



DRUPALCAMP
OTTAWA

#DCO2019

AUTOMATE ALL THE THINGS!

Christopher Gervais - @ergonlogic



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consensus ENTERPRISES

- ★ Veteran open source programmers and sysadmins
- ★ Specializing in **Drupal™**  and  **ÆGIR**
- ★ Experts in end-to-end application lifecycle
- ★ Focus on social enterprises, non-profits, and public sector

Some of our Partnerships



What we'll discuss

A brief history of cloud computing

How did we get into this mess?

How does Ansible support an *infrastructure-as-code* strategy?

Components and modules and providers; oh my!

Principles and Practices of *infrastructure-as-code*

Why should we care?

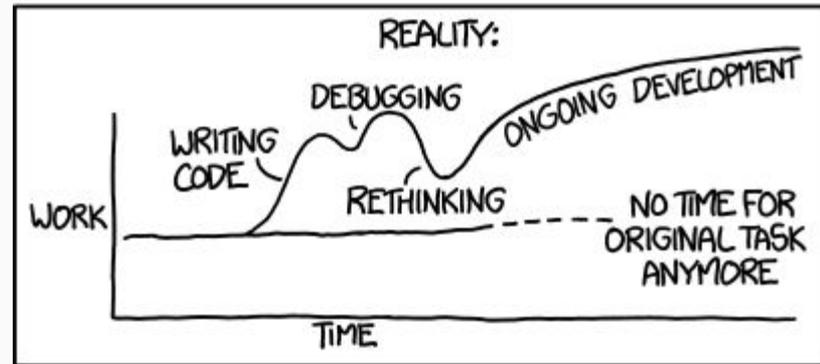
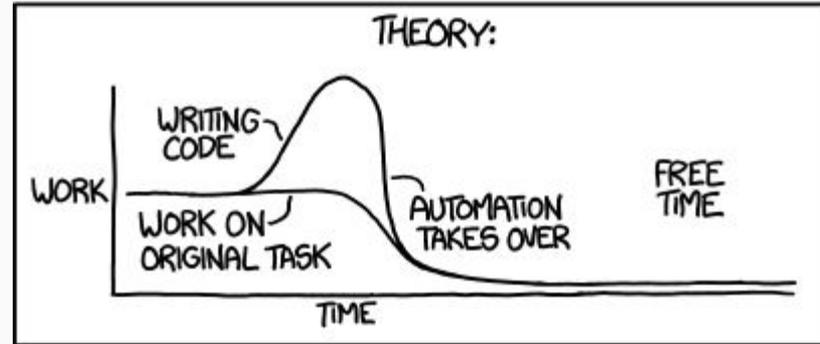
Putting it all together

Demo time!

XKCD

... because, somehow, a webcomic provides the most succinct descriptions of the reality of automation.

"I SPEND A LOT OF TIME ON THIS TASK.
I SHOULD WRITE A PROGRAM AUTOMATING IT!"



You can never have too much XKCD!

HOW LONG CAN YOU WORK ON MAKING A ROUTINE TASK MORE EFFICIENT BEFORE YOU'RE SPENDING MORE TIME THAN YOU SAVE?
(ACROSS FIVE YEARS)

HOW OFTEN YOU DO THE TASK

	50/DAY	5/DAY	DAILY	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	YEARLY
1 SECOND	1 DAY	2 HOURS	30 MINUTES	4 MINUTES	1 MINUTE	5 SECONDS
5 SECONDS	5 DAYS	12 HOURS	2 HOURS	21 MINUTES	5 MINUTES	25 SECONDS
30 SECONDS	4 WEEKS	3 DAYS	12 HOURS	2 HOURS	30 MINUTES	2 MINUTES
1 MINUTE	8 WEEKS	6 DAYS	1 DAY	4 HOURS	1 HOUR	5 MINUTES
5 MINUTES	9 MONTHS	4 WEEKS	6 DAYS	21 HOURS	5 HOURS	25 MINUTES
30 MINUTES		6 MONTHS	5 WEEKS	5 DAYS	1 DAY	2 HOURS
1 HOUR		10 MONTHS	2 MONTHS	10 DAYS	2 DAYS	5 HOURS
6 HOURS				2 MONTHS	2 WEEKS	1 DAY
1 DAY					8 WEEKS	5 DAYS

HOW MUCH TIME YOU SHAVE OFF

A Brief history of Cloud Computing

Automate All the Things!

A brief history of cloud computing

- **Time-sharing**
(government/academic)



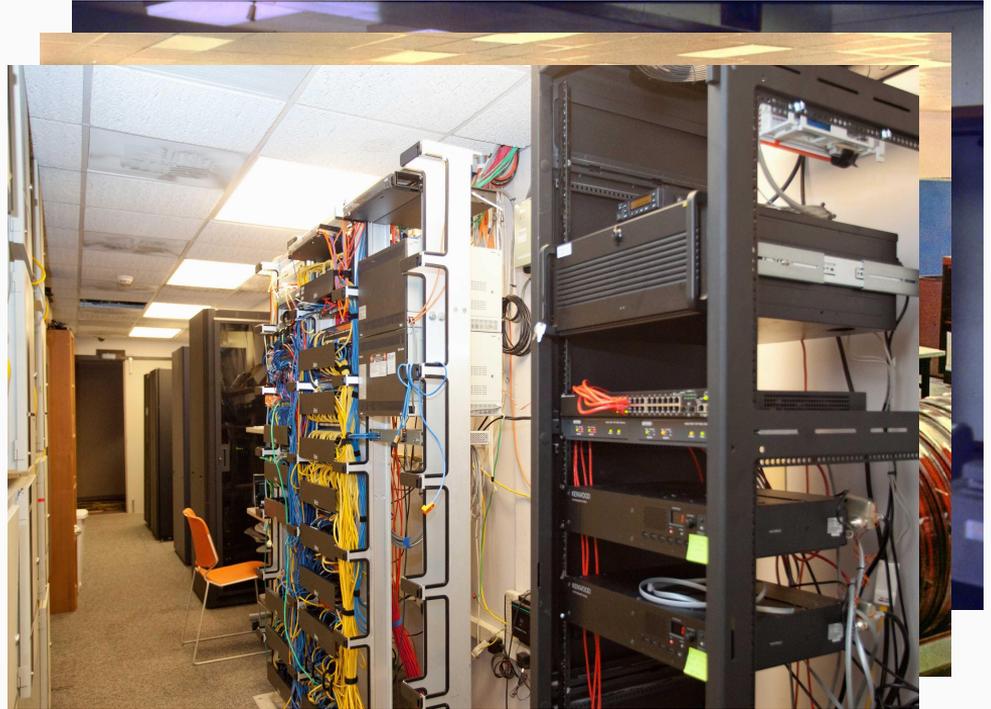
A brief history of cloud computing

- Time-sharing
(government/academic)
- **Mainframes**
(centralized/institutional)



A brief history of cloud computing

- Time-sharing
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- Mainframes
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- **Server rooms**
(distributed/on-premise)



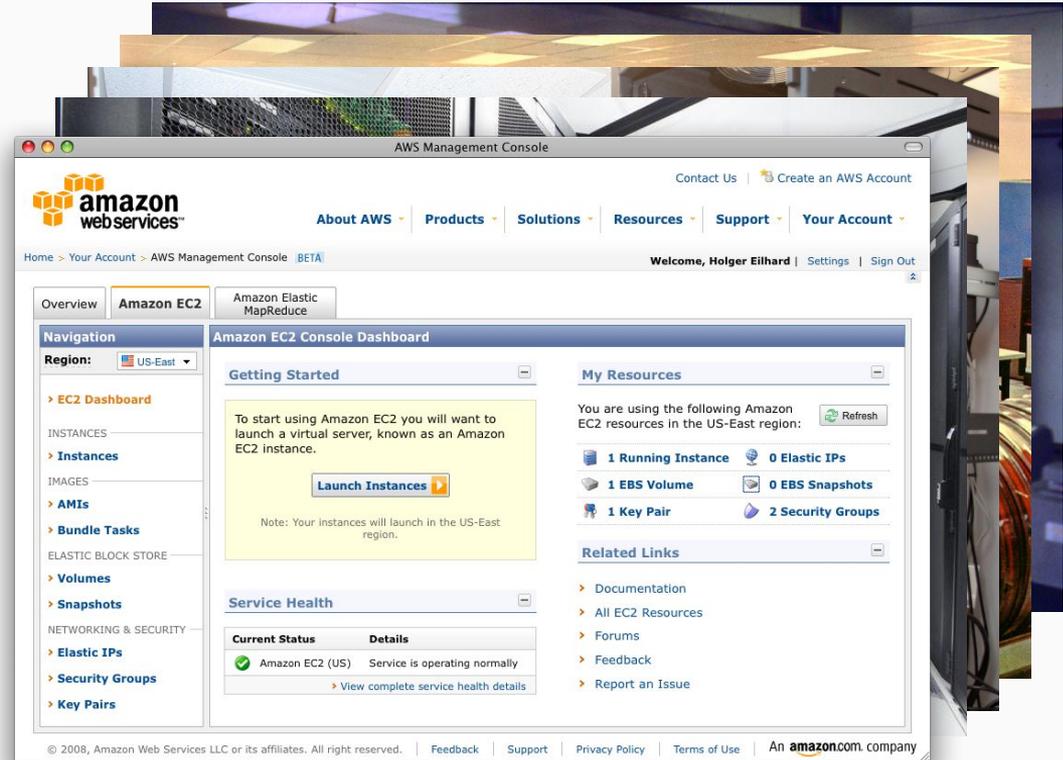
A brief history of cloud computing

- Time-sharing
(government/academic)
- Mainframes
(centralized/institutional)
- Server rooms
(distributed/on-premise)
- **Datacenters**
(co-location/hosted)



A brief history of cloud computing

- Time-sharing
(government/academic)
- Mainframes
(centralized/institutional)
- Server rooms
(distributed/on-premise)
- Datacenters
(co-location/hosted)
- Cloud
(utility computing)



The era of cloud computing

Benefits	Challenges
Scalability	Controlling costs

The era of cloud computing

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Flexibility	Increased complexity

The era of cloud computing

Benefits	Challenges
Scalability	Controlling costs
Flexibility	Increased complexity
Automation	Scarce expertise

Principles and Practices of *infrastructure-as-code*

Automate All the Things!

Infrastructure-as-code Practices

- Define resources in code

(avoid snowflake servers)

```
1
2
3 - name: Create Linode VMs.
4   # Only create VMs that aren't already in our
5   # that can be changed after creation are hand
6   # Ref.: http://docs.ansible.com/ansible/linod
7   linode:
8     name: "{{ item.key }}"
9     plan: "{{ item.value.plan | default('1') }}"
10    datacenter: "{{ item.value.datacenter | def
11    distribution: "{{ item.value.distro | defau
12    ssh_pub_key: "{{ lookup('file', '~/ssh/id_
13    wait: yes
14    state: "{{ item.value.state | default(linod
15    when: cached_linodes[item.key] is not defined
16    with_dict: "{{ cloud.linode }}"
17
18
```

Infrastructure-as-code Practices

- Define resources in code
(avoid snowflake servers)
- **Keep documentation inline**
(self-documented systems)

```
1
2
3 - name: Create Linode VMs.
4 # Only create VMs that aren't already in our
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6 # Ref.: http://docs.ansible.com/ansible/linode
7 linode:
8   name: "{{ item.key }}"
9   plan: "{{ item.value.plan | default('1') }}"
10  datacenter: "{{ item.value.datacenter | default('us-east-1') }}"
11  distribution: "{{ item.value.distro | default('ubuntu1204') }}"
12  ssh_pub_key: "{{ lookup('file', '~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub') }}"
13  wait: yes
14  state: "{{ item.value.state | default('present') }}"
15  when: cached_linodes[item.key] is not defined
16  with_dict: "{{ cloud.linode }}"
17
18
```

Infrastructure-as-code Practices

- Define resources in code
(avoid snowflake servers)
- Keep documentation inline
(self-documented systems)
- **Version-control everything**
(audit trail and reproducible builds)

```
commit 8d93818e4b6a4ade45cb9d2447d939754b6b11e4
Author: Christopher Gervais <chris@ergonlogic.c
Date: Tue Aug 8 21:18:49 2017 -0400

    Use a variable to set default Linode plan (nod

commit 78456f2b573aa59b54ba87e0cc72b00f1d1b5a2a
Author: Christopher Gervais <chris@ergonlogic.c
Date: Tue Aug 8 21:17:07 2017 -0400

    Change name key to be more descriptive.

commit 6c519e6e908567fe1d5d39d10edbe9a7e13e25e8
Author: Christopher Gervais <chris@ergonlogic.c
Date: Tue Aug 8 21:15:20 2017 -0400

    Initial commit.
```

Infrastructure-as-code Practices

- Define resources in code
(avoid snowflake servers)
- Keep documentation inline
(self-documented systems)
- Version-control everything
(audit trail and reproducible builds)
- **Make small changes**
(easier rollbacks)

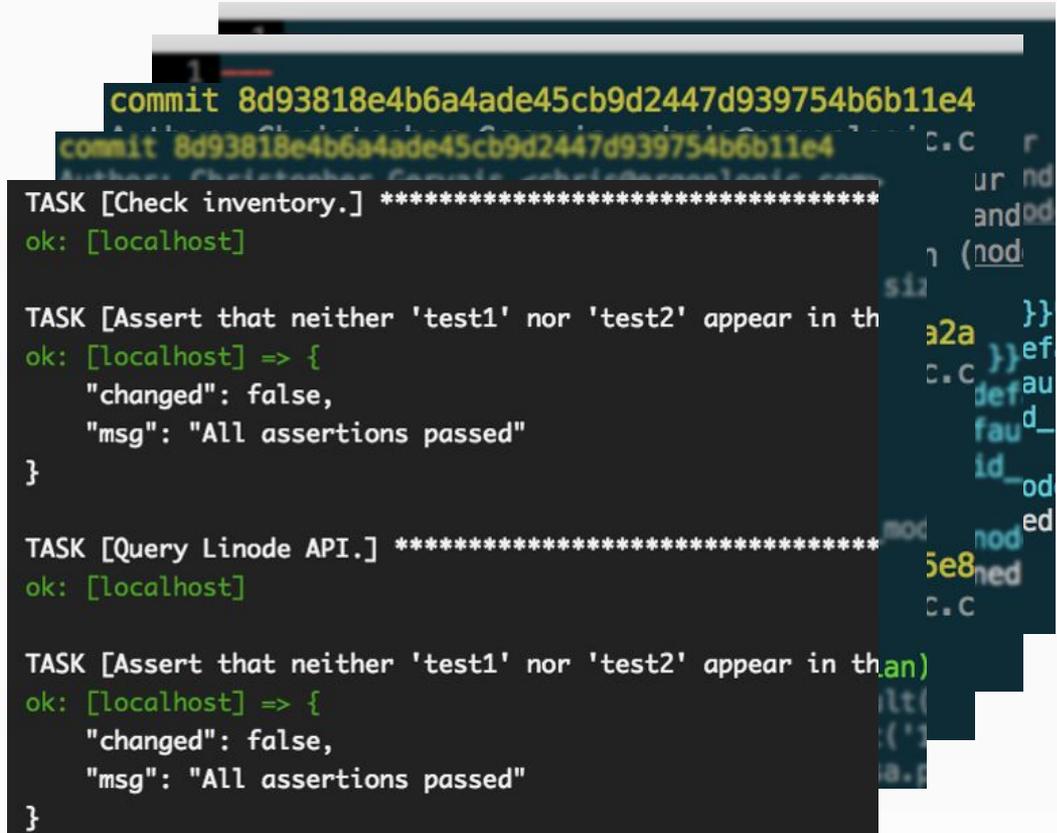
```
commit 8d93818e4b6a4ade45cb9d2447d939754b6b11e4
commit 8d93818e4b6a4ade45cb9d2447d939754b6b11e4
Author: Christopher Gervais <chris@ergonlogic.com>
Date: Tue Aug 8 21:18:49 2017 -0400

    Use a variable to set default Linode plan (VM size)

diff --git a/create.yml b/create.yml
index 4147637..55e7192 100644
--- a/create.yml
+++ b/create.yml
@@ -6,7 +6,7 @@
 # Ref.: http://docs.ansible.com/ansible/linode_mod
 linode:
   name: "{{ item.name }}"
-  plan: "{{ item.value.plan | default('1') }}"
+  plan: "{{ item.value.plan | default(linode_plan) }}"
   datacenter: "{{ item.value.datacenter | default('ams') }}"
   distribution: "{{ item.value.distro | default('ubuntu12.04') }}"
   ssh_pub_key: "{{ lookup('file', '~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub') | quote }}"
```

Infrastructure-as-code Practices

- Define resources in code
(avoid snowflake servers)
- Keep documentation inline
(self-documented systems)
- Version-control everything
(audit trail and reproducible builds)
- Make small changes
(easier rollbacks)
- **Test continuously**
(fail early)



```
commit 8d93818e4b6a4ade45cb9d2447d939754b6b11e4
commit 8d93818e4b6a4ade45cb9d2447d939754b6b11e4
TASK [Check inventory.] *****
ok: [localhost]

TASK [Assert that neither 'test1' nor 'test2' appear in th
ok: [localhost] => {
  "changed": false,
  "msg": "All assertions passed"
}

TASK [Query Linode API.] *****
ok: [localhost]

TASK [Assert that neither 'test1' nor 'test2' appear in th
ok: [localhost] => {
  "changed": false,
  "msg": "All assertions passed"
}
```

How does Ansible support an *infrastructure-as-code* strategy?

Automate All the Things!

How does Ansible support an *infrastructure-as-code* strategy?

Ansible allows us to define infrastructure components in a simple YAML syntax.

These files can, in turn, be committed into version control, and thus handled as software.

```
- name: Create a Linode server.  
  linode:  
    name: linode-test1  
    plan: 1  
    datacenter: 2  
    distribution: 99  
    password: 'secureRootPassword'  
    private_ip: yes  
    ssh_pub_key: 'ssh-rsa qwerty'  
    swap: 768  
    wait: yes  
    wait_timeout: 600  
    state: present
```

Components

Custom *infrastructure-as-code* configuration depends on Ansible, roles and modules, which in turn depend on various Python libraries.



Ansible

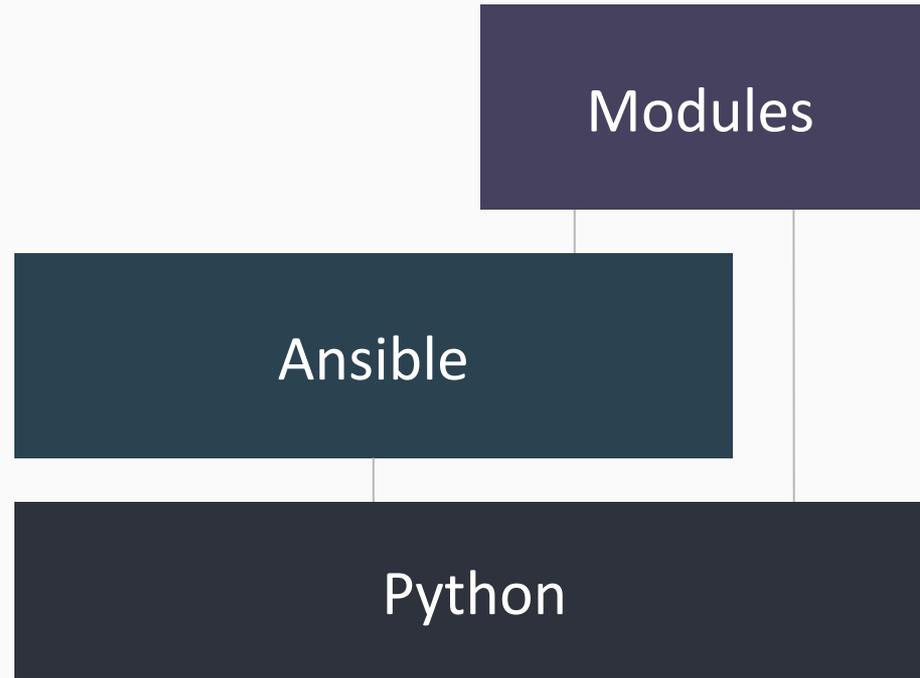
Components

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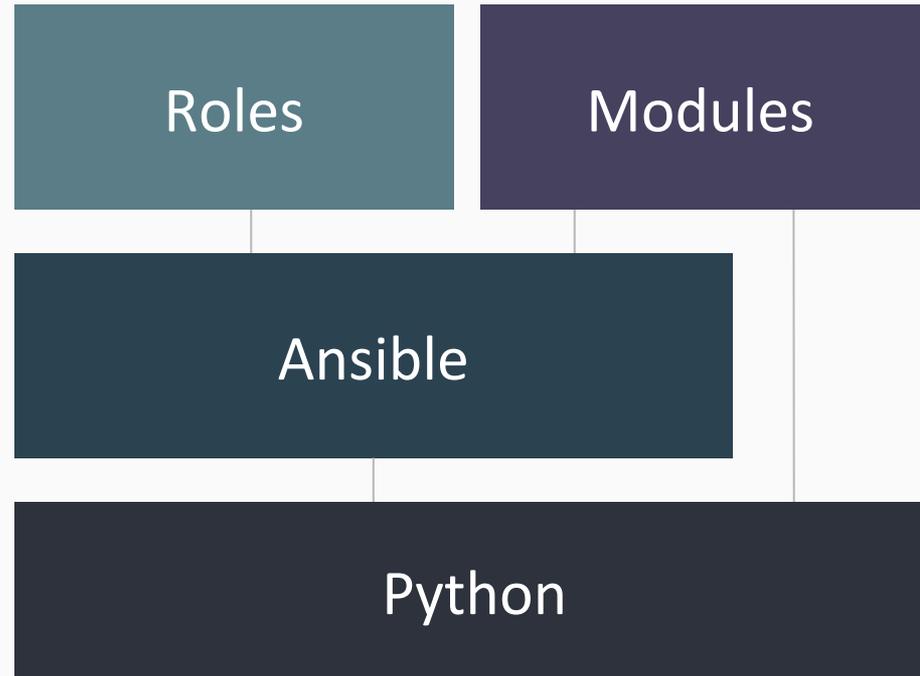
Components

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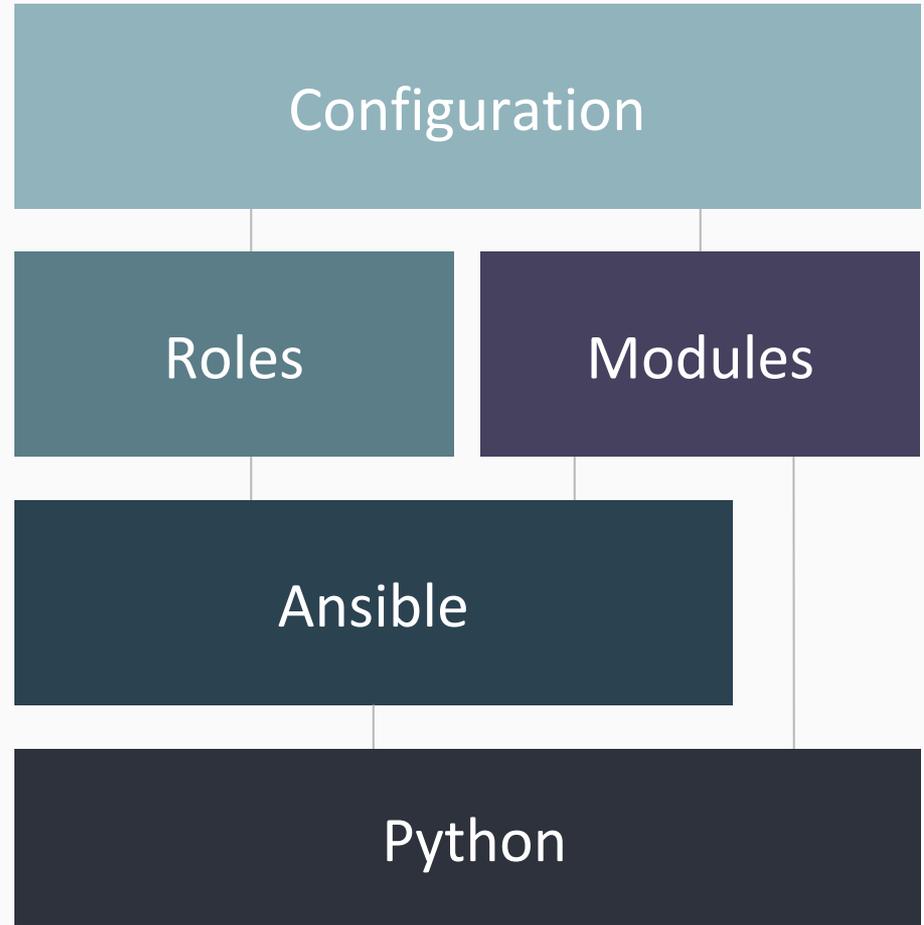
Components

Custom *infrastructure-as-code* configuration depends on Ansible, roles and modules, which in turn depend on various Python libraries.



Components

Custom *infrastructure-as-code* configuration depends on Ansible, roles and modules, which in turn depend on various Python libraries.



Providers vs. Modules

What's the difference?

Providers: A cloud provider is (generally) a company that offers components of cloud computing (e.g. , IaaS).

Modules: These task plugins interact with providers' APIs to create and manage various resources.

920+

That's how many different cloud modules Ansible supports out-of-the-box. These range across 40+ cloud providers, from Amazon to XenServer.

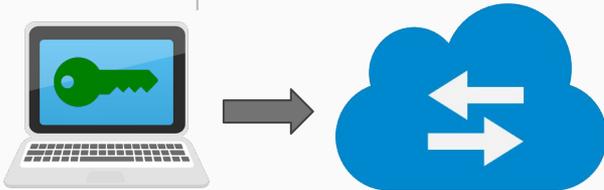
Authentication and Authorization



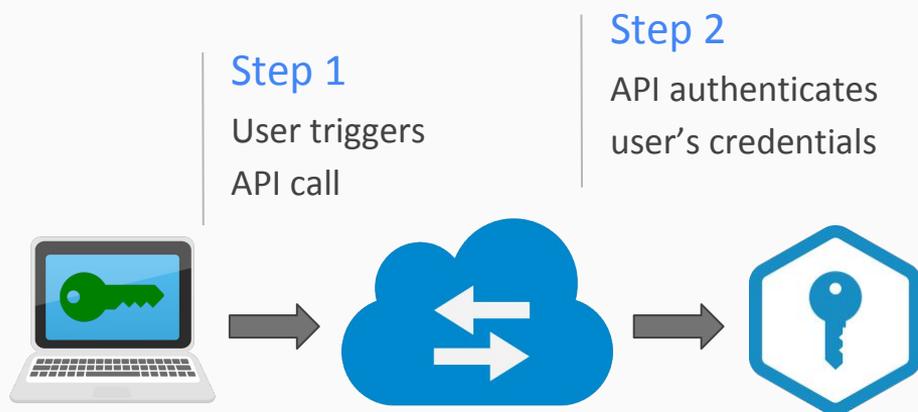
Authentication and Authorization

Step 1

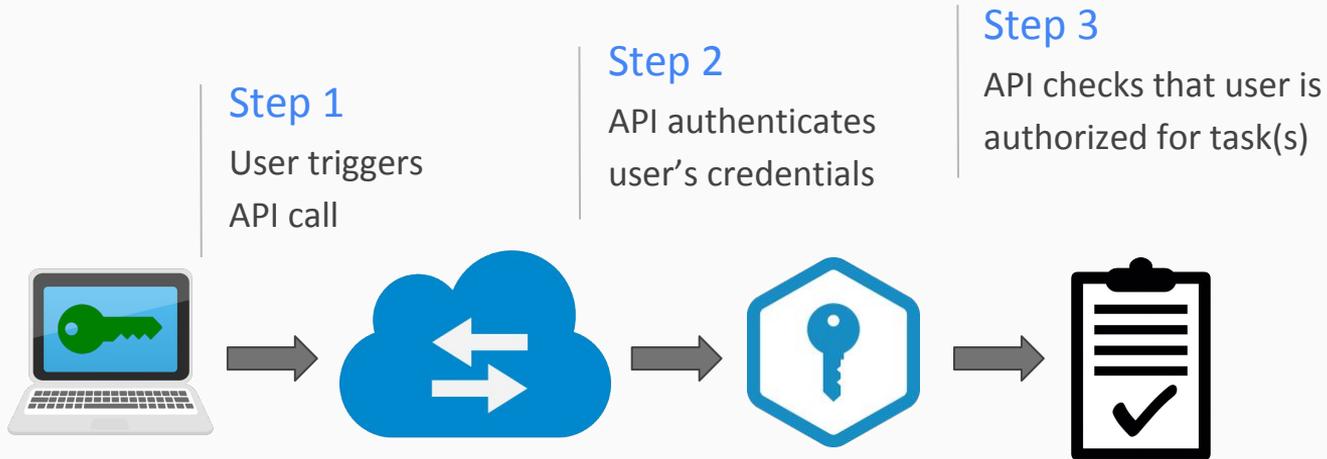
User triggers
API call



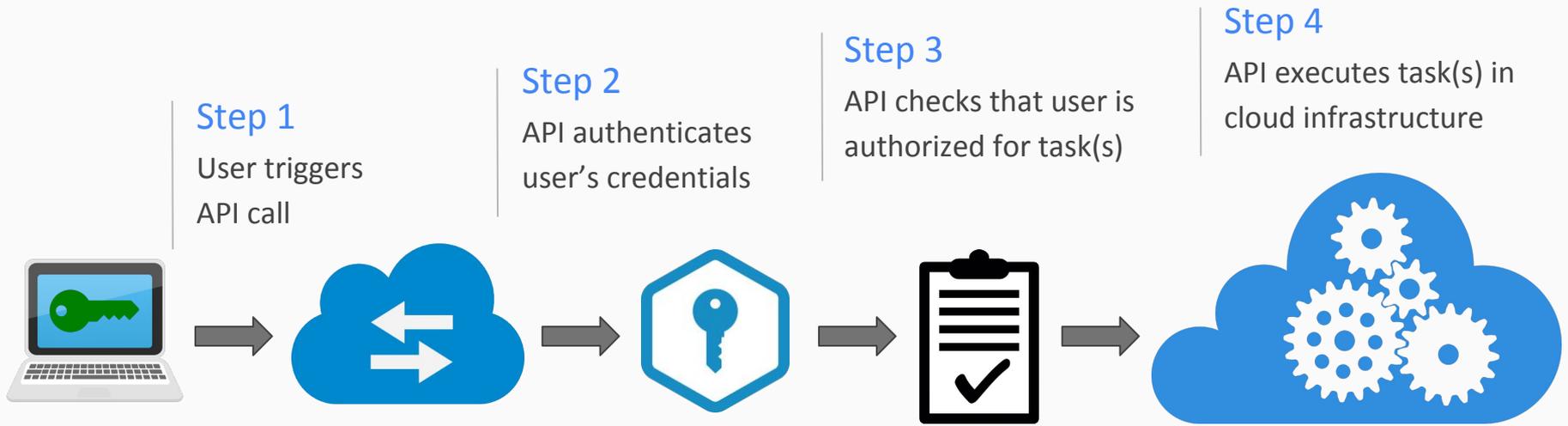
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Putting It All Together

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QUESTIONS?

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