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A database prototype for managing computer systems configurations

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We describe a database solution in a web application to centrally manage the configuration information of computer systems. It extends the modular cluster management tool Quattor with a user friendly web interface.

System configurations managed by Quattor are described with the aid of PAN, a declarative language with a command line and a compiler interface. Using a relational schema, we are able to build a database for efficient data storage and configuration data processing. The relational schema ensures the consistency of the described model while the standard database interface ensures the fast retrieval of configuration information and statistic data.

The web interface simplifies the typical administration and routine operations tasks, e.g. definition of new types, configuration comparisons and updates etc. We present a prototype built on the above ideas and used to manage a cluster of developer workstations and specialised services in CMS.

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