



# Riders on the Cloud

provisionner de l'infrastructure AWS à 9500 km de Lille pour Kiabi

# Hi, I'm Julien



star wars 🖖 & dragon ball 🌟, 70's rock music lover 🎸

freelance solution & software architect 🏢

whale lover 🐳

trainer & teacher 🎓 @ univ-lille

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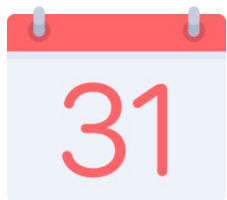


**This talk about a  
work in progress**



**But we already  
learned a lot**





since 1978



~ 500 stores



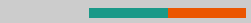
€ 2 billion



20 million  
customers

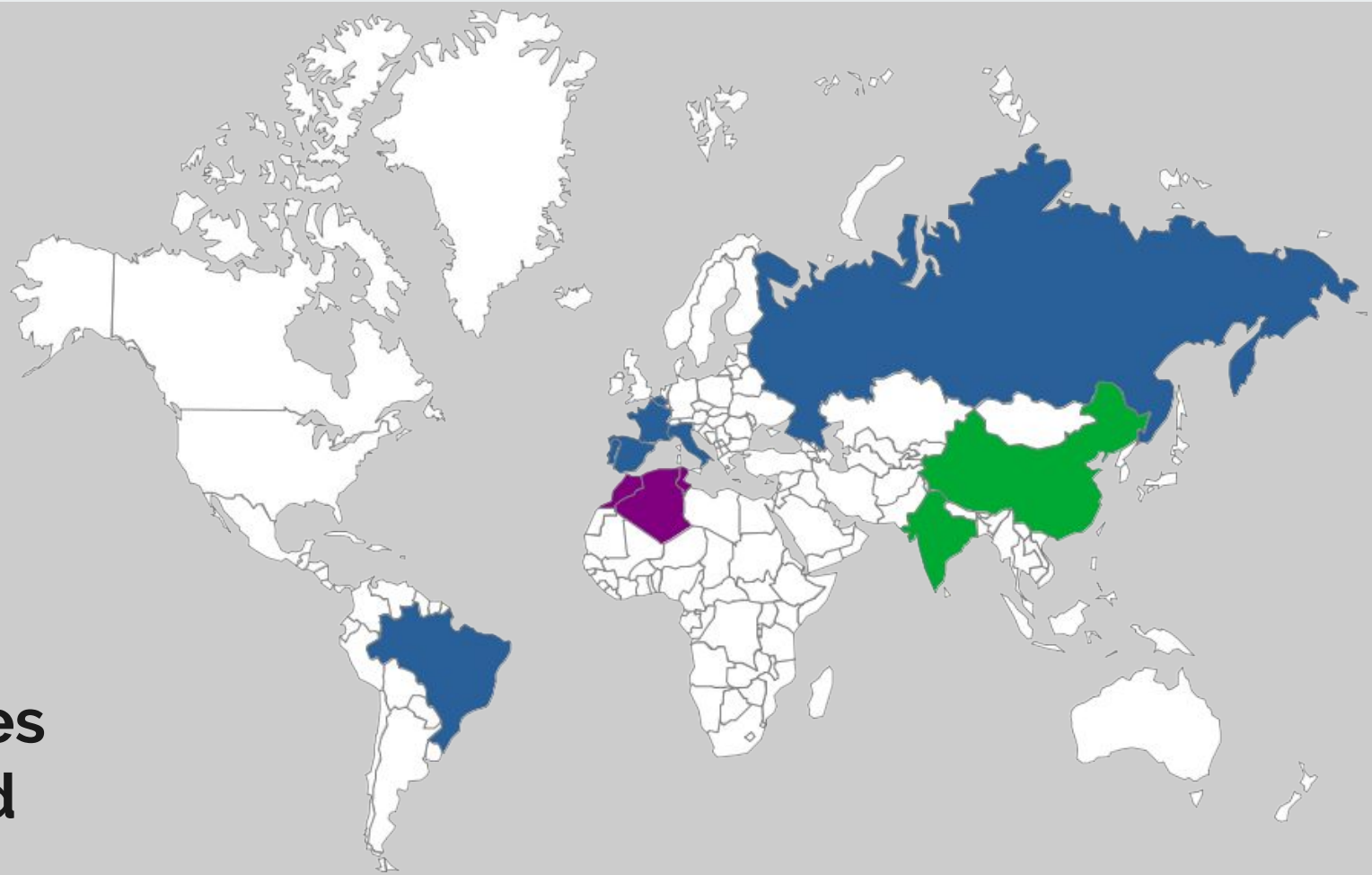


#2 France great  
place to work  
2018



- stores
- suppliers
- franchises

Kiabi rules  
the world



Hi, I'm Ken



I work for Kiabi IT Hong-Kong

I develop apps for Kiabi suppliers

Those apps are mainly used in China and India

(I'm a real person)


Apps, APIs & Databases are deployed in Kiabi european data-centers (Lille area)

No on-premise infrastructure for Kiabi IT Hong-Kong

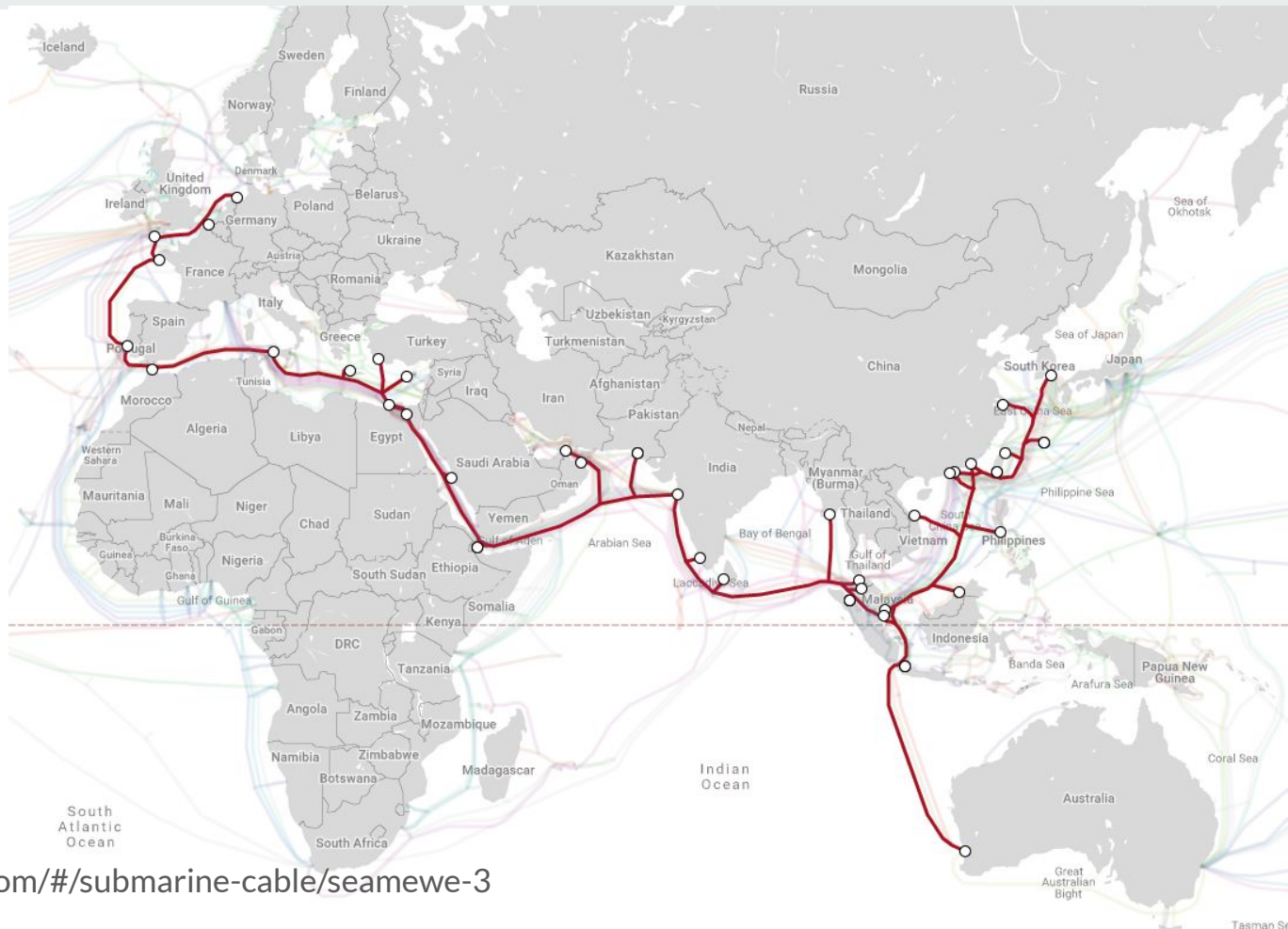
Provisionning infrastructure for Ken takes weeks :

- ticket-based workflow
- different teams involved
- it's 10PM at HK right now



 This is probably the real path  
Ken's IP packets take

(this cable is 36000 km long)



<https://www.submarinecablemap.com/#/submarine-cable/seamewe-3>

# Kiabi computers



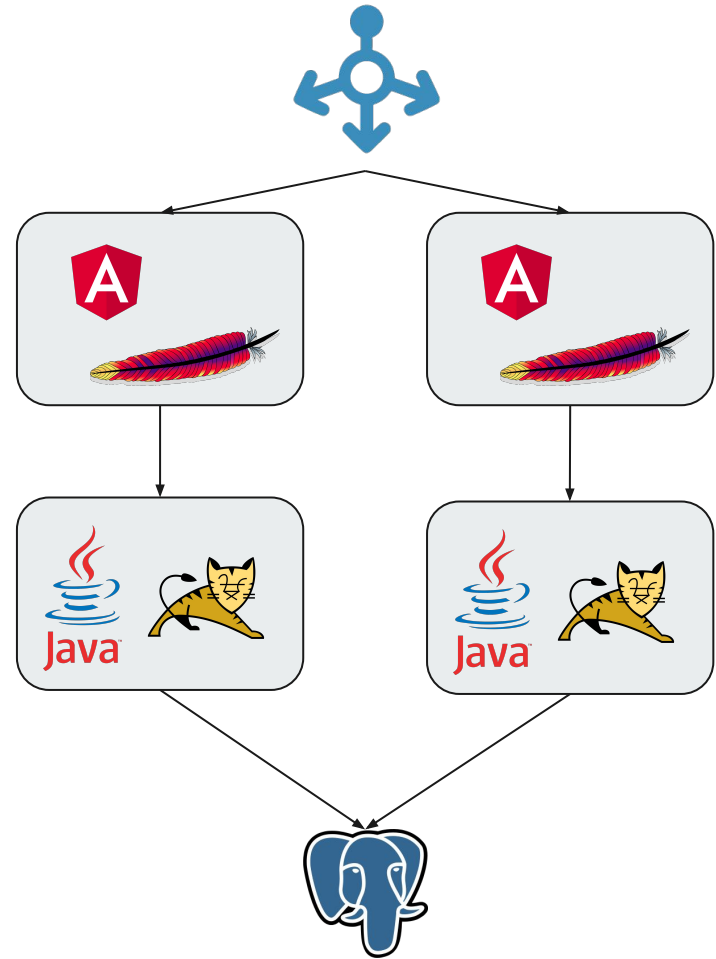
let's just use someone's else computer,  
as close as possible to Ken and his users





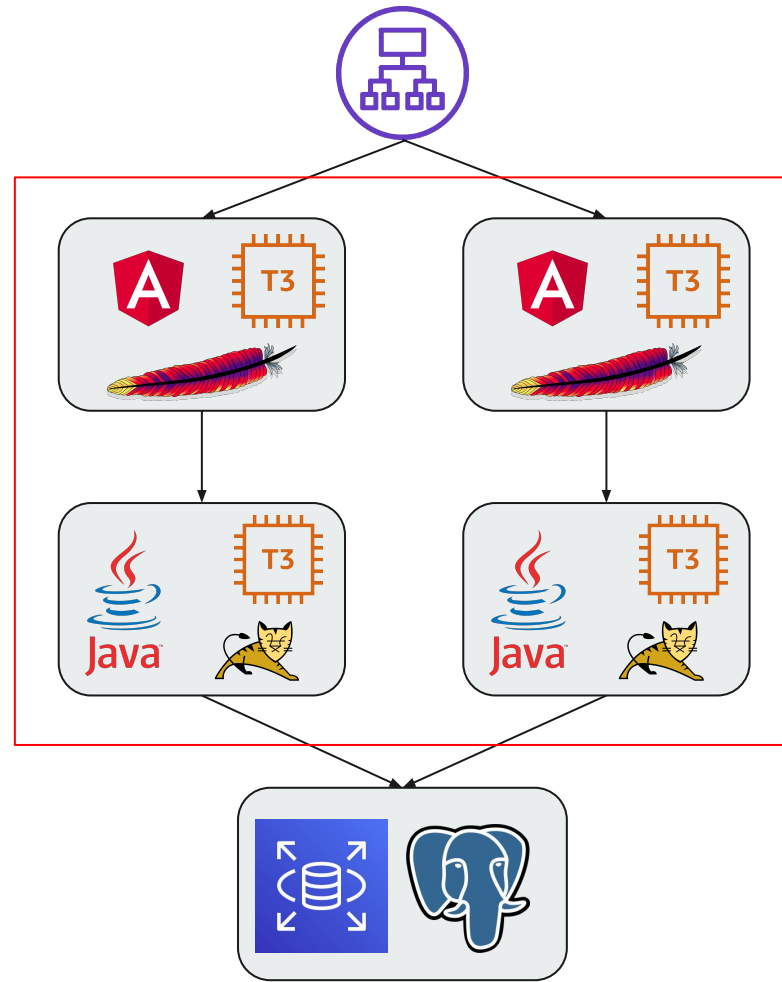
# Kiabi standard stack

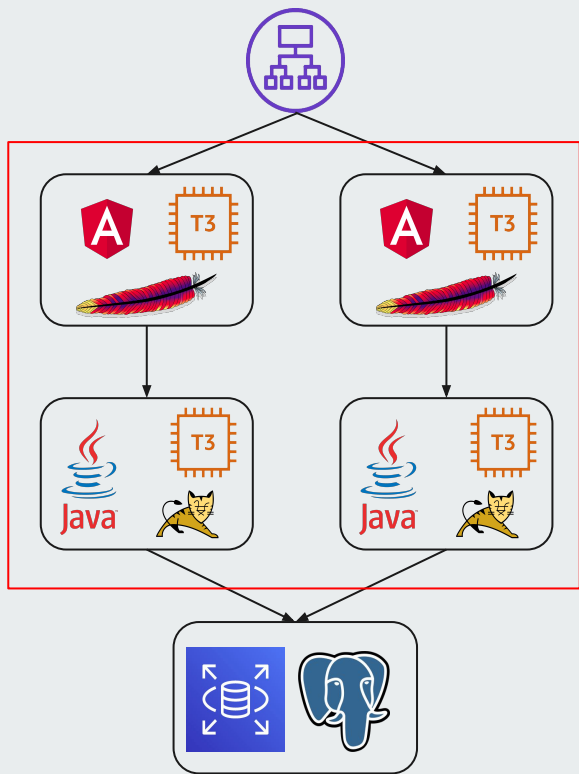
on-premise apps



# Kiabi standard stack

Let's cloudify it !  
We're using AWS





EC2 AMIs

EC2 instances

Application load balancers

RDS instance

Route53 records

Security Groups

VPCs & Subnets

...





# How to automate it ?



Maybe using infrastructure-as-code (I like writing code) but :

- we don't want vendor lock-in (bye bye AWS CloudFormation 🙋 )
- we want to build infrastructure for Ken, but also maybe for other users
- maybe for on-premise infrastructure too
- we want reproducibility and minimal manual operations



## Hashicorp's suite





# Building our VM images



“Packer is a tool for creating identical machine images for multiple platforms from a single source configuration”

<https://github.com/hashicorp/packer>

👁 Watch ▾

415

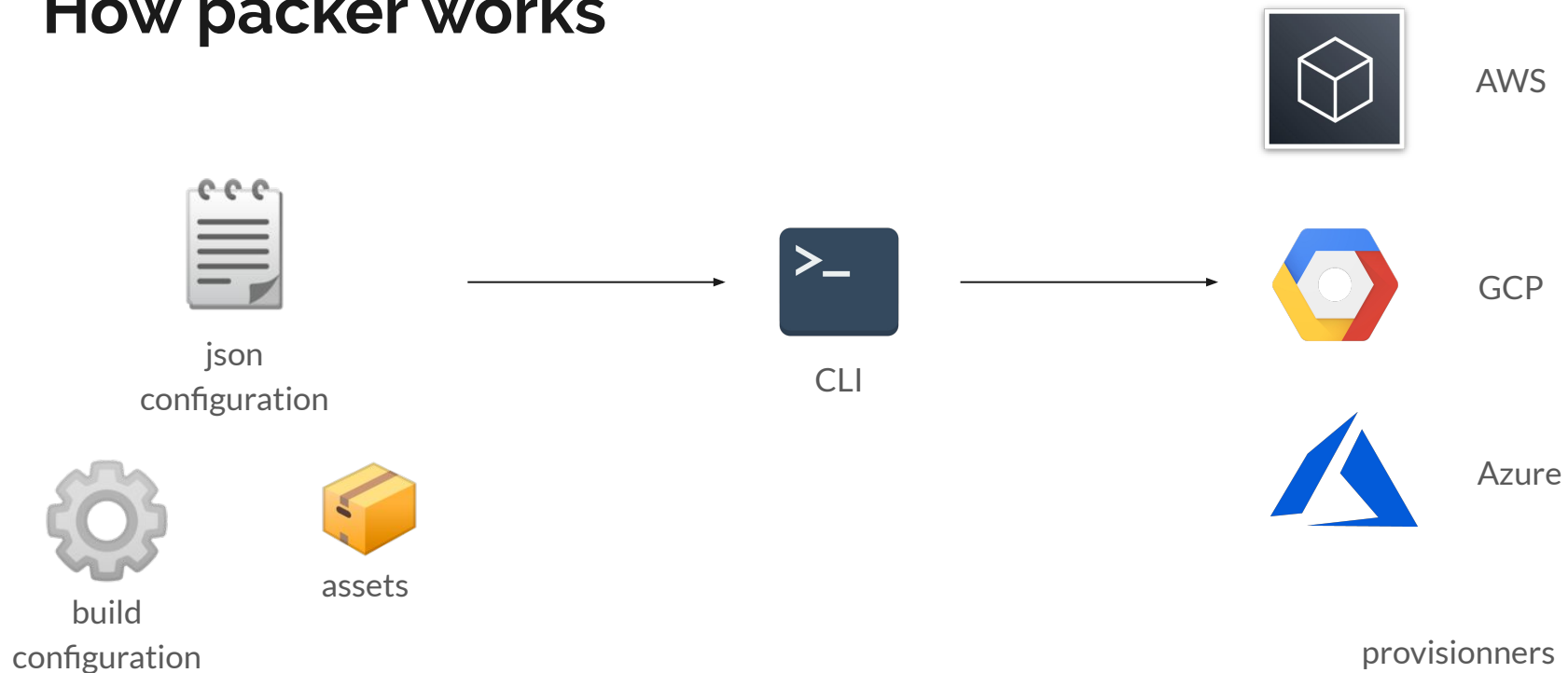
★ Star

9,033

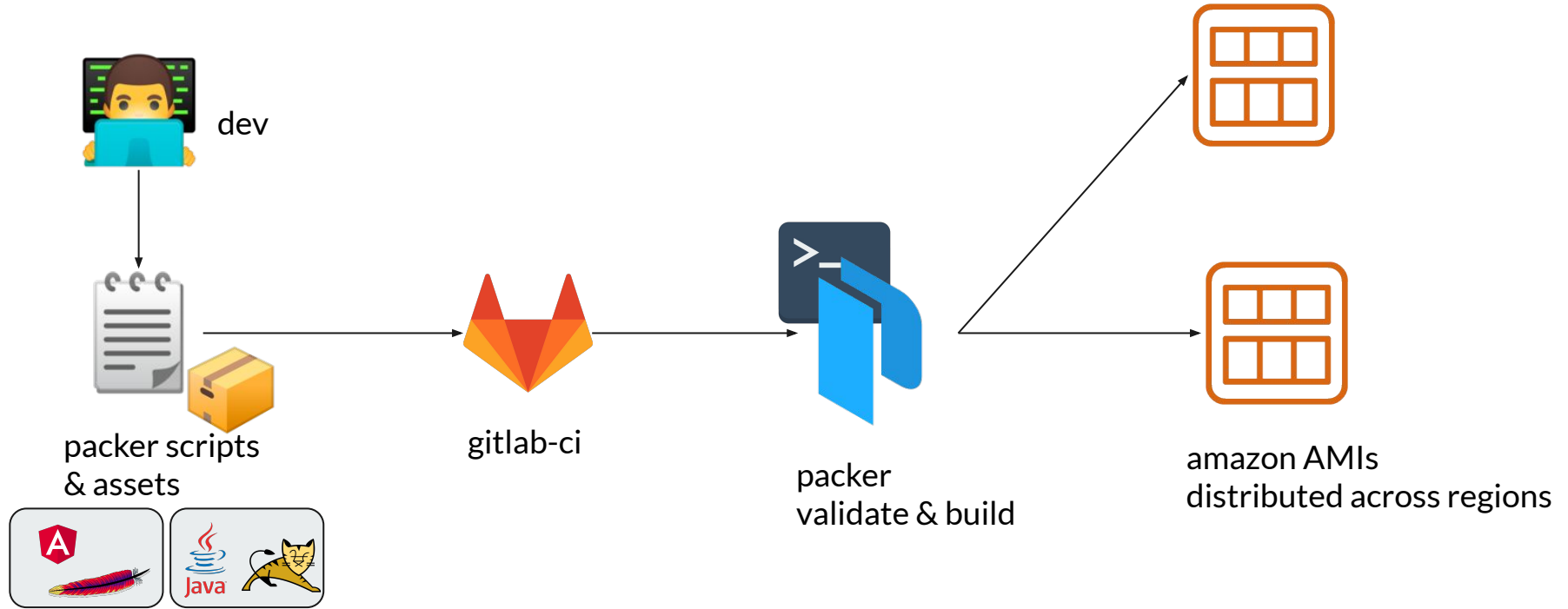
🔗 Fork

2,458

# How packer works



# packer build





✓ passed

Pipeline #26926 triggered 1 month ago

## ✨ : add ssl module for https proxy

🕒 4 jobs from `master` in 13 minutes and 9 seconds (queued for 1 second)



🔑 97e58ac2 ... 📄

Pipeline Jobs 4

### Validate

✓ validate-kiabi-...



✓ validate-kiabi-t...



### Deploy

✓ build-kiabi-httpd ▶

⚙️ build-kiabi-tom... ▶

## packer benefits

- VM configuration is in VCS - everyone can view it and submit changes
- Tagging and versioning our VM images ! Better technical debt mgmt !
- VM builds are reproducible
- VM can be built on multiple cloud providers (even if we only use AWS now)
- Simpler to build newer versions, or new VM types





# Building our infrastructure



“Terraform is an open source tool that codifies APIs into declarative configuration files that can be shared amongst team members, treated as code, edited, reviewed, and versioned”

<https://github.com/hashicorp/terraform>

👁 Watch ▼

1,013

★ Star

17,373

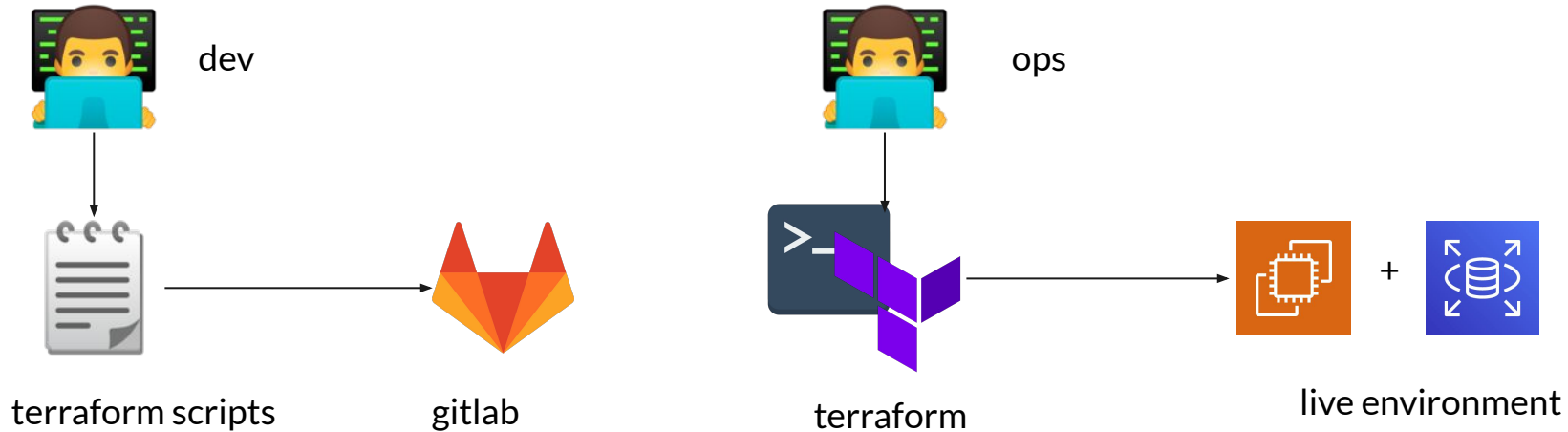
🍴 Fork

4,769

# How terraform works



# terraform simple workflow





## terraform benefits

- infrastructure definition is now in VCS (no better way to document an architecture)
- infrastructure now takes a few minutes (3 to 5 minutes) to be provisionned
- it's fully automated, reproducible
- no more human-related mistakes
- infrastructure refactoring ! build reusable modules





# Ken's journey to the cloud



I now have infrastructure near me !

Low latency

Fully managed infrastructure

production-ready





# Towards self-service infrastructure for all



terraform  
modules



module configuration & variabilization (size & environment)



cost mgmt (using AWS tags)



self-service via a simple hand-crafted GUI



disposable environments







# Modules for everything !



terraform  
modules



our Angular/Java/PostgreSQL servers stack



database as a service



“devops” tooling - nexus proxy - Rundeck server



# Ken's journey to the cloud never ends



I like whales !



replace VMs by containers



orchestrate them



on cloud near Ken



use different cloud providers



# Thank you !



(This was my first talk !)

Raise your hands for questions !

