



DATA · COMMUNITY · NAIROBI

kenya
tug

Building Interactive Tableau Dashboards

Using Parameters & Dynamic Inputs to
Create Better User Experiences

DataFam ❄️

kenya
tug

Your Dashboard Can't Read Minds.

Every user wants something different - a different year, threshold or metric. One static view can't serve everyone.



Meet the Parameter

A single, user-controlled value, a number date or text, that flows live into your calculations filters and titles



Parameter vs Filter vs Set

Three controls, three jobs. Knowing which one to reach for is what separates a tidy workbook from a tangled one.



Filter

Removes rows from the view based on a condition.

THE FOCUS OF THIS GUIDE



Parameter

Injects one live value anywhere — calcs, titles, references.



Set

Groups specific members together by a fixed or dynamic rule.

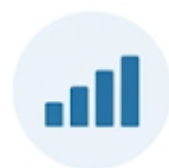
Five Ways Parameters Level Up Your Viz

From thresholds to what-if scenarios - the same control pattern, five high impact jobs



Dynamic Thresholds

Move a reference line without editing the calc.



Top-N Filtering

Let users pick how many rows to rank.



What-If Analysis

Test scenarios by adjusting one driver.



Metric Swapping

Toggle between Sales, Profit or Margin views.



Unit Conversion

Switch currency or measurement on demand.

From Control to Canvas

Four steps turn a static workbook into a live, user-driven experience.



Create the Parameter

Define type, range and allowable values.

01



Build a Calculated Field

Reference the parameter inside your logic.

02



Add the Control to a Sheet

Show it as a slider, dropdown or list.

03

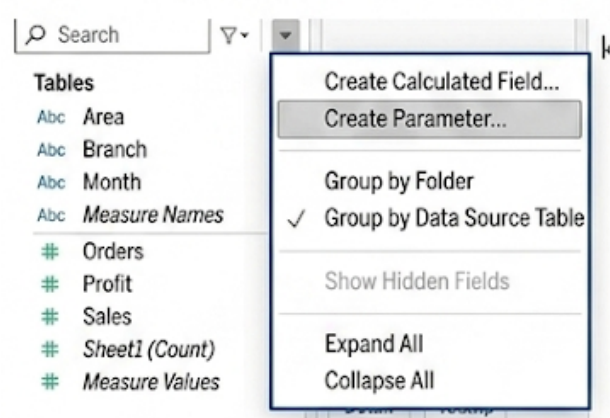


Viz Updates Instantly

Every chart, filter and title reacts live.

04

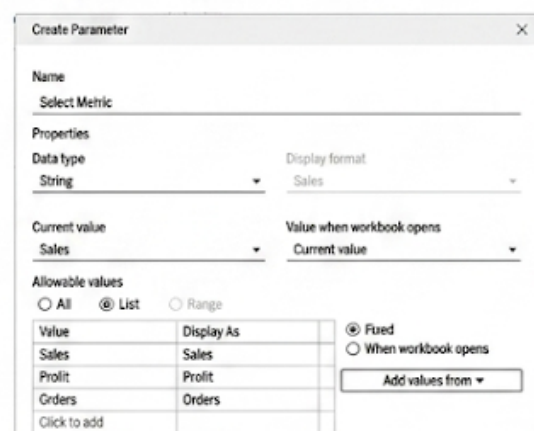
From Control to Canvas



1

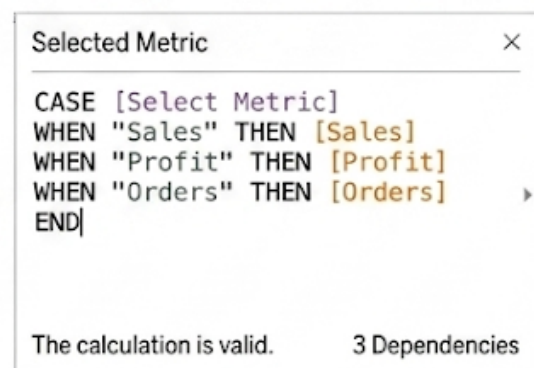
STEP 1:
INITIATE CREATION

2



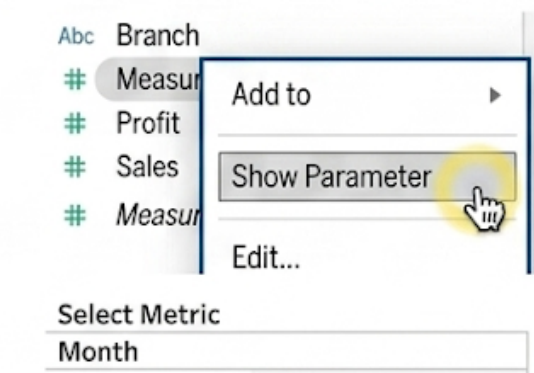
STEP 2:
CONFIGURE THE LIST

3



STEP 3: DEFINE
DYNAMIC LOGIC

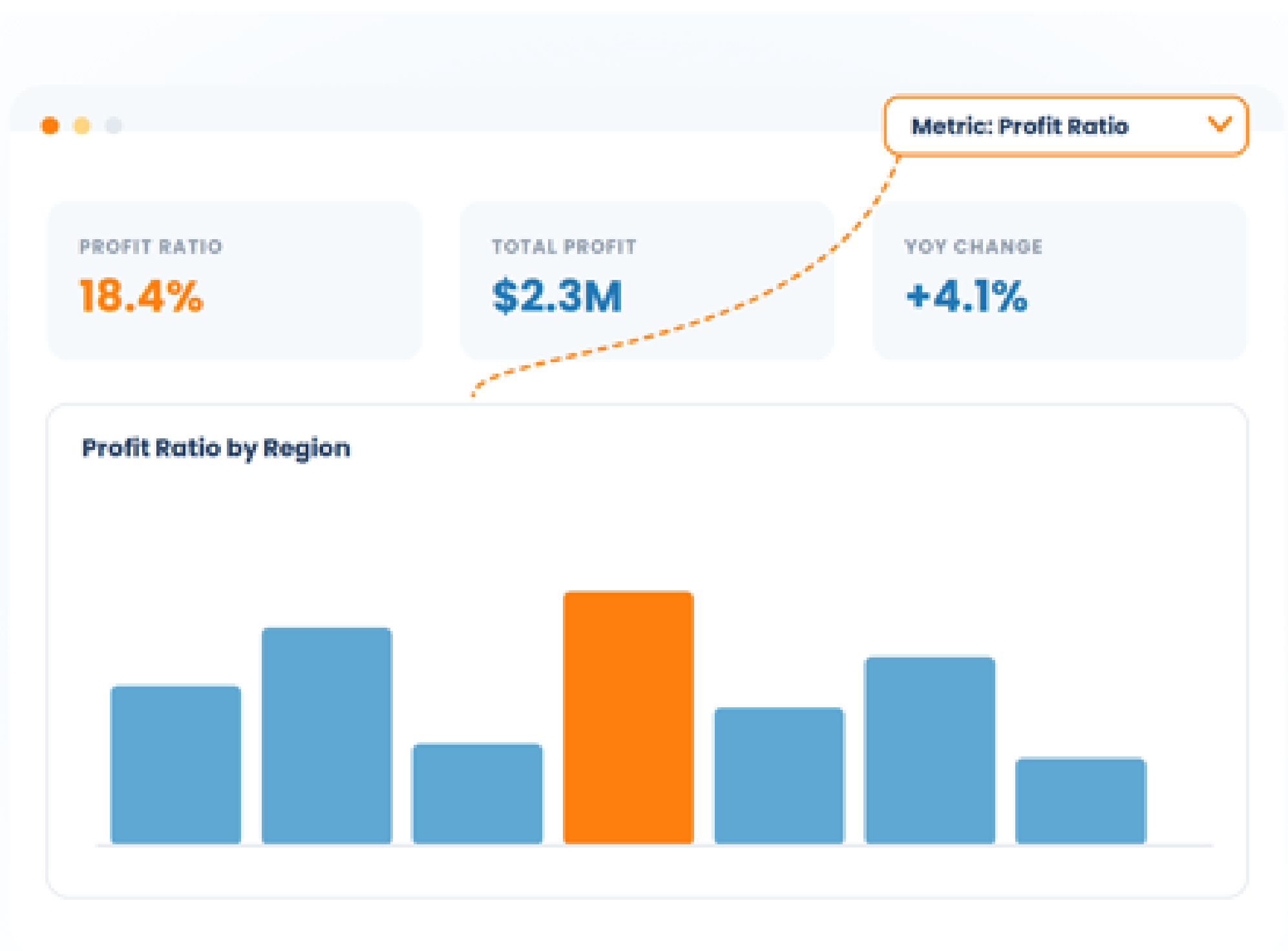
4



STEP 4: ACTIVATE
THE CONTROL

One Control. Infinite Views

Switch the metric and every chart, KPI and title updates instantly



Key takeaways



One input, many outputs

A single parameter can drive multiple charts, titles and calcs at once.



Pair it with a calculated field

That's where most of the real power and flexibility comes from.



Design for the user, not the data

Use clear labels and sensible defaults so the control invites action.

