Mastering Puppet

Pull the strings of Puppet to configure enterprise-grade environments for performance optimization

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Synopsis

Pull the strings of Puppet to configure enterprise-grade environments for performance optimization

About This Book
Implement puppet in a medium to large installation. Deal with issues found in larger deployments, such as scaling, and improving performance. Step by step tutorial to utilize Puppet efficiently to have a fully functioning Puppet infrastructure in an enterprise-level environment

Who This Book Is For
If you are a system administrator or developer who has used Puppet in production and are looking for ways to easily use Puppet in an enterprise environment, this book is for you. This book assumes an intermediate knowledge of Puppet and is intended for those writing modules or deploying Puppet in an enterprise environment

What You Will Learn
Scale out your Puppet masters using proxy techniques
Automate Puppet master deployment using Git Hooks, r10k, and librarian-puppet
Access public modules from Git Forge and use them to solve real-world problems
Use Hiera and ENC to automatically assign modules to nodes
Create custom modules, facts, and types
Use exported resources to orchestrate changes across the enterprise

In Detail
Puppet is a configuration management system written for system administrators to manage a large number of systems efficiently and help maintain order. Mastering Puppet deals with the issues faced in larger deployments such as scaling and duplicate resource definitions. It will show you how to fit Puppet into your organization and keep everyone working. The concepts presented can be adapted to suit any size organization. This book starts with setting up and installing Puppet in your organization and then moves on to implementing version control in Puppet, creating custom modules, and extending your Puppet infrastructure. Finally, you will learn tips and tricks that are useful when troubleshooting Puppet and the best practices to make you a pro.

Book Information

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A very few people know that Puppet was released more than 10 years ago. Only recently, with the explosion of the cloud and the Internet of Things, having infrastructures able to scale out, deploying machines that self-configure themselves, that feeble buzz became a powerful roar and configuration management tools emerged as an indispensable tool in the belt of any DevOps populating planet Earth. Among the many flavors we can pick from, Puppet, which recently reached version 4, is a mature and solid choice. Still, the shelves of the book stores only provide a limited amount of titles to feed the hunger of knowledge of the many Puppetteers out there, who are often forced to spend the day either on the IRC support channel or browsing Stack Overflow. Mastering Puppet, which covers the previous version of Puppet, is an excellent companion for any experienced Puppetteer looking for a discussion on advanced topics. Before discussing the content of the book, as stated above, it is very important to make it crystal clear that Mastering Puppet does not cover Puppet 4, but the previous version of the software, that is 3. Significant non backward compatible changes were made to both the language and its configuration. While, as I will discuss in a moment, the book is still very valuable, it does require the reader to be aware of it and, mainly, to be already aware of what changed and thus, what, of the topics discussed by the author, no longer apply to the current stable version of Puppet. On the other hand, it is also true that many companies are waiting a bit longer before switching to Puppet 4, mostly because their code need to be refactored and also because tools, such as Foreman, are still being ported.

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