

## 6. Write an ansible-playbook to install nginx on target servers.

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### What is YAML

YAML stands for "yet another markup language"

YAML is a human-readable data serialization language. It is commonly used for configuration files and in applications where data is being stored or transmitted. YAML targets many of the same communications applications as Extensible Markup Language but has a minimal syntax that intentionally differs from Standard Generalized Markup Language. It uses Python-style indentation to indicate nesting and does not require quotes around most string values. Custom data types are allowed, but YAML natively encodes scalars, lists, and associative arrays. These data types are based on the Perl programming language, though all commonly used high-level programming languages share very similar concepts.

eg. YAML is used for configuration of "Alacritty terminal"

the config looks something like this where there are variables, then nested variables who hold some values like padding, opacity, font

```
import:
  - ~/.config/alacritty/new.yml

env:
  TERM: alacritty

window:
  padding:
    x: 5
    y: 5

  opacity: 0.7
  startup_mode: Maximized
  dynamic_title: true
```

```
font:
  normal:
    family: HackNerdFont
    style: Regular

  bold:
    family: HackNerdFont
    style: Bold

  italic:
    family: HackNerdFont
    style: Italic

  bold_italic:
    family: HackNerdFont
    style: Bold Italic

# Point size
size: 10

glyph_offset:
  x: 0
  y: 0

draw_bold_text_with_bright_colors: true
```

## What is Ansible

Ansible is an open source, command-line IT automation software application written in Python. It can configure systems, deploy software, and orchestrate advanced workflows to support application deployment, system updates, and more.

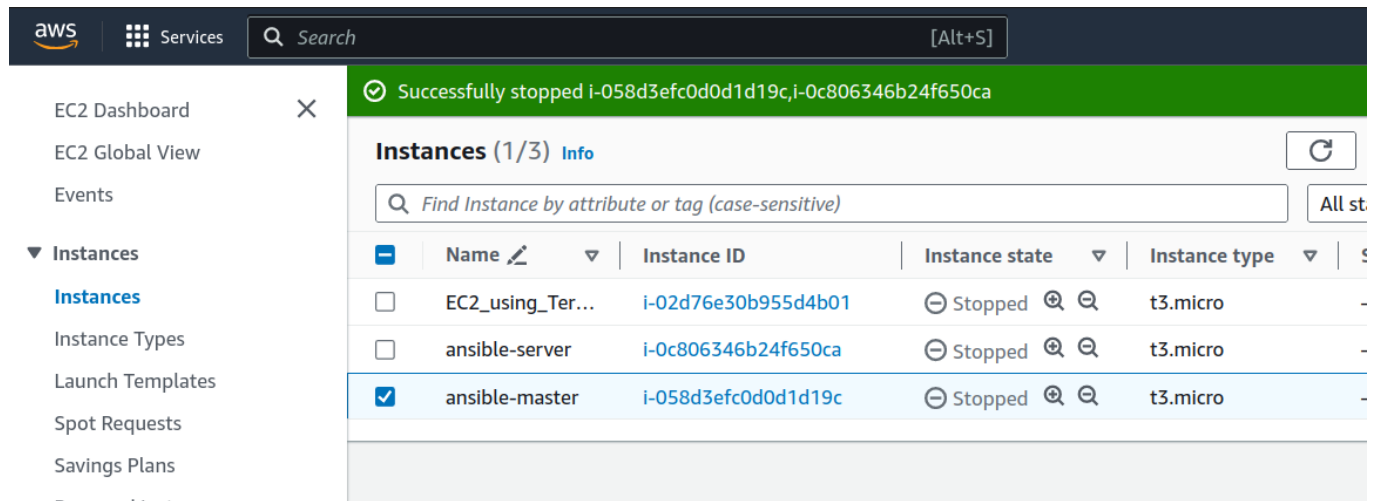
Ansible's main strengths are simplicity and ease of use. It also has a strong focus on security and reliability, featuring minimal moving parts. It uses OpenSSH for transport (with other transports and pull modes as alternatives), and uses a human-readable language that is designed for getting started quickly without a lot of training.

Ansible is a suite of software tools that enables infrastructure as code. It is open-source and the suite includes software provisioning, configuration management, and application deployment functionality. Originally written by Michael DeHaan in 2012, and acquired by Red Hat in 2015, Ansible is designed to configure both Unix-like systems and Microsoft Windows. Ansible is agentless, relying on temporary remote connections via SSH or Windows Remote Management which allows PowerShell execution. The Ansible control node runs on most Unix-like systems

that are able to run Python, including Windows with Windows Subsystem for Linux installed. System configuration is defined in part by using its own declarative language

## Commands to install Ansible

To use Ansible you need at least 2 remote servers or 1 remote servers and one local machine On which we will be installing Ansible, we will call that machine "Ansible-master". It can be an remote server or your local machine. And one with which we will be interacting is called as ansible server.



On Ansible-master run following commands

```
$ sudo apt update
$ sudo apt install software-properties-common
$ sudo add-apt-repository --yes --update ppa:ansible/ansible
$ sudo apt install ansible
```

## Inventory

Before we start, we need to tell Ansible installed on our `master` machine the address of `server`

We can do this by creating `inventory.cfg` file

We have to put public ip address of our `ansible server` machine in this file

```
$ touch inventory.cfg
$ nvim inventory.cfg
$ cat inventory.cfg
13.53.218.200
```

## Authorized Keys

To access our server from master via Ansible we need to add master to server's authorised keys

For this run `ssh-keygen` on master. It will create a public and private key. We have to paste this public key fingerprint in server's authorised keys file

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ clear [270/1395]
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ ssh-keygen
Generating public/private rsa key pair.
Enter file in which to save the key (/home/ubuntu/.ssh/id_rsa):
Enter passphrase (empty for no passphrase):
Enter same passphrase again:
Your identification has been saved in /home/ubuntu/.ssh/id_rsa
Your public key has been saved in /home/ubuntu/.ssh/id_rsa.pub
The key fingerprint is:
SHA256:/HbBKgADWW10M0/SD8YioWTDdfTYa2X2zKwX/LB2060 ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235
The key's randomart image is:
+---[RSA 3072]-----+
| .+=++oBo. |
| .+.o+o.X= |
| +. ..o+o+ |
| 0 . *. * |
| . S o o 0 |
| . o . o = |
| . + o + + |
| 0 . o oo |
|          Eo. |
+-----[SHA256]-----+
```

Then to get fingerprint in server machine, we can use clipboard or we can scp this file `id_rsa.pub` file on server and cat it into `authorised_keys` file.

To check we have done everything correct we ping all machines in `inventory.cfg`

```

nment :: (main)
Command 'nvim' not found, but can be installed with:
sudo snap install nvim # version v0.9.4, or
sudo apt install neovim # version 0.6.1-3
See 'snap info nvim' for additional versions.
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$ nvim .ssh/authorized_keys
Command 'nvim' not found, but can be installed with:
sudo snap install nvim # version v0.9.4, or
sudo apt install neovim # version 0.6.1-3
See 'snap info nvim' for additional versions.
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$ vi .ssh/authorized_keys
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$ rm id_rsa cd^C
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$ ls
id_rsa.pub
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$ cat id_rsa.pub >> .ssh/authorized_keys
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$

"unreachable": true
}
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ cat ../ssh/
authorized_keys id_rsa id_rsa.pub known_hosts
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ cat ../ssh/
authorized_keys id_rsa id_rsa.pub known_hosts
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ cat ../ssh/
authorized_keys id_rsa id_rsa.pub known_hosts
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ cat ../ssh/id_rsa.pub
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAQGD1qgVm0YsLR7j3JKU1TB3DZLCmJGNvZNMMy2WI4KPzW5FQkcqWE2h9LRRma
xE207TE62CYb6vIVQ+T5rE3QSPvZ64yQjhlyzpgwXq4U1Ik47s3m37fj65Tefzxe7Cw0xhdqVjNMkoChv07rpK2e/8HoJnQc
nCKQFqxONLS7j+HHjjg4CymjxQyuGLZRPpDBKDDtqL4cN24Zhv0ukHOKBi+beS9hme579Noy9e0S7VHBtmWPnPoRJKk688pm
q6JTMq9Pqeye9EpoECfkfduJ9M7oD1CJZRrfewWVRzXGJH4rjWshUNXsyZESGsJjDCUZidfV5s1B3H+xRebNbMNV0NvGzQP5
dCac18pi6jaJoHkA0y/0AgznQ8VRiX1H3chbdcDvrT18L9LJ9hjo1/fEgyGJQuULHAtPNLsj7VJRC4Cg1hjFAGoXhIMLYvXM
79AVmnbEqR5BrSCS5xvDiyimW0fRNj0Mb0yavMaz0xIodclqgyAFKvAuy9EdM19o292Mgbk= ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ scp -i ~/.keys/cc_aws_key.pem /home/ubuntu/.ssh/id_rsa.pub ub
untu@13.53.218.200:/home/ubuntu/
id_rsa.pub 100% 577 319.4KB/s 00:00
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ ansible -i inventory.cfg -m ping all
172.31.14.190 | SUCCESS => {
  "ansible_facts": {
    "discovered_interpreter_python": "/usr/bin/python3"
  },
  "changed": false,
  "ping": "pong"
}
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$
```

## ad-hoc command

Ad-hoc commands are one of the simplest ways of using Ansible. These are used when you want to issue some commands on a server or bunch of servers. The ad-hoc commands are not stored for future use, but it represents a fast way to interact with the desired servers.

```
$ ansible <hosts> -m <module> -a <arguments>
```

**Hosts:** It can be an entry in the inventory file. For specifying all hosts in the inventory, use all or `"*"`.

**module\_name:** It is an optional parameter. There are hundreds of modules available in the Ansible, such as shell, yum, apt, file, and copy. By default, it is the command.

**Arguments:** We should pass values that are required by the module. It can change according to the module used.

on master i execute `touch remote_cmd.txt` and on server we can see file being created

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$ ls
id_rsa.pub
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$ ls
id_rsa.pub  remote_cmd.txt
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$ ~
```

#### Connection Options:

control as whom and how to connect to hosts

```
--private-key PRIVATE_KEY_FILE, --key-file PRIVATE_KEY_FILE
    use this file to authenticate the connection
--scp-extra-args SCP_EXTRA_ARGS
    specify extra arguments to pass to scp only (e.g. -l)
--sftp-extra-args SFTP_EXTRA_ARGS
    specify extra arguments to pass to sftp only (e.g. -f, -l)
--ssh-common-args SSH_COMMON_ARGS
    specify common arguments to pass to sftp/scp/ssh (e.g. ProxyCommand)
--ssh-extra-args SSH_EXTRA_ARGS
    specify extra arguments to pass to ssh only (e.g. -R)
-T TIMEOUT, --timeout TIMEOUT
    override the connection timeout in seconds (default depends on
connection)
-c CONNECTION, --connection CONNECTION
    connection type to use (default=ssh)
-u REMOTE_USER, --user REMOTE_USER
    connect as this user (default=None)
```

Some actions do not make sense in Ad-Hoc (include, meta, etc)

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ ansible -i inventory.cfg all -m "shell" -a "touch remote_cmd.
txt"
172.31.14.190 | CHANGED | rc=0 >>
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$
```

## Ansible Playbooks

Ansible Playbooks offer a repeatable, reusable, simple configuration management and multi-machine deployment system, one that is well suited to deploying complex applications. If you need to execute a task with Ansible more than once, write a playbook and put it under source control. Then you can use the playbook to push out new configuration or confirm the configuration of remote systems.

In our playbook file



```

- name: Install and Restart nginx
  hosts: all
  become: true
  tasks:
    - name: Install nginx
      apt: name=nginx state=latest

    - name: Start nginx
      service:
        name: nginx
        state: started

```

first\_playbook.yml

11,22

All

"first\_playbook.yml" 12L, 218C written

In above file we declare two tasks one being installing nginx and second is starting the service.

Run following command to execute these tasks on our `server`

Here we can see all tasks being done and their outputs

```

ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ ansible -i inventory.cfg all -m "shell" -a "touch remote_cmd.txt"
172.31.14.190 | CHANGED | rc=0 >>

ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ nvim first_playbook.yml
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ ansible
ansible                  ansible-connection      ansible-galaxy          ansible-pull
ansible-community       ansible-console         ansible-inventory       ansible-test
ansible-config          ansible-doc             ansible-playbook        ansible-vault
ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$ ansible-playbook -i inventory.cfg first_playbook.yml

PLAY [Install and Restart nginx] *****

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [172.31.14.190]

TASK [Install nginx] *****
changed: [172.31.14.190]

TASK [Start nginx] *****
ok: [172.31.14.190]

PLAY RECAP *****
172.31.14.190      : ok=3    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=0    resc
ued=0    ignored=0

ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$

```

Now let's see what changed at server

```
~ : bash — Konsole
ubuntu@ip-172-31-14-190:~$ sudo systemctl status nginx.service
● nginx.service - A high performance web server and a reverse proxy server
   Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/nginx.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Sun 2024-04-21 13:59:08 UTC; 1min 37s ago
     Docs: man:nginx(8)
  Process: 2258 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/nginx -t -q -g daemon on; master_process on; (code=exi>
  Process: 2259 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/nginx -g daemon on; master_process on; (code=exited, stat>
 Main PID: 2353 (nginx)
    Tasks: 3 (limit: 1068)
   Memory: 6.9M
      CPU: 54ms
   CGroup: /system.slice/nginx.service
           └─2353 "nginx: master process /usr/sbin/nginx -g daemon on; master_process on;"
             └─2356 "nginx: worker process" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" >
               └─2357 "nginx: worker process" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" >

Apr 21 13:59:08 ip-172-31-14-190 systemd[1]: Starting A high performance web server and a rever>
Apr 21 13:59:08 ip-172-31-14-190 systemd[1]: Started A high performance web server and a revers>
lines 1-17/17 (END)

TASK [Gathering Facts] *****
ok: [172.31.14.190]

TASK [Install nginx] *****
changed: [172.31.14.190]

TASK [Start nginx] *****
ok: [172.31.14.190]

PLAY RECAP *****
172.31.14.190 : ok=3    changed=1    unreachable=0    failed=0    skipped=0    resc
ued=0    ignored=0

ubuntu@ip-172-31-42-235:~/ansible$
```

From here we used Ansible to install and start nginx service.