## **AWS - Data Migration Service - Practical approach**

### Introduction

I'm excited to write this article on AWS data migration with a practical approach. Before I delve into the project, I would like to explain a little bit about the need for the AWS DMS and its primary benefits followed by some tools required, dependencies and finally the project.

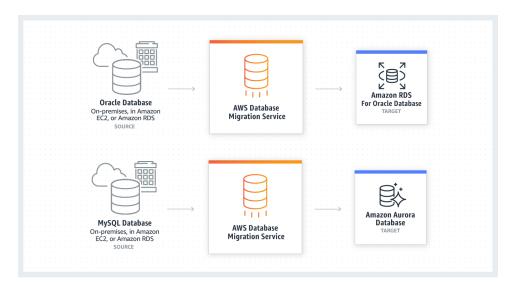
AWS Database Migration Service helps us migrate databases to AWS quickly and securely. The source database remains fully <u>operational during the migration</u>, minimizing downtime to applications that rely on the database. The AWS Database Migration Service can migrate the data to and from most widely used commercial and open-source databases.

AWS Database Migration Service supports homogenous migrations such as Oracle to Oracle, as well as heterogeneous migrations between different database platforms, such as Oracle or Microsoft SQL Server to Amazon Aurora. With AWS Database Migration Service, we can continuously replicate the data with high availability and consolidate databases into a petabyte-scale data warehouse by streaming data to Amazon Redshift and Amazon S3.

## **Use Cases**

### HOMOGENEOUS DATABASE MIGRATIONS

In homogeneous database migrations, the source and target database engines are the same or are compatible like Oracle to Amazon RDS for Oracle, MySQL to Amazon Aurora, MySQL to Amazon RDS for MySQL, or Microsoft SQL Server to Amazon RDS for SQL Server. Since the schema structure, data types, and database code are compatible between the source and target databases, this kind of migration is a one step process. We create a migration task with connections to the source and target databases, then start the migration with the click of a button. AWS Database Migration Service takes care of the rest. The source database can be located in our own premises outside of AWS, running on an Amazon EC2 instance, or it can be an Amazon RDS database. The target can be a database in Amazon EC2 or Amazon RDS.



### HETEROGENOUS DATABASE MIGRATIONS

In heterogeneous database migrations the source and target databases engines are different, like in the case of Oracle to Amazon Aurora, Oracle to PostgreSQL, or Microsoft SQL Server to MySQL migrations. In this case, the schema structure, data types, and database code of source and target databases can be quite different, requiring a schema and code transformation before the data migration starts. That makes heterogeneous migrations a two step process. First use the AWS Schema Conversion Tool to convert the source schema and code to match that of the target database, and then use the AWS Database Migration Service to migrate data from the source database to the target database. All the required data type conversions will automatically be done by the AWS Database Migration Service during the migration. The source database can be located in your own premises outside of AWS, running on an Amazon EC2 instance, or it can be an Amazon RDS database. The target can be a database in Amazon EC2 or Amazon RDS.



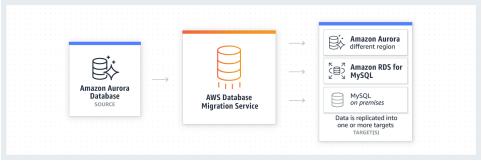
## **DATABASE CONSOLIDATION**

We can use AWS Database Migration Service to consolidate multiple source databases into a single target database. This can be done for homogeneous and heterogeneous migrations, and you can use this feature with all supported database engines. The source databases can be located in our own premises outside of AWS, running on an Amazon EC2 instance, or it can be an Amazon RDS database. The sources databases can also be spread across different locations. For example, one of the source databases can be in our own premises outside of AWS, while the second one in Amazon EC2, and the third one is an Amazon RDS database. The target can be a database in Amazon EC2 or Amazon RDS.



## CONTINUOUS DATA REPLICATION

We can use AWS Database Migration Service to perform continuous data replication. Continuous data replication has a multitude of use cases including Disaster Recovery instance synchronization, geographic database distribution and Dev/Test environment synchronization. We can use DMS for both homogeneous and heterogeneous data replications for all supported database engines. The source or destination databases can be located in our own premises outside of AWS, running on an Amazon EC2 instance, or it can be an Amazon RDS database. We can replicate data from a single database to one or more target databases or data from multiple source databases can be consolidated and replicated to one or more target databases.



# AWS Schema Conversion Tool (for Heterogenous Database Migrations)

We can use the AWS Schema Conversion Tool (AWS SCT) to convert our existing database schema from one database engine to another. We can convert relational OLTP schema, or data warehouse schema. Our converted schema is suitable for an Amazon Relational Database Service (Amazon RDS) MySQL DB instance, an Amazon Aurora DB cluster, an Amazon RDS PostgreSQL DB instance, or an Amazon Redshift cluster. The converted schema can also be used with a database on an Amazon EC2 instance or stored as data on an Amazon S3 bucket.

The AWS Schema Conversion Tool (AWS SCT) is a standalone application that provides a project-based user interface. AWS SCT is available for Fedora Linux, macOS, Microsoft Windows, and Ubuntu Linux version 15.04. AWS SCT is supported only on 64-bit operating systems. AWS SCT also installs the Java Runtime Environment (JRE) version 8u45.

Source Database	Target Database on Amazon RDS
_	Amazon Aurora (MySQL or PostgreSQL), Microsoft SQL Server, MySQL, PostgreSQL
MySQL (version 5.5 and later)	Amazon Aurora (PostgreSQL), MySQL, PostgreSQL You can migrate schema and data from MySQL to an Amazon Aurora (MySQL) DB cluster without using AWS SCT. For more information, see <u>Migrating Data to an Amazon Aurora DB Cluster</u> .
Oracle (version 10.2 and later)	Amazon Aurora (MySQL or PostgreSQL), MySQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL
PostgreSQL (version 9.1 and later)	Amazon Aurora (MySQL), MySQL, PostgreSQL
IBM Db2 LUW (versions 9.1, 9.5, 9.7, 10.5, and 11.1)	Amazon Aurora (MySQL), MySQL, PostgreSQL, Amazon Aurora (PostgreSQL)
Apache Cassandra (versions 2.0 and 3.0)	Amazon DynamoDB
Sybase	PostgreSQL, Amazon Aurora (PostgreSQL)

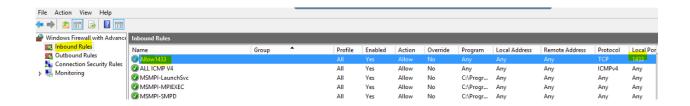
# For this demo, I would like to migrate data from Microsoft SQL Server database installed on AWS EC2 to MySQL (Amazon RDS).

**Steps along with Prerequisites** (Not all the steps or objects are mandatory, however I have used them just to make it easier and exploration purposes)

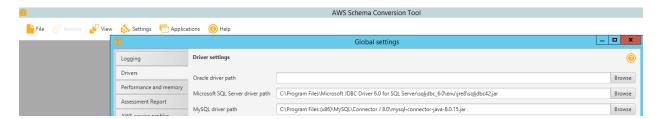
- EC2 Windows\_Server-2012-R2\_RTM-English-64Bit-Base-2019.02.09 (ami-0d99daa98c8711fe1)
- Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio. Version-14.0.17289.0
- Created the sample database-Northwind using the scripts from the following GIT repository <a href="https://github.com/Microsoft/sql-server-samples/tree/master/samples/databases/northwind-pubs">https://github.com/Microsoft/sql-server-samples/tree/master/samples/databases/northwind-pubs</a>
- Ensure that required SQL Server services are running

	Sql Server Configuration Manager						
File Action View Help							
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SQL Server Configuration Manager (Local)  SQL Server Services  SQL SQL Server Network Configuration (32bit)  SQL Native Client 11.0 Configuration (32bit)  SQL Server Network Configuration  SQL Server Network Configuration	Name	State	Start Mode	Log On As	Process ID	Service Type	
	SQL Server Integration Services 13.0	Running	Automatic	NT Service\MsDtsS	1320		
	SQL Server Launchpad (MSSQLSERVER)	Running	Automatic	NT Service\MSSQL	3012		
	SQL Server (MSSQLSERVER)	Running	Automatic	NT Service\MSSQL	1480	SQL Server	
	SQL Server Browser	Running	Automatic	NT AUTHORITY\LO	1676		
	SQL Server Agent (MSSQLSERVER)	Running	Manual	NT Service\SOLSER	5340	SQL Agent	

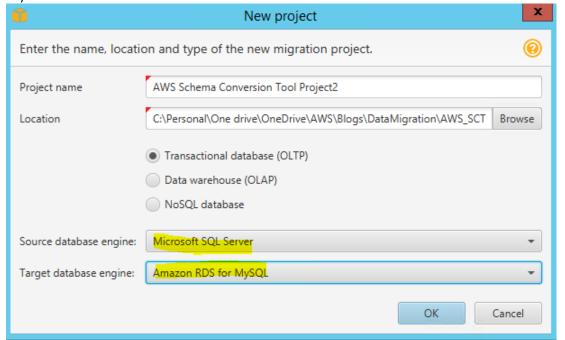
• Firewall may block the port - SQL Server:**1433**, if it is configured that way. For the Data Migration Task to access the DB and perform the migration, this rule (TCP:1433) needs to be enabled



- Install the SQL drivers and the AWS Schema Conversion Tool (AWS SCT) on the local computer. I
  have installed it in my EC2 instance.
  https://docs.aws.amazon.com/dms/latest/sbs/CHAP\_SQLServer2Aurora.Steps.InstallSCT.html
- Install and map the respective drivers in the Global Settings page of the AWS SCT

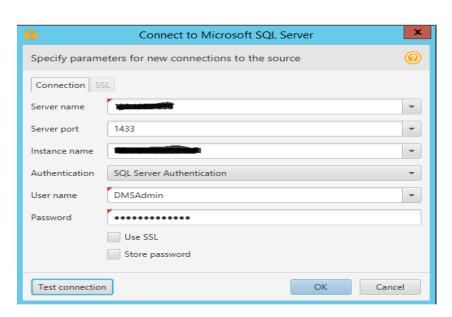


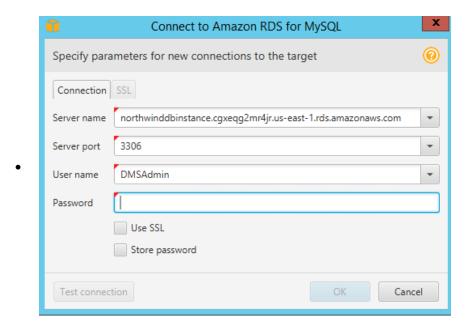
 Create a project and select the Source & Target database engines with the type (OLTP/OLAP/No SQL DB)



• Setup the connections to the DB Servers



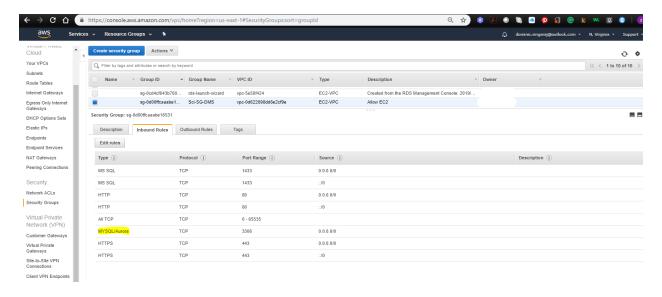




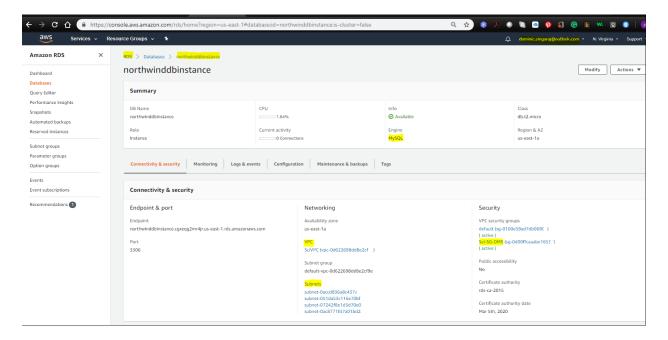
• For the project, I've setup the VPC along with 2 public subnets, 2 private subnets and associated the Internet gateway to the VPC. Configured the Route tables, NACL along with the security groups.

Please note that I've configured all the elements to be part of the same VPC which includes the following

- EC2 instance with SQL Server
- RDS (MySQL Engine)



### Created the Amazon RDS DB - NorthwindDBInstance using the console



• In the AWS SCT, Right click on the source database (Northwind) and generate the assessment report. If there are any issues which needs to be handled prior to Schema preparation/DB migration, it would be highlighted in the assessment report and few sample issues can be seen from the below screen which could be fixed manually in the source database, if required.

### **Database migration assessment report**



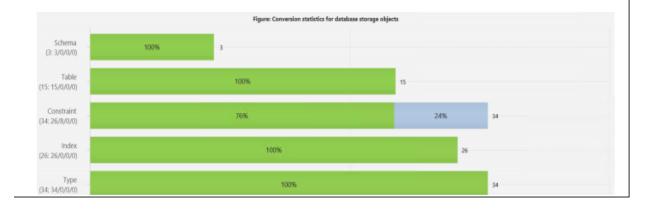
Source database: Northwind.DMSAdmin@192.168.0. \WIN-OAIBSSDS :1433
Microsoft SQL Server 2016 (SP2) (KB4052908) - 13.0.5026.0 (X64) Mar 18 2018 09:11:49
Copyright (c) Microsoft Corporation
Developer Edition (64-bit) on Windows Server 2012 R2 Standard 6.3 <X64> (Build 9600: ) (Hypervisor)
Case sensitivity: OFF

## Executive summary

We completed the analysis of your Microsoft SQL Server source database and estimate that 100% of the database storage objects and 100% of database code objects can be converted automatically or with minimal changes if you select Amazon RDS for MySQL as your migration target. Database storage objects include schemas, tables, table constraints, indexes, types, table types, sequences, synonyms and xml schema collections. Database code objects include triggers, views, procedures, scalar functions, inline functions, table-valued functions and database triggers. Based on our analysis of SQL syntax elements of your source database schema, we estimate that 96% of your entire database schema can be converted to Amazon RDS for MySQL automatically. To complete the migration, we recommend 43 conversion action(s) ranging from simple tasks to medium-complexity actions to significant conversion actions.

## Database objects with conversion actions for Amazon RDS for MySQL

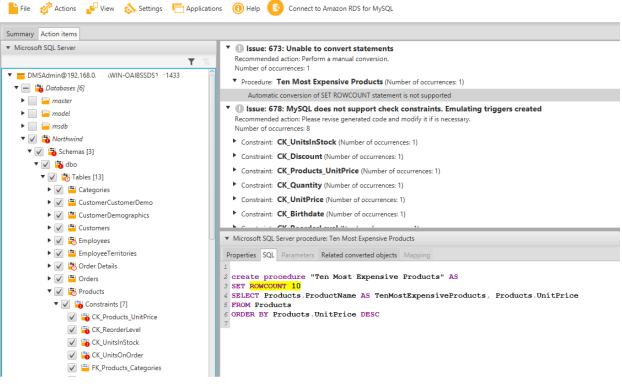
Of the total 112 database storage object(s) and 23 database code object(s) in the source database, we identifed 112 (100%) database storage object(s) and 23 (100%) database code object(s) that can be converted to Amazon RDS for MySQL automatically or with minimal changes.

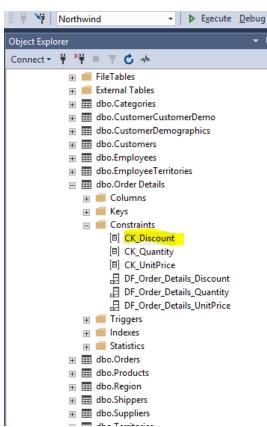


#### **Database migration assessment report**

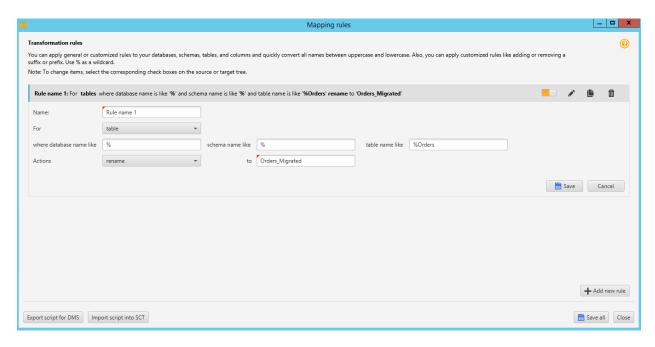
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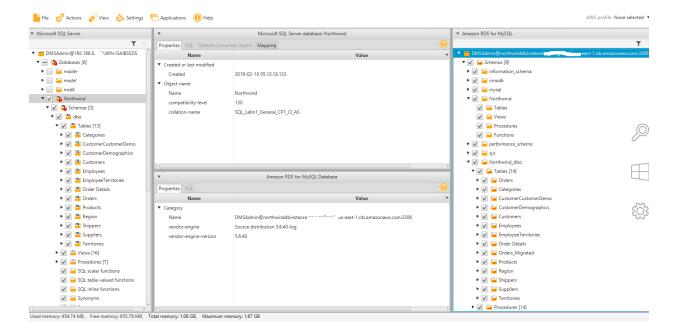




Once the issues have been fixed, right click on the source DB and select create schema, so that it can be applied to the target DB which is RDS-MySQL in our case. Along the way, transformation rules could be applied like shown below



### Once the schema has been applied on the target DB, following screen could be seen

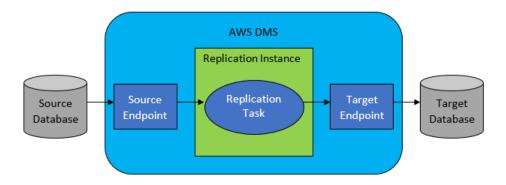


This concludes the activities related to AWS Schema Tool and schema preparation on the target DB. The next step is to start utilizing the AWS Data Migration Service for migrating data from source to target

### **AWS - Data Migration Service**

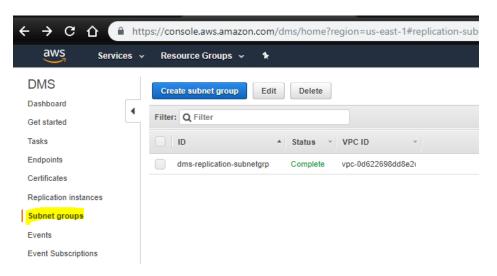
DMS requires the following items to be setup

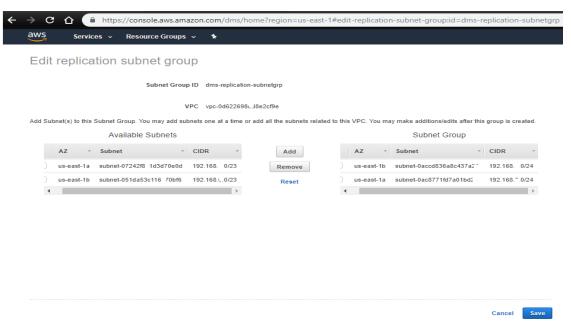
- Subnet group
- Replication Instance
- Task (Migration)



### **Subnet group**

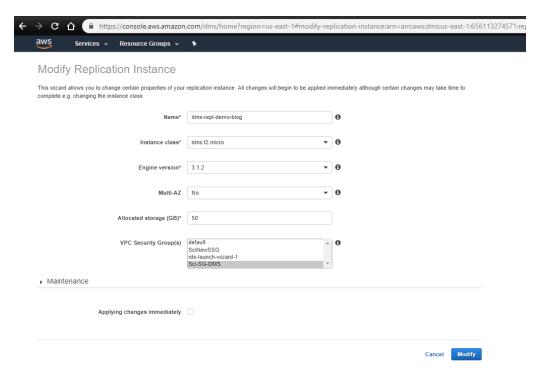
Create a subnet group which requires subnets (multi-AZ). In my opinion, please select the public subnets as part of subnet group, so that the replication instance may be able to access the EC2 which has the source DB (SQL Server in our case).





### **Replication Instance**

AWS DMS uses a replication instance to connect to the source data store, read the source data, and format the data for consumption by the target data store. A replication instance also loads the data into the target data store. Most of this processing happens in memory. However, large transactions might require some buffering on disk. Cached transactions and log files are also written to disk.



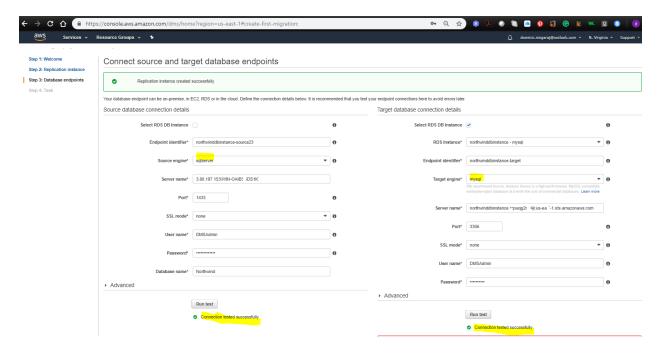
### **AWS DMS Task**

An AWS Database Migration Service (AWS DMS) task is where all the work happens. You may specify what tables and schemas to use for your migration and any special processing, such as logging requirements, control table data, and error handling.

When creating a migration task, you need to know several things:

- Before you can create a task, you must create a source endpoint, a target endpoint, and a replication instance.
- You can specify many task settings to tailor your migration task. You can set these by using the AWS Management Console, AWS Command Line Interface (AWS CLI), or AWS DMS API. These settings include specifying how migration errors are handled, error logging, and control table information.
- After you create a task, you can run it immediately. The target tables with the necessary metadata definitions are automatically created and loaded, and you can specify ongoing replication.
- By default, AWS DMS starts your task as soon as you create it. However, in some situations, you
  might want to postpone the start of the task. For example, when using the AWS CLI, you might
  have a process that creates a task and a different process that starts the task based on some
  triggering event. As needed, you can postpone your task's start.
- You can monitor, stop, or restart tasks using the AWS DMS console, AWS CLI, or AWS DMS API.

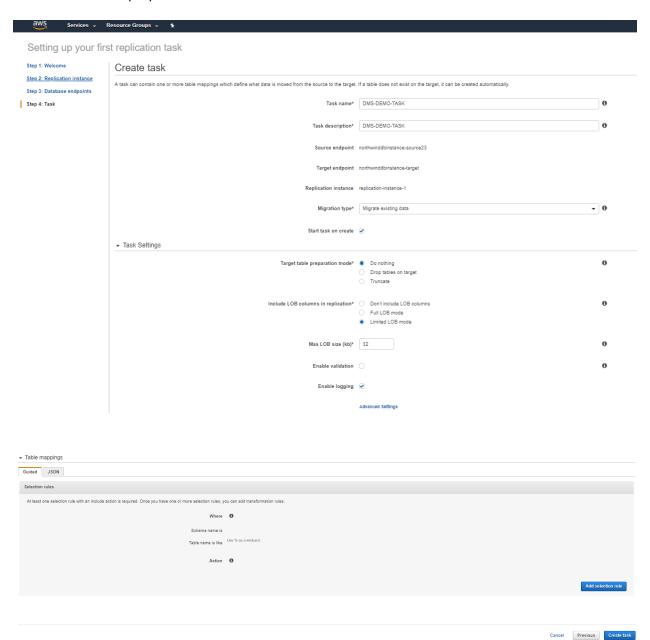
Connect to source and target DB endpoints and test the connection prior to task creation activity. This step will help us to make sure the task executes successfully



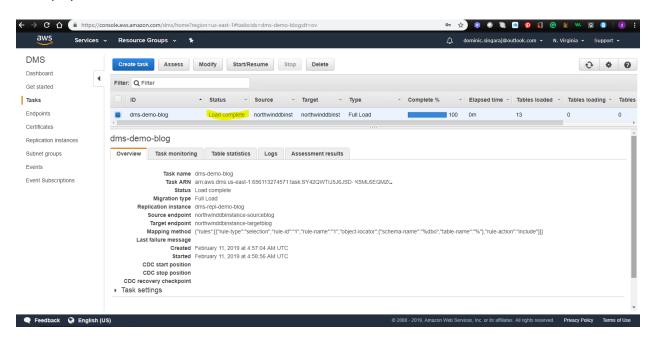
It is possible to see connection issues like the one highlighted in this URL https://christierney.com/2018/09/13/aws-database-migration-service-endpoint-connection-issue/

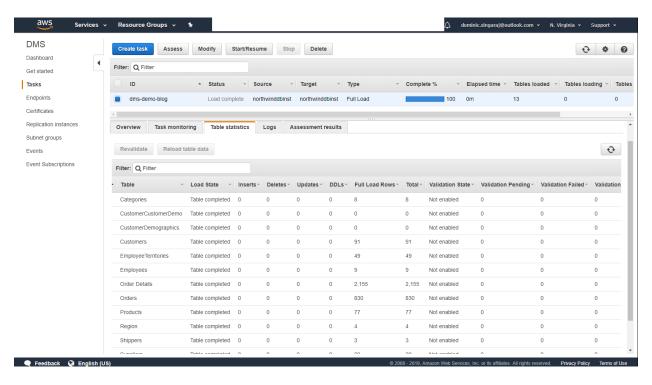
The next step in the wizard is to provide the details related to the task like endpoints, migration type, target table preparation mode, table mapping and logging.

I have enabled the logging option, so that the migration status could be logged and stored in cloud watch for our verification purposes.

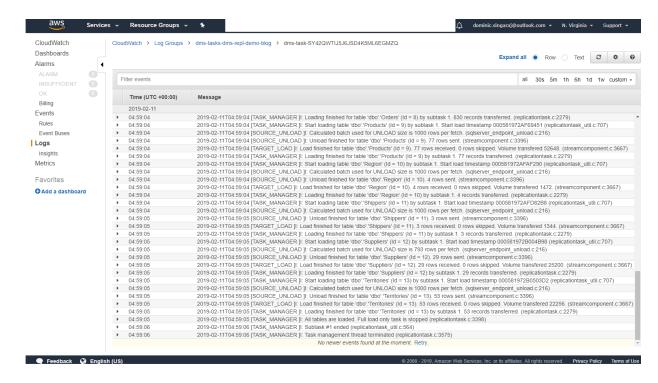


Once the task has been executed, load status (overview tab) and record counts (table statistics tab) would be displayed like below





### Cloud watch log & data migration status



### Conclusion

To summarize, in this article we have seen a way to migrate data from SQL Server installed in the EC2 instance to the RDS-MySQL DB and similar conversion could be done between On-premise DB and AWS supported databases. This article is written with the intention to help the audience who are new to AWS (cloud) data migration. In my next article, I'll be writing about similar data migration exercise with different source & target probably homogenous data migration with some recommended best practices and some focus on high availability, scalability and so on.

### References

https://aws.amazon.com/dms/

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/SchemaConversionTool/latest/userguide/CHAP\_Welcome.html

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/SchemaConversionTool/latest/userguide/CHAP\_Installing.html

https://stackoverflow.com/questions/18841744/jdbc-connection-failed-error-tcp-ip-connection-to-host-failed

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/dms/latest/userguide/CHAP\_ReplicationInstance.html

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/dms/latest/userguide/Welcome.html

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/dms/latest/userguide/CHAP Tasks.html

https://stackoverflow.com/questions/18841744/jdbc-connection-failed-error-tcp-ip-connection-to-host-failed

Gained AWS knowledge from external trainings like Simplilearn, acloudguru, linux academy