

Ansible for Networks: Beyond Static Templates

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Network Management Needs Change



No More Snowflake Networks

What are we looking to Solve?

Consistency

Error Mitigation

Agility and Efficiency

Active Documentation

MOPs to Playbooks

Declarative State
Infrastructure as Data



```
1 ---
2 - name: Juniper Configuration Playbook
3   hosts: prod
4   gather_facts: no
5   connection: local
6   tasks:
7     - name: Install the Configuration to the Device(s)
8       junos_config:
9         src: "files/{{ inventory_hostname }}-interfaces.cfg"
10        update: "{{ config_method | default('merge') }}"
11        comment: "Configuration Updated by Ansible"
12
```

```
interfaces {
  em1 {
    description "Link to CiscoR0";
    unit 0 {
      family inet {
        address 192.168.100.11/24;
      }
    }
  }
  em2 {
    description "Link to PC Net";
    unit 0 {
      family inet {
        address 192.168.202.1/24;
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Dig Deeper - Did we solve the problem?

Consistency

Error Mitigation

Agility and Efficiency

Active Documentation

How does the flow need to change?

Build the config files dynamically first - using Jinja2

Assemble and organize config files as needed

Deploy the generated config files

See it in action ...



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Other Use Cases

NTP Configurations

SNMP Hosts and Traps

MOTD / Banner Messages

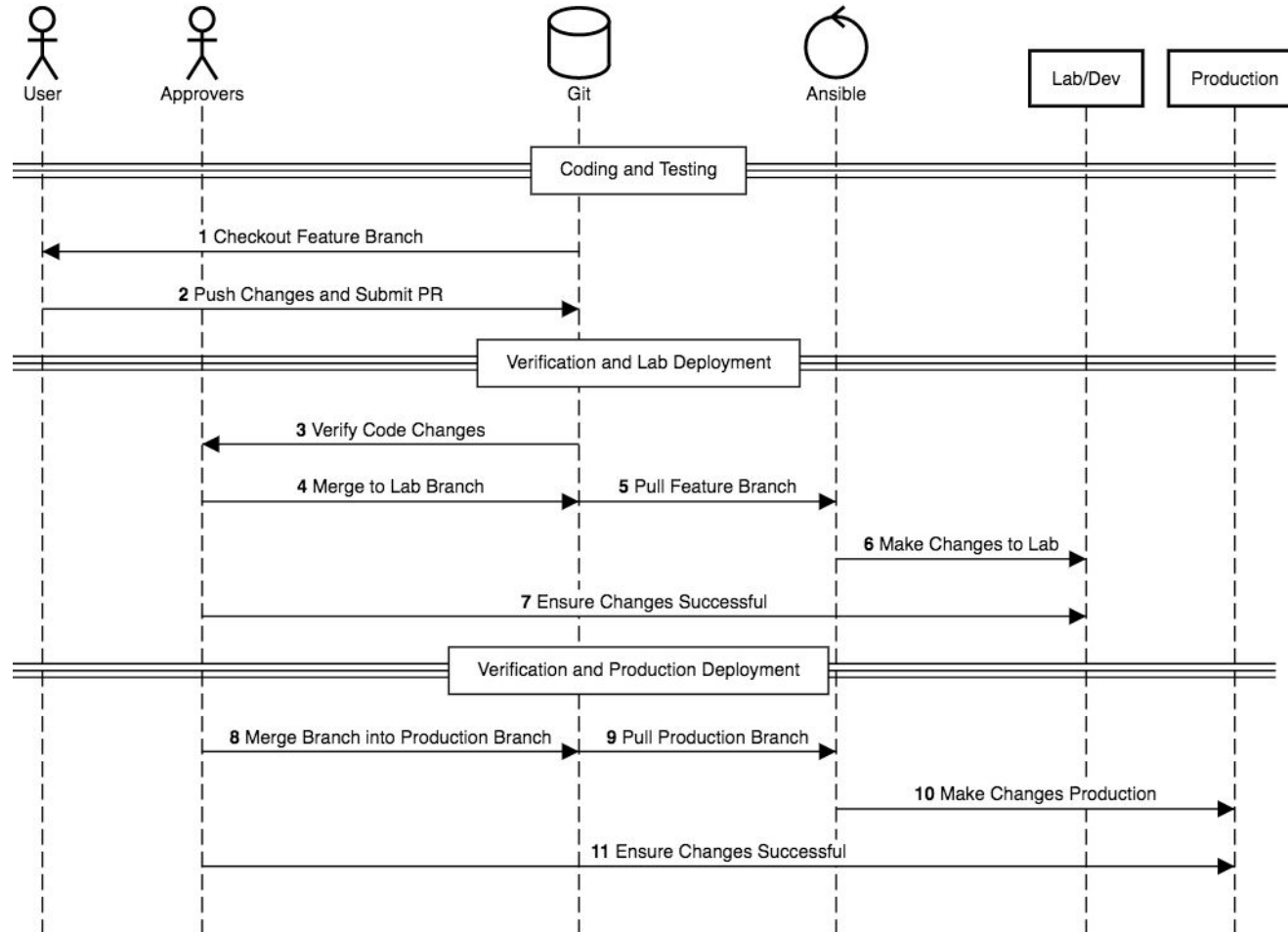
Apply These Variables in Group and Host Vars as
Appropriate



How Do You Maintain this?

```
├─ ansible.cfg
├─ inventory
│   └─ Lab
│       ├── group_vars
│       │   └─ all
│       │       ├── ntp.yml
│       │       ├── snmp.yml
│       │       └─ system.yml
│       ├── host_vars
│       │   ├── router3
│       │   │   ├── interfaces.yml
│       │   │   └─ routing.yml
│       │   └─ router4
│       │       ├── interfaces.yml
│       │       └─ routing.yml
│       └─ hosts
└─ Prod
    ├── group_vars
    │   └─ all
    │       ├── ntp.yml
    │       ├── snmp.yml
    │       └─ system.yml
    ├── host_vars
    │   ├── router1
    │   │   ├── interfaces.yml
    │   │   └─ routing.yml
    │   └─ router2
    │       ├── interfaces.yml
    │       └─ routing.yml
    └─ hosts
├─ provision.yml
├─ roles
│   └─ junos
│       └─ README.md
```

Git/Ansible Network Workflow



See it in action ...



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CI/CD for Networks



GitHub



The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of an artist's palette and several tubes of paint. The palette is covered in various colors of paint, including red, yellow, and blue. There are also several tubes of paint, some of which are squeezed out, showing the paint inside. The overall image has a blue tint.

Get Creative - It's the ONLY Limitation

Find a Use Case
Convert MOPs into Playbooks
Low Barrier to Entry

THANK YOU

Presentation and all example code available online
<https://github.com/ArctiqTeam/ansiblefest-sf-2017>

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