Top 3 F5 BIG-IP and Ansible Use Cases

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Gathering Facts
Gathering Facts

Gathering facts is the first thing you should do when starting your automation journey.

- Allows gathering of information about your environment
- Provides source of truth for your current network state
- Provides variables that can be used in other playbooks
Gathering Facts

- hosts: all
  gather_facts: False
  connection: local

tasks:
  - name: Collect BIG-IP facts
    bigip_facts:
      server: "{{ inventory_hostname }}"
      include: device
Gathering Facts
Making a Change
Making a Change

Making a change is the next step in your automation journey with F5 and Ansible.

- Add nodes to the load balancer
- Add nodes to pools
- Add vips to pools
Making a Change

```yaml
- hosts: all
  gather_facts: False
  connection: local

tasks:
- name: Add node
  bigip_node:
    server: "{{ inventory_hostname }}"
    state: "present"
    partition: "Common"
    host: "{{ host_ip }}"
    name: "{{ member_name }}"
    monitors:
      - /Common/icmp
  validate_certs: false
```
Making a Change
Deploying an iApp
Deploying an iApp

The final step in your journey in network automation with Ansible and F5 is the ability to deploy full stacks for your applications using templates.

- Allows you to build full stacks for your applications
- Creates wholesale changes that are then revision controlled inside of your source of truth
Deploying an iApp (snippet)

```yaml
---
- hosts: all
  gather_facts: False
  connection: local

tasks:
  - name: Check {{ appsvcsvs_ver }} isn't already there
    connection: local
    gather_facts: no
    hosts: bigips
    tasks:
      - name: Get the templates
        uri:
          url: https://{{inventory_hostname}}/mgmt/tm/cloud/templates/iapp/
          validate_certs: no
          return_content: yes
          register: iapps_list
---
```
Deploying an iApp