

Building a Heat Template from the Ground up

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Introduction

What is Heat?

- Orchestration Service controlled by instructions in HOT resource description language (or CloudFormation CFN templates)
- Introduced in OpenStack Icehouse
- Really usable as of OpenStack Kilo (some teething trouble)
- Terminology: Heat *Templates* (written in HOT) describe a setup consisting of one or more resources and are instantiated as Heat *Stacks*.

This Workshop

- Heat Services and Architecture
- Anatomy of a Heat Template
- Hands on: Let's try and break things...

Services and Architecture

- heat-api: OpenStack API
- heat-api-cfn: Cloud Formation Compatible API
- heat-engine: sends resource creation requests to other services (Nova, Neutron, ...)

Anatomy of a Heat Template

Overview

- Two possible formats for data payload: YAML or JSON (YAML recommended)
- Sections:
 - `heat_template_version`: Governs available features
 - `parameters`: Parameters that can be supplied through command line or web interface
 - `resources`: The resources to be created
 - `outputs`: data to pass back to the user upon stack creation

Command Line Heat Client (1)

Prerequisite: Environment with valid OpenStack credentials

Create stack *mystack* from */tmp/stack.yaml*

```
heat stack-create -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
```

With parameter

```
heat stack-create -f /tmp/stack.yaml -P  
flavor=m1.tiny mystack
```

Delete stack *mystack*

```
heat stack-delete mystack
```


Command Line Heat Client (2)

Detailed Information about stack *mystack*

```
heat stack-show mystack
```

Error messages (if any) in field `stack_status_reason` (more readable in `heat-engine.log`, if you have access)

List resources of stack *mystack*

```
heat resource-list -n 5 mystack
```

List outputs for stack *mystack*

```
heat output-list mystack
```

Get Output *floating_ip* from stack *mystack*

```
heat output-show mystack floating_ip
```

Heat Resources: An example

```
resources:
  myserver:
    type: OS::Nova::Server
    properties:
      name: myserver
      key_name: { get_param: key_name }
      image: { get_param: image }
      flavor: { get_param: flavor }
      networks:
        - port:
            get_resource: myport
```

Heat Functions

get_param

```
key_name: { get_param: key_name }
```

get_resource

```
networks:  
  - port: { get_resource: myport }
```

get_attr

```
outputs:  
  floating_ip_address:  
    description: The server's floating IP address.  
    value:  
      get_attr:  
        - myfloating_ip          # resource  
        - floating_ip_address    # attribute
```

Hands-on: Creating a Heat Stack

Preparations

Get a local copy of slides

```
git clone https://github.com/jgrassler/heat-workshop-
barcelona
```

Install Heat command line client

```
sudo zypper install python-heatclient      # SUSE
sudo yum install python-heatclient         # RedHat
sudo aptitude install python-heatclient    # Debian/Ubuntu
```

Prepare openrc

Log in to the cloud dashboard using one of the credentials sheets we handed out and download an openrc to ~/openrc.workshop. Source that openrc:

```
source ~/openrc.workshop
```

A minimal template

with-errors/01-minimal.yaml

```
heat_template_version: 2525-01-01
```

Try to create stack

```
. /root/openrc.myuser  
heat stack-create --poll -f \  
    /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
```

Partial: partial01-broken.yaml

Error 1: *heat_template_version*

Partial: partial01-broken.yaml

Error Message

```
ERROR: The template version is invalid:  
"heat_template_version: 2525-01-01".  
"heat_template_version" should be one of: 2013-  
05-23, 2014-10-16, 2015-04-30, 2015-10-15
```

Resolution

Pick one of the template versions supported by your cloud (2015-10-15 or lower for the cloud we provided) from the list above.

Partial: partial01.yaml

Adding parameters to your template

02-parameters.yaml

```
parameters:
  floating_network:
    type: string
    default: floating
  image:
    type: string
    default: cirros-0.3.4-x86_64
  flavor:
    type: string
    default: m1.tiny
  key_name:
    type: string
    default: root
```

Create the stack

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
```

Partial: partial02.yaml

Error 2: Tabs versus spaces

Partial: partial02-broken.yaml

Error Message

```
Error parsing template file:///crypt/home/johannes/src/talks/heat-  
workshop/partial/partial02-broken.yaml while scanning for the next  
token  
found character that cannot start any token  
  in "<unicode string>", line 13, column 1
```

Resolution

Check the problematic line for a mix of tabs and spaces. Depending on your tabstop setting it may not be obvious at first. The same error may also occur due to a key starting with non-alphanumeric characters.

Retry stack creation

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
```

Partial: partial02.yaml

Creating a Network

Begin resources section after parameters section

```
resources:
```

03-network.yaml

```
mynetwork:  
  type: OS::Neutron::Net  
  properties:  
    name: mynet
```

Create the stack

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
```

Partial: partial03.yaml

Creating a Subnet

04-subnet.yaml

```
mysubnet:  
  type: OS::Neutron::Subnet  
  properties:  
    cidr: 10.0.0.1/24  
    name: mysubnet  
    network:  
      get_resource: mynetwork
```

Create the stack

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
```

Partial: partial04.yaml

A Port on your Network

05-port.yaml

```
myport:
  type: OS::Neutron::Port
  properties:
    network:
      get_resource: mynetwork
```

Create the stack

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml
mystack
```

Partial: partial05.yaml

Creating an Instance

06-server.yaml

```
myserver:
  type: OS::Nova::Server
  properties:
    name: myserver
    config_drive: true
    flavor: { get_param: flavor }
    image: { get_param: image }
    key_name: { get_param: key_name }
    networks:
      - port: { get_resource: myport }
    user_data_format: RAW
    user_data: |
      #!/bin/sh
      echo 'Hello, World' >> /etc/motd
```

Create the stack

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
```

Partial: partial06.yaml

Error 4: SSH key not found

Error Message

```
ERROR: Property error: :  
resources.myserver.properties.key_name: : Error  
validating value 'mykey': The Key (mykey) could  
not be found.
```

Resolution

```
nova keypair-add --pub-key ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub  
mykey
```

Partial: partial06.yaml

Error 5: No valid host was found

Modified command

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml -P flavor  
m1.ginormous mystack
```

Error message

```
resources.myserver: Went to status ERROR due to  
"Message: No valid host was  
found. There are not enough hosts available., Code: 500"
```

Resolution

Have enough resources available, either by picking a smaller flavor or by having more/bigger compute nodes.

Partial: partial06.yaml

Attempt to associate a floating IP

09-float.yaml

```
myfloatingip:
  type: OS::Neutron::FloatingIP
  properties:
    port_id: { get_resource: myport }
    floating_network:
      get_param: floating_network
```

Create the stack

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
```

Partial: partial09-broken.yaml

Error 6: External network not reachable

Check stack status

```
heat stack-show mystack
```

Error message

```
NotFound: resources.floatingip: External network
27011e4a-1727-499a-9c1f-b372a62071a9 is not reachable from
subnet
dbe382bd-0ccf-4107-9f96-8cecad3797f1 Therefore, cannot
associate Port
162b6498-13ce-46b9-a436-76fb50f06c67 with a Floating IP.
```

Resolution

Comment/Remove the `floatingip` resource for now. We need a router first.

Partial: `partial06.yaml`

Creating a Router

07-router.yaml

```
router:
  type: OS::Neutron::Router
  properties:
    external_gateway_info:
      network:
        get_param: floating_network
```

Create the stack

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
```

Partial: partial07.yaml

Adding A RouterInterface

08-interface.yaml

```
router_interface:
  type: OS::Neutron::RouterInterface
  properties:
    router: { get_resource: router }
    subnet: { get_resource: mysubnet }
```

Create the stack

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml
mystack
```

Partial: partial08.yaml

Associating a Floating IP

09-float.yaml

```
myfloatingip:  
  type: OS::Neutron::FloatingIP  
  properties:  
    port_id: { get_resource: myport }  
    floating_network:  
      get_param: floating_network
```

Create the stack and display floating IP

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack  
heat resource-show mystack myfloatingip
```

Partial: partial09.yaml

Error 7: Floating IP unreachable

Error

Pings or SSH to floating IP address time out

Resolution

Create a security group that allows inbound traffic (default is to block everything).

Partial: `partial09.yaml`

Security Groups to the Rescue

10-group.yaml

```
allow_inbound:
  type: OS::Neutron::SecurityGroup
  properties:
    description: "Allow inbound SSH and ICMP traffic"
    name: allow SSH and ICMP from anywhere
    rules:
      - direction: ingress
        remote_ip_prefix: 0.0.0.0/0
        protocol: tcp
        port_range_min: 22
        port_range_max: 22
      - remote_ip_prefix: 0.0.0.0/0
        protocol: icmp
```

Create the stack and display floating IP

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
heat resource-show mystack myfloatingip
```

Partial: partial10.yaml

Error 8: Security Group not associated

Error

Floating IP not reachable despite security group.

Resolution

Associate the security group with the port it is supposed to apply to.

Partial: `partial10.yaml`

Port revisited

11-port.yaml

```
myport:
  type: OS::Neutron::Port
  properties:
    network:
      get_resource: mynetwork
    security_groups: # NEW
      - get_resource: allow_inbound # NEW
```

Create the stack and display floating IP

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
heat resource-show mystack floatingip
```

Partial: partial11.yaml

Outputs: What's my Floating IP?

12-outputs.yaml

```
outputs:
  floating_ip:
    value:
      get_attr:
        - myfloatingip
        - floating_ip_address
```

Create the stack and display floating IP

```
heat stack-create --poll -f /tmp/stack.yaml mystack
heat output-show mystack floating_ip
```

Partial: partial12.yaml

Error 9: Can't delete stack

Error message upon *stack-delete*

```
Unable to complete operation on subnet  
d5bda832-2816-4453-932e-c739cc0f1152. One or more ports  
have an IP allocation from this subnet.
```

Resolution

```
neutron port-list | grep d5bda832-2816-4453-932e-c739cc0f1152 | awk '{ print $2}'
```

This will give you a list of Neutron port IDs. One of them belongs to `myserver` from the Heat stack, the rest are freeloaders. You need to get rid of the freeloaders somehow (better talk to their owners first).

<!-- Last but not least I've got a little bonus error for you. This kind of error will happen a lot once people use Heat in earnest, especially in multi-user projects. We will now create our stack one last time. Once it is up and running we will use the OpenStack Dashboard to spawn an instance. When we do this we select the `mynet` network created by our Heat stacks in the Networking tab. Once the instance is up and running we try to delete our Heat stack.

And presto, it doesn't work. Now why is that? It boils down to Neutron refusing to delete a subnet with ports still using IPs from that Subnet, which is quite sensible really. So now you need to get rid of these. I strongly recommend talking to their owners first. If you can't do that for some reason, it's best to just delete the ports (maybe disassociating Floating IPs if necessary) and leave the instances alone. At least the users who created them won't lose their data that way.

But the best thing to do is to prevent this situation from occurring in the first place. I have a couple of suggestions for that:

- Separate Heat stacks and manually created instances into separate projects
- Education and prevention: prefix the names of Heat created resources with `heat_` and tell Dashboard users to leave these alone. I have seen this work before, but it never scaled beyond 10-15 users.

Of course these are far from perfect, but if you do have that problem a lot they might help. -->

***CloudConfig* resources**

Much saner way to include Nova *user-data*

Install `git` and `emacs` immediately on system boot-up

Partial: `partial13.yaml`

WaitCondition resources

Wait for the **entire** stack to be fully initialized before reaching `CREATE_COMPLETE` status

Cleverly combine with `CloudConfig` by invoking `curl` from `runcmd`

Partial: `partial14.yaml`

Further Reading: Template Guide

Thank you.







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