

Open Edu Analytics Solution Guide

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Introduction

This document provides step by step instructions for the setup of the Open Edu Analytics base solution as well as information on how to deploy modules and packages on the base architecture.

Open Edu Analytics is an open source modern data warehouse solution for education, built on [Synapse Analytics](#) and the powerful set of Azure platform data services.

For a set of brief introductory videos on Synapse Analytics see: [Azure Synapse Analytics demo videos](#).

For a step-by-step guide through Synapse Analytics, see: [Get Started with Azure Synapse Analytics](#).

All scripts and documentation for the Open Edu Analytics solution can be found at: <https://github.com/microsoft/OpenEduAnalytics>

The Open Edu Analytics solution is comprised of:

- 1) The core Open Edu Analytics solution architecture – an Azure storage account, a Synapse workspace, an Apache Spark Pool, AAD security groups
- 2) modules – Apache Spark notebooks for the processing of source data from a specific source system. Data modules can be seen as data silos, bringing in data from a single system, with no dependencies.
- 3) packages – a package of assets such as Apache Spark notebooks for provisioning a comprehensive view over multiple data sets, Power BI reports, and Machine Learning models. A solution package utilizes one or more data modules for providing the source data utilized in the solution.

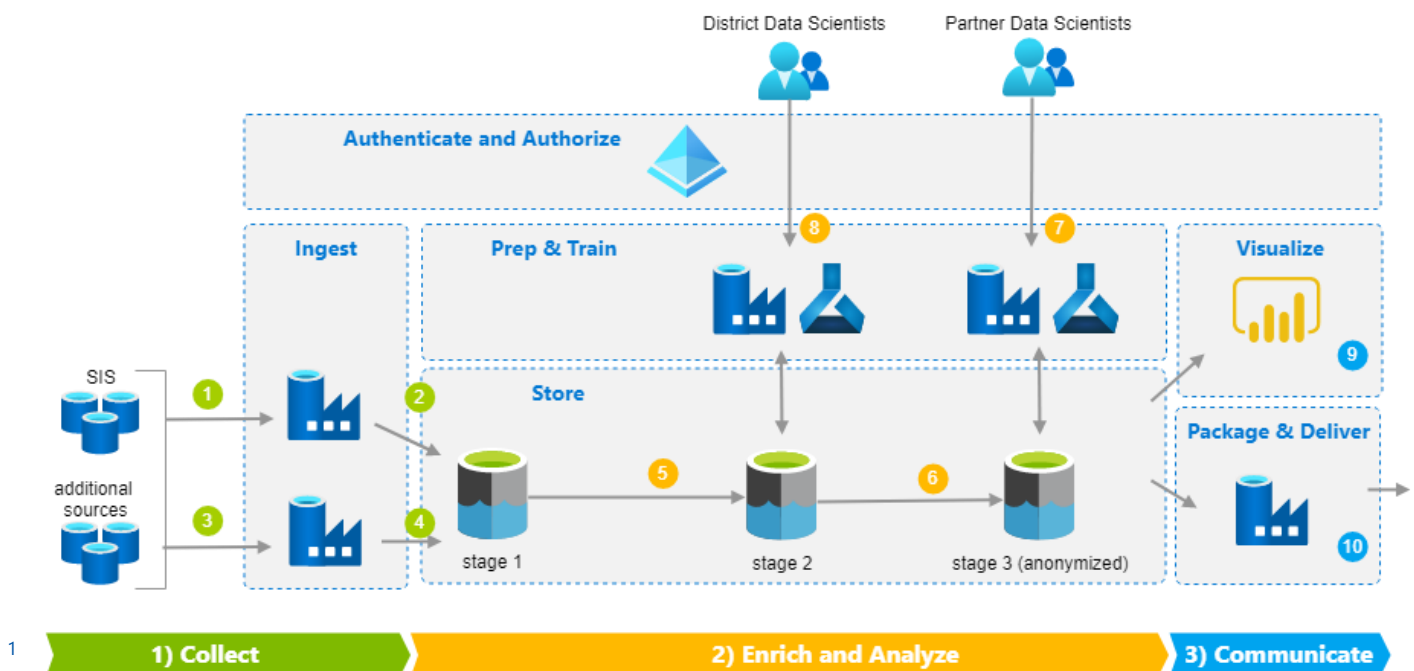
Modules and packages in Open Edu Analytics can contain the same set of assets – the main distinction between the two is that modules are self-contained while packages have dependencies on one or more modules.

Modules and packages have the following standard structure:

1. a readme.md for basic documentation
2. a setup.sh script to be used for automated deployment from [cloud shell](#)
3. a notebooks folder for Synapse notebooks
4. a powerbi folder for Power BI assets (this is optional)

In order to begin the setup of the Open Edu Analytics solution, all you need is an [Azure subscription](#). See the following section for detailed setup instructions.

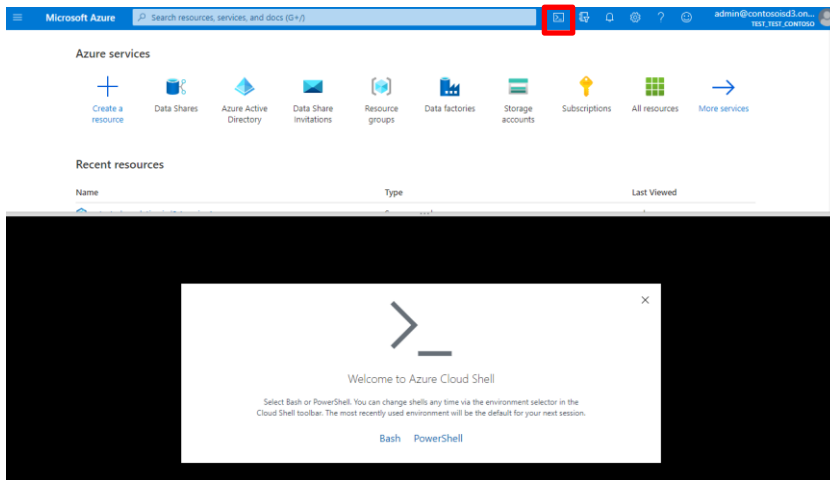
The diagram below provides a high-level overview of the reference architecture.



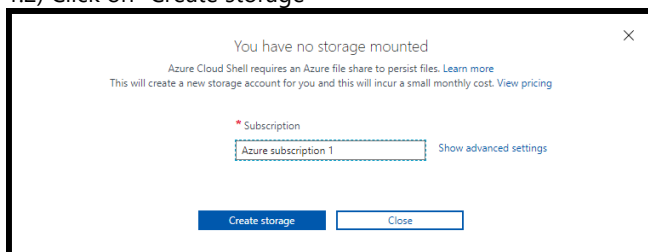
1) Setup of base architecture and test env

In this section you will use a script to provision the Azure resources that comprise the core of this solution, as well as an example solution package that provides example datasets and notebooks to use for further exploring the capabilities of Synapse Analytics.

1.1) In Azure portal, click on the Cloud Shell icon, then select "Bash".

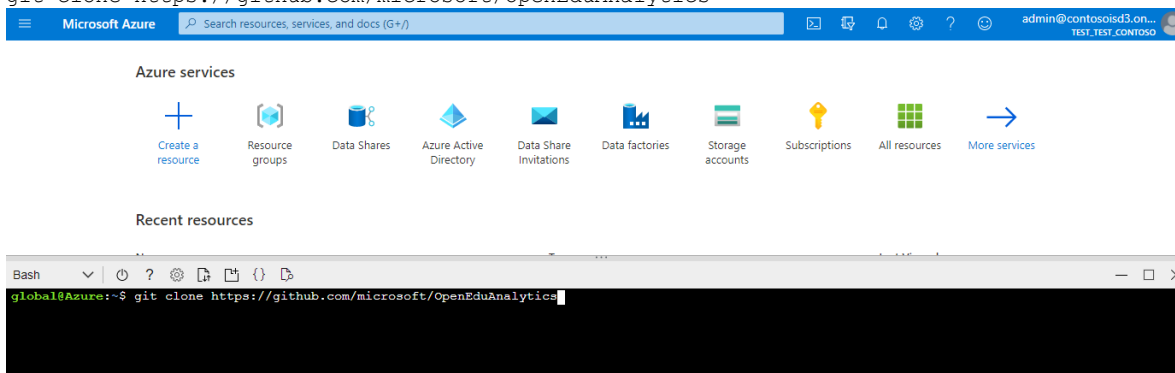


1.2) Click on "Create storage"



1.3) At the bash shell prompt, enter the following commands to download the contents of the OpenEduAnalytics repository to your Azure cloud drive.

```
cd clouddrive
git clone https://github.com/microsoft/OpenEduAnalytics
```



1.4) Now run the setup script found in the root directory of OpenEduAnalytics by running the following commands. Note that for <orgid> you should enter an ID for your org which will be used as a suffix of Azure resources that must be unique. For example, a school district named Contoso Independent School District might choose an org ID of "CISD" or "ContosoISD".

```
cd OpenEduAnalytics
./setup.sh <orgid>
```

The Azure resources will be created in the East US region by default. In order to have the resources created in a different location, specify the desired location as the second argument to the script:

```
./setup.sh <orgid> <location>
```

For a list of available locations, see: [Products available by region](#)

The installation script will then take several minutes to complete, as it provisions the following Azure resources:

1. EduAnalytics resource group
2. storage account with 4 storage containers (named synapse, stage1, stage2, stage3, testdata)
3. Azure Synapse workspace
4. Apache Spark pool
5. Azure AD security groups, with appropriate role assignments to access the storage account via Synapse studio

Pictured below are screenshots of the created resources:

The screenshot shows the 'Overview' page for the 'EduAnalyticsCISD3a' resource group. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM), Tags, Events, Settings (Deployments, Policies, Properties, Locks), and Cost Management. The main content area displays 'Essentials' information: Subscription (Azure subscription 1), Subscription ID (9116e83a-48f0-4e84-80d8-7e73430608df), Location (East US), and Tags. Below this is a table of resources with columns for Name, Type, and Location. The table shows three resources: spark1 (syduanalyticscis3a/spark1) as an Apache Spark pool, stedanalyticscis3a as a Storage account, and syduanalyticscis3a as a Synapse workspace, all located in East US.

Name	Type	Location
spark1 (syduanalyticscis3a/spark1)	Apache Spark pool	East US
stedanalyticscis3a	Storage account	East US
syduanalyticscis3a	Synapse workspace	East US

The screenshot shows the 'Containers' page for the 'stedanalyticscis3a' storage account. The left sidebar includes navigation links: Overview, Activity log, Tags, Diagnose and solve problems, Access Control (IAM), Data transfer, Events, and Storage Explorer (preview). The main content area has a search bar and a table of containers. The table has columns for Name, Last modified, and Public access level. It lists five containers: stage1, stage2, stage3, synapse, and test-env, all created on 12/7/2020 and set to Private access level.

Name	Last modified	Public access level
stage1	12/7/2020, 4:42:57 PM	Private
stage2	12/7/2020, 4:42:58 PM	Private
stage3	12/7/2020, 4:42:59 PM	Private
synapse	12/7/2020, 4:42:56 PM	Private
test-env	12/7/2020, 4:43:00 PM	Private

The screenshot shows the 'Groups | All groups' page in the Azure Active Directory section. The left sidebar includes navigation links: All groups, Deleted groups, and Diagnose and solve problems. The main content area has a search bar with 'edu' entered and a table of groups. The table has columns for Name, Object Id, Group Type, and Membership Type. It lists four groups: Edu Analytics Dat..., Edu Analytics Dat..., Edu Analytics Ext..., and Edu Analytics Glo..., all of type Security and with Assigned membership.

Name	Object Id	Group Type	Membership Type
Edu Analytics Dat...	2c35a650-0d54-49a5-b1...	Security	Assigned
Edu Analytics Dat...	ece793a4-fd6d-41a1-a5...	Security	Assigned
Edu Analytics Ext...	2cb2cd62-2cbb-4577-8...	Security	Assigned
Edu Analytics Glo...	14fe17d6-1fa3-4eba-85...	Security	Assigned

Note too that the automated setup installs test datasets in the test-env storage container. See the section “Walking through the example” for more details on how to use this data to run example notebooks and learn more about Synapse Analytics.

2) Walking through the included example

2.1) Open your new Synapse Workspace by clicking on the url at the end of the setup script

--> Setup of the test environment is complete.

Click on this url to open your Synapse Workspace: <https://web.azuresynapse.net?workspace=%2fsubscriptions%2f9116e83a-48f0-4e84-80d8-7e73430608df>

or you also launch your Synapse Workspace from Azure portal:

The screenshot shows the Azure portal interface for a Synapse workspace named 'syeduanalyticscsid3a'. The left sidebar contains navigation links for Overview, Activity log, Access control (IAM), Tags, Diagnose and solve problems, Settings, SQL Active Directory admin, Properties, Locks, Analytics pools, and Security. The main content area displays workspace details such as Resource group (EduAnalyticsCISD3a), Status (Succeeded), Location (East US), Subscription (Azure subscription 1), Subscription ID, Managed virtual network (No), Managed Identity object, Workspace web URL, and Tags. Below this, the 'Getting started' section is highlighted with a red box, featuring two cards: 'Open Synapse Studio' (with a 'Start building your fully-integrated analytics solution and unlock new insights.' message and an 'Open' button) and 'Read documentation' (with a 'Learn how to be productive quickly.' message and a 'Learn more' button).

2.2) Download the notebook "Contoso_ISD_all_in_one.ipynb" found in clouddrive/OpenEduAnalytics/tmp

This can be done by clicking on the upload/download icon in Cloud Shell as shown below.

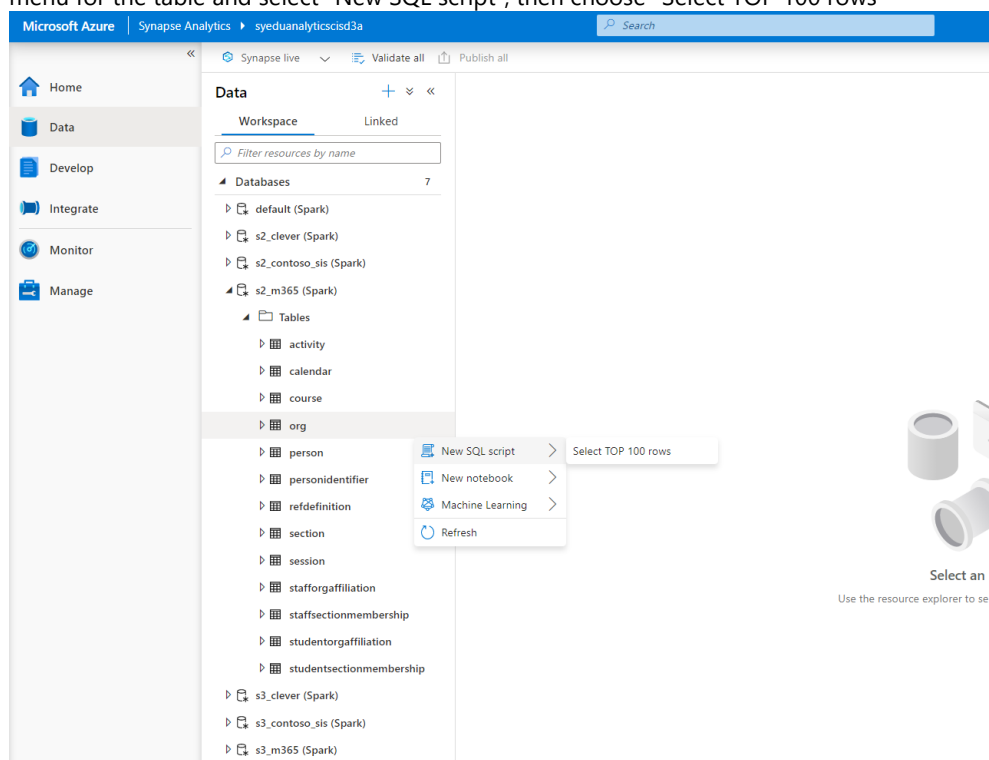
The screenshot shows the Azure Cloud Shell interface. The terminal displays the command to copy the notebook from the cloud drive: `azcopy command: ['"/home/g1/f3Ku1w0TpFdZj5MdCt2vxDSqu4"', '/usr/cuser/clouddrive/OpenEduAnalytics/tmp/Contoso_ISD_all_in_one.ipynb', '--recursive']`. The output shows the file being scanned and downloaded. A context menu is visible over the terminal, with options for 'Upload', 'Download', and 'Manage file share'. The 'Download' option is highlighted.

2.3) In Synapse Workspace, click on Develop then click on "+" and select Import and choose the Contoso_ISD_all_in_one.ipynb downloaded in the last step.

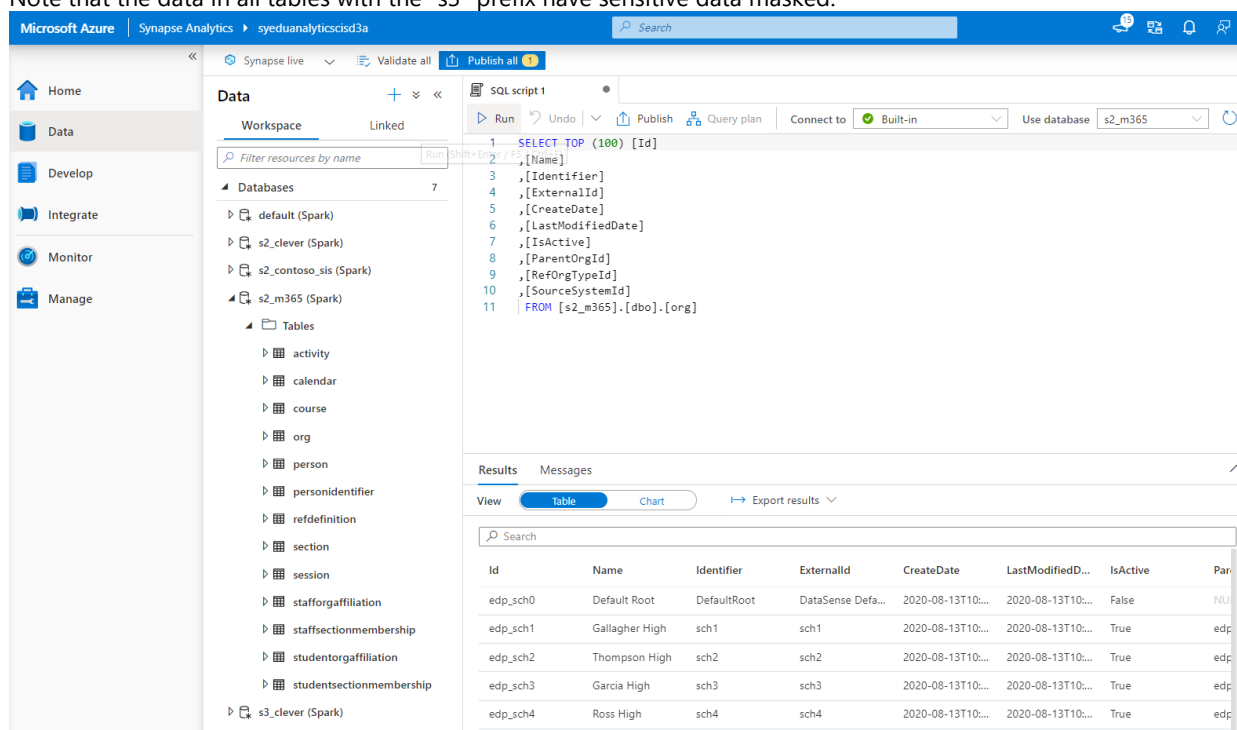
The screenshot shows the Synapse Studio interface. The left sidebar contains navigation links for Home, Data, Develop, Integrate, Monitor, and Manage. The 'Develop' section is active, showing a list of notebooks. The notebook 'Contoso_ISD_all_in_one' is selected. The main content area displays the notebook's code cells. Cell 2 contains the code to set the storage account and test environment: `storage_account = 'syeduanalyticscsid3a'` and `use_test_env = True`. Cell 3 contains the code to set the stage names: `stage1 = 'abfss://test-env@' + storage_account + '.dfs.core.windows.net/stage1'`, `stage2 = 'abfss://test-env@' + storage_account + '.dfs.core.windows.net/stage2'`, and `stage3 = 'abfss://test-env@' + storage_account + '.dfs.core.windows.net/stage3'`. The notebook is attached to the 'spark1' pool and the language is set to 'PySpark (Python)'. The 'Preview' button is visible.

2.4) Click on “Run all”. This will startup a spark cluster and then execute each of the cells in the notebook. By default, this notebook is configured to use the test data included in the initial setup.

2.5) Once the notebook execution has completed, navigate to “Data”, expand s2_m365, hover on the table named “org”, click on the menu for the table and select “New SQL script”, then choose “Select TOP 100 rows”



2.6) In the “SQL script 1” tab that opens, click on “Run”. Note the list of schools that were included in the test data set. Perform other queries across the various databases to get a feel for the test data and the Synapse interface. Note that the data in all tables with the “s3” prefix have sensitive data masked.



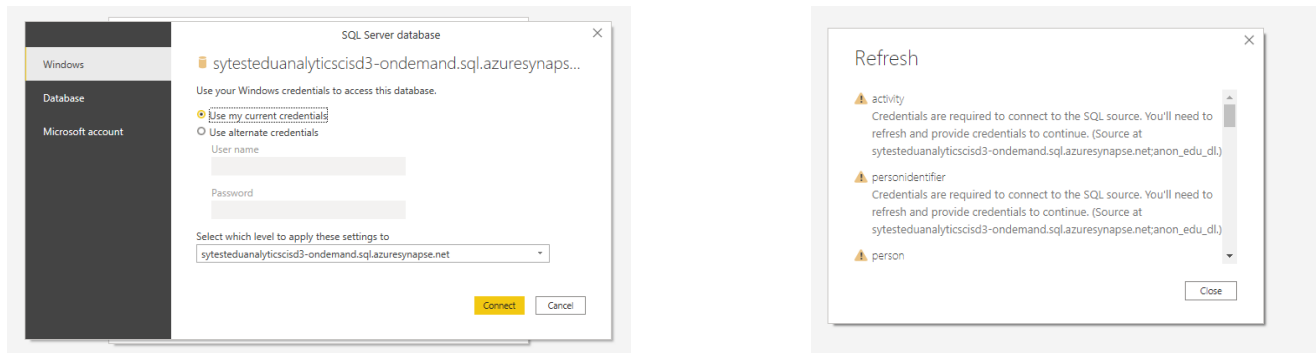
3) Power BI dashboard examples

The previous section demonstrated the steps needed for a complete setup with a test environment and test data.

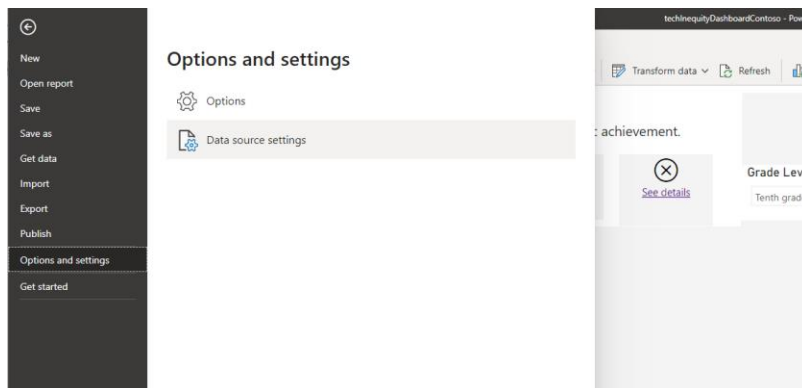
This section will demonstrate how to open the example Power BI dashboards in Power BI desktop and connect to the data lake in your test environment via SQL On-Demand. You will need to have Power BI Desktop installed on your computer to complete this section (Power BI Desktop is free to download and free to use – it can be [downloaded from here](#)).

3.1) Navigate to your local version of the OpenEduAnalytics repository, and double-click on OpenEduAnalytics\packages\ContosoISD\powerbi\techInequityDashboardContoso.pbix to open the Power BI dashboard in Power BI desktop.

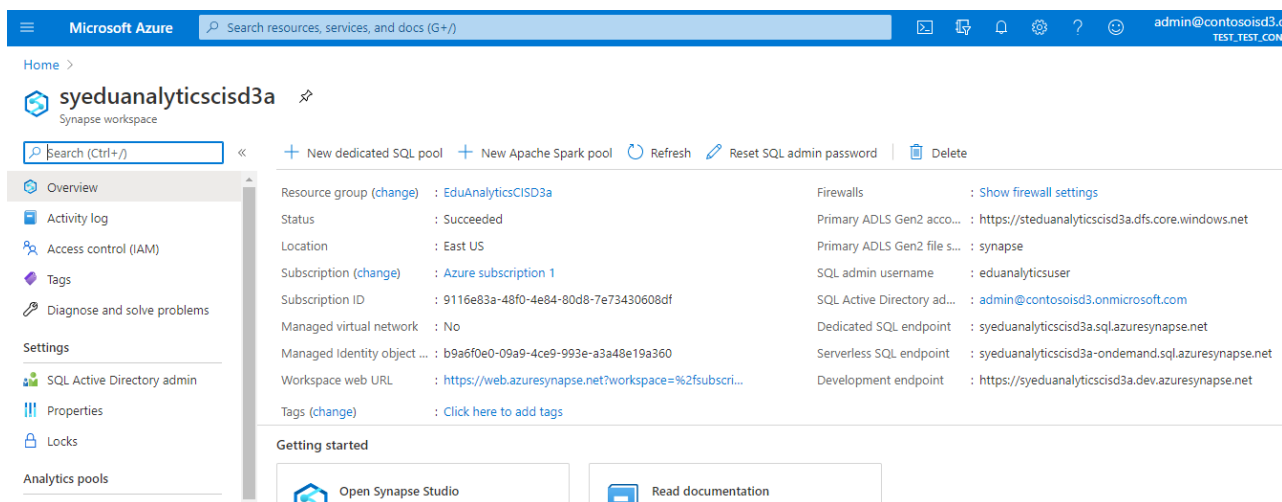
3.2) You will be prompted for credentials to the pre-configured data source, but since you need to specify a new data source, you can just click on “Cancel”, and then click on “Close” on the next dialog.



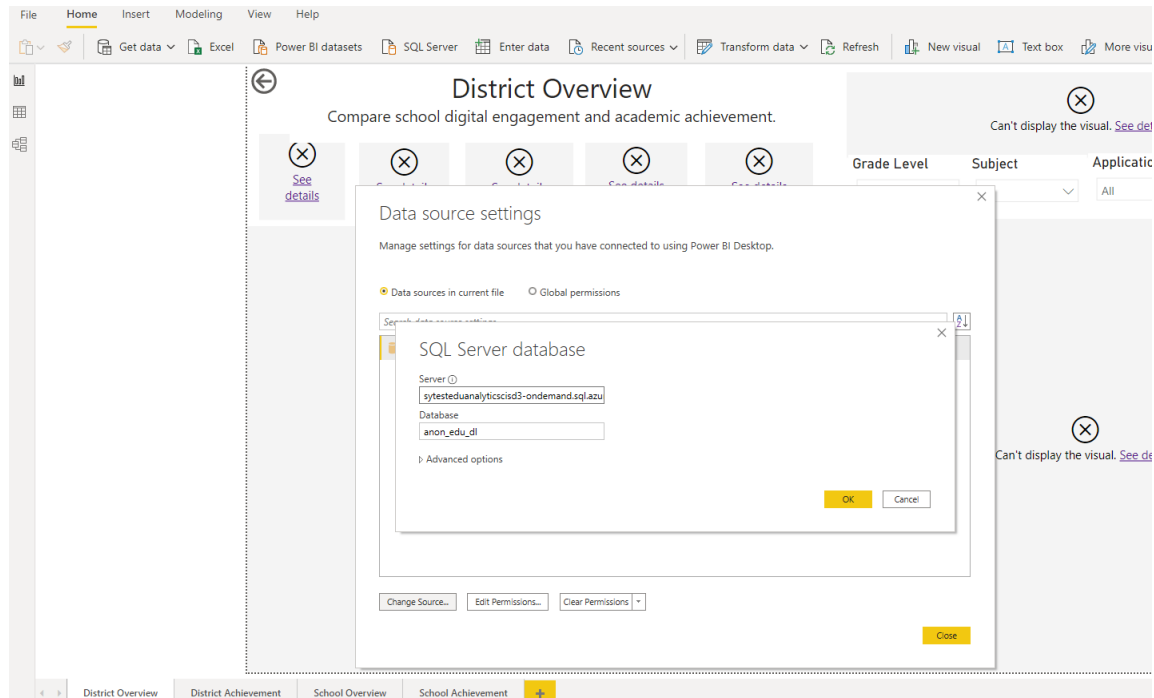
3.3) Now click on File -> Options and Settings -> Data source settings, and on the next screen click on “Change Source”



3.4) In order to get the right url for your server, go to portal.azure.com and navigate to your Synapse instance. You need to copy the value for “Serverless SQL endpoint”.

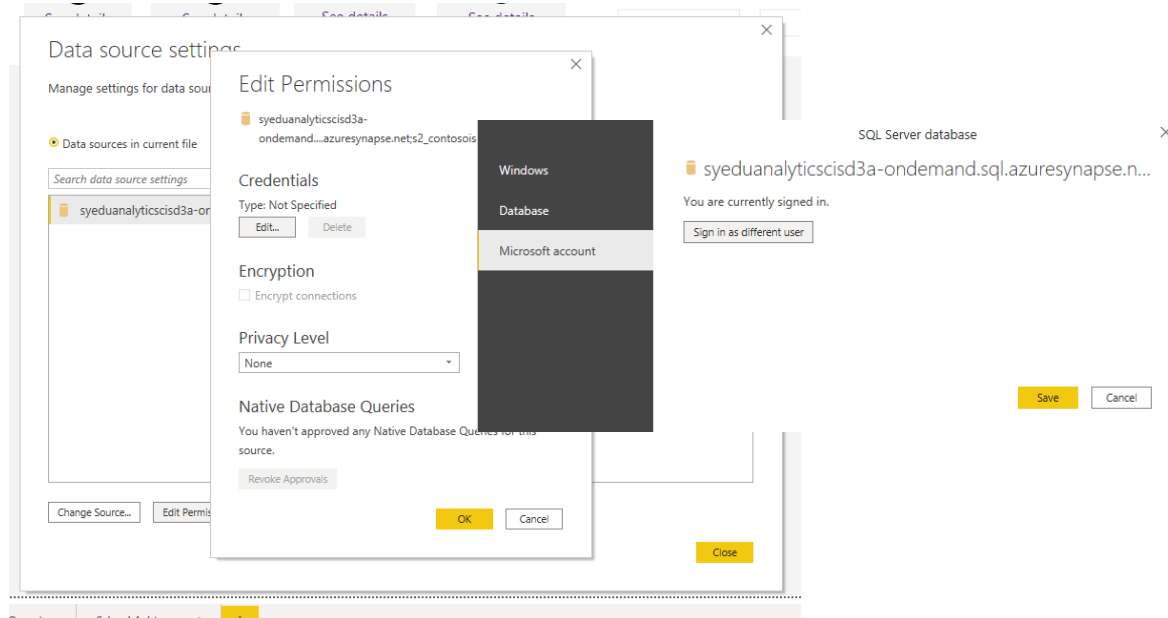


3.5) Enter the value you retrieved in the previous step in the textbox for “Server”, and for “Database” enter “s2_ContosoISD”, then click “Edit Permissions”

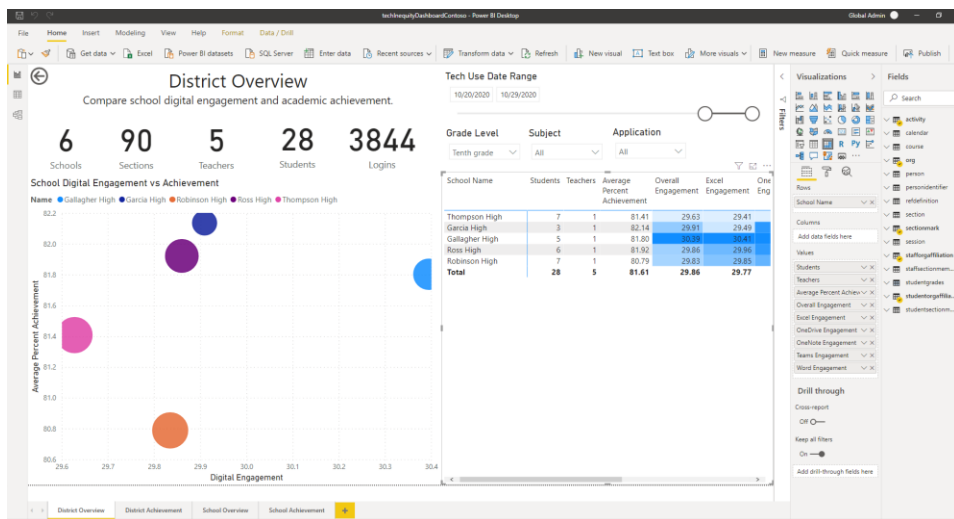


3.6) Click “Edit”, and in the next window click “Microsoft account”, then click “Sign in”, and complete the sign in process with the credentials for the user that has access to the Synapse workspace.

Then click on “Save”, followed by “OK”, followed by “Close”, and then click on “Apply changes”.



3.7) You should see a dashboard similar to this screenshot. Click around and test the different tabs and interactive components.

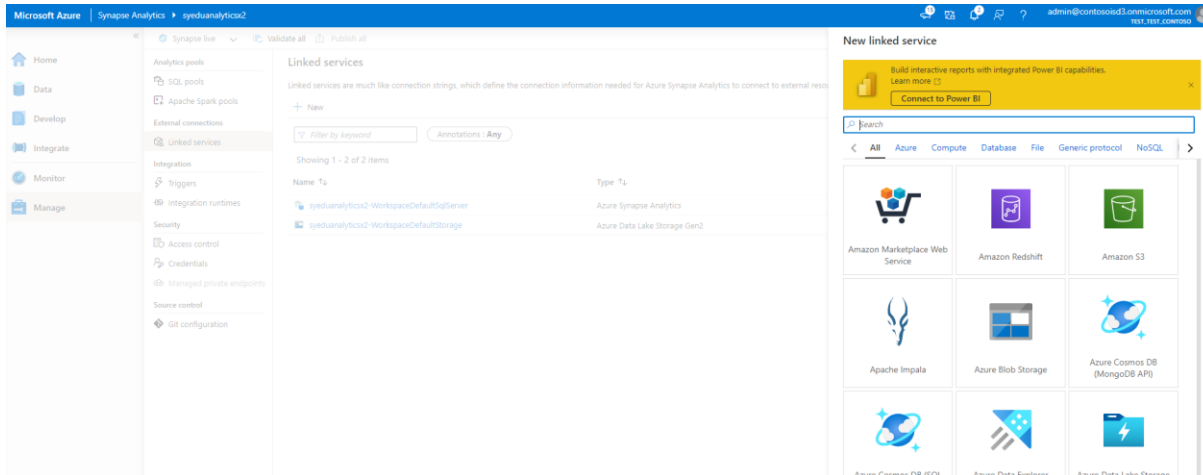


3.8) Following these same steps, you can open the report within the M365 module found at OpenEduAnalytics\modules\M365\powerbi\M365_dashboard.pbix
The only difference is that when specifying the value for "Database", use the value "s2_m365"

4) Connect Power BI workspace

If you have a Power BI cloud account, you have the option of connecting a cloud based Power BI workspace to Synapse.

To connect your Power BI workspace to Synapse so that it is accessible from with Synapse studio, login to Synapse studio and click on “Manage”, then select “Linked services”, then click on “Connect to Power BI” and complete the form with the connection info to your Power BI workspace.



For more details see: [Linking a Power BI workspace to a Synapse workspace](#)

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