

Cloudera Runtime 7.3.2

## Apache Knox Authentication

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# CLOUDERA

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# Apache Knox overview

## Securing access to Hadoop cluster: Apache Knox

The Apache Knox Gateway (“Knox”) is a system to extend the reach of Apache™ Hadoop® services to users outside of a Hadoop cluster without reducing Hadoop Security. Knox also simplifies Hadoop security for users who access the cluster data and execute jobs. The Knox Gateway is designed as a reverse proxy.

Establishing user identity with strong authentication is the basis for secure access in Hadoop. Users need to reliably identify themselves and then have that identity propagated throughout the Hadoop cluster to access cluster resources.

### Layers of defense for a Cloudera cluster

- Authentication: Kerberos

Cloudera uses Kerberos for authentication. Kerberos is an industry standard used to authenticate users and resources within a Hadoop cluster. Cloudera also includes Cloudera Manager, which simplifies Kerberos setup, configuration, and maintenance.

- Perimeter Level Security: Apache Knox

Apache Knox Gateway is used to help ensure perimeter security for Cloudera customers. With Knox, enterprises can confidently extend the Hadoop REST API to new users without Kerberos complexities, while also maintaining compliance with enterprise security policies. Knox provides a central gateway for Hadoop REST APIs that have varying degrees of authorization, authentication, SSL, and SSO capabilities to enable a single access point for Hadoop.

Cloudera recommends that you leverage the default PAM Authentication Provider for the benefits in performance and ease of administration rather than direct LDAP. For more details, see *Considerations for Knox*.

- Authorization: Ranger

OS Security: Data Encryption and HDFS

### Related Information

[Considerations for Knox](#)

## Apache Knox Gateway overview

A conceptual overview of the Apache Knox Gateway, a reverse proxy.

### Overview

Knox integrates with Identity Management and SSO systems used in enterprises and allows identity from these systems be used for access to Hadoop clusters.

Knox Gateway provides security for multiple Hadoop clusters, with these advantages:

- Simplifies access: Extends Hadoop’s REST/HTTP services by encapsulating Kerberos to within the Cluster.
- Enhances security: Exposes Hadoop’s REST/HTTP services without revealing network details, providing SSL out of the box.
- Centralized control: Enforces REST API security centrally, routing requests to multiple Hadoop clusters.
- Enterprise integration: Supports LDAP, Active Directory, SSO, SAML and other authentication systems.

### Typical security flow: Firewall, routed through Knox Gateway

Knox can be used with both unsecured Hadoop clusters, and Kerberos secured clusters. In an enterprise solution that employs Kerberos secured clusters, the Apache Knox Gateway provides an enterprise security solution that:

- Integrates well with enterprise identity management solutions
- Protects the details of the Hadoop cluster deployment (hosts and ports are hidden from end users)
- Simplifies the number of services with which a client needs to interact

### Knox Gateway deployment architecture

Users who access Hadoop externally do so either through Knox, via the Apache REST API, or through the Hadoop CLI tools.

## Knox Supported Services Matrix

A support matrix showing which services Apache Knox supports for Proxy and SSO, for both Kerberized and Non-Kerberized clusters.

**Table 1: Knox Supported Components**

Component	UI Proxy (with SSO)	API Proxy
Atlas API	#	#
Atlas UI	#	#
Beacon		
Cloudera Manager API	#	#
Cloudera Manager UI	#	
Data Analytics Studio (DAS)	#	
Druid		
Falcon		
Flink		
HBase REST API(aka WebHBase & Stargate)		#
HBase UI	#	
HDFS UI	#	
HiveServer2 HTTP JDBC API (HS2 via HTTP)		#
HiveServer2 LLAP JDBC API		
HiveServer2 LLAP UI		
HiveServer2 UI		
Cloudera Data Explorer (Hue)	#	
Impala HTTP JDBC API		#
Impala UI	#	
JobHistory UI	#	
JobTracker		#
Kudu UI	#	
Livy API + UI	#	#
LogSearch		

Component	UI Proxy (with SSO)	API Proxy
NameNode	#	#
NiFi	#	#
NiFi Registry	#	#
Oozie API	#	#
Oozie UI	#	
Ozone	#	
Phoenix (aka Avatica)		#
Profiler	#	
Ranger API	#	#
Ranger UI	#	
Yarn ResourceManager API	#	#
Schema Registry API + UI	#	#
Streams Messaging Manager API	#	#
Streams Messaging Manager UI	#	
Solr	#	#
Spark3History UI	#	
SparkHistory UI	#	
Storm		
Storm LogViewer		
Superset		
WebHCat		
WebHDFS		#
YARN UI	#	
YARN UI V2	#	
Zeppelin UI	#	
Zeppelin WS	#	

**Note:**

APIs, UIs, and SSO in the Apache Knox project that are not listed above are considered Community Features.

Community Features are developed and tested by the Apache Knox community but are not officially supported by Cloudera. These features are excluded for a variety of reasons, including insufficient reliability or incomplete test case coverage, declaration of non-production readiness by the community at large, and feature deviation from Cloudera best practices. Do not use these features in your production environments.

## Considerations for Knox

Learn about the considerations before you get started with Knox.

### Default PAM settings for Knox

Secure clusters require local OS accounts. Local OS accounts are most often achieved by using something like SSSD or Centrify which localizes user accounts from user stores or directories including LDAP/AD and so on.

This means that you should be able to use PAM and the local OS accounts straight away as long as they are on the same host as Knox. There are various ways to make local OS accounts available. SSSD or Centrify are technical solutions that make it seem like there are local OS accounts even though they are only in LDAP/AD. You can use real local OS accounts as well.

## Proxy Cloudera Manager through Apache Knox

In order to have Cloudera Manager proxied through Knox, there are some steps you must complete.

### Procedure

1. Set the value for `frontend_url`: Cloudera Manager Administration Settings Cloudera Manager Frontend URL :
  - Non-HA value: `https://$Knox_host:$knox_port`
  - HA value: `https://$Knox_loadbalancer_host:$Knox_loadbalancer_port`
2. Set allowed groups, hosts, and users for Knox Proxy: Cloudera Manager Administration Settings External Authentication :
  - Allowed Groups for Knox Proxy: \*
  - Allowed Hosts for Knox Proxy: \*
  - Allowed Users for Knox Proxy: \*
3. Enable Kerberos/SPNEGO authentication for the Admin Console and API: Cloudera Manager Administration Settings External Authentication Enable SPNEGO/Kerberos Authentication for the Admin Console and API :  
`true`
4. From Cloudera Manager Administration Settings External Authentication , set Knox Proxy Principal: `knox`.

### What to do next

External authentication must be set up correctly. Cloudera Manager must be configured to use LDAP, following the standard procedure for setting up LDAP. This LDAP server should be the same LDAP that populates local users on Knox hosts (if using PAM authentication with Knox), or the same LDAP that Knox is configured to use (if using LDAP authentication with Knox).

However in cases where no LDAP server is available ,corresponding Cloudera Manager local users can be created and assigned roles manually in Cloudera Manager Administrator Users & Roles Add Local User .

## Installing Apache Knox

This document provides instructions on how to install Apache Knox using the Cloudera Base on premises installation process.

### About this task

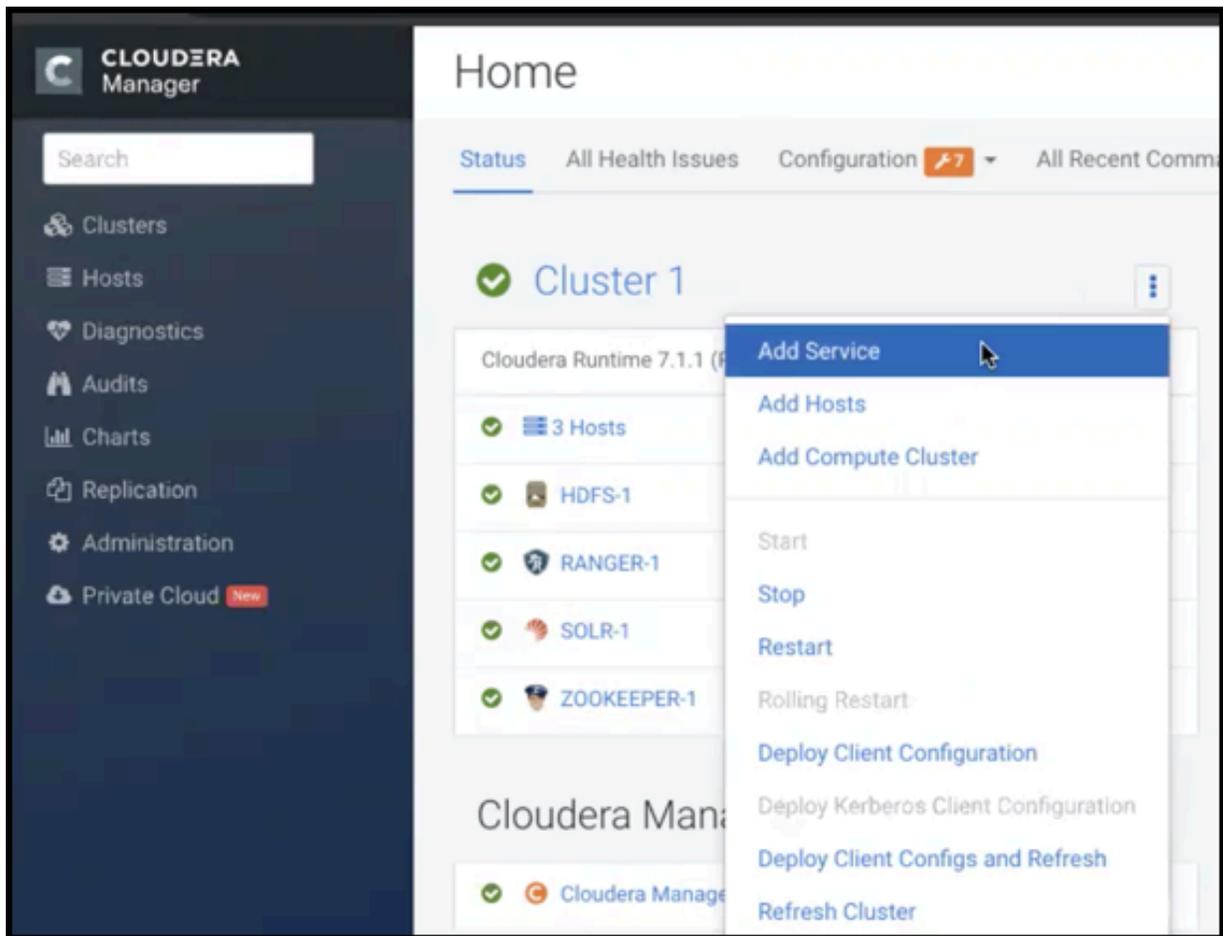
Apache Knox is an application gateway for interacting with the REST APIs and UIs. The Knox Gateway provides a single access point for all REST and HTTP interactions in your Cloudera cluster.

### Before you begin

When installing Knox, you must have Kerberos enabled on your cluster.

## Procedure

1. From your Cloudera Manager homepage, go to Status tab \$Cluster Name ... Add Service



2. From the list of services, select Knox and click Continue.
3. On the **Select Dependencies** page, choose the dependencies you want Knox to set up:

**HDFS, Ranger, Solr, Zookeeper**

For users that require Apache Ranger for authorization. HDFS with Ranger. HDFS depends on Zookeeper, and Ranger depends on Solr.

**HDFS, Zookeeper**

HDFS depends on Zookeeper.

**No optional dependencies**

For users that do not wish to have Knox integrate with HDFS or Ranger.

4. On the **Assign Roles** page, select role assignments for your dependencies and click Continue:

Knox service roles	Description	Required?
Knox Gateway	If Knox is installed, at least one instance of this role should be installed. This role represents the Knox Gateway which provides a single access point for all REST and HTTP interactions with Apache Hadoop clusters.	Required

Knox service roles	Description	Required?
KnoxIDBroker*	It is strongly recommended that this role is installed on its own dedicated host. As its name suggests this role will allow you to take advantage of Knox's Identity Broker capabilities, an identity federation solution that exchanges cluster authentication for temporary cloud credentials.*	Optional*
Gateway	This role comes with the CSD framework. The gateway structure is used to describe the client configuration of the service on each host where the gateway role is installed.	Optional

\* Note: KnoxIDBroker appears in the Assign Roles page, but it is not currently supported in Cloudera Base on premises.

5. On the **Review Changes** page, most of the default values are acceptable, but you must Enable Kerberos Authentication and supply the Knox Master Secret. There are additional parameters you can specify or change, listed in "Knox Install Role Parameters".
  - a) Click Enable Kerberos Authentication
    - Kerberos is required where Knox is enabled.
  - b) Supply the Knox Master Secret, e.g. `knoxsecret`.
  - c) Click Continue.
6. The **Command Details** page shows the status of your operation. After completion, your system admin can view logs for your installation under `stdout`.

## Apache Knox install role parameters

Reference information on all the parameters available for Knox service roles.

### Service-level parameters

**Table 2: Required service-level parameters**

Name	In Wizard	Type	Default Value
<code>kerberos.auth.enabled*</code>	Yes	Boolean	false
<code>ranger_knox_plugin_hdfs_audit_directory</code>	No	Text	<code>\${ranger_base_audit_url}/knox</code>
<code>autorestart_on_stop</code>	No	Boolean	false
<code>knox_pam_realm_service</code>	No	Text	login

### Knox Gateway role parameters

**Table 3: Required parameters for Knox Gateway role**

Name	In Wizard	Type	Default Value
<code>gateway_master_secret</code>	Yes	Password	-
<code>gateway_conf_dir</code>	Yes	Path	<code>/var/lib/knox/gateway/conf</code>
<code>gateway_data_dir</code>	Yes	Path	<code>/var/lib/knox/gateway/data</code>
<code>gateway_security_dir</code>	Yes	Path	<code>/var/lib/knox/gateway/data/security</code>
<code>gateway_port</code>	No	Port	8443

Name	In Wizard	Type	Default Value
gateway_health_port	No	Port	8443 <sup>1</sup>
gateway_path	No	Text	gateway
gateway_heap_size	No	Memory	1 GB (min = 256 MB; soft min = 512 MB)
gateway_ranger_knox_plugin_conf_path	No	Path	/var/lib/knox/ranger-knox-plugin
gateway_ranger_knox_plugin_policy_cache_directory	No	Path	/var/lib/ranger/knox/gateway/policy-cache
gateway_ranger_knox_plugin_hdfs_audit_spool_directory	No	Path	/var/log/knox/gateway/audit/hdfs/spool
gateway_ranger_knox_plugin_solr_audit_spool_directory	No	Path	/var/log/knox/gateway/audit/solr/spool

**Table 4: Optional parameters for Knox Gateway role**

Name	Type	Default Value
gateway_default_topology_name	Text	cdp-proxy
gateway_auto_discovery_enabled	Boolean	true
gateway_cluster_configuration_monitor_interval	Time	60 seconds (minimum = 30 seconds)
gateway_auto_discovery_advanced_configuration_monitor_interval	Time	10 seconds (minimum = 5 seconds)
gateway_cloudera_manager_descriptors_monitor_interval	Time	10 seconds (minimum = 5 seconds)
gateway_auto_discovery_cdp_proxy_enabled_*	Boolean	true
gateway_auto_discovery_cdp_proxy_api_enabled_*	Boolean	true
gateway_descriptor_cdp_proxy	Text Array	Contains the required properties of cdp-proxy topology
gateway_descriptor_cdp_proxy_api	Text Array	Contains the required properties of cdp-proxy-api topology
gateway_sso_authentication_provider	Text Array	Contains the required properties of the authentication provider used by the UIs using the Knox SSO capabilities (such as Home Page UI). Defaults to PAM authentication.
gateway_api_authentication_provider	Text Array	Contains the required properties of the authentication provider used by pre-defined topologies such as admin, metadata or cdp-proxy-api. Defaults to PAM authentication.
gateway_save_alias_command_input	Text	-

### Knox IDBroker role parameters



**Note:** Knox IDBroker is not currently supported in Cloudera Base on premises.

**Table 5: Required parameters for Knox IDBroker role**

Name	In Wizard	Type	Default Value
idbroker_master_secret	Yes	Password	-

<sup>1</sup> Set it to the value of the gateway\_port if it is not the default value.

Name	In Wizard	Type	Default Value
idbroker_conf_dir	Yes	Path	/var/lib/knox/idbroker/conf
idbroker_data_dir	Yes	Path	/var/lib/knox/idbroker/data
idbroker_gateway_port	No	Port	8444
idbroker_gateway_path	No	Text	gateway
idbroker_heap_size	No	Memory	1 GB (min = 256 MB; soft min = 512 MB)

**Table 6: Optional parameters for Knox IDBroker role**

Name	Type	Default Value
idbroker_aws_user_mapping	Text	-
idbroker_aws_group_mapping	Text	-
idbroker_aws_user_default_group_mapping	Text	-
idbroker_aws_credentials_key	Password	-
idbroker_aws_credentials_secret	Password	-
idbroker_gcp_user_mapping	Text	-
idbroker_gcp_group_mapping	Text	-
idbroker_gcp_user_default_group_mapping	Text	-
idbroker_gcp_credential_key	Password	-
idbroker_gcp_credential_secret	Password	-
idbroker_azure_user_mapping	Text	-
idbroker_azure_group_mapping	Text	-
idbroker_azure_user_default_group_mapping	Text	-
idbroker_azure_adls2_tenant_name	Text	-
idbroker_azure_vm_assumer_identity	Text	-
idbroker_relaodable_refresh_interval_ms	Time	10 seconds (minimum = 1 second)
idbroker_kerberos_dt_proxyuser_block	Text Array	A comma-separated list of proxy user configuration used in Knox's dt topology in case Kerberos is enabled
idbroker_knox_token_ttl_ms	Time	1 hour (minimum = 1 second)
idbroker_save_alias_command_input	Text	-

## Management of Knox shared providers in Cloudera Manager

Information on Cloudera on premises topology management for Knox from within Cloudera Manager.

- Modifying the SSO authentication provider used by the UIs using the Knox SSO capabilities, such as the Home Page UI.
- Modifying the API authentication provider used by predefined topologies, such as admin, metadata or cdp-proxy-api.
- Adding/modifying new/existing shared provider configurations.
- Saving aliases using a new Knox Gateway command.

## Management of existing Apache Knox shared providers

You can add, modify, or disable an existing shared provider configuration in Apache Knox via Cloudera Manager.

### Add a new provider in an existing provider configuration

An example of how to add a new provider to the authorization provider in the manager shared provider configuration.

#### About this task

In this example you will see how to add a new HA provider (this time only the ATLAS service will be configured for high availability) in the manager shared provider configuration . This particular authorization provider is set as follows (in its JSON descriptor):

```
{
  "role": "authorization",
  "name": "AclsAuthz",
  "enabled": "true",
  "params": {
    "knox.acl.mode": "OR",
    "knox.acl": "KNOX_ADMIN_USERS;KNOX_ADMIN_GROUPS;*"
  }
}
```

#### Procedure

1. From Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration , add the following entry in the Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml:

- name = providerConfigs:manager
- value =

```
role=authorization#authorization.name=AclsAuthz#authorization.enabled=false#authorization.param.knox.acl=myTestU
```

```
ser;KNOX_ADMIN_GROUPS;*#authorization.param.knox.acl.mod
e=OR#role=ha#ha.name=HaProvider#ha.param.ATLAS=enabled=true;maxFailoverAttempts=3;f
```

KNOX-1 Configuration Page

Search: Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-descriptors.xml

Filters: SCOPE (KNOX-1: 0, Gateway: 0, Knox Gateway: 1, Knox IDBroker: 0), CATEGORY (Advanced: 1, Logs: 0, Main: 0, Monitoring: 0, Performance: 0, Ports and Addresses: 0)

Property: providerConfigs:manager

Value: role=authorization#authorization.name=AcIsAuthz#authorization.enabled=false#e

Description: [Empty]

Final:

KNOX-1 Configuration Page

Search: Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-descriptors.xml

Filters: SCOPE (KNOX-1: 0, Gateway: 0, Knox Gateway: 1, Knox IDBroker: 0), CATEGORY (Advanced: 1, Logs: 0, Main: 0, Monitoring: 0, Performance: 0, Ports and Addresses: 0)

Property: providerConfigs:manager

Value: <property><name>providerConfigs:manager</name><value>role=authorization#authorization.name=AcIsAuthz#authorization.enabled=false#authorization.param.knox.acl=myTestUser;KNOX\_ADMIN\_GROUPS;\*#authorization.param.knox.acl.mode=OR#role=ha#ha.name=HaProvider#ha.param.ATLAS=enabled=true;maxFailoverAttempts=3;failoverSleep=1000;maxRetryAttempts=300;retrySleep=1000</value></property>

View Editor

2. Save your changes.
3. Refresh the cluster.
4. Validate:

```
$ curl -ku <username>:<password> 'https://johndoe-1.abc.cloudera.com:8443/gateway/admin/api/v1/providerconfig/manager'
{
  "providers" : [
    ...
  ], {
    "role" : "authorization",
    "name" : "AcIsAuthz",
    "enabled" : false,
    "params" : {
      "knox.acl" : "myTestUser;KNOX_ADMIN_GROUPS;*",
      "knox.acl.mode" : "OR"
    }
  }, {
    "role" : "ha",
    "name" : "HaProvider",
    "enabled" : true,
    "params" : {
      "ATLAS" : "enabled=true;maxFailoverAttempts=3;failoverSleep=1000;maxRetryAttempts=300;retrySleep=1000"
    }
  }
]
```

```
}

```

## Modify a provider in an existing provider configuration

An example of how to modify the authorization provider in the manager shared provider configuration.

### About this task

In this example you will see how to modify the authorization provider in the manager shared provider configuration. This particular authorization provider is set as follows (in its JSON descriptor):

```
{
  "role": "authorization",
  "name": "AclsAuthz",
  "enabled": "true",
  "params": {
    "knox.acl.mode": "OR",
    "knox.acl": "KNOX_ADMIN_USERS;KNOX_ADMIN_GROUPS;*"
  }
}
```

### Procedure

1. From Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration, add the following entry in the Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml:

- name = providerConfigs:manager
- value =

```
role=authorization#authorization.name=AclsAuthz#authorization.enabled=false#authorization.param.knox.acl=myTestUser;KNOX_ADMIN_GROUPS;*#authorization.param.knox.acl.mode=OR
```

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager interface for configuring a Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml. The snippet name is 'providerConfigs:manager' and the value is 'role=authorization#authorization.name=AclsAuthz#authorization.enabled=false#authorization.param.knox.acl=myTestUser;KNOX\_ADMIN\_GROUPS;\*#authorization.param.knox.acl.mode=OR'. The interface includes a search bar, filters, and a 'Final' checkbox.

With this change you are authorizing a user called myTestUser to login and execute administrative actions on the Knox Admin API.

2. Save your changes.
3. Refresh the cluster.
4. Validate:

```
$ curl -ku <username>:<password> 'https://johndoe-1.abc.cloudera.com:8443/gateway/admin/api/v1/providerconfig/manager'
{
  "providers" : [
    ...
  ]
}
```

```
}, {
  "role" : "authorization",
  "name" : "AclsAuthz",
  "enabled" : false,
  "params" : {
    "knox.acl" : "myTestUser;KNOX_ADMIN_GROUPS;*",
    "knox.acl.mode" : "OR"
  }
}, {
  "role" : "ha",
  "name" : "HaProvider",
  "enabled" : true,
  "params" : {
    "ATLAS" : "enabled=true;maxFailoverAttempts=3;failoverSleep=1000;maxRetryAttempts=300;retrySleep=1000"
  }
} ]
}
```

## Disable a provider in an existing provider configuration

An example of how to disable the authorization provider in the manager shared provider configuration.

### About this task

In this example you will see how to disable the authorization provider in the manager shared provider configuration. This particular authorization provider is set as follows (in its JSON descriptor):

```
{
  "role": "authorization",
  "name": "AclsAuthz",
  "enabled": "true",
  "params": {
    "knox.acl.mode": "OR",
    "knox.acl": "KNOX_ADMIN_USERS;KNOX_ADMIN_GROUPS;*"
  }
}
```

## Procedure

1. From Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration, add the following entry in the Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml:

- name = providerConfigs:manager
- value =

```
role=authorization#authorization.name=AclsAuthz#authorization.enabled=false#authorization.param.knox.acl=KNOX_ADMIN_USERS;KNOX_ADMIN_GROUPS;*#authorization.param.knox.acl.mode=OR
```

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager interface for configuring Knox Gateway. The top navigation bar includes 'Status', 'Instances', 'Configuration', 'Commands', 'Charts Library', 'Audits', 'Knox Gateway UI', and 'Quick Links'. The main content area is titled 'Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-descriptors.xml'. On the left, there are filters for 'SCOPE' and 'CATEGORY'. The main area shows a configuration entry for 'providerConfigs:manager' with a value of 'role=authorization#authorization.name=AclsAuthz#authorization.enabled=false#authorization.param.knox.acl=KNOX\_ADMIN\_USERS;KNOX\_ADMIN\_GROUPS;\*#authorization.param.knox.acl.mode=OR'.

2. Save your changes.
3. Refresh the cluster.
4. Validate:

```
$ curl -ku <username>:<password> 'https://johndoe-1.abc.cloudera.com:8443/gateway/admin/api/v1/providerconfig/manager'
{
  "providers" : [
    ...
  ], {
    "role" : "authorization",
    "name" : "AclsAuthz",
    "enabled" : false,
    "params" : {
      "knox.acl" : "myTestUser;KNOX_ADMIN_GROUPS;*",
      "knox.acl.mode" : "OR"
    }
  }, {
    "role" : "ha",
    "name" : "HaProvider",
    "enabled" : true,
    "params" : {
      "ATLAS" : "enabled=true;maxFailoverAttempts=3;failoverSleep=1000;maxRetryAttempts=300;retrySleep=1000"
    }
  } ]
}
```

## What to do next

The only change is that the enabled flag was changed to false.

## Remove a provider parameter in an existing provider configuration

An example of how to remove the authentication parameter `sessionTimeout` from a shared provider configuration.

### About this task

In this example you will see how to remove the authentication provider parameter `sessionTimeout` in the `pam` shared provider configuration. This particular provider is set as follows:

```
{
  "providers" : [ {
    "role" : "authentication",
    "name" : "ShiroProvider",
    "enabled" : true,
    "params" : {
      "main.pamRealm" : "org.apache.knox.gateway.shirorealm.KnoxPamRealm",
      "main.pamRealm.service" : "login",
      "sessionTimeout" : "30"
    }
  } ],
  "readOnly" : true
}
```

### Procedure

1. In Cloudera Manager, select the Knox service.
2. Go to Configuration.
3. Find the Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for `conf/cdp-resources.xml` property.
4. Click View as XML and add the following.

```
<property><name>providerConfigs:pam</name><value>role=authentication#authentication.name=ShiroProvider#authentication.param.remove=sessionTimeout#authentication.param.main.pamRealm=org.apache.knox.gateway.shirorealm.KnoxPamRealm#authentication.param.main.pamRealm.service=login</value></property>
```



**Note:** The `authentication.param.remove=sessionTimeout` specifies the authentication provider parameter to be removed.

5. Save your changes.
6. Refresh the cluster.
7. Validate:

```
$ curl -ku <username>:<password> 'https://johndoe-1.abc.cloudera.com:8443/gateway/admin/api/v1/providerconfig/pam' {
  "providers" : [ {
    "role" : "authentication",
    "name" : "ShiroProvider",
    "enabled" : true,
    "params" : {
      "main.pamRealm" : "org.apache.knox.gateway.shirorealm.KnoxPamRealm",
      "main.pamRealm.service" : "login"
    }
  } ],
  "readOnly" : true
}
```

## Remove a shared provider configuration

How to remove a shared provider configuration in Knox through Cloudera Manager.

### About this task

You can remove shared provider configurations in Knox when they are no longer required.

### Before you begin

Only non-referenced shared providers can be deleted. If a provider is being used by a descriptor, the provider cannot be deleted.

### Procedure

1. In Cloudera Manager, select the Knox service.
2. Go to Configuration.
3. Find the Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml advanced configuration snippet.
4. Click the + icon, and add the following entries:

- Set the Name to `providerConfigs:[***PROVIDER_CONFIGURATION_NAME(S)***]`.



**Note:** You can specify multiple provider configuration names to remove by listing them separated with commas.

- Set the Value to `remove`.

In this example, we remove the `myTestProviderConfig` shared provider.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager Configuration page for the Knox service. The configuration snippet is titled "Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml". The configuration entry being added has the following details:

- Name:** `providerConfigs: myTestProviderConfig`
- Value:** `remove`
- Description:** (empty)
- Final:**

5. Click the Save Changes(CTRL+S) button.
6. Refresh the Knox instances configuration by clicking the Stale Configuration: Refresh needed indicator and wait until the refresh process completes.

The screenshot shows the "Stale Configurations" page in Cloudera Manager. The configuration file being edited is `conf/cdp-resources.xml`. The XML content is as follows:

```

... .. -21,6 +21,10 ..
21 21 <property>
22 22 <name>providerConfigs:admin, metadata, pam</name>
23 23 <value>role=authentication#authentication.name=ShiroProvider#authentication.param.sessionTimeout=30#authentication.param.main.pamRealm=org.apache
24 24 </property>
25 + <property>
26 + <name>providerConfigs: myTestProviderConfig</name>
27 + <value>remove</value>
28 + </property>
25 29 </configuration>
26 30

```

The entry for `providerConfigs: myTestProviderConfig` is highlighted in green, indicating it is the configuration being removed.

- Verify that the shared provider configuration file has been removed by running the following command in the Command Line Interface (CLI):

```
ls -al /var/lib/knox/gateway/conf/shared-
providers/[***PROVIDER_CONFIGURATION_NAME***].json
```

- Check the output. If the file has been successfully removed, you will see the following message:

```
ls: cannot access /var/lib/knox/gateway/conf/shared-
providers/[***PROVIDER_CONFIGURATION_NAME***].json: No such file or
directory
```

## Saving aliases

Learn about saving aliases for the Knox Gateway and IDBroker roles across multiple topologies on each host where an instance of the Knox Gateway or IDBroker is installed, without the need to manually run the Knox CLI tool.

### About this task

Two password-type input fields are available at the role level to save aliases:

- `gateway_save_alias_command_input`: Used for saving Knox Gateway aliases.
- `idbroker_save_alias_command_input`: Used for saving IDBroker aliases.

### Procedure

- Save Knox Gateway aliases.

- Add a Knox Gateway alias using the `gateway_save_alias_command_input` password-type input field.

The following format is valid in this input field:

```
topology_name_1[:topology_name_2:...:topology_name_N].alias_name=pas
sword
```

```
cdp-proxy-api:admin:metadata.knoxLdapSystemPassword=guest-password
```

- Save the configuration changes.
- Run the command using the Knox Gateway Actions Save Alias - Knox Gateway option.



**Tip:** If you need to add a gateway-level alias, use `__gateway` as topology name. For example: `__gateway.knoxLdapSystemPassword=admin-password`.

- Save IDBroker aliases.

- Add an IDBroker alias using the `idbroker_save_alias_command_input` password-type input field.

The following format is valid in this input field:

```
topology_name_1[:topology_name_2:...:topology_name_N].alias_name=pas
sword
```

```
aws-cab.aws.credentials.secret=myAwsSecret
```

- Save the configuration changes.
- Run the command using the IDBroker Actions Save Alias - IDBroker option.

Example

KNOX-1 Actions

Status Instances Configuration Commands Charts Library Audits Knox Gateway Home Quick Links

Q Save alias Filters Role Groups History & Rollback

Filters

- SCOPE
  - KNOX-1 (Service-Wide) 0
  - Gateway 0
  - Knox Gateway 1
  - Knox IDBroker 1
- CATEGORY
  - Main 2

Save Alias Command Input - Knox Gateway  
gateway\_save\_alias\_command\_input gateway\_save\_alias\_command\_input Knox Gateway Default Group

Save Alias Command Input - IDBroker  
idbroker\_save\_alias\_command\_input idbroker\_save\_alias\_command\_input Knox IDBroker Default Group

1 - 2 of 2

KNOX-1 Actions

Status Instances Configuration Commands Charts Library Audits Web UI Quick Links

Q Enter search terms (hostname, host ID, IP address, cluster name, rack, health status, or CDH version) separa Filters Last Updated: Oct 16, 7:46:25 AM UTC

Filters

- STATUS
  - Good Health 4
- COMMISSION STATE
- MAINTENANCE MODE
- RACK ID

Actions for Selected

Status	Role Type	Tags	State	Hostname	Commission State	Role Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Knox IDBroker		Started		Commissioned	Knox IDBroker Default Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Knox Gateway		Started		Commissioned	Knox Gateway Default Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Knox Gateway		Started		Commissioned	Knox Gateway Default Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Knox Gateway		Started		Commissioned	Knox Gateway Default Group

Add Role Instances Role Groups

KNOX-1 Actions

Status Instances Configuration Commands Charts Library Audits Web UI Quick Links

Q Enter search terms (hostname, host ID, IP address, cluster name, rack, health status, or CDH version) separa Filters

Filters

- STATUS
- COMMISSION STATE
- MAINTENANCE MODE
- RACK ID

Actions

- Start
- Restart
- Rolling Restart
- Save Alias - Knox Gateway
- Save Alias - IDBroker
- Stop

Save the value defined in gateway\_save\_alias\_command\_input as a Knox alias

Save Alias - Knox Gateway

Are you sure you want to run the **Save Alias - Knox Gateway** command on the service **KNOX-1**?

This command will:

- Save the value defined in gateway\_save\_alias\_command\_input as a Knox alias

Cancel Save Alias - Knox Gateway

Save Alias - Knox Gateway ✕

Status ● **Finished** Context [KNOX-1](#) 📅 Oct 16, 7:50:04 AM ⌚ 26.57s

Command Save Alias - Knox Gateway finished successfully on service KNOX-1.

✓ **Completed 1 of 1 step(s).**

Show All Steps  Show Only Failed Steps  Show Only Running Steps

✓ Execute 3 steps in parallel Successfully completed 3 steps.	Oct 16, 7:50:04 AM	26.57s
➤ Execute command Save Alias - Knox Gateway on role Knox Gateway ( )	<a href="#">Knox Gateway ( )</a>	Oct 16, 7:50:04 AM 25.41s
➤ Execute command Save Alias - Knox Gateway on role Knox Gateway ( )	<a href="#">Knox Gateway ( )</a>	Oct 16, 7:50:04 AM 26.01s
➤ Execute command Save Alias - Knox Gateway on role Knox Gateway ( )	<a href="#">Knox Gateway ( )</a>	Oct 16, 7:50:04 AM 26.14s

[Close](#)

Save Alias - Knox Gateway ✕

Command (Save Alias - Knox Gateway (1546337849)) has completed successfully

✓ Save Alias - Knox Gateway [Knox Gateway \( \)](#) Oct 16, 7:50:04 AM 26.13s

Save Alias - Knox Gateway finished successfully on Knox Gateway ( ).

\$> [csd/csd.sh](#) [ ] [stdout](#) stderr Role Log

```

Thu Oct 16 07:58:20 UTC 2025
JAVA_HOME=/usr/lib/jvm/jdk1.17.0.11.0-openjdk-cloudera
Using -XX:OnOutOfMemoryError=/opt/cloudera/cm-agent/service/common/killparent.sh as CSD_JAVA_OPTS
Using /var/run/cloudera-scm-agent/process/1546337850-knox-KNOX_GATEWAY-SaveAliasCommand as conf_dir
Using scripts/saveAliasCommand.sh as process script
CONF_DIR=/var/run/cloudera-scm-agent/process/1546337850-knox-KNOX_GATEWAY-SaveAliasCommand
CMF_CONF_DIR=
Thu Oct 16 07:58:21 UTC 2025 [INFO] Using the following command to fetch the input:
/usr/lib/jvm/jdk1.17.0.11.0-openjdk-cloudera/bin/java -cp /opt/cloudera/cm/lib/security-7.13.2.jar com.cloudera.enterprise.crypto.GenericKeyStoreTypePasswordExtractor
jceks /var/run/cloudera-scm-agent/process/1546337850-knox-KNOX_GATEWAY-SaveAliasCommand/creds.localjceks gateway_save_alias_command_input
Thu Oct 16 07:58:21 UTC 2025 [INFO] Creating alias knoxLdapSystemPassword for topology cdp-proxy-api...
Java version is 17. Adding properties to enable Knox to run on JDK 17
knoxLdapSystemPassword has been successfully created.
Thu Oct 16 07:58:24 UTC 2025 [INFO] Creating alias knoxLdapSystemPassword for topology admin...
Java version is 17. Adding properties to enable Knox to run on JDK 17
knoxLdapSystemPassword has been successfully created.
Thu Oct 16 07:58:27 UTC 2025 [INFO] Creating alias knoxLdapSystemPassword for topology metadata...
Java version is 17. Adding properties to enable Knox to run on JDK 17
knoxLdapSystemPassword has been successfully created.
Full log file

```

## Configuring Kerberos authentication in Apache Knox shared providers

An example of how to add the kerberos-auth configuration provider from Cloudera Manager.

### Procedure

1. From Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration, add the following entry in the Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml:

- Name = providerConfigs:kerberos-providers
- Value =

```

role=authentication#
authentication.name=HadoopAuth#
authentication.param.sessionTimeout=30#
authentication.param.config.prefix=hadoop.auth.config#
authentication.param.hadoop.auth.config.type=kerberos#
authentication.param.hadoop.auth.config.signature.secret=${ALIAS=AUTH_CONFIG_SIGNATURE_SECRET}
authentication.param.hadoop.auth.config.token.validity=1800#
authentication.param.hadoop.auth.config.cookie.path=/#
authentication.param.hadoop.auth.config.simple.anonymous.allowed=false#
authentication.param.hadoop.auth.config.kerberos.principal=AUTH_CONFIG_KERBEROS_PRINCIPAL#

```

```
authentication.param.hadoop.auth.config.kerberos.keytab=AUTH_CONFIG_KER
BEROS_KEYTAB#
authentication.param.hadoop.auth.config.kerberos.name.rules=DEFAULT
```



**Important:** Paste the value as a single line, without line-breaks.

2. Add a safety valve name/value pair in Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration ,in Knox Gateway Environment Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve):

```
Name = IDBROKER_KERBEROS_DT_PROXYUSER_BLOCK
Value = "proxyuser_block": "none"
```

Knox Gateway Environment Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve)		Knox Gateway Default Group	
<a href="#">KNOX_GATEWAY_role_env_safety_valve</a>	Key	<input type="text" value="IDBROKER_KERBEROS_DT_PROXYUSER_BLOCK"/>	<a href="#">View as Text</a>
	Value	<input type="text" value='"proxyuser_block": "none"'/>	

3. Save your changes.
4. Refresh the cluster.
5. Validate with a curl command: `curl -k https://HOST-10-00-100-100:8443/gateway/admin/api/v1/providerconfig/kerberos-providers`.

```
# curl -k https://host-10-00-100-100:8443/gateway/admin/api/v1/providerconfig/kerberos-providers
{
  "providers" : [ {
    "role" : "authentication",
    "name" : "HadoopAuth",
    "enabled" : true,
    "params" : {
      "config.prefix" : "hadoop.auth.config",
      "hadoop.auth.config.kerberos.keytab" : "/var/run/cloudera-scm-agent/process/81-knox-KNOX_GATEWAY/knox.keytab",
      "hadoop.auth.config.kerberos.name.rules" : "DEFAULT",
      "hadoop.auth.config.kerberos.principal" : "HTTP/host-10-00-100-100.coe.cloudera.com@CLOUDERA.COM",
      "hadoop.auth.config.signature.secret" : "${ALIAS=AUTH_CONFIG_SIGNATURE_SECRET}",
      "hadoop.auth.config.simple.anonymous.allowed" : "false",
      "hadoop.auth.config.token.validity" : "1800",
      "hadoop.auth.config.type" : "kerberos",
      "proxyuser_block" : "none"
    }
  }, {
    "role" : "identity-assertion",
    "name" : "HadoopGroupProvider",
    "enabled" : true,
    "params" : {
      "CENTRAL_GROUP_CONFIG_PREFIX" : "gateway.group.config."
    }
  }, {
    "role" : "authorization",
    "name" : "XASecurePDPKnox",
    "enabled" : true,
    "params" : { }
  }, {
    "role" : "ha",
    "name" : "HaProvider",
```

```

    "enabled" : true,
    "params" : {
      "HBASE" : "maxFailoverAttempts=3;failoverSleep=1000;enabled=true",
      "HIVE" : "maxFailoverAttempts=3;failoverSleep=1000;enabled=true;zoo
keeperEnsemble=maxFailoverAttempts=3;failoverSleep=1000;enabled=true;zoo
keeperEnsemble=gbl20175161.systems.uk.company:2181,gbl20175162.systems.u
k.company:2181,gbl20175163.systems.uk.company:2181;zookeeperNamespace=hi
veserver2",
      "OOZIE" : "maxFailoverAttempts=3;failoverSleep=1000;enabled=true",
      "WEBHCAT" : "maxFailoverAttempts=3;failoverSleep=1000;enabled=true",
      "WEBHDFS" : "maxFailoverAttempts=3;failoverSleep=1000;maxRetryAtte
mpts=300;retrySleep=1000;enabled=true"
    }
  ],
  "readOnly" : true
}

```

### Related Information

[Saving aliases](#)

## Configuring group mapping in Knox

Learn how to use HadoopGroupProvider to configure group mapping.

### About this task

The role for this provider is identity-assertion and name is HadoopGroupProvider:

```

<provider>
  <role>identity-assertion</role>
  <name>HadoopGroupProvider</name>
  <enabled>true</enabled>
  <<param> ... </param>
</provider>

```

All the configurations for HadoopGroupProvider reside in the provider section of a gateway topology file. The `hadoop.security.group.mapping` property determines the implementation. Some of the valid implementations are as follows:

- `org.apache.hadoop.security.JniBasedUnixGroupsMappingWithFallback`

This is the default implementation and is picked up if `hadoop.security.group.mapping` is not specified. This implementation determines if the Java Native Interface (JNI) is available. If JNI is available, the implementation uses the API to resolve a list of groups for a user. If JNI is not available then the shell implementation, `org.apache.hadoop.security.ShellBasedUnixGroupsMapping` is used. It shells out with the `bash -c groups` command (for a Linux/Unix environment) or the `net group` command (for a Windows environment) to resolve a list of groups for a user.

- `org.apache.hadoop.security.LdapGroupsMapping`

This implementation connects directly to an LDAP server to resolve the list of groups. However, this should only be used if the required groups reside exclusively in LDAP, and are not materialized on the Unix servers.

To enable group lookup using identity assertion as HadoopGroupProvider, perform the following steps:

### Procedure

1. Go to Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration .

2. Search for the Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml property, and add the following entry:

```
# name = providerConfigs:sso
# value = role=federation#federation.name=SSOCookieProvider#federation.
param.sso.authentication.provider.url=
https://<knox_hostname>:8443/gateway/knoxsso/api/v1/webssso#role=identity-
assertion#identity-assertio...
HadoopGroupProvider#identity-assertion.enabled=true#identity-assertion.pa
ram.CENTRAL_GROUP_CONFIG_PREFIX=gateway.group.
config#role=authorization#authorization.name=XASecurePDPKnox#authorizatio
n.enabled=true
```



**Note:** Replace your Knox hostname in <knox\_hostname>.

The following is a sample demo of LDAP configurations for the LDAP setting:

```
<param>
<name>gateway.group.config.hadoop.security.group.mapping</name>
<value>org.apache.hadoop.security.LdapGroupsMapping</value>
</param>
<name>gateway.group.config.hadoop.security.group.mapping.ldap.bind.user</
name>
<value>uid=tom,ou=people,dc=hadoop,dc=apache,dc=org</value>
</param>
<name>gateway.group.config.hadoop.security.group.mapping.ldap.bind.pass
word</name>
<value>tom-password</value>
</param>
<name>gateway.group.config.hadoop.security.group.mapping.ldap.url</name>
<value>ldap://localhost:33389</value>
</param>
<name>gateway.group.config.hadoop.security.group.mapping.ldap.base</name>
<value></value>
</param>
<name>gateway.group.config.hadoop.security.group.mapping.ldap.search.fil
ter.user</name>
<value>(&amp;i(|(objectclass=person)(objectclass=applicationProcess))(cn
={0}))</value>
</param>
<name>gateway.group.config.hadoop.security.group.mapping.ldap.search.filt
er.group</name>
<value>(objectclass=groupOfNames)</value>
</param>
<name>gateway.group.config.hadoop.security.group.mapping.ldap.search.attr
.member</name>
<value>member</value>
</param>
<name>gateway.group.config.hadoop.security.group.mapping.ldap.search.a
ttr.group.name</name>
<value>cn</value>
</param>
</provider>
```

3. Save your changes.
4. Refresh the cluster.

## Management of services for Apache Knox through Cloudera Manager

You can enable or disable known or custom services in Knox proxy through Cloudera Manager.

There are two kinds of services in cdp-proxy:

- **Known:** Officially-supported Knox services. Cloudera Manager provides and manages all the required service definition files.
- **Custom:** Unofficial, tech preview, or community feature Knox services. You must ensure that the service definition files (service.xml and rewrite.xml) exist in the \$CDP\_PARCEL\_DIR/lib/knox/data/services folder. These are not recommended for production environments, and not supported by Cloudera.



**Note:** If you upgrade to a newer version of Cloudera, the previously added custom service definitions might disappear from the new location. Therefore, you must ensure that those files are there after upgrading to a newer Cloudera version.



### Important:

These topologies will be deployed by Cloudera Manager only if Knox's service auto-discovery feature is turned on using the Enable/Disable Service Auto-Discovery checkbox on Cloudera Manager UI:

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager Configuration page for KNOX-1. The search bar contains 'auto\_discovery\_enabled'. The filters table is as follows:

SCOPE	Count
KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)	0
Gateway	0
Knox Gateway	1
Knox IDBroker	0

The configuration card for 'Enable/Disable Service Auto-Discovery' (gateway.auto\_discovery.enabled) is checked, and the 'Knox Gateway Default Group' is selected. The page also shows a 'Show All Descriptions' link and a 'Per Page' dropdown set to 25.

For a comprehensive list of known services that can be enabled, see “Knox Supported Services Matrix”.

### Related Information

[Knox Supported Services Matrix](#)

## Enable proxy for a known service in Apache Knox

How to enable auto-discovery for a known service in Knox proxy via Cloudera Manager.

### About this task

“Known” services are officially-supported Knox services (like Apache Atlas, Ranger, Solr, etc.) Cloudera Manager provides and manages all the required service definition files.

For the purposes of this example, we add ATLAS and ATLAS UI to cdp-proxy. You can add more services; for a comprehensive list of knoxn services that can be enabled, see “Knox Supported Services Matrix”.

## Procedure

1. From Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration, check the Gateway Auto Discovery (cdp-proxy) - \$Component boxes.

In this example, we enable:

- gateway\_auto\_discovery\_cdp\_proxy\_enabled\_atlas
- gateway\_auto\_discovery\_cdp\_proxy\_enabled\_atlas\_ui

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager interface for the KNOX-1 service. The search bar is set to 'gateway\_auto\_discovery\_cdp\_proxy\_enabled\_atlas'. Under the 'SCOPE' filter, 'KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)' is selected. Two configuration items are displayed:

- Enable Auto Discovery (cdp-proxy) - Atlas API**: gateway.auto.discovery.cdp-proxy.enabled.atlas-api. It has a 'Refresh needed' indicator.
- Enable Auto Discovery (cdp-proxy) - Atlas Web UI**: gateway.auto.discovery.cdp-proxy.enabled.atlas. It also has a 'Refresh needed' indicator.

2. Save your changes.
3. The 'Refresh needed' stale configuration indicator appears; click it and wait until the refresh process finishes.

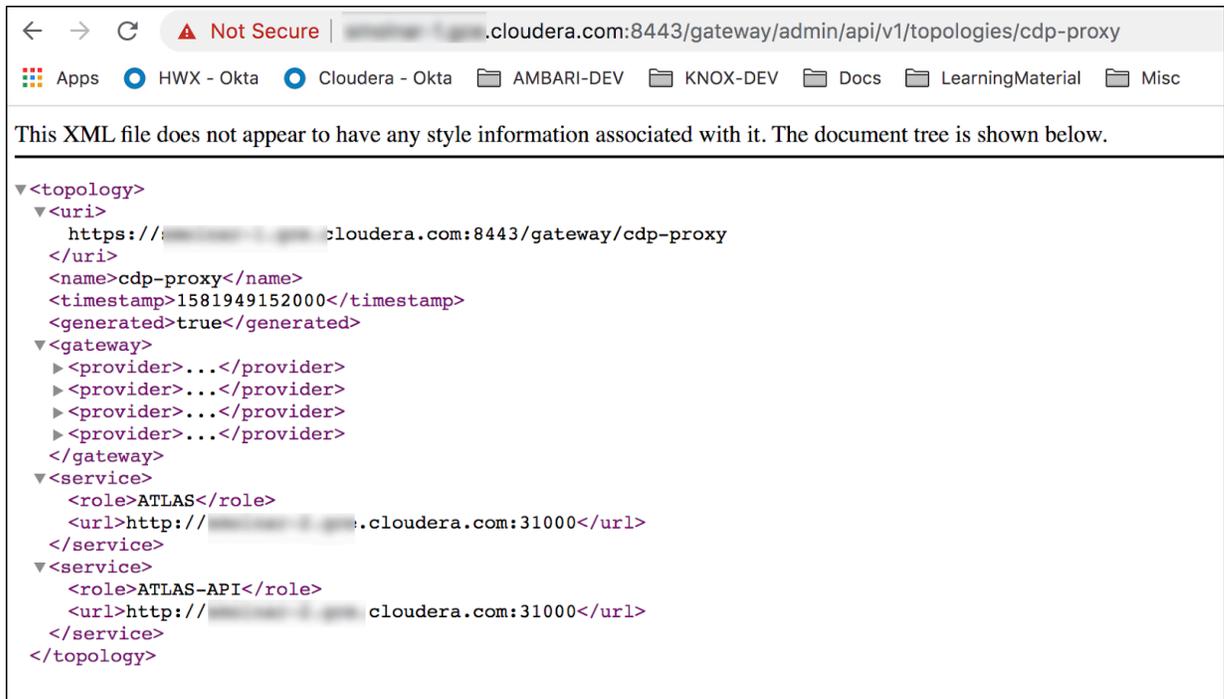
The screenshot shows the 'Stale Configurations' page in Cloudera Manager. The file path is 'conf/auto-discovery-advanced-configuration-cdp-proxy.properties'. The configuration content is as follows:

```

... .. @@ -1,6 +1,6 @@
1 -gateway.auto.discovery.cdp-proxy.enabled.atlas=false
2 -gateway.auto.discovery.cdp-proxy.enabled.atlas-api=false
1 +gateway.auto.discovery.cdp-proxy.enabled.atlas=true
2 +gateway.auto.discovery.cdp-proxy.enabled.atlas-api=true
3 gateway.auto.discovery.cdp-proxy.enabled.cm-api=false
4 gateway.auto.discovery.cdp-proxy.enabled.cm-ui=false
5 gateway.auto.discovery.cdp-proxy.enabled.hbaseus=false
6 gateway.auto.discovery.cdp-proxy.enabled.hdfsui=false

```

4. Validate that ATLAS in cdp-proxy was added by going to the following URL: `https://$KNOX_GATEWAY_HOST:$PORT/$GATEWAY_PATH/admin/api/v1/topologies/cdp-proxy`.



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes" ?>
<topology>
  <uri>
    https://cloudera.com:8443/gateway/cdp-proxy
  </uri>
  <name>cdp-proxy</name>
  <timestamp>1581949152000</timestamp>
  <generated>true</generated>
  <gateway>
    <provider>...</provider>
    <provider>...</provider>
    <provider>...</provider>
    <provider>...</provider>
  </gateway>
  <service>
    <role>ATLAS</role>
    <url>http://cloudera.com:31000</url>
  </service>
  <service>
    <role>ATLAS-API</role>
    <url>http://cloudera.com:31000</url>
  </service>
</topology>

```

### Related Information

[Knox Supported Services Matrix](#)

## Disable proxy for a known service in Apache Knox

How to remove auto-discovery for a known service in Knox proxy via Cloudera Manager.

### About this task

“Known” services are officially-supported Knox services (like Apache Atlas, Ranger, Solr, etc.) Cloudera Manager provides and manages all the required service definition files.

In this example, we are going to remove the previously added ATLAS and ATLAS-UI services from cdp-proxy. We disable the `gateway_auto_discovery_cdp_proxy_enabled_atlas` and `gateway_auto_discovery_cdp_proxy_enabled_atlas_ui` checkboxes on Knox’s Configuration page in CM, save the changes and refresh the cluster.

## Procedure

1. From Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration, uncheck the Gateway Auto Discovery (cdp-proxy) - \$Component boxes.

In this example, we disable:

- gateway\_auto\_discovery\_cdp\_proxy\_enabled\_atlas
- gateway\_auto\_discovery\_cdp\_proxy\_enabled\_atlas\_ui

2. Save your changes.
3. The 'Refresh needed' stale configuration indicator appears; click it and wait until the refresh process finishes.

4. Validate that custom service got removed by going to the following URL: `http s://$KNOX_GATEWAY_HOST:$PORT/$GATEWAY_PATH/admin/api/v1/topologies/cdp-proxy`.

## Add a custom descriptor to Apache Knox

How to add a custom descriptor to Apache Knox using Cloudera Manager.

## About this task

Custom descriptors can be deployed to Apache Knox using Cloudera Manager. These descriptors, combined with referenced provider configurations, are transformed into Knox topologies. Using Cloudera Manager means that these descriptors only ever need to be changed in one place to affect all Knox Gateway instances in the cluster.

Fundamentally, descriptors contain the declaration of services to proxy and a reference to provider configuration defining how authentication and authorization for those proxied services should be handled. A descriptor also may similarly declare Knox applications as topologies do.

Service declarations consist of at least the name of the service being proxied. They optionally include one or more endpoint URLs and one or more service-specific parameters.

Descriptors optionally include discovery information, allowing Knox to dynamically discover the endpoint URLs for the declared services.

## Procedure

### 1. Define the descriptor contents:

- a) From Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration, add a new entry in Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for `conf/cdp-resources.xml_role_safety_valve`.
- b) Name the topology, specify the `providerConfigRef`, and enumerate the services and associated service URLs. Optional service details include version (E.G., `HIVE:version=0.13.0`) and service parameters (E.G., `HIVE:httpclient.connectionTimeout=5m`)



**Note:** The following are predefined read-only topologies:

- admin
- cdp-proxy
- cdp-proxy-api
- cdp-proxy-token
- knoxsso
- manager

These names cannot be used when defining a custom descriptor, and these topologies cannot be changed from the Cloudera Manager UI.

### Static URL Example (HIVE and WEBHDFS with PAM authentication)

- Name=`my-custom-topology`
- Value=

```
providerConfigRef=pam#
HIVE:url=https://hive-host-1:10001/cliservice#
WEBHDFS:url=https://hdfs-host-1:20470/webhdfs#
WEBHDFS:url=https://hdfs-host-2:20470/webhdfs
```

### Discovery Example (HIVE and WEBHDFS with PAM authentication)



**Note:** If the Cloudera cluster is not enabled with Auto-TLS, then you must add the Cloudera Manager certificate to the Knox truststore and restart the Knox service.

- Name=`my-discoverable-topology`
- Value=

```
discoveryType=ClouderaManager#
discoveryAddress=https://cm-host:7183#
cluster=Cluster 1#
providerConfigRef=pam#
HIVE#
```

## WEBHDFS



**Note:** The gateway can monitor cluster configurations, and respond to changes by dynamically regenerating and redeploying the affected topologies. This feature is turned off by default. To turn it on, add the following safety valve:

```
Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml => gateway.cluster.config.monitor.cm.enabled = true.
```

2. Save the changes.
3. Refresh the Knox instances' configuration: the Refresh needed stale configuration indicator appears; click it and wait until the refresh process completes.
4. Validate using the Knox homepage.

Verify that your topology is generated with the services and URLs you specified.



**Note:** If you want to remove the topology, delete the custom descriptor using the following API call:

```
curl -ku knoxui:knoxui 'https://c2235-node4.coelab.cloudera.com:8443/gateway/admin/api/v1/descriptors/infra-solr' -X DELETE
```

## Remove a custom descriptor from Apache Knox

How to remove a custom descriptor from Knox using Cloudera Manager.

### About this task

You can remove a custom descriptor from Knox when the descriptor is no longer required.

### Procedure

1. In Cloudera Manager, select the Knox service.
2. Go to Configuration.
3. Find the Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml advanced configuration snippet.
4. Click the + icon, and add the following entries
  - Set the Name to the name of the descriptor that you want to delete.
  - Set the Value to remove.

In this example, we remove the myTestDescriptor custom descriptor.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager interface for the Knox service configuration. The main content area displays a configuration snippet titled "Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml". A new entry is being added to this snippet with the following details:

- Name:** myTestDescriptor
- Value:** remove
- Description:** (empty field)
- Final:**

The left sidebar shows a "Filters" section with a "SCOPE" table:

SCOPE	Count
KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)	0
Gateway	0
Knox Gateway	1
Knox IDBroker	0

Below the "SCOPE" table is a "CATEGORY" section with a list of categories and their counts:

CATEGORY	Count
Main	0
Advanced	1
Database	0
Logs	0
Monitoring	0
Performance	0
Ports and Addresses	0

The top right of the page shows the date and time: Jul 16, 8:38 AM UTC. The bottom right corner indicates "1 - 1 of 1".

5. Click the Save Changes(CTRL+S) button.

- Refresh the Knox instances configuration by clicking the Stale Configuration: Refresh needed indicator and wait until the refresh process completes.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager interface for 'Cluster 1'. The main section is titled 'Stale Configurations'. On the left, there are filters for 'FILE', 'SERVICE', and 'ROLE TYPE'. Under 'FILE', 'conf/cdp-resources.xml' is listed with a count of 1. Under 'SERVICE', 'KNOX-1' is selected with a count of 1. Under 'ROLE TYPE', 'Knox Gateway' is listed with a count of 1. The main content area shows the XML configuration for 'conf/cdp-resources.xml'. The configuration is displayed in a table-like format with line numbers. The following XML snippet is visible:

```

21 21 <property>
22 22 <name>providerConfigs:admin, metadata, pam</name>
23 23 <value>role=authentication#authentication.name=ShiroProvider#authentication.param.sessionTimeout=30#authentication.param.main.pamRealm=org.apache
24 24 </property>
25 25 <property>
26 26 <name>myTestDescriptor</name>
27 27 <value>remove</value>
28 28 </property>
25 29 </configuration>
26 30

```

- Repeat the previous steps for any number of descriptors that you want to remove.
- Verify that the descriptor file has been removed by running the following command in the Command Line Interface (CLI):

```
ls -al /var/lib/knox/gateway/conf/descriptors/[***DESCRIPTOR_NAME***].json
```

- Check the output. If the file has been successfully removed, you will see the following message:

```
ls: cannot access /var/lib/knox/gateway/conf/descriptors/[***DESCRIPTOR_NAME***].json: No such file or directory
```

## Configuring Knox IDBroker session policies for AWS credentials

Learn how to configure Knox IDBroker session policies to restrict permissions for temporary AWS credentials.

### About this task

Knox IDBroker can be configured with AWS session policies to modify the permissions associated with an IAM role when temporary cloud credentials are requested. These session policies are handled by Amazon STS and define a policy that is the intersection of the role and session policies.

Configure IDBroker session policies using Cloudera Manager to manage them centrally across IDBroker instances. This ensures that the policy definitions are persistent across restarts, upgrades, and other events.

### Procedure

- In Cloudera Manager, select the Knox service.
- Go to the Configuration tab.
- Find the Knox IDBroker Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml advanced configuration snippet.

- Click the + icon to add the `sessionPolicyTemplate:[***POLICY NAME***]` property and its specific values. Replace `[***POLICY NAME***]` with the actual policy name of your session policy template.

**Figure 1: Knox IDBroker Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml**

The screenshot displays the Cloudera Manager Configuration interface for the Knox service. The main content area shows a configuration snippet titled "Knox IDBroker Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml". The snippet is named "sessionPolicyTemplate:[\*\*\*POLICY NAME\*\*\*]" and is associated with the "Knox IDBroker Default Group". The value field is empty, and the description field is also empty. There is a "Final" checkbox which is unchecked. The left sidebar shows filters for SCOPE and CATEGORY.

SCOPE	Count
KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)	0
Gateway	0
Knox Gateway	0
Knox IDBroker	1

CATEGORY	Count
Main	0
Advanced	1
Logs	0
Monitoring	0
Performance	0
Ports and Addresses	0
Resource Management	0

- Click the Save Changes(CTRL+S) button.
- Refresh the Knox instances configuration by clicking the Stale Configuration: Refresh needed indicator and wait until the refresh process completes.

### Related Information

[Configuring the Knox IDBroker](#)

## Extend the Knox Gateway classpath

Learn how to extend the Knox Gateway classpath by prepending or appending custom paths to include additional JAR files or dependencies outside the Knox Gateway home directory.

### Procedure

- In Cloudera Manager, select the Knox service.
- Go to the Configuration tab.
- Search for Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml.

4. To append new path(s) to the classpath, click the + icon and add the following property:

- Name: gateway.server.append.classpath
- Value: The path to your custom libraries, for example /new/append/path/\*.jar

The gateway.server.append.classpath property adds the specified paths to the end of the Knox Gateway classpath, allowing Knox to load additional libraries after the default ones.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager configuration page for KNOX-1. The page title is 'KNOX-1' and the date is 'Jan 22, 2:21 PM UTC'. The page is divided into several sections: 'Status', 'Instances', 'Configuration', 'Commands', 'Charts Library', 'Audits', 'Web UI', and 'Quick Links'. The 'Configuration' section is active, showing a search bar with the text 'Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml'. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'Filters', 'Role Groups', and 'History & Rollback'. The 'Filters' section is expanded, showing a list of filters under 'SCOPE' and 'CATEGORY'. The main configuration area shows the 'Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml' with a link to 'conf/gateway-site.xml\_service\_safety\_valve'. The configuration details are as follows:

Name	Value	Description
gateway.server.append.classpath	/new/append/path/*.jar	

There is also a checkbox for 'Final' which is currently unchecked. The page number '1 - 1 of 1' is visible in the bottom right corner.

5. To prepend new path(s) to the classpath, click the + icon and add the following property:

- Name: gateway.server.prepend.classpath
- Value: The path to your custom libraries, for example /new/prepend/path/\*.jar

The gateway.server.prepend.classpath property adds the specified paths to the beginning of the Knox Gateway classpath, allowing your custom libraries to take precedence over the default Knox libraries.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager configuration page for KNOX-1. The page title is 'KNOX-1' and the date is 'Jan 22, 2:22 PM UTC'. The page is divided into several sections: 'Status', 'Instances', 'Configuration', 'Commands', 'Charts Library', 'Audits', 'Web UI', and 'Quick Links'. The 'Configuration' section is active, showing a search bar with the text 'Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml'. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'Filters', 'Role Groups', and 'History & Rollback'. The 'Filters' section is expanded, showing a list of filters under 'SCOPE' and 'CATEGORY'. The main configuration area shows the 'Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml' with a link to 'conf/gateway-site.xml\_service\_safety\_valve'. The configuration details are as follows:

Name	Value	Description
gateway.server.prepend.classpath	/new/prepend/path/*.jar	

There is also a checkbox for 'Final' which is currently unchecked. The page number '1 - 1 of 1' is visible in the bottom right corner.

6. Configure the path value according to your requirements using the following syntax rules:

- To include multiple locations, separate them with a comma (,) or semicolon (;).
- Use \*.jar to include all JAR files in a folder.
- Use \* to include all files in a folder.
- Use /folder to include class files from folder hierarchies. For example, to include GatewayServer.class, place it in org/apache/knox/gateway.

7. Click Save Changes(CTRL+S).

8. Restart the Knox service to apply the classpath changes.

Go to **Actions Restart** and wait for the restart to complete.

## Load balancing for Apache Knox

Knox offers load balancing using a simple round robin algorithm which prevents load on one specific node.

- For services that are stateless, Knox loadbalances them using a simple round robin algorithm which prevents load on one specific node.
- For services that are stateful (i.e., require sessions, such as Ranger and Hive,) sessions are loadbalanced using a round robin algorithm, where each new session will use a different host and all the requests in the same session will be routed to the same host. This will continue until a session terminates or there is a failover.
- In case of failover, services that are stateful will return error response 502.

This behavior is configurable and can be changed by tuning various flags in Knox HA provider for the respective services.

### Load balancing vs high availability (HA)

Currently, Knox offers load balancing using a simple round robin algorithm which prevents load on one specific node.

Because we do not support session persistence, this is not true HA, as there could be a case where stateful service will not failover to other node.

### Supported services

The following services support Knox load balancing:

- Hive
- Impala
- Oozie
- Phoenix
- Ranger
- Solr

### Default enabled values

The following default values are enabled in the Knox topology. API is located in `cdp-proxy-api.xml`; UI is located in `cdp-proxy.xml`.

- Hive
  - API: `enableStickySession=true;noFallback=true;enableLoadBalancing=true`
- Phoenix
  - API: `enableStickySession=true;noFallback=true;enableLoadBalancing=true`
- Ranger
  - API: `enableStickySession=false;noFallback=false;enableLoadBalancing=true`
  - UI: `enableStickySession=true;noFallback=true;enableLoadBalancing=true`
- Solr
  - API: `enableStickySession=false;noFallback=false;enableLoadBalancing=true`
  - UI: `enableStickySession=true;noFallback=true;enableLoadBalancing=true`

## Configure load balancing for Apache Hive through Knox

Learn how to configure load balancing for Apache Hive when accessing it through Knox Gateway using the Cloudera ODBC driver for Hive to prevent connectivity errors and distribute workload across Hive instances.

## About this task

Load balancing is disabled by default when accessing Apache Hive using the Cloudera ODBC driver for Hive. To enable load balancing, you must configure the `disableLoadBalancingForUserAgents` parameter in Cloudera Manager.



**Note:** Load balancing for Apache Knox is supported with Cloudera ODBC driver for Hive 2.6.15 and later versions.

## Procedure

1. In Cloudera Manager, select the Knox service.
2. Go to the Configuration tab.
3. Search for Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for `conf/cdp-resources.xml`.
4. Click the + icon and add the following parameter:
  - Name: HIVE
  - Value:

```
enableStickySession=true;noFallback=true;enableLoadBalancing=true;maxFailoverAttempts=0;disableLoadBalancingForUserAgents=NONE
```

5. Click Save Changes(CTRL+S).
6. Refresh the Knox instances configuration by clicking the Stale Configuration: Refresh needed indicator and wait until the refresh process completes.

## Results

This configuration enables load balancing for Hive, ensuring proper workload distribution across Hive instances, and preventing connectivity errors when using the Cloudera ODBC driver for Hive.

## Generate and configure a signing keystore for Knox in HA

When Knox is installed on more than one instance (i.e., when Knox is running in HA), then signing keystore configurations must be set in Cloudera Manager.

## Procedure

1. Generate your own certificate and keystore file, and then copy to `/var/lib/knox/gateway/data/security/kestores/`.

2. Set the following values:
  - `gateway_signing_keystore_name`: the filename of keystore file that contains the signing keypair.
  - `gateway_signing_keystore_type`: the type of the keystore file where the signing keypair is stored. In non-FIPS environments, this should be PKCS12.
  - `gateway_signing_key_alias`: the alias for the signing keypair within the keystore.
3. If you do not want the master secret to be used, you can set an alias for the password to the keystore file that holds the signing keypair.
  - a) Go to [Saving Aliases](#) and follow the instructions.
  - b) From Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration Knox Service (or Gateway) Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for `conf/gateway-site.xml_service_safety_valve:`, configure `gateway.signing.keystore.password.alias` to the alias previously defined.

## Knox Gateway token integration

You can use the Apache Knox homepage to generate and manage Knox Gateway tokens for Cloudera.

### Related Information

[Knox token management \(in v1.6.0 and above\)](#)

## Overview

Instead of using a basic username/password pair, you can improve security by generating Knox Gateway tokens. Tokens are more secure than plaintext username/password because they are signed, anonymized from the source data, and have a specified lifetime (by default, one hour).

### About Knox gateway tokens

Before Cloudera Data Platform 7.2.14, Knox on Cloudera on cloud had two default topologies: `cdp-proxy` and `cdp-proxy-api`. To enable passcode tokens, a third Knox topology was added: `cdp-proxy-token`. While very similar to `cdp-proxy-api`, the authentication provider for `cdp-proxy-token` is configured with the `JWTFederation` provider, so that newly generated tokens can be used.

### View Knox token integration

Knox token integration can be accessed via Cloudera Manager or the Knox homepage:

- (Recommended) Cloudera Manager: Cloudera Manager Clusters Knox Configuration and search for “Knox Token Integration”.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager interface for configuring Knox Gateway token integration. The page title is "KNOX-1" and the current view is "Configuration". The search bar contains "Knox Token Integration".

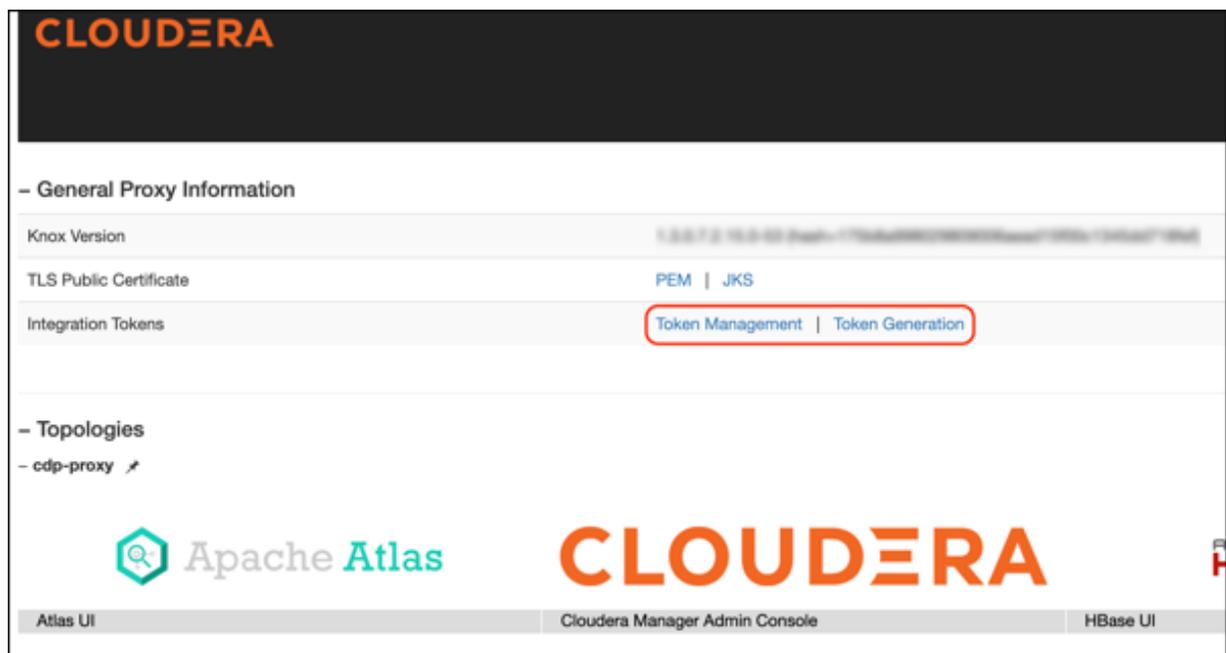
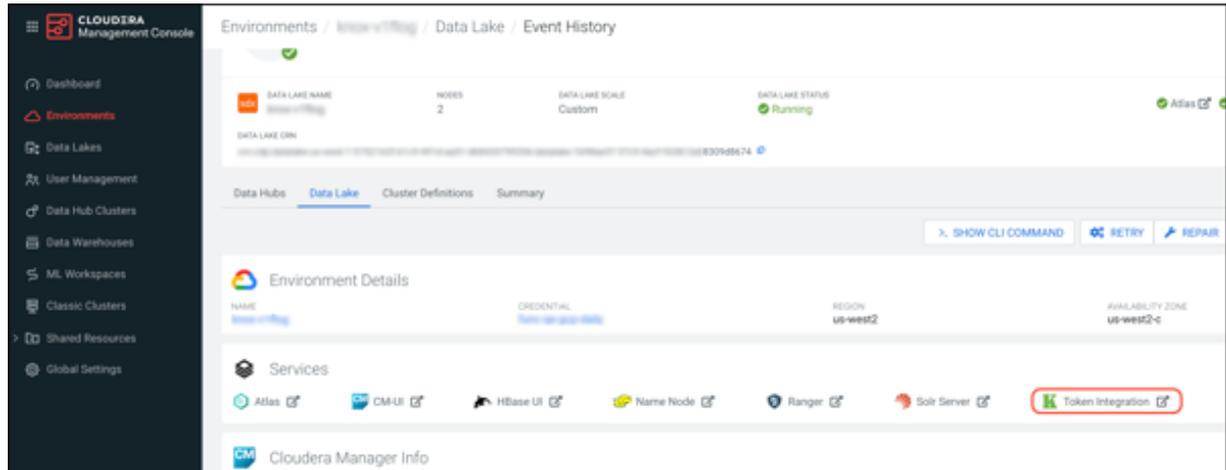
**Filters:**

- SCOPE:**
  - KNOX-1 (Service-Wide): 0
  - Gateway: 0
  - Knox Gateway: 16
  - Knox IDBroker: 0
- CATEGORY:**
  - Main: 16
  - Advanced: 0
  - Database: 0
  - Logs: 0
  - Monitoring: 0
  - Performance: 0
  - Ports and Addresses: 0
  - Resource Management: 0
  - Security: 0
  - Stacks Collection: 0
- STATUS:**
  - Error: 0
  - Warning: 0
  - Edited: 0
  - Non-Default: 2
  - Include Overrides: 0

**Configuration Items:**

- Knox Token Integration - Token State Service Implementation:**
  - Property: `gateway.service.tokenstate.impl`
  - Value: `org.apache.knox.gateway.services.token.impl.JDBCTokenStateService`
  - Description: Knox's internal implementation of its own token state service.
- Knox Token Integration - Configured Token TTL:**
  - Property: `gateway.token.generation.knox.token.ttl`
  - Value: `1` hour(s)
  - Description: The value of 'knox.token.ttl' in the homepage topology.
- Knox Token Integration - Token Type:**
  - Property: `gateway.knox.token.type`
  - Value: `JWT`
  - Description: This is an optional configuration parameter to indicate the type of the JWT token that Knox generates.
- Knox Token Integration - Allowed Token Management Implementations:**
  - Property: `gateway.token.generation.allowed.tss.backends`
  - Value: `JDBCTokenStateService, AliasBasedTokenStateService`
  - Description: A list implementation names that Knox considers allowed on its own token generation page.
- Knox Token Integration - Enable Lifespan Input:**
  - Property: `gateway.token.generation.enable.lifespan.input`
  - Value:  Knox Gateway Default Group
  - Description: Whether the lifespan input fields are enabled on Knox's token generation page.
- Knox Token Integration - Eviction Grace Period:**
  - Property: `gateway.knox.token.eviction.grace.period`
  - Value: `day(s)`
  - Description: Defines the grace period for which an expired token's state will avoid eviction. Setting this to zero means there is no grace period, and token state is evicted based on expiration only. See `idbroker.knox.token.eviction.interval` for more information.

- Navigate to the Cloudera Management Console service > Data Lakes > (Your cluster) > Token Integration (under the Services tab). This will bring you to the Knox homepage. There are two new links on your Knox homepage: Token Management and Token Generation.



Knox token integration in Cloudera works out of the box using the Knox Token Generation page. However, the token integration API can be re-used in your own custom topology.



**Attention:** The only restriction of the above approach is that your custom topology must not use the HadoopAuth authentication provider because it won't work with the KNOXTOKEN service due to a known issue (which will be fixed in future releases).

## Token configurations

The default configurations for Knox token integration are as follows.

## Default configurations

**Table 7: Default token configurations**

Property	Sample values	Default
Token State Service Implementation	Knox's internal implementation of its own token state service.	org.apache.knox.gateway.services.token.impl.JDBCTokenStateService
Allowed Token Management Implementations	A list of implementation names that Knox considers allowed on its own token generation page.	JDBCTokenStateService, AliasBasedTokenStateService
Configured Token TTL	The value of "knox.token.ttl" in the homepage topology.	1 hour
Token Type	This is an optional configuration parameter to indicate the type of the JWT token that Knox generates.	JWT
Enable Lifespan Input	Whether the lifespan input fields are enabled on Knox's token generation page.	false
User Limit	The number of tokens a user is allowed to manage. Setting this to -1 indicates unlimited token management.	10
User Limit Exceeded Action	The action Knox will take if user limit is exceeded while trying to create a new Knox Token. If REMOVE_OLDEST is selected then the oldest token of the user, who the token is being generated for, will be removed. Otherwise, if RETURN_ERROR is selected, Knox will return an error response with 403 error code.	RETURN_ERROR
Renewer Whitelist	This is an optional configuration parameter to authorize the comma-separated list of users to invoke the associated token renewal and/or revocation APIs.	empty string
JWKS URL	This optional configuration parameter enables end-users to declare their JWKS URL. The JSON Web Key Set (JWKS) is a set of keys containing the public keys used to verify any JSON Web Token (JWT) issued by the authorization server and signed using the RS256 signing algorithm.	empty string
Allowed JWS Types	This is an optional configuration parameter to allow a comma-separated list of token types Knox will allow while validating JSON Web Signature (JWS) using JWKS URLs. Defaults to "JWT". The typical customized value is "at +jwt, JWT".	JWT
Expected Principal Claim	If that configuration parameter is defined, Knox will use this to get the value of this claim from the submitted JWT upon verification instead of using the default principal.	empty string
Expected JWT Signature Algorithm	Indicates the expected signature algorithm Knox should use to verify the submitted JWT's signature. If not defined, Knox will use 'RS256'.	empty string
Expected JWT Issuer	Indicates the expected issuer of a received token must match. If not defined, Knox will use 'KNOXSSO'.	empty string
Enable Impersonation	Indicates if Knox Token impersonation is enabled.	false

Property	Sample values	Default
Proxyuser Block	<p>If Knox token impersonation is enabled, it allows the specified user(s) to impersonate members of certain groups from specific hosts. For example, the following values allow a user named "changeme" to impersonate members of any group from any host:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"knox.token.proxyuser.changeme.hosts": "*"</li> <li>"knox.token.proxyuser.changeme.groups": "*"</li> </ul> <p>The values for this property must be in JSON key/value format.</p>	empty string

Default configurations seen from Cloudera Manager:

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager configuration interface for Knox-1. The search bar contains 'Knox Token Integration'. The left sidebar shows filters for SCOPE (KNOX-1 (Service-Wide) 0, Gateway 0, Knox Gateway 16, Knox IDBroker 0), CATEGORY (Main 16, Advanced 0, Database 0, Logs 0, Monitoring 0, Performance 0, Ports and Addresses 0, Resource Management 0, Security 0, Stacks Collection 0), and STATUS (Error 0, Warning 0, Edited 0, Non-Default 2, Include Overrides 0). The main configuration area lists several properties:

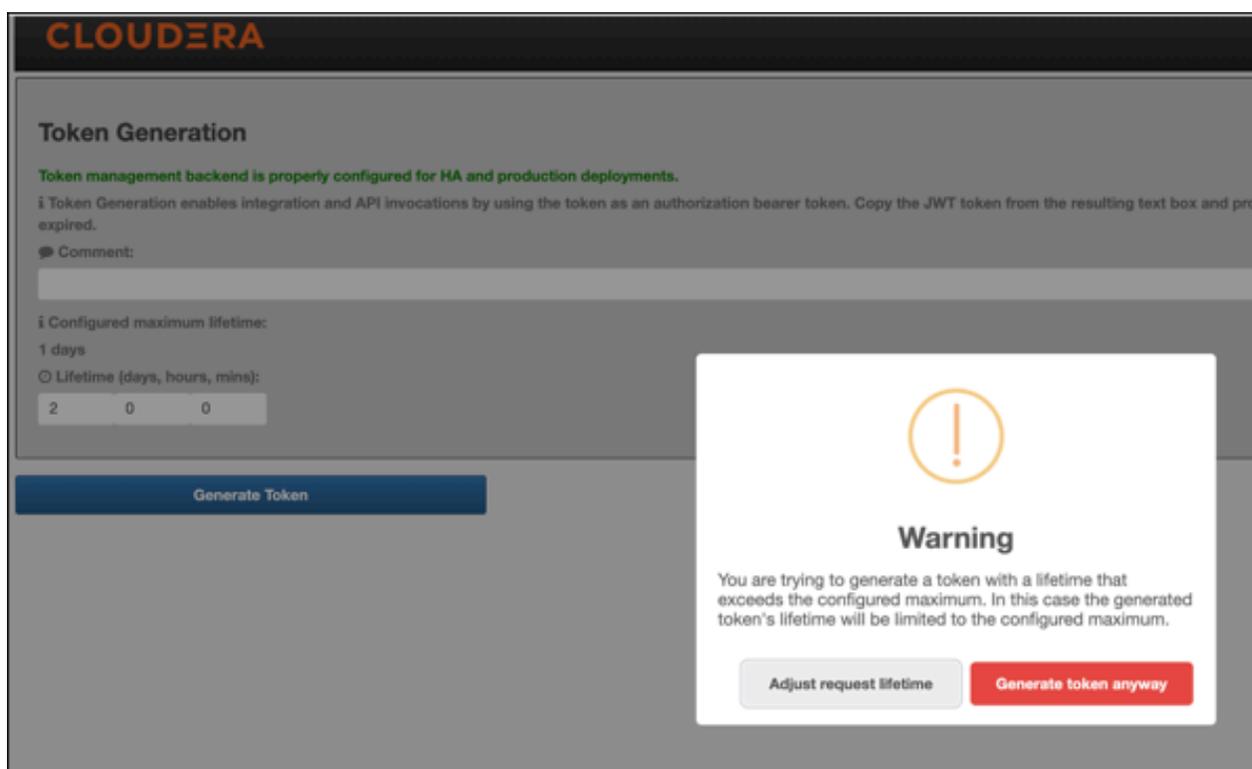
- Knox Token Integration - Token State Service Implementation:** gateway\_service.tokenstate.impl. Value: org.apache.knox.gateway.services.token.impl.JDBCTokenStateService.
- Knox Token Integration - Configured Token TTL:** gateway\_token\_generation.knox\_token\_ttl. Value: 1 hour(s).
- Knox Token Integration - Token Type:** gateway\_knox\_token\_type. Value: JWT.
- Knox Token Integration - Allowed Token Management Implementations:** gateway\_token\_generation.allowed\_tms\_backends. Value: JDBCTokenStateService, AliasBasedTokenStateService.
- Knox Token Integration - Enable Lifespan Input:** gateway\_token\_generation.enable\_lifespan\_input. Value:  Knox Gateway Default Group.
- Knox Token Integration - Eviction Grace Period:** gateway\_knox\_token\_eviction\_grace\_period. Value:  day(s).

<p><b>Knox Token Integration - User Limit</b> gateway.knox.token.limit.per.user <a href="#">gateway_knox_token_limit_per_user</a></p>	<p>Knox Gateway Default Group</p> <input type="text" value="10"/>	<p>The number of tokens a user is allowed to manage. Setting this to -1 indicates unlimited token management.</p>
<p><b>Knox Token Integration - User Limit Exceeded Action</b> gateway.knox.token.user.limit.exceeded.action <a href="#">gateway_knox_token_user_limit_exceeded_action</a></p>	<p>Knox Gateway Default Group</p> <p><input type="radio"/> REMOVE_OLDEST</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> RETURN_ERROR</p>	<p>The action Knox will take if user limit is exceeded while trying to create a new Knox Token. If REMOVE_OLDEST is selected then the oldest token of the user, who the token is being generated for, will be removed. Otherwise, if RETURN_ERROR is selected, Knox will return an error response with 403 error code.</p>
<p><b>Knox Token Integration - Renewer Whitelist</b> gateway.knox.token.renewer.whitelist <a href="#">gateway_knox_token_renewer_whitelist</a></p>	<p>Knox Gateway Default Group</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>This is an optional configuration parameter to authorize the comma-separated list of users to invoke the associated token renewal and/or revocation APIs.</p>
<p><b>Knox Token Integration - JWKS URL</b> gateway.knox.token.jwks.url <a href="#">gateway_knox_token_jwks_url</a></p>	<p>Knox Gateway Default Group</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>This optional configuration parameter enables end-users to declare their of JWKS URL. The JSON Web Key Set (JWKS) is a set of keys containing the public keys used to verify any JSON Web Token (JWT) issued by the authorization server and signed using the RS256 signing algorithm.</p>
<p><b>Knox Token Integration - Allowed JWS Types</b> gateway.knox.token.allowed.jws.types <a href="#">gateway_knox_token_allowed_jws_types</a></p>	<p>Knox Gateway Default Group</p> <input type="text" value="JWT"/>	<p>This is an optional configuration parameter to allow a comma-separated list of token types Knox will allow while validating JSON Web Signature (JWS) using JWKS URLs. Defaults to 'JWT'. Typical customized value is 'at+jwt, ...'</p>
<p><b>Knox Token Integration - Expected Principal Claim</b> gateway.knox.token.expected.principal.claim <a href="#">gateway_knox_token_expected_principal_claim</a></p>	<p>Knox Gateway Default Group</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>If that configuration parameter is defined, Knox will use this to get the value of this claim from the submitted JWT upon verification instead of using the default principal.</p>
<p><b>Knox Token Integration - Expected JWT Signature Algorithm</b> gateway.knox.token.expected.jwt.signature.algorithm <a href="#">gateway_knox_token_expected_jwt_signature_algorithm</a></p>	<p>Knox Gateway Default Group</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>Indicates the expected signature algorithm Knox should use to verify the submitted JWT's signature. If not defined, Knox will use 'RS256'.</p>
<p><b>Knox Token Integration - Expected JWT Issuer</b> gateway.knox.token.expected.jwt.issuer <a href="#">gateway_knox_token_expected_jwt_issuer</a></p>	<p>Knox Gateway Default Group</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>Indicates the expected issuer of a received token must match. If not defined, Knox will use 'KNOXSSO'.</p>
<p><b>Knox Token Integration - Enable Impersonation</b> gateway.token.generation.enable.impersonation <a href="#">gateway_token_generation_enable_impersonation</a></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knox Gateway Default Group ↗</p>	<p>Indicates if Knox Token impersonation is enabled.</p>
<p><b>Knox Token Integration - Proxyuser Block</b> gateway.knox.token.impersonation.proxyuser.block <a href="#">gateway_knox_token_impersonation_proxyuser_block</a></p>	<p>Knox Gateway Default Group</p> <input type="text" value='"knox.token.proxyuser.changeme.hosts": "*"'/>	<p>Proxyuser configuration used in Knox's 'homepage' topology for token impersonation purposes. Must conform a valid JSON key-value format!</p>
	<input type="text" value='"knox.token.proxyuser.changeme.groups": "*"'/>	

Rows per page: 25 1 - 16 of 16

Default configurations seen from the Knox homepage UI:





### Generate-jwk options

CM automatically creates a token hash key for you. But if you want to do this manually, such as when scripting, configure the `knox.token.hash.key` alias with:

```
generate-jwk --saveAlias knox.token.hash.key
```

This generates a JSON Web Key using the supplied algorithm name.

**Table 8: Options**

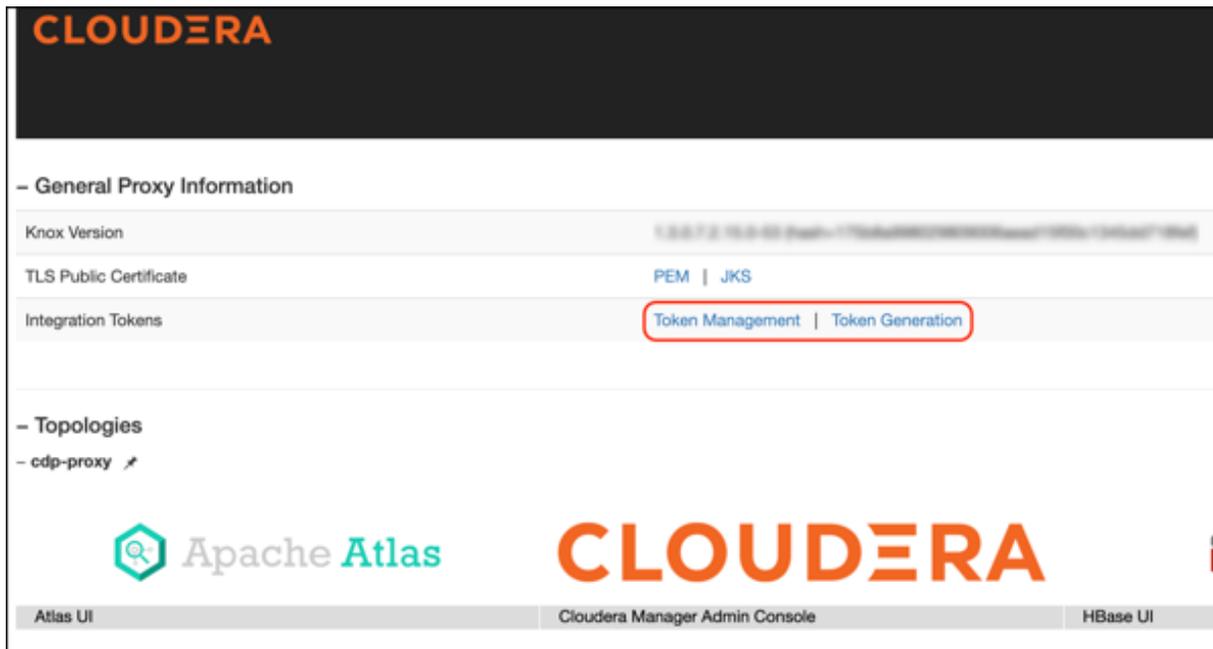
Option	Description	Sample values
<code>jwkAlg</code>	(Optional) The desired JSON Web Signature algorithm name. Determines if the gateway-level alias is configured with a 256, 384, or 512-bit length JWK.	HS256 (Default) HS384 HS512
<code>saveAlias</code>	(Optional, Recommended) Given alias name used to save the generated JWK, instead of printing this sensitive information on the screen.	<code>knox.token.hash.key</code>
<code>topology</code>	(Optional) Name of the topology (i.e., the cluster) to be used when saving the JWK as an alias. If none specified, the alias is going to be saved for the Gateway.	<code>cdp-proxy</code> (Default) <code>cdp-proxy api</code>

## Generate tokens

How to generate Knox gateway tokens from the Knox homepage.

## Procedure

1. To access Knox generation management, go to `https://KNOX_GATEWAY_HOST:PORT/GATEWAY_PATH/homepage/home`, e.g. `https://localhost:8443/gateway/homepage/home`. Click on Token Generation.



## 2. The following sections are displayed on the page:

- Status bar: Message about the configured token state backend. There are 3 different statuses:
  - ERROR: Displayed in red. Indicates a problem with the service backend which makes the feature not work. Usually, this is visible when end-users configure JDBC token state service, but they make a mistake in their DB settings.
  - WARN: Displayed in yellow. Indicates that the feature is enabled and working, but there are some limitations.
  - INFO: Displayed in green. Indicates when the token management backend is properly configured for HA and production deployments.
- Information label: Explains the purpose of the **Token Generation** page.
- Comment: Optional input field that allows end-users to add meaningful comments (mnemonics) to their generated tokens. The maximum length is 255 characters.
- Configured maximum lifetime: Informs the clients about the `knox.token.ttl` property set in the homepage topology (defaults to 1 day(s)). If that property is not set (e.g. someone removes it from the homepage topology), Knox uses a hard-coded value of 30 seconds (aka. default Knox token TTL).
- Custom maximum (token) lifetime: Can be set by adjusting the days/hours/minutes fields. The default configuration will yield one hour.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Token Generation page. At the top, the Cloudera logo is visible. Below it, the page title is "Token Generation". A green message states: "Token management backend is properly configured for HA and production deployments." Below this, a small informational text reads: "Token Generation enables integration and API invocations by using the token as an authorization bearer token. Copy the JWT token from the resulting text box and protect it securely from others as this token represents your identity and is active until expired." There is a "Comment:" label followed by a text input field. Below that, it says "Configured maximum lifetime: 1 days". Underneath, there are three input fields for "Lifetime (days, hours, mins):" with values 0, 1, and 0. At the bottom, there is a blue button labeled "Generate Token".

If Knox Token Integration - Enable Impersonation is set to true, another input field is shown on the UI called Generating token for (impersonation).

Using that input field our customers should be able to generate tokens on behalf of other users. For this to work, the Knox Token Integration - Proxyuser Block property has to be configured properly.



**Important:** If Knox is behind a Load Balancer and Token Impersonation support is used while generating tokens (that input field is populated with a username), the Load Balancer host must be added to the Proxy User configuration too. If the user wants to decline requests from a specific host, then that can be configured on the Load Balancer side.

This screenshot is similar to the previous one but includes an additional field. It shows the same Cloudera logo, title, and messages. The "Comment:" field is present. Below the lifetime configuration, there is a new section labeled "Generating token for (impersonation):" with a corresponding text input field. The "Generate Token" button remains at the bottom.

For more information, see [Knox Apache User-guide: Token impersonation](#)

### 3. Click Generate Token.

### 4. Use the token to authenticate your request. Click the icon beside your choice on the page to copy the value to the clipboard:

- **JWT token:** serialized JWT, fully compatible with the old-style bearer authorization method. You can use it as the 'Token' user:

```
$ curl -ku Token:eyJqa3U[... ]uT5AxQGyMMP3VLGw https://localhost:8443/gate
way/cdp-proxy-token/webhdfs/v1?op=LISTSTATUS

{"FileStatuses":{"FileStatus":[{"accessTime":0,"blockSize":0,"childre
nNum":1,"fileId":16386,"group":"supergroup",
"length":0,"modificationTime":1621238405734,"owner":"hdfs","pathSuffix"
:"tmp","permission":"1777","replication":0,
"storagePolicy":0,"type":"DIRECTORY"},{"accessTime":0,"blockSize":0,"chi
ldrenNum":1,"fileId":16387,"group":"supergroup",
"length":0,"modificationTime":1621238326078,"owner":"hdfs","pathSuffix"
:"user","permission":"755","replication":0,
"storagePolicy":0,"type":"DIRECTORY"}]}}
```

- **Passcode token:** Serialized passcode token, which can be used as the 'Passcode' user:

```
$ curl -ku Passcode:WkRFMk1XTmh[... ]RVNFpXRTA= https://localhost:8443/ga
teway/cdp-proxy-token/webhdfs/v1?op=LISTSTATUS

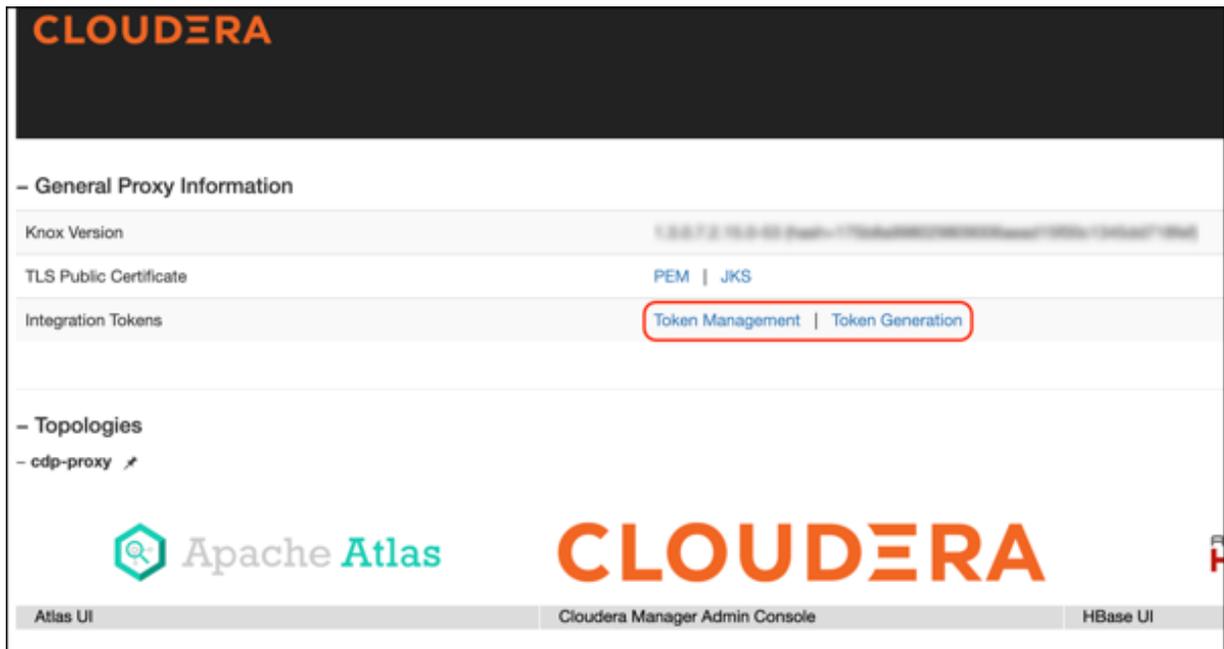
{"FileStatuses":{"FileStatus":[{"accessTime":0,"blockSize":0,"childrenN
um":1,"fileId":16386,"group":"supergroup",
"length":0,"modificationTime":1621238405734,"owner":"hdfs","pathSuffi
x":"tmp","permission":"1777","replication":0,
"storagePolicy":0,"type":"DIRECTORY"},{"accessTime":0,"blockSize":0,"c
hildrenNum":1,"fileId":16387,"group":"supergroup",
"length":0,"modificationTime":1621238326078,"owner":"hdfs","pathSuffi
x":"user","permission":"755","replication":0,
"storagePolicy":0,"type":"DIRECTORY"}]}}
```

## Manage Knox Gateway tokens

You can enable, disable, or revoke tokens via the Knox homepage.

## Procedure

- To access Knox token management, go to `https://KNOX_GATEWAY_HOST:PORT/GATEWAY_PATH/homepage/home`, e.g. `https://localhost:8443/gateway/homepage/home`. Click on Token Management.



A compact view of all tokens generated within the system is shown in a single table with the following information.

Generate New Token

Show Disabled KnoxSSO Cookies  Show My Tokens Only

Search by Token ID, (Impersonated) User Name, Comment or Metadata...

	Token ID	Issued	Expires	User Name	Impersonated	Type	Comment	Additional Metadata	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	0fc61967-809b-49b2-a855-781c997b9ba7	2/25/2026, 10:44:56 AM	2/26/2026, 10:44:55 AM	knoxui					Disable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	27a4955e-e8c9-4a7f-b30f-9b6e13ba26d7	2/25/2026, 10:56:20 AM	2/25/2026, 11:56:20 AM	knoxui		WT	1 hour token		Enable Revoke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6b678df1-ed99-4d17-b0e8-b8c5ed6e2595	2/25/2026, 10:57:30 AM	Never	knoxui		OAuth2			Disable Revoke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2b1d8d9d-b675-48af-b903-94b191b21943	2/25/2026, 10:57:51 AM	2/25/2026, 11:00:51 AM	knoxui		WT	3 minutes token		Revoke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	aa238bd0-d232-45d3-89e0-f6aa16432bbd	2/25/2026, 10:58:01 AM	2/25/2026, 11:58:01 AM	bob		WT	token for bob		Disable Revoke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ec8b5d42-a9d4-4200-890a-911bd6d2eb88	2/25/2026, 10:58:24 AM	2/25/2026, 11:58:24 AM	knoxui		WT	1 hour token		Disable Revoke

Items per page: 25 1 - 6 of 6 < > >>

Revoke Selected Tokens

Expired tokens cannot be disabled in batches (nor individually).

Expired tokens cannot be enabled in batches (nor individually).

- Each row starts with a selection checkbox for batch operations (except for disabled KnoxSSO cookies, as there is no point in doing anything with them).
- A unique token identifier. Disabled token's Token ID value is shown in orange.
- Information on when the token was created and when it will expire.
  - If the token is already expired, the expiration time is shown in red.
  - If the token is still valid, the expiration time is shown in green.
- Username indicates the user for whom the token is created for.
- Impersonated is a boolean flag indicating if this is an impersonated token:
  - Green check: Yes, this is impersonated. You'll see the user who created the token under the icon.
  - Red cross: No, this is not an impersonated token.

- f. Indicates which type of token is used for the authentication:
  - SSO: marks a KnoxSSO cookie, only available when Knox SSO - Cookie Management is enabled in Cloudera Manager
  - OAUTH: participating in OAuth2 type authentication flows such as client\_credentials flow used by Data Sharing
  - JWT: regular JWT token created by a KNOXTOKEN API call or on the **Token Generation** page
- g. Comment: users may add a short comment to the tokens they create to make it easier for them to distinguish certain tokens later (e.g. "1-hour token for user XY")
- h. Additional Metadata : In some cases, it's beneficial to add different metadata to the generated token as a key-value pair (e.g. shouldBeRemovedBy=09\_Nov\_2023). One token can have more than one associated metadata. In this column, we display that information.
- i. In the Actions column, you will see
  - The enable/disable/revoke actions are visible for impersonated tokens too
  - KnoxSSO cookies cannot be revoked nor re-enabled.

In order to refresh the table, you can use the Refresh icon above the table (if you generated tokens on another tab for instance).

2. You can perform batch operations on the tokens. When at least one token is selected, the following buttons are shown under the table:
  - Disable - when executed, all the selected tokens become disabled (if they were disabled originally, they will remain disabled). Please note this option is shown only, if there is no expired token selected (i.e. batch disablement only works with live tokens).
  - Enable - when executed, all the selected tokens become enabled (if they were enabled originally, they will remain enabled). Please note this option is shown only, if there is no expired token selected (i.e. batch enablement only works with live tokens).
  - Revoke - when executed, all the selected tokens will be revoked. Please note this option is shown only, if there is no KnoxSSO cookie (token) selected (i.e. batch revocation only works with regular tokens).



**Note:** If the selected tokens contain any that cannot be disabled/enabled (expired tokens) or revoked (Knox SSO Cookies), an informational message is displayed below the batch operation buttons indicating the root cause.

3. You can use the Search by field to narrow down tokens by :
  - Token ID
  - User Name (either own user name or impersonated)
  - Comment
  - Additional Metadata
4. You can view the disabled Knox cookies or only your tokens by using the following toggle buttons.
  - Show Disabled KnoxSSO Cookies - This is true by default. Since disabled KnoxSSO cookies remain in the underlying token state service until they expire, it may bother users to see them in the tokens table. Flipping this toggle button helps to hide them.
  - Show My Tokens Only - this toggle button is only visible to users, who can see all tokens. By default, this is false. Enabling it will filter the tokens table in a way such that it will contain tokens only that were generated for the logged-in user (impersonated or not).
5. Click the Refresh icon above the table.

## Knox Token API

The Knox Token Service enables the ability for clients to acquire the same JSON Web Token (JWT) that is used for KnoxSSO with WebSSO flows for UIs to be used for accessing REST APIs.

## Introduction

By acquiring the token and setting it as a Bearer token on a request, a client is able to access REST APIs that are protected with the JWTProvider federation provider.

The following samples will assume KnoxSSO topology, which is used by Knox for authenticating UIs through SSO. KnoxSSO authentication can be used in the absence of Knox Token Management. To use the Knox Token API, you should copy the `hadoop-jwt` cookie from your browser and export it as an ENV variable:

```
export HJWT="eyJraWQiOiJtSWdPbjRpSWZlUmZlRlVLWjVSc3dxbFh3SGUycGJUcm9lWj1EX1BLUUNiIiwiaXNzIjoieS05PWFNTTyIsImV4cCI6MTcwMjU1MjE0OCwibWFuYXd1ZC50b2t1biI6ImZhbnHN1Iiwia25veC5pZCI6IjY5M2EwMmE3LTVhYTgtNDA2MS1iYjMyLTA4MDk4YzdlMTkxYiJ9.tLzmxSd64bAQGpKdETsNXaaDBUKyMZzp0j0YNi-14Jmcm1oG5PerUt00EmLWQnsDBuqtzExkR-g8metxwyIwjV61rqZRXLFycrN8x-nMTCExdxcjtMegIS3XyETut8MRx8nk6WPVcBlwGHnOCG52CvxsvBe7pUFD4jYyBgzF_WlkPDzPjSRCdQ3xRFDq2IFt7RxOIye_50ZdMLbZBm9rNi0RErgdrLKJse68fly-58BcfquubFgWUA0Z0QND7Gg3lPBzyBOhe_5YA23jQsicgvctc-HhNkY6W2RP-qpXmgjInGcy7dnpvbHXQNfA8cXffDQA6e3bFrTHpJNHgpeSgeg"
```

Alternatively, you can create a custom topology with another authentication provider (PAM, for instance) and use that topology instead of `homepage` in the following examples.



**Important:** KnoxToken API 'v1' is no longer supported in 7.2.18 and subsequent Cloudera releases. All the samples use the new 'v2' endpoints with the corresponding HTTP methods (GET, PUT, DELETE).

## Acquire a token

```
$ curl -ik --cookie "hadoop-jwt=$HJWT" -X GET
'https://[***HOST_NAME***][***DATA LAKE_NAME***]/homepage/knoxtoken/api/v2/
token'
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2023 11:15:16 GMT
X-Frame-Options: DENY
X-XSS-Protection: 1;mode=block
Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; includeSubDomains
Content-Type: application/json
Content-Length: 3073{"access_token":"eyJqa3UiOiJo...4BnSw","token_id":"8f7d
e7f7-a094-4ba4-b64d-f21be86f10eb","managed":"true","target_url":"cdp-proxy-t
oken","homepage_url":"homepage/home?profile=token&topologies=cdp-proxy-t
oken","endpoint_public_cert":"MIIElJCCAz...cXff0","token_type":"Bearer","expires
_in":1702469717045,"passcode":"T0dZM1pH...U1ESXo="}
```

In the result JSON, end-users can find the following information:

- `accessToken`: this is the serialized JWT and is fully compatible with the old-style Bearer authorization method. End-users might want to use it as the 'Token' user in the `cdp-proxy-token` topology for authentication purposes.
- `passcode`: this is another sensitive data, the serialized passcode token, which end-users can use as the 'Passcode' user for authentication purposes
- `token_id`: the unique identifier of the token within Knox
- `managed`: this is a boolean flag indicating if the token is managed. Managed tokens can be renewed, revoked, disabled, and enabled. By default, in Cloudera, the `homepage` topology is configured to manage tokens.
- `expires`: indicates the expiration time of this token. This may be updated with token renewal.

## Renew a token

Currently, renewing a token is feasible only if you pass the value of the `access_token` field as the request payload. For instance:

```
$ export KNOX_TOKEN="eyJqa3UiOiJo...4BnSw"
```

```
$ curl -ik --cookie "hadoop-jwt=$HJWT" -H "X-XSRF-HEADER:valid" -d $KNOX_TOKEN -X POST 'https://[***HOST_NAME***][***DATA LAKE_NAME***]/homepage/knoxtoken/api/v2/token/renew'
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2023 15:22:01 GMT
X-Frame-Options: DENY
X-XSS-Protection: 1;mode=block
Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; includeSubDomains
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Length: 54

{
  "renewed": "true",
  "expires": "1702567321838"
}
```

The result JSON will tell you if the renewal was a success (this information is stored in the renewed field) and the (new) expiration time. In case of an invalid/unknown token, you should expect a response like this :

```
{
  "renewed": "false",
  "error": "Unknown token: 9caf743e-1e0d-4708-a9ac-a684a576067c"
}
```



**Note:** Token Renewal is allowed only for a certain set of users, which end-users can define using the Knox Token Integration - Renewer Whitelist Knox configuration on the CM UI.

The screenshot shows the 'Knox Token Integration - Renewer Whitelist' configuration page. On the left, there is a 'Filters' sidebar with a 'SCOPE' section containing a table:

SCOPE	Count
KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)	0
Gateway	0
Knox Gateway	1
Knox IDBroker	0

The main content area shows the configuration for 'Knox Gateway Default Group' with an 'Undo' button. Below this, there is a search bar and a list of whitelisted users, including 'gateway\_knox\_token\_renewer\_whitelist' and 'gateway\_knox\_token\_renewer\_whitelist'. The page also includes 'Filters', 'Role Groups', and 'History & Rollback' tabs at the top right.

If the requesting user is an unauthorized caller, you should expect a response like this:

```
{
  "renewed": "false",
  "error": "Caller (myTestUser) not authorized to renew tokens."
}
```

## Token revocation

End-users can revoke a token using either the token\_id or the access\_token fields from the above acquired token response. For instance, the following sample uses the token\_id :

```
curl -ik --cookie "hadoop-jwt=$HJWT" -H "X-XSRF-HEADER:valid" -d 'cb538d38-3076-4a7a-90a5-0f26bfff2939a' -X DELETE 'https://[***HOST_NAME***][***DATA LAKE_NAME***]/homepage/knoxtoken/api/v2/token/revoke'
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2023 15:31:31 GMT
X-Frame-Options: DENY
X-XSS-Protection: 1;mode=block
Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; includeSubDomains
Content-Type: application/json
Content-Length: 24

{
```

```

    "revoked": "true"
  }

```

In case of an invalid or unknown token, you should expect a similar error like this:

```

{
  "revoked": "false",
  "error": "Unknown token: cb538d38...0f26bfff2939a",
  "code": 50
}

```

Token revocation also requires authorization. The same Cloudera Manager configuration should be used that is listed above for token renewals. There is an exception though with revocation: end-users can revoke tokens that belong to them. That is, you can revoke your very own token even if your user name is not defined in the Knox Token Integration - Renewer Whitelist configuration.

### Enable/Disable a Token

End-users might need to temporarily disable a token for security purposes and then re-enable the same token. You can do that with the following API calls which use the `token_id` field from the acquired token response:

```

$ curl -ik --cookie "hadoop-jwt=$HJWT" -H "X-XSRF-HEADER:valid" -d '1cad8a13-08e2-4b8a-8076-082678bb641b' -X PUT 'https://[***HOST_NAME***][***DATA LAKE_NAME***]/homepage/knoxtoken/api/v2/token/disable'
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2023 15:42:57 GMT
X-Frame-Options: DENY
X-XSS-Protection: 1;mode=block
Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; includeSubDomains
Content-Type: application/json
Content-Length: 55

```

```

{
  "setEnabledFlag": "true",
  "isEnabled": "false"
}

```

```

$ curl -ik --cookie "hadoop-jwt=$HJWT" -H "X-XSRF-HEADER:valid" -d '1cad8a13-08e2-4b8a-8076-082678bb641b' -X PUT 'https://[***HOST_NAME***][***DATA LAKE_NAME***]/homepage/knoxtoken/api/v2/token/disable'
HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2023 15:43:21 GMT
X-Frame-Options: DENY
X-XSS-Protection: 1;mode=block
Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; includeSubDomains
Content-Type: application/json
Content-Length: 86

```

```

{
  "setEnabledFlag": "false",
  "error": "Token is already disabled",
  "code": 60
}

```

```

$ curl -ik --cookie "hadoop-jwt=$HJWT" -H "X-XSRF-HEADER:valid" -d '1cad8a13-08e2-4b8a-8076-082678bb641b' -X PUT

```

```
'https://[***HOST_NAME***][***DATA LAKE_NAME***]/homepage/knoxtoken/api/v2/
token/enable'
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2023 15:43:45 GMT
X-Frame-Options: DENY
X-XSS-Protection: 1;mode=block
Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; includeSubDomains
Content-Type: application/json
Content-Length: 54

{
  "setEnabledFlag": "true",
  "isEnabled": "true"
}
```

## Fetching user tokens

The KnoxToken API provides a powerful way to fetch/filter previously created tokens. See the following samples :

```
$ curl -ik --cookie "hadoop-jwt=$HJWT" -X GET
'https://[***HOST_NAME***][***DATA LAKE_NAME***]/homepage/knoxtoken/api/v2/
token/getUserTokens?userName=knoxui'
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2023 15:46:50 GMT
X-Frame-Options: DENY
X-XSS-Protection: 1;mode=block
Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; includeSubDomains
Content-Type: application/json
Content-Length: 413

{"tokens":[{"tokenId":"1cad8a13-08e2-4b8a-8076-082678bb641b","issueTime":
"2023-12-13T15:42:17.965+0000","expiration":"2023-12-13T16:42:17.957+0000",
"maxLifetime":"2023-12-20T15:42:17.965+0000","metadata":{"knoxSsoCookie":fals
e,"customMetadataMap":{},"createdBy":null,"comment":null,"enabled":true,"use
rName":"knoxui"},"maxLifetimeLong":1703086937965,"issueTimeLong":17024821379
65,"expirationLong":1702485737957}]}
```

## Manage Knox metadata

This document describes how to manage Token Metadata.

As indicated in the previous sections, the KNOXTOKEN service maintains some hard-coded token metadata out-of-the-box:

- userName
- comment
- enabled
- passcode
- createdBy (in case of impersonated tokens)

In Cloudera Runtime version 7.2.16, Cloudera has introduced support for a new feature that allows end-users to add accept query parameters starting with the md\_ prefix and treat them as Knox Token Metadata.

Example

```
curl -iku admin:admin-password -X GET 'https://$KNOX_GATEWAY_HOST:8443/gatew
ay/sandbox/knoxtoken/api/v1/token?md_notebookName=accountantKnoxToken&md_sou
ldBeRemovedBy=31March2022&md_otherMeaningfuMetadata=KnoxIsCool'
```

When such a token is created by Knox, the following metadata should be saved:

- notebookName=accountantKnoxToken
- shouldBeRemovedBy=31March2022
- otherMeaningfulMetadata=KnoxIsCool

It will not only enable Knox to save these metadata, but will also enable Knox's existing `getUserTokens` API endpoint to fetch basic token information using the supplied metadata name besides the username information.



**Note:** The `getUserTokens` API returns tokens if any of the supplied metadata exists for the given token. Metadata values may or may not be matched: you can either use the `*` wildcard to match all metadata values with a given name or you can further filter the stored metadata information by specifying the desired value.

Example:

```
curl -iku admin:admin-password -X GET 'https://$KNOX_GATEWAY_HOST:8443/gateway/sandbox/knoxtoken/api/v1/token/getUserTokens?userName=admin&md_notebookName=accountantKnoxToken&md_name=*'
```

It will return all Knox tokens where metadata with `notebookName` exists and equals `accountantKnoxToken` OR metadata with name exists.

Another Sample:

1. Create token1 with `md_Name=reina&md_Score=50`
2. Create token2 with `md_Name=mary&md_Score=100`
3. Create token3 with `md_Name=mary&md_Score=20&md_Grade=A`

The following table shows the returned token(s) in case metadata filtering is added in the `getUserTokens` API:

Metadata	Token returned
<code>md_Name=reina</code>	token1
<code>md_Name=mary</code>	token2 and token3
<code>md_Score=100</code>	token2
<code>md_Name=mary&amp;md_Score=20</code>	token2 and token3
<code>md_Name=mary&amp;md_Name=reina</code>	token1, token2 and token3
<code>md_Name=*</code>	token1, token2 and token3
<code>md_Uknown=*</code>	Empty list

For more information on sample curl commands, see [Managing custom Knox Token metadata](#).

## Configuring Group Impersonation in Knox

Configure group impersonation in Knox to allow users in specific groups to impersonate other users.

### About this task

Knox supports group impersonation in addition to user impersonation. This feature enables users in specific groups to impersonate other users, providing greater flexibility and control in managing user impersonation.

If both user impersonation and group impersonation are configured, user impersonation takes precedence. This is because user configurations are more specific and provide finer control.

Configure the `hadoop.proxygroup.*` parameters to authorize impersonation based on group membership.

## Procedure

1. Edit your Knox topology file or shared provider configuration by adding group-based impersonation parameters to the identity provider.

```
<provider>
<role>identity-assertion</role>
<name>Default</name>
<param>
<name>hadoop.proxygroup.analysts.users</name>
<value>hdfs,yarn,hive</value>
</param>
<param>
<name>hadoop.proxygroup.analysts.groups</name>
<value>data-scientists,data-analysts</value>
</param>
<param>
<name>hadoop.proxygroup.analysts.hosts</name>
<value>*.company.com</value>
</param>
</provider>
```

2. Restart Knox to apply the configuration.

## Results

Group impersonation is now configured for your Cloudera cluster. Users who belong to the specified groups can impersonate the configured target users based on the defined authorization rules.

How it works:

1. Knox first checks for user-specific impersonation rules by using the `hadoop.proxyuser.*` parameters.
2. If no user-specific rules exist or they deny access, Knox checks group-based rules by using the `hadoop.proxygroup.*` parameters.
3. Knox validates the user's group membership against the configured identity provider that is LDAP or Active Directory.
4. If the user belongs to an authorized group, Knox forwards the impersonation request to the appropriate service, such as HDFS, YARN, or Hive.
5. The service processes the request using the permissions of the impersonated service account.

# Knox SSO Cookie Invalidation

This feature allows a list of pre-configured superusers to invalidate previously issued Knox SSO tokens for (a) particular user(s) in case there is a malicious attack where one (or more) of those users' SSO tokens get compromised.

## Enabling the feature

By default, the feature is disabled. There are 2 separate steps to enable it:

## 1. Go to Cloudera Manager Knox Configuration and enable Knox SSO - Cookie Management Enabled.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager interface for Knox configuration. The search bar contains 'Knox SSO - Cookie Management Enabled'. The configuration details are as follows:

SCOPE	Count
KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)	1
Gateway	0
Knox Gateway	0
Knox IDBroker	0

The configuration name is 'Knox SSO - Cookie Management Enabled' and it is applied to 'KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)'. The configuration ID is 'knox\_sso\_cookie\_management\_enabled'.

## 2. In Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml, press +.

- In Name, type gateway.knox.token.exp.server-managed.
- In Value, type true.
- Click Save Changes(CTRL+S)

The screenshot shows the configuration of a Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet. The search bar contains 'Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml'. The configuration details are as follows:

SCOPE	Count
KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)	1
Gateway	0
Knox Gateway	0
Knox IDBroker	0

The configuration name is 'Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml' and it is applied to 'KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)'. The configuration ID is 'conf/gateway-site.xml\_service\_safety\_valve'. The configuration details are:

Field	Value
Name	gateway.knox.token.exp.server-managed
Value	true
Description	

## Additional configuration

In addition to enabling the feature, you should review and update the following configuration, if needed:

- Knox Home Page - Global Logout Page URL** - when the knoxsso topology is configured to use the Pac4J federation filter (the default configuration in Cloudera on cloud), this configuration is an essential parameter and must not be left empty. This usually points to the logout endpoint of the pre-configured SAML/OIDC callback.

The screenshot shows the configuration of 'Knox Home Page - Global Logout Page URL'. The search bar contains 'Knox Home Page - Global Logout Page URL'. The configuration details are as follows:

SCOPE	Count
KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)	1
Gateway	0
Knox Gateway	0
Knox IDBroker	0

The configuration name is 'Knox Home Page - Global Logout Page URL' and it is applied to 'KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)'. The configuration ID is 'knox\_global\_logout\_page\_url'.

- Knox Token Integration - Users Who Can See All Tokens** - A comma-separated list of usernames that can view all tokens on the Token Management page. By default, this is an empty list. Each organization should configure this property to a narrowed set of users, such as security officers, who are authorized to disable SSO cookies in the event of a security breach.

The screenshot shows the configuration of 'Knox Token Integration - Users Who Can See All Tokens'. The search bar contains 'Knox Token Integration - Users Who Can See All Tokens'. The configuration details are as follows:

SCOPE	Count
KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)	0
Gateway	0
Knox Gateway	1
Knox IDBroker	0

The configuration name is 'Knox Token Integration - Users Who Can See All Tokens' and it is applied to 'Knox Gateway Default Group'. The configuration ID is 'gateway\_knox\_token\_management\_user\_can\_see\_all\_tokens'.

## Resolving access issues after global logout

In certain scenarios, users can still access a service through Knox after performing a global logout. This issue occurs when multiple tabs of the same service are open in the browser, and the global logout is performed in one of the tabs. The issue is caused by cookies that are not invalidated across all tabs, allowing some tabs to retain access to a service or services.

To resolve this issue, add the following configuration parameters to Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for `conf/gateway-site.xml` in Cloudera Manager:

```
ranger.service.inactivity.timeout=40
atlas.session.timeout.secs=40
knox.global.logout.page.url=<your-idp-logout-url>
```



**Note:** Replace `<your-idp-logout-url>` with the actual logout URL of your identity provider.

After adding the configuration parameters:

1. Restart the Knox, Ranger, and Atlas services to apply the changes.
2. Test if the global logout now redirects all tabs to the login page instead of the service home page.

## How it works

After enabling the feature, every SSO cookie, the result of a login event through the Knox SSO service, will be recorded in the same database that Knox uses for token management purposes. These SSO cookies are included on the Token Management page. If the logged-in user is a configured "superuser" (added in the above-referenced Users Who Can See All Tokens list), that user is capable of narrowing down user tokens, for whom they suspect are the subject of malicious activities, and disabling the active tokens on the UI (either individually or in batches).

Once a Knox SSO cookie is disabled, it cannot be re-enabled or revoked. Knox has its own cleanup strategy to remove expired tokens from the underlying token state repository (a database in Cloudera on cloud) periodically, on a pre-configured schedule.

It is also important to emphasize that the default Time To Live (TTL) value of Knox SSO cookies is set to 1 day by default. It is highly recommended that organizations overview their own UI jobs and reduce this value to as short as possible to reduce the security risk involved here.

## Related Information

[Adjust the lifetime of Knox SSO session tokens](#)

# Configure custom SSO cookie name for Knox

Learn how to configure a custom SSO cookie name for Knox to enable concurrent SSO sessions across different clusters without authentication conflicts.

## About this task

Knox, by default, uses `hadoop-jwt` as the cookie name for SSO authentication for all Hadoop services. When accessing different clusters configured for SSO authentication, using the same default cookie name causes conflicts because the web browser uses the cookie from one cluster to attempt authentication with another cluster, resulting in access issues.

To resolve this issue, you must configure a unique cookie name for each cluster's Knox SSO service.

## Procedure

1. In Cloudera Manager, select the Knox service.
2. Go to the Configuration tab.
3. Search for Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml.
4. Click View as XML and add the following configuration properties:

```
<property>
<name>knoxssso</name>
<value>providerConfigRef=knoxssso#KNOXSSO:knoxssso.token.ttl=86400000#KNOX
SSO:knoxssso.cookie.name=[***CUSTOM COOKIE NAME***]#app:knoxauth</value>
</property>
<property>
<name>providerConfigs:homepage</name>
<value>role=federation#federation.name=SSOCookieProvider#federation.enabled=true#federation.param.sso.cookie.name=[***CUSTOM COOKIE NAME***]</value>
</property>
<property>
<name>providerConfigs:metadata</name>
<value>role=federation#federation.name=SSOCookieProvider#federation.enabled=true#federation.param.sso.cookie.name=[***CUSTOM COOKIE NAME***]</value>
</property>
<property>
<name>providerConfigs:sso</name>
<value>role=federation#federation.name=SSOCookieProvider#federation.enabled=true#federation.param.sso.authentication.provider.url=https://[***YOUR KNOX HOST***]:8443/gateway/knoxssso/api/v1/webssso#federation.param.sso.cookie.name=[***CUSTOM COOKIE NAME***]</value>
</property>
```



### Note:

- Replace `[***CUSTOM COOKIE NAME***]` with a unique cookie name for your environment. Use a different cookie name for each cluster to avoid conflicts.
- Replace `[***YOUR KNOX HOST***]` in the `federation.param.sso.authentication.provider.url` value under `providerConfigs:sso` with your Knox host. If your Knox instance uses a different port than the default 8443, update the port number as well.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager interface for the Knox service. The configuration snippet is titled "Knox Gateway Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/cdp-resources.xml". The XML content is displayed in a text area, showing the configuration properties for the KnoxSSO, providerConfigs:homepage, providerConfigs:metadata, and providerConfigs:sso sections. The configuration is filtered by "SCOPE" (KNOX-1) and "CATEGORY" (Advanced). The status is "Edited".

5. Click Save Changes(CTRL+S).

- Refresh the Knox instances configuration by clicking the Stale Configuration: Restart needed indicator and wait until the refresh process completes.
- Verify that the new cookie name is in use by accessing the Knox UI and checking the browser's cookie storage. After logging in, you should see the custom cookie name you configured instead of the default `hadoop-jwt`.

## Results

You can now access different clusters with Knox SSO enabled simultaneously without authentication conflicts. Each cluster will use its own unique JWT cookie name for session management.

# Adjust the lifetime of Knox SSO session tokens

How to change the Time To Live (TTL) of Knox SSO session tokens using Cloudera Manager.

## About this task

By default, Knox SSO session tokens expire after 24 hours. Depending on organization policies, you may need to reduce this value, as some organizations have security policies that require a shorter token lifetime.

The default Time To Live value is 86400000 milliseconds, which is equivalent to 24 hours. You can adjust the expiration time by updating the Knox SSO configuration in Cloudera Manager.

## Procedure

- In Cloudera Manager, select the Knox service.
- Go to Configuration.
- Search for the Knox SSO - Token TTL property.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager configuration page for the Knox service. The search bar contains "Knox SSO - Token TTL". The configuration table shows the following details:

Property Name	Value
<code>knoxsso_token_ttl</code>	86400000

The filters section on the left shows the scope for the configuration:

Scope	Count
KNOX-1 (Service-Wide)	1
Gateway	0
Knox Gateway	0

- Update the default value to match the duration that is most suitable to your organization's requirements.



**Note:** The value is specified in milliseconds. For instance, a one-hour Time To Live value is 3600000 milliseconds.

- Click the Save Changes(CTRL+S) button.
- Refresh the Knox instances configuration by clicking the Stale Configuration: Restart needed indicator and wait until the refresh process completes.

# Concurrent session verification (Tech Preview)

This feature is a security measure that enables end-users limiting the number of concurrent UI sessions the users can have. To achieve this goal the users can be sorted out into three groups: non-privileged, privileged, unlimited.

The non-privileged and privileged groups each have a configurable limit, which the members of the group can not exceed. The members of the unlimited group are able to create an unlimited number of concurrent sessions.

All of the users, who are not configured in either the privileged or in the unlimited group, shall become the member of the non-privileged group by default.



**Note:** Concurrent session verification feature is under Technical Preview. The technical preview feature and considered under development. Do not use this in your production systems. To share your feedback, contact Support by logging a case on our [Cloudera Support Portal](#). Technical preview features are not guaranteed troubleshooting guidance and fixes.

## Configuration

The following table shows the relevant gateway-level parameters that are essential for this feature to work:

Parameter	Description	Default
gateway.service.concurrentsessionverifier.impl	To enable the session verification feature, end-users should set this parameter to org.apache.knox.gateway.session.control.InMemoryConcurrentSessionVerifier	org.apache.knox.gateway.session.control.InMemoryConcurrentSessionVerifier
gateway.session.verification.privileged.users	Indicates a list of users that are qualified “privileged”.	Empty list
gateway.session.verification.unlimited.users	Indicates a list of (super) users that can have as many UI sessions as they want.	Empty list
gateway.session.verification.privileged.user.limit	The number of UI sessions a “privileged” user can have	3
gateway.session.verification.non.privileged.user.limit	The number of UI sessions a “non-privileged” user can have	2

## How this works

If the verifier is disabled it will not do anything even if the other parameters are configured.

When the verifier is enabled all of the users are considered as a non-privileged user by default and they will not be able to create more concurrent sessions than the non-privileged limit. The same is true after you added someone in the privileged user group: that user will not be able to create more UI sessions than the configured privileged user limit. Whereas the members of the unlimited users group are able to create an unlimited number of concurrent sessions even if they are configured in the privileged group as well.

In Cloudera, currently, there are no first-class Cloudera Manager parameters for this feature, so all of those properties have to be set through Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml configuration in Cloudera Manager.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager configuration page for the KNOX-1 instance. The search filter is set to 'gateway-site'. The configuration is displayed as XML, showing a property named 'gateway.service.concurrentsessionverifier.impl' with the value 'org.apache.knox.gateway.session.control.InMemoryConcurrentSessionVerifier'. The configuration is part of a Knox Service Advanced Configuration Snippet (Safety Valve) for conf/gateway-site.xml.