Manage Power machines with Ansible

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TOC

Automation

Ansible

From a tool to a platform

Wrapping up



About me

- Working in IT since 2004, mostly in consulting roles
- Ansible user since 2013
- ► EMEA Associate Principal Specialist Solution Architect
- Red Hat Certified Architect (RHCA)



Automation







Many organizations share the same challenge

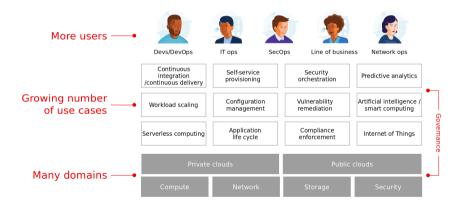
Too many unintegrated, domain-specific tools





Many organizations have a problem

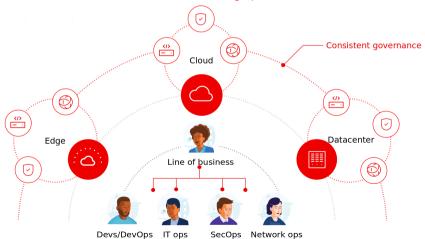
Too many unintegrated, domain-specific tools





Break down silos

Different teams a single platform





Idempotence

Definition

Idempotence is the property of certain operations in mathematics and computer science, that can be applied multiple times without changing the result beyond the initial application.

Idempotent examples:

- X = 100 (always 100)
- $X = X^0$ (always 1)
- echo "TEST" > /root/example

Non-idempotent examples:

- X = X * 2
- echo "TEST" » /root/example



Idempotence - tricky/edge cases

- yum update
- yum install ...
- wget ...
- echo "\$x" > /root/test



Ansible



Ansible

- Open Source
- Mainly push mode (agent-less)
- Infrastructure as Data (in YAML format)
- Very gentle learning curve
- Very readable code
- Collections to support code-reusability
- Ecosystem



Ansible key concepts

- Host: target of the execution
- Group: group of hosts
- Inventory: collection of Hosts and groups of Hosts
- Module: code to control system resources, like services, packages, or files (anything really), or handle executing system commands
- Task: instance of a Module
- ▶ **Role**: way to abstract a collection of tasks that has a specific role and is idempotent
- Playbook: multiple Tasks and Roles that could be idempotent (or not) in a single file
- ▶ **Collection**: multiple Modules and Roles distributed as a single bundle
- Execution Environment: a container containing the ansible executable, the collections, and needed libraries

Inventories

- **static**: human compiled (and maintained) lists
- dynamic: populated at runtime by a script
 - Amazon web Services
 - Azure
 - Digital Ocean
 - Google Cloud Engine
 - OpenStack
 - Many more
 - Bring your own!



Ansible Playbook

```
- hosts: all
become: True
tasks:
  - name: Ensure httpd is installed
    ansible.builtin.package:
      name: httpd
      state: latest
  - name: Ensure httpd is started
    ansible.builtin.service:
      name: httpd
      state: started
```

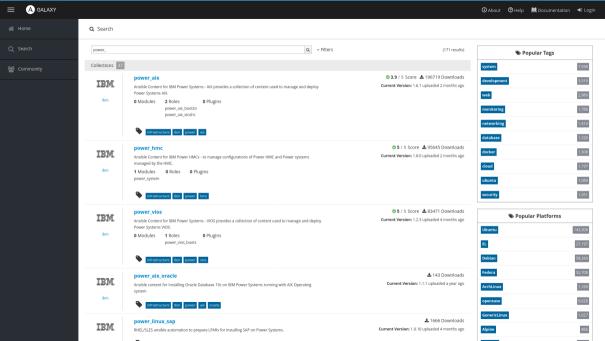
💄 Red Hat

Collections

Collections are a data structure containing automation content:

- Modules
- Playbooks
- Roles
- Plugins
- Documentation
- Tests





Ansible in numbers

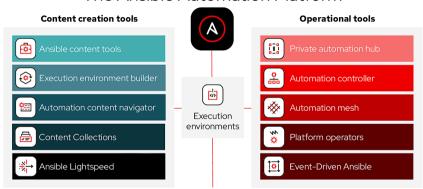
- ▶ **55k+ commits** to the Ansible project
- ▶ **5k+ contributors** to the Ansible project
- ▶ 31k+ repositories on GitHub depend on ansible/ansible
- ▶ 19th on the list of key software engineer skills in 2023¹
- 3k+ customers (Red Hat versions only)



From a tool to a platform



The Ansible Automation Platform



Business Tools and Analytics





Ansible Automation deployment options





Red Hat OpenShift

Red Hat Enterprise Linux 8.6+ x86_64 (physical, virtual)

Self Managed (on-premises or cloud)

Red Hat OpenShift via dedicated Ansible Automation Platform operator (physical, virtual)





On Microsoft Azure marketplace

Customer deployed Managed by Red Hat*



marketplace

On AWS

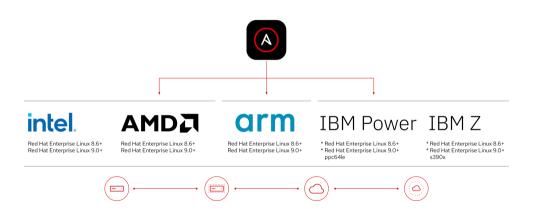
Google Cloud

On Google Cloud marketplace

Customer deployed, Self-managed



Ansible Automation Platform architectures options





Holistic automation for your enterprise

- Create
- Operate
- Consume



Create



Many technologies, different life cycles

How to keep runtime environment, collections, and dependencies aligned?







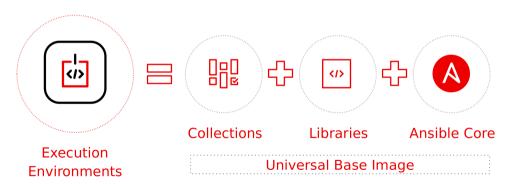


Runtime



Automation Execution Environments

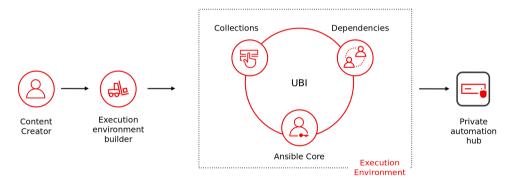
Components needed for automation, packaged in a cloud-native way





Build, create, publish

Development cycle of an automation execution environment





Develop, test, run

How to develop, test and run containerized Ansible content. Scalable Execution Content Automation Playbook **Environments** Creator content navigator Supported



Why is not everything automated?

- Too much time required to automate processes
- Not enough people are able to create automation
- Difficult to find and reuse code

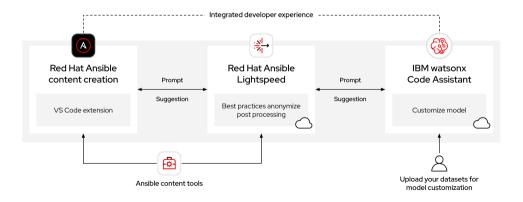


Generative AI has the potential to transform enterprise automation

- ► Enhance productivity: With Al-generated code recommendations that are more accurate, more reliable, and integrated into your automation developers' existing Ansible workflows.
- Expand who can create: By reducing barriers to entry for automation code creation, and empowering automation SMEs with basic coding knowledge to translate their expertise into clean, compliant YAML code for Ansible Playbooks.
- Extend trust and compliance: With an automation code base that adheres to accepted Ansible best practices, options to customize data models, and significant data safeguards in place.



Ansible Lightspeed with IBM Watsonx Code Assistant

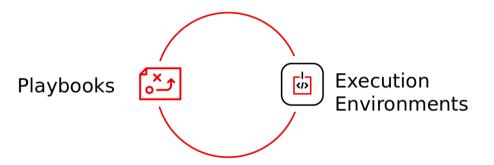




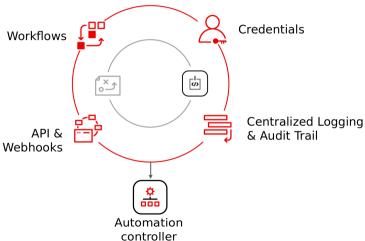
Operate



Components of Automation



Anatomy of Automation Operation





Automate event workflow

RECEIVE EVENT

- Work with many different sources of events
- Send important events to Event-Driven Ansible

DECIDE ON RESPONSE

- Known problem identified
- Automated resolution triggered

RESPOND AUTOMATICALLY

- Outage incident created
- Support team notified
- Remediation executed

WORK ACROSS MULTI-DOMAIN AND MULTI-VENDOR IT OPERATIONS

Work flexibly and well with multi-domain and multi-vendor monitoring and other solutions across the event driven architecture with appropriate approvals, controls and awareness



Key building blocks in EDA



Sources

All the sources of event data you want to use



Rules

What you will create using Event-Driven Ansible



Actions

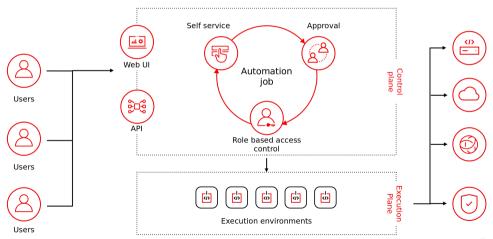
When a condition or event is met, the Ansible Rulebook executes



Consume



Full architecture





Wrappingup



Wrapping up

- Automation is key to simplify and optimize IT operations
- A single automation platform will provide more value, by being shared
- An automation platform requires way more than just an automation tool
- Ansible has a full ecosystem that allows it to be a full automation platform



Thank you

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