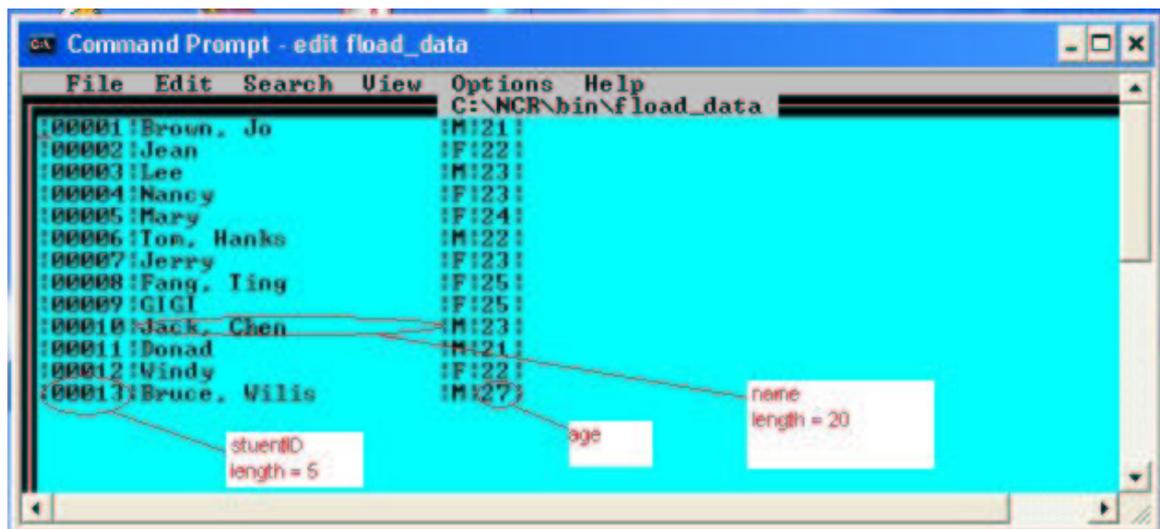


## Introduction to FastLoad

FastLoad can quickly load large amounts of data from some external data source into an empty table on the Teradata RDBMS. The sources may be a file on your client system or an OUTMOD routine you write. It processes a series of FastLoad commands and Teradata SQL statements you enter. The FastLoad commands provide the session control and data handling specifications for the data load operations. The Teradata SQL statements perform the actual data load functions on the Teradata RDBMS tables and views. FastLoad can work on Unix, Windows 95/2000/NT/XP where client systems are connected to Teradata RDBMS through network. It also runs in two modes : Interactive and Batch.

The following example shows an unformatted data source file created by MS DOS command `edit`.



Although the field age should be an integer data type, we just write it as ASCII string. The FastLoad will convert it to appropriate data type according to the definition of the destination table. The FastLoad can convert data as the following rules

- o Numeric – to – numeric
- o Character – to – numeric
- o Character – to – date
- o Date – to – character

## Using FastLoad

In interactive mode, FastLoad use terminal screen and keyboard as the standard output and input streams. In batch mode, you can use > and < redirect the standard output / input streams. If you want to invoke FastLoad in interactive mode, use command :

```
c:\ncr\bin\fastload
```

You can invoke it in batch mode by using command

```
c:\ncr\bin\fastload [options] < infile > outfile
```

Here, infile is a FastLoad job script file which includes all FastLoad commands and SQL statements. The outfile is the output stream file.

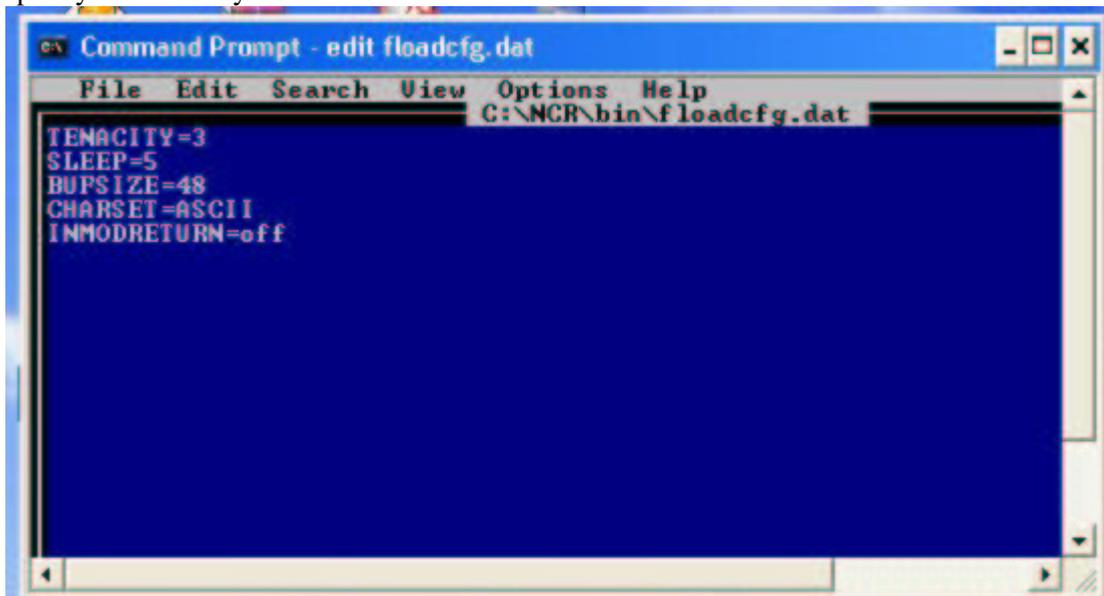
```
-b kilobytes          /* FastLoad packs the data read from
                       extern source into a message and send
                       it to RDBMS. This option specifies the
                       size of the buffer for such as message
                       */

-c charset_name       /* the name can be ASCII ( 255 ) and
-c charset_code       KANJISJIS_0S ( 119 ) */

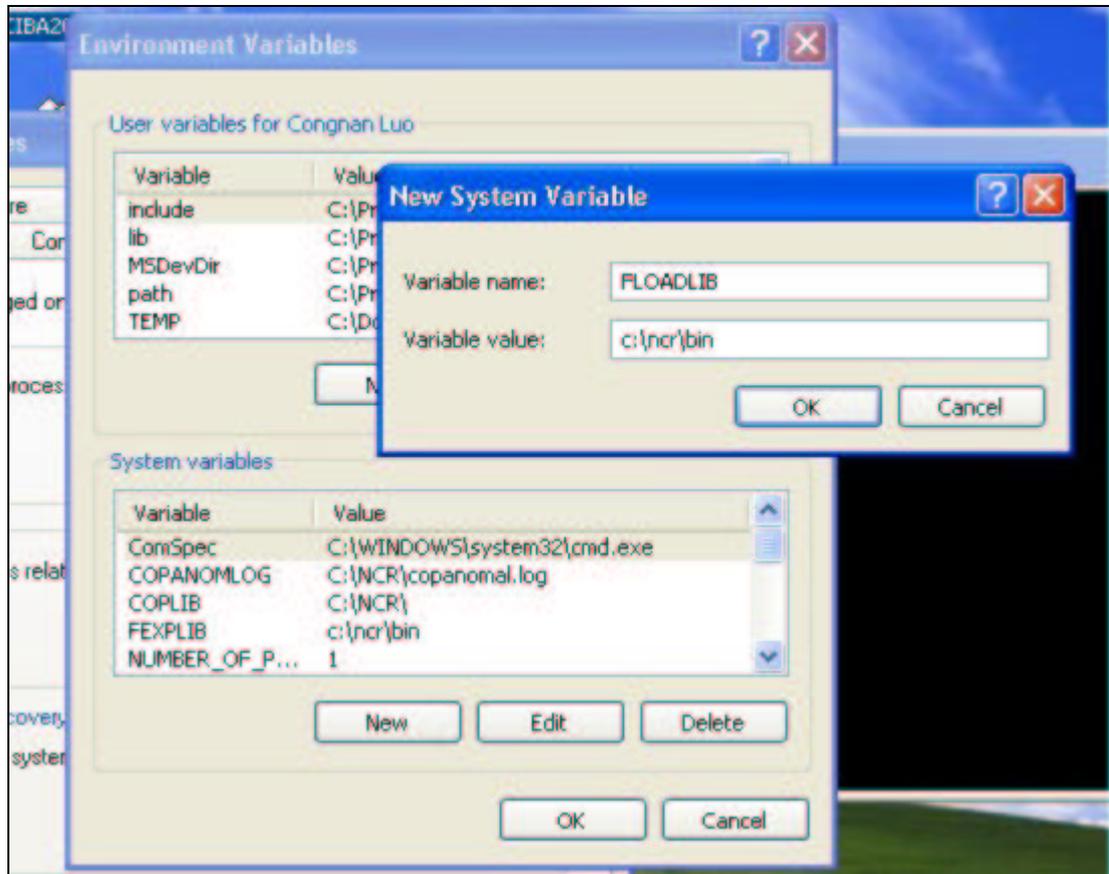
-e filename           /* specifies a file into which FastLoad
                       write error */

-s                   /* SLEEP parameter */
-t                   /* TENACITY parameter */
```

FastLoad will check whether you specify the above options with **fastload** command. If not, it checks whether some option parameters are specified in job scripts or FastLoad configuration file. If not, it will use the default setting. So you can write a configuration file to specify these options, the name of the file must be **loadcfg.dat** and it must be placed under the current directory for your FastLoad utility software. Or you need to use an environment variable **FLOADLIB** to specify the directory.



```
Command Prompt - edit loadcfg.dat
File Edit Search View Options Help
C:\NCR\bin\fastload\loadcfg.dat
TENACITY=3
SLEEP=5
BUFSIZE=48
CHARSET=ASCII
INMODRETURN=off
```



In network-attached environment, if you want to terminate the FastLoad, please execute LOGOFF/QUIT command and press CTRL+C. When your FastLoad job is aborted because of some errors, maybe the destination table and two error tables are already created in your database. If you want to re-execute the FastLoad job, you must drop them first. If your FastLoad job is finished successfully, then FastLoad will drop two error tables automatically, you don't need to take care of them.

## FastLoad Example

In this example, we will load the data from the file, **fload\_data**, into the table, **students**, in the database **student\_info** whose owner is user **john**. We need to edit the FastLoad job script file, **fload\_script**, which is under the directory where FastLoad works on.

```
Command Prompt - edit fload_script
File Edit Search View Options Help
C:\NCR\bin\fload_script

SHOW VERSION;
SESSIONS (2);
ERRLIMIT 25;
LOGON teradata/john, johnpass;
DATABASE (student_info);
CREATE TABLE students (
  studentID char(5) NOT NULL,
  name char(20) NOT NULL,
  sex char(1) UPPERCASE NOT NULL,
  age integer CHECK ( age >= 5 AND age <= 100 )
);
SET RECORD unformatted;
DEFINE
  delimiter0(char(1)),
  studentID(char(5)),
  delimiter1(char(1)),
  name(char(20)),
  delimiter2(char(1)),
  sex(char(1)),
  delimiter3(char(1)),
  age(char(2)),
  delimiter4(char(1)),
  newlinechar(char(2))
  FILE = fload_data;
SHOW;
BEGIN LOADING students ERRORFILES (err_1, err_2);
INSERT INTO students ( :studentID, :name, :sex, :age );
END LOADING;
LOGOFF;
```

Before executing this FastLoad job, we need to drop the table `students` in database `student_info`. Then we invoke FastLoad utility to finish this job.

```
Command Prompt
04/14/2000 11:47 AM 2,054 TPgui.cnt
03/07/2001 05:09 PM 307,200 tpgui.exe
04/14/2000 11:51 AM 66,695 TPgui_enu.hlp
06/04/2001 05:46 PM 405,504 tpump.exe
38 File(s) 2,918,969 bytes
2 Dir(s) 29,971,099,648 bytes free

C:\NCR\bin>fastload < fload_script
=====
FASTLOAD UTILITY VERSION 07.04.00
=====

**** 14:44:33 Processing starting at: Wed Mar 20 14:44:33 2002
**** 14:44:33 Character set has been set to: ASCII
**** 14:44:33 Tenacity Enabled: 3 hour(s)
**** 14:44:33 Sleep Minutes Set: 5 minute(s)
**** 14:44:33 Buffer size has been set to 48 KBytes

0001 SHOW VERSION;
FastLoad Version 07.04.00 for Win 32 running Windows Sockets
FastLoad : 07.04.00.03
FastCmds : 07.04.00.06
FastIO : 07.04.00.01
```

We can logon Teradata RDBMS through BTEQ to check the result.

```
C:\NCR\bin>bteq
Teradata BTEQ 06.00.00.00 for WIN32. Enter your logon or BTEQ command:
.logon teradata/john
.logon teradata/john
Password:
*** Logon successfully completed.
*** Transaction Semantics are BTET.
*** Character Set Name is 'ASCII'.
*** Total elapsed time was 2 seconds.
BTEQ -- Enter your DBC/SQL request or BTEQ command:
DATABASE student_info;
DATABASE student_info;
*** New default database accepted.
*** Total elapsed time was 1 second.
BTEQ -- Enter your DBC/SQL request or BTEQ command:
SELECT * FROM students;
SELECT * FROM students;
*** Query completed. 13 rows found. 4 columns returned.
*** Total elapsed time was 1 second.
studentID  name                sex  age
-----
00009     GIGI                 F    25
00007     Jerry                F    23
00005     Mary                 F    24
00013     Bruce, Willis       M    27
00002     Jean                 F    22
00003     Lee                  M    23
00011     Donad                M    21
00012     Windy                F    22
00001     Brown, Jo           M    21
00006     Tom, Hanks           M    22
00010     Jack, Chen           M    23
00008     Fang, Ting           F    25
00004     Nancy                F    23
BTEQ -- Enter your DBC/SQL request or BTEQ command:
.exit
```