Azure Storage Account

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Storage Services

* **Azure Storage Services is the original Azure method of storing data.**
* Storage Services uses three basic methods:
  * **Azure Storage Table** - Stores data as entities (each entity can store max 255 properties). Property is name-value pair.
    * No relational relationships – data is stored as a "sheet". Unfilled properties are not created (whole sheet is dynamic).
  * **Azure Storage Blobs** – Stores any binary based data objects as dynamic entities as Blobs. Every Blob must be stored inside some Blob Container.
    * Very good with large objects (pictures, video).
  * **Azure Storage Queues** – a waiting line of messages. Processed messages are removed from queue.
    * Supports proprietary file format so any file supporting text works.
  * (Note: Azure file storage is technically fourth method as it employs same method but it is employed as a network share in cloud of traditional drive service)

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Storage Account

* **Storage Account is used to access Azure Storage service.**
* Ohjattu Harjoitus: Following steps are used in Azure Portal:
  * 1) Select "Storage" and then "+ NEW"
  * 2) Choose "Data Services" → "Storage" → "Quick Create"

* URL is important as it is location of the Storage Account. It uses format <name>.core.microsoft.net

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* Storage Account allows setting several administrative issues:

  * "Manage Access Keys" – this is often referred when access to container needs to be changed via programming or shared access signature.

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* **Data storage and necessary replication is costly.**
* Microsoft offers follwing kinds of redundancy:
  * **Locally redundant storage** maintains three copies of data in same facility (data center). This protects data from normal hardware failures.
  * **Zone redundant storage** maintains three copies of data in two to three facilities in one or two regions.
  * **Geo-Redundant Storage** maintains three copies of data within primary region and three copies in secondary region hundreds of kilometers away. **Read Access Geo-Redundant Storage** adds ability to access data in secondary region if primary region goes down.

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* More information:
  * General Azure Storage Services:
    * https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/documentation/articles/storage-introduction/
  * Azure Pricing policity:
    * http://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/pricing/details/storage/

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Questions?

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