
ATBU

Release 0.036

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OVERVIEW

1.1 Intro - READ THIS FIRST!

ATBU is a Python command line utility with two general areas of features as follows...

- **Backup/Restore:** Cloud and local backup/restore/verify, including deduplication capabilities, bitrot detection, and more.
- **Persistent file information:** A relatively simple but useful utility to diff/compare directories to gain insight into undesired file duplication, missing expected redundancy, and bitrot detection.

IMPORTANT: READ THIS

- I created this tool given my own personal needs.
- Beta as of September 2023: Beyond my own personal usage, for open source use by others, it should be considered “beta” as of September 2023.
- With regards to backup/restore, given ATBU is in a beta phase, it is not recommended for use as a primary/only backup/restore. Have redundancy elsewhere until confidence is gained. Your test-driving is welcome, just be reasonably cautious.
- The walkthroughs outline the most tested/common scenarios.
- This is my own personal utility being shared via open source. I need more time actually using it to speak more confidently about it, to eventually remove these precautionary bullet points.

1.2 Highlights

- **Backup local files to either local drives or cloud storage facilities.**
 - Use the same command-line tool to perform **full**, **incremental**, or **incremental Plus** backups to a local folder on any drive, or the cloud.
 - **Verify/Restore** files using the same command line tool.
 - View listings and information of backups.
 - Optionally utilize **SHA256-based de-duplication capabilities**. (Incremental Plus and Increment Plus with de-duplication)
 - **Encryption/decryption keys are completely under your control.**
 - **Some perhaps useful technical details:**
 - * **Uses libcloud** so can likely easily be configured for at least some libcloud storage providers (currently tested for Azure Storage and Google Cloud Storage).

- * Uses **multipart uploads** and will keep trying to upload “forever” until you make it stop so goal is for it to be resilient to network disconnections/disruptions.
- * **Written in Python, fully command-line driven, with logging output for max detail for those who like to see the operations taking place.**
 - Examine the source code, understand how your files are backed up and restored, or simply gain confidence by hearing about those details from technical experts you trust.
 - Have peace of mind that the tool is available for use when you need it. Just download Python, install the tool, begin backing up or restoring.
- **File integrity and duplication management capabilities...**
 - Scan folders of cherished media to **detect bitrot**.
 - **Gain insight toward helping with personal data consolidation/redundancy management: Scan and compare hard drives and folders to detect duplication you might want to retire in order to, as one example, reallocate devices, or discover lack of duplication (redundancy) where you expected it.**
 - * Helps with manual review/consolidation efforts around cherished data/media files.
 - In addition to offline copies you can maintain of persistent file information, you can optionally instruct the tool to keep small persistent information sidecar files side-by-side next to cherished large media files (i.e., videos/photos), allowing you detect changes based on not only modified time/size changes, but also content changes.

1.3 ATBU Walkthroughs

1.3.1 ATBU Cloud and Local Backup/Restore Getting Started

Setup

ATBU has been tested on Python 3.9.12 and higher... so first install Python, possibly creating a virtual environment if you wish.

After your environment is setup with Python...

To use ATBU, first install it using pip atbu-pkg:

```
pip install atbu-pkg
```

The remaining sections below flow from top to bottom as a form of general walkthrough, showing how to perform various key tasks.

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Local Backup/Restore

Performing a local backup

Local backups are those where files from local directories are backed up to other local directories, usually to other local directories on other drives.

The following performs a full backup from directory C:\MyData to an external hard drive directory D:\MyBackupDirectory:

```
atbu backup --full C:\MyData D:\MyBackupDirectory
```

Since this is the first time D:\MyBackupDirectory has been used for a backup destination, the user is prompted to setup the new backup storage directory.

A backup storage directory or location is a place where backed up files reside along with any backup information files.

Below shows the user pressed <ENTER> to accept the defaults to the initial backup location configuration questions after which the backup ran, backing up all files in C:\MyData. The user chose to enable encryption without requiring a user password each time the backup runs.

Later, we will see how you can add a password, take away a password, and export/import your backup’s private encryption key.

Example output: (edited for brevity)

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu backup --full C:\MyData D:\MyBackupDirectory
atbu - v0.01
Writing new configuration: D:\MyBackupDirectory\.atbu\atbu-config.json
Storage location: D:\MyBackupDirectory
Storage definition: D:\MyBackupDirectory\.atbu\atbu-config.json
Backup destinations require a storage definition which retains information about the
storage location, including how to access it and whether it's cloud or filesystem-based.
Enter a user-friendly name for this backup destination's storage definition.
If you press ENTER without entering anything, 'MyBackupDirectory' will be used.
Enter a name (letters, numbers, spaces):
Using 'MyBackupDirectory'.
Using the name 'MyBackupDirectory'...
Creating backup storage definition...
Created storage definition MyBackupDirectory for D:\MyBackupDirectory
The destination can be encrypted.
Would you like encryption enabled? [Y/n] <ENTER>

You can require the backup to ask for a password before starting a backup/restore,
or you can allow a backup to proceed automatically without requiring your password.

When you choose the automatic approach which does not require a password, you are
allowing your backup 'private key' to be used automatically by this program. When
doing this, your backup private key is stored in a manner where, not only this
program, but other programs and people who have access to your computer or its
contents may be able to access and use your private key.

You can switch between requiring your password or using the automatic approach as
needed/desired. Regardless of your choice, you should be certain to back up your
security information (i.e., private key, related info) which you can do at any time.

Choose whether to require password or not.
Require a (p)assword or allow (a)utomatic use of your backup's private key? [p/A]
↵<ENTER>
Creating key...created.
Storing...
Keyring information:
Key=encryption-key
Service=MyBackupDirectory
Username=ATBU-backup-enc-key
Your key is stored.
Saving D:\MyBackupDirectory\.atbu\atbu-config.json
D:\MyBackupDirectory\.atbu\atbu-config.json has been saved.
Backup location(s)...
Source location #0 ..... C:\MyData
Searching for files...
Backup destination: D:\MyBackupDirectory
No backup history for 'MyBackupDirectory'. Creating new history database.
Starting backup 'MyBackupDirectory-20220527-061212'...
Scheduling hashing jobs...
Waiting for completion of remaining hashing jobs...
Wait backup file operations to complete...
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
```

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```

0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
Total bytes ..... 869673
SHA256 original file .....
↳ 6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 9635c5f7b78e4e42850012d4b4be146a8869ff1d4ae921672abe3b203acc497a
---
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
Total bytes ..... 3059866
SHA256 original file .....
↳ 16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ eabca80e88058e3dad94fc902d22910b74fbaaa9cc04694043950eda8886a9ba
---
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
Total bytes ..... 798387
SHA256 original file .....
↳ 6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ e37edab1bac45a9205c50ad669ccae56c752f2bfe7ff2aa5c86d2e72b5315845
---
... (edited for brevity) ...

Waiting for backup information to be saved...
SpecificBackupInformation thread stop initiated. Finishing up...
Saving in-progress backup information: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\
↳ MyBackupDirectory-20220527-061212.atbuinf.tmp
Saving backup info file: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\MyBackupDirectory-20220527-
↳ 061212.atbuinf
Backup info file saved: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\MyBackupDirectory-20220527-
↳ 061212.atbuinf
Copying primary C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\MyBackupDirectory-20220527-061212.
↳ atbuinf to D:\MyBackupDirectory\.atbu\atbu-backup-info...
SpecificBackupInformation background thread ending.
0% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\MyBackupDirectory.atbuinf
100% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\MyBackupDirectory.atbuinf
BackupFile: Completed C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\MyBackupDirectory.atbuinf
Total bytes ..... 22033
SHA256 original file .....
↳ 9743781e28dd0b78f580e1779552a231729a2c529006552776619fcfb43371fc
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 75b8f639caf700109f99fa5c50652d4f3dfd79bdd8842a21b3b88151c9035d16

```

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```

---
The backup information has been successfully backed up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-
↳info\MyBackupDirectory.atbuinf
All backup file operations have completed.
*****
*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during backup.
Total files ..... 17
Total unchanged files ..... 0
Total file results ..... 17
Total errors ..... 0
Total successful backups ..... 0
Success, no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

The result of the above initial backup command is that a new backup storage definition D:\MyBackupDirectory has been created.

Listing information about a backup

The following command will display information about D:\MyBackupDirectory using the 'list' command:

```
atbu list D:\MyBackupDirectory
```

Example output:

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu list D:\MyBackupDirectory
atbu - v0.01

Storage Definition    Provider    Container                Interface    Encrypted    ↳
↳Persisted IV
-----
↳-----
MyBackupDirectory    filesystem  D:\MyBackupDirectory    filesystem    True         True
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

The following displays information about the backup history for D:\MyBackupDirectory:

```
atbu list D:\MyBackupDirectory backup:*
```

Example output:

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu list D:\MyBackupDirectory backup:*
atbu - v0.01

Storage Definition    Provider    Container                Interface    Encrypted    ↳
↳Persisted IV
-----
↳-----
MyBackupDirectory    filesystem  D:\MyBackupDirectory    filesystem    True         True
Specific backups from storage definition 'MyBackupDirectory'
MyBackupDirectory-20220527-061212
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

The above indicates a backup occurred on May, 27, 2022 at around 6:12AM UTC.

The following command shows what was backed up in that backup...

```
atbu list D:\MyBackupDirectory backup:MyBackupDirectory-20220527-061212 files:*
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu list D:\MyBackupDirectory backup:MyBackupDirectory-20220527-
↳061212 files:*
atbu - v0.01
```

Storage Definition	Provider	Container	Interface	Encrypted	
↳Persisted IV					
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
↳-----					
MyBackupDirectory	filesystem	D:\MyBackupDirectory	filesystem	True	True
Specific backups from storage definition 'MyBackupDirectory'					
MyBackupDirectory-20220527-061212					
C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx					
C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt					
C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg					
C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg					

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>
```

You could obviously filter on only Wildlife files with the following command...

```
atbu list D:\MyBackupDirectory backup:MyBackupDirectory-20220527-061212 files:*\\Wildlife\*
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu list D:\MyBackupDirectory backup:MyBackupDirectory-20220527-
↳061212 files:*\\Wildlife\*
atbu - v0.01
```

Storage Definition	Provider	Container	Interface	Encrypted	
↳Persisted IV					
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
↳-----					
MyBackupDirectory	filesystem	D:\MyBackupDirectory	filesystem	True	True
Specific backups from storage definition 'MyBackupDirectory'					
MyBackupDirectory-20220527-061212					

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```

C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

Restore files from a local backup

The following command will restore *all* files from the *last* “D:\MyBackupDirectory” backup to a destination directory named C:\MyRestore:

```
atbu restore D:\MyBackupDirectory\ backup:last files:* C:\MyRestore
```

Example output: (edited for brevity)

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu restore D:\MyBackupDirectory\ backup:last files:* C:\
MyRestore
atbu - v0.01
Will restore 17 files from 'MyBackupDirectory'
Starting restore from 'MyBackupDirectory'...
Scheduling restore jobs...
Wait for restore file operations to complete...
0% completed of C:\MyRestore\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
0% completed of C:\MyRestore\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
0% completed of C:\MyRestore\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
0% completed of C:\MyRestore\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyRestore\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
RestoreFile: Completed for C:\MyRestore\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
Total bytes ..... 6184
SHA256 download .....
→9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
SHA256 original .....
→9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
SHA256 encrypted download .....
→bf45f129e5e9415a33b54419432a69b0c79af93cbc74d551d3fa5931d6dcf715
Restore succeeded: C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
SHA256 encrypted original .....
→bf45f129e5e9415a33b54419432a69b0c79af93cbc74d551d3fa5931d6dcf715
0% completed of C:\MyRestore\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
RestoreFile: Completed for C:\MyRestore\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure
→text.txt
Total bytes ..... 63
SHA256 download .....
→c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
SHA256 original .....
→c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
SHA256 encrypted download .....
→b295958f46ab412932c935b108576c8338362a77c6fc9e9e0251f1edd2118b39
SHA256 encrypted original .....
→b295958f46ab412932c935b108576c8338362a77c6fc9e9e0251f1edd2118b39
Restore succeeded: C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt

```

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```

RestoreFile: Completed for C:\MyRestore\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
Total bytes ..... 34
SHA256 download .....
  ↳ 2df5d20b39e6f3814da49b7752f569f388009a1a531139f60e8d9820702e3894
SHA256 original .....
  ↳ 2df5d20b39e6f3814da49b7752f569f388009a1a531139f60e8d9820702e3894
SHA256 encrypted download .....
  ↳ d482a4788a99937f43104fe7fdce2a3ca13095fc8267df36577eaad0ee565641
SHA256 encrypted original .....
  ↳ d482a4788a99937f43104fe7fdce2a3ca13095fc8267df36577eaad0ee565641
Restore succeeded: C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
... (edited for brevity) ...
All restore file operations have completed.
*****
*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during restore.
Total files ..... 17
Total errors ..... 0
Total success ..... 17
Finished... no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

After restoring, you can see both C:\MyRestore and the original C:\MyData contain the same files...

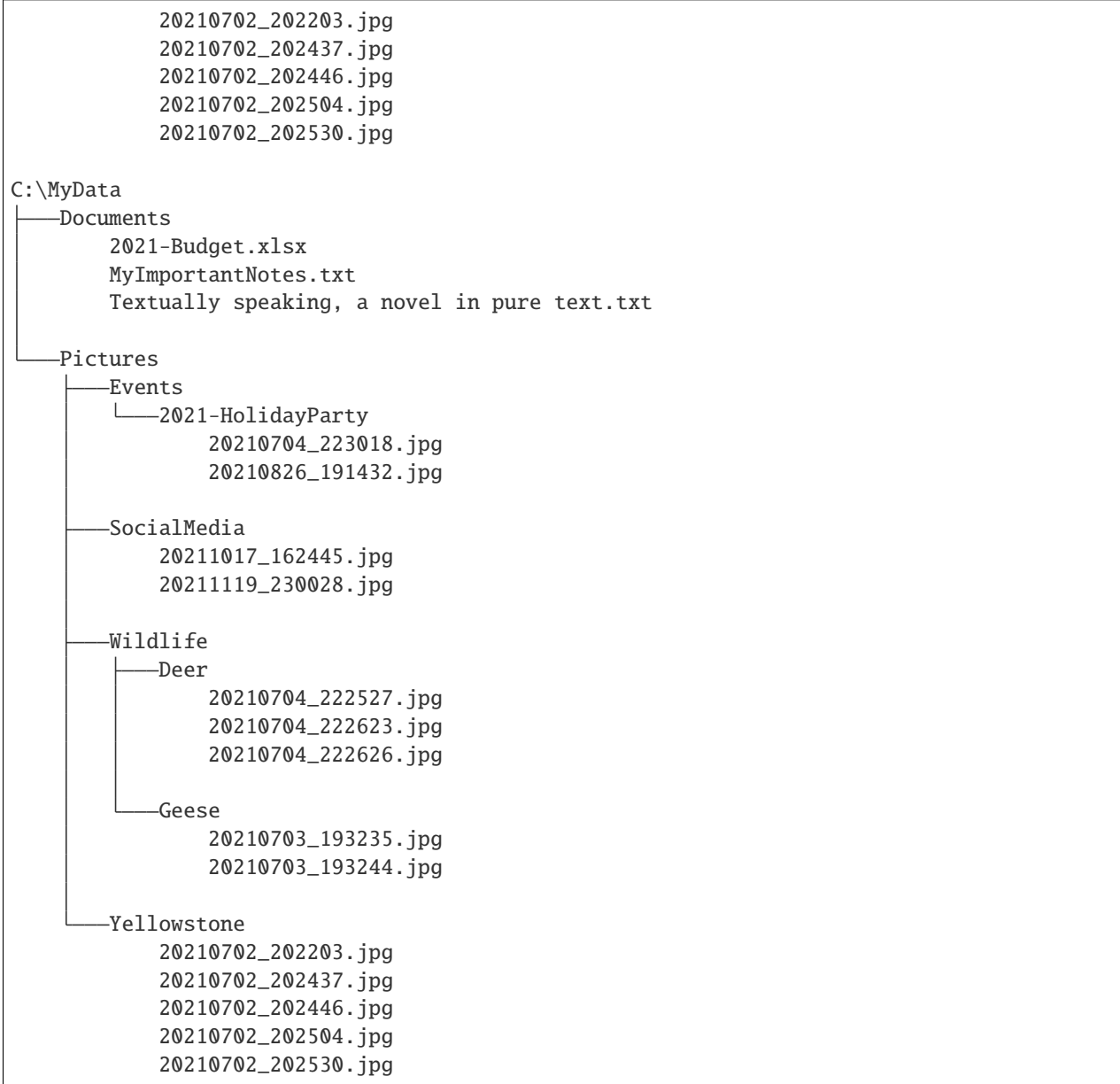
```

C:\MyRestore
├── Documents
│   ├── 2021-Budget.xlsx
│   ├── MyImportantNotes.txt
│   └── Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
├── Pictures
│   ├── Events
│   │   └── 2021-HolidayParty
│   │       ├── 20210704_223018.jpg
│   │       └── 20210826_191432.jpg
│   ├── SocialMedia
│   │   ├── 20211017_162445.jpg
│   │   └── 20211119_230028.jpg
│   ├── Wildlife
│   │   ├── Deer
│   │   │   ├── 20210704_222527.jpg
│   │   │   ├── 20210704_222623.jpg
│   │   │   └── 20210704_222626.jpg
│   │   └── Geese
│   │       ├── 20210703_193235.jpg
│   │       └── 20210703_193244.jpg
└── Yellowstone

```

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Verifying a backup without restore

The command to verify a backup without restoring its files is very similar to performing a restore. The following performs a verify of the same backup restored in the previous example...

```
atbu verify D:\MyBackupDirectory\ backup:last files:*
```

Example output: (edited for brevity)

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu verify D:\MyBackupDirectory\ backup:last files:*
atbu - v0.01
Will verify 17 files in 'MyBackupDirectory'
Starting verify from 'MyBackupDirectory'...
```

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```

Scheduling verification jobs...
Wait for verify file operations to complete...
0% completed of MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
0% completed of MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
0% completed of MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
0% completed of MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
0% completed of MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
VerifyFile: Completed for Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
Total bytes ..... 34
SHA256 download .....
  ↳ 2df5d20b39e6f3814da49b7752f569f388009a1a531139f60e8d9820702e3894
SHA256 original .....
  ↳ 2df5d20b39e6f3814da49b7752f569f388009a1a531139f60e8d9820702e3894
SHA256 encrypted download .....
  ↳ d482a4788a99937f43104fe7fdce2a3ca13095fc8267df36577eaad0ee565641
SHA256 encrypted original .....
  ↳ d482a4788a99937f43104fe7fdce2a3ca13095fc8267df36577eaad0ee565641
VerifyFile: Completed for Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
Total bytes ..... 6184
Verify succeeded: Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
SHA256 download .....
  ↳ 9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4fffd306cf925ae752f2de6
SHA256 original .....
  ↳ 9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4fffd306cf925ae752f2de6
SHA256 encrypted download .....
  ↳ bf45f129e5e9415a33b54419432a69b0c79af93cbc74d551d3fa5931d6dcf715
SHA256 encrypted original .....
  ↳ bf45f129e5e9415a33b54419432a69b0c79af93cbc74d551d3fa5931d6dcf715
Verify succeeded: Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
VerifyFile: Completed for Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
Total bytes ..... 63
SHA256 download .....
  ↳ c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
SHA256 original .....
  ↳ c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
SHA256 encrypted download .....
  ↳ b295958f46ab412932c935b108576c8338362a77c6fc9e9e0251f1edd2118b39
SHA256 encrypted original .....
  ↳ b295958f46ab412932c935b108576c8338362a77c6fc9e9e0251f1edd2118b39
Verify succeeded: Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
... (edited for brevity) ...
All file verify operations have completed.
*****
*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during verify.
Total files ..... 17
Total errors ..... 0
Total success ..... 17
Finished... no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

The above verify checks for matches of SHA256 digest, file modified date/time, file size. If you wish to also fully

compare each backup file's contents byte-by-byte with a local copy of the file, you can add the `--compare` switch as follows...

```
atbu verify D:\MyBackupDirectory\ backup:last files:* --compare
```

Performing an incremental backup

Let's perform a typical *incremental* backup, which is a backup where only changed files are backed up.

Typically, changed files are detected either through an OS flag or modified date/time and size checks. ATBU uses the latter approach, modified date/time and size checks for incremental backups, but also provides *increment plus* digest-based change detection discussed in a later section.

Let's add and modify files in the C:\MyData folder as follows...

```
C:\MyData
├── Documents
│   └── MyImportantNotes.txt <----- modified
├── Pictures
│   └── Wildlife
│       └── Heron
│           ├── 20220530_140532.jpg <--- added
│           └── 20220530_140645.jpg <--- added
```

If we were to perform a full backup, all files, even those that have not changed, would be backed up again, creating lots of unnecessary duplication. If we want to only backup the added/modified files, we perform an incremental backup as follows...

```
atbu backup --incremental C:\MyData\ D:\MyBackupDirectory\
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu backup --incremental C:\MyData\ D:\MyBackupDirectory\
atbu - v0.01
Storage location: D:\MyBackupDirectory
Storage definition: D:\MyBackupDirectory\atbu\atbu-config.json
Backup location(s)...
Source location #0 ..... C:\MyData\
Searching for files...
Backup destination: D:\MyBackupDirectory\
Starting backup 'mybackupdirectory-20220530-225519'...
Scheduling hashing jobs...
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
Scheduling backup of changed file: C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt cur_
→date=2022-05-30T15:49:00.054641 old_date=2022-05-27T04:56:21.956714 cur_size=62 old_
→size=46
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
Scheduling backup of file never backed up before: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\
→20220530_140645.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
```

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```

Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
Scheduling backup of file never backed up before: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\
↳ 20220530_140532.jpg
Waiting for completion of remaining hashing jobs...
Wait backup file operations to complete...
0% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
100% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
Total bytes ..... 211
SHA256 original file .....
↳ 3efb41e3ada35977bd17d9360318197193d8e20f557c89f5f13f8aa89743e5ea
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ b13cee909453301b39b1a94af2e593b251817e3f0614dd6cfc0657cf7b1adea1
---
Backup succeeded: Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.jpg
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.jpg
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.jpg
Total bytes ..... 227
SHA256 original file .....
↳ b658c01348ac5aaac8dc634ab9086b55eb698f4eb15d0eb71d670ebe4e721f0d
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 11ccde5b1e0a6be51b0b2167fb882beb16d77bd52f5ea46491ad58bb91c51afe
---
Backup succeeded: Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.jpg
Total bytes ..... 227
SHA256 original file .....
↳ a6996a2b2f0c208d17782bc12a898ef682fb9d8905c5ed8f4309f744fdca69d6
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 57d36764e5fd567de5b79cf01afa67bb176bd5f91eb8ec940e12ef018232f65f
---
Backup succeeded: Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.jpg
Waiting for backup information to be saved...
SpecificBackupInformation thread stop initiated. Finishing up...
Saving in-progress backup information: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\
↳ mybackupdirectory-20220530-225519.atbuinf.tmp
Saving backup info file: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory-20220530-
↳ 225519.atbuinf
Backup info file saved: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory-20220530-

```

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```

↪225519.atbuinf
Copying primary C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory-20220530-225519.
↪atbuinf to D:\MyBackupDirectory\.atbu\atbu-backup-info...
SpecificBackupInformation background thread ending.
0% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
100% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
BackupFile: Completed C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
Total bytes ..... 243
SHA256 original file .....
↪2397dd7b7f757b1fe63e7af73e57a3b43311d98bfed6a6ec65031783d65aa555
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↪a1d8a93a12aa446cefb5e8228748dd9f04d76016472bbd89a9441f3abe316ee5
---
The backup information has been successfully backed up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-
↪info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
All backup file operations have completed.
*****
*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during backup.
Total files ..... 19
Total unchanged files ..... 16
Total backup operations ..... 3
Total errors ..... 0
Total successful backups ..... 3
Success, no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

You can see above only 3 files total were backed up. Those 3 files were detected because either they were not already in the backup history, or they had changed since the last time they were backed up. With ATBU incremental backups, a changed file is a file whose modified date/time or size has changed.

Detecting bitrot and other “sneaky” changes

There are cases, typically rare, where a file’s contents may change while neither its modified date/time or size change. Two examples of how this can happen are as follows...

- A hard drive, disk, USB/Flash or other media has become defective with age, where so-called “bitrot” occurs.
- A program, malicious or otherwise, modifies a file’s contents after which it resets the modified date/time to the value before modification.

In both of those example cases, typical incremental change detection will not detect the changed file. The reason for this is that incremental change detection uses modified date/time and size as factors in change detection, but not the file’s content. ATBU generally refers to hidden changes like this as “sneaky” changes/corruption.

Let’s modify a file and reset its modified date/time to simulate bitrot.

We will modify this file...

- D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $f = Get-Item C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $lw = $f.LastWriteTime

```

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```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $lw
Sunday, July 4, 2021 10:25:32 PM
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> # At this point, I use a binary editor to modify one byte in the_
→20210704_222527.jpg file.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> # Let's check the LastWriteTime after that modification...
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $f = Get-Item C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $f.LastWriteTime
Monday, May 30, 2022 4:32:01 PM
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> # You can see the modified date/time changed. Let's reset it back_
→to the 2021 date...
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $f.LastWriteTime = $lw
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $f = Get-Item C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $f.LastWriteTime
Sunday, July 4, 2021 10:25:32 PM
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> # Instant bitrot simulation!
```

After performing the above steps, the 20210704_222527.jpg file's contents has been modified but neither it's date/time modified nor size has changed. Incremental backup alone will not detect this change.

Let's perform an incremental (not incremental plus) backup to see the above changed *not* get backed up...

```
atbu backup --incremental C:\MyData\ D:\MyBackupDirectory\
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu backup --incremental C:\MyData\ D:\MyBackupDirectory\
atbu - v0.01
Storage location: D:\MyBackupDirectory
Storage definition: D:\MyBackupDirectory\atbu\atbu-config.json
Backup location(s)...
Source location #0 ..... C:\MyData\
Searching for files...
Backup destination: D:\MyBackupDirectory\
Starting backup 'mybackupdirectory-20220530-234435'...
Scheduling hashing jobs...
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
```

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```

Waiting for completion of remaining hashing jobs...
Wait backup file operations to complete...
Waiting for backup information to be saved...
SpecificBackupInformation thread stop initiated. Finishing up...
Saving in-progress backup information: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\
↪mybackupdirectory-20220530-234435.atbuinf.tmp
Saving backup info file: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory-20220530-
↪234435.atbuinf
Backup info file saved: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory-20220530-
↪234435.atbuinf
Copying primary C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory-20220530-234435.
↪atbuinf to D:\MyBackupDirectory\.atbu\atbu-backup-info...
SpecificBackupInformation background thread ending.
0% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
100% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
BackupFile: Completed C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
Total bytes ..... 243
SHA256 original file .....
↪165ecb5443fd40764494cad1105003d9aa182b07746af6481fad0a7fa8aeefe2
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↪8b06b5eced84e0d3fab78115c890ee40480a45ad40f3fc672fbe07ad1a37a237
---
The backup information has been successfully backed up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-
↪info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
All backup file operations have completed.
*****
*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during backup.
Total files ..... 19
Total unchanged files ..... 19
Total backup operations ..... 0
Total errors ..... 0
Total successful backups ..... 0
Success, no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

As you can see, despite 20210704_222527.jpg having been modified, the modification was not detected. This is because we modified 20210704_222527.jpg but reset its modified date/time back to the date/time before we modified it.

Now let's try *incremental plus*...

```
atbu backup --incremental-plus C:\MyData\ D:\MyBackupDirectory\
```

Example output:

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu backup --incremental-plus C:\MyData\ D:\MyBackupDirectory\
atbu - v0.01
Storage location: D:\MyBackupDirectory
Storage definition: D:\MyBackupDirectory\.atbu\atbu-config.json
Backup location(s)...
Source location #0 ..... C:\MyData\
Searching for files...
Backup destination: D:\MyBackupDirectory\

```

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```

Starting backup 'mybackupdirectory-20220530-234752'...
Scheduling hashing jobs...
Waiting for completion of remaining hashing jobs...
WARNING: Potential bitrot or sneaky corruption: File at path has same date/time and size_
↳as last backup but digest differs: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↳222527.jpg modified_utc=2021-07-05T05:25:32.000000+00:00 size=722770 digest_
↳now=0c4ab3650a9c78a000fd5f02573ba67812104e9f50db4a03848c12aeea3ef856 digest_
↳last=29de887060a6e62aee6b339548f564d86630a521e99552aec18b9145a005291
Wait backup file operations to complete...
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
Total bytes ..... 227
SHA256 original file .....
↳0c4ab3650a9c78a000fd5f02573ba67812104e9f50db4a03848c12aeea3ef856
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ef98a98b6110f5cbb2cbeec30bbf2d65ec4366d1991a2d873854a0e1fef77860
---
Backup succeeded: Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
Waiting for backup information to be saved...
SpecificBackupInformation thread stop initiated. Finishing up...
Saving in-progress backup information: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\
↳mybackupdirectory-20220530-234752.atbuinf.tmp
Saving backup info file: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory-20220530-
↳234752.atbuinf
Backup info file saved: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory-20220530-
↳234752.atbuinf
Copying primary C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory-20220530-234752.
↳atbuinf to D:\MyBackupDirectory\.atbu\atbu-backup-info...
SpecificBackupInformation background thread ending.
0% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
100% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
BackupFile: Completed C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
Total bytes ..... 227
SHA256 original file .....
↳a4232f0e619681e3a1aaeb1ad84a45de284583c561bcdce7b942556a04dba85
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳bddd476d0509acc0f1ac8e8946c527332a83cb8fce11243cc6b47e4fba7d0cb9
---
The backup information has been successfully backed up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-
↳info\mybackupdirectory.atbuinf
All backup file operations have completed.
*****
*** The following errors were detected: ***
*****
Type                Exception Path                Message
-----
↳-----
unexpected state      C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\2021070 WARNING: Potential_
↳bitrot or sneaky corruption: File at path
                               4_222527.jpg                has same date/time_
↳and size as last backup but digest

```

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```

differs:
path=C:\MyData\
modified_utc=2021-07-
gest_
c12aeea3ef856 digest_
↳Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
↳05T05:25:32.000000+00:00 size=722770 di
↳now=0c4ab3650a9c78a000fd5f02573ba67812104e9f50db4a03848
↳last=29de887060a6e62aeee6b339548f564d86
↳630a521e99552aec18b9145a005291
Total files ..... 19
Total unchanged files ..... 18
Total backup operations ..... 1
Total errors ..... 1
Total successful backups ..... 1
Some errors were detected. See prior messages and/or logs for details.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

You can see from the above that incremental plus detected the changed file's content. How did it do this?

ATBU was able to detect the bitrot because incremental plus re-calculates each file's special large number, its digest (or "hash"). While recalculating all digests is relatively CPU-intensive, and requires more hard drive activity, it is also more comprehensive, able to detect bitrot and other sneaky changes. This because using digest-based change detection is almost like comparing the file's content with the content of files already backed up.

Note in the above that ATBU also has Incremental Plus Bitrot Detection on by default, which causes it to flag an error if it detects suspicious, potentially sneaky file modifications. ATBU still backs up the file, but at the same time it also produces an error to alert you to the potential. If you do not wish for ATBU to emit an error, you can use `--no-detect-bitrot` which will have ATBU output only an informational message about the potential.

As mentioned, even when ATBU detects the the potential issue, it continues to back up the file, assuming the change is intentional. Since all backup history is retained, you still have the original backed up if you end up considering this more recent backup to be bitrot or some other undesired sneaky change.

Exporting your backup config/private key

Generally, for important encrypted backups, a copy of the backup's private encryption key should be stored separately from the backup or client computer. The exported private key should be stored in a secure/safe location for disaster or other recovery situations, or to otherwise be able to install ATBU and re-create your backup configuration toward allowing decryption/restoration of the backup's files.

You can export your local backup's configuration and credentials (private key) with the following command:

```
atbu creds export <backup_storage_location> <export_file_path.json>
```

Example output:

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu creds export D:\MyBackupDirectory\ E:\MyUsbDir\my-backup-
↳private-key-backup.json
atbu - v0.01
Getting storage definition MyBackupDirectory...
Saving backup to E:\MyUsbDir\my-backup-private-key-backup.json ...

```

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```
Backup complete.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>
```

Importing your backup config/private key

If you need to recreate your ATBU installation, follow the steps to install ATBU and then use the import command to restore the backup's configuration and private key...

```
atbu creds import D:\MyBackupDirectory\ E:\MyUsbDir\my-backup-private-key-backup.json
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu creds import D:\MyBackupDirectory\ E:\MyUsbDir\my-backup-
↳private-key-backup.json
atbu - v0.01
Loading backup file E:\MyUsbDir\my-backup-private-key-backup.json...
Restoring secrets from backup file to keyring.

*** WARNING *** WARNING *** WARNING *** WARNING *** WARNING *** WARNING
The storage definition 'MyBackupDirectory' exists. You are about to
replace it with 'MyBackupDirectory'. If this is an encrypted backup
where the private key is not backed up, you will lose access to all data
in this backup if you delete this configuration.

You are about to overwrite a backup storage definition.
Are you certain you want to overwrite 'MyBackupDirectory' [y/N] y<ENTER>
Restoring MyBackupDirectory as MyBackupDirectory from E:\MyUsbDir\my-backup-private-key-
↳backup.json
Saving configuration D:\MyBackupDirectory\.atbu\atbu-config.json...
Configuration updated... restore complete
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>
```

In the above example, it prompts you before overwriting the existing configuration. After this completes, it will restore the configuration, and write the encryption key to the store backing Python keyring for your platform.

Cloud Storage Backup/Restore

Overview

With ATBU, you can pretty much perform same backup/restore commands with cloud backups as with local backups. The most challenging aspect of using ATBU with the cloud is likely the setup of the cloud account, credentials, etc. This section will walk through some of the basics of ATBU cloud backups, including setup. See your cloud provider's storage setup information for details specific to your provider.

For some, the information in this section may seem a bit overwhelming but perhaps do not worry. The following discusses a couple of different providers so is really covering more information than should be required by one person using one cloud storage provider.

Cloud Setup and Credentials

ATBU has so far been minimally tested with both Google Cloud Storage (GCS) and Azure Blob Storage (ABS) so this documentation will be focused on what may be required for those providers. Overtime, additionally information for other providers can be added as needed.

Generally speaking, for both GCS/ABS, you need to have a cloud account, the ability to use cloud storage with that account, all of which will not be discussed in this documentation. It is the result of your setup with your cloud provider that is the focus within this section.

The result of you setup will yield so-called credentials in a general sense. Very often for traditional S3-style storage access, there is an “access key” or “key” (not to be confused with encryption key), and a “secret.”

You can think of the storage “key” as the user name in a sense, and the secret as the password.

What this means is you will often need two pieces of important information to setup your cloud backup, the credential key and secret.

Some cloud storage providers allow for setting up a so-called “service account” which can be used to access cloud storage. In this case, you can download a service account .json credential file (i.e., an OAuth2 .json file associated with a service account). In this case, the .json file itself contains all the information needed to access the cloud storage. You might loosely consider the .json to act as a replacement for the “key” and “secret.”

Finally, some cloud providers have a notion of a “project ID” associated with the account. GCS is one example of this. If you have a non-default project ID with GCS, you will want to include that in your configuration of ATBU.

Recap:

- Configuring ATBU for use with your cloud provider requires you to setup a cloud account with your chosen provider.
- You will need to download or copy/paste credentials from your cloud provider which you will use to configure ATBU so it can access your cloud storage.
- **For S3 and other storage access, very often the credentials are the following:**
 - An “access key” or “key.”
 - An “secret.”
- Some providers such as GCS, instead of copy/pasting a key/secret, you instead download of an OAuth2 .json credential file associated with a service account. In fact, with GCS, you can use a so-called compatibility mode which allows use of a key/secret, but they recommend using the newer OAuth2 .json credential file.
- For some providers, such as GCS, you might need to know your project ID. You can always try to configure ATBU without a project ID, but if you experience issues, you may want to add it to see if it resolve the issues.

Credential Examples

The following are examples of credentials...

Azure Blob Storage key/secret might look like this:

```
Key=examplestorageaccount876123
Secret=9nXnXge6zkdKDFkDW9dKfj2FJkDKjfkJDFKD3432/dfd6dfjkaKDj j fDkj fD&dffjk/
→2dGkdj fkdKfDKfkdkjE==
```

Google Storage compatibility credentials (aka “HMAC” credentials) might look like the follow:


```
Key=G00G1EDFJKDKFJKDJFKJKDF939893849FD8D08F09DGD9890898EER8E9FD9F
Secret=ArdkfBDXfYd9dfDFKJdf5d9C2jKdFdfkae3dVjki
```

Google Storage service account OAuth2 .json file downloaded to the local computer into the C:\MyCrednetials directory:

```
C:\MyCrednetials\example-service-account-c98754699abb.json
```

If you are using a service account with OAuth2 .json credentials, if you open it up, you will see it contains a bit of information, one being a field named client_email. When you configure ATBU, you can use the value of client_email anywhere a key or user name is required (example given later below).

An example of a service account client email field value might be:

```
atbuserviceaccount8838384784782@project-name-2135551212.iam.gserviceaccount.com
```

Given the above, if using a GCS account with OAuth2 .json credentials, your resulting “username” (aka key) and “password” (aka secret) that you would give to ATBU are as follows:

```
Username (aka key): atbuserviceaccount8838384784782@project-name-2135551212.iam.
↳ gserviceaccount.com
Password (aka secret): C:\MyCrednetials\example-service-account-c98754699abb.json
```

When ATBU needs to access your GCS account, it would use the .json file with the Google APIs.

Cloud Storage Setup

You can use your cloud provider’s UI to configure a storage container/bucket to act as your backup’s storage container/bucket. Optionally, if the cloud credentials you give to ATBU have permission for creating a container/bucket, you can have ATBU try to create the container for you (more on this below).

ATBU Cloud Setup

This section will provide an overview on taking your cloud provider’s credentials and using that information to configure a ATBU cloud Storage Definition. Storage Definition is the same ATBU gives to the configuration for any storage that can store a backup, whether local or cloud.

Note: The cloud backup/restore walkthroughs below create the cloud backup configurations using test credentials entirely from the command line. You can use the same commands shown below but omit both the cloud storage access key (“key”) and access secret (“secret”) and ATBU will prompt you for both, where you can copy/paste each directly into ATBU. It is highly recommended that you use this latter approach, and not specify key/secret on the command line, to avoid leaving a copy of key/secret within your command line history buffer, if enabled.

By now you should have your cloud storage provider’s credentials, which will consist of some kind of key or username, and some kind of password or secret (which may be a .json file in some cases).

The general command line to setup a cloud storage definition is as follows...

For Azure Blob Storage:

```
atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name libcloud azure_blobs my-storage-container-
↳ name key=<access_key>,secret=<secret_access_key>
```

For Google Storage:

```
atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name google google_storage my-storage-bucket-
↪name key=<access_key>,secret=<secret_access_key>
```

In this case, <access_key>/<secret_access_key> are either your HMAC compat mode key/secret, or your .json client_email value (open .json to get it) and a path to the .json file.

If you are using a non-default project, you can specify the project ID as follows:

```
atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name google google_storage my-storage-bucket-
↪name key=<access_key>,secret=<secret_access_key>,project=<project_id>
```

You can see the commands for both Azure Blob Storage and Google Storage Services are pretty much the same.

The general format for create-storage-def is as follows:

```
atbu creds create-storage-def <interface> <provider> <container> key=<access_key>,secret=<secret_access_key>,[project=<project_id>]
[-create-container]
```

where

- <interface> <'filesystem','libcloud'|'google'>
- <provider> <'filesystem'|'azure_blobs'|'google_storage'>
- <container> The cloud storage container or bucket name.
- <key> storage key
- <secret_access_key> storage secret
- <project_id> project if required.

If you specify `–create-container`, ATBU will attempt to create the container for you. Some important points on container creation...

If you use `–create-container`, and you specify an explicit single container name such as “my-container” then that container must not already be in use or the creation will fail.

Alternatively, when using `–create-container`, you can specify a container name ending with an asterisk “*” which activates the ATBU auto-find capability which causes ATBU to use the specified container name as a base name to which it appends a code until finding an available name.

It is recommended that you use auto-find if you wish ATBU to create the container name, and you do not wish to control the specific name used (beyond the base name).

Addendum to the above, avoiding secrets on the Command line

As mentioned earlier, you can avoid specifying secrets on the command line by omitting them from the command line. In that case, you will be prompted by ATBU to input them. You can manually enter or copy/paste them.

For Azure Blob Storage, omit “key=<access_key>,secret=<secret_access_key>” as follows:

```
atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name libcloud azure_blobs my-storage-container-
↪name
```

For Google Storage, omit “key=<access_key>,secret=<secret_access_key>” as follows:

```
atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name google google_storage my-storage-bucket-name
```

For Google Storage, if you wish to specify a project name, you can still do so on the command line as follows:

```
atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name google google_storage my-storage-bucket-
↳name project=<project_id>
```

Basically, you can use either the command line or the console input to specify secrets. If you leave a required secret out of the command line, you will be prompted to enter it via the console.

Azure Example

```
atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name libcloud azure_blobs my-storage-container-
↳name key=examplestorageaccount876123,secret=9nXnXge6zkdKDFkDW9dKfj2FJkDKjfkJDFKD3432/
↳dfd6dfjkaKDjJfDkjfD&dffjk/2dGkdjfkdkfDKfkdkE==
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name libcloud azure_blobs.
↳my-storage-container-name* key=examplestorageaccount876123,
↳secret=9nXnXge6zkdKDFkDW9dKfj2FJkDKjfkJDFKD3432/dfd6dfjkaKDjJfDkjfD&dffjk/
↳2dGkdjfkdkfDKfkdkE== --create-container
```

```
atbu - v0.01
```

Keyring information:

Key=storage-secret

Service=my-backup-name

Username=ATBU-storage-password

Storage definition my-backup-name saved.

The destination can be encrypted.

Would you like encryption enabled? [Y/n]

You can require the backup to ask for a password before starting a backup/restore, or you can allow a backup to proceed automatically without requiring your password.

When you choose the automatic approach which does not require a password, you are allowing your backup 'private key' to be used automatically by this program. When doing this, your backup private key is stored in a manner where, not only this program, but other programs and people who have access to your computer or its contents may be able to access and use your private key.

You can switch between requiring your password or using the automatic approach as needed/desired. Regardless of your choice, you should be certain to back up your security information (i.e., private key, related info) which you can do at any time.

Choose whether to require password or not.

Require a (p)assword or allow (a)utomatic use of your backup's private key? [p/A]

Creating key...created.

Storing...

Keyring information:

Key=encryption-key

Service=my-backup-name

Username=ATBU-backup-enc-key

Your key is stored.

Saving C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-config.json

C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-config.json has been saved.

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```

The storage definition 'my-backup-name' will be encrypted.
Container name had the * auto-find/create indicator. Searching for unique container name.
↳ using base name my-storage-container-name*...
Found/created container name 'my-storage-container-name-0a43083b-5986-4ace-a378-
↳ 2587a48648b0'.
Updating configuration with that new name.
Storage definition my-backup-name successfully created.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

In the above example, encryption was enabled without requiring the user to enter a password to begin the backup. Additionally, the container name ended with an asterisk '*' which caused container name auto-find to be used, where you can see the container name my-storage-container-name-0a43083b-5986-4ace-a378-2587a48648b0 was created/selected.

Google Storage S3-compatible Example

```

atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name google google_storage my-storage-container-
↳ name key=GOOG1EDFJKDKFJKDJFKJKDF939893849FD8D08F09DGD9890898EER8E9FD9F,
↳ secret=ArdkfBDXfYd9dfDFKJdf5d9C2jKdFdfkae3dVjki

```

The output for this command is similar to the other examples (see above and below).

Google Storage Service Account OAuth2 .json Example

```

atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name google google_storage my-storage-container-
↳ name key=atbuserviceaccount8838384784782@project-name-2135551212.iam.gserviceaccount.
↳ com,secret=C:\\MyCrednetials\\example-service-account-c98754699abb.json,
↳ project=project-name-2135551212

```

Example output:

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu creds create-storage-def my-backup-name google google_
↳ storage my-storage-container-name* key=atbuserviceaccount8838384784782@project-name-
↳ 2135551212.iam.gserviceaccount.com,secret=C:\\MyCrednetials\\example-service-account-
↳ c98754699abb.json,project==project-name-2135551212 --create-container
atbu - v0.01
Secret seems to reference a file either directly or indirectly: C:\\MyCrednetials\\
↳ example-service-account-c98754699abb.json
Secret will be considered a reference to a file: C:\\MyCrednetials\\example-service-
↳ account-c98754699abb.json
Keyring information:
Key=storage-secret
Service=my-backup-name
Username=ATBU-storage-password
Storage definition my-backup-name saved.
The destination can be encrypted.
Would you like encryption enabled? [Y/n] y

```

You can require the backup to ask for a password before starting a backup/restore, or you can allow a backup to proceed automatically without requiring your password.

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When you choose the automatic approach which does not require a password, you are allowing your backup 'private key' to be used automatically by this program. When doing this, your backup private key is stored in a manner where, not only this program, but other programs and people who have access to your computer or its contents may be able to access and use your private key.

You can switch between requiring your password or using the automatic approach as needed/desired. Regardless of your choice, you should be certain to back up your security information (i.e., private key, related info) which you can do at any time.

Choose whether to require password or not.

Require a (p)assword or allow (a)utomatic use of your backup's private key? [p/A] a
Creating key...created.

Storing...

Keyring information:

Key=encryption-key

Service=my-backup-name

Username=ATBU-backup-enc-key

Your key is stored.

Saving C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-config.json

C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-config.json has been saved.

The storage definition 'my-backup-name' will be encrypted.

Container name had the * auto-find/create indicator. Searching for unique container name_↵
↵using base name my-storage-container-name*...

Found/created container name 'my-storage-container-name-0a8bafdd-55d2-4390-b4a6-d262414da558'.
↵d262414da558'.

Updating configuration with that new name.

Storage definition my-backup-name successfully created.

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

In the above example, encryption was enabled without requiring the user to enter a password to begin the backup. Additionally, the container name ended with an asterisk '*' which caused container name auto-find to be used, where you can see the container name my-storage-container-name-0a8bafdd-55d2-4390-b4a6-d262414da558 was created/selected.

Performing a full cloud backup

With your local ATBU client setup with a cloud storage definition configuration, we can now perform a backup. Let's perform the same backup as performed with the earlier local backup example.

The command to backup from the local C:\MyData directory to the ATBU 'my-backup-name' storage definition is as follows....

```
atbu backup --full C:\MyData storage:my-backup-name
```

Note, you would use --incremental for incremental, and --incremental-plus for Incremental Plus.

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu backup --full C:\MyData storage:my-backup-name
atbu - v0.01
Backup location(s)...
Source location #0 ..... C:\MyData
```

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```

Searching for files...
Backup destination: storage:my-backup-name
No backup history for 'my-backup-name'. Creating new history database.
Starting backup 'my-backup-name-20220527-115038'...
Scheduling hashing jobs...
Waiting for completion of remaining hashing jobs...
Wait backup file operations to complete...
Backing up: C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
0% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
Backing up: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
Backing up: C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
Backing up: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
Backing up: C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
Total bytes ..... 6184
SHA256 original file .....
↳ 9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 0f9f547c816205dd273e896b8855aa718682b3da532476840d96358aadeb5a49
---
Backup succeeded: Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
Backing up: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
Total bytes ..... 798387
SHA256 original file .....
↳ 6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 2a284b6e955858a4e6b9a9cffb132b2f9844bd6c172105184717fdeefd48a6fc
---
Backup succeeded: Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
Backing up: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
Total bytes ..... 722770
SHA256 original file .....
↳ 1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 69f2830107989f4cdf88688c13a8e6f68eaa2724b9ebd99ed7c9952de14494f5
---
Backup succeeded: Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
Total bytes ..... 2405069
SHA256 original file .....
↳ b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ d247baa36ce6f1468e7cdc469f630bbeae692f4af1478cbae0064f98f317613e

```

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```

... (edited for brevity) ...

---
94% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
Total bytes ..... 5564491
SHA256 original file .....
↳c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ff1f179a0537d52213b6e95458afbbaccf52df76fb22daf5e1e95b006cad53b9
---
Backup succeeded: Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
Waiting for backup information to be saved...
SpecificBackupInformation thread stop initiated. Finishing up...
Saving in-progress backup information: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-
↳name-20220527-115038.atbuinf.tmp
Saving backup info file: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name-20220527-
↳115038.atbuinf
Backup info file saved: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name-20220527-
↳115038.atbuinf
SpecificBackupInformation background thread ending.
Backing up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
0% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
BackupFile: Completed C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
Total bytes ..... 22022
SHA256 original file .....
↳3be7dc579c36090dc9d681eab7a3c4290b9e4e66530d20500164b1bcc3f2e487
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳6a21b8136222307208ec10eceb6c675972543ca72af790de998bbeec7daf7fa2
---
The backup information has been successfully backed up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-
↳info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
All backup file operations have completed.
*****
*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during backup.
Total files ..... 17
Total unchanged files ..... 0
Total file results ..... 17
Total errors ..... 0
Total successful backups ..... 0
Success, no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```


Performing an incremental cloud backup

Let's try an incremental backup. Before doing so, let's outline that C:\MyData has changed as follows...

- Modified existing file: C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
- Added new file: C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt

The command to perform an incremental backup is as follows...

```
atbu backup --incremental C:\MyData storage:my-backup-name
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu backup --incremental C:\MyData storage:my-backup-name
atbu - v0.01
Backup location(s)...
Source location #0 ..... C:\MyData
Searching for files...
Backup destination: storage:my-backup-name
Starting backup 'my-backup-name-20220527-115820'...
Scheduling hashing jobs...
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
Scheduling backup of file never backed up before: C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
Skipping unchanged file: C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
Scheduling backup of changed file: C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt cur_
↳date=2022-05-27T04:56:21.956714 old_date=2022-05-26T23:08:24.625664 cur_size=46 old_
↳size=34
Waiting for completion of remaining hashing jobs...
Wait backup file operations to complete...
Backing up: C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
0% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
Backing up: C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
0% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
Total bytes ..... 46
SHA256 original file .....
↳5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳4d2002f598be365d0c27f8a5d5e4f85292ad7e56480728dd34b17285df99fe28
---
```

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```

Backup succeeded: Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
Total bytes ..... 14
SHA256 original file .....
↳ 6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ fe58e3cf279ab6d2f0a45e3a10c97baee74ce5fbfbd2e802786bfa2804fb264f
---
Backup succeeded: Documents\NewNotes.txt
Waiting for backup information to be saved...
SpecificBackupInformation thread stop initiated. Finishing up...
Saving in-progress backup information: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-
↳ name-20220527-115820.atbuinf.tmp
Saving backup info file: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name-20220527-
↳ 115820.atbuinf
Backup info file saved: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name-20220527-
↳ 115820.atbuinf
SpecificBackupInformation background thread ending.
Backing up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
0% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
BackupFile: Completed C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
Total bytes ..... 42521
SHA256 original file .....
↳ e19f5daa7728923dbfb5c72825bb66ad8e027d9949832217af690347a104755f
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 4159e6e44b554d62d4a4aa20fdbf73381e8351b8a77213cc4b45025cde9eba7d
---
The backup information has been successfully backed up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-
↳ info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
All backup file operations have completed.
*****
*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during backup.
Total files ..... 18
Total unchanged files ..... 16
Total file results ..... 2
Total errors ..... 0
Total successful backups ..... 0
Success, no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

From the above, we can see that two files need to be backed up, one being a new file, the other an existing file that was modified.

Performing an Incremental Plus De-Duplication cloud backup

An ATBU Incremental Plus backup is similar to incremental but it determines if a file has changed not only on modified date/time and size, but by using the SHA256 digest as well. This requires generating digests for all files, even if they have already been backed up, so may not be desirable to do for each backup depending on your data directory size.

Additionally, ATBU Incremental Plus has de-duplication options which can be enabled, to be demonstrated in this section.

Before we try Incremental Plus w/De-Duplication, let's make the following modifications to C:\MyData...

- Copy C:\MyData\Pictures to C:\MyData\Pictures2 which effectively duplicates about 30MB worth of data/pictures etc.
- Rename C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg to 20210703_193235-DifferentName.jpg which means both files have the same content but different names in different folders.
- Rename C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg to 20210703_193244-DifferentName.jpg which means both files have the same content but different names in different folders.

With the above changes in place, the command to perform an Incremental Plus backup are is as follows...

```
atbu backup --incremental-plus --dedup digest C:\MyData storage:my-backup-name
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu backup --incremental-plus --dedup digest C:\MyData_
↪ storage:my-backup-name
atbu - v0.01
Backup location(s)...
Source location #0 ..... C:\MyData
Searching for files...
Backup destination: storage:my-backup-name
Starting backup 'my-backup-name-20220527-121517'...
Scheduling hashing jobs...
Waiting for completion of remaining hashing jobs...
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\SocialMedia\20211017_
↪ 162445.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
↪ 20210826_191432.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.
↪ jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↪ 222623.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↪ 222626.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\SocialMedia\20211119_
↪ 230028.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_
↪ 202446.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
↪ 193244.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
↪ 193235-DifferentName.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↪ 222527.jpg
```

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```

Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
↳ 20210704_223018.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
↳ 193244-DifferentName.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.
↳ jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳ 202203.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
↳ 20210704_223018.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↳ 222626.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↳ 222623.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.
↳ jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳ 202437.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↳ 222527.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a
↳ novel in pure text.txt
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.
↳ jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.
↳ jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳ 202504.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.
↳ jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳ 202530.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
↳ 20210826_191432.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
↳ 193235.jpg
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
Skipping unchanged file (dedup='digest'): C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.
↳ jpg
Wait backup file operations to complete...
Waiting for backup information to be saved...
SpecificBackupInformation thread stop initiated. Finishing up...
Saving in-progress backup information: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-
↳ name-20220527-121517.atbuinf.tmp
Saving backup info file: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name-20220527-
↳ 121517.atbuinf
Backup info file saved: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name-20220527-
↳ 121517.atbuinf
SpecificBackupInformation background thread ending.
Backing up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
0% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name.atbuinf

```

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```

BackupFile: Completed C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
Total bytes ..... 78213
SHA256 original file .....
→922efa71ddf3daf40572d1d78fb79b60a7f4cd45a96adc695bd43b1ff397ee77
SHA256 encrypted file .....
→3e3e62b2e7a0f6b9c8cf34e3bc34c1b442f06ce5c256e804416245fd6e167b84
---
The backup information has been successfully backed up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-
→info\my-backup-name.atbuinf
All backup file operations have completed.
*****
*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during backup.
Total files ..... 32
Total unchanged files ..... 32
Total file results ..... 0
Total errors ..... 0
Total successful backups ..... 0
Success, no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

You can see above, despite our both copying the Pictures folder, and renaming two of the files in the copy, ATBU was able to determine there were effectively no new files. It did this by checking SHA256 digests, file modified date/time, and file size against files already backed up.

In the above example, ATBU will indicate you have backed up all the specified files but it did not have to physically backup any files. The above took a few seconds to run.

Listing the cloud backup information

With the above various experiments performed, let's now list the contents of that same cloud backup.

Let's start with the basic list command...

```
atbu list storage:my-backup-name
```

Example output:

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu list storage:my-backup-name
atbu - v0.01

Storage Definition    Provider    Container
→      Interface      Encrypted   Persisted IV
-----
→-----
my-backup-name        google_storage my-storage-container-name-0a8bafdd-55d2-4390-b4a6-
→d262414da558 google      True      True
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

We see the backup exists, it is using the google interface (the google APIs instead of libcloud), and it is encrypted.

Let's see how many backups have been performed with the following list command...

```
atbu list storage:my-backup-name backup:*
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu list storage:my-backup-name backup:*
atbu - v0.01

Storage Definition    Provider    Container
↪      Interface    Encrypted    Persisted IV
-----
↪-----
my-backup-name        google_storage my-storage-container-name-0a8bafdd-55d2-4390-b4a6-
↪d262414da558 google      True      True
Specific backups from storage definition 'my-backup-name'
my-backup-name-20220527-121517
my-backup-name-20220527-115820
my-backup-name-20220527-115038
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>
```

We can see 3 backups have been performed. They are listed most recent first. They are as follows...

- my-backup-name-20220527-115038: Our initial full backup.
- my-backup-name-20220527-115820: Our normal incremental backup.
- my-backup-name-20220527-121517: Our de-duplicating Incremental Plus backup.

Let's look at the details of what was backed up in our most recent de-duplicating backup, my-backup-name-20220527-121517, by using the following command...

```
atbu list storage:my-backup-name backup:my-backup-name-20220527-121517 files:*
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu list storage:my-backup-name backup:my-backup-name-20220527-
↪121517 files:*
atbu - v0.01

Storage Definition    Provider    Container
↪      Interface    Encrypted    Persisted IV
-----
↪-----
my-backup-name        google_storage my-storage-container-name-0a8bafdd-55d2-4390-b4a6-
↪d262414da558 google      True      True
Specific backups from storage definition 'my-backup-name'
my-backup-name-20220527-121517
  C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
  C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
  C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
  C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
  C:\MyData\Pictures2\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
  C:\MyData\Pictures2\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
  C:\MyData\Pictures2\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
  C:\MyData\Pictures2\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
  C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
  C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
  C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
  C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235-DifferentName.jpg
  C:\MyData\Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244-DifferentName.jpg
```

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```

C:\MyData\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

As you can see, it shows that both Pictures and Picture2 were backed up even though we know Pictures2 was not physically backed up.

Restore files from a cloud backup

Now let's restore that last de-duplicated Incremental Plus backup and see what actually gets restored. We will use the following restore command...

```
atbu restore storage:my-backup-name backup:last files:* C:\MyRestore2
```

Example output:

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu restore storage:my-backup-name backup:last files:* C:\
↪MyRestore2
atbu - v0.01
Will restore 32 files from 'my-backup-name'
Starting restore from 'my-backup-name'...
Scheduling restore jobs...
Wait for restore file operations to complete...
0% completed of C:\MyRestore2\Documents\NewNotes.txt
RestoreFile: Completed for C:\MyRestore2\Documents\NewNotes.txt
Total bytes ..... 14
SHA256 download .....
↪6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
SHA256 original .....
↪6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
SHA256 encrypted download .....
↪fe58e3cf279ab6d2f0a45e3a10c97baee74ce5fbfbd2e802786bfa2804fb264f
SHA256 encrypted original .....
↪fe58e3cf279ab6d2f0a45e3a10c97baee74ce5fbfbd2e802786bfa2804fb264f
Restore succeeded: Documents\NewNotes.txt

```

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... (edited for brevity) ...

0% completed of C:\MyRestore2\Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235-DifferentName.jpg

0% completed of C:\MyRestore2\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg

RestoreFile: Completed for C:\MyRestore2\Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235-DifferentName.jpg

Total bytes 2858016

SHA256 download
 ↳ a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4

SHA256 original
 ↳ a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4

SHA256 encrypted download
 ↳ 4bfe636eed69858cad271ac6f79b523d5ab423e37928b87a68963a6c0dbccc38

SHA256 encrypted original
 ↳ 4bfe636eed69858cad271ac6f79b523d5ab423e37928b87a68963a6c0dbccc38

Restore succeeded: Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235-DifferentName.jpg

RestoreFile: Completed for C:\MyRestore2\Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg

Total bytes 2115565

SHA256 download
 ↳ 41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a

SHA256 original
 ↳ 41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a

SHA256 encrypted download
 ↳ f79d41b6ddc38a60d9f0db859e26a3d101ad9c41c16abfaa0cb29ea1579415d3

SHA256 encrypted original
 ↳ f79d41b6ddc38a60d9f0db859e26a3d101ad9c41c16abfaa0cb29ea1579415d3

Restore succeeded: Pictures2\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg

0% completed of C:\MyRestore2\Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244-DifferentName.jpg

RestoreFile: Completed for C:\MyRestore2\Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244-DifferentName.jpg

Total bytes 2405069

SHA256 download
 ↳ b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e

SHA256 original
 ↳ b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e

SHA256 encrypted download
 ↳ d247baa36ce6f1468e7cdc469f630bbeae692f4af1478cbae0064f98f317613e

SHA256 encrypted original
 ↳ d247baa36ce6f1468e7cdc469f630bbeae692f4af1478cbae0064f98f317613e

Restore succeeded: Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244-DifferentName.jpg

... (edited for brevity) ...

0% completed of C:\MyRestore2\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg

RestoreFile: Completed for C:\MyRestore2\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg

Total bytes 2858016

SHA256 download
 ↳ a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4

SHA256 original
 ↳ a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4

SHA256 encrypted download
 ↳ 4bfe636eed69858cad271ac6f79b523d5ab423e37928b87a68963a6c0dbccc38

SHA256 encrypted original
 ↳ 4bfe636eed69858cad271ac6f79b523d5ab423e37928b87a68963a6c0dbccc38

Restore succeeded: Pictures2\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg

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```

→4bfe636eed69858cad271ac6f79b523d5ab423e37928b87a68963a6c0dbccc38
SHA256 encrypted original .....
→4bfe636eed69858cad271ac6f79b523d5ab423e37928b87a68963a6c0dbccc38
Restore succeeded: Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyRestore2\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyRestore2\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
RestoreFile: Completed for C:\MyRestore2\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
Total bytes ..... 2405069
SHA256 download .....
→b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
SHA256 original .....
→b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
SHA256 encrypted download .....
→d247baa36ce6f1468e7cdc469f630bbeae692f4af1478cbae0064f98f317613e
SHA256 encrypted original .....
→d247baa36ce6f1468e7cdc469f630bbeae692f4af1478cbae0064f98f317613e
Restore succeeded: Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg

... (edited for brevity) ...

All restore file operations have completed.
*****
*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during restore.
Total files ..... 32
Total errors ..... 0
Total success ..... 32
Finished... no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

The above output was edited to keep it relatively brief, but the restored “Geese” files in both Pictures and Pictures2 were left in place so you can see all were restored. This shows that, while Pictures2 was never physically backed up, it has been effectively de-duplicated by ATBU Incremental Plus with de-duplication active.

Backup/Restore Walkthrough Conclusion

ATBU is a command-line Python command-line application that allows for encrypted backup/restore to local and cloud storage. It provides traditional full and incremental backup capabilities along with Incremental Plus w/de-duplication.

The verbose output of the tool is by design. The tool is meant for people who are power users who want to see backup detailed of backups. ATBU source code is fully available, can be scrutinized/understood.

With a world full of personal data, one of the goals of ATBU is to provide something to anyone who needs the ability to safely manage their memories, documents, life’s data. Whether it fulfills that goal remains to be seen... more testing and usage is required to truly get to that point. It is truly a personal application being shared.

I needed something that was always available, consistent in behavior, captured and retained history even across ad-hoc/disconnected usage, easy to modify as needed, relatively open, and, most importantly, something providing the features I needed. I do not want to rename a 10GB file and have to incur a storage impact for doing so, and I want to control when I apply that ability in a simple manner. I want to invest my backup efforts in a format that will always be available, that is open, that i can tweak as needed. To achieve all of that, I created ATBU. ATBU is a personal utility of my own which I am sharing.

1.3.2 ATBU Persistent File Information Getting Started

Setup

ATBU has been tested on Python 3.9.12 and higher... so first install Python, possibly creating a virtual environment if you wish.

After your environment is setup with Python...

To use ATBU, first install it using pip atbu-pkg:

```
pip install atbu-pkg
```

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 - * *My personal experience, some thoughts on sidecar files*

Persistent File Information

Overview

Following is a highlevel overview followed by a few walkthroughs. See *As a tool to help hard drive consolidation* for additional details.

The persistent file information portion of ATBU contains the following commands:

- **update-digests:** For each file in a directory, capture file information, including the SHA256 digest, last modified date/time, and size, and persist that captured file information to either an .atbu sidecar file, or a single .json database file located at the root of search directory where the file was found.
 - An .atbu sidecar file is a file that has the same name as a file whose information it holds except its suffix or extension is .atbu.
 - A single .json database file is a json file located at the root of the search directory of the file's whose information is being gathered.
 - The tradeoff between sidecar and single .json database file will be discussed in details later in this section.

- **save-db:** Given one or more directories (aka “locations”) where **update-digests** has been run, where there exists persistent file information (either sidecar or .json database), gather all such persistent file information and place it into a single .json database file at the path you specify.
 - Using this command, you can gather information one or more directories, located on any drives, and store it in a single .json database file.
 - This can be useful for keeping a .json online as a form of file inventory when the drives relating to the information are disconnected/offline. You can still perform diff commands (see next bullet) without the drives connected. A demo of this is later in this section.
- **diff:** Given two locations, A and B, each of which can be either a directory or an ATBU persistent file information .json database file, perform a diff of A and B toward producing a report of what files in A are not within B, optionally performing a remove or move action on duplicates.
 - This can be used for figuring out what files are backed up and where. If you are trying to get rid of old hard drives, or consolidate data onto newer media, perhaps to use semi-older media for new purposes, you can use this diff feature to help in your overall efforts to gain assurance as you retire or repurpose media.
 - You can also detect issues such as bitrot by recreating digests for files on data drives, comparing them with known good copies of the captured digests.
- **Whether you use sidecar files or a single .json database will depend solely on your preferences. There are tradeoffs to each approach:**
 - Generally, sidecar files are preferred for large or important irreplaceable media (photos/videos) which you never expect any application to edit, where you want to keep a sidecar file next to that media file so that it is copied anywhere that media file goes. Since the sidecar file retains a history of any digest or other changes, the **update-digests** command along with the sidecar file history can be a way of understanding when changes occurred, and detecting changes to content when such changes are not expected.
 - A single .json db in the root folder does not clutter your folders. Such clutter may be reasonable for large media storage (videos, photos) of irreplaceable media. The files are often large, the integrity of those files is important, so a small sidecar file may be seen as worth it. By contrast, for a directory of relatively mundane but not unimportant files, text files, etc., may be more deserving of a single .json db rather than a sidecar for small and/or unimportant text files.
 - If you move a data file (i.e., media/photo/video or whatever your use case is) with its sidecar .atbu file, all information is immediately available at the new location without re-scanning the new folder with **update-digests**. By contrast, if you move a file within a directory, tracked by a single .json db, to a new directory, both the new and old directory need to be rescanned by **update-digests** to update each directory’s .json db file.
- See *As a tool to help hard drive consolidation* for more details.

Update Digests

We have two directories:

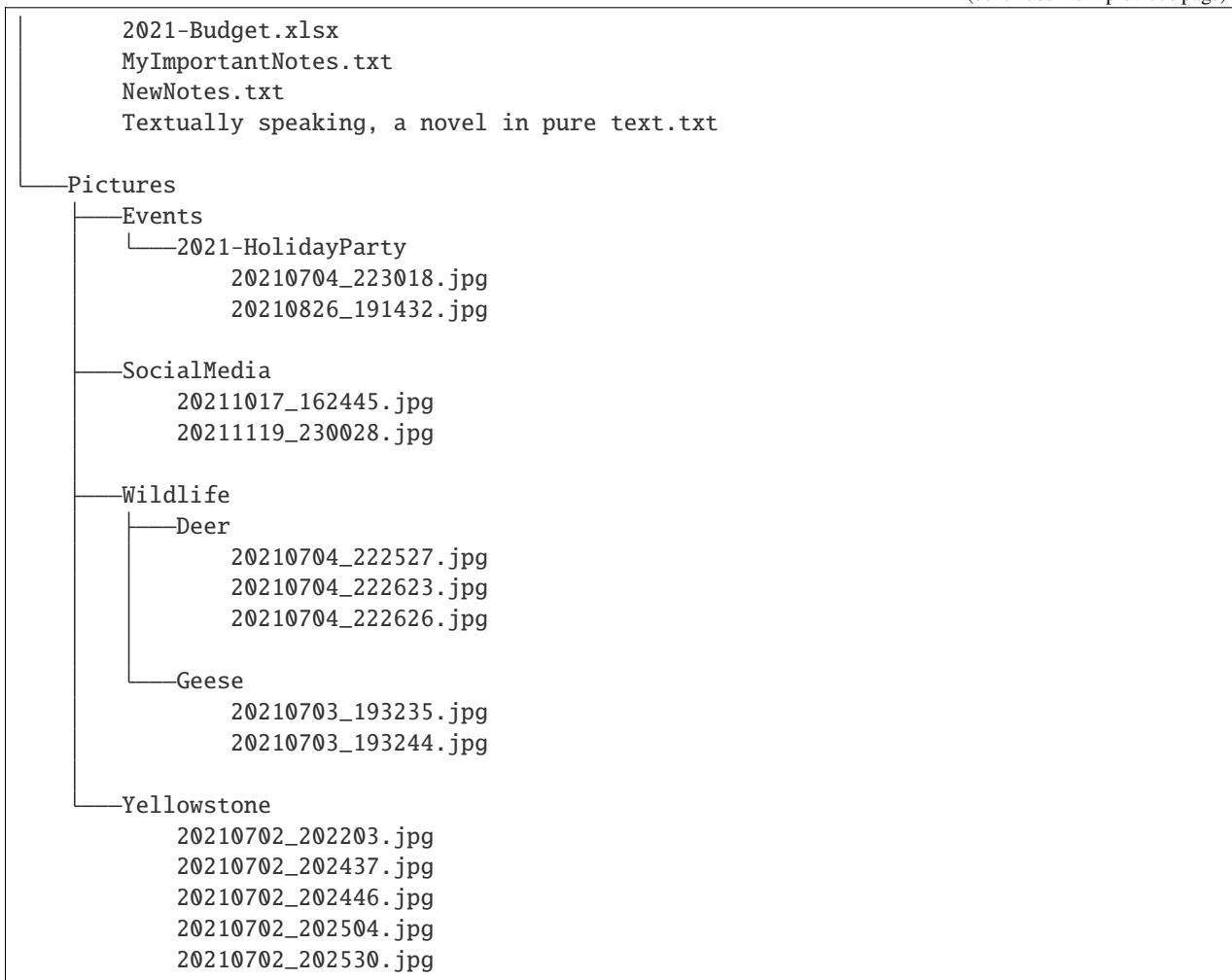
- C:\MyData which is the main data drive on PC.
- D:\MyData which is a backup on an external hard drive.

Both directories contain the following contents:

```
C:\MyData
|—Documents
```

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Let's capture persistent file information for all files in both C:\MyData and D:\MyData by running the following command:

```
atbu update-digests --per-dir --locations C:\MyData\ D:\MyData\
```

Or using shorter argument names:

```
atbu update-digests --pd -l C:\MyData\ D:\MyData\
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu update-digests --per-dir --locations C:\MyData\ D:\MyData\
atbu - v0.01
Updating files in C:\MyData...
Creating info for C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx_
→sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Creating info for C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt_
→sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
```

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```
Creating info for C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
↳ sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Creating info for C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
↳ ...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure
↳ text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
↳ .
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
↳ 223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
↳ .
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
↳ 191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
↳ sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
↳ sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
↳ sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
↳ sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
↳ sha256=aelc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
↳ sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
↳ sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
↳ sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
```

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```

Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
↳ sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
↳ sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
↳ sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61feb309
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
↳ sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Location ..... C:\MyData
  Location total files ..... 18
  Location files info created ..... 18
  Location files info updated ..... 0
  Location files no update required ..... 0
  Location files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
Updating files in D:\MyData...
Creating info for D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
↳ sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Creating info for D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
↳ sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Creating info for D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
↳ sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Creating info for D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
↳ ...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure
↳ text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
↳ .
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
↳ 223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
↳ .
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
↳ 191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg

```

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```

→sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
→sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
→sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
→sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
→sha256=aelc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
→sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
→sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
→sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
→sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Creating info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was added: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
→sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Location ..... D:\MyData
  Location total files ..... 18
  Location files info created ..... 18
  Location files info updated ..... 0
  Location files no update required ..... 0
  Location files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
-----

```

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```
Total all locations processed:
  Total files ..... 36
  Total Files info created ..... 36
  Total files info updated ..... 0
  Total files no update required ..... 0
  Total files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>
```

The above update-digests command creates a persistent file information .json database in both C:\MyData and D:\MyData as follows:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> dir C:\MyData
Directory: C:\MyData
Mode                LastWriteTime         Length Name
----                -
d-----           5/27/2022   4:56 AM             Documents
d-----           5/26/2022  11:07 PM             Pictures
-a-----           5/27/2022  12:28 PM      16152 c4198ead-0b50-4f0e-b52b-685b64e7b9f0.
↪atbuddb

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> dir D:\MyData\
Directory: D:\MyData
Mode                LastWriteTime         Length Name
----                -
d-----           5/27/2022  12:08 PM             Documents
d-----           5/27/2022  12:08 PM             Pictures
-a-----           5/27/2022  12:28 PM      16152 c4198ead-0b50-4f0e-b52b-685b64e7b9f0.
↪atbuddb

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>
```

The name c4198ead-0b50-4f0e-b52b-685b64e7b9f0.atbuddb is a unique name chosen by ATBU for its .json db file.

Diff Locations

With both C:\MyData and D:\MyData each having an updated persistent file information database, let's diff them as follows:

```
atbu diff --per-dir --location-a C:\MyData\ --location-b D:\MyData\
```

Or using shorter argument names:

```
atbu diff --pd --la C:\MyData\ --lb D:\MyData\
```

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu diff --per-dir --location-a C:\MyData\ --location-b D:\
↪MyData\
atbu - v0.01
Location A ..... C:\MyData
Location A persist types ..... ['per-dir']
Location B ..... D:\MyData
Location B persist types ..... ['per-dir']
```

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```

Searching location A: C:\MyData
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
↳ sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
↳ sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
↳ sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
↳ ...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in
↳ pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
↳ .
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
↳ 223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
↳ .
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
↳ 191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
↳ sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
↳ sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
↳ sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
↳ sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
↳ sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
↳ sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
↳ sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
↳ sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
↳ sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
↳ sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774

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```

Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
↳ sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
↳ sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Searching location B: D:\MyData
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
↳ sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
↳ sha256=5c575cfael6e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
↳ sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
↳ ...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in
↳ pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
↳ .
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
↳ 223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
↳ .
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
↳ 191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
↳ sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
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The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
↳ sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
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Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
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Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
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The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
↳ sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a

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```

Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
→sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61feb309
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
→sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Logging A unique objects ..... 18
Logging B unique objects ..... 18
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6 2021-Budget.
→xlsx
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=5c575cfael6e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
→MyImportantNotes.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069 NewNotes.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f Textually
→speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f 20210704_
→223018.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0 20210826_
→191432.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200 20211017_
→162445.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814 20211119_
→230028.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581 20210704_
→222527.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e 20210704_
→222623.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872 20210704_
→222626.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4 20210703_
→193235.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e 20210703_
→193244.jpg

```

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```

Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a 20210702_
↵202203.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090 20210702_
↵202437.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774 20210702_
↵202446.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309 20210702_
↵202504.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23 20210702_
↵202530.jpg
All items in Location A were found in Location B
Location A ..... C:\MyData
Location B ..... D:\MyData
Total Location A unique files ..... 18
Total Location A skipped files ..... 0
Total Location B unique files ..... 18
Total Location B skipped files ..... 0
Total Location A unique files also in Location B ..... 18
Total Location A unique files not found in Location B ..... 0
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

If we are expecting both locations to be identical, a key piece of information above is the message "All items in Location A were found in Location B."

Let's simulate some bitrot by modifying one byte in the following file:

- D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $f = Get-Item D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.
↵jpg; $lw = $f.LastWriteTime
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $lw
Sunday, July 4, 2021 10:25:32 PM
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> # At this point, I used a binary editor to modify one byte in the_
↵file.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $f = Get-Item D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.
↵jpg; $lw2 = $f.LastWriteTime
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $lw2
Friday, May 27, 2022 12:45:21 PM
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> $f.LastWriteTime = $lw
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> (Get-Item D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg).
↵LastWriteTime
Sunday, July 4, 2021 10:25:32 PM
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

Now the D:\MyData copy of the file has a one byte difference, with the file modified date/time and size unchanged.

ATBU can detect changes a few different ways. The default way is to observe changes in a file's modified date/time or size. This is fast/efficient and is fine for more situations where one might be looking for changes to a file caused by use of the operating system's APIs. For some issues, though, like bitrot, it is the natural disk which deteriorates, where

changes to the disk are not caused by the operating system, but by natural causes which generally will not change the file's size or modified date/time (unless bitrot changes that information too).

For cases like bitrot, we cannot merely use the default. We need to use digest change detection which itself implies digest re-generation for the sake of such detection.

In our example scenario, let's say it has been many years since D:\MyData was created. Normally, by default, the `update-digests` command will only update digests for files whose modified date/time and/or size has changed (`--change-detection-type datesize`). Since our goal is to detect potential bit changes that would not affect either the date/time or size, we will instead specify `--change-detection-type digest` to recalculate digests for all files. If any digests have been changed, the persistent information for that file will be updated as follows...

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu update-digests --pd --change-detection-type digest -l D:\
↳MyData\
atbu - v0.01
Updating files in D:\MyData...
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
↳sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
↳sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
↳sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
↳...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in
↳pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
↳.
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
↳223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
↳.
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
↳191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
↳sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
↳sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
Updating file info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
The file info was updated: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
↳sha256=29de887060a6e62aaee6b339548f564d86630a521e99552aec18b9145a005291
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
↳sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
↳sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
```

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```

The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
↪sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
↪sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
↪sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
↪sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
↪sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
↪sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61feb309
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
↪sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Location ..... D:\MyData
  Location total files ..... 18
  Location files info created ..... 0
  Location files info updated ..... 1
  Location files no update required ..... 17
  Location files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
-----
Total all locations processed:
  Total files ..... 18
  Total Files info created ..... 0
  Total files info updated ..... 1
  Total files no update required ..... 17
  Total files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

The above recalculated all digests for files within D:\MyData, where we can see 1 file had a digest mismatched to the last captured persistent info state. In this example, that would have been about 5 years ago. In the above, we also see the following message...

Updating file info for D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg

... which indicates 20210704_222527.jpg has changed.

With the persistent info of D:\MyData up to date, let's perform another diff between C:\MyData and D:\MyData...

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu diff --pd --la C:\MyData\ --lb D:\MyData\
atbu - v0.01
Location A ..... C:\MyData
Location A persist types ..... ['per-dir']
Location B ..... D:\MyData
Location B persist types ..... ['per-dir']
Searching location A: C:\MyData
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx

```

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```

→sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
→sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
... (edited for brevity) ...
Logging A unique objects ..... 18
Logging B unique objects ..... 18
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6 2021-Budget.
→xlsx
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
→MyImportantNotes.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069 NewNotes.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f Textually
→speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f 20210704_
→223018.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0 20210826_
→191432.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200 20211017_
→162445.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814 20211119_
→230028.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e 20210704_
→222623.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872 20210704_
→222626.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4 20210703_
→193235.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e 20210703_
→193244.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a 20210702_
→202203.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090 20210702_
→202437.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774 20210702_
→202446.jpg
Location A and B digests match:

```

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```

↪ sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309 20210702_
↪ 202504.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
↪ sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23 20210702_
↪ 202530.jpg
===== RESULTS
↪ =====
Files in Location A *not* found in Location B:
File in A *not* in B: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
-----
Location A ..... C:\MyData
Location B ..... D:\MyData
Total Location A unique files ..... 18
Total Location A skipped files ..... 0
Total Location B unique files ..... 18
Total Location B skipped files ..... 0
Total Location A unique files also in Location B ..... 17
Total Location A unique files not found in Location B ..... 1
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

From the above, we can see the message `File in A *not* in B: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg` indicates D:\MyData has an *unexpected* difference.

Taking from the above example, if you now imagine that C:\MyData was instead E:\MyData, where E:\MyData is not a system drive, but perhaps a second *newer* external hard drive containing the same important files, the above might be detecting an issue with photos in the older D:\MyData hard drive.

You might ask, why not always use digest change detection? Well, as alluded to above, digest change detection must re-generate digests so that they are up to date which can be time-consuming.

Given this, ATBU uses the lightweight modified date/time and size check by default. If a date/time or size change is detected, such will trigger ATBU to update that file's digest (because it has obviously changed). Note, though, that this will not automatically update a digest when the date/time and size have not changed (i.e., bitrot). So, at the very least, you may consider re-generating all of your digests every once in a while (i.e., cadence depends on your needs, could be every few months, years, etc.).

If a date/time or size change does not occur when there is nevertheless file corruption (i.e., bitrot, something nefarious), the digest will remain older without re-generating the digests as shown in the prior example.

Given all of this, if any changes are caused by the OS which affect modified date/time or size, a change will be detected even if the digest is old, and that by itself will cause that one file's digest to be re-generated.

Generally, you likely want to re-gen digests every now and then, and perhaps run more regular checks using the default modified date/time and size check.

You can also capture digest information with `save-db` and save it offline so it will not be affected if your system crashes or has other such problems. Doing this may help you in assessing file wellness through the use of the saved information.

Combining multiple locations into a single .json DB

You can combine multiple locations into a single persistent file information .json database file by using the save-db command as follows:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu save-db --db c:\my-ext-drives-photo-inventory.json --pd -l
↳ D:\MyData\ E:\MyData\
atbu - v0.01
Database: c:\my-ext-drives-photo-inventory.json
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
↳ sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
↳ sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
↳ sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
↳ ...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in
↳ pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
↳ .
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
↳ 223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
↳ .
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
↳ 191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
↳ sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
↳ sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
↳ sha256=29de887060a6e62aaee6b339548f564d86630a521e99552aec18b9145a005291
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
↳ sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
↳ sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
↳ sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
↳ sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
```

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```

→sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
→sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61feb309
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
→sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Location ..... D:\MyData
Location total all files ..... 18
Location total found unique files ..... 18
Location total found physical files ... 18
Location total skipped files ..... 0
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
→sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
→sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
→sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
→...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in
→pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
→.
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
→223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
→.
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
→191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
→sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
→sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
→sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
→sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...

```

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```

The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
↳ sha256=aelc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
↳ sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
↳ sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
↳ sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
↳ sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
↳ sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
↳ sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
↳ sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Location ..... E:\MyData
Location total all files ..... 18
Location total found unique files ..... 18
Location total found physical files ... 18
Location total skipped files ..... 0
=====
The following is a recap of summary information output above:
Location ..... D:\MyData
Location total all files ..... 18
Location total found unique files ..... 18
Location total found physical files ... 18
Location total skipped files ..... 0
-----
Location ..... E:\MyData
Location total all files ..... 18
Location total found unique files ..... 18
Location total found physical files ... 18
Location total skipped files ..... 0
-----
All locations total unique files ..... 19
All locations total physical files .... 36
All locations skipped files ..... 0
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

Since c:\my-ext-drives-photo-inventory.json is kept online, the two drives D:\ and E:\ do not need to be available to compare against them. Let's compare C:\MyData against both D:\MyData and E:\MyData without having D:\ or E:\ available...

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu diff --pd --la C:\MyData\ --lb C:\my-ext-drives-photo-
```

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```

↪inventory.json
atbu - v0.01
Location A ..... C:\MyData
Location A persist types ..... ['per-dir']
Location B ..... C:\my-ext-drives-photo-inventory.json
Location B persist types ..... ['per-dir']
Searching location A: C:\MyData
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
↪sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
↪sha256=5c575cfael6e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
↪sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
↪...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in
↪pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
↪.
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
↪223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
↪.
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
↪191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
↪sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
↪sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
↪sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
↪sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256feleef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
↪sha256=aelc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
↪sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
↪sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
↪sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a

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```

Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
→sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61feb309
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
→sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Searching location B: C:\my-ext-drives-photo-inventory.json
Logging A unique objects ..... 18
Logging B unique objects ..... 19
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6 2021-Budget.
→xlsx
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
→MyImportantNotes.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069 NewNotes.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f Textually
→speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f 20210704_
→223018.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0 20210826_
→191432.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200 20211017_
→162445.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814 20211119_
→230028.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581 20210704_
→222527.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e 20210704_
→222623.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872 20210704_
→222626.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4 20210703_
→193235.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e 20210703_

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```

→193244.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
→sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a 20210702_
→202203.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090 20210702_
→202437.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774 20210702_
→202446.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
→sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309 20210702_
→202504.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
→sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23 20210702_
→202530.jpg
All items in Location A were found in Location B
Location A ..... C:\MyData
Location B ..... C:\my-ext-drives-photo-
→inventory.json
Total Location A unique files ..... 18
Total Location A skipped files ..... 0
Total Location B unique files ..... 19
Total Location B skipped files ..... 0
Total Location A unique files also in Location B ..... 18
Total Location A unique files not found in Location B ..... 0
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

Remember that C:\my-ext-drives-photo-inventory.json is a .json database of both D:\MyData and E:\MyData. E:\MyData was created from the good C:\MyData, while D:\MyData is the simulated bitrot copy, where one file has the same modified date/time, size but its content is different by one bit so it's hash will not match anything in C:\MyData.

Above you can see that all files in C:\MyData match the union of D:\MyData and E:\MyData within C:\my-ext-drives-photo-inventory.json. If you look closely, you can see that location B within the union of D:\MyData and E:\MyData contains 19 unique files. That extra file is the simulated bitrot file.

If you think of C:\my-ext-drives-photo-inventory.json as “all of my backup data drives,” we know that C:\MyData is properly represented among the set of all of those drives (albeit certain redundancy may not be present given the difference).

The above was merely to show you that you can combine multiple locations into a single .json DB for later use/diff'ing as desired. Perhaps a more effective use of offline .json DB is to save each drive in its own .json DB. Let's try that now by running these two commands...

```
atbu save-db --db c:\my-D-backup-drive-inventory.json --pd -l D:\MyData\
```

```
atbu save-db --db c:\my-E-backup-drive-inventory.json --pd -l E:\MyData\
```

Example...

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu save-db --db c:\my-D-backup-drive-inventory.json --pd -l D:\
→MyData\
atbu - v0.01
Database: c:\my-D-backup-drive-inventory.json
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...

```

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The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
 ↳ sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
 ↳ sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
 ↳ sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
 ↳ ...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in
 ↳ pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
 ↳ .
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
 ↳ 223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
 ↳ .
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
 ↳ 191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
 ↳ sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
 ↳ sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
 ↳ sha256=29de887060a6e62aaee6b339548f564d86630a521e99552aec18b9145a005291
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
 ↳ sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
 ↳ sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
 ↳ sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
 ↳ sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
 ↳ sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
 ↳ sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
 ↳ sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
 Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
 The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg

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↪ sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Checking for changes to D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=D:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
↪ sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Location ..... D:\MyData
Location total all files ..... 18
Location total found unique files ..... 18
Location total found physical files ... 18
Location total skipped files ..... 0
=====
The following is a recap of summary information output above:
Location ..... D:\MyData
Location total all files ..... 18
Location total found unique files ..... 18
Location total found physical files ... 18
Location total skipped files ..... 0
-----
All locations total unique files ..... 18
All locations total physical files .... 18
All locations skipped files ..... 0
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu save-db --db c:\my-E-backup-drive-inventory.json --pd -l E:\
↪ MyData\
atbu - v0.01
Database: c:\my-E-backup-drive-inventory.json
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
↪ sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
↪ sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
↪ sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
↪ ...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in
↪ pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
↪ .
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
↪ 223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
↪ .
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
↪ 191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
↪ sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
↪ sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...

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The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
↳ sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
↳ sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
↳ sha256=aelc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
↳ sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
↳ sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
↳ sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
↳ sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
↳ sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
↳ sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Checking for changes to E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=E:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
↳ sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Location ..... E:\MyData
Location total all files ..... 18
Location total found unique files ..... 18
Location total found physical files ... 18
Location total skipped files ..... 0
=====
The following is a recap of summary information output above:
Location ..... E:\MyData
Location total all files ..... 18
Location total found unique files ..... 18
Location total found physical files ... 18
Location total skipped files ..... 0
-----
All locations total unique files ..... 18
All locations total physical files ... 18
All locations skipped files ..... 0
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

Given the above commands, we have the following two database files:

- c:\my-D-backup-drive-inventory.json
- c:\my-E-backup-drive-inventory.json

We can use each of those to see if our C:\MyData is backed up redundantly to both drives...


```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu diff --pd --la C:\MyData\ --lb C:\my-D-backup-drive-
↳inventory.json
atbu - v0.01
Location A ..... C:\MyData
Location A persist types ..... ['per-dir']
Location B persist types ..... ['per-dir']
Searching location A: C:\MyData
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx_
↳sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt_
↳sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt_
↳sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
↳...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in_
↳pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
↳.
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
↳223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
↳.
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
↳191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg_
↳sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg_
↳sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg_
↳sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg_
↳sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg_
↳sha256=aelc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg_
↳sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg_
↳sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg_
↳sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...

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The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
→sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
→sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Searching location B: C:\my-D-backup-drive-inventory.json
Logging A unique objects ..... 18
Logging B unique objects ..... 18
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6 2021-Budget.
→xlsx
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=5c575cfael6e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
→MyImportantNotes.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069 NewNotes.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f Textually
→speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f 20210704_
→223018.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0 20210826_
→191432.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200 20211017_
→162445.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814 20211119_
→230028.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e 20210704_
→222623.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872 20210704_
→222626.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4 20210703_
→193235.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e 20210703_
→193244.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a 20210702_
→202203.jpg

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Location A and B digests match:
→ sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090 20210702_
→ 202437.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→ sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774 20210702_
→ 202446.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→ sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309 20210702_
→ 202504.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→ sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23 20210702_
→ 202530.jpg
===== RESULTS
→ =====
Files in Location A *not* found in Location B:
File in A *not* in B: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
-----
Location A ..... C:\MyData
Location B ..... C:\my-D-backup-drive-
→ inventory.json
Total Location A unique files ..... 18
Total Location A skipped files ..... 0
Total Location B unique files ..... 18
Total Location B skipped files ..... 0
Total Location A unique files also in Location B ..... 17
Total Location A unique files not found in Location B ..... 1
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu diff C:\MyData\ C:\my-E-backup-drive-inventory.json
atbu - v0.01
Location A ..... C:\MyData
Location A persist types ..... ['per-dir']
Location B ..... C:\my-E-backup-drive-inventory.json
Location B persist types ..... ['per-dir']
Searching location A: C:\MyData
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
→ sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
→ sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt
→ sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
→ ...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in
→ pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
→ .
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
→ 223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
→ .

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```

The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
→191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
→sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
→sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
→sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
→sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
→sha256=aelc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
→sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
→sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
→sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
→sha256=c674781eadeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The file info was up to date: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
→sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Searching location B: C:\my-E-backup-drive-inventory.json
Logging A unique objects ..... 18
Logging B unique objects ..... 18
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6 2021-Budget.
→xlsx
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
→MyImportantNotes.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069 NewNotes.txt
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f Textually
→speaking, a novel in pure text.txt

```

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```

Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f 20210704_
↵223018.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0 20210826_
↵191432.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200 20211017_
↵162445.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814 20211119_
↵230028.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581 20210704_
↵222527.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e 20210704_
↵222623.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=aelc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872 20210704_
↵222626.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4 20210703_
↵193235.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e 20210703_
↵193244.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a 20210702_
↵202203.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090 20210702_
↵202437.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774 20210702_
↵202446.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309 20210702_
↵202504.jpg
Location A and B digests match:↵
↵sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23 20210702_
↵202530.jpg
All items in Location A were found in Location B
Location A ..... C:\MyData
Location B ..... C:\my-E-backup-drive-
↵inventory.json
Total Location A unique files ..... 18
Total Location A skipped files ..... 0
Total Location B unique files ..... 18
Total Location B skipped files ..... 0
Total Location A unique files also in Location B ..... 18
Total Location A unique files not found in Location B ..... 0

```

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(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

As can be seen above, the comparison with the E:\MyData copy was 100% successful, but the older drive D:\MyData shows one file from C:\MyData which is not in D:\MyData, and it indicates difference with the following file...

File in A *not* in B: C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg

Something modified that file, or perhaps the one on C:\... an investigation of those files can take place.

Using the sidecar .atbu file approach

The following is an example of one of the benefits to using sidecar .atbu files. For this demo, we will use the same C:\MyData directory from earlier examples...

```
C:\MyData
├── Documents
│   ├── 2021-Budget.xlsx
│   ├── MyImportantNotes.txt
│   ├── NewNotes.txt
│   └── Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
├── Pictures
│   ├── Events
│   │   └── 2021-HolidayParty
│   │       ├── 20210704_223018.jpg
│   │       └── 20210826_191432.jpg
│   ├── SocialMedia
│   │   ├── 20211017_162445.jpg
│   │   └── 20211119_230028.jpg
│   ├── Wildlife
│   │   ├── Deer
│   │   │   ├── 20210704_222527.jpg
│   │   │   ├── 20210704_222623.jpg
│   │   │   └── 20210704_222626.jpg
│   │   └── Geese
│   │       ├── 20210703_193235.jpg
│   │       └── 20210703_193244.jpg
│   └── Yellowstone
│       ├── 20210702_202203.jpg
│       ├── 20210702_202437.jpg
│       ├── 20210702_202446.jpg
│       ├── 20210702_202504.jpg
│       └── 20210702_202530.jpg
```

Let's update-digests as before, but this time we will specify '-pf' or '-per-file' before the directory as follows...

- `atbu update-digests --pf -l C:\MyData`
- `atbu update-digests --per-file -l C:\MyData`

Specifying the ‘-pf’ or ‘-per-file’ as an argument before a location causes ATBU to store or use persistence information per-file (for each file). Or you can think of it as “persistence file” as opposed to “persistence directory .json db.”

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu update-digests --pf -l C:\MyData
atbu - v0.01
Updating files in C:\MyData...
Creating info for C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx_
↳sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Creating info for C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt_
↳sha256=5c575cfae16e5f9b04101ce50409dfbf3062ac3ebd90829ad764518abcbc57a9
Creating info for C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Documents\NewNotes.txt_
↳sha256=6007edb0b8d52d8f7c572af8e418cb86439ce84cc8dbafff3d23a09f731eb069
Creating info for C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt.
↳...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in_
↳pure text.txt sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg..
↳.
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_
↳223018.jpg sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg..
↳.
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_
↳191432.jpg sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg_
↳sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg_
↳sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg_
↳sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg_
↳sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg_
↳sha256=aelc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
```

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```

Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.
→jpg sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.
→jpg sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
→sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
→sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Creating info for C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
Checking for changes to C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
→sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Location ..... C:\MyData
  Location total files ..... 18
  Location files info created ..... 18
  Location files info updated ..... 0
  Location files no update required ..... 0
  Location files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
-----
Total all locations processed:
  Total files ..... 18
  Total Files info created ..... 18
  Total files info updated ..... 0
  Total files no update required ..... 0
  Total files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

The above command created new .atbu files as shown below...

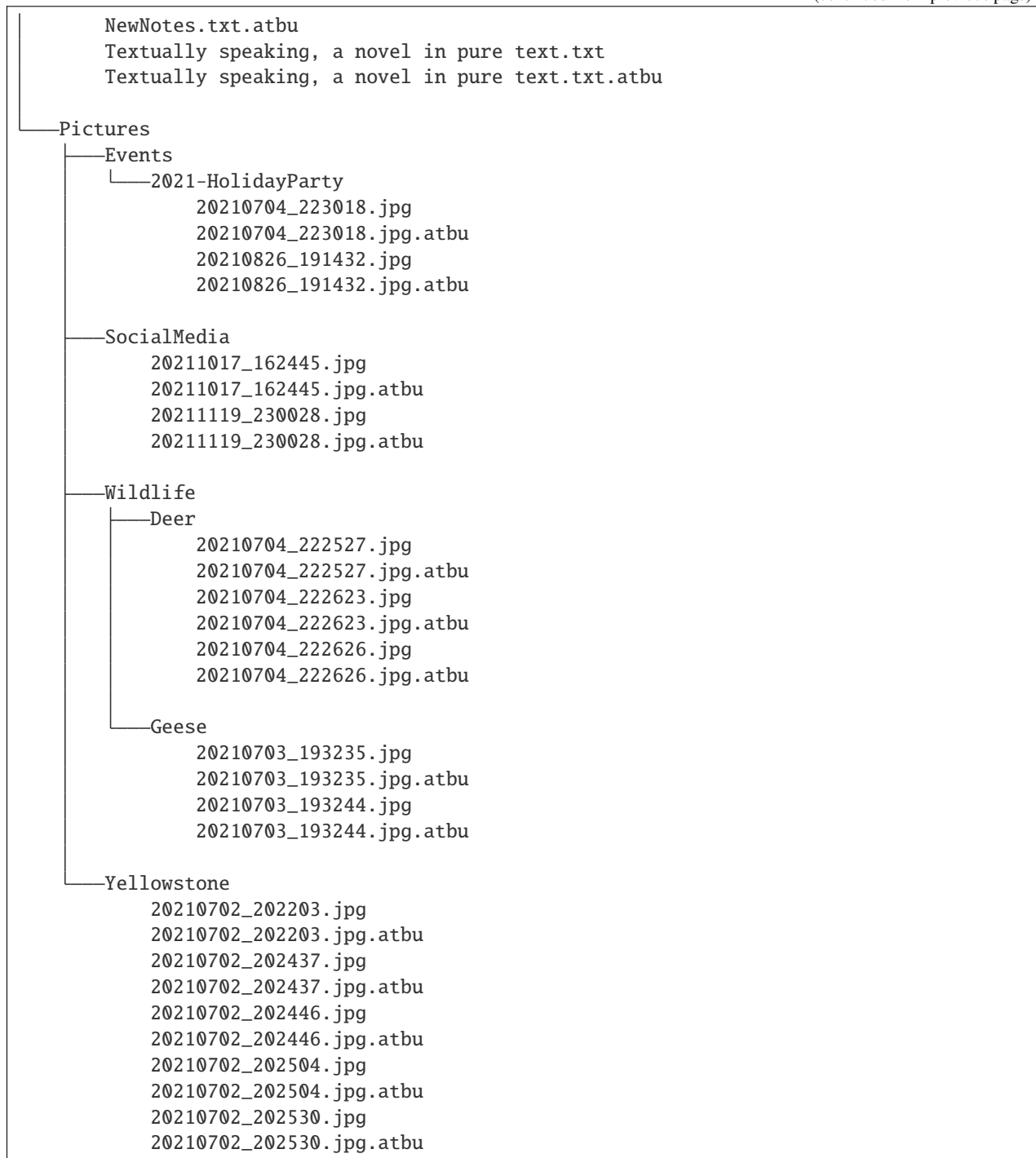
```

C:\MyData
├── Documents
│   ├── 2021-Budget.xlsx
│   ├── 2021-Budget.xlsx.atbu
│   ├── MyImportantNotes.txt
│   ├── MyImportantNotes.txt.atbu
│   └── NewNotes.txt

```

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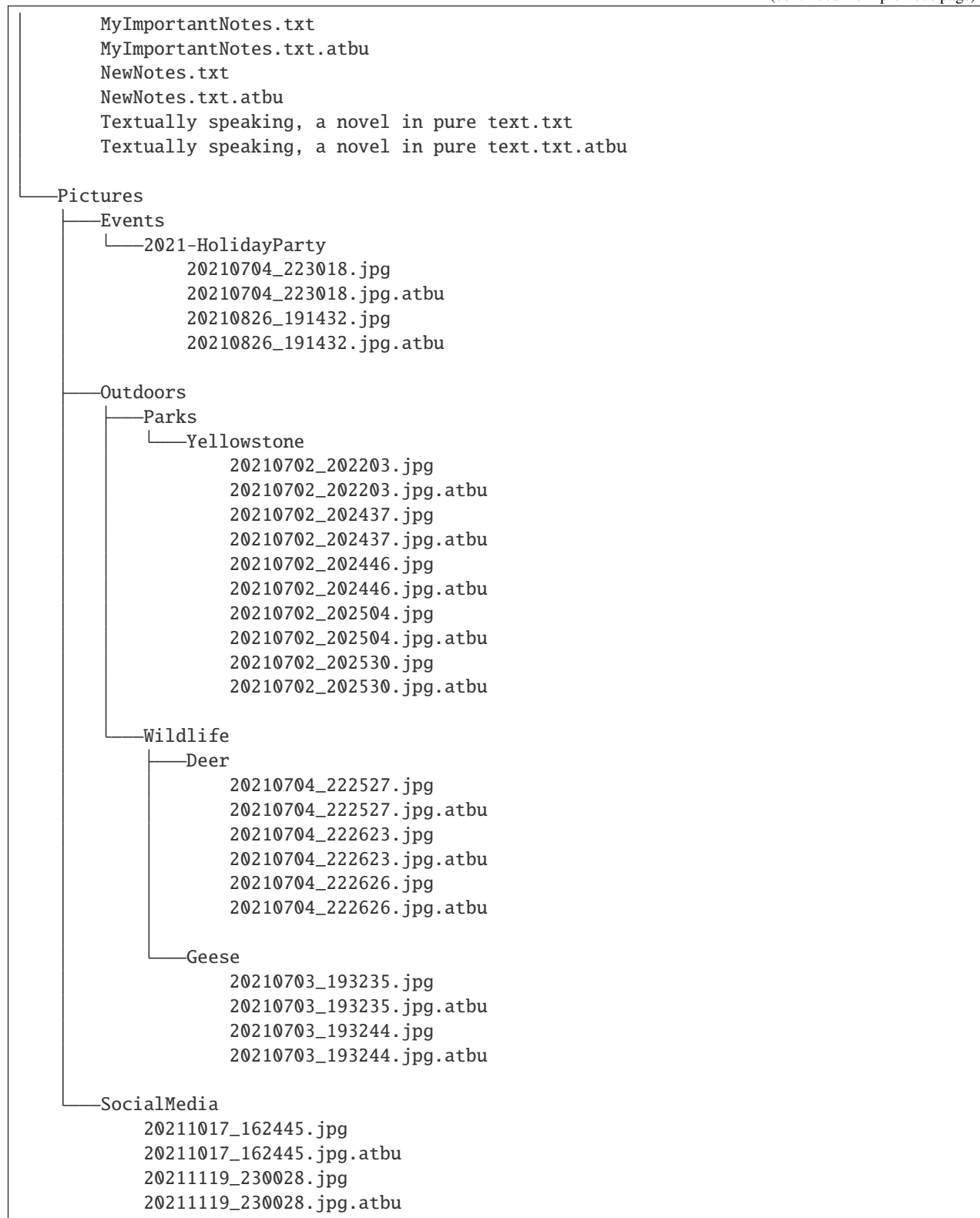


Now, let's say we decide to put both Yellowstone under a directory named .\Outdoors\Parks, and Wildlife under .\Outdoors\Wildlife...



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We use our operating system's file manager UI to move the directories. After doing so, immediately, without even running ATBU, the ATBU .atbu persistent file information files are in the right place. There is no need to even run ATBU to do anything.

If we had used a single .json db at the top of the hierarchy, located in C:\MyData as in the earlier examples, we would have to run ATBU to update the database. Since ATBU cannot assume a seemingly identical file at a different location is the same file, it must re-generate all of the digests, etc., to update the .json db. With the .atbu sidecar approach, the sidecar itself follows the file it represents so we know the information within it pertains the related file.

Yes, .atbu files may become dated, but that's not the point of this discussion. Any captured digest can become dated even one second after it is captured. That is not the point here as such affects any digest-capturing system unless, somehow, a hard drive or SSD system has instant hardware-based digests that are maintained (as one example).

What we are saying is that, from the standpoint of maintaining a history of your file's digests, if you use .atbu files, they implicitly follow the file they represent so long as you copy them with the original. And even if such sidecar files become stale, that stale information can be used to detect the change itself. If you re-generate .json db digests, you are not maintaining a history but recreating a new history.

ATBU could be updated to provide move or copy capabilities that update the .json db but it does not do that today. Today, the recommended way to have history live with the file is to use sidecar .atbu files.

As a tool to help hard drive consolidation

This example shows how ATBU diff can be used to help in manual hard drive examination and consolidation procedures.

Let's say the year is 2015 and you have a hard drive with large/important media located within d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive and run the following command to persist your drive's current information because you want to check it over time as needed.

Let's establish digests now in 2015...

```
atbu update-digests --per-file -l d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu update-digests --per-file -l d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive
atbu - v0.01
Updating files in d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive...
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
  ↳ 20210704_223018.jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
  ↳ 20210704_223018.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-
  ↳ HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
  ↳ sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
  ↳ 20210826_191432.jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
  ↳ 20210826_191432.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-
  ↳ HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
  ↳ sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.
  ↳ jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_
  ↳ 162445.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\
  ↳ 20211017_162445.jpg
  ↳ sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.
```

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```

→jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_
→230028.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\
→20211119_230028.jpg
→sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.
→jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
→222527.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\
→Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
→sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.
→jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
→222623.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\
→Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
→sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.
→jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
→222626.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\
→Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
→sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.
→jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
→193235.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\
→Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
→sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.
→jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
→193244.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\
→Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
→sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.
→jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_
→140532.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\
→Heron\20220530_140532.jpg
→sha256=a6996a2b2f0c208d17782bc12a898ef682fb9d8905c5ed8f4309f744fdca69d6
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.
→jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_
→140645.jpg...

```

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```

The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\
↳Heron\20220530_140645.jpg
↳sha256=b658c01348ac5aaac8dc634ab9086b55eb698f4eb15d0eb71d670ebe4e721f0d
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.
↳jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳202203.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\
↳20210702_202203.jpg
↳sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.
↳jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳202437.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\
↳20210702_202437.jpg
↳sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.
↳jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳202446.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\
↳20210702_202446.jpg
↳sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.
↳jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳202504.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\
↳20210702_202504.jpg
↳sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.
↳jpg...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳202530.jpg...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\
↳20210702_202530.jpg
↳sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Location ..... d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive
  Location total files ..... 16
  Location files info created ..... 16
  Location files info updated ..... 0
  Location files no update required ..... 0
  Location files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
-----
Total all locations processed:
  Total files ..... 16
  Total Files info created ..... 16
  Total files info updated ..... 0
  Total files no update required ..... 0
  Total files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

Now let's say it is a year later, 2016, we were traveling, and while traveling, we ad-hoc copy'ed a few files to that same d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive hard drive...

```

D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive
├── files-while-traveling-in-2016          <--- Added in 2016 while traveling.
│   ├── AnotherDocument.txt
│   ├── ImportantLetter.docx
│   └── SomeImportantDocument.txt
├── Pictures                               <--- Pictures added in 2015.
│   ├── Events
│   │   └── 2021-HolidayParty
│   │       ├── 20210704_223018.jpg
│   │       ├── 20210704_223018.jpg.atbu
│   │       ├── 20210826_191432.jpg
│   │       └── 20210826_191432.jpg.atbu
│   ├── SocialMedia
│   │   ├── 20211017_162445.jpg
│   │   ├── 20211017_162445.jpg.atbu
│   │   ├── 20211119_230028.jpg
│   │   └── 20211119_230028.jpg.atbu
│   ├── Wildlife
│   │   ├── Deer
│   │   │   ├── 20210704_222527.jpg
│   │   │   ├── 20210704_222527.jpg.atbu
│   │   │   ├── 20210704_222623.jpg
│   │   │   ├── 20210704_222623.jpg.atbu
│   │   │   ├── 20210704_222626.jpg
│   │   │   └── 20210704_222626.jpg.atbu
│   │   ├── Geese
│   │   │   ├── 20210703_193235.jpg
│   │   │   ├── 20210703_193235.jpg.atbu
│   │   │   ├── 20210703_193244.jpg
│   │   │   └── 20210703_193244.jpg.atbu
│   │   └── Heron
│   │       ├── 20220530_140532.jpg
│   │       ├── 20220530_140532.jpg.atbu
│   │       ├── 20220530_140645.jpg
│   │       └── 20220530_140645.jpg.atbu
│   └── Yellowstone
│       ├── 20210702_202203.jpg
│       ├── 20210702_202203.jpg.atbu
│       ├── 20210702_202437.jpg
│       ├── 20210702_202437.jpg.atbu
│       ├── 20210702_202446.jpg
│       ├── 20210702_202446.jpg.atbu
│       ├── 20210702_202504.jpg
│       └── 20210702_202504.jpg.atbu

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```
20210702_202530.jpg
20210702_202530.jpg.atbu
```

Now let's say it's about 7 years later, in 2022, and you have a new hard drive E:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive. You are going through older hard drives because you move critical backups to newer media every number of years, but before destroying older media, you want to ensure all files are accounted for one way or another.

The 2015 hard drive D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive data has not had its digests checked in about 7 years, so the first thing we may want to do is update all digests...

```
atbu update-digests --cdt digest --per-file -l d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive
```

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu update-digests --cdt digest --per-file -l d:\MyData-Year-
↳2015-Hard-Drive
atbu - v0.01
-----
Updating files in d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive...
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
↳AnotherDocument.txt...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
↳AnotherDocument.txt...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-
↳in-2016\AnotherDocument.txt
↳sha256=c6efa5c08cad7357eb8bb11484616d53ffaf3f4f388f1d3d484493d6e2d42739
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
↳ImportantLetter.docx...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
↳ImportantLetter.docx...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-
↳in-2016\ImportantLetter.docx
↳sha256=e3b0c44298fc1c149afb4c8996fb92427ae41e4649b934ca495991b7852b855
Creating info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
↳SomeImportantDocument.txt...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
↳SomeImportantDocument.txt...
The .atbu file info was added: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-
↳in-2016\SomeImportantDocument.txt
↳sha256=06d90109c8cce34ec0c776950465421e176f08b831a938b3c6e76cb7bee8790b
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
↳20210704_223018.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\
↳2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
↳sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
↳20210826_191432.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\
↳2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
↳sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_
↳162445.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
↳sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
```

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```
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_
↳230028.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
↳sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↳222527.jpg...
Change detected: d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.
↳jpg:
  cur size=722770
  old size=722770
  cur time=2021-07-04T22:25:32.000000
  old time=2021-07-04T22:25:32.000000
  cur digest=845fcd2ba9d1e2ccaa9e46dfa4781bf998ff32fee268fe80b786313e6b6e096e
  old digest=b9e3a8e4fb26c41b7c82c00bfef6e7de64d07b0f1834069acf22a0742e9e8d4b
WARNING: Potential bitrot or other sneaky corruption: d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\
↳Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
Updating file info for d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↳222527.jpg...
The .atbu file info was updated: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\
↳Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
↳sha256=845fcd2ba9d1e2ccaa9e46dfa4781bf998ff32fee268fe80b786313e6b6e096e
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↳222623.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
↳sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↳222626.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
↳sha256=ae1c456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
↳193235.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
↳sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
↳193244.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
↳sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_
↳140532.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.jpg
↳sha256=a6996a2b2f0c208d17782bc12a898ef682fb9d8905c5ed8f4309f744fdca69d6
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_
↳140645.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.jpg
↳sha256=b658c01348ac5aaac8dc634ab9086b55eb698f4eb15d0eb71d670ebe4e721f0d
```

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```

Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳202203.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
↳sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳202437.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
↳sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳202446.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
↳sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳202504.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
↳sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
↳202530.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↳Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
↳sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Location ..... d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive
  Location total files ..... 19
  Location files info created ..... 3
  Location files info updated ..... 1
  Location files no update required ..... 15
  Location files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
Total potential sneaky corruption..... 1 (see details above)
=====
=====
Potential sneaky corruption all locations processed:
  path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
  old_size=722770
  cur_size=722770
  old_time=2021-07-04T22:25:32.000000
  cur_time=2021-07-04T22:25:32.000000
  old_digest=b9e3a8e4fb26c41b7c82c00bfef6e7de64d07b0f1834069acf22a0742e9e8d4b
  cur_digest=845fcd2ba9d1e2ccaa9e46dfa4781bf998ff32fee268fe80b786313e6b6e096e
-----
  Total potential sneaky corruption Location A: 1
=====
Total all locations processed:
  Total files ..... 19
  Total Files info created ..... 3
  Total files info updated ..... 1
  Total files no update required ..... 15
  Total files info stale/error, skipped..... 0
  Total potential sneaky corruption..... 1 (see details above)

```

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(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

A few important things to note when running update-digests above...

- **Using the same persistence type:** First, let's note that, since we used "--per-file" in 2015, it is important to use "--per-file" again as shown above because, without doing that, ATBU would create a per-dir database by default, ignoring the information files already present. We want to take advantage of that history that has been living side-by-side with our important data files, so we use "--per-file" to instruct ATBU to check/update persisted file information in those locations.
- **Forcing digest check after many years:** By specifying -cdt digest, we instruct ATBU to re-generate all digests and compare them with the existing 2015 history. This is being done in this example because 7 years is a long time, and that old 2015 hard drive has been used for many purposes, inserted in various machines, and sitting in various storage locations, some perhaps not so cool. We re-gen digests after a long period of time in this example because it's a way of comparing current content with the 2015 content.
- **New files discovered:** ATBU has observed that files within d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016 never had their persistent information saved so their information was saved as part of the above update-digests command (see lines with "Creating info").
- **Potential corruption: ATBU detected potential bitrot or other sneaky corruption for the file 20210704_222527.jpg.** Sneaky corruption is when the digest for a file differs from the last time it was captured despite the file date/time and size not having changed. With the file 20210704_222527.jpg in the example, it had one digest in 2015, but has a different digest now in 2022, but the file's date/time and size have not changed. It is typically bad practice and not typical for programs to update files and force an older date so ATBU diff views such as a potentially bad thing and alerts you so you can investigate.
 - **VERY IMPORTANT:** You only get one chance to see bitrot / sneaky file corruption because ATBU will update the file's persistent history to reflect the new digest, which means it will no longer detect the same issue on subsequent digest updates. Pay close attention, therefore, to the output of the command. You might consider using the ATBU -logfile command to capture the details in a file. You can keep the log file somewhere as a form of history you can review as needed.

So already we see one issue with that older hard drive. Let's say you prefer a manual process, you do not want tools deleting files, but you want to organize them automatically so you can see what's most important in consolidation. One feature of ATBU diff is that it can move or delete files that are both in location A and B. Let's try that with move using the old and new hard drives from the above example.

```
atbu diff --per-file --la d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive --lb e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-
↳ Drive --action move-duplicates --md d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates
```

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu diff --per-file --la d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive --lb e:\
↳ MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive --action move-duplicates --md d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-
↳ Drive-Duplicates
atbu - v0.01
Location A ..... d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive
Location A persist types ..... ['per-file']
Location B ..... e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive
Location B persist types ..... ['per-file']
-----
Searching location A: d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
↳ AnotherDocument.txt...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-
↳ traveling-in-2016\AnotherDocument.txt
```

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```

↪sha256=c6efa5c08cad7357eb8bb11484616d53ffaf3f4f388f1d3d484493d6e2d42739
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
↪ImportantLetter.docx...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-
↪traveling-in-2016\ImportantLetter.docx
↪sha256=e3b0c44298fc1c149afb4c8996fb92427ae41e4649b934ca495991b7852b855
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
↪SomeImportantDocument.txt...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-
↪traveling-in-2016\SomeImportantDocument.txt
↪sha256=06d90109c8cce34ec0c776950465421e176f08b831a938b3c6e76cb7bee8790b
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
↪20210704_223018.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\
↪2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
↪sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
↪20210826_191432.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\
↪2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
↪sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_
↪162445.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
↪sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_
↪230028.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
↪sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↪222527.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
↪sha256=845fcd2ba9d1e2ccaa9e46dfa4781bf998ff32fee268fe80b786313e6b6e096e
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↪222623.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
↪sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↪222626.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
↪sha256=aelc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
↪193235.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
↪sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_

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→193244.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
→sha256=b8be04fb1a691fff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_
→140532.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.jpg
→sha256=a6996a2b2f0c208d17782bc12a898ef682fb9d8905c5ed8f4309f744fdca69d6
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_
→140645.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.jpg
→sha256=b658c01348ac5aaac8dc634ab9086b55eb698f4eb15d0eb71d670ebe4e721f0d
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
→202203.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
→sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
→202437.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
→202446.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
→202504.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
→sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
→202530.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
→sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
-----
Searching location B: e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Documents\2021-
→Budget.xlsx sha256=9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Documents\
→MyImportantNotes.txt
→sha256=3efb41e3ada35977bd17d9360318197193d8e20f557c89f5f13f8aa89743e5ea
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Documents\Textually speaking, a
→novel in pure text.txt...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Documents\
→Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt

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↪ sha256=c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
↪ 20210704_223018.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\
↪ 2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
↪ sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\
↪ 20210826_191432.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\
↪ 2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
↪ sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_
↪ 162445.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪ SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
↪ sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_
↪ 230028.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪ SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
↪ sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↪ 222527.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪ Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
↪ sha256=1da008e928b843c14aff8df533a3da1c35f762f01e91ad50d99fd83ab7fdd581
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↪ 222623.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪ Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
↪ sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
↪ 222626.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪ Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
↪ sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
↪ 193235.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪ Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg
↪ sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
↪ 193244.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪ Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
↪ sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_
↪ 140532.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
↪ Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.jpg
↪ sha256=a6996a2b2f0c208d17782bc12a898ef682fb9d8905c5ed8f4309f744fdca69d6
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_

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→140645.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.jpg
→sha256=b658c01348ac5aaac8dc634ab9086b55eb698f4eb15d0eb71d670ebe4e721f0d
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
→202203.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
→sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
→202437.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
→sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
→202446.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
→sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
→202504.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
→sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309
Checking for changes to e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_
→202530.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=e:\MyData-Year-2022-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
→sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Logging A unique objects ..... 19
Logging B unique objects ..... 19
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f 20210704_
→223018.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0 20210826_
→191432.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200 20211017_
→162445.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814 20211119_
→230028.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e 20210704_
→222623.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872 20210704_
→222626.jpg
Location A and B digests match:
→sha256=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4 20210703_
→193235.jpg

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Location A and B digests match:↵
 ↵sha256=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e 20210703_
 ↵193244.jpg
 Location A and B digests match:↵
 ↵sha256=a6996a2b2f0c208d17782bc12a898ef682fb9d8905c5ed8f4309f744fdca69d6 20220530_
 ↵140532.jpg
 Location A and B digests match:↵
 ↵sha256=b658c01348ac5aaac8dc634ab9086b55eb698f4eb15d0eb71d670ebe4e721f0d 20220530_
 ↵140645.jpg
 Location A and B digests match:↵
 ↵sha256=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a 20210702_
 ↵202203.jpg
 Location A and B digests match:↵
 ↵sha256=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090 20210702_
 ↵202437.jpg
 Location A and B digests match:↵
 ↵sha256=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774 20210702_
 ↵202446.jpg
 Location A and B digests match:↵
 ↵sha256=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61febd309 20210702_
 ↵202504.jpg
 Location A and B digests match:↵
 ↵sha256=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23 20210702_
 ↵202530.jpg

===== RESULTS↵

↵=====

Files in Location A *not* found in Location B:

File in A *not* in B: d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
 ↵AnotherDocument.txt

 File in A *not* in B: d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
 ↵ImportantLetter.docx

 File in A *not* in B: d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
 ↵SomeImportantDocument.txt

 File in A *not* in B: d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
 ↵222527.jpg

=====

MOVING

=====

Moving duplicates in Location A: d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive

Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.

↵jpg ---to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Events\2021-

↵HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg↵

↵digest=7fee4ed7cdd1f47f50a5ee34c5e4d664d084f6b214c035b66d12d778b100547f

Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.

↵jpg.atbu ---to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Events\2021-

↵HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg.atbu

Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.

↵jpg ---to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Events\2021-

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→HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
→digest=8f4d4f96cc03e1d2325131ebc0f2d185f5672ca50d9ed6cb01c0b30d7a8995c0
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.
→jpg.atbu ---to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Events\2021-
→HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg ---to-->
→d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg
→digest=6ee2386f90dd6d2ed672d72e7fb4fe326a5fc7e24b8d4b162fc3f108f8d7e200
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.jpg.atbu ---
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211017_162445.
→jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg ---to-->
→d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg
→digest=6d7eb15812bad686523cc15129949c079099c0914a61a718c02b800c68ff2814
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.jpg.atbu ---
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\SocialMedia\20211119_230028.
→jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg ---to-->
→d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg
→digest=034b5cf3d336f257d610256fe1eef4d3cb030f3e3abc535dc5da881b112d694e
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.jpg.atbu ---
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222623.
→jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg ---to-->
→d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
→digest=aclc456c3e22e9f9afaa0a0950fbf943883a54b0c3182b8c4c7d04a0ea788872
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg.atbu ---
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.
→jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg ---to--
→> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.
→jpg digest=a4b968f8ba7a1f9dc011d7e3ed1211fc8a60be7553af5960e7ca08b9536185d4
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193235.jpg.atbu --
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
→193235.jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg ---to--
→> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.
→jpg digest=b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg.atbu --
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_
→193244.jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.jpg ---to--
→> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.
→jpg digest=a6996a2b2f0c208d17782bc12a898ef682fb9d8905c5ed8f4309f744fdca69d6
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140532.jpg.atbu --
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_
→140532.jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.jpg ---to--
→> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.
→jpg digest=b658c01348ac5aac8dc634ab9086b55eb698f4eb15d0eb71d670ebe4e721f0d
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_140645.jpg.atbu --
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron\20220530_

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→140645.jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg ---to-->
→d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
→digest=41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg.atbu ---
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.
→jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg ---to-->
→d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg
→digest=16600056b63e727776fb6c3e092faa5523410044168754c3076eb1223f9dd090
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.jpg.atbu ---
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202437.
→jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg ---to-->
→d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg
→digest=0f7e82f0e2e545f0fb42bbec1d20b2833cb2e5c29243377e86b0cb76666f9774
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.jpg.atbu ---
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202446.
→jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg ---to-->
→d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg
→digest=c674781eedeb046aea388e19a1af08db269137a01d5ce8efabfdb9c61feb309
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.jpg.atbu ---
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202504.
→jpg.atbu
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg ---to-->
→d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
→digest=5540e0a2316fb020de634e8ec7962214cd6540b48e41b70985b64b91e838ca23
Moving d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg.atbu ---
→to--> d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.
→jpg.atbu
Removing empty directories...
Successfully removed d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese
Successfully removed d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer
Successfully removed d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\SocialMedia
Successfully removed d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Yellowstone
Successfully removed d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty
Successfully removed d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Heron
Starting post-command location A update...
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
→AnotherDocument.txt...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-
→traveling-in-2016\AnotherDocument.txt
→sha256=c6efa5c08cad7357eb8bb11484616d53ffaf3f4f388f1d3d484493d6e2d42739
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
→ImportantLetter.docx...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-
→traveling-in-2016\ImportantLetter.docx
→sha256=e3b0c44298fc1c149afb4c8996fb92427ae41e4649b934ca495991b7852b855
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\
→SomeImportantDocument.txt...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-

```

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```

→traveling-in-2016\SomeImportantDocument.txt
→sha256=06d90109c8cce34ec0c776950465421e176f08b831a938b3c6e76cb7bee8790b
Checking for changes to d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_
→222527.jpg...
The .atbu file info was up to date: path=d:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\
→Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg
→sha256=845fcd2ba9d1e2ccaa9e46dfa4781bf998ff32fee268fe80b786313e6b6e096e
Location A ..... d:\MyData-Year-2015-
→Hard-Drive
Location B ..... e:\MyData-Year-2022-
→Hard-Drive
Total Location A unique files ..... 19
Total Location A skipped files ..... 0
Total Location B unique files ..... 19
Total Location B skipped files ..... 0
Total Location A unique files also in Location B ..... 15
Total Location A unique files not found in Location B ..... 4
Summary 'move-duplicates'...
Total Location A unique files moved ..... 15
Total Location A physical files moved ..... 15
Total Location A config files moved ..... 15
Total Location A config files not moved ..... 0
Total Location A affected directories ..... 6
Total Location A affected directories emptied/removed ..... 5
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

The above results in the following two structures on the old 2015 hard drive:

The original D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive directory:

```

D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive
├── files-while-traveling-in-2016
│   ├── AnotherDocument.txt
│   ├── AnotherDocument.txt.atbu
│   ├── ImportantLetter.docx
│   ├── ImportantLetter.docx.atbu
│   ├── SomeImportantDocument.txt
│   └── SomeImportantDocument.txt.atbu
└── Pictures
    ├── Wildlife
    │   └── Deer
    │       ├── 20210704_222527.jpg
    │       └── 20210704_222527.jpg.atbu

```

The newly created D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates directory:

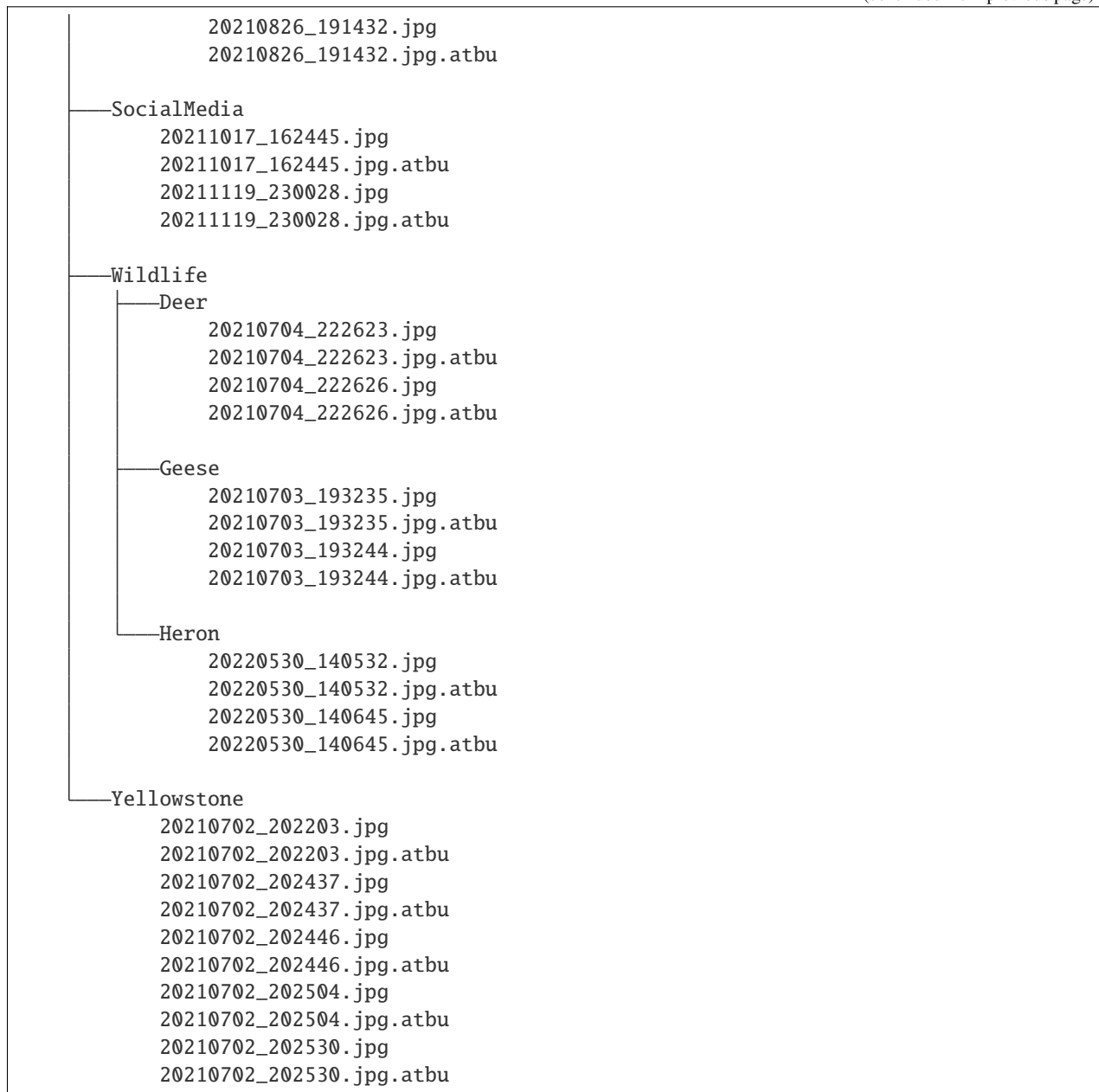
```

D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates
├── Pictures
│   └── Events
│       └── 2021-HolidayParty
│           ├── 20210704_223018.jpg
│           └── 20210704_223018.jpg.atbu

```

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There are two directories shown above...

- D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive: The original old hard drive directory.
- D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive-Duplicates: The “duplicates” directory created from the -md argument (see the ATBU command above).

Since the -md argument moved the files from one location to another on the *same hard drive*, the cost of the move was relatively little in terms of time. This is because moving files from one location to another on the same drive is fairly quick and non-intensive since the file’s content is usually not touched to perform the move, unlike copying between drives. This is, perhaps, more ideal for an older drive since you can rearrange the file at lower cost of disk usage. Anyway, this is an approach I use and, after all, this is a personal ad-hoc tool being shared so YMMV.

So moving duplicates to the duplicate directory on the same drive did not affect the files being moved beyond the OS updating disk structures to show the files now being in the new location.

Why do this, you ask? Great question!

Well, since your focus is ensuring D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive is backed up elsewhere, you are trying to see what in the older drive is not already on the newer drive. Moving duplicates clears out D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive except for files not known to be elsewhere.

At this point, we can see the following files on D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive are not backed up on the newer drive.

- **D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\files-while-traveling-in-2016\...**
 - These are file's from that 2016 travel... we forgot about these files, we will copy them to the new 2022 drive.
- **D:\MyData-Year-2015-Hard-Drive\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222527.jpg**
 - This is that file which had apparent sneaky corruption. We may decide to rename this to 20210704_222527-potentially-corrupt.jpg or something like that, and copy it side-by-side with the known good copy. Or, if it's a known edit to the file, such metadata, we can other choices.

Transitive property among known duplicate drives

Related to the earlier example scenarios, you can use ATBU diff to establish that hard drives are effective duplicates of other drives from a digest perspective. For example, let's say you have the following...

- DriveA: 2015 hard drive.
- DriveB: 2017 hard drive.
- DriveC: 2019 hard drive.
- DriveD: 2022 hard drive.

If you know that DriveC matches DriveD and DriveB matches DriveC, then you know DriveB matches DriveD, and you can therefore use DriveB as a “working” drive to diff with other drives (or a .json db of DriveB).

- DriveB -> DriveC -> DriveD

Using DriveB in diffs is pretty much like diff'ing with the newest/best DriveD, but you can use DriveB and keep DriveC/DriveD minimally used to preserve functionality.

Referring to the immediate proceeding section/example, DriveB could be the 2022 drive we were using, redundant with some other 2022 “DrivesC” and “DrivesD”.

Additional Details

The persistent file information portion of ATBU provides the ability to capture the state of your cherished files at a particular point in time, and to compare or diff that information with new information captured at a later time.

Persistent file information provides the following command line operations:

- **update-digests: Scans and captures information for all files within one or more specified directories. The following information is captured:**
 - SHA256 digest of the file's contents.
 - The file's last modified date/time.
 - The file's size.
 - The file's path.
 - A history of the above information: Each time you update-digests, if a file's information is changed, new information is captured, saving the older information in that file's lifetime history.

- **save-db:** Given one or more directories where **update-digests** has been run, and where persistent file information is therefore maintained, capture all such information into a single .json “database” file.
 - A persistent file information .json database file can serve as a dataset in a diff command, which means you can specify a path to such a .json file instead of a directory location when performing a diff (see diff below).
 - For a directory not using sidecar files, but instead using a single .json db, you can use **save-db** to include that .json db in the db you are saving. Again, this is somewhat like treating as though it were a directory on the **save-db** command line.
 - **Saving a persistent file information .json database file can be a convenient way of saving an external hard drive’s persistent file information for online or offline usage, allowing you to reference it as needed without having the hard drive itself.**
 - * This could, for example, help your own manual consolidation or data inventory efforts. Every few years, some people go through all of their data, ensure backups are in good form, etc. Keeping track of what different drives contain can certainly help consolidation, or find undesired or desired/missing redundancy.
- **diff:** Given two datasets of persistent file information, each referred to as location A and B, perform a diff of A and B, producing a report of files in A that are not in B.
 - The diff command requires two “locations” referred to as Location A and Location B.
 - Each location can either be a directory location, or a persistent file information database .json file captured using **save-db** mentioned above.
 - Since a **save-db** .json database can contain information from one or more directories where **update-digests** has been run, a diff using a .json database containing information for more than one directory effectively allows you to diff multiple locations with some other .json database or a directory.
 - In addition to a report, you can instruct diff to perform an action based on the outcome of the diff. Currently, two actions exist based on what my own personal consolidation needs were: a) remove duplicates, or b) move duplicates. I used this capability with manual consolidation efforts. Once I knew that newer media had copies of files on older media, I could safely retire the older media (or repurpose that older media for less important backup needs). By moving or deleting duplicate files, I would have less remaining files in the drive being assessed. This was simply the way I needed to use the tool given my tendency to give manual attention to consolidation efforts.

My personal experience, some thoughts on sidecar files

TL;DR: For important irreplaceable media, sidecar files generally rock (meaning they are “the thing”, “the way to go”, “totally awesome”).

Some people think, for example, that a program which modifies an original photo file to embed desired metadata is a great thing: convenient, single file, etc. I am the opposite: I *cannot stand* the notion of this for my own library of irreplaceable media.

The reason? Originals are originals and they should be thought of and left as originals. In the days of film, I did not draw or scratch on negatives or original irreplaceable photos! There’s no reason to “draw or scratch” onto original jpg, raw, mp4/mpeg, other such files. Doing so always risks harming the original. Make a copy and modify the copy!

Think of it this way: You cannot fully control the photo/video programs you use if they are proprietary. There is nothing stopping your fav photo editing or DAM management app from being updated with some bug that causes harm to your files. I do not want 10 different companies and their programs modifying my originals... please... Programs... stay away from my originals, please, companies who make cool programs, offer sidecar functionality for “editing” needs. Let me create a copy with modifications as needed.

Some programs support sidecar files, not all. If you have not figured out yet, I love sidecar files, and I cannot stand programs that modify my originals. You know what? There was a really well-known raw file editor that used to *never* touch original raw files, but nowadays it *actually updates the raw file* with my metadata changes!! That is just *crazy crazy* in my, perhaps not so humble, opinion.

This is why ATBU employs sidecar files for persistence information. I personally started with sidecar files because I knew it was the way to go for my own needs. I added the .json db capability afterwards. I have not used the single .json db capability much yet. I have used, to great value, the sidecar .atbu approach. Basically, I populate older media hard drives with digest info using .atbu persistence info... that info is then “locked in” to those hard drives. I never edit files on those drives, so those .atbu files should represent good digests. If I copy the media from that drive, the .atbu files follow the media. If I recategorize the structure, moving files around, the .atbu sidecar files simply go with the originals, no need to scan or update digests. To me, this is the “pro” way to go.

Even though ATBU does not embed files, sidecar files have benefits in that they do not modify originals, but contain good useful inventory-like information that lives side-by-side with the original media file.

Side note, it is always a risk to write data to very hold hard drives... not necessarily a bad risk but just a risk of sorts... hard drives age, can go bad... but writing .atbu digest files to older drives was a choice I was willing to make because I have redundancy so the point was to ensure everything got moved to newer media... anyway, I did not have issues so all was well.

Going forward, my ingestion workflow will, as a matter of course, involve generating .atbu digest sidecar files, at least for large irreplaceable photos/videos. When those currently new drives age and become old, they will already have .atbu digest files so I’m good to go for validating and comparing contents as time moves forward.

ATBU GETTING STARTED

2.1 Setup

ATBU has been tested on Python 3.9.12 and higher... so first install Python, possibly creating a virtual environment if you wish.

After your environment is setup with Python...

To use ATBU, first install it using pip atbu-pkg:

```
pip install atbu-pkg
```

2.1.1 Walkthroughs

SECURING THE BACKUP WITH YUBIKEY

3.1 Overview

ATBU allows you to secure your backup encryption key using a combination of a hardware YubiKey via USB token and your password. Once ATBU is setup to work with YubiKey, you cannot backup or restore files without both having your YubiKey and knowing your password.

ATBU uses the YubiKey's HMAC-SHA1 challenge/response capabilities to achieve backup encryption protection. You do not need to understand HMAC-SHA1 challenge/response to make use of this feature.

Generally, think of HMAC-SHA1 challenge/response as the ability for a YubiKey to act as a blackbox which takes your password as input, and responds with a special code only it knows how to generate (assuming you have kept your YubiKey HMAC-SHA1 secret secure... more on this below).

The basic steps discussed in the following sections are:

- You obtain a YubiKey. ATBU supports a YubiKey via USB using Slot 2 configured for HMAC-SHA1 Challenge/Response. YubiKey has been tested with YubiKey 4 but should work fine with YubiKey 5.
- After obtaining a YubiKey, you configure it's Slot 2 configuration with a special secret. You can then start using that YubiKey with ATBU.
- **You create a new, or update an existing local or cloud backup to use a password, but you specify the `--yk` command line option to instruct ATBU to use YubiKey.**
 - If you already have a password protecting your encryption key, you will need to first remove the password from protecting the backup, then re-add a password while the `--yk` command line option is active, and while you have a YubiKey inserted into a USB port.
- You can use all the same cloud/local backup/restore commands outlined in *ATBU Cloud and Local Backup/Restore Getting Started* but, when using password protection, ensure the `--yk` command line option is active so that all password operations utilize the YubiKey (examples given later in this section).
- ATBU will use the first YubiKey it finds. It is recommended you only have one YubiKey connected to the system when you use `--yk`.

3.2 Setup Steps

3.2.1 Preface

The YubiKey HMAC-SHA1 setup steps outlined below are obviously not official YubiKey setup documentation. If you find all/part of these steps to be dated/unhelpful, refer to the YubiKey documentation for setting HMAC-SHA1 on Slot 2.

At some point in the future, ATBU may be updated to walk you through configuring Slot 2 HMAC-SHA1 but at this time, you need to use the YubiKey Personalization Tool (UI tool) to configure the YubiKey.

These steps are based off of using YubiKey 4 with the latest Personalization Tool.

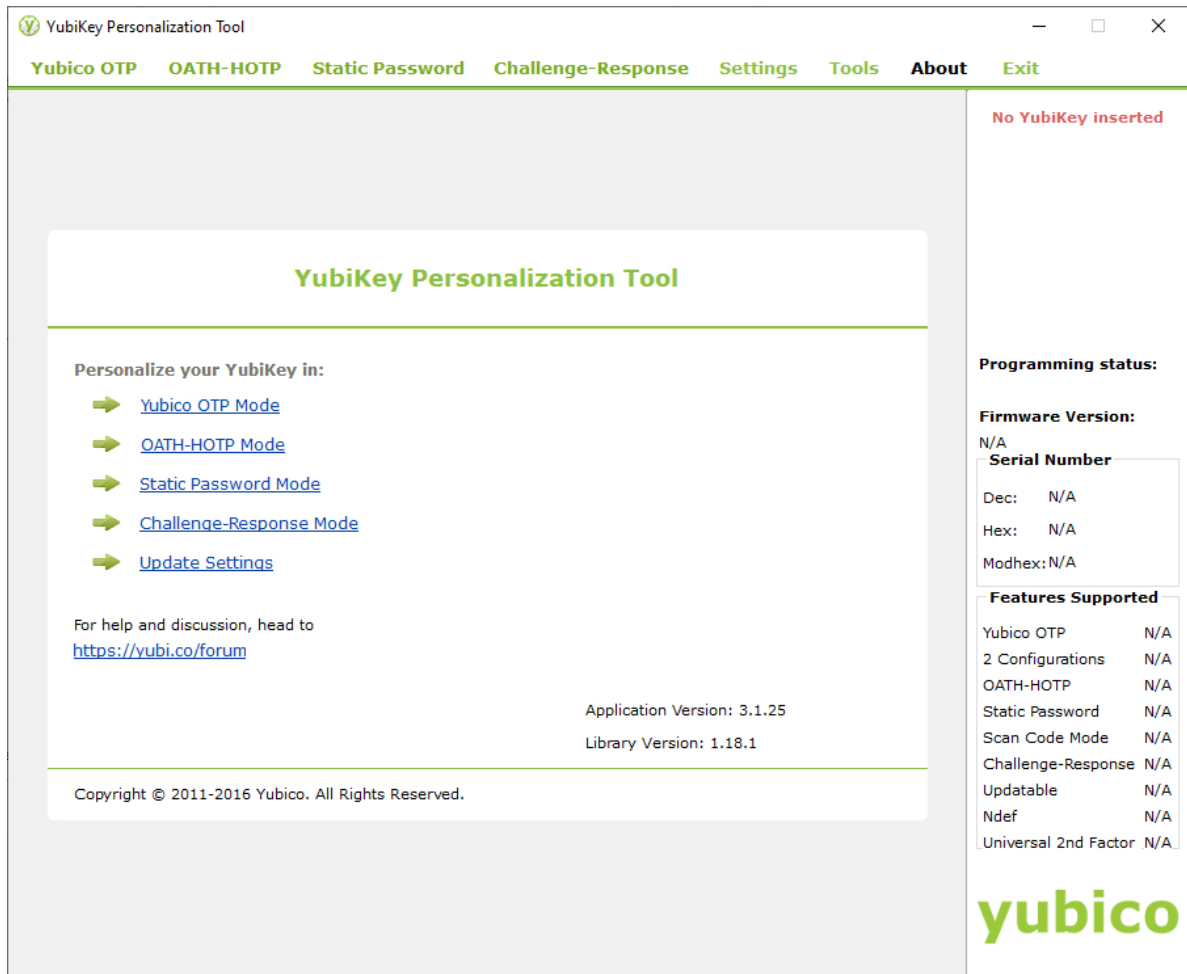
The steps for using the Personalization Tool to setup a YubiKey were tested on Windows.

The steps to setup ATBU so it uses YubiKey Manager to integrate HMAC-SHA1 were tested on both Windows/Linux but the Linux steps were a little more involved. This was a test on one particular Ubuntu system and may vary depending on distribution and overall setup. The extra steps involved using root to allow the system to build certain components indirectly required by the primary package being installed. YMMV but FYI (more on this in the Linux section below).

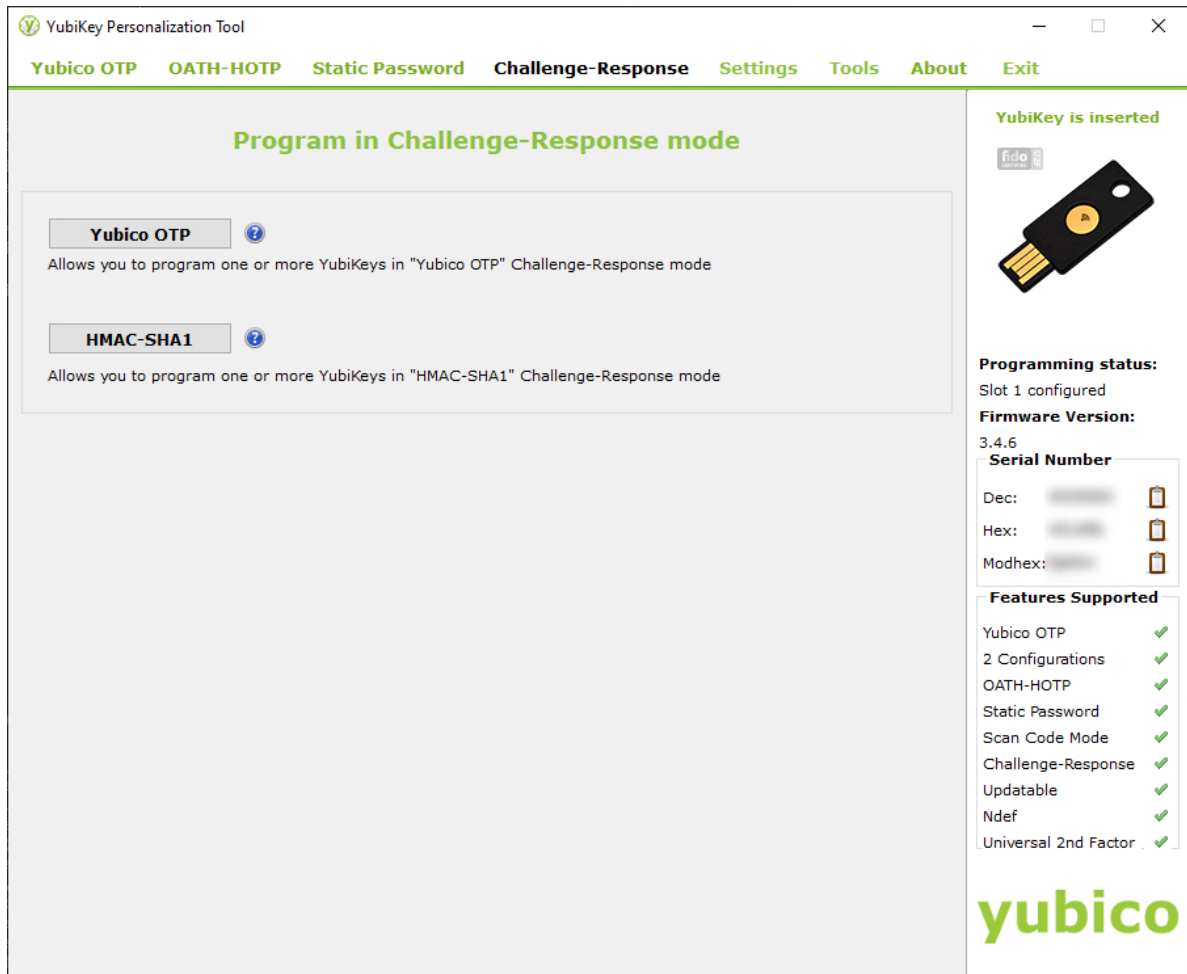
YubiKey is a versatile device with many features. ATBU chose to use the HMAC-SHA1 feature of YubiKey because it allows the user to what seems like the most optimum flexibility, including control what secret is programmed on the YubiKey, and the ability to back up that secret, or provision additional YubiKeys in advance so backups are available as needed.

3.2.2 YubiKey Setup

1. Download the YubiKey Personalization Tool: <https://www.yubico.com/support/download/yubikey-personalization-tools/>
2. Start the Personalization Tool:



3. Insert the YubiKey and choose the Challenge/Response tab at the top of the Personalization Tool:



4. Click the HMAC-SHA1 button which takes you to the HMAC-SHA1 programming/setup page:

YubiKey Personalization Tool

Yubico OTP OATH-HOTP Static Password Challenge-Response Settings Tools About Exit

Program in Challenge-Response mode - HMAC-SHA1

Configuration Slot
Select the configuration slot to be programmed
☐ Configuration Slot 1 ☒ Configuration Slot 2

☐ **Program Multiple YubiKeys**
☐ Automatically program YubiKeys when inserted
 Parameter Generation Scheme
 Randomize Secret

Configuration Protection (6 bytes Hex)
 YubiKey(s) unprotected - Keep it that way
 Current Access Code
☐ Use Serial Number
 New Access Code
☐ Use Serial Number

HMAC-SHA1 Parameters
☒ Require user input (button press)
 HMAC-SHA1 Mode ☒ Variable input ☐ Fixed 64 byte input
 Secret Key (20 bytes Hex) 76 72 d6 dd d5 b2 e6 48 2a 75 68 8b 65 15 06 f7 ee 57 c **Generate**

Actions
 Press Write Configuration button to program your YubiKey's selected configuration slot
Write Configuration **Stop** **Reset** **Back**

Results

#	Status	Timestamp
✓ 1	YubiKey has been successfully configured	6/14/2022 8:01 PM

YubiKey is inserted

Programming status: Slot 1 and 2 configured
Firmware Version: 3.4.6
Serial Number
 Dec:
 Hex:
 Modhex:
Features Supported
 Yubico OTP ✓
 2 Configurations ✓
 OATH-HOTP ✓
 Static Password ✓
 Scan Code Mode ✓
 Challenge-Response ✓
 Updatable ✓
 Ndef ✓
 Universal 2nd Factor ✓

yubico

5. From the HMAC-SHA1 programming/setup page:

- Click to select "Configuration Slot 2."
- Click "Require user input."
- Click "Variable input."
- If you wish to have the tool generate a secret code for you, click "Generate." If you wish to use your own chosen secret code, enter in 20 bytes as hex digits. Regardless of which method you use, make sure you backup the 20 byte code (the 20 hex digits entered or generated). See additional discussion below regarding backing up your codes and encryption key.
- Finally, click "Write Configuration" which will write your secret code and settings to the Slot 2 configuration on the YubiKey. When doing this, the Personalization Tool will prompt you to save a log file containing the secret code. If you use this for a backup, do not make assumptions, check to ensure sure the code is there in the log file. As well, after you backup your HMAC-SHA1 secret, ensure you securely delete the log file and any other remnants of the secret. If you leave the log on your PC, anyone with access can easily get the code.

YubiKey Personalization Tool

Yubico OTP OATH-HOTP Static Password **Challenge-Response** Settings Tools About Exit

Program in Challenge-Response mode - HMAC-SHA1

Configuration Slot
Select the configuration slot to be programmed
☐ Configuration Slot 1 ☒ Configuration Slot 2

☐ **Program Multiple YubiKeys**
☐ Automatically program YubiKeys when inserted
 Parameter Generation Scheme: Randomize Secret

Configuration Protection (6 bytes Hex)
 YubiKey(s) unprotected - Keep it that way
☐ Use Serial Number
☐ Use Serial Number

HMAC-SHA1 Parameters
☒ Require user input (button press)
 HMAC-SHA1 Mode: ☒ Variable input ☐ Fixed 64 byte input
 Secret Key (20 bytes Hex): 76 72 d6 dd d5 b2 e6 48 2a 75 68 8b 65 15 06 f7 ee 57 d

Actions
 Press Write Configuration button to program your YubiKey's selected configuration slot

Results

#	Status	Timestamp
1	YubiKey has been successfully configured	6/14/2022 8:01 PM

YubiKey is inserted

Programming status: Slot 1 and 2 configured
Firmware Version: 3.4.6
Serial Number:
 Dec:
 Hex:
 Modhex:
Features Supported:
 Yubico OTP ✓
 2 Configurations ✓
 OATH-HOTP ✓
 Static Password ✓
 Scan Code Mode ✓
 Challenge-Response ✓
 Updatable ✓
 Ndef ✓
 Universal 2nd Factor ✓

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The following is an example log file created by the Personalization Tool. It contains the example secret created by clicking Generate:

```
configuration_log.csv - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
LOGGING START,6/14/2022 8:01 PM
Challenge-Response: HMAC-SHA1,6/14/2022 8:01 PM,2,,,7672d6ddd5b2e6482a75688b651506f7ee57d4bd,,,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,1
```

3.3 Secret/Key Backup

Before proceeding, a quick comment about backing up your encryption key and YubiKey secret. This section will not repeat the discussion on exporting/importing your encryption key (see [Exporting your backup config/private key](#) for details).

First, for those not familiar with encryption keys and HMAC-SHA1 secrets, a quick recap from a high-level:

- **Encryption key:** This is the secret key used to encrypt and decrypt your backed up files. This key may or may not be password-protected. It is up to you to choose to use a password or not. If you use a password, you must enter the password before any backup or restore operation. By default, the password feature works without any extra hardware (no YubiKey required).
- **HMAC-SHA1 secret:** This is the “secret code” mentioned above. This is a secret that your YubiKey holds within itself. You program the YubiKey to have this code. You can choose the code, or you can have something create

a code for you as we saw with the Generate button with the Personalization Tool mentioned in the prior section.

When you do not have a YubiKey, your password is simply the characters that you type in on the keyboard. Those are used to unlock/lock your encryption key. If you choose not to have a password-protected backup, you do not have to enter a password, but this then means your backup's encryption key is stored directly in the keystore. Accessing the encryption key is as simple as having access to your machine and your keystore (usually by having access to your machine and your login on that machine).

When you add a YubiKey, you specify `--yk` on the ATBU command line. That instructs ATBU to use a YubiKey for password protection. You still need to choose the option to enable password projection. The `--yk` option alone will not do it. You must choose the options to enable password protection when setting up a backup (or you must change the backup to use password projection).

When you use `--yk`, you still enter a textual password, but after you enter your password, and press the YubiKey plate to allow access for an HMAC-SHA1 Challenge/Response, the YubiKey will take your password and create a new special code by using two things:

- a) The special HMAC-SHA1 code you program into the YubiKey as discussed earlier. This is what you do once when setting up the YubiKey, or you might do it, for example, when creating additional YubiKeys in case your primary YubiKey is lost/stolen, etc.
- b) Your textual password entered each time you perform a backup/restore.

After a Challenge (your typed password) is sent to the YubiKey, the YubiKey responds back with that new special code derived from your typed password and the secret code you program into the YubiKey.

That is why it is called Challenge/Response. The YubiKey is given your password as a Challenge, where it performs some processing using the Challenge and the secret it has, providing the Response back to ATBU.

The Response from the YubiKey is the ultimate password that protects the encryption key.

The levels of protection are generally as follows:

- Your files are protected by the encryption private key.
- Without YubiKey: The encryption private key is protected by your textual password alone.
- With YubiKey: The encryption private key is protected by both your textual password and the YubiKey's secret code.

You can view the various protection approaches as follows:

- With the Yubikey, anyone with both your password and a YubiKey programmed with your secret code (used to setup HMAC-SHA1), can access your backup encryption private key.
- Without the YubiKey, anyone with your backup password can access your backup encryption private key.
- Without any password protecting your backup encryption private key, anyone who can access the keystore on your PC, or any backups you have of the exported backup configuration, can access your encryption private key.

3.4 Setup ATBU

By default, when ATBU is installed via the `pip` command, the packages required for using YubiKey are *not* installed by default. You must install them manually separately. This may change in the future, but the reason for doing this is to limit any issues by implicitly including the YubiKey packages.

The reason for the packages not being installed by default is because ATBU currently uses YubiKey Manager (yubikey-manager) package to access the YubiKey Challenge/Response API and when installing that package on Linux, it seems some other packages may require building some components. If you are not logged in as root, you may see issues with those builds.

There is another API that uses libusb but libusb is not readily available on Windows and it is not included with the YubiKey package. In this case, the YubiKey Manager package is easier to use beyond initial installation on Linux (observed once on Ubuntu).

ATBU may be updated to simplify the Linux use case but for now the yubikey-manager package is required.

On Windows, YubiKey Manager installed with the following simple command:

1. *pip install yubikey-manager*

That's it. After installing yubikey-manager, ATBU works with YubiKey.

You should probably start by trying to install yubikey-manager directly as follows:

```
pip install yubikey-manager
```

If you see errors, they obviously need to be resolved.

When errors were experienced in the one test, they were resolved as discussed in the following. YMMV.

On Linux/Ubuntu, the following steps worked on one system tested where a Python venv (Python virtual environment) was used.

In that one case, Python 3.9 was being used so below you will see Python 3.9-related packages being installed to resolve the errors observed when running `pip install yubikey-manager`.

You will likely need to change what packages you use depending on your version and errors you observe trying to install the first time.

The command `pip install yubikey-manager` was attempted first, but errors were observed. It seemed root was needed, but for a virtual environment it was necessary to use `su` then activate the Python venv while `su / root` was active. If you are not using a Python venv, you may have an easier situation.

As mentioned, try `pip install yubikey-manager` first to see how it goes, resolve errors from there. The following steps are for reference FWIW only...

The `pip install yubikey-manager` command was run and errors were observed. To resolve the errors, ultimately the following was performed...

1. *su <user>*
2. If desired, activate a virtual environment.
3. *pip install wheel*
4. *sudo apt-get install python-dev*
5. *sudo apt-get install python3-dev*
6. *sudo apt-get install libpython3-dev*
7. *sudo apt install libpython3.9-dev*
8. *pip install yubikey-manager*

When there's time, some of this may be simplified but for now, to get things going, the above is where things are at, ATBU currently uses yubikey-manager so that is the package that needs to be installed.

3.5 Backup with YubiKey

You can use a configured YubiKey with the same commands discussed in the main backup/restore documentation (*ATBU Cloud and Local Backup/Restore Getting Started*), for either local or cloud backups. This section will give a brief demo using a local backup.

First, let's create a new encrypted backup, securing the encryption key with a password and the YubiKey:

```
atbu backup --full C:\MyData\ G:\MyBackup --yk
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu backup --full C:\MyData\ G:\MyBackup --yk
atbu - v0.01
Writing new configuration: G:\MyBackup\.atbu\atbu-config.json
Storage location: G:\MyBackup
Storage definition: G:\MyBackup\.atbu\atbu-config.json
Backup destinations require a storage definition which retains information about the
storage location, including how to access it and whether it's cloud or filesystem-based.
Enter a user-friendly name for this backup destination's storage definition.
Any name you enter will be converted to all lower case.
If you press ENTER without entering anything, 'mybackup' will be used.
Enter a name (letters, numbers, spaces): my-backup
Using the name 'my-backup'...
Creating backup storage definition...
Created storage definition my-backup for G:\MyBackup
The destination can be encrypted.
Would you like encryption enabled? [Y/n] y
```

You can require the backup to ask for a password before starting a backup/restore, or you can allow a backup to proceed automatically without requiring your password.

When you choose the automatic approach which does not require a password, you are allowing your backup 'private key' to be used automatically by this program. When doing this, your backup private key is stored in a manner where, not only this program, but other programs and people who have access to your computer or its contents may be able to access and use your private key.

You can switch between requiring your password or using the automatic approach as needed/desired. Regardless of your choice, you should be certain to back up your security information (i.e., private key, related info) which you can do at any time.

Choose whether to require password or not.

```
Require a (p)assword or allow (a)utomatic use of your backup's private key? [p/A] p
Creating key...created.
```

You have chosen to require a password before a backup/restore can begin which requires.
 ↳you
 to enter a password.

```
IMPORTANT: No YubiKey was detected. Please insert your YubiKey before entering your.
↳password.
```

```
Enter a password for this backup:*****
```

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```

Enter a password for this backup again:*****
Press your key now to allow challenge/response...
    (the YubiKey's metal plate was touched at this point)
Encrypting key...encrypted.
Storing...
Keyring information:
Key=encryption-key
Service=my-backup
Username=ATBU-backup-enc-key
Your key is stored.
Saving G:\MyBackup\.atbu\atbu-config.json
G:\MyBackup\.atbu\atbu-config.json has been saved.
A YubiKey was detected.
Enter the password for this backup:*****
Press your key now to allow challenge/response...
Backup location(s)...
Source location #0 ..... C:\MyData\
Searching for files...
Backup destination: G:\MyBackup
No backup history for 'my-backup'. Creating new history database.
Starting backup 'my-backup-20220615-053317'...
Scheduling hashing jobs...
Wait for 26 backup file operations to complete...
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
88% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
Total bytes ..... 211
SHA256 original file .....
→9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
SHA256 encrypted file .....
→4d47b8ffb952aaa34126d61ebf786e4803ad07511298041a18b37169a140d898
---
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
Total bytes ..... 227
SHA256 original file .....
→b8be04fb1a691ff37ef08b0db03c62dd3aa52127944cd5899cbd8ce9bc9ab55e
SHA256 encrypted file .....
→c10d64f36a99dad45b104c301cfd05ddb55b96696f96c9a82ac0aba12b3df0a0
---
Backup succeeded: Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
Backup succeeded: Pictures\Wildlife\Geese\20210703_193244.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\noext\noext1
0% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
100% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
100% completed of C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
0% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
98% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\noext\noext1

```

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```

100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Wildlife\Deer\20210704_222626.jpg
100% completed of C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202530.jpg
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Pictures\Yellowstone\20210702_202203.jpg
Total bytes ..... 227
SHA256 original file .....
↳ 41c722fcf02fccf69cc49b3a7a3e46b97a5f1df207c5657feee2d863cd838d5a
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 2bbeefdd59242465cae98c60b2d99435d4c1200bee175ed3d68dedd2e2ee0fb
---
BackupFile: Completed C:\MyData\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
Total bytes ..... 243
SHA256 original file .....
↳ c855e8fb8de9fa13b145e4c023ea76b70312cd3624eaf55fda787bb3b9707e4f
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 26e49dec877dfee1a0413f05903058159e5634ca9682dd962dd6081bbde25516

... (edited for brevity) ...

Waiting for backup information to be saved...
SpecificBackupInformation thread stop initiated. Finishing up...
Saving in-progress backup information: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-
↳ 20220615-053317.atbuinf.tmp
Saving backup info file: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-20220615-053317.
↳ atbuinf
Backup info file saved: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-20220615-053317.
↳ atbuinf
Copying primary C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup-20220615-053317.atbuinf
↳ to G:\MyBackup\.atbu\atbu-backup-info...
SpecificBackupInformation background thread ending.
0% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup.atbuinf
17% completed of C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup.atbuinf
BackupFile: Completed C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-info\my-backup.atbuinf
Total bytes ..... 243
SHA256 original file .....
↳ bdcff60fb53cde5eba06f7cdccb1c201460e2a6f7a0e07b3a29c9d583ddb9993
SHA256 encrypted file .....
↳ 0b6f315c01a330bece91e4c3906de8fe1d1695b4859942754997245519989543
---
The backup information has been successfully backed up: C:\Users\User\.atbu\atbu-backup-
↳ info\my-backup.atbuinf
All backup file operations have completed.

Extension compression ratio report (lower is better):
'.atbudb' ..... 11.7%
'.atbuinf' ..... 16.3%
'.xlsx' ..... 84.8%
'.cr2' ..... 98.6%
'.cr2-copy' ..... 98.7%
'(no extension)' ..... 99.0%

```

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```

*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during backup.
Total files ..... 26
Total unchanged files ..... 0
Total backup operations ..... 26
Total errors ..... 0
Total successful backups ..... 26
Success, no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

In the above example, the `--yk` command line option was specified. The `--yk` command line option causes all password operations relating to the backup encryption key password to use the YubiKey.

ATBU then asks the question...

Would you like encryption enabled? [Y/n] y

...to which we answer Yes. We then get asked whether or not to use a password...

Require a (p)assword or allow (a)utomatic use of your backup's private key? [p/A] p

We answer 'p' to use a password. Since the `--yk` option was specified, this will cause ATBU to use a password with the YubiKey as described earlier.

You will notice in the example output, it outputs **IMPORTANT: No YubiKey was detected** which occurs because the YubiKey was not inserted into the device at the time. Since `--yk` was specified on the command line, ATBU expects a YubiKey to be present in one of the USB ports on the device.

The YubiKey was inserted and we then entered the textual password twice...

```

IMPORTANT: No YubiKey was detected. Please insert your YubiKey before entering your
→password.
Enter a password for this backup:*****
Enter a password for this backup again:*****
Press your key now to allow challenge/response...

```

...after entering the password a second time, ATBU prompts you to “press your key” which is the metal plate on the YubiKey. This instructs the YubiKey that you approve of an HMAC-SHA1 Challenge/Response taking place.

After the key is touched, the backup encryption key is itself encrypted using the YubiKey’s response...

```

Press your key now to allow challenge/response...
    (the YubiKey's metal plate was touched at this point)
Encrypting key...encrypted.
Storing...
Keyring information:
Key=encryption-key
Service=my-backup
Username=ATBU-backup-enc-key
Your key is stored.

```

In the example output further above, you will notice the following 3rd password entry. This is actually ATBU asking you for your password before it begins a backup. When you enter your password, it again asks you to touch the YubiKey as a way of approving that HMAC-SHA1 Challenge/Response take place.

```
A YubiKey was detected.
Enter the password for this backup:*****
Press your key now to allow challenge/response...
Backup location(s)...
Source location #0 ..... C:\MyData\
Searching for files...
Backup destination: G:\MyBackup
No backup history for 'my-backup'. Creating new history database.
Starting backup 'my-backup-20220615-053317'...
```

3.6 Restore with YubiKey

Before we restore with YubiKey, let's try to restore a backup protected by YubiKey without the YubiKey and without the --yk command line option...

```
atbu restore G:\MyBackup backup:last files:* C:\RestorePoint
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu restore G:\MyBackup backup:last files:* C:\RestorePoint
atbu - v0.01
Enter the password for this backup:*****
The password appears to be invalid, try again.
Enter the password for this backup:
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>
```

The above command is almost correct except it is missing the --yk option so ATBU thinks the backup is protected by a normal textual password alone. Because of that, the textual password alone fails verification. We press CTRL-BREAK or CTRL-C to stop ATBU and then we enter the correct command by adding the --yk command line option...

```
atbu restore G:\MyBackup backup:last files:* C:\RestorePoint --yk
```

Example output:

```
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu restore G:\MyBackup backup:last files:* C:\RestorePoint --yk
atbu - v0.01
A YubiKey was detected.
Enter the password for this backup:*****
Press your key now to allow challenge/response...
Will restore 26 files from 'my-backup'
Starting restore from 'my-backup'...
Scheduling restore jobs...
Wait for restore file operations to complete...
0% completed of C:\RestorePoint\c4198ead-0b50-4f0e-b52b-685b64e7b9f0.atbudb
0% completed of C:\RestorePoint\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
0% completed of C:\RestorePoint\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
0% completed of C:\RestorePoint\Documents\Textually speaking, a novel in pure text.txt
0% completed of C:\RestorePoint\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210704_223018.jpg
0% completed of C:\RestorePoint\Pictures\Events\2021-HolidayParty\20210826_191432.jpg
RestoreFile: Completed for C:\RestorePoint\c4198ead-0b50-4f0e-b52b-685b64e7b9f0.atbudb
Total bytes ..... 17097
SHA256 download .....
→ 147380d26b5037a3732615faf9ea44c72671e0bbd2957d712688e9a58c118595
```

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```

SHA256 original .....
→147380d26b5037a3732615faf9ea44c72671e0bbd2957d712688e9a58c118595
SHA256 encrypted download .....
→97869486b5a925a8061cb15cbca12883220e45bdfb61c692d0b76bc27b9e57fc
SHA256 encrypted original .....
→97869486b5a925a8061cb15cbca12883220e45bdfb61c692d0b76bc27b9e57fc
Restore succeeded: c4198ead-0b50-4f0e-b52b-685b64e7b9f0.atbudb
RestoreFile: Completed for C:\RestorePoint\Documents\2021-Budget.xlsx
Total bytes ..... 6184
SHA256 download .....
→9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
SHA256 original .....
→9d5e060908090d826ee1063bf02fc653c868c952bb4ffd306cf925ae752f2de6
SHA256 encrypted download .....
→4d47b8ffb952aaa34126d61ebf786e4803ad07511298041a18b37169a140d898
SHA256 encrypted original .....
→4d47b8ffb952aaa34126d61ebf786e4803ad07511298041a18b37169a140d898
RestoreFile: Completed for C:\RestorePoint\Documents\MyImportantNotes.txt
Total bytes ..... 63
SHA256 download .....
→8241f62228083fc758ed375de66123cc1cae138702cc329c8404998854fc0e90
SHA256 original .....
→8241f62228083fc758ed375de66123cc1cae138702cc329c8404998854fc0e90
SHA256 encrypted download .....
→ac365477a2ca9493a1b38619c4f41234de8b31dce5c964b64bd74e8746cc0c51
SHA256 encrypted original .....
→ac365477a2ca9493a1b38619c4f41234de8b31dce5c964b64bd74e8746cc0c51
...(edited for brevity)...
All restore file operations have completed.
*****
*** SUCCESS ***
*****
No errors detected during restore.
Total files ..... 26
Total errors ..... 0
Total success ..... 26
Finished... no errors detected.
(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\>

```

From the above example output, you can see we entered the password after which ATBU prompted Press your key now to allow challenge/response...

```

(venv2-3.9.12) PS C:\> atbu restore G:\MyBackup backup:last files:* C:\RestorePoint --yk
atbu - v0.01
A YubiKey was detected.
Enter the password for this backup:*****
Press your key now to allow challenge/response...

```

At that point, where it says Press your key now to allow challenge/response... we have a few seconds to touch the YubiKey before the operation times out. When we touch the YubiKey before the time out, it allowed the YubiKey to process the typed password (the challenge) and provide back, as a response to the challenge, the final code that will unlock the backup encryption key.

After the password is verified, the restore option proceeds and completes successfully.

ATBU TECHNICAL NOTES & SPECIFICATIONS

4.1 ATBU Backup File Format Specification

One of the main goals of ATBU backup is to give power to the user over their stored data regardless of whether the tooling is around to directly manage it. Part of doing this, especially for technically demanding users, is to ensure the backup format is simple and well-documented. This technical specification outlines the format below.

Another goal is to allow a user to find and manage a physical backup of an original file using a platform's file management tools without needing the ATBU tooling. This could be utilized, for example, to manually prune away one or more particular files with relative ease.

ATBU accomplishes these goals by storing backed up files in a format that is both extraordinarily simple, yet which itself retains information that allows for restoration of the files to the proper structure of the restore point (the tip of the restore directory or folder) specified at the time of restore. This actually goes whether ATBU backup is used for restoring files, or if some other non-ATBU tool.

ATBU therefore seeks to have not only an open format, but one which is easily understood, and contains enough information to allow reasonable restoration procedures to take place years into the future, even if ATBU tooling itself, or even Python were not around. Given the openness and simplicity of the format used, and its use of standards such as AES encryption and GZIP compression, creating other tooling to decrypt and restore a backup is feasible so long as the secrets are maintained.

ATBU backup stores backed up files in the same format regardless of the dest storage medium, local or cloud storage. If you understand the local backup storage format, you understand the cloud storage format. There is no difference in the backed up file format.

Note, in the cloud, backup files are stored in a single directory structure (flat file object or blob storage), whereas on local drives a single-level directory structure is used to categorize blobs/objects, but the files themselves have the same internal format which is outlined below.

ATBU backup stores files with one-to-one correspondence between the original file and its archival storage object. Again, this applies to both local and cloud backups. Multiple files of a backup are not packed into archives, but are instead each stored in their own single storage object whether on local storage or in the cloud.

Depending on the destination file systems or cloud storage provider implementations (and costs), there can be additional costs with this one-to-one approach used by ATBU backup, but the payoffs for having one discrete backup object for each backed up file is tremendous:

- It allows pruning backups over time without having to touch unrelated backup file data.
- It also allows a user to easily understand exactly where each file is physically stored, and to manage those files directly as needed, and without having to restore or decrypt them either.
- For any given physically backed up file, there will be one storage object.
- All of this is the same for either local or cloud storage.

Files backed up with ATBU backup have either a .atbak or .atbake extension (“at” and “bak” for backup, where ‘e’ means encrypted). Regardless of whether the file is .atbak (unencrypted), or .atbake (encrypted), the internal format is the same aside from any differences based on any options such as encryption, compression, and so forth.

All ATBU backup .atbak and .atbake files have the following general structure:

<backup_header> <preamble_size> <preamble> <file_data>

The ATBU backup header has the following format:

name	size	format/values
initial header version	1 byte	0x01 is the current/only version
options flags	1 byte	0x01: BACKUP_HEADER_OPTION_IV_INCLUDED
AES encryption IV	16 byte	The AES encryption IV (only present if BACKUP_HEADER_OPTION_IV_INCLUDED is set

If the encryption IV is included, it is always 16 bytes. The encryption IV is usually included as it is non-secret yet essential for decryption.

Following the initial 2-byte backup header, and the encryption IV if applicable, is the preamble header which is itself followed by the file’s data.

The ATBU preamble header has the following format:

name	size	format
preamble_size	2 bytes	little endian unsigned short.
preamble	<preamble_size> bytes	UTF-8 string
file_data	remainder of the file	the original file, either uncompressed/compressed.

The *<preamble>* itself uses key/value pairs which offer flexibility for growth over time.

The *<preamble>* fields can be parsed into a Python dictionary or similar structure of any given language.

The general format of the *<preamble>* is as follows:

v=1,z=<gzip|none>,sha256=<file_data_SHA256_hash>,size=<file_size>,modified=<modified_posix>,accessed=<accessed_posix>

The following outlines the ATBU backup *<preamble>* fields:

key name	meaning	description
'v'	preamble version	The initial and current version is 1.
'z'	compression type	'none' for uncompressed. 'gzip' for gzip compression. If 'v' is not present, it means uncompressed.
'sha256'	the SHA256 hash of <i><file_data></i>	Currently only SHA256 is used and is always present.
'size'	file size	The uncompressed size of the backed up file.
'modified'	file modified time	The file's original modified time as a posix timestamp.
'accessed'	file accessed time	The file's original accessed time as a posix timestamp.
'path'	file path	The file's original path location (without the drive letter, if applicable).

INDICES AND TABLES

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`