Management Tools (https://cloud.google.com/products/management/)

Cloud Shell (https://cloud.google.com/shell/) Documentation

Accessing Cloud Shell from the command line

Alpha

This feature is in a pre-release state and might change or have limited support. For more information, see the product launch stages (https://cloud.google.com/products/#product-launch-stages).

If you have Google Cloud SDK installed (https://cloud.google.com/sdk/install), you can interact with Cloud Shell directly from your terminal and use it as a sandbox and a portable development environment! This provides the convenience of working with Cloud Shell resources, whether to quickly test an operation or use an IDE of your choice to edit a file saved on your Cloud Shell instance from the comfort of your local desktop.

Using `gcloud cloud-shell`

The current `gcloud cloud-shell` command group offering provides the following functionality:

- Establishing an interactive SSH session with Cloud Shell using `gcloud alpha cloud-shell ssh` (https://cloud.google.com/sdk/gcloud/reference/alpha/cloud-shell/ssh).

- Copy files between your local and Cloud Shell machine via scp (https://cloud.google.com/sdk/gcloud/reference/alpha/cloud-shell/scp).

- Mount your Cloud Shell directory to your local file system via sshfs (https://cloud.google.com/sdk/gcloud/reference/alpha/cloud-shell/get-mount-command).

For more detail, see the reference documentation for `gcloud alpha cloud-shell` (https://cloud.google.com/sdk/gcloud/reference/alpha/cloud-shell).

Note: Unlike using Cloud Shell from the Console, your active project and credentials aren't propagated to your Cloud Shell when starting it from the gcloud command-line tool. Use `gcloud init` (https://cloud.google.com/sdk/docs/initializing) to set your desired configuration.

Example workflow

To illustrate the workings of `gcloud cloud-shell`, here is an example of how you can use these commands in practice:

1. Start a SSH session:

   ```
   gcloud alpha cloud-shell ssh
   ```

2. Copy a file, 'data.txt', from Cloud Shell to your local machine:

   ```
   gcloud alpha cloud-shell scp cloudshell:~/data.txt localhost:~data.txt
   ```

3. If you're using Mac or Linux, you can mount your Cloud Shell home directory onto your local file system after installing sshfs (https://github.com/libfuse/sshfs).

   This allows you to edit the files in your Cloud Shell home directory using your choice of local tools. All the data in your remotely mounted file system is stored on a Persistent Disk (https://cloud.google.com/persistent-disk/) and stored across sessions.

   ```
   gcloud alpha cloud-shell get-mount-command ~/my-cloud-shell
   ```