[CDM] Json Array Attribute Inferred As Separate Columns

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

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Issue

Customer was encountering an issue where one of the CDM entity's attributes, which is of string type, has a Json array as data. When this data is encountered, ADF is inferring the data as separate columns incorrectly.

- Source data (CSV): Refer to the second column.

- ADF CDM source's Data preview:

As you can see from above, what is present as a single attribute in source (msfp_otherproperties) is inferred as separate columns in the CDM connector's preview.

Customer also tried mapping drifted columns and used Dataflow expression to transform this attribute as an array. But since while reading itself its read as separate columns, transforming to an array did not help.

Resolution

This is likely due to the commas within your JSON object value for that column. Since we are expecting your data file to be a CSV file, the comma tells us that it is the end of a column's value. In order to get around this,

you will need to surround your JSON column with double quotes and also escape any of the inner quotes with a backslash (\") so that we can read the contents of that column's value in its entirety as a single column.

CDM doesn't tell us that the column value's data type is JSON, it tells us that it's a string, so we are parsing it as such.

Additional Information:

- **Icm References:** Posted on ADF DL
- **Author:** vimals
- **Reviewer:** vimals
- **Keywords:**

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