Mount a file share on Windows – Demo

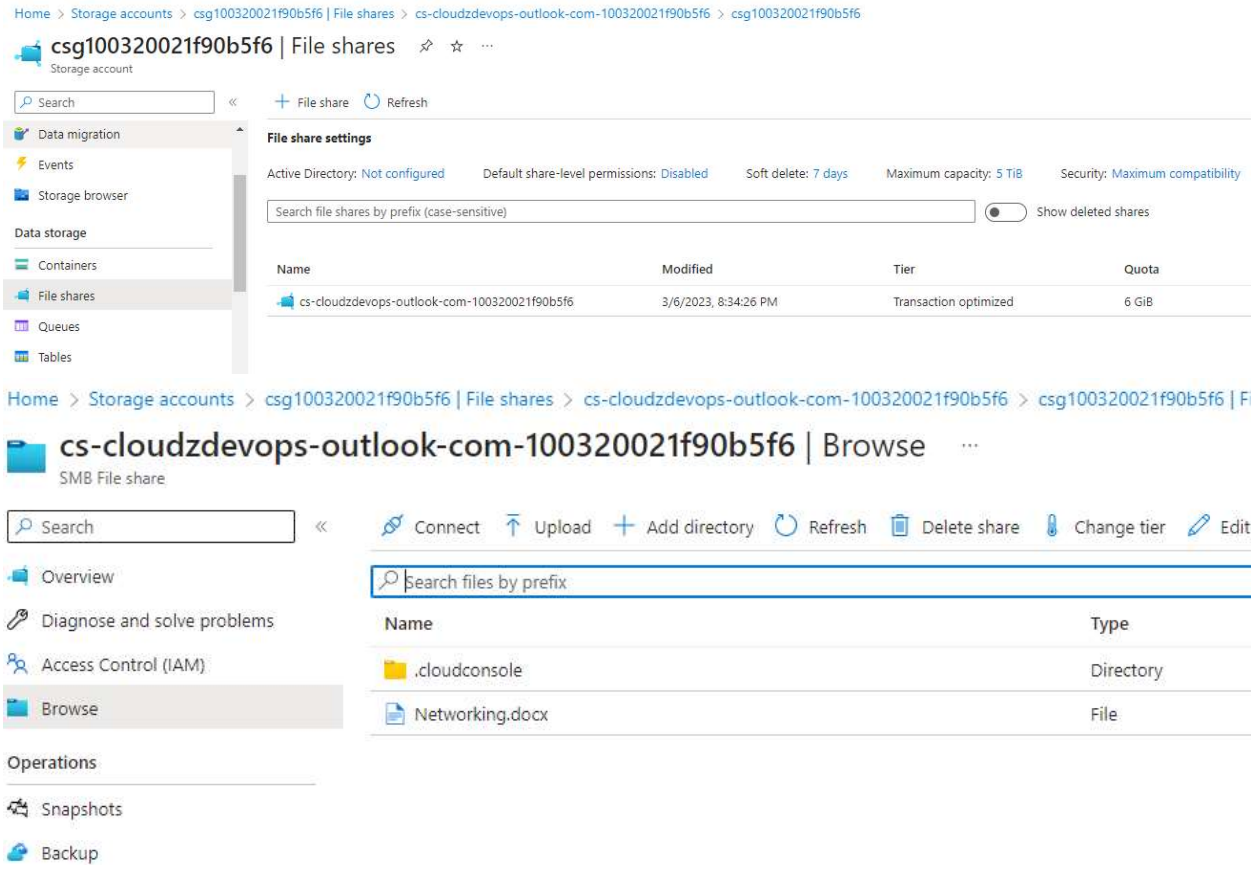
We're going to create a file share in Azure Storage account and mount it with a Windows PC/Server in this demo by using script and "network map" and UNC path options.

Prerequisites: TCP 445 should be allowed for outbound traffic.

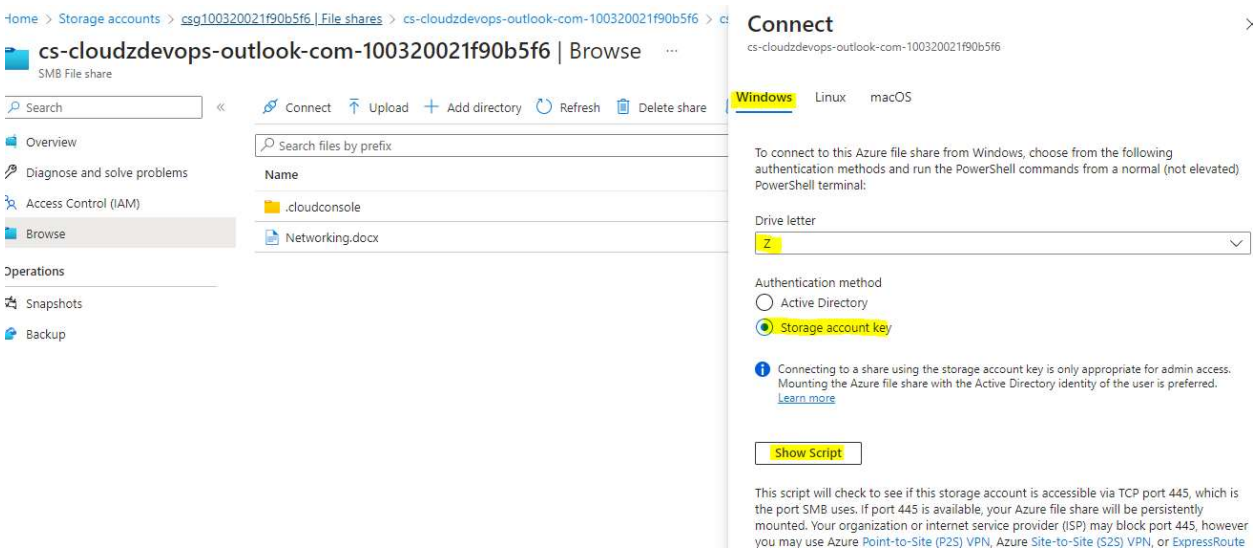
Troubleshooting for connectivity issues: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/storage/files/files-troubleshoot-smb-connectivity?tabs=windows#cause-1-port-445-is-blocked

Mount using "Script" option.

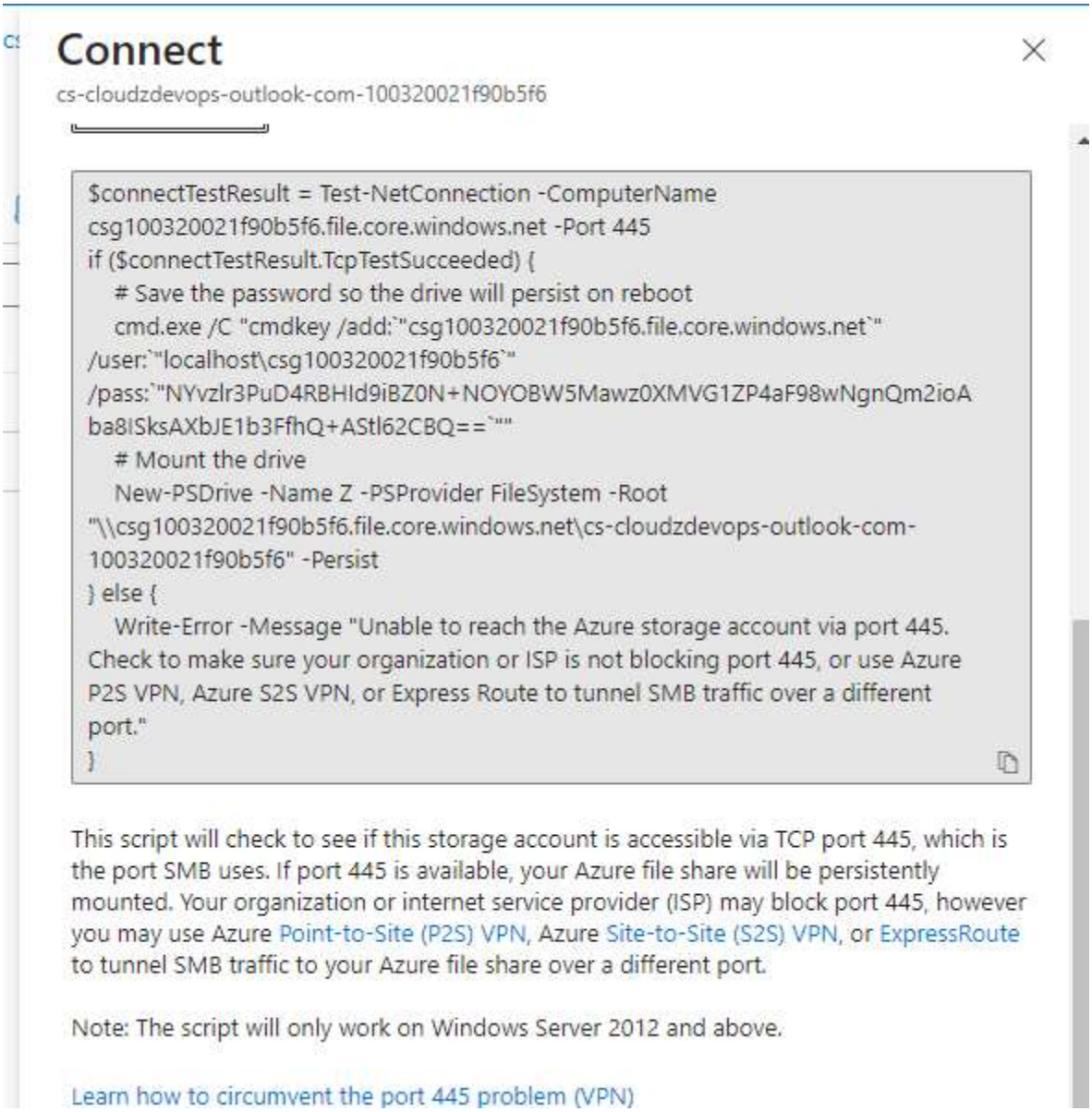
1. Login to your azure portal and create a storage account "csg100320021f90b5f6"
2. Create a file share as shown below and upload some files for testing purposes.



3. Click on "Connect"
4. Select your OS, Drive and Authentication Method as "Storage account key" and then click on "Show Script"



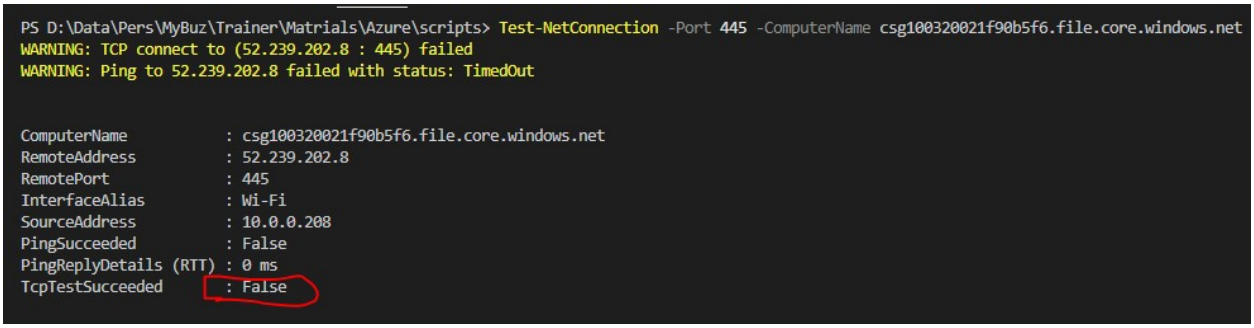
5. You'll get a PShell script something like below.




```powershell
$connectTestResult = Test-NetConnection -ComputerName csg100320021f90b5f6.file.core.windows.net -Port 445
if ($connectTestResult.TcpTestSucceeded) {
    # Save the password so the drive will persist on reboot
    cmd.exe /C "cmdkey /add:`"csg100320021f90b5f6.file.core.windows.net`" /user:`"localhost\csg100320021f90b5f6`" /pass:`"NYvzlr3PuD4RBHId9iBZ0N+NOYOBW5Mawz0XMVG1ZP4aF98wNgnQm2ioAba8ISksAXbJE1b3FfhQ+AStl62CBQ==`""
    # Mount the drive
    New-PSDrive -Name Z -PSProvider FileSystem -Root "\\csg100320021f90b5f6.file.core.windows.net\cs-cloudzdevops-outlook-com-100320021f90b5f6" -Persist
```

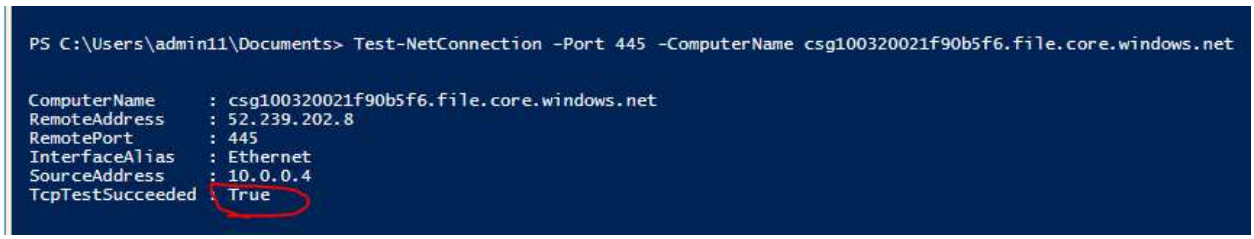
```
} else {
    Write-Error -Message "Unable to reach the Azure storage account via port 445. Check to make sure your organization or ISP is not blocking port 445, or use Azure P2S VPN, Azure S2S VPN, or Express Route to tunnel SMB traffic over a different port."
}
```

6. If you run this script from your local, ensure outbound TCP port 445 is allowed. Most of the ISP providers do not allow and same happened for you. This you can test by running below cmd Test-NetConnection -Port 445 -ComputerName <storageaccountname>.file.core.windows.net

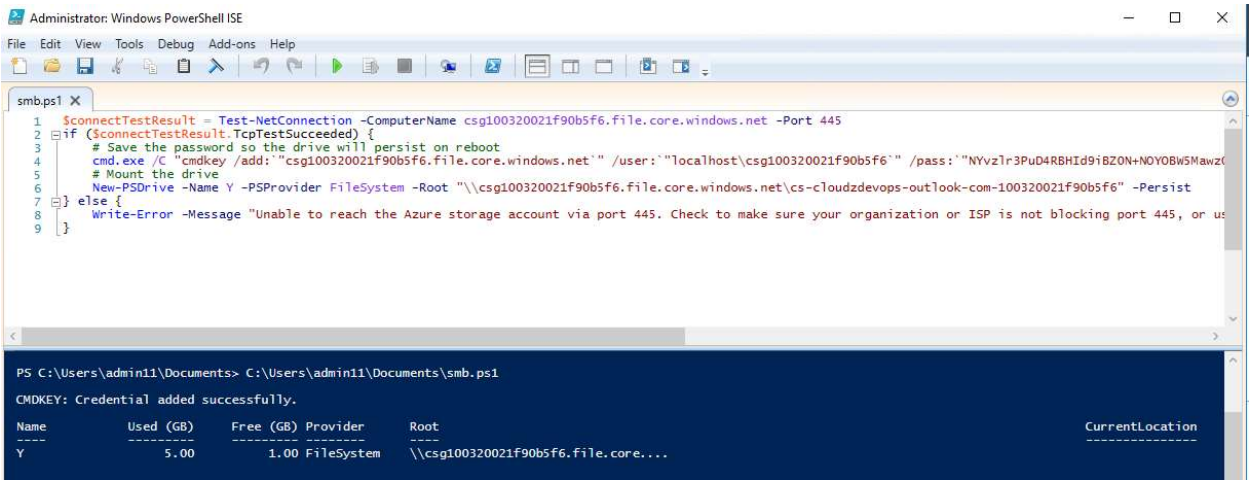


7. You should get True for "TcpTestSucceeded" and then only your script will run successfully and amount the azure file share. with TcpTestSucceeded is false, you'll get error something like below.

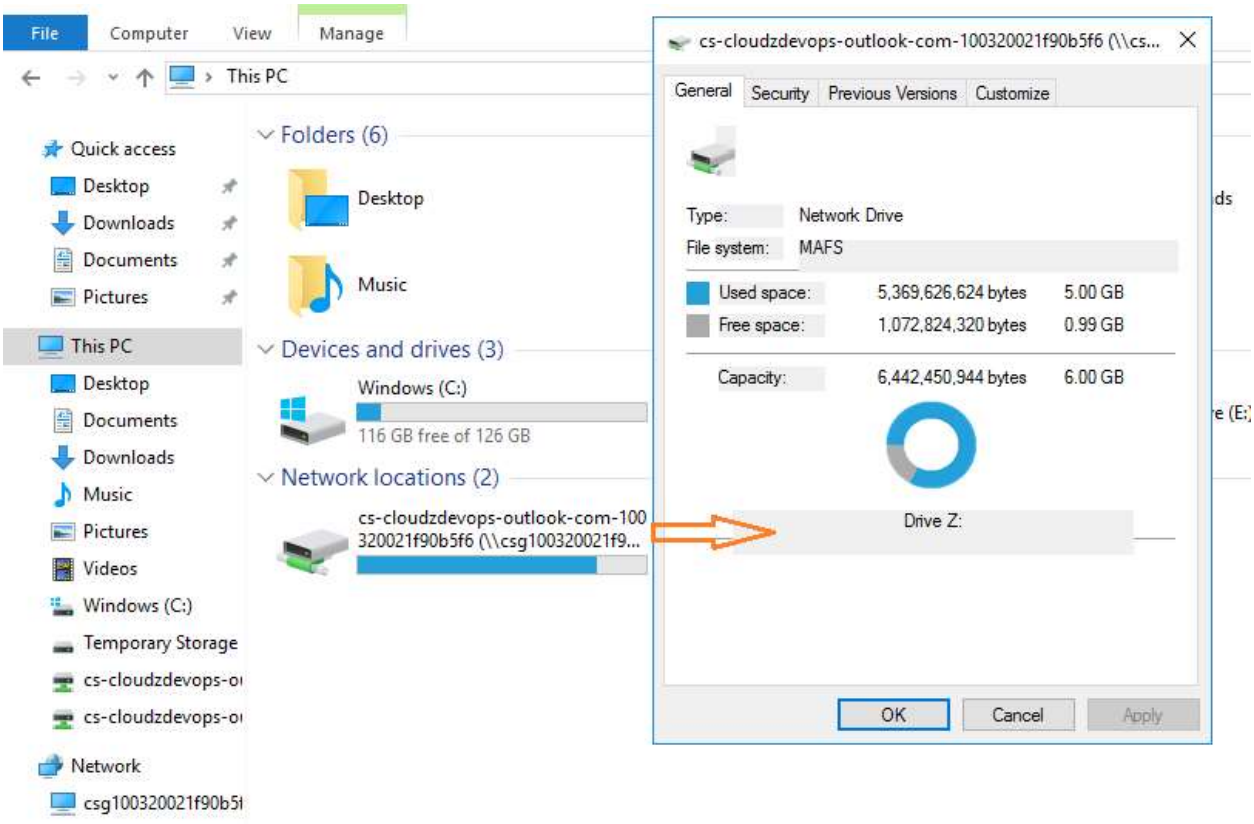
8. In this case, you can create a WIN 2012 or above version VM and run same script.



9. Go ahead and run the script (step#5) from PShell ISE and you will be output as shown below.

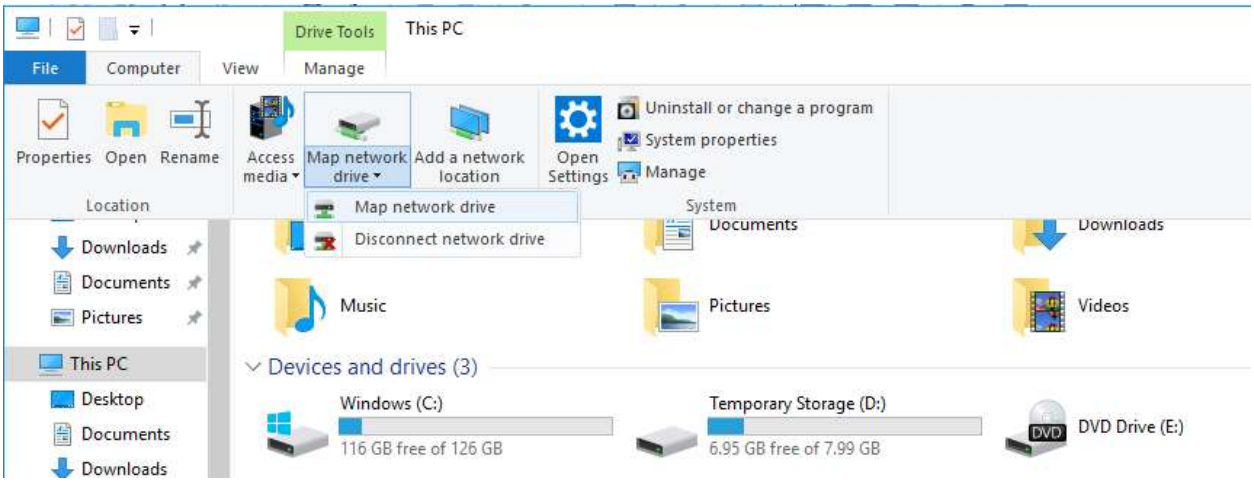


10. You can now go to your drive and notice the Azure Files share mounted.

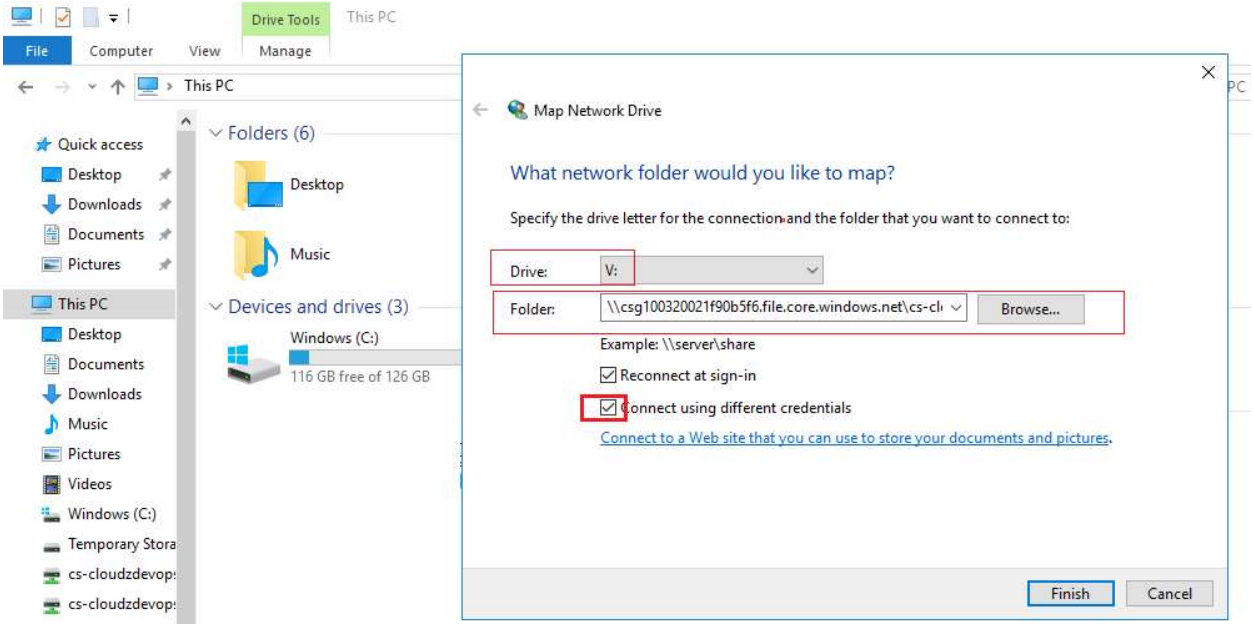


Mount using “Network Map” option

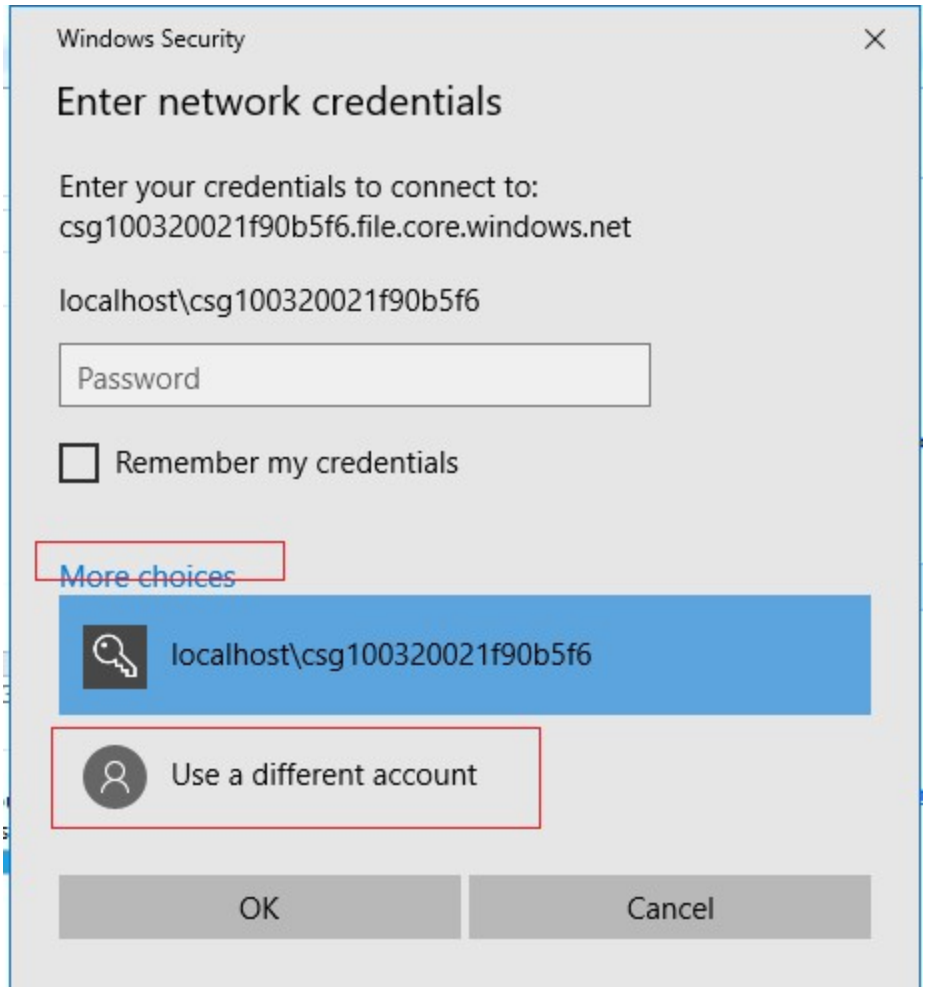
11. In the same VM where you performed above option, click “Computer” → “Map network drive” → “Map network drive”



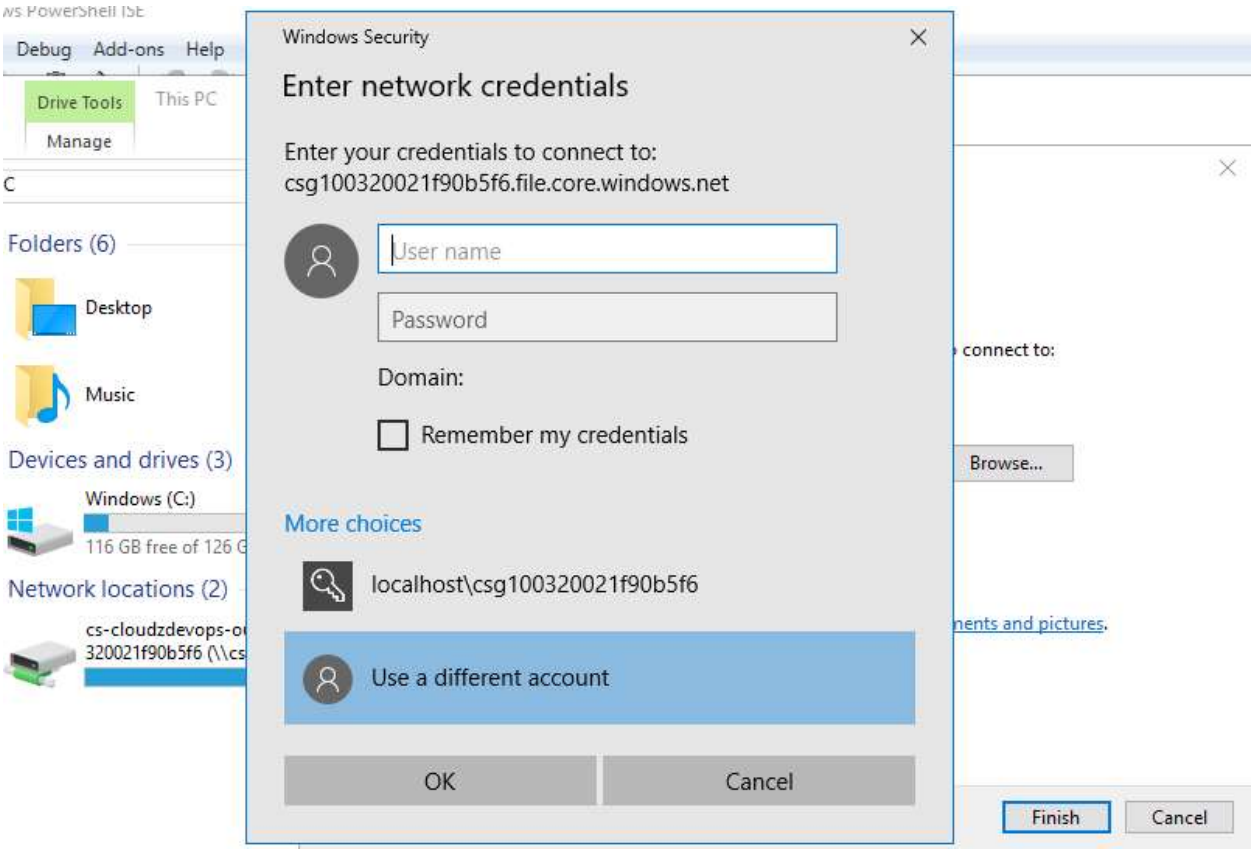
12. Select the drive letter you wanted, in Folder, copy past the storage account followed by azure file share something like “\\csg100320021f90b5f6.file.core.windows.net\cs-cloudzdevops-outlook-com-100320021f90b5f6”



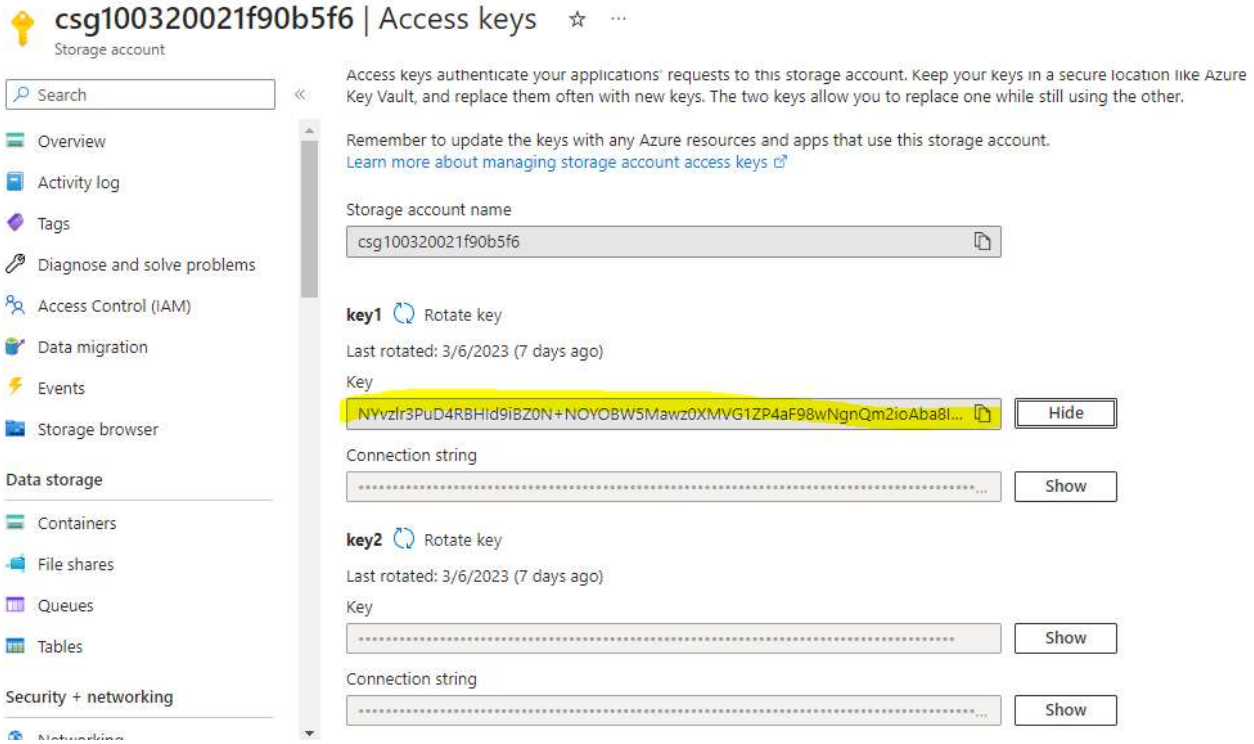
13. Ensure you check “Connect using different credentials” and then click “Finish”
14. When you get prompt for credentials, click “More choices”, and select “Use a different account”



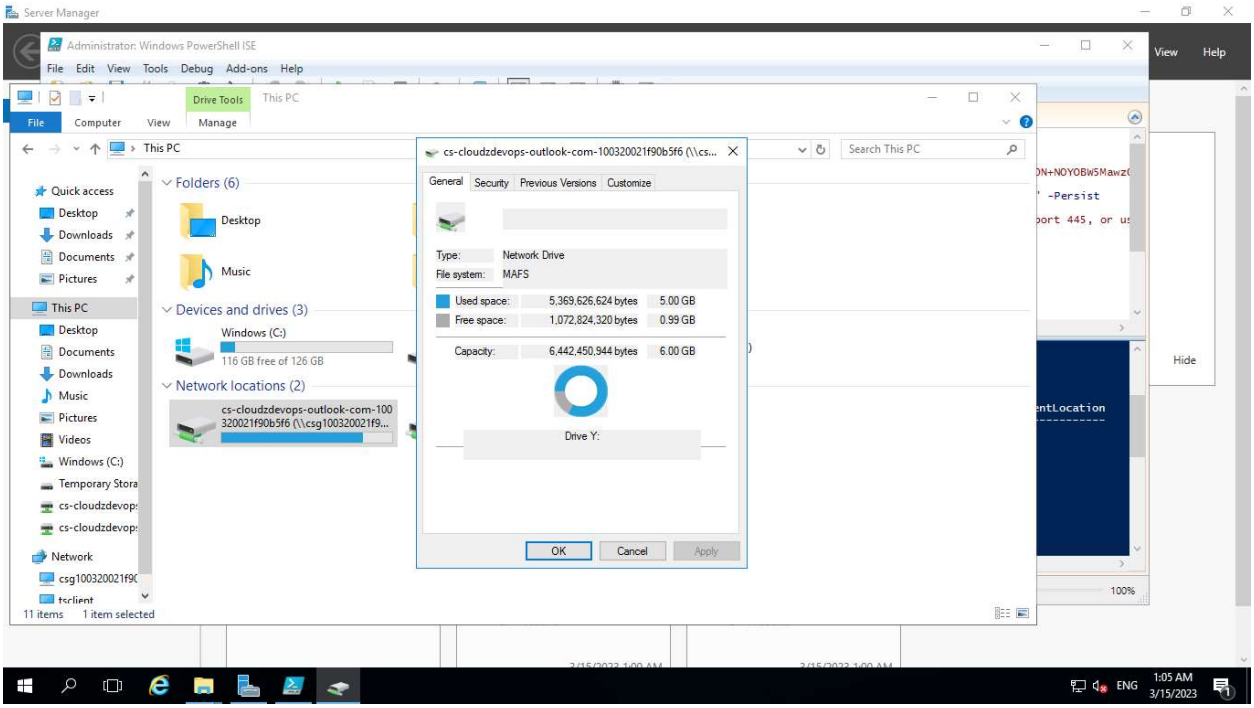
15. You will be prompted to enter “User name” and “Password”. Enter you “storage account name” against “User name” and “storage account key” which you can get as shown in below step against “Password”.



16. Get storage account key : go to your storage account → Access Keys → Show → Copy your storage account key

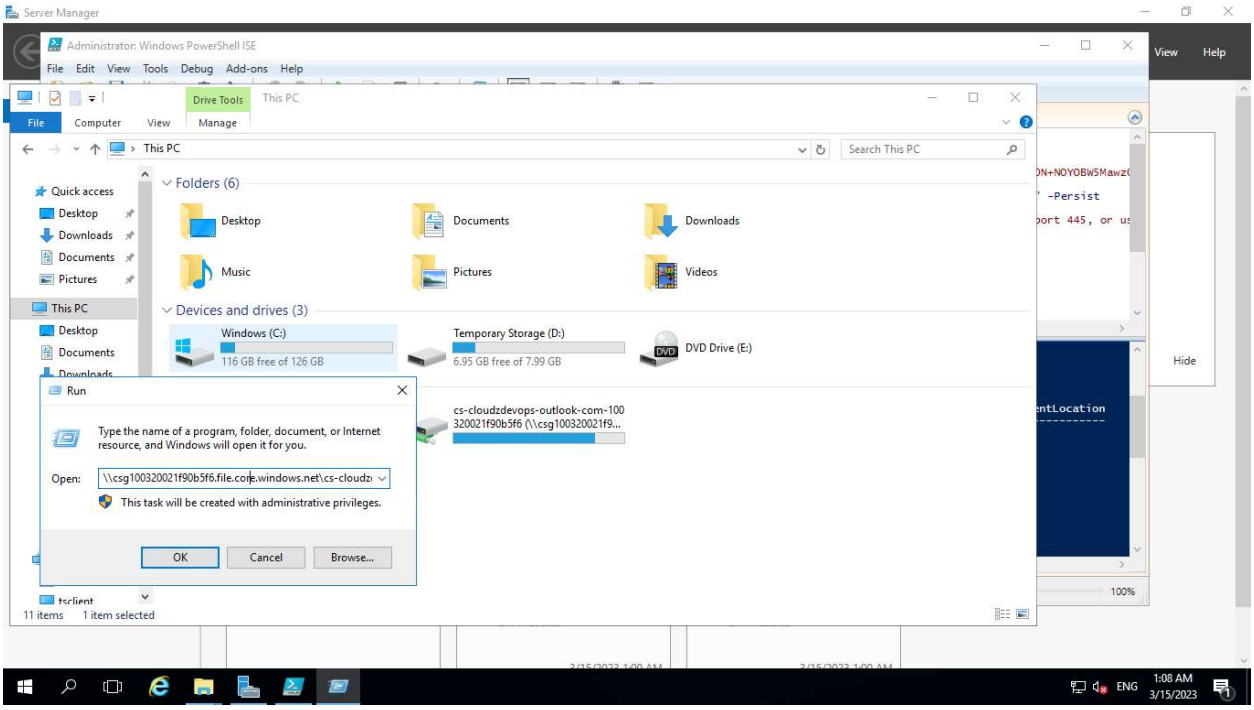


17. Once you mount it successfully by clicking “Ok” on step # 15, your azure drive will be mounted with your Win PC/Server as shown below.

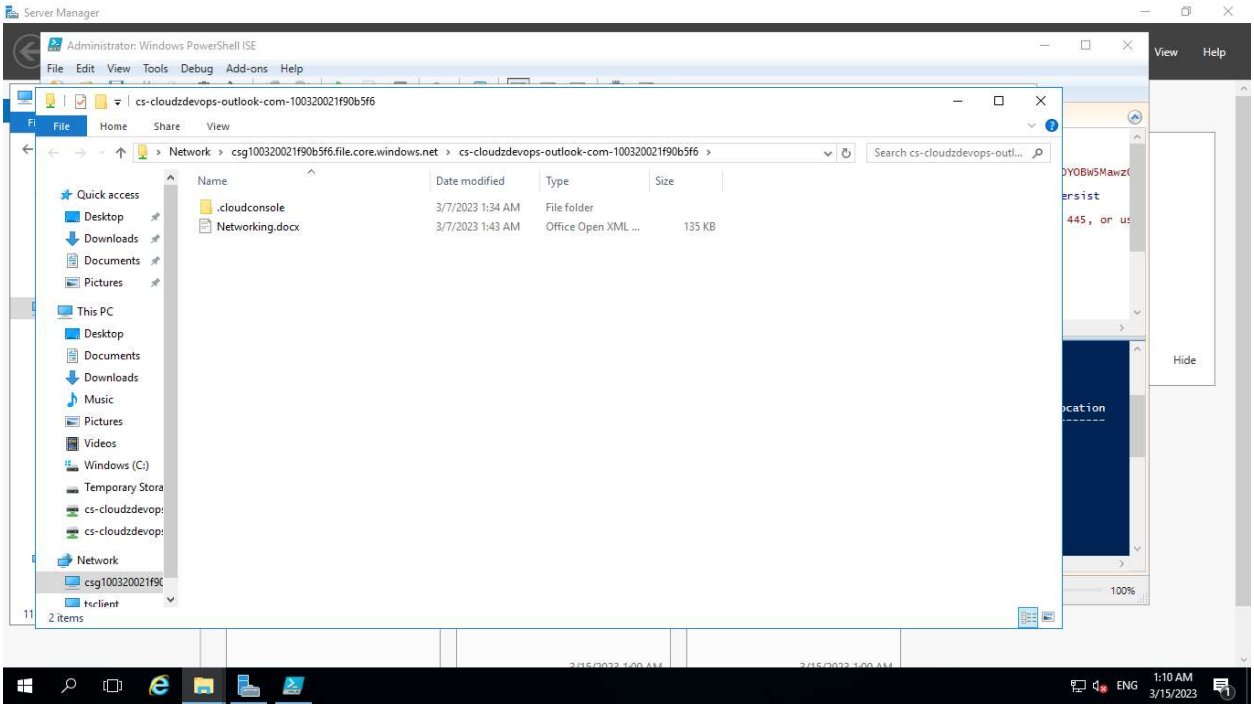


Access Azure File Share using “UNC path” option

18. In your PC / VM → Start → Run → Copy paster your storage account followed by azure file share name such as [\\csg100320021f90b5f6.file.core.windows.net\cs-cloudzdevops-outlook-com-100320021f90b5f6](\\csg100320021f90b5f6.file.core.windows.net\cs-cloudzdevops-outlook-com-100320021f90b5f6)



19. Click Ok. You will be taken to Azure File Share wherein you can copy paste files from your PC/Windows.



20. If prompts for credentials, use your azure portal login user name and password.