

Remote execution



D.I.Y.

Net::SSH2

Object::Remote

Rex



Rex is simple

- Perl + SSH
- no need to install Rex on the client
- installs on master server with one line...

\$ cpanm Rex

Rex basics

- task-based each task is a Perl sub
- tasks live in a "Rexfile"...

```
make => Makefile
rex => Rexfile
```

- tasks can be run on specified server or group of servers
- authentication can be via key or password

```
user 'ens adm';
private key '/homes/ens adm/.ssh/id rsa';
public_key '/homes/ens_adm/.ssh/id_rsa.pub';
desc 'Bounce the Ensembl server at a given path';
task 'bounce', sub {
 my $args = shift;
 my $dir = $args->{dir};
 my $cmd = 'ensembl-webcode/ctrl_scripts/restart_server';
 my $output = run $cmd, cwd => $dir;
  say $output;
};
$ rex -H ves-hx-60 bounce --dir=/path/to/ensembl-server
```

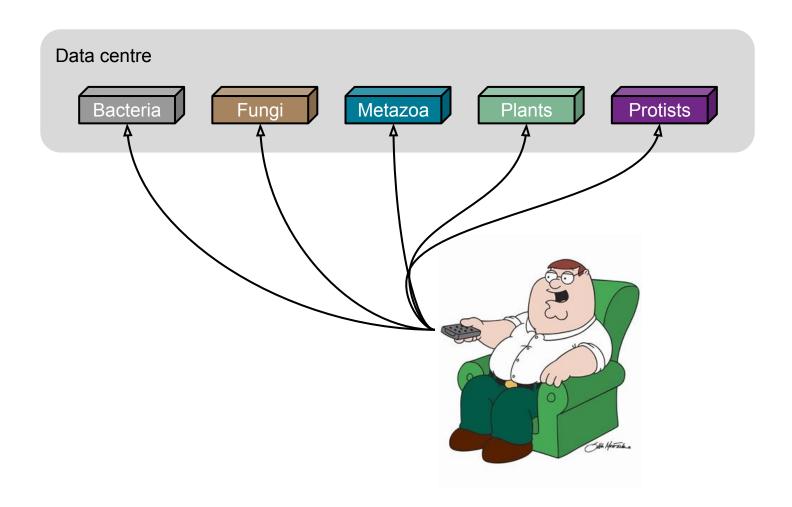
```
environment test => sub {
 group fungi => 'ves-hx-60';
 group bacteria => 'ves-hx-60';
};
environment live => sub {
 group fungi => 'ves-oy-[60..61]', 'ves-pg-[60..61]';
 group bacteria => 'ves-oy-[68..69]', 'ves-pg-[68..69]';
};
$ rex -E test -G fungi bounce --dir=/path/to/eg-fungi
$ rex -E live -G bacteria bounce --dir=/path/to/eg-bacteria
```

Rex has commands and modules for working with

- server configuration
- package installation
- source control
- cloud services
- lots more...

Easy to extend by with custom Perl modules.

How are we using Rex?



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eg_update

Update the code base for test sites

```
$ rex eg_update --on=test --site=eg_all
```

Push a bugfix live to all sites

```
$ rex eg_update --on=live --site=eg_all
    --module=eg-web-common --restart
```

Conclusions

Pros

- powerful can do a lot with a little
- easy to get started (if you know Perl)
- responsive community (IRC/google groups)

Cons

- docs aren't great
- small community
- feels like a work in progress