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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.

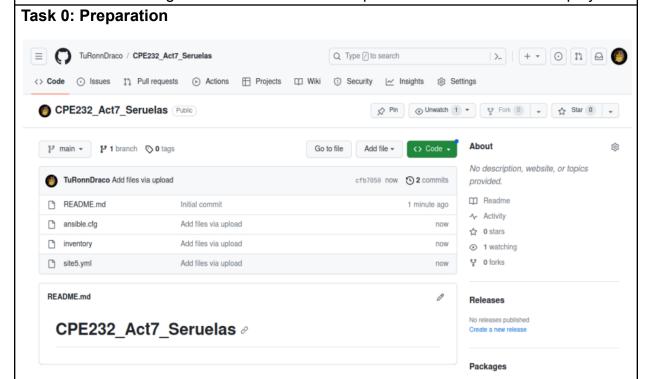


Figure 0.1 - Creation of the new repository, alongside with files from previous activity.

Figure 0.2 - Cloning of new repository to the workstation.

```
seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas Q :
seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ ansible all -m ping
server1 | SUCCESS => {
    "changed": false,
    "ping": "pong"
}
server2 | SUCCESS => {
    "changed": false,
    "ping": "pong"
}
centos | SUCCESS => {
    "changed": false,
    "ping": "pong"
}
```

Figure 0.3 - Pinging all machines to verify online status.

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.



Figure 1.1.1 - Creation of the **files** directory and the **default_site.html**.

Figure 1.1.2 - Basic syntax inside of default site.html.

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

```
GNU nano 6.2 site1.yml *

- 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
```

Figure 1.2.1 - Copying new task unto site.yml. (Created new version of site.yml)

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

```
seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas
eruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ ansible-playbook --ask-become-pass site1.yml
BECOME password:
skipping: [server1]
skipping: [server2]
kipping: [centos]
hanged: [server2]
hanged: [server1]
TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu Servers] *******************************
TASK [install apache and php for CentOS Servers] *******************************
: ok=9 changed=2 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=3
rescued=0 ignored=0
        : ok=5 changed=2 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=3
rescued=0 ignored=0
        : ok=7 changed=2 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2
rescued=0 ignored=0
```

Figure 1.3.1 - Running the playbook added a new task which was executed in the remote group, web servers.

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.

Figure 1.4.1 - Verification of successful copying of default_site.html unto the remote web_servers.

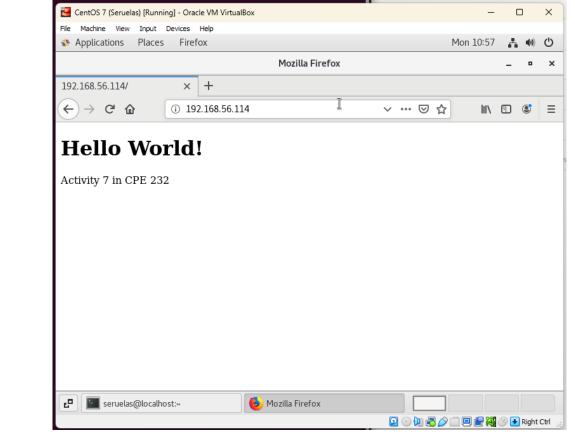


Figure 1.4.2 - Verification of successful transfer of default_site.html in CentOS.

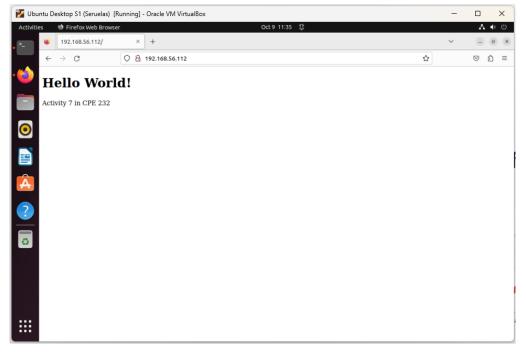


Figure 1.4.3 - Verification of successful transfer of default_site.html in Ubuntu Server1.

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

```
seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ git add *
seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ git commit -m "09-10-2023 at 10:58am"
[main d3c8790] 09-10-2023 at 10:58am
3 files changed, 187 insertions(+)
create mode 100644 files/default_site.html
create mode 100644 site1.yml
seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ git push origin
Enumerating objects: 6, done.
Counting objects: 100% (6/6), done.
Delta compression using up to 2 threads
Compressing objects: 100% (4/4), done.
Writing objects: 100% (5/5), 983 bytes | 983.00 KiB/s, done.
Total 5 (delta 1), reused 0 (delta 0), pack-reused 0
remote: Resolving deltas: 100% (1/1), completed with 1 local object.
To github.com:TuRonnDraco/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas.git
cfb7050..d3c8790 main -> main
```

Figure 1.5.1 - Syncing local repository to GitHub repository.

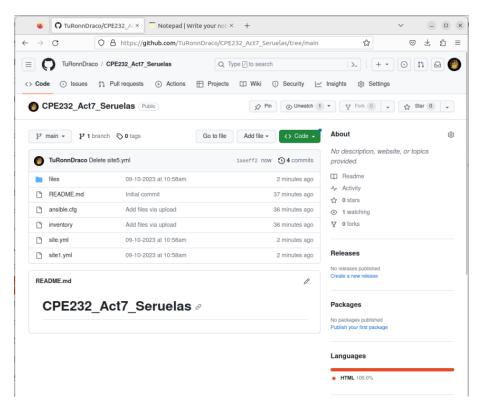


Figure 1.5.2 - Verification of sync in the GitHub repository. A change that can be seen is that there is a new section in GitHub where it displays the languages that is presently used in the repository.

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 seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas Q GNU nano 6.2 site2.yml * hosts: workstations become: true name: install unzip package: name: unzip

Figure 2.1.1 - Adding additional tasks for remote group workstations in site.yml (New version of site.yml)

src: https://releases.hashicorp.com/terraform/0.12.28/terraform_0.12.28_linux_amd64.zip

name: install terraform

dest: /usr/local/bin
remote_src: yes

unarchive:

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.



Figure 2.2.1 - Adding a new remote group in inventory, the workstations. (Choosing Ubuntu Server1 as the remote user)

3. Run the playbook. Describe the output.



Figure 2.3.1-2.3.2 - Installation of the terraform was successful.

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



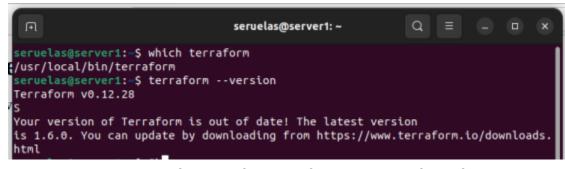


Figure 2.4.1-2.4.2 - Verification of successful installation of terraform in Ubuntu Server1.

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
- workstations
- hosts: web_servers
- become: true
roles:
    - web_servers
- hosts: db_servers
- become: true
roles:
    - db_servers
- hosts: file_servers
- become: true
roles:
    - db_servers
- hosts: file_servers
- become: true
roles:
    - db_servers
- hosts: file_servers
- hosts: file_servers
- file_servers
- file_servers
```

Save the file and exit.

```
cnu nano 6.2 site3.yml

- hosts: all become: true pre_tasks:
- name: update repository index (CentOS) tags: always yun:
    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:
    - workstations
- hosts: db_servers
- become: true roles:
    - workstations
- hosts: file_server
```

Figure 3.1.1 - Creation of new site.yml (New version of site.yml)

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.

```
seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles Q = - - ×

seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ mkdir roles

seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ cd roles

seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles$ mkdir base web_servers file_servers db_servers w

orkstations

seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles$ ls
base db_servers file_servers web_servers workstations
```

Figure 3.2.1 - Creation of the roles directory, inside of it being the directories regarding each remote group.

Figure 3.2.2 - Creation of tasks directory in each role directory.

```
seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas

seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ tree roles

roles

base
 tasks
 db_servers
 tasks
 file_servers
 tasks
 web_servers
 tasks
 workstations
 tasks
```

Figure 3.2.3 - Verification of new created directories.

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.

```
seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles$ cd base
seruelas@workstation:-/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/base$ cd tasks
seruelas@workstation:-/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/base/tasks$ touch main.yml
seruelas@workstation:-/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/base/tasks$ cd ..
seruelas@workstation:-/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/base$ cd ..
seruelas@workstation:-/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles$ cd db_severs
bash: cd: db_severs: No such file or directory
 seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles$ cd db_servers
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/db_servers$ cd tasks
seruelas@workstation:-/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/db_servers/tasks$ touch main.yml
seruelas@workstation:-/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/db_servers/tasks$ cd ..
seruelas@workstation:-/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/db_servers$ cd ..
seruelas@workstation:-/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles$ cd file_servers
 seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/file_servers$ cd tasks
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/file_servers/tasks$ touch main.yml
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/file_servers/tasks$ cd ..
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/file_servers$ cd ..
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles$ cd web_servers
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles$ cd tasks
 seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/web_servers/tasks$ touch main.yml
 seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/web_servers/tasks$ cd ..
 eruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/web_servers$ cd ...
 seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles$ cd workstations
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/workstations$ cd tasks
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/workstations/tasks$ touch main.yml
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/workstations/tasks$ cd ...
 seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/workstations$ cd ...
 seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles$ cd ..
 seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ tree roles
                   — main.yml
                    - main.yml
                    - main.yml
                     - main.yml
                    - main.yml
10 directories, 5 files
```

Figure 3.3.1 - Creation of main.yml in each tasks directory of each role directory.

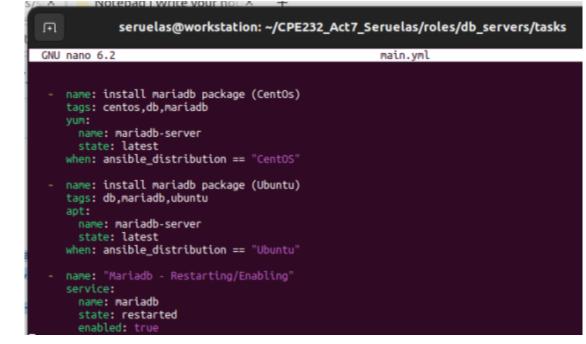


Figure 3.3.2 - main.yml content for role db servers.



Figure 3.3.3 - main.yml content for role file_server.

Figure 3.3.4 - main.yml content for role web_servers.

```
seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas/roles/workstations/tasks

GNU nano 6.2 main.yml

name: install unzip
package:
name: unzip

name: install terraform
unarchive:
src: https://releases.hashicorp.com/terraform/0.12.28/terraform_0.12.28_linux_amd64.zip
dest: /usr/local/bin
remote_src: yes
mode: 0755
owner: root
group: root
```

Figure 3.3.4 - main.yml content for role workstations.

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

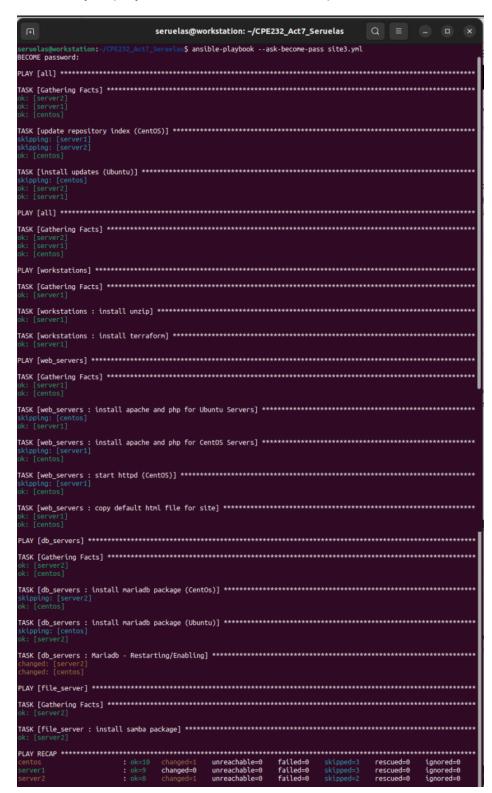


Figure 3.4.1 - Playbook ran shows that each tasks done were done by a specific role.

5. Push and save everything to GitHub.

```
Q
  Ħ
                                        seruelas@workstation: ~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas
seruelas@workstation:~/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ git add *
seruelas@workstation:-/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas$ git commit -m "Finished at 09-10-2023 at 01:11pm"
[main 4f59d0f] Finished at 09-10-2023 at 01:11pm
 6 files changed, 81 insertions(+), 2 deletions(-)
 create mode 100644 roles/file_server/tasks/main.yml
delete mode 100644 roles/file_servers/tasks/main.yml
seruelas@workstation:~
                                  lct7_Seruelas$ git push origin
Enumerating objects: 26, done.
Counting objects: 100% (22/22), done.
Delta compression using up to 2 threads
Compressing objects: 100% (8/8), done.
Writing objects: 100% (16/16), 1.62 KiB | 1.62 MiB/s, done.
Total 16 (delta 2), reused 0 (delta 0), pack-reused 0
remote: Resolving deltas: 100% (2/2), completed with 2 local objects.
To github.com:TuRonnDraco/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas.git
   ffe6bb9..4f59d0f main -> main
```

Figure 3.5.1 - Pushing local repository to GitHub.

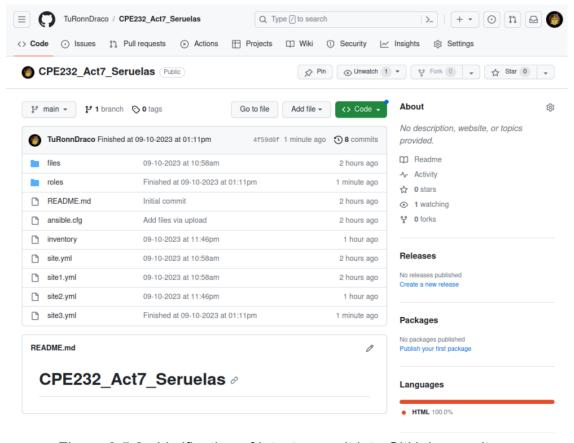


Figure 3.5.2 - Verification of latest commit into GitHub repository.

https://github.com/TuRonnDraco/CPE232_Act7_Seruelas

Reflections:

Answer the following:

- 1. What is the importance of creating roles?
 - The importance of creating roles in a database is that it allows us to separate and to specify which tasks are to be executed by each role or web group that is given to. The main purpose of roles is to allow the administrators to separate and to organize the tasks of each remote hosts that is grouped by inventory and remote groups, allowing the main.yml to have more memory that executes the tasks of the remote groups separately from the main.yml
- 2. What is the importance of managing files?
 - The importance of managing files in a database is that it allows the administrator to have more memory and space and organization in their files, allowing more setups and fixated steps for their database, to avoid any conflicts in the files.

Conclusion:

In this activity, we were able to educate ourselves in the importance of managing files and creating roles in ansible. We were able to learn that managing files in our own database or repository allows us to have a more cleaner interface that allows us to create and to specify more setups in our own interface. Creating roles is a huge fundamental in ansible as it also allows us to specify and to preserve more memory in executing our playbooks, allowing us to have better performance and more efficient process in managing enterprise servers. To conclude this activity, we were able to manage our repository by organizing the roles and files needed to execute our playbook.

"I affirm that I have not received or given any unauthorized help on this activity and that all work is my own."