

Availability and Performance Tradeoffs in Global Databases

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Agenda

- Why make your database global?
- How can you make your database global?
 - Logical replication
 - Physical replication
 - Tradeoffs: latency, consistency, complexity, manageability
- Amazon Aurora examples



Why make your database global?



Why make your database global? Faster disaster recovery and enhanced data locality

- Promote remote readers to be primary for faster recovery in the event of disaster
- Bring data close to your customers in different regions





How can you make your database global?



Methods for global database

- Logical replication
- Physical replication





Global database: logical replication



Customer use cases for logical replication

Telco, e-commerce, financial services

- Migrate from one region or version to another
- Maintain copies of data in multiple Regions
- Replicate changes for some tables but not others
- Selectively disable replication for specific statements
- Manage conflicts automatically
- Manage DDL / schema changes



Logical replication

Telco, e-commerce, financial services

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Logical replication: challenges

- Complex to set up and to manage
- Primary keys are usually required on all tables
- Replication lag will be measured in seconds or minutes
- Multi-directional (BDR) is tempting...but challenging
 - How to configure conflict management?
 - What happens when tables get out of sync?
 - What about DDL?



Global database: physical replication



Customer use cases for physical replication

Financial services, telco, gaming, etc

- Disaster Recovery: protect against regional outages
 - Minimize data loss (RPO)
 - Minimize failover time (RTO)
- Geo-distributed reads: low latency read access



Physical replication





Physical replication





Physical replication





Physical replication: tradeoffs

- All or nothing
- Performance depends on implementation
 - Block-level versus log-based
- Secondary database(s) might not be available for reads



Amazon Aurora



Amazon Aurora

Enterprise database at open source price, delivered as a managed service



Speed and **availability** of high-end commercial databases

Simplicity and cost-effectiveness of open source databases

Drop-in compatibility with MySQL and PostgreSQL

Simple pay as you go pricing



Aurora: Offload Redo to Storage

Database Tier

- Writes redo log records on network
- Use 4/6 quorum protocol
- No full data block writes for
 - Checkpointing, cache eviction, bg writes
- Push log apply to storage

Storage Tier

- Highly parallel scale out redo processing
- Generate database blocks on demand (redo)
- Materialize database blocks in background (redo)

The Log is the Database



Aurora logical replication

Database Tier

Writes redo log / WAL records to storage

Aurora PostgreSQL: replication slots and pglogical

Aurora MySQL: binlog



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Aurora Global Database Faster disaster recovery and enhanced data locality

- Promote remote readers to a master for faster recovery in the event of disaster
- Bring data close to your customer's applications in different regions





How does it work?



High throughput: Up to 200K writes/sec – negligible performance impact



Fast cross-region disaster recovery



US East

Fast recovery: < 1 min RTO to accept full read-write workloads after region unavailability



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Failover within a single region





Cross-region setup with Aurora Global Database



Version of the application stack is set up in another region to provide disaster recovery and serve fast local reads





Application stack can be spun up in the secondary region and traffic can begin to be routed there (via DNS) with the promoted writer serving write requests within 1 minute



Global reads with low replication latency

R

EU West

Reader

Low remote reader lag: < 1 sec cross-country reader lag under heavy load

Application

US East

W

Writer

R

Reader



AP Southeas

Reader

R

US West

Reader

Q&A and Thank You!

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