Backups – exercises
Track 2 @ PacNOG 2010

We are going to do something similar to what was done in the slides, i.e.: take a backup of /etc and /usr/local/etc to ANOTHER machine in the class, effectively implementing a "remote backup".

Prerequisites:

- you need to have an account on the machine you will backup TO

1. **Find a partner in the class, with whom you will be doing backups (probably your neighbor).**

2. **Agree with this person which account you will use -- ideally, create an "archive" user, which you can create with the *adduser* command:**

   ```
   $ sudo adduser archive
   ```

   You'll see something like this:

   ```
   root@noc:~# adduser archive
   Adding user `archive' ...
   Adding new group `archive' (1001) ...
   Adding new user `archive' (1001) with group `archive' ...
   Creating home directory `/home/archive' ...
   Copying files from `/etc/skel' ...
   Enter new UNIX password:
   Retype new UNIX password:
   passwd: password updated successfully
   Changing the user information for archive
   Enter the new value, or press ENTER for the default
           Full Name []: Test Backup User
           Room Number []:
           Work Phone []:
           Home Phone []:
           Other []:
   Is the information correct? [Y/n] Y
   ```

   Use the class password for the *pacnog* user when prompted for a password.

4. **Using what you have learned during the presentation, we will attempt to backup the /etc and /usr/local/etc directories.**

   We need to become root:

   ```
   $ su -
   # rsync -avzR /etc /usr/local/etc archive@remotemachine:
   ```

   ... where "remotemachine" is the name or IP address of the REMOTE machine you have created the account on (i.e. pc1…pc10)

5. **Observe what happens, and log on to the remote machine to see that the backup has worked:**

   ```
   # ssh archive@<remotemachine>
   ...
   % ls -l
   ```

6. **Did it work ? :)**

7. To extend this concept **you could then use a script (program) to move the backup out of the way, and repeat this backup process automatically once every day, or twice a day, for example.**