

Maintaining consistency when using temp backup tables

Asked 16 years, 2 months ago Modified 16 years, 2 months ago

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1



Suppose you create a temp table for backup purpose and make your changes in the original. The changes break the system and you want to restore the backup. In the meantime some other records have also changed in the original table (it is a live db). Now if you restore the backup, the system will be in an inconsistent state.



Whats the best way to tackle this

database

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edited May 23, 2017 at 12:13



Community Bot

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asked Oct 4, 2008 at 15:57



Midhat

17.8k ● 22 ● 90 ● 116

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1

I don't think that's desirable, I'd test harder before putting the table in production, but supposing it happened anyway, you'd have two options:



1.- Create an ON INSERT trigger which updates the temporary backup table with the rows inserted into the new table, massaging the data to fit into the old table



or



2.- Find the difference in the data like this

```
SELECT * FROM faultyTable  
EXCEPT  
SELECT * FROM backupTable
```

You'd have to adjust the columns to be selected to the common subset of course. And EXCEPT is called MINUS sometimes too.

After that you can insert the difference into the backed up table and restore the combination. This gets harder and harder the more relationships the table has... depending on the way used to restore the table you might drop the related data, thus you'd have to select it too.

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answered Oct 4, 2008 at 16:12



Vinko Vrsalovic

340k ● 55 ● 340 ● 373



I usually do

1



```
BEGIN TRANSACTION
```

```
-- SQL CODE
```



At the end, if everything is OK, do my SELECTs and whatnot



```
COMMIT
```

otherwise

```
ROLLBACK
```

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answered Oct 4, 2008 at 16:20



Sklivvz

31.1k ● 24 ● 118 ● 174

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Your database may provide this functionality. For example in Oracle:

0

Export (Your options) consistent = y



Of course, doing a consistent backup in a production online environment will have a performance penalty for the system.

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answered Oct 6, 2008 at 8:13

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borjab

11.6k ● 7 ● 74 ● 103
