Integrated Backup and Recovery in DMF

<Pre><Pre>enter's Name>



Outline

- Backup methods in DMF
- Integrated backup design goals
- Design
 - Dump
 - Restore
 - Disaster recovery
- Caveats
- Future directions



Backup methods in DMF

- Tape-based
 - A filesystem is directly backed on to tape
- Disk-based
 - A filesystem is backed on to disk



Tape-based vs. disk-based DMF backups

| Property | Таре | Disk |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Cost | Low | High |
| Dumps & restores | Slow | Fast |
| Usage of space | Sub-optimal (constrained by implementation) | Optimal |
| Copies | None (constrained by implementation) | Remote / local filesystems as dump mirrors |
| Incremental dumps | Levels 0-1 (constrained by implementation) | All levels (0-10) |
| Multi-stream support | None
(requires multiple tapes at a time) | Up to 20 streams |
| Space management | Manual | Not required till filesystem runs out of space |



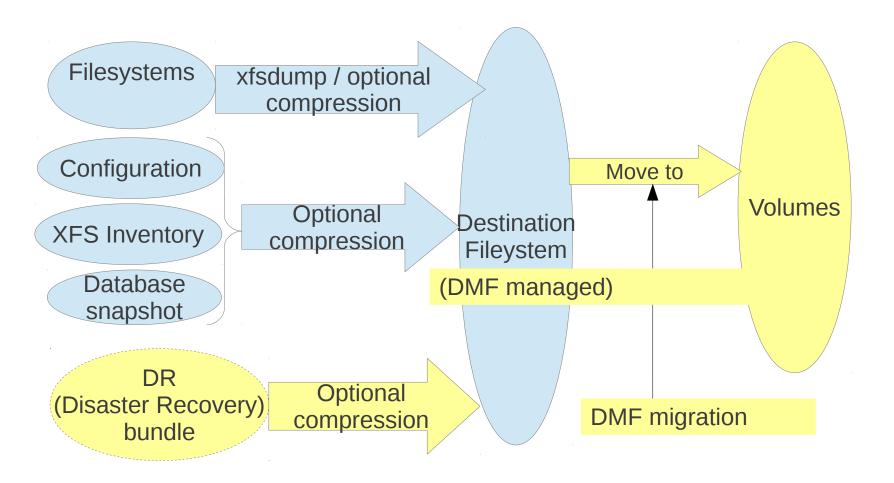
Integrated backup design goal

Retaining the advantages of a disk-based scheme while reducing the cost. In particular:

- Faster dumps by dumping first to a filesystem
- Safer dumps by moving dumps to multiple volumes
- Efficient storage of data on volumes
- Ease of use

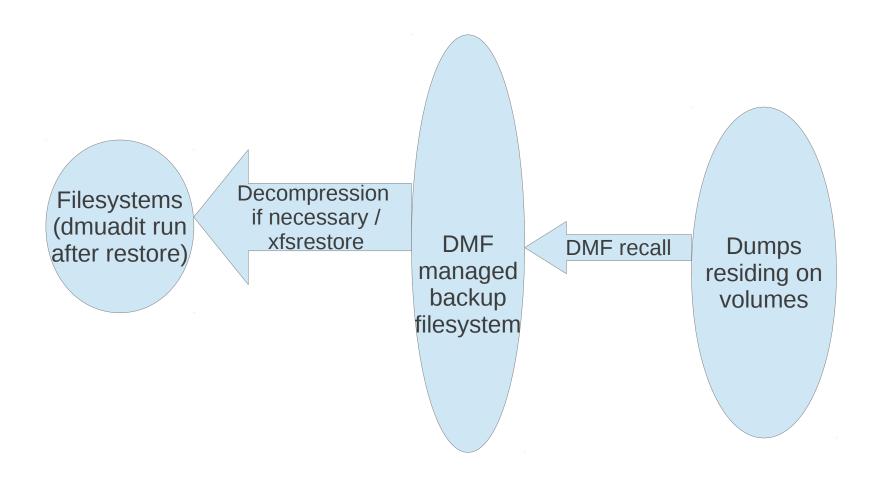


An integrated backup scheme





Restore



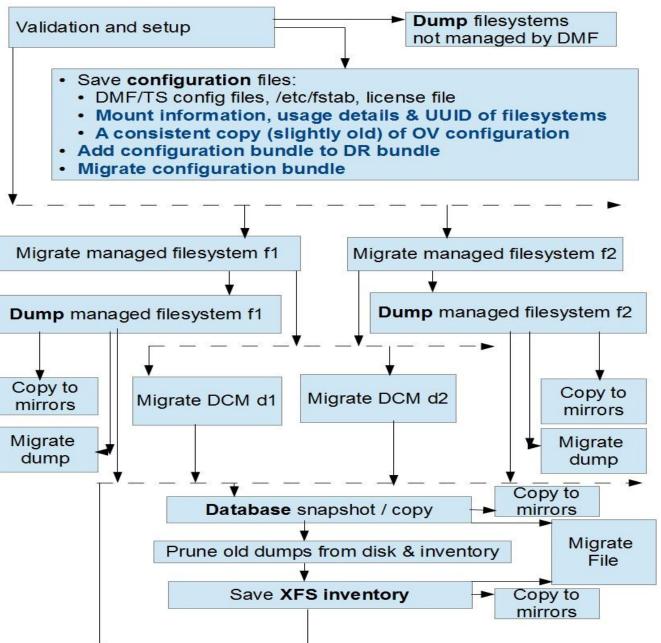


Configuration of backup filesystem

- The backup filesystem is a DMF managed filesystem marked exclusively for backups
- The backup filesystem is allocated at least 2 exclusive MSPs, one of which must be a library-server-based MSP.

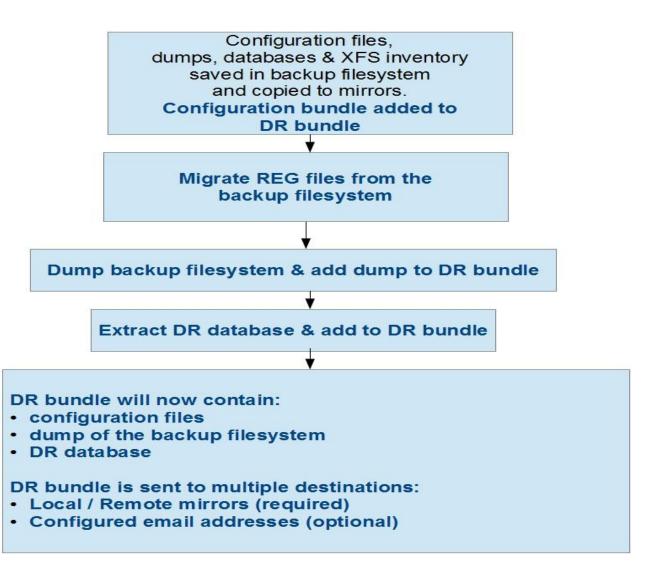


DMF dump session (1/2)



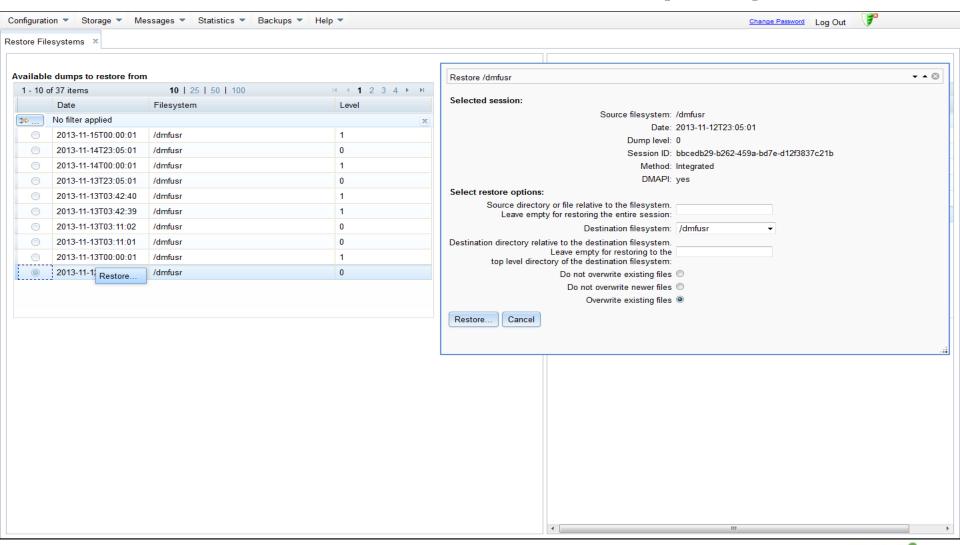


DMF dump session (2/2)



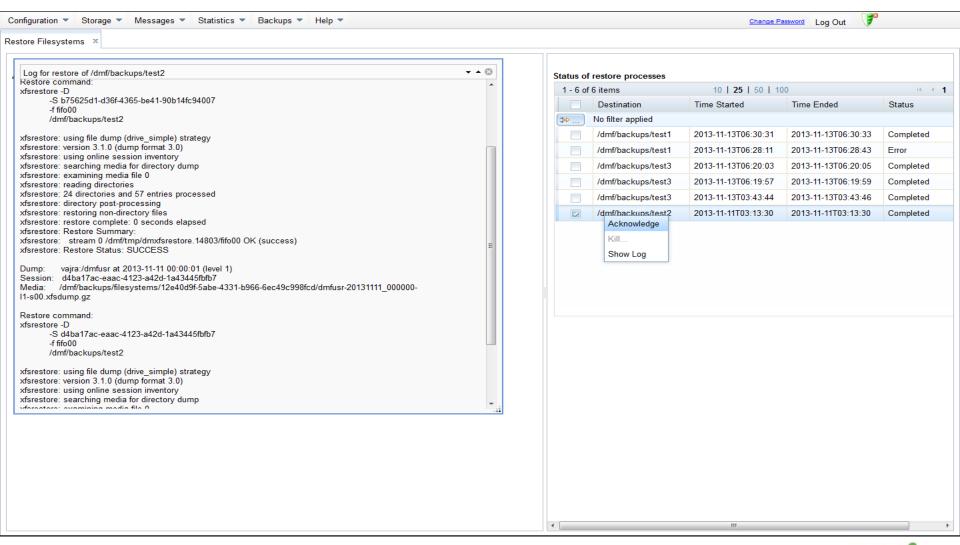


Restore interface (1/2)





Restore interface (2/2)





Disaster Recovery

- Done when one or more of all the following is lost:
 - Configuration files on the root filesystem
 - Backup filesystem
 - DMF database
- Restore is performed in the following order using the DR bundle:
 - Configuration files
 - Backup filesystem
 - DR database
 - DMF database



Pruning dumps & DR bundles

- Space on volumes recycled based on DUMP_RETENTION
- Space occupied by DR bundles recycled based on a fixed retention period

Future directions:

- Better retention policies & pruning methods.
- Records related to existing dumps must not be hard-deleted.



Assumptions

- HFREE_TIME and JOURNAL_RETENTION are set appropriately
- The user wants to go back only to the last sane state of the database
- **Either** of the following is true:
 - No merge/dmmove/dmemptytape operations have occurred between that sane state and recovery point.
 - Either of the HOME_DIR or JOURNAL_DIR filesystems is safe



Caveats

- Certain DMF operations (e.g. merge, move, etc.) could cause:
 - Invalidation of DR databases
 - Invalidation of metadata backups
- What if both HOME_DIR and JOURNAL_DIR filesystems are lost?
 - Only partial database recovery is possible based on the last successful backup
 - All the more important to have HOME_DIR and JOURNAL_DIR filesystems mounted on different devices



Future directions

- OpenVault database snapshot to get a consistent current copy of the OpenVault database
- OpenVault configuration restore capability
- DMF journal snapshot to conserve backup media space
- Better retention policies while retaining validity of existing dumps



