



Extending SaltStack

Joseph Hall

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Key Features

- Get the most up-to-date practical resource on writing new Salt modules and extending Salt
- Learn through use cases and encounter both commonly-used modules as well as advanced ones
- Effectively troubleshoot problems and hiccups encountered while building and putting modules to work

Book Description

Salt already ships with a very powerful set of tools, but that doesn't mean that they all suit your needs perfectly. By adding your own modules and enhancing existing ones, you can bring the functionality that you need to increase your productivity. Extending SaltStack follows a tutorial-based approach to explain different types of modules, from fundamentals to complete and full-functioning modules.

Starting with the Loader system that drives Salt, this book will guide you through the most common types of modules. First you will learn how to write execution modules. Then you will extend the configuration using the grain, pillar, and SDB modules. Next up will be state modules and then the renderers that can be used with them. This will be followed with returner and output modules, which increase your options to manage return data. After that, there will be modules for external file servers, clouds, beacons, and finally external authentication and wheel modules to manage the master.

With this guide in hand, you will be prepared to create, troubleshoot, and manage the most common types of Salt modules and take your infrastructure to new heights!

What you will learn

- Understand the working of Salt's Loader system
- Write several of the most common types of Salt modules
- Interact between different kinds of modules and build new ones
- Submit open source modules upstream to the Salt project
- Make Salt interact with third-party services and applications

About the Author

Joseph Hall has been working with SaltStack for a very long time. His first commit was on March 14, 2011, making him the second contributor to the Salt codebase. At the time his Python skills weren't very good, but writing Salt modules made them better. He has written a number of Salt modules and is planning to write many more. He has also written *Mastering SaltStack*, Packt Publishing.

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