Oracle® Business Intelligence Cloud Service Data Sync

Read Me

Release 2.0

March 2016

This Read Me describes changes, updates, and installation instructions for Oracle Business Intelligence Cloud Data Sync Version 2.0, and contains the following sections:

IMPORTANT: Existing Data Sync users must upgrade to Data Sync V2.0

- Data Sync V2.0 provides the latest data loading platform for Oracle BI Cloud Service. If you are using Data Sync V1.2, then you must upgrade to Data Sync V2.0. If you don't upgrade, then an alert displays in the top right-hand corner of the Data Sync client, and existing jobs and scheduled jobs will cease to work.

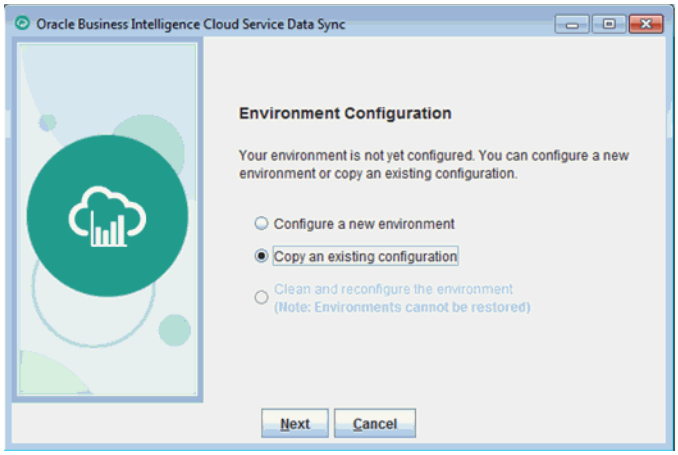
Installing Data Sync 2.0

Data Sync 2.0 is installed differently depending on whether you have an existing Data Sync installation.

Upgrading from an Existing Installation

1. Install the Data Sync into a new directory using the instructions in the section "Installing and Updating Data Sync" in *Oracle Cloud Preparing Data in Oracle Business Intelligence Cloud Service*.
2. Configure the Java SDK home in the config.bat or config.sh file.
3. If required, copy the jdbc libraries for your data source that you added to the Data Sync lib directory in the previous Data Sync installation to the new Data Sync lib directory.

   By default, Data Sync installs with the Oracle JDBC driver only. If you need to connect to a different database type (for example, Microsoft SQL Server, or DB2) or if you want to use a different Oracle driver from the default, then you must manually copy required files to lib directory.
4. When you start Data Sync for the first time, select **Copy existing configuration**, and specify the location of the previous installation of Data Sync. This process copies all of the repository contents from the previous installation. You will be asked to provide the password originally used for the previous installation.



You are advised to change the name of the repository to differentiate the old repository from the new V2.0 repository.

After Data Sync 2.0 is successfully installed and you are able to use the new environment, uninstall the old environment by deleting the old directory.

Note: Any repository exported from the previous Data Sync version cannot be imported into the newer version. Always use the **Copy an existing configuration** option to migrate existing projects and system configuration.

Performing a New Installation

Install Data Sync into a new directory using the instructions in the section Installing and Updating Data Sync in *Oracle Cloud Preparing Data in Oracle Business Intelligence Cloud Service*.

New Features in Data Sync 2.0

- The Oracle (BICS) connection type only loads data into Database Cloud Service Schema Service. To load data into Data Cloud Service Database as a Service (DBaaS), use the connection type Oracle (Thin). If you are currently using the Oracle (BICS) connection to load data into DBaaS, then this will not work after the upgrade. You must change the connection type to Oracle (Thin). This is because the REST API that Data Sync uses will always point to Schema As A Service provisioned with the Oracle BI Cloud Service instance after the Oracle BI Cloud Service upgrade. Therefore, if you were using Oracle (BICS) connection to load a DBaaS instance, then you should make Data Sync connect directly to that database.
- Oracle BI data sources. These sources can either be on-premises BI Sources or BI endpoints of Oracle Fusion OTBI. To access either of these, use the connection type Oracle BI Connector under the data sources. Use the **Pluggable Sources** view to define your dataflows. The **Data from Objects** tab enables you to choose a particular Subject Area Table that you would like to replicate. The **Manual Entry** tab enables you to define one of the following as a data source:
  - SQL – Use the logical SQL as the source. You provide for the initial SQL and incremental SQL (recommended). You can get the SQL from BI, from designing a new analysis, or by opening a report and using the advanced tab.
  - Report – Use the report path as the source. You provide for the absolute path to the report (you can obtain this path by decoding the URL used to open the report).

- Subject Area Table - You provide for the name of the Subject Area Table or Folder. You can specify an additional filter in the format of the BI Logical SQL.

- Upload data to a data set suitable for Visual Analyzer projects (Oracle BI Cloud Service or Data Visualization Cloud Service). Whenever you define a data flow, you change the target type to Data Set, which loads the data in data set format.
- During data loads, tables are automatically created or altered for direct connection targets (could be a DBaaS or on-premises database). This behavior is in contrast to previous releases where the tables were only created or altered automatically for 'Oracle (BICS)' type connections. If you do not want this behavior, then you can turn it off by editing the system property named Automatically Create/Alter Tables (View->System Properties) and set it to false. The default is true.
- Upload data from Excel spreadsheets and OTBI (Oracle Transactional Business Intelligence) data sources.
- Data Sync will create and alter target tables based on source definitions for DBaaS and other relational targets.
- You can import data from CSV files in a number of encoding formats or character sets, for example, ISO-8859-1, US-ASCII, UTF-8, and so on. You specify the encoding type using the **Codepage** option on the Import Options dialog. Existing file definitions default to UTF-8. For more information, refer to: https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/nio/charset/Charset.html.
- Data Loader is deprecated.

Known Issues

If you don't upgrade to Data Sync V2.0, your existing V1.2 connections will no longer work.

The Data Sync help does not describe several new features in Data Sync. Refer to the documentation on Oracle Help Center for information about Data Sync support for Microsoft Excel files, upload to data sets (for Visual Analyzer projects), and data load from subject areas and reports in OTBI.

Features Available in Previous Versions

This section contains information about previous versions of Data Sync.

What's New for Data Sync 1.2

The following is a list of the changes and updates for this release:

- The system columns added in Data Sync 1.1 have been optimized to use less space and perform better in the database.
- By default, the data cache for data model objects in BICS is deleted at the end of every completed job run. Set the Delete Data Cache property to false if you do not want the cache deleted. For the cache purge, you need to grant the BI Data Modeler role to the user who is registered to upload data.

What's New for Data Sync 1.1

The following is a list of the changes and updates for the 1.1 release:

- Data Sync automatically retries 10 times to successfully upload data in case of network errors. Three system columns for every target table are used to support this restart capability.

  When a failed job is restarted, for those tables where the load strategy is "Insert only" or "Append data", any partially loaded data since the last successful batch is cleaned up and new data is reloaded. This prevents duplicate data in the event of failure restarts.

- For file-based sources, any number that cannot be accommodated by a NUMBER datatype is created with BINARY_DOUBLE data type.
- Data Sync supports additional delimiters in comma-separated value file sources, including pipe, and custom single character delimiters.
- Data Sync supports table and column names with mixed cases and Oracle reserved words in their names.
