their cache settings. The results of a specific SQL statement are cached at the machine that is running QMF until the results expire as determined by the administrator. Each user has an independent cache that is not shared with others.
- Dynamarts: Permanent files that contain the SQL and the query result. The dynamarts do not expire, do not require a login to the back-end database after the first run, and can be centrally located and shared.
- Virtual data sources: Logical tables that are defined by SQL, which are similar to a database view. After the first run, the results can be cached at the system that is running QMF, but not as a static file. Instead, they are cached in an SQL database so that they can be creatively queried. These cached tables are centrally located, and the data can be shared by multiple users.

This chapter includes the following topics:

- Query caching
- Dvnamarts
- ► Virtual data sources
- Summary of caching types

**Video series:** The following videos that describe the QMF caching mechanism are provided to support this chapter:

► Part 1 - Personal Caching:

https://youtu.be/1hKt1N-ogsw

► Part 2 - Administrative Caching:

https://youtu.be/8SLX0T0vpss

► Part 3 - Dynamart:

https://youtu.be/bY8mjM8\_riM

► Part 4 - Virtual Data Source:

https://youtu.be/YceV2Qyyui8

# 5.1 Query caching

The query is the fundamental QMF object that pulls business information from a data source. It consists of an SQL SELECT statement and a set of directions that inform QMF how to format and display the results. Queries support CREATE, UPDATE, INSERT, and so on, but those verbs are not relevant to caching.

The use and behavior of queries by any specific user is governed by the QMF Resource Limits. The QMF Resource Limits are a set of rules and limits that are set up by the QMF administrator. These rules control certain aspects of a user's QMF session. Among the types of activities that are controlled are the number of rows that a query might return, the SQL statements that can be used, whether the query usage is tracked, and whether caching is enabled.

A QMF user can look at the current, active resource limits by selecting the **View**  $\rightarrow$  **Resource Limits**. For most limits, only the administrator can set limits. However, for a few limits, the administrator can allow users to set their own limits. Caching is this type of limit. Figure 5-1 shows the caching resource limit from a user's point of view.

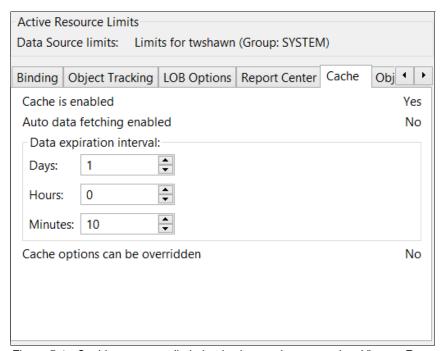


Figure 5-1 Caching resource limit that is shown when you select View → Resource Limits

In this case, the administrator did *not* enable the user to override the cache setting of 1 day.

## 5.1.1 User experience: QMF for Workstation

After the administrator sets the caching resource limit, the result sets that are pulled from the database are cached on the machine that is running QMF as a file for the time that is specified in the cache setting. With QMF for Workstation, the results are stored as a temporary file on the local desktop computer. For QMF for WebSphere, they are stored on the Web Application Server that is running QMF.

If the same query is run again before the cache expires, the results are read from this file. The term *same query* calls for explanation. When the results are cached, they are *marked* with the following information: the user ID that ran the query, the exact SQL that was in the query, and the database that the query connected to. If any of this information changes, QMF considers the query as a new query and caches the results with the new combination of user ID, SQL, and database.

For example, with a query cache that is set to 1 day, the following SQL is run by the user JAMES, when the user is connected to the database REDBOOKS, at 10:25 AM:

SELECT NAME, ID, CURRENT TIMESTAMP AS CST FROM Q.STAFF

This SQL returns a particular result set that QMF caches as a file on that machine. The special register CURRENT TIMESTAMP records the time stamp from the moment that DB2 processed the SQL. If no caching is active, this field contains a new value each time that the query is run.

James saves the query to the QMF catalog, the repository, or a file.

In each of the following cases, James gets the same result as shown by the timestamp column:

- One hour later, James opens the query and runs it.
- Two hours later, James closes QMF, performs other work, opens QMF, and runs the query again.
- ► Three hours later, James shuts down his computer and restarts it, opens QMF, and runs the query again.
- ► One hour later, James creates any type of report or dashboard by using the query that is connected to the same data source.
- ► Two hours later, James opens the query, copies the SQL text, pastes it into a new query window, and runs it.
- ► One hour later, James opens a new query that is connected to the same data source and types the same SQL (not case-sensitive) as the original query.
- ► One hour later, James opens the query and adds several SQL comments after the end of the SQL and space with the Spacebar to make the SQL more readable.

In each of the following cases, James gets a different result as shown by the timestamp column:

- ▶ James selects **Query** → **Set Data Source** and redirects the query to a different data source (different data source = different query).
- ▶ James selects Query → Set User Information and changes his login credentials to a new user ID (different user ID = different query).
- ▶ James opens the query and changes the contents in any way that calls for the data source to re-parse it: adding comments in the body of the SQL, rearranging the columns, adding any other SQL at all, deleting any other SQL (including comments in the body) (different SQL = different query).
- ▶ James logs on to another machine, connects to the same repository and the same data source, opens the same query from the QMF catalog, and runs it (different machine = different cache).
- ▶ James runs the guery after 10:25 AM the next day. (The cache expired.)

If the administrator sets the switch to allow users to "override" the cache setting, the user might change the cache expiration time with two important points to remember:

- ► The user must change it on a query-by-query basis. The user cannot set a global cache limit that applies to all queries.
- ► The user can override the administrator cache setting only on queries that were saved. If the user opens a new query, types SQL, and runs it, the query is governed by the cache that was set by the administrator. The user must save the query to the QMF catalog or to the repository workspace. Then, the cache can be set as shown next. The user cannot set the cache on queries that are saved as files.

The cached files are compressed and unreadable. The queries are unusable outside of QMF. They are stored in the user profile directory on the machine that runs QMF for Workstation. The queries must not be opened directly by any application other than QMF or they risk corruption.

QMF deletes the cache files 15 minutes after they expire. This cleanout is automatic and does not depend on someone that is running a query that calls for the cached data.

## 5.1.2 User experience: QMF for WebSphere

Caching works the same in QMF for WebSphere as it does in QMF for Workstation. The only differences are that *all* users share the directory for caching the data.

Certain clients might need to run QMF for WebSphere in a cluster. In a cluster, WebSphere Application Server might be installed on multiple machines and QMF for WebSphere is deployed in each instance of WebSphere Application Server. A load balancing application is added as a layer on top of this setup. Users connect to a single URL that is mapped to the load balancer. Then, the load balancer redirects the user session to one of the QMF for WebSphere instances based on rules about how busy the QMF for WebSphere instances are.

Caching might not work correctly. The cached data is stored in the QMF for WebSphere Application Data directory. Each machine with QMF for WebSphere has its own Application Data directory and its own cache. If a user runs a query in the morning when the load balancer directed the session to machine A, the cache is on machine A. If the user signs out and comes into a new session later in the day, the load balancer might direct the user session to machine B, and the cache from earlier is not accessible.

To address this situation, QMF supplies a configuration option that causes all of the instances of QMF for WebSphere in the cluster to use the same application data store on a shared drive. This option is a Java virtual machine (JVM) property that is called qmf.instance.area. It is straightforward to implement and it is documented in *Installing and Managing DB2 QMF for Workstation and DB2 QMF for WebSphere*, GC27-6742-02, which is available from the IBM Knowledge Center. Implementing the qmf.instance.area option causes a cluster to use a single cache and gives users a consistent experience regardless of the load balancer.

**Note:** All QMF objects that use a query automatically inherit the use of the cache from the query. These objects are listed:

- Queries
- Visual queries
- Analytical queries
- Ad hoc queries
- ► Forms
- Procedures
- Visual reports
- ► Quick reports
- ► Drill-down paths
- ▶ Dashboards
- ► Forecasts
- ► Prompt hierarchies
- Scheduled tasks
- ▶ QMF Vision

#### 5.1.3 Cache use case 1

Before you try to use the cache in production, experiment with it a bit. The following queries are useful to test the cache feature:

- ► SELECT CURRENT TIME AS TIME FROM SYSIBM.SYSDUMMY1
- ► SELECT CURRENT TIMESTAMP AS TIMEST FROM SYSIBM.SYSDUMMY1

These queries return result sets that are a single cell with the current time or time stamp on record at the DB2 database. CURRENT TIME and CURRENT TIMESTAMP are DB2 Special Registers, which are similar to a bonus column that you can add to any query. The table SYSIBM.SYSDUMMY1 is a table that DB2 supplies for general-purpose, dummy queries for test and validation. A dummy query for testing the cache is referred to as a "cache test dummy".

## 5.1.4 Cache use case 2

If your cache is on a time scale that is larger than one day, you might want to use the CURRENT DATE Special Register:

SELECT ID, NAME, SALARY, CURRENT DATE AS DATE FROM Q.STAFF

**Note:** No feature exists to refresh a query before the cache expires. If you need to refresh a query before the cache expires, you must open the SQL and add a carriage return to force a refresh on the next run.

#### 5.1.5 Cache use case 3

QMF includes a feature that is called the *Query Profiler*. It reports the expired time for different parts of the query run. It is activated by clicking the Query Profiler icon in Figure 5-2.



Figure 5-2 Query Profiler icon

Figure 5-3 shows SQL with a *correlated subquery*. On the first run, the Query Profiler says that it takes over 13 seconds.

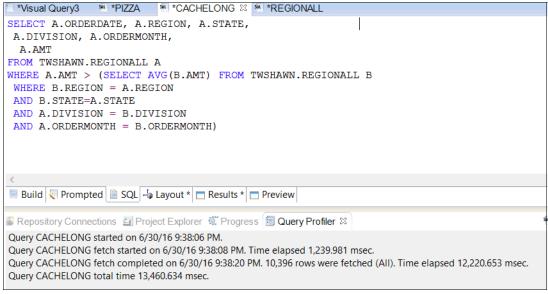


Figure 5-3 Long-running correlated subquery

On subsequent runs, before the cache expires, it takes about a quarter of a second, as shown in Figure 5-4.

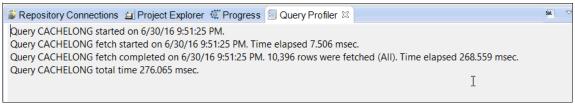


Figure 5-4 Query Profiler for cached query

By using UNION to "union" the query to itself, the same number of records are delivered, but it now takes 23 seconds, as shown in Figure 5-5. It still returns the same number of rows, but it takes almost twice as long.

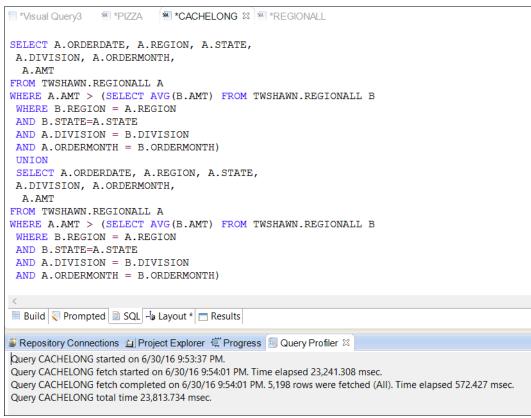


Figure 5-5 Query that runs even longer

But, on the next run, the query is a fraction of a second because it is the same number of rows from the cache, as shown in Figure 5-6.



Figure 5-6 Query Profiler for longer-running query from cache

DB2 is spared the repeated calculation, and the user gets the results in a fraction of the time.

### 5.1.6 Cache use case 4

We describe the procedure to use if the QMF administrator decides that users can override the cache. The user can change the cache on queries that are saved to the catalog or repository only. The user navigates to the query and right-clicks to select **Properties**, as shown in Figure 5-7.

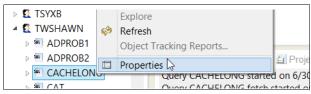


Figure 5-7 Selecting Properties to set the cache

A small set of user-controlled, query-specific resource limits is shown in Figure 5-8.

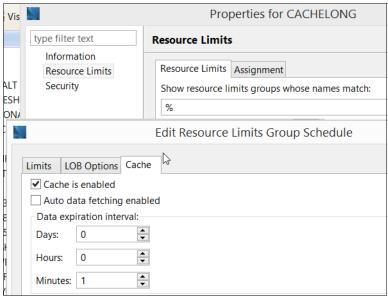


Figure 5-8 Setting the query cache limits

The user can change the cache limits and override the administrator's settings.

# 5.2 Dynamarts

*Dynamarts* are a QMF object that acts as a permanent cache as a file or as a QMF repository object. When a traditional QMF query is saved, the SQL is saved and the formatting instructions for the results, including graphs and charts, are saved. With a dynamart, the SQL, formatting, and retrieved data are all saved together. This approach differs from the cache that is described in the previous section in the following ways:

- The dynamart is a permanent file that does not expire.
- Dynamarts can be shared. One user can pull the data, and other users can use the results without connecting to the back-end database.
- Dynamarts can be shared by storing them centrally in the QMF repository, by saving them on a shared drive, or by transferring the file through email, File Transfer Protocol (FTP), or another transfer mechanism.

## 5.2.1 User experience: QMF for Workstation dynamarts

You can create a dynamart only from a visual query. Any QMF catalog query that you want to change into a dynamart must be converted to a visual query. Follow these steps:

 Open the query and select Query → Convert to Visual Query. In Figure 5-9, the CACHELONG query from the previous example is converted.

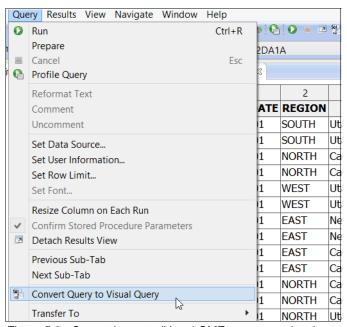


Figure 5-9 Converting a traditional QMF query to a visual query

2. To create the dynamart, run the query, select **File** → **Save at**, and choose **File** or Repository. On the Save at File window, navigate to the location that you want to save it to, give it a name, and most importantly, set the Type drop-down list box to Dynamart. Click **OK**, as shown in Figure 5-10.

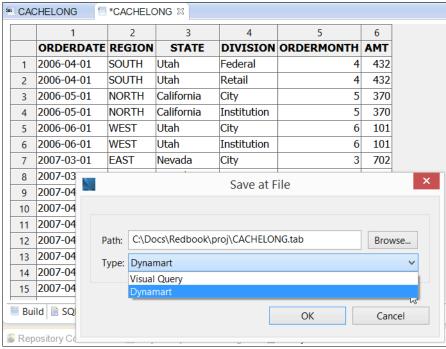


Figure 5-10 Saving as a dynamart

The saved dynamart can be now used as the source of data for any QMF object that a regular query can be used for:

- Queries
- Procedures
- Forms
- Visual reports
- Dashboards
- Ad hoc reports
- **Forecasts**

The following characteristics apply when a dynamart is saved to a file:

- ► A dynamart has an extension of tab. A dynamart can be read by QMF for Workstation only. Do not try to use a word processor. The dynamart is saved in a compressed format, and a word processor might corrupt it.
- A dynamart can be transferred to other machines and used by QMF for Workstation or QMF for WebSphere.
- File-based dynamarts are difficult to implement in a QMF for WebSphere environment. Save them to the QMF for WebSphere repository after you open them.

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The following characteristics apply when a dynamart is saved to a repository:

- ► The dynamart is saved in the repository storage database as a single record (a compressed, binary large object (BLOB)) in a repository table. If it is larger than 1 MB, it is broken up and serialized over several records in this table.
- ► The dynamart is centrally located and does not need to be transferred to other machines for other users to share it.

Repository-based dynamarts work well in QMF for WebSphere applications. In both cases, the dynamart can be opened and the data can be viewed and used without logging in to or otherwise connecting to the back-end data source from which the data was initially pulled.

Unlike query caching, the dynamart is not automatically refreshed by QMF but the user can initiate the refresh in one of two ways:

- ▶ When a dynamart is opened, it presents the data as though the query was run. You see the result sets, view the SQL or look at it in build mode, and create reports and visualizations. All of these capabilities use the cached data.
  - But, if you click **Run** or otherwise run the dynamart, you are required to log in. The SQL is sent to the database, and the results are refreshed.
  - If you close the dynamart, you are prompted to save the changes. If you do not save the changes, the old, non-refreshed, cached data stays in the dynamart. If you save the changes, the data in the dynamart is replaced by the refreshed data.
- ▶ If the dynamart is run from a procedure, a **REFRESH** parameter is used:
  - RUN DYNAMART REGIONDYN (REFRESH = YES

When this procedure is run, the SQL is run at the database, and the dynamart is refreshed and saved with the new data. All QMF objects that use the dynamart in a linking mode rather than an embedded mode reflect the changes in the refreshed data.

**Note:** Do not use the Query Profiler on a dynamart because it refreshes the dynamart and defeats the purpose of the caching.

## 5.2.2 User experience: QMF for WebSphere dynamarts

Dynamarts work in QMF for WebSphere in the same way that they work in QMF for Workstation. The exception is that dynamarts that are saved as files are difficult to implement in QMF for WebSphere. Most of the QMF for WebSphere objects (drill-down paths, visual reports, and forecasts) cannot link to a file-based dynamart.

If the QMF for WebSphere object uses an embedded dynamart, no way exists to refresh the embedded dynamart in these objects without rebuilding the object. So, for QMF for WebSphere deployments, save dynamarts to the repository workspace.

# 5.2.3 Dynamart use case 1

Two popular uses of queries that go beyond dumping the data to a spreadsheet are roll-up grids and ad hoc reports. Because the dynamart does not require a login to the database that holds the source data, a dynamart is useful for people who need to see and work with the data but who do not have access to the back-end database.

Figure 5-11 shows a dynamart that is manipulated into a roll-up grid and run from QMF for WebSphere. The effect is more pronounced when the dynamart is viewed live or in a video than in a screen capture. The process is that the user logs in to the repository to get the lists of reports and queries. When the roll-up query and ad hoc report are run, no prompt appears for the back-end data source and the performance is good.

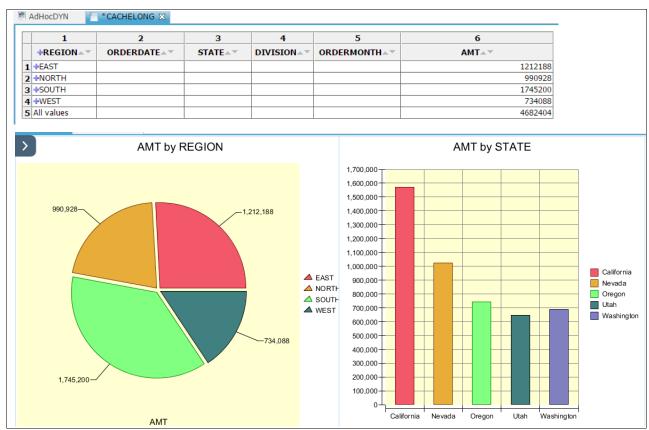


Figure 5-11 A dynamart in use as a grid and a visualization

Both of these displays can be deployed as stand-alone web pages or embedded into other web applications. However, if the user cannot connect to the back-end data source, how do these displays ever get updated when the data changes in the back-end database? The next example addresses this situation.

## 5.2.4 Dynamart use case 2

Consider the following procedure:

DISPLAY DYNAMART CACHELONG

This procedure opens the result set. However, the following procedure opens it and refreshes it, which updates the saved DYNAMART with the refreshed data. This example is good for using the CURRENT TIME or CURRENT TIMESTAMP to test and understand how it works.

DISPLAY DYNAMART CACHELONG (REFRESH = YES

If this procedure is saved as DYNAREFRESH, it can be put into the QMF for WebSphere Scheduler by the person who originally wrote the query.

Figure 5-12 shows the task list output when you select **View** → **Scheduled Tasks**.

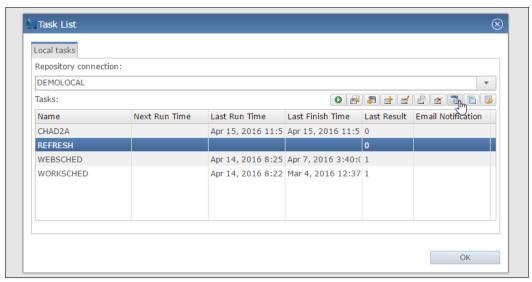


Figure 5-12 Scheduled tasks

You can run REFRESH to refresh multiple schedules, as shown in Figure 5-13.

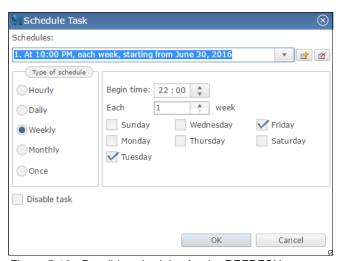


Figure 5-13 Possible schedules for the REFRESH

After the Scheduler runs the procedure to refresh the dynamart, any report that links to that dynamart uses the up-to-date data. The user does not need to connect to the database.

# 5.3 Virtual data sources

Virtual data sources are a QMF construct so that a user can take queries and tables from any combination of QMF data sources and create local shortcuts or links to them. These shortcuts or links are displayed for the user as a set of tables all in the same relational database. The QMF term for one of these shortcuts or links is a *virtual table*.

You can optionally set up virtual tables so that the first time that they are accessed, the data is cached in a local QMF internal database. This method differs from the other types of caching that were mentioned previously. The cached data can be queried with various SQL because the cached data is cached as records in a relational database. For dynamarts and query caching, you get the exact result set only at the time of the cache. Only a QMF administrator can create a virtual data source or add virtual tables to a virtual data source.

### 5.3.1 Setting up a virtual data source

During the installation of QMF, the option for virtual data sources is selected, by default. If it was deselected during the installation process, this feature is not available until QMF for Workstation is reinstalled with the option for virtual data sources selected.

You must have the QMF administrator perspective set up and you must have QMF administrative authority to create virtual data sources. Any users can use a virtual data source after an administrator sets it up.

You must create a virtual data source by right-clicking the **Virtual Data Sources** node in the Repository Explorer or Repositories tree and selecting  $New \rightarrow Virtual Data Source$ . This process is described in detail in the next section.

You can create virtual tables from queries or from tables. The preferred practice is to create the virtual tables from queries when possible because of the architecture of the virtual data source.

When the virtual table is created, QMF stores an SQL SELECT statement. If you use a table as the source, QMF stores an SQL statement that selects all of the columns and rows from the table. The business user must add the sophisticated SQL when the user queries the virtual table. But, if you design the virtual table with a sophisticated query with Group By, Case statements, or Date functions, the business user adds simple WHERE clauses only.

Also, because the virtual table can point to databases other than DB2, your business users might not know the syntax for Oracle or Microsoft (MS) SQL Server functions. So, it is best to embed the database-specific functions in the definition of the virtual tables.

The caching mechanism for virtual data sources is called the *expiration schedule*. When it is employed, the fetched data is returned to the client machine that is running QMF and cached in a local QMF database. For QMF for Workstation, each user sees the same centrally located virtual table definition, but when the table is queried, each user gets a copy of the results that are cached on the local workstation. Subsequent calls to the virtual table are handled by the local QMF database with the local copy of the data.

## 5.3.2 User experience: Virtual Data sources

Virtual data sources work in the same way for both QMF for Workstation and QMF for WebSphere. An administrator creates a virtual database in the following manner:

1. Call for a new virtual data source by right-clicking **Virtual Data Sources**, as shown in Figure 5-14. Click **New** → **Virtual Data Source**.



Figure 5-14 Creating a virtual data source

2. Enter a data source a name, as shown in Figure 5-15. Do not select In-memory.

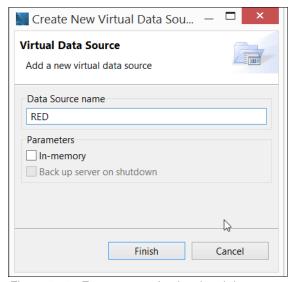


Figure 5-15 Enter a name for the virtual data source

3. The administrator populates it with a virtual table that is made from a query, as shown in Figure 5-16.

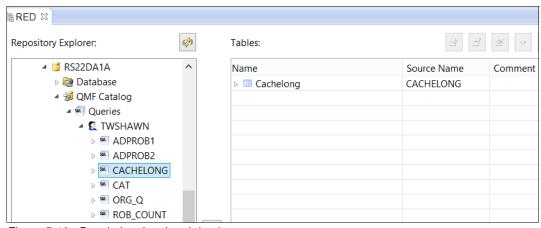


Figure 5-16 Populating the virtual database

Users can query the virtual table as though it were an actual table. The query is profiled at 13 seconds in Figure 5-17.

```
**Cachelong 
SELECT Orderdate, Region, State, Division, Ordermonth, Amt
FROM Cachelong

Build Prompted SQL Layout Results

Repository Connections Project Explorer Progress Query Profiler 
Query Cachelong started on 7/1/16 7:24:53 AM.
Query Cachelong fetch started on 7/1/16 7:25:06 AM. Time elapsed 12,815.314 msec.
Query Cachelong fetch completed on 7/1/16 7:25:06 AM. 10,396 rows were fetched (All). Time elapsed 110.876 msec.
Query Cachelong total time 12,926.189 msec.
```

Figure 5-17 Query Profiler for a virtual table

Figure 5-18 shows a virtual table that is queried with more SQL than is in its definition. This capability is similar to a view in DB2.

```
**Cachelong X SELECT Orderdate, Region, State, Division, Ordermonth, Amt FROM Cachelong WHERE STATE = 'Utah'
```

Figure 5-18 Querying the virtual table

The workflow of this query and virtual table is described. When the administrator creates the virtual table, QMF takes the SQL that defines the virtual table and saves it to a table in the QMF repository. The virtual table definition is centrally located and available to all users.

When the user addresses the virtual table with SQL, the virtual table definition is retrieved by the local QMF in use. Then, QMF combines the underlying SQL definition of the virtual table and the new SQL in the query to get the final query that is sent to DB2 (or whichever database is at the back end).

Therefore, it is better to put all of the back-end-specific SQL into the definition. Different databases use different SQL functions, such as the online analytical processing (OLAP) functions in DB2, and different implementations of certain common functions, such as finding the difference between dates. The SQL that defines the virtual table must have all of the complexity so that the user needs to add only simple SQL, such as WHERE clauses.

So far, no caching is used. The caching is involved with the expiration schedules branch, as shown in Figure 5-19.

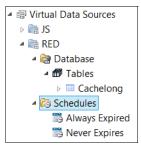


Figure 5-19 Setting up schedules

Two schedules are included, by default. The default setting is Always Expired. Therefore, every time that the virtual table is used, QMF goes back to the source data to get the results.

If you set the schedule to Never Expires, the first time that the virtual table is used, the data is downloaded to the local QMF and stored in a relational database that is embedded in QMF. From that point, the SQL is handled by that internal local QMF database. Consider this workflow:

- ► An administrator creates a virtual table and sets it to Never Expires.
- ▶ By using QMF for Workstation, James queries that virtual table on Monday and gets the data at that time on Monday that is cached on his local machine.
- ▶ By using QMF for Workstation, Lydia queries that virtual table on Friday and gets the data at that time on Friday that is cached on her local machine.
- ► If the data changes at the source database between Monday and Friday, James and Lydia work with different data from then on.

For refreshing to synchronize the caches of all of the users, the administrator can set up custom schedules:

 As shown in Figure 5-20, right-click Schedules and select New → Virtual Data Source Schedules.

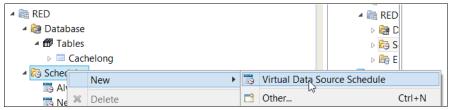


Figure 5-20 Setting up a new schedule

2. Enter a name for the schedule. Select the frequency for the data to expire, as shown in Figure 5-21.

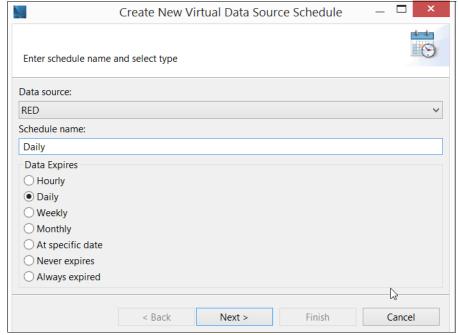


Figure 5-21 Name the schedule

3. Enter the details of the schedule, as shown in Figure 5-22, and click Finish.

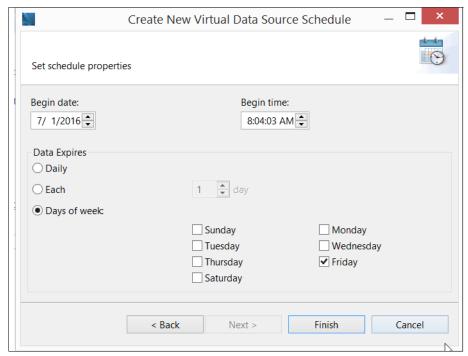


Figure 5-22 Set the details of the schedule and click Finish

4. By right-clicking the virtual table and selecting **Properties**, the administrator enters the cache settings, as shown in Figure 5-23.

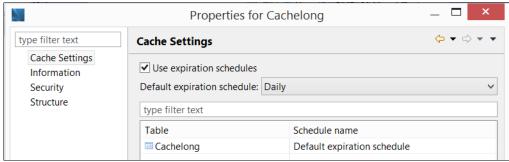


Figure 5-23 Setting the custom expiration schedule

5. In this case, the administrator set the Daily schedule as the default. The Daily schedule is in effect for all future virtual tables in this virtual database. Alternatively, the administrator can set the schedule for the individual virtual tables on a one-by-one basis, as shown in Figure 5-24.

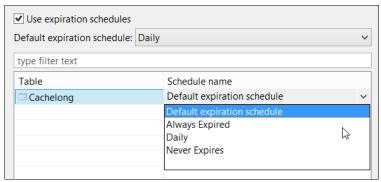


Figure 5-24 Setting an expiration schedule for an individual query

The query profile results are shown for this virtual table with and without the expiration schedule:

Without the expiration schedule: 13 seconds
 With the expiration schedule: 0.142 seconds

## 5.4 Summary of caching types

This chapter covered three types of caching:

- Query caching:
  - Query caching is controlled by the administrator.
  - Users might be authorized to override this caching.
  - User control is on queries that are saved to the catalog or repository only.
  - The result set is cached as a file on the machine that is running QMF and that is specific to the user.
  - This file is not accessible to the user or other applications. This file is not transferable or shareable with other users.
  - The result set cache is refreshed by a change of user, a change of SQL, a redirection to a different data source, and the expiration of the cache.
  - When the cache expires, it is not automatically refreshed by QMF. It is refreshed only
    when the query is rerun by the user or by a scheduled task.
  - This result set is a static result set. This result set can be used in all QMF objects that use queries.

#### Dynamarts:

- Dynamarts are controlled by the user.
- Dynamarts are stored as a file on a workstation or as a large object in the repository.
- As a file, a dynamart is accessible only by QMF but it can be shared with others who have QMF.
- As a large object in the repository, a dynamart is centrally located and can be shared by all users.

- Dynamarts do not require a login to the back-end data source to be opened, viewed, and used.
- Dynamarts require a login to the back-end data source to be refreshed, which happens when they are run or refreshed in a PROC.
- No timed expiration exists for a dynamart.
- The result set is a static result set. The result set can be used in all QMF objects that use queries.

#### Virtual database:

- A virtual database is controlled by the administrator.
- A virtual database is defined centrally in the repository and cached on the local machine when it is run by QMF.
- Results are cached in a relational database in QMF. Results are specific to the user and machine that are running QMF.
- Results can be queried with SQL instead of providing a static result.
- Results can be used by all QMF objects.
- The refresh schedule is set by the administrator.
- The refresh is not automatically performed by QMF. After the expiration, the refresh occurs when the table is queried.

All of these caching mechanisms reduce the load on DB2 from many business users who are running business queries that return human-consumable result sets.

For example, a query result that contains 100,000,000 records and 200 columns is most likely meant for a program to consume, not for a person to read and manipulate. In most cases, the machine that is running QMF is a notebook or web server that is dedicated to serving many users and applications. The performance of cached results by any of these methods degrades when the result sets reach into the tens of millions.

The point at which the cache performance degrades depends on the machine that is caching it: how much disk space, how much RAM, and how many other applications are running. So, it is not possible to set a limit, such as "do not cache over 10,000,000 records". Each user needs to try the caching with simple queries with timestamps to get used to how caching works. Then, the user needs to run large queries to understand what the local system can handle.

# **Key TSO enhancements**

Numerous enhancements were made to the Time Sharing Option (TSO) portion of IBM DB2 Query Management Facility for z/OS V11.2.1 (QMF), but we highlight only two enhancements that have the greatest impact on users:

- ▶ QMF Analytics for TSO provides a suite of new charts, graphs, and statistical analyses that extend the power of QMF to provide key business information and presentations.
- ▶ QMF Enhanced Editor offers a powerful new interface that increases the productivity for long-time users and new users to the TSO interface.

This chapter includes the following topics:

- ► QMF Analytics for TSO
- ► QMF Enhanced Editor

**Note:** For easier reading and printing, the colors in these screen captures are reversed from the usual black background of a TSO terminal.

# 6.1 QMF Analytics for TSO

QMF previously supported the Interactive Chart Utility (ICU) feature of Graphical Data Display manager (GDDM). GDDM is shipped with z/OS, but ICU is an extra charge. The feature that contains the ICU is called Presentation Graphics Facility (PGF). PGF is required for QMF Analytics for TSO. The significant difference is that the new charting capabilities and the statistical analysis methods are integrated within the QMF framework and easy to use. Now, they can be saved and recovered as a new object type (analytics) within the QMF catalog.

Figure 6-1 shows examples of the types of analysis output that you can produce.

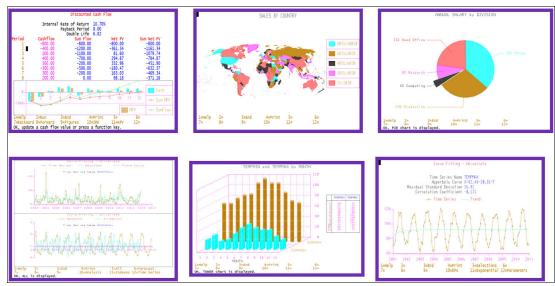


Figure 6-1 Examples of analysis

An overview is presented. Then, the process for working with query analytics is described.

### 6.1.1 Chart options

One panel is shown when query analytics is invoked (Figure 6-2). The left side lists the available charts and graphs available. The right side lists the statistical analyses that the user might want to use.

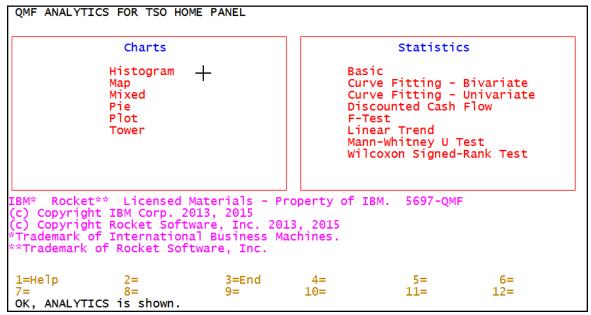


Figure 6-2 The QMF Analytics for the TSO home panel

The model for both graphs and statistics assumes that the user does not have in-depth knowledge in either area and does not want to learn a new set of commands and functions for these extensions. Therefore, the interface for each of the options contains a single panel with fields to enter and a way to prompt the user for values if they do not know what is available, as shown in Figure 6-3, where we selected the histogram option.

ANALYTICS HISTOGR	Parameter :	Selection	
Specify the	e∳lumn to form the	vertical coor	dinates (y-axis)
	(		) +
Specify the	column to form the	horizontal co	ordinates (x-axis)
	(		) +
Specify the	column to control	grouping of yo	ur data
	(		) +
Tabulation? Yes / <u>No</u>			
Chart Title ===> *			
1=Help 2=Run 7= 8= OK, HISTOGRAM parame	3=End 9=	4=List	5=Save 6= 11= 12=
OK, HISTOGRAM parame	ter selection pane	l is displayed	i.

Figure 6-3 QMF Analytics for TSO histogram panel

Each analysis or chart depends on a previously executed query. In Figure 6-3 on page 175, the fields are blank. The user can press PF4 to get a pick list of the available columns. The tabulation option is a toggle switch between yes and no to control whether a table of values is shown next to the chart.

We begin with this example query:

SELECT \* FROM Q.STAFF

After we execute the query (press PF2 or type RUN on the command line), we view our results, as shown in Figure 6-4. Q.STAFF contains these rows.

REPORT					LINE	1 POS 1	79
ID	NAME	DEPT	JOB	YEARS	SALARY	COMM	
	SANDERS	20	MGR SALES MGR SALES MGR	7	18357.50		
20	PERNAL	20	SALES	8	18171.25	612.45	
30	MARENGHI		MGR	5	17506.75		
40	O'BRIEN	38	SALES	6	18006.00	846.55	
50	HANES	15	MGR	10	20659.80	846.55 - 650.25	
60	QUIGLEY		SALES SALES	_	16808.30	650.25	
70	ROTHMAN	15	SALES	7	16502.83	1152.00	
80	JAMES KOONITZ	20	SALES CLERK SALES MGR CLERK CLERK CLERK MGR SALES MGR CLERK CLERK CLERK CLERK		13504.60	128.20 1386.70	
90	KOONITZ	42	SALES	6	18001.75	1386.70	
100	PLOTZ	42	MGR	7	18352.80		
110	NGAN	15	CLERK	5		206.60	
120	NAUGHTON YAMAGUCHI	38	CLERK	Ξ	12954.75	180.00	
130	YAMAGUCHI	42	CLERK	6	10505.90	75.60	
140	FRAYE	51	MGR	6	21150.00		
150	WILLIAMS	51	SALES	6	19456.50	637.65	
160	MOLINARE	10	MGR	/	22959.20	-	
170	MOLINARE KERMISCH ABRAHAMS	15	CLERK	4	12258.50	110.10 236.50	
180	ABRAHAMS	38	CLERK	3	12009.75	236.50	
190	SNEIDER	20	CLERK	8	14252.75	126.50	
200	SCOUTTEN	42	CLERK	10	11508.60	84.20 992.80	
210	CMTTU	10	MGK	10	17054 50	002.00	
220	2— 2MT I H	21	SALES	/ 4-D	1/054.50	992.80	G-Outons:
1=Help		uand		4=P		5=Chart	6=Query
	d 8=For				erc .	11=Right	12=
COMMAND -	is the REPO	KIIrom	your RUN	Command	•	CCBOLL	> DACE
COMMAND =	==>					SCRULI	_ ===> PAGE

Figure 6-4 Q.STAFF data

Now, we have the results to act on, so how do we invoke the new analytics panel? Use this command:

#### SHOW ANALYTICS

If you are familiar with QMF, you know that you can truncate any command to its fewest characters. The **SHOW** command might be truncated to **SH**. No other option or command in QMF begins with an A (yet). Therefore, we can shorten the command this way:

#### SH A

This command invokes the main panel that we showed you in Figure 6-2 on page 175. If the query did not run, we cannot invoke analytics. Without data to act on, the user receives an error:

"No DATA object exists for SHOW ANALYTICS"

We return to our analytics panel. Assume that we successfully executed the query to display the data in Q.STAFF. We take the histogram option and we see the panel that is displayed in Figure 6-3 on page 175. What are the column names? If the user places the cursor on one of the fields, requests a column, and presses PF4, or mouse-clicks the input field, the user sees a list of the available columns, as shown in Figure 6-5.

**Note:** Initially, the list is limited to the columns of the appropriate DB2 type for the selection only. Pressing F11 toggles between displaying all columns and appropriate columns. If many columns exist, you can easily limit the list by entering a filter at the top by using a percent sign (%) as a wildcard. The minimum and maximum values for a column are listed to help you with column selection. More details about a column are available by using the F4=Describe function key.

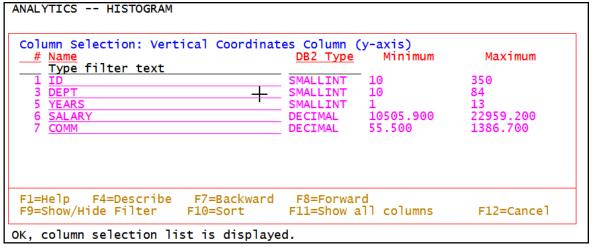


Figure 6-5 Selecting analytics options from a list

In our example, we plot the sum of SALARY (y-axis) by DEPT (x-axis). We pressed PF4 in both cases and entered the options, as shown in Figure 6-6.

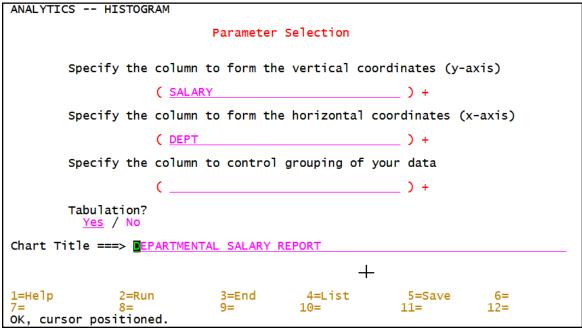


Figure 6-6 Entering the histogram options by using PF4 to select from a list

So, an x-axis, a y-axis, tabulation, and a title are set. To display the results of our options, we press PF2 to run it. Our results are shown in Figure 6-7.

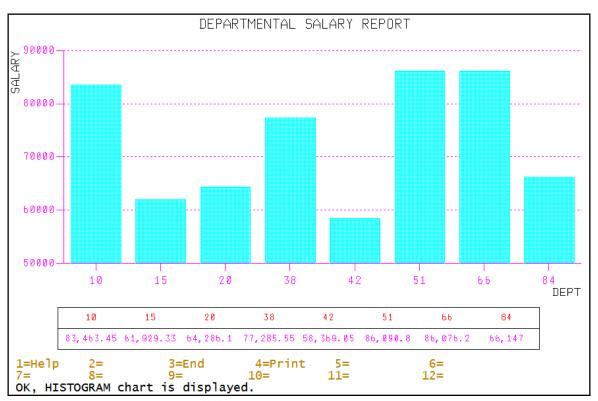


Figure 6-7 Results of our histogram option selections

From the chart display panel, you can copy the results to the clipboard to paste into an external application, such as email, or you can print to a configured printer.

Assume that we want to keep this chart specification available for subsequent usage. We return to the parameters panel and use the F5 save option to display the panel that is shown in Figure 6-8.

```
SAVE Command Prompt
SAVE ANALYTIC Name
                     REDBOOKA1
                                                                            ÷
AS
                                                                             +
                                                                            +
              . . . .
                   Enter the name the object will have in the database.
                   ) Display the confirmation panel before replacing
Confirm ( YES
                     an object in the database? YES or NO.
                     Share this object? YES or NO. Leave this field
Share
                     blank to keep the existing share value.
        ( Shows salary totals by
Comment
                                  department
                      a comment to be saved with the object.
Folder
       You can enter a folder name to help group objects.
 F1=Help
           F3=End
                    F4=List
```

Figure 6-8 Saving our chart options

In our example, if we press Enter, the user is notified that the object is saved in the database. Working with the charting options of QMF Analytics for TSO is simple.

**Note:** You cannot save the parameters from the display panel. The options are easy to use and limited to keep the user within a simplified environment. One reason that the Save action is available on the parameters panel and not the display panel is to help clarify that the parameters are saved, not the rendered chart image.

Now, if we return to QMF by ending the session (pressing PF3) we are back in our traditional QMF environment. How do we locate the object that we saved? If you are familiar with the LIST command, several options are available. To list your own analytics objects if you cannot remember the name, enter one of these commands:

- ▶ Use the LIST ANALYTICS command. The shortest version of this command is LI AN.
- ▶ Use the LIST ? command for a formatted panel where you can use wildcards and more.

To run the analysis again by using the current QMF data and display the chart, use the **DISPLAY** command against the listed analytics object.

## 6.1.2 Statistical analyses options

To illustrate our next example, we run a different query that tracks product breakage numbers by product. Five products, PRODUCT A through PRODUCT E, are shown in Figure 6-9.

REPORT			LINE	1 POS 1	79
PRODUCT A	PRODUCT B	PRODUCT C	PRODUCT D	PRODUCT E	
499 499 601	640 640 640	576 576 604	357 357 382	200	
601 634 523	640 630 620	604 606 599	382 375 378	220 240	
523 523 523 523	620 620 620	599 599 599	378 378	160 160	
453 575 575	660 650 650	635 579 579	392 392 392	270 270	
606 566 566	720 710 710	627 634 634	336	250 250	
556 556 556 366	710 710 710 700	615 615 615 618	501 501 501 392		
488 488 559	690 690 680	609 609 612	445 445	480 480	
1=Help 7=Backward OK, this is th	8=Forward e REPORT from	3=End 9=Form	4=Print 10=Left	11=Right	6=Query 12=
COMMAND ===>				SCROL	L ===> PAGE

Figure 6-9 Results of running a query against product breakage numbers by product

No time or date information is shown in this table so we can use it in any manner that we want. Assume that the breakage figures are monthly and tracking began in January 2014. What we want to determine is what trend we might see with PRODUCT B because PRODUCT B is problematic. We want to see what we might expect over the next 36 months so that we can either predict our losses or use the data to convince manufacturing that changes must occur.

By using the data that is displayed in Figure 6-9 on page 180, we invoke analytics by using the SHOW ANALYTICS that we described previously. This time, we select the option for a LINEAR TREND on the right side. The resulting panel is shown in Figure 6-10.

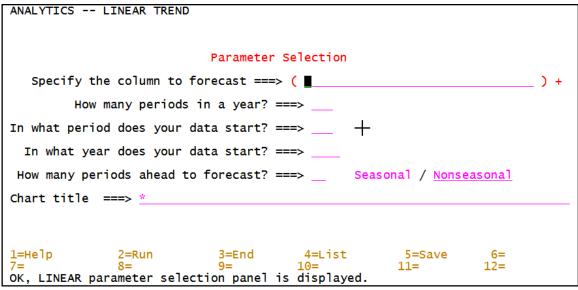


Figure 6-10 The linear trend options

We are presented with a formatted panel with several options to complete. If the data is seasonal (predictable by different times of the year to vary), we select the seasonal option. In our case, we have a consistent pattern of breakage.

We fill out the options, as shown in Figure 6-11.

```
Parameter Selection

Specify the column to forecast ===> ( PRODUCT B ) +

How many periods in a year? ===> 12

In what period does your data start? ===> 1

In what year does your data start? ===> 2014

How many periods ahead to forecast? ===> 36 Seasonal / Nonseasonal

Chart title ===> *

1=Help 2=Run 3=End 4=List 5=Save 6= 7= 8= 9= 10= 11= 12= 0K, LINEAR parameter selection panel is displayed.
```

Figure 6-11 Specifying the values for a linear trend

When we run the analysis by pressing PF2, we see a brown line of data and an extended line of data in a different color (Figure 6-12).

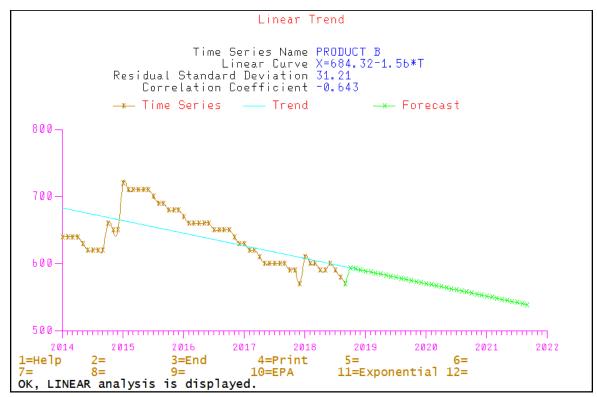


Figure 6-12 Linear trend results

Apparently, perception is not reality because the trend appears to go down with time. Other display options are available, as shown by PF10 and PF11. More options are available, depending on which path of analysis you take.

One path is illustrated in Figure 6-13. Query analytics for TSO makes several decisions for the user transparently, such as determining that the linear trend option is the best fit for the available data, but it also executes several others as shown. The user optionally can switch to another method. Certain methods are rejected as inappropriate for the data. Those rejected methods are labeled "not fitted".

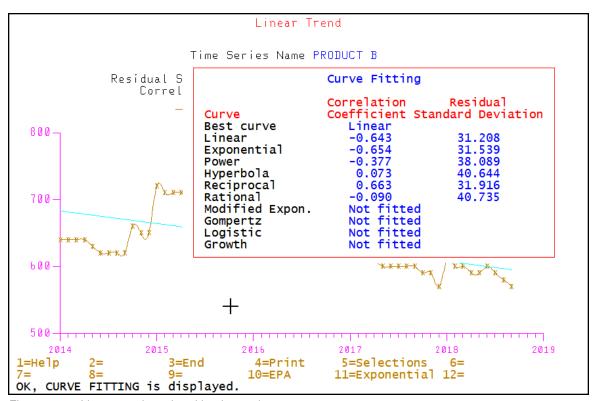


Figure 6-13 Linear trend results with other options

Another example is using QMF sample data with the table Q.CLIMATE\_10YR. This sample table includes many years of climate data, such as rainfall by month. By using the last 5 years of this data, we can project the next 2 years of rain. The query is shown:

```
SELECT * FROM Q.CLIMATE_10YR WHERE YEAR > 2005
```

Your parameters in order for the linear trend are shown in Figure 6-14. This time, the **Seasonal** parameter is selected because the data is seasonal.

Figure 6-14 Parameters for forecasting rainfall by using the linear trend method

Figure 6-15 shows the results.

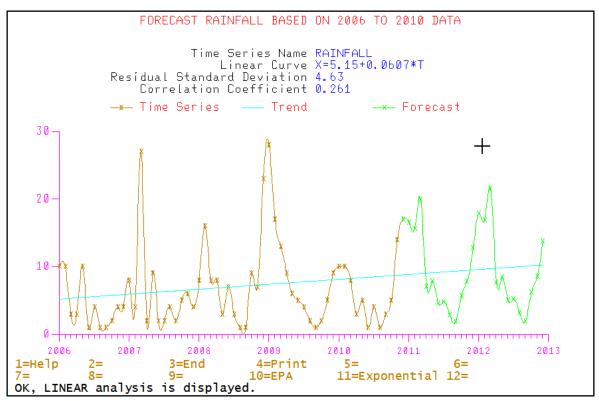


Figure 6-15 Predicting annual rainfall as part of a linear trend

This new set of QMF analyses and charts are easy to use, require little skill, and guide you by using simple menu options.

For example, you do not need to know how to formulate a complex statistical analysis statement to use a function, such as linear trending. You need to know your data and how to query it but the rest is easy.

In the next section, we show you how editing is much easier and how the QMF editing capabilities are enhanced to make you more productive.

## 6.2 QMF Enhanced Editor

QMF contains its own edit panel to create and change queries and procedures. It is a simple text editor that accommodates the basic 3270 panel types. Therefore, it is limited in function.

The user also can invoke the Interactive System Productivity Facility (ISPF) editor and pass QMF query and procedure lines back and forth. Functions, such as copying lines, repeating lines, and more, are available in this editor. However, no direct interaction exists with QMF, such as the ability to run an edited object within ISPF.

**Important:** To use the ISPF editor or the QMF Enhanced Editor, QMF must be started under ISPF.

### 6.2.1 Invoking editing options in QMF

Different editing options are available in QMF. The three most widely used options are listed:

- Standard editor
- ▶ ISPF editor
- QMF Enhanced Editor

To invoke the QMF Enhanced Editor, you must be running QMF under ISPF, which appears to be the most common environment in use today. Global variable settings are available in the QMF Enhanced Editor (EE) that automatically make it the default editor. First, we cover the three edit modes:

- ▶ QMF editor (default) from the home panel. Use PF6 for queries or PF10 for procedures.
- ► ISPF. You can pre-allocate a data set by using this command:
  ALLOC FI(DSQEDIT) UNIT(SYSDA) NEW. Or, you can enter this command from QMF:
  EDIT [query/proc/name] (EDIT = PDF
- ► For the QMF Enhanced Editor, you enter this command:

```
EDIT [query/proc/name] (EDIT = EE
```

We start with the QMF Enhanced Editor major functional areas. We cover global variable settings for the QMF Enhanced Editor last. For more information, see the *Enhanced Editor Overview* PDF document in the additional material that is supplied with this book.

Start with a query where we used the **DRAW [table]** command in QMF. Figure 6-16 shows the results where we issued the command **DRAW Q.STAFF**. You must be on the QUERY EDIT panel (PF6).

```
SQL QUERY
                                                     MODIFIED LINE
SELECT ID, "NAME", DEPT, JOB, "YEARS", SALARY, COMM
FROM Q.STAFF --
*** END ***
             2=Run
                          3=End
                                        4=Print
                                                   5=Chart
                                                                  6=Draw
7=Backward 8=Forward
                          9=Form
                                                   11=Delete
                                       10=Insert
                                                                 12=Report
OK, select query for table Q.STAFF drawn.
                                                              SCROLL ===> PAGE
```

Figure 6-16 DRAW Q.STAFF

The DRAW command is used by many QMF users so that QMF writes a SELECT statement that shows all of the columns in a table or multiple tables.

**Note:** QMF uses a comma to specify delineation between columns.

We used a small table for this example. Typically, tables have more columns.

Assume that you want to use the AS statement to rename a number of columns. You do not have enough room on any line to insert the characters that you want. For example, you want ID to show as PERSONAL\_IDENTIFICATION, DEPT to show as DEPARTMENT REPORTING TO, and COMM to show as COMMISSION.

By using the traditional QMF editor, you must use the cursor to move to the point where you want to split the line and press PF10 to insert.

If you used other editors, you probably press Enter at the wrong times and watch the cursor simply jump back and forth from the command line to the query statements. But, if you use the QMF Enhanced Editor, you can enter the following statement:

EDIT QUERY (EDIT=EE

Then, you invoke EE and see a panel that is similar to Figure 6-17.

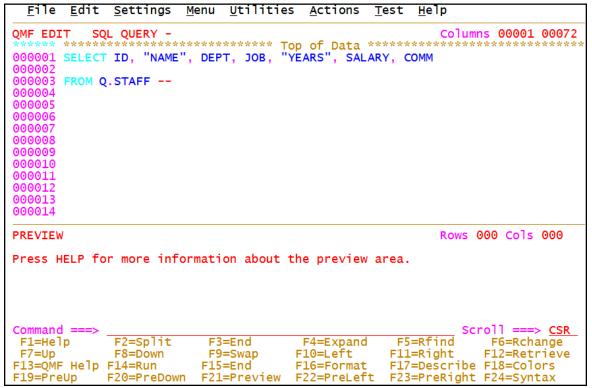


Figure 6-17 Use of the QMF Enhanced Editor

Immediately, you see that lines are available for each statement. We describe the action bars later. Now, standard ISPF options are available, such as copying lines or deleting lines. This book is not a tutorial for ISPF, but you can find many references within the HELP options or online ISPF documentation.

**Note:** In Figure 6-17, ISPF shows 24 function key (PF) settings across four lines at the bottom of the panel. You can tailor this display by using the **PFSHOW TAILOR** command, or hide function keys by using the **PFSHOW OFF** command to allow more space for editing.

We suggest that you take time to browse the online help that is in the QMF Enhanced Editor, as shown in Figure 6-18. The format and syntax of line edit commands are contained in this facility.

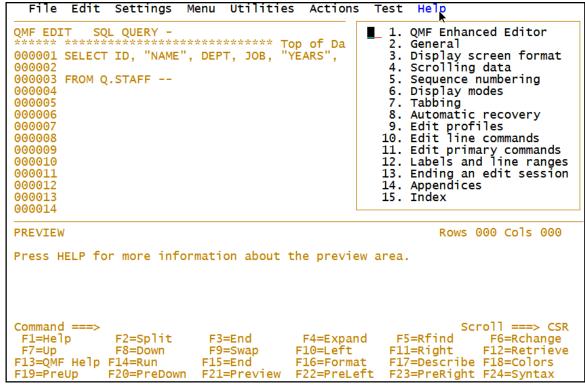


Figure 6-18 Using HELP in the QMF Enhanced Editor

One of the many available commands when you use the QMF Enhanced Editor is a Query formatting line command **Q**, which makes it easier to read your queries. To format three lines from line 1, we enter q3 in the prefix area of row 1 (Figure 6-19).

Figure 6-19 Formatting a query with the Q line command

After you press Enter, the query is formatted, as shown in Figure 6-20.

```
<u>File Edit Settings Menu Utilities Actions Test Help</u>
QMF EDIT
                                                 OK, lines formatted
         SQL QUERY -
      000001 SELECT
            ID,
"NAME"
000002
000003
000004
            DEPT,
            JOB, "YEARS"
000005
000006
            SALARY,
000007
000008
            COMM
000009 FROM
000010
            Q.STAFF
000011 --
000012
```

Figure 6-20 Formatted query

With each column on its own line, enough room exists to append additional text. When we finish, our query is similar to Figure 6-21.

```
File Edit Settings Menu Utilities Actions Test Help
QMF EDIT
                                                             Columns 00001 00072
           SQL QUERY -
       000001 -- AFTER USING THE 'Q' LINE COMMAND TO FORMAT THE QUERY AND PROVIDE 000002 -- ADEQUATE ROOM TO APPEND 'AS' STATEMENTS TO RENAME COLUMNS IN QMF
000003 SELECT
               ID AS PERSONAL_IDENTIFICATION,
"NAME",
000004
000005
000006
               DEPT AS DEPARTMENT_REPORTING_TO,
000007
               JOB,
               "YEARS"
800000
               SALARY,
000009
000010
               COMM AS COMMISSION
000011 FROM
000012
               Q.STAFF
```

Figure 6-21 Enhancing our query

In our modified query, we added a couple of comment lines and renamed a few columns with the AS clause. It is far more readable and gives a better sense of how the columns are separated with a comma.

**Important:** No comma is used after the last column in the list.

So, how do we run this query? If we use the standard ISPF editor, we return to QMF (PF3) and run it from QMF. Instead, we look at the synergy that is available with QMF Enhanced Editor and QMF instead. Go up to the action bars at the top of the panel and click **Actions**, as shown in Figure 6-22.

```
File Edit Settings Menu Utilities Actions Test Help
                                             T SQL QUERY - GEORGE.REDBOOKQ
                                                                        s 00001 00072
QMF EDIT
000001 -- USE Q LINE COMMAND, OR QQ FO 000002 -- ADEQUATE ROOM TO APPEND 'AS'
                                                                        OVIDE
                                                                        NS IN QMF
000003 SELECT
                ID AS PERSONAL_IDENTIFI
"NAME",
000004
000005
000006
000007
                DEPT AS DEPARTMENT_REPORTING_TO,
               JOB,
"YEARS",
000008
000009
000010
               SALARY, COMMISSION
000011 FROM
000012
000013 --
               Q.STAFF
000014
                                                                  Rows 000 cols 000
PREVIEW
```

Figure 6-22 Running the query from the action bar

We can run the query directly by clicking **Run object** from the QMF Enhanced Editor without ending our edit session, as shown in Figure 6-23. Certain QMF options are not available when you use the QMF Enhanced Editor, such as pressing PF9 from query results to invoke QMF forms.

REPORT				LINE 1	POS 1	79
PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION	NAME	DEPARTMENT REPORTING TO	JOB	YEARS	SALARY	COMMISSION
10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140 150 160 170	SANDERS PERNAL MARENGHI O'BRIEN HANES QUIGLEY ROTHMAN JAMES KOONITZ PLOTZ NGAN NAUGHTON YAMAGUCHI FRAYE WILLIAMS MOLINARE KERMISCH ABRAHAMS SNEIDER	20 20 38 38 15 38 15 20 42 42 15 38 42 51 10 15	CLERK SALES MGR CLERK CLERK CLERK MGR	5 6 10	18357.50 18171.25 17506.75 18006.00 20659.80 16808.30 16502.83 13504.60 18001.75 18352.80 12508.20 12954.75 10505.90 21150.00 19456.50 22959.20 12258.50 12009.75 14252.75	846.55 650.25 1152.00 128.20 1386.70 - 206.60
200 1=Help 2= 7=Backward 8=			CLERK 4=Print 10=Left		11508.60 =Chart =Right	84.20 6=Query 12=
OK, this is the REPORT from your RUN command.  COMMAND ===> PAGE						

Figure 6-23 Viewing query results from within the QMF Enhanced Editor

Different colors highlight various sections of the query examples, such as SELECT and AS. You can customize the color settings for different QMF statements and messages by clicking **Settings**, as shown in Figure 6-24.

```
File Edit
              Settings Menu Utilities Actions
QMF EDIT
                  1. Edit settings
                                                               columns 00001 00072
                  2. Color settings
3. Format settings
                                                      *********
000001 -- U
                                                      O FORMAT AND PROVIDE
                  4. Preview area size
                                                      TO RENAME COLUMNS IN QMF
000003 SELE
                  5. Toggle parentheses matching
000004
000005
000006
                DEPT AS DEPARTMENT_REPORTING_TO,
000007
                JOB,
"YEARS",
800000
000009
                SALARY
                COMM AS COMMISSION
000010
000011 FROM
000012
000013 --
                Q.STAFF
000014
                                                               Rows 000 cols 000
PREVIEW
```

Figure 6-24 The settings action bar option

From the Settings menu, select **Color Settings**. You are presented with a set of colors to choose from. You can assign them to particular areas of a query, as shown in Figure 6-25.

```
Color Settings
Update color settings of syntax elements by typing over associated color
and pressing Enter. Clear the color field to restore to green default.
  Syntax element
                         Color
                                   Example
  Identifiers . . . .
                                  STAFF "NAME"
  YELLOW
                                   SELECT WHERE LIST
                                   MIN MAX
  Functions
                                  'STRING'
                                  --COMMENT /* */
                         YELLOW
                                  + * < OR
                         BLUE
                                   12345
  Numeric constants .
   Variables . . . . .
                         WHITE
                                   &INPUT
Remove coloring altogether by selecting the Remove option or return to the
default settings by selecting the Defaults option.
Enter End to save changes or Cancel to exit without saving.
                                                      Defaults Remove
Command ===>
```

Figure 6-25 Color option settings

Use of color can greatly enhance your work with the editor. So many new features and functions are available with the QMF Enhanced Editor, but we cannot cover all of them in this book.

We want to show you one more option. Figure 6-24 shows an option to specify preview area size. PREVIEW is an option in the new QMF Enhanced Editor to provide a small subset of the rows from a query so that the user can browse the results to see whether the results are what they really want. It executes a **FETCH** command and specifies a maximum of 100 rows to return.

We start with a new query and go against the Q.STAFF table one more time, but we do not run the query. Instead, we click **Actions**  $\rightarrow$  **Preview report**. A subset of data is returned, as shown in Figure 6-26.

<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u>	<u>E</u> dit	<u>S</u> ettings	<u>M</u> enu <u>U</u> ti	lities	<u>A</u> ctions	<u>T</u> est <u>H</u> elp		
QMF EDIT		QUERY -			-£ D-+-		olumns 00001 0007	_
000001 SI				Top	of Data			^ ^
000001	ELECT	*						
000003 FI	ROM							
000004		Q.STAFF						
000005								
PREVIEW	RES	ULTS				R	ows 035 Cols 007	
TREVIEW	KES	0213				'	Monor	+
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	•
	ID	NAME	DEPT	JOB	-YEARS	SALARY	COMM	
1	10	SANDERS	20	MGR	7	18357.50	_	
2	20	PERNAL	20	SALES	8	18171.25	612.45	
3	30	MARENGHI	38	MGR	5	17506.75	_	
4	40	O'BRIEN	38	SALES	6	18006.00	846.55	
5	50	HANES	15	MGR	10	20659.80		
<u>6</u>	60	QUIGLEY	38	SALES	Ξ.	16808.30	650.25	
7	70	ROTHMAN	15	SALES	7	16502.83	1152.00	
8	80	JAMES	20	CLERK	_	13504.60	128.20	
Command =	===>						_ Scroll ===> <u>CSR</u>	

Figure 6-26 The PREVIEW panel in the QMF Enhanced Editor

We can browse the data to see whether the data is what we intended to query or merely to get a sense for the values and format that are returned. The size of the preview area can be customized through the Settings action bar menu, with a default that fits the size of your terminal. A size of 0 turns off the preview area so that all lines are available for editing.

One exciting feature in the QMF Enhanced Editor is the capability to prompt for columns or values of columns. In Figure 6-27, we added a WHERE clause to our query to illustrate this function. If we place the cursor under the column, SALARY is highlighted. If we either press Enter or use the mouse (double-click, if enabled), we see that SALARY is highlighted in reverse video. A list of columns that are available to add to our WHERE clause shows in the preview area underneath. Select or double-click one of the listed columns to replace SALARY in the WHERE clause.

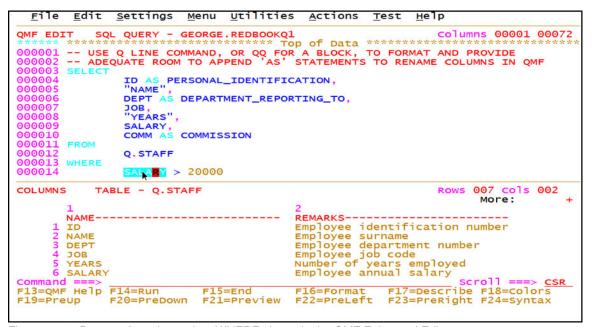


Figure 6-27 Prompts for columns in a WHERE clause in the QMF Enhanced Editor

Also, QMF can display a list of values for a column with a mouse double-click (or position the cursor and press Enter), as shown in Figure 6-28. A range of values is returned in the preview area so that we get a sense of how large or small the values that we want to use to delimit our search are. You can double-click a value in the preview area to replace the value that is in reverse video in your query.

```
File Edit Settings Menu Utilities
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                <u>A</u>ctions
QMF EDIT SQL QUERY - GEORGE.REDBOOKQ1 OK, values displant to severe the severe common of the 
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                OK, values displayed
                                                                                   ID AS PERSONAL_IDENTIFICATION,
"NAME".
                                                                                  DEPT AS DEPARTMENT_REPORTING_TO,
                                                                                   JOB,
"YEARS"
                                                                                  SALARY,
COMM AS COMMISSION
  000011 FROM
000012
000013 WHERE
                                                                                  Q.STAFF
                                                                               SALARY > 20000
                                                      COLUMN - Q.STAFF.SALARY
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      Rows 035 cols 001
VALUES
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       More:
                                      SALARY----
                           1 10505.90
2 10988.00
3 11508.60
4 12009.75
                            5 12258.50
6 12508.20
                                                                    F14=Run F15=End F16=Format F17=Describe F18=Colors F20=PreDown F21=Preview F22=PreLeft F23=PreRight F24=Syntax
F13=QMF Help F14=Run
F19=PreUp
```

Figure 6-28 Prompts for value ranges in the WHERE clause

If you click the mouse on a table name, it lists tables from the owner. In our example (Figure 6-29), we use the owner that is named Q. Therefore, when we place the cursor under the table name or use the mouse, we see a list of tables that are owned by Q.

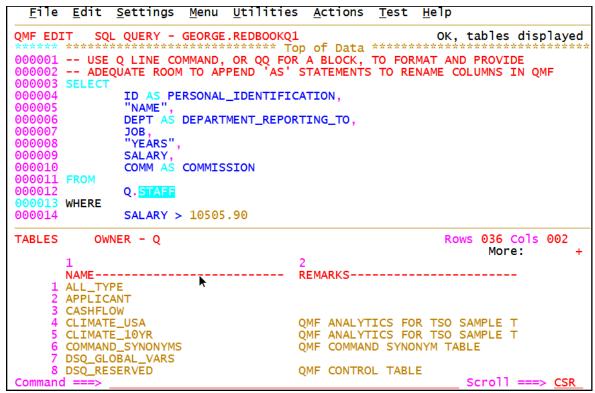


Figure 6-29 Query Assist for a table that shows other tables that are owned by Q

We end with a description of global variables. We recommend that you use the QMF Enhanced Editor for future QMF query and procedure work. If you are not an ISPF user, ISPF takes a small amount of getting used to, but it is worth it.

QMF has a growing pool of global variables that are used to set values and options for common use or for an individual's use. For the QMF Enhanced Editor, focus on two global variables, as shown in Figure 6-30. To see them, use the **SHOW GLOBAL** command in QMF and scroll until you see the variables.

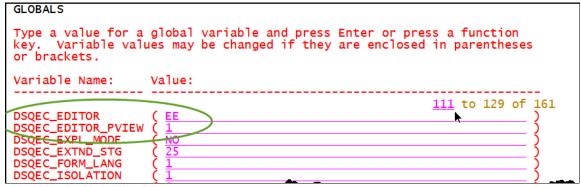


Figure 6-30 Global variables for the QMF Enhanced Editor settings

Set DSQEC\_EDITOR to EE to invoke the QMF Enhanced Editor for queries and procedures. Then, the user enters EDIT [query/proc], and the QMF Enhanced Editor is invoked.

DSQEC\_EDITOR\_PVIEW can be set to 0 to prevent the use of the preview area. A QMF administrator can use this global variable to prevent users from using "Preview area size" by setting the variable to 0 and stopping users from changing this variable.

**Note:** If you set the DSQEC\_EDITOR\_PVIEW global variable to 0 to disable the preview, when the QMF Enhanced Editor is used next, it sets the user's preview area size setting to 0. Then, if the DSQEC\_EDITOR\_PVIEW is set to 1, the user must change the preview area size setting from 0 before the preview area is shown.

#### Summary

A conscious effort was made to enhance all elements of the QMF family, including the TSO interface, so that existing and new users find value in its use and application as an enterprise business intelligence and analytics tool.

The TSO enhancements evolved from a series of user requests and satisfy many outstanding requirements. If you are not a user with extended analytics and graphics needs, the QMF Enhanced Editor can make you far more productive. If you need more analysis within QMF and a need to present your results in a more graphical fashion, use the query analytics capability.

We hope you are interested enough and excited enough to explore the other reference materials about both new features that we referenced. We barely introduced the functions that are available in both new options.





# **Additional material**

This book refers to additional material that can be downloaded from the internet as described in the following sections.

## Locating the web material

The web material that is associated with this book is available in softcopy on the internet from the IBM Redbooks web server. Point your web browser at this website:

ftp://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redbooks/SG248370

Alternatively, you can go to the IBM Redbooks website:

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## Downloading and extracting the web material

Create a subdirectory (folder) on your workstation, and extract the contents of the web material compressed file into this folder.

# **Related publications**

The publications listed in this section are considered particularly suitable for a more detailed discussion of the topics covered in this book.

# **IBM** support and publications

For more information, see the following website:

► DB2 Query Management Facility Library:

http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27048346

For more information, see the following documents:

- ► Getting Started with DB2 QMF Vision, GC27-8805-01
- ▶ DB2 QMF Data Service Getting Started Guide, GC27-8806-01
- ▶ DB2 QMF Data Service Customization Guide, GC27-8807-01
- ▶ DB2 QMF Data Service Solutions Guide, GC27-8808-01
- ▶ DB2 QMF Data Service Studio User's Guide, SC27-8816-01
- ► Installing and Managing DB2 QMF for Workstation and DB2 QMF for WebSphere, GC27-6742-02

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SG24-8370-00 ISBN 0738442046

Printed in U.S.A.















