# Rehearsal

## A Configuration Verification Tool for Puppet

Rian Shambaugh, Aaron Weiss, and Arjun Guha



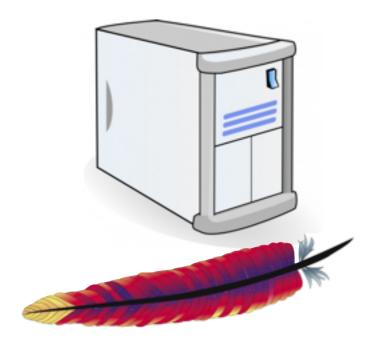




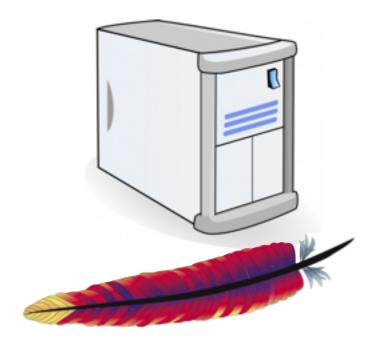




apt-get install apache2



apt-get install apache2
vim /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/default

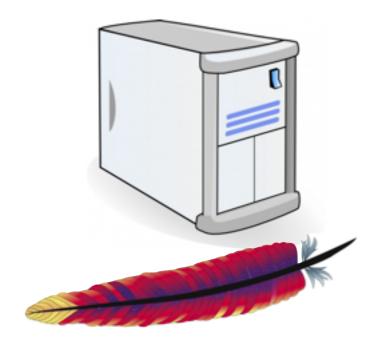


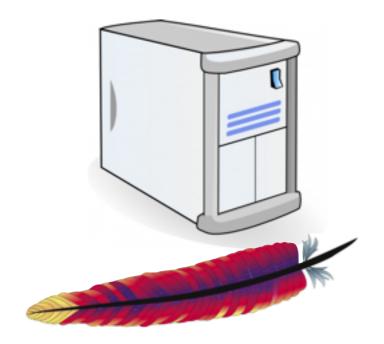


### **502 Bad Gateway**

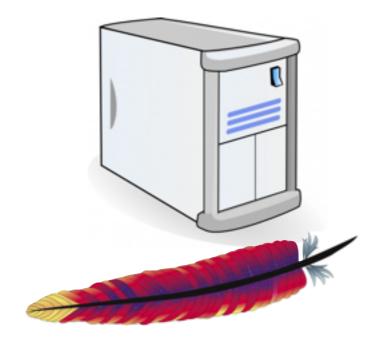
The server returned an invalid or incomplete response.

Display a menu





vim /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/default
service apache2 restart



vim /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/default
service apache2 restart

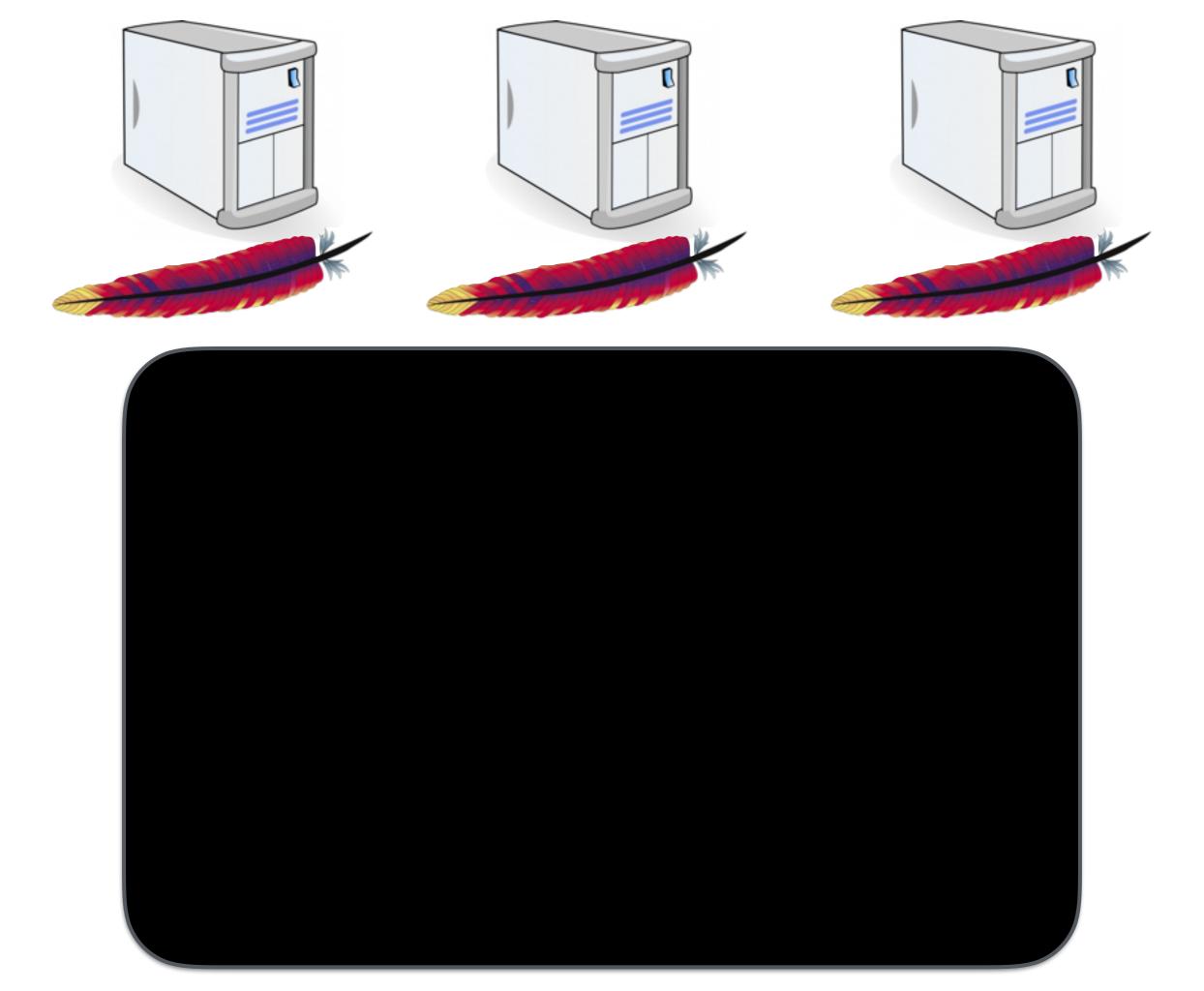
iptables -dport ssh -j DROP

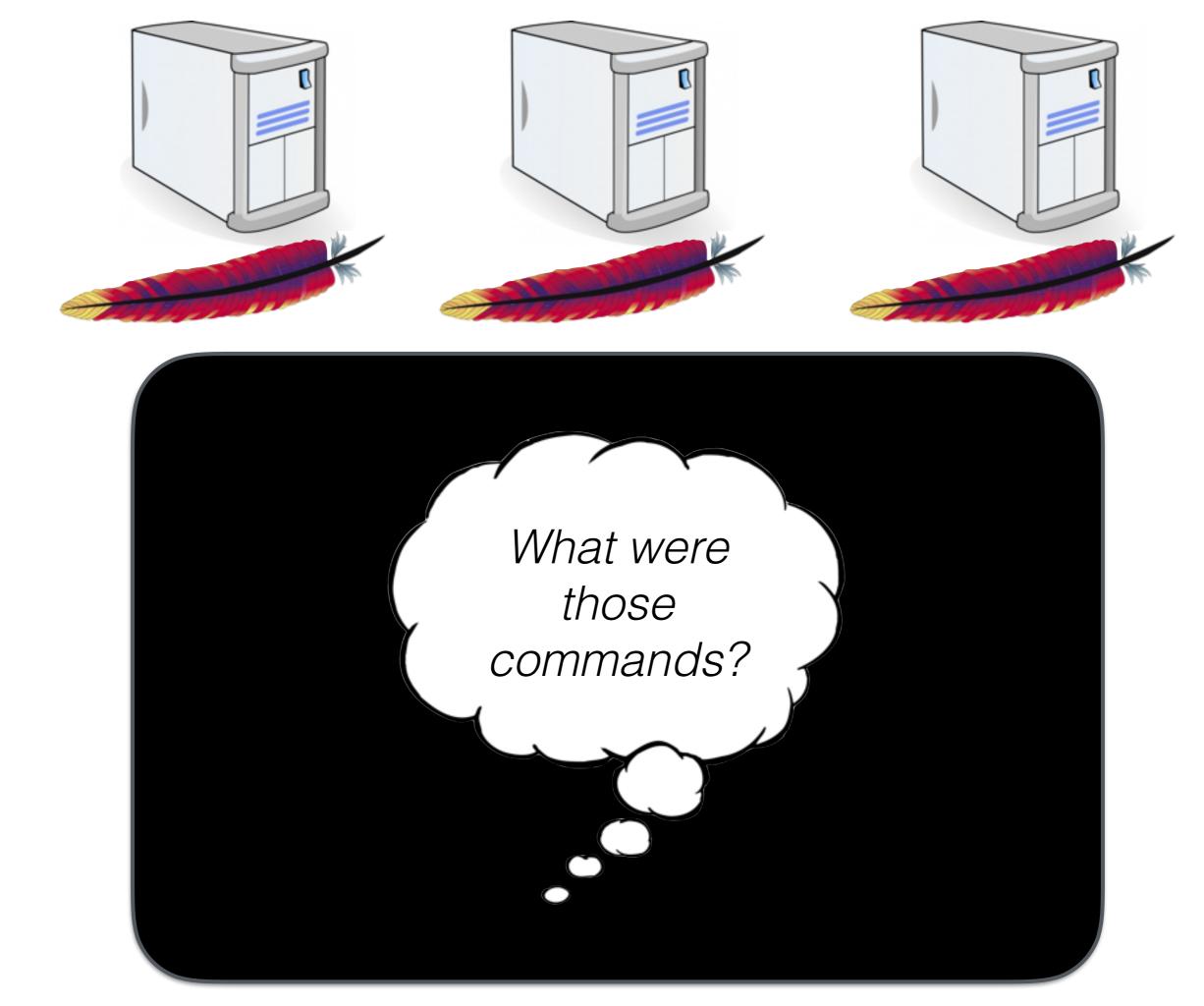


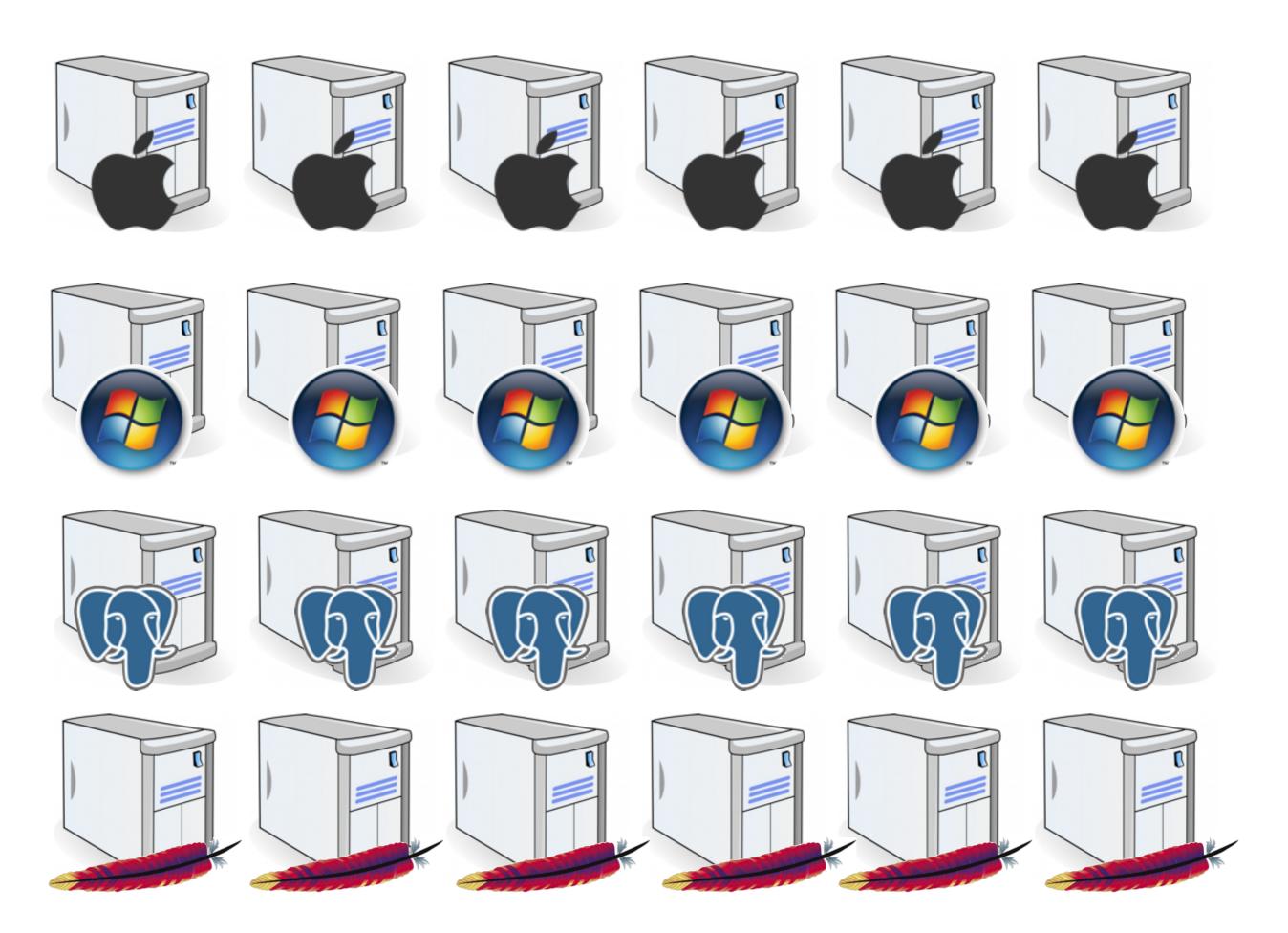
vim /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/default
service apache2 restart

iptables -dport ssh -j DROP

mount backup.local:/backup /mnt/backup crontab -e







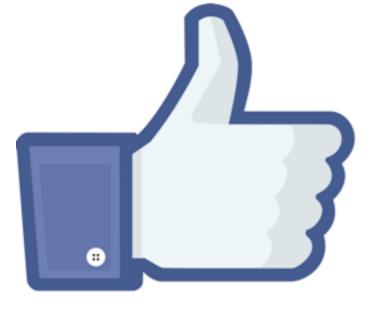


#### New York Stock Exchange:

"a software update went out [...] it returned an error. [...] There was clearly a difference in the configuration going into production [from the test environment]"

Airbus military plane crash: "The error was in configuration settings programmed into the electronic control unit (ECU) of the engines and not in the code itself."





#### Facebook:

"Facebook was down or unreachable for many of you for approximately 2.5 hours. [...] An automated system for verifying configuration values ended up causing much more damage than it fixed."



#### New York Stock Exchange:

"a software update went out [...] it returned an error. [...] There was clearly a difference in the configuration going into production [from the test environment]"

Airbus military configuration electronic cor not in the cod



"Facebook was down or unreachable for many of you for approximately 2.5 hours. [...] An automated system for verifying configuration values ended up causing much more damage than it fixed."

## Configuration Management Tools













## 30,000+ organizations use Puppet













































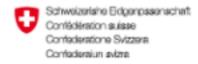
















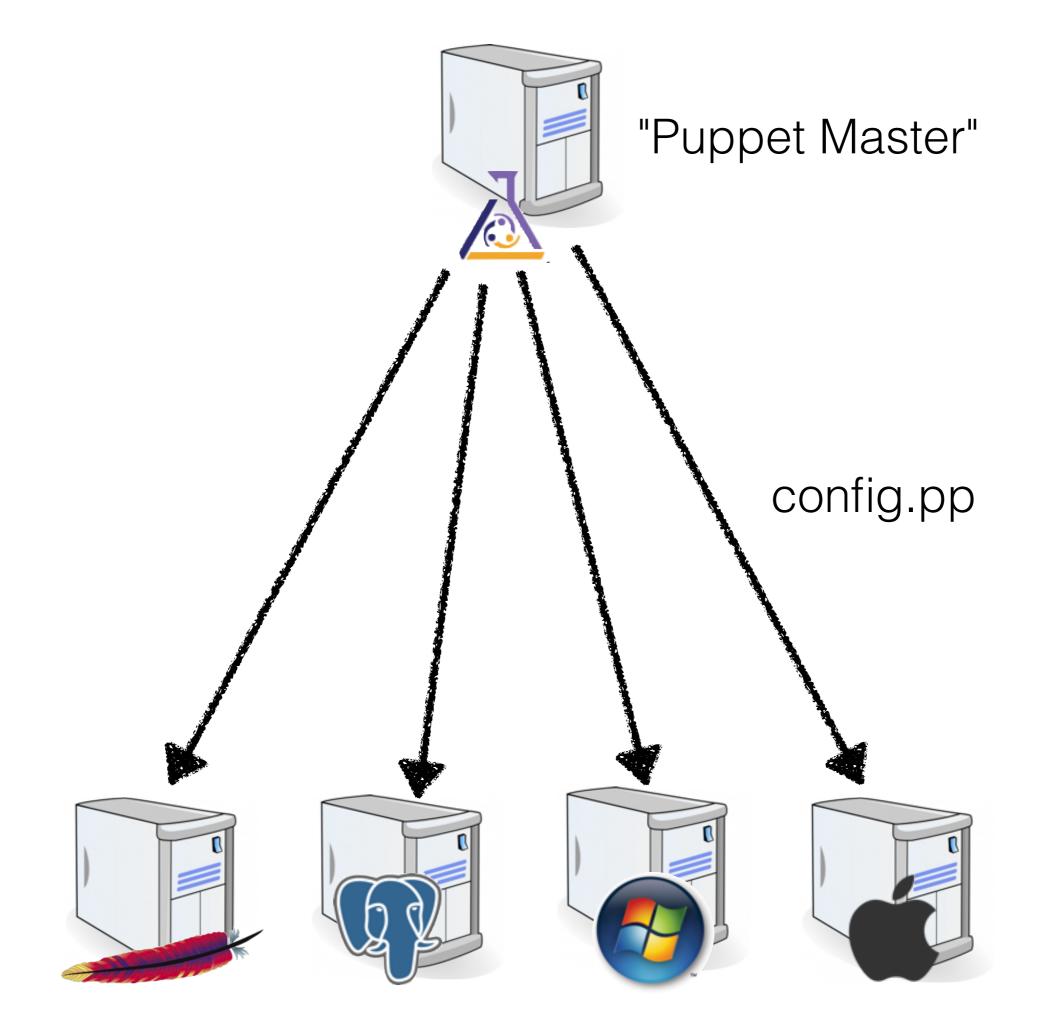












```
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/authorized_keys":
   content => "ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADA ..."
}
```

```
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/authorized_keys":
    content => "ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADA ..."
    source => "puppet://default_keys"
}
```

```
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/authorized_keys":
    content => "ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADA ..."
    source => "puppet://default_keys",
    owner => arjun,
    group => arjun,
    mode => 0600
}
```

```
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/authorized_keys":
    content => "ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADA ..."
    source => "puppet://default_keys",
    owner => arjun,
    group => arjun,
    mode => 0600,
    force => true
}
```

```
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/authorized_keys":
    content => "ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADA ..."
    source => "puppet://default_keys",
    owner => arjun,
    group => arjun,
    mode => 0600,
    force => true,
    backup => ".old"
}
```

```
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/authorized_keys":
    content => "ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADA ..."
    source => "puppet://default_keys",
    owner => arjun,
    group => arjun,
    mode => 0600,
    force => true,
    backup => ".old",
    replace => false
}
```

```
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/authorized keys":
  content => "ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADA ..."
  source => "puppet://default keys",
 owner => arjun,
 group => arjun,
 mode => 0600,
 force => true,
 backup => ".old",
  replace => false
ssh authorized key{"mykey":
  key => AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADA,
  user => arjun,
  type => rsa
```

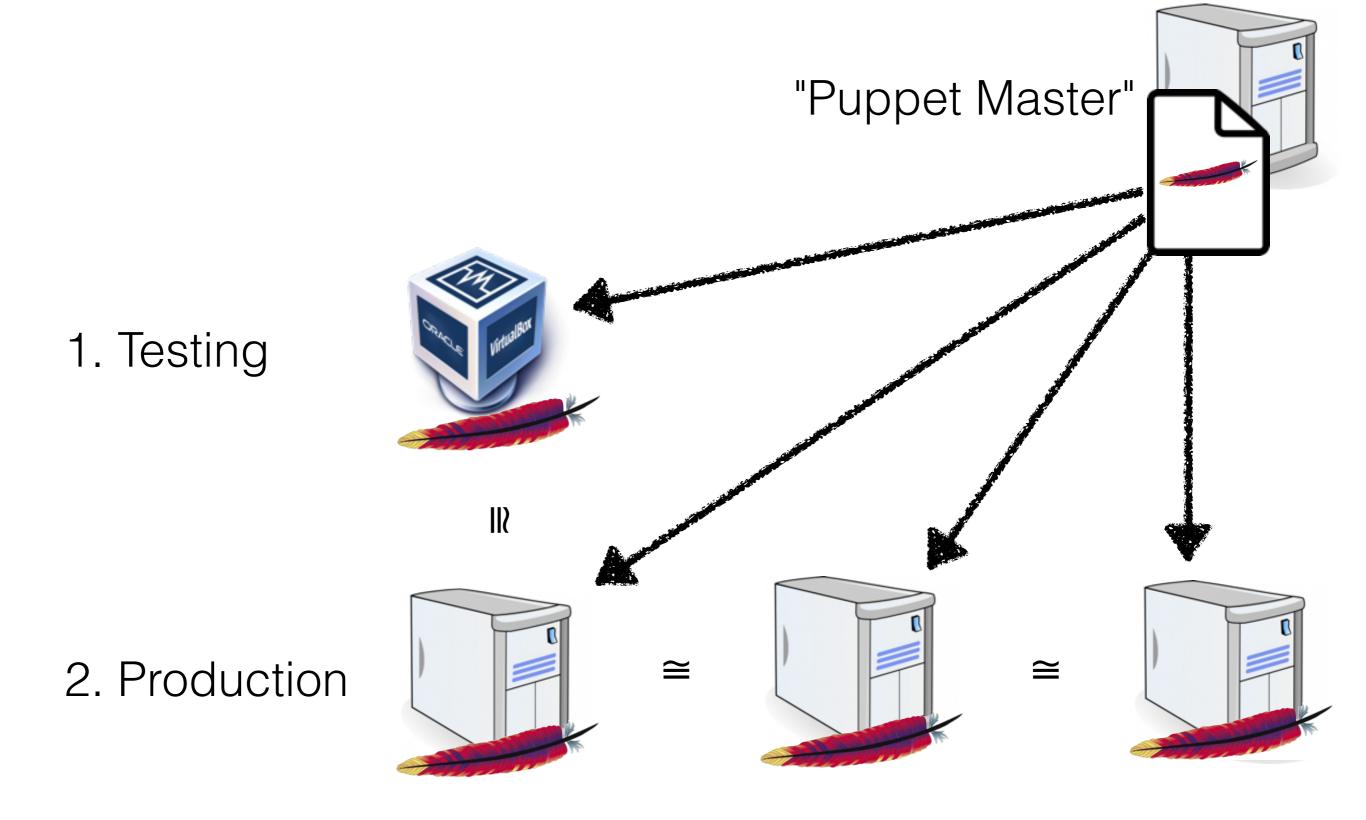
```
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/authorized keys":
  content => "ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADA ..."
  source => "puppet://default keys",
 owner => arjun,
 group => arjun,
 mode => 0600,
 force => true,
 backup => ".old",
  replace => false
ssh authorized key{"mykey":
  key => AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADA,
  user => arjun,
  type => rsa
```

Declarative specification of machine state.

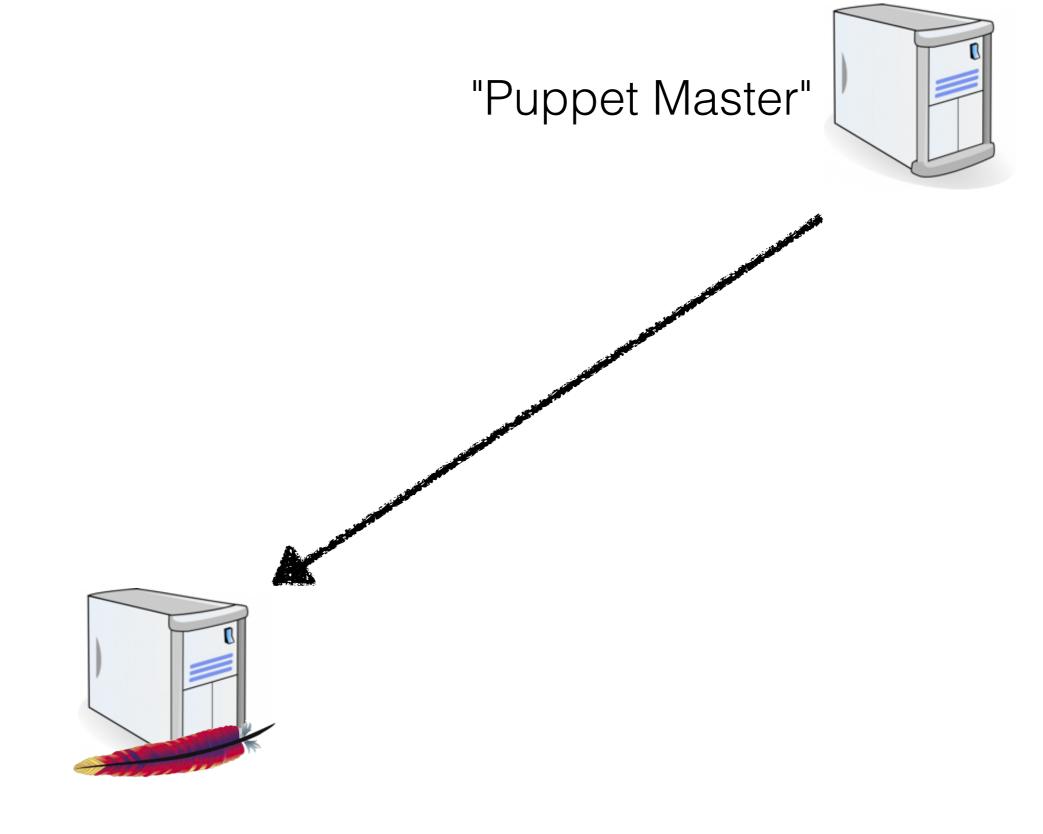


1. Testing

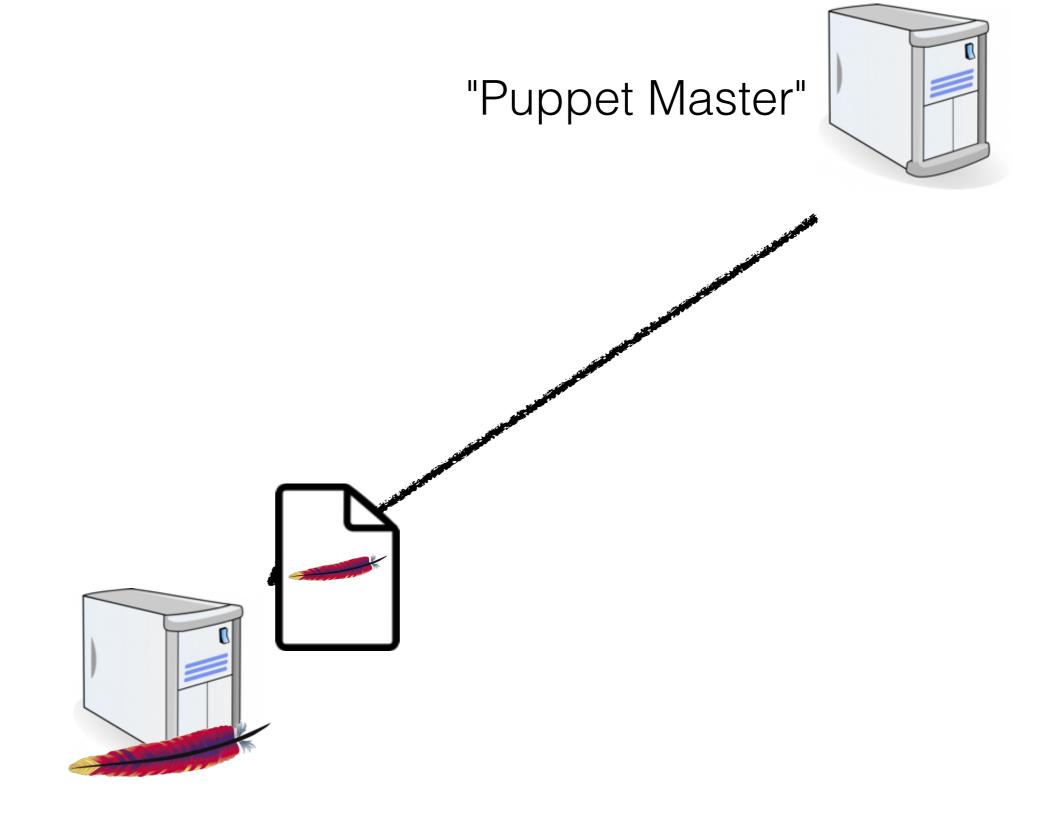




Key Property: Puppet manifests should be deterministic

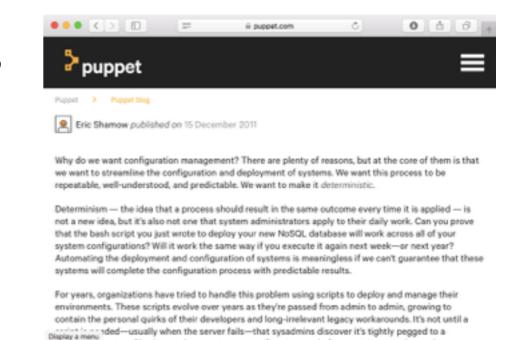


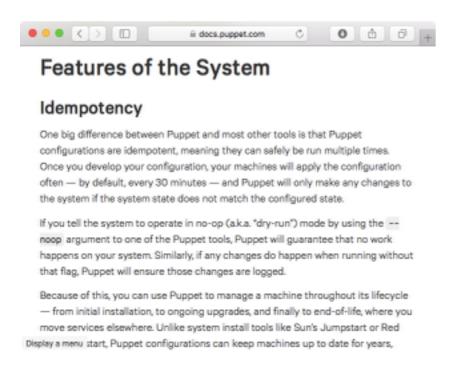
Key Property: manifest application should be idempotent



Key Property: manifest application should be idempotent

"Why do we want configuration management? [...] We want this process to be repeatable, well-understood, and predictable. We want to make it deterministic."





"One big difference between Puppet and most other tools is that Puppet configurations are idempotent, meaning they can safely be run multiple times."



# Twisted Semantics of Puppet

```
user{"carol":
  ensure => present
file{"/home/carol/.vimrc":
  contents => "syntax on"
package{"vim":
  ensure => present
```

Resources can be installed in any valid order

```
user{"carol":
  ensure => present
file{"/home/carol/.vimrc":
  contents => "syntax on"
package{"vim":
  ensure => present
```

User["carol"] -> File["/home/carol/.vimrc"]

```
package{'golang-go':
    ensure => present
}

package{'perl':
    ensure => absent
}
```

#### Silent non-determinism

packages.ubuntu.com

```
ubuntu® packages
                                                             » Ubuntu » Packages » precise (12.04LTS) » devel » golang-go
                                                            [ Source: golang ]
                                                                                                                             [ precise ][
package{'golang-go':
                                                            Package: golang-go (2:1-5) [universe
   ensure => present
                                                            Go programming language compiler
package{'perl':
                                                            Other Packages Related to golang-go
    ensure => absent

    recommends

                                                                depends
                                                                                               suggests

    enhances

                                                               debconf (>= 0.5)
                                                                      Debian configuration management system
                                                                 or debconf-2.0
                                                                      virtual package provided by cdebconf, cdebconf-udeb, debconf
                                                               golang-src (>= 2:1-5)
                                                                      Go programming language compiler - source files
                                                               libc6 (>= 2.14) [amd64]
                                                                      Embedded GNU C Library: Shared libraries
                                                                      also a virtual package provided by libc6-udeb
                                                                  libc6 (>= 2.7) [i386]
                                                               perl
                                                                      Larry Wall's Practical Extraction and Report Language
                                                           Display a menu
```

### Simple fix: pick an installation order?

```
file{"/home/carol/.vimrc":
  contents => "syntax on"
}
package{"vim":
  ensure => present
user{"carol":
  ensure => present
User["carol"] ->
Package["vim"] ->
File["/home/carol/.vimrc"]
```

```
package{"golang-go":
    ensure => present
}

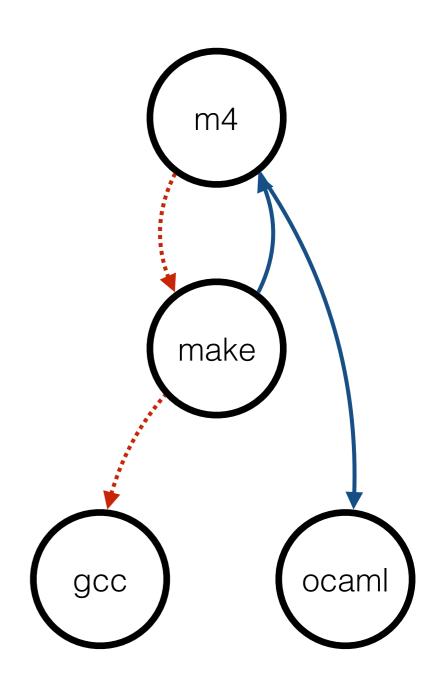
package{"perl":
    ensure => absent
}

Package["perl"] ->
Package["golang-go"]
```

```
define cpp() {
  package{'m4':ensure => present }
  package{'make': ensure => present }
  package{'gcc': ensure => present }
define ocaml() {
  package{'m4':ensure => present }
  package{'make': ensure => present }
  package{'ocaml': ensure => present }
cpp{ }
ocaml{ }
```

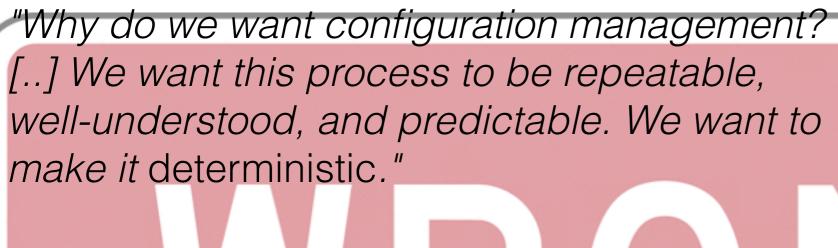
### Cyclic dependencies

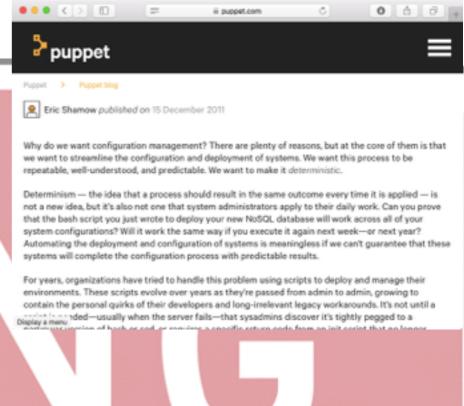
```
define cpp() {
  package{'m4':ensure => present }
  package{'make': ensure => present }
  package{'gcc': ensure => present }
define ocaml() {
  package{'m4':ensure => present }
  package{'make': ensure => present }
  package{'ocaml': ensure => present }
cpp{ }
ocaml{ }
```



## Non-Idempotence

```
file{"file-1.txt"
    ensure => file,
    source => "file-2.txt"
}
file{"file-2.txt":
    ensure => absent
}
File["file-1.txt"] -> File["file-2.txt"]
```







#### Idempotency

One big difference between Puppet and most other tools is that Puppet configurations are idempotent, meaning they can safely be run multiple times. Once you develop your configuration, your machines will apply the configuration often — by default, every 30 minutes — and Puppet will only make any changes to the system if the system state does not match the configured state.

If you tell the system to operate in no-op (a.k.a. "dry-run") mode by using the -noop argument to one of the Puppet tools, Puppet will guarantee that no work
happens on your system. Similarly, if any changes do happen when running without
that flag, Puppet will ensure those changes are logged.

Because of this, you can use Puppet to manage a machine throughout its lifecycle
— from initial installation, to ongoing upgrades, and finally to end-of-life, where you
move services elsewhere. Unlike system install tools like Sun's Jumpstart or Red
Display a menu start, Puppet configurations can keep machines up to date for years,

"One big difference between Puppet and most other tools is that Puppet configurations are idempotent, meaning they can safely be run multiple times."



#### enerated References

ocs Quick Nav

ese pages are generated from the ppet source code. You are looking at references for:

#### ippet 4.2.0

/pe Reference
onfiguration Reference
unction Reference
letaparameter Reference
eport Reference
direction Reference
eveloper Documentation
lan Pages

#### her Versions

table (newest official release)
atest (includes pre-releases)
urrent 4.x release
urrent 3.x release
e here for all historical versions.

#### ippet Reference Manual

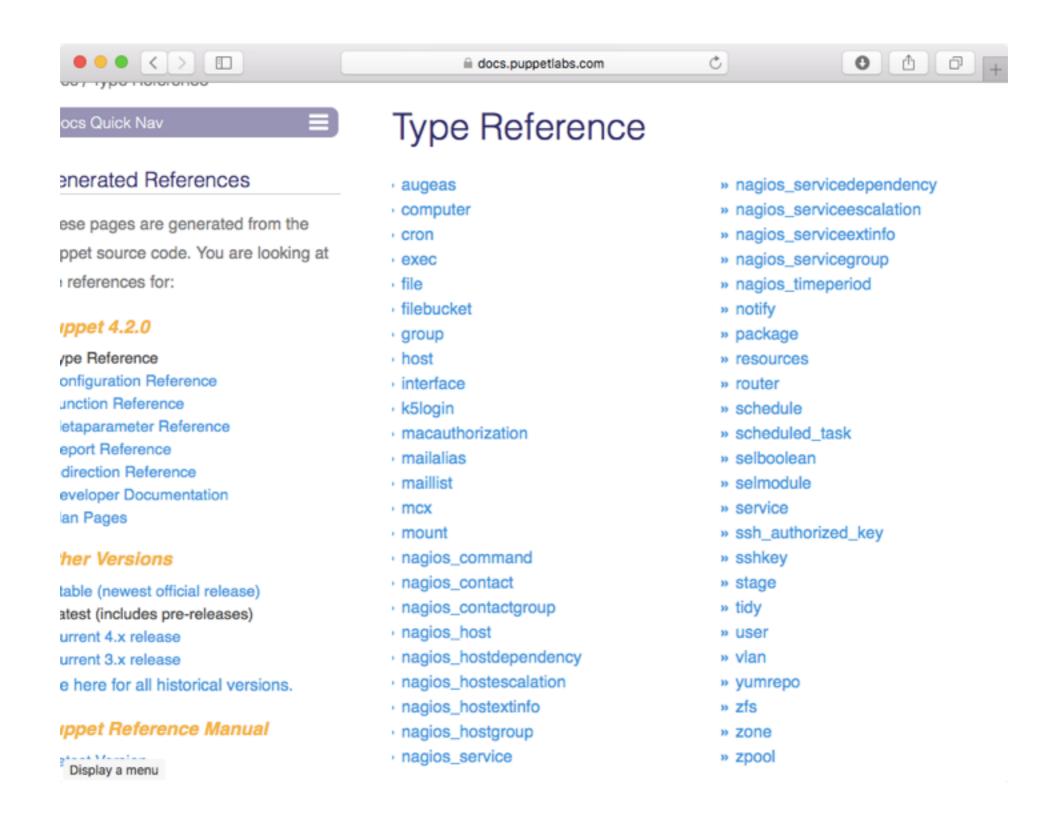
Display a menu

#### Type Reference

- augeas
- computer
- cron
- exec
- file
- filebucket
- group
- host
- · interface
- k5login
- macauthorization
- mailalias
- maillist
- mcx
- mount
- nagios\_command
- nagios\_contact
- nagios\_contactgroup
- nagios\_host
- nagios\_hostdependency
- · nagios\_hostescalation
- nagios\_hostextinfo
- nagios\_hostgroup
- nagios\_service

- » nagios\_servicedependency
- » nagios\_serviceescalation
- » nagios\_serviceextinfo
- » nagios\_servicegroup
- » nagios\_timeperiod
- » notify
- » package
- » resources
- » router
- » schedule
- » scheduled task
- » selboolean
- » selmodule
- » service
- » ssh\_authorized\_key
- » sshkey
- » stage
- » tidy
- » user
- » vlan
- » yumrepo
- » zfs
- » zone
- » zpool

### Many, many resource types...



#### Puppet Language Features by Release

Feature	0.23.x	0.24.x	0.25.x	2.6.x	2.7.0	3.x	3.2.x	3.4.x
Dynamic variable scope (declaring classes/resources assigns parent scope)	х	х	Х	Х	X (deprecated)			
Appending to attributes in class nheritance (+>)	X	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х
Multi-line C-style comments		X (0.24.7)	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х
Arrays of resource references allowed in relationships		Х	Х	х	x	Х	х	Х
Overrides in class inheritance		Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х
Appending to variables in child scopes (+=)		Х	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х
Class names starting with 0-9		Х	Х	X				
Regular expressions in node definitions			Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х
Assigning expressions to variables			Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х
Regular expressions in conditionals/expresions			Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х
elsif in if statements				Х	X	Х	Х	Х
Chaining Resources				Х	X	Х	Х	Х
Hashes				X (partial until 2.6.7)**	х	Х	х	Х
Class Parameters				X	X	Х	Х	Х
Run Stages				Х	X	Х	Х	Х
The "in" operator				Х	X	Х	Х	Х
\$title, \$name, and \$module_name available in parameter lists				X (2.6.5)	х	Х	x	Х
Optional trailing comma in parameter lists					X (2.7.8)	Х	Х	Х
Hyphens/dashes allowed in variable names *					X (2.7.3 - 2.7.14)			
Automatic class parameter lookup via data bindings						Х	Х	Х
"Unless" conditionals						Х	Х	Х
Iteration over arrays and hashes							X (future)	X (future
The modulo (%) operator							Х	Х
\$trusted hash								Х

#### Puppet Language Features by Release

Feature	0.23.x	0.24.x	0.25.x	2.6.x	2.7.0	3.x	3.2.x	3.4.x
Dynamic variable scope (declaring classes/resources assigns parent scope)	х	х	Х	Х	X (deprecated)			
Appending to attributes in class inheritance (+>)	X	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х
Multi-line C-style comments		X (0.24.7)	Х	Х	x	Х	Х	х
Arrays of resource references allowed in relationships		Х	X	X	x	Х	х	Х
Overrides in class inheritance		х	X	X	X	Х	Х	Х
Appending to variables in child scopes (+=)		Х	X	X	x	Х	х	
Class names starting with 0-9		Х	Х	X				
Regular expressions in node definitions			Х	Х	х	Х	х	
Assigning expressions to variables			Х	X	Х	Х	х	
Regular expressions in conditionals/expresions			Х	X	x	Х	X	
elsif in if statements				X	X	Х	Х	- 1
Chaining Resources				X	X	х	х	
Hashes				X (partial until 2.6.7)**	Х	Х	×	
Class Parameters				X	X	Х	Х	
Run Stages				X	X	Х	Х	C
The "in" operator				X	X	Х	Х	
\$title, \$name, and \$module_name available in parameter lists				X (2.6.5)	х	х	х	
Optional trailing comma in parameter lists					X (2.7.8)	Х	х	Х
Hyphens/dashes allowed in variable names *					X (2.7.3 - 2.7.14)			
Automatic class parameter lookup via data bindings						х	Х	Х
"Unless" conditionals						Х	Х	X
teration over arrays and hashes							X (future)	X (future
The modulo (%) operator							Х	Х
\$trusted hash								х



SINCE 2012

# Simplifying Puppet



### Puppet

stages
virtual resources
"classes"
default values
expressions
conditionals
defined types
anchors
inheritance
single-assignment variables

. . .

# Simplifying Puppet



#### Puppet

stages
virtual resources
"classes"
default values
expressions
conditionals
defined types
anchors
inheritance
single-assignment variables

Datalog

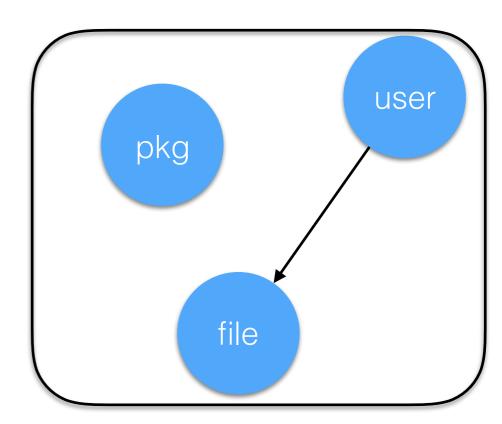


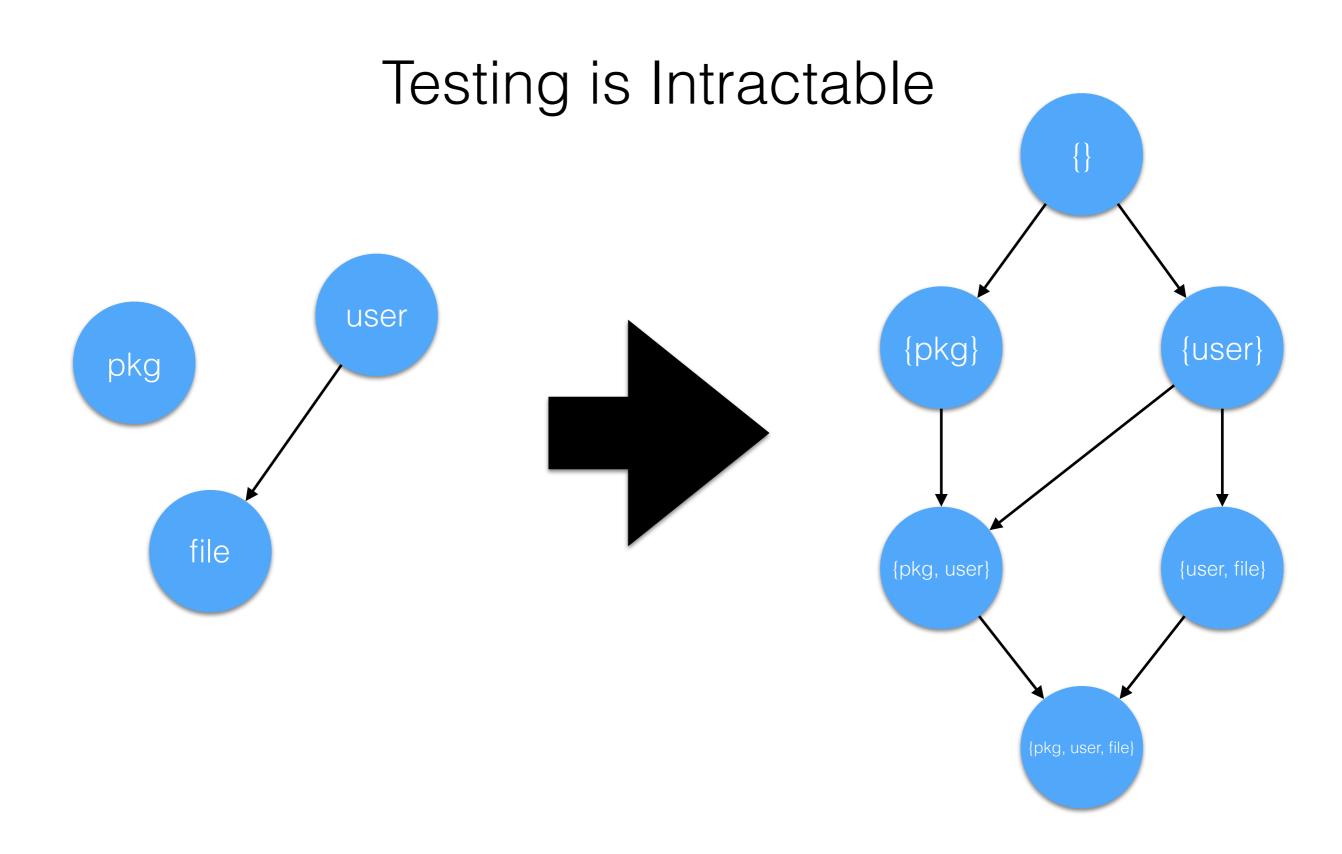
### Resource Graph

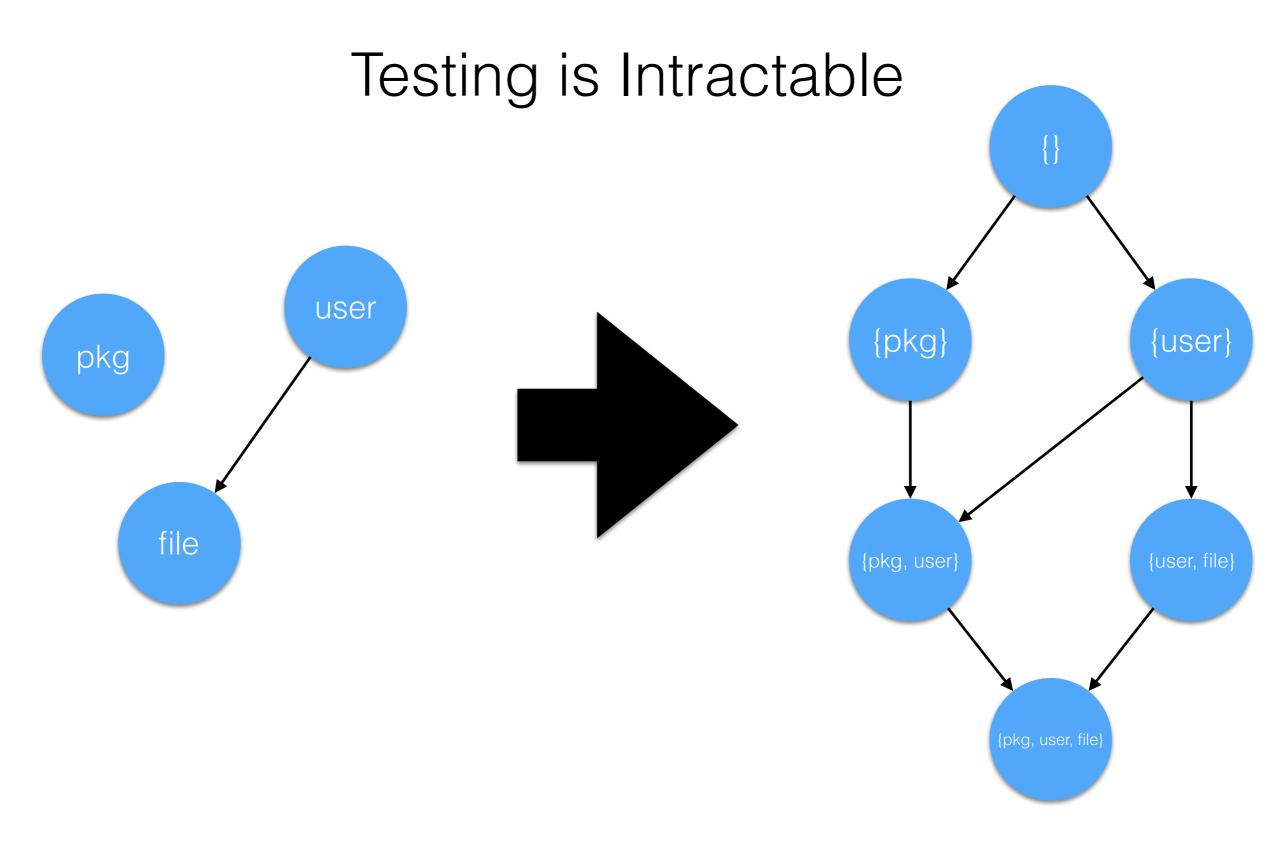
resources attributes edges

# Properties of Puppet Resource Graphs

- Configuration application should be deterministic
- 2. Configuration application should be idempotent

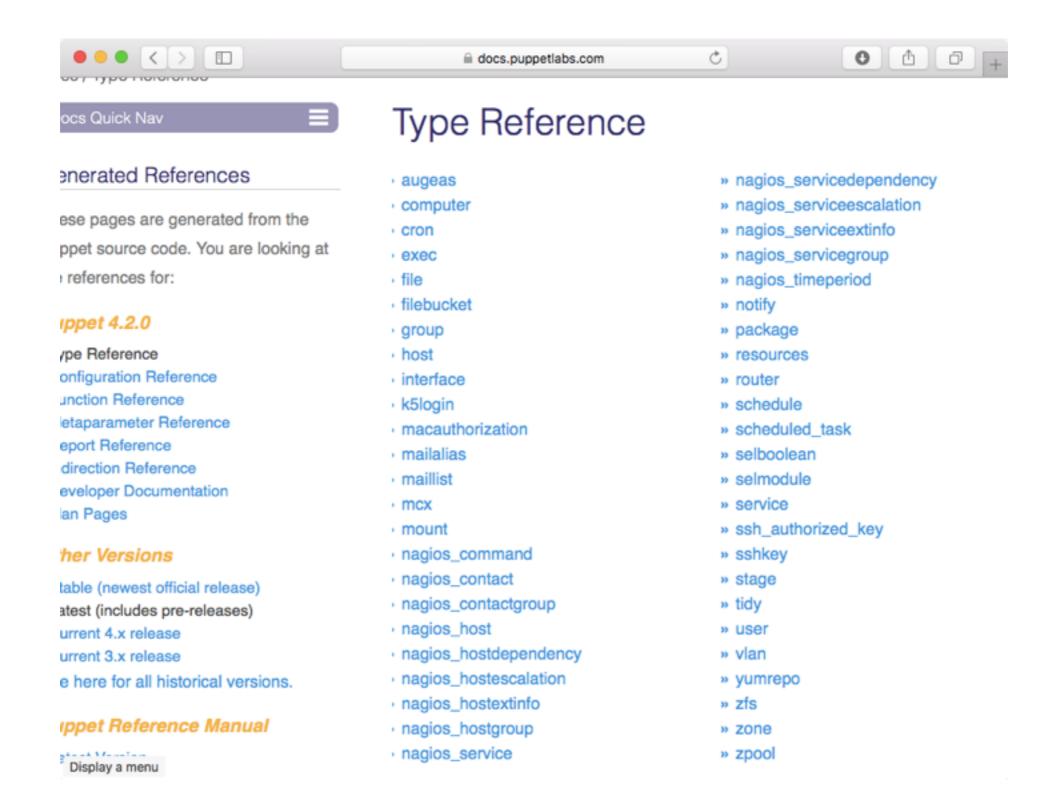




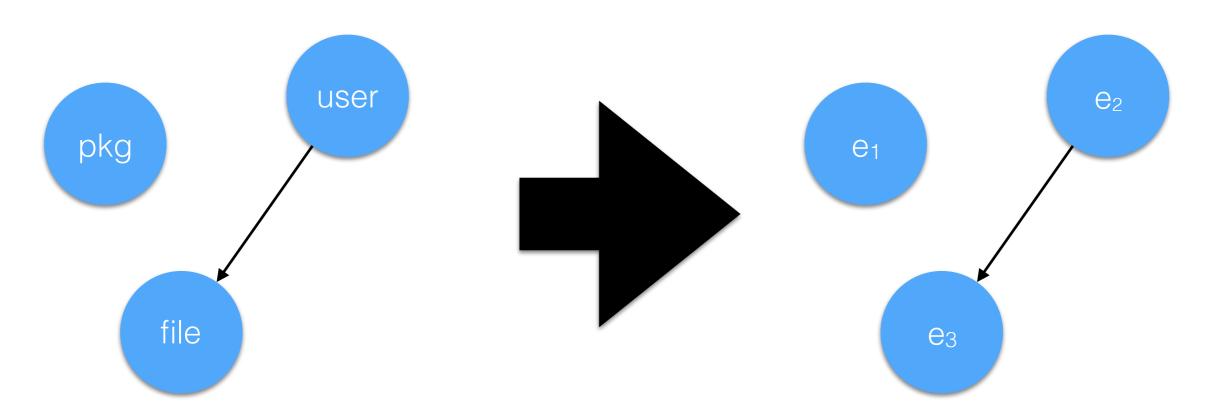


static analysis...

#### All resources mutate machine state.



Endless possible interactions...



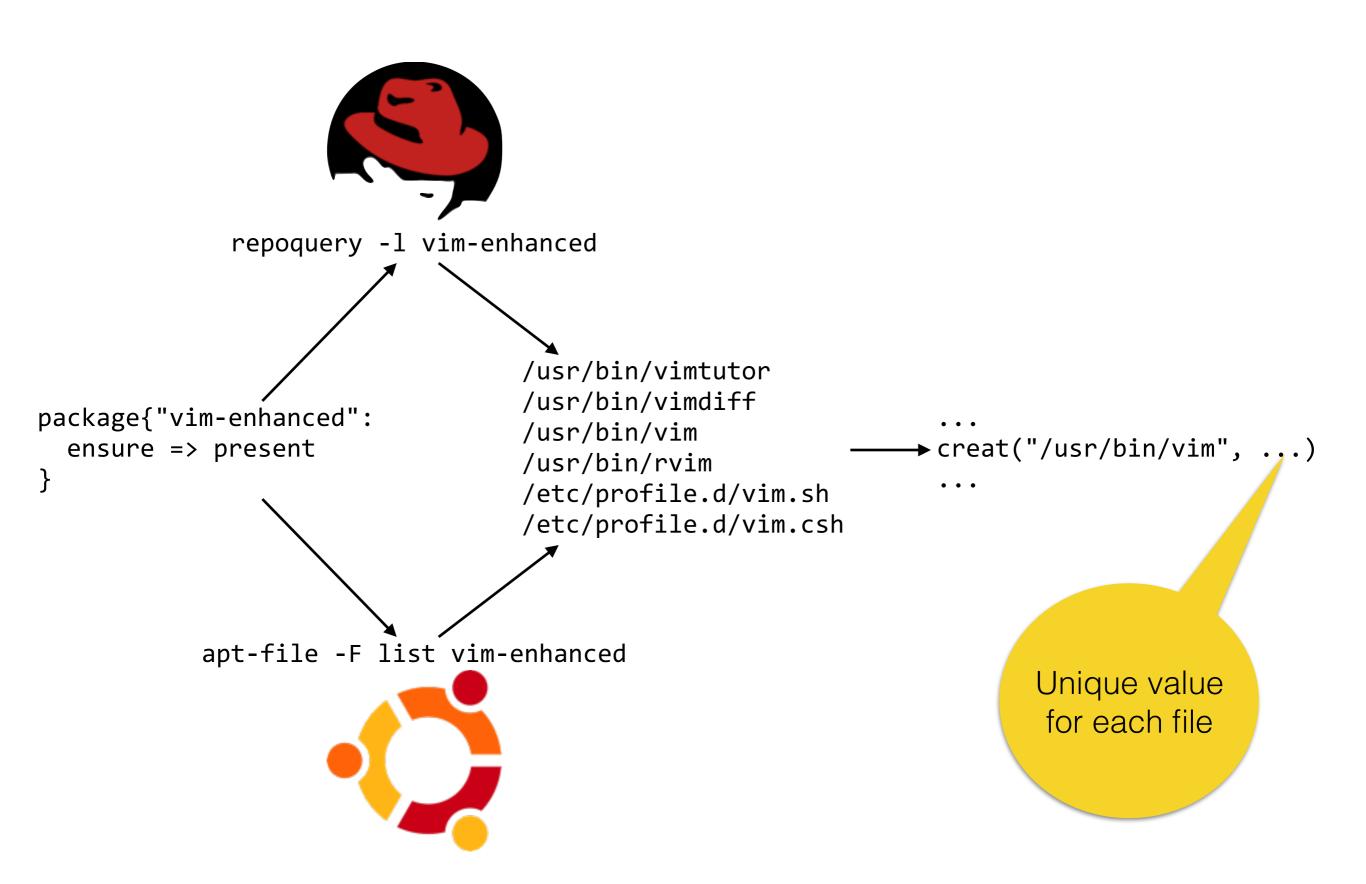
Resources

File-system manipulating programs

```
if (isFile("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys")) {
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys":
                                        rm("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys")
  content => "ssh-rsa ..."
                                      creat("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys", "ssh-rsa ...")
```

```
if (isFile("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys")) {
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys":
                                        rm("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys")
  content => "ssh-rsa ..."
                                      creat("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys", "ssh-rsa ...")
                                      if (!isFile("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys")) {
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys":
  content => "ssh-rsa ...",
                                        creat("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys", "ssh-rsa ...")
  replace => false
```

```
if (isFile("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth keys")) {
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys":
                                         rm("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth keys")
  content => "ssh-rsa ..."
                                       creat("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys", "ssh-rsa ...")
                                      if (!isFile("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth keys")) {
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys":
  content => "ssh-rsa ...",
                                        creat("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys", "ssh-rsa ...")
  replace => false
                                       if (!isDir("/home")) {
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/auth keys":
                                         mkdir("/home")
  content => "ssh-rsa ...",
  force
          => true
                                       if (!isDir("/home/arjun")) {
                                         mkdir("/home/arjun")
                                       if (!isDir("/home/arjun.ssh")) {
                                         mkdir("/home/arjun/.ssh")
                                       if (isFile("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth keys")) {
                                         rm("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth keys")
                                       creat("/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys", "ssh-rsa ...")
```

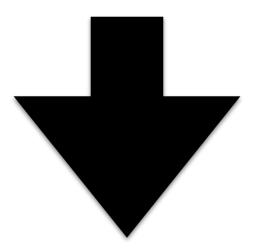


[e]: filesystem → filesystem + error

 $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ : filesystem  $\rightarrow 2^{filesystem} + \text{error}$ 

Determinism:  $\forall \sigma . | [G] \sigma | = 1$ 

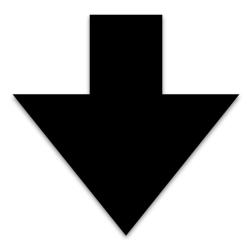
 $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ : filesystem  $\rightarrow 2^{filesystem} + \text{error}$ 



 $R_G \epsilon filesystem \times (filesystem + error)$ 

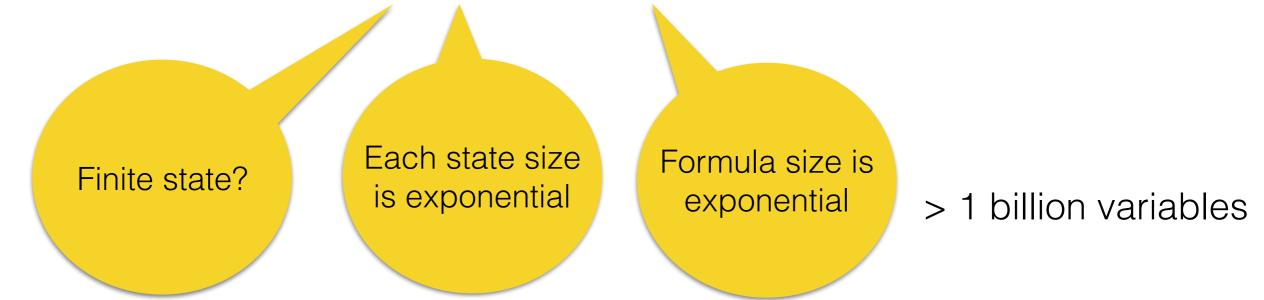
Non-Determinism:  $\exists \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3 . \sigma_1 R_G \sigma_2 \&\& \sigma_1 R_G \sigma_3 \&\& \sigma_2 \neq \sigma_3$ 

 $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ : filesystem  $\rightarrow 2^{filesystem} + \text{error}$ 

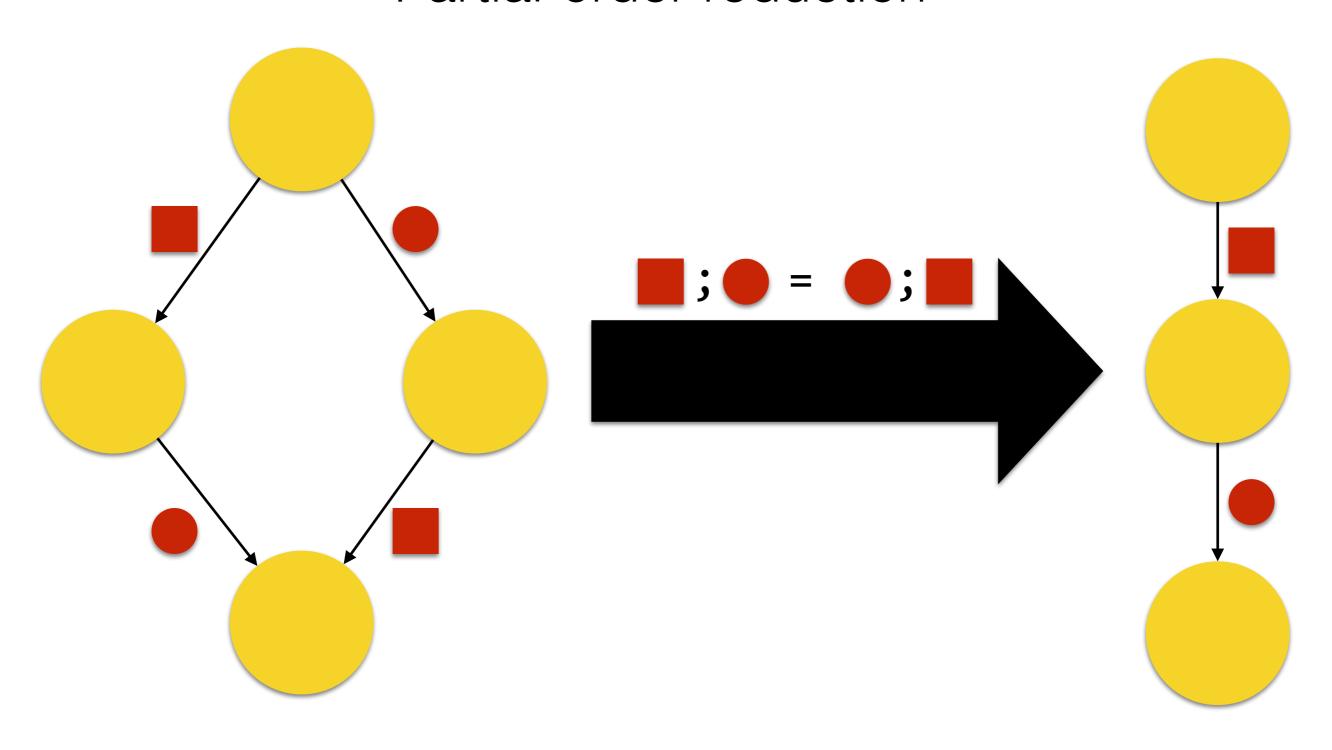


 $R_G \epsilon filesystem \times (filesystem + error)$ 

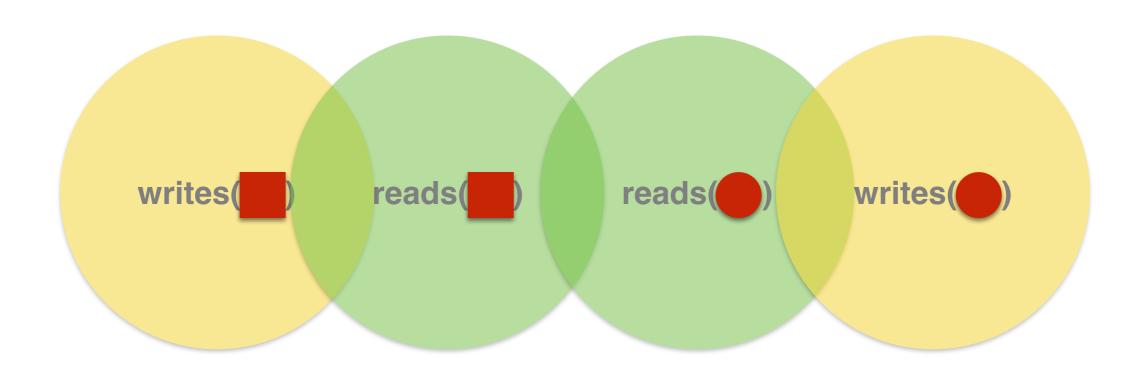
Non-Determinism:  $\exists \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3$ .  $\sigma_1 R_G \sigma_2 \&\& \sigma_1 R_G \sigma_3 \&\& \sigma_2 \neq \sigma_3$ 



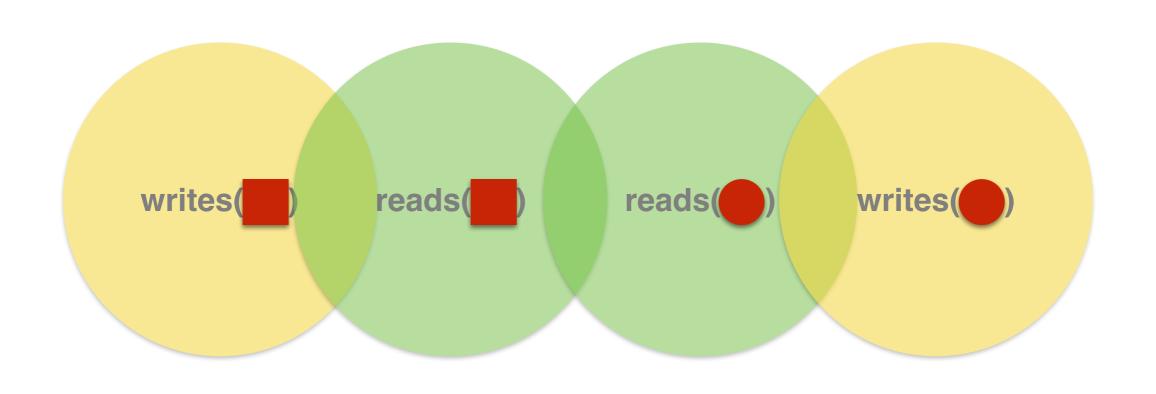
### Partial-order reduction

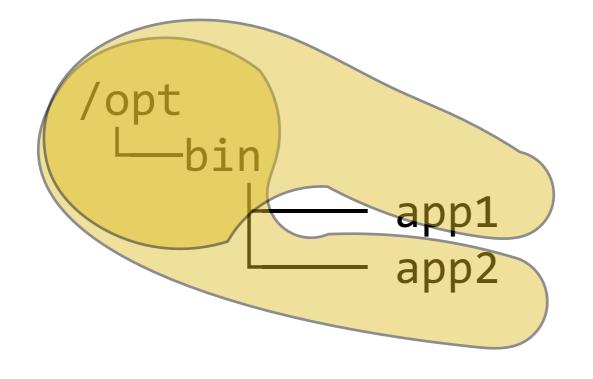


# Typical commutativity check



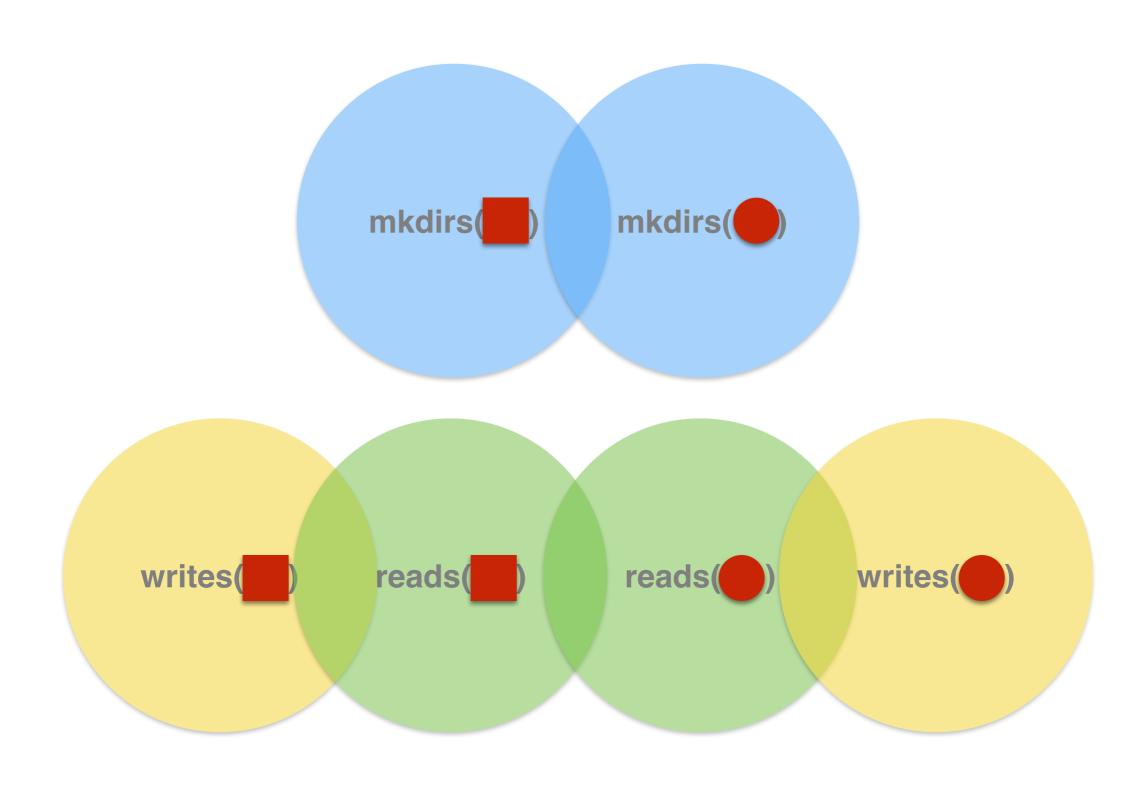
### Typical commutativity check





packages may need to create overlapping directories

## Our commutativity check



#### States are massive

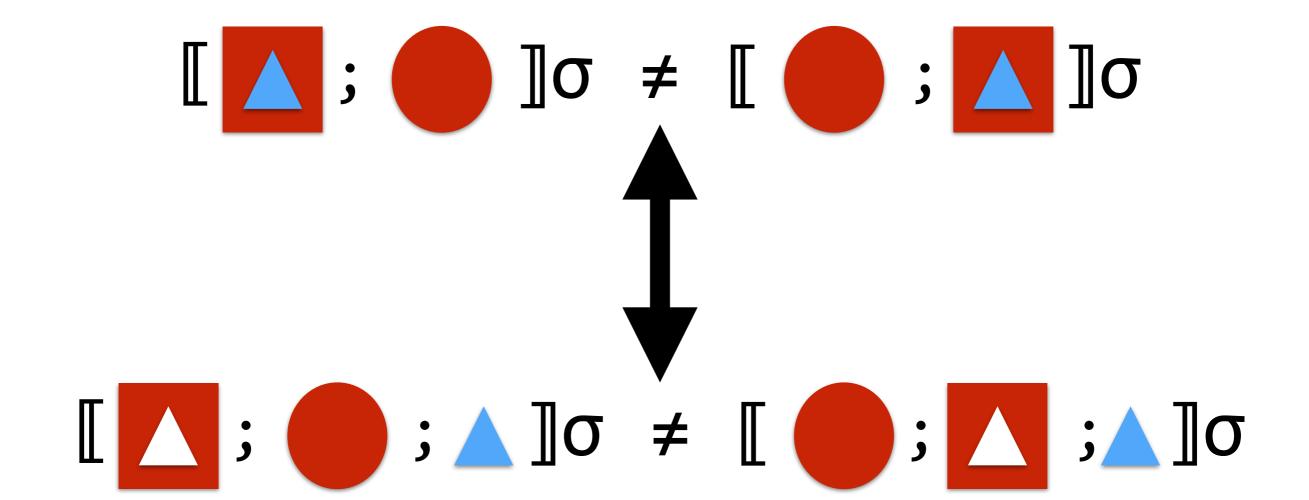
- git: 500+ files

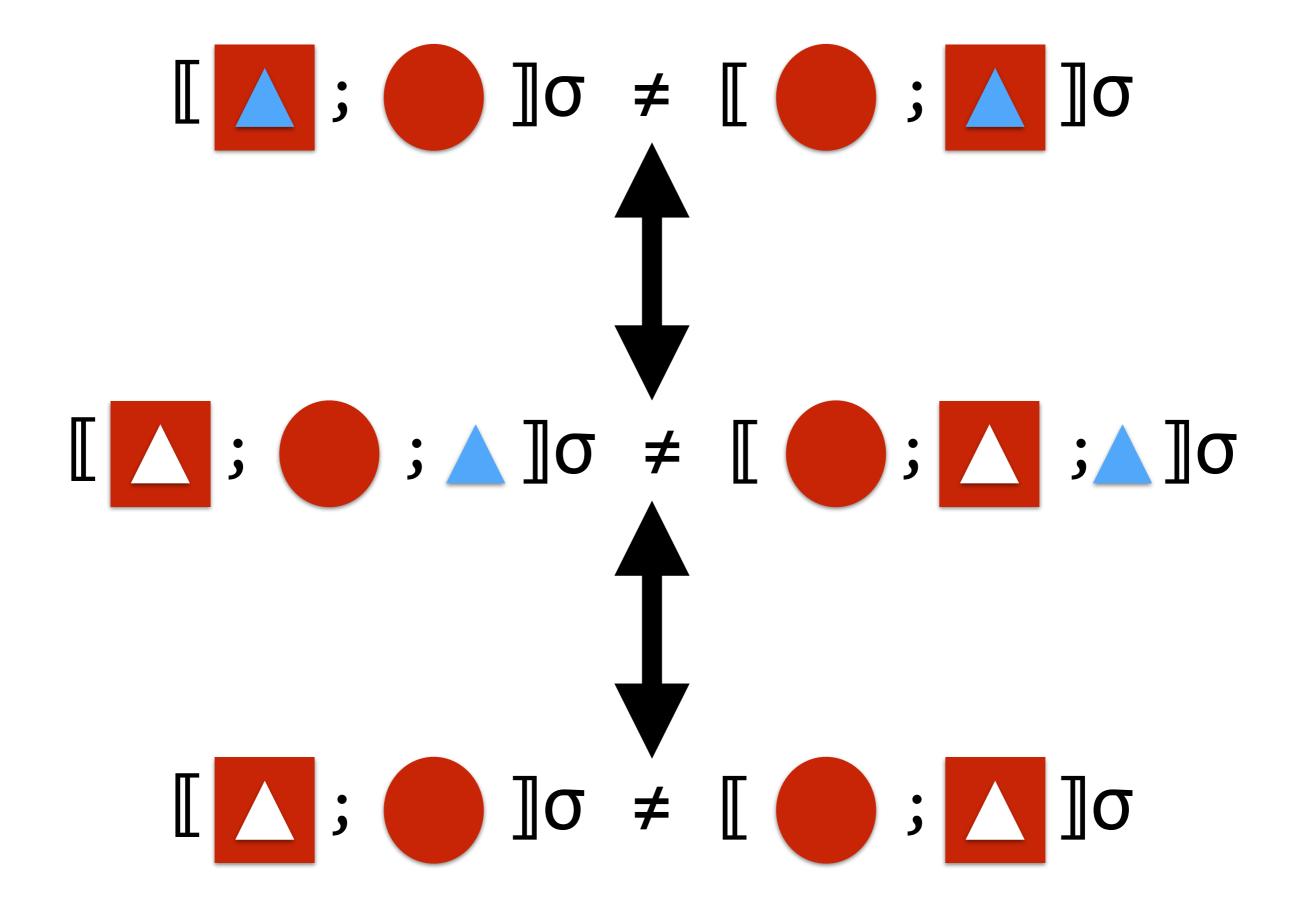
- lxde-icon-theme: 7,000+ files











```
package{"apache2":
    ensure => present
}

file{"/etc/apache2/apache2.conf":
    content => ...
}
```

apache2.conf is *not* pruned from the package

```
package{"apache2":
    ensure => present
}

file{"/etc/apache2/apache2.conf":
    content => ...
}
```

apache2.conf is *not* pruned from the package

/home/arjun is

*not* pruned

```
package{"apache2":
    ensure => present
}

file{"/etc/apache2/apache2.conf":
    content => ...
}
```

```
file{"/home/arjun/.ssh/auth_keys":
   content => "ssh-rsa ..."
}

user{"arjun":
   ensure => present
}

user{"rian":
   ensure => present
}
/h
```

/home/rian is

pruned

Finite state

 $\exists \sigma. [p]\sigma \neq [q]\sigma$ 

#### Finite state

$$\exists \sigma. [p] \sigma \neq [q] \sigma$$

```
p = if (isFile(/a)) { rm(/a) }; creat(/a, "...")
q = creat(/a, "...")
```

$$dom(\sigma) = { /a }$$

i.e., all paths that appear in p and q

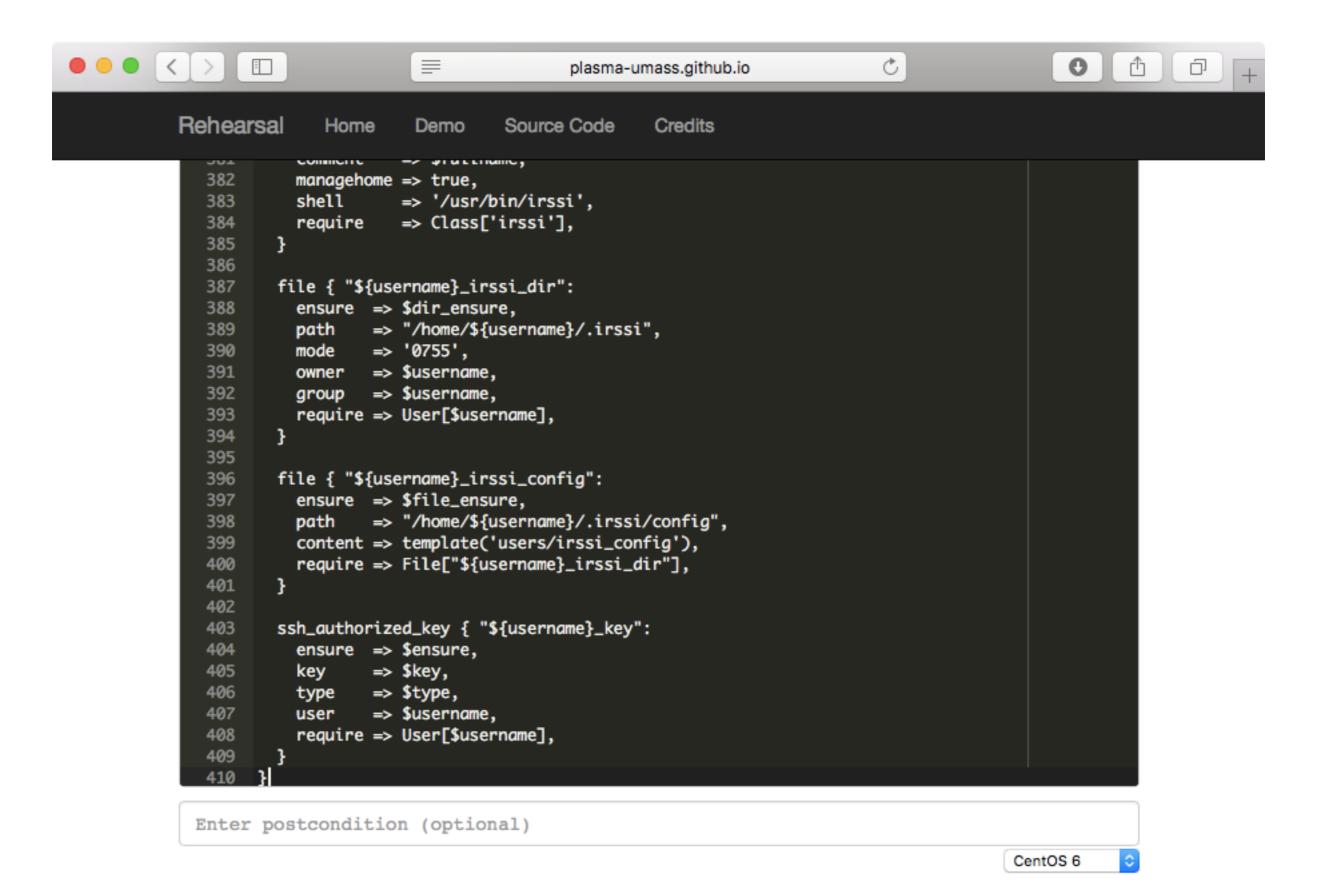
#### Finite state

$$\exists \sigma. [p] \sigma \neq [q] \sigma$$

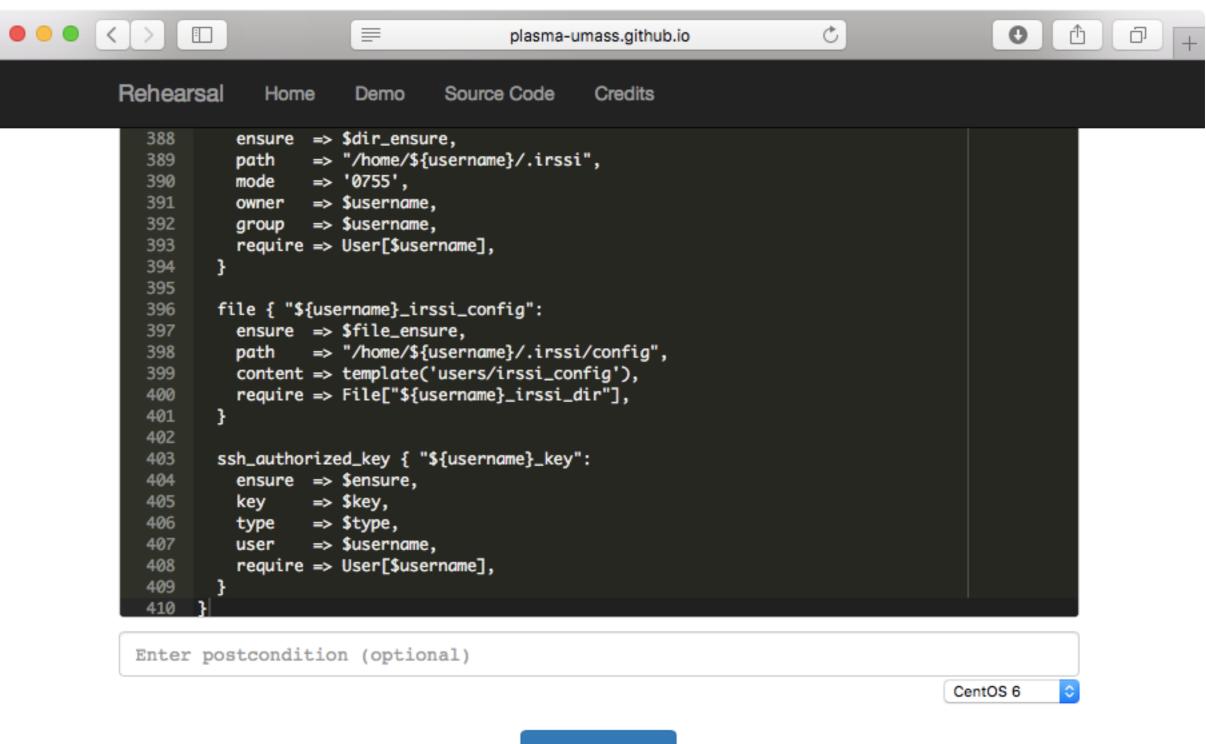
```
p = if (isFile(/a)) \{ rm(/a) \}; creat(/a, "...")
q = creat(/a, "...")
dom(\sigma) = \{ /a \}
i.e., all paths that appear in p and q
```

```
p' = if (isDir(/a)) { skip } else { error }
q' = if (isEmptyDir(/a)) { skip } else { error }
```

# Demo



Run Rehearsal

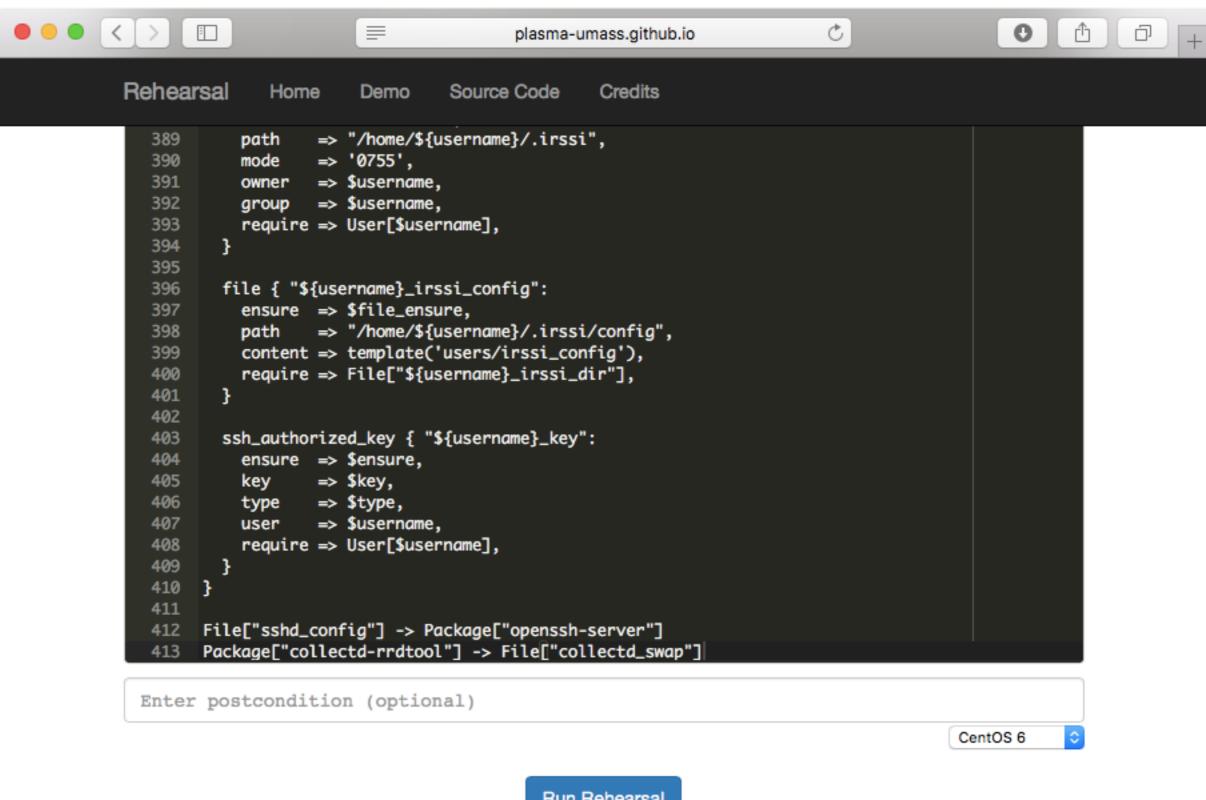


Run Rehearsal

```
Checking if manifest is deterministic ... FAILED.

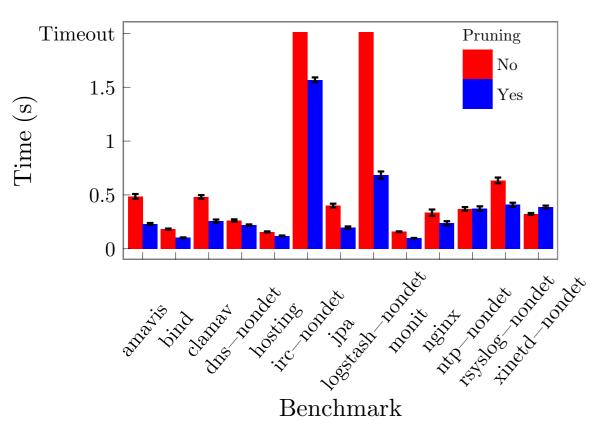
These dependencies may be missing:
File["sshd_config"] -> Package["openssh-server"]

Package["collectd-rrdtool"] -> File["collectd_swap"]
```

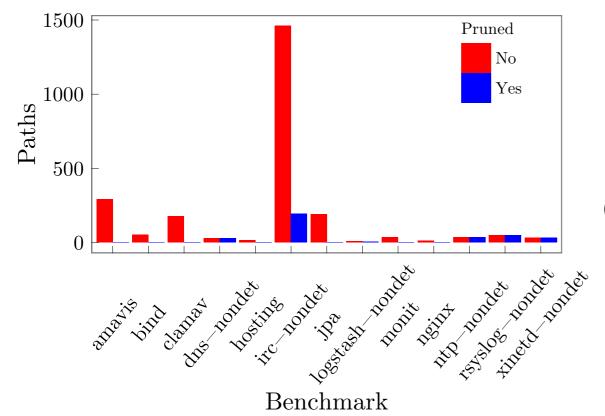


Run Rehearsal

```
Checking if manifest is deterministic ... no errors found.
Checking if manifest is idempotent ... OK.
```



Optimizations are essential for checking determinism

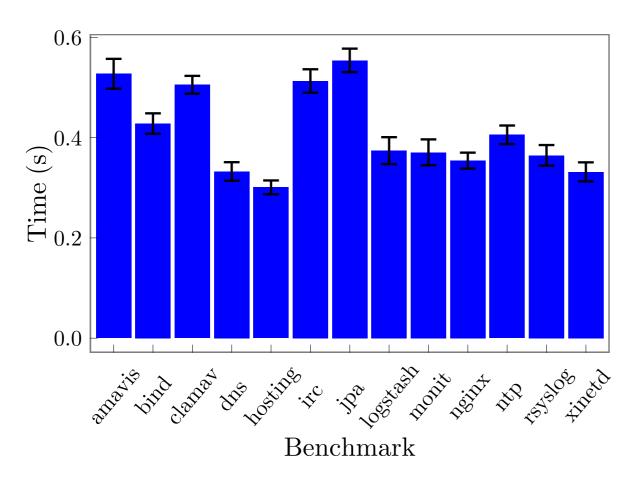


Optimizations eliminate "uninteresting" paths

### $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ : filesystem $\rightarrow 2^{filesystem} + \text{error}$



 $\llbracket G \rrbracket$ : filesystem  $\rightarrow$  filesystem + error



Checking idempotence is fast (after checking determinism)



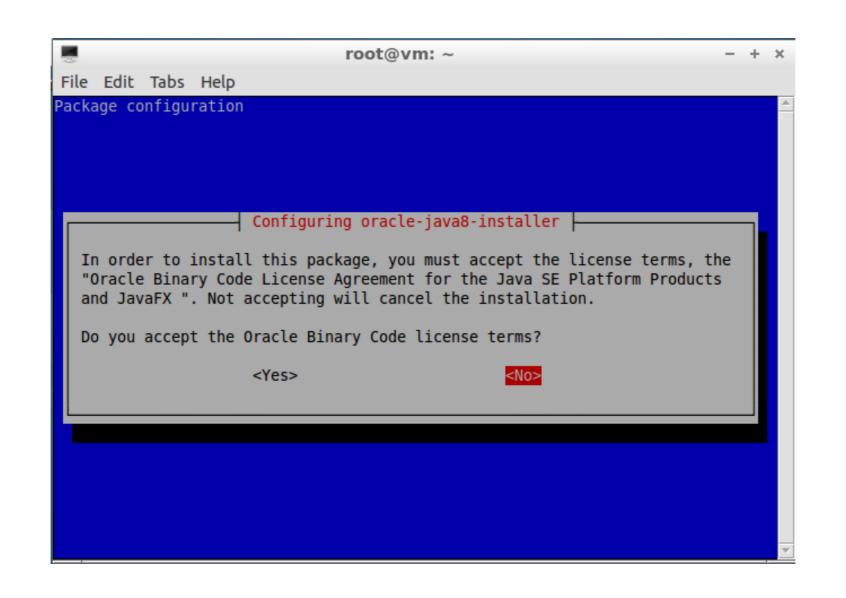
- ✓ Deterministic
- ✓ Idempotent

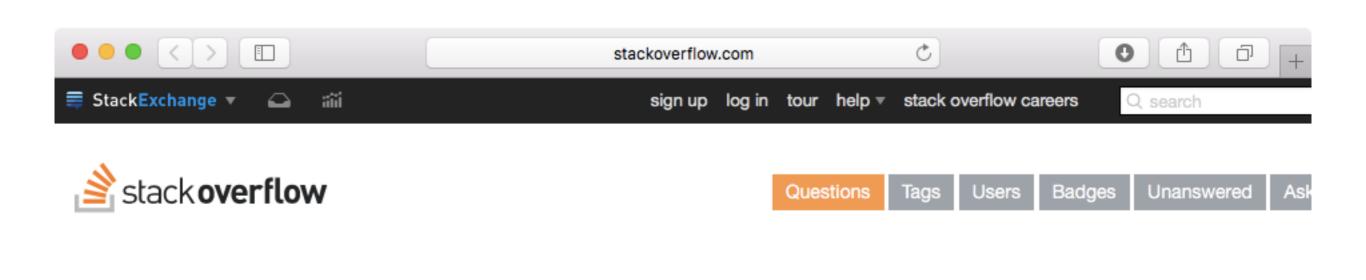


#### Task: Install the Oracle JDK

```
add-apt-repository ppa:webupd8team/java
apt-get update
apt-get install oracle-java7-installer
```

```
apt::ppa{"ppa:webupd8team/java": }
package{"oracle-java7-installer":
   require => apt::ppa["ppa:webupd8team/java"]
}
```





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asked 2 years ago
viewed 5447 times
active 7 months ago



The Oracle Java package for Ubuntu interactively asks about the License Agreement. So I have to say 'OK' and then 'yes' every time, but I'd like to automate it. What I do is this:





sudo add-apt-repository -y ppa:webupd8team/java sudo apt-get update sudo apt-get -y install oracle-java7-installer



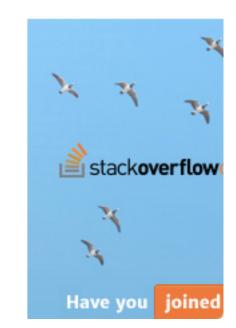
11

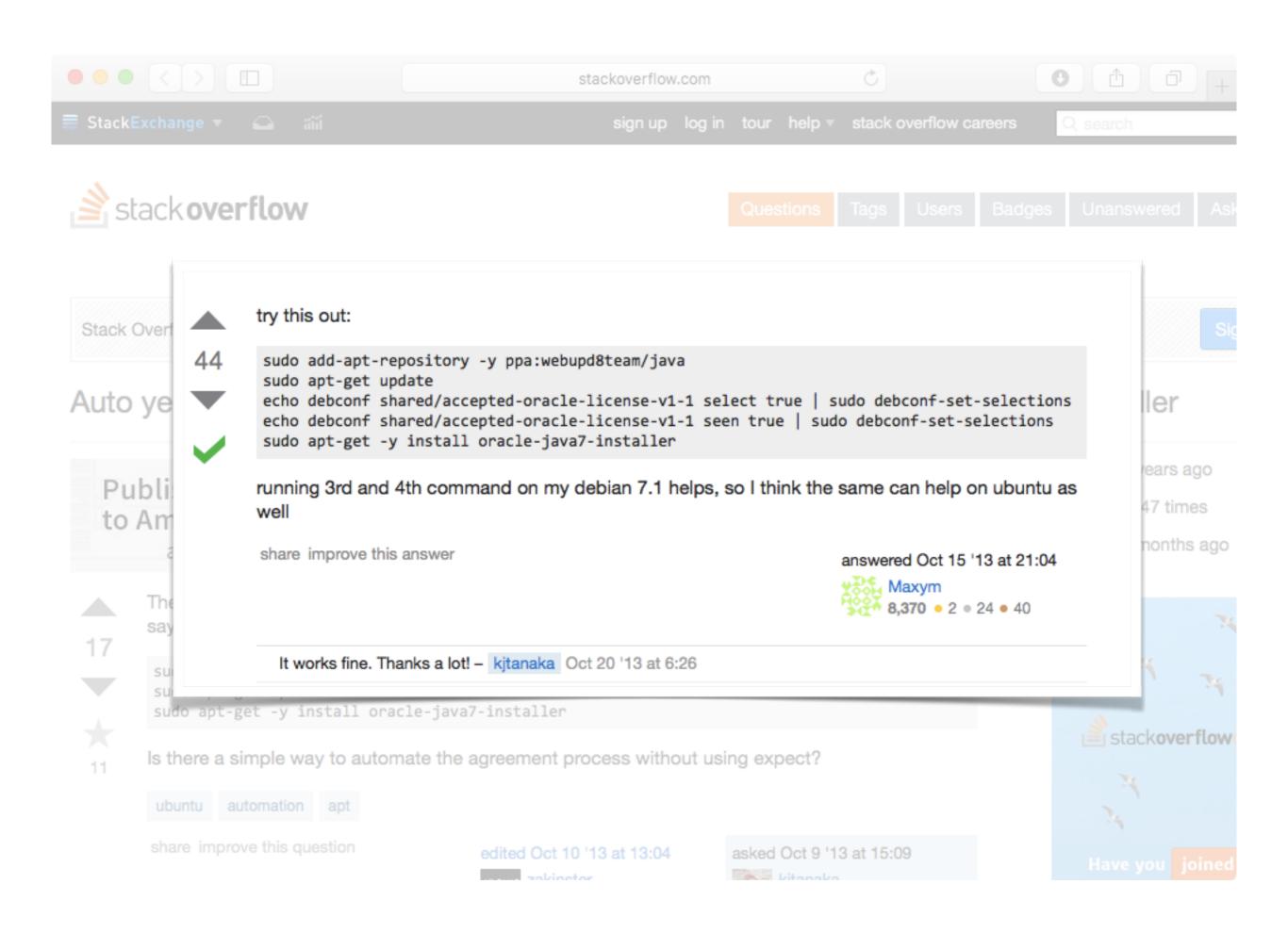
Is there a simple way to automate the agreement process without using expect?











#### **Current Work:**

Learning a finite-state model of shell scripts from I/O examples

## Thank You

www.plasma.cs.umass.edu/rehearsal



- ✓ Determinism checking
- √ Idempotence checking
- ✓ Pre- and post- conditions

Rian Shambaugh Aaron Weiss Arjun Guha



