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Lab – NETCONF w/Python: Device Configuration

Objectives

Part 1: Retrieve the IOS XE VM's Existing Running Configuration

Part 2: Update the Device's Configuration

Background / Scenario

In this lab, you will learn how to use the NETCONF ncclient to retrieve the device's configuration, and update and create a new interface configuration. You will also learn why the transactional support of NETCONF is important for getting consistent network changes.

Required Resources

- Access to a router with the IOS XE operating system version 16.6 or higher
- Python 3.x environment

Instructions

Part 1: Retrieve the IOS XE VM's Existing Running Configuration

In this part, you will use the ncclient module to retrieve the device's running configuration. The data are returned back in XML form. In the following steps, this data will be transformed into a more human readable format.

Step 1: Use ncclient to retrieve the device's running configuration.

The ncclient module provides a "manager" class with "connect()" function to setup the remote NETCONF connection. After a successful connection, the returned object represents the NETCONF connection to the remote device.

- a. In Python IDLE, create a new Python script file:
- b. In the new Python script file editor, import the "manager" class from the ncclient module:

from ncclient import manager

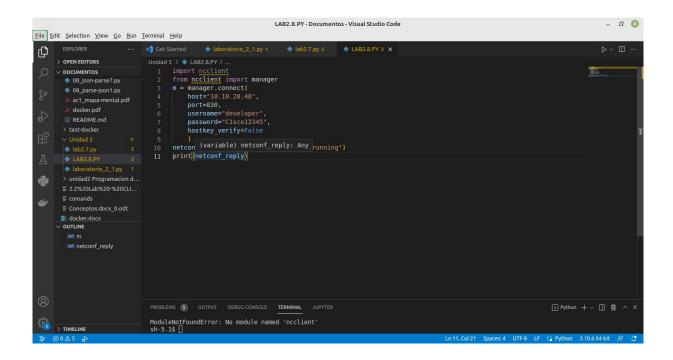
c. Using the manager.connect() function, set up an m connection object to the IOS XE device.



The parameters of the manager.connect() function are:

- **host** This is the address (host or IP) of the remote device (Adjust the IP address to match the router's current address.).
- port This is the remote port of the SSH service.
- **username** This is the remote SSH username (In this lab, use "cisco" because that was set up in the IOS XE VM.).
- password This is the remote SSH password (In this lab, use "cisco123!" because that was set up in the IOS XE VM.).
- **hostkey_verify** Use this to verify the SSH fingerprint (In this lab, it is safe to set to False; however, in production environments you should always verify the SSH fingerprints.).
- d. After a successful NETCONF connection, use the "get_config()" function of the "m" NETCONF session object to retrieve and print the device's running configuration. The get_config() function expects a "source" string parameter that defines the source NETCONF data-store.

```
netconf_reply = m.get_config(source="running")
print(netconf_reply)
```



e. Execute the Python script and explore the output.





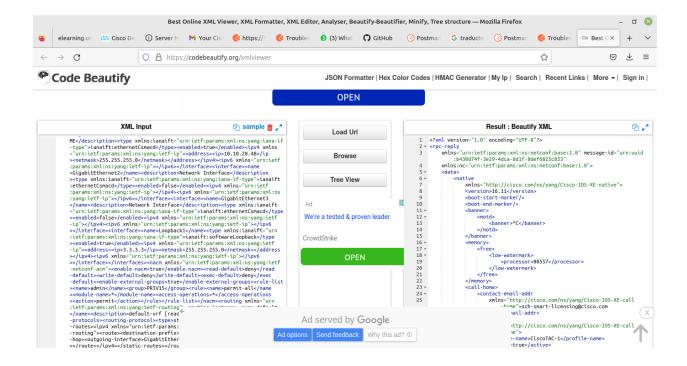
En estas imagenes vemos la salida que muestra al ejecutarlo desde la terminal de mi laptop

Step 2: Use CodeBeautfiy.com to evaluate the response.

Code Beautify maintains a website for viewing code in a more human readable format. The XML viewer URL is https://codebeautify.org/xmlviewer

- Copy the XML from IDLE to XML Viewer.
- g. Click Tree View or Beautify / Format to render the raw XML output into a more human readable format.
- h. To simplify the view, close the XML elements that are under the rpc-reply/data structure.
- i. Note that the opened rpc-reply/data/native element contains an attribute xmlns that points to "Cisco-IOS-XE-native" YANG model. That means this part of the configuration is Cisco Native for IOS XE.
- j. Also note that there are two "interfaces" elements. The one with xmlns is pointing to the "http://openconfig.net/yang/interfaces" YANG model, while the other is pointing to the "ietf-interfaces" YANG model.

Both are used to describe the configuration of the interfaces. The difference is that the openconfig.net YANG model does support sub-interfaces, while the ietf-interfaces YANG model does not.



Utlizamos codebeatyfu para pasar la respuesta xml a un texto mas legible para nosostros los humanos y este fue el resultado.

Step 3: Use toprettyxml() function to prettify the output.

- a. Python has built in support to work with XML files. The "xml.dom.minidom" module can be used to prettify the output with the toprettyxml() function.
- b. Import the "xml.dom.minidom" module:

```
import xml.dom.minidom
```

c. Replace the simple print function "print(netconf_reply)" with a version that prints prettified XML output:

```
print( xml.dom.minidom.parseString(netconf_reply.xml).toprettyxml() )
```

d. Execute the updated Python script and explore the output.

Esta es la salida que mostro al ejecutar la nueva salida con un formato mas legible para los humanos con el print(xml.dom.minidom.parseString(netconf_reply.xml).toprettyxml())

Step 4: Use filters to retrieve a configuration defined by a specific YANG model.

- a. NETCONF has support to return only data that are defined in a filter element.
- b. Create the following netconf_filter variable containing an XML NETCONF filter element that is designed to retrieve only data that is defined by the Cisco IOS XE Native YANG model:

```
netconf_filter = """
<filter>
    <native xmlns="http://cisco.com/ns/yang/Cisco-IOS-XE-native" />
</filter>
"""
```

c. Include the netconf_filter variable in the get_config() call using the "filter" parameter:

```
netconf_reply = m.get_config(source="running", filter=netconf_filter)
print(xml.dom.minidom.parseString(netconf_reply.xml).toprettyxml())
```

e. Execute the updated Python script and explore the output

```
ilara@LPI: ~/Documentos/Unidad 3
ilara@LPI:~/Documentos/Unidad 3 $ python3 LAB2.8.PY
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
<native xmlns="http://cisco.com/ns/yang/Cisco-IOS-XE-native">
              <version>16.11</version>
<boot-start-marker/>
<boot-end-marker/>
              <banner>
                  <motd>
              </banner>
                      <low-watermark>
                       </free>
             >
<timestamps>
<debug>
                            <datetime>
<msec/>
</datetime>
                       </debug>
                                 <msec/>
                            </datetime>
```

esta es la nueva salida que nos s al craar el nuevo filtro para recuperar solo datos definidos por el modelo YANG nativo de Cisco IOS XE

Part 2: Update the Device's Configuration

Step 1: Create a new Python script file.

- a. In IDLE, create a new Python script file.
- b. Import the required modules and set up the NETCONF session:

Step 2: Change the hostname.

- f. In order to update an existing setting in the configuration, you can extract the setting location from the configuration retrieved in Step 1.
- g. The configuration update is always enclosed in a "config" XML element. This element includes a tree of XML elements that require updates.
- h. Create a **netconf_data** variable that holds a configuration update for the hostname element as defined in the Cisco IOS XE Native YANG Model:

- i. Edit the existing device configuration with the "edit_config()" function of the "m" NETCONF session object. The edit_config() function expects two parameters:
 - **target** This is the target netconf data-store to be updated.
 - config This is the configuration update.

The edit_config() function returns an XML object containing information about the success of the change. After editing the configuration, print the returned value:

```
netconf_reply = m.edit_config(target="running", config=netconf_data)
print(xml.dom.minidom.parseString(netconf_reply.xml).toprettyxml())
```

- j. Before executing the new Python script, check the current hostname by connecting to the console of the IOS XE VM.
- k. Execute the Python script and explore the output.
- I. After executing the Python script, if the reply contained the <ok/> element, verify whether the current hostname has been changed by connecting to the console of the IOS XE VM.

```
ilara@LPI:-/Documentos/Unidad 3 $ cd python3 lab^C
ilara@LPI:-/Documentos/Unidad 3 $ cd python3 lab^C
ilara@LPI:-/Documentos/Unidad 3 $ ls -!
total 16

-rw-r--r-- 1 ilara ilara 298 dic 13 23:01 lab2.7.py
-rw-r--r-- 1 ilara ilara 518 dic 14 02:22 lab2.8p4.py
-rw-r--r-- 1 ilara ilara 606 dic 14 02:24 LAB2.8.PY
-rw-r--r-- 1 ilara ilara 454 dic 13 20:23 laboratorio_2 1.py
ilara@LPI:-/Documentos/Unidad 3 $ python3 lab2.8p4.py

<p
```

La respuesta fu ok que es la respuesta esperada a recibir esto quiere deccir que se canbio el nombre del host

Step 3: Create a loopback interface

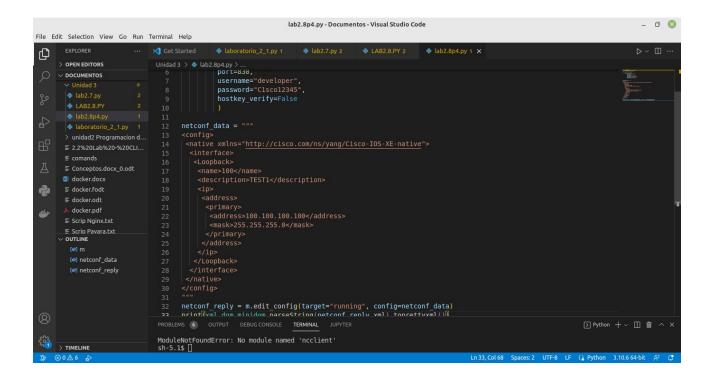
m. Update the **netconf_data** variable to hold a configuration update that creates a new loopback **100** interface with the IP address 100.100.100.100/24:

```
netconf_data = """
<config>
 <native xmlns="http://cisco.com/ns/yang/Cisco-IOS-XE-native">
  <interface>
   <Loopback>
    <name>100</name>
    <description>TEST1</description>
    <ip>
     <address>
      rimary>
       <address>100.100.100</address>
       <mask>255.255.0</mask>
      </primary>
     </address>
    </ip>
   </Loopback>
  </interface>
 </native>
</config>
11 11 11
```

n. Add the new loopback 100 interface by editing the existing device configuration using the "edit_config()" function:

```
netconf_reply = m.edit_config(target="running", config=netconf_data)
print(xml.dom.minidom.parseString(netconf_reply.xml).toprettyxml())
```

- o. Before executing the updated Python script, check the existing loopback interface by connecting to the console of the IOS XE VM using the **show ip int brief** and **show int desc** commands.
- p. Execute the Python script and explore the output
- q. After executing the Python script, if the reply contained the <ok/> element, verify whether the current loopback interfaces have changed by connecting to the console of the IOS XE VM.



Esta es la imagen del escript realizado para crear una interfaz loopback en el host connectado.



La respuesta que nas marco fue la esperada que era un ok lo que significa que creamos la interfaz correctamente.

Step 4: Attempt to create a new loopback interface with a conflicting IP address.

a. Update the **netconf_data** variable to hold a configuration update that creates a new loopback **111** interface with the same IP address as on loopback 100: 100.100.100.100/32:

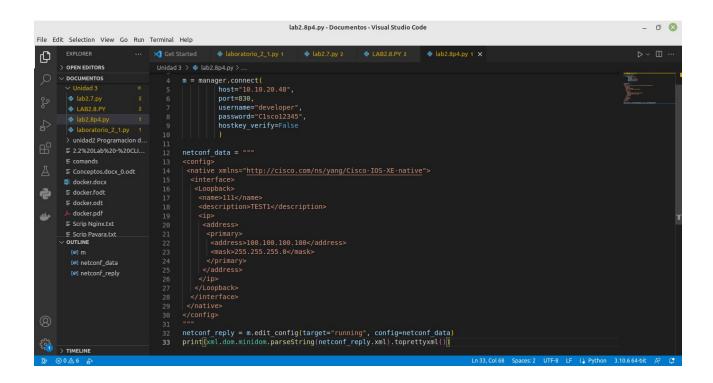
b. Attempt to add the new loopback 111 interface by editing the existing device configuration using the "edit_config()" function:

```
netconf_reply = m.edit_config(target="running", config=netconf_data)
print(xml.dom.minidom.parseString(netconf_reply.xml).toprettyxml())
```

- c. Before executing the updated Python script, check the existing loopback interface by connecting to the console of the IOS XE VM using the **show ip int brief** and **show int desc** commands.
- d. Execute the Python script and explore the output.
 - The device has refused one or more configuration settings. With NETCONF, thanks to the transactional behavior, no partial configuration change has been applied but the whole transaction was canceled.
- e. After executing the Python script, verify that no configuration changes, not even partial, have been applied.

Con este script intentaremos crear una interfas lopbak que tenga uun conflicto.

Y como podemos ver al ejecutar el script la salida marca un error en las lineas del codigo por que la interfaz no esta correctamente creado por tener un error.



En este laboratorio venimos repasando los protocolos que hemos realizado investigacion en laboratorios pasados, aqui se siguen ocupando el Netconf y los modelos yang que se utilizan en laboratorios pasados.

En este laboratorio se realizo todo lo que hicimos en los laboratorios pasados con la librería ncclient para conectarse remotamente, y los modelos yang para interpretar el resultado de la petición que realizamos, configuraciones, y su documentcion para saber lo que es el Netconf y el ncclient y tambien para que se utiliza, que se hacen para enviar comandos de configuracion a los router remotamente de los cuales . También utilizamos la función toprettyxml() la cual nos sirve para embellecer y darle formato a la salida que nos dio, se utilizaron comandos para enviar configuraciones e loopback y en la última no se logró porque se le puso una dirección de red erronea por ello nos marcó un error de ejecución.