SIGMOID

How is ELT different from ETL?

ETL

APIs → Applications → Databases → Files → CRM/ERP → **Extract** → **Transform** (Staging Area) → **Load** → Cloud Data Warehouse → **Analyze** → Analytics → Visualization

vs

ELT

APIs → Applications → Databases → Files → CRM/ERP → **Extract** → **Load** → **Transform** (Cloud Data Warehouse) → **Analyze** → Analytics → Visualization

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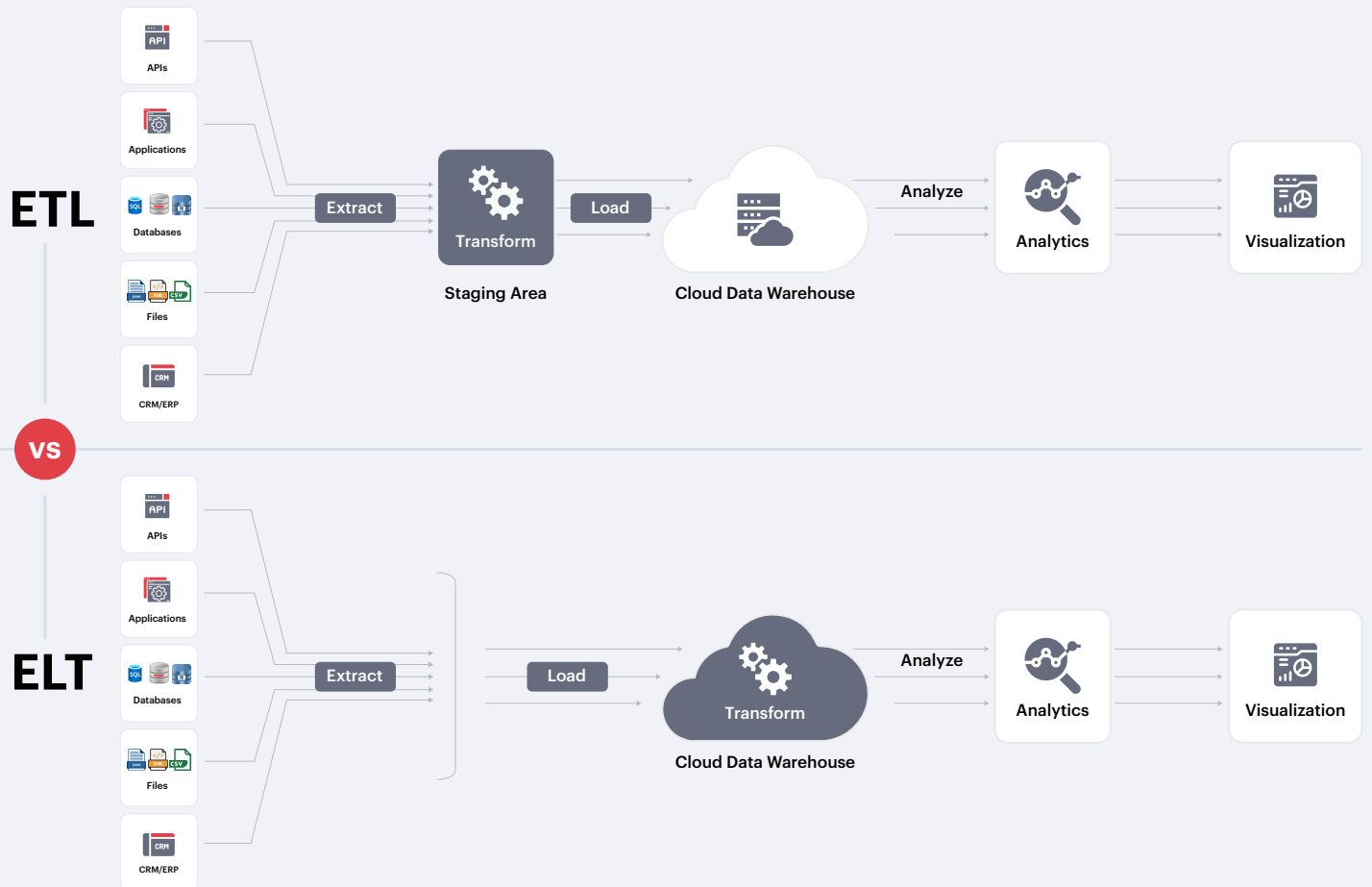
ETL
Extract, Transform, Load

VS

ELT
Extract, Load, Transform

Order of the process
ETL: Before being loaded into the target device, the data is transformed at the staging area.

ELT: Data is extracted and loaded directly into the target. Transformation is handled in the target area.

Privacy Compliance
ETL: Prior to loading into the target device, sensitive data can be redacted.

ELT: Data is uploaded in its raw form, with no confidential information removed.

Latency
ETL: Transformations have a higher latency, which can be reduced with streaming ETL.

ELT: In cases where there are little or no transformations, the latency is reduced.

Data Flexibility
ETL: To optimize uptime, custom rules and logic can be used to manage edge cases.

ELT: Edge case solutions that are generic will result in downtime or increased latency.

Scale of Data
ETL: Can be constrained by ETL if it is not a scalable, distributed processing platform.

ELT: As less processing occurs in the ELT tool, it is essentially more scalable.

What works best for you?

Every organization will have to consider what is unique to its operations while planning for a data warehousing technology. Using a framework that supports current ETL and ELT frameworks will make the implementation as flexible as possible. The best way to get started with a low friction, automatic data integration approach can be found in ELT. However, this same process may require ETL in the future if it is found that some new transformations are needed for new use cases.

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