Impact²⁰¹⁴



April 27 - May 1 Las Vegas, NV

Session 1377

Build and Manage A WebSphere Liberty Application Cluster including the new Admin Center

Lab Instructions

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Key Reference Notes for Lab 1377

Passwords and resources

User: root	
Password: web1sphere	
Naming conventions	
/opt/wlp	
/opt/lab-materials	
/opt/lab-materials/	
Build_Liberty_Cluster_Lab_Instructions.pdf	

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1 Objective

In this hands-on lab, you build a real Liberty application cluster and manage it using the Liberty Admin Center, the web-based administrative interface. Both application clusters and the Admin Center are new capabilities in the IBM WebSphere Application Server V8.5.5 release. Learn what a Liberty collective is, how clusters are defined, and how to operate and manage clusters through both the command line and the Admin Center and its tools.

In the lab, attendees set up a collective, create a cluster, deploy and verify applications on the cluster, and perform basic operational tasks on the cluster. After completing this lab, participants are fully equipped to set up and operate their own production Liberty application clusters and manage them through the command line or the new Admin Center.

In this lab, you learn:

- The concepts and operations of a Liberty collective and clustering with the WebSphere Application Server Liberty profile
- Hands-on experience creating, configuring and performing operations on a collective and cluster
- Hands-on experience with the Jython scripting support
- Hands-on experience with the Admin Center, the new web-based administrative interface

2 Prerequisite Knowledge

- Basic Linux knowledge
- This lab uses gedit as the editor of choice in the command examples.
 You are free to use any editor you wish (the VM image has vi and emacs available).

When large amounts of text are displayed as part of an operation output or screen shot, the important portions are highlighted or otherwise indicated using red.

3 Step-by-Step Instructions

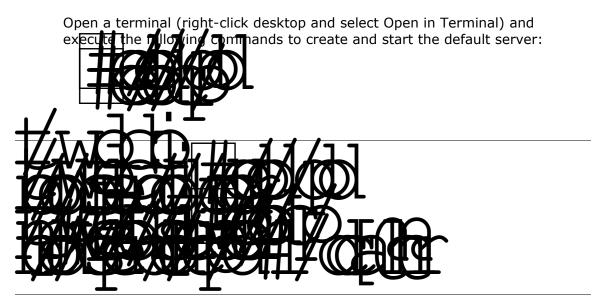
3.1 Introduction to Liberty

Approximate time: 5 - 10 minutes

These steps take you through the most basic operations supported by the Liberty profile. This entails starting the default server, deploying an application and dynamically changing the server's configuration.

The Liberty profile is designed to provide a world-class application infrastructure platform as well as a compelling developer experience.

3.1.1 Create and start the default server.



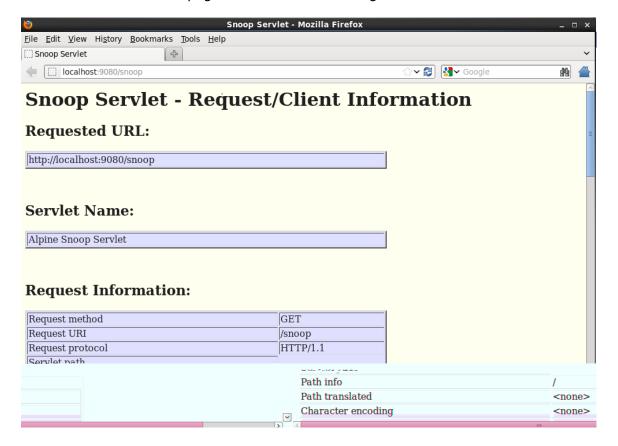
3.1.2 Deploy the sample application "snoop" by adding the war file to dropins.

An application archive placed in the dropins directory will be automatically deployed and started. Liberty supports two ways to deploy applications: via the dropins directory deprendent instrated here, as well as through configuration. A configuration is a configuration of the dropins directory deprendent in the dropins depend on the dropins deprendent in the dropins depend on the dropins depe

3.1.3 Access the sample application "snoop".

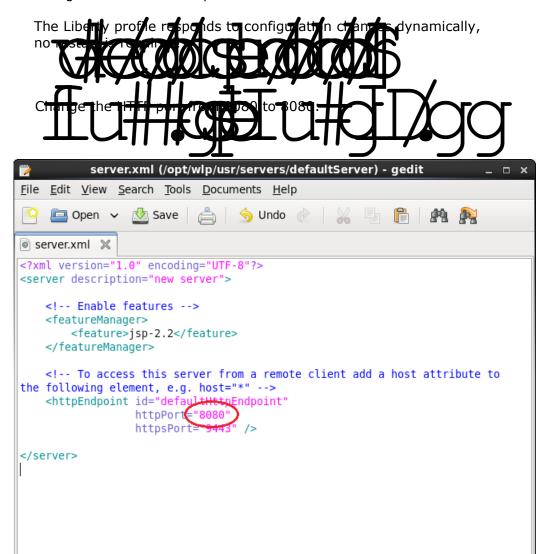
Start Firefox, go to the URL http://localhost:9080/snoop

You should see a page similar to the following screenshot:



Close the browser.

3.1.4 Change the default HTTP port for the server.



Saving file '/opt/wlp/usr/servers/def... XML → Tab Width: 8 → Ln 15, Col 1

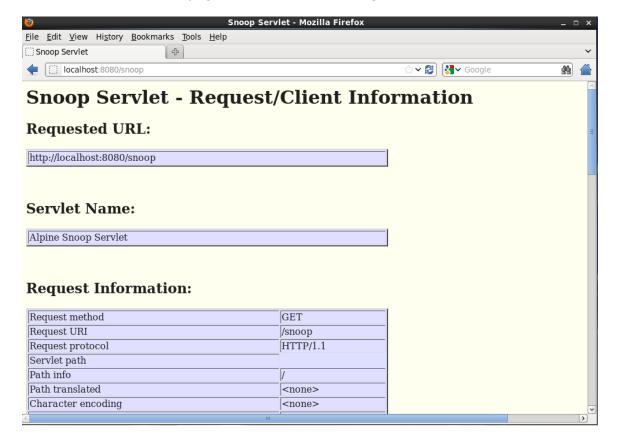
Save and close the file.

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3.1.5 Use the new port to access the application.

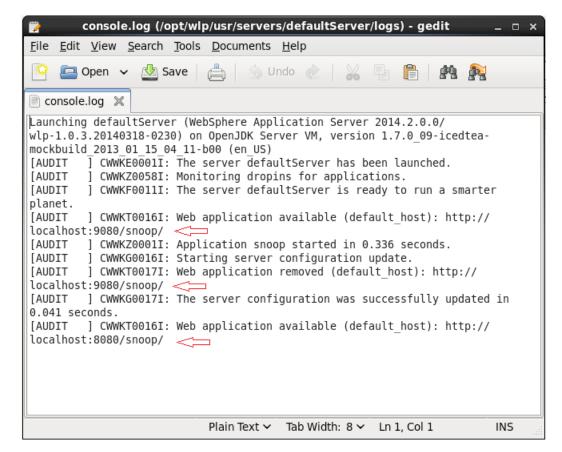
Start Firefox, go to URL http://localhost:8080/snoop

You should see a page similar to the following screenshot:

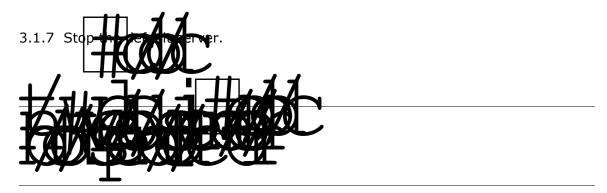


Close the browser.

3.1.6 View Control Con



Close the file.



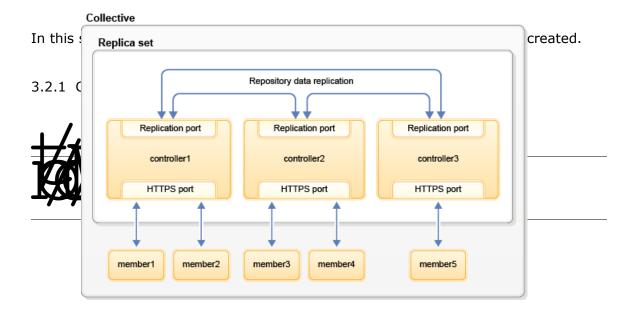
You now have experience with basic server operations, configuration and deploying an application!

3.2 Create a collective

Approximate time: 10 - 20 minutes

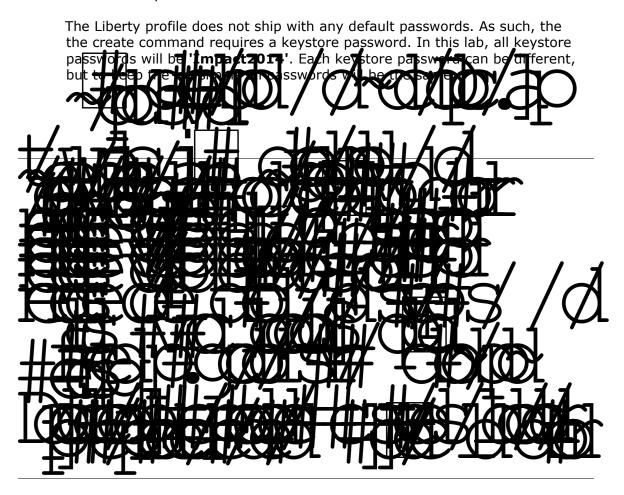
These steps take you through creating and configuring a basic collective. A collective is the set of Liberty servers in a single administrative domain. A collective consists of at least one "collective controller", a server with the collectiveController-1.0 feature enabled. Optionally, a collective may have many "collective members", servers with the collectiveMember-1.0 feature enabled. A collective may be configured to have many collective controllers, called a replica set. Configuration of the replica set is not covered in this lab, but documentation is available from wasdev.net.

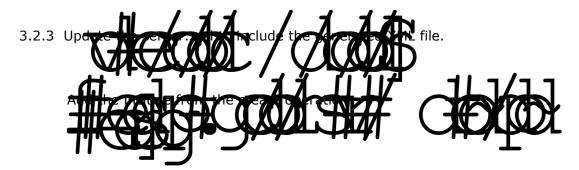
The following illustration shows a sample collective topology with a replicate set of 3 controllers and 5 collective members.

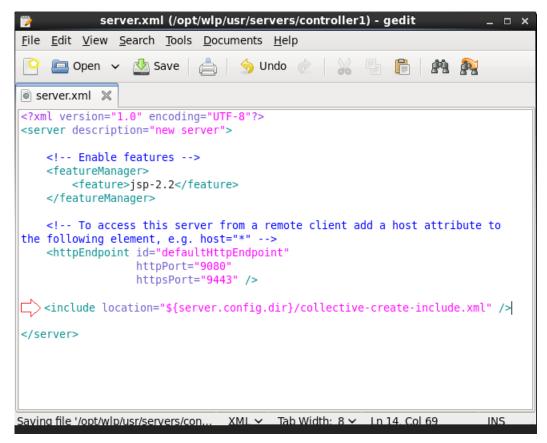


3.2.2 Create the collective controller configuration.

This will establish the administrative domain security configuration. The servers in the collective communicate with each other using signed SSL certificates. The 'collective create' command establishes the initial set of SSL keys.

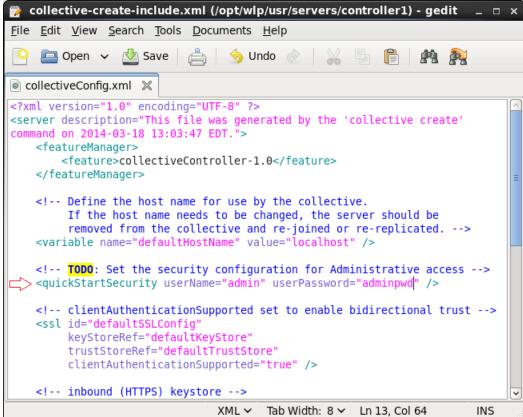


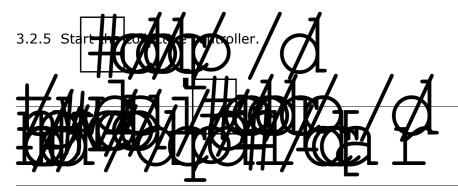




3.2.4 Update collective-create-include.xml.



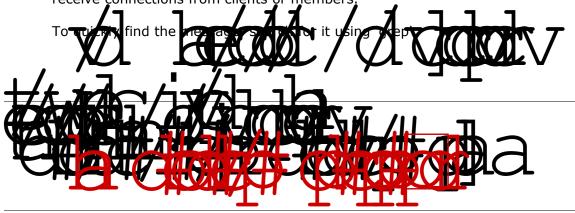


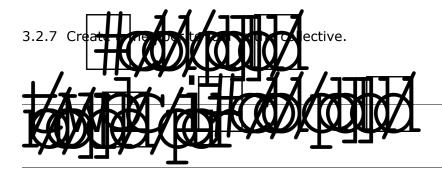


3.2.6 Verify the server started correctly and is ready to receive members.



The CWWKX9003I message indicates that the collective controller is ready to receive connections from clients or members.

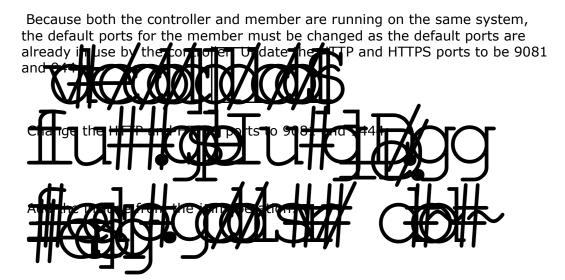


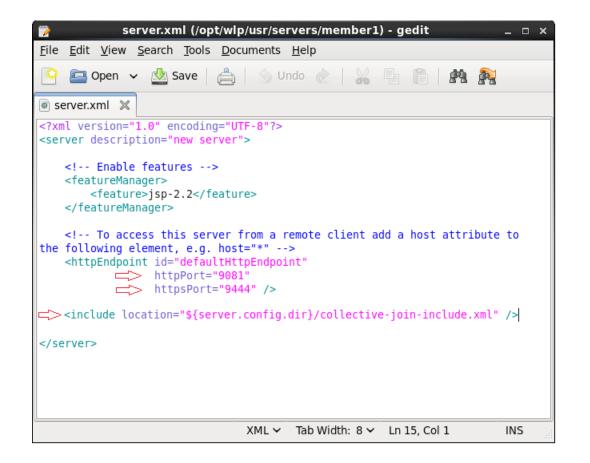


3.2.8 Join member1 to the collective.

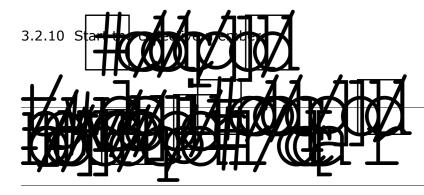


3.2.9 Update the server.xml for member1.

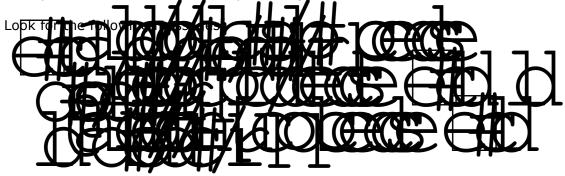




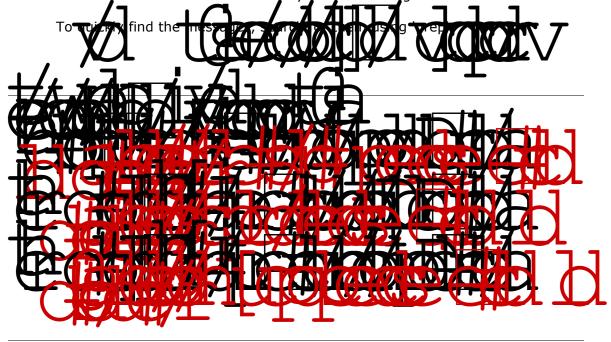
Save and close the file.



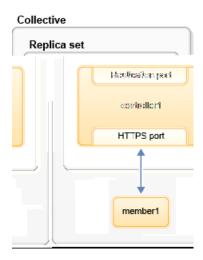
3.2.11 Verify the member started and is publishing information to the controller.



The CWWKX8112I, CWWKX8114I and CWWKX8116I messages indicate that the collective member is successfully communicating with the controller.



You now have a basic collective topology created. In this topology, member1 is a collective member and controller1 is a collective controller.



All collective members publish information about themselves to their collective controller. This published information is available for query directly from the controller without need of forwarding the request down to each collective member.

This published information is used by the controller to determine each member's operational state, and is used by the Admin Center to show information about the collective. The Admin Center is used in <u>Section 3.4 Operations through the Admin Center</u>.

3.3 Perform collective operations via scripting

Approximate time: 5 – 10 minutes

In this section, you use Jython scripting to perform MBean operations against the collective controller which allow you to start and stop registered collective members.

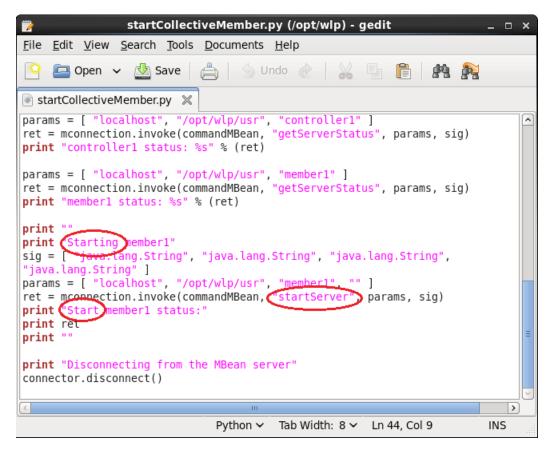
3.3.1 Run the Jython script provided to stop the collective member.

In order to run the script, set the CLASSPATH and JYTHONPATH environment variables to include the restConnector.jar and run the provided client jython script. The script is hard-coded for the host name, paths, user names and sed in instructions. If you have modified any of these 3.3.2 Vei

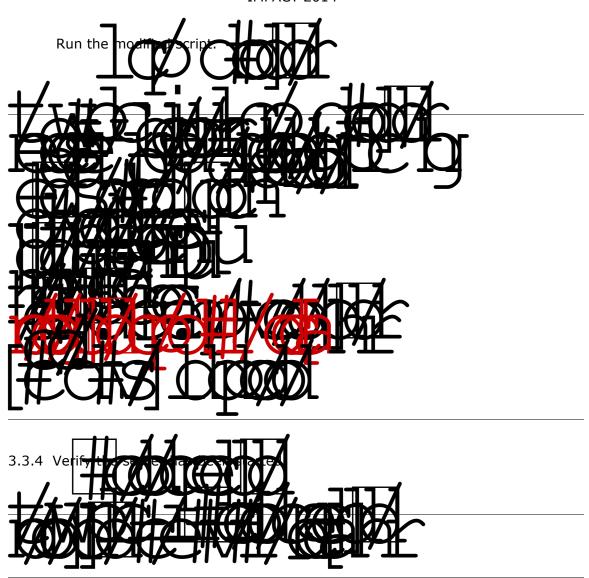
3.3.3 Start the collective member via scripting.



Change 'stop' to 'start':



Save and close the file.

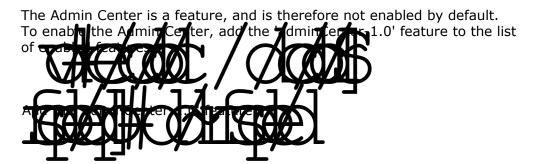


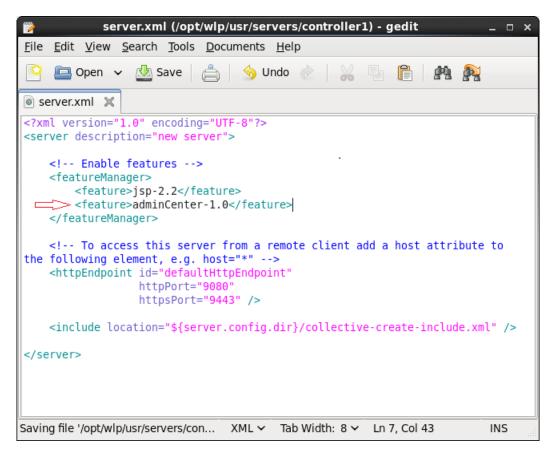
You now have basic Jython experience and have used the MBeans available on the collective controller to perform operations against the registered collective members.

3.4 Operations through the Admin Center

Approximate time: 5 – 10 minutes

3.4.1 Enable the Admin Center.





Save and close the file.

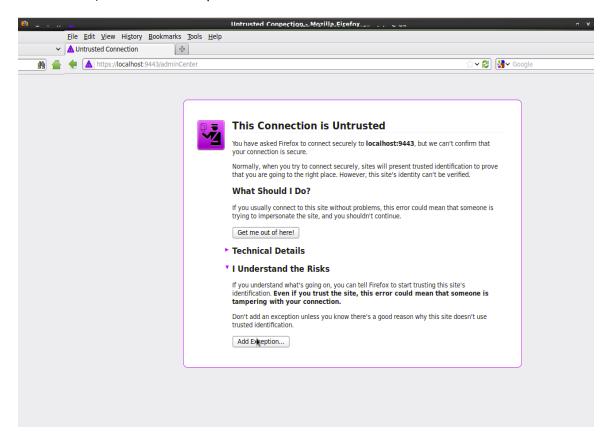
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3.4.2 Log into the Admin Center

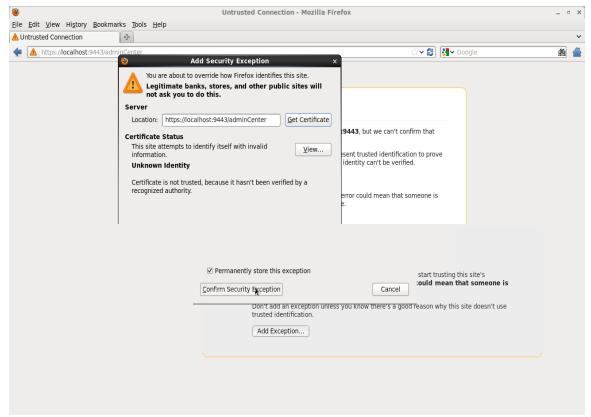
Start Firefox, go to URL http://localhost:9080/adminCenter

You will need to accept the server's SSL certificate.

First, click "Add Exception..."



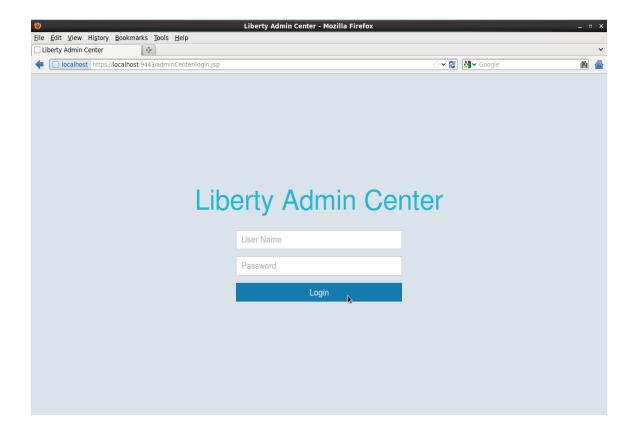
Next, confirm the security exception by clicking "Confirm Security Exception".



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Now log in to the Admin Center with the administrator user name and password ('admin' / 'adminpwd').

Enter the user name and password and click "Login".



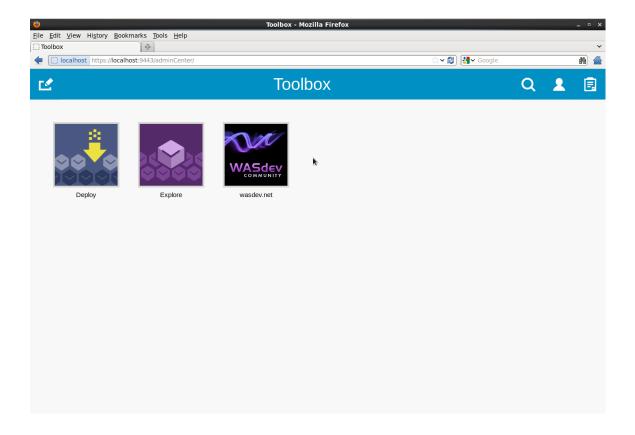
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3.4.3 The Toolbox

Each user of the Admin Center has a customized view called 'the Toolbox'. The Toolbox allows the user to choose the set of tools that they wish to use.

By default, the Toolbox is populated with the initial set of tools that are present in the catalog. The catalog is the set of all tools installed into the Liberty profile runtime. Users can also add links to commonly used pages by adding a bookmark.

The Toolbox view:

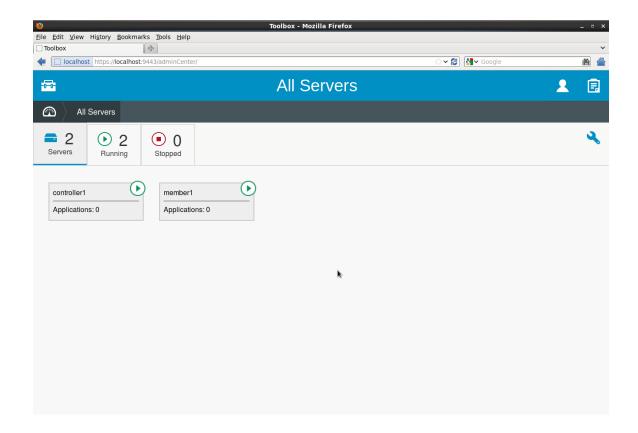


3.4.4 Select the Explore tool.

3.4.5 Click on the Servers dashboard element.

Each dashboard element displays the high-level information about elements in the topology. Clicking on the Servers category on the dashboard will display individual details about each server.

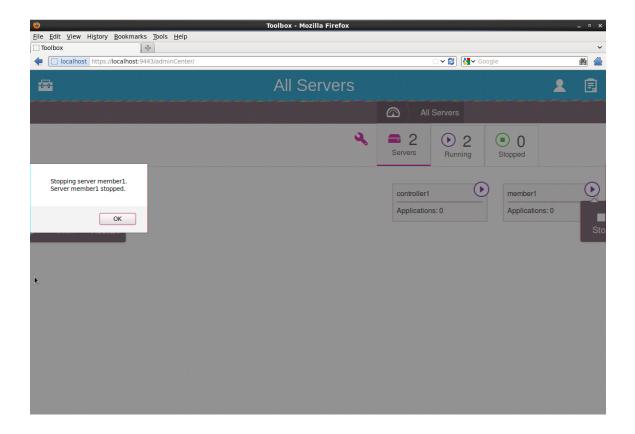
From this view, individual or groups of servers can be started or stopped, and details for a specific server can be seen by clicking on a server.



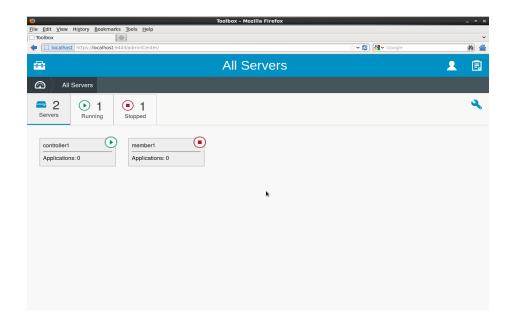
3.4.6 Stop and restart member1 through the tool.

Operations can be performed on any server, cluster or application in the collective via the Admin Center. In this step, stop member1 by clicking on the green arrow icon in the upper right corner of the member1 card, and select stop.

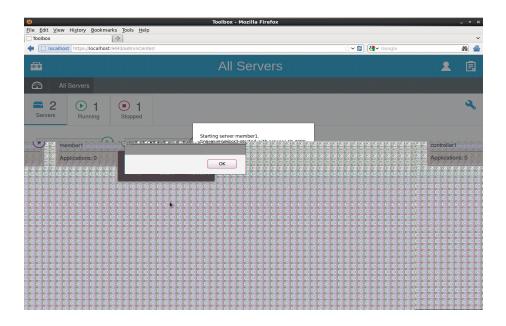
Result of the stop operation:



The server can be restarted by repeating the steps and clicking on the red stopped icon and selecting the start operation.



Result of the start operation:



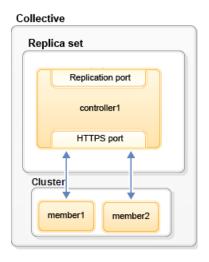
Be sure to leave member1 running at the end of this section.

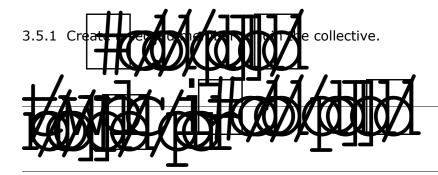
Various information and multiple actions are available through the Admin Center. Not all aspects are examined in this lab.

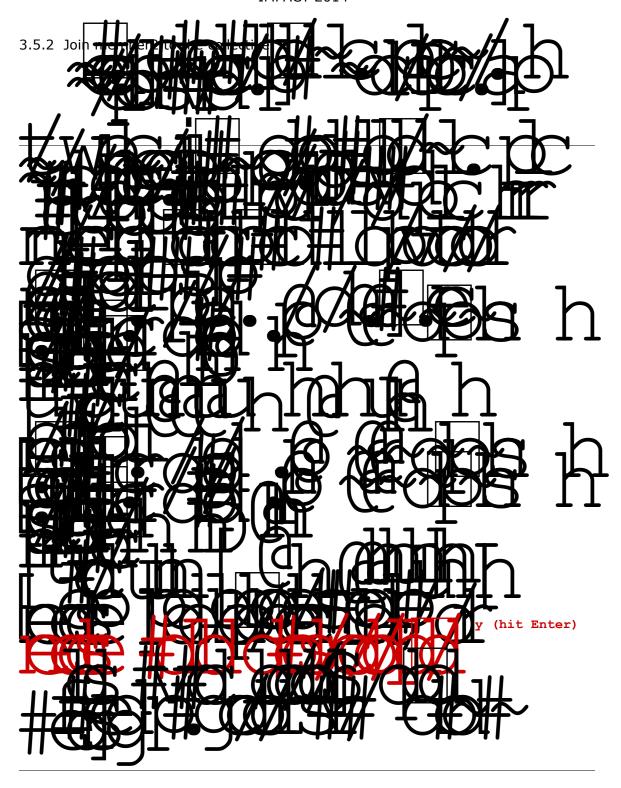
3.5 Create a cluster

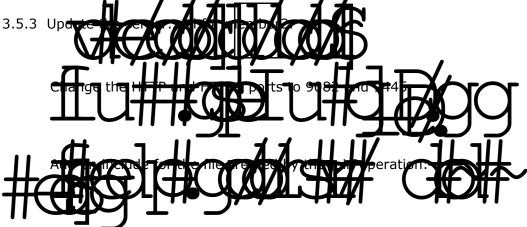
Approximate time: 15 - 30 minutes

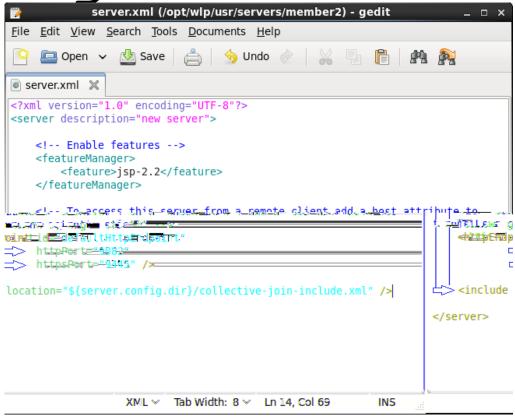
In this section, you expand the collective by adding a new member, configure both members to join the default cluster, and finally use Jython scripting and the Admin Center to perform operations on the cluster.

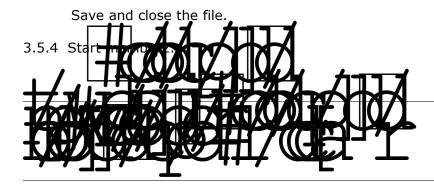








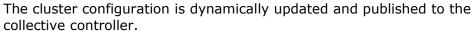




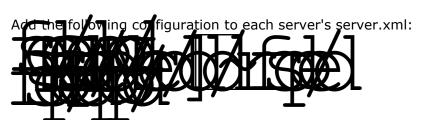
3.5.5 Verify the member started and is publishing information to the controller.

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3.5.6 Assign member1 and member2 to the default cluster.



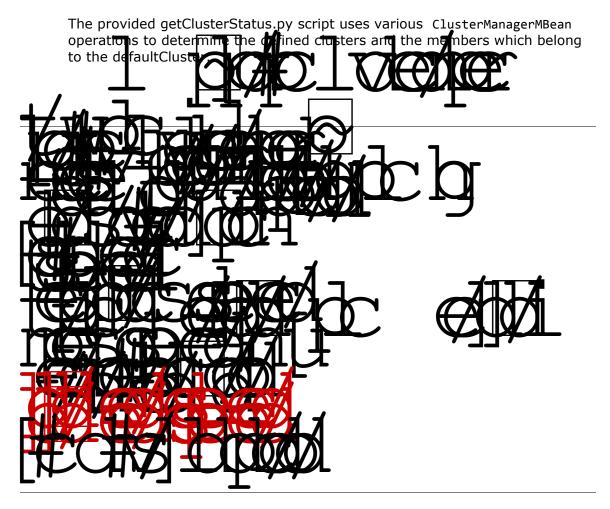




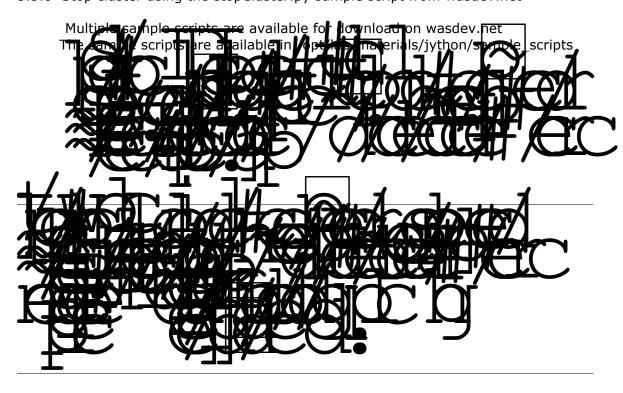
You now have the default cluster created, with member1 and member2 belonging to the defaultCluster group. Multiple clusters can be defined with a single collective, but a server may only belong to one cluster group at a time.

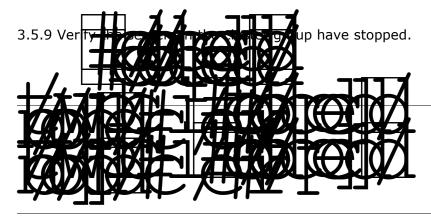
3.5.7 Get status for "defaultCluster" via scripting.

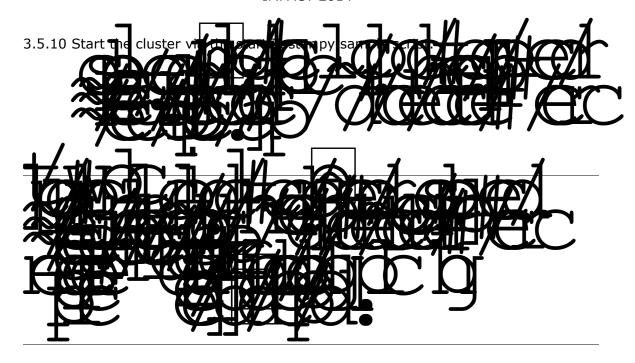
The controller provides the ClusterManagerMBean which defines operations for obtaining information about defined clusters, starting and stopping all of the servers in a cluster, and for generating plugin-cfg.xml files.



3.5.8 Stop cluster using the stopCluster.py sample script from wasdev.net



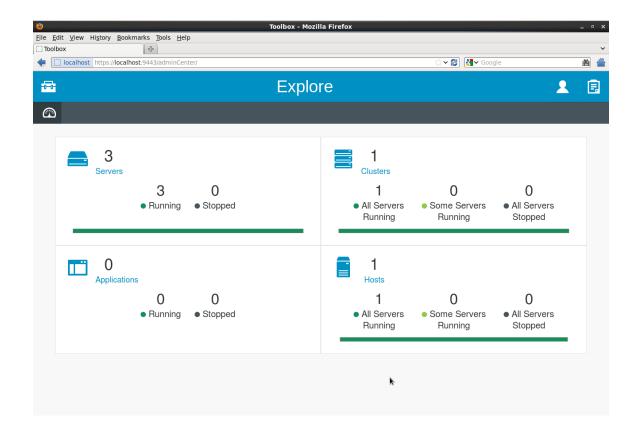




The ClusterManager MBean is an example of how the collective controller acts as an operational repository. Data queries, such as the listClusterNames, listMembers and getStatus operations are performed entirely against the operational cache within the collective controller, while operations which require action on a target such as start and stop are performed against the respective collective member.

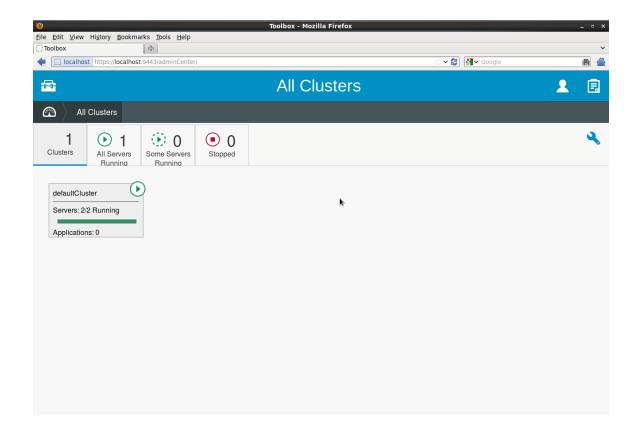
3.5.11 Launch the Explore tool from the Admin Center.

Now that a cluster is defined, the Explore dashboard will contain a card which shows information about the defined clusters.



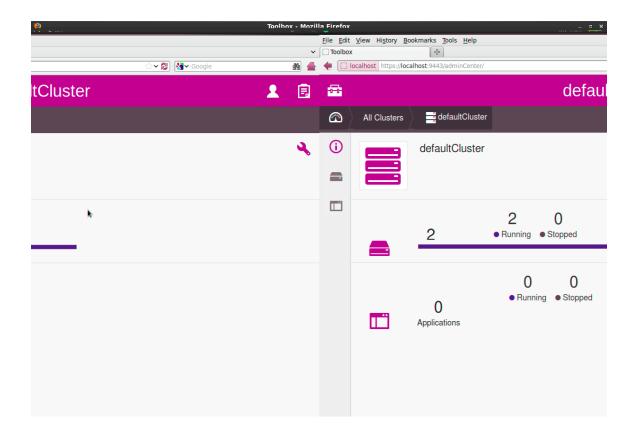
3.5.12 Click the Clusters category of the dashboard to see an overview of the defined clusters.

Click the defaultCluster card to see details about the cluster.



3.5.13 The defaultCluster details page shows the details of the cluster.

No applications are yet deployed to the cluster. Applications will be deployed in the next section.

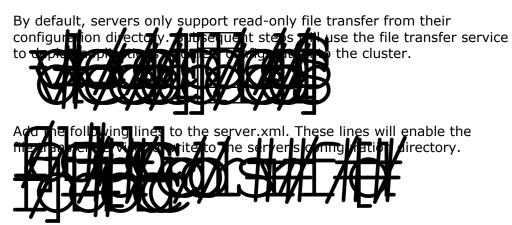


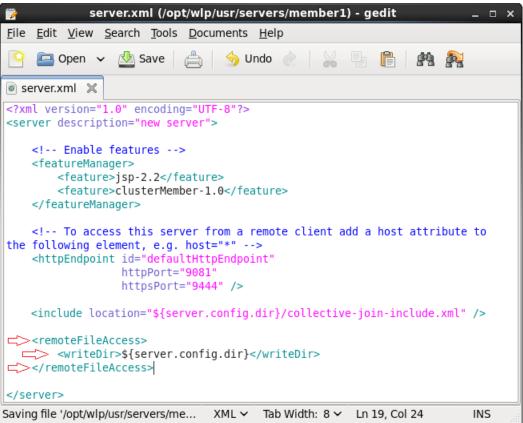
3.6 Deploying applications to the cluster

Approximate time: 20 – 40 minutes

In this section, you build upon the work done in previous sections to deploy applications and configuration to all members of a cluster. This section demonstrates the type of compound operations which are possible with the MBeans available in WebSphere Application Server Liberty Profile 8.5.5, as well as describes a best practice for cluster configuration.

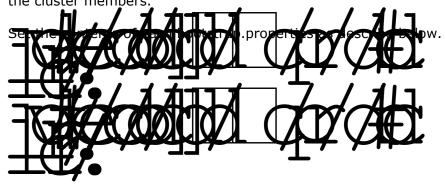
3.6.1 Update the server.xml for each member to support file transfer.

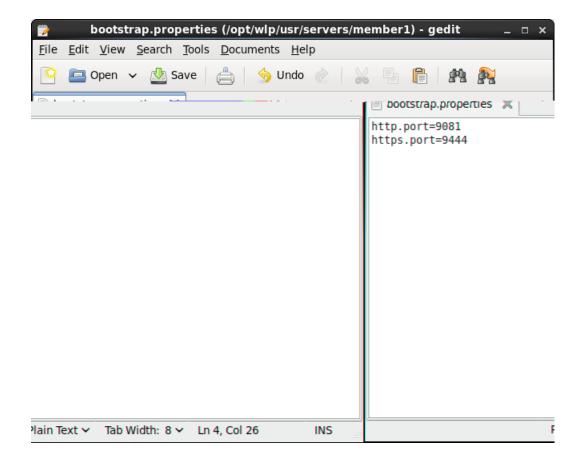




3.6.2 Create a bootstrap.properties file for each cluster member.

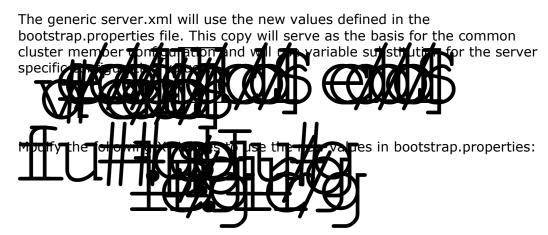
This file will contain the configuration which is unique to each server, such as port numbers. This will support using a common server.xml for all of the cluster members.

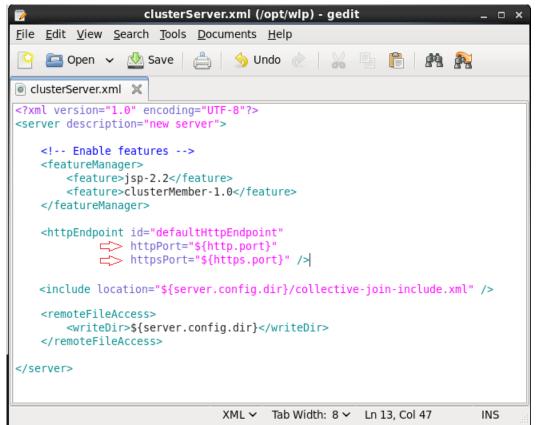




Save and close the files.

3.6.3 Copy the server.xml for member1 and create a new generic server.xml.

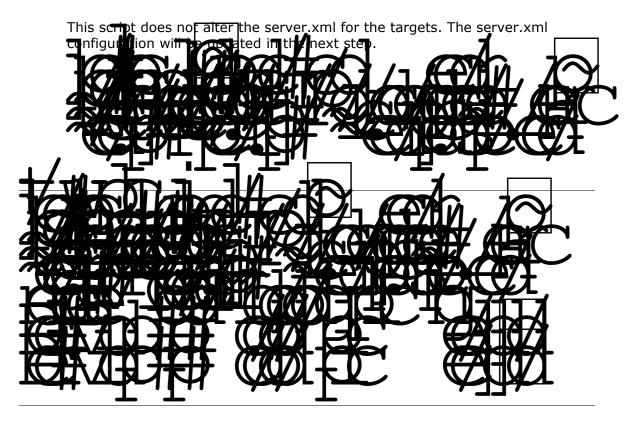




Save and close the file.

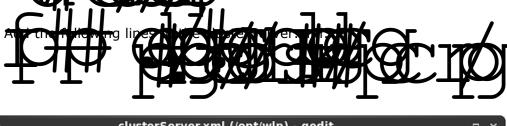
3.6.4 Push the application "snoop" to the cluster.

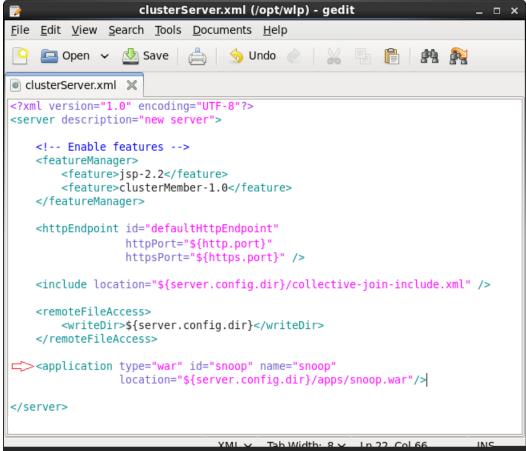
The deployAppToCluster.py script uses a combination of the ClusterManager and FileTransfer MBeans to push the application to all of the cluster members. This operation will push the application to \${server.config.dir}/apps/ for each cluster member.



3.6.5 Update the common cluster configuration for the application "snoop".

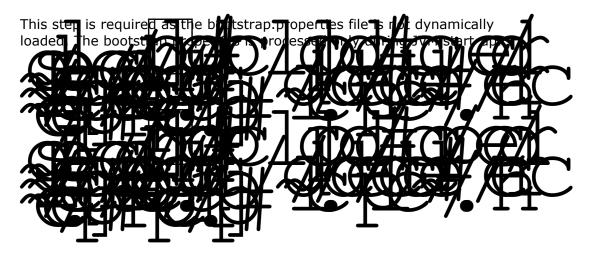
A plication be expected to configure in the server.xml using the





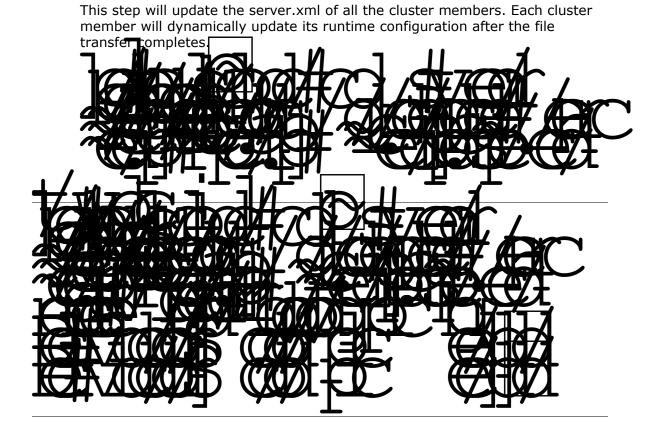
Save and close the file.

3.6.6 Restart the cluster members.



Command output omitted. See previous steps 3.5.8 and 3.5.10 for the expected output.

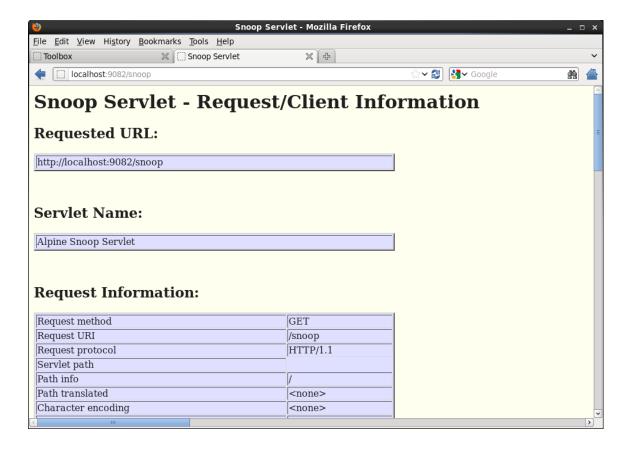
3.6.7 Push the common cluster configuration to all of the members of the cluster.



3.6.8 Access the application "snoop" running on member1 and member2.

The application is now available on both members of the cluster. It is out of the scope of this lab, but IBM HTTP Server (IHS) can be used to perform load balancing across the cluster members.

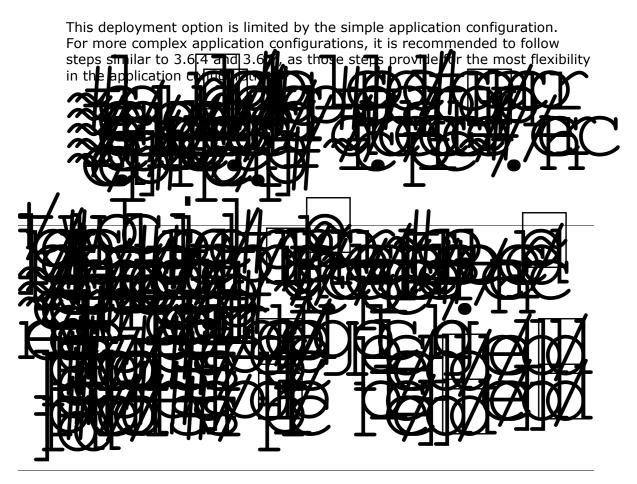
Run firefox, go to URLs: http://localhost:9081/snoop
http://localhost:9082/snoop



Close the browser.

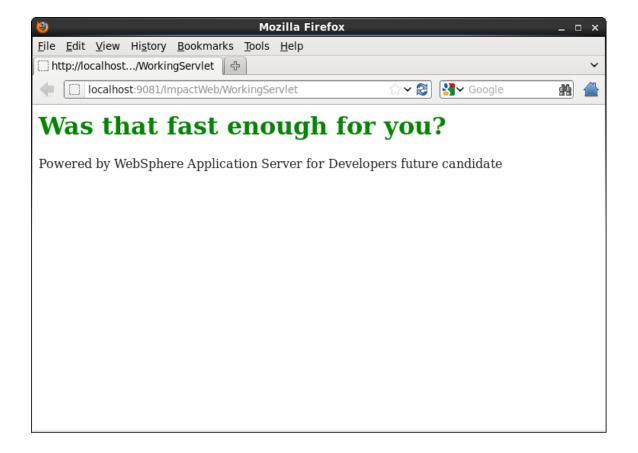
3.6.9 Install the application "ImpactWeb" to the cluster.

This operation combines application deploy and configuration file updates to demonstrate an alternate pattern for installing an application to a cluster.



3.6.10 Access the application "ImpactWeb" running on member1 and member2.

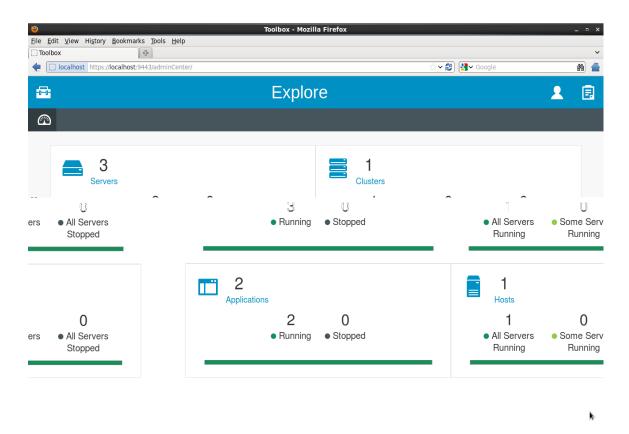
Run firefox, go to URLs: http://localhost:9081/ImpactWeb/WorkingServlet



Close the browser.

3.6.11 Launch Explore tool via the Admin Center.

The dashboard now has information about the defined servers, the cluster to which they belong, and the applications deployed.



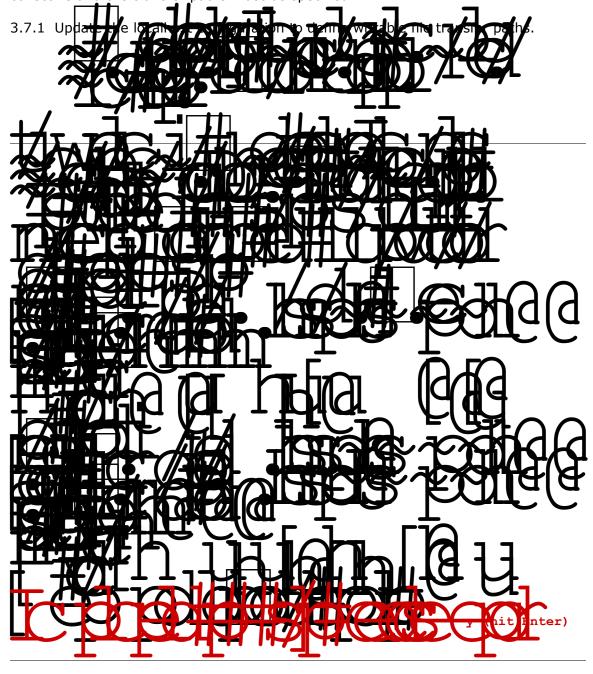
Close the browser.

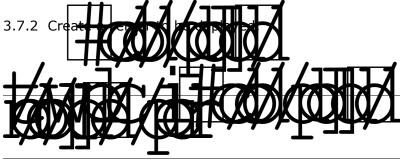
You now have an active cluster group with the "snoop" and "ImpactWeb" applications deployed. The cluster configuration is written in such a way that new cluster members can be easily added by creating new servers and setting their bootstrap.properties file accordingly. An alternate choice to support common configuration is to use include files supported by the server.xml. The server specific configuration can be stored in a separate include file, and the common configuration can be stored in the common server.xml.

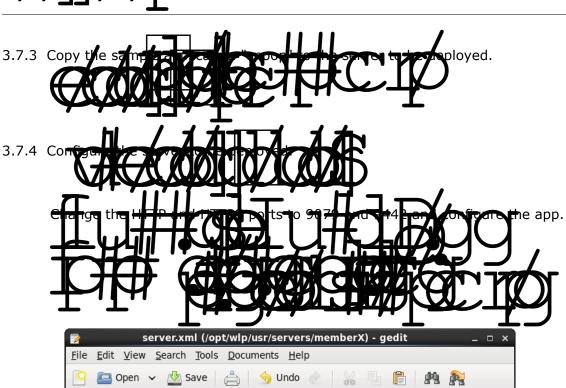
3.7 Deploying server packages via Admin Center

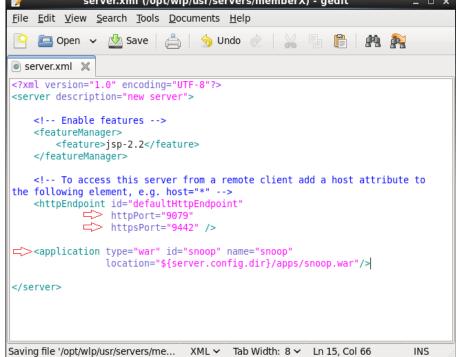
Approximate time: 10 – 15 minutes

In this section, you use the Admin Center to deploy a server package and join the deployed server to the collective. A server package can be deployed to any host that is registered with the collective. The Deploy tool uses the collective file transfer operations. In order to transfer a file to a host, the host must be registered with the collective and the transfer paths must be specified.

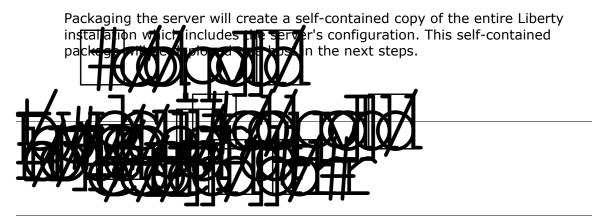






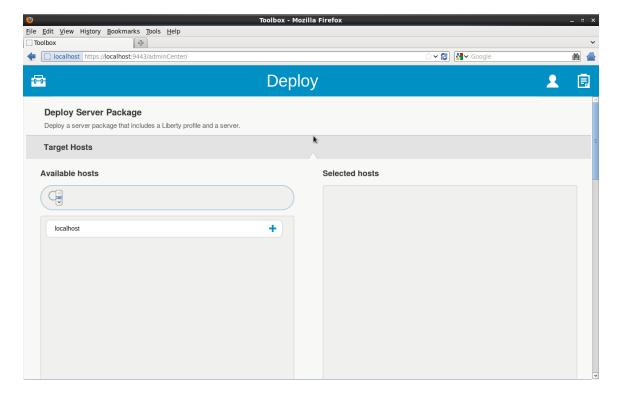


3.7.5 Package the server.

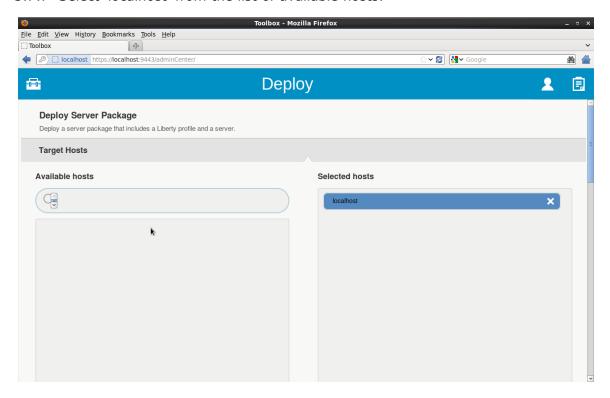


3.7.6 Launch the Deploy tool from the Admin Center.

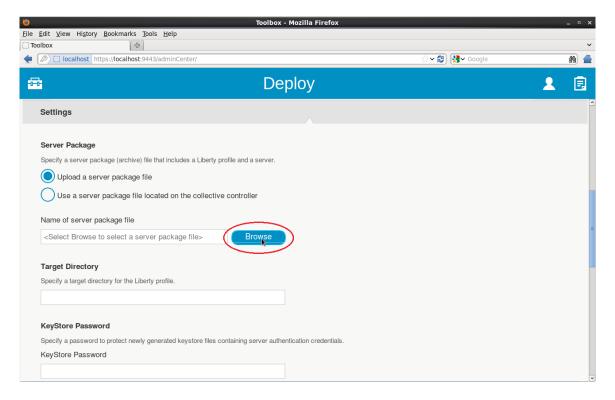
In this lab, the only available host is localhost. In a real environment, additional hosts can be added as deployment targets.



3.7.7 Select 'localhost' from the list of available hosts.

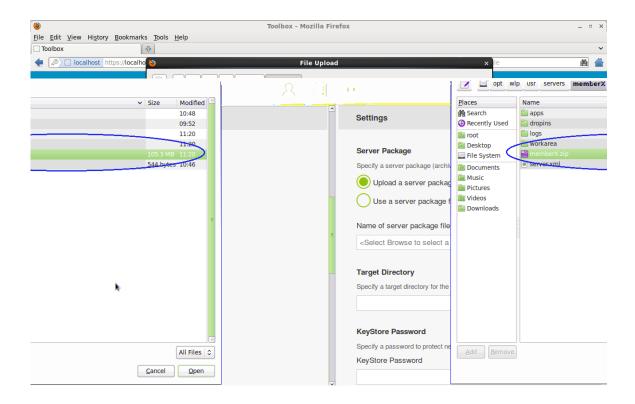


3.7.8 Scroll down and click 'Browse'.

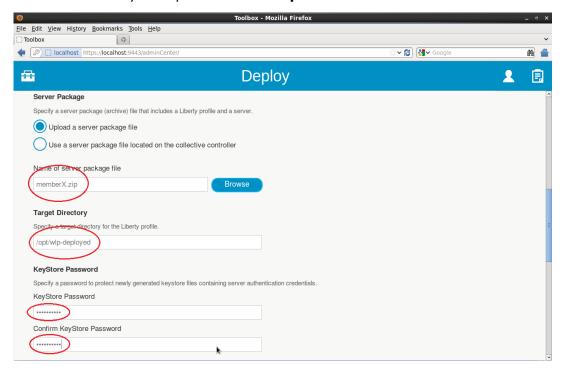


3.7.9 Upload memberX.zip.

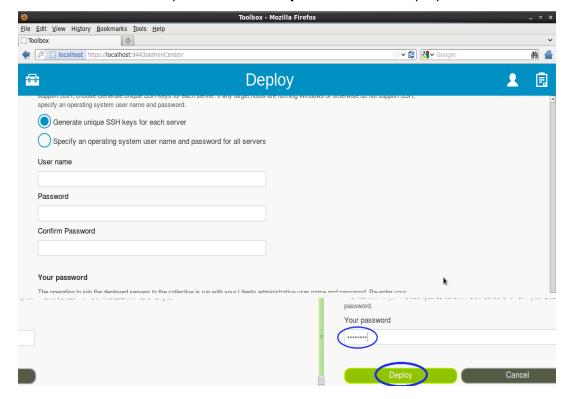
Navigate to /opt/wlp/usr/servers/memberX via the File System button on the File Upload navigator's side bar.



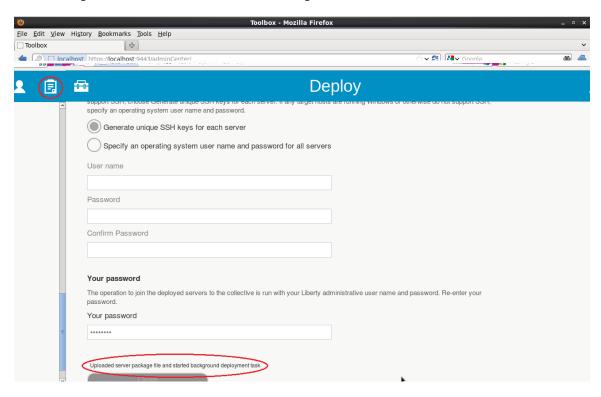
3.7.10 Set the target installation directory to **/opt/wlp-deployed**Set the keystore passwords to **Impact2014**



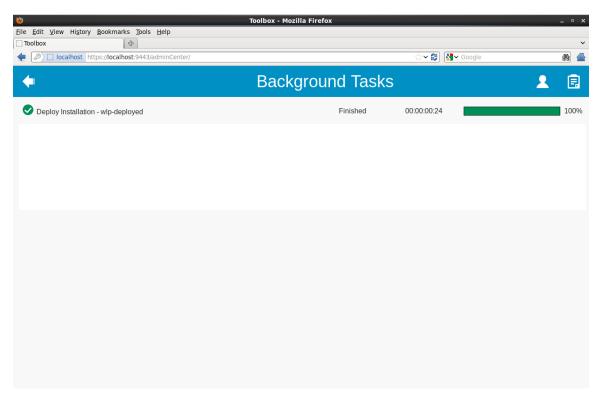
3.7.11 Enter the admin password 'adminpwd' and click 'Deploy'



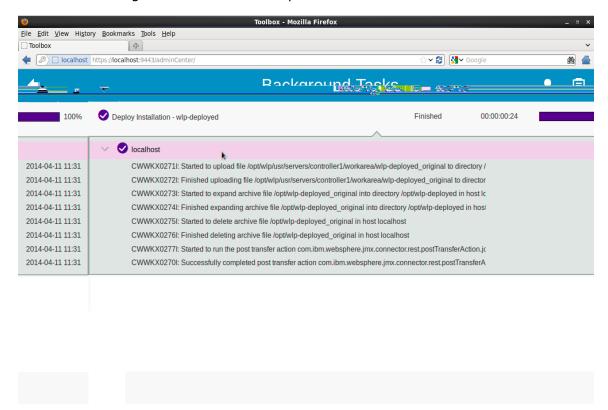
3.7.12 Once the upload completes, select the background task button in the upper right-hand corner to view the background tasks.



The Background Tasks page:



3.7.13 The background tasks can be expanded to see the details of the task.



3.7.14 Return to the Explore tool.

Hit back button in the Background Tasks view.



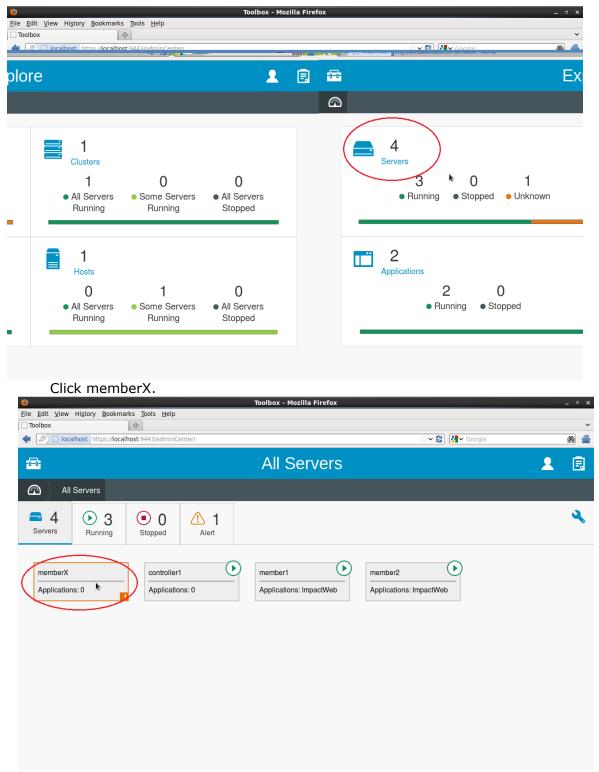
Hit the Toolbox button in the Deploy view.



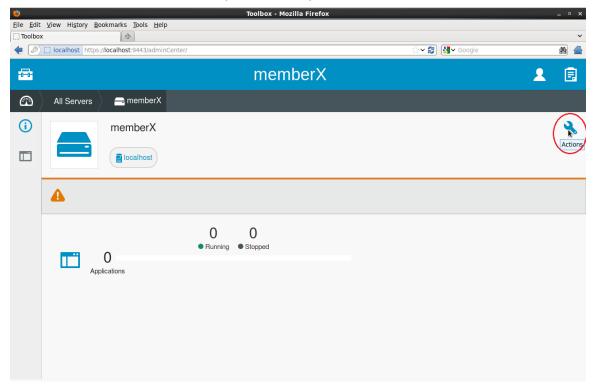
Launch the Explore tool.

3.7.15 The total number of servers has increased to 4 servers. Start the new server.

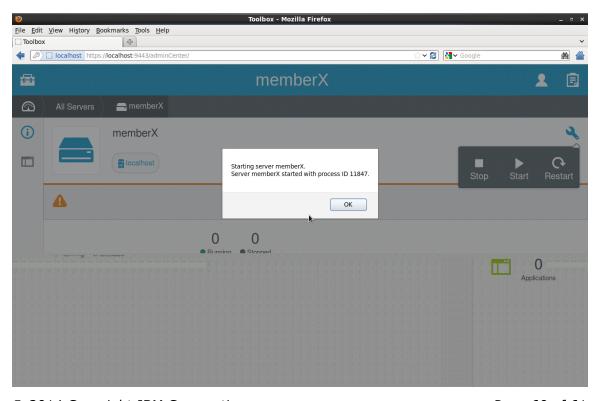
The newly deployed server will show up in 'Unknown' state because it has never been started. Click the Servers view.



Click the Actions button (wrench icon) and start the server.

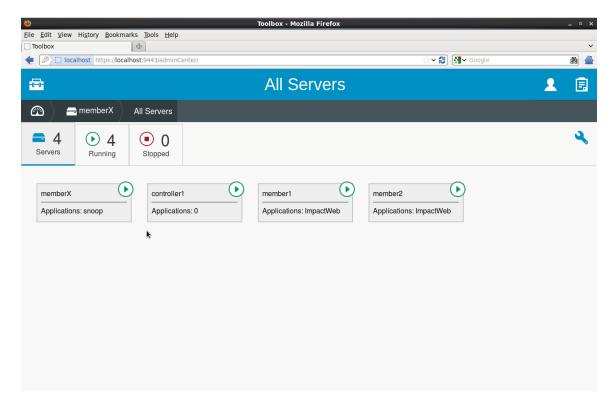


Result of the start operation:



3.7.16 The server memberX is now started.

Return to the 'All Servers' view by clicking on the breadcrumb.



Close the browser.

The deployed server is automatically joined to the collective where the via the Deploy tool and can be managed via the Admir Center at a state of ditional hosts can be registered to the collective via the Center at a state of the ditional hosts can be provided by the collective controller. For more details on available collective controller MBeans, see the wasdev.net.

Thank you!

This lab is available from wasdev.net