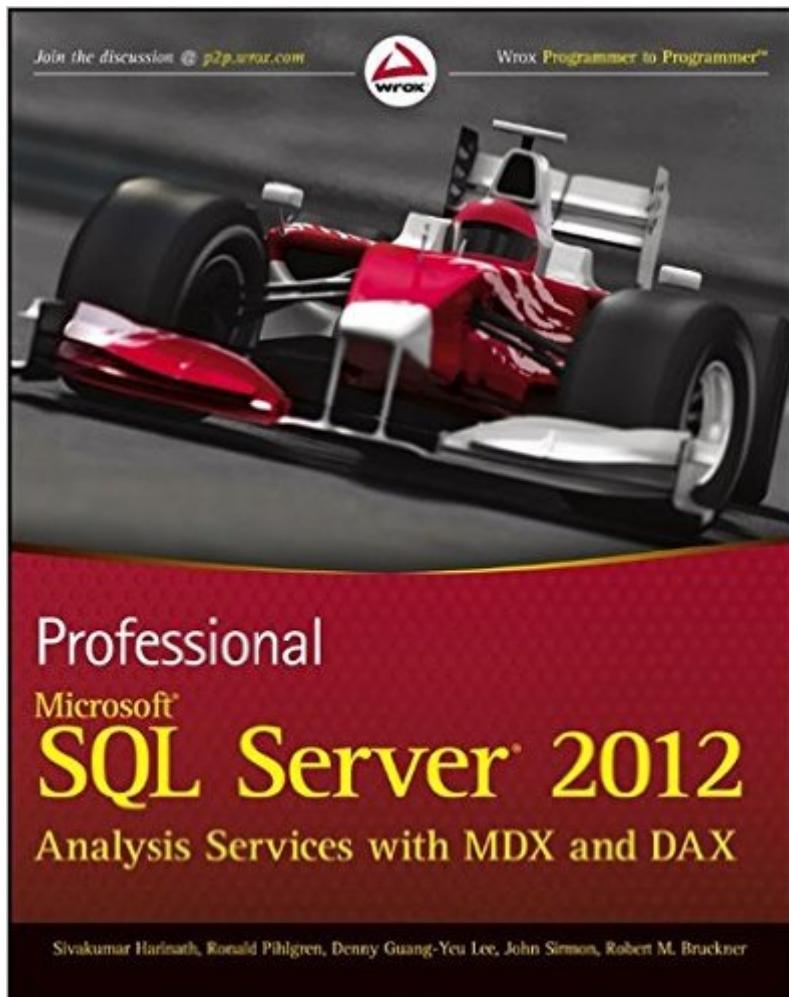


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# Professional Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Analysis Services With MDX And DAX



## Synopsis

Understand Microsoft's dramatically updated new release of its premier toolset for business intelligence. The first major update to Microsoft's state-of-the-art, complex toolset for business intelligence (BI) in years is now available and what better way to master it than with this detailed book from key members of the product's development team? If you're a database or data warehouse developer, this is the expert resource you need to build full-scale, multi-dimensional, database applications using Microsoft's new SQL Server 2012 Analysis Services and related tools. Discover how to solve real-world BI problems by leveraging a slew of powerful new Analysis Services features and capabilities. These include the new DAX language, which is a more user-friendly version of MDX; PowerPivot, a new tool for performing simplified analysis of data; BISM, Microsoft's new Business Intelligence Semantic Model; and much more. Serves as an authoritative guide to Microsoft's new SQL Server 2012 Analysis Services BI product and is written by key members of the Microsoft Analysis Services product development team. Covers SQL Server 2012 Analysis Services, a major new release with a host of powerful new features and capabilities. Topics include using the new DAX language, a simplified, more user-friendly version of MDX; PowerPivot, a new tool for performing simplified analysis of data; BISM, Microsoft's new Business Intelligence Semantic Model; and a new, yet-to-be-named BI reporting tool. Explores real-world scenarios to help developers build comprehensive solutions. Get thoroughly up to speed on this powerful new BI toolset with the timely and authoritative Professional Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Analysis Services with MDX.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Poorly written and incongruous. Examples and work do not start from scratch, but require you to download their version of the db and prebuilt Analysis Cubes, which do not compile. Cube is so complex that there is no hope of troubleshooting it without knowing everything in the book before you start. Book starts with an example of what is possible in MDX without telling you how it works. You do not see how it all fits together and how to create something valuable until you can reach the end of the book. This book is more of a snow job to show you how great the author is, but is not really designed to teach you how to use Analysis Services. When reading the lessons, it goes into great detail telling you how the nuts and bolts behind the scenes work. Book was written to be large so that it would look impressive on your shelf, but trying to find examples that will help you solve a problem, or even getting useful information from this diatribe is practically impossible. It is more a list of disassociated words than it is something that can be read and used. Might as well purchase a dictionary, at least in it the words are ordered. That said, there is some good information in it so it is not a total waste; but, I took a Microsoft class which lasted a week and focused on what was important, and it blew this book away. It started from scratch showing you how to build reports, then how to build the cube and use MDX followed by Tabular models and DAX. Every lesson built upon the previous one, and it started simple and built up to a complex model. They recommended the Microsoft book by Alberto Ferrari. I have ordered it and will rate it after reading and using it, but since the class was based on the Microsoft book I have a feeling that it will be a much better resource.

I have been a Microsoft trainer for 15 years in the BI space. After checking out several books in this genre, I can say this book is underwhelming. Not for beginners. This is an adequate secondary source for reference at best. For the beginner the read through is bad. For example, The critical MDX language chapter has examples with expression tokens that are never explained. Critical concepts around attributes and hierarchies are not explained well. Again, I would use this a reference when needed and turn to other learning resources for true understanding.

IF you ever been down this road before you will appreciate my love/hate for this book. The samples used and even the wonderful cubes built off of the project file do NOT contain the 2012 data within the AdventureWorksDW2012.mdf file samples referenced. All of these databases run up to 2010

and the cube examples have WHERE conditions for Q4, 2011..good luck! I have downloaded 4 different flavors of the 2012 DW to try and match up the data presented in this book. The WROX publisher website sends you in circles to top it off - you will not find the sample database these great authors used. I now have two books that both will provide a warm winter for me...at least until they are fully consumed by the fires they deserve.If you are real new to this subject please do not get this book if you are going to depend on samples as your road map or you too will find yourself in the winter using this book and its companion on SSIS 2012 as fuel.Anyone out there finds the elusive yet appropriate 2012DW respond to this review please!

This will be my first time to use the said product. This book is very detail in the covering all the necessary entry points and pitfalls that you will encounter during the learning process. Please note that it is very hard to know this product, but the book was able to go over the main points. This in turn made the product learnable. If you are serious in using this tool, then this is the book for you. Also I like that you can download from Wrox the necessary materials that are needed for the chapters. This is a big help. Overall this book is priceless.

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