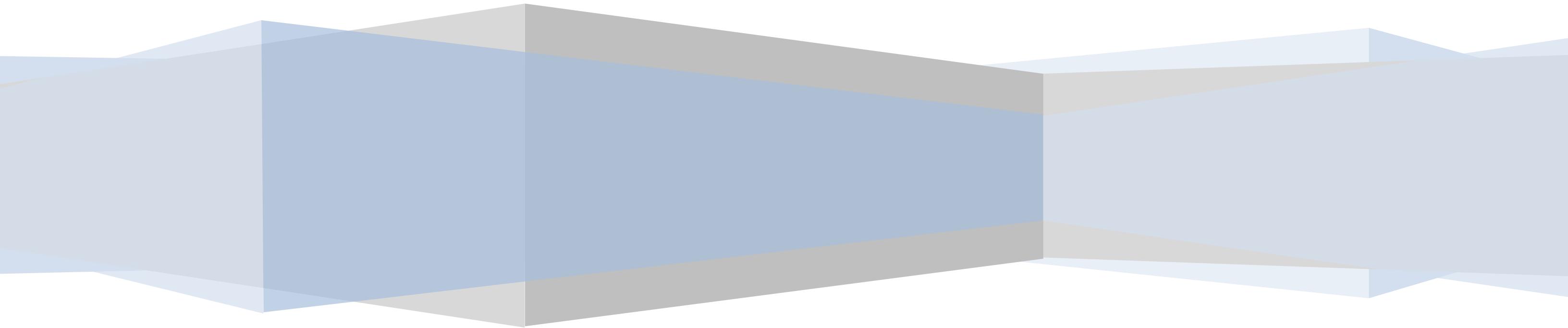


Comparative Study of the Features of SAP BusinessObjects XI 3.1 and SAP BusinessObjects BI 4.0

Pooja Choube



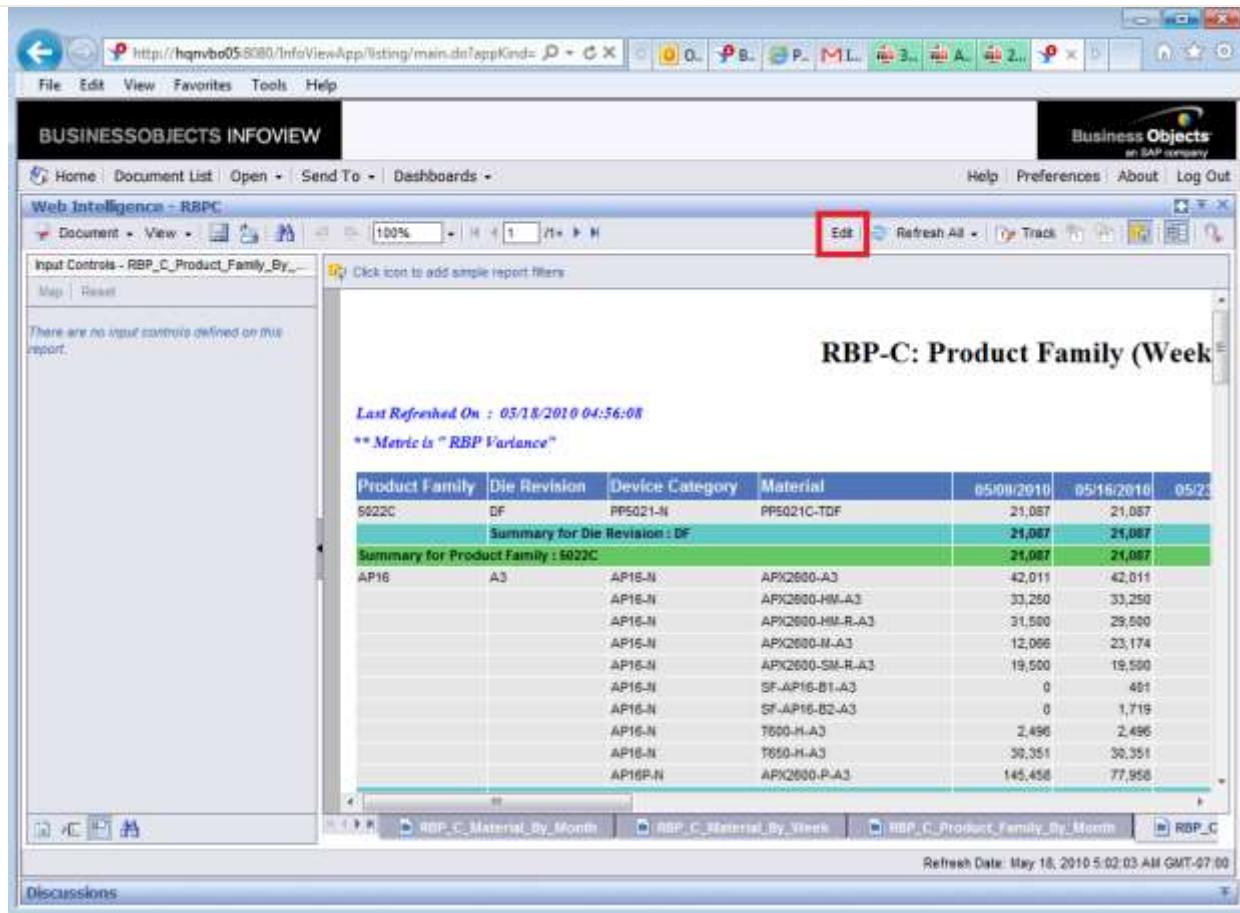
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Editing the Report

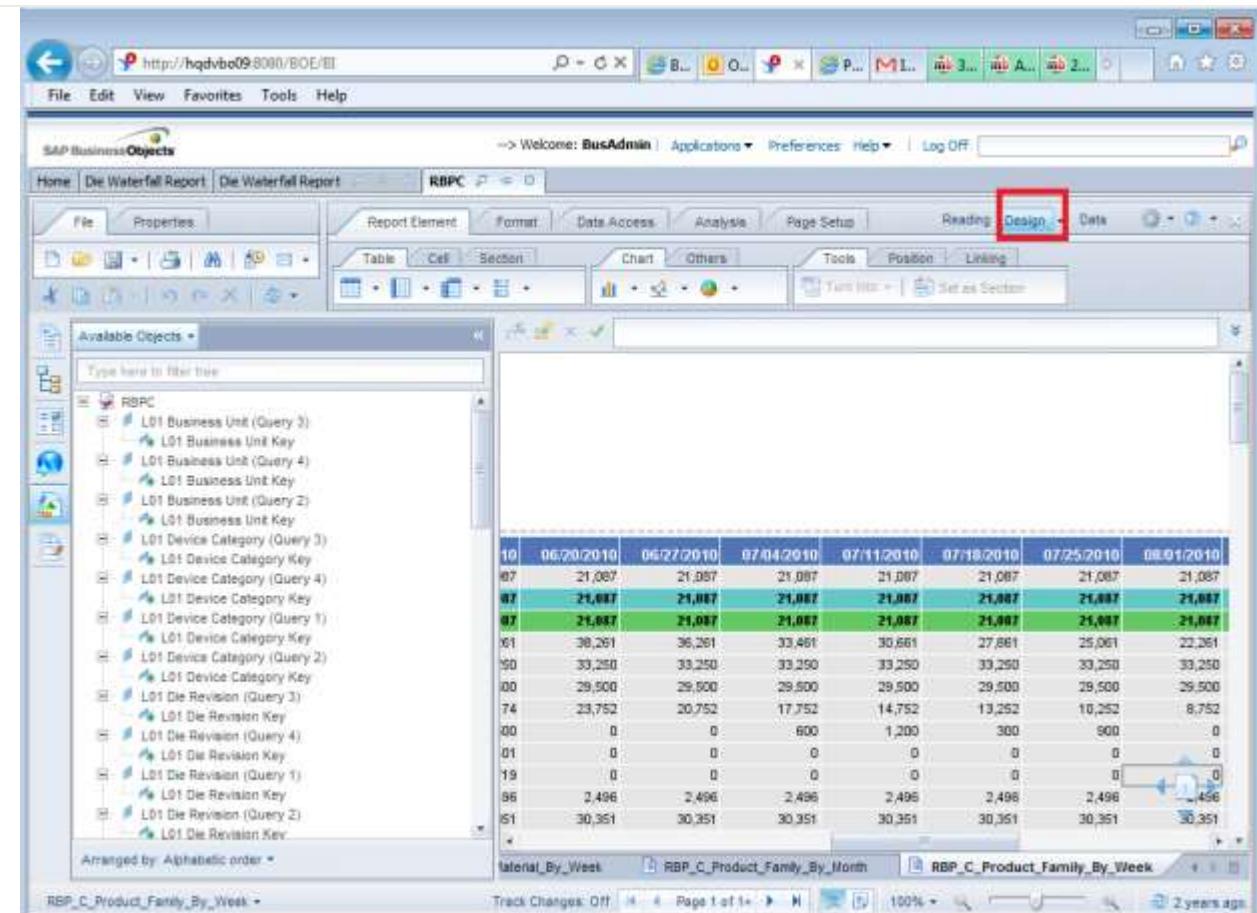
To modify the existing report, click the Edit button as shown below. This opens the report in a Java interactive viewer:



The screenshot shows the SAP BusinessObjects InfoView interface. The title bar reads "BUSINESSOBJECTS INFOVIEW". The main content area displays a report titled "RBP-C: Product Family (Week)". The report includes a summary table and several detailed rows. At the top of the report area, there is a toolbar with various icons and a menu bar. A red box highlights the "Edit" button in the toolbar.

Editing the Report

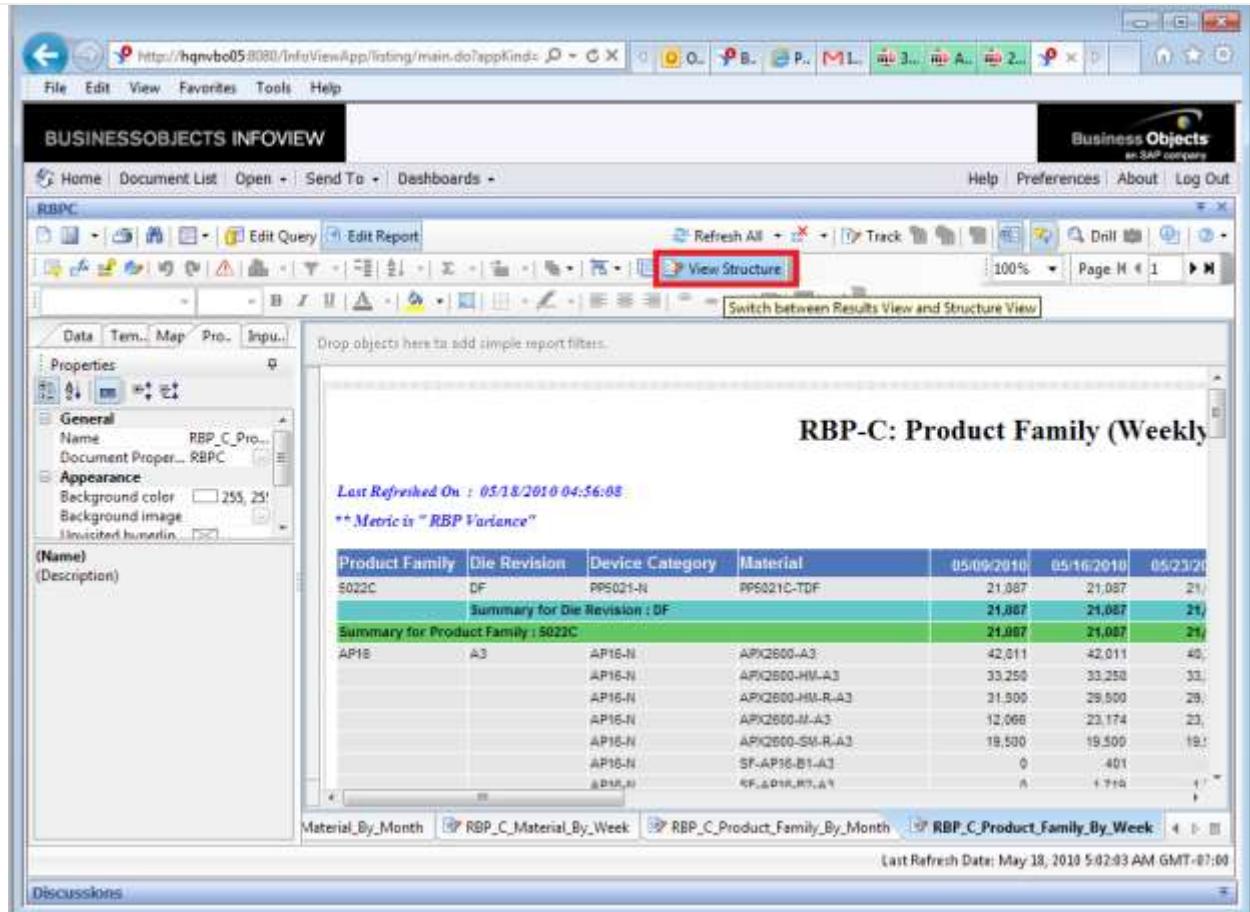
To modify the report, click the Design button shown below:



The screenshot shows the SAP BusinessObjects Web Intelligence (BI) application in design mode. The title bar reads "SAP BusinessObjects". The ribbon at the top has tabs like File, Properties, Report Element, Format, Data Access, Analysis, Page Setup, Reading, Design, and Data. The "Design" tab is highlighted with a red box. The main area shows a report structure with a tree view of available objects on the left and a data grid on the right. The data grid contains numerical values, some of which are highlighted in green. The bottom of the screen shows the status bar with "RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Week" and other report names.

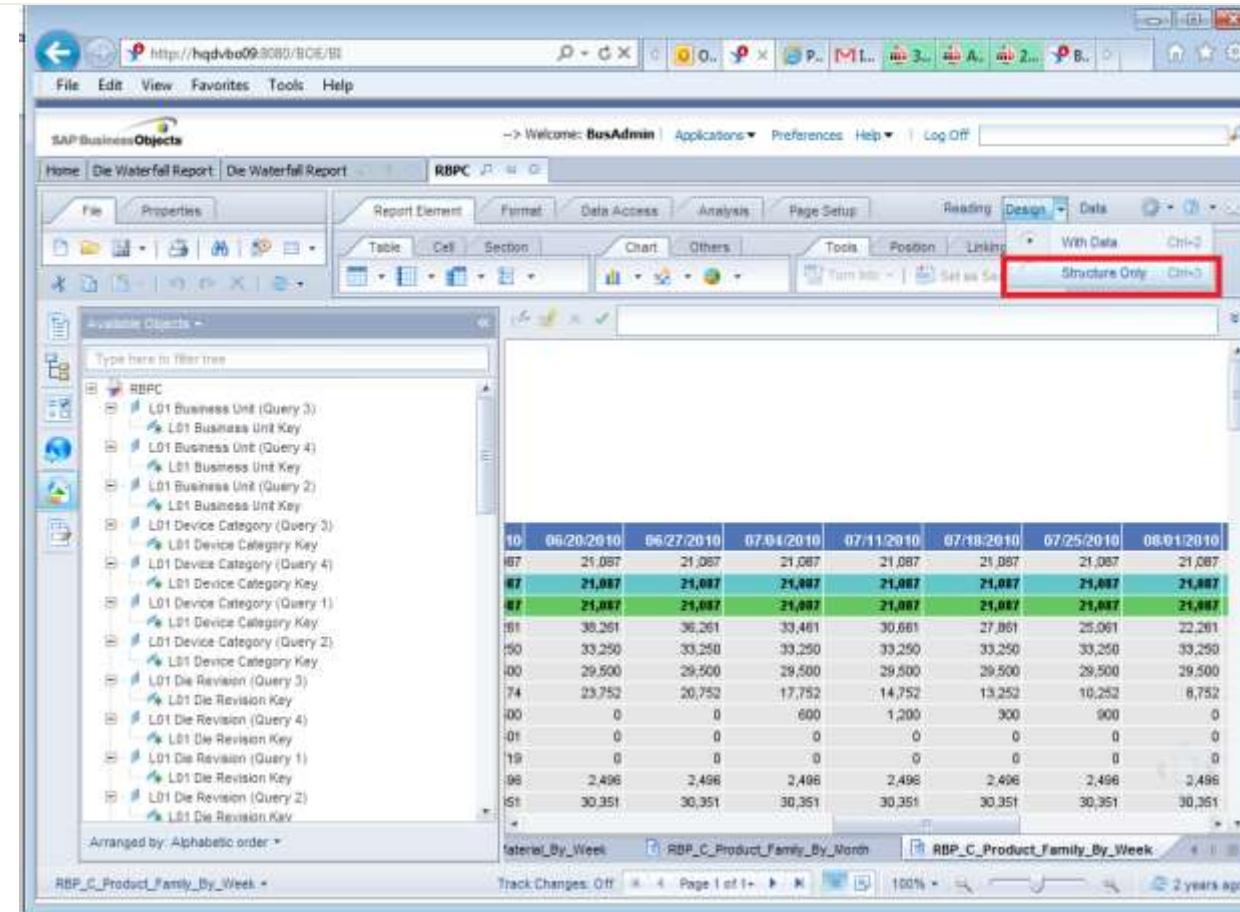
Viewing the Structure of the Report

To view the report's structure, click the View Structure button on the toolbar.



Viewing the Structure of the Report

To view the report structure, click the dropdown arrow of the Design button and select Structure Only.



Toolbars

All the tools are scattered on the toolbar, which makes it difficult to access them.

This screenshot shows the BusinessObjects InfoView interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Document List, Open, Send To, Dashboards, Help, Preferences, About, and Log Out. Below the navigation bar is a toolbar with various icons for refresh, search, and navigation. A large red box highlights this toolbar area. The main content area displays a report titled "RBP-C: Product Family (Weekly)". The report includes a summary table and several detailed tables below it. On the left side, there is a properties panel for the report. At the bottom, there are tabs for Material_By_Month, RBP_C_Material_By_Week, RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Month, and RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Week, with the last one being the active tab. The status bar at the bottom indicates the last refresh date as May 18, 2010, at 5:02:03 AM GMT-07:00.

Toolbars

Access to the most commonly used features are logically grouped and prioritized in tabs as shown below.

This screenshot shows the SAP BusinessObjects interface. The top navigation bar includes links for File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, Help, and Log Off. Below the navigation bar is a toolbar with icons for refresh, search, and navigation. A large red box highlights this toolbar area. The main content area displays a report titled "RBP-C: Product Family (Weekly)". The report includes a summary table and several detailed tables below it. On the left side, there is a properties panel for the report. At the bottom, there are tabs for Material_By_Week, RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Month, and RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Week, with the first one being the active tab. The status bar at the bottom indicates the last refresh date as May 18, 2010, at 5:02:03 AM GMT-07:00. The interface uses tabs to group related tools and features.

Adding Report Elements

To add any report element (e.g., a table, cross tab), access the Templates list in the left pane.

The screenshot shows the SAP BusinessObjects InfoView application. On the left, there is a navigation bar with links like Home, Document List, Open, Send To, Dashboards, Help, Preferences, About, and Log Out. Below the navigation bar is a toolbar with various icons. A main content area displays a report titled "RBP-C: Product Family (Week)". The report includes a summary table and a detailed table below it. On the far left, there is a "Templates" list with categories: Report, Tables, Charts, and Free-Standing Cells. The "Tables" category is expanded, showing sub-options: Horizontal Table, Vertical Table, Crosstab, and Form. The "Free-Standing Cells" category is also listed. A red box highlights the "Templates" list. At the bottom of the screen, there is a footer with links: Material_By_Month, RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Week, RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Month, and RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Week. The footer also includes a "Last Refresh Date: May 18, 2010 5:02:03 AM GMT-P7:00".

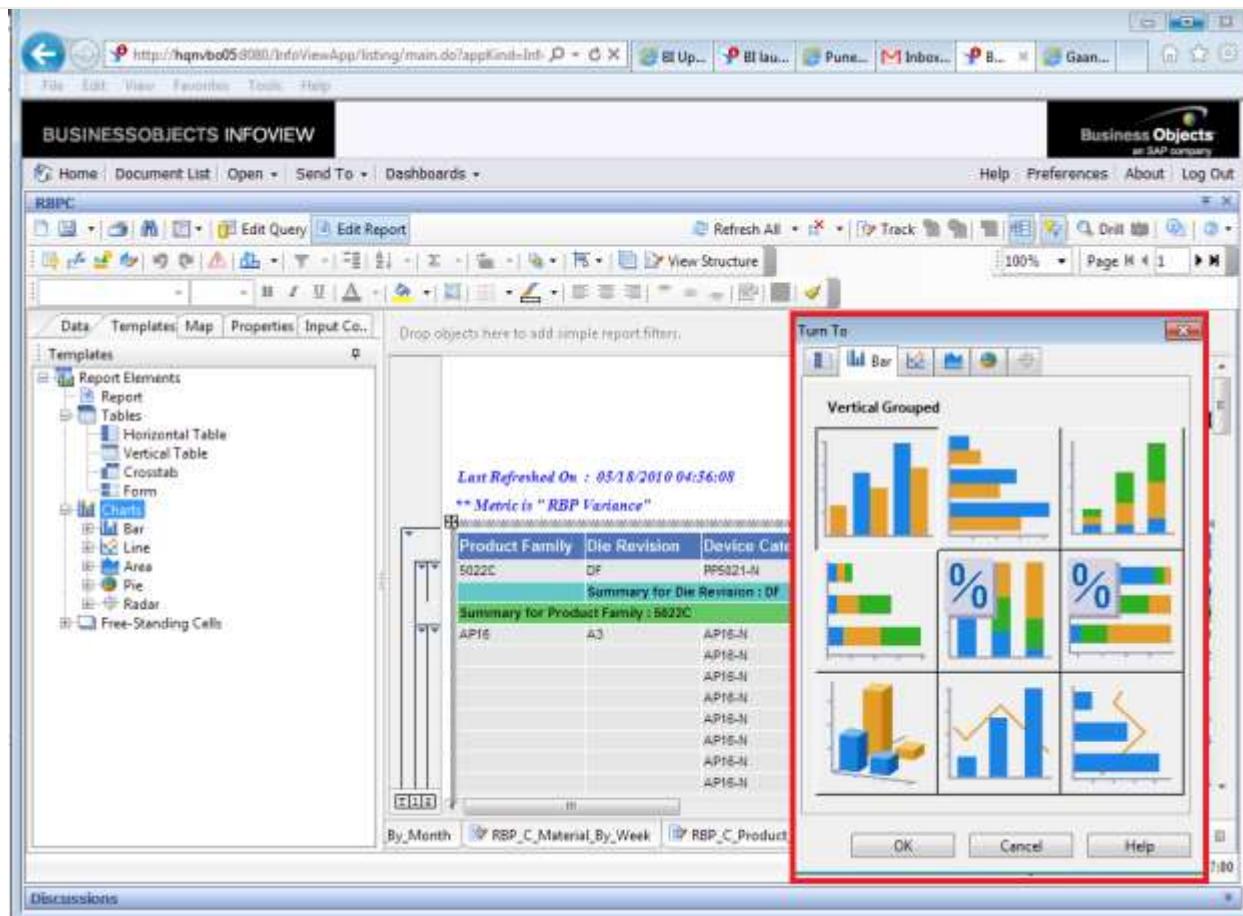
Adding Report Elements

All report elements are under the Report Element tab.

The screenshot shows the SAP BusinessObjects Designer application. At the top, there is a menu bar with File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, and Help. Below the menu bar is a toolbar with various icons. The main content area has tabs: File, Properties, Report Element, Format, Data Access, Analysis, Page Setup, Reading, Design, and Data. The "Report Element" tab is selected and highlighted with a red box. To the right of the tabs, there is a "Available Objects" list with a tree view of objects. A red box highlights the "Available Objects" list. Below the list is a large table with data. The table has columns labeled: 10, 06/20/2010, 06/27/2010, 07/04/2010, 07/11/2010, 07/18/2010, 07/25/2010, and 08/01/2010. The table contains several rows of data, with some cells highlighted in green. At the bottom of the table, there are buttons for "Arranged by: Alphabetical order" and "Interval_By_Week". The footer includes links: RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Week, RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Month, and RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Week. The footer also includes a "Track Changes: Off", "Page 1 of 1+", "100%", and "2 years ago".

Charts

There are a limited number of charting options available.



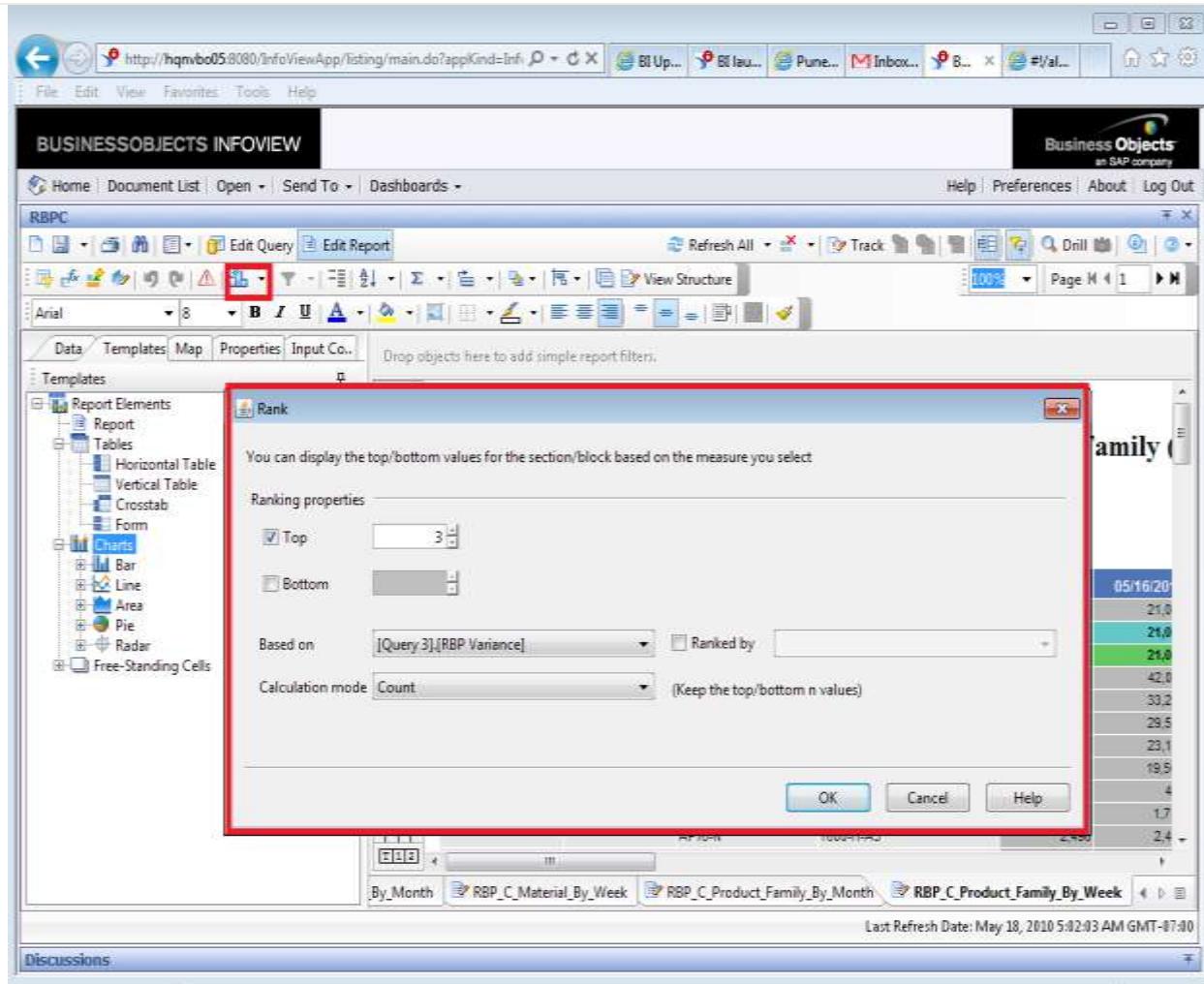
Charts

Interactive analysis charting uses new central chart library. The new chart types that have been introduced include bubble charts, heat maps, pie charts with depth, box charts, and tag clouds.

This screenshot shows the 'Turn into' chart library interface. It includes sections for 'Tables', 'Category Axis', 'Value Axis 1', 'Region Color', and a detailed description of a 'Column Chart'. The 'Tables' section lists various chart types with corresponding icons. The 'Category Axis' and 'Value Axis 1' sections allow for configuration of axis settings. A detailed description of a 'Column Chart' is provided at the bottom.

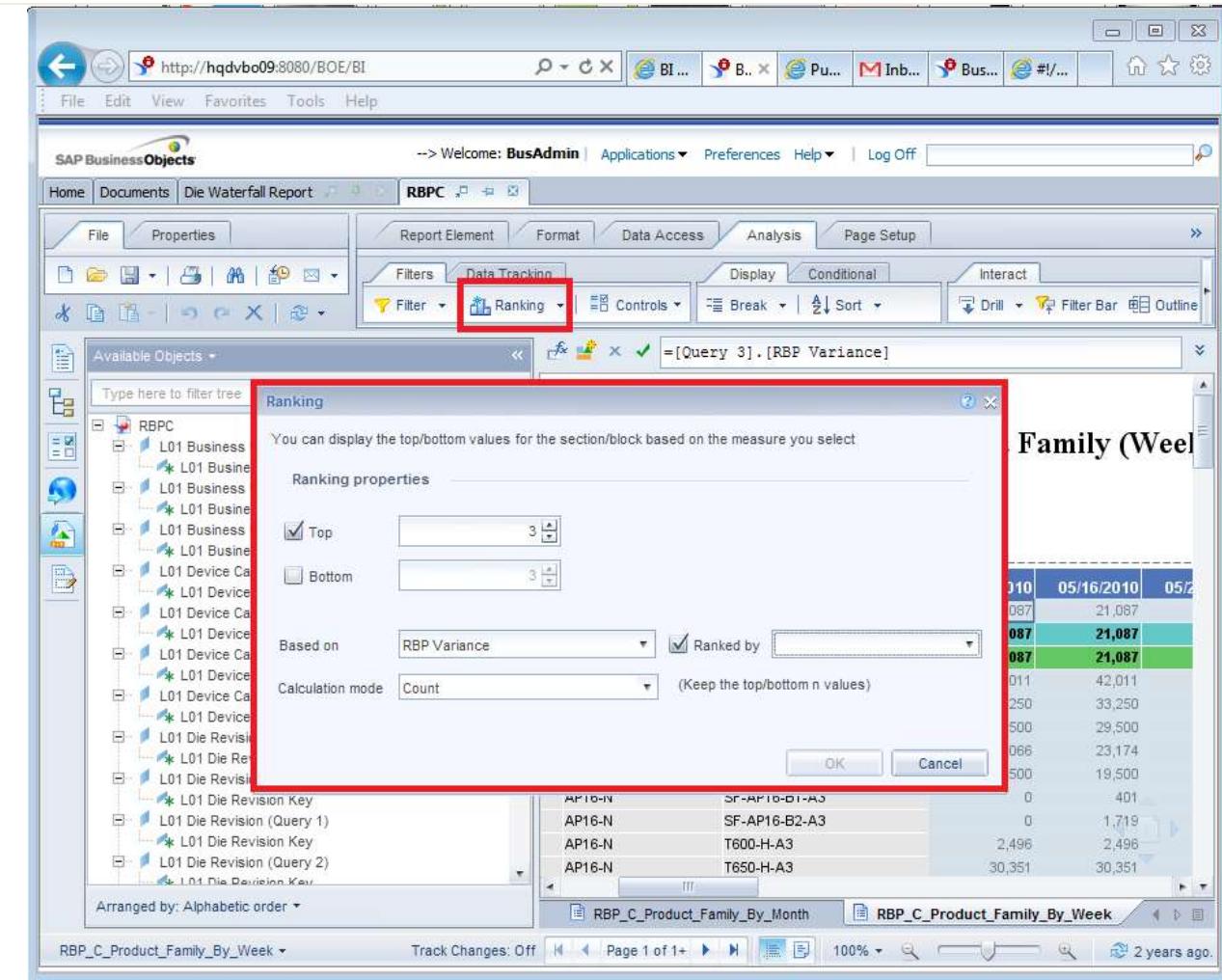
Ranking

To rank data, click the column to be ranked. Then click on the histogram icon as shown below.



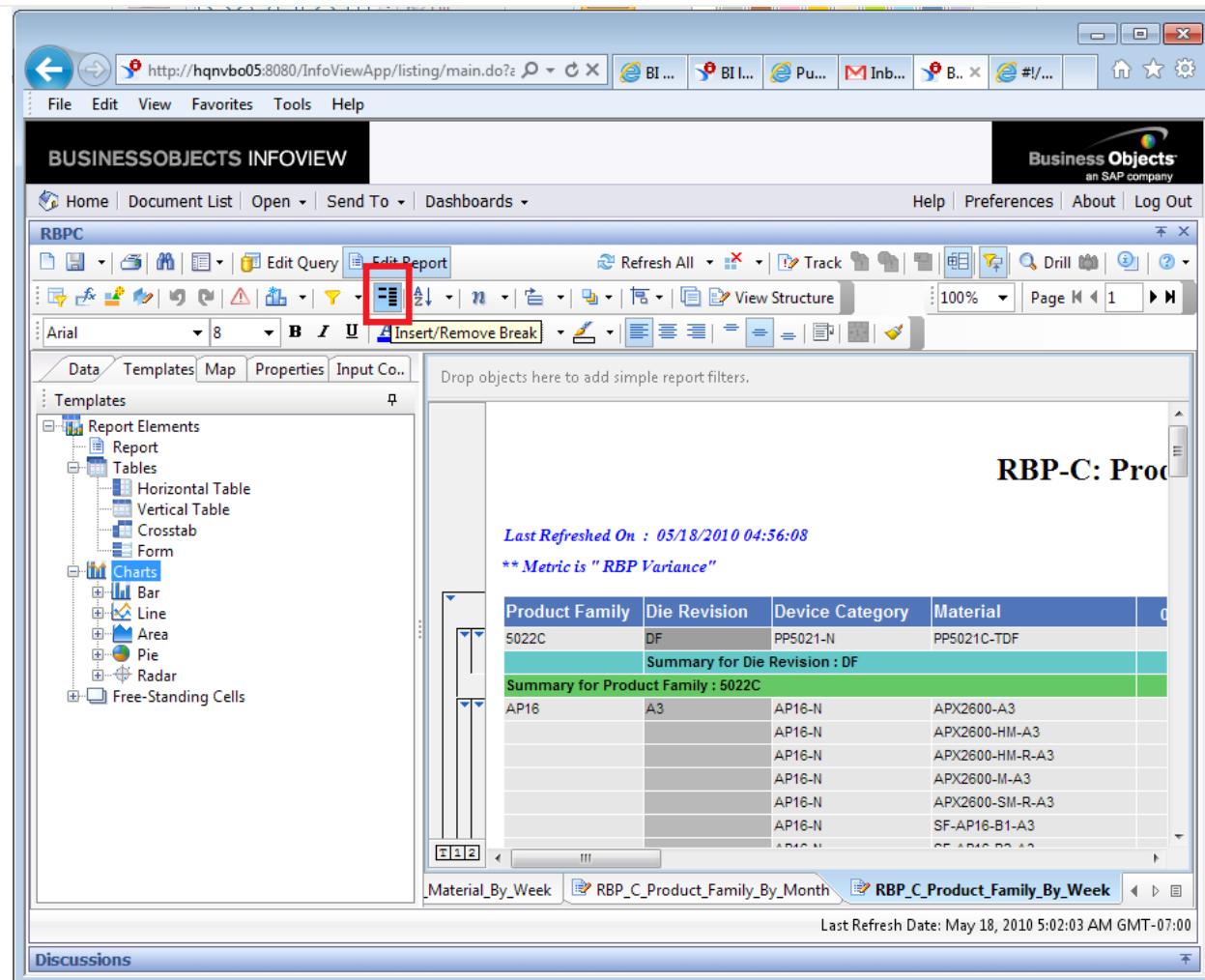
Ranking

The Ranking option is under the Analysis tab.



Breaks

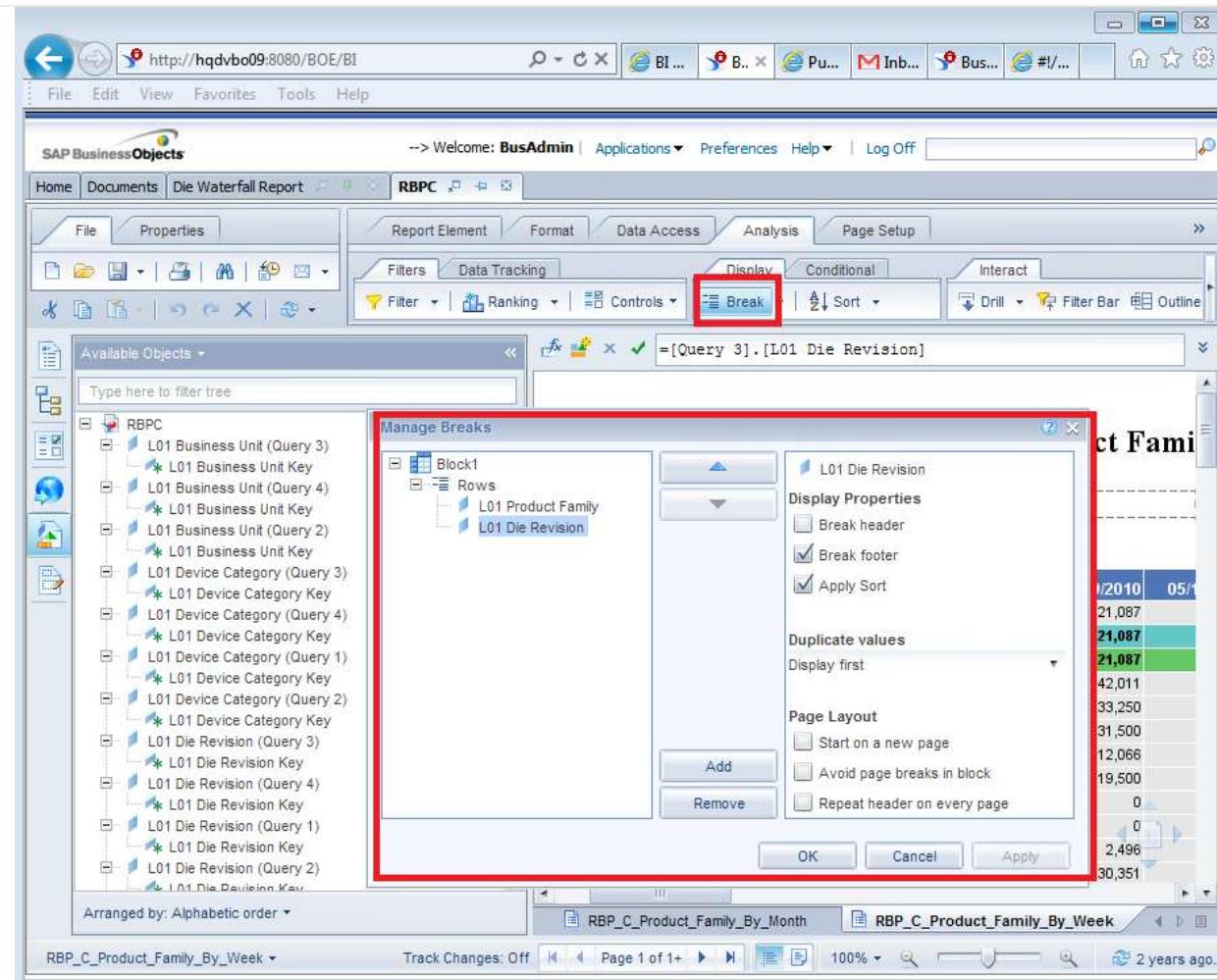
To apply breaks in the report, click the column you want to apply the break to, and then click the break icon on the toolbar.



This screenshot shows the BusinessObjects InfoView interface. The toolbar at the top has a button labeled 'Insert/Remove Break' with a red box around it. The main area displays a report titled 'RBP-C: Product Family'. The report includes a table with columns: Product Family, Die Revision, Device Category, Material, and others. A message at the top states 'Last Refreshed On : 05/18/2010 04:56:08' and '** Metric is "RBP Variance"**'. The bottom of the screen shows navigation tabs like 'Material_By_Week', 'RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Month', and 'RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Week'.

Breaks

The Break option can be accessed under the Analysis tab. By clicking Manage Breaks, an editing window pops up.



This screenshot shows the SAP BusinessObjects interface with the 'Manage Breaks' dialog box open. The dialog box is highlighted with a red border. It contains a tree view of report objects and a configuration area on the right. The configuration area includes sections for 'Display Properties' (with checkboxes for 'Break header', 'Break footer', and 'Apply Sort'), 'Duplicate values' (with 'Display first' selected), and 'Page Layout' (with options like 'Start on a new page', 'Avoid page breaks in block', and 'Repeat header on every page'). Below the configuration area are 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Apply' buttons. The background shows a report with a table of data.

Sections

To apply sections, right click on the report and select Set As Section.

The screenshot shows the BusinessObjects InfoView application. A table is displayed with columns: Product Family, Die Revision, Device Category, Material, and others. A context menu is open over the first row of the table, with the 'Set as Section' option highlighted. Other options in the menu include Insert, Copy as text, Clear, Remove, Turn To, Format Text..., Formula Toolbar, Format, Hyperlinks, Sort, and Order.

Sections

Sections can be applied from the Report Element tab by clicking the Insert Section button.

The screenshot shows the SAP BusinessObjects BI application. The 'Report Element' tab is selected in the ribbon. A red box highlights the 'Insert Section' button in the toolbar. The main area displays a table with columns: Product Family, Die Revision, Device Category, and Material. The table includes several summary rows at the top, such as 'Summary for Product Family : 5022C' and 'Summary for Die Revision : DF'. The table content lists various product families like AP16, die revisions like A3, device categories like APX2600-A3, and materials like PP5021C-TDF.

Sorting

Values can be sorted in ascending or descending order or through custom sorts. Click the sorting icon on the toolbar to sort the report as shown below.

The screenshot shows the SAP BusinessObjects InfoView interface. A 'Custom Sort' dialog box is open in the foreground, overlaid on a report preview. The dialog box title is 'Custom Sort' and it contains instructions: 'Create a custom sort for L01 Die Revision. The same order will appear whenever this object is used in a report.' It features a 'Temporary values' section with a list of items: #, 1C, A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, B1, B2. Below this is a table with columns 'Service Category' and 'Material'. The table rows include: 021-N PP5021C-TDF, 021-N APX2600-A3, 021-N APX2600-HM-A, 021-N APX2600-HM-R, 021-N APX2600-M-A3, 021-N APX2600-SM-R, 021-N SF-AP16-B1-A, 021-N SF-AP16-B2-A. At the bottom of the dialog are 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Help' buttons. The background shows the report's layout with various objects and their properties.

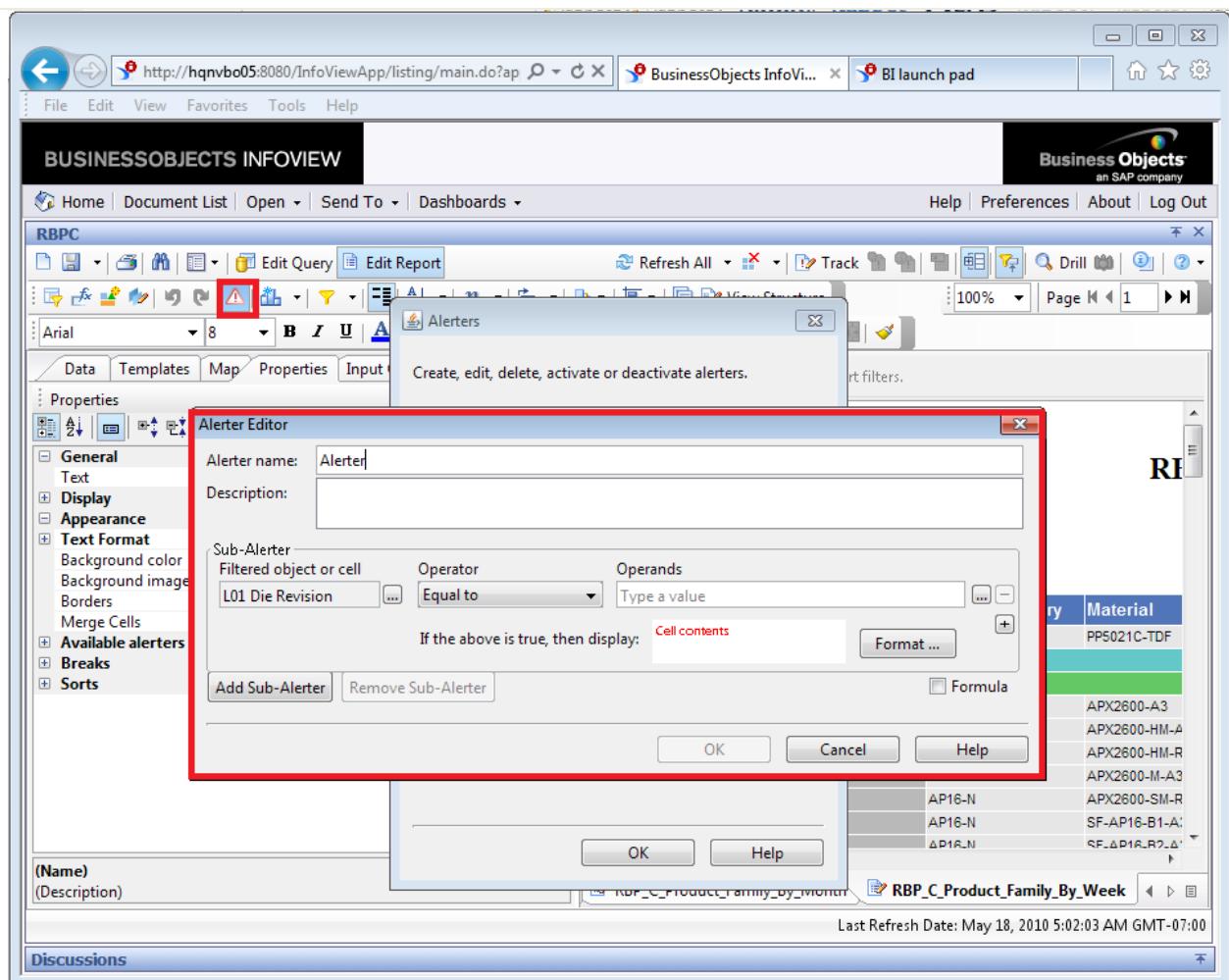
Sorting

Values can be sorted under the Analysis tab by clicking the Sort button. To apply a custom sort, click the Sort button, choose Manage Sorts, and click the Add button to add the row or column on which to apply the sort. Then add the custom values and arrange the priority.

The screenshot shows the SAP BusinessObjects InfoView interface with the 'Analysis' tab selected. A 'Manage Sorts' dialog box is open, showing a tree view of available objects under 'Available Objects'. The tree includes categories like RBPC, L01 Business Unit, L01 Device Category, L01 Die Revision, etc. Under 'Block1', there is a 'Columns' section with 'L01 Fiscal Week / Year Key' and 'L01 Die Revision (Query 4)'. Under 'Rows', there is 'RBP Variance' and 'L01 Product Family'. The 'Sort' section contains a 'Priority' dropdown set to 'Ascending', an 'Order' dropdown set to 'A↓ Ascending', and a 'Values...' button highlighted with a red box. Below these are 'Add...', 'Remove', and 'Reset' buttons. The background shows the report's layout with various objects and their properties.

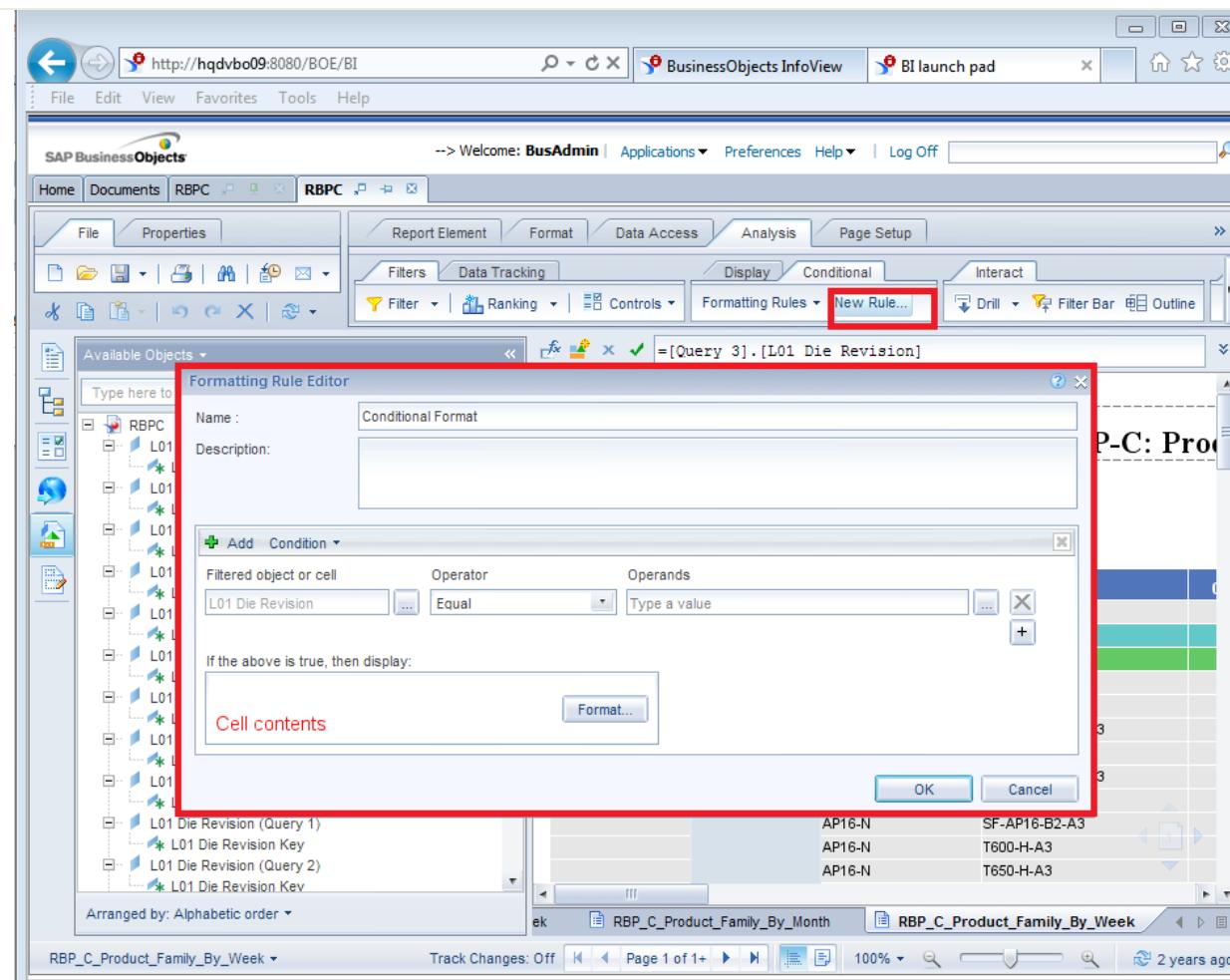
Alerters

To apply alerters on the report, click the warning icon on the toolbar as shown below.



Alerters

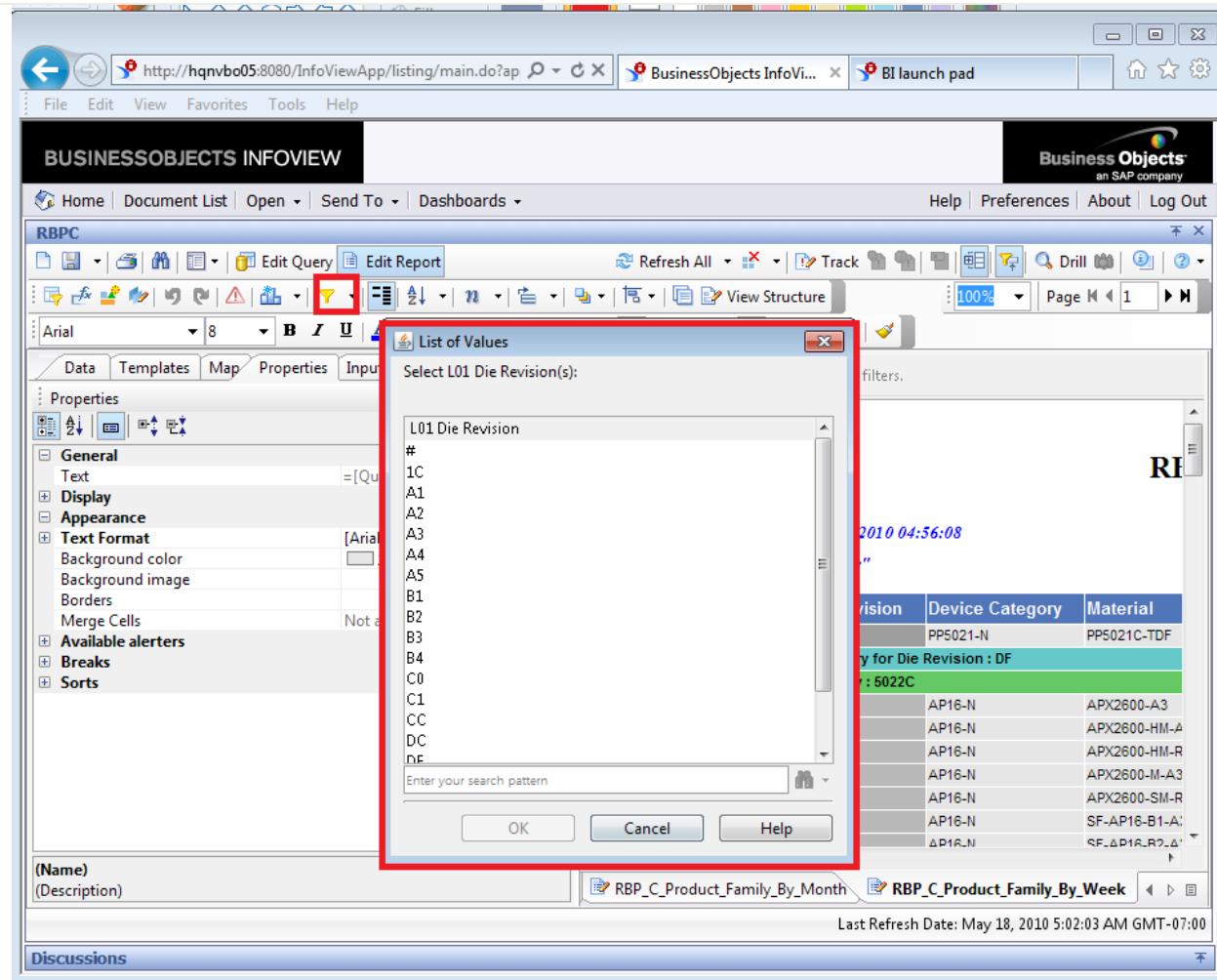
Alerters have been renamed Conditions in BusinessObjects 4.0. Conditions can be accessed by choosing the Analysis tab, choosing the Conditional tab, and clicking the New Rule button.



Filters

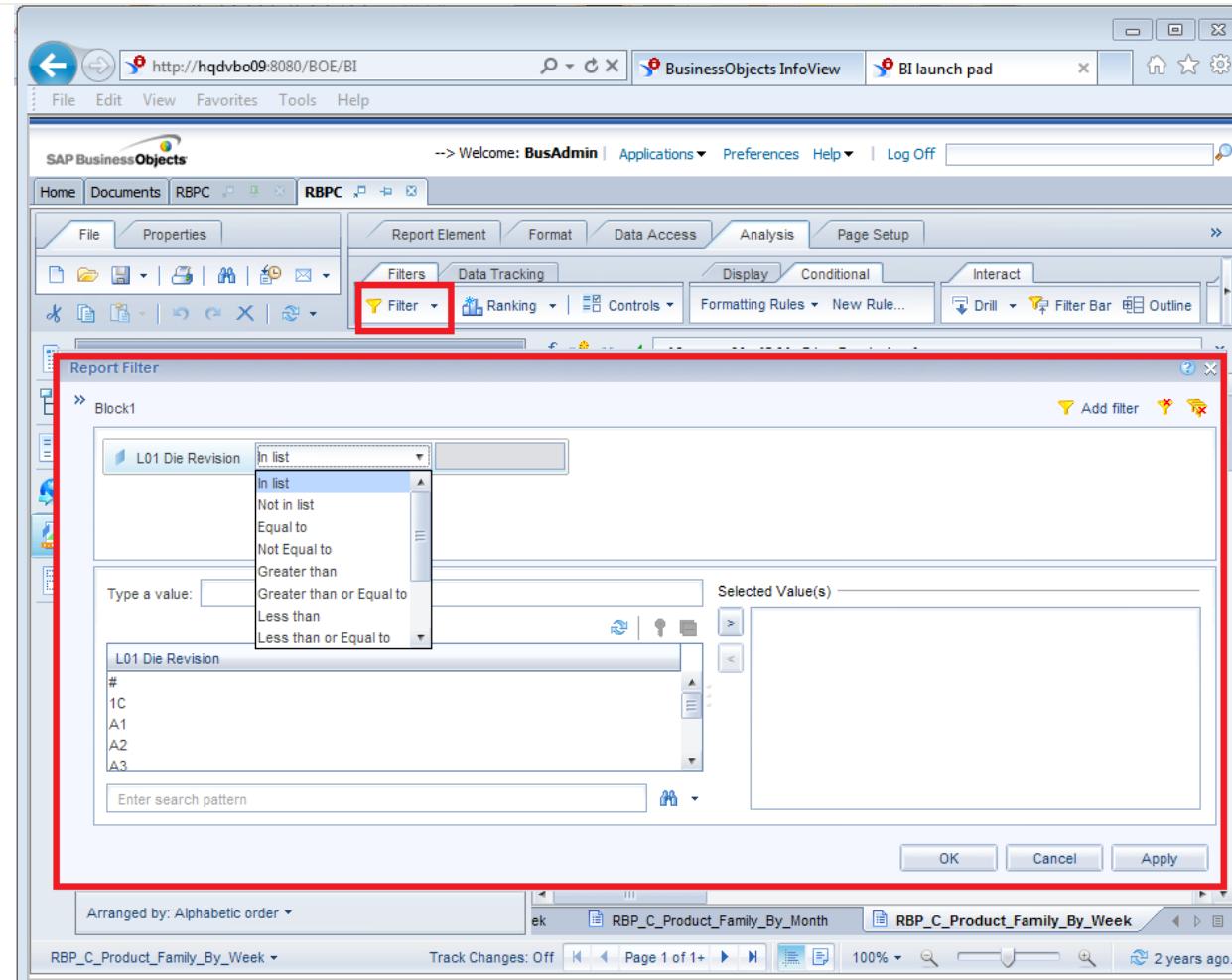
Filters can be added by clicking the funnel icon.

Data gets filters by selecting the values amongst the given List of Values. Only Equal to Operator is applicable here.



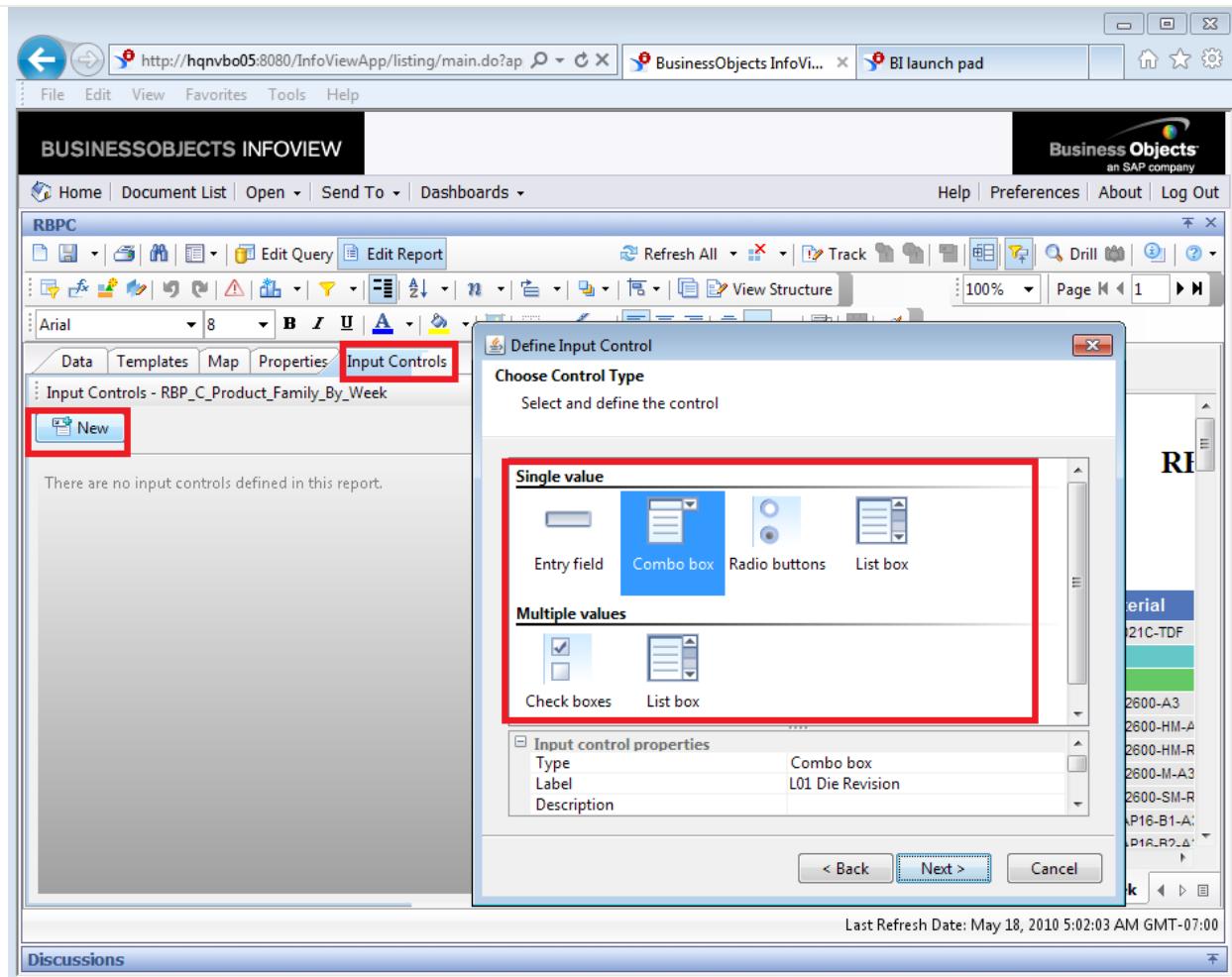
Filters

Filters can be applied using the Analysis tab by clicking the Filter button. A wide set of operators are provided to filter the data apart from Equal to as shown.



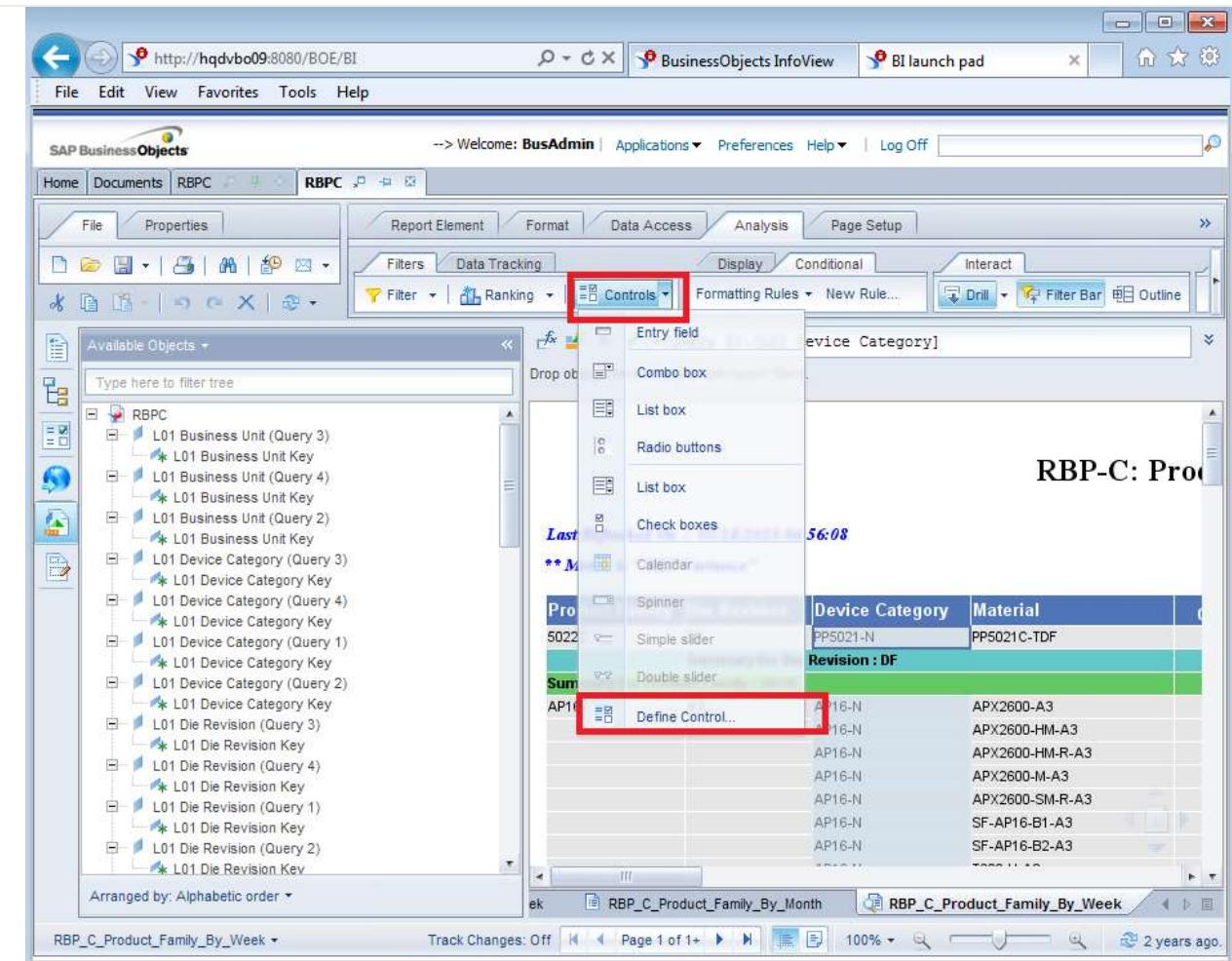
Input Controls

Input controls on the report can be applied clicking the Input Controls tab.



Input Controls

Input controls can be applied under the Analysis tab by clicking the Controls button and selecting Define Control.



Formatting the Report

The report can be formatted using the options present on the common formatting toolbar.

This screenshot shows the BusinessObjects InfoView interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Document List, Open, Send To, Dashboards, Help, Preferences, About, and Log Out. Below the navigation bar is a toolbar with various icons for file operations like Refresh All, Track, Drill, and View Structure. A dropdown menu labeled 'RBPC' is open, showing options like Data, Templates, Map, Properties, and Input Controls. The main area displays a report titled 'RBPC' with a table of data. The table has columns for Product Family, Die Revision, Device Category, and Material. The first row shows '5022C DF PP5021-N PP5021C-TDF'. Below this are two summary rows: 'Summary for Die Revision : DF' and 'Summary for Product Family : 5022C'. The table then lists several AP16 entries with their corresponding details. At the bottom of the report, it says 'Last Refreshed On : 05/18/2010 04:56:08' and '** Metric is "RBP Variance"**'. The bottom status bar indicates 'Last Refresh Date: May 18, 2010 5:02:03 AM GMT-07:00'. The left sidebar shows 'Input Controls - RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Week' with a 'New' button and a 'Reset' button. The bottom left corner has a 'Discussions' link.

Formatting the Report

The report can be formatted under the Format tab, which has all formatting options organised under one section.

This screenshot shows the SAP BusinessObjects interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Documents, RBPC, and RBPC. The ribbon at the top has tabs for File, Properties, Report Element, Format, Data Access, Analysis, and Page Setup. The 'Format' tab is highlighted with a red box. Below the ribbon is a toolbar with various styling options like Font, Border, Cell, Style, Numbers, Alignment, Size, and Padding. The main area displays a report titled 'RBPC-C: Prod...' with a table of data. The table has columns for Product Family, Die Revision, Device Category, and Material. The first row shows '5022C DF PP5021-N PP5021C-TDF'. Below this are two summary rows: 'Summary for Die Revision : DF' and 'Summary for Product Family : 5022C'. The table then lists several AP16 entries with their corresponding details. At the bottom of the report, it says 'Last Refreshed On : 05/18/2010 04:56:08' and '** Metric is "RBP Variance"**'. The bottom status bar indicates 'Track Changes: Off', 'Page 1 of 1+', '100%', and '2 years ago.' The left sidebar shows 'Available Objects' with a tree view of report objects. The bottom status bar also shows 'RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Month' and 'RBP_C_Product_Family_By_Week'.