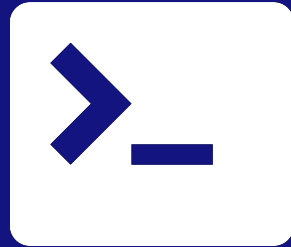
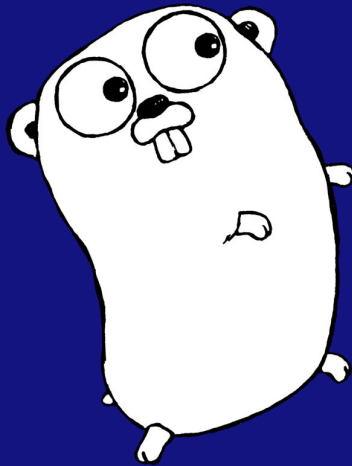


Own CLI tooling in Go



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Gophercamp 2025

Brno, 25. 4. 2025

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Ondřej Šika

DevOps {Engineer, Consultant, Trainer}

Founder and CEO
of the DevOps company **SikaLabs**.

I build and run infrastructures on
Kubernetes, open-source and cloud native
tools.

And I do DevOps trainings about it.

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Own CLI Tool. Why?

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Simplify repetitive tasks

We are lazy so we want to make our work easier



Our example use cases

- Working with Kubernetes
- CLI shortcuts and aliases
- Code generation during development
- Generating data for testing
- Automatic commit messages
- ... and more



Solution?

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Shell Scripts



Shell Scripts 🙄



Shell Scripts

- Write once, run forever
- Shell works everywhere
- Easy to write
- All scripts in one Git repo



But ...

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But . . .

- **Is Shell, Bash or ZSH really available everywhere?**
- **Are they truly easy to write? if it's more than chain of few command**
- **What about distribution without Git?**
- **Or without internet?**



Another solution?

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Python 🎉

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Python 🙄



**Python solves one problem
but makes others worse**



Pros

- Easier and faster development than SH/BASH
- Use of libraries, working with APIs, SDKs...



Cons

- Python isn't available everywhere
- Different versions of Python, 2 vs 3
- Dependency management isn't ideal (e.g., virtualenv...)
- Still not a single binary for distribution



... **solution?**

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easy to run



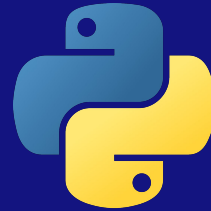
BASH
THE BOURNE-AGAIN SHELL



easy to write



Perl

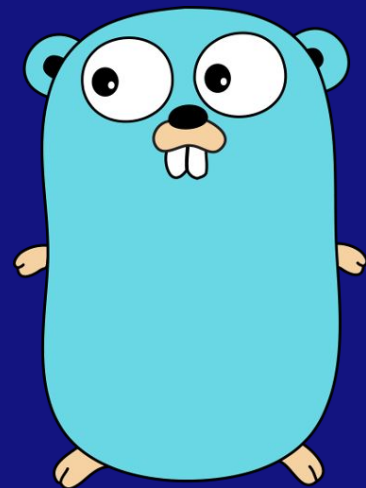


Let's use Go



Why CLI Tool in Go?

- **Statically linked binaries**
- **Easy development in Go (even for beginners)**
- **Simple distribution (brew, curl | sh, winget, ...)**
- **Tooling**
 - **Goreleaser**
 - **Cobra**
 - **Viper**



Statically Linked Binaries





```
→ ~ ldd /usr/local/bin/slu  
not a dynamic executable
```



Statically Linked Binaries

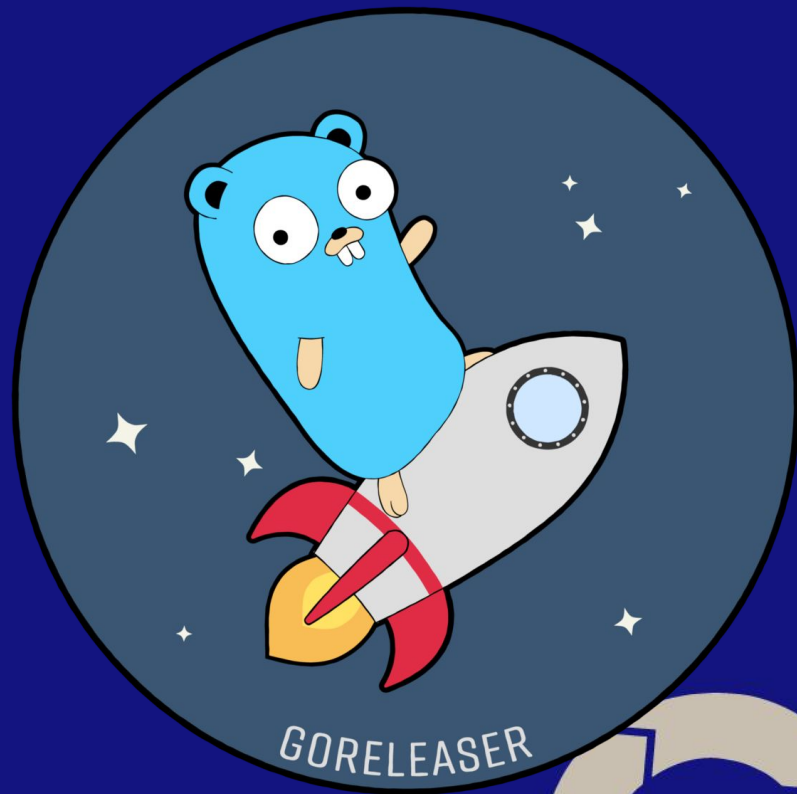
- Self contained executable, no external dependencies
- Very easy to build statically linked binaries

```
CGO_ENABLED=0 go build
```

- Binary for every platform and architecture:
 - Linux, Mac, Windows, ...
 - amd64, arm64, ...



Goreleaser



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Goreleaser

- **Build binaries (for all platforms)**
- **Build & push Docker image**
- **Upload binaries to GitHub/Gitlab**
- **Create Brew and Scoop packages**



Go Binary Distribution

Thanks to Goreleaser, distribution is very easy:

- `brew install my-org/tap/my-cli-tool`
- `curl -fsSL https://.../my-cli-tool/master/install.sh | sh`
- `winget install -e --id my-org.my-cli-tool`
- `scoop install https://.../scoop-bucket/master/my-cli-tool.json`



Cobra & Viper

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Cobra

Great library for writing CLI tools

- Used by most CLI tools: Docker, Kubernetes, Helm, ArgoCD, ...
- Very easy and pleasant to use
- Automatically generates completions

BASH, ZSH, PowerShell, Fish

- Generates documentation



Viper

Library for config files and ENV variables

- setting defaults
- reading from JSON, TOML, YAML, ...
- reading from environment variables
- reading from remote config systems (etcd or Consul)



Completion

Supports: BASH, ZSH, FISH a PowerShell

Source in current shell

```
. <(my-cli-tool completion bash)
```

Add to .bashrc

```
echo ". <(my-cli-tool completion bash)" >> ~/.bashrc
```



Generated Documentation

☰ 60 lines (54 sloc) | 2.79 KB <> 📄 Raw Blame 🖨 📄 ✎ 🗑

slu

SikaLabs Utils, v0.35.0

Options

```
-h, --help  help for slu
--json     Format output to JSON
```

🔗 SEE ALSO

- [slu argocd](#) - ArgoCD Utils
- [slu cloudflare](#) - Cloudflare Utils
- [slu completion](#) - Generate the autocompletion script for the specified shell
- [slu debug-server](#) - HTTP Server for debug & development
- [slu digitalocean](#) - DigitalOcean Utils
- [slu docker](#) - Docker Utils
- [slu du](#) - Own implementation of "du"

Our CLI Tools in Go

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My CLI Tools in Go

- **slu** - various utilities that might be useful (SikaLabs Utils)
- **training-cli** - tool to simplify training preparation
- **tergum** - Backup tool
- **gobble** - alternative to Ansible



github.com/sikalabs/slu

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→ ~ `slu`

SikaLabs Utils, v0.40.0

Usage:

`slu [command]`

Available Commands:

<code>argocd</code>	ArgoCD Utils
<code>cloudflare</code>	Cloudflare Utils
<code>completion</code>	Generate the autocompletion script for the specified shell
<code>debug-server</code>	HTTP Server for debug & development
<code>df</code>	System's "df" filtered for /dev devices and human readable



```
→ ~ slu tls parse -a sika.io:443
```

```
Subject Name: CN=sni.cloudflaressl.com,O=Cloudflare\  
Inc.,L=San Francisco,ST=California,C=US
```

```
Subject Common Name: sni.cloudflaressl.com
```

```
Issuer Name: CN=Cloudflare Inc ECC CA-3,O=Cloudflare\  
Inc.,C=US
```

```
Issuer Common Name: Cloudflare Inc ECC CA-3
```

```
Created: 2022-05-11T00:00:00Z
```

```
Expiry: 2023-05-10T23:59:59Z
```



→ ~ `slu loggen`

`loggen 2022/06/11 07:42:01 Logging into STDOUT`

`loggen 2022/06/11 07:42:02 WARN A warning that should be ignored is usually at this level and should be actionable.`

`loggen 2022/06/11 07:42:04 INFO This is less important than debug log and is often used to provide context in the current task.`

`loggen 2022/06/11 07:42:07 DEBUG This is a debug log that shows a log that can be ignored.`

`loggen 2022/06/11 07:42:08 DEBUG This is a debug log that`

`loggen 2022/06/11 07:42:12 ERROR An error is usually an exception that has been caught and not handled.`



→ ~ `slu wireguard genkey`

priv: 0Mw0nRSzBxV4cCyyTK1mD9ELT2gPzFHPwTUTGcbyrGA=

publ: Raqa9Cfw4iq/4gjqu2NiHYd7eBdLtJBPbFnCd3Ks+nY=

pres: Us40VLrPrFo7x6xxl0J8iF5R8SaDb/xTjI0uITcXNyY=

github.com/ondrejsika/training-cli

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```
→ ~ docker pull -q sikalabs/dev
```

```
docker.io/sikalabs/dev:latest
```

```
→ ~ docker run -ti sikalabs/dev
```

```
root@cc58e8df57ba:/# training-cli kubernetes connect
```

```
You are connected to my demo cluster
```

```
root@cc58e8df57ba:/# kubectl get nodes
```

NAME	STATUS	ROLES	AGE	VERSION
sikademo-cldb0	Ready	<none>	2d	v1.22.8
sikademo-cldbd	Ready	<none>	2d	v1.22.8
sikademo-cldbv	Ready	<none>	2d	v1.22.8

LIVE DEMO TIME

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Summary

- CLI tools in Go are great – proven in practice
- Easy to use and distribute
- Simple and fast to develop



**Thank you for
your attention.**

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