How to Quickly Boot a Tezos Node

a brief presentation of snapshots and history modes

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Tezos' 100th Cycle Event in NY

Synchronizing a node in minutes

Why?

- mainnet currently takes approx. 120GB, heavy on solo bakers
- takes a few days to synchronise the whole chain since june 30 2018
- keeping all archives is useless for most people

With snapshots:

- a snapshoted node starts at approx. 500MB
- synchronisation in minutes from a recent snapshot
- archives can be reconstructed on demand

How (step 1):

On a machine running `mainnet` or `mainnet-snapshots`:

```
> HASH=`tezos-client rpc get /chains/main/blocks/head~30/hash | tr -d '"
> tezos-node snapshot export --block HASH HASH.full
> gzip HASH.full
```

(someone else can do that for you)

How (step 2):

On a fresh `mainnet-snapshots` installation:

```
> gzip -d HASH.full.gz
> tezos-node snapshot import --block HASH HASH.full
> tezos-node identity generate
> tezos-node run --rpc-addr 'localhost:8732'
```

(if you got the snapshot from someone, make sure it's in the chain)

History mode: **ARCHIVE** / FULL / ROLLING

What you can do:

- safely validate new blocks and operations
- bake and endorse
- access all the blocks and operations in history
- allow 'archive' nodes to synchronize
- access all balances at any point in the past
- use a lot of disk space (for now)

This is the current mode in `mainnet`.

History mode: ARCHIVE / **FULL** / ROLLING

What you can do:

- safely validate new blocks and operations
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- allow 'archive' nodes to synchronize
- ~~access all balances at any point in the past~~
- ~~use a lot of disk space~~

This is what you got with the previous how to.

History mode: ARCHIVE / FULL / ROLLING

What you can do:

- safely validate new blocks and operations
- bake and endorse
- ~~access all the blocks and operations in history~~
- ~~allow 'archive' nodes to synchronize~~
- ~~access all balances at any point in the past~~
- ~~use a lot of disk space~~

This is the most lightweight mode.

Quick and dirty disk space recovery using snapshots

```
> tezos-client rpc get /chains/main/blocks/head~30/hash
> tezos-node snapshot export --block HASH HASH.full
> tezos-node snapshot import HASH.full
> tezos-node run --rpc-addr 'localhost:8732'
```

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Happy Syncing

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