



The Checkmk Ansible Collection

Automate all the things!



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Who am I?

Who uses some form of automation?

Who uses Ansible?



@_workchronicles

workchronicles.com

You want to **roll out agents** to a **bunch of new servers** and you have to **copy and paste** the same **setups and commands** over and over again.

You want to provision many
Checkmk sites at once and you
know it will take you all week.

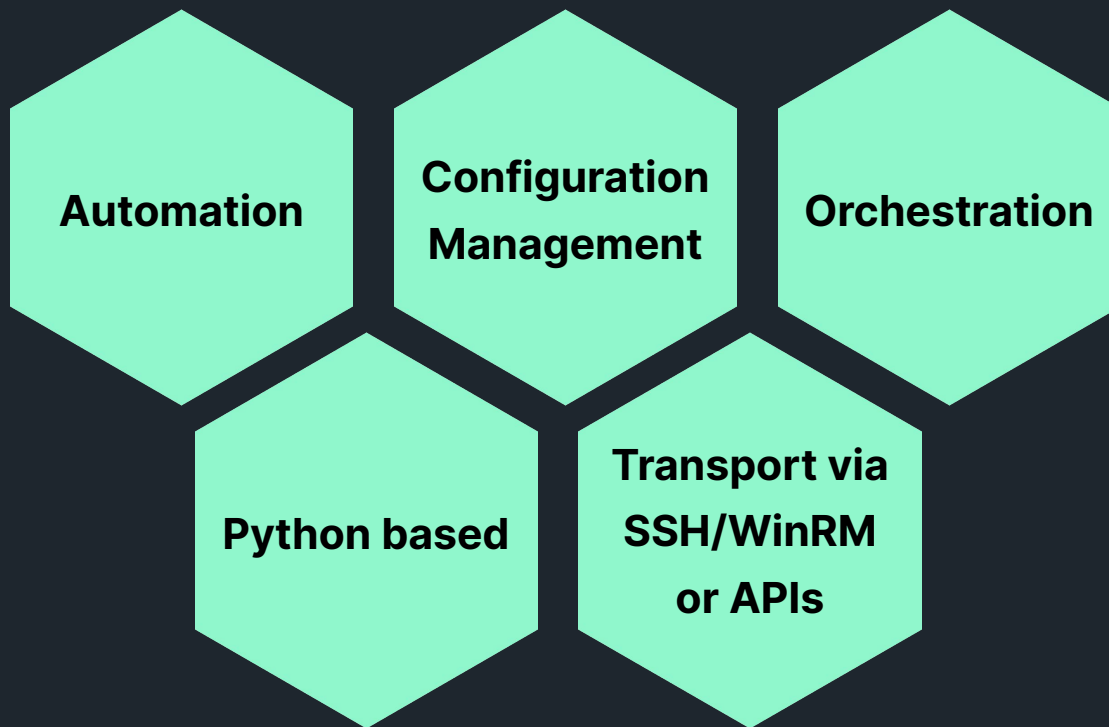
Ansible

What it is, what it does.

Ansible



Ansible





Operating Systems

- Linux
- Windows
- UNIX
- Solaris
- ...



Hardware

- Network
- Storage
- PDU
- ...



Cloud & Hypervisor

- VMware
- Proxmox
- oVirt
- AWS
- Azure
- GCP
- ...



Applications

- Netbox
- SAP
- MySQL
- Checkmk
- ...

Ansible Collections



Modular extensions to Ansible Core but independently developed.



Packaged for easy installation. Available on the Galaxy or GitHub.



Think of it as a library.

Introducing:

The Checkmk Ansible Collection

You wrote it on a post-it.
We listened.

Checkmk - Areas of investment





Contents

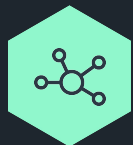
It's bigger on the inside.



Playbooks



Roles



Modules

Playbooks



In general

- A recipe or step-by-step guide
- Starting point of automation
- Written in YAML

In the Checkmk Ansible Collection

- Examples and inspiration
- Demonstration of collection features

Roles



In general

- Supercharged playbooks
- Modular and flexible
- Describe the desired state of e.g., a server

In the Checkmk Ansible Collection

- Agent
 - Initial installation
 - Registrations
 - Supports all relevant Linux distributions
- Server
 - Initial installation
 - Site management
 - Site updates
 - Supports all relevant Linux distributions

Modules



In general

- Perform a specific task on the managed host
 - e.g, copy a file or restart a service
- Are called in playbooks and roles

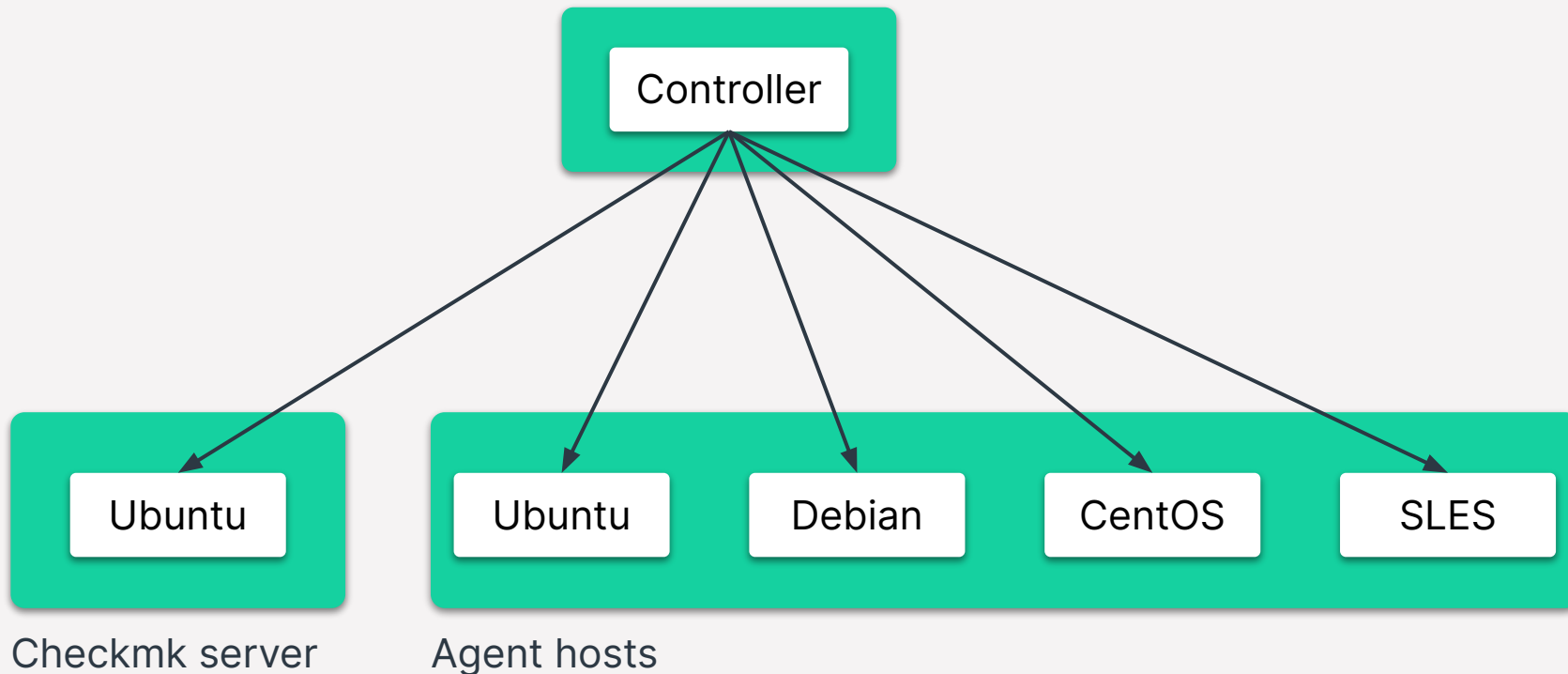
In the Checkmk Ansible Collection

- Interact with Checkmk REST API
- Do specific actions in Checkmk
 - e.g., create a folder or change a host's attributes
- Find a full listing in the README

Demo Time!

What could possibly go wrong?

Demo Environment



Demo Inventory



```
[servers]
server ansible_host=192.168.56.9

[agents]
ubuntu ansible_host=192.168.56.19
debian ansible_host=192.168.56.29
centos ansible_host=192.168.56.39
suse ansible_host=192.168.56.49
```

Demo Playbook



```
- name: "Set up Checkmk Servers."
  hosts: servers
  tasks:
    - name: "Install Checkmk Server."
      ansible.builtin.include_role:
        name: checkmk.general.server
- name: "Set up Checkmk Agents."
  hosts: agents
  tasks:
    - name: "Install Checkmk Agent."
      ansible.builtin.include_role:
        name: checkmk.general.agent
```

Demo Playbook



```
- name: "Create rules."
  checkmk.general.rule:
    server_url: "{{ server_url }}"
    site: "{{ checkmk_site }}"
    automation_user: "{{ checkmk_user }}"
    automation_secret: "{{ checkmk_pass }}"
    ruleset: "{{ item.ruleset }}"
    rule: "{{ item.rule }}"
    state: "present"
  loop: "{{ checkmk_rules }}"
  run_once: true
  delegate_to: localhost
```

```
robin:ansible-collection-talk/ (main) $ ansible-playbook -i inventory/hosts.ini playbooks/conference.yml
```

```
[15:26:52]
```


Statistics

Because nerds love stats.



37+

Releases

14+

Contributors

60+

GitHub Stars

2000+

Commits



To boldly go...

What is our vision for this community project?



Empowerment



Coverage



Guidance

The pioneers



Edgxxar

diademiemi

ogaida

msekania

muehlings

mto79

sscmh

tonk

neffs

darrindg91

lupus-
Animus

flybyray

wrt54g

shock0572



I'm in, how can I help?

Everything helps!



GitHub Issues (Report a bug, suggest a feature)



Pull Requests (Bug fixes, features, documentation)

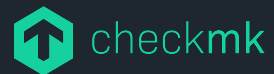


Reach out (on GitHub, on the forum)

Please **do** try this at home!

Thank you!

Vielen Dank!



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Resources

What's where?

- ◆ Ansible Collection Repository: <https://github.com/Checkmk/ansible-collection-checkmk.general>
- ◆ Ansible Galaxy: <https://galaxy.ansible.com/checkmk/general>
- ◆ Forum: <https://forum.checkmk.com/tag/ansible>
- ◆ Talk Repository: <https://github.com/robin-checkmk/cmkkonf9-talk>