



# A Heavy AWS User's Firstlook at Azure



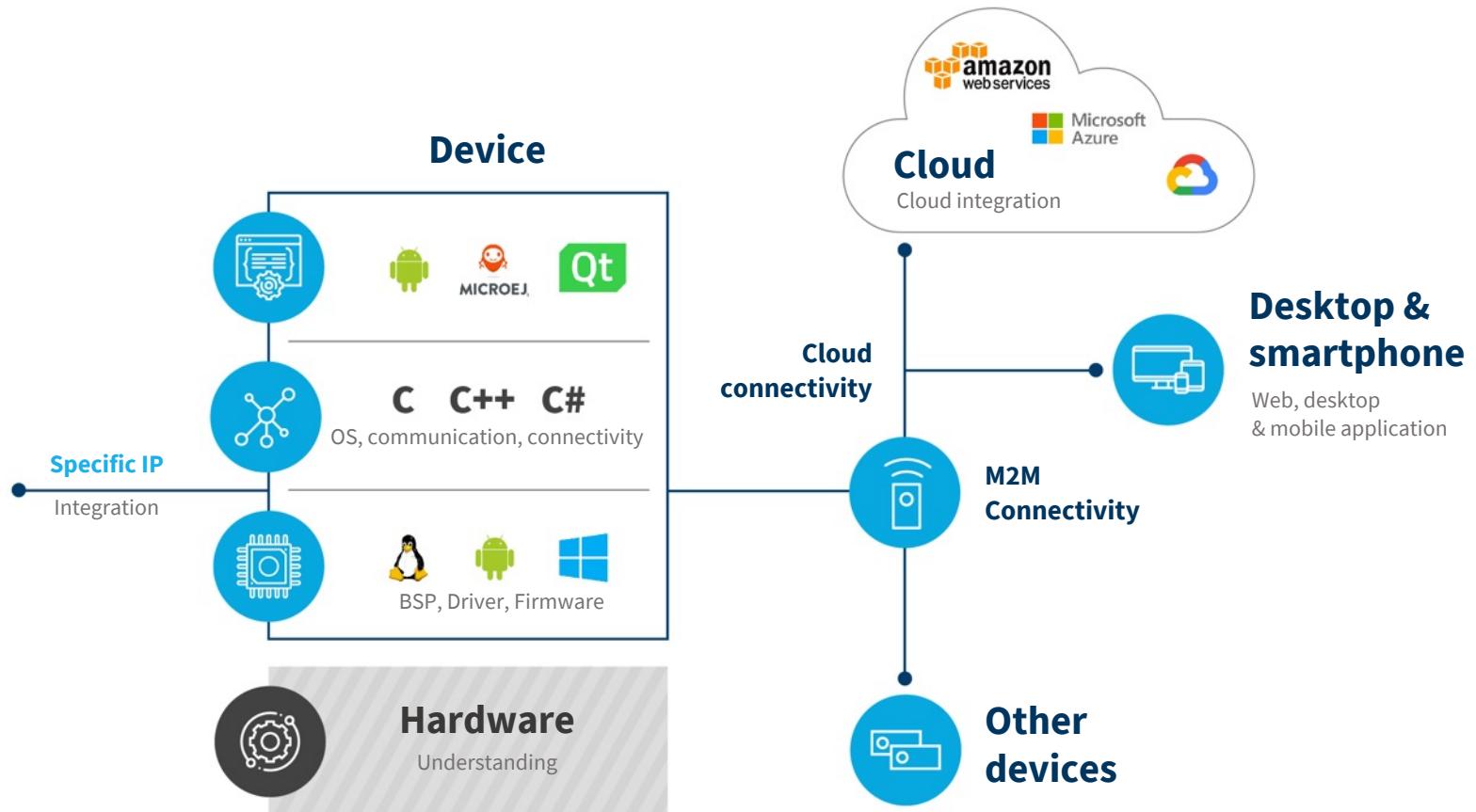
I've used too many tools:

- AWS, Azure
- GCP, Alibaba, Tencent
- Algolia, Stripe, Auth0, Vercel, Netlify...

Work:

- I help IoT folks leverage the cloud

# Software independence





**Fernando**  
@fmc\_sea



Someone please, why do you signup for **#Azure** "Subscriptions" that you don't have recurring fees for?

And why are "accounts" not something you sign into?

# Summary

1. Introduction
2. Compute
3. Storage
4. IoT
5. Cloud Cost Optimization
6. Questions



# 1. Introduction



# What's the Big Deal about Picking a Cloud?

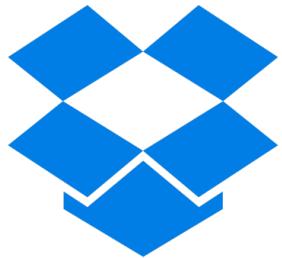


- Huge commitment for new companies
- Infrastructure cost and feature set can be critical for software businesses

# Mythbusting:

We need to  
use the cloud.

**Do you?**



**Dropbox**

**We're not Dropbox though...**

# Building without “A Big Cloud”



## Mythbusting:

We can't  
use the cloud.

# Azure Compliances:

Global	US Government	Region / Country Specific	Industry Specific		
<a href="#">CIS Benchmark</a>	<a href="#">CJIS</a>	<a href="#">BIR 2012</a> (Netherlands)	<a href="#">IT-Grundschutz</a> (Germany)	<a href="#">23 NYCRR 500</a> (US)	<a href="#">GLBA</a> (US)
<a href="#">CSA STAR Attestation</a>	<a href="#">CNSSI</a>	<a href="#">CS</a> (Germany)	<a href="#">LOPD</a> (Spain)	<a href="#">AFM/DNB</a> (Netherlands)	<a href="#">GxP</a>
<a href="#">CSA STAR Certification</a>	<a href="#">DFARS</a>	<a href="#">CS Mark Gold</a> (Japan)	<a href="#">MeitY</a> (India)	<a href="#">AMF/ACPR</a> (France)	<a href="#">HIPAA</a> (US)
<a href="#">CSA STAR Self-Assessment</a>	<a href="#">DoD L 2,4,5</a>	<a href="#">Cyber Essentials Plus</a> (US)	<a href="#">MTCS Level 3</a> (Singapore)	<a href="#">APRA</a> (Australia)	<a href="#">HITRUST</a> (US)
<a href="#">ISO 20000</a>	<a href="#">DoE 10</a>	<a href="#">DJCP</a> (China)	<a href="#">My Number Act</a> (Japan)	<a href="#">CDSA</a>	<a href="#">KNF</a> (Poland)
<a href="#">ISO 22301</a>	<a href="#">EAR</a>	<a href="#">EN 301 549</a> (EU)	<a href="#">New Zealand CC Framework</a>	<a href="#">CFTC 131</a> (US)	<a href="#">MARS-E</a> (US)
<a href="#">ISO 27001</a>	<a href="#">FDA CFR Title 21</a>	<a href="#">ENISA IAF</a> (EU)	<a href="#">PASF</a> (UK)	<a href="#">DPP</a> (UK)	<a href="#">MAS/ABS</a> (Singapore)
<a href="#">ISO 27017</a>	<a href="#">FedRAMP</a>	<a href="#">ENS</a> (Spain)	<a href="#">PIPEDA</a> (Canada)	<a href="#">EBA</a> (EU)	<a href="#">MPAA</a> (US)
<a href="#">ISO 27701</a>	<a href="#">FIPS 140-2</a>	<a href="#">EU Model Clauses</a>	<a href="#">PDPA</a> (Argentina)	<a href="#">FACT</a> (UK)	<a href="#">NBB/FSMA</a> (Belgium)
<a href="#">ISO 27018</a>	<a href="#">IRS 1075</a>	<a href="#">EU-US Privacy Shield</a>	<a href="#">TISAX</a> (Germany)	<a href="#">FCA/PRA</a> (UK)	<a href="#">NEN 7510</a> (Netherlands)
<a href="#">ISO 9001</a>	<a href="#">ITAR</a>	<a href="#">GB 18030</a> (China)	<a href="#">TRUCS</a> (China)	<a href="#">FERPA</a> (US)	<a href="#">NERC</a>
<a href="#">SOC 1,2,3</a>	<a href="#">NIST CSF</a>	<a href="#">G-Cloud OFFICIAL</a> (UK)		<a href="#">FFIEC</a> (US)	<a href="#">OSFI</a> (Canada)
<a href="#">WCAG 2.0</a>	<a href="#">NIST 800-171</a>	<a href="#">GDPR</a>		<a href="#">FINMA</a> (Switzerland)	<a href="#">PCI DSS</a>

# AWS Compliances:

Americas



**CJIS**  
Criminal Justice  
Information Services



**DoD SRG**  
DoD Data  
Processing



**FedRAMP**  
Government Data  
Standards



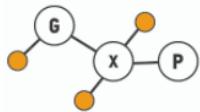
**FERPA**  
Educational Privacy  
Act



**FIPS**  
Government Security  
Standards



**FISMA**  
Federal Information



**GxP**  
Quality Guidelines



**HIPAA**  
Protected Health



**HITRUST CSF**  
Health Information



**ITAR**  
International Arms

## Mythbusting:

# Moving to the cloud will save money.



Fernando  
@fmc\_sea

I keep seeing people say that different cloud providers are trying to nickel and dime them:

"AWS charges for data transfer!"  
"Azure charged me for SSL!"

So just use something better! Like a provider who will just "dime" you. You know, like Ten-cent.

Cloud resources can be spun  
up and down.  
**People need to eat.**

# Mythbusting:

We need to be  
**multi-cloud!**

# What does “Multi-cloud” mean?

“*We run some apps in Azure and  
some in AWS*”

**VS.**

“*We can move our business between  
AWS and Azure at any time*”

*“We can move our business between AWS and Azure at any time”*





*When CloudA has an outage we'll be ready      Ooops. DNS was only in CloudA*

*Using two clouds means we can hire folks  
with either CloudA or CloudB experience!*

*Our team now needs to learn  
two clouds exceptionally well*

## Mythbusting:

We need to worry  
about **lock-in**.



*If we invest too heavily in one cloud we will end up paying way more*

*We need to only use VMs and containers so we can switch to any cloud at a moments notice*

*Writing your applications for two clouds will be more costly*

*Never leveraging managed services will make developing applications much harder*

# Why AWS and Azure?

## Top Two Public Clouds

- [2018 ZDnet](#) - #1: AWS, #2: Azure
- [2019 Gartner](#) - #1: AWS, #2: Azure
- [2020 ZDnet](#) - #1: AWS, #2: Azure



Google Cloud

## Other Options

- Google Cloud (frequently in third)
- Other Cloud Providers

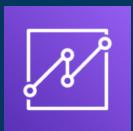
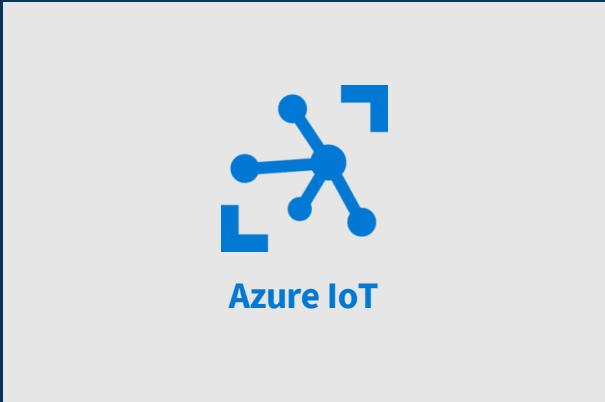
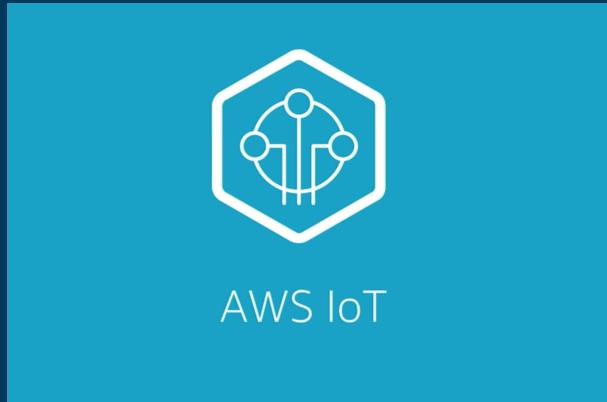


Alibaba Cloud



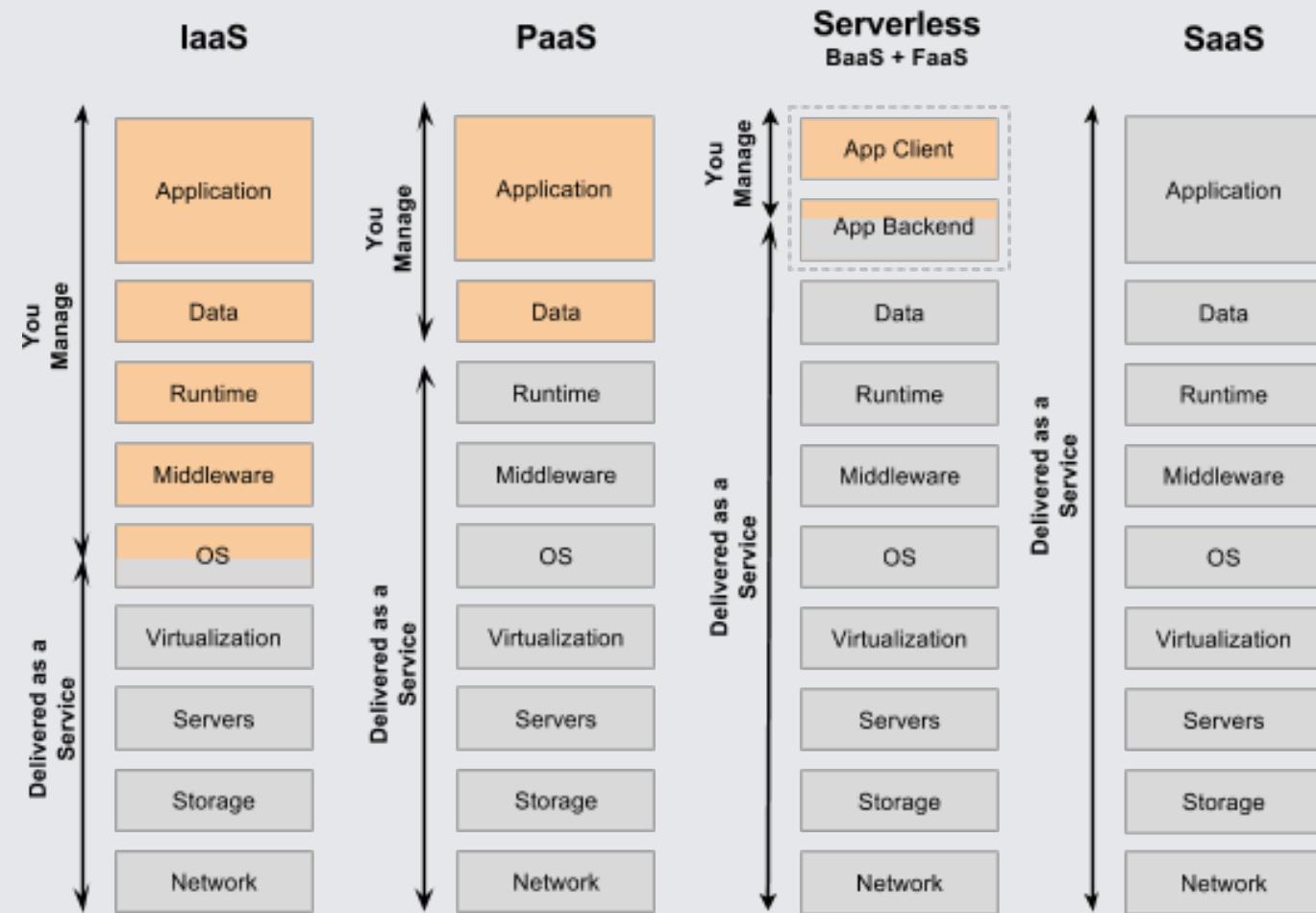
IBM Cloud

# Why AWS and Azure?



# 2. Compute





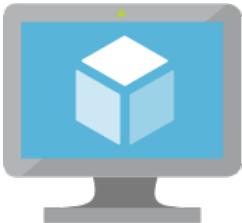
<https://specify.io/concepts/serverless-baas-faas>

# The Compute Infrastructure Spectrum



## IaaS

- Azure Virtual Machines
- Amazon EC2
- Networking services



## PaaS

- AWS Elastic Beanstalk
- Azure App Services



## Serverless

- Compute:
  - AWS Lambda
  - Azure Functions



# IaaS Head to Head: General Purpose Linux Virtual Machines

Cloud	Instance Type	vCPUs	RAM	Hourly Price
Azure	A2 v2	2	4 GiB	\$0.076
Azure	B2S	2	4 GiB	\$0.0416
AWS	a1.large	2	4 GiB	\$0.051
AWS	t3a.medium	2	4 GiB	\$0.0376

\*This is a tiny subset of all the instance types either cloud offers

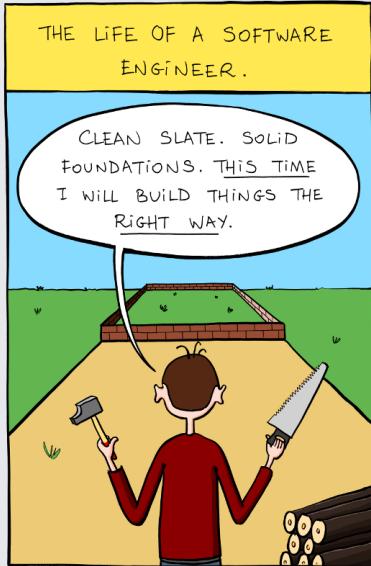
# What doesn't this address?

Detailed  
differences in  
instance types

**What doesn't this address?**

Windows licensing  
with Azure

# PaaS Comparison:



*Elastic Beanstalk*

*"Where did all these resources come from and why is my bill \$200?"*

## Azure App Service



# Bonus! CaaS (Containers as a Service)

*Elastic Container  
Service*



*Azure Container  
Service*

*Elastic Kubernetes  
Service*



*Azure Kubernetes  
Service*

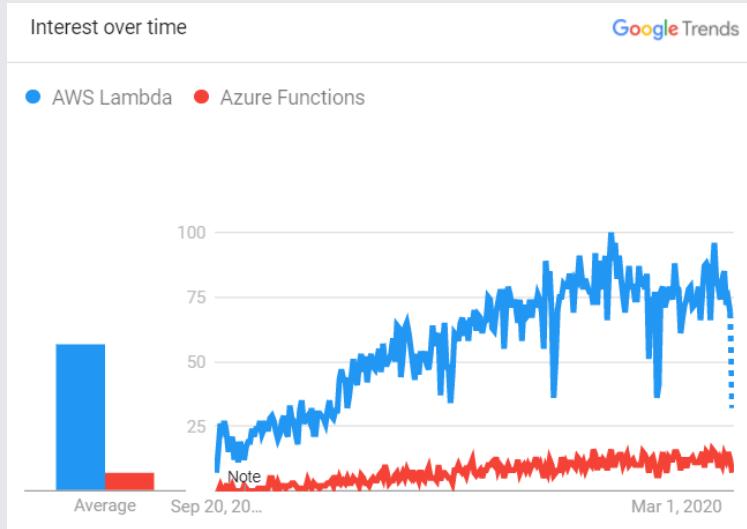


# FaaS Growth

*AWS Lambda*



*Azure Functions*



# FaaS Development Frameworks

*AWS Lambda*



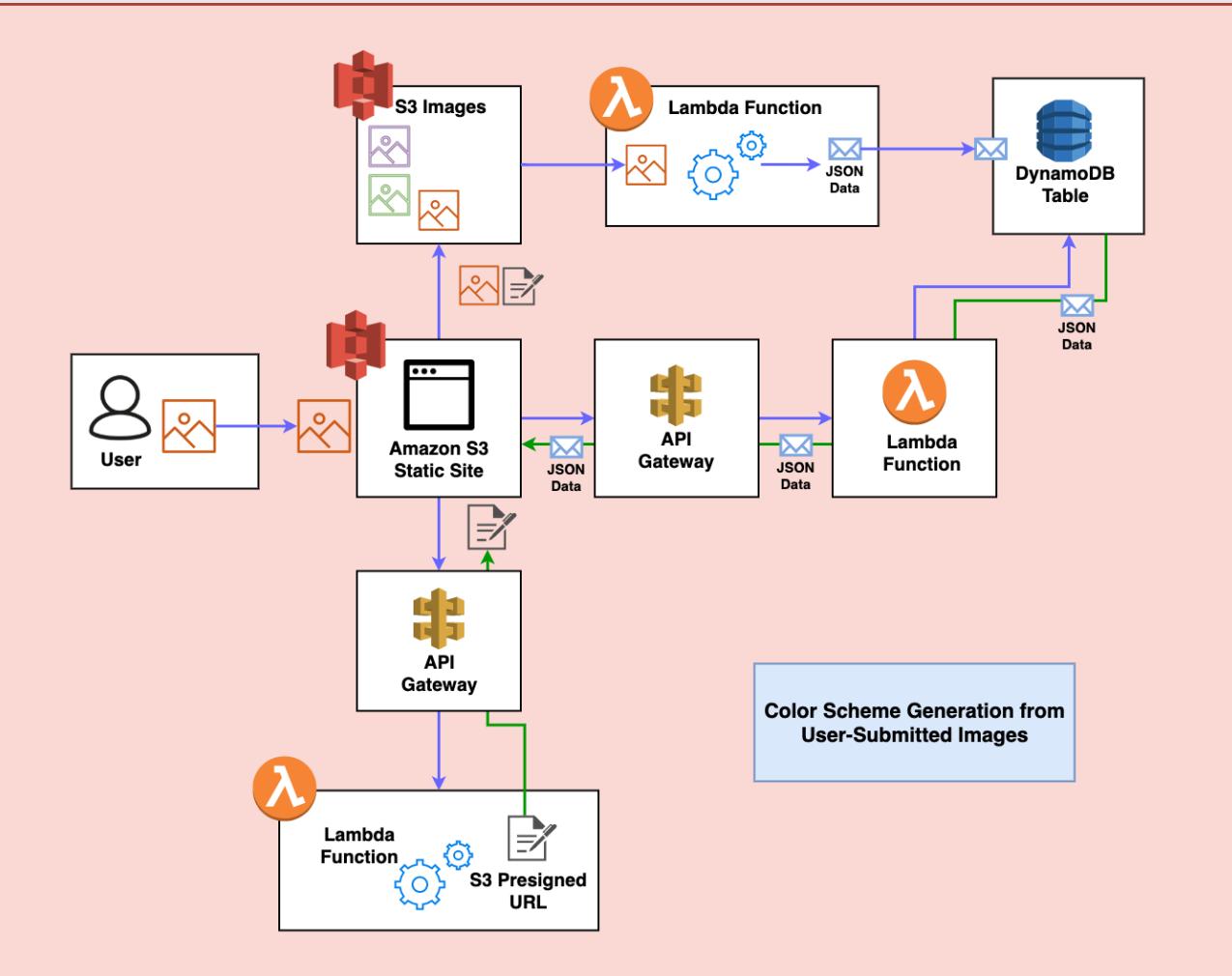
*AWS SAM*



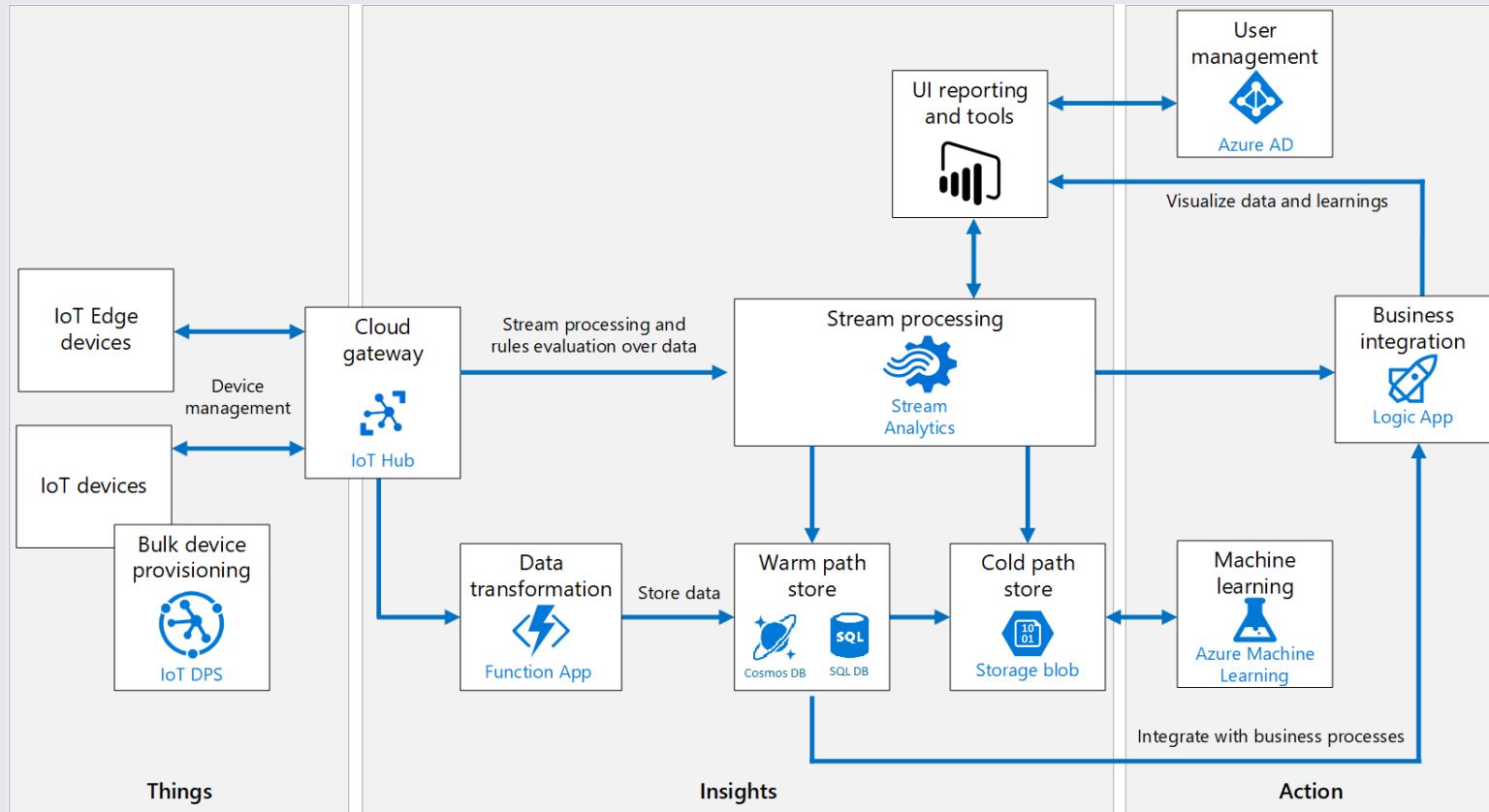
*Azure Functions*



# FaaS Capabilities: HTTP APIs



# FaaS Capabilities – Data Processing



# Compute Takeaways

- Comparable Compute Costs
- Pass on AWS PaaS
- Azure Functions still need some gumption(s?)

/ 3. /

# 3.

## Storage



# The Storage Infrastructure Spectrum



## IaaS

- Azure Virtual Machines
- Amazon EC2
- Host your own databases



## PaaS

- AWS Relational Database Service
- Amazon Redshift
- Azure Databases



## Managed Services

- Amazon DynamoDB
- Amazon S3
- Azure Cosmos DB
- Azure Blob Storage



# IaaS Database Comparison:

Do you really want to host your  
own database servers?

# PaaS SQL Databases

*Amazon RDS*



*Azure Databases*



*Amazon Aurora*



*Azure SQL*



# Managed ‘NoSQL’ Databases

*DynamoDB*



*Purely HTTP Interfaces and SDKs*

*Design constraints to provide  
consistent latency*

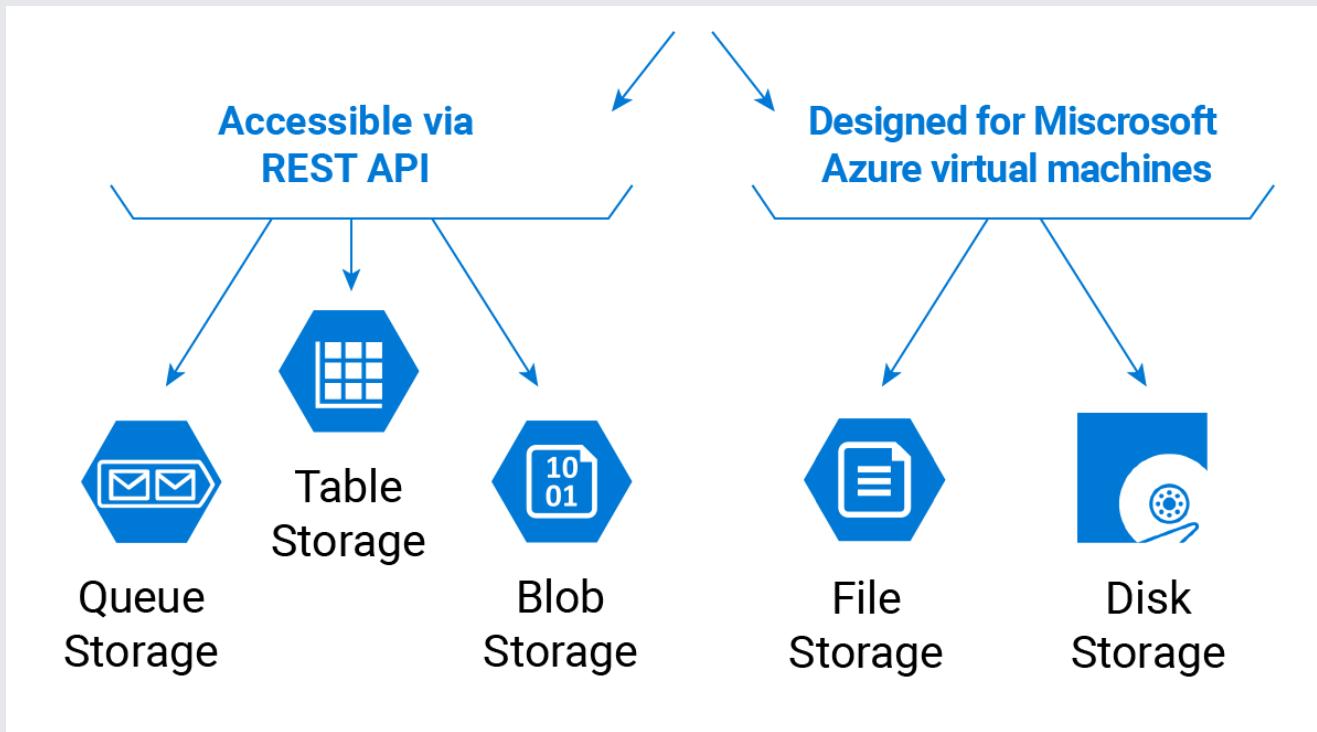
*CosmosDB*



*Multiple interfaces  
(including SQL – traitor!)*

*Flexibility to leverage multiple  
APIs and business use cases*

# Azure Storage Accounts



<https://www.msp360.com/resources/blog/microsoft-azure-storage-types-explained/>

# AWS Storage Services

*Primarily HTTP Interfaces*



*Simple Queue Service  
DynamoDB,  
Simple Storage Service*

*Storage for Virtual  
Machines*



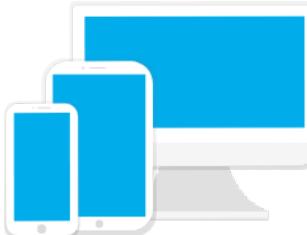
*Elastic File System (EFS)  
Elastic Block Store (EBS)*

# Storage Takeaways

- **Learn to love managed databases**
- **Managed storage is the standard**
- **Azure Storage Accounts correlate with multiple AWS services**

# 4. IoT



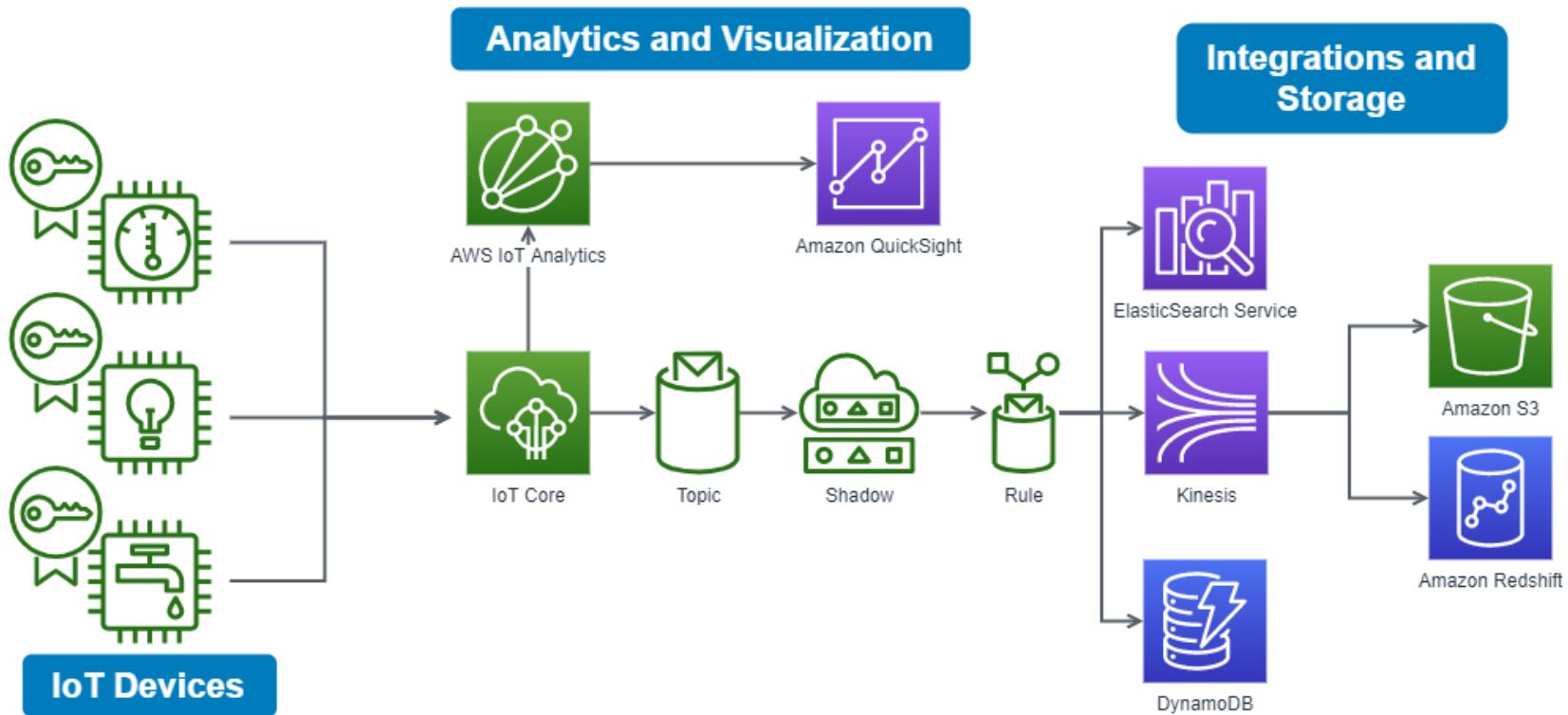


## Authenticating Devices to the Cloud

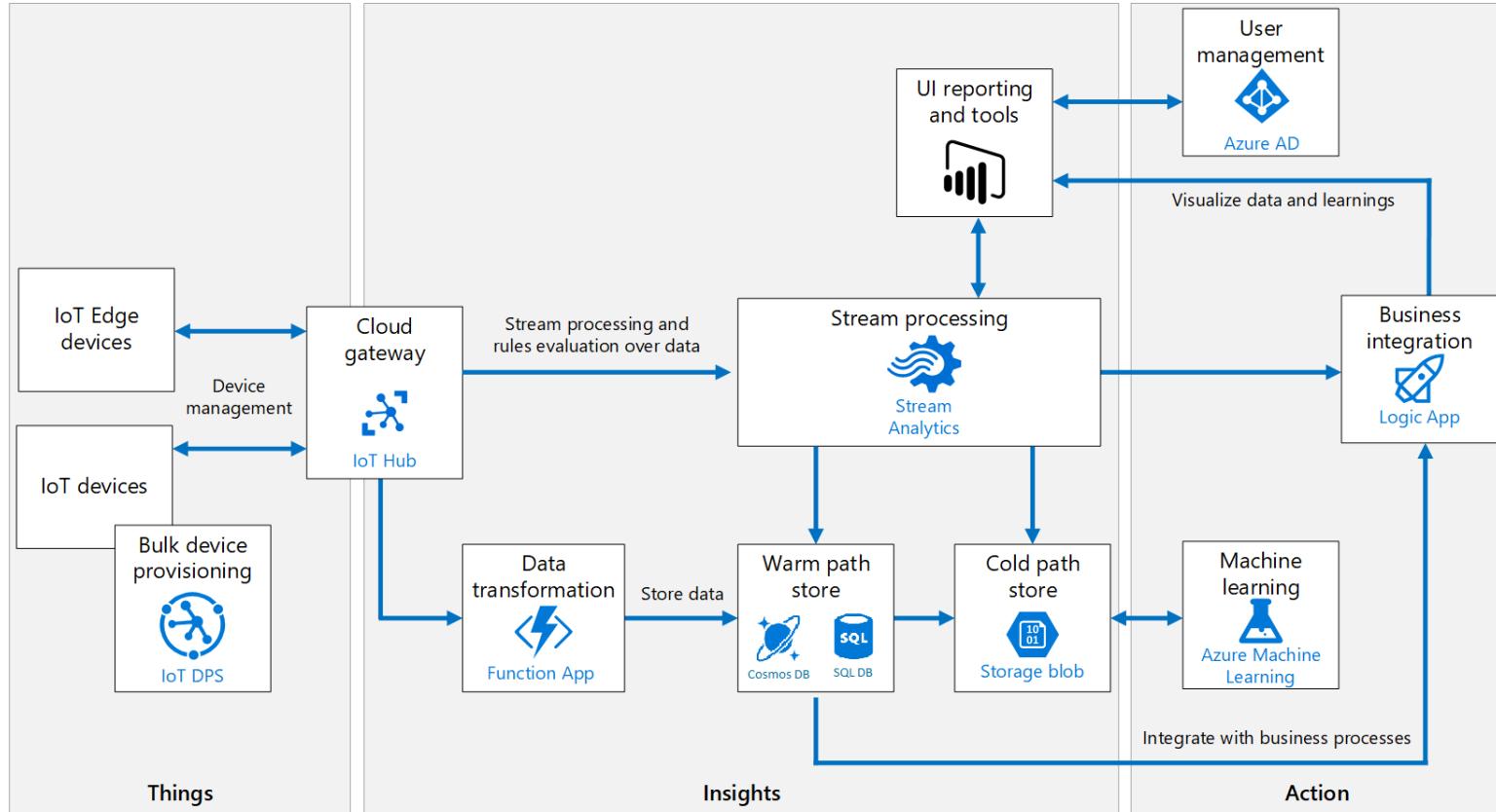
- Symmetric Keys (Azure only)
- Provisioning Unique X.509 Certificates
- TPM Attestation
- Other mechanisms
  - Device claiming (Azure Sphere)
  - CSRs with device keys
  - Preregistering device ids and public keys
  - JSON Web Tokens (Google)



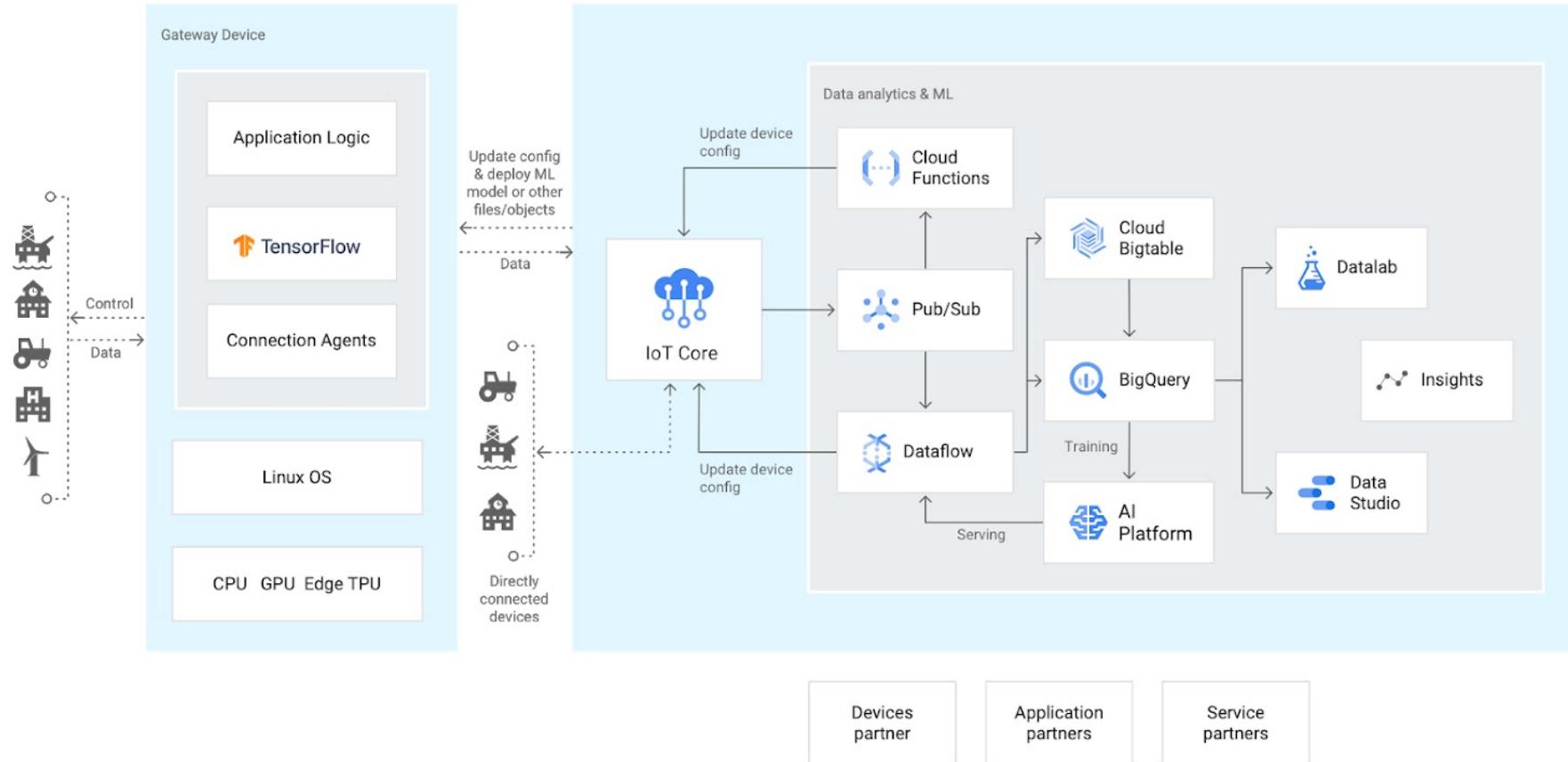
# AWS Architecture: Device Fleet Analytics



# Comparable Azure Architecture



# Bonus: Comparable GCP Architecture



<https://cloud.google.com/iot-core>

# 5. Cloud Cost Optimization



# General Cloud Cost Optimization



## Right sizing

- Appropriate instance sizes
- Appropriate capacity units

## Purchasing Options

- Spot instances
- Reserved instances
- Reserved capacity

## Utilization

- Managed services
- Auto scaling
- Load balancing

## Buffering

- Stream data processing
- Buffer data in queues

# Specific Optimization Examples

## IoT Hub Tiers (Azure)

- Basic Tier Units \$10-\$500/mo
- Standard Tier S1 Units \$25-\$2500/mo
- 60-80% cost reduction

## IoT Core Pricing (AWS)

- Pay per request
- Pay per utilization of specific features
- Optimize applications to reduce utilization

## S3 Storage Classes (AWS)

- Standard storage - \$0.023/GB
- Glacier Deep Archive - \$0.00099/GB
- Creating appropriate lifecycle policies

## Blob Storage Access Tiers (Azure)

- Premium, Hot, Cool, Archive
- Creating appropriate lifecycle policies



# Azure and AWS IoT Cost Optimization

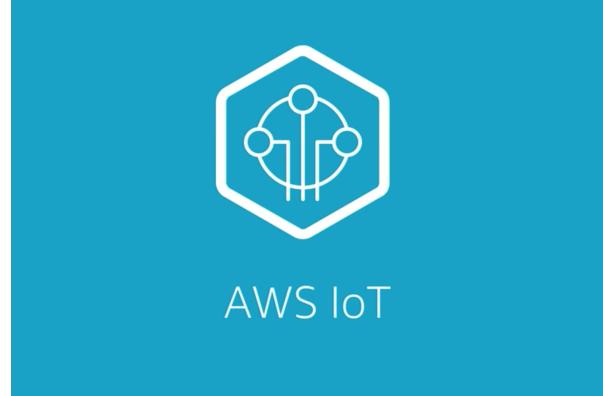
## Azure IoT Hub

- Select the tier you need (basic vs. standard)
  - Do you need bidirectional communication or not?
- Tune the number and type of IoT Hub units
- Setup auto-scaling for IoT Hub
- Tune device applications to reduce usage



## AWS IoT Core

- Pay per request and feature pricing
- Reduce usage to only required features
- Reduce connectivity, messages, bundle data
- Optimize message sizes for metering
  - 8 KB message, 5 KB metering, charged at 10 KB



# 6. Questions?





CONTACT ME



fmedinacorey@witekio.com



/in/fmc-sea



witekio.com

CONTACT SALES



sid@witekio.com