Introduction to Terraform

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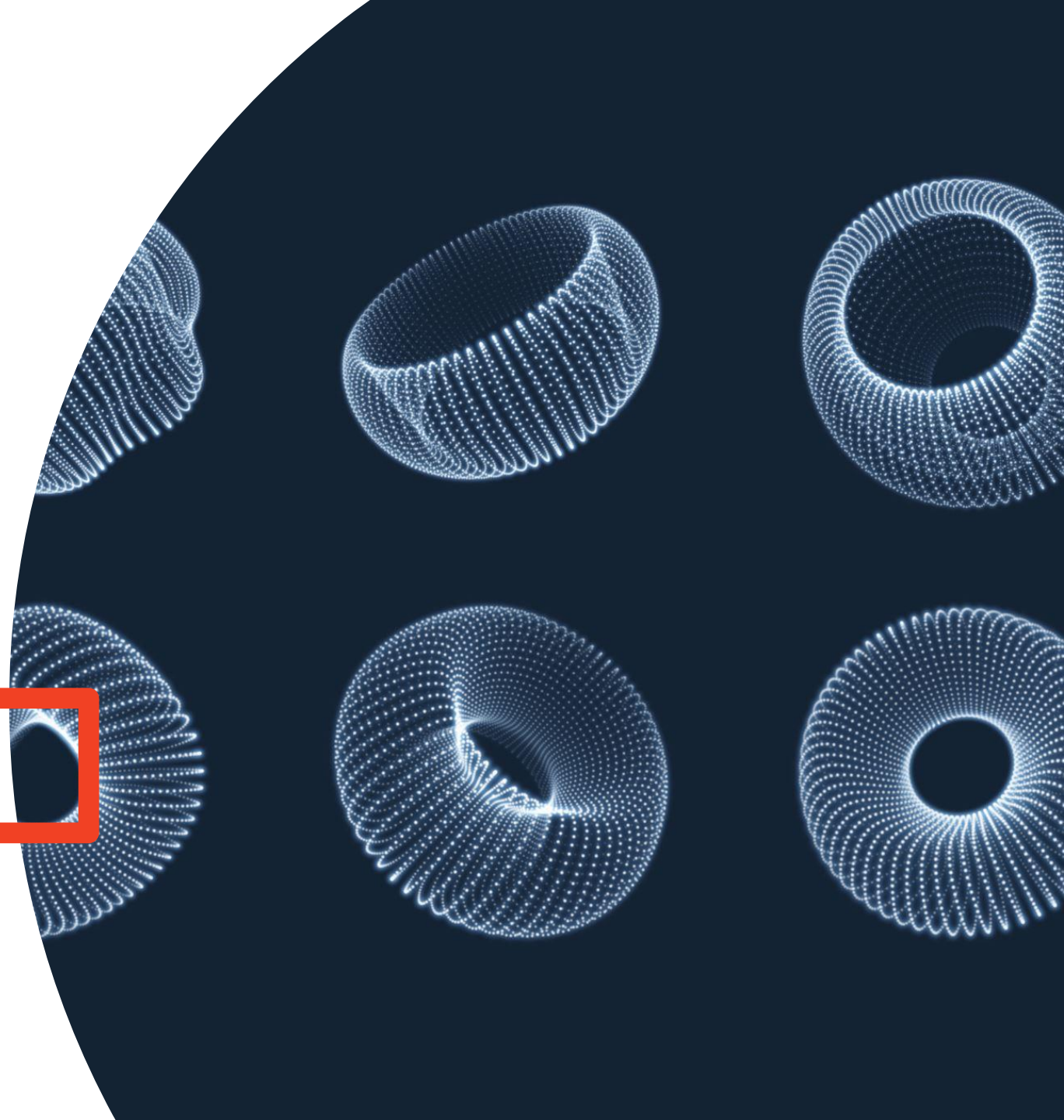
Scaling infrastructure in "the old days"

Order servers → Order rack space

Put the servers in the racks → Cable them up

Go to the data center and configure them
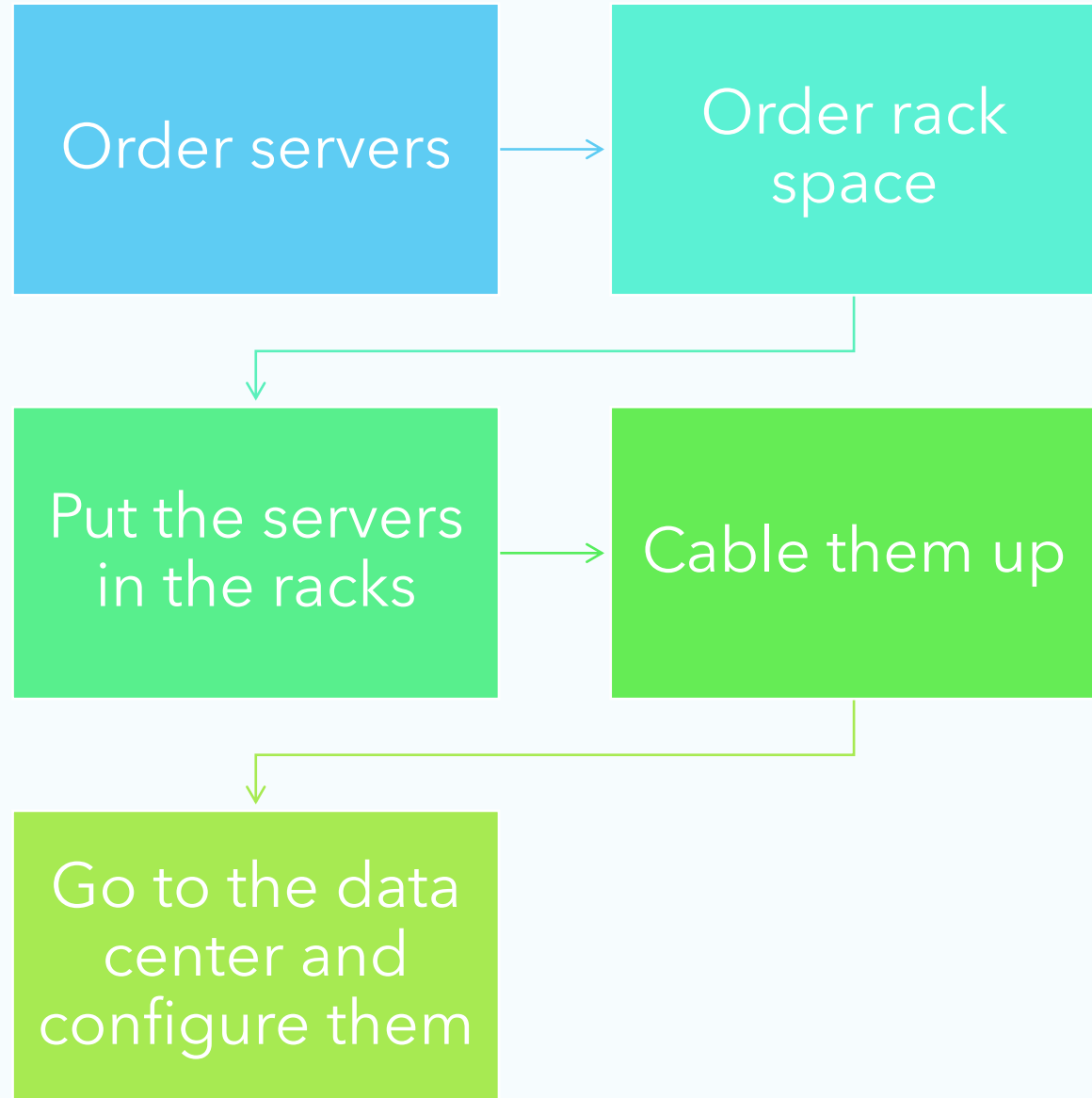
Cloud changed everything

Provision new infrastructure via a web console or API

Scaling up and down became much easier

So everybody did it!

Problem

- Repeatability of configuration at scale is hard
- Manually configuring stuff leads to all kinds of mistakes

Two types of Infrastructure Automation

Procedural
(i.e. Scripting)

Declarative

Declarative Infrastructure as Code

Define your desired infrastructure state (as code)

Have an engine to interpret the difference between desired and actual state and modify infrastructure