Ansible Playbook & Ansible Modules & Ansible Tasks & Ansible Roles

- Playbooks contain Plays, we sometimes refer to the files that contain plays as playbook, it is also the 'list of plays that currently running.
- Plays map hosts to tasks.
- Tasks perform an action (this action is normally a module).
- A module is a plugin/script that follows certain Ansible input/output specs
- Modules can be written in any language, Ansible only ships with python and PowerShell modules.
- Roles are 'reusable subsets of a play', mainly they group tasks and resources to accomplish a certain goal, they have no host mapping and require being in a play.
- You do not really need to use these to start, they are just a way of organizing, reusing, and sharing.

```
- hosts: webservers
   http_port: 80
   max clients: 200
  remote_user: root
  tasks:
  - name: ensure apache is at the latest version
      name: httpd
      state: latest
  - name: write the apache config file
    template:
      src: /srv/httpd.j2
      dest: /etc/httpd.conf
    - restart apache
  - name: ensure apache is running
    service:
     name: httpd
      state: started
    - name: restart apache
      service:
       name: httpd
        state: restarted
```

Below finds Two plays are in this playbook:

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```
- hosts: webservers
 remote_user: root
 tasks:
 - name: ensure apache is at the latest version
   yum:
                                        Play 1
     name: httpd
     state: latest
 - name: write the apache config file
   template:
     src: /srv/httpd.j2
     dest: /etc/httpd.conf
- hosts: databases
 remote_user: root
 tasks:
 - name: ensure postgresql is at the latest version
                                        Play 2
     name: postgresql
     state: latest
 - name: ensure that postgresql is started
   service:
     name: postgresql
    state: started
```

Modules

- A task is a call to an ansible module.
- In Yaml, tasks are started with "-name." Modules are started on the next line.
- The Yaml after the module name are key=value arguments, space delimited. "yum:", "template:", "service:" are references to modules which are packages of features you can use with Ansible

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Modules are a way of re-using code in Ansible.

They can also directly be invoked from the ansible command line via "-m":

- \$ ansible webservers -m service -a "name=httpd state=started"
- \$ ansible webservers -m ping
- \$ ansible webservers -m command -a "/sbin/reboot -t now"

The modules used above are: service, ping, and command. Here is a reboot activity done in a playbook:

- hosts: webservers

- name: reboot the servers

action: command /sbin/reboot -t now

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