Debugging Nagios Plugins

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Abstract

This session will discuss how to debug malfunctioning plugins, show real life situations in which the plugin does not behave as expected and ways to troubleshoot and resolve the issue.

We will also cover some basic security best practices and the potential issues that may arise when creating a secured setup.

Common plugin failure reasons

There are many reasons why a plugin would malfunction but here are some very common ones:

- Wrong file system permissions
- Networking issues
- Missing dependencies

Helpful tools

The following debugging tools will be covered in this presentation:

- telnet
- nmap
- netcat
- curl
- ldd
- Capture plugin

Debugging time

In this demo, we will debug malfunctioning plugins and fix things so that they work correctly:)

The following scenarios will be inespected:

- check_mysql fails
- host check fails
- check_ftp plugin fails
- Nagios web interface fails to load
- Nagios does not send mail alerts

References

- Nagios Capture Plugin - http://www.waggy.at/nagios/capture_plugin.htm
- Netcat - http://nc110.sourceforge.net
- Nmap - https://nmap.org
- cURL - http://curl.haxx.se
- Nagios Exchange - http://exchange.nagios.org
- Nagios Kaltura plugins - http://exchange.nagios.org/directory/Utilities/Kaltura-monitors/details
- The home of the official Nagios Plugins - https://nagios-plugins.org

The End && questions