Cluster and SVM administrators

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Cluster and SVM administrators

Learn about ONTAP cluster and SVM administrator roles

Cluster administrators administer the entire cluster and the storage virtual machines (SVMs, formerly known as Vservers) it contains. SVM administrators administer only their own data SVMs.

Cluster administrators can administer the entire cluster and its resources. They can also set up data SVMs and delegate SVM administration to SVM administrators. The specific capabilities that cluster administrators have depend on their access-control roles. By default, a cluster administrator with the “admin” account name or role name has all capabilities for managing the cluster and SVMs.

SVM administrators can administer only their own SVM storage and network resources, such as volumes, protocols, LIFs, and services. The specific capabilities that SVM administrators have depend on the access-control roles that are assigned by cluster administrators.

The ONTAP command-line interface (CLI) continues to use the term *Vserver* in the output, and `vserver` as a command or parameter name has not changed.

Enable or disable web browser access to ONTAP System Manager

You can enable or disable a web browser’s access to System Manager. You can also view the System Manager log.

You can control a web browser’s access to System Manager by using `vserver services web modify -name sysmgr -vserver <cluster_name> -enabled [true|false]`.

System Manager logging is recorded in the `/mroot/etc/log/mlog/sysmgr.log` files of the node that hosts the cluster management LIF at the time System Manager is accessed. You can view the log files by using a browser. The System Manager log is also included in AutoSupport messages.

Learn about the ONTAP cluster management server

The cluster management server, also called an *admin*SVM, is a specialized storage virtual machine (SVM) implementation that presents the cluster as a single manageable entity. In addition to serving as the highest-level administrative domain, the cluster management server owns resources that do not logically belong with a data SVM.

The cluster management server is always available on the cluster. You can access the cluster management server through the console or cluster management LIF.

Upon failure of its home network port, the cluster management LIF automatically fails over to another node in the cluster. Depending on the connectivity characteristics of the management protocol you are using, you might or might not notice the failover. If you are using a connectionless protocol (for example, SNMP) or have a limited connection (for example, HTTP), you are not likely to notice the failover. However, if you are using a long-term connection (for example, SSH), then you will have to reconnect to the cluster management server

after the failover.

When you create a cluster, all of the characteristics of the cluster management LIF are configured, including its IP address, netmask, gateway, and port.

Unlike a data SVM or node SVM, a cluster management server does not have a root volume or host user volumes (though it can host system volumes). Furthermore, a cluster management server can only have LIFs of the cluster management type.

If you run the `vserver show` command, the cluster management server appears in the output listing for that command.

Types of SVMs in an ONTAP cluster

A cluster consists of four types of SVMs, which help in managing the cluster and its resources and data access to the clients and applications.

A cluster contains the following types of SVMs:

- Admin SVM

  The cluster setup process automatically creates the admin SVM for the cluster. The admin SVM represents the cluster.

- Node SVM

  A node SVM is created when the node joins the cluster, and the node SVM represents the individual nodes of the cluster.

- System SVM (advanced)

  A system SVM is automatically created for cluster-level communications in an IPspace.

- Data SVM

  A data SVM represents the data serving SVMs. After the cluster setup, a cluster administrator must create data SVMs and add volumes to these SVMs to facilitate data access from the cluster.

  A cluster must have at least one data SVM to serve data to its clients.

Unless otherwise specified, the term SVM refers to a data (data-serving) SVM.

In the CLI, SVMs are displayed as Vservers.

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