
Lab Exercise 2: Anatomy of a Chef Run

Lab Objectives

- Configure remote target to run `chef-client`
- Successful `chef-client` run with debug logging

Acceptance Criteria

- Client and node objects exist on Chef Server
- Debug log output from `chef-client`
- Answer the questions

Prepare Remote Target

Your instructor will provide an IP address of an Ubuntu system. Connect to the system with the following credentials:

- Username: ubuntu
- Password: opstrain_0150

You will need to install Chef on the system. Use the Full Stack installer.

- <http://opscode.com/chef/install>

You may need to install the `curl` package:

```
sudo apt-get install curl
```

Create Configuration

Create a configuration file for your remote target system. The default location per platform:

- Unix/Linux: `/etc/chef/client.rb`
- Windows: `C:\chef\client.rb`

At a minimum, the configuration should include the Chef Server URI (`chef_server_url`), and the name of the validation API client (`validation_client_name`). Refer to your Knife configuration file for values.

Use Validation Key

Use the validation key for the Chef Server to automatically create the new API client. It should be copied to the same directory as the `client.rb` file, and the filename should be `validation.pem`.

Run Chef Client

Run `chef-client` on the local system with debug logging, and send the output to a file. Use the output file, along with the command-line tools to answer the following questions.

Questions

1. What is the name of the node and client created on the Chef Server?
2. What commands can be used to get these values?
3. What are two ways to change the name of the node and client at `chef-client` run time?
4. What are the platform and platform version of the node?
5. Does the node have a run list?
6. What is the IP address detected for the node? Is it the correct default IP address?
7. Is the API client an admin?
8. Does the validation key file still exist? Why?
9. What kind of HTTP request is made to save the node? When does this occur?