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- Storage Overview
- Storage Services
- Storage Replication
- Storage Security

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## Azure Storage Overview

- Azure Storage is a scalable, durable, and highly available storage solution.
- $\bullet\,$  Uses an auto-partitioning system that automatically load-balances your data based on traffic.
- Is accessible from anywhere in the world, from any type of application, whether it's running in the cloud, on a desktop, on an on-premises server, or on a mobile or tablet device.
- Supports clients using a diverse set of operating systems (including Windows and Linux) and a variety of programming languages i.e. .NET, Java, Node.js, Python, Ruby, PHP and C++.



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## Azure Storage Services

- Azure storage provides the following five services: Blob storage, Table storage, Queue storage, File storage and Disk storage.
- Blob Storage stores unstructured object data or Blobs and can be any type of text or binary data, such as a document, media file, or application installer.
- Table Storage stores structured datasets and is a NoSQL key-attribute data store, which allows for rapid development and fast access to large quantities of data.
- Queue Storage provides reliable messaging for workflow processing and for communication between components of cloud services.
- $\bullet \ \ \textbf{File Storage} \ \text{offers shared storage for legacy applications using the standard SMB protocol.}$
- Disk Storage provides persistent VHD disk storage without the overhead of managing a storage account.

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Azure Storage &	& Data Service	<u>?</u> S		
Unstructured Data	Blobs Highly scalable, REST based cloud object store	Data Lake Store HDFS as a service	mongoDB Elastic scale Cross platform	Files Fully Managed File Shares in the Cloud
	Queues FIFO async messaging	Disks Virtual Machine VHD files		
Structured Data	DocumentDB NoSQL document database service	Azure SQL DB Fully managed database-as-a-service built on SQL	SQL Data Warehouse Elastic data warehouse as a service	Tables Key Value, high scale, auto-scaling NoSQL store

## Blob Storage

- Azure Blob storage is a service that stores unstructured data in the cloud as objects or blobs.
- Blob storage can store any type of text or binary data, such as a document, media file, or application installer.
- $\bullet\,$  Blob storage is also referred to as object storage.
- Azure Storage offers three types of blobs: block blobs, page blobs, and append blobs.

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## Blob Storage Concepts https://caccounts-blob.core.windows.net/<containers/<blob/containers/<br/> Account Container Blob Pages/Blocks Picol.JPG Block/Page Block/Page Videos VIDLAVI Meant Cartefuetd

Blob Types  • Block blob  • Targeted at streaming workloads or individual file uploads  • Each blob consists of a sequence of blocks • Each block is identified by a Block ID	Imagejpg
<ul> <li>Size limit of 4.7 TB per blob</li> <li>Optimistic concurrency via Entity Tags (ETags)</li> </ul>	Block Block
<ul> <li>Optimistic or pessimistic (locking) concurrency via leases</li> <li>Manage leases from Azure portal</li> </ul>	Block 1 2 3 Block 4
Page blob	
Targeted at random read/write workloads     Each blob consists of an array of pages     Each page is identified by its offset from the start of the blob     Size limit of 4 TB per blob     Optimistic concurrency via Entity Tags (ETags)     Optimistic or persimistic flocking) concurrency via leases     Manage leases from Azure portal	Sparse File 512 byte aligned
	512 1024 1536 2560 2560

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- Append Blob

  An append blob is comprised of blocks and is optimized for append operations

  When you modify an append blob blocks are added to the end of the blob by the Append Block operation

  Updating or deleting of existing blocks is not supported

  Does not expose its block lib.

  Each block in an append blob can be a different size, up to a maximum of 4 MB and can include up to 50,000 blocks

  The maximum size of an append blob is 4 MB X 50,000 blocks

  Optimistic concurrency via Entity Tags (Elbas)

  Optimistic or pessimistic (ocking) concurrency via leases

  Manage leases from Azure portal

## **Blob Names**

https://contoso.blob.core.windows.net/vhds/OSDisk.vhd

- Account Name: 3-24 characters, lower case only
- Container Name: 3-63 characters, lower case only
- Blob Name: 1-1024 characters, case sensitive
- Virtual directories within blob namespace

## Hot & Cool Storage Tiers

- Azure Blob storage offers two storage tiers for object storage, **hot** and **cool** storage.
- Hot storage is optimized for storing data that is frequently accessed.
- Cool storage is optimized for storing data that is infrequently accessed and long-lived.
- Available for Blob storage accounts only.

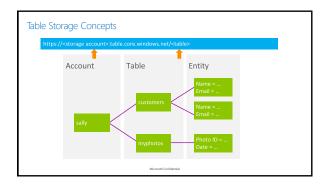
## Hot & Cool Storage Tiers New tier for Blob storage • For high volume infrequently accessed data • Same API and durability; similar latency Pricing to match workload Hot: Lower access costs Cool: Lower price per GB Switch account tiers as needed • No charge for Hot to Cool swit

## Table Storage

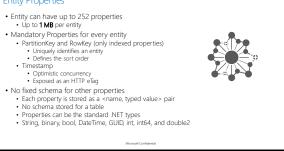
- Azure Table storage is a service that stores large amounts of structured data in the cloud as entities within a table.
- Table storage contains the following components:

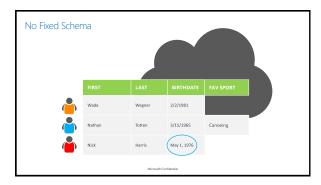
  URL format: https://storage.account-table.core.windows.net/ to access the tables.
  Storage.Account-All access to Azure Storage is done through a storage account.

  Iable A table is a collection of entities.
  Entity. An entity is a set of properties, similar to a database row and can be up to 1MB in size.
  Property: A property is a name-value pair and each entity can include up to 252 properties to store data.



## **Entity Properties**





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- Azure Queue storage is a service for storing large numbers of messages that can be accessed from anywhere in the world via authenticated calls using HTTP or HTTPS.
- A single queue message can be up to 64 KB in size, and a queue can contain millions of messages, up to the total capacity limit of a storage account.
- Asynchronous messaging for communication between application components, whether
  they are running in the cloud, on a desktop, on an on-premises server, or on a mobile
  device.

## Queue Storage

- Queue storage contains the following components:

- URL format: https://storage.accounts\_queue\_core.windows.net/<queue> to access the tables.
   Storage Account All access to Azure Storage is done through a storage account.
   Queue A queue contains a set of messages, all messages must be in a queue and queue names must be all lowercase.
- Message: A message, in any format, of up to 64 KB, the maximum time that a message can remain in the
  queue is 7 days.

## Queue Storage Concepts Queue Account https://my account.queue.core.windows.net/images-to-download

## Disk Storage

- Unmanaged Disks. This is the initial storage model where you manage the storage accounts that are used to store the VHD files that correspond to your VM disks.
- Managed Disks: This is the new storage model where Microsoft manages the storage accounts that are used to store the VHD files that correspond to your VM disks.





## Managed Disks

- What are Azure Managed Disks?
  - Azure Managed Disks are VHD's that are stored in a Microsoft managed storage account.
- Administrators do not have access to the managed disk storage account.
- Note: Managed disks are not a replacement for other storage account services i.e. Blobs, Tables & Queues.



## Managed Disks Benefits

- Simple and scalable VM deployment
  No 40 disk or 20 000 IOPs per storage account limit.
  Up to 10 000 disks per subscription.
  Up to 1000 VM Scaleser images.
  No storage account management.
- Better reliability for Availability Sets
   Ensures that the disks of VMs in an Availability Set are sufficiently isolated from each other to avoid single points of failure.
- Better security
   Use Azure Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) to assign specific permissions for a managed disk to one or more users.
   Supports granular permissions.
- · Supports a read-only shared access signature (SAS)



## Managed Disks Performance Tiers • Managed Disks offers 2 performance tiers: Premium (SSD-based) and Standard (HDD-based).

Managed Disks Images & Snapsho	ots	
Images is a feature that allows you to capture, associated with a running VM.     You can create an image from your custom VHD in a	3 3.	
A Managed Snapshot is a read-only copy of a managed disk.     With snapshots, you can back up your managed disk     These snapshots exist independent of the source disattach to a new VM.	ks at any point in time.	
Azure Backup service can also be used with Matime-based backups, easy VM restoration and		ckup job with
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# Managed Disks Pricing When using Managed Disks, the following billing considerations apply: Storage Type – Billing of a managed disk depends on which type of storage you have selected for the disk Disk Size - Azure maps the provisioned size rounded to the nearest Managed Disks option Number of transactions - Billed for the number of transactions performed on a standard managed disk Outbound data transfers - Data going out of Azure data centers incur billing for bandwidth usage Managed Disk Snapshots (full disk copy) - The cost of a managed snapshot is the same as that for standard managed disk

Migrate	Documentation link
Convert stand alone VMs and VMs in an availability set to managed disks	Convert VMs to use managed disks
A single VM from classic to Resource Manager on managed disks	Migrate a single VM
All the VMs in a vNet from classic to Resource Manager on managed disks	Migrate IaaS resources from classic to Resource Manager and then Convert a VM from unmanaged disks to managed disks

## Azure Files Azure Files offers fully managed file shares in the cloud that are accessible via SMB Can be mounted concurrently by cloud or on-premises deployments of Windows, Linux, and macOS via the Internet Can be cached on Windows Servers with Azure File Sync (preview) for fast access near where the data is being used Support for file share snapshots (Incremental)

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## Azure Files Benefits

• Maximum of 200 snapshots

- Shared access Using the SMB protocol you can seamlessly replace your on-premises file shares with Azure File shares without worrying about application compatibility.
- Fully managed Azure File shares can be created without the need to manage hardware or an OS.
- Scripting and tooling PowerShell cmdlets and Azure CLI can be used to create, mount, and manage Azure File shares as part of the administration of Azure applications.
- Resiliency Azure Files has been built from the ground up to be always available.
- Familiar programmability Applications running in Azure can access data in the share via file system I/O APIs.

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## A share can have multiple directories All directories and files must be created in a parent share An account can contain an unlimited number of shares, and a share can store an unlimited number of files, up to the capacity limits of 5TB

Description	Azure Blobs	Azure Files
Durability Options	LRS, ZRS, GRS (and RA-GRS for higher availability)	LRS, GRS
Accessibility	REST APIs	SMB 2.1/3.0 (standard file system APIs) REST APIs
Connectivity	REST – Worldwide	SMB 2.1 - Within region REST – Worldwide
Endpoints	https://myaccount.blob.core.windows.net/m ycontainer/myblob	\\myaccount.file.core.windows.net\myshare\myfile.txt
		https://myaccount.file.core.windows.net/myshare/myfile.txt
Directories	Flat namespace however prefix listing can simulate virtual directories	True directory objects
Case Sensitivity of Names	Case sensitive	Case insensitive, but case preserving
Capacity	Up to 500TB containers	Up to STB of files
Throughput	Up to 60 MB/s per blob	Up to 60 MB/s per share
Object size	Up to 4 TB/blob	Up to 1 TB/file



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### Azure Files – Linux Client OS Support

- Linux SMB client does not support encryption
   Mounting from Linux in a different region to the Azure File share requires SMB 3.0

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## Azure Storage Accounts

- Azure storage provides three types of storage accounts, General Purpose v1, v2 and Blob.
- General purpose v1 storage accounts give you access to Blobs, Tables, Queues, Files and Azure virtual machine disks under a single account and has two performance tiers, Standard and Premium:
  - Standard storage performance tier uses HDD disks and allows you to store Blobs, Tables, Queues, Files and Azure virtual machine disks.
- Rezure virtual machine disks.

  Premium storage performance tier uses SSD disks which currently only supports Azure virtual machine disks.
- General purpose v2 storage accounts give you all the features of v1 plus Hot and Cool storage tiers
- Blob Storage Accounts are specialized storage accounts for storing unstructured data as blobs in Azure Storage, optimised for block or append blob storage, not page blobs.

## Standard Storage Account

- 500 TB limit per storage account
- 200 storage accounts per region
- Up to 20,000 IOPS Per storage account and Up to 500 IOPS per VHD
- Encryption at Rest by default

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## Premium Storage Account

- Only supports Locally Redundant Storage (LRS)
- Must use B-series, DS-series, DSv2-series, DSv3-series, GS-series, Ls-series, M-series, and Fs-series VMs
- Cannot be mapped to a custom domain
- Storage analytics not currently supported
- No support for Block blobs, Append blobs, Azure Files, Azure Tables or Azure Queues only Page Blobs for Virtual Machines (aka VHD's)

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## Azure Premium Storage Scalability | Page 1992 | Page 1992 | Page 1993 | Page



## Storage Replication

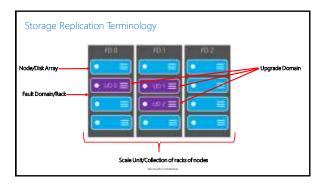
- Data in a Microsoft Azure storage account is always replicated to ensure durability and high availability.
- Replication copies your data, either within the same data center, or to a second data center, depending on which replication option you choose.
- Replication protects your data and preserves your application up-time in the event of transient hardware failures.
- If your data is replicated to a second data center, that also protects your data against a catastrophic failure in the primary location.

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## Storage Replication Terminology

- Storage Node A storage node is a disk array.
- Scale Unit A storage scale unit is a collection of racks of storage nodes.
- A Fault domain (FD) is a group of nodes that represent a physical unit of failure and can be considered as nodes belonging to the same physical rack.
- An **Upgrade domain** (UD) is a group of nodes that are upgraded together during the process of a service upgrade or rollout.

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Storage Rep	Jiication i	vpes
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- Locally redundant storage (LRS)
- Zone-redundant storage (ZRS)
- Geo-redundant storage (GRS)
- Read-access geo-redundant storage (RA-GRS)

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## Locally Redundant Storage (LRS)

- Locally redundant storage (LRS) replicates your data three times within a storage scale unit
  which is hosted in a datacenter in the region in which you created your storage account.
- A write request returns successfully only once it has been written to all three replicas.
- These three replicas each reside in separate fault domains and upgrade domains within one storage scale unit to ensure that data is available even if hardware failure impacts a single rack or when nodes are upgraded during a rollout.

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Zone-Redundant Storage (ZRS)	
<ul> <li>Zone-redundant storage (ZRS) replicates your data synchronously across datacenters within a region in addition to storing three replicas, providing higher durability than LRS.</li> </ul>	
Data stored in ZRS is durable even if the primary datacenter is unavailable or unrecoverable.	
Available for block blobs, non-disk page blobs, files, tables, and queues in general purpose v2 storage accounts.	
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Geo-Redundant Storage (GRS)	
Geo-redundant storage (GRS) replicates your data to a secondary region that is hundreds of miles away from the primary region.	
If your storage account has GRS enabled, then your data is durable even in the case of a complete regional outage or a disaster in which the primary region is not recoverable.	
<ul> <li>An update is first committed to the primary region, where it is replicated three times, then the update is replicated asynchronously to the secondary region, where it is also replicated three times.</li> </ul>	
With GRS, both the primary and secondary regions manage replicas across separate fault	
domains and upgrade domains within a storage scale unit.	
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Read-Access Geo-Redundant Storage (RA-GRS)	
<ul> <li>Read-access Geo-Redundant storage (RA-GRS) provides read-only access to the data in the secondary location, in addition to the replication across two regions provided by GRS.</li> </ul>	
Secondary endpoint is similar to the primary endpoint, but appends the suffix –secondary to the account name e.g. if your primary endpoint is myaccount blob.core.windows.net	
then your secondary endpoint is myaccount-secondary.blob.core.windows.net.	
<ul> <li>The access keys for your storage account are the same for both the primary and secondary endpoints.</li> </ul>	



## Storage Security

- Microsoft Azure Storage provides simple security for calls to storage service
   HTTPS endpoint
   Digitally sign requests for privileged operations
- Two 512-bit symmetric keys per storage account
   Can be regenerated independently
- More granular security via Shared Access Signatures (SAS)
- Azure Storage does not authenticate users

## Shared Access Signatures

- Fine grain access rights to storage entities (blobs/tables etc)
- $\bullet\,$  Sign URL with storage key—permit elevated rights
- Revocation:
   Use short time periods and re-issue
   Use container-level policy that can be deleted
- Two broad approaches:

  - Ad hoc
     Policy-based



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- Create short-dated SAS

  - Signedresource Blob or Container
     AccessPolicy Start, Expiry, and Permissions
     Signature HMAC-SHA256 of above fields
- Use case
  Single use URLs
  For example, provide URL for the client to upload to container

https://...blob.../pics/image.jpg? sr=c&st=2009-02-09T08:20Z&se=2009-02-10T08:30Z&sp=w &sig= dD80ihBh5jfNpym05Hg1IdiJIEvHcJpCMiCMnN%2fRnbI%3d

### Policy-Based Signatures

- Create container-level policy
   Specify StartTime, ExpiryTime, and Permissions
   Also created in the Azure Portal
- Create SAS URL
- Fedle SAS URL

  Signedresource Blob or Container

  Signedidentifier optional pointer to container policy

  Signature HMAC-SHA256 of above fields

https://...blob.../pics/image.jpg? sr=c&si=MyUploadPolicyForUserID12345 &sig=dD80ihBh5jfNpymO5HgIIdiJIEvHcJpCMiCMnN%2fRnbI%3d

- - Providing revocable permissions to certain users/groups
     To revoke: Delete or update container policy

## Storage Service Encryption (Encryption at Rest)

- Automatically encrypts your data before persisting it to Azure Storage, and decrypts the data before retrieval
- Enabled for all new and existing storage accounts and cannot be disabled
- Encrypted using 256-bit AES encryption, Microsoft managed keys
- Automatically encrypts data in:
  - Both performance tiers (Standard and Premium)
  - Both deployment models (Azure Resource Manager and classic)
  - All of the Azure Storage services (Blob storage, Queue storage, Table storage, and Azure Files)
- · No additional cost

## Storage Service Encryption with Customer Managed Keys

- Allows you to specify your own encryption keys
- Create your own encryption keys and store them in a key vault, or you can use Azure Key Vault's APIs to generate encryption keys
- Custom keys give you more flexibility, so that you can create, rotate, disable and define access controls.
- Custom keys also enable you to audit the encryption keys used to protect



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## Storage Account Firewall

- Azure Storage provides a layered security model allowing you to secure your storage accounts to a specific set of networks by means of firewall rules
- When firewall rules are configured, only applications from allowed networks can access a storage account
- When calling from an allowed network, applications continue to require authorization e.g. a valid access key or SAS token to access the storage account
- Must be configured in addition to virtual network service endpoints to allow traffic from a specific virtual network

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## Storage Account Firewall Benefits

- Improved security by restricting access to your storage account to select networks
- More control by granting access to traffic from specific Azure Virtual networks, allowing you to build a secure network boundary on a per application basis
- Better flexibility by granting access to public internet IP address ranges, enabling connections from specific internet or on-premises clients
- Can be applied to new or existing storage accounts

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Demo: Create & Explore a storage account & Enable a storage account Firewall



