

Ansible and z/OS Cloud Broker in action with CICS TS

Drew Hughes & Andrew Twydell
IBM

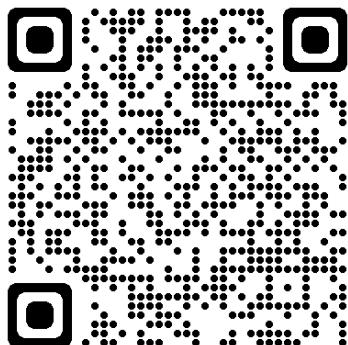
November 2023
Session EB



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Agenda

- CICS Region provisioning with Cloud Broker
- Introduction to Ansible
 - What is Ansible?
 - How can it be used for automation on z/OS?
- Ansible Ecosystem
- Demo repository -> https://github.com/andrewhughes101/gseuk_demos

Administrator

Home

Operators

Workloads

Networking

Storage

Builds

Observe

Compute

User Management

Administration

Project: stewf-dev2

Installed Operators

Installed Operators are represented by ClusterServiceVersions within this Namespace. For more information, see the [Understanding Operators documentation](#). Or create an Operator and ClusterServiceVersion using the [Operator SDK](#).

Name Search by name... /

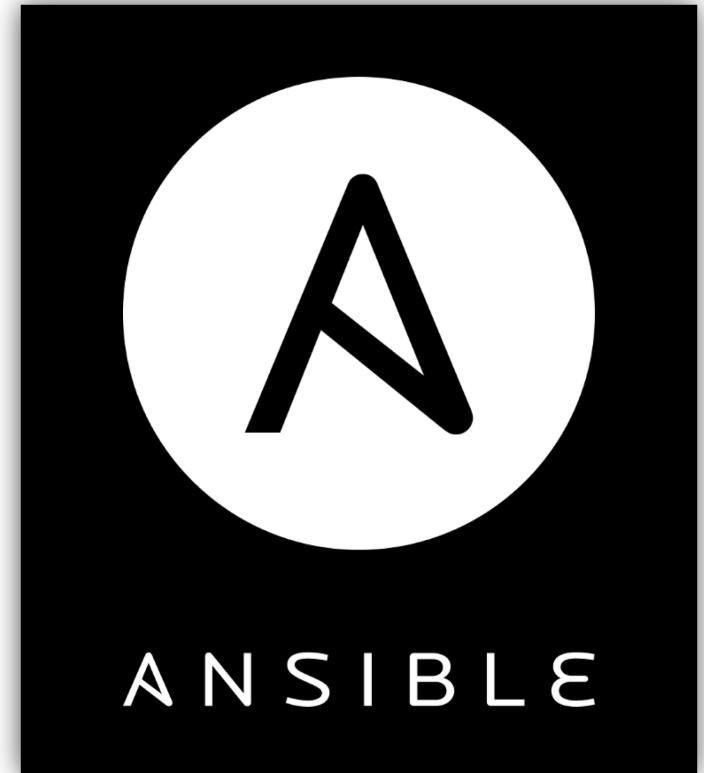
Name	Managed Namespaces	Status	Last updated	Provided APIs	⋮
 DevWorkspace Operator 0.22.0 provided by Devfile	All Namespaces	✓ Succeeded Up to date	⌚ 3 Oct 2023, 15:11	DevWorkspace DevWorkspaceTemplate DevWorkspaceOperatorConfig	⋮
 IBM Cloud Pak foundational services 3.23.7 provided by IBM	All Namespaces	✓ Succeeded Up to date	⌚ 25 Sept 2023, 21:42	CommonService	⋮
 IBM Wazi for Dev Spaces 3.0.0 provided by IBM	All Namespaces	✓ Succeeded Up to date	⌚ 30 Sept 2023, 09:01	IBM Wazi for Dev Spaces IBM Wazi for Dev Spaces - License	⋮
 IBM® z/OS® Cloud Broker 2.2.3-rc.0 provided by IBM	NS stewf-dev2	✓ Succeeded Up to date	⌚ 4 Oct 2023, 01:20	Operator Collection SubOperator Config z/OS Endpoint z/OS Cloud Broker	⋮
 IBM Z and Cloud Modernization Stack - CICS TS Operator 1.0.0 provided by IBM	NS stewf-dev2	✓ Succeeded Up to date	⌚ 4 Oct 2023, 01:26	CICS TS region	⋮

So what did we just do?

- Used OpenShift's web-based GUI to provision a CICS Region on Wazi Sandbox
- Provided only the SYSID for the new region
- Used Ansible to do this
- Context: Cloud broker is running in Open shift, and an endpoint was pre-configured in Cloud Broker

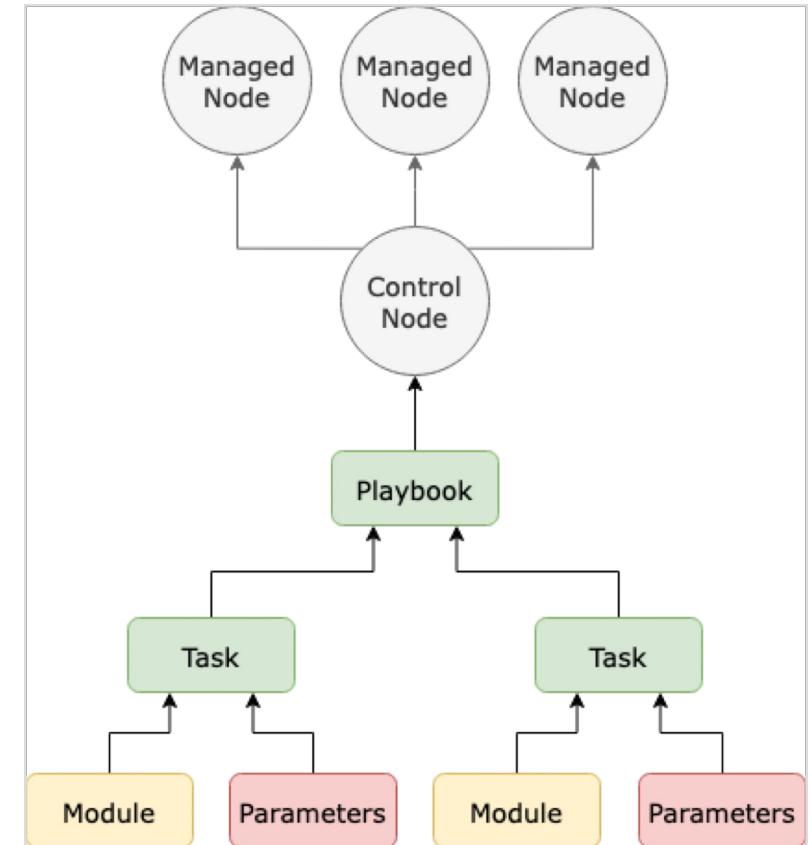
What is Ansible?

- Industry Standard Automation Tool
- Configuration as code
- "Turns tough tasks into repeatable playbooks"
- Normalises tooling across platforms

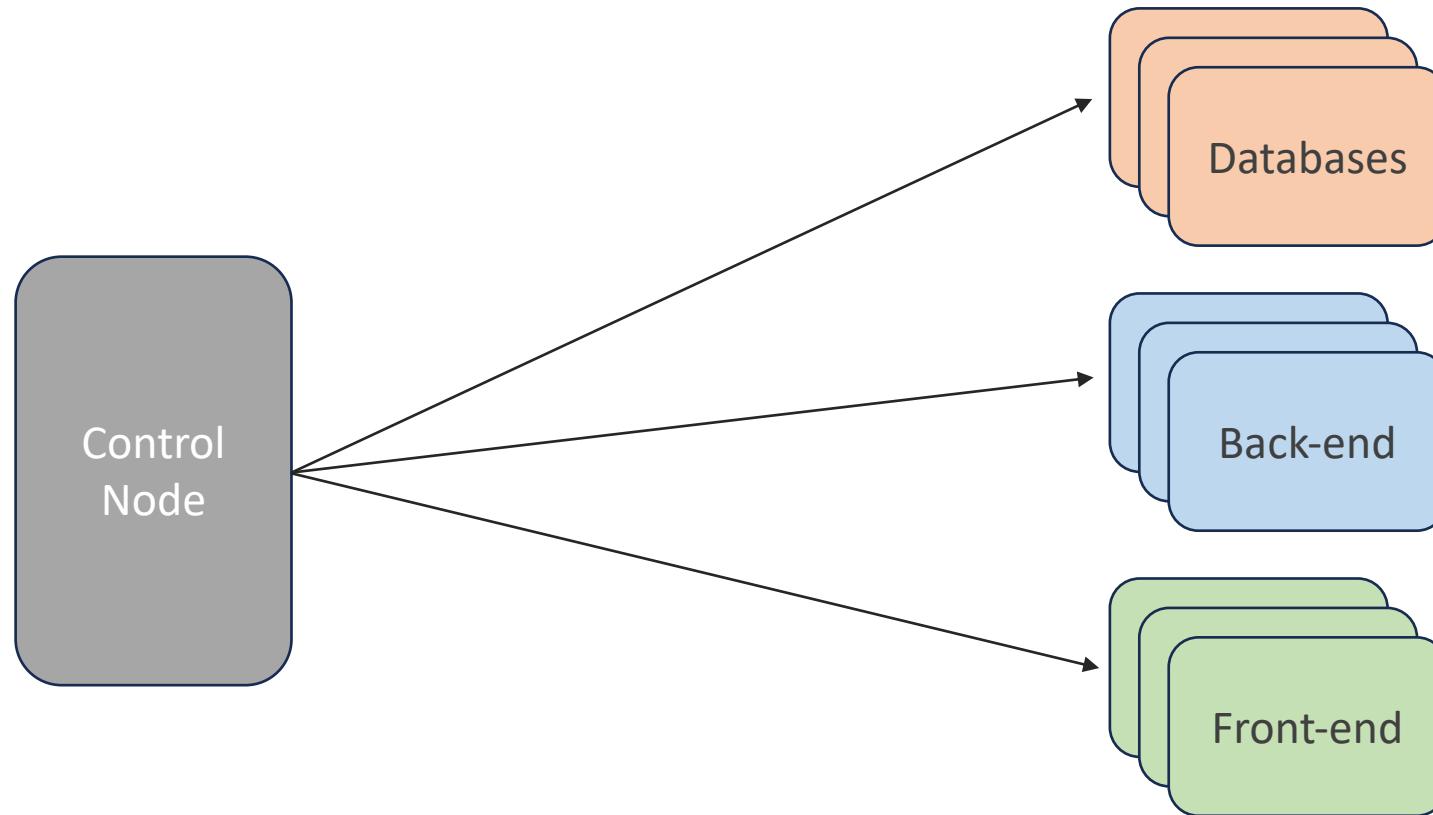


Key terms | What is Ansible?

- **Managed node:** the remote system you're targeting
- **Control node:** the machine where Ansible playbooks are run
- **Playbook:** YAML that defines the steps needed to perform an action and where to perform it
- **Task:** individual step of a **playbook**, containing which **module** to run and the parameters required
- **Module:** code to execute, and data about when and where it runs
- **Collection:** installable extensions to Ansible, that add functionality to **playbooks**



Structure | What is Ansible?



- SSH powered
- 1 Control Node
- Multiple Managed Nodes

Inventories | What is Ansible?

- Identify managed nodes
- Categorise target nodes into groups
- Assign variables at node or group level
- Defined as a file or dynamically
- Nodes can belong to multiple groups

```
---
```

```
all:  
  hosts:  
    wazi:  
      ansible_host: z-stack.wazi.ibm.com  
      ansible_user: ibmuser  
      ansible_port: 22
```

Playbooks | What is Ansible?

```
---
```

```
- name: Test
  hosts: all
```

```

  tasks:
    - name: Check GCD
      environment: "{{ z_environment_vars }}"
      ibm.ibm_zos_core.zos_mvs_raw:
        program_name: idcams
        auth: true
        dds:
          - dd_output:
              dd_name: sysprint
              return_content:
                type: text
          - dd_input:
              dd_name: sysin
              content:
                - " LISTC ENT('{{ DFH_DFHGCD }}')"
```

Playbook

Playbooks | What is Ansible?

```
---
```

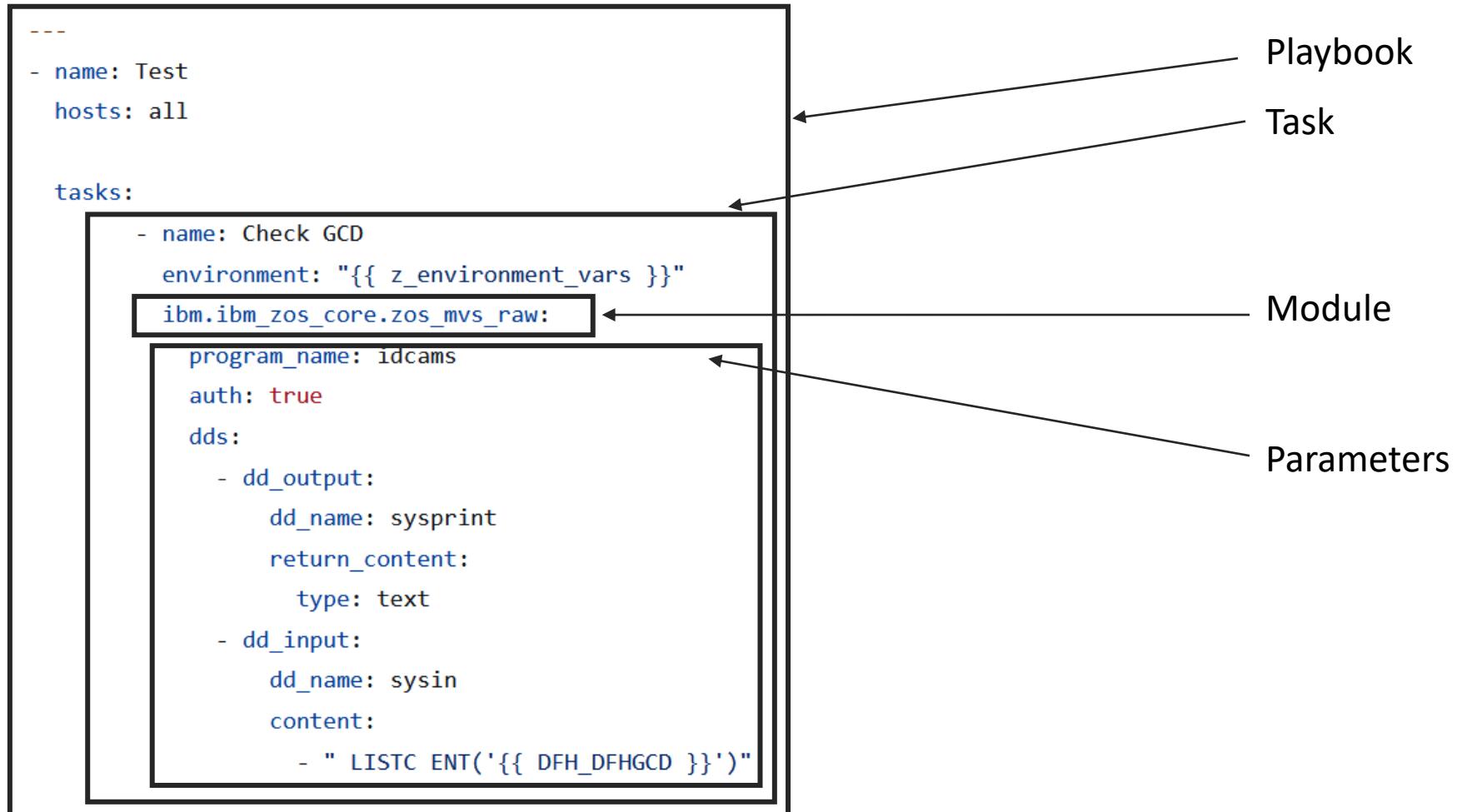
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```

  tasks:
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        auth: true
        dds:
          - dd_output:
              dd_name: sysprint
              return_content:
                type: text
          - dd_input:
              dd_name: sysin
              content:
                - " LISTC ENT('{{ DFH_DFHGCD }}')"
```

Playbook
Task

Playbooks | What is Ansible?



Tasks | What is Ansible?

- Single step in a playbook
- Consists of:
 - Task name
 - Module to run
 - Parameters specific to that module

```
- name: "Submit JCL for the job {{ zos_job_submit_template_src }}"
  environment: "{{ z_environment_vars }}"
  ibm.ibm_zos_core.zos_job_submit:
    src: "{{ templated_job.path }}"
    location: LOCAL
    wait: true
    max_rc: "{{ zos_job_submit_template_max_rc }}"
    wait_time_s: "{{ zos_job_submit_template_wait_time_s }}"
    register: job_submit_response
```

CLI | What is Ansible?

- Ansible is a Python package – install with Pip
- Multiple CLI tools:
 - *Ansible-galaxy* – installing extensions, publishing content
 - *Ansible-inventory* – display your inventories Ansible sees
 - *Ansible-playbook* – running playbooks

```
root@31d149416a83:/#
root@31d149416a83:/# ansible-playbook -i inventory.yml -e echotext=World playbook.yml

PLAY [Echo text] ****
TASK [Say hello] ****
ok: [localhost] => {
    "msg": "Hello, World"
}

PLAY RECAP ****
localhost                  : ok=1      changed=0      unreachable=0      failed=0      skipped=0
                            rescued=0     ignored=0

root@31d149416a83:/#
```

This screenshot shows a Microsoft Visual Studio Code (VS Code) interface with a dark theme, displaying code in the main editor and a terminal at the bottom.

Editor:

- The left sidebar shows a project structure under "GSEUK23": ".vscode", "app_pipeline", "job_submit", "job_submit.yml", "job.j2", "provisioning", "reporting_sample", ".gitignore", "inventory.yml", and "vars.yml".
- The main editor area displays "job_submit.yml" content:

```
1 # (c) Copyright IBM Corp. 2023
2 # Apache License, Version 2.0 (see https://opensource.org/licenses/Apache-2.0)
3 ---
4 - name: Sample zos_job_submit template playbook.
5   hosts: zos_host
6   gather_facts: false
7   environment: '{{ environment_vars }}'
8
9   vars:
10     sh_cmd: "uptime"
11
12     sh_program_name: "UPTIME"
13     accounting_info: "T043JM,JM00,1,0,0,0"
14     programmer: "HUGHEA"
15     job_class: "A"
16     msg_class: "X"
17     msg_stmt_level: 1
18     msg_exc_level: 1
19     job_notify: "&SYSUID"
20
21   tasks:
22     # For the first example, we'll use JCL that executes a shell
23     # command in the managed node. The template primarily enables dynamically
24     # filling out the job card.
25     - name: Submit shell command job using a local template.
26       ibm.ibm_zos_core.zos_job_submit:
27         src: "{{ playbook_dir }}/job.j2"
28         location: LOCAL
29         use_template: true
30         register: job_output
31
32
33     - name: Extracting ddnames from job output.
34       set_fact:
35         job_ddnames: "{{ job_output.jobs[0].ddnames }}"
36
37     # By looking at the submitted JCL, we'll see how Jinja rendered
38     # the template without introducing additional whitespace that
39     # could cause syntax problems.
40     - name: See job's submitted JCL.
41       ansible.builtin.debug:
42         msg: "{{ job_ddnames | selectattr('ddname', 'equalto', 'JESJCL') }}"
43
44     - name: See job output.
45       ansible.builtin.debug:
46         msg: "{{ job_ddnames | selectattr('ddname', 'equalto', 'STDOUT') }}"
47
```

Terminal:

- The terminal tab is active, showing the command: "zsh - job_submit".
- The status bar at the bottom indicates: "Ln 1, Col 1 Spaces: 2 UTF-8 LF Ansible & 2.14.5 Python 3.11.3 winmv2c.hursley.ibm.com (zosmf)".

Collections

- Distributed format of Ansible playbooks, modules, plugins, and roles
- Universal method of packaging and sharing automation functionality
- Variety of z/OS based collections available
- Installed through distribution servers like Ansible Galaxy or Ansible Automation Hub using the ansible-galaxy CLI

Automation Hub and Galaxy

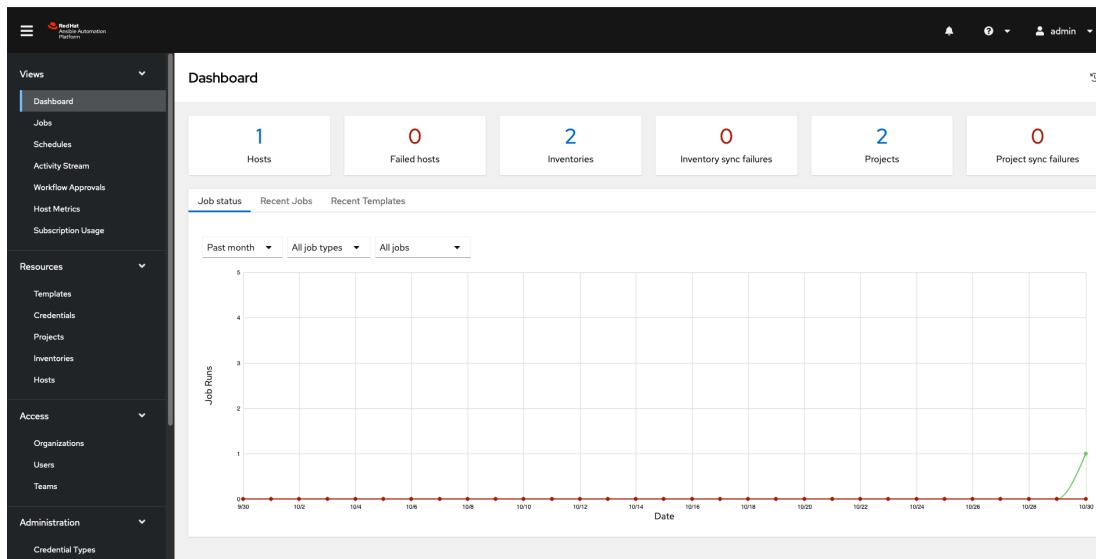
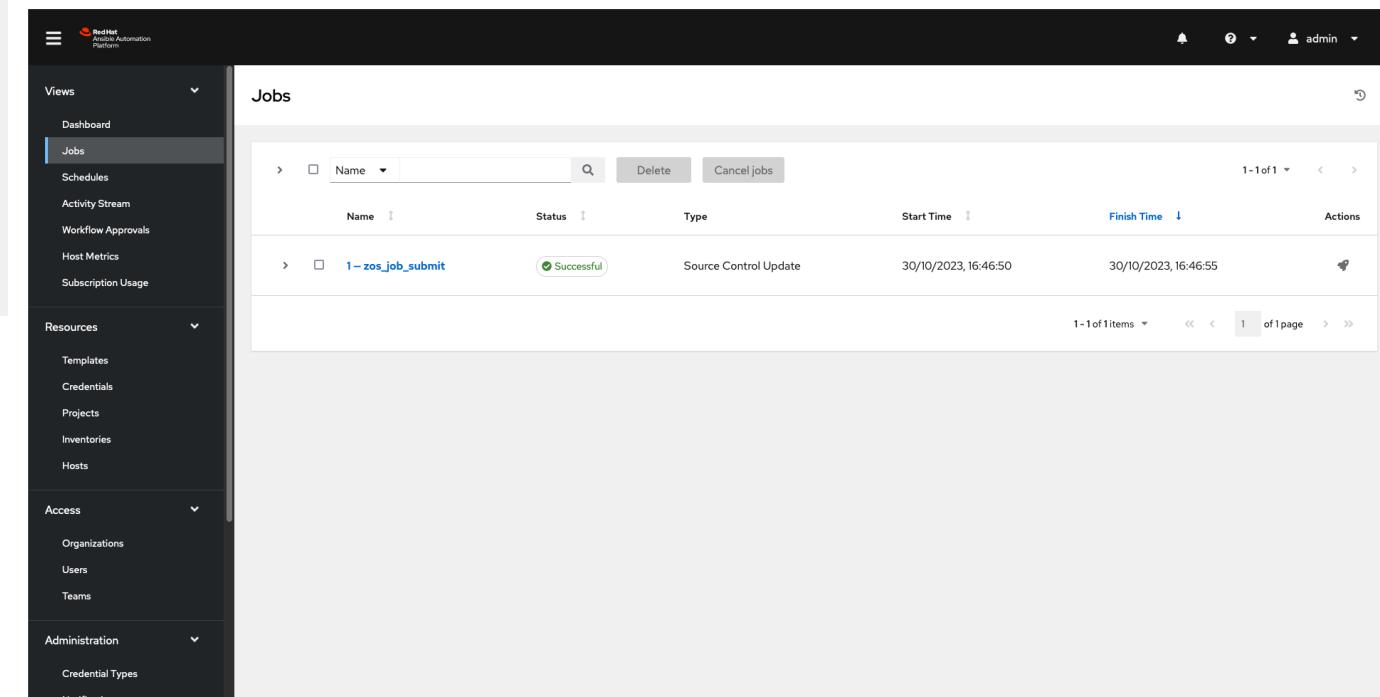
- Ansible Galaxy
 - Public repository of pre-built roles, collections, and playbooks
 - Anyone can upload
- Ansible Automation Hub
 - Included with AAP subscription
 - Public repository of Ansible certified content
 - Private, on-premise repository to share enterprise content

Ansible Automation Platform

- Centralise and control your infrastructure from one place
- "End-to-end automation platform to configure systems, deploy software, and orchestrate advanced workflow"
- GUI, role-based access, job scheduling, graphical inventory management
- No need to have ansible or collections installed locally



Ansible Automation Platform

The jobs list displays the details of a recently submitted task.

Name	Status	Type	Start Time	Finish Time	Actions
1 - zos_job_submit	Successful	Source Control Update	30/10/2023, 16:46:50	30/10/2023, 16:46:55	

Ansible for z/OS

Ibm_zos_core

- General purpose functionality for common z/OS tasks
- Orchestrate existing automation like running JCL or REXX, or executing TSO commands
- Built in capability to:
 - Manipulate data sets and USS files
 - Manage jobs
 - Execute TSO commands
 - APF authorize libraries
 - Mount file systems
 - Much more...
- https://github.com/ansible-collections/ibm_zos_core

Name	Type	Description
zos_data_set	module	Manage data sets
zos_ping	module	Ping z/OS and check dependencies.
zos_encode	module	Perform encoding operations.
zos_mount	module	Mount a z/OS file system.
zos_job_output	module	Display job output
zos_operator_action_query	module	Display messages requiring action
zos_find	module	Find matching data sets
zos_mvs_raw	module	Run a z/OS program.
zos_backup_restore	module	Backup and restore data sets and volumes
zos_unarchive	module	Unarchive files and data sets in z/OS.
zos_lineinfile	module	Manage textual data on z/OS
zos_copy	module	Copy data to z/OS
zos_volume_init	module	Initialize volumes or minidisks.
zos_apf	module	Add or remove libraries to Authorized Program Facility (APF)
zos_tso_command	module	Execute TSO commands
zos_job_query	module	Query job status
zos_job_submit	module	Submit JCL
zos_operator	module	Execute operator command
zos_gather_facts	module	Gather z/OS system facts.
zos_fetch	module	Fetch data from z/OS
zos_archive	module	Archive files and data sets on z/OS.
zos_blockinfile	module	Manage block of multi-line textual data on z/OS

The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code (VS Code) interface with a dark theme. The left sidebar contains the Explorer, Search, Problems, and Timeline sections. The main area displays two tabs: 'cmci_report.yml M' and 'csv.j2'. The 'cmci_report.yml' tab is active, showing an Ansible playbook configuration. The code includes sections for reporting, vars, attributes, and tasks, with specific parameters like 'name', 'prompt', 'private', and 'default' for variables like 'cmci_host', 'cmci_port', 'scheme', 'context', 'cmci_user', 'cmci_password', 'eyu_cicsname', 'release', 'jobid', and 'totltasks'. The 'tasks' section includes a comment block and an 'ansible.builtin.pip' task to install dependencies such as 'requests', 'xmltodict', and 'typing;python_version<"3.5"'. The bottom right corner shows a terminal window titled 'zsh - reporting_sample' with the command 'git:(main) ✘'.

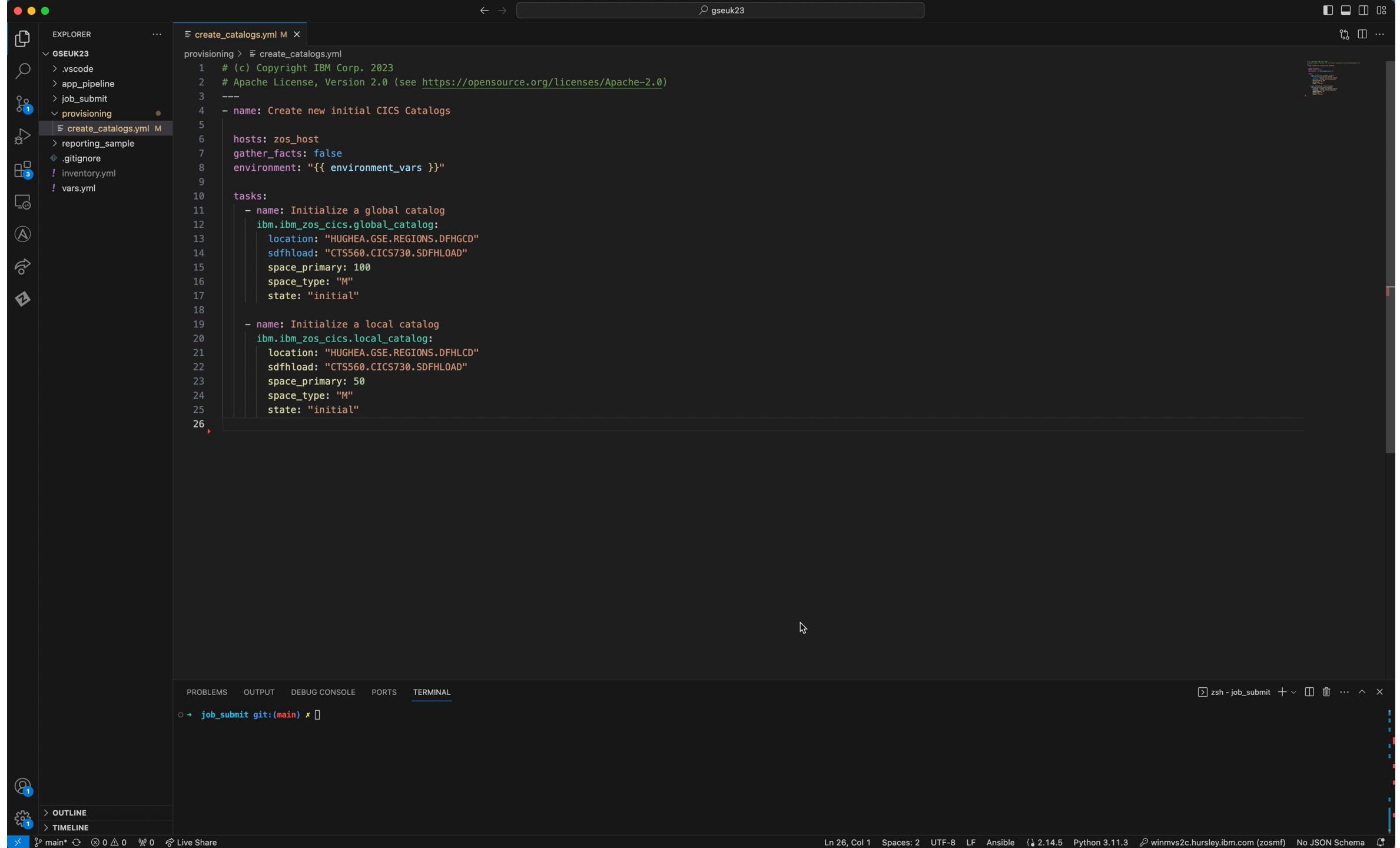
```
---  
- name: CICS CMCI Report  
  hosts: "localhost"  
  gather_facts: false  
  
vars_prompt:  
  - name: cmci_host  
    prompt: Target CMCI hostname  
    private: false  
  - name: cmci_port  
    prompt: Target CMCI port  
    private: false  
  - name: scheme  
    prompt: CMCI scheme  
    private: false  
    default: "https"  
  - name: context  
    prompt: Target CPSM context  
    private: false  
  - name: cmci_user  
    prompt: CMCI user name (leave blank for unauthenticated)  
    private: false  
  - name: cmci_password  
    prompt: CMCI password (leave blank for unauthenticated)  
  
vars:  
  attributes:  
    - eyu_cicsname  
    - release  
    - jobid  
    - totltasks  
  
tasks:  
  #####  
  # Install module dependencies  
  #####  
  - name: Make sure CMCI module dependencies are installed  
    ansible.builtin.pip:  
      name:  
        - requests  
        - xmltodict  
        - typing;python_version<"3.5"  
  #####
```

Ansible for z/OS

Ibm_zos_cics

- General purpose CICS functionality via CMCI
- Beta releases containing region provisioning modules
- Being developed in the open
 - github.com/ansible-collections/ibm_zos_cics.
- The collection is on Galaxy and Automation Hub
 - galaxy.ansible.com/ibm/ibm_zos_cics.

Name	Type	Description
local_catalog	module	Create, remove, and manage the CICS local catalog
global_catalog	module	Create, remove, and manage the CICS global catalog
cmci_get	module	Query CICS and CICSplex SM resources and definitions
cmci_create	module	Create CICS and CICSplex SM definitions
cmci_delete	module	Delete CICS and CICSplex SM resources
cmci_update	module	Update CICS and CICSplex resources and definitions
cmci_action	module	Perform actions on CICS and CICSplex SM resources



Ansible for z/OS

Zos_cics_operator

- Operator collection supporting region provisioning with Cloud Broker
- What we used in our demo at the start!
- Open Source
 - https://github.com/IBM/zos_cics_operator
- Implemented as Ansible playbooks
- Currently only supports CICS TS 6.1 on Wazi sandbox environments

More information and collections available on Galaxy

- <https://galaxy.ansible.com/ui/namespaces/ibm/>

Shared documentation site for all IBM collections

- https://ibm.github.io/z_ansible_collections_doc/index.html

All available on [Ansible Automation Platform](#) and are fully supported by Red Hat and IBM.

z/OS Prerequisites

- z/OS OpenSSH
- IBM Open Enterprise SDK for Python 3.8.2+
 - Python runtime for z/OS
- IBM Z Open Automation Utilities
 - USS utilities for interacting with MVS resources
 - E.g. List all non-VSAM datasets under your default high-level-qualifier
 - `dls -l `` hlq `.*``
 - Also provides Python APIs (which are used by Ansible collection)
- [Doc site for requirements](#)



A screenshot of a terminal window titled "zsh - app_pipeline". The window shows the following command:

```
o → app_pipeline git:(main) ✘
```

Task-50	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:34	Succeeded	Create and initialize a new CICS CSD
Task-51	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:34	Succeeded	provision_csd : Validating arguments against arg spec 'main'
Task-52	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:34	Succeeded	Create and initialize a new CICS CSD
Task-53	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:34	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Validating arguments against arg spec 'main' - Submit a z/OS job after applying a template
Task-54	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:34	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Create a temporary file for job template CCICSCCS.j2
Task-55	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:34	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Apply the job template CCICSCCS.j2
Task-56	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:36	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Submit JCL for the job CCICSCCS.j2
Task-57	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:36	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Set response fact for CCICSCCS
Task-58	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:36	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Delete the templated job temporary file for CCICSCCS.j2
Task-59	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:36	Succeeded	Create and initialize a new CICS GCD
Task-60	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:36	Succeeded	provision_gcd : Validating arguments against arg spec 'main'
Task-61	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:36	Succeeded	Create and initialize a new CICS GCD
Task-62	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:36	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Validating arguments against arg spec 'main' - Submit a z/OS job after applying a template
Task-63	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:36	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Create a temporary file for job template GCD.j2
Task-64	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:36	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Apply the job template GCD.j2
Task-65	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:37	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Submit JCL for the job GCD.j2
Task-66	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:37	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Set response fact for GCD
Task-67	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:37	Succeeded	zos_job_submit_template : Delete the templated job temporary file for GCD.j2
Task-68	⌚ 27 Oct 2023, 10:37	Succeeded	Create and initialize a new CICS LCD

IBM z/OS Cloud broker

IBM z/OS Cloud Broker Manage z/OS endpoints Import operator collections Manage operator collections ? 🔍

Get started

Use IBM z/OS Cloud Broker to access z/OS resources and services from Red Hat® OpenShift® Container Platform.

Manage z/OS endpoints

Create and configure z/OS endpoints. Define the reference name, connection details, and Ansible variables for your endpoints.

→

Import operator collections

Import operator collections from the Ansible galaxy catalog, import operators by using a specified URL, or manually upload and import operators from your local repository.

→



Manage operator collections

Configure or remove imported operators and operator collections. Map z/OS endpoints and namespaces to your operator collections.

→

What's new

z/OS Cloud Broker v2.2.3 Updates
[Release notes](#)

Resources overview

Endpoints Imported collections Operators Operator instances

Search

Name	Type	Host	Description	Status	Mapped status
wazi-sandbox	remote	z-stack-zdt11.fyre.ibm.com		Successful	Mapped

Items per page: 10 1–1 of 1 items 1 of 1 page

Operator catalog

IBM z/OS Cloud Broker Manage z/OS endpoints Import operator collections Manage operator collections ?

Operator catalog URL Upload

Galaxy operator catalog

Ansible Galaxy URL: <https://galaxy.ansible.com>

An Ansible Galaxy operator collection catalog. The default configurations for this catalog can be edited by clicking on the configuration button. From there, you may configure your Ansible Galaxy URL.

! Use community operator collections with caution. Community operator collections are not verified or supported by IBM and their stability is unknown.

Search

IBM Community Not installed Installed

Select all operators

file_manager <small>(Community)</small> Operator Collection that allows for the creation, deletion, and discovery of files on... Latest Version: 1.3.0 Galaxy namespace: freemanlatrell View more →	zos_cics_operator <small>(IBM)</small> The IBM® z/OS® CICS® operator collection supports provisioning of CICS regions... Latest Version: 1.0.1 Galaxy namespace: ibm View more →	zos_package_manager <small>(IBM)</small> IBM z/OS Package Manager collection includes playbooks to automate the install... Latest Version: 2.1.0 Galaxy namespace: ibm View more →	zos_ims_operator <small>(IBM)</small> The IBM IMS Operator Collection includes roles and playbooks used for provisio... Latest Version: 1.2.0 Galaxy namespace: ibm View more →
---	--	--	---

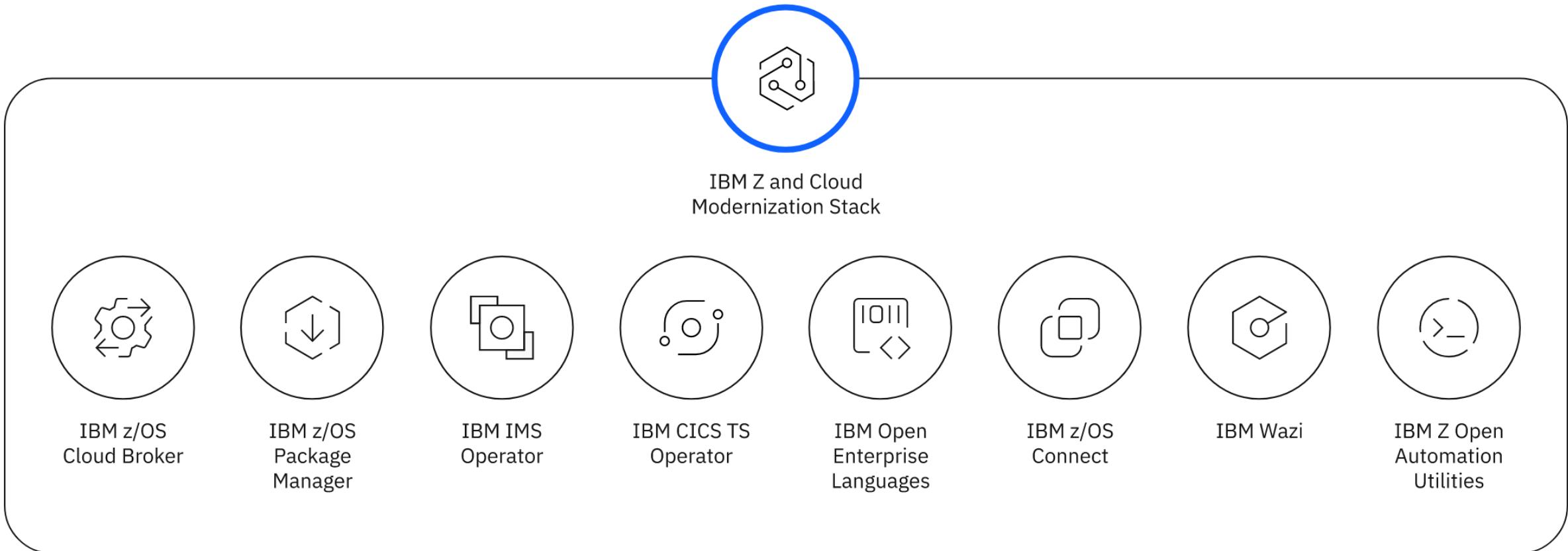
Items per page: 10 ▾ 1–4 of 4 items 1 ▾ of 1 page ▶ ▷

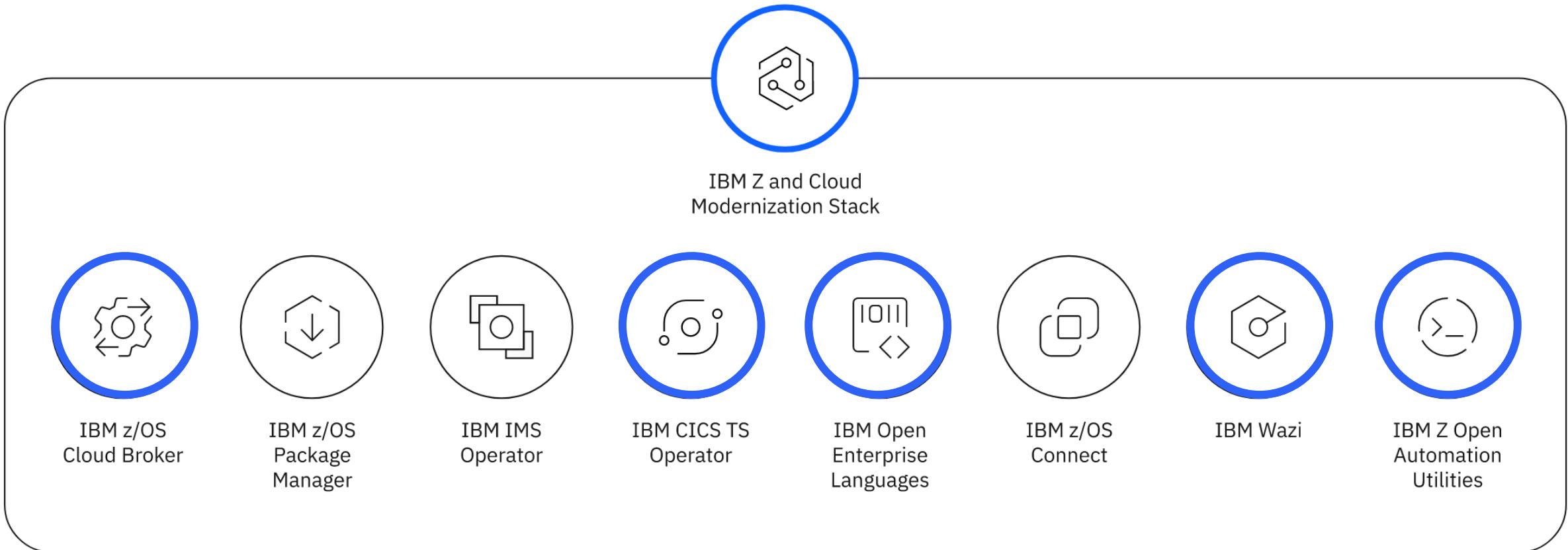
0 items selected out of 4 Cancel Next

Wazi Sandbox

- A fully virtual z/OS environment
- Self-provision z/OS runtimes and databases such as CICS, IMS, DB2 etc.
- Enables development and testing of z/OS applications on OpenShift running on x86_64 hardware
- Gives developers their own isolated environment where they can make changes without impacting any other systems

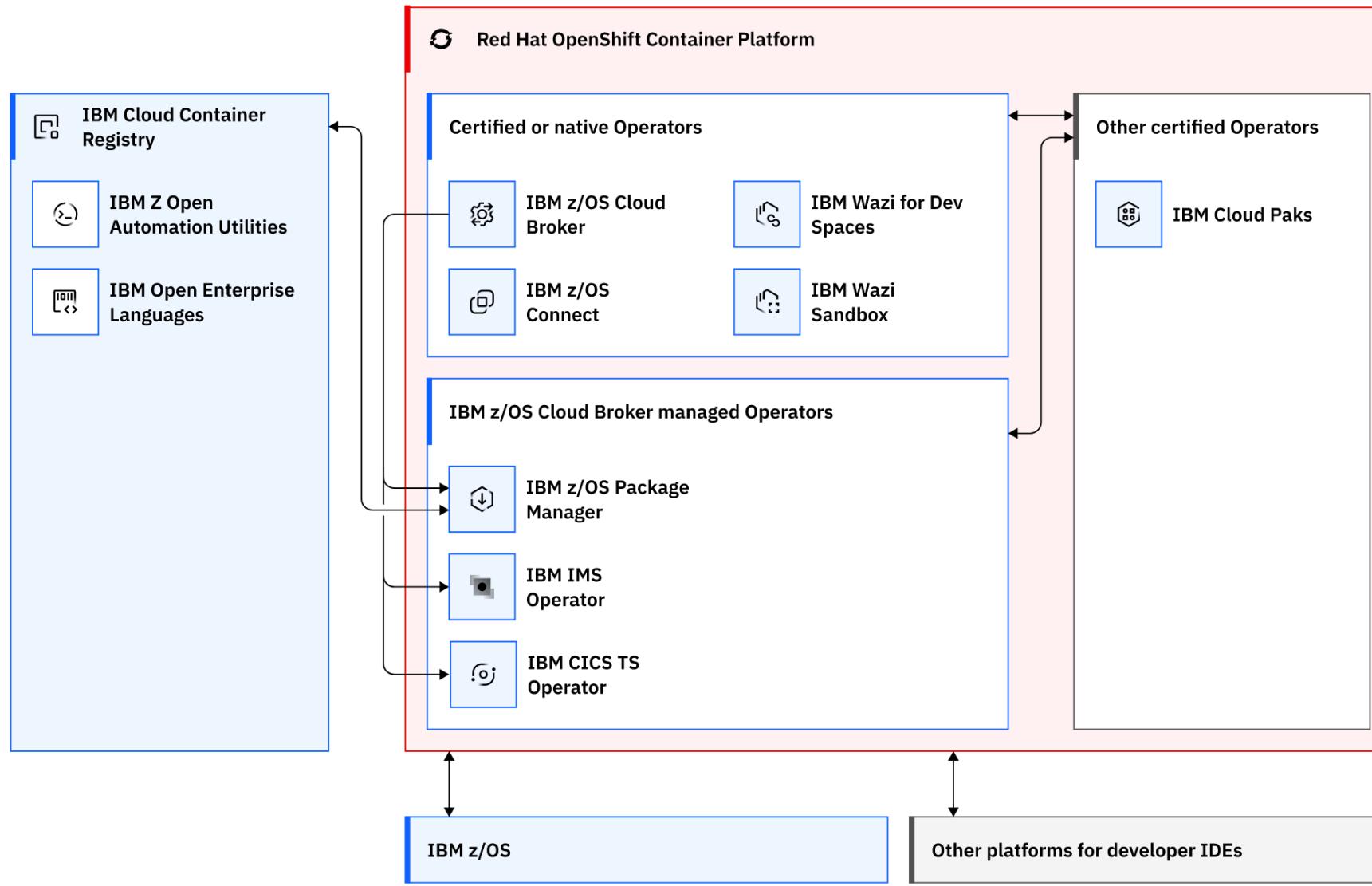






IBM Z and Cloud Modernization stack

- Uses OpenShift to integrate IBM Z assets into a hybrid cloud and connect hybrid cloud assets to IBM Z
- Collection of products from across the IBM Z software portfolio
- Built on OpenShift operators and Cloud Broker suboperators to simplify the install and lifecycle
- Provide streamlined automation for system programmers to simplify complicated z/OS specific tasks
- Enable application developers to use isolated, preconfigured environments to develop faster



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- This session is EB



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<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mark-wilson-343>

