

Reasons to Migrate from ProClarity to Pyramid Analytics

ProClarity was a fabulous tool when Analysis Services first came out in 2000. It made navigation of large data much easier for the average end user. However, Microsoft stopped development in 2006 and has gone in a different direction. Below are some reasons as to why companies should migrate from ProClarity to Pyramid Analytics.

No Support - ProClarity is in the final days of secondary Microsoft support. This means long delays in patching of items (if at all) that break and little technical expertise with product questions. All enhancements to the product stopped years ago, with no roadmap. The ProClarity software will end of life in 2017.

Not compatible with your infrastructure upgrades - ProClarity is not being optimized for newer versions of Analysis Services, operating systems, browsers, or hardware. This means queries will be slower, new enhancements will not be supported (such as block computations), and only 32-bit servers are available. If you decided to upgrade to the latest browsers, expect there to be issues as no testing is being done. In short – it will not work as you upgrade your organization's environment.

Built for the now – Pyramid Analytics was designed with a 64-bit, web based architecture in mind. ProClarity was designed in the late 1990's and is not built for the needs of today's large organizations (with development stopping in 2006). Pyramid Analytics has a well thought out administrative experience that makes management of the solution robust yet simple. Pyramid Analytics also takes advantage of the latest enhancements in Analysis services regarding data queries and performance.

Superior storyboarding– Pyramid Analytics is based on familiar design. If you are familiar with PowerPoint, you can easily design storyboards. You make your views dynamic by having them interact with one another with just a few clicks. Pyramid Analytics also can easily integrate with Reporting Services views.

Mobility – Pyramid Analytics has an incredibly robust mobile solution that uses content created in Pyramid and allows for dynamic consumption of content via iOS and Android. A publish once, use anywhere design.

Advanced Features – Pyramid Analytics brings advanced features that make even the most complex business problems easy to manage. R-integration (Forecasting, Clustering, Predictive), Parameters, Cascading filters, Variables, Time Intelligence, and advanced nested filtering are all high demand capabilities to augment your views.

Pulling data from non-cube sources – Pyramid Analytics allows you to create tabular models from a number of other data sources (SQL, Excel, Oracle, Azure, Cloud data sources, and existing Pyramid Analytics views) all by the end user. ProClarity was exclusively focused on Microsoft cubes and had no data modeler option.

Narrative reporting – Pyramid Analytics offers an incredible narrative reporting application with Publisher. This is a true and complete answer to lingering enterprise issues of how to provide create once, reuse, and push to many questions organizations deal with. It uses the same content created by an analyst while allowing users to incorporate organizational IP.

Visualizations – Pyramid Analytics provides several visual charts and grids with displays that can be extensively formatted such as geospatial views, Sunbursts, Word Clouds, Waterfalls, Stock, and Candlestick views.

Functionality: Pyramid Analytics vs. ProClarity

	Pyramid	ProClarity Pro	ProClarity Standard
Interface			
End-user web interface	✓	X	✓
Install size	0 Mb	140 Mb	0 Mb
Secure, web-based access	✓	✓	✓
Customizable Workspace with dockable windows	✓	X	X
Non-technical design interface	✓	✓	✓
Architecture			
Multi-tier, distributable and separable processing engines	✓	X	X
Fail-over, load balancing	✓	X	X
Cloud Friendly	✓	X	X
Web based administrative console	✓	X	X
Designed for 64-bit	✓	X	X
Mobile solution	✓	X	X
Publishing			
Theme Formatting	✓	X	X
Personal reports	✓	✓	✓
Publish to user community	✓	✓	X
Publish to workgroups	✓	X	X
High Quality printing to PDF or XPS with advanced settings	✓	✓	X
Static Export to Excel	✓	✓	◆
Dynamic Export to Word, PowerPoint	✓	X	X
Email	✓	✓	✓
Navigation & Querying			
Real-time query execution	✓	✓	✓
Drill down and Drill up	✓	✓	✓
Slicing and Dicing	✓	✓	✓
Expand / Collapse	✓	✓	✓
Row Filtering, Sorting	✓	✓	✓

Column Filtering, Sorting	✓	✗	✗
Full Dimension and hierarchy Access	✓	✓	✓
Direct Hierarchy Element Access	✓	✓	✗
Create custom measures & sets	✓	✓	✗
SSAS Actions: URL, Reporting Services	✓	✓	✓
SSAS Actions: Row Sets	✓	✗	✗
SSAS Drill to Detail (Drill-through)	✓	✓	✓
Multi-faceted Parameterization	✓	✗	✗
Advanced Slicers and Filters	✓	✓	✗
Syntax editor	✓	✓	✗
Drag and Drop	✓	✓	✗
Full dimensional search	✓	✓	✗
Alternative dimension captions	✓	✓	✗
Drillable GIS Mapping views	✓	✗	✗

Analytic Components			
Interactive Grids and Charts	✓	✓	✓
Animated Charts and KPIs	✓	✗	✗
Multiple table output options	✓	✗	✗
Intelligent formatting of multi-tier tables	✓	✗	✗
Slicers	✓	✓	✓
Flexible Layout	✓	✗	✗
Multi-Charting	✓	✗	✗
Perspective (Scatter) Charts	✓	✓	✗
Combo charts	✓	✓	✗
Decomposition Tree View	✗	✓	◆
Sunburst, Word Cloud, Circle Packing	✓	✗	✗

Administrative Functions			
Theme Designer	✓	✗	✗
User Dashboard and Statistics	✓	✗	✗
Query size controls and processing limits	✓	✗	✗
Private branding options	✓	✗	✗
Content and Custom Element Management	✓	◆	◆
Extended Security Profiles	✓	◆	◆
Full Transaction Logging	✓	✗	✗
Audit Logging	✓	✗	✗

Data Modeling			
Create Tabular Model from non-OLAP data	✓	X	X
Create new hierarchies as a user	✓	X	X
Analytics and reports from tabular model	✓	X	X
Administrative Control	✓	X	X