PostgreSQL Backup, Restore And Point-in-Time Recovery Using pgBackRest:

pgBackRest is a reliable backup and restore solution for PostgreSQL that seamlessly scales up to the largest databases and workloads.

Step1) Install pgbackrest:

#Install dependencies

sudo apt-get install postgresql-client libxml2 libssh2-1

```
root@ip-172-31-93-76:-# sudo apt-get install postgresql-client libxml2 libssh2-1
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
Reading state information... Done
Note, selecting 'libssh2-lt64' instead of 'libssh2-1'
libssh2-lt64 is already the newest version (1.11.0-4.1build2).
The following NEW packages will be installed:
    libxml2 postgresql-client
0 uppraded, 2 newly installed, 0 to remove and 16 not upgraded.
Need to get 0 B/774 kB of archives.
After this operation, 2145 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Do you want to continue? [Y/n] y
Selecting previously unselected package libxml2:amd64.
(Reading database ... 101598 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../libxml2 2.9.144fsg-1.3ubuntu3_amd64.deb ...
Unpacking libxml2:amd64 (2.9.144fsg-1.3ubuntu3) ...
Feleparing to unpack .../postgresql-client [164257build1] ...
Selting up postgresql-client (164257build1) ...
Setting up processes...
Scanning processes...
Scanning processes...
```

#Install pgbackrest

sudo apt-get install pgbackrest

#Check version and options

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest

Step2) Create repository for pgBackRest backups:

mkdir -p /db_backup/base_backup

```
oot@ip-172-31-93-76:~# mkdir -p /db_backup/base_backup
chown postgres:postgres /db_backup/root@ip-172-31-93-76:~# ls -ltrh /db_backup/
total 4.0K
drwxr-xr-x 2 postgres postgres 4.0K Jul 25 10:56 base_backup root@ip-172-31-93-76:~#
```

Step3) Configure the pgBackRest:

save&exit

```
Configurations:
repo1-block --> Enable block incremental backup
repo1-bundle --> Bundle files in repository
repo1-path --> Path where backups and archive are stored
repo1-retention-diff --> Number of differential backups to retain
repo1-retention-full --> Number of full backups to retain
start-fast --> Force a checkpoint to start backup quickly
compress-level --> File compression level
pg1-path --> PostgreSQL cluster data directory
pg1-socket-path --> PostgreSQL unix socket path
#Edit /etc/pgbackrest.conf file
vim /etc/pgbackrest.conf
[global]
repo1-block=y
repo1-bundle=y
repo1-path=/db_backup/base_backup
repo1-retention-diff=1
repo1-retention-full=2
start-fast=y
compress-level=6
[global:archive-push]
compress-level=6
[cluster]
pg1-path=/db_data/data
pg1-socket-path=/tmp
```

Step4) Configure archive settings:

#Configure below parameters in a \$PGDATA/postgresql.conf file

```
vim /db_data/data/postgresql.conf
listen_addresses = '*'
wal_level = replica
archive_mode = on
archive_command = 'pgbackrest --stanza=master archive-push %p'
max_wal_senders = 3
save&exit
```

#Restart the PostgreSQL service

systemctl restart postgresql.service

systemctl status postgresql.service

```
root8ip-172-31-83-76r/dm data/data# systemct1 restart postgreeqt.service
root8ip-172-31-83-76r/dm data/data# systemct1 status postgreeqt.service

* postgreeqt.service - PostgreeQt.datahass server
Loadedt loaded (*/etc/systemcfootgreeqt.anrvicor smalled; presett snabled)
Active: active (rouning) since Fri 2021-07-26 11:26:12 UTC; 11s age:
Door: https://www.postgreeql.org/docs/
Frocess: 3730 Essectart/usr/local/pgaql/bin/pg_ctl start -D /dm_data/data (code=exited, status=0/SUCCEMS)
Main Fir: 3734 (postgree)
Tasks: % (limit: 11:0)
JHmony: 15.48 (postgree)
Tasks: % (limit: 11:0)
CGroup: /system.slice/postgreeqt.service
-J734 /usr/local/pgaql/bin/pintqree -D /dm data/data
-J735 "postgrees checkpointer"
-J737 "postgrees checkpointer"
-J737 "postgrees checkpointer"
-J737 "postgrees checkpointer"
-J738 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J738 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J734 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J742 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J742 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J743 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J744 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J745 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J746 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J747 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J748 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J749 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J740 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J741 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J742 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J743 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J744 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J745 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J746 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J747 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J748 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J748 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J749 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J749 "postgrees acteckpointer"
-J749 "postgrees acteckpointer
```

Step5) Create the Stanza:

#Create the Stanza

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info stanza-create

```
root8ip-172-31-93-76:/db_data/data/ sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info stanza-create
2024-07-26 11:37:32.887 F00 INFO: stanza-create command begin 2.50: --exec-id=3784-2e7ef4a6 --log-level-console=info --pg1-path=/db_data/data --pg1-socket-
path=/tmp --repol-path=/db backup-base backup --stanza-cluster
2024-07-26 11:37:33.501 F00 INFO: stanza-create for stanza 'cluster' on repol
2024-07-26 11:37:33.525 F00 INFO: stanza-create command end: completed successfully (64lms)
root8ip-172-31-93-76:/db_data/data#
```

Check the configuration

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info check

#Verify the pgBackRest repository

Step6) Perform different types of backups:

#Perform Full backup

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info --type=full backup

```
root&ip-172-31-93-76;/home/ubuntu# sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info --type=full backup
2024-07-26 11:53152.299 P00 INTO: backup command begin 2.50: --compress-level-6 --exec-id-3996-c0sf4b32 --log-level-console=info --pgl-path=/db data/data --pgl-socket-path=/tmp --repol-block --repol-bundle --repol-path=/db backup/base_backup --repol-retention-diff=1 --repol-retention-full=2 --stanza=cluster --start-fast --type=full backup --repol-block --repol-bundle --repol-path=/db backup/base_backup --repol-retention-diff=1 --repol-retention-full=2 --stanza=cluster --start-fast --type=full backup --repol-block --r
```

#Perform Differential backup

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info --type=diff backup

#Perform Incremental backup

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info --type=incr backup

#Check backup info

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest info

#Verify backup directory

Step7) Restore the backup:

#Stop the PostgreSQL service

systemctl stop postgresql

systemctl status postgresql

```
root8ip-172-31-93-76:/home/ubuntu# systemctl stop postgresql
root8ip-172-31-93-76:/home/ubuntu# systemctl status postgresql
root8ip-172-31-93-76:/home/ubuntu# systemctl status postgresql
o postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server
Loaded: loaded (/etc/systemd/system/postgresql.service; enabled)
Active: inactive (dead) since Fri 2024-07-26 12:02:15 UTC; 2s ago
Duration: 20min 36.324s
Docs: https://www.postgresql.org/docs/
Process: 3042 ExceStatr=/usr/local/pgsql/bin/pg_ctl start -D /db_data/data (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Process: 4044 ExceStop=/usr/local/pgsql/bin/pg_ctl stop -D /db_data/data (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Main PID: 3845 (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
CPU: 1.924s

Jul 26 11:41:38 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[3845]: 2024-07-26 11:41:38.437 UTC [3845] HINT: Future log output will appear in directory "log".
Jul 26 11:41:38 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[3842]: done
Jul 26 11:41:38 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[3842]: server started
Jul 26 11:41:38 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[3842]: server started
Jul 26 11:41:38 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[3842]: server started
Jul 26 12:02:14 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[4044]: server stopped
Jul 26 12:02:15 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[4044]: waiting for server to shut down... done
Jul 26 12:02:15 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[4044]: server stopped
Jul 26 12:02:15 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service: PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 12:02:15 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service: Deactivated successfully.
Jul 26 12:02:15 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service: PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 12:02:15 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service: PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 12:02:15 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service: PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 12:02:15 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service: PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 12:02:15 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service: PostgreSQL database server.
```

#Remove existing files from cluster

cd /db_data/data

rm -rf *

#Restore the backup of the cluster

Note: The restore command automatically defaults to selecting the latest backup from the first repository where backups exist.

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info restore

```
root@ip-172-31-93-76;/db_data/data/ sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info restore
2024-07-26 12:07:02.279 F00 INEO: restore command begin 2.50: --exec-id=4062-38bacaef --log-level-console=info --pgl-path=/db_data/data --repol-path=/db_ba
ckup/base backup --stanza=cluster
2024-07-26 12:07:02.288 F00 INEO: repol: restore backup set 20240726-11532F_20240726-1156511, recovery will start at 2024-07-26 11:56:51
2024-07-26 12:07:06.049 F00 INEO: write updated /db_data/data/postgresgl.auto.conf
2024-07-26 12:07:06.059 F00 INEO: restore global/pg_control (performed last to ensure aborted restores cannot be started)
2024-07-26 12:07:06.062 F00 INEO: restore size = 21.4MB, file total = 971
2024-07-26 12:07:06.062 F00 INEO: restore size = 21.4MB, file total = 971
2024-07-26 12:07:06.062 F00 INEO: restore command end: completed successfully (3785ms)
root@ip-172-31-93-76:7db_data/data#
```

#Start the PostgreSQL service and check the status

systemctl start postgresql

systemctl status postgresql

Step8) Point-In-Time-Recovery:

#Perform full backup

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info --type=full backup

```
The control of the co
```

#Check backup info

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest info

#Get the time from PostgreSQL

SELECT now();

```
postgres@ip=172-31-93-76:~$ psql
psql (15.7)
Type "help" for help.

postgres=# SELECT now();
now

2024-07-26 17:11:35.727853+00
(1 row)
```

#Check the table data and perform some delete operations

SELECT * FROM categories;

DELETE FROM categories WHERE category_id =1;

DELETE FROM categories WHERE category_id =2;

DELETE FROM categories WHERE category_id =3;

#Stop the PostgreSQL service

systemctl stop postgresql.service

systemctl status postgresql.service

```
root8ip-172-31-93-76:-* systemctl stop postgresql.service
root8ip-172-31-93-76:-* systemctl status postgresql.service
opostgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server
Loaded: loaded (/stc/systemd/system/postgresql.service; enabled)
Active: inactive (dead) since Fri 2024-07-26 17:17:33 UTC; 10s ago
Duration: 27min 12lms
Docs: https://www.postgresql.org/docs/
Process: 517 ExecStart=/usr/local/pgsql/bin/pg_ctl start -D /db data/data (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Process: 1088 ExecStop=/usr/local/pgsql/bin/pg_ctl stop -D /db_data/data (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Main PTD: 649 (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
CFU: 1.158s

Jul 26 16:50:33 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[649]: 2024-07-26 16:50:33.241 UTC [649] HINT: Future log output will appear in directory "log".
Jul 26 16:50:33 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[517]: done
Jul 26 16:50:33 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[517]: server started
Jul 26 16:50:33 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: Stated postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1088]: waiting for server to shut down... done
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1088]: waiting for server to shut down... done
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1088]: service stopped
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:17:33 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
```

#Delete the existing data directory files

rm -rf /db_data/data/*

#Restore cluster backup

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info --type=time "--target=2024-07-26 17:11:35.727853+00" --target-action=promote restore

```
root@ip-172-31-93-76:/db_data/data# sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info --type=time "--target=2024-07-26 17:11:35.727853+00 "--target=action=promote restore 2024-07-26 17:21:73.04 P00 INFO: restore command begin 2.50: --exec-id=1120-02c10acc --log-level-console=info --pgl-path=/db_data/data --repol-path=/db_backup/base backup --stanza=cluster --target="2024-07-26 17:11:35.727853+00" --target=action=promote --type=time 2024-07-26 17:313 P00 INFO: repol: restore backup set 20240726-170847F, recovery will start at 2024-07-26 17:08:47 2024-07-26 17:21:50.943 P00 INFO: write updated /db_data/data/postgresql.auto.comf 2024-07-26 17:21:50.955 P00 INFO: restore global/pg_control (performed last to ensure aborted restores cannot be started) 2024-07-26 17:21:50.957 P00 INFO: restore size =21.4MB, file total = 971 2024-07-26 17:21:50.958 P00 INFO: restore command end: completed successfully (3657ms)
```

#pgBackRest has generated the recovery settings in postgresql.auto.conf so PostgreSQL can be started immediately.

sudo -u postgres cat /db_data/data/postgresql.auto.conf

```
root@ip-172-31-93-76:/db_data/data# sudo -u postgres cat /db_data/data/postgresql.auto.conf
# Do not edit this file manually!
# It will be overwritten by the ALTER SYSTEM command.

# Recovery settings generated by pgBackRest restore on 2024-07-25 09:02:29
restore command = 'pgbackrest - stansa-manter archive-yet % "%p"
# Removed by pgBackRest restore on 2024-07-26 12:07:06 # recovery target time = '2024-07-25 08:42:53.727774+00'
# Removed by pgBackRest restore on 2024-07-26 12:07:06 # recovery target time = 'promote'
# Removed by pgBackRest restore on 2024-07-26 12:07:06 # recovery_target_time = 'current'
# Recovery settings generated by pgBackRest restore on 2024-07-26 12:07:06
restore_command = 'pgbackrest --stansa=cluster archive-get % "%p"'
# Recovery settings generated by pgBackRest restore on 2024-07-26 17:21:50
restore_command = 'pgbackrest --stansa=cluster archive-get % "%p"'
recovery_target_time - '2024-07-26 17:11:35.727883+00'
recovery_target_time - '2024-07-26 17:11:35.727883+00'
recovery_target_time - '2024-07-26 17:11:35.727883+00'
```

#Start and check PostgreSQL status

systemctl start postgresql.service

systemctl status postgresql.service

```
root@ip-T72-31-93-76:/db data/data# systemctl start postgresql.service
root@ip-T72-31-93-76:/db data/data# systemctl status postgresql.service
* postgresql.service - PostgresQD database server
Loaded: loaded (/etc/systemd/system/postgresql.service, enabled; preset: enabled)
Active: active (running) since Fri 2024-07-26 17:31:18 UTC; 8s ago
Docs: https://www.postgresql.org/docs/
Process: 1146 ExecStart=/usr/local/pgsql/bin/pg_ctl start -D /db_data/data (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Main PID: 1149 (postgres)
Tasks: 8 (limit: 1130)
Memory: 64.9M (peak: 67.4M)
CPU: 321ms
CGroup: /system.slice/postgresql.service
-1-149 /usr/local/pgsql/bin/postgres -D /db_data/data
-1-150 "postgres: logger"
-1-151 "postgres: checkpointer"
-1-152 "postgres: background writer"
-1-170 "postgres: autovacuum launcher"
-1-171 "postgres: autovacuum launcher"
-1-172 "postgres: autovacuum launcher"
-1-173 "postgres: autovacuum launcher"
-1-173 "postgres: autovacuum launcher"
-1-173 "postgres: autovacuum launcher"
-1-173 "postgres: archiver last was 00000004.history"
-1-173 "postgres: archiver last was 0000000004.history"
-1-173 "postgres: archiver last was 00000004.history"
-1-173 "postgres: archiver last was 00000004.history"
-1-173 "postgres: archiver last was 00000004.history"
-1-173 "postgres:
```

#Check the PostgreSQL logs

tail-f\$PGDATA/log/postgresql-Fri.log

#Check the table data

SELECT * FROM categories;

```
root@ip-172-31-93-76:/db data/data* su - postgres
postgres@ip-172-31-93-76:-$ psql
psql (15.7)
Type "help" for help.

postgres=* SELECT * FROM categories;
    category_id | category_name | description

1 | Beverages | Soft drinks, coffees, teas, beers, and ales
    2 | Condiments | Sweet and savory sauces, relishes, spreads, and seasonings
    3 | Confections | Desserts, candies, and sweet breads
    4 | Dairy Products | Cheeses
    5 | Grains/Cereals | Breads, crackers, pasta, and cereal
    6 | Meat/Poultry | Prepared meats
    7 | Produce | Dried fruit and bean curd
    8 | Seafood | Seaweed and fish

(8 rows)

postgres=#
```

Step9) Delete a Stanza:

The stanza-delete command removes data in the repository associated with a stanza.

#Shut down the PostgreSQL cluster

systemctl stop postgresql.service

systemctl status postgresql.service

```
root@ip-172-31-93-76:/db_data/data/ systemctl stop postgresql.service
root@ip-172-31-93-76:/db_data/data/ systemctl status postgresql.service
postgresql.service - FostgresQL_database server
Loaded: loaded (/etc/systemd/system/postgresql.service, enabled; preset: enabled)
Active: inactive (dead) since Fri 2024-07-26 17:41:34 UTC; 4s ago
Duration: 10min 15.743s

Does: https://www.postgresql.org/docs/
Process: 1146 ExecStart=/usr/local/pgsql/bin/pg_ctl start -D /db_data/data (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Process: 124E ExecStop=/usr/local/pgsql/bin/pg_ctl stop -D /db_data/data (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
Wain PID: 1149 (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
CPU: 575ms

Jul 26 17:31:17 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1149]: 2024-07-26 17:31:17.734 UTC [1149] LOG: redirecting log output to logging collector process
Jul 26 17:31:18 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1149]: 2024-07-26 17:31:17.734 UTC [1149] HINT: Future log output will appear in directory "log".
Jul 26 17:31:18 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1146]: done
Jul 26 17:31:18 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1146]: done
Jul 26 17:31:18 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: Stopped postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:41:34 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1234]: waiting for server to shut down... done
Jul 26 17:41:34 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1234]: waiting for server to shut down... done
Jul 26 17:41:34 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1234]: server stopped
Jul 26 17:41:34 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:41:34 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
Jul 26 17:41:34 ip-172-31-93-76 pg_ctl[1234]: server stopped
Jul 26 17:41:34 ip-172-31-93-76 systemd[1]: postgresql.service - PostgreSQL database server.
```

#Run the stop command

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info stop

```
root8ip-172-31-93-76:/db-data/data# sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --log-level-console=info stop
2024-07-26 17:43:42.181 P00 INFO: stop command begin 2.50: --exec-id=1243-8798b2f0 --log-level-console=info --stanza=cluster
2024-07-26 17:43:42.185 P00 INFO: stop command end: completed successfully (6ms)
root8ip-172-31-93-76:/db_data/data#
```

#Run the stanza-delete command and check the status

sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza=cluster --repo=1 --log-level-console=info stanza-delete sudo -u postgres pgbackrest info

```
root8ip-172-31-93-76:/db data/data# sudo -u postgres pgbackrest --stanza-cluster --repo=1 --log-level-console=info stanza-delete
2024-07-26 17:46:10.243 F00 INFO: stanza-delete command begin 2.50: --exec-id=1251-47498f72 --log-level-console=info --pgl-path=/db_data/data --pgl-socket-
path=/tmp --repo=1 --repoi-path=/db_backup/base_backup/saze_backup-stanza-cluster
2024-07-26 17:46:10.246 F00 INFO: stanza-delete command end: completed successfully (6ms)
root8ip-172-31-93-76:/db_data/data# sudo -u postgres pgbackrest info
No stanzas exist in the repository.
root8ip-172-31-93-76:/db data/data#
```