



UNIVERSITY OF  
OREGON

# Outshine with the Superfine Frankenstein Pipeline at Timberline

*Visualizing Cost Per Use in Power BI*

05/2024





# Introductions

- **Lydia Harlan**

Budget Analyst for Collections,  
Discovery, and Digital Strategy

- **Kristin Buxton**

Head of Science Liaisons

- **Gabriele Hayden**

Head of Data Services

# Roadmap

- Why we built a cost per use model in Power BI
- Our iterative process
- Views from our dashboard
- Ongoing work
- Discussion and Questions

## Discussion

- How do you gather usage data?
- Do you do it in house or through a vendor?
- How do you share it?
- Are any of you using Power BI or another data visualization tool?
- If so, what information are you gathering and presenting?

# What Did We Do and Why Did We Do It?

Why: No comprehensive cost per use data, manual usage stats collection, and little analysis

What: Could we use Power BI to create a cost per use model?

Who: “Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.” (Thanks Obama.)

When: May 2022 – May 2023 but also some pre-work starting November 2021.

# A Technical Adventure

We began this project not knowing what technology we needed. We each brought existing skills in Excel, plus

- Lydia: SQL queries in our ILS reporting module (Alma Analytics), access to previous Cost Per Use spreadsheets
- Kristin: former software engineer (mostly C++), a "customer" for the finished project
- Gabriele: basic Power BI and Python

We each contributed based on our skill set.

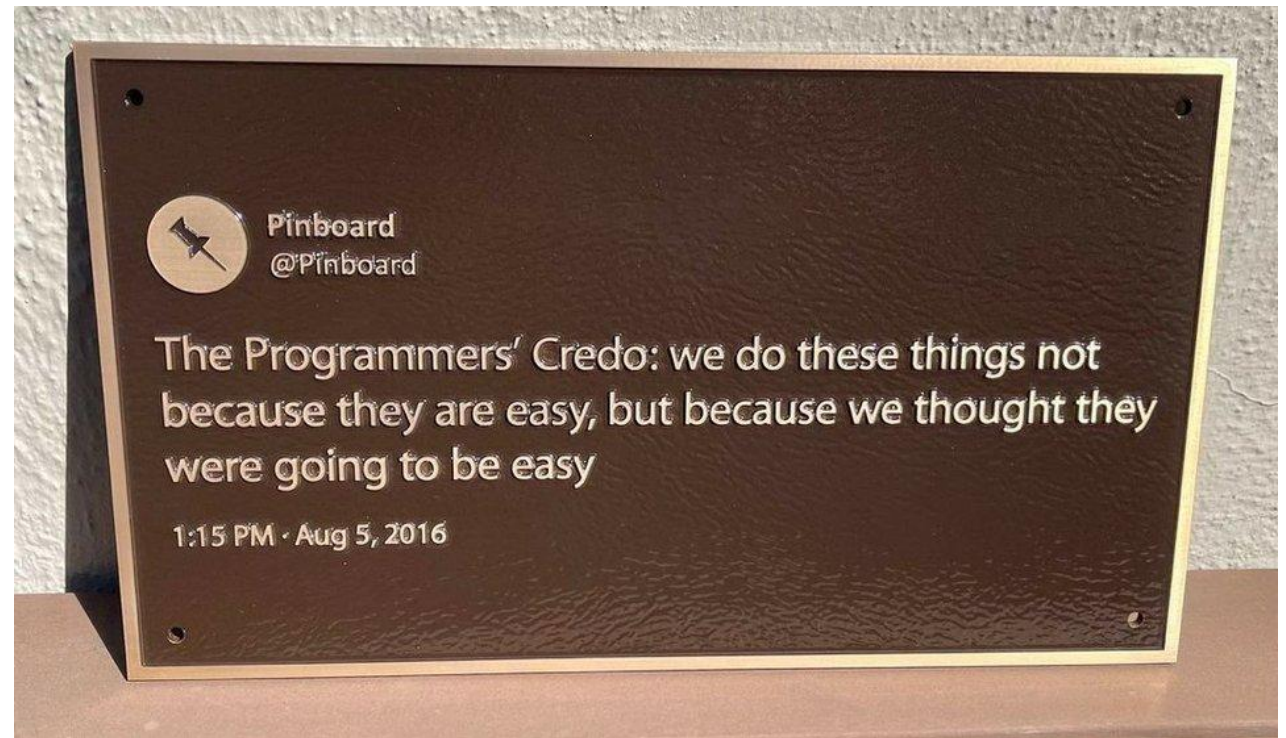
## Along the way we learned

- How APIs work, the SUSHI API protocol
  - reading articles and documentation
- Power BI languages Power Query (M) and DAX
  - 16 hours of formal training, reading documentation, troubleshooting

Plus individual skill development in Python (Gabriele)  
and Alma Analytics (Lydia)

# How

- Get cost
- Get use
- Join, transform data into Cost Per Use
- Turn static data loads into API queries
- Make it look pretty
- Share it
- Use it





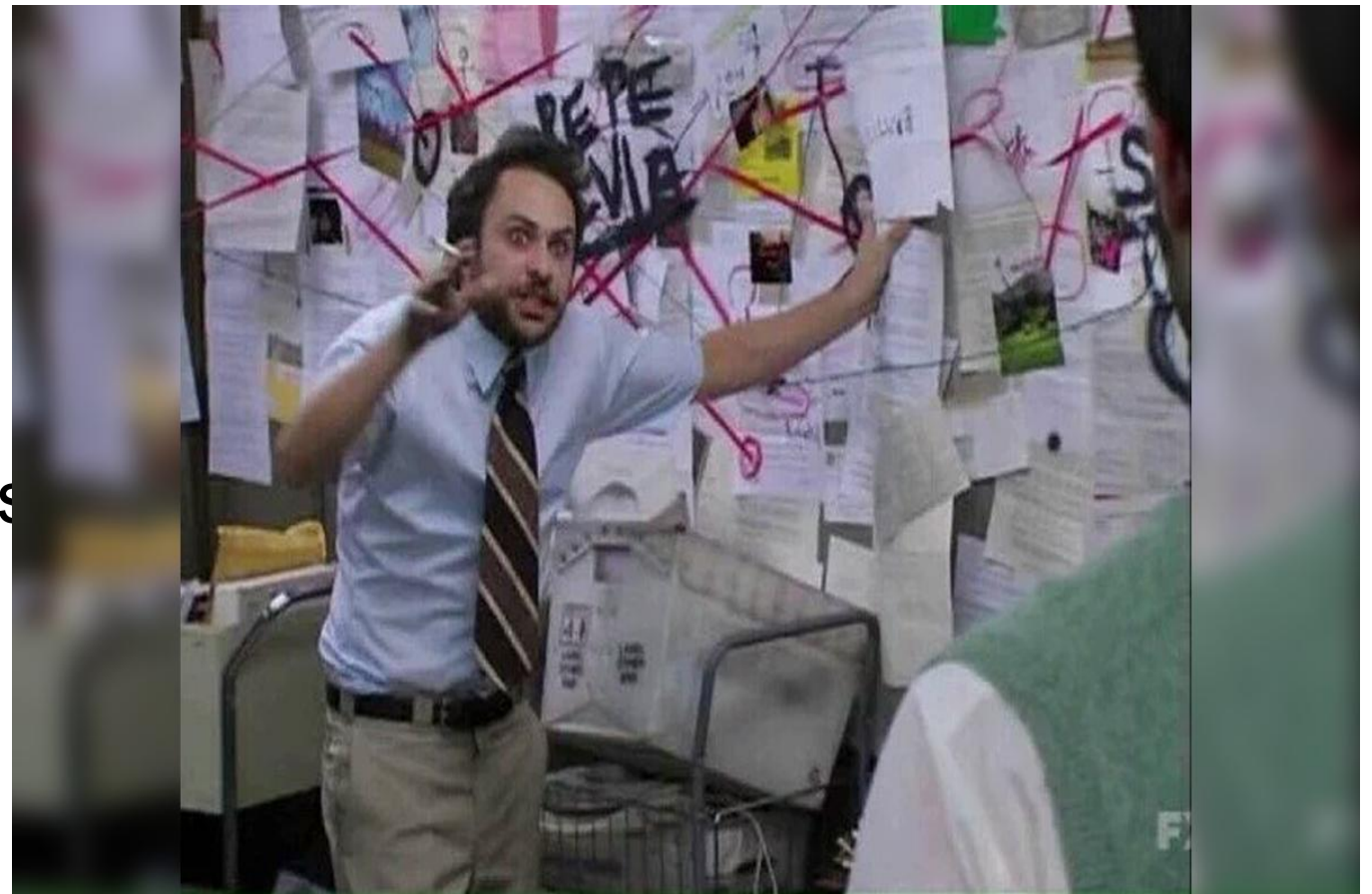
## Wait, how?

It's all connected...somehow.

Disparate documentation.

Documentation is for developers  
not us.

Multiple dependencies.







# Approaches to the Pipeline



# Technical Definitions

- **COUNTER 5**
- **SUSHI**
- **API**

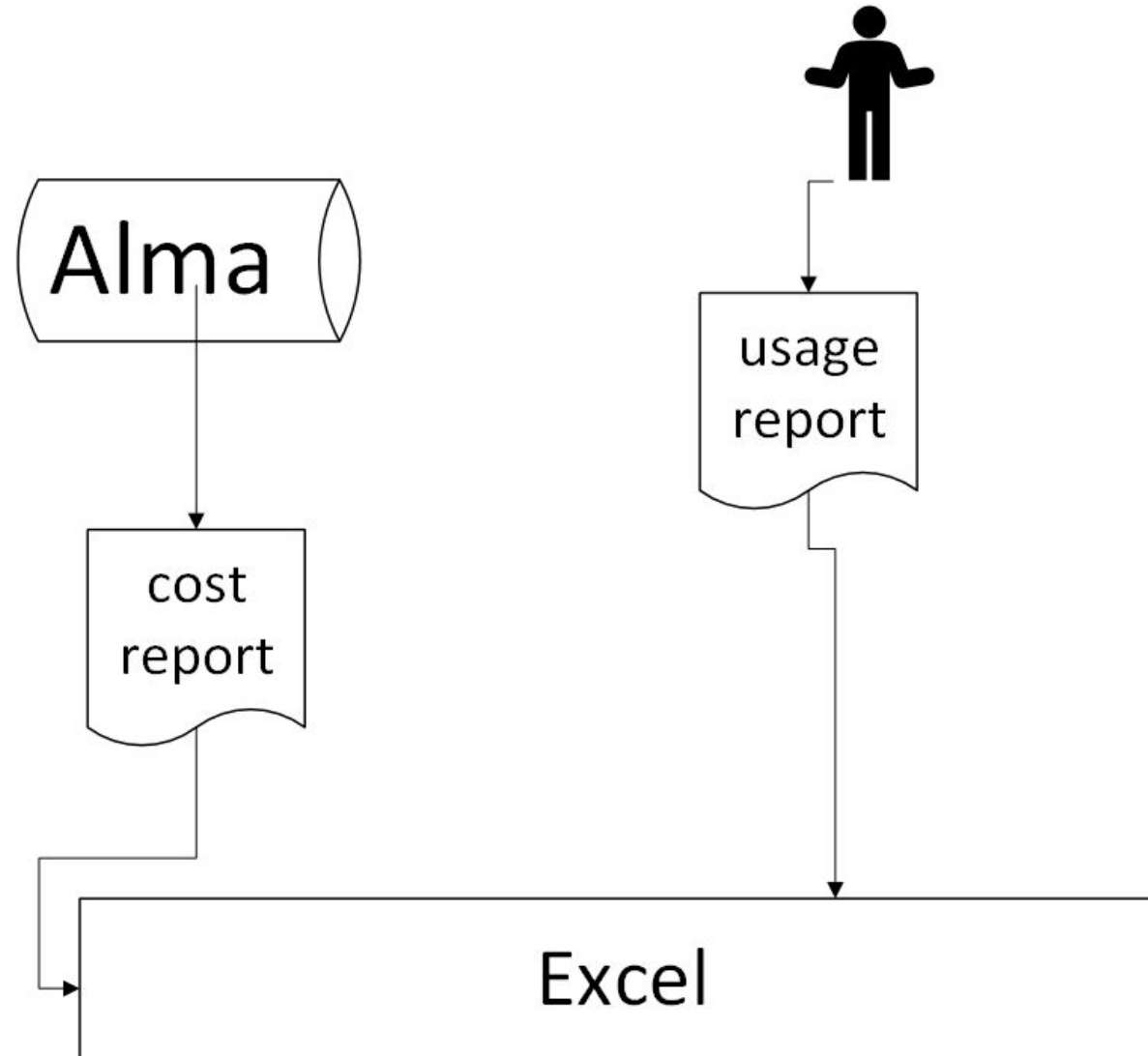


# Technical Definitions

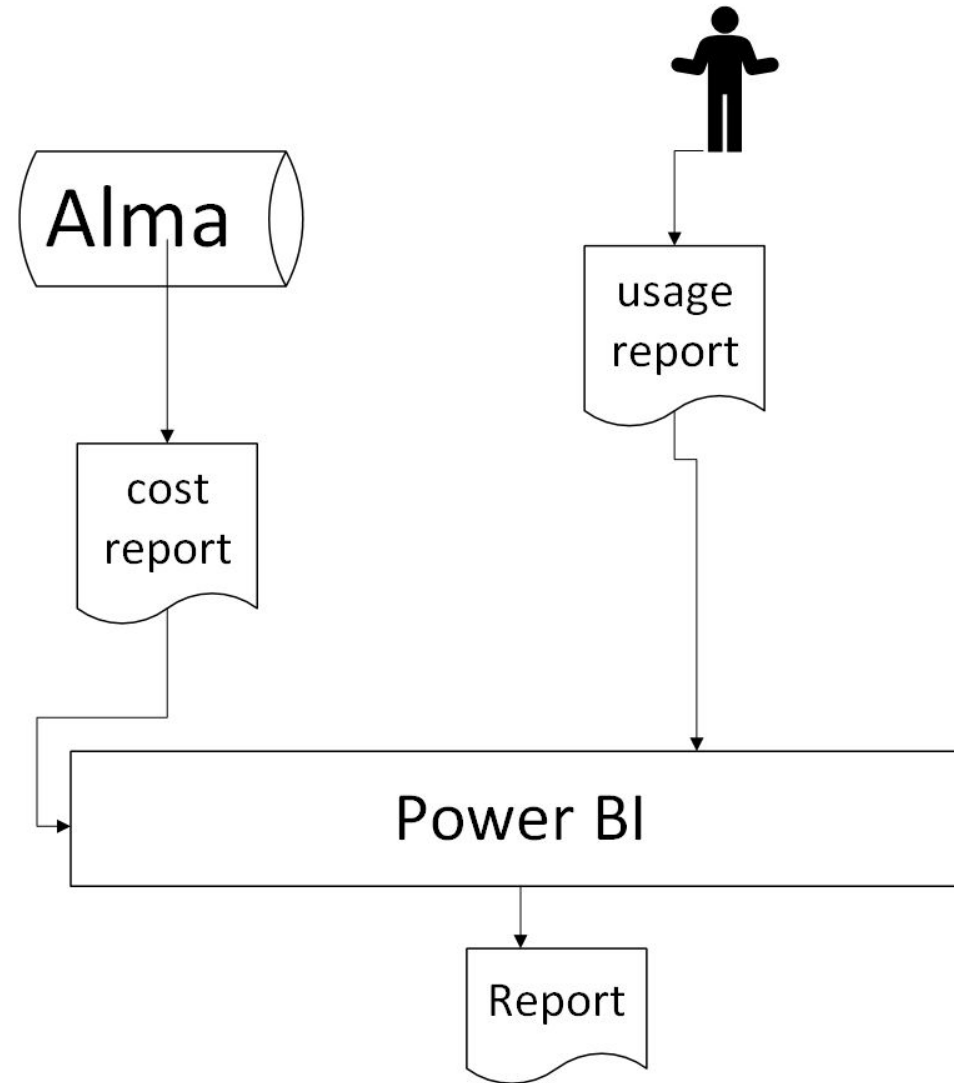
- **COUNTER 5** – Standard for reporting usage statistics for electronic resources
- **SUSHI** – An API for retrieving COUNTER 5 usage reports
- **API** – Application programming interface. A way to exchange data between computers/servers programmatically



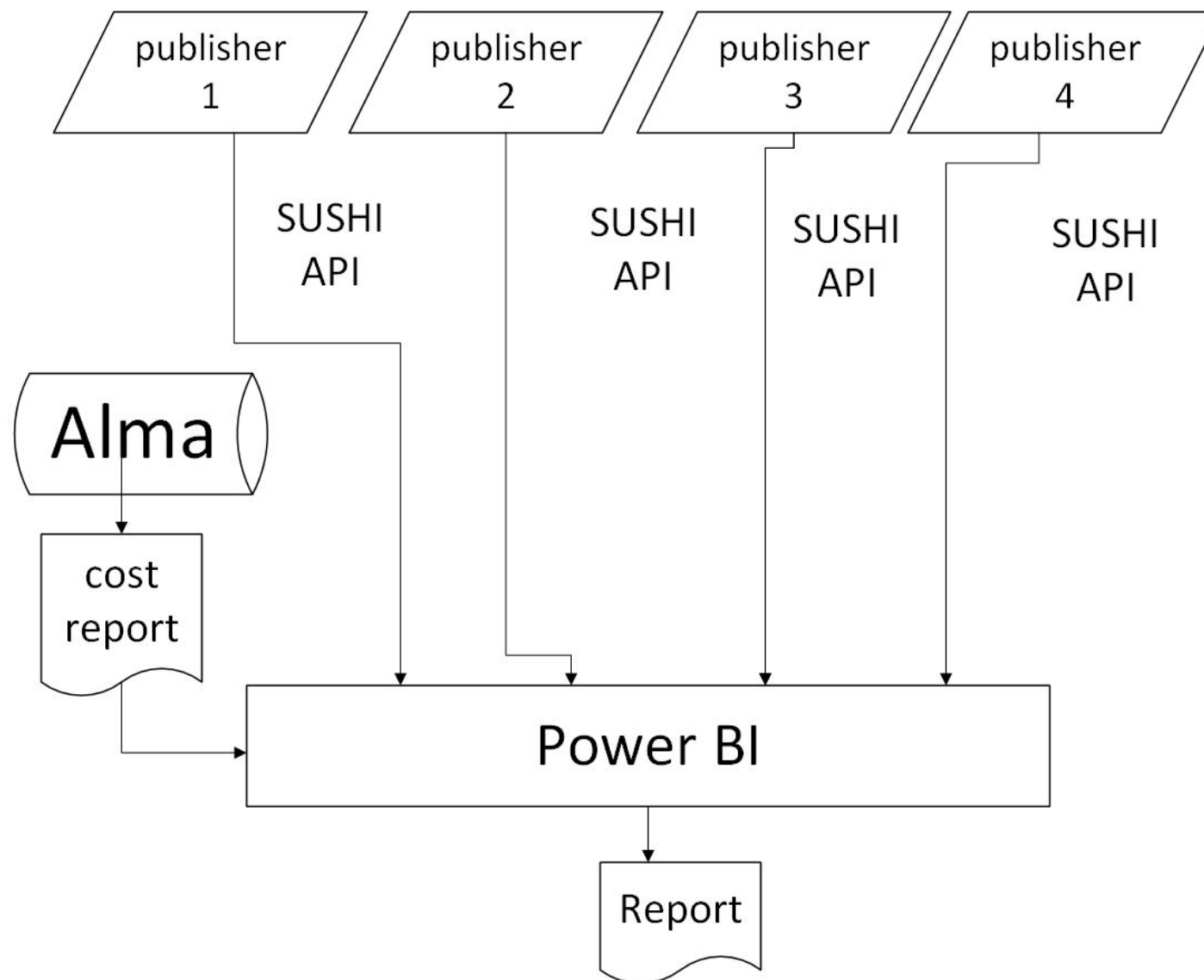
# Proof of concept in Excel



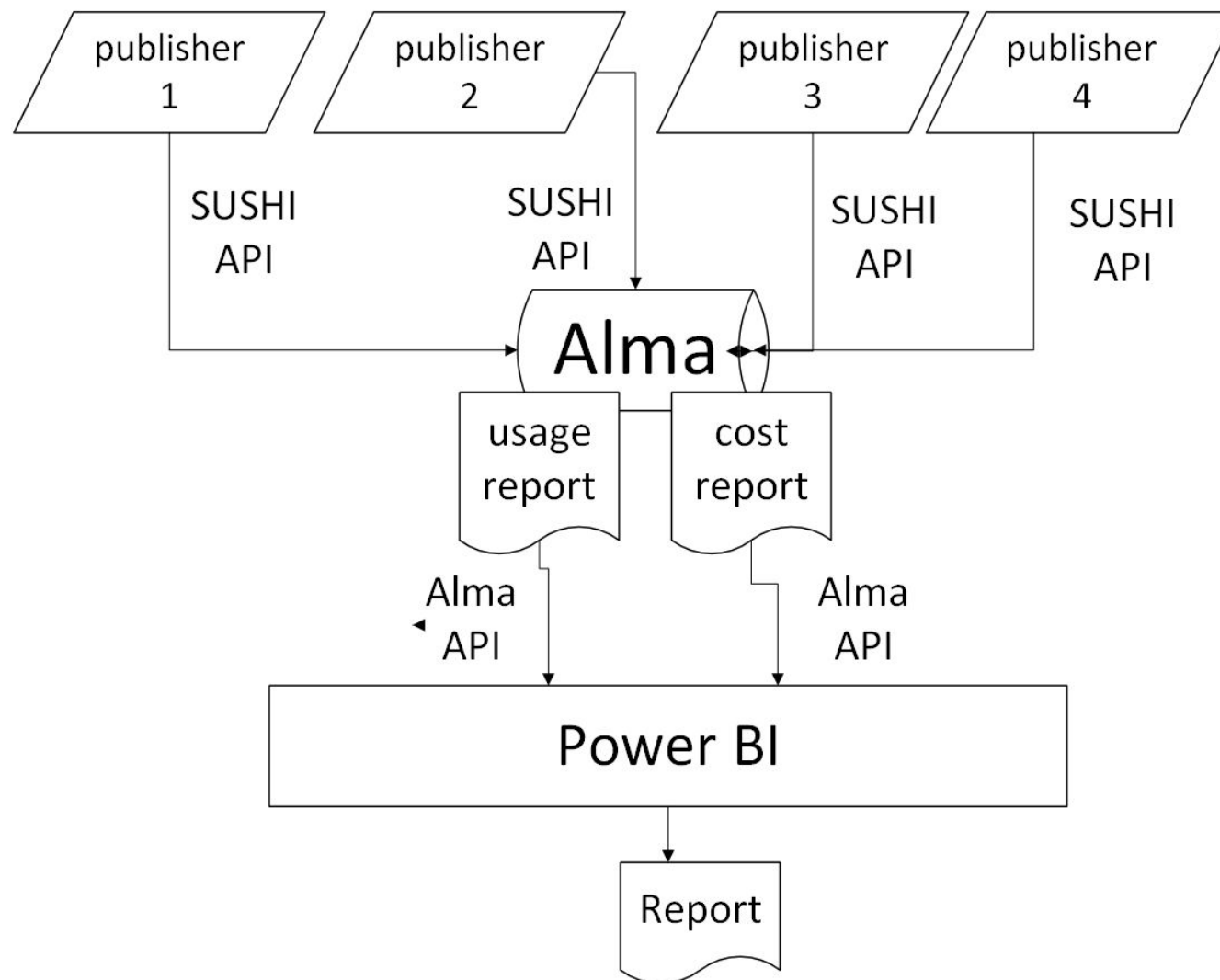
# Proof of concept in Power BI



# Query SUSHI from Power BI?

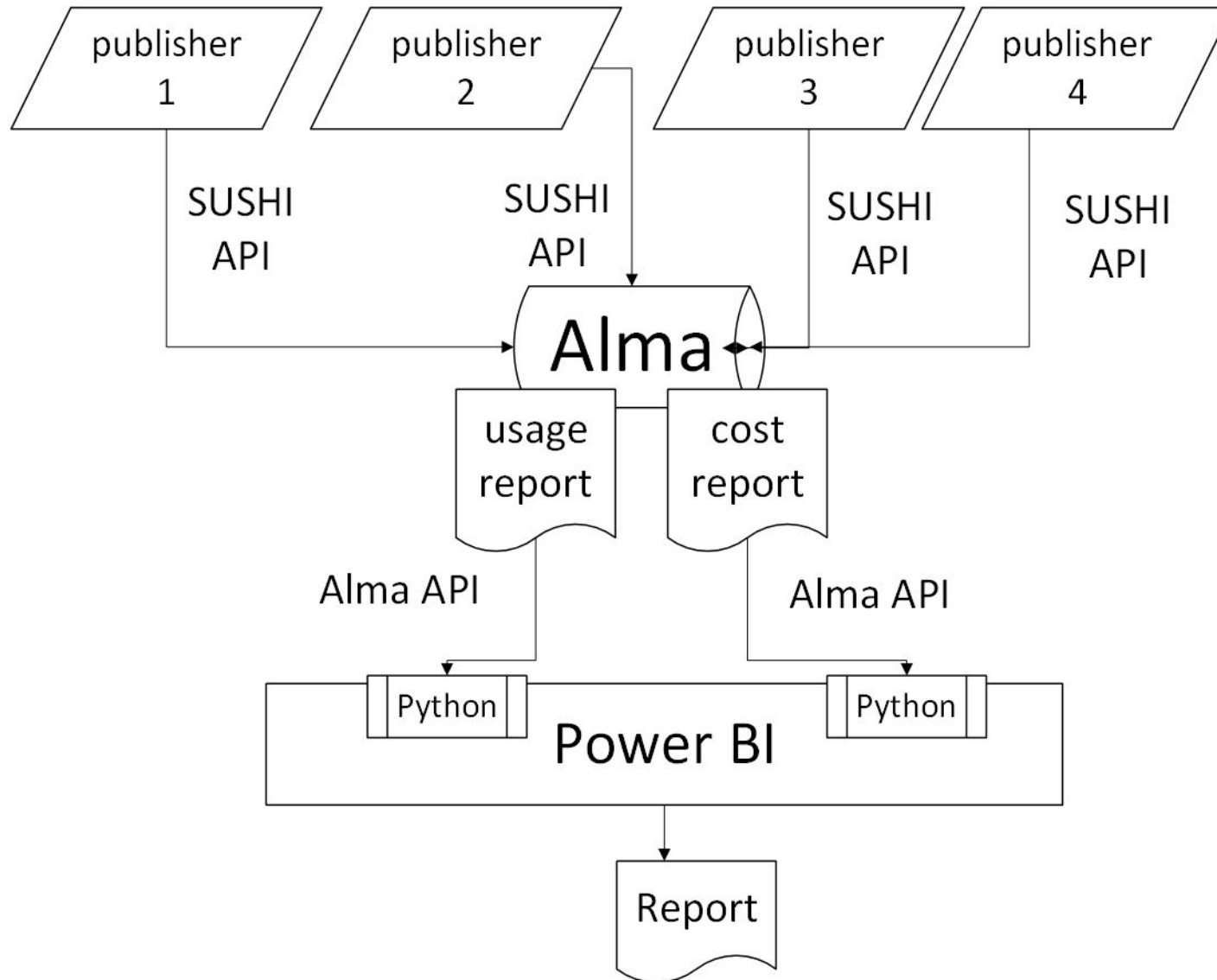


# No! Query SUSHI from Alma





# Solution! Use Python for Power BI query





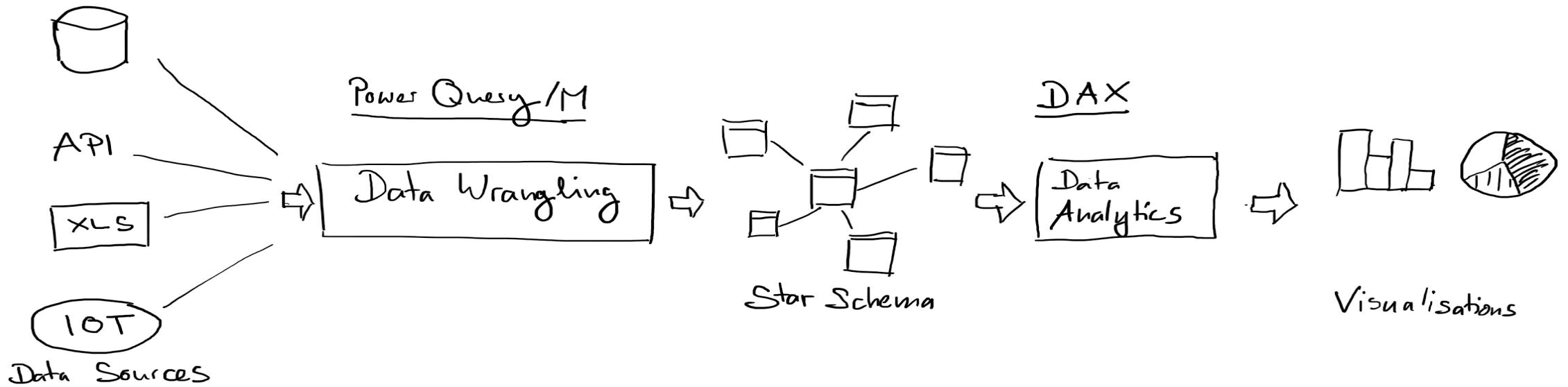


# Our Dashboard





# The Guts of Power BI



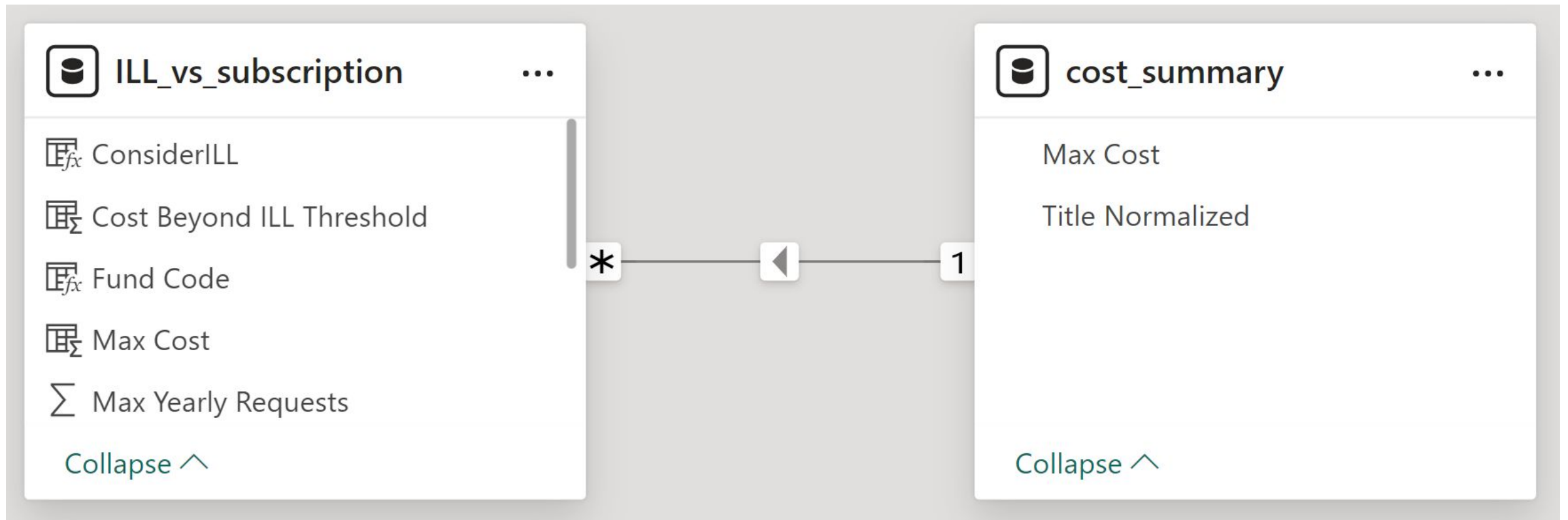
# Power Query Interface showing M Code

cost\_data

```
let
    Source = Python.Execute("# packages#\n#\nimport requests # for API calls#\nimport xml.etree.ElementTree as ET # to par
    df1 = Source{[Name="df"]}[Value],
    #"Changed Type" = Table.TransformColumnTypes(df1,{{"0", Int64.Type}, {"ISSN", type text}, {"Title (Normalized)", type text},
    #"Removed Columns" = Table.RemoveColumns(#"Changed Type",{"0", " REPORT_SUM(Transaction Expenditure Amount BY Title (Normali
    #"Renamed Columns" = Table.RenameColumns(#"Removed Columns",{{"Title (Normalized)", "Title Normalized"}}),
    #"Replace Beginning the with nothing" = Table.ReplaceValue(#"Renamed Columns", each [Title Normalized], each if Text.StartsW
    #"Replace Beginning a with nothing" = Table.ReplaceValue(#"Replace Beginning the with nothing", each [Title Normalized], eac
    #"Replaced Value" = Table.ReplaceValue(#"Replace Beginning a with nothing", "-", "", Replacer.ReplaceText,{"ISSN"}),
    #"Split Column by Delimiter" = Table.SplitColumn(#"Replaced Value", "ISSN", Splitter.SplitTextByDelimiter("; ", QuoteStyle.C
    #"Changed Type1" = Table.TransformColumnTypes(#"Split Column by Delimiter",{{"ISSN.1", type text}, {"ISSN.2", type text}}),
    #"Renamed Columns1" = Table.RenameColumns(#"Changed Type1",{{"ISSN.1", "ISSN1"}, {"ISSN.2", "ISSN2"}}),
    #"Added Conditional Column" = Table.AddColumn(#"Renamed Columns1", "Fund Code Display", each if Text.Contains([Fund Code], "
    #"Filtered Rows" = Table.SelectRows(#"Added Conditional Column", each true)
in
    #"Filtered Rows"
```



# Model view shows relationships between tables



# Python code written and tested outside of Power BI

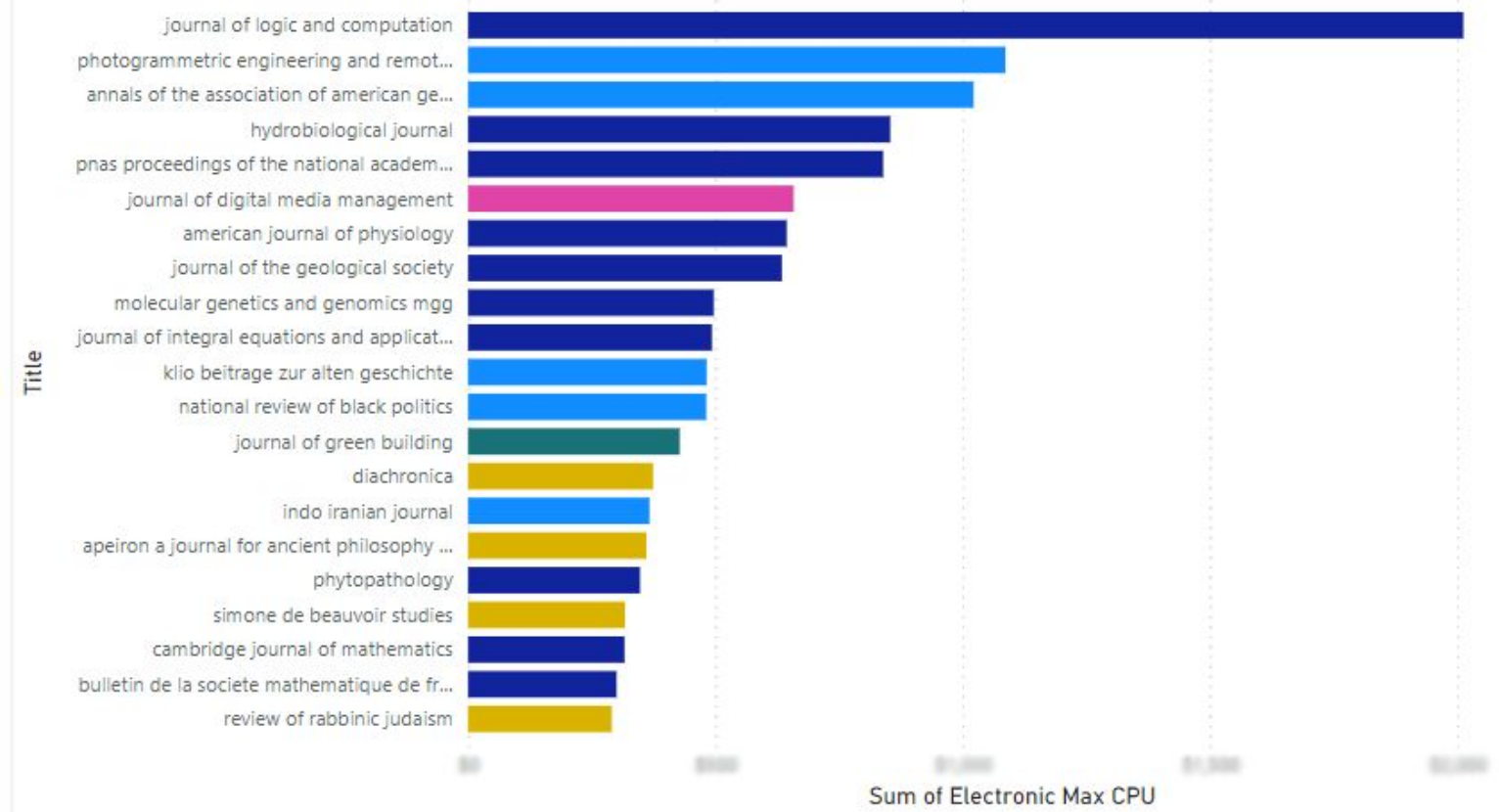
```
87     # Extract the column names from the data
88     # Get the schema namespace (would it be better to pull this from the xml itself?)
89     ns = {'xsd': 'http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema',
90          'saw-sql': 'urn:saw-sql'}
91
92     # Get the column headers (human-readable names) and
93     # names (the XML tag names) from the schema as a list
94     column_names = [elem.attrib['{urn:saw-sql}columnHeading']
95                    for elem in root.findall('.//xsd:element', ns)]
96     column_xml = [elem.attrib['name'] # elem.attrib doesn't have 'saw-sql' b/c not in xml
97                 for elem in root.findall('.//xsd:element', ns)]
```

# Cost Per Use

Cost Per Use | Usage Data | Consider ILL | About

## Sum of Electronic Max CPU by Title and Fund

Fund ● Social Sciences ● Science ● Other ● Music and Dance ● Library ● Journalism ● Humanities ● Education ● Design ● Business



Fiscal Year  
FY-2023

- Fund
- Business
  - Design
  - Education
  - Humanities
  - Journalism
  - Library
  - Music and Dance
  - Other
  - Science
  - Social Sciences

# What's in here, how does it work

Power BI data pipeline matches cost and use data on ISSN and Title using M (Power Query) and DAX languages.

- Lots of details to get clean data.

Calculate cost per use in a fuzzy way.

- most expensive year and highest use year
- rounding
- holes in the data

# Consider ILL

Normalized Title	ConsiderILL	Max Yearly Requests	Max Cost	Cost Beyond ILL Threshold	Fund
19th century music	True	11	\$313.50	\$0	Other
administration society	True	59	\$2,420.79	\$1,365	Social Sciences
advanced functional materials	True	7	\$10,843.37	\$0	Science
advanced materials	True	4	\$8,505.30	\$0	Science
advances in geometry	True	4	\$799.40	\$0	Science
african affairs	True	32	\$861.05	\$420	Social Sciences
african archaeological review	True	2	\$863.77	\$0	Social Sciences
affairs	True	14	\$452.10	\$0	Design
agricultural history	True	10	\$265.43	\$0	Social Sciences
agriculture and human values	True	2	\$1,277.89	\$0	Social Sciences
american journal of health behavior	True	15	\$385.31	\$0	Social Sciences
american journal of physical medicine rehabilitation	True	152	\$10,572.72	\$1,960	Science
american journal of sociology	True	7	\$313.50	\$0	Other
american review of public administration	True	67	\$1,645.03	\$1,645	Social Sciences
american string teacher	True	11	\$141.80	\$0	Other
annals of mathematics	True	8	\$689.70	\$0	Science
annals of the association of american geographers	True	4	\$4,314.47	\$0	Social Sciences
annual review of applied linguistics	True	13	\$359.33	\$0	Other
anthropology news	True	15	\$104.59	\$0	Social Sciences
anthropology	True	7	\$668.90	\$0	Other
www.your.org	True	5	\$120.18	\$0	Other
<b>Total</b>		<b>7763</b>	<b>\$725,293.77</b>	<b>\$141,365</b>	



## Consider ILL Formula

This is our formula for Cost Beyond ILL Threshold, assuming documents through Reprints Desk cost \$35 and we can request an item 20 times before having to pay for copyright:

Cost Beyond ILL Threshold = IF('cost\_data'[Electronic Use MAX]-20<0,0, ('cost\_data'[Electronic Use MAX]-20)\*35)

The Consider ILL column is a simple True / False statement:

ConsiderILL = IF(AND('cost\_data'[Cost Beyond ILL Threshold] < 'cost\_data'[Transaction Expenditure Amount],cost\_data[Electronic Use MAX] > 0 ), TRUE, FALSE)





# Maintenance, Replication, and Future Work



## Ongoing maintenance

- Every month, after Alma performs the SUSHI harvest, load the Power BI model and refresh the data.
- Update vendor usernames and passwords, SUSHI credentials, API keys, and base URLs as needed.
- Respond to changes in platform functionality that can break report.
- Add new vendors as they enable COUNTER 5 reporting.



# Skills & tech you need to replicate this project

- Alma, Alma Analytics, COUNTER 5, APIs, SUSHI, Python, and Power BI.
- Power BI Desktop requires a Windows PC.
- Basic familiarity with programming with SQL in Alma Analytics, with M and DAX in Power BI, and with Python
- Infinite patience
- Friends

See our article coming soon!

Our code: [github.com/uodataservices/cost\\_per\\_use](https://github.com/uodataservices/cost_per_use)



## Future work

- Add more report types beyond tr\_j1.
- Database evaluation is particularly tricky.  
Open to ideas.
- How to manage non-COUNTER compliant data?

## Discussion

What insights/data points/criteria do you use to make data driven decisions?

What are we missing in our current dashboard?

Where could you see a data dashboard helping conversations at your organization?

# Questions?

(and cat tax)

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# References

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# Thank you!

(and more cats)

