Setting up Hydra

> This article was originally published at https://gist.github.com/joepie91/c26f01a787af87a96f967219234a8723 in 2017. The NixOS ecosystem constantly changes, and it may not be relevant anymore by the time you read this article.

Just some notes from my attempt at setting up Hydra.

Setting up on NixOS

No need for manual database creation and all that; just ensure that your PostgreSQL service is running (`services.postgresql.enable = true;`), and then enable the Hydra service (`services.hydra.enable`). The Hydra service will need a few more options to be set up, below is my configuration for it:

```
    services.hydra = {
        enable = true;
        port = 3333;
        hydraURL = "http://localhost:3333/";
        notificationSender = "hydra@cryto.net";
        useSubstitutes = true;
        minimumDiskFree = 20;
        minimumDiskFreeEvaluator = 20;
    };
```

Database and user creation and all that will happen automatically. You'll only need to run `hydra-init` and then `hydra-create-user` to create the first user. Note that you *may* need to run these scripts as root if you get permission or filesystem errors.

Can't run `hydra-*` utility scripts / access the web interface due to database errors

If you already have a `services.postgresql.authentication` configuration line from elsewhere (either another service, or your own `configuration.nix`), it may be conflicting with the one specified in the

Hydra service. There's an open issue about it here.

Can't login

After running `hydra-create-user` in your shell, you may be running into the following error in the web interface: "Bad username or password."

When this occurs, it's likely because the `hydra-*` utility scripts stored your data in a local SQLite database, rather than the PostgreSQL database you configured. As far as I can tell, this happens because of some missing `HYDRA_*` environment variables that are set through `/etc/profile`, which is only applied on your next login. Simply opening a new shell is not enough.

As a workaround until your next login/boot, you can run the following to obtain the command you need to run to apply the new environment variables in your current shell:

```
cat /etc/profile | grep set-environment
```

... and then run the resulting command (including the dot at the start, if there is one!) in the shell you intend to run the `hydra-*` scripts in. If you intend to run them as root, make sure you run the `set-environment` script *in the root shell* - using `sudo` will make the environment variables get lost, so you'll be stuck with the same issue as before.

Revision #1
Created 2024-12-11 12:36:09 UTC by joepie91
Updated 2024-12-11 15:56:33 UTC by joepie91