



Azure Data Factory

Visual Data Flow

Limited Preview December 2018

Visual Data Flow Authoring

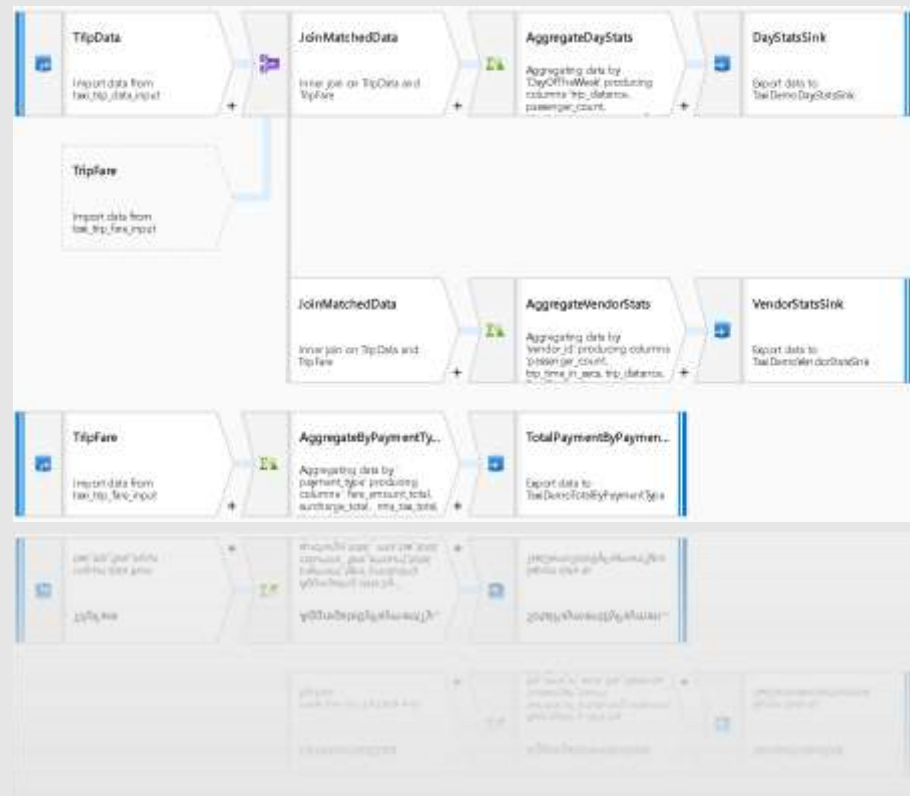
- Transform Data, At Scale, in the Cloud, Zero-Code
 - Cloud-first, scale-out ELT
 - Code-free dataflow pipelines
- Serverless scale-out transformation execution engine
- Maximum Productivity for Data Engineers
 - Does NOT require understanding of Spark / Scala / Python / Java
- Resilient Data Transformation Flows
 - Built for big data scenarios with unstructured data requirements
 - Operationalize with Data Factory scheduling, control flow and monitoring

Visual Data Flow Key Tenets

- Visual “Data Flow Builder” / “Data Mapping”
- Extensible through scripting and expressions
- Data Flow can be embedded into ISV / SaaS apps
 - Embed UI
 - Embed Parameterize Data Flows
- A graphical UI for building data transformation routines on Spark
- Built for resiliency and operationalized environments

Code-free Data Transformation At Scale

- Does not require understanding of Spark, Big Data Execution Engines, Clusters, Scala, Python ...
- Focus on building business logic and data transformation
 - Data cleansing
 - Aggregation
 - Data conversions
 - Data prep
 - Data exploration



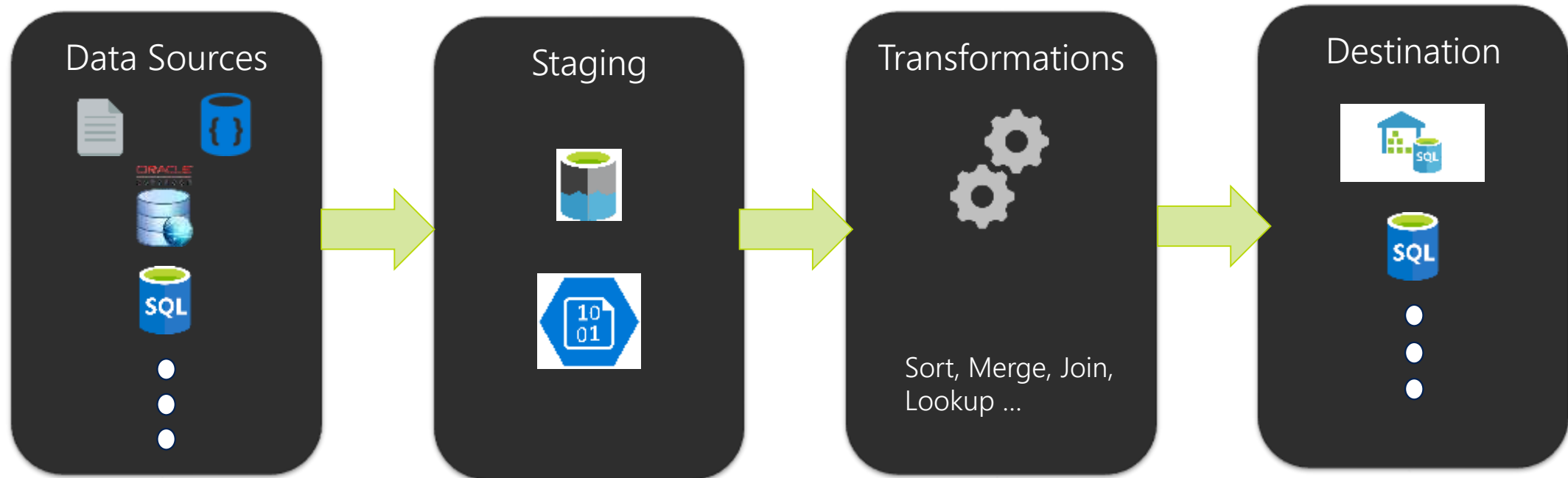
... not ...

```
class DayStatsSink extends Sink {
  def write(data: DayStats): Unit = {
    val writer = new BufferedWriter(
      new OutputStreamWriter(new FileOutputStream(
        s"$outputDir/daystats_${data.day_of_week}.csv",
        true)))
    writer.write(s"${data.day_of_week},${data.avg_trip_distance},${data.avg_passenger_count}\n")
    writer.close()
  }
}

class VendorStatsSink extends Sink {
  def write(data: VendorStats): Unit = {
    val writer = new BufferedWriter(
      new OutputStreamWriter(new FileOutputStream(
        s"$outputDir/vendorstats_${data.vendor_id}.csv",
        true)))
    writer.write(s"${data.vendor_id},${data.avg_passenger_count},${data.avg_trip_time_in_secs},${data.avg_trip_distance}\n")
    writer.close()
  }
}

class TotalPaymentByPaymentTypeSink extends Sink {
  def write(data: TotalPaymentByPaymentType): Unit = {
    val writer = new BufferedWriter(
      new OutputStreamWriter(new FileOutputStream(
        s"$outputDir/total_payment_by_payment_type_${data.payment_type}.csv",
        true)))
    writer.write(s"${data.payment_type},${data.fare_amount},${data.total_amount},${data.total_mileage},${data.total_time}\n")
    writer.close()
  }
}
```

ADF Data Flow Workstream



- Explicit user action
- User places data source(s) on design surface, from toolbox
- Select explicit sources

- Implicit/Explicit
- Data Lake staging area as default
- User does not need to configure this manually
- Advanced feature to set staging area options
- File Formats / Types (Parquet, JSON, txt, CSV ...)

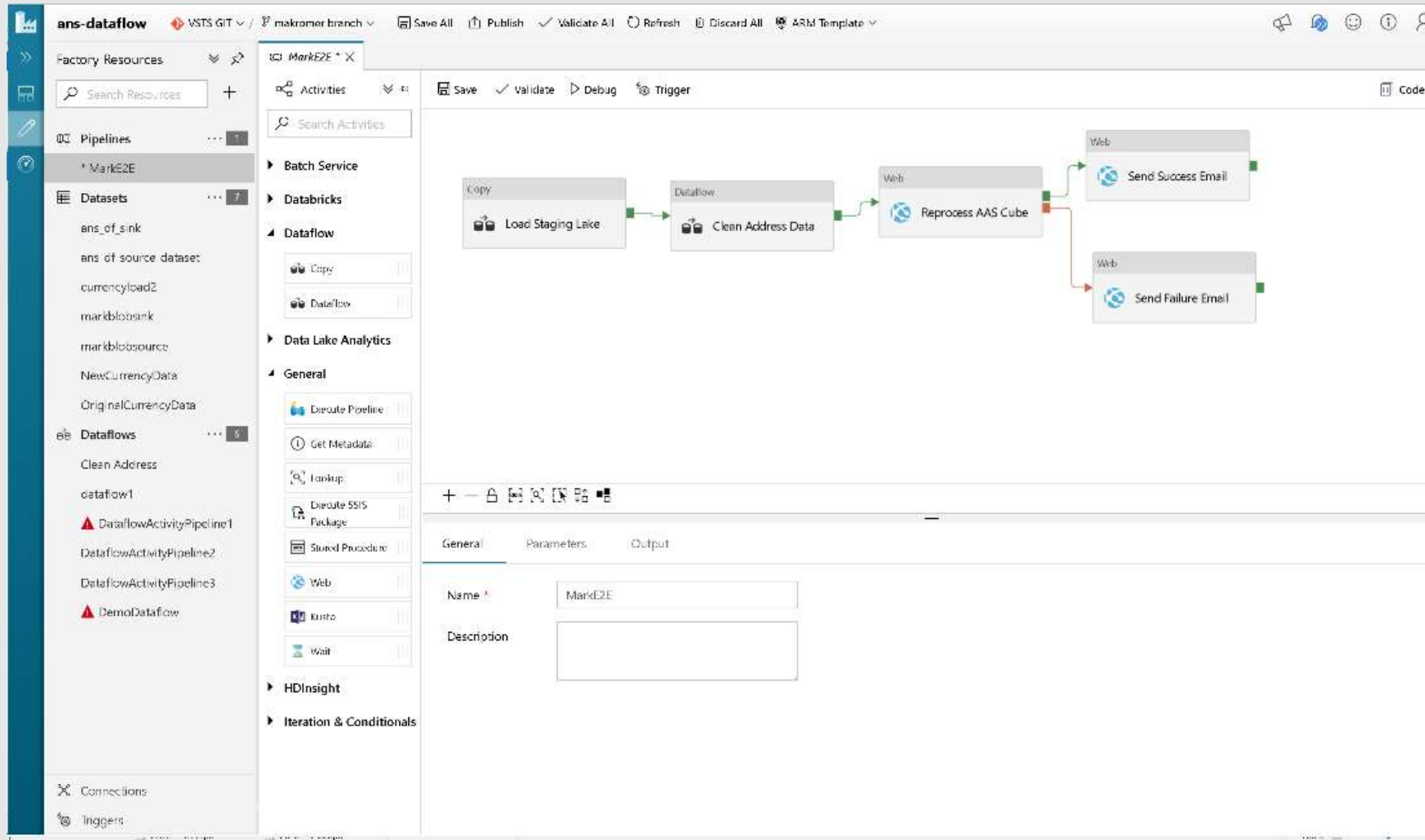
- Explicit user action
- User places transformations on design surface, from toolbox
- User must set properties for transformation steps and step connectors

- Explicit user action
- User chooses destination connector(s)
- User sets connector property options

Data Flow Limited Preview Support & SLAs

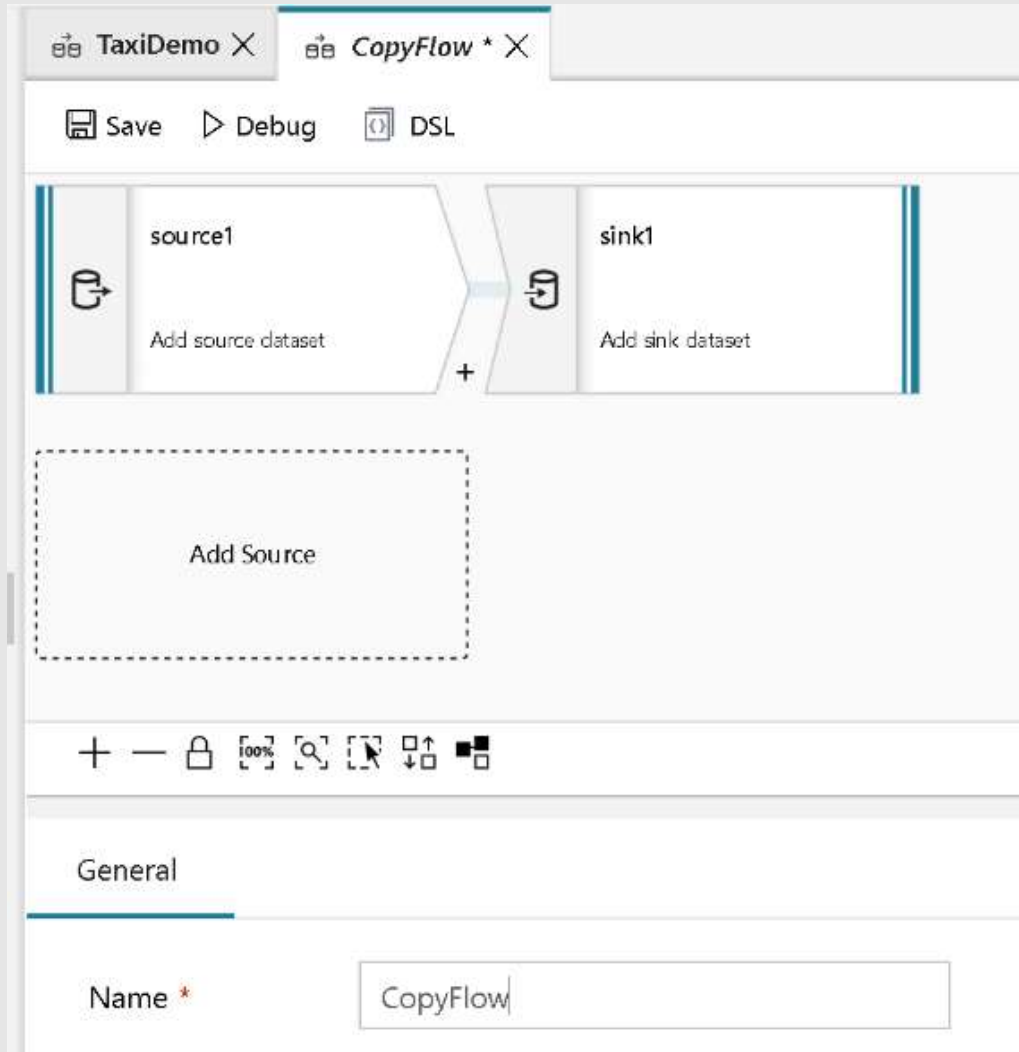
- Azure SLAs are NA for preview services (private or public preview) until GA of the service.
- Limited Preview Support
 - Handled directly with the Azure Engineering team via adfdataflowext@microsoft.com.
- Sign-up for ADF Data Flow service
 - <http://aka.ms/dataflowpreview>
 - Microsoft Azure must whitelist your subscription ID to turn on the feature for you
- Public Preview Support
 - Normal Azure customer service channels

ADF Pipeline Execution of a Data Flow Activity



- Design code-free ETL workflows
- Copy data from on-prem, other clouds and Azure
- Stage data for transformation
- Build visual data transformations
- Schedule triggers for your pipeline execution
- Monitor processes and configure alerts
- All within ADF

Simple Copy Flow



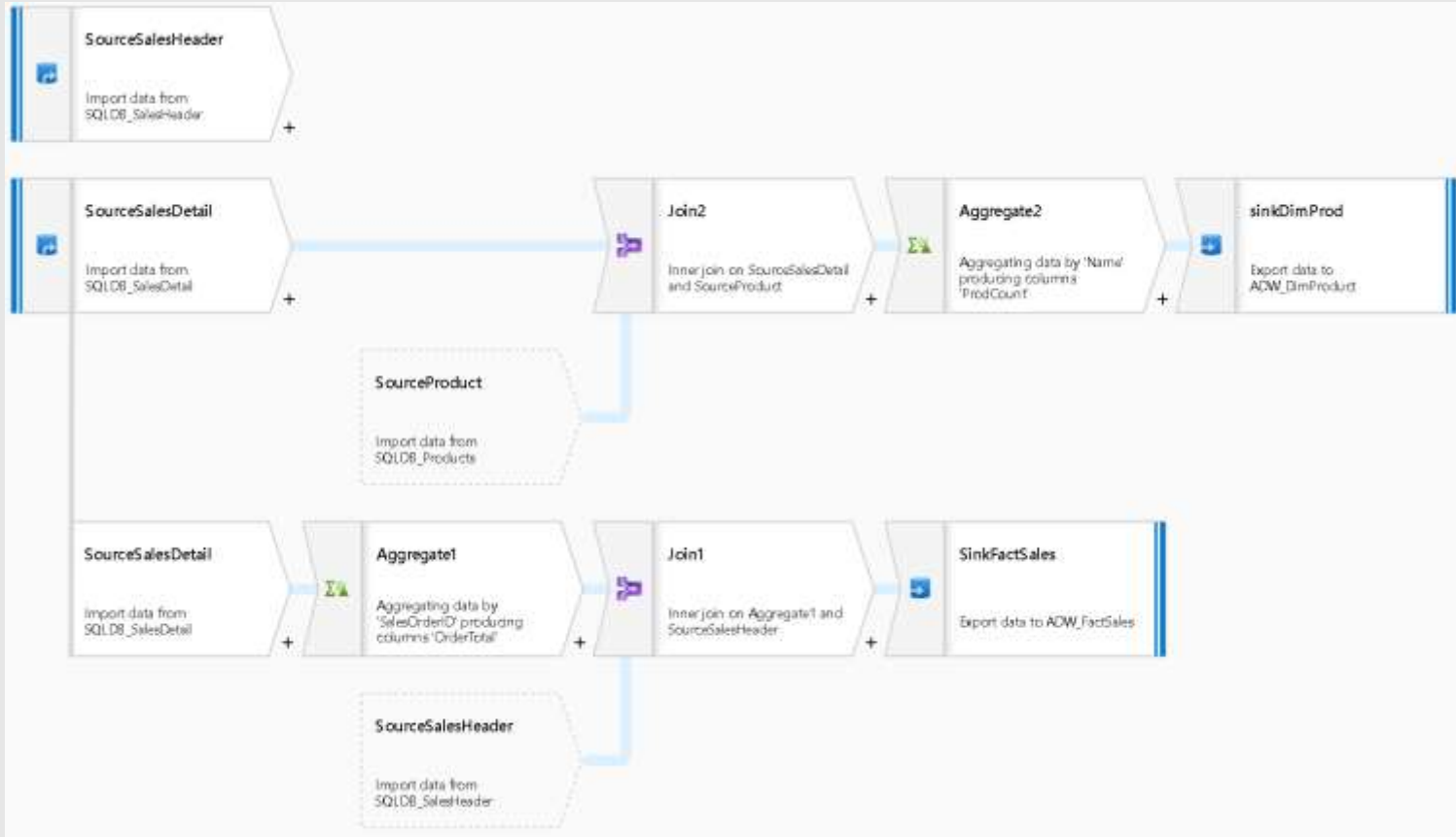
- ADF Data Flow is a guided construction process
- Begin by defining the Datasets for your Source and Sink
- Add Transformations to each node in your data flow
- Or simply copy from source to sink with no transformation
- Map columns and fields along the way

Slowly Changing Dimension Scenario



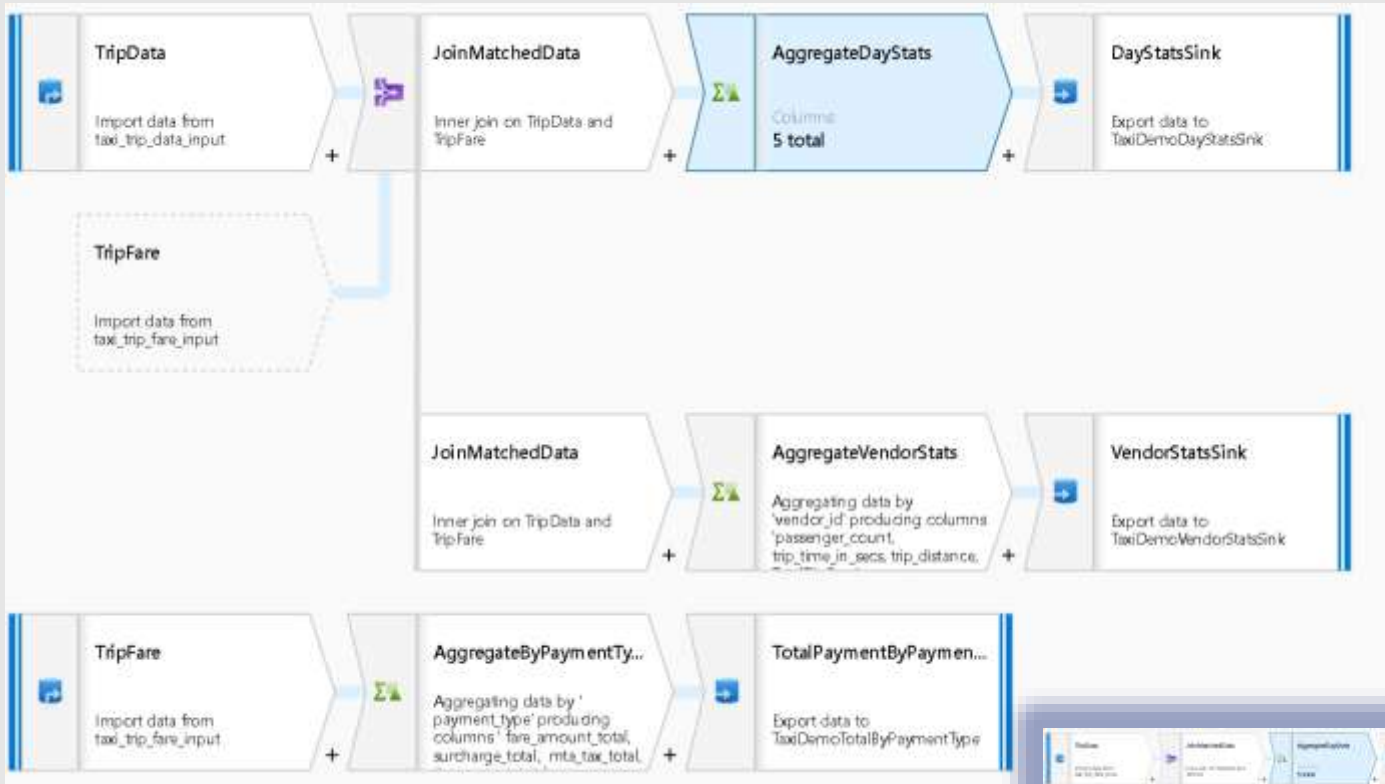
- Common DW pattern to manage changing attributes to dimension members
- Graphically build code-free SCD ETL pattern to load your data warehouse
- Connect directly to Azure SQL DB and Azure SQL DW
- Use Lookup, Surrogate Key, Derived Column and Select transforms

Load Star Schema DW Scenario



- Classic ETL pattern is easy to build in ADF's code-free Data Flow visual data transformation environment
- Add Aggregate transforms to produce calculations that you store in your analytical database schema
- Use Join transform to combine data from multiple data sources and data streams inside your data flow
- Land your data in your Lake folders or direct to Azure SQL DW

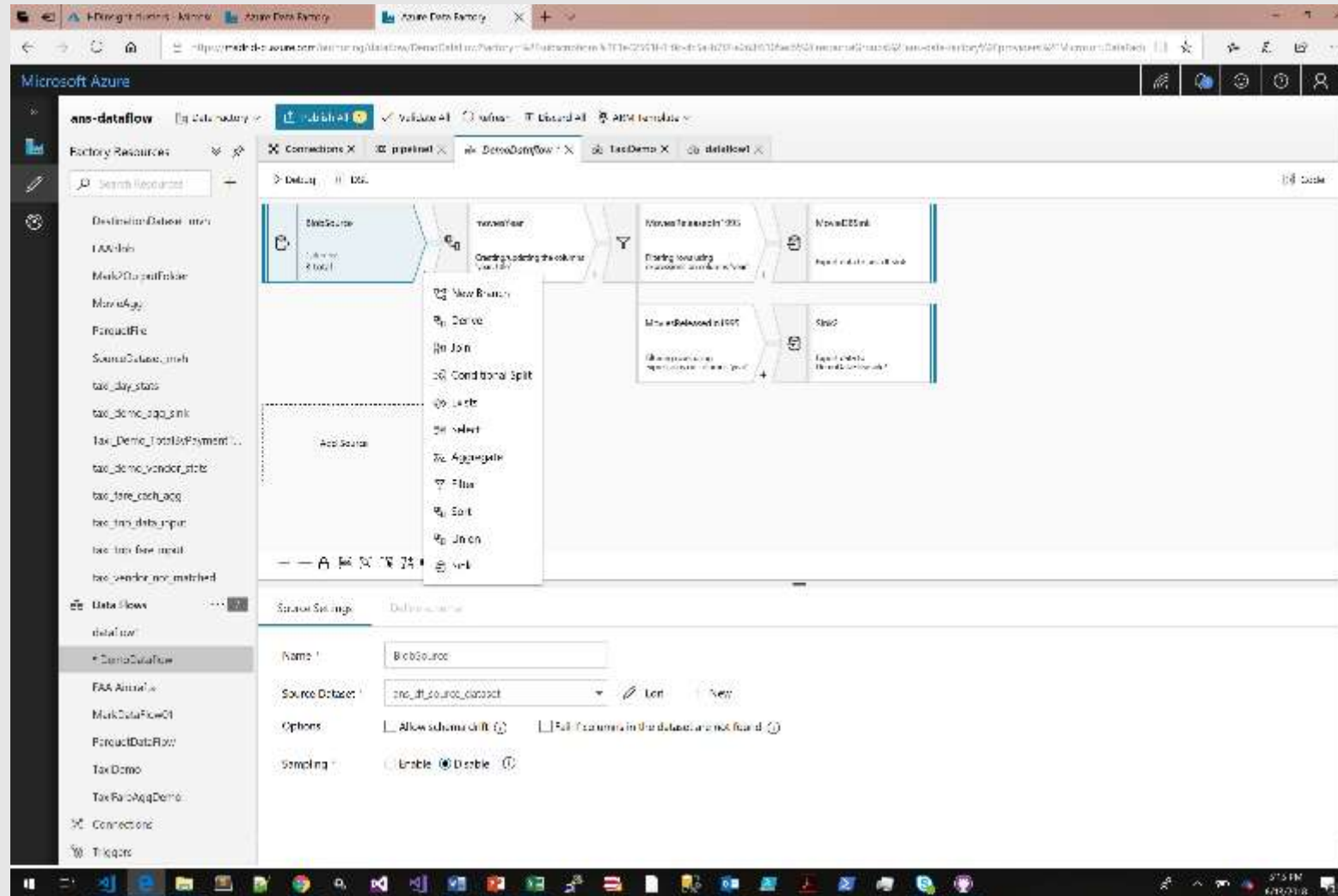
Data Lake Data Science Scenario



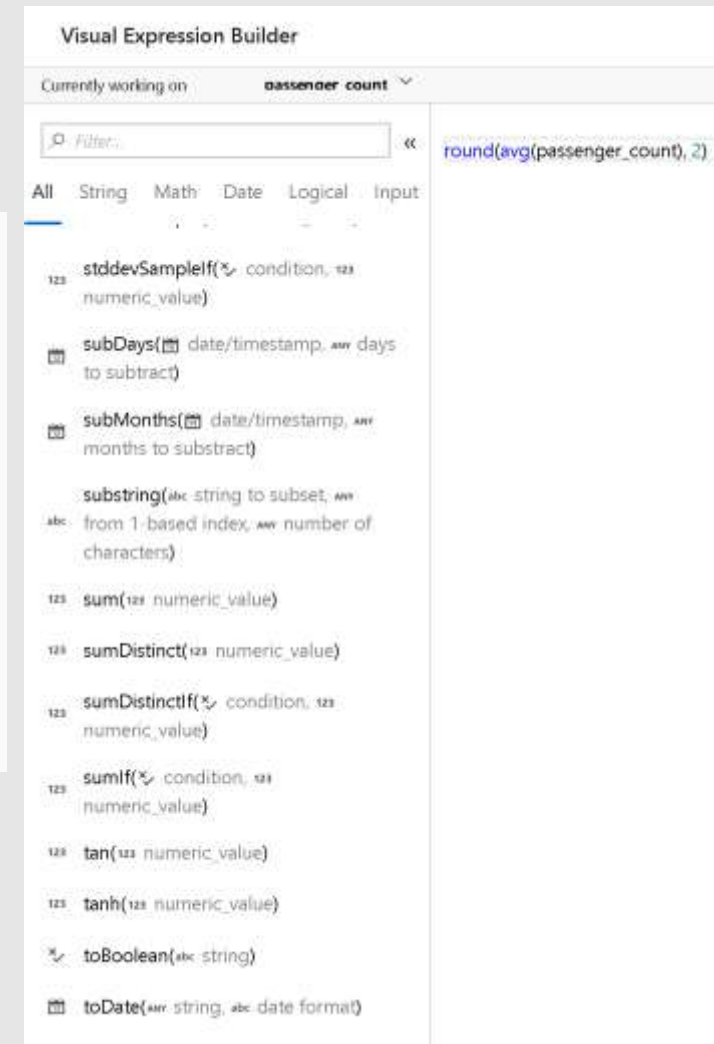
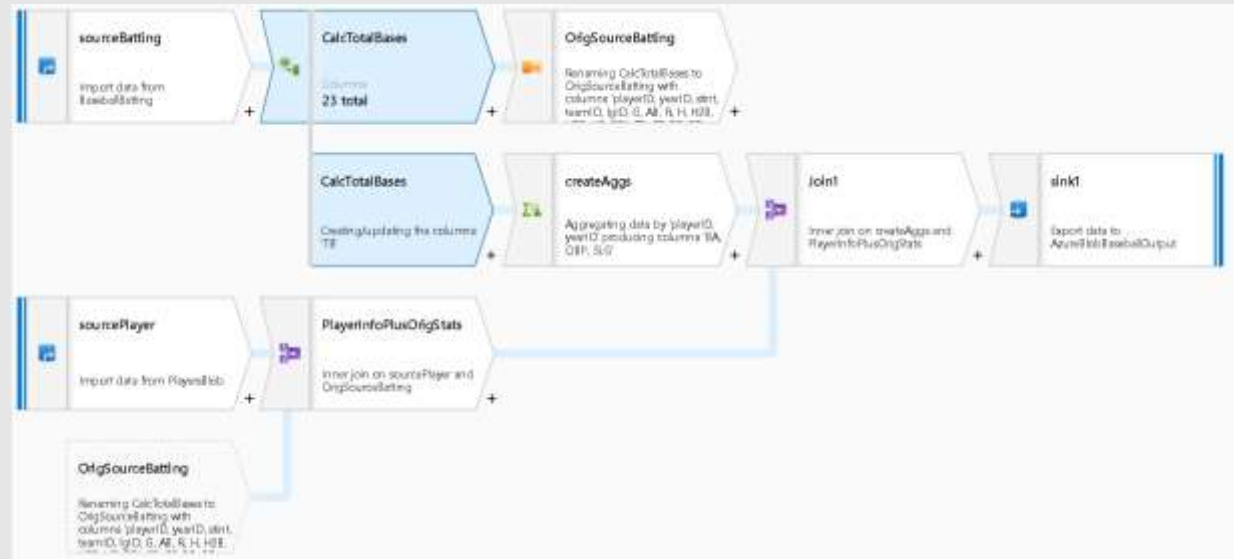
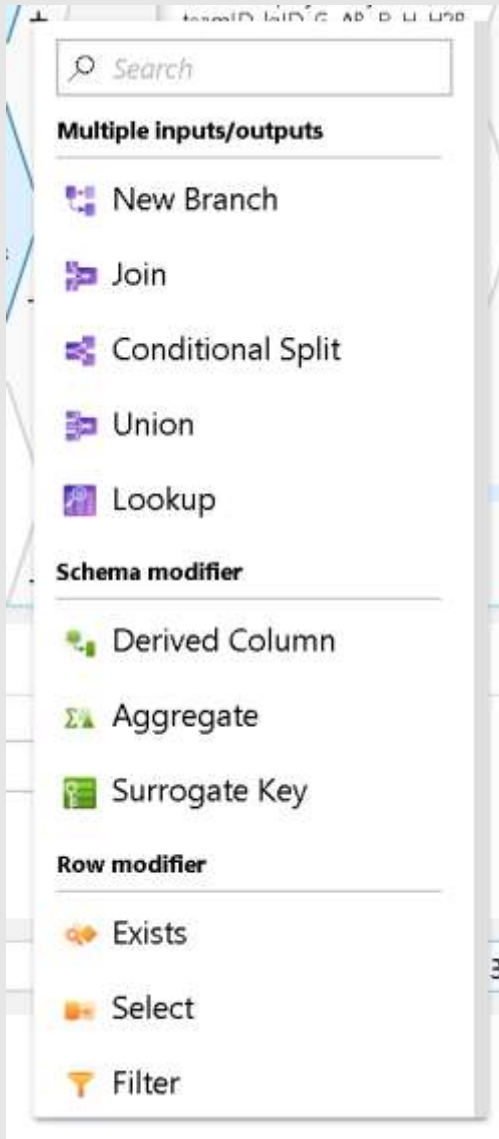
- ADF supports building visual data transformations against your data directly in Data Lake locations (i.e. Azure Blob Store, Azure Data Lake Store)
- Built-in handling of schema drift for frequent changes in data lake file formats, columns, and data types
- Perform data exploration and data profiling across your data lake in ADF Data Flow with interactive debug data preview



Build your logical data flows adding data transformations in a guided experience



Microsoft Azure Data Factory Continues to Extend Data Flow Library with a Rich Set of Transformations and Expression Functions



Switch to Debug Mode and select sample data to work with for debugging

The screenshot displays the Azure Data Factory (ADF) interface for a pipeline named 'CurrencyCleanup'. The left sidebar shows the 'Pipelines' section with 'Pipeline 134' selected. The main canvas shows the pipeline flow with two data flows: 'OriginalCurrencyData' and 'DailyCurrencyFile', both importing data from Azure Data Lake. The 'Debug Settings' dialog box is open on the right, allowing configuration for debugging the pipeline.

Debug Settings

Description of this panel's contents...

Spark cluster (linked service) *

Default

Data options *

☐ Default ☒ Upload file

OriginalCurrencyData

Dataset *

.././CustomerData Browse

[Edit schema mapping](#)

DailyCurrencyFile

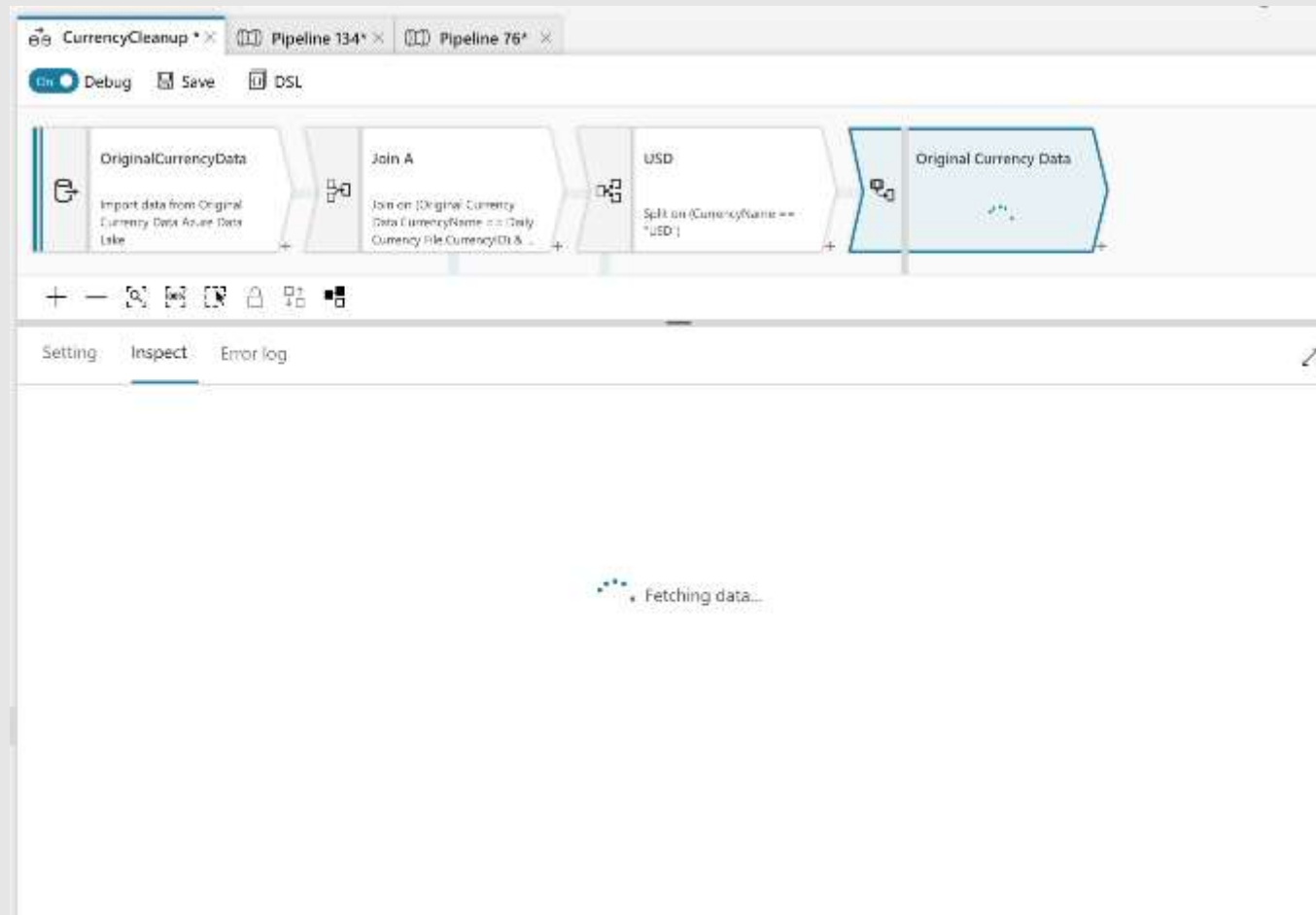
Dataset *

.././CustomerData Browse

[Edit schema mapping](#)

Cancel Finish

Debug mode provides row-level context and visible results in inspector pane



Debug mode provides row-level context and visible results in inspector pane

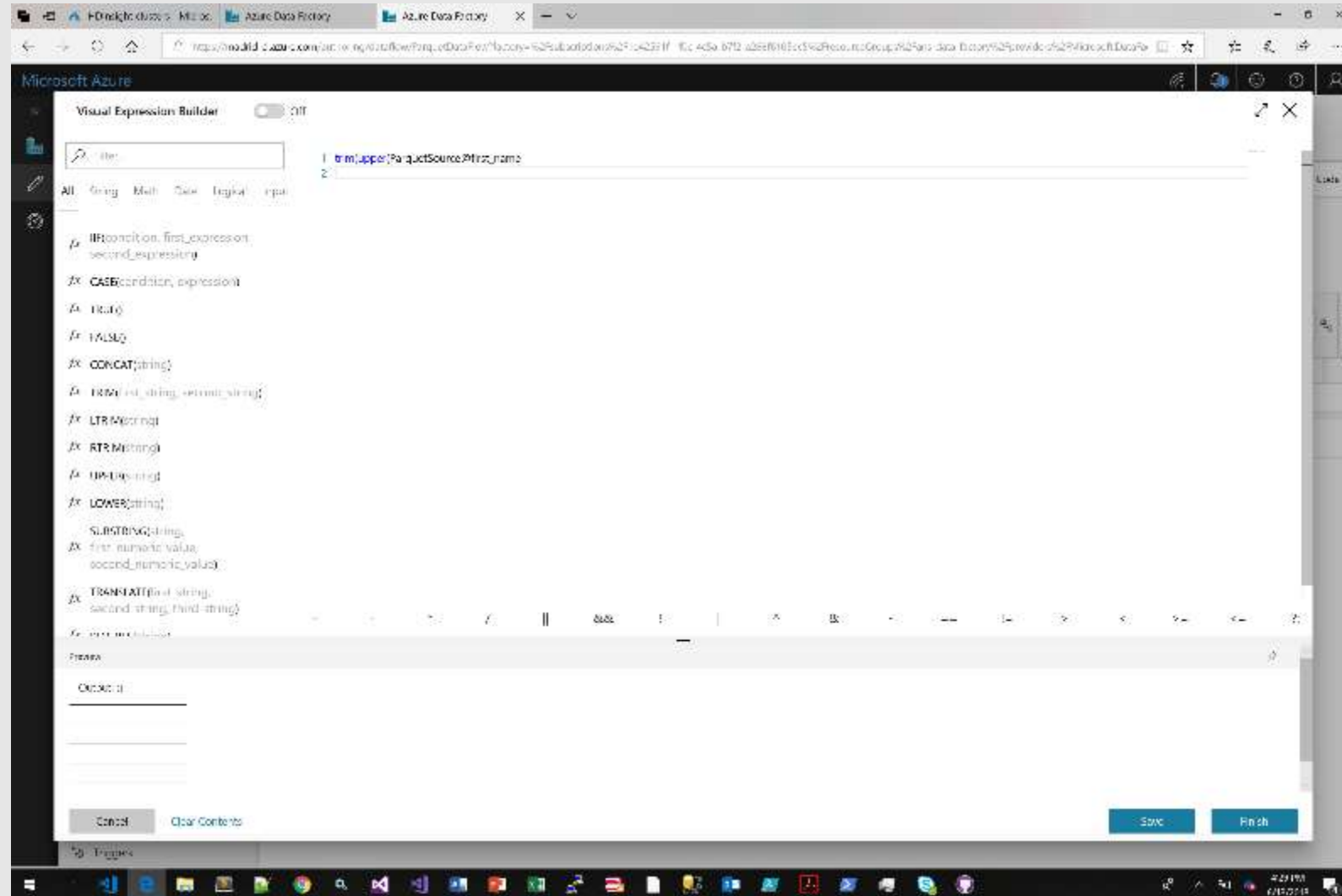
Setting Inspect Error log

	Update	New	Unchanged	Total
Nuber of columns	2	1	15	18
Nuber of rows	30	0	2,483	2,234

Output schema Data Preview

	Date	InUSA	Profit	Column 123	Column abc	Column abc	Column
1	12/03/2018	True	2455.45	12345	Cell Contents	Cell Contents	09/23/2017, 23:00
2	12/03/2018	False	2455.45	12345	Cell Contents	Cell Contents	09/23/2017, 23:00
3	12/03/2018	True	2455.45	12345	Cell Contents	Cell Contents	09/23/2017, 23:00
4	12/03/2018	False	2455.45	12345	Cell Contents	Cell Contents	09/23/2017, 23:00
5	12/03/2018	False	2455.45	12345	Cell Contents	Cell Contents	09/23/2017, 23:00
6	12/03/2018	False	2455.45	12345	Cell Contents	Cell Contents	09/23/2017, 23:00

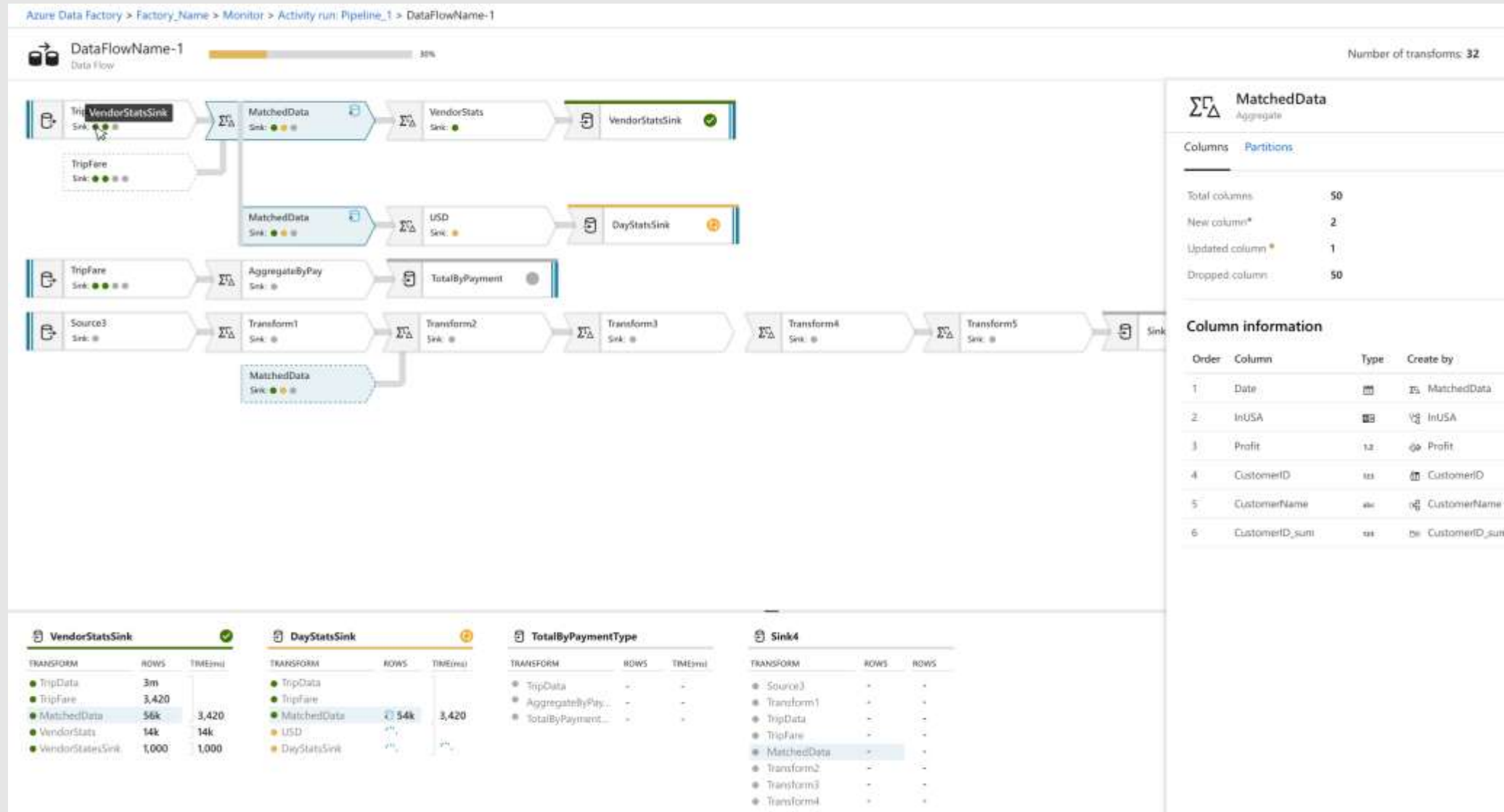
Interactive Expression Builder – Build data transform expressions, not Spark code



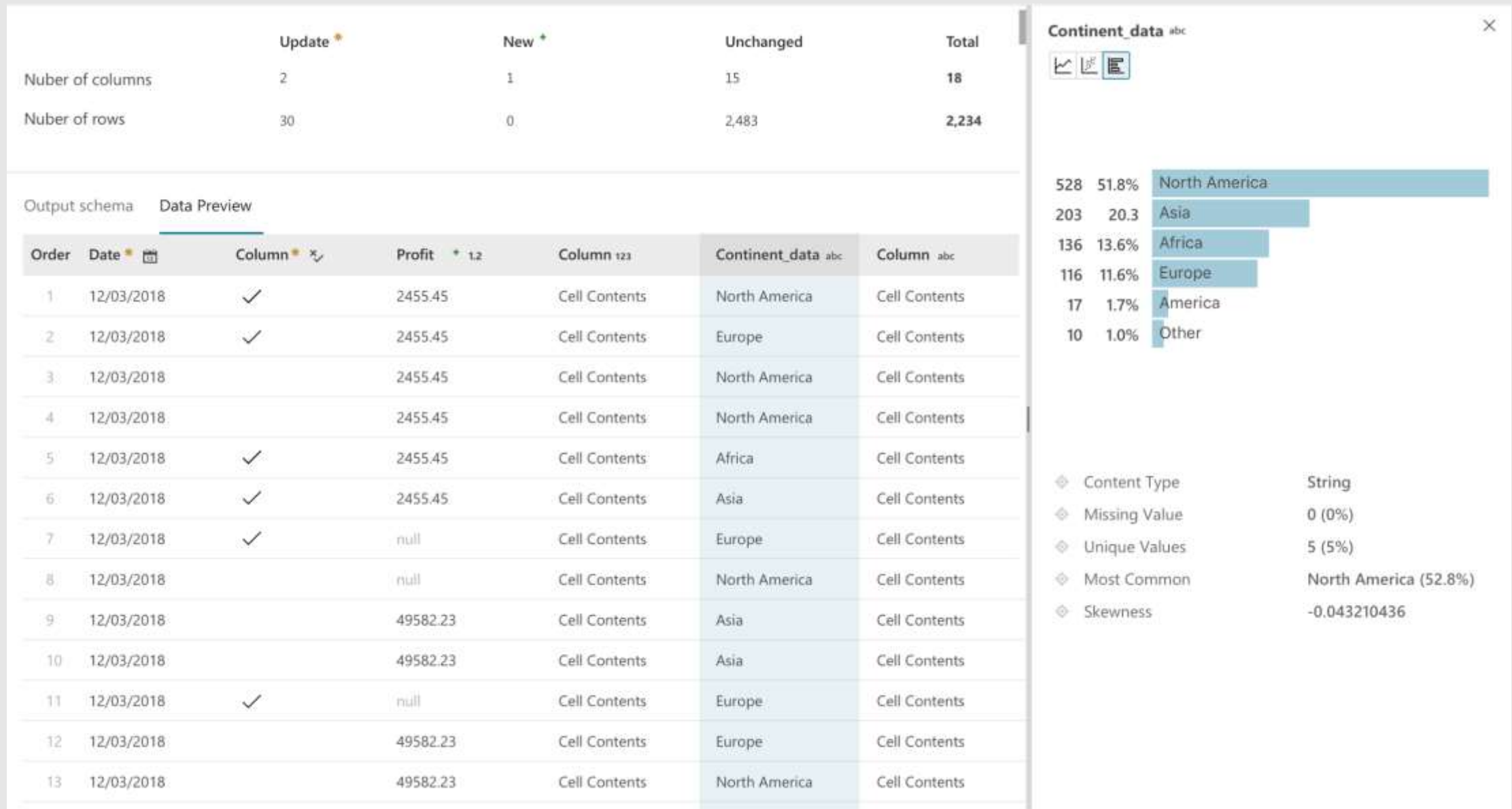
Azure Data Factory Visual Data Flow

The screenshot displays the Azure Data Factory Visual Data Flow editor interface. The top navigation bar includes the 'ans-dataflow' logo, 'Data Factory' dropdown, and buttons for 'Publish All', 'Validate All', 'Refresh', and 'Discard All'. Below this, the 'Factory Resources' pane on the left lists various datasets and data flows, with 'TaxiDemo' selected. The main canvas shows a visual data flow diagram with three parallel paths. The top path starts with 'TripData' (Input data from taxi trip data input), followed by 'MatchedData' (Join previous input(s) to TripData), 'VendorStats' (Aggregating taxi by VendorId producing columns: TotalFare, averageFare, totalTrips), and 'VendorStatsSink' (Export data to taxi vendor stats sink). The middle path starts with 'TripData' (Input data from taxi trip data input), followed by 'MatchedData' (Join previous input(s) to TripData), 'DayStats' (Aggregating taxi by DayId producing columns: averageFare, averagePassenger, averageTripTime), and 'DayStatsSink' (Export data to taxi day stats sink). The bottom path starts with 'TripData' (Input data from taxi trip data input), followed by 'AggregatelyPaymentType' (Aggregating taxi by PaymentType producing columns: totalFare, averageFare, totalTrips), and 'TotalByPaymentType' (Export data to taxi total by payment type sink). The bottom right pane shows the 'General' properties for the selected 'TaxiDemo' data flow, including its name, description, and linked service 'DataBricksLinkedService'.

Deep Monitoring Introspection of Data Transformations



Debug Data Flows with Data Preview and Data Sampling



Build Resilient Data Flows with Schema Drift Handling

Data Engineer Defines Source will take ALL fields from the source file with flexible schema

The screenshot shows a data pipeline configuration interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Save', 'Debug', and 'DSL'. Below this, a pipeline diagram shows three stages: 'Source', 'Derive', and 'Sink'. The 'Source' stage is expanded, showing 'Columns: 4 total'. Below the pipeline diagram is a dashed box labeled 'Add Source'. Below that is a toolbar with various icons. The 'Source' stage is selected, and its configuration panel is shown below.

Source

Name: source1

Source Dataset: Currency_USD [Edit](#) [+ New](#)

[Import from dataset](#) [+ New column](#) [Clear](#) [Delete](#)

	Column	Type
<input type="checkbox"/>	cid	String
<input type="checkbox"/>	cname	String
<input type="checkbox"/>	cdate	String
<input type="checkbox"/>	cprop	Integer

Data Engineer derives columns using template expression patterns based on name and type matching. No need to define static field names.

The screenshot shows a data engineering tool interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Save', 'Debug', and 'DSL'. Below the tabs is a workflow diagram with three main components: a 'Source' block labeled 'source1', a 'Derive' block labeled 'Derive1' with 'Columns: 5 total', and a 'Sink' block labeled 'sink1'. Below the workflow is a dashed box labeled 'Add Source'. Below that is a toolbar with various icons. The bottom section is titled 'Derive Settings' and contains a 'Name' field with the value 'Derive1'. Below the name field are three buttons: '+ Add Column', 'Delete', and 'Clear'. Below these buttons is a table with four columns: 'Column name', 'Template condition', 'Expression', and 'Type'.

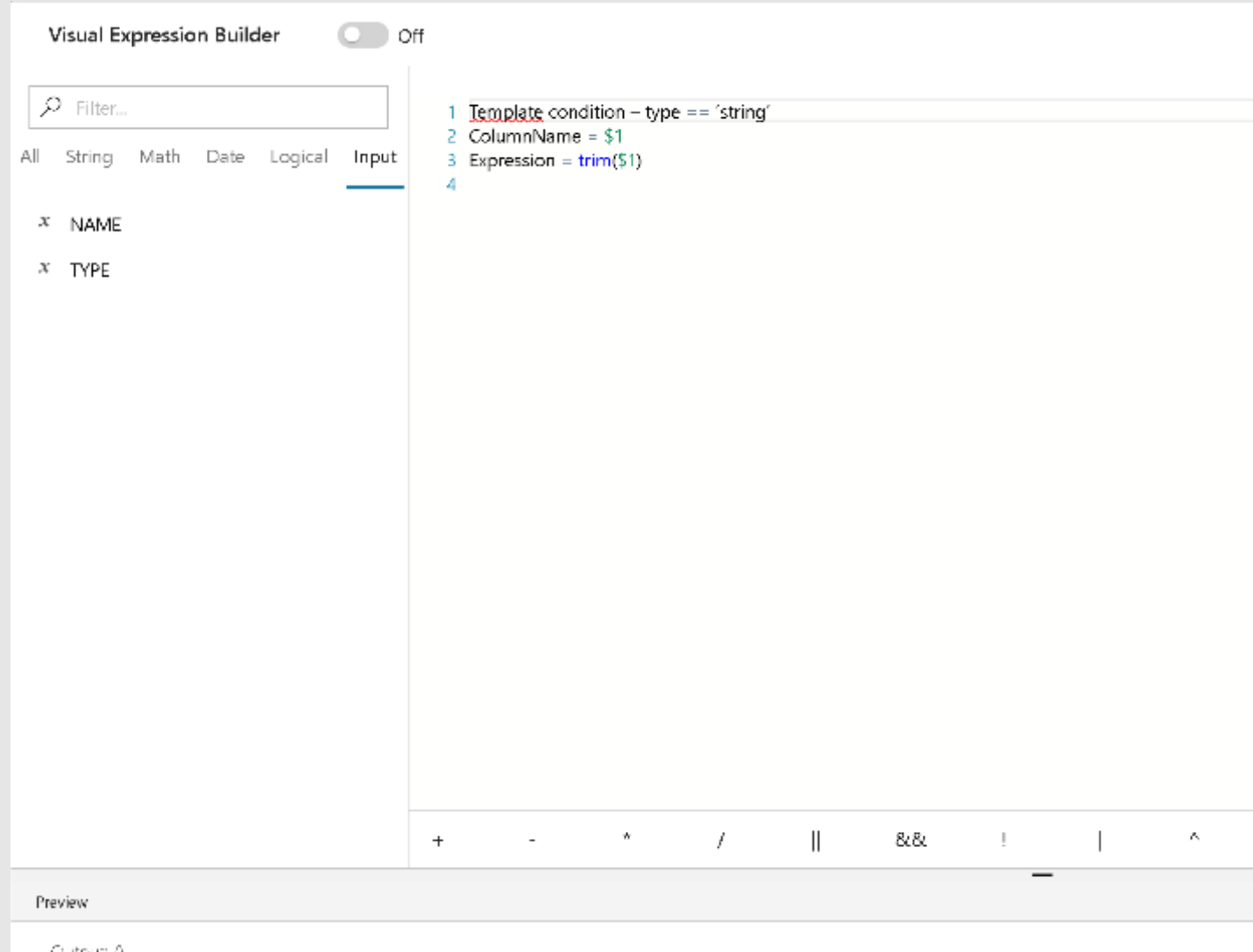
Column name	Template condition	Expression	Type
newrate	type == string	ltrim(\$1)	string

Data Engineer derives columns using template expression based on name and type matching. No need to define static field names.

The screenshot shows a data pipeline editor interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'CurrencyCleanup', 'Pipeline 134', and 'Pipeline 76'. Below the tabs are buttons for 'Save', 'Debug', and 'Validate'. The main workspace displays a pipeline diagram with nodes: 'Source', 'Original Currency Data', 'Join', 'Avg A', 'Condition split', 'USD', 'Copy column', and 'USD'. A 'Source' node is also connected to 'Daily Currency File'. The 'Setting' tab is selected, showing a configuration for a node named 'USD'. It includes a 'Specify the condition....???' field and buttons for '+ Add column', '+ Add template condition', and 'Delete'. Below this is a table with columns 'Column', 'Expression', and 'Type'.

Column	Expression	Type
Date	IIF (ABS(AverageRate * ...	Calendar
Some expression		
\$1 + "_sum"	SUM(\$1)	123
+ Add column		

Data Engineer derives columns using template expression based on name and type matching



Sink all incoming fields along with new derived field

The screenshot displays the AWS DataFlow console interface. On the left, a navigation pane shows various resources like Pipelines, Datasets, and Details. The main area shows a pipeline configuration with a 'Sink' node. Below the pipeline diagram, the 'Sink' configuration is detailed, including a table of columns to be written to the sink.

Sink Configuration:

Write Column	Column	Type	Output Alias
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	id	string	id
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	name	string	name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	email	string	email
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	phone	integer	phone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	address	string	address