

AWS

S U M M I T

Deep Dive on Elastic Block Storage (Amazon EBS)

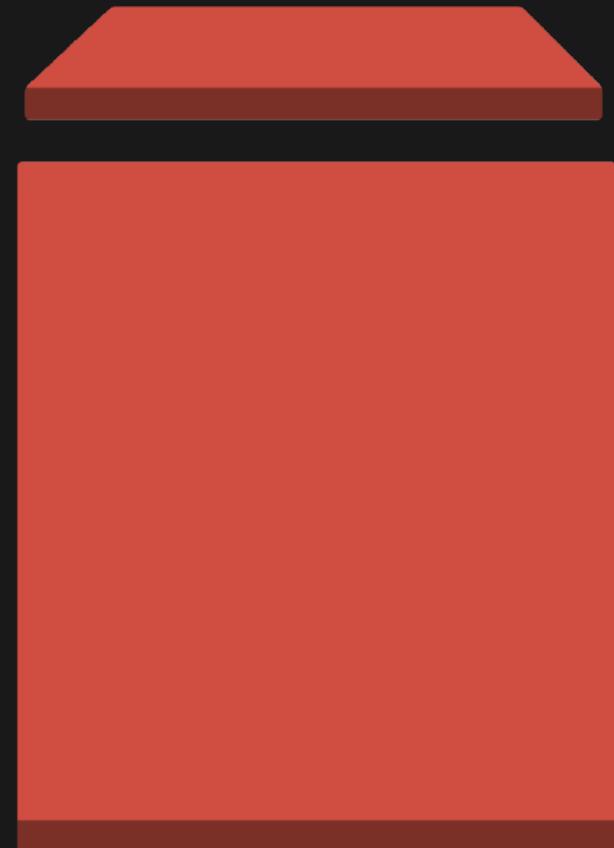
SRV413

August 14, 2017

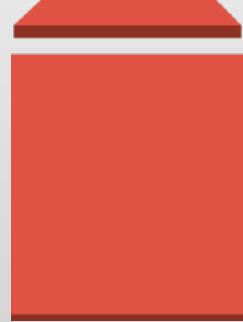


What to expect from this session

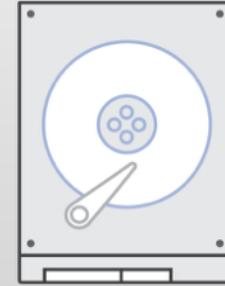
- Storage options on AWS
- EBS Overview
- Volume Types
- Deep Dive



The AWS Storage Portfolio



Amazon EBS
(persistent)



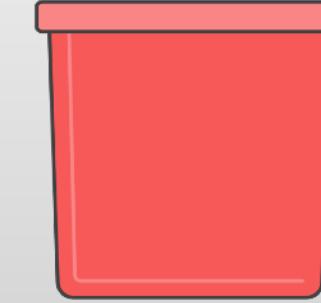
Amazon EC2
Instance Store
(ephemeral)

Block

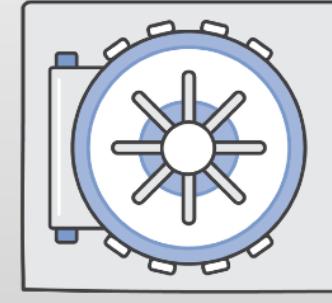


Amazon EFS

File



Amazon S3



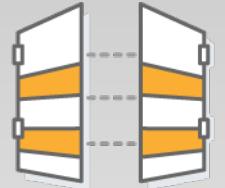
Amazon Glacier

Object

Cloud Data Migration



Snow* data
transport family



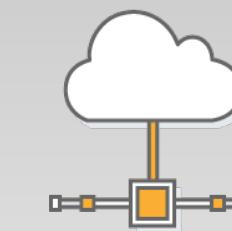
Storage
Gateway



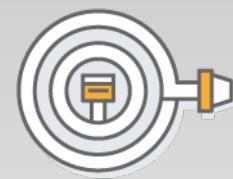
Direct Connect



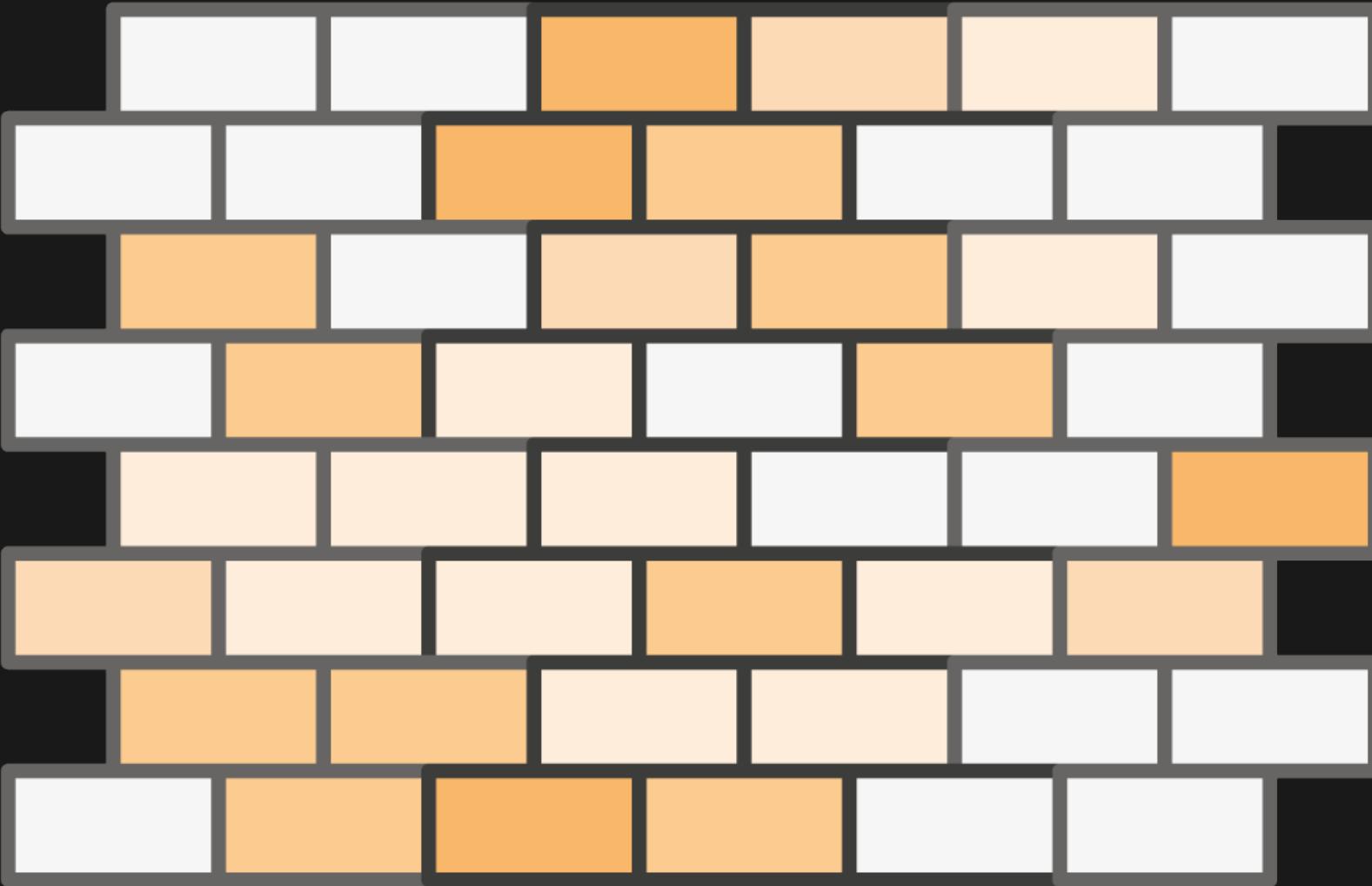
3rd Party
Connectors



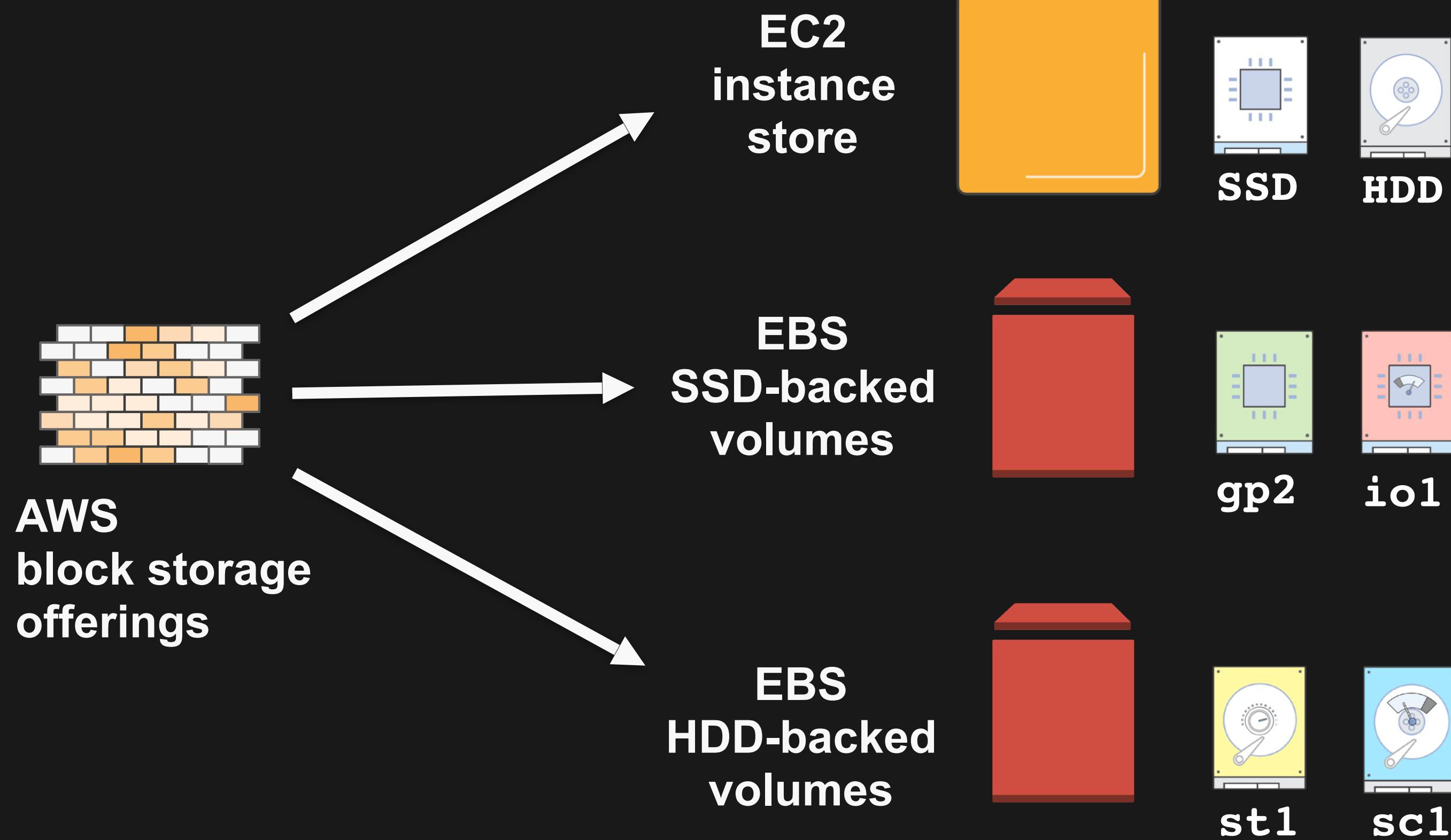
Transfer
Acceleration



Kinesis Firehose



AWS block storage offerings



What is Amazon EC2 instance store?



- Local to instance
- Non-persistent data store
- Data not replicated (by default)
- No snapshot support
- SSD or HDD

What is Amazon Elastic Block Store (EBS)?

Elastic Block Store

- Persistent block storage volumes
- 99.999% availability
- Automatically replicated within its Availability Zone (AZ)
- Point-in-time snapshot support
- Modify volume type as needs change
- SSD or HDD

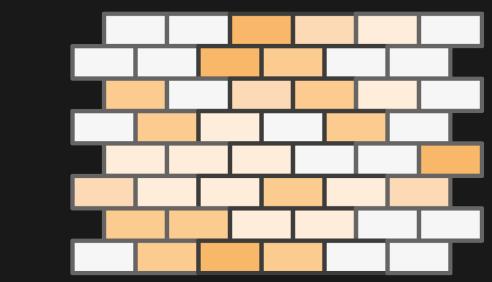
EC2 Instance Store

- Local to instance
- Non-persistent data store
- Data not replicated (by default)
- No snapshot support
- SSD or HDD

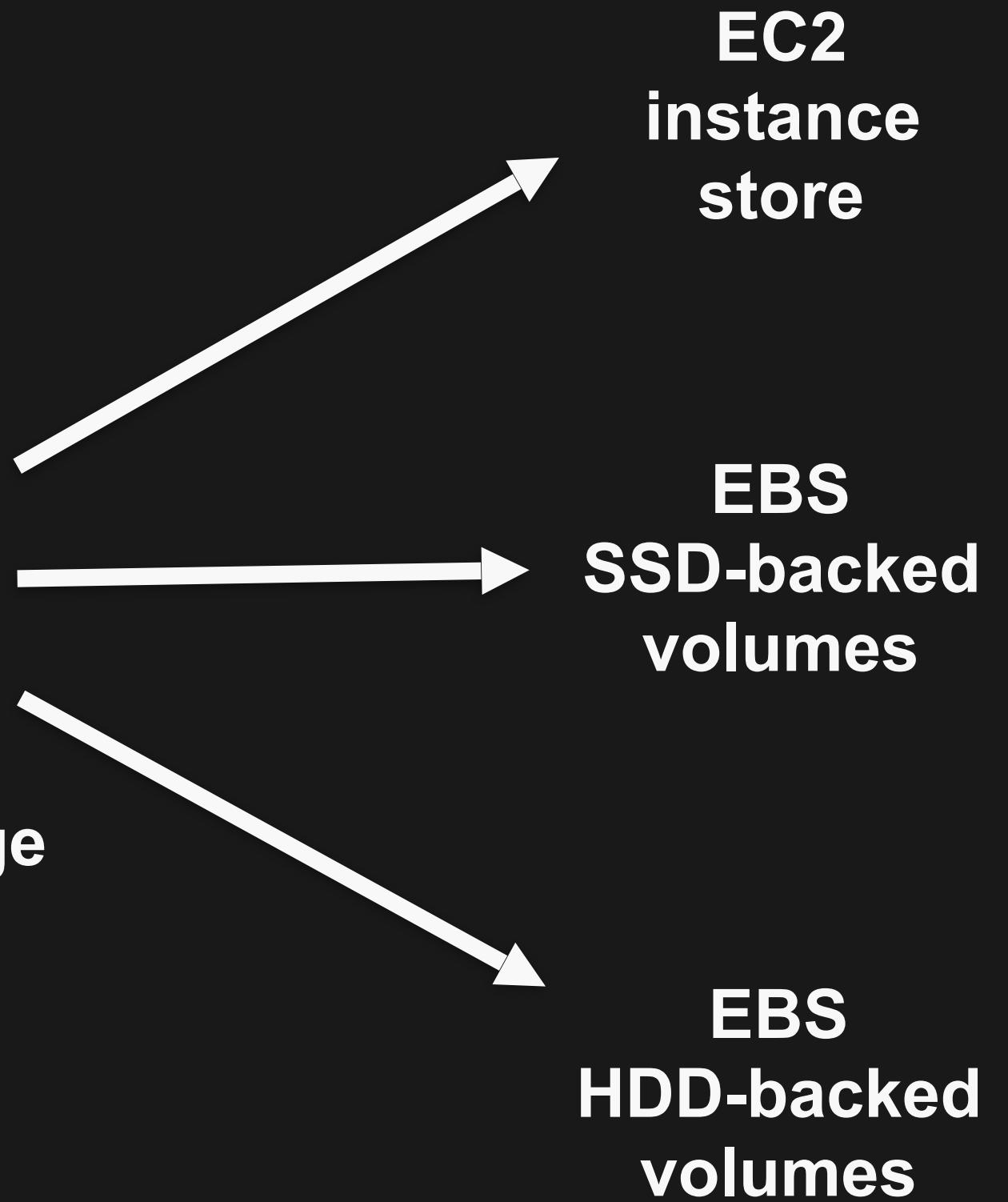
The history of EBS

- 2006 – EC2 launched with instance storage
- 2008 – EBS (Elastic Block Storage) launched on magnetic storage
- 2012 – EBS io1 (SSD) & EBS-Optimized instances
- 2014 – EBS gp2 (SSD)
- 2014 – EBS data volume encryption
- 2015 – Larger/faster EBS volumes
- 2015 – EBS boot volume encryption
- 2016 – EBS st1 (HDD) and sc1 (HDD)
- 2017 – EBS Elastic Volumes!

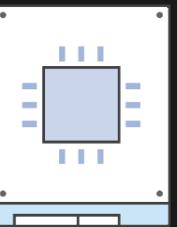




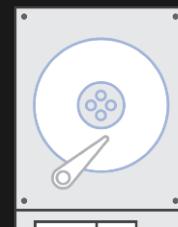
AWS
block storage
offerings



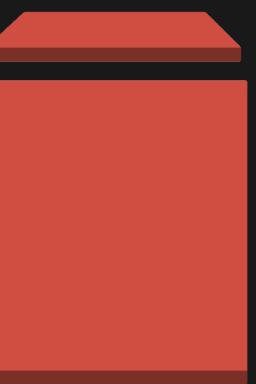
EC2
instance
store



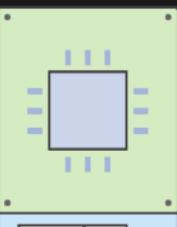
SSD



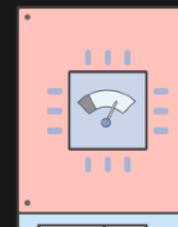
HDD



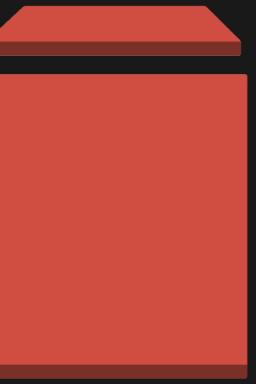
EBS
SSD-backed
volumes



gp2



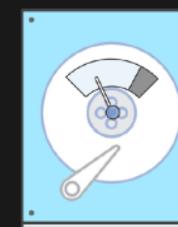
io1



EBS
HDD-backed
volumes

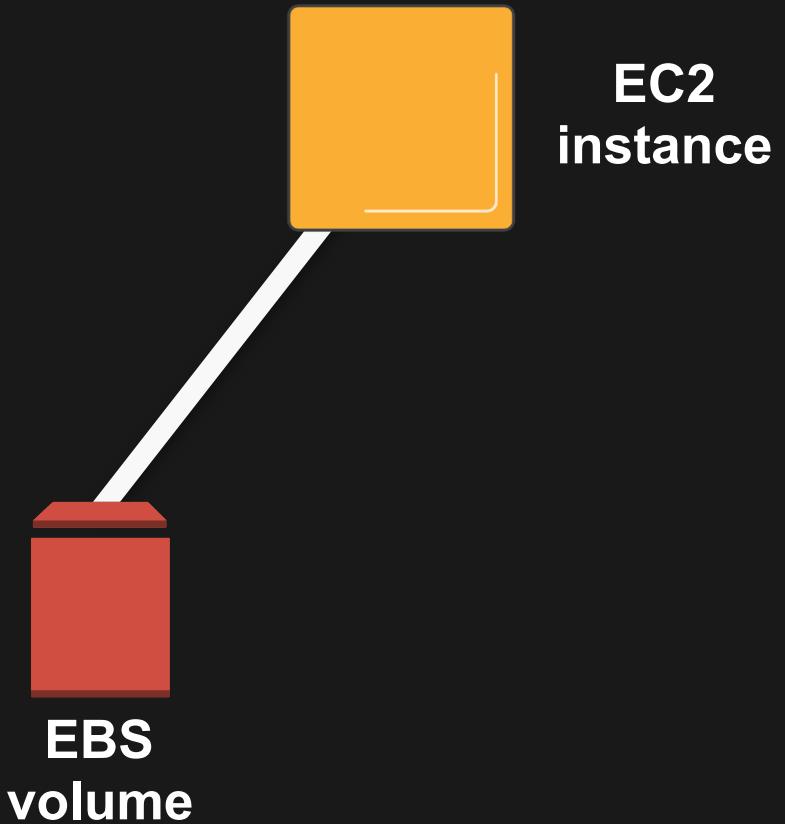


st1



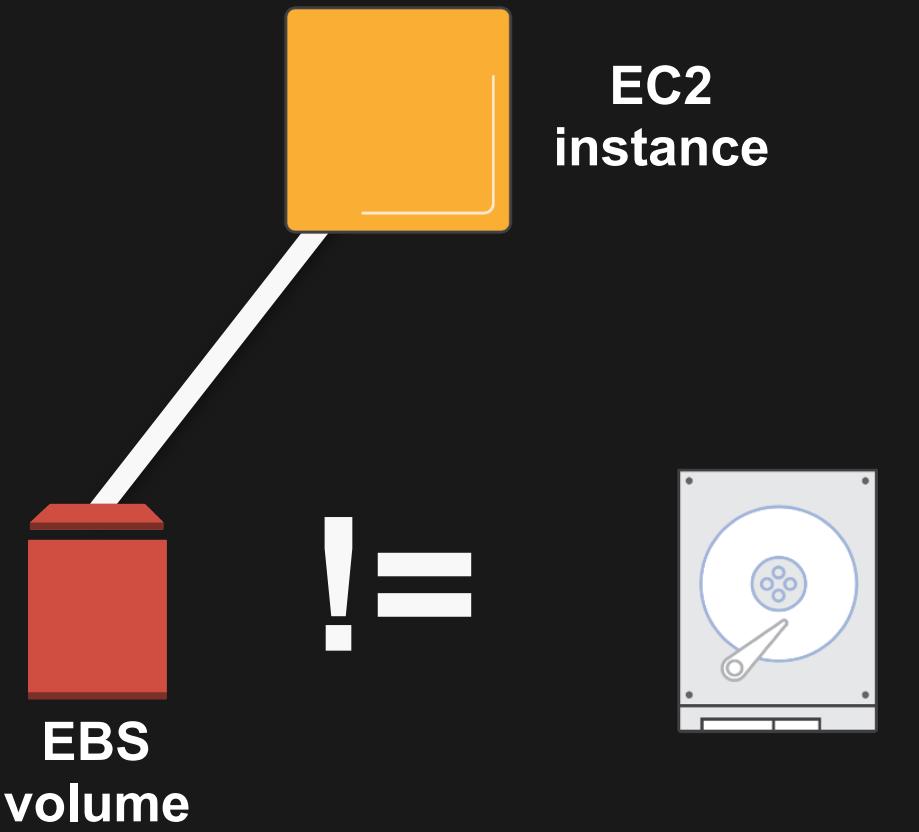
sc1

What is EBS?

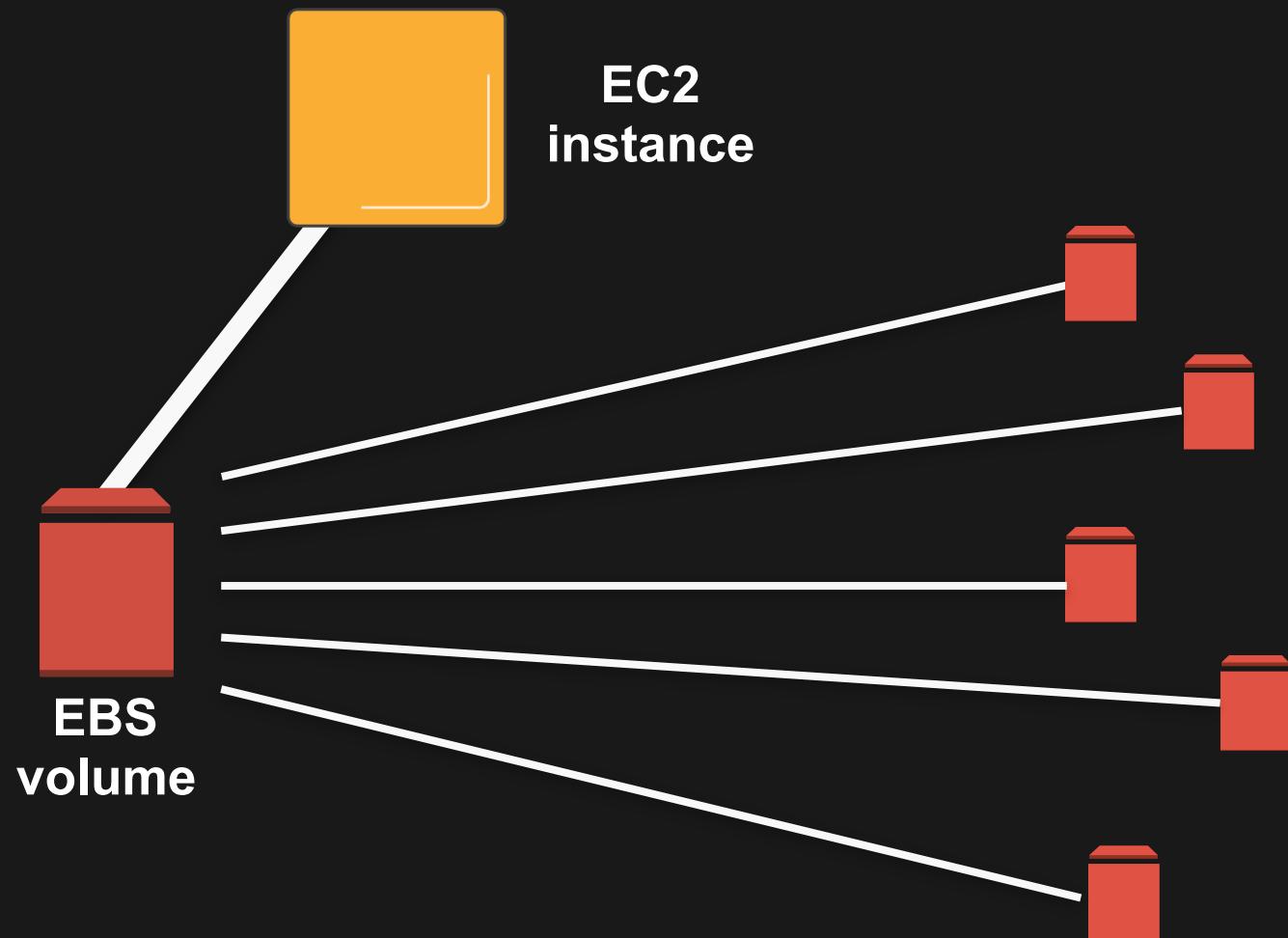


- Block storage as a service
- Create, attach volumes through an API
- Service accessed over the network

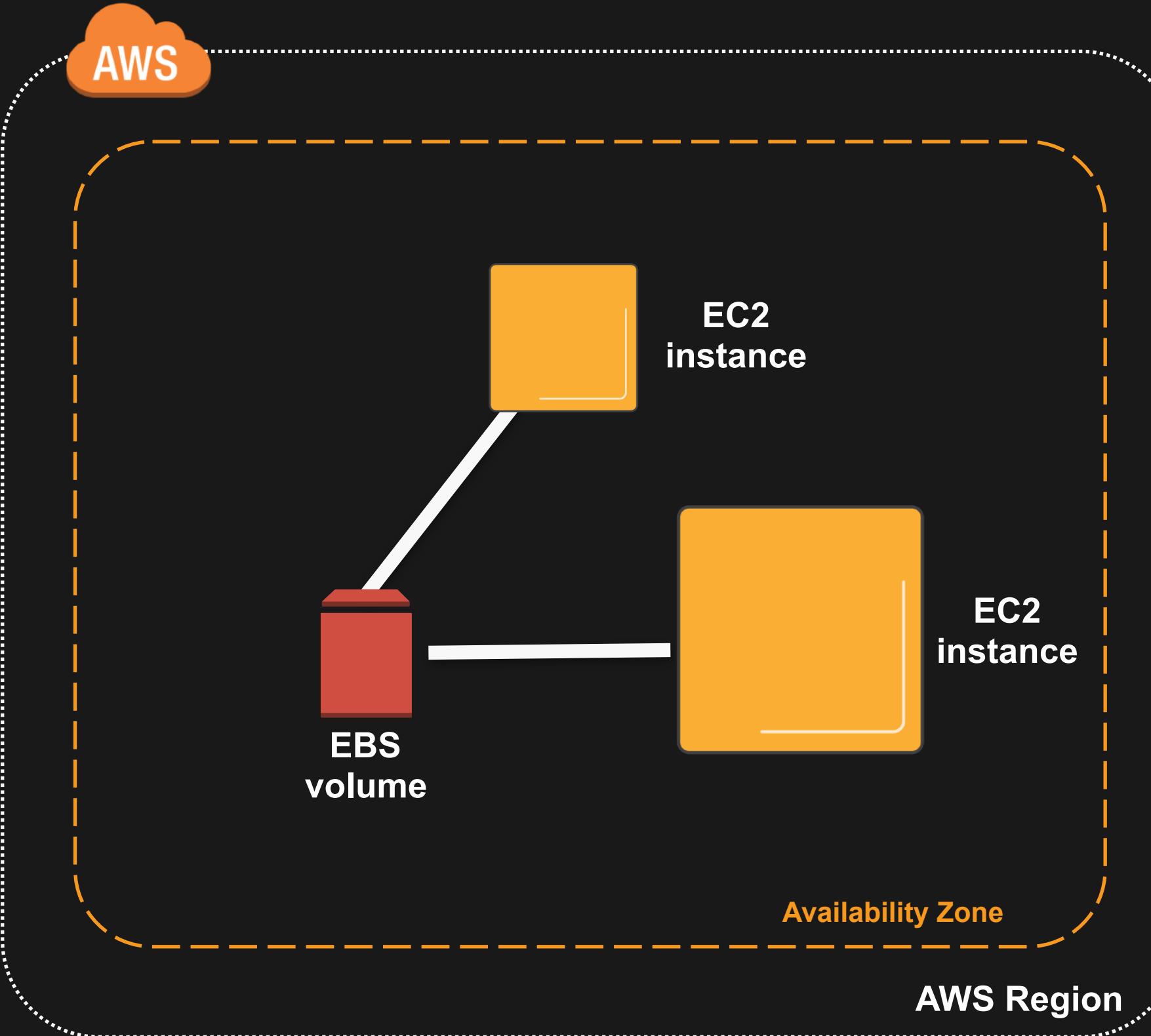
What is EBS?



What is EBS?

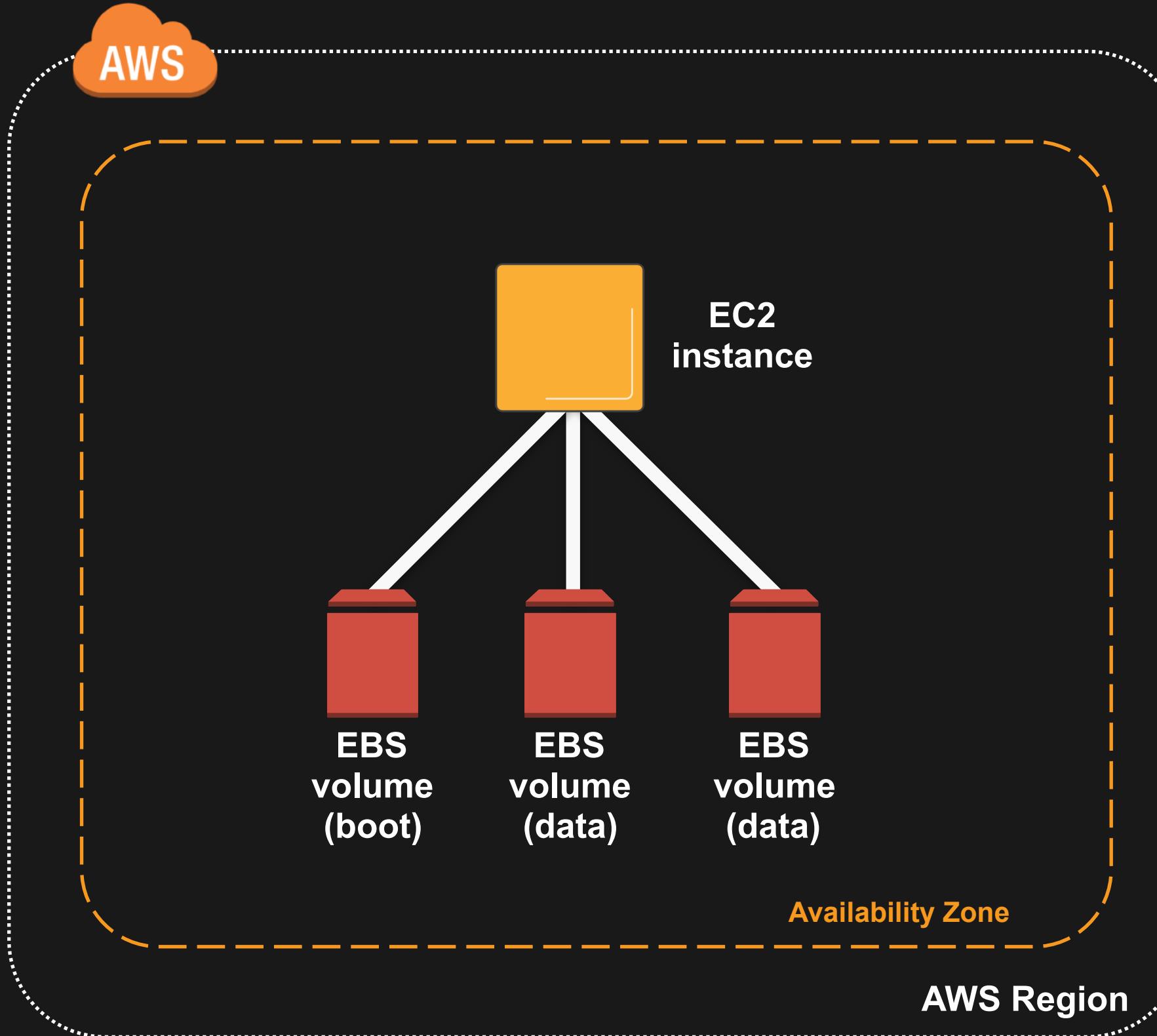


What is EBS?



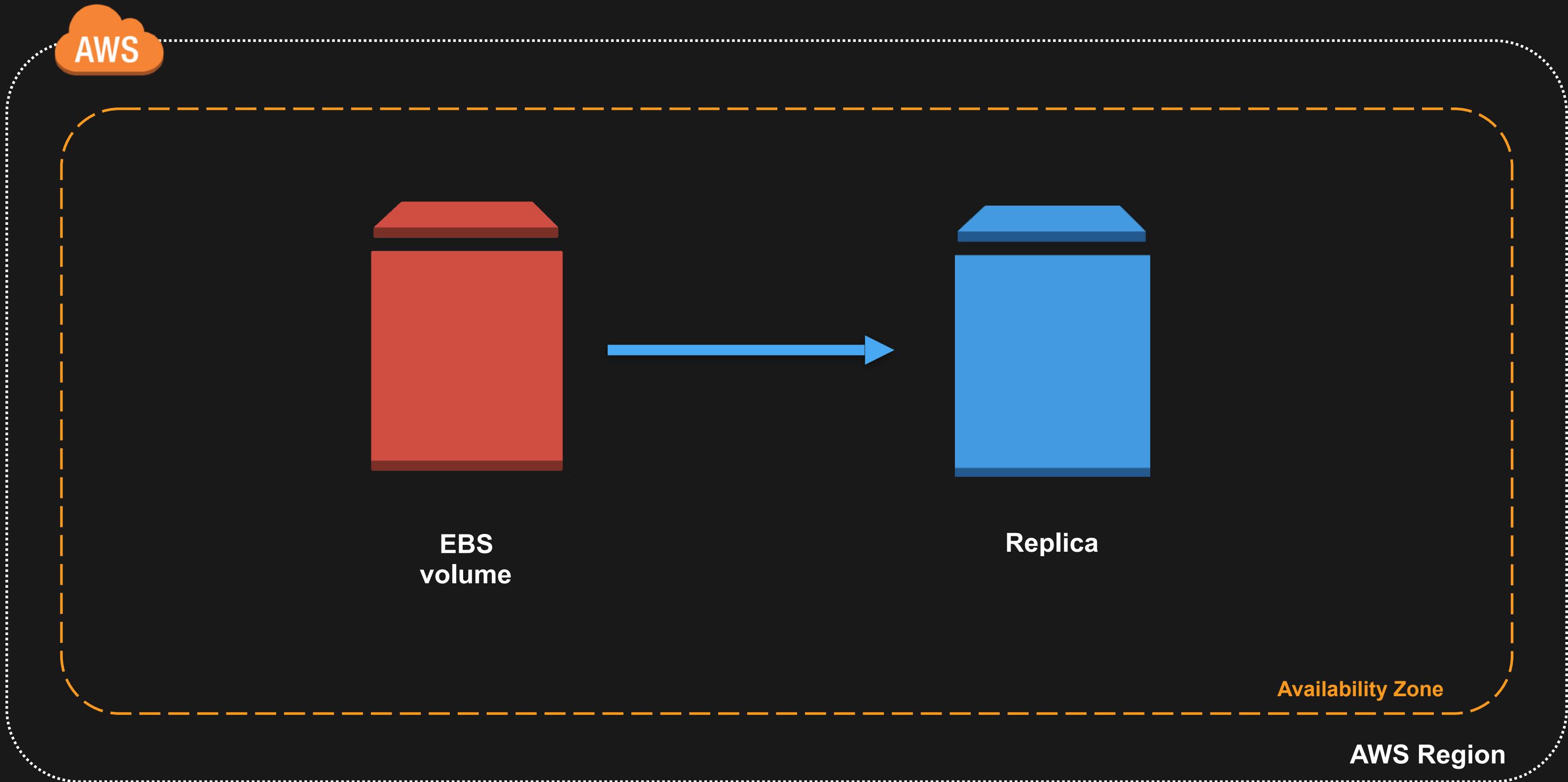
- Volumes persist independent of EC2
- Select storage and compute based on your workload
- Detach and attach between instances within the same AZ

What is EBS?



- Volumes attach to one instance at a time
- Many volumes can attach to an instance
- Separate boot volume from data volumes

What is EBS?

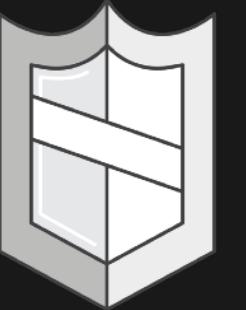


What is EBS?

EBS is designed for:

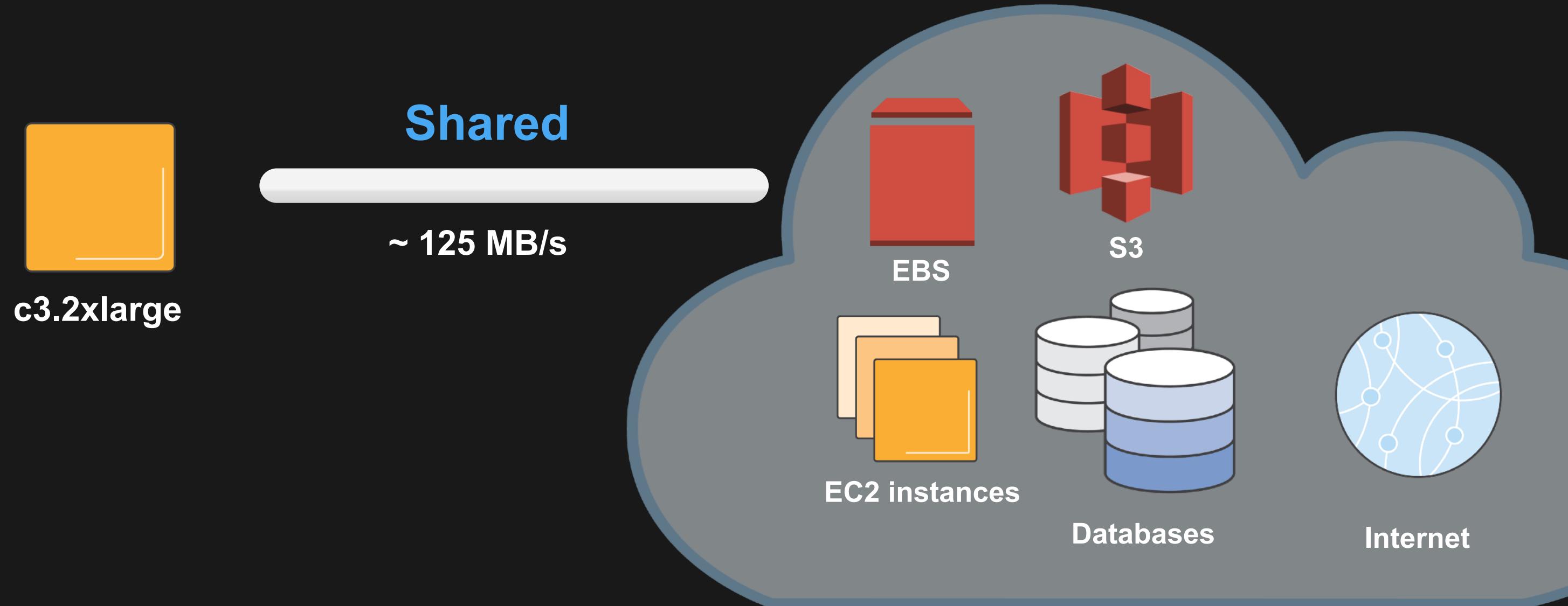


99.999% service availability

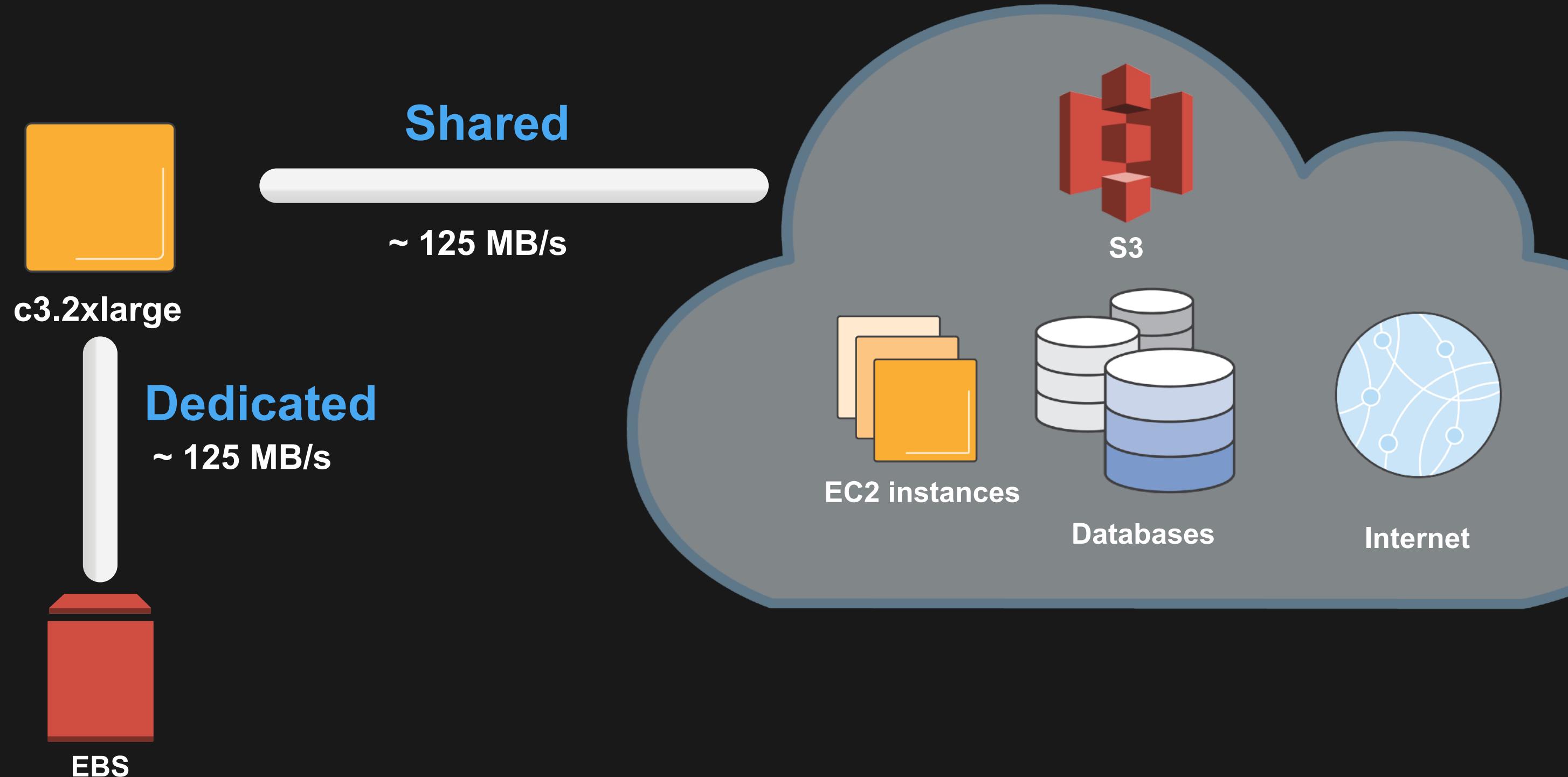


0.1% to 0.2% annual failure rate (AFR)

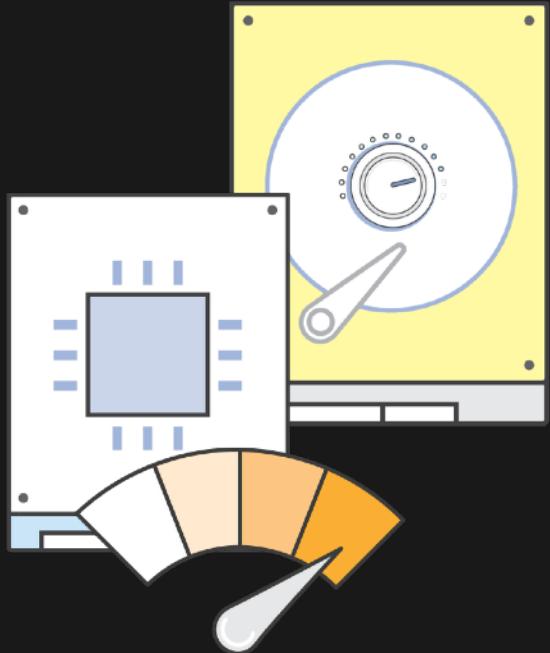
What is an EBS-optimized instance?



What is an EBS-optimized instance?



What is an EBS-optimized instance?

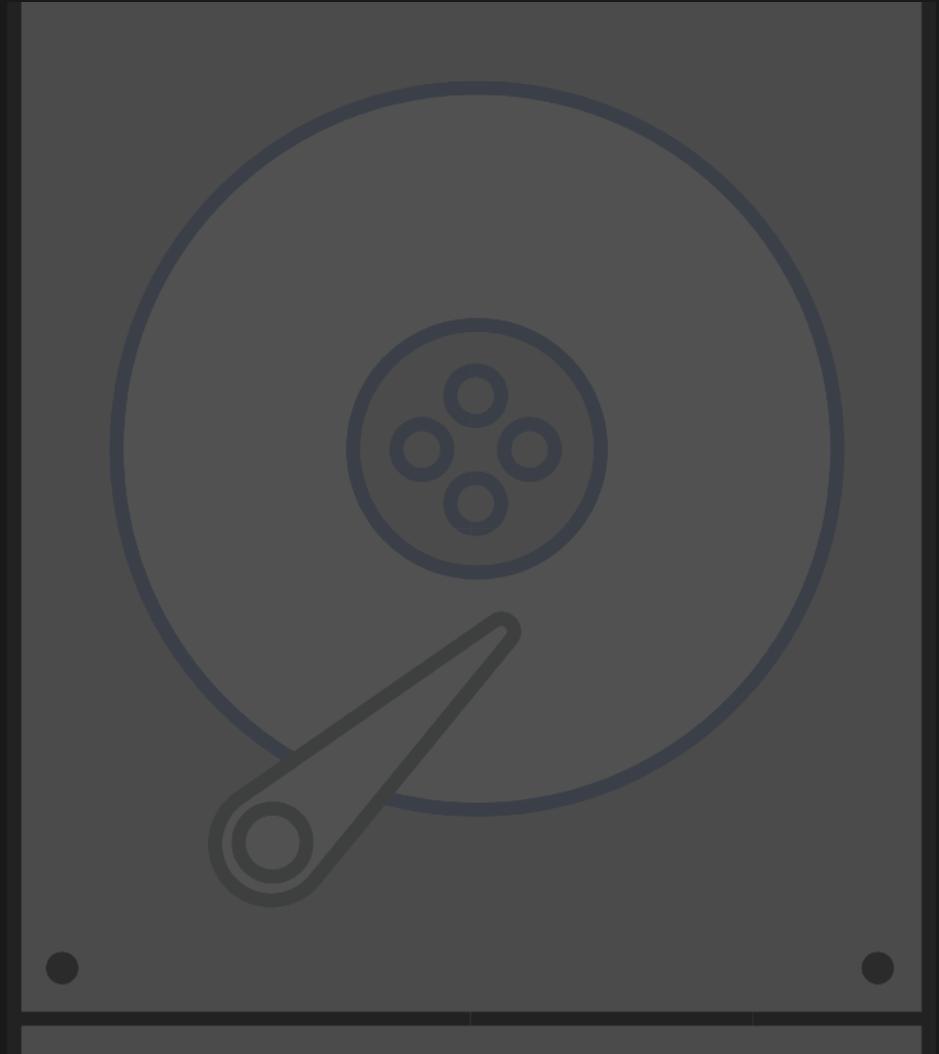
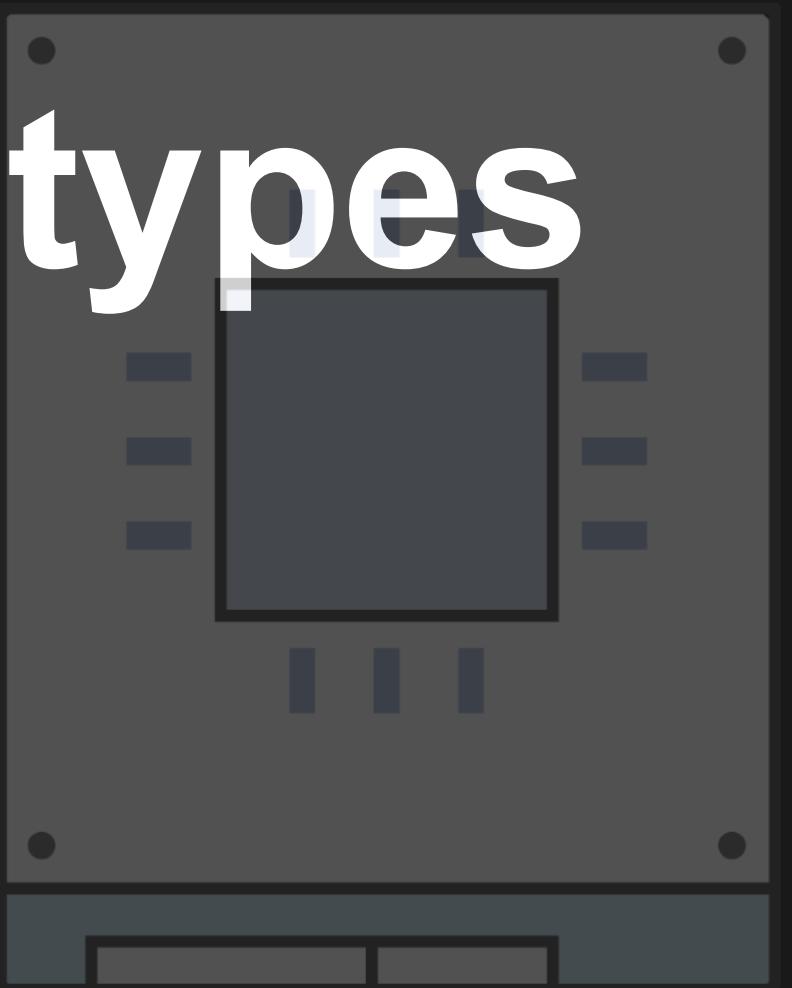


- Dedicated network bandwidth for EBS I/O
- Enabled by default on c4, d2, m4, r4, p2, and x1 instances
- Can be enabled at instance launch or on a running instance
- Not an option on some 10 Gbps instance types
 - (c3.8xlarge, r3.8xlarge, i2.8xlarge)

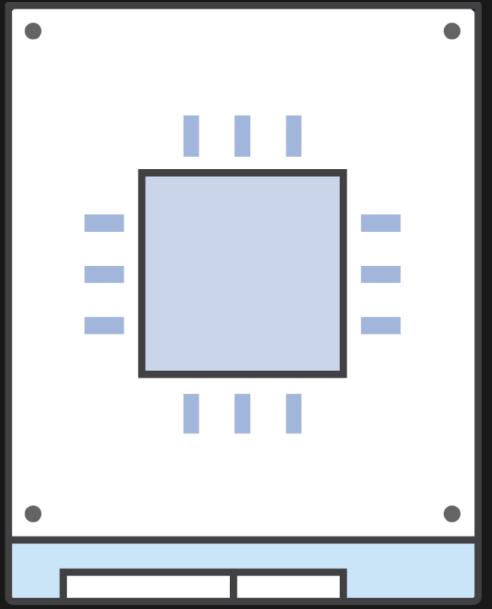
More details:

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/EBSOptimized.html>

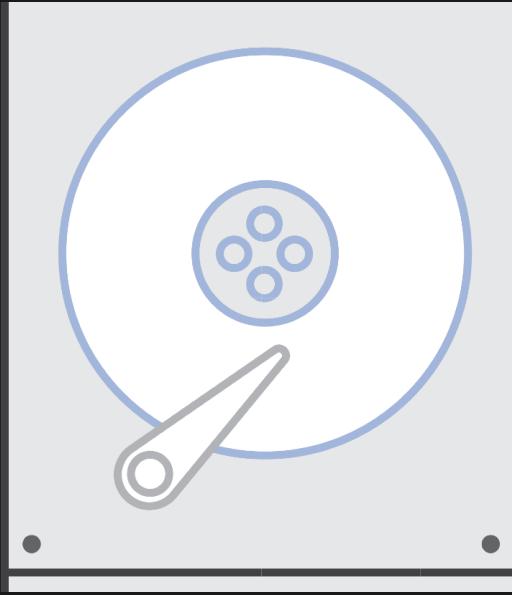
EBS volume types



EBS volume types

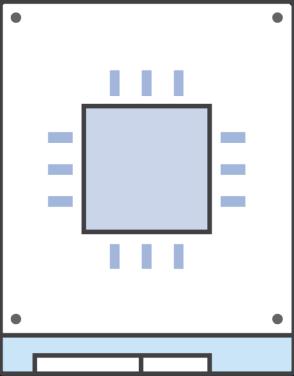


Solid-State Drives (SSD)

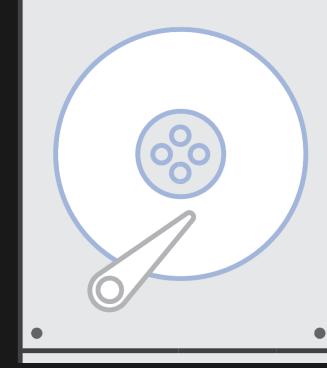


Hard Disk Drives (HDD)

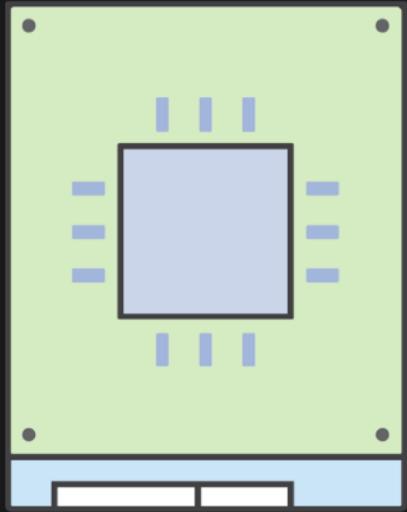
EBS volume types



SSD

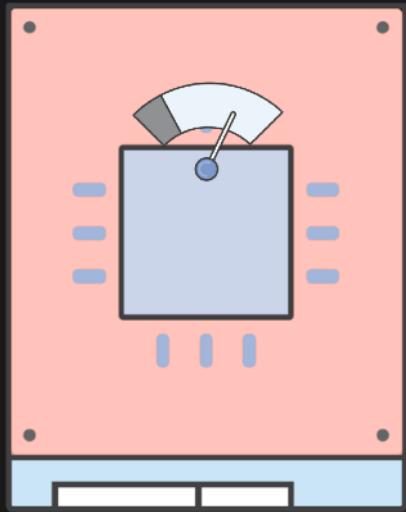


HDD



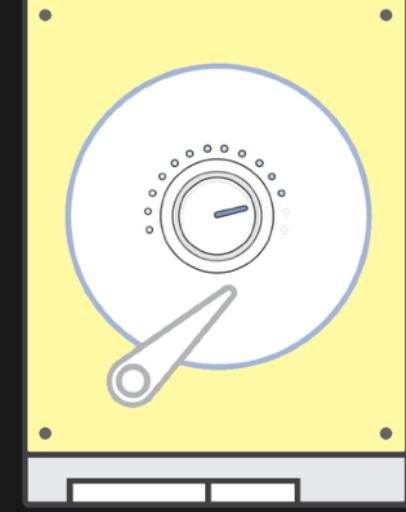
gp2

General Purpose
SSD



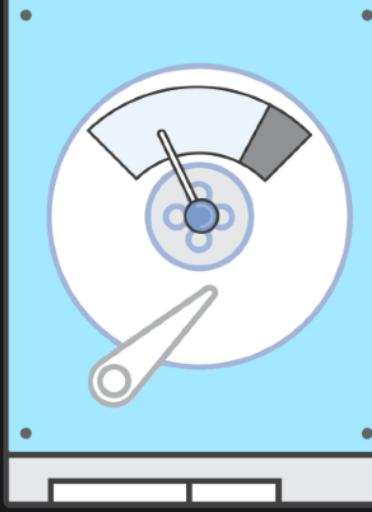
io1

Provisioned IOPS
SSD



st1

Throughput Optimized HDD

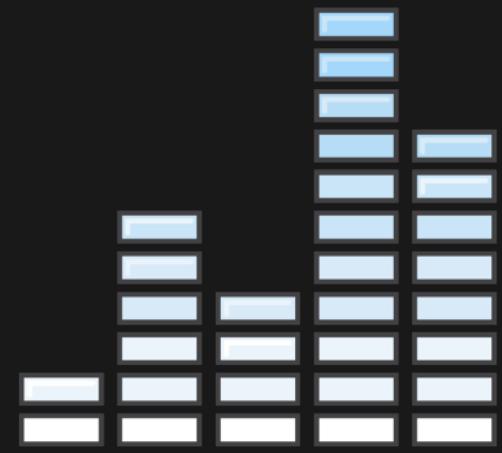


sc1

Cold HDD

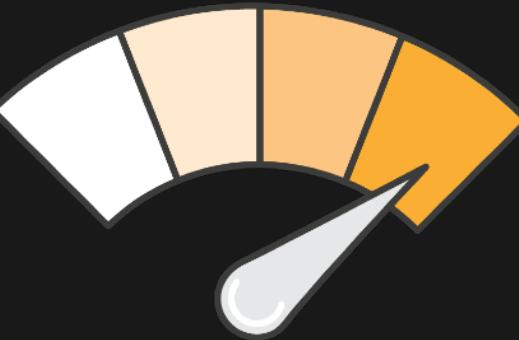
Choosing an EBS volume type

What is more important to your workload?



IOPS

or



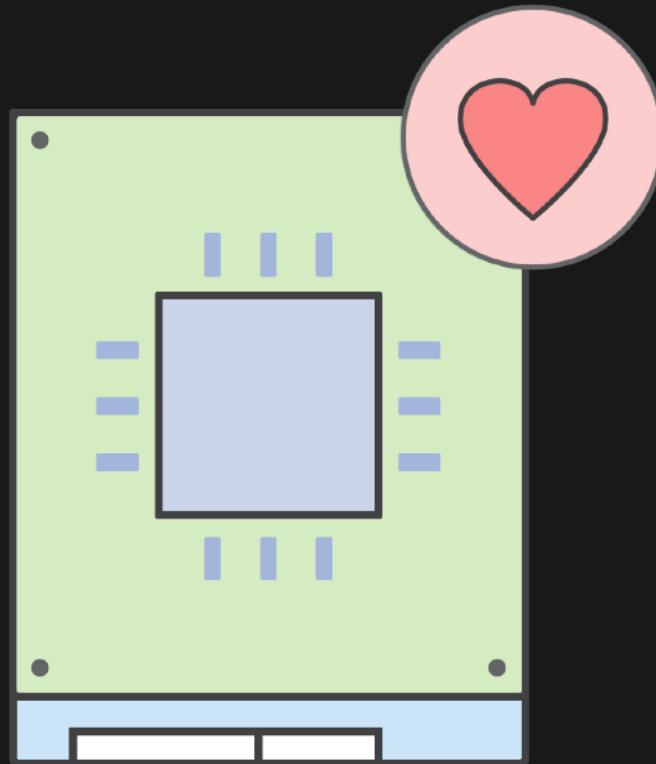
Throughput?

Choosing an EBS volume type

Don't know
your workload
yet?



EBS volume types: General Purpose SSD (gp2)



gp2
General Purpose SSD

Baseline: 100 IOPS + 3 IOPS per GiB up to 10,000 IOPS

Burst: 3,000 IOPS (for volumes up to 1 TiB)

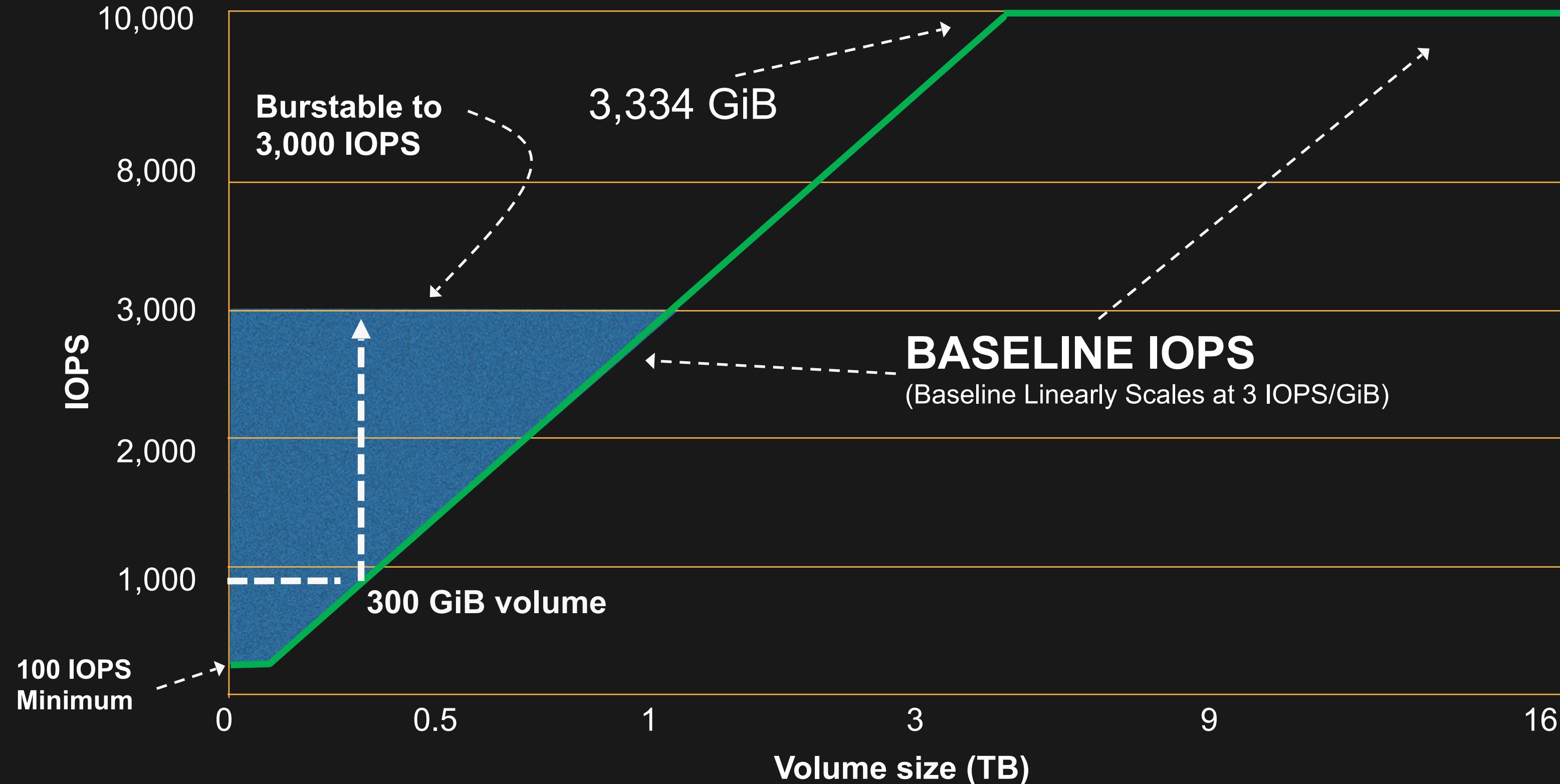
Throughput: 160MiB/s

Latency: Single-digit ms

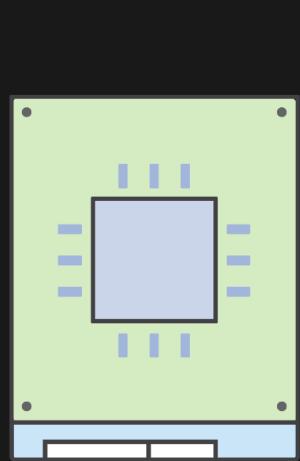
Capacity: 1 GiB to 16 TiB

Great for boot volumes, low-latency applications, and bursty databases

Burst and baseline: General Purpose SSD (gp2)



Burst bucket: General Purpose SSD (gp2)



gp2

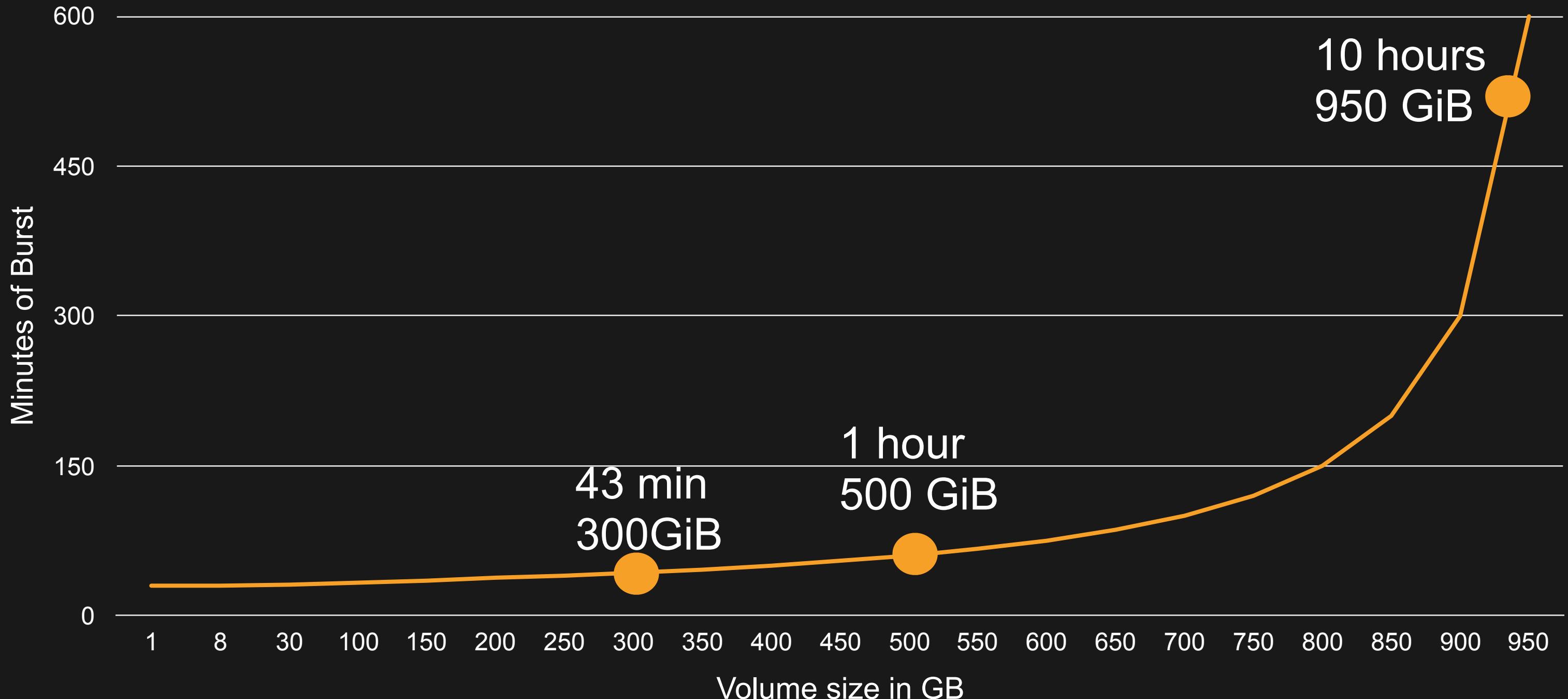
Always accumulating
3 IOPS per GiB per second

Max I/O credit per bucket is 5.4M

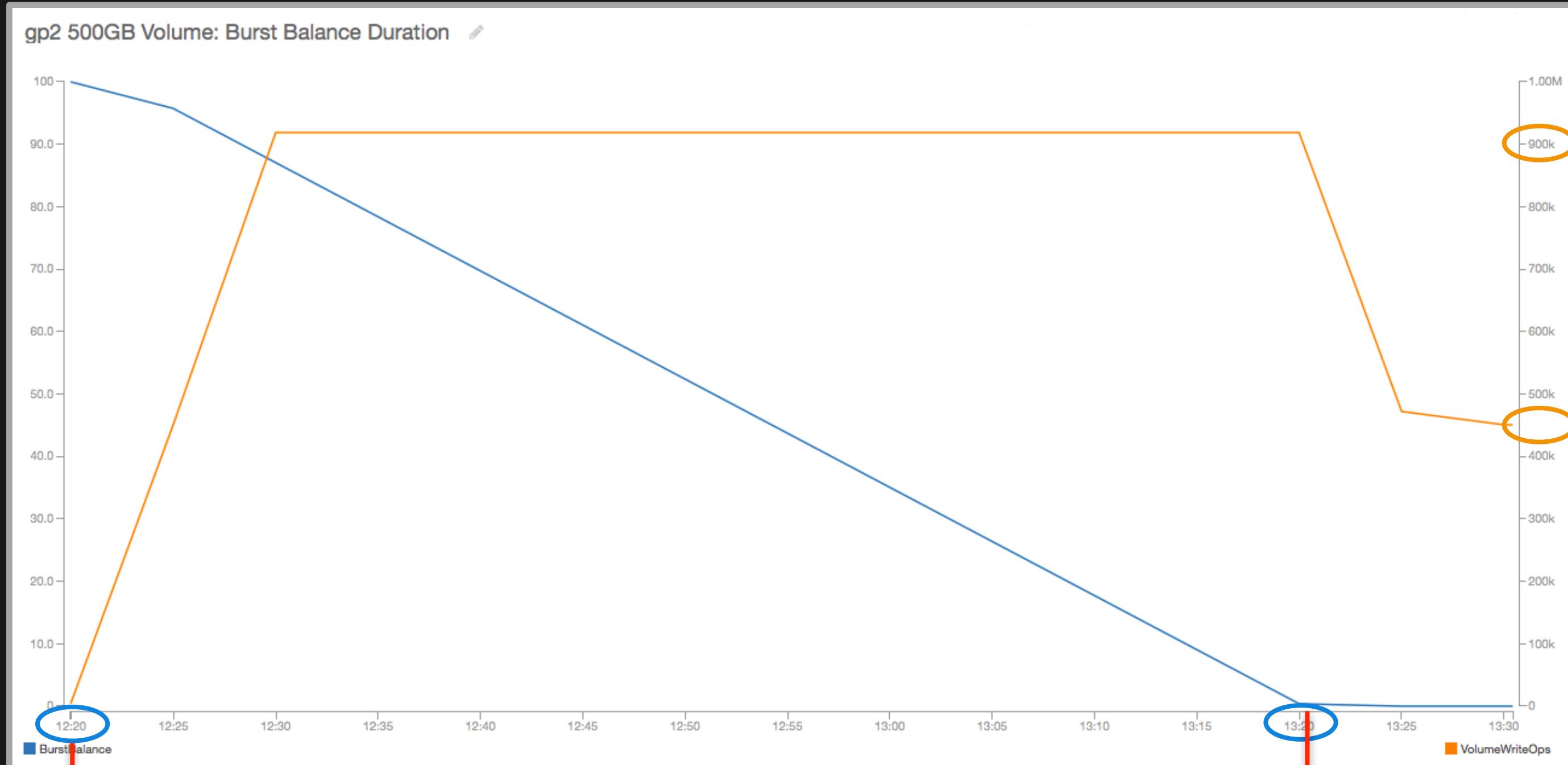
You can spend up to
3000 IOPS per second

Baseline performance = 3 IOPS per GiB or 100 IOPS

How long can I burst on gp2?



How do I monitor gp2 burst balance?



BurstBalance

One Hour

VolumeWriteOps

900,000
write IOs
over 5 min =
3000 IOPS

450,000
write IOs
over 5 min =
1500 IOPS

How do I monitor gp2 burst balance?

Create Volume

Volume Type i General Purpose SSD (GP2)

Size (GiB) i 500 (Min: 1 GiB, Max: 16384 GiB)

IOPS i 1500 / 3000 (Baseline of 3 IOPS per GiB with a minimum of 100 IOPS, burstable to 3000 IOPS)

Throughput (MB/s) i Not Applicable

Availability Zone i us-west-2a

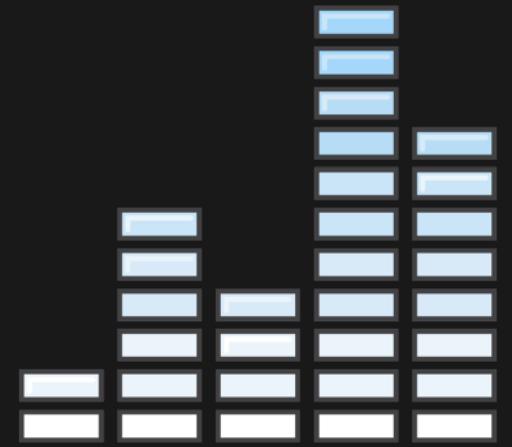
Snapshot ID i Search (case-insensitive)

Encryption i Encrypt this volume

Cancel **Create**

Choosing an EBS volume type

What is more important to your workload?



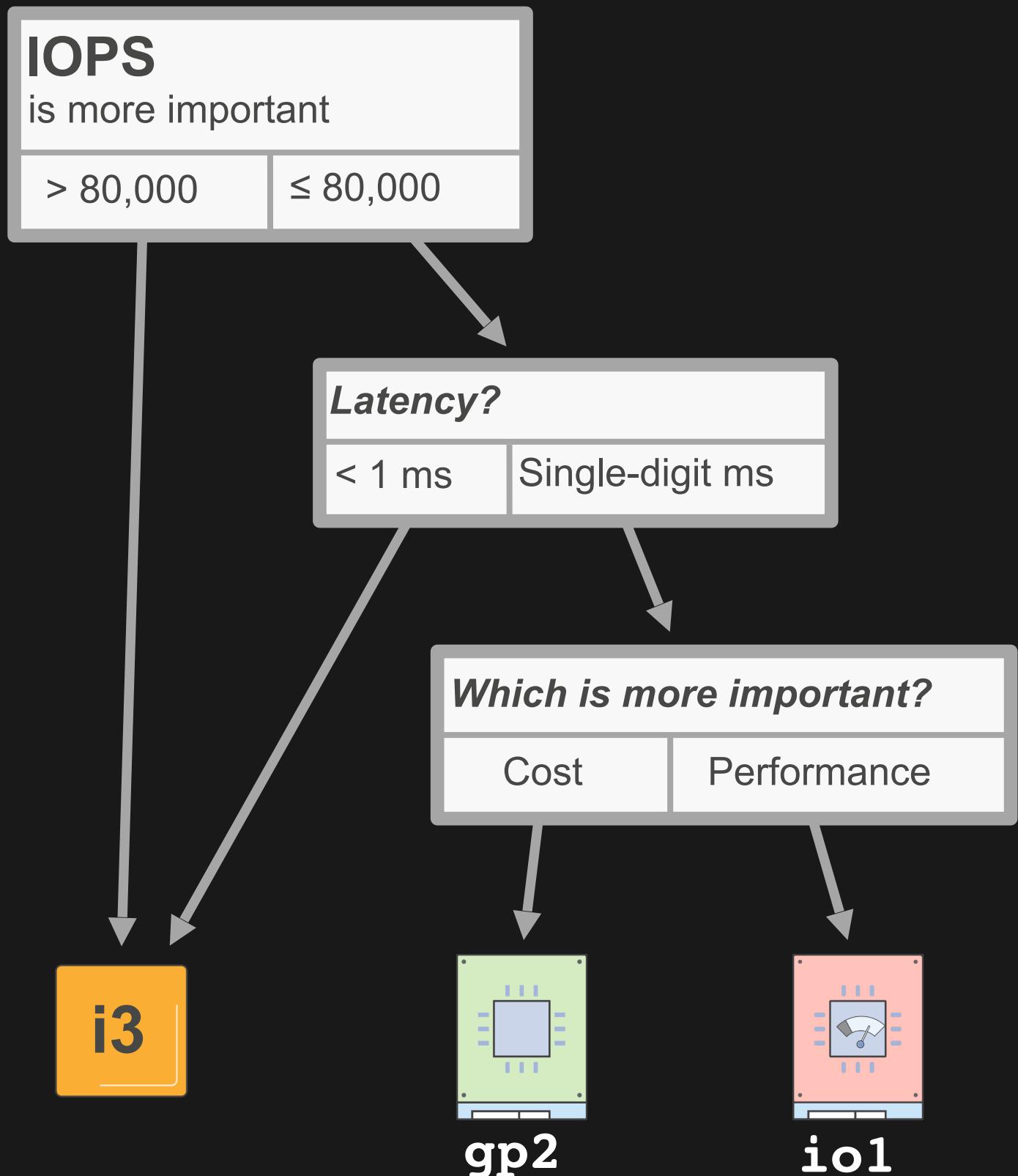
IOPS

or

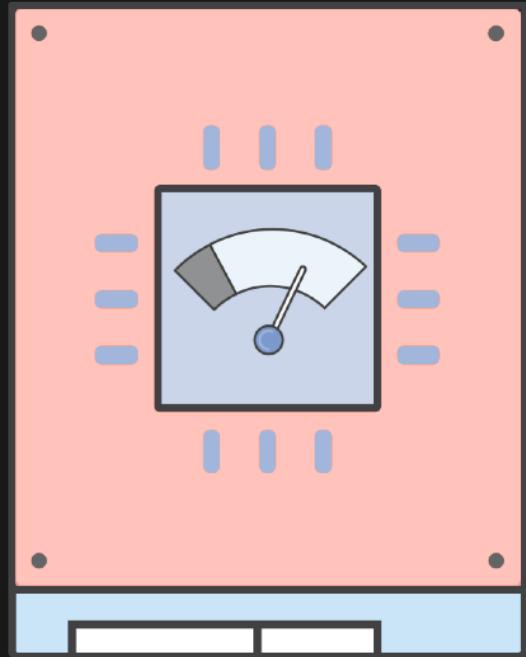


Throughput?

Choosing an EBS volume type



EBS volume types: I/O Provisioned



io1

Provisioned IOPS SSD

Baseline: 100 to 20,000 IOPS

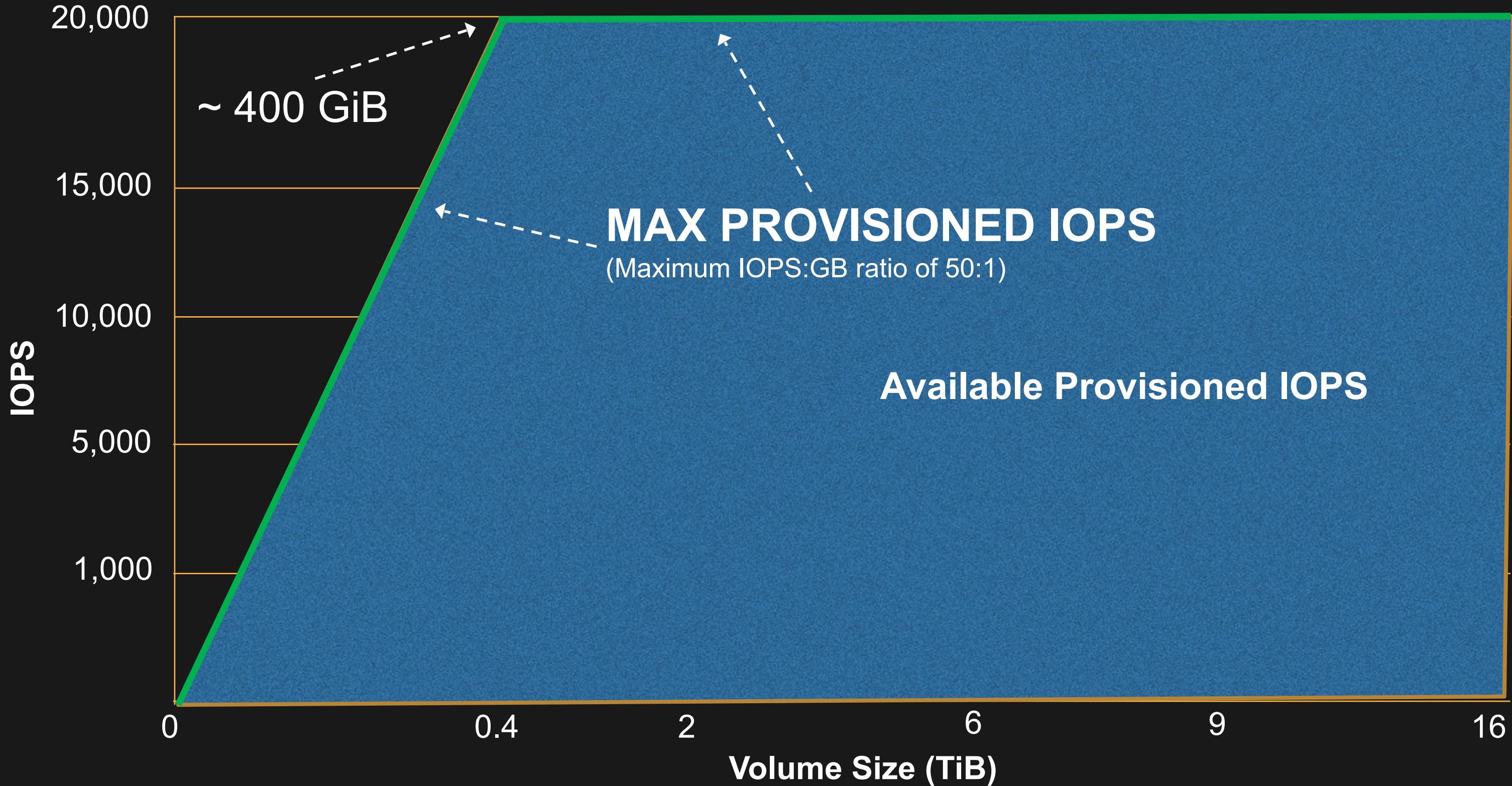
Throughput: 320 MiB/s

Latency: Single-digit ms

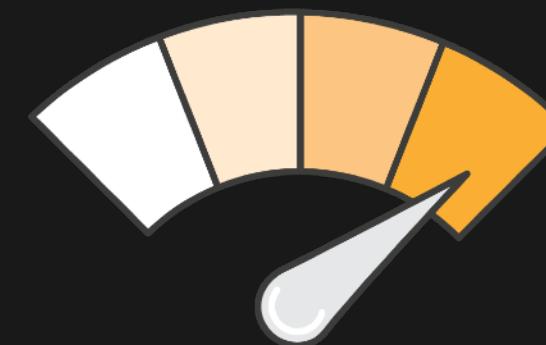
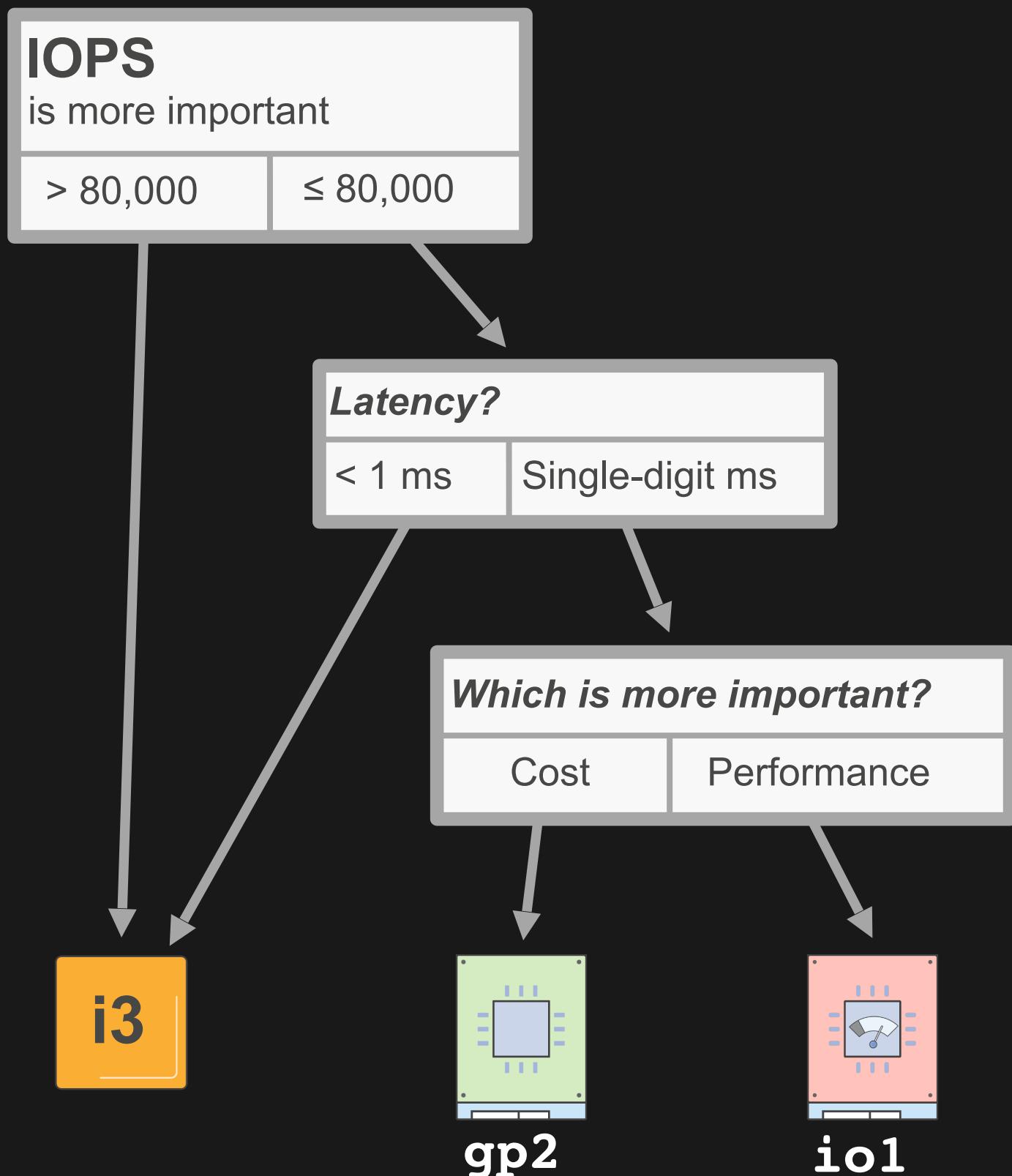
Capacity: 4 GiB to 16 TiB

Ideal for critical applications and databases with sustained IOPS

Scaling Provisioned IOPS SSD (io1)

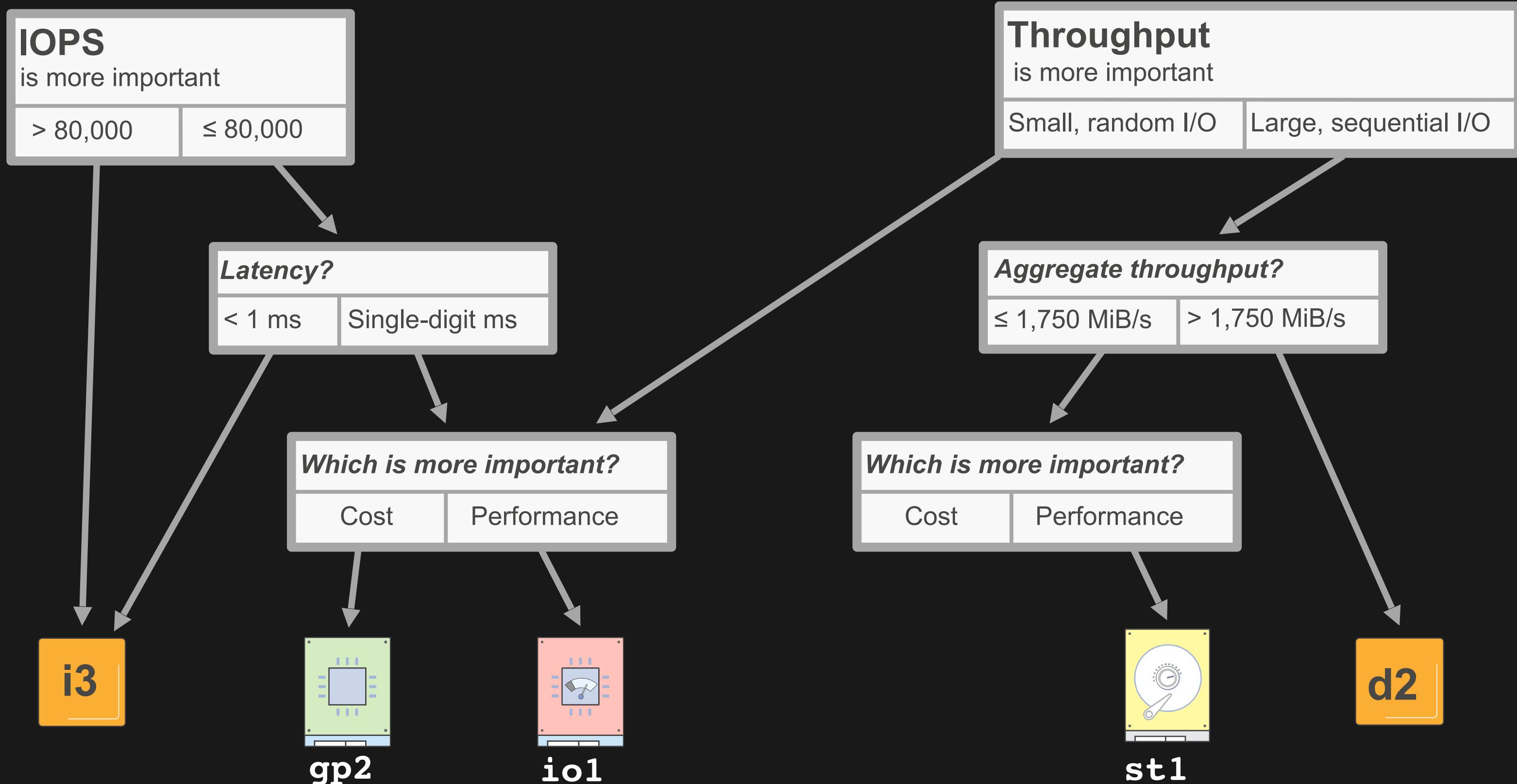


Choosing an EBS volume type

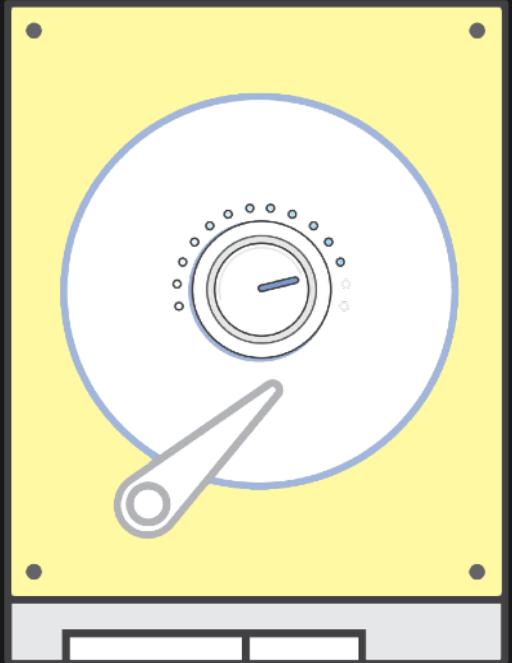


Throughput?

Choosing an EBS volume type



EBS volume types: Throughput Provisioned



st1

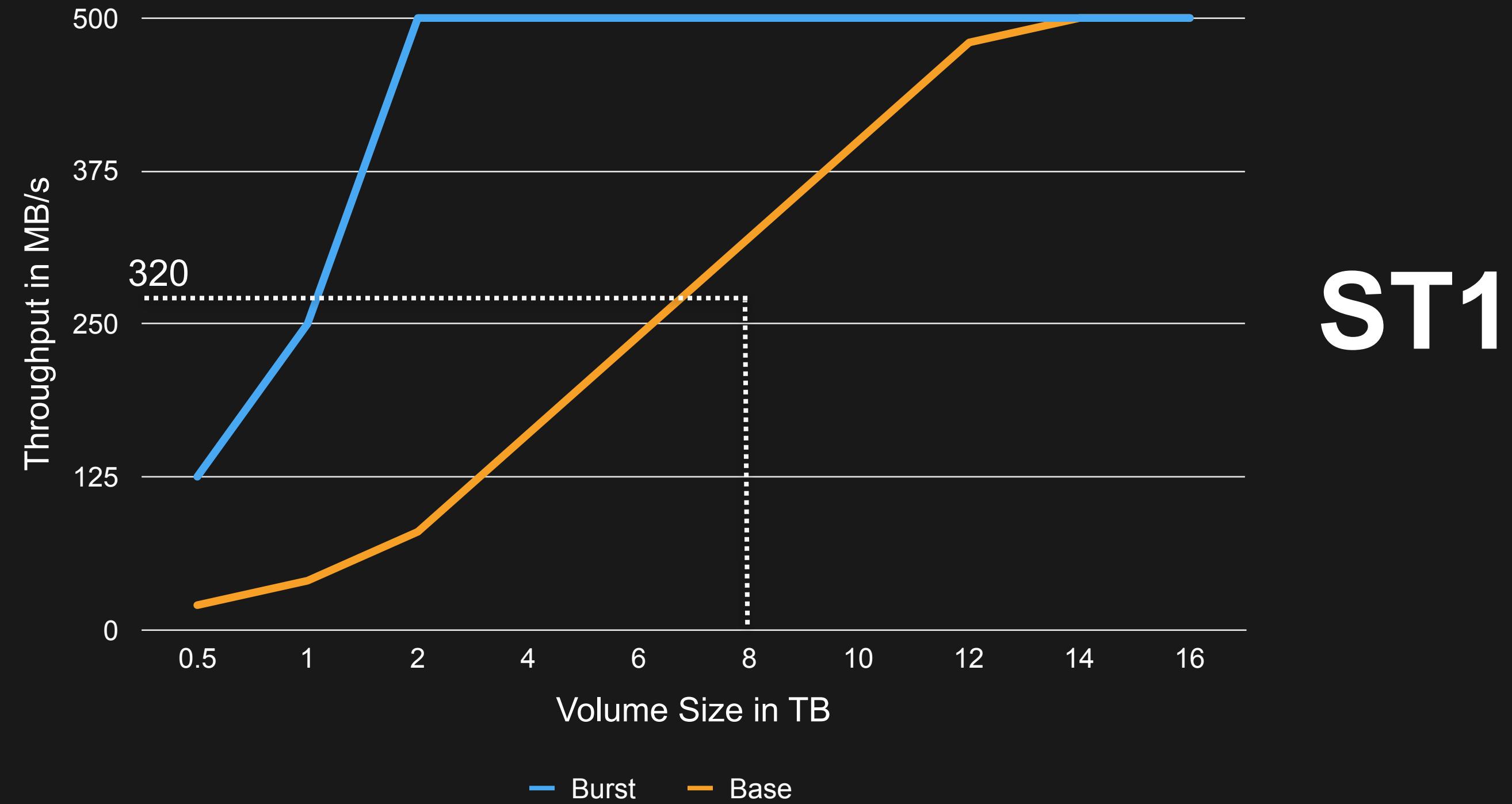
Baseline: 40 MiB/s per TiB up to 500 MiB/s

Burst: 250 MiB/s per TiB up to 500 MiB/s

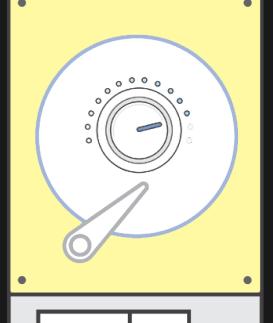
Capacity: 500 GiB to 16 TiB

Ideal for large-block, high-throughput sequential workloads

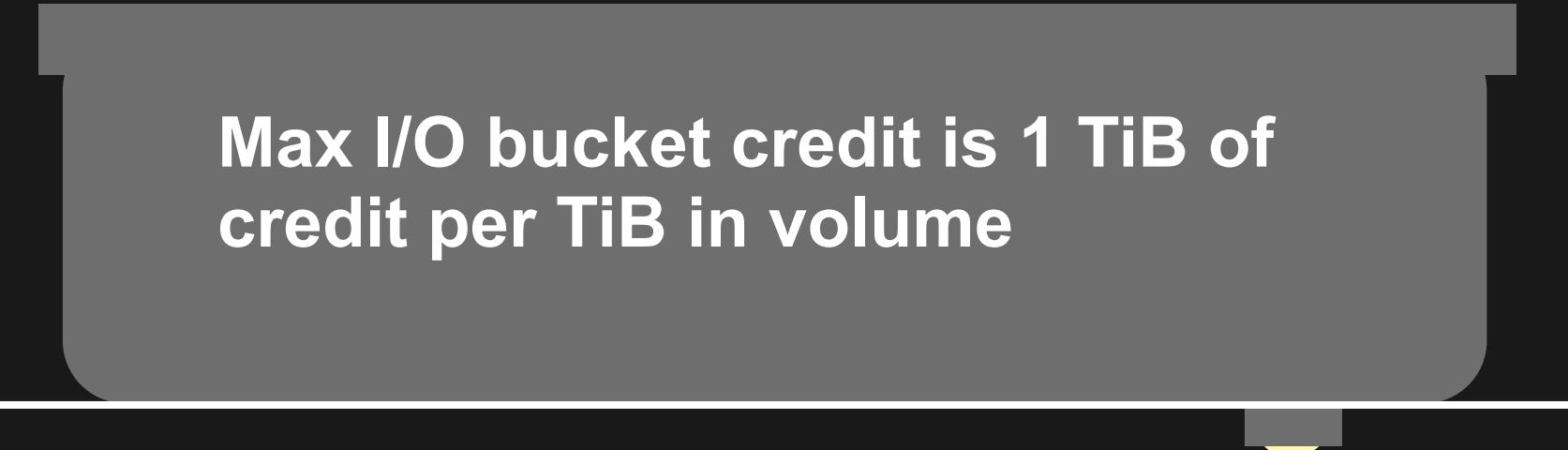
Throughput Optimized HDD – burst and base



Burst bucket: Throughput Optimized HDD (st1)



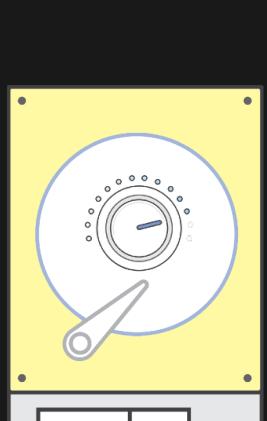
Always accumulating 40 MiB/s per TiB



You can spend up to 250 MiB/s per TiB

Baseline performance = 40 MiB/s per TiB

Burst bucket: example 8 TiB st1 volume



st1

Always accumulating 320 MiB/s

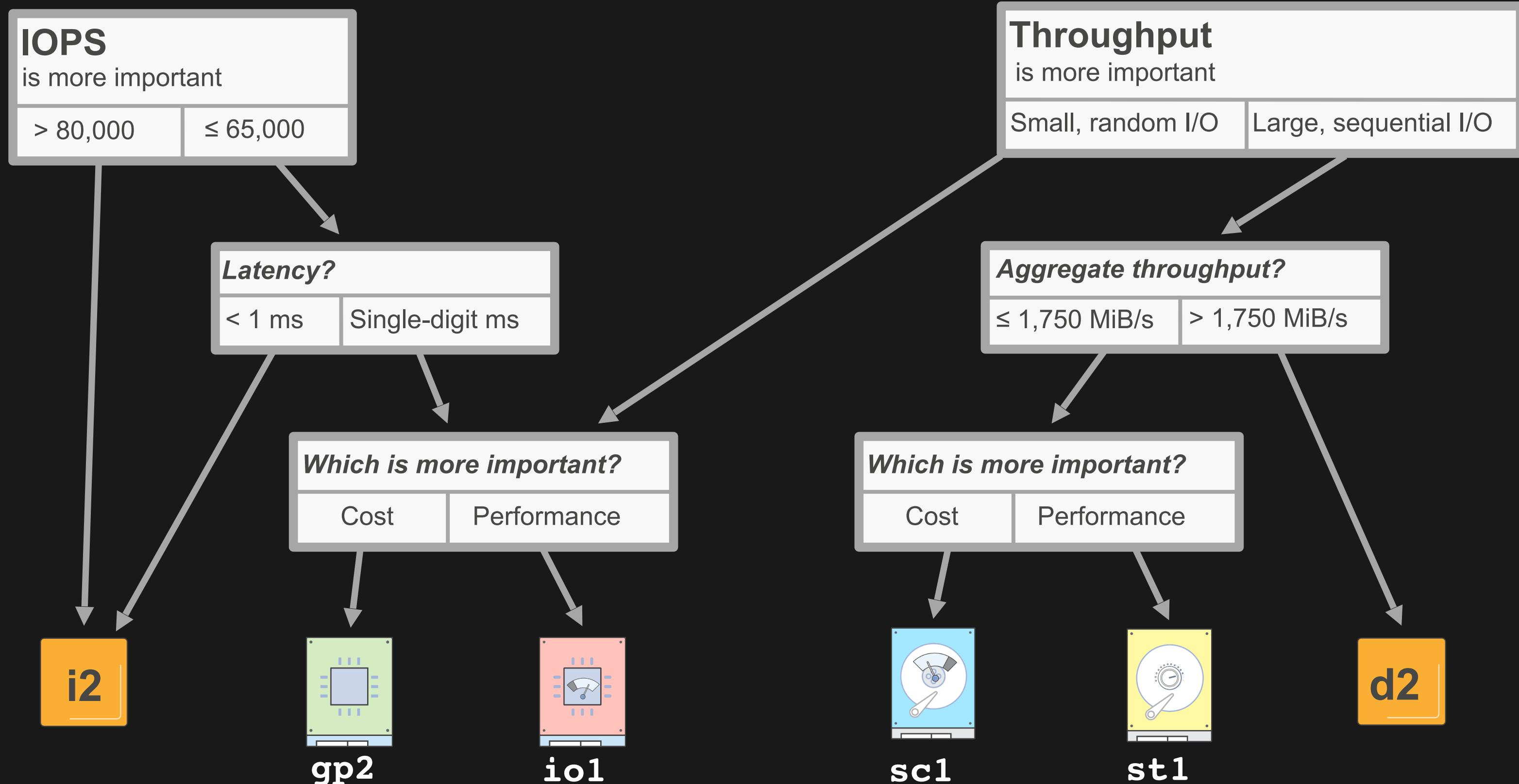
Up to 8 TiB in I/O credit



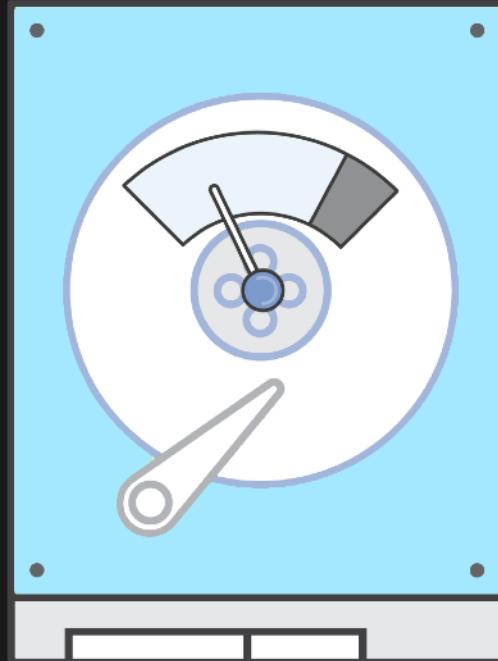
You can spend up
to 500 MiB/s

Baseline performance = 320 MiB/s

Choosing an EBS volume type



EBS volume types: Throughput Provisioned



sc1

Cold HDD

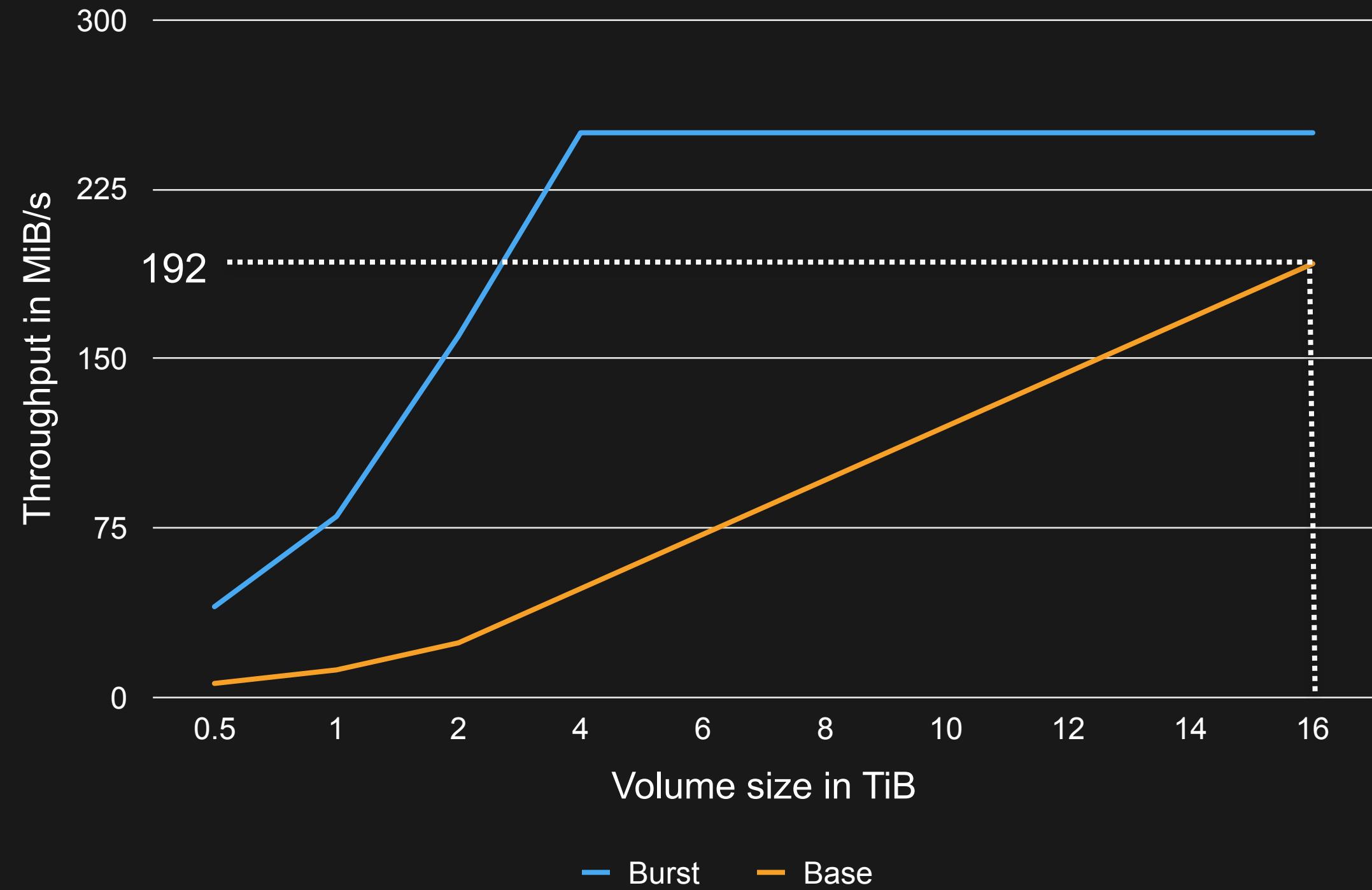
Baseline: 12 MiB/s per TB up to 192 MiB/s

Burst: 80 MiB/s per TB up to 250 MiB/s

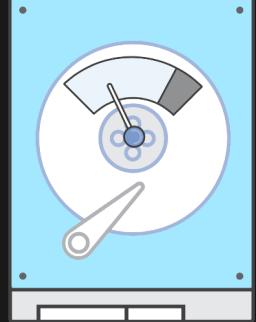
Capacity: 500 GiB to 16 TiB

Ideal for sequential throughput workloads, such as logging and backup

Cold HDD – burst and base



Burst bucket: Cold HDD (sc1)



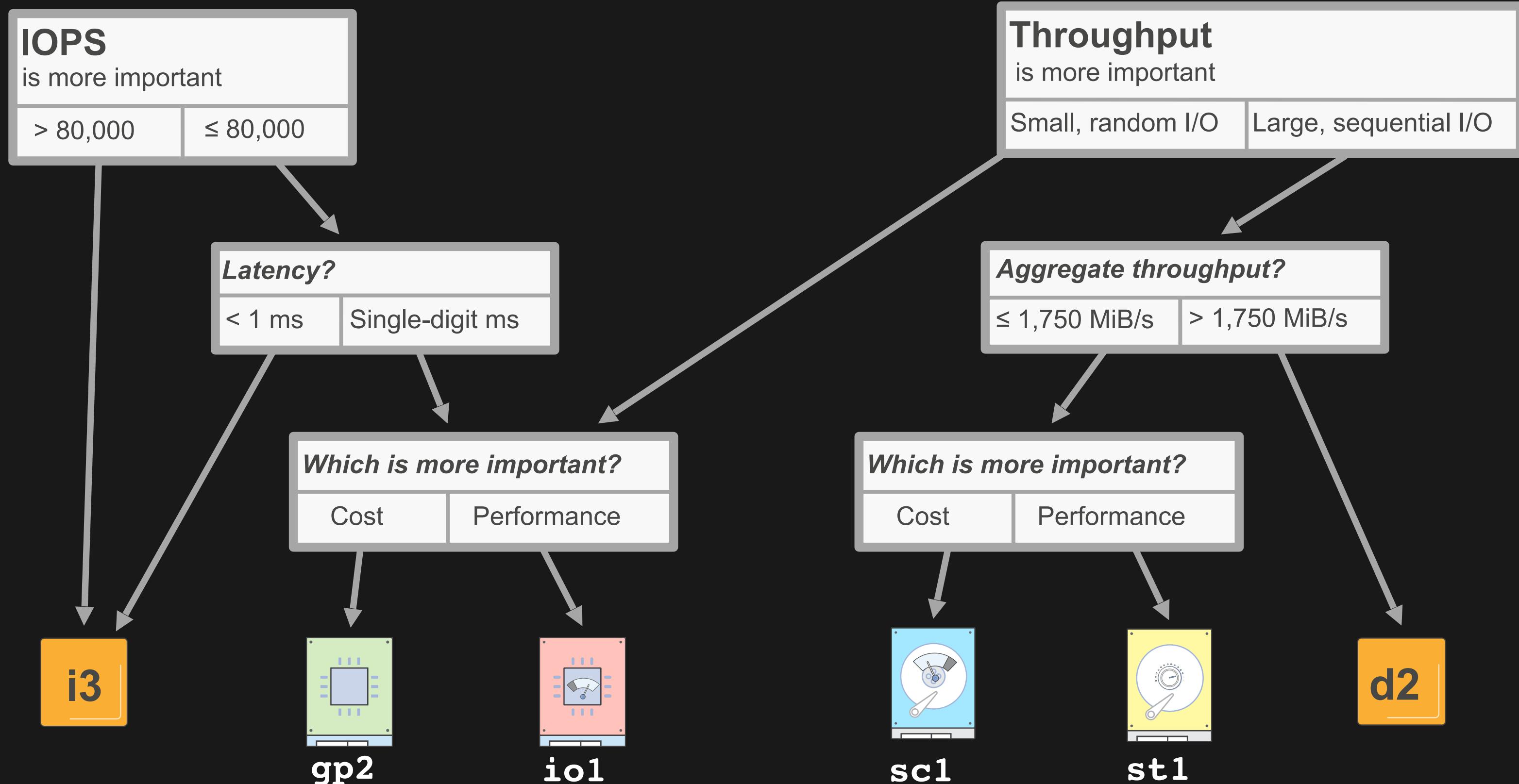
Always accumulating 12 MiB/s per TiB

Max I/O bucket credit is 1 TiB of
credit per TiB in volume

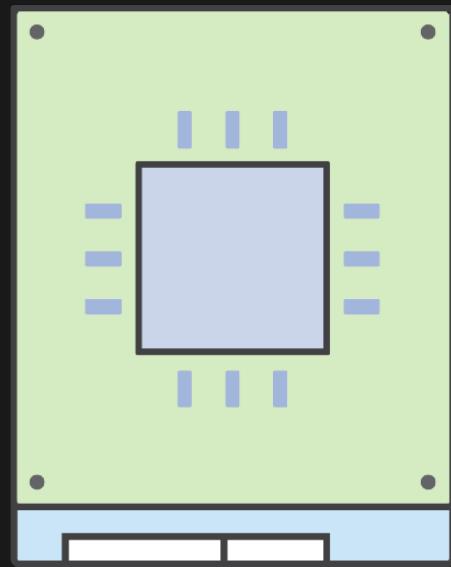
You can spend up to 80
MiB/s per TiB

Baseline performance = 12 MiB/s per TiB

Choosing an EBS volume type



I/O Provisioned Volumes

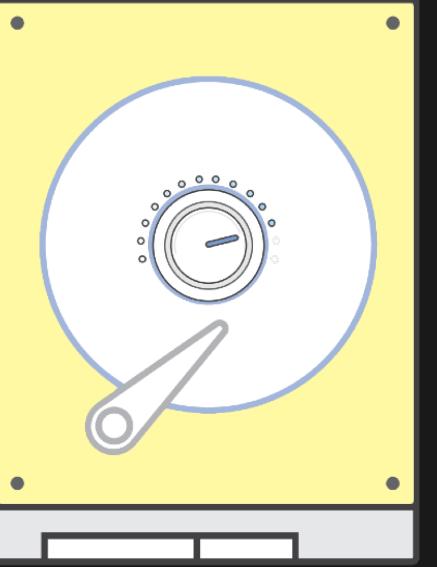


gp2

\$0.10 per GiB

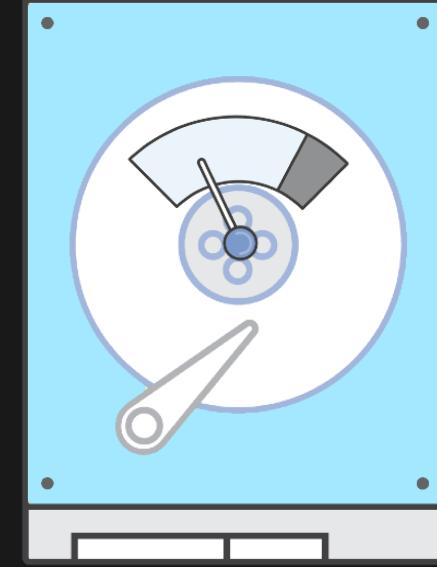
\$0.125 per GiB
\$0.065 per PIOPS

Throughput Provisioned Volumes



st1

\$0.045 per GiB



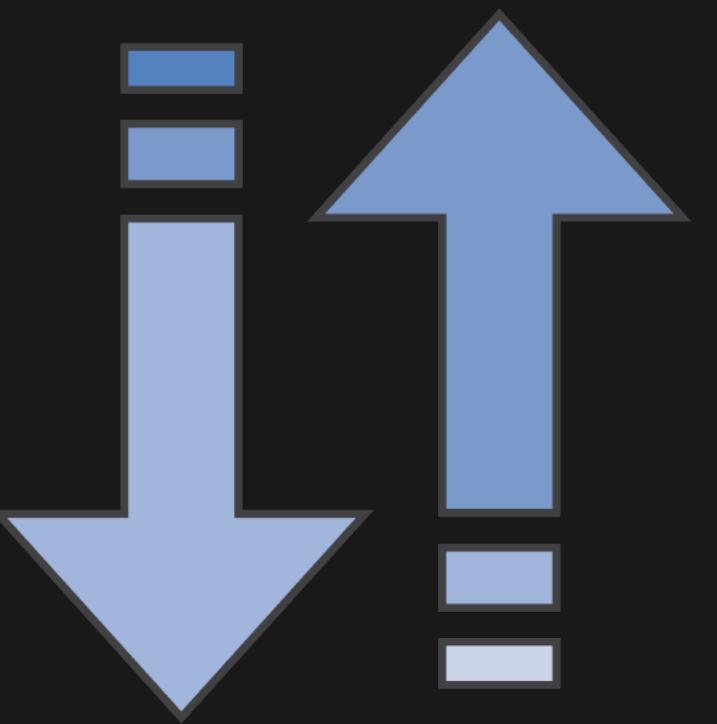
sc1

\$0.025 per GiB

Snapshot storage for all volume types is \$0.05 per GiB per month

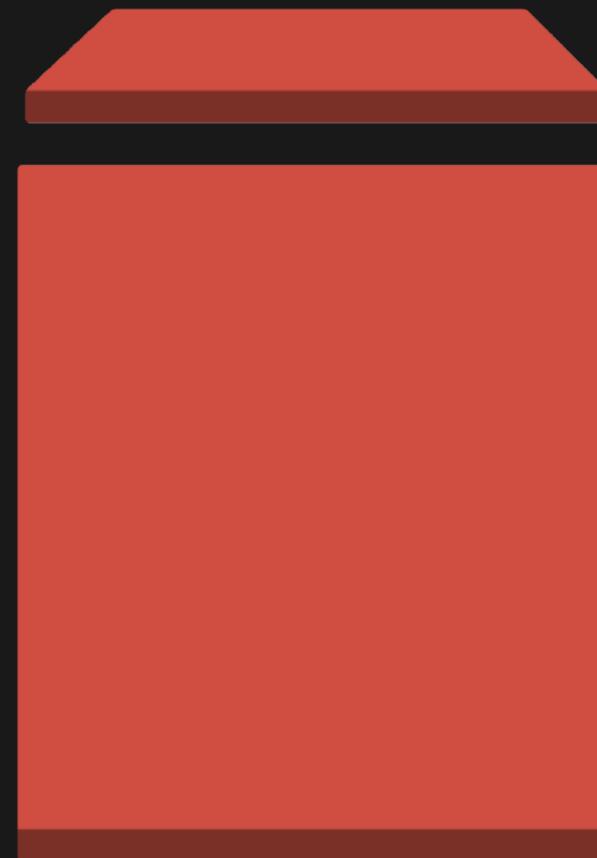
* All prices are per month, prorated to the hour and from the us-west-2 Region as of August 2017

EBS Elastic Volumes



Elastic Volumes – features

- Increase volume size
- Change volume type
- Increase / decrease provisioned IOPS

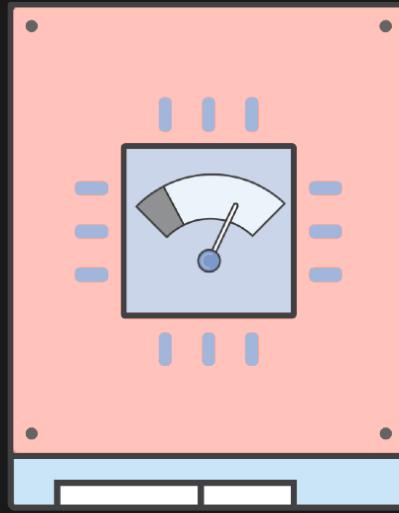


*Volume modifications must be valid for the target volume type

Elastic Volumes – overview

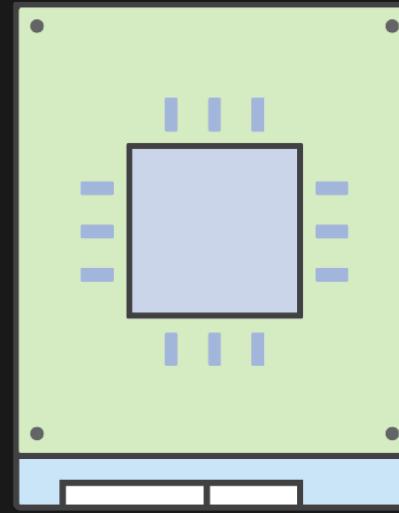


Elastic Volumes – supported volume types



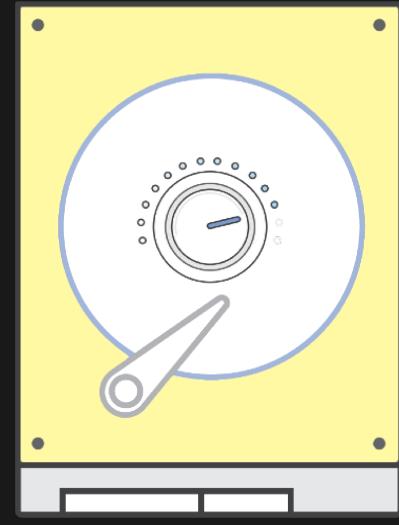
io1

Provisioned IOPS
SSD



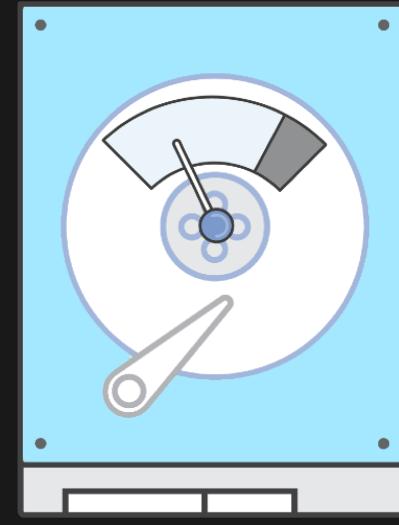
gp2

General Purpose
SSD



st1

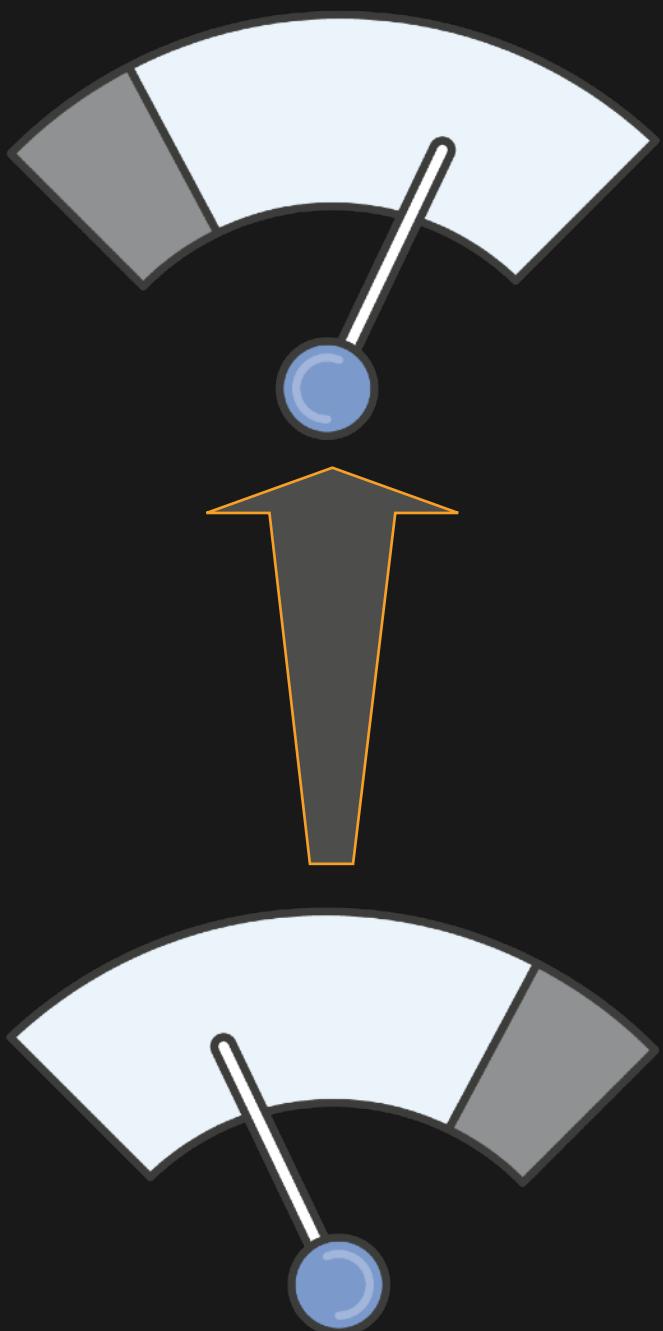
Throughput Optimized
HDD



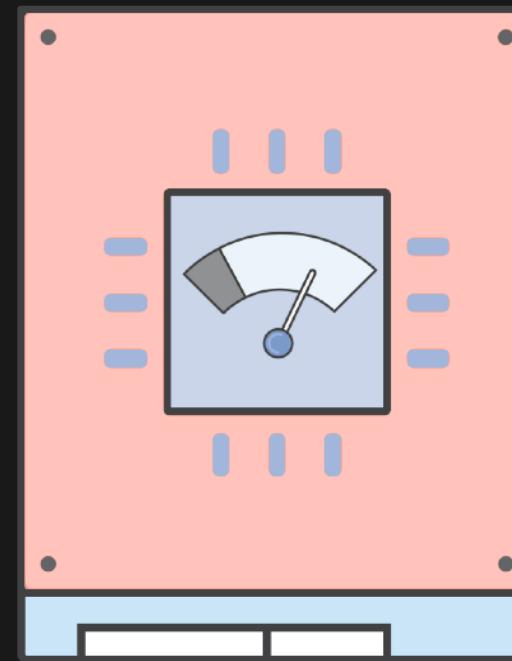
sc1

Cold
HDD

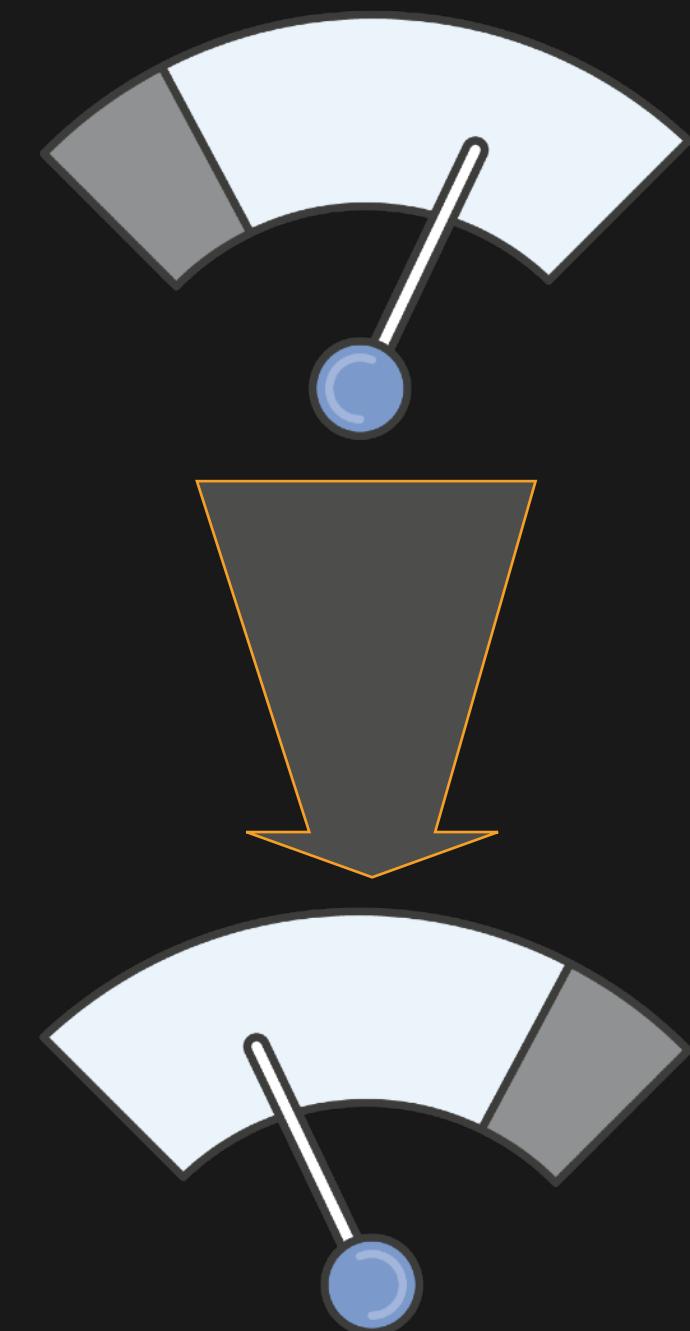
Elastic Volumes - modify provisioned IOPS



increase



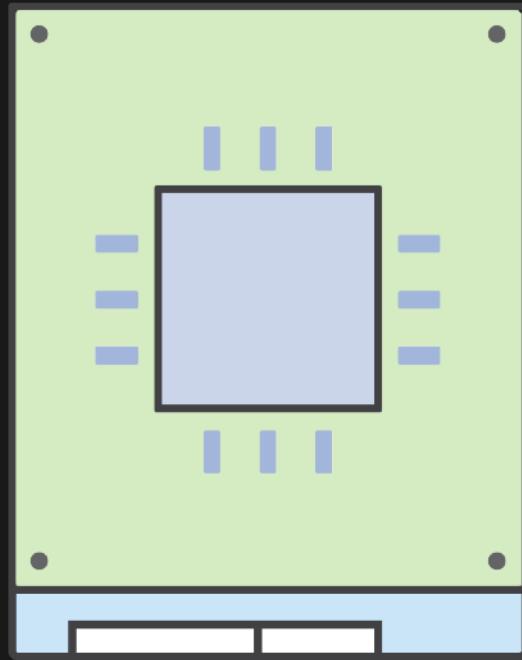
io1



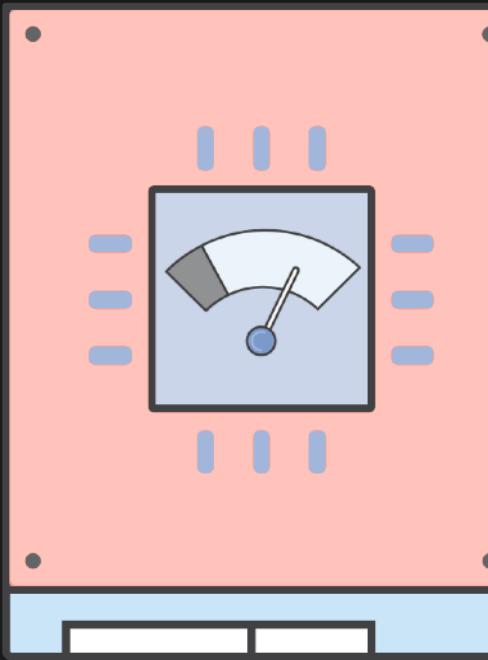
decrease

Elastic Volumes - increase volume size

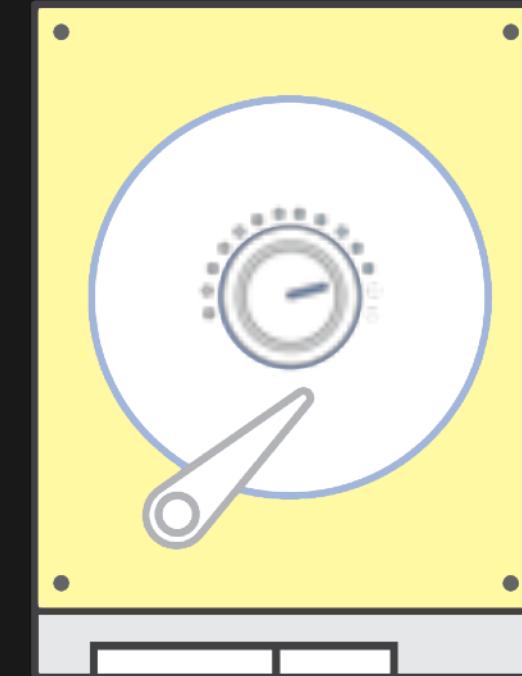
gp2



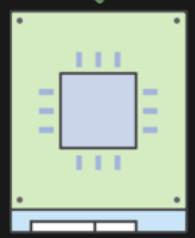
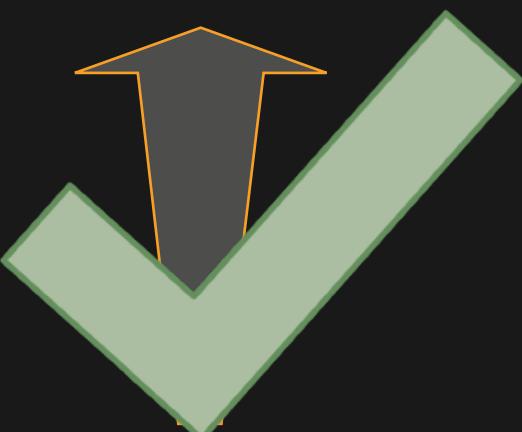
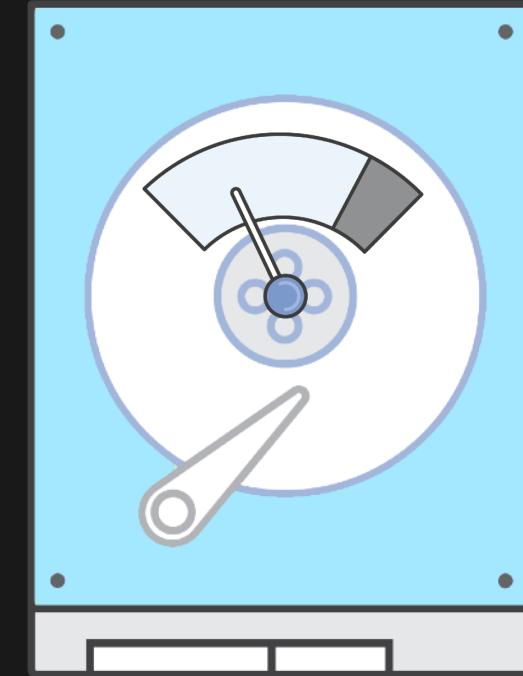
io1



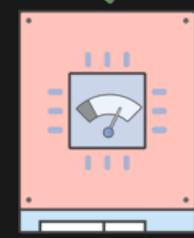
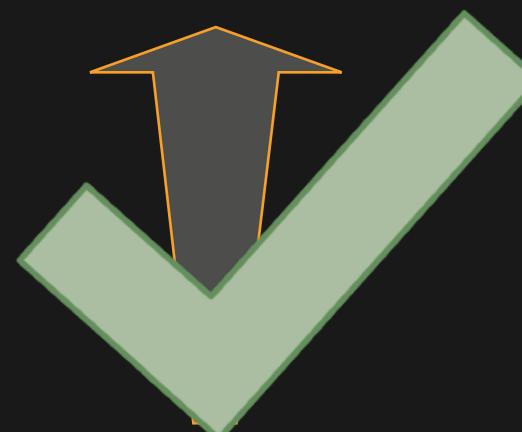
st1



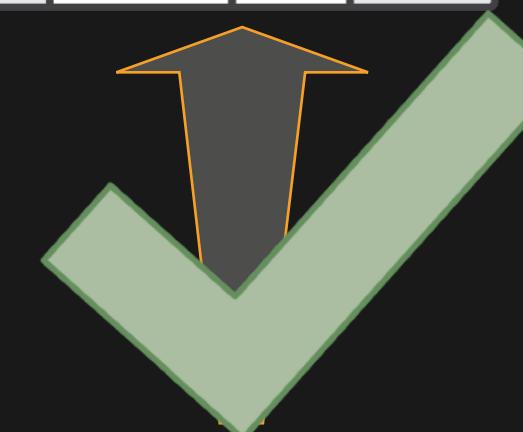
sc1



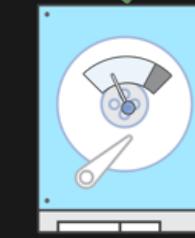
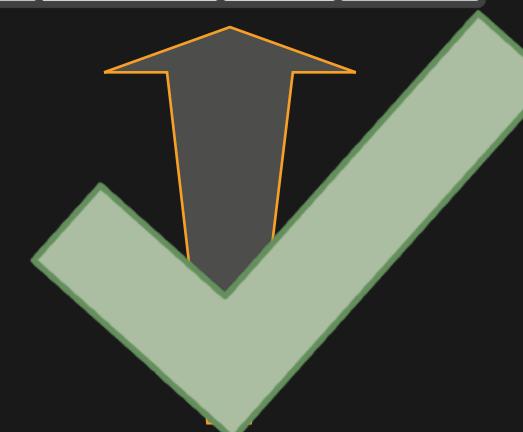
gp2



io1



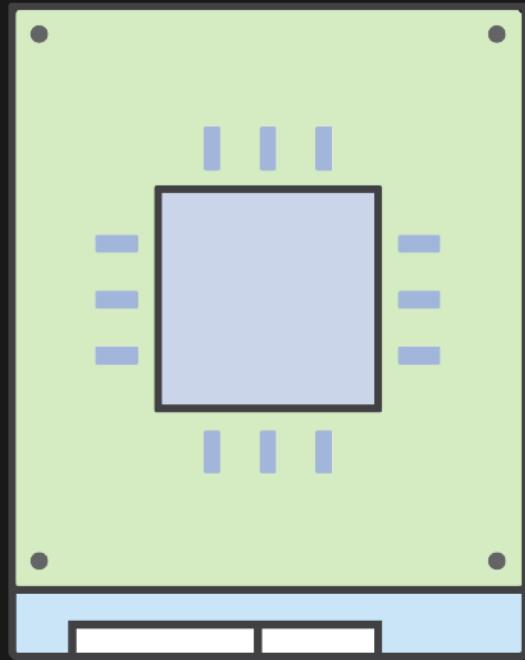
st1



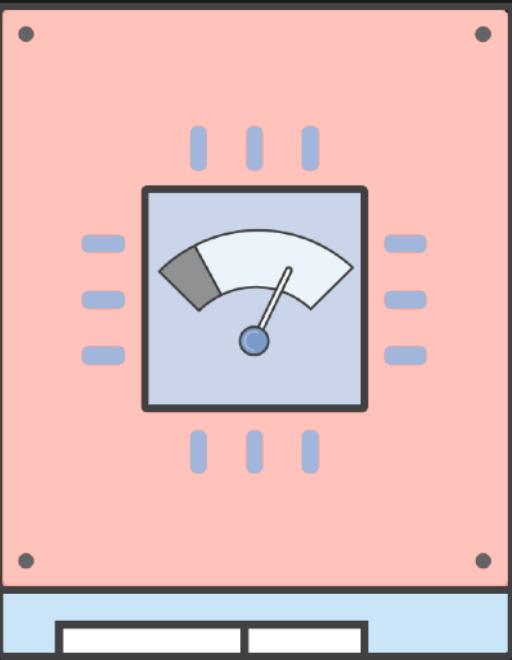
sc1

Decrease volume size?

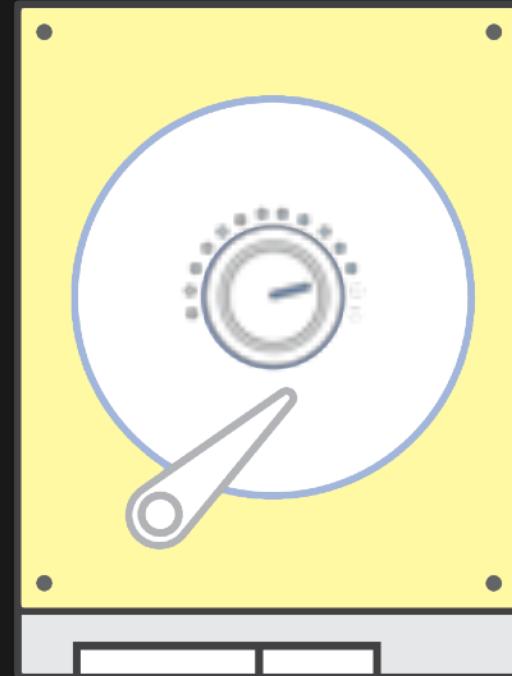
gp2



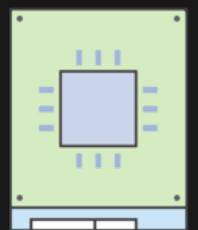
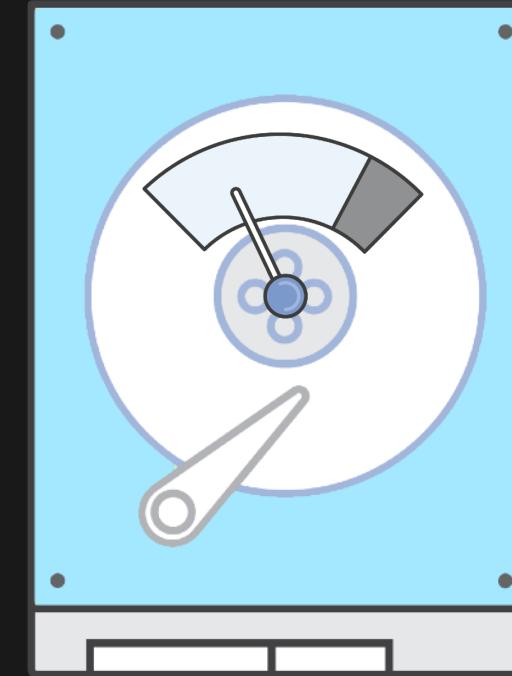
io1



st1



sc1



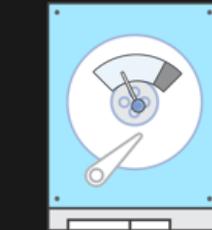
gp2



io1

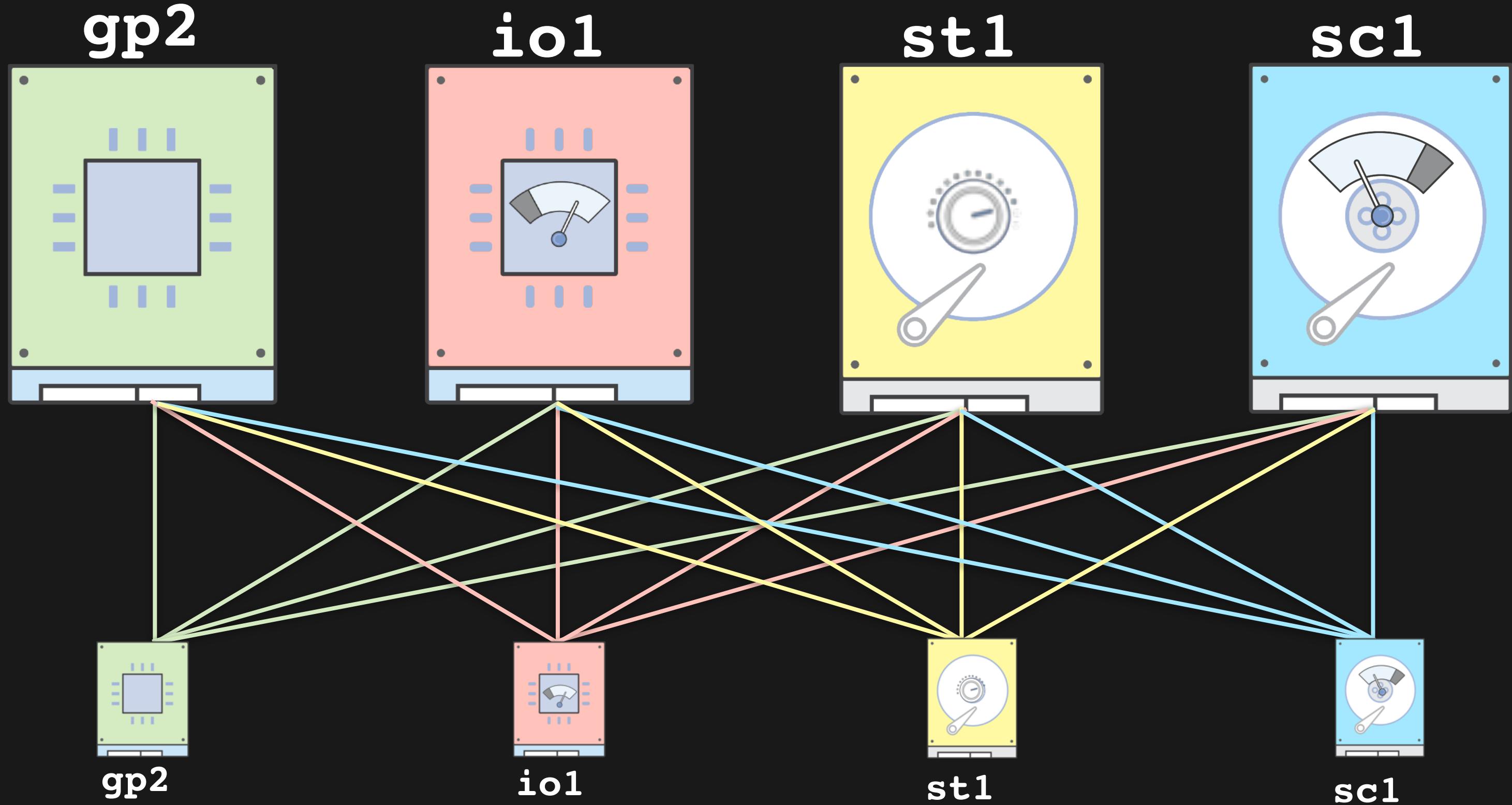


st1



sc1

Change volume type and increase size?

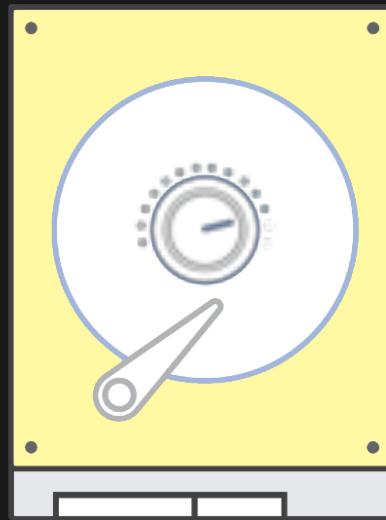


Considerations

Volume modifications must be valid for the target volume type

Example

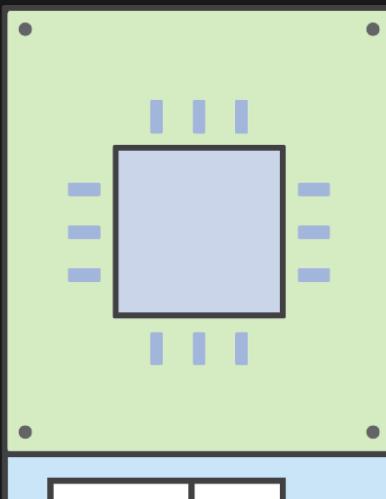
st1



400 GiB

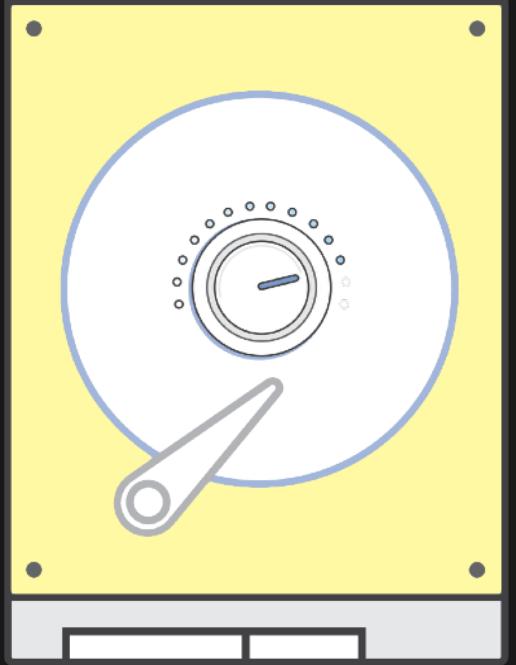


gp2



400 GiB

EBS volume types: Throughput Provisioned



st1

Throughput Optimized
HDD

Baseline: 40 MiB/s per TiB up to 500 MiB/s

Burst: 250 MiB/s per TiB up to 500 MiB/s

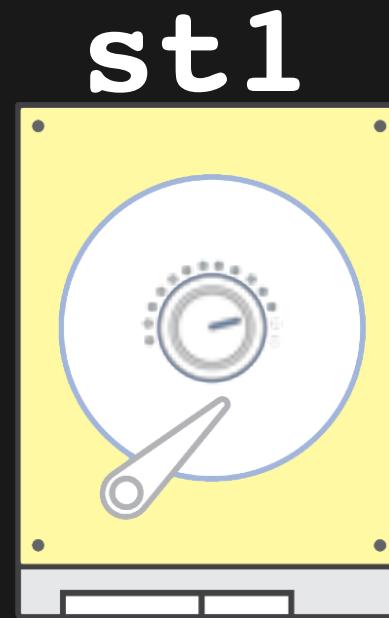
Capacity: 500 GiB to 16 TiB

Ideal for large-block, high-throughput sequential workloads

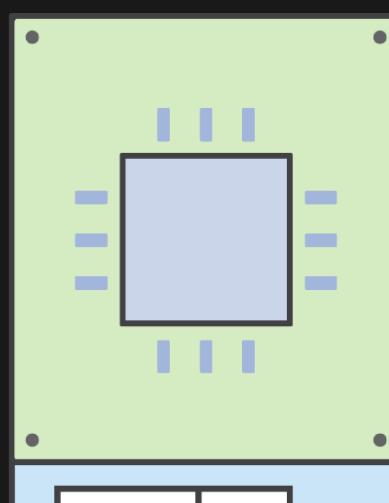
Considerations

Volume modifications must be valid for the target volume type

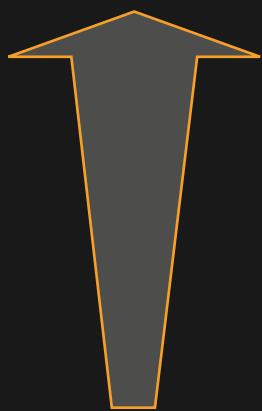
Example



500 GiB



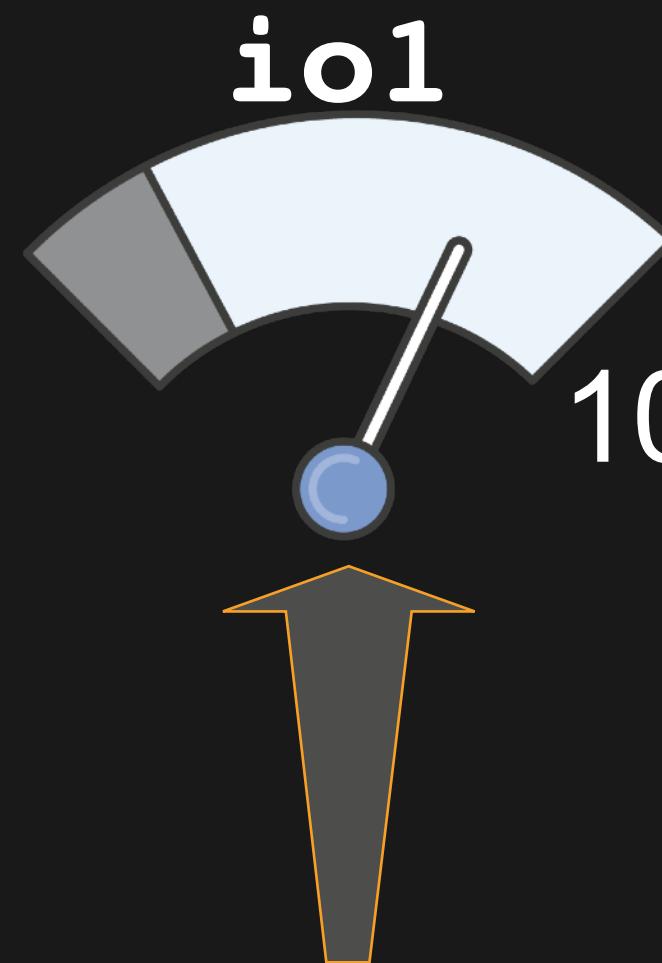
400 GiB



Considerations

Volume modifications must be valid for the target volume type

Example



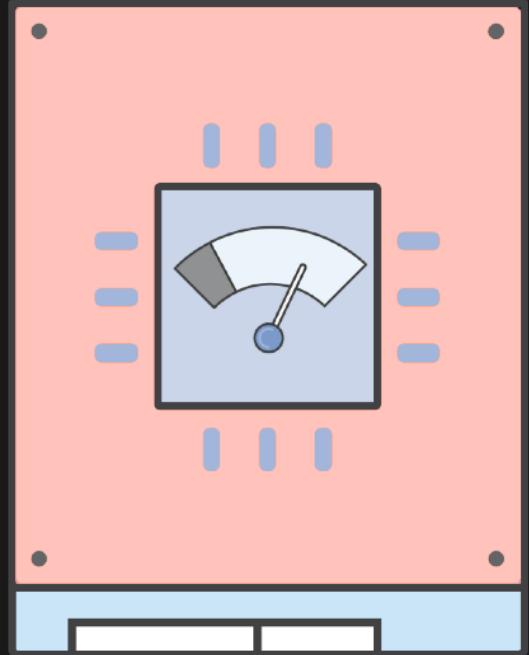
100 GiB
10,000 IOPS

?



100 GiB
1,000 IOPS

EBS volume types: I/O Provisioned



io1

Provisioned IOPS SSD

Baseline: 100 to 20,000 IOPS

Throughput: 320 MiB/s

Latency: Single-digit ms

Capacity: 4 GiB to 16 TiB

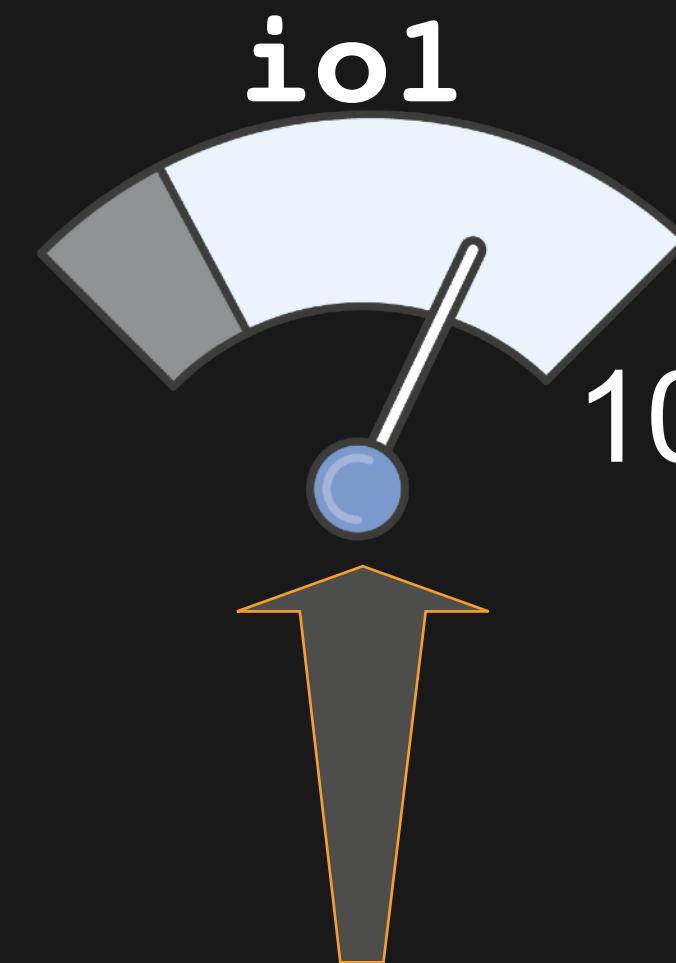
Max ratio: 50:1 IOPS to size

Ideal for critical applications and databases with sustained IOPS

Considerations

Volume modifications must be valid for the target volume type

example:

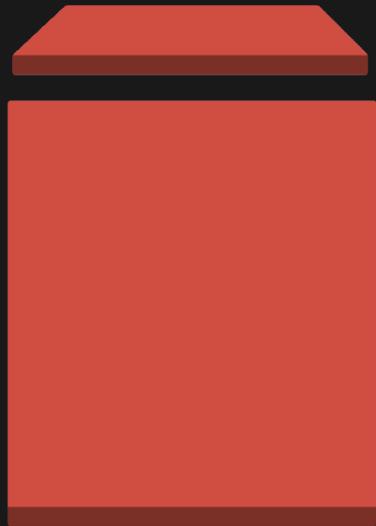


200 GiB
10,000 IOPS



100 GiB
1,000 IOPS

Elastic Volumes - automation ideas



Elastic Volumes



Amazon CloudWatch



Elastic Volumes - automation ideas

Right-sizing:

- Use a CloudWatch alarm to watch for a volume that is running at or near its IOPS limit.
- Initiate workflow and approval process to provision additional IOPS
- Publish a “free space” metric to CloudWatch and use a similar approval process to resize the volume and the filesystem.



Amazon CloudWatch

Elastic Volumes - automation ideas

Cost Reduction:

- Use metrics or schedules to reduce IOPS or to change the type of a volume



Amazon CloudWatch

<https://github.com/awslabs/aws-elastic-volumes>

EBS encryption



What is EBS encryption?



Encryption

Create Volume X

Volume Type	<input type="button" value="i"/> Throughput Optimized HDD (ST1)
Size (GiB)	<input type="text" value="500"/> (Min: 500 GiB, Max: 16384 GiB)
IOPS	<input type="button" value="i"/> Not Applicable
Throughput (MB/s)	20/123 (Baseline: 40 MB/s per TiB)
Availability Zone	<input type="button" value="i"/> us-west-2a
Snapshot ID	<input type="text" value="Search (case-insensitive)"/>
Encryption	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="button" value="i"/> Encrypt this volume

What is EBS encryption?

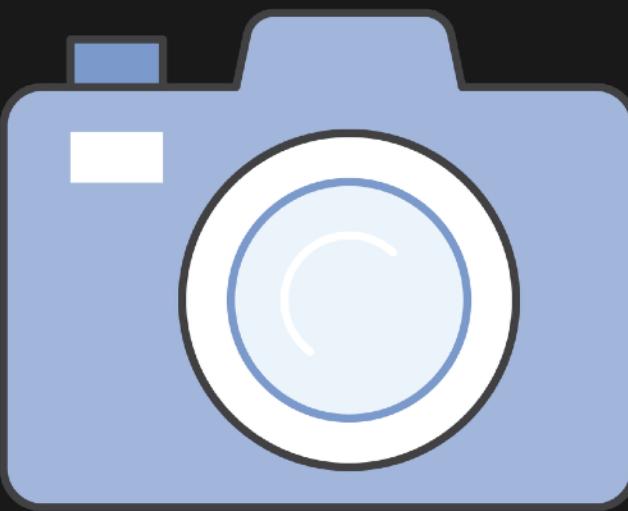


Create Volume

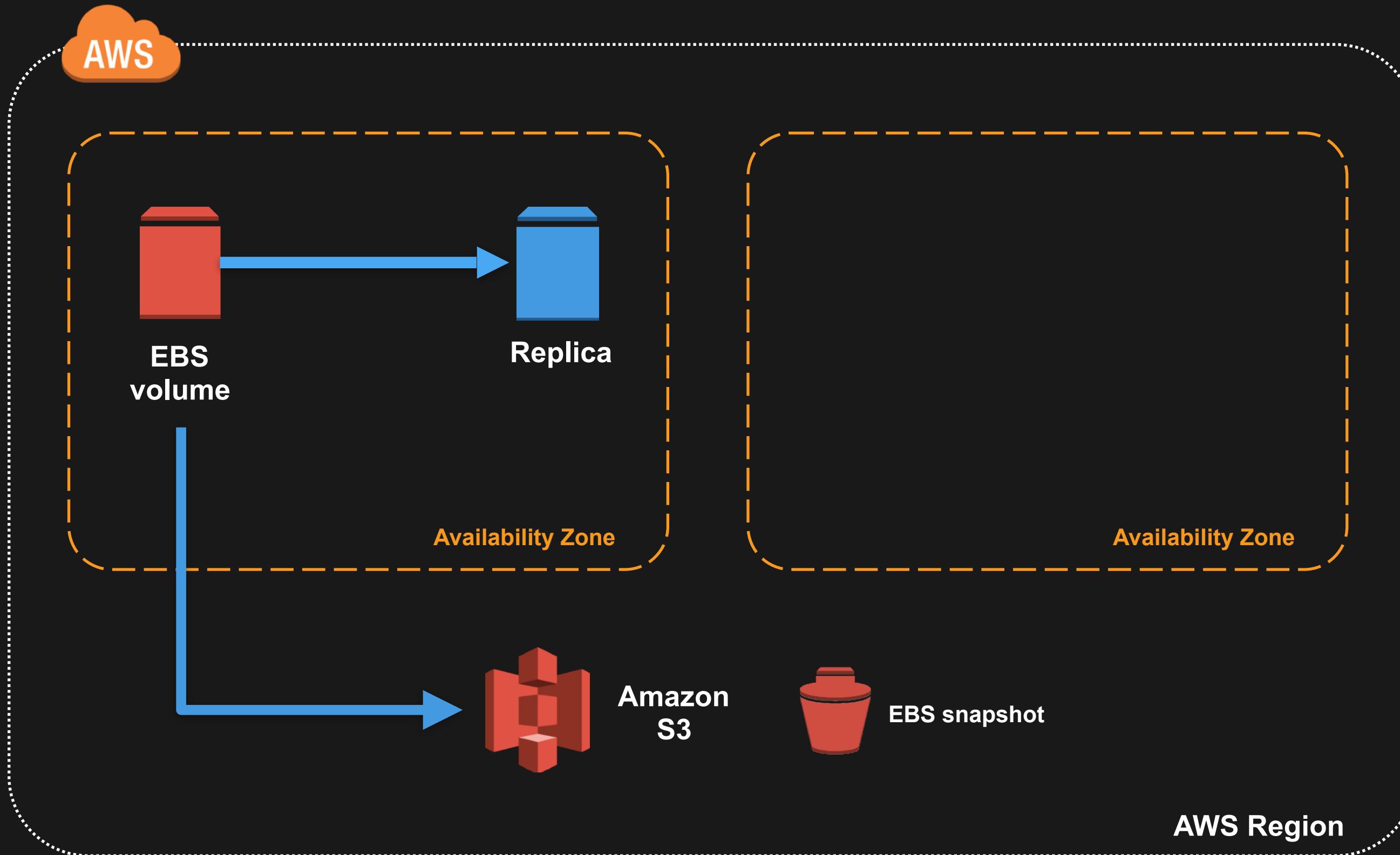
Volume Type	<input type="button" value="i"/>	Throughput Optimized HDD (ST1)	<input type="button" value="x"/>
Size (GiB)	<input type="button" value="i"/>	500	(Min: 500 GiB, Max: 16384 GiB)
IOPS	<input type="button" value="i"/>	Not Applicable	
Throughput (MB/s)	<input type="button" value="i"/>	20/123	(Baseline: 40 MB/s per TiB)
Availability Zone	<input type="button" value="i"/>	us-west-2a	
Snapshot ID	<input type="button" value="i"/>	Search (case-insensitive)	
Encryption	<input type="button" value="i"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Encrypt this volume	

- Boot and data volumes can be encrypted
- Attach both encrypted and unencrypted
- Any current generation instance
- No volume performance impact
- Supported by all EBS volume types
- Snapshots also encrypted
- No extra cost

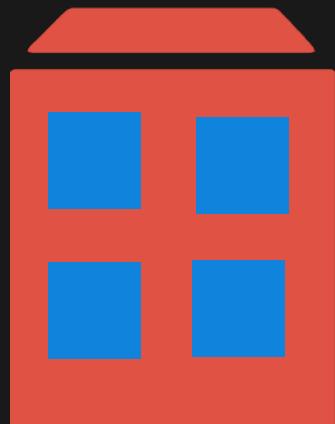
EBS snapshots



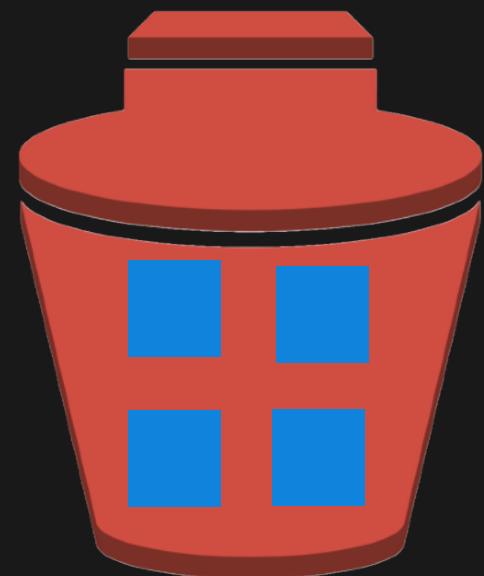
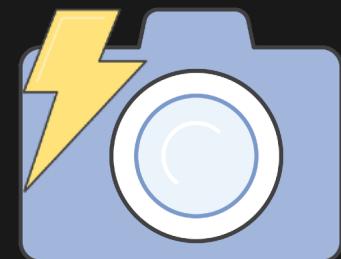
What is an EBS snapshot?



How does an EBS snapshot work?



EBS
volume



EBS
snapshot

- Point-in-time backup of modified blocks
- Stored in S3, accessed via EBS APIs
- Subsequent snapshots are incremental
- Deleting a snapshot will only remove data exclusive to that snapshot

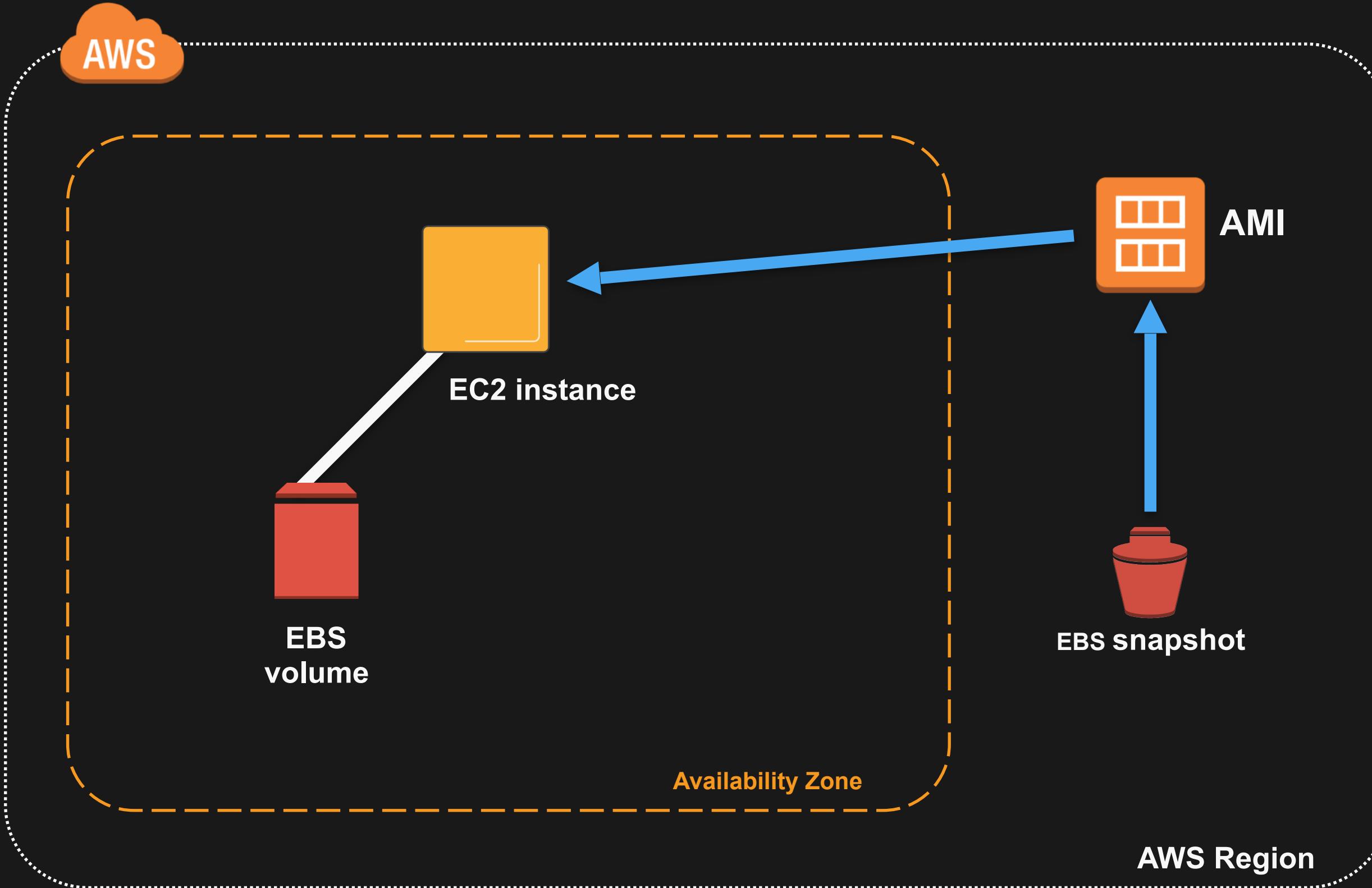
Creating an EBS snapshot

```
[ec2-user@summit ~]$ aws ec2 create-snapshot --volume-id vol-0f8e54c9346aca182  
--description "Summit Snapshot"
```

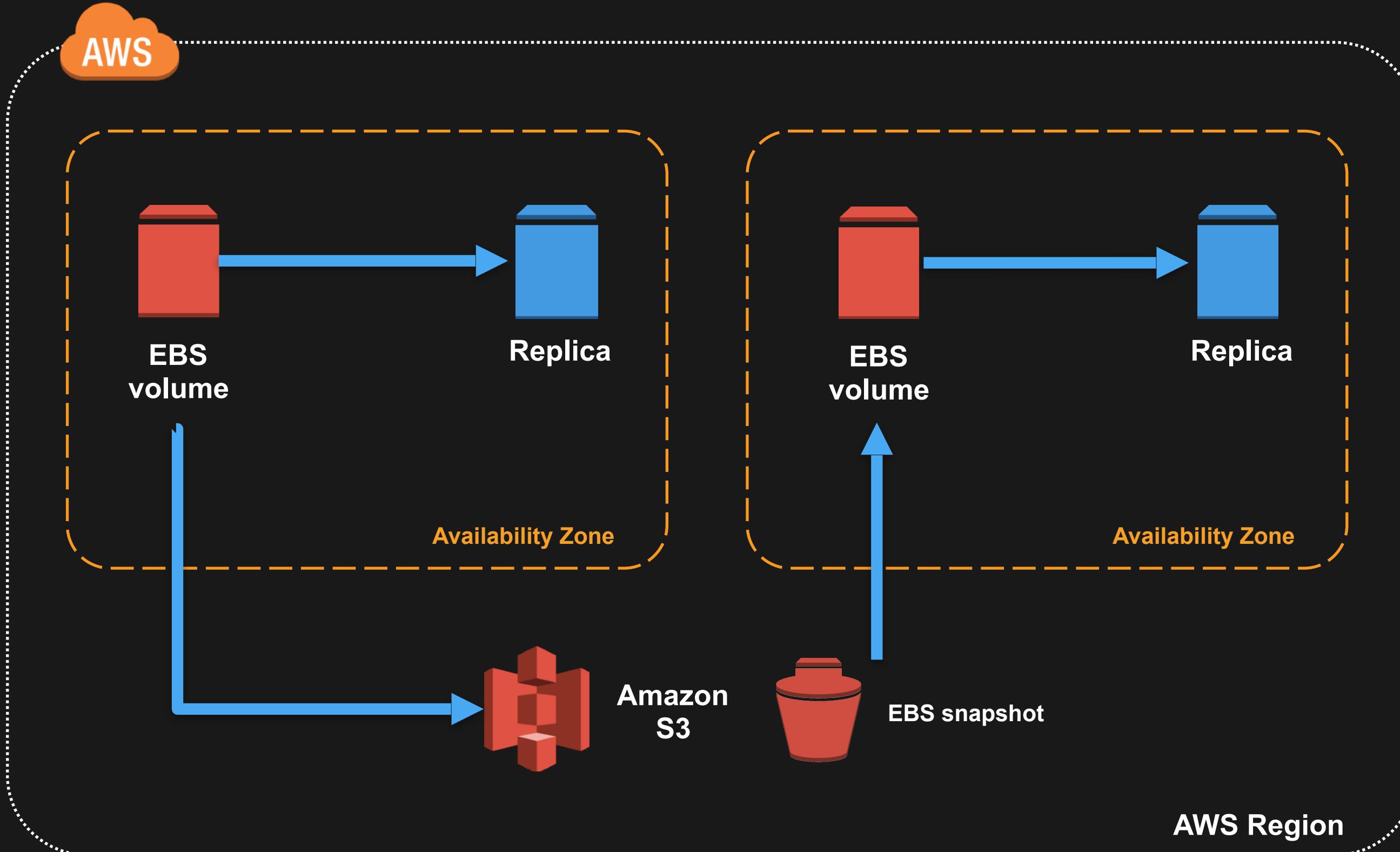
```
{  
    "Description": "Summit Snapshot",  
    "Encrypted": true,  
    "VolumeId": "vol-0f8e54c9346aca182",  
    "State": "pending",  
    "VolumeSize": 8,  
    "Progress": "",  
    "StartTime": "2017-08-14T04:48:50.000Z",  
    "SnapshotId": "snap-039cc569ea4cb40f6",  
    "OwnerId": "51797716418770"  
}
```

```
[ec2-user@summit ~]$
```

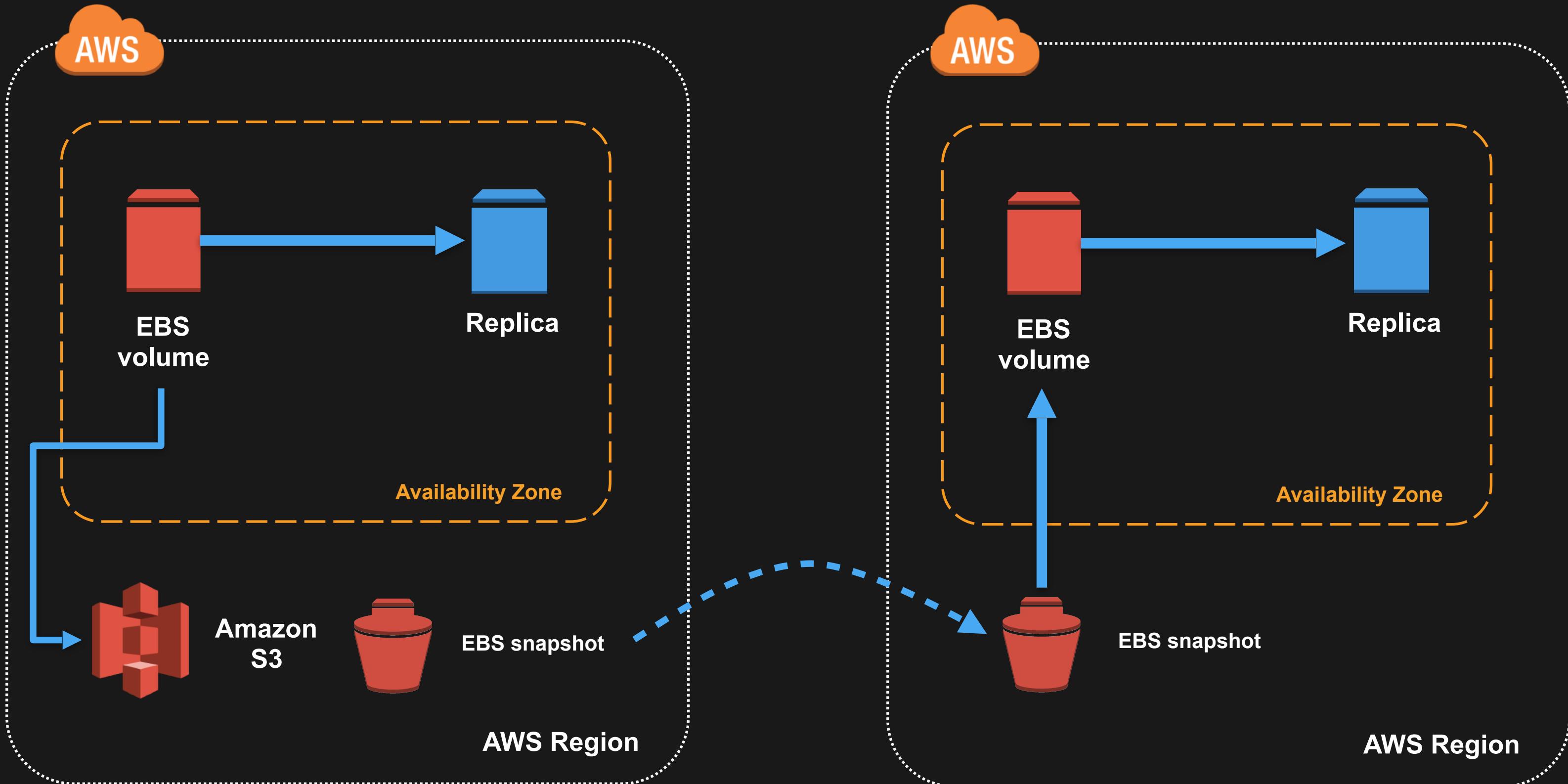
What can you do with a snapshot?



What can you do with a snapshot?



What can you do with a snapshot?



EBS tagging



EBS tagging - tag on creation

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 instance creation wizard at Step 5: Add Tags. The top navigation bar includes links for Services, Resource Groups, and various AWS services like CloudFormation, Lambda, and CloudWatch Metrics. The location is set to Oregon, and there are support and feedback links.

The wizard steps are: 1. Choose AMI, 2. Choose Instance Type, 3. Configure Instance, 4. Add Storage, 5. Add Tags (which is highlighted), 6. Configure Security Group, and 7. Review.

Step 5: Add Tags

A tag consists of a case-sensitive key-value pair. For example, you could define a tag with key = Name and value = Webserver. A copy of a tag can be applied to volumes, instances or both. Tags will be applied to all instances and volumes. [Learn more](#) about tagging your Amazon EC2 resources.

Key (127 characters maximum)	Value (255 characters maximum)	Instances	Volumes
Name	WebServer22	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CostCenter	209	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SaveSnapshotFlag	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Add another tag (Up to 50 tags maximum)

Buttons at the bottom: Cancel, Previous, **Review and Launch**, Next: Configure Security Group.

EBS tagging - enforced tag usage

- Enforce the use of specific tags with IAM
- Block the deletion of tags
- Control access to resources, ownership, and cost allocation.



EBS tagging - resource-level permissions

- **CreateTags** and **DeleteTags**
- **RunInstances** and **CreateVolume**
- Control users and groups that can tag resources on creation



EBS tagging - enforced volume encryption

- RunInstances and CreateVolume
- Mandate use of encryption for any volume created



<https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/aws/new-tag-ec2-instances-ebs-volumes-on-creation/>

EBS use case: Hadoop (big data)



Use Case

- EBS GP2 (SSD), ST1 and SC1 Hard Disk Drive (HDD) volumes
- Cloudera Hadoop to analyze 15TB of data / day so their customers can run advertising campaigns

Value Proposition

- **Flexibility:** Right size instance - CPU and Memory, not storage. With EBS, choose any instance
- **Cost:** More capacity and less processing at a lower price per request
- **Elastic:** increase capacity, tune performance, and change volume types live (no downtime)
- **Data Persistence:** Detach and reattach volumes to resize your cluster
- **Operational Efficiency:** Easy to expand, no more babysitting cluster

Videology Example

- Chose M4.10xlarge + **ST1 HDD Throughput Optimized EBS**

“We were able to save \$15,000 per month, increase our available storage by 5%, and turn off eight server nodes by moving to Amazon EBS ST1 volumes to support our Hadoop cluster”

EBS use case: Cassandra (NoSQL)



Use Case

- Elasticity on demand at a cost-effective endpoint to analyze petabytes of network traffic
- Process, store, and analyze billions of network packets (metadata) and petabytes of raw packet data

Value Proposition

- **Flexibility:** Right size instance - CPU and Memory, not storage. With EBS, choose any instance
- **Cost:** Less expensive than on-prem, saved 30% costs by leveraging multi-tiered storage system with EBS
- **Performance:** Search petabytes of stored data with 1-3 second response time
- **Data Persistence:** Detach and reattach volumes to resize your cluster, minutes to move data that used to take days or weeks

Protectwise Example

- Chose I2 EC2 (hot data) + GP2, ST1 EBS (warm data), and S3 (cold data)

“Using AWS, we have reduced our storage costs by 95%, meaning we are spending \$1 for every \$20 we would have spent on a traditional system.”

EBS use case: hybrid volumes

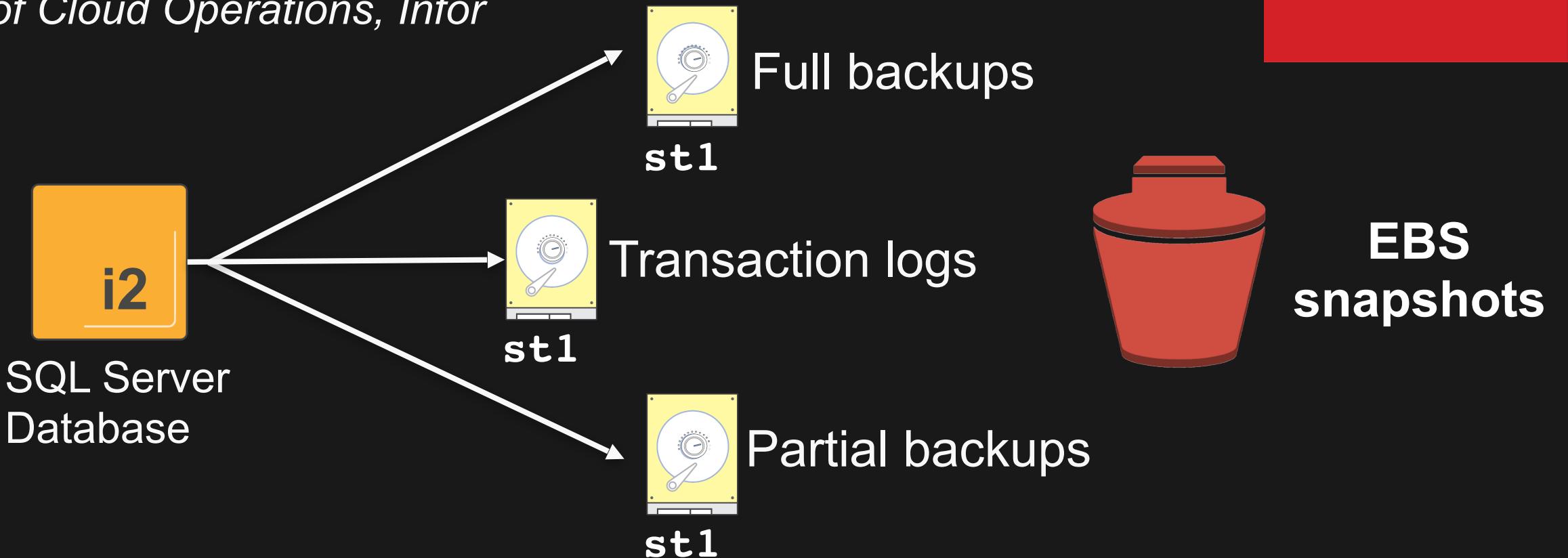
Case Study:

<https://aws.amazon.com/solutions/case-studies/infor-ebs/>



*“We’ve seen much stronger performance for our database backup workloads with the Amazon **EBS ST1** volumes, and we’re also saving **75 percent** on our monthly backup costs.”*

~ Randy Young, Director of Cloud Operations, Infor

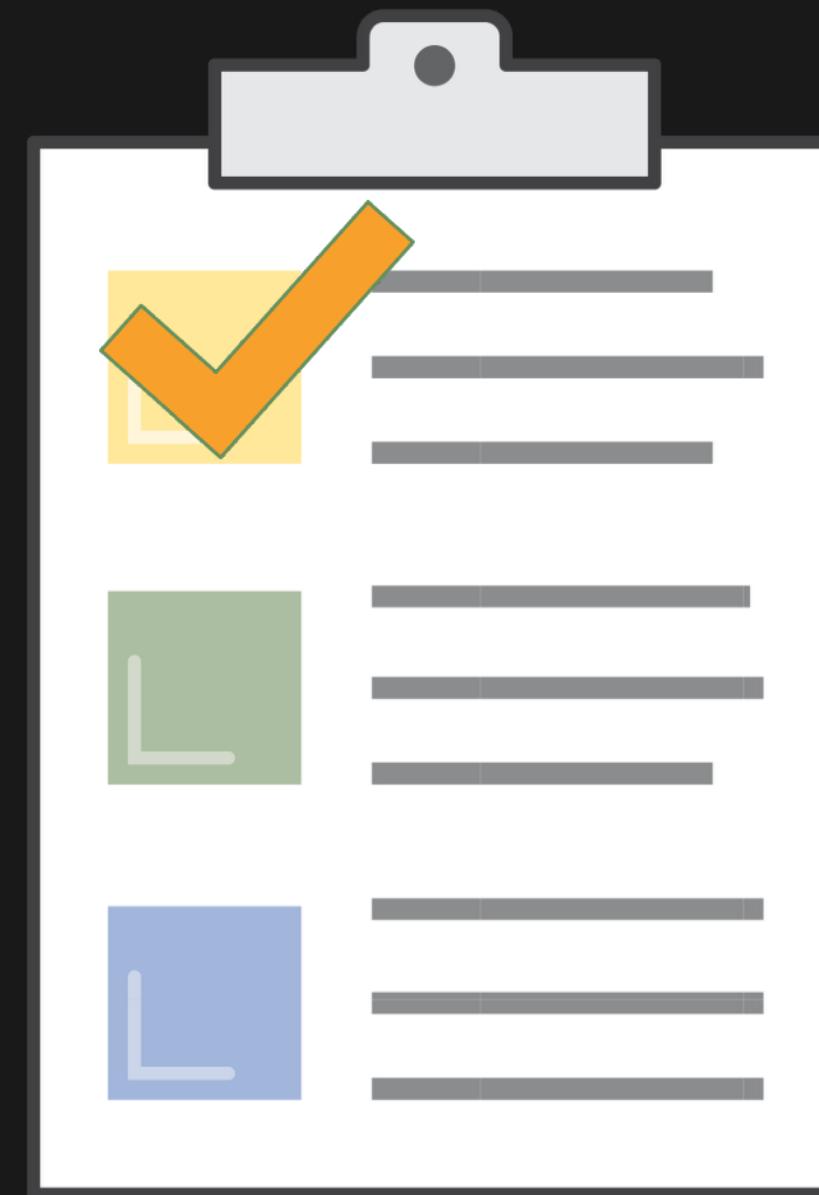
The Infor logo, consisting of the word "infor" in white lowercase letters on a red square background.

EBS deep dive



EBS deep dive

Performance



How do we count I/Os for GP2 and IO1?

When possible, we logically **merge** sequential I/Os (up to 256 KiB in size)

*...To minimize I/O charges on IO1
and maximize burst on GP2*

How do we count I/Os for GP2 and IO1?

Example 1: Random I/Os

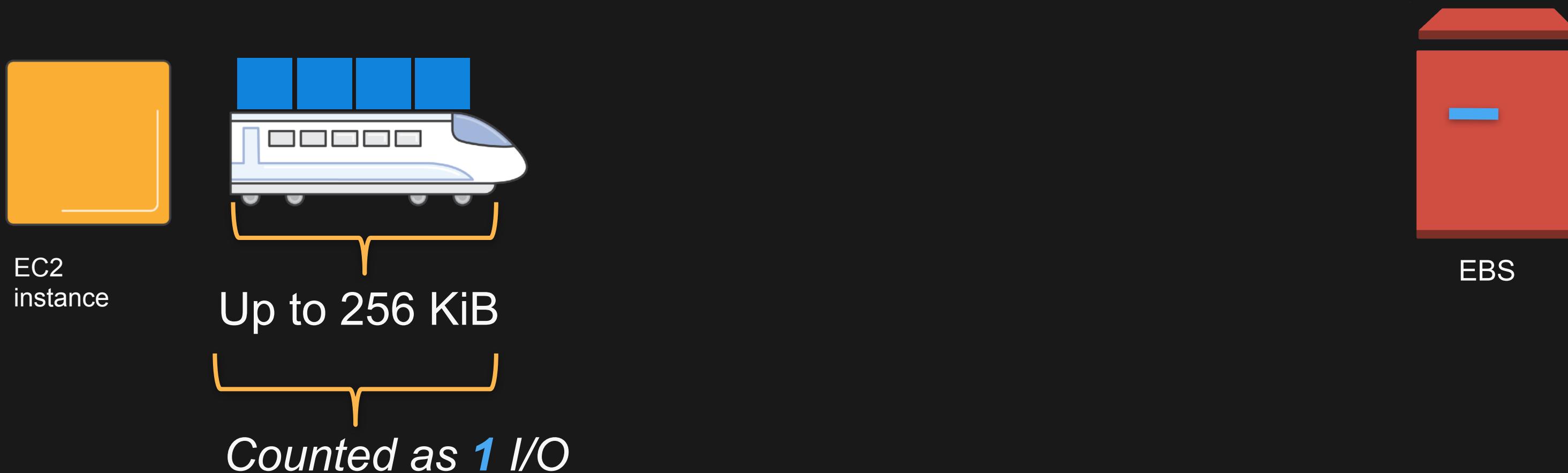
- 4 random I/Os (i.e., non sequential I/Os)
- Each I/O **64 KiB**



How do we count I/Os for GP2 and IO1?

Example 2: Sequential I/O

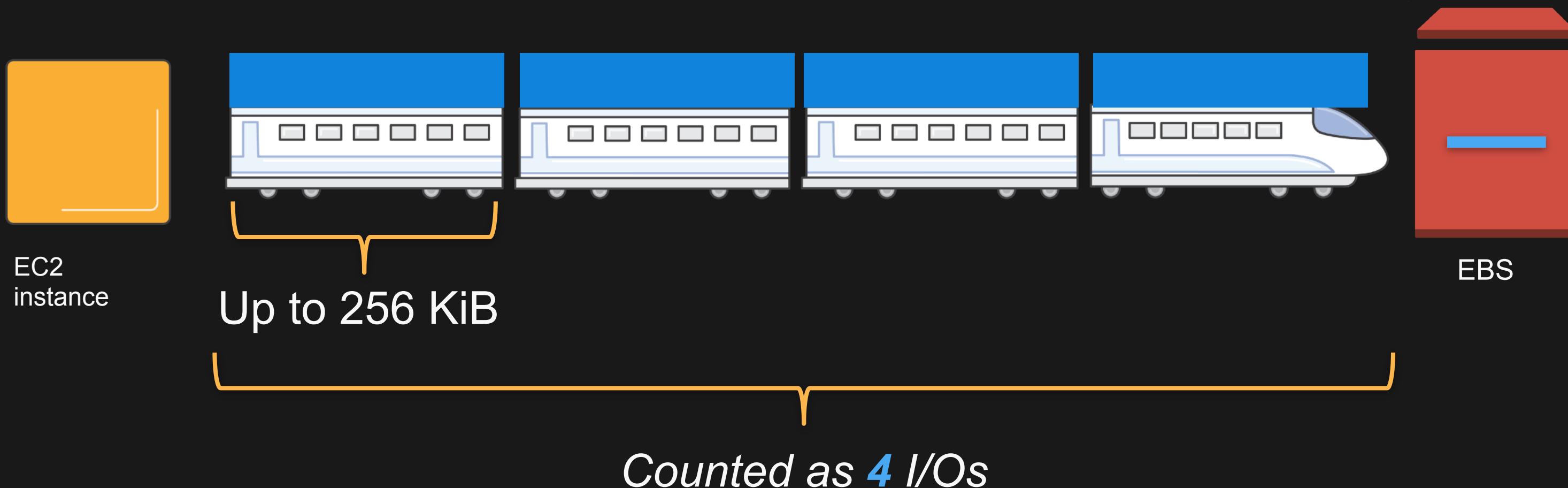
- 4 sequential I/Os
- Each I/O **64 KiB**



How do we count I/Os for GP2 and IO1?

Example 3: Large I/O

- 1 I/O
- **1024 KiB**



How do we count I/Os for ST1 and SC1?

- When possible, we **merge** sequential I/Os (up to 1 MiB in size)
 - Workloads with primarily large, sequential I/Os perform best on ST1 and SC1
 - Ex: Big data / EMR, Hadoop, Kafka, log processing, data warehouses

How do we count I/Os for ST1 and SC1?

Example 1: Random I/Os

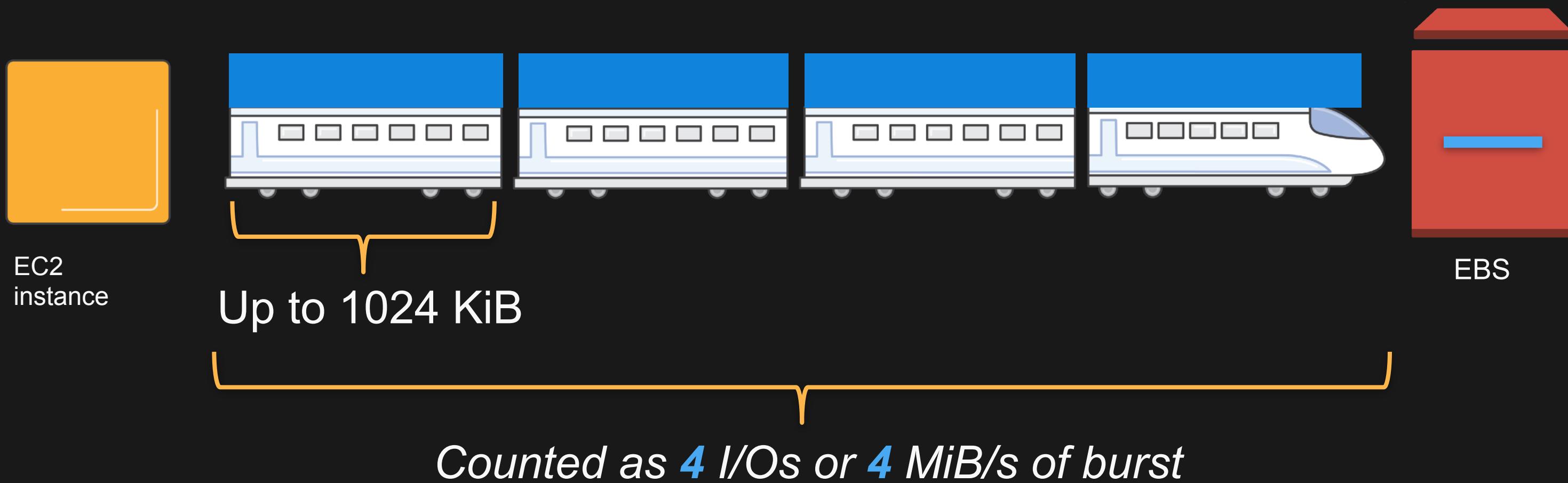
- 4 random I/Os
- Each I/O **64 KiB**



How do we count I/Os for ST1 and SC1?

Example 2: Sequential I/O

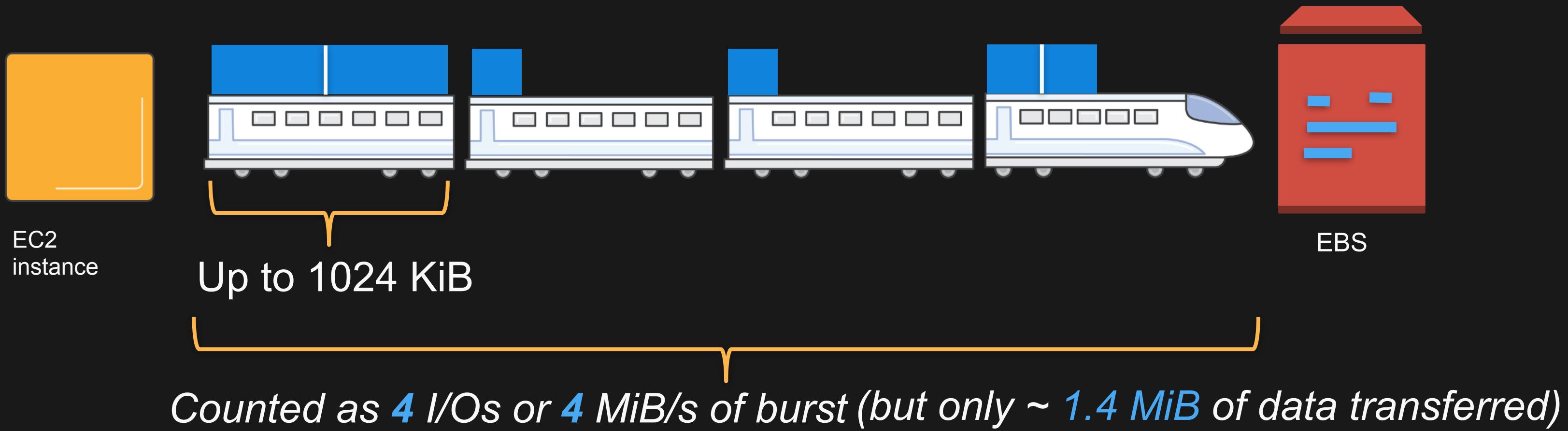
- 4 sequential I/Os
- Each I/O 1024 KiB



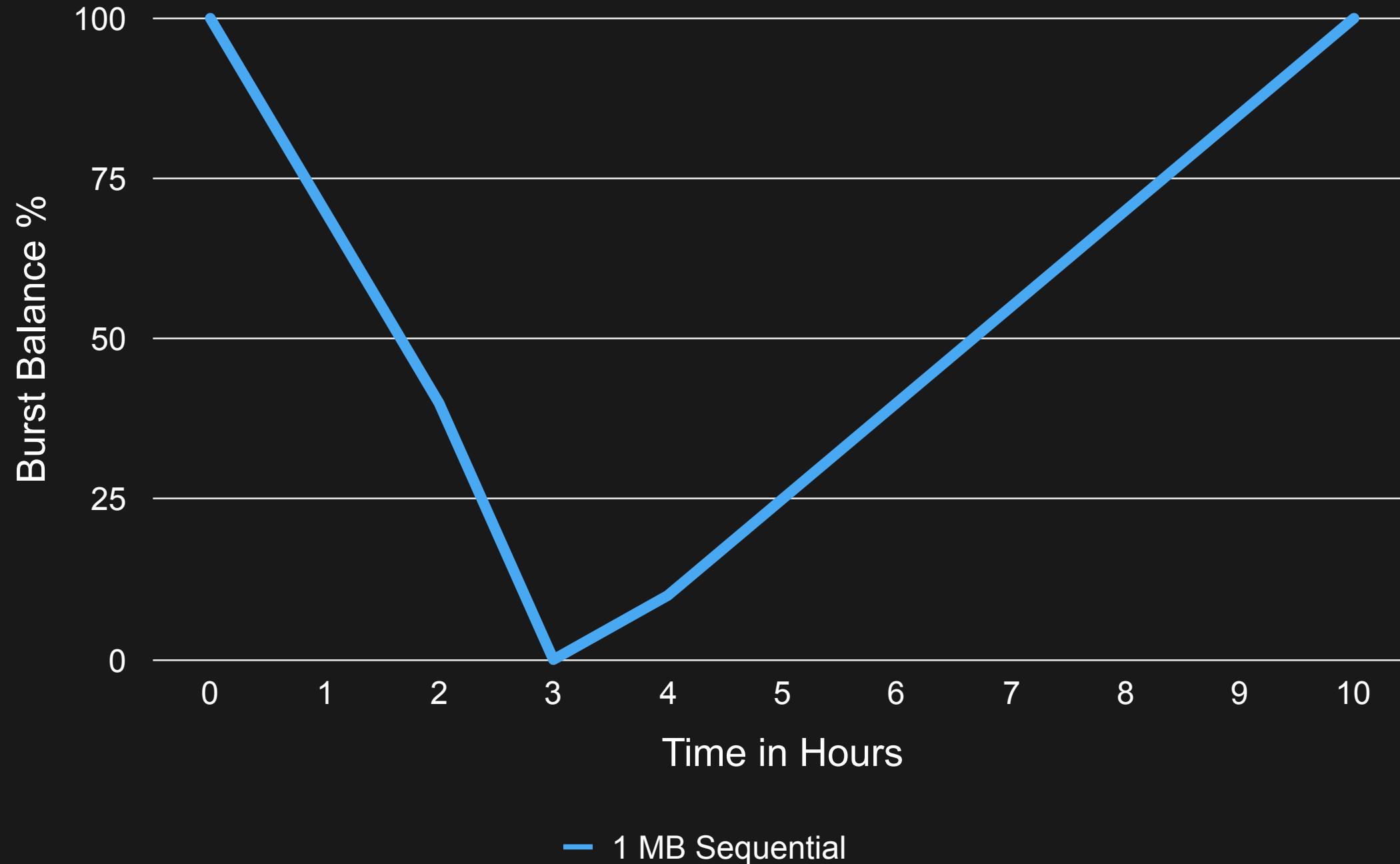
How do we count I/Os for ST1 and SC1?

Example 3: Mixed I/O

- 2 * 512 KB sequential I/Os
- 2 * 64 KB random I/Os
- 2 * 128 KB sequential I/Os



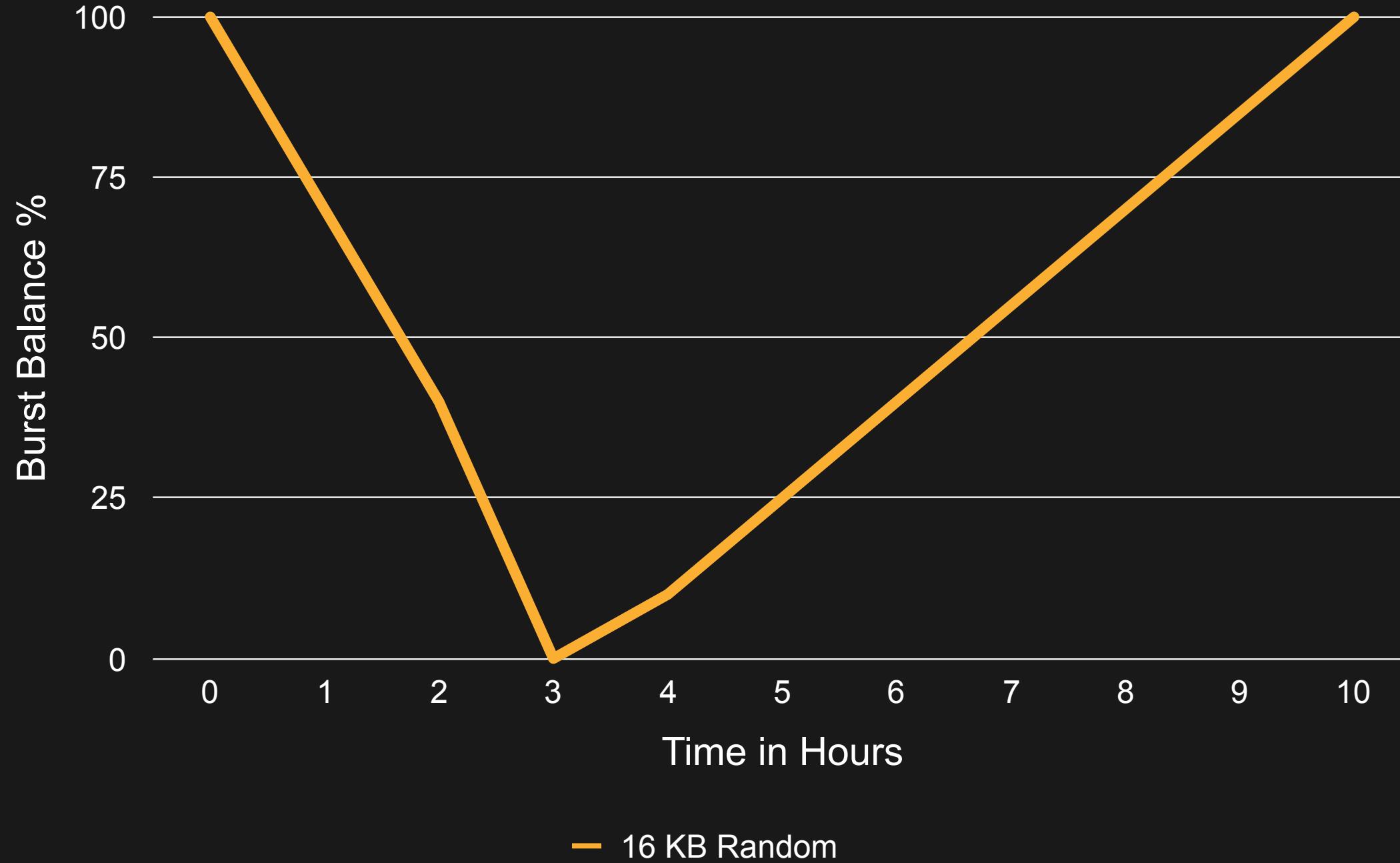
Burst balance for ST1 and SC1 - sequential



4 TiB ST1 volume

1 MiB sequential:
500 MB/s for 3 hours

Burst balance for ST1 and SC1 - random

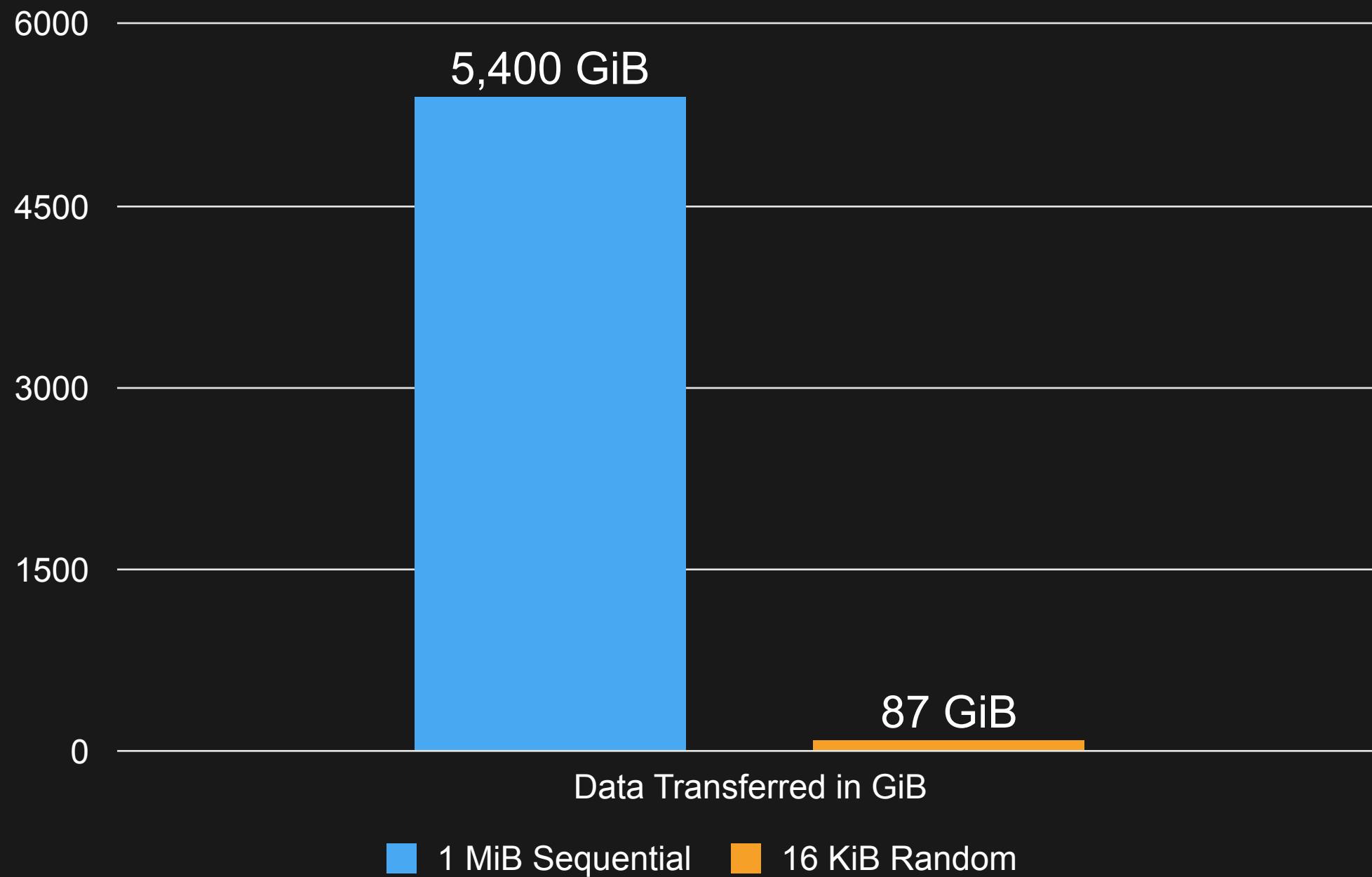


4 TiB ST1 volume

16 KiB random:
8 MB/s for 3 hours

Burst balance for ST1 and SC1

Data Transfer Comparison: Sequential vs. Random



4 TiB ST1 volume

1 MiB sequential:
5.4 TiB transferred

16 KiB random:
87 GiB transferred

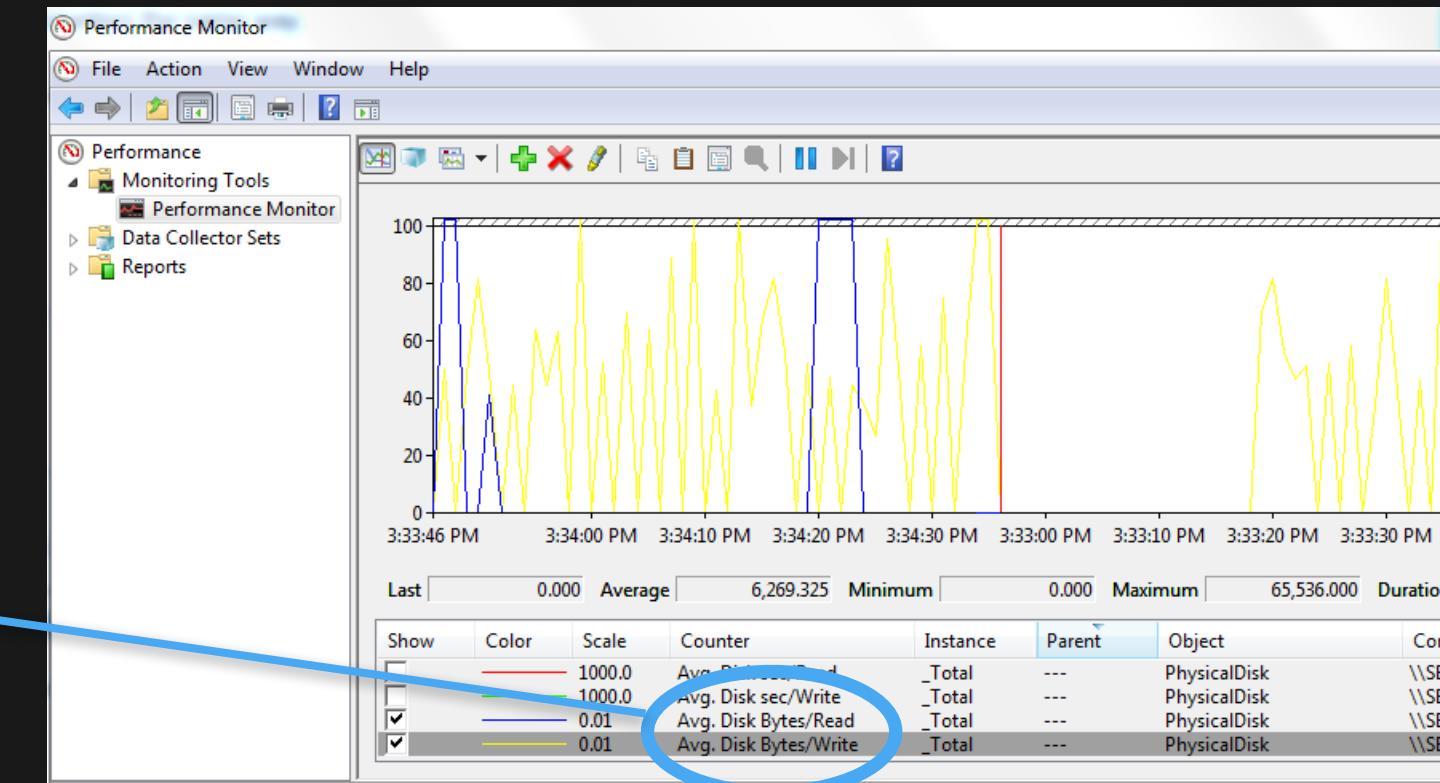
Verify workload I/O patterns

iostat for Linux

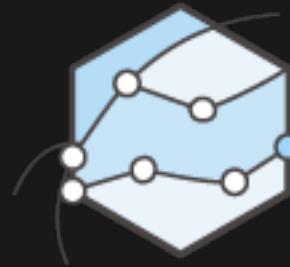
```
$ iostat -xm
Device: rrqm/s wrqm/s r/s w/s rMB/s wMB/s avgrq-sz avgqu-sz await svctm %util
xvdf 0.00 0.20 0.00 523.40 0.00 523.00 2046.44 3.99 7.62 1.61 100.00
```

$$2046 \text{ sectors} \times 512 \text{ bytes/sector} = \sim 1024 \text{ KiB}$$

perfmon for Windows

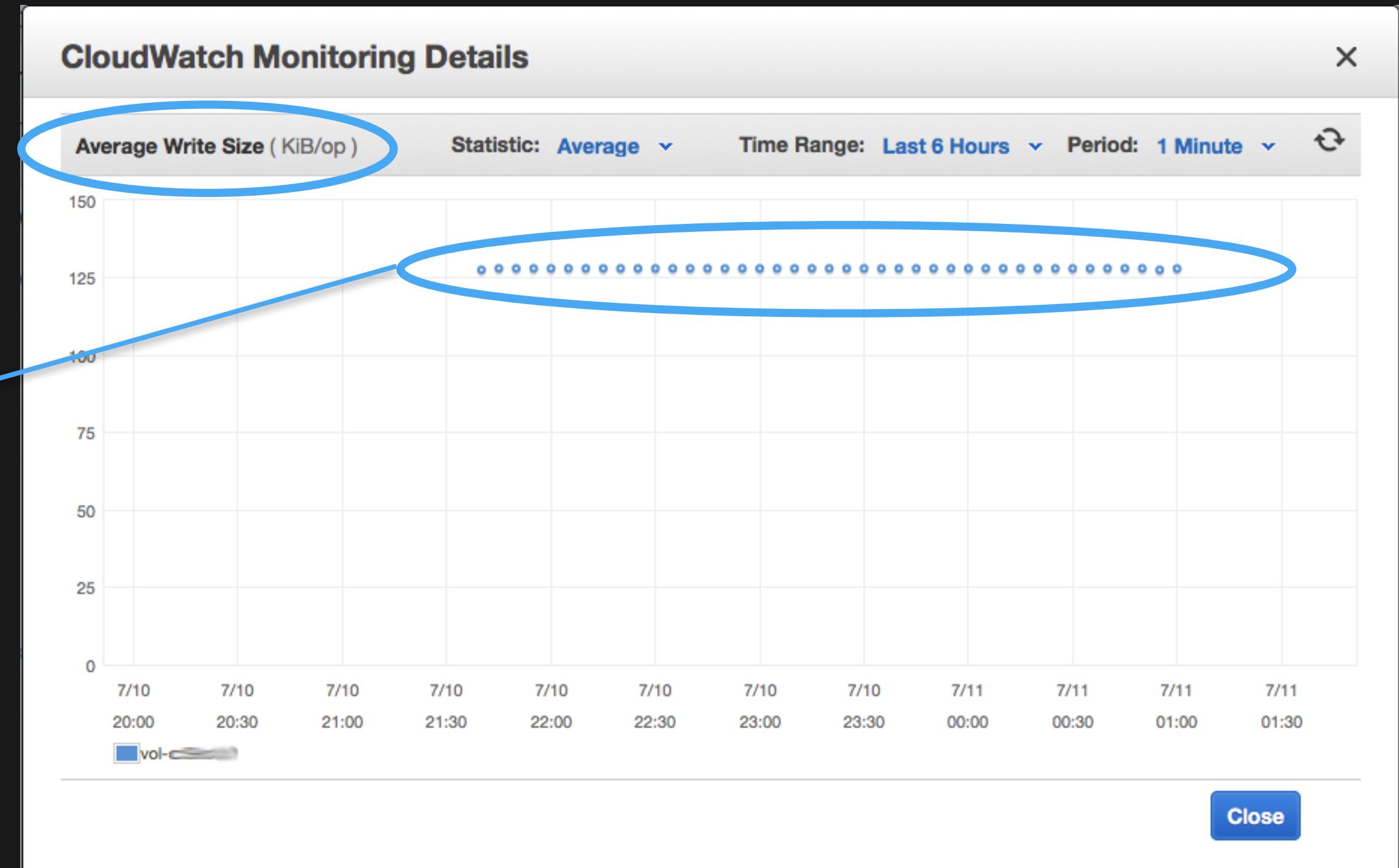


Verify ST1 & SC1 workloads

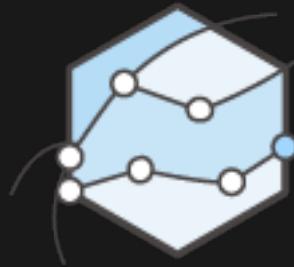


Amazon
CloudWatch
console

128 KiB



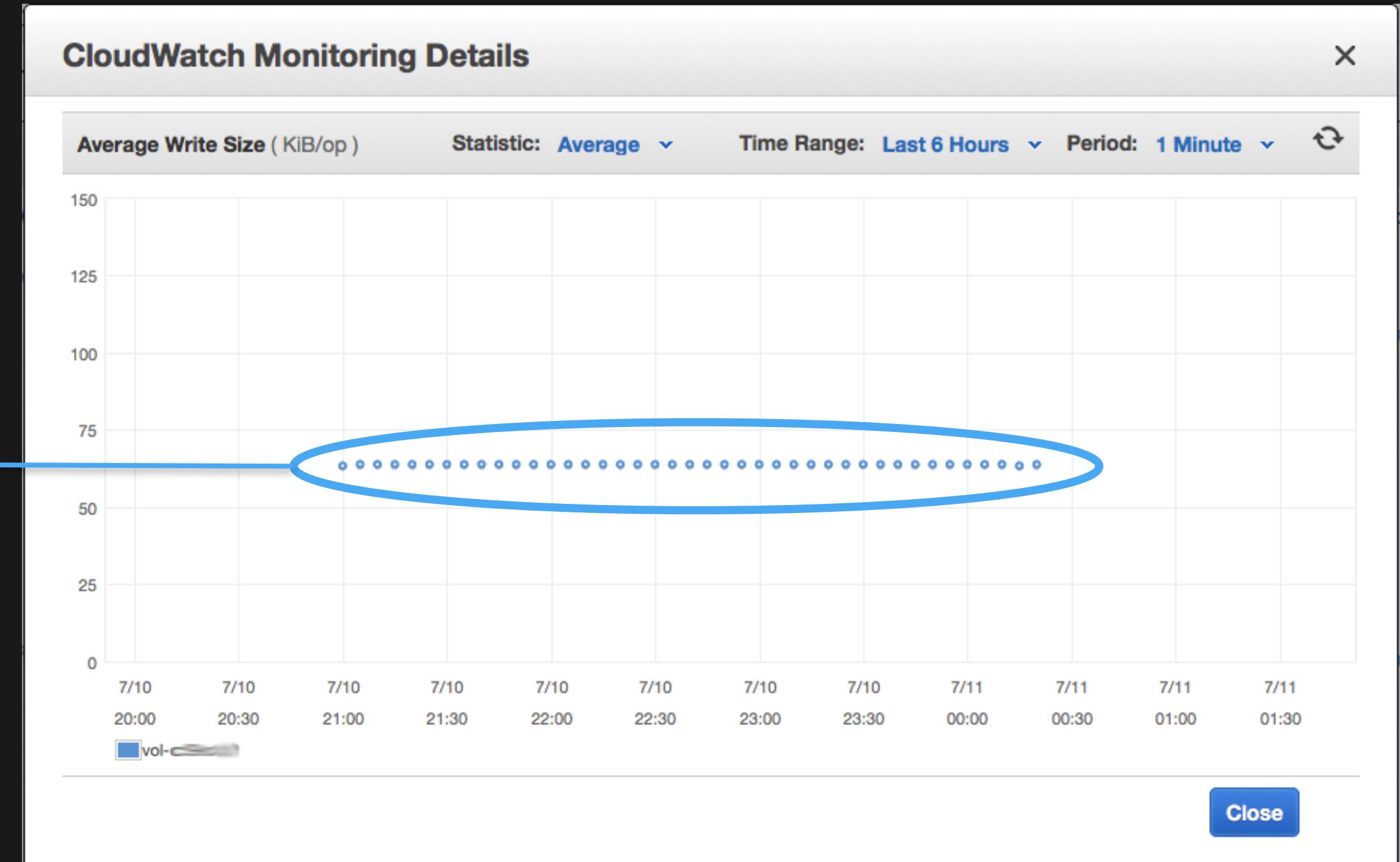
Verify ST1 & SC1 workloads



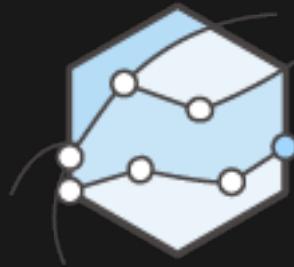
Amazon
CloudWatch
console

Under 64
KiB?

Small or
random IOPS
likely

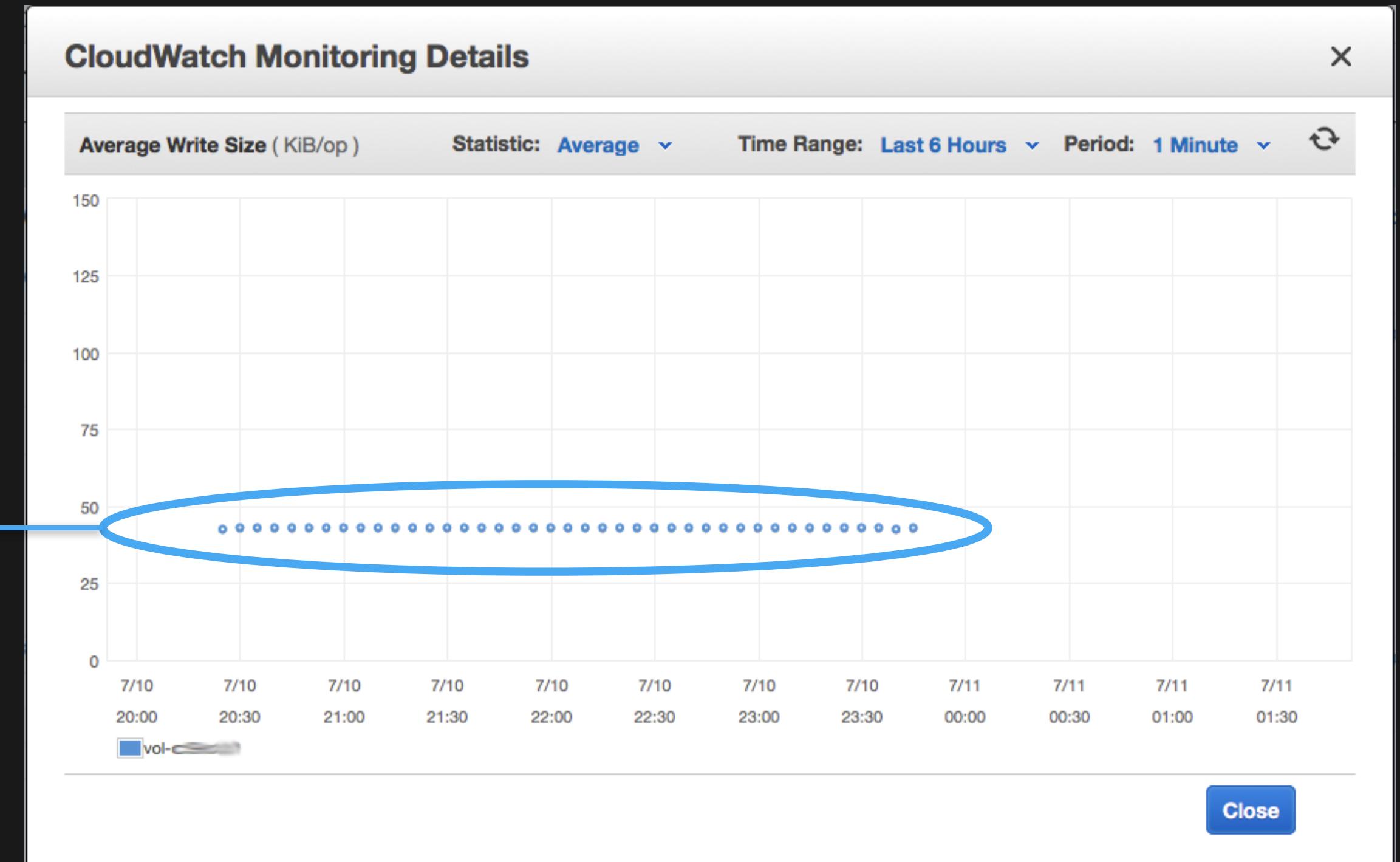


Verify ST1 & SC1 workloads



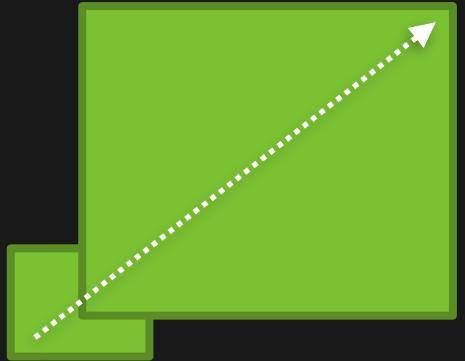
Amazon
CloudWatch
console

Stuck
around 44
KiB?



ST1 & SC1: Linux performance tuning

Increase maximum request size



- Recommended ST1 and SC1 on a 4.2+ Linux kernel
- Memory allocated per device
- Default is 32, max for EC2 is 256
- OS boot command line configuration

For example with GRUB's /boot/grub/menu.lst configuration:

```
kernel /boot/vmlinuz-4.4.5-15.26.amzn1.x86_64 root=LABEL=/ console=ttyS0 xen_blkfront.max=256
```

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/EBSPerformance.html>

ST1 & SC1: Linux performance tuning



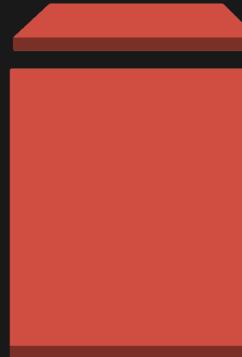
Increase read-ahead buffer:

- Recommended for high-throughput read workloads
- Per device configuration
- Default is 128 KiB (256 sectors) for Amazon Linux
- Smaller or random I/O will degrade performance

For example:

```
$ sudo blockdev --setra 2048 /dev/xvdf
```

IOPS vs. throughput



Example:
io1 volume
20,000 PIOPS

20,000 IOPS
16 KiB
320 MB/s



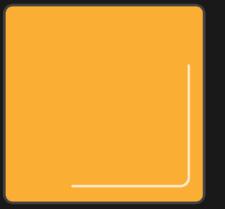
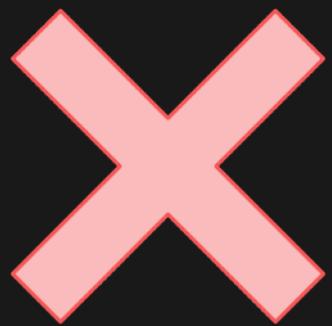
I/O request size

10,000 IOPS
32 KiB
320 MB/s

10,000 IOPS
64 KiB
64 MB/s

- 1,250 IOPS
- 256 KiB
- 320 MB/s

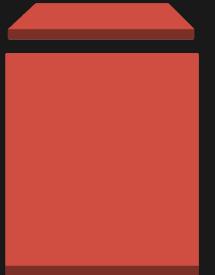
Performance: EBS-optimized



c4.large

Dedicated to EBS

500 Mbps ~ 62.5 MB/s
4,000 16K IOPS



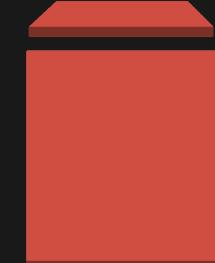
2 TiB GP2 volume:
6,000 IOPS
160 MiB/s max throughput



c4.2xlarge

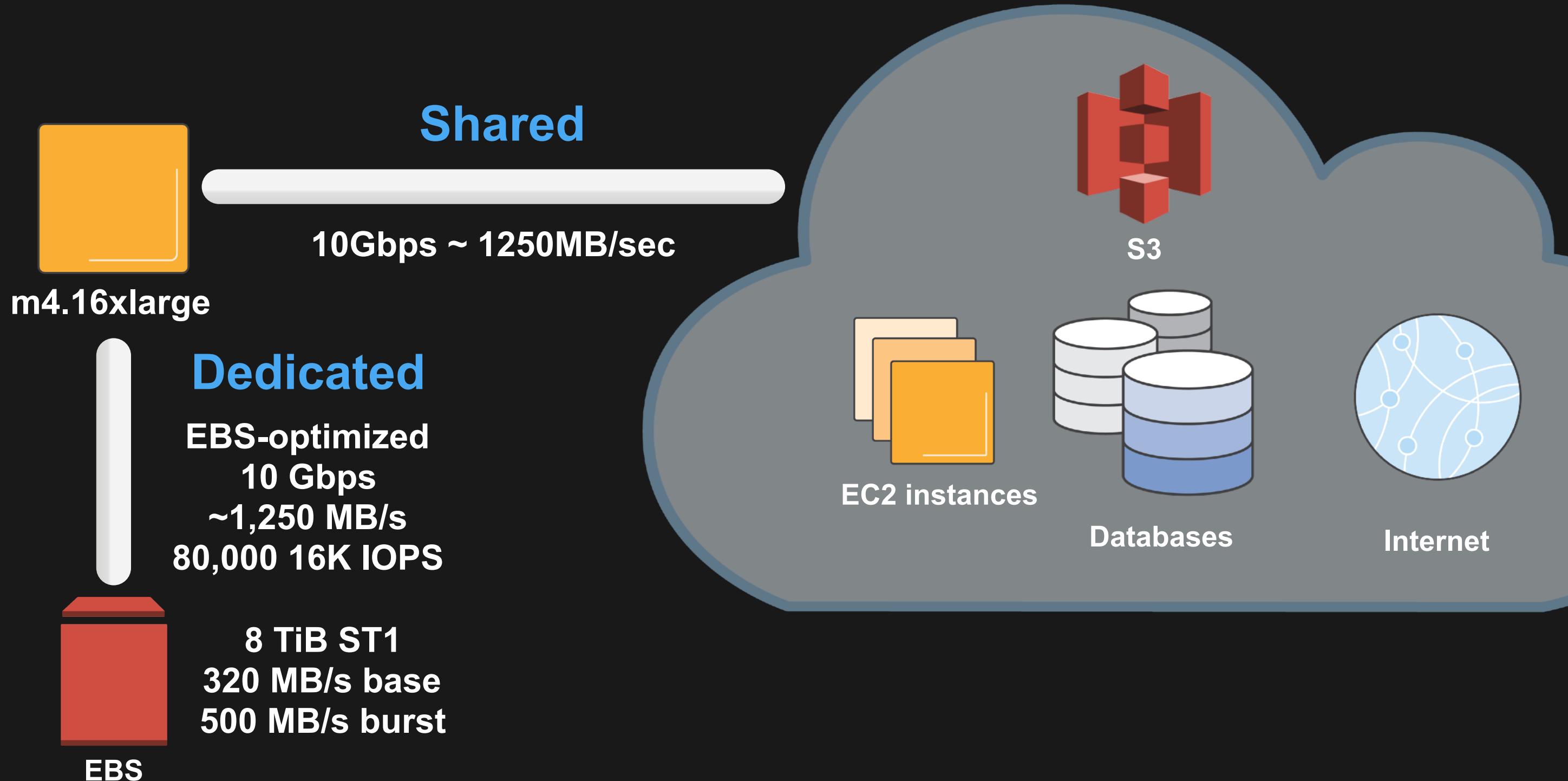
Dedicated to EBS

1 Gbps ~ 125 MB/s
8,000 16K IOPS

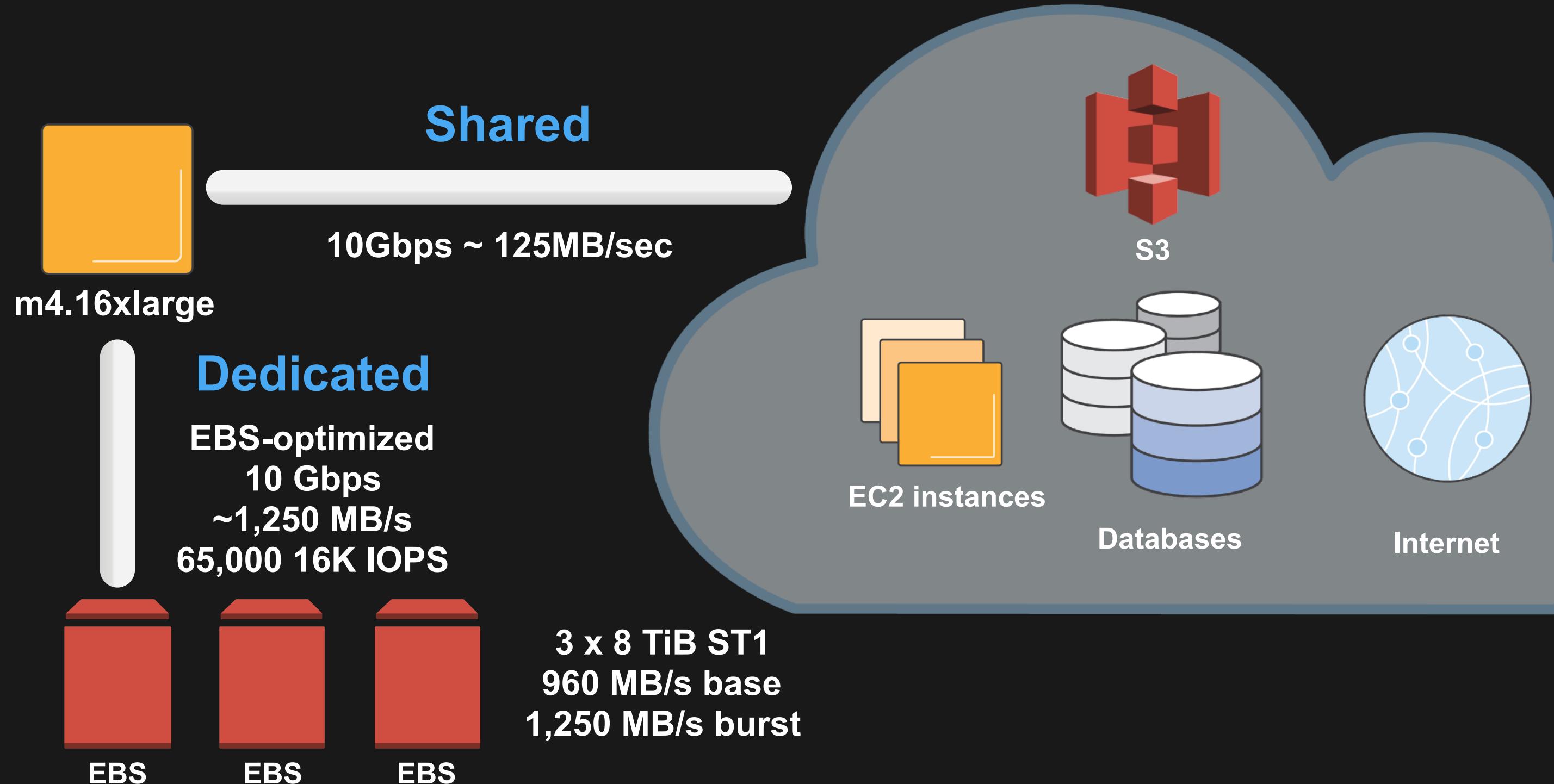


2 TiB GP2 volume:
6,000 IOPS
160 MiB/s max throughput

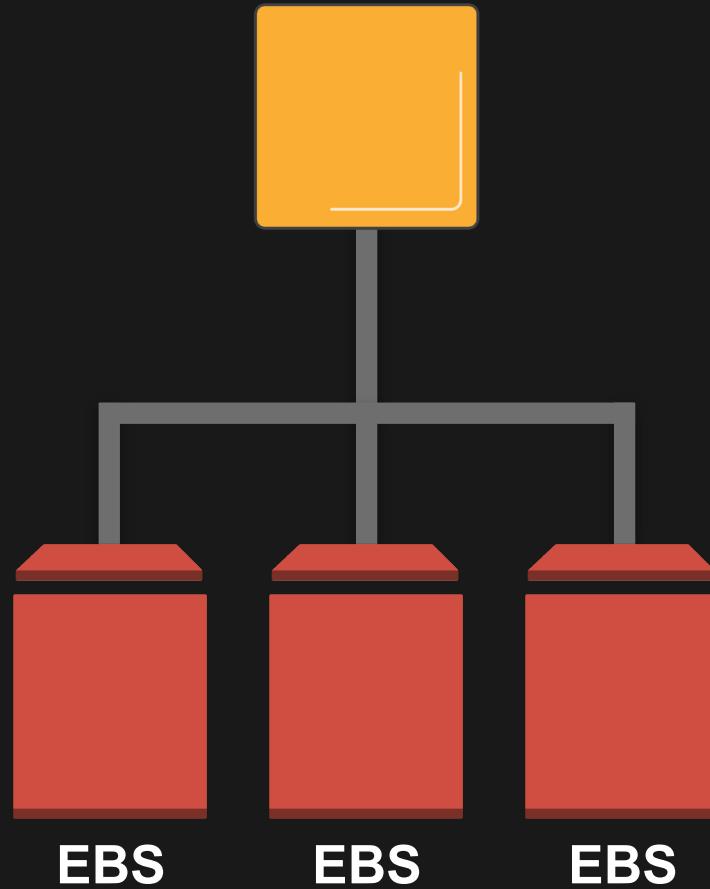
Performance: throughput workload



Performance: throughput workload



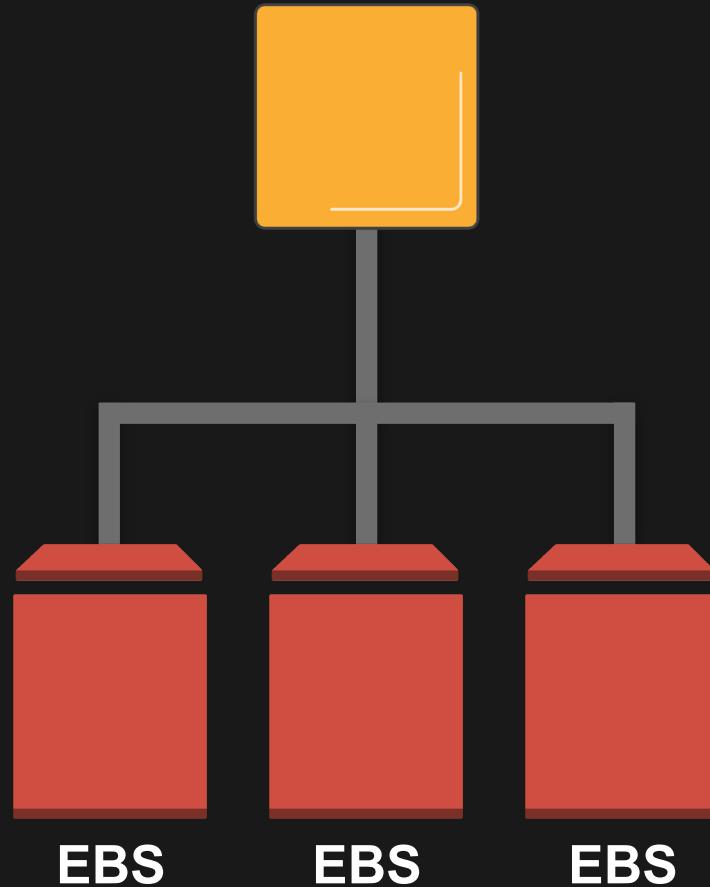
Best practice: RAID



When to RAID?

- Storage requirement > 16 TiB
- Throughput requirement > 500 MB/s
- IOPS requirement > 20,000 @ 16K

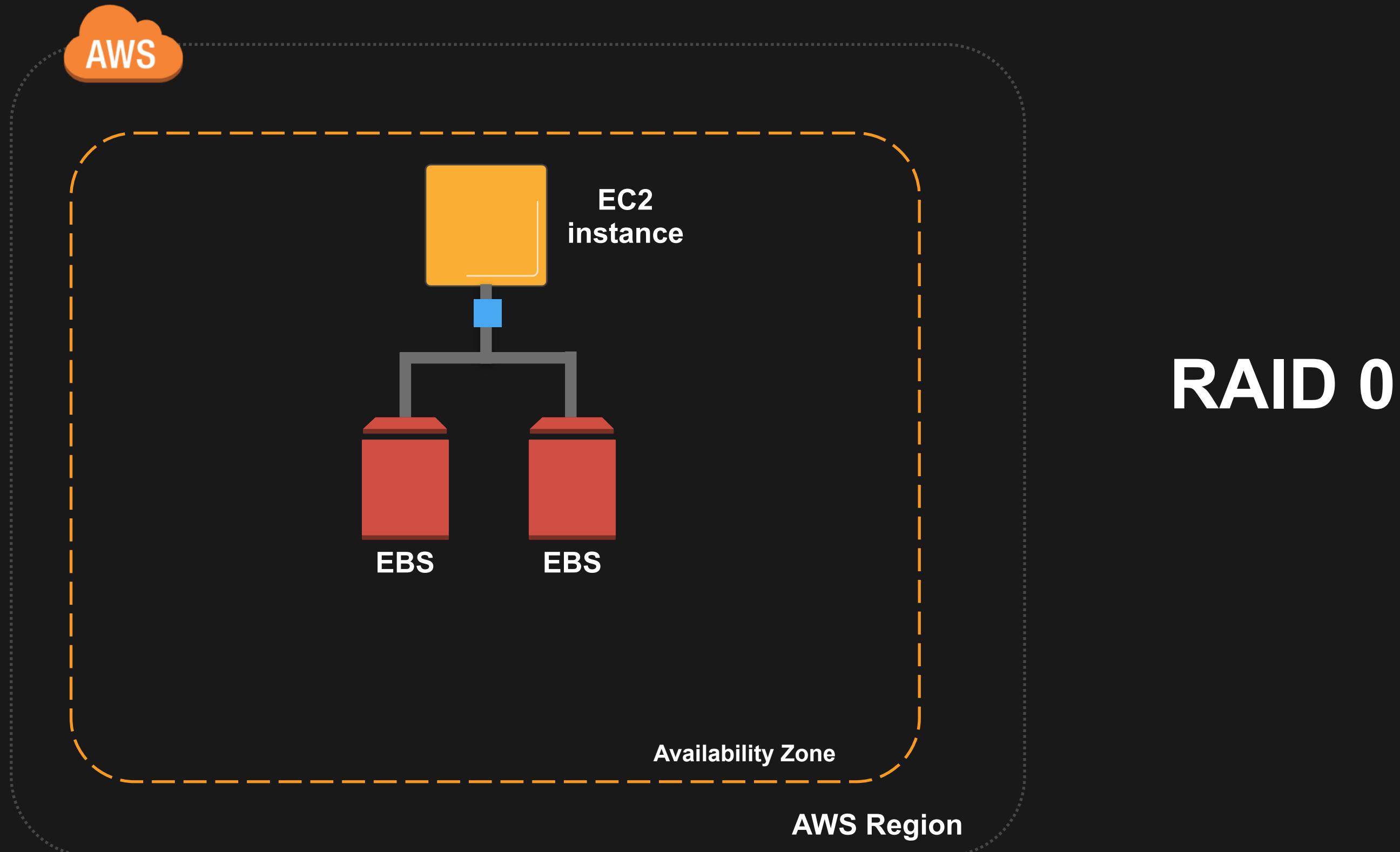
Best practice: RAID



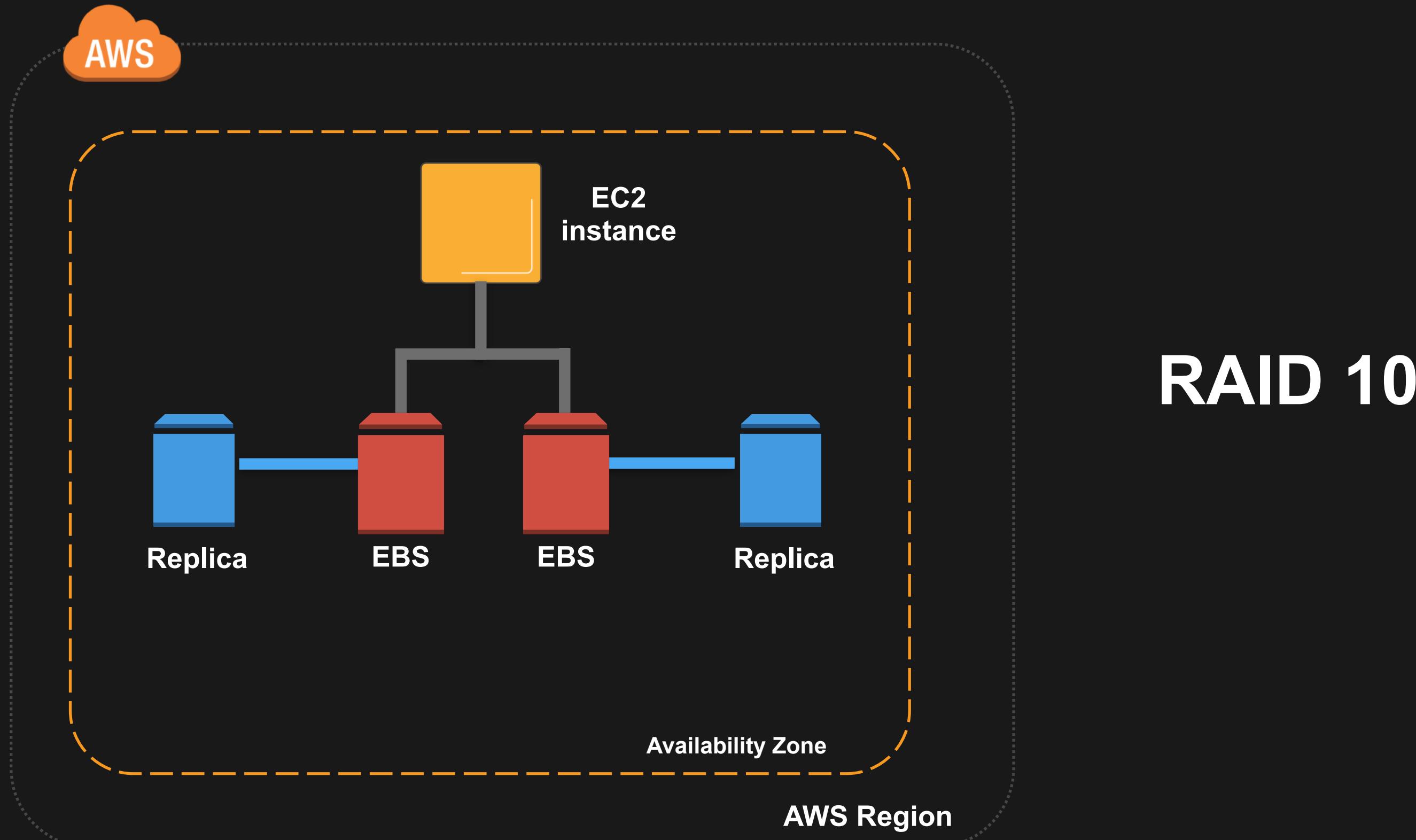
Avoid RAID for redundancy

- EBS data is already replicated
- RAID1 halves available EBS bandwidth
- RAID5/6 loses 20–30% of usable I/O to parity

Best practice: RAID



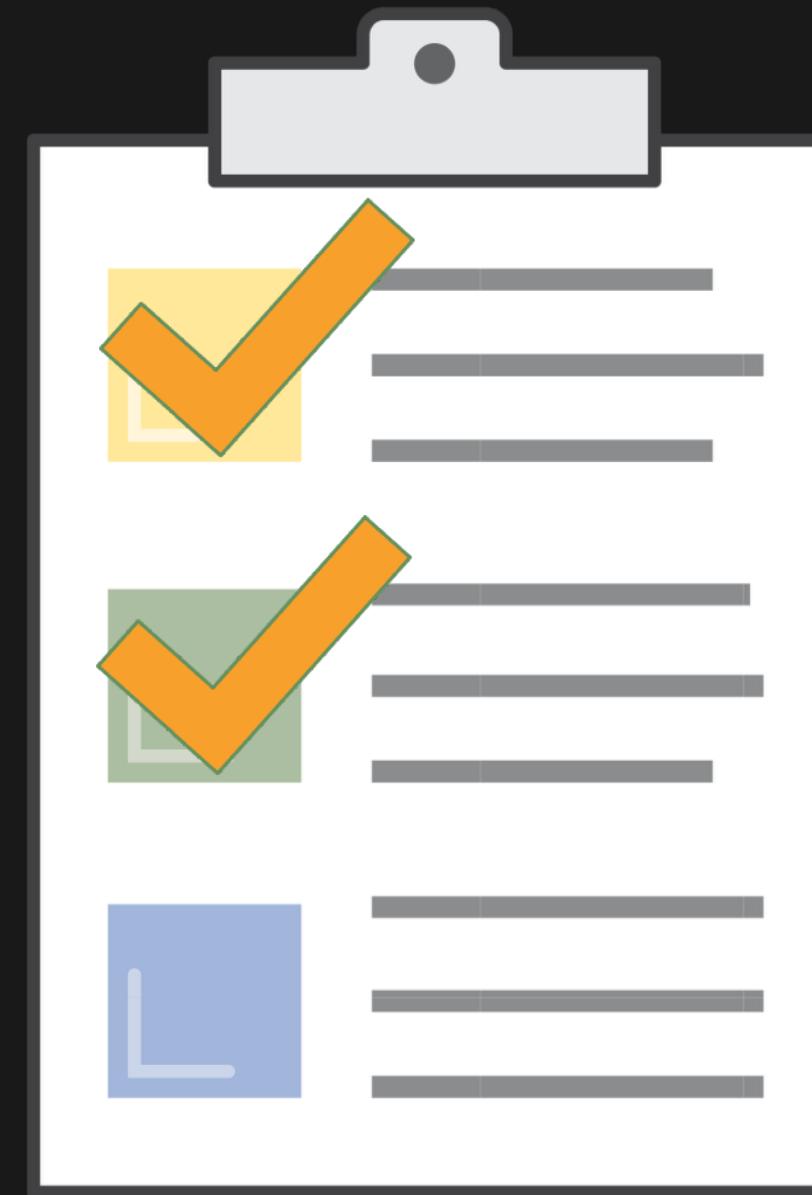
Best practice: RAID



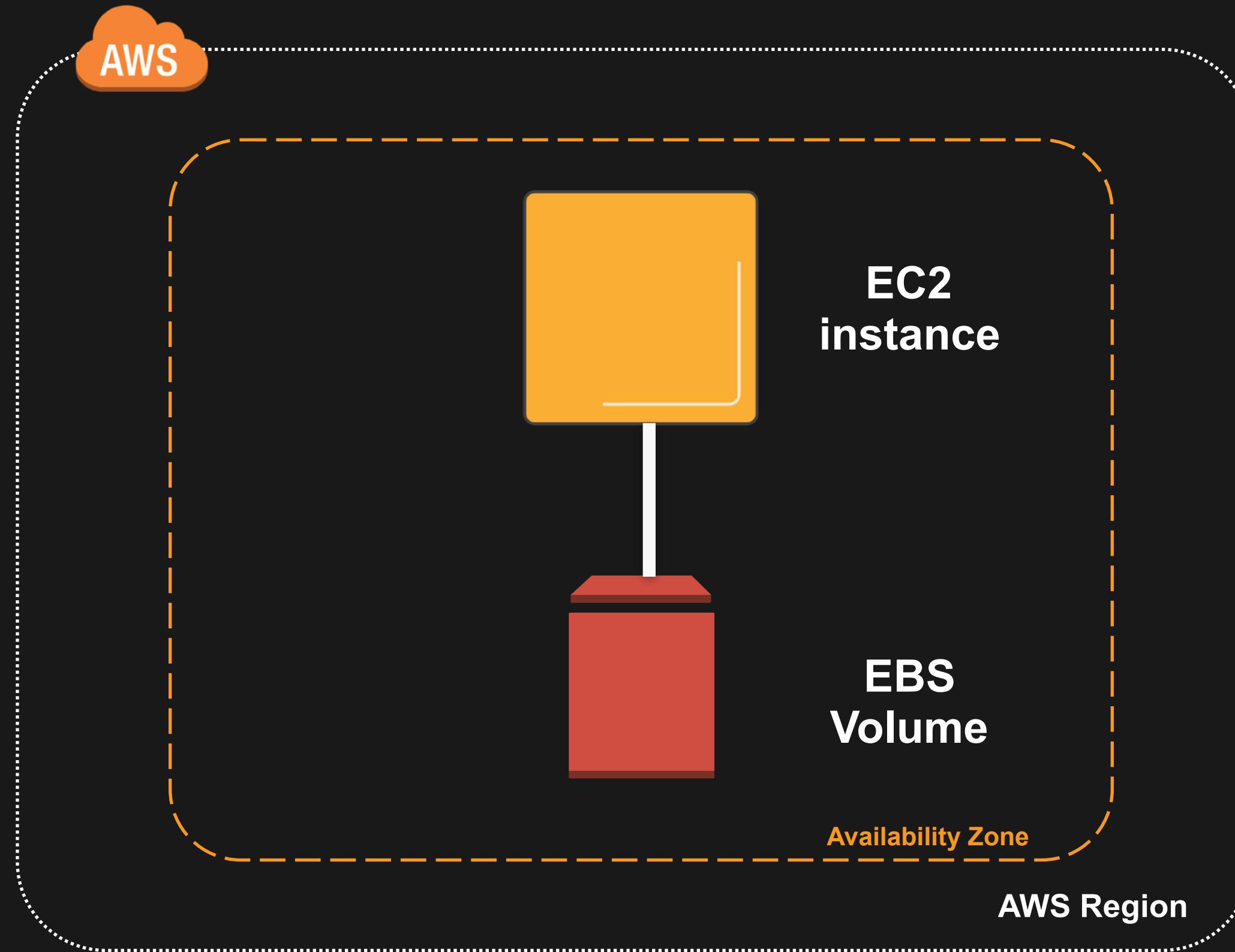
EBS deep dive

Performance

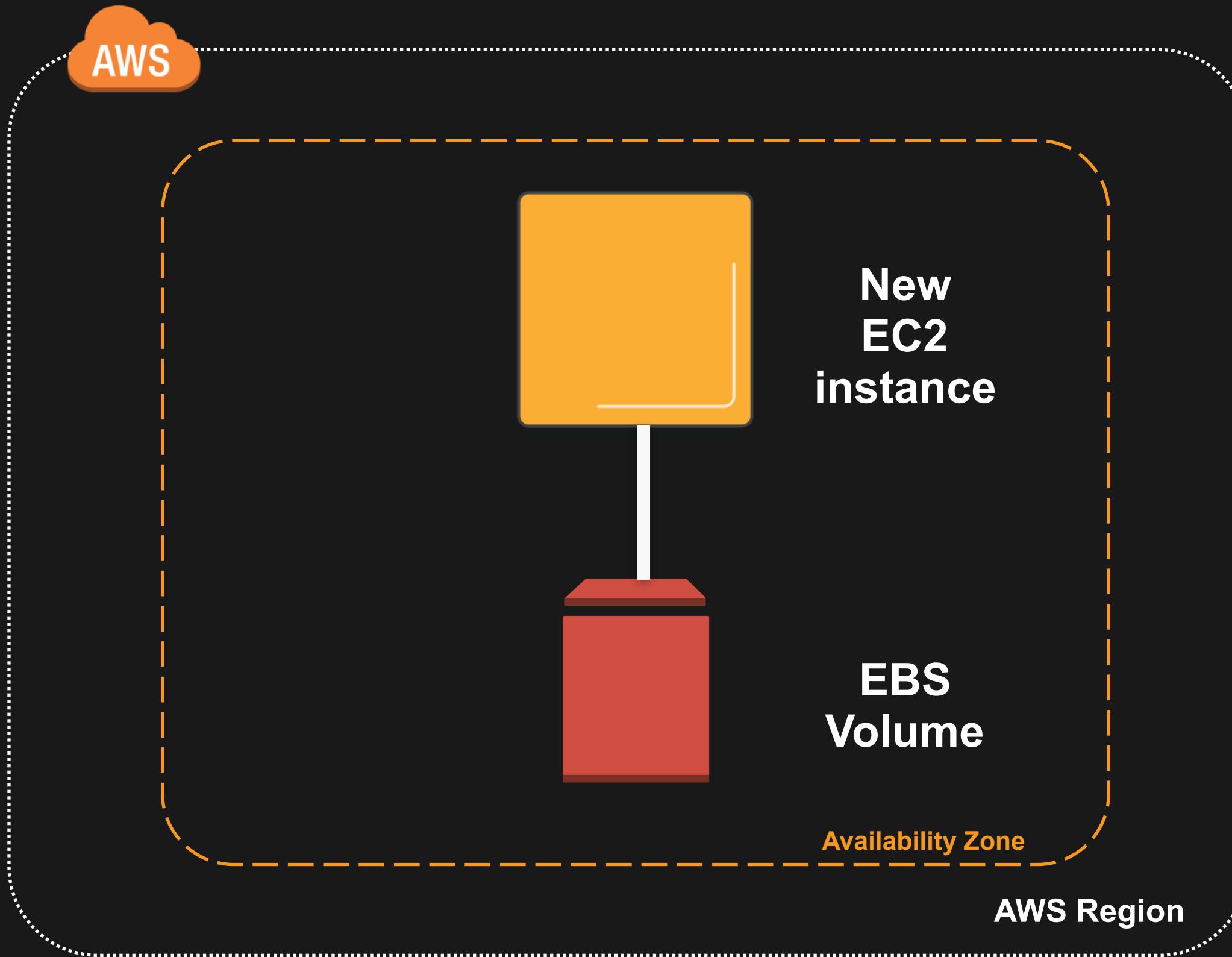
Reliability



What about EC2 instance failure?



What about EC2 instance failure?



EBS enables EC2 auto recovery



Amazon CloudWatch
per-instance metric alarm:

StatusCheckFailed_System

When alarm triggers?
RECOVER Instance

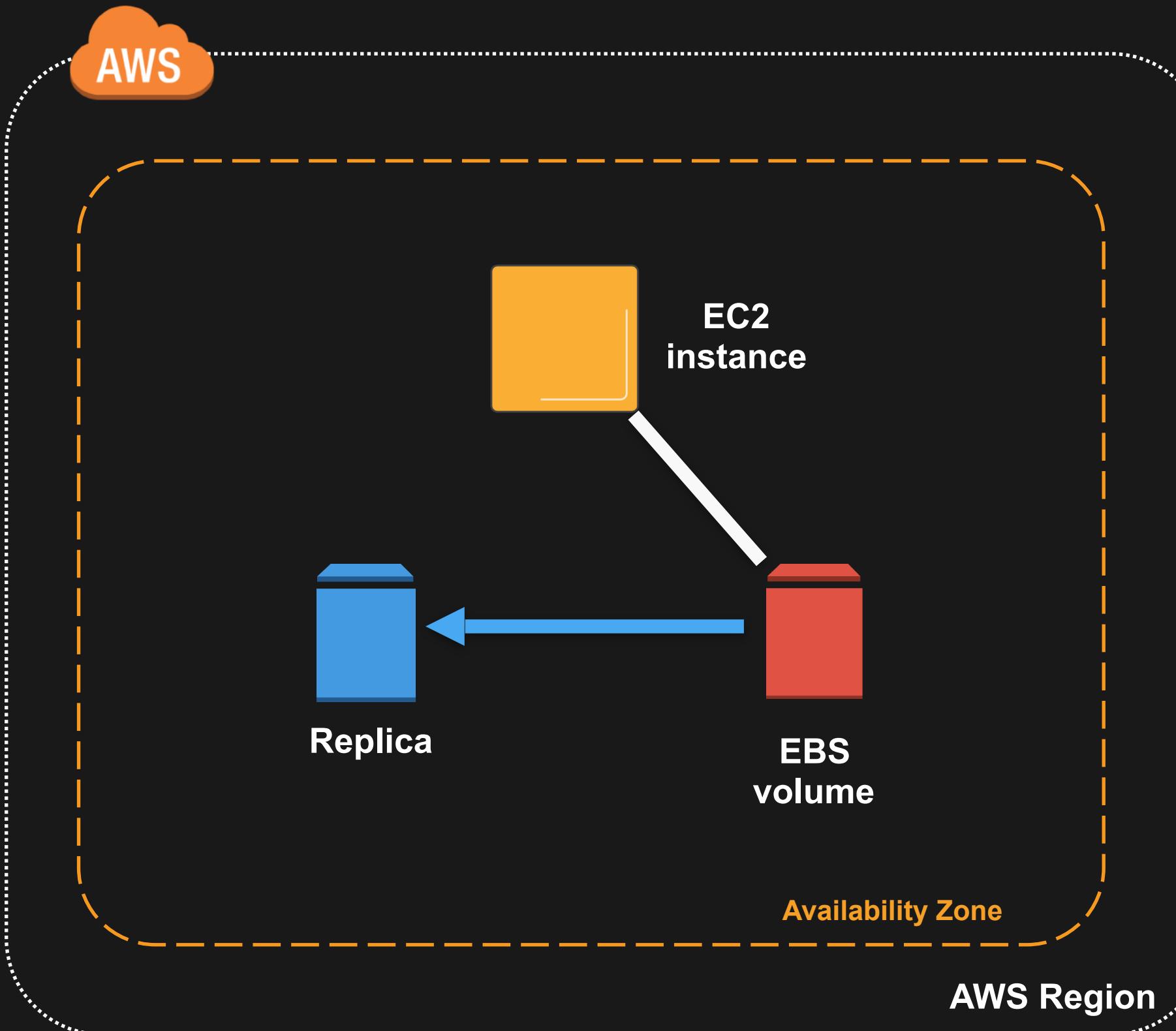


Instance retains:

- ✓ Instance ID
- ✓ Instance metadata
- ✓ Private IP addresses
- ✓ Elastic IP addresses
- ✓ EBS volume attachments

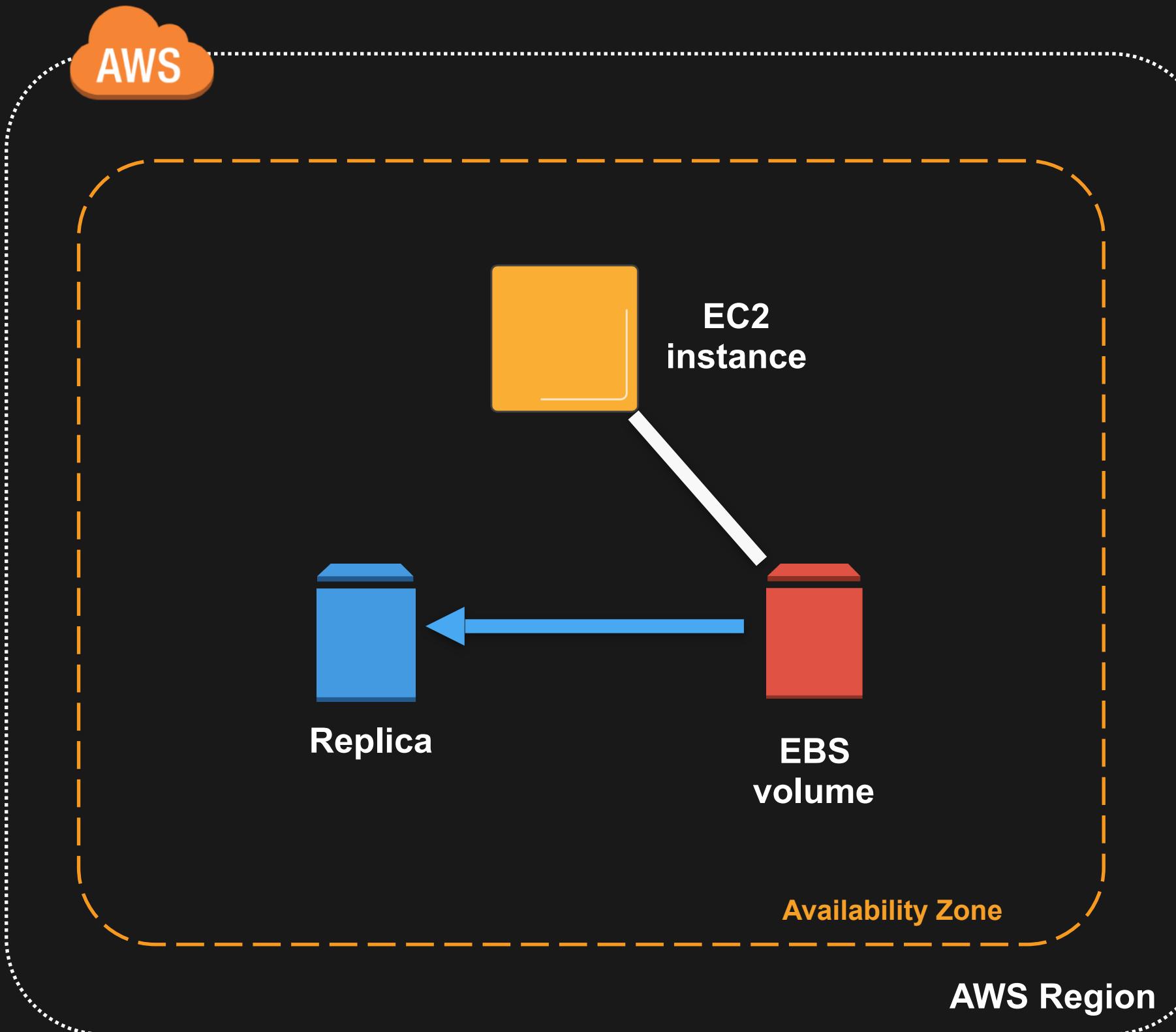
* Supported on C3, C4, M3, M4, P2, R3, R4, T2, and X1 instance types with EBS-only storage

What about EC2 instance termination?



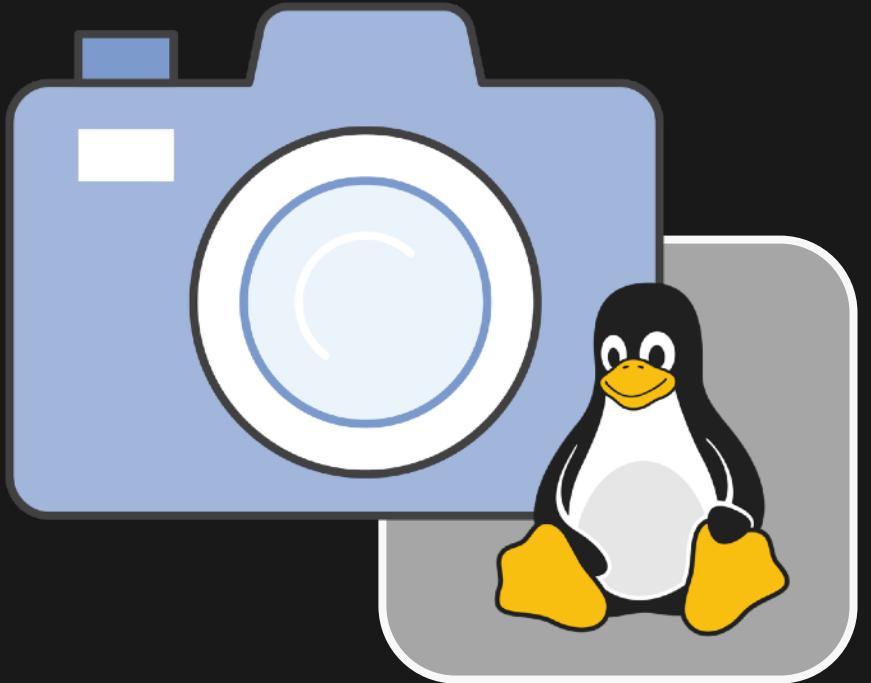
`DeleteOnTermination = False`

What about EC2 instance termination?



`DeleteOnTermination = True`

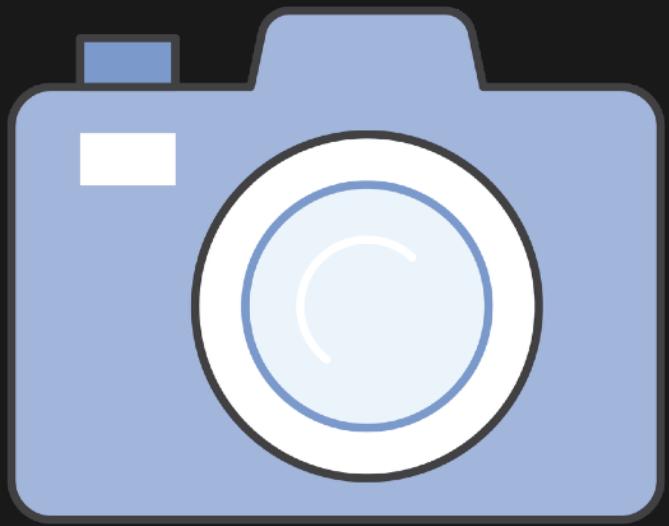
Best practice: taking snapshots from Linux



Quiesce I/O

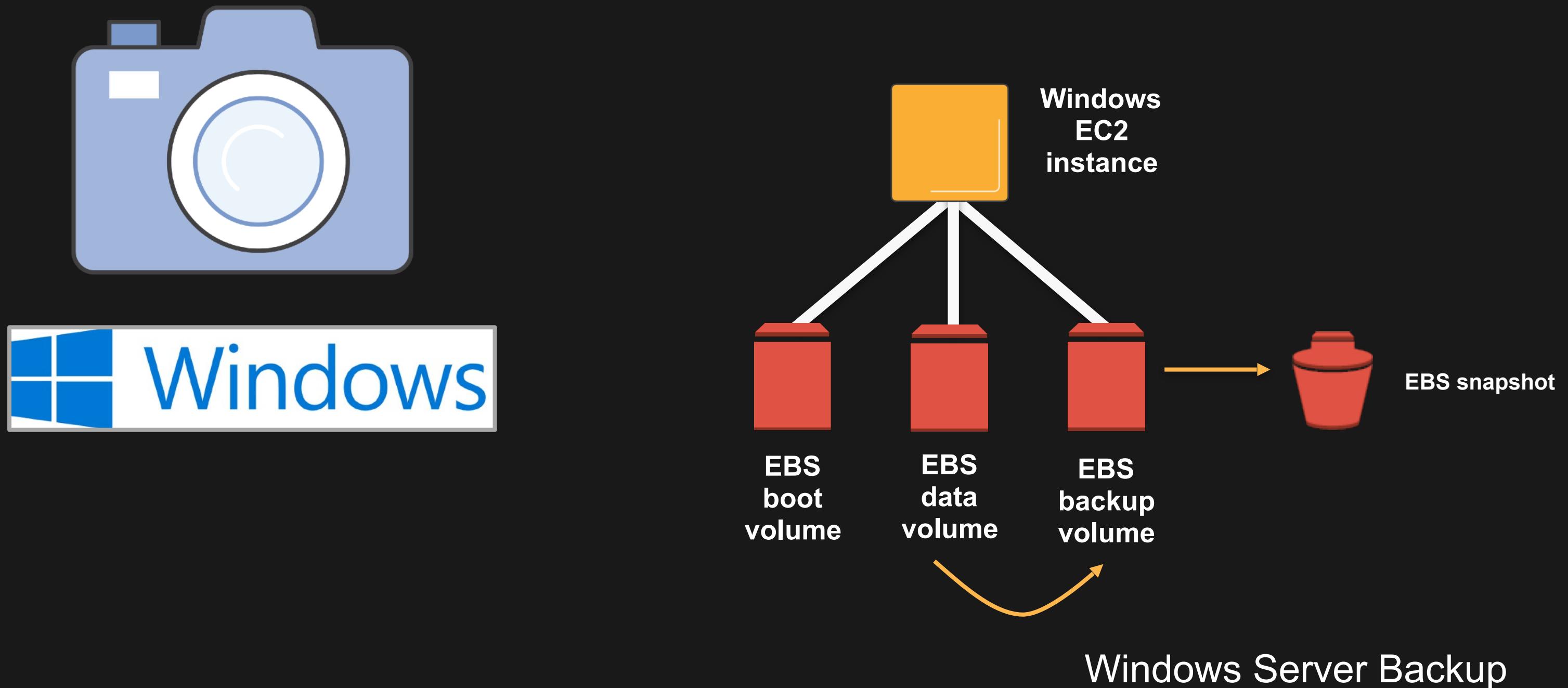
1. Database: FLUSH and LOCK tables
2. File system: sync and fsfreeze
3. EBS: snapshot all volumes
4. When CreateSnapshot API returns success, it is safe to resume

Best practice: taking snapshots from Windows

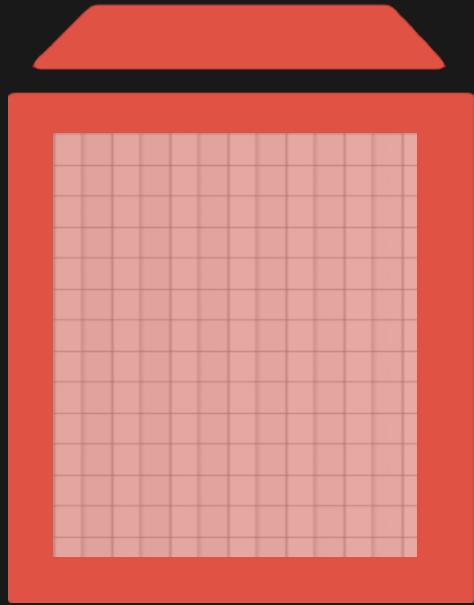


1. sync equivalent available
2. Use Volume Shadow Copy Service-(VSS) aware utilities for backups
3. EBS: backups on dedicated volume for snapshots

Best practice: taking snapshots from Windows

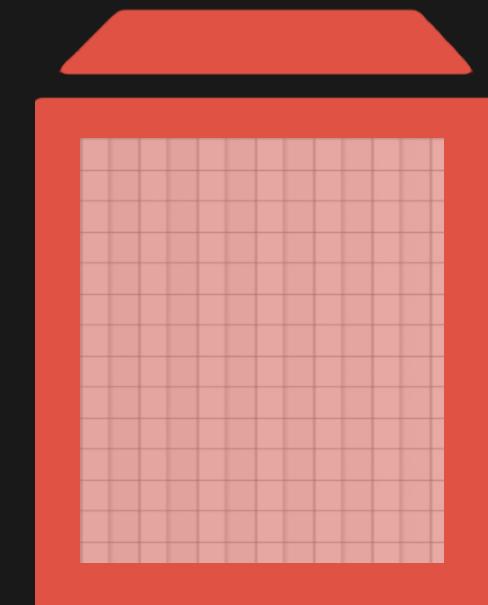


EBS volume initialization



New EBS volume?

- Attach and it's ready to go



New EBS volume from snapshot?

- Initialize for best performance
- Random read across volume

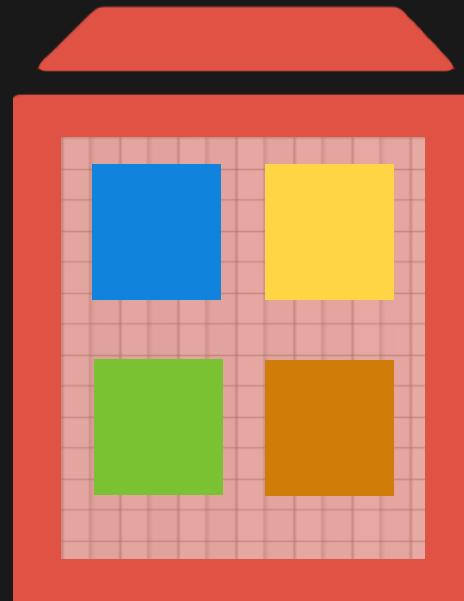


<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/ebs-initialize.html>

Best practice: EBS volume initialization

Fio-based example:

```
$ sudo yum install -y fio  
$ sudo fio --filename=/dev/xvdf --rw=randread --bs=128k --iodepth=32  
--ioengine=libaio --direct=1 --name=volume-initialize
```



<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/ebs-initialize.html>

Best practice: automate snapshots

Key ingredients:



AWS Lambda



Amazon EC2
Run command



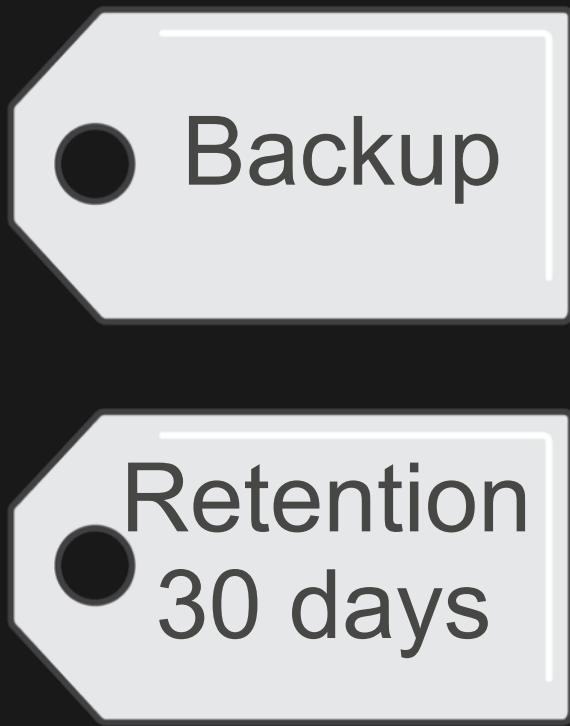
Tagging

<https://aws.amazon.com/ec2/run-command/>

Best practice: automate snapshots

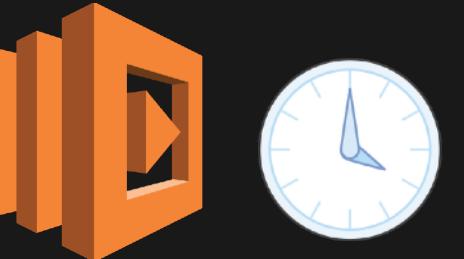
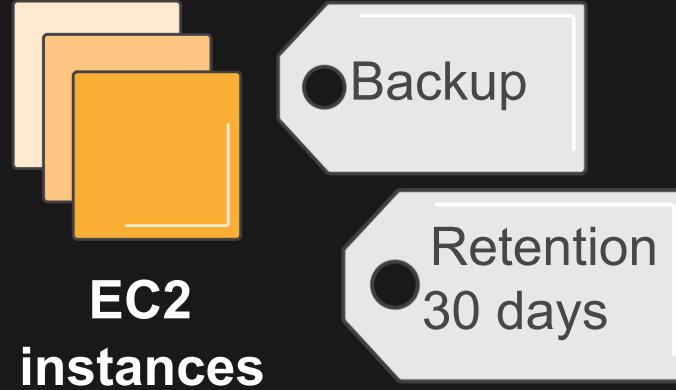


EC2 instances



Tagging

Best practice: automate snapshots



Search for instances
tagged “Backup”



EC2 Run commands to
quiesce file system

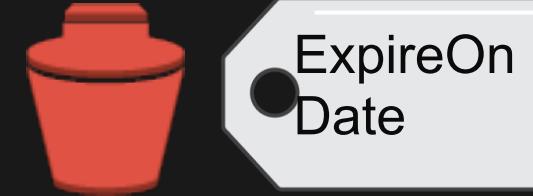


Snapshot attached
volumes

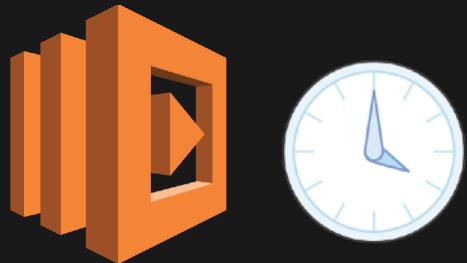


Tag snapshots with
expire date

Best practice: automate snapshot expiration



EBS
snapshots



Lambda
scheduled event:
daily expire



Search for snapshots
tagged to “Expire On”
today



Delete expired snapshots

Prototype for EBS Snapshot Custodian:

<https://github.com/dR0ski/lambda-ebs-snapshot-custodian>

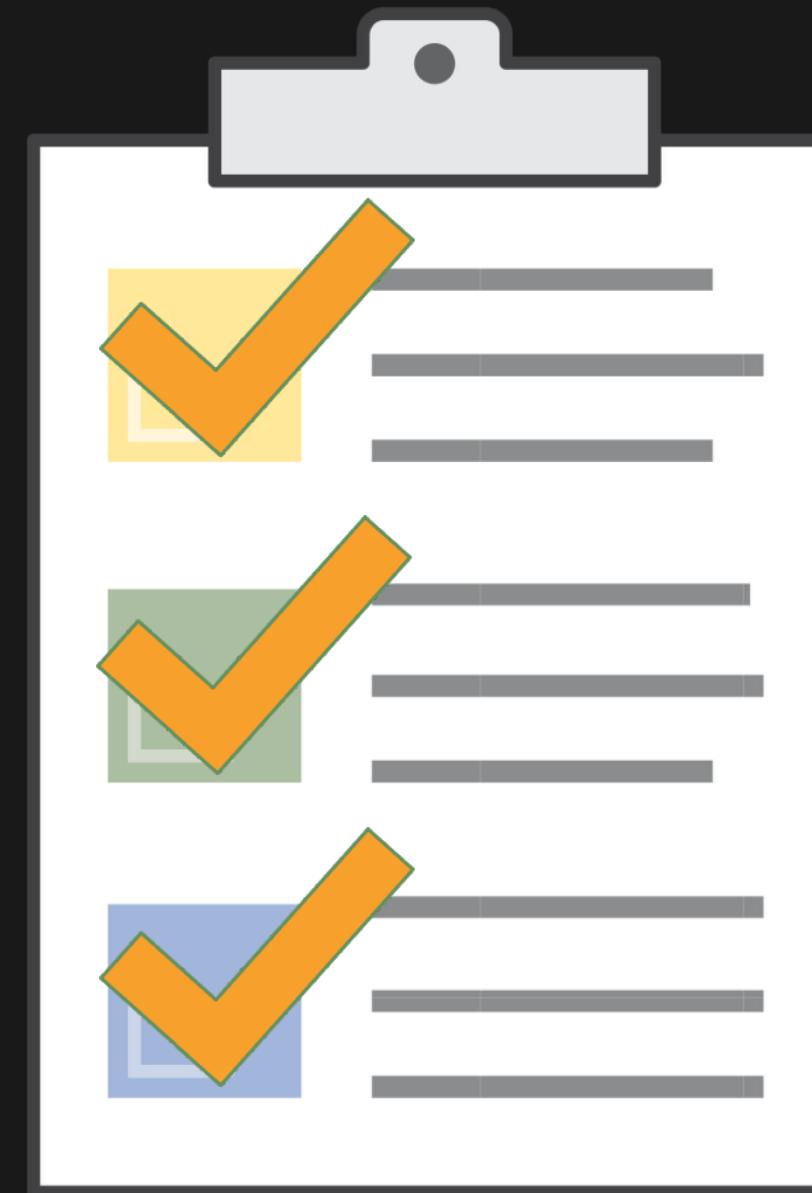


EBS best practices

Performance

Reliability

Security



Best practice: encryption



EBS encryption: data volumes

Create Volume

Volume Type: Throughput Optimized HDD (ST1)

Size (GiB): 500 (Min: 500 GiB, Max: 16384 GiB)

IOPS: Not Applicable

Throughput: 20/123 (Baseline of 40 MB/sec per TiB up to 500 MB/sec)

Availability Zone: us-west-2a

Snapshot ID: Search (case-insensitive)

Encryption: Encrypt this volume

Master Key: (default) aws/ebs

Key Details

Description: Default master key that protects my EBS volumes when no other key is defined

Account: This account (redacted)

KMS Key ID: redacted

KMS Key ARN: arn:aws:kms:us-west-2:redacted:key/redacted

Cancel **Create**

Best practice: encryption

The diagram illustrates the process of creating an AWS KMS master key for EBS. On the left, the AWS IAM service dashboard is shown with a sidebar containing options like Dashboard, Groups, Users, Roles, Policies, Identity providers, Account settings, and Credential report. The 'Encryption keys' option is highlighted with an orange border. A large orange arrow points from a stylized key icon to the 'Create Alias and Description' form on the right. This form prompts the user to provide an alias and a description for the key. The 'Alias (required)' field contains 'ebs-master', and the 'Description' field contains 'Master EBS Encryption Key'. A note at the top of the form states: 'Provide an alias and a description for this key. These properties of the key can be changed later.' followed by a link 'Learn more'.

Create a new AWS KMS master key for EBS

Create Alias and Description

Provide an alias and a description for this key. These properties of the key can be changed later. [Learn more](#).

Alias (required)

Description

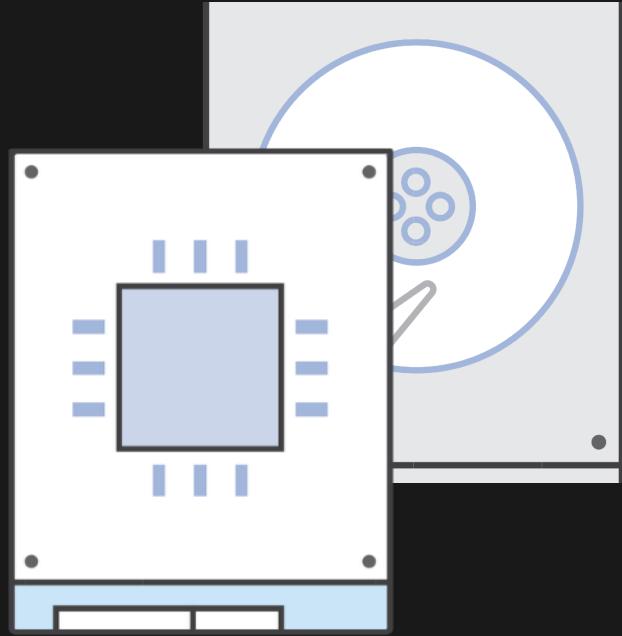
- Define key rotation policy
- Enable AWS CloudTrail auditing
- Control who can use key
- Control who can administer key

Best practice: encryption

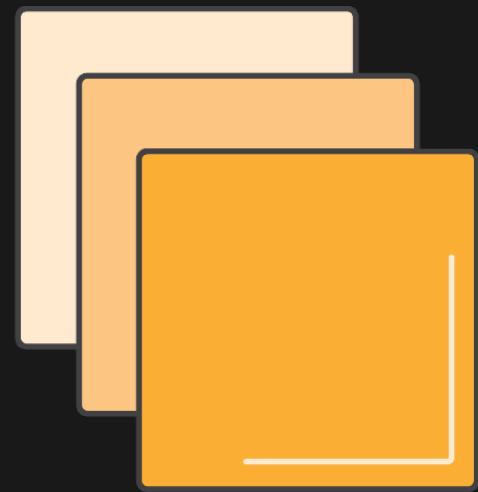


EBS encryption: data volumes

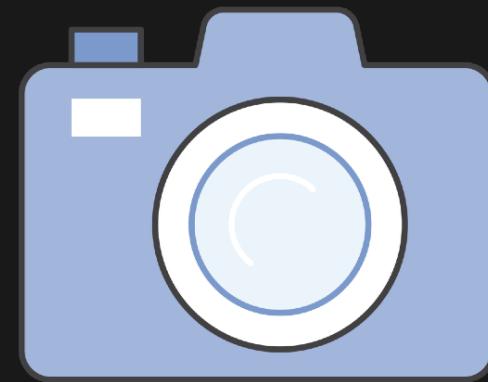
Summary



Select the right volume for your workload



Select the right instance for your workload



Take snapshots, tag snapshots



Use encryption if you need it

AWS

S U M M I T

Thank You

