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Activity 9: Install, Configure, and Manage Performance Monitoring tools

## 1. Objectives

Create and design a workflow that installs, configure and manage enterprise performance tools using Ansible as an Infrastructure as Code (IaC) tool.

### 2. Discussion

Performance monitoring is a type of monitoring tool that identifies current resource consumption of the workload, in this page we will discuss multiple performance monitoring tool.

#### **Prometheus**

Prometheus fundamentally stores all data as timeseries: streams of timestamped values belonging to the same metric and the same set of labeled dimensions. Besides stored time series, Prometheus may generate temporary derived time series as the result of queries. Source: Prometheus - Monitoring system & time series database

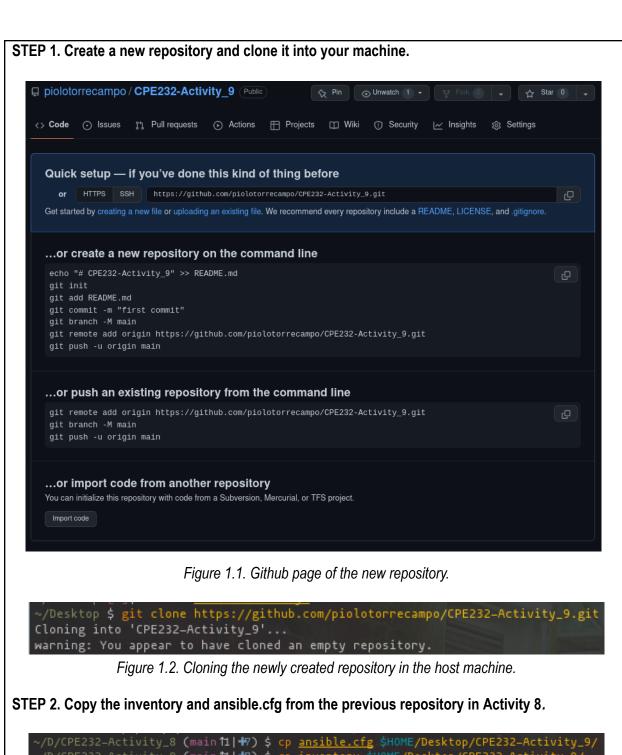
## Cacti

Cacti is a complete network graphing solution designed to harness the power of RRDTool's data storage and graphing functionality. Cacti provides a fast poller, advanced graph templating, multiple data acquisition methods, and user management features out of the box. All of this is wrapped in an intuitive, easy to use interface that makes sense for LAN-sized installations up to complex networks with thousands of devices. Source: Cacti® - The Complete RRDTool-based Graphing Solution

#### 3. Tasks

- 1. Create a playbook that installs Prometheus in both Ubuntu and CentOS. Apply the concept of creating roles.
- 2. Describe how you did step 1. (Provide screenshots and explanations in your report. Make your report detailed such that it will look like a manual.)
- 3. Show an output of the installed Prometheus for both Ubuntu and CentOS.
- 4. Make sure to create a new repository in GitHub for this activity.

## Output (screenshots and explanations)



```
~/D/CPE232-Activity_8 (main 11 | 17) $ cp ansible.cfg $HOME/Desktop/CPE232-Activity_9/
~/D/CPE232-Activity_8 (main 11 | 17) $ cp inventory $HOME/Desktop/CPE232-Activity_9/
~/D/CPE232-Activity_8 (main 11 | 17) $ cd ~/Desktop/CPE232-Activity_9/
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main | 1/2) $ ll
total 8.0K
-rw-r--- 1 papzi papzi 124 Oct 19 14:34 ansible.cfg
-rw-r--- 1 papzi papzi 112 Oct 19 14:34 inventory
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main | 1/2) $ []
```

Figure 1.3. Copying the inventory and ansible.cfg from the previous repository.

# STEP 3. Create the needed files and directories, as shown in Figure 1.4.

```
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main | ✓) $ tree

— ansible.cfg
— files
— prometheus.service
— install_prometheus.yml
— inventory
— roles
— prometheus_centos
— tasks
— main.yml
— prometheus_ubuntu
— tasks
— main.yml
6 directories, 6 files
```

Figure 1.4. Tree structure of the directory.

```
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ✓) [1]$ mkdir roles
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ✓) $ mkdir roles/prometheus_ubuntu roles/prometheus_centos
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ✓) $ mkdir roles/prometheus_ubuntu/tasks roles/prometheus_centos/tasks
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ✓) $ touch roles/prometheus_centos/tasks/main.yml roles/prometheus_ubuntu/tasks/main.yml
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ✓) $ mkdir files
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ✓) $ mkdir files
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ✓) $ cat files/prometheus.service
```

Figure 1.5. Creating the files and directories inside of the repository

STEP 4. Copy the format below for the inventory file. Take note that the IP address and username varies depending on your machine.

```
inventory x

inventory x

prometheus_centos]
1 192.168.122.190 ansible_user=cserver1

prometheus_ubuntu]
4 192.168.122.94 ansible_user=userver1-gui
```

Figure 1.6. Content of inventory file which supports the 2 servers (Ubuntu and CentOS).

STEP 5. Copy the contents of the install\_prometheus.yml below.

Figure 1.7. Editing the install\_nagios.yml.

## STEP 6. Copy the contents of the main.yml for Centos and Ubuntu.

```
main.yml

36 - name: Creating a directory (where the downloaded files will be stored)

35 | tags: directory

36 | tags: directory

37 | path: ~/prometheus

38 | state: directory

39 | name: Downloading and extracting Prometheus

40 | tags: source

41 | unarchive:

42 | src: "{{source}}"

43 | dest: ~/prometheus

55 | remote_src: yes

46 | mode: 0777

56 | owner: root

57 | group: root
```

```
name: Adding the Prometheus executables to a PATH
  tags: executables
 shell: |
   cd ~/prometheus/prometheus*
   cp -r . /usr/local/bin/prometheus
- name: Copying the Prometheus service file
 tags: servicefile
 copy:
   src: prometheus.service
   dest: /etc/systemd/system/
   owner: root
   group: root
   mode: 777
 name: Making sure that Prometheus is started and enabled
 tags: serviceon
 service:
  name: prometheus
  state: restarted
   enabled: true
```

Figure 1.8. The screenshot above shows the contents of main.yml under centos.

STEP 7. In the file prometheus.service, copy the contents below and paste to the file. This file is a service file that enables the prometheus service to run after booting up.

Figure 1.9. The screenshot above shows the contents of prometheus service under files directory.

Step 8. Check the connection between the computer and the servers by running "ansible all -m ping" (Note: ssh without asking a password is required). Also, you can check you syntax by running "ansible-playbook -syntax-check playbook.yml"

```
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| */) $ ansible all -m ping
192.168.122.190 | SUCCESS => {
    "ansible_facts": {
        "discovered_interpreter_python": "/usr/bin/python"
    },
    "changed": false,
    "ping": "pong"
}
192.168.122.94 | SUCCESS => {
    "ansible_facts": {
        "discovered_interpreter_python": "/usr/bin/python3"
    },
    "changed": false,
    "ping": "pong"
}
```

Figure 1.10. Running a test to make sure the two servers are reachable.

```
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main|/) [127]$ ansible-playbook --syntax-check install_prometheus.yml playbook: install_prometheus.yml _
```

Figure 1.11. Running a test to make sure the scripts does not have any syntax errors.

# Step 9. Run "ansible-playbook -ask-become-pass playbook.yml" to execute the scripts to the servers.

```
TASK [prometheus_centos : Creating a directory (where the downloaded files will be stored)] *******************
changed: [192.168.122.190]
changed: [192.168.122.190]
changed: [192.168.122.190]
TASK [prometheus_centos : Making sure that Prometheus is started and enabled] *********************************
changed: [192.168.122.190]
changed: [192.168.122.94]
changed: [192.168.122.94]
changed: [192.168.122.94]
changed: [192.168.122.94]
: ok=9 changed=5 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2 rescued=0 ignored=0
: ok=9 changed=7 unreachable=0 failed=0 skipped=2 rescued=0 ignored=0
192.168.122.190
192.168.122.94
```

Figure 1.12. Output of the command "ansible-playbook –ask-become-pass install\_nagios.yml".

Step 10. Verify the installation by checking both servers. In firefox or other web browser, type the IP address of the machine and the port 9090 (e.g, 192.168.122.94:9090). The port 9090 is where the Prometheus used in connecting the website.

VERIFYING PROMETHEUS IN BOTH SERVER	
Server	Output in Firefox

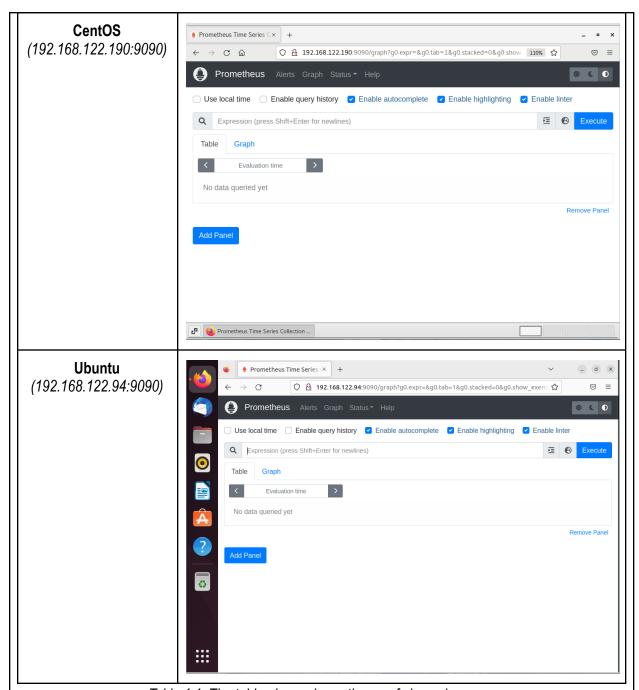


Table 1.1. The table above shows the proofs in each server.

Step 11. Update the repository.

```
~ $ cd Desktop/CPE232-Activity_9/
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ) $ git add *
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ) $ git commit -m "first push"
On branch main
Your branch is based on 'origin/main', but the upstream is gone.
    (use "git branch --unset-upstream" to fixup)

nothing to commit, working tree clean
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ) [1] $ git psuh
git: 'psuh' is not a git command. See 'git --help'.

The most similar command is
    push
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ) [1] $ git push git@github.com-school:piolotorrecampo/CPE232-Activity_9.git
Everything up-to-date
~/D/CPE232-Activity_9 (main| ) $
```

Figure 1.13. Pushing the updated repository into Github.

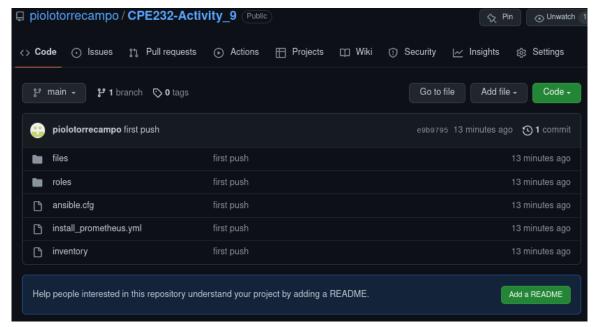


Figure 1.14. The screenshot above shows the Github updated repository page.

Github Link: https://github.com/piolotorrecampo/CPE232-Activity 9.git

Prometheus Download Page: https://prometheus.io/download/

## Reflections:

Answer the following:

- 1. What are the benefits of having a performance monitoring tool?
  - Having a performance monitoring tool is a life saver for the system administrations. It gives
    access to the system administrators to monitor the current state of the servers. This monitors
    whether the system has errors, enough hardware resources, processes, and many more.

One example that supports this massive feature is the Prometheus. Prometheus can detect the source of errors and alerts the system administrators and constantly monitor services per device but is not responsible for fixing bugs or errors. The Cacti is not included in the activity but upon researching, the Cacti is also considered as a monitoring tools but has a feature of creating performance management Graphs.

## **Conclusions:**

This activity achieves its goal to introduce other enterprise performance tools that apply the use of Ansible as a medium in automating the processes in a server. In the procedure part of the activity introduces the monitoring tool called Prometheus. The first step in completing this activity is to research for a possible installation guide for a Ubuntu and CentOS server. Then convert this set of instructions into a ansible playbook that installs and runs services in both servers. Upon observation throughout this activity, I realized that the method of installing and starting the services of Prometheus in both servers are the same. Overall, this activity gives me confidence in creating ansible playbooks and to implement roles to it.

# Honor Pledge:

"I affirm that I will not give or receive unauthorized help on this activity and that all will be my own."