

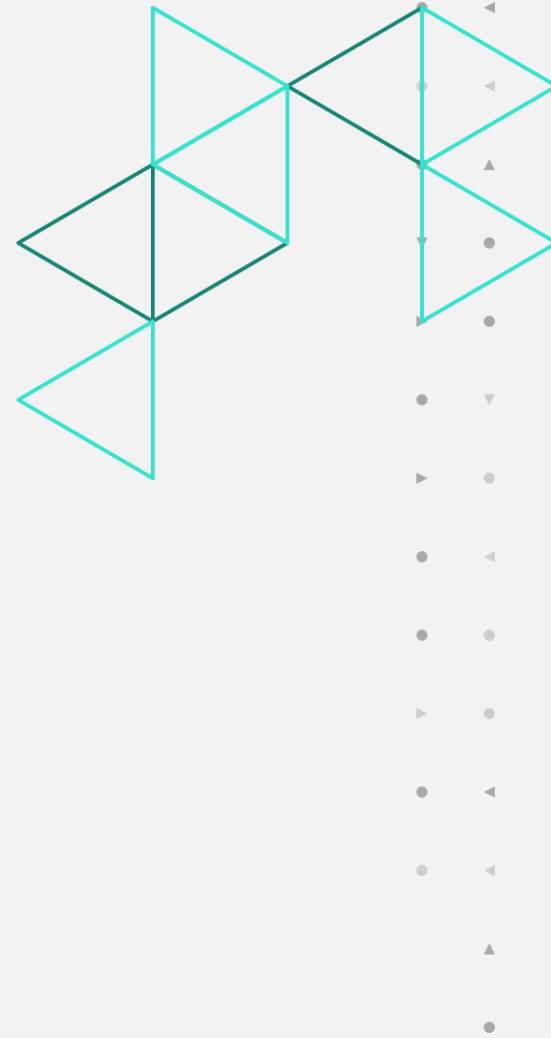


Microsoft Game Stack Live

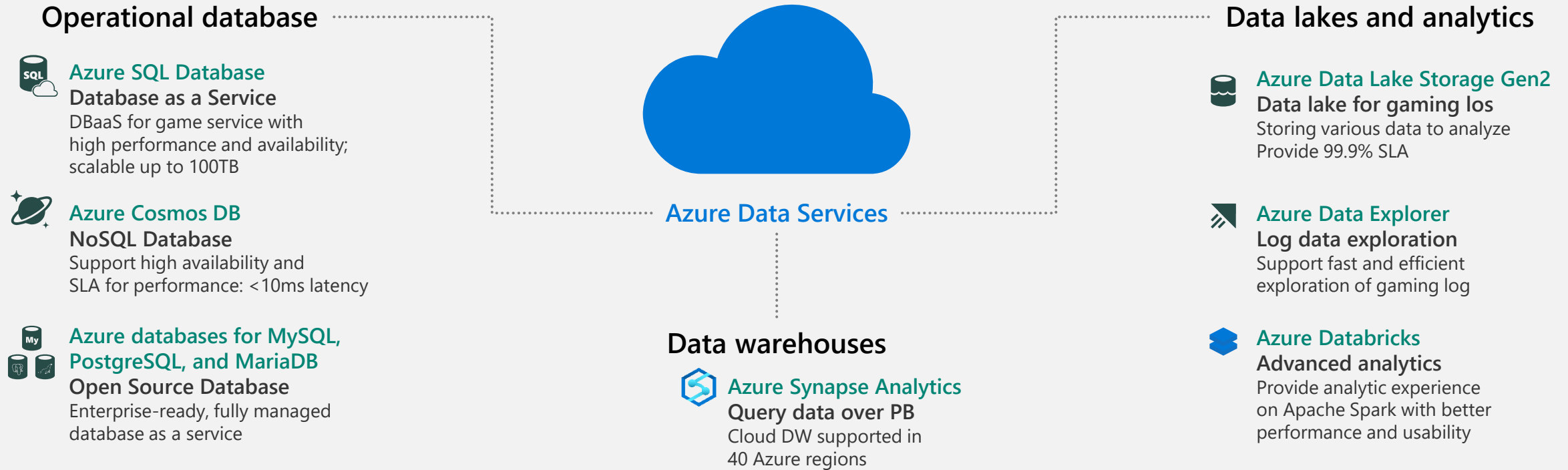


Azure Data Services: Make Better Business Decisions with Gaming Analytics and Data Insights in the Cloud

JaeHoon Ahn



What we can use in Azure Data Services



Reason over any data, anywhere

Flexibility of choice

Security and performance

How we could be successful in gaming

STEP 1

Launching game on Azure

Leverage key strength: Windows Server and SQL Server

Try to build operational model which can meet requirements of gaming: DTR, CMW, etc.

STEP 1.5

Expanding footprint

Focus on enhancing stability and performance

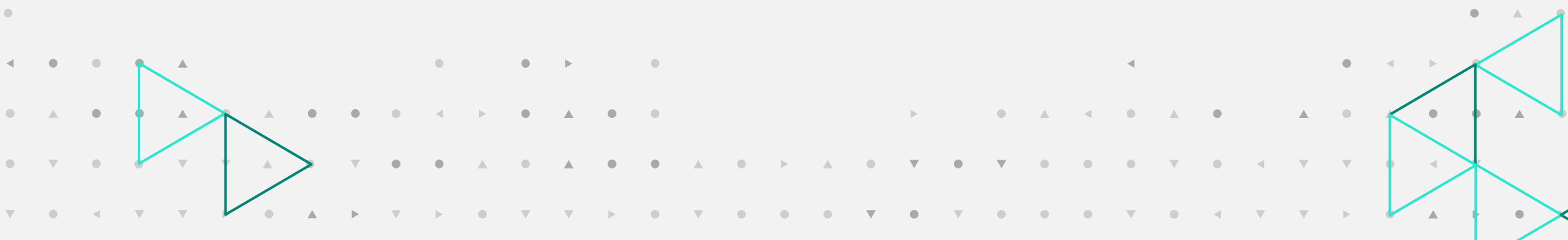
Covering diverse scenario and genre of game with optimized architecture

STEP 2

Gaming data analytics

With data on Azure, focus on advanced analytics (Cloud Scale Analytics)

Making new wins with OSS DB (Azure DB for MySQL/PostgreSQL)



Step 1

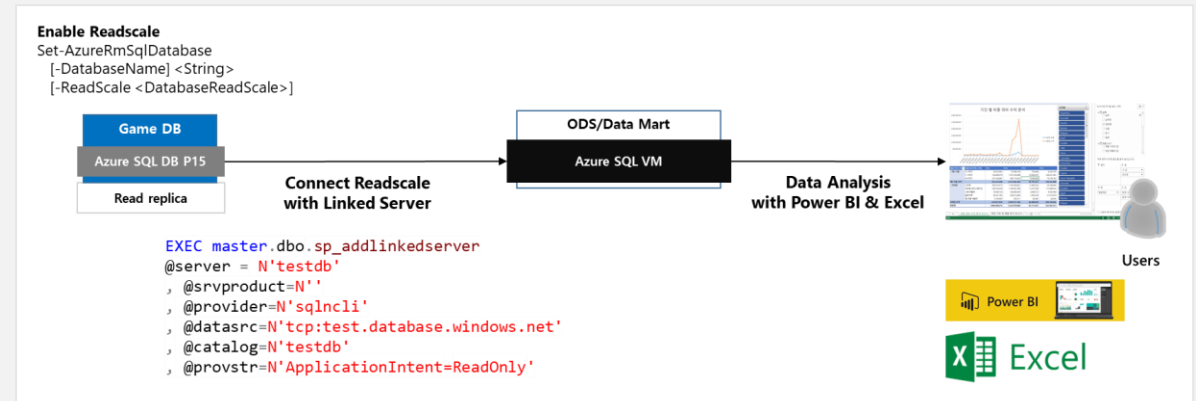
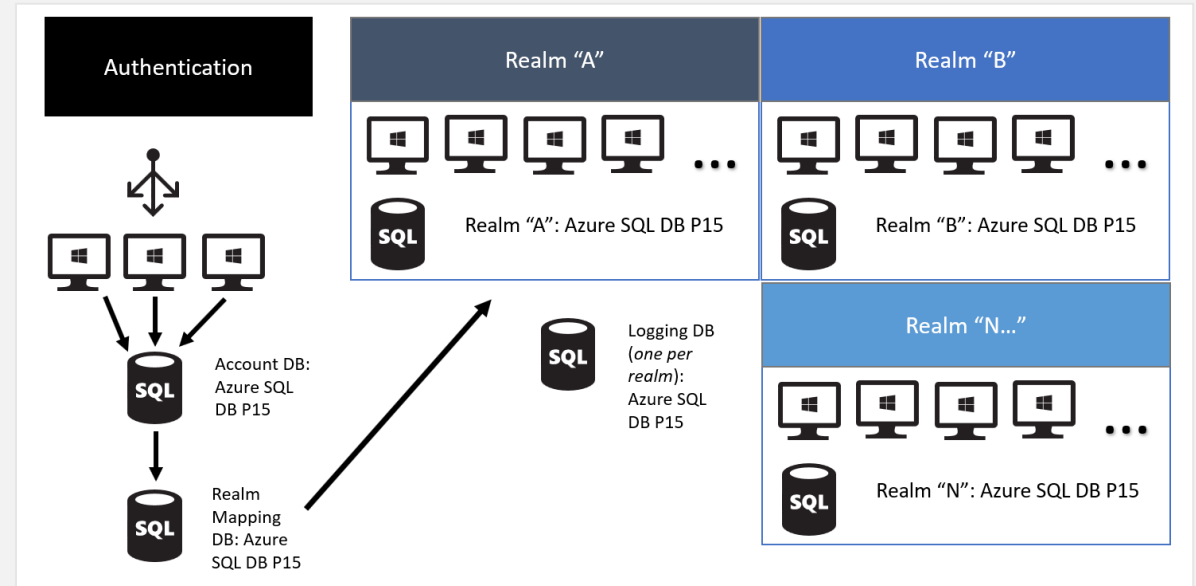
Launching game on Azure



Implementing massive scale data tier in Azure

Reference architecture for data tier

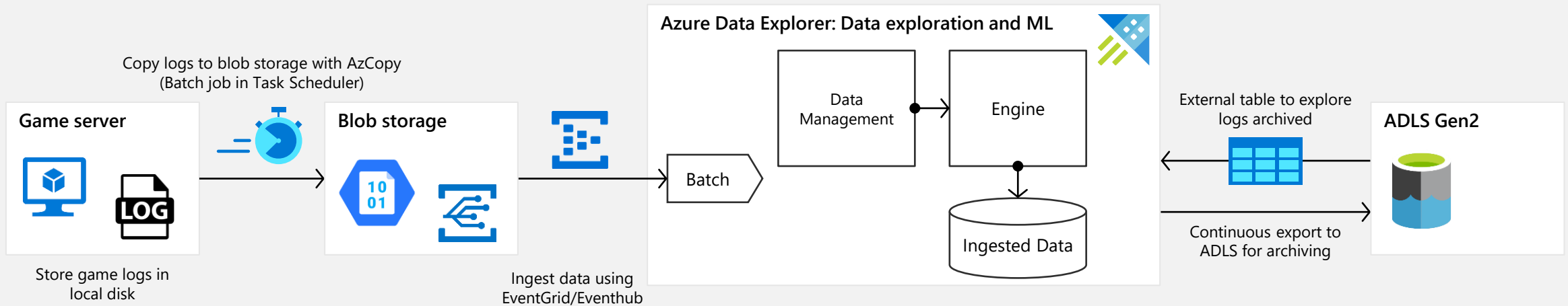
- Store player-realm mapping and shard database
- Up to 500,000 queries per second at peak time generating 1GB/second of transaction log during that time
- Use in-memory technology for better performance
 - Use In-memory table with native compiled stored procedure to avoid wait and latch
 - Use TVP with In-memory option instead of temp table for better performance
 - For archiving data, use in-memory column store to provide data compression (> 10x) and high performance for aggregation queries
- Readscale for load balancing read-only workload
 - Read and aggregate data without load in primary game database



More efficient way to store gaming logs

Storing unstructured/semi-structured gaming logs

- Game server store logs with JSON for flexibility (adding more items if needed)
- To store and handling JSON with more ease, Use Azure Data Explorer as log database
- Use “update policy” feature to broadcast logs to multiple tables in ingestion process
- Use function to parse JSON with “Extend” to make structured view
- Continuously export logs to Azure Data Lake Storage Gen2 for archiving purpose and use external table to explore



Demo

Ingesting data and exploration



How we could be successful in gaming

STEP 1

Launching game on Azure

Leverage key strength: Windows Server and SQL Server

Try to build operational model which can meet requirements of gaming: DTR, CMW, etc.

STEP 1.5

Expanding footprint

Focus on enhancing stability and performance

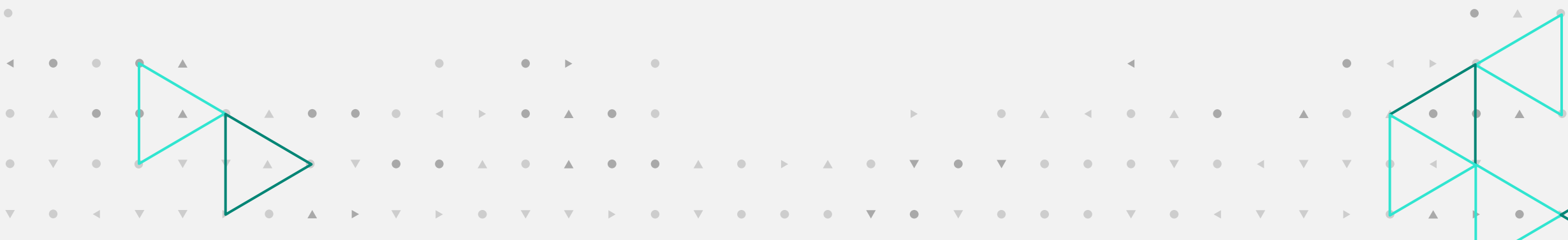
Covering diverse scenario and genre of game with optimized architecture

STEP 2

Gaming data analytics

With data on Azure, focus on advanced analytics (Cloud Scale Analytics)

Making new wins with OSS DB (Azure DB for MySQL/PostgreSQL)



Step 2

Gaming data analytics



Gaming data analytics

Gaming life cycle

Kick-off > Develop > Launch > Maintain > Terminate

Long-term gaming analysis
(from similar games before)

Long-term gaming analysis

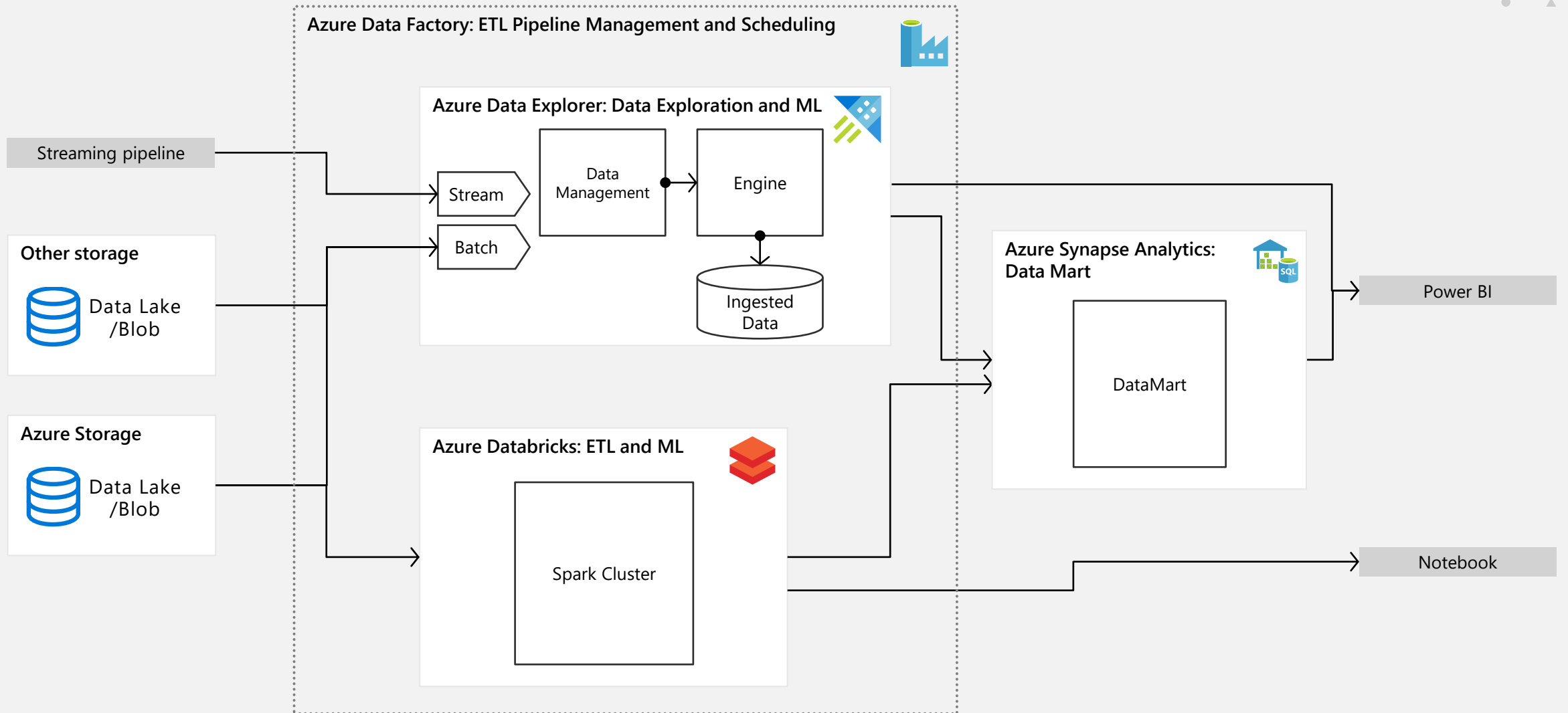
KPIs : DAU/NRU/WAU/MAU

User analysis : Revenue, churn, clustering

Service analysis : Error handling, security logs

ML: Playing pattern and prediction

Building standard architecture



CASE STUDY #1

Storing and exploring security logs

KEY BENEFIT

Store vast security logs with cost effective way; Explorer logs with query sample with easy

Background

Launched mobile/PC (online)/console on Azure with several regions

Need to detect detail route and cause of any security issue (SIEM—Security Information and Event Management)

Challenge

ELK is too expensive to expand cluster and hold more data

Azure Sentinel does not meet request due to alerting interval

Solutions

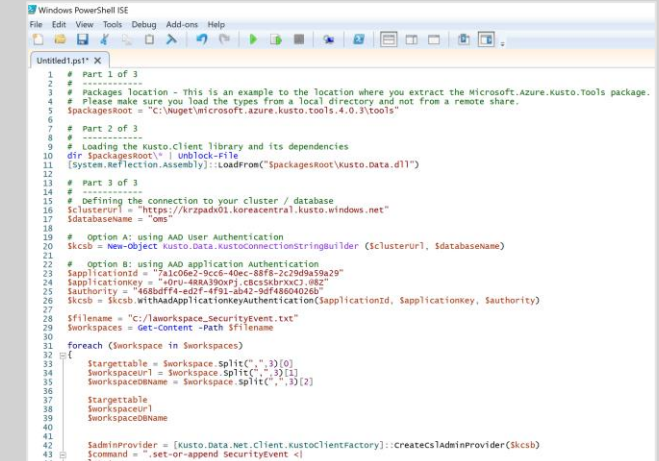
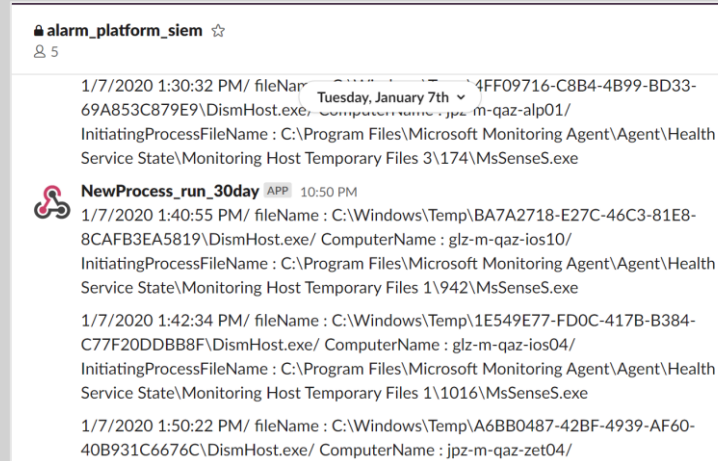
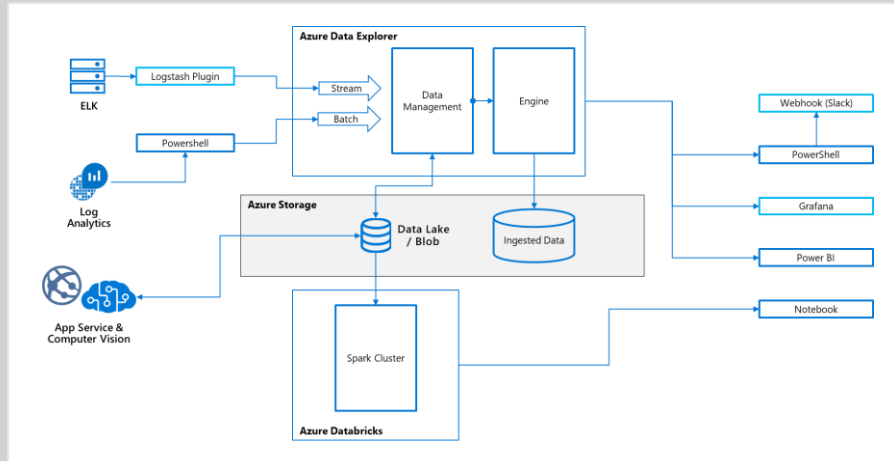
Use ELK for short-term real time data analytics (<1month)

Use Azure Data Explorer for long-term data store, exploration and analysis

Refer hunting queries of Azure sentinel for faster adoption

CASE STUDY #1

Storing and exploring security logs



Key products

Azure Blob Storage
Azure Data Explorer
Azure Log Analytics

Requirement

Ingest data from multiple sources for long-term analytics: ELK, Azure Log Analytics
Real-time data ingestion without latency
Send alert message to Slack when action is needed

Solution

Ingest log on ELK to ADX with Logstash Plugin
Ingest data on Log Analytics with Powershell Script and proxy connection
Ad-hoc data exploration on ADX
Send alert message to Slack with Webhook

Next step

Ingest log on ELK to ingest game service log
Adopt ADX built-in dashboard
Research for visualization method

CASE STUDY #2

Minimizing time needed to find issue in game service

KEY BENEFIT

Minimize time to find issue in debugging with fast game service exploration

Background

After launch, to enhance quality of game, need to analyze game services logs and battle logs

Challenge

Used table storage at first, but impossible to see data due to slow performance

As scheme of logs cannot be fixed, needs solution that can store and handle JSON data efficiently

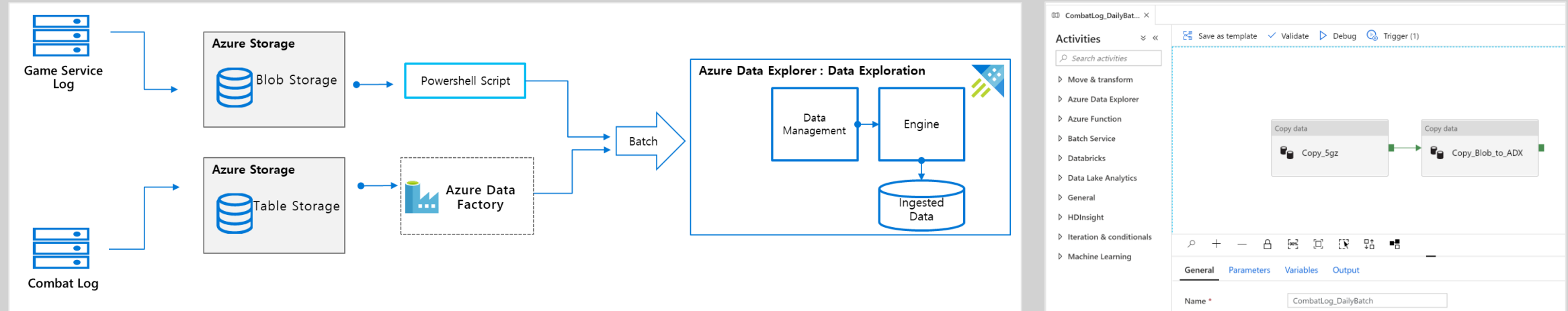
Solutions

Replace table storage to Azure Data Explorer to store game services log and battle logs

Use Azure Data Factory for ETL pipeline

CASE STUDY #2

Minimizing time needed to find issue in game service



Key products

Azure Blob Storage
Azure Data Explorer
Azure Data Factory
Azure Function

Requirement

Ingest game service log and combat log
Ad-hoc query to json type data
Daily/Hourly batch ingestion job

Solution

Send log from game server to Azure Blob Storage with Azure Function
Ingest game service log from Azure Blob Storage to Azure Data Explorer with Powershell Script
Ingest combat log from Azure Table Storage to Azure Data Explorer with Data Factory
Ad-hoc query in Azure Data Explorer

Next step

Expand coverage to all game log

CASE STUDY #3

Building end-to-end game service platform

KEY BENEFIT

Build end-to-end game services platform using Azure; Implementing ML-based abuser detection

Background

Building common service platform to launch several games planned

Challenge

As size of log data is very big in general, needs solution to store, explorer and analysis logs minimizing cost

To store several types of logs with different scheme, needs solution that can store and handle JSON data efficiently

Solutions

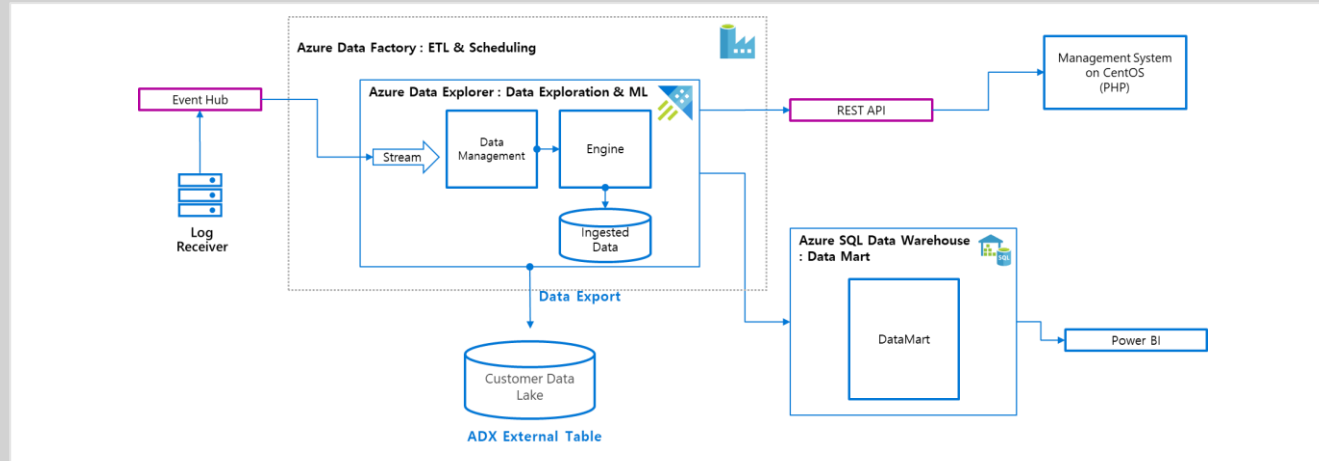
Use Azure Data Explorer to store logs and visualize data with dashboard

Use Power BI for KPI reports

Export data continuously to Azure Blob Storage with cool tier to store archive data with less cost

CASE STUDY #3

Building end-to-end game service platform



```
File Edit Selection View Go Debug Terminal Help RESTAPI_WM.php - Visual Studio Code
RESTAPI_WM.php x 1
2 <?php
3 session_start();
4 error_reporting(-1);
5 ini_set('display_errors', 'On');
6
7 if (!isset($_GET['code'])) {
8     $authUrl = "https://login.microsoftonline.com/96c00dee-f071-488b-8a1d-7c0cab5eb08/oauth2/authorize?";
9     $authUrl .= "client_id=dd5d46ac-b5cc-4c1f-90f9-fe3db1334edd";
10    $authUrl .= "&response_type=code";
11    $authUrl .= "&redirect_uri=http%3A%2F%2Flocalhost%2Fcurl3.php";
12    $authUrl .= "&response_mode=query";
13    $authUrl .= "&resource=https%3A%2F%2Flogadx.koreacentral.kusto.windows.net";
14    $authUrl .= "&state=12345";
15
16    header('Location: '.$authUrl);
17    exit;
18 }
19 else {
20
21     $accesscode = $_GET['code'];
22
23     $ch_auth = curl_init();
24     curl_setopt($ch_auth, CURLOPT_URL, "https://login.microsoftonline.com/96c00dee-f071-488b-8a1d-7c0cab5eb08/oauth2/token");
25     curl_setopt($ch_auth, CURLOPT_POST, 1);
```

Key products

Azure Blob Storage
Azure Data Explorer
Azure Data Factory
Azure SQL VM (Power BI Report Server)

Requirement

Integrate data analytics platform with management system on CentOS (PHP)
Ad-hoc data analytics environment with json type data
Archive old data to customer data lake (Blob Storage)
Run daily batch ETL job and put summarized data to data mart
Connect data mart with Power BI

Solution

Connect Azure Data Explorer to CentOS with Rest API
Ad-hoc query environment on Azure Data Explorer
Run batch process with Azure Data Factory

Next step

Advanced Analytics pilot for abuse detection

CASE STUDY #3

Building end-to-end game service platform

Advanced analytics and AI with key scenarios

- Abuser detection: Built machine learning model to identify abuser with game marketplace logs
- Bot for community website: Automated reply for FAQ from gaming users

Solutions

- Use Azure ML to build abuser detection model
- Integrated model with LiveOps for automated abuser handling
- MLOps with Azure DevOps to re-train and deploy model
- Build Q&A Maker knowledge base with FAQ from gaming users
- Build Bot and integrated it to community website to provide automated first reply to users

```
# Import libraries
import argparse
import joblib
from azureml.core import Workspace, Dataset, Experiment, Run
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression

# Get parameters
parser = argparse.ArgumentParser()
parser.add_argument('--dataset_name', type=str, dest='dataset_name', default='dummy_proto', help='source dataset')
parser.add_argument('--regularization', type=float, dest='reg_rate', default=0.01, help='regularization rate')
parser.add_argument('--output_folder', type=str, dest='output_folder', default='output', help='output folder')
args = parser.parse_args()
reg = args.reg_rate
dataset_name = args.dataset_name
output_folder = args.output_folder

# Get the experiment run context
run = Run.get_context()

# Load the w-aml dataset
print("Loading data from " + dataset)
from azureml.core import Workspace, Dataset

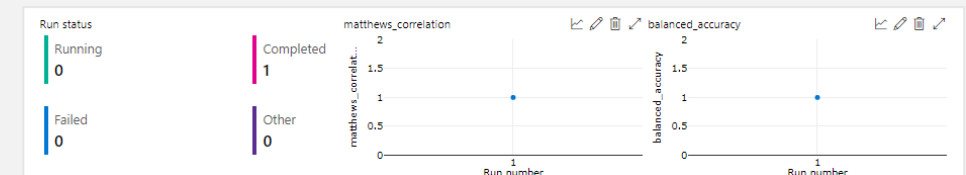
subscription_id = [REDACTED]
resource_group = [REDACTED]
workspace_name = [REDACTED]
workspace = Workspace(subscription_id, resource_group, workspace_name)
dataset = Dataset.get_by_name(workspace, name='dummy_proto').dataset.to_pandas_dataframe()

# Separate features and labels
X, y = dataset[["sq", "Sell_Chr_UID", "Buy_Chr_UID", "Sell_Abs_Cpl", "Buy_Abs_Cpl", "IP_Cpl", "Item_UID", "Item_NW", "Cls_Idx", "Cls_NW",
               "Item_Grd", "Item_Grd_NW", "Item_Smlt", "Reg_Price", "Min_Trd_Price", "Max_Trd_Price", "Avg_Trd_Price", "Avg_Ask_Price",
               "Duplicate_VN", "Sell_Abs_Cnt", "Buy_Abs_Cnt", "Tot_Abs_Cnt", "Either_Abs_Cnt", "Both_Abs_Cnt"]].values, dataset["Abs_VN"].values

# Train a logistic regression model
print("Training a AutoML model with regularization rate of", reg)
run.log('Regularization Rate', np.float(reg))
model = LogisticRegression(C=1/reg, solver="liblinear").fit(X, y)

# Save the trained model
os.makedirs(output_folder, exist_ok=True)
output_path = output_folder + "/model.pkl"
joblib.dump(value=model, filename=output_path)

run.complete()
```



CASE STUDY #4

Move from on-premises to Azure

KEY BENEFIT

Moving whole analytical platform to cloud with ease; Implementing more enhanced user analytics

Challenge

Seamless migration from On-premises Hadoop with minimal effort

Improve analytic system to expand scenario in advanced analytics

Solutions

At first, beginning of migration of Hadoop, adopted HDInsight for Hadoop/Spark migration, Azure SQL Data Warehouse as Data Mart and Data Warehouse

As 2nd step, moved Azure Databricks to get more flexible, cost efficient Spark environment and Azure Data Explorer for real-time data analytics/exploration

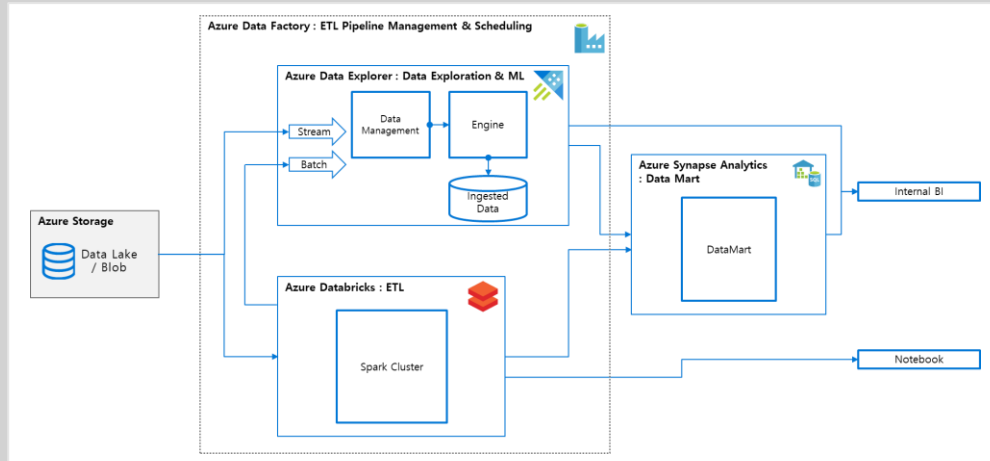
Next step

Advanced Analytics pilot for user segmentation

As future roadmap, introduce fully-integrated analytics system with Synapse analytics

CASE STUDY #4

Move from on-premises to Azure



The screenshot shows a Databricks notebook titled 'Mount_Rawlog (Scala)'. It contains two code cells. Cell 1 defines a function 'checkMountRawlog' that mounts raw logs from Azure Storage. Cell 2 shows the execution of the function, which returns 'Boolean = true'. The notebook interface includes a toolbar with various actions like 'Run', 'Schedule', and 'Comments'.

Key products

Azure Blob Storage
Azure Data Explorer
Azure Data Factory
Azure Synapse Analytics
(Azure SQL DW)
Azure Databricks

Requirement

Adopt high-performance gaming data analytics platform
Ad-hoc query for json type data
Advanced analytics including ML for next step of data analytics scenario
Cost effective spark engine that can perform batch ETL workload

Solution

ETL and batch ingestion to Azure Data Explorer with Azure Databricks (reduce cost with auto termination of Azure Databricks)
Stream ingestion to Azure Data Explorer with Event hub

Next step

Advanced Analytics pilot for user segmentation
As future roadmap, introduce fully-integrated analytics system with Synapse analytics

CASE STUDY #4

Move from on-premises to Azure

Advanced analytics and AI with key scenarios

- User segmentation and marketing analysis: Build machine learning model for user segmentation

Solutions

- Use Azure Databricks to build machine learning model for user segmentation
- Define segmentation criteria: In-game factor (item purchase, time etc.)/others (region, age, etc.)
- Propose proper action for each segment

