

# Data Migration Jumpstart

Bug Free Polybase Load

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# Bug Free Polybase Load to SQL DW Approach

This guide covers an approach for a bug free Polybase Load using Azure Data Factory (ADF). The following caveats apply:

- You need to guarantee the files being extracted are UTF-8/UTF-16 compatible (you can follow this white paper to achieve this)
- You need to guarantee NULL values are handled correctly – use empty string

## Assumptions: Familiarity with Polybase and File Formats in SQL DW

### Step 0 – Defining the File Format

*A suggestion of a File Format that worked for several DMJ engagements is:*

```
CREATE EXTERNAL FILE FORMAT FileFormat3
WITH
(
    FORMAT_TYPE = DELIMITEDTEXT
,    FORMAT_OPTIONS (
        FIELD_TERMINATOR = '↵'
        ,    STRING_DELIMITER = ' '
        ,    USE_TYPE_DEFAULT = TRUE
    )
);
```

### Step 1 – Preparing the **source data**

*One of the main reasons why a table load will fail is due to carriage return and line feed in the source data. The approach taken in this guide is to remove carriage return and line feed in the source data by generating a query that will replace those characters to empty string.*

*Source = Oracle*

```
SELECT CASE WHEN COLUMN_ID = 1 THEN 'SELECT ' ||
    CASE WHEN DATA_TYPE = 'DATE' THEN COLUMN_NAME || ';'
    ELSE 'REPLACE(REPLACE(' || COLUMN_NAME || ', CHR(10), ''), CHR(13), '') AS ' || COLUMN_NAME || ';'
END
    WHEN (COLUMN_ID = (SELECT COUNT(1) FROM dba_tab_columns B where A.table_name = B.TABLE_NAME AND
A.OWNER = B.OWNER)) THEN
    CASE WHEN DATA_TYPE = 'DATE' THEN COLUMN_NAME || ' FROM ' || OWNER || '.' || TABLE_NAME || ';'
    ELSE 'REPLACE(REPLACE(' || COLUMN_NAME || ', CHR(10), ''), CHR(13), '') AS ' || COLUMN_NAME || ' FROM ' ||
OWNER || '.' || TABLE_NAME || ';'
END
ELSE CASE WHEN DATA_TYPE = 'DATE' THEN COLUMN_NAME || ';'
    ELSE 'REPLACE(REPLACE(' || COLUMN_NAME || ', CHR(10), ''), CHR(13), '') AS ' || COLUMN_NAME || ';'
END
END AS MEGA_QUERY
```

```

FROM    DBA_TAB_COLUMNS A
WHERE   OWNER = 'DS_SAP'
--AND   TABLE_NAME = 'DS_EMPLOYEE'
ORDER BY COLUMN_ID ASC;

```

*Source = <IMPLEMENTS INFORMATION\_SCHEMA>: MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQL Server, Netezza, etc*

```

SELECT CASE WHEN ORDINAL_POSITION = 1 THEN 'SELECT ' +
        CASE WHEN DATA_TYPE = 'DATE' THEN COLUMN_NAME + ','
        ELSE 'REPLACE(REPLACE(' + COLUMN_NAME + ', CHAR(10), ''), CHAR(13), '') AS ' + COLUMN_NAME + ','
        END
        WHEN (ORDINAL_POSITION = (SELECT COUNT(1) FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLUMNS B WHERE
A.TABLE_SCHEMA = B.TABLE_SCHEMA AND A.TABLE_NAME = B.TABLE_NAME)) THEN
        CASE WHEN DATA_TYPE = 'DATE' THEN COLUMN_NAME + ' FROM ' + TABLE_SCHEMA + '.' + TABLE_NAME + ';'
        ELSE 'REPLACE(REPLACE(' + COLUMN_NAME + ', CHAR(10), ''), CHAR(13), '') AS ' + COLUMN_NAME + ' FROM ' +
TABLE_SCHEMA + '.' + TABLE_NAME + ';'
        END
        ELSE
        CASE WHEN DATA_TYPE = 'DATE' THEN COLUMN_NAME + ','
        ELSE 'REPLACE(REPLACE(' + COLUMN_NAME + ', CHAR(10), ''), CHAR(13), '') AS ' + COLUMN_NAME + ','
        END
        END
        END
from INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLUMNS A
WHERE TABLE_SCHEMA = 'DM_HR'
--AND TABLE_NAME = 'FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE'
ORDER BY ORDINAL_POSITION ASC

```

*Sample result:*

```

SELECT REPLACE(REPLACE(EMPLOYEE_KEY, CHR(10), ''), CHR(13), '') AS EMPLOYEE_KEY,
VALID_FROM,
VALID_TO,
REPLACE(REPLACE(COST_CENTER, CHR(10), ''), CHR(13), '') AS COST_CENTER,
REPLACE(REPLACE(ORG_UNIT_NAME, CHR(10), ''), CHR(13), '') AS ORG_UNIT_NAME,
REPLACE(REPLACE(PARENT_ORG_UNIT, CHR(10), ''), CHR(13), '') AS PARENT_ORG_UNIT,
REPLACE(REPLACE(STG_LOAD_DELTA_ID, CHR(10), ''), CHR(13), '') AS STG_LOAD_DELTA_ID,
STG_LOAD_DATE FROM DS_SAP.DS_EMPLOYEE;

```

Step 2 – Preparing the **target External table in SQL DW**

Another reason a table load will fail is due to datatype mismatch and irregular datatype conversions from source to target. One way of bypassing this situation is by creating the External Table with generic datatypes. In a nutshell, the technique consists in converting all datatypes to varchar. That means, we will be reading the external tables as pure texts and won't be worried with datatype conversion for now.

As an example, this is what the target database table looks like in SQL DW

```
CREATE TABLE [dm_hr].[FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE]
(
    [FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE_DWK] [bigint] IDENTITY(1,1) NOT NULL,
    [DIM_EMPLOYEE_DWK] [bigint] NOT NULL,
    [CALENDAR_DWK] [bigint] NOT NULL,
    [DIM_TIME_TYPE_DWK] [bigint] NOT NULL,
    [DIM_UNIT_OF_MEASUREMENT_DWK] [bigint] NOT NULL,
    [DIM_ORGANISATION_DWK] [bigint] NOT NULL,
    [ABSENCE_ACTUAL_TIME] [numeric](38, 1) NULL,
    [DM_LOAD_DELTA_ID] [numeric](38,1) NULL,
    [DM_NAME] [varchar(50)] NULL,
    [DM_LOAD_DATE] [datetime2](0) NULL
)
WITH
(
    DISTRIBUTION = ROUND_ROBIN,
    CLUSTERED COLUMNSTORE INDEX
)
GO
```

This is what the external table will look like in SQL DW:

As I said previously, the use of generic datatypes saves time with datatype conversion problems. Meaning, there will be always only have 3 kinds of datatypes in the external tables: Integer/Bigint, Datetime2(7) and varchar(XX). If you want, for simplicity, you can convert everything to Varchar.

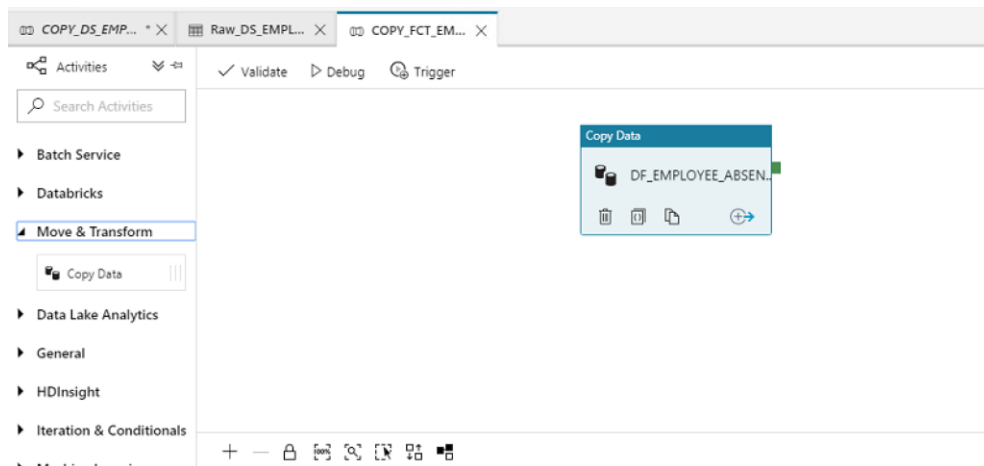
Sample external table in SQL DW:

```
CREATE EXTERNAL TABLE [dm_hr].[ext_FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE]
(
    [FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE_DWK] [bigint] NULL,
    [DIM_EMPLOYEE_DWK] [bigint] NULL,
    [CALENDAR_DWK] [bigint] NULL,
    [DIM_TIME_TYPE_DWK] [bigint] NULL,
    [DIM_UNIT_OF_MEASUREMENT_DWK] [bigint] NULL,
    [DIM_ORGANISATION_DWK] [bigint] NULL,
    [ABSENCE_ACTUAL_TIME] [varchar](39) NULL,
    [DM_LOAD_DELTA_ID] [varchar](39) NULL,
    [DM_NAME] [varchar(50)] NULL,
    [DM_LOAD_DATE] [datetime2](7) NULL
)
WITH (
    DATA_SOURCE = [ds_adl],
    LOCATION = N'/Raw/DM_HR/FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE',
    FILE_FORMAT = [FileFormat3],
    REJECT_TYPE = VALUE,
    REJECT_VALUE = 1000
)
GO
```

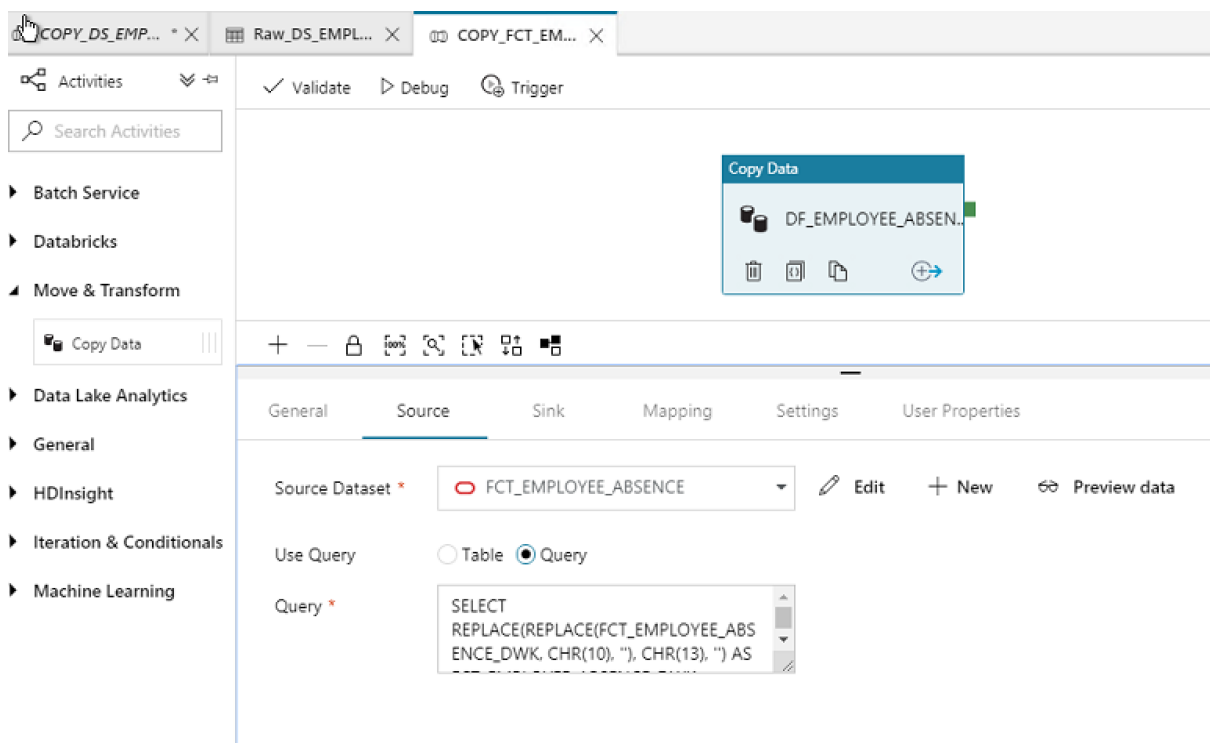
### Step 3 – ADF configuration

Make sure the following setup is being used in ADF:

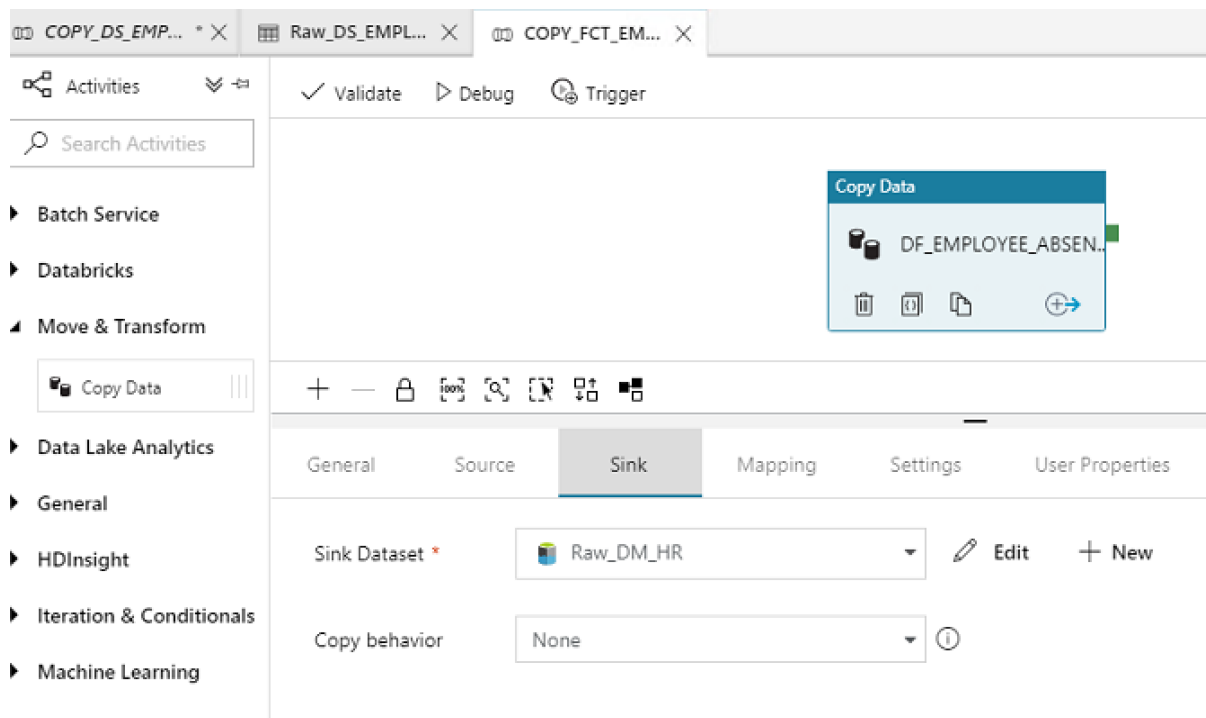
Sample Copy data Pipeline:



Go to "Source" and make sure you check "Use Query" -> "Query". Here you paste the query generated on Step 1 for that table in the "Query" box.



After that you go click on "Sink" -> "Edit"



*Navigate to "Connection" and make sure you configure it as following:*

df-lupdw poc-dev001

Data Factory

Publish All

Validate All

Refresh

Discard All

ARM Template

Factory Resources

Filter Resources

Pipelines

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COPY\_DIM\_CALENDAR

COPY\_DIM\_EMPLOYEE

COPY\_DIM\_ORGANISATION

COPY\_DS\_ABSENCE\_DELTA\_TO...

\* COPY\_DS\_EMPLOYEE

COPY\_DS\_ENTMNT\_DELTA\_TO...

COPY\_FCT\_DISRUPTIONS\_LCH...

COPY\_FCT\_EMPLOYEE\_ABSENCE

COPY\_FF\_EMPLOYEE\_LEAVE\_E...

COPY\_STG\_ABSENCE

COPY\_TMP\_EMPLOYEE\_LEAVE\_...

Data\_Migration

DIM\_ANNUAL\_LEAVE

DIM\_PTD\_REPORT

DIM\_REFERENCE

DS\_SAP\_LAYER

STG\_SAP\_LAYER

Connections

Triggers

COPY\_DS\_EMP...

Raw\_DS\_EMPL...

COPY\_FCT\_EM...

Raw\_DM\_HR

Azure Data Lake Storage Gen1

Raw\_DM\_HR

General

Connection

Schema

Parameters

Linked service \*

ADLS\_TFLPOC

Test connection

Edit

New

File path

Raw/DM\_HR/FCT\_EMPL / fct\_employee

Browse

Preview data

Compression Type

None

Binary Copy

File Format Settings

File format

Text format

Detect Text Format

Column delimiter

↵

Use custom delimiter

Row delimiter

Line feed (\n)

Use custom delimiter

File Format: TextFormat

Column Delimiter : ↯ (tick "use custom delimiter" to enable that)

Row Delimiter: Line Feed (\n)

Click in "Advanced" to expand the window

Null Value : Make sure you remove the default (\N ) and leave it empty

Encoding name: UTF-8

And tick "Treat empty column value as null"

There might have other configurations that you want to do, such as quote character, escape character etc. What is showed here is the essential configuration that needs to be in place for this approach to work.

File Format: TextFormat

Column Delimiter : ↯ (tick "use custom delimiter" to enable that)

Row Delimiter: Line Feed (\n)

Click in "Advanced" to expand the window

Null Value : Make sure you remove the default (\N ) and leave it empty

Encoding name: UTF-8

And tick "Treat empty column value as null"

There might have other configurations that you want to do, such as quote character, escape character etc. What is showed here is the essential configuration that needs to be in place for this approach to work.

Step 4 – Insert into **SQL DW target table** from the SQL DW External table

Lastly, generate the procedure that will load the data from the External SQL DW table to the Internal SQL DW table. Now, the idea is to cast/convert the datatypes to fit the target SQL DW table.



Again, the technique consists in generating the columns casting using the DBMS metadata. See how it is done as following:

```
SELECT CASE WHEN ORDINAL_POSITION = 1 THEN 'SELECT ' +
CASE
WHEN DATA_TYPE IN ('bigint', 'int', 'smallint', 'float') AND
IS_NULLABLE='YES' then 'cast('+column_name+' as ' + data_type +'),'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='date' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'cast('+column_name+' as date),'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='datetime2' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'convert(datetime2(0), CAST('+column_name+' AS DATETIME2(7)), 103),'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='varchar' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'cast('+column_name+' as varchar(' + convert(varchar, character_maximum_length) +
'))),'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='numeric' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'CONVERT(numeric(' + convert(varchar, numeric_precision) + ',' + convert(varchar,
numeric_scale) + '), CASE WHEN ISNUMERIC(' + column_name + ')=1 THEN cast(' +
column_name + ' as numeric(' + convert(varchar, numeric_precision) + ',' +
convert(varchar, numeric_scale) + ')) ELSE null END),'
ELSE COLUMN_NAME + ','
end
WHEN (ORDINAL_POSITION = (SELECT COUNT(1) FROM
INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLUMNS B WHERE A.TABLE_SCHEMA = B.TABLE_SCHEMA AND A.TABLE_NAME =
B.TABLE_NAME)) THEN
CASE
WHEN DATA_TYPE IN ('bigint', 'int', 'smallint', 'float') AND
IS_NULLABLE='YES' then 'cast('+column_name+' as ' + data_type + ') FROM ' +
TABLE_SCHEMA + '.' + TABLE_NAME + ';'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='date' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'cast('+column_name+' as date) FROM ' + TABLE_SCHEMA + '.' + TABLE_NAME + ';'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='datetime2' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'convert(datetime2(0), CAST('+column_name+' AS DATETIME2(7)), 103) FROM ' +
TABLE_SCHEMA + '.' + TABLE_NAME + ';'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='varchar' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'cast('+column_name+' as varchar(' + convert(varchar, character_maximum_length) + '))
FROM ' + TABLE_SCHEMA + '.' + TABLE_NAME + ';'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='numeric' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'CONVERT(numeric(' + convert(varchar, numeric_precision) + ',' + convert(varchar,
numeric_scale) + '), CASE WHEN ISNUMERIC(' + column_name + ')=1 THEN cast(' +
column_name + ' as numeric(' + convert(varchar, numeric_precision) + ',' +
convert(varchar, numeric_scale) + ')) ELSE null END) FROM ' + TABLE_SCHEMA + '.' +
TABLE_NAME + ';'
ELSE COLUMN_NAME + ' FROM ' + TABLE_SCHEMA + '.' + TABLE_NAME +
';'
END
ELSE
CASE
WHEN DATA_TYPE IN ('bigint', 'int', 'smallint', 'float') AND
IS_NULLABLE='YES' then 'cast('+column_name+' as ' + data_type +'),'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='date' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'cast('+column_name+' as date),'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='datetime2' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'convert(datetime2(0), CAST('+column_name+' AS DATETIME2(7)), 103),'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='varchar' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'cast('+column_name+' as varchar(' + convert(varchar, character_maximum_length) +
'))),'
WHEN DATA_TYPE='numeric' AND IS_NULLABLE='YES' then
'CONVERT(numeric(' + convert(varchar, numeric_precision) + ',' + convert(varchar,
numeric_scale) + '), CASE WHEN ISNUMERIC(' + column_name + ')=1 THEN cast(' +
```

```

column_name + ' as numeric(' + convert(varchar, numeric_precision) + ',' +
convert(varchar, numeric_scale) +')) ELSE null END),'
        ELSE COLUMN_NAME + ','
    END
END

from INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLUMNS A WHERE TABLE_NAME = 'FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE' and
TABLE_SCHEMA = 'DM_HR' ORDER BY ORDINAL_POSITION ASC;

```

*Sample output for a single table:*

```

SELECT FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE_DWK,
DIM_EMPLOYEE_DWK,
CALENDAR_DWK,
DIM_TIME_TYPE_DWK,
DIM_UNIT_OF_MEASUREMENT_DWK,
DIM_ORGANISATION_DWK,
CONVERT(numeric(38,0), CASE WHEN ISNUMERIC(ABSENCE_ACTUAL_TIME)=1 THEN cast(ABSENCE_ACTUAL_TIME as
numeric(38,0)) ELSE null END),
CONVERT(numeric(38,0), CASE WHEN ISNUMERIC(DM_LOAD_DELTA_ID)=1 THEN cast(DM_LOAD_DELTA_ID as
numeric(38,0)) ELSE null END),
convert(datetime2(0), CAST(DM_LOAD_DATE AS DATETIME2(7))), 103) FROM dm_hr.FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE;

```

*Sample stored procedure:*

```

CREATE PROC [dm_hr].[spLoad_FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE] AS
SET NOCOUNT ON;
BEGIN
TRUNCATE TABLE dm_hr.FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE;

SET IDENTITY_INSERT dm_hr.FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE ON

INSERT INTO dm_hr.FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE(
FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE_DWK,
DIM_EMPLOYEE_DWK,
CALENDAR_DWK,
DIM_TIME_TYPE_DWK,
DIM_UNIT_OF_MEASUREMENT_DWK,
DIM_ORGANISATION_DWK,
ABSENCE_ACTUAL_TIME,
DM_LOAD_DELTA_ID,
DM_LOAD_DATE)
SELECT
FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE_DWK,
DIM_EMPLOYEE_DWK,
CALENDAR_DWK,
DIM_TIME_TYPE_DWK,
DIM_UNIT_OF_MEASUREMENT_DWK,
DIM_ORGANISATION_DWK,
CONVERT(numeric(38,0), CASE WHEN ISNUMERIC(ABSENCE_ACTUAL_TIME)=1 THEN
cast(ABSENCE_ACTUAL_TIME as numeric(38,0)) ELSE null END),
CONVERT(numeric(38,0), CASE WHEN ISNUMERIC(DM_LOAD_DELTA_ID)=1 THEN
cast(DM_LOAD_DELTA_ID as numeric(38,0)) ELSE null END),
convert(datetime2(0), CAST(DM_LOAD_DATE AS DATETIME2(7))), 103)
FROM dm_hr.ext_FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE

SET IDENTITY_INSERT dm_hr.FCT_EMPLOYEE_ABSENCE OFF

```

END

GO

*Data Load:*

Exec dm\_hr.spLoad\_FCT\_EMPLOYEE\_ABSENCE

## Feedback and suggestions

If you have feedback or suggestions for improving this data migration asset, please contact the Data Migration Jumpstart Team ([askdmjfordmtools@microsoft.com](mailto:askdmjfordmtools@microsoft.com)). Thanks for your support!

**Note:** For additional information about migrating various source databases to Azure, see the [Azure Database Migration Guide](#).