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Effortless Content Migration with **Migrate Default Content** openplus.ca **Platinum Sponsors**



Who?



HELLO!

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What?



Migrate Default Content

https://www.drupal.org/project/migrate_default_content

Automatically creates migrations based on YAML files.

(And you can export content to YAML files.)

Migrations?

Migrate is part of Drupal Core

System for importing, updating, and rolling back content.

Great for getting stuff and stuffing it into Drupal in a repeatable way.



YAML?

Data serialization language that is easy to read.

Not programming language specific.

Useful things about YAML:

- Parser is pretty accepting
- All JSON is valid YAML
- Easy to emit valid YAML from scripts without a YAML parser





When?



Use case: Structural Content

Lots of content is need to hold an "empty" site up:

- Custom blocks
- Taxonomy terms
- Landing pages
- Privacy policies

These kinds of content need to be there after a fresh install.



Use case: Test content

- Sometimes we need specific test content (sorry devel generate)
- Sometimes a large amount of specific content
- Sometimes we'd like to share test content with another developer
- If the structure changes it's nice to be able to rollback and re-import.
- Generative AI is *pretty good* at generating YAML structures of things in a specific structure.

Use case: Replacing simple migrations

oldfront

Writing a migrations for very simple content can be onerous.

I.E. Taxonomy Terms:

- Usually a specific set of terms
- Usually only have a name
- Writing a migration for the is a disportionate amount of work compared to just having a list of them in a YAML file.



Use case: Replacing complex migrations

- Some datasets don't map to Drupal well
- Some datasets need serious amounts of transformation
- Some datasets contain a large amount of irrelevant data that needs to be filtered separately



Use case: Weird content

- Some data is just kind of hard to load
- Some datasets aren't always accessible or have limits
- Maybe you want to import the data for CI



Alternatives Solutions

Great systems:

- Default Content module
- Recipes

These systems are more straightforward.

However, you don't get migration tools or the flexibility.

https://www.drupal.org/project/default_content



Where?

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How-to use Migrate Default Content

- Enable module
- Create a '/default_content' directory
- ???
- Profit!



How-to use MDC: Basics

Put your YAML files in: /default_content

The files have magic names: <entity_type>.<bundle>.yml

Examples:

- node.basic_page.yml
- taxonomy_term.tags.yml



How-to use MDC: YAML

Each file is an array of maps that represent the entities.

The first key is taken as that entity's unique key.

Example:

- title: "Node title"
body:
 value: "Node body"
 format: "plain_text"
status:1



How-to use MDC: Translations

The records in the translation YAML should each contain the key "translation_origin".

Translation_origin should be set to the value of the key for the item being translated.



How-to use MDC: Files

Create: /default_content/files

Just set the value of the file field to be the name of the file.



How-to use MDC: Entity References

Entity References are automatically detected.

If the entity reference field being imported matches the entity type and bundle of another migration, the dependency on that migration is automatically created.

Just set the value of the entity reference field to be the key of the entity you're referencing.





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Case Study: The 3 hour D7 to D10 Upgrade

- Small D7 Drupal Site
- Employee leave management / calendar for Coldfront
- Date range field structure changed heavily between D7 and D10
- Through together the D10 site quickly (since we already had a theme)
- Wrote a SQL query that selected the historic data and emitted YML
- Site done!

Case Study: Building custom navigation

- Client moving some PDF manuals to Drupal content
- Building custom blocks to navigation through a manual like structure.
- Need the pages and subpages to theme/test
- Copy/paste content of contents from PDF into files
- One clever find/replace to make it YAML records
- Test data imported!
- Another developer was going to theme it.
- They have all the test content in their environment as well





Case Study: Data from offline APIs

- Need migrate record from database that isn't accessible from the Drupal site
- Write script that loads them outputs them as YAML
- Run script and re-import as needed
- Migration done!

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Case Study: Whole site in all local dev

- Site with complex content types, with lots fields and inter-referenced data
- The content holds the site together, so can't really develop without real content
- As content is added and updated, export it as you would with site config
- All developers working on the site have the latest content without sharing databases
- Developers can re-install the site as many times as needed and always just re-migrate the content

Case Study: Data the doesn't really map

- Needed data is in a react app
- React developer stored the data in code, in multiple variables?!
- Test the app
- F12 Open the JavaScript console
- Run some JavaScript in the console that iterates through the data in the running app, and emits it as YAML
- Copy paste the YAML from the console into a file
- Migrations done!





Advanced Features

Content Export

- Use Drush to export content to import-able YAML
- Is a submodule in the 3.x branch.





Migration Export

- Export generated configuration that Migrate Default Content
- View the exact migration that's being used



Migration Override

- The generated migrations can be "patched"
- Let's you add or change how fields are processed





THANKS!

Any questions?

You can find me at @spotzero & dpascoed@coldfrontlabs.ca



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