Migrating from CLI-driven to Model-driven Programmability



Nick Russo NETWORK ENGINEER

@nickrusso42518 www.njrusmc.net



Agenda



NETCONF/YANG refresher

YANG visualization

- DevNet yangexplorer
- Advanced NETCONF Explorer (anx)

NETCONF on IOS-XE using ncclient



YANG Refresher

Data modeling language

Hierarchical structure

Many components



```
module interfaces {
  container interface-cont {
    list switchport-list {
      key "name";
      leaf name {
        type string;
      leaf vlan {
        type int;
        default 1;
    list another-list {...}
```

- YANG module definition
- Holds different items
- Key means "required"
- **Names must be strings**

■ VLANs must be integers

NETCONF Refresher

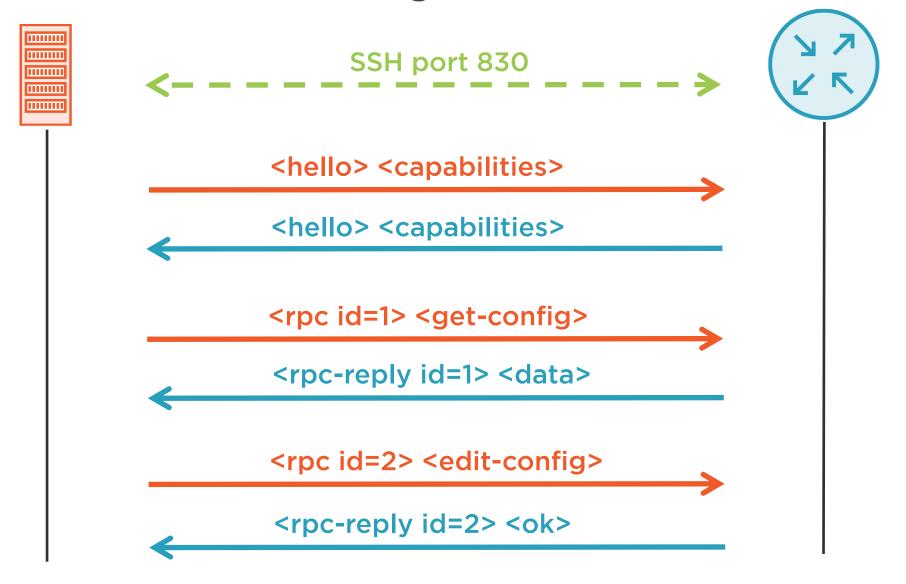
Simplified implementation

Structured data

Easily idempotent



Introducing NETCONF

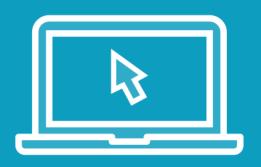






Using Cisco DevNet's yangexplorer

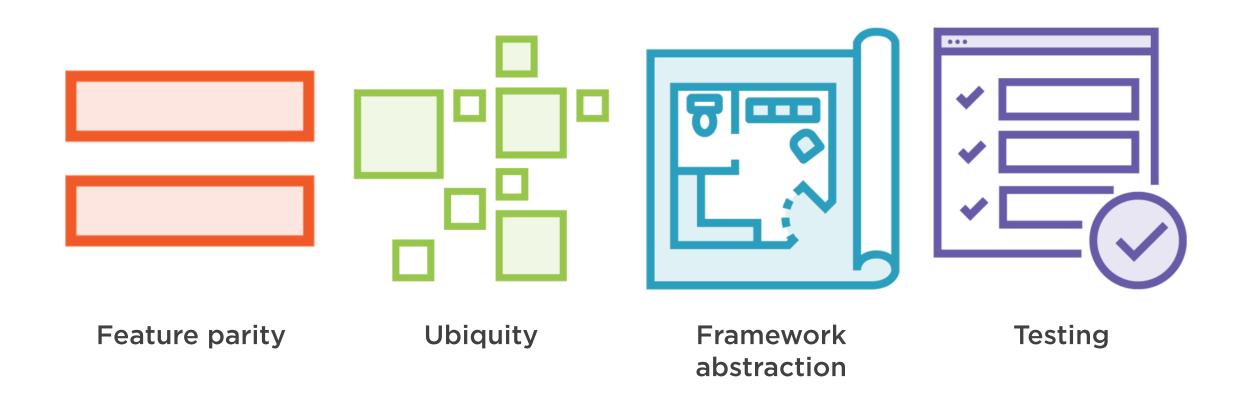




Using the Advanced NETCONF Explorer (anx)



Common Migration Mistakes





Collecting network data using NETCONF





Migrating from CLI to NETCONF



Summary



Simplified operations, but harder to learn "YANG first, management second"

Challenge:

- Combine Ansible and NETCONF
- "Automating Networks with Ansible the Right Way"

