

FACT2

CoSort *FAst extraCT*

Product Summary

High-Speed DB Unloader

- Data Warehouse ETL
- Database Reorg
- Replication
- Migration



What Does FACT?

FAst extraCT (FACT) from IRI is the quickest way to:

- Perform bulk unloading for ETL and database reorganization
- Extract large tables for database migrations
- Produce portable flat files from a table for data replication
- Create metadata for CoSort data transformations and bulk load utilities

With FACT, you can rapidly unload table data with a command to execute a text or XML script:

```
fact ini_file
```

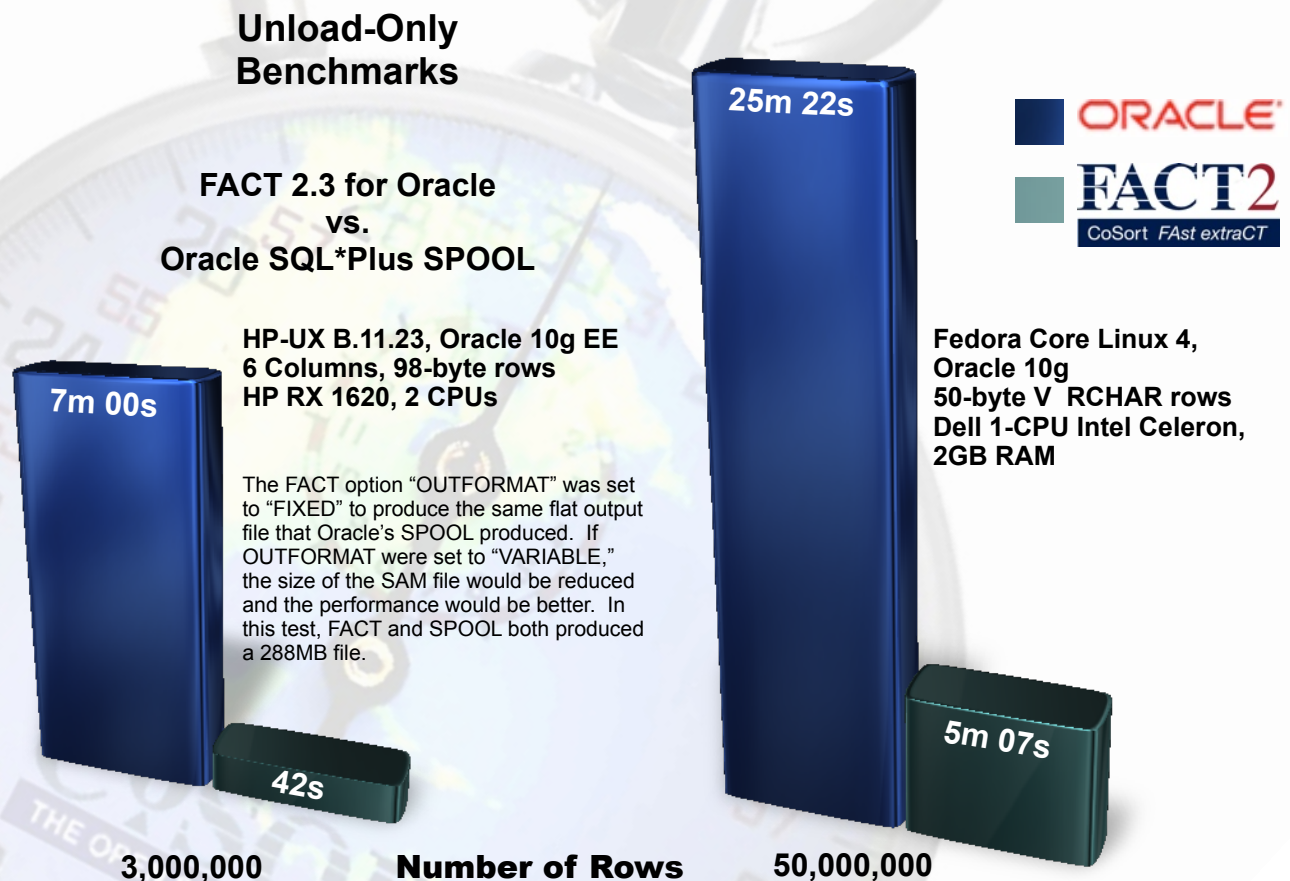
The script specifies the database instance, tables, and columns to be extracted, along with the target file format and destination. Each unload can be invoked from the command line, a batch script, or an application program.

What are the Advantages of FACT?

FACT allows DBAs and ETL users to unload tables with more speed or versatility than SQL*Plus, Oracle Export, and Data Pump.

For example, SQL is designed to access and manipulate small amounts of table data. It requires resource overhead that makes the movement of bulk data inefficient. Unlike the proprietary data format of a database export tool which requires its import utility to load the data back, FACT extracts are in a portable, flat-file format that is compatible with utilities like Excel, CoSort, FieldShield, NextForm, RowGen, and multiple database loaders.

Consider the Oracle-specific benchmark below:



Combined ETL and Database Reorg Processing

FACT optionally produces CoSort data definition files and the same database's loader control files with each extraction. Having the extracted data layouts readily available makes it easy for DBAs and ETL architects to construct downstream or simultaneous transformations and reloads.

By having repository metadata in CoSort syntax, file layouts can be referenced for various manipulation processes such as:

- Sorting
- Joining
- Aggregation
- Type-conversion
- Cross-calculation
- Reporting

Creating a simultaneous extract, transform, and load operation involves building the relevant specification files, and piping their invocations together. Specifically, the extract process is defined in a FACT .ini file. FACT unloads the table and creates the flat file's field layouts in CoSort syntax. This metadata can be referenced in a CoSort job specification file that defines one or more transformations, such as a sort reorg on the longest index key. FACT also creates control file metadata for bulk load utility operations. No other high-volume reorg or ETL solution approaches this level of speed, ease, versatility, or value.

By running the optimized extraction, transformation, and loading steps together, data warehouse ETL and database reorg operations can be improved dramatically. Consider the benchmark sample below:

Oracle-to-Oracle ETL Benchmark



What Are the Business Benefits of FACT?

- Increases data availability for business intelligence
- Helps businesses meet SLAs and other commitments
- Mitigates hardware and software upgrade expenditures
- Speeds data migrations for faster CRM, ERP, and SCM roll-outs
- Frees people and computing resources for higher-value operations, improving enterprise agility

Supported Databases

- Oracle® 7i and later
- IBM DB2® 9.1 and later
- Sybase® IQ, OCS 15 and later
- Sybase ASE®, OCS 15 and later
- Altibase 5.3.1 and later
- MS SQL Server® Server 2005 and later

Supported Data Types

- BLOB
- Char
- CLOB
- COBOL computational (packed decimal)
- Date and Timestamps
- Float
- Integer
- Long
- Nchar
- Number
- NVarchar
- Numeric
- Varchar/2

Supported Functions

- Extracts custom Date and Timestamp formats
- Reduces column widths to trim white space and reduce extraction time
- Converts numeric columns to Micro Focus signed computational, packed decimal, or Ryan McFarland packed decimal data types
- Adds frame character to fields
- Splits the extract into multiple files of a specified maximum size
- Uses environment variables to modify specifications

Compatible Products

- CoSort - Data Transformation & Reporting
- FieldShield - Audited Data-Centric Security
- MIMB - Meta Integration Model Bridge
- NextForm - File and Data Type Conversion
- RapidACE - 3D Data Model Integration
- RowGen - Referentially Correct Test Data

Supported Platforms

- IBM PowerPC® (OS - AIX 5.1 and later)
- HP PA-RISC (OS - 11.11 and later)
- HP Itanium (OS - 11.23 and later)
- Sun SPARC (OS - SunOS 5.9 and later)
- Sun x86 (OS - SunOS 5.9 and later)
- Linux (kernel 2.6 and later)
- MS Windows® (XP, 7, and Server 2003 and 2008)

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