Introduction to Migration

Drupal Dev Days – Leuven – 16 April 2025

The world is how we shape it

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Who I am?

- Working 20h year in the web business as PHP developer / analyst / teacher

- Having 10 years of experience as Drupal Developer

- Freelancing since 2021 for several companies

Let's connect

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Migration introduced in core since Drupal 8

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What is a migration in Drupal?

- Framework to get content into Drupal

- Creating a migration is done via a **YAML** file in the **config/sync** folder

- Content can be migrated **once**, can be **synced** on a regular basis, or can be **incrementally added**

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First there was D6/7, now content can come in from any source

- `Migrate` module was introduced in D8.0

- via `migrate_drupal` module since D8.0

- via `migrate_plus` contrib module since 2014

- via `migrate_source_csv` contrib module since 2015

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Is a migration still relevant in +D10?

- Not every one originaly choose Drupal

- It is never too late to choose Drupal. Drupal is attrackting more and more people.

- Drupal is not always the single point of content: Not all data is/should be managed in Drupal (it can come out of IAM, CRM, ERP, …)

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Migration YAML

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Migration YAML

- **Configuring a migration is done in a YAML file and synced to Drupal via**
  `drush config:import (cim)`

- **If you want to make the migration available in the migrations UI you have to create it in the `/config/sync` folder with the filename:**
  `migrate_plus.migration.[migration_id].yml`

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Migration YAML
Basic structure

```
label: '...'

id: ...

migration_group: ...

...

source:

  ...

process:

  ...

destination:

  ...
```

source: describes the source structure (fields, identifiers, ...)

process: describes the mapping of source fields to Drupal entity properties via a pipeline.

destination: describes the destination entity type and bundle (if the entity type has bundles).

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Migration YAML
Source - plugin

```
…
source:
  plugin: [plugin_id]
  …
…
```

The `plugin` refers to the **source type**

Examples: `embedded_data`, `url`, …

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Migration YAML
Source – fields / ids

```
…
source:
  plugin: …

  fields:

    [the fields the source contains]
  ids:
    [source field identifier]:
      type: [type of the identifier value]
…
```

- **fields:**

  - The description if the source fields involved in the migration

- **ids:**

  - **Every item** to be migrated from the source needs a **unique identifier value** that is the reference in the migration.

  - The unique identifier makes it possible to **update** an existing entity **once it is created**.

  - The unique identifiers are stored in a migration map table

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Migration YAML
Process - properties mapping pipeline

```yaml
process:
  [entity_property_1]: [source_field_1]
  [pseudo_property]:
    plugin: [process plugin ID]
    [process plugin parameters]
    source:
      - [source_field_2]
      - [source_field_3]
  [entity_property_2]:

    -
      plugin: [process plugin_ID]
      source: [@pseudo property]

    -
      plugin: [process plugin ID]
```

- Drupal **entity_property_1** that gets the value of **source_field**

- pseudo property that gets a value that is processed via a process plugin (with parameters **source_field_1** & **source_field_2**)

- Drupal **entity_property_2** that gets a value via 2 process plugins:

  - the first one gets **pseudo_property** as parameter)

  - The second one get the result of the first process as parameter

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Migration YAML
Destination

```
…
destination:
  plugin: 'entity:[entity_type_id]'
…
```

The plugin that defines to which entity type the content is mapped to.

If the entity type supports bundles and extra parameter `default_bundle` is required.

```
plugin: 'entity:node'
default_bundle: 'article'
```

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Enough talking, let's create our first migration

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Q&A

**SCAN QR FOR
SLIDES AND YAML FILES**

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Thank you!

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