FAQ – Why Gekkobrain for SAP HANA®

Question	Answer
What is Gekkobrain for SAP HANA?	It analyzes and fixes your ABAP custom code, so it is HANA ready
When is the right time to start with Gekkobrain in our journey to HANA?	It was yesterday. Gekkobrain assessment is among the first things you should do even when you are at very high-level/pre-budget planning stage. The start of the migration project may still be 3-6 months away. The advantage of using Gekkobrain early on is multi-fold. • Custom code remediation is a very big chunk of the total migration effort. The sooner you know the better you plan for it. Gekkobrain precisely tells you the effort required and what it can automatically fix for you. • Your developers can use Gekkobrain to make sure any new code being developed or any code that is updated is HANA ready. Hence it helps you stop bleeding and save redundant effort. Most HANA issues also revolve around performance, which means that fixing performance issues raised by Gekkobrain on Any DB will improve SAP performance today and once you have migrated to HANA.
Do we need to install anything on-premise?	It is a cloud hosted software. Customer needs to install a small ABAP code snippet in the DEV system in their SAP landscape to make it work
How does it work?	Gekkobrain code snippet reads output of standard SAP code inspector and sends it to the cloud platform. SQLM and/or UPL/SCMON data can be uploaded to the platform to take usage and database load into consideration.
Why should we use Gekkobrain if it uses SAP tools as input? Can't we get the same result using the tools by ourselves?	Gekkobrain filters, analyzes and orders the findings to highlight only the relevant issues with impact. It also automatically fixes HANA compliance issues. Each SAP tool gives you different information but they remain not-connected. It is virtually impossible for a customer to collate all information from the different tools and create a complete picture.
How many HANA readiness code correction issues you have found in a typical SAP install?	A typical SAP install has about 30,000 issues to correct in their custom ABAP code.
How much manual effort does it take to fix all such issues?	On average, it takes half an hour to fix one issue. So, 30,000 issues require 15,000 hours of manual effort.
How much of code can be fixed automatically by Gekkobrain?	About 99% of all priority 1 issues and 80-90% of relevant priority 2 issues are fixed automatically.
Have you been consistent across all your customers in your ability to reduce effort by 80 to 90% over the estimates given by other consulting firms?	Yes. We have observed that we are able to first reduce the number of issues that need to be fixed and then be able to fix 80-90% of issues automatically across over customers. A typical SCI scan for HANA compliance is more theoretical. It lists out all issues and it tries to error on the side caution. It does not take into account information such as how many objects are actually in use, and how many of the ones in use are having response time issues that you need to fix. Gekkobrain not only takes the output of the SCI but on top of that coupled with its own algorithm it applies the data from UPL, and SQLM to filter out issues that do not need fixing. Hence, Gekkobrain has consistently been able to greatly reduce the number of issues that required fixes

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Why does Gekkobrain use UPL data for custom code remediation?	The UPL data tells you what objects are not being used in production. You can use this information to decommission the unused code and hence save on the code remediation and maintenance effort.
We are more than six months away from starting our HANA migration project. How does Gekkobrain help us now?	Your developers can use Gekkobrain to make sure any new code being developed or any code that is updated is HANA ready. Hence it helps you stop bleeding. Most HANA issues also revolve around performance, which means that fixing performance issues on Any DB will improve SAP performance today.
How often do we have to run the SCI code extractor in our SAP system?	Gekkobrain's SCI extractor tool runs nightly to ensure new code is analyzed and fixed code is marked as completed, if correctly fixed.
We have thousands of custom ABAP programs. Does Gekkobrain help us track the progress of our HANA adaptation project?	Gekkobrain has a built in Project management tool that lets you manage your HANA adaptation project.
How does the automation of code remediation work?	A Remote Object Set is uploaded to Gekkobrain via a secure connection. Gekkobrain filters away unused code and fixes the remaining, which is returned to customer as transports.
How long does it take to get going with the tool?	You can install the code snippet in less than two hours. It will take about a day to generate the issues list.
I want to engage Gekkobrain for HANA readiness. How does your typical engagement work?	Typically, the first step is to get the HANA readiness assessment of your custom code done by paying a small fee. Once you understand the number of issues and the quantum of effort involved, you can decide to buy the full-license and go for HANA readiness.
How long does the assessment process take?	The initial assessment takes a couple of days. If the customer is already running UPL and SQLM then this data can also be part of the initial assessment.
We are not running UPL. Is it still a good idea to run HANA readiness assessment?	Yes. You will get to know the number of issues you need to fix and how many of them can be fixed correctly. UPL is not mandatory for the initial assessment.
Why should we use Gekkobrain when SAP provides a HANA readiness tool?	The SAP tool just reports the issues. It does not remediate the code. In addition, SAP's tool does not take usage and database performance into consideration. As a result, you will end up wasting resources in fixing too much unnecessary code.
How do we manage to fix the issues that are not fixed by Gekkobrain?	You can manually fix the issues. The project management tool automatically updates the progress.
How do you prioritize the issues in P1, P2, and P3?	The priority 1 issues are the issue you must fix before moving to HANA. The priority 2 issues are performance related fixes required due to migration to HANA. The priority 3 issues are also performance related but can be fixed after you have moved to HANA.
How do you separate out the issues as High, Medium and Low?	The usage: High, Medium and Low are based on usage of the objects in production. Gekkobrain uses UPL and SQLM to analyze how frequently the programs are used and what database impact they have. As an example, a program that runs once a month in batch mode with limited database impact is not relevant for fixing performance.
Does Gekkobrain SAP DevOps support Fiori Apps?	Yes. The Fiori apps stretch across 3 tiers. The presentation layer (what you see) is written in HTML/XML/JavaScript. Gekkobrain does not scan this code. The service tier (middle tier) is written in ABAP. Gekkobrain scans this code and fixes it if required.
Does the tool calculate the level of effort and/or provide some sort of LOE estimation? If so, how?	The tool estimates manual effort required to fix each issue. The calculation is based on data collected working with several real customers. You may choose to use the Gekkobrain Codefixer to fix most of priority 1, and priority 2 HANA issues automatically.

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Are there are any new features /scenarios, that are going to be added for Auto-code fix functionality?	Yes. The tool(s) are continuously getting enhanced. Gekkobrain keeps adding automation to fix more and more issues based on customer feedback and market requirements.
Other than the above listed features, is there any other additional value add from this tool compared to the standard SAP tools?	Gekkobrain tool(s) can also be used to improve performance of your custom code, as well as for ongoing DevOps of ABAP programs. It also provides a project management tool that you can use to monitor and track any manual changes that you need to make to your code.
Where is the Gekkobrain software hosted?	Gekkobrain is hosted on AWS in Ireland or Germany. We are working on setting it up in the US by August 2018.
Can Gekkobrain setup a private cloud if a customer is worried about data privacy?	Yes. Private cloud can be setup for an extra cost of about $8K.
Our customers are worried about the privacy of their code. What data is transferred by the Gekkobrain extractors to the cloud?	Gekkobrain extractors transfer only meta data and not the code. It transfers data such as description of issue, line number, object name etc. We can also setup a private cloud at additional cost if it is required.
How long should you run UPL to get a very good idea of the usage?	UPL should ideally be run for 12-15 months to cover annual programs. For assessment purpose we can run UPL for a couple of weeks with the knowledge that the periodic programs such as monthly, quarterly and annual batch runs will not be captured in collected the data.
How is the SQLM data transferred to the Gekkobrain cloud?	You will create an SQLM snapshot in the development environment for the data in production. Gekkobrain has an extractor that you can use to convert the SQLM snapshot into a JSON format. You then upload the JSON formatted file to Gekkobrain cloud.
What should be the duration of SQLM snapshot to provide good coverage?	A two- week snapshot of SQLM data is good enough to understand performance issues.
Do I need to send my custom code to Gekkobrain for automated fixes?	The codefixer at present requires you to send your code to Gekkobrain for automated fixing.
Can the Gekkobrain Codefixer be installed on the customer SAP environment?	We could actually offer a setup on a standalone NetWeaver server in the customer's environment, but we would prefer not, to protect our IP.
We are migrating to S/4HANA. What custom code assessment do we need to perform?	When you migrate to HANA you need to perform the custom code assessments for both the HANA database as well as for the S/4HANA application level changes.
In addition to the above-mentioned HANA assessment, does Gekkobrain perform S/4HANA assessment?	Yes. Gekkobrain perform a separate S/4HANA assessment and generates a detailed report of the changes you need to make to your custom code for S/4HANA simplifications. It also provides a project management tool for you to track the manual effort of remediation.
We have heard that S/4HANA migration may not require migration the complete code base. How does Gekkobrain help us figure out what is relevant for migration.	Gekkobrain provides you a tool to group your custom code by the solution components. You can easily identify and group the code that maps to the component that you want to migrate. It also additionally, using the other product called Gekkobrain FLOWS, lets you automatically map your custom code to your SAP process flows. This way you will precisely know what custom code you will need to migrate for specific processes you would want to take it to S/4HANA.
Do I need to remediate the custom code for the HANA database changes when I am migrating to S/4HANA and not to Suite on HANA?	Yes, you will need to fix your code for the HANA database related issues even when you are migrating to S/4HANA as it runs on the HANA database.