Installing FileMaker Server on Ubuntu using Ansible

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Who am I?

- Former school teacher and science educator
- FileMaker developer since BGH
- Extensive experience with FileMaker integration
- Freelance developer

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Installing FileMaker Server with Ansible

- Introduction to Ansible
- Demo
- Ansible script inspection
- What else can we do?
- Q & A

What is Ansible?

> “Ansible is Simple IT Automation”
>
> - Ansible website

What is Ansible?

> “Ansible is an open-source software provisioning, configuration management, and application-deployment tool enabling infrastructure as code.”
>
> - Wikipedia

What is Ansible?

- Written in Python
- Use YAML to create inventories, roles, templates etc
- All of the above are combined into playbooks
- A playbook performs the tasks in the roles on the (generally) remote server(s) specified in the inventory

What is Ansible?

- Ansible can only manage servers it explicitly knows about
- Agentless - nothing needs to be installed on the servers to be managed with everything undertaken via SSH
- Idempotent - you will always get the same result without side effects
- Declarative - you define the desired sate of the machine in steps which fulfil this

Demo

What else can we do?

- Interact with files using the FileMaker Data API
- Install other applications we need, e.g. Dropbox
- Install other scripts, e.g. shell scripts, plugins etc, copy FM files onto server
- Use fmsadmin to modify server configuration, open / close / remove files
- Configure multiple servers simultaneously
- Automate the use of the data migration tool

Questions?

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Resources

- Ansible website: https://www.ansible.com/
- How Ansible works: https://www.ansible.com/overview/how-ansible-works
- Playbook used in demo: https://bit.ly/fms-ansible
- Connecting To The FileMaker Data API Using Ansible:
  https://bit.ly/dapi-ansible

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