Dynamic number of columns with ADLS Gen1

Last updated by | Jackie Huang | Jan 4, 2022 at 12:24 AM PST

Achieving dynamic number of columns with ADLS Gen1 as

18 de marco de 2020 12:37

Issue:

Customer has a source file in ADLS Gen1 that will have multiple rows and each row can have from 19 to 251 columns (for instance), as:

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仚
35 columns
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The desired output should be like this (like in ADF v1)

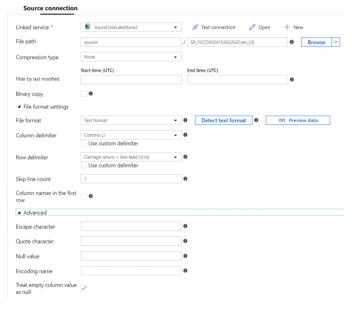
If we don't define schema, it fails complaining that the row 5 has more than 19 columns. If we force a schema with 251 columns, it fails in the first row saying it has only 19 columns

The new dataset of ADLS Gen1 doesn't support dynamic number of columns, as the old dataset.

Resolution:

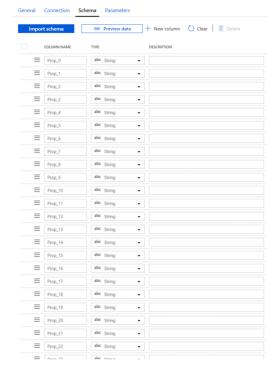
We should manually change the dataset to use the old ADLS Gen1 file type.

- 1. Open the dataset json payload and change manually to the old dataset from "DelimitedText" to "AzureDataLakeStoreFile"
- 2. Replace 'schema' by 'structure' in the json payload. Save and close 3. Uncheck binary copy
- 4. In File Path, select a file with header for the maximum number of columns that you would like to have (for instance, 251). If you don't have such file, just create one in Excel with one row with the header
- 6. Go to connection again and choose the original source file, without any header and with dynamic number of columns
- 7. Check 'Treat empty column value as null' 8. Execute the copy

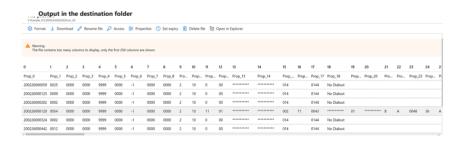


Source schema









Additional Information:

- References: https://icm.ad.msft.net/imp/v3/incidents/details/178158467/home
- Author: ganespol
- Reviewer
- Keywords: Copy, Schema, Column, ADLS

Created with Microsoft OneNote 2016.

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