

Lab 10. Puppet Master and Agent



In this lab, we will install Puppet server and agent on Ubuntu 20.04 server.

Getting Started

First, you will need to update all packages on Puppet master and Puppet client systems. You can update them by running the following command:

```
apt-get update -y
```

Once all the packages are up-to-date, you can proceed to the next step.

Setup Hostname Resolution

Next, you will need to setup hostname on both nodes. So each node can communicate with each other by hostname. You can do it by editing `/etc/hosts` file. Add the following lines on the node:

```
echo "127.0.0.1 puppetmaster puppet" >> /etc/hosts
echo "127.0.0.1 puppetclient" >> /etc/hosts

cat /etc/hosts
```

Save and close the file when you are finished. Then, you can proceed to the next step.

Install Puppet Server

First, you will need to install the Puppet server on the master node. By default, the Puppet package is not available in the Ubuntu 20.04 default repository. So you will need to install the Puppet repository in your server.

First, download the latest version of Puppet with the following command:

```
wget https://apt.puppetlabs.com/puppet5-release-xenial.deb
```

Once the package is downloaded, install it by running the following command:

```
dpkg -i puppet5-release-xenial.deb
```

Once the installation is completed, update the repository and install the Puppet server by running the following command:

```
apt-get update -y

apt-get install puppetserver -y
```

Start the Puppet service with the following command (it will take some time):

```
service puppetserver restart
```

Next, you can verify the status of the Puppet service with the following command:

```
service puppetserver status
```

You should see the following command:

```
* puppetserver is running
```

Once you are finished, you can proceed to the next step.

Install and Configure Puppet Agent

At this point, the Puppet server is installed and configured. Now, you will need to install the Puppet agent on the client node.

First, download and install the Puppet repository with the following command:

```
wget https://apt.puppetlabs.com/puppet5-release-xenial.deb

dpkg -i puppet5-release-xenial.deb
```

Next, update the repository and install the Puppet agent by running the following command:

```
apt-get update -y

apt-get install puppet-agent -y
```

After installing Puppet agent, you will need to edit the Puppet configuration file and define the Puppet master information:

```
nano /etc/puppetlabs/puppet/puppet.conf
```

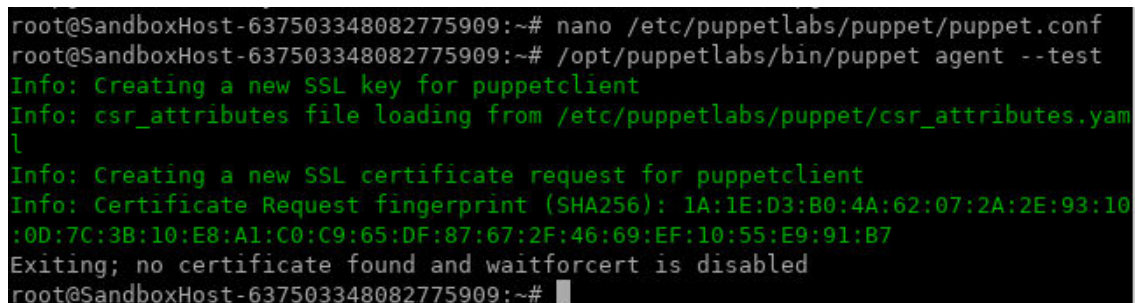
Add the following lines:

```
[main]
certname = puppetclient
server = puppetmaster
```

Connect with Puppet Master

On the Puppet agent node, test the Puppet master and agent communication with the following command:

```
/opt/puppetlabs/bin/puppet agent --test
```

A terminal window screenshot showing the execution of the puppet agent --test command. The output displays several informational messages in green text: 'Info: Creating a new SSL key for puppetclient', 'Info: csr_attributes file loading from /etc/puppetlabs/puppet/csr_attributes.yaml', 'Info: Creating a new SSL certificate request for puppetclient', and 'Info: Certificate Request fingerprint (SHA256): 1A:1E:D3:B0:4A:62:07:2A:2E:93:10:0D:7C:3B:10:E8:A1:C0:C9:65:DF:87:67:2F:46:69:EF:10:55:E9:91:B7'. It also shows 'Exiting; no certificate found and waitforcert is disabled'. The prompt is root@SandboxHost-637503348082775909:~#.

```
root@SandboxHost-637503348082775909:~# nano /etc/puppetlabs/puppet/puppet.conf
root@SandboxHost-637503348082775909:~# /opt/puppetlabs/bin/puppet agent --test
Info: Creating a new SSL key for puppetclient
Info: csr_attributes file loading from /etc/puppetlabs/puppet/csr_attributes.yaml
Info: Creating a new SSL certificate request for puppetclient
Info: Certificate Request fingerprint (SHA256): 1A:1E:D3:B0:4A:62:07:2A:2E:93:10:0D:7C:3B:10:E8:A1:C0:C9:65:DF:87:67:2F:46:69:EF:10:55:E9:91:B7
Exiting; no certificate found and waitforcert is disabled
root@SandboxHost-637503348082775909:~#
```

Note that about connection will fail because when need to accept connection request from agent on the master node. At this point, the Puppet agent is installed and configured. Now, you can proceed to the next step.

Sign Puppet Agent Certificate

Puppet uses a client-server architecture so you will need to approve a certificate request for each agent node before it can configure it.

On the Puppet master node, run the following command to list all certificate:

```
/opt/puppetlabs/bin/puppet ca list
```

Now, sign the certificate with the following command:

```
/opt/puppetlabs/bin/puppet ca sign puppetclient
```

Connect with Puppet Master

On the Puppet agent node, test the Puppet master and agent communication with the following command:

```
/opt/puppetlabs/bin/puppet agent --test
```

Note: You will get a master `hostname` mismatch error because we set hostname as `puppetmaster`. We need to use exact hostname of the lab environment which is read-only. Copy complete red highlighted hostname displayed by puppet in error message carefully as shown below:

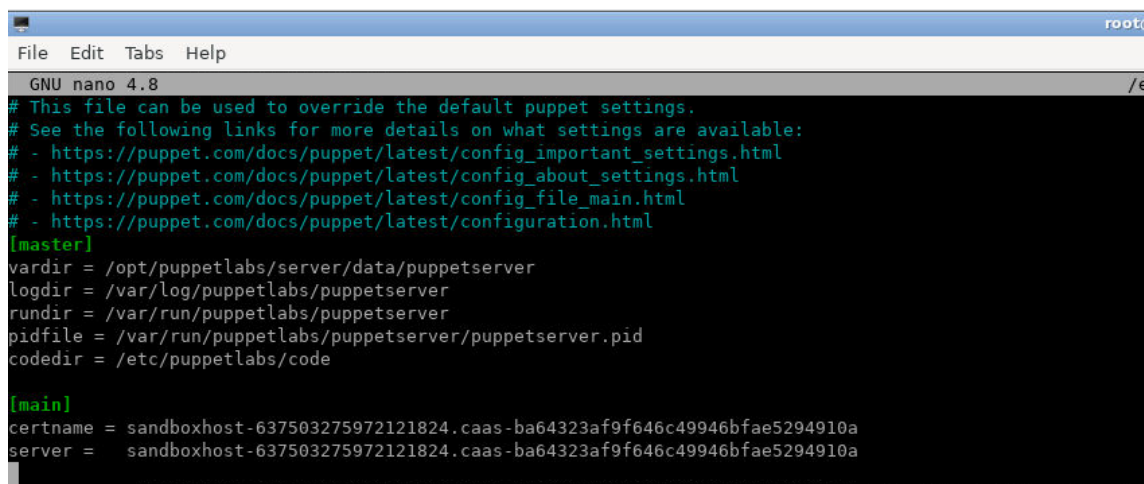
```
root@sandboxhost-637503275972121824:~# puppet agent -t
Info: Caching certificate for sandboxhost-637503275972121824
Error: request https://sandboxhost-637503275972121824:8140/puppet-ca/v1/certificate/sandboxhost-637503275972121824 failed: SSL connect returned: sslerror: certificate verify failed
Error: Could not request certificate: Server hostname 'sandboxhost-637503275972121824' did not match server certificate; expected one of 'sandboxhost-637503275972121824.caas-ba64323af9f646c49946bfae5294910a-637503275972121824.caas-ba64323af9f646c49946bfae5294910a'
```

Edit the Puppet configuration file and update the Puppet master information:

```
nano /etc/puppetlabs/puppet/puppet.conf
```

Update the following lines:

```
[main]
certname = "update-lab-environment-hostname"
server = "update-lab-environment-hostname"
```



```
File Edit Tabs Help
GNU nano 4.8
# This file can be used to override the default puppet settings.
# See the following links for more details on what settings are available:
# - https://puppet.com/docs/puppet/latest/config_important_settings.html
# - https://puppet.com/docs/puppet/latest/config_about_settings.html
# - https://puppet.com/docs/puppet/latest/config_file_main.html
# - https://puppet.com/docs/puppet/latest/configuration.html
[master]
vardir = /opt/puppetlabs/server/data/puppetserver
logdir = /var/log/puppetlabs/puppetserver
rundir = /var/run/puppetlabs/puppetserver
pidfile = /var/run/puppetlabs/puppetserver/puppetserver.pid
codedir = /etc/puppetlabs/code

[main]
certname = sandboxhost-637503275972121824.caas-ba64323af9f646c49946bfae5294910a
server = sandboxhost-637503275972121824.caas-ba64323af9f646c49946bfae5294910a
```

Run following command in terminal 1 test the Puppet master and agent communication:

```
puppet agent -t --waitforcert 500000
```

Run following commands in terminal 2 to sign the certificate:

```
puppet ca list
```

```
puppet ca sign "your-cert-name"
```

Note:

Now, Puppet master can able to communicate and control the agent node.

On the Puppet agent node, test the Puppet master and agent communication with the following command:

```
puppet agent -t
```

If everything is fine, you should get the following output:

```
Info: Using configured environment 'production'
Info: Retrieving pluginfacts
Info: Retrieving plugin
Info: Retrieving locales
Info: Caching catalog for puppetclient
Info: Applying configuration version '1599300398'
Notice: Applied catalog in 0.02 seconds
```

Task: Create New File

Create new file '/tmp/agent.txt' by writing puppet manifest and apply to agent node:

Hint:

```
node 'hostname' {

    # write here

}
```

```
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests
File Edit Tabs Help
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests# cat site.pp
node 'sandboxhost-637503275972121824.caas-ba64323af9f646c49946bfae5294910a' {
  file { [ '/tmp/agent.txt' ]:
    content => "File created by puppet agent!\n",
  }
  # include memcached
}

root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests# puppet apply site.pp
Notice: Compiled catalog for sandboxhost-637503275972121824.caas-ba64323af9f646c49946bfae5294910a in environment production in 0.02 seconds
Notice: Applied catalog in 0.04 seconds
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests#
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests#
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests# cat /tmp/agent.txt
File created by puppet agent!
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests#
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests#
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests# nano site.pp
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests#
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests#
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests# cat site.pp
node 'sandboxhost-637503275972121824.caas-ba64323af9f646c49946bfae5294910a' {
  file { [ '/tmp/agent.txt' ]:
    content => "File created by puppet agent!\n",
  }
  # include memcached
}

root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests#
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests#
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests# puppet apply site.pp
Error: Could not find node 'sandboxhost-637503275972121824.caas-ba64323af9f646c49946bfae5294910a' on node 'sandboxhost-637503275972121824.caas-ba64323af9f646c49946bfae5294910a'
root@SandboxHost-637503275972121824: /etc/puppet/manifests#
```

Conclusion

Congratulations! you have successfully installed and configured Puppet master and agent on Ubuntu server. You can now easily add multiple agents and manage them easily with Puppet.