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## Postgres LISTEN/NOTIFY does not scale

Updated at: July 10, 2025

At Recall.ai , we run an unusual workload. We record millions of hours of meetings every month. Each of these meetings generates a large amount of data we need to reliably capture and analyze. Some of that data is video, some of it is audio and some of it is structured data — transcription, events and metadata.

The structured data gets written to our Postgres database by tens of thousands of simultaneous writers. Each of these writers is a "meeting bot", which joins a video call and captures the data in real-time.



Written By: Elliot Levin

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## TL;DR

How we discovered it

Reproducing the problem

With NOTIFY

Without NOTIFY

Remediation