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### **Activity 5: Consolidating Playbook plays**

# 1. Objectives:

- 1.1 Use when command in playbook for different OS distributions
- 1.2 Apply refactoring techniques in cleaning up the playbook codes

#### 2. Discussion:

We are going to look at a way that we can differentiate a playbook by a host in terms of which distribution the host is running. It's very common in most Linux shops to run multiple distributions, for example, Ubuntu shop or Debian shop and you need a different distribution for a one off-case or perhaps you want to run plays only on certain distributions.

It is a best practice in ansible when you are working in a collaborative environment to use the command git pull. git pull is a Git command used to update the local version of a repository from a remote. By default, git pull does two things. Updates the current local working branch (currently checked out branch) and updates the remote-tracking branches for all other branches. git pull essentially pulls down any changes that may have happened since the last time you worked on the repository.

### Requirement:

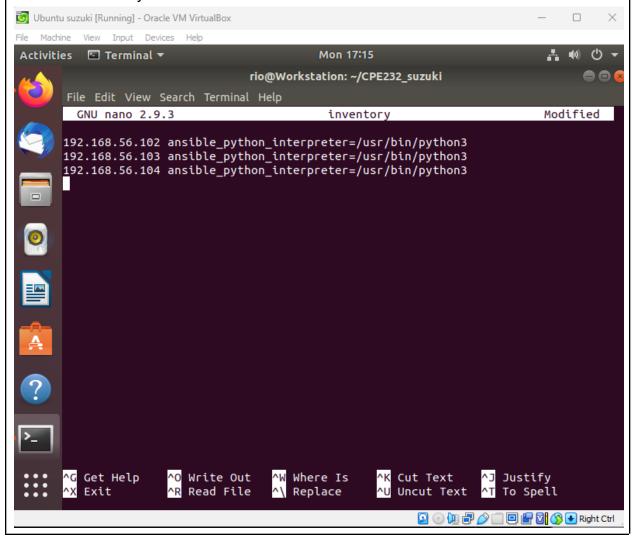
In this activity, you will need to create a CentOS VM. Likewise, you need to activate the second adapter to a host-only adapter after the installations. Take note of the IP address of the CentOS VM. Make sure to use the command *ssh-copy-id* to copy the public key to CentOS. Verify if you can successfully SSH to CentOS VM.

### Task 1: Use when command for different distributions

1. In the local machine, make sure you are in the local repository directory (CPE232\_yourname). Issue the command git pull. When prompted, enter the correct passphrase or password. Describe what happened when you issue this command. Did something happen? Why?

```
rio@Workstation:~$ cd
rio@Workstation:~$ cd CPE232_suzuki
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ git pull
Already up to date.
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$
```

2. Edit the inventory file and add the IP address of the Centos VM. Issue the command we used to execute the playbook (the one we used in the last activity): ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install\_apache.yml. After executing this command, you may notice that it did not become successful in the Centos VM. You can see that the Centos VM has failed=1. Only the two remote servers have been changed. The reason is that Centos VM does not support "apt" as the package manager. The default package manager for Centos is "yum."

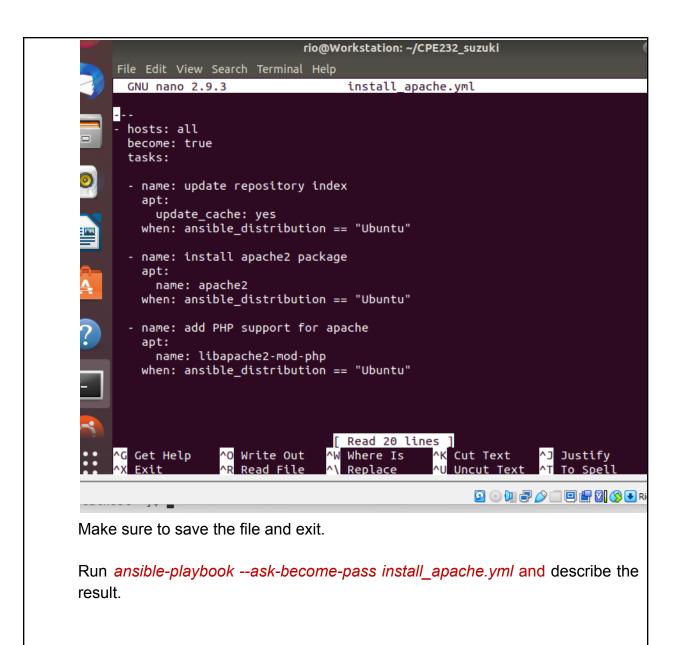


```
[sudo] password for rio:
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232 suzuki$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install apa
che.yaml
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ ls
ansible.cfg install_apache.yml inventory main.py README.md
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install apa
che.vml
SUDO password:
TASK [update repository index] ******************************
changed: [192.168.56.103]
changed: [192.168.56.102]
TASK [add PHP support for apache] ********************************
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [192.168.56.102]
changed=1 unreachable=0
changed=1 unreachable=0
changed=0 unreachable=0
192.168.56.102
                                           failed=0
192.168.56.103
                                           failed=0
                                           failed=0
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$
```

```
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ install_apache.yml
install_apache.yml: command not found
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ sudo nano install_apache.yml
[sudo] password for rio:
```

name: libapache2-mod-php

when: ansible distribution == "Ubuntu"



```
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ sudo nano install_apache.yml
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ sudo nano install apache.yml
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install apa
che.yml
SUDO password:
ok: [192.168.56.104]
changed: [192.168.56.103]
changed: [192.168.56.102]
O O D Pight Ctrl
 cnanged: [192.108.50.102]
 TASK [install apache2 package] ***********************************
 ok: [192.168.56.102]
 TASK [add PHP support for apache] **********************************
 ok: [192.168.56.102]
 ok: [192.168.56.103]
 : ok=4 changed=1 unreachable=0 failed=0
: ok=4 changed=1 unreachable=0 failed=0
: ok=1 changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0
 192.168.56.103
 rio@Workstation:~/CPE232 suzukiS
   If you have a mix of Debian and Ubuntu servers, you can change the
   configuration of your playbook like this.
```

- name: update repository index

apt:

update cache: yes

when: ansible\_distribution in ["Debian", "Ubuntu]

Note: This will work also if you try. Notice the changes are highlighted.

4. Edit the *install apache.yml* file and insert the lines shown below.

```
hosts: all
become: true
tasks:

    name: update repository index

  apt:
    update_cache: yes
  when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    name: install apache2 package

  apt:
    name: apache2
    stae: latest
  when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    name: add PHP support for apache

  apt:
    name: libapache2-mod-php
    state: latest
 when: ansible distribution == "Ubuntu"

    name: update repository index

  dnf:
    update_cache: yes
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

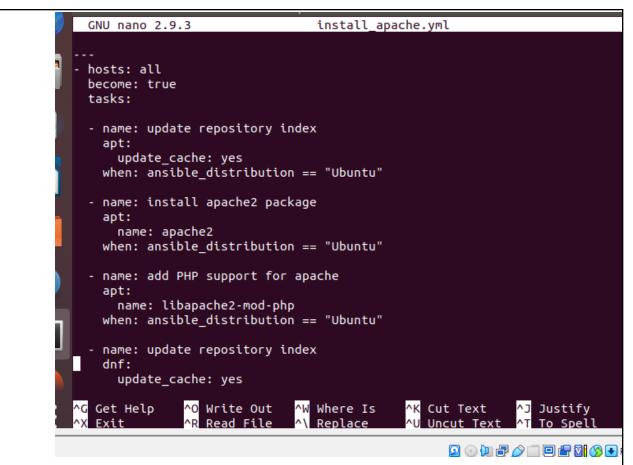
    name: install apache2 package

  dnf:
    name: httpd
    state: latest
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    name: add PHP support for apache

  dnf:
    name: php
    state: latest
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

Make sure to save and exit.



```
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
TASK [add PHP support for apache] ******************************
ok: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [update repository index] ******************************
TASK [add PHP support for apache] *********************************
changed: [rio@192.168.56.105]
changed=1
192.168.56.102
                                   unreachable=0
                                               failed=0
                  ignored=0
        rescued=0
                                               failed=0
                          changed=1
                                   unreachable=0
                                   🖸 🕟 🕼 🗗 🔗 🦳 💷 🚰 🕅 🚫 🕟 Right Ctrl
changed: [rio@192.168.56.105]
192.168.56.102
                          changed=1
                                  unreachable=0
                                              failed=0
skipped=3 rescued=0 ignored=0
                          changed=1
                                  unreachable=0
                                              failed=0
skipped=3 rescued=0 ignored=0
rio@192.168.56.105
                          changed=1
                                   unreachable=0
                                              failed=0
skipped=3 rescued=0
                 ignored=0
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232 suzuki$
```

- 5. To verify the installations, go to CentOS VM and type its IP address on the browser. Was it successful? The answer is no. It's because the httpd service or the Apache HTTP server in the CentOS is not yet active. Thus, you need to activate it first.
  - 5.1 To activate, go to the CentOS VM terminal and enter the following: systemctl status httpd

```
[rio@localhost ~]$ systemctl status httpd
 httpd.service - The Apache HTTP Server
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/httpd.service; disabled; vendor preset: disa
   Active: active (running) since Thu 2023-09-21 07:55:40 EDT; 12min ago
     Docs: man:httpd(8)
          man:apachectl(8)
 Main PID: 3235 (ήhttpd)
   Status: "Total requests: 10; Current requests/sec: 0; Current traffic:
                                                                              0 B/sec"
   Tasks: 9
   CGroup: /system.slice/httpd.service
            -3235 /usr/sbin/httpd -DFOREGROUND
            —3239 /usr/sbin/httpd -DFOREGROUND
             -3240 /usr/sbin/httpd -DFOREGROUND
            -3241 /usr/sbin/httpd -DFOREGROUND
            -3242 /usr/sbin/httpd -DFOREGROUND
            -3243 /usr/sbin/httpd -DFOREGROUND
            -4130 /usr/sbin/httpd -DFOREGROUND
            -4144 /usr/sbin/httpd -DFOREGROUND
            └─4145 /usr/sbin/httpd -DF0REGROUND
Sep 21 07:55:40 localhost.localdomain systemd[1]: Starting The Apache HTTP Server...
Sep 21 07:55:40 localhost.localdomain httpd[3235]: AH00558: httpd: Could not reliab...e
Sep 21 07:55:40 localhost.localdomain systemd[1]: Started The Apache HTTP Server.
Hint: Some lines were ellipsized, use -l to show in full.
[rio@localhost ~]$
     Getting Star... | 🛅 rio@localho... | 🍅 Apache HTT...
                                                 rio@localho..
```

The result of this command tells you that the service is inactive.

5.2 Issue the following command to start the service:

```
sudo systemctl start httpd

[rio@localhost ~]$ sudo systemctl start httpd

[rio@localhost ~]$
```

(When prompted, enter the sudo password)

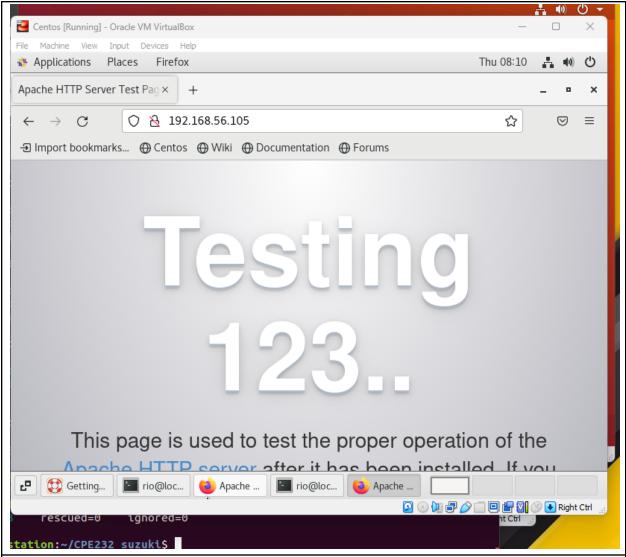
```
sudo firewall-cmd --add-port=80/tcp

[rio@localhost ~]$ sudo systemett start nitpu
[rio@localhost ~]$ sudo firewall-cmd --add-port=80/tcp

C/Warning: ALREADY_ENABLED: '80:tcp' already in 'public'
success
```

(The result should be a success)

5.3 To verify the service is already running, go to CentOS VM and type its IP address on the browser. Was it successful? (Screenshot the browser)



## Task 2: Refactoring playbook

This time, we want to make sure that our playbook is efficient and that the codes are easier to read. This will also makes run ansible more quickly if it has to execute fewer tasks to do the same thing.

1. Edit the playbook *install\_apache.yml*. Currently, we have three tasks targeting our Ubuntu machines and 3 tasks targeting our CentOS machine. Right now, we try to consolidate some tasks that are typically the same. For example, we can consolidate two plays that install packages. We can do that by creating a list of installation packages as shown below:

```
hosts: all
become: true
tasks:
- name: update repository index Ubuntu
  apt:
    update_cache: yes
  when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
- name: install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu
  apt:
    name:
      - apache2
      - libapache2-mod-php
    state: latest
  when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
- name: update repository index for CentOS
  dnf:
    update_cache: yes
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
- name: install apache and php packages for CentOS
  dnf:
    name:
      - httpd
      - php
    state: latest
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

```
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ sudo nano install_apache.yml
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install apa
che.yml
BECOME password:
TASK [update repository index] **********************************
changed: [192.168.56.102]
changed: [192.168.56.103]
TASK [install apache2 package] **********************************
ok: [192.168.56.103]
ok: [rio@192.168.56.105]
 TASK [install apache and php packages for CentOS] ***********************
 failed=0
 192.168.56.102
                      changed=1
                              unreachable=0
 skipped=2 rescued=0
                ignored=0
 192.168.56.103
                      changed=1
                              unreachable=0
                                        failed=0
        rescued=0
                ignored=0
                      changed=0
                              unreachable=0
                                        failed=0
 skipped=2 rescued=0
                ignored=0
 rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$
```

2. Edit the playbook *install\_apache.yml* again. In task 2.1, we consolidated the plays into one play. This time we can actually consolidated everything in just 2 plays. This can be done by removing the update repository play and putting the command *update\_cache: yes* below the command *state: latest*. See below for reference:

```
hosts: all
become: true
tasks:
 - name: install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu
   apt:
    name:
      - apache2
      - libapache2-mod-php
    state: latest
    update_cache: yes
   when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
 - name: install apache and php packages for CentOS
   dnf:
     name:

    httpd

       - php
     state: latest
   when: ansible distribution == "CentOS"
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

```
[install apache2 and php packages for Ubuntu] ********************
ping: [rio@192.168.56.105]
[192.168.56.102]
[192.168.56.103]
[install apache and php packages for CentOS] **********************
ping: [192.168.56.102]
ping: [192.168.56.103]
[rio@192.168.56.105]
changed=0
                               unreachable=0
                                           failed=0
     rescued=0
               ignored=0
                      changed=0
                               unreachable=0
                                           failed=0
               ignored=0
     rescued=0
                      changed=0
                               unreachable=0
                                           failed=0
ped=1 rescued=0
               ignored=0
Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$
```

3. Finally, we can consolidate these 2 plays in just 1 play. This can be done by declaring variables that will represent the packages that we want to install. Basically, the apache\_package and php\_package are variables. The names are arbitrary, which means we can choose different names. We also take out the line when: ansible\_distribution. Edit the playbook *install\_apache.yml* again and make sure to follow the below image. Make sure to save the file and exit.

Run ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install apache.yml and describe the result. rio@Workstation:~/CPE232\_suzuki\$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install\_apa che.yml BECOME password: ok: [192.168.56.102] TASK [install apache and php] \* [WARNING]: Updating cache and auto-installing missing dependency: python-apt changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=0 rescued=0 ignored=0 changed=0 unreachable=0 O Property of the prop changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=0 rescued=0 ignored=0 failed=0 changed=0 unreachable=0 skipped=0 rescued=0 ignored=0 changed=0 unreachable=0 skipped=0 rescued=0 ignored=0 rio@Workstation:~/CPE232\_suzuki\$ 4. Unfortunately, task 2.3 was not successful. It's because we need to change something in the inventory file so that the variables we declared will be in place. Edit the *inventory* file and follow the below configuration: 192.168.56.120 apache\_package=apache2 php\_package=libapache2-mod-php 192.168.56.121 apache package=apache2 php package=libapache2-mod-php 192.168.56.122 apache\_package=httpd php\_package=php Make sure to save the *inventory* file and exit.

```
File Edit View Search Terminal Help

GNU nano 2.9.3 inventory

192.168.56.102 ansible_python_interpreter=/usr/bin/python3
192.168.56.102 apache_package=apache2 php_package=libapache2-mod-php

#192.168.56.103 ansible_python_interpreter=/usr/bin/python3
192.168.56.103 apache_package=apache2 php_package=libapache2-mod-php

#rio@192.168.56.105 ansible_python_interpreter=/usr/bin/python3
rio@192.168.56.105 apache_package=httpd php_package=php
# you can put other ip address below
```

**Finally**, we still have one more thing to change in our *install\_apache.yml* file. In task 2.3, you may notice that the package is assign as apt, which will not run in CentOS. Replace the *apt* with *package*. Package is a module in ansible that is generic, which is going to use whatever package manager the underlying host or the target server uses. For Ubuntu it will automatically use *apt*, and for CentOS it will automatically use *dnf*. Make sure to save the file and exit. For more details about the ansible package, you may refer to this documentation: ansible.builtin.package — Generic OS package manager — Ansible Documentation

```
---
- hosts: all
become: true
tasks:

- name: install apache and php
package:
    name:
    - "{{ apache_package }}"
    - "{{ php_package }}"
    state: latest
    update_cache: yes
```

```
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ sudo nano inventory
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ sudo nano install apache.yml
rio@Workstation:~/CPE232_suzuki$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass install apa
che.yml
BECOME password:
ok: [192.168.56.102]
ok: [rio@192.168.56.105]
ok: [192.168.56.102]
changed=0 unreachable=0
                                      failed=0
skipped=0 rescued=0 ignored=0
                     changed=0
                            unreachable=0
                                      failed=0
skipped=0 rescued=0 ignored=0
                     changed=0
                             unreachable=0
                                       failed=0
skipped=0 rescued=0
               ianored=0
```

# Supplementary Activity:

1. Create a playbook that could do the previous tasks in Red Hat OS.

#### Reflections:

Answer the following:

- 1. Why do you think refactoring of playbook codes is important?
  - refactoring playbook code is important because it makes it more easier to maintain for automating tasks and it will make sure that the codes are up to date.
- 2. When do we use the "when" command in playbook?
  - We use the when command in playbooks when we have a conditional based like to execute a task only on certain operating systems, like running a task that's specific to CentOS only.

#### Conclusion:

To conclude, this activity aims for the student to have better knowledge and skills in using the when command. I encountered a lot of problems and one of this is the missing dnf file. I was able to solve it by re-installing CentOS. The when command is

a very important command in ansible since it enables you to apply conditional logic to your tasks and roles, allowing you to tailor your automation to specific scenarios and conditions.