10 Things I Hate About You: Manage Windows like Linux with Ansible

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Who am I?
Not SSH

- WinRM (HTTP-based remote shell protocol)
- Non-interactive logon
- Different connection plugin
- Microsoft OpenSSH?
DEMO: WinRM Connectivity
Powershell

- Unlike Python, "just there" on modern Windows
- We can use .NET
- Powershell 3+, Windows 7/Server 2008+
- Access to the DSC universe via win_dsc
App Install/Maintenance

- win_chocolatey!
- win_package
- NOT win_msi
DEMO: win_chocolatey module
Reboots, oh the reboots...

- `win_reboot` action makes managed reboots trivial
- `wait_for_connection` is just the second half
Windows Update

- Basic, synchronous updates
- Uses configured source (Windows Update/WSUS)
- (new in 2.5): transparent SYSTEM + auto reboot
- win_updates:
  category_names: CriticalUpdates
  reboot: yes # new in 2.5!
  blacklist: # new in 2.5!
  - KB4056892
IIS

- Modules for managing websites, webapps, apppools, virtual dirs, etc.
- win_iis_website:
  name: Default Web Site
  physical_path: C:\Inetpub\WWWRoot
- win_iis_webapp:
  site: Default Web Site
  name: OrchardCMS
  physical_path: C:\Inetpub\WWWRoot\Orchard
Registry

- Manage individual key/value (win_regedit)
- Manage idempotent bulk import (win_regmerge)
- `win_regedit`:
  
  path: HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows
  
  name: SomeValueName
  
  value: 0x12345

- `win_regmerge`:
  
  path: ComplexRegData.reg
Services

- win_service looks/acts like Linux service module
- Provides fine control over complex service behavior config in Windows SCM (who/what/when/how)
# ensure IIS is running
- win_service:
  name: W3Svc
  state: running

# ensure firewall service is stopped/disabled
- win_service:
  name: MpsSvc
  state: stopped
  start_mode: disabled
Domains

- Windows' way of doing enterprise identity
- Makes auth complex
- Ansible can do "throwaway" domains easily
- Promote/depromote DCs
- Joining/leaving domain is simple
- Manage basic domain objects
Domains

# create a domain
- win_domain:
  dns_domain_name: mydomain.local
  safe_mode_password: ItsASecret

# add a domain user
- win_domain_user:
  name: somebody
  upn: somebody@mydomain.local
  groups:
    - Domain Admins
DEMO: Domain Join/Unjoin
ACLs

- More granular than Linux permissions
- SDDL?!
- More like SELinux ACLs
- win_owner:
  path: C:\Program Files\SomeApp
  user: Administrator
  recurse: true

- win_acl:
  path: C:\Temp
  user: Users
  rights: ReadAndExecute,Write,Delete
  inherit: ContainerInherit,ObjectInherit
Wrapup
Questions?
THANK YOU