

Using The Postgresql Database on Linux

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Contents

This book purports to provide
⇒ concise and practical
⇒ recipes for
using the open-source relational
⇒ (sql) database systems
⇒ Postgresql on linux

@@ www.postgresql.org
the official site

@@ <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/>
⇒ `psql-fatal-ident-`
⇒ `authentication-failed-for-`
⇒ `user/`
a good article about
⇒ authentication problems (
⇒ i.e. you cant logon)

* Watch postgresql calls from
⇒ your application on localhost
>> `sudo tcpdump -nnvvXSs 1514 -i`
⇒ `lo0 dst port 5432`

INSTALLING POSTGRESQL

* install the postgresql
⇒ database on a debian-style
⇒ distribution
>> `sudo apt-get install`
⇒ `postgresql`

AUTHENTICATION

The process of logging onto
⇒ something is generally
⇒ referred to
as 'authentication'. Postgresql
⇒ uses reasonably complicated
⇒ authentication
which may cause some head-
⇒ scratching.

* switch user to the 'postgres'
⇒ user, in order to administer
⇒ the server
>> `sudo su postgres` ##(only
⇒ necessary on some linux
⇒ distributions, at first)

>> `psql -U postgres` ##(should
⇒ achieve the same thing)

* find out where the
⇒ authentication configuration
⇒ file is
>> `find / -name 'pg_hba.conf'`
>> `locate pg_hba.conf`
⇒ ##(maybe the same)

STOPPING AND STARTING THE SERVER

⇒

* check that the postgresql
⇒ database server is running
>> `ps ax | grep postgres`
>> `ps ax | grep postmaster`
⇒ ##(an older form)
>> `pg_ctl status`
⇒ ##(PGDATA needs to be set)
>> `sudo /etc/init.d/postgresql`
⇒ `-8.4 status` ##(maybe best
⇒ on debian-style linux)

* start the postgresql database
⇒ server
>> `sudo /etc/init.d/postgresql`
⇒ `-8.4 start` ##(best on debian
⇒ style linux?)
>> `pg_ctl start`
>> `pg_ctl -w start` ##(
⇒ refuses connections until
⇒ the server is going)

* the default 8.4 data folder on
⇒ ubuntu
>> `/var/lib/postgresql/8.4/main`

* start a postgresql server
⇒ listening on tcp port 5433
>> `pg_ctl -o "-p 5433" start`

* shutdown the postgres database
⇒ server
>> `pg_ctl stop`
>> `sudo /etc/init.d/postgresql`
⇒ `-8.4 stop` ##(debian-
⇒ style)

```

* restart the database server
>> pg_ctl restart
>> sudo /etc/init.d/postgresql
  => -8.4 restart  ##(debian-
  => style)

```

BATCH SQL STATEMENTS

```

* Run gunzipped sql file in
  => PostGres, adding to the
  => library.
>> gzip -dc /tmp/pavanlimo.gz |
  => psql -U user db

```

VIEWING DATA

```

* view all data from the table '
  => trees'
>> SELECT * FROM trees;

* display table data with extra
  => ascii borders
>> \pset border 2
>> SELECT * FROM trees;

* display table data with no
  => ascii borders
>> \pset border 0

```

TABLES

```

* view the definition (columns)
  => of the table 'offers'
>> \d offers

```

CREATING TABLES

```

* create a new table 'newtable'
  => with 2 fields (columns)
\begin{lstlisting}

testdb=> CREATE TABLE newtable
  => (
      testdb(> first integer not
  => null default 0,
      testdb(> second text)
testdb-> ;

```

* postgresql SQL to show count of ALL tables (relations) including `SELECT relname, reltuples, pg_relation_size(relname) FROM pg_class JOIN pg_namespace ON (relnamespace = n.oid) WHERE relkind = 'r' AND n.nspname = 'public' ORDER BY relname;`

* for x in `psql -e | awk 'print 1'|egrep -v >> forxin`psql -e | awk 'print 1' | egrep -v "(List|^Name|)"`; do pg_dump -C x | gzip > /var/lib/pgsql/backups/x - 2

nightly.dump.gz; done

DATABASES

```

* list databases on the database server psql -l
* List all PostgreSQL databases. Useful when doing backups psql -U postgres -lAt -gawk -F'|' '! /template/1! /postgres/NF > 1print1'
* create a postgresql database called 'company' createdb company (this is typed at the bash shell)
* delete the database called 'company' dropdb company

```

THE PSQL UTILITY

```

* connect to the 'test' database on the database server psql test (the name of a database is required, or defaults to the user) psql (may produce an error, if there is no database with username)
* list all databases on the database server psql -l
* connect to the 'test' database on the server using the role (user/group) 'bob' psql -U bob -d test
== psql commands .. - quit the psql interpreter .. - show database roles .. † list all databases ..

```

USER ACCOUNTS

```

* create a new postgres sql 'role' called 'bob' createuser bob (a role is like a user and group combined)
pg: CREATE ROLE bob; (within the psql interpreter)
* eliminate the postgresql role 'bob' dropuser bob
pg: DROP ROLE bob; drop role bob; (the same, its not case sensitive)
* show current roles within the database server psql SELECT rolname FROM pg_roles; (only display the names)

```

```

* create a new database role 'bob' which can create databases, users and login CREATE ROLE bob LOGIN CREATEDB CREATEROLE;

```

BACKUPS

```

* make psql backup and gzip it pg_dumpopts2|gzip > dump.gz
* dump database from postgresql to a file pg_dump -Ft -b -U username -hdb.host.com dbname > db.tar
* Export/Backup a PostgreSQL database pg_dump -U postgres[dbname] > db.dump

```