



## Snapshot can't be deleted with error "This Snapshot copy is currently used as a reference Snapshot copy by"

[https://kb.netapp.com/on-prem/ontap/DP/SnapMirror/SnapMirror-KBs/Snapshot\\_can\\_t\\_be\\_deleted\\_wit...](https://kb.netapp.com/on-prem/ontap/DP/SnapMirror/SnapMirror-KBs/Snapshot_can_t_be_deleted_wit...)

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### Applies to

- ONTAP 9
- SnapMirror
- Snapshot is created manually on Cluster A(9.8) of cascade environment:( A->B->C)
- Then the same snapshot is transferred to Cluster B(9.8) and use that snapshot creates a new volume and then transfers to Cluster C(9.13).
- Change the cascade settings to FAN-OUT(A->B & A->C) since A and C have the same common snapshot.

### Issue

- The snapshot on Cluster A can't be deleted with the below error even the snapmirror transfer is completed:

```
::*> snapshot delete -vserver <vservname> -volume <volname> -snapshot
<snapshotname>
Error: command failed: This Snapshot copy is currently used as a reference
Snapshot copy by .
```

- The snapshot details shows the snapshot is owned by snapmirror relationship:

```
::*> snapshot show -vserver <vservname> -volume <volname> -snapshot
<snapshotname>

Vserver: <vservname>
Volume: <volname>
Snapshot: <snapshotname>
Snapshot Busy: false
Physical Snap ID: 525
Logical Snap ID: 525
Database Record Owner:
snapmirrorDP.a91be97099eeeb11b603d039ea4987c5_2159856287.nonSMDstOwned
Snapshot Tags:
VOPL_owner_snapmirrorDP.a91be97099eeeb11b603d039ea4987c5_2159856287.nonSMDstO
```

- The snapshot can be deleted later on when no owner owned the snapshot:

```
::*> snapshot show -vserver <vservname> -volume <volname> -snapshot
<snapshotname>
Snapshot Busy: false
Physical Snap ID: 525
Logical Snap ID: 525
Database Record Owner: -
Snapshot Tags: -

::*> snapshot delete -vserver <vservname> -volume <volname> -snapshot
<snapshotname>
Warning: Deleting a Snapshot copy permanently removes data that is
stored only in that Snapshot copy. Are you sure you want to delete
Snapshot copy "<snapshotname>" for volume "<volname>" in Vserver
"<vservname>" ? {y|n}:
```