
metasphinx Documentation

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This documentation is all about `metaconfig`

Control structure

Control structures and how they are used in data files

1.1 foreach

The minimal example

in `_config_`

```
1 [settings]
2 nameservers = ["192.168.1.1", "8.8.8.8"]
```

in an included file, say `files/etc/resolv.conf`

```
1 %header("##")
2
3 #foreach ns in nameservers
4     nameservers = %(ns)
5 #end
```

A foreach example using a dictionary

```
1 crontab["example"] = dict(
2     enabled = 0,
3     min     = "0",
4     hour    = "*",
5     day     = "*",
6     month   = "*",
7     weekday = "*",
8     user    = "nobody",
9     command = "echo foo"
10 )
```

using the variable

```
1 %header("##")
2 SHELL="%(shell)"
3 PATH="%(path)"
4 MAILTO="%(mailto)"
5 %# min hour day month weekday user command
6 #foreach ct in crontab
7     #if crontab[ct]["enabled"]
8         %(crontab[ct]["min"])    %(crontab[ct]["hour"])    %(crontab[ct]["day"])    %(crontab[ct]["mon"])
```

```
9  #end
10 #end
```

1.2 if and else

if-else branching is done like this

```
1  [settings]
2  enable_logging = 1
```

in an included file, say files/etc/resolv.conf

```
1  %header ("##")
2
3  #if enable_logging
4      logging = 1
5  #else
6      logging = 0
7  #end
```

or, if `_logging_` is default disabled, leave out the explicit `_logging_` line.

```
1  %header ("##")
2
3  #if enable_logging
4      logging = 1
5  #end
```

To test if a dictionary contains a specific key

```
1  #if "max_days" in params
2      SomethignWithDays = %(params["max_days"])
3  #end
```

1.3 Troubleshooting

```
1  # metaconfig
2  [E] Lexer error at (<some file name>: line n, column m): Command token expected but EOL found
3  [F] Too many errors, aborting compilation
```

Configuration files

As part of the configuration, it is possible to add files.

It must be place in the files subdirectory

example from the ntp package

```
1 $ tree ntp
2 ntp
3 -- config
4 -- files
5     -- etc
6         -- ntp.conf
```

in the files adding `%header(“##”)` adds the metaconfig warning header.

The “##” part is the comment signs to use. For some config files “;” or “–” would be appropriate

2.1 Pound sign

To show the sign # in a file, use `%#`.

To have a comment in the file parsed by metaconfig, use `##`

2.2 Defining variables

define a variable to be used later in the config

example usage

```
1 #define vname "drupal.example.org"
2 SomeVar = %(vname)
```

2.3 Commands

define, import, method

Config variables

In the config files different variable type are allowed.

example

```
1 [settings]
2 AnInteger = 12
3 AString = "This is a string"
4 AnArray = [1,2,3,4,5]
5 ADictionary = dict( a = 2, b = "C" )
```

in an included file, say files/etc/resolv.conf

```
1 %header("##")
2
3 #foreach ns in nameservers
4     nameservers = %(ns)
5 #end
```

3.1 if and else

if-else branching is done like this

```
1 [settings]
2 enable_logging = 1
```

in an included file, say files/etc/resolv.conf

```
1 %header("##")
2
3 #if enable_logging
4     logging = 1
5 #else
6     logging = 0
7 #end
```

or, if `_logging_` is default disabled, leave out the explicit `_logging_` line.

```
1 %header("##")
2
3 #if enable_logging
4     logging = 1
5 #end
```

Config files

As part of the configuration, for all nodes and modules, a file named `_config_` is used.

4.1 import

Imports a module from `/etc/metaconfig/res`

Changing setting from e.g. `config/network` is done in the namespace `[settings.config/network]`

TODO: quick example

4.2 modify

TODO: quick example and explanation

Special commands and variables

5.1 unix users

TDB

5.2 file ownership and permissions

(from profile/minimal)

Files permissions and ownership can be explicitly set.

```
1 [files]
2 # Set executable permission for standard dirs for binaries
3 permission["/etc/initramfs-tools/hooks/*"] = "0755"
4 permission["/etc/init.d/*"] = "0755"
5 permission["/etc/cron.hourly/*"] = "0755"
6 permission["/etc/cron.daily/*"] = "0755"
7 permission["/etc/cron.weekly/*"] = "0755"
8 permission["/etc/cron.monthly/*"] = "0755"
9 permission["/usr/local/bin/*"] = "0755"
10 permission["/root"] = "0700"
```

5.3 Variables

Example of build-in variables

```
1 from profile/standard
2 if PLATFORM_OS_NAME in ["debian", "ubuntu"]
3     import "public/config/debian-logrotate"
4     import "public/config/kernel-img"
5     import "public/config/hostname"
6     import "public/config/locale"
7 end
```

TODO: which one are there and how to find out

5.4 Triggers

(from config/backup)

Triggers are used to run certain commands when metaconfig change files.

```
1 [trigger.generate-backup-keys]
2 command = "DIR=/etc/spye/backup/main/ssh; PRIV=$DIR/private.key; PUB=$DIR/public.key; mkdir -p $DIR;
3 single = True
```

TODO: single = true? what does that mean?

```
1 [trigger.restart-exim]
2 command = ["service", "exim4", "restart"]
3 files += "/etc/exim4/*"
4 files += "/etc/exim4/conf.d/*/*"
```

5.5 Unix users and groups

(from mozrepo/config/sysuser)

Metaconfig can enforce uid and gid values, as well as the other parameters for a given user.

```
1 [unixuser.sysuser]
2 uid = 1500
3 gid = 1500
4 gecos = ",,, "
5 home = "/home/sysuser"
6 shell = "/bin/bash"
7
8 groups_include += "adm"
9 groups_include += "sudo"
10 groups_include += "sysuser"
11
12 [unixgroup.sysuser]
13 gid=1500
```


Apt is the package handling system of debian and its derivatives, like ubuntu.

TODO: add ref

6.1 Adding and removing packages

In the config file, instruct metaconfig to install certain packages, and to remove certain packages (if they are installed).

```
1 [apt]
2 install += "somepackage"
3 install += ["a", "list", "of", "packages"]
4
5 remove += "Someotherpackage"
6 remove += ["a", "list", "of", "packages", "no", "to", "be", "on", "the", "system"]
```

If bad package names are used, metaconfig will return with an error.

Note that, before installing, metaconfig will update the repositories (as in run “apt-get update”)

6.2 Adding apt keys

Apt repositories has signing keys, and metaconfig will normally fail if packages cannot be validated.

```
1 [apt.source.debian_mozilla]
2 url = "http://mozilla.debian.net/"
3 dist = "wheezy-backports"
4 components = ["iceweasel-esr"]
5 keys += "A6AA8C72"
```

(from Metaconfig_mozrepo/service/iceweasel_latest_esr/config)

TODO: how to find these keys? or a link to some debian documentation related to this.

Howto

The following contains metaconfig snippets for doing specific things.

7.1 Setting static IP

The following will set a static IP on interface eth0.

```
1 import "mozrepo/config/networks"
2
3 [settings.mozrepo/config/network]
4 iface["eth0"] = dict( type="static", address="10.0.0.123", netmask="255.255.0.0", gateway="10.0.0.1"
```

This is work-in-progress

Stuff missing

- Examples/howtos
- Adaptation of [obsolete pdf](#)
- **rundown of**
 - Settings and template files
 - import/modify
 - apt
 - unixuser
- contact info
- FAQ
- some sort of overview and proper introduction
- installation instructions
- Troubleshooting