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Activity 7: Managing Files and Creating Poles in Ancible				

Activity 7: Managing Files and Creating Roles in Ansible

1. Objectives:

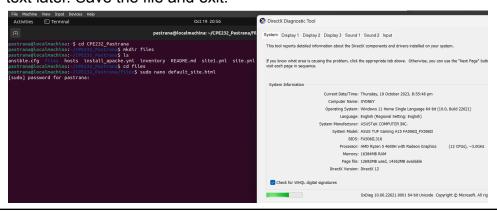
- 1.1 Manage files in remote servers
- 1.2 Implement roles in ansible

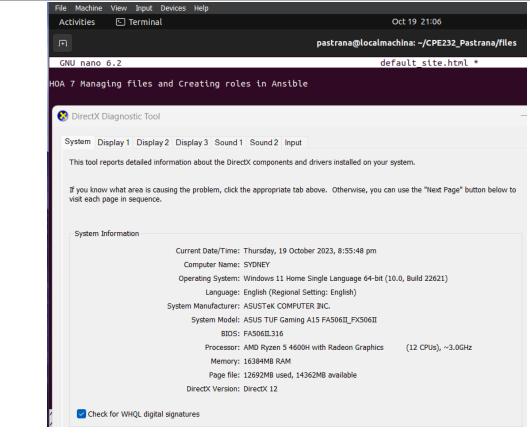
2. Discussion:

In this activity, we look at the concept of copying a file to a server. We are going to create a file into our git repository and use Ansible to grab that file and put it into a particular place so that we could do things like customize a default website, or maybe install a default configuration file. We will also implement roles to consolidate plays.

Task 1: Create a file and copy it to remote servers

1. Using the previous directory we created, create a directory, and named it "files." Create a file inside that directory and name it "default_site.html." Edit the file and put basic HTML syntax. Any content will do, as long as it will display text later. Save the file and exit.





- 2. Edit the *site.yml* file and just below the *web_servers* play, create a new file to copy the default html file for site:
 - name: copy default html file for site

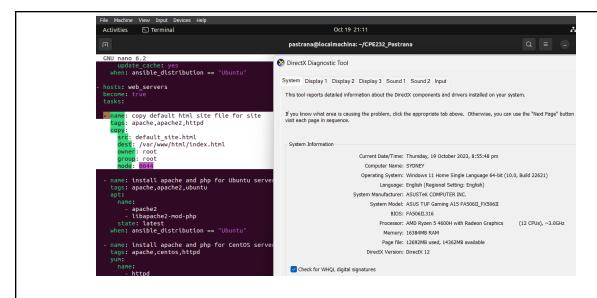
tags: apache, apache2, httpd

copy:

src: default site.html

dest: /var/www/html/index.html

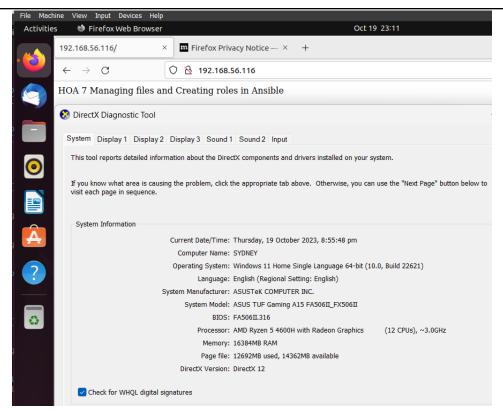
owner: root group: root mode: 0644



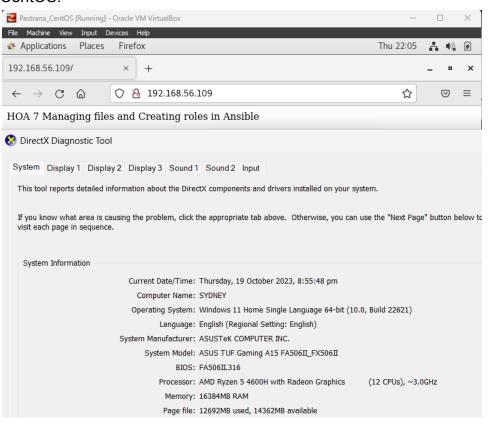
3. Run the playbook *site.yml*. Describe the changes.



4. Go to the remote servers (web_servers) listed in your inventory. Use cat command to check if the index.html is the same as the local repository file (default_site.html). Do both for Ubuntu and CentOS servers. On the CentOS server, go to the browser and type its IP address. Describe the output. Server3:



CentOS:



5. Sync your local repository with GitHub and describe the changes.



Task 2: Download a file and extract it to a remote server

1. Edit the site.yml. Just before the web_servers play, create a new play:

 hosts: workstations become: true tasks:

> name: install unzip package:

> > name: unzip

 name: install terraform unarchive:

src:

https://releases.hashicorp.com/terraform/0.12.28/terraform_0.12.28_linux_a md64.zip

dest: /usr/local/bin remote_src: yes mode: 0755 owner: root group: root



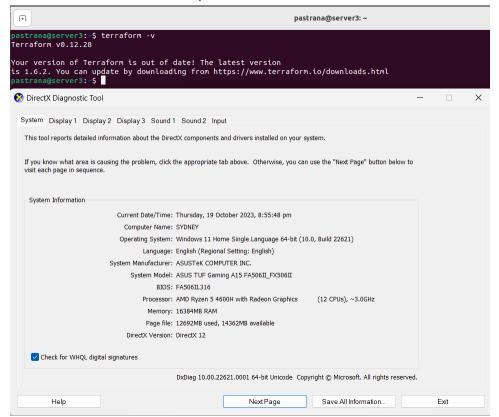
2. Edit the inventory file and add workstations group. Add any Ubuntu remote server. Make sure to remember the IP address.



3. Run the playbook. Describe the output.



4. On the Ubuntu remote workstation, type terraform to verify installation of terraform. Describe the output.



Task 3: Create roles

1. Edit the site.yml. Configure roles as follows: (make sure to create a copy of the old site.yml file because you will be copying the specific plays for all groups)

```
hosts: all
become: true
pre_tasks:

    name: update repository index (CentOS)

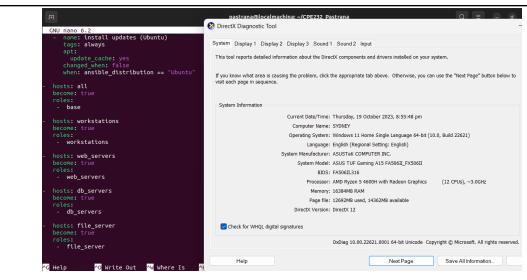
  tags: always
  dnf:
    update_cache: yes
  changed_when: false
  when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    name: install updates (Ubuntu)

  tags: always
  apt:
    update_cache: yes
  changed when: false
  when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
hosts: all
become: true
roles:
  - base
hosts: workstations
become: true
roles:
  - workstations
hosts: web_servers
become: true
roles:
  web_servers
hosts: db_servers
become: true
roles:

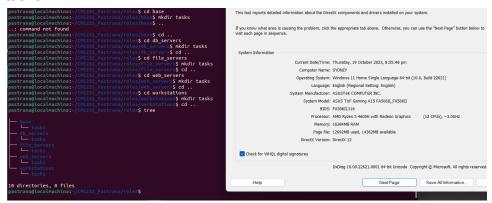
    db_servers

hosts: file_servers
become: true
roles:
  - file_servers
```



Save the file and exit.

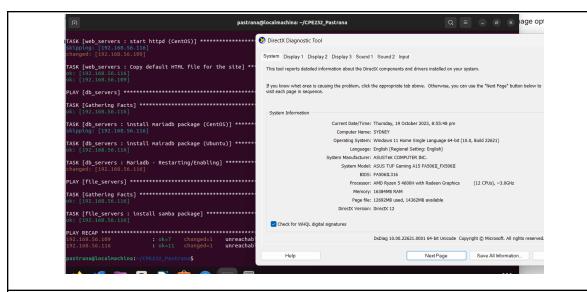
Under the same directory, create a new directory and name it roles. Enter the
roles directory and create new directories: base, web_servers, file_servers,
db_servers and workstations. For each directory, create a directory and name it
tasks.



3. Go to tasks for all directory and create a file. Name it main.yml. In each of the tasks for all directories, copy and paste the code from the old site.yml file. Show all contents of main.yml files for all tasks.



4. Run the site.yml playbook and describe the output.



Reflections:

Answer the following:

- 1. What is the importance of creating roles?
 - Ansible roles provide a well-defined framework and structure for configuring your tasks, variables, handlers, metadata, templates, and other files. helping us to achieve reusability, better code maintenance, and efficient cooperation among team members when managing complicated settings and deployments across numerous systems.
- 2. What is the importance of managing files?
 - Managing files in an organized and systematic manner involves configuring systems, deploying software, and orchestrating advanced workflows to support application deployment, system updates, and more.

Conclusion:

During this activity, I successfully manage files on remote servers and also role assignments. I executed a single command through the "site.yml" playbook with surprising quickness, which effortlessly deployed Terraform across all servers. My experience was not without difficulties, particularly dealing with the unpredictable server error which sometimes I forgot to open and connect to the internet.