What are we going to see in this session?

- Let's get started with Ansible
  - Preparing Inventory file
  - Enable SSH password less communication
- Start communicating with your target machines
- Host Key Checking
- Interpreter

Let's get started with Ansible

- So far, we have seen the basics of Ansible and how to install it, lets move further.

- In this session let's setup your inventory file with target server information and start communicating with those machines.

Preparing Inventory file

- Edit [or create] your [hosts] file and update your remote systems details in it.

- Your host files should look like this – either it can be IP or Hostname.

- You can name your Group name as well.

  [ping]

  192.0.2.50

  answeb01

  ansdb01

- Your inventory file is ready now.

Enable SSH password less communication

- Before we get started, it's important to understand how Ansible communicates with remote machines over the SSH protocol.

- Ansible can communicate with machine in two ways.
  - ✓ Using SSH keys.
  - ✓ Using SSH user password.

- If your communication is through SSH key then you need to generate the key from master server and publish it to your remote machines.
  - ✓ ssh-keygen
  - ✓ ssh-copy-id root@servername

- Or you can manually copy the key and paste it into the authorized_keys of remote server.

- If you wish the communication should be over password, it can be achieved by supplying the option [--ask-pass]

Start communicating with your target machines

Lets first do Ping Test :

Now try pinging all your nodes.

✓ [Key based authentication]

  ansible all -m ping

✓ [Password based authentication]

  ansible all -m ping --ask-pass (-k)

✓ Let's run live commands on all of your nodes :

ansible all -a "/bin/echo hello"

Host Key checking

- Ansible has host key checking enabled by default.

- What is host key check ?

- If the remote host is reinstalled and has a different key in [known_hosts], this will result in an error message until corrected.

- Also, host key check will prompt for any new server which is deployed in Infrastructure.

- If you wish to disable this behavior, you can do so by editing ansible.cfg

host_key_checking = False

Interpreter

What is interpreter?

In output you might have noticed a message from all remote machines about interpreter.

What exactly it is ?

- Most Ansible modules are written in Python.

- Hence python required an interpreter [Translator] available in each target machine when it executes the module.

- Ansible will attempt to discover a suitable Python interpreter on each target host the first time when Python module is executed on target host.

How to ignore this message from output ?

You just need to declare the interpreter globally, by adding below line ansible.cfg under [defaults]

interpreter_python = /usr/bin/python3

End of this topic !

Any questions?