splendiddata

Splendid Data white paper

Insights and overview on your Oracle® database environments

Migration Scoping highlights

This white paper is a working document that is subject to review and changes.
Version 1.0 February 2026

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Introduction

About Migration Scoping

Thousands of businesses across the globe are asking the same question: can we reduce Oracle's footprint in our IT environment? As experts in all things Oracle databases, open source PostgreSQL and migration of Oracle databases to PostgreSQL, we can assure you, yes, you definitely can. And even better, we've a really simple process in place to make the whole thing extremely straight-forward. Allow us to explain.

You might be thinking, well, that's easy for you to say, but does this apply to my extensive and seriously complex databases worth millions? And again, the answer is yes, it does apply to you. To give you total reassurance, we offer a Migration Scoping Service. This sophisticated piece of software can smartly analyse your Oracle databases in production to see if they are suitable to be migrated to PostgreSQL. It gives you a full picture and insight into the elements that will need to be taken into account during your migration to PostgreSQL. It also gives you an estimate of the time it will take per Oracle database to perform the migration to PostgreSQL.

The software was created by Splendid Data's engineers who have decades of experience with both Oracle databases and PostgreSQL and with migrating Oracle databases of all sizes to PostgreSQL. Their expertise in migrating Oracle databases to PostgreSQL based on our Cortex product is second to none.

The information we gather from Migration Scoping is incredibly valuable when it comes to the technical migratability of your database, and helps you in making project plans, both strategic and tactical, for your overall migration approach.

Some of our references that are convinced of what we promise and deliver

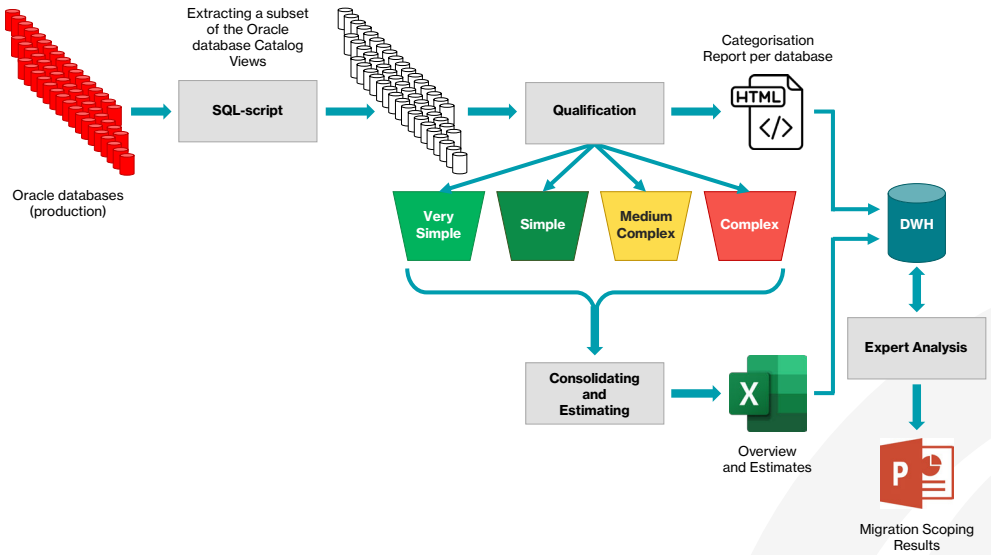
Understanding the full scope of your migration

Thousands of organisations are locked-in to a considerable Oracle commitment. Given the many developments in IT and the possibilities of the cloud, they're starting to wonder if they can reduce footprint of their Oracle databases.

As you will no doubt know, an Oracle database is a licensed product and the costs, due to the explosive growth of data, are getting higher and higher. At the same time, because of all the licensing restrictions, there isn't always an immediate response to new developments such as the use of the cloud. This slows progress and innovation within larger organisations. But there is an alternative. The large cloud providers now offer alternatives for your Oracle databases. PostgreSQL plays an important role in this, because there are many technical and functional similarities between an Oracle database and PostgreSQL – and because PostgreSQL is open source, there are no license restrictions. Let's just underline that, no license restrictions. This comes with significant financial savings.

Insights

Before you can start migrating your Oracle databases to PostgreSQL, you will first want to understand what the overall impact will be to your business, helping you with decision making and planning. This requires insight into the Oracle databases in your production environments in terms of migration complexity and an estimate of the time required per Oracle database to migrate to PostgreSQL.



Migrating Scoping – overall process

Our experience has shown that on average, 60% of the Oracle databases in production environments are very easy to migrate. This is what we call VERY SIMPLE and SIMPLE, and the results can be achieved quickly. The other 40% has a certain complexity that can impact the timescale of the migration.

Once we've gathered all the data from our Migration Scoping software, all the results become available in our data warehouse (DWH) to perform our expert analysis.

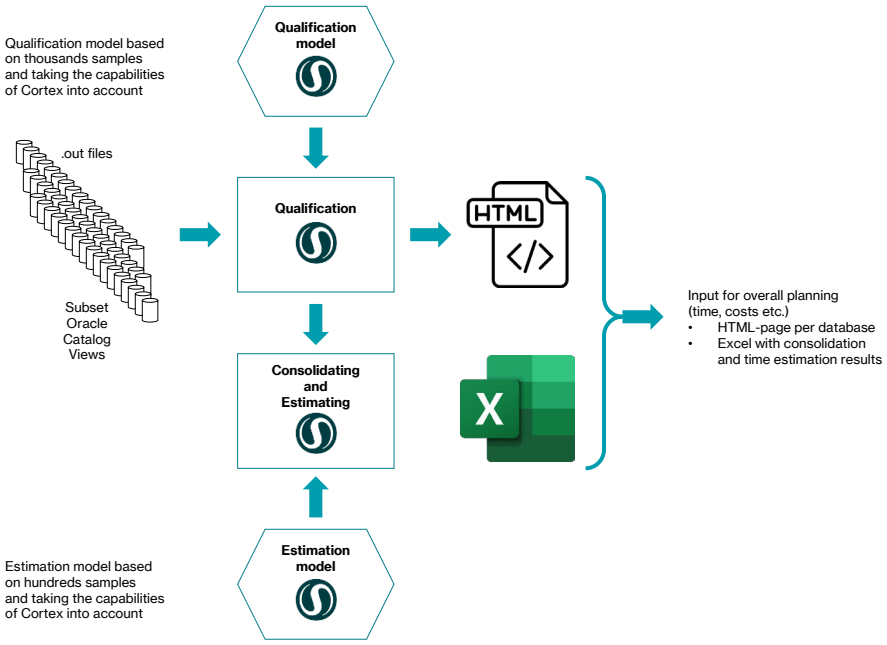
Finally, to give you an accurate insight into the complicating factors for each of your Oracle databases and an estimate of the time it will take to complete the migration. The data is displayed via an HTML page for each Oracle database, an easy to understand Excel spreadsheet and a presentation given by our experts to lead you through all data and to explain our findings. In short – you'll understand the full scope of the project.

Migration Scoping

How does it work?

To give our Migration Scoping software the information it needs, the first thing we need to do is extract a subset of the Catalog Views of the Oracle databases that we're looking to migrate to PostgreSQL. To make this happen we provide you with a SQL script which should be run against the relevant Oracle databases. If you're using Oracle Enterprise Manager, the script can be easily integrated and then started automatically using the correct parameters. And rest assured, we're fully transparent so you're able to review the SQL script and the output it produces.

As soon as the SQL script has done its job for each Oracle database, a file is created with the necessary meta data for the Migration Scoping software to do its work.

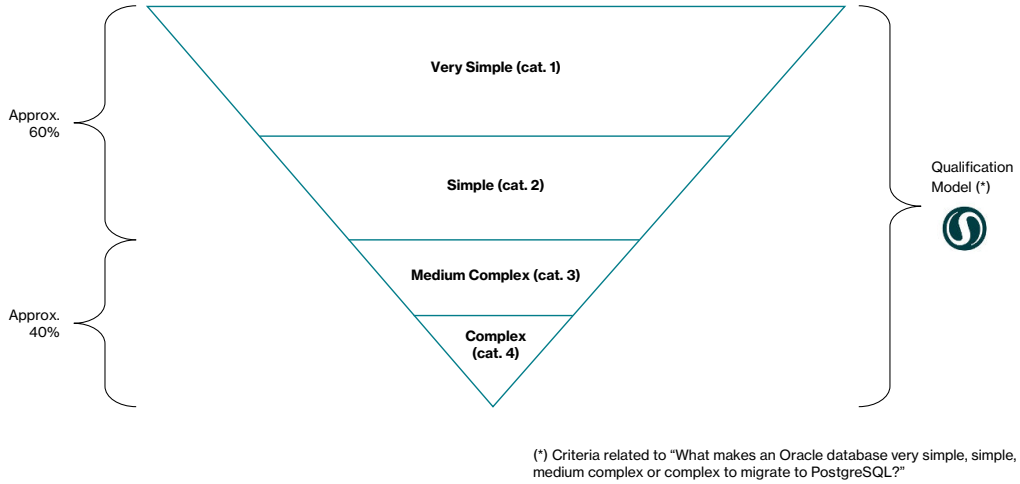


Migration Scoping – a little dive deeper

A deeper dive

Once we have the information we need from the meta data files, we can start our Migration Scoping software. The first step is to carry out a qualification phase that categorises the different Oracle databases according to our qualification model and produces an HTML results page for each Oracle database.

During the categorisation step, the software checks which specific parts of your database will need extra attention during migration. For example, we often see specific built-in elements that will need a custom PostgreSQL solution. But whatever it may be, we'll discuss the solutions before the actual migration from Oracle databases to PostgreSQL.



Qualification categories

Qualification categories

The next step is to estimate the time required for each Oracle database to migrate to PostgreSQL. We've developed an estimation model that uses the results of the qualification in combination with determinant quantities (such as the number of lines of code PL/ SQL etc.) to perform the estimation for each database. Once complete, a spreadsheet is produced with an overview of all the databases including the time estimates. A valuable tool when understanding the complexity of your migration.

Both the qualification model and the estimation model have a strong link with Cortex - our unique product to migrate Oracle databases to PostgreSQL. Thanks to the capabilities of Cortex, we are able to feed our models in such a way that even with limited data, it can draw important conclusions and provide the time estimates.

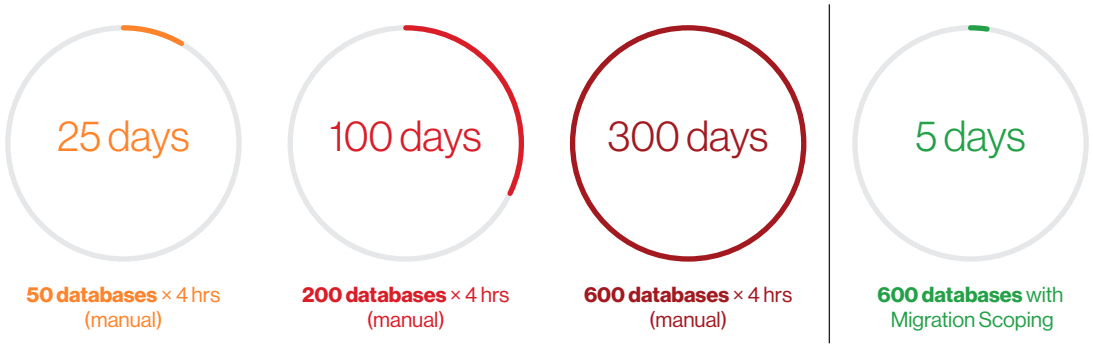
As a final step, before making all the results available to you, our experts carry out visual checks, based on all kinds of (cross) checks of all the data we've available in our DWH, on the findings that require extra attention and record this in your presentation.

Manual analysis and estimation doesn't scale

Scalability is the magic word these days. Scalability is needed to get something done in a short period of time regardless of the number of actions.

Imagine this. You want to understand the complexity of, say, the 600 Oracle databases in your production environment that might qualify to be migrated to PostgreSQL. First you need to define what the criteria are and then you need to determine this for each database. Not to mention when a criteria needs to be adjusted slightly, you can start all over again.

To do something like this manually takes a lot of time from your database experts. In addition, it must be ensured that each database is analysed according to the same criteria. Definitely a challenge with these quantities. Calculate an average of 4 hours per Oracle database to analyse it. For 600 databases, this means that it will take around 300 working days (expert time) to show any results. Who is going to make this investment?



Example manual analysis vs Migration Scoping

Our Migration Scoping Service solves this for you. We have the systems in place on our side to perform these analyses and time estimates for you in no time.

In about 5 working days we have all results available for 600 databases. All uniform, clear and assessed by our experts. The investment involved is many factors lower than doing it manually and gives the best and uniform results. There are actually no reasons not to make this investment.

Contact

Ready to get more insights and overview on your Oracle database environments?

Join names like CDC, Videotron and CNP and free your organisation from Oracle databases by migrating to PostgreSQL.

Please get in touch today to ask us to setup a meeting where we can explain all the benefits of our Migration Scoping Service in more detail.

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About Splendid Data

Splendid Data was founded in 2013 and since then our focus has been purely on PostgreSQL and to pass on its benefits to our clients and partners.

Our specialist team that has many years of in-depth knowledge of Oracle databases and PostgreSQL, enabling us to build **PostgresPURE** – our 100% open source subscription-based software that makes the most of PostgreSQL. At the same time, we developed **Cortex**, our unique solution for the automated migration of Oracle databases (DDL and DML) to native PostgreSQL. And to give organisations a full overview of their Oracle database environments and its suitability for migration, we created **Migration Scoping**, a clever piece of software that takes out all the guess work of a potential migration to PostgreSQL.

We're proud to assist companies of all shapes and sizes to find their way to digital liberty, agility and the power of PostgreSQL. Get in touch today to start your journey to a world without Oracle databases.

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