a brand of

glueck kanja

TerraProvider

Terraform Provider
for Microsoft 365

Admin less,

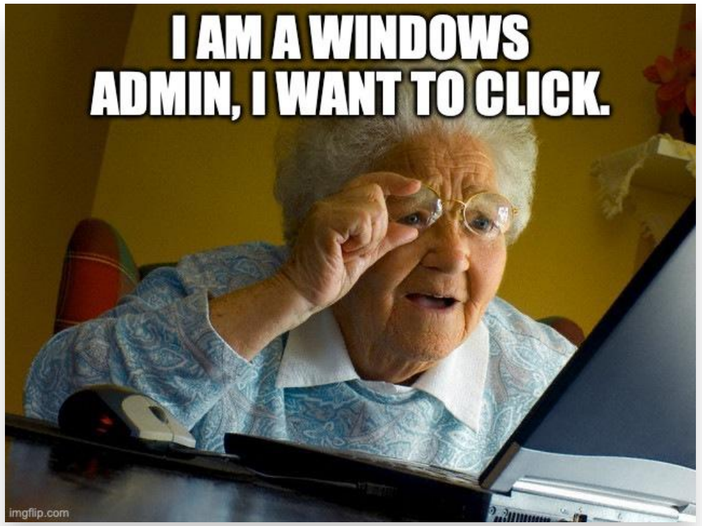
automate more.

Terraform

your Microsoft 365!

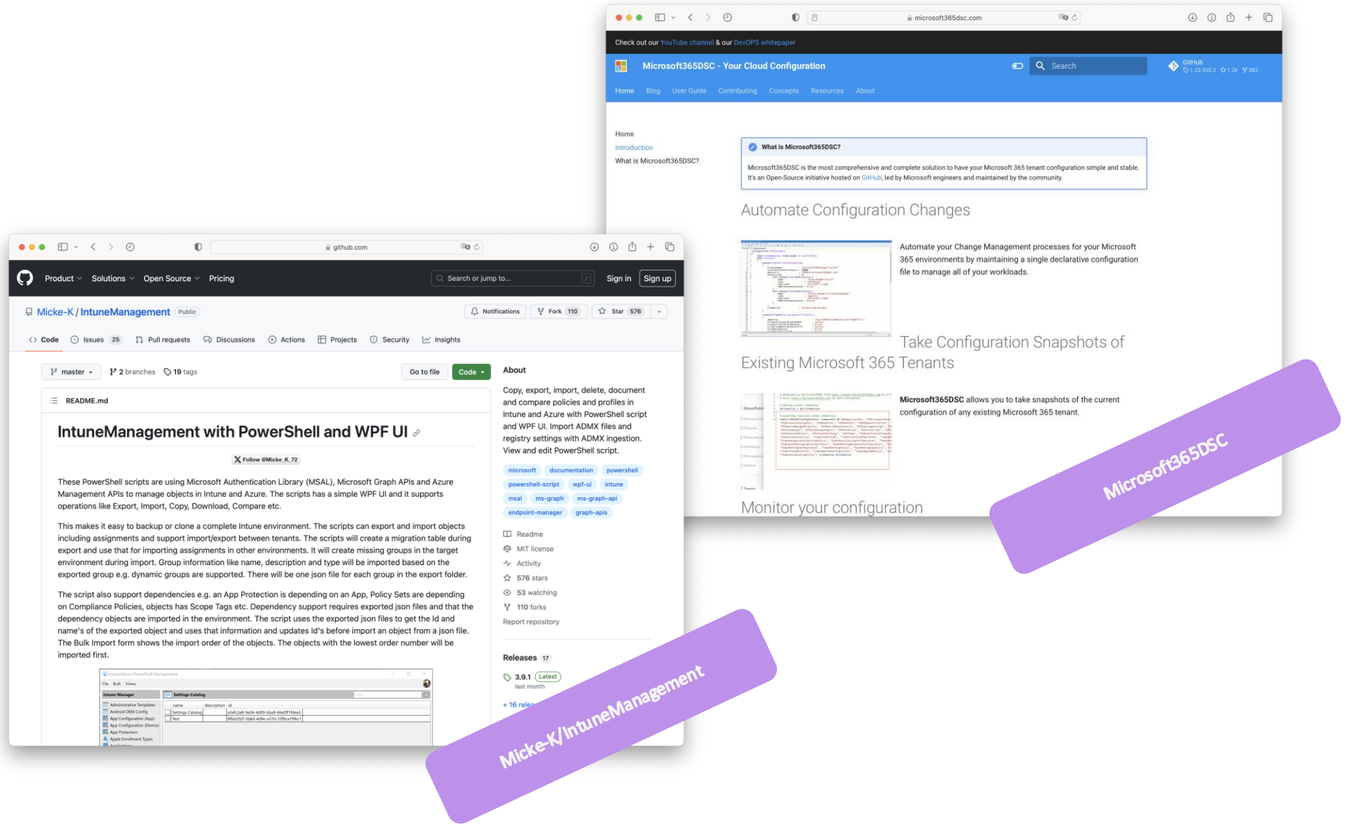
Which problem are we trying to solve?

- Microsoft 365 tenant (especially **Intune**) configuration is a complex beast
- If you are alone and have just one tenant, you may be ok with ’clicks in portals’, but …
- If you are a **team of admins**, have **multiple tenants** (staging/production | MSP) to manage, **’clicks in portals’ is not a scalable option**.
  - documentation
  - change tracking / versioning
  - auditing
  - detect manual changes
  - disaster recovery
  - blueprint tenant creation / automation



There are already solutions for this problem

- The general idea is called or **Configuration-as-Code**
  (or Desired State Configuration / Infrastructure-as-Code)
- If you search for it, you'll find an amount of community projects
- Some are kind of creative, some are kind of professional including DevOps integration

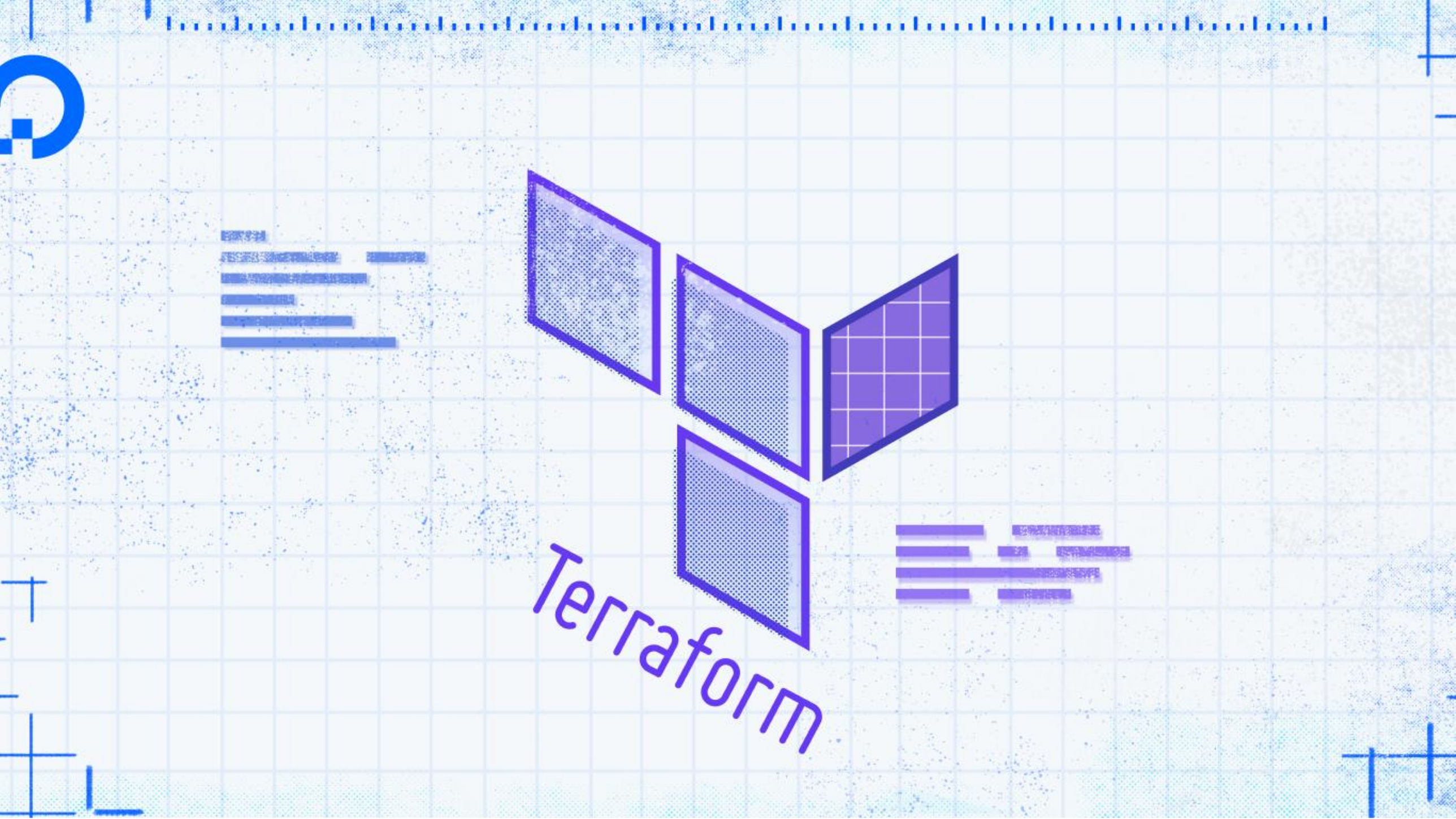


Powershell? Nails everywhere…

- The **law of the instrument,** law of the hammer, … is a cognitive bias that involves an over-reliance on a familiar tool. Abraham Maslow wrote in 1966, "**If the only tool you have is a hammer, it is tempting to treat everything as if it were a nail**."

- Don't get me wrong:
  We ❤️ Powershell – but **is it the right weapon for Configuration-as-Code**?

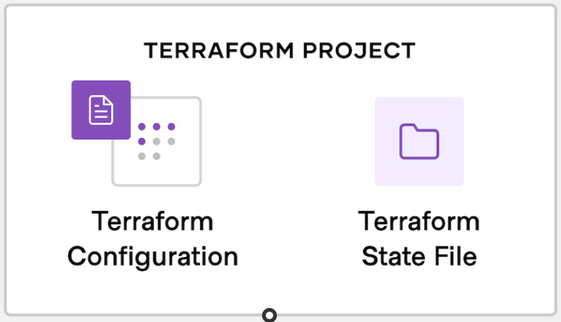
- Beside a lot of design considerations and caveats …
  why not ignoring the hammer and check out which toolchain is used for **nearly 40% of worldwide cloud automation?**


Terraform

Terraform Basics

Write

Define infrastructure in configuration files



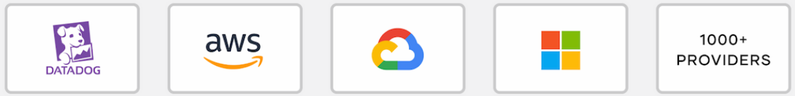
Plan

Review the changes Terraform will make to your infrastructure

```
$ terraform plan

...

Terraform will perform
the following actions
```

Apply

Terraform provisions your infrastructure and updates the state file.



HashiCorp Terraform

```
provider "azurerm" {
  # AzureRM provider 2.x
  version = "~>2.0"
}

# Create a resource group
resource "azurerm_resource_group" "ninja" {
  name     = "ninja-rg"
  location = "North Central US"
}

# Create an Azure Storage Account
resource "azurerm_storage_account" "ninjastorage" {
  name                     = "ninjastorage"
  resource_group_name      = azurerm_resource_group.ninja.name
  location                 = azurerm_resource_group.ninja.location
  account_tier             = "Standard"
  account_replication_type = "GRS"

  tags = {
    environment = "demo"
  }
}
```

Terraform Configuration Language (.tf)

Terraform Command Line

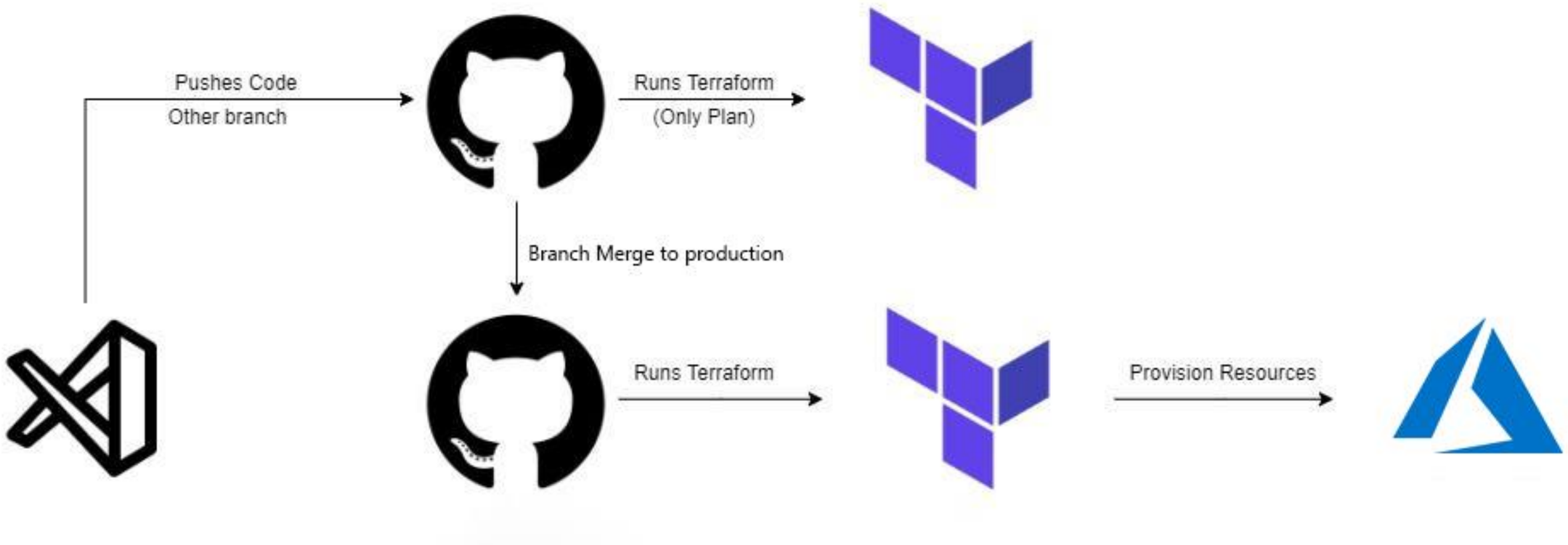
```
# Initialize Terraform
terraform init

# Example Output:
# Initializing the backend...
# Initializing provider plugins...
# Terraform has been successfully initialized!

# Generate an execution plan
terraform plan

# Example Output:
# Refreshing Terraform state in-memory prior to plan...
# ...
# Plan: 2 to add, 0 to change, 0 to destroy.
```

```
# Apply the configuration
terraform apply

# Example Output:
# ...
# ...
# Apply complete! Resources: 2 added, 0 changed, 0 destroyed.

# Destroy resources (optional)
terraform destroy

# Example Output:
# ...
# ...
# ...
# Destroy complete! Resources: 2 destroyed.
```

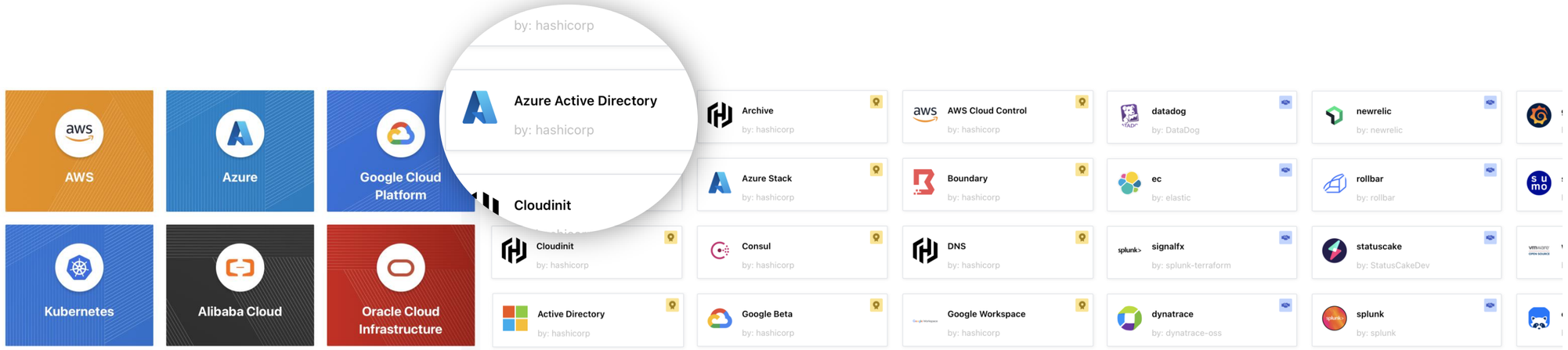
Git?

HashiCorp Terraform

Basic Terraform Lifecycle



Terraform Provider & Provider Registry

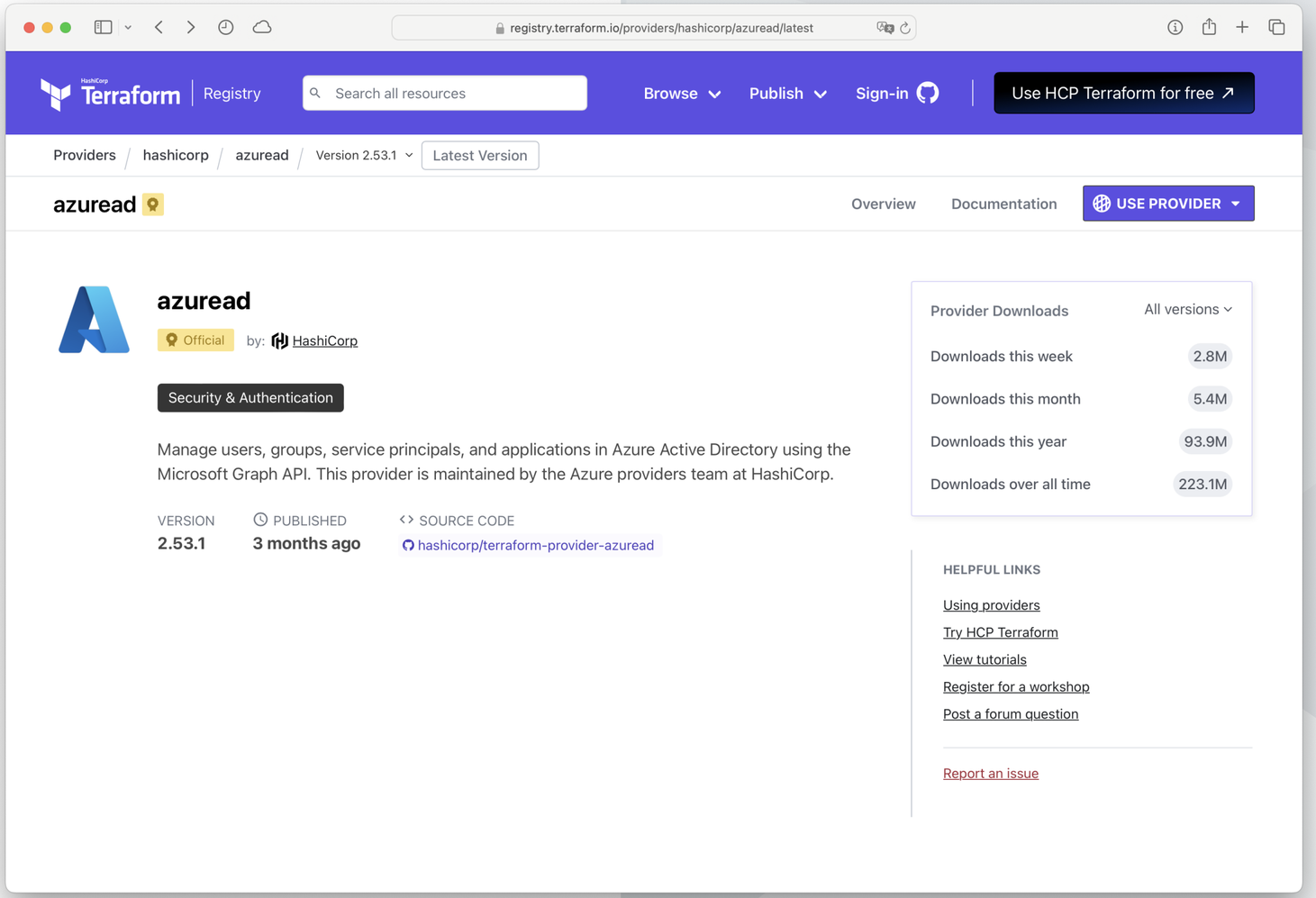


Currently there are about **4.500** providers available in the HashiCorp Registry.

Terraform Provider for Entra

Side Story:
Static vs Dynamic Configuration

It is not a good idea to create groups for daily operations via TF. Conf-as-Code is primarily intended for fundamental configuration. That’s why this provider exist (Azure Identities, etc.)



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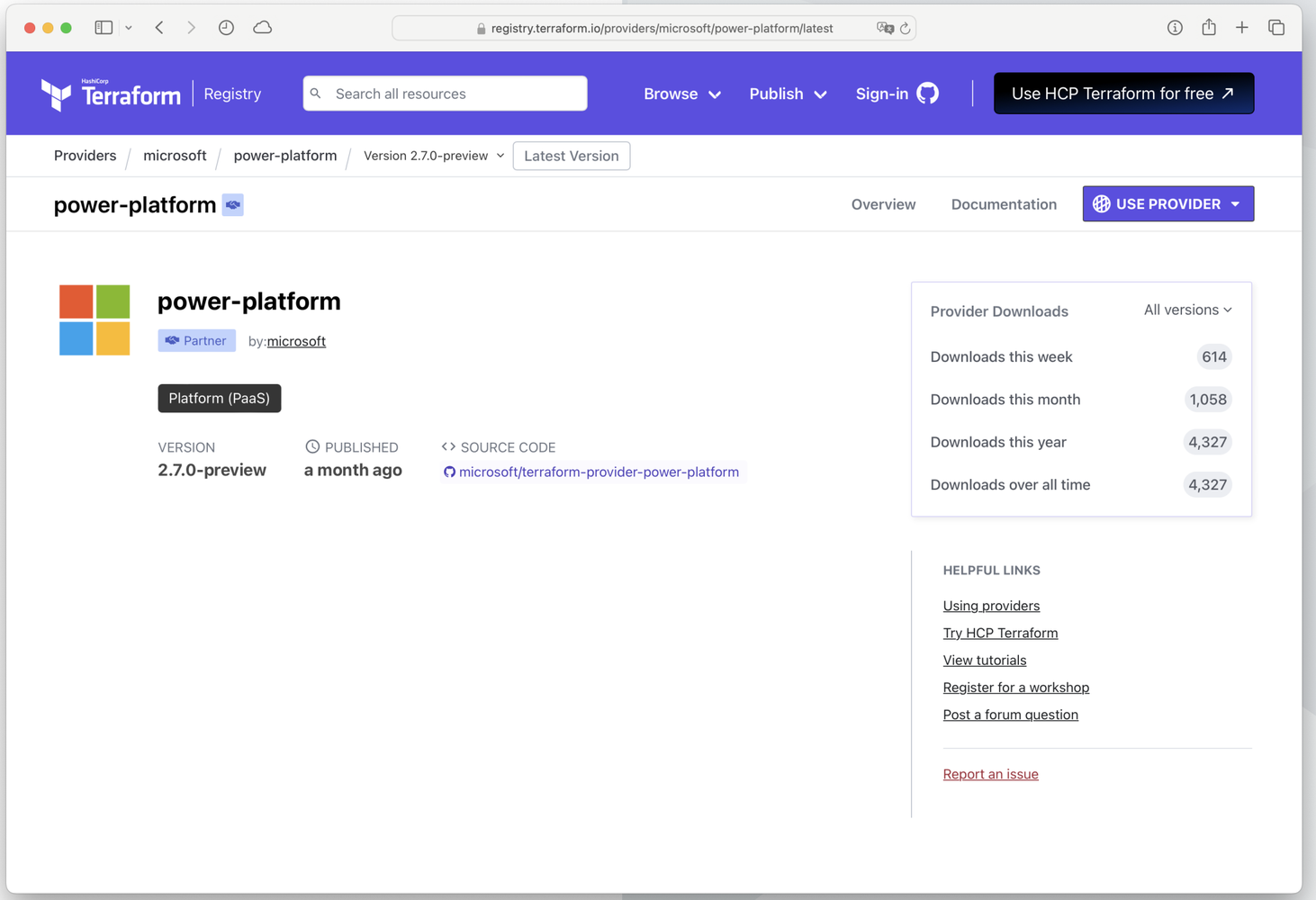
Terraform Provider for Power Platform



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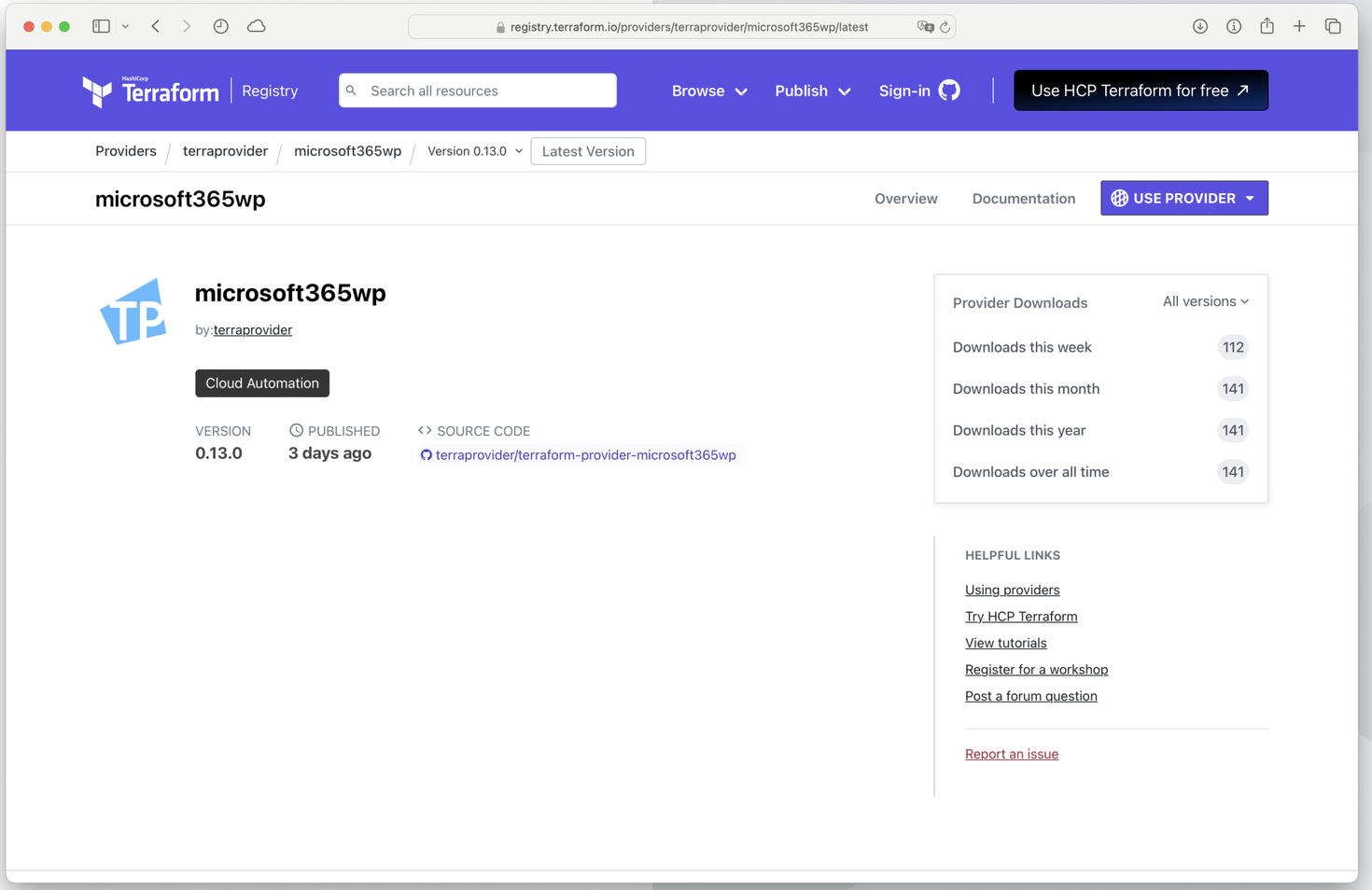
Terraform Provider for M365



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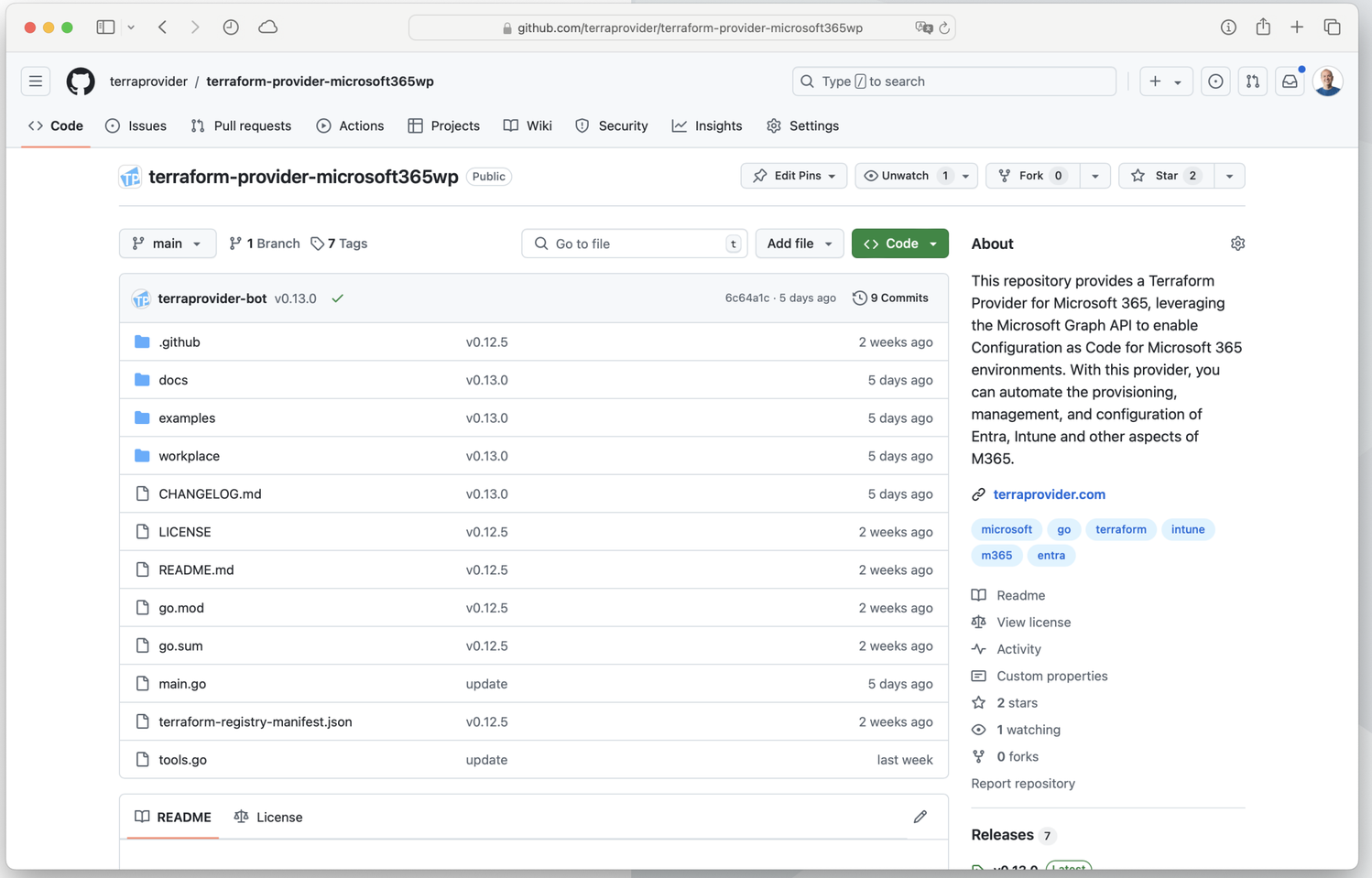
Provider Story – Some Background

- We have been searching for the **holy grail of automation** for years
- We and many customers have been working with Configuration as Code with Terraform on Azure and AWS for years
- The logical consequence: **we build a provider**
- **Problem:** The Microsoft Graph is constantly getting new functionalities, we would have to keep coding new features into the provider
- **Solution:** **We created a code generator for Graph**
- It took us more than two years, but we think we have all the graph structures and wild exceptions in the code generator
- Long Story Short: **We expect to build new releases every two to three weeks, covering new graph areas with high code quality**.

TerraProvider = Source Available



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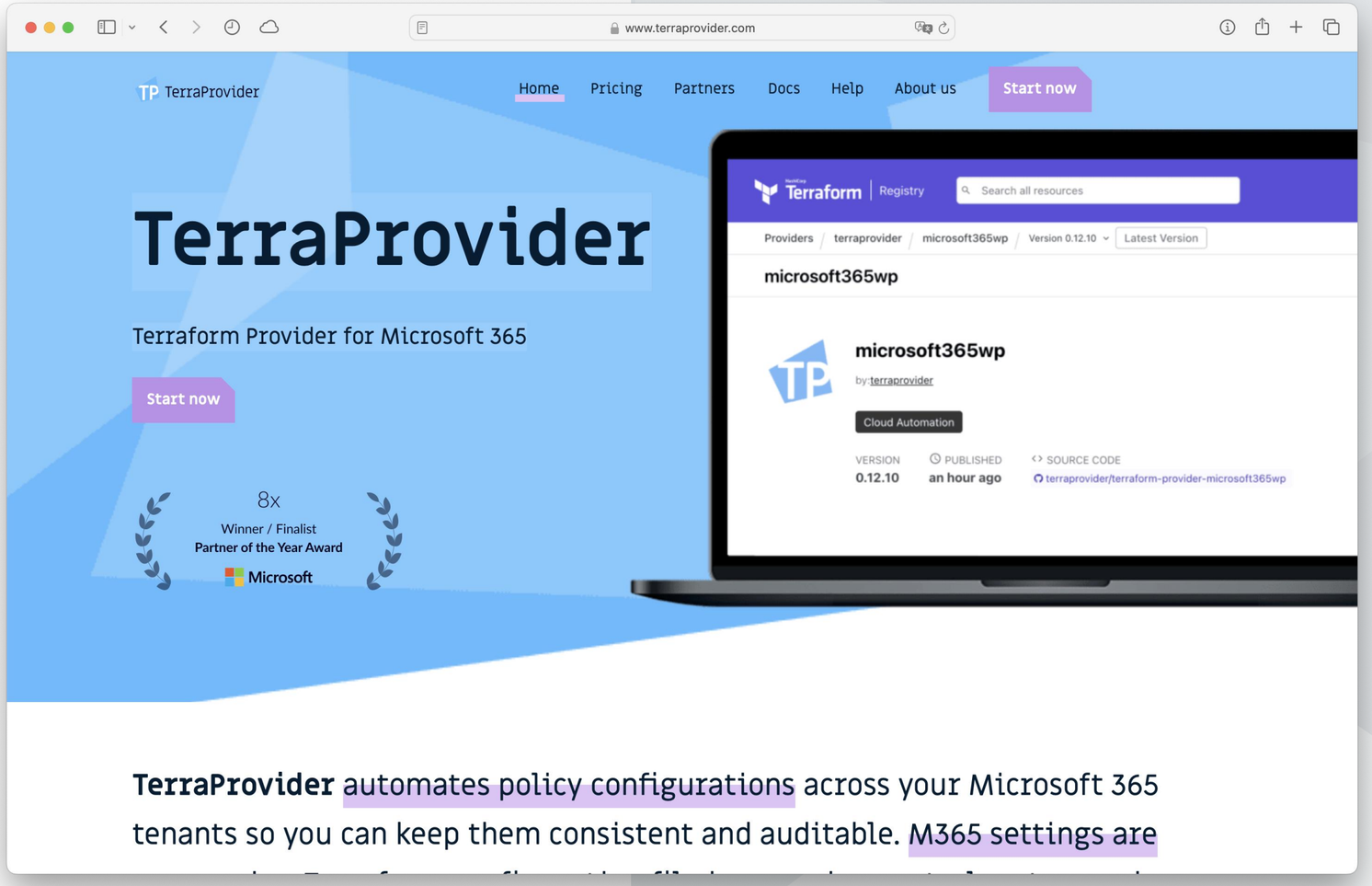
TerraProvider License + Community Edition

Community Edition is **free** for non-productive use **and for all tenants with less than 100 users.**



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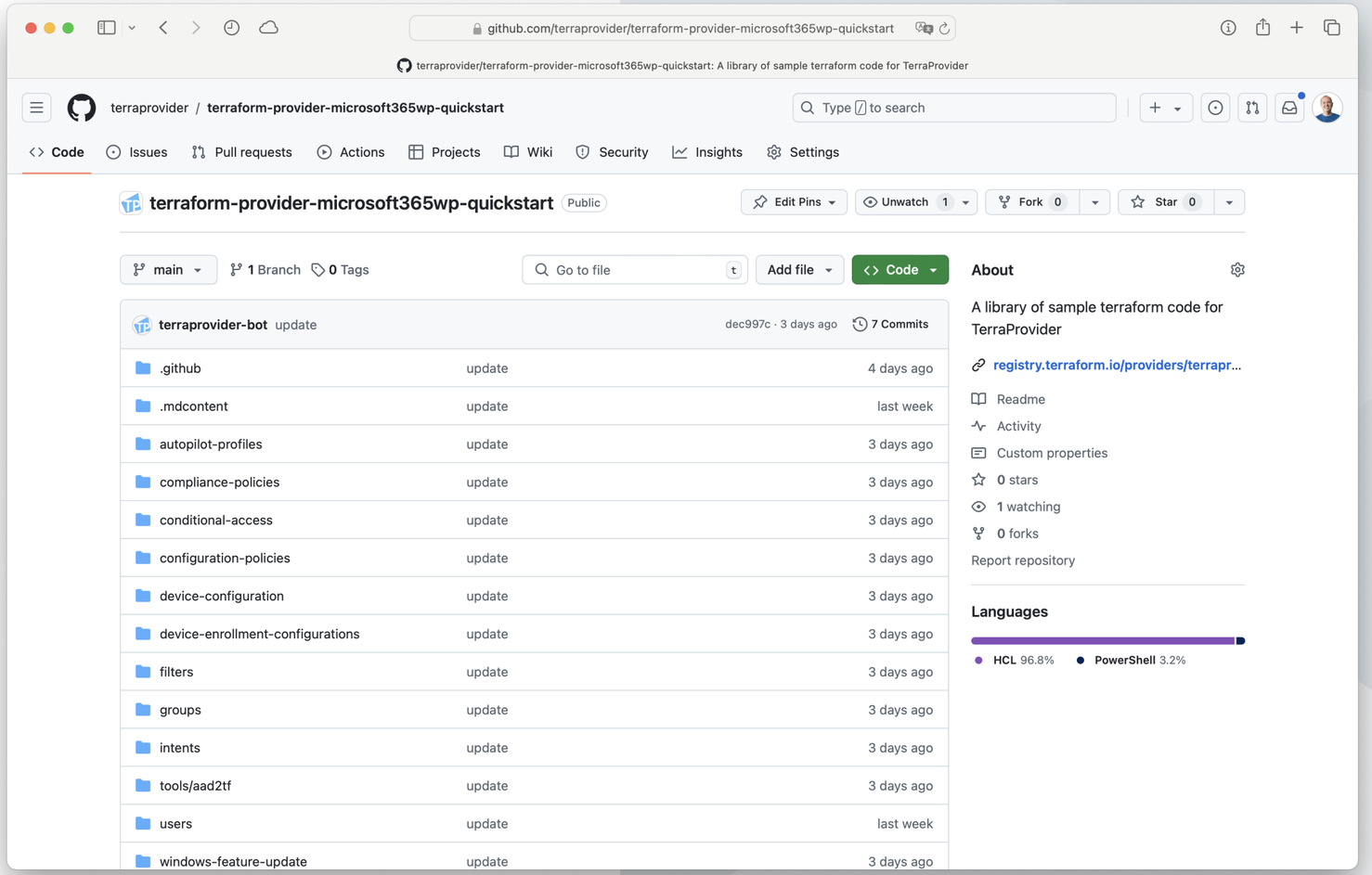
TerraProvider Quick Start Framework*

* Our Quick Start Framework is not just an immediately functional starter for a Tenant configuration. It also provides a **tool that translates existing tenant policies into Terraform code**.



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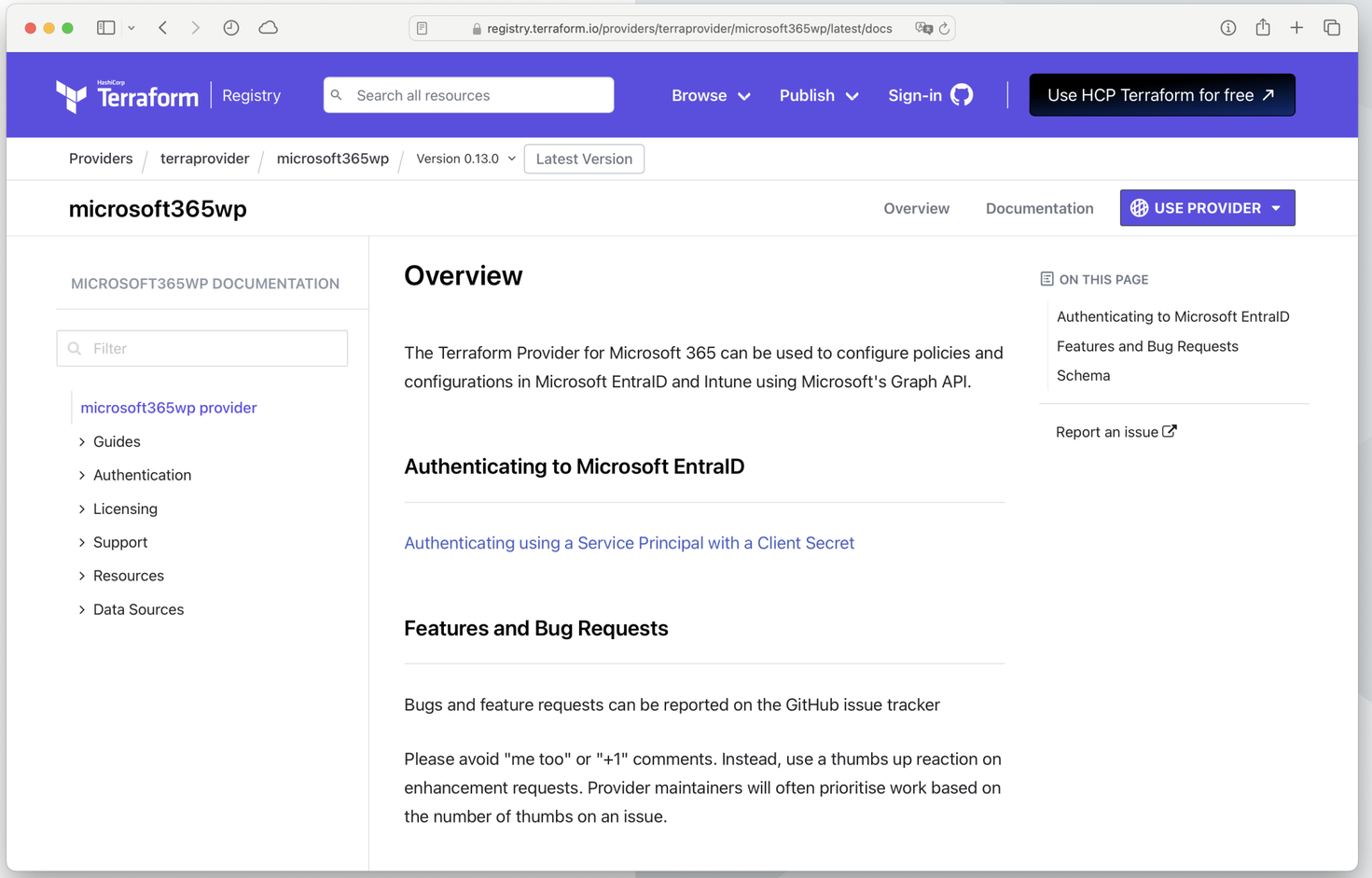
TerraProvider Documentation



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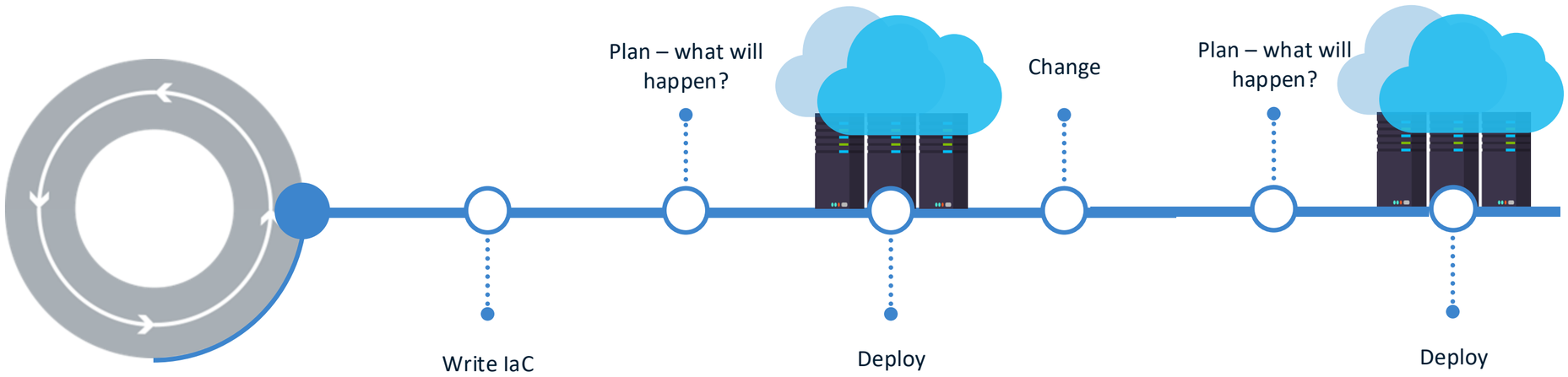
Summary: Infrastructure as Code

- declarative description of the target infrastructure
- describe what you want in code (desired state configuration)
- write once - deploy many
- documentation of IT estate, standardized deployment model



Thanks.

Questions?