Best practices for AWS security

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amazon web services

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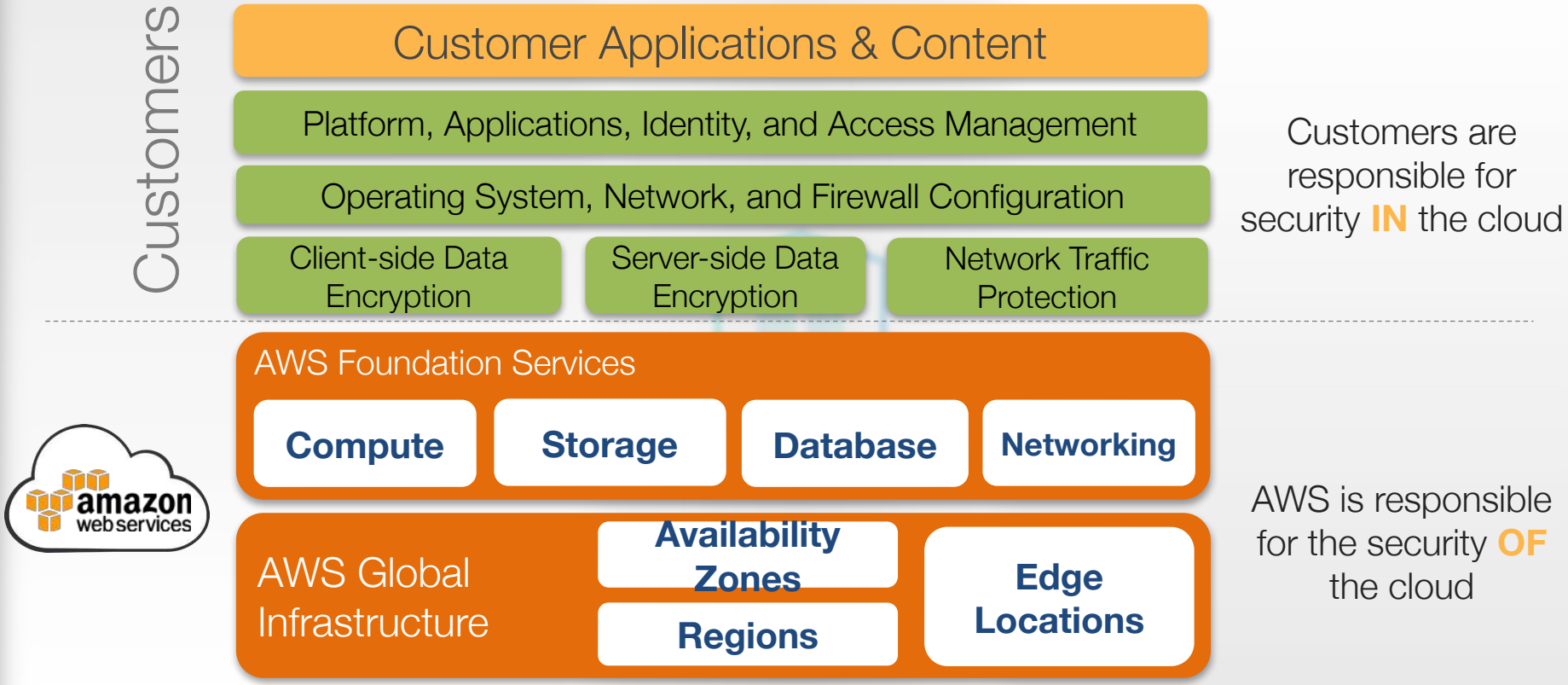
TEL AVIV

Agenda

- Understand the Shared Security Model
- Encrypt everything
- Manage users and permissions
- Log everything
- Automate security checks

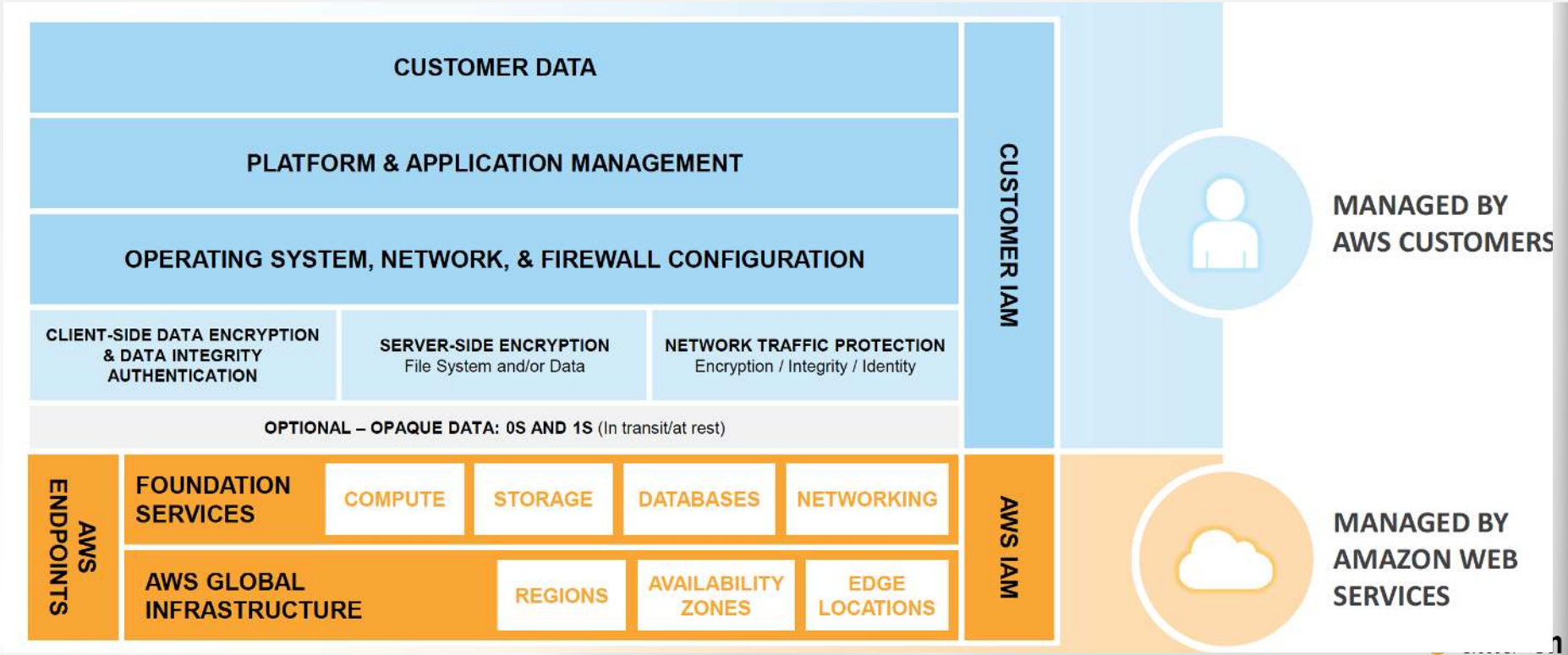
Shared Security Model

AWS Shared Responsibility Model



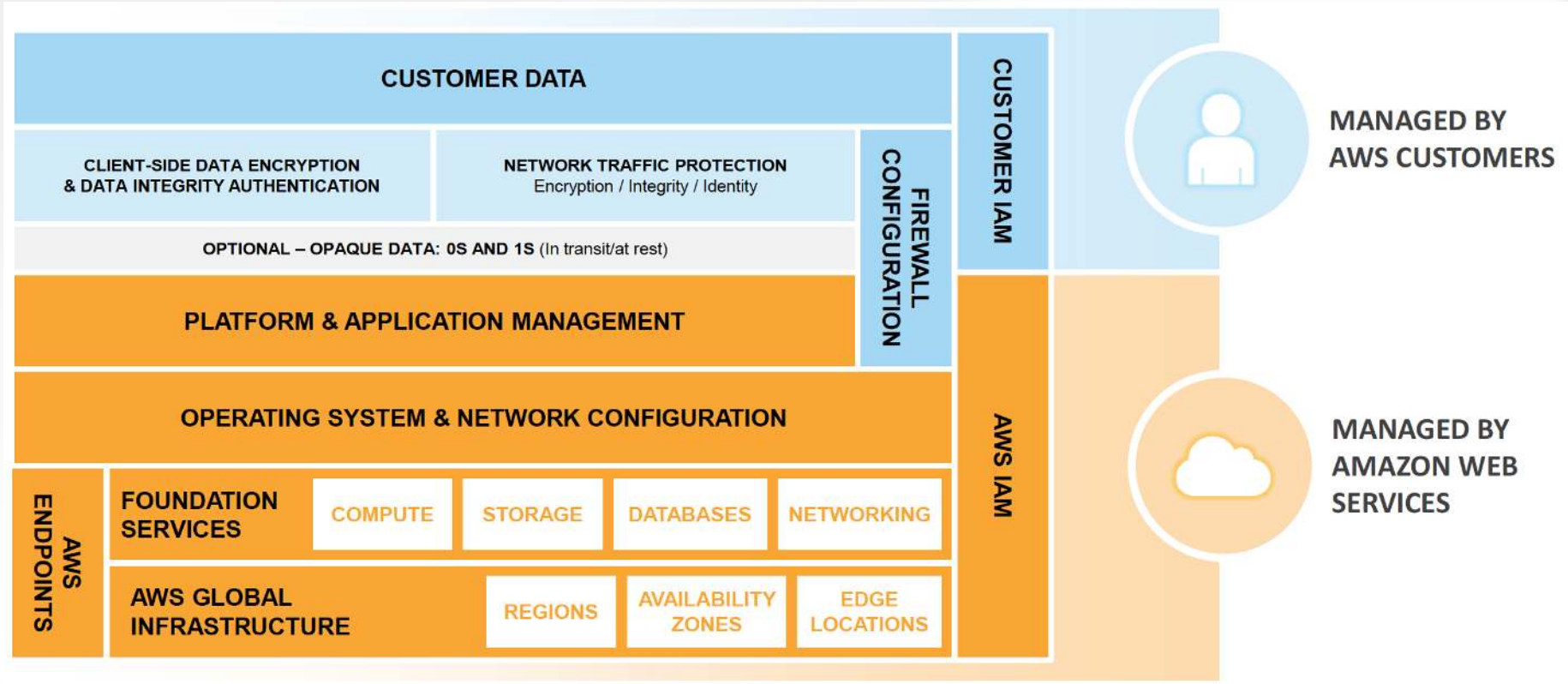
Shared Security Model: Infrastructure Services

Such as Amazon EC2, Amazon EBS, and Amazon VPC



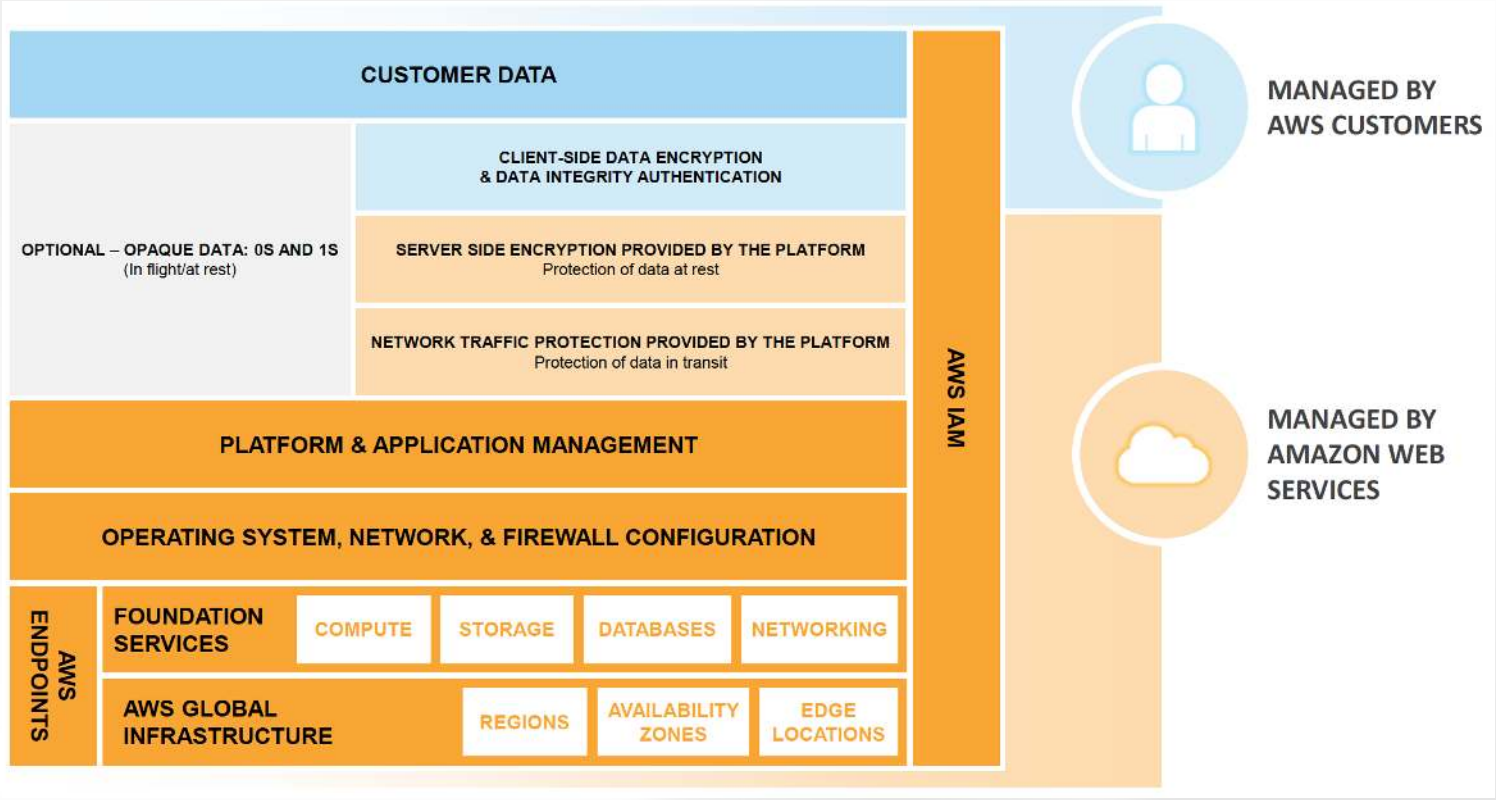
Shared Security Model: Platform Services

Such as Amazon RDS and Amazon EMR



Shared Security Model: Managed Services

Such as Amazon S3 and Amazon DynamoDB



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Encrypt everything

Encryption options

Native server-side encryption for most services

- S3, EBS, RDS, Redshift, etc.

Flexible key management

- AWS Key Management Service
- AWS CloudHSM

3rd-party encryption

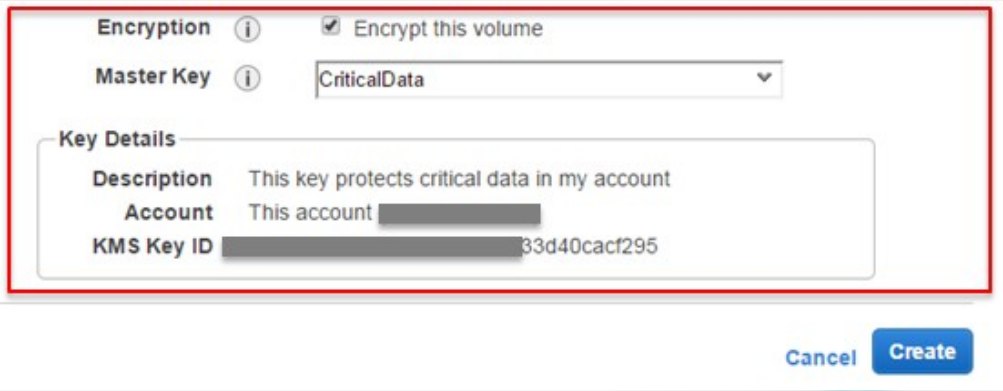
- Trend Micro, SafeNet, Vormetric, Hytrust, Sophos etc.
- AWS Marketplace : https://aws.amazon.com/marketplace/

Client-side encryption

- Tricky business, please be careful!

Server-side encryption

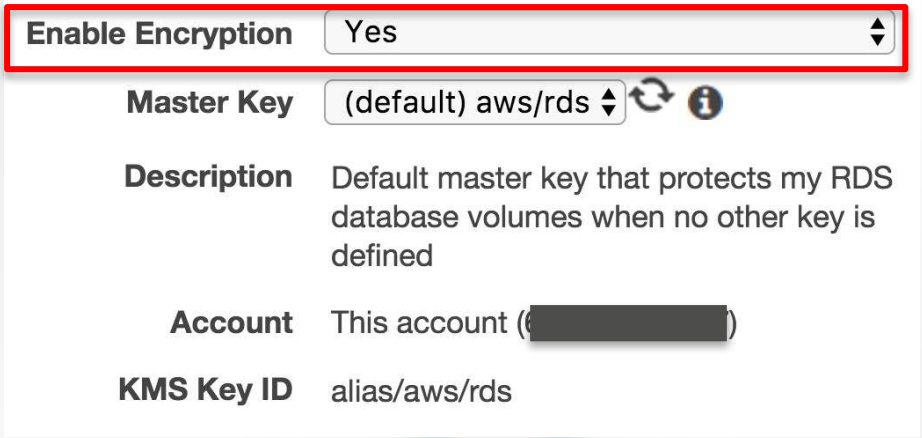
Amazon EBS




```
create-volume [--dry-run | --no-dry-run] [--size <value>]
[--snapshot-id <value>] --availability-zone <value>
[--volume-type <value>] [--iops <value>]
[--encrypted | --no-encrypted] [--kms-key-id <value>]
[--cli-input-json <value>] [--generate-cli-skeleton]
```

Server-side encryption

Amazon RDS

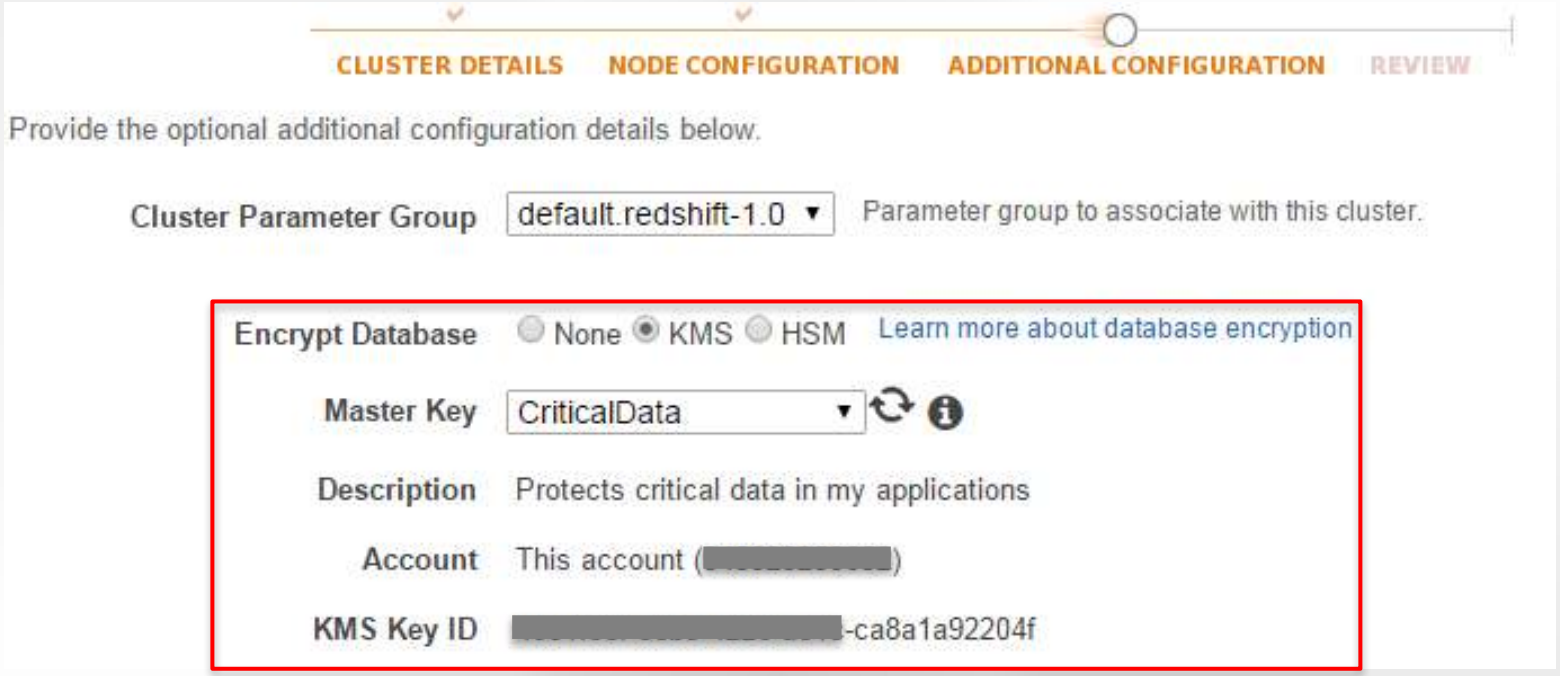



```
aws rds create-db-instance --region us-west-2
--db-instance-identifier myrdsinstance \
--allocated-storage 20 --storage-encrypted \
[ --kms-key-id xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx ]
--db-instance-class db.m4.large --engine mysql \
--master-username myawsuser --master-user-password myawsuser
```

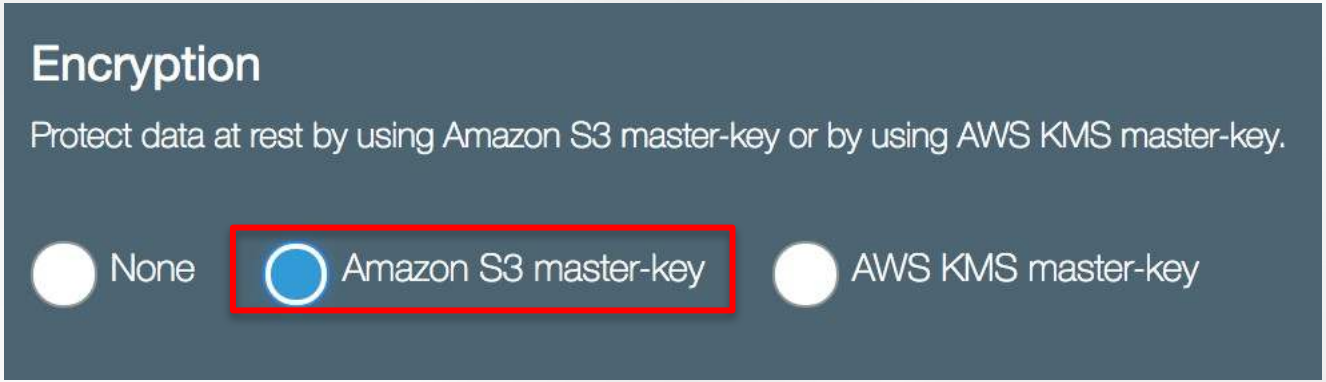
http://docs.aws.amazon.com/cli/latest/reference/rds/create-db-instance.html

Server-side encryption

Amazon Redshift



Server-side encryption on S3 (SSE-S3)



SSE-S3 with the AWS SDK for Java

```
File file = new File(uploadFileName);
PutObjectRequest putRequest = new PutObjectRequest(bucketName, keyName, file);

// Request server-side encryption.
ObjectMetadata objectMetadata = new ObjectMetadata();
objectMetadata.setSSEAlgorithm(ObjectMetadata.AES_256_SERVER_SIDE_ENCRYPTION);

putRequest.setMetadata(objectMetadata);

PutObjectResult response = s3client.putObject(putRequest);
System.out.println("Uploaded object encryption status is " +
                   response.getSSEAlgorithm());
```

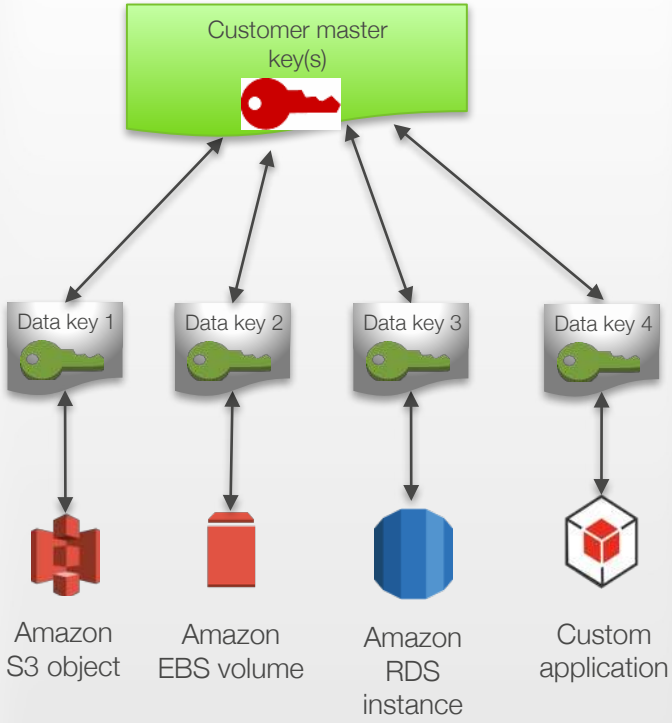
AWS KMS

Two-tiered key hierarchy using envelope encryption:

- Unique data key encrypts customer data
- AWS KMS master keys encrypt data keys

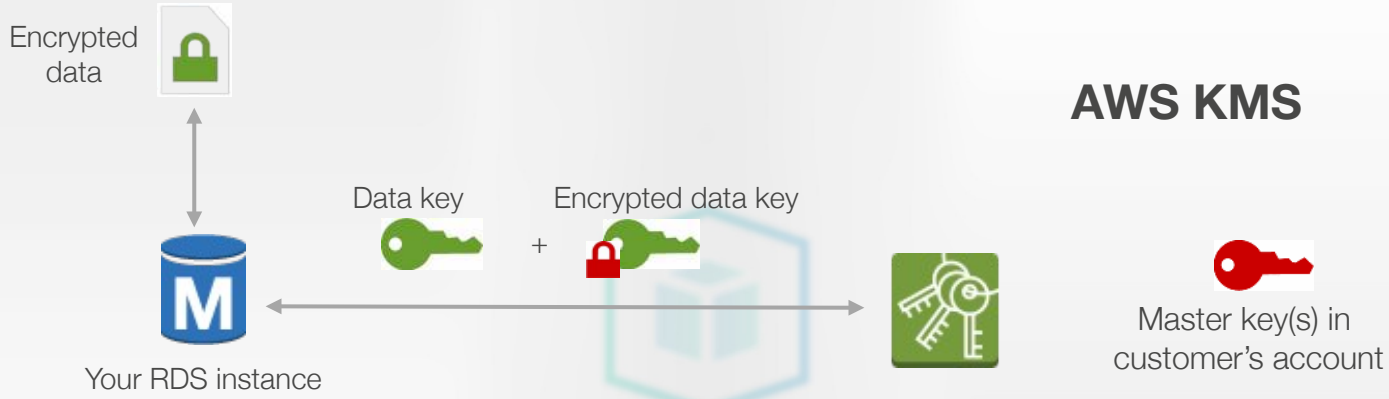
Benefits:

- Limits risk of compromised data key
- Better performance for encrypting large data
- Easier to manage small number of master keys than millions of data keys
- Centralized access and audit of key activity



https://aws.amazon.com/kms/

How keys are used to protect your data



1. Service requests encryption key to use to encrypt data, passes reference to master key in account
2. Client request authenticated based on permissions set on both the user and the key
3. A unique data encryption key is created and encrypted under the KMS master key
4. Plaintext and encrypted data key returned to the client
5. Plaintext data key used to encrypt data and then deleted when practical
6. Encrypted data key is stored; it's sent back to KMS when needed for data decryption

https://aws.amazon.com/kms/

Encryption SDKs

- Different from the AWS SDKs

- Java

https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/security/how-to-use-the-new-aws-encryption-sdk-to-simplify-data-encryption-and-improve-application-availability/

- Python (released yesterday!)

https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/security/new-aws-encryption-sdk-for-python-simplifies-multiple-master-key-encryption/

Manage Permissions

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

1. Create users

Advantages

- Unique credentials
- Easier to rotate
- Easier to track

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

1. Create users
2. Apply the principle of least privilege

Advantages

- Reduce the risk of human error
- Finer control
- Easier to add permissions than to remove them
- Access Advisor tells you what permissions are actually used

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

1. Create users
2. Apply the principle of least privilege
3. Factorize permissions with groups

Advantages

- Simplest way to manage permissions for similar users

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

1. Create users
2. Apply the principle of least privilege
3. Factorize permissions with groups
4. Use conditional permissions for privileged accounts (time, IP adress, etc).

Advantages

- Extra security!
- Possible for all APIs

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

1. Create users
2. Apply the principle of least privilege
3. Factorize permissions with groups
4. Use conditional permissions for privileged accounts (time, IP adress, etc).
5. Enable Cloudtrail to log all API calls

Advantages

- Keep a log of ALL activity inside your AWS account
- Useful for debugging
- Vital for forensics

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

6. Use a strong password policy

Advantages

- Do I really have to explain?

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

6. Use a strong password policy
7. Rotate security credentials regularly

Advantages

- Just in case one of your credentials leaked…

https://aws.amazon.com/fr/blogs/security/how-to-rotate-access-keys-for-iam-users/

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

6. Use a strong password policy
7. Rotate security credentials regularly
8. Enable MFA for privileged users

Advantages

- Vital for protection against phishing attacks

https://aws.amazon.com/fr/blogs/security/how-to-enable-mfa-protection-on-your-aws-api-calls/

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

9. Use IAM roles to delegate permissions

Advantages

- No need to store or share security credentials
- Use cases
  - Cross-account access
  - Federation

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

9. Use IAM roles to delegate permissions
10. Use IAM roles for EC2 instances

Avantages

- No need to store, share or rotate security credentials
- Application is granted least-privilege
- Integration with the AWS SDK and the AWS CLI

Identity and Access Management (IAM)

9. Use IAM roles to delegate permissions
10. Use IAM roles for EC2 instances
11. Delete credentials for the root account

Avantages

- C'mon, don't use 'root'

11 IAM Best Practices

1. Create users!
2. Apply the principle of least privilege
3. Factorize permissions in groups
4. Use conditional permissions for privileged accounts (time, IP adress, etc).
5. Enable Cloudtrail to log all API calls
6. Use a strong password policy
7. Rotate security credentials regularly
8. Enable MFA for privileged users
9. Use IAM roles to delegate permissions
10. Use IAM roles for EC2 instances
11. Delete credentials for the root account

AWS account: one or many ?

Use a single AWS account when:

- You only need simple controls on who does what
- You don't need to isolate projects or teams
- You don't need to track costs separately

Use multiple accounts when:

- You need total isolation between projects or teams
- You need total isolation for some of your data (such as Cloudtrail logs)
- You want to keep track of costs separately (you can still get a single bill with Consolidated Billing)

Log Everything

Logs? Sure, we got logs!

Infrastructure Logs

- AWS CloudTrail
- VPC Flow Logs

Service Logs

- Amazon S3
- AWS Elastic Load Balancing
- Amazon CloudFront
- AWS Lambda
- AWS Elastic Beanstalk
- …

Instance Logs

- UNIX / Windows logs
- NGINX/Apache/IIS
- Your own logs
- …

CloudTrail

1. Enable Cloudtrail in all regions

Advantages

- This takes 10 seconds
- It works for all regions, even if you don't use them yet.

CloudTrail

1. Enable Cloudtrail in all regions
2. Enable log validation

Advantages

- Guarantees log integrity
- Vital for audits and forensics
- Based on SHA-256 and RSA signature

CloudTrail

1. Enable Cloudtrail in all regions
2. Enable log validation
3. Encrypt logs

Advantages

- SSE-S3 by default
- KMS is supported too

CloudTrail

1. Enable Cloudtrail in all regions
2. Enable log validation
3. Encrypt logs
4. Export logs to Cloudwatch Logs

Advantages

- Easier to search
- Trigger alerts on specific events

CloudTrail

1. Enable Cloudtrail in all regions
2. Enable log validation
3. Encrypt logs
4. Export logs to Cloudwatch Logs
5. Centralize logs in a single place

Avantages

- Single bucket
- Could be in a dedicated account

CloudTrail partners

https://aws.amazon.com/cloudtrail/partners/

VPC Flow Logs

- Store all network traffic in Cloudwatch Logs
- They can be enable by VPC, by subnet our by network interface
- It's going to be a lot of data: what do you really need?
  - Everything, Allow, Deny
  - For debugging or for security monitoring?

AWS Service Logs

Many services let you export their logs to CloudWatch Logs, CloudTrail ou S3.

- Elastic Beanstalk → CloudWatch Logs
  https://docs.aws.amazon.com/elasticbeanstalk/latest/dg/AWSHowTo.cloudwatchlogs.html https://aws.amazon.com/fr/about-aws/whats-new/2016/12/aws-elastic-beanstalk-supports-application-version-lifecycle-management-and-cloudwatch-logs-streaming/
- ECS (instances & containers) → CloudWatch Logs http://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonECS/latest/developerguide/using_awslogs.html
- Lambda → CloudWatch Logs
  http://docs.aws.amazon.com/lambda/latest/dg/monitoring-functions-logs.html
- S3 → CloudTrail (S3 data events)
- CloudFront → S3
  http://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonCloudFront/latest/DeveloperGuide/AccessLogs.html
- ELB / ALB → S3
  http://docs.aws.amazon.com/elasticloadbalancing/latest/application/load-balancer-access-logs.html

EC2 Logs

- You can export them to Cloudwatch Logs with the Cloudwatch Agent.
- Storage costs are pretty low, so it's probably worth it
- Available for Linux and Windows
- Logs can be exported to S3 and ElasticSearch
- Metrics and alarms allow you to keep track of suspicious events

Automate Security Checks

You can automate on multiple levels

- Infrastructure / application automation
  - AWS CloudFormation
  - AWS OpsWorks
- DIY automation
  - AWS CloudTrail → CloudWatch Logs → CloudWatch alerts
  - API calls → Amazon CloudWatch Events → SNS / SQS / Kinesis / Lambda
- Compliance automation
  - AWS Inspector
  - AWS Config Rules

Configuring CloudWatch alarms for CloudTrail

- CloudFormation template with 10 predefined alarms
  - Create, modify or delete Security Groups
  - Modify IAM policies
  - Failed connections to the console
  - Failed API calls caused by permission issues
- Set them up in less than 5 minutes!
- Get e-mail notifications when these events occur in your AWS account

http://docs.aws.amazon.com/fr_fr/awscloudtrail/latest/userguide/use-cloudformation-template-to-create-cloudwatch-alarms.html
https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/awscloudtrail/cloudwatch-alarms-for-cloudtrail-api-activity/CloudWatch_Alarms_for_CloudTrail_API_Activity.json

AWS Config Rules

- Config Rules checks that AWS resources are compliant
- You can use:
  - Pre-defined rules: MFA on, CloudTrail on, EBS encryption, etc.
  - Your own rules
- Checks can be:
  - Periodic (1, 3, 6, 12 or 24 hours)
  - Triggered by configuration changes
- Notifications are sent to SNS…
- ... Which means that you can process them with Lambda functions
  - Non-compliant instance? Kill it!

Amazon Inspector

- This service allows you to check the configuration and the behavior of EC2 instances.
- Agent-based
- Can run from 15 minutes to 24 hours
- Reports and advice on how to fix issues
- Can be automated with the AWS API
- Built-in rule packages

Amazon Inspector – Rule packages

- ***Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures***
  - http://cve.mitre.org
  - https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/rules-engine/CVEList.txt (47,050)
- ***CIS Operating System Security Configuration Benchmarks***
  - *Center for Internet Security* http://cisecurity.org
  - http://benchmarks.cisecurity.org
- ***Security Best Practices***
  - SSH, passwords, etc. (Linux uniquement)
  - https://docs.aws.amazon.com/fr_fr/inspector/latest/userguide/inspector_security-best-practices.html
- ***Runtime Behavior Analysis***
  - How instances behave during testing (networking, protocols, etc.)
  - https://docs.aws.amazon.com/fr_fr/inspector/latest/userguide/inspector_runtime-behavior-analysis.html

AWS Trusted Advisor

Recommended Actions

Security Groups - Specific Ports Unrestricted *Updated: 9/29/14 7:19 AM*

Checks security groups for rules that allow unrestricted access (0.0.0.0/0) to specific ports.

2 of 71 security group rules allow unrestricted access to a specific port.

IAM Use *Updated: 9/17/14 12:39 PM*

Checks for your use of AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM).

At least one IAM user, group, or role has been created for this account.

MFA on Root Account *Updated: 9/17/14 12:39 PM*

Checks the root account and warns if multi-factor authentication (MFA) is not enabled.

MFA is enabled on the root account.

Service Limits *Updated: 9/17/14 12:39 PM*

Checks for usage that is more than 80% of the service limit.

0 of 42 items have usage that is more than 80% of the service limit.

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Please promise me this

- Never share credentials across users / applications
- Never store credentials in source code (they'll end up on Github)
- Never store credentials on EC2 instances
- (Almost) never work with the root account
- One account per user / one role per app with least privilege
- Use MFA for privileged accounts
- Enable CloudTrail in all regions
- Encrypt everything
- Automate security checks and alarms

"It's not because you're paranoid that they're not after you"

Additional resources

Whitepapers
https://d0.awsstatic.com/whitepapers/aws-security-whitepaper.pdf
http://d0.awsstatic.com/whitepapers/architecture/AWS_Well-Architected_Framework.pdf
https://d0.awsstatic.com/whitepapers/Security/AWS_Security_Best_Practices.pdf

AWS re:Invent 2016: Security Services State of the Union (SEC312) - Steve Schmidt, CISO, Amazon Web Services
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZljcKn8FPA

AWS re:Invent 2016: Automating Security Event Response, from Idea to Code to Execution (SEC313)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4GkAGe65vE

AWS re:Invent 2016: Automated Governance of Your AWS Resources (DEV302)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2P2I7HlrFtA

AWS re:Invent 2016: Scaling Security Operations and Automating Governance (SAC315)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_yfeCvqHdNg

Thank You

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Your feedback is important to us!

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