



nordic.
summit

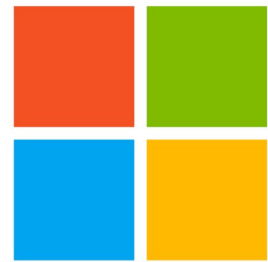
Connecting to Dataverse:
do's, don'ts and how not to make all your data public by accident

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Mats Necker

Likes all cloud stuff

 CTO @ knk Customer Engagement GmbH

 Business Applications MVP

 nckr.de

 @matzzt



Yannick Reekmans

Jack of all Trades

 Cloud Solution Architect @ Qubix

 Business Applications & M365 Development MVP

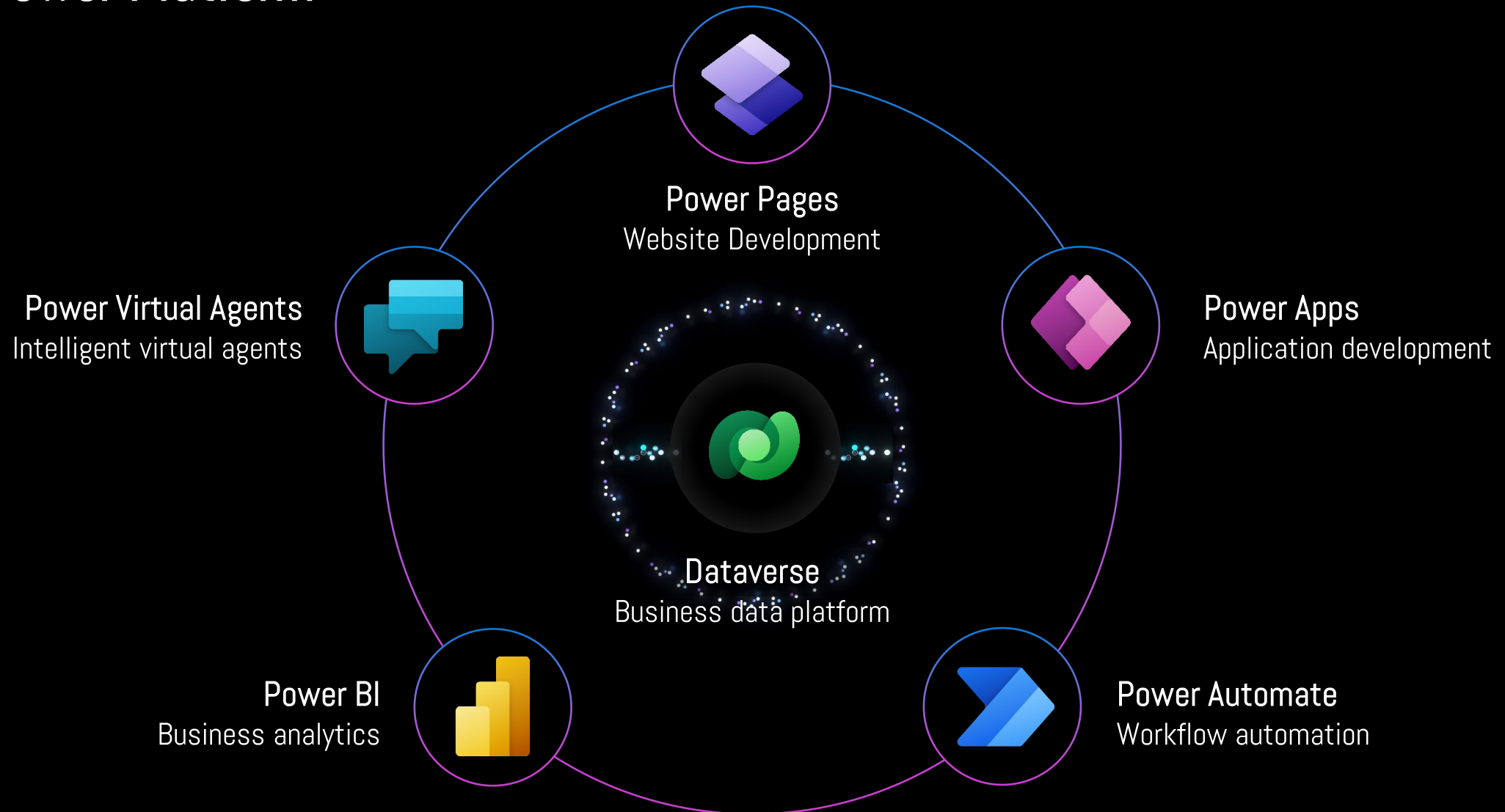
 blog.yannickreekmans.be

 @YannickReekmans

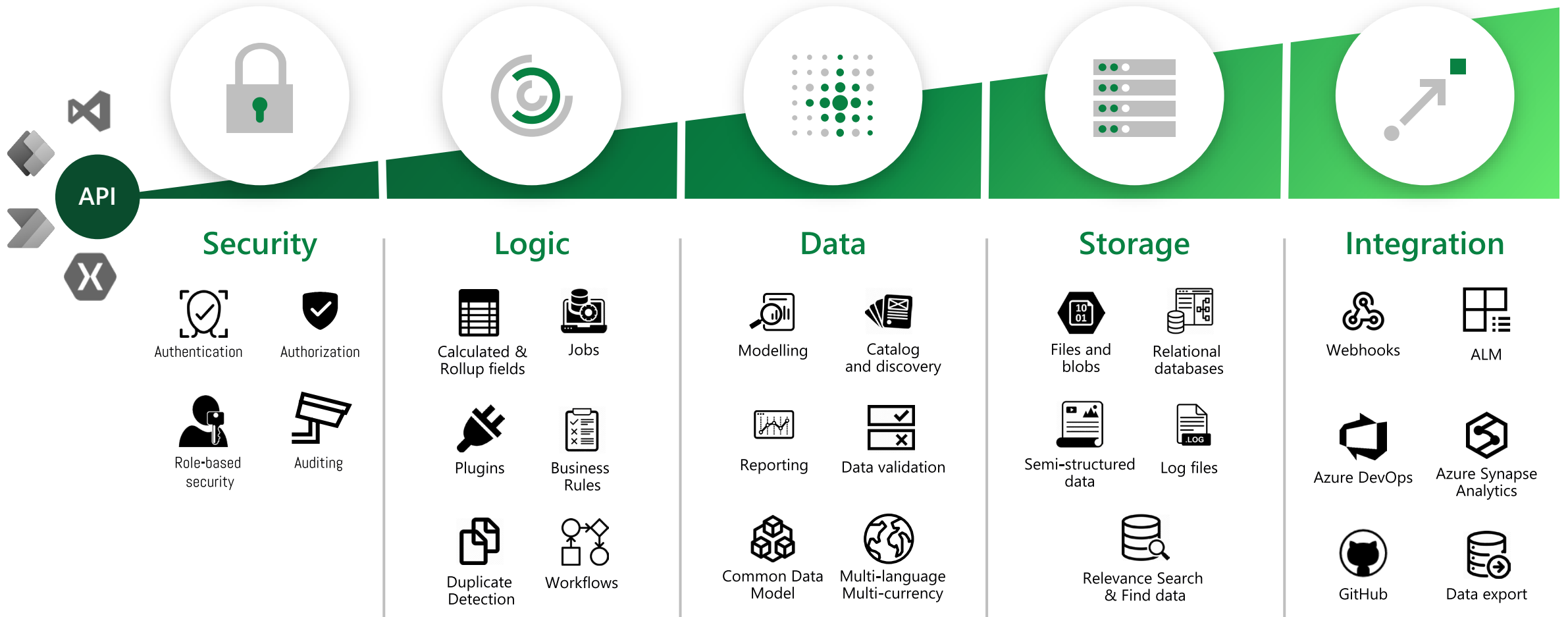
Agenda Session Goals

- Overview Dataverse
- Low Code Connectivity
- Authentication / Authorization
- Pro-Code Connectivity

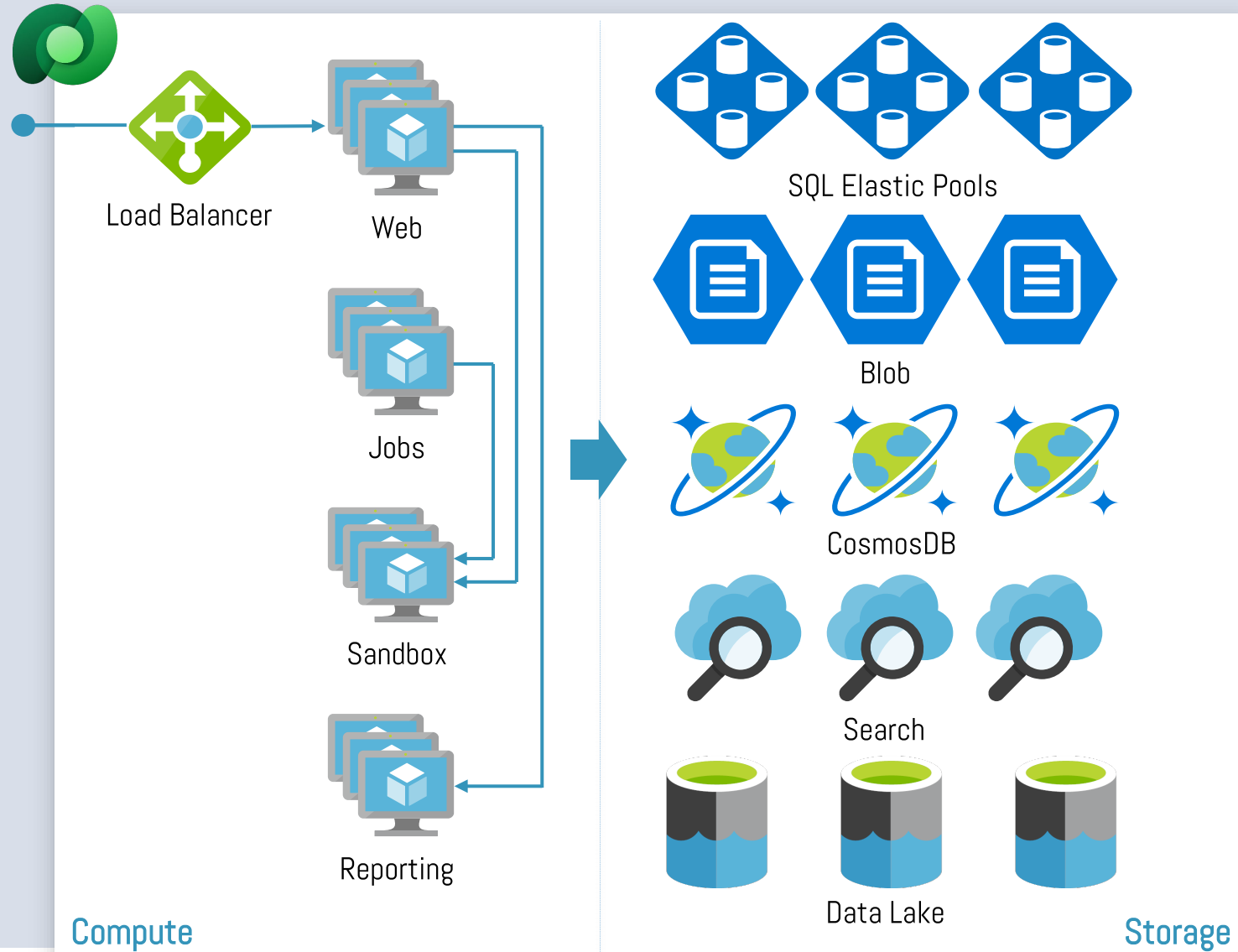
+ Demos 🐉



Microsoft Dataverse – what's in the box?



Dataverse on Azure





low-code Dataverse connectivity

SHOWTIME



authentication & authorization

It's a story of multiple layers

Authentication & Authorization

Authentication

Who are you?

Authorization

Do you have access?

Permissions

What are you allowed to do?

Authentication basics

Authentication

is the process of proving that you are who you say you are



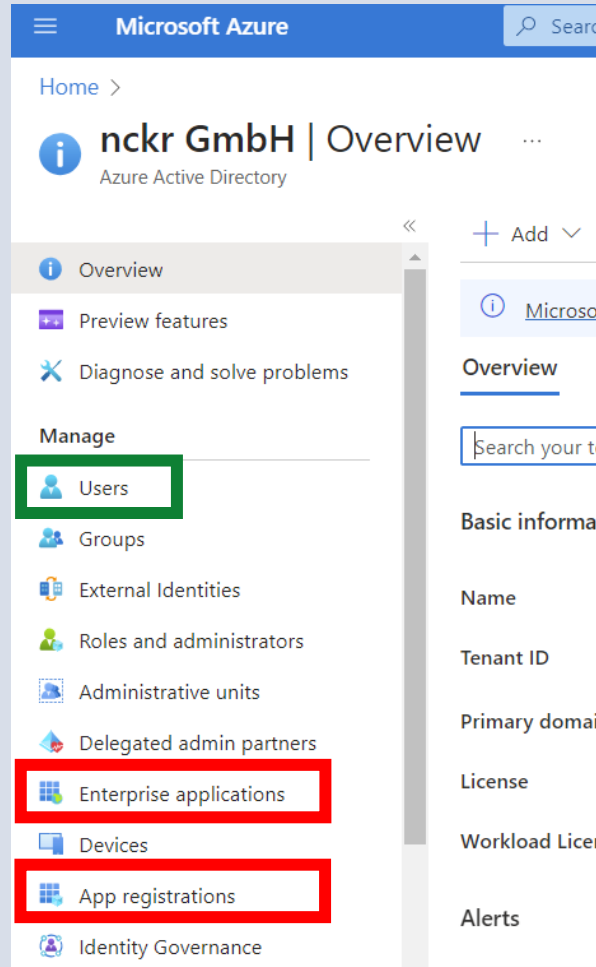
Authorization

is the act of granting an authenticated party permission to do something. It specifies what data you're allowed to access and what you can do with that data.

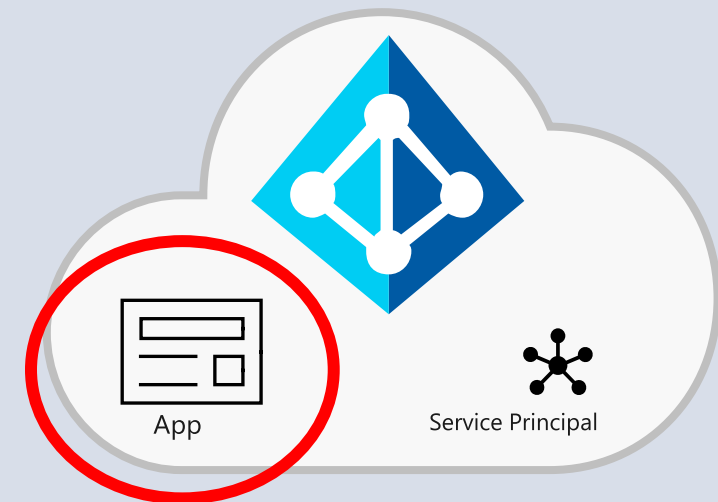


Authentication basics

Microsoft Entra (The artist formerly known as "Azure Active Directory")



Everything needs an app



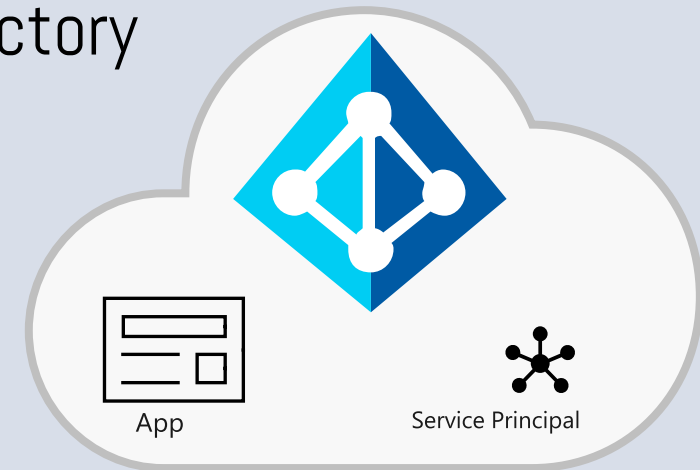
Authentication basics

Single Organization App

- App registered for a specific Azure AD directory

Single-tenant

- Only accessible by users from that Azure AD directory



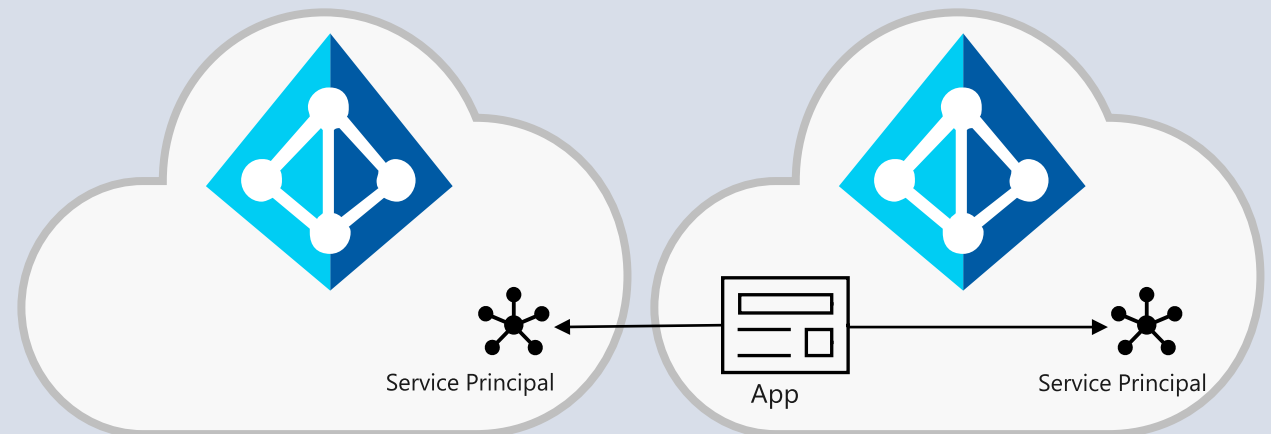
Authentication basics

Multi Organization App

- App registered for use in any Azure Directory or any Azure AD and personal Microsoft accounts (e.g. Skype, Xbox, Outlook.com)

Multi-tenant

- Registered in its “Home” directory (same process as single-tenant)
- Admins decide who can consent to apps in their tenant
- Developers are responsible for limiting to specific tenants!!



Permissions and consent

Delegated permissions

- Used by apps with a signed-in user present
- Either the user or an administrator consents to the permissions the app requests
- App is then enabled to act on behalf of the signed-in user
- **Important to note:** users do not grant apps permission; they grant the app ability to act on their behalf

Application permissions

- Used by apps that run without a signed-in user present
- When the administrator grants application permissions, unlike delegated permissions, the grant isn't done on behalf of any specific user
- Client application is directly granted the application permission
- **Important to note:** requires the creation of an Application User in the Dataverse environment

Connection Credentials

User or Service Accounts

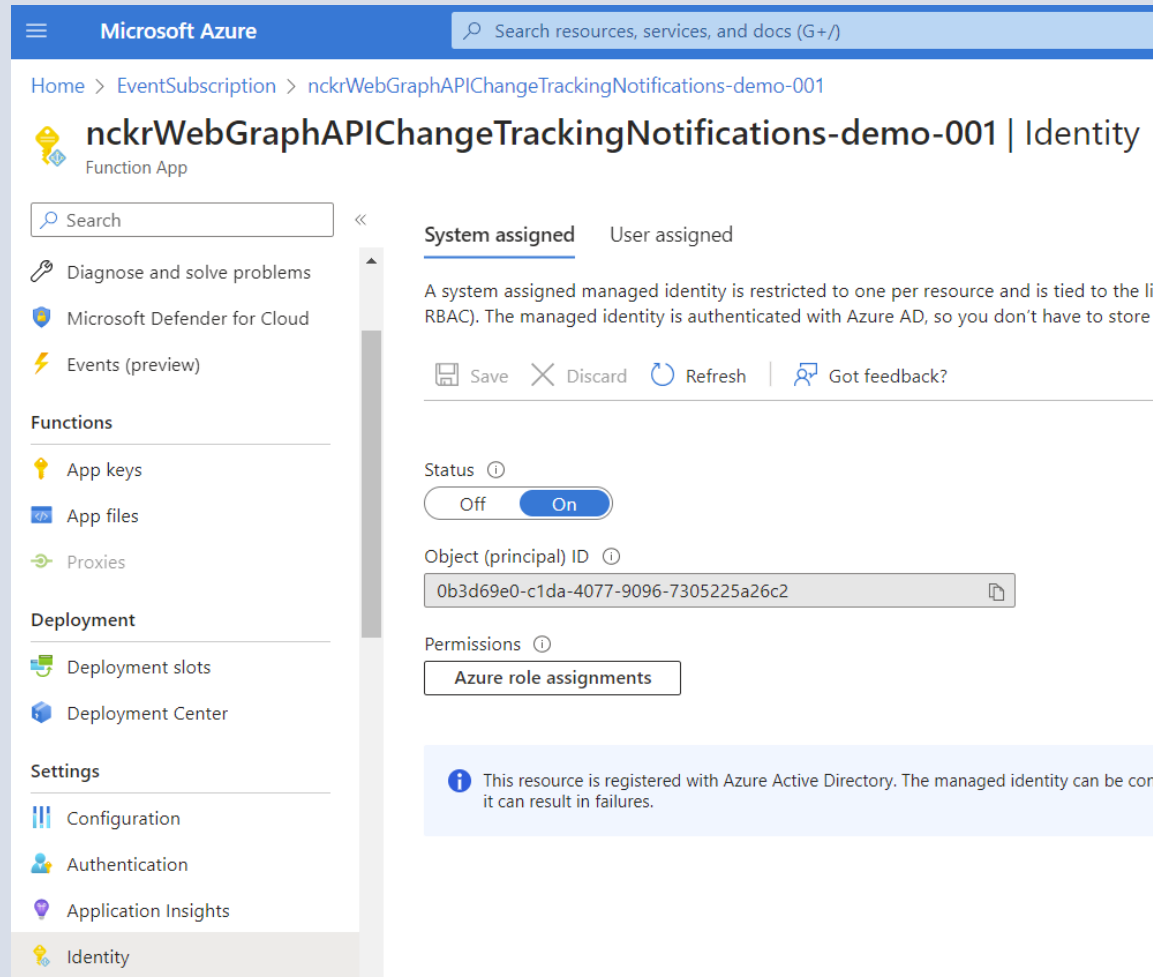
- Named account
- Requires username & password
- Conditional Access & MFA impact flows
- Account lifecycle can impact flows
- Requires licenses
- Supported in many connectors
- Separation of concerns == more licenses
- Lower API limits

Service Principals aka. Application Users

- System account
- Uses client id & client secret
- Secret lifetime to be monitored
- Managed separately
- Don't require licenses
- Limited connector support
- Separation of concerns == more SPN's
- Higher API limits

Managed Identities

Not a generic application – but one specific



- Register "something" as an Application
- Make that application know to other systems
- Backend: An Application Registration
- BUT: Fully managed
- Assign specific permissions to Managed Identity
- Secret lifetime managed by Azure
- No secrets need to be know in code

Managed Identities

are better than

Service Principals or Application Users

are better than

Service Accounts

are better than

User (or named) Accounts

Security Roles

Authorization

- Users & Application Users need a security role
- Without a Security Role, no access!
- Security Roles define what a user can and cannot do

Tables Miscellaneous privileges Privacy-related privileges

Show only assigned tables

Compact Grid View

Table ↑	Name	Record ownership	Permission Settings	Create	Read	Write	Delete
Business Management (17)							
Business Process Flows (3)							
Core Records (44)							
Custom Tables (19)							
AI Builder Datasets Container	msdyn_aibdatasetscontainer	User or Team	Custom	None	User	None	None
AI Builder Feedback Loop	msdyn_aibfeedbackloop	User or Team	Custom	User	User	None	None
AI Event	msdyn_aievent	User or Team	Custom	User	User	None	User
AI Model	msdyn_aimodel	User or Team	Custom	None	User	None	None
AI Object Detection Label	msdyn_aiodlabel	User or Team	Reference	None	Organization	None	None



authentication & authorization

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pro-code Dataverse connectivity

Work with data in Dataverse, using code

The options are plentiful, and mostly confusing...

- `/XRMServices/2011/OrganizationData.svc` aka. OrganizationDataService, using OData v2.0 ==> DEPRECATED!
- `/api/data/v9.2` aka. Web API, using OData v4.0
 - The future 😊
- `CrmServiceClient` aka. OrganizationService, using SOAP ==> SUPERSEDED!
 - The SDK, but only for .NET Framework
 - Still used in the sandbox
- `DataverseServiceClient` aka. OrganizationService
 - The SDK, for .NET Core and .NET 6+
 - The future 😊

ServiceClient SDK's

Late-bound Code

- No generated classes
- Runtime validation
- Limited Intellisense

```
//Use Entity class specifying the entity logical name
var account = new Entity("account");

// set attribute values
// string primary name
account["name"] = "Contoso";
// Boolean (Two option)
account["creditonhold"] = false;
// DateTime
account["lastonholdtime"] = new DateTime(2017, 1, 1);
// Double
account["address1_latitude"] = 47.642311;
account["address1_longitude"] = -122.136841;
// Int
account["numberofemployees"] = 500;
// Money
account["revenue"] = new Money(new decimal(5000000.00));
// Picklist (Option set)
account["accountcategorycode"] = new OptionSetValue(1); //Preferred customer

//Create the account
Guid accountid = svc.Create(account);
```

Early-bound Code

- Generated classes using tool
- Compile-time validation
- Supports Intellisense

```
var account = new Account();
// set attribute values
// string primary name
account.Name = "Contoso";
// Boolean (Two option)
account.CreditOnHold = false;
// DateTime
account.LastOnHoldTime = new DateTime(2017, 1, 1);
// Double
account.Address1_Latitude = 47.642311;
account.Address1_Longitude = -122.136841;
// Int
account.NumberOfEmployees = 500;
// Money
account.Revenue = new Money(new decimal(5000000.00));
// Picklist (Option set)
account.AccountCategoryCode = new OptionSetValue(1); //Preferred customer

//Create the account
Guid accountid = svc.Create(account);
```


Helpful Tooling

For early-bound

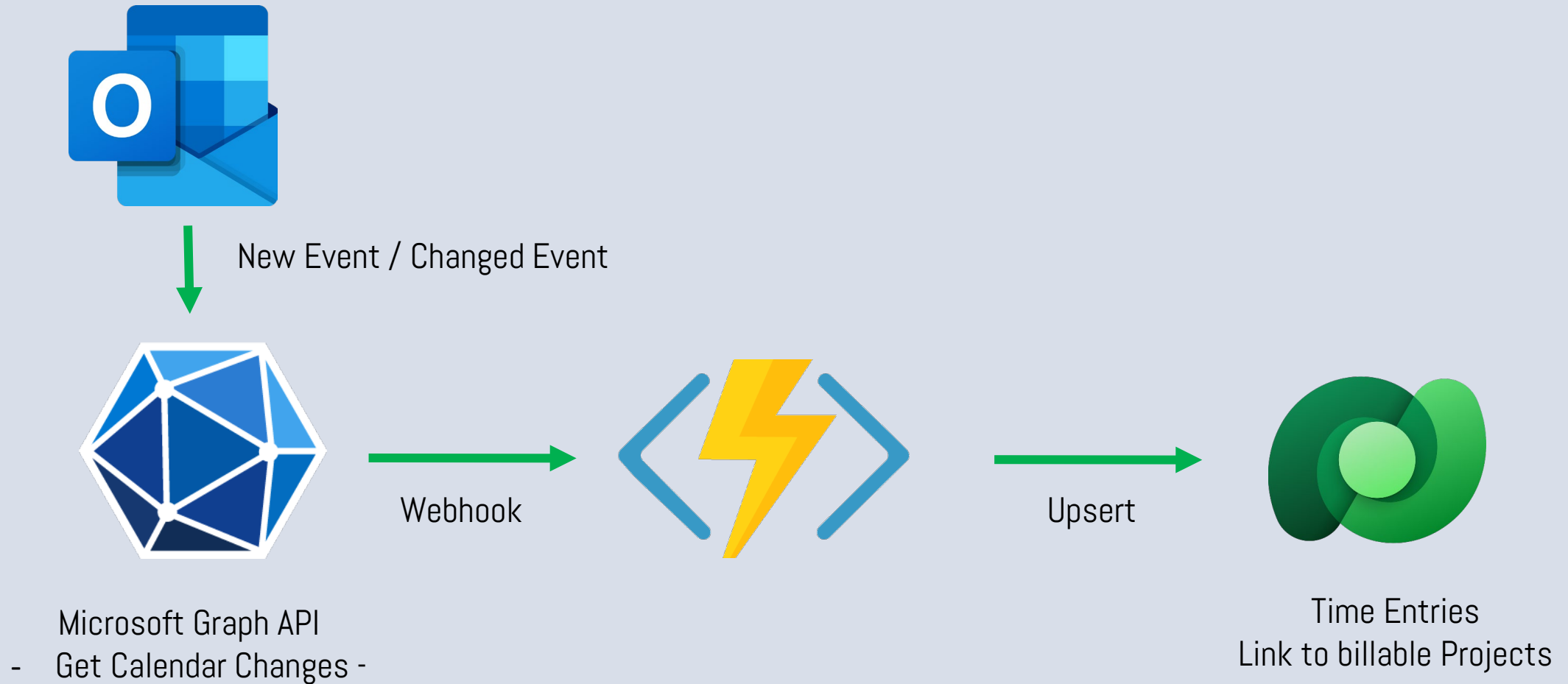
- CrmSvcUtil.exe
- Early Bound Generator in XrmToolBox
- pac modelbuilder
- Early Bound Generator v2 in XrmToolBox

For Dataverse queries

- FetchXML Builder
- Dataverse REST Builder



Use Case: "Everybody hates Time-Sheets"





pro-code Dataverse
connectivity

authentication &
authorization



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Do the Do's!

- Delegated authentication for Users
- App-only: Managed Identity > Service Principals > Service Account
- Scoped privileges / Least privilege / Permission Concept
- Web API for OData access to Dataverse
- ServiceClient for .NET Core with Early-Bound code
- Use helper tools ➡ XrmToolBox

Use Dataverse & Power Platform 😊



Q&A



THANK YOU!