Implementing Ansible Inventory

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Ansible Inventory

/etc/ansible/hosts

```
…

[group01]
globo-web01
globo-web02
globo-db01

[group01:vars]
ansible_user=
ansible_password=
…
```

Ansible Inventory Format

Popular hosts file formats: INI, YAML

/etc/ansible/hosts (ini)

```
[web]
globo-web01

[web:vars]
ansible_user=
ansible_password=
ansible_connection=
ansible_winrm_transport=
```

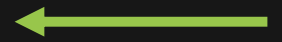
/etc/ansible/hosts (yaml)

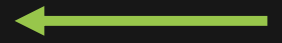
```
all:
  children:
    web:
      hosts:
        globo-web01
      vars:
        ansible_user=
        ansible_password=
        ansible_connection=
        ansible_winrm_transport=
```

Ansible Groups

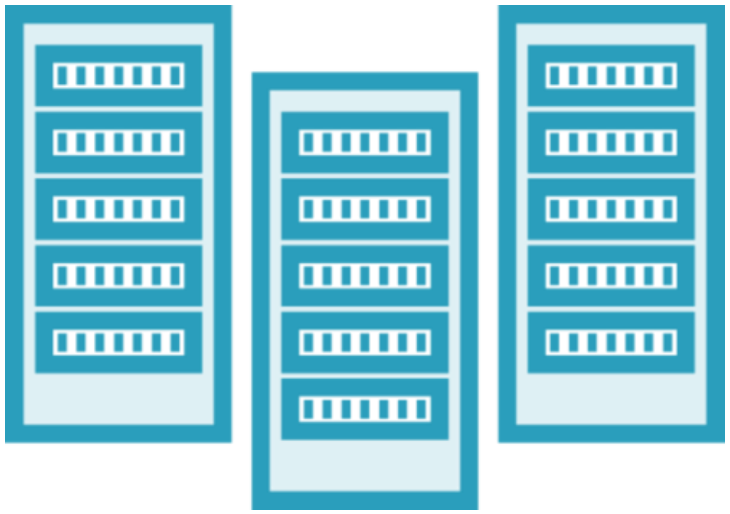
/etc/ansible/hosts

```
...

[databases]
globo-db01
globo-db02
globo-db03
globo-linux-db04

[webservers]
globo-web01
globo-web02
globo-web03

[linux_servers]
globo-linux-db04

...
```





Ansible Default Groups: All, Ungrouped



There are two important default groups: “all” and “ungrouped”

The all group will include all hosts listed in the inventory regardless of grouping

The ungrouped list will include all hosts not otherwise listed in a group

Nested Groups

/etc/ansible/hosts

```
…

[webservers]
globo-web01
globo-web02

[databases]
globo-db01
globo-db02

[windows_servers:children]
webservers
databases

…
```

```
$ ansible windows_servers -m win_ping
```

Ansible Variables

/etc/ansible/hosts

```
...

[web]
globo-web01
globo-web02

[web:vars]
ansible_username=<user>
ansible_password=<password>

...
```

Overriding Variables

/etc/ansible/hosts

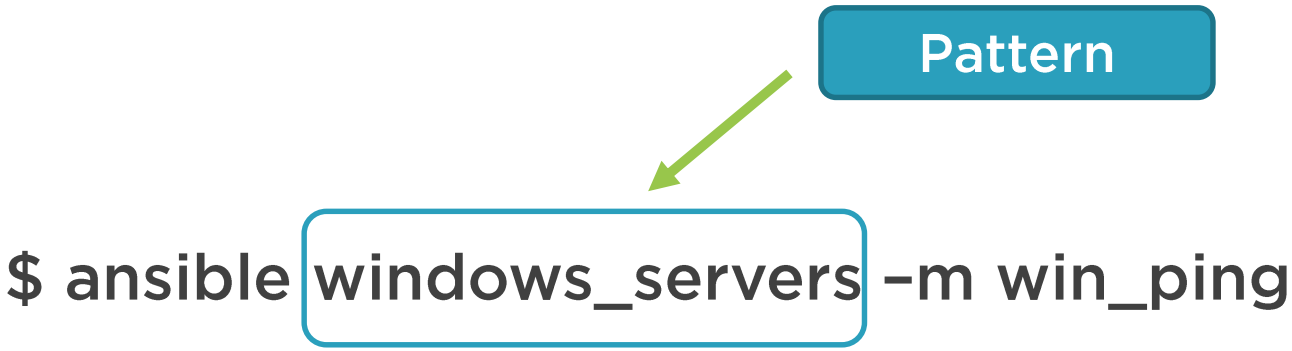
```
…

[web]
globo-web01
globo-web01 ansible_port=5987

[web:vars]
ansible_username=<user>
ansible_password=<password>

…
```

Nested Group Variables

/etc/ansible/hosts

```
…

[webservers]
globo-web01
globo-web02

[databases]
globo-db01
globo-db02

[windows_servers:children]
webservers
databases

[windows_servers:vars]
ansible_username=<user>
ansible_password=<password>

…
```

Ansible Patterns

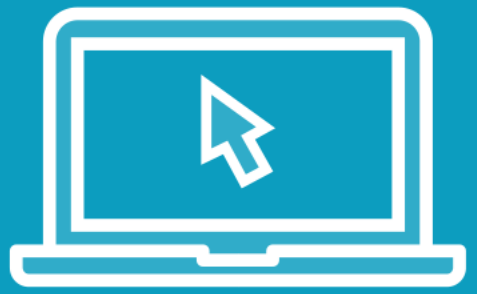


Demo

Organize our Globomantics inventory into functional groups

Separate into databases and webservers

Demo



We can also group by operating system

Connections to Linux hosts are different from Windows

Setup SSH connection to the Linux host

Summary

Inventory, variables, and host organization

Further reading: Dynamic inventory

Next: Ansible Playbooks