



# Azure Synapse Analytics SQL on-demand and Power BI

Azure Synapse Analytics SQL serverless pool & Power Bl

Andrea Benedetti

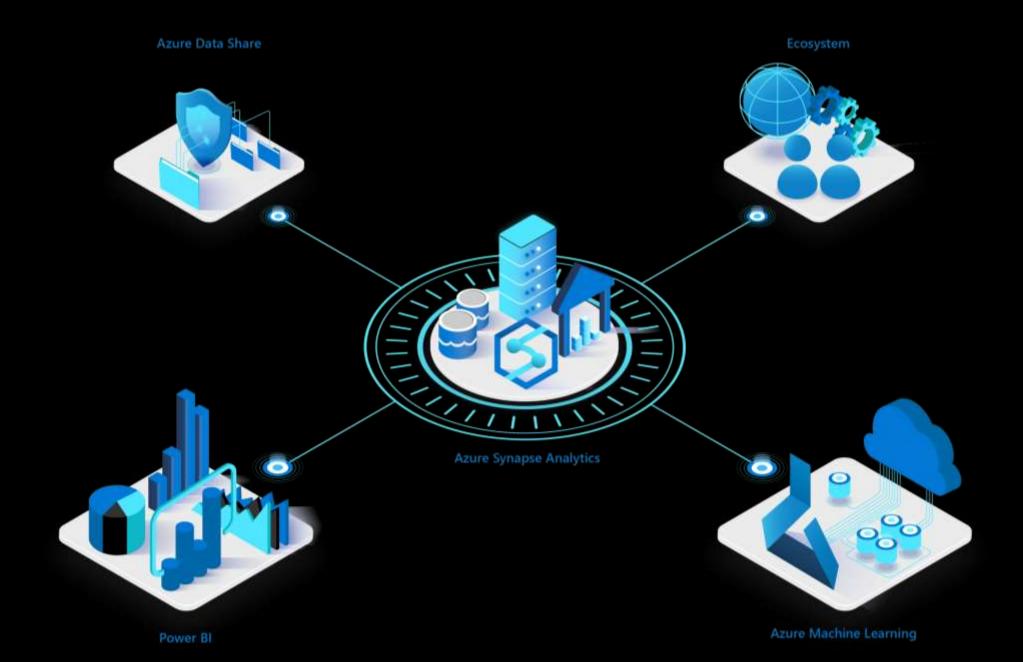
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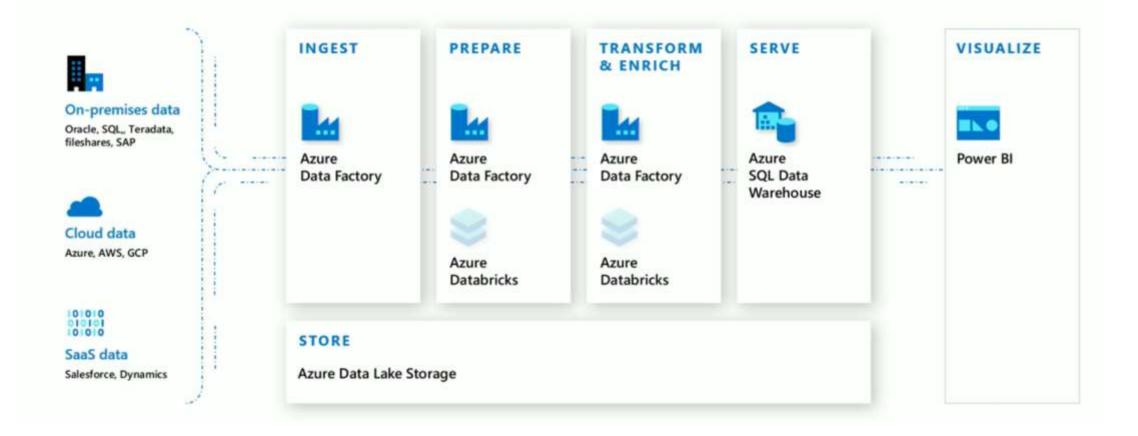








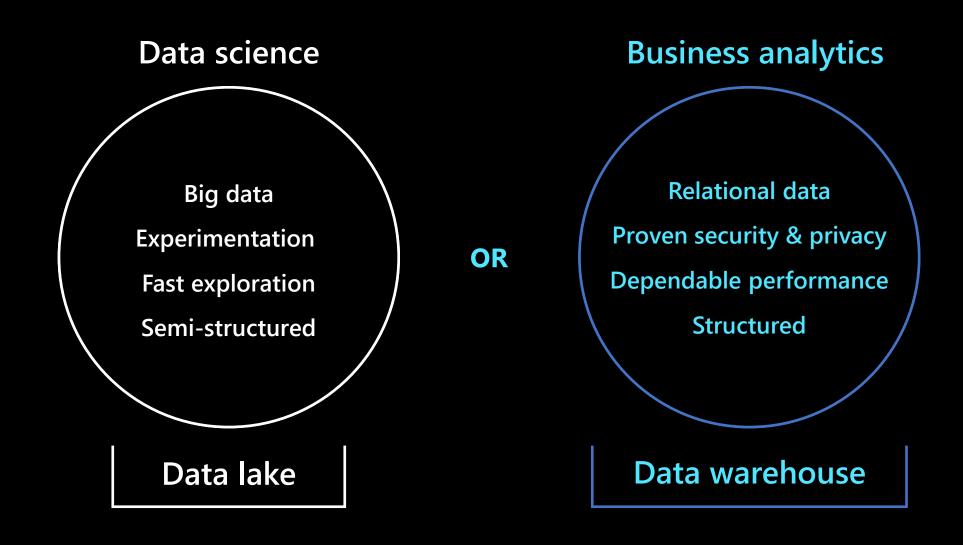
#### **Modern Data Warehouse**



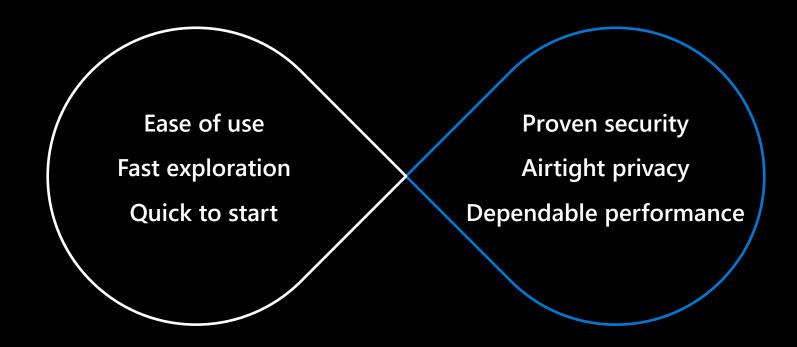
#### Azure Synapse Analytics - Data Lakehouse



# Businesses are forced to maintain two critical, yet independent analytics systems



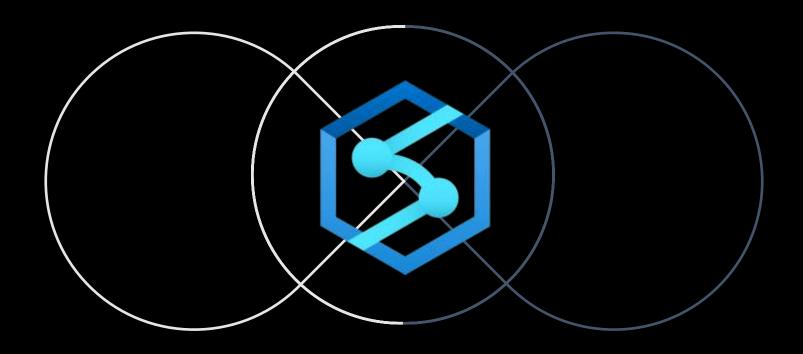
# Azure meets these challenges with a single service to provide limitless analytics



#### Welcome to limitless

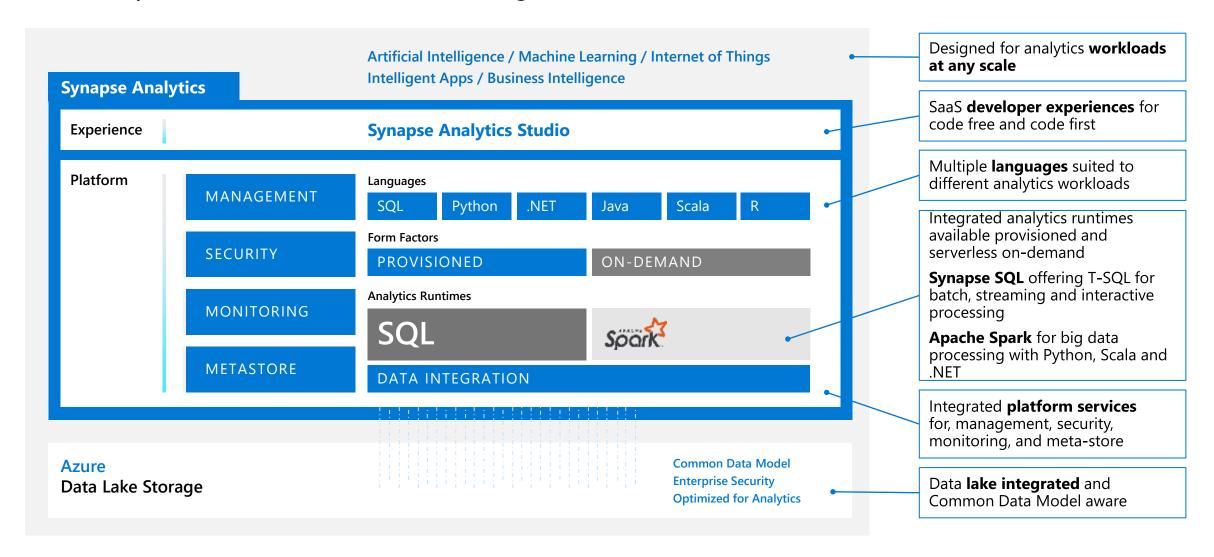
Data warehousing & big data analytics—all in one service

# Azure meets these challenges with a single service to provide limitless analytics

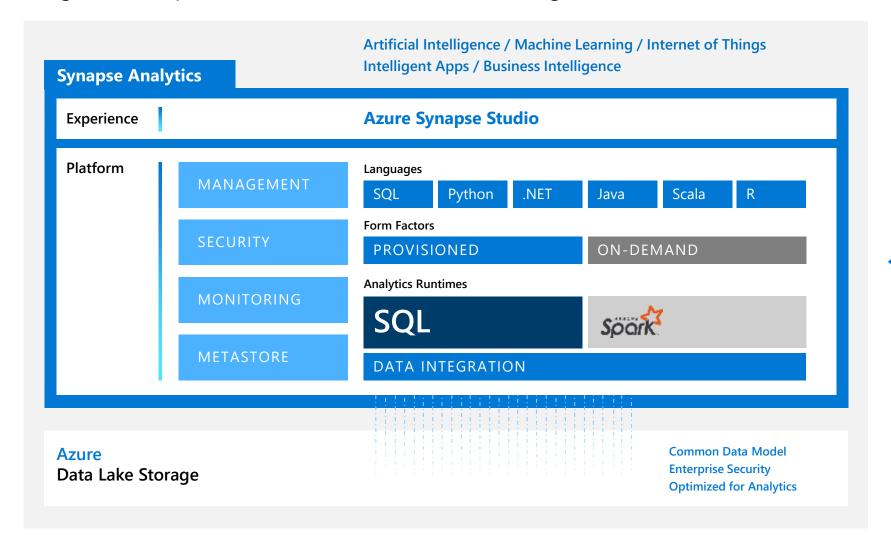


**Azure Synapse Analytics** 

Limitless analytics service with unmatched time to insight



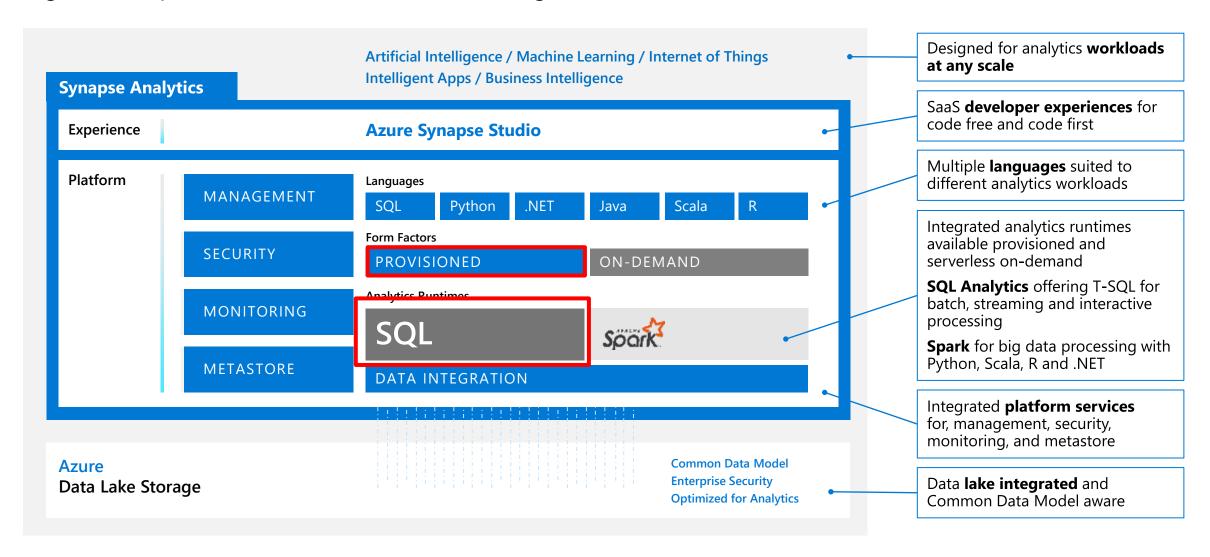
Integrated data platform for BI, AI and continuous intelligence



# Azure Data Catalog Azure Data Lake Storage Azure Data Share Azure Databricks Azure HDInsight Azure Machine Learning Power BI

3<sup>rd</sup> Party Integration

Integrated data platform for BI, AI and continuous intelligence



#### Parallelism

### SMP - Symmetric Multiprocessing

- Multiple CPUs used to complete individual processes simultaneously
- All CPUs share the same memory, disks, and network controllers (scale-up)
- All SQL Server implementations up until now have been SMP
- Mostly, the solution is housed on a shared SAN

#### MPP - Massively Parallel Processing

- Uses many separate CPUs running in parallel to execute a single program
- Shared Nothing: Each CPU has its own memory and disk (scale-out)
- Segments communicate using high-speed network between nodes

#### SQL DW Logical Architecture (overview)



Compute Node – the "worker bee" of SQL DW

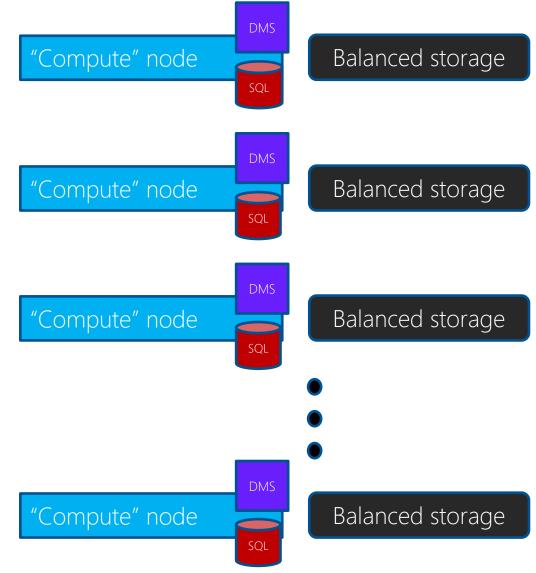
- Runs Azure SQL Server DB
- Contains a "slice" of each database
- CPU is saturated by storage

Control Node – the "brains" of the SQL DW

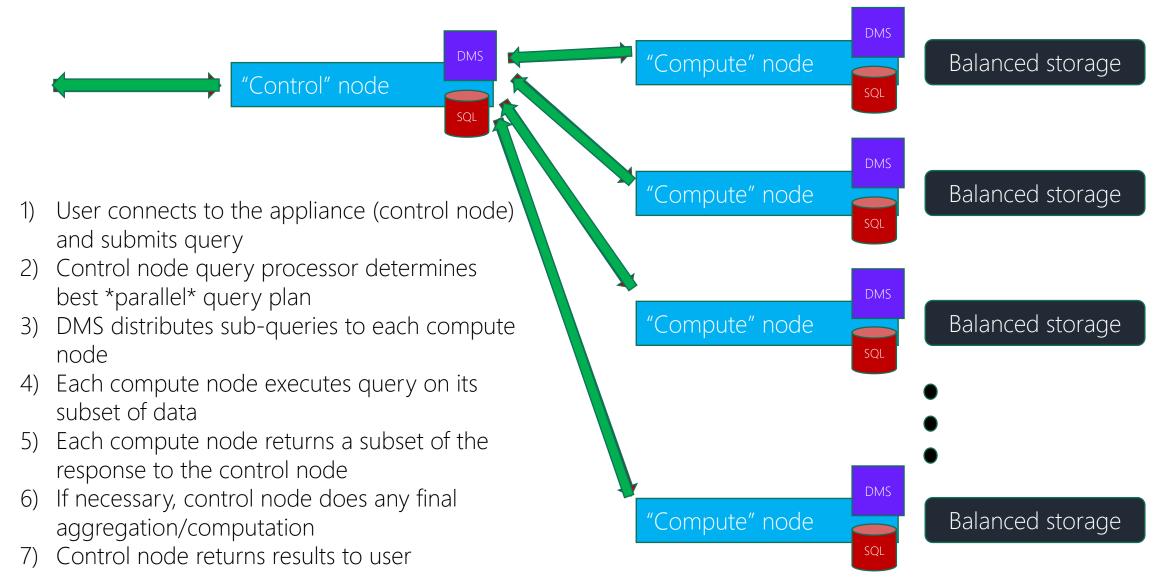
- Also runs Azure SQL Server DB
- Holds a "shell" copy of each database
  - Metadata, statistics, etc
- The "public face" of the appliance

Data Movement Services (DMS)

- Part of the "secret sauce" of SQL DW
- Moves data around as needed
- Enables parallel operations among the compute nodes (queries, loads, etc)



## SQL DW Logical Architecture (overview)



Queries running in parallel on a subset of the data, using separate pipes effectively making the pipe larger

## SQL DW Data Layout Options

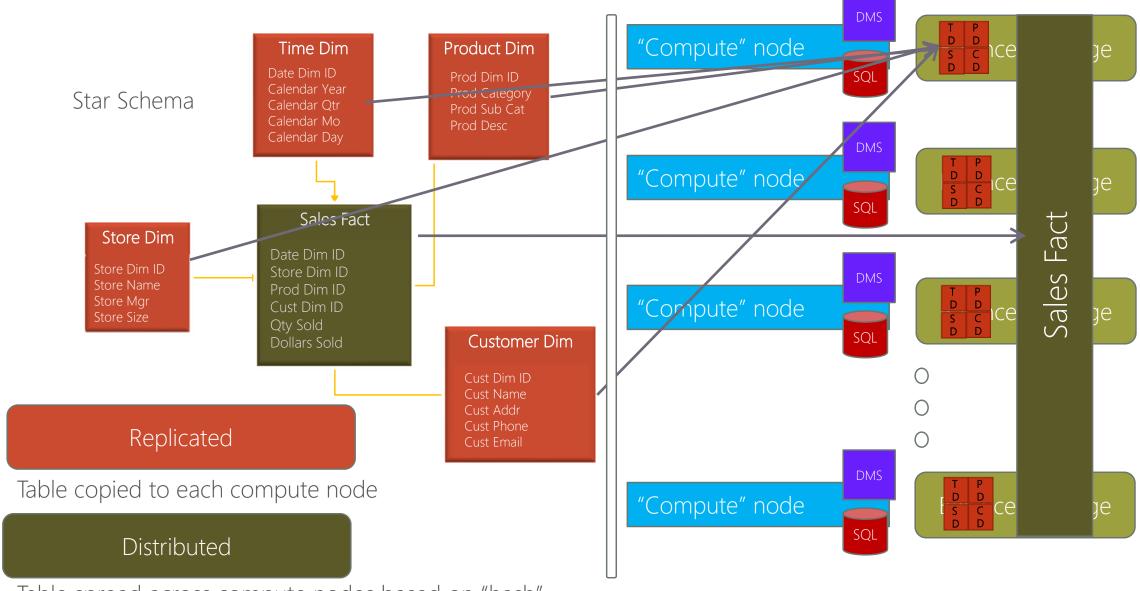
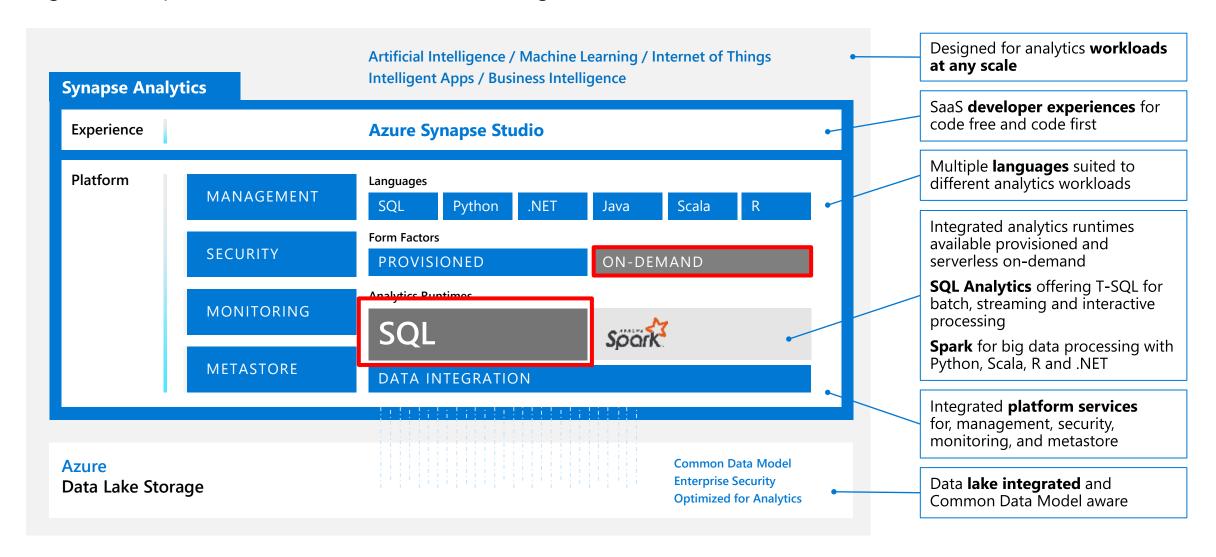


Table spread across compute nodes based on "hash"

Integrated data platform for BI, AI and continuous intelligence



#### Synapse SQL on-demand scenarios

Discovery and exploration

What's in this file? How many rows are there? What's the max value?

**SQL On-demand reduces data lake exploration to the right-click!** 

**Data** transformation

How to convert CSVs to Parquet quickly? How to transform the raw data?

Use the full power of T-SQL to transform the data in the data lake

#### 3 main scenarios that SQL on-demand is great for



Basic discovery and exploration

Quickly view the data → extract insights



Logical data warehouse

Relational abstraction on top of raw

Always up-to-date view

T-SQL → blurring the line between a relational database and a data lake



Data transformation

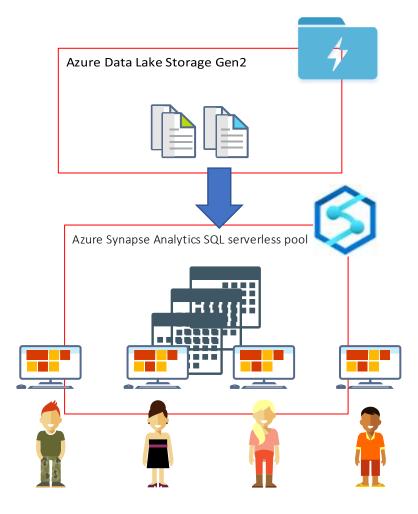
Simple, scalable, and performant way to transform data in the lake using T-SQL

•For example, using the Copy activity in Azure Data Factory you can convert CSV files in the data lake (via T-SQL views in SQL ondemand) to Parquet files in the data lake

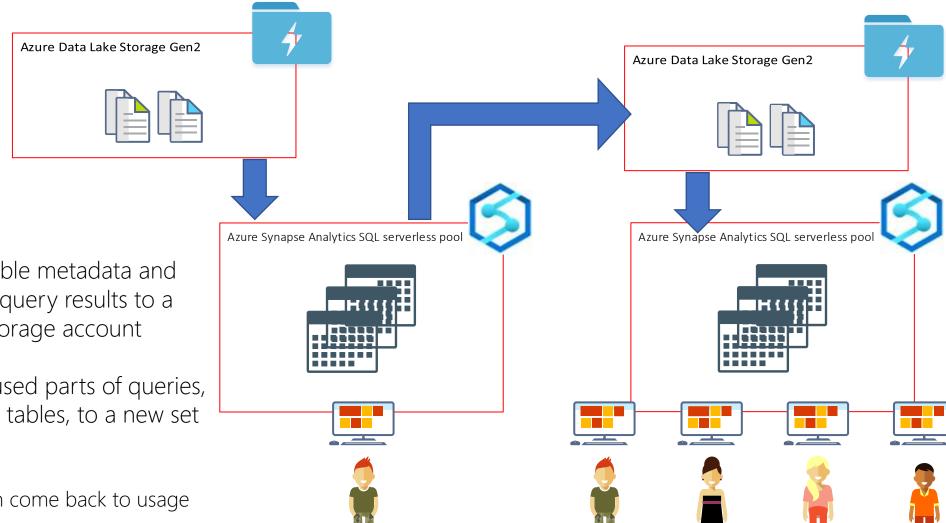
## Usage Patterns

#### 1) Discover / explore data in data lake

- Explore files with T-SQL
- Create External Tables / Views over files
- Join disparate data if needed
- Logical DWH by creating a relational abstraction on top of raw
- You can transform your data to satisfy whichever model you want
- Quickly create (Power BI) reports on top of data in the lake
- ...

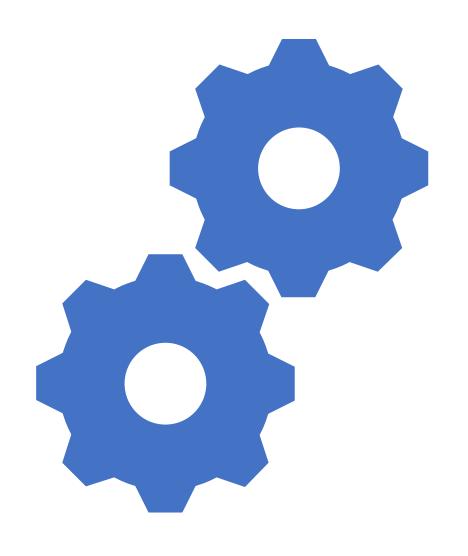


#### 2) Store query results to storage



- To create external table metadata and exports the SELECT query results to a set of files in your storage account
- To store frequently used parts of queries, like joined reference tables, to a new set of files
- When stored... you can come back to usage pattern (1)



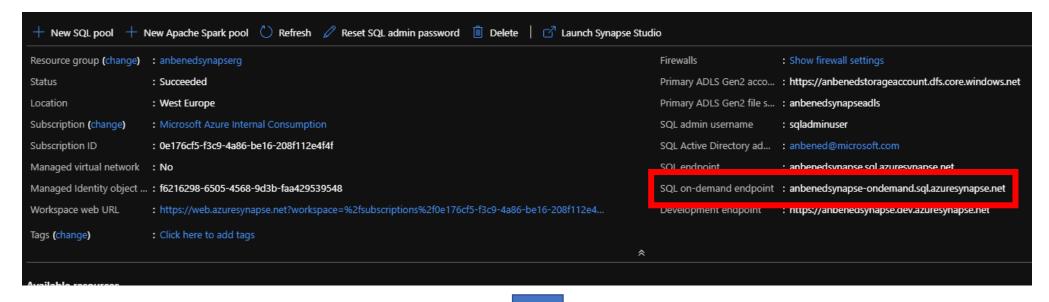


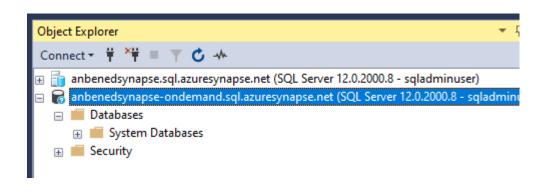
## Setup

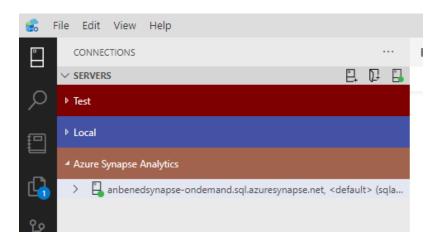
 Just 1 thing → provisioning Azure Synapse Analytics

- SQL on-demand is immediately available for your workspace
- SQL pools can be configured to adapt to team or organizational requirements and constraints
  - https://github.com/Azure/azure-synapseanalytics/blob/master/docs/quickstartcreate-a-sqlpool.md

#### SQL on-demand Endpoint







(Azure Synapse Analytics SQL serverless pool)

## External Tables

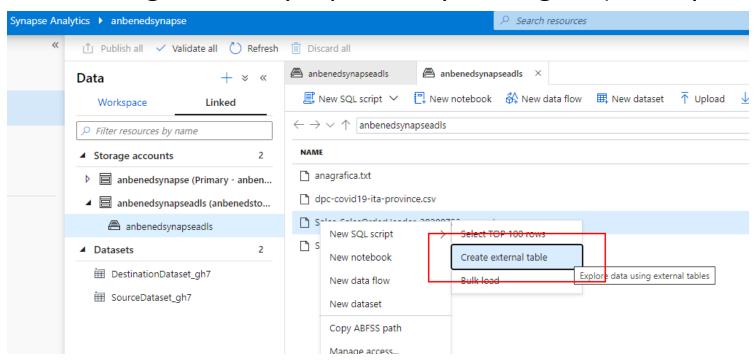
- Used to read data from files or write data to files in Azure Storage
  - Query data in Azure Blob Storage or Azure Data Lake Storage with T-SQL
  - Store query results to files in Azure Blob Storage or Azure Data Lake Storage using CETAS

#### • Steps:

- CREATE EXTERNAL DATA SOURCE
- CREATE EXTERNAL FILE FORMAT
- CREATE EXTERNAL TABLE

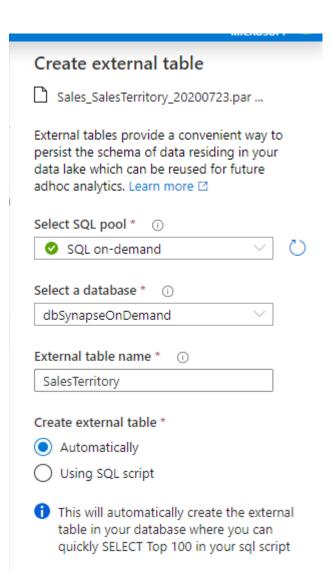
```
CREATE EXTERNAL TABLE abc
WITH
(
    LOCATION = 'myFolder',
    DATA_SOURCE = myDS,
    FILE_FORMAT = myFF
)
AS
    SELECT ...
GO
```

- You can create them without writing any lines of codes
- We'll create a link definition between your Data Lake and the db
  - This takes advantage of the Synapse Analytics engine (MPP system)



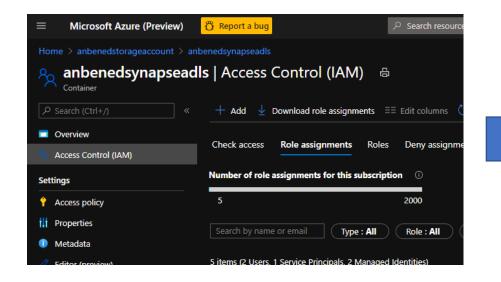
 Azure Synapse Analytics can create the external table for us

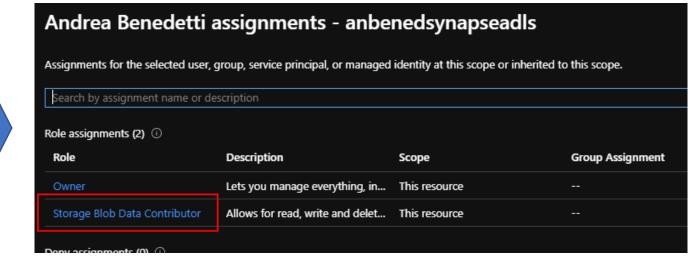
 We just need to provide the name of the database that we want to use, external table name, and the automatic option



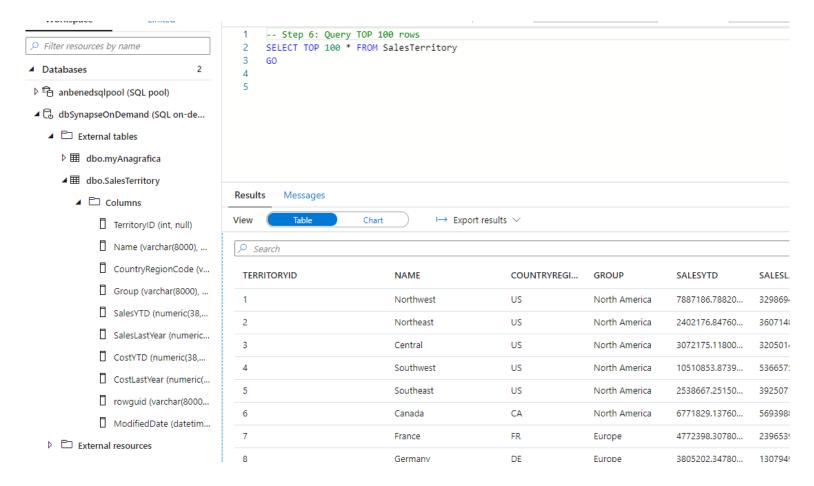
#### Security Tip

 Grant user / group 'Storage Blob Data Contributor' role on the storage account you're trying to query





• Then, we'll be able to query the table



#### External Tables (manually)

 You can use external tables in your queries the same way you use them in SQL Server queries

```
CREATE EXTERNAL TABLE dbo.myFileParquet

(
    calendarDate varchar(50),
    country varchar(50),
    code varchar(50),

    wITH

(
    LOCATION = 'anbenedsynapsene/myFile.parquet',
    DATA_SOURCE = [SqlOnDemandDemoNE],
    FILE_FORMAT = [SynapseParquetFormat]
)
GO

SELECT TOP 10 * FROM dbo.myFileParquet
GO

*/
```

## CETAS

CREATE EXTERNAL TABLE AS SELECT

#### **CETAS**

#### Overview

Create external tables as select (CETAS) enables you to easily transform data and store the results of query on Azure storage

#### Benefits

Select any data set and store it in parquet format.

Pre-calculate and store results of query and store them permanently on Azure storage.

Use saved data using external table.

Improve performance of your reports by permanently storing the result based on current snapshot of data as parquet files.

```
-- copy CSV dataset into parquet data set
CREATE EXTERNAL TABLE parquet. Population
WITH(
    LOCATION = '/parquet/population',
    DATA SOURCE = MyAzureStorage,
    FILE FORMAT = MyAzureParquetFormat
AS
SELECT *
FROM csv.Population
-- pre-create report using new parquet data-set
CREATE EXTERNAL TABLE parquet.PopulationByMonth2017
WITH(
    LOCATION = '/parquet/population/bymonth/2017',
    DATA SOURCE = MyAzureStorage,
    FILE FORMAT = MyAzureParquetFormat
AS
SELECT month = p.month, population = COUNT (p.population)
FROM parquet. Population p
WHERE p.year = 2017
GROUP BY p.month
-- Reporting tools can now directly read data from pre-created report
SELECT *
FROM parquet.PopulationByMonth2017
```

#### **CETAS**

```
□ CREATE EXTERNAL TABLE dataAggregatedByMonthParquet
|WITH
      LOCATION = 'anbenedsynapsene/dataAggregatedByMonthParquet',
      DATA_SOURCE = sqlOnDemandDemoNE,
      FILE_FORMAT = SynapseParquetFormat
 AS
      SELECT
         MONTH(CAST(data as date)) as M,
         SUM(CAST(totale_casi as int)) as N,
          sigla_provincia as P
      FROM OPENROWSET
              BULK 'anbenedsynapsene/myFile.parquet',
              DATA_SOURCE = 'SqlOnDemandDemoNE',
             FORMAT='PARQUET'
          ) AS myData
      GROUP BY data, sigla_provincia
  GO
  SELECT * FROM dataAggregatedByMonthParquet
  GO
```

#### **CETAS - Note**

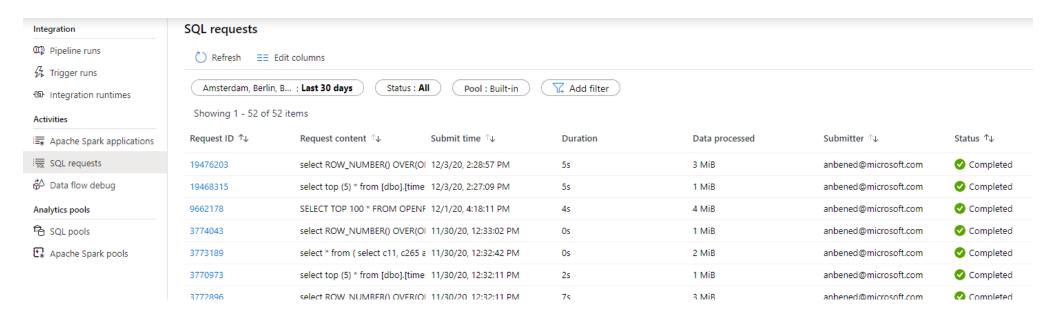
- ORDER BY clause in SELECT is not supported for CETAS
- LOBs can't be used with CETAS

- At this time DROP TABLE don't delete folder / files
  - 2 separate process: one to drop the table and another one to drop ADLS file

Log

### Logs Retention

Log retention = 60 days



select \* from sys.dm\_exec\_requests\_history order by start\_time desc

# Best practices for SQL on-demand

- Minimize latency: colocate your Azure storage account and your SQL on-demand endpoint
  - Storage accounts and endpoints provisioned during workspace creation are located in the same region
- Optimal performance: if you access other storage accounts with SQL on-demand, make sure they're in the **same region** 
  - Different region = increased latency for the data's network transfer between the remote region and the endpoint's region

Optimal performance → same region

<u>Different</u> region → Workspace WE; Storage NE

Execution time: ~31 sec

```
PRINT 'Start time: ' + CAST(SYSDATETIMEOFFSET() as varchar)

SELECT TOP 10 *,

JSON_VALUE(content,'$._id') as ID,

JSON_VALUE(content,'$.type') as TypeObj,

JSON_VALUE(content,'$.title') as Title

FROM json.Books

GO

Start time: 2020-10-21 18:52:43.0529942 +0

Statement ID: {3A9FC555-8769-46D2-86C0-F301AA7624C5} | Query has h: 0xA3D53FC7C24A0A9C | Distributed request ID: {D0DF16F3-0B0E-4670-9677-222065823D5F}. Total size of data scanned is 25 megabyt es, total size of data moved is 1 megabytes, total size of data written is 0 megabytes.

(10 rows affected)

Total execution time: 00:00:30.517
```

<u>Same</u> region → Workspace NE; Storage NE

Execution time: ~13 sec

```
PRINT 'Start time: ' + CAST(SYSDATETIMEOFFSET() as varchar)

SELECT TOP 10 *,

JSON_VALUE(content,'$._id') as ID,

JSON_VALUE(content,'$.type') as TypeObj,

JSON_VALUE(content,'$.title') as Title

FROM json.Books

GO

Start time: 2020-10-22 13:36:30.9970461 +0

Statement ID: {291E82F7-C734-4A36-A3B1-B76E765C4325} | Query has h: 0xA3D53FC7C24A0A9C | Distributed request ID: {3314CA9A-C27B-4FCB-B2A3-254AA49B0D4B}. Total size of data scanned is 25 megabyt es, total size of data moved is 1 megabytes, total size of data written is 0 megabytes.

(10 rows affected)

Total execution time: 00:00:12.961
```

- Multiple applications and services might access your storage account
  - don't stress the storage with other workloads during query execution
- If possible, you can **prepare files** for better performance
  - Convert CSV and JSON → Parquet (data scanned reduced)
    - Simple idea: copy data in ADF



- Single large file → multiple smaller files
- CSV file size below 10 GB
- Equally sized files for a single OPENROWSET path / external table LOCATION
- Partition your data by storing partitions to different folders or file names

# Best Practices (csv vs. parquet)

			1000	The member										
				data	stato	codice_regione	denominazione_regione	codice_provincia	denominazione_provincia	sigla_provincia	lat	long	totale_casi	note
Name	^	Size	1	2020-02-24T18:00:00 IT	ITA	13	Abruzzo	066	L'Aquia	AQ	42.35122196	13.39843823	0	NULL
_			2	2020-02-24T18:00:00	ITA	13	Abruzzo	067	Teramo	TE	42.6589177	13.70439971	0	NULL
dpc-covid19-ita-province.csv		34.8 MB	3	2020-02-24T18:00:00	ITA	13	Abruzzo	068	Pescara	PE	42.46458398	14.21364822	0	NULL
D. I. IMAGE			4	2020-02-24T18:00:00	ITA	13	Abruzzo	069	Chieti	CH	42.35103167	14.16754574	0	NULL
dpc-covid19-ita-province.parquet		3.7 MB	5	2020-02-24T18:00:00	ITA	13	Abruzzo	979	In fase di definizione/aggiornamento	NULL	NULL.	NULL	0	NULL
			6	2020-02-24718-00-00	ITA	17	Basilicata	076	Potenza	P7	40 63947052	15 80514834	0	METET

Statement test	Format	Duration	Rows	Data Scanned	Data Moved
SELECT *	CSV	~20 sec	441259	35 MB	38 MB
	Parquet	~18 sec	441259	4 MB	38 MB
COUNT(*)	CSV	~0 sec	1	35 MB	1 MB
	Parquet	~0 sec	1	1 MB	1 MB
SELECT sum(cast(totale_casi as int))	CSV	~1 sec	1	35 MB	1 MB
	Parquet	~0 sec	1	2 MB	1 MB
SELECT data, codice_provincia, totale_casi	CSV	~8 sec	441259	35 MB	14 MB
	Parquet	~6 sec	441259	2 MB	14 MB

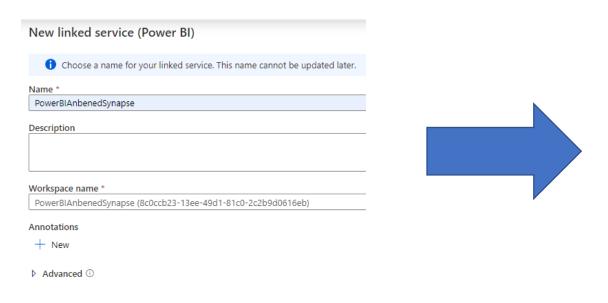
#### • Data types affect performance

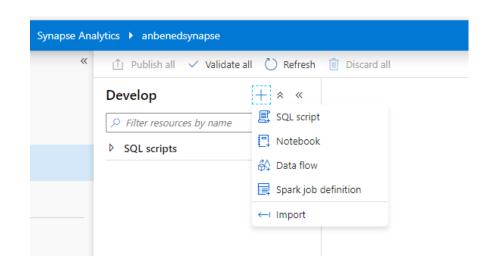
- Use smallest data size that will accommodate the largest possible value
  - If the maximum character value length is 30 characters, use a character data type of length 30.
  - If all character column values are of fixed size, use char or nchar. Otherwise, use varchar or nvarchar.
  - If the maximum integer column value is 500, use smallint because it's the smallest data type that can accommodate this value. You can find integer data type ranges in this article.
- If possible, use varchar and char instead of nvarchar and nchar
- Use integer-based data types if possible. SORT, JOIN, and GROUP BY operations complete faster on integers than on character data

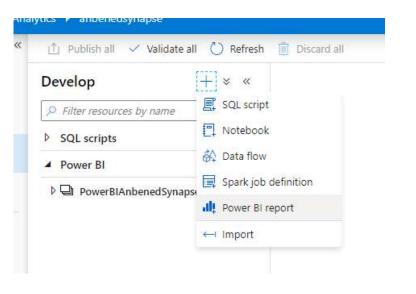
# Power Bl and SQL on-demand

#### Power BI

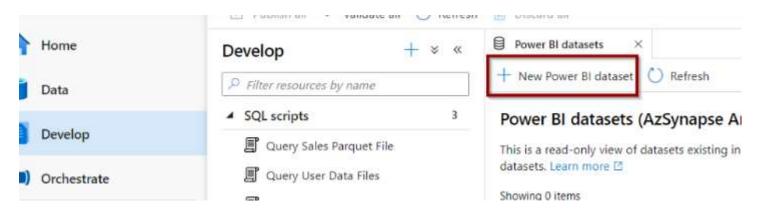
- There's not Power BI by default
- If you want to use Power BI:
  - Sign in to powerbi.microsoft.com
  - Create a new Power BI workspace
  - In Synapse Studio, go to Manage > Linked Services



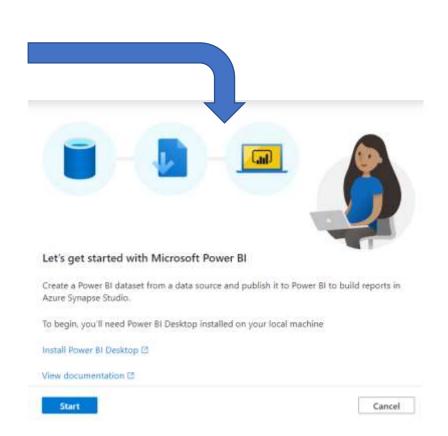




#### Create Power BI Dataset

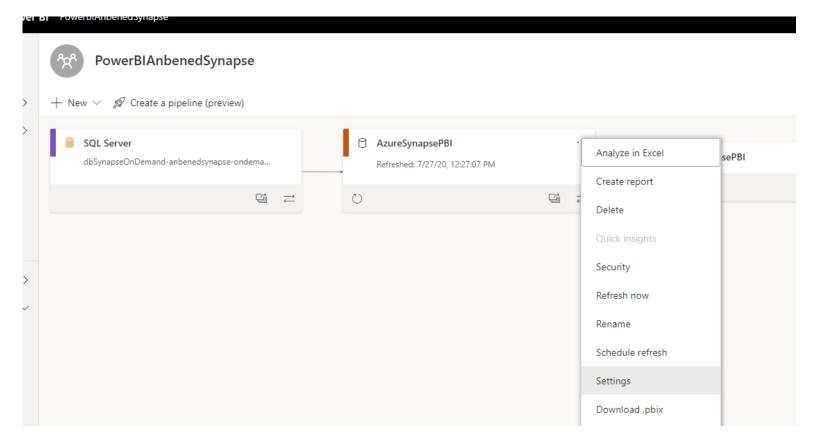


- Like a tutorial:
  - Select your database
  - Select your data source (serverless)
  - Download the Power BI template
  - Open it with Power BI Desktop
  - Select your dataset
  - Choose DirectQuery
  - Create the relationship
  - Publish to Power BI service
  - The dataset will become available in your Azure Synapse Analytics workspace



# Security 1/2

Configure the credentials for the Power BI dataset in the Power BI service



# Security 2/2

#### • Edit the credentials

Settings for AzureSynapsePBI

This dataset has been configured by anbened@microsoft.com.

Refresh history

- ▶ Gateway connection
- Data source credentials

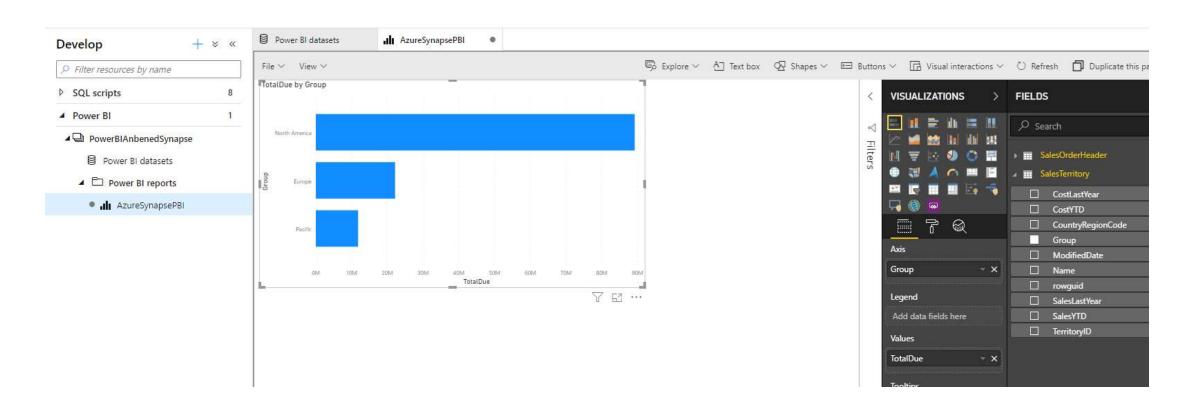
igotimes Your data source can't be refreshed because the credentials are invalid. Please update your credentials and tr

 $db Synapse On Demand-an bened synapse-on demand. sql. azure synapse. net \textcircled{$\times$ } \underline{Edit\ credentials}$ 

▶Sensitivity label

#### Power Bl Report

 When you save the report, it will become available in your workspace. You can also share it.



# Pricing

### Pricing

Does **Azure Synapse SQL On Demand** pricing have provision for Azure reserved capacity (e.g. 1 year or 3 year reserved) like how it is present in Azure SQL Pool or it is flat as per the rate described above?

At the moment, there is no reserved capacity payment model for the SQL On-demand.

Suppose if the data queried through **Azure Synapse SQL On Demand** is 1 MB, so price will be calculated according to pro-rate usage or any rounding logic involved?e.g. with a rate of  $\leq 4.217$  per TB, 1 MB data query cost will be  $\leq 0.000004217$ ?

The floor for charging is actually 10 MB, so the minimum charge is for 10 MB, but otherwise the math you're showing above is good.

For **Azure Synapse SQL On Demand**, the pricing is €4.217 per TB of data processed in West EU region.

# Pricing example

How to calculate price for Azure Synapse SQL (Serverless) as below?

Query Scenario: 30 execution times /month; 0.5 TB per execution times

Calculation: 30 \* 0.5 \* 4.217 = 63.255 € (Monthly cost)

# Pricing Tips

Charging is per data processed

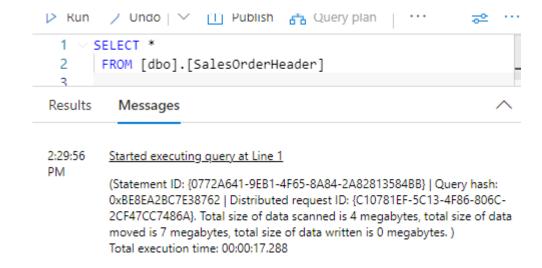
- If data is in Parquet format which is compressed, it will be cheaper
- Also, Parquet format is columnar so you will be charged only for columns you need in your query, not all columns, making it even cheaper

• In case of CSV, data is not only uncompressed, but SQL on-demand would need to read whole rows for you to extract columns you target

# Billing: "total processed" volume

#### Each query:

- Total size of data scanned is XX megabytes
- Total size of data moved is XX megabytes
- Total size of data written is XX megabytes



#### Total data processed = data scanned + data moved + data written

- Data processed = data stored internally while executing query
  - Data read (compressed data + metadata reads) + intermediate results (data shuffled, uncompressed format always)
  - + data transferred to node you connected to before returning results to client
    - (this transfer is accounted for as data processed also)
  - + in general case: autostats and read-ahead.

# Billing & global stats query

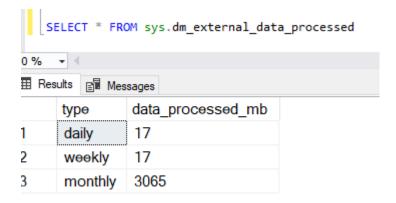
- Global stats query = queries that system automatically executes to figure out what are the statistics in the data
  - You are charged for that query as well
  - Without statistics execution plan would be suboptimal and would lead to more data processed by the user query itself and worst performance

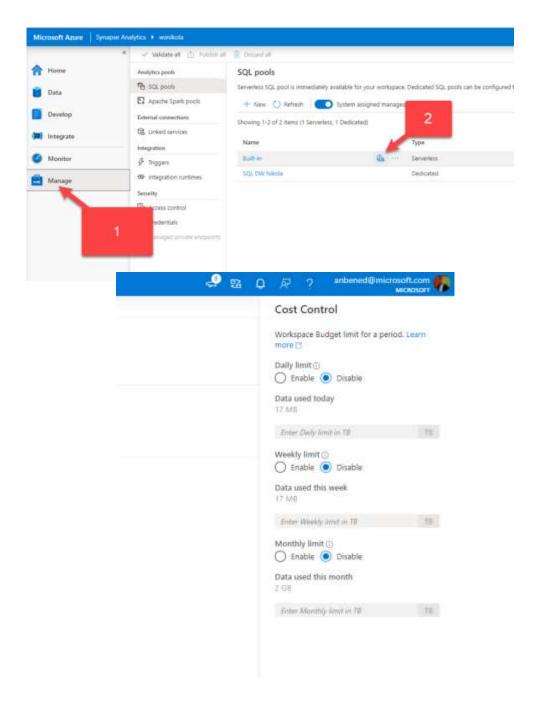
88872389	SELECT C1 FROM OPENROWSET	12/11/20, 4:56:06 PM	7s	11 MiB
88871523	SELECT C1 FROM OPENROWSET	12/11/20, 4:56:03 PM	8s	15 MiB
88871442	SELECT C1 FROM OPENROWSE1	12/11/20, 4:56:01 PM	7s	12 MiB
88870508	*** Global stats query ***	12/11/20, 4:55:59 PM	75	12 MiB
88872090	SELECT C1 FROM OPENROWSET	12/11/20, 4:55:59 PM	115	12 MiB
88870465	*** Global stats query ***	12/11/20, 4:55:57 PM	9s	9 MiB
88872005	*** Global stats query ***	12/11/20, 4:55:57 PM	12s	9 MiB

# Cost control

#### Cost control

```
exec sp_set_data_processed_limit
    @type = N'daily', @limit_tb = 5
exec sp_set_data_processed_limit
    @type= N'weekly', @limit_tb = 10
exec sp_set_data_processed_limit
    @type= N'monthly', @limit_tb = 50
```





# Notes

 There is no cache yet in SQL on-demand so the queries won't run faster after the first run

 There is no way for a user to pre-allocate more resources to SQL ondemand at this moment

- Everything related to reading files from storage might have an impact on query performance
  - SQL on-demand allows you to query files in your Azure storage accounts. It doesn't have local storage or ingestion capabilities. So, all files that the query targets are external to SQL on-demand.

```
peration = "MIRROR X":

Irror_mod.use_x = True

Irror_mod.use_y = False

Irror_mod.use_y = False

Irror_mod.use_x = False

Operation = "MIRROR y"

Irror_mod.use_x = False

Irror_mod.use_x = False

Irror_mod.use_x = False

Irror_mod.use_y = True

Irror_mod.use_y = True

Irror_mod.use_z = False

Operation = "MIRROR 7"
```

# Demo

```
// Line in the selected at a selected
```



