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How can I easily convert a Django app from mySQL to PostgreSQL?

10

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Has anyone done this? Is it an easy process? We're thinking of switching over for transactions and because mysql seems to be "crapping out" lately.

mysql django postgresql

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asked Feb 11 '11 at 1:12



Ryan Detzel

2,089 ● 8 ● 26 ● 45

1) MySQL does support transactions (InnoDB) 2) What makes you think MySQL is "crapping out" lately?
– [The Scrum Meister](#) Feb 11 '11 at 1:13

For now reason we'll just start getting tones of these errors: OperationalError: (1205, 'Lock wait timeout exceeded; try restarting transaction') Also, using South with Django sometimes hurts without real transactions. – [Ryan Detzel](#) Feb 11 '11 at 14:43

1 MySQL doesn't support schema transactions - which can cause a massive headache for migrations – [yarbelk](#)
Feb 18 '13 at 5:20

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7 Answers

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I just used this tool to migrate an internal app and it worked wonderfully.
<https://github.com/maxlapshin/mysql2postgres>

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answered Feb 16 '11 at 8:46



Philip Southam

7,137 ● 5 ● 20 ● 19

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▲

5

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Converting MySQL database to Postgres database with Django

First backup your data of the old MySQL database in json fixtures:

```
$ python manage.py dumpdata contenttypes --indent=4 --natural-foreign > contenttype.json
$ python manage.py dumpdata --exclude contenttypes --indent=4 --natural-foreign > everything_
```

Then switch your settings.DATABASES to postgres settings.

Create the tables in Postgresql:

```
$ python manage.py migrate
```

Now delete all the content that is automatically made in the migrate (django contenttypes, usergroups etc):

```
$ python manage.py sqlflush | ./manage.py dbshell
```

asked 5 years ago

viewed 2742 times

active 1 year ago



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[How to exit from PostgreSQL command line utility: psql](#)

And now you can safely import everything, and keep your pk's the same!

```
$ python manage.py loaddata contenttype.json
$ python manage.py loaddata everything_else.json
```

Tested with Django==1.8

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answered May 8 '15 at 16:53



Michael van de Waeter
354 ● 2 ● 10

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2 You can do that using Django serializers to output the data from MySQL's format into JSON and then back into Postgres. There are some good articles on internet about that:

[Migrating Django from MySQL to PostgreSQL the Easy Way](#)

[Move a Django site to PostgreSQL: check](#)

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answered Jun 15 '12 at 19:26



inigomedia
1,318 ● 9 ● 19

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1 I've never done it personally, but it seems like a combination of the [dumpdata](#) and [loaddata](#) options of manage.py would be able to solve your problem quite easily. That is, unless you have a lot of database-specific things living outside the ORM such as stored procedures.

share improve this answer

answered Feb 11 '11 at 1:38



arussell84
945 ● 4 ● 14

that work, but sometime there are need truncate all tables just created by syncdb – [Levon](#) Feb 18 '13 at 4:27

dump data loads the entire dataset into memory before serializing it - this is a problem for a large data set. [otbrooklyn.com/2010/07/18/...](#) shows how to chunk this process to avoid crashing your server. – [yarbelk](#) Feb 18 '13 at 5:22

add a comment

0 I've not done it either. I'd first follow this [migration guide](#), there is a [MySQL section](#) which should take care of all your data. Then django just switch the mysql to postgres in the settings. I think that should be ok.

I found another question on stackoverflow which should help with the converting mysql to postgres [here](#).

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answered Feb 11 '11 at 8:09



darren
6,984 ● 10 ● 39 ● 65

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1. python manage.py dump.data >> data.json
2. Create database and user in postgresql
3. Set your just created database in postgresql as default database in django settings or use param --database=your_postgresql_database next steps
4. Run syncdb for create tables.

```
python syncdb [--database=your_postgresql_database] --noinput
```

5. Create dump without data, drop all tables and load dump. Or truncate all tables (table django_content_type which data which can be not equals your old data - it is way to many errors). At this step we need empty tables in postgresql-db.
6. When you have empty tables in postgresql-db just load your data:

```
python manage.py loaddata data.json
```

And be fun!

0

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1

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Django migrate from MySQL to Postgres

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Migrating Django project from MySQL to Postgres

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answered Feb 18 '13 at 5:02



Levon

413 ● 9 ● 16

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I wrote a Django management command that copies one database to another:

<https://gist.github.com/mturilin/1ed9763ab4aa98516a7d>

You need to add both database in the settings and use this command:

```
./manage.py copy_db from_database to_database app1 app2 app3 --delete --ignore-errors
```

What cool about this command is that it recursively copy dependent objects. For example, if the model have 2 foreign keys and two Many-to-Many relationships, it will copy the other objects first to ensure you won't get foreign key violation error.

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answered Apr 30 '14 at 0:10



Mikhail Turilin

35 ● 6

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