Lab 1 – Create Azure resources

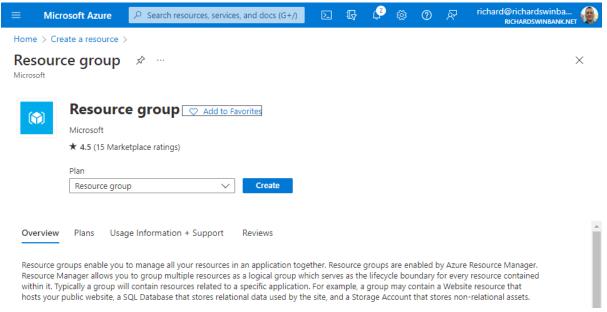
Welcome to Lab 1! To complete this lab series, you're going to need a few things.

- A web browser compatible with Azure Data Factory (ADF) use Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome.
- An Azure subscription if you don't have one, you can sign up for a free trial at https://azure.microsoft.com/en-gb/free/. Whichever subscription you use, you'll need enough access to create resources in it.
- A GitHub repository where you can store lab code if you don't already have a GitHub account, sign up for one at https://github.com/signup. (We use GitHub for these labs, but Azure Data Factory also supports Azure DevOps Repos).

Lab 1.1 – Create a resource group

Resource groups are logical containers for resources in Azure. In this lab you will create a resource group to contain all the resources you create in later labs. This will make cleaning up easier – when you've finished all the labs, you can just delete the resource group.

- 1. In the Azure Portal (https://portal.azure.com/) click "Create a resource" and use the "Search services and marketplace" textbox to search for "Resource group".
- 2. On the "Resource group" overview, click "Create".



- 3. Give the resource group a name, and choose the Region geographically closest to you.
- 4. Click "Review + create", then "Create".

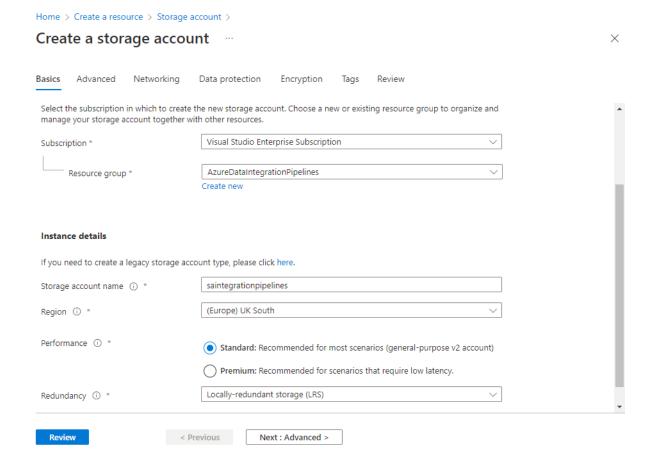
Lab 1.2 – Create data lake storage

Data lake storage is blob storage in an Azure storage account, with one particularly important feature: hierarchical namespaces are **enabled**. This makes certain file operations – renaming file folders, for example – much more efficient.





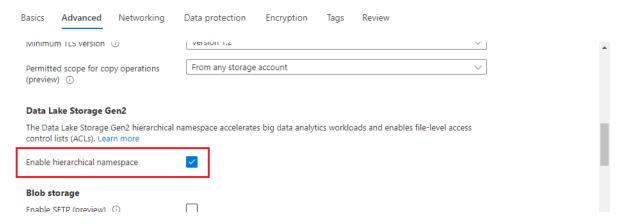
- 1. In the portal, click "Create a resource" and search for "Storage account". Click "Create" on the overview screen.
- 2. Complete the "Basics" tab like this:
 - Choose your subscription and the resource group you created in Lab 1.1.
 - Enter a storage account name this must be globally unique (across the entire Azure platform).
 - Choose the same location you specified for your resource group. Having storage located close to you makes data movement faster and cheaper.
 - Choose redundancy option "Locally-redundant storage". This is nice and cheap for lab work, but you'll want something more resilient in a production environment!



3. On the "Advanced" tab, tick the "Enable hierarchical namespace" checkbox. This step is **essential** to make the storage account a data lake.

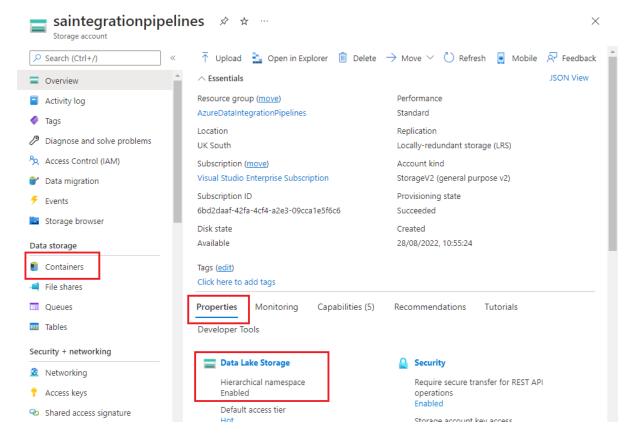






4. Click "Review" to accept defaults on the remaining tabs and skip to the "Review" tab. Click "Create". When the data lake finishes deploying (this may take a couple of minutes), click on "Go to resource".

The "Storage account" blade contains an "Essentials" section above a tabbed pane. The entry in the top left of the "Properties" tab should read "Data Lake Storage":

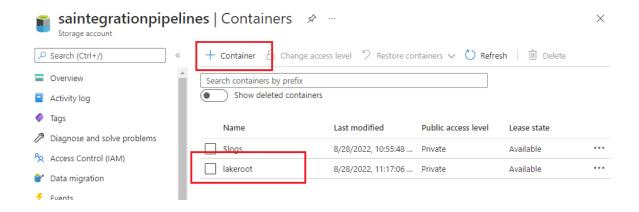


If "Blob service" appears instead, you forgot to enable hierarchical namespaces and have created an ordinary blob storage account. In this case, the tab will also indicate that the "Hierarchical namespace" property is "Disabled" – click on the "Disabled" link to upgrade the blob storage account to data lake storage.

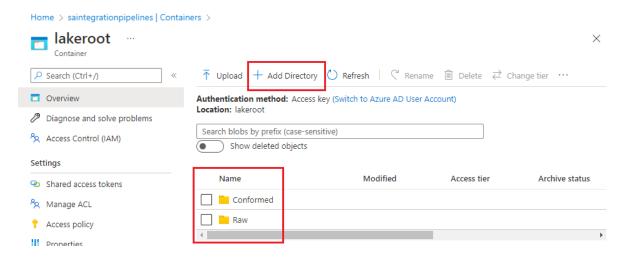
5. Click on the "Containers" link in the Storage account blade sidebar (also indicated on the left of the screenshot above). Use the "+ Container" button to create a container with the name "lakeroot". After creation, the container appears in the list.







6. Click on the new "lakeroot" entry to open the container. The menu bar above the list now contains a "+ Add Directory" button – use this to create two directories in the container: "Raw" and "Conformed".



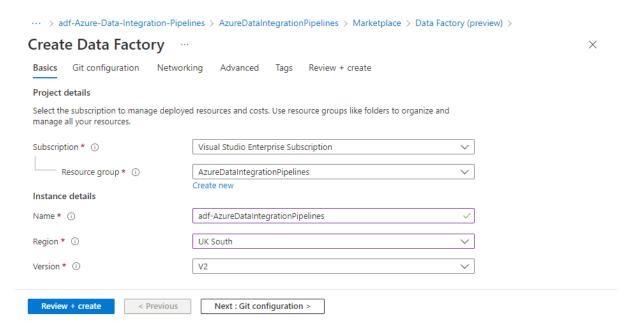
Lab 1.3 – Create an Azure Data Factory

The main event! It's time to create your Azure Data Factory instance.

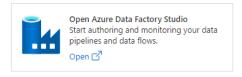
- 1. In the Azure portal, click "Create a resource" and search for "Data Factory". Click "Create" on the overview screen.
- 2. Complete the "Basics" tab like this:
 - Choose your subscription and the resource group you created in Lab 1.1.
 - Enter a data factory name this must be globally unique.
 - Choose the same location (region) you specified for your storage account. This has
 cost implications transferring data from a storage account in one region to a data
 factory in another incurs an outbound data transfer charge.
 - Choose version V2.



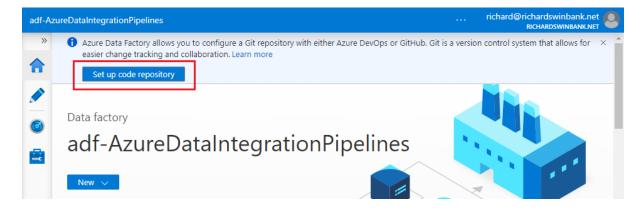




- 3. On the "Git configuration" tab, tick the "Configure Git later" checkbox we'll do this after the factory has been created because it makes setup a bit easier.
- 4. Click "Review + create" to accept defaults on the remaining tabs and skip to the "Review + create" tab. Click "Create". When factory deployment is complete, click on "Go to resource", then on the "Open Azure Data Factory Studio" tile to launch ADF Studio.



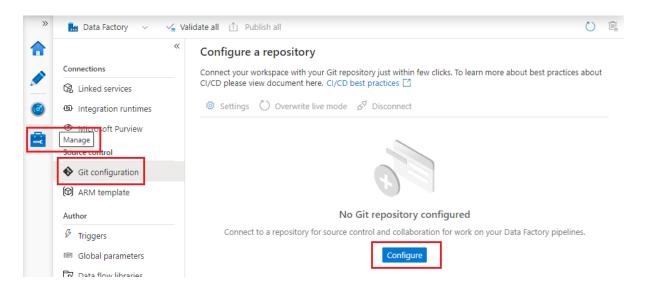
5. Now we'll connect the new data factory to its GitHub repository. When ADF Studio opens, click the "Set up code repository" button.



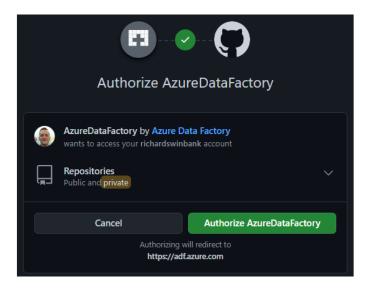
If you don't see the button, open the Manage hub using the "Manage" button (toolbox icon) on the leftmost sidebar, then click the "Configure" button on the "Git configuration" page.







- 6. Either route in step 5 takes you to the "Configure a repository" flyout. Choose "GitHub" from the "Repository type" dropdown list, then enter your GitHub account name into the "GitHub repository owner" field and click "Continue".
- 7. GitHub prompts you to sign in and to authorise the "AzureDataFactory" application. Follow the instructions to sign into your account and confirm authorisation.

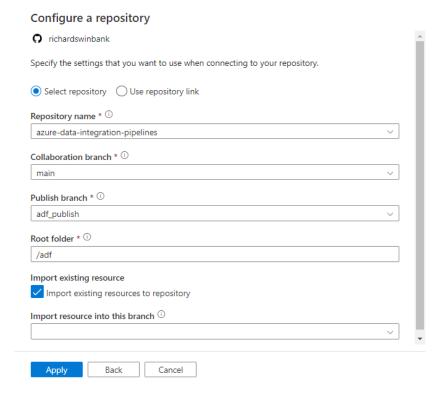


8. Once authorised:

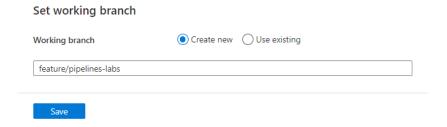
- Select your repository name from the **Repository name** dropdown.
- Choose a Collaboration branch. This is the central codebase the branch into which all data engineers' feature branches would be merged – often "main" (or "master" in older repositories).
- Specify a Root folder. This is the repository folder where ADF Studio will save data factory artifacts – you can use the root folder ("/") if you wish, but specifying a subfolder allows you to store other files in the repository, separate from ADF artifacts.
- Click "Apply".







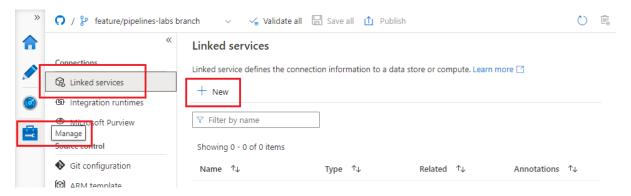
9. Finally, ADF Studio asks you to choose your working branch – this setting is for your own ADF Studio session, not for the data factory as a whole or for other engineers. Click "Create new", enter a feature branch name and click "Save".



Lab 1.4 – Connect to the data lake

To enable ADF pipelines to use data in the lake you will need a data factory linked service connection.

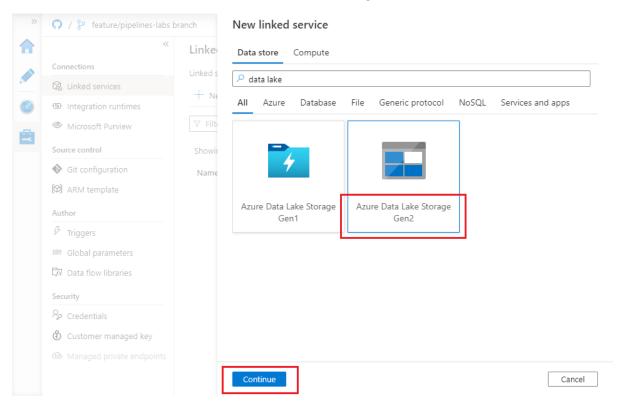
1. Navigate to the Manage hub (as described in Lab 1.3), then open the "Linked services" page and click "+ New".







2. Search for "data lake", then choose "Azure Data Lake Storage Gen2" and click "Continue".

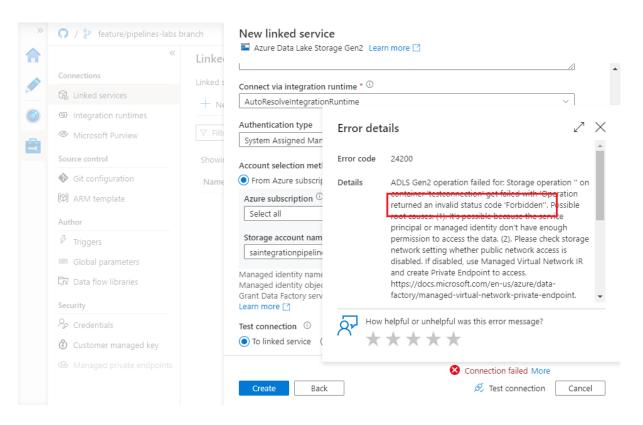


- Configure linked service details on the "New linked service (Azure Data Lake Storage Gen2)" blade like this:
 - Give it a name.
 - Choose Authentication method "System Assigned Managed Identity". The default
 method ("Account key") requires extra work to pass keys around securely a
 "System-Assigned Managed Identity" is an Azure Active Directory service principal,
 created automatically for your data factory when you created it.
 - Choose your data lake storage account from the "Storage account name" dropdown.
- 4. Click "Test connection" at the bottom of the blade. The connection test will fail, because the factory's MSI does not have access to the data lake yet you will receive an error message like "Operation returned an invalid status code 'Forbidden'".

You will grant the necessary access in a moment – for now, just click "Create" to save the linked service. You do not need explicitly to save linked service changes – they are automatically committed to your GitHub repository.



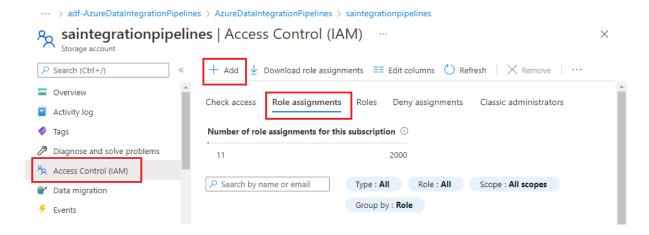




Lab 1.5 – Grant access to the data lake

You can manage access to Azure resources in the Azure portal. Open a new browser tab to allow you to keep ADF Studio open.

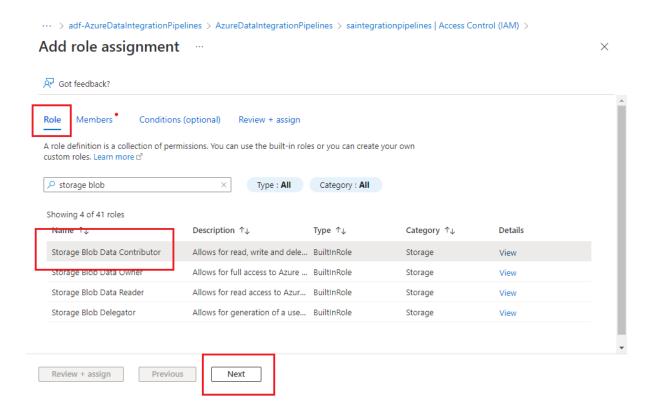
- 1. Browse to your data lake resource blade you can find it in the list of resources on the portal home page, or by selecting your resource group to see resources inside it, or by using the search box in the portal's top menu bar.
- 2. Click "Access control (IAM)" in the storage account (data lake) resource blade, then select the "Role assignments" tab. Click "+ Add" and select "Add role assignment" from the dropdown list.



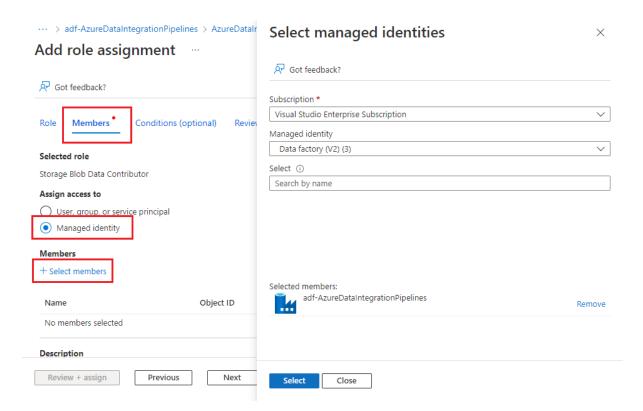
3. On the "Role" tab of the "Add role assignment" blade, choose the "Storage Blob Data Contributor" role – this authorises read, write and delete access in your data lake – then click "Next".







4. On the "Members" tab, set "Assigned access to" to "Managed identity", then click "+ Select members".



Choose your Azure Data Factory instance from the "Select managed identities" flyout, click "Select" to dismiss the flyout, then click "Review + assign". On the "Review + assign" tab, click the button of the same name.





5. Return to the Manage hub in ADF Studio, and click on your data lake linked service to reopen the editing blade. Click "Test connection" again, and verify that this time the connection test succeeds. If the test fails, wait a few minutes, then try again – it may take a short time for permission changes to take effect. Click "Cancel" to close the editing blade.

Recap

In Lab 1 you:

- created an Azure resource group
- created data lake storage
- created an instance Azure Data Factory
- created and authorised a linked service connection from the factory to your data lake storage.



