The Small Cat, Administering Production Tomcat with Kitty

(podling setup pending)

msacks$ whoami

- Matthew Sacks (dot com)

- Background in Application Operations

- Most recently worked for Edmunds.com,

- Currently App engineer for GlassCode

- Writer / Editor for TheBitsource.com

- Written for TomcatExpert.com

- Coder

Command-line based admin tools to make it easier and faster to administer in production deployments.

Tomcat does not have one currently.

Enterprise-class Java Application Servers

Enterprise-class Java Application Servers

Issues in Administering Tomcat

- No command line administration tool for Tomcat

- Command line tools are good for resolving incidents in realtime

- CLI utilities are easily automatable, GUI utilities not-so-much

Image

- Tomcat is perceived by many as a non-enterprise grade platform, even though it is one (Walmart, Etrade, etc)

- Most of the major enterprise-class Java app servers include an automation utility (JBoss Fiddle, Oracle Weblogic WLST, IBM WebSphere)

http://www.extratextual.tv/wp-content/uploads/2008/05/ali2.jpg

Building your own tools

- Can be time consuming

- No best practices baked in

- Another thing to maintain

http://www.csh.rit.edu/~chrisc/stuff/u2_cockpit.jpg

Simplicity and speed are key to managing production apps

- No time to dig (site or business process tanking)

- Command line tools improve usability and increase adoption

- Easy to automate

- Can be integrated with other CM tools like Puppet, Cfengine

JMX + Jython (soon to be Groovy)

- JMX: Java Management Extensions

- Jython: Java implementation in Python

- Groovy (easier to build and deploy)

Current Capabilities

- Getting / setting / invoking Mbeans

- Invoking remote methods

- Simple Unix-like hierarchical interface (cd, ls, help, invoke, get, set)

- Automation capabilities

- Base framework implemented, features will come out of the community need

- It's Fast

- Customizable

Demo

Future Roadmap

- Ability to manage and monitor groups of independent Tomcat servers and Clusters

- Auto-completion of syntax

- Security (SSL/Login)

- Detect Thread Starvation, Aggregate GC Times, Reset counters on a schedule, Servlet load times across a group or cluster

- Tomcat 7

- Groovy Port

We need your help

- We need feedback and contributors

- Can be used as a framework for more than Tomcat (Geronimo, Cassandra, Commercial)

- Base framework created, needs rich feature sets next

- Help make Tomcat simpler to manage and automate for production deployments (and increase adoption)

Thank you!
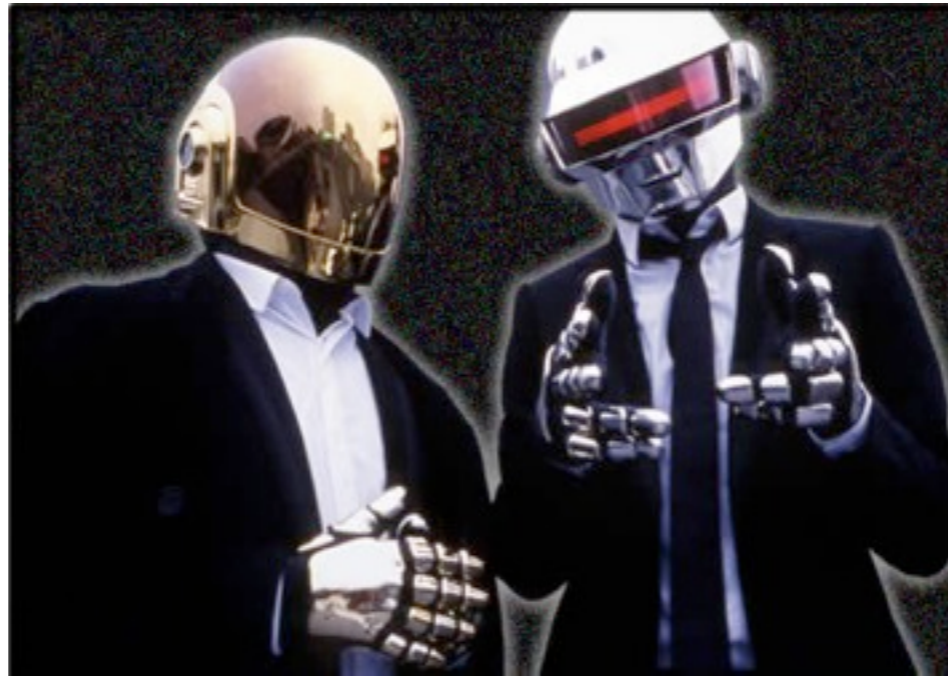
github.com/msacks/kitty
(will be moved to podling soon)

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