

MLops

Make life easy



Common problems with scaling ML

Getting started

Mundane steps with lots of boilerplate

Iterating quickly

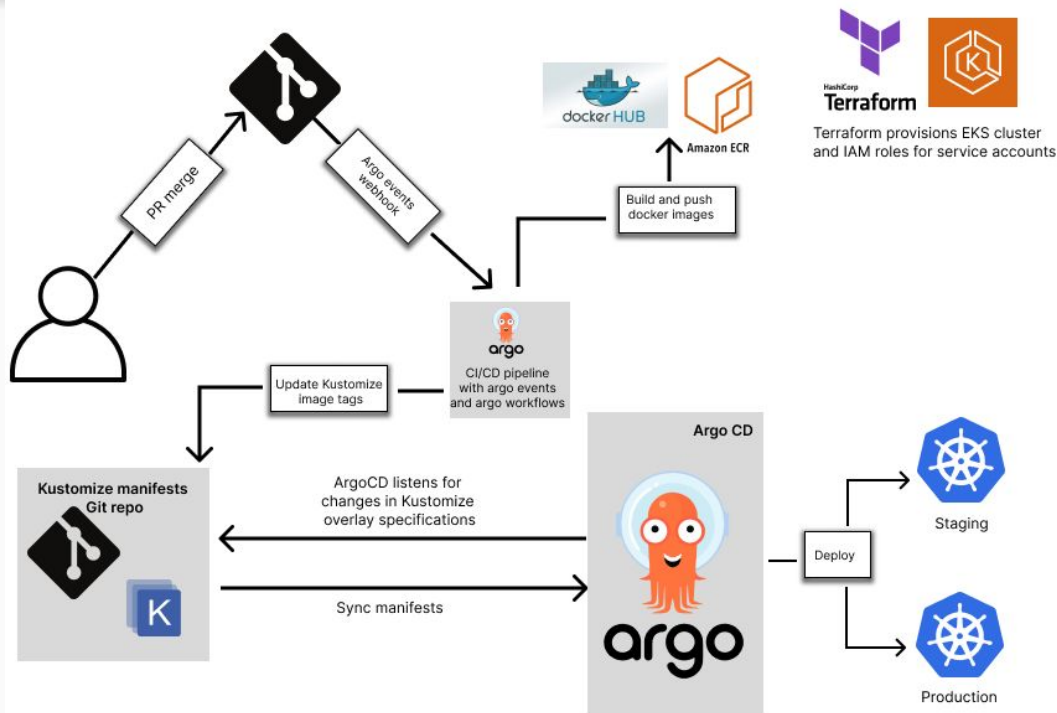
Slow redundant iterative development

Hard to experiment and compare different models/algorithms

Productionizing

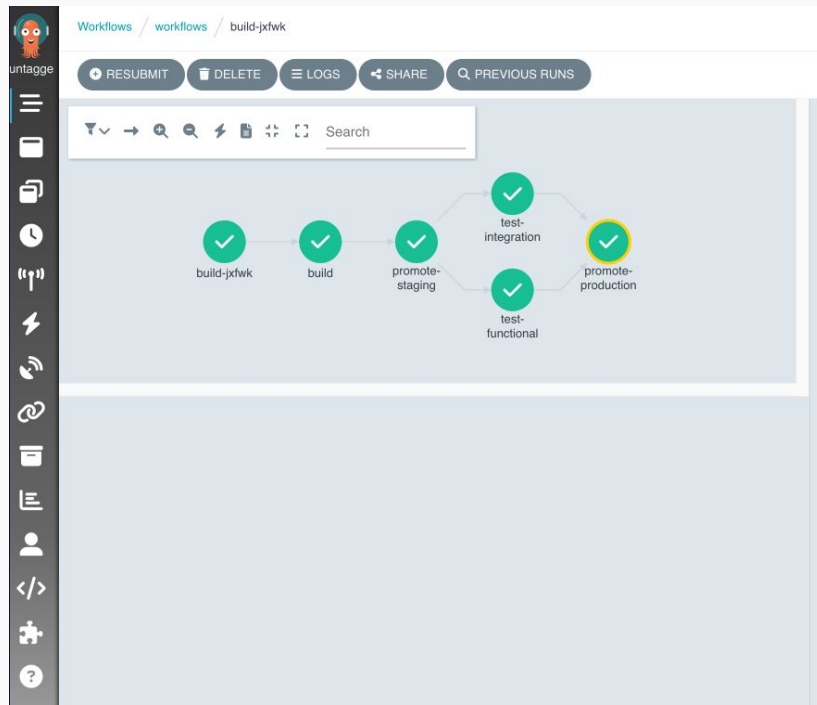
Incorporating ML models into production backend and handing off to engineers is very manual and bottlenecked

Gitops CI/CD for any software product



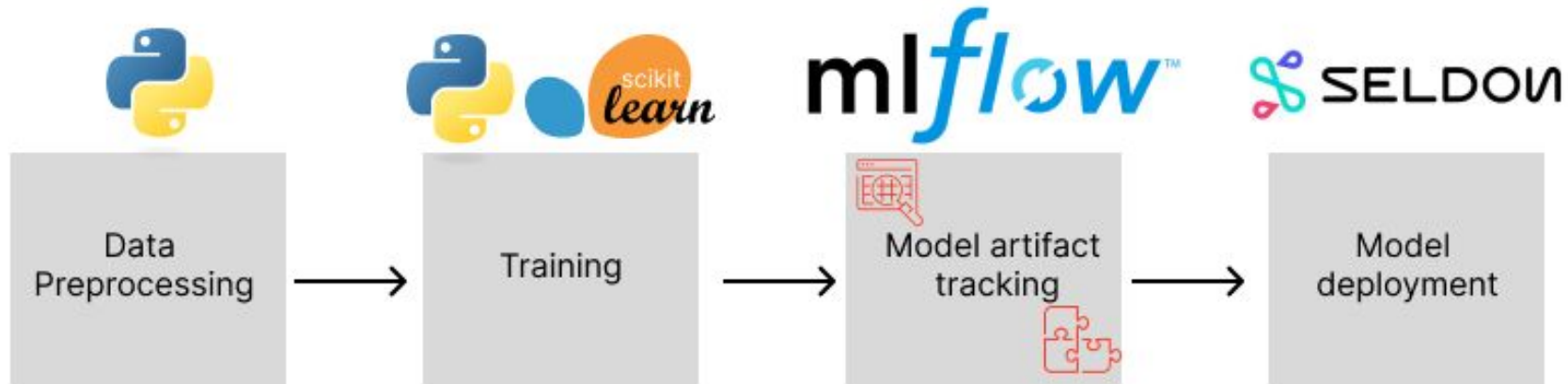
Argo workflows for CI/CD

1. Team makes change to MERN stack application and makes a Github PR
2. Github sends a webhook POST request to Argo event source
3. The CI/CD workflow trigger source is started
4. Docker image is built for frontend and backend and pushed to docker registry
5. New image tags are updated in Kustomization.yaml file
6. ArgoCD picks this up and updates the deployment
7. Integration tests can be carried out in the staging environment to test that APIs endpoints can be reached and they return the expected results.
8. If all goes well, then we can update manifests in the production cluster



CI/CD for ML pipelines

Machine learning as composable units

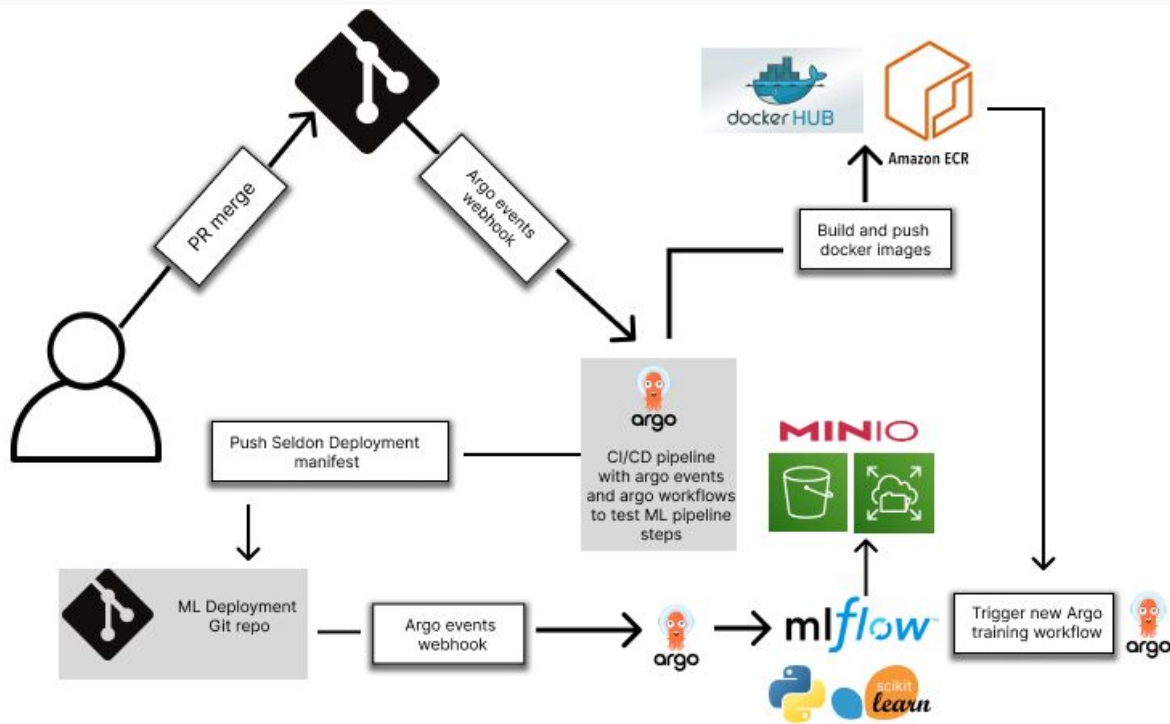


CI/CD for ML training pipeline

Training pipeline will store serialized model (.pkl file) to persistent NFS volume. It will also register the model with MLflow so we always know the properties of the model being used in production.

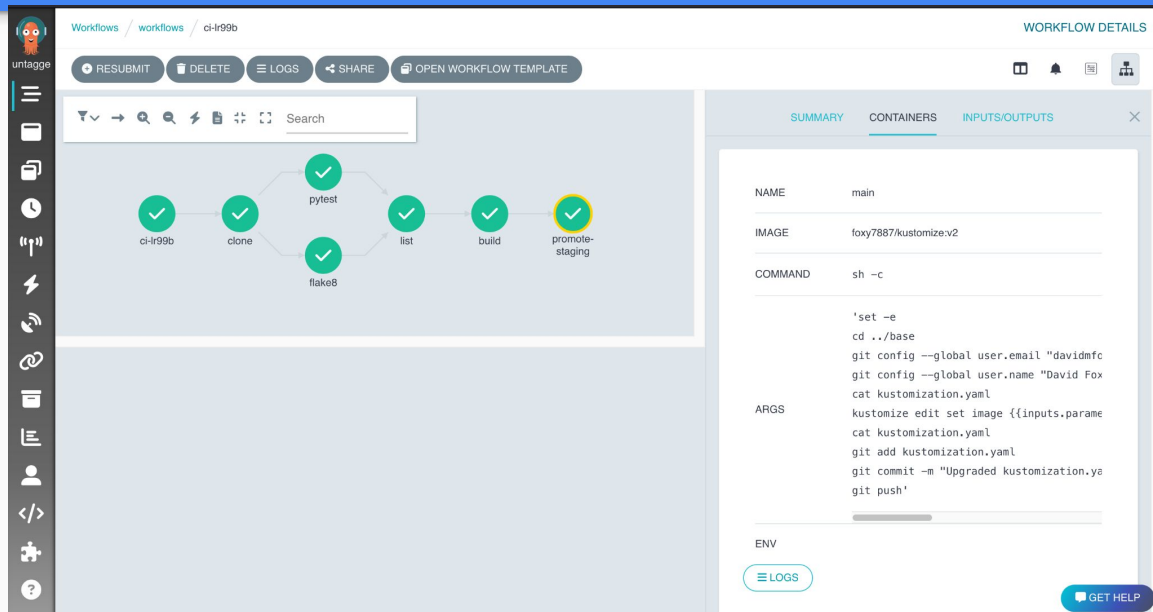
MLflow artifact storage will use minio locally and s3 in the cloud.

The training pipeline will be an Argo CronWorkflow, which can be run on some prespecified schedule.



CI/CD for Machine Learning

1. Once a model has been experimented and it has found to outperform the model in production, it is then modularized into ML pipeline steps, which are later containerized. Each pipeline step should be unit tested.
2. The next steps would be:
 - a. Build docker image with build-kit
 - b. Update image tags in staging
3. This ensures that the argo training workflow will use the most up-to-date image for the training pipeline steps



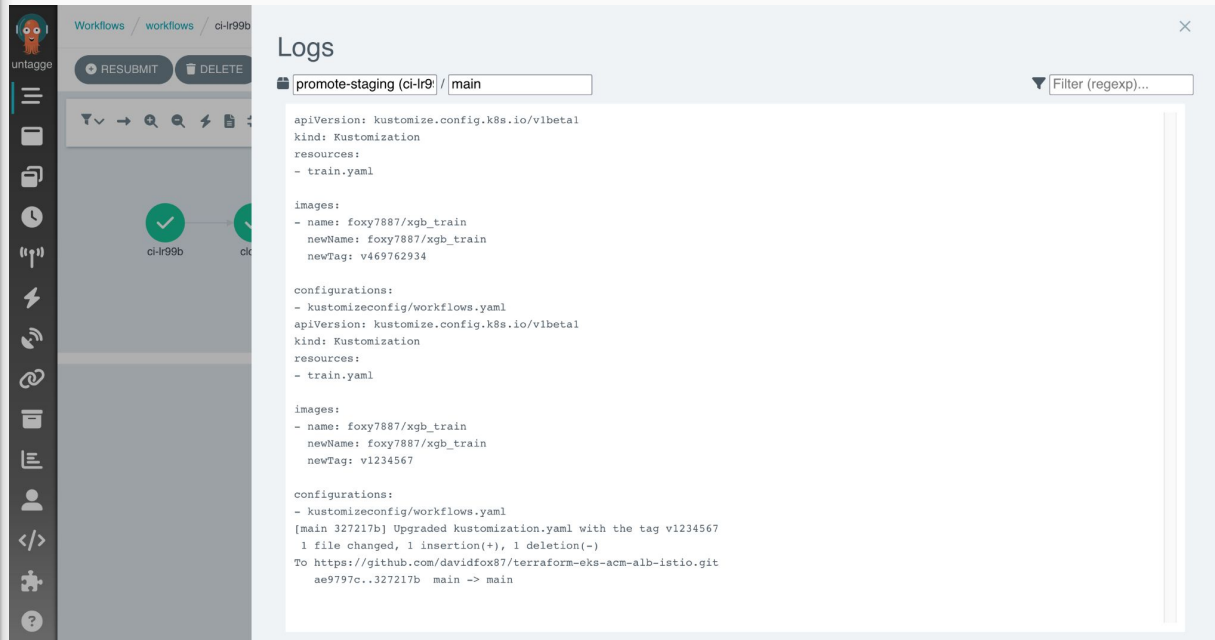
CI/CD for Machine Learning

We can observe the docker logs from the promote to staging step of the DAG.

This shows what the image tag read in the kustomization.yaml before and after the following command was run:

```
kustomize edit set image  
{{inputs.parameters.image}}=  
{{inputs.parameters.image}}:  
{{inputs.parameters.tag}}
```

Argo CD will see that the kustomize file has changed and apply our updated CronWorkflow training pipeline to the cluster.



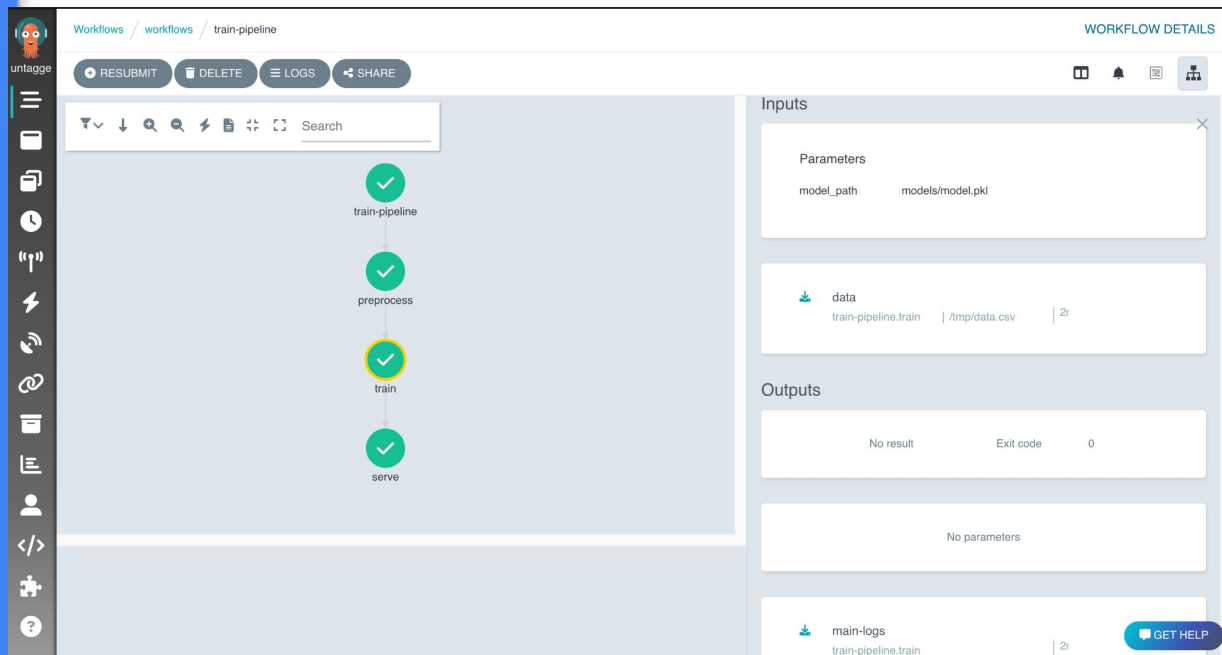
The screenshot displays the Argo CD web interface. On the left, a sidebar shows a navigation menu with icons for home, workflows, clusters, and other resources. The main panel is titled 'Workflows / workflows / ci-lr9b' and contains a 'RESUBMIT' button and a 'DELETE' button. Below these, a workflow diagram is partially visible, showing a step 'ci-lr99b' with a green checkmark. On the right, a 'Logs' panel is open, showing the logs for the 'promote-staging (ci-lr9)' workflow. The logs display the output of a kustomize command, showing the image tag being updated from 'v1234567' to 'v1234567'.

```
apiVersion: kustomize.config.k8s.io/v1beta1  
kind: Kustomization  
resources:  
- train.yaml  
  
images:  
- name: foxy7887/xgb_train  
  newName: foxy7887/xgb_train  
  newTag: v469762934  
  
configurations:  
- kustomizeconfig/workflows.yaml  
apiVersion: kustomize.config.k8s.io/v1beta1  
kind: Kustomization  
resources:  
- train.yaml  
  
images:  
- name: foxy7887/xgb_train  
  newName: foxy7887/xgb_train  
  newTag: v1234567  
  
configurations:  
- kustomizeconfig/workflows.yaml  
[main 327217b] Upgraded kustomization.yaml with the tag v1234567  
1 file changed, 1 insertion(+), 1 deletion(-)  
To https://github.com/davidfox87/terraform-eks-acm-alb-istio.git  
ae9797c..327217b  main -> main
```

Training and serving pipeline

1. Loads the data from Blob storage (minio, s3) but can also fetch from SQL tables
2. Preprocess can relabel columns, engineer features, impute missing data, scale features
3. Train will train an ML model
 - a. Logs and registers the model with MLflow
 - b. Save serialized pickle to NFS persistent storage
4. Serve will use seldon-core library to deploy the model in the NFS persistent storage as a prediction RESTful microservice.

Requests to the prediction microservice are routed through the istio- gateway and service mesh (next slide).



Making predictions

From “outside” the cluster (Note, that in the cloud, we will reach istio-ingressgateway through an ingress)

port-forward to istio-ingressgateway service:

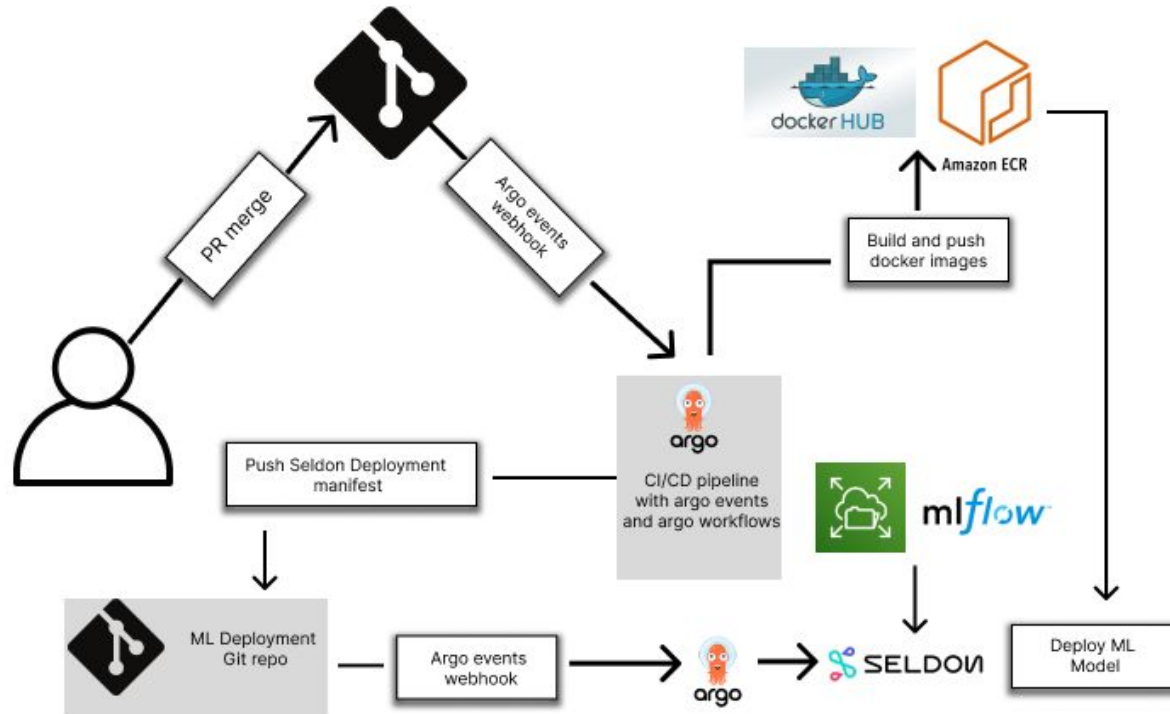
```
kubectl port-forward $(kubectl get pods -l istio=ingressgateway -n istio-system -o jsonpath='{.items[0].metadata.name}') -n istio-system 8004:8080
```

```
curl -X POST -H 'Content-Type: application/json' \
  -d '{"data": { "ndarray": [[1,2,3,4,5]]}}' \
http://localhost:8080/seldon/<NAMESPACE>/<SELDON-DEPLOYMENT-NAME>/api/v1.0/predictions
```

Internal to the cluster from any other kubernetes deployment (Deployment, Job, Pod):

```
curl -X POST \
  -H 'Content-Type: application/json' \
  -d '{"data": { "ndarray": [[1,2,3,4,5]]}}' \
http://<SELDON-DEPLOYMENT-NAME>.<NAMESPACE>.svc.cluster.local:8000/api/v1.0/predictions
```

CICD of the inference pipeline



Making this work in the cloud

Crossplane and Argo CD

Deploy infrastructure using the Kubernetes API. No need to switch to completely different environment (Terraform/Pulumi).

If infrastructure is defined declaratively with K8s manifests, then we can use Kustomize and Argo CD to sync any changes to the cluster and crossplane will make sure that the state as defined in the manifests is reflected in our AWS environment.

