



Wonder Backup

Report 3 on the work of Week 3

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9/14/2010

This document contains information regarding the results of work completed through weeks 1 through 3. This work includes the Project Concept Proposal, Scope & Preliminary Requirements Specification and the work behind these processes, as well as beginning code development. Project updates can be found at <http://wonderbackup.sourceforge.net>.

Application Development Section

Project Concept Proposal

- **Purpose:** Wonder Backup is an open source, Python-powered, operating system independent backup solution for use in scenarios from end-users to enterprise solutions. Wonder Backup is [tentatively] licensed under the Python Software Foundation (PSF) license.
 - **Context:** The context for this program is to fill a need for a free backup solution for any user. Developed in Python, this program will be easily extensible or adjustable for any in-house enterprise solution.
 - **Goals:** This project aims to develop a Python-powered backup solution that can be used in any operating system that can run Python, including modern distributions of Linux, Windows, and Mac OS X.
 - **Audience:** The intended audience is home users, system administrators, and technical service centers. The program will be able to be controlled via a web interface, command line, or through an answer file.
 - **Functionality:** Given that the program has a number of interface options; it will be functionally usable by anyone. The availability to customize settings using an answer file allows technical users to create precompiled Linux recovery solutions. Lastly, backups can be made to any external source, whether it is an external hard drive, flash media, or Windows network shares.
 - **Milieu:**
 - BackupPC, <http://backuppc.sourceforge.net/>
 - This program is for enterprise solutions. It provides backing up to a central server by separate client and server installations.
 - Limitations include the inability to backup to locally available storage, and no documented support for Mac OS X.
 - Developed in C++.
 - Amanda Open Source Backup, <http://amanda.zmanda.com/>
 - This program is for enterprise solutions. It provides backing up to a central server by a server installation and client web interface.
 - Developed in C and Perl.
 - **Novelty:** Wonder Backup will be built in Python and will be self-contained. It requires no server installation and does not necessarily need to be run in the native Operating System being backed up.
- **Resources:**

- Python Programming Language 2.7
 - <http://www.python.org/>
- Samba Windows Interoperability Suite
 - <http://www.samba.org/>
- **Challenges:**
 - Python versioning on Unix systems with Python pre-installed.
 - Web Interface
 - Incremental Backups
 - Support for older operating systems
 - Multiple directory selection in different interfaces
 - Packaging software for use with Windows
- **Measures:**
 - Software properly runs on each tested Operating System.
 - Command-Line interface is functional.
 - Web interface is functional.
 - Software packages operate as desired.
- **Future Extensions:**
 - Encryption
 - Service, background backups

Inspiration

- **Motivation:** This project is important to me because I have not found an equivalent, Python-based backup solution. Python is my language of choice and I would like there to be an option to have a fully customizable and extensible backup program that is fully open source and freely available to anyone who seeks a better backup program.
- **Profession:** This project will help my professional growth through the creation of a program that has no current alternative. Filling this void in the software universe will begin to publicize my name as a serious programmer. Combined with the experience I hope to earn by approaching this project through a professional business model, this project will certainly further my professional growth.

Vision and Scope

Wonder Backup is a project which seeks to bring a very free and easily customizable backup solution into the software world. Once complete, the software will offer a range of backup options and will be freely usable and modifiable for any individual or organization. Usable for regular backups, or even as a recovery solution, users will delight in the options presented by the software with the ability to use the software with any semi-modern hardware.

Given the time constraints of this semester, the scope of this project needn't be significantly reduced. Within reasonable scope, this project will have a working software base by the end of the semester. All functionality of the software will be available, though perhaps only by a command line interface. The most difficult part of this project will be the single interface for all systems. As previously considered, this may take form as a web interface, but may also result in other possibilities. Guaranteed to be outside of scope will be a Python 3.x version, though this can be expected after release.

Software Requirements Specifications

- 01 | Traverse a directory structure
 - Evaluation Method: List files in deeper subdirectories.
 - Dependency: None.
 - Priority: High
- 02 | Copy a single file
 - Evaluation Method: Copy a file from one location to another.
 - Dependency: None.
 - Priority: High
- 03 | Copy multiple files
 - Evaluation Method: Copy multiple files from one location to another.
 - Dependency: 02. Ability to copy a single file
 - Priority: High
- 04 | Exclude specific files, filetypes from copy
 - Evaluation Method: Define files and filetypes to not be copied, then attempt copy
 - Dependency: 03. Copy multiple files
 - Priority: Middle
- 05 | Backup directory structure
 - Evaluation Method: Copy directory structure from one location to another.
 - Dependencies:
 - 01. Traverse a directory structure
 - 03. Copy multiple files
 - (Optional) 04. Exclude specific files, filetypes from copy
 - Priority: High
- 06 | Pass user credentials and connect to SAMBA (Windows) network shares
 - Evaluation Method: Successfully connect to and read files on SAMBA share
 - Dependency: 01. Traverse directory structure
 - Priority: Middle
- 07 | Check for read/write access on SAMBA shares
 - Evaluation Method: Successfully get directory permissions

- Dependencies: 06. Pass user credentials and connect to SAMBA (Windows) network shares
- Priority: Middle
- 08 | Mount filesystems and/or SAMBA shares
 - Evaluation Method: View files on mounted filesystems/shares.
 - Dependencies:
 - 01. Traverse directory structure
 - 06. Pass user credentials and connect to SAMBA (Windows) network shares
 - Priority: Middle
- 09 | Command Line Interface
 - Evaluation Method: Perform successful backup using command line interface.
 - Dependencies:
 - 05. Backup directory structure
 - 08. Mount filesystems and/or SAMBA shares
 - Priority: Middle
- 10 | Multiple Environment Interface
 - Evaluation Method: Use same successful backup interface on Windows, Linux, and Mac OSX.
 - Dependencies:
 - 09. Command Line Interface
 - Priority: Low
- 11 | Get file sizes and modified times
 - Evaluation Method: Successfully get information about a file
 - Dependencies: None
 - Priority: Low
- 12 | Incremental Backups
 - Evaluation Method: Perform multiple successful backups without unnecessary rewrites of already backed up data.
 - Dependencies: 11. Get file sizes and modified times
 - Priority: If time permits

Executive Section



To: Dr. Jan Pearce, Project Director

From: Sean Davis

Subject: Wonder Backup

Date: 9/7/2010

Accomplishments: I gathered ideas for the project. I opened the project page for Wonder Backup at <http://wonderbackup.sourceforge.net>. I also developed a preliminary project logo and icon. Lastly, I compiled the project proposal.

Challenges: Thinking of a project name that was yet unclaimed proved to be a difficult endeavor. Creating the project logo was a tedious process since I used imaging software that I had never encountered. I did manage to overcome both of these challenges.

Time Spent: 2 hours on logo development, 2 hours on project proposal, 10 minutes on the Executive Section.

Goals: Meet with Project Director to plan next phase.



To: Dr. Jan Pearce, Project Director

From: Sean Davis

Subject: Wonder Backup

Date: 9/14/2010

Accomplishments: I completed the *Vision and Scope* and *Preliminary Software Requirements Specifications* sections in the Application Development Section.

Challenges: Determining the scope of my project. I feel confident that I should be able to complete a number of requirements in the short amount of time, so considering all that might be necessary for the project was challenging and time consuming.

Time Spent: 0.5 hours on Vision and Scope section, 1.5 hours on Preliminary Software Requirements Specifications section, 10 minutes on the Executive Section.

Goals: I need to properly configure the Mercurial repository on Sourceforge.net, begin code development, and meet with the Project Director.



To: Dr. Jan Pearce, Project Director

From: Sean Davis

Subject: Wonder Backup

Date: 9/21/10

Accomplishments: I reviewed the Software Requirements Specifications and found there to be no issues. I began code development and properly configured the Mercurial repository on Sourceforge.net, submitting my first code and documentation.

Challenges: I had written some preliminary code in the summer, but with the recent version bump to the 2.7 series, it was non-functional. A significant challenge was posed in diagnosing the problem.

Time Spent: 30 minutes Tuesday on code development. 10 minutes Sunday on reviewing the SRS and 40 minutes on code development. One hour on code development Tuesday morning. 10 minutes on the Executive section Tuesday morning. Total time spent this week: 2 hours 30 minutes. Total time spent this term: 6 hours 50 minutes

Goals: Review and design a software architecture for the project and continue software development.