



Best Practices

Frequently Asked Questions from Problem Management Reports

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Introduction

This paper provides answers to the most common questions that DB2 customers have about the DB2 data server.

The questions and answers cover the following products:

- IBM DB2 Universal Database™ (UDB) for Linux, UNIX, and Windows, Version 8
- IBM DB2 UDB for Linux, UNIX, and Windows, Version 8.2
- IBM DB2 Version 9.1 for Linux, UNIX, and Windows (DB2 9)
- IBM DB2 Version 9.5 for Linux, UNIX, and Windows (DB2 9.5)

This paper is organized as follows:

- The first section of this paper answers questions that you might have when installing or upgrading the DB2 data server.
- The second section of this paper answers questions that you might have when running the backup or load utilities.
- The third section of this paper answers common operational questions.

This paper is intended for all customers.

For an online version of the frequently asked questions, see

http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=0&q1=DB2+UDB+V8%2c+V9.1+and+V9.5+for+Linux%2c+Unix+and+Windows+Frequently+Asked+Questions&uid=swg21298716&loc=en_US&cs=utf-8&cc=us&lang=en.

Installation and upgrade questions

Can I install different DB2 versions on one server?

Yes, you can.

On a Windows platform, if you are planning to use DB2 UDB Version 8, you must install it before installing DB2 UDB Version 8.2, DB2 9.1, or DB2 9.5. You must install the newer version in a different directory.

You can install a DB2 9.5 product before installing a DB2 9.1 product, but you must install it in a different directory.

Can I use my DB2 UDB Version 8.2 instance on DB2 9.5?

No, you cannot share instances across DB2 versions. You can upgrade DB2 UDB Version 8.2 to a later release but cannot share an instance between releases.

Where can I find DB2 fix packs and client code?

To start your search, go to

<http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=71&uid=swg27007053>. From this site, you can access other sites where you can download fix packs and client code for DB2 UDB Version 8, DB2 9.1, and DB2 9.5.

I recently applied a DB2 fix pack on my system. Now, I can't start the instance. What's the problem?

After installing a fix pack, you must update the instance (starting with DB2 9.5, this step is no longer required).

Run the following command:

```
db2iupdt instance_name
```

You can find all of the pre-installation and post-installation requirements in the readme.txt file. If the fix pack does not contain a readme.txt file, you can download the file from one of the sites mentioned in the "Where can I find DB2 fix packs and client code?" section by entering the number of the fix pack that you just installed.

Where can I find a list of APARs?

You can find all of the DB2 UDB Version 8 APARs in the following locations:

- ftp://ftp.software.ibm.com/ps/products/DB2/fixes/english-us/aparlist/DB2_v82/APARLIST.TXT

- <http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=71&uid=swg21255352>

You can find all of the DB2 9 APARs at <http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=71&uid=swg21255155>.

I recently installed the DB2 data server on the AIX® platform. Are there any known issues that I need to be aware of? Also, we are planning to upgrade our AIX installation. Does the DB2 data server support the new AIX version?

You can find information about the DB2 data server on the AIX platform at <http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=71&uid=swg21165448>.

On a Windows platform, I uninstalled DB2 UDB Version 8.2, and then installed DB2 9. When I try to restore a database from a backup, I get SQL1005N. Why?

The SQL1005N error occurs because the database alias already exists in either the local database directory or system database directory.

You can upgrade an instance from an earlier version to a later version instead of uninstalling the earlier version, installing the later version, and then trying to restore the databases that you used with the earlier version. For example, you can install DB2 9.1 on top of DB2 UDB Version 8.2 by selecting the Migrate option from the GUI installation launch pad.

If you have already uninstalled DB2 UDB Version 8.2 and installed DB2 9, try running the following command, which lists the contents of the system database directory:

```
DB2 LIST DB DIRECTORY
```

If no output is returned, run the following command, which lists the contents of the local database directory:

```
DB2 LIST DB DIRECTORY ON drivename/pathname
```

This command lists all of the databases present in the system before you uninstalled DB2 UDB Version 8.2.

Catalog the database again, and then run the MIGRATE DATABASE command. You should then be able to connect to the database and access the data.

For information about cataloging a database, see <http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/db2luw/v8/index.jsp?topic=/com.ibm.db2.udb.doc/start/t0005622.htm>.

For information about the MIGRATE DATABASE command, see <http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/db2luw/v9r5/topic/com.ibm.db2.luw.admin.cmd.doc/doc/r0001959.html>.

Uninstalling or dropping an instance does not drop a database and its directories.

I upgraded to the latest fix pack from an earlier fix pack. How do I go back to the earlier fix pack?

For DB2 UDB Version 8, use one of the following approaches:

- On the Solaris™ platform, use the tool called `/var/sadm/patch/backoutallpatch*` to back out a fix pack.
- On the HP platform, uninstall the PDB2* file sets that are part of the latest fix pack.
- On the Linux platform, apply the old fix pack over the new one.
- On the AIX platform, if you applied the fix pack without committing it (using the SMIT tool or installP), go back to the old fix pack.

For DB2 9 on all Linux and UNIX platforms, install the old fix pack over the new fix pack. Use the `installFixPack` tool, and be sure to indicate that you are going back to the earlier fix pack.

You cannot back out a fix pack on the Windows platform for either Version 8 or Version 9.

How do I verify which DB2 product I have? How do I find out which DB2 version I am running?

To verify which DB2 product you have if you are running on a Windows platform:

1. Open Start > Run, type `regedit`, and press Enter.
2. From the Windows registry, expand `HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE > Software > IBM > DB2`. Information about which DB2 products are installed is displayed.

To obtain information about a DB2 version, use the `db2level` command. On a Windows platform, run `db2level` from a DB2 command window. On a UNIX or Linux platform, run `db2level` from a UNIX or Linux prompt. The `db2level` output lists the DB2 fix pack that you are running and the DB2 bit level, indicates whether any special builds are being used, and provides other information that DB2 support might require.

Following is an example of Windows output:

```
C:>db2level
DB21085I Instance "DB2" uses "32" bits and DB2 code release
"SQL09013" with level identifier "01040107". Informational tokens
are "DB2 v9.1.300.257", "s070719", "WR21392", and Fix Pack "3".
Product is installed at "C:PROGRA~1IBMSQLLIB" with DB2 Copy Name
"DB2COPY1".
```

Following is an example of UNIX output:

```
$ db2level
DB21085I Instance "v8inst1" uses "64" bits and DB2 code release
"SQL09050" with level identifier "03010107". Informational tokens
are "DB2 v9.5.0.0", "s071001", "AIX6495", and Fix Pack "0".
Product is installed at "/view/DB2_v10_aix64_s071001/vbs/INST".
```

For DB2 9.1 or later, you can also use the db2ls command to obtain information about the DB2 version. For more information about the command, see <http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/db2luw/v9r5/topic/com.ibm.db2.luw.admin.cmd.doc/doc/r0023668.html>. The db2ls output resembles the following example:

```
[root@example mydb2]# db2ls -q -b /opt/mydb2 -a
Install Path: /opt/mydb2
Feature Response File ID          Level   Fix Pack  Feature
Description
-----
DB2_PRODUCT_MESSAGES_EN          9.1.0.0      0  Product
Messages - English
BASE_CLIENT                       9.1.0.0      0  Base
client support
JDK                               9.1.0.0      0  IBM
Software Development Kit (SDK) for Java(TM)
DB2_JAVA_HELP_EN                 9.1.0.0      0  Java
Help (HTML) - English
REPL_QSERVER                     9.1.0.0      0
Replication with MQ Server
BASE_DB2_SERVER                  9.1.0.0      0  Run-time
Environment
JAVA_SUPPORT                     9.1.0.0      0  Java
support
SQL_PROCEDURES                   9.1.0.0      0  SQL
procedures
ICU_SUP                          9.1.0.0      0  ICU
Utilities
REPL_SERVER                      9.1.0.0      0  SQL
Replication Support
JAVA_COMMON_FILES                9.1.0.0      0  Java
Common files
BASE_DB2_ENGINE                  9.1.0.0      0  Base
server support
DB2_CONTROL_CENTER_HELP_EN       9.1.0.0      0  Control
Center Help (HTML) - English
CONNECT_SUPPORT                  9.1.0.0      0  Connect
support
```

| | | | |
|---|---------|---|----------|
| CONFIGURATION_ASSISTANT | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | |
| Configuration Assistant | | | |
| SPATIAL_EXTENDER_CLIENT_SUPPORT | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | Spatial |
| Extender client | | | |
| APPLICATION_DEVELOPMENT_TOOLS | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | Base |
| application development tools | | | |
| ADMINISTRATION_SERVER | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | |
| Administration Server | | | |
| COMMUNICATION_SUPPORT_TCPIP | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | |
| Communication support - TCP/IP | | | |
| CONTROL_CENTER | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | Control |
| Center | | | |
| DATABASE_PARTITIONING_SUPPORT | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | Parallel |
| Extension | | | |
| REPL_CLIENT | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | |
| Replication tools | | | |
| RELATIONAL_WRAPPERS_COMMON | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | |
| Relational wrappers common | | | |
| DB2_DATA_SOURCE_SUPPORT | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | DB2 data |
| source support | | | |
| LDAP_EXPLOITATION | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | DB2 LDAP |
| support | | | |
| INSTANCE_SETUP_SUPPORT | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | DB2 |
| Instance Setup wizard | | | |
| XML_EXTENDER | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | XML |
| Extender | | | |
| FIRST_STEPS | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | First |
| Steps | | | |
| DB2_WEB_TOOLS | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | DB2 Web |
| Tools | | | |
| ESE_PRODUCT_SIGNATURE | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | Product |
| Signature for DB2 Enterprise Server Edition | | | |
| XML_EXTENDER_SAMPLES | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | XML |
| Extender samples | | | |
| DB2_SAMPLE_APPLICATIONS | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | ADT |
| sample programs | | | |
| DB2_SAMPLE_DATABASE | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | Sample |
| database source | | | |
| SPATIAL_EXTENDER_SAMPLES | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | Spatial |
| Extender samples | | | |
| INFORMIX_DATA_SOURCE_SUPPORT | 9.1.0.0 | 0 | Informix |
| data source support | | | |

How long are DB2 fix packs supported? Can I get a specific fix added to an old fix pack?

You can find the DB2 fix pack policy statement at

http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=71&context=SSEPGG&q1=special+builds&uid=swg21180416&loc=en_US&cs=utf-8&lang=en.

You can find the Information Management product life cycle dates at

<http://www.ibm.com/software/data/support/lifecycle/>.

My license for DB2 9 expired 90 days from the date of the product installation. Where can I find the license key?

If you bought the DB2 product on media, the license key is part of the installation image and is likely in the db2/license directory.

The license files shipped with the product CDs in DB2 9 are called base licenses. A base license does not confer any usage rights. Base licenses are shipped so that the DB2 product will start (though it starts with a warning message). DB2 9.1 and DB2 9.5 come with activation CDs that contain the real license certificates. There is one license certificate for every type of license policy (for example, CPU, authorized user, and developer). You must add these license certificates, which you can do as an instance owner by using either the License Center GUI tool or the following DB2 command:

```
db2licm -a license_certificate_file_name
```

An installation that is not yet licensed has a license type of Unlicensed base in the License Center and output from the db2licm -l command.

If you downloaded your product from the Passport Advantage site, the license is valid for 90 days after product installation and is shown as a "Try & Buy" license in the db2licm -l command output. To obtain a permanent license, download it from the Passport Advantage site. For DB2 9, you can find the part numbers for the license key at <http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=71&uid=swg21267176>.

If you downloaded your product from the PartnerWorld® site, contact PartnerWorld for the license key.

If you downloaded your product from the DB2 support site or from Fix Central (<http://www.ibm.com/support/fixcentral>) and do not have the media for the product, contact your IBM Sales representative for the license key.

What is the end of service date for DB2 UDB Version 8?

The IBM Software Support Lifecycle page at <http://www.ibm.com/software/support/lifecycle/> specifies the length of time that support will be available for IBM software.

Are there any general recommendations on AIX ulimit settings for the DB2 data server?

For a discussion about the user private memory data limit (ulimit) and recommended values for running the DB2 data server on AIX platforms, see http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=71&context=SSEPGG&q1=ulimit&uid=swg21175377&loc=en_US&cs=utf-8&lang=en.

Why do I receive a “License not found” exception when I try to connect from my Java application to a DB2 on z/OS® database using the Universal JCC driver?

To connect to a DB2 on z/OS database using the Type 4 JCC driver, you need a DB2jcc_license_cisuz.jar license. Make sure you have a licensed DB2 Connect™ product, and add the license file to your classpath. The file is typically in /SQLLIB/java/DB2jcc_license_cisuz.jar.

Are DB2 products supported on the Microsoft® Windows Vista® platform?

Support for the Windows Vista platform was introduced in DB2 9 Fix Pack 2. For more information, see

http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=71&context=SSEPGG&q1=windows+vista&uid=swg21249760&loc=en_US&cs=utf-8&lang=en.

Backup and load questions

I have an online backup that sometimes ends with SQL0911N, reason code 68. How can I prevent this?

Check whether you ran the online backup at the same time as other utilities such as LOAD, RUNSTATS, or REORG. An online backup is incompatible these and other utilities. For more information about which utilities an online backup is compatible with, see

http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=0&q1=utilities+compatible+with+online+backup+DB2&uid=swg21214717&loc=en_US&cs=utf-8&cc=us&lang=en.

Can I back up an SMS table space and restore it to a DMS table space, or vice versa?

No. You cannot restore an SMS table space backup image to a DMS table space or restore a DMS table space backup image to an SMS table space.

Can I restore a database backup image on a UNIX or Linux platform to a Windows platform, or vice versa?

No. Cross-platform backup and restore is not possible between UNIX and Windows platforms due to complications with the big-endian and little-endian byte orders. Cross-platform recovery is not possible between Linux and Windows platforms, either. Although both use little endian format, the paths in the various configuration files differ between the platforms.

You can, however, restore database images between UNIX-based platforms that have the same endianness.

Can I copy an instance (database directories and files) from one computer to another as a backup strategy?

Use the DB2 backup and restore utilities to back up and restore your databases. Moving DB2 file sets from one computer to another might corrupt your databases.

Can I restore a database from a backup image taken on a 32-bit system to a 64-bit system or vice versa?

You can restore a database from a backup image taken on a 32-bit system to a 64-bit system, but you cannot restore a database from a backup image taken on a 64-bit system to a 32-bit system.

Can I restore a backup image for a database to a different path?

Yes. You can perform what is called a redirected restore of the database. The following documents provide additional information:

- For general information about redirected restores, see <http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/db2luw/v9r5/topic/com.ibm.db2.luw.admin.ha.doc/doc/c0006249.html>.
- For information on redirected restore scripts for UNIX environments, see <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/db2/library/techarticle/0212mulligan/0212mulligan.html>.
- For information on how to clone DB2 databases using redirected restore, see <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/db2/library/techarticle/0211melnyk/0211melnyk.html>.

How can I load data into a table and have the table accessible after the load?

For information on how to load data into a table by using the LOAD command, see <http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/db2luw/v9r5/topic/com.ibm.db2.luw.admin.cmd.doc/doc/r0008305.html>.

So that you do not have to back up the table space after the load is completed, specify the NONRECOVERABLE, COPY YES TO device or COPY YES TO directory option.

After the load is completed, the table might be in the CHECK PENDING state, meaning that you must check the integrity. To do that, issue the following statement:

```
DB2 SET INTEGRITY FOR tablename IMMEDIATE CHECKED
```

Can I include logs while taking a backup? Also, if I have an online database backup image that includes logs, can I restore and apply only the logs in that backup image?

While taking a backup using the BACKUP DATABASE command, you can specify the INCLUDE LOGS option. When you specify this option, the BACKUP DATABASE command truncates the current active log file and copies the necessary set of log extents into the backup image. For more information, see

<http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/db2luw/v9r5/topic/com.ibm.db2.luw.admin.ha.doc/doc/c0011559.html>.

You must create an empty directory and extract the log to this directory during the restore. Then, issue the ROLLFORWARD DATABASE command, and specify the directory using the OVERFLOW LOG PATH option. Following is an example:

```
DB2 BACKUP DB test1 ONLINE INCLUDE LOGS

Backup successful.

The timestamp for this backup image is: 20080318084101

mkdir rest_logs

DB2 RESTORE DB test1 LOGTARGET /home/bkogan/rest_logs

SQL2539W Warning! Restoring to an existing database that is the
same as the backup image database. The database files will be
deleted. Do you want to continue ? (y/n) y DB20000I

The RESTORE DATABASE command completed successfully.

DB2 "ROLLFORWARDED DB test1 TO END OF LOGS AND STOP OVERFLOW LOG
PATH /home/bkogan/rest_logs) NORETRIEVE"

Rollforward Status
Input database alias = test1 Number of nodes have returned status
= 1

Node number = 0 Rollforward status = not pending Next log file to
be read = Log files processed = S0000018.LOG - S0000018.LOG Last
committed transaction = 2008-03-18-12.41.14.000000

DB20000I The ROLLFORWARD command completed successfully.
```

Miscellaneous questions

Can I change the code page of an existing database?

When you install the DB2 product, it automatically derives the code page value from the operating system. You cannot change a code page of a database after you create it.

If you need to change the code page for a database, first drop the database, and then use the CREATE DATABASE command with the USING CODESET parameter to specify the code page you want.

The DB2CODEPAGE registry variable specifies only the code page of the data presented to the DB2 data server for a database client application. Do not use this variable unless DB2 documentation or DB2 Service specifies that you do so. Setting DB2CODEPAGE to a value not supported by the operating system might produce unexpected results.

How does the database manager calculate the CPU speed of the system (the value of the CPUSPEED database manager configuration parameter)?

When creating an instance, the DB2 database manager runs a small calibration test multiple times to assess the CPU speed. The database manager uses the average time from these tests to calculate the CPU speed, and then assigns the CPUSPEED value. The tests are run within a quantum of time that the operating system scheduler provides to ensure that the tests are valid; regardless of how busy the system is when they run.

You can explicitly set the CPUSPEED value, or you can have the database manager recalculate it by setting the CPUSPEED to -1.

If I drop an instance, do I lose my database and its data?

Dropping an instance does not drop databases, nor do you lose data. You can drop an instance, re-create it, and then catalog the databases to make them available. In situations such as this, you can use the db2cfexp and db2cfimp commands to export and import instance profiles.

I have a table in table space A and its index in table space B. Can I drop one of the table spaces and then rebuild it?

No. You cannot drop a table space without dropping all tables that are associated with it. You must drop the table and the index table spaces by using one DROP statement.

I added a database partition to a database partition group. Can I redistribute only one table in the database partition group?

No, you cannot.

The REDISTRIBUTE DATABASE PARTITION GROUP command redistributes data across all database partitions in a database partition group. The redistribution is done on all tables in the database partition group.

Is DB2 striping or disk striping preferred?

Use DB2 striping, where data is written to multiple containers in a round-robin fashion.

If you want to use disk striping with DB2 striping, match the extent size of the table space to the stripe size of the disk (for example, RAID arrays).

Is there a command that I can use to calculate the size of my database?

From the command line, connect to your database, and issue the following command:

```
db2 "call get_dbsize_info(?,?,?,0)"
```

The output from the command will resemble the following example:

```
Value of output parameters
-----
Parameter Name  : SNAPSHOTTIMESTAMP
Parameter Value : 2008-03-18-17.15.17.919242

Parameter Name  : DATABASESIZE
Parameter Value : 23130112

Parameter Name  : DATABASECAPACITY
Parameter Value : 16075184640

Return Status = 0
```

Does the DB2 data server provide functionality similar to that of the Oracle® truncate command?

Yes.

Issuing a DELETE statement against a table deletes one row at a time and can result in considerable logging. To avoid the logging, you can issue the following statement:

```
IMPORT FROM /dev/null ... REPLACE INTO
```

This statement truncates the table without performing logging. This behavior is similar to the Oracle truncate functionality. You can also adapt a sample truncate script, called truncate.db2, to truncate a table. You can view the script at http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/db2luw/v9/index.jsp?topic=/com.ibm.db2.udb.apdv.sample.doc/doc/admin_scripts/s-truncate-db2.htm.

Which .NET Framework versions do I need for DB2 .Net Data Provider?

For the DB2 UDB Version 8 DB2 .Net Data Provider, you need the 1.0 or 1.1 .NET Framework.

For the DB2 9 DB2.Net Data Provider or IBM Data Server Provider for .NET, you need the 1.1 or 2.0 .NET Framework.

I receive a TCP/IP communication error (SQL30081) when I try to connect from my client. Why?

You can find more information about the error and, depending on the reason code, the possible solution at

http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=71&context=SSEPGG&dc=DB520&dc=D600&dc=DB530&dc=D700&dc=DB500&dc=DB540&dc=DB510&dc=DB550&q1=sql30081n&uid=swg21164785&loc=en_US&cs=utf-8&lang=en.

Why don't I see the Development Center in DB2 9?

The Development Center was replaced by the DB2 Developer Workbench in DB2 9. In DB2 9.5, the DB2 Developer Workbench was enhanced and renamed to the IBM Data Studio. You can download trial versions from

<http://www14.software.ibm.com/webapp/download/search.jsp?go=y&rs=swg-ids>.

Why, after installing DB2 9, can't I find DB2 data sources when trying to add a new data connection in Visual Studio 2005?

It might be that you do not have IBM Database Add-ins for Microsoft Visual Studio 2005 installed. You can install the add-ins from the VSAI subdirectory of the DB2 product installation image by using issetup.exe or .msi (db2_v9_ese_win_32imageVSAI).

Can I retrieve the current time and date by using a DB2 command?

Yes. There are three commands that you can run from a DB2 command-line window:

For the current time, run the following command:

```
$ db2 values current time
```

The format of the output is as follows:

```
1
-----
14:52:46

  1 record(s) selected.
```

For the current date, run the following command:

```
$ db2 values current date
```

The format of the output is as follows:

```
1
-----
04/10/2008

  1 record(s) selected.
```

For the current timestamp, run the following command:

```
$ db2 values current timestamp
```

The format of the output is as follows:

```
1
-----
2008-04-10-14.53.02.562000

  1 record(s) selected.
```

Further reading

- DB2 Best Practices <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/db2/bestpractices/>
- DB2 9 for Linux, UNIX and Windows documentation
<http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=71&uid=swg27009552>
- IBM Data Warehousing and Business Intelligence
<http://www.ibm.com/software/data/db2bi/>
- DB2 Data Warehouse Edition documentation
<http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/db2luw/v9/index.jsp?topic=/com.ibm.dwe.welcome.doc/dwe91docs.html>

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