

Table Partitioning Transparent but No Magic

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28 October 2022 – PgConf EU - Berlin



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Solution Architect
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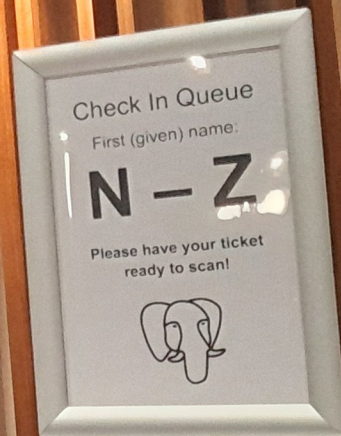
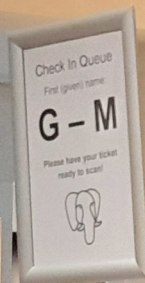
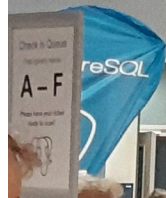


**It is all about data
a lot of data**









**A large table does not scale
and that's why we want
table partitioning**

Brutally Extreme Radio Listening Interface

BERLIN
Brutally Extreme Radio
Listening Interface

Online music player collecting stats

Register every time a song is played

- User
- Timestamp
- Song
- Artist
- Metadata

Note: Users opt-in to send stats

Online music player collecting stats

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts (  
    user          text  
    , played_on   timestampz  
    , song         text  
    , artist       text  
    , metadata     jsonb  
  
);
```

Online music player collecting stats

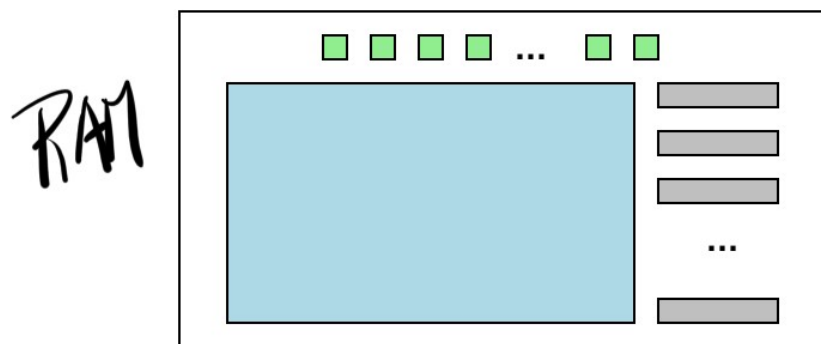
```
CREATE TABLE play_counts (  
    user_id      bigint          REFERENCES users(user_id)  
    , played_on  timestampz  
    , song_id    bigint          REFERENCES songs(song_id)  
    , artist_id  bigint          REFERENCES artists(artist_id)  
    , metadata   jsonb  
  
);
```

Online music player collecting stats

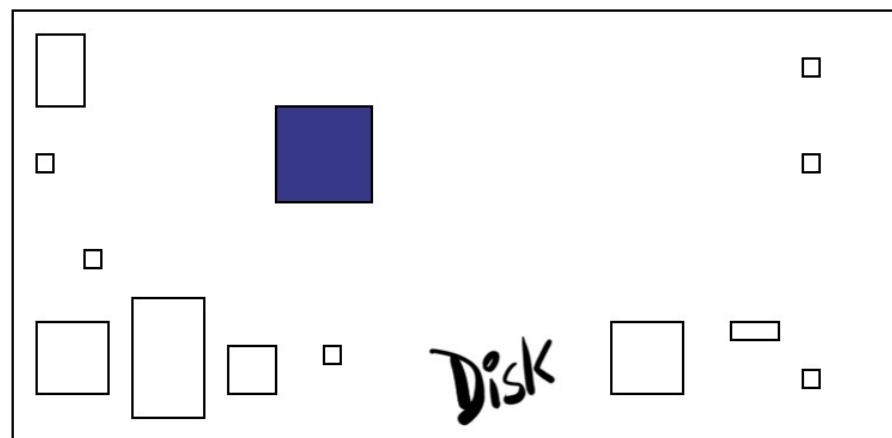
```
CREATE TABLE play_counts (  
    user_id      bigint          REFERENCES users(user_id)  
    , played_on  timestamp(0) WITH TIME ZONE  
    , song_id    bigint          REFERENCES songs(song_id)  
    , artist_id  bigint          REFERENCES artists(artist_id)  
    , metadata   jsonb  
  
);
```

Online music player collecting stats

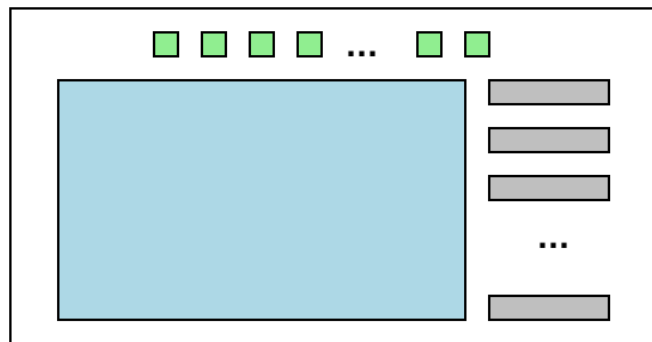
```
CREATE TABLE play_counts (  
    user_id      bigint      REFERENCES users(user_id)  
    , played_on  timestamp(0) WITH TIME ZONE  
    , song_id    bigint      REFERENCES songs(song_id)  
    , artist_id  bigint      REFERENCES artists(artist_id)  
    , metadata   jsonb  
    , PRIMARY KEY (user_id, played_on)  
);
```

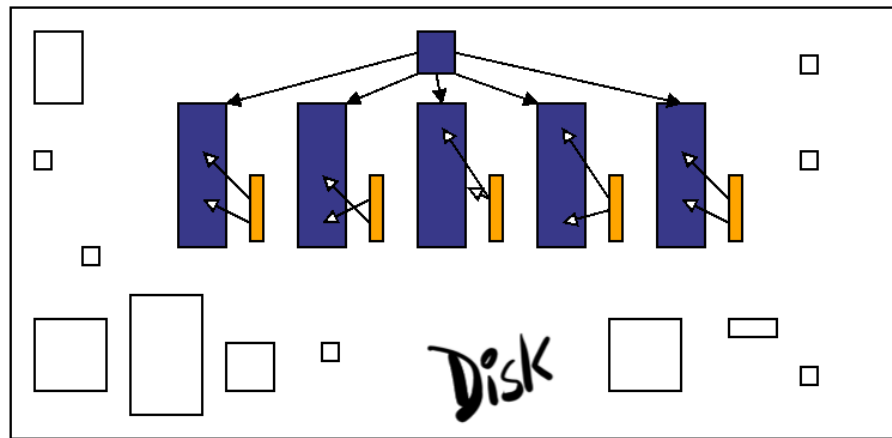
↕ I/O



RAM



⚡↑↓I/O

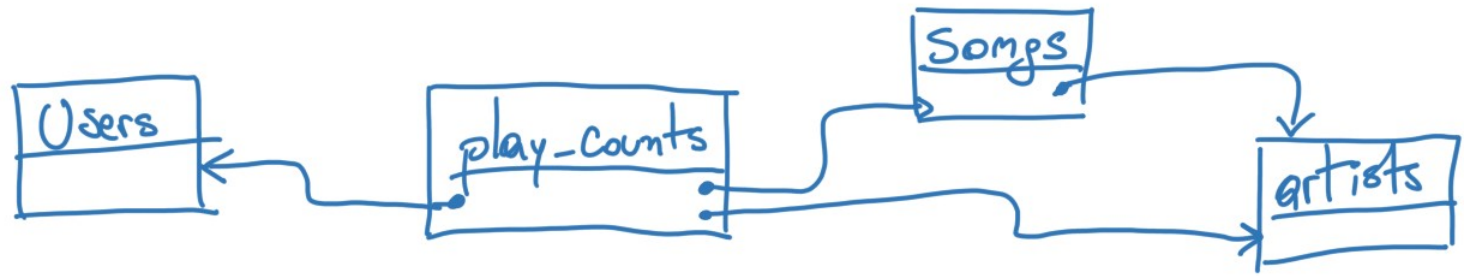


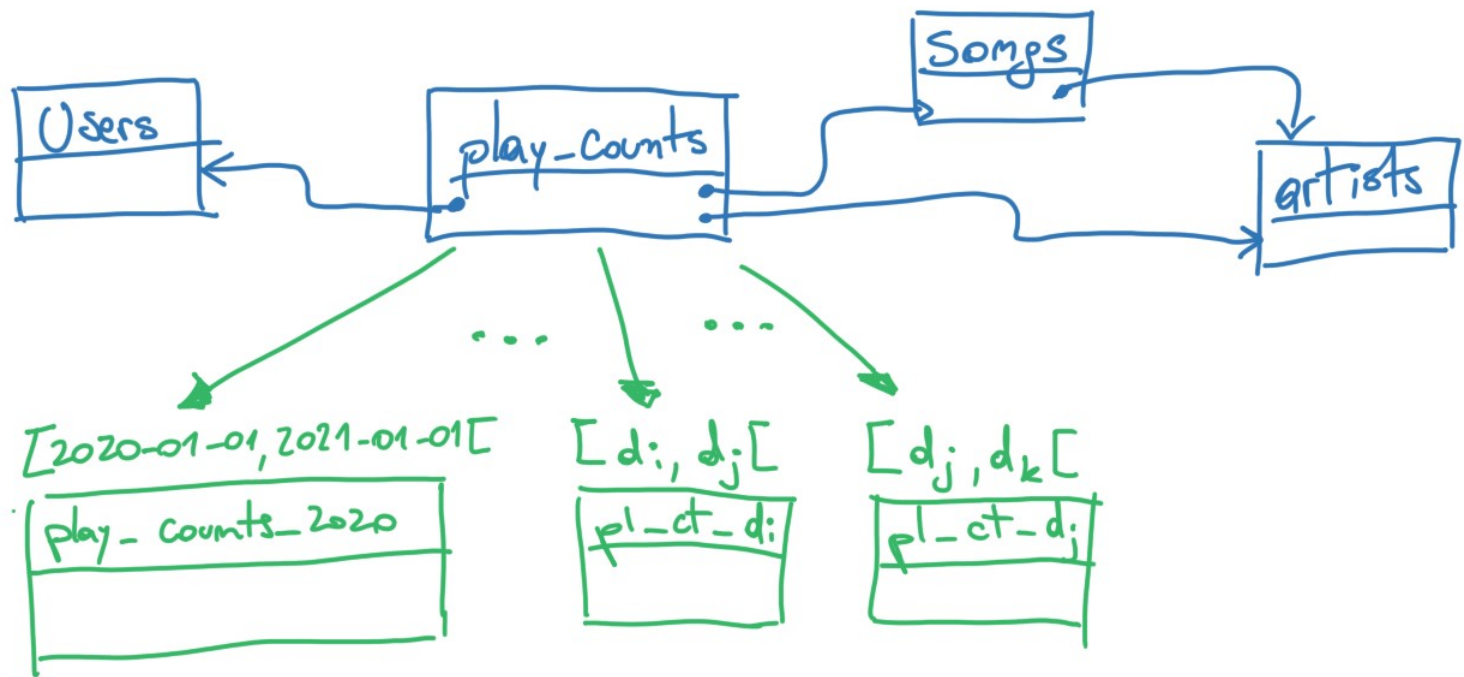
Online music player collecting stats

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts (  
    user_id      bigint      REFERENCES users(user_id)  
    , played_on  timestamp(0) WITH TIME ZONE  
    , song_id    bigint      REFERENCES songs(song_id)  
    , artist_id  bigint      REFERENCES artists(artist_id)  
    , metadata   jsonb  
    , PRIMARY KEY (user_id, played_on)  
);
```

Online music player collecting stats

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts (  
    user_id      bigint      REFERENCES users(user_id)  
    , played_on  timestamp(0) WITH TIME ZONE  
    , song_id    bigint      REFERENCES songs(song_id)  
    , artist_id  bigint      REFERENCES artists(artist_id)  
    , metadata   jsonb  
    , PRIMARY KEY (user_id, played_on)  
) PARTITION BY RANGE (played_on);
```





Online music player collecting stats

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts (  
    user_id      bigint      REFERENCES users(user_id)  
    , played_on  timestamp(0) WITH TIME ZONE  
    , song_id    bigint      REFERENCES songs(song_id)  
    , artist_id  bigint      REFERENCES artists(artist_id)  
    , metadata   jsonb  
    , PRIMARY KEY (user_id, played_on)  
) PARTITION BY RANGE (played_on);
```

Creating partitions

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts_2020 PARTITION OF play_counts  
FOR VALUES FROM ('2020-01-01') TO ('2021-01-01');
```

Creating partitions

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts_2020 PARTITION OF play_counts  
FOR VALUES FROM ('2020-01-01') TO ('2021-01-01');
```

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts_2021q1 PARTITION OF play_counts  
FOR VALUES FROM ('2021-01-01') TO ('2021-04-01');
```

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts_2021q2 PARTITION OF play_counts  
FOR VALUES FROM ('2021-04-01') TO ('2021-07-01');
```

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts_2021q3 PARTITION OF play_counts  
FOR VALUES FROM ('2021-07-01') TO ('2021-10-01');
```

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts_2021q4 PARTITION OF play_counts  
FOR VALUES FROM ('2021-10-01') TO ('2022-01-01');
```

Let's see it working

Understanding what is going on

```
SELECT COUNT(*)  
FROM play_counts;
```


Understanding what is going on

```
EXPLAIN ANALYZE  
SELECT COUNT(*)  
FROM play_counts;
```

Understanding what is going on

```
EXPLAIN (ANALYZE, BUFFERS)
SELECT COUNT(*)
FROM play_counts;
```

Understanding what is going on

```
EXPLAIN (ANALYZE, BUFFERS)
SELECT COUNT(*)
FROM play_counts
WHERE played_on >= now() - '1 month'::interval;
```

**Postgres can prune tables
based on the partition key
played_on**

**Postgres can prune tables
based on the partition key**

played_on

**What about queries
based on the user?**

Query across all partitions

```
EXPLAIN ANALYZE  
SELECT *  
FROM play_counts  
WHERE user_id = 10;
```

Dynamically prune partitions

```
EXPLAIN ANALYZE  
SELECT *  
FROM play_counts  
WHERE user_id = 10  
ORDER BY played_on DESC  
LIMIT 200;
```

Getting the Query right is Fundamental

Getting the Query right is Fundamental

From

```
SELECT COUNT(*)  
FROM play_counts p  
JOIN artists a ON p.artist = a.artist_id  
WHERE a.name='In Extremo';
```

Getting the Query right is Fundamental

From

```
SELECT COUNT(*)  
FROM play_counts p  
JOIN artists a ON p.artist = a.artist_id  
WHERE a.name='In Extremo';
```

To

```
SELECT COUNT(*)  
FROM play_counts p  
WHERE artist = 22780  
AND played_on >= '2021-11-21';
```

Consider CTEs – WITH Queries

```
WITH artist AS (  
    SELECT artist_id, added_on  
    FROM artists WHERE name = 'In Extremo'  
)  
SELECT COUNT(*)  
FROM play_counts  
WHERE artist = (SELECT artist_id FROM artist)  
AND played_on >= (SELECT added_on FROM artist);
```

What about indexes?

Create index at the parent table

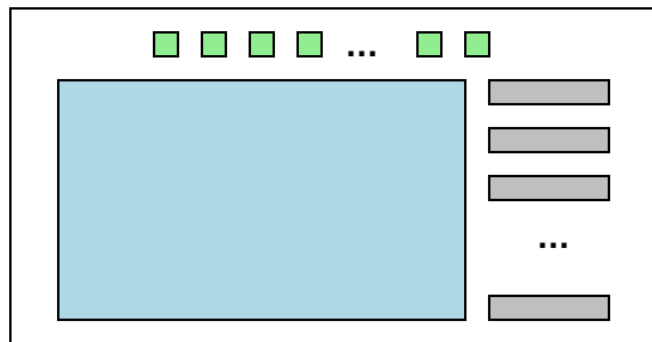
```
CREATE INDEX play_counts_artist_idx  
ON play_counts (artist_id);
```

Create index at the parent table

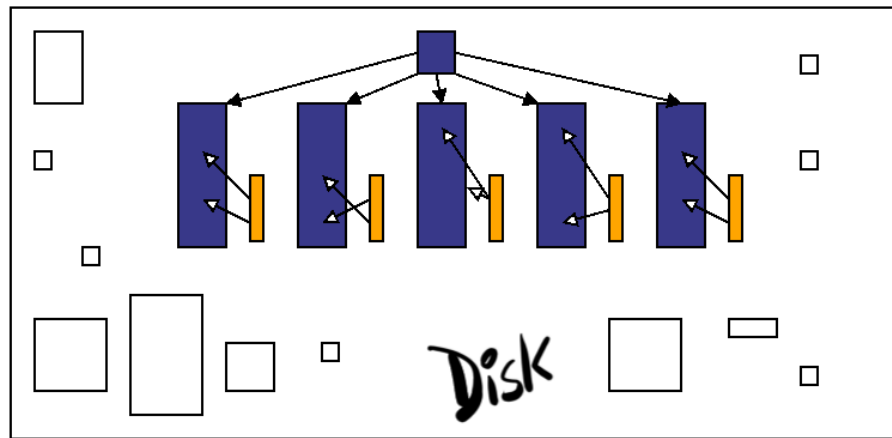
```
CREATE INDEX play_counts_artist_idx  
ON play_counts (artist_id);
```

NOTE: This is NOT a global index!

RAM



⚡ ↑ I/O



**Before we
continue**



**Partition large tables
when they have a logical
partition key**

**Make sure your queries match
the way tables are partitioned**

More partition strategies







Table partitioning by HASH value

```
CREATE TABLE artists (  
    artist_id    bigint GENERATED ALWAYS AS IDENTITY  
    , name       text  
    , added_on   date  
    , axed_on    date  
    , PRIMARY KEY (artist_id)  
) PARTITION BY HASH (artist_id);
```

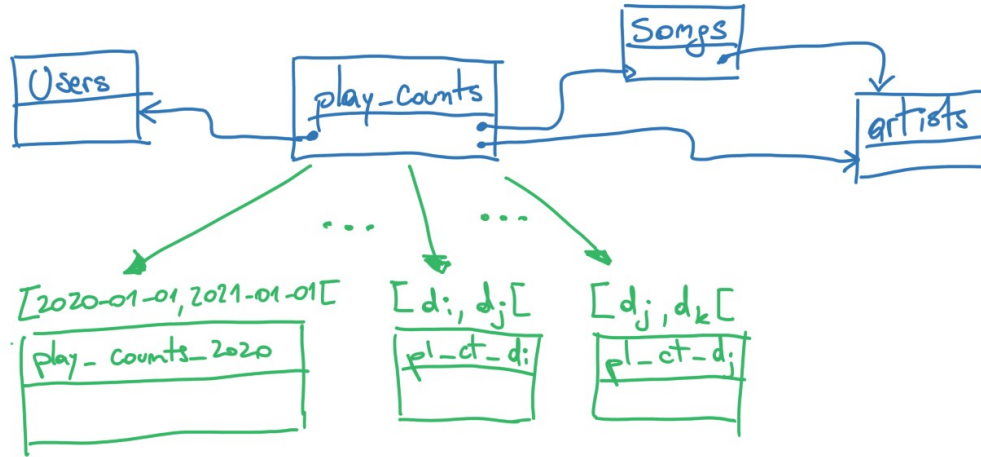
Table partitioning by HASH value

```
CREATE TABLE artists_0 PARTITION OF artists  
FOR VALUES WITH (modulus 3, remainder 0);
```

```
CREATE TABLE artists_1 PARTITION OF artists  
FOR VALUES WITH (modulus 3, remainder 1);
```

```
CREATE TABLE artists_2 PARTITION OF artists  
FOR VALUES WITH (modulus 3, remainder 2);
```

Complete support for Foreign Keys



Complete support for Foreign Keys

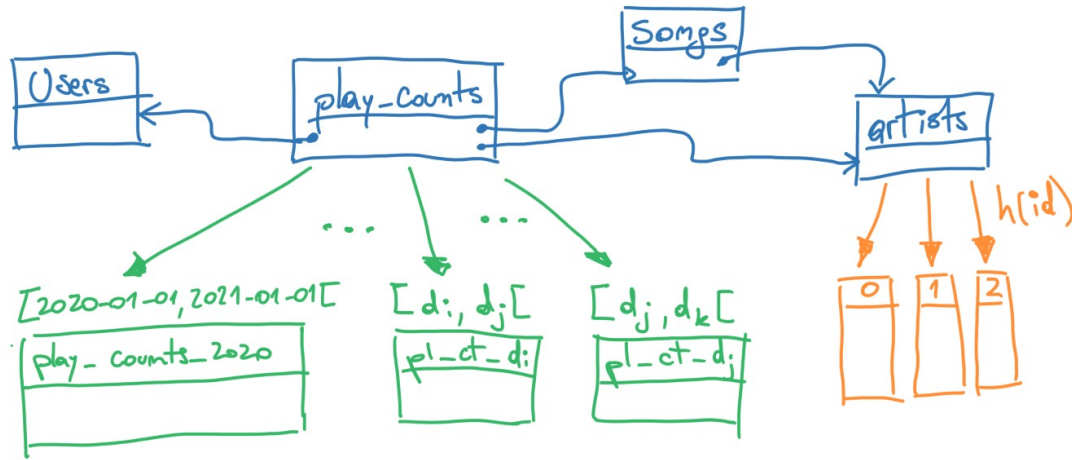


Table partitioning by LIST

```
CREATE TABLE playlists (  
    id          uuid  
    , name      text  
    , category  text  
    , tracks    jsonb  
) PARTITION BY LIST (category);
```

Table partitioning by LIST

```
CREATE TABLE playlists_kids PARTITION OF playlists  
FOR VALUES IN ('kids');
```

```
CREATE TABLE playlists_16 PARTITION OF playlists  
FOR VALUES IN ('16+', 'explicit', 'heartbreaker');
```

The DEFAULT Partition

```
CREATE TABLE playlists_kids PARTITION OF playlists  
FOR VALUES IN ('kids');
```

```
CREATE TABLE playlists_16 PARTITION OF playlists  
FOR VALUES IN ('16+', 'explicit', 'heartbreaker');
```

```
CREATE TABLE playlists_default PARTITION OF playlists  
DEFAULT;
```

Inserting data

```
INSERT INTO playlists
```

```
VALUES (gen_random_uuid(), 'baumhaus', 'kids', NULL);
```

```
-- goes into playlists_kids
```

Inserting and Updating data

```
INSERT INTO playlists  
VALUES (gen_random_uuid(), 'baumhaus', 'kids', NULL);  
-- goes into playlists_kids
```

```
UPDATE playlists  
SET category = 'explicit' WHERE name='baumhaus';  
-- from playlists_kids to playlists_16
```

Inserting more data

```
INSERT INTO playlists  
VALUES (gen_random_uuid(), 'la plage', 'senior', NULL);  
-- goes into playlists_default
```

Maintenance

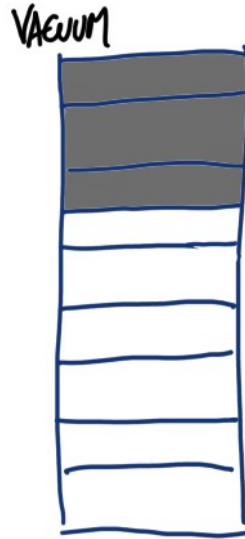


Delete data in Postgres



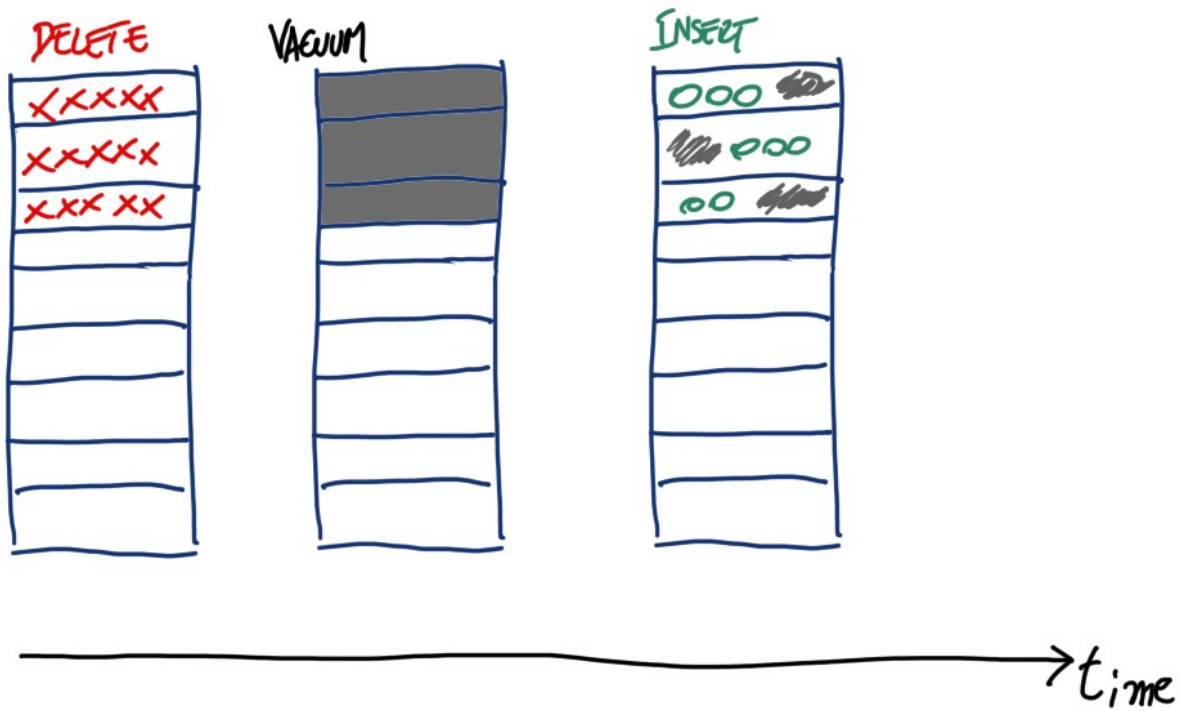
→ time

Delete data in Postgres

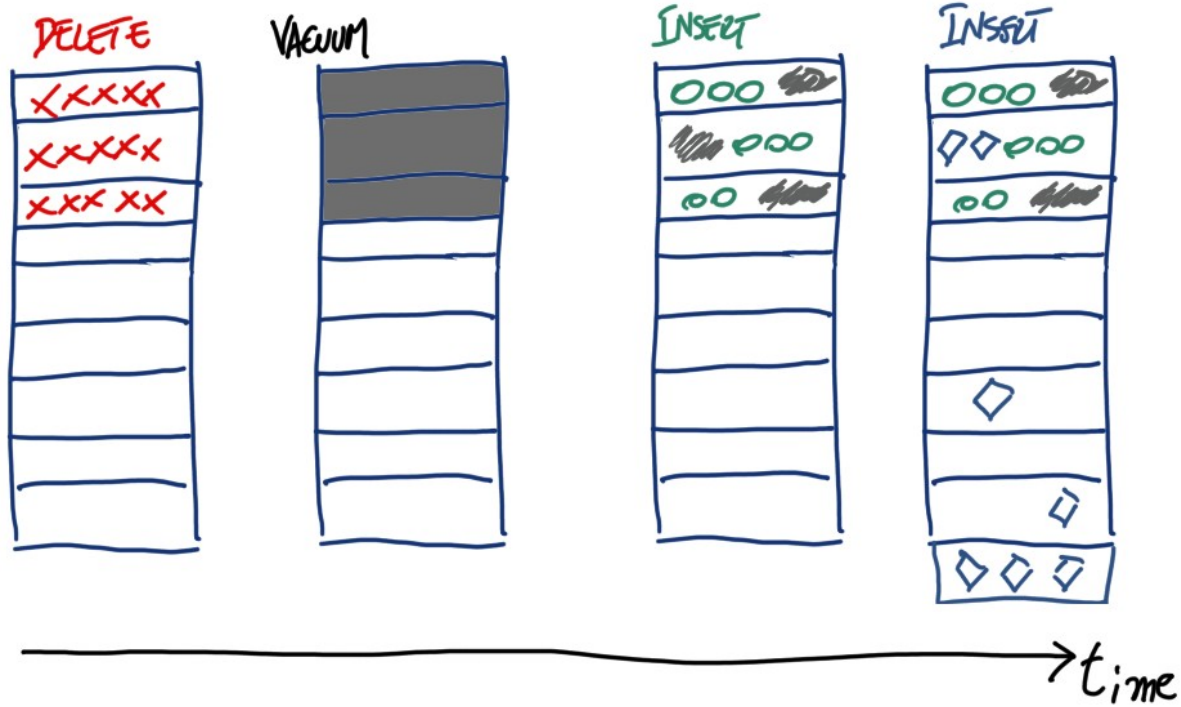


→ time

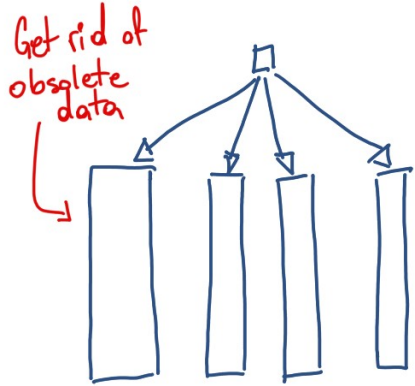
Delete data in Postgres



Delete data in Postgres

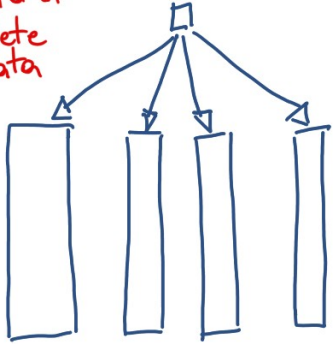


Detach or Drop partition

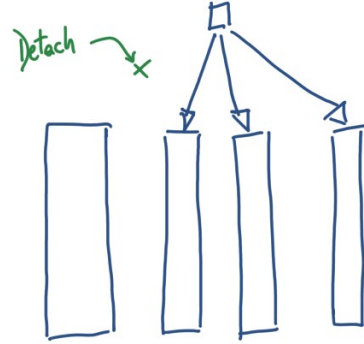


Detach or Drop partition

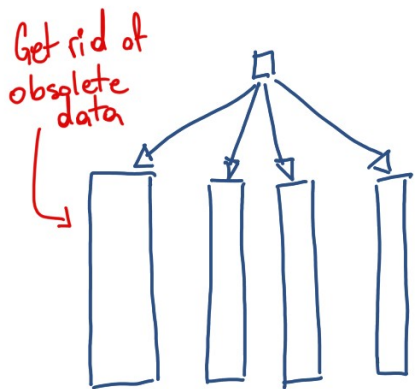
Get rid of
obsolete data



Detach to
archive

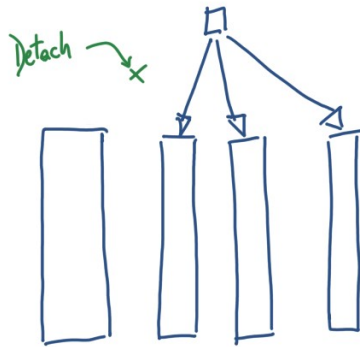


Detach or Drop partition



Detach to archive

just drop it



~~DROP TABLE~~

Detach a partition

```
ALTER TABLE play_counts DETACH PARTITION play_counts_2019;
```


Dropping a partition is dropping a table

```
DROP TABLE play_counts_2019;
```

Getting rid of obsolete data

```
ALTER TABLE play_counts DETACH PARTITION play_counts_2019;
```

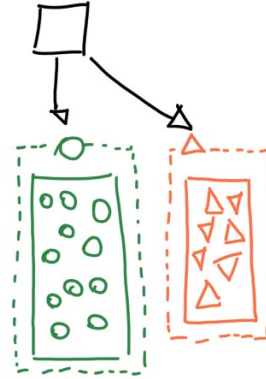
```
DROP TABLE play_counts_2019;
```

Create new partitions

```
CREATE TABLE play_counts_202211 PARTITION OF play_counts  
FOR VALUES FROM ('2022-11-01') TO ('2022-12-01');
```

**What about importing
a full partition?
What about bulk uploads?**

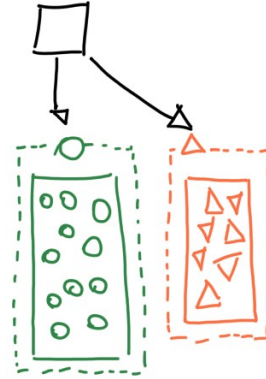
Attach partition with data



→ time

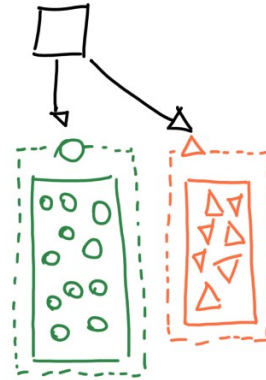
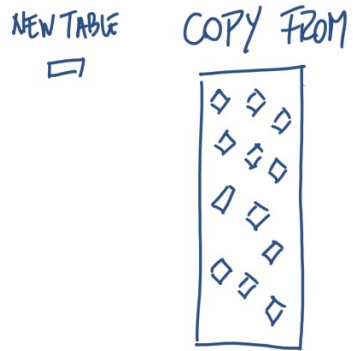
Attach partition with data

NEW TABLE
□



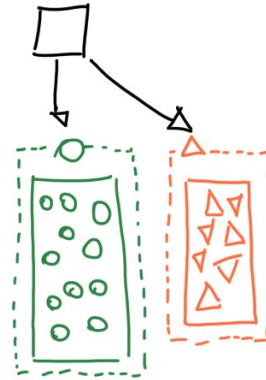
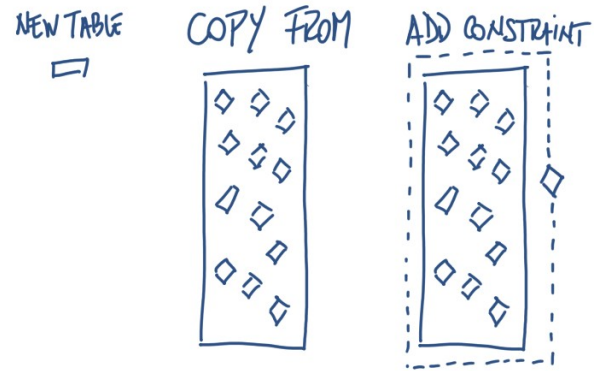
→ time

Attach partition with data



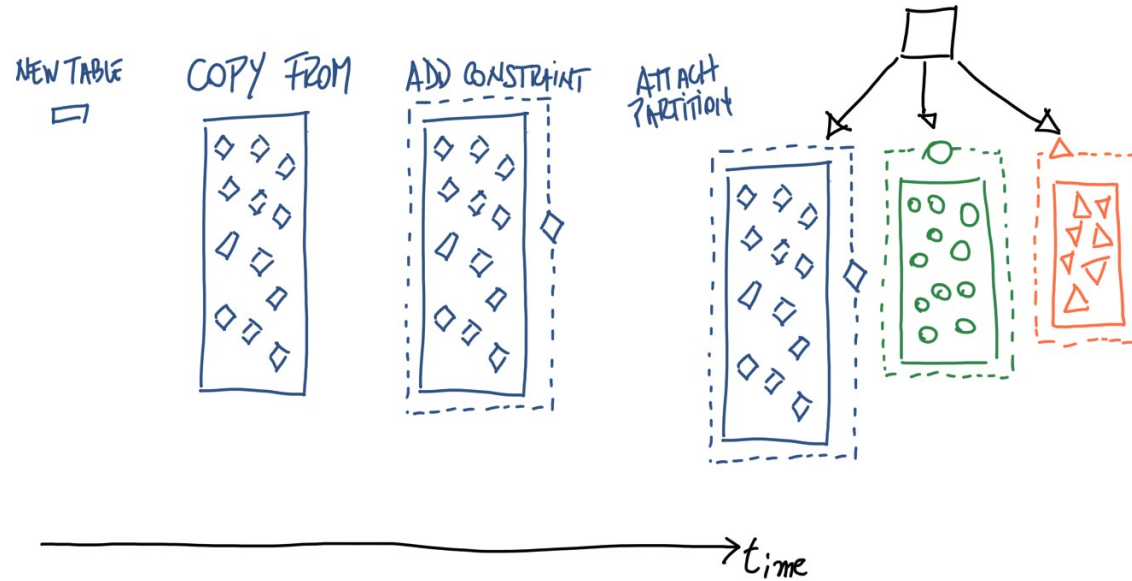
→ time

Attach partition with data



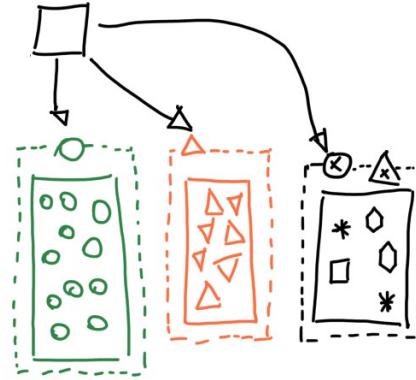
→ time

Attach partition with data

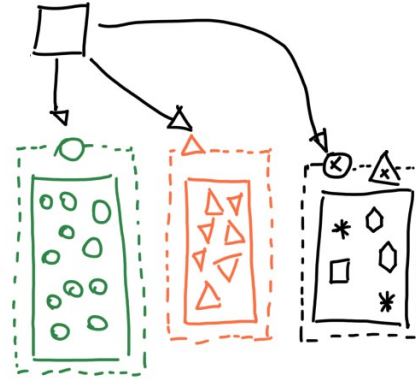
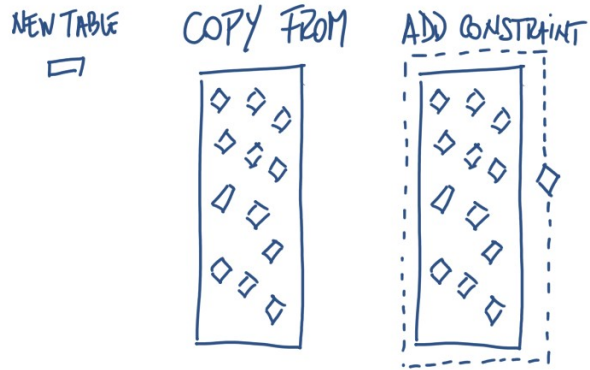


**Remember
No Magic**

The price of Default partitions

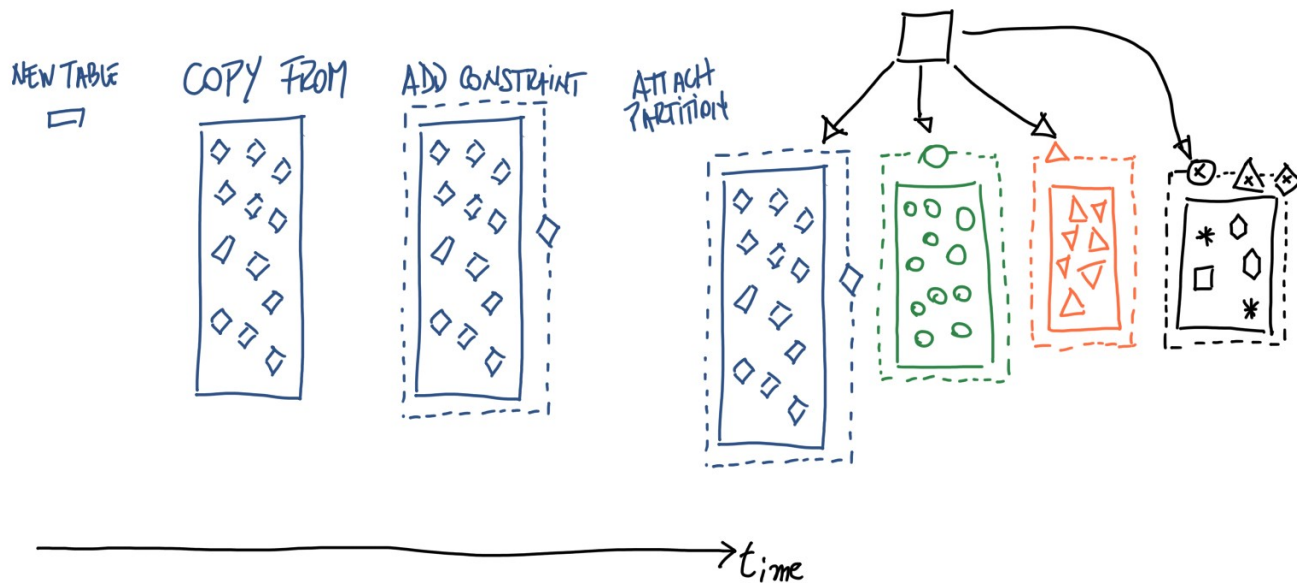


The price of Default partitions



→ time

The price of Default partitions



Import new partition

```
CREATE TABLE playlists_headbanging  
  (LIKE playlists including all);
```

```
\COPY playlists_headbanging  
FROM '/tmp/headbanging_postgres.txt' CSV DELIMITER ',';
```

Add Constraint before attaching

```
ALTER TABLE playlist_headbang  
ADD CONSTRAINT headbanger  
CHECK ((category IS NOT NULL) AND  
        (category = ANY (ARRAY['rock', 'metal'])));
```

And attach

```
ALTER TABLE playlist_headbang  
ADD CONSTRAINT headbanger  
CHECK ((category IS NOT NULL) AND  
        (category = ANY (ARRAY['rock', 'metal'])));
```

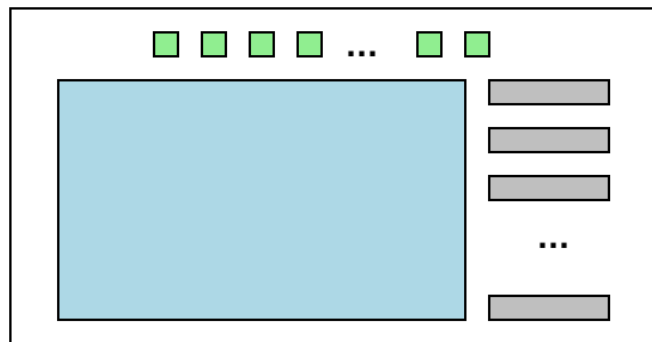
```
ALTER TABLE playlists  
ATTACH PARTITION playlist_headbang  
FOR VALUES IN ('metal', 'rock');
```


**Remember
No Magic**

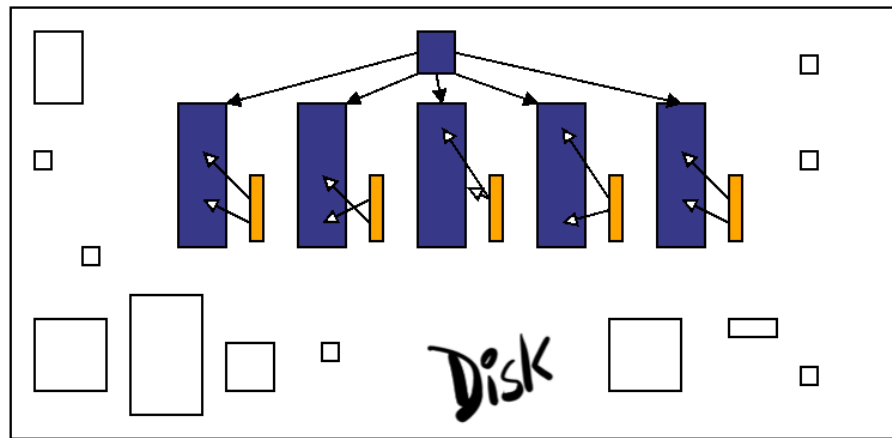
Declarative Table Partitioning

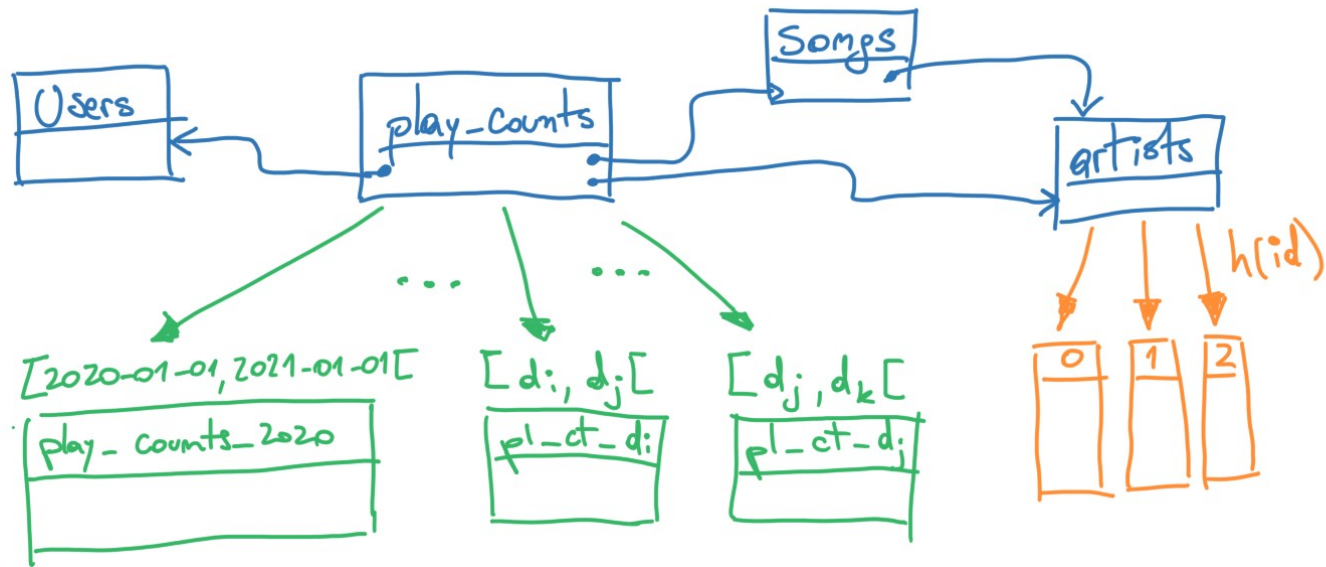


RAM



⚡↑↓I/O





Get rid of
obsolete
data



Detach to
archive



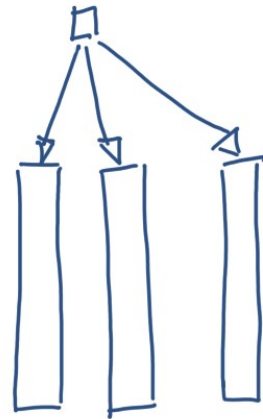
just
drop it

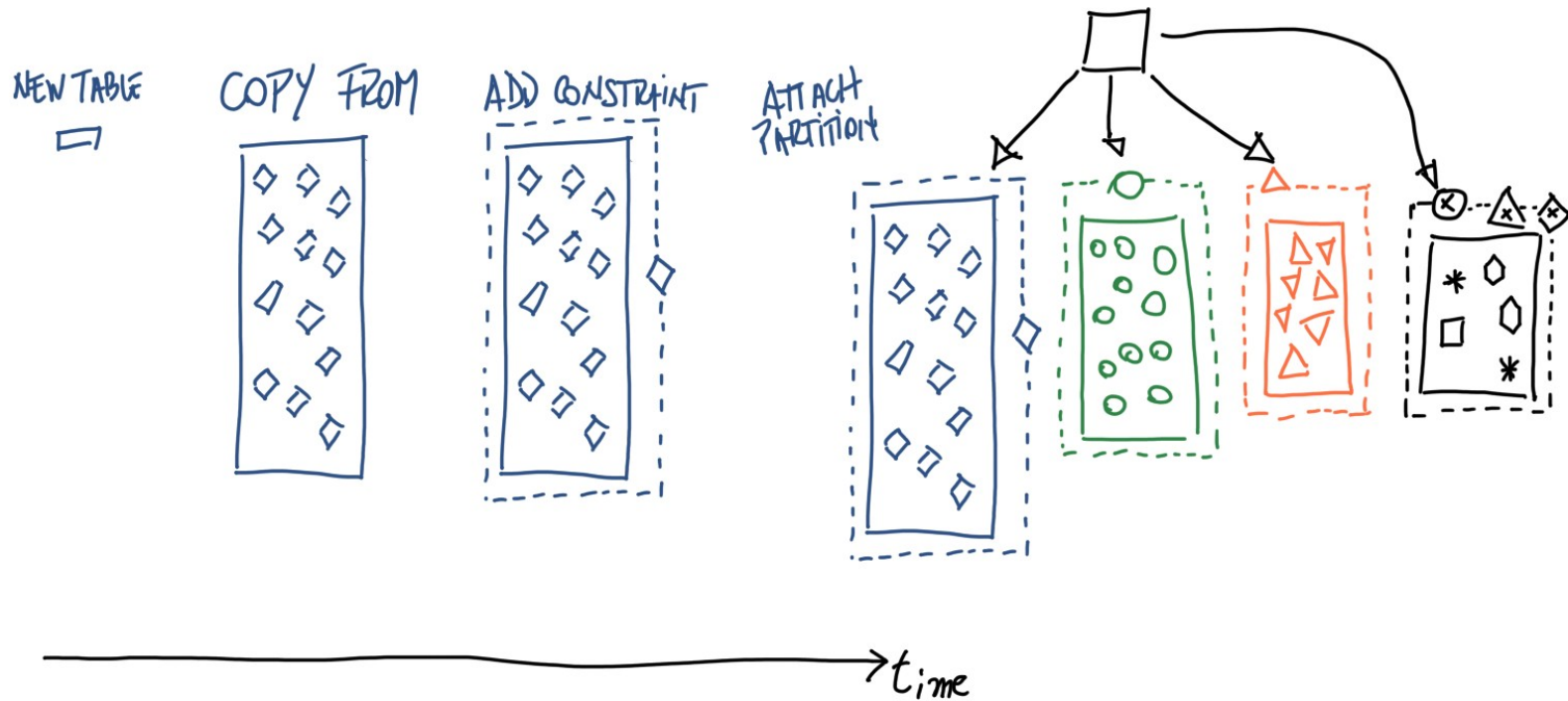


Detach



DROP TABLE





**And don't forget to
EXPLAIN and ANALYZE
your queries.
You may need to redesign.**

Table Partitioning Transparent but No Magic

Danke schön

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