

Ansible Windows

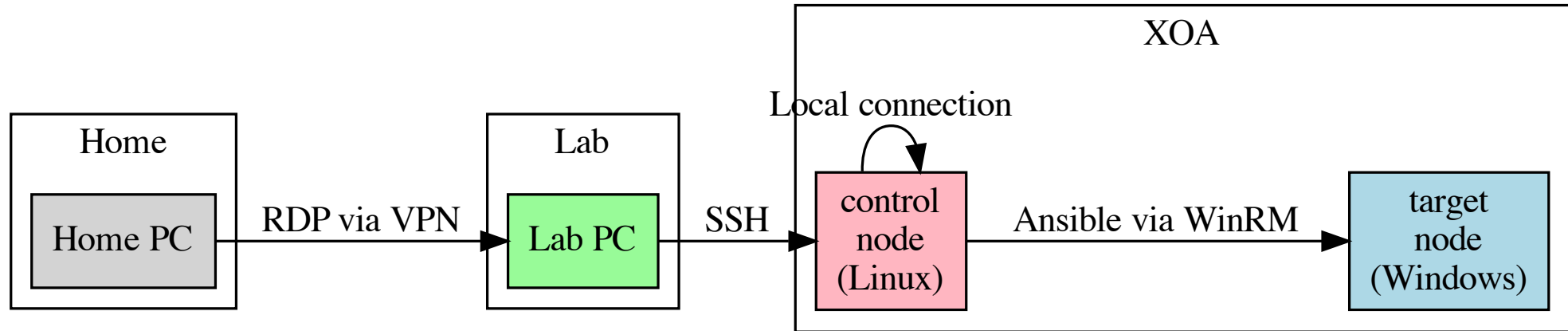
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Contents

1	Scenario	S.2
2	Local ansible usage	S.3
3	Common use cases	S.4
4	Complications	S.5

1 Scenario



2 Local ansible usage

Ansible can be used to automate the machine it's running on (Linux only).

Sample inventory

```
[local]  
127.0.0.1  ansible_connection=local
```

Reboots

- If host reboots then ansible loses its place in the playbook.
- Ansible will block reboot instructions in playbooks when running locally.

Usage is otherwise the same.

3 Common use cases

From ansible guide:

1. **Installing software**
2. **Installing updates**
3. **User and group management**
4. **Command execution**
5. **File transfer**
6. **Scheduled task execution**
7. **Service management**

4 Complications

Although Ansible is somewhat *cross-platform* there are some **specific issues** with Windows:

1. **Control node** must be running on **Linux**.
 - Some experimental support for Windows control nodes but in general it won't work.
2. **Different modules** for same tasks
 - Things like user account creation, hostname setting that in theory are the same on both need different modules on Windows.
 - Playbooks aren't directly portable across Windows / Linux.
3. **WinRM** must be setup at a basic level.
 - Ansible uses WinRM on Windows (rather than SSH) as transport.
 - WinRM can be confusing to setup securely!