Copy activity is experiencing poor performance when copying data to Synapse workspace

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Contents

- Symptom
- Resolution
- Reference

Symptom

Copy activity is experiencing poor performance when copying data to Synapse workspace.

Resolution

Use Polybase to load data to Synapse. Since your source data store and format isn't originally supported by PolyBase, use the Staged copy by using PolyBase feature instead. The staged copy feature also provides you better throughput. It automatically converts the data into PolyBase-compatible format, stores the data in Azure Blob storage, then calls PolyBase to load data into Azure Synapse Analytics.

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/data-factory/connector-azure-sql-data-warehouse#use-polybase-to-load-data-into-azure-synapse-analytics

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/data-factory/connector-azure-sql-data-warehouse#staged-copy-by-using-polybase

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/data-factory/connector-azure-sql-data-warehouse#best-practices-for-using-polybase

With polybase, we were able to copy data under 2 minutes 30 seconds.

Reference

https://servicedesk.microsoft.com/#/customer/cases?caseNumber=120102223002002