# IRC deployment lab

Dr Peadar Grant

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CONTENTS	S.1
Contents	

3 SSH port forwarding

1	Aim	S.2
2	Internet Relay Chat (IRC)	S.4

**S.10** 

# 1 Aim

We're going to draw together:

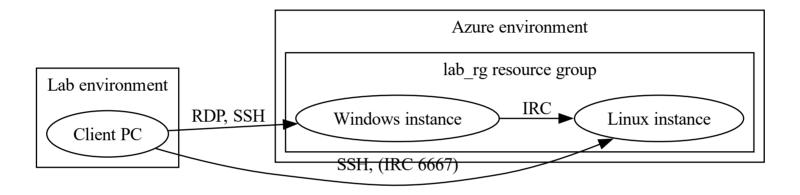
- Experience with Azure to date
- Last year's experience with AWS
- Basic SysAdmin and Networking knowledge

to put together a basic IRC server and demonstrate it with a Windows Client.

1 AIM

## S.3

## 1.1 Scenario



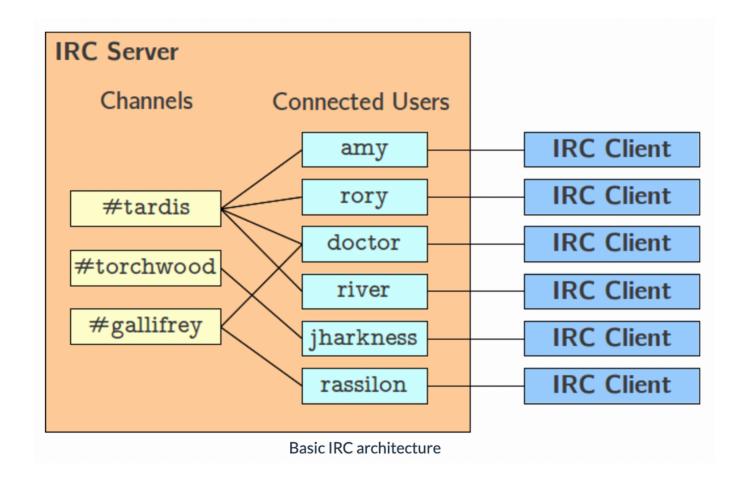
# 2 Internet Relay Chat (IRC)

Internet Relay Chat (IRC) is a chat-oriented text protocol running over port 6667.

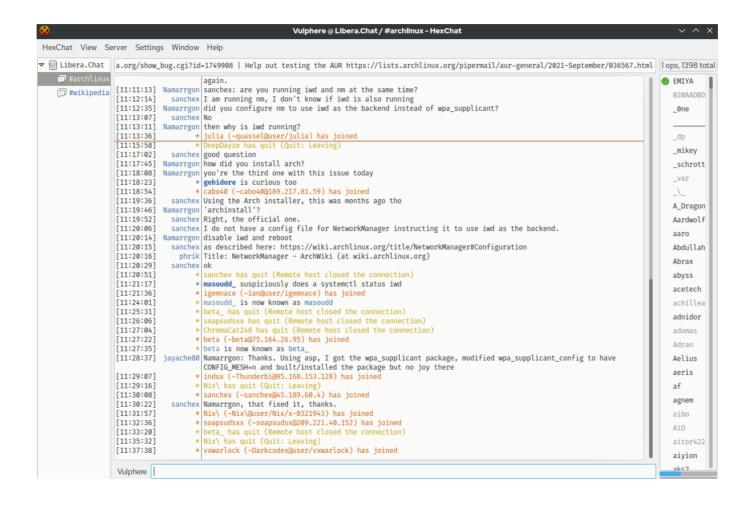
- Originated in the 1980's
- Still in use but popularity has waned:
  - Social media, lack of "rich content".
  - Not a simple 1-click setup
- Standardised protocol with choice of clients
  - Easy to code up bots!
- Spartan interface with text commands like /JOIN
- Insecure server defaults for authentication, channel creation etc.

At its most basic level an IRC server hosts a number of "channels".

### 2.1 IRC server and clients



#### 2.2 Clients



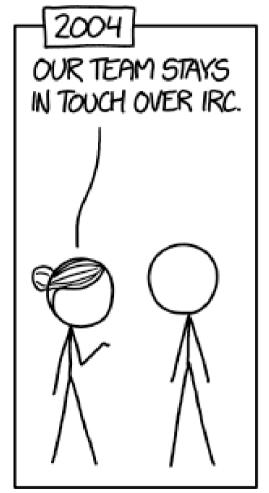
#### 2.2.1 Text-based clients

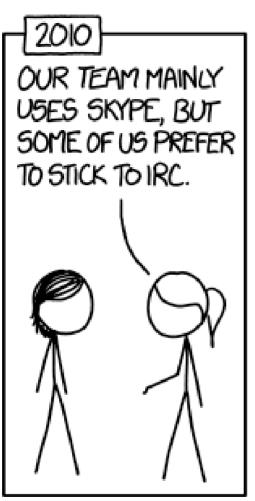
```
Irssi: #archlinux: Total of 1399 nicks 1 ops, 0 halfops, 0 voices, 1398 normal
 Irssi: Join to #archlinux was synced in 2 secs
           ~mbax@155-079-043-212.ip-addr.inexio.net has joined #archlinux
           ~trampel@2601:602:9a00:49d:811:d0fd:329f:c4cb has joined #archlinux
        ~archangel@user/djapo has joined #archlinux
rcf Now it does, ves.
rcf trampel: drop the '.php', they upgraded
       ~kyk3@2402:3a80:1ca5:d7cc:1edc:82aa:5fc7:dcae has joined #archlinux
         ~tasse@user/tasse has joined #archlinux
          ~Betal@user/betal has joined #archlinux
           ~mbax@155-079-043-212.ip-addr.inexio.net has joined #archlinux
           ~mbax@155-079-043-212.ip-addr.inexio.net has joined #archlinux
          ~euouae@user/euouae has joined #archlinux
         ~Vonter@user/vonter has joined #archlinux
      ~ykelvis@user/yk has joined #archlinux
            ~LordRisha@user/lordrishav has joined #archlinux
! obale1 ~obale@user/obale has quit Ping timeout: 276 second
     ~obale@user/obale has joined #archlinux
```

### 2.3 Usage

IRC has dwindled among the general public as a chat mechanism for a number of factors.

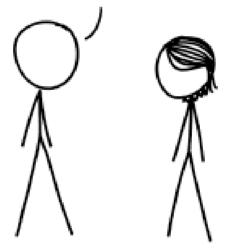
- Some open-source development communities still use it for commercial and political reasons.
- Works very well on low-bandwidth connections (e.g. legacy satellite)
- Development teams still use it sometimes in preference to Teams, Slack.
- Twitch gaming streaming site employs it
- Some monitoring systems use it for broadcast alterting and reporting

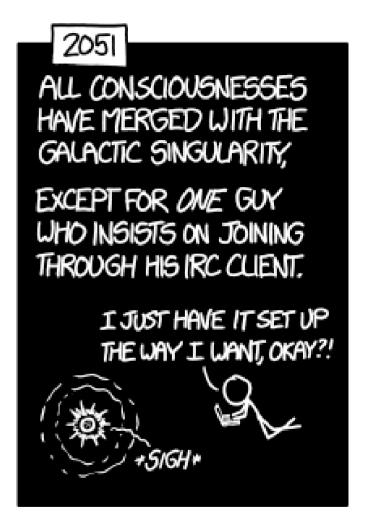




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WE'VE GOT ALMOST EVERYONE ON SLACK, BUT THREE PEOPLE REFUSE TO QUIT IRC AND CONNECT VIA GATEWAY.





# 3 SSH port forwarding

IRC uses Port 6667.

We want to test an IRC client on our lab desktop connected to our Linux VM.

SSH forwarding is where SSH can **tunnel** a port from our local server through to the remote machine.

It's almost like a mini VPN and is VERY useful!