

# PYRAMID 2018.03



APRIL 2018 RELEASE

The April release of Pyramid brings a big list of over 40 new features and functional upgrades, designed to make Pyramid's **Analytics OS** the leading solution for customers wishing to deploy a comprehensive, end-user driven data analytics platform.

## Headline Features

**NEW DATASOURCES:** Several new data stack intergrations, espically new direct query support for Google Big Query and Snowflake, which can both be used as destinations for data models and mash-ups.

Uptick: Big Query and Snowflake are both leading cloud-based technologies for building data lakes and classic warehousing functionality. Pyramid becomes a tremendous enabler of these data stacks by providing native connectivity to these technologies (including direct querying), and allowing them to act as targets for data mash-ups and modeling.

**GUIDED ACTIONS:** New tools to add 'actions' to all levels of reporting and dashboarding for guided analytic applications.

Uptick: The use of 'guided analytics' is a key capability in democratizing the use of analytics in daily decision making. By simplifying the consumption of reporting, Pyramid's new Actions engine will allow users to add dynamic content links and jump points with speed and flexibility to make the pathway through analytic content easier and more productive.

**CODE EDITOR:** New code editing tools in the Formulite tools to allow advanced users to construct PQL and MDX formulations.

Uptick: Pyramid's Formulite toolset allows non-technical users to constrcut advanced business logic calculations, lists, KPIs, parameters and scripts using a point-and-click interface. The new code editor extends this functionality with an "IDE" for advanced users to write both PQL and MDX statements complete with drag-and-drop function libraries and meta-data models.

**DATA LINEAGE:** A new data lineage tool for better ways to see the inter-relationship between content on the platform and understand the knock-on impact of changes.

Uptick: In large, highly diffuse deployments, the management of analytic content can be a major challenge when users create and maintain content on a self-service basis .The new lineage tool allows administrators and users to see how elements of the platform are connected and how changing one or more items may affect other elements up or downstream.

**EXTENSIBILITY:** A variety of new extensibility features make the consumption of content easier and more accessible, including Direct URL loading on content with parameterization and new query extraction APIs.

Uptick: Being able to access Pyramid content outside of the standard Pro or Viewer clients allows organizations to deploy reports and analyses in formats that best suit the consumer. Being able to load content directly via URL (or as an embedded element) and being able to parameterize its content, makes alternative viewing options a strong option. Likewise, being able to programmatically extract query results and inject them into other business processes provides an alternative avenue for consuming analytic results.

## AT A GLANCE

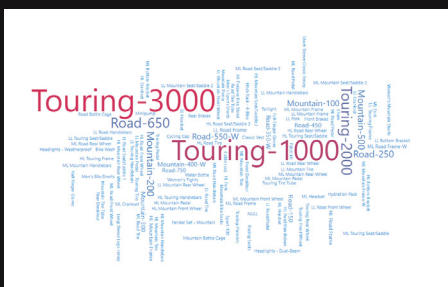
**Management:** New data lineage and multi-tenancy options provide better tools for governance and content management. New data sources expands compatability with more organizational BI initiatives. Better adoption with multiple feature upgrades for all other stakeholders.

**Citizen Data Scientists & Business Users:** Upgraded data visualizations options with new tools for creating calcuations improves usability and analytic depth. New export tools for consuming results in other venues als expands the footprint of the solution while added abilities to use Python and R and data sources provides a new avenues for data ingestion.

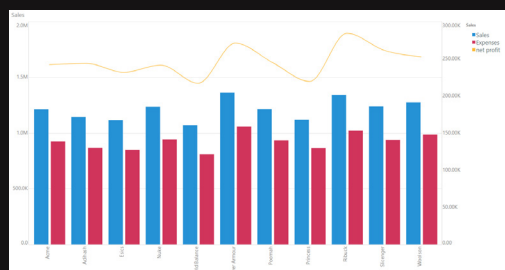
**Developers:** New application design options with guided actions. New code editors can also amplify sophisticated logic design and deployment. New APIs greatly improve the extensibility footprint and capabilities.

**Admins:** Support for Oracle as a respository and Open LDAP expand the solution scope for the platform. New acceleration tools for management, like provisioning and the scheduler, make administration faster and efficient.

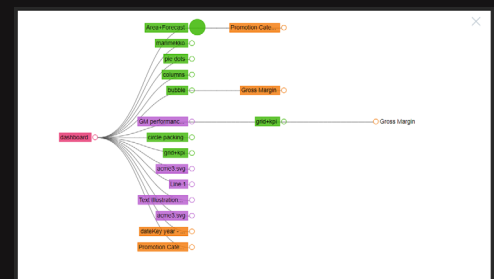
Word Cloud



Multi-Value Charts



Data Lineage



## Client

### Main Application

- New In-application interactive tutorials for introduction to Discover and Present
- New Help and Support Panel

Adoption

Learn the application quicker. Immersive quick tutorials to ramp up first time users into the how the application works

Adoption

Easier access to help and support resources

### Data Processing

#### Data Flow

- New data sources: Google Analytics (ingest only), Google Big Query (ingest and direct query), Snowflake (ingest and direct query), Pyramid content as a source (all content from both SQL and MDX sources), R and Python as data sources.
- New data targets: Google Big Query, Snowflake
- New MS Tabular modeling option for MS SQL Server based databases
- 6 new marketplace scripts for improved data cleansing and processing

Data Acquisition

Increased data access options. New options for accessing more data, means bringing more of the organization's data footprint under a single tent.

Data Acquisition

Increased data modeling options. Extending the ability to build models to alternative technologies, give organizations broader latitude in picking their preferred data stack technology without compromising the analytics platform toolset.

Data Acquisition

Providing MS data stack customers extended capabilities within their chosen data ecosystem

Advanced Analytics

New advanced scripting in Python made simple with point-and-click access to logic for advanced data cleansing tasks.

#### Data Modeling

- Upgraded Relationship table editor – with the ability to set quick measures and formats, as well as hierarchy types

Data Acquisition

Easier data modeling tools. Better ways to describe the data models makes it easier to analyze them later in the Discovery tools.

### Discover

- New slicer types: tree slicer and button (single/multi) slicers
- Measure Group Filtering
- New support for measure driven lists and sets
- Upgraded printing engine to support printing of Geospatial mapping content
- New 'actions' engine for extensible analysis in Discover
- New support for MS SSAS defined Actions

Analytics

New slice visualization options improve user experience and presentation capabilities

Analytics

Simplification feature to better explain the relationship between a model's tables and metrics. Often used to filter the "noise" in a model out of the current analysis.

Analytics

Simplification feature that allows users to easily swap out metrics in a specific visual using an alternative from a slicer drop down.

Analytics

Ability to print all analytical content, including maps

Extensibility

Actions are a major extensibility option for guided analytics. They greatly enhance the extensibility of the analytics platform by offering users a prescribed option to "bounce" from one analysis to the next in a guided process.

Extensibility

Support for URL, Drillthrough and Rowset actions defined in MS OLAP cubes and Tabular models

<b>Improved Visualization Options:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Word Cloud Visualization</li> </ul>	Visualizations	New ways of representing data make it easier for end users to digest information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-value charts for multiple measures on the same axis</li> </ul>	Visualizations	Improved visualization option, to give users the flexibility to create the exact charting visual their analysis demands.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Axis settings to better control axis numeric formats and axis scale ranges</li> </ul>	Visualizations	Better control over chart settings and display - improving the quality of the visualization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New common axis settings to collapse shared axes in trellised charts (both X and Y)</li> </ul>	Visualizations	Better control over chart settings and display - improving the quality of the visualization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New line style settings for line charts and hover-over data labelling</li> </ul>	Visualizations	Better control over chart settings and display - improving the quality of the visualization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved legends for trend lines</li> </ul>	Visualizations	Better control over chart settings and display - improving the quality of the visualization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New chart animation for column, bar, scatter and bubble charts when added to Presentations</li> </ul>	Visualizations	Better control over chart settings and display - improving the quality of the visualization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgraded KPI and Gauge visualizations</li> </ul>	Visualizations	Improved KPI and Gauge representations
<b>Present</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New presentation timer and auto refresh option</li> </ul>	Analytics	New self-refreshing capability for self-running dashboards and presentations. The new feature allows dashboards to auto-refresh or cycle with new data.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New 'actions' engine for extensible analysis and to build guided analytic steps into dashboards</li> </ul>	Extensibility	Actions are a major extensibility option for guided analytics. They greatly enhance the extensibility of the analytics platform by offering users a prescribed option to "bounce" from one analysis to the next in a guided process.
<b>Publish</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New content captioning options</li> </ul>	Analytics	Better way to annotate and explain visual and analytic content included in publications.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New distribution list uploader for automated content distribution</li> </ul>	Analytics	Improved functionality to allow automated distribution of published content based on the slicer or filter values used to generate the publication itself.
<b>Formulate</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New PQL and MDX editing tools for Formula, List Builder, KPI builder and Parameter Builder. Includes full drag-and-drop function libraries and model metadata explorers.</li> </ul>	Advanced Analytics	Advanced functionality to allow BI developers and citizen data scientists to design and create advanced logical formulations and lists.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgraded MDX custom member and set properties (scope, solve order, color, parent element)</li> </ul>	Advanced Analytics	Advanced functionality to allow BI developers and citizen data scientists to design and create advanced logical formulations and lists.
<b>Content Management &amp; Governance</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Lineage tool for viewing inter-relationships between shared content items across the platform</li> </ul>	Governance	Better visibility of content creation, content use/reuse, and the inter-relationship between different content elements of the platform
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New ability to print/export content to XML, JSON and CSV</li> </ul>	Extensibility	Extending how data can be extracted from the application for broader usage in other organizational workflows and applications

- New ability to add cross-tenant roles for content access
- New metadata settings for data sources: Ability to set/edit hierarchy and measure extended properties
- New ability to set MS OLAP and SAP Hana server security access.

- Governance Providing more options for multi-tenant scenarios and share-ability of content
- Analytics End-user or role-based customization of data models makes data easier to understand and more accessible for end users
- Analytics End-user or role-based customization of third party models makes it easier to manage data

## Deployment & Backend

### Administrative Tools

- New user auto-provisioning engine and scheduler for Active Directory – to automatically add/remove users in the platform based on groups in Active Directory
- Upgraded user and role management tools with facilities for user/role list uploads
- New multitenancy features to support cross-tenant content and cross-tenant roles
- New settings to control help and support settings
- New options to control exit process from application
- New Schedule viewer for admins to see all existing schedules for Publications and Data Modeling

- Governance Accelerator and scaling option for large deployments using Active Directory, by allowing auto-sync of users in Pyramid based on Active Directory security groups.
- Governance Accelerator for simpler deployments, that still require the addition of sizable user lists
- Governance New capabilities to cater for alternative “multi-tenant” scenarios. Especially useful for cross tenant sharing of common content.
- Adoption Granular control for administrators to manage what help and support options are available to their end users.
- Governance Granular control for administrators on the application exit experience
- Governance Comprehensive tools for administrators to see all running tasks on the platform. Provides better resource management and governance

### Server Functionality

- New performance based load balancing option - to complement existing round-robin option

- Deployment Better option for performance generated load balancing plans. Better usage of the hardware and software resources in the deployment topology.

### APIs

- New URL based content parameterization options
- New REST APIs for content parameterization from inside JavaScript
- New APIs for content management and programmable query execution

- Extensibility URL based report launching greatly simplifies access to content in many deployment scenarios. Parameterization extends this feature with the ability to change query settings used in the reports.
- Extensibility Extends the URL parameterization capabilities to JavaScript API functions. This will be best used in custom applications hosting embedded content.
- Extensibility New options to launch queries from the API and extract results into CSV, JSON or XML data formats. This extensibility option will facilitate broader programmatic usage of data result sets in other organizational workflows and applications

### Infrastructural

- Unattended Installer Mode with full option file support

- Deployment Accelerator option for OEM and partners who need to deploy a standardized footprint of the Pyramid platform on a regular basis.

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- Support for Open LDAP and Apache DS LDAP security and authentication engines
- Support for Oracle as the database repository

Deployment

New authentication and authorization options for customers who don't use Active Directory.

Deployment

More choices for repository makes compatibility with existing systems and technologies easier