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Azure Data Factory v2 Parameter Passing



Delora

By Delora Bradish - October 5 2018

Summary of the Matter:

Parameter passing in ADFv2 had a slight change in the summer of 2018. Microsoft modified how parameters are passed between pipelines and datasets. Prior, you could reference a pipeline parameter in a dataset without needing to create a matching dataset parameter. The screen prints below explain this much better, and if you are new to ADFv2 and parameter passing, this will give you a nice introduction. I personally feel the change is an improvement.

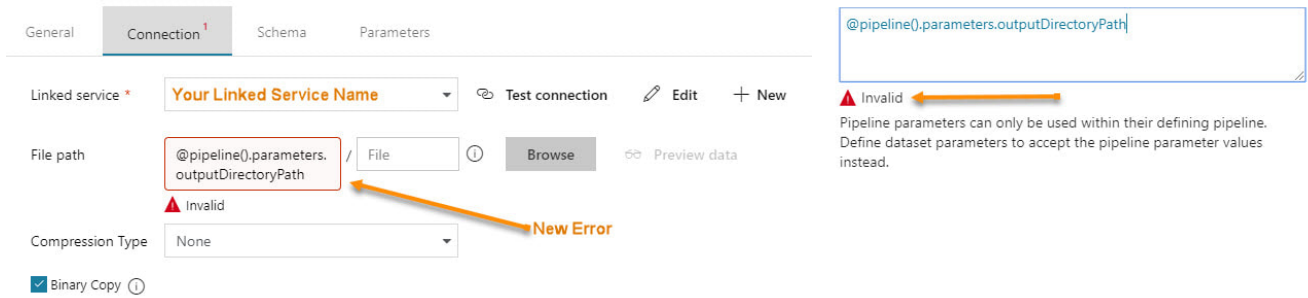
New Warnings and Errors

My client had been using ADFv2 since the beginning of 2018, then came back into the office and noticed that our ADFv2 datasets were throwing errors.

Dataset Connection New Error

Dynamic Content Window

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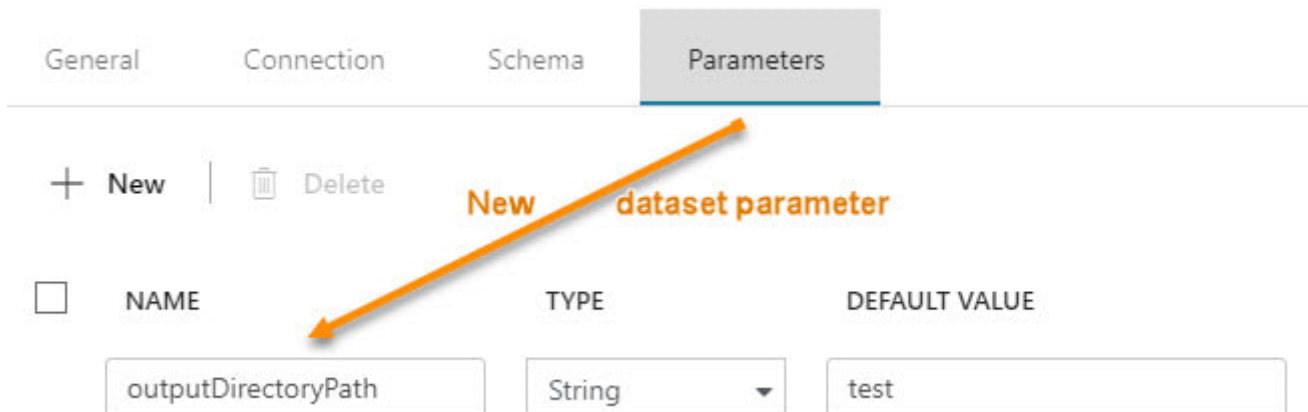


Thankfully, Microsoft made this change backward compatible to an extent, so our pipelines were still humming merrily along. The new methodology is actually an improvement, so let's go with it! Here are the summary steps to correct the problem:

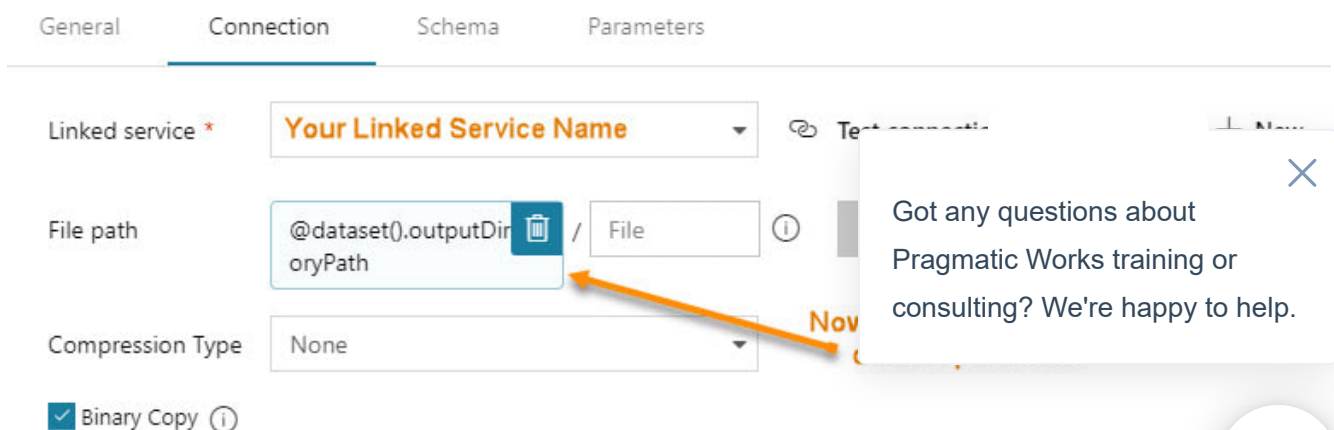
1. In the dataset, create parameter(s).
2. In the dataset, change the dynamic content to reference the new dataset parameters.
3. In the calling pipeline, you will now see your new dataset parameters. Enter dynamic content referencing the original pipeline parameter.

Just in case that is a bit confusing, let me walk your through it.

Step #1 - In the dataset, create parameter(s).



Step #2 - In the dataset, change the dynamic content to reference the new dataset parameters



The content showing above used to read "@pipeline().parameters.outputDirectoryPath". You now have to reference the newly created dataset parameter, "@dataset().outputDirectoryPath".

Step #3 - In the calling pipeline, you will now see your new dataset parameters. Enter dynamic content referencing the original pipeline parameter.

Sink Dataset * 📁 Your Dataset Name ✎ Edit + New

Dataset Properties ⓘ

NAME	VALUE
outputDirectoryPath	@pipeline().parameters.outputDirectoryPath

Copy behavior None ⓘ

Conclusion:

The advantage is now we can explicitly pass different values to the dataset. As a dataset is an independent object and is called by a pipeline activity, referencing any sort of pipeline parameter in the dataset causes the dataset to be "orphaned". What if you want to use that dataset in a pipeline that does not have our example parameter "outputDirectoryPath"? Prior, your pipeline would fail, now you can give the dataset parameter a default inside the dataset. Better yet, your two parameter names do not have to match. In step #3, the pipeline screen print immediately above, you can put any parameter reference, system variable or function in the "VALUE".

That's pretty much all there is to it! If you haven't already, start editing.

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Swarup K 11/27/2018, 4:21:47 PM

Hi ,
I m looking for same thing thing in python .

Requesting help for the the same.

Thanks
Swarup K

Reply to *Swarup K*

Alan 5/2/2019, 12:45:31 AM

Your write ups of the parameter passing have been crucial to my understanding of ADF! Thanks much!

Reply to *Alan*

Venkatesh Mekewar 5/6/2019, 10:18:25 AM

Hello,

This write up is really helpful. I was struggling to make use of Parameters & Variables in ADF Copy Activity. Further, I am thinking to build ADF pipeline using Data Flow feature.

How likely is it for Microsoft to withdraw this feature in future? Because in the future it will be troublesome to rebuild pipeline with other approach.

Reply to *Venkatesh Mekewar*

Mike Kiser 8/8/2019, 3:02:47 PM

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Awesome Blog!! I needed to do this exact same functionality and found out how only in this article.
Thanks! Mike

Reply to *Mike Kiser*

Ian Carrick 8/18/2019, 4:17:18 PM

Hi,

A very good article however the pictures for the steps are no longer valid I wonder if you can check?

Regards

Ian

Reply to *Ian Carrick*

Rupesh Prasad 10/2/2019, 12:36:55 AM

Hi - i followed your article and another one from microsoft docs and ran into an issue.

Can you please help me with that. Here is the issue link.

<https://github.com/MicrosoftDocs/azure-docs/issues/39900>

Reply to *Rupesh Prasad*

Priyanka Sharma 5/28/2020, 1:27:09 PM

Can you please share

is it possible to pass parameters in triggering pipeline having value as dropdown

(we choose data type)

Reply to *Priyanka Sharma*



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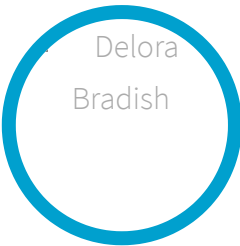
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Written by Delora Bradish

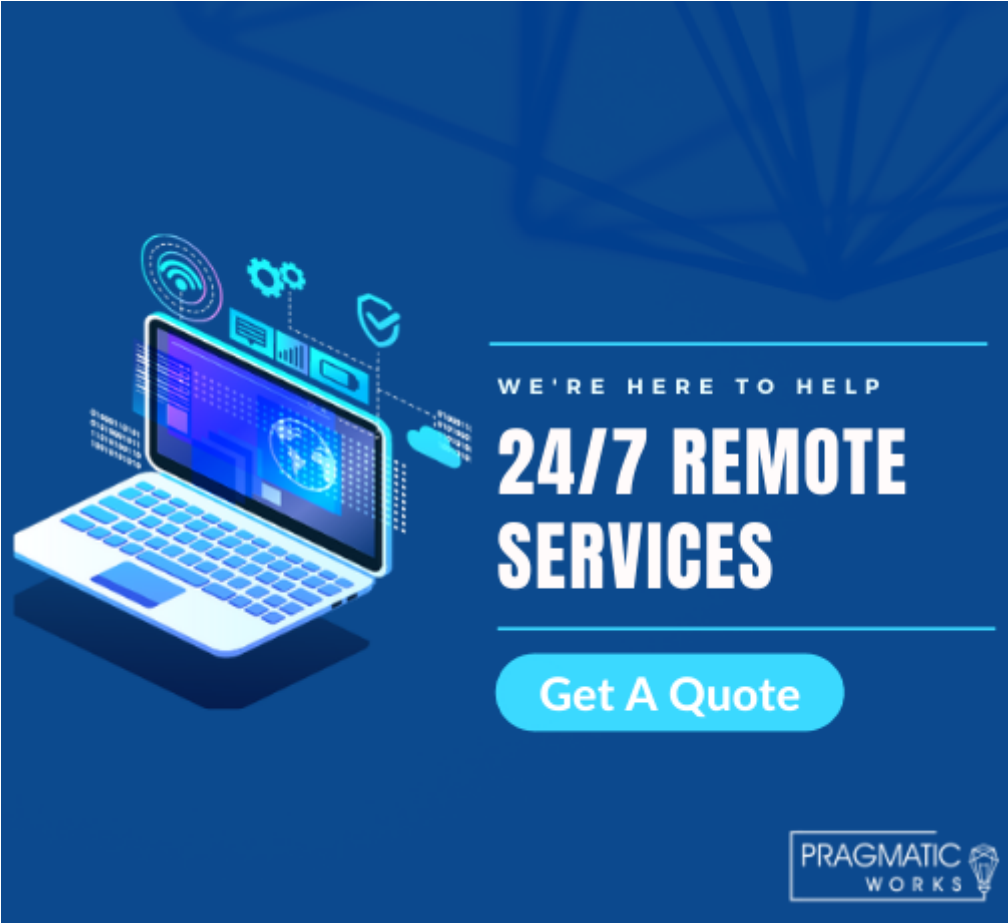
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