Ansible playbooks/roles often used to complete the specific task which does not require an output. In some cases, you might need to capture the complex command output as results. The output would help to generate the required reports. In some cases, you might require to store configuration backup of the hosts. In this article, we will walk through to capture the output in a variable and display it.

**Environment**

* Ansible Server –**ansible-server**
* Remote hosts – **gpfslinapp1**

**Register Task Output:**

1. Create the playbook to execute the “df” command to check the /boot usage. Use “register” to store the output to a variable.

---

- hosts: all

become: yes

tasks:

- name: Execute /boot usage on Hosts

command: 'df -h /boot'

register: dfboot

2. Run the playbook to see the result. Ensure that “gpfslinapp1” host in the inventory file “lin-servers”.

[linadm@ansible-server playbooks]$ ansible-playbook -i lin-servers df.boot.yaml

PLAY [all] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

TASK [Gathering Facts] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

ok: [gpfslinapp1]

TASK [Execute /boot usage on Hosts] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

changed: [gpfslinapp1]

PLAY RECAP \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

gpfslinapp1 : ok=2 changed=1 unreachable=0 failed=0

[linadm@ansible-server playbooks]$

The playbook ran “df -h /boot” command and register the output to variable “dfroot”.

3. Display the registered output using debug module. stdout keyword is used along with the variable name to display the output.

[linadm@ansible-server playbooks]$ cat df.boot.yaml

---

- hosts: all

become: yes

tasks:

- name: Execute /boot usage on Hosts

command: 'df -h /boot'

register: dfboot

- debug: var=dfboot.stdout

[linadm@ansible-server playbooks]$

4. Repeat the playbook execution to see the difference now.

[linadm@ansible-server playbooks]$ ansible-playbook -i ../lin-servers.1 df.boot.yaml

PLAY [all] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

TASK [Gathering Facts] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

ok: [gpfslinapp1]

TASK [Execute /boot usage on Hosts] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

changed: [gpfslinapp1]

TASK [debug] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

ok: [gpfslinapp1] => {

"dfroot.stdout": "Filesystem Size Used Avail Use% Mounted on\n/dev/sda1 297M 155M 143M 53% /boot"

}

PLAY RECAP \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

gpfslinapp1 : ok=3 changed=1 unreachable=0 failed=0

[linadm@ansible-server playbooks]$

5. If you would like to display the variable output differently, you could replace the “stdout with “stdout\_lines”.

[linadm@ansible-server playbooks]$ cat df.boot.yaml

---

- hosts: all

become: yes

tasks:

- name: Execute /boot usage on Hosts

command: 'df -h /boot'

register: dfboot

- debug: var=dfboot.stdout\_lines

[linadm@ansible-server playbooks]$

6. Re-execute the playbook. Results will display the command output in aligned format.

[linadm@ansible-server playbooks]$ ansible-playbook -i ../lin-servers.1 df.boot.yaml

PLAY [all] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

TASK [Gathering Facts] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

ok: [gpfslinapp1]

TASK [Execute /boot usage on Hosts] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

changed: [gpfslinapp1]

TASK [debug] \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

ok: [gpfslinapp1] => {

"dfboot.stdout\_lines": [

"Filesystem Size Used Avail Use% Mounted on",

"/dev/sda1 297M 155M 143M 53% /boot"

]

}

PLAY RECAP \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

gpfslinapp1 : ok=3 changed=1 unreachable=0 failed=0

[linadm@ansible-server playbooks]$