# Saving Database Copies in the OCI Immutable Storage

Andrei Duma, supervised by Sebastien Masson // openlab Lightning Talks, August 16th, 2023

#### Context

Many databases managed by IT-DA are crucial to CERN's operations.

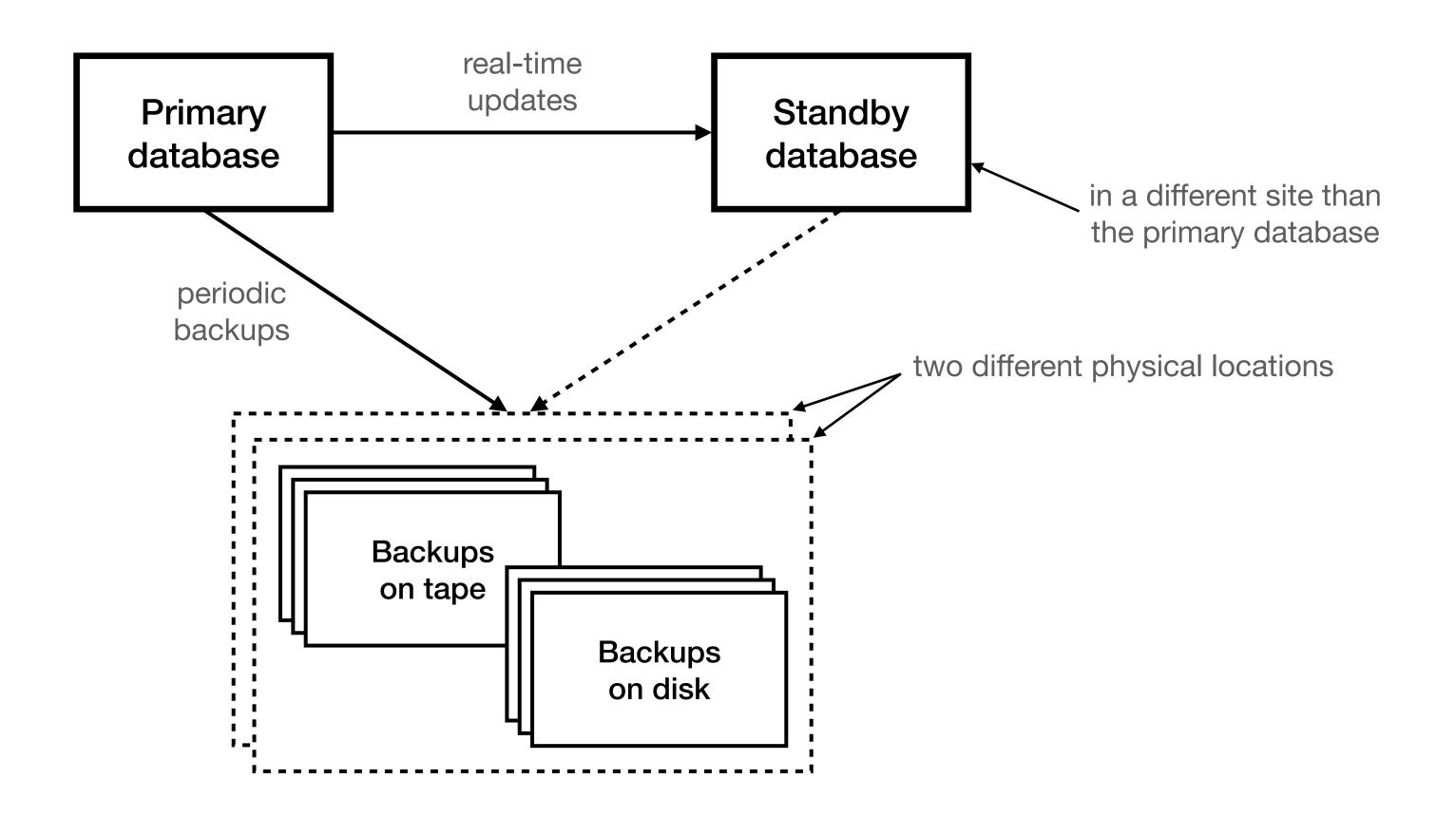
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- Many databases managed by IT-DA are crucial to CERN's operations.
- Much effort is made to provide data availability & recoverability.

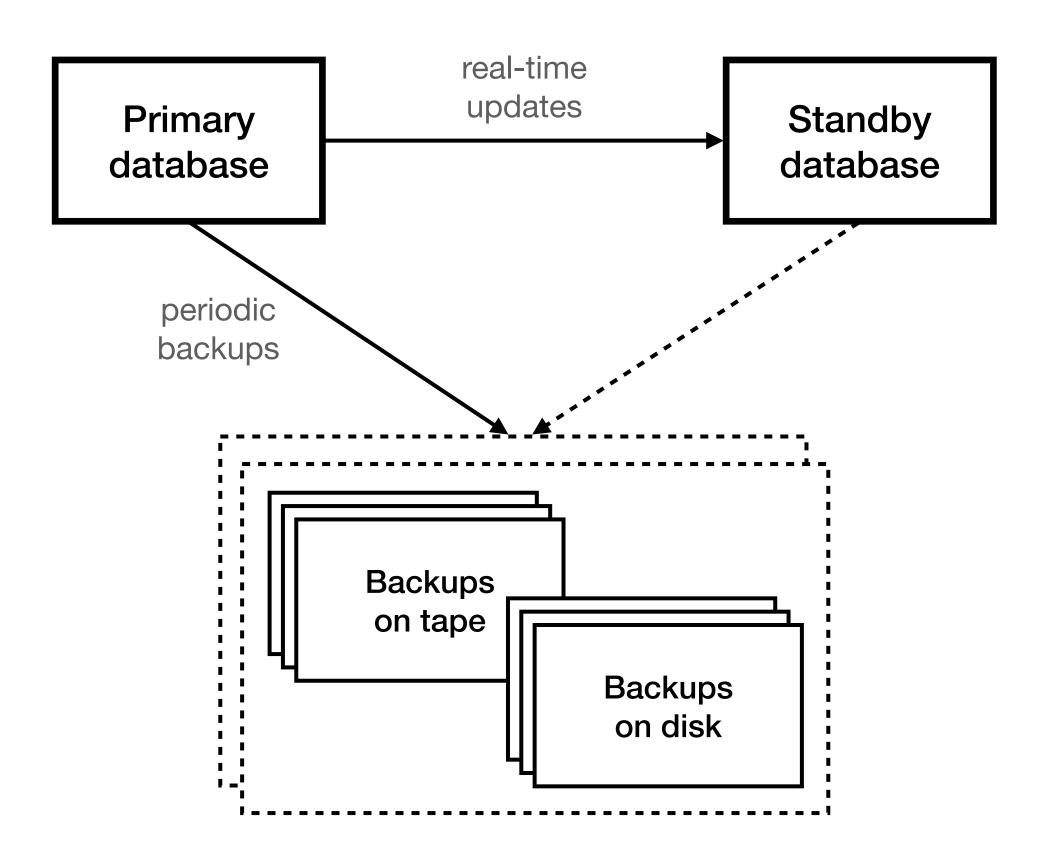
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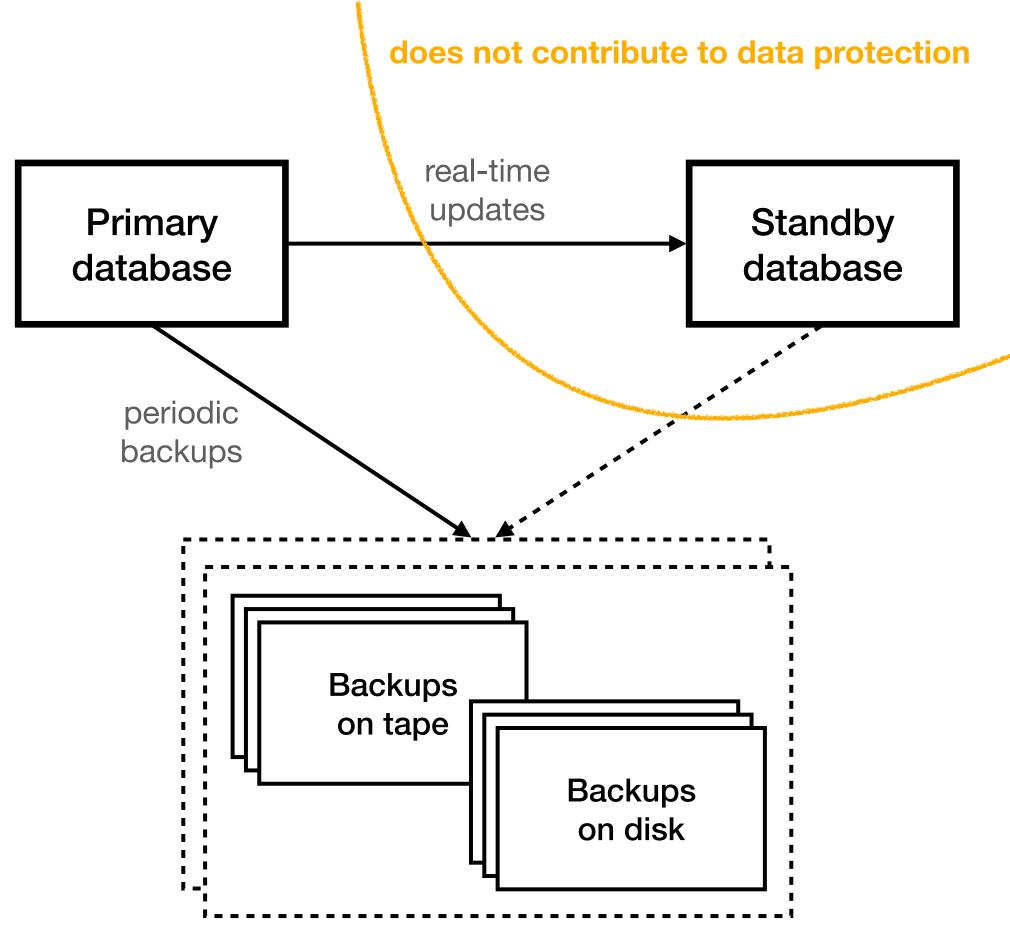
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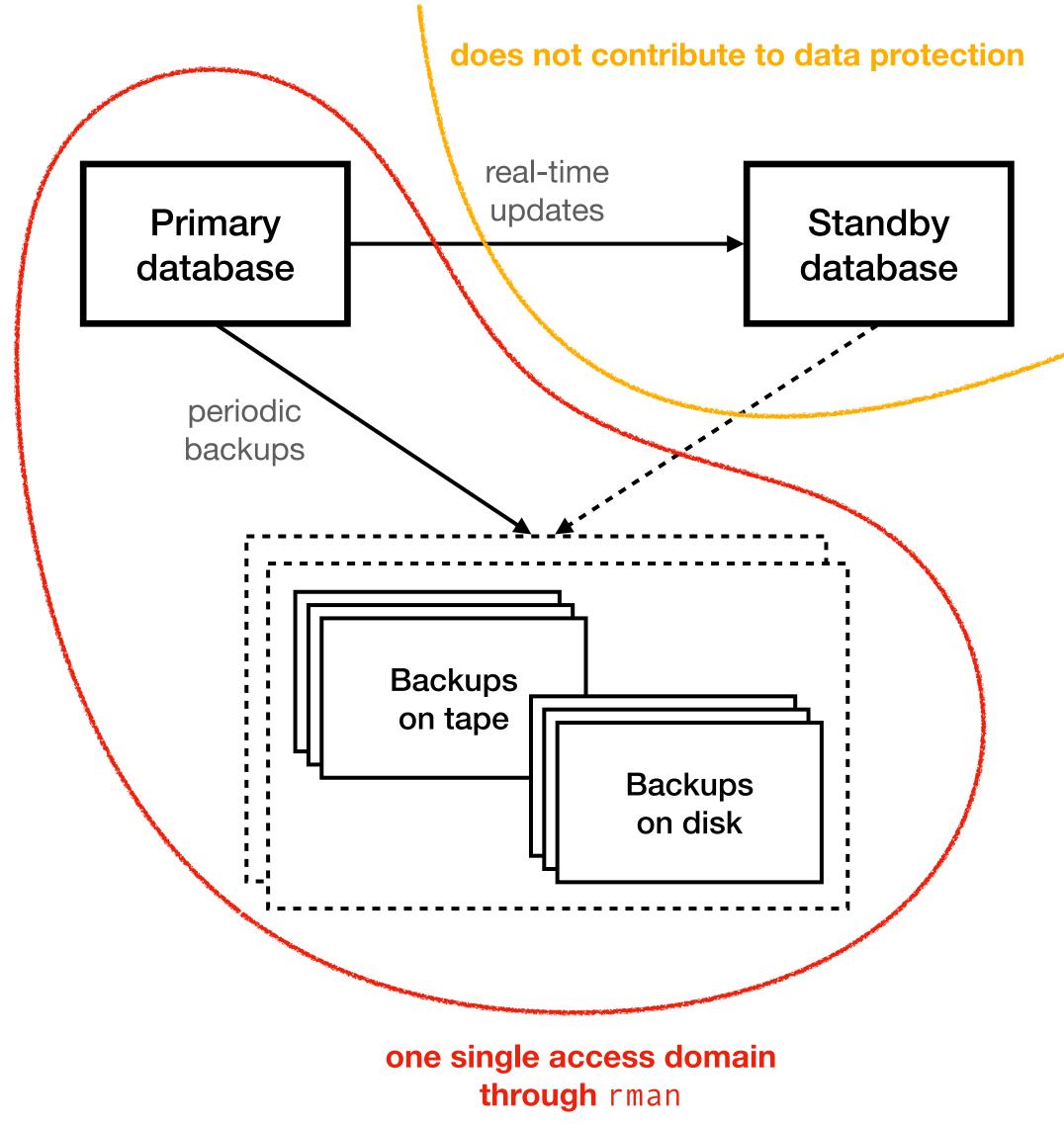
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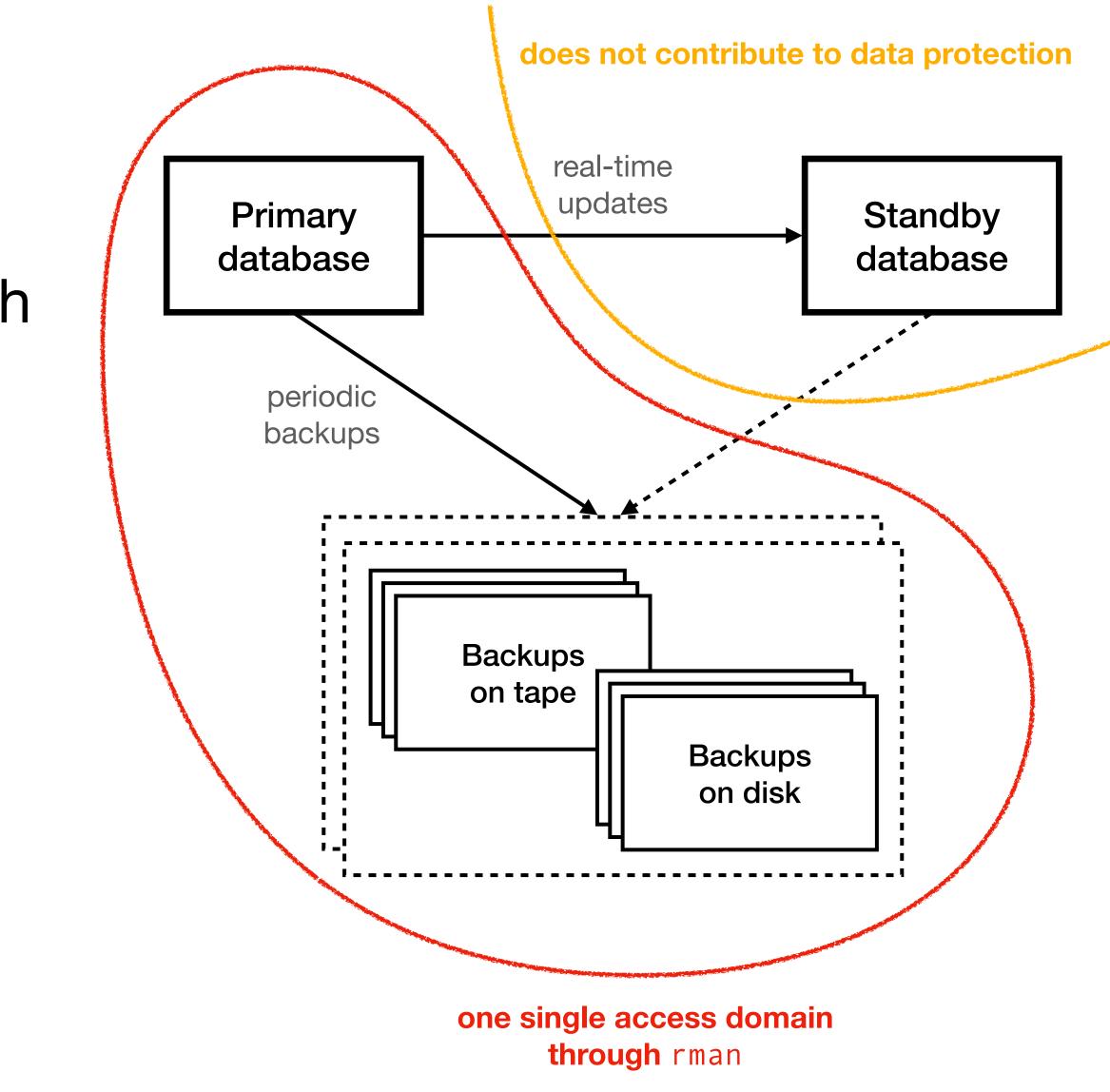
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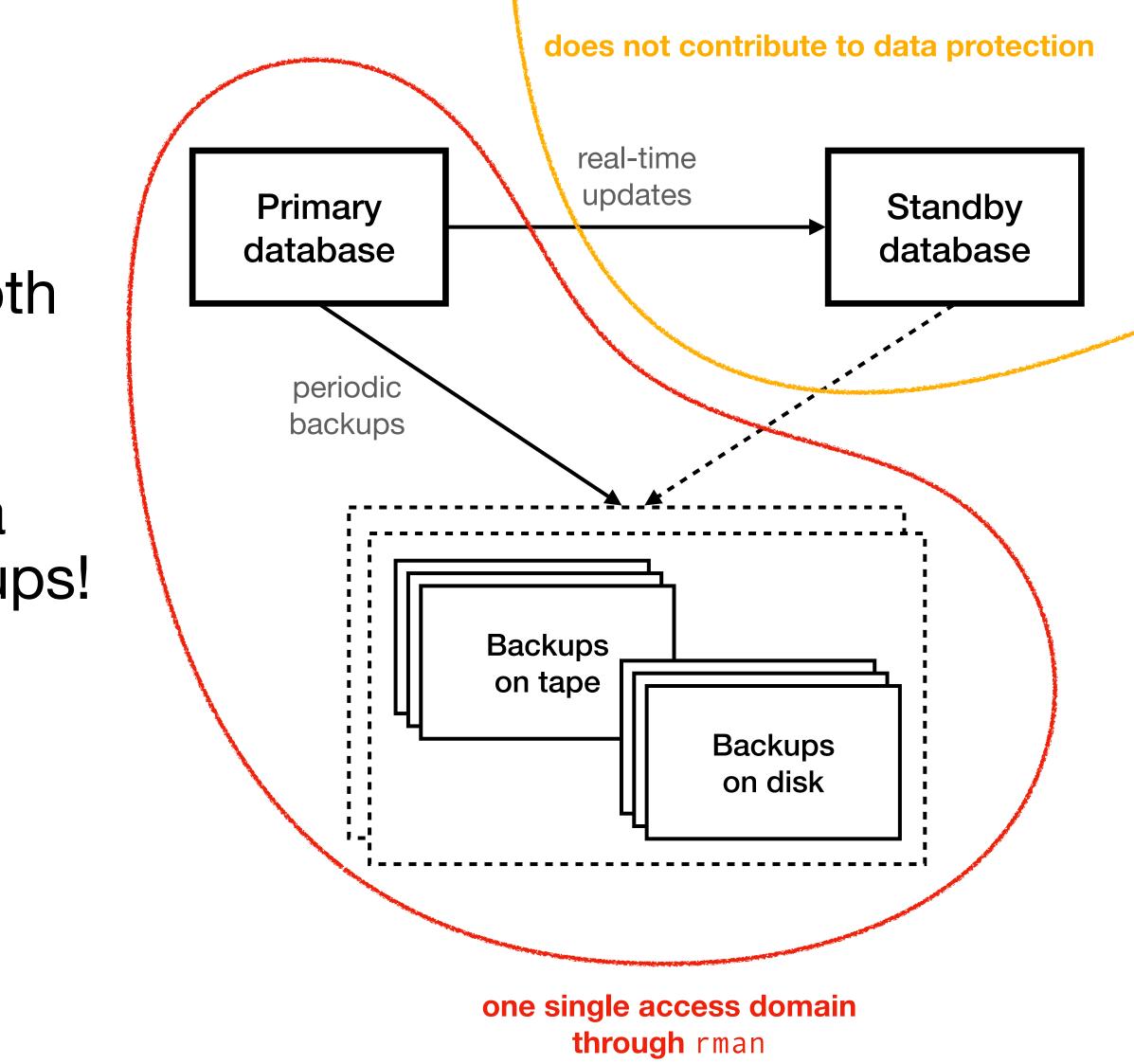




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- A successful ransomware attack would be able, today, to encrypt both databases and their backups!

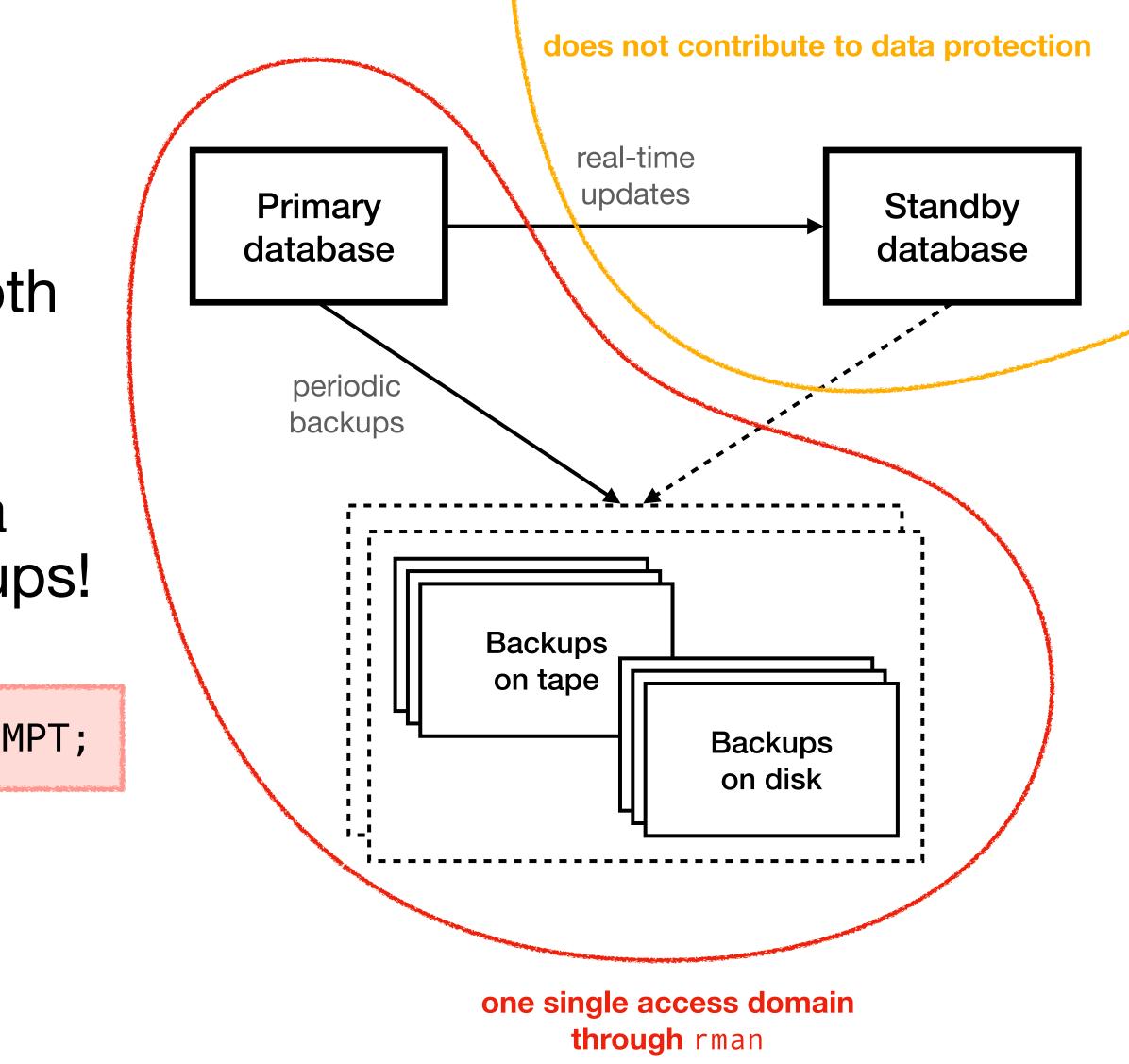


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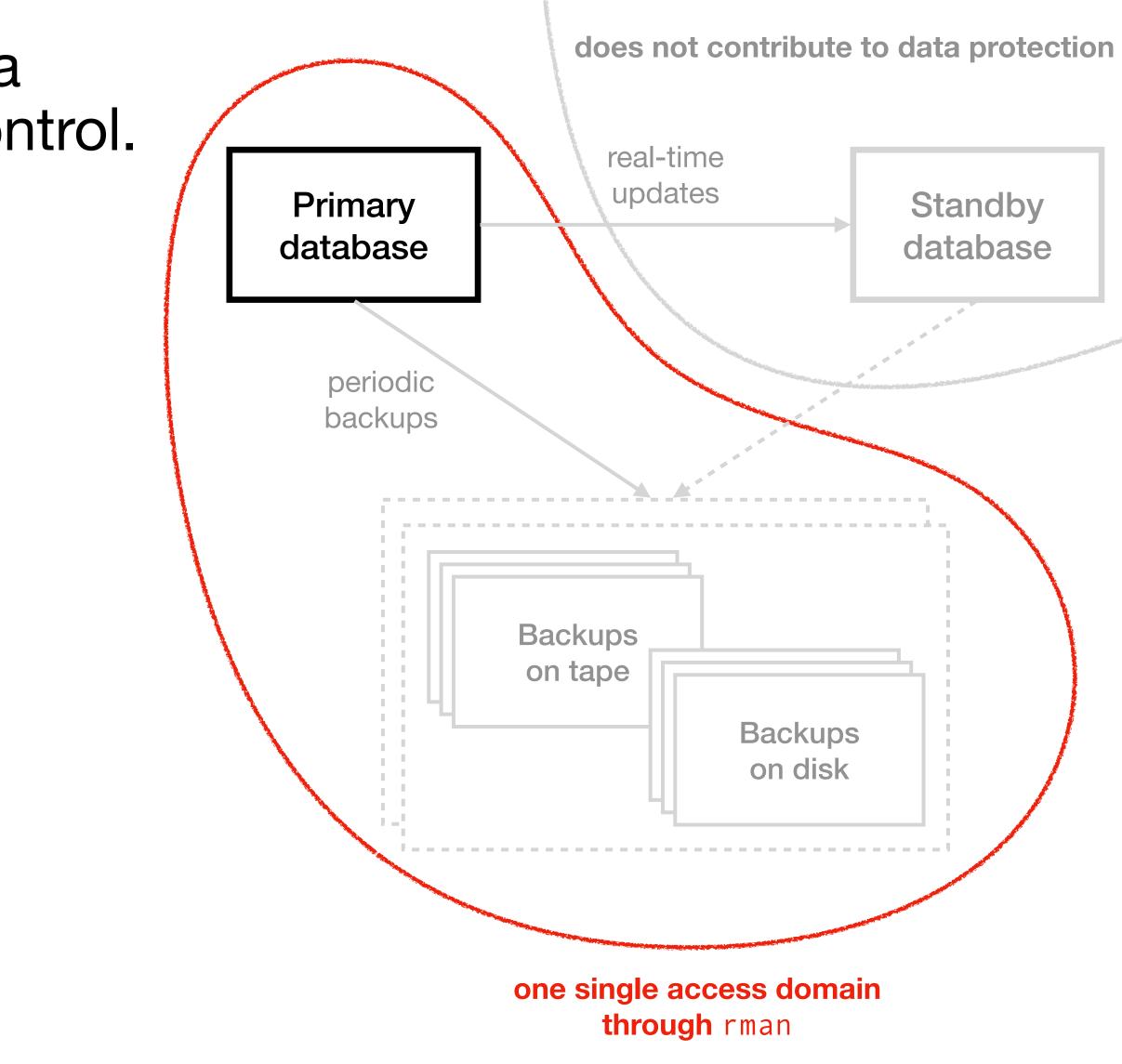
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RMAN> DROP DATABASE INCLUDING BACKUPS NOPROMPT;

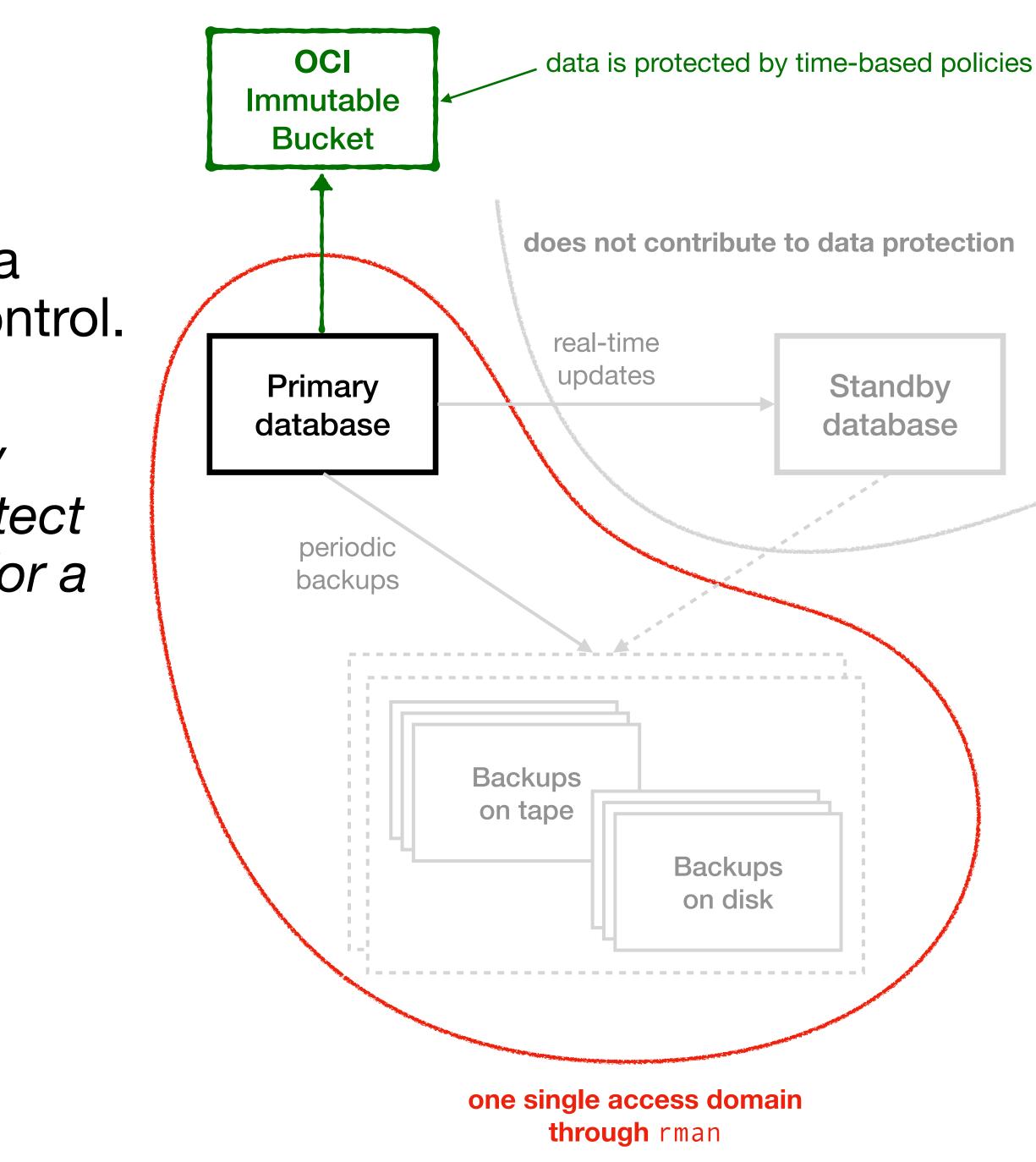


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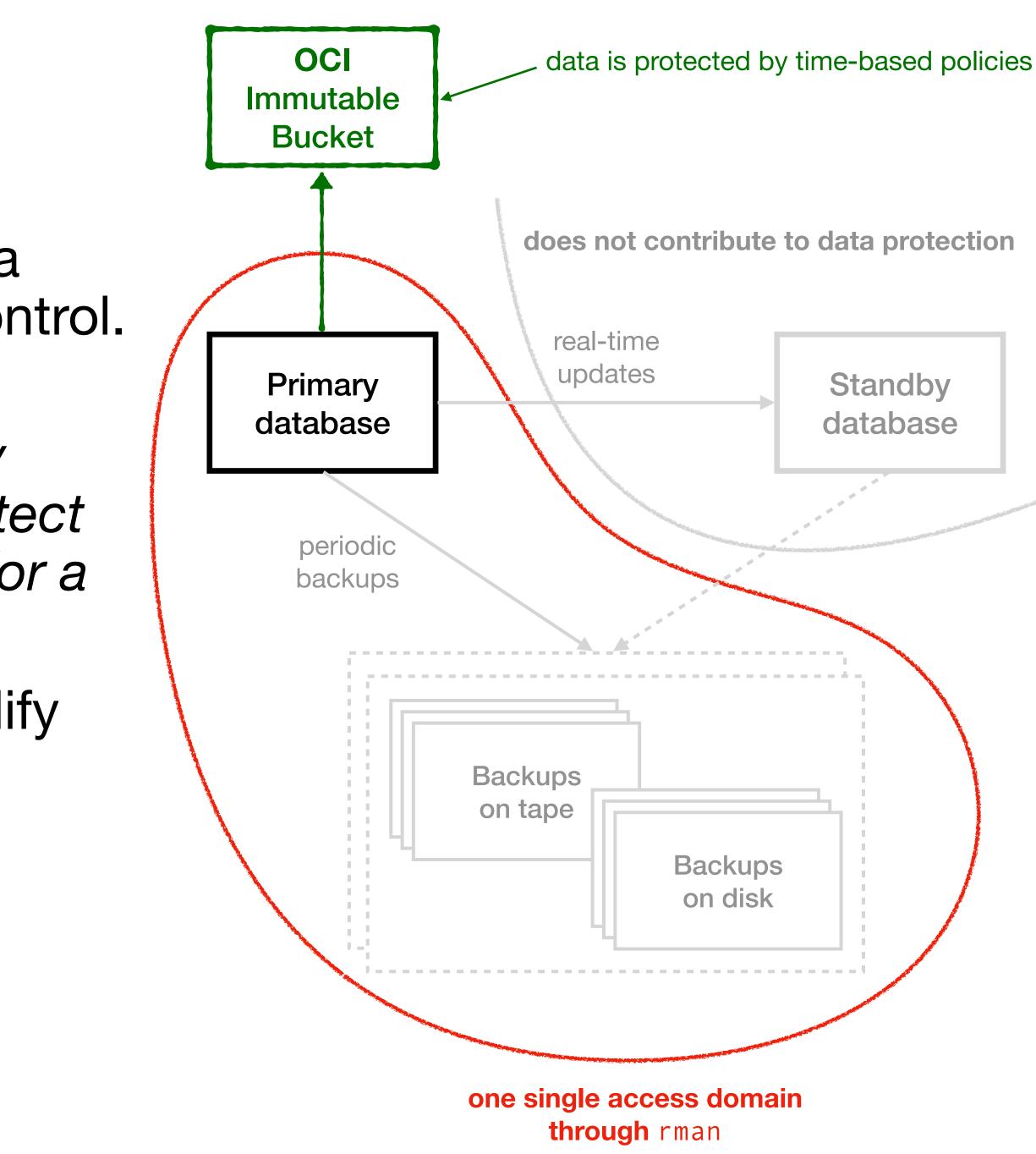
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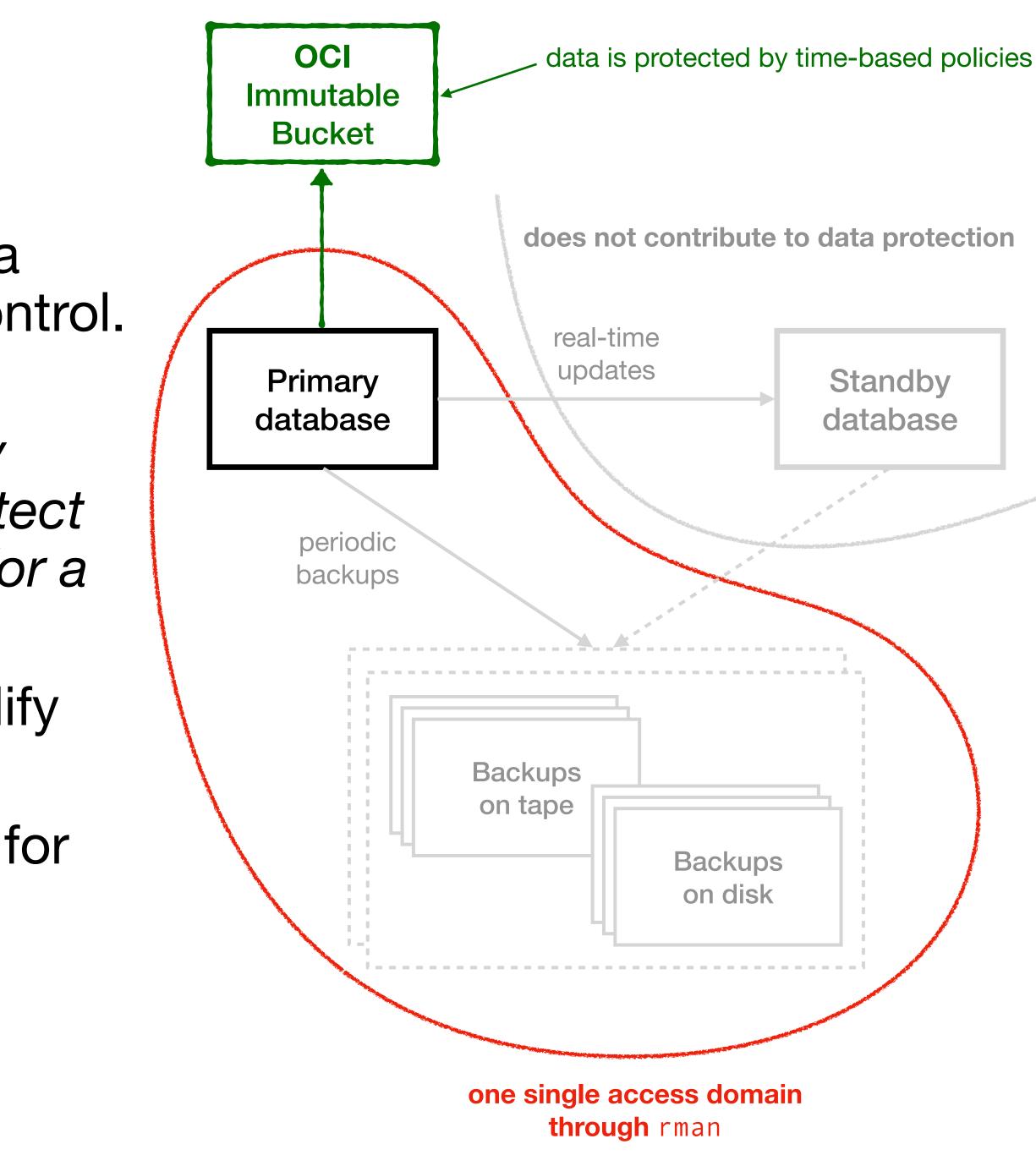
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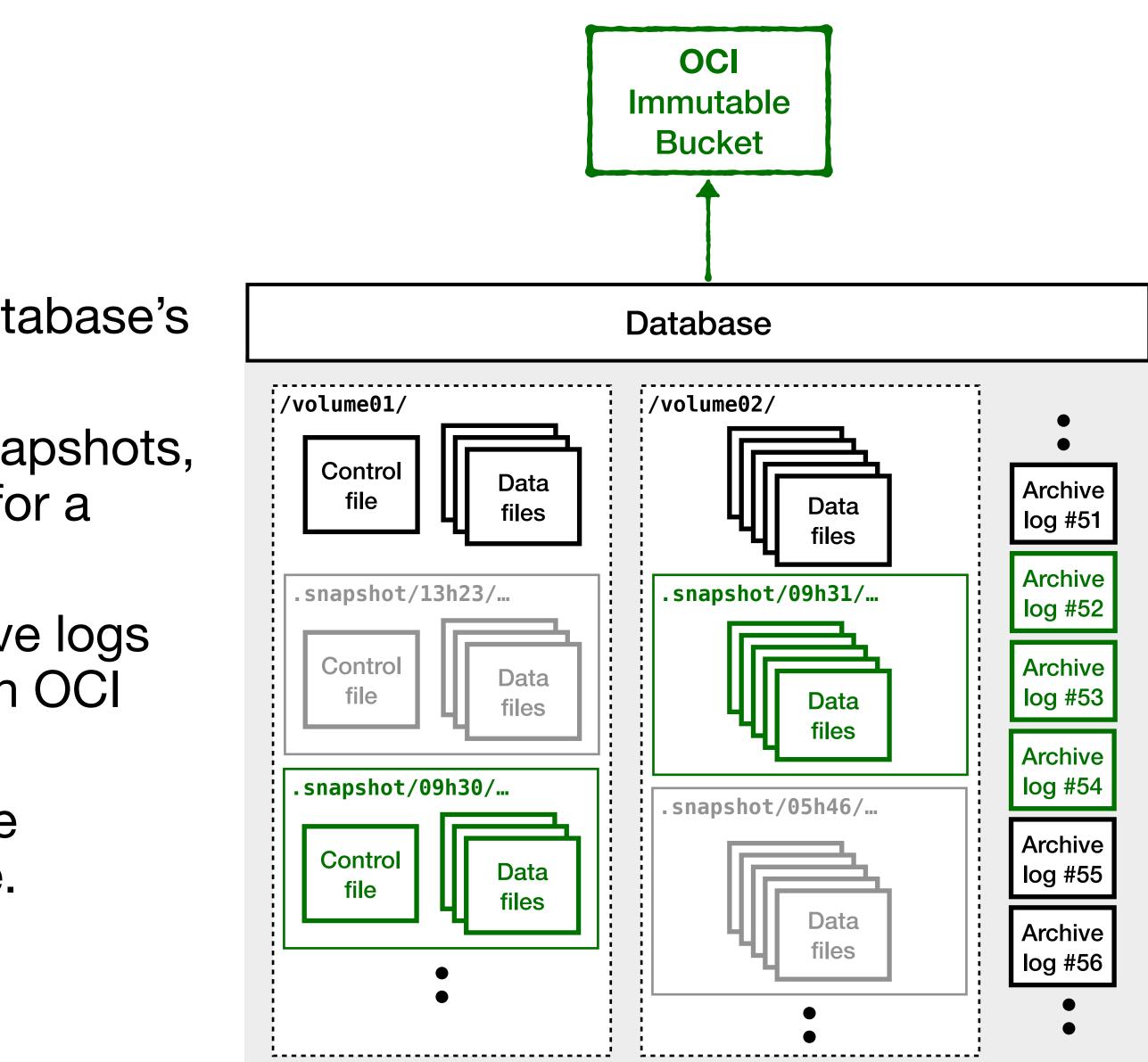


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- OCI's Object Storage provides Immutable Buckets, "governed by time-bound retention rules that protect data from modification or deletion for a specified duration".
- Not even an administrator can modify the protected data!
- Reportedly, licenses and/or credits for OCI already exist.



# Technical approach

- Periodically, for each database:
  - For each NAS volume used by the database's data files, select a recent\* snapshot;
  - Based on the timestamps of these snapshots, determine the archive logs required for a successful recovery;
  - Copy all selected data files and archive logs plus a backup of the control file to an OCI bucket directory;
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  - Copy all selected data files and archive logs plus a backup of the control file to an OCI bucket directory;
  - Set a time-bound retention rule on the directory to make the data immutable.
- In case of disaster, copy the files back from OCI and start the recovery process.

