Optimize your life with Power Automate

sqlbits

Scott Bell

@fusionet24

Premise

- Save Time! Don’t do repetitive tasks in your daily life
- Understand more about where you spend your day
- Optimize existing processes and tasks
- Covid19! Gave us all a chance to reflect and drastically change our lives.
- Allow Technology to assist you. It must be effortless but also reliable.

Agenda

Brief Introduction to Power Automate

How to categorize your pictures

How to save time doing your expenses…

How to Remember and Optimise Everything you do!

How to be left alone while Working From Home

Conclusion

Brief Introduction to Power Automate

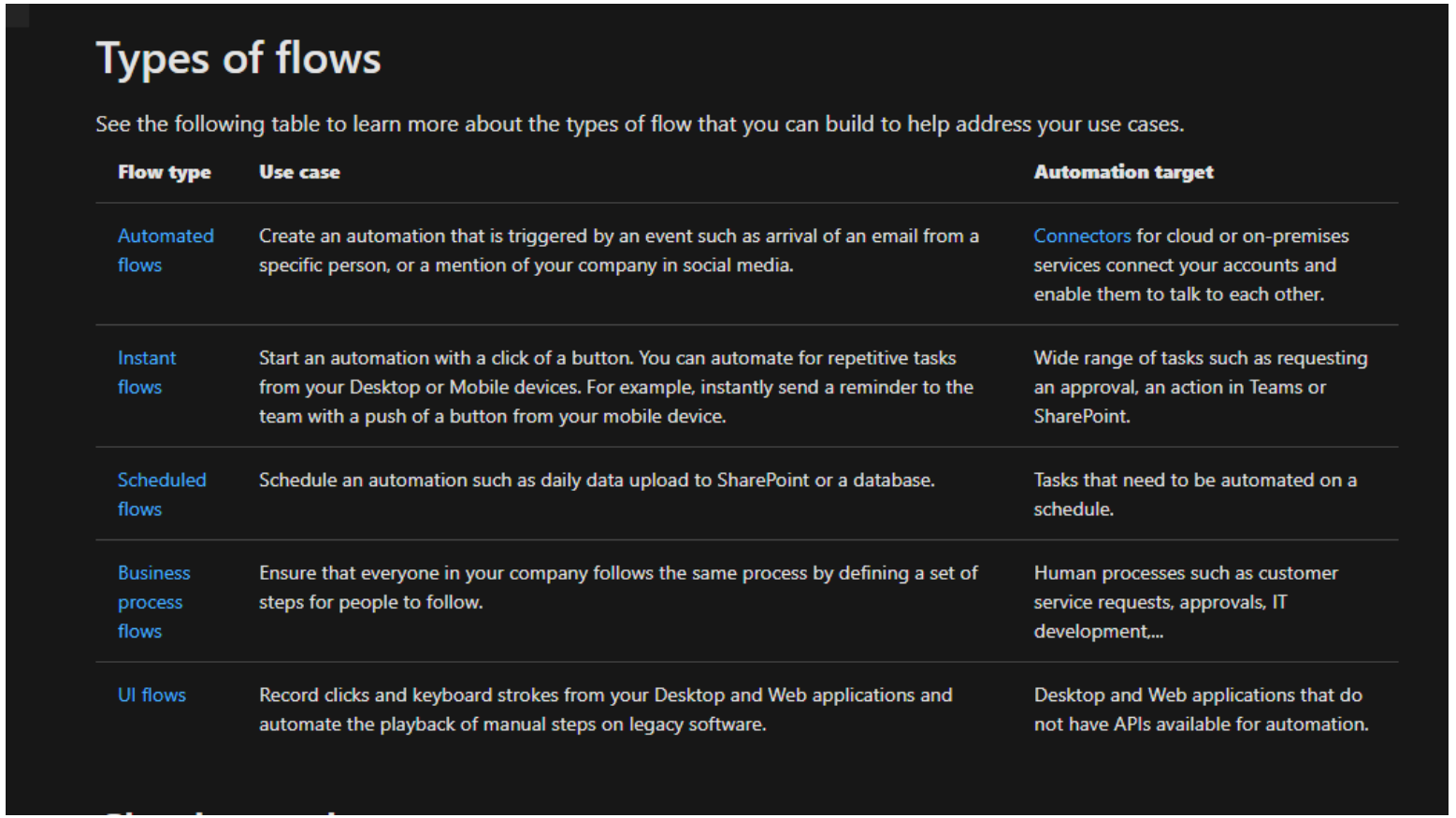
- Cloud Based Service
- Automate Manual Processes
- Connect to over 300 different systems
- Trigger Notifications, alerts, data capturing and more

- Increase Productivity
- Stop doing Repetitive Tasks
- Low Barrier to Entry (Can be UI Driven)

- Its Free with a Microsoft account
- An Enterprise and Azure Level Version exists Called Logic Apps

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/power-automate/

Brief Introduction to Power Automate

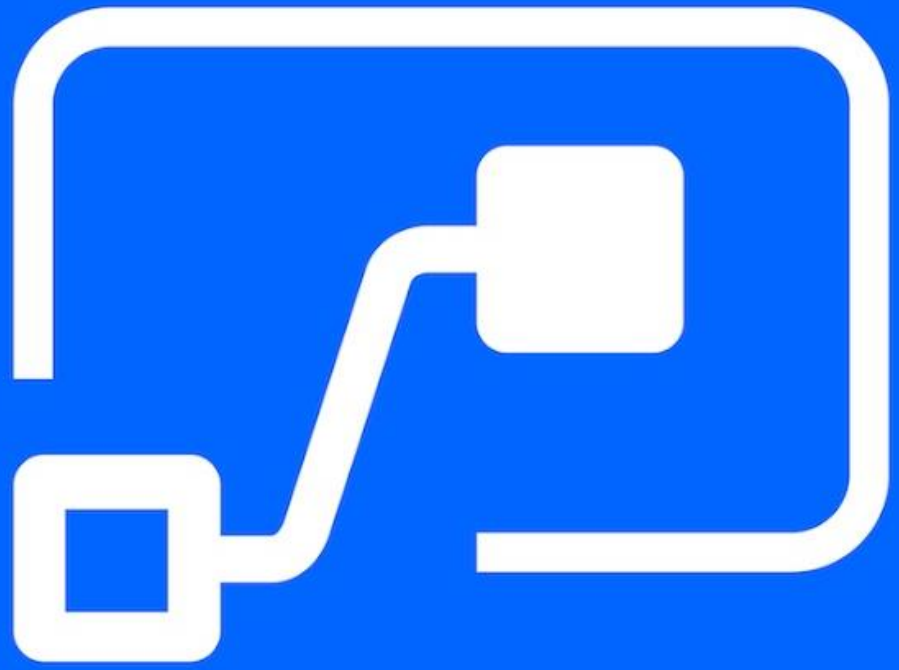


Types of flows

See the following table to learn more about the types of flow that you can build to help address your use cases.

Flow type	Use case	Automation target
Automated flows	Create an automation that is triggered by an event such as arrival of an email from a specific person, or a mention of your company in social media.	Connectors for cloud or on-premises services connect your accounts and enable them to talk to each other.
Instant flows	Start an automation with a click of a button. You can automate for repetitive tasks from your Desktop or Mobile devices. For example, instantly send a reminder to the team with a push of a button from your mobile device.	Wide range of tasks such as requesting an approval, an action in Teams or SharePoint.
Scheduled flows	Schedule an automation such as daily data upload to SharePoint or a database.	Tasks that need to be automated on a schedule.
Business process flows	Ensure that everyone in your company follows the same process by defining a set of steps for people to follow.	Human processes such as customer service requests, approvals, IT development,...
UI flows	Record clicks and keyboard strokes from your Desktop and Web applications and automate the playback of manual steps on legacy software.	Desktop and Web applications that do not have APIs available for automation.

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/power-automate/getting-started#types-of-flows



Use Cases to Optimize your life

How to Understand photos with Azure

How to Categorize your pictures

- **NEED:** To be able to search my pictures by text or objects to quickly find a picture for reference. I.e Wifi Password Photos
- **Solution:** Use Azure Cognitive services to intelligently extract information about the pictures in my One Drive

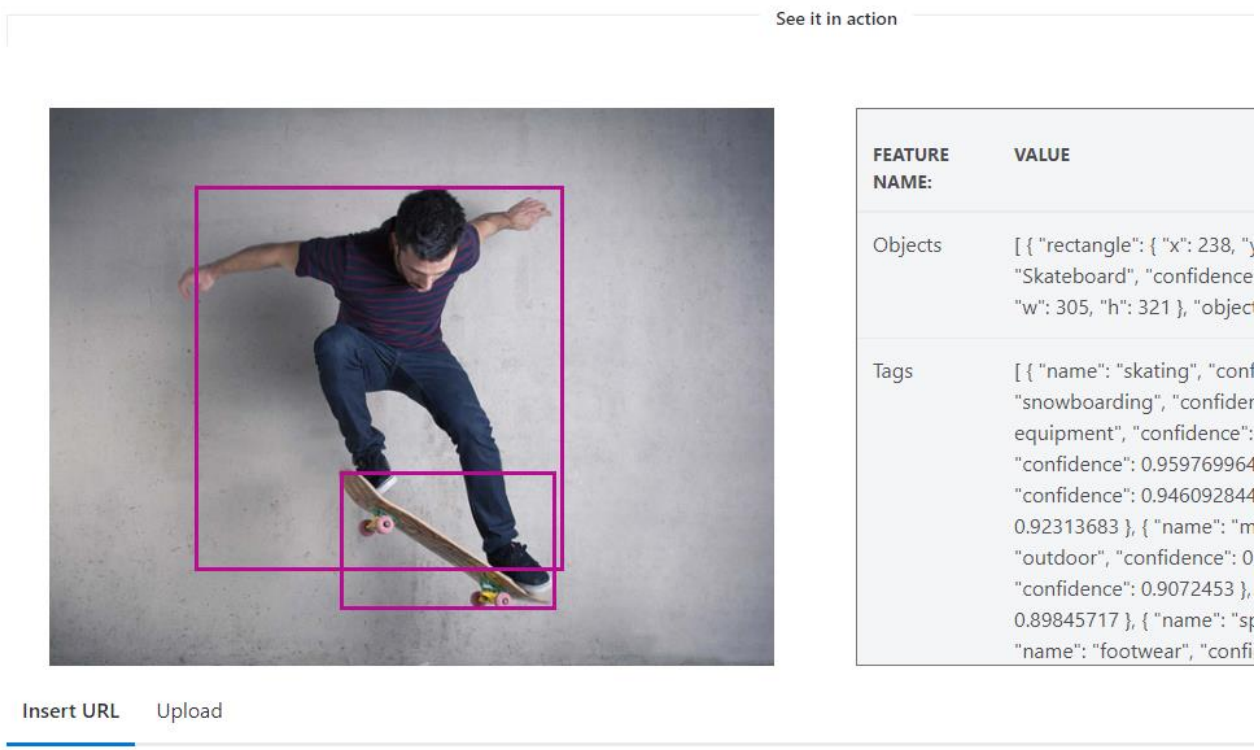
https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/power-automate/

Azure Cognitive services

- Are a powerful set of APIs that allow you to apply Artificial Intelligence to common problems.
- Collection of APIs for Decisions, Language, Speech, Vision and Search
- Free(ish)

https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/services/cognitive-services/#api

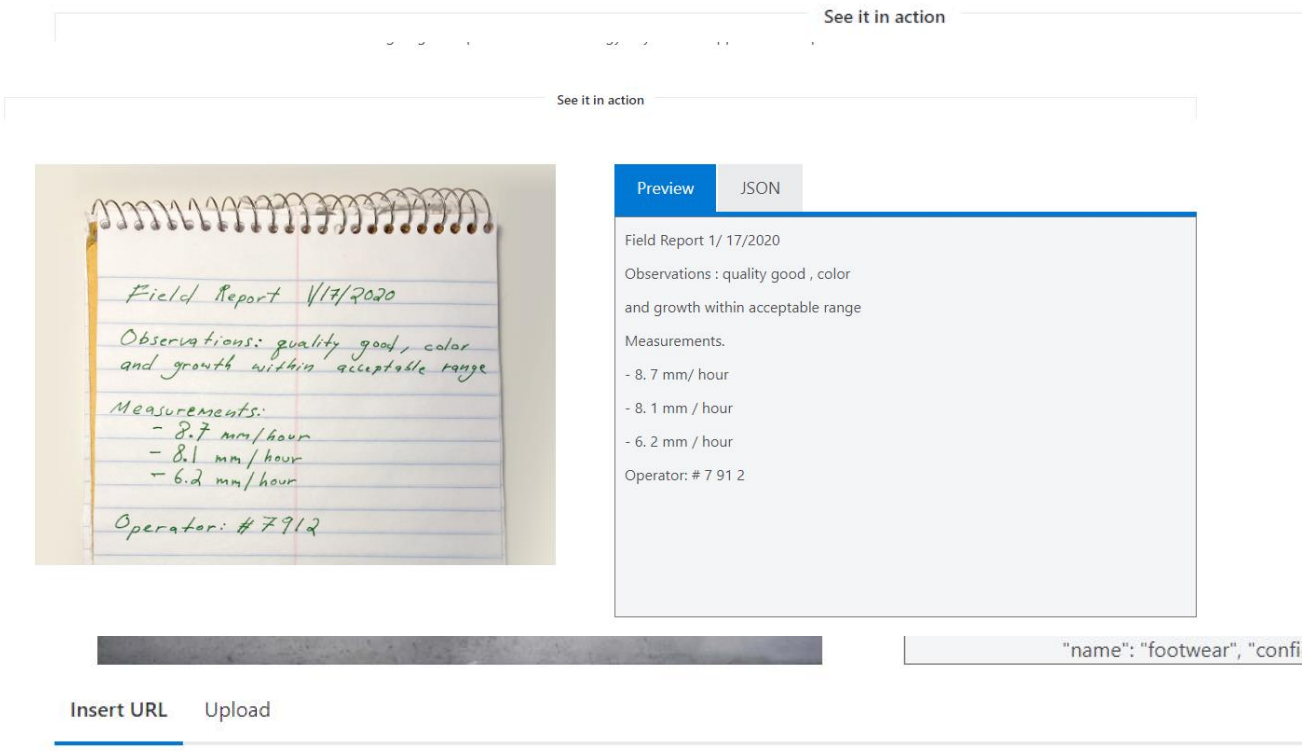
Computer Vision API: How it works



- Send an Image to the API
- Receive a response with objects categorized inside of it with meta data

https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/services/cognitive-services/#api

Computer Vision API: How it works



- It can also do Optical Character Recognition

https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/services/cognitive-services/#api

How to Categorize your pictures

- **NEED:** To be able to search my pictures by text or objects to quickly find a picture for reference. I.e Wifi Password Photos
- **Solution:** Use Azure Cognitive services to intelligently extract information about the pictures in my One Drive
- **How:** Use an automated flow which is triggered by Uploads to a Onedrive folder. This will Orchestrate a set of actions that call the cognitive service API and then save the response to a data store.

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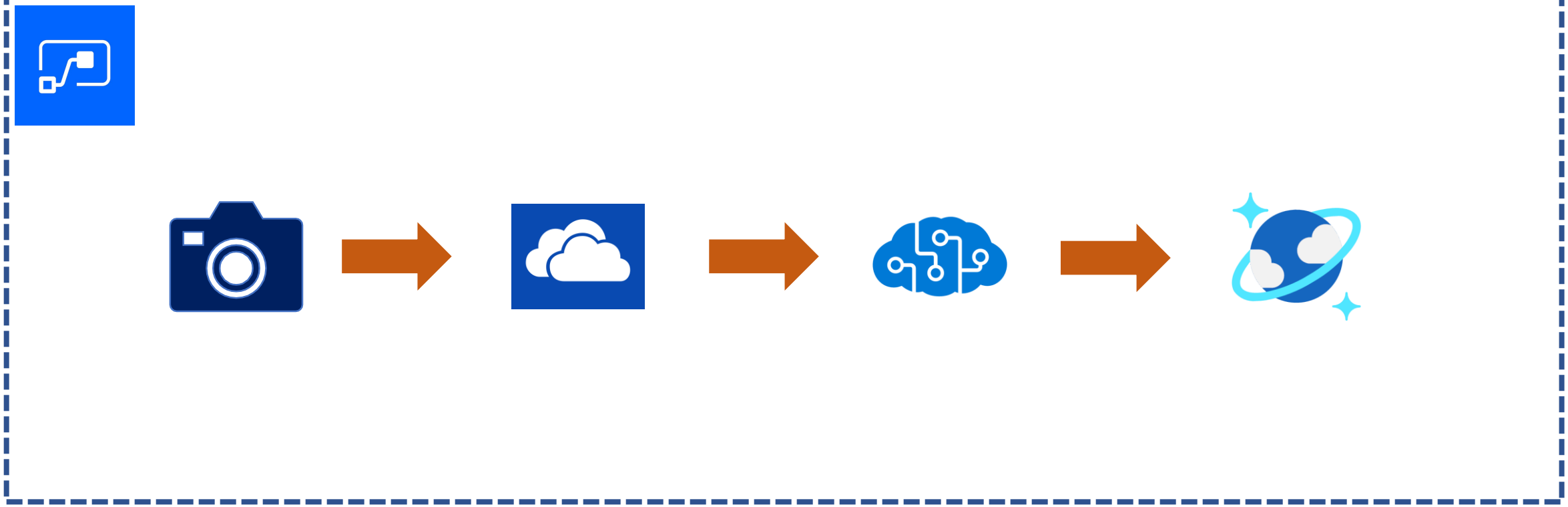
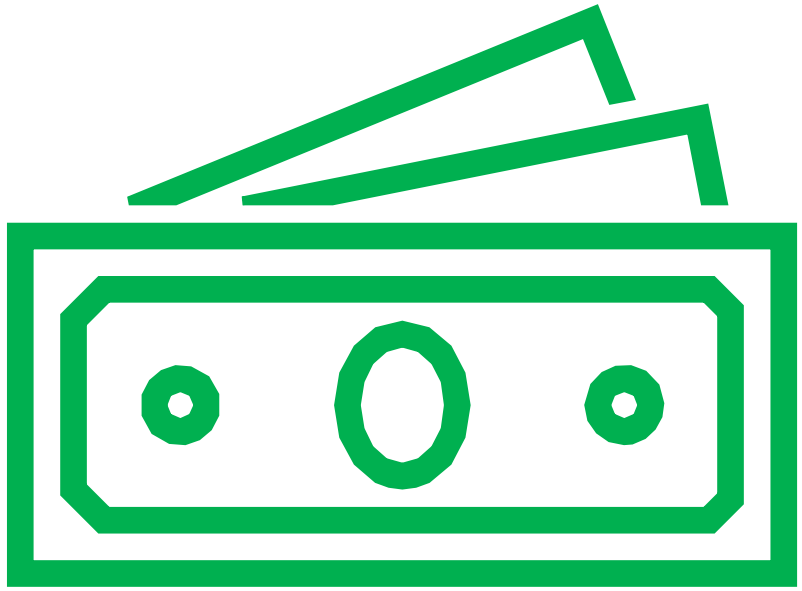
How to Categorize your pictures



How to Understand photos with Azure

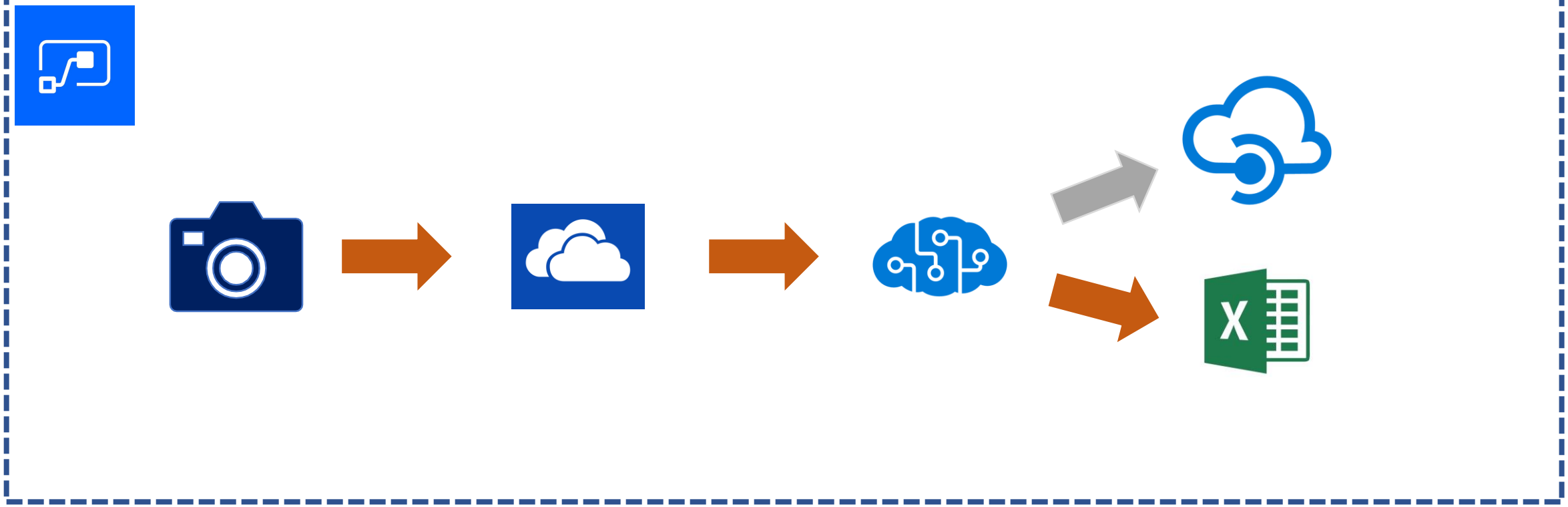


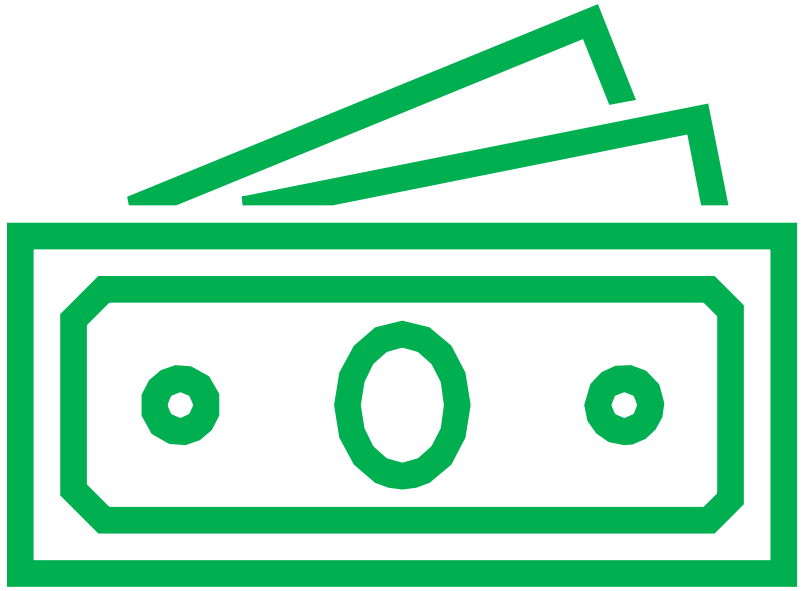
How to save time doing your expenses…

How to save time doing your expenses…

- **NEED:** To be able to automatically parse my receipts text to speed up my expense process
- **Solution:** Use Azure Cognitive services to intelligently extract information about the pictures in my One Drive
- **How:** Use an automated flowed which is triggered by Uploads to a Onedrive folder. This will Orchestrate a set of actions that call the cognitive service API and then save the response to a data store *and(or) 3rd party API*.

How to save time doing your expenses…





How to save time doing your expenses…

How to Remember and Optimize Everything you do!

How to Categorize your How to Remember and Optimize Everything you do!

- **NEED:** To remember tasks I need todo and to track progress of task completion. Analyze progress over time to better optimize future tasks.
- **Solution:** Use a Todo list application (Todoist) to track and manage my tasks. Push that data to a datastore so that analytics and reporting is possible.

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/power-automate/

What is Todoist?

- Todo list manager with projects, tasks, labels and filters. Allowing for intelligent task tracking
- Has 3 million users
- Has a Power Automate connector and APIs
- Other todo list solutions are available…

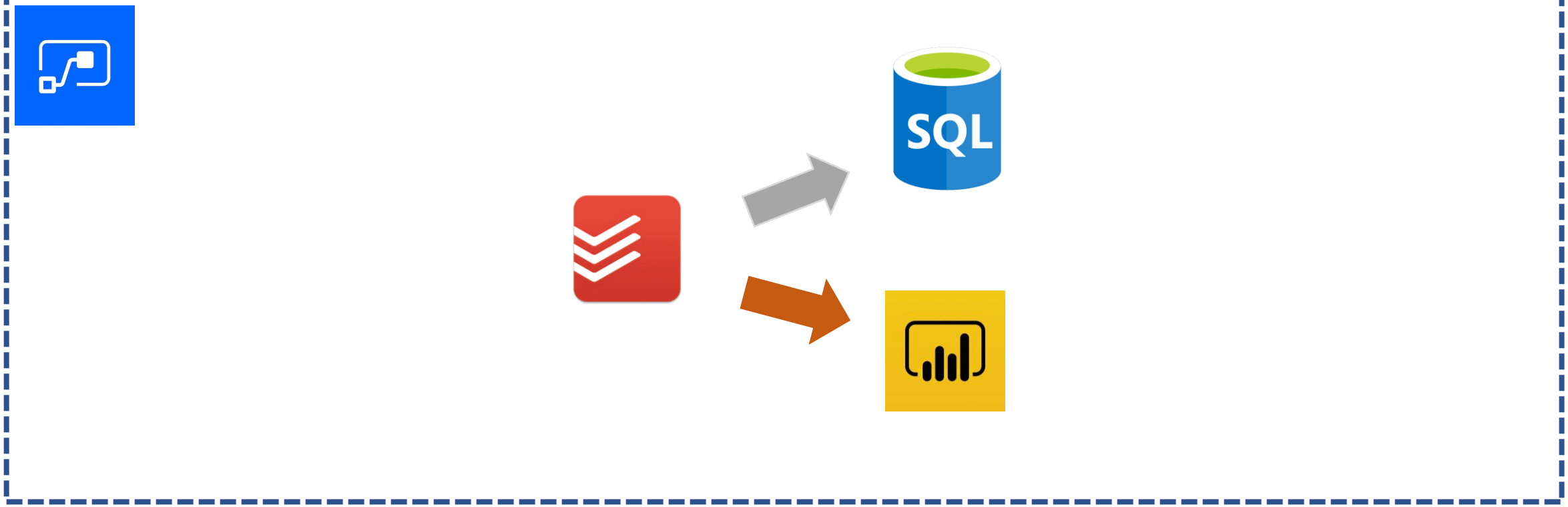
https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/connectors/connector-reference/connector-reference-powerautomate-connectors

How to Categorize your How to Remember and Optimize Everything you do!

- **NEED:** To remember tasks I need todo and to track progress of task completion. Analyze progress over time to better optimize future tasks.
- **Solution:** Use a Todo list application (Todoist) to track and manage my tasks. Push that data to a datastore so that analytics and reporting is possible.
- **How:** Use a Scheduled flowed which is triggered Daily. This will Orchestrate a set of actions that call the todoist action and then save the response to a BI Tool

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/power-automate/

How to Categorize your How to Remember and Optimize Everything you do!



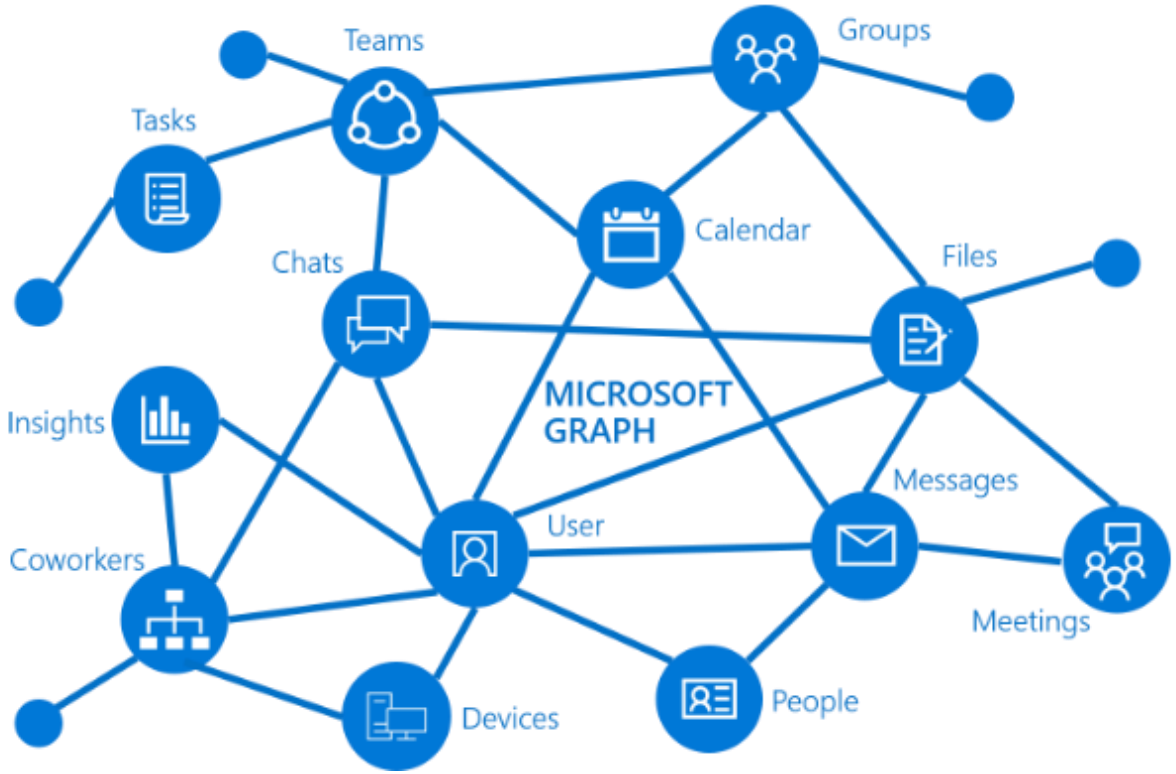
How to Remember and Optimize Everything you do!

How to be left alone while Working From Home

How to be left alone while Working From Home

- **NEED:** To indicate when I need to be not disturbed
- **Solution:** Define a set of criterial in my schedule or communication software that uses a smart device to reflect my status
- **How:** Use a Scheduled flowed which is triggered every minute. This will Orchestrate a a call to the Microsoft Graph API which will determine my Presence. Which is then used to set the colour and brightness of a LIFX Smart Bulb.

What is Microsoft Graph



- Microsoft Graph is the gateway to data and intelligence in Microsoft 365
- provides a unified programmability model across a range of services
- Has a Power Automate connector and APIs

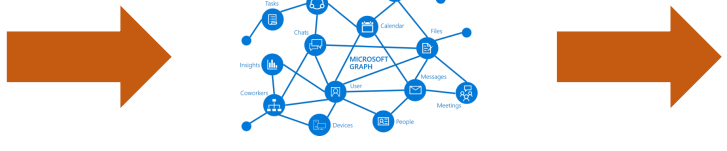
https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/connectors/connector-reference/connector-reference-powerautomate-connectors

What is LIFX

https://uk.lifx.com/products/lifx

- LIFX is a line of energy-efficient, multi-color, Wi-Fi enabled, digital addressable LED light bulbs that can be controlled via a Wi-Fi equipped device such as a smartphone or smartwatch.
- Has a simple and Open REST API!

How to be left alone while Working From Home



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- You have seen several ways you can use the Power Automate Software from Microsoft
- Examples of simple but helpful solutions
- Hopefully are inspired to go away and find new ways to save time!

- If you have your own optimizations, please share them!

Thank you

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