

#PitchOnline presents:

Durable Functions vs Logic App *la guerra dei workflow!!*



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What is serverless?



Full abstraction of servers

Developers can just focus on their code—there are no distractions around server management, capacity planning, or availability.



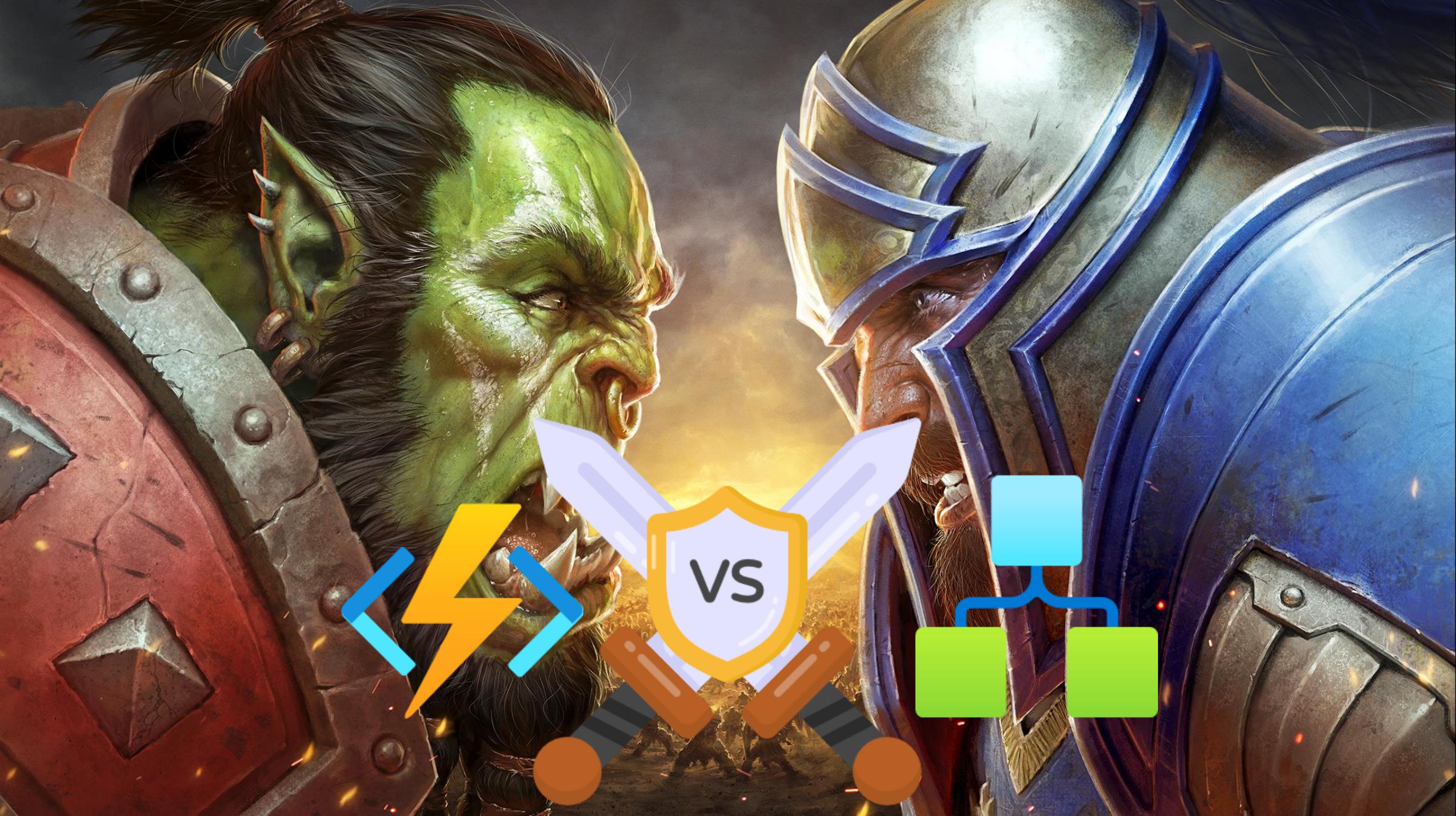
Instant, event-driven scalability

Application components react to events and triggers in near real-time with virtually unlimited scalability; compute resources are used as needed.

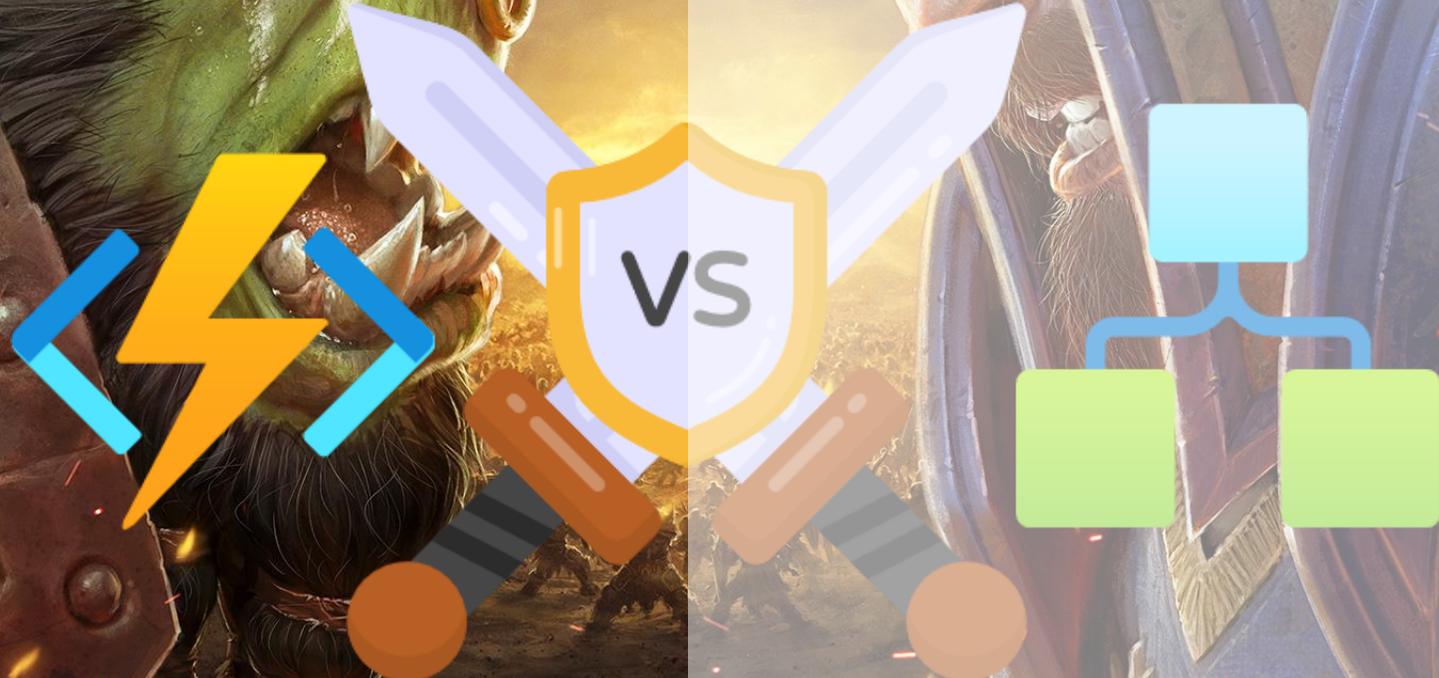


Pay-per-use

Only pay for what you use: billing is typically calculated on the number of function calls, code execution time, and memory used.



Durable Functions



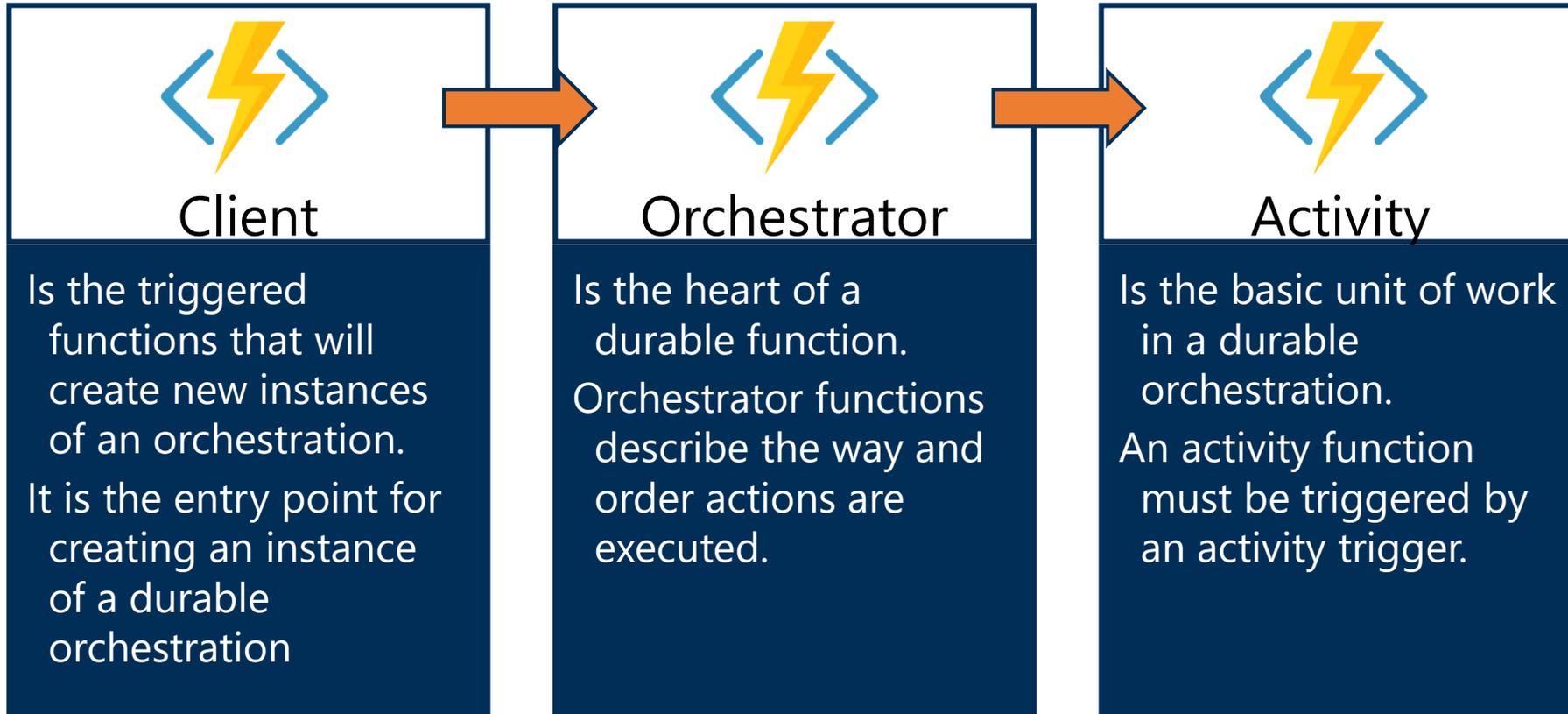


Durable Functions key points

-  An extension of Azure Functions
-  Are built on top of the Durable Task Framework
-  Written in C#, Node.js (Javascript), F#, Python and PowerShell
No JSON, No Designer!!!
-  Abstract persistence layer (Azure Storage, SQL Database or Netherite)



Types of functions

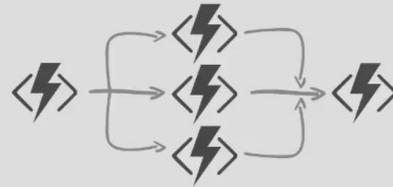




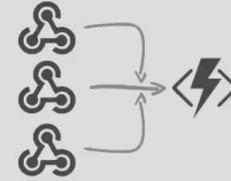
What can you do with Durable Functions?



Manageable Sequencing
+ Error Handling / Compensation



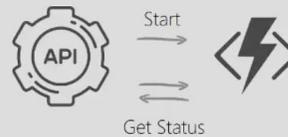
Fanning-out & Fanning-in



External Events Correlation



Flexible Automated Long-running
Process Monitoring



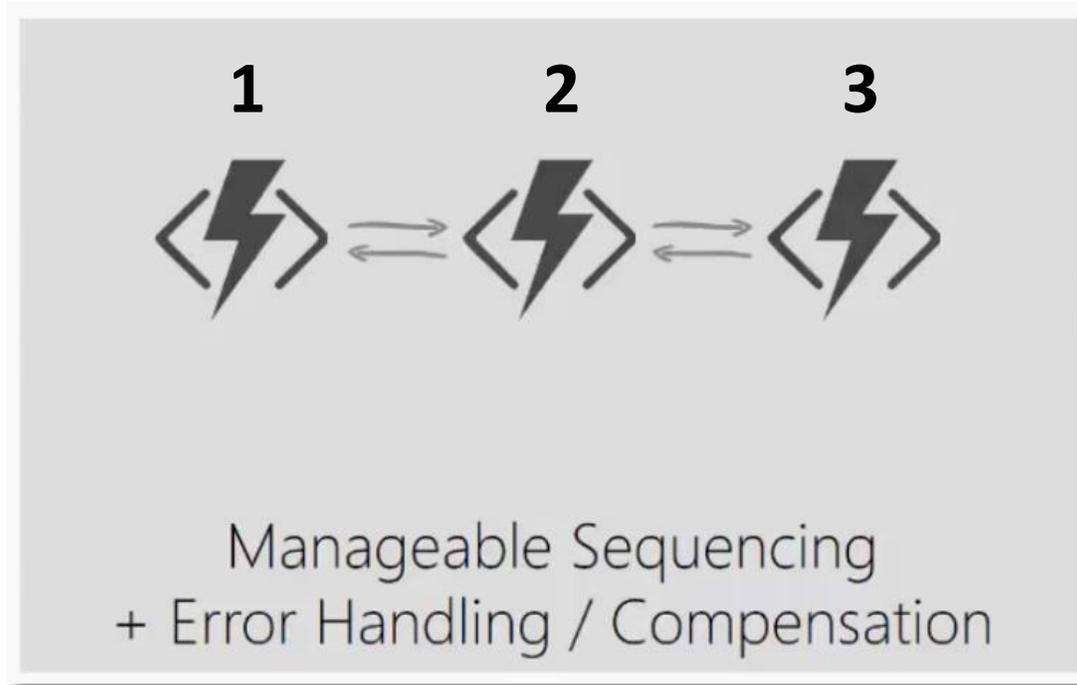
Http-based
Async Long-running APIs



Human Interaction



Manageable Sequencing





Manageable Sequencing



Manageable Sequencing
+ Error Handling / Compensation

```
[FunctionName("E1_HelloSequence")]  
0 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes  
public static async Task<List<string>> Run(  
    [OrchestrationTrigger] IDurableOrchestrationContext context)  
{  
    var outputs = new List<string>();  
  
    1 outputs.Add(await context.CallActivityAsync<string>("E1_SayHello", "Tokio"));  
    2 outputs.Add(await context.CallActivityAsync<string>("E1_SayHello", "Seattle"));  
    3 outputs.Add(await context.CallActivityAsync<string>("E1_SayHello", "London"));  
  
    //returns ["Hello Tokio!", "Hello Seattle!", "Hello London!"]  
    return outputs;  
}
```



Orchestration history

```
[FunctionName("E1_HelloSequence")]  
0 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes  
public static async Task<List<string>> Run(  
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    outputs.Add(await context.  
  
    //returns ["Hello Tokio!",  
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}
```

At each activity call, the Durable Task Framework checkpoints the execution state of the function into underlying storage. This state is called "orchestration history".

Saves execution history into Azure Storage tables.

Enqueues messages to run the functions the orchestrator wants to invoke.

Enqueues messages for the orchestrator itself — for example, durable timer messages.



Orchestration History

```
[FunctionName("E1_HelloSequence")]
0 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes
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    outputs.Add(await context.CallActivityAsync<string>("E1_SayHello", "London"));

    //returns ["Hello Tokio!", "Hello Seattle!", "Hello London!"]
    return outputs;
}
```

The orchestrator function starts the activity and wait for its completion.

PartitionKey (InstanceId)	EventType	Timestamp	Input	Name	Result
eaaa885b	OrchestratorStarted	2017-05-05T18:45:32.362Z			
eaaa885b	ExecutionStarted	2017-05-05T18:45:28.852Z	null	E1_HelloSequence	
eaaa885b	TaskScheduled	2017-05-05T18:45:32.670Z		E1_SayHello	
eaaa885b	OrchestratorCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:32.670Z			
eaaa885b	OrchestratorStarted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.232Z			
eaaa885b	TaskCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.201Z			""Hello
eaaa885b	TaskScheduled	2017-05-05T18:45:34.435Z		E1_SayHello	
eaaa885b	OrchestratorCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.435Z			
eaaa885b	OrchestratorStarted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.857Z			
eaaa885b	TaskCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.763Z			""Hello
eaaa885b	TaskScheduled	2017-05-05T18:45:34.857Z		E1_SayHello	
eaaa885b	OrchestratorCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.857Z			
eaaa885b	OrchestratorStarted	2017-05-05T18:45:35.032Z			
eaaa885b	TaskCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.919Z			""Hello
eaaa885b	ExecutionCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:35.044Z			[""Hello Tokio



Orchestration History

```
[FunctionName("E1_HelloSequence")]  
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    outputs.Add(await context.CallActivityAsync<string>("E1_SayHello", "London"));  
  
    //returns ["Hello Tokio!", "Hello Seattle!", "Hello London!"]  
    return outputs;  
}
```

When the activity completes its job, the orchestrator starts again from the begin and rebuilds its status using event sourcing table.

PartitionKey (InstanceId)	EventType	Timestamp	Input	Name	Result
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eaaa885b	OrchestratorCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:32.670Z			
eaaa885b	OrchestratorStarted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.232Z			
eaaa885b	TaskCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.201Z			""Hello
eaaa885b	TaskScheduled	2017-05-05T18:45:34.435Z		E1_SayHello	
eaaa885b	OrchestratorCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.435Z			
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eaaa885b	TaskCompleted	2017-05-05T18:45:34.763Z			""Hello
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Pricing

Consumption Plan

- ⚡ Pay only when your functions run.
- ⚡ Scale out automatically, even during periods of high load.
- ⚡ Function execution times out after a configurable period of time (less than 10 minutes for each execution)

App Service Plan

- ⚡ You won't pay more than the cost of the VM instance that you allocate.
- ⚡ You can manually scale out by adding more VM instances, or you can enable autoscale.
- ⚡ You must enable AlwaysOn.

Premium Plan

- ⚡ Perpetually warm instances to avoid any cold start.
- ⚡ VNet connectivity.
- ⚡ Unlimited execution duration.
- ⚡ Premium instance sizes (one core, two core, and four core instances).
- ⚡ More predictable pricing
- ⚡ High-density app allocation for plans with multiple function apps

METER	PRICE	FREE GRANT (PER MONTH)
Execution Time*	€0.000014/GB-s	400,000 GB-s
Total Executions*	€0.169 per million executions	1 million executions

*Free grants apply to paid, consumption subscriptions only.



Pricing sample – Manageable Sequencing

- Client Function:
 - 512 Mb, 100 msec
 - 1 execution for each workflow
- Orchestrator Function:
 - 512 Mb, 100 msec
 - 4 executions for each workflow
- Activity Function:
 - 512 Mb, 100 msec
 - 3 executions for each workflow
- Monthly Requests : 5.000.000

```
[FunctionName("E1_HelloSequence")]  
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    outputs.Add(await context.CallActivityAsync<string>("E1_SayHello", "Seattle"));  
    outputs.Add(await context.CallActivityAsync<string>("E1_SayHello", "London"));  
  
    //returns ["Hello Tokio!", "Hello Seattle!", "Hello London!"]  
    return outputs;  
}
```

Monthly executions : 40.000.000



Pricing sample – Manageable Sequencing

Resource cost

- Seconds:
 $40.000.000 \text{ exec} * 0,1 \text{ sec} = 4.000.000 \text{ secs}$
- GB*Seconds:
 $512 \text{ GB}/1024 \text{ GB} * 4.000.000 \text{ secs} = 2.000.000 \text{ GB*secs}$
- GB*secs to pay:
 $2.000.000 \text{ GB*secs} - 400.000 \text{ GB*secs} = 1.600.000 \text{ GB*secs}$
- GB*secs cost:
 $1.600.000 \text{ GB*secs} * 0,000014 \text{ €} = 22,400 \text{ €}$

Resource Cost: 22,400 €



Pricing sample – Manageable Sequencing

Execution cost

- Executions to pay:
 $40.000.000 \text{ exec} - 1.000.000 \text{ exec} = 39.000.000 \text{ exec}$
- Executions cost:
 $39.000.000 / 1.000.000 * 0,169 \text{ €} = 6,591 \text{ €}$

Executions Cost: 6,591 €



Pricing sample – Manageable Sequencing

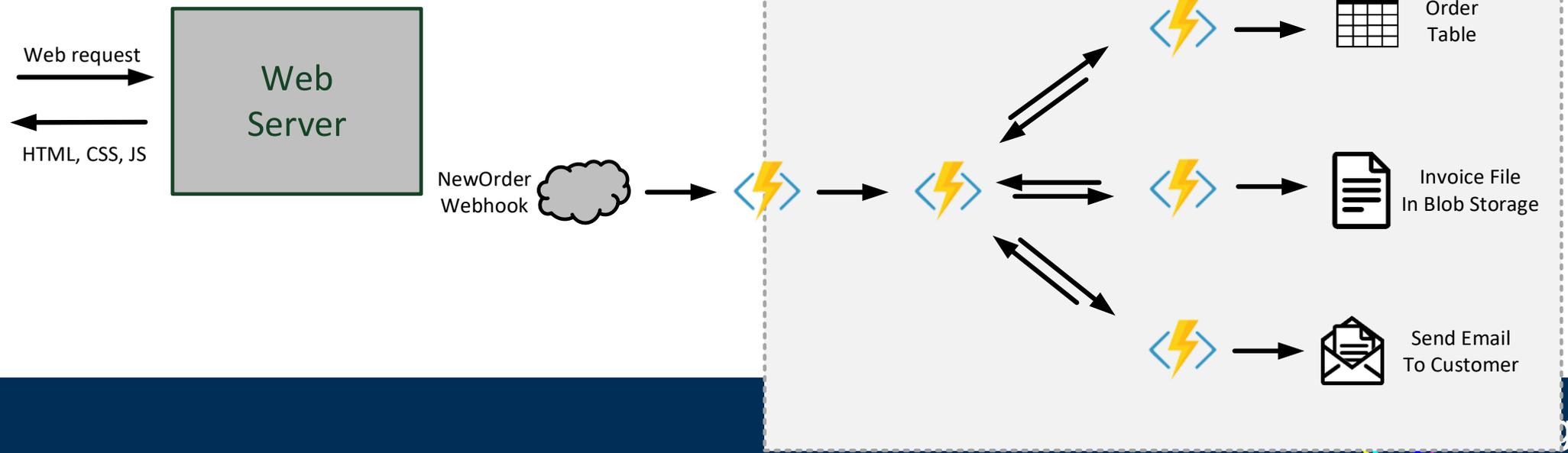
Monthly cost

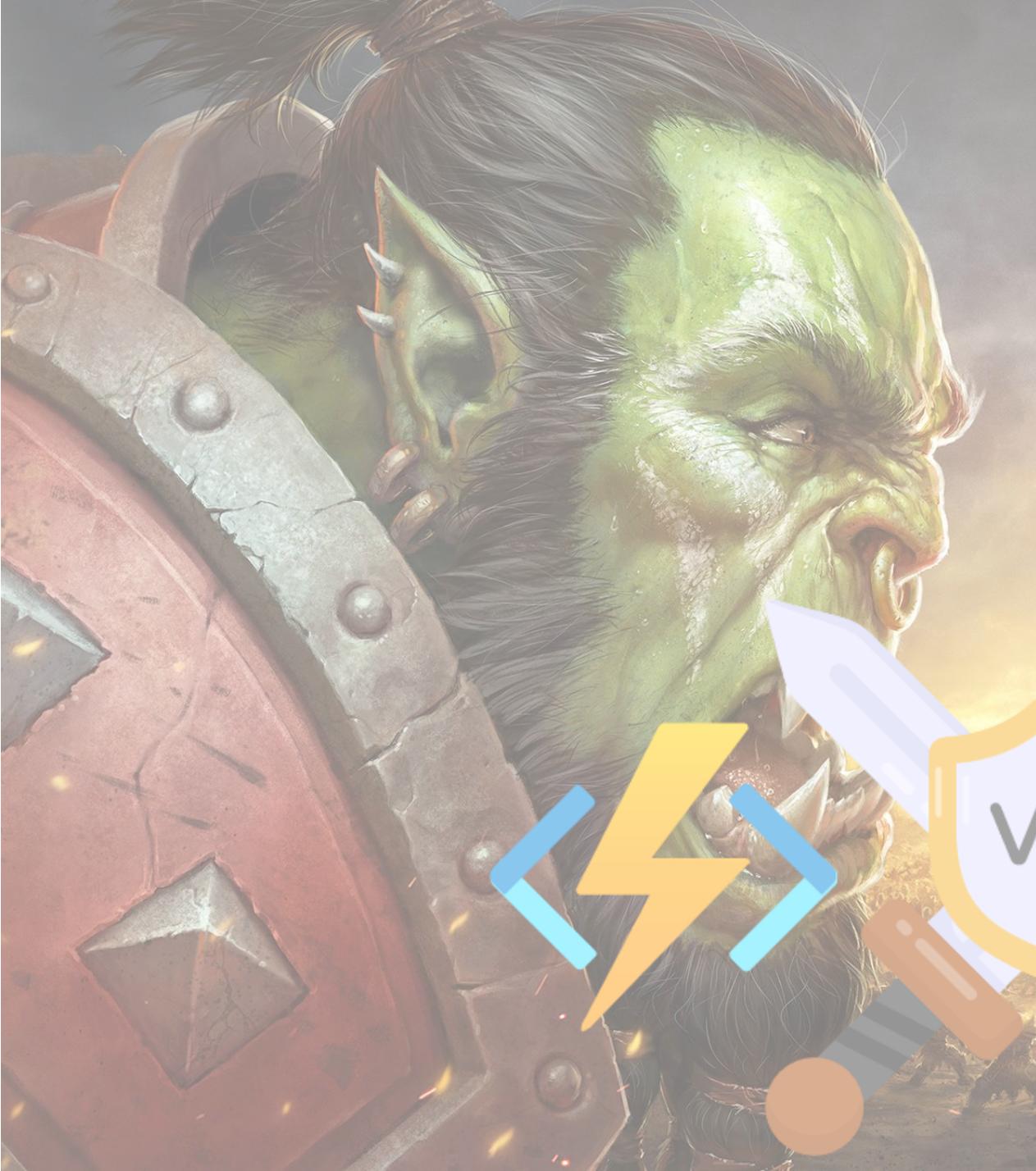
22,400 + 6,591 = 28,991 €

```
[FunctionName("E1_HelloSequence")]  
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}
```



Orders Manager



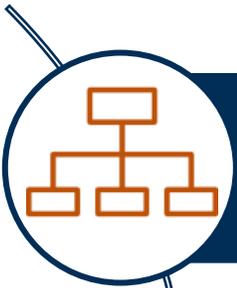


Logic
Apps





What are Logic Apps?



Cloud service that helps you automate and orchestrate tasks, business processes, and workflows



Integrate apps, data, systems, and services across enterprises or organizations



Simplifies how you design and build scalable solutions for integration whether in the cloud, on premises, or both



Sample scenarios



Process and route orders across on-premises systems and cloud services.



Send email notifications with Office 365 when events happen in various systems, apps, and services.



Move uploaded files from an SFTP or FTP server to Azure Storage.



Monitor tweets for a specific subject, analyze the sentiment, and create alerts or tasks for items that need review.



How does Logic Apps work?

The screenshot shows the Logic App Designer interface for a logic app named 'TwitterAnalyzer'. The workflow is as follows:

- Trigger: When a new tweet is posted
- Action: Detect Language of the tweet
- Loop: For each language detected
 - Action: Detect the sentiment of the tweet
 - Loop: For each document in the sentiment analysis
 - Condition: Is the sentiment positive
 - Logic: sentiment x is equal to positive
 - True path: Create a blob in the tweet positive folder

Each time that the trigger fires, the Logic Apps engine creates a logic app instance

The Logic Apps instance runs the actions in the workflow

The actions can also include data conversions and flow controls, such as conditional statements, switch statements, loops, and branching.



Why use Logic Apps?

Visually build workflows with easy-to-use tools

Get started faster with logic app templates

Connect disparate systems across different environments

First-class support for enterprise integration and B2B scenarios

Built-in extensibility

Pay only for what you use



Pricing

Azure Logic Apps meters all the actions that run in your logic app:

-  Triggers, which are special actions. All logic apps require a trigger as the first step.
-  "Built-in" or native actions such as HTTP, calls to Azure Functions and API Management, and so on
-  Calls to connectors such as Outlook 365, Dropbox, and so on
-  Control flow steps, such as loops, conditional statements, and so on

Standard Plan

	Price (per hour)
vCPU	€0.165456
Memory	€0.011807

Consumption Plan

	Price Per Execution
Actions	€0.000022 First 4,000 actions free
Standard Connector	€0.000106
Enterprise Connector	€0.000844

Data retention: €0.11 GB/month

Integration Service Environment

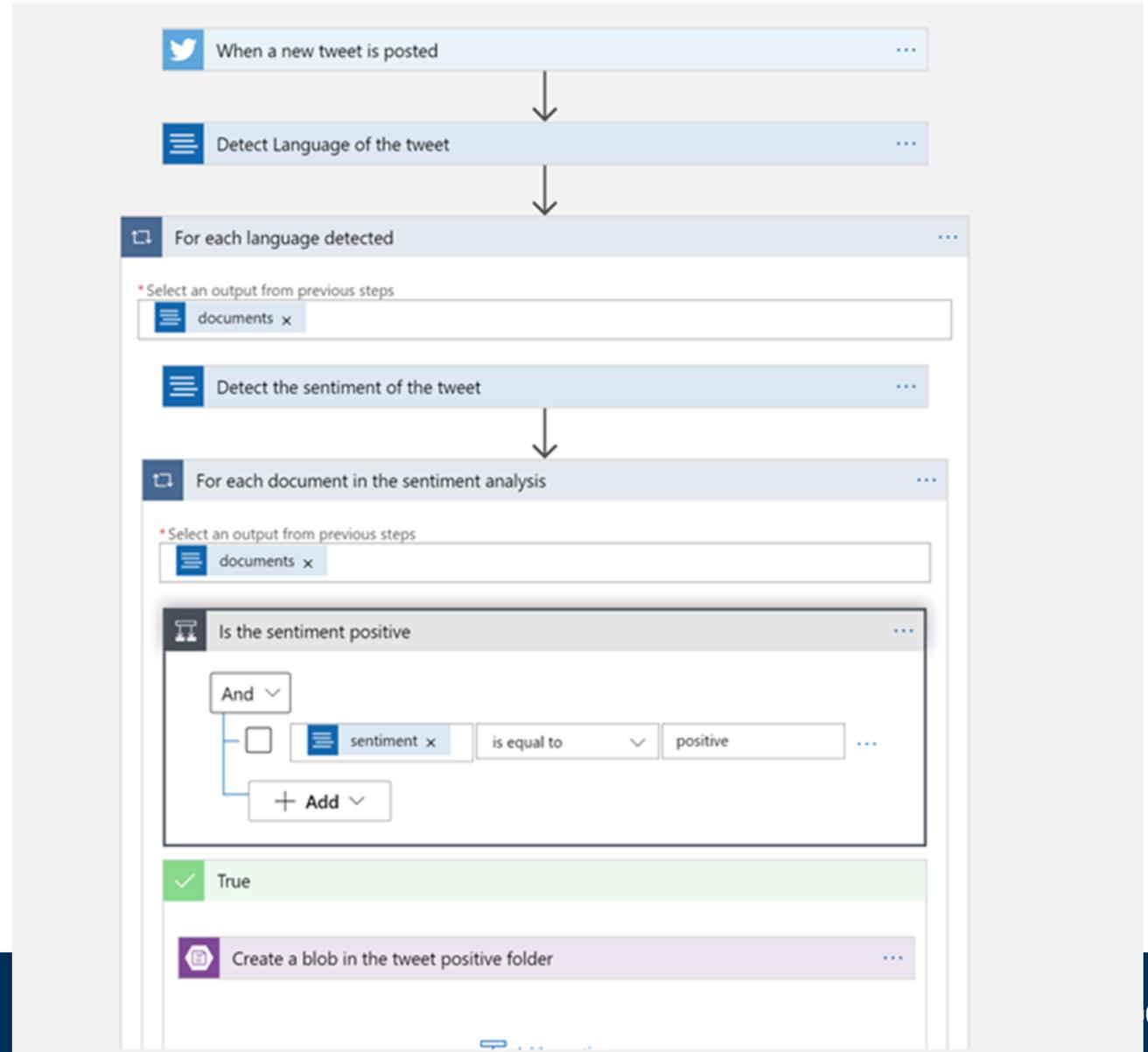
	Developer ¹	Premium
Base unit	€0.95 per hour	€5.92 per hour ²
Scale unit	N/A	€2.96 per hour
Increases base unit throughput with additional scale units.		

¹ No SLA is provided on the Developer tier. Scale unit is not offered on the Developer tier.

² The Base unit of Premium tier includes 1 standard integration account.



Twitter Sentiment Analysis

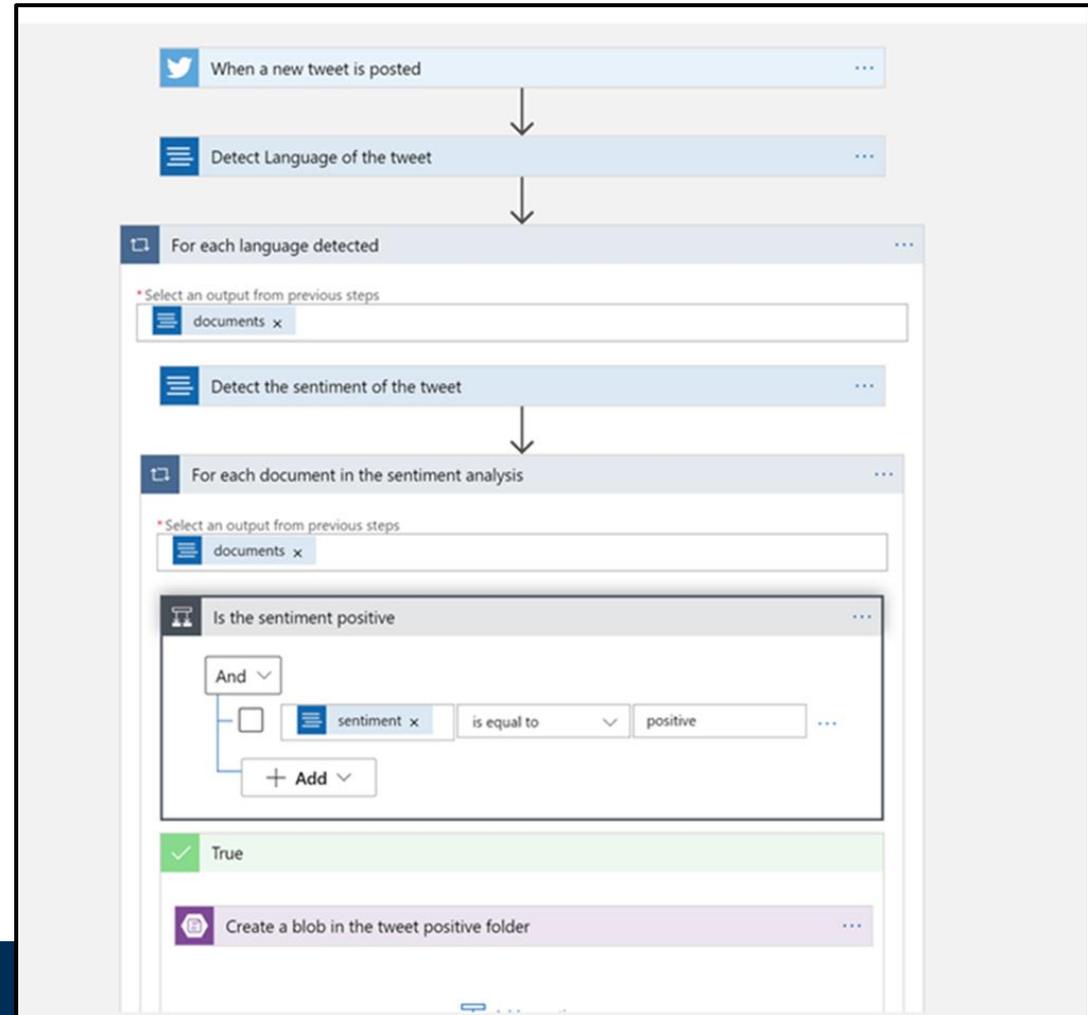




Pricing sample – Twitter Sentiment Analysis

Suppose that a tweet has only one sentence (best case for the loops) and a neutral sentiment (worst case for the if).

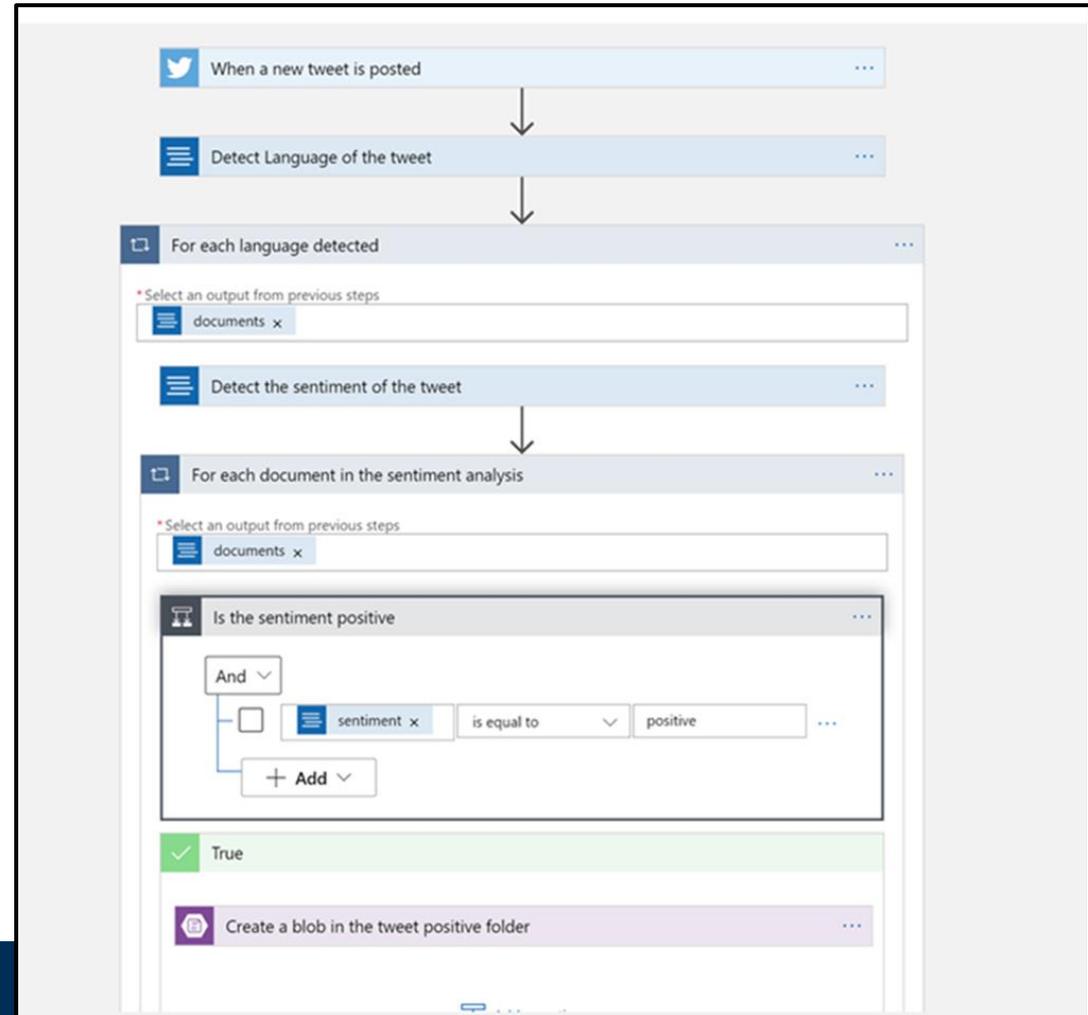
- Actions :
 - 2 loop actions
 - 2 if actions
- Standard connectors:
 - 1 Twitter trigger
 - 2 Cognitive connectors
 - 1 StorageBlob connector
- Monthly Tweets : 100.000





Pricing sample – Twitter Sentiment Analysis

- Total Actions:
 $100.000 \text{ exec} * 4 \text{ actions} = 400.000 \text{ actions}$
- Actions to pay:
 $400.000 \text{ actions} - 4.000 \text{ actions} = 396.000 \text{ actions}$
- Actions cost:
 $396.000 \text{ actions} * 0,000022 \text{ €} = 8,712 \text{ €}$
- Total Standard Connectors:
 $100.000 \text{ exec} * 4 \text{ conn} = 400.000 \text{ conn}$
- Standard Connectors cost:
 $400.000 \text{ conn} * 0,000106 \text{ €} = 42,400 \text{ €}$

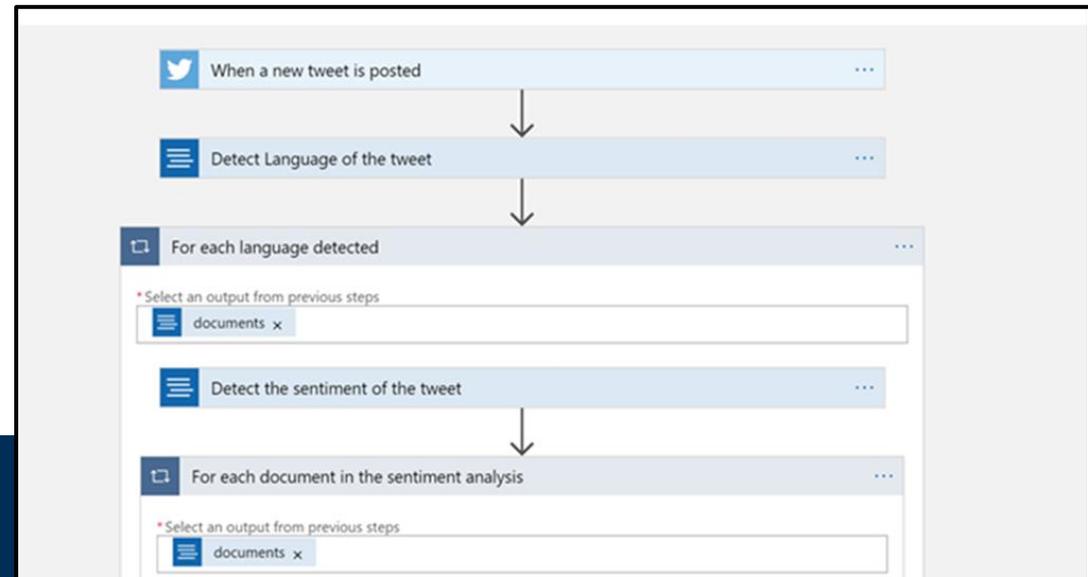




Pricing sample – Twitter Sentiment Analysis

Monthly cost

$$8,712 + 42,400 = 51,112 \text{ €}$$



The final battle!!



Durable Functions



You have a team with development skill and the orchestration doesn't involve complex systems



You want to reuse code from other projects



You require them to run not only on Azure, but on Azure Stack or Containers



You prefer to have all the power and flexibility of a robust programming language



You can implement stateful entities (similar to Virtual Actor)

vs



Leveraging a huge list of connectors reducing the time-to-market and ease connectivity



Visual tools to manage and troubleshoot workflows are required



It's ok to run only on Azure



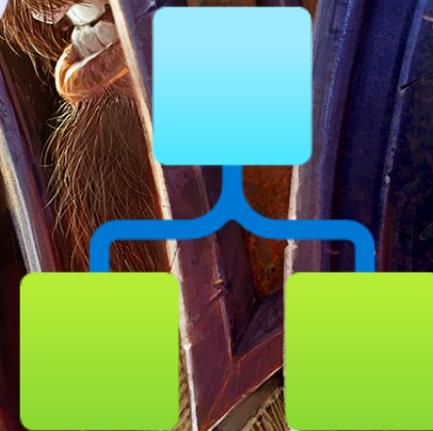
A visual designer and less coding are preferred



Integrated versioning system for the orchestration

VS

Logic Apps





**KEEP
CALM
AND
USE
TOGHETER**

Mastering Azure Serverless Computing

A practical guide to build and deploy enterprise-grade serverless applications using Azure Functions



Lorenzo Barbieri and Massimo B



<http://bit.ly/MasteringServerless>

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References

- Durable Functions documentation
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/azure-functions/durable/durable-functions-overview>
- Logic App documentation
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/logic-apps/logic-apps-overview>
- Netherite project
<https://github.com/microsoft/durabletask-netherite>
- Demo GitHub repo
<https://github.com/massimobonanni/OrderManagerServerless>
- Serverless learning path – Azure Functions
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/paths/create-serverless-applications/>
- Serverless learning path – Logic App
<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/paths/build-workflows-with-logic-apps/>



Coding

Thank You!

Our Socials

