Power Automate vs Logic Apps



Reiner Ganser Cloud Productivity Consultant & Trainer

- More than 30 years in the IT space in the areas of software development | collaboration | migrations | intranet solutions | cloud services
- As a Cloud Productivity Consultant I use the potential of Microsoft Cloud technologies, applications and services to build new solutions that would not have been possible a few years ago.

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Overview

Power Automate

- Integration SaaS
- Azure Subscription not required
- Product group resides in Dynamics Organization at MS
- License entitlement through
 Dynamics 365 and M365
 - Additional standalone licenses available
- Part of the Power Platform

Logic Apps

- Integration PaaS
- Azure Subscription required
- Products group resides in the Azure Group at MS
- Consumption based billing
- Dedicated capacity also available (ISE)





Licensing

Power Automate

- Included in MS 365
- Per User
- Per flow
- Per user plan with attended RPA



- Standard or Consumption plans
- Integration Service Environment
- Integration Account

Templates

Common 'blue prints' to get people started

Power Automate



- Provided by:
 - Community
 - Microsoft Product Group
 - Microsoft 1st party
 - 3rd Party Partners

Logic Apps

Provided by Microsoft



Connectors

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

- Over 350+ available
- ~95% symmetry between Power Automate and Logic Apps
- Microsoft 1st party
- 3rd party
- Custom connectors

Power Automate

- Classification in Standard and Premium
- Cloud and On-premises

- Enterprise Connectors
 - SAP
 - IBM MQ
 - AS2
 - EDI FACT
- No Standard vs Premium tiers
- ISE (Integrated Service Environment) Vnet Support
- Cloud and On-premises
- Built-In or Managed
- Extensible



Working environment

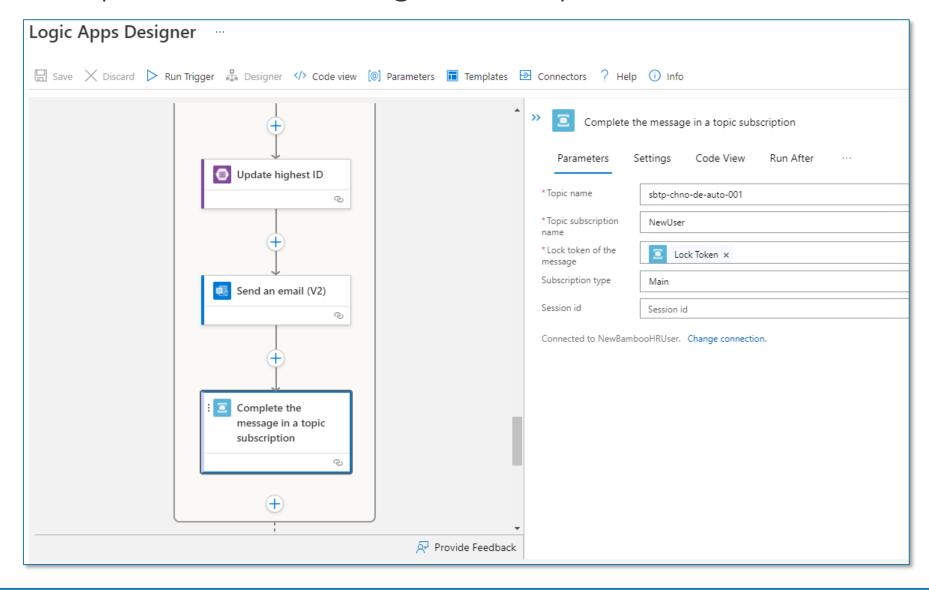
Power Automate

- Web Browser
 - Maker Portal
 - My flows and team flows
 - Business Process Flows

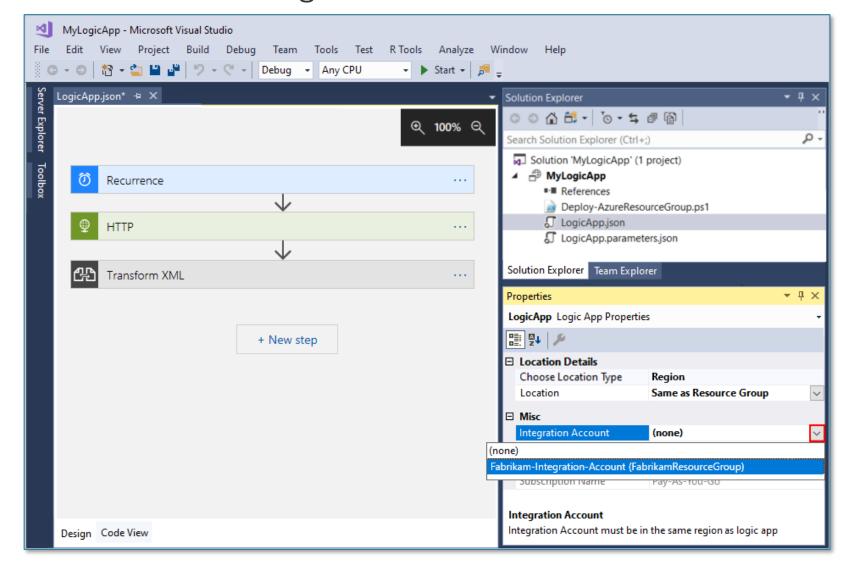
- Web Browser
 - Visual Designer
 - Code View
- Visual Studio
- Visual Code
- Continuous Integration/Continuous Deployment with Azure DevOps



Different experience when using standard plan



Visual Studio Integration



Application Lifecyle Management (ALM)

Power Automate

- Package related Flows and Power Apps in single solution
- Export from «Test»
- Import into «Production» environment as single deployment unit
- Not covered:
 - Custom connectors
 - Parameters
 - Connections
- Microsoft Power Platform Build Tools for Azure DevOps
 - Microsoft Dataverse environment with a database only

- Logic Apps templates can be stored in source code repo
 - => Versions
- Deploy Logic Apps template:
 - Azure Portal
 - Visual Studio
 - Azure PowerShell / CLI
 - Azure Resource Manager REST API
 - Azure DevOps
- IAC (Infrastructure As Code) with Terraform or Azure Bicep possible
 - E.g. Azure DevOps pipelines



Governance

Power Automate

- Management Connectors
- Data Loss Prevention (DLP)
 Policies
- Environments
- Admin Analytics
- PowerShell
- M365 Security and Compliance
- 30 day limit on flow execution

- Azure Identity Access
 Management rules
- No DLP
 - Access restricted trough Azure access
- Log Analytics
 - Custom tracked properties
- 90 day limit on logic apps execution history
- Resource groups



Unique to each toolset

Power Automate

- Approvals
- Maker Analytics
- Instant cloud flows
- Desktop flows
- Business process flows
- Mobile App
- Geo Location Trigger
- Copy to my clipboard

- Enterprise Integration Pack
- Inline Code (JavaScript)
- Hosting Options
 - Integrated Service Environment (ISE)
 - Standard plan





Integrated Service Environment (ISE)



- Deployment into its own virtual network
- Enables direct access to on-premises resources over VPN technologies
- Private static outbound IPs
- Custom inbound domain names
- Operate on dedicated resources
- Scale Out/In capabilities
- Fixed pricing plans -> not consumption-based
- Extended limits
 - Logic Apps lifetime and run history retention to 365 days
 - Increased request/response timeouts up to 4 minutes
 - Higher troughput limits for Logic Apps and connection hosted in the ISE



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irror_mod.use_y = False
use_z = False
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   ject.mirror_mirror_x*
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    object is not
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Azure Integration Services

- Easier integration with other Azure services such as
 - Azure API Management
 - Azure Service Bus
 - Azure Functions
 - Azure Event Grid
 - BizTalk Server





Export Flow to Logic App

Export a flow from Power Automate Maker Portal

Import to Logic App in the Azure portal

Not supported:

- Approvals
- Instand Cloud Flows
- Flows initiated from Power Apps
- Mobile notifications
- Dataverse



Access / Sharing

Power Automate

- Co-Ownership
 - Can edit flows
 - E-Mail notification in case of changes
 - Can access Run History and Analytics
- Run-As
 - No edit capabilities
 - Can run manually triggered flows
 - Option to «bring your own connection»

- Logic Apps specific roles in Azure
 - Logic App Contributor
 - Logic App Operator
- Access Control (IAC)



Monitoring

Power Automate

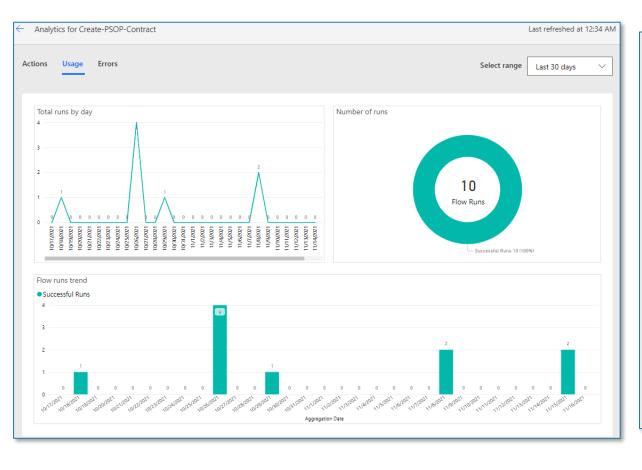
- Power Automate Analytics
 - Per flow
 - Per environment

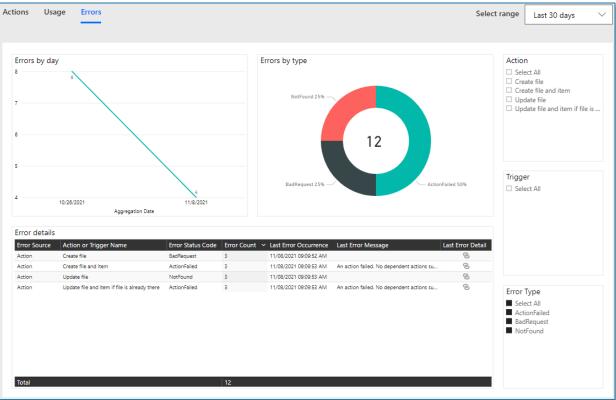
Logic Apps

- Azure Monitoring
 - Alerts

 Webhook Integration for event orchestration

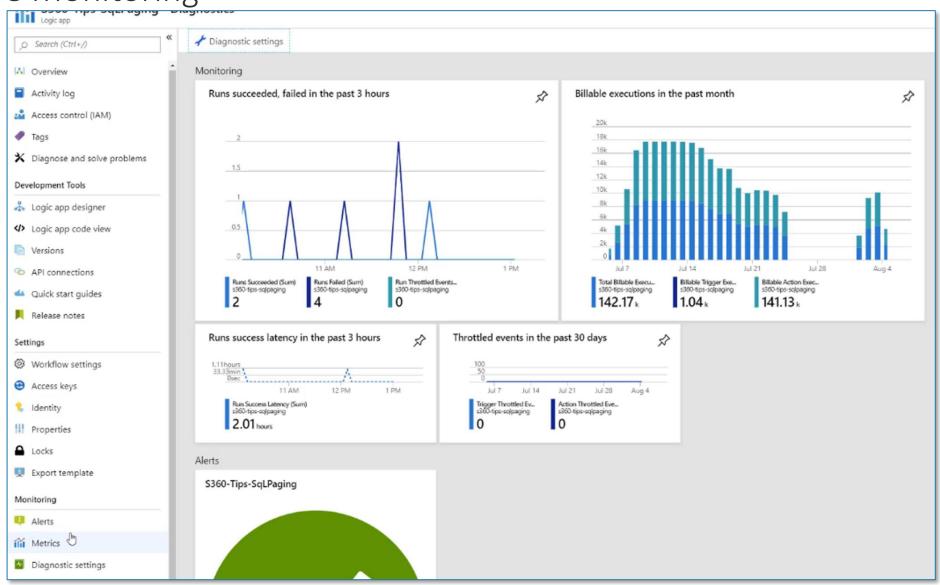
Power Automate Analytics



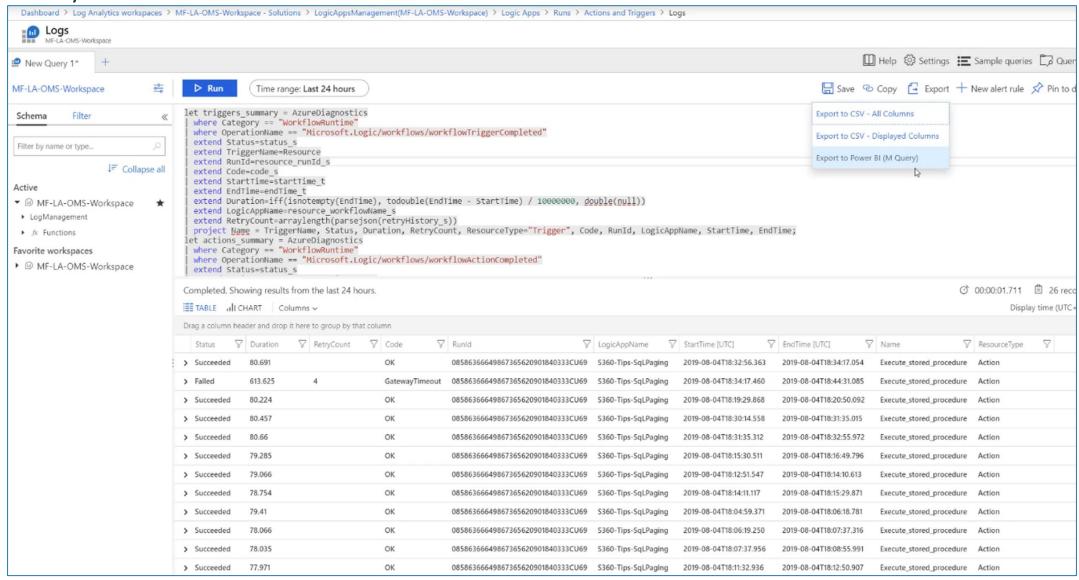




Azure Monitoring



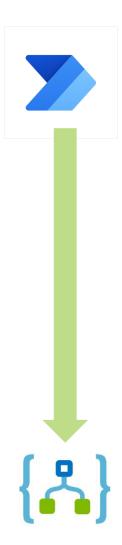
Log Analytics





Summary

- Personal productivity
- Forms over data
- Process automation (approvals)
- Pro Dev Extensibility
- Enterprise Application Integration
- Trading Partner Integration
- Regulation and Compliance





Additional Links

- Power Automate vs Logic Apps (Microsoft Docs):
 https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/community/power-automate-vs-logic-apps
- Azure Logic Apps in Microsoft Learn:

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/browse/?products=azure&terms=Logic%20Apps