

Drupal 8 Configuration System Basics



Michael Anello - @ultimike - DrupalEasy.com

Michael Anello

- DrupalEasy/Anello Consulting, Inc.
(drupaleasy.com)
- Drupal trainer/consultant/coach (12+ years)
- ultimike on drupal.org (drupal.org/u/ultimike)
- @ultimike
- Drupal Career Online & DrupalEasy + Pantheon long-form classes, DDEV monthly workshops.

Objectives

- Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System
- Comfort with common Drupal 8 configuration system workflows

The first rule of the configuration system is to talk about the configuration system process.

Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

Two takeaways

Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

1. Managing configuration is 75% process, 25% technical.

Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

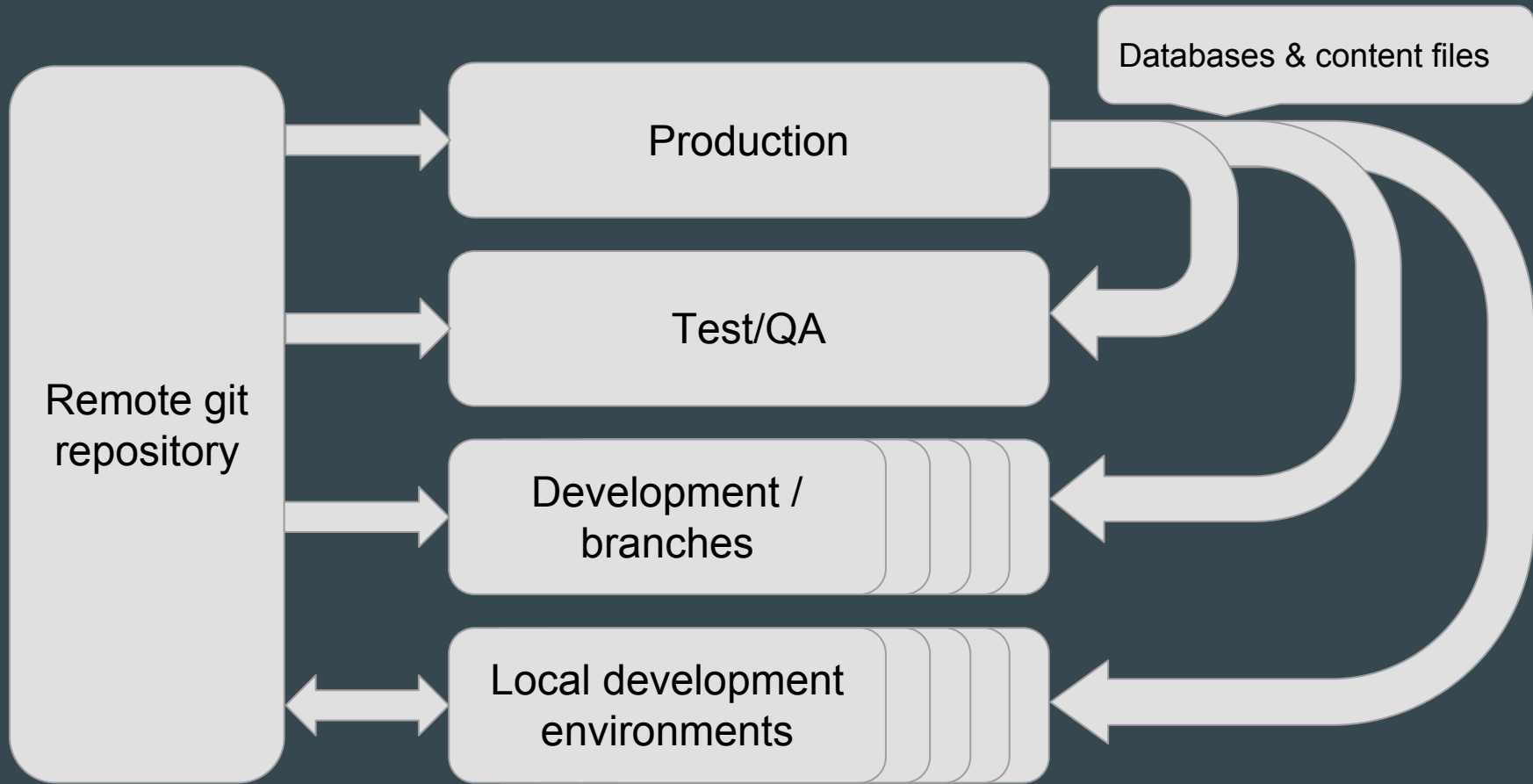
2. All or nothing.

Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

- A Drupal database stores two types of data
 - Content
 - Configuration

Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

- Ideally, developers should be defining and testing configuration on local, and pushing up through
 - Dev
 - Test/QA
 - Production

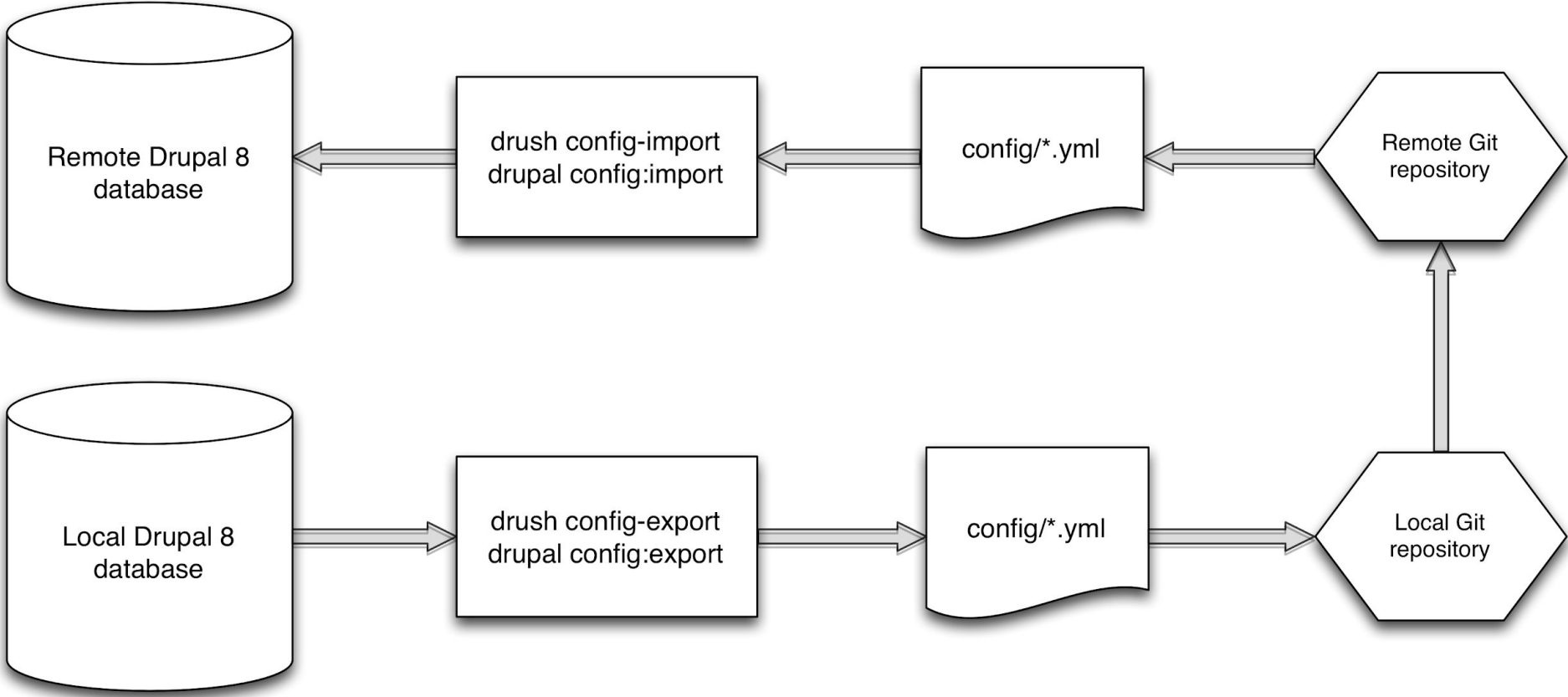


Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

- With the configuration in the database, if we copy a local database up to Live to move configuration, we will likely overwrite content.
 - It is not practical to move a subset of database tables to move configuration.

Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

- Drupal 8's configuration system provides a mechanism to export configuration from the database into code (.yml files).
 - Use Git to move between environments.



Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

- Syncing config needs to be part of your development process
 - We're used to using "git pull".
 - We need to add "drush config-import".

Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

- Syncing config needs to be part of your development process
 - We're used to using "git add/commit/push".
 - We need to add "drush config-export".

Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

- Updating codebase

- `git pull --rebase`
- `drush config-import`

- End a task

- `drush config-export`
- `git add`
- `git commit`
- `git push`

- Change branches

- `drush config-export`
- `git add/commit/push`
- `git checkout`
- `drush config-import`

Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

- The location of the exported configuration files is typically called the "sync" directory.
 - Configured in settings.php file.

Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

- Configuration files have lots of interdependencies.
 - A standard Drupal install has over 170 configuration files.
 - Not recommended to export/import subsets.
 - All or nothing.

**Comfort with common Drupal 8 configuration
system workflows.**

Live demonstration!


Understanding the basics of Drupal 8's Configuration System

- The "Configuration Synchronization" page
 - Warning text
 - X new - will be added on config import
 - X changed - will be changed on config import
 - X removed - will be removed on config import

Synchronize

[Synchronize](#)[Import](#)[Export](#)

[Home](#) » [Administration](#) » [Configuration](#) » [Development](#)

 The following items in your active configuration have changes since the last import that may be lost on the next import.

- block.block.block
- block.block.block_1


2 new

NAME	OPERATIONS
	View differences
	View differences

169 changed

NAME	OPERATIONS
	View differences
core.extension	View differences

25 removed

NAME	OPERATIONS
views.view.redirect_404	View differences
	View differences

**Comfort with common Drupal 8 configuration
system workflows.**

Rubber, meet road.

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- Exercise 1: Initial site configuration export, review of /config/ files and "config" table.
- Exercise 2: Review repercussions of "Import all" config command on local environment.

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- Exercise 3: Exporting configuration from a local environment, moving, and importing to a remote environment
- Exercise 4: Make a minor configuration change on remote and local environments, move local config to remote environment

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- Exercise 5: Make a major configuration change on remote and local environments, move local config to remote environment
- Exercise 6: Make a major configuration change on local and a minor configuration change on a remote, move local config to remote environment

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- Exercise 7: Use the Configuration Split module to prevent config from going to remote environments
- Exercise 8: How to handle configuration changes on multiple environments that we want to keep

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- Exercise 9: Using the Configuration Read-only mode module to prevent configuration changes on Pantheon Dev or any other environment.

**Comfort with common Drupal 8 configuration
system workflows.**

Tips and Tricks

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- Tips and Tricks #1
 - When possible, use the Configuration Read-only mode on the live environment.
 - It's like training wheels for using the D8 configuration system.

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- Tips and Tricks #2
 - When configuration changes are made to a remote environment, review, export, and commit them to the repository as soon as possible.

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- Tips and Tricks #3
 - Before working in a local environment, ensure your local configuration is up-to-date and in-sync.

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- Tips and Tricks #4
 - When working with multiple branches in a local environment
 - Be sure to export and commit configuration prior to changing branches.
 - Be sure to import configuration immediately after changing branches.

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- Tips and Tricks #5
 - When writing a commit message for a commit that includes updated configuration, it is a good idea to include the word "config" somewhere to let others know that they should probably do a "config import".

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- Tips and Tricks #6
 - In most cases, the yellow warning text on the "Configuration synchronization" page is less-than-helpful. It is probably best to ignore and focus on the "changed", "removed", and "new" sections below it.