

# Why and How Does Metric Insights Connect to Data Sources?

Metric Insights provides a single portal into data, automatically uncovers anomalies, and notifies users of significant changes. This data can be fetched from:

- Third-party tools via **Plugins**; e.g., Tableau, Power BI, Qlik Sense
- SQL-based data sources via **JDBC drivers**; e.g., Athena, Snowflake, SQL Server
- A CSV file (in a form of Datasets) **uploaded manually**

**Plugins** work by leveraging the API of the tool from which you want to collect data. To be able to connect to the tool, certain parameters; e.g., hostname, server URL, username, password, that must be provided by the user and defined in Metric Insights. Some Plugins use OAuth/SSO. Once connected and authenticated, a Plugin can execute the specified job, for example:

- Obtaining a list of objects
- Fetching data
- Collecting filters and images

The complete list of supported Plugins and their capabilities can be found [here](#).

**JDBC drivers** allow connecting to SQL databases, including: MS SQL, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Snowflake. This connection also requires specifying certain parameters such as service credentials, hostname, database name. Refer to [this chapter](#) for more information on JDBC drivers.