BKM_DATS: Databázové systémy 5. Exchanging Data

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Why data exchange

- cooperation between two or more **proprietary** systems of different platforms and architectures
- a data export to a common / human-readable format is typically provided
 - a widely supported format is CSV (comma-separated values)
 - □ see Wikipedia
- Here are common scenarios when CSV can be useful:
 - Customers pay a service company through a bank. Then, the bank provides payment records to the service company using a CSV file.
 - An operational system built in-house needs to be integrated into an ERP system.
 - A biometrics system (door lock) needs to be integrated into a human resources system for attendance purposes.



Exporting Data

- □ Standard database backup tools can be used
- □ Specific SQL command
 - COPY table TO file
 - □ COPY (query) TO file
 - instead of file, stdout can also be used.
 - The option WITH (FORMAT CSV, HEADER TRUE) produces a CSV file (for Excel, e.g.)
 - □ COPY weather TO STDOUT WITH (FORMAT CSV, HEADER TRUE)
 - https://www.postgresql.org/docs/16/sql-copy.html



Importing Data

- Standard database recovery tools can be used
- SQL command
 - □ COPY table FROM file
 - Reads the file and for each line inserts the data into the table.
 - First item is inserted into the first attribute, etc.
 - You may give the attributes to fill by:
 - □ COPY table (A,B,C) FROM file
 - Once again, the format and header can be used in options



Attaching Files as Tables

- In general, this feature is available in many RDBMSes under the name "foreign table".
 - or import functionality from various sources is available
- Foreign Data Wrapper mechanism in PostgreSQL
 - allows to access external sources as regular "local" tables
- postgres_fdw
 - allows to attach a table from another PostgreSQL server
 - read-write access
- file_fdw
 - attaches a file (output of COPY command) as a table, so a CSV file too.
 - read-only access
- Needs to be activated
 - □ CREATE EXTENSION *extension_name*;



Attaching Files as Tables - postgres_fdw

- ☐ See documentation
 - https://www.postgresql.org/docs/16/postgres-fdw.html
- ☐ CREATE EXTENSION postgres_fdw;
 - actives the module
- CREATE SERVER db_fi
 FOREIGN DATA WRAPPER postgres_fdw
 OPTIONS (host 'db.fi.muni.cz', dbname 'pgdb', port '5432');
 - Connection information only, excluding user and password
- CREATE USER MAPPING FOR CURRENT_USER SERVER db_fi
 OPTIONS ("user" 'xxloginxx', password 'xxpwdxx');
 - Set credentials to access the remote server for "CURRENT_USER" / "PUBLIC" / particular user.



Attaching Files as Tables - postgres_fdw

- IMPORT FOREIGN SCHEMA xxsch FROM SERVER db_fi INTO xxlocal;
 - Import all tables in schema xxsch on the remote server into xxlocal schema.
- CREATE FOREIGN TABLE predmet ()
 INHERITS (xxsch.predmet) SERVER db_fi;
 - Creates a table backed by the remote server.
 - https://www.postgresql.org/docs/16/sql-createforeigntable.html



Attaching Files as Tables - file_fdw

- See documentation
 - https://www.postgresql.org/docs/16/file-fdw.html
- ☐ CREATE EXTENSION file_fdw;
 - actives the module
- ☐ CREATE SERVER csv_file FOREIGN DATA WRAPPER file_fdw;
 - create a "remote server"
- - Creates a table backed by a CSV file stored in the local server.

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Backup & Restore

- □ DBMSes have tools for database backup & restore
 - ☐ Typically, you may select what to backup; and also, what to restore
- PostgreSQL
 - pg_dump dbname >dumpfile
 - a client app that connect to DB server and get the contents of the database
 - output can be read by newer server versions or different architecture (32-bit vs 64-bit)
 - it does not dump information about roles or tablespaces (because those are cluster-wide rather than per-database).
 - □ psql dbname <dumpfile
 - restore the data from dumpfile into the dbname database
 - □ dbname must exist in advance; if not, do first:
 - createdb -T template0 dbname
 - □ pg_dumpall



Backup & Restore

- PostgreSQL
 - pg_dumpall >dumpfile
 - backs up each database in a given cluster, and also preserves roles and tablespace definitions
 - the option --globals-only can be used to dump just roles and tablespace definition.
 - □ psql -f dumpfile postgres
 - should be executed as a superuser
 - Dumpfiles are bulky, so it is wise to compress them.
- □ pgAdmin (web) app
 - Check context menus on databases, tables, schemas for Backup and Restore