Lab 2: Installing Automation Anywhere

We will cover the following topics in this lab:

- Connecting to **Control Room**
- Preparing your device
- Configuring profile and device credentials

Technical requirements

In order to install the Automation Anywhere Community Edition Bot agent, the following requirements are necessary:

- Google Chrome
- Have completed the registration process with Automation Anywhere for Community Edition

Connecting to Control Room

Continuing from *Lab 1*, About Automation Anywhere*, after your registration with Automation Anywhere is complete, you should have received an email with the following details:
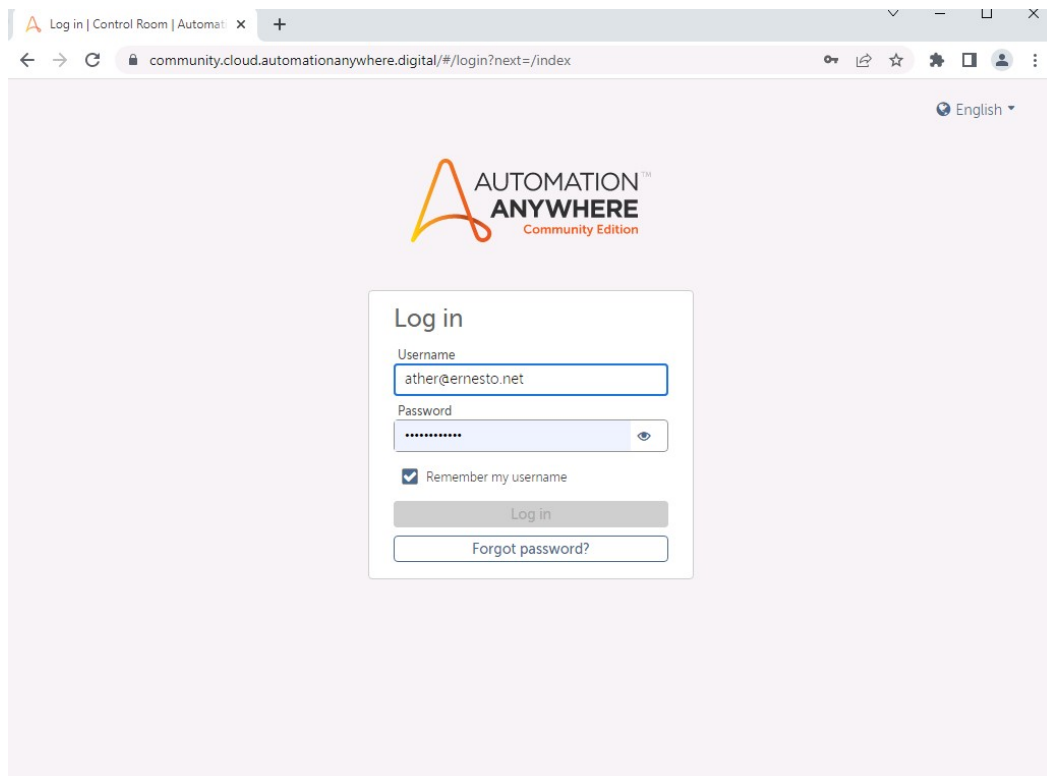
- Your Control Room URL
- Your username
- Your password

Let's start by logging into **Control Room** and getting familiar with the interface.
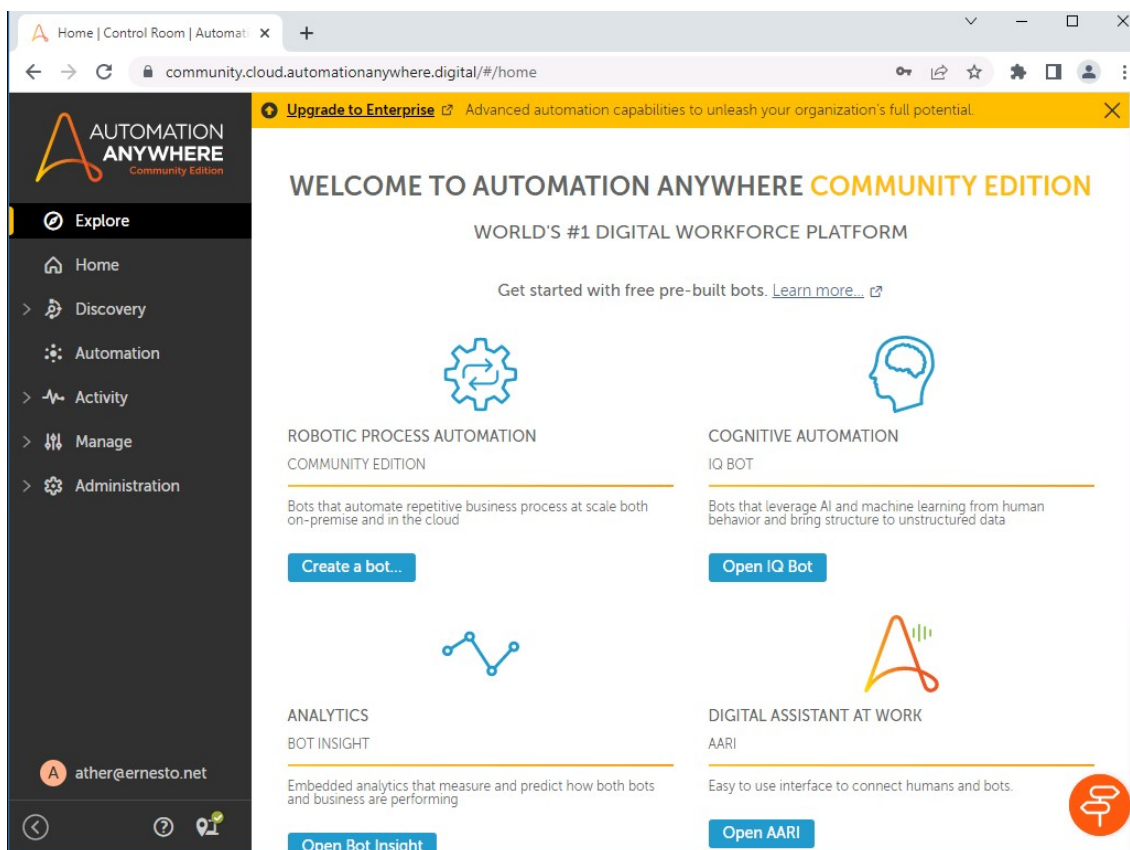
Launching and logging into Control Room

As Automation Anywhere is 100% cloud-based, the platform is a totally web-based application. As such, we need to run Automation Anywhere from our web browser. I am using Chrome, but Internet Explorer can also be used to launch Automation Anywhere:

1. Copy the **Control Room** URL details from your registration email and enter this URL into your web browser address bar:

2. Next, enter the **Username** (this is usually your email address), followed by the **Password** sent in the email from Automation Anywhere.

3. Click on the **Log in** button. When you have successfully logged in, you will be navigated to the **Home** page:
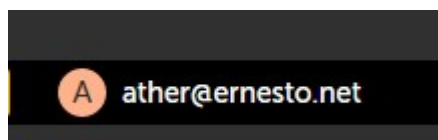
You have managed to log in to Automation Anywhere **Control Room**. The top right shows the user details, while the left-hand pane has all the different sections of Control Room.
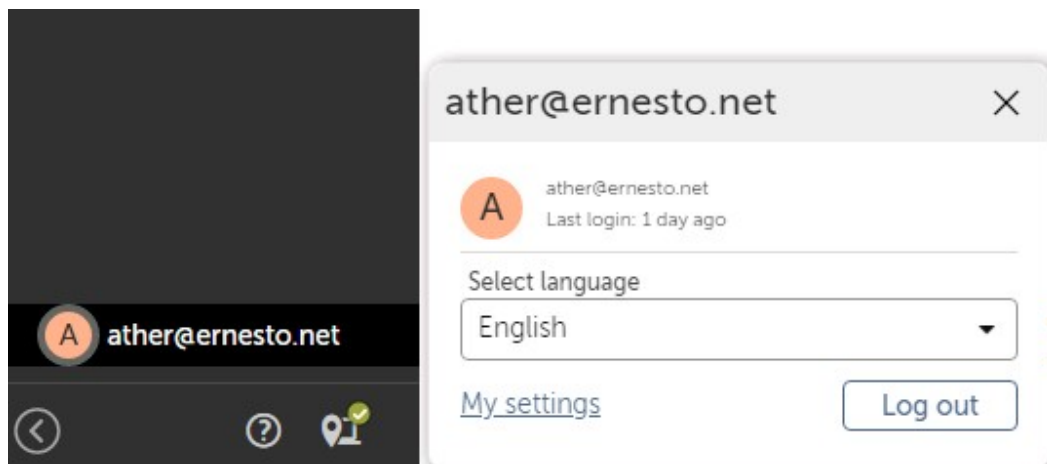
Updating your profile and password

The first thing you may want to do is update your profile and set a new password:
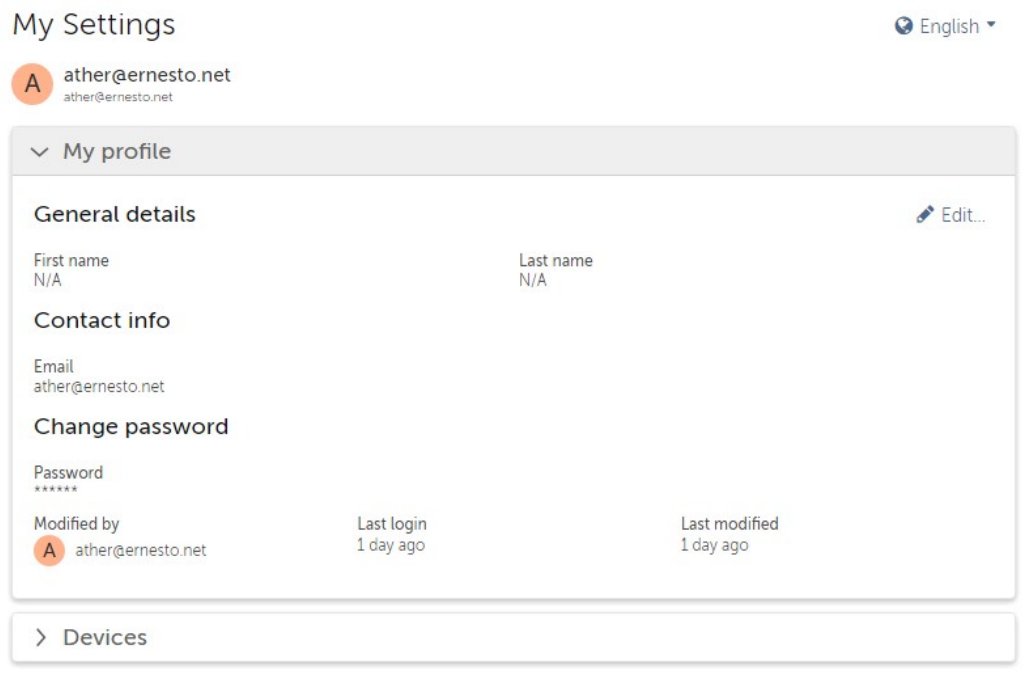
1. In the botton left-hand corner of the **Home** page, click on your profile icon:

2. From the dialog box, click on **Go to My settings**:

3. This will take you to your profile details interface; to make any changes to your profile, click on **Edit**:

4. This will allow you to update your details. Here, you can update your **password**; once you have made your changes, click on **Save changes** to apply them:

My Settings

A ather@ernesto.net
   ather@ernesto.net

English ▾

∨ My profile

General details   Cancel   Save changes

First name (optional)   Last name (optional)

Maximum = 50 characters   Maximum = 50 characters

Contact info

Contact email   Confirm contact email

ather@ernesto.net   ather@ernesto.net

Maximum = 255 characters

Change password

Always log into my account using this username and password

Current password   New password   Confirm new password

8–15 characters; a–z, A–Z, 0–9, @, -, _, !, #, $, %, &, and . allowed. Requires at least one of each of the following:
 • Number
 • Capital letter
 • Special character

You are now successfully connected to **Control Room** and have configured it to your liking. Every time you want to launch Automation Anywhere, you will navigate via your browser to the URL given and use your credentials to log in. Now let's prepare your device.

Preparing your device

When bots are built, they need to be run on a device. This device can be a physical desktop, laptop, or even a virtual machine. We need to install and configure all devices that we may want to run a bot on. With this free edition of Automation Anywhere, we can add only one device.

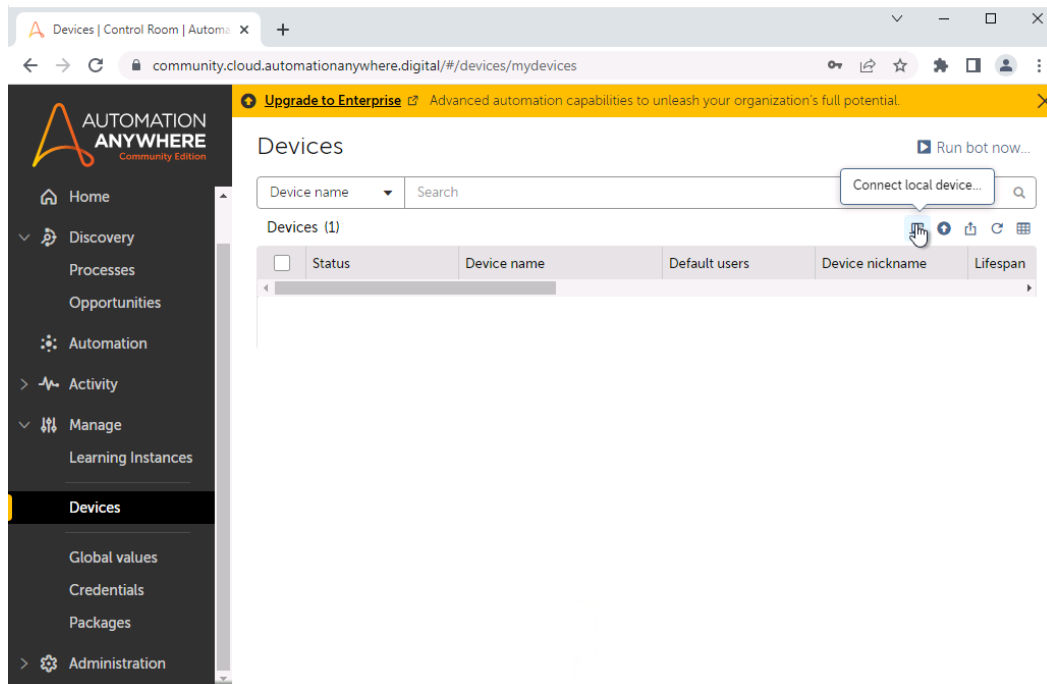To add a device, two stages are involved:

- Installing a Bot agent
- Enabling the extension

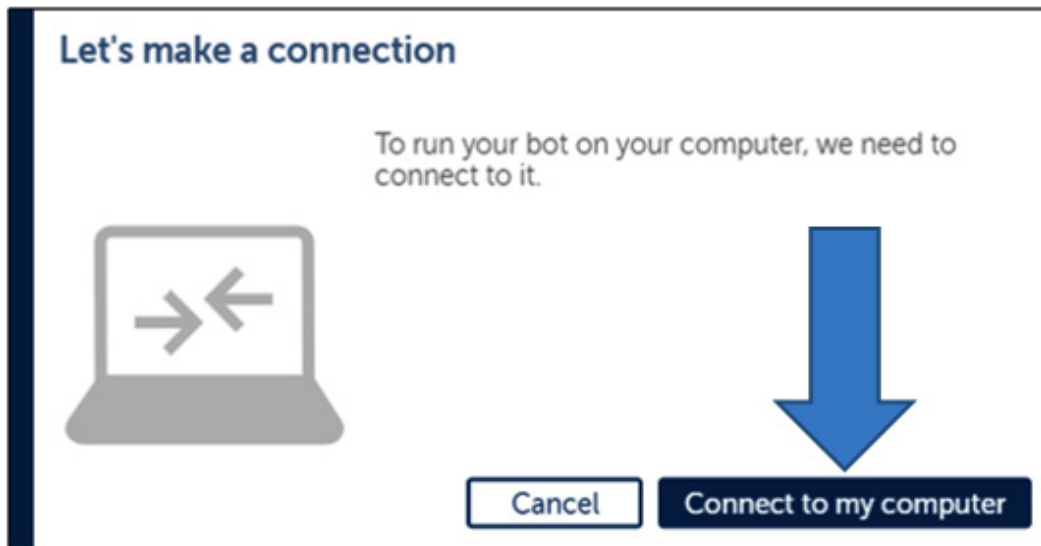Let's go through each stage now.

Installing a Bot agent

The Bot agent is a small application that allows the device to communicate with the task bots. To install the Bot agent, follow these steps:
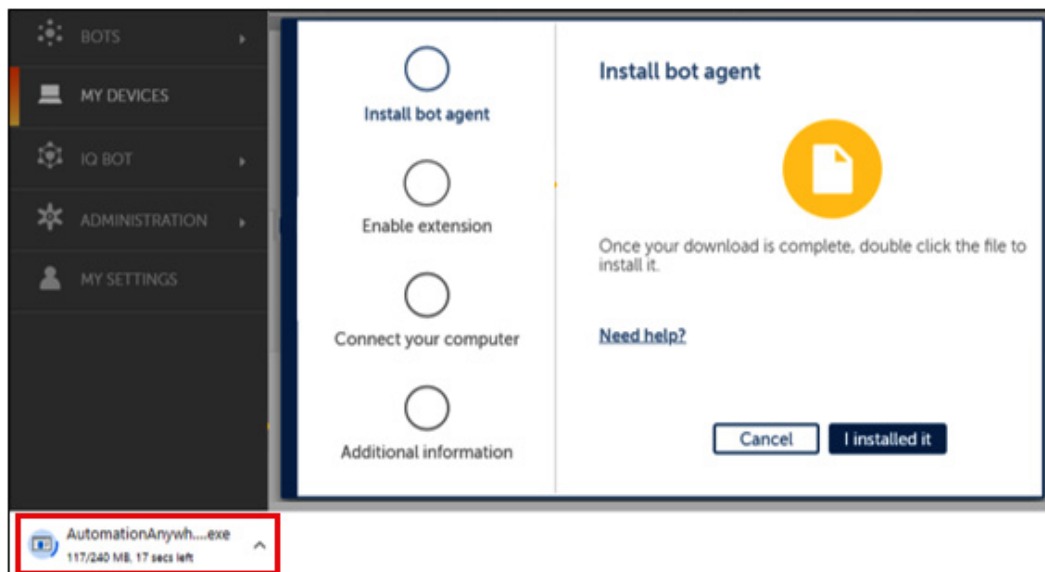
1. Click on **DEVICES** from the left-hand menu bar, then click on the **Connect Local Device** icon:
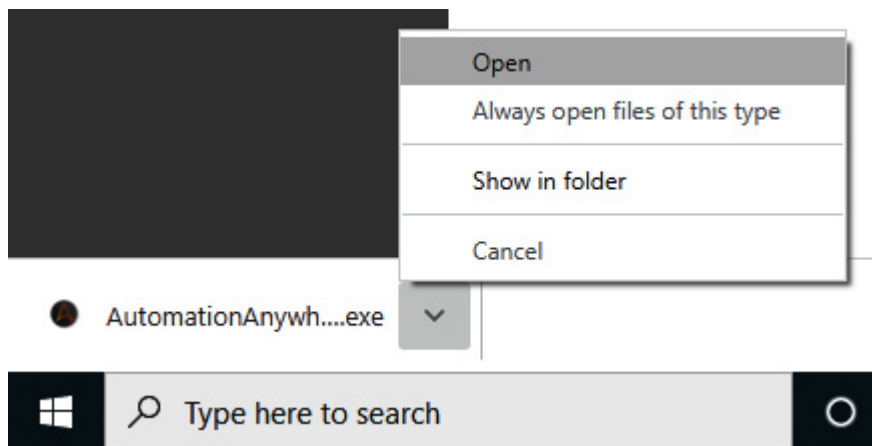
2. The connection wizard will pop up. Click on **Connect to my computer**:

Let's make a connection

To run your bot on your computer, we need to connect to it.
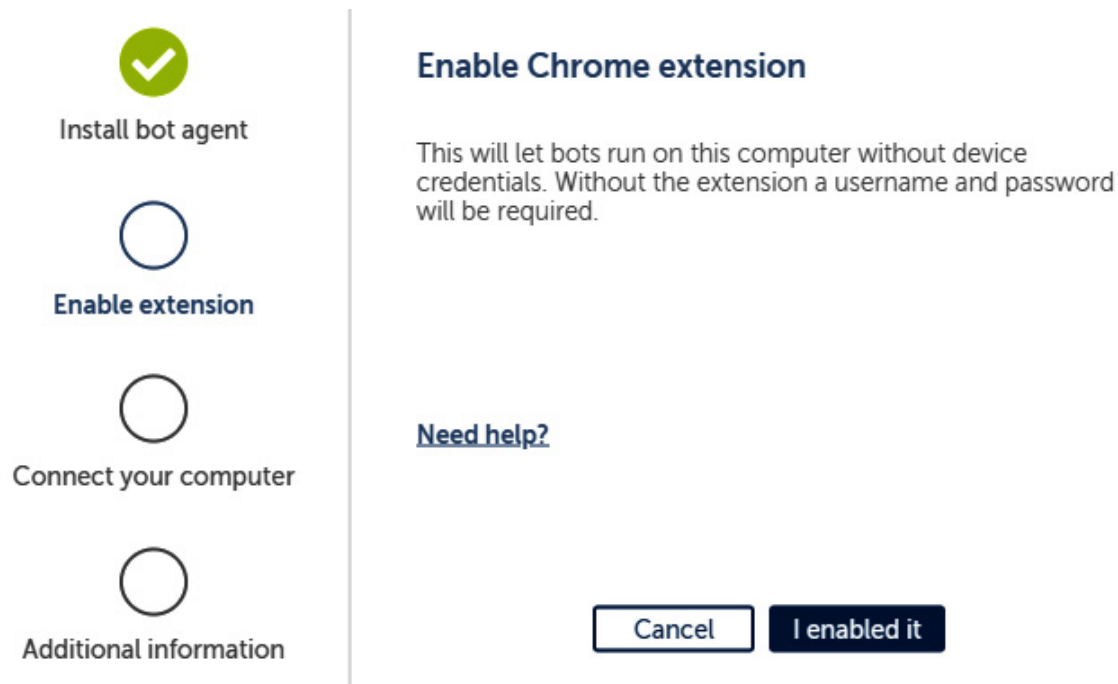
Cancel   Connect to my computer

3. The wizard will start to download the Bot agent (into your default downloads folder) as shown in the following screenshot:

4. Once the Bot agent has been downloaded, right-click on the downloaded file's icon and select **Open**:

5. This will initiate the Bot agent install wizard. Follow any onscreen instructions to install the Bot agent.

6. Once it has been installed, you will notice a green tick in the **Install bot agent** step. This green tick indicates the successful completion of that task:
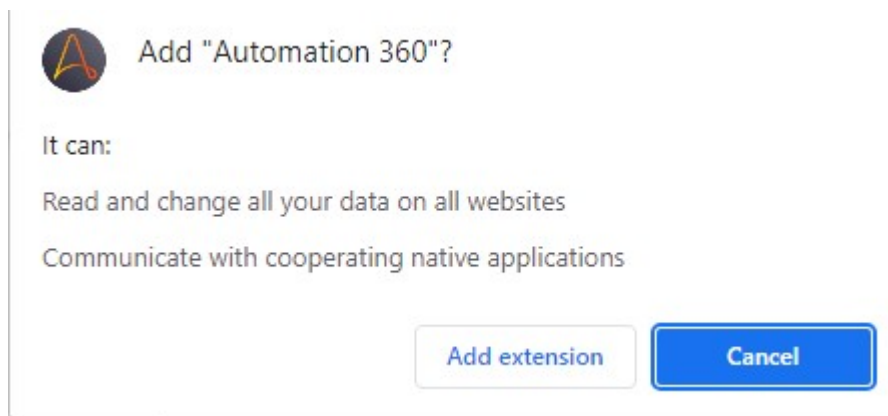
The wizard will automatically lead you into the next section for enabling the extension.
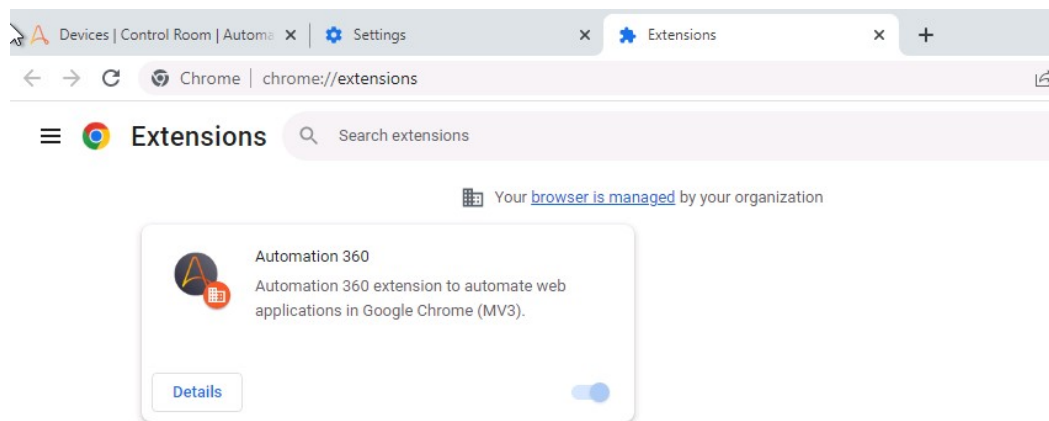
Enabling the extension

If you are using Google Chrome as your browser, Automation Anywhere will need to enable an extension for this. This allows Automation Anywhere to identify and interact with web-based objects for automating your bots.
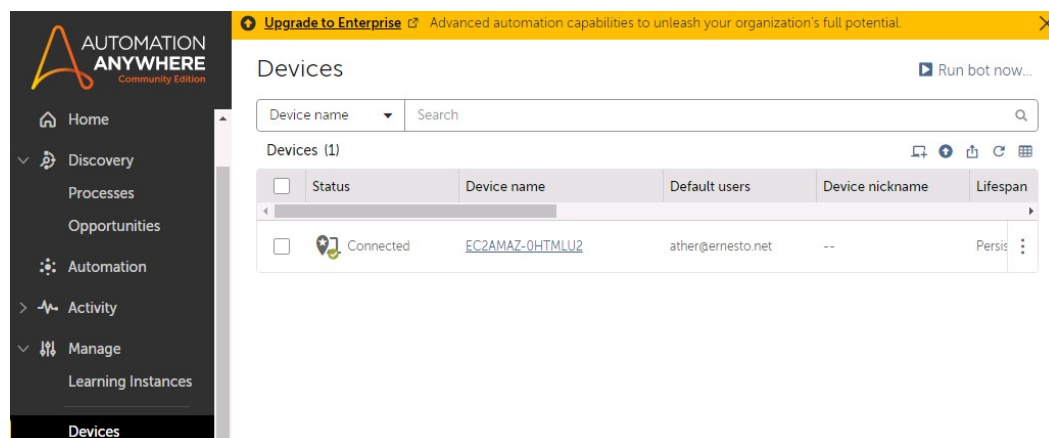
1. When you prompted, click on **Add to Chrome** button and you will get the following prompt; click on **Add extension**:
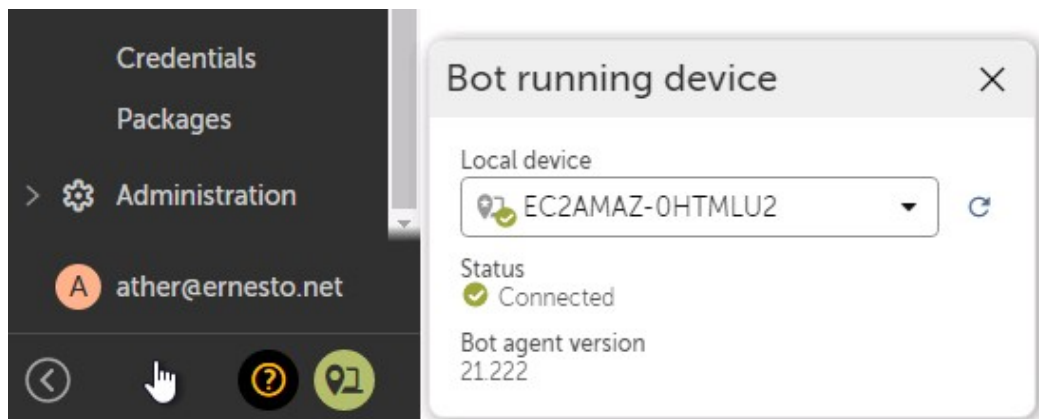

2. This will install and enable the extension. To view or disable the extension in Chrome, navigate to **Settings** | **Extensions** and the Automation Anywhere extension should be visible:

3. Once the extension has been enabled, the progress indicator will be updated with further green ticks.

4. Finally, to complete the installation, click on the **Done** button.

5. Looking at **Devices** in **Control Room**, you will now notice your device listed:

6. The Bot agent should now be successfully installed on your device. You will also notice a little green tick against your local device icon on the top pane:

Note: You can ask extension manually by searching `Automation 360` in Google web store.

We now need to configure the device so that Automation Anywhere can log in to it, even if no one is logged in to that device or if it's locked.

Great work! We have now got our device all ready to start working with **Control Room**. **Control Room** is set up with a user profile and a device.

Summary

We are all ready to get going now. You will be comfortable in the future with setting up and configuring a device with Automation Anywhere Control Room. You could have a number of devices installed in **Control Room**. Once a bot is built, it can be deployed to any one of them or even a number of devices. Installing and configuring devices is an essential part of deploying and testing bots, and Control Room provides a centralized location to manage all your devices easily.

In the next lab, we will look more closely at the **Control Room** features. We have already looked at setting up devices, but there is a lot more to it. We will learn about the dashboard, and how your bot is managed and monitored. This will get you more familiar with the **Control Room** interface used in Automation Anywhere.