

nuts, the Java Package Manager

https://github.com/thevpc/nuts (git repo)

https://thevpc.github.io/nuts (website)

thevpc, 2021-12-18



Plan

- 1. Why a package manager
- 2. **nuts** features
- 3. Demo



1. Why a Package Manager

- Popularity of a language is proportional to popularity of its PM
 - Javascript: npm/npx/yarn
 - Python: pip, conda
 - Ruby: rubygems
- Newcomer languages already include a PM
 - golang package manager (modules)
- Java ecosystem already have more that 7M packages deployed



1.1. Java Package Manager?

- maven, gradle
 - Build tools
 - Dependency-management tools
 - Poor package/deployment management (maven 's deploy is a build time stage)
 - Lack of deployment lifecycle (install/uninstall/update)



1.2. Example

```
package net.thevpc.nuts.doc.baseproject;
import org.slf4j.Logger;
import org.slf4j.LoggerFactory;

public class Main {
  private static final Logger LOG = LoggerFactory.getLogger(Main.class);
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        LOG.debug("A simple app with dependencies. Won't work out of the box!,
        unless...");
    }
}
```



1.3. pom.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>project xmlns="..."><modelVersion>
4.0.0</modelVersion>
<groupId>net.thevpc.nuts.doc/groupId><artifactId>base-project</artifactId>
<version>1.0-SNAPSHOT
<dependencies><dependency>
       <groupId>org.apache.logging.log4j/groupId>
       <artifactId>log4j-api</artifactId><version>2.7</version>
    </dependency>
    <dependency>
       <groupId>org.apache.logging.log4j/groupId>
       <artifactId>log4j-core</artifactId><version>2.7</version>
    </dependency>
    <dependency>
       <groupId>org.apache.logging.log4j/groupId>
       <artifactId>log4j-slf4j-impl</artifactId><version>2.7</version>
   </dependency></dependencies>
</project>
```



1.4. Example

- With a minimal pom.xml we cannot execute unless we add the dependencies to the classpath
- We also need to adjust the pom.xml to include the main class too!



1.5. Alternatives for deployment

- Java Web Start
- System PM / Installers
- Portable Installers
- Custom Deployments
- Build time Processors (Fat Jars)



1.6. Java Web start

- Run Remote App using jnlp file (with all of it dependencies)
- Special packaging
- Execution Sandbox
- Deprecated!! since Java9
- No Shared Dependencies / Centralize Dep Mgt
- What about trivrost, OpenJNLP?



1.7. System PM / Installers

- rpm, deb, dmg, msi
 - Native integration with OS/Env
 - Centralized management
 - Automatable (cmdline)
 - Not portable
 - Multiple deployment packages
 - Problem with installing multiple versions of the same package



1.8. Portable Installers

- InstallAnywhere, GetDown, IzPack, BitRock InstallBuilder
 - Good integration with OS/Env
 - No centralized management
 - Disk and network overload of dependencies
 - Graphical! not suitable for automation
 - Still Manual



1.9. Custom Deployers

- Custom (tomcat, netbeans) with multiple formats (tarball, zip)
 - Manual
 - No centralized management
 - Difficult to automate
 - Lack of integration with environment
 - Disk and network overload of dependencies



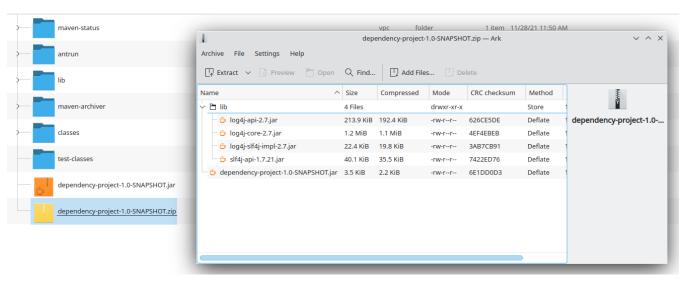
1.10. Fat Packages: maven-dependency-plugin

- maven-dependency-plugin
 - Maven plugin
 - Jars included in the "lib" folder
 - Still need to bundle the jar and the lib folder (zip with mavenantrun-plugin)



```
<build>
   <plugins>
           <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins
           <artifactId>maven-jar-plugin</artifactId>
           <version>3.2.0
           <configuration>
               <archive>
                   <manifest>
                       <addClasspath>true</addClasspath>
                       <classpathPrefix>lib/</classpathPrefix>
                       <mainClass>net.thevpc.nuts.doc.mvndepproject.Main</mainClass>
                   </manifest>
               </archive>
           </configuration>
       </plugin>
       <plugin>
           <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins
           <artifactId>maven-dependency-plugin</artifactId>
               <execution>
                   <id>copy-dependencies</id>
                   <phase>prepare-package</phase>
                   <goals>
                       <goal>copy-dependencies</goal>
                   </goals>
                   <configuration>
                      <outputDirectory>${project.build.directory}/lib</outputDirectory>
                   </configuration>
               </execution>
           </executions>
       </plugin>
       <plugin>
           <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins
           <artifactId>maven-antrun-plugin</artifactId>
           <version>3.0.0
           <executions>
               <execution>
                   <id>antrun-archive</id>
                   <phase>package</phase>
                   <goals>
                       <goal>run</goal>
                   </goals>
                   <configuration>
                      <target>
                           <property name="final.name" value="${project.build.directory}/${project.build.finalName}"/>
                           <property name="archive.includes" value="${project.build.finalName}.${project.packaging} lib/*"/>
                           cproperty name="tar.destfile" value="${final.name}.tar"/>
                          <zip basedir="${project.build.directory}" destfile="${final.name}.zip" includes="${archive.includes}" />
                       </target>
                   </configuration>
               </execution>
           </executions>
       </plugin>
   </plugins>
```







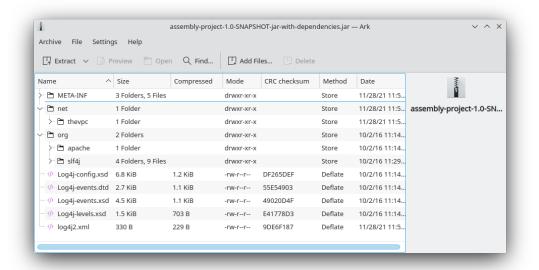
1.11. Fat Jars: Uber Jar

- maven-assembly-plugin
 - Jars deflated into the same jar
 - Can rewrite classes/resources
- maven-shade-plugin
 - Jars deflated into thesame jar
 - Rewrites classes/resources
 - Simpler than maven-assembly-plugin



```
<build>
   <plugins>
       <plugin>
           <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins
           <artifactId>maven-assembly-plugin</artifactId>
           <executions>
               <execution>
                   <phase>package</phase>
                   <goals>
                       <goal>single</goal>
                   </goals>
                   <configuration>
                       <archive>
                           <manifest>
                               <mainClass>net.thevpc.nuts.doc.mvnassproject.Main</mainClass>
                           </manifest>
                       </archive>
                       <descriptorRefs>
                           <descriptorRef>jar-with-dependencies</descriptorRef>
                       </descriptorRefs>
                   </configuration>
               </execution>
           </executions>
       </plugin>
   </plugins>
/huilds
```







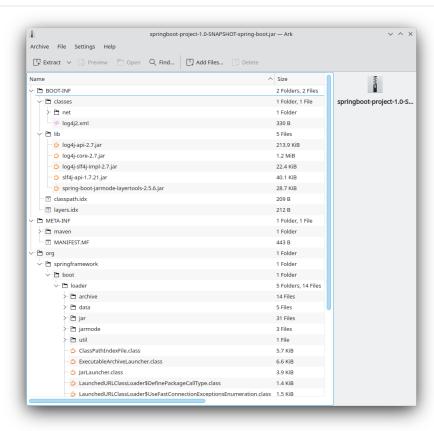
1.12. Fat Jars: Jar Jar

- onejar-maven-plugin
 - Rewrites jar to include dependencies as jars!
 - Adds bootstrap classes
 - Changes classloader
- spring-boot-maven-plugin
 - Rewrites jar to include dependencies as jars!
 - Adds bootstrap classes
 - Changes classloader



```
<build>
   <plugins>
       <plugin>
           <groupId>org.springframework.boot
           <artifactId>spring-boot-maven-plugin</artifactId>
           <version>2.5.6
           <executions>
               <execution>
                   <goals>
                       <goal>repackage</goal>
                   </goals>
                   <configuration>
                      <classifier>spring-boot</classifier>
                       <mainClass>net.thevpc.nuts.doc.springbootproject.Main/mainClass>
                   </configuration>
               </execution>
           </executions>
       </plugin>
   </plugins>
</build>
```







1.13. So...

- All alternatives are poor and/or ugly
- pom.xml polluted with +16-20 lines of code
- Why do we need a package manager for Java
- Why don't we already have a package manager for Java!



2. nuts Package Manager for Java

Main Idea:

- Little to no Intrusion and Backward compatibility to support existing apps and repos
- Good Integration with Java ecosystem and popular build/deploy/devops tools
- Solid enough to support multiple platforms
- Simple but extensible
- Open Source



2.1. nuts: A Package Manager for Java

- Centralized package manager for Java Apps and Libs (not only)
 - install, uninstall, update, search and exec for packages
 - Optimized dependency resolution solver
 - Cache for dependencies across installed apps
- Automation/devops friendly commandline tool
- Portable across Architectures, OSes, OS Distibs, Desktop Environments, Platforms (Java versions)
- Libre and Open Source, developed in java



2.2. nuts: A Package Manager for Java

Is Not:

- a replacement for maven, gradle or any build tool (used at deploy time)
- a plugin for maven, gradle or any build tool (do not change the build process)
- a replacement for spring framework or any other framework
- a replacement for IzPack or InstallAnywhere (but can do pretty much of it)
- a replacement for ansible or chef (but is conceptually driven by automation)
- a mere download tool



2.3. nuts: Maven & Gradle

- Integrates seamlessly with maven
 - No required modification of the build process
 - Does not alter/rewrite the package
 - No special maven/gradle plugin needed
- Supports local Jars, public packages (maven central), and private packages (local .m2, nexus repos,...)
- Solves at runtime what maven/gradle solve at build time
 - Supports maven and gradle dependency resolution algorithms, scopes, ...



2.4. nuts: Dependency Optimization

- Downloads, Caches and Installs only relevant dependencies according to
 - arch (hardware architecture: x86, x64, relevant for native dependencies)
 - os (operating system: Win/Linux/Mac, relevant for specific tasks)
 - osDist (operating distribution : Ubuntu/OpenSuse,...)
 - desktop (desktop environment, relevant for icon/shortcut creation and environment integration)
 - platform (java SE versions installed to know what dependencies to use)



2.5. nuts: Integration

- Solid integration with environments
 - Uses OS's File System Layouts (XDG for Linux, ...)
 - separate folders per app
 - separate folders for log, config, lib, cache, etc.
 - portable across OSes (~/.config versus ~/AppData)
 - Supports cmdline and gui apps (installs scripts, icons, menus, ...)
 - Supports jar and zip based apps



2.6. nuts: Toolbox

- Terminal Coloring on Linux/Windows
- Supports Windows cmd/PowerShell and *NIX sh, bash, csh, zsh and fish and their relative rcfiles
- Bundles a bash/GNU binutils compatible (still incomplete) but enhanced java implementations
 - ls, cp, touch, mkdir, rmdir, ...
 - works on windows
 - adds some extra goodies (ssh, json, support ...)



2.7. nuts: Existing Apps

- Supports out of the box
 - maven 's repos (including central, spring, google, ...), more than 7M dependencies
 - Apache repos (netbeans, tomcat, derby, etc...)



2.8. nuts: Automation

- Powerful toolbox with customizable output formats
 - props
 - · xml
 - json
 - ∘ yaml
 - table
 - tree



2.9. nuts: Unique features

- Is statically built and has (almost) no dependencies
- Can be used as a library to support transitive classPath resolver
- Has a clean and rich API



2.10. nuts: Stability

- Tested:
 - over 140 regression tests with 3500+ lines of test-code in the repository.
 - opensuse, ubuntu, docker, windows7, windows10
 - sh, bash, csh, zsh, fish



2.11. 'nuts'... really?

- N etwork U pdatable T hings S ervices
- The nuts (fool) companion for the maven (sage)



- 3. Demonstration
- 3.1. Install Nuts
- 1. Download nuts.jar
- 2. run java -jar nuts.jar -Zy
- 3. restart your terminal



3.2. Install Nuts (Linux)

Install for Preview/Evaluation, most recent

```
$ wget https://thevpc.net/nuts.jar -o nuts.jar
$ java -jar nuts.jar -Zy -r=+dev
$ exit
```

Install for Production, most stable

```
$ wget https://repo.maven.apache.org/maven2/net/thevpc/nuts/nuts/0.8.3/nuts-0.8.3.jar
-O nuts.jar
$ java -jar nuts.jar -Zy
$ exit
```

In all cases, do not forget to restart your terminal



3.3. Run the app

- We just run the app, with no modification
- We use the built (by maven) jar

vpc@linux-rogue /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts ./base-project-1.0-SNAPSHOT.jar
00:37:58.600 [main] DEBUG net.thevpc.nuts.doc.baseproject.Main - A simple app with dependencies. Won't work out of the box!, unless...



3.4. Demonstration: Install Application

- Or we can install the app (and its required dependencies)
- And then we run it

```
vpc@linux-rogue /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts install base-project
the following new artifact is going to be installed : net.thevpc.nuts.doc:base-project#1.0-SNAPSHOT
should we proceed?
(default is y, accepts y, n) ? :
install net.thevpc.nuts.doc:base-project#1.0-SNAPSHOT ...
require org.apache.logging.log4j:log4j-api#2.7 from local repository (maven-local).
require org.apache.logging.log4j:log4j-core#2.7 from local repository (maven-local).
require org.apache.logging.log4j:log4j-slf4j-impl#2.7 from local repository (maven-local).
require org.slf4j:slf4j-api#1.7.21 from local repository (maven-local).
require org.slf4j-api#1.7.21 from local repository (maven-local).
install net.thevpc.nuts.doc:base-project#1.0-SNAPSHOT from local repository (maven-local). set as default.
vpc@linux-rogue /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts base-project
00:43:15.699 [main] DEBUG net.thevpc.nuts.doc.baseproject.Main - A simple app with dependencies. Won't work out of the box!, unless...
```



3.5. Install Gui App

We can run a gui app of course, and create a shortcut for it:

```
vpc@linux-roque /d/q/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts install pnote
the following new artifact is going to be installed : net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.3.0
should we proceed?
(default is y, accepts y, n) ? :
install net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.3.0 ...
require net.sourceforge.tess4j:tess4j#4.3.0 from local repository (maven-local).
require net.thevpc.diagram4j:diagram4j#0.1.1 from local repository (maven-local).
require net.thevpc.more.iconsets:iconset-feather#1.0.1 from local repository (maven-local).
require net.thevpc.more.iconsets:iconset-svgrepo-color#1.0.1 from local repository (maven-local).
require net.thevpc.echo:echo#1.1.0 from local repository (maven-local).
require net.thevpc.echo:echo-swing#1.1.0 from local repository (maven-local).
require org.jodconverter:jodconverter-local#4.1.0 from local repository (maven-local).
require org.icepdf.os:icepdf-viewer#6.2.2 from local repository (mayen-local).
require net.java.dev.jna:jna#4.1.0 from local repository (mayen-local).
require com.github.jai-imageio:jai-imageio-core#1.4.0 from local repository (maven-local).
require org.qhost4i:qhost4i#1.0.1 from local repository (mayen-local).
require org.apache.pdfbox:pdfbox#2.0.12 from local repository (mayen-local).
require org.apache.pdfbox:pdfbox-tools#2.0.12 from local repository (maven-local).
require org.apache.pdfbox:jbig2-imageio#3.0.2 from local repository (mayen-local).
require commons-io:commons-io#2.6 from local repository (mayen-local).
require net.sourceforge.lept4i:lept4i#1.10.0 from local repository (mayen-local).
require org.iboss:iboss-vfs#3.2.14.Final from local repository (maven-local).
require ch.gos.logback:logback-classic#1.2.3 from local repository (mayen-local).
require org.slf4i:jul-to-slf4i#1.7.25 from local repository (mayen-local).
require org.slf4i:icl-over-slf4i#1.7.25 from local repository (mayen-local).
```





3.6. Search for available applications

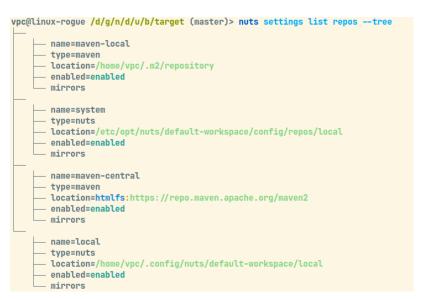
- We can search for installed or available (local/remote) apps
- We can search for apps and/or libs

```
vpc@linux-roque /d/q/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search -l
d-- 2021-12-14 00:41:55.653 admin
                                      <main>
                                                    com.icraft:isch#0.1.55
                                                    org.apache.logging.log4j:log4j-core#2.7
d-x 2021-12-14 00:43:01.998 anonymous <main>
d-- 2021-12-14 00:43:02.022 anonymous <main>
                                                    org.apache.logging.log4i:log4i-slf4i-impl#2.7
d-- 2021-12-14 00:43:01.881 anonymous <main>
                                                    org.apache.logging.log4j:log4j-api#2.7
                                                    org.slf4j:slf4j-api#1.7.21
d-- 2021-12-14 00:43:02.045 anonymous <main>
i-x 2021-12-14 00:41:50.589 admin
                                      <main>
                                                    net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.3
                                                    net.thevpc.nuts.doc:base-project#1.0-SNAPSHOT
I-x 2021-12-14 00:43:01.892 anonymous <main>
d-- 2021-12-14 00:41:55.615 admin
                                      <main>
                                                    net.thevpc.nuts.lib:nlib-ssh#0.8.3.0
IcX 2021-12-14 00:41:55.621 admin
                                      <main>
                                                    net.thevpc.nuts.toolbox:nsh#0.8.3.0
ir- 2021-12-14 00:41:51.774 admin
                                      <main>
                                                    net.thevpc.nuts:nuts-runtime#0.8.3.0
vpc@linux-rogue /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search --apps
org.apache.logging.log4i:log4i-core#2.7
net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.3
net.thevpc.nuts.doc:base-project#1.0-SNAPSHOT
net.thevpc.nuts.toolbox:nsh#0.8.3.0
          browse ~/.config/.../nuts-runtime/0.8.3.0
vpc@linux-roque /d/q/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search --lib
com.jcraft:jsch#0.1.55
org.apache.logging.log4j:log4j-slf4j-impl#2.7
org.apache.logging.log4j:log4j-api#2.7
org.slf4j:slf4j-api#1.7.21
net.thevpc.nuts.lib:nlib-ssh#0.8.3.0
net.thevpc.nuts:nuts-runtime#0.8.3.0
```



3.7. Repositories

- We can configure Repositories used to install/update packages
- We can list Repositories used to install/update packages





3.8. Integration and Formats

• using --json, --xml, --props, --yaml , --table , --tree for any command will customize output

```
vpc@linux-roque /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search --remote 'net.thevpc.nuts:nuts'
net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.2
net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.1
net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.0
vpc@linux-roque /d/q/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search --remote 'net.thevpc.nuts:nuts' --json
  "net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.2"
 "net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.1"
  "net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.0"
vpc@linux-rogue /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search --remote 'net.thevpc.nuts:nuts' --long
                                      maven-central net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.2
f-x
                                      maven-central net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.1
                                      maven-central net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.0
vpc@linux-roque /d/q/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search --anywhere 'net.thevpc.nuts:nuts' --xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding=?>
<root>
<string value="net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.3?repo=&lt:main&gt:"/>
<string value="net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.3"/>
<string value="net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.2"/>
<string value="net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.2"/>
<string value="net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.1"/>
<string value="net.thevpc.nuts:nuts#0.8.0"/>
</root>
```



3.9. Companions

 We can use nsh instead of bash / cmd and make usage of json support out of the box

```
vpc@linux-roque /d/q/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nsh -c ls
/data/git/nuts/documentation/ugly-jar-projects/base-project/target:
classes
maven-archiver
maven-status
test-classes
base-project-1.0-SNAPSHOT.jar
vpc@linux-rogue /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nsh -c ls -- json
 "/data/git/nuts/documentation/ugly-jar-projects/base-project/target": [
      "name": "classes",
     "path": "/data/git/nuts/documentation/ugly-jar-projects/base-project/target/classes",
      "type": "d",
      "uperms": "rwxrwxrwx",
      "jperms": "rwx",
      "owner": "vpc",
      "group": "users",
      "length": 4096,
      "modified": "2021-12-01T20:00:11.705163Z",
      "created": "2021-12-01T20:00:11.705Z",
      "accessed": "2021-12-13T20:00:03.529Z"
      "name": "maven-archiver",
      "path": "/data/git/nuts/documentation/ugly-jar-projects/base-project/target/maven-archiver",
      "type": "d",
```



3.10. Bot Mode

Running with --bot will disable all interaction and terminal coloring

```
vpc@linux-rogue /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search pnote
net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.3.0
net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.2.0
net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.1.1
           maven-central cache
                                  search folder ~/.config/.../pnote/pnote
vpc@linux-rogue /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search pnote --json
  "net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.3.0"
  "net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.2.0"
  "net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.1.1"
vpc@linux-rogue /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search pnote --bot
net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.3.0
net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.2.0
net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.1.1
vpc@linux-roque /d/g/n/d/u/b/target (master)> nuts search pnote --bot --json
  "net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.3.0"
  "net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.2.0"
  "net.thevpc.pnote:pnote#0.8.1.1"
```



3.11. Help

An extensive help is available from within the command line

```
vpc@linux-rogue ~> nuts help search
search :
search for artifacts
SYNOPSYS:
   nuts search [<-options>] ... <ids> ... <args> ...
        search for <ids>
OPTIONS:
    --lenient
        when an id is found but its descriptor and/or its file are not found, do not raise an error and conti
nue. default no
    --all-versions
        return all versions of the same ids. if no will always return the latest one. default yes
    --duplicates
        return the same version from distinct repositories if found. default yes
    --distinct
        remove duplicates . default false
    -L | --latest | --latest-versions
        return latest version of each searched id. equivalent to --all-versions=no
    -S | --single | --single-versions
```



3.12. Conclusion

- nuts tries to be for java what npm is for javascript
- nuts is a versatile toolbox
- nuts is 2800+ classes, 600ko+ boot jar
- I invite you to
 - Take a shot, try to use it and give feedback
 - Star(*) the repository https://github.com/thevpc/nuts
 - Spread the word
 - Join the Core Team to enhance nuts



Thank you

https://github.com/thevpc/nuts (git repo)

https://thevpc.github.io/nuts (website)