**Introduction**

Ansible is simple open source automation engine which automates application deployment and configuration management. Ansible is completely agentless which means Ansible works by connecting your nodes through ssh. After connecting to your nodes, Ansible pushes small programs called as “Ansible Modules”. Ansible runs modules on your nodes and removes them when finished. Ansible manages your inventory in simple text files i.e hosts file. Ansible uses playbook to describe automation jobs, and playbook uses very simple language i.e. YAML.

**Summary**

Code: Open Source

Cloud: All

Type: Config Mgmt

Infrastructure: Mutable

Language: Procedural

Architecture: Client-Only

**How Ansible Works**

Ansible works by connecting to your nodes and pushing out small programs, called "Ansible modules" to them. Ansible then executes these modules (over SSH by default), and removes them when finished. The management node in the above picture is the controlling node which controls the entire execution of the playbook. The inventory file provides the list of hosts where the Ansible modules needs to be run and the management node does a SSH connection and executes the small modules on the hosts machine.

