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What is Cloud Composer?

- Fully managed **Apache Airflow** implementation:
 - Infrastructure/OS handled for you

open source

What is Apache Airflow?

- Programatically create, schedule, and monitor **data workflows**

Why is this important?

- Automation and monitoring
- Big data pipelines are often a multi-step, complex process:
 - Create resources in multiple services
 - Process and move data from one service to another
 - Remove resources when they complete a task (*e.g. Dataproc cluster*)
- Collaborate workflow process with other team members

How Airflow/Composer helps

- Automates the above steps, including scheduling
- Built on **open source**, using **Python** as common language
- Easy to work with, and share workflow with others
- Works with non-GCP providers (on-premises, other clouds)



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How It Works

Behind the scenes:

- GKE cluster with Airflow implemented
- Cloud Storage bucket for workflow files (and other application files)



Cloud
Composer

=



Apache
Airflow

Install into
on top
of it

+



Kubernetes
Engine (cluster)

+



Cloud Storage
(Storage location)

automatically create
bucket
at same time

Workflows?

- Orchestrate data pipelines:
 - Like a walkthrough of tasks to run
- Format = Direct Acyclic Graph (DAG): ← important terminology
 - Written in Python ↑ python application
 - Collection of organized tasks that you want to schedule and run
- **Cloud Composer creates workflows using DAG files**

Summary!

different from
cloud variables

The Process

- Create Composer Environment (kubernetes instance cluster)
- Set Composer variables (i.e. project ID, GCS bucket, region)
- Add Workflows (DAG files), which Composer will execute





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Examples and Exam Perspective

- Create a **Dataproc** cluster, submit a job, and then delete the cluster.
- Execute a Cloud **Dataflow** pipeline from data in **GCS**, and write output to **BigQuery**.
- Ingest third party data into Cloud **Dataflow**, process, then upload to **GCS**.
- **Exam perspective:** Know what DAGs are, and why you'd want to use workflows.

→ cloud storage bucket
(to save cost)

Exam topics!!!

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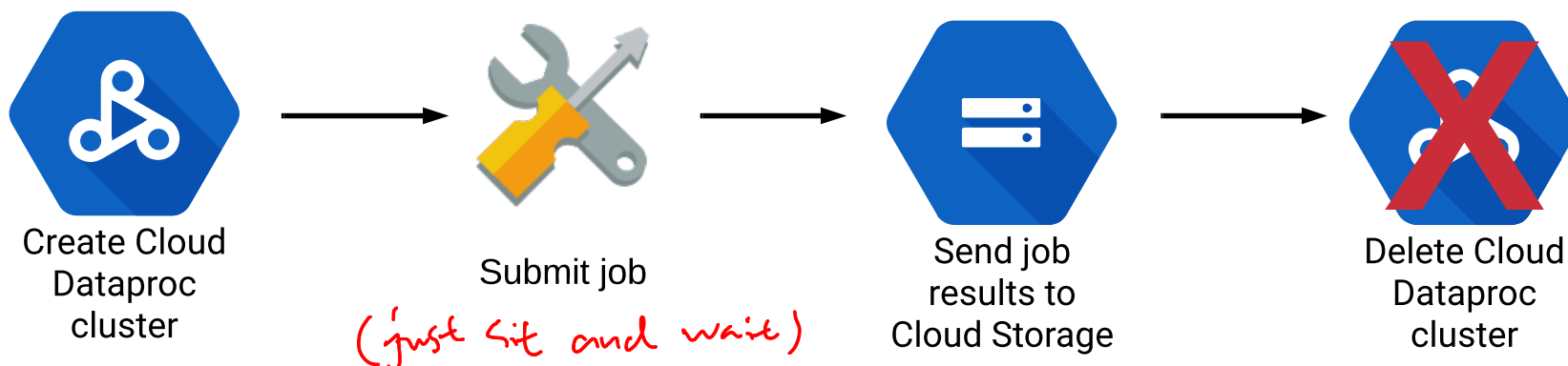
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The Process:

- Create the Composer environment. *cluster*
- Then create the GCS bucket for Dataproc output.
- Assign Cloud Composer variables.
- Upload the workflow file to DAG folder.
- View the results.

Automatic processes -- Workflow



Create Composer Environment

- Enable Composer/Dataproc API
- Create environment in closest region:
 - What's happening?
 - Creating GKE cluster + GCS bucket

Create GCS bucket to output Dataproc results

- `gsutil mb -l us-central1 gs://output-$DEVSHHELL_PROJECT_ID`



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Configure Cloud Composer Variables

- Format
 - `gcloud composer environments run (ENVIRONMENT_NAME) --location (LOCATION) variables -- --set (KEY VALUE)`
- `gcloud composer environments run my-environment --location us-central1 variables -- --set gcp_project (PROJECT-ID)`
- `gcloud composer environments run my-environment --location us-central1 variables -- --set gcs_bucket gs://output-(PROJECT-ID)`
- `gcloud composer environments run my-environment --location us-central1 variables -- --set gce_zone us-central1-c`

Add workflow file (Python) to Composer DAG folder:

- [github link](#)

Next step? There is none! Cloud Composer will take it from here...