Managing the complexity of component-based systems

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The Mancoosi Project

The mancoosi project (now concluded) focused among other things on the development of QA tool for FOSS distributions. More specifically we developed a suite of tools to:

- detect packages that are not installable or that cannot be compiled.
- detect packages that are outdated in the archive.
- identify classes of "important" packages.
- identify packages the if migrated to a specific future will break a large number of other packages.

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Distcheck - History

- 2005 First version of edos-debcheck (written by J. Vouillon)
- 2006 Integration of edos-debcheck in dose 2
- 2006 Edos-Debcheck uploaded to debian, mandriva, caixa magica . . .
- 2009 Complete re-write as part of dose 3 (Distcheck)

Features

- Use special purpose sat solver
- Accept in input different formats (deb, rpm, eclipse)
- Handle compressed archives
- Use CUDF as internal generic format
- YAML output for simple parsing / integration
- twice as fast compared to edos-debcheck (with more room for improvement)

Output Anatomy 1/3

```
report:
-
package ...
-
package ...
background-packages: 0
foreground-packages: 29589
total-packages: 29589
```

broken-packages: 143

Output Anatomy 2/3

```
package: apt-rpm-repository
version: 0.5.15lorg3.2-6
architecture: amd64
source: apt-rpm (= 0.5.15lorg3.2-6)
status: broken
reasons:
  missing:
  pkg:
    package: apt-rpm-repository
    version: 0.5.15lorg3.2-6
    architecture: amd64
    unsat-dependency: librpm4.4 (>= 4.4)
```

Output Anatomy 3/3

```
package: gforge-web-apache2
version: 4.8.3-1
                                                          depchain1:
architecture: all
source: gforge (= 4.8.3-1)
                                                            depchain:
status: broken
                                                              package: gforge-web-apache2
reasons:
                                                              version: 4.8.3-1
 conflict:
                                                              architecture: all
                                                              depends: python
  pkg1:
    package: python2.6-minimal
    version: 2.6.6-3
                                                              package: python
    architecture: amd64
                                                               version: 2.6.6-1
    source: python2.6 (= 2.6.6-3)
                                                               architecture: all
    unsat-conflitc: gforge-web-apache2 (< 5.0.1+svn10155)
                                                              depends: python-minimal (= 2.6.6-1)
   pkg2:
    package: gforge-web-apache2
                                                              package: python-minimal
    version: 4.8.3-1
                                                              version: 2.6.6-1
    architecture: all
                                                              architecture: all
    source: gforge (= 4.8.3-1)
                                                              depends: pvthon2.6-minimal (>= 2.6.6-1")
    provides: gforge-web--virtual
```

Machine parsable output

For Example . . .

```
./debcheck -v --progress -f -e natty/Packages.bz2
report:
 package: kubuntu-full
 version: 1.222
  architecture: i386
  source: kubuntu-meta (= 1.222)
  status: broken
  reasons:
   missing:
    pkg:
      package: kubuntu-full
     version: 1.222
      architecture: i386
      unsat-dependency: fglrx
background-packages: 7569
foreground-packages: 7569
```

broken-packages: 1

A demo is better then a 1000 words

Where is it used

- EmDebian
- Mandriva QA team
- Caixa Magica QA team
- Debian Weather
- simple-cdd
- file-conflicts
- . . .

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Deb-Buildcheck

- Deb-specific for the moment (rpm version upcoming)
- Faster then edos-buildcheck (native application now)
- Same output format of distcheck
- It works by encoding the build dependencies and check if they can be satisfied w.r.t. a set of binary packages

Output example

```
package: src:tulip
version: 3 1 2-2 3
architecture: anv
source: tulip (= 3.1.2-2.3)
status: broken
reasons:
 conflict:
  pkg1:
    package: libgl1-mesa-swx11-dev
    version: 7.11.2-1
    architecture: amd64
    source: mesa (= 7.11.2-1)
    unsat-conflitc: libgl-dev--virtual
   pkg2:
    package: libgl1-mesa-dev
    version: 7.11.2-1
    architecture: amd64
    source: mesa (= 7.11.2-1)
```

```
depchain1:
 depchain:
    package: src:tulip
    version: 3.1.2-2.3
    architecture: any
    depends: libgl1-mesa-swx11-dev
depchain2:
  depchain:
    package: src:tulip
    version: 3.1.2-2.3
    architecture: anv
    depends: libqt4-opengl-dev
    package: libqt4-opengl-dev
    version: 4:4.7.4-2
    architecture: amd64
    depends: libgl1-mesa-dev
```

Second Demo!

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Why packages are broken (not installable)?

- Transient problems
 - Depend on a package that is not available
 - Depend on a package that is not installable

Why packages are broken (not installable)?

- Transient problems
 - Depend on a package that is not available
 - Depend on a package that is not installable
- Non Transient problems: Package needs update there is a problem in the metadata of a package.

Trivial Example 1: Is (foo,1) installable?

```
Package: foo
Version: 1
```

Depends: bar (= 2)

Package: bar Version: 1

Is it installable in a future?

Yes, we just need to upgrade bar to version 2.

Trivial Example 2: Is (foo,1) installable?

```
Package: foo
Version: 1
```

Depends: bar (< 2)

Package: bar Version: 2

Is it installable in a future?

No, because the dependency bar with version lesser then 2 and it will never be satisfied.

Example 1: Is (foo,1) installable?

```
Package: foo
Version: 1
Depends: baz (= 2.5) | bar (= 2.3),
  bar (> 2.6) | baz (< 2.3)</pre>
```

Package: bar Version: 2

Package: baz Version: 2

Conflicts: bar (< 3)

Is it installable in a future?

Yes, for example in a future with (baz,2.5) with no conflicts and bar with a version between 2.6 and 3.

Example 2: Will (foo,1) ever be installable?

Package: foo
Version: 1
Depends: baz (= 2.5) | bar (= 2.3),
 bar (> 2.6) | baz (< 2.3)</pre>

Package: bar Version: 2.3

Package: baz Version: 2.5

Conflicts: bar (> 2.6)

Is it installable in a future?

In this case this is not longer true, as if I choose baz (= 2.5) this will conflict with any version of bar greater then 2.6 and I cannot choose bar (= 2.3) because because baz is in the repository with version = 2.5

Demo again

A demo of an automatic tool is fun!

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Problem with normal dependencies

The explicit, syntactic dependency relation $p \rightarrow q$ is too coarse grained to answer natural questions like:

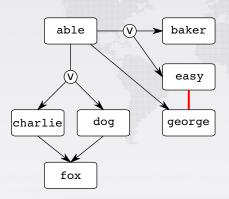
- can I remove package p without affecting package q?
- how many / which packages will be affected by the upgrade of package p?
 - Impact set: the set of packages potentially affected by changes in a given package.
 - Its size is the package sensitivity.
 - Direct dependencies: too little
 - Transitive closure of direct dependencies: too much

Answers do not depend on packages p and q only! We need a stronger notion.

Strong dependencies

Definition

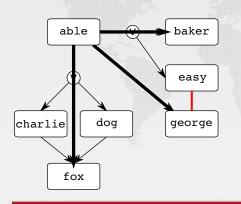
 p strongly depends on q with respect to R if it is not possible to install p without also installing q



Strong dependencies

Definition

 p strongly depends on q with respect to R if it is not possible to install p without also installing q



- george: conjunctive dependency
- baker: disjunctive, but easy not installable
- fox: dependency of both alternatives

Impact sets via Strong dependencies in Debian

Table: Debian Lenny, sorted by the size of the strong impact set.

Package -IS(p)-	
gcc-4.3-base	20128
libgcc1	20126
libc6	20126
libstdc++6	14964
libselinux1	14121
lzma	13534
libattr1	13489
libacl1	13467
coreutils	13454
dpkg	13450
perl-base	13310
debconf	11387
libncurses5	11017
zlib1g	10945
libdb4.6	9640
debianutils	8204
libgdbm3	8148
sed	8008
perl-modules	7898
perl	7898

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Challenged Packages

- By looking at the impact set of a package P We can deduce which packages are affected by a problem in P.
- We want to know something more: if I upgrade a package P with version v to a future version w, how many packages are going to be affected by this upgrade?
- We want to do this only by looking at the current repository and only using the available meta data information.
- We also consider clustering information to upgrade all packages in a cluster at once

Demo again ?

Nope, this one takes some time to run...

Results for Squeeze

Table: Top 20 cluster upgrades, by number of broken components

Source	Version	Target Version	#(BP)
perl	5.10.1-16	5.10.2 < . < 5.12	2652
perl	5.10.1-16	5.10.1-16 < . < 5.10.2	2652
perl	5.10.1-16	> 006	2652
perl	5.10.1-16	5.12 < . < 5.12.0	2651
perl	5.10.1-16	5.12.0 < . < 006	2651
python-defaults	2.6.6-3+squeeze1	> 3	1802
python-defaults	2.6.6-3+squeeze1	2.07 < . < 2.008	1800
python-defaults	2.6.6-3+squeeze1	2.008 < . < 3	1800
python-numpy	1:1.4.1-5	> 1:1.5	542
pygobject	2.21.4+is.2.21.3-1	> 2.21.4+is.2.21.3-1	522
pycairo	1.8.8-1	> 1.8.8-1+b1	517
gtk+2.0	2.20.1-2	> 2.20.1-2	482
udisks	1.0.1+git20100614-3	> 1.1.0	417
eglibc	2.11.2-7	> 2.12	395
eglibc	2.11.2-7	2.11.2-7 < . < 2.12	382
ghc6	6.12.1-13	> 6.12.1+	357
ghc6	6.12.1-13	6.12.1-13 < . < 6.12.1+	357
libnotify	0.5.0-2	> 0.5.0-2	331
ocaml	3.11.2-2	> 3.11.2-2	252
apt	0.8.8	> 0.8.8	219
haskell-mtl	1.1.0.2-10	> 1.1.0.2+	173
haskell-mtl	1.1.0.2-10	1.1.0.2-10+b1 < . < 1.1.0.2+	173
libdbi-perl	1.612-1	> 1.612-1	172
pygtk	2.17.0-4	> 2.17.0-4	129
libjpeg6b	6b1-1	> 6b1-1	115
e2fsprogs	1.41.12-2	> 1.41.12-2	115

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Coints

- compute the installability kernel of a distribution
- it is used to identify the class of those packages that cannot be installed together
- author Jerome Vouillon
- http://coinst.irill.org/

That's all, folks.

Questions?

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