

AZURE DATA FACTORY – DATA FLOWS

BRINGING THE “T” IN ELT

WHO AM I?

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In/cseferlis

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- Practice Manager – Pragmatic Works – www.pragmaticworks.com
 - Former CIO
 - Blog, Speak, Record, Tweet
 - Twitter: @bizdataviz
 - LinkedIn: in/cseferlis
 - <http://blog.bizdataviz.com>
 - MBA from UMass
 - Ski, Bike, Hike, Run and drag the family along...



WHY ARE WE HERE?

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-
- Modern Data Warehouse (Platform)
 - Azure Data Orchestration
 - Preview New Azure Data Factory Features
 - Full Circle ELT with Azure Data Factory



AZURE DATA FACTORY... QUICKLY

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- Native Cloud Data Orchestration Tool
 - Started with v1, but lacked many features
 - v2 goes GA 6/2018 – work has begun on Data Flows
 - Data Flows and other new features currently in Limited Preview

LIMITED PREVIEW FEATURES

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- Debug Mode
 - Data Inspection
 - Transformations
 - GitHub Support
 - Detailed Flow Inspection
 - All-New Expression Builder

VISUAL DATA FLOW AUTHORIZING

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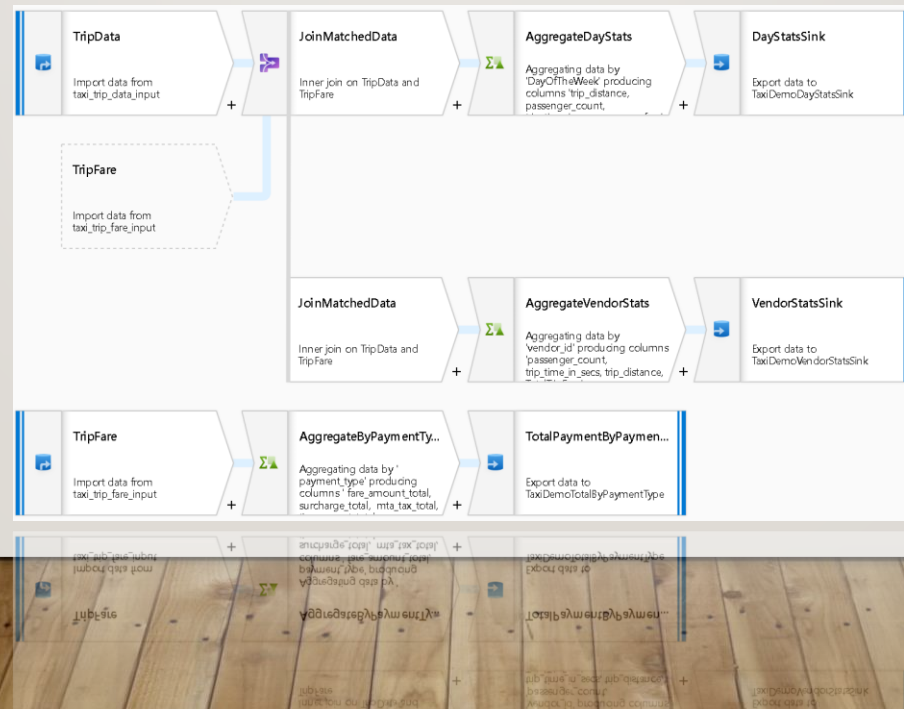
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- Transform Data, At Scale, in the Cloud, Zero-Code
 - Cloud-first, scale-out ELT
 - Code-free dataflow pipelines
 - Serverless scale-out transformation execution engine
 - Maximum Productivity for Data Engineers
 - Does NOT require understanding of Spark / Scala / Python / Java
 - Resilient Data Transformation Flows
 - Built for big data scenarios with unstructured data requirements
 - Operationalize with Data Factory scheduling, control flow and monitoring

CODE-FREE DATA TRANSFORMATION AT SCALE

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- Does not require understanding of Spark, Big Data Execution Engines, Clusters, Scala, Python ...
- Focus on building business logic and data transformation

- Data cleansing
- Aggregation
- Data conversions
- Data prep
- Data exploration

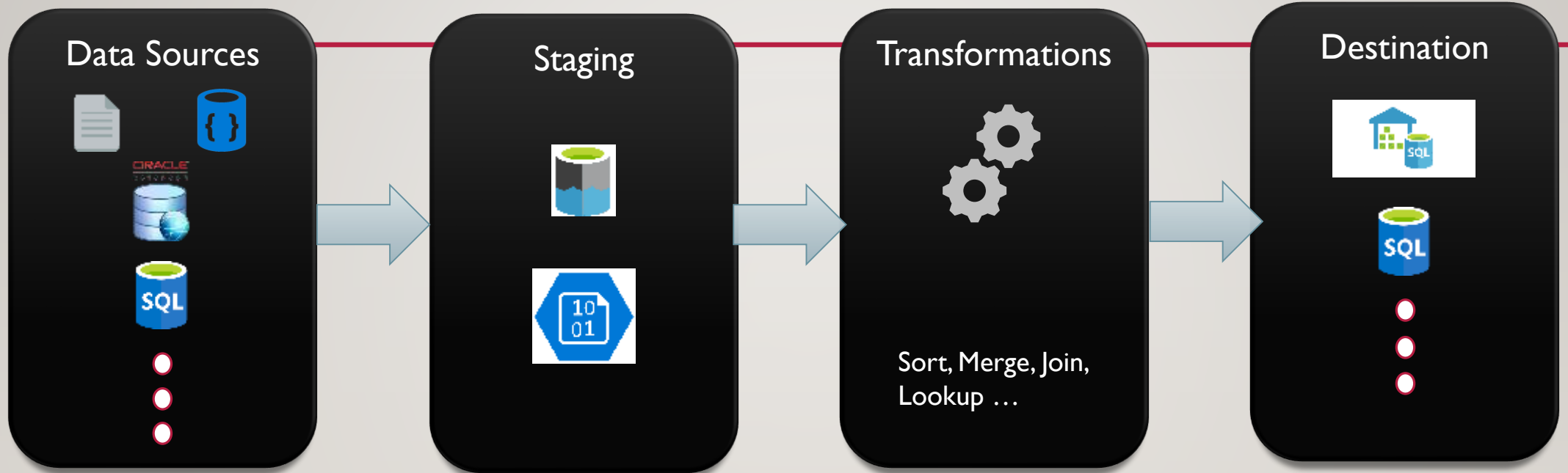


... not ...

[illegible]

ADF DATA FLOW WORKSTREAM

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- Explicit user action
- User places data source(s) on design surface, from toolbox
- Select explicit sources

- Implicit/Explicit
- Data Lake staging area as default
- User does not need to configure this manually

- Explicit user action
- User places transformations on design surface, from toolbox
- User must set properties for transformation steps and step connectors

- Explicit user action
- User chooses destination connector(s)
- User sets connector property options

DATA FLOW LIMITED PREVIEW

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- Azure SLAs are NA for preview services (private or public preview) until GA of the service.
 - Limited Preview Support
 - Handled directly with the Azure Engineering team via adfdatabflowext@microsoft.com.
 - Sign-up for ADF Data Flow service
 - <http://aka.ms/dataflowpreview>
 - Microsoft Azure must whitelist your subscription ID to turn on the feature for you
 - Public Preview Support
 - Normal Azure customer service channels

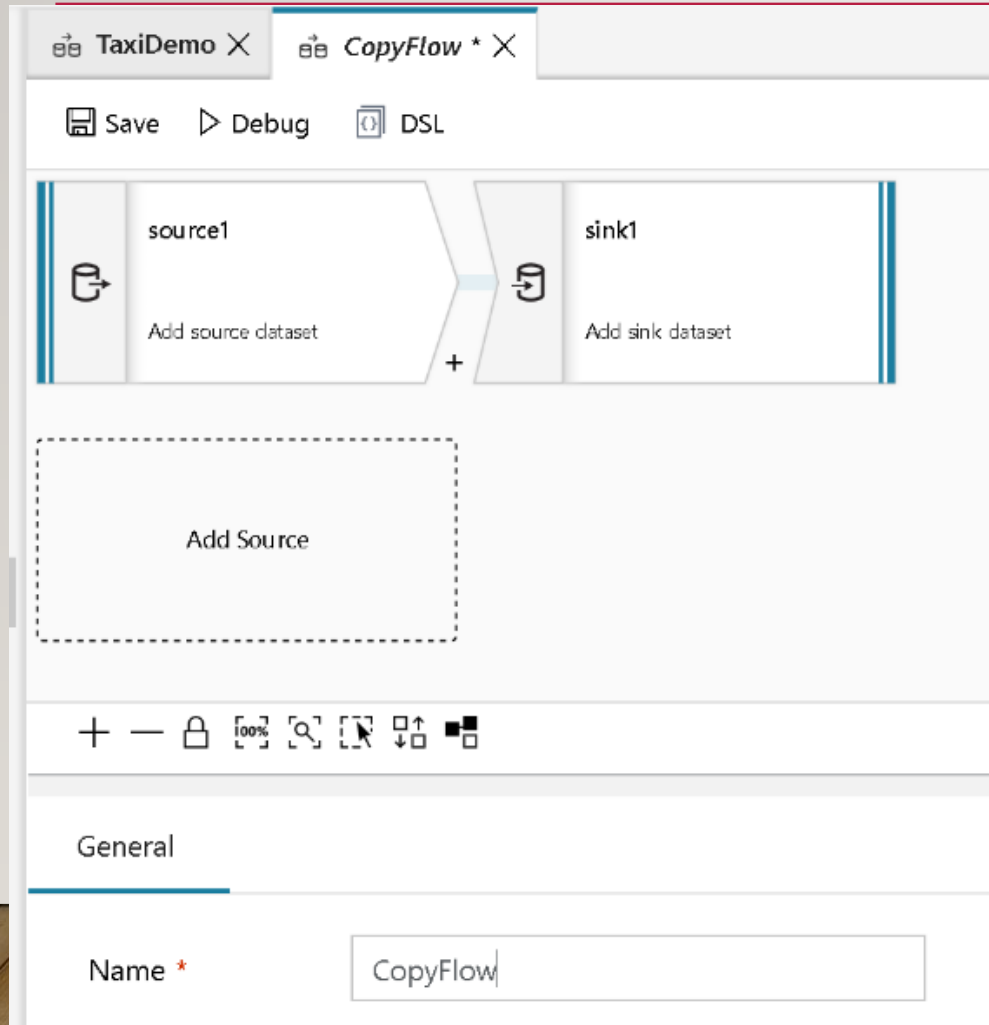
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COMMON ELT SCENARIOS HANDLED WITH ADF – DATA FLOWS



SIMPLE COPY FLOW

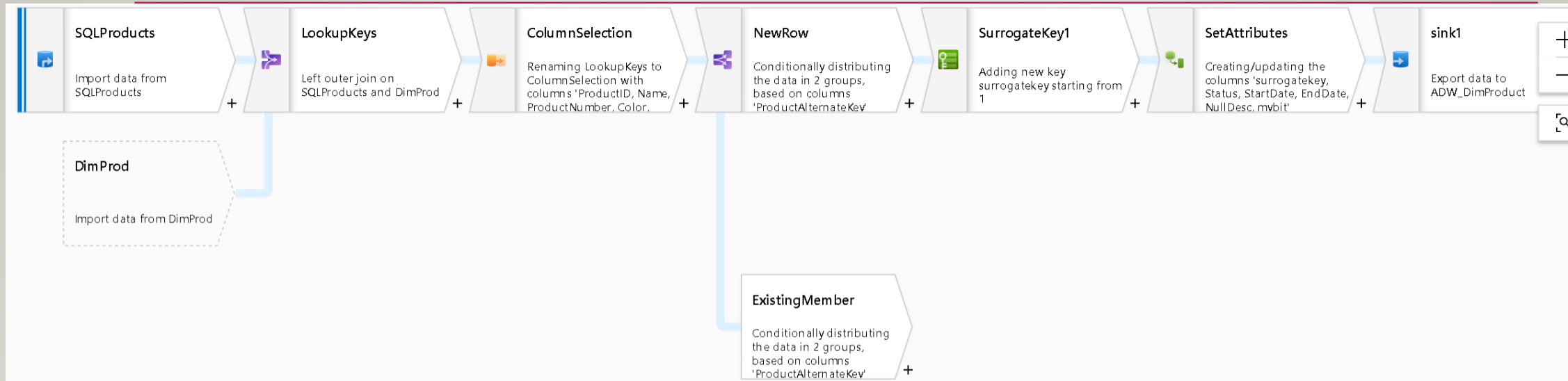
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- ADF Data Flow is a guided construction process
- Begin by defining the Datasets for your Source and Sink
- Add Transformations to each node in your data flow
- Or simply copy from source to sink with no transformation
- Map columns and fields along the way

SLOWLY CHANGING DIMENSION

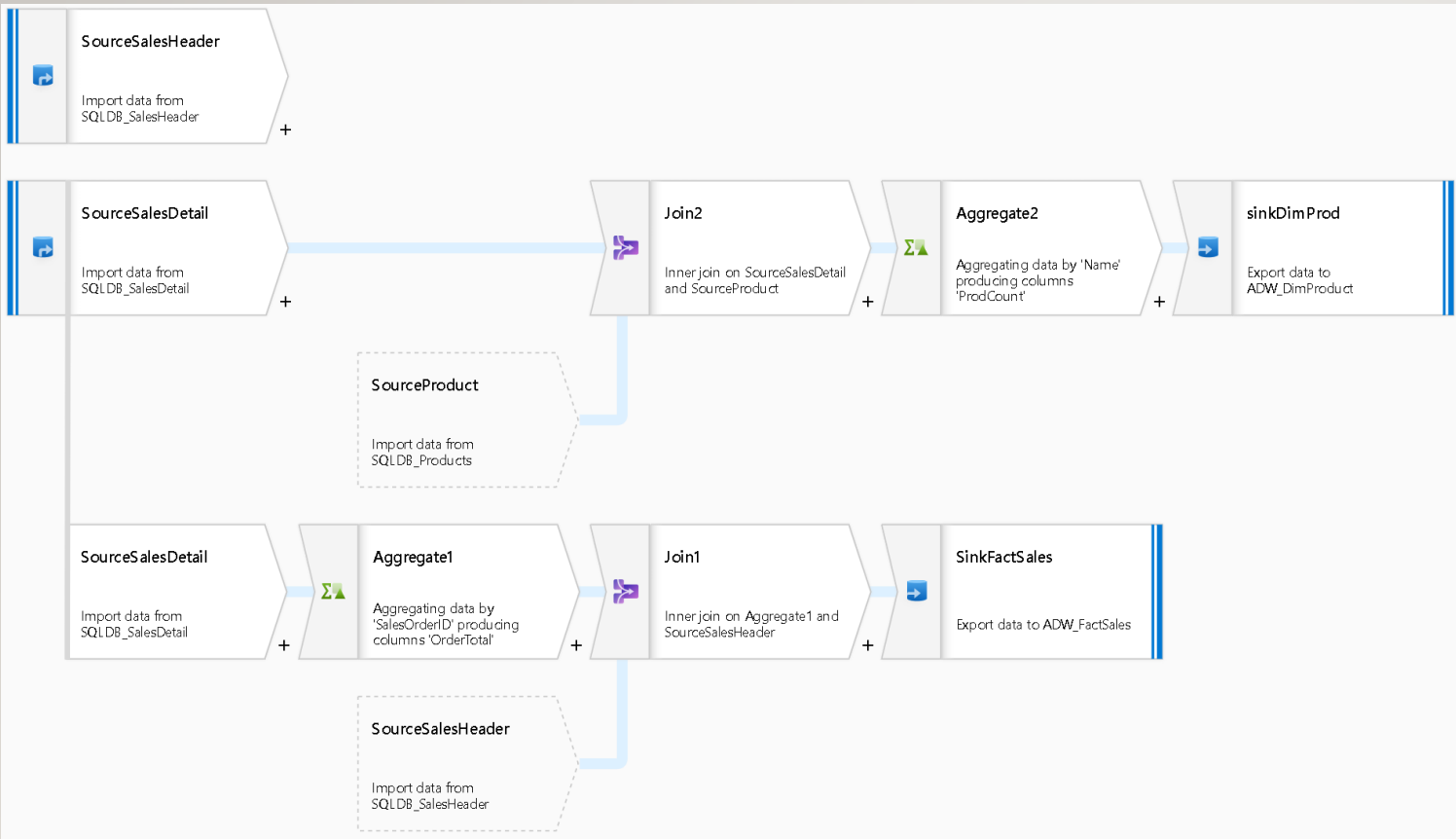
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- Common DW pattern to manage changing attributes to dimension members
- Graphically build code-free SCD ETL pattern to load your data warehouse
- Connect directly to Azure SQL DB and Azure SQL DW
- Use Lookup, Surrogate Key, Derived Column and Select transforms

LOAD STAR SCHEMA DW

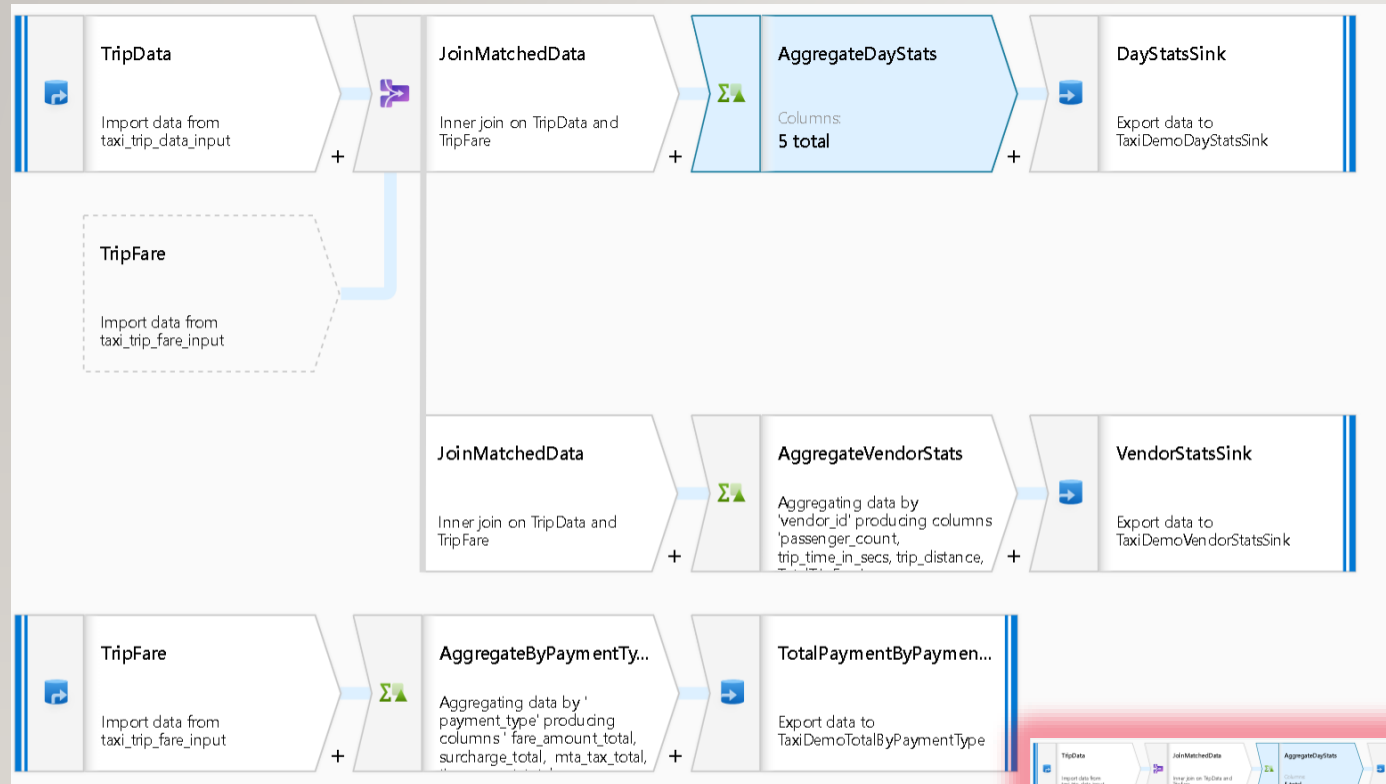
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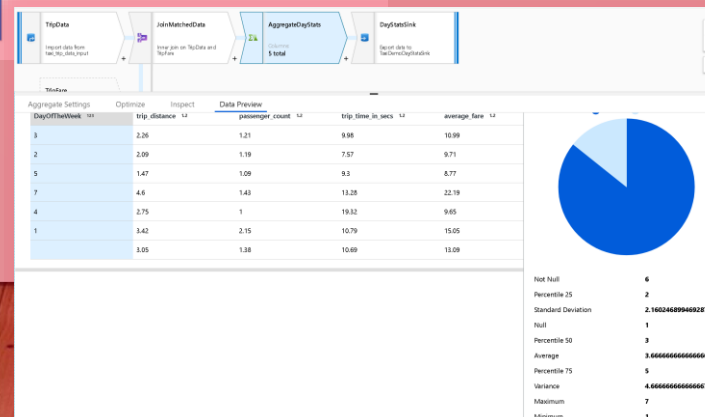
- Classic ETL pattern is easy to build in ADF's code-free Data Flow visual data transformation environment
- Add Aggregate transforms to produce calculations that you store in your analytical database schema
- Use Join transform to combine data from multiple data sources and data streams inside your data flow
- Land your data in your Lake folders or direct to Azure SQL DW

DATA LAKE/DATA SCIENCE

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- ADF supports building visual data transformations against your data directly in Data Lake locations (i.e. Azure Blob Store, Azure Data Lake Store)
- Built-in handling of schema drift for frequent changes in data lake file formats, columns, and data types
- Perform data exploration and data profiling across your data lake in ADF Data Flow with interactive debug data preview



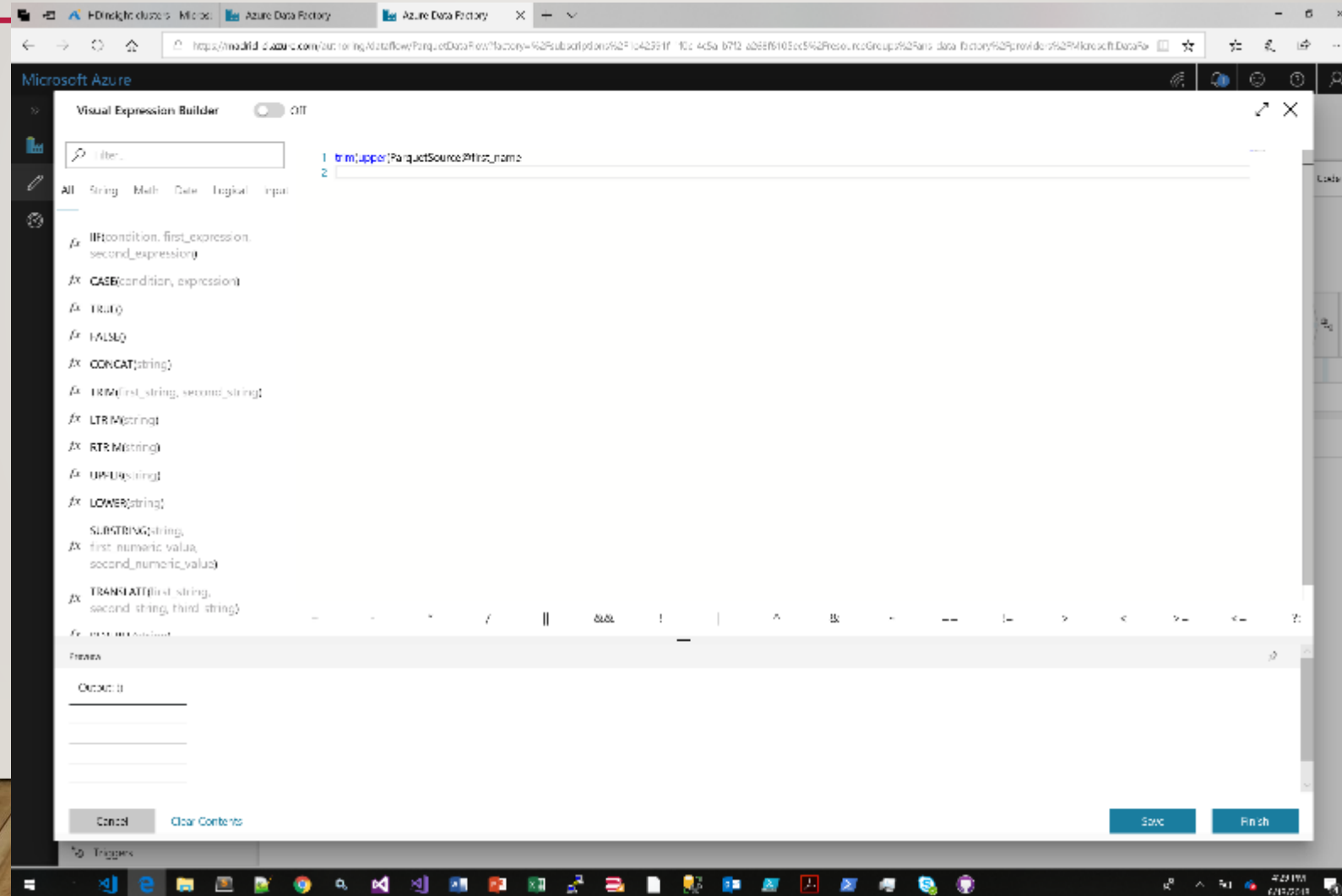
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NEW FEATURES IN AZURE DATA FACTORY



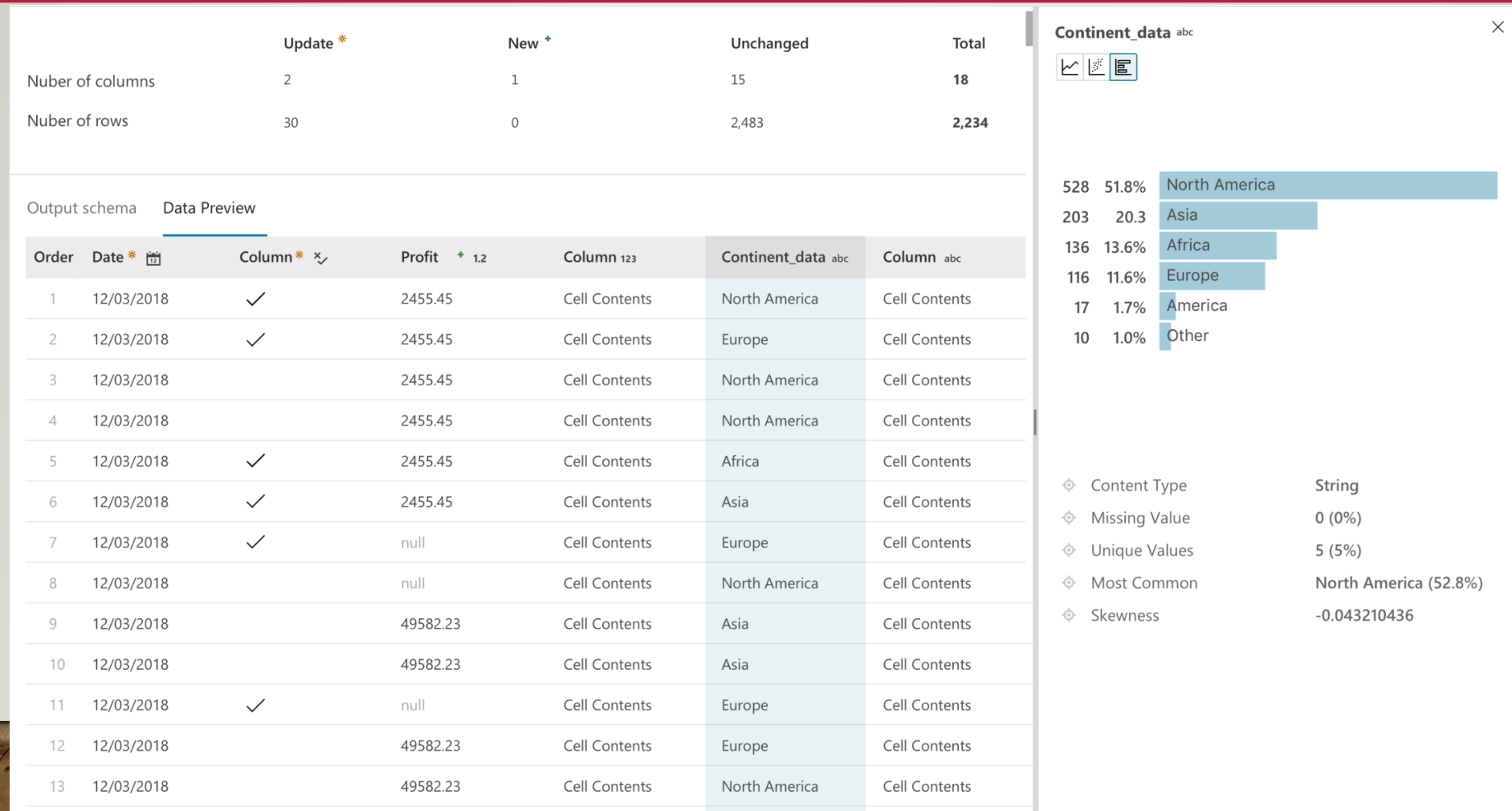
INTERACTIVE EXPRESSION BUILDER – BUILD TRANSFORM EXPRESSIONS, NOT CODE

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DEBUG DATA FLOWS WITH DATA PREVIEW AND DATA SAMPLING

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BUILD RESILIENT DATA FLOWS WITH SCHEMA DRIFT HANDLING



HANDLING SOURCE CHANGES

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- Data Engineer Defines Source and you take ALL fields from source w/flexible schema

The screenshot displays a data pipeline configuration interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Save', 'Debug', and 'DSL'. Below this, a visual pipeline is shown with three main components: a 'Source' block labeled 'source1' with 'Columns: 4 total', a 'Derive' block labeled 'Derive1', and a 'Sink' block labeled 'sink1'. These are connected by arrows, with plus signs indicating the flow. Below the pipeline, there is a dashed box labeled 'Add Source'. A toolbar with various icons is located below the 'Add Source' box. The bottom section of the interface is titled 'Source' and contains configuration options for the selected source.

Source configuration details:

- Name: source1
- Source Dataset: Currency_USD (with Edit and New buttons)
- Buttons: Import from dataset, + New column, Clear, Delete
- Column list table:

Column	Type
cid	String
cname	String
cdate	String
cprop	Integer

HANDLING SOURCE CHANGES

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- Data Engineer derives columns using template expression patterns based on name and type matching. No need to define static field names.

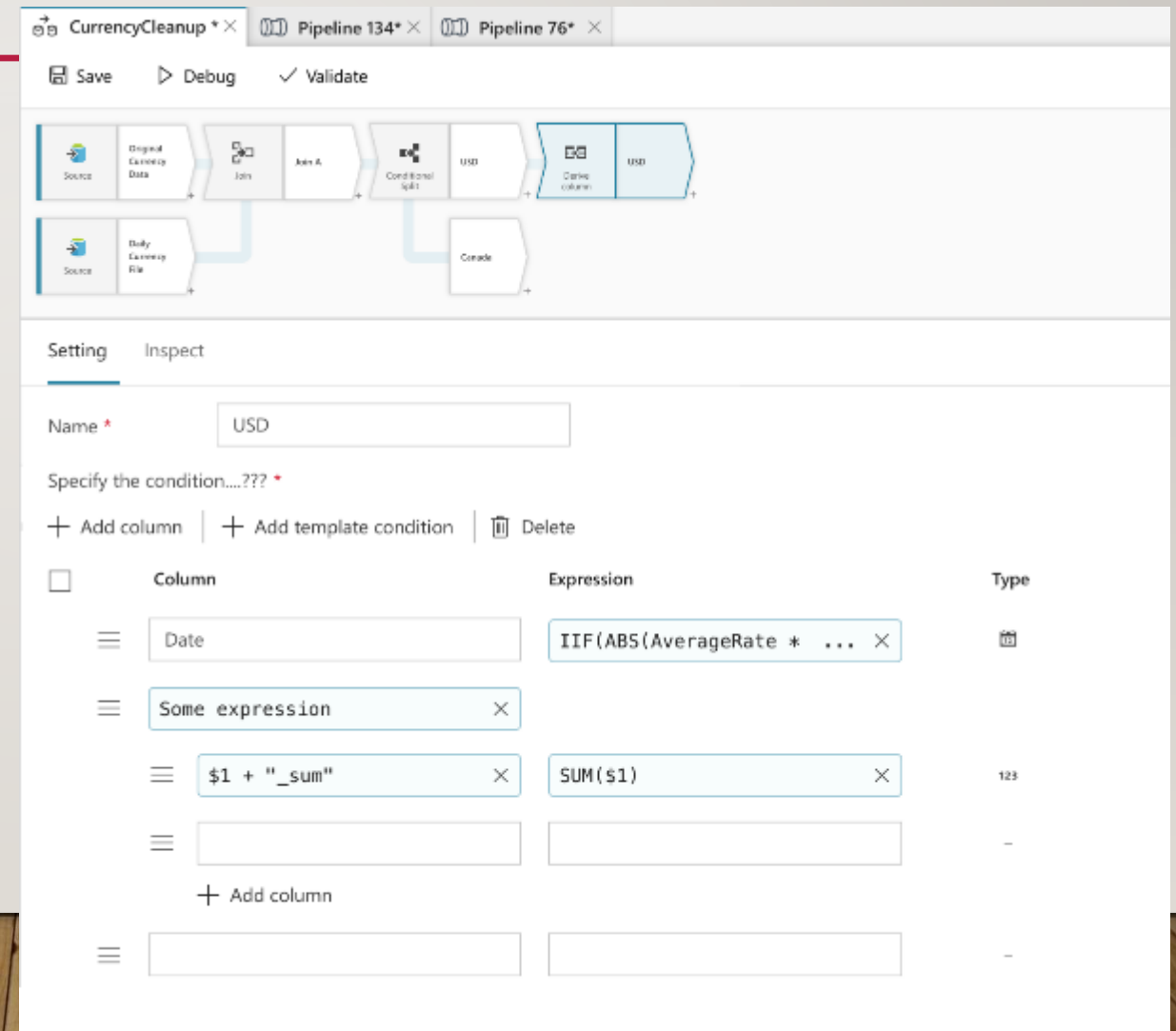
The screenshot displays the Data Engineer interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Save', 'Debug', and 'DSL'. Below these, a workflow is shown with three components: 'Source' (labeled 'source1'), 'Derive' (labeled 'Derive1' with 'Columns: 5 total'), and 'Sink' (labeled 'sink1'). Below the workflow is an 'Add Source' button. A toolbar with various icons is visible below the workflow. The 'Derive Settings' panel is open at the bottom, showing the 'Name' field set to 'Derive1'. Below the name field are buttons for '+ Add Column', 'Delete', and 'Clear'. A table below these buttons lists the derived columns:

Column name	Template condition	Expression	Type
newrate	type == string	ltrim(\$1)	string

HANDLING SOURCE CHANGES

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- Data Engineer derives columns using template expression based on name and type matching. No need to define static field names.



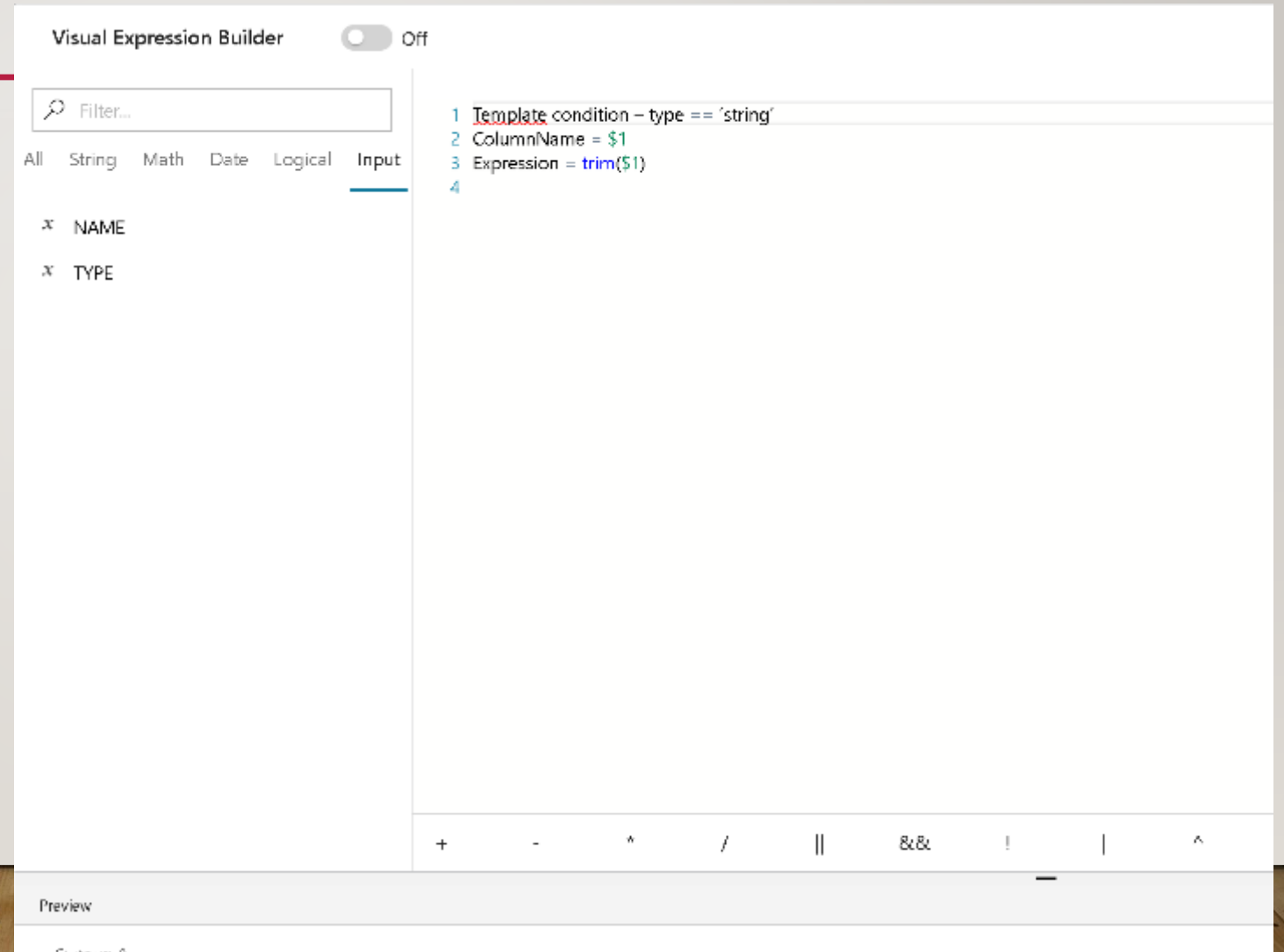
The screenshot displays a data pipeline editor interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'CurrencyCleanup *', 'Pipeline 134*', and 'Pipeline 76*'. Below the tabs are buttons for 'Save', 'Debug', and 'Validate'. The main workspace shows a flowchart with several steps: 'Source', 'Original Currency Data', 'Join', 'Join A', 'Conditional split', 'USD', 'Currency cleanup', and 'USD'. A 'Daily Cleanup File' source is also connected to the 'Join' step. The 'Setting' tab is selected, showing the configuration for the 'USD' step. It includes a 'Name' field with the value 'USD' and a 'Specify the condition....???' field. Below these are buttons for '+ Add column', '+ Add template condition', and 'Delete'. A table lists the columns and their expressions:

Column	Expression	Type
Date	IIF(ABS(AverageRate * ...	
Some expression		
\$1 + "_sum"	SUM(\$1)	123
		-
		-

HANDLING SOURCE CHANGES

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- Data Engineer derives columns using template expression based on name and type matching



HANDLING SOURCE CHANGES

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- Sink all incoming fields along with new derived field

The screenshot displays the Apache Dataflow console interface. On the left, a sidebar menu shows various options including 'Pipelines', 'Datasets', 'Dataflows', and 'Connections'. The main area shows a pipeline diagram with a 'Source' node connected to a 'Sink' node. Below the diagram, the 'Sink' configuration panel is visible, showing the 'Sink Dataset' as 'marketbasket'. A table below the configuration shows the output columns for the sink.

Write Column	Column	Type	Output Alias
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	id	string	id
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	name	string	name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	date	string	date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	price	integer	price
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	quantity	string	quantity

IMPORTANT LINKS:

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- Sign-up for ADF Data Flow service:
 - <http://aka.ms/dataflowpreview>
 - Microsoft Azure must whitelist your subscription ID to turn on the feature for you
 - GitHub Repository for documentation:
 - <https://github.com/kromerm/adfdataflowdocs/>

THANK YOU!

