Serverspec in cloud provision



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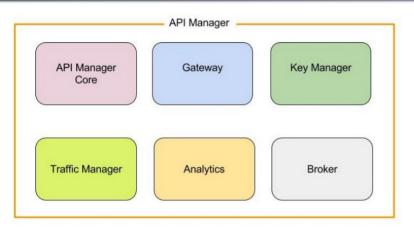
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Successful operation automation usually needs, along with core tool technical skills some knowledge about the system under test - not strictly but is recommended. For example, (no)SQL, Angular would be a great help in web testing, HTML / Javascript no longer sufficient.

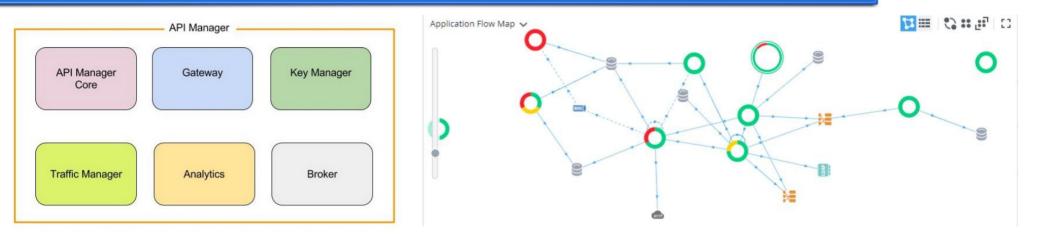
Often more critical than provision engine (Puppet, Chef, Ansible, DSC learning curve.

QA engineer using Selenium or Katalon often is or willing to grow as Web developer but unlikely ever interested in the code base of those tools.





Cloud cluster provisioned by some automation workflow serves as platform for some modern application stack



Cloud cluster provisioned by Puppet viewed as platform for some modern application stack







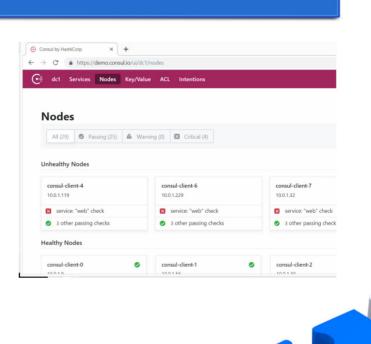


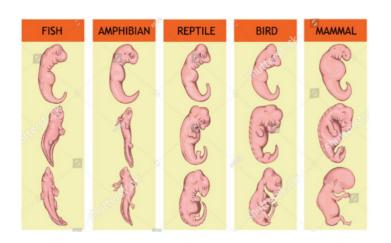
















Serverspec comes to rescue

The home page https://serverspec.org/ describes core resource types:
bond | bridge | cgroup | command | cron | default_gateway | docker_container | docker_image | file | group | host |
iis_app_pool | iis_website | interface | ip6tables | ipfilter | ipnat | iptables | kernel_module | linux_audit_system |
linux_kernel_parameter | lxc | mail_alias | mysql_config | package | php_config | port | ppa | process | routing_table |
selinux | selinux_module | service | user | x509_certificate | x509_private_key | windows_feature |
windows_registry_key | yumrepo | zfs

Code hosted on github in mizzy/serverspec, mizzy/specinfra ,vvchik/vagrant-serverspec, covers 20+ operating systems

A very similar inspec/inspec framework exists for Chef.

A handful of active projects present extended types created for popular app stack spec like npm, ELK etc.

Serverspec implementation





Extreme serverspec

The engine responsible for the serverspec execution resembles that of Puppet or Chef: source is sent from developer to the target node to be eventually converted into target OS specific low level commands to execute - result is sent back to the developer. Unlike provision the serverspec is executed for its direct, not side effects. Both serverspec and Puppet has significant amount of code wrapping the actual command in some custom DSL, however a plain Exec/Command class is still available.

In the extreme case in the body of a Ruby spec Command, one could find a full source code of a java class that would be compiled and run in the target node to load and examine some cryptic JDBC, or ELK configuration changes applied in the course of node provision:







There isn't any 'spy' facilities for server spec or unit test developments, neither are any in pure Ruby, Java or .Net, nor there is any 'recording' environment. To help new developers learn and quickly adopt to server spec follow clear *Rspec/Cucumber* semantics:

describe service('tomcat') do

```
It is shorter then the underlying command
describe command("/bin/gem list --local #{package name}") do
   its(:stderr) { should be empty }
   its(:exit status) {should eq 0 }
   its(:stdout) { should match Regexp.new(package version) }
end
A File :content property is also implemented through command, under the hood
context 'Virtual Host settings' do
  describe file('/etc/httpd/conf.d/vhost.conf') do
     [ 'ProxyRequests Off',
     ].each do |line|
      its(:content) { should match "^\s*" + Regexp.escape(line) }
    end
  end
end
```

```
Eventually the command is where the tricky part is:
```

```
describe command('curl -k -I http://localhost') do
  its(:stdout) { should match /Server: Apache\/\d\.\d+\.\d+ (:?Unix|CentOS)/i }
end
context 'Tomcat shutdown port' do
  server xml = "#{catalina home}/conf/server.xml"
  describe command(<<-E0F</pre>
   xmllint --xpath "/Server[@shutdown='SHUTDOWN']/@port" #{server xml}
  E0F
  ) do
    its(:exit status) { should eq 0 }
    its(:stdout) { should match 'port="-1"' }
  end
end
  https://tomcat.apache.org/tomcat-8.5-doc/appdev/web.xml.txt
```

Gradually the *command* itself could become tricky but reusable (Ruby or libxml2 used to focus on specific XML node):

```
describe 'redirect port 8080' do
   doc = Document.new(content)
   result = REXML::XPath.first(doc, "/Server/Service/Connector[@port = \"8080\"]
/@redirectPort").value
   it { result.should match '8443' }
end

context 'Tomcat servlet configuration' do
   class_name = 'com.mycompany.mypackage.ControllerServlet'
   describe command(<<-EOF
    xmllint --xpath "//*[local-name()='servlet']/*[local-name()='servlet-class']/text(
#{web xml}</pre>
```

https://tomcat.apache.org/tomcat-8.5-doc/appdev/web.xml.txt

its(:stdout) { should match Regexp.new(class name) }

EOF) do

end

Eventually the *command* is where the tricky part is (jq used to focus into the specific node of the JSON configuration):

On Windows, Powershell and C# is used to retrieve obscure information about .Net

```
context 'specific assembly in GAC' do
  assembly name = 'WindowsFormsIntegration'
  token = '31bf3856ad364e35'
  describe command(<--EOF</pre>
  second formula = 0 ()
    [Object].Assembly.GetType('Microsoft.Win32.Fusion').GetMethod('ReadCache')
    .Invoke($null, @([Collections.ArrayList]$result, '#{assembly name}', [UInt32]2 ))
  $result
  E0F
  do
    its(:stdout) { should contain
     "#{assembly_name}, Version=3.0.0.0, Culture=neutral, PublicKeyToken=#{token}"
  end
end
```

Any passing *serverspec expectation* may easily become a Puppet *fact*:

Serverspec derived fact could replace native Ruby Puppet fact:

```
Facter.add('version') do
  extend FFI::Library
  ffi lib 'version.dll'
  attach function :resource size,:GetFileVersionInfoSizeA [:ptr, :ptr ], :int
  attach function :version, :GetFileVersionInfoA, [:ptr,:int,:int,:buf out], :int
  version information = '\VarFileInfo\Translation'.encode('UTF-16LE')
  result = ' ' * (resource size(filepath, nil))
  status = version(filename, 0, size_in_bytes, result)
  tmp = result.unpack('v*').map{ |s| s.chr if s < 256 } * ''
  version_match = /FileVersion\s+\b([0-9.]+)\b/.match(tmp.gsub!(/\0000/))
  version match[1].to s
end
```

```
Serverspec expectation could be used for consul "script-kind" service check similar to
/etc/consul.d/mongodb.json:/etc/consul.d/mongodb.json

{
    "service": {
        "name": "mongo-db",
        "tags": ["mongo"],
        "address": "192.168.31.02",
```

"script": "/usr/bin/check_mongo.py --host 192.168.31.02 --port 27017",

https://www.consul.io/docs/agent/checks.html

"interval": "5s"

"name": "Checking MongoDB"

"port": 27017, "checks": [

Making Java Application consul-ready

The http-kind service check heartbeat-response is provided by Spring after annotation is provided and dependency added to pom.xml:

@SpringBootApplication @EnableDiscoveryClient

<dependency>

</dependency>

public class DiscoverableApplication {

public static void main(String[] args) {

<groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>

<artifactId>spring-boot-starter-actuator</artifactId>

```
SpringApplication.run(DiscoverableApplication.class, args);
```

.client.discovery

org.springframework.cloud

public interface DiscoveryClient

DiscoveryClient represents read operations commonly available to Discovery service such as Netflix Eureka or consul.io

Vagrant Serverspec provisoner

serverspec vagrant provisioner is part of the Vagrant flow, a little bit of disadvantage so its rake spec is from a deep stack of Ruby calls

elementary tasks like \$DEBUG = ENV.fetch('DEBUG', false) become a bit problematic serverspec is scheduled afterprovision and rerun is time consuming - not really when module is idempotent

with default settings error stack is super extra verbose

spec file (node_spec.rb) is not visible to therefore can not be produced by Puppet module - solvable through relative reference placing under files/serverspec/rhel/module_spec.rb and making the legacy one simply require_relative '../../files/serverspec/rhel/module_spec.rb', with the actual path determined by workspace directory layout

assumes the availability of ssh between developer machine and target instance which may change during secure environment provision

Serverspec through own Puppet module

serverspec being just a handful of text files plus a Ruby runtime – calls to be provisioned (rvm-hosted) through Puppet from archive and templates and an exec for rake spec on the instance then updates Puppet and Vagrant logs with the result. This remediates limitations

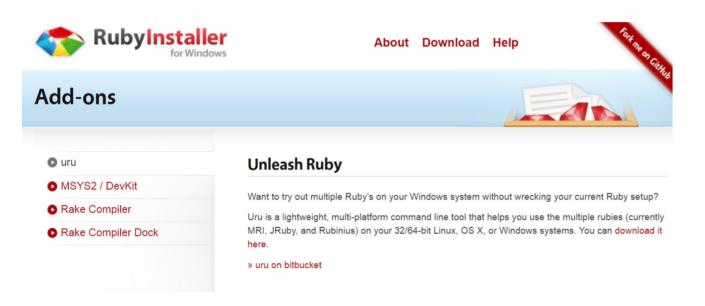
rake spec is directly in console and can be run explicitly after provision and the spec file edited in the instance. Debugging is easy.

Spec file is generated by Puppet from template, hieradata etc. for version-sensitive portion (one can also keep serverspec require relative for Vagrant runs)

Runs on DMZ machine after lockdown, the results pushed to the developer, CICD etc.

A little cumbersome to modify file locally and push to the vm to validate

Serverspec through own Puppet module



Puppet-RSpec

- Stubs target OS, environment facts, module parameters and hiera data
- · Compiles and examines the 'Catalog'
- Asserts the specified actions are taken
- All that without requiring one to spawn the real instance
- Real provision will behave according to those specs

http://rspec-puppet.com/

Puppet Rspec is useful with module and profile development and refactoring intelligent upgrade / downgrade logic is critical (present|latest|absent) with complex module logic or generation of complex configurations https://github.com/voxpupuli/puppet-logrotate



Questions?



Thank You



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