Title: Infrastructure via AI-Driven Orchestration: A New Model for Cloud Automation

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Executive Summary

Traditional Infrastructure as Code (IaC) has long served as the backbone of scalable, repeatable infrastructure deployment in the cloud. However, the emergence of AI-assisted orchestration introduces a new paradigm: infrastructure driven by rule-based AI agents, embedding domain knowledge, and executing actions via imperative APIs such as AWS CLI. This paper outlines how AI-driven orchestration—distinct from IaC by definition—can serve as a deterministic, repeatable, and intelligent alternative for managing public cloud infrastructure. We focus on Amazon Q Developer, vector databases, structured prompts, and managed AI workflows.

This new approach is best described as **Intent-Driven Infrastructure Execution**—an operational model where desired outcomes are translated into infrastructure actions dynamically and intelligently.

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1. Introduction

- **Traditional IaC:** Declarative, file-based, version-controlled (e.g., Terraform, Bicep)
- **AI-Driven Orchestration:** Dynamic, knowledge-based, execution via structured outputs and APIs (e.g., AWS CLI)
- **Use Case:** Enterprise cloud teams looking to automate infrastructure provisioning without managing IaC files

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2. Conceptual Architecture

Core Components:

1. **LLM Agent (e.g., Amazon Q Developer)**
2. **Vector Database (e.g., Amazon OpenSearch, Pinecone)**
3. **Prompt Management Layer (templates + rules)**
4. **Execution Engine (AWS CLI via Lambda/Fargate/API Gateway)**
5. **Monitoring & Audit Layer (CloudWatch, Athena logs)**

Data Flow:

1. User expresses intent (natural language or structured query)
2. LLM uses vector search to retrieve compliant infrastructure patterns
3. Structured prompt and output template generates CLI calls
4. Execution engine runs commands
5. Monitoring layer verifies and logs output

Intent-Driven Infrastructure Execution Diagram

```
+--------------------+        +----------------------+
+----------------------+        +------------------------+
|  User/Developer   |  -->   |  LLM Agent (Q Dev)   |  -->   |  Prompt + Vector
DB  |  -->   |  Execution Engine      |
| (Express Intent)  |        | (Interpret & Plan)   |        |  (Best Practice
Match)|        | (AWS CLI + Runtime)    |
+--------------------+        +----------------------+
+----------------------+        +------------------------+

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| Cloud Environment |

+--------------------+
```

3. Tools and Setup

3.1 Amazon Q Developer

- Use for prompt chaining, task planning, and context retention
- Integrated with AWS Developer Tools (CodeWhisperer, CLI, SDKs)

3.2 Vector Database

- Use OpenSearch Service or external options like Pinecone
- Store embeddings of best-practice infrastructure definitions

3.3 Structured Prompting

- Use templates like:

```
{
  "intent": "create s3 bucket",
  "compliance": "private, encrypted",
  "region": "us-west-2"
}
```

- Map output format to specific CLI commands

3.4 CLI Executor

- AWS Lambda or Step Functions to run CLI commands
- Guardrails via IAM roles and runtime verifications

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4. Implementation Steps

Step 1: Define Knowledge Base

- Convert best practices into vector-encoded formats
- Include compliance, architecture patterns, naming conventions

Step 2: Build Prompt-Output Chain

- Develop templates that enforce output structure (JSON → CLI)
- Use Amazon Q Developer’s coding agent features to generate syntax

Step 3: Create Execution Backend

- Lambda functions (or Fargate tasks) to run CLI commands
- Secure API Gateway to trigger executions with logs

Step 4: Live State Awareness ("As Built" Detection)

- Use the LLM to query live infrastructure state via MCP servers
- Determine whether requested resources already exist
- Calculate and execute only the required changes to reach desired state

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5. Benefits Over Traditional IaC

Feature	AI-Driven Orchestration	Traditional IaC
Codebase Dependency	Low	High
Speed of Iteration	High	Medium
Context Awareness	Dynamic via LLM	Static
Integration Flexibility	High (API/SDK driven)	Moderate
State Awareness	Real-time via MCP	File-based (via state files)

6. Limitations & Considerations

- **Auditability**: Must log input/output and execution
- **Security**: Execution engine must be tightly scoped
- **Versioning**: Vector knowledge base must be curated

7. Future Outlook

AI-driven orchestration has the potential to replace IaC entirely in environments where live state detection and structured execution via AI are the norm. By enabling "as built" detection through MCP integrations, the need for separate drift detection is eliminated. This approach is particularly viable in dynamic, event-driven, or developer-centric workflows where speed, flexibility, and context are prioritized.

8. Conclusion

AI-driven infrastructure orchestration using tools like Amazon Q Developer, vector DBs, and CLI automation represents a real evolution in cloud operations. While it does not meet the strict definition of Infrastructure as Code, it enables an equally rigorous and intelligent alternative when engineered properly. Teams leveraging "as built" detection through LLMs and MCP servers may find this model not just an augmentation—but a full replacement. This marks the rise of **Intent-Driven Infrastructure Execution**.

Appendix A: Example Prompt-Output Pair

Input Prompt: "Create a private, encrypted S3 bucket in us-east-1 with logging enabled."

Structured Output:

```
{
  "cli": "aws s3api create-bucket --bucket my-secure-bucket --region us-east-1
--create-bucket-configuration LocationConstraint=us-east-1",
  "policy": "private",
  "encryption": "AES256",
  "logging": true
}
```

Execution: AWS Lambda receives JSON, runs CLI, logs result.

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