

<b>Name:</b> Bernice M. Peña	<b>Date Performed:</b> 10/10/2023
<b>Course/Section:</b> Managing Enterprise Servers / CPE31S5	<b>Date Submitted:</b> 10/13/2023
<b>Instructor:</b> Engr. Roman Richard	<b>Semester and SY:</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> semester, SY 2023-2024
<b>Activity 6: Targeting Specific Nodes and Managing Services</b>	
<p><b>1. Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Individualize hosts</li> <li>1.2 Apply tags in selecting plays to run</li> <li>1.3 Managing Services from remote servers using playbooks</li> </ul>	
<p><b>2. Discussion:</b></p> <p>In this activity, we try to individualize hosts. For example, we don't want apache on all our servers, or maybe only one of our servers is a web server, or maybe we have different servers like database or file servers running different things on different categories of servers and that is what we are going to take a look at in this activity.</p> <p>We also try to manage services that do not automatically run using the automations in playbook. For example, when we install web servers or httpd for CentOS, we notice that the service did not start automatically.</p> <p><b>Requirement:</b></p> <p>In this activity, you will need to create another Ubuntu VM and name it Server 3. Likewise, you need to activate the second adapter to a host-only adapter after the installations. Take note of the IP address of the Server 3. Make sure to use the command <i>ssh-copy-id</i> to copy the public key to Server 3. Verify if you can successfully SSH to Server 3.</p>	
<b>Task 1: Targeting Specific Nodes</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create a new playbook and named it site.yml. Follow the commands as shown in the image below. Make sure to save the file and exit.</li> </ul>	

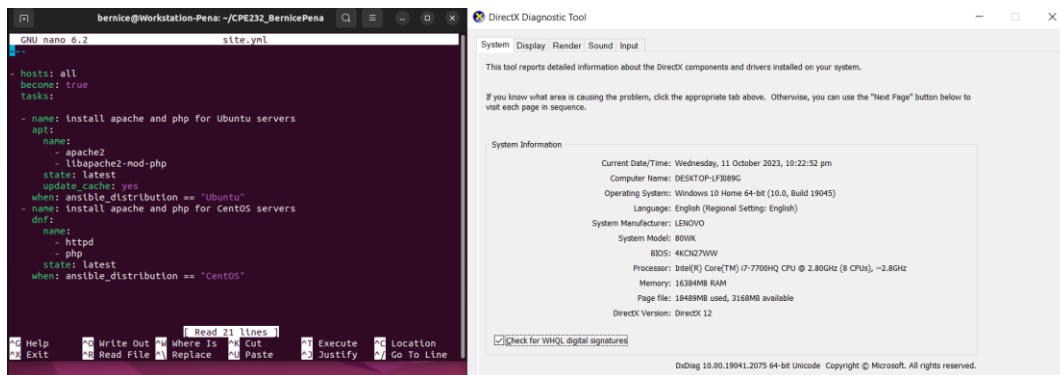
```

- hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers
      apt:
        name:
          - apache2
          - libapache2-mod-php
        state: latest
        update_cache: yes
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
      dnf:
        name:
          - httpd
          - php
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

```



2. Edit the inventory file. Remove the variables we put in our last activity and group according to the image shown below:

```

[web_servers]
192.168.56.120
192.168.56.121

[db_servers]
192.168.56.122

[file_servers]
192.168.56.123

```

Make sure to save the file and exit.

GNU nano 6.2

[web\_servers]

192.168.1.18

192.168.1.19

[db\_servers]

192.168.1.29

192.168.1.30

[file\_servers]

192.168.1.30

DirectX Diagnostic Tool

System

Display

Render

Sound

Input

This tool reports detailed information about the DirectX components and drivers installed on your system.

If you know what area is causing the problem, click the appropriate tab above. Otherwise, you can use the "Next Page" button below to visit each page in sequence.

System Information

Current Date/Time: Thursday, 12 October 2023, 6:37:27 pm

Computer Name: DESKTOP-LFI089G

Operating System: Windows 10 Home 64-bit (10.0, Build 19045)

Language: English (Regional Setting: English)

System Manufacturer: LENOVO

System Model: 80WK

BIOS: 4KCN27WW

Processor: Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-7700HQ CPU @ 2.80GHz (8 CPUs), ~2.8GHz

Memory: 16384MB RAM

Page file: 19175MB used, 2400MB available

DirectX Version: DirectX 12

☒ Check for WHQL digital signatures

DxDiag 10.00.19041.2075 64-bit Unicode Copyright © Microsoft. All rights reserved.

For the web\_servers, I used the ip address of my ubuntu servers (1 & 2), for db\_servers, I used my CentOS and server 3, and for the file\_servers, I used my recently created server which is the server 3.

Right now, we have created groups in our inventory file and put each server in its own group. In other cases, you can have a server be a member of multiple groups, for example you have a test server that is also a web server.

3. Edit the *site.yml* by following the image below:

```

- hosts: all
  become: true
  pre_tasks:
    - name: install updates (CentOS)
      dnf:
        update_only: yes
        update_cache: yes
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

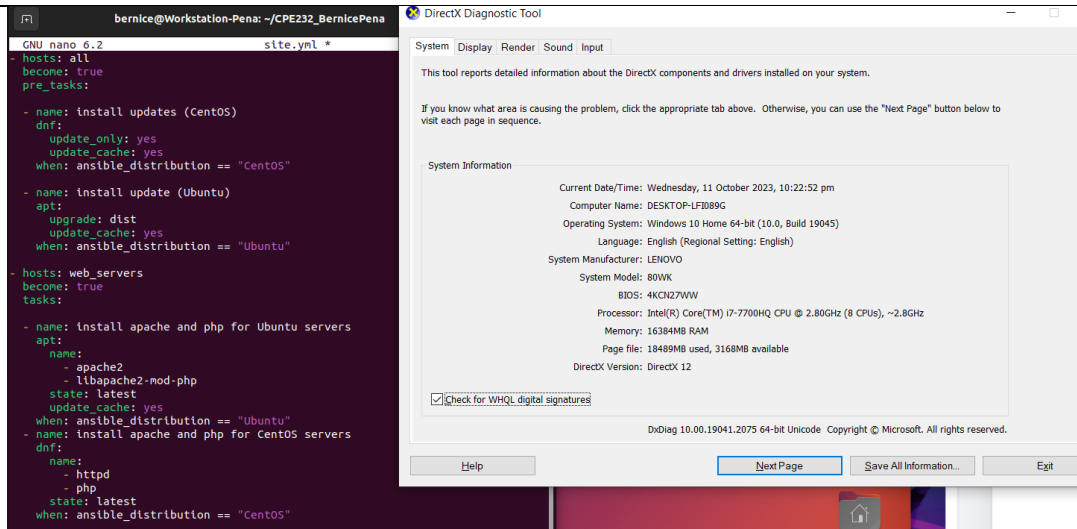
    - name: install updates (Ubuntu)
      apt:
        upgrade: dist
        update_cache: yes
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

- hosts: web_servers
  become: true
  tasks:
    - name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers
      apt:
        name:
          - apache2
          - libapache2-mod-php
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

    - name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
      dnf:
        name:
          - httpd
          - php
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

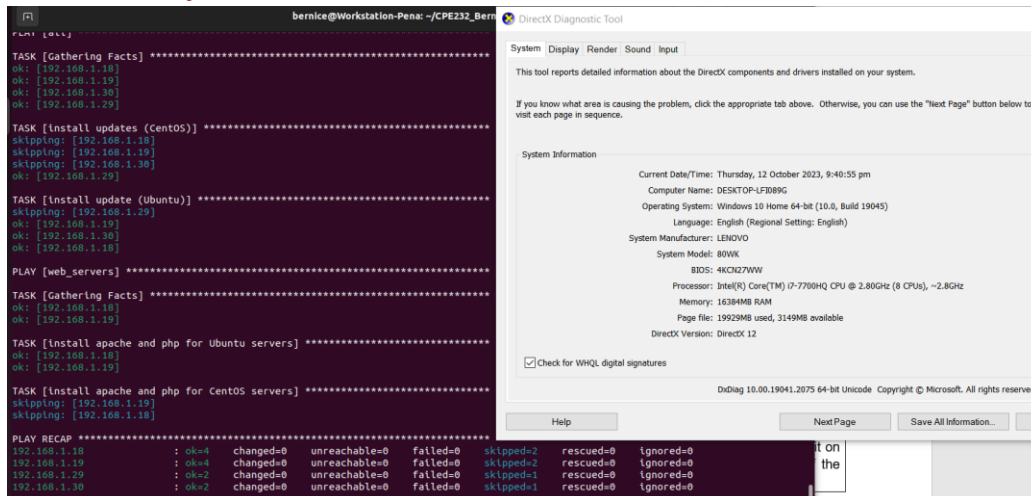
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.



The **pre-tasks** command tells the ansible to run it before any other thing. In the **pre-tasks**, CentOS will install updates while Ubuntu will upgrade its distribution package. This will run before running the second play, which is targeted at **web\_servers**. In the second play, apache and php will be installed on both Ubuntu servers and CentOS servers.

Run the **site.yml** file and describe the result.



There are various tasks for a specific host, the result shows how the tasks were successfully executed. For the gathering of tasks, it read first the ip addresses listed in my inventory file, as you can see in the “install updates” for Ubuntu, it skipped my CentOS ip address since the task is meant for Ubuntu servers only, same goes with CentOS updates. For the remaining tasks, it did the same process. When the task is meant for Ubuntu servers, it will skip my CentOS and vice versa.

4. Let's try to edit again the *site.yml* file. This time, we are going to add plays targeting the other servers. This time we target the *db\_servers* by adding it on the current *site.yml*. Below is an example: (Note add this at the end of the playbooks from task 1.3).

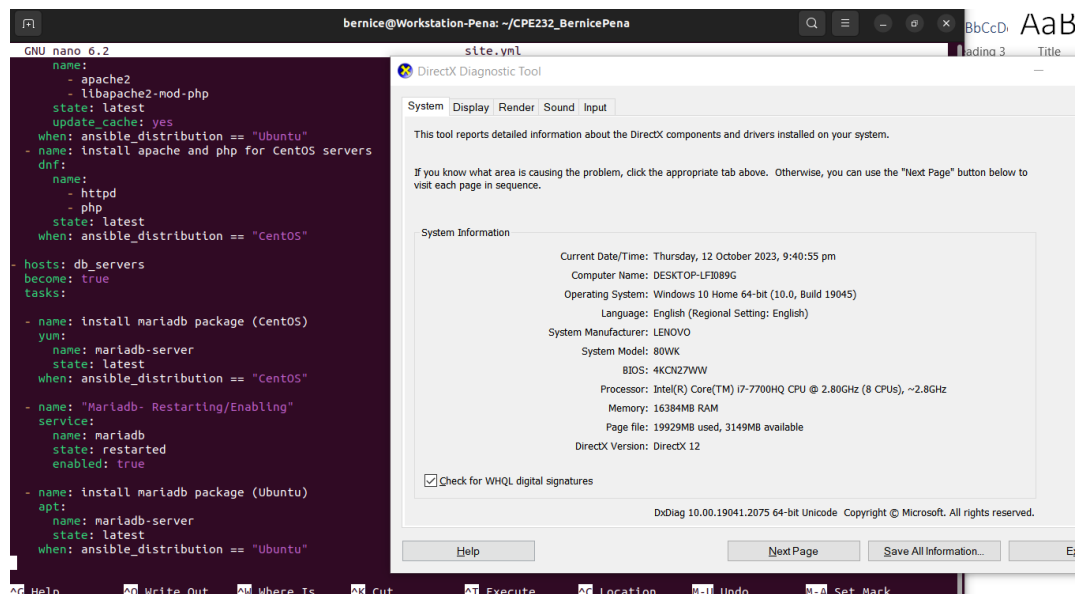
```
- hosts: db_servers
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: install mariadb package (CentOS)
      yum:
        name: mariadb-server
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    - name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling"
      service:
        name: mariadb
        state: restarted
        enabled: true

    - name: install mariadb package (Ubuntu)
      apt:
        name: mariadb-server
        state: latest
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.



Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.

The image shows two screenshots of a terminal window and a DirectX Diagnostic Tool window. The terminal window displays the output of an Ansible playbook run. The first screenshot shows the initial tasks: [all], [Gathering Facts], [Install updates (CentOS)], [Install update (Ubuntu)], [web\_servers], [Gathering Facts], [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers], [install apache and php for CentOS servers], and [db\_servers]. The second screenshot shows the continuation of the [db\_servers] task, including [Gathering Facts], [install mariadb package (CentOS)], [Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling], [install mariadb package (Ubuntu)], and a final summary table.

```
bernice@Workstation-Pena: ~/CPE232_BernicePena
bernice@Workstation-Pena:~/CPE232_BernicePena$ ansible-playbook site.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****
TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.19]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [Install updates (CentOS)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.18]
skipping: [192.168.1.19]
skipping: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [Install update (Ubuntu)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.29]
ok: [192.168.1.19]
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.30]

PLAY [web_servers] *****
TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]

TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers] *****
ok: [192.168.1.19]
ok: [192.168.1.18]

TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.18]
skipping: [192.168.1.19]

PLAY [db_servers] *****
TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]

TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers] *****
ok: [192.168.1.19]
ok: [192.168.1.18]

TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.18]
skipping: [192.168.1.19]

PLAY [db_servers] *****
TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.30]

TASK [install mariadb package (CentOS)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling] *****
changed: [192.168.1.30]
changed: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [install mariadb package (Ubuntu)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.29]
ok: [192.168.1.30]

PLAY RECAP *****
192.168.1.18 : ok=4 changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2 rescued=0 ignored=0
192.168.1.19 : ok=4 changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2 rescued=0 ignored=0
192.168.1.29 : ok=5 changed=1 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2 rescued=0 ignored=0
192.168.1.30 : ok=5 changed=1 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2 rescued=0 ignored=0

bernice@Workstation-Pena:~/CPE232_BernicePena$
```

The DirectX Diagnostic Tool window shows system information:

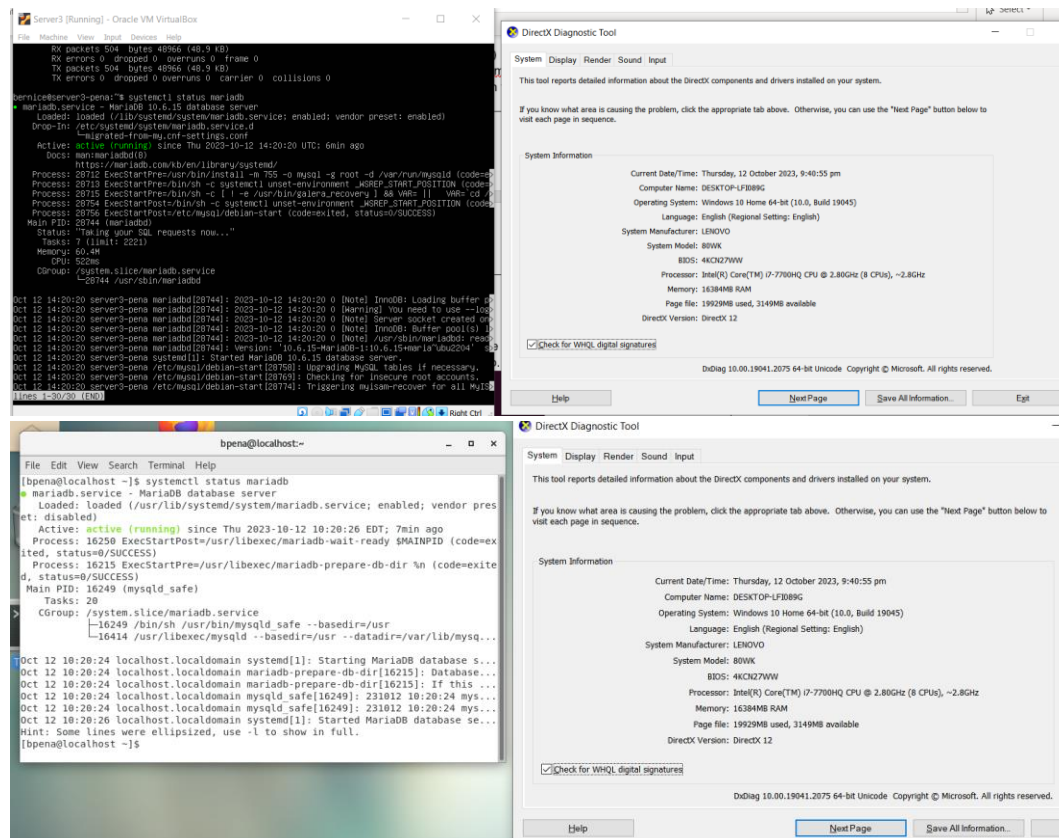
- Current Date/Time: Thursday, 12 October 2023, 9:40:55 pm
- Computer Name: DESKTOP-LFD89G
- Operating System: Windows 10 Home 64-bit (10.0, Build 19045)
- Language: English (Regional Setting: English)
- System Manufacturer: LENOVO
- System Model: 80VK
- BIOS: 4KCN27WW
- Processor: Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-7700HQ CPU @ 2.80GHz (8 CPUs), ~2.8GHz
- Memory: 16384MB RAM
- Page file: 19929MB used, 3149MB available
- DirectX Version: DirectX 12

Buttons: Help, Next Page, Save All Information...

Another PLAY added which is the [db\_servers] that is all about installing mariadb package. As I mentioned earlier, I used my CentOS ip address and server 3 under my db\_servers, so when it gathers task, it read only the ip addresses that are listed in my db\_servers. The installation of mariadb package for CentOS and Ubuntu was successful. As you noticed, changes were made in my CentOS and Ubuntu ip address since mariadb package was installed in those servers.

5. Go to the remote server (Ubuntu) terminal that belongs to the db\_servers group and check the status for mariadb installation using the command: *systemctl status mariadb*. Do this on the CentOS server also.

Describe the output.



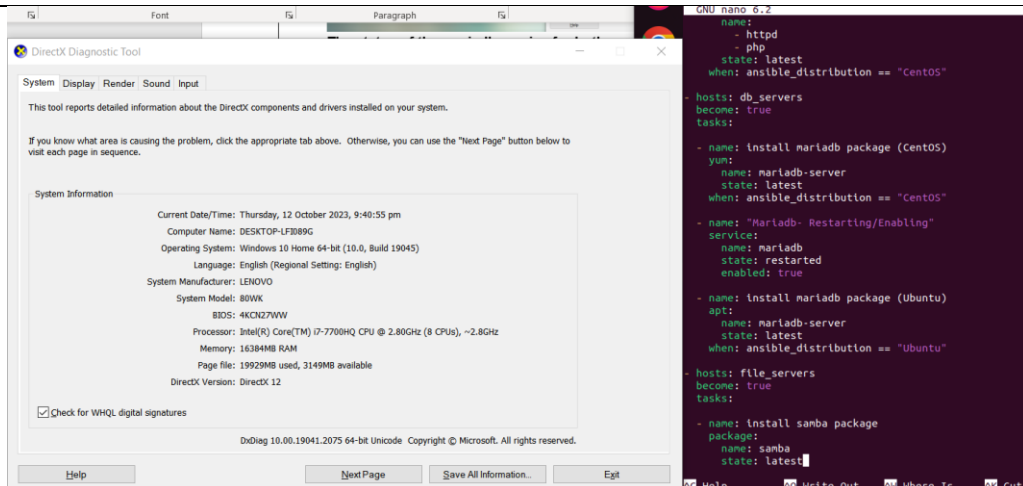
The status of the mariadb.service for both servers (Ubuntu and CentOS) are active (running). This means that the mariadb package were successfully installed for both servers under the db\_servers.

6. Edit the *site.yml* again. This time we will append the code to configure installation on the *file\_servers* group. We can add the following on our file.

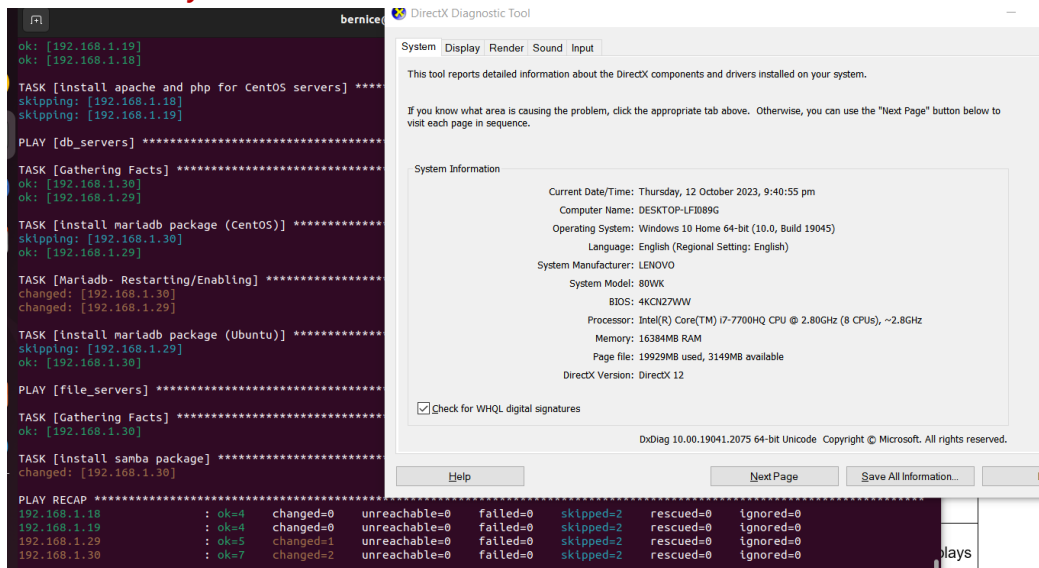
```
- hosts: file_servers
  become: true
  tasks:
    - name: install samba package
      package:
        name: samba
        state: latest
```

Make sure to save the file and exit.





Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.



Since I used my CentOS ip address for my *file\_servers*, notice that the task only executed on my CentOS ip address and it was skipping my ubuntu servers.

The testing of the *file\_servers* is beyond the scope of this activity, and as well as our topics and objectives. However, in this activity we were able to show that we can target hosts or servers using grouping in ansible playbooks.

## Task 2: Using Tags in running playbooks

In this task, our goal is to add metadata to our plays so that we can only run the plays that we want to run, and not all the plays in our playbook.

1. Edit the *site.yml* file. Add tags to the playbook. After the name, we can place the tags: *name\_of\_tag*. This is an arbitrary command, which means you can use any name for a tag.

```
---  
  
- hosts: all  
  become: true  
  pre_tasks:  
  
    - name: install updates (CentOS)  
      tags: always  
      dnf:  
        update_only: yes  
        update_cache: yes  
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"  
  
    - name: install updates (Ubuntu)  
      tags: always  
      apt:  
        upgrade: dist  
        update_cache: yes  
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"
```

```
- hosts: web_servers  
  become: true  
  tasks:  
  
    - name: install apache and php for Ubuntu servers  
      tags: apache,apache2,ubuntu  
      apt:  
        name:  
          - apache2  
          - libapache2-mod-php  
        state: latest  
        when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"  
  
    - name: install apache and php for CentOS servers  
      tags: apache,centos,httpd  
      dnf:  
        name:  
          - httpd  
          - php  
        state: latest  
        when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

```

- hosts: db_servers
  become: true
  tasks:

    - name: install mariadb package (CentOS)
      tags: centos, db, mariadb
      dnf:
        name: mariadb-server
        state: latest
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

    - name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling"
      service:
        name: mariadb
        state: restarted
        enabled: true

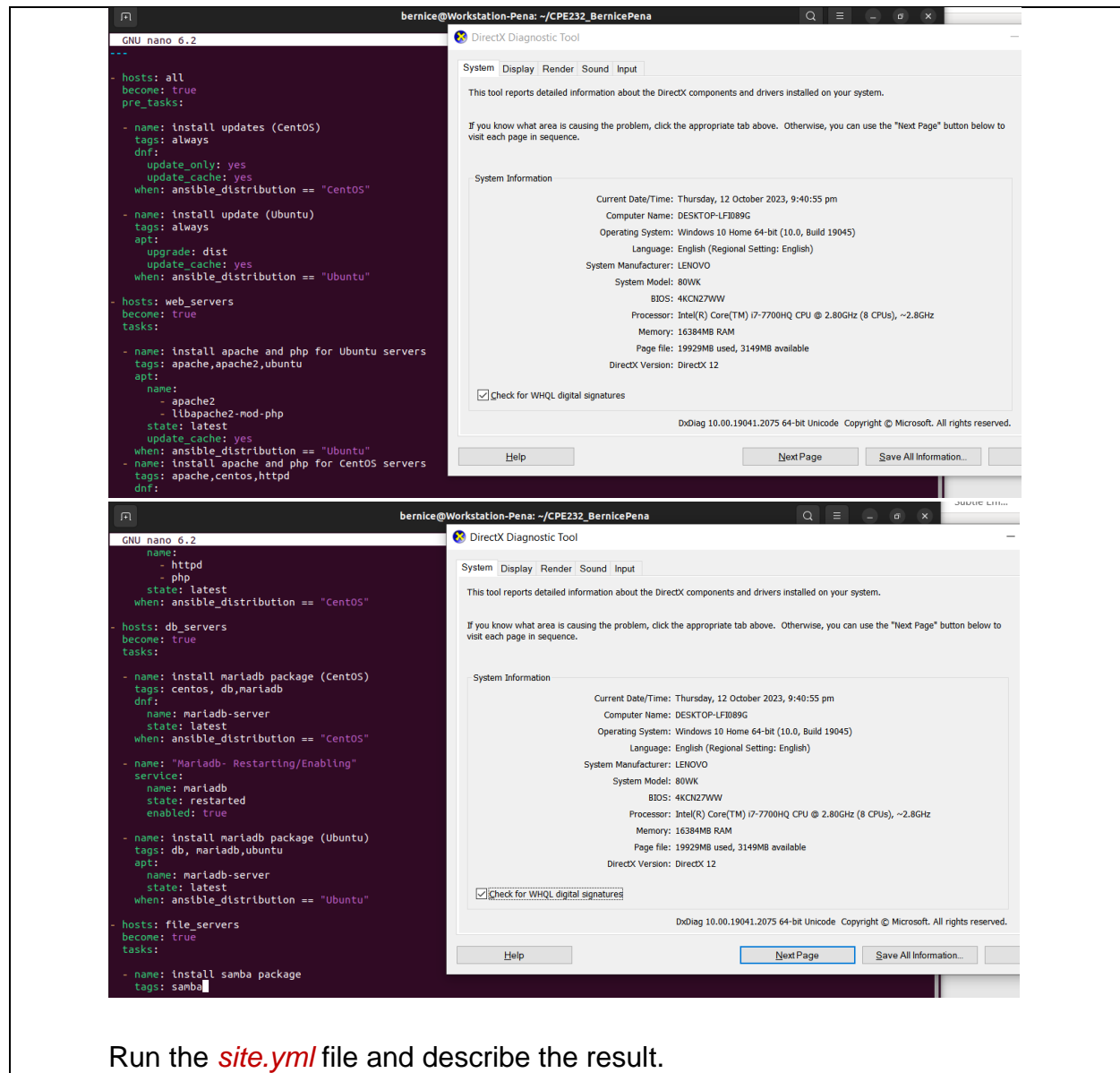
    - name: install mariadb package (Ubuntu)
      tags: db, mariadb, ubuntu
      apt:
        name: mariadb-server
        state: latest
      when: ansible_distribution == "Ubuntu"

- hosts: file_servers
  become: true
  tasks:

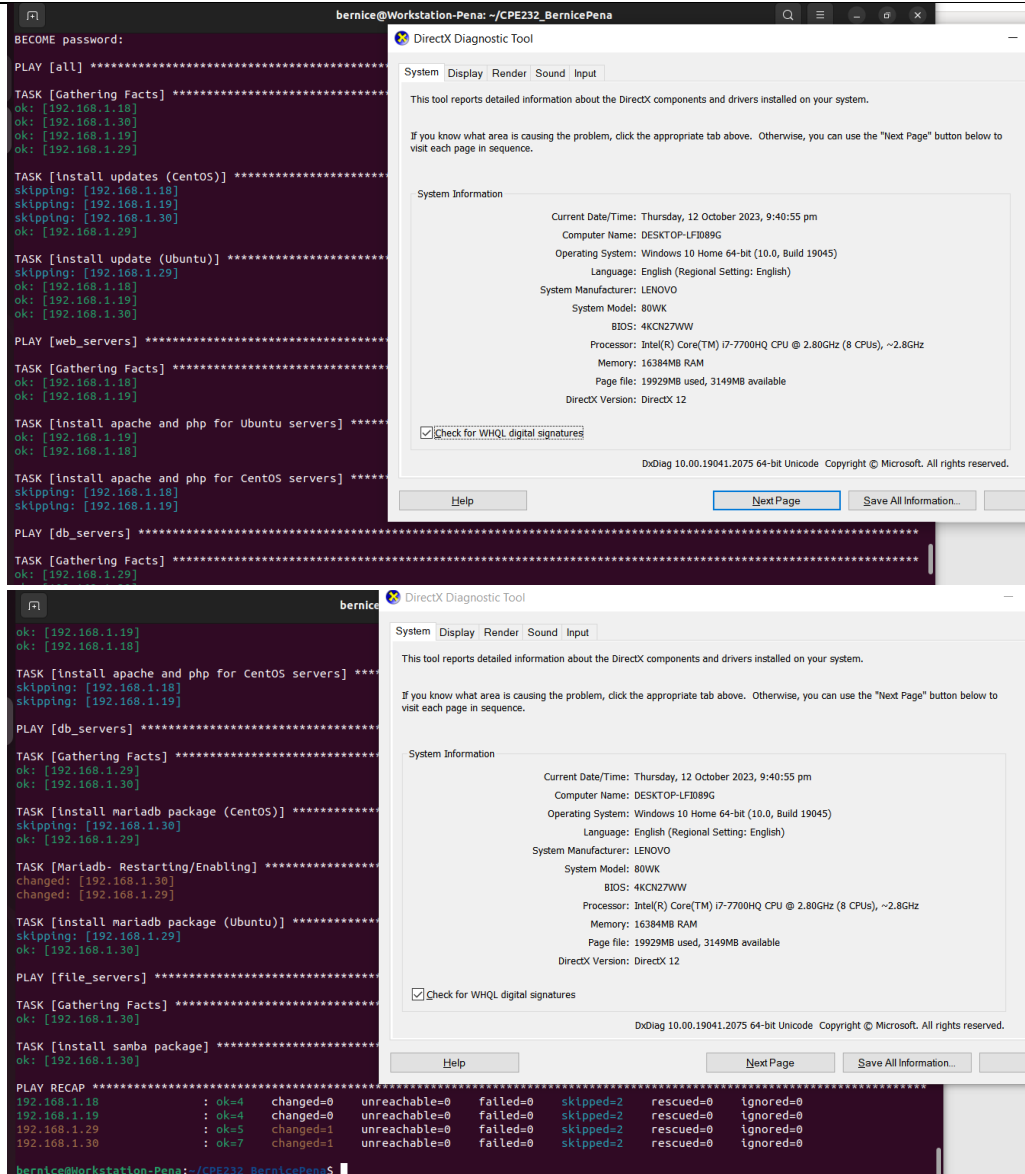
    - name: install samba package
      tags: samba
      package:
        name: samba
        state: latest

```

Make sure to save the file and exit.



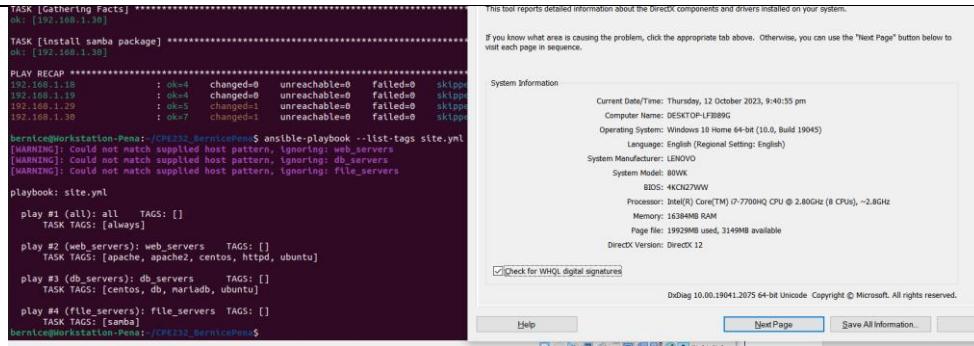
Run the *site.yml* file and describe the result.



The tags in my playbook allows which tasks are executed making it flexible since it targets specific groups of servers for certain tasks. When I added the tags in the code, it enables me to install the necessary packages on the appropriate server types (web\_servers, db\_servers, file\_servers) while skipping unnecessary tasks for the other servers.

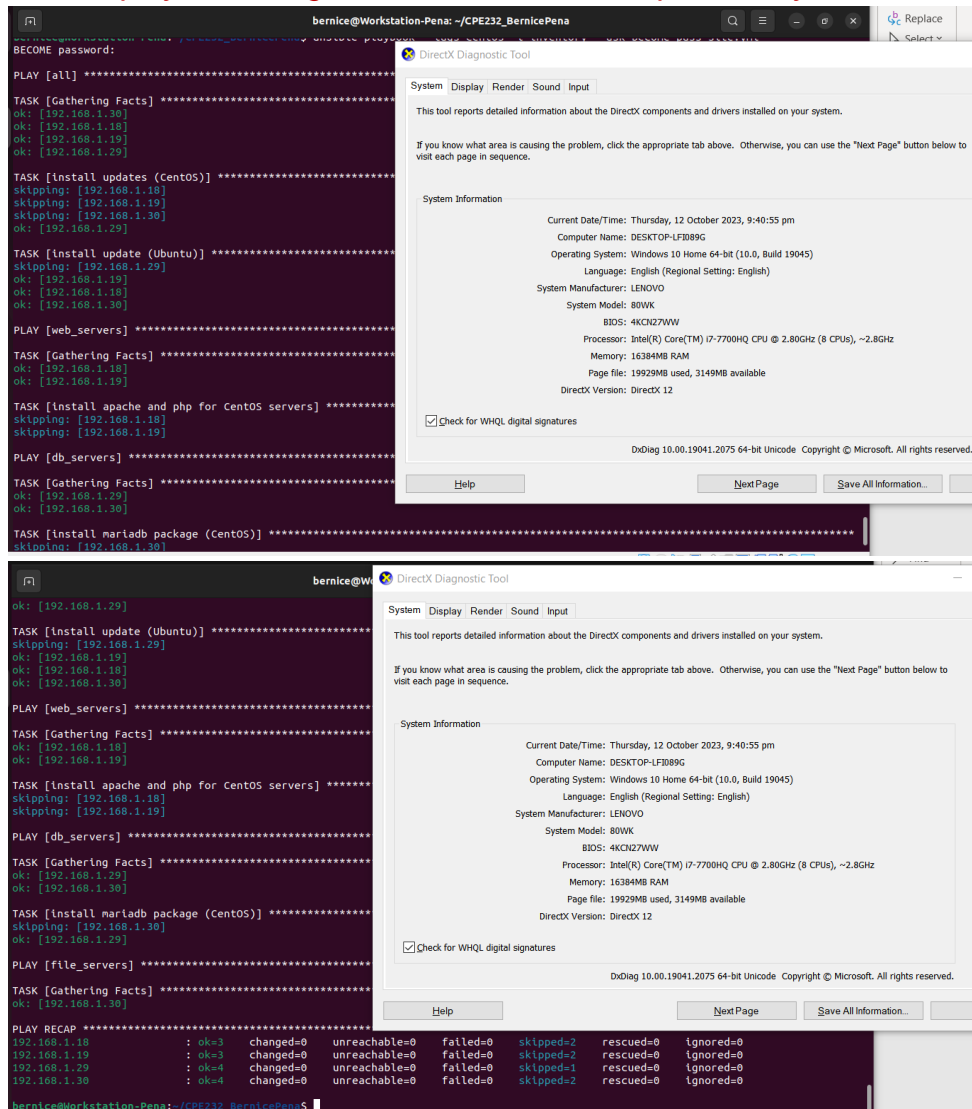
2. On the local machine, try to issue the following commands and describe each result:

2.1 *ansible-playbook --list-tags site.yml*



It displayed all the tags that I recently added in the yml file, these tags indicate the tasks within each PLAY, this helps in organizing and making the structure more simplified according to what tasks are being executed.

## 2.2 *ansible-playbook --tags centos --ask-become-pass site.yml*



It executed the tasks that have been labeled with “centos” using the

## tag command

### 2.3 *ansible-playbook --tags db --ask-become-pass site.yml*

```
bernice@Workstation-Pena: ~/CPE232_bernicePena$ ansible-playbook --tags db
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.19]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [Install updates (CentOS)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.18]
skipping: [192.168.1.19]
skipping: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [Install update (Ubuntu)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.29]
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]
ok: [192.168.1.30]

PLAY [web_servers] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]

PLAY [db_servers] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [Install mariadb package (CentOS)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]

PLAY [db_servers] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [Install mariadb package (CentOS)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

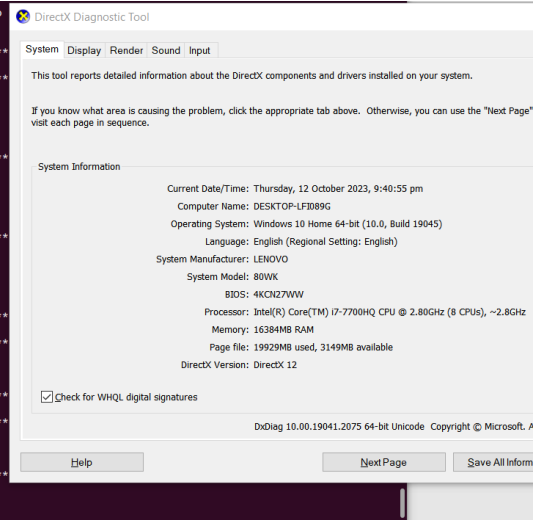
TASK [Install mariadb package (Ubuntu)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.29]
ok: [192.168.1.30]

PLAY [file_servers] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.30]

PLAY RECAP *****
192.168.1.18 : ok=3 changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=1 rescued=0 ignored=0
192.168.1.19 : ok=3 changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=1 rescued=0 ignored=0
192.168.1.29 : ok=4 changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2 rescued=0 ignored=0
192.168.1.30 : ok=5 changed=0 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2 rescued=0 ignored=0

bernice@Workstation-Pena: ~/CPE232_bernicePena$
```



Since db tag was used in this command, it executes the tasks that have been labeled db.

### 2.4 *ansible-playbook --tags apache --ask-become-pass site.yml*

```
bernice@Workstation-Pena: ~/CPE232_BernicePena$ ansible-playbook --tags apache -i inventory --ask-become-pass site.yml
BECOME password:
```

```
PLAY [all] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]
ok: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [install updates (CentOS)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.18]
skipping: [192.168.1.19]
skipping: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [install update (Ubuntu)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.29]
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]
ok: [192.168.1.30]

PLAY [web_servers] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]

TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]

TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.18]
skipping: [192.168.1.19]

PLAY [db_servers] *****
```

```
bernice@Workstation-Pena: ~/CPE232_BernicePena$ ansible-playbook --tags apache -i inventory --ask-become-pass site.yml
BECOME password:

PLAY [all] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]
ok: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

TASK [install update (Ubuntu)] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.29]
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]
ok: [192.168.1.30]

PLAY [web_servers] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]

TASK [install apache and php for Ubuntu servers] *****
ok: [192.168.1.18]
ok: [192.168.1.19]

TASK [install apache and php for CentOS servers] *****
skipping: [192.168.1.18]
skipping: [192.168.1.19]

PLAY [db_servers] *****

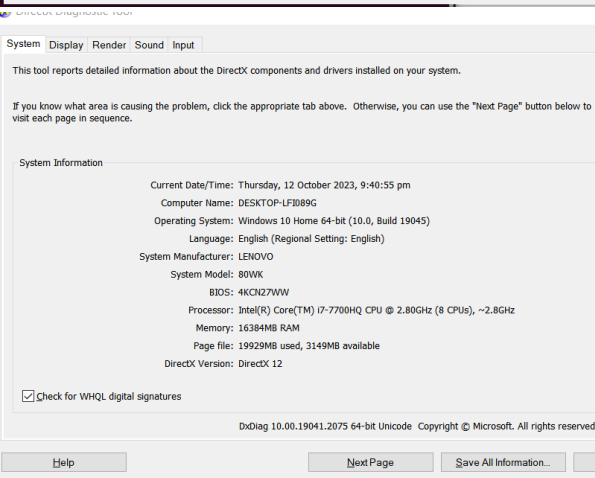
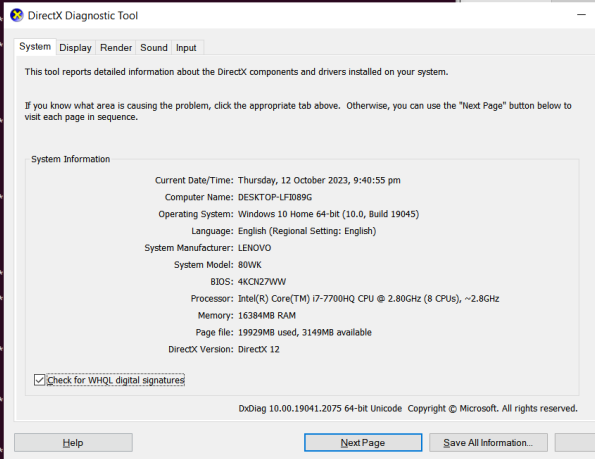
TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.30]
ok: [192.168.1.29]

PLAY [file_servers] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [192.168.1.30]

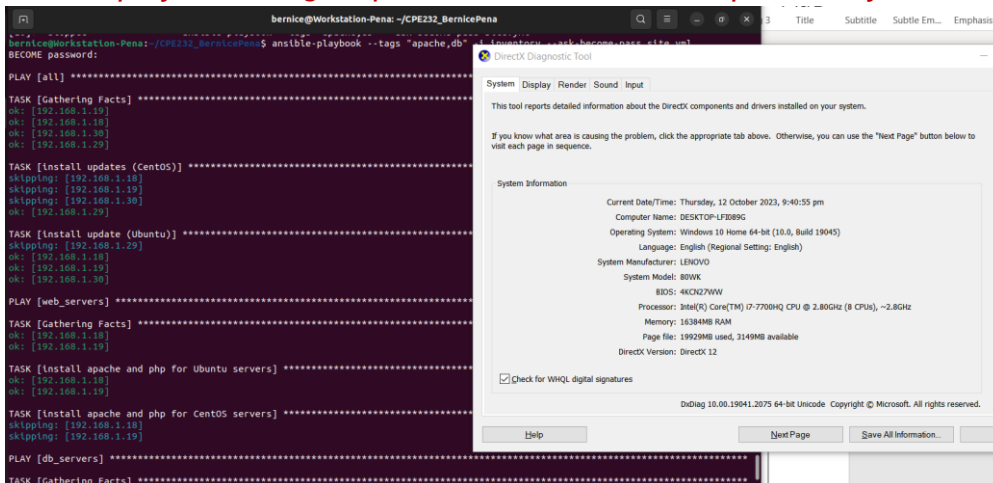
PLAY RECAP *****
192.168.1.18      : ok=4    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=2    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.1.19      : ok=4    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=2    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.1.29      : ok=3    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=1    rescued=0    ignored=0
192.168.1.30      : ok=4    changed=0    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=1    rescued=0    ignored=0
```

```
bernice@Workstation-Pena: ~/CPE232_BernicePena$
```

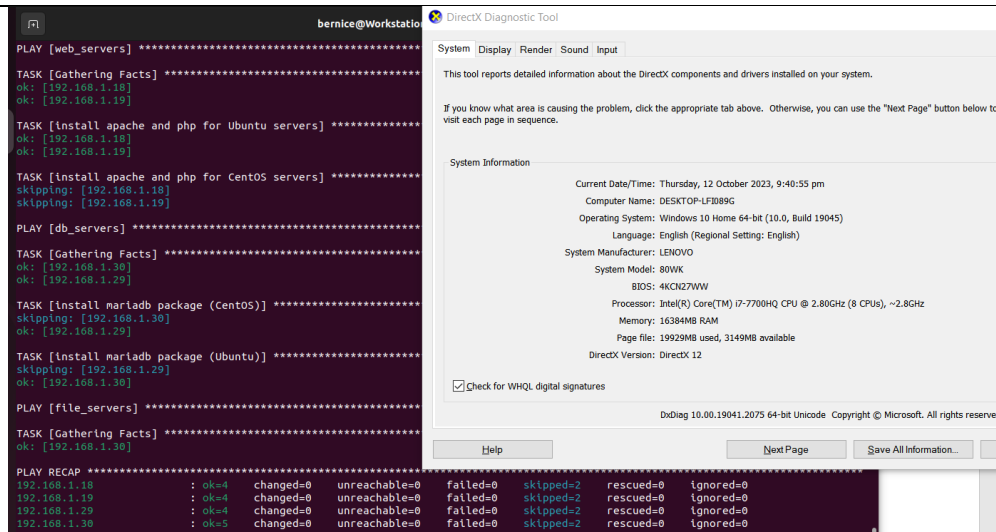


This time, the tasks that have been labeled with apache was executed.

## 2.5 *ansible-playbook --tags "apache,db" --ask-become-pass site.yml*







For this command, we used the tags with “apache,db”, this executes the tasks of db\_servers and web\_servers since I recently added a tag under these plays using the “apache,db” tag.

### Task 3: Managing Services

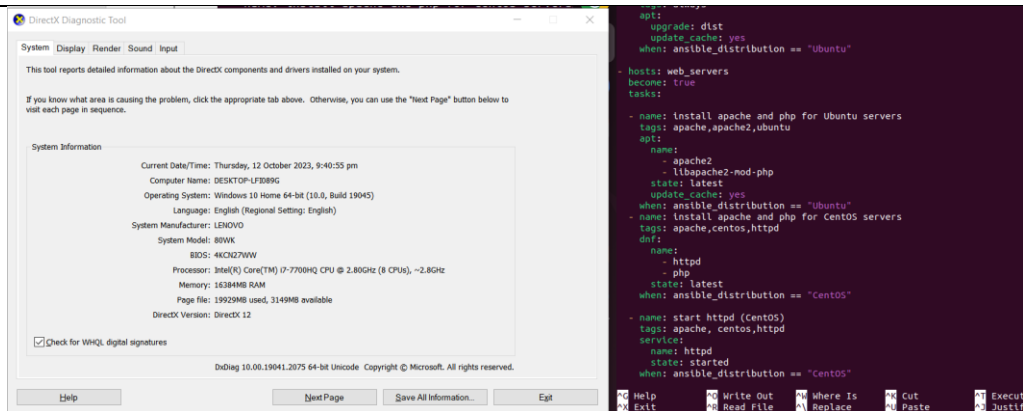
1. Edit the file site.yml and add a play that will automatically start the httpd on CentOS server.

```
- name: install apache and php for CentOS servers
  tags: apache,centos,httpd
  dnf:
    name:
      - httpd
      - php
    state: latest
    when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

- name: start httpd (CentOS)
  tags: apache, centos,httpd
  service:
    name: httpd
    state: started
    when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"
```

Figure 3.1.1

Make sure to save the file and exit.



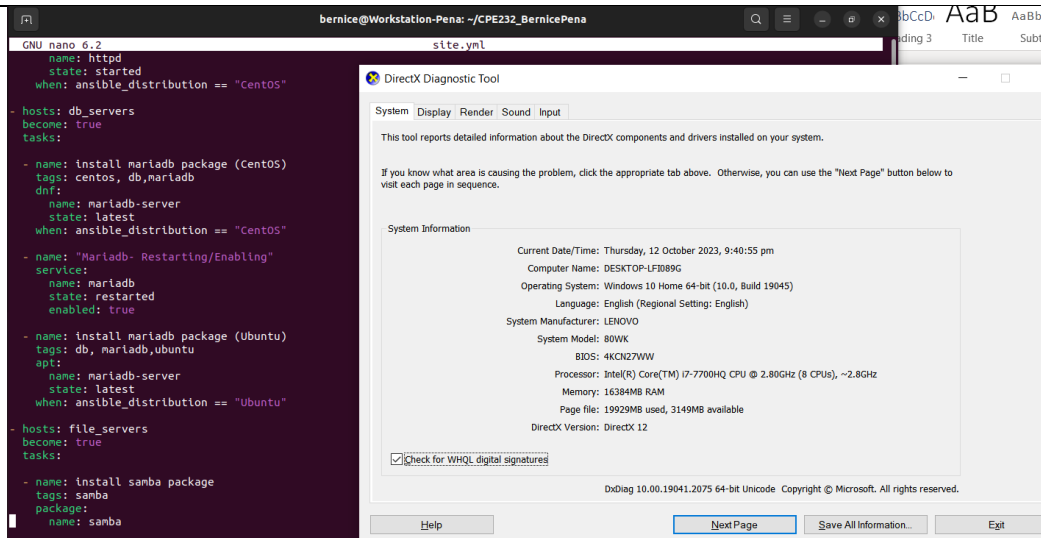
You would also notice from our previous activity that we already created a module that runs a service.

```
- hosts: db_servers
  become: true
  tasks:

  - name: install mariadb package (CentOS)
    tags: centos, db,mariadb
    dnf:
      name: mariadb-server
      state: latest
      when: ansible_distribution == "CentOS"

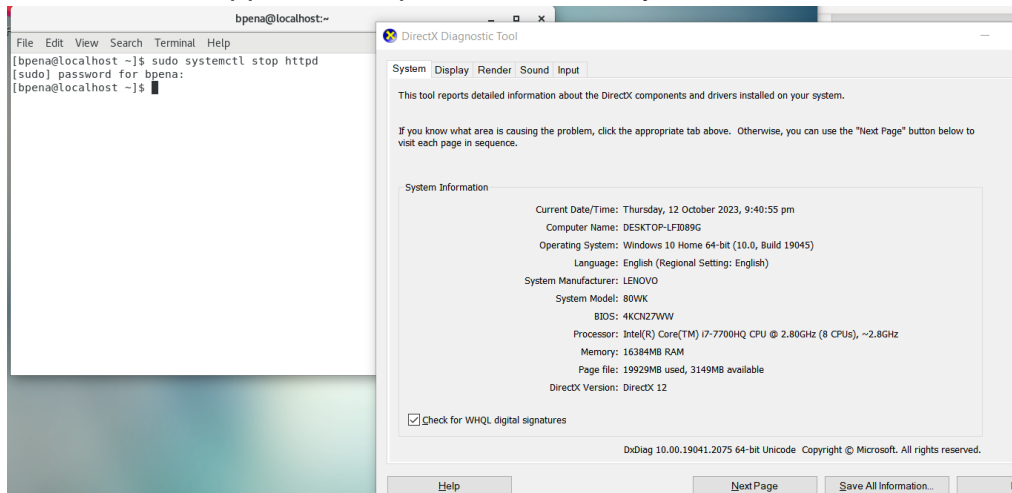
  - name: "Mariadb- Restarting/Enabling"
    service:
      name: mariadb
      state: restarted
      enabled: true
```

Figure 3.1.2

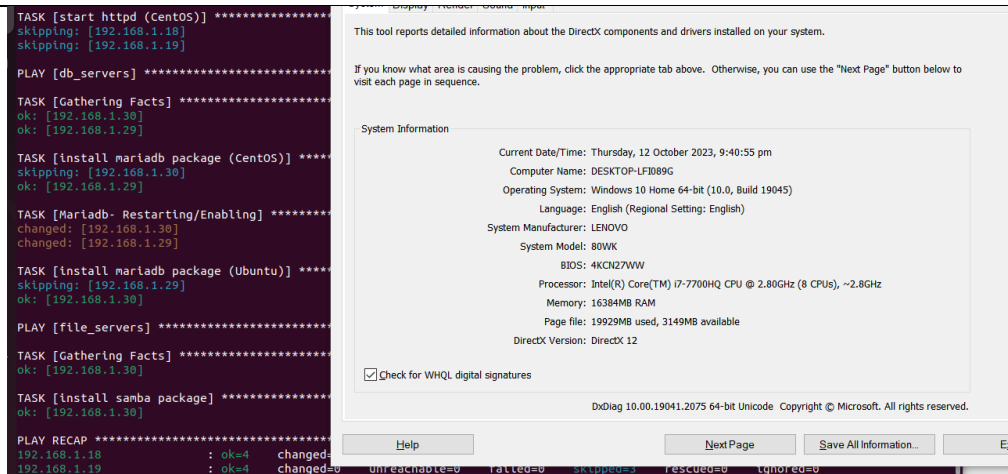


This is because in CentOS, installed packages' services are not run automatically. Thus, we need to create the module to run it automatically.

2. To test it, before you run the saved playbook, go to the CentOS server and stop the currently running httpd using the command ***sudo systemctl stop httpd***. When prompted, enter the sudo password. After that, open the browser and enter the CentOS server's IP address. You should not be getting a display because we stopped the httpd service already.

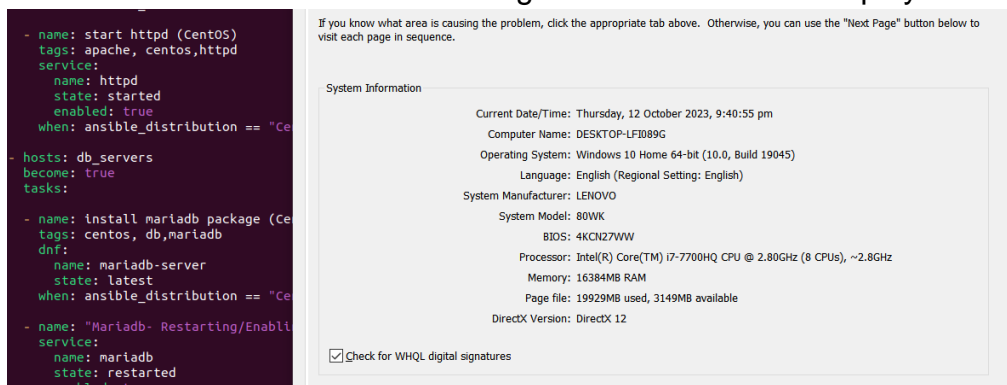


3. Go to the local machine and this time, run the ***site.yml*** file. Then after running the file, go again to the CentOS server and enter its IP address on the browser. Describe the result.



The task for start httpd for CentOS skipped my two Ubuntu servers since it should be done only for CentOS server

To automatically enable the service every time we run the playbook, use the command **enabled: true** similar to Figure 7.1.2 and save the playbook.



## Reflections:

Answer the following:

1. What is the importance of putting our remote servers into groups?

**When having multiple servers with specific purposes, grouping them makes it more organized and less complex when creating tasks depending on which server should handle the tasks. Grouping the servers provides efficient infrastructure management since it simplifies the tasks and makes it flexible since this is where we can also control it as we group them into our desired group.**

2. What is the importance of tags in playbooks?

**The tags allow us to make task selection since it provides the ability to execute selected or specific tasks in a group of servers, this also saves time since not all the tasks need to be executed. Tags can also be helpful when it comes to identifying what are the executed tasks allowing us to easily debug errors.**

3. Why do think some services need to be managed automatically in playbooks?  
**Some services need automation especially when it requires consistency and repeated configurations, this helps in reducing human error as well as maintaining the purpose of the service. Aside from this, automation saves time, instead of manually repeating all the tasks, automation have the ability to repeat them all automatically using the same process, this is very helpful when in terms of maintaining consistency and scalability of a certain environment.**