Datawarehousing Quattor

cdb2sql, cdb2sql-ora, quatview, etc...

Quattor and Databases

- Managing relations between objects, and metadata having integrity constraints, should involve a relational model.
- Managing configuration behaviors should be described by a domain-specific language suited to expressing such policy.
- "What's configured where and how?" should involve a datawarehouse.

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Datawarehouse

- We want to know all/any configuration for all/any machines.
- We want it via different views, different formats (human vs. machine)
- Time:
 - It would be nice to have historical views.
 - We'd like to know which templates generated which configuration

QuatView

- Uploads selected information from locally-accessible profiles into MySQL (not hard to change db) database.
- Single timestamp.
- Most importantly, an interface: a web-based browser.

cdb2sql (old)

- A server module can run anywhere
- Finds profiles which have changed(*), uploads them into DB via "bulk" insert.
- "Any database that DBI supports". Defaults to MySQL
- Same as Quat View, but without web tool to browse the data.
- Works fine.

Server Modules #1

- CDB and SCDB send CDP notification that profiles have changed:
 - CCM = *your* profile has changed. Sent to affected hosts. cdp-listend on host then invokes ccm-fetch.
 - CDB = some profiles have changed. Sent only to server module hosts (as per /etc/cdb.conf). cdp-listend on server module hosts will invoke cdbsync-nch. Not implemented by SCDB.

Server Modules #2

- cdbsync-nch parses profiles-info.xml, builds index and then runs "actions"
 - doesn't manage caching
- Actions defined in /etc/cdbsync.conf:
 - aii-shellfe --notify
 - cdb2sql

cdb2sql (recent)

- -ora version not actually Oracle specific (still defaults to MySQL), provides *extra* support for Oracle
 - Comes with many oracle-specific views
 - Works fine
- Still server module
- Still no web interface (Oracle)

cdb2sql (new)

- -dist version more recent, faster. Oracle specific, although not hard to change code (cx_Oracle in python).
- Still server module, but action is simpler: cdb2sql just schedules uploads and asks dispatcher to download XML, upload to DB. Multithreaded dispatcher...
- Still no web interface.

Proposal

- Use cdb2sql
- Use QuatView web interface against cdb2sql schema instead of QuatView schema
- Bonus points:
 - extend schema to provide versioned data
 - include revision "tag" in data
 - publish datawarehouse to AII