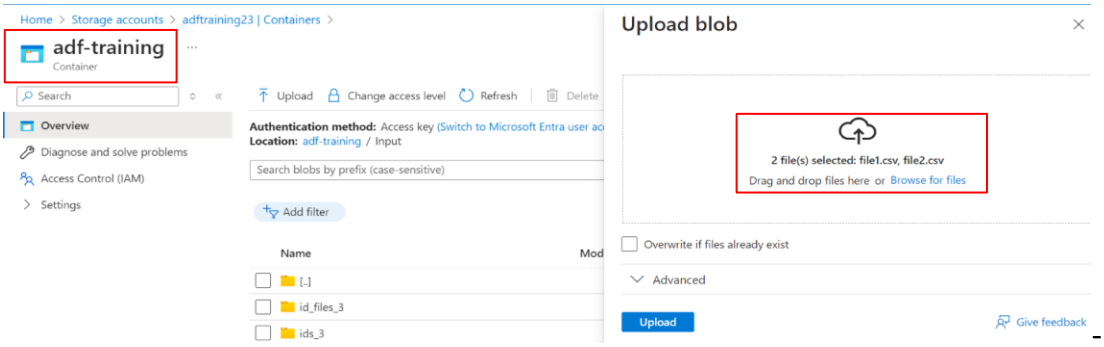
Formal Documentation of Azure Data Factory Pipeline – Training

Use Case: Unpivoting the File

1. Uploading Input File in the Container

- A container named adf-training was previously created in the Azure storage account.
- For this pipeline, the file was uploaded into the container in the input folder.
- Once the upload was successful, the file was added to the input folder.
- Files uploaded: file1.csv, file2.csv (refer image 1).
- We had 2 source files: one containing the departments table and the other containing only the ids. The task was to unpivot the department file and compare the IDs file with the department file. If the id is available in the department file, then load the data to the destination.

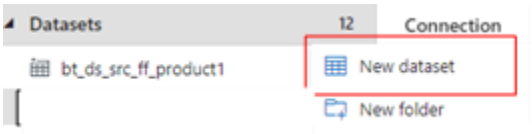


-Image

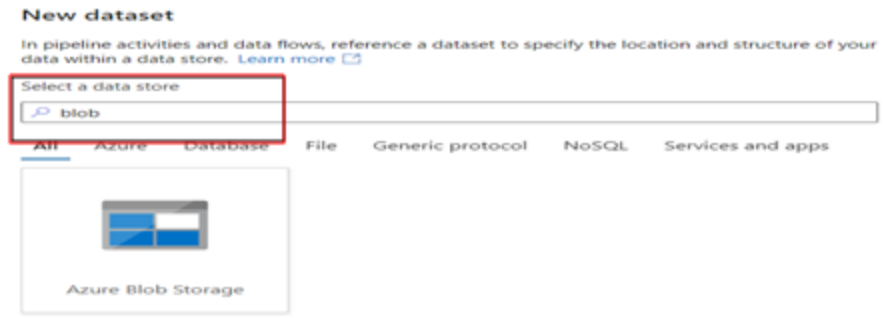
2. Dataset Creation.

Source dataset 1

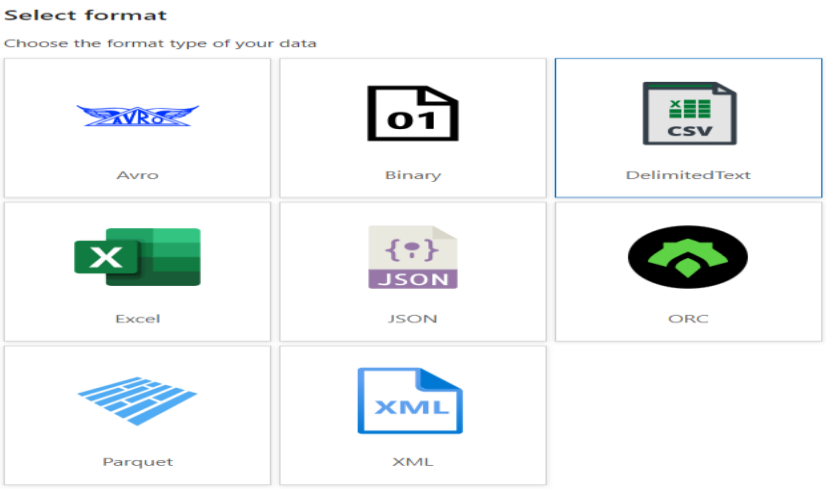
- A new source dataset was created for the source data file.
- Source dataset name: bt_ds_src_dpt_transformation
- Inside Azure Data Factory, in the Author tab, I selected the Dataset option and clicked on "New Dataset" (refer to image 1). I chose the Azure Blob Storage option (refer to image 2).
- Next, I selected the Delimited Text file format, which brought me to the properties page where I defined the dataset name and path (refer to image 3).
- I specified the dataset name, selected the linked service, and provided the path of my input file.
- These steps created my source dataset that contained department information (refer image 4).



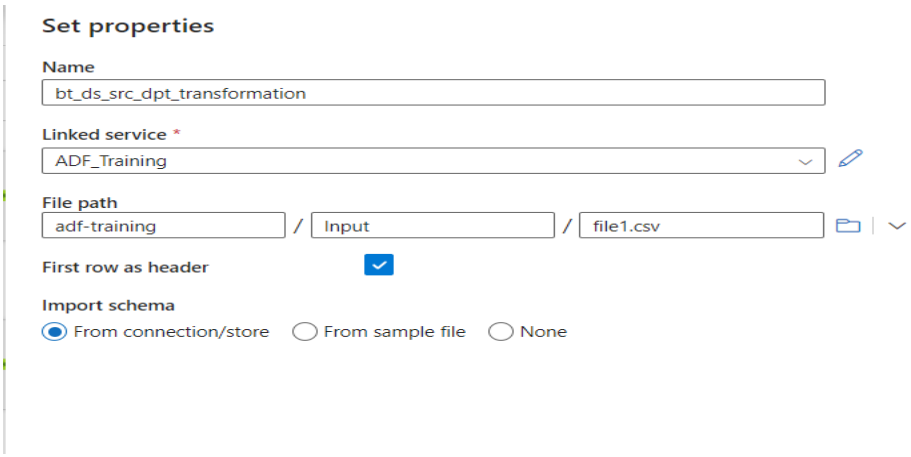
- Image 1



- Image 2



-Image 3



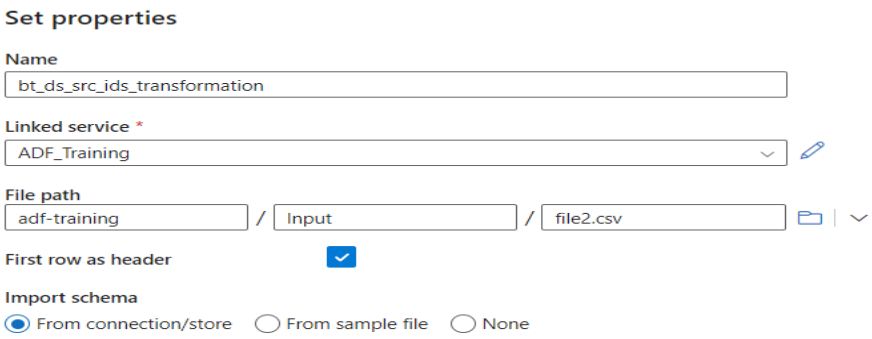
-Image 4

Source dataset 2

Source dataset 2

- A new source dataset was created for the source2 data file.
- Source dataset name: bt_ds_src_ids_transformation

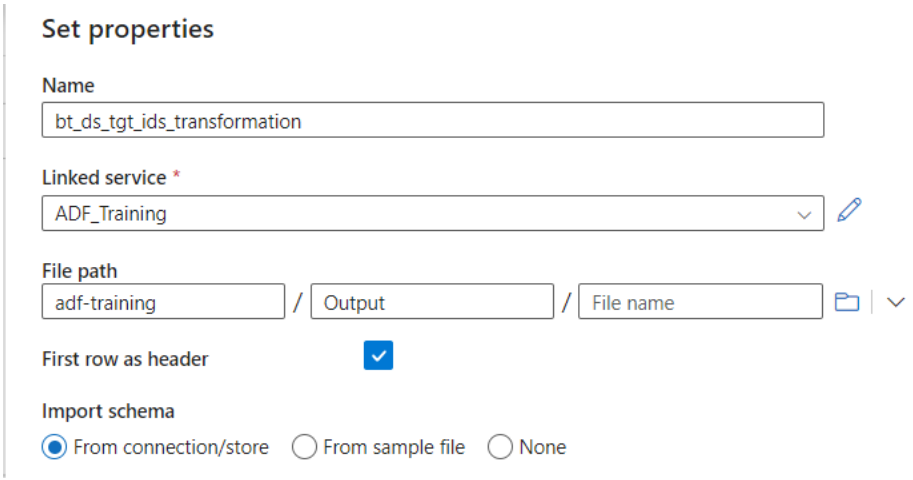
- I followed similar steps for source dataset 2.
- In the Author tab, I selected the datasets, clicked on "New Dataset," selected Azure Blob Storage, and then selected the Delimited Text format, which brought me to the properties page where I defined the dataset name and path. These steps created my source dataset that contained IDs information (refer image 1).



-Image 1

Target dataset

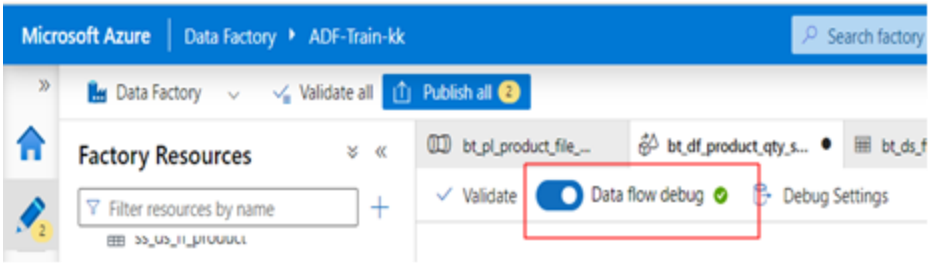
- A new source dataset was created for the target data file.
- Source dataset name: bt_ds_tgt_ids_transformation
- I followed similar steps for the target dataset. In the Author tab, I selected the datasets, clicked on "New Dataset," selected Azure Blob Storage, and then selected the Delimited Text format, which brought me to the properties page where I defined the dataset name and path (refer image 1)



- Image 1

3. Dataflow Creation

- Dataflow name: bt_df_file_transformation_unpivot.
- The mandatory step is to enable dataflow debug so we can preview the data at every step (refer to image 1).

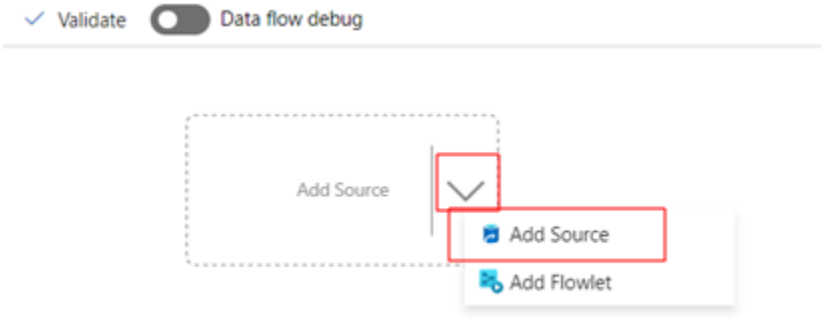


-Image 1

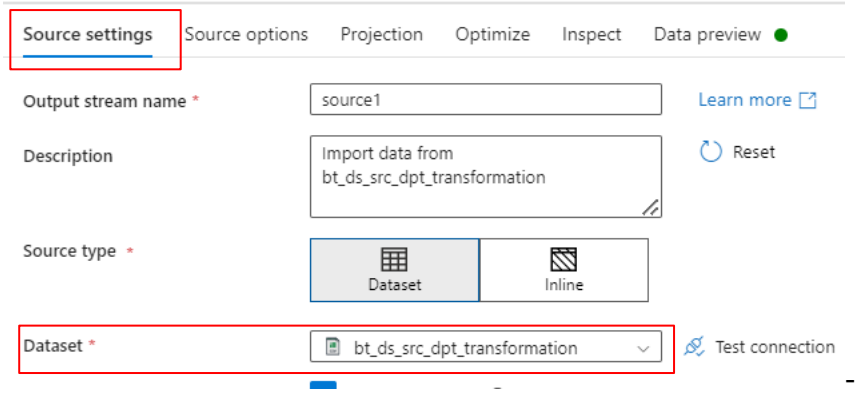
Dataflow Steps:

A. Selecting Source

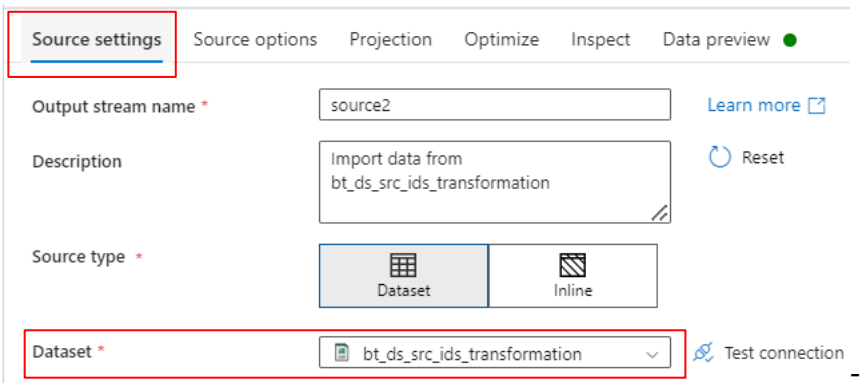
- Added the sources to add my 2 seperate source file (refer to image 1).
- In source settings, I added my source dataset (refer to image 2,3).



-Image 1



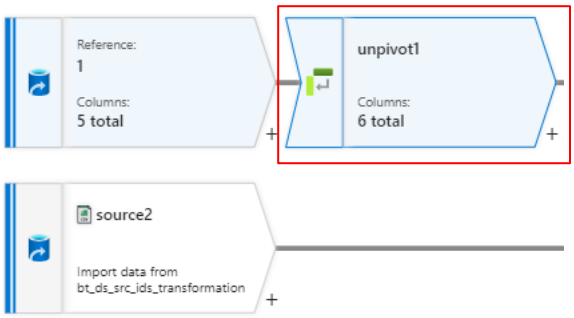
-Image 2



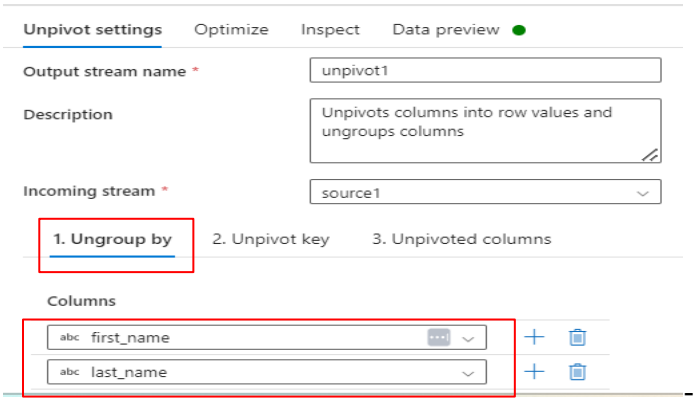
-Image 3

B. Unpivot

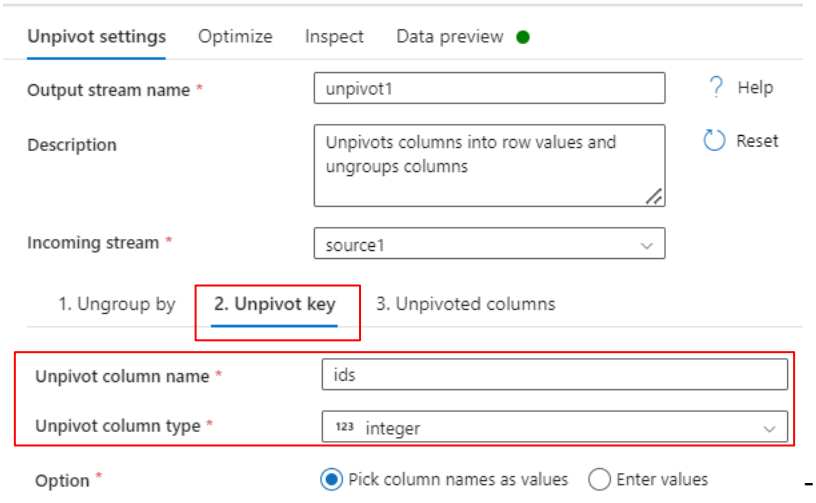
- Click on the "Add transformation (+)" button and select "Unpivot" (Image 1).
- The unpivot function in Azure Data Factory's Data Flow transforms columns into rows, converting wide data formats into a long, normalized format by moving the values of selected columns into rows under a new column.
- The ungroup by option in the Unpivot transformation allows you to specify columns that should not be unpivoted. I selected the columns first_name, last_name (refer image 2).
- Then there is the unpivot key, which specifies the name of the new column that will hold the original column names. I selected the ids column with a data type of integer (refer image 3).
- Moved to unpivoted columns, the Unpivot transformation allows you to convert columns into rows, making your data normalized from wide to long format. I selected the departments columns that I wanted to unpivot: dpt_id, mkt_id, fin_id (refer image 4).



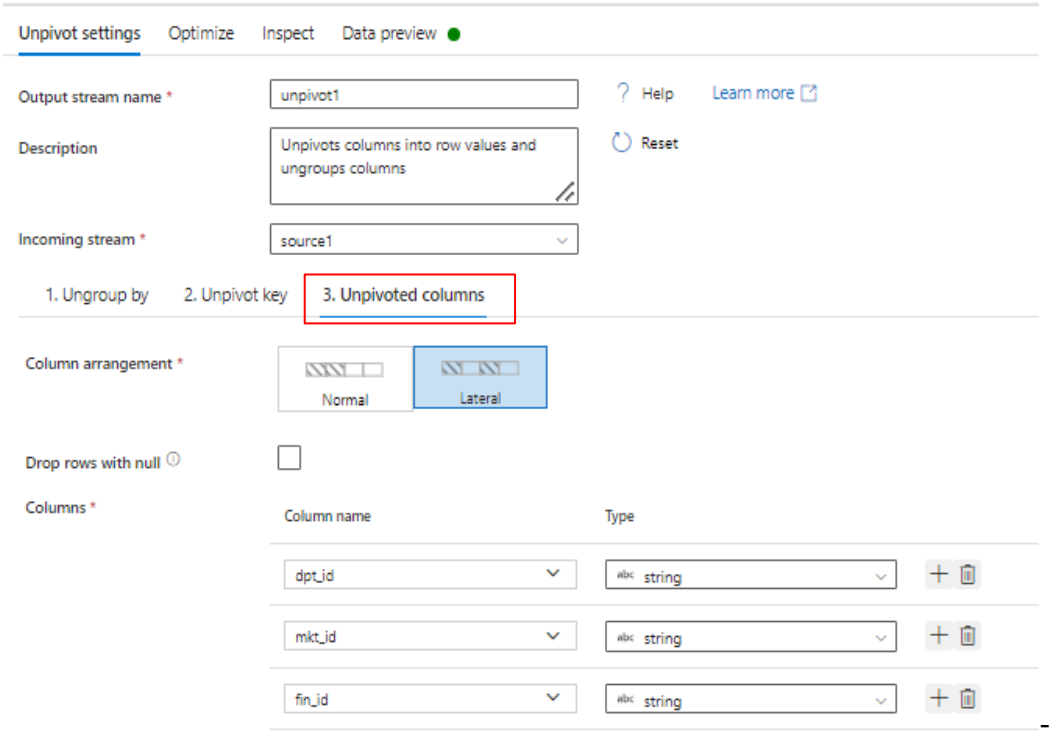
-Image 1



-Image 2



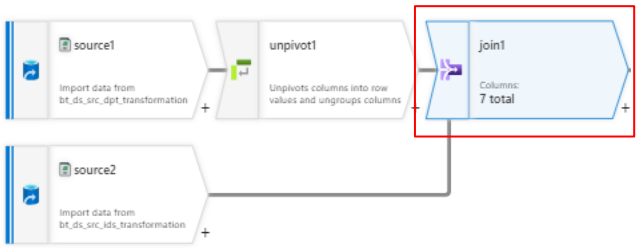
-Image 3



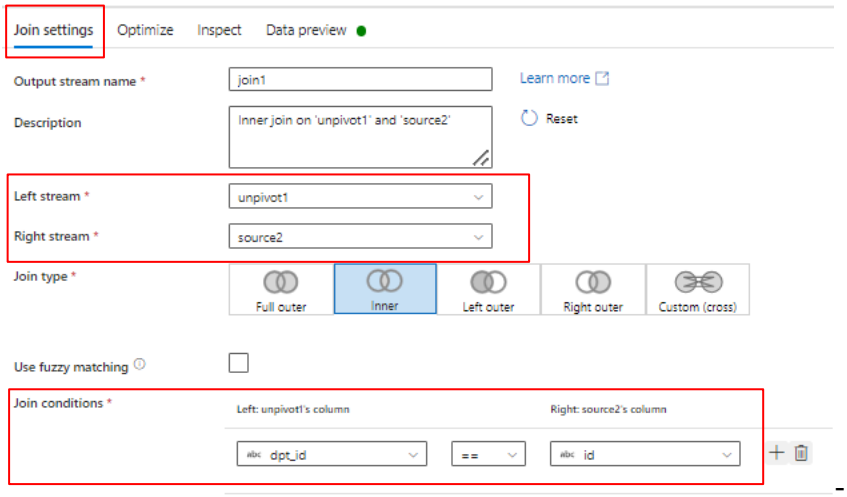
-Image 4

C. Join

- Click on the "Add transformation (+)" button and select "Join" (refer image 1).
- I used the join function to join the Unpivot transformation with source 2. Selected the left stream as Unpivot1 and right stream as source 2. Join type is "Inner Join".
- Mentioned the joining conditions (refer image 2).



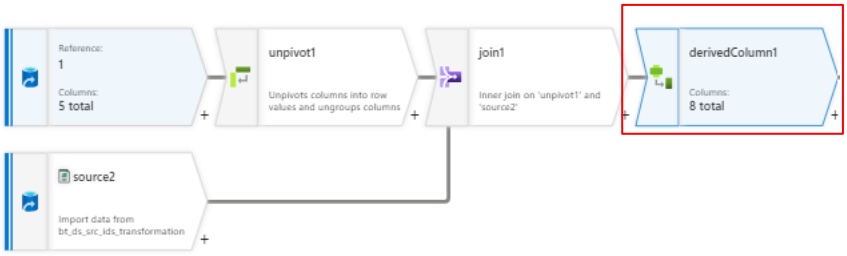
-Image 1



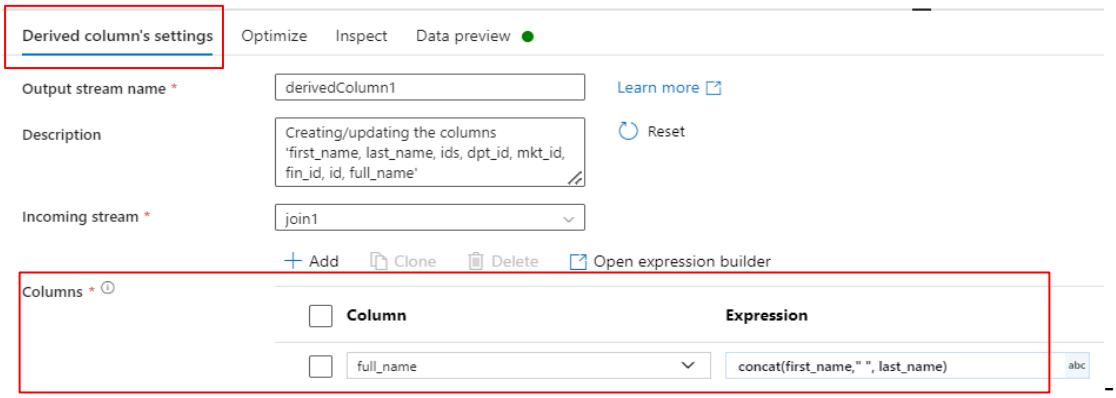
-Image 2

D. Derived Column

- Click on the "Add transformation (+)" button and select "Derived Column" (refer image 1).
- Selected this function to concatenate the first and last names.
- In the columns option, assigned a column name as"full_name" and wrote a concat expression (refer image 2).



-Image 1

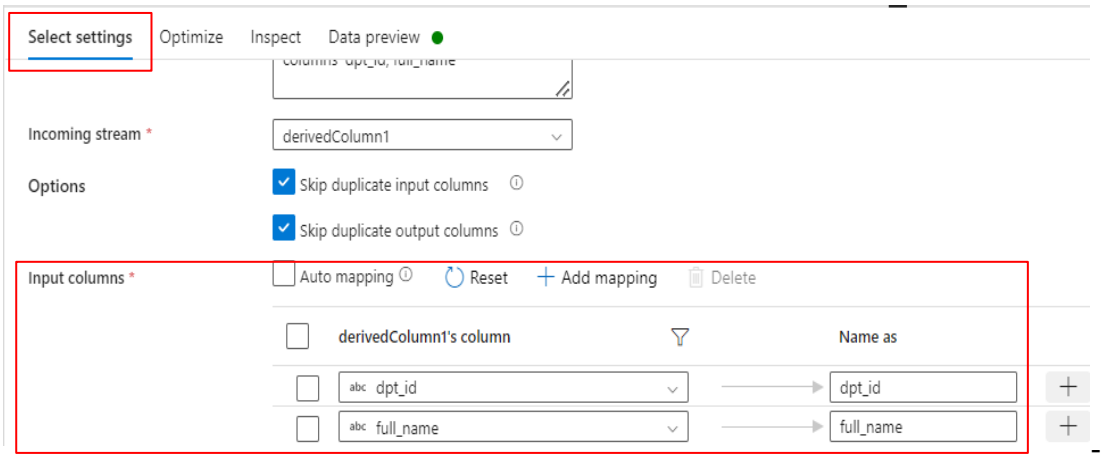


-Image 2

E. Select

- Click on the "Add transformation (+)" button and select "Select" (refer image 1).
- After the derived column function, we had 8 columns. I used the select function to select only the necessary columns, selecting the dpt_id, full_name column (refer image 2).

-Image 1

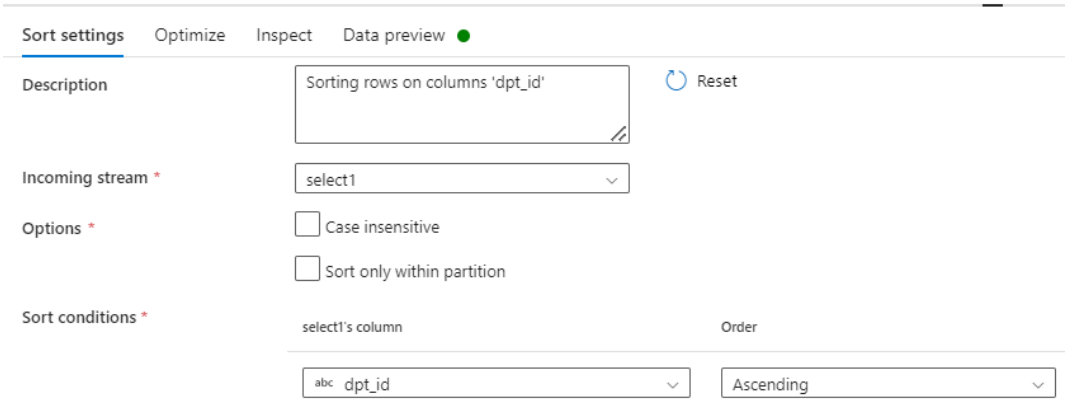


-Image 2

F. Sort

- Click on the "Add transformation (+)" button and select "Sort" (refer image 1).
- Added the sort function to sort the dpt_id in ascending order (refer image 2).

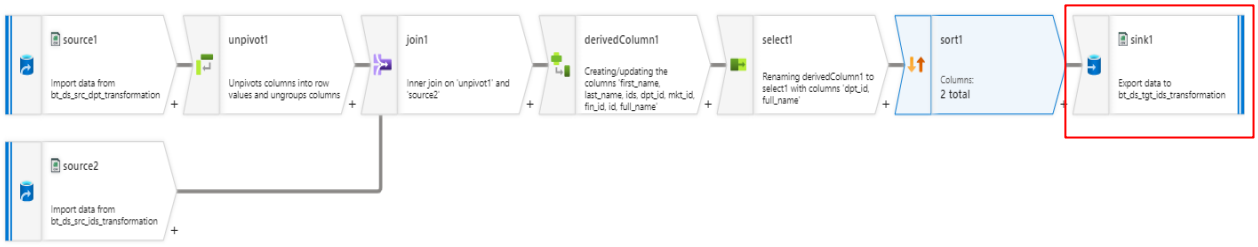
-Image 1



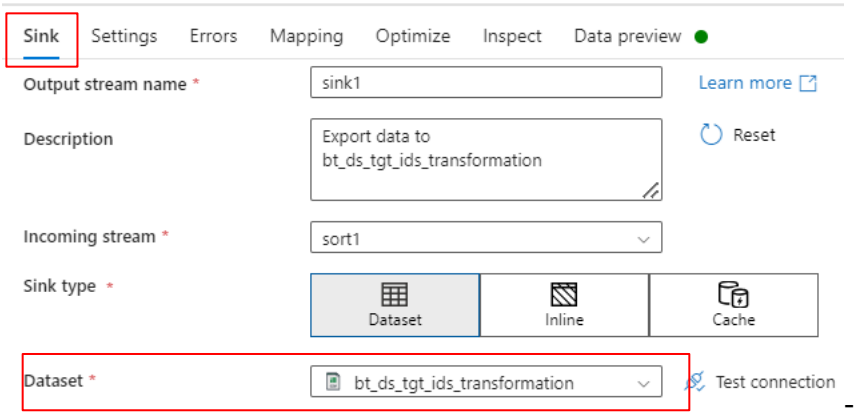
-Image 2

G. Sink

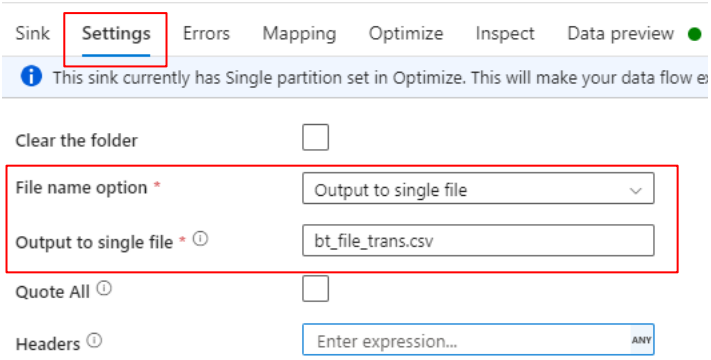
- Click on the "Add transformation(+)" button and select "Sink" (refer image 1).
- Added my target dataset in the sink and in settings selected the file name option as Output to single file so I can assign a name to my output file (refer image 2,3).



-Image 1



-Image 2



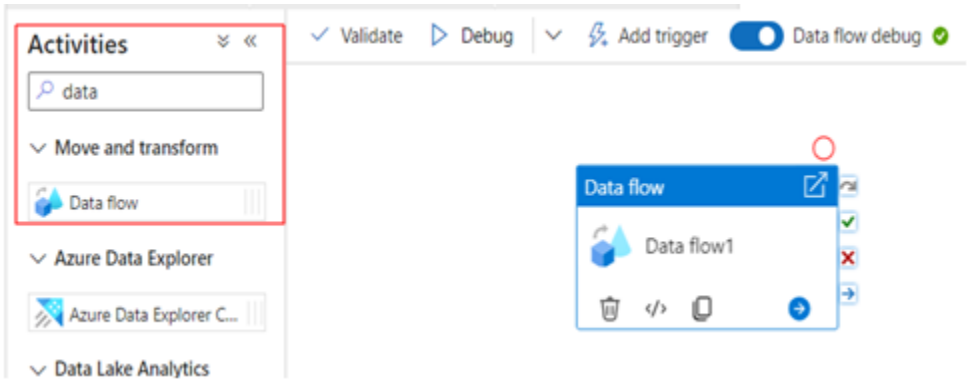
-Image 3

4. Pipeline Creation

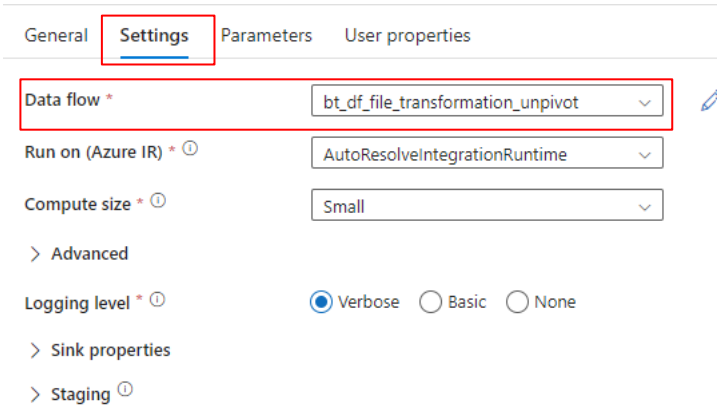
- I then created a pipeline named bt_pl_file_transformation to execute the dataflow activities.

5. Dataflow Activity

- From the activities, I dragged and dropped the dataflow activity (refer image 1).
- Then, in the settings, I select the dataflow (refer image 2).



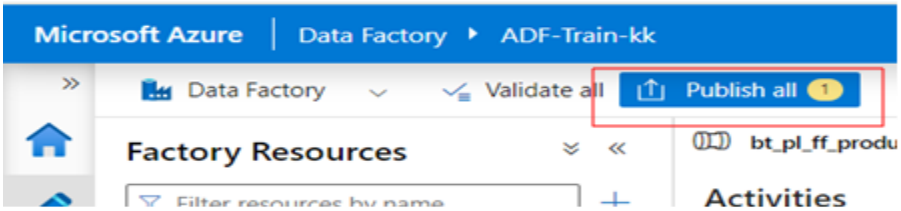
-Image 1



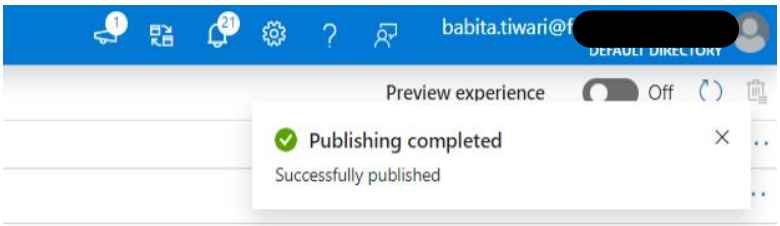
-Image 2

6. Publishing and Executing the Pipeline

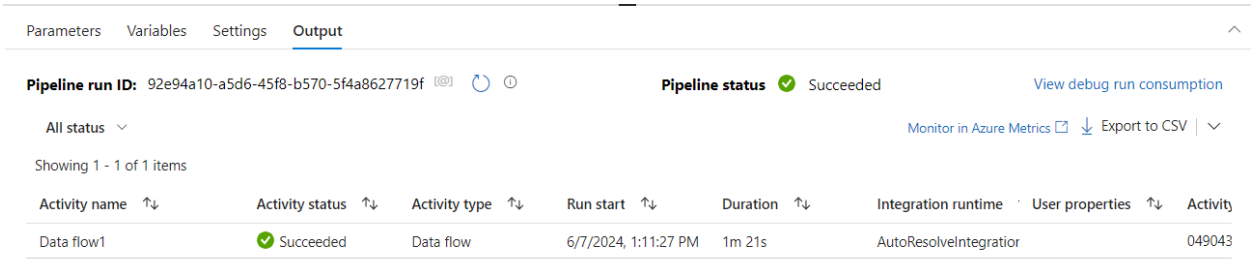
- The activities were saved/published, and all were successfully published and executed via debug tab. (refer to images 1, 2, 3).



- Image 1



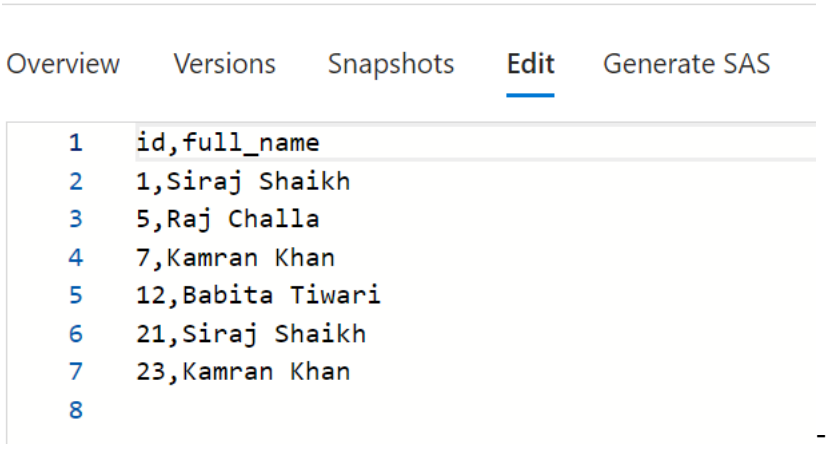
-Image 2



-Image 3

7. Verifying the Output

I then visited the output folder in the adf-training container and checked the output. The file was generated correctly (refer image 1).



-Image 1

Summary:

This document details the steps involved in creating a data flow in Azure Data Factory for unpivoting data.