Northern Michigan University (Marquette Co, MI)
CS426-01-26F: Operating Systems
Practice Quiz 9: Thursday 12 November 2026 3:00 P.M. EST
Time: 15 minutes

The classic system of backing up your hard drive periodically to prevent you from losing data suffers from the serious flaw that in the event of a hard drive failure, you'll still lose the stuff that was created subsequent to the most recent backup.

Construct a simple system, still basically using the periodic backup system to better protect the stuff generated after the last backup.

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What I used to do is to a full backup once a week, and then do an incremental backup every other day, to save only those files created or modified since the time of the last backup. However, you would still lose the stuff lost since the last incremental backup.

Similar to mirroring, though, you could duplicate all files created or modified since the last the backup (in other words, all the time, since "right now" is always after the last backup). This would be about as time-consuming as a full mirror, but you wouldn't need the same amount of disk space, since the unmodified files won't have to be saved on the mirror.