

ApexSQL® Diff 2022.03.x

Release Notes

These release notes provide information about the ApexSQL® Diff 2022.03.x which is a Major release.

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About ApexSQL Diff

ApexSQL Diff is a SQL Server and Azure SQL database comparison and synchronization tool which detects differences between database objects and resolves them without errors. It compares and synchronizes live databases, native or natively compressed database backups, database snapshots, scripts in source control and script folders and generates comprehensive reports on the detected differences.

New Features

This version of ApexSQL Diff introduces the following new features and enhancements:

Fixes:

- The "Failed to login. Internet connection is required to continue. Click Retry to try again" error is encountered on application start
- 230622: Snapshot creation error due to an invalid name character in '[ExecuteAsPrincipalName]k__BackingField'
- 230345: Encounter of "Connection failed. Unable to load snapshot" error message when using the CLI switch '/ex' for exporting the database to a snapshot file.

Known issues

- 219624: "The 'ApexSOLDiff_InstPackage' package did not load correctly" error is encountered when the Visual Studio 2019 16.7 version is started

Getting Started

- For further information about installation and getting started, please check the [Quest Knowledge Base](#) or [ApexSQL Getting Started](#).

System requirements

Hardware	Dual Core 2.0 GHz CPU 3 GB memory 249 MB disk space
SQL Server	SQL Server 2005 and higher ^[1] Azure SQL Database ^[1] Amazon RDS for SQL Server ^[1]
Add-in integration	SQL Server Management Studio 2012 and higher ^[2] Visual Studio 2010 and higher ^[1]
OS	Windows 7 SP1/Windows Server 2008 R2 SP1 and higher ^[1]
Software	.NET Framework 4.7.2 or higher

Note	Source control integration available for Azure DevOps ^[4] , Git ^[5] , Mercurial ^[5] , Subversion ^[5] and Perforce ^[5]
Permissions and additional requirements	Windows user account with administrative privileges See Minimum permissions required to install and use ApexSQL products See Minimum SQL Server permissions for ApexSQL Developer tools See Remote access for SQL Server instance

^[1] See [Supported systems](#) for exact version support

^[2] You can use the latest full-featured backwards compatible SQL Server Management Studio for free. [Click here](#)

^[4] Azure DevOps Server (TFS) ^[5] / Azure DevOps Services

^[5] Up to the latest version

Supported platforms

Windows version				
Windows 7 SP1 & Windows Server 2008 R2 SP1	Windows Server 2012	Windows 8.1 & Windows Server 2012 R2	Windows 10 & Windows Server 2016	Windows Server 2019
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

SQL Server version ^[3]									
	2005	2008	2012	2014	2016	2017		2019 CTP 3	
						Windows	Linux ^[2]	Windows	Linux ^[2]
ApexSQL Diff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

SQL Server edition ^[3]						
	Express	Standard	Enterprise	Azure SQL Database		Amazon RDS for SQL Server
				Single Database, Elastic Pool	Managed Instance	
ApexSQL Diff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Visual Studio add-in integration						
	2010	2012	2013	2015	2017	2019
ApexSQL Diff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

SQL Server Management Studio add-in integration					
	2012	2014	2016	17	18
ApexSQL Diff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Source control systems					
	Azure DevOps ^[4]	Git ^[5]	Mercurial ^[5]	Perforce ^[5]	Subversion ^[5]
ApexSQL Diff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Business intelligence			
	SSIS	SSRS	SSAS

ApexSQL Diff	✓		
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^[2] Tested on Ubuntu 16.04

^[3] Including Amazon EC2, Google Compute Engine, and Azure Virtual Machine cloud computing SQL Server instances

^[4] Azure DevOps Server (TFS) ^[5] / Azure DevOps Services

^[5] Up to the latest version

Release History (release notes)

Release: 2022.03.1180

Date: June 10, 2024

Fixes:

- The "Failed to login. Internet connection is required to continue. Click Retry to try again" error is encountered on application start
- 230622: Snapshot creation error due to an invalid name character in '[ExecuteAsPrincipalName]k__BackingField'
- 230345: Encounter of "Connection failed. Unable to load snapshot" error message when using the CLI switch '/ex' for exporting the database to a snapshot file.

Release: 2022.02.1171

Date: October 10, 2022

Fixes:

- 217346: Creating history table statement appears in "Synchronization script" instead of "Alter history table statement" when trying to synchronize tables from SQL Server to Azure SQL Server
- 212730: "Errors encountered in object scripts. Some objects may not be created properly" error is encountered when running comparison against test database
- 213559: "The script difference view" does not show the right information for the table trigger
- 215835: "Unable to cast object of type 'System.DBNull' to type 'System.String'" message is shown when comparing two databases where one has external data source
- 216429: Excluded objects are compared although they are excluded from the "Object filter" tab and exported in "Object filter" file which is using with /ofs switch through CLI
- 216874: "Unable to cast object of type 'System.DBNull' to type 'System.String'" message is shown when comparing two databases with one being MongoDB as external source
- 219776: The objects are not checked in the main grid after clicking on the "Refresh" button when changing those objects on the destination side after the comparison between two databases is done
- 223570: Scroll bars in "Script difference" view external window are not overlapping the text field placeholders
- 216610: "LEFT JOIN" statement in sp procedure presented as "WHERE" statement in ApexSQL Diff "Difference view table" when the "White space" option is enabled

- 221570: App crashes when parsing dependency
- 221569: Inconsistency with "Internal difference viewer" between ApexSQL Diff v2021.01 and v2018.02
- 224049: "Parse error: [Incorrect syntax near '{'] at [position: 17, line: 1, column: 18]" error is encountered when using AT TIME ZONE multiple times
- 213559: The script difference view does not show the right information for the table trigger

Known issues

- 219624: "The 'ApexSQLDiff_InstPackage' package did not load correctly" error is encountered when the Visual Studio 2019 16.7 version is started

Release:	2022.01.1167
Date:	March 21, 2022

Fixes:

- 211637: "Specified source control project path "\$/" does not exist" CLI message appears when trying to synchronize the database with an empty Git source control repository located on non-main TFS branch
- 211793: The Git repository hosted on Azure DevOps Services is empty when default branch name is customized during synchronization of a live database with Git repository through CLI
- 206641: The "Schema" column is not populated with related schemas when Left-aligned view is used in the main grid
- 169039: The location path of a created backup is missing in the CLI execution summary
- 213732: The error messages in the Result dialog are now red color-coded
- 178387: "Selected script folder does not have corresponding folder structure" error is encountered when an empty script folder is used as a destination for comparison
- 209257: "Object reference not set to an instance of an object" error is encountered when trying to synchronize database with empty Subversion source control repository using CLI
- 215974: Exported comparison HTML file for SSIS package is not interactively structured
- 209519: "Error occurred while creating objects from script file" error is encountered when comparing the source control repository which containing objects defined via "WITH RESULT SETS" command
- 181277: The "Identity" column is not recognized correctly when the column is created via the "IDENTITY NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY" statement
- 210397: Comparing the Script folder with the Backup file difference view indicate on NULL parameters although the columns in the Script folder do not have it

Changes

- [The activation model is switched to Subscription](#)
- Trust server certificate option is added under the "Connection options" dialog
- The application does not support integration into SQL Server Management Studio 2012, 2014, and 2016 versions
- The application does not support integration into Visual Studio 2010, 2012, 2013, and 2015 versions

Known limitations

- 219624 "The 'ApexSQLDiff_InstPackage' package did not load correctly" error is encountered when the Visual Studio 2019 16.7 version is started

Release: 2021.01.1089
Date: February 10, 2021

Enhancements:

- History retention period attribute support
- Check boxes are added for each object type group in the Results grid to check/uncheck all objects under object type groups
- Drop-down list with objects from loaded data sources is added for conditions used in the Filter editor dialog
- [New ApexSQL Updater allows users to configure advanced updating settings of all installed ApexSQL products](#)
- [Application telemetry now collects anonymous data on the use and performance of applications and application components](#)

Fixes:

- 152182: The application ignores schema mapping settings when database comparison is performed
- 157532: Generated synchronization script contains statements to rename constraints in destination when the Ignore constraint names option is selected and there are changes in default columns
- 167876: Synchronization fails when a SQL function with the schemabinding method has dependency with a table column
- 180426: The Script difference view panel is not showing the Create view statement on the destination side, while it is shown when the View DDL for destination object command from the right-click context menu in the main grid is clicked
- 186024: The Usage window from SQL Server Management Studio is shown when using the SQL Server Management Studio 18 editor in the Synchronization wizard instead of opening the created synchronization script
- 186025: The synchronization script is not opened when the SQL Server Management Studio 18 exe file location is set under the Output tab in the Options window as the external editor
- 187415: The script folder path is not recognized when manually entering the location for the Script folder data source
- 183529: The Script difference viewer panel is not refreshing objects in it when the second search is performed
- 179052: External script difference viewer opened from the right-click is showing different results from the Script difference view panel loaded in the main grid
- 178137: SQL Server version is not saved in the project file when using the Source control as a data source

- 171534: "Cannot connect to database 'DatabaseName' on server 'server.database.windows.net'. Login failed for user 'username'" error is encountered when comparing a snapshot and Azure SQL Database without permissions to access the master database
- 170334: "Make sure correct username and password are specified" message is shown when the Git source control password is changed in host and updated in application connection configuration
- 168614: "Unable to connect to SQL Server server.database.windows.net Invalid URL: The URL is empty" error is encountered when the Compare now button is clicked in the Project management window for previously saved project that contains the Active Directory – Universal with MFA support authentication
- 168436: The Compare button is not working in the Schema compare query window in Visual Studio after connecting to SQL Server using the Active Directory - Universal with MFA support authentication
- 166514: The Clear button does not remove a list of loaded database backups when the Backup is set as the data source in the New project window
- 166000: The application goes into not responding state when loading a database backup that has more than 2 GB in size
- 162437: Synchronization wizard is closed when the Cancel button is clicked in the Save executable installer dialog
- 162436: Synchronization wizard is closed when the Cancel button is clicked in the Save C# solution dialog
- 162431: "ApexSql.Common.ScriptMetadata.Internal.Enums.SqlTypes [dbo].[FK__TableName__parent_path_locator__1053C] ignored. Primary key of table TableName not found" error is encountered while comparing XML schema collections object type
- 161012: The application is not automatically closed during the update process
- 154744: "ApexSql.Common.ScriptMetadata.Internal.Enums.SqlTypes" error is encountered while comparing a script folder against an empty database
- 153935: "Object reference not set to an instance of an object" error is encountered when comparing a saved project file that contains a list of SSIS packages and those package files were removed from the original location
- 150524: The Ignore white space option under the Options tab in the New project window is not working when its checked and two databases are compared
- 148301: Wrong output name is shown in the Automation script window for HTML source and destination outputs when output type is changed from C# solution or Executable installer to HTML source or destination
- 148159: The Check/uncheck all check box does not change its state on a click when a column filter is entered in the Difference filter panel
- 117260: Table header is shown in the HTML report even for empty table (Elements) for the SSIS comparison

Changes

- [Error handling and send logs functionality has been modified](#)

Release: 2019.04.1014

Date: February 02, 2021

Fixes:

- 199131: The Script difference view panel is not showing the correct information for a SQL function on the destination side when the Ignore white space option is checked under the Options tab
- 199046: "Object reference not set to an instance of an object" error message is shown on SQL Server Management Studio startup after the add-in installation
- 191555: "Parse error: [Incorrect syntax near 'forcescan']" error is encountered when the With (forcescan) statement is used in a SQL procedure script while comparing a script folder with any other data source
- 187160: The check/uncheck all check box in the main grid shows incorrect status when only a couple objects are checked
- 188642: Brackets are shown as a difference in the Script difference view panel between compared two SQL triggers, even if the compared SQL triggers are the same on both sides
- 183732: Temporal table definition is altered in the destination database when indexes are synchronized

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