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| <p>Subject Name & Code: Cloud Computing and Analytics (ADUA31203)</p> | | |
| <p>Title of Assignment: Write ansible playbook to install nginx on target servers</p> | | |

Assignment 6

Title: Write an ansible playbook to deploy NGINX Web server.

Theory:

1) What is YAML

YAML is a human-readable data serialization language that is often used for writing configuration files. Depending on whom you ask, YAML stands for yet another markup language or YAML isn't markup language (a recursive acronym), which emphasizes that YAML is for data, not documents.

YAML is a popular programming language because it is designed to be easy to read and understand. It can also be used in conjunction with other programming languages. Because of its flexibility, and accessibility, YAML is used by Ansible® to create automation processes, in the form of Ansible Playbooks.

YAML syntax

YAML files use a .yaml or .yml extension, and follow specific syntax rules.

YAML has features that come from Perl, C, XML, HTML, and other programming languages. YAML is also a superset of JSON, so JSON files are valid in YAML.

There are no usual format symbols, such as braces, square brackets, closing tags, or quotation marks. And YAML files are simpler to read as they use Python-style indentation to determine the structure and indicate nesting. Tab characters are not allowed by design, to maintain portability across systems, so whitespaces—literal space characters—are used instead.

Comments can be identified with a pound or hash symbol (#). It's always a best practice to use comments, as they describe the intention of the code. YAML does not support multi-line comment, each line needs to be suffixed with the pound character.

A common question for YAML beginners is "What do the 3 dashes mean?" 3 dashes (---) are used to signal the start of a document, while each document ends with three dots (...).

This is a very basic example of a YAML file:

#Comment: This is a supermarket list using YAML

#Note that - character represents the list

food:

- vegetables: tomatoes #first list item

- fruits: #second list item

citrics: oranges

tropical: bananas

nuts: peanuts

sweets: raisins

Note that the structure of a YAML file is a map or a list, and it follows a hierarchy depending on the indentation, and how you define your key values. Maps allow you to associate key-value pairs. Each key must be unique, and the order doesn't matter. Think of a Python dictionary or a variable assignment in a Bash script.

A map in YAML needs to be resolved before it can be closed, and a new map is created. A new map can be created by either increasing the indentation level or by resolving the previous map and starting an adjacent map.

A list includes values listed in a specific order and may contain any number of items needed. A list sequence starts with a dash (-) and a space, while indentation separates it from the parent. You can think of a sequence as a Python list or an array in Bash or Perl. A list can be embedded into a map.

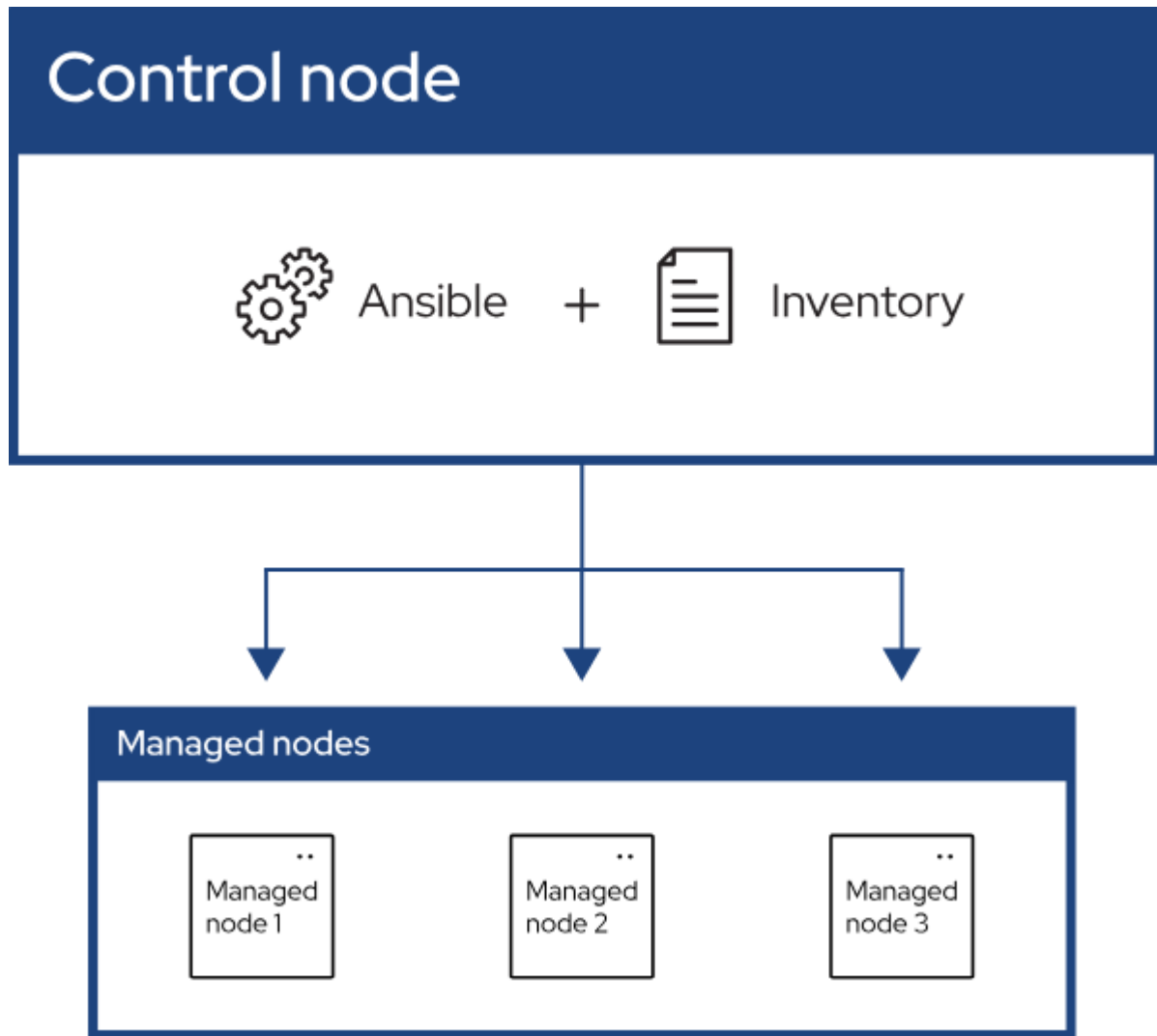
In the example provided above “vegetables” and “fruits” represent items that are part of the list named “food”.

YAML also contains scalars, which are arbitrary data (encoded in Unicode) that can be used as values such as strings, integers, dates, numbers, or booleans.

When creating a YAML file, you’ll need to ensure that you follow these syntax rules and that your file is valid. To achieve it, you can use a linter—an application that verifies the syntax of a file. The `yamllint` command can help to ensure you’ve created a valid YAML file before you hand it over to an application.

2) Introduction to Ansible

Ansible automates the management of remote systems and controls their desired state.



As shown in the preceding figure, most Ansible environments have three main components:

Control node

A system on which Ansible is installed. You run Ansible commands such as `ansible` or `ansible-inventory` on a control node.

Inventory

A list of managed nodes that are logically organized. You create an inventory on the control node to describe host deployments to Ansible.

Managed node

A remote system, or host, that Ansible controls.

Introduction to Ansible

Ansible provides open-source automation that reduces complexity and runs everywhere. Using Ansible lets you automate virtually any task. Here are some common use cases for Ansible:

- Eliminate repetition and simplify workflows
- Manage and maintain system configuration
- Continuously deploy complex software
- Perform zero-downtime rolling updates

Ansible uses simple, human-readable scripts called playbooks to automate your tasks. You declare the desired state of a local or remote system in your playbook. Ansible ensures that the system remains in that state.

As automation technology, Ansible is designed around the following principles:

Agentless architecture

Low maintenance overhead by avoiding the installation of additional software across IT infrastructure.

Simplicity

Automation playbooks use straightforward YAML syntax for code that reads like documentation. Ansible is also decentralized, using SSH existing OS credentials to access to remote machines.

Scalability and flexibility

Easily and quickly scale the systems you automate through a modular design that supports a large range of operating systems, cloud platforms, and network devices.

Idempotence and predictability

When the system is in the state your playbook describes, Ansible does not change anything, even if the playbook runs multiple times.

Implementation:

1. Architecture:

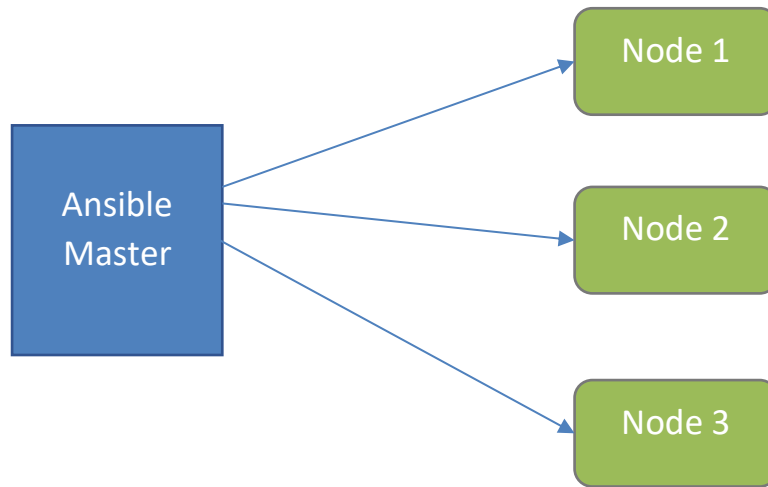
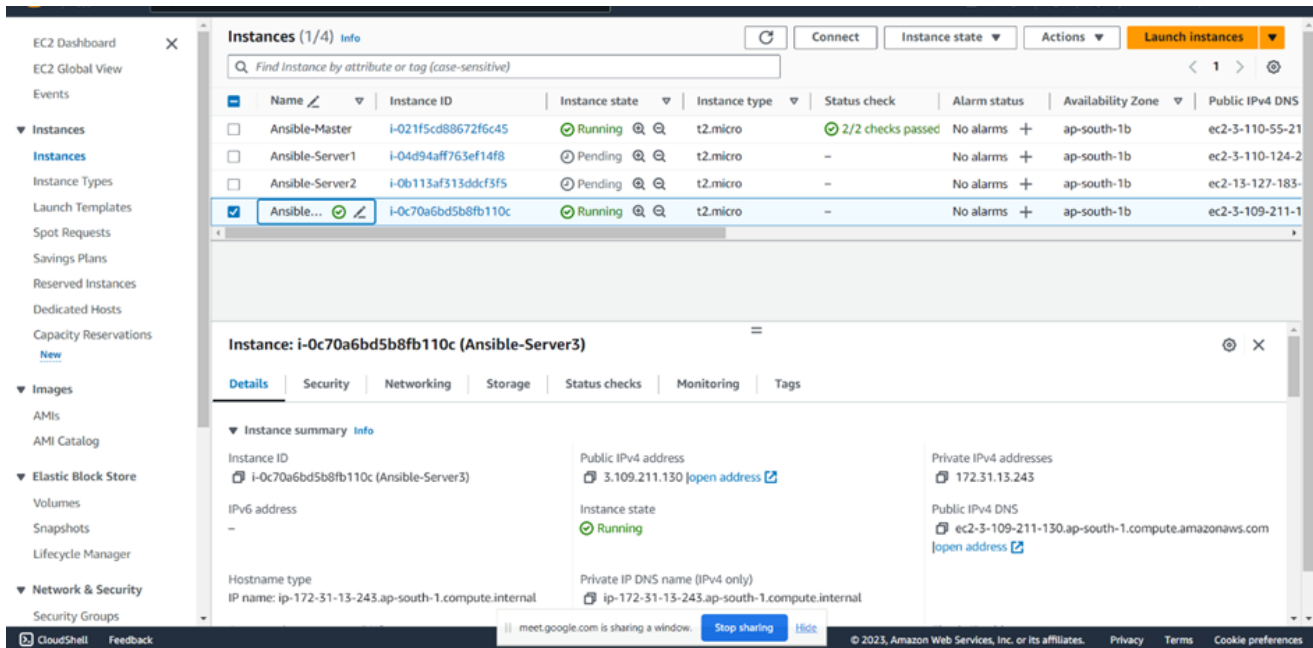


Figure1: Architecture Diagram

2. Steps

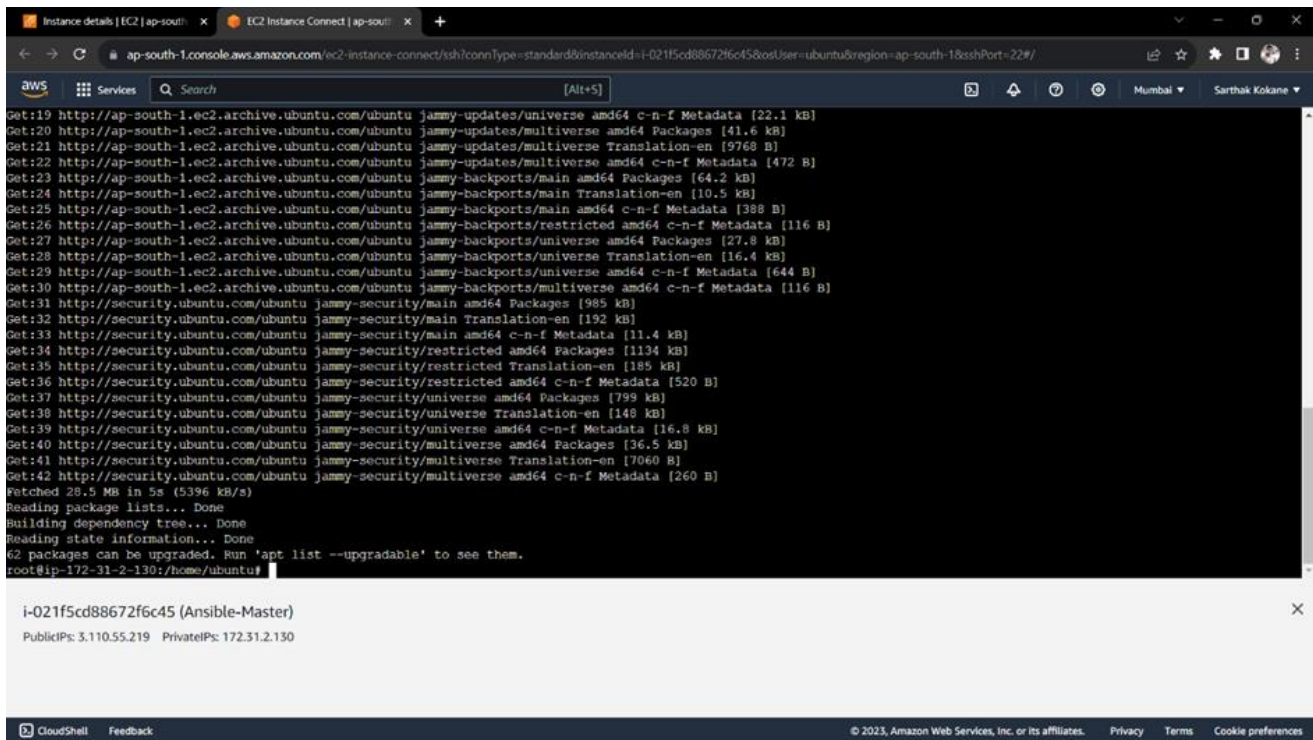
a) Create 4 ec2 instances of **Ubuntu machine**.



b) Connect to "Ansible-Master" server

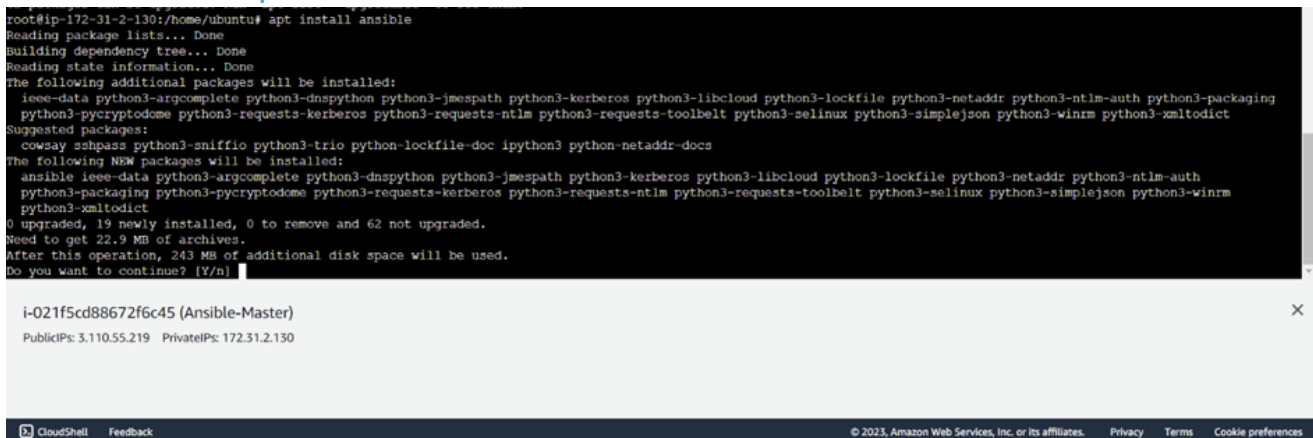
c) Run following commands.

- `sudo -i`
- `apt update`



- Install ansible using command.

apt install ansible



- Check the version of ansible using command
ansible --version
- Update remaining all hosts i.e. Ansible-Server1, Ansible-Server2, Ansible-Server3 using command
sudo apt-get update

d) Generate a ssh key on Ansible-master using command

ssh-keygen

The screenshot shows a terminal window in AWS CloudShell. The top bar indicates the instance is 'i-021f5cd88672f6c45' in the 'ap-south-1' region. The terminal output shows the user running 'ansible --version' which returns 'ansible 2.10.8'. Then, 'ssh-keygen' is run, generating a new RSA key pair. The output includes the file path '/home/ubuntu/.ssh/id_rsa', the passphrase prompt, the key fingerprint 'SHA256:YMT4NSe6+iJpQWRzCzz+b/bbPIjWGMVzWuZvr2f005s', and a visual representation of the key. The terminal prompt is 'ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~\$'.

e) copy the public key which is in .ssh folder into “authorized keys” on ansible-server1
commands:

```
ls ~/.ssh  
cat ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub
```

The screenshot shows the same terminal window. The user has run 'ls ~/.ssh' and 'cat ~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub'. The output of 'ls' shows 'authorized_keys id_rsa id_rsa.pub'. The output of 'cat' shows the contents of the public key file, which is a long string of characters. The terminal prompt is 'ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~\$'.

f) Connect to ansible-server1 and again give command

```
ssh-keygen  
It will create the same files on ansible-server1
```

Now,

```
vim ~/.ssh/authorized_keys  
copy the public key
```



```

ubuntu@ip-172-31-5-59:~$ ssh-keygen
Generating public/private rsa key pair.
Enter file in which to save the key (/home/ubuntu/.ssh/id_rsa):
Enter passphrase (empty for no passphrase):
Enter same passphrase again:
Your identification has been saved in /home/ubuntu/.ssh/id_rsa
Your public key has been saved in /home/ubuntu/.ssh/id_rsa.pub
The key fingerprint is:
SHA256:mdMD46tir78WgggoMq+agKfpmCRHpVjuDxZo94J5k2s ubuntu@ip-172-31-5-59
The key's randomart image is:
+---[RSA 3072]-----+
|
| . . +
| * = + o
| O+ = . = S
| +=ooo =
| +=B=o. .
| BX.E+
| @+B=o
+---[SHA256]-----+
ubuntu@ip-172-31-5-59:~$ ^[[200~vim ~/.ssh/authorized_keys~
vim: command not found
ubuntu@ip-172-31-5-59:~$ vim ~/.ssh/authorized_keys
ubuntu@ip-172-31-5-59:~$

```

i-04d94aff763ef14f8 (Ansible-Server1)
PublicIPs: 3.110.124.24 PrivateIPs: 172.31.5.59

- g) Now login to Ansible-master and try to connect to ansible server using command
`ssh ubuntu@private-ip`

```

ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~$ ssh ubuntu@172.31.5.59

```

Create a playbook on Ansible-master

Step 1:- Connect to “Ansible-Master”

Step 2:- Create a new folder “ansible-project” using command

Step 3:

- `cd ansible-project`
- `nano inventory`
- 1. Write the private IP of “Ansible-server1” into inventory.
- 2. Write the private IP of “Ansible-server2” into inventory.
- 3. Write the private IP of “Ansible-server3” into inventory.

```

GNU nano 6.2
[webservers]
172.31.5.59
172.31.13.128
172.31.13.243

```

4. Save and exit.

Task: Install Nginx and Start Nginx

Step 1: Create a new file called “first-playbook.yml”

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~$ cd ansible-project/  
ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~/ansible-project$ nano first-playbook.yml  
ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~/ansible-project$ cat first-playbook.yml
```

Code:

- name: Install and restart the nginx

hosts: all

become: true

tasks:

- name: install nginx

apt: name=nginx state=latest

- name: start nginx

service:

name: nginx

state: started

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~$ cd ansible-project/  
ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~/ansible-project$ nano first-playbook.yml  
ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~/ansible-project$ cat first-playbook.yml  
name: Install and restart the nginx  
hosts: all  
become: true  
tasks :  
  - name: Install nginx  
    apt: name=nginx state=latest  
  - name: start nginx  
    service :  
      name: nginx  
      state: started  
ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~/ansible-project$
```

Execute the playbook by using command:

ansible-playbook -i inventory first-playbook.yml

```
Connection to 172.31.13.243 closed.  
ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~/ansible-project$ ansible-playbook -i inventory first-playbook.yml  
error! A playbook must be a list of plays, got a <class 'ansible.parsing.yaml.objects.AnsibleMap'>
```

Output:

```
name: Install and restart the nginx
^ here
ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~/ansible-project$ nano first-playbook.yml
ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~/ansible-project$ ansible-playbook -i inventory first-playbook.yml

PLAY [Install and restart the nginx] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [172.31.13.243]
ok: [172.31.13.128]
ok: [172.31.5.59]

TASK [install nginx] *****
changed: [172.31.13.243]
changed: [172.31.5.59]
changed: [172.31.13.128]

TASK [start nginx] *****
ok: [172.31.5.59]
ok: [172.31.13.243]
ok: [172.31.13.128]

PLAY RECAP *****
172.31.13.128      : ok=3  changed=1  unreachable=0  failed=0  skipped=0  rescued=0  ignored=0
172.31.13.243      : ok=3  changed=1  unreachable=0  failed=0  skipped=0  rescued=0  ignored=0
172.31.5.59        : ok=3  changed=1  unreachable=0  failed=0  skipped=0  rescued=0  ignored=0

ubuntu@ip-172-31-2-130:~/ansible-project$
```

i-021f5cd88672f6c45 (Ansible-Master)
PublicIPs: 3.110.55.219 PrivateIPs: 172.31.2.130

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Verify the output:

Step 1: Connect to any Ansible-Server

Step 2: Run the command: `sudo systemctl status nginx`

- *Ansible-Server1*

```
Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

65 updates can be applied immediately.
39 of these updates are standard security updates.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

Last login: Fri Nov 24 14:02:17 2023 from 172.31.2.130
ubuntu@ip-172-31-5-59:~$ sudo systemctl status nginx
● nginx.service - A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server
   Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/nginx.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Fri 2023-11-24 14:02:08 UTC; 1min 54s ago
     Docs: man:nginx(8)
    Process: 2686 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/nginx -t -q -g daemon on; master_process on; (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
    Process: 2687 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/nginx -g daemon on; master_process on; (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
   Main PID: 2789 (nginx)
      Tasks: 2 (limit: 1121)
     Memory: 4.3M
        CPU: 25ms
   CGroup: /system.slice/nginx.service
           └─2789 "nginx: master process /usr/sbin/nginx -g daemon on; master_process on;"
             └─2792 "nginx: worker process"

Nov 24 14:02:08 ip-172-31-5-59 systemd[1]: Starting A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server...
Nov 24 14:02:08 ip-172-31-5-59 systemd[1]: Started A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server.
ubuntu@ip-172-31-5-59:~$
```

i-04d94aff763ef14f8 (Ansible-Server1)
PublicIPs: 3.110.124.24 PrivateIPs: 172.31.5.59

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- *Ansible-Server2*

```
Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

65 updates can be applied immediately.
39 of these updates are standard security updates.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

Last login: Fri Nov 24 14:04:33 2023 from 13.233.177.3
ubuntu@ip-172-31-13-128:~$ sudo systemctl status nginx
● nginx.service - A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server
   Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/nginx.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Fri 2023-11-24 14:02:08 UTC; 3min 26s ago
     Docs: man:nginx(8)
    Process: 3026 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/nginx -t -q -g daemon on; master_process on; (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
    Process: 3027 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/nginx -g daemon on; master_process on; (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
   Main PID: 3120 (nginx)
      Tasks: 2 (limit: 1121)
     Memory: 4.3M
        CPU: 24ms
    CGroup: /system.slice/nginx.service
            └─3120 "nginx: master process /usr/sbin/nginx -g daemon on; master_process on;"
               └─3123 "nginx: worker process"

Nov 24 14:02:08 ip-172-31-13-128 systemd[1]: Starting A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server...
Nov 24 14:02:08 ip-172-31-13-128 systemd[1]: Started A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server.
ubuntu@ip-172-31-13-128:~$
```

i-Ob113af313ddcf3f5 (Ansible-Server2)

PublicIPs: 13.127.183.85 PrivateIPs: 172.31.13.128

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- *Ansible-Server3*

```
Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

65 updates can be applied immediately.
39 of these updates are standard security updates.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable

Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

Last login: Fri Nov 24 14:02:17 2023 from 172.31.2.130
ubuntu@ip-172-31-13-243:~$ sudo systemctl status nginx
● nginx.service - A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server
   Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/nginx.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Fri 2023-11-24 14:02:08 UTC; 4min 14s ago
     Docs: man:nginx(8)
    Process: 3051 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/nginx -t -q -g daemon on; master_process on; (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
    Process: 3052 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/nginx -g daemon on; master_process on; (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
   Main PID: 3146 (nginx)
      Tasks: 2 (limit: 1121)
     Memory: 4.3M
        CPU: 25ms
    CGroup: /system.slice/nginx.service
            └─3146 "nginx: master process /usr/sbin/nginx -g daemon on; master_process on;"
               └─3149 "nginx: worker process"

Nov 24 14:02:08 ip-172-31-13-243 systemd[1]: Starting A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server...
Nov 24 14:02:08 ip-172-31-13-243 systemd[1]: Started A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server.
ubuntu@ip-172-31-13-243:~$
```

i-0c70a6bd5b8fb110c (Ansible-Server3)

PublicIPs: 3.109.211.130 PrivateIPs: 172.31.13.243

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Conclusion: Thus, we have successfully used Ansible playbooks to install nginx on 3 target servers.