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- Best of luck for the exam and happy learning!

AWS Certified Solutions Architect Associate Course SAA-C01

Welcome! We're starting in 5 minutes



- We're going to prepare for the Solutions Architect exam - SAA-C01
- It's a challenging certification, so this course will be long and interesting
- Basic IT knowledge is necessary
- This course contains videos...
 - From the Developer and SysOps course - shared knowledge
 - Specific to the Solutions Architect exam - exciting ones on architecture!
- We will cover over 30 AWS services
- AWS / IT Beginners welcome! (but take your time, it's not a race)

My certification: 98.2%

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate

Notice of Exam Results

Candidate: Stephane Maarek	Exam Date: January 30, 2019
Candidate ID: AWS00614912	Registration Number: 513425
Candidate Score: 982	Pass/Fail: PASS

About me

- I'm Stephane!
- Working as an IT consultant and AWS Solutions Architect, Developer & SysOps
- Worked with AWS many years: built websites, apps, streaming platforms
- Veteran Instructor on AWS (Certifications, CloudFormation, Lambda, EC2...)
- You can find me on
 - GitHub: <https://github.com/simplesteph>
 - LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/stephanemaarek>
 - Medium: <https://medium.com/@stephane.maarek>
 - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/stephanemaarek>



 4.6 Instructor Rating
 18,852 Reviews
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 19 Courses

What's AWS?



- AWS (Amazon Web Services) is a Cloud Provider
- They provide you with servers and services that you can use on demand and scale easily

- AWS has revolutionized IT over time
- AWS powers some of the biggest websites in the world
 - Amazon.com
 - Netflix

What we'll learn in this course (and more!)



Amazon EC2



Amazon ECR



Amazon ECS



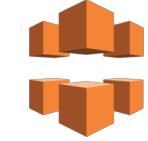
AWS Elastic
Beanstalk



AWS
Lambda



Elastic Load
Balancing



Amazon
CloudFront



Amazon
Kinesis



Amazon
Route 53



Amazon
S3



Amazon
RDS



Amazon
DynamoDB



Amazon
DynamoDB
Accelerator



Amazon
ElastiCache



Amazon
SQS



Amazon
SNS



AWS Step Functions



Amazon
SWF



Amazon API
Gateway



Amazon
SES



Amazon
Cognito



IAM



Amazon
CloudWatch



Amazon EC2
Systems Manager



AWS
CloudFormation



AWS
CloudTrail



AWS
CodeCommit



AWS
CodeBuild



AWS
CodeDeploy



AWS
CodePipeline



AWS KMS

Navigating the AWS spaghetti bowl



Udemy Tips

AWS Fundamentals – Part I

Regions, IAM & EC2

AWS Regions

- AWS has regions all around the world (us-east-1)
- Each region has availability zones (us-east-1a, us-east-1b...)
- Each availability zone is a physical data center in the region, but separate from the other ones (so that they're isolated from disasters)
- AWS Consoles are region scoped (except IAM, S3 & Route53)

AWS Region
(Sydney: ap-southeast-2)

ap-southeast-2a

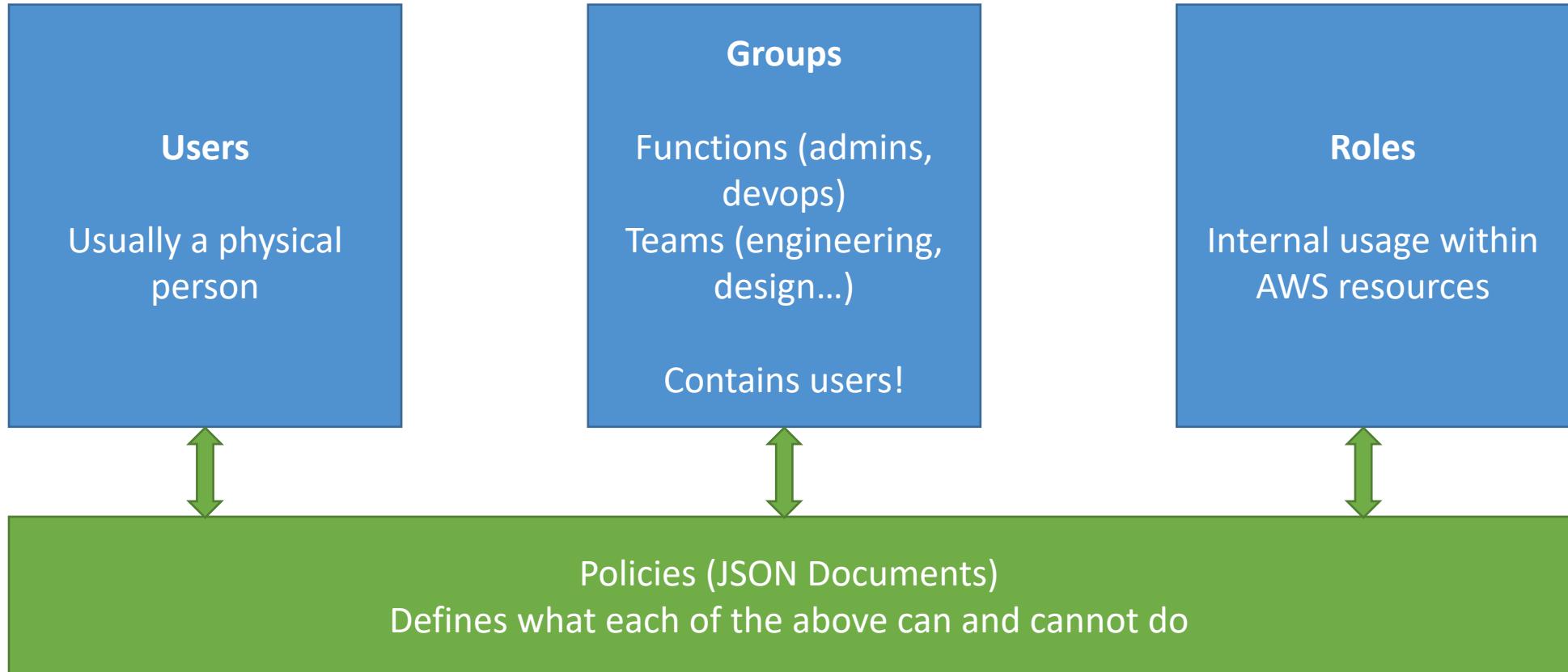
ap-southeast-2b

ap-southeast-2c

IAM Introduction

- IAM (Identity and Access Management)
- Your whole AWS security is there:
 - Users
 - Groups
 - Roles
- Root account should never be used (and shared)
- Users must be created with proper permissions
- IAM is at the center of AWS
- Policies are written in JSON (JavaScript Object Notation)

IAM Introduction



IAM Introduction

- IAM has a **global** view
- Permissions are governed by Policies (JSON)
- MFA (Multi Factor Authentication) can be setup
- IAM has predefined “managed policies”
- We’ll see IAM policies in details in the future
- It’s best to give users the minimal amount of permissions they need to perform their job (least privilege principles)

IAM Federation

- Big enterprises usually integrate their own repository of users with IAM
- This way, one can login into AWS using their company credentials
- Identity Federation uses the SAML standard (Active Directory)

IAM 101 Brain Dump

- One IAM User per PHYSICAL PERSON
- One IAM Role per Application
- IAM credentials should NEVER BE SHARED
- Never, ever, ever, ever, write IAM credentials in code. EVER.
- And even less, NEVER EVER EVER COMMIT YOUR IAM credentials
- Never use the ROOT account except for initial setup.
- Never use ROOT IAM Credentials

What is EC2?

- EC2 is one of most popular of AWS offering
- It mainly consists in the capability of :
 - Renting virtual machines (EC2)
 - Storing data on virtual drives (EBS)
 - Distributing load across machines (ELB)
 - Scaling the services using an auto-scaling group (ASG)
- Knowing EC2 is fundamental to understand how the Cloud works



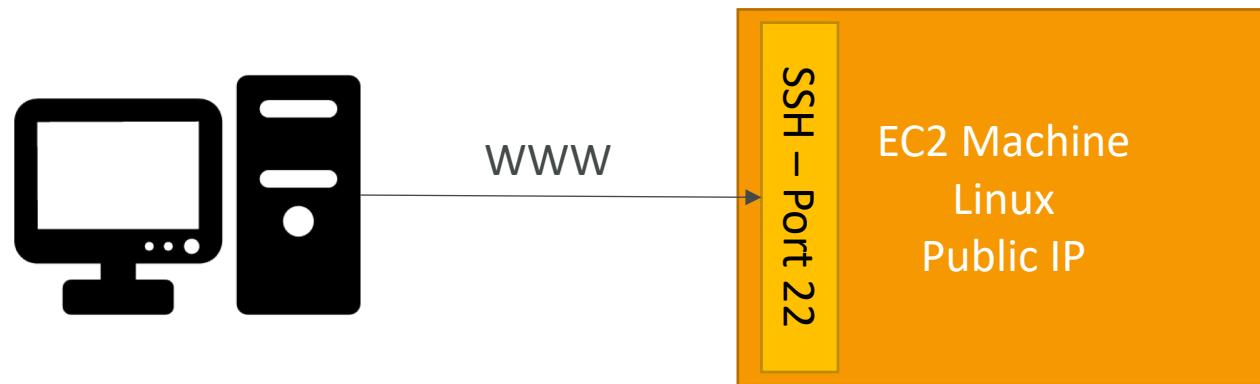
Hands-On: Launching an EC2 Instance running Linux

- We'll be launching our first virtual server using the AWS Console
- We'll get a first high level approach to the various parameters
- We'll learn how to start / stop / terminate our instance.

How to SSH into your EC2 Instance

Linux / Mac OS X

- We'll learn how to SSH into your EC2 instance using Linux / Mac
- SSH is one of the most important function. It allows you to control a remote machine, all using the command line.

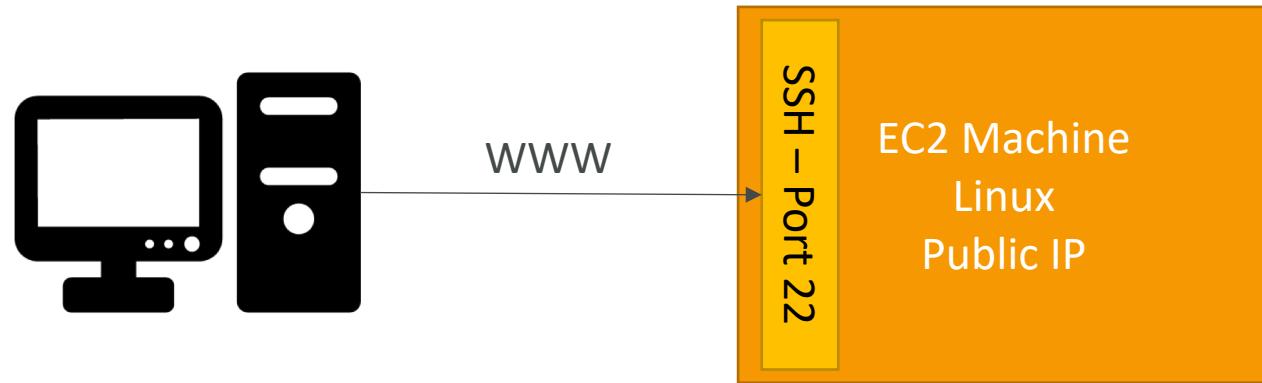


- We will see how we can configure OpenSSH `~/.ssh/config` to facilitate the SSH into our EC2 instances

How to SSH into your EC2 Instance

Windows

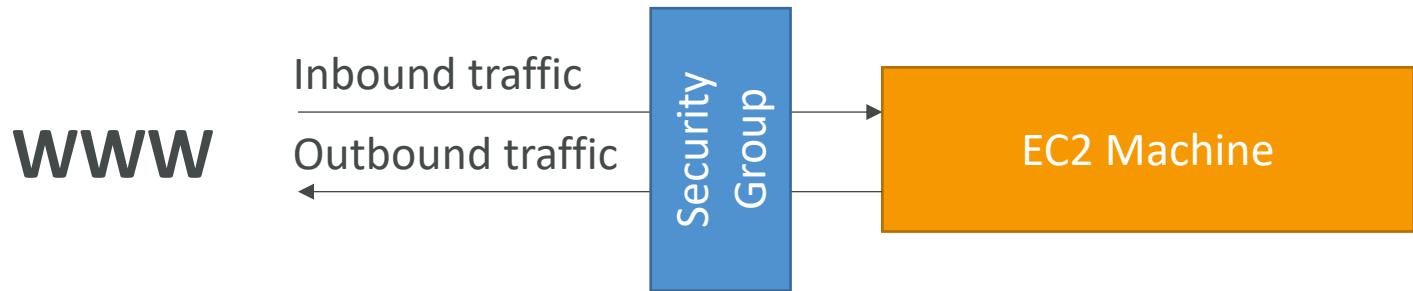
- We'll learn how to SSH into your EC2 instance using [Windows](#)
- SSH is one of the most important function. It allows you to control a remote machine, all using the command line.



- We will configure all the required parameters necessary for doing SSH on Windows using the free tool [Putty](#).

Introduction to Security Groups

- Security Groups are the fundamental of network security in AWS
- They control how traffic is allowed into or out of our EC2 Machines.



- It is the most fundamental skill to learn to troubleshoot networking issues
- In this lecture, we'll learn how to use them to **allow**, **inbound** and **outbound** ports

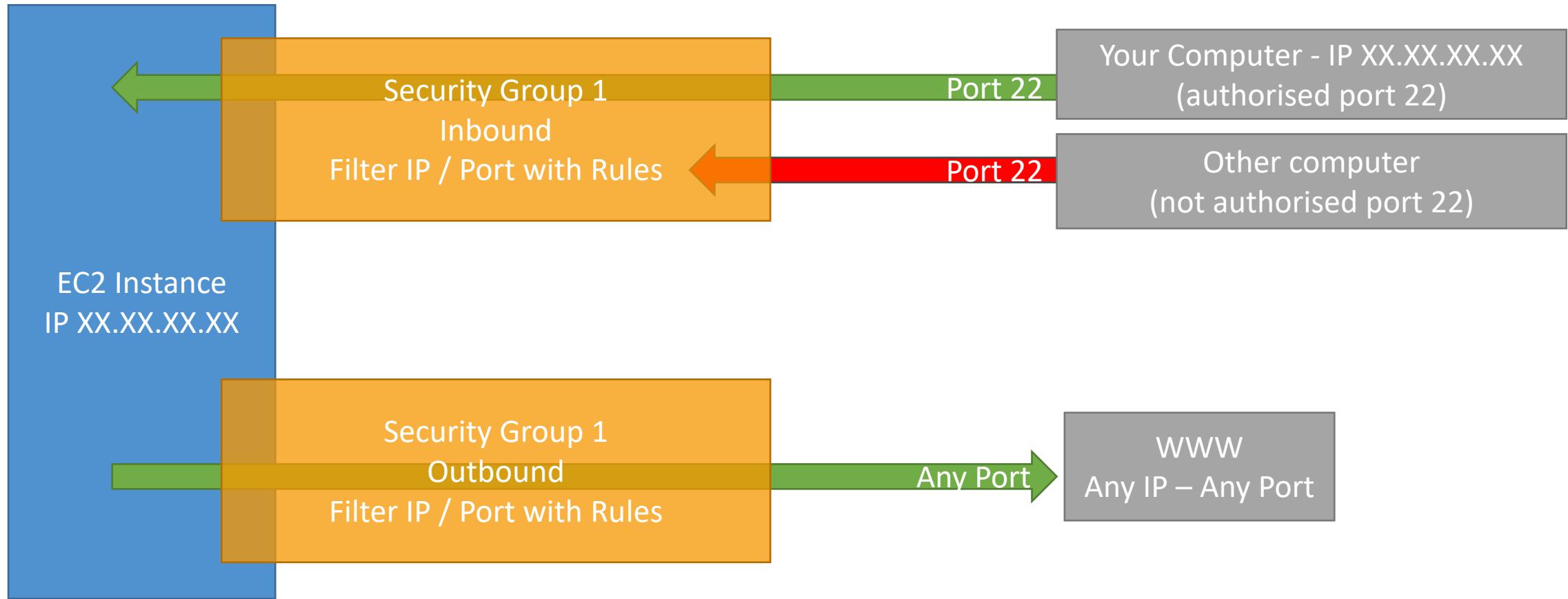
Security Groups

Deeper Dive

- Security groups are acting as a “firewall” on EC2 instances
- They regulate:
 - Access to Ports
 - Authorised IP ranges – IPv4 and IPv6
 - Control of inbound network (from other to the instance)
 - Control of outbound network (from the instance to other)

Type 	Protocol 	Port Range 	Source 	Description 
HTTP	TCP	80	0.0.0.0/0	test http page
SSH	TCP	22	122.149.196.85/32	
Custom TCP Rule	TCP	4567	0.0.0.0/0	java app

Security Groups Diagram



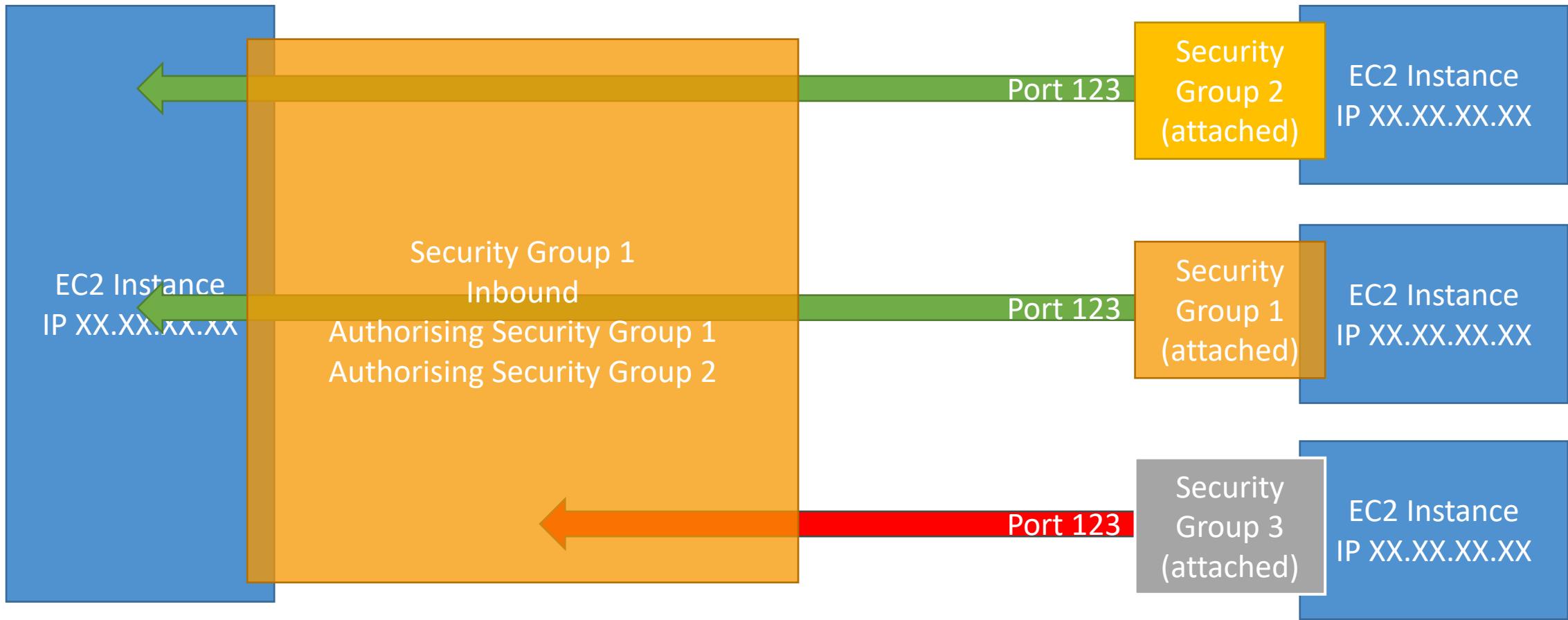
Security Groups

Good to know

- Can be attached to multiple instances
- Locked down to a region / VPC combination
- Does live “outside” the EC2 – if traffic is blocked the EC2 instance won’t see it
- It’s good to maintain one separate security group for SSH access
- If your application is not accessible (time out), then it’s a security group issue
- If your application gives a “connection refused” error, then it’s an application error or it’s not launched
- All inbound traffic is **blocked** by default
- All outbound traffic is **authorised** by default

Referencing other security groups

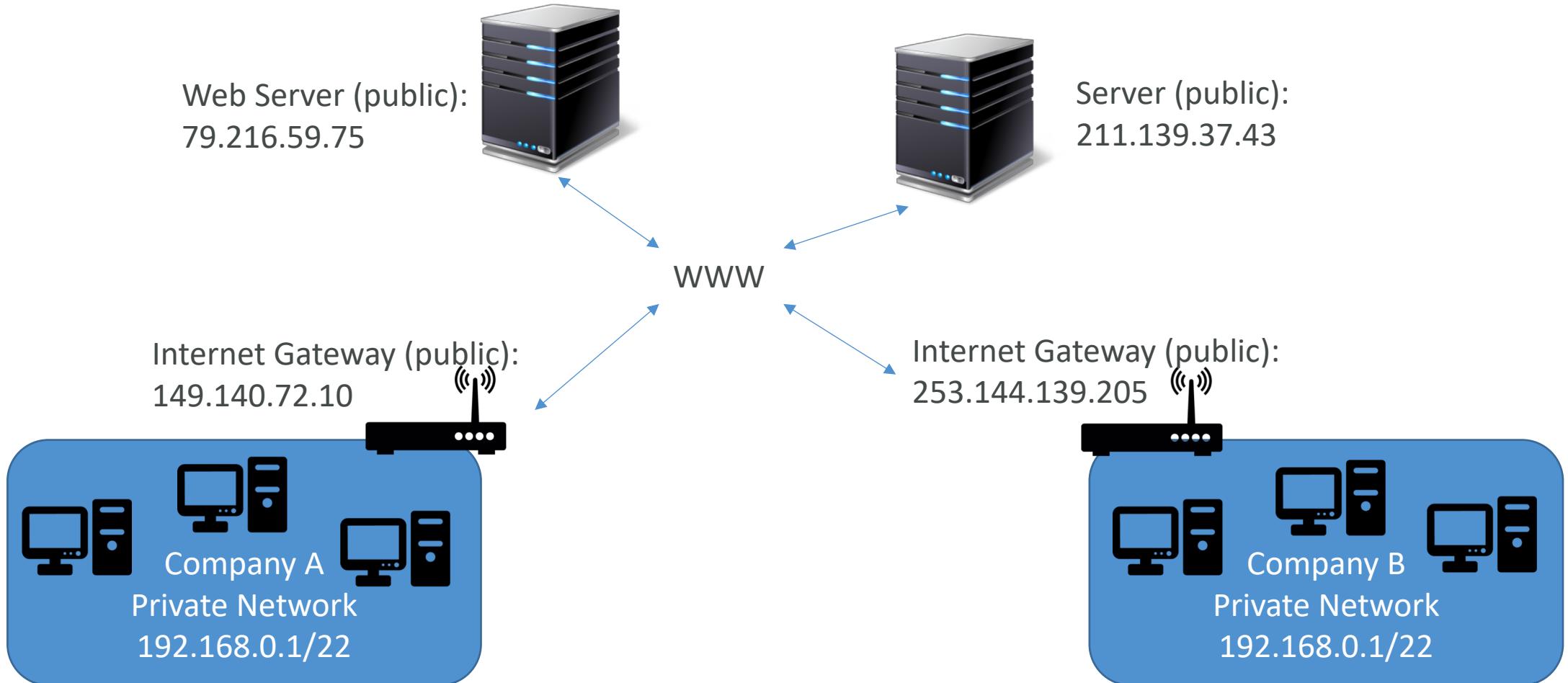
Diagram



Private vs Public IP (IPv4)

- Networking has two sorts of IPs. IPv4 and IPv6:
 - IPv4: **1.160.10.240**
 - IPv6: **3ffe:1900:4545:3:200:f8ff:fe21:67cf**
- In this course, we will only be using IPv4.
- IPv4 is still the most common format used online.
- IPv6 is newer and solves problems for the Internet of Things (IoT).
- IPv4 allows for **3.7 billion** different addresses in the public space
- IPv4: [0-255].[0-255].[0-255].[0-255].

Private vs Public IP (IPv4) Example



Private vs Public IP (IPv4)

Fundamental Differences

- Public IP:
 - Public IP means the machine can be identified on the internet (WWW)
 - Must be unique across the whole web (not two machines can have the same public IP).
 - Can be geo-located easily
- Private IP:
 - Private IP means the machine can only be identified on a private network only
 - The IP must be unique across the private network
 - BUT two different private networks (two companies) can have the same IPs.
 - Machines connect to WWW using an internet gateway (a proxy)
 - Only a specified range of IPs can be used as private IP

Elastic IPs

- When you stop and then start an EC2 instance, it can change its public IP.
- If you need to have a fixed public IP for your instance, you need an Elastic IP
- An Elastic IP is a public IPv4 IP you own as long as you don't delete it
- You can attach it to one instance at a time

Elastic IP

- With an Elastic IP address, you can mask the failure of an instance or software by rapidly remapping the address to another instance in your account.
- You can only have 5 Elastic IP in your account (you can ask AWS to increase that).
- Overall, try to avoid using Elastic IP:
 - They often reflect poor architectural decisions
 - Instead, use a random public IP and register a DNS name to it
 - Or, as we'll see later, use a Load Balancer and don't use a public IP

Private vs Public IP (IPv4)

In AWS EC2 – Hands On

- By default, your EC2 machine comes with:
 - A private IP for the internal AWS Network
 - A public IP for the WWW.
- When we are doing SSH into our EC2 machines:
 - We can't use a private IP, because we are not in the same network
 - We can only use the public IP.
- If your machine is stopped and then started,
the public IP can change

Launching an Apache Server on EC2

- Let's leverage our EC2 instance
- We'll install an Apache Web Server to display a web page
- We'll create an index.html that shows the hostname of our machine

EC2 User Data

- It is possible to bootstrap our instances using an [EC2 User data](#) script.
- [bootstrapping](#) means launching commands when a machine starts
- That script is [only run once](#) at the instance [first start](#)
- EC2 user data is used to automate boot tasks such as:
 - Installing updates
 - Installing software
 - Downloading common files from the internet
 - Anything you can think of
- The EC2 User Data Script runs with the root user

EC2 User Data Hands-On

- We want to make sure that this EC2 instance has an Apache HTTP server installed on it – to display a simple web page
- For it, we are going to write a user-data script.
- This script will be executed at the first boot of the instance.

- Let's get hands on!

EC2 Instance Launch Types

- On Demand Instances: short workload, predictable pricing
- Reserved Instances: long workloads (≥ 1 year)
- Convertible Reserved Instances: long workloads with flexible instances
- Scheduled Reserved Instances: launch within time window you reserve
- Spot Instances: short workloads, for cheap, can lose instances
- Dedicated Instances: no other customers will share your hardware
- Dedicated Hosts: book an entire physical server, control instance placement

EC2 On Demand

- Pay for what you use (billing per second, after the first minute)
 - Has the highest cost but no upfront payment
 - No long term commitment
-
- Recommended for short-term and un-interrupted workloads, where you can't predict how the application will behave.

EC2 Reserved Instances

- Up to 75% discount compared to On-demand
- Pay upfront for what you use with long term commitment
- Reservation period can be 1 or 3 years
- Reserve a specific instance type
- Recommended for steady state usage applications (think database)
- **Convertible Reserved Instance**
 - can change the EC2 instance type
 - Up to 54% discount
- **Scheduled Reserved Instances**
 - launch within time window you reserve
 - When you require a fraction of day / week / month

EC2 Spot Instances

- Can get a discount of up to 90% compared to On-demand
- You bid a price and get the instance as long as its under the price
- Price varies based on offer and demand
- Spot instances are reclaimed with a 2 minute notification warning when the spot price goes above your bid
- Used for batch jobs, Big Data analysis, or workloads that are resilient to failures.
- Not great for critical jobs or databases

EC2 Dedicated Hosts

- Physical dedicated EC2 server for your use
 - Full control of EC2 Instance placement
 - Visibility into the underlying sockets / physical cores of the hardware
 - Allocated for your account for a 3 year period reservation
 - More expensive
-
- Useful for software that have complicated licensing model (BYOL – Bring Your Own License)
 - Or for companies that have strong regulatory or compliance needs

EC2 Dedicated Instances

- Instances running on hardware that's dedicated to you
- May share hardware with other instances in same account
- No control over instance placement (can move hardware after Stop / Start)

Characteristic	Dedicated Instances	Dedicated Hosts
Enables the use of dedicated physical servers	x	x
Per instance billing (subject to a \$2 per region fee)	x	
Per host billing		x
Visibility of sockets, cores, host ID		x
Affinity between a host and instance		x
Targeted instance placement		x
Automatic instance placement	x	x
Add capacity using an allocation request		x

Which host is right for me?



- **On demand:** coming and staying in resort whenever we like, we pay the full price
- **Reserved:** like planning ahead and if we plan to stay for a long time, we may get a good discount.
- **Spot instances:** the hotel allows people to bid for the empty rooms and the highest bidder keeps the rooms. You can get kicked out at any time
- **Dedicated Hosts:** We book an entire building of the resort

EC2 Instance Types – Main ones

- R: applications that needs a lot of RAM – in-memory caches
- C: applications that needs good CPU – compute / databases
- M: applications that are balanced (think “medium”) – general / web app
- I: applications that need good local I/O (instance storage) – databases
- G: applications that need a GPU – video rendering / machine learning
- T2 / T3: burstable instances (up to a capacity)
- T2 / T3 - unlimited: unlimited burst
- Real-world tip: use <https://www.ec2instances.info>

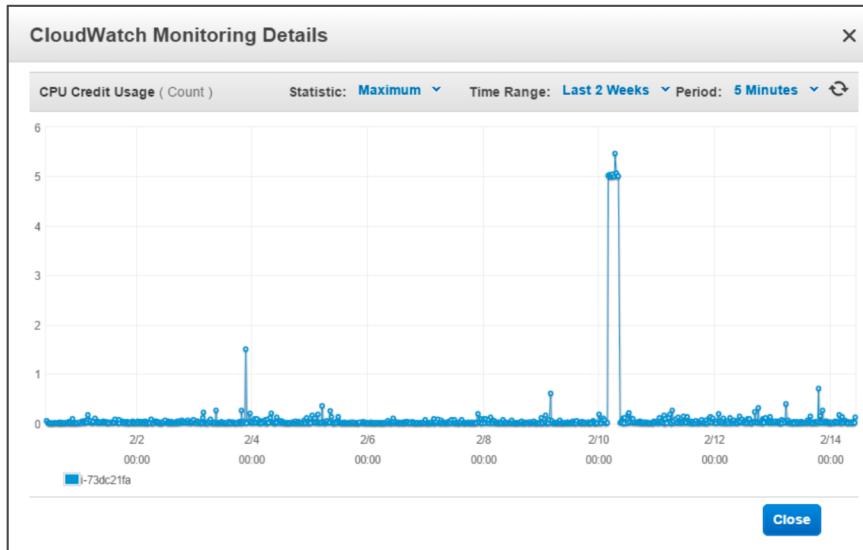
Burstable Instances (T2/T3)

- AWS has the concept of burstable instances (T2/T3 machines)
- Burst means that overall, the instance has OK CPU performance.
- When the machine needs to process something unexpected (a spike in load for example), it can burst, and CPU can be VERY good.
- If the machine bursts, it utilizes “burst credits”
- If all the credits are gone, the CPU becomes BAD
- If the machine stops bursting, credits are accumulated over time

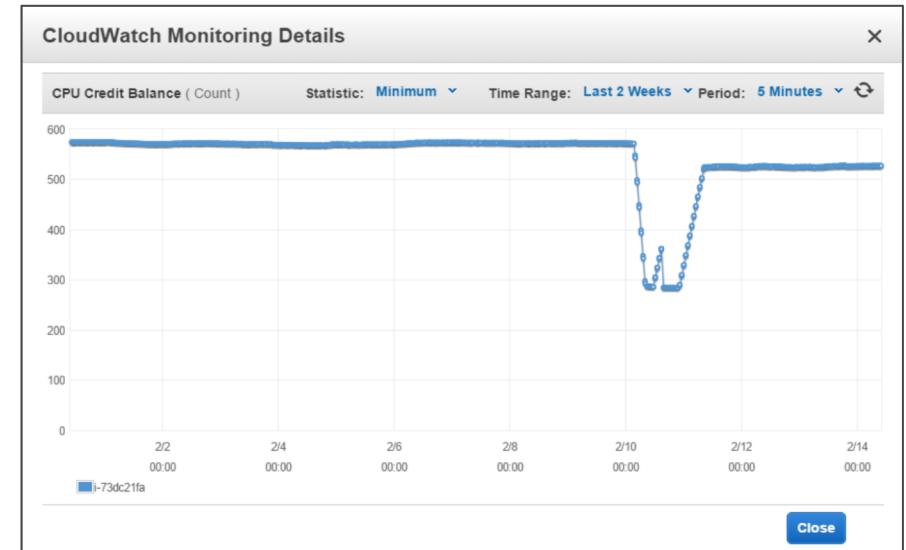
Burstable Instances (T2/T3)

- Burstable instances can be amazing to handle unexpected traffic and getting the insurance that it will be handled correctly
- If your instance consistently runs low on credit, you need to move to a different kind of non-burstable instance

Credit usage



Credit balance



CPU Credits

Instance type	Launch credits	vCPUs	CPU credits earned per hour	Maximum earned CPU credit balance	vCPUs	Baseline performance (% CPU utilization)
t2.nano	30	1	3	72	1	5%
t2.micro	30	1	6	144	1	10%
t2.small	30	1	12	288	1	20%
t2.medium	60	2	24	576	2	40% (of 200% max)*
t2.large	60	2	36	864	2	60% (of 200% max)*
t2.xlarge	120	4	54	1296	4	90% (of 400% max)*
t2.2xlarge	240	8	81	1944	8	135% (of 800% max)*

T2/T3 Unlimited

- Nov 2017: It is possible to have an “unlimited burst credit balance”
- You pay extra money if you go over your credit balance, but you don’t lose in performance
- Overall, it is a new offering, so be careful, costs could go high if you’re not monitoring the health of your instances
- Read more here: <https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/aws/new-t2-unlimited-going-beyond-the-burst-with-high-performance/>

What's an AMI?

- As we saw, AWS comes with base images such as:
 - Ubuntu
 - Fedora
 - RedHat
 - Windows
 - Etc...
- These images can be customised at runtime using EC2 User data
- But what if we could create our own image, ready to go?
- That's an AMI – an image to use to create our instances
- AMIs can be built for Linux or Windows machines

Why would you use a custom AMI?

- Using a custom built AMI can provide the following advantages:
 - Pre-installed packages needed
 - Faster boot time (no need for ec2 user data at boot time)
 - Machine comes configured with monitoring / enterprise software
 - Security concerns – control over the machines in the network
 - Control of maintenance and updates of AMIs over time
 - Active Directory Integration out of the box
 - Installing your app ahead of time (for faster deploys when auto-scaling)
 - Using someone else's AMI that is optimised for running an app, DB, etc...
- AMI are built for a specific AWS region (!)

Using Public AMIs

- You can leverage AMIs from other people
- You can also pay for other people's AMI by the hour
 - These people have optimised the software
 - The machine is easy to run and configure
 - You basically rent "expertise" from the AMI creator
- AMI can be found and published on the Amazon Marketplace
- **Warning:**
 - Do not use an AMI you don't trust!
 - Some AMIs might come with malware or may not be secure for your enterprise

AMI Storage

- Your AMI take space and they live in Amazon S3
- Amazon S3 is a durable, cheap and resilient storage where most of your backups will live (but you won't see them in the S3 console)
- By default, your AMIs are private, and locked for your account / region
- You can also make your AMIs public and share them with other AWS accounts or sell them on the AMI Marketplace

AMI Pricing

- AMIs live in Amazon S3, so you get charged for the actual space it takes in Amazon S3
- Amazon S3 pricing in US-EAST-1:
 - First 50TB / month: \$0.023 per GB
 - Next 450TB / month: \$0.022 per GB
- Overall it is quite inexpensive to store private AMIs.
- Make sure to remove the AMIs you don't use

Cross Account AMI Copy (FAQ + Exam Tip)

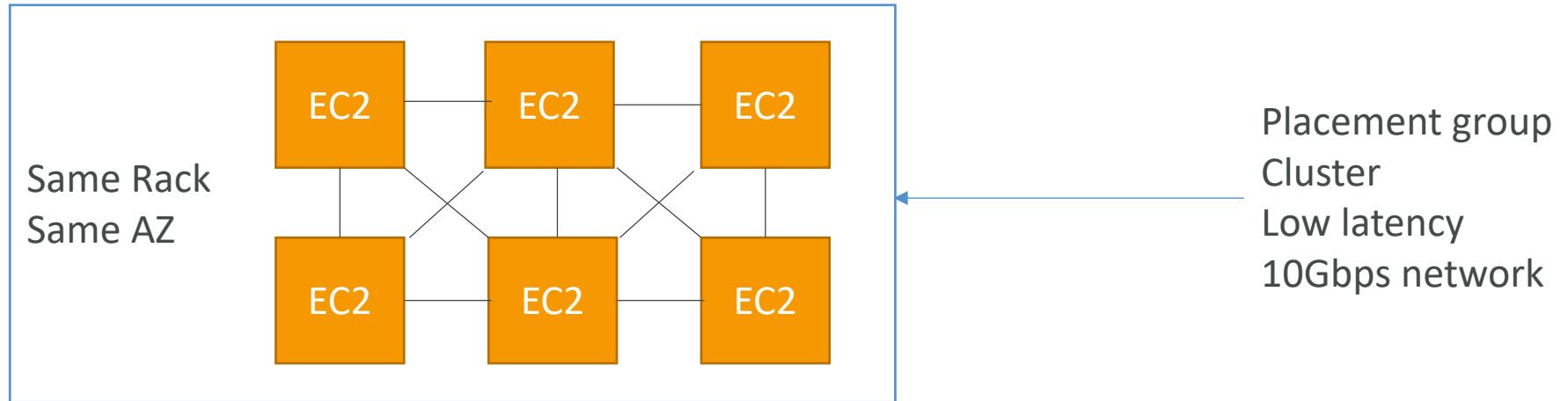
- You can share an AMI with another AWS account.
- Sharing an AMI does not affect the ownership of the AMI.
- If you copy an AMI that has been shared with your account, you are the owner of the target AMI in your account.
- To copy an AMI that was shared with you from another account, the owner of the source AMI must grant you read permissions for the storage that backs the AMI, either the associated EBS snapshot (for an Amazon EBS-backed AMI) or an associated S3 bucket (for an instance store-backed AMI).
- **Limits:**
 - You can't copy an encrypted AMI that was shared with you from another account. Instead, if the underlying snapshot and encryption key were shared with you, you can copy the snapshot while re-encrypting it with a key of your own. You own the copied snapshot, and can register it as a new AMI.
 - You can't copy an AMI with an associated **billingProduct** code that was shared with you from another account. This includes Windows AMIs and AMIs from the AWS Marketplace. To copy a shared AMI with a **billingProduct** code, launch an EC2 instance in your account using the shared AMI and then create an AMI from the instance.

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

Placement Groups

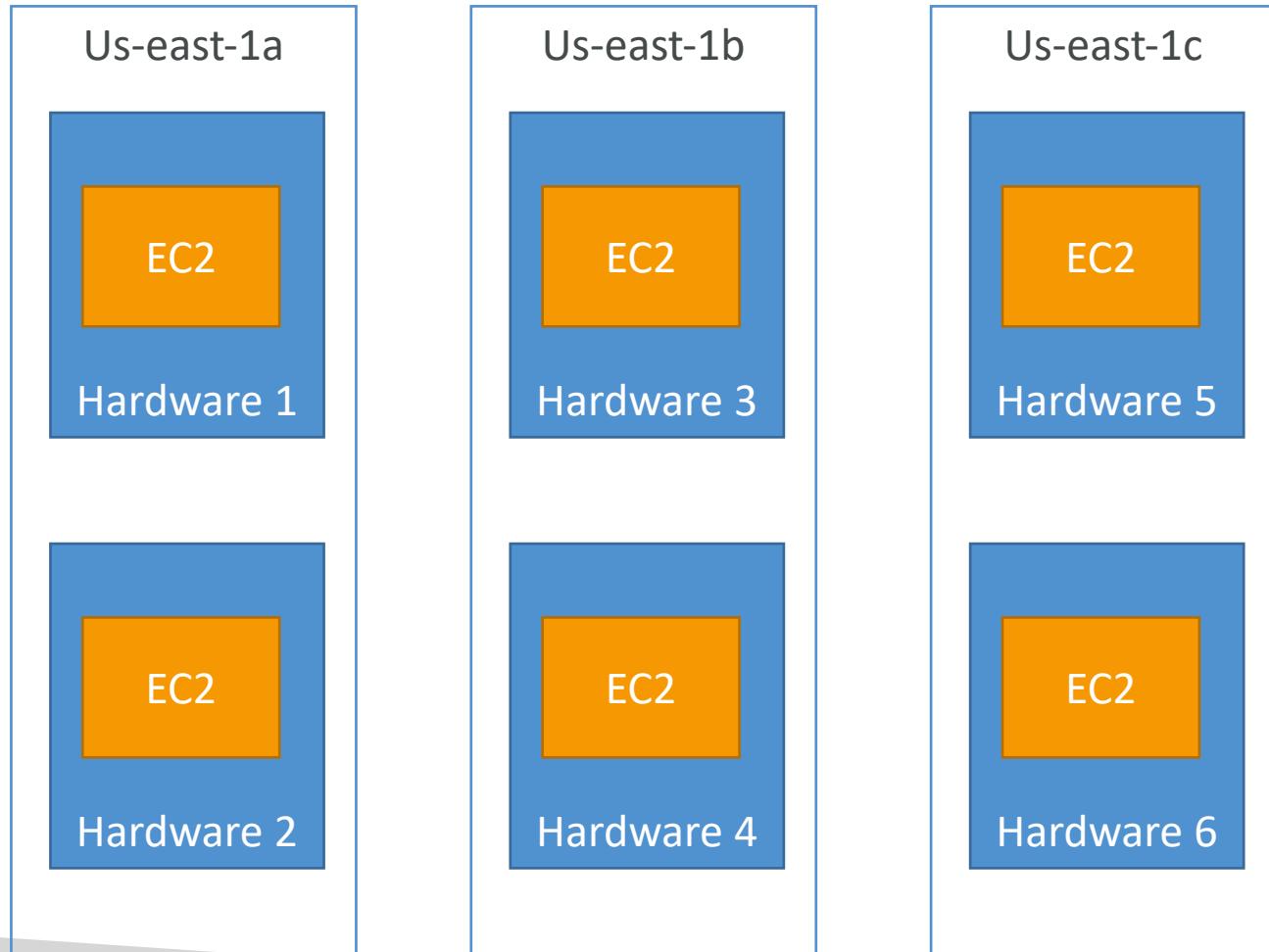
- Sometimes you want control over the EC2 Instance placement strategy
- That strategy can be defined using placement groups
- When you create a placement group, you specify one of the following strategies for the group:
 - *Cluster*—clusters instances into a low-latency group in a single Availability Zone
 - *Spread*—spreads instances across underlying hardware (max 7 instances per AZ)
- Not applicable to t2 instances

Placement Groups Cluster



- Pros: Great network (10 Gbps bandwidth between instances)
- Cons: If the rack fails, all instances fail at the same time
- Use case:
 - Big Data job that needs to complete fast
 - Application that needs extremely low latency and high network throughput

Placement Groups Spread



- Pros:
 - Can span across Availability Zones (AZ)
 - Reduced risk of simultaneous failure
 - EC2 Instances are on different physical hardware
- Cons:
 - Limited to 7 instances per AZ per placement group
- Use case:
 - Application that needs to maximize high availability
 - Cassandra Cluster, Kafka Cluster, Web application that is distributed

EC2 for Solutions Architects



- EC2 instances are billed by the second, t2.micro is free tier
- On Linux / Mac we use SSH, on Windows we use Putty
- SSH is on port 22, lock down the security group to your IP
- Timeout issues => Security groups issues
- Permission issues on the SSH key => run “chmod 0400”
- Security Groups can reference other Security Groups instead of IP ranges (very popular exam question)
- Know the difference between Private, Public and Elastic IP
- You can customize an EC2 instance at boot time using EC2 User Data

EC2 for Solutions Architects

- Know the 4 EC2 launch modes:
 - On demand
 - Reserved
 - Spot instances
 - Dedicated Hosts
- Know the basic instance types: R,C,M,I,G,T2/T3
- You can create AMIs to pre-install software on your EC2 => faster boot
- AMI can be copied across regions and accounts
- EC2 instances can be started in placement groups:
 - Cluster
 - Spread

AWS Fundamentals – Part II

Load Balancing, Auto Scaling Groups and EBS Volumes

Scalability & High Availability

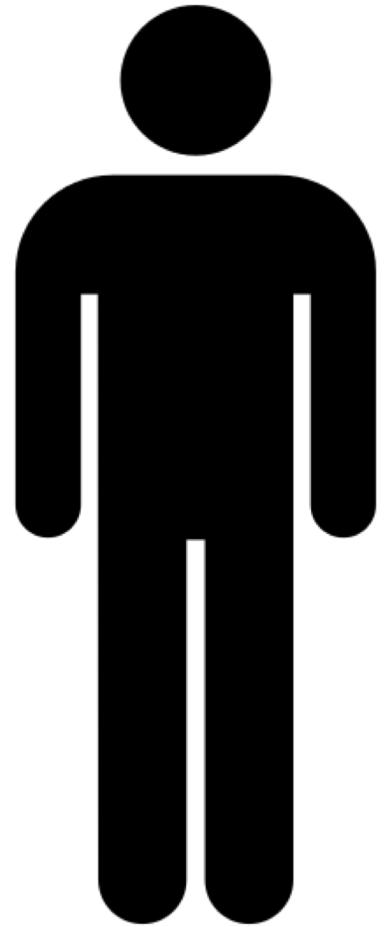
- Scalability means that an application / system can handle greater loads by adapting.
- There are two kinds of scalability:
 - Vertical Scalability
 - Horizontal Scalability (= elasticity)
- Scalability is linked but different to High Availability
- Let's deep dive into the distinction, using a call center as an example

Vertical Scalability

- Vertically scalability means increasing the size of the instance
- For example, your application runs on a t2.micro
- Scaling that application vertically means running it on a t2.large
- Vertical scalability is very common for non distributed systems, such as a database.
- RDS, ElastiCache are services that can scale vertically.
- There's usually a limit to how much you can vertically scale (hardware limit)



junior operator

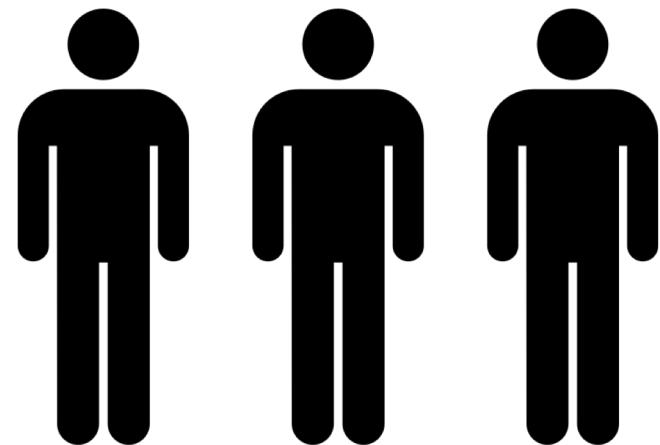
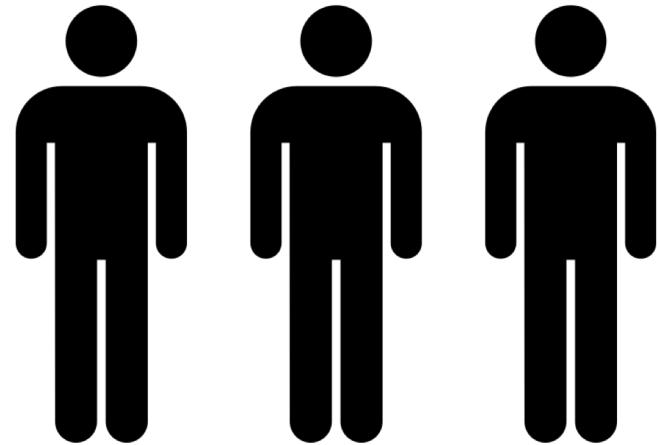


senior operator

Horizontal Scalability

- Horizontal Scalability means increasing the number of instances / systems for your application
- Horizontal scaling implies distributed systems.
- This is very common for web applications / modern applications
- It's easy to horizontally scale thanks the cloud offerings such as Amazon EC2

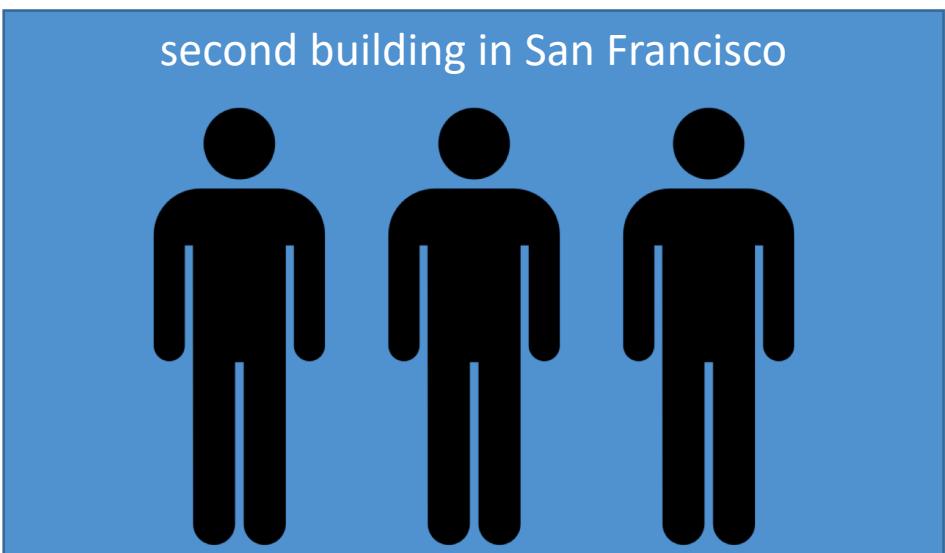
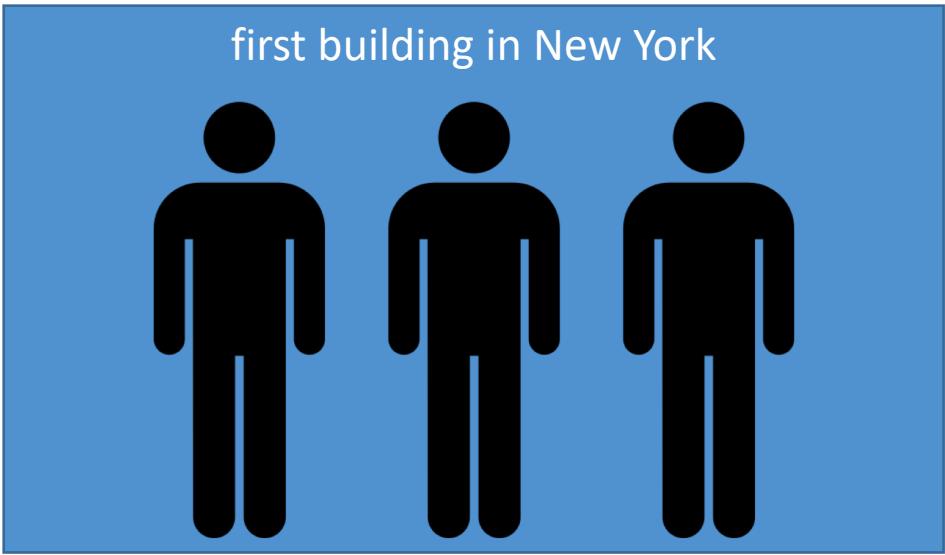
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High Availability

- High Availability usually goes hand in hand with horizontal scaling
- High availability means running your application / system in at least 2 data centers (== Availability Zones)
- The goal of high availability is to survive a data center loss
- The high availability can be passive (for RDS Multi AZ for example)
- The high availability can be active (for horizontal scaling)



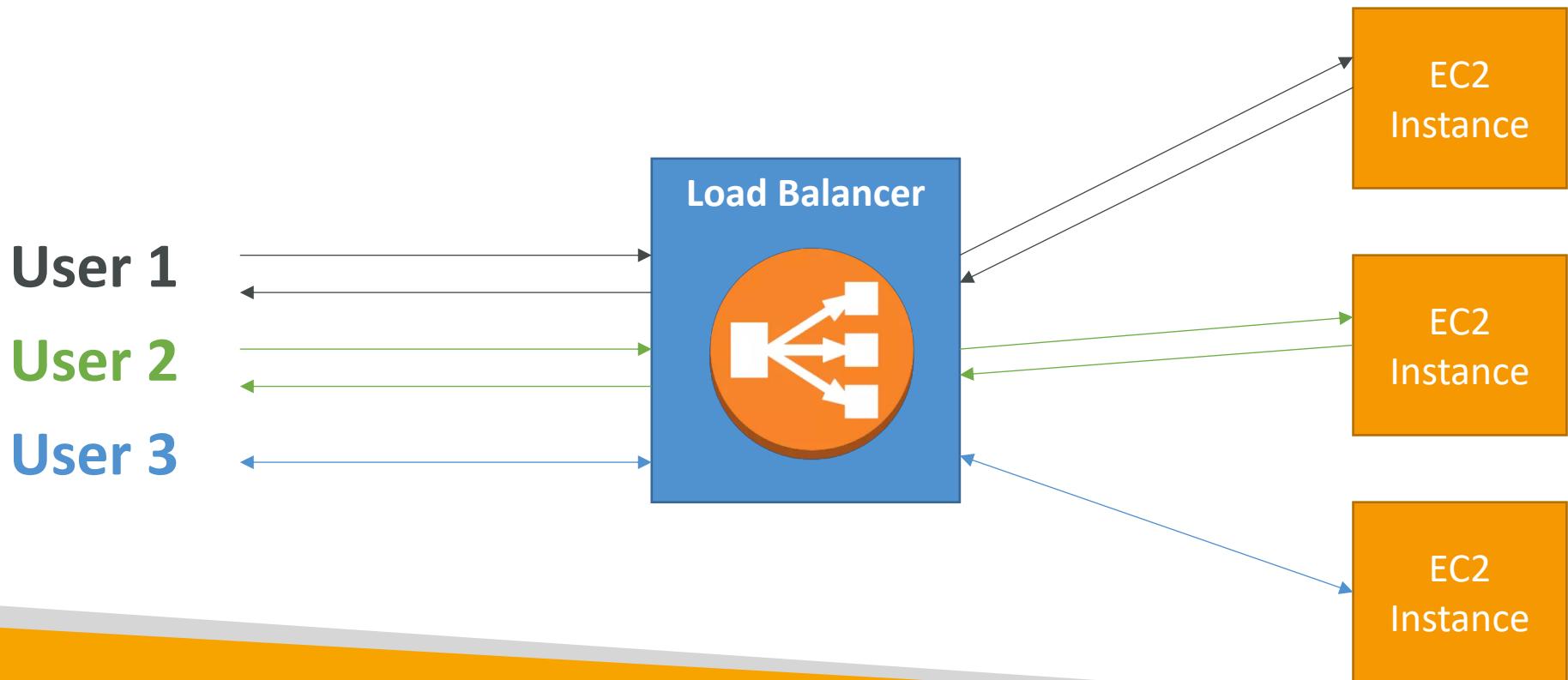
High Availability & Scalability For EC2

- Vertical Scaling: Increase instance size (= scale up / down)
 - From: t2.nano - 0.5G of RAM, 1 vCPU
 - To: u-12tbl.metal – 12.3 TB of RAM, 448 vCPUs
- Horizontal Scaling: Increase number of instances (= scale out / in)
 - Auto Scaling Group
 - Load Balancer
- High Availability: Run instances for the same application across multi AZ
 - Auto Scaling Group multi AZ
 - Load Balancer multi AZ



What is load balancing?

- Load balancers are servers that forward internet traffic to multiple servers (EC2 Instances) downstream.



Why use a load balancer?

- Spread load across multiple downstream instances
- Expose a single point of access (DNS) to your application
- Seamlessly handle failures of downstream instances
- Do regular health checks to your instances
- Provide SSL termination (HTTPS) for your websites
- Enforce stickiness with cookies
- High availability across zones
- Separate public traffic from private traffic

Why use an EC2 Load Balancer?

- An ELB (EC2 Load Balancer) is a **managed load balancer**
 - AWS guarantees that it will be working
 - AWS takes care of upgrades, maintenance, high availability
 - AWS provides only a few configuration knobs
- It costs less to setup your own load balancer but it will be a lot more effort on your end.
- It is integrated with many AWS offerings / services

Types of load balancer on AWS

- AWS has **3 kinds of Load Balancers**
- Classic Load Balancer (v1 - old generation) - 2009
- Application Load Balancer (v2 - new generation) - 2016
- Network Load Balancer (v2 - new generation) - 2017
- Overall, it is recommended to use the newer / v2 generation load balancers as they provide more features
- You can setup **internal** (private) or **external** (public) ELBs

Health Checks

- Health Checks are crucial for Load Balancers
- They enable the load balancer to know if instances it forwards traffic to are available to reply to requests
- The health check is done on a port and a route (/health is common)
- If the response is not 200 (OK), then the instance is unhealthy

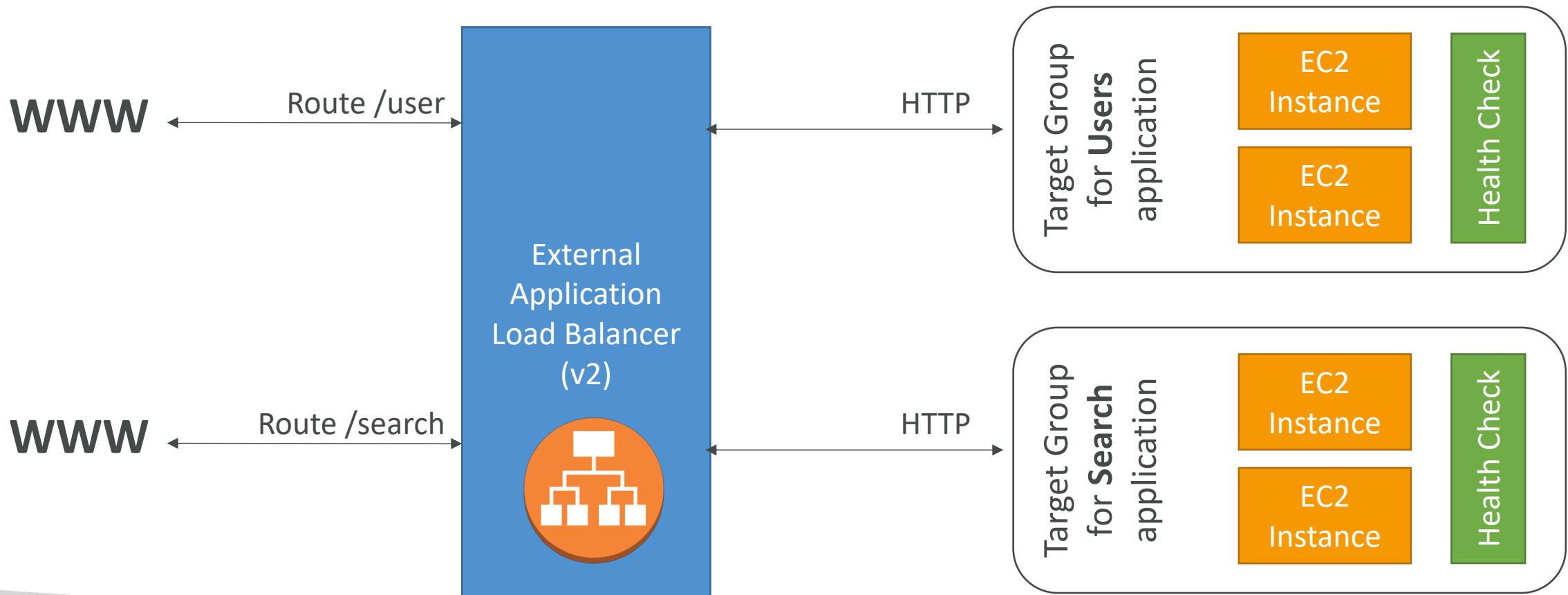


Application Load Balancer (v2)

- Application load balancers (Layer 7) allow to do:
 - Load balancing to multiple HTTP applications across machines (target groups)
 - Load balancing to multiple applications on the same machine (ex: containers)
 - Load balancing based on route in URL
 - Load balancing based on hostname in URL
- Basically, they're awesome for micro services & container-based application (example: Docker & Amazon ECS)
- Has a port mapping feature to redirect to a dynamic port
- In comparison, we would need to create one Classic Load Balancer per application before. That was very expensive and inefficient!

Application Load Balancer (v2)

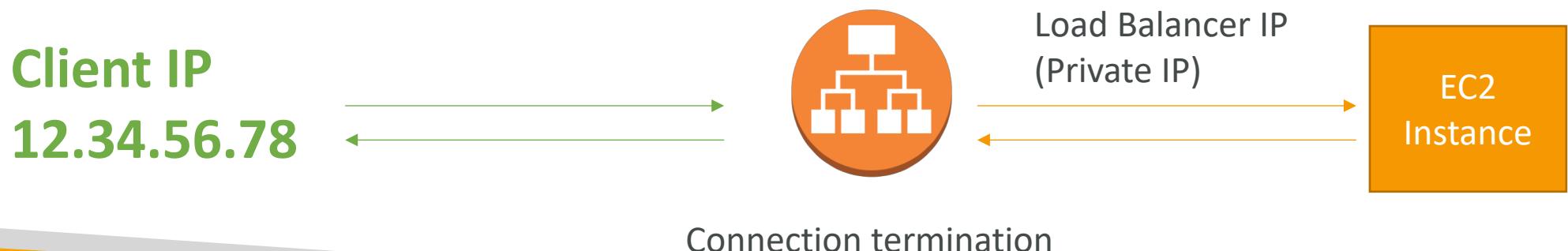
HTTP Based Traffic



Application Load Balancer v2

Good to Know

- Stickiness can be enabled at the target group level
 - Same request goes to the same instance
 - Stickiness is directly generated by the ALB (not the application)
- ALB support HTTP/HTTPS & Websockets protocols
- The application servers don't see the IP of the client directly
 - The true IP of the client is inserted in the header **X-Forwarded-For**
 - We can also get Port (**X-Forwarded-Port**) and proto (**X-Forwarded-Proto**)

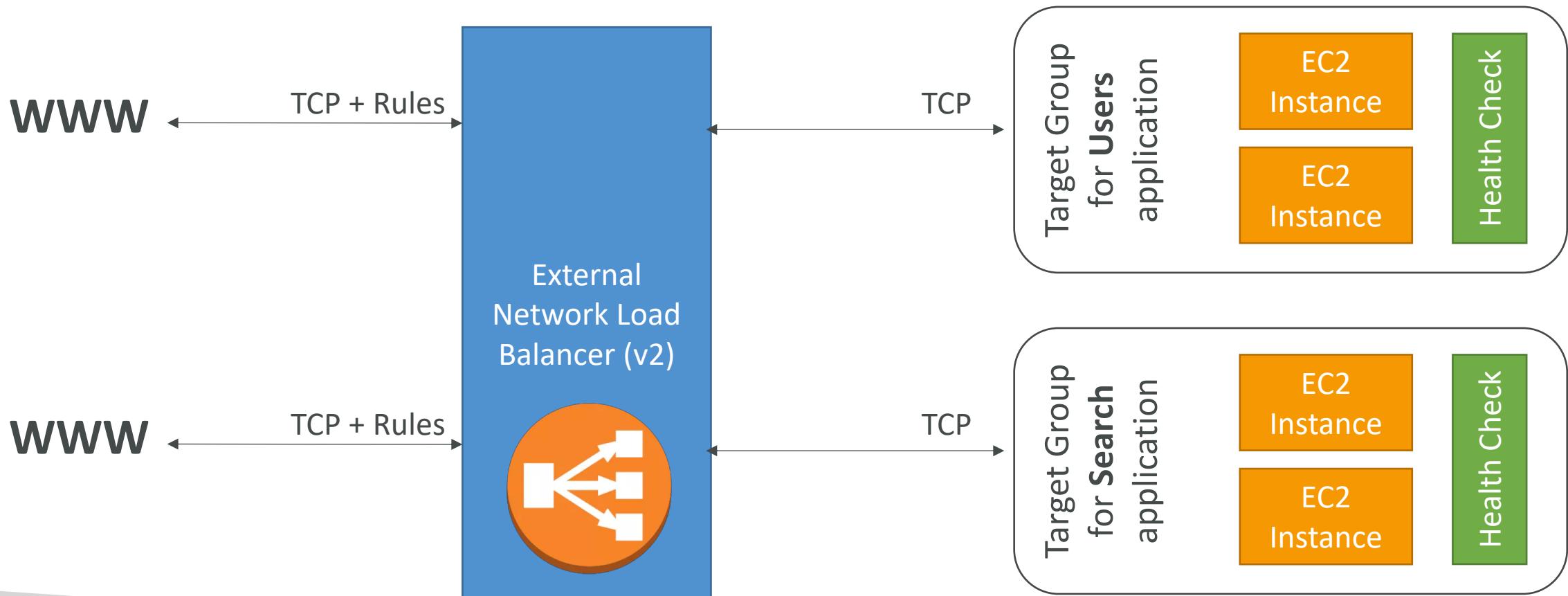


Network Load Balancer (v2)

- Network load balancers (Layer 4) allow to do:
 - Forward TCP traffic to your instances
 - Handle millions of requests per second
 - Support for static IP or elastic IP
 - Less latency ~100 ms (vs 400 ms for ALB)
- Network Load Balancers are mostly used for extreme performance and should not be the default load balancer you choose
- Overall, the creation process is the same as Application Load Balancers

Network Load Balancer (v2)

TCP Based Traffic



Load Balancer Good to Know

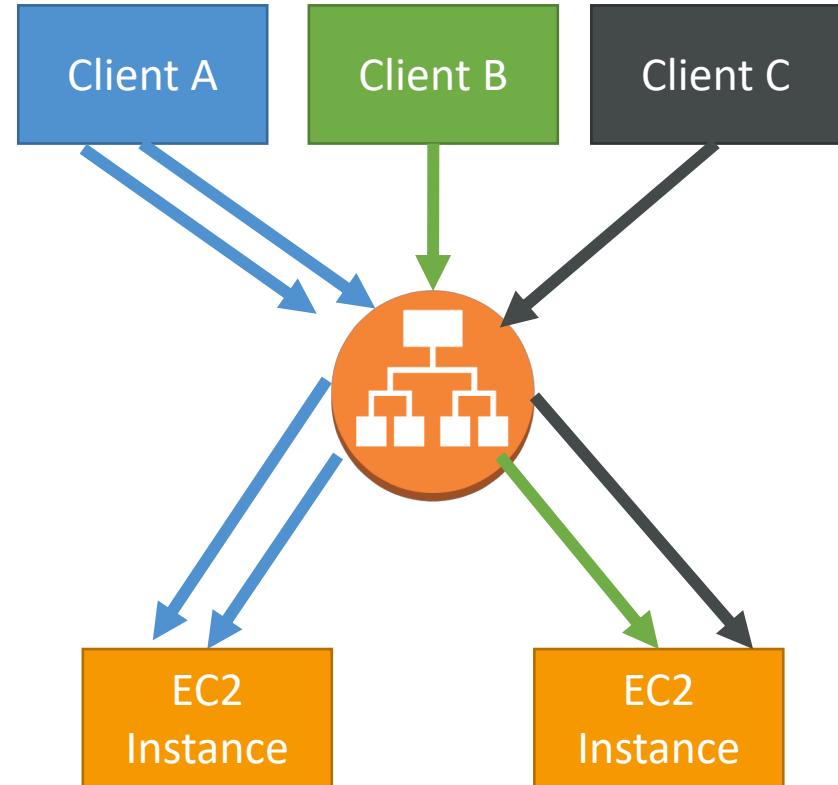
- Classic Load Balancers are Deprecated
 - Application Load Balancers for HTTP / HTTPS & Websocket
 - Network Load Balancer for TCP
- CLB, ALB & NLB support SSL certificates and provide SSL termination
- All Load Balancers have health check capability
- ALB can route on based on hostname / path
- ALB is a great fit with ECS (Docker)

Load Balancer Good to Know

- Any Load Balancer (CLB, ALB, NLB) has a static host name. Do not resolve and use underlying IP
- LBs can scale but not instantaneously – contact AWS for a “warm-up”
- NLB directly see the client IP
- 4xx errors are client induced errors
- 5xx errors are application induced errors
 - Load Balancer Errors 503 means at capacity or no registered target
- If the LB can't connect to your application, check your security groups!

Load Balancer Stickiness

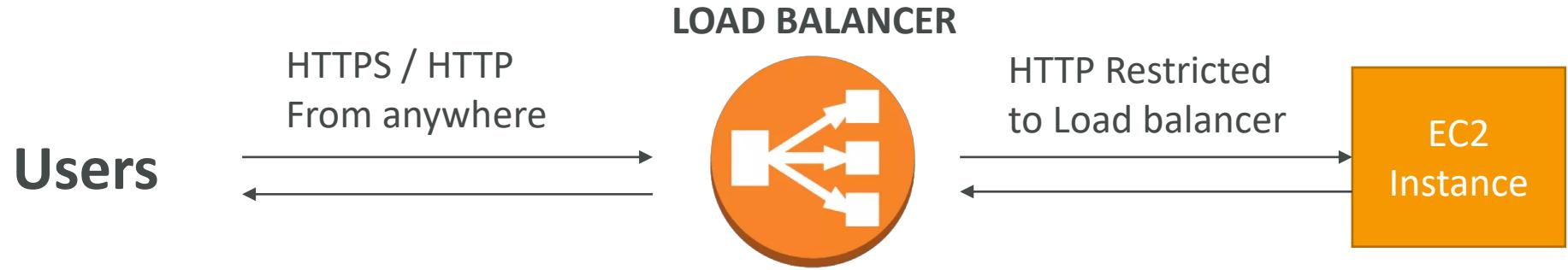
- It is possible to implement stickiness so that the same client is always redirected to the same instance behind a load balancer
- This works for Classic Load Balancers & Application Load Balancers
- The “cookie” used for stickiness has an expiration date you control
- Use case: make sure the user doesn’t lose his session data
- Enabling stickiness may bring imbalance to the load over the backend EC2 instances



Load Balancers for Solutions Architect

- Classic Load Balancers: questions on security groups, stickiness
- Application Load Balancer (Layer 7 of OSI):
 - Support routing based on hostname (users.example.com & payments.example.com)
 - Support routing based on path (example.com/users & example.com/payments)
 - Support redirects (from HTTP to HTTPS for example)
 - Support dynamic host port mapping with ECS
- NLB (Layer 4 of OSI) gets a static IP per AZ :
 - Public facing: must attach Elastic IP – can help whitelist by clients
 - Private facing: will get random private IP based on free ones at time of creation
 - Has cross zone balancing
 - Has SSL termination (Jan 2019)

Load Balancer Security Groups



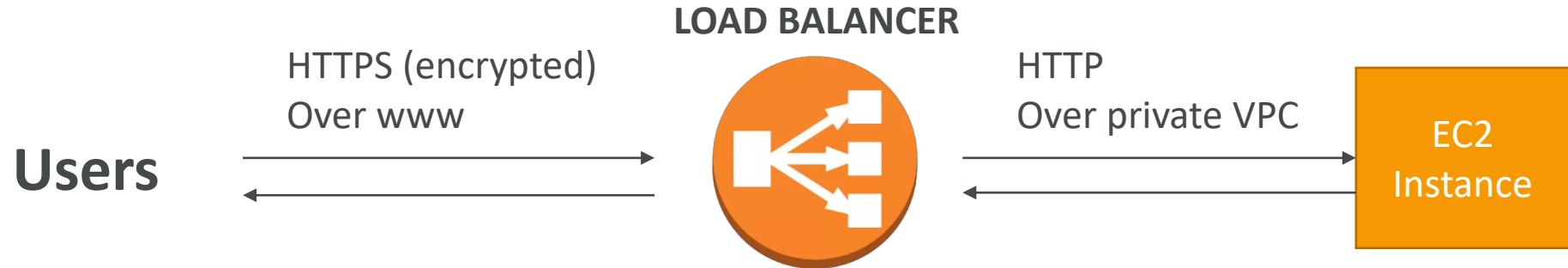
Load Balancer Security Group:

Type	Protocol	Port Range	Source	Description
HTTP	TCP	80	0.0.0.0/0	Allow HTTP from an...
HTTPS	TCP	443	0.0.0.0/0	Allow HTTPS from a...

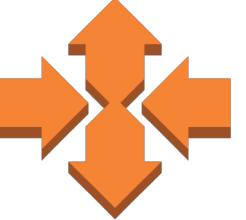
Application Security Group: Allow traffic only from Load Balancer

Type	Protocol	Port Range	Source	Description
HTTP	TCP	80	sg-054b5ff5ea02f2b6e (load-b	Allow Traffic only...

Load Balancer - SSL Certificates



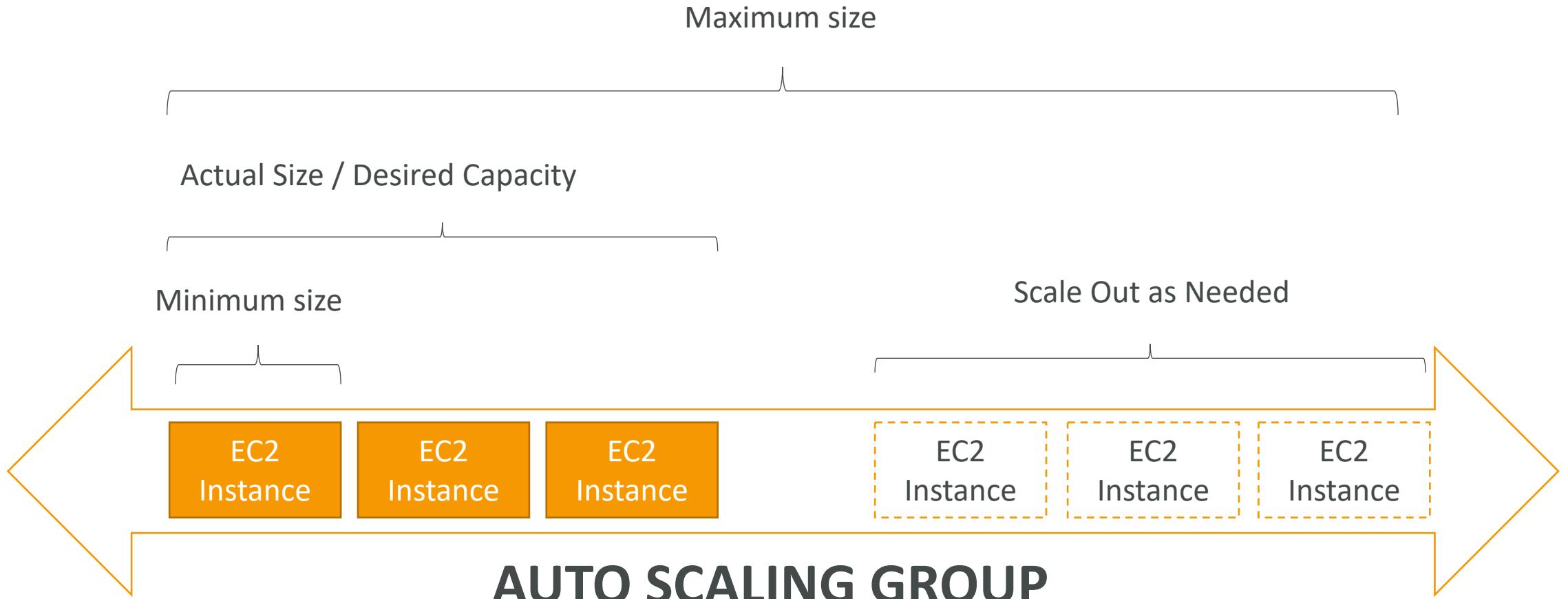
- The load balancer uses an X.509 certificate (SSL/TLS server certificate)
- You can manage certificates using ACM (AWS Certificate Manager)
- You can create/upload your own certificates alternatively
- HTTPS listener:
 - You must specify a default certificate
 - You can add an optional list of certs to support multiple domains
 - **Clients can use SNI (Server Name Indication) to specify the hostname they reach**
 - Ability to specify a security policy to support older versions of SSL / TLS (legacy clients)



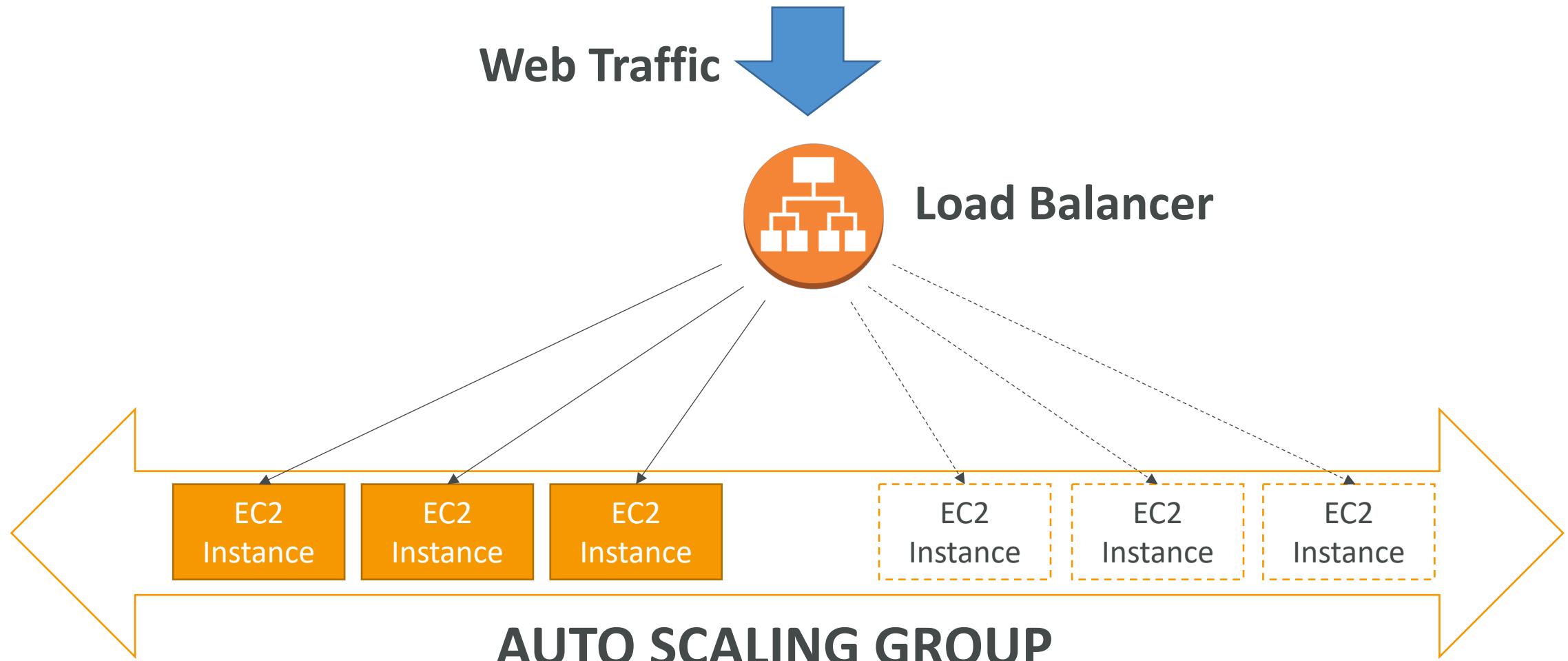
What's an Auto Scaling Group?

- In real-life, the load on your websites and application can change
- In the cloud, you can create and get rid of servers very quickly
- The goal of an Auto Scaling Group (ASG) is to:
 - Scale out (add EC2 instances) to match an increased load
 - Scale in (remove EC2 instances) to match a decreased load
 - Ensure we have a minimum and a maximum number of machines running
 - Automatically Register new instances to a load balancer

Auto Scaling Group in AWS



Auto Scaling Group in AWS With Load Balancer

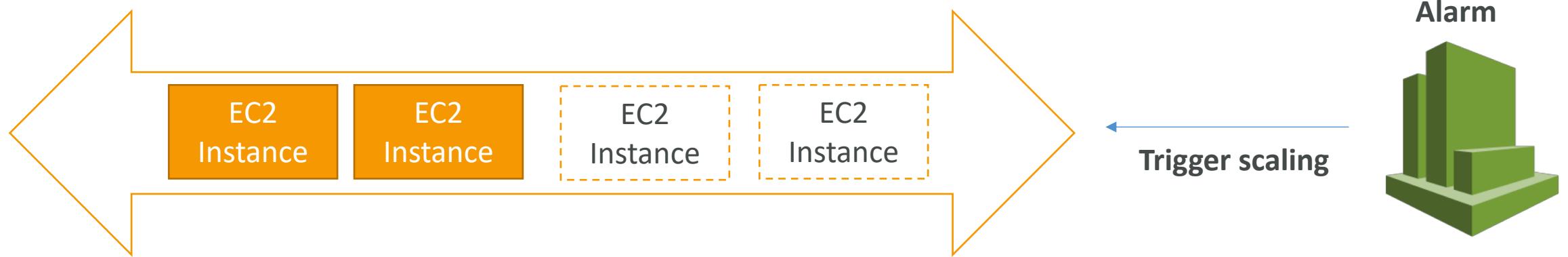


ASGs have the following attributes

- A launch configuration
 - AMI + Instance Type
 - EC2 User Data
 - EBS Volumes
 - Security Groups
 - SSH Key Pair
- Min Size / Max Size / Initial Capacity
- Network + Subnets Information
- Load Balancer Information
- Scaling Policies

Auto Scaling Alarms

- It is possible to scale an ASG based on CloudWatch alarms
- An Alarm monitors a metric (such as Average CPU)
- Metrics are computed for the overall ASG instances
- Based on the alarm:
 - We can create scale-out policies (increase the number of instances)
 - We can create scale-in policies (decrease the number of instances)



Auto Scaling New Rules

- It is now possible to define "better" auto scaling rules that are directly managed by EC2
 - Target Average CPU Usage
 - Number of requests on the ELB per instance
 - Average Network In
 - Average Network Out
- These rules are easier to set up and can make more sense

Auto Scaling Custom Metric

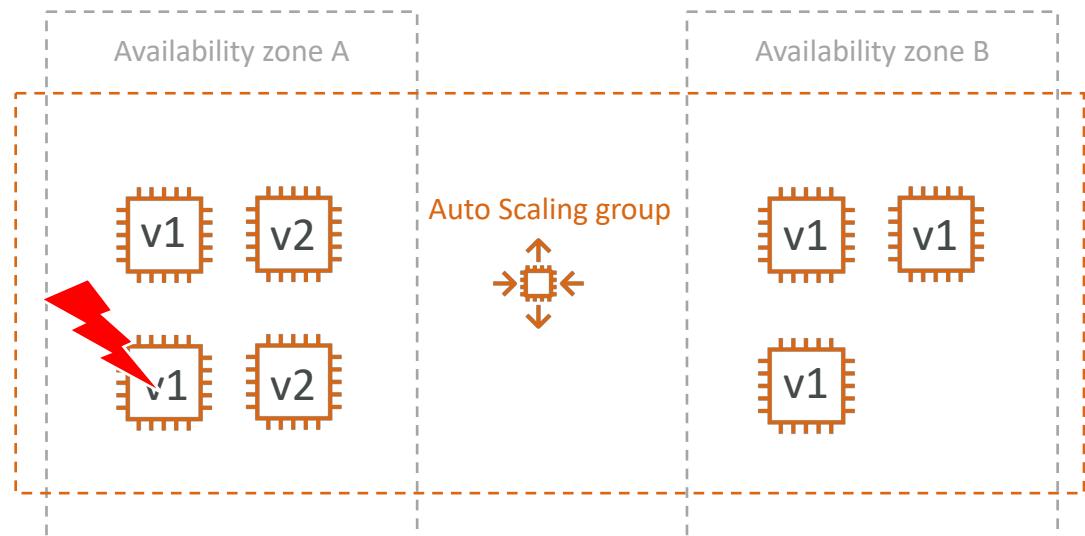
- We can auto scale based on a custom metric (ex: number of connected users)
- 1. Send custom metric from application on EC2 to CloudWatch (PutMetric API)
- 2. Create CloudWatch alarm to react to low / high values
- 3. Use the CloudWatch alarm as the scaling policy for ASG

ASG Brain Dump

- Scaling policies can be on CPU, Network... and can even be on custom metrics or based on a schedule (if you know your visitors patterns)
- ASGs use Launch configurations and you update an ASG by providing a new launch configuration
- IAM roles attached to an ASG will get assigned to EC2 instances
- ASG are free. You pay for the underlying resources being launched
- Having instances under an ASG means that if they get terminated for whatever reason, the ASG will restart them. Extra safety!
- ASG can terminate instances marked as unhealthy by an LB (and hence replace them)

ASG for Solutions Architects

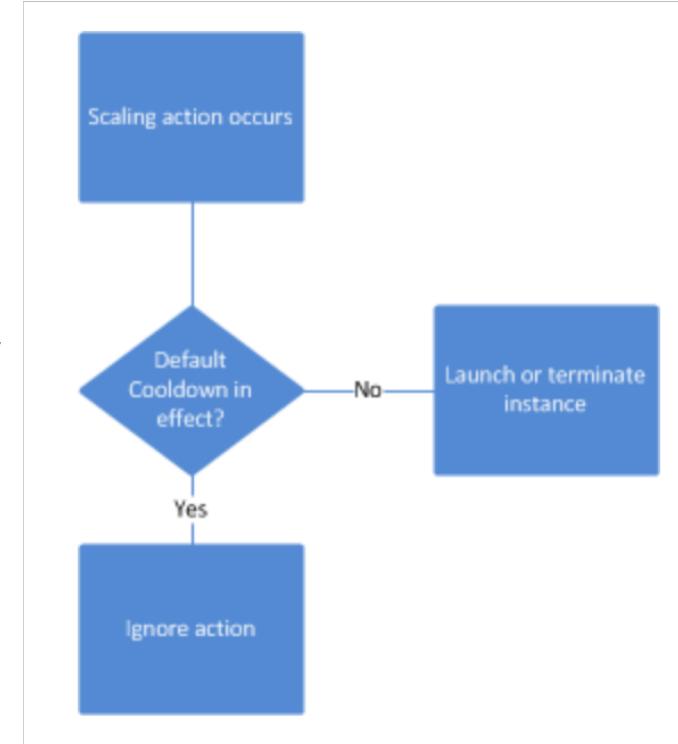
- ASG Default Termination Policy (simplified version):
 1. Find the AZ which has the most number of instances
 2. If there are multiple instances in the AZ to choose from, delete the one with the oldest launch configuration
- ASG tries to balance the number of instances across AZ by default



ASG for Solutions Architects

Scaling Cooldowns

- The cooldown period helps to ensure that your Auto Scaling group doesn't launch or terminate additional instances before the previous scaling activity takes effect.
- In addition to default cooldown for Auto Scaling group, we can create cooldowns that apply to a specific **simple scaling policy**
- A scaling-specific cooldown period overrides the default cooldown period.
- One common use for scaling-specific cooldowns is with a scale-in policy—a policy that terminates instances based on a specific criteria or metric. Because this policy terminates instances, Amazon EC2 Auto Scaling needs less time to determine whether to terminate additional instances.
- If the default cooldown period of 300 seconds is too long—you can reduce costs by applying a scaling-specific cooldown period of 180 seconds to the scale-in policy.
- If your application is scaling up and down multiple times each hour, modify the Auto Scaling Groups cool-down timers and the CloudWatch Alarm Period that triggers the scale in



<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/autoscaling/ec2/userguide/Cooldown.html>

EBS & EFS

What's an EBS Volume?

- An EC2 machine loses its root volume (main drive) when it is manually terminated.
- Unexpected terminations might happen from time to time (AWS would email you)
- Sometimes, you need a way to store your instance data somewhere
- An **EBS (Elastic Block Store) Volume** is a **network** drive you can attach to your instances while they run
- It allows your instances to persist data

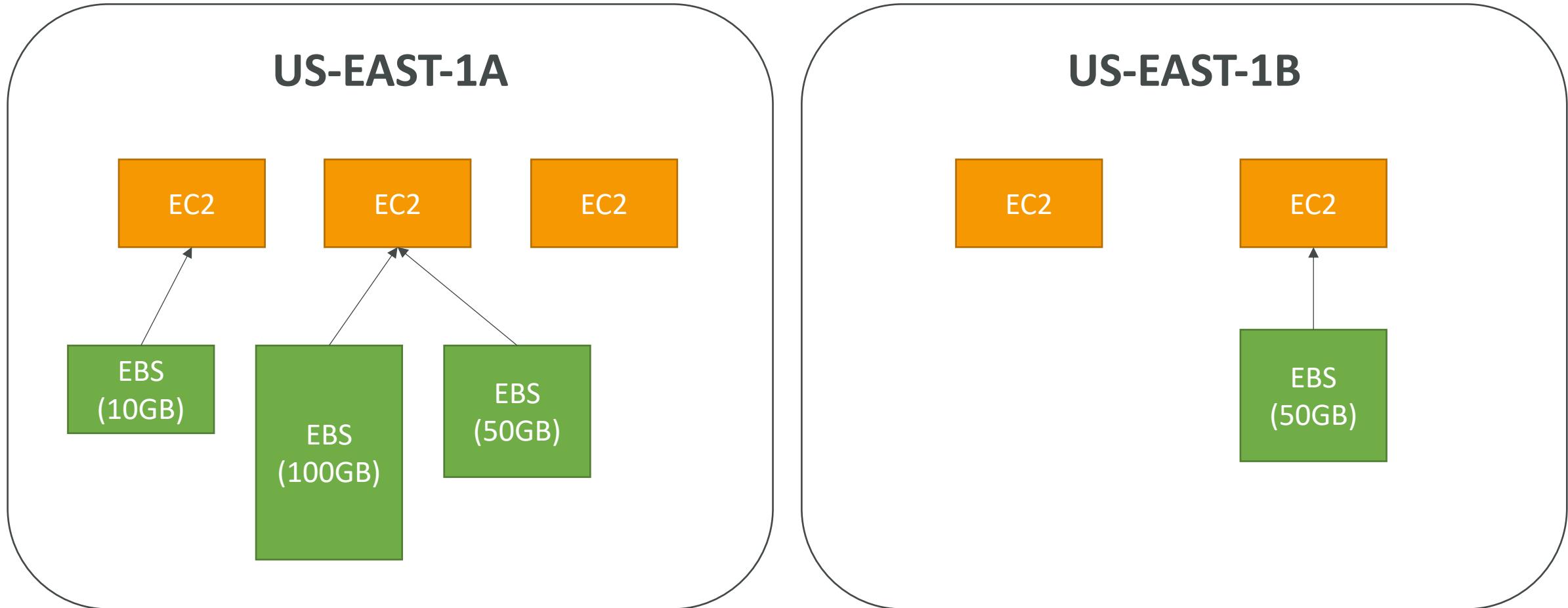


Amazon EBS

EBS Volume

- It's a network drive (i.e. not a physical drive)
 - It uses the network to communicate the instance, which means there might be a bit of latency
 - It can be detached from an EC2 instance and attached to another one quickly
- It's locked to an Availability Zone (AZ)
 - An EBS Volume in us-east-1a cannot be attached to us-east-1b
 - To move a volume across, you first need to snapshot it
- Have a provisioned capacity (size in GBs, and IOPS)
 - You get billed for all the provisioned capacity
 - You can increase the capacity of the drive over time

EBS Volume Example



EBS Volume Types

- EBS Volumes come in 4 types
 - **GP2 (SSD)**: General purpose SSD volume that balances price and performance for a wide variety of workloads
 - **IO1 (SSD)**: Highest-performance SSD volume for mission-critical low-latency or high-throughput workloads
 - **ST1 (HDD)**: Low cost HDD volume designed for frequently accessed, throughput-intensive workloads
 - **SCI (HDD)**: Lowest cost HDD volume designed for less frequently accessed workloads
- EBS Volumes are characterized in Size | Throughput | IOPS (I/O Ops Per Sec)
- When in doubt always consult the AWS documentation – it's good!
- Only GP2 and IO1 can be used as boot volumes

EBS Volume Types Use cases

GP2 (from AWS doc)

- Recommended for most workloads
 - System boot volumes
 - Virtual desktops
 - Low-latency interactive apps
 - Development and test environments
-
- 1 GiB - 16 TiB
 - Small gp2 volumes can burst IOPS to 3000
 - Max IOPS is 16,000...
 - 3 IOPS per GB, means at 5,334GB we are at the max IOPS

EBS Volume Types Use cases

IO1 (from AWS doc)

- Critical business applications that require sustained IOPS performance, or more than 16,000 IOPS per volume (gp2 limit)
 - Large database workloads, such as:
 - MongoDB, Cassandra, Microsoft SQL Server, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle
-
- 4 GiB - 16 TiB
 - IOPS is provisioned (PIOPS) – MIN 100 - MAX 64,000 (Nitro instances) else MAX 32,000 (other instances)
 - The maximum ratio of provisioned IOPS to requested volume size (in GiB) is 50:1

EBS Volume Types Use cases

ST1 (from AWS doc)

- Streaming workloads requiring consistent, fast throughput at a low price.
 - Big data, Data warehouses, Log processing
 - Apache Kafka
 - Cannot be a boot volume
-
- 500 GiB - 16 TiB
 - Max IOPS is 500
 - Max throughput of 500 MiB/s – can burst

EBS Volume Types Use cases

SCI (from AWS doc)

- Throughput-oriented storage for large volumes of data that is infrequently accessed
 - Scenarios where the lowest storage cost is important
 - Cannot be a boot volume
-
- 500 GiB - 16 TiB
 - Max IOPS is 250
 - Max throughput of 250 MiB/s – can burst

EBS Snapshots

- Incremental – only backup changed blocks
- EBS backups use IO and you shouldn't run them while your application is handling a lot of traffic
- Snapshots will be stored in S3 (but you won't directly see them)
- Not necessary to detach volume to do snapshot, but recommended
- Max 100,000 snapshots
- Can copy snapshots across AZ or Region
- Can make Image (AMI) from Snapshot
- EBS volumes restored by snapshots need to be pre-warmed (using fio or dd command to read the entire volume)
- Snapshots can be automated using Amazon Data Lifecycle Manager

EBS Migration

- EBS Volumes are only locked to a specific AZ
- To migrate it to a different AZ (or region):
 - Snapshot the volume
 - (optional) Copy the volume to a different region
 - Create a volume from the snapshot in the AZ of your choice
- Let's practice!

EBS Encryption

- When you create an encrypted EBS volume, you get the following:
 - Data at rest is encrypted inside the volume
 - All the data in flight moving between the instance and the volume is encrypted
 - All snapshots are encrypted
 - All volumes created from the snapshot
- Encryption and decryption are handled transparently (you have nothing to do)
- Encryption has a minimal impact on latency
- EBS Encryption leverages keys from KMS (AES-256)
- Copying an unencrypted snapshot allows encryption
- Snapshots of encrypted volumes are encrypted

Encryption: encrypt an unencrypted EBS volume

- Create an EBS snapshot of the volume
- Encrypt the EBS snapshot (using copy)
- Create new ebs volume from the snapshot (the volume will also be encrypted)
- Now you can attach the encrypted volume to the original instance

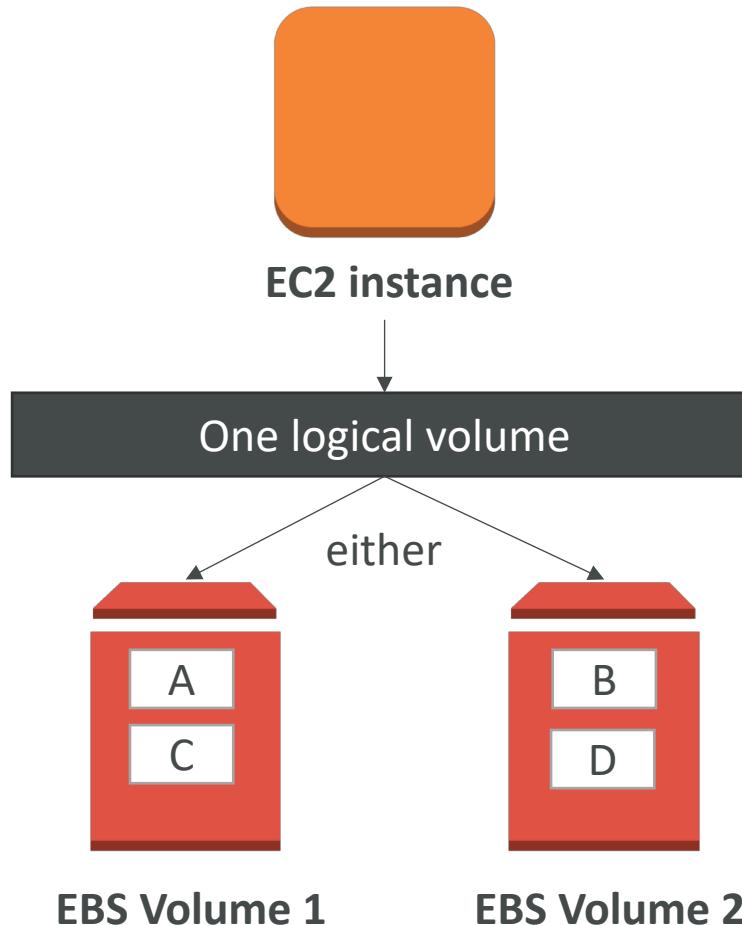
EBS vs Instance Store

- Some instances do not come with Root EBS volumes
- Instead, they come with “Instance Store” (= ephemeral storage)
- Instance store is physically attached to the machine (EBS is a network drive)
- Pros:
 - Better I/O performance
 - Good for buffer / cache / scratch data / temporary content
 - Data survives reboots
- Cons:
 - On stop or termination, the instance store is lost
 - You can't resize the instance store
 - Backups must be operated by the user

EBS RAID Options

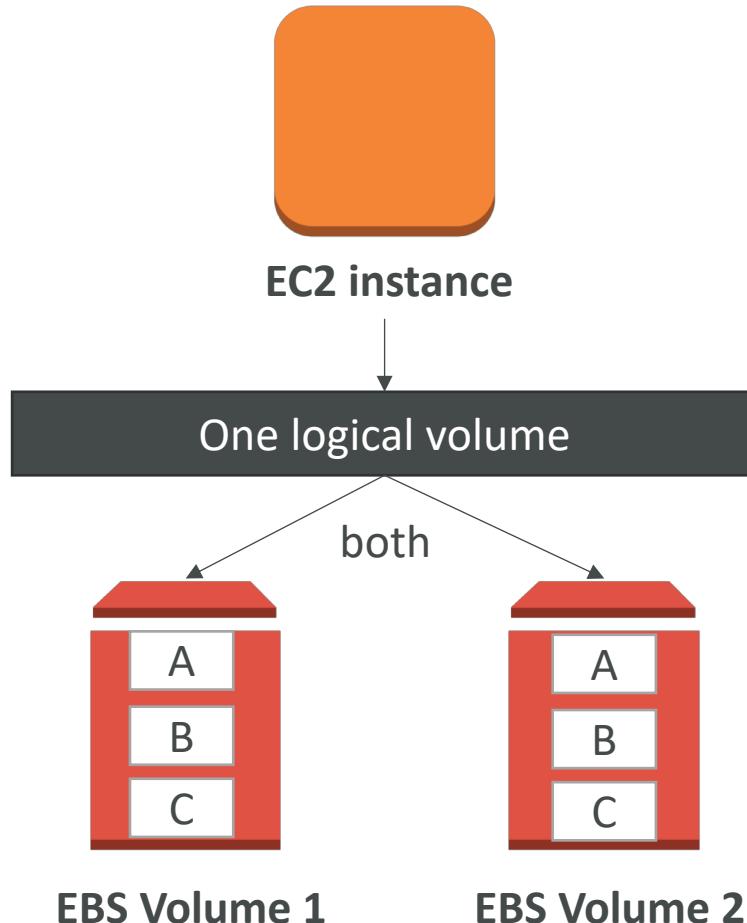
- EBS is already redundant storage (replicated within an AZ)
- But what if you want to increase IOPS to say 100 000 IOPS?
- What if you want to mirror your EBS volumes?
- You would mount volumes in parallel in RAID settings!
- RAID is possible as long as your OS supports it
- Some RAID options are:
 - RAID 0
 - RAID 1
 - RAID 5 (not recommended for EBS – see documentation)
 - RAID 6 (not recommended for EBS – see documentation)
- We'll explore RAID 0 and RAID 1

RAID 0 (increase performance)



- Combining 2 or more volumes and getting the total disk space and I/O
- But one disk fails, all the data is failed
- Use cases would be:
 - An application that needs a lot of IOPS and doesn't need fault-tolerance
 - A database that has replication already built-in
- Using this, we can have a very big disk with a lot of IOPS
- For example
 - two 500 GiB Amazon EBS io1 volumes with 4,000 provisioned IOPS each will create a...
 - 1000 GiB RAID 0 array with an available bandwidth of 8,000 IOPS and 1,000 MB/s of throughput

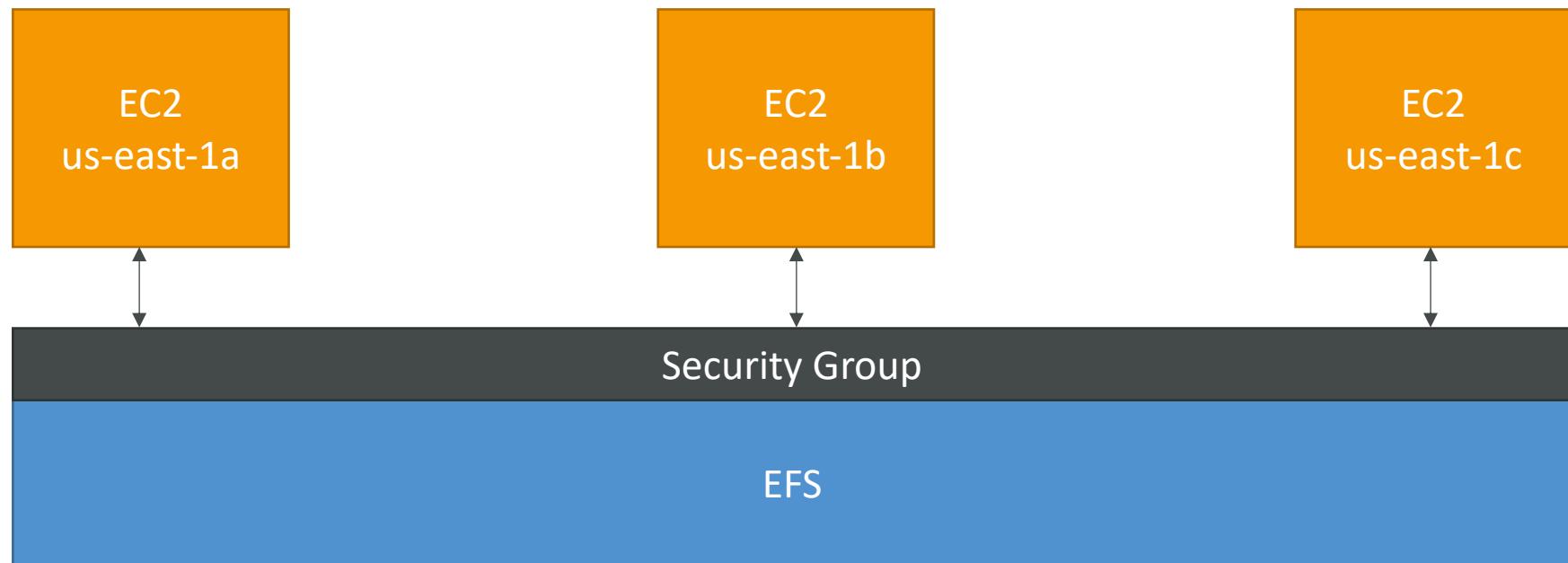
RAID I (increase fault tolerance)



- RAID I = Mirroring a volume to another
- If one disk fails, our logical volume is still working
- We have to send the data to two EBS volume at the same time (2x network)
- Use case:
 - Application that need increase volume fault tolerance
 - Application where you need to service disks
- For example:
 - two 500 GiB Amazon EBS io1 volumes with 4,000 provisioned IOPS each will create a...
 - 500 GiB RAID I array with an available bandwidth of 4,000 IOPS and 500 MB/s of throughput

EFS – Elastic File System

- Managed NFS (network file system) that can be mounted on many EC2
- EFS works with EC2 instances in multi-AZ
- Highly available, scalable, expensive (3x gp2), pay per use



EFS – Elastic File System

- Use cases: content management, web serving, data sharing, Wordpress
- Uses NFSv4.1 protocol
- Uses security group to control access to EFS
- Compatible with Linux based AMI (not Windows)
- Performance mode:
 - General purpose (default)
 - Max I/O – used when thousands of EC2 are using the EFS
- EFS file sync to sync from on-premise file system to EFS
- Backup EFS-to-EFS (incremental – can choose frequency)
- Encryption at rest using KMS

EBS & EFS For Solutions Architect

- EBS volumes can be attached to only one instance at a time
- EBS volumes are locked at the AZ level
- Migrating an EBS volume across AZ means first backing it up (snapshot), then recreating it in the other AZ
- EBS backups use IO and you shouldn't run them while your application is handling a lot of traffic
- Root EBS Volumes of instances get terminated by default if the EC2 instance gets terminated. (you can disable that)

EBS & EFS For Solutions Architect

- Disk IO is high => Increase EBS volume size (for gp2)
- EFS mounting 100s of instances
- EFS share website files
- EBS gp2, optimize on cost
- Custom AMI for faster deploy on ASG
- EFS vs EBS vs Instance Store
- Solution architecture on EBS / EFS is discussed in a later section

RDS, Aurora & ElastiCache

AWS RDS Overview



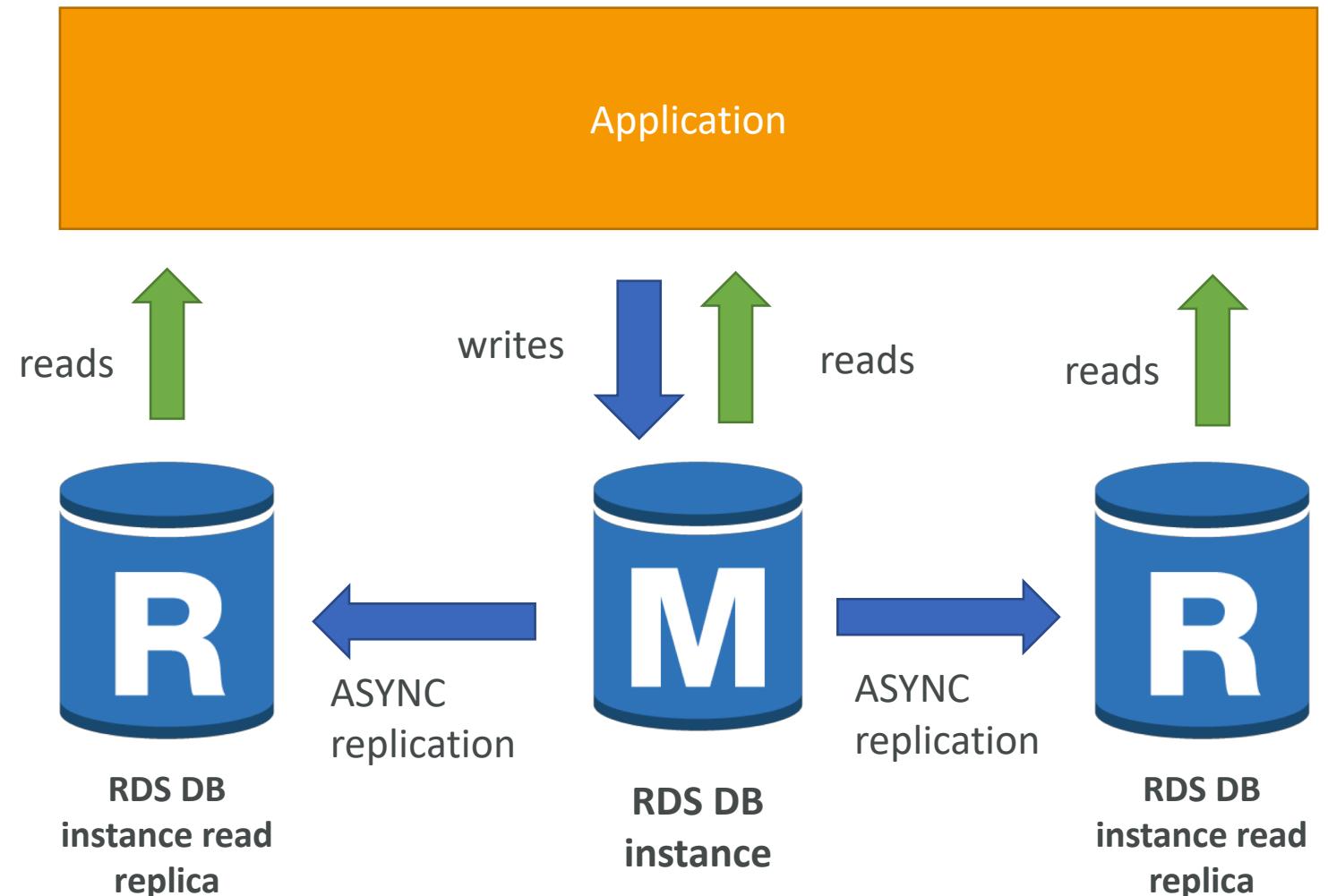
- RDS stands for Relational Database Service
- It's a managed DB service for DB use SQL as a query language.
- It allows you to create databases in the cloud that are managed by AWS
 - Postgres
 - MySQL
 - MariaDB
 - Oracle
 - Microsoft SQL Server
 - Aurora (AWS Proprietary database)

Advantage over using RDS versus deploying DB on EC2

- Managed service:
- OS patching level
- Continuous backups and restore to specific timestamp (Point in Time Restore)!
- Monitoring dashboards
- Read replicas for improved read performance
- Multi AZ setup for DR (Disaster Recovery)
- Maintenance windows for upgrades
- Scaling capability (vertical and horizontal)
- BUT you can't SSH into your instances

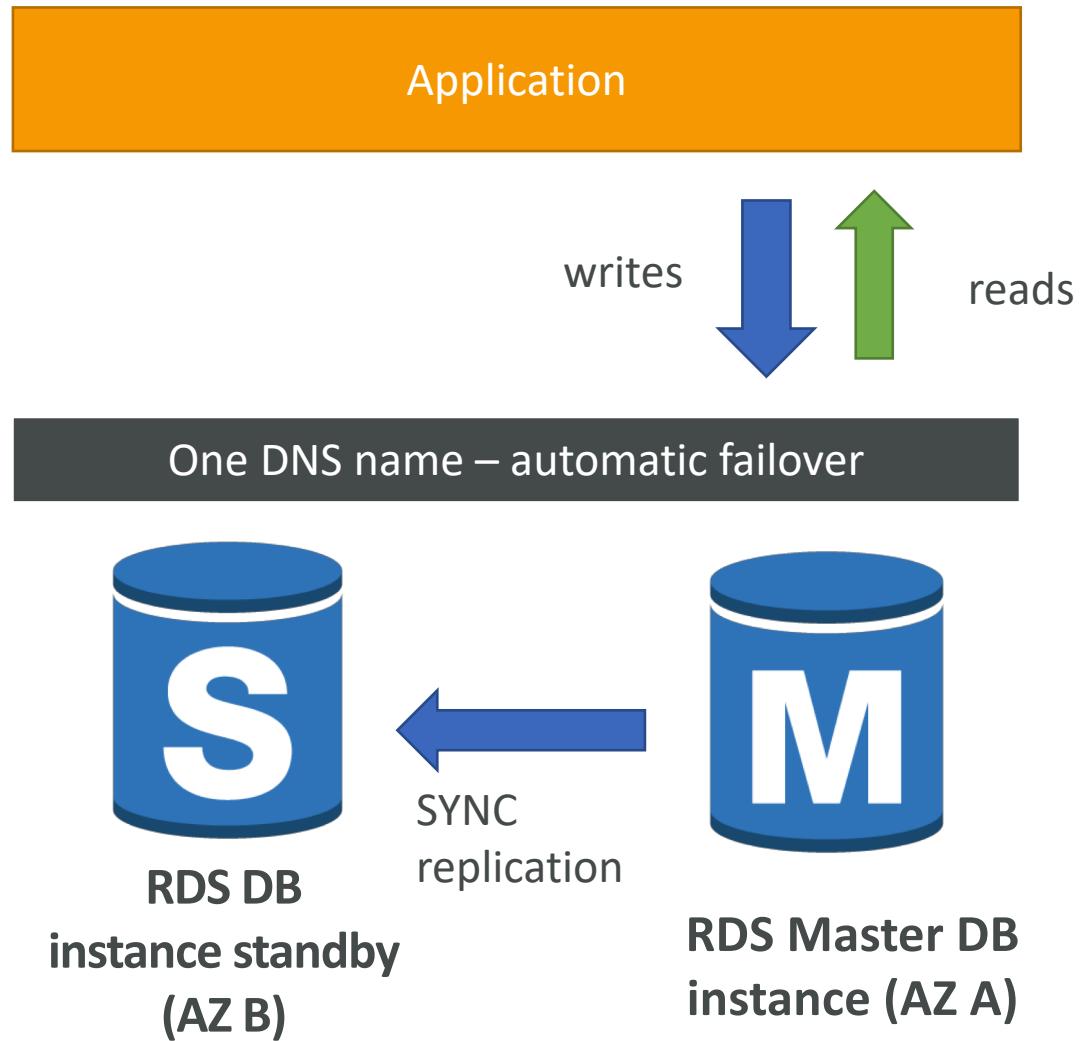
RDS Read Replicas for read scalability

- Up to 5 Read Replicas
- Within AZ, Cross AZ or Cross Region
- Replication is **ASYNC**, so reads are eventually consistent
- Replicas can be promoted to their own DB
- Applications must update the connection string to leverage read replicas



RDS Multi AZ (Disaster Recovery)

- SYNC replication
- One DNS name – automatic app failover to standby
- Increase availability
- Failover in case of loss of AZ, loss of network, instance or storage failure
- No manual intervention in apps
- Not used for scaling



RDS Backups

- Backups are automatically enabled in RDS
- Automated backups:
 - Daily full snapshot of the database
 - Capture transaction logs in real time
 - => ability to restore to any point in time
 - 7 days retention (can be increased to 35 days)
- DB Snapshots:
 - Manually triggered by the user
 - Retention of backup for as long as you want

RDS Encryption

- Encryption at rest capability with AWS KMS - AES-256 encryption
- SSL certificates to encrypt data to RDS in flight
- To enforce SSL:
 - PostgreSQL: rds.force_ssl=1 in the AWS RDS Console (Parameter Groups)
 - MySQL: Within the DB:
GRANT USAGE ON *.* TO 'mysqluser'@'%' REQUIRE SSL;
- To connect using SSL:
 - Provide the SSL Trust certificate (can be download from AWS)
 - Provide SSL options when connecting to database

RDS Security

- RDS databases are usually deployed within a private subnet, not in a public one
- RDS Security works by leveraging security groups (the same concept as for EC2 instances) – it controls who can **communicate** with RDS
- IAM policies help control who can **manage** AWS RDS
- Traditional Username and Password can be used to **login** to the database
- IAM users can now be used too (for MySQL / Aurora – **NEW!**)

RDS vs Aurora

- Aurora is a proprietary technology from AWS (not open sourced)
- Postgres and MySQL are both supported as Aurora DB (that means your drivers will work as if Aurora was a Postgres or MySQL database)
- Aurora is “AWS cloud optimized” and claims 5x performance improvement over MySQL on RDS, over 3x the performance of Postgres on RDS
- Aurora storage automatically grows in increments of 10GB, up to 64 TB.
- Aurora can have 15 replicas while MySQL has 5, and the replication process is faster (sub 10 ms replica lag)
- Failover in Aurora is instantaneous. It’s HA native.
- Aurora costs more than RDS (20% more) – but is more efficient

RDS Security for SysOps

- Encryption at rest:
 - Is done only when you first create the DB instance
 - or: unencrypted DB => snapshot => copy snapshot as encrypted => create DB from snapshot
- Your responsibility:
 - Check the ports / IP / security group inbound rules in DB's SG
 - In-database user creation and permissions
 - Creating a database with or without public access
 - Ensure parameter groups or DB is configured to only allow SSL connections
- AWS responsibility:
 - No SSH access
 - No manual DB patching
 - No manual OS patching
 - No way to audit the underlying instance

RDS for Solutions Architects

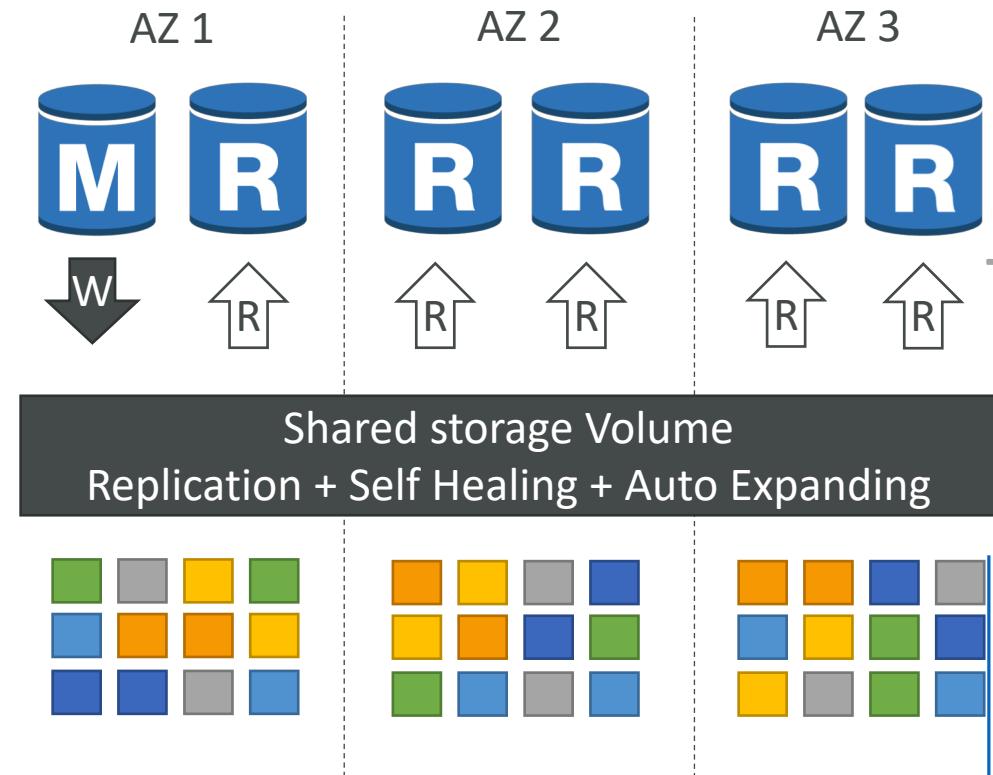
- **Read replicas** are used for SELECT (=read) only kind of statements (not INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE)
- Amazon RDS supports **Transparent Data Encryption** for DB encryption:
 - Oracle or SQL Server DB instance only
 - TDE can be used on top of KMS – may affect performance
- **IAM Authentication** (versus traditional username / password):
 - Works for MySQL, PostgreSQL
 - Lifespan of an authentication token is 15 minutes (short-lived)
 - Tokens are generated by AWS credentials
 - SSL must be used when connecting to the database
 - Easy to use EC2 Instance Roles to connect to the RDS database

Amazon Aurora

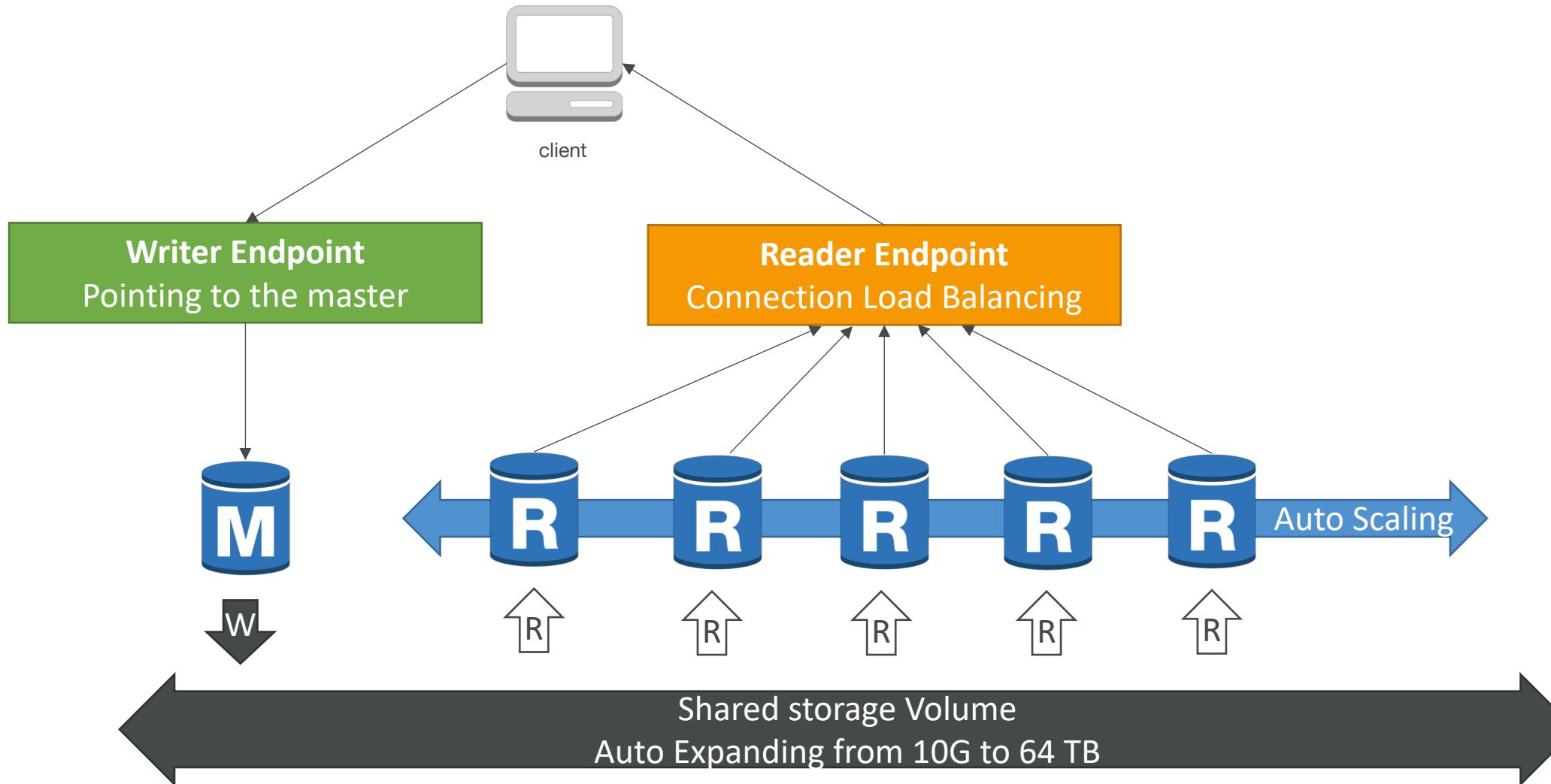
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Aurora High Availability and Read Scaling

- 6 copies of your data across 3 AZ:
 - 4 copies out of 6 needed for writes
 - 3 copies out of 6 need for reads
 - Self healing with peer-to-peer replication
 - Storage is striped across 100s of volumes
- One Aurora Instance takes writes (master)
- Automated failover for master in less than 30 seconds
- Master + up to 15 Aurora Read Replicas serve reads
- Support for Cross Region Replication



Aurora DB Cluster



Features of Aurora

- Automatic fail-over
- Backup and Recovery
- Isolation and security
- Industry compliance
- Push-button scaling
- Automated Patching with Zero Downtime
- Advanced Monitoring
- Routine Maintenance
- Backtrack: restore data at any point of time without using backups

Aurora Security

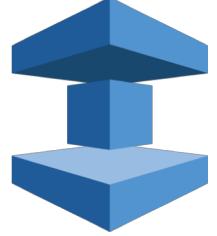
- Encryption at rest using KMS
- Automated backups, snapshots and replicas are also encrypted
- Encryption in flight using SSL (same process as MySQL or Postgres)
- Authentication using IAM
- You are responsible for protecting the instance with security groups
- You can't SSH

Aurora Serverless

- No need to choose an instance size
- Only supports MySQL 5.6 (as of Jan 2019) & Postgres (beta)
- Helpful when you can't predict the workload
- DB cluster starts, shutdown and scales automatically based on CPU / connections
- Can migrate from Aurora Cluster to Aurora Serverless and vice versa
- Aurora Serverless usage is measured in ACU (Aurora Capacity Units)
- Billed in 5 minutes increment of ACU
- Note: some features of Aurora aren't supported in Serverless mode, be sure to check the documentation if you plan on using it

Aurora for Solutions Architects

- Can use IAM authentication for Aurora MySQL and Postgres
- Aurora Global databases span multiple regions and enable DR
 - One Primary Region
 - One DR Region
 - The DR region can be used for lower latency reads
 - < 1 second replica lag on average
- If not using Global Databases, you can create cross-region Read Replicas
 - But the FAQ recommends you use Global Databases instead



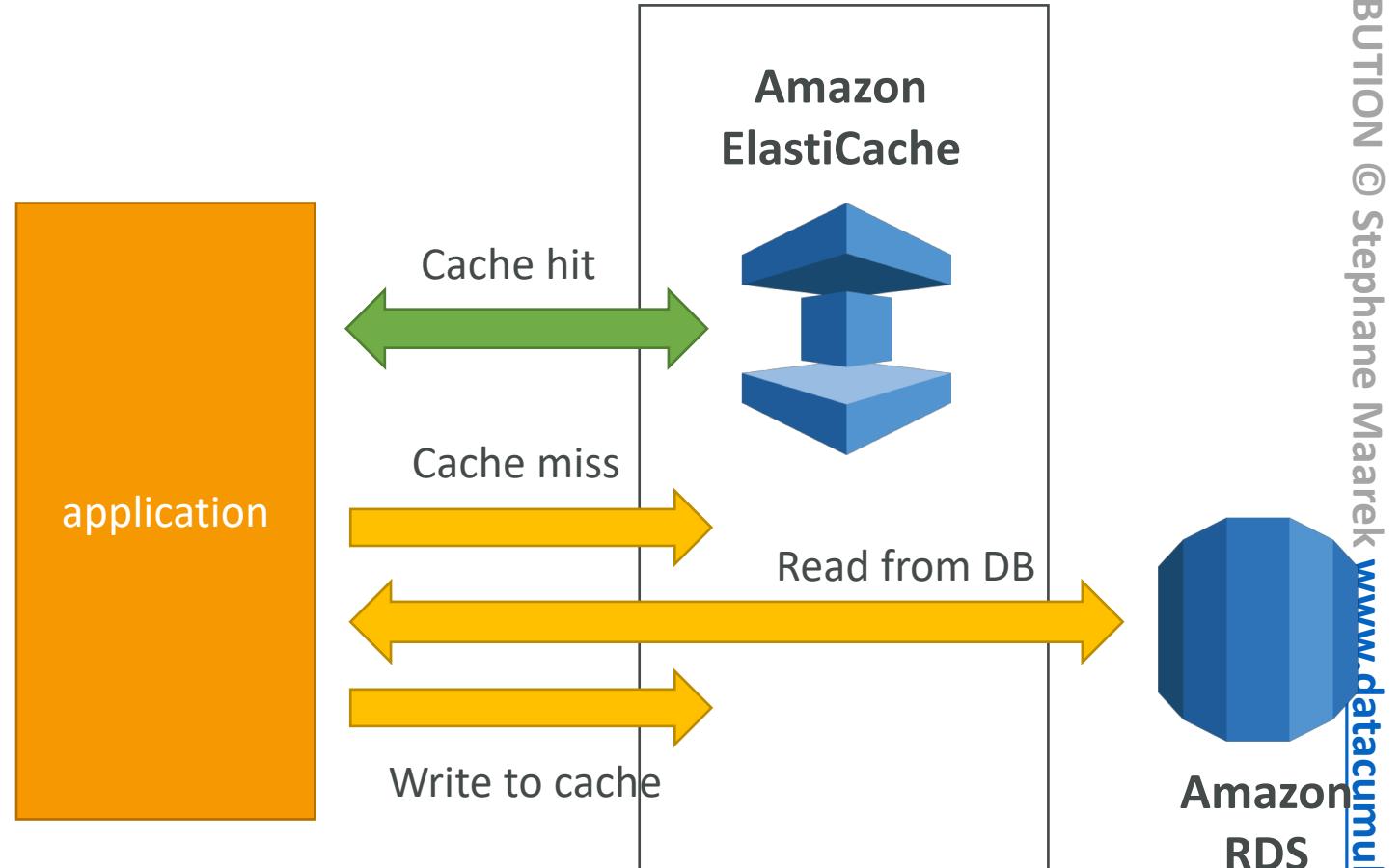
AWS ElastiCache Overview

- The same way RDS is to get managed Relational Databases...
- ElastiCache is to get managed Redis or Memcached
- Caches are in-memory databases with really high performance, low latency
- Helps reduce load off of databases for read intensive workloads
- Helps make your application stateless
- Write Scaling using sharding
- Read Scaling using Read Replicas
- Multi AZ with Failover Capability
- AWS takes care of OS maintenance / patching, optimizations, setup, configuration, monitoring, failure recovery and backups

ElastiCache

Solution Architecture - DB Cache

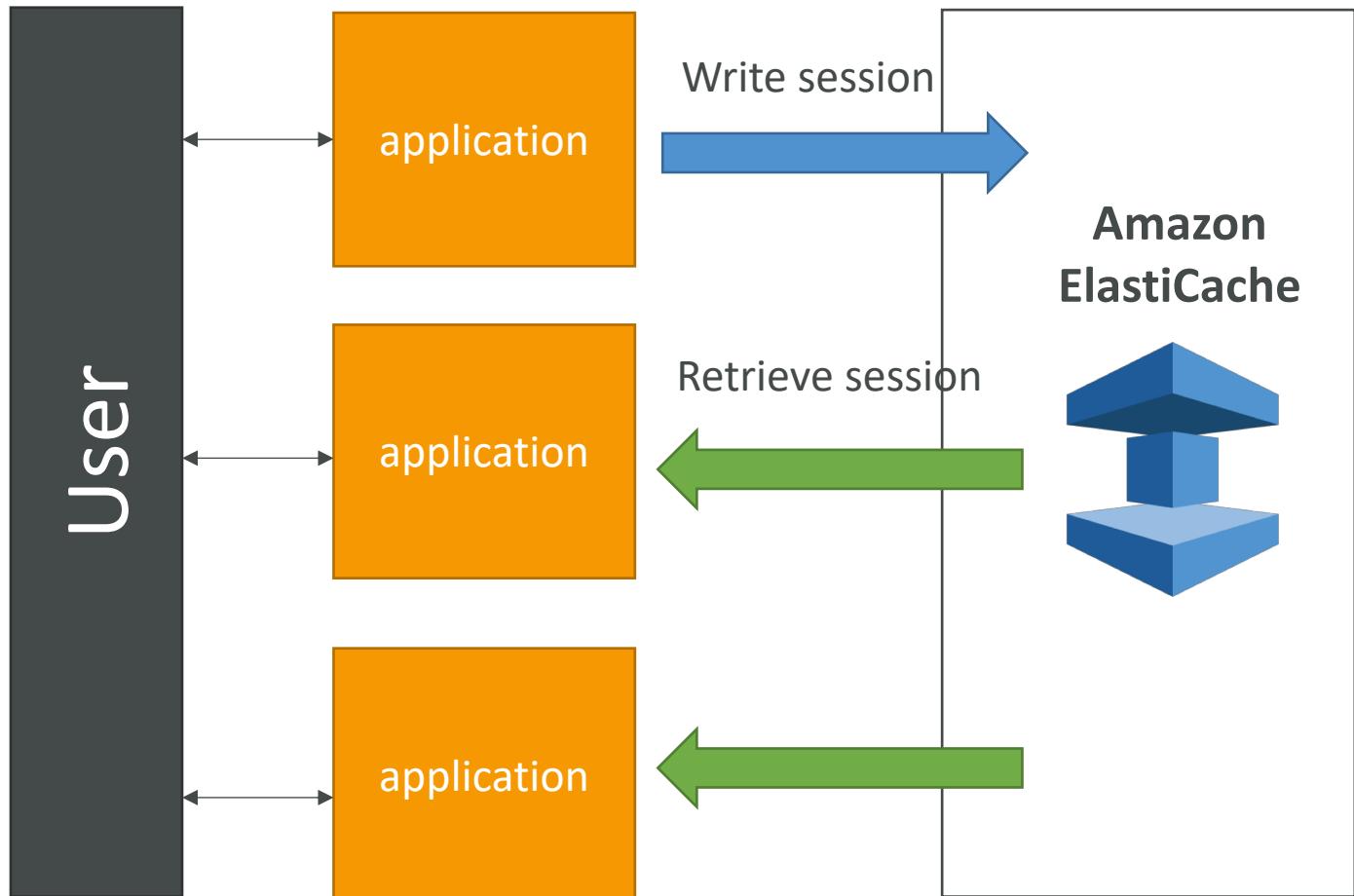
- Applications queries ElastiCache, if not available, get from RDS and store in ElastiCache.
- Helps relieve load in RDS
- Cache must have an invalidation strategy to make sure only the most current data is used in there.



ElastiCache

Solution Architecture – User Session Store

- User logs into any of the application
- The application writes the session data into ElastiCache
- The user hits another instance of our application
- The instance retrieves the data and the user is already logged in



Redis Overview

- Redis is an in-memory key-value store
- Super low latency (sub ms)
- Cache survive reboots by default (it's called persistence)
- Great to host
 - User sessions
 - Leaderboard (for gaming)
 - Distributed states
 - Relieve pressure on databases (such as RDS)
 - Pub / Sub capability for messaging
- Multi AZ with Automatic Failover for disaster recovery if you don't want to lose your cache data
- Support for Read Replicas

Memcached Overview

- Memcached is an in-memory object store
- Cache doesn't survive reboots
- Use cases:
 - Quick retrieval of objects from memory
 - Cache often accessed objects
- Overall, Redis has largely grown in popularity and has better feature sets than Memcached.
- I would personally only use Redis for caching needs.
- AWS exam wouldn't ask if Redis or Memcached is better. Just "ElastiCache" in general

ElastiCache for Solutions Architects

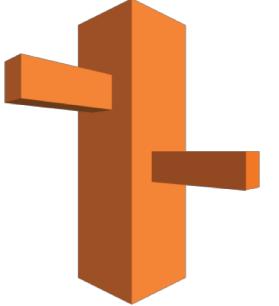
- Security:
 - Redis support Redis AUTH (username / password)
 - SSL in-flight encryption must be enabled and used
 - Memcached support SASL authentication (advanced)
 - None of the caches support IAM authentication
 - IAM policies on ElastiCache are only used for AWS API-level security
- Patterns for ElastiCache:
 - Lazy Loading: all the read data is cached, data can become stale in cache
 - Write Through: Adds or update data in the cache when written to a DB (no stale data)
 - Session Store: store temporary session data in a cache (using TTL features)
- Quote: *There are only two hard things in Computer Science: cache invalidation and naming things*

Route 53

Route 53 Section

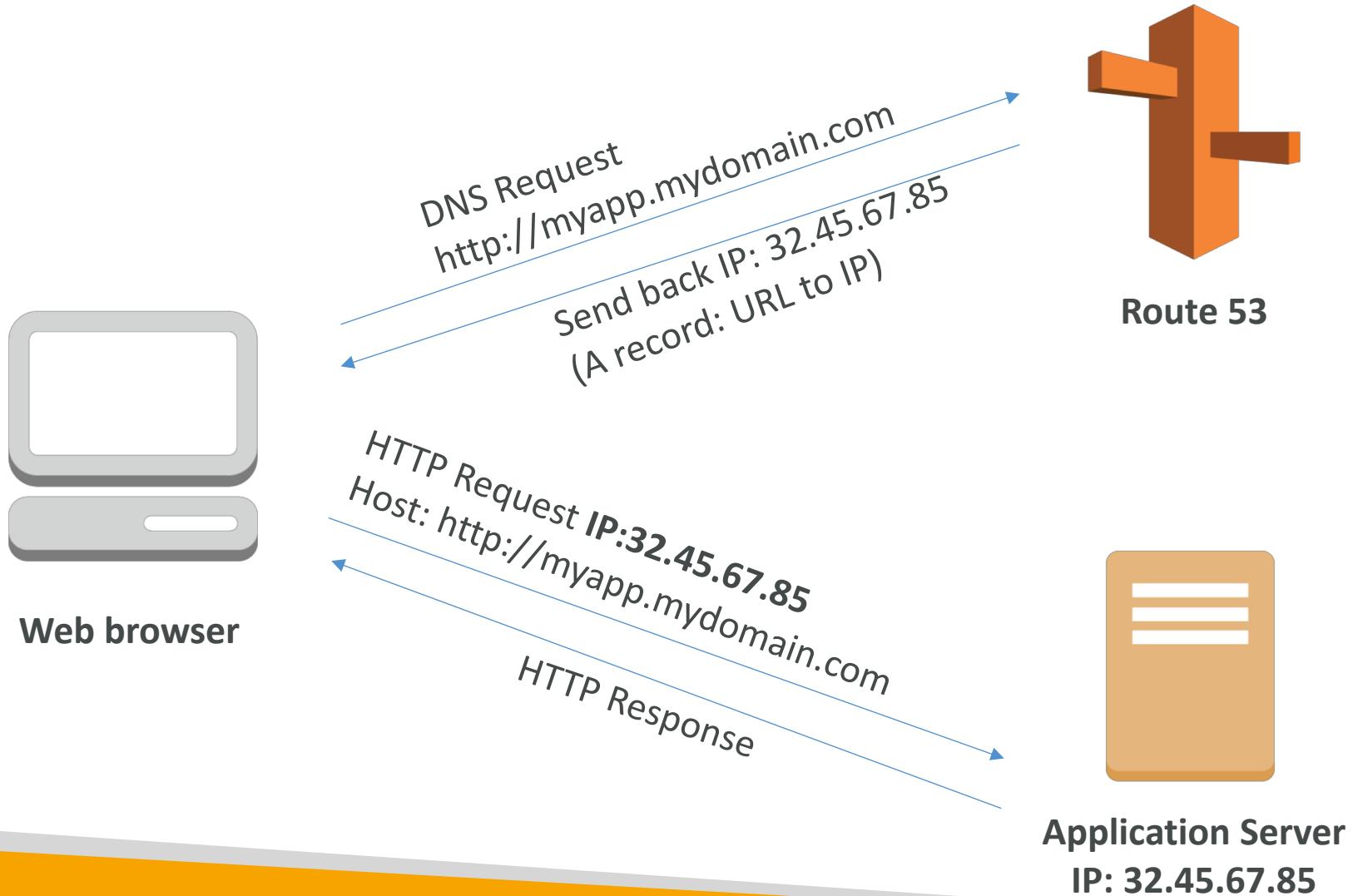
- TTL
- CNAME vs Alias
- Health Checks
- Routing Policies
 - Simple
 - Weighted
 - Latency
 - Failover
 - Geolocation
 - Multi Value
- 3rd party domains integration

AWS Route 53 Overview



- Route53 is a Managed DNS (Domain Name System)
- DNS is a collection of rules and records which helps clients understand how to reach a server through URLs.
- In AWS, the most common records are:
 - A: URL to IPv4
 - AAAA: URL to IPv6
 - CNAME: URL to URL
 - Alias: URL to AWS resource.

Route 53 – Diagram for A Record

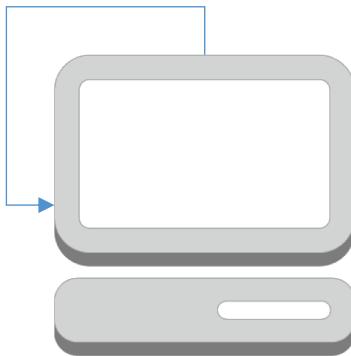


AWS Route 53 Overview

- Route53 can use:
 - public domain names you own (or buy)
application1.mypublicdomain.com
 - private domain names that can be resolved by your instances in your VPCs.
application1.company.internal
- Route53 has advanced features such as:
 - Load balancing (through DNS – also called client load balancing)
 - Health checks (although limited...)
 - Routing policy: simple, failover, geolocation, latency, weighted, multi value
- You pay \$0.50 per month per hosted zone

DNS Records TTL (Time to Live)

DNS Cache
For TTL duration



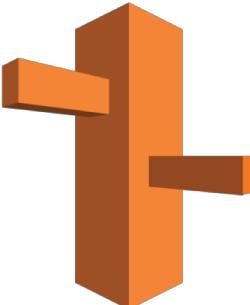
Web browser

DNS Request
`http://myapp.mydomain.com`

Send back IP: 32.45.67.85
(A record: URL to IP)
+ TTL : 300 s

DNS Request
`http://myapp.mydomain.com`

Send back IP: 195.23.45.22
(A record: URL to IP)
+ TTL : 300 s



Route 53

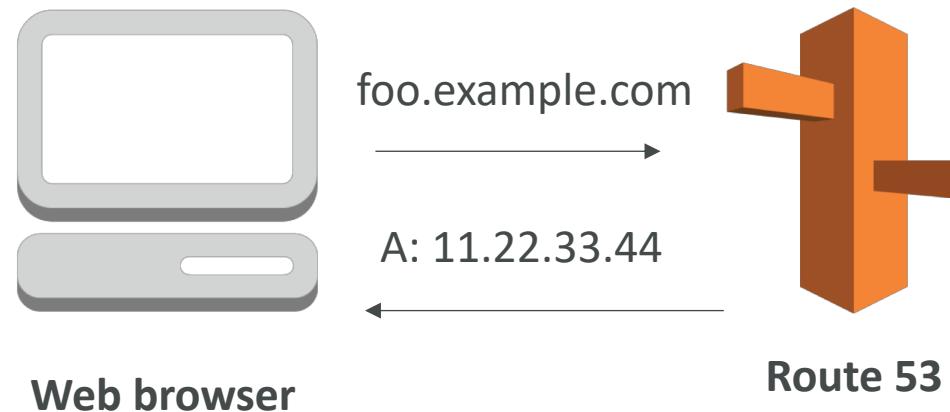
- High TTL: (e.g. 24hr)
 - Less traffic on DNS
 - Possibly outdated records
- Low TTL: (e.g 60 s)
 - More traffic on DNS
 - Records are outdated for less time
 - Easy to change records
- TTL is mandatory for each DNS record

CNAME vs Alias

- AWS Resources (Load Balancer, CloudFront, etc...) expose an AWS URL: lb-1234.us-east-2.elb.amazonaws.com and you want it to be myapp.mydomain.com
- CNAME:
 - Points a URL to any other URL. (app.mydomain.com => blabla.anything.com)
 - ONLY FOR NON ROOT DOMAIN (aka. something.mydomain.com)
- Alias:
 - Points a URL to an AWS Resource (app.mydomain.com => blabla.amazonaws.com)
 - Works for ROOT DOMAIN and NON ROOT DOMAIN (aka mydomain.com)
 - Free of charge
 - Native health check

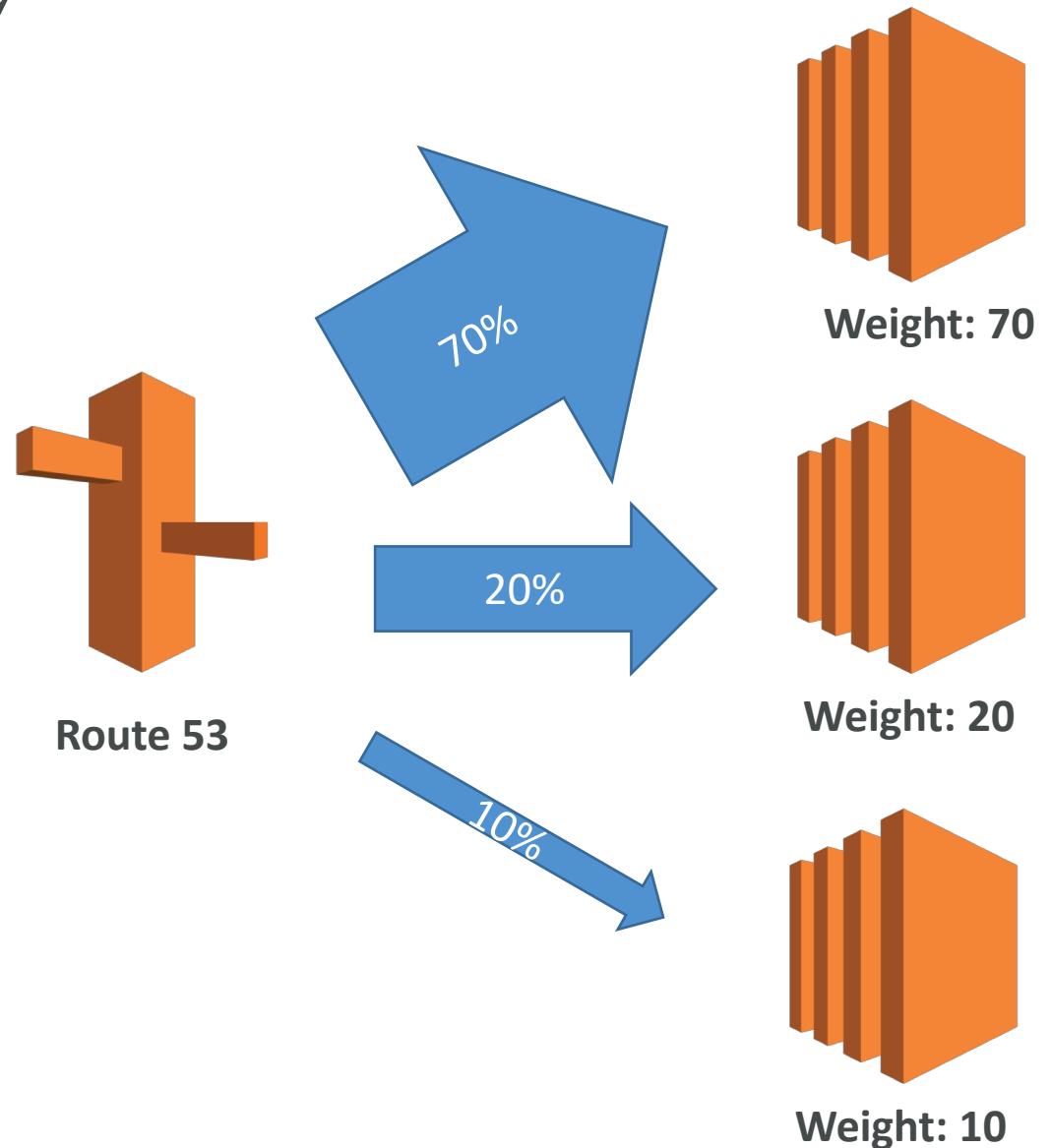
Simple Routing Policy

- Maps a domain to one URL
- Use when you need to redirect to a single resource
- You can't attach health checks to simple routing policy
- If multiple values are returned, a random one is chosen by the client



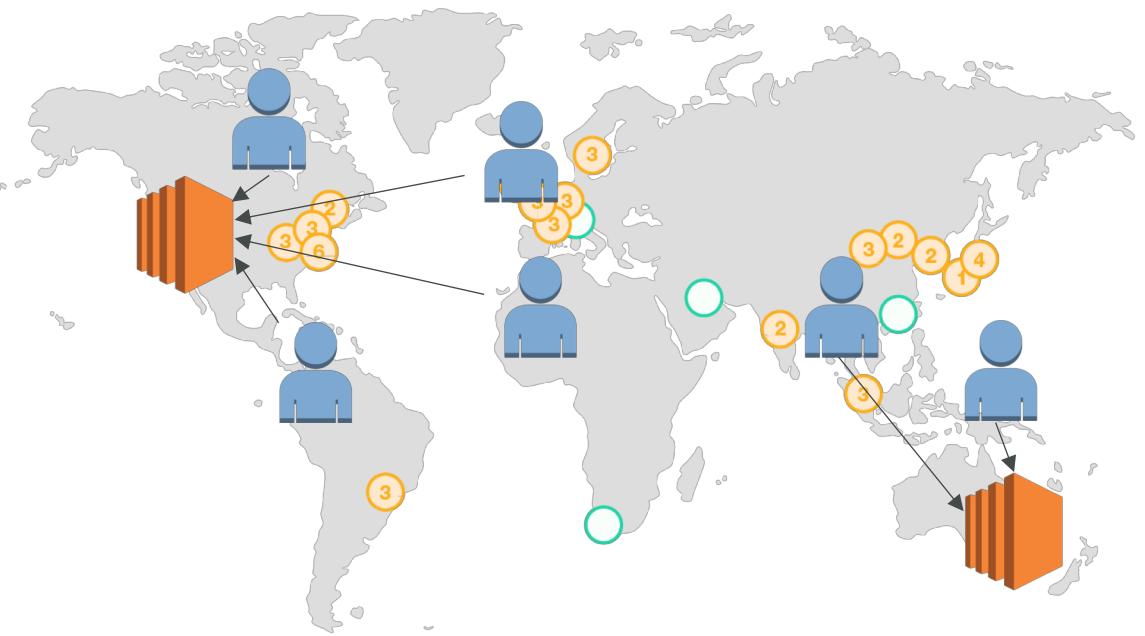
Weighted Routing Policy

- Control the % of the requests that go to specific endpoint
- Helpful to test 1% of traffic on new app version for example
- Helpful to split traffic between two regions
- Can be associated with Health Checks



Latency Routing Policy

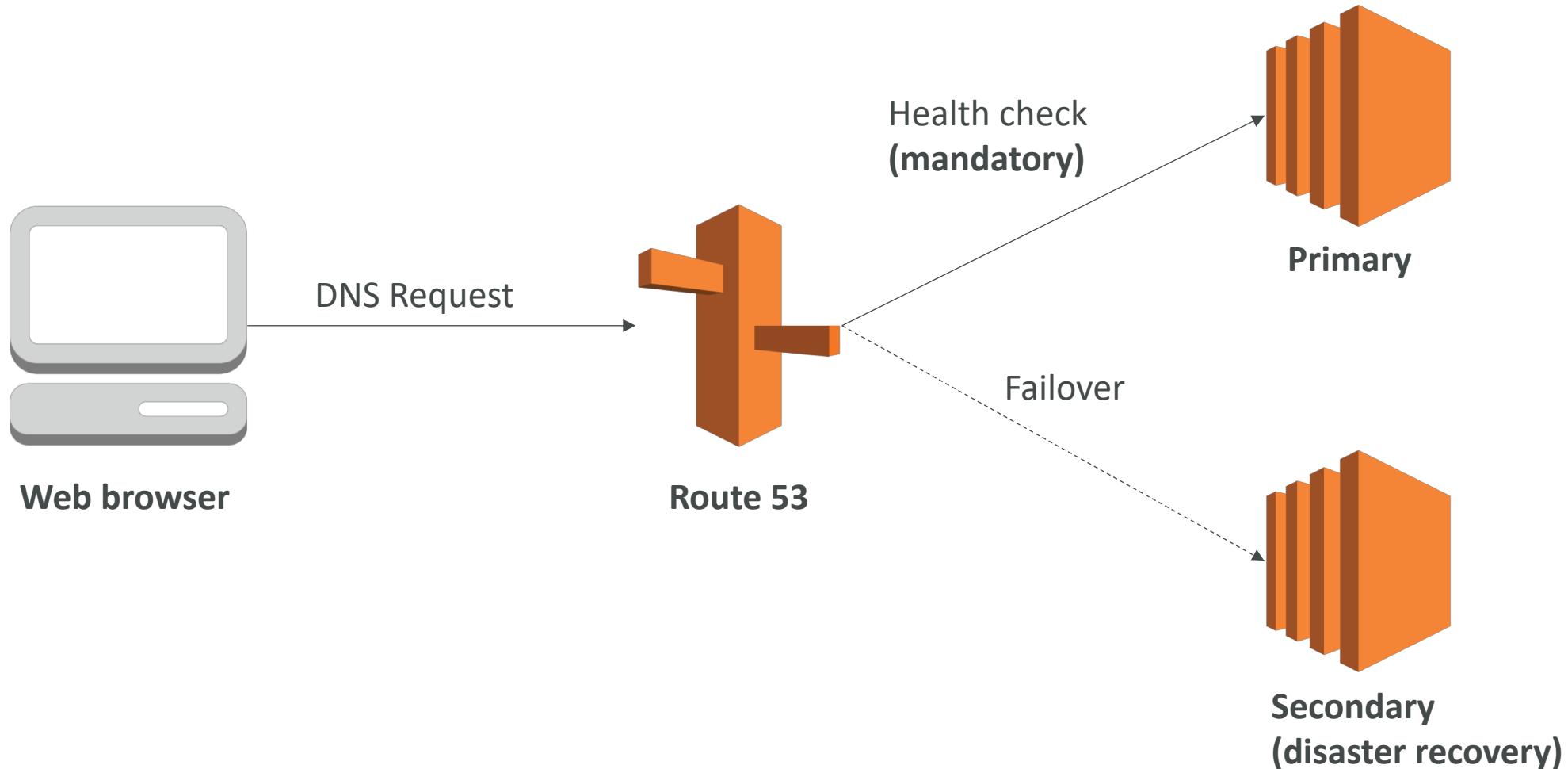
- Redirect to the server that has the least latency close to us
- Super helpful when latency of users is a priority
- Latency is evaluated in terms of user to designated AWS Region
- Germany may be directed to the US (if that's the lowest latency)



Health Checks

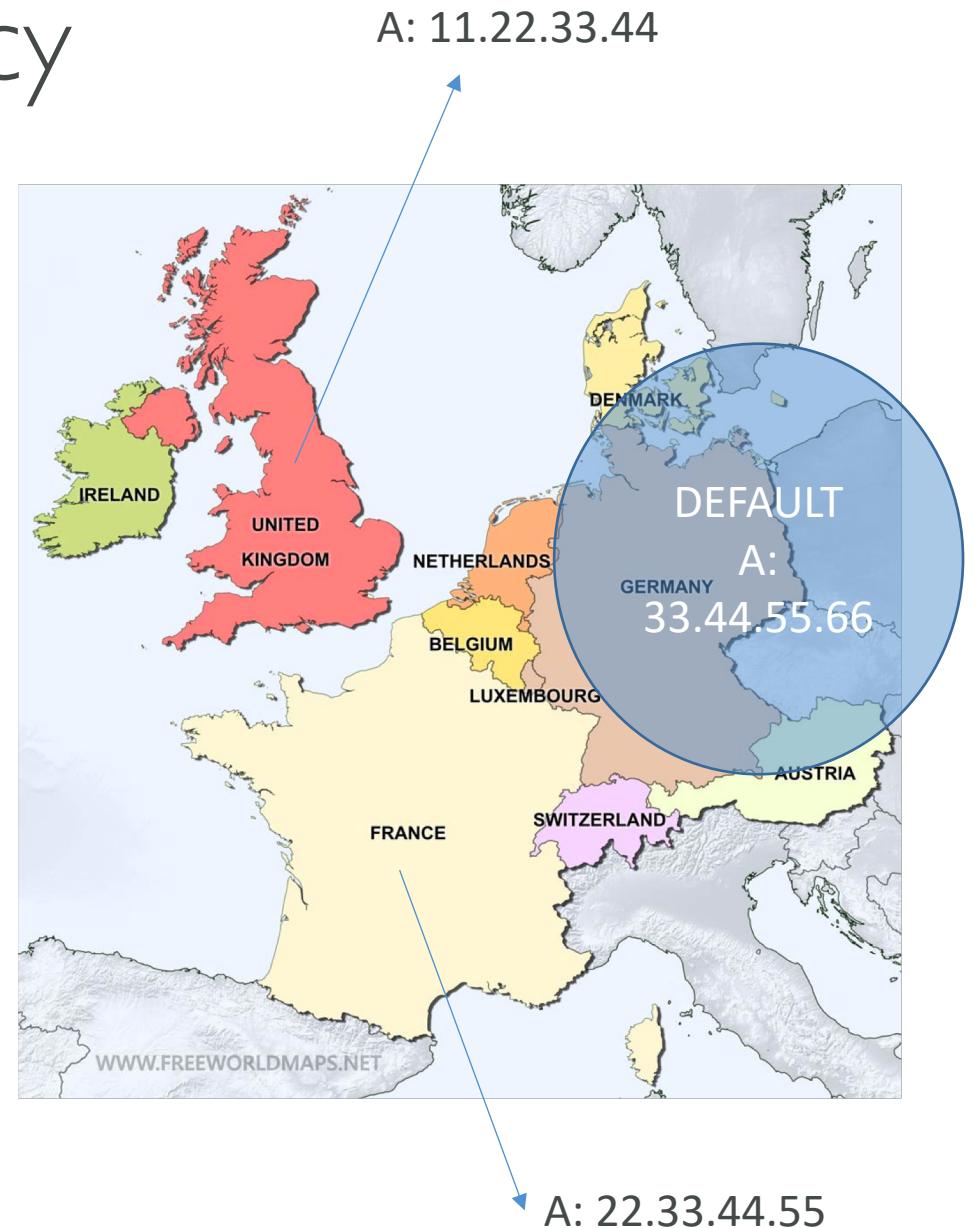
- Have X health checks failed => unhealthy (default 3)
- After X health checks passed => health (default 3)
- Default Health Check Interval: 30s (can set to 10s – higher cost)
- About 15 health checkers will check the endpoint health
- => one request every 2 seconds on average
- Can have HTTP,TCP and HTTPS health checks (no SSL verification)
- Possibility of integrating the health check with CloudWatch
- Health checks can be linked to Route53 DNS queries!

Failover Routing Policy



Geo Location Routing Policy

- Different from Latency based!
- This is routing based on user location
- Here we specify: traffic from the UK should go to this specific IP
- Should create a “default” policy (in case there’s no match on location)



Multi Value Routing Policy

- Use when routing traffic to multiple resources
- Want to associate a Route 53 health checks with records
- Up to 8 healthy records are returned for each Multi Value query
- Multi Value is not a substitute for having an ELB

Name	Type	Value	TTL	Set ID	Health Check
www.example.com	A Record	192.0.2.2	60	Web1	A
www.example.com	A Record	198.51.100.2	60	Web2	B
www.example.com	A Record	203.0.113.2	60	Web3	C

Route53 as a Registrar

- A domain name **registrar** is an organization that manages the reservation of Internet domain names
- Famous names:
 - GoDaddy
 - Google Domains
 - Etc...
- And also... Route53 (e.g. AWS)!
- Domain Registrar != DNS

3rd Party Registrar with AWS Route 53

- If you buy your domain on 3rd party website, you can still use Route53.
 - 1) Create a Hosted Zone in Route 53
 - 2) Update NS Records on 3rd party website to use Route 53 name servers
- Domain Registrar != DNS
 - (But each domain registrar usually comes with some DNS features)

Classic Solutions Architecture

Section Introduction

- These solutions architectures are the best part of this course
- Let's understand how all the technologies we've seen work together
- This is a section you need to be 100% comfortable with
- We'll see the progression of a Solution's architect mindset through many sample case studies:
 - WhatIsTheTime.Com
 - MyClothes.Com
 - MyWordPress.Com
 - Instantiating applications quickly
 - Beanstalk

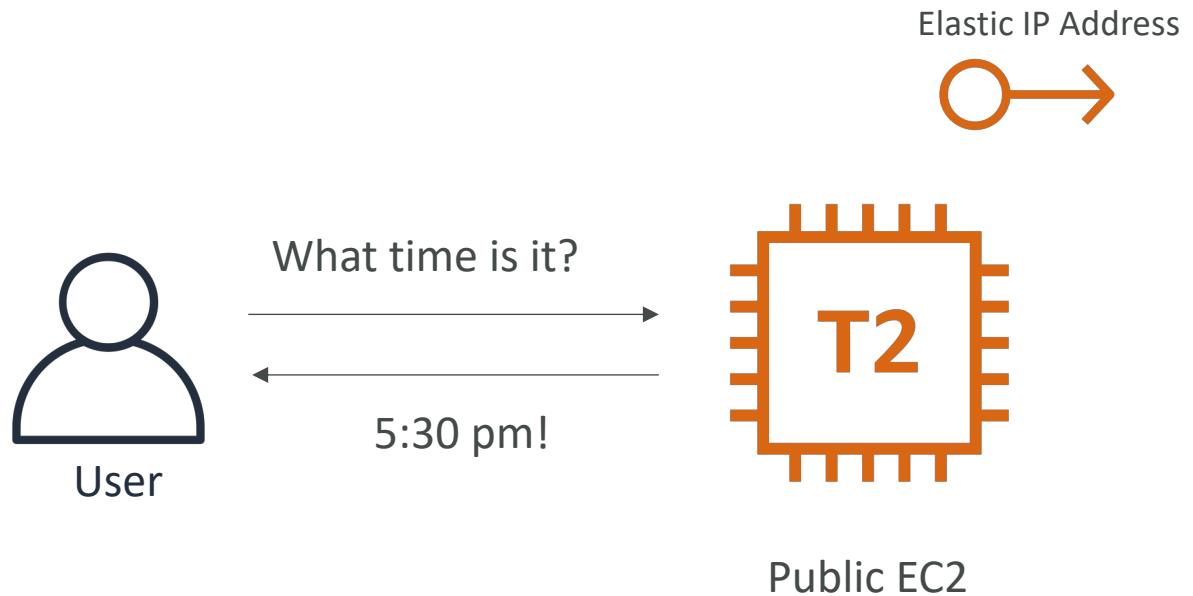
Stateless Web App: WhatIsTheTime.com

- WhatIsTheTime.com allows people to know what time it is
- We don't need a database
- We want to start small and can accept downtime
- We want to fully scale vertically and horizontally, no downtime
- Let's go through the Solutions Architect journey for this app

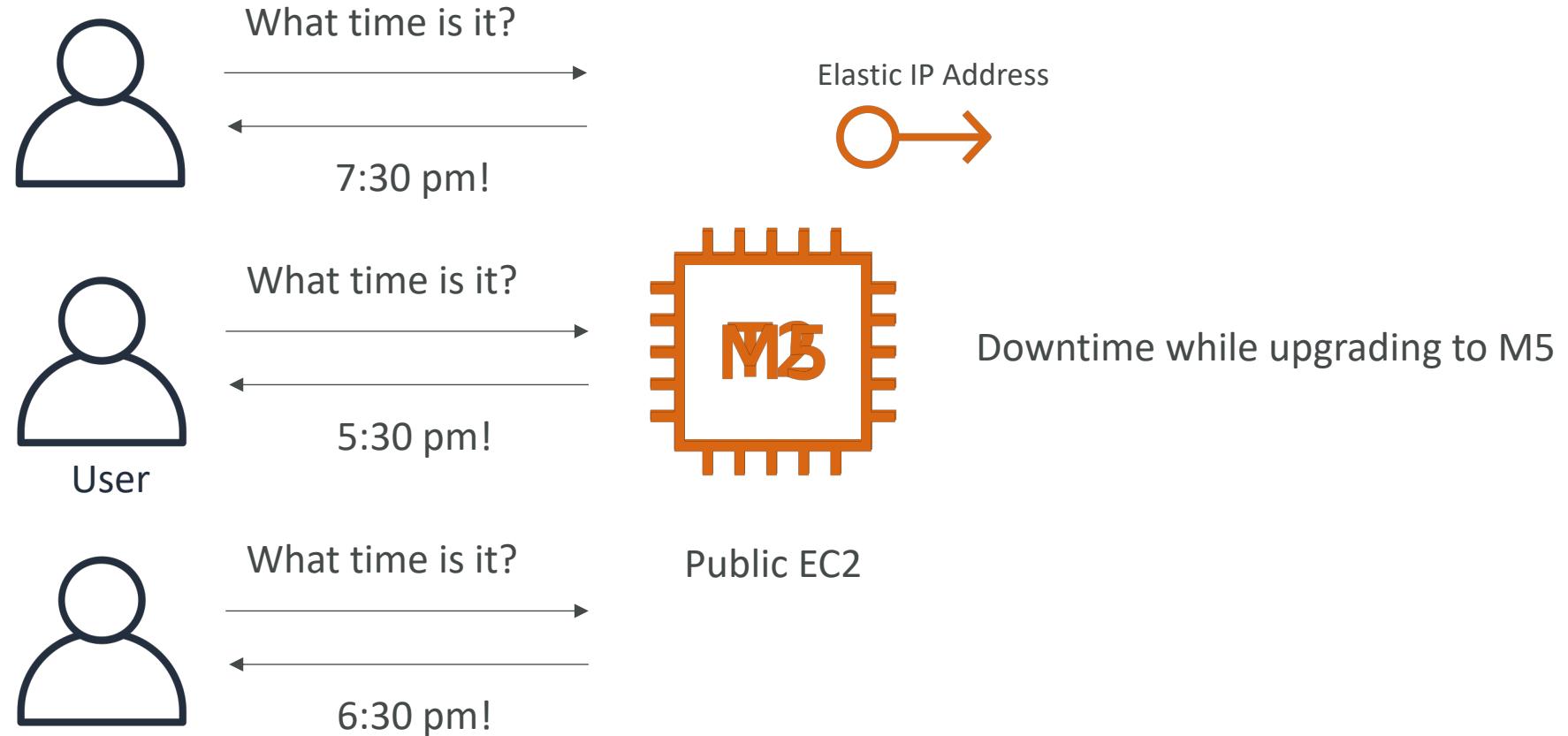
- Let's see how we can proceed!

Stateless web app: What time is it?

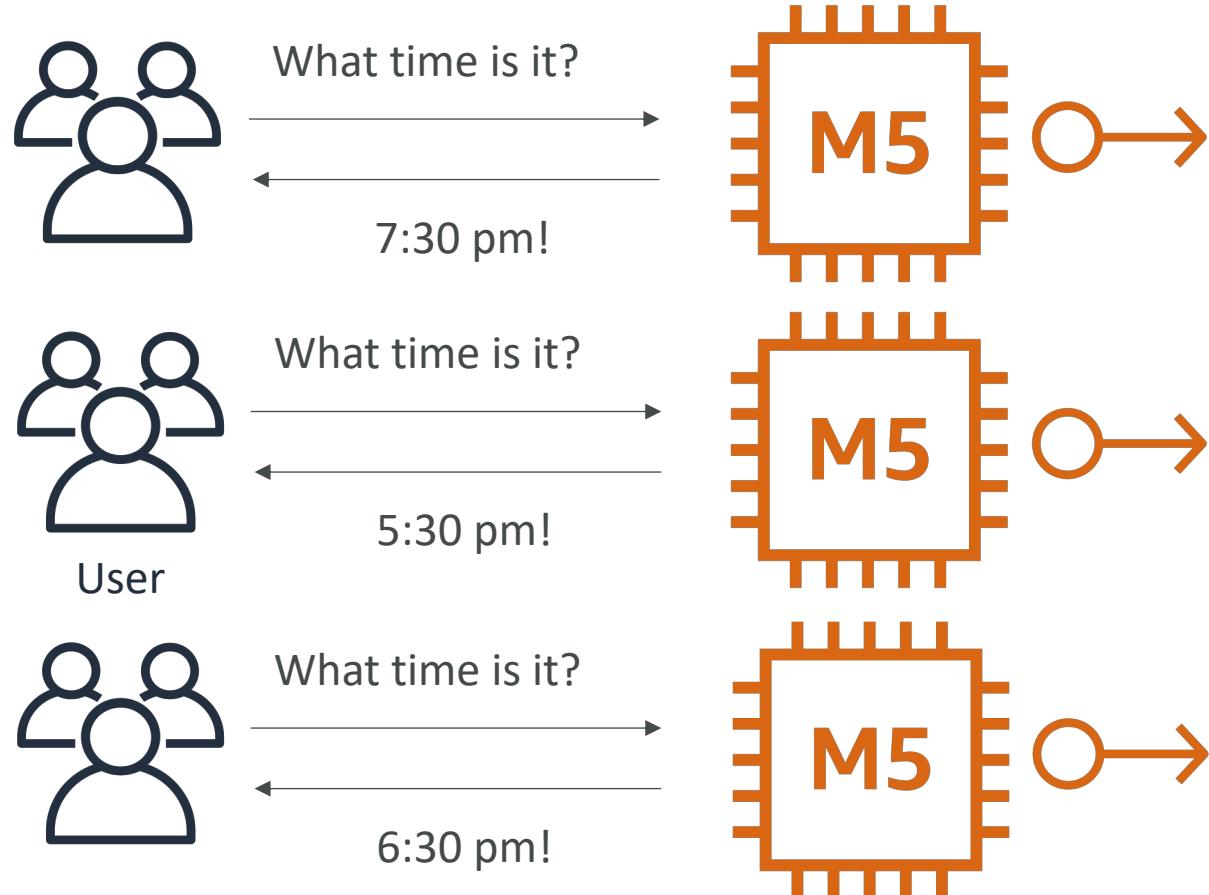
Starting simple



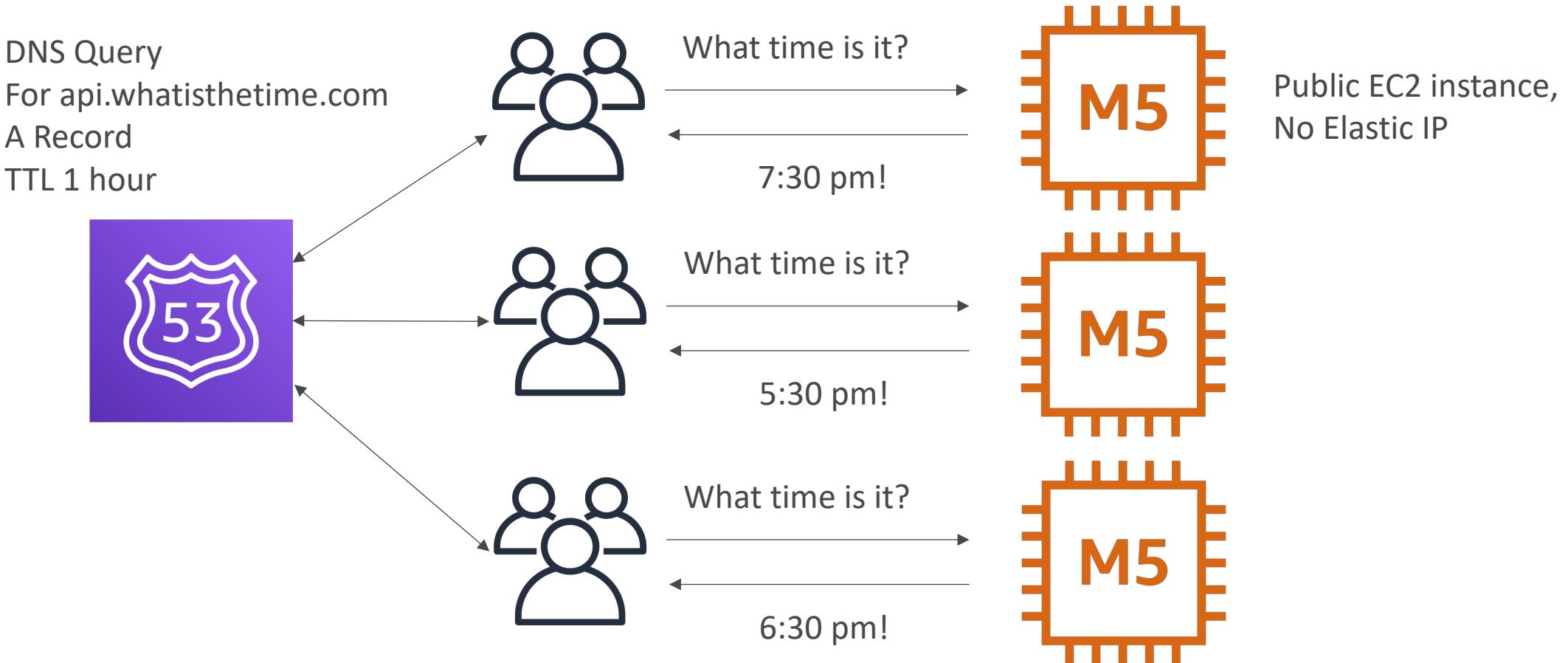
Stateless web app: What time is it? Scaling vertically



Stateless web app: What time is it? Scaling horizontally

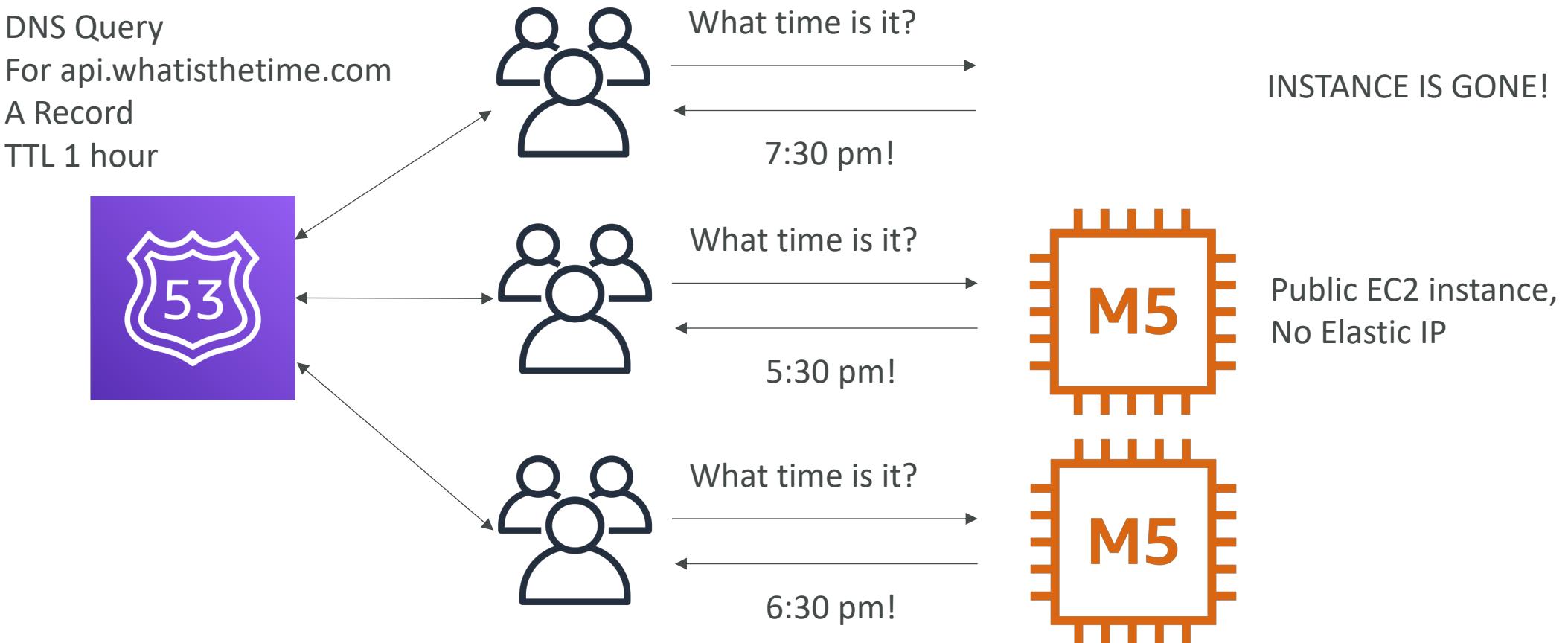


Stateless web app: What time is it? Scaling horizontally

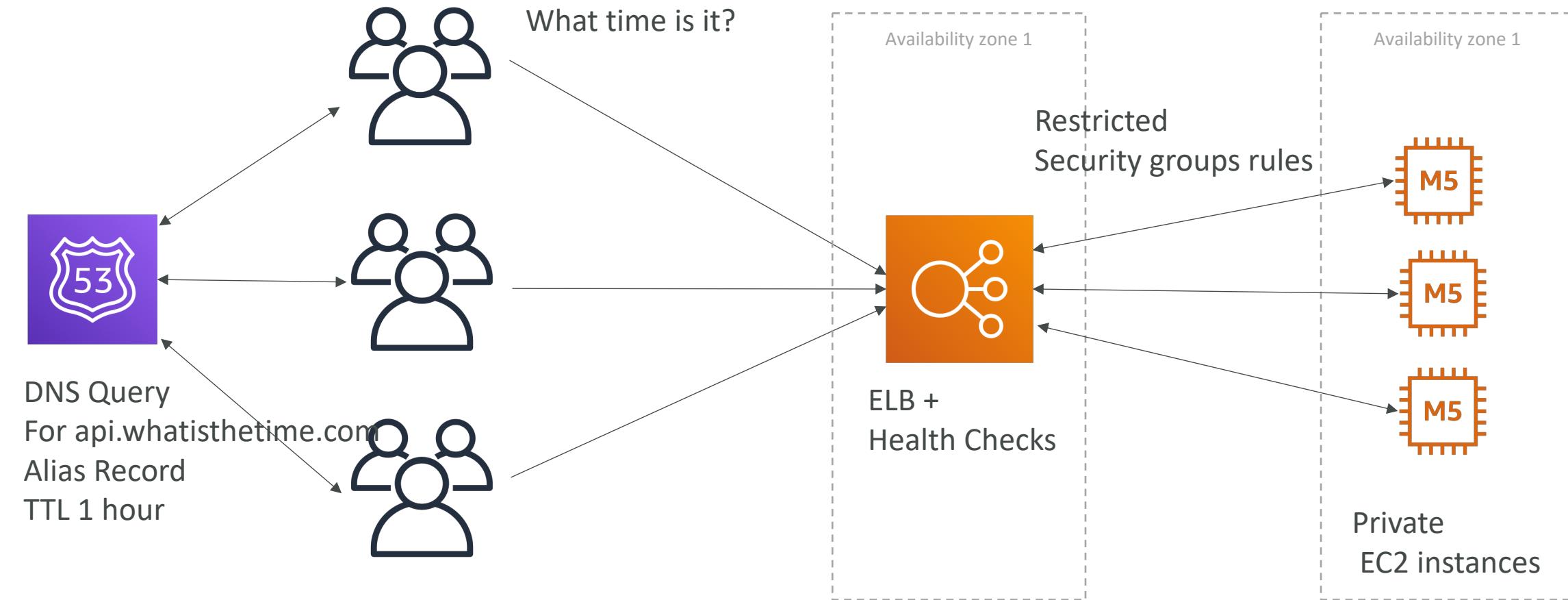


Stateless web app: What time is it?

Scaling horizontally, adding and removing instances

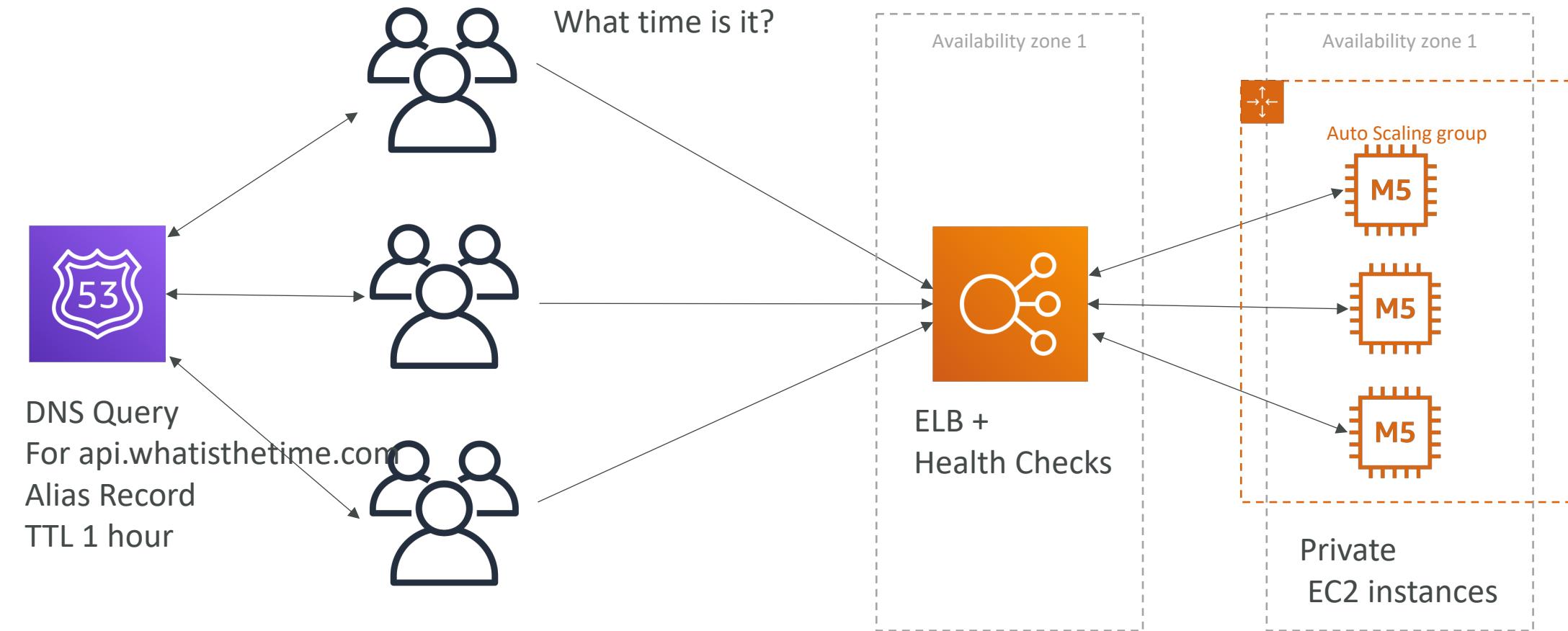


Stateless web app: What time is it? Scaling horizontally, with a load balancer



Stateless web app: What time is it?

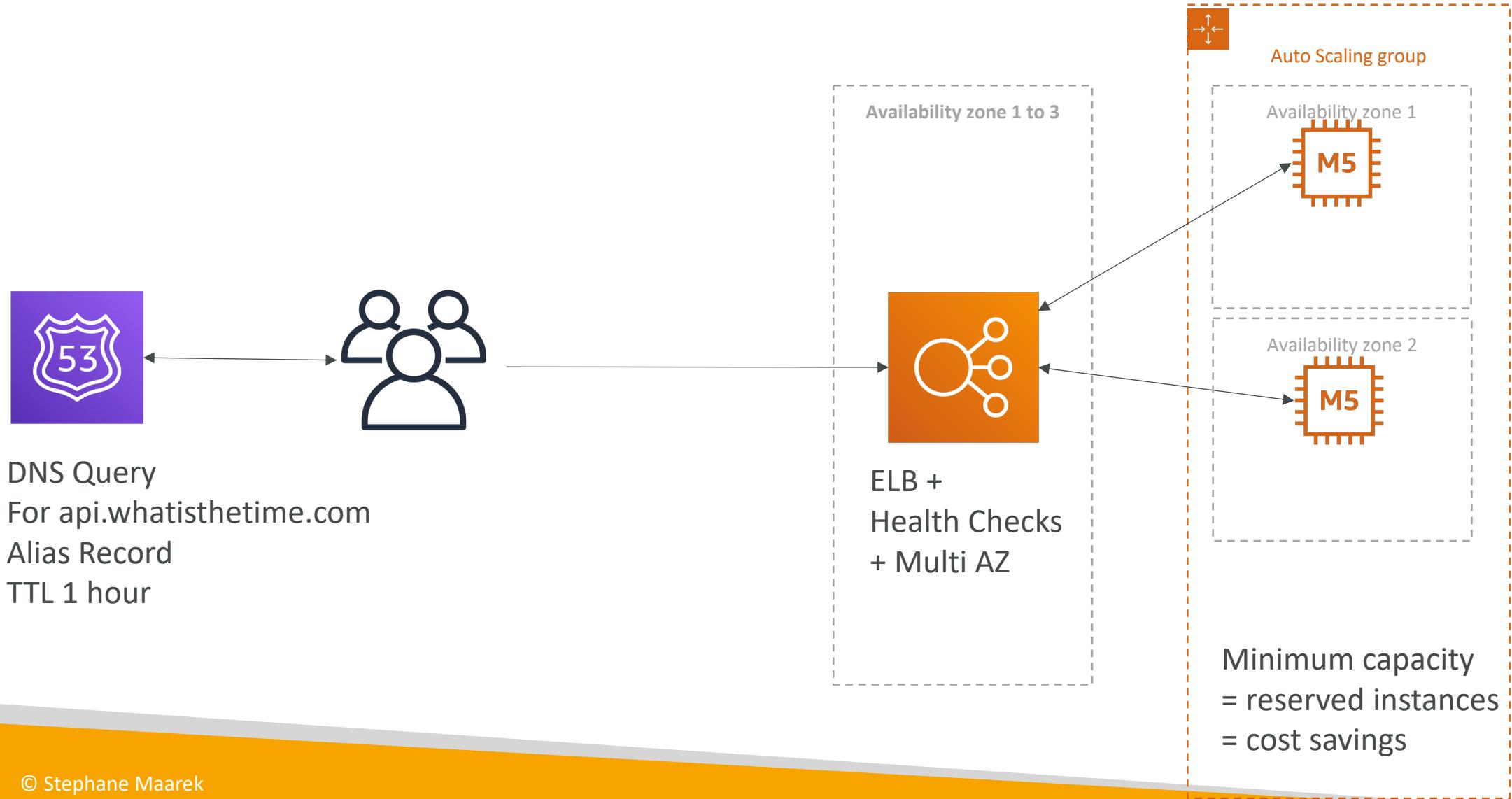
Scaling horizontally, with an auto-scaling group



Stateless web app: What time is it? Making our app multi-AZ



Minimum 2 AZ => Let's reserve capacity



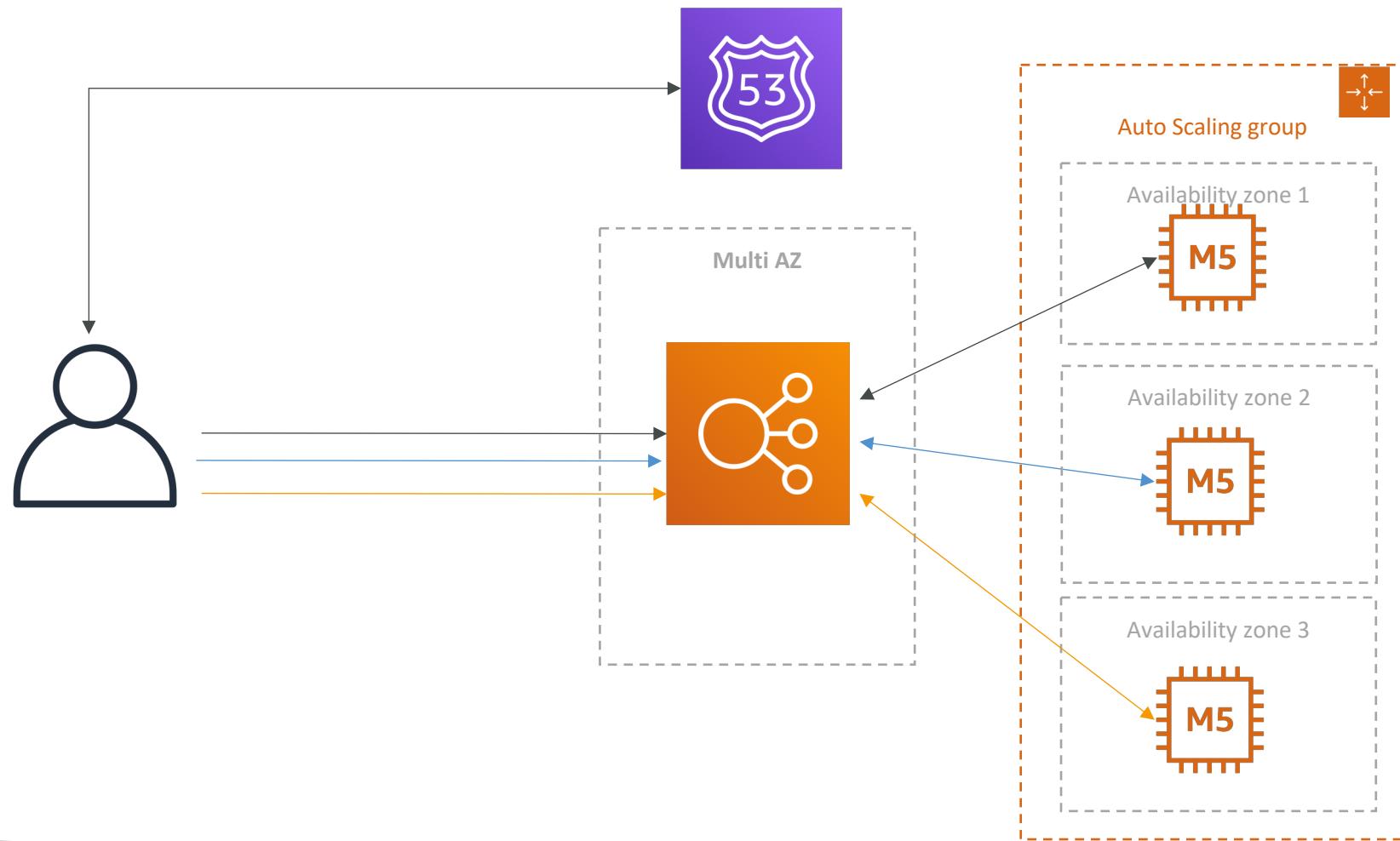
In this lecture we've discussed...

- Public vs Private IP and EC2 instances
- Elastic IP vs Route 53 vs Load Balancers
- Route 53 TTL, A records and Alias Records
- Maintaining EC2 instances manually vs Auto Scaling Groups
- Multi AZ to survive disasters
- ELB Health Checks
- Security Group Rules
- Reservation of capacity for costing savings when possible
- We're considering 5 pillars for a well architected application:
costs, performance, reliability, security, operational excellence

Stateful Web App: MyClothes.com

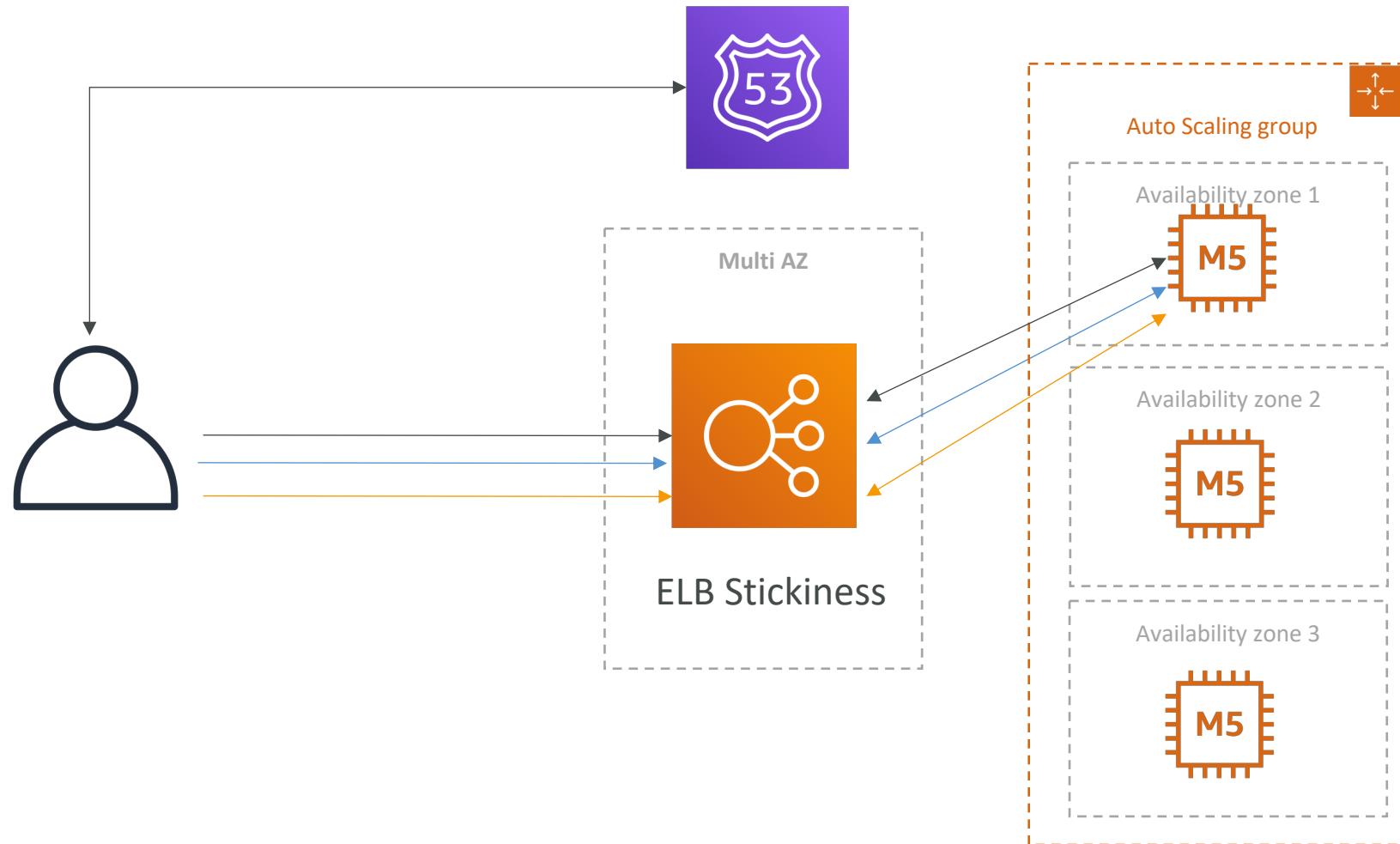
- MyClothes.com allows people to buy clothes online.
- There's a shopping cart
- Our website is having hundreds of users at the same time
- We need to scale, maintain horizontal scalability and keep our web application as stateless as possible
- Users should not lose their shopping cart
- Users should have their details (address, etc) in a database
- Let's see how we can proceed!

Stateful Web App: MyClothes.com



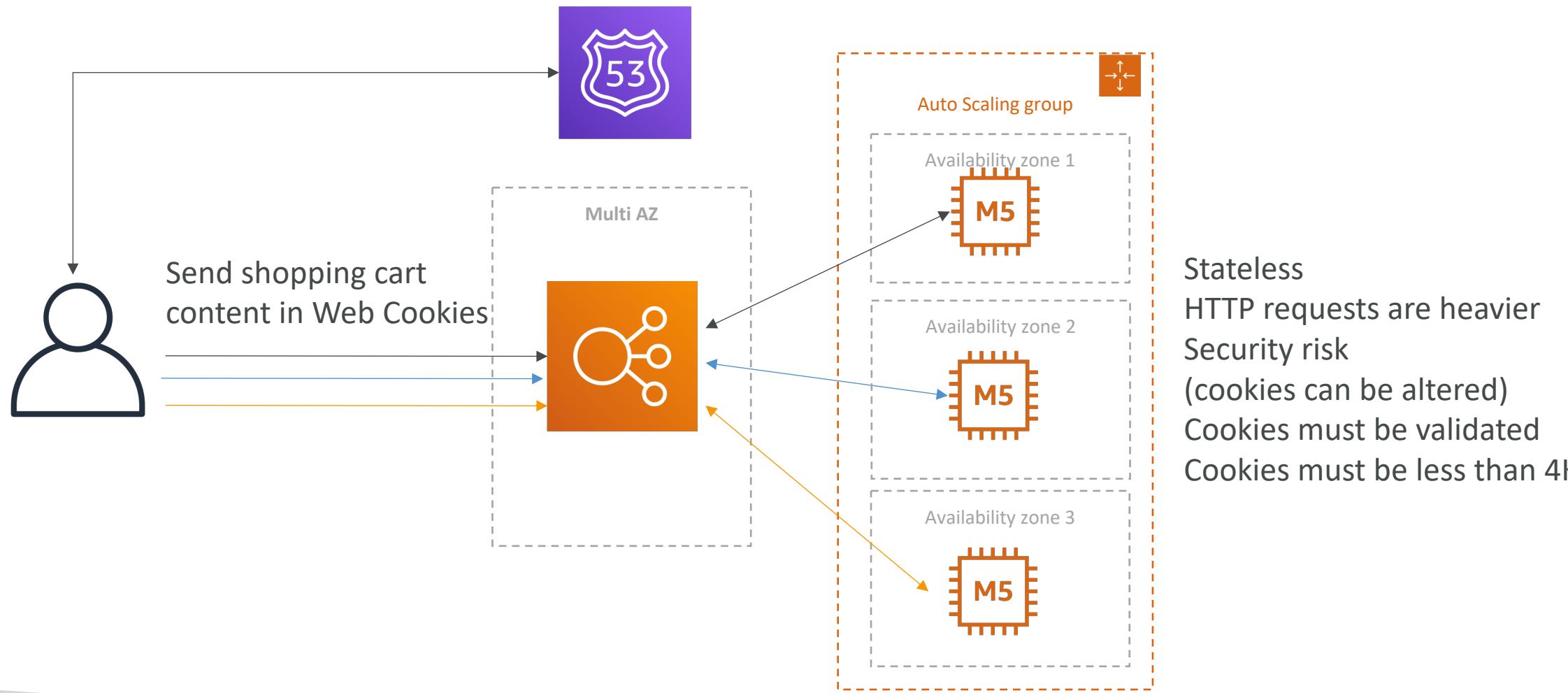
Stateful Web App: MyClothes.com

Introduce Stickiness (Session Affinity)



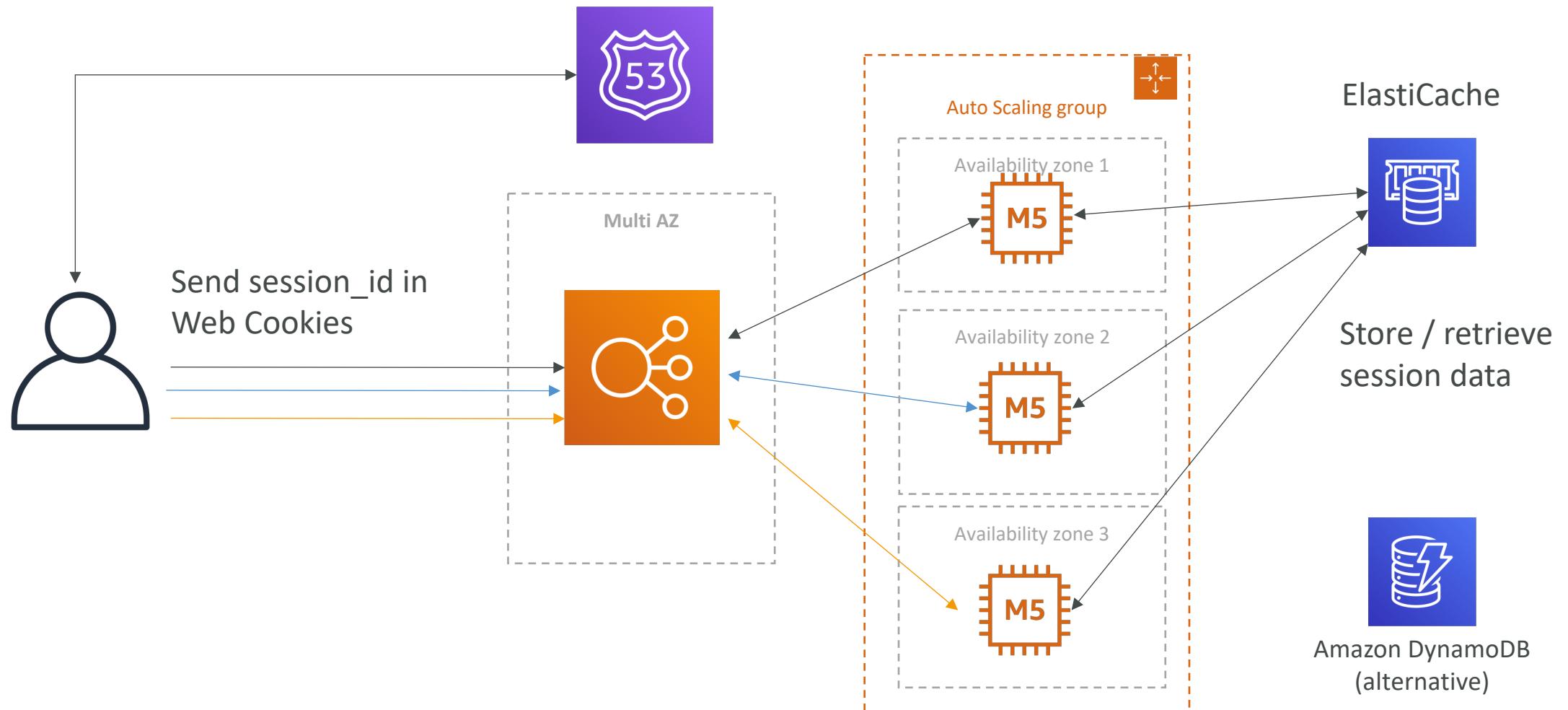
Stateful Web App: MyClothes.com

Introduce User Cookies



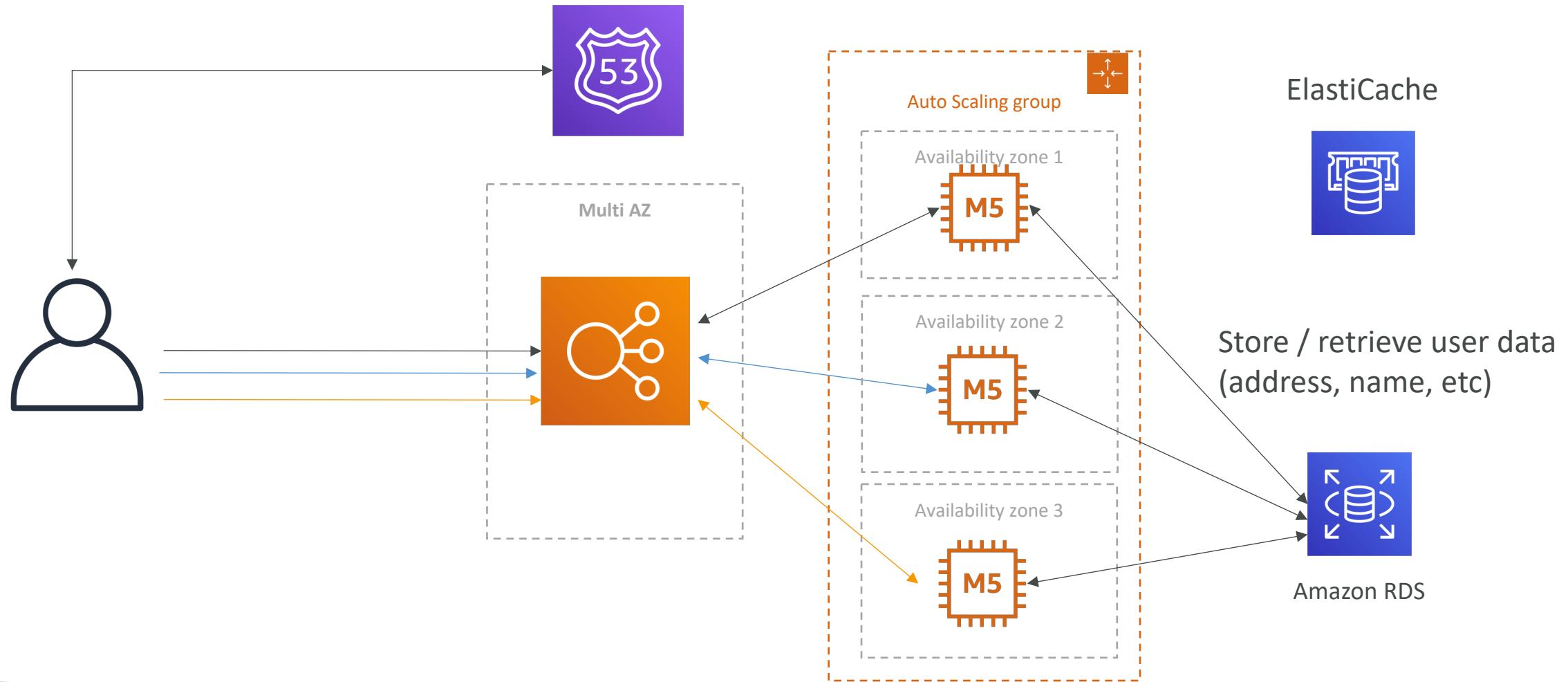
Stateful Web App: MyClothes.com

Introduce Server Session



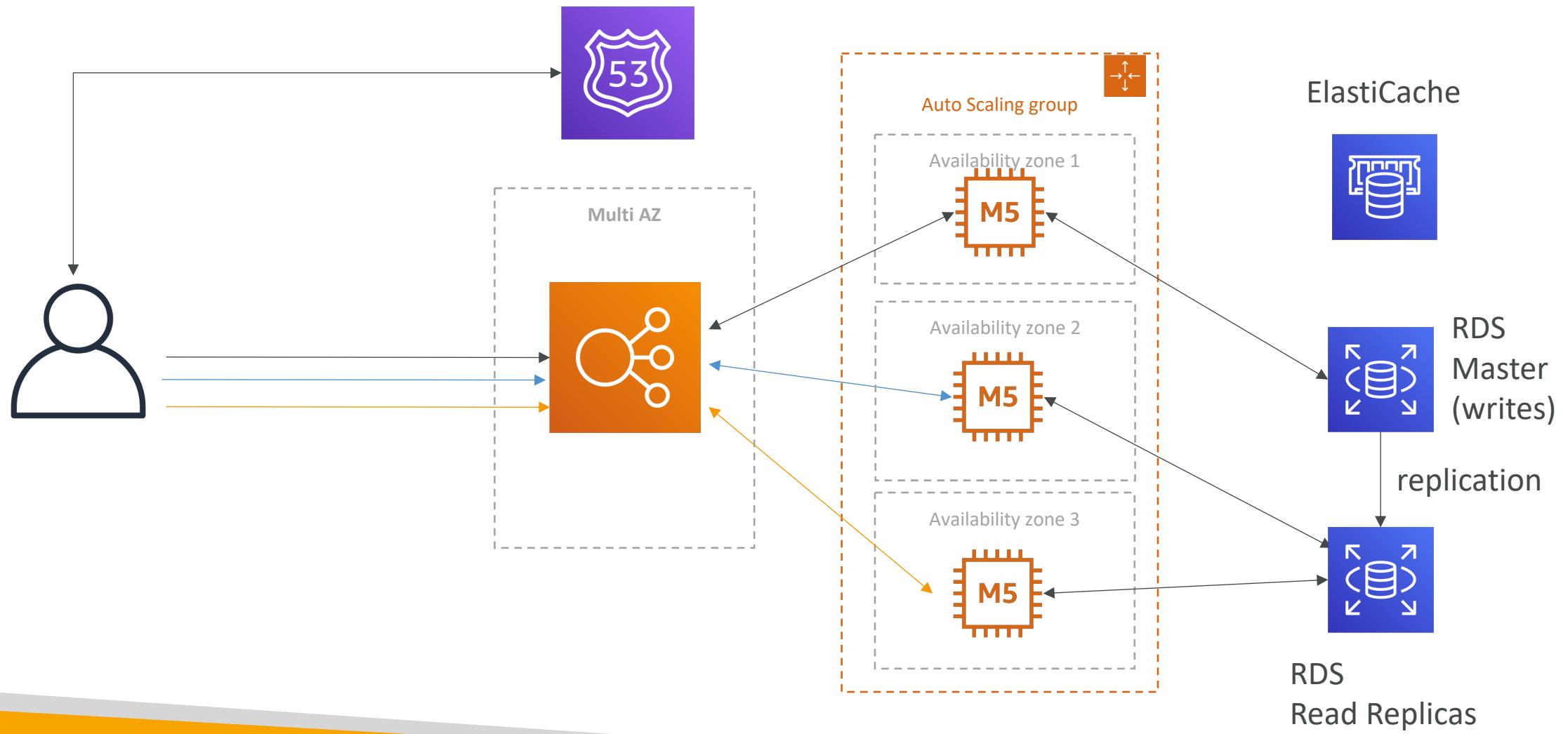
Stateful Web App: MyClothes.com

Storing User Data in a database



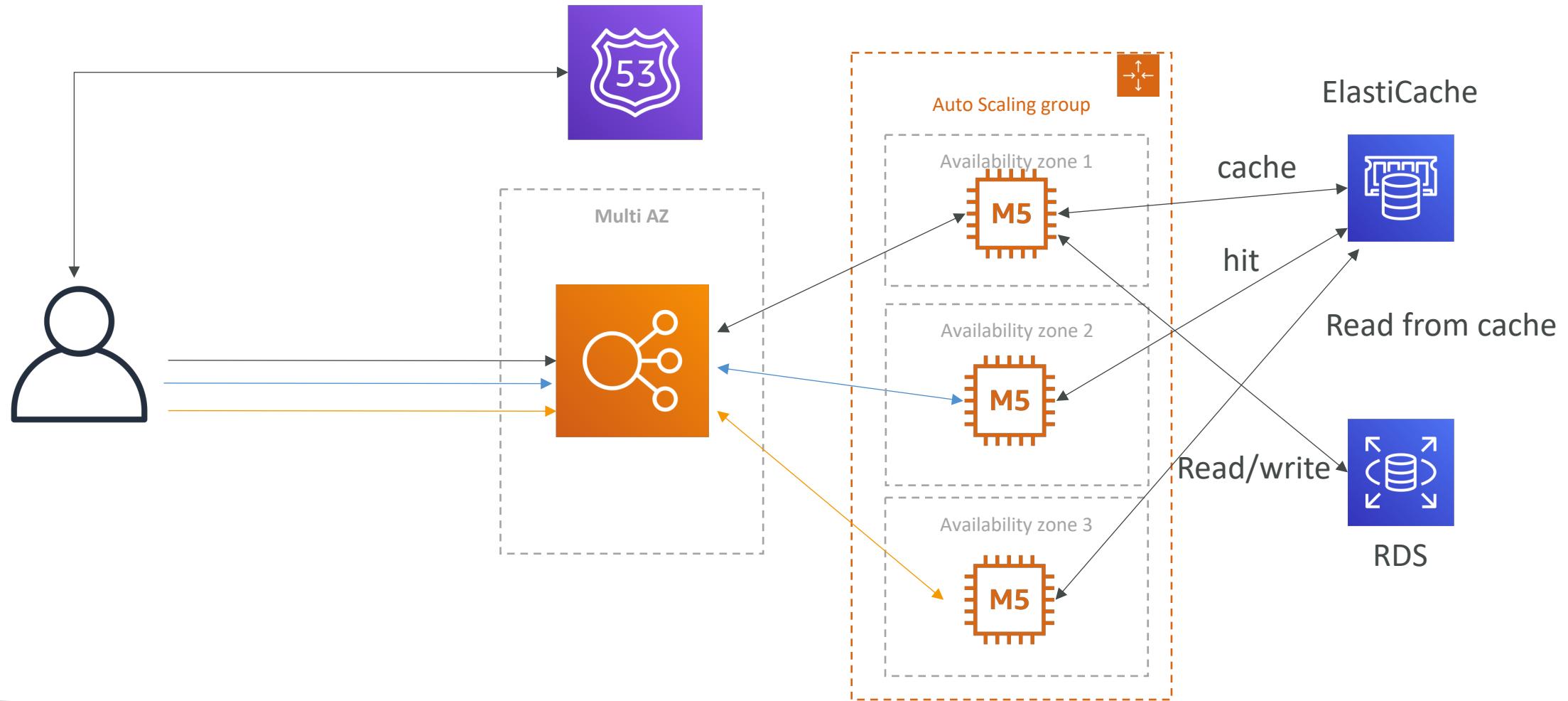
Stateful Web App: MyClothes.com

Scaling Reads



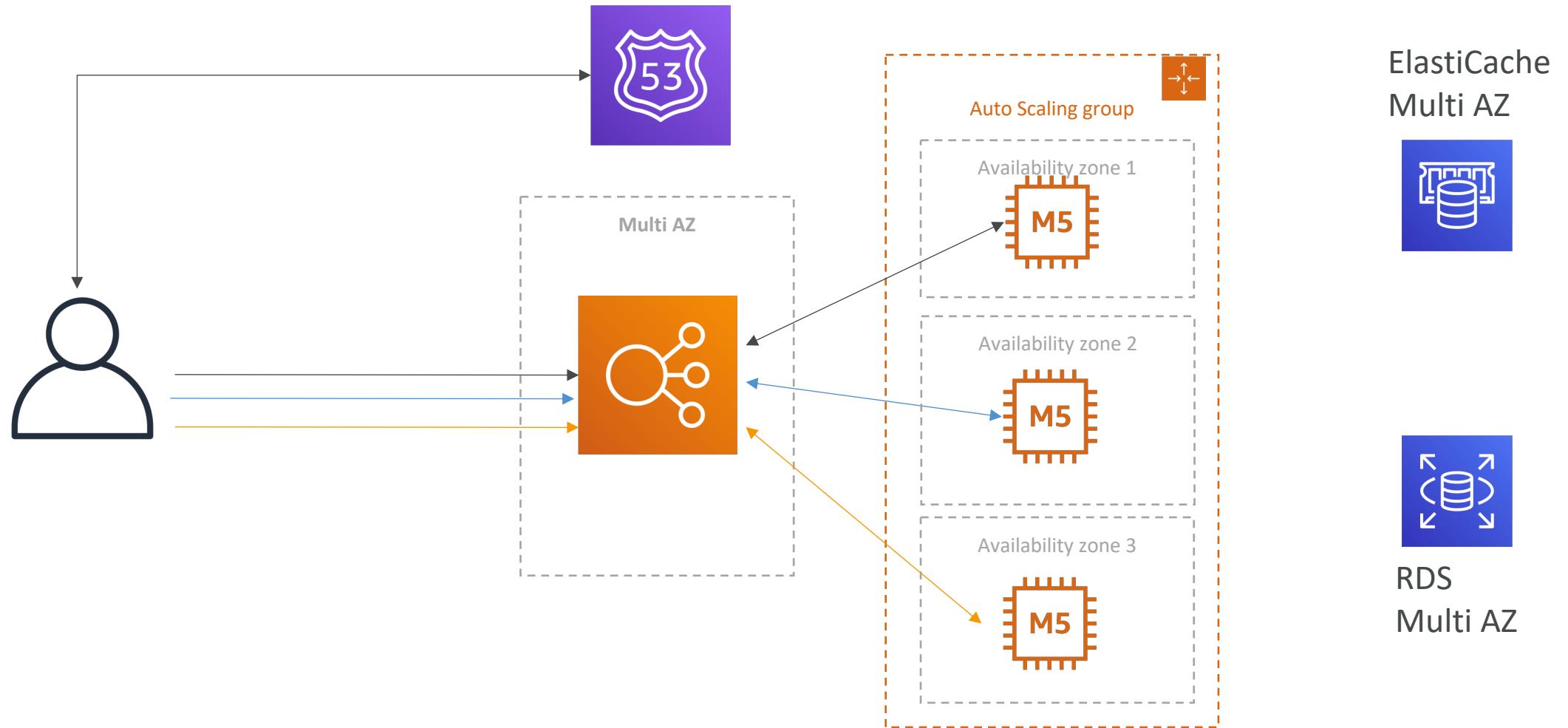
Stateful Web App: MyClothes.com

Scaling Reads (Alternative) – Write Through



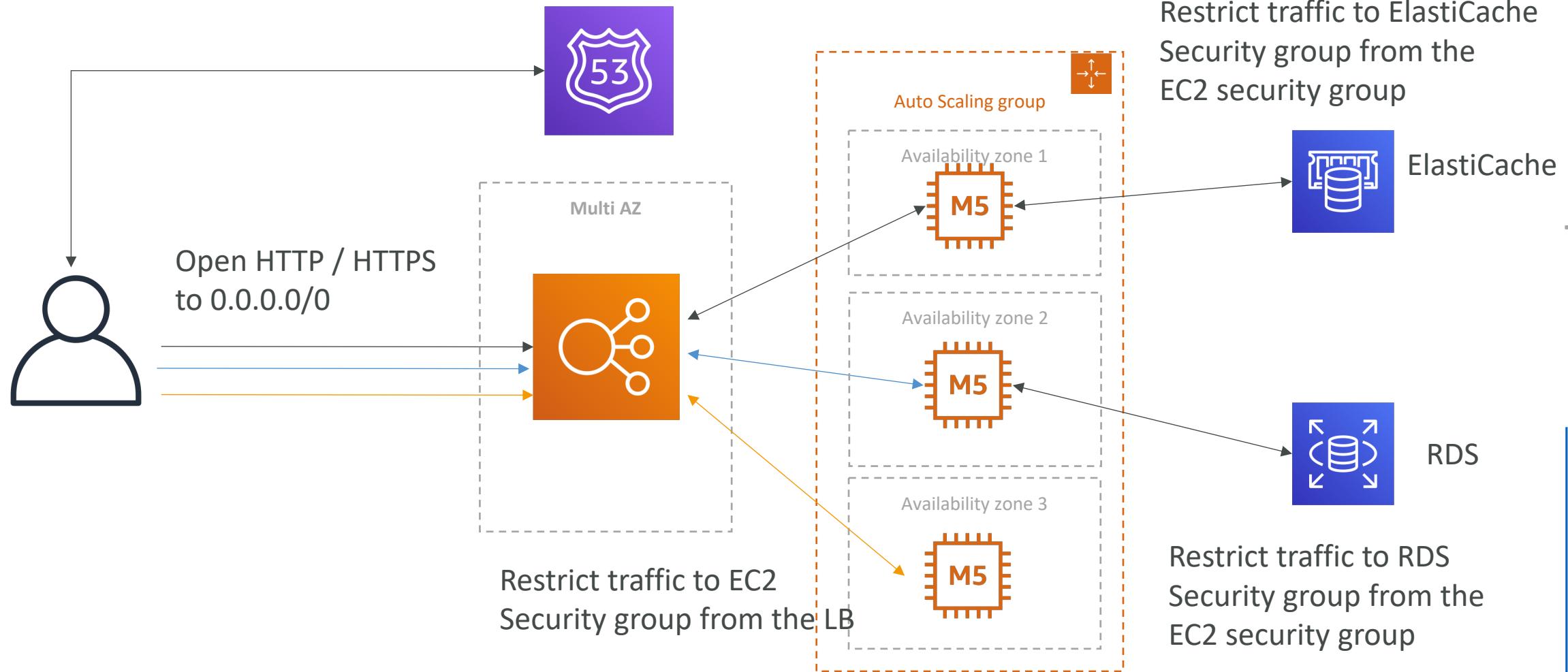
Stateful Web App: MyClothes.com

Multi AZ – Survive disasters



Stateful Web App: MyClothes.com

Security Groups



In this lecture we've discussed....

3-tier architectures for web applications

- ELB sticky sessions
- Web clients for storing cookies and making our web app stateless
- ElastiCache
 - For storing sessions (alternative: DynamoDB)
 - For caching data from RDS
 - Multi AZ
- RDS
 - For storing user data
 - Read replicas for scaling reads
 - Multi AZ for disaster recovery
- Tight Security with security groups referencing each other

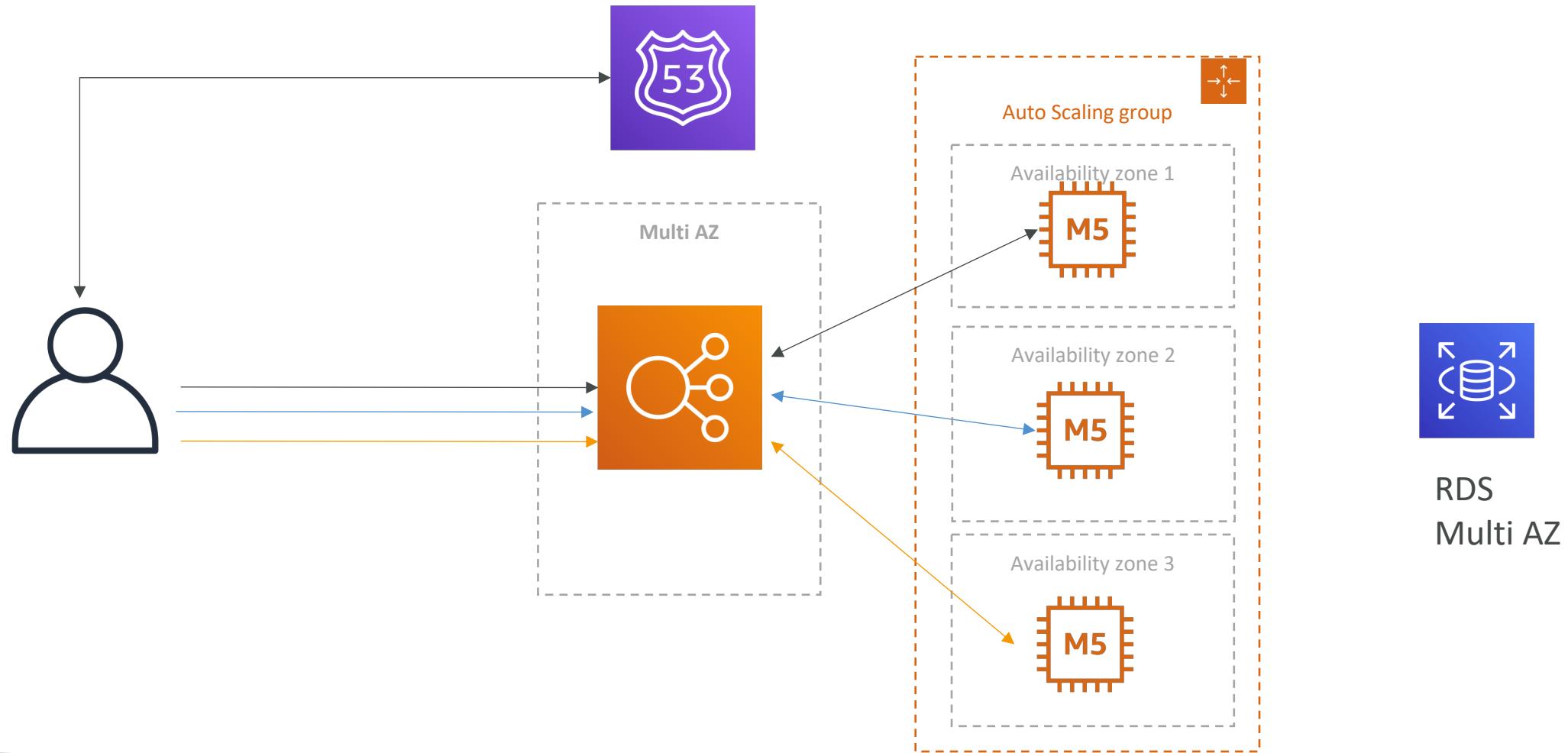
Stateful Web App: MyWordPress.com

- We are trying to create a fully scalable WordPress website
- We want that website to access and correctly display picture uploads
- Our user data, and the blog content should be stored in a MySQL database.

- Let's see how we can achieve this!

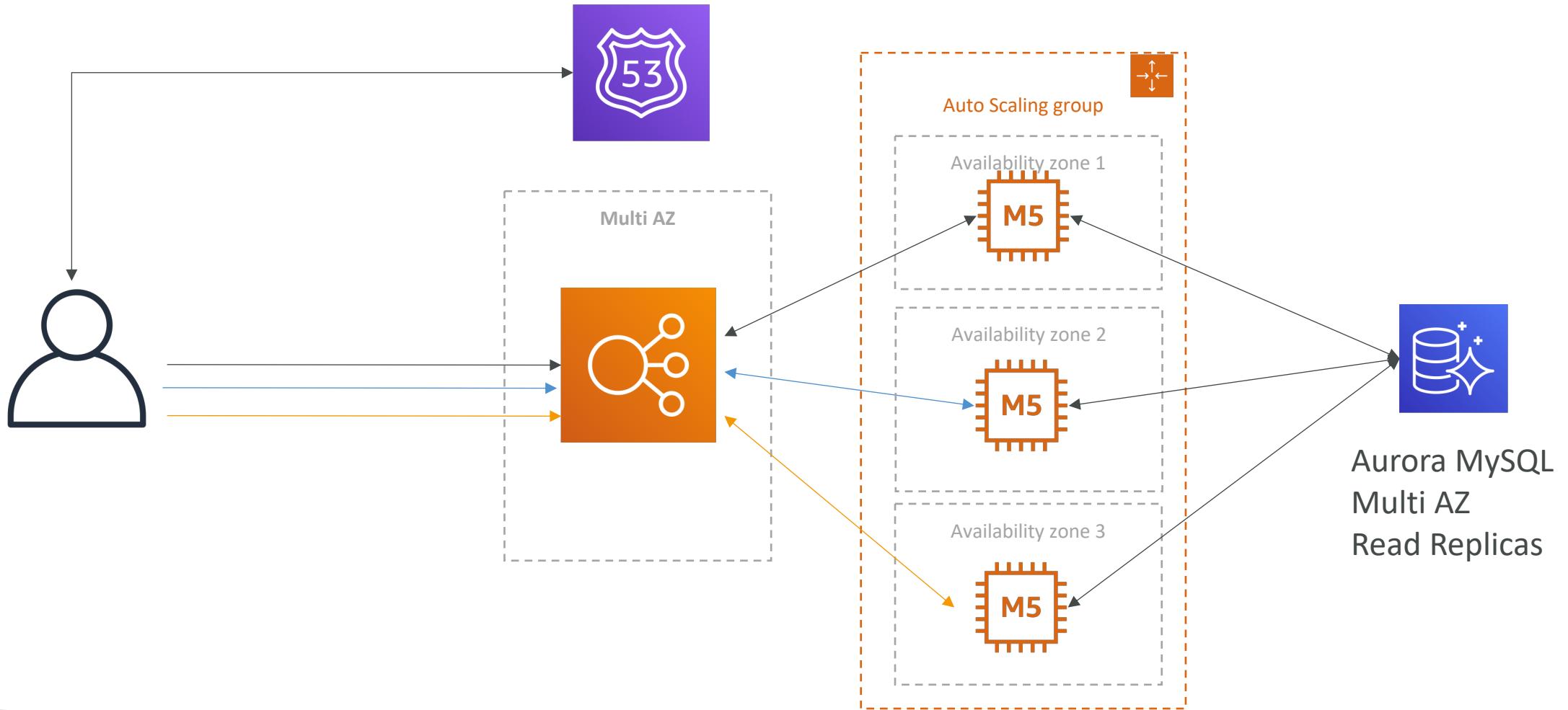
Stateful Web App: MyWordPress.com

RDS layer



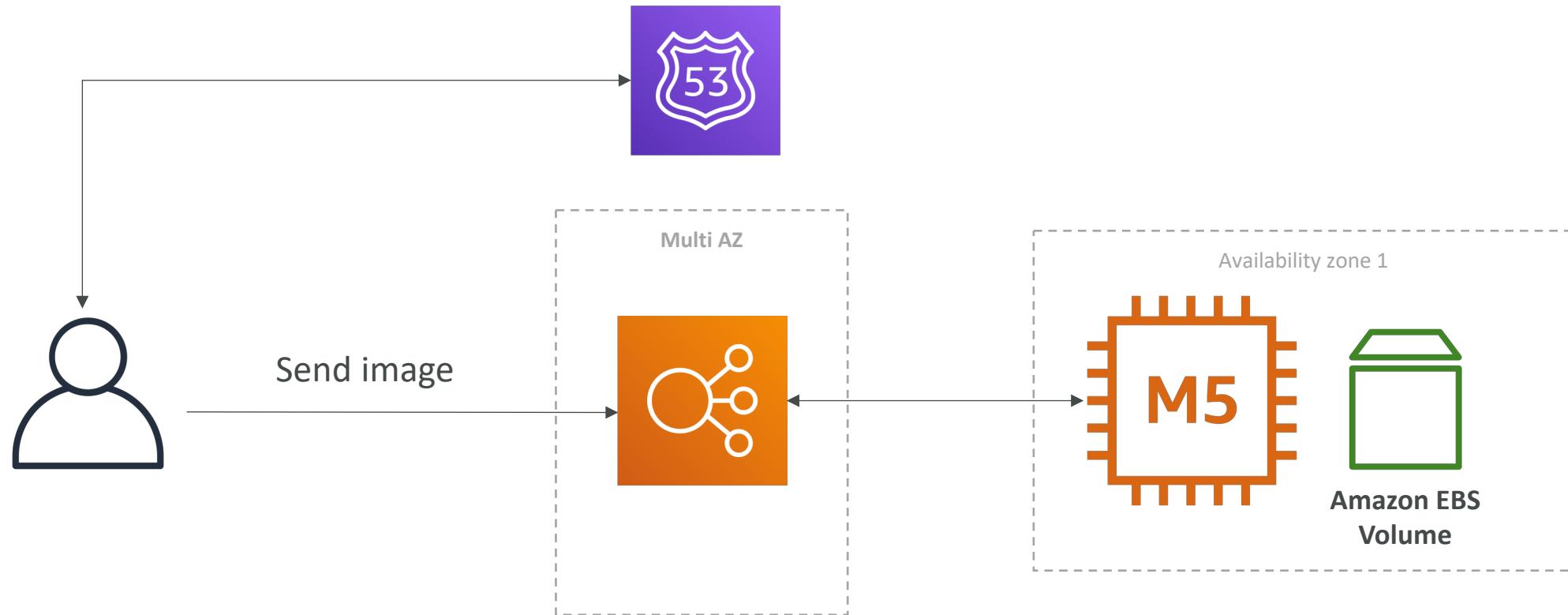
Stateful Web App: MyWordPress.com

Scaling with Aurora: Multi AZ & Read Replicas



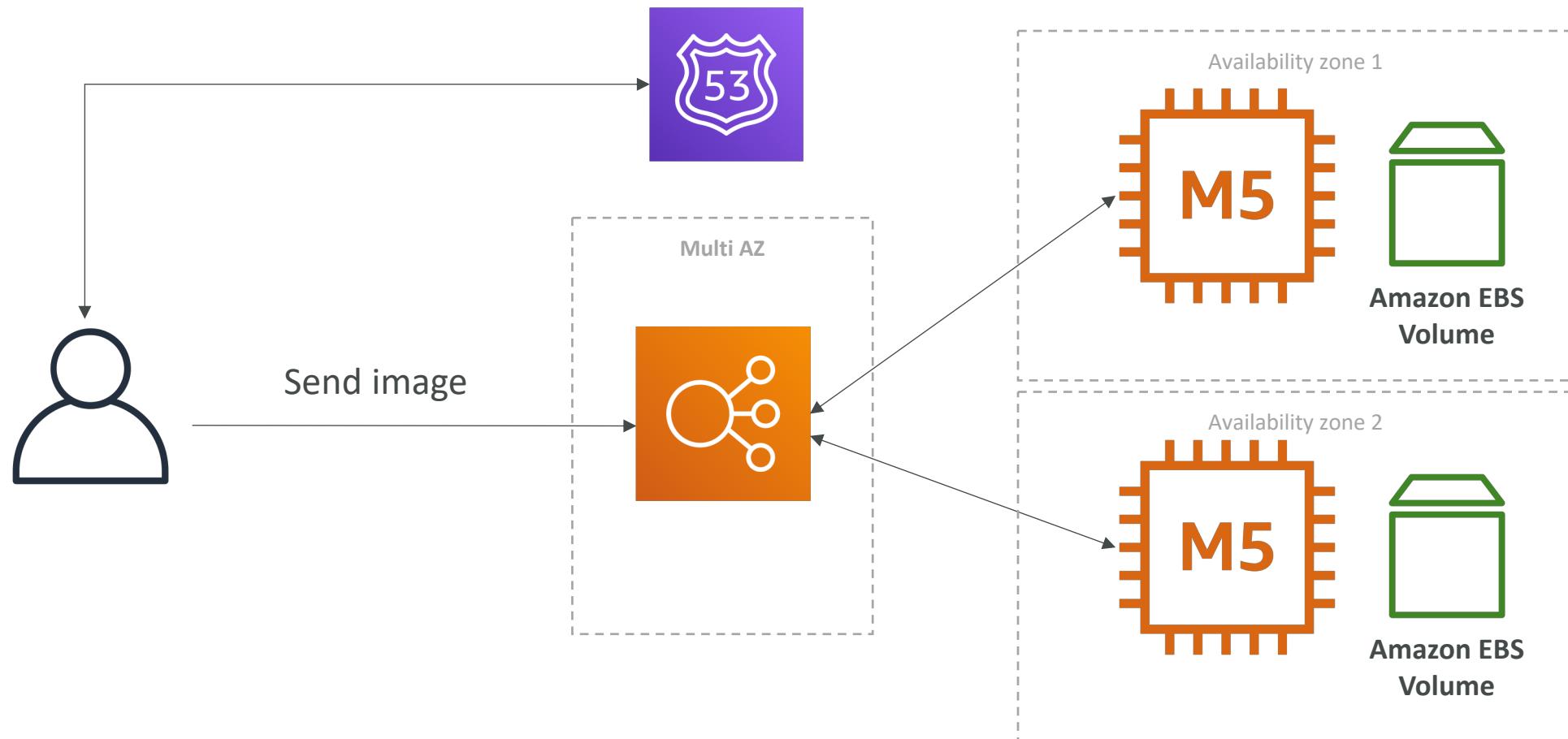
Stateful Web App: MyWordPress.com

Storing images with EBS



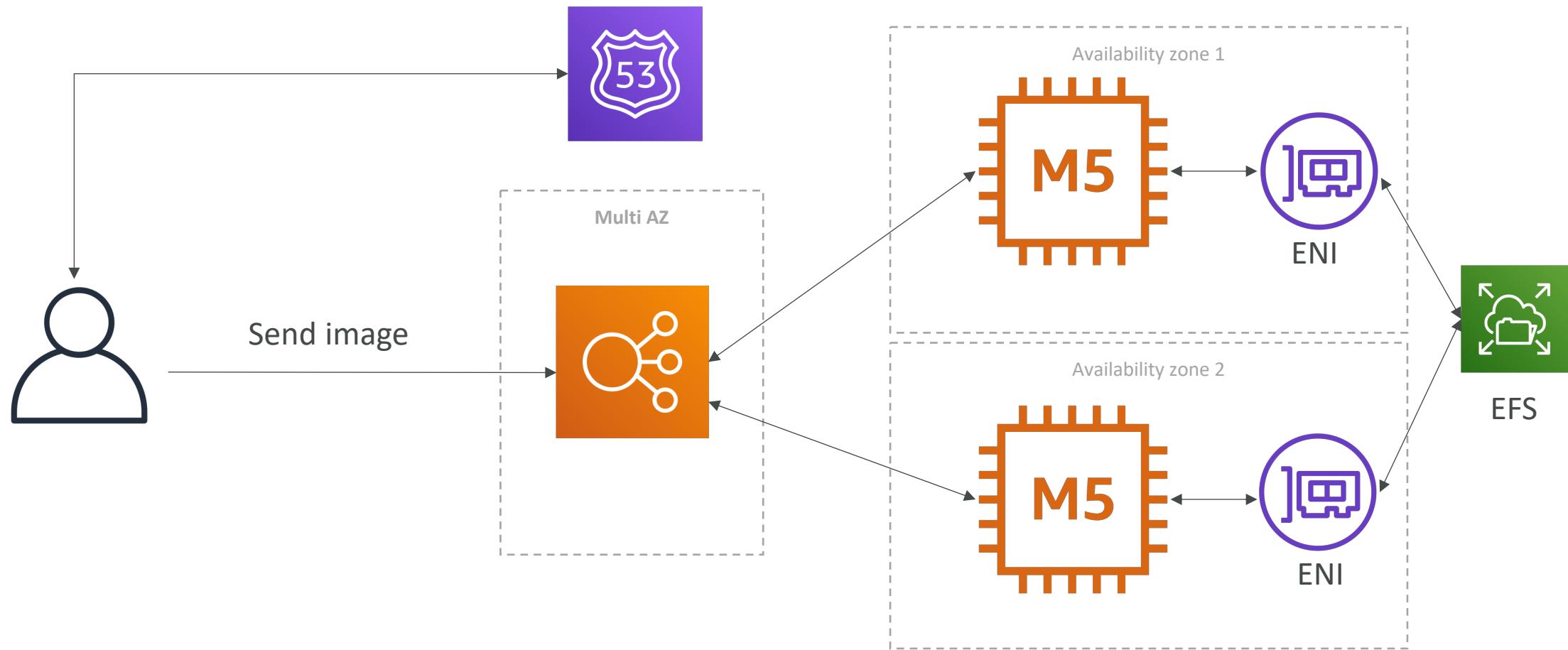
Stateful Web App: MyWordPress.com

Storing images with EBS



Stateful Web App: MyWordPress.com

Storing images with EFS



In this lecture we've discussed...

- Aurora Database to have easy Multi-AZ and Read-Replicas
- Storing data in EBS (single instance application)
- Vs Storing data in EFS (distributed application)

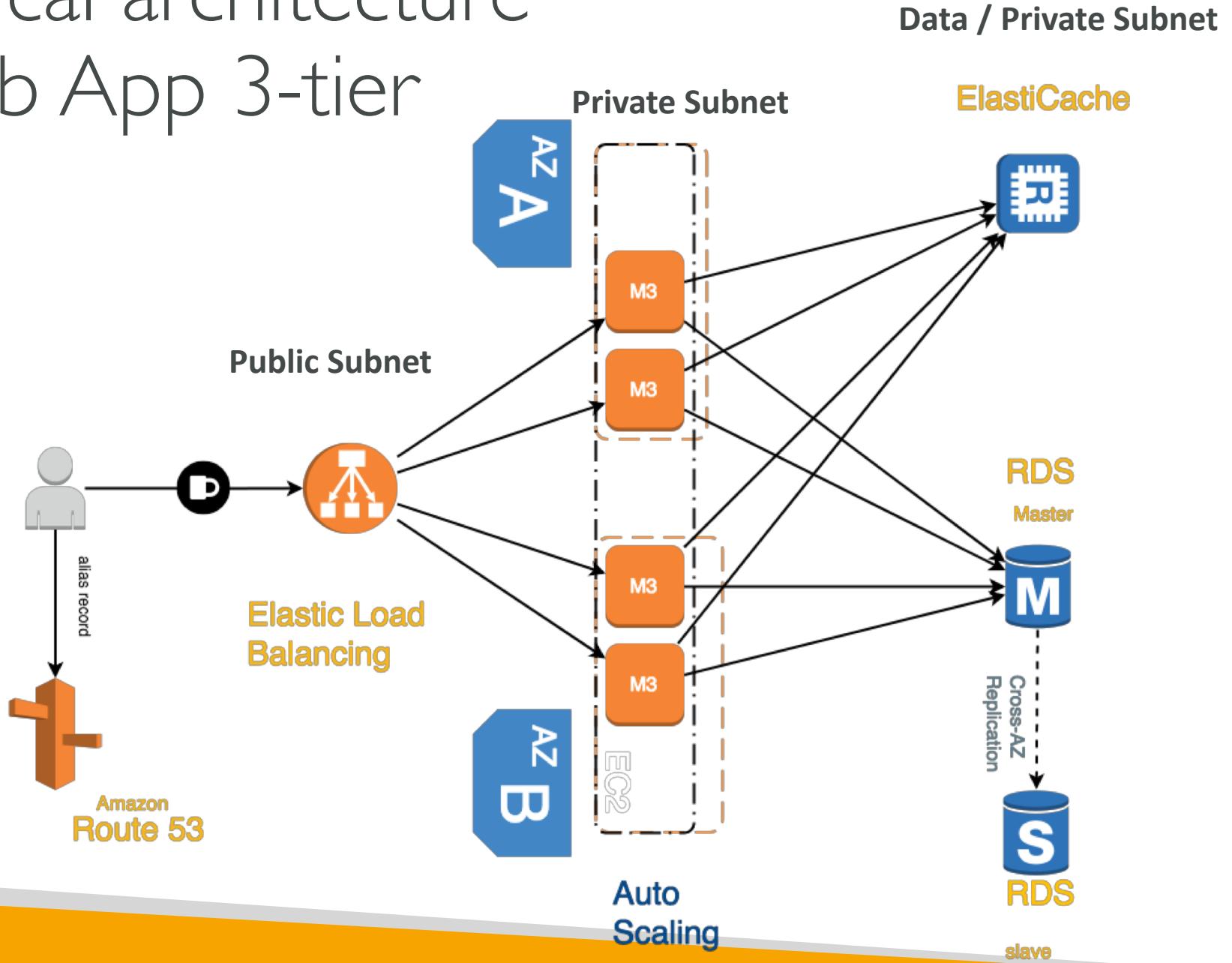
Instantiating Applications quickly

- When launching a full stack (EC2, EBS, RDS), it can take time to:
 - Install applications
 - Insert initial (or recovery) data
 - Configure everything
 - Launch the application
- We can take advantage of the cloud to speed that up!

Instantiating Applications quickly

- EC2 Instances:
 - **Use a Golden AMI:** Install your applications, OS dependencies etc.. beforehand and launch your EC2 instance from the Golden AMI
 - **Bootstrap using User Data:** For dynamic configuration, use User Data scripts
 - **Hybrid:** mix Golden AMI and User Data (Elastic Beanstalk)
- RDS Databases:
 - Restore from a snapshot: the database will have schemas and data ready!
- EBS Volumes:
 - Restore from a snapshot: the disk will already be formatted and have data!

Typical architecture Web App 3-tier

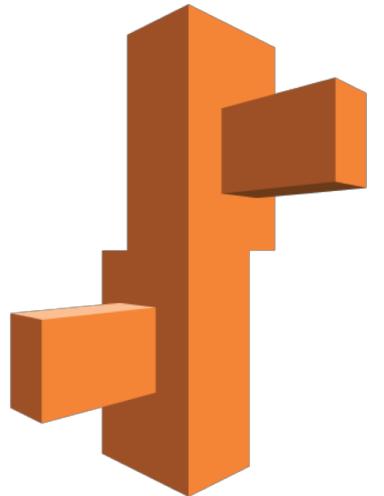


Developer problems on AWS

- Managing infrastructure
 - Deploying Code
 - Configuring all the databases, load balancers, etc
 - Scaling concerns
-
- Most web apps have the same architecture (ALB + ASG)
 - All the developers want is for their code to run!
 - Possibly, consistently across different applications and environments

AWS Elastic Beanstalk Overview

- Elastic Beanstalk is a developer centric view of deploying an application on AWS
- It uses all the component's we've seen before: EC2, ASG, ELB, RDS, etc...
- But it's all in one view that's easy to make sense of!
- We still have full control over the configuration
- Beanstalk is free but you pay for the underlying instances

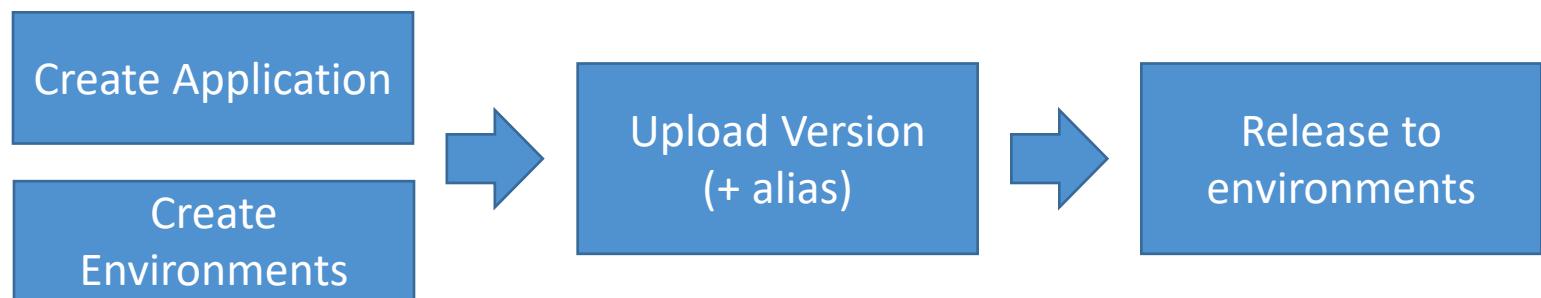


Elastic Beanstalk

- Managed service
 - Instance configuration / OS is handled by Beanstalk
 - Deployment strategy is configurable but performed by Elastic Beanstalk
- Just the application code is the responsibility of the developer
- Three architecture models:
 - Single Instance deployment: good for dev
 - LB + ASG: great for production or pre-production web applications
 - ASG only: great for non-web apps in production (workers, etc..)

Elastic Beanstalk

- Elastic Beanstalk has three components
 - Application
 - Application version: each deployment gets assigned a version
 - Environment name (dev, test, prod...): free naming
- You deploy application versions to environments and can promote application versions to the next environment
- Rollback feature to previous application version
- Full control over lifecycle of environments



Elastic Beanstalk

- Support for many platforms:
 - Go
 - Java SE
 - Java with Tomcat
 - .NET on Windows Server with IIS
 - Node.js
 - PHP
 - Python
 - Ruby
 - Packer Builder
- Single Container Docker
- Multicontainer Docker
- Preconfigured Docker
- If not supported, you can write your custom platform (advanced)

S3 Storage and Data Management

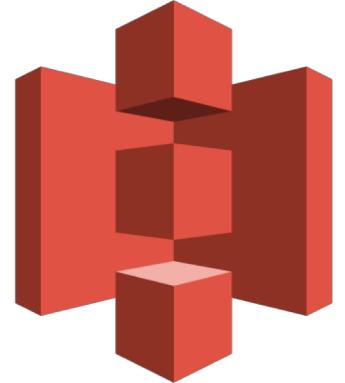
S3, Glacier, Athena, Snowball, Snowball Edge and Storage Gateway

S3 Section

- Two parts:
- 1st part: S3 Fundamentals (from developer course)
 - Bucket & Objects
 - Versioning
 - Security – Encryption & Bucket Policies
 - Websites
 - CORS
 - Consistency Model
- 2nd part: S3 for SysOps

Section introduction

- Amazon S3 is one of the main building blocks of AWS
 - It's advertised as "infinitely scaling" storage
 - It's widely popular and deserves its own section
-
- Many websites use AWS S3 as a backbone
 - Many AWS services uses AWS S3 as an integration as well
-
- We'll have a step-by-step approach to S3



AWS S3 Overview - Buckets

- Amazon S3 allows people to store objects (files) in “buckets” (directories)
- Buckets must have a **globally unique name**
- Buckets are defined at the region level
- Naming convention
 - No uppercase
 - No underscore
 - 3-63 characters long
 - Not an IP
 - Must start with lowercase letter or number



AWS S3 Overview - Objects

- Objects (files) have a Key. The key is the **FULL** path:
 - <my_bucket>/[my_file.txt](#)
 - <my_bucket>/[my_folder1/another_folder/my_file.txt](#)
- There's no concept of "directories" within buckets (although the UI will trick you to think otherwise)
- Just keys with very long names that contain slashes ("")
- Object Values are the content of the body:
 - Max Size is 5TB
 - If uploading more than 5GB, must use "multi-part upload"
- Metadata (list of text key / value pairs – system or user metadata)
- Tags (Unicode key / value pair – up to 10) – useful for security / lifecycle
- Version ID (if versioning is enabled)



AWS S3 - Versioning



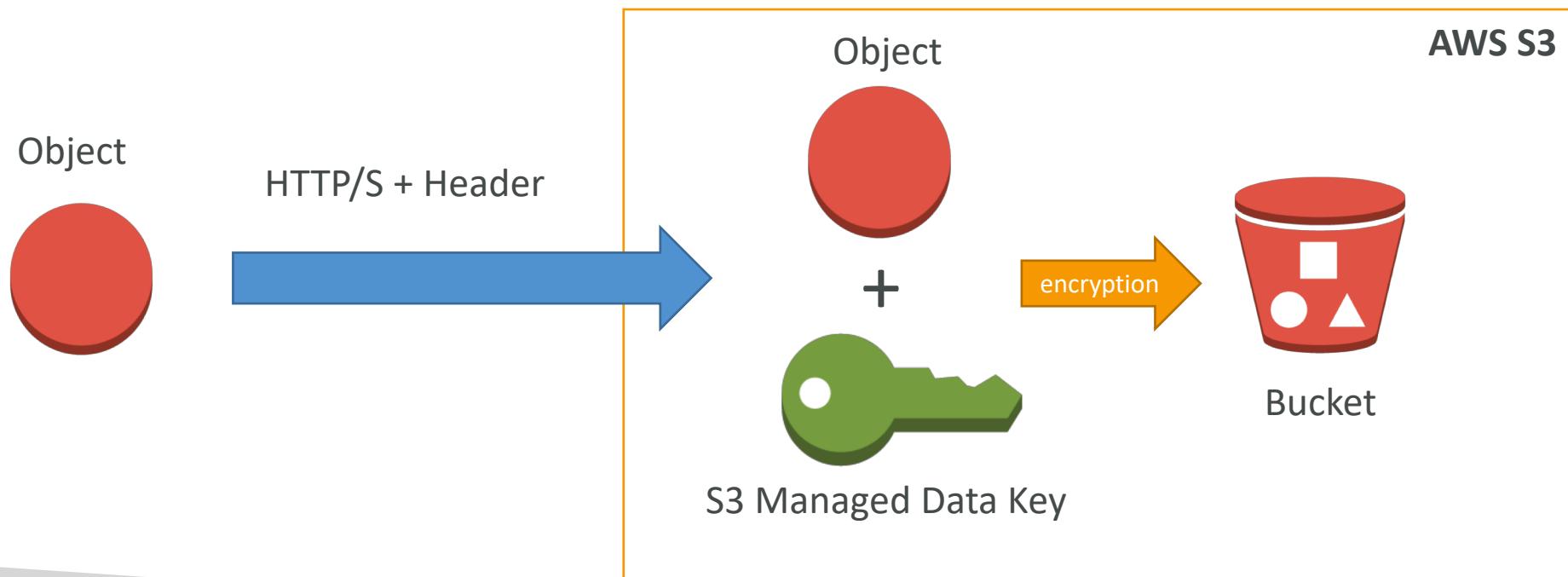
- You can version your files in AWS S3
- It is enabled at the **bucket level**
- Same key overwrite will increment the “version”: 1, 2, 3....
- It is best practice to version your buckets
 - Protect against unintended deletes (ability to restore a version)
 - Easy roll back to previous version
- Any file that is not versioned prior to enabling versioning will have version “null”

S3 Encryption for Objects

- There are 4 methods of encrypting objects in S3
 - SSE-S3: encrypts S3 objects using keys handled & managed by AWS
 - SSE-KMS: leverage AWS Key Management Service to manage encryption keys
 - SSE-C: when you want to manage your own encryption keys
 - Client Side Encryption
- It's important to understand which ones are adapted to which situation for the exam

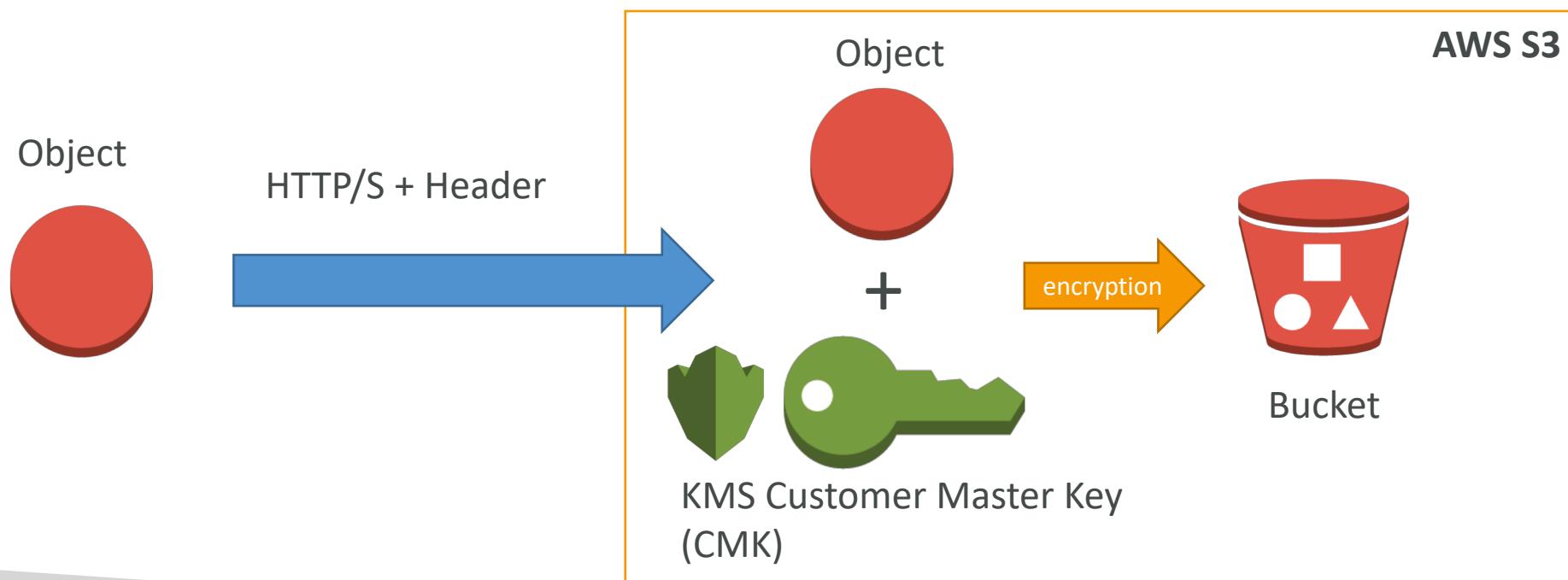
SSE-S3

- SSE-S3: encryption using keys handled & managed by AWS S3
- Object is encrypted server side
- AES-256 encryption type
- Must set header: "x-amz-server-side-encryption": "AES256"



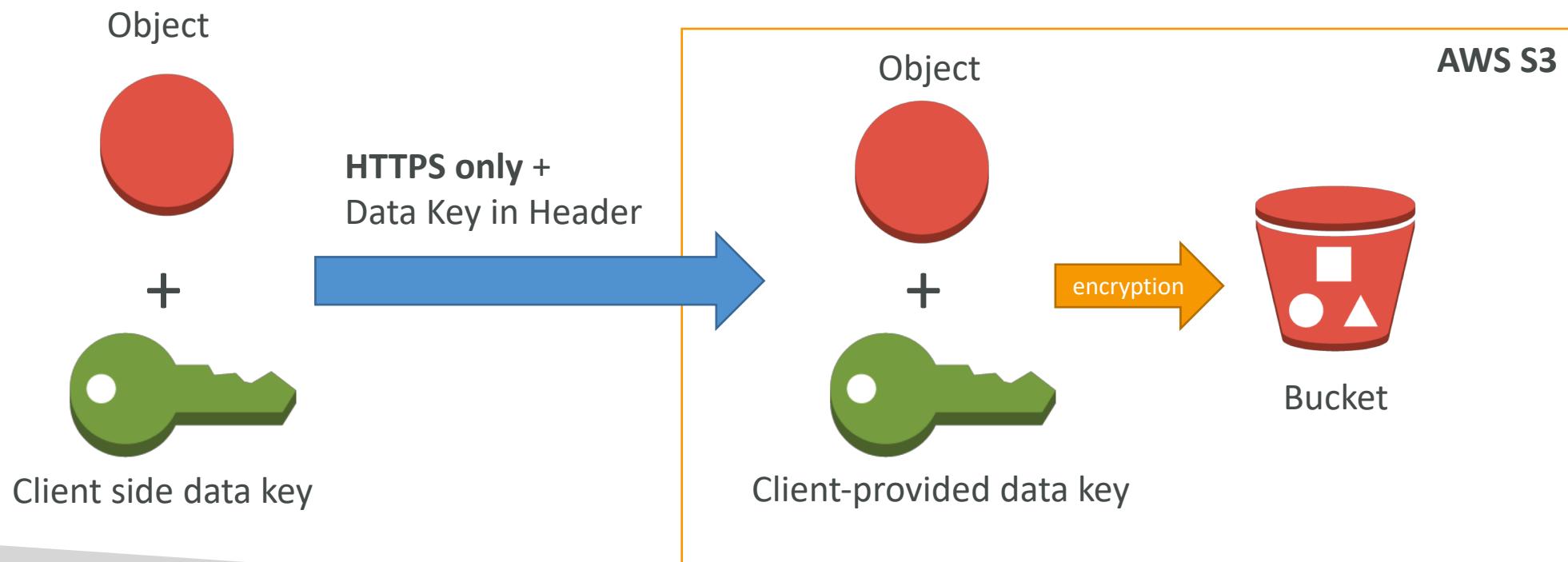
SSE-KMS

- SSE-KMS: encryption using keys handled & managed by KMS
- KMS Advantages: user control + audit trail
- Object is encrypted server side
- Must set header: "x-amz-server-side-encryption": "aws:kms"



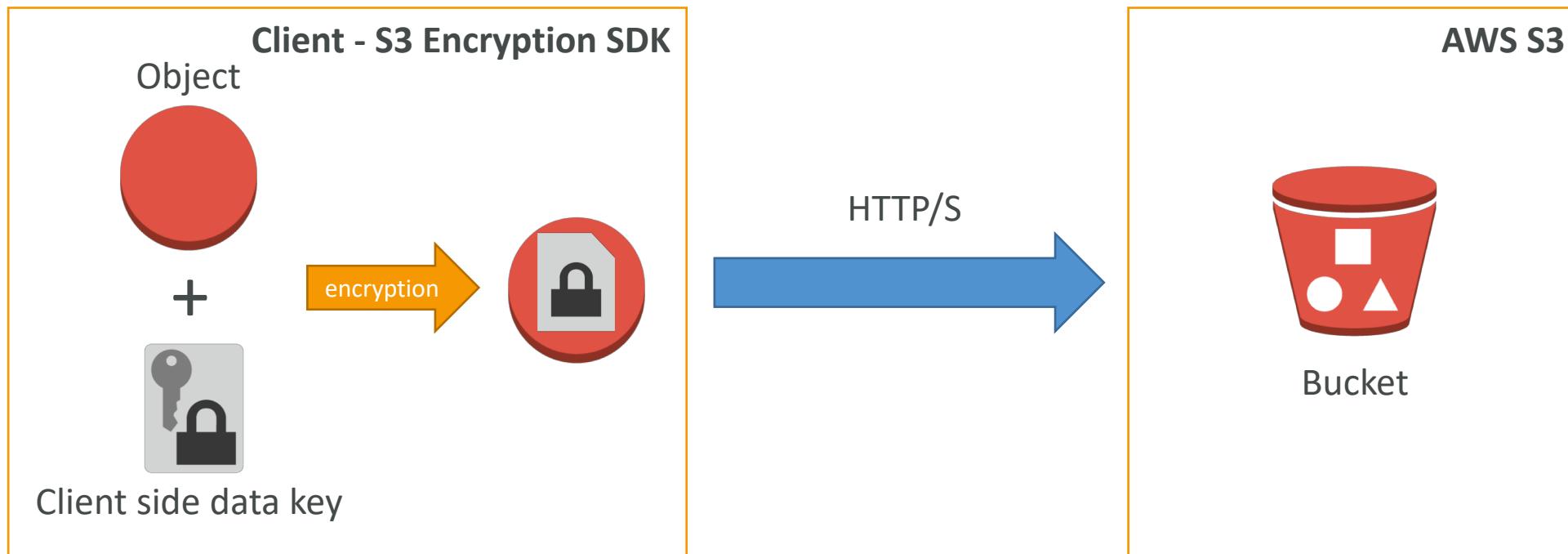
SSE-C

- SSE-C: server-side encryption using data keys fully managed by the customer outside of AWS
- Amazon S3 does not store the encryption key you provide
- **HTTPS must be used**
- Encryption key must provided in HTTP headers, for every HTTP request made



Client Side Encryption

- Client library such as the Amazon S3 Encryption Client
- Clients must encrypt data themselves before sending to S3
- Clients must decrypt data themselves when retrieving from S3
- Customer fully manages the keys and encryption cycle



Encryption in transit (SSL)

- AWS S3 exposes:
 - HTTP endpoint: non encrypted
 - HTTPS endpoint: encryption in flight
- You're free to use the endpoint you want, but HTTPS is recommended
- HTTPS is mandatory for SSE-C
- Encryption in flight is also called SSL / TLS

S3 Security

- User based
 - IAM policies - which API calls should be allowed for a specific user from IAM console
- Resource Based
 - Bucket Policies - bucket wide rules from the S3 console - allows cross account
 - Object Access Control List (ACL) – finer grain
 - Bucket Access Control List (ACL) – less common

S3 Bucket Policies

- JSON based policies
 - Resources: buckets and objects
 - Actions: Set of API to Allow or Deny
 - Effect: Allow / Deny
 - Principal: The account or user to apply the policy to
- Use S3 bucket for policy to:
 - Grant public access to the bucket
 - Force objects to be encrypted at upload
 - Grant access to another account (Cross Account)

S3 Security - Other

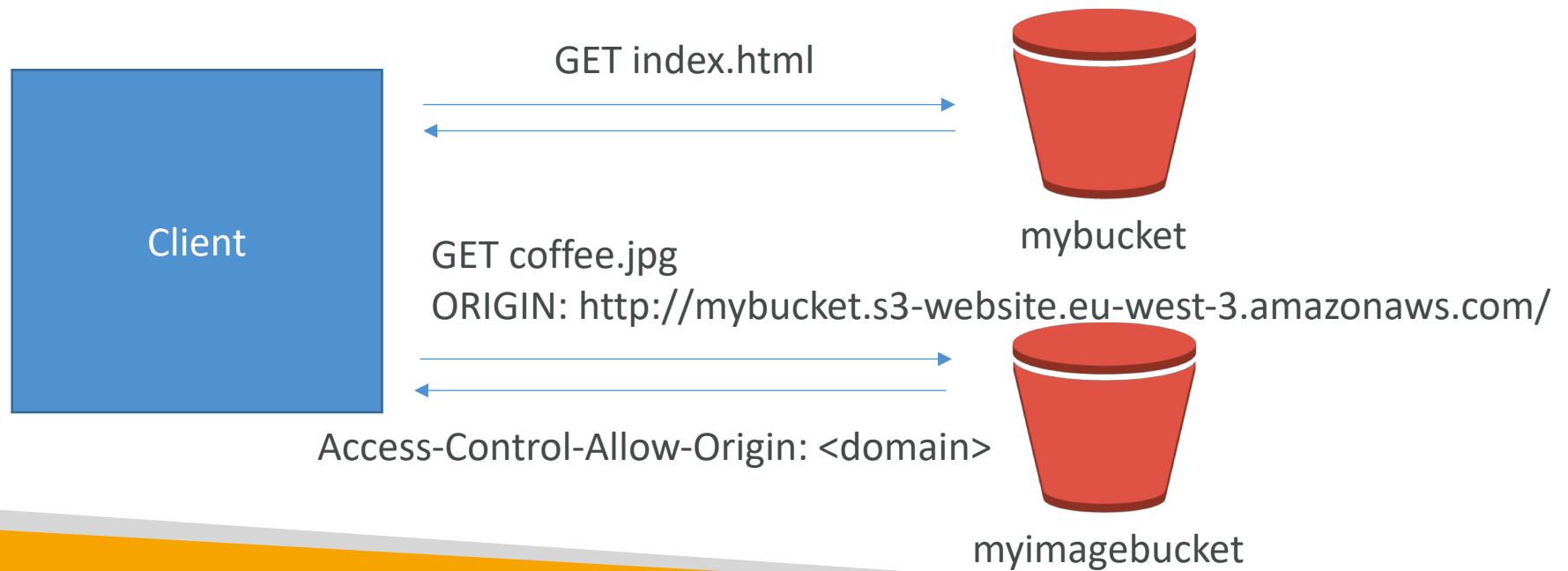
- Networking:
 - Supports VPC Endpoints (for instances in VPC without www internet)
- Logging and Audit:
 - S3 access logs can be stored in other S3 bucket
 - API calls can be logged in AWS CloudTrail
- User Security:
 - MFA (multi factor authentication) can be required in versioned buckets to delete objects
 - Signed URLs: URLs that are valid only for a limited time (ex: premium video service for logged in users)

S3 Websites

- S3 can host static websites and have them accessible on the www
- The website URL will be:
 - <bucket-name>.s3-website-<AWS-region>.amazonaws.com
 - OR
 - <bucket-name>.s3-website.<AWS-region>.amazonaws.com
- If you get a 403 (Forbidden) error, make sure the bucket policy allows public reads!

S3 CORS

- If you request data from another S3 bucket, you need to enable CORS
- Cross Origin Resource Sharing allows you to limit the number of websites that can request your files in S3 (and limit your costs)
- It's a popular exam question



AWS S3 - Consistency Model

- Read after write consistency for PUTS of new objects
 - As soon as an object is written, we can retrieve it
ex: (PUT 200 -> GET 200)
 - This is true, **except** if we did a GET before to see if the object existed
ex: (GET 404 -> PUT 200 -> GET 404) – eventually consistent
- Eventual Consistency for DELETES and PUTS of existing objects
 - If we read an object after updating, we might get the older version
ex: (PUT 200 -> PUT 200 -> GET 200 (might be older version))
 - If we delete an object, we might still be able to retrieve it for a short time
ex: (DELETE 200 -> GET 200)

Developing on AWS

Section Introduction

- So far, we've interacted with services manually and they exposed standard information for clients:
 - EC2 exposes a standard Linux machine we can use any way we want
 - RDS exposes a standard database we can connect to using a URL
 - ElastiCache exposes a cache URL we can connect to using a URL
 - ASG / ELB are automated and we don't have to program against them
 - Route53 was setup manual
- Developing against AWS has two components:
 - How to perform interactions with AWS without using the Online Console?
 - How to interact with AWS Proprietary services? (S3, DynamoDB, etc...)

Section Introduction

- Developing and performing AWS tasks against AWS can be done in several ways
 - Using the AWS CLI on our local computer
 - Using the AWS CLI on our EC2 machines
 - Using the AWS SDK on our local computer
 - Using the AWS SDK on our EC2 machines
 - Using the AWS Instance Metadata Service for EC2
- In this section, we'll learn:
 - How to do all of those
 - In the right & most secure way, adhering to best practices

AWS CLI Setup Windows

- We'll setup the CLI properly on Windows

AWS CLI Setup Mac OS X

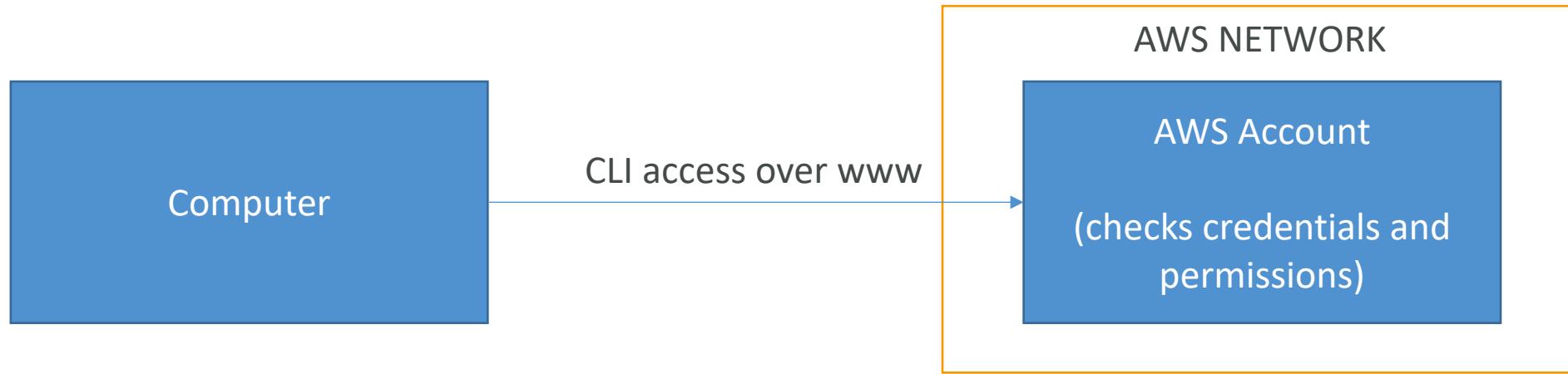
- We'll setup the CLI properly on Mac OS X

AWS CLI Setup Linux

- We'll setup the CLI properly on Linux

AWS CLI Configuration

- Let's learn how to properly configure the CLI



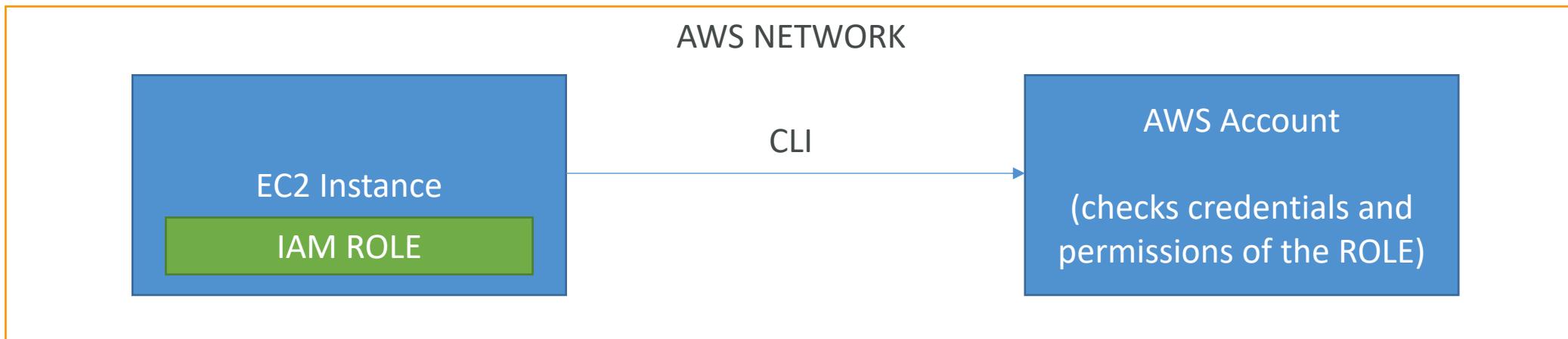
- We'll learn how to get our access credentials and protect them
- Do not share your AWS Access Key and Secret key with anyone!

AWS CLI ON EC2... THE BAD WAY

- We could run `aws configure` on EC2 just like we did (and it'll work)
- But... it's SUPER INSECURE
- NEVER EVER EVER PUT YOUR PERSONAL CREDENTIALS ON AN EC2
- Your PERSONAL credentials are PERSONAL and only belong on your PERSONAL computer
- If the EC2 is compromised, so is your personal account
- If the EC2 is shared, other people may perform AWS actions while impersonating you
- For EC2, there's a better way... it's called AWS IAM Roles

AWS CLI ON EC2... THE RIGHT WAY

- IAM Roles can be attached to EC2 instances
- IAM Roles can come with a policy authorizing exactly what the EC2 instance should be able to do



- EC2 Instances can then use these profiles automatically without any additional configurations
- This is the best practice on AWS and you should 100% do this.

AWS EC2 Instance Metadata

- AWS EC2 Instance Metadata is powerful but one of the least known features to developers
- It allows AWS EC2 instances to "learn about themselves" without using an IAM Role for that purpose.
- The URL is <http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data>
- You can retrieve the IAM Role name from the metadata, but you CANNOT retrieve the IAM Policy.
- Metadata = Info about the EC2 instance
- Userdata = launch script of the EC2 instance
- Let's practice and see what we can do with it!

AWS SDK Overview

- What if you want to perform actions on AWS directly from your applications code ? (without using the CLI).
- You can use an SDK (software development kit) !
- Official SDKs are...
 - Java
 - .NET
 - Node.js
 - PHP
 - Python (named boto3 / botocore)
 - Go
 - Ruby
 - C++

AWS SDK Overview

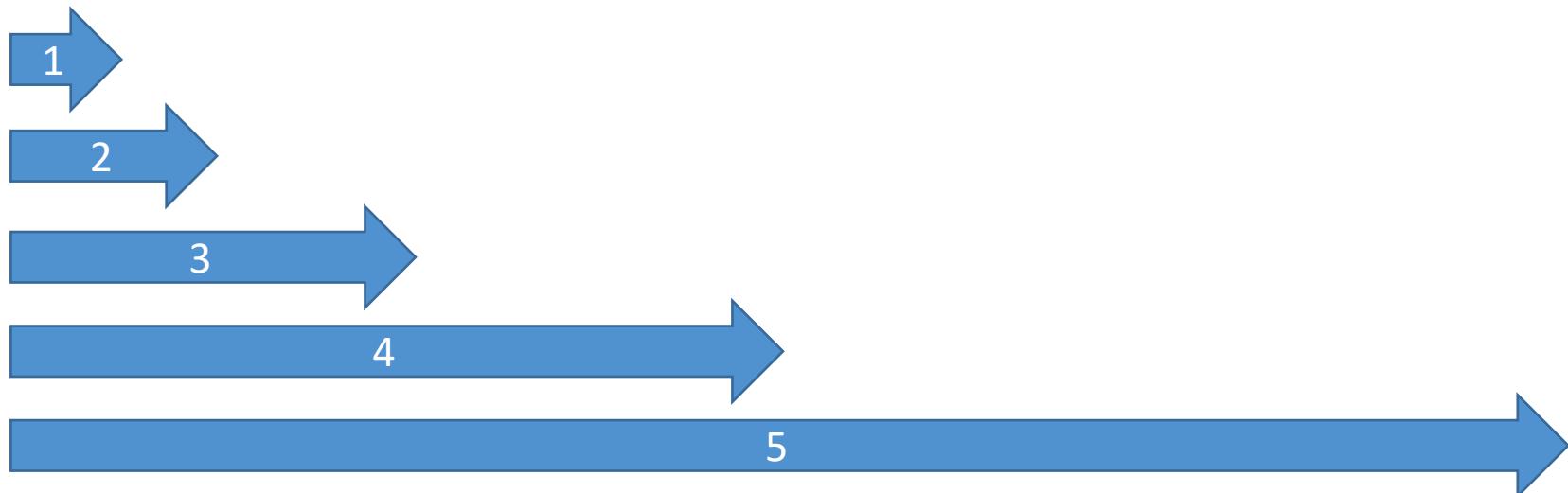
- We have to use the AWS SDK when coding against AWS Services such as DynamoDB
- Fun fact... the AWS CLI uses the Python SDK (boto3)
- The exam expects you to know when you should use an SDK
- We'll practice the AWS SDK when we get to the Lambda functions
- Good to know: if you don't specify or configure a default region, then us-east-1 will be chosen by default

AWS SDK Credentials Security

- It's recommend to use the **default credential provider chain**
- The **default credential provider chain** works seamlessly with:
 - AWS credentials at `~/.aws/credentials` (only on our computers or on premise)
 - Instance Profile Credentials using IAM Roles (for EC2 machines, etc...)
 - Environment variables (`AWS_ACCESS_KEY_ID`, `AWS_SECRET_ACCESS_KEY`)
- Overall, **NEVER EVER STORE AWS CREDENTIALS IN YOUR CODE.**
- Best practice is for credentials to be inherited from mechanisms above, and 100% IAM Roles if working from within AWS Services

Exponential Backoff

- Any API that fails because of too many calls needs to be retried with Exponential Backoff
- These apply to rate limited API
- Retry mechanism included in SDK API calls



Advanced S3

S3, CloudFront, Glacier, Athena, Snowball, Snowball Edge and Storage Gateway

S3 MFA-Delete

- MFA (multi factor authentication) forces user to generate a code on a device (usually a mobile phone or hardware) before doing important operations on S3
- To use MFA-Delete, enable Versioning on the S3 bucket
- You will need MFA to
 - permanently delete an object version
 - suspend versioning on the bucket
- You won't need MFA for
 - enabling versioning
 - listing deleted versions
- Only the bucket owner (root account) can enable/disable MFA-Delete
- MFA-Delete currently can only be enabled using the CLI

S3 Default Encryption vs Bucket Policies

- The old way to enable default encryption was to use a bucket policy and refuse any HTTP command without the proper headers:

```
{  
    "Version": "2012-10-17",  
    "Id": "PutObjPolicy",  
    "Statement": [  
        {  
            "Sid": "DenyIncorrectEncryptionHeader",  
            "Effect": "Deny",  
            "Principal": "*",  
            "Action": "s3:PutObject",  
            "Resource": "arn:aws:s3:::<bucket_name>/*",  
            "Condition": {  
                "StringNotEquals": {  
                    "s3:x-amz-server-side-encryption": "AES256"  
                }  
            }  
        }  
    ],  
}.
```

```
{  
    "Sid": "DenyUnEncryptedObjectUploads",  
    "Effect": "Deny",  
    "Principal": "*",  
    "Action": "s3:PutObject",  
    "Resource": "arn:aws:s3:::<bucket_name>/*",  
    "Condition": {  
        "Null": {  
            "s3:x-amz-server-side-encryption": true  
        }  
    }  
}
```

- The new way is to use the “default encryption” option in S3
- Note: Bucket Policies are evaluated before “default encryption”

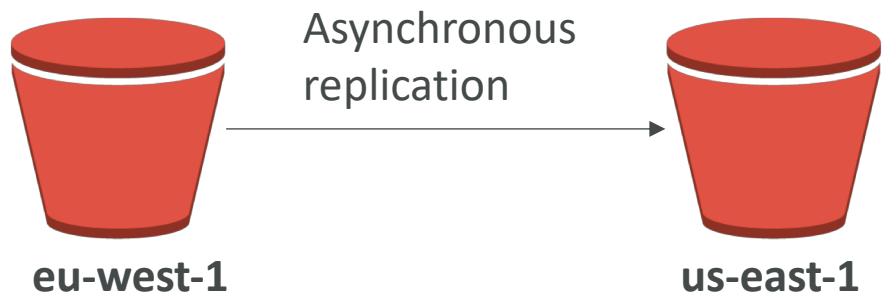
S3 Access Logs

- For audit purpose, you may want to log all access to S3 buckets
- Any request made to S3, from any account, authorized or denied, will be logged into another S3 bucket
- That data can be analyzed using data analysis tools...
- Or Amazon Athena as we'll see later in this section!
- The log format is at:
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/dev/LogFileFormat.html>



S3 Cross Region Replication

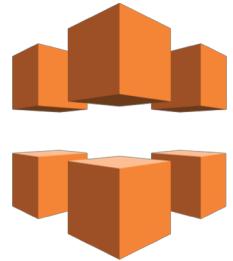
- Must enable versioning (source and destination)
- Buckets must be in different AWS regions
- Can be in different accounts
- Copying is asynchronous
- Must give proper IAM permissions to S3
- Use cases: compliance, lower latency access, replication across accounts



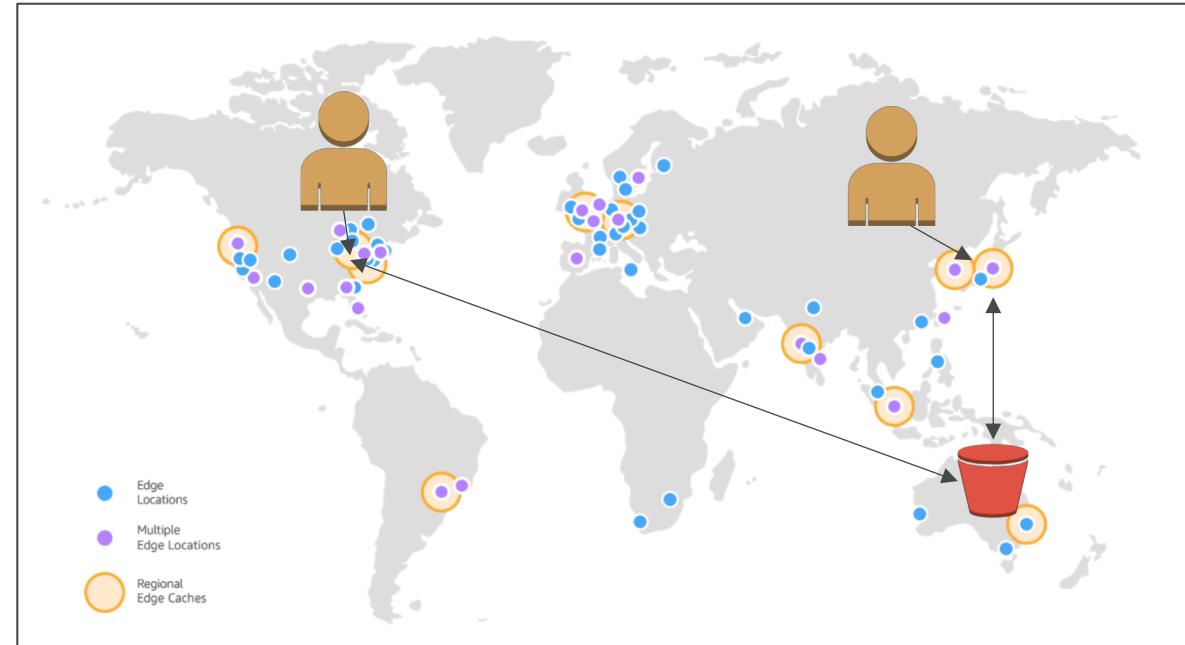
S3 pre-signed URLs

- Can generate pre-signed URLs using SDK or CLI
 - For downloads (easy, can use the CLI)
 - For uploads (harder, must use the SDK)
- Valid for a default of 3600 seconds, can change timeout with --expires-in [TIME_BY_SECONDS] argument
- Users given a pre-signed URL inherit the permissions of the person who generated the URL for GET / PUT
- Examples :
 - Allow only logged-in users to download a premium video on your S3 bucket
 - Allow an ever changing list of users to download files by generating URLs dynamically
 - Allow temporarily a user to upload a file to a precise location in our bucket

AWS CloudFront



- Content Delivery Network (CDN)
- Improves read performance, content is cached at the edge
- 136 Point of Presence globally (edge locations)
- Popular with S3 but works with EC2, Load Balancing
- Can help protect against network attacks
- Can provide SSL encryption (HTTPS) at the edge using ACM
- CloudFront can use SSL encryption (HTTPS) to talk to your applications
- Support RTMP Protocol (videos / media)



Source: <https://aws.amazon.com/cloudfront/features/?nc=sn&loc=2>

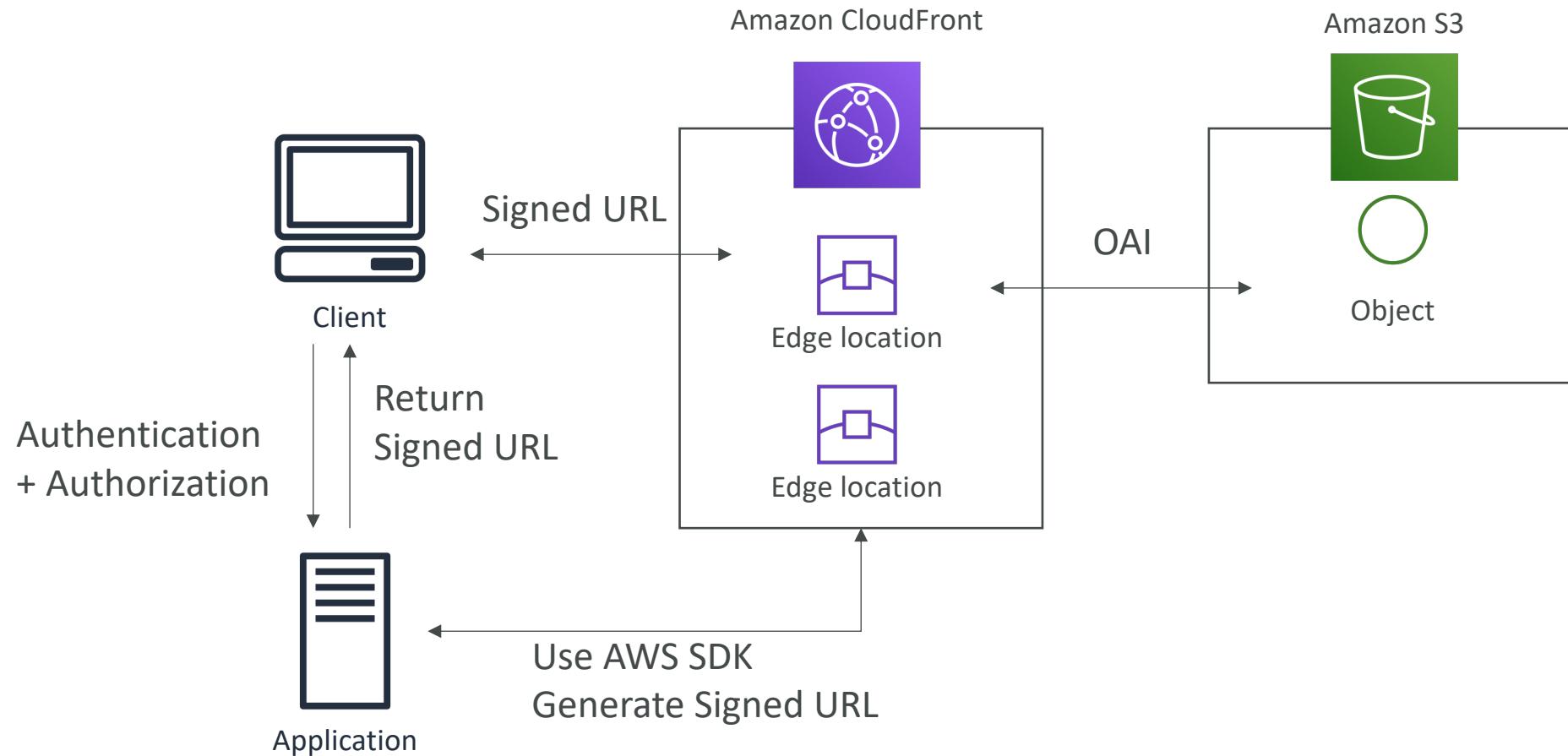
AWS CloudFront Hands On

- We'll create an S3 bucket
- We'll create a CloudFront distribution
- We'll create an Origin Access Identity
- We'll limit the S3 bucket to be accessed only using this identity

CloudFront Signed URL / Signed Cookies

- Say you wanted to distribute paid shared content to premium users over the world, the content lives in S3.
- If S3 can only be accessed through CloudFront, we cannot use self-signed S3 URLs.
- We can use CloudFront Signed URL. We attach a policy with:
 - Includes URL expiration
 - Includes IP ranges to access the data from
 - Trusted signers (which AWS accounts can create signed URLs)
- CloudFront signed URL can only be created using the AWS SDK, so you have to code an application to verify users and generate these URLs
- How long should the URL be valid for?
 - Shared content (movie, music): make it short (a few minutes)
 - Private content (private to the user): you can make it last for years

CloudFront Signed URL Diagram



CloudFront vs S3 Cross Region Replication

- CloudFront:
 - Global Edge network
 - Files are cached for a TTL (maybe a day)
 - Great for static content that must be available everywhere
- S3 Cross Region Replication:
 - Must be setup for each region you want replication to happen
 - Files are updated in near real-time
 - Read only
 - Great for dynamic content that needs to be available at low-latency in few regions

S3 Storage Tiers

- Amazon S3 Standard - General Purpose
- Amazon S3 Standard-Infrequent Access (IA)
- Amazon S3 One Zone-Infrequent Access
- Amazon S3 Reduced Redundancy Storage (deprecated)
- Amazon S3 Intelligent Tiering (new!)
- Amazon Glacier

S3 Standard – General Purpose

- High durability (99.99999999%) of objects across multiple AZ
- If you store 10,000,000 objects with Amazon S3, you can on average expect to incur a loss of a single object once every 10,000 years
- 99.99% Availability over a given year
- Sustain 2 concurrent facility failures

- Use Cases: Big Data analytics, mobile & gaming applications, content distribution...

S3 Reduced Redundancy Storage (RRS) - DEPRECATED

- Designed to provide 99.99% durability
- 99.99% availability of objects over a given year
- Designed to sustain the loss of data in a single facility

- Use cases: noncritical, reproducible data at lower levels of redundancy than Amazon S3's standard storage (thumbnails, transcoded media, processed data that can be reproduced)

S3 Standard – Infrequent Access (IA)

- Suitable for data that is less frequently accessed, but requires rapid access when needed
- High durability (99.99999999%) of objects across multiple AZs
- 99.99% Availability
- Low cost compared to Amazon S3 Standard
- Sustain 2 concurrent facility failures
- Use Cases: As a data store for disaster recovery, backups...

S3 One Zone - Infrequent Access (IA)

- Same as IA but data is stored in a single AZ
- High durability (99.99999999%) of objects in a single AZ; data lost when AZ is destroyed
- 99.95% Availability
- Low latency and high throughput performance
- Supports SSL for data at transit and encryption at rest
- Low cost compared to IA (by 20%)
- Use Cases: Storing secondary backup copies of on-premise data, or storing data you can recreate

S3 Intelligent Tiering (new!)

- Probably not at the exam (yet!)
- Same low latency and high throughput performance of S3 Standard
- Small monthly monitoring and auto-tiering fee
- Automatically moves objects between two access tiers based on changing access patterns
- Designed for durability of 99.999999999% of objects across multiple Availability Zones
- Resilient against events that impact an entire Availability Zone
- Designed for 99.9% availability over a given year

S3 Glacier

- Low cost object storage meant for archiving / backup
- Data is retained for the longer term (10s of years)
- Alternative to on-premise magnetic tape storage
- Average annual durability is 99.999999999%
- Cost per storage per month (\$0.004 / GB) + retrieval cost
- Each item in Glacier is called “Archive” (up to 40TB)
- Archives are stored in “Vaults”
- 3 retrieval options:
 - Expedited (1 to 5 minutes retrieval) – \$0.03 per GB and \$0.01 per request
 - Standard (3 to 5 hours) - \$0.01 per GB and 0.05 per 1000 requests
 - Bulk (5 to 12 hours) - \$0.0025 per GB and \$0.025 per 1000 requests

S3 Storage Tiers Comparison

	Standard	Reduced Redundancy Storage	Standard - Infrequent Access	One - Infrequent Access	S3 Intelligent-Tiering	Glacier
Durability	99.99999999%	99.99%	99.99999999%	99.99999999%	99.99999999%	99.99999999%
Availability	99.99%	99.99%	99.9%	99.5%	99.90%	NA
AZ	≥3	≥2	≥3	1	≥3	≥3
Concurrent facility fault tolerance	2	1	2	0	1	1

The timeline at the bottom of the table is divided into four segments by vertical blue lines. The first segment is labeled "Frequently accessed". The second segment is labeled "Infrequently accessed". The third segment is labeled "Intelligent (new!)". The fourth segment is labeled "Archives".

S3 Lifecycle Rules

- Set of rules to move data between different tiers, to save storage cost
- Example: General Purpose => Infrequent Access => Glacier
- **Transition actions:** It defines when objects are transitioned to another storage class.
Eg: We can choose to move objects to Standard IA class 60 days after you created them or can move to Glacier for archiving after 6 months
- **Expiration actions:** Helps to configure objects to expire after a certain time period. S3 deletes expired objects on our behalf
Eg: Access log files can be set to delete after a specified period of time
- Can be used to delete incomplete multi-part uploads!

Snowball

- Physical data transport solution that helps moving TBs or PBs of data in or out of AWS
- Alternative to moving data over the network (and paying network fees)
- Secure, tamper resistant, uses KMS 256 bit encryption
- Tracking using SNS and text messages. E-ink shipping label
- Pay per data transfer job
- Use cases: large data cloud migrations, DC decommission, disaster recovery
- If it takes more than a week to transfer over the network, use Snowball devices!



Snowball Process

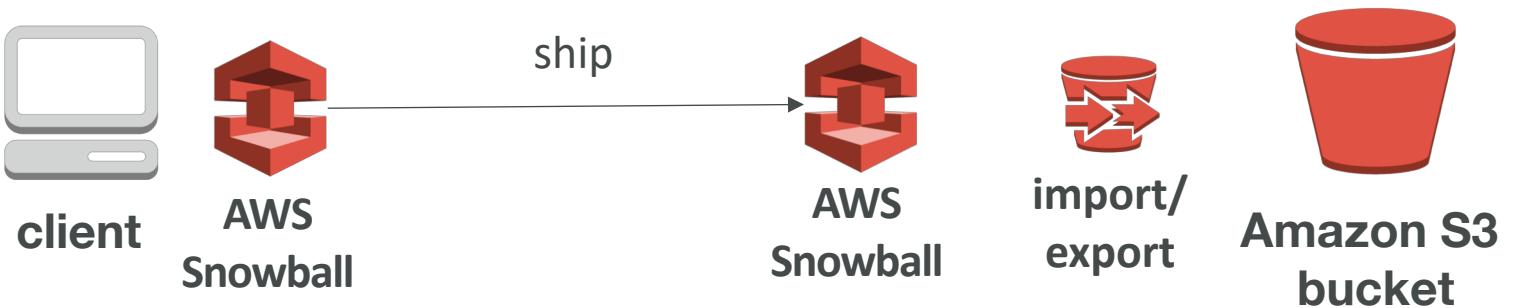
1. Request snowball devices from the AWS console for delivery
2. Install the snowball client on your servers
3. Connect the snowball to your servers and copy files using the client
4. Ship back the device when you're done (goes to the right AWS facility)
5. Data will be loaded into an S3 bucket
6. Snowball is completely wiped
7. Tracking is done using SNS, text messages and the AWS console

Diagrams

- Direct upload to S3:



- With snowball



Snowball Edge

- Snowball Edges add computational capability to the device
- 100 TB capacity with either:
 - Storage optimized – 24 vCPU
 - Compute optimized – 52 vCPU & optional GPU
- Supports a custom EC2 AMI so you can perform processing on the go
- Supports custom Lambda functions
- Very useful to pre-process the data while moving
- Use case: data migration, image collation, IoT capture, machine learning



AWS Snowmobile



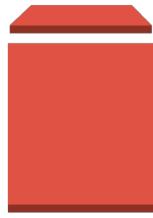
- Transfer exabytes of data (1 EB = 1,000 PB = 1,000,000 TBs)
- Each Snowmobile has 100 PB of capacity (use multiple in parallel)
- Better than Snowball if you transfer more than 10 PB

Hybrid Cloud for Storage

- AWS is pushing for "hybrid cloud"
 - Part of your infrastructure is on the cloud
 - Part of your infrastructure is on-premise
- This can be due to
 - Long cloud migrations
 - Security requirements
 - Compliance requirements
 - IT strategy
- S3 is a proprietary storage technology (unlike EFS / NFS), so how do you expose the S3 data on-premise?
- AWS Storage Gateway!

AWS Storage Cloud Native Options

BLOCK

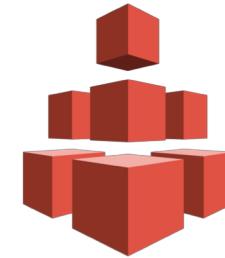


Amazon EBS



EC2 Instance
Store

FILE

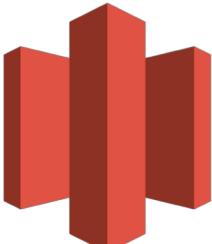


Amazon EFS

OBJECT



S3



Glacier

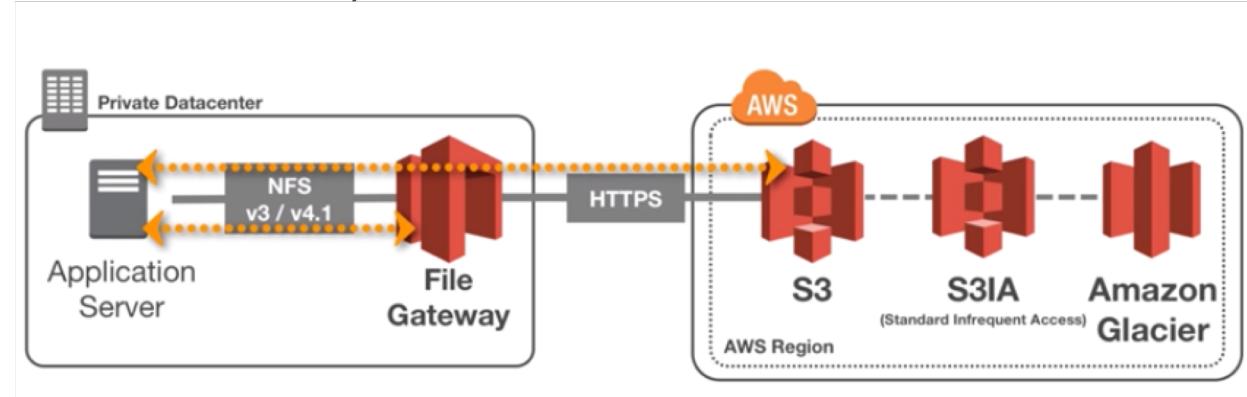
AWS Storage Gateway

- Bridge between on-premise data and cloud data in S3
- Use cases: disaster recovery, backup & restore, tiered storage
- 3 types of Storage Gateway:
 - File Gateway
 - Volume Gateway
 - Tape Gateway
- Exam Tip: You need to know the differences between all 3!



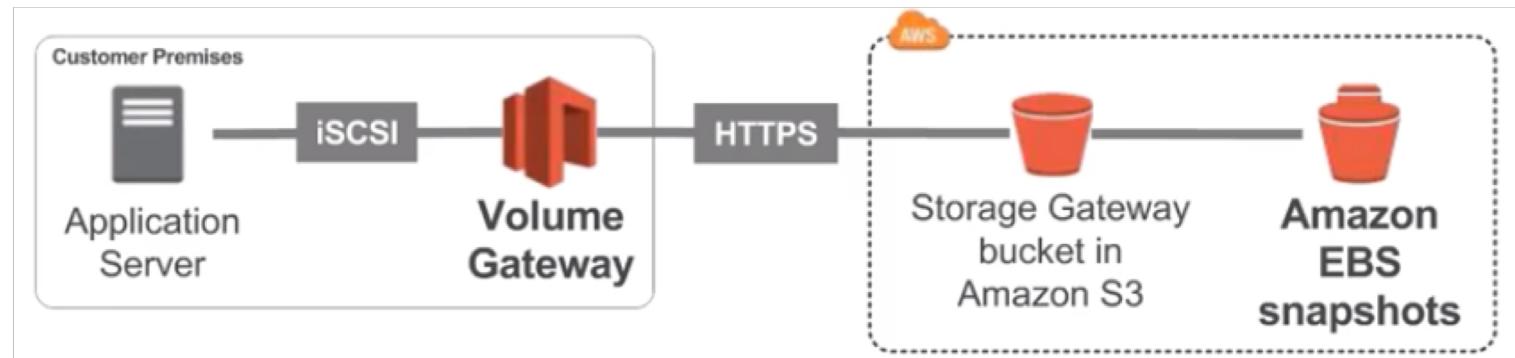
File Gateway

- Configured S3 buckets are accessible using the NFS and SMB protocol
- Supports S3 standard, S3 IA, S3 One Zone IA
- Bucket access using IAM roles for each File Gateway
- Most recently used data is cached in the file gateway
- Can be mounted on many servers



Volume Gateway

- Block storage using iSCSI protocol backed by S3
- Backed by EBS snapshots which can help restore on-premise volumes!
- **Cached volumes:** low latency access to most recent data
- **Stored volumes:** entire dataset is on premise, scheduled backups to S3



Tape Gateway

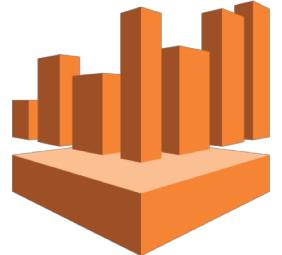
- Some companies have backup processes using physical tapes (!)
- With Tape Gateway, companies use the same processes but in the cloud
- Virtual Tape Library (VTL) backed by Amazon S3 and Glacier
- Back up data using existing tape-based processes (and iSCSI interface)
- Works with leading backup software vendors



AWS Storage Gateway Summary

- Exam tip: Read the question well, it will hint at which gateway to use
- On premise data to the cloud => Storage Gateway
- File access / NFS => File Gateway
(backed by S3)
- Volumes / Block Storage / iSCSI => Volume gateway
(backed by S3 with EBS snapshots)
- VTL Tape solution / Backup with iSCSI => Tape Gateway
(backed by S3 and Glacier)

AWS Athena



- Serverless service to perform analytics **directly against S3 files**
- Uses SQL language to query the files
- Has a JDBC / ODBC driver
- Charged per query and amount of data scanned
- Supports CSV, JSON, ORC, Avro, and Parquet (built on Presto)
- Use cases: Business intelligence / analytics / reporting, analyze & query VPC Flow Logs, ELB Logs, CloudTrail trails, etc...
- Exam Tip: Analyze data directly on S3 => use Athena

AWS Integration & Messaging

SQS, SNS & Kinesis

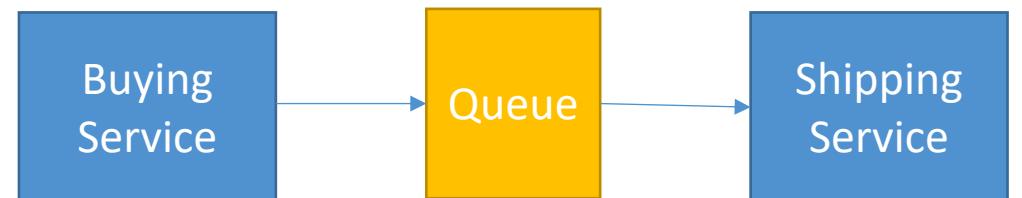
Section Introduction

- When we start deploying multiple applications, they will inevitably need to communicate with one another
- There are two patterns of application communication

**1) Synchronous communications
(application to application)**



**2) Asynchronous / Event based
(application to queue to application)**

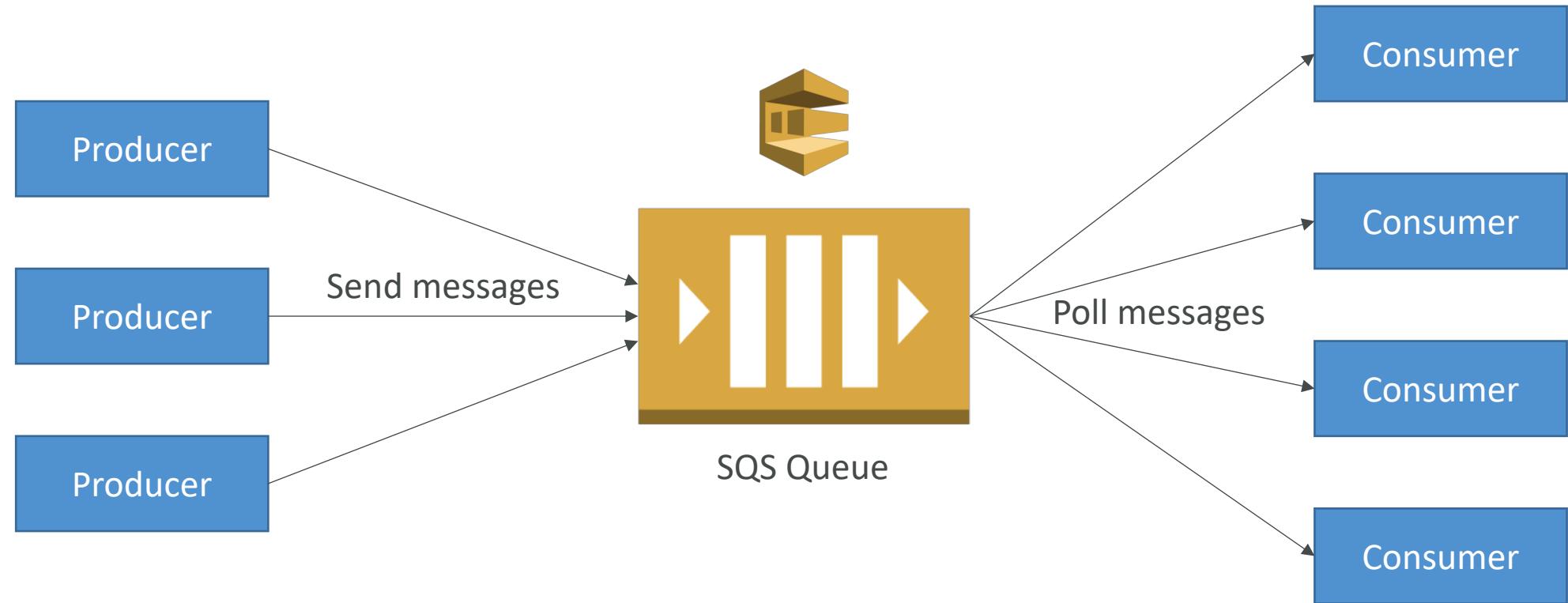


Section Introduction

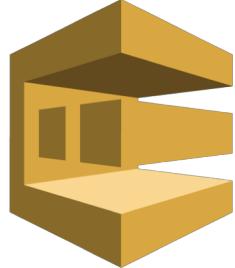
- Synchronous between applications can be problematic if there are sudden spikes of traffic
- What if you need to suddenly encode 1000 videos but usually it's 10?
- In that case, it's better to **decouple** your applications,
 - using SQS: queue model
 - using SNS: pub/sub model
 - using Kinesis: real-time streaming model
- These services can scale independently from our application!

AWS SQS

What's a queue?



AWS SQS – Standard Queue



- Oldest offering (over 10 years old)
- Fully managed
- Scales from 1 message per second to 10,000s per second
- Default retention of messages: 4 days, maximum of 14 days
- No limit to how many messages can be in the queue
- Low latency (<10 ms on publish and receive)
- Horizontal scaling in terms of number of consumers
- Can have duplicate messages (at least once delivery, occasionally)
- Can have out of order messages (best effort ordering)
- Limitation of 256KB per message sent

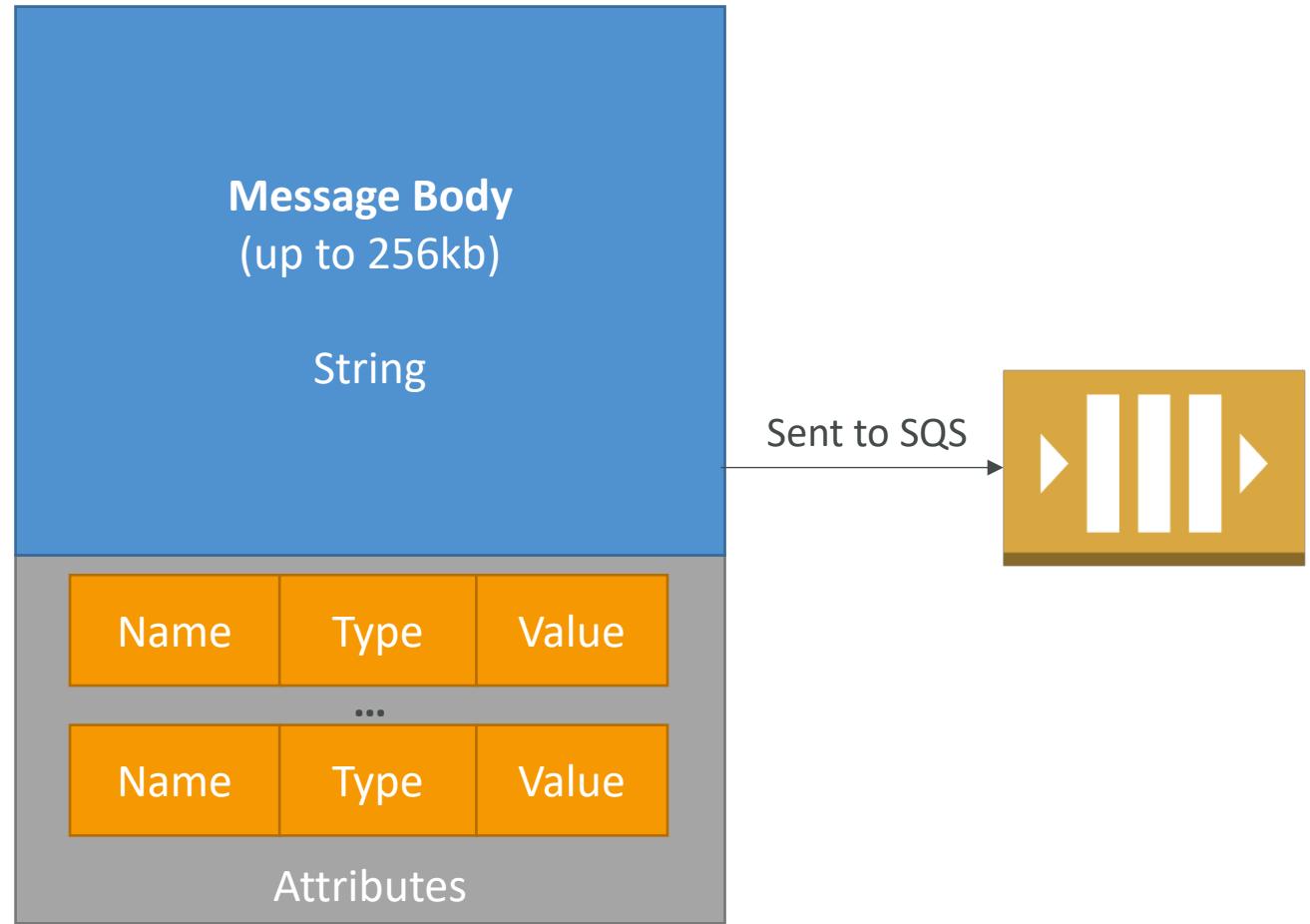
AWS SQS – Delay Queue

- Delay a message (consumers don't see it immediately) up to 15 minutes
- Default is 0 seconds (message is available right away)
- Can set a default at queue level
- Can override the default using the `DelaySeconds` parameter



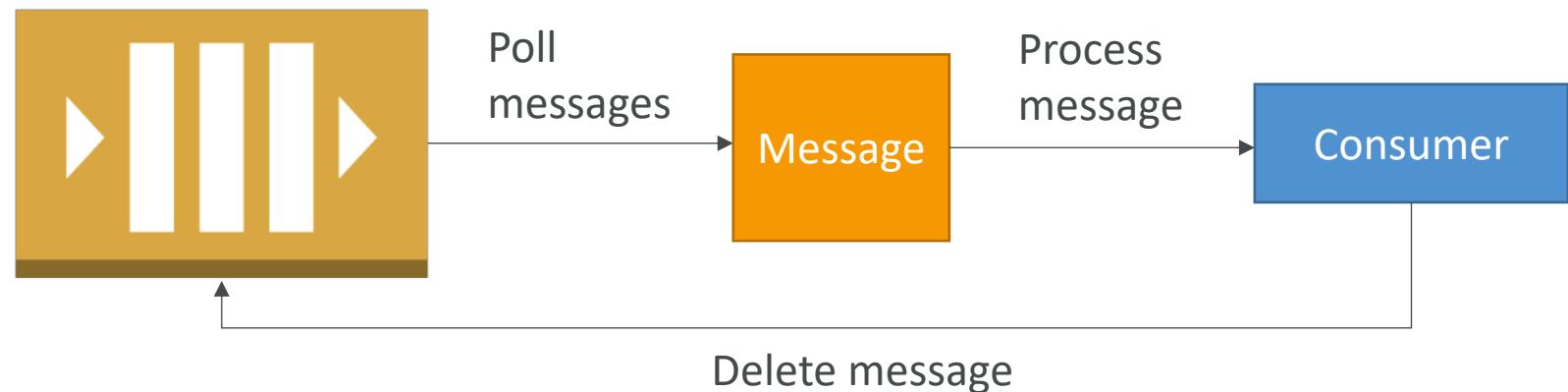
SQS – Producing Messages

- Define Body
- Add message attributes (metadata – optional)
- Provide Delay Delivery (optional)
- Get back
 - Message identifier
 - MD5 hash of the body



SQS – Consuming Messages

- Consumers...
- Poll SQS for messages (receive up to 10 messages at a time)
- Process the message within the visibility timeout
- Delete the message using the message ID & receipt handle

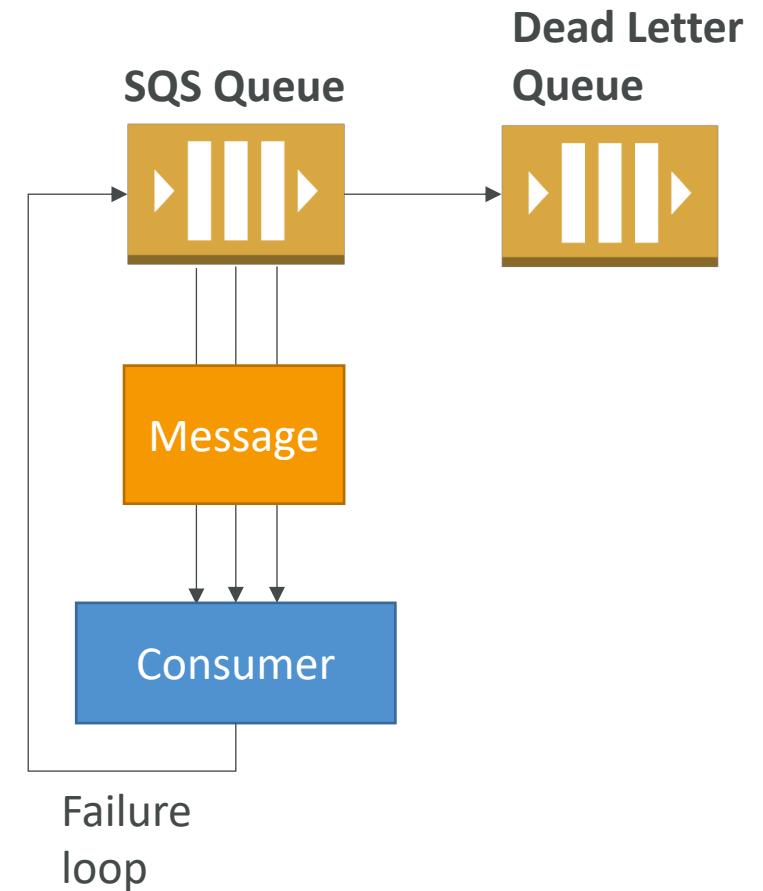


SQS – Visibility timeout

- When a consumer polls a message from a queue, the message is “invisible” to other consumers for a defined period... the **VisibilityTimeout**:
 - Set between 0 seconds and 12 hours (default 30 seconds)
 - If too high (15 minutes) and consumer fails to process the message, you must wait a long time before processing the message again
 - If too low (30 seconds) and consumer needs time to process the message (2 minutes), another consumer will receive the message and the message will be processed more than once
- **ChangeMessageVisibility** API to change the visibility while processing a message
- **DeleteMessage** API to tell SQS the message was successfully processed

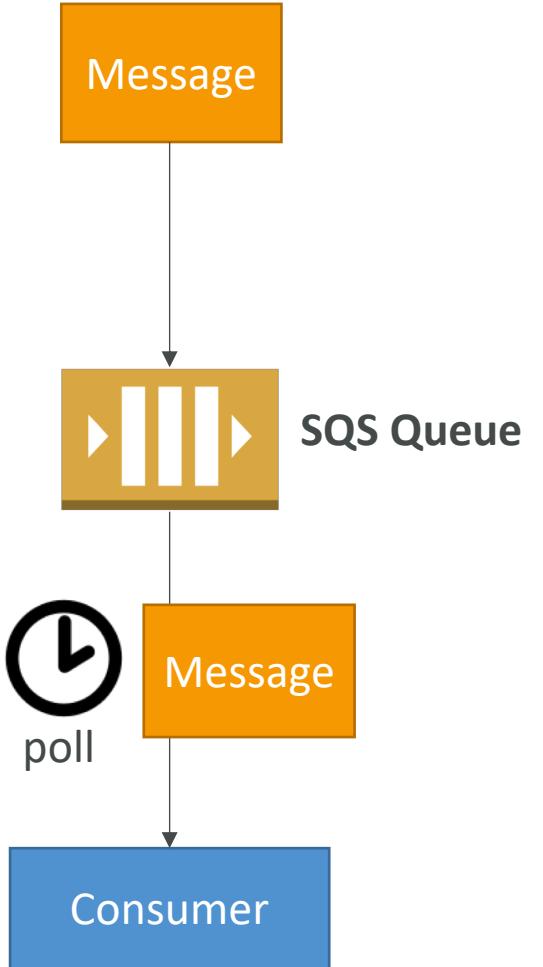
AWS SQS – Dead Letter Queue

- If a consumer fails to process a message within the Visibility Timeout...
the message goes back to the queue!
- We can set a threshold of how many times a message can go back to the queue – it's called a "redrive policy"
- After the threshold is exceeded, the message goes into a dead letter queue (DLQ)
- We have to create a DLQ first and then designate it dead letter queue
- Make sure to process the messages in the DLQ before they expire!

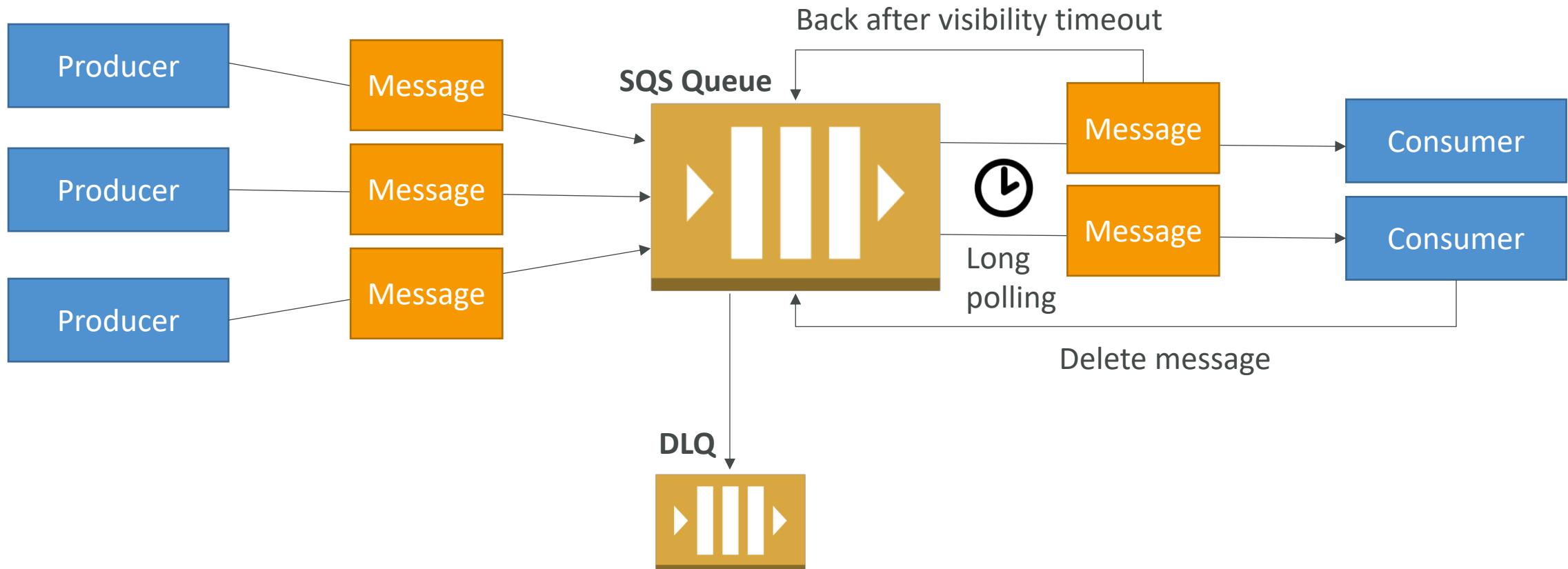


AWS SQS - Long Polling

- When a consumer requests message from the queue, it can optionally “wait” for messages to arrive if there are none in the queue
- This is called Long Polling
- LongPolling decreases the number of API calls made to SQS while increasing the efficiency and latency of your application.
- The wait time can be between 1 sec to 20 sec (20 sec preferable)
- Long Polling is preferable to Short Polling
- Long polling can be enabled at the queue level or at the API level using `WaitTimeSeconds`

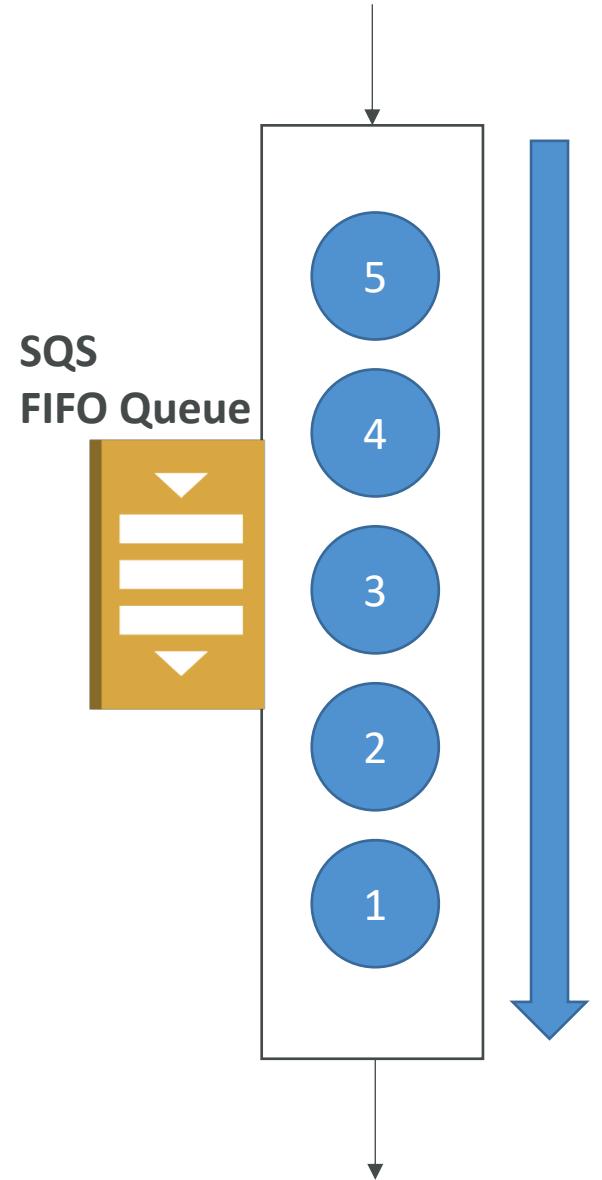


SQS Message consumption flow diagram



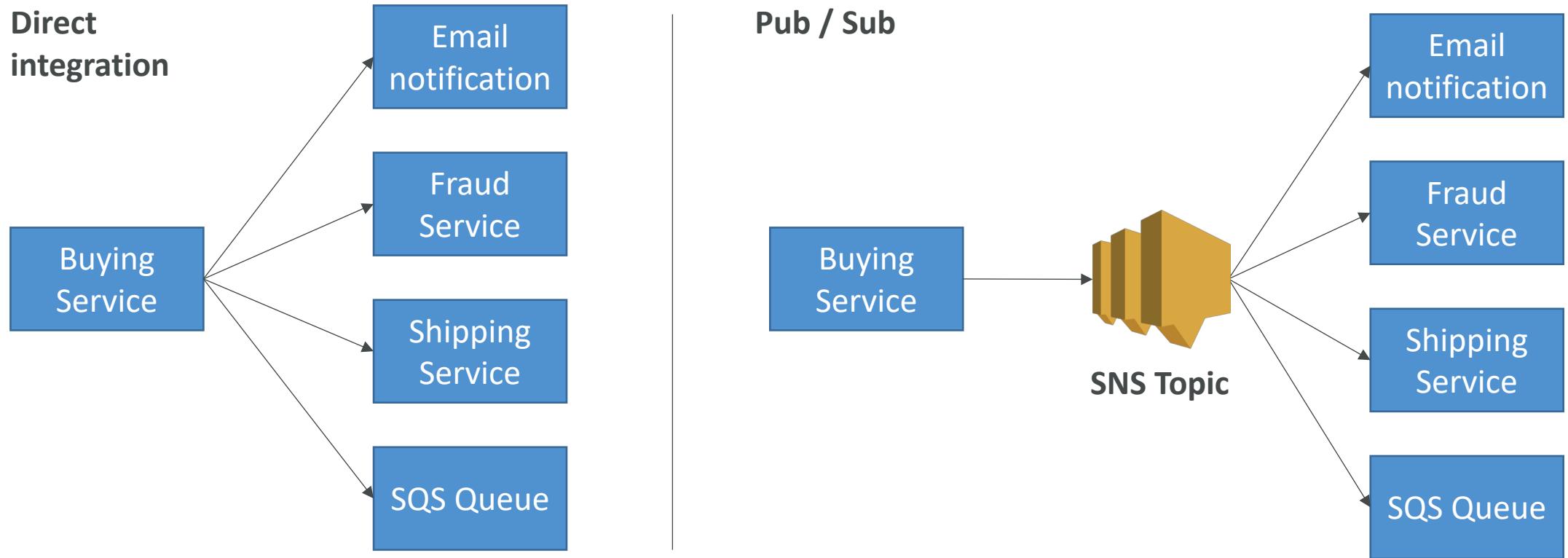
AWS SQS – FIFO Queue

- Newer offering (First In - First out) – not available in all regions!
- Name of the queue must end in .fifo
- Lower throughput (up to 3,000 per second with batching, 300/s without)
- Messages are processed in order by the consumer
- Messages are sent exactly once
- No per message delay (only per queue delay)
- Ability to do content based de-duplication
- 5-minute interval de-duplication using “Duplication ID”
- Message Groups:
 - Possibility to group messages for FIFO ordering using “Message GroupID”
 - Only one worker can be assigned per message group so that messages are processed in order
 - Message group is just an extra tag on the message!



AWS SNS

- What if you want to send one message to many receivers?



AWS SNS

- The “event producer” only sends message to one SNS topic
- As many “event receivers” (subscriptions) as we want to listen to the SNS topic notifications
- Each subscriber to the topic will get all the messages (note: new feature to filter messages)
- Up to 10,000,000 subscriptions per topic
- 100,000 topics limit
- Subscribers can be:
 - SQS
 - HTTP / HTTPS (with delivery retries – how many times)
 - Lambda
 - Emails
 - SMS messages
 - Mobile Notifications

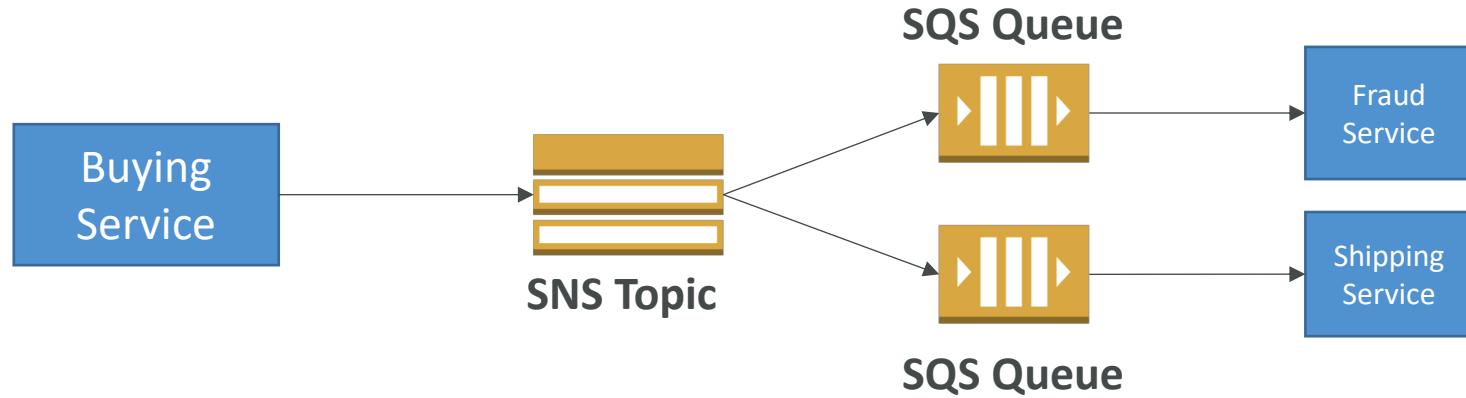
SNS integrates with a lot of Amazon Products

- Some services can send data directly to SNS for notifications
- CloudWatch (for alarms)
- Auto Scaling Groups notifications
- Amazon S3 (on bucket events)
- CloudFormation (upon state changes => failed to build, etc)
- Etc...

AWS SNS – How to publish

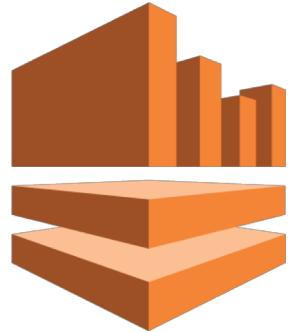
- Topic Publish (within your AWS Server – using the SDK)
 - Create a topic
 - Create a subscription (or many)
 - Publish to the topic
- Direct Publish (for mobile apps SDK)
 - Create a platform application
 - Create a platform endpoint
 - Publish to the platform endpoint
 - Works with Google GCM, Apple APNS, Amazon ADM...

SNS + SQS: Fan Out



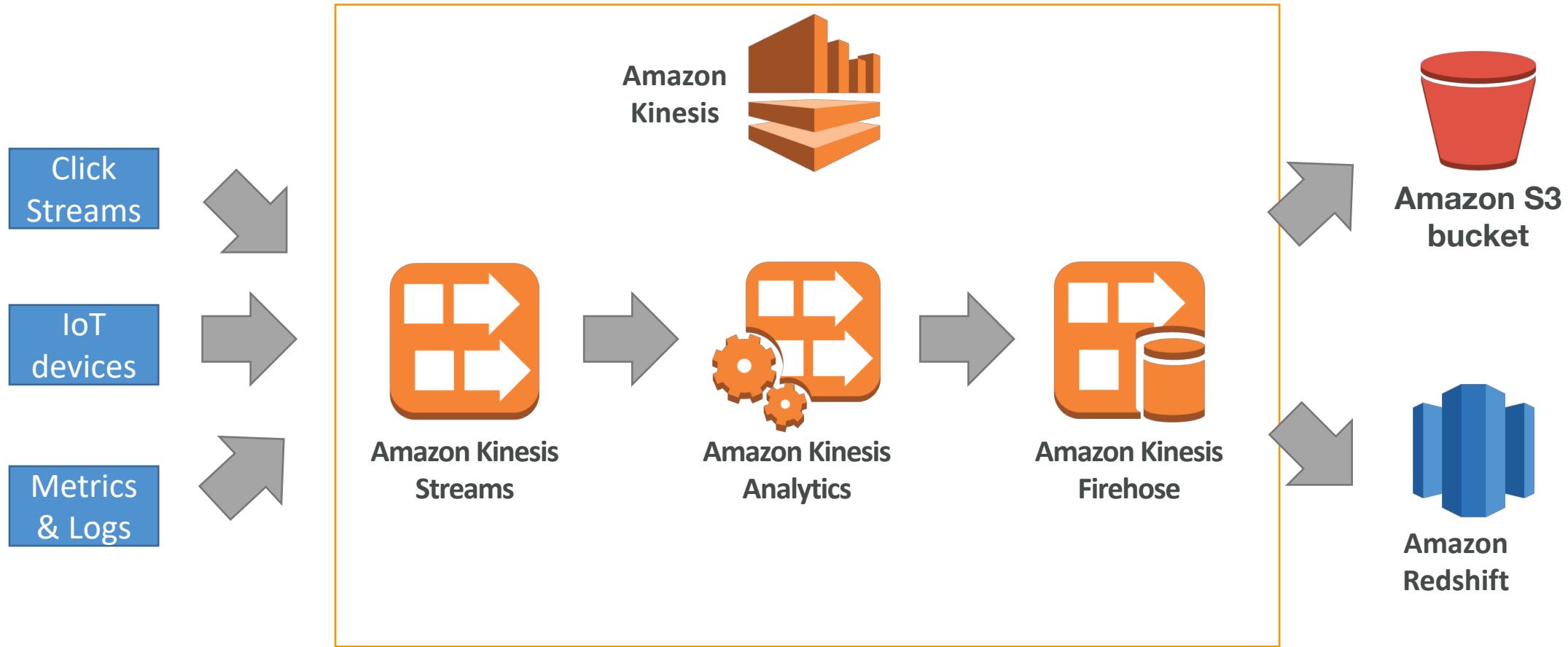
- Push once in SNS, receive in many SQS
- Fully decoupled
- No data loss
- Ability to add receivers of data later
- SQS allows for delayed processing
- SQS allows for retries of work
- May have many workers on one queue and one worker on the other queue

AWS Kinesis Overview



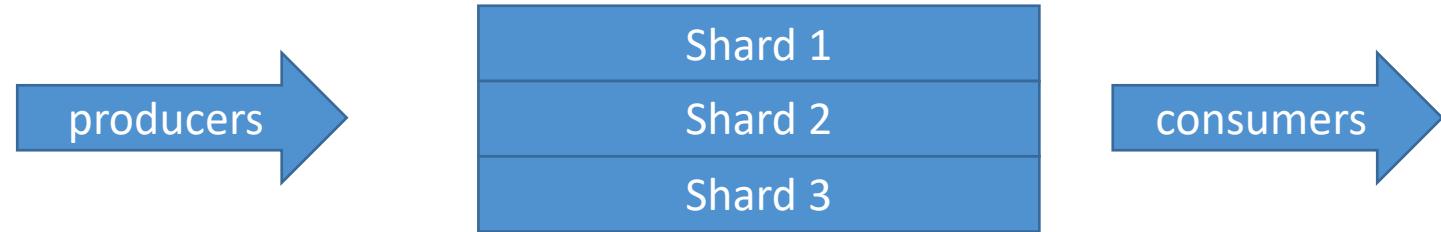
- Kinesis is a managed alternative to Apache Kafka
 - Great for application logs, metrics, IoT, clickstreams
 - Great for “real-time” big data
 - Great for streaming processing frameworks (Spark, NiFi, etc...)
 - Data is automatically replicated to 3 AZ
-
- **Kinesis Streams:** low latency streaming ingest at scale
 - **Kinesis Analytics:** perform real-time analytics on streams using SQL
 - **Kinesis Firehose:** load streams into S3, Redshift, ElasticSearch...

Kinesis



Kinesis Streams Overview

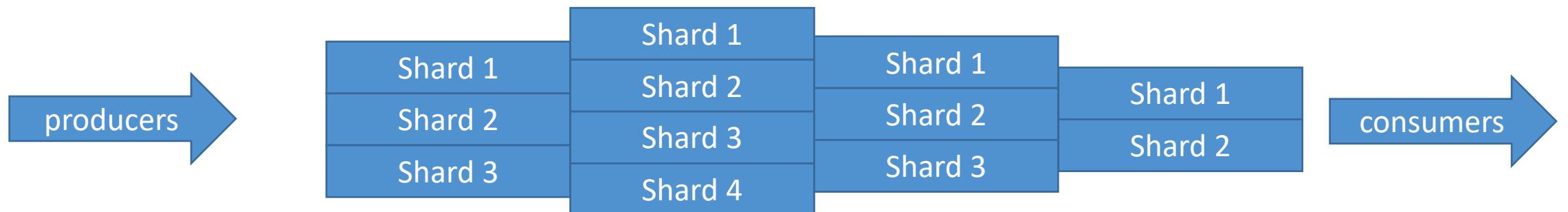
- Streams are divided in ordered Shards / Partitions



- Data retention is 1 day by default, can go up to 7 days
- Ability to reprocess / replay data
- Multiple applications can consume the same stream
- Real-time processing with scale of throughput
- Once data is inserted in Kinesis, it can't be deleted (immutability)

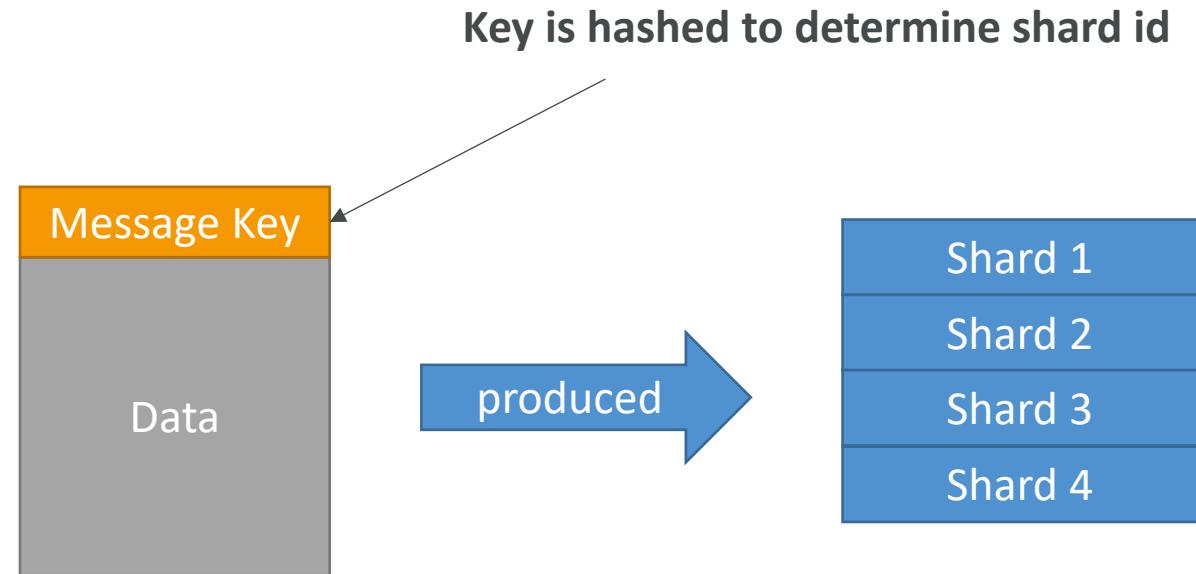
Kinesis Streams Shards

- One stream is made of many different shards
- 1MB/s or 1000 messages/s at write PER SHARD
- 2MB/s at read PER SHARD
- Billing is per shard provisioned, can have as many shards as you want
- Batching available or per message calls.
- The number of shards can evolve over time (reshard / merge)
- Records are ordered per shard



AWS Kinesis API – Put records

- PutRecord API + Partition key that gets hashed
- The same key goes to the same partition (helps with ordering for a specific key)
- Messages sent get a “sequence number”
- Choose a partition key that is highly distributed (helps prevent “hot partition”)
 - user_id if many users
 - **Not** country_id if 90% of the users are in one country
- Use Batching with PutRecords to reduce costs and increase throughput
- ProvisionedThroughputExceeded if we go over the limits
- Can use CLI, AWS SDK, or producer libraries from various frameworks

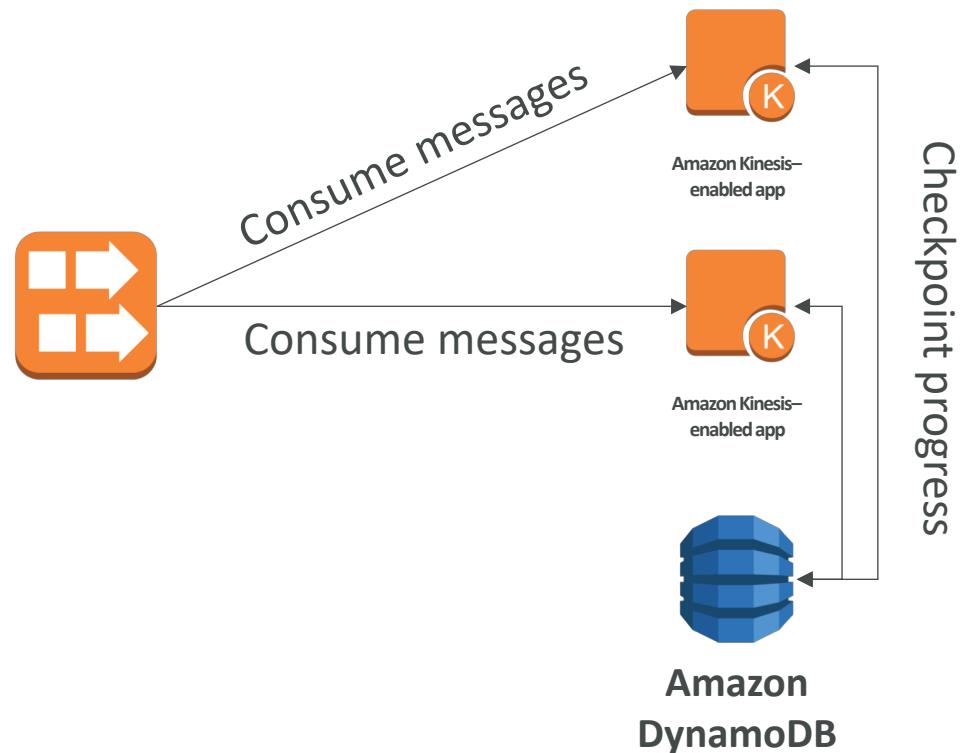


AWS Kinesis API – Exceptions

- ProvisionedThroughputExceeded Exceptions
 - Happens when sending more data (exceeding MB/s or TPS for any shard)
 - Make sure you don't have a hot shard (such as your partition key is bad and too much data goes to that partition)
- Solution:
 - Retries with backoff
 - Increase shards (scaling)
 - Ensure your partition key is a good one

AWS Kinesis API – Consumers

- Can use a normal consumer (CLI, SDK, etc...)
- Can use Kinesis Client Library (in Java, Node, Python, Ruby, .Net)
 - KCL uses DynamoDB to checkpoint offsets
 - KCL uses DynamoDB to track other workers and share the work amongst shards



Kinesis Security

- Control access / authorization using IAM policies
- Encryption in flight using HTTPS endpoints
- Encryption at rest using KMS
- Possibility to encrypt / decrypt data client side (harder)
- VPC Endpoints available for Kinesis to access within VPC

AWS Kinesis Data Analytics



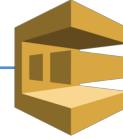
- Perform real-time analytics on Kinesis Streams using SQL
- Kinesis Data Analytics:
 - Auto Scaling
 - Managed: no servers to provision
 - Continuous: real time
- Pay for actual consumption rate
- Can create streams out of the real-time queries

AWS Kinesis Firehose



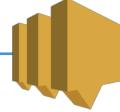
- Fully Managed Service, no administration
- Near Real Time (60 seconds latency)
- Load data into Redshift / Amazon S3 / ElasticSearch / Splunk
- Automatic scaling
- Support many data format (pay for conversion)
- Pay for the amount of data going through Firehose

SQS vs SNS vs Kinesis



SQS:

- Consumer “pull data”
- Data is deleted after being consumed
- Can have as many workers (consumers) as we want
- No need to provision throughput
- No ordering guarantee (except FIFO queues)
- Individual message delay capability



SNS:

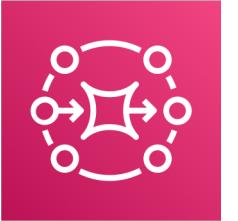
- Push data to many subscribers
- Up to 10,000,000 subscribers
- Data is not persisted (lost if not delivered)
- Pub/Sub
- Up to 100,000 topics
- No need to provision throughput
- Integrates with SQS for fan-out architecture pattern



Kinesis:

- Consumers “pull data”
- As many consumers as we want
- Possibility to replay data
- Meant for real-time big data, analytics and ETL
- Ordering at the shard level
- Data expires after X days
- Must provision throughput

Amazon MQ



- SQS, SNS are “cloud-native” services, and they’re using proprietary protocols from AWS.
- Traditional applications running from on-premise may use open protocols such as: MQTT, AMQP, STOMP, Openwire, WSS
- When migrating to the cloud, instead of re-engineering the application to use SQS and SNS, we can use Amazon MQ
- Amazon MQ = managed Apache ActiveMQ

- Amazon MQ doesn’t “scale” as much as SQS / SNS
- Amazon MQ runs on a dedicated machine, can run in HA with failover
- Amazon MQ has both queue feature (~SQS) and topic features (~SNS)

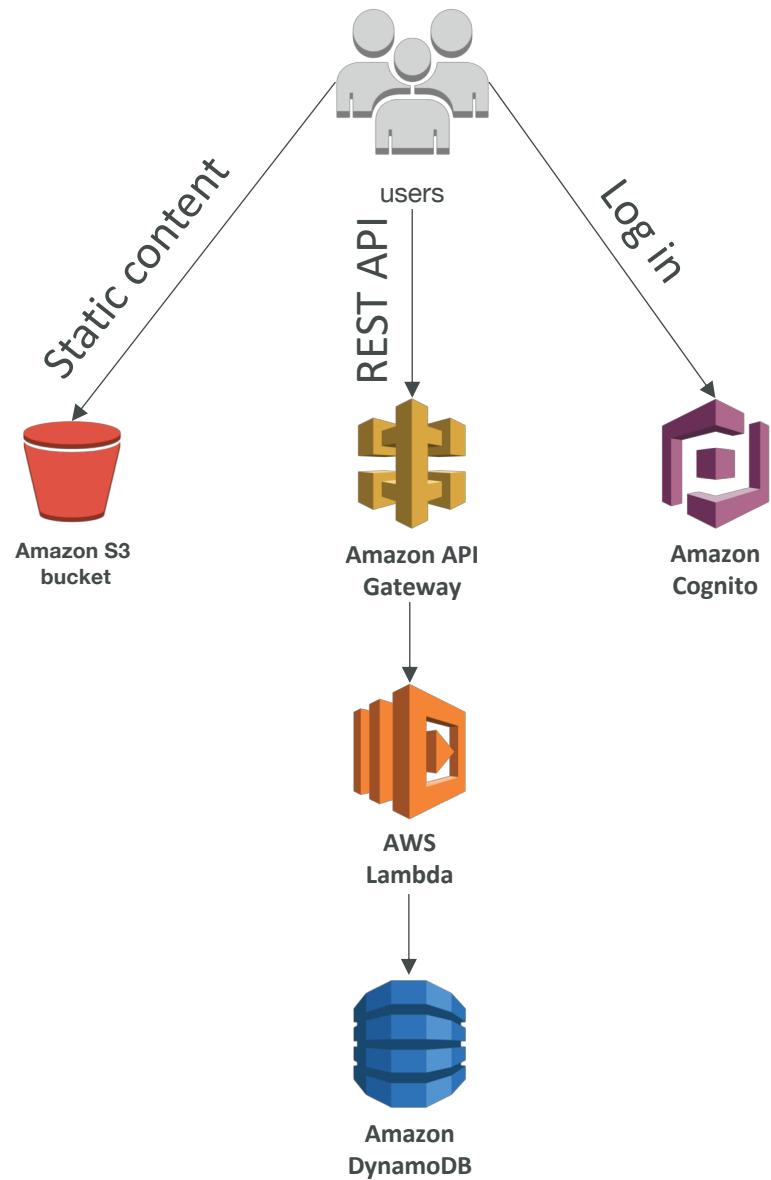
Serverless Overview

What's serverless?

- Serverless is a new paradigm in which the developers don't have to manage servers anymore...
- They just deploy code
- They just deploy... functions !
- Initially... Serverless == FaaS (Function as a Service)
- Serverless was pioneered by AWS Lambda but now also includes anything that's managed: “databases, messaging, storage, etc.”
- **Serverless does not mean there are no servers...**
it means you just don't manage / provision / see them

Serverless in AWS

- AWS Lambda & Step Functions
- DynamoDB
- AWS Cognito
- AWS API Gateway
- Amazon S3
- AWS SNS & SQS
- AWS Kinesis
- Aurora Serverless



Why AWS Lambda



Amazon EC2

- Virtual Servers in the Cloud
 - Limited by RAM and CPU
 - Continuously running
 - Scaling means intervention to add / remove servers
-



Amazon Lambda

- Virtual **functions** – no servers to manage!
- Limited by time - **short executions**
- Run **on-demand**
- **Scaling is automated!**

Benefits of AWS Lambda

- Easy Pricing:
 - Pay per request and compute time
 - Free tier of 1,000,000 AWS Lambda requests and 400,000 GBs of compute time
- Integrated with the whole AWS Stack
- Integrated with many programming languages
- Easy monitoring through AWS CloudWatch
- Easy to get more resources per functions (up to 3GB of RAM!)
- Increasing RAM will also improve CPU and network!

AWS Lambda language support

- Node.js (JavaScript)
- Python
- Java (Java 8 compatible)
- C# (.NET Core)
- Golang
- C# / Powershell

AWS Lambda Integrations

Main ones



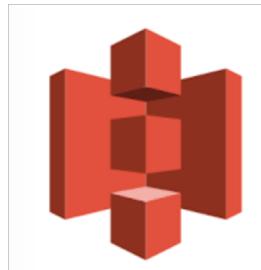
API Gateway



Kinesis



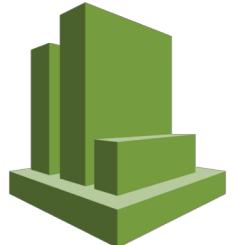
DynamoDB



AWS S3 –
Simple Storage Service



AWS IoT
Internet of Things



CloudWatch Events



CloudWatch Logs



AWS SNS

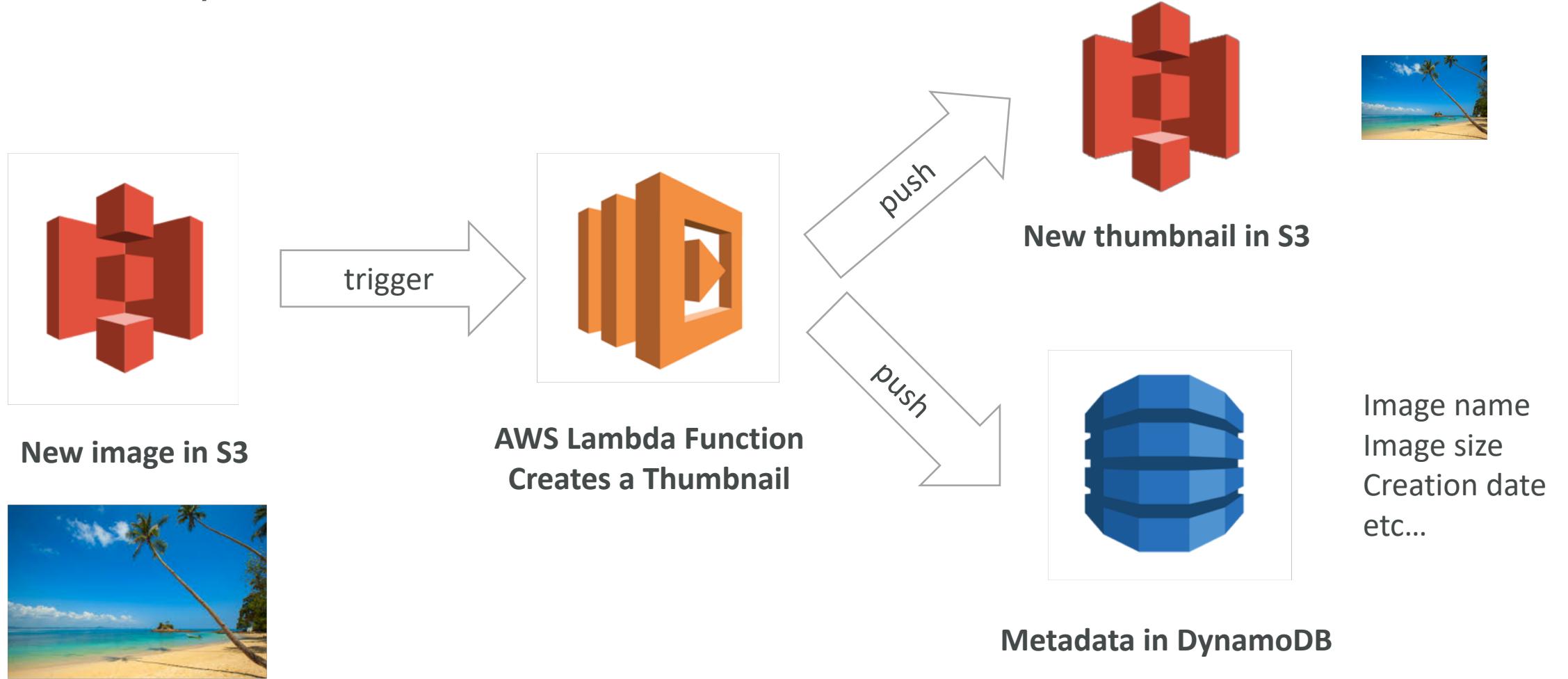


AWS Cognito



Amazon
SQS

Example: Serverless Thumbnail creation



AWS Lambda Pricing (as of June 2018, us-east-1 region)

- You can find overall pricing information here:
<https://aws.amazon.com/lambda/pricing/>
- Pay per calls:
 - First 1,000,000 requests are free
 - \$0.20 per 1 million requests thereafter (\$0.0000002 per request)
- Pay per duration: (in increment of 100ms)
 - 400,000 GB-seconds of compute time per month if FREE
 - == 400,000 seconds if function is 1GB RAM
 - == 3,200,000 seconds if function is 128 MB RAM
 - After that \$1.00 for 600,000 GB-seconds
- It is usually very cheap to run AWS Lambda so it's very popular

AWS Lambda Configuration

- Timeout: default 3 seconds, max of 300s (Note: new limit 15 minutes)
- Environment variables
- Allocated memory (128M to 3G)
- Ability to deploy within a VPC + assign security groups
- IAM execution role must be attached to the Lambda function

AWS Lambda Limits to Know

- Execution:
 - Memory allocation: 128 MB – 3008 MB (64 MB increments)
 - Maximum execution time: 300 seconds (5 minutes), now 15 minutes but 5 for exam
 - Disk capacity in the “function container” (in /tmp): 512 MB
 - Concurrency limits: 1000
- Deployment:
 - Lambda function deployment size (compressed .zip): 50 MB
 - Size of uncompressed deployment (code + dependencies): 250 MB
 - Can use the /tmp directory to load other files at startup
 - Size of environment variables: 4 KB

DynamoDB



- Fully Managed, Highly available with replication across 3 AZ
- NoSQL database - not a relational database
- Scales to massive workloads, distributed database
- Millions of requests per seconds, trillions of row, 100s of TB of storage
- Fast and consistent in performance (low latency on retrieval)
- Integrated with IAM for security, authorization and administration
- Enables event driven programming with DynamoDB Streams
- Low cost and auto scaling capabilities

DynamoDB - Basics

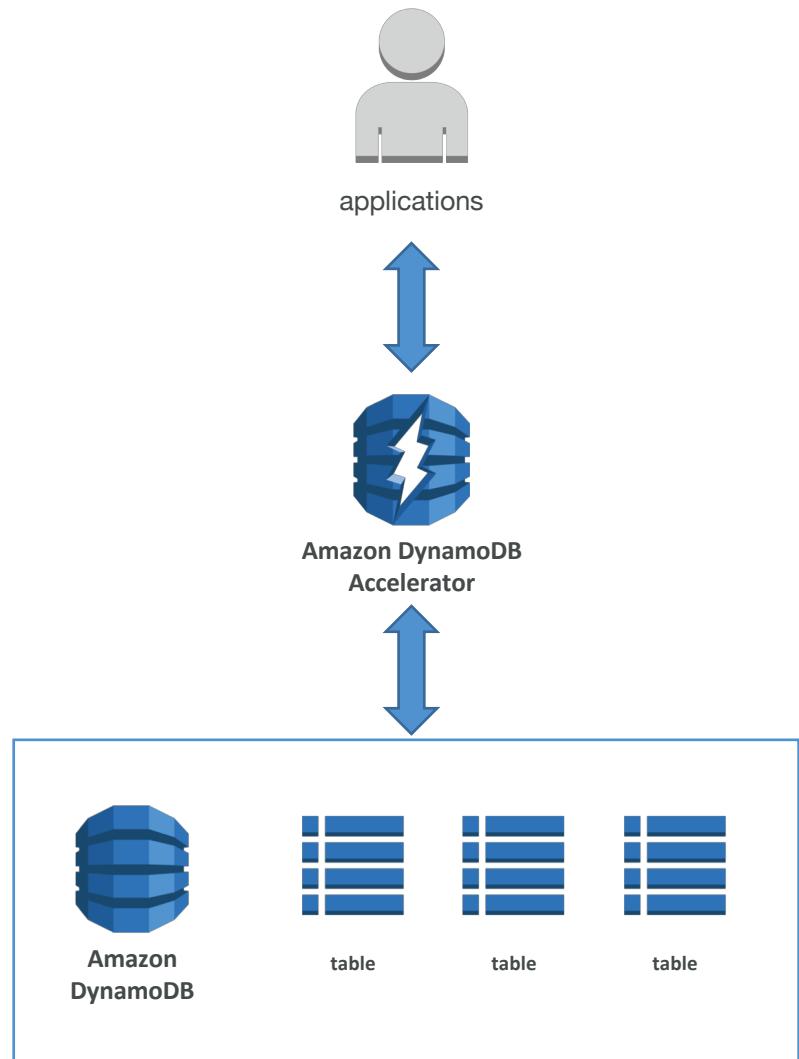
- DynamoDB is made of **tables**
- Each table has a **primary key** (must be decided at creation time)
- Each table can have an infinite number of items (= rows)
- Each item has **attributes** (can be added over time – can be null)
- Maximum size of a item is 400KB
- Data types supported are:
 - Scalar Types: String, Number, Binary, Boolean, Null
 - Document Types: List, Map
 - Set Types: String Set, Number Set, Binary Set

DynamoDB – Provisioned Throughput

- Table must have provisioned read and write capacity units
- **Read Capacity Units (RCU):** throughput for reads (\$0.00013 per RCU)
 - 1 RCU = 1 strongly consistent read of 4 KB per second
 - 1 RCU = 2 eventually consistent read of 4 KB per second
- **Write Capacity Units (WCU):** throughput for writes (\$0.00065 per WCU)
 - 1 WCU = 1 write of 1 KB per second
- Option to setup auto-scaling of throughput to meet demand
- Throughput can be exceeded temporarily using “burst credit”
- If burst credit are empty, you’ll get a “ProvisionedThroughputException”.
- It’s then advised to do an exponential back-off retry

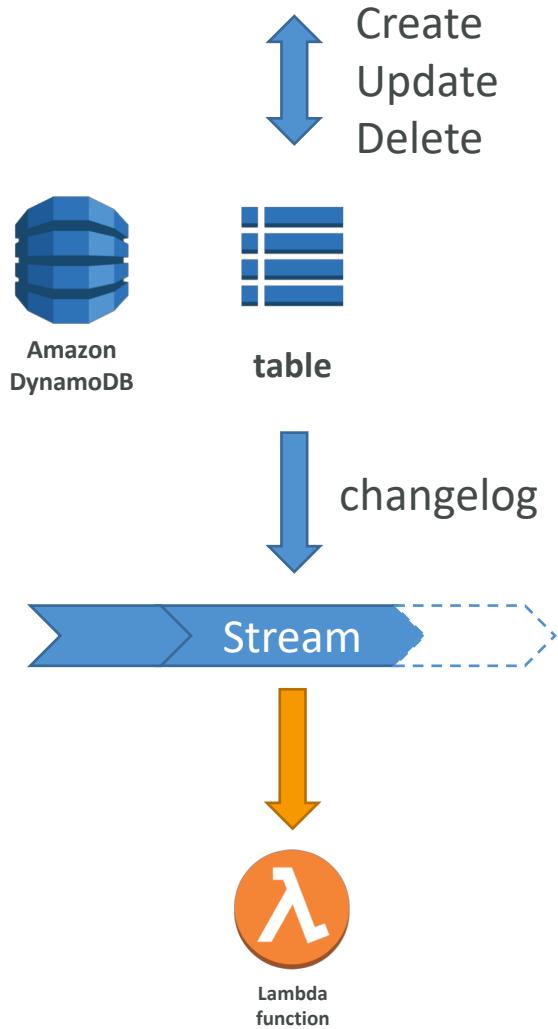
DynamoDB - DAX

- DAX = DynamoDB Accelerator
- Seamless cache for DynamoDB, no application re-write
- Writes go through DAX to DynamoDB
- Micro second latency for cached reads & queries
- Solves the Hot Key problem (too many reads)
- 5 minutes TTL for cache by default
- Up to 10 nodes in the cluster
- Multi AZ (3 nodes minimum recommended for production)
- Secure (Encryption at rest with KMS,VPC, IAM, CloudTrail...)



DynamoDB Streams

- Changes in DynamoDB (Create, Update, Delete) can end up in a DynamoDB Stream
- This stream can be read by AWS Lambda, and we can then do:
 - React to changes in real time (welcome email to new users)
 - Analytics
 - Create derivative tables / views
 - Insert into ElasticSearch
- Could implement cross region replication using Streams
- Stream has 24 hours of data retention



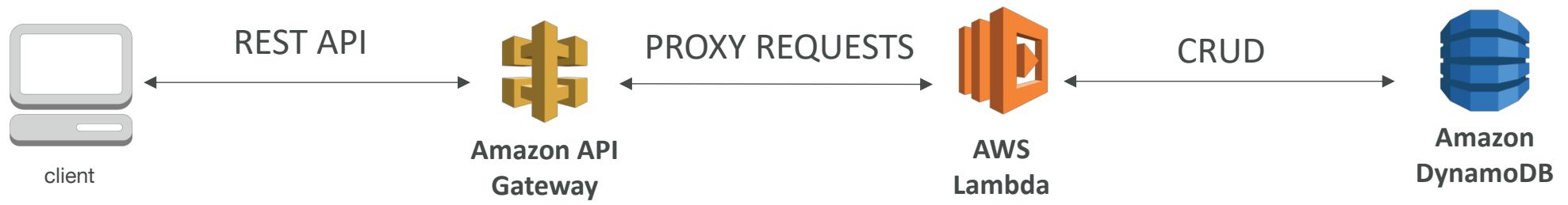
DynamoDB - New Features

- **Transactions (new from Nov 2018)**
 - All or nothing type of operations
 - Coordinated Insert, Update & Delete across multiple tables
 - Include up to 10 unique items or up to 4 MB of data
- **On Demand (new from Nov 2018)**
 - No capacity planning needed (WCU / RCU) – scales automatically
 - 2.5x more expensive than provisioned capacity (use with care)
 - Helpful when spikes are un-predictable or the application is very low throughput

DynamoDB – Security & Other Features

- Security:
 - VPC Endpoints available to access DynamoDB without internet
 - Access fully controlled by IAM
 - Encryption at rest using KMS
 - Encryption in transit using SSL / TLS
- Backup and Restore feature available
 - Point in time restore like RDS
 - No performance impact
- Global Tables
 - Multi region, fully replicated, high performance
- Amazon DMS can be used to migrate to DynamoDB (from Mongo, Oracle, MySQL, S3, etc...)
- You can launch a local DynamoDB on your computer for development purposes

Building a Serverless API



AWS API Gateway



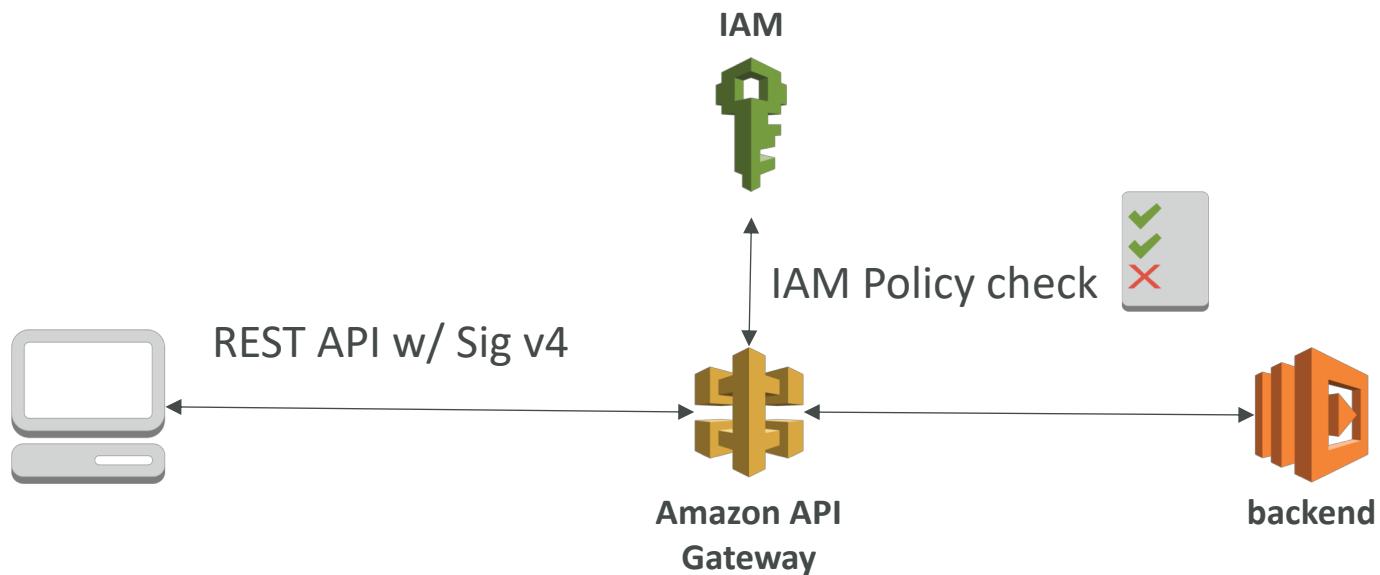
- AWS Lambda + API Gateway: No infrastructure to manage
- Handle API versioning (v1, v2...)
- Handle different environments (dev, test, prod...)
- Handle security (Authentication and Authorization)
- Create API keys, handle request throttling
- Swagger / Open API import to quickly define APIs
- Transform and validate requests and responses
- Generate SDK and API specifications
- Cache API responses

API Gateway Integrations

- Outside of VPC:
 - AWS Lambda (most popular / powerful)
 - Endpoints on EC2
 - Load Balancers
 - Any AWS Service
 - External and publicly accessible HTTP endpoints
- Inside of VPC:
 - AWS Lambda in your VPC
 - EC2 endpoints in your VPC

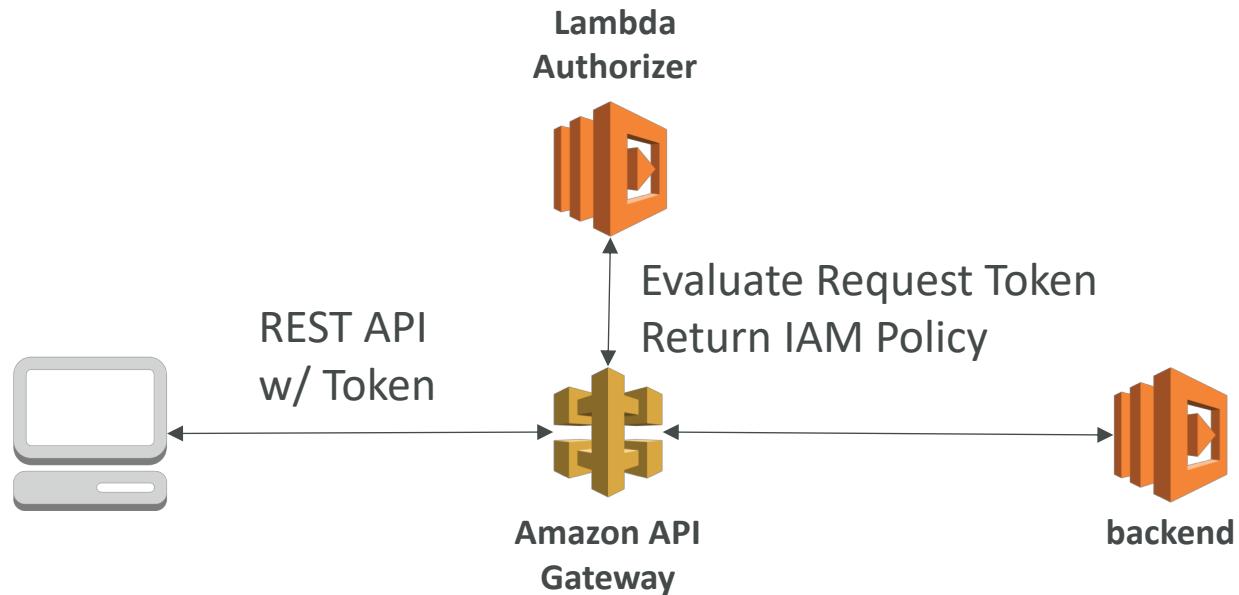
API Gateway – Security IAM Permissions

- Create an IAM policy authorization and attach to User / Role
- API Gateway verifies IAM permissions passed by the calling application
- Good to provide access within your own infrastructure
- Leverages “Sig v4” capability where IAM credential are in headers



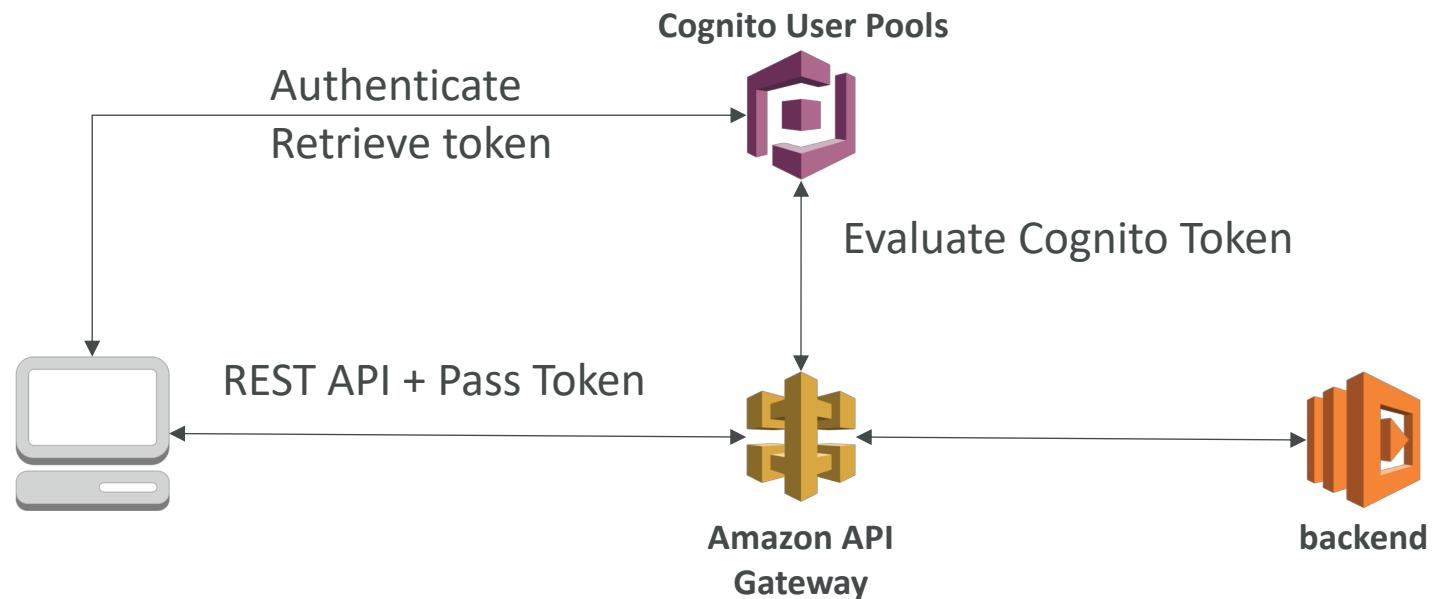
API Gateway – Security Lambda Authorizer (formerly Custom Authorizers)

- Uses AWS Lambda to validate the token in header being passed
- Option to cache result of authentication
- Helps to use OAuth / SAML / 3rd party type of authentication
- Lambda must return an IAM policy for the user



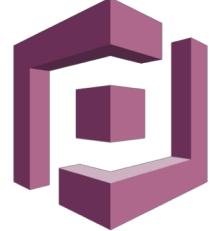
API Gateway – Security Cognito User Pools

- Cognito fully manages user lifecycle
- API gateway verifies identity automatically from AWS Cognito
- No custom implementation required
- Cognito only helps with authentication, not authorization



API Gateway – Security – Summary

- **IAM:**
 - Great for users / roles already within your AWS account
 - Handle authentication + authorization
 - Leverages Sig v4
- **Custom Authorizer:**
 - Great for 3rd party tokens
 - Very flexible in terms of what IAM policy is returned
 - Handle Authentication + Authorization
 - Pay per Lambda invocation
- **Cognito User Pool:**
 - You manage your own user pool (can be backed by Facebook, Google login etc...)
 - No need to write any custom code
 - Must implement authorization in the backend

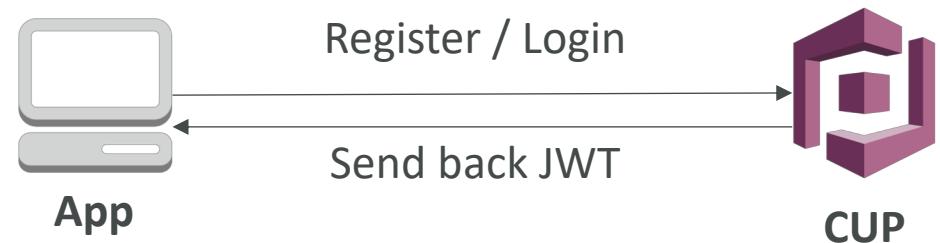


AWS Cognito

- We want to give our users an identity so that they can interact with our application.
- **Cognito User Pools:**
 - Sign in functionality for app users
 - Integrate with API Gateway
- **Cognito Identity Pools (Federated Identity):**
 - Provide AWS credentials to users so they can access AWS resources directly
 - Integrate with Cognito User Pools as an identity provider
- **Cognito Sync:**
 - Synchronize data from device to Cognito.
 - May be deprecated and replaced by AppSync

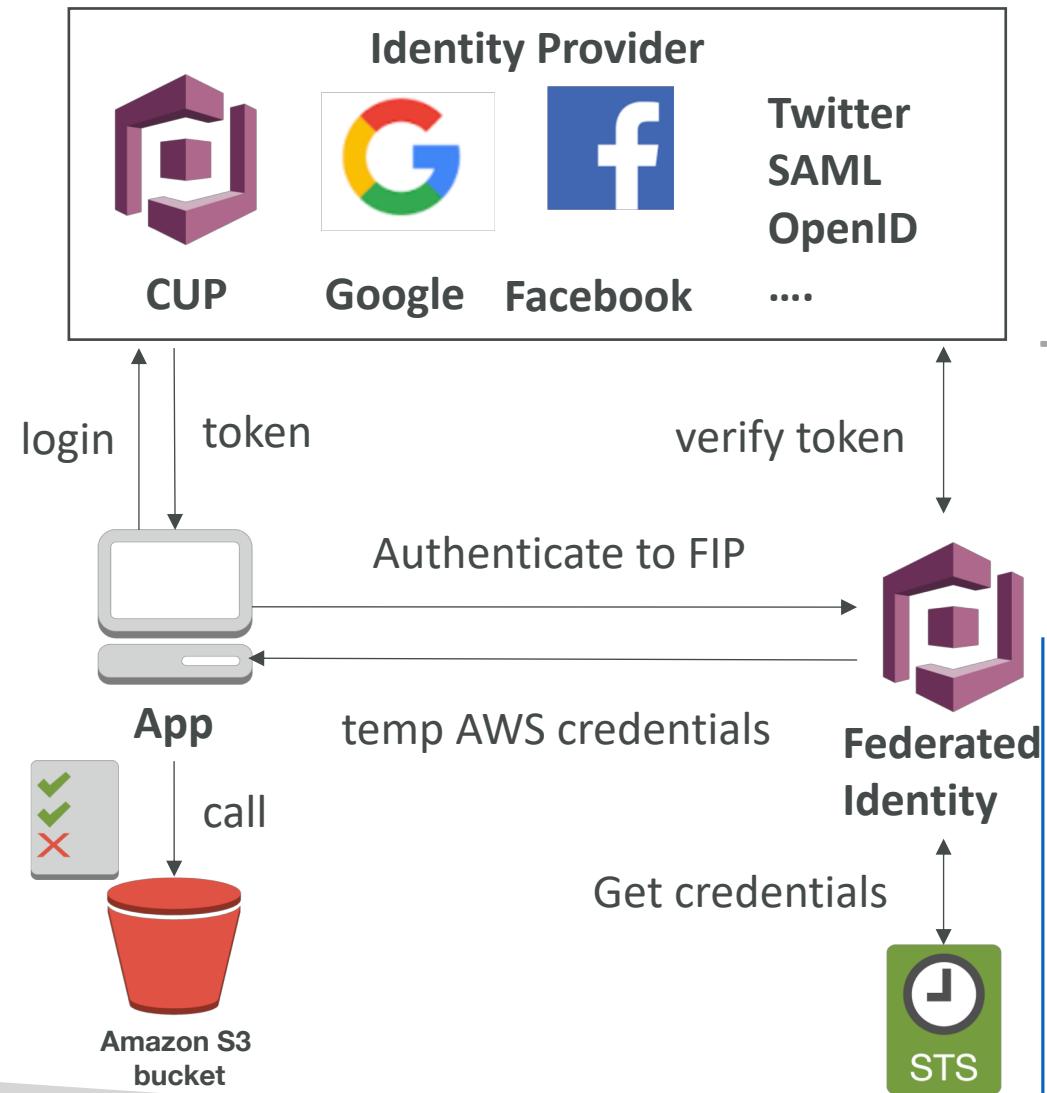
AWS Cognito User Pools (CUP)

- Create a serverless database of user for your mobile apps
- Simple login: Username (or email) / password combination
- Possibility to verify emails / phone numbers and add MFA
- Can enable Federated Identities (Facebook, Google, SAML...)
- Sends back a JSON Web Tokens (JWT)
- Can be integrated with API Gateway for authentication



AWS Cognito – Federated Identity Pools

- Goal:
 - Provide direct access to AWS Resources from the Client Side
- How:
 - Log in to federated identity provider – or remain anonymous
 - Get temporary AWS credentials back from the Federated Identity Pool
 - These credentials come with a pre-defined IAM policy stating their permissions
- Example:
 - provide (temporary) access to write to S3 bucket using Facebook Login



AWS Cognito Sync

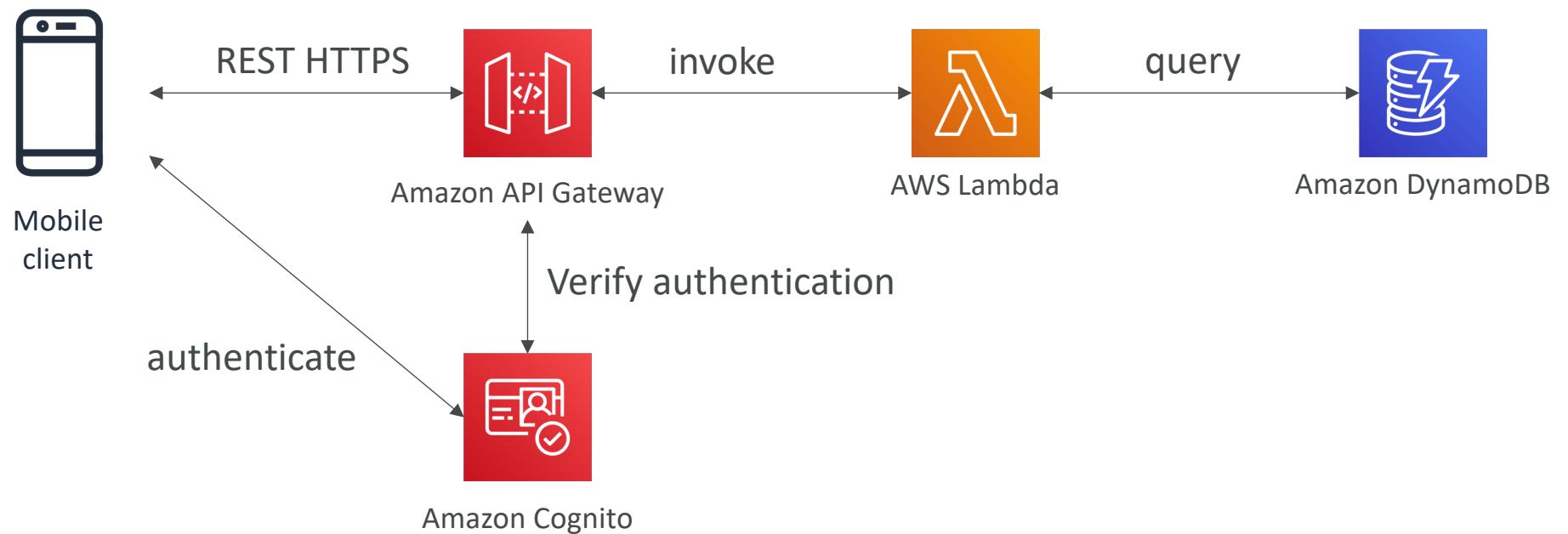
- Deprecated – use AWS AppSync now
- Store preferences, configuration, state of app
- Cross device synchronization (any platform – iOS, Android, etc...)
- Offline capability (synchronization when back online)
- Requires **Federated Identity Pool** in Cognito (not User Pool)
- Store data in datasets (up to 1 MB)
- Up to 20 datasets to synchronise

Serverless Architectures

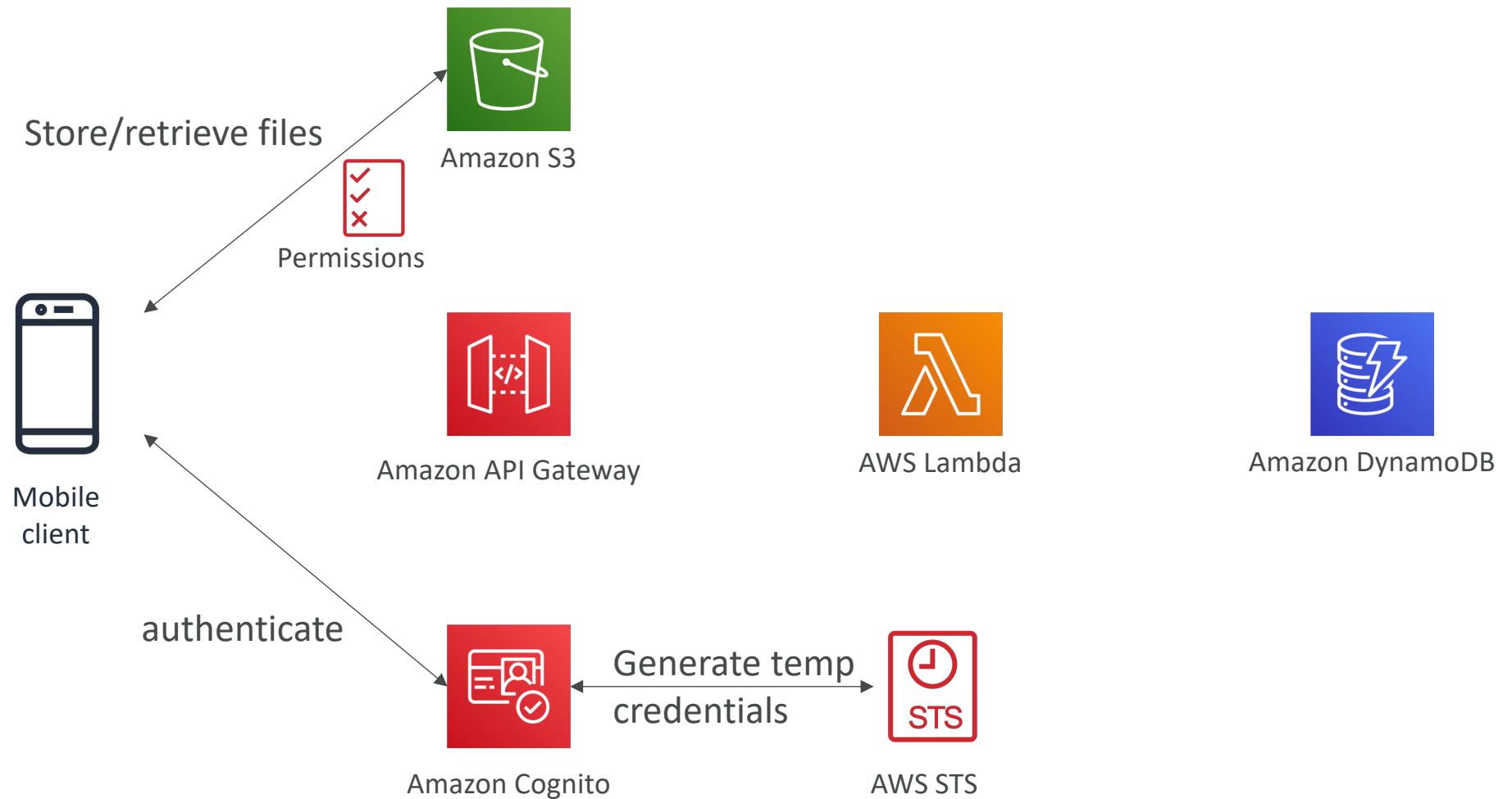
Mobile application: MyTodoList

- We want to create a mobile application with the following requirements
- Expose as REST API with HTTPS
- Serverless architecture
- Users should be able to directly interact with their own folder in S3
- Users should authenticate through a managed serverless service
- The users can write and read to-dos, but they mostly read them
- The database should scale, and have some high read throughput

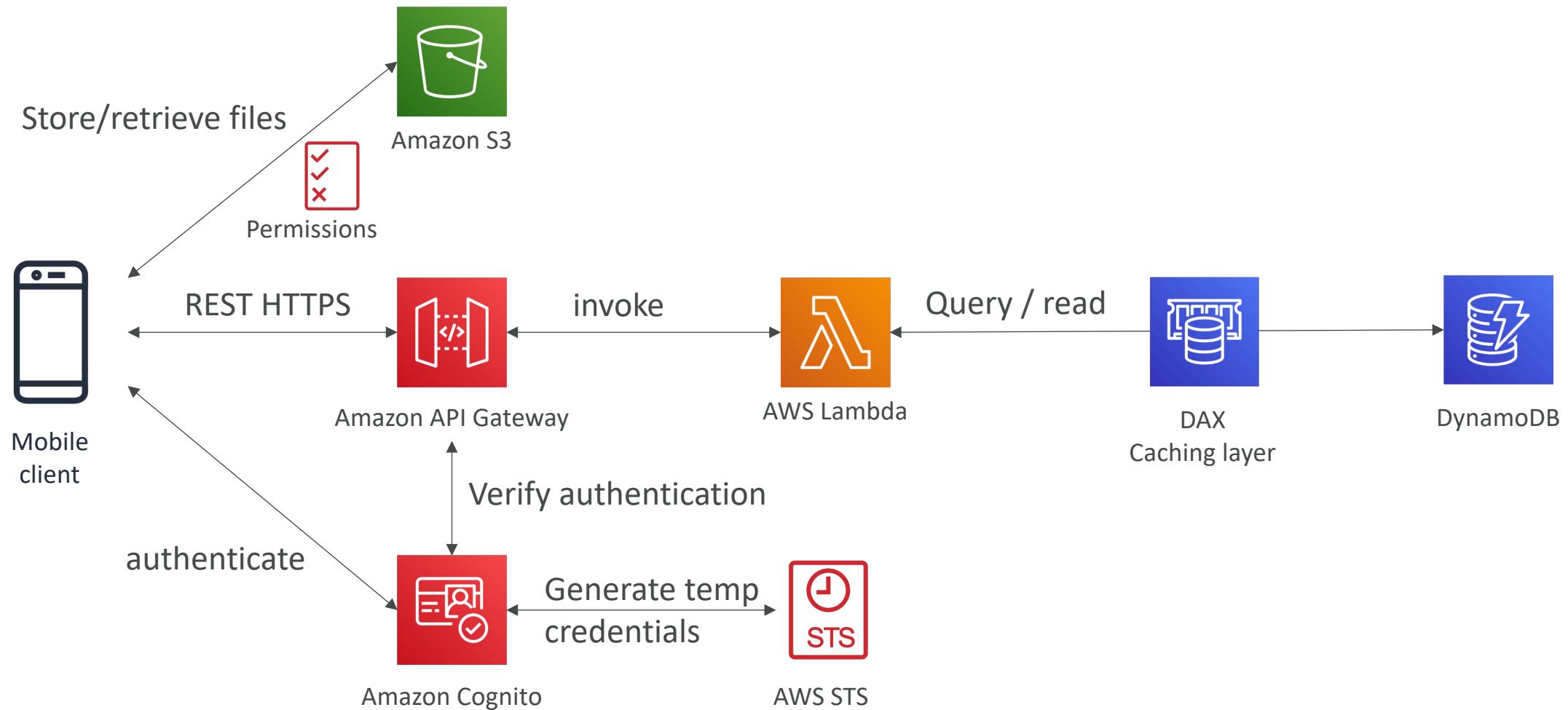
Mobile app: REST API layer



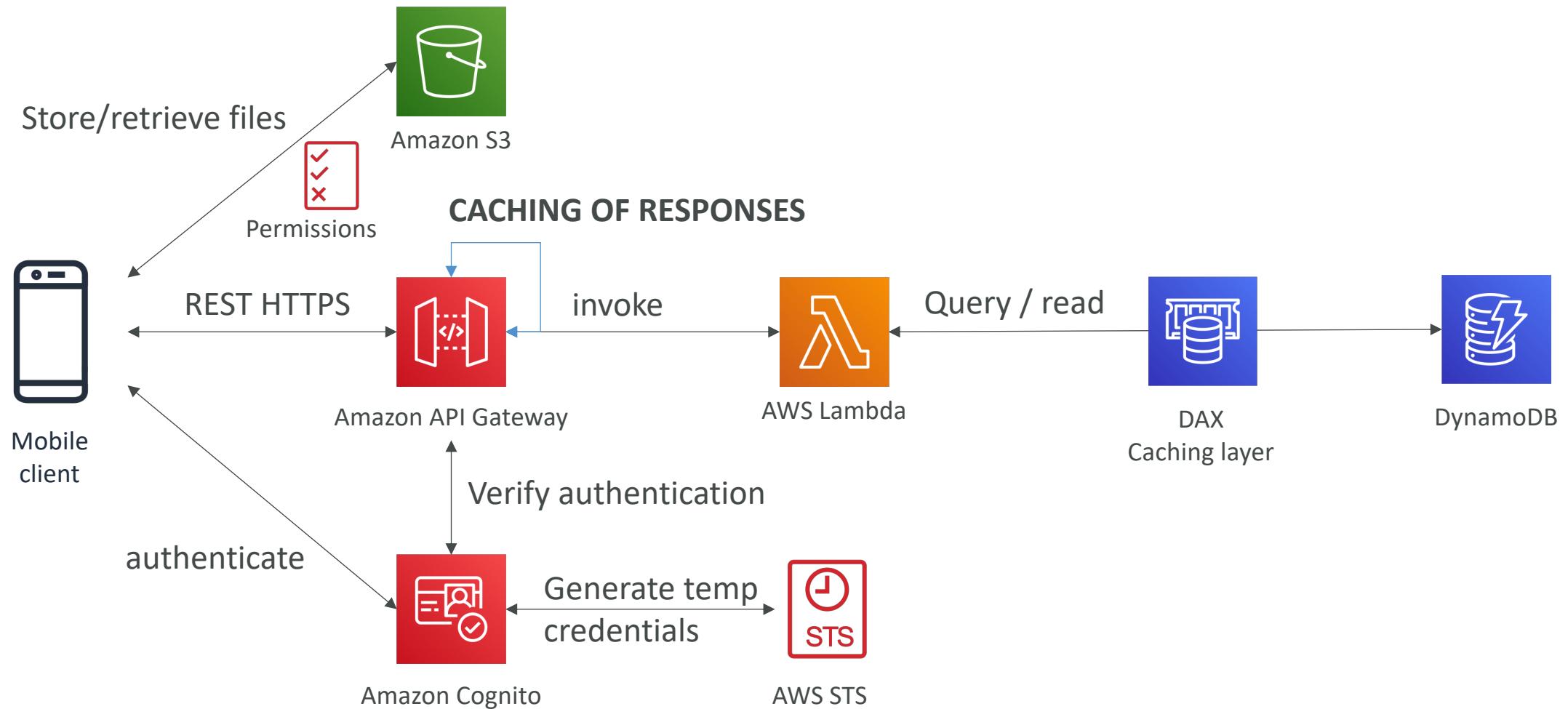
Mobile app: giving users access to S3



Mobile app: high read throughput, static data



Mobile app: caching at the API Gateway



In this lecture

- Serverless REST API: HTTPS, API Gateway, Lambda, DynamoDB
- Using Cognito to generate temporary credentials with STS to access S3 bucket with restricted policy. App users can directly access AWS resources this way. Pattern can be applied to DynamoDB, Lambda...
- Caching the reads on DynamoDB using DAX
- Caching the REST requests at the API Gateway level
- Security for authentication and authorization with Cognito, STS

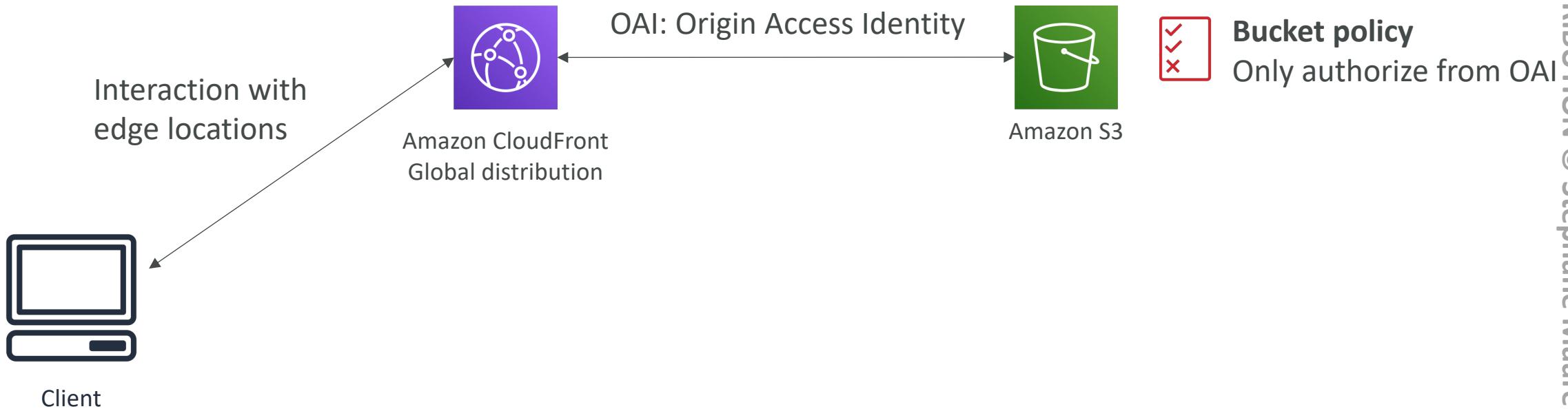
Serverless hosted website: MyBlog.com

- This website should scale globally
- Blogs are rarely written, but often read
- Some of the website is purely static files, the rest is a dynamic REST API
- Caching must be implemented where possible
- Any new users that subscribe should receive a welcome email
- Any photo uploaded to the blog should have a thumbnail generated

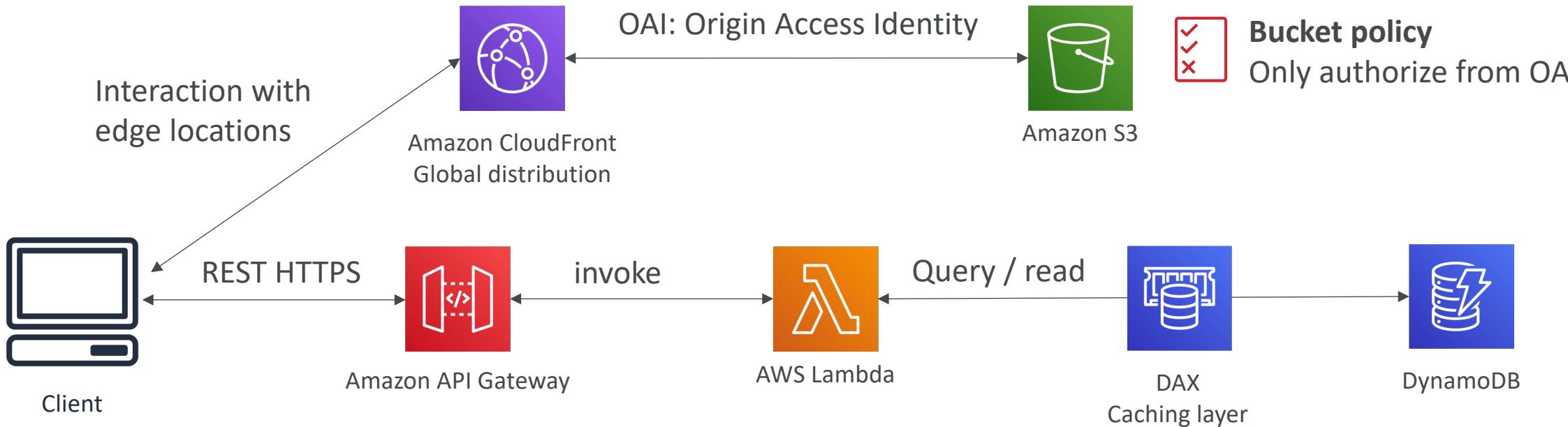
Serving static content, globally



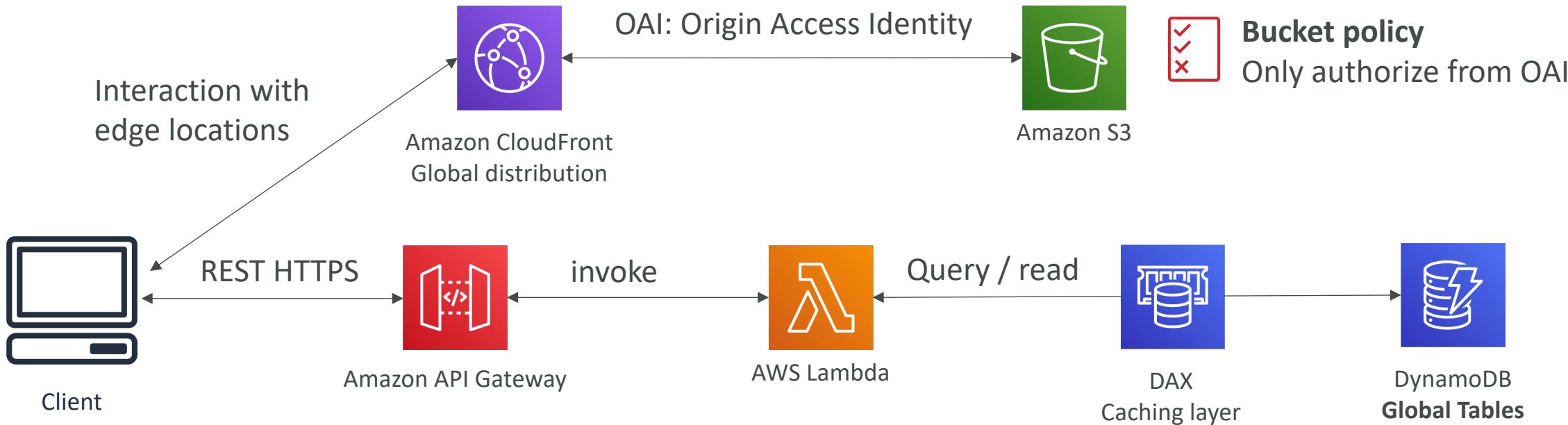
Serving static content, globally, securely



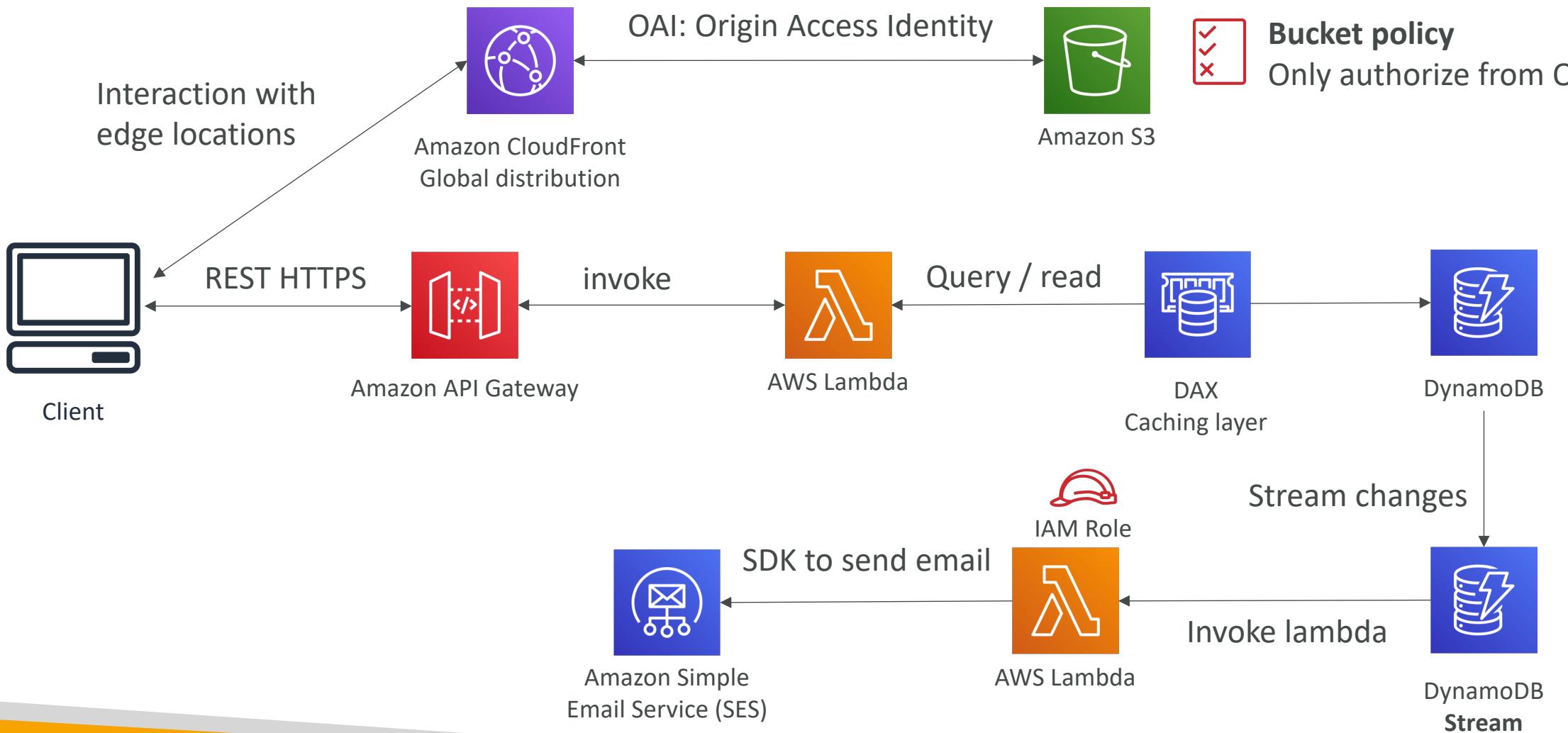
Adding a public serverless REST API



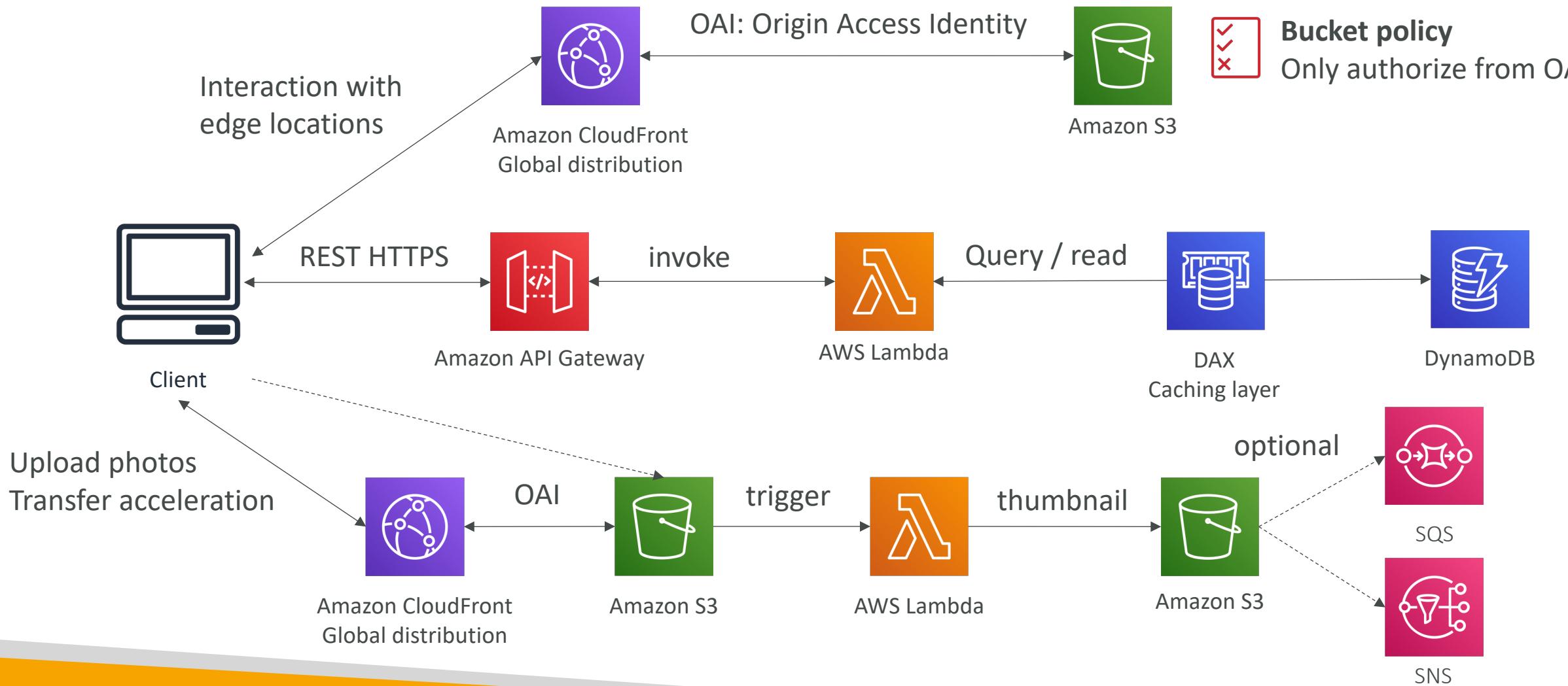
Leveraging DynamoDB Global Tables



User Welcome email flow



Thumbnail Generation flow



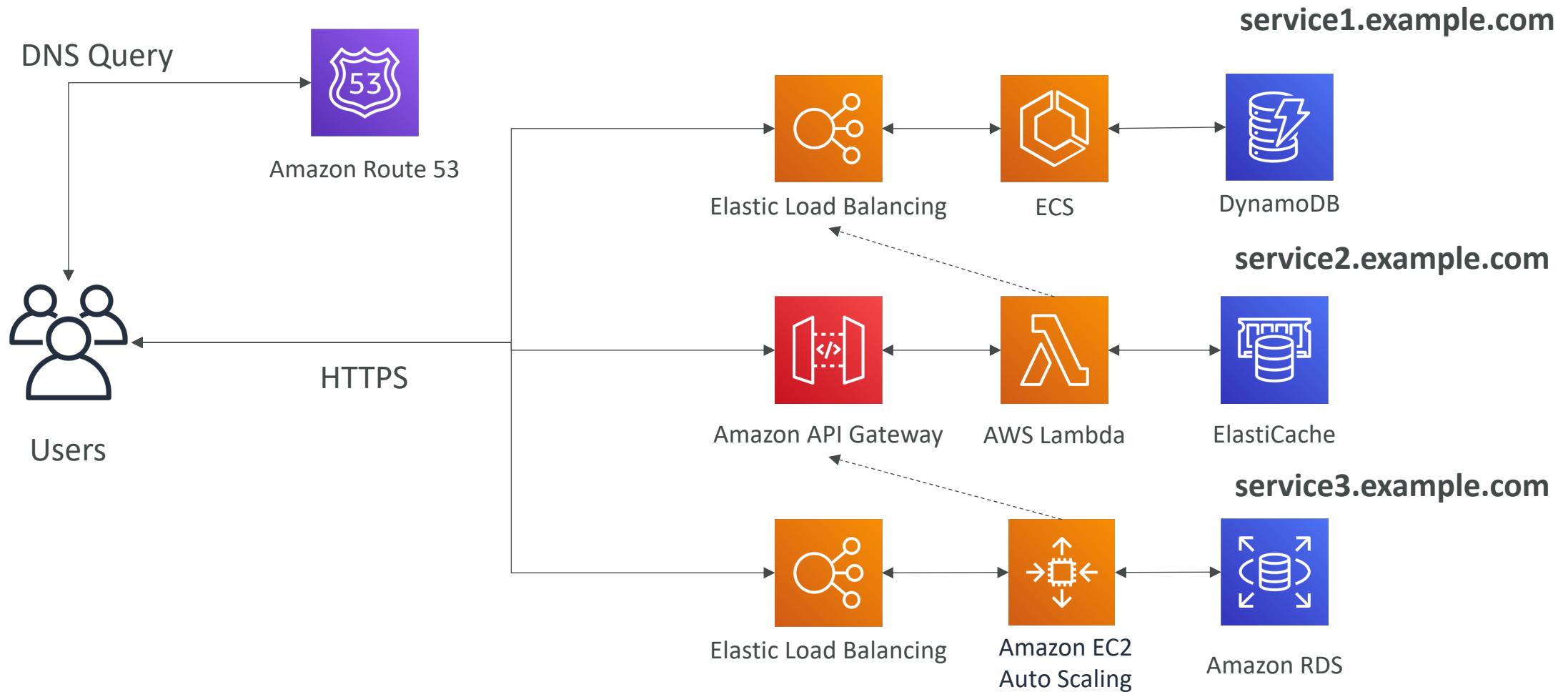
AWS Hosted Website Summary

- We've seen static content being distributed using CloudFront with S3
- The REST API was serverless, didn't need Cognito because public
- We leveraged a Global DynamoDB table to serve the data globally
 • (we could have used Aurora Global Tables)
- We enabled DynamoDB streams to trigger a Lambda function
- The lambda function had an IAM role which could use SES
- SES (Simple Email Service) was used to send emails in a serverless way
- S3 can trigger SQS / SNS / Lambda to notify of events

Micro Services architecture

- We want to switch to a micro service architecture
 - Many services interact with each other directly using a REST API
 - Each architecture for each micro service may vary in form and shape
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- We want a micro-service architecture so we can have a leaner development lifecycle for each service

Micro Services Environment



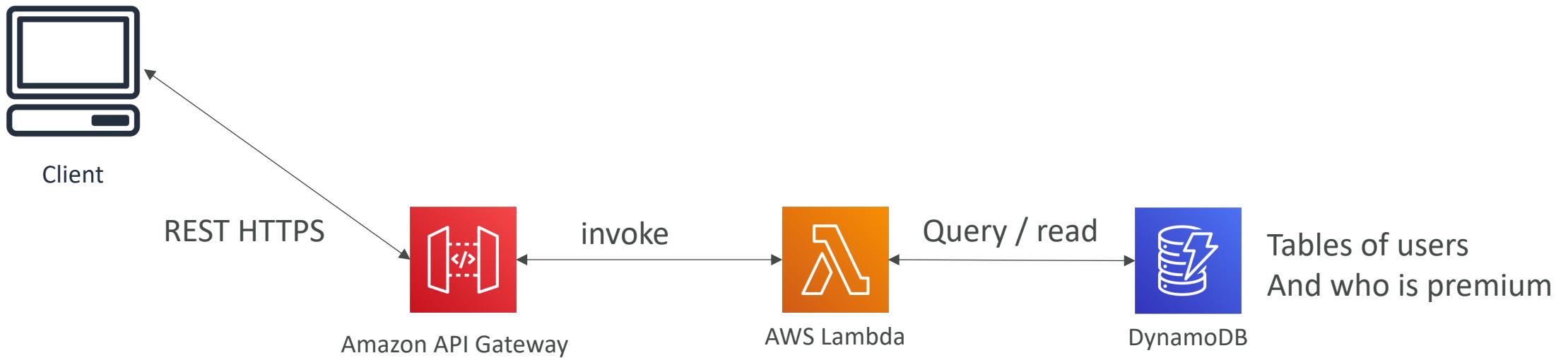
Discussions on Micro Services

- You are free to design each micro-service the way you want
- Synchronous patterns: API Gateway, Load Balancers
- Asynchronous patterns: SQS, Kinesis, SNS, Lambda triggers (S3)
- Challenges with micro-services:
 - repeated overhead for creating each new microservice,
 - issues with optimizing server density/utilization
 - complexity of running multiple versions of multiple microservices simultaneously
 - proliferation of client-side code requirements to integrate with many separate services.
- Some of the challenges are solved by Serverless patterns:
 - API Gateway, Lambda scale automatically and you pay per usage
 - You can easily clone API, reproduce environments
 - Generated client SDK through Swagger integration for the API Gateway

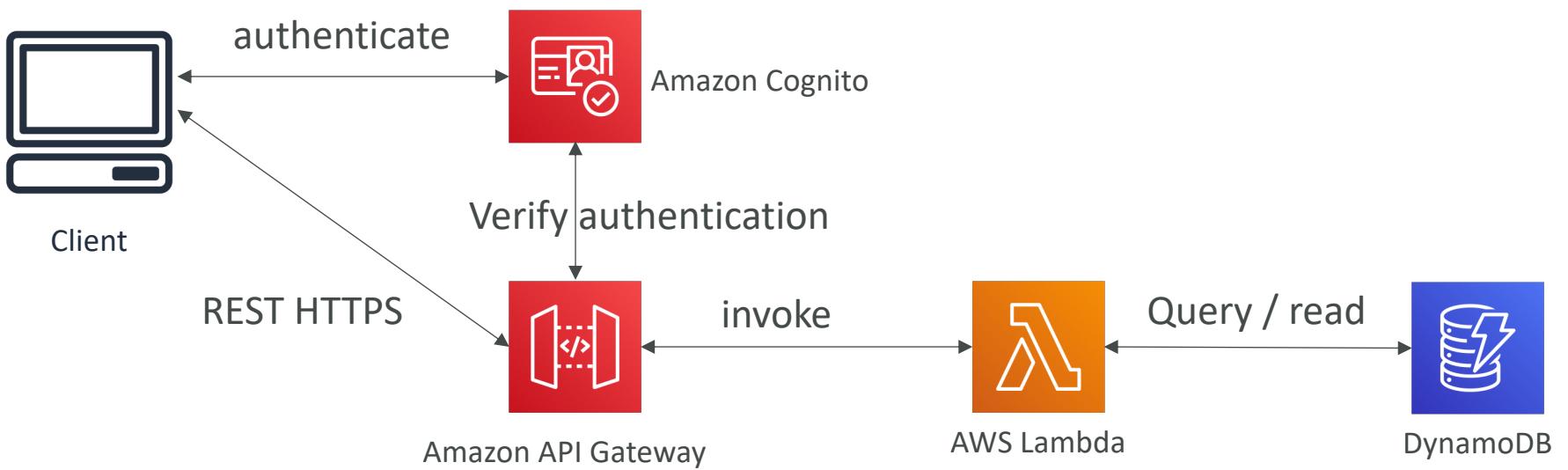
Distributing paid content

- We sell videos online and users have to paid to buy videos
- Each videos can be bought by many different customers
- We only want to distribute videos to users who are premium users
- We have a database of premium users
- Links we send to premium users should be short lived
- Our application is global
- We want to be fully serverless

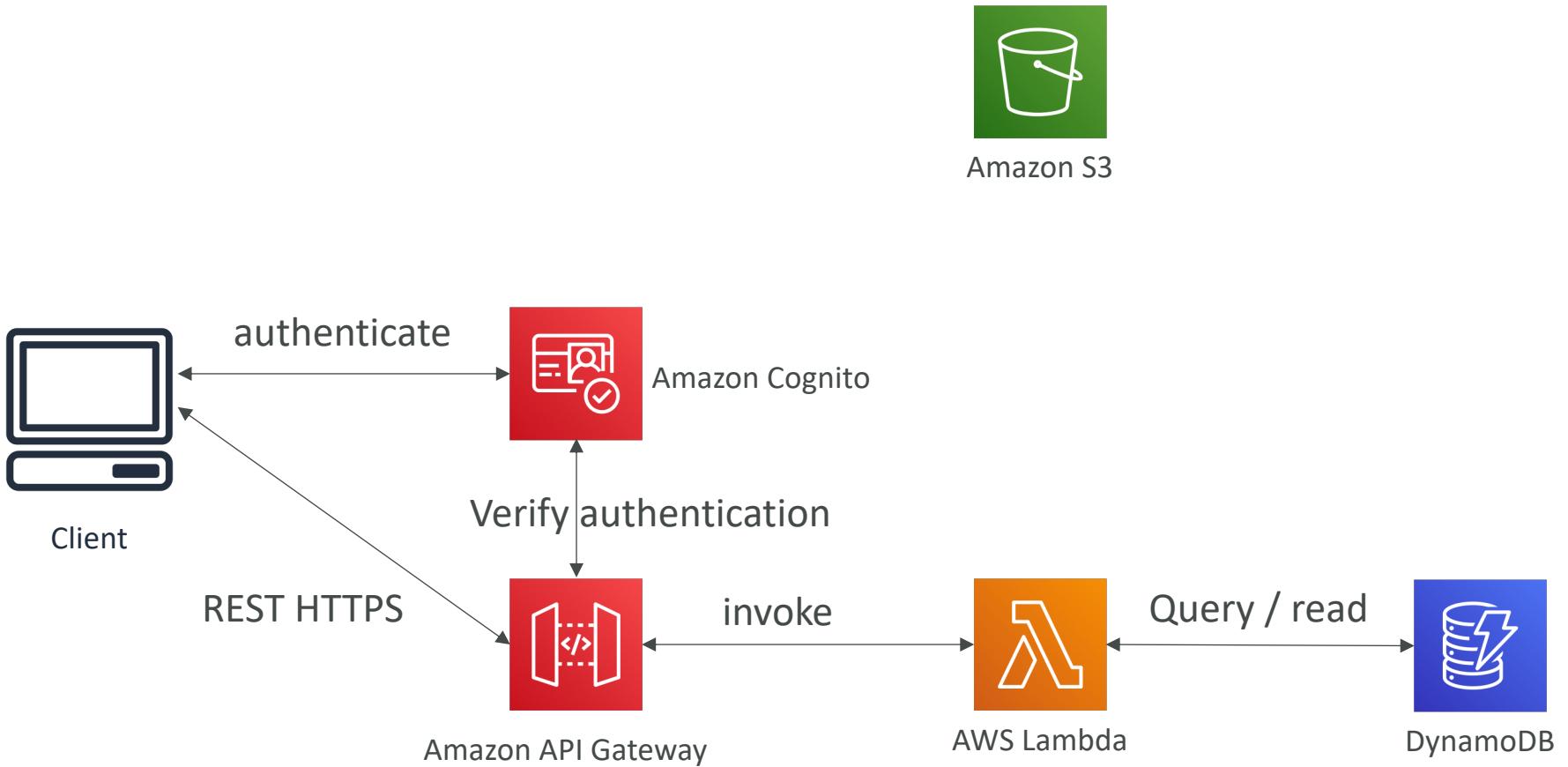
Start simple, premium user service



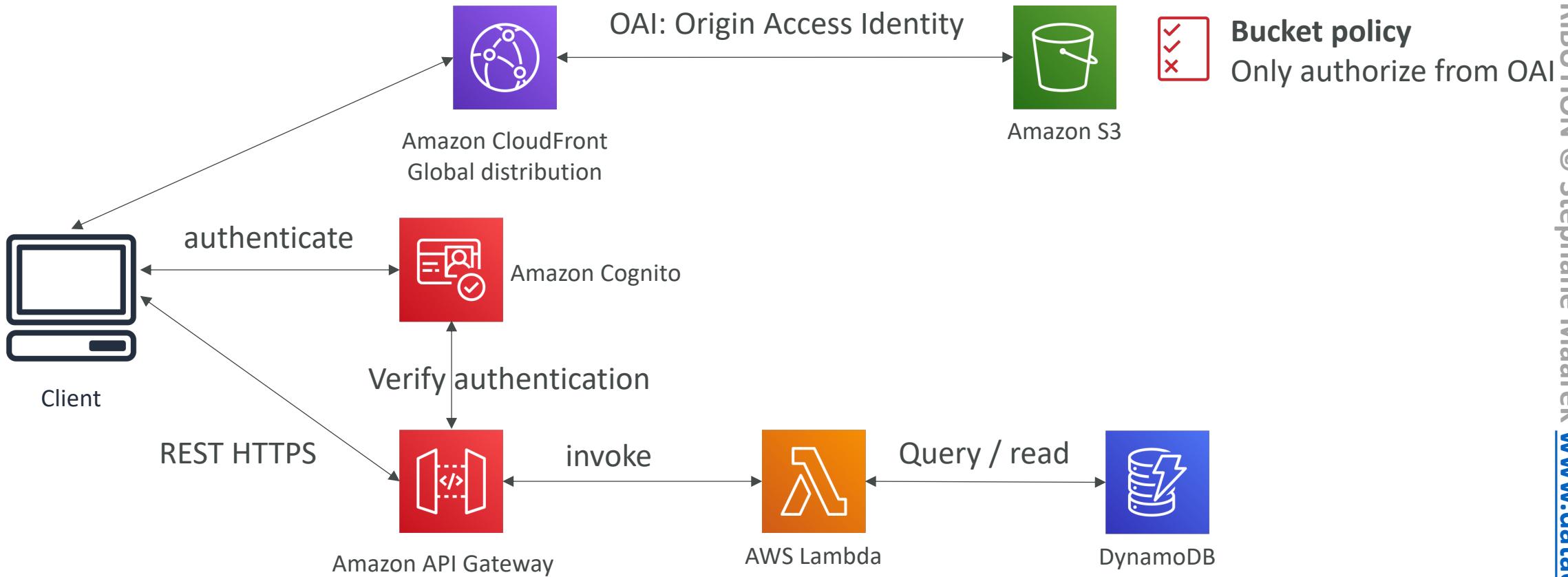
Add authentication



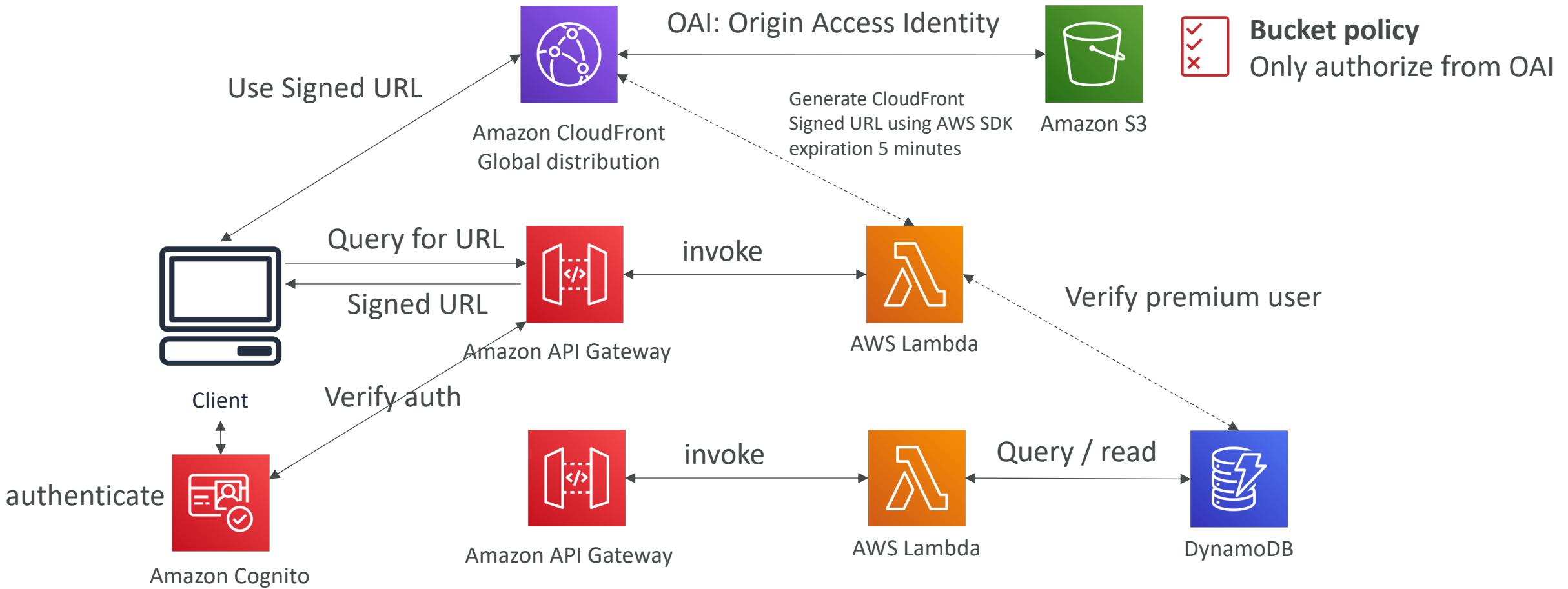
Add Videos Storage Service



Distribute Globally and Secure



Distribute Content only to premium users



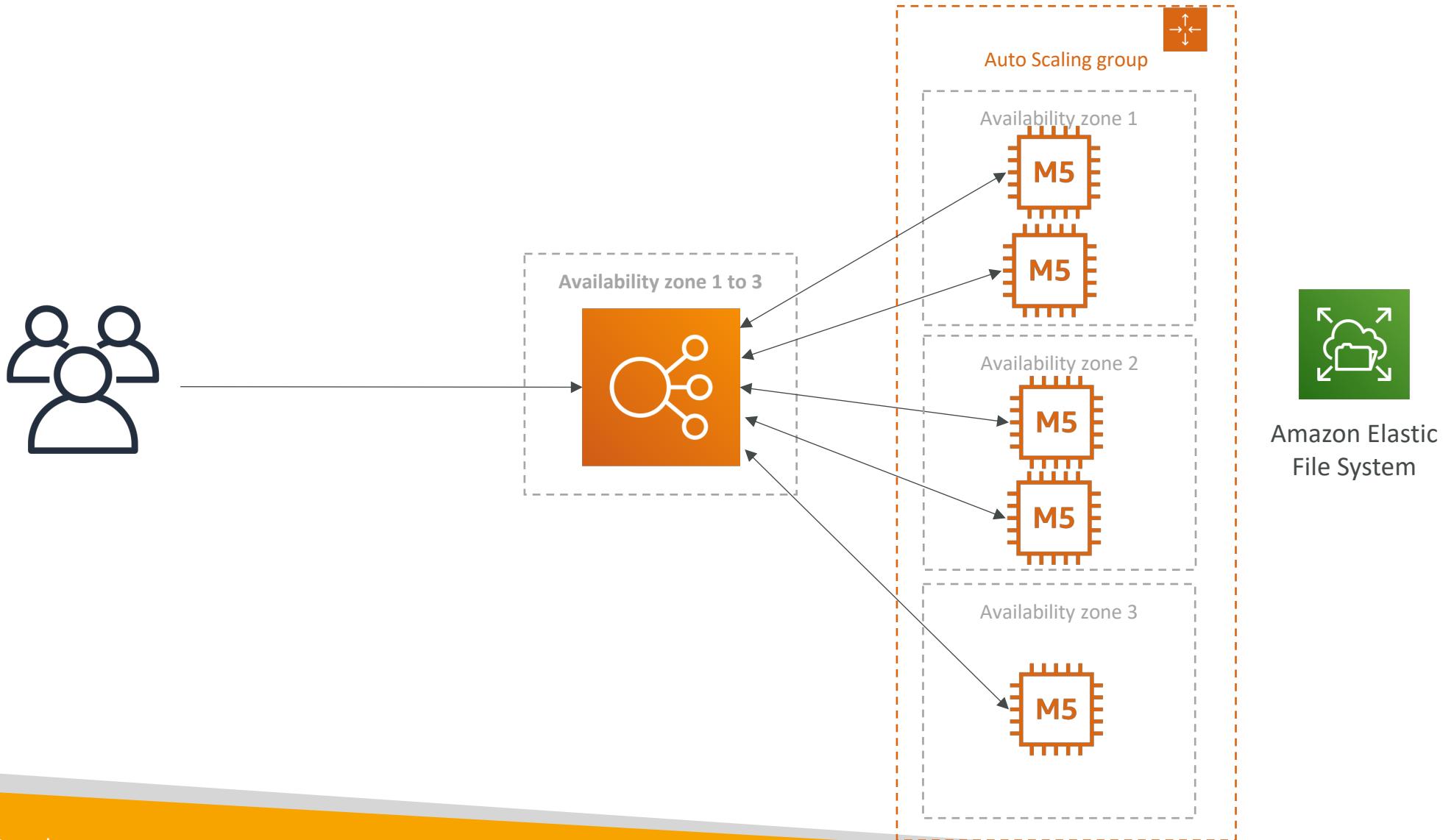
Premium User Video service

- We have implemented a fully serverless solution:
 - Cognito for authentication
 - DynamoDB for storing users that are premium
 - 2 serverless applications
 - Premium User registration
 - CloudFront Signed URL generator
 - Content is stored in S3 (serverless and scalable)
 - Integrated with CloudFront with OAI for security (users can't bypass)
 - CloudFront can only be used using Signed URLs to prevent unauthorized users
 - What about S3 Signed URL? They're not efficient for global access

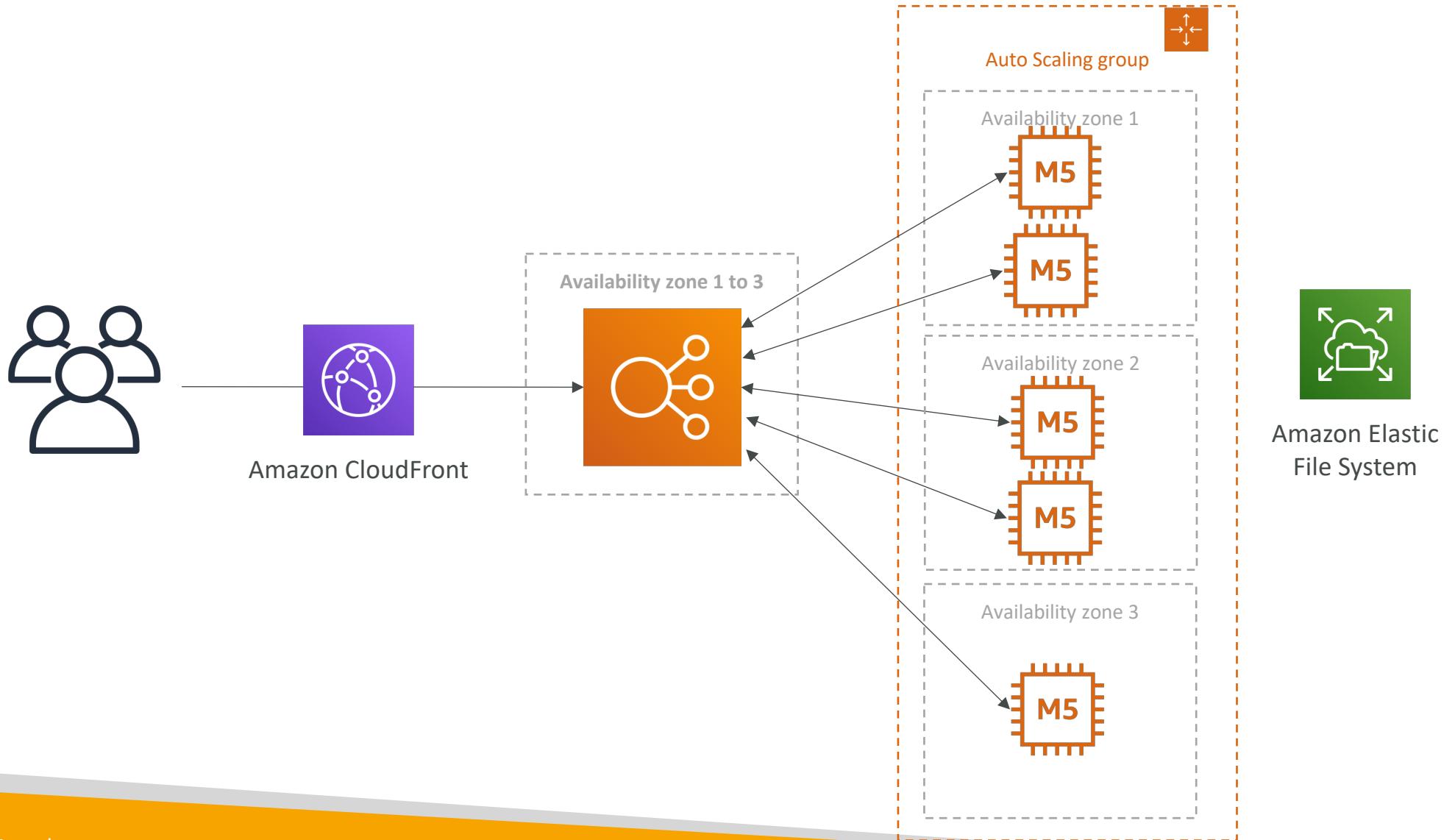
Software updates offloading

- We have an application running on EC2, that distributes software updates once in a while
- When a new software update is out, we get a lot of request and the content is distributed in mass over the network. It's very costly
- We don't want to change our application, but want to optimize our cost and CPU, how can we do it?

Our application current state



Easy way to fix things!



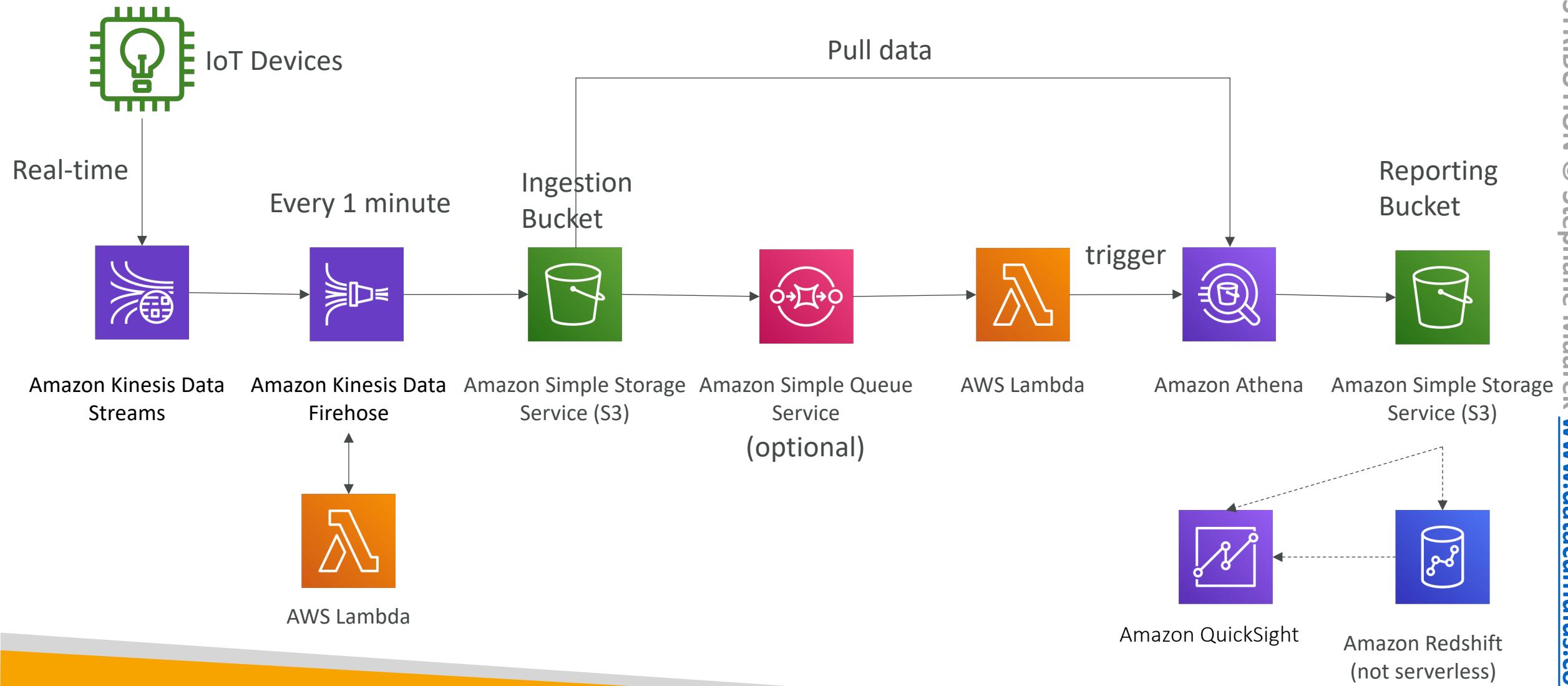
Why CloudFront?

- No changes to architecture
- Will cache software update files at the edge
- Software update files are not dynamic, they're static (never changing)
- Our EC2 instances aren't serverless
- But CloudFront is, and will scale for us
- Our ASG will not scale as much, and we'll save tremendously in EC2
- We'll also save in availability, network bandwidth cost, etc
- Easy way to make an existing application more scalable and cheaper!

Big Data Ingestion Pipeline

- We want the ingestion pipeline to be fully serverless
- We want to collect data in real time
- We want to transform the data
- We want to query the transformed data using SQL
- The reports created using the queries should be in S3
- We want to load that data into a warehouse and create dashboards

Big Data Ingestion Pipeline



Big Data Ingestion Pipeline discussion

- IoT Core allows you to harvest data from IoT devices
- Kinesis is great for real-time data collection
- Firehose helps with data delivery to S3 in near real-time (1 minute)
- Lambda can help Firehose with data transformations
- Amazon S3 can trigger notifications to SQS
- Lambda can subscribe to SQS (we could have connecter S3 to Lambda)
- Athena is a serverless SQL service and results are stored in S3
- The reporting bucket contains analyzed data and can be used by reporting tool such as AWS QuickSight, Redshift, etc...

Databases

Choosing the Right Database

- We have a lot of managed databases on AWS to choose from
- Questions to choose the right database based on your architecture:
 - Read-heavy, write-heavy, or balanced workload? Throughput needs? Will it change, does it need to scale or fluctuate during the day?
 - How much data to store and for how long? Will it grow? Average object size? How are they accessed?
 - Data durability? Source of truth for the data ?
 - Latency requirements? Concurrent users?
 - Data model? How will you query the data? Joins? Structured? Semi-Structured?
 - Strong schema? More flexibility? Reporting? Search? RBDMS / NoSQL?
 - License costs? Switch to Cloud Native DB such as Aurora?

Database Types



- **RDBMS (= SQL / OLTP)**: RDS, Aurora – great for joins
- **NoSQL database**: DynamoDB (~JSON), ElastiCache (key / value pairs), Neptune (graphs) – no joins, no SQL
- **Object Store**: S3 (for big objects) / Glacier (for backups / archives)
- **Data Warehouse (= SQL Analytics / BI)**: Redshift (OLAP), Athena
- **Search**: ElasticSearch (JSON) – free text, unstructured searches
- **Graphs**: Neptune – displays relationships between data

RDS Overview



- Managed PostgreSQL / MySQL / Oracle / SQL Server
 - Must provision an EC2 instance & EBS Volume type and size
 - Support for Read Replicas and Multi AZ
 - Security through IAM, Security Groups, KMS , SSL in transit
 - Backup / Snapshot / Point in time restore feature
 - Managed and Scheduled maintenance
 - Monitoring through CloudWatch
-
- **Use case:** Store relational datasets (RDBMS / OLTP), perform SQL queries, transactional inserts / update / delete is available

RDS for Solutions Architect

- **Operations:** small downtime when failover happens, when maintenance happens, scaling in read replicas / ec2 instance / restore EBS implies manual intervention, application changes
- **Security:** AWS responsible for OS security, we are responsible for setting up KMS, security groups, IAM policies, authorizing users in DB, using SSL
- **Reliability:** Multi AZ feature, failover in case of failures
- **Performance:** depends on EC2 instance type, EBS volume type, ability to add Read Replicas. Doesn't auto-scale
- **Cost:** Pay per hour based on provisioned EC2 and EBS

Aurora Overview



- Compatible API for PostgreSQL / MySQL
- Data is held in 6 replicas, across 3 AZ
- Auto healing capability
- Multi AZ, Auto Scaling Read Replicas
- Read Replicas can be Global
- Aurora database can be Global for DR or latency purposes
- Auto scaling of storage from 10GB to 64 TB
- Define EC2 instance type for aurora instances
- Same security / monitoring / maintenance features as RDS
- “Aurora Serverless” option
- **Use case:** same as RDS, but with less maintenance / more flexibility / more performance

Aurora for Solutions Architect

- **Operations:** less operations, auto scaling storage
- **Security:** AWS responsible for OS security, we are responsible for setting up KMS, security groups, IAM policies, authorizing users in DB, using SSL
- **Reliability:** Multi AZ, highly available, possibly more than RDS, Aurora Serverless option.
- **Performance:** 5x performance (according to AWS) due to architectural optimizations. Up to 15 Read Replicas (only 5 for RDS)
- **Cost:** Pay per hour based on EC2 and storage usage. Possibly lower costs compared to Enterprise grade databases such as Oracle

ElastiCache Overview



- Managed Redis / Memcached (similar offering as RDS, but for caches)
- In-memory data store, sub-millisecond latency
- Must provision an EC2 instance type
- Support for Clustering (Redis) and Multi AZ, Read Replicas (sharding)
- Security through IAM, Security Groups, KMS, Redis Auth
- Backup / Snapshot / Point in time restore feature
- Managed and Scheduled maintenance
- Monitoring through CloudWatch
- **Use Case:** Key/Value store, Frequent reads, less writes, cache results for DB queries, store session data for websites, cannot use SQL.

ElastiCache for Solutions Architect

- **Operations:** same as RDS
- **Security:** AWS responsible for OS security, we are responsible for setting up KMS, security groups, IAM policies, users (Redis Auth), using SSL
- **Reliability:** Clustering, Multi AZ
- **Performance:** Sub-millisecond performance, in memory, read replicas for sharding, very popular cache option
- **Cost:** Pay per hour based on EC2 and storage usage

DynamoDB Overview



- AWS proprietary technology, managed NoSQL database
- Serverless, provisioned capacity, auto scaling, on demand capacity (Nov 2018)
- Can replace ElastiCache as a key/value store (storing session data for example)
- Highly Available, Multi AZ by default, Read and Writes are decoupled, DAX for read cache
- Reads can be eventually consistent or strongly consistent
- Security, authentication and authorization is done through IAM
- DynamoDB Streams to integrate with AWS Lambda
- Backup / Restore feature, Global Table feature
- Monitoring through CloudWatch
- Can only query on primary key, sort key, or indexes
- **Use Case:** Serverless applications development (small documents 100s KB), distributed serverless cache, doesn't have SQL query language available, has transactions capability from Nov 2018

DynamoDB for Solutions Architect

- **Operations:** no operations needed, auto scaling capability, serverless
- **Security:** full security through IAM policies, KMS encryption, SSL in flight
- **Reliability:** Multi AZ, Backups
- **Performance:** single digit millisecond performance, DAX for caching reads, performance doesn't degrade if your application scales
- **Cost:** Pay per provisioned capacity and storage usage (no need to guess in advance any capacity – can use auto scaling)

S3 Overview



- S3 is a... key / value store for objects
- Great for big objects, not so great for small objects
- Serverless, scales infinitely, max object size is 5 TB
- Eventually consistency for overwrites and deletes
- Tiers: S3 Standard, S3 IA, S3 One Zone IA, Glacier for backups
- Features: Versioning, Encryption, Cross Region Replication, etc...
- Security: IAM, Bucket Policies, ACL
- Encryption: SSE-S3, SSE-KMS, SSE-C, client side encryption, SSL in transit
- **Use Case:** static files, key value store for big files, website hosting

S3 for Solutions Architect

- **Operations:** no operations needed
- **Security:** IAM, Bucket Policies, ACL, Encryption (Server/Client), SSL
- **Reliability:** 99.99999999% durability / 99.99% availability, Multi AZ, CRR
- **Performance:** scales to thousands of read / writes per second, transfer acceleration / multi-part for big files
- **Cost:** pay per storage usage, network cost, requests number

Athena Overview

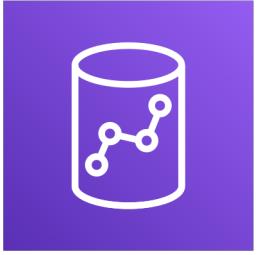


- Fully Serverless database with SQL capabilities
 - Used to query data in S3
 - Pay per query
 - Output results back to S3
 - Secured through IAM
-
- **Use Case:** one time SQL queries, serverless queries on S3, log analytics

Athena for Solutions Architect

- **Operations:** no operations needed, serverless
- **Security:** IAM + S3 security
- **Reliability:** managed service, uses Presto engine, highly available
- **Performance:** queries scale based on data size
- **Cost:** pay per query / per TB of data scanned, serverless

Redshift Overview



- Redshift is based on PostgreSQL, but it's not used for OLTP
- It's OLAP – online analytical processing (analytics and data warehousing)
- 10x better performance than other data warehouses, scale to PBs of data
- Columnar storage of data (instead of row based)
- Massively Parallel Query Execution (MPP), highly available
- Pay as you go based on the instances provisioned
- Has a SQL interface for performing the queries
- BI tools such as AWS Quicksight or Tableau integrate with it

Redshift Continued...



- Data is loaded from S3, DynamoDB, DMS, other DBs...
- From 1 node to 128 nodes, up to 160 GB of space per node
- Leader node: for query planning, results aggregation
- Compute node: for performing the queries, send results to leader
- Redshift Spectrum: perform queries directly against S3 (no need to load)
- Backup & Restore, Security VPC / IAM / KMS, Monitoring
- Redshift Enhanced VPC Routing: COPY / UNLOAD goes through VPC

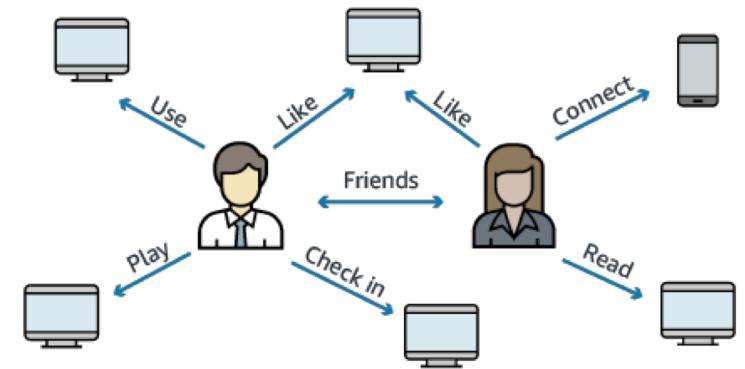
Redshift for Solutions Architect

- Operations: similar to RDS
- Security: IAM, VPC, KMS, SSL (similar to RDS)
- Reliability: highly available, auto healing features
- Performance: 10x performance vs other data warehousing, compression
- Cost: pay per node provisioned, 1/10th of the cost vs other warehouses
- Remember: Redshift = Analytics / BI / Data Warehouse

Neptune



- Fully managed graph database
- When do we use Graphs?
 - High relationship data
 - Social Networking: Users friends with Users, replied to comment on post of user and likes other comments.
 - Knowledge graphs (Wikipedia)
- Highly available across 3 AZ, with up to 15 read replicas
- Point-in-time recovery, continuous backup to Amazon S3
- Support for KMS encryption at rest + HTTPS



Neptune for Solutions Architect

- **Operations:** similar to RDS
- **Security:** IAM, VPC, KMS, SSL (similar to RDS) + IAM Authentication
- **Reliability:** Multi-AZ, clustering
- **Performance:** best suited for graphs, clustering to improve performance
- **Cost:** pay per node provisioned (similar to RDS)
- **Remember:** Neptune = Graphs

ElasticSearch



- Example: In DynamoDB, you can only find by primary key or indexes.
- With ElasticSearch, you can **search any field**, even partially matches
- It's common to use ElasticSearch as a complement to another database
- ElasticSearch also has some usage for Big Data applications
- You can provision a cluster of instances
- Built-in integrations: Amazon Kinesis Data Firehose, AWS IoT, and Amazon CloudWatch Logs for data ingestion
- Security through Cognito & IAM, KMS encryption, SSL & VPC
- Comes with Kibana (visualization) & Logstash (log ingestion) – ELK stack

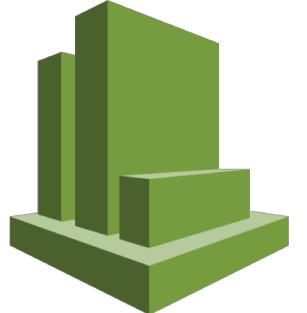
ElasticSearch for Solutions Architect

- **Operations:** similar to RDS
- **Security:** Cognito, IAM, VPC, KMS, SSL
- **Reliability:** Multi-AZ, clustering
- **Performance:** based on ElasticSearch project (open source), petabyte scale
- **Cost:** pay per node provisioned (similar to RDS)
- **Remember:** ElasticSearch = Search / Indexing

AWS Monitoring, Audit and Performance

CloudWatch, CloudTrail & AWS Config

AWS CloudWatch Metrics



- CloudWatch provides metrics for every services in AWS
- **Metric** is a variable to monitor (CPUUtilization, NetworkIn...)
- Metrics belong to **namespaces**
- Dimension is an attribute of a metric (instance id, environment, etc....).
- Up to 10 dimensions per metric
- Metrics have **timestamps**
- Can create CloudWatch dashboards of metrics

AWS CloudWatch EC2 Detailed monitoring

- EC2 instance metrics have metrics “every 5 minutes”
- With detailed monitoring (for a cost), you get data “every 1 minute”
- Use detailed monitoring if you want to more prompt scale your ASG!
- The AWS Free Tier allows us to have 10 detailed monitoring metrics
- Note: EC2 Memory usage is by default not pushed (must be pushed from inside the instance as a custom metric)

AWS CloudWatch Custom Metrics

- Possibility to define and send your own custom metrics to CloudWatch
- Ability to use dimensions (attributes) to segment metrics
 - Instance.id
 - Environment.name
- Metric resolution:
 - Standard: 1 minute
 - High Resolution: up to 1 second (*StorageResolution* API parameter) – Higher cost
- Use API call **PutMetricData**
- Use exponential back off in case of throttle errors

CloudWatch Dashboards

- Great way to setup dashboards for quick access to keys metrics
- Dashboards are global
- Dashboards can include graphs from different regions
- You can change the time zone & time range of the dashboards
- You can setup automatic refresh (10s, 1m, 2m, 5m, 15m)
- Pricing:
 - 3 dashboards (up to 50 metrics) for free
 - \$3/dashboard/month afterwards

AWS CloudWatch Logs

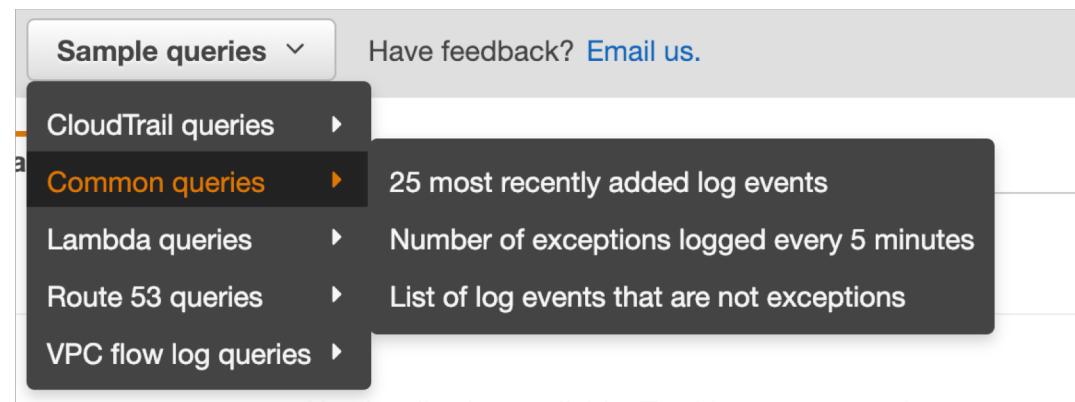
- Applications can send logs to CloudWatch using the SDK
- CloudWatch can collect log from:
 - Elastic Beanstalk: collection of logs from application
 - ECS: collection from containers
 - AWS Lambda: collection from function logs
 - VPC Flow Logs: VPC specific logs
 - API Gateway
 - CloudTrail based on filter
 - CloudWatch log agents: for example on EC2 machines
 - Route53: Log DNS queries
- CloudWatch Logs can go to:
 - Batch exporter to S3 for archival
 - Stream to ElasticSearch cluster for further analytics

AWS CloudWatch Logs

- Logs storage architecture:
 - Log groups: arbitrary name, usually representing an application
 - Log stream: instances within application / log files / containers
- Can define log expiration policies (never expire, 30 days, etc..)
- Using the AWS CLI we can tail CloudWatch logs
- To send logs to CloudWatch, make sure IAM permissions are correct!
- Security: encryption of logs using KMS at the Group Level

CloudWatch Logs Metric Filter & Insights

- CloudWatch Logs can use filter expressions
 - For example, find a specific IP inside of a log
 - Metric filters can be used to trigger alarms
- CloudWatch Logs Insights (new – Nov 2018) can be used to query logs and add queries to CloudWatch Dashboards



AWS CloudWatch Alarms



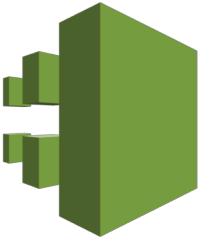
- Alarms are used to trigger notifications for any metric
- Alarms can go to Auto Scaling, EC2 Actions, SNS notifications
- Various options (sampling, %, max, min, etc...)
- Alarm States:
 - OK
 - INSUFFICIENT_DATA
 - ALARM
- Period:
 - Length of time in seconds to evaluate the metric
 - High resolution custom metrics: can only choose 10 sec or 30 sec

AWS CloudWatch Events



- Source + Rule => Target
- Schedule: Cron jobs
- Event Pattern: Event rules to react to a service doing something
 - Ex: CodePipeline state changes!
- Triggers to Lambda functions, SQS/SNS/Kinesis Messages
- CloudWatch Event creates a small JSON document to give information about the change

AWS CloudTrail



- Provides governance, compliance and audit for your AWS Account
- CloudTrail is enabled by default!
- Get an history of events / API calls made within your AWS Account by:
 - Console
 - SDK
 - CLI
 - AWS Services
- Can put logs from CloudTrail into CloudWatch Logs
- If a resource is deleted in AWS, look into CloudTrail first!

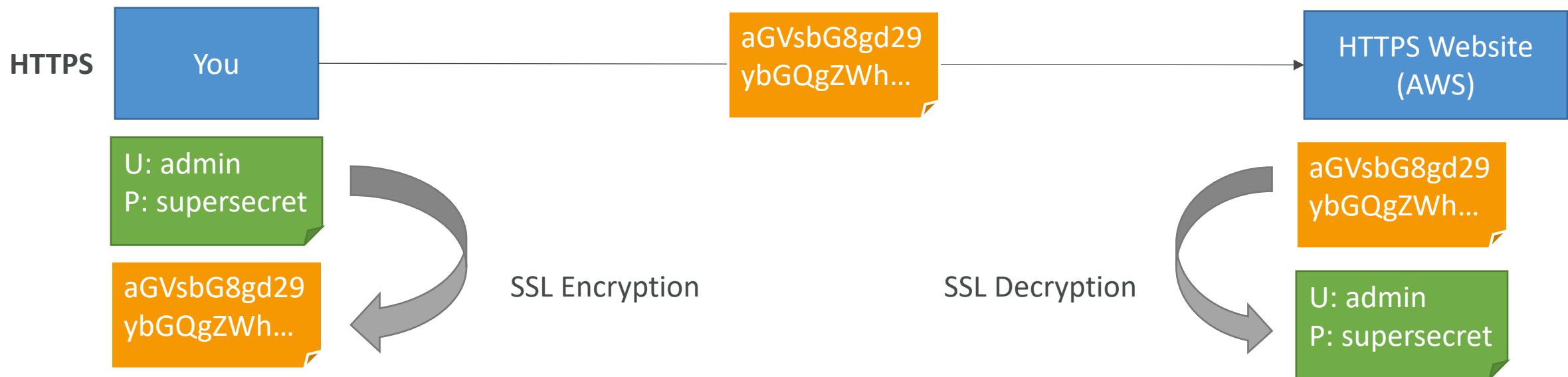
AWS Security & Encryption

KMS, Encryption SDK, SSM Parameter Store

Why encryption?

Encryption in flight (SSL)

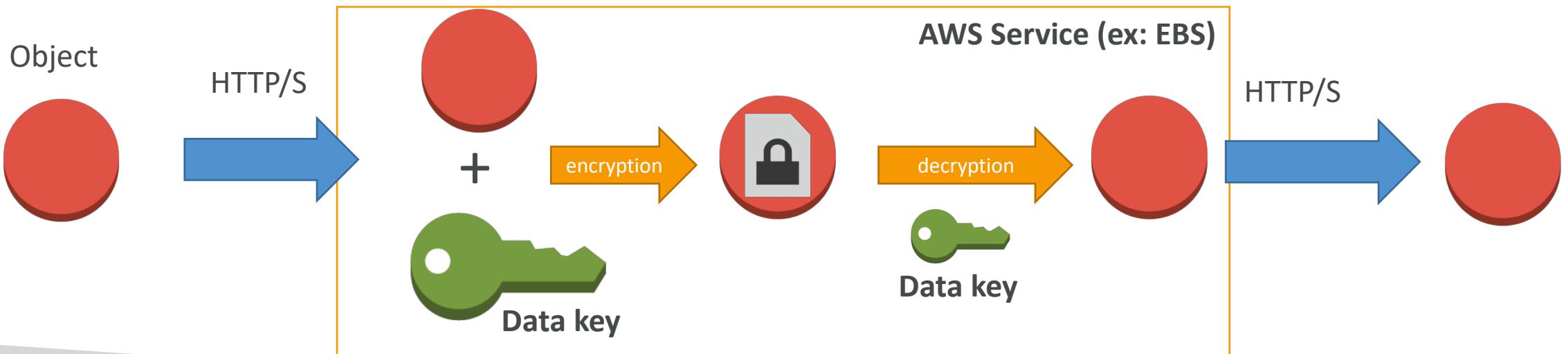
- Data is encrypted before sending and decrypted after receiving
- SSL certificates help with encryption (HTTPS)
- Encryption in flight ensures no MITM (man in the middle attack) can happen



Why encryption?

Server side encryption at rest

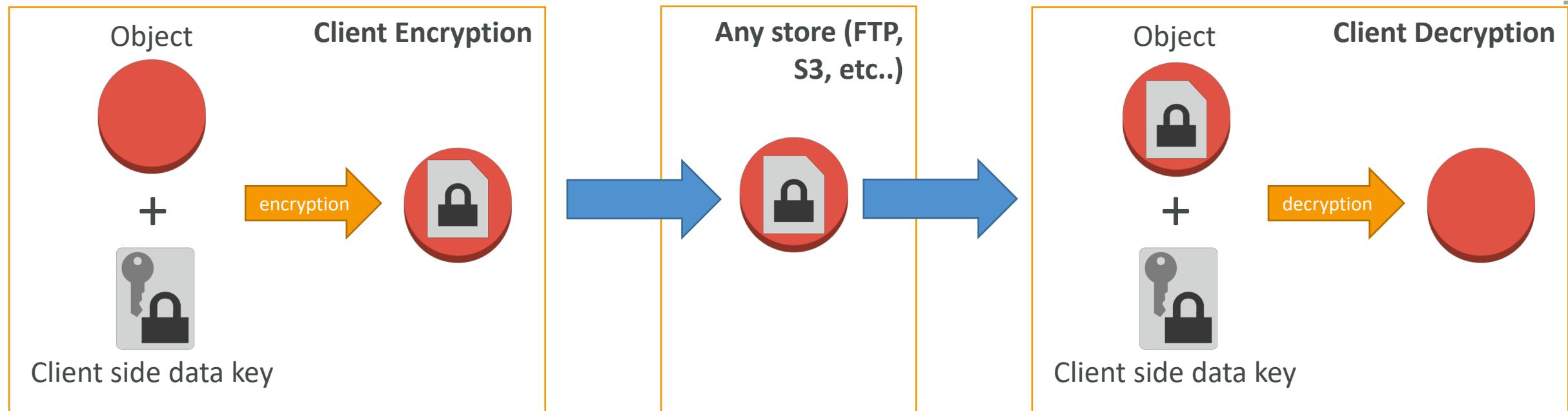
- Data is encrypted after being received by the server
- Data is decrypted before being sent
- It is stored in an encrypted form thanks to a key (usually a data key)
- The encryption / decryption keys must be managed somewhere and the server must have access to it

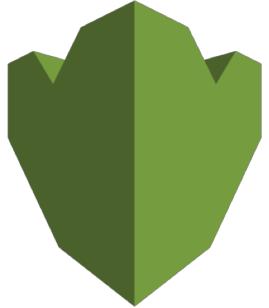


Why encryption?

Client side encryption

- Data is encrypted by the client and never decrypted by the server
- Data will be decrypted by a receiving client
- The server should not be able to decrypt the data
- Could leverage Envelope Encryption





AWS KMS (Key Management Service)

- Anytime you hear “encryption” for an AWS service, it’s most likely KMS
- Easy way to control access to your data, AWS manages keys for us
- Fully integrated with IAM for authorization
- Seamlessly integrated into:
 - Amazon EBS: encrypt volumes
 - Amazon S3: Server side encryption of objects
 - Amazon Redshift: encryption of data
 - Amazon RDS: encryption of data
 - Amazon SSM: Parameter store
 - Etc...
- But you can also use the CLI / SDK

AWS KMS 101

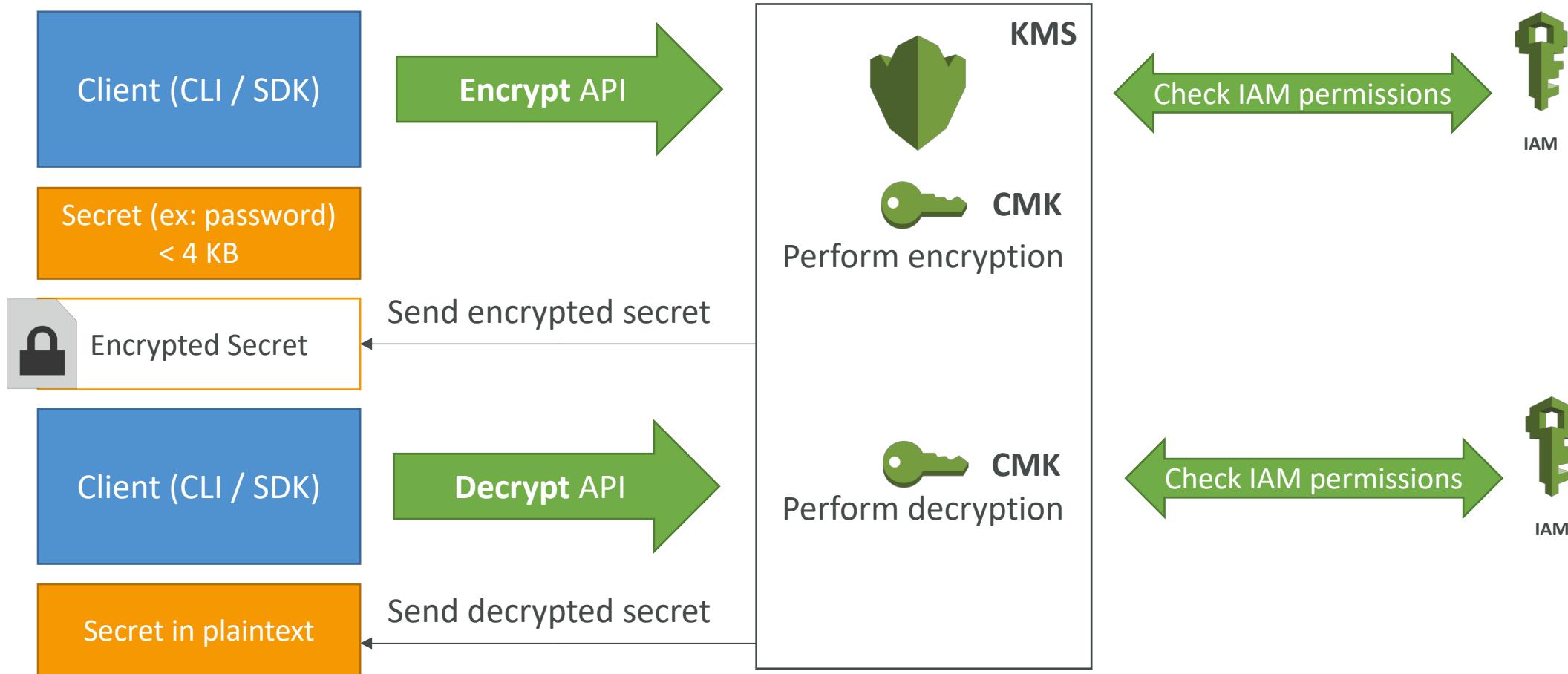
- Anytime you need to share sensitive information... use KMS
 - Database passwords
 - Credentials to external service
 - Private Key of SSL certificates
- The value in KMS is that the CMK used to encrypt data can never be retrieved by the user; and the CMK can be rotated for extra security
- **Never ever store your secrets in plaintext, especially in your code!**
- Encrypted secrets can be stored in the code / environment variables
- **KMS can only help in encrypting up to 4KB of data per call**
- If data > 4 KB, use envelope encryption
- To give access to KMS to someone:
 - Make sure the Key Policy allows the user
 - Make sure the IAM Policy allows the API calls

AWS KMS (Key Management Service)

- Able to fully manage the keys & policies:
 - Create
 - Rotation policies
 - Disable
 - Enable
- Able to audit key usage (using CloudTrail)
- Three types of Customer Master Keys (CMK):
 - AWS Managed Service Default CMK: free
 - User Keys created in KMS: \$1 / month
 - User Keys imported (must be 256-bit symmetric key): \$1 / month
- + pay for API call to KMS (\$0.03 / 10000 calls)

How does KMS work?

API – Encrypt and Decrypt

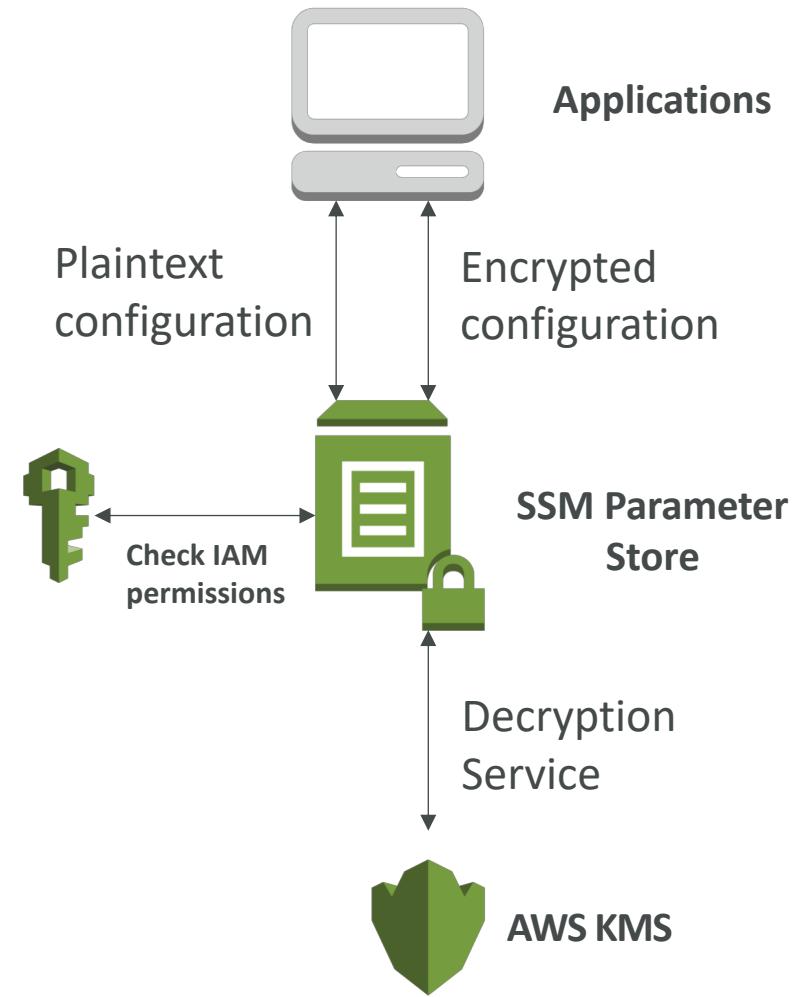


Encryption in AWS Services

- Requires migration (through Snapshot / Backup):
 - EBS Volumes
 - RDS databases
 - ElastiCache
 - EFS network file system
- In-place encryption:
 - S3

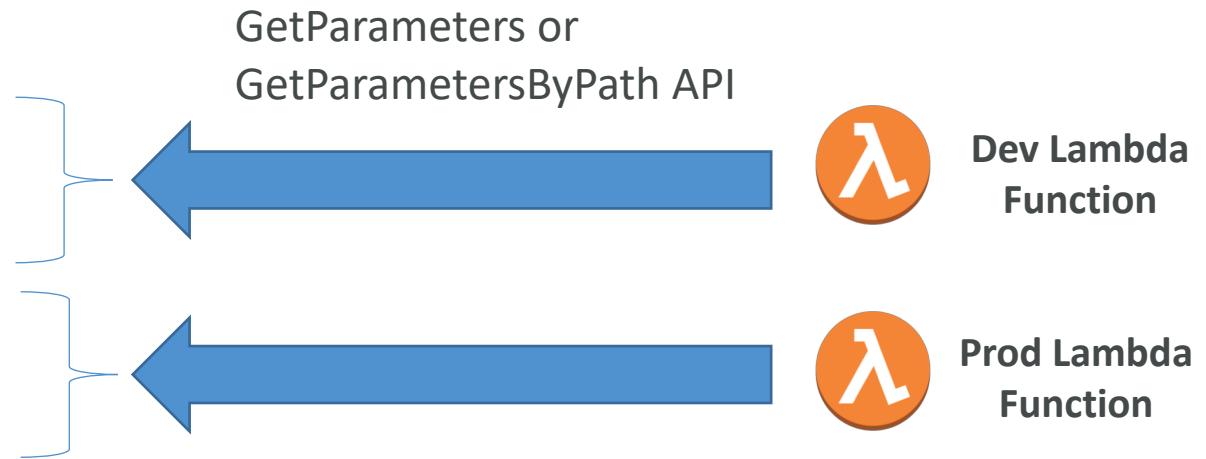
AWS Parameter Store

- Secure storage for configuration and secrets
- Optional Seamless Encryption using KMS
- Serverless, scalable, durable, easy SDK, free
- Version tracking of configurations / secrets
- Configuration management using path & IAM
- Notifications with CloudWatch Events
- Integration with CloudFormation



AWS Parameter Store Hierarchy

- /my-department/
 - my-app/
 - dev/
 - db-url
 - db-password
 - prod/
 - db-url
 - db-password
 - other-app/
 - /other-department/



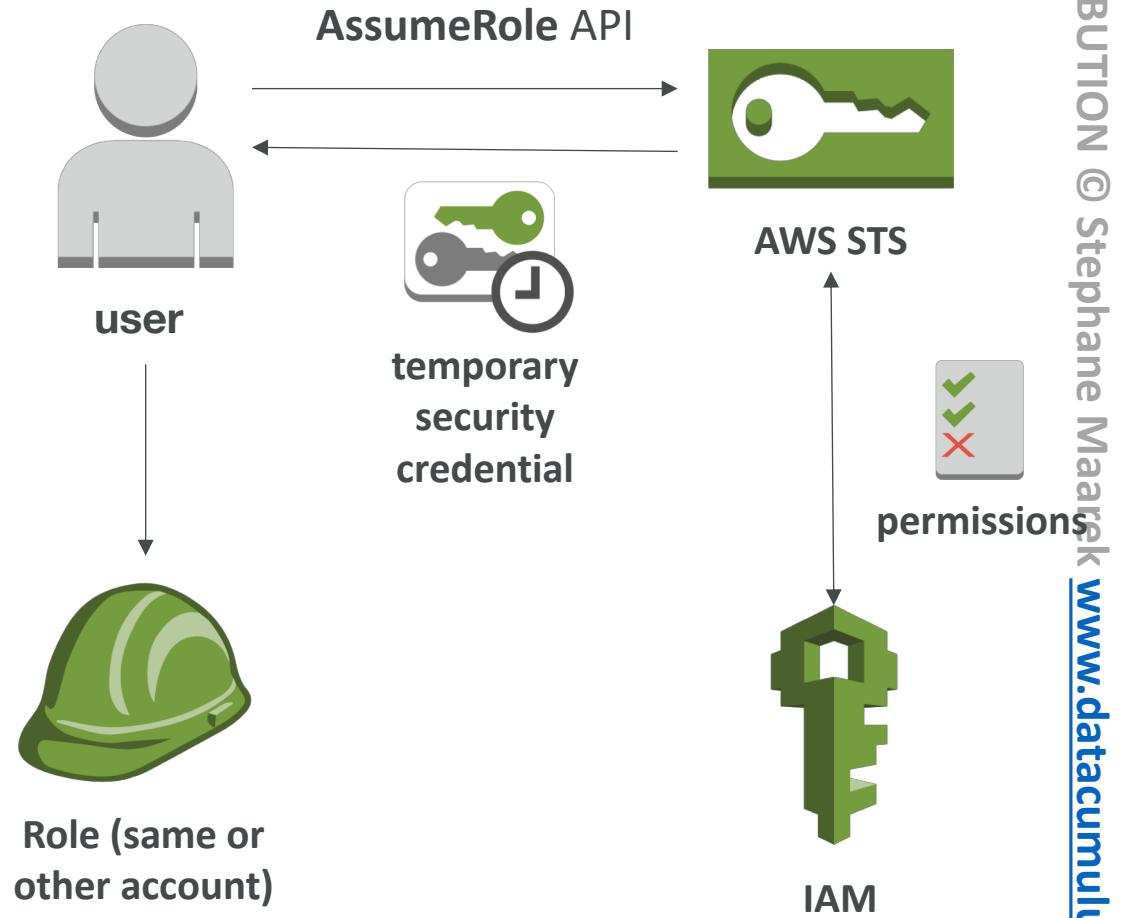
AWS STS – Security Token Service



- Allows to grant limited and temporary access to AWS resources.
- Token is valid for up to one hour (must be refreshed)
- **Cross Account Access**
 - Allows users from one AWS account access resources in another
- **Federation (Active Directory)**
 - Provides a non-AWS user with temporary AWS access by linking users Active Directory credentials
 - Uses SAML (Security Assertion markup language)
 - Allows Single Sign On (SSO) which enables users to log in to AWS console without assigning IAM credentials
- **Federation with third party providers / Cognito**
 - Used mainly in web and mobile applications
 - Makes use of Facebook/Google/Amazon etc to federate them

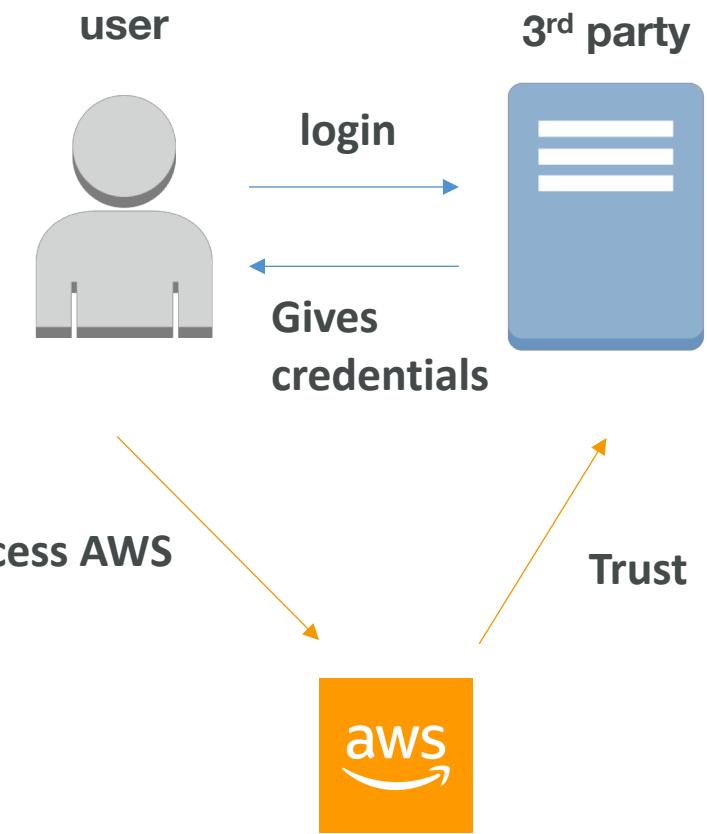
Cross Account Access

- Define an IAM Role for another account to access
- Define which accounts can access this IAM Role
- Use AWS STS (Security Token Service) to retrieve credentials and impersonate the IAM Role you have access to (`AssumeRole API`)
- Temporary credentials can be valid between 15 minutes to 1 hour



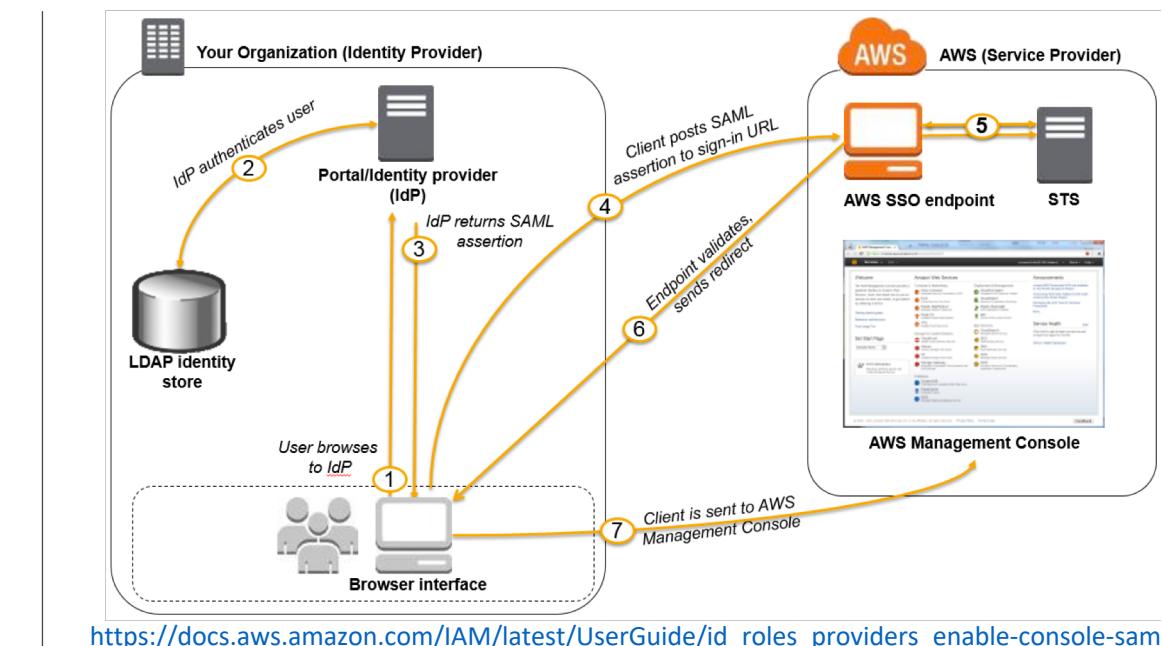
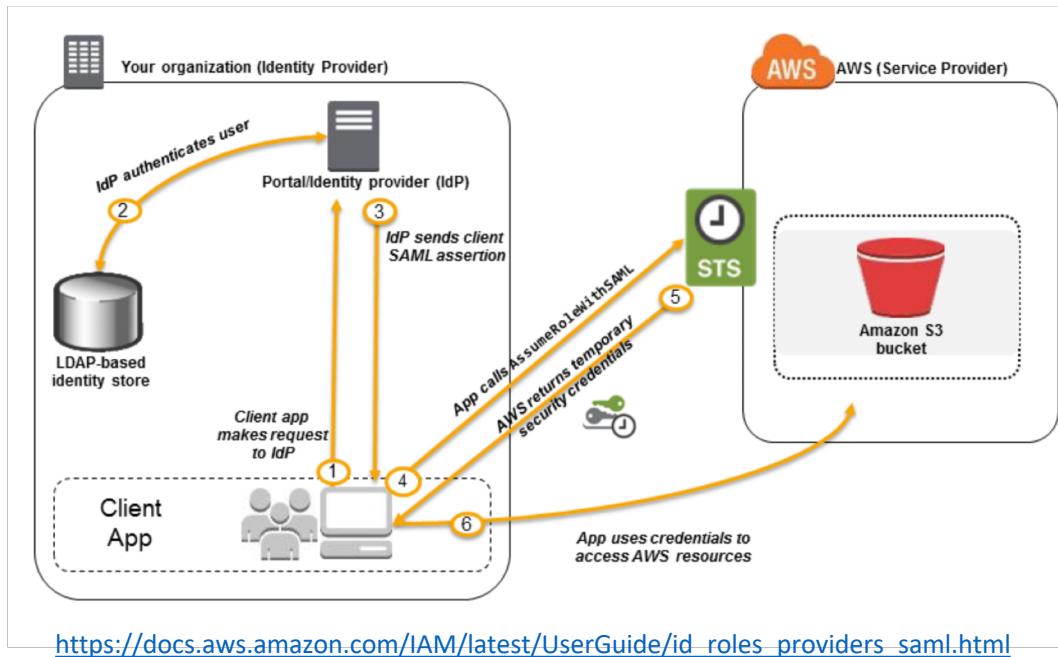
What's Identity Federation?

- Federation lets users outside of AWS to assume temporary role for accessing AWS resources.
- These users assume identity provided access role.
- **Federation assumes a form of 3rd party authentication**
 - LDAP
 - Microsoft Active Directory (\sim = SAML)
 - Single Sign On
 - Open ID
 - Cognito
- **Using federation, you don't need to create IAM users (user management is outside of AWS)**



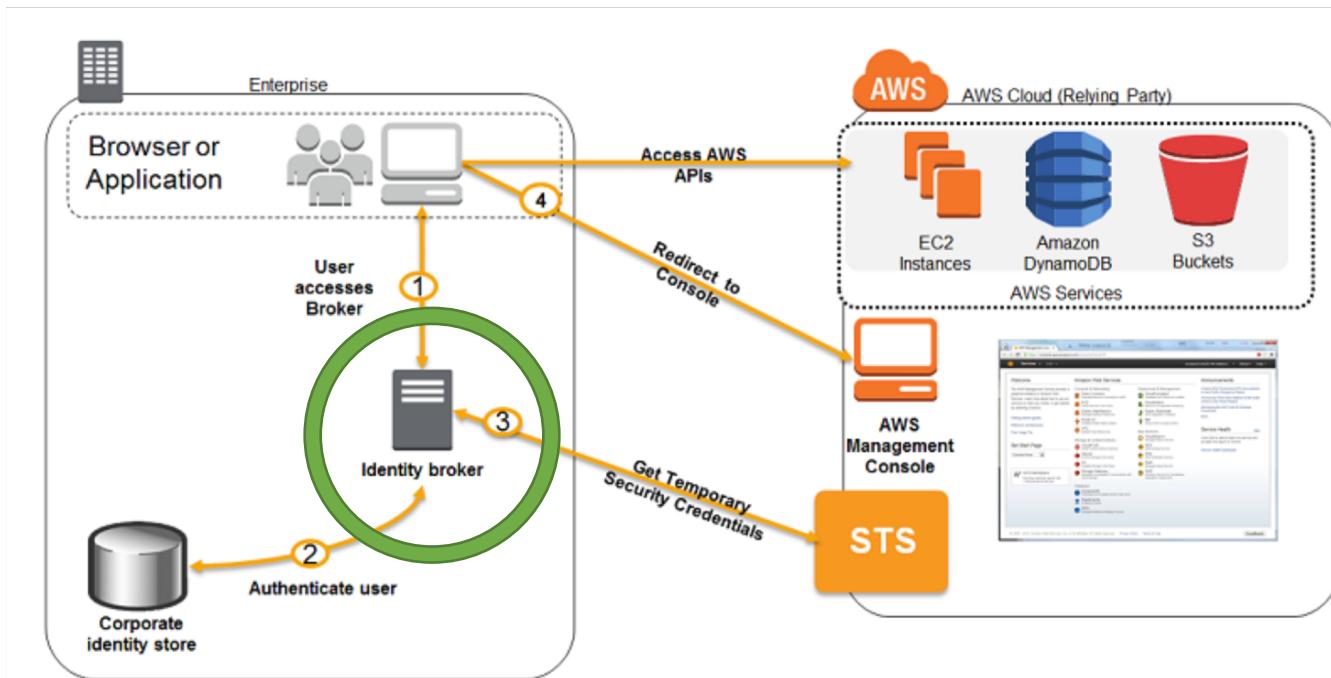
SAML Federation For Enterprises

- To integrate Active Directory / ADFS with AWS (or any SAML 2.0)
- Provides access to AWS Console or CLI (through temporary creds)
- No need to create an IAM user for each of your employees



Custom Identity Broker Application For Enterprises

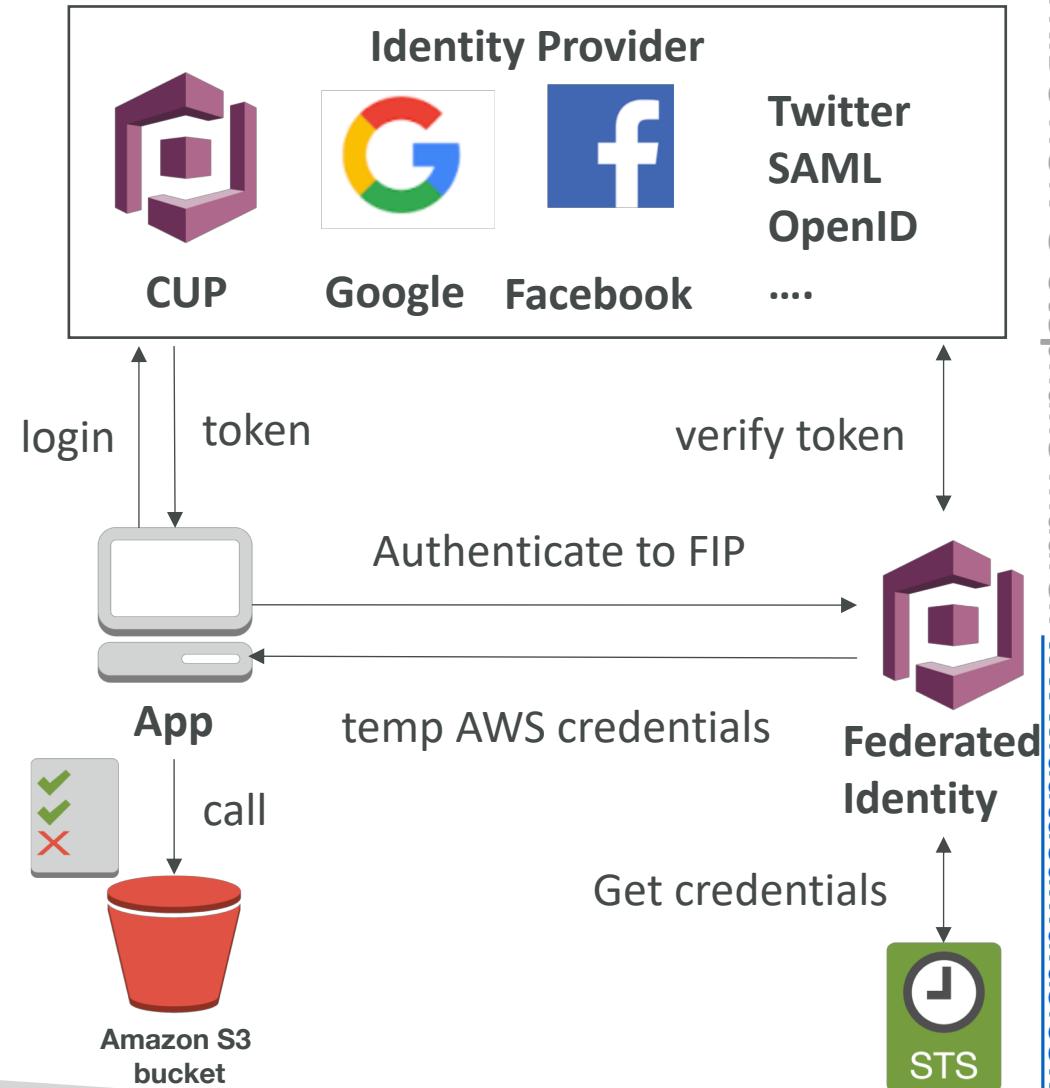
- Use only if identity provider is not compatible with SAML 2.0
- The identity broker must determine the appropriate IAM policy



https://docs.aws.amazon.com/IAM/latest/UserGuide/id_roles-common-scenarios_federated-users.html

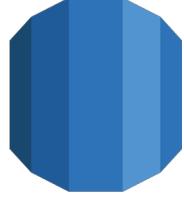
AWS Cognito - Federated Identity Pools For Public Applications

- Goal:
 - Provide direct access to AWS Resources from the Client Side
- How:
 - Log in to federated identity provider – or remain anonymous
 - Get temporary AWS credentials back from the Federated Identity Pool
 - These credentials come with a pre-defined IAM policy stating their permissions
- Example:
 - provide (temporary) access to write to S3 bucket using Facebook Login
- Note:
 - Web Identity Federation is an alternative to using Cognito but AWS recommends against it



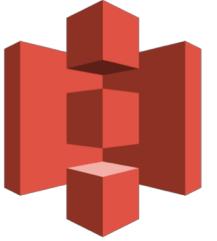
AWS Shared Responsibility Model

- AWS responsibility - Security **of** the Cloud
 - Protecting infrastructure (hardware, software, facilities, and networking) that runs all of the AWS services
 - Managed services like S3, DynamoDB, RDS etc
- Customer responsibility - Security **in** the Cloud
 - For EC2 instance, customer is responsible for management of the guest OS (including security patches and updates), firewall & network configuration, IAM etc



Example, for RDS

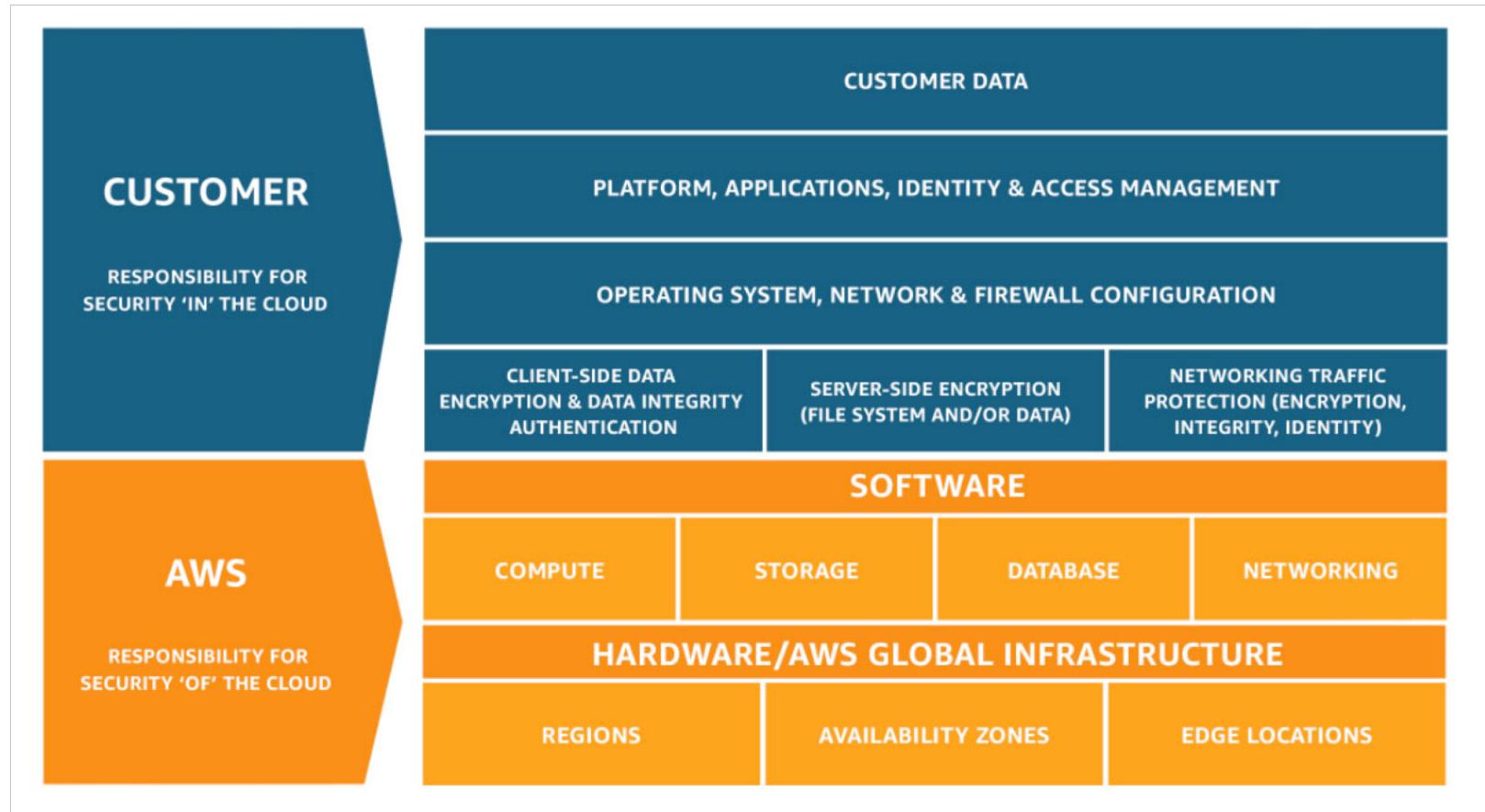
- AWS responsibility:
 - Manage the underlying EC2 instance, disable SSH access
 - Automated DB patching
 - Automated OS patching
 - Audit the underlying instance and disks & guarantee it functions
- Your responsibility:
 - Check the ports / IP / security group inbound rules in DB's SG
 - In-database user creation and permissions
 - Creating a database with or without public access
 - Ensure parameter groups or DB is configured to only allow SSL connections
 - Database encryption setting



Example, for S3

- AWS responsibility:
 - Guarantee you get unlimited storage
 - Guarantee you get encryption
 - Ensure separation of the data between different customers
 - Ensure AWS employees can't access your data
- Your responsibility:
 - Bucket configuration
 - Bucket policy / public setting
 - IAM user and roles
 - Enabling encryption

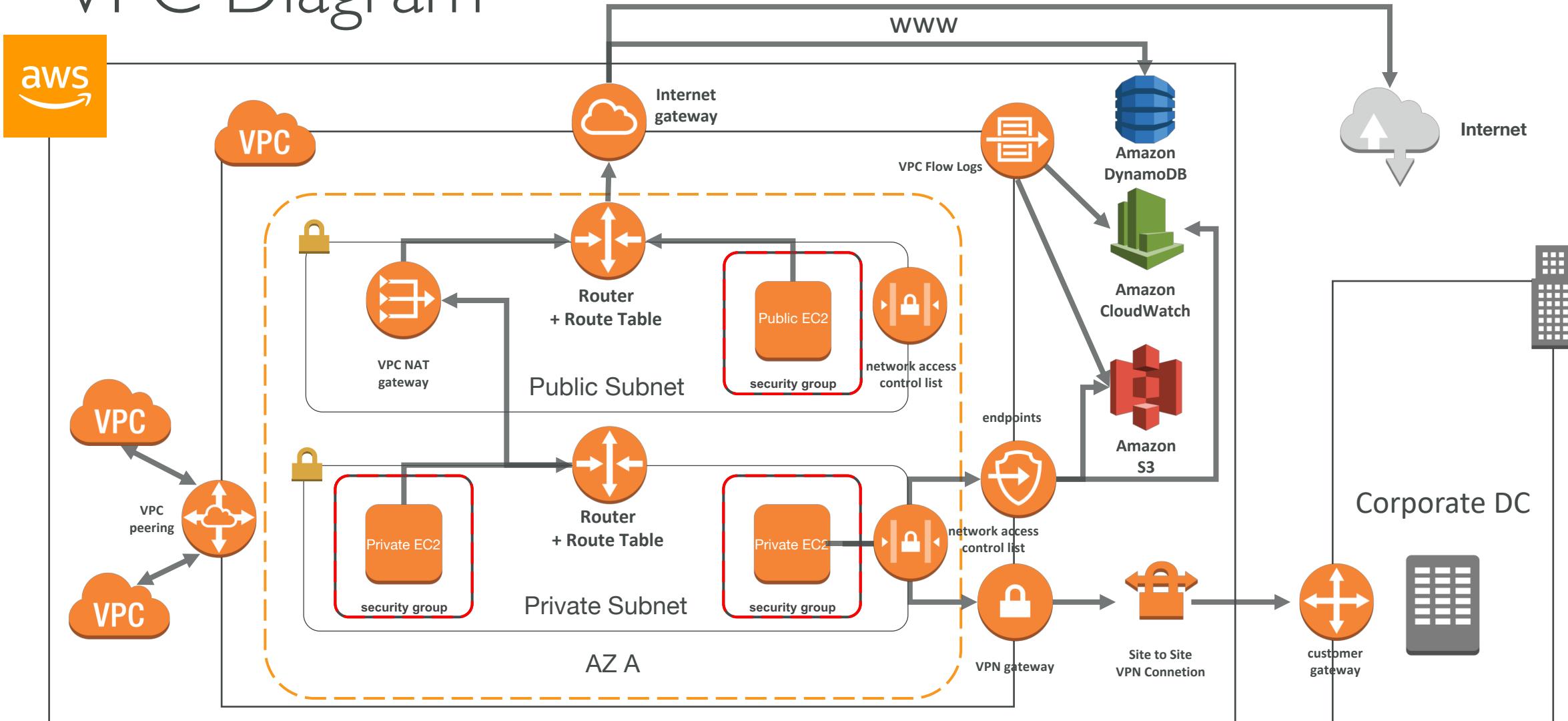
Shared Responsibility Model diagram



<https://aws.amazon.com/compliance/shared-responsibility-model/>

Networking - VPC

VPC Diagram



Understanding CIDR - IPv4 (Classless Inter-Domain Routing)

- CIDR are used for Security Groups rules, or AWS networking in general

Source	
0.0.0.0/0	
122.149.196.85/32	

- They help to define an IP address range
 - We've seen WW.XX.YY.ZZ/32 == one IP
 - We've seen 0.0.0.0/0 == all IPs
 - But we can define for ex: 192.168.0.0/26: 192.168.0.0 – 192.168.0.63 (64 IP)

Understanding CIDR

- A CIDR has two components:
 - The base IP (XX.XX.XX.XX)
 - The Subnet Mask (/26)
- The base IP represents an IP contained in the range
- The subnet mask defines how many bits can change in the IP
- The subnet mask can take two forms. Examples:
 - 255.255.255.0 ↪ less common
 - /24 ↪ more common

Understanding CIDRs Subnet Masks

- The subnet masks basically allows part of the underlying IP to get additional next values from the base IP
- /32 allows for 1 IP = 2^0
- /31 allows for 2 IP = 2^1
- /30 allows for 4 IP = 2^2
- /29 allows for 8 IP = 2^3
- /28 allows for 16 IP = 2^4
- /27 allows for 32 IP = 2^5
- /26 allows for 64 IP = 2^6
- /25 allows for 128 IP = 2^7
- /24 allows for 256 IP = 2^8
- /16 allows for 65,536 IP = 2^{16}
- /0 allows for all IPs = 2^{32}

- **Quick memo:**
- **/32 – no IP number can change**
- **/24 - last IP number can change**
- **/16 – last IP two numbers can change**
- **/8 – last IP three numbers can change**
- **/0 – all IP numbers can change**

Understanding CIDRs

Little exercise

- $192.168.0.0/24 = \dots ?$
 - $192.168.0.0 - 192.168.0.255$ (256 IP)
- $192.168.0.0/16 = \dots ?$
 - $192.168.0.0 - 192.168.255.255$ (65,536 IP)
- $134.56.78.123/32 = \dots ?$
 - Just 134.56.78.123
- $0.0.0.0/0$
 - All IP!
- When in doubt, use this website: <https://www.ipaddressguide.com/cidr>

Private vs Public IP (IPv4)

Allowed ranges

- The Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) established certain blocks of IPV4 addresses for the use of private (LAN) and public (Internet) addresses.
- Private IP can only allow certain values
 - 10.0.0 – 10.255.255.255 (10.0.0/8) <= in big networks
 - 172.16.0.0 – 172.31.255.255 (172.16.0.0/12) <= default AWS one
 - 192.168.0.0 – 192.168.255.255 (192.168.0.0/16) <= example: home networks
- All the rest of the IP on the internet are public IP

Default VPC Walkthrough

- All new accounts have a default VPC
- New instances are launched into default VPC if no subnet is specified
- Default VPC have internet connectivity and all instances have public IP
- We also get a public and a private DNS name

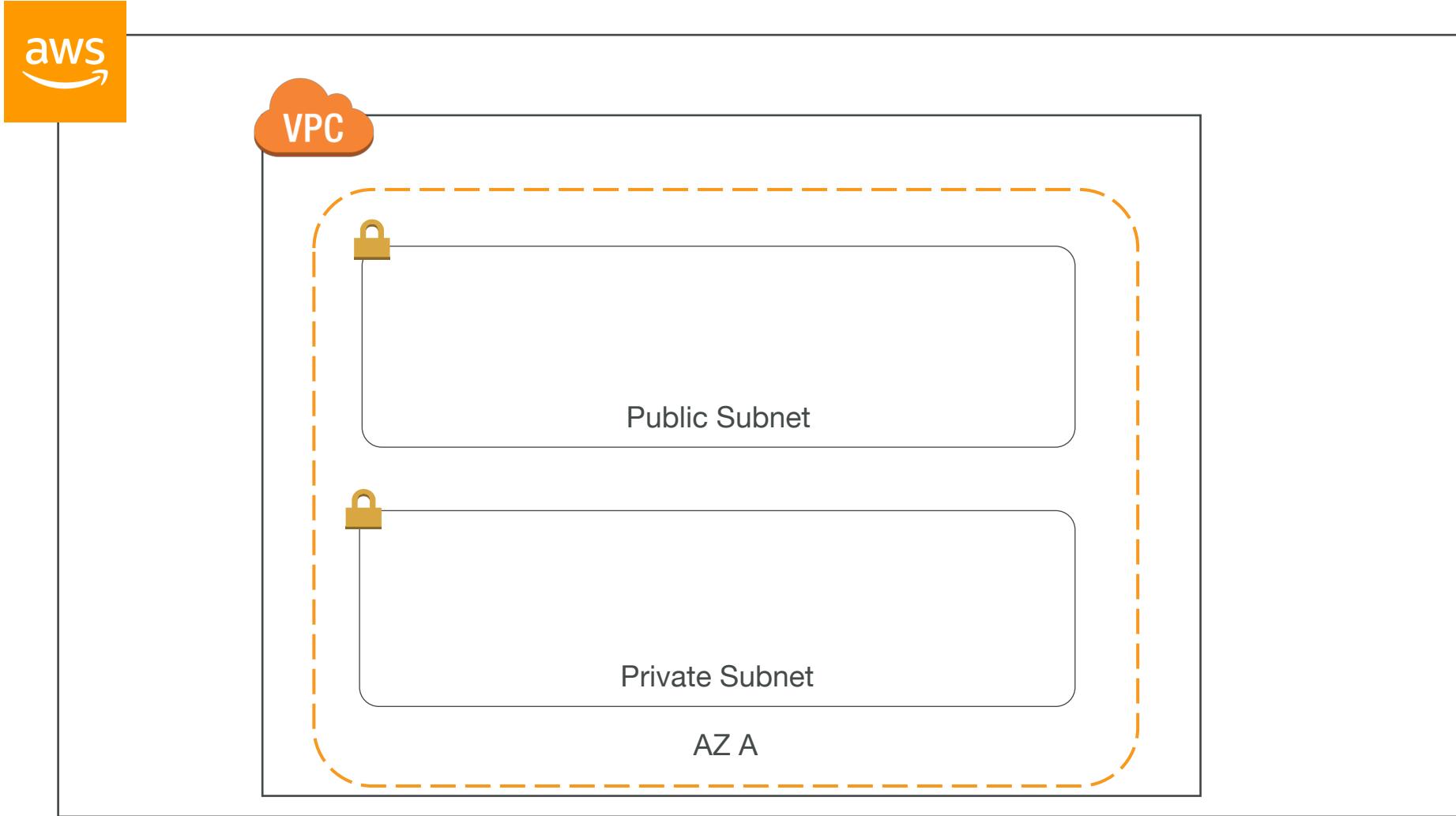
VPC in AWS – IPv4

- VPC = Virtual Private Cloud
- You can have multiple VPCs in a region (max 5 per region – soft limit)
- Max CIDR per VPC is 5. For each CIDR:
 - Min size is /28 = 16 IP Addresses
 - Max size is /16 = 65536 IP Addresses
- Because VPC is private, only the Private IP ranges are allowed:
 - 10.0.0.0 – 10.255.255.255 (10.0.0.0/8)
 - 172.16.0.0 – 172.31.255.255 (172.16.0.0/12)
 - 192.168.0.0 – 192.168.255.255 (192.168.0.0/16)
- Your VPC CIDR should not overlap with your other networks (ex: corporate)

State of Hands On



Adding Subnets



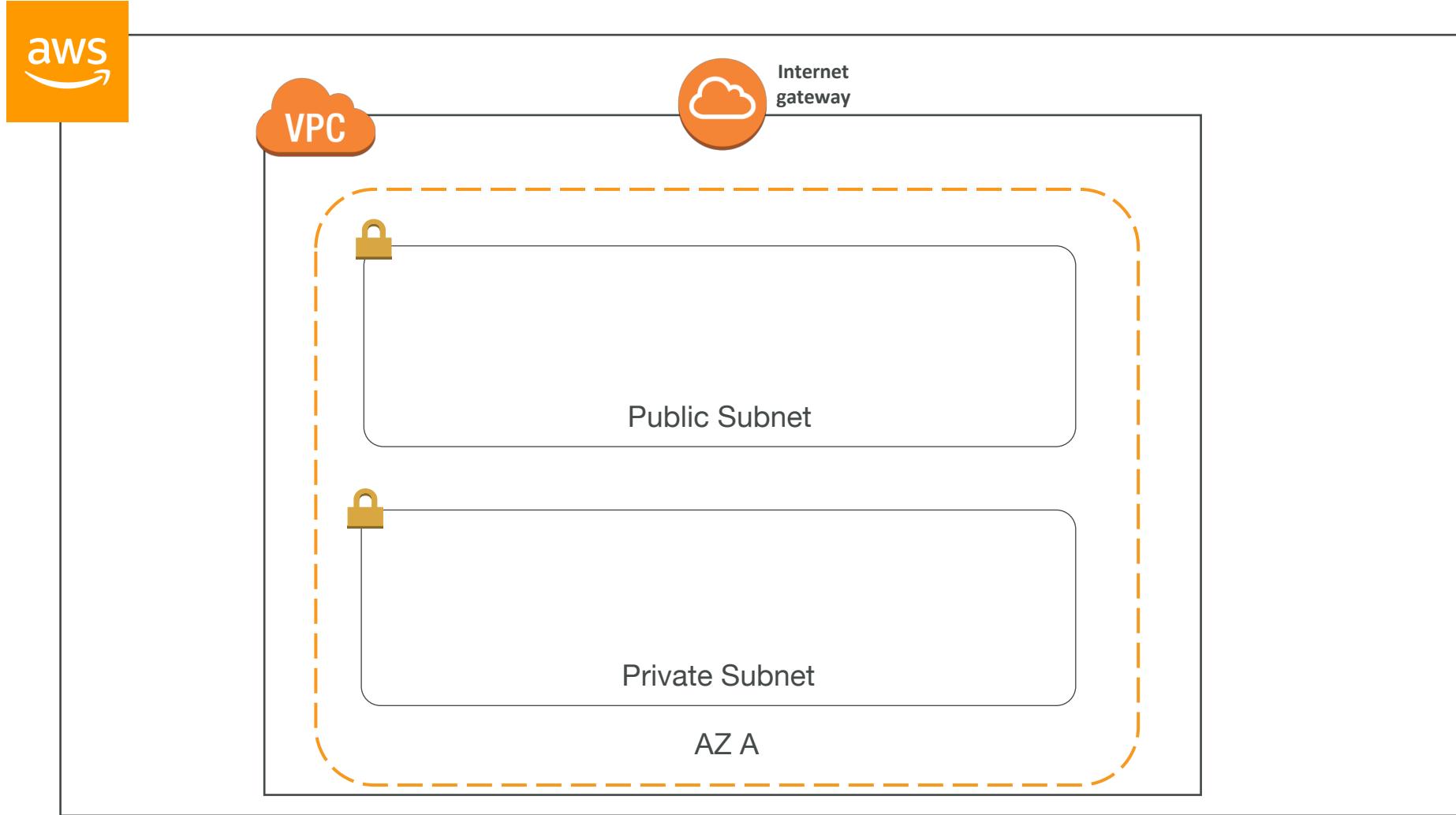
Subnets - IPv4

- AWS reserves 5 IPs address (first 4 and last 1 IP address) in each Subnet
- These 5 IPs are not available for use and cannot be assigned to an instance
- Ex, if CIDR block 10.0.0.0/24, reserved IP are:
 - 10.0.0.0: Network address
 - 10.0.0.1: Reserved by AWS for the VPC router
 - 10.0.0.2: Reserved by AWS for mapping to Amazon-provided DNS
 - 10.0.0.3: Reserved by AWS for future use
 - 10.0.0.255: Network broadcast address. AWS does not support broadcast in a VPC, therefore the address is reserved
- Exam Tip:
 - If you need 29 IP addresses for EC2 instances, you can't choose a Subnet of size /27 (32 IP)
 - You need at least 64 IP, Subnet size /26 ($64-5 = 59 > 29$, but $32-5 = 27 < 29$)

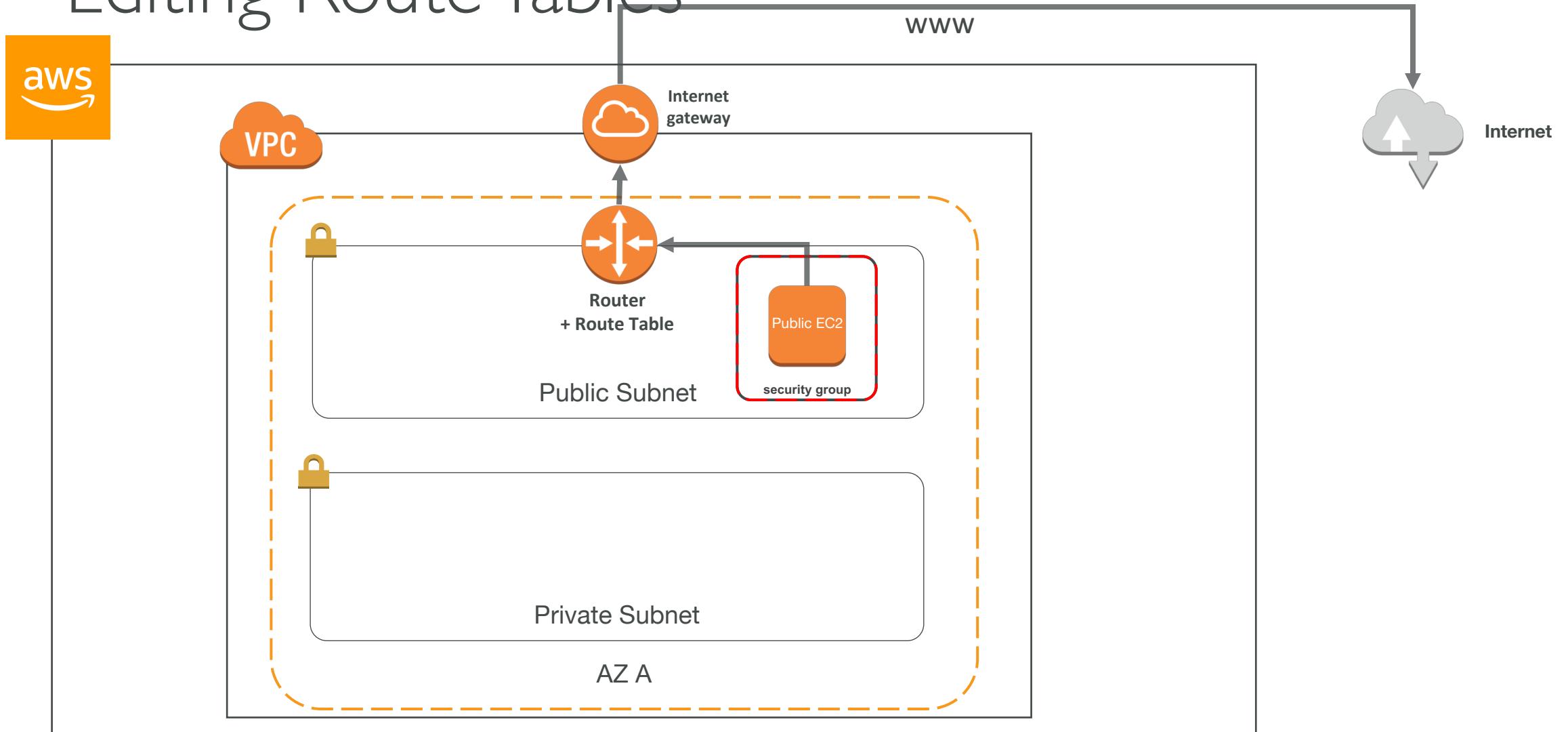
Internet Gateways

- Internet gateways helps our VPC instances connect with the internet
- It scales horizontally and is HA and redundant
- Must be created separately from VPC
- One VPC can only be attached to one IGW and vice versa
- Internet Gateway is also a NAT for the instances that have a public IPv4
- Internet Gateways on their own do not allow internet access...
- Route tables must also be edited!

Adding IGW



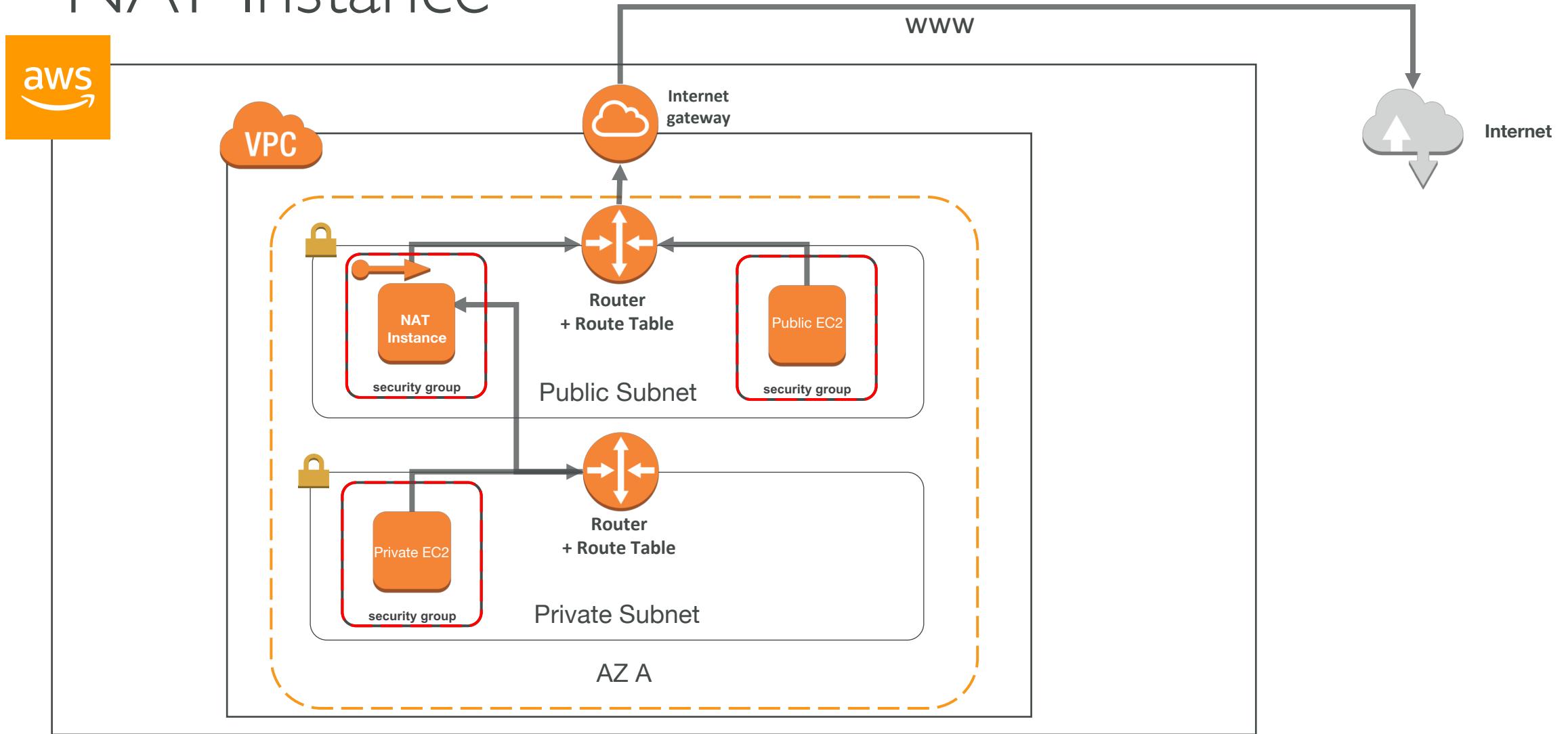
Editing Route Tables



NAT Instances – Network Address Translation (outdated but still at the exam)

- Allows instances in the private subnets to connect to the internet
- Must be launched in a public subnet
- Must disable EC2 flag: Source / Destination Check
- Must have Elastic IP attached to it
- Route table must be configured to route traffic from private subnets to NAT Instance

NAT Instance



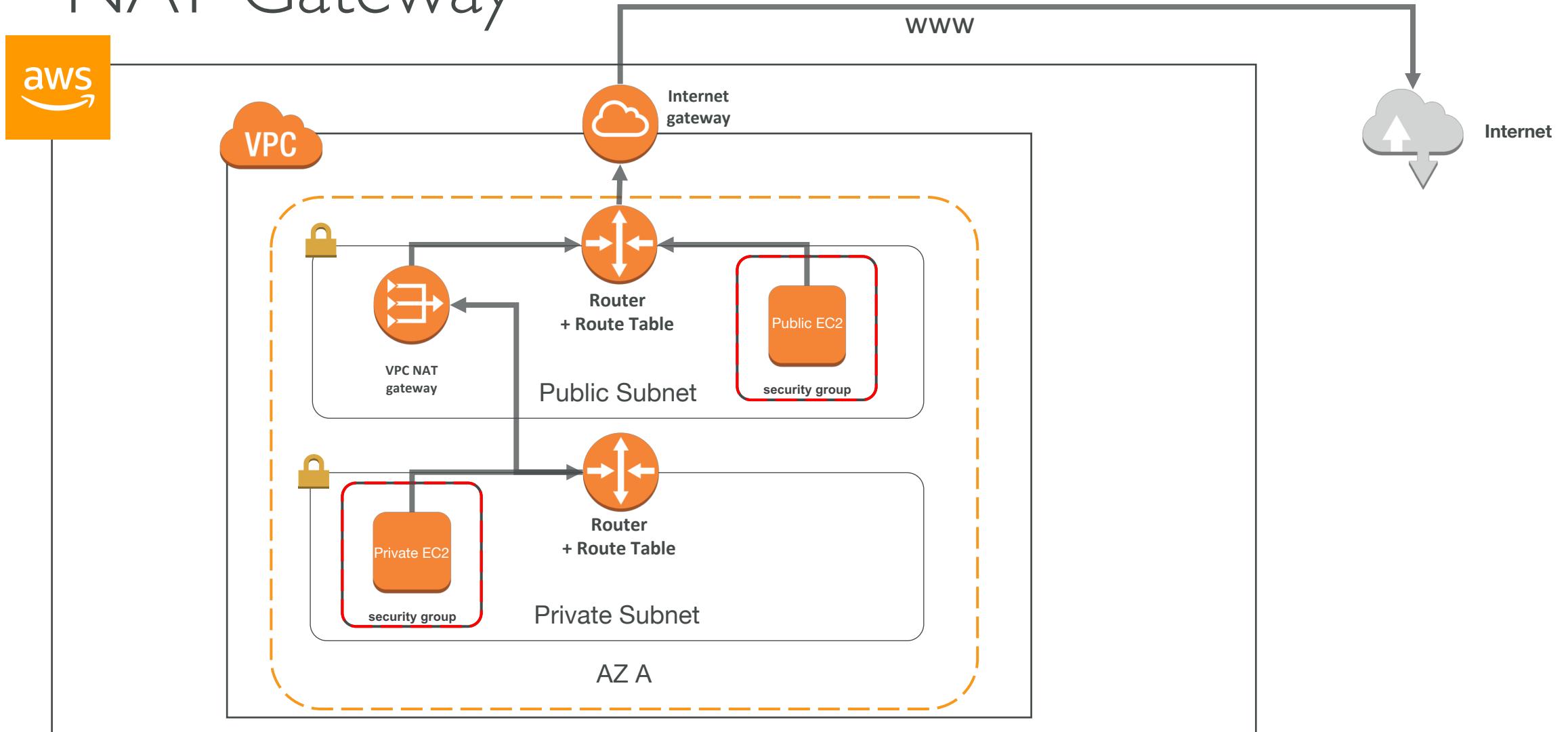
NAT Instances – Comments

- Amazon Linux AMI pre-configured are available
- Not highly available / resilient setup out of the box
- => Would need to create ASG in multi AZ + resilient user-data script
- Internet traffic bandwidth depends on EC2 instance performance
- Must manage security groups & rules:
 - Inbound:
 - Allow HTTP / HTTPS Traffic coming from Private Subnets
 - Allow SSH from your home network (access is provided through Internet Gateway)
 - Outbound:
 - Allow HTTP / HTTPS traffic to the internet

NAT Gateway

- AWS managed NAT, higher bandwidth, better availability, no admin
- Pay by the hour for usage and bandwidth
- NAT is created in a specific AZ, uses an EIP
- Cannot be used by an instance in that subnet (only from other subnets)
- Requires an IGW (Private Subnet => NAT => IGW)
- 5 Gbps of bandwidth with automatic scaling up to 45 Gbps
- No security group to manage / required

NAT Gateway



NAT Instance vs Gateway

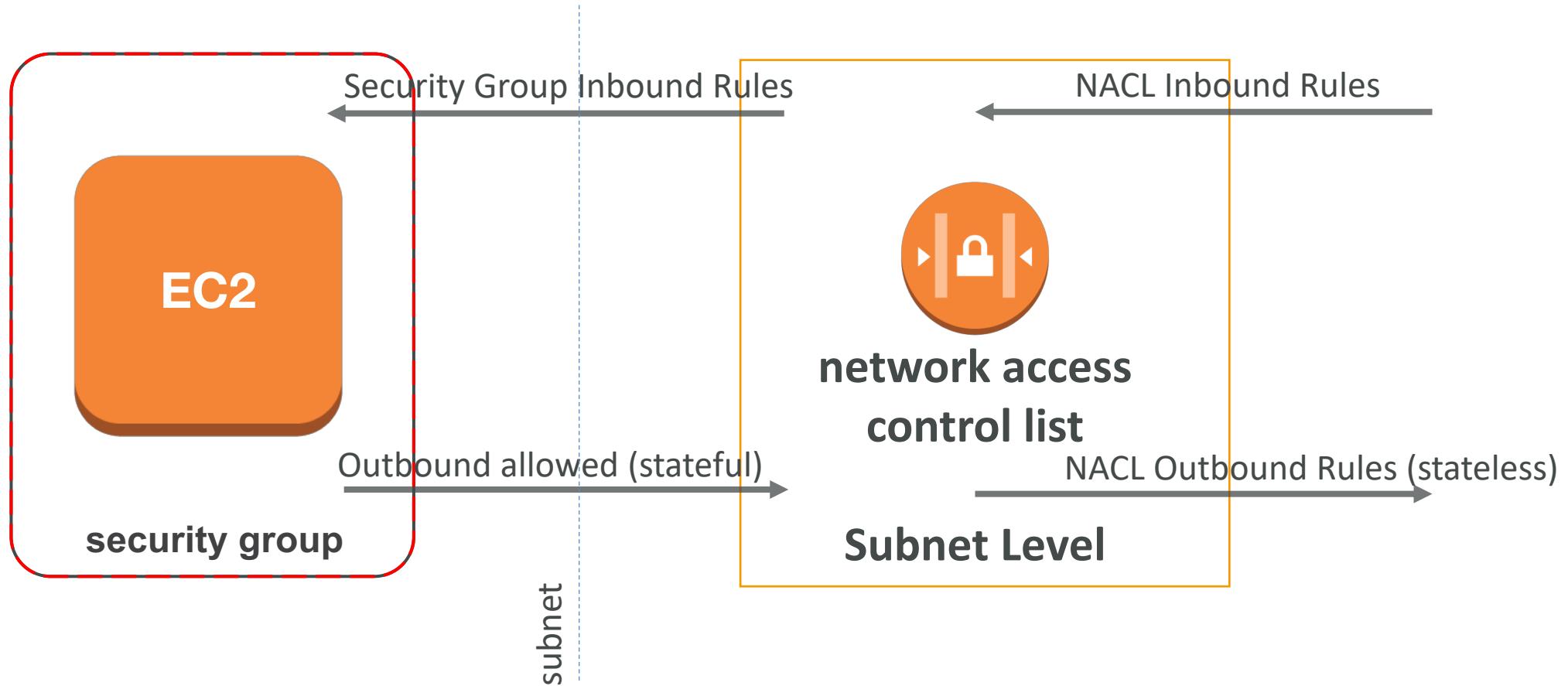
- See: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/vpc/latest/userguide/vpc-nat-comparison.html>

DNS Resolution in VPC

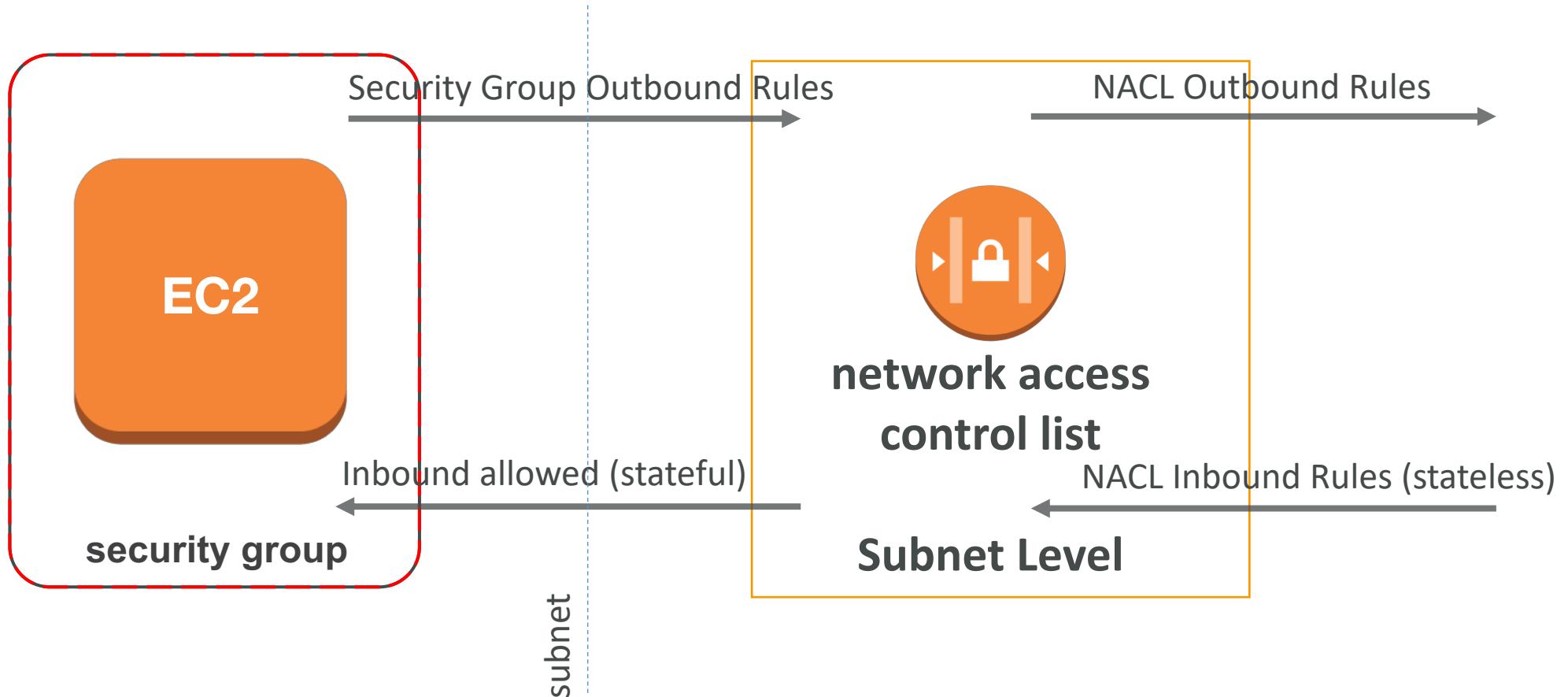
- **enableDnsSupport:** (= DNS Resolution setting)
 - Default True
 - Helps decide if DNS resolution is supported for the VPC
 - If True, queries the AWS DNS server at 169.254.169.253
- **enableDnsHostname:** (= DNS Hostname setting)
 - False by default for newly created VPC, True by default for Default VPC
 - Won't do anything unless enableDnsSupport=true
 - If True, Assign public hostname to EC2 instance if it has a public
- **If you use custom DNS domain names in a private zone in Route 53, you must set both these attributes to true**

Network ACLs & Security Group

Incoming Request



Network ACLs & Security Group Outgoing Request



Network ACLs

- NACL are like a firewall which control traffic from and to subnet
- Default NACL allows everything outbound and everything inbound
- **One NACL per Subnet, new Subnets are assigned the Default NACL**
- Define NACL rules:
 - Rules have a number (1-32766) and higher precedence with a lower number
 - E.g. If you define #100 ALLOW <IP> and #200 DENY <IP>, IP will be allowed
 - Last rule is an asterisk (*) and denies a request in case of no rule match
 - AWS recommends adding rules by increment of 100
- Newly created NACL will deny everything
- NACL are a great way of blocking a specific IP at the subnet level

Network ACLs vs Security Groups

Security Group	Network ACL
Operates at the instance level	Operates at the subnet level
Supports allow rules only	Supports allow rules and deny rules
Is stateful: Return traffic is automatically allowed, regardless of any rules	Is stateless: Return traffic must be explicitly allowed by rules
We evaluate all rules before deciding whether to allow traffic	We process rules in number order when deciding whether to allow traffic
Applies to an instance only if someone specifies the security group when launching the instance, or associates the security group with the instance later on	Automatically applies to all instances in the subnets it's associated with (therefore, you don't have to rely on users to specify the security group)

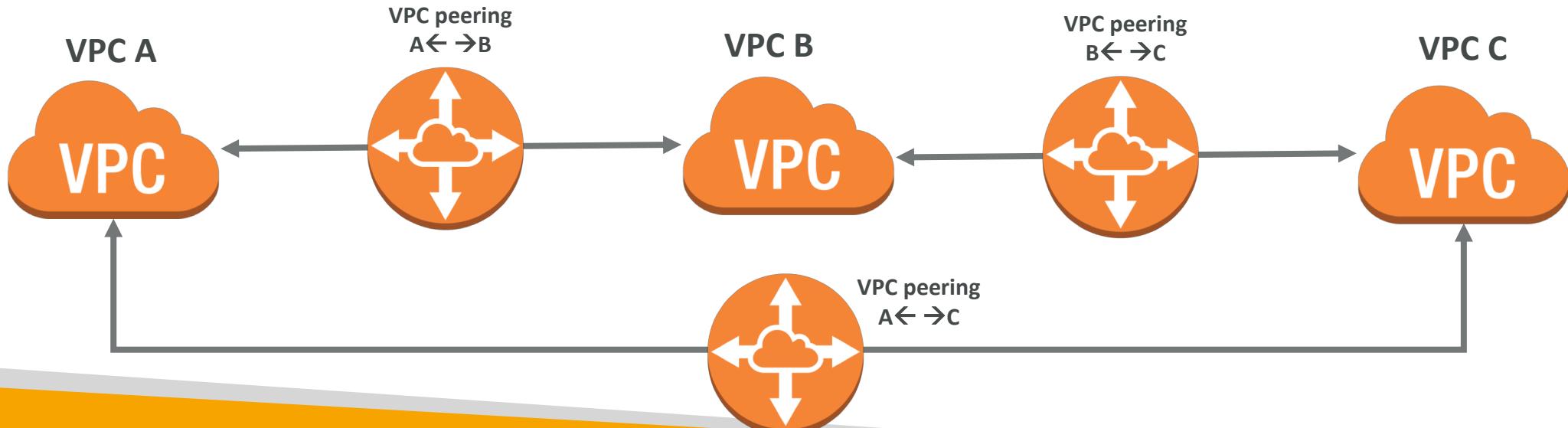
https://docs.aws.amazon.com/vpc/latest/userguide/VPC_Security.html#VPC_Security_Comparison

Example Network ACL with Ephemeral Ports

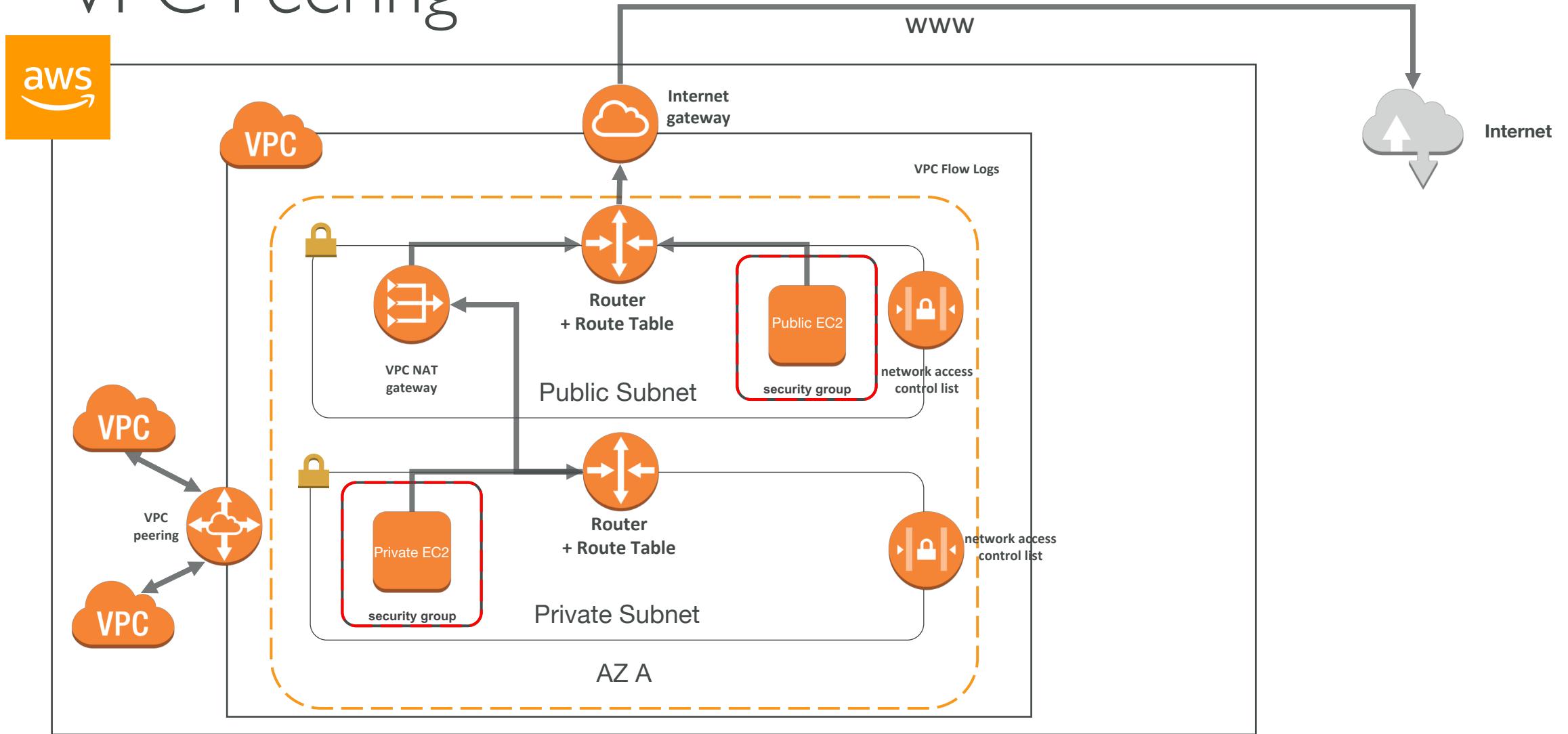
- <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/vpc/latest/userguide/vpc-network-acls.html>

VPC Peering

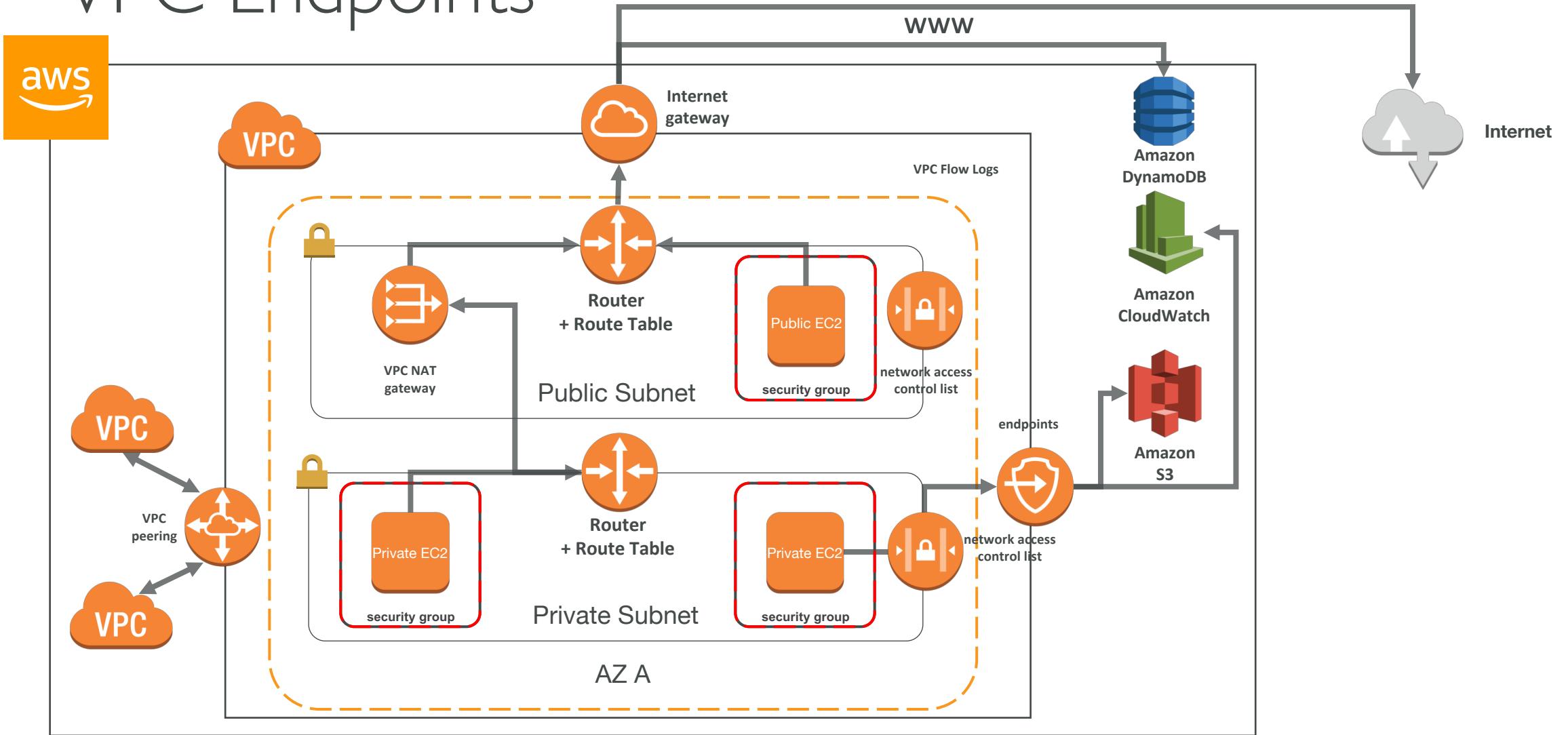
- Connect two VPC, privately using AWS' network
- Make them behave as if they were in the same network
- Must not have overlapping CIDR
- VPC Peering connection is **not transitive** (must be established for each VPC that need to communicate with one another)
- You can do VPC peering with another AWS account
- You must update route tables in each VPC's subnets to ensure instances can communicate



VPC Peering



VPC Endpoints



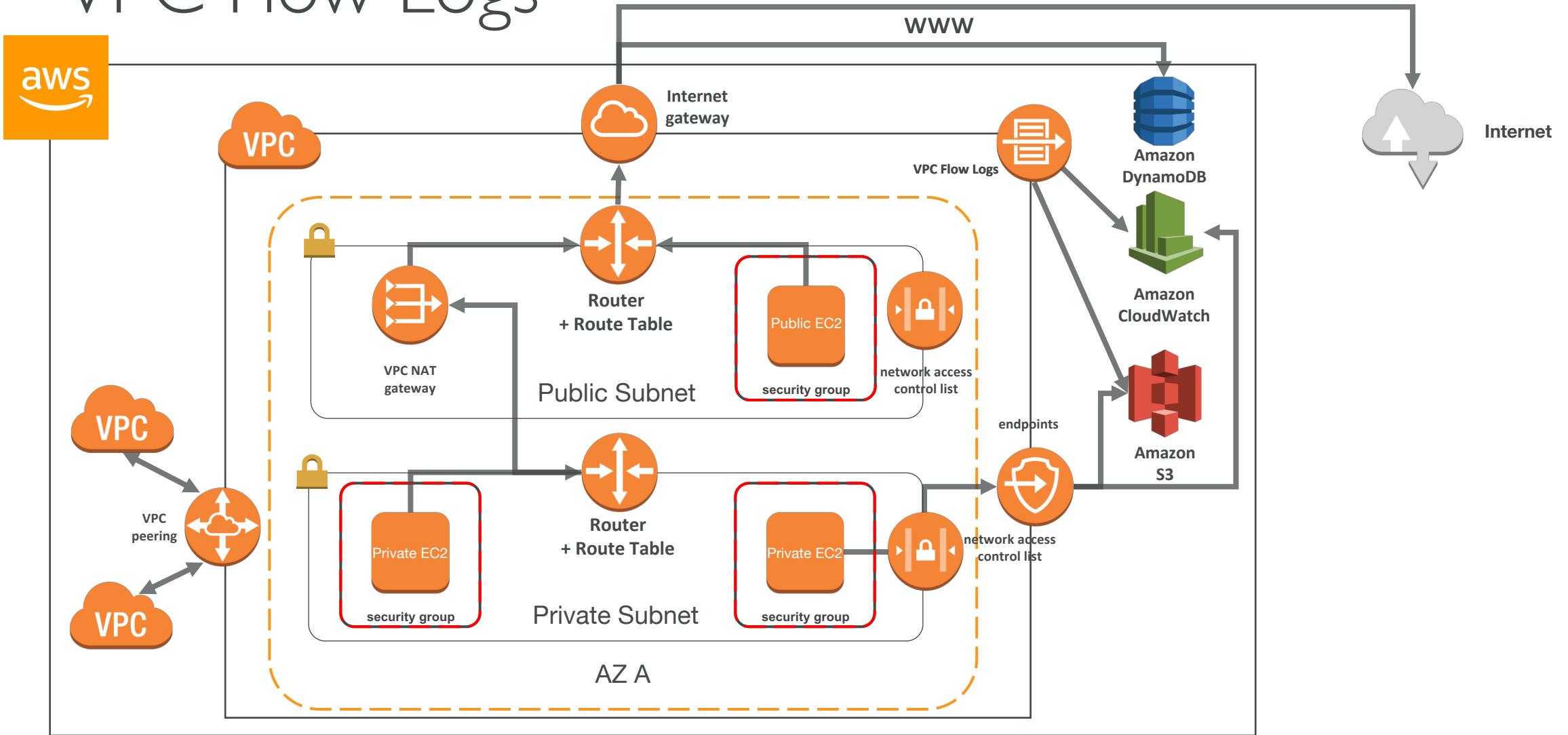
VPC Endpoints

- Endpoints allow you to connect to AWS Services using a private network instead of the public www network
- They scale horizontally and are redundant
- They remove the need of IGW, NAT, etc... to access AWS Services
- Interface: provisions an ENI (private IP address) as an entry point (must attach security group) – most AWS services
- Gateway: provisions a target and must be used in a route table – S3 and DynamoDB
- In case of issues:
 - Check DNS Setting Resolution in your VPC
 - Check Route Tables

Flow Logs

- Capture information about IP traffic going into your interfaces:
 - VPC Flow Logs
 - Subnet Flow Logs
 - Elastic Network Interface Flow Logs
- Helps to monitor & troubleshoot connectivity issues
- Flow logs data can go to S3 / CloudWatch Logs
- Captures network information from AWS managed interfaces too: ELB, RDS, ElastiCache, Redshift, WorkSpaces

VPC Flow Logs



Flow Log Syntax

- <version> <account-id> <interface-id> <srcaddr> <dstaddr> <srcport> <dstport> <protocol> <packets> <bytes> <start> <end> <action> <log-status>
- Srcaddr, dstaddr help identify problematic IP
- Srcport, dstport help identify problematic ports
- Action : success or failure of the request due to Security Group / NACL
- Can be used for analytics on usage patterns, or malicious behavior
- Flow logs example: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/vpc/latest/userguide/flow-logs.html#flow-log-records>
- Query VPC flow logs using Athena on S3 or CloudWatch Logs Insights

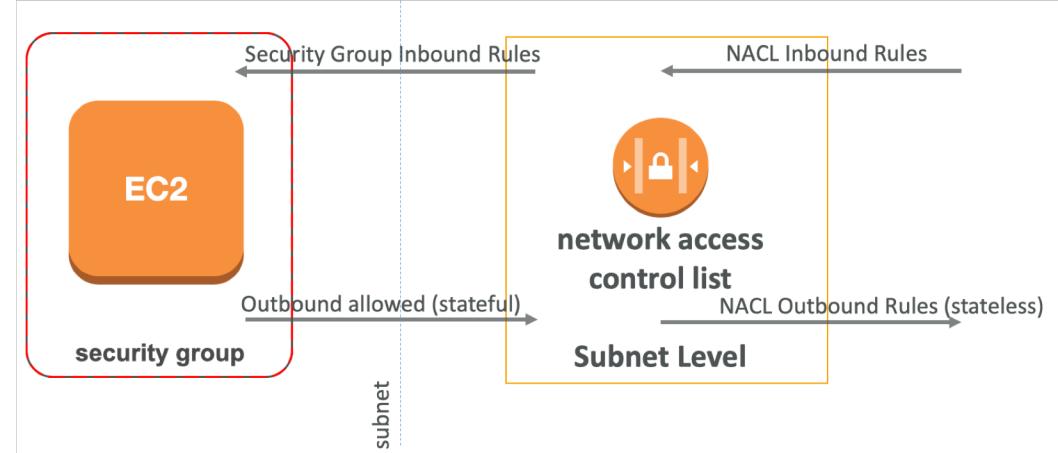
Flow Logs: Looking at “ACTION” field

How to troubleshoot SG vs NACL issue?

For incoming requests

Inbound REJECT: NACL or SG

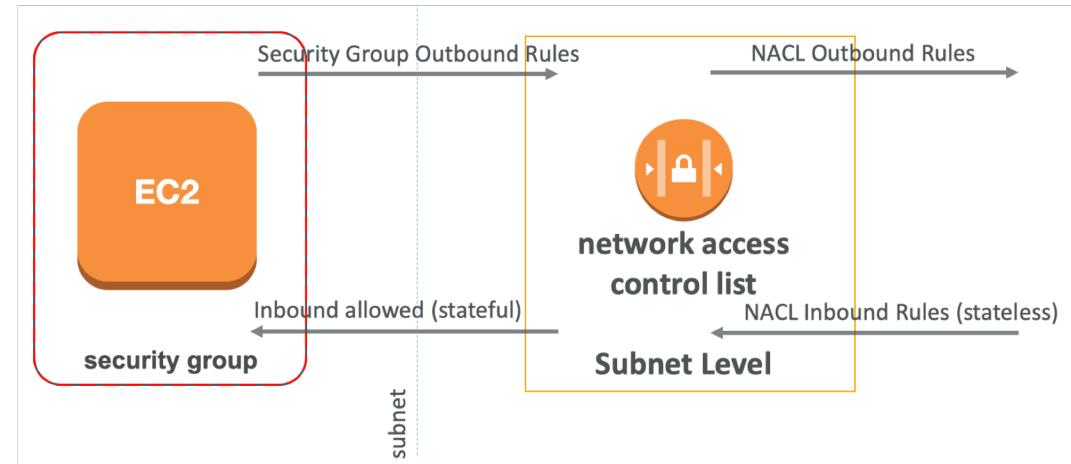
Inbound ACCEPT, outbound REJECT: NACL



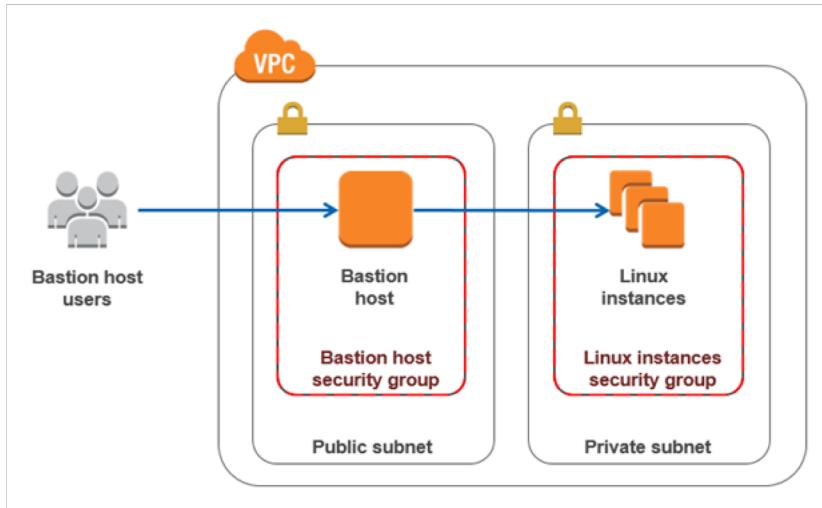
For outgoing requests

Outbound REJECT: NACL or SG

Outbound ACCEPT, inbound REJECT: NACL

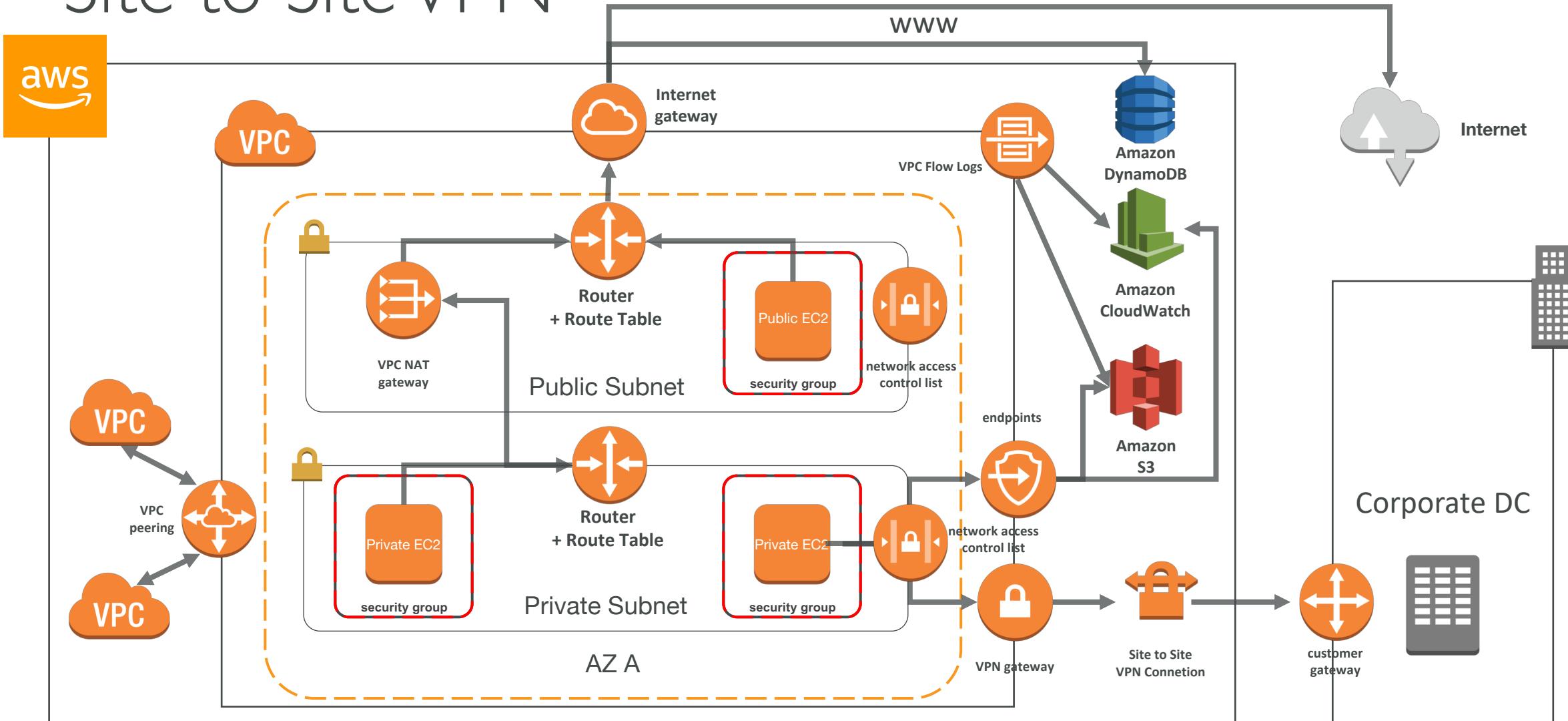


Bastion Hosts



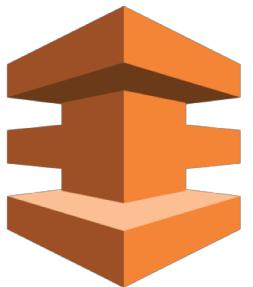
- We can use a Bastion Host to SSH into our private instances
- The bastion is in the public subnet which is then connected to all other private subnets
- **Bastion Host security group must be tightened**
- Exam Tip: Make sure the bastion host only has port 22 traffic from the IP you need, not from the security groups of your other instances

Site to Site VPN



Site to Site VPN

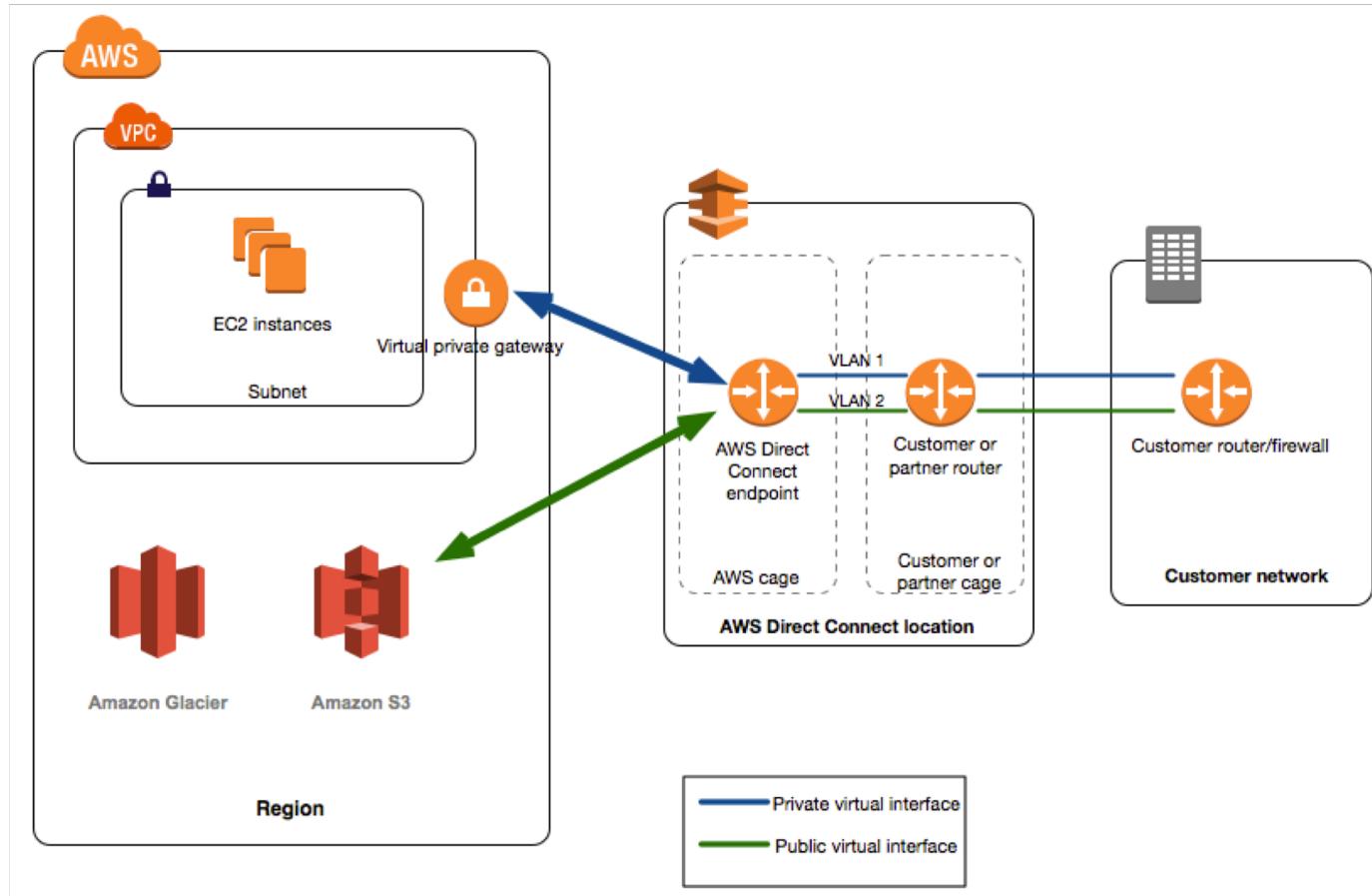
- Virtual Private Gateway:
 - VPN concentrator on the AWS side of the VPN connection
 - VGW is created and attached to the VPC from which you want to create the Site-to-Site VPN connection
 - Possibility to customize the ASN
- Customer Gateway:
 - Software application or physical device on customer side of the VPN connection
 - <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/vpc/latest/adminguide/Introduction.html#DevicesTested>
 - IP Address:
 - Use static, internet-routable IP address for your customer gateway device.
 - If behind a CGW behind NAT (with NAT-T), use the public IP address of the NAT



Direct Connect

- Provides a dedicated private connection from a remote network to your VPC
- Dedicated connection must be setup between your DC and AWS Direct Connect locations
- You need to setup a Virtual Private Gateway on your VPC
- Access public resources (S3) and private (EC2) on same connection
- Use Cases:
 - Increase bandwidth throughput - working with large data sets – lower cost
 - More consistent network experience - applications using real-time data feeds
 - Hybrid Environments (on prem + cloud)
- Supports both IPv4 and IPv6

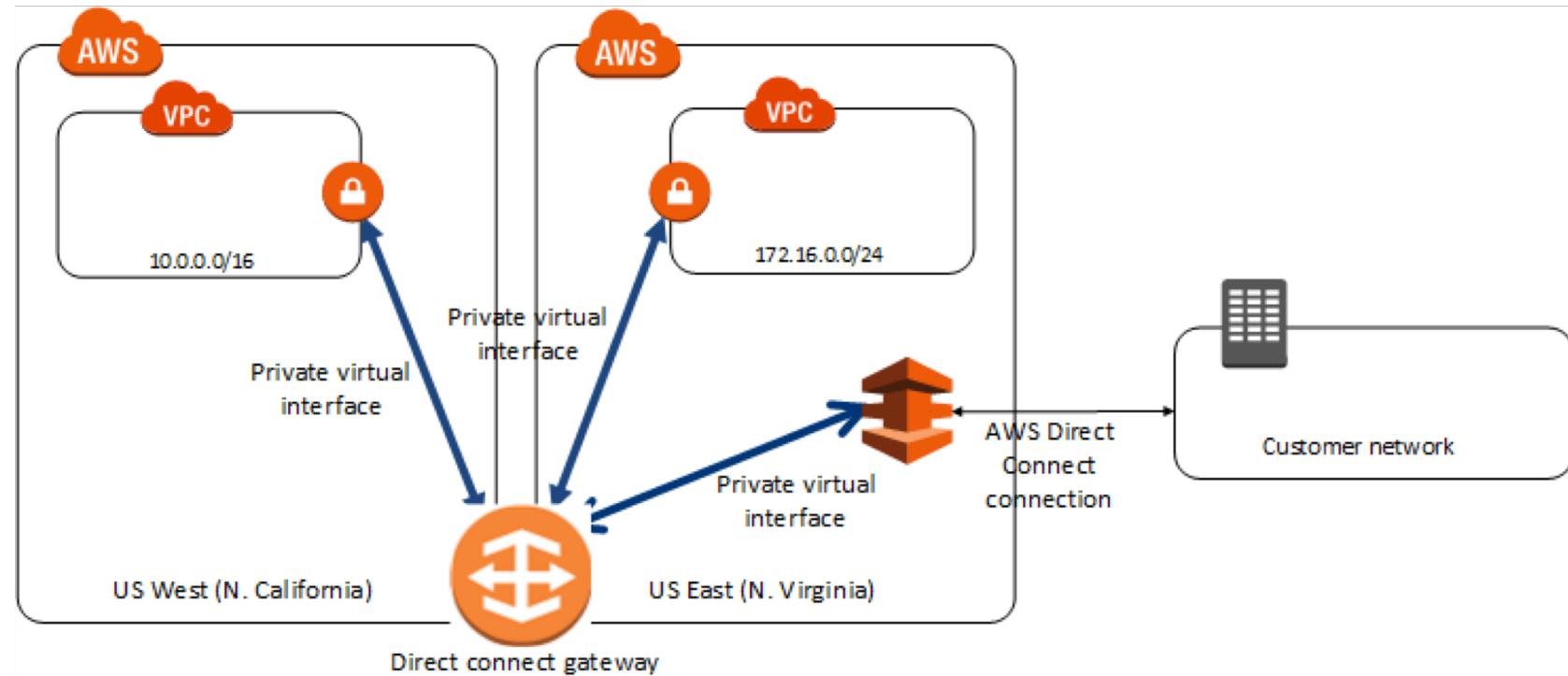
Direct Connect Diagram



https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/images/direct_connect_overview.png

Direct Connect Gateway

- If you want to setup a Direct Connect to one or more VPC in many different regions (same account), you must use a Direct Connect Gateway



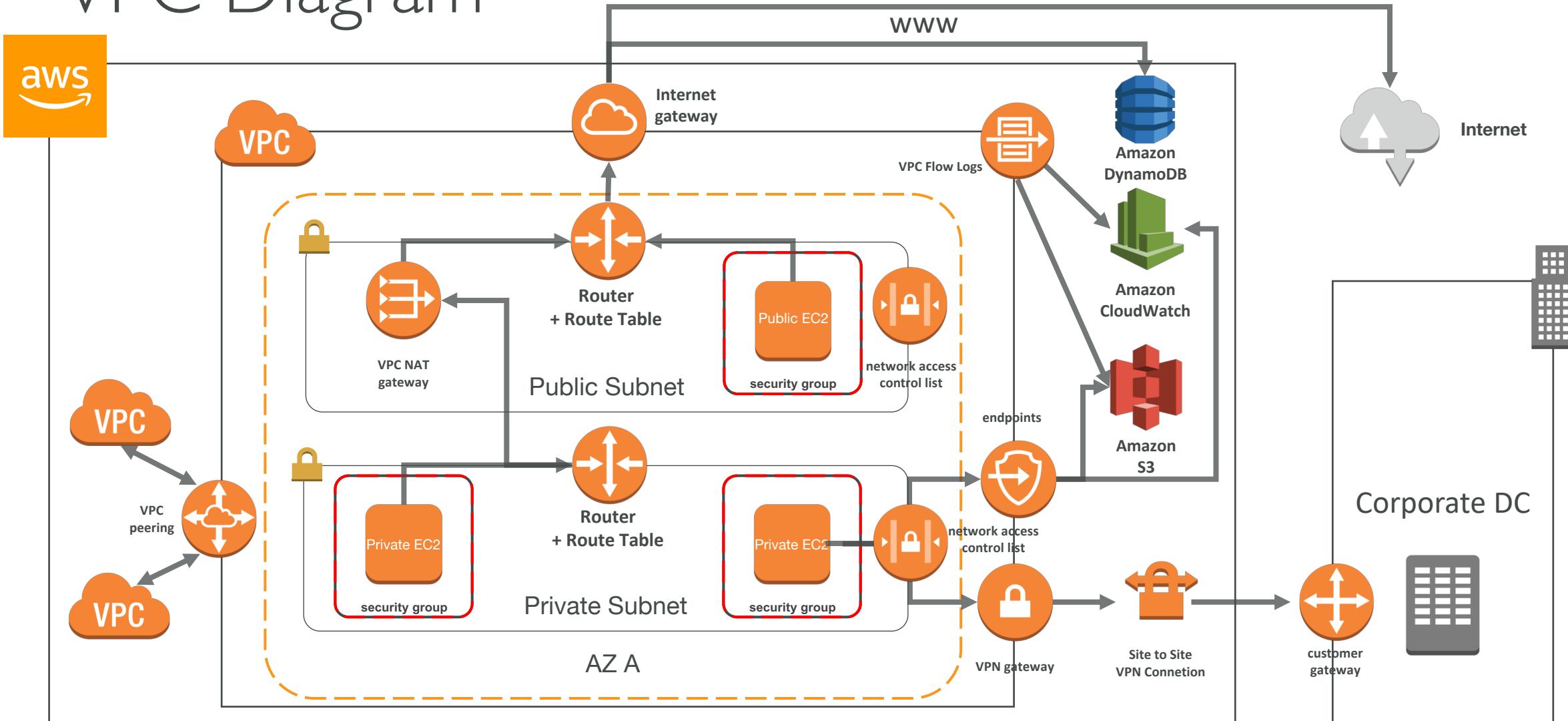
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/directconnect/latest/UserGuide/direct-connect-gateways.html>



Egress Only Internet Gateway

- Egress only Internet Gateway is for IPv6 only
- Similar function as a NAT, but a NAT is for IPv4
- Good to know: IPv6 are all public addresses
- Therefore all our instances with IPv6 are publicly accessible
- Egress Only Internet Gateway gives our IPv6 instances access to the internet, but they won't be directly reachable by the internet
- After creating an Egress Only Internet Gateway, edit the route tables

VPC Diagram



VPC Section Summary (1/2)

- **CIDR:** IP Range
- **VPC:** Virtual Private Cloud => we define a list of IPv4 & IPv6 CIDR
- **Subnets:** Tied to an AZ, we define a CIDR
- **Internet Gateway:** at the VPC level, provide IPv4 & IPv6 Internet Access
- **Route Tables:** must be edited to add routes from subnets to the IGW, VPC Peering Connections, VPC Endpoints, etc...
- **NAT Instances:** gives internet access to instances in private subnets. Old, must be setup in a public subnet, disable Source / Destination check flag
- **NAT Gateway:** managed by AWS, provides scalable internet access to private instances, IPv4 only
- **Private DNS + Route 53:** enable DNS Resolution + DNS hostnames (VPC)
- **NACL:** Stateless, subnet rules for inbound and outbound, don't forget ephemeral ports
- **Security Groups:** Stateful, operate at the EC2 instance level

VPC Section Summary (2/2)

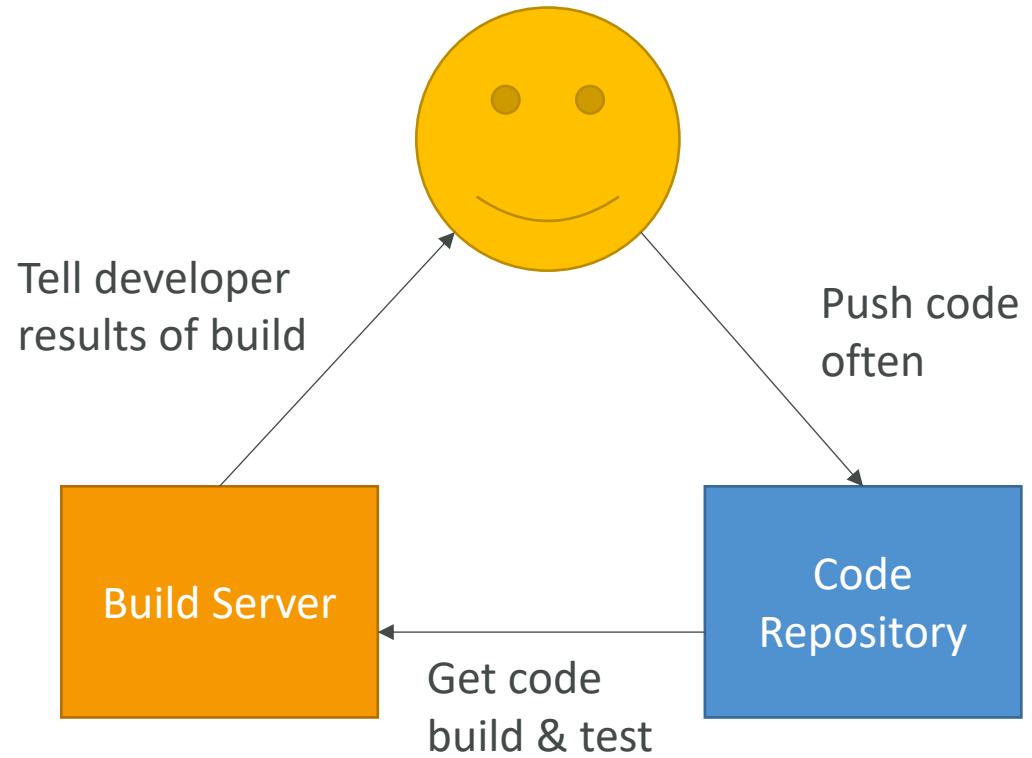
- **VPC Peering:** Connect two VPC with non overlapping CIDR, non transitive
- **VPC Endpoints:** Provide private access to AWS Services (S3, DynamoDB, CloudFormation, SSM) within VPC
- **VPC Flow Logs:** Can be setup at the VPC / Subnet / ENI Level, for ACCEPT and REJECT traffic, helps identifying attacks, analyze using Athena or CloudWatch Log Insights
- **Bastion Host:** Public instance to SSH into, that has SSH connectivity to instances in private subnets
- **Site to Site VPN:** setup a Customer Gateway on DC, a Virtual Private Gateway on VPC, and site-to-site VPN over public internet
- **Direct Connect:** setup a Virtual Private Gateway on VPC, and establish a direct private connection to an AWS Direct Connect Location
- **Direct Connect Gateway:** setup a Direct Connect to many VPC in different regions
- **Internet Gateway Egress:** like a NAT Gateway, but for IPv6

Other Services

Overview of Services that might come up in a few questions

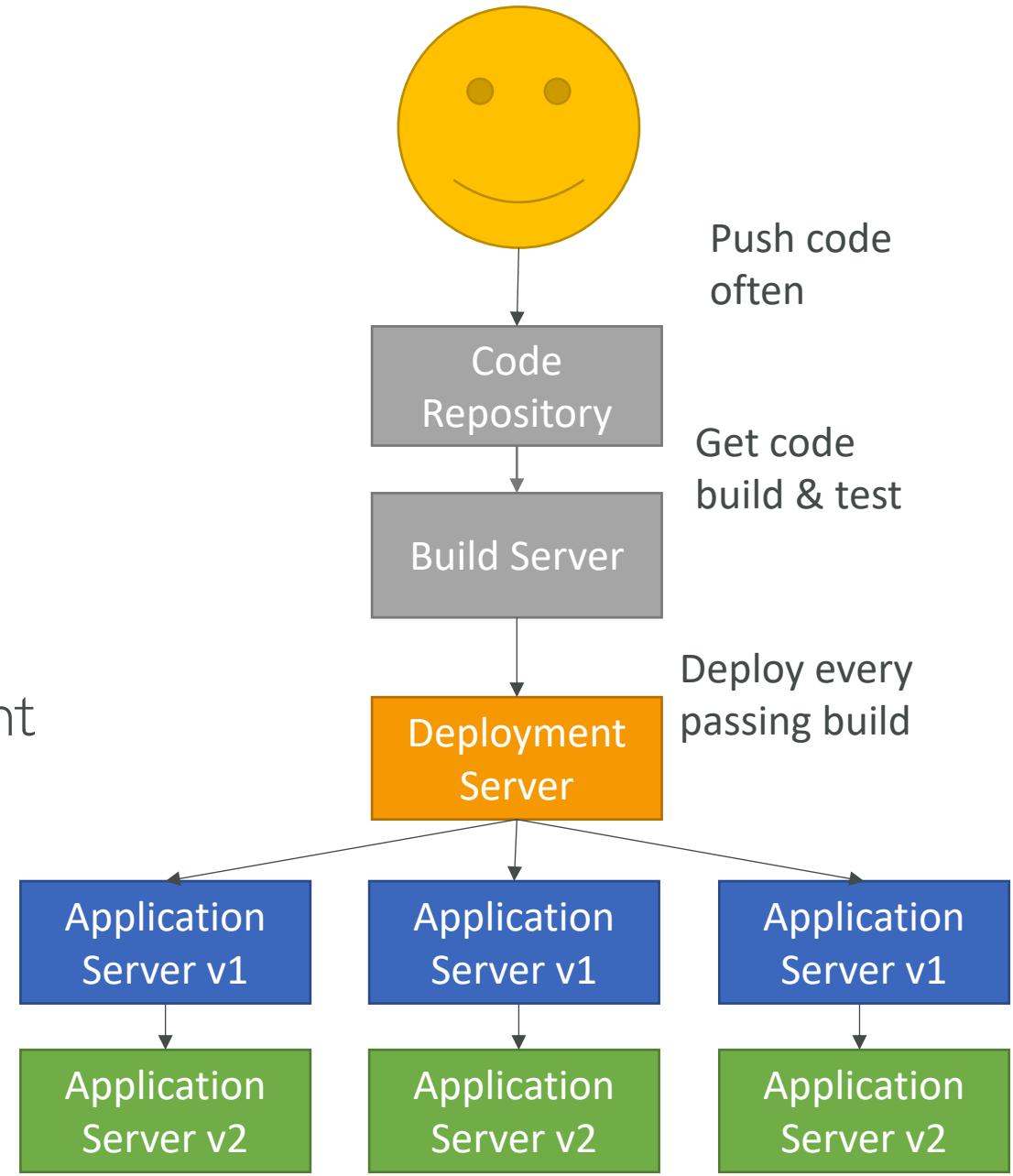
Continuous Integration

- Developers push the code to a code repository often (GitHub / CodeCommit / Bitbucket / etc...)
- A testing / build server checks the code as soon as it's pushed (CodeBuild / Jenkins CI / etc...)
- The developer gets feedback about the tests and checks that have passed / failed
- Find bugs early, fix bugs
- Deliver faster as the code is tested
- Deploy often
- Happier developers, as they're unblocked

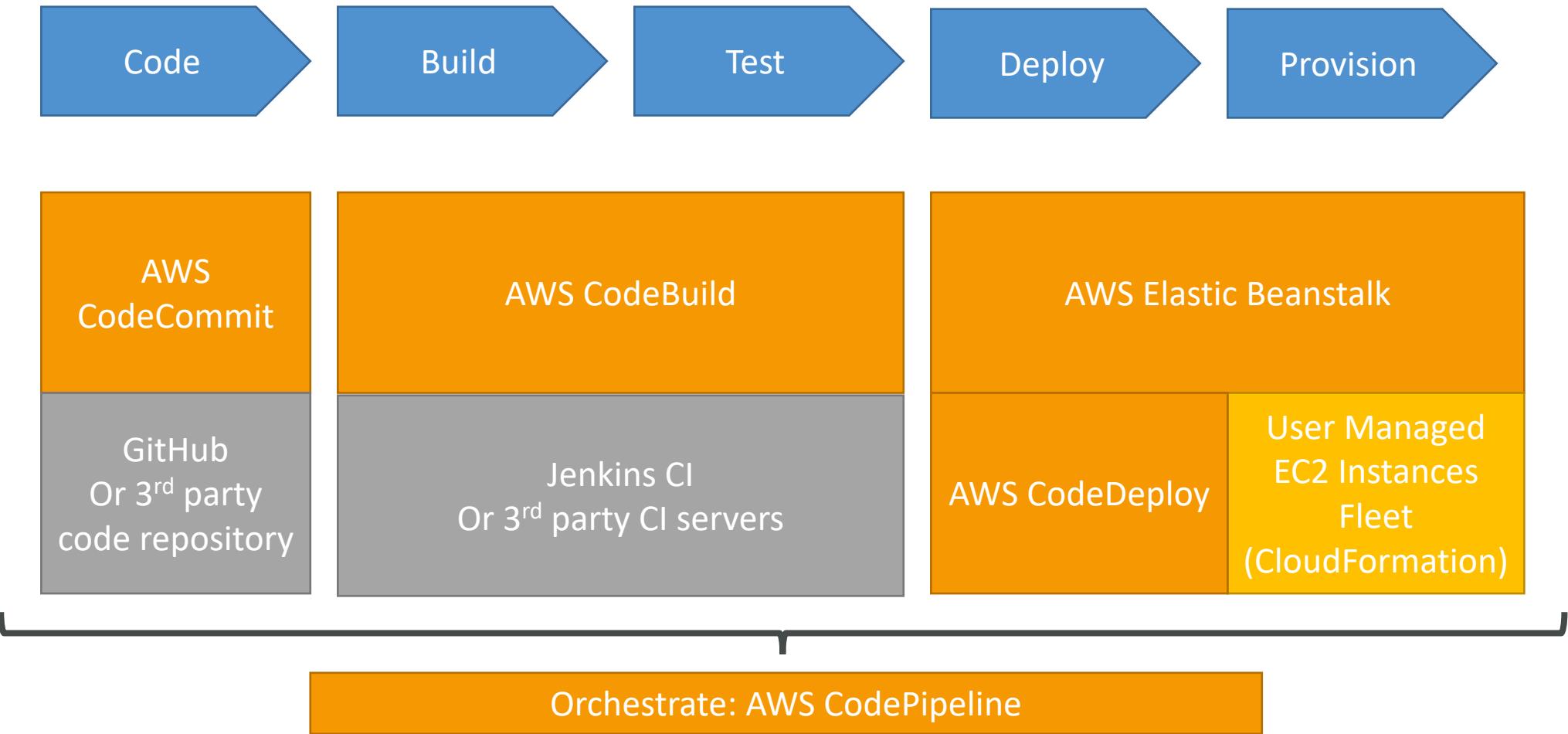


Continuous Delivery

- Ensure that the software can be released reliably whenever needed.
- Ensures deployments happen often and are quick
- Shift away from “one release every 3 months” to “5 releases a day”
- That usually means automated deployment
 - CodeDeploy
 - Jenkins CD
 - Spinnaker
 - Etc...



Technology Stack for CICD



Infrastructure as Code

- Currently, we have been doing a lot of manual work
- All this manual work will be very tough to reproduce:
 - In another region
 - in another AWS account
 - Within the same region if everything was deleted
- Wouldn't it be great, if all our infrastructure was... code?
- That code would be deployed and create / update / delete our infrastructure

What is CloudFormation



- CloudFormation is a declarative way of outlining your AWS Infrastructure, for any resources (most of them are supported).
- For example, within a CloudFormation template, you say:
 - I want a security group
 - I want two EC2 machines using this security group
 - I want two Elastic IPs for these EC2 machines
 - I want an S3 bucket
 - I want a load balancer (ELB) in front of these machines
- Then CloudFormation creates those for you, in the **right order**, with the **exact configuration** that you specify

Benefits of AWS CloudFormation (1/2)

- Infrastructure as code
 - No resources are manually created, which is excellent for control
 - The code can be version controlled for example using git
 - Changes to the infrastructure are reviewed through code
- Cost
 - Each resources within the stack is tagged with an identifier so you can easily see how much a stack costs you
 - You can estimate the costs of your resources using the CloudFormation template
 - Savings strategy: In Dev, you could automation deletion of templates at 5 PM and recreated at 8 AM, safely

Benefits of AWS CloudFormation (2/2)

- Productivity
 - Ability to destroy and re-create an infrastructure on the cloud on the fly
 - Automated generation of Diagram for your templates!
 - Declarative programming (no need to figure out ordering and orchestration)
- Separation of concern: create many stacks for many apps, and many layers. Ex:
 - VPC stacks
 - Network stacks
 - App stacks
- Don't re-invent the wheel
 - Leverage existing templates on the web!
 - Leverage the documentation

How CloudFormation Works

- Templates have to be uploaded in S3 and then referenced in CloudFormation
- To update a template, we can't edit previous ones. We have to re-upload a new version of the template to AWS
- Stacks are identified by a name
- Deleting a stack deletes every single artifact that was created by CloudFormation.

Deploying CloudFormation templates

- Manual way:
 - Editing templates in the CloudFormation Designer
 - Using the console to input parameters, etc
- Automated way:
 - Editing templates in a YAML file
 - Using the AWS CLI (Command Line Interface) to deploy the templates
 - Recommended way when you fully want to automate your flow

CloudFormation Building Blocks

Templates components

1. Resources: your AWS resources declared in the template (**MANDATORY**)
2. Parameters: the dynamic inputs for your template
3. Mappings: the static variables for your template
4. Outputs: References to what has been created
5. Conditionals: List of conditions to perform resource creation
6. Metadata

Templates helpers:

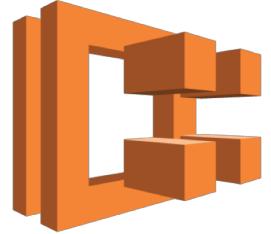
1. References
2. Functions

Note:

This is an introduction to CloudFormation

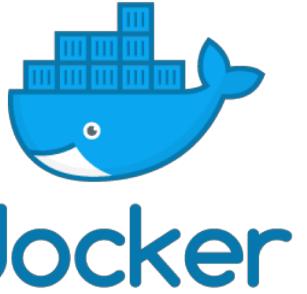
- It can take over 3 hours to properly learn and master CloudFormation
- This lecture is meant so you get a good idea of how it works
- The exam expects you to understand how to read CloudFormation

AWS ECS – Elastic Container Service



- ECS is a container orchestration service
- ECS helps you run Docker containers on EC2 machines
- ECS is complicated, and made of:
 - “ECS Core”: Running ECS on user-provisioned EC2 instances
 - Fargate: Running ECS tasks on AWS-provisioned compute (serverless)
 - EKS: Running ECS on AWS-powered Kubernetes (running on EC2)
 - ECR: Docker Container Registry hosted by AWS
- ECS & Docker are very popular for microservices
- For now, for the exam, only “ECS Core” & ECR is in scope
- IAM security and roles at the ECS task level

What's Docker?



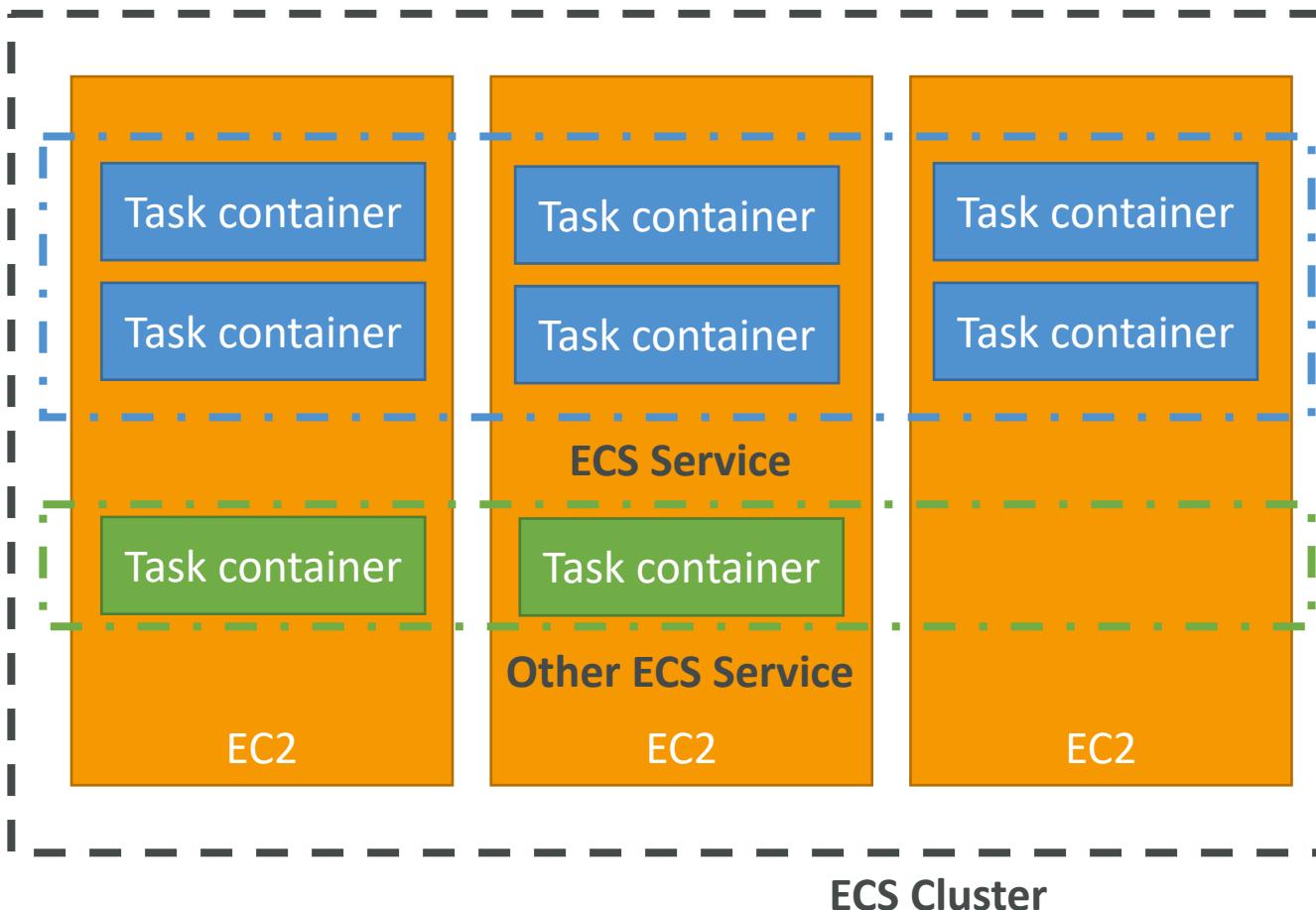
- Docker is a “container technology”
- Run a containerized application on any machine with Docker installed
- Containers allows our application to work the same way anywhere
- Containers are isolated from each other
- Control how much memory / CPU is allocated to your container
- Ability to restrict network rules
- More efficient than Virtual machines
- Scale containers up and down very quickly (seconds)

AWS ECS – Use cases

- Run microservices
 - Ability to run multiple docker containers on the same machine
 - Easy service discovery features to enhance communication
 - Direct integration with Application Load Balancers
 - Auto scaling capability
- Run batch processing / scheduled tasks
 - Schedule ECS containers to run on On-demand / Reserved / Spot instances
- Migrate applications to the cloud
 - Dockerize legacy applications running on premise
 - Move Docker containers to run on ECS

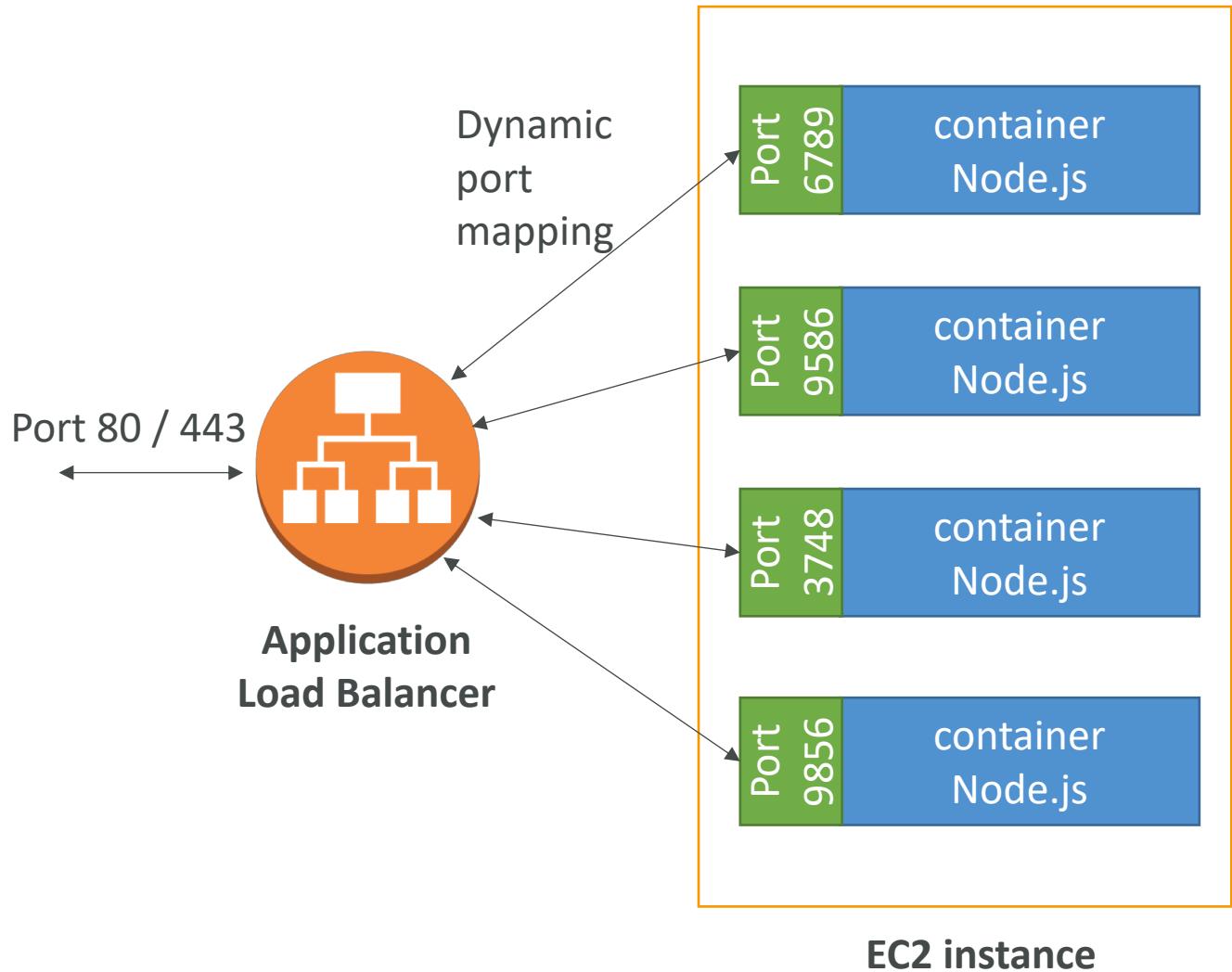
AWS ECS – Concepts

- **ECS cluster:** set of EC2 instances
- **ECS service:** applications definitions running on ECS cluster
- **ECS tasks + definition:** containers running to create the application
- **ECS IAM roles:** roles assigned to tasks to interact with AWS



AWS ECS – ALB integration

- Application Load Balancer (ALB) has a direct integration feature with ECS called “port mapping”
- This allows you to run multiple instances of the same application on the same EC2 machine
- Use cases:
 - Increased resiliency even if running on one EC2 instance
 - Maximize utilization of CPU / cores
 - Ability to perform rolling upgrades without impacting application uptime



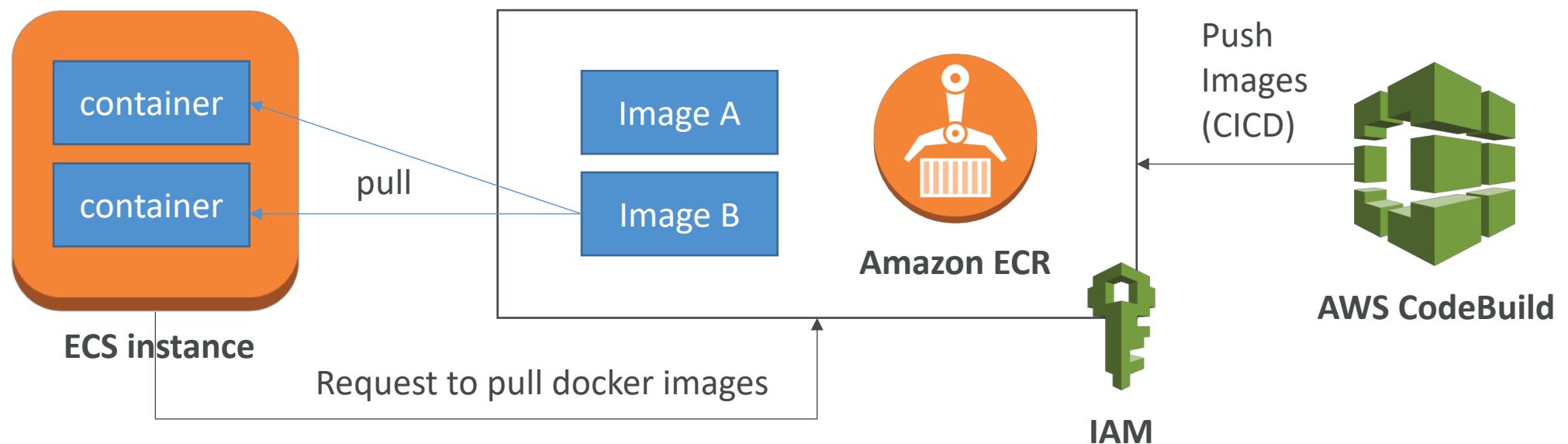
AWS ECS – ECS Setup & Config file

- Run an EC2 instance, install the ECS agent with ECS config file
- Or use an ECS-ready Linux AMI (still need to modify config file)
- ECS Config file is at **/etc/ecs/ecs.config**

```
1  ECS_CLUSTER=MyCluster      #Assign EC2 instance to an ECS cluster
2  ECS_ENGINE_AUTH_DATA={...}  #to pull images from private registries
3  ECS_AVAILABLE_LOGGING_DRIVERS=[...]  #CloudWatch container logging
4  ECS_ENABLE_TASK_IAM_ROLE=true      #Enable IAM roles for ECS tasks
```

AWS ECR – Elastic Container Registry

- Store, managed and deploy your containers on AWS
- Fully integrated with IAM & ECS
- Sent over HTTPS (encryption in flight) and encrypted at rest

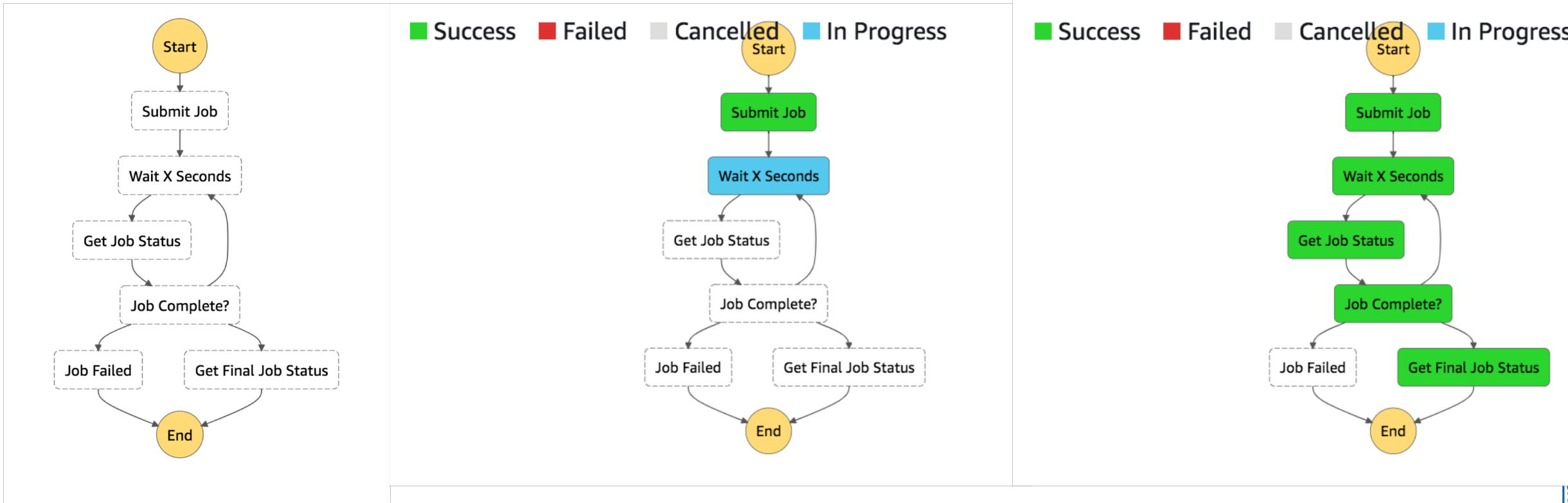




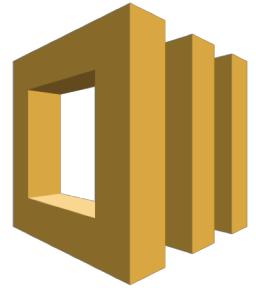
AWS Step Functions

- Build serverless visual workflow to orchestrate your Lambda functions
- Represent flow as a **JSON state machine**
- Features: sequence, parallel, conditions, timeouts, error handling...
- Can also integrate with EC2, ECS, On premise servers, API Gateway
- Maximum execution time of 1 year
- Possibility to implement human approval feature
- Use cases:
 - Order fulfillment
 - Data processing
 - Web applications
 - Any workflow

Visual workflow in Step Functions



AWS SWF – Simple Workflow Service



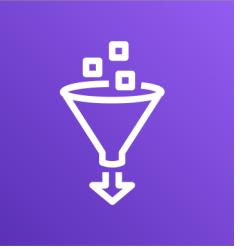
- Coordinate work amongst applications
- Code runs on EC2 (not serverless)
- 1 year max runtime
- Concept of “activity step” and “decision step”
- Has built-in “human intervention” step
- Example: order fulfilment from web to warehouse to delivery
- **Step Functions is recommended to be used for new applications, except:**
 - If you need external signals to intervene in the processes
 - If you need child processes that return values to parent processes

Amazon EMR



- EMR stands for “Elastic MapReduce”
- EMR helps creating **Hadoop clusters (Big Data)** to analyze and process vast amount of data
- The clusters can be made of hundreds of EC2 instances
- Also supports Apache Spark, HBase, Presto, Flink...
- EMR takes care of all the provisioning and configuration
- Auto-scaling and integrated with Spot instances
- Use cases: data processing, machine learning, web indexing, big data...

AWS Glue



- Fully-managed ETL (Extract, Transform & Load) service
- Automating time consuming steps of data preparation for analytics
- Serverless, pay as you go, fully managed, provisions Apache Spark
- Crawls data sources and identifies data formats (schema inference)
- Automated Code Generation
- Sources: Amazon Aurora, RDS, Redshift & S3
- Sinks: S3, Redshift, etc...
- **Glue Data Catalog:** Metadata (definition & schema) of the Source Tables

AWS Opsworks



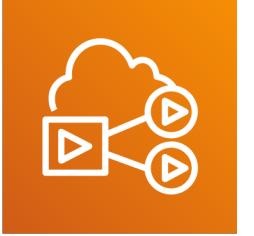
- Chef & Puppet help you perform server configuration automatically, or repetitive actions
- They work great with EC2 & On Premise VM
- AWS Opsworks = Managed Chef & Puppet
- It's an alternative to AWS SSM
- No hands on here, no knowledge of chef and puppet needed
- In the exam: Chef & Puppet needed => AWS Opsworks



Quick word on Chef / Puppet

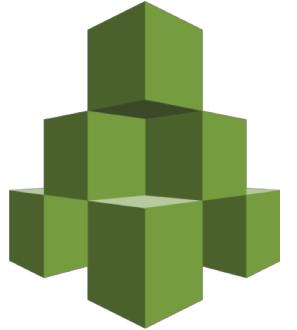
- They help with managing configuration as code
- Helps in having consistent deployments
- Works with Linux / Windows
- Can automate: user accounts, cron, ntp, packages, services...
- They leverage “Recipes” or “Manifests”
- Chef / Puppet have similarities with SSM / Beanstalk / CloudFormation but they’re open-source tools that work cross-cloud

AWS Elastic Transcoder



- Convert media files (video + music) stored in S3 into various formats for tablets, PC, Smartphone, TV, etc
- Features: bit rate optimization, thumbnail, watermarks, captions, DRM, progressive download, encryption
- 4 Components:
 - Jobs: what does the work of the transcoder
 - Pipeline: Queue that manages the transcoding job
 - Presets: Template for converting media from one format to another
 - Notifications: SNS for example
- Pay for what you use, scales automatically, fully managed

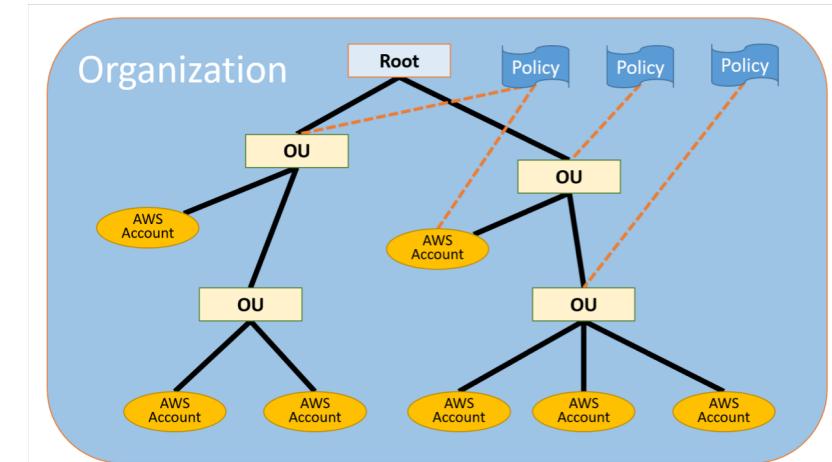
AWS Organizations



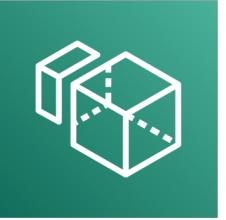
- Global service
- Allows to manage multiple AWS accounts
- The main account is the master account – you can't change it
- Other accounts are member accounts
- Member accounts can only be part of one organization
- Consolidated Billing across all accounts - single payment method
- Pricing benefits from aggregated usage (volume discount for EC2, S3...)
- API is available to automate AWS account creation

OU & Service Control Policies (SCPs)

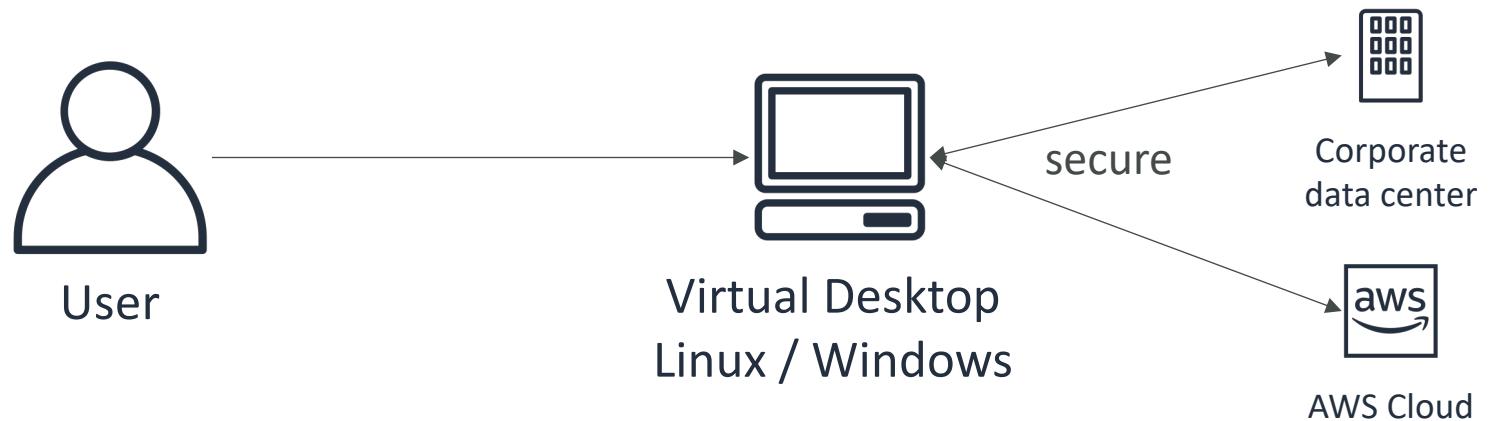
- Organize accounts in Organizational Unit (OU)
 - Can be anything: dev / test / prod or Finance / HR / IT
 - Can nest OU within OU
- Apply Service Control Policies (SCPs) to OU
 - Permit / Deny access to AWS services
 - SCP has a similar syntax to IAM
 - It's a filter to IAM
- Helpful for sandbox account creation
- Helpful to separate dev and prod resources
- Helpful to only allow approved services



AWS WorkSpaces



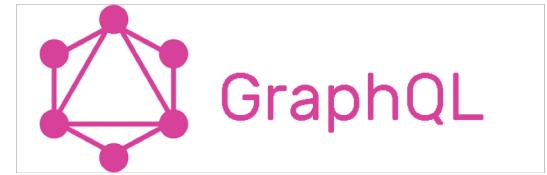
- Managed, Secure Cloud Desktop
- Great to eliminate management of on-premise VDI (Virtual Desktop Infrastructure)
- On Demand, pay per usage
- Secure, Encrypted, Network Isolation
- Integrated with Microsoft Access Directory



AWS AppSync



- Store and sync data across mobile and web apps in real-time
- Makes use of GraphQL (mobile technology from Facebook)
- Client Code can be generated automatically
- Integrations with DynamoDB / Lambda
- Real-time subscriptions
- Offline data synchronization (replaces Cognito Sync)
- Fine Grained Security



AWS Single Sign On (SSO)



- Centrally Managed Single Sign On across multiple AWS Accounts and Business Applications (Office 365, Salesforce, Box)
- One login gets you access to everything securely
- Integrated with Microsoft Active Directory
- Helps reduce the process of setting up SSO in a company
- Only helpful for Web Browser, SAML 2.0 enabled applications

White Papers and Architectures

Well Architected Framework, Disaster Recovery, etc...

Section Overview

- Well Architected Framework Whitepaper
- Well Architected Tool
- AWS Trusted Advisor
- Reference architectures resources (for real-world)
- Disaster Recovery on AWS Whitepaper

Well Architected Framework

General Guiding Principles

- Stop guessing your capacity needs
- Test systems at production scale
- Automate to make architectural experimentation easier
- Allow for evolutionary architectures
 - Design based on changing requirements
- Drive architectures using data
- Improve through game days
 - Simulate applications for flash sale days

Well Architected Framework

5 Pillars

- 1) Operational Excellence
 - 2) Security
 - 3) Reliability
 - 4) Performance Efficiency
 - 5) Cost Optimization
-
- They are not something to balance, or trade-offs, they're a synergy

Well Architected Framework

- It's also questions!
- Let's look into the Well-Architected Tool
- <https://console.aws.amazon.com/wellarchitected>



AWS Well-Architected Tool

I) Operational Excellence

- Includes the ability to run and monitor systems to deliver business value and to continually improve supporting processes and procedures
- Design Principles
 - Perform operations as code - Infrastructure as code
 - Annotate documentation - Automate the creation of annotated documentation after every build
 - Make frequent, small, reversible changes - So that in case of any failure, you can reverse it
 - Refine operations procedures frequently - And ensure that team members are familiar with it
 - Anticipate failure
 - Learn from all operational failures

Operational Excellence AWS Services

- Prepare



AWS CloudFormation



AWS Config

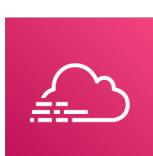
- Operate



AWS CloudFormation



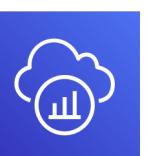
AWS Config



AWS CloudTrail



Amazon CloudWatch



AWS X-Ray

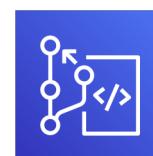
- Evolve



AWS CloudFormation



AWS CodeBuild



AWS CodeCommit



AWS CodeDeploy



AWS CodePipeline

2) Security

- Includes the ability to protect information, systems, and assets while delivering business value through risk assessments and mitigation strategies
- Design Principles
 - **Implement a strong identity foundation** - Centralize privilege management and reduce (or even eliminate) reliance on long-term credentials - Principle of least privilege - IAM
 - **Enable traceability** - Integrate logs and metrics with systems to automatically respond and take action
 - **Apply security at all layers** - Like edge network, VPC, subnet, load balancer, every instance, operating system, and application
 - **Automate security best practices**
 - **Protect data in transit and at rest** - Encryption, tokenization, and access control
 - **Keep people away from data** - Reduce or eliminate the need for direct access or manual processing of data
 - **Prepare for security events** - Run incident response simulations and use tools with automation to increase your speed for detection, investigation, and recovery

Security AWS Services

- Identity and Access Management



IAM



AWS STS



MFA token



AWS Organizations

- Detective Controls



AWS Config



AWS CloudTrail



Amazon CloudWatch

- Infrastructure Protection



Amazon CloudFront



Amazon VPC



AWS Shield



AWS WAF



Amazon Inspector

- Data Protection:



KMS



S3



Elastic Load Balancing (ELB)



Amazon EBS



Amazon RDS

- Incident Response



IAM



AWS CloudFormation



Amazon CloudWatch Events

3) Reliability

- Ability of a system to recover from infrastructure or service disruptions, dynamically acquire computing resources to meet demand, and mitigate disruptions such as misconfigurations or transient network issues
- Design Principles
 - **Test recovery procedures** - Use automation to simulate different failures or to recreate scenarios that led to failures before
 - **Automatically recover from failure** - Anticipate and remediate failures before they occur
 - **Scale horizontally to increase aggregate system availability** - Distribute requests across multiple, smaller resources to ensure that they don't share a common point of failure
 - **Stop guessing capacity** - Maintain the optimal level to satisfy demand without over or under provisioning - Use Auto Scaling
 - **Manage change in automation** - Use automation to make changes to infrastructure

Reliability AWS Services

- Foundations



IAM



Amazon VPC



Service Limits



AWS Trusted Advisor

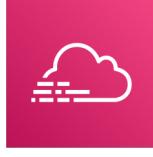
- Change Management



AWS Auto Scaling



Amazon CloudWatch



AWS CloudTrail

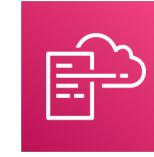


AWS Config

- Failure Management



Backups



AWS CloudFormation



Amazon S3



Amazon S3 Glacier



Amazon Route 53

4) Performance Efficiency

- Includes the ability to use computing resources efficiently to meet system requirements, and to maintain that efficiency as demand changes and technologies evolve
- Design Principles
 - **Democratize advanced technologies** - Advance technologies become services and hence you can focus more on product development
 - **Go global in minutes** - Easy deployment in multiple regions
 - **Use serverless architectures** - Avoid burden of managing servers
 - **Experiment more often** - Easy to carry out comparative testing
 - **Mechanical sympathy** - Be aware of all AWS services

Performance Efficiency AWS Services

- Selection



AWS Auto Scaling



AWS Lambda



Amazon Elastic Block Store
(EBS)



Amazon Simple Storage
Service (S3)



Amazon RDS

- Review



AWS CloudFormation

AWS News Blog

- Monitoring



Amazon CloudWatch



AWS Lambda

- Tradeoffs



Amazon RDS



Amazon ElastiCache



AWS Snowball



Amazon CloudFront

5) Cost Optimization

- Includes the ability to run systems to deliver business value at the lowest price point
- Design Principles
 - Adopt a consumption mode - Pay only for what you use
 - Measure overall efficiency - Use CloudWatch
 - Stop spending money on data center operations - AWS does the infrastructure part and enables customer to focus on organization projects
 - Analyze and attribute expenditure - Accurate identification of system usage and costs, helps measure return on investment (ROI) - Make sure to use tags
 - Use managed and application level services to reduce cost of ownership - As managed services operate at cloud scale, they can offer a lower cost per transaction or service

Cost Optimization AWS Services

- Expenditure Awareness



AWS Budgets



AWS Cost and Usage Report



AWS Cost Explorer



Reserved Instance Reporting

- Cost-Effective Resources



Spot instance



Reserved instance



Amazon S3 Glacier

- Matching supply and demand



AWS Auto Scaling

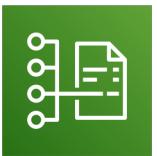


AWS Lambda

- Optimizing Over Time

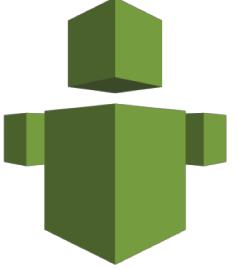


AWS Trusted Advisor



AWS Cost and Usage Report

AWS News Blog



Trusted Advisor

- No need to install anything – high level AWS account assessment
- Analyze your AWS accounts and provides recommendation:
 - Cost Optimization
 - Performance
 - Security
 - Fault Tolerance
 - Service Limits
- Core Checks and recommendations – all customers
- Can enable weekly email notification from the console
- Full Trusted Advisor – Available for Business & Enterprise support plans
 - Ability to set CloudWatch alarms when reaching limits

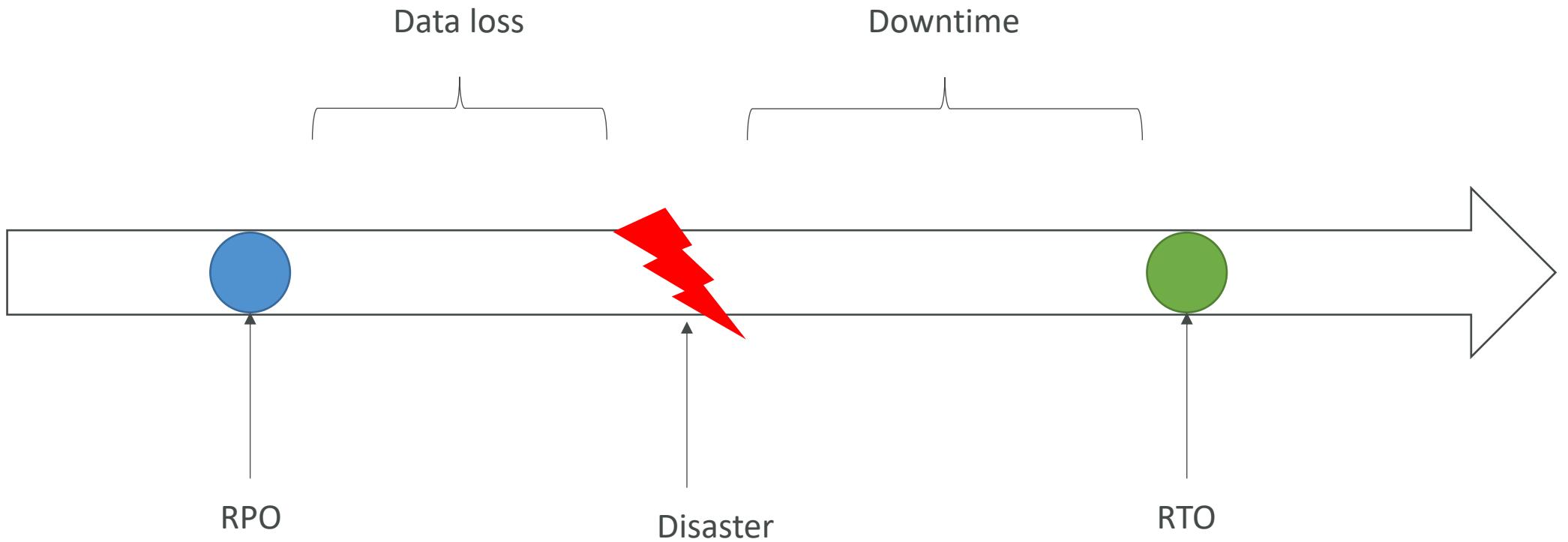
More Architecture Examples

- We've explored the most important architectural patterns:
 - **Classic:** EC2, ELB, RDS, ElastiCache, etc...
 - **Serverless:** S3, Lambda, DynamoDB, CloudFront, API Gateway, etc...
- If you want to see more AWS architectures:
- <https://aws.amazon.com/architecture/>
- <https://aws.amazon.com/solutions/>

Disaster Recovery Overview

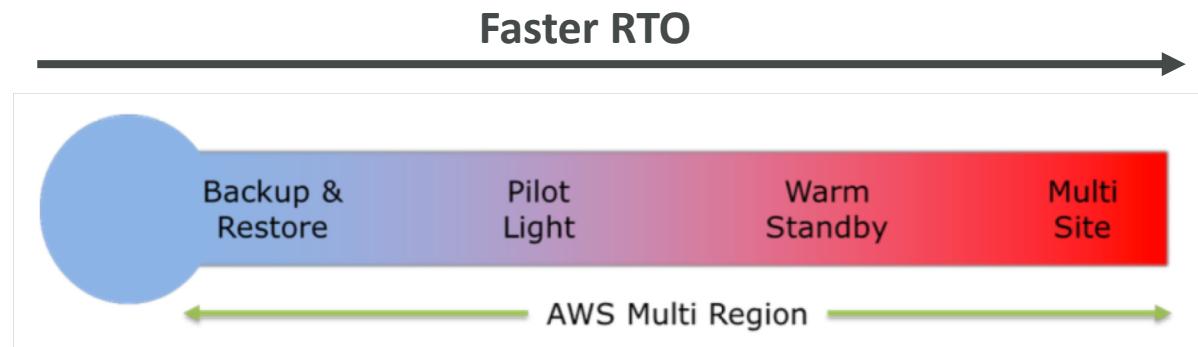
- Any event that has a negative impact on a company's business continuity or finances is a disaster
- Disaster recovery (DR) is about preparing for and recovering from a disaster
- What kind of disaster recovery?
 - On-premise => On-premise: traditional DR, and very expensive
 - On-premise => AWS Cloud: hybrid recovery
 - AWS Cloud Region A => AWS Cloud Region B
- Need to define two terms:
 - RPO: Recovery Point Objective
 - RTO: Recovery Time Objective

RPO and RTO

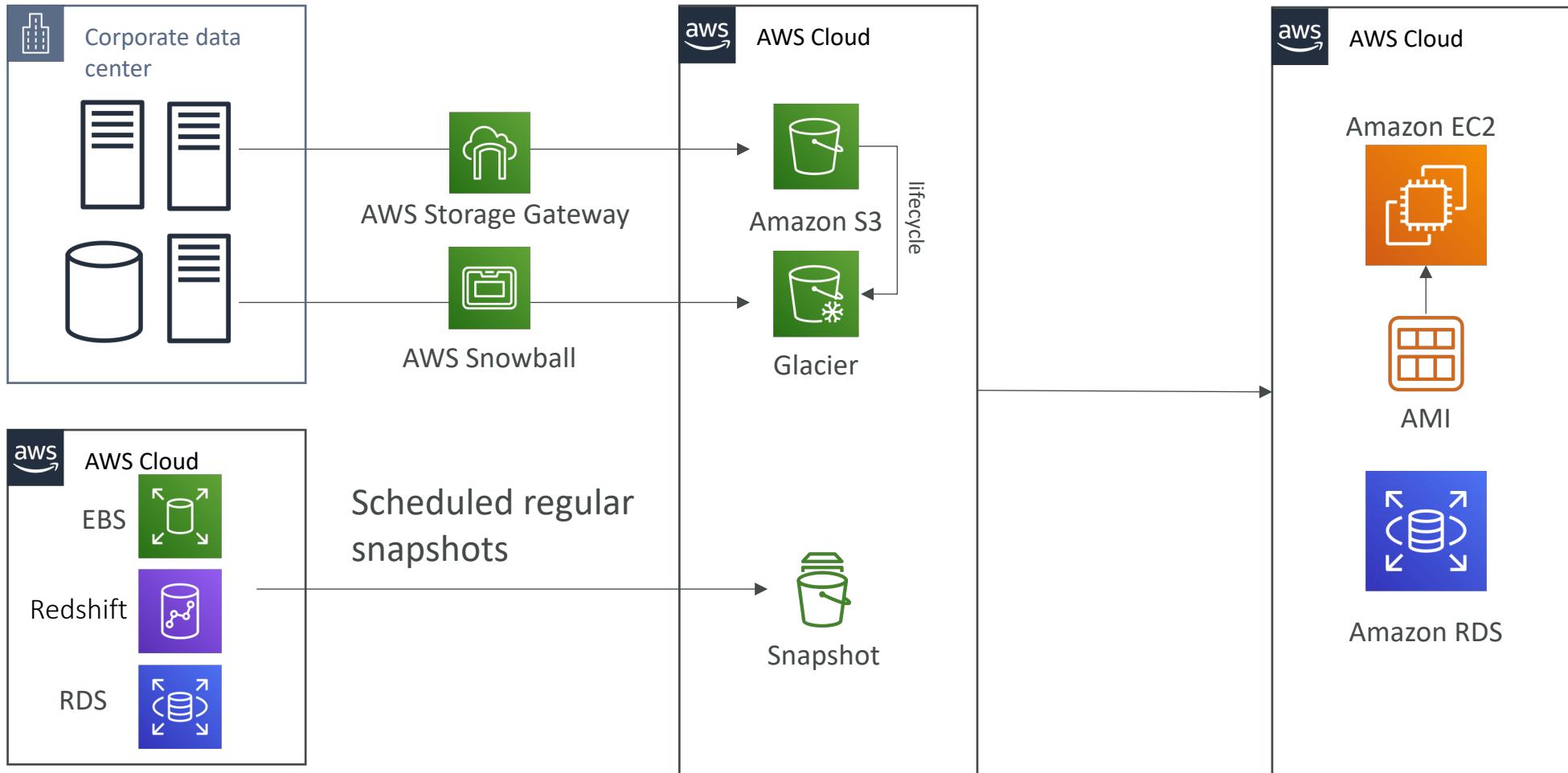


Disaster Recovery Strategies

- Backup and Restore
- Pilot Light
- Warm Standby
- Hot Site / Multi Site Approach

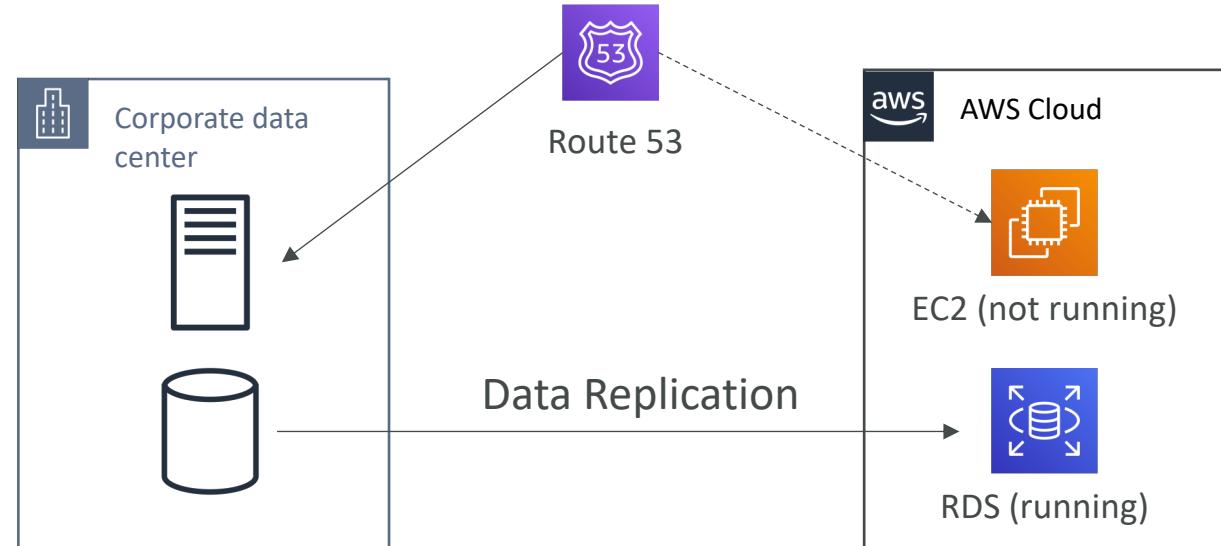


Backup and Restore (High RPO)



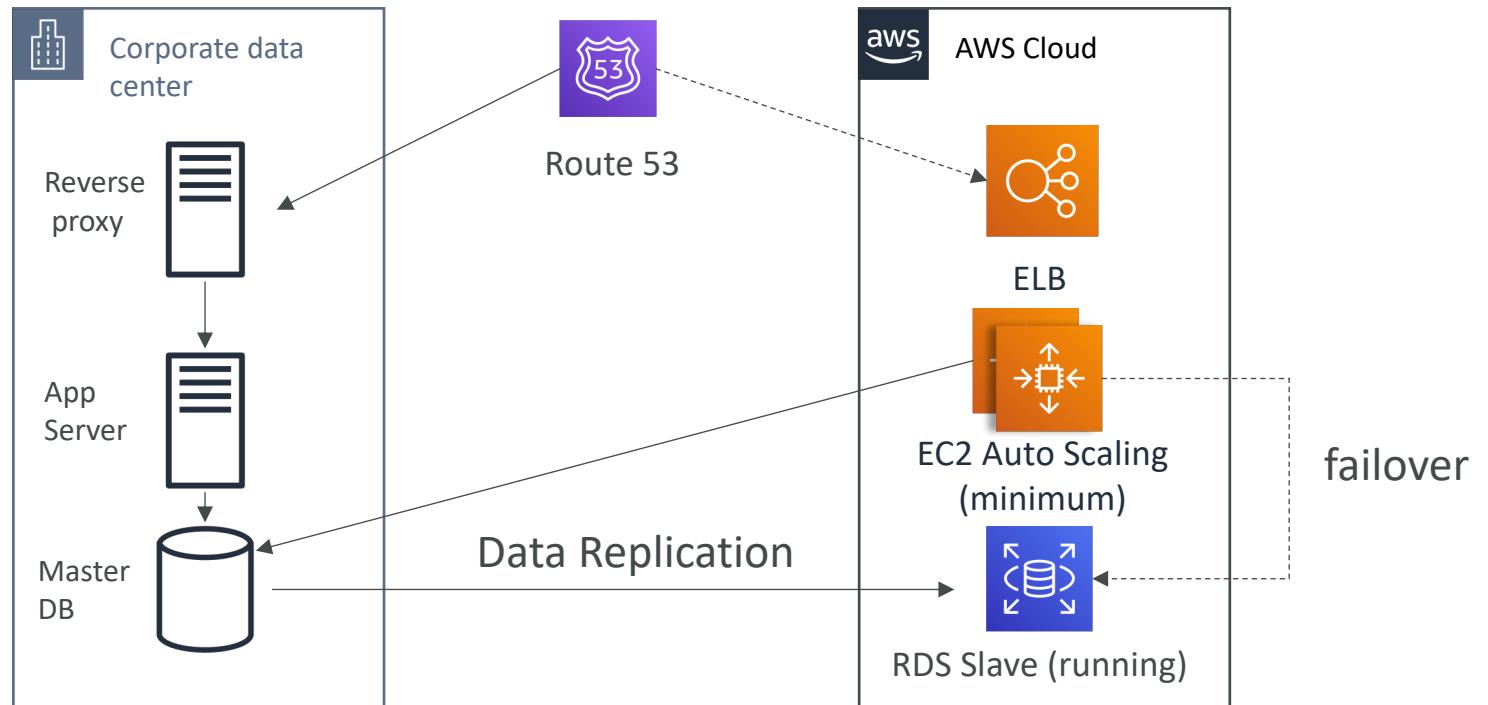
Disaster Recovery – Pilot Light

- A small version of the app is always running in the cloud
- Useful for the critical core (pilot light)
- Very similar to Backup and Restore
- Faster than Backup and Restore as critical systems are already up



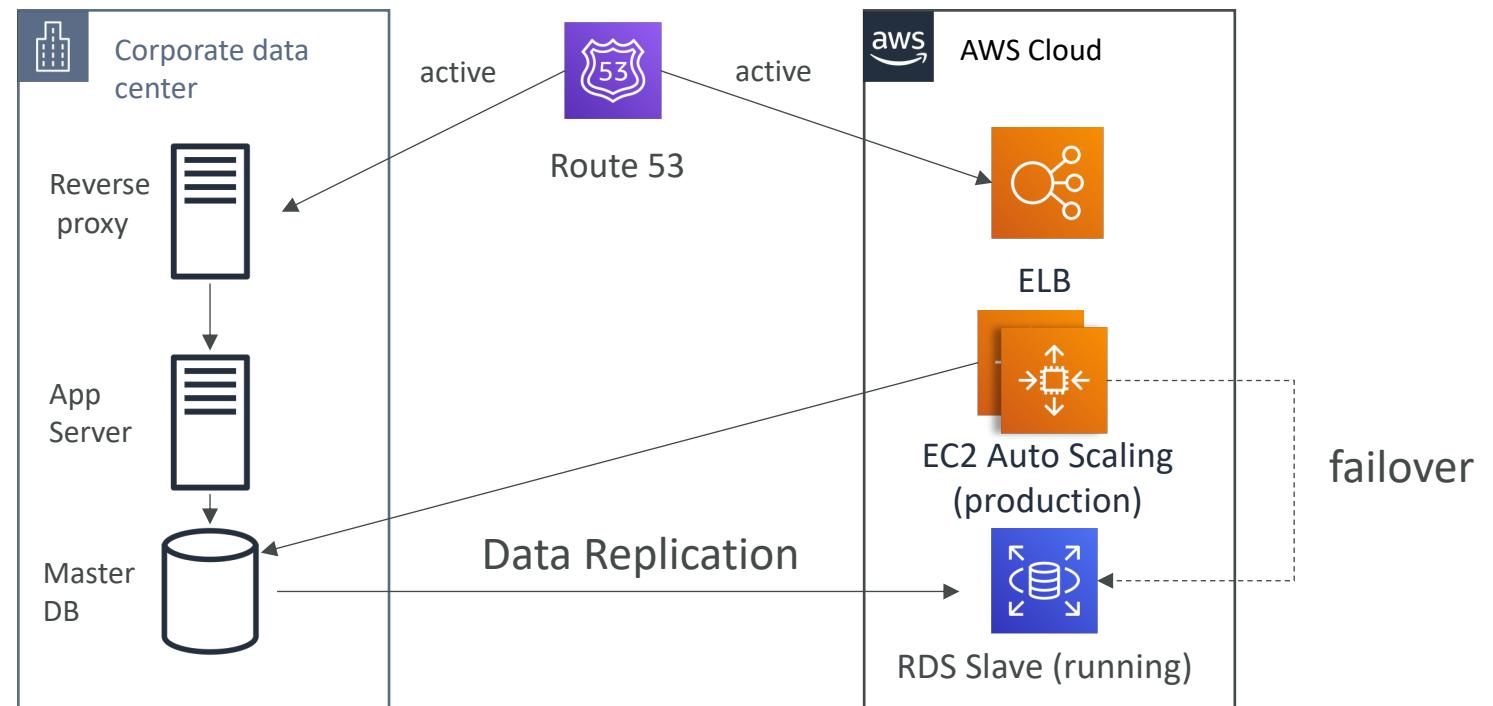
Warm Standby

- Full system is up and running, but at minimum size
- Upon disaster, we can scale to production load

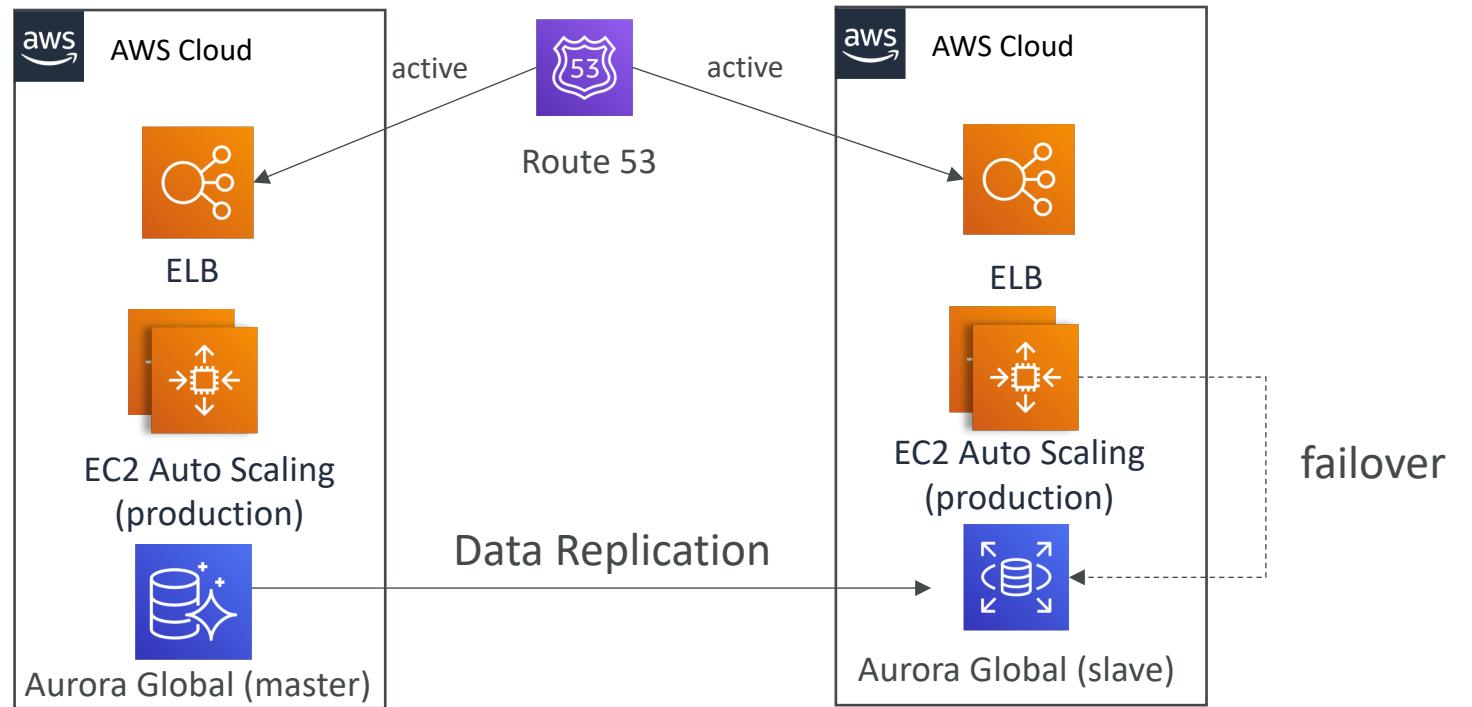


Multi Site / Hot Site Approach

- Very low RTO (minutes or seconds) – very expensive
- Full Production Scale is running AWS and On Premise



All AWS Multi Region



Disaster Recovery Tips

- **Backup**
 - EBS Snapshots, RDS automated backups / Snapshots, etc...
 - Regular pushes to S3 / S3 IA / Glacier, Lifecycle Policy, Cross Region Replication
 - From On-Premise: Snowball or Storage Gateway
- **High Availability**
 - Use Route53 to migrate DNS over from Region to Region
 - RDS Multi-AZ, ElastiCache Multi-AZ, EFS, S3
 - Site to Site VPN as a recovery from Direct Connect
- **Replication**
 - RDS Replication (Cross Region), AWS Aurora + Global Databases
 - Database replication from on-premise to RDS
 - Storage Gateway
- **Automation**
 - CloudFormation / Elastic Beanstalk to re-create a whole new environment
 - Recover / Reboot EC2 instances with CloudWatch if alarms fail
 - AWS Lambda functions for customized automations
- **Chaos**
 - Netflix has a “simian-army” randomly terminating EC2

Exam Review & Tips

State of learning checkpoint

- Let's look how far we've gone on our learning journey
- <https://aws.amazon.com/certification/certified-solutions-architect-associate/>

Practice makes perfect

- If you're new to AWS, take a bit of AWS practice thanks to this course before rushing to the exam
 - The exam recommends you to have one or more years of hands-on experience on AWS
 - Practice makes perfect!
-
- If you feel overwhelmed by the amount of knowledge you just learned, just go through it one more time

Proceed by elimination

- Most questions are going to be scenario based
 - For all the questions, rule out answers that you know for sure are wrong
 - For the remaining answers, understand which one makes the most sense
-
- There are very few trick questions
 - Don't over-think it
 - If a solution seems feasible but highly complicated, it's probably wrong

Skim the AWS Whitepapers

- You can read about some AWS White Papers here:
 - Architecting for the Cloud: AWS Best Practices
 - AWS Well-Architected Framework
 - AWS Disaster Recovery (<https://aws.amazon.com/disaster-recovery/>)
- Overall we've explored all the most important concepts in the course
- It's never bad to have a look at the whitepapers you think are interesting!

Read each service's FAQ

- FAQ = Frequently asked questions
- Example: <https://aws.amazon.com/vpc/faqs/>
- FAQ cover a lot of the questions asked at the exam
- They help confirm your understanding of a service

Get into the AWS Community

- Help out and discuss with other people in the course Q&A
 - Review questions asked by other people in the Q&A
 - Do the practice test in this section
-
- Read forums online
 - Read online blogs
 - Attend local meetups and discuss with other AWS engineers
 - Watch re-invent videos on Youtube (AWS Conference)

How will the exam work?

- You'll have to register online at <https://www.aws.training/>
- Fee for the exam is 150 USD
- Provide two identity documents (ID, Credit Card, details are in emails sent to you)
- No notes are allowed, no pen is allowed, no speaking
- 65 questions will be asked in 130 minutes
- At the end you can optionally review all the questions / answers

- You will know right away if you passed / failed the exams
- You will not know which answers were right / wrong
- You will know the overall score a few days later (email notification)
- To pass you need a score of at least 720 out of 1000
- If you fail, you can retake the exam again 14 days later

Congratulations!

Congratulations!

- Congrats on finishing the course!
- I hope you will pass the exam without a hitch ☺
- If you haven't done so yet, I'd love a review from you!
- If you passed, I'll be more than happy to know I've helped
 - Post it in the Q&A to help & motivate other students. Share your tips!
 - Post it on LinkedIn and tag me!
- Overall, I hope you learned how to use AWS and that you will be a tremendously good AWS Solutions Architect