

Ansible Architecture

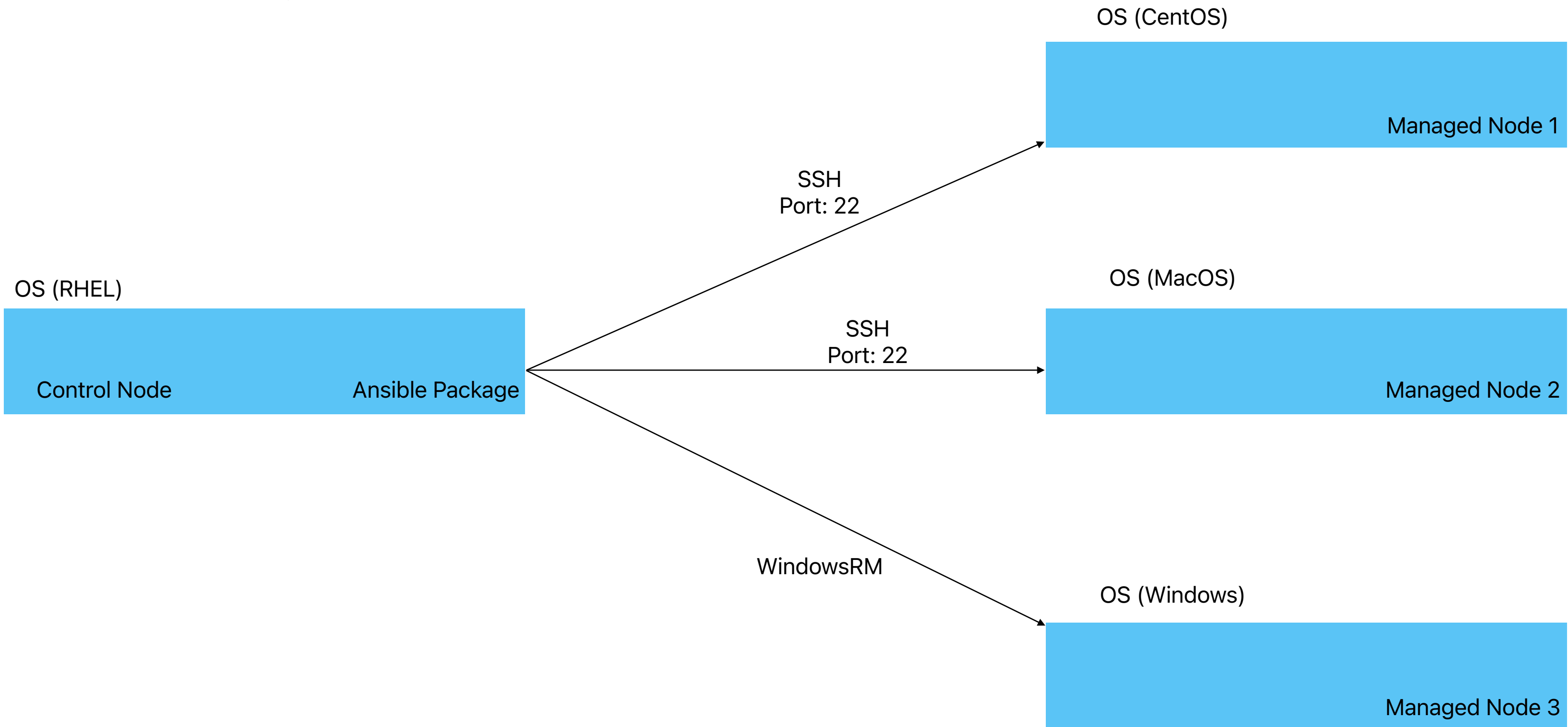
Control Node

From where all tasks will be given
Here, the OS can be only Linux or Unix
Here we install the Ansible Package

Managed Node

Where all tasks will be performed
Here, the OS can be Linux, Unix or Windows
Here we do not need to install Ansible Package

Ansible is completely AGENTLESS



Modules

Small pre-written Python scripts that help us perform the necessary task
Ex. copy, file, yum

Inventory

Collection of the IP's or Hostnames of all managed nodes

Playbook

Desired state of Managed Node
The file where we write all our required tasks
We use Modules over here
Collection of Plays

Various Other Configuration Management Tools and their Comparison

Ansible

Control Node + Managed Node, Push Theory, Python, Agentless, SSH

Chef

Control Node + Managed Node, Pull Theory, Ruby and Erlang, Needs Agent, SSL

Puppet

Control Node + Managed Node, Pull Theory, Puppet DSL, Needs Agent, SSL

Saltstack

Control Node + Managed Node, Push Theory, Python, Needs Agent, SSH