Introduction to Nagios

Systems Administration

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Our Problem

- We need to know when things break.
- We want to know about problems <u>before</u> things break.

Proposed Solutions

- ~~We perform various service checks on our systems regularly.~~
- ~~We write some scripts to automate these steps.~~
- ~~???~~
- ~~Profit!~~
- We use a centralised monitoring tool.

Monitoring Tools

- Nagios
- Icinga
- Zabbix
- Spiceworks

Nagios is the best known and most widely used of these and is the one we will use in this paper.

Example Scenario

- We have a server, db.sqrawler.com, running the MySQL DBMS.
- We want to monitor server uptime and the MySQL service.
- One systems admin should be notified of any issues.
- We will use puppet to manage the Nagios config.

The Plan

We will define the following nagios resources in our Nagios Puppet module

- host: db.sqrawler.com
- hostgroup with our host as a member
- contact and contactgroup for the admin
- service: MySQL