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# **Agenda**

- 1 Why Backup?
- 2 Living Backups
- 3 Design
- 4 Features
- Performance
- 6 Changes to Core
- In The Pipeline
- Questions?



- Hardware Failure:
  - No amount of redundancy can prevent it.
- Replication:
  - WAL archive for when async streaming gets behind.
  - Sync replica from backup instead of master.
- Corruption:
  - Can be caused by hardware or software.
  - Detection is, of course, a challenge.



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- Accidents:
  - So you dropped a table?
  - Deleted your most important account?
- Development:
  - No more realistic data than production!
  - May not be practical due to size / privacy issues.
- Reporting:
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# Schrödingers Backup

The state of any backup is unknown until a restore is attempted.



# Making Backups Useful

- Find a way to use your backups
  - Syncing / New Replicas
  - Offline reporting
  - Offline data archiving
  - Development
- Unused code paths will not work when you need them unless they are tested
  - Regularly scheduled automated failover using backups to restore the old primary
  - Regularly scheduled disaster recovery (during a maintenance window if possible) to test restore techniques



- Rsync powers many database backup solutions but it has some serious limitations:
  - Single-process.
  - One second timestamp resolution.
  - Incremental backups require previous backup to be uncompressed.
- pgBackRest does not use rsync, tar or other typical backup tools:
  - Protocol supports local/remote operation.
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  - Incremental
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- PostgreSQL page checksums are validated if present (≥ 9.3).
- Checksums are calculated for every file in the backup and rechecked during a restore.
- After a backup required WAL segments are checked in the repository.
- Simple backup format:
  - Backup directories have the same format as a PostgreSQL cluster.
  - Clusters can be brought up in place with snapshots if compression is disabled.
  - Advantageous for terabyte-scale databases.
- All operations utilize file and directory level fsync to ensure durability.



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- Checksumming files on resume takes place on the backup server
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- On delta restore all files not present in the backup or with a different size are removed from PGDATA.
- The remaining files are checksummed and only files with a checksum mismatch are restored.
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- Dedicated commands are included for both pushing WAL to the archive and retrieving WAL from the archive.
- Push command automatically detects WAL segments that are pushed multiple times and de-duplicates when the segment is identical, otherwise an error is raised.
- Push and get commands both ensure that the database and repository match by comparing PostgreSQL versions and system identifiers to prevent misconfiguration.
- Asynchronous parallel archiving allows compression and transfer to be offloaded to another
  process which maintains continuous connections to the remote server, improving throughput
  significantly.
  - Critical feature for databases with extremely high write volume.



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- Remap all tablespaces to one location with a single command which is useful for development restores.
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# Compatibility with PostgreSQL $\geqslant$ 8.3

• Support for versions down to 8.3, since older versions of PostgreSQL are still regularly utilized.



### **Performance**

Parameters	pgBackRest	rsync
processes: 1 network compression: I3 destination compression: none	141 Seconds	124 Seconds (.13X Faster)
processes: 2 network compression: I3 destination compression: none	84 Seconds (1.48X Faster)	N/A
processes: 1 network compression: I6 destination compression: I6	334 Seconds (1.52X Faster)	510 Seconds
processes: 2 network compression: 16 destination compression: 16	174 Seconds (2.93X Faster)	N/A



### Completed

- Exclude files/directories reset or rebuilt on recovery.
- Make pg\_stop\_backup() wait optional.
- Non-exclusive backups (Magnus Hagander).
- Archive timeout fix (Michael Paquier).

#### Planned

- More exclusions.
- Allow group read on \$PGDATA.
- Pass multiple WAL segments to archive\_command.
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```
website: http://www.pgbackrest.org
```

email: david@pgbackrest.org email: david@crunchydata.com

```
releases: https://github.com/pgbackrest/pgbackrest/releases
```

slides & demo: https://github.com/dwsteele/conference/releases

