**Azure SQL DW Load Scripts (TSQL)**

The DW Load Scripts were developed to help with a large Azure SQL DW POC with one of the DMJ customers. Some of the assumptions made in the scripts are very specific to the scenario encountered at the customer.

The scripts are written in TSQL to address concerns by customers about running unknown executables in their environment. Given that they are written in TSQL and are just text files, they are easily adaptable to different loading scenarios. You will likely only need one of the scripts, so decide which one makes sense in your environment before spending time customizing.

Each of the scripts read metadata from the Azure SQL DW and uses that metadata and parameters set in the scripts to create the appropriate objects in Azure SQL DW (i.e. external data source, external table etc.) to allow an optimal performance DW load from text files in blob storage using Polybase. You can easily change the external data source to use Azure Data Lake. The optimal nature of the load will depend on the number of files provided. Our customer had many gzip’d files that distributed well among several DW nodes (few larger gzip’d files would not have done as well).

From a workflow perspective, you need to have the target schema created in Azure SQL DW before running the scripts. There are several ways to achieve this including use of tools like Erwin. In our case we used SSMA for Oracle to generate the DW schema, extracted the DDL and then manually tweaked the data types in the DDL script.

The scripts each take tables in a “source” schema and use them as a model to create the table with data loaded in the “target” schema. The DDL script discussed above creates the source schema tables and the load script handles the rest. One target tables are loaded the source schema tables can be removed.