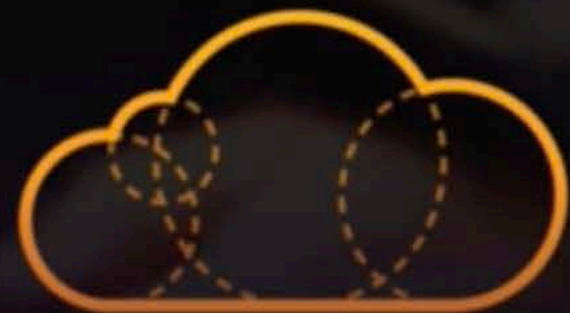


AWS Certs Overview



A CLOUD GURU

Levels



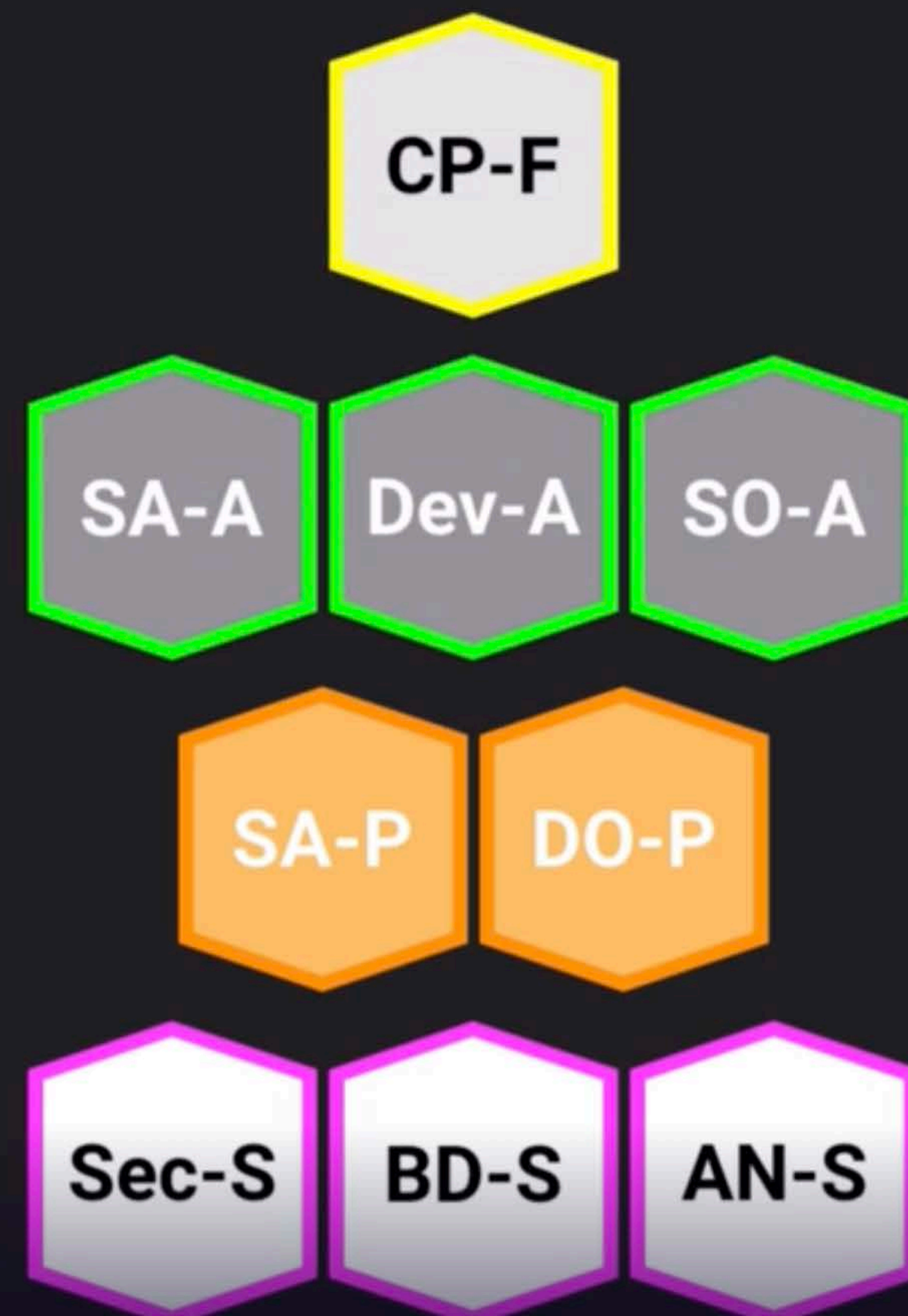
- **Foundational**
 - Non-technical and high-level—just the “essentials”
- **Associate**
 - Fairly broad scope, but shallow depth
- **Professional**
 - Even broader scope, and quite deep
- **Specialty**
 - Very deep, but narrow scope



Levels



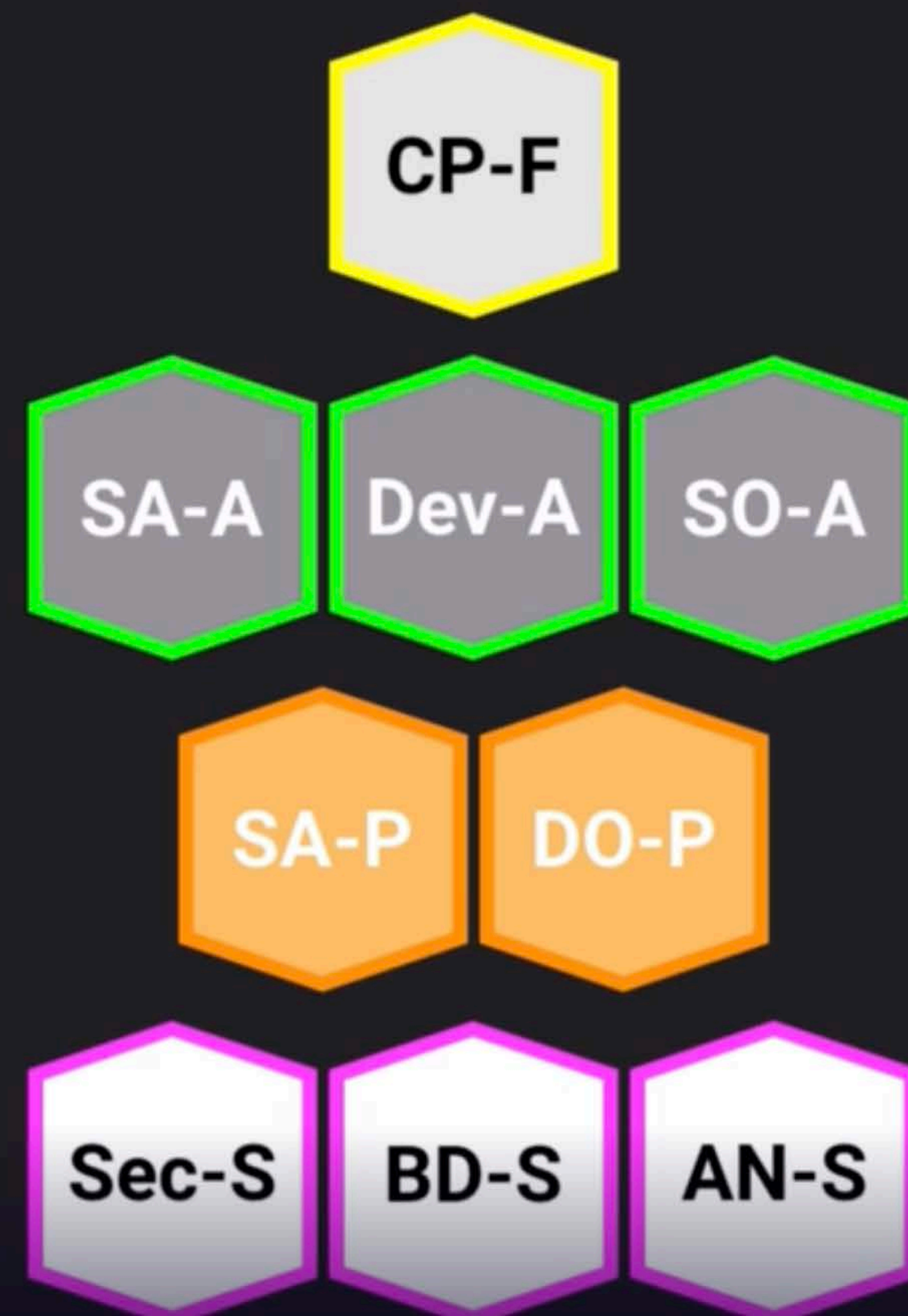
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Prerequisites

- **Foundational** and **Associate**
 - No prerequisites
 - You could take any of them, right now
- **Professional**
 - Require specific Associate to unlock
 - SA-P requires SA-A
 - DO-P requires *either* Dev-A or SO-A
- **Specialty**
 - Require *any* other AWS cert (even CP-F)





Typical Experience

- A bit of time using a few services



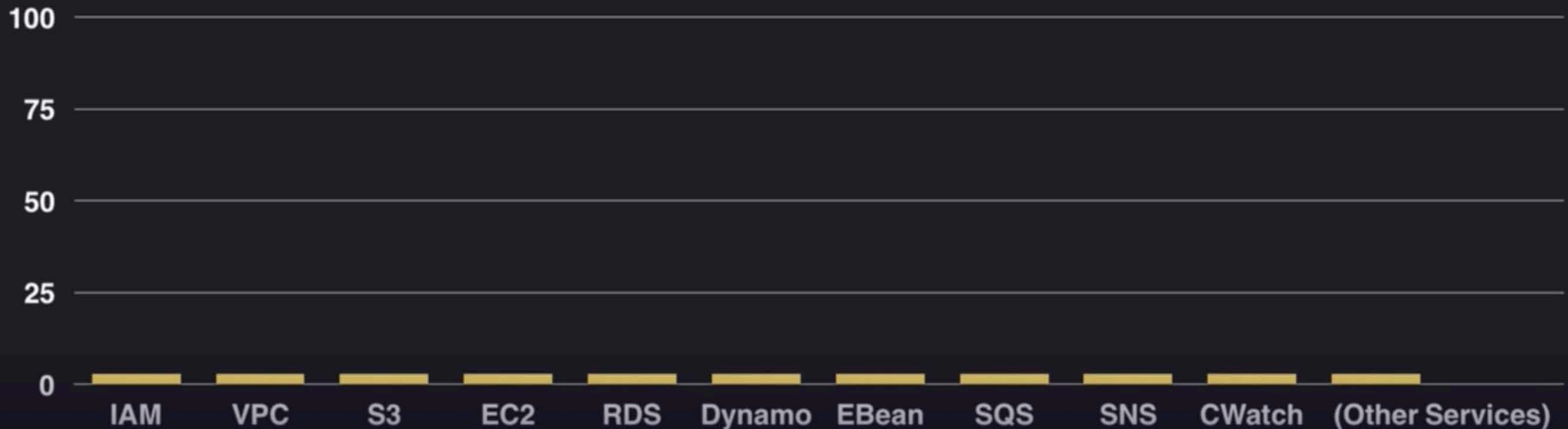


Cloud Practitioner

- Very high-level overview of AWS
- This *is* “foundational”
- Great place for anyone to start
- Especially good *non-technical* start, but still a good start for technical track

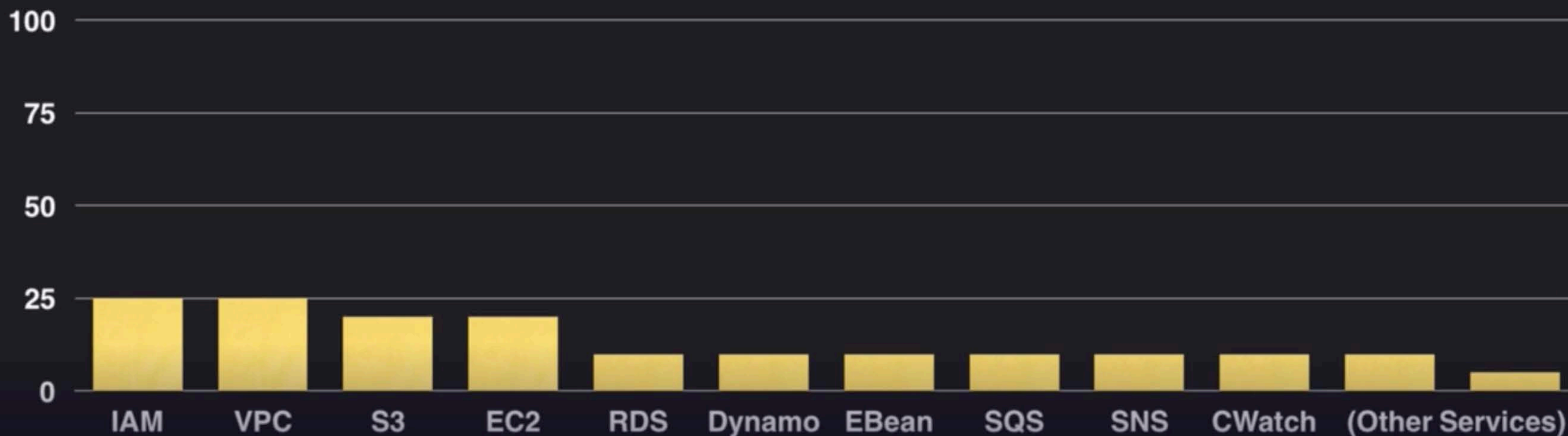


CP-F



Solutions Architect - Associate

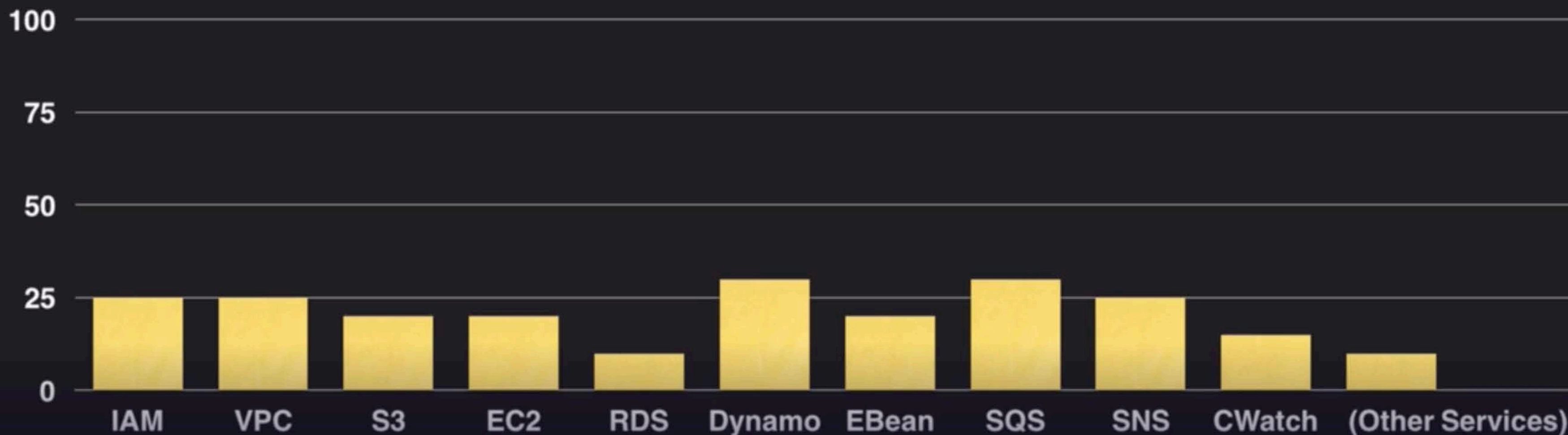
- Right place for *everyone* to get a technical start
 - Even devs and sysadmins, despite Dev-A and SO-A
- Simple, broad overview of AWS; only real depth is in foundational services
- Exam format transitioning over 2018—greater emphasis on architecting well





Developer - Associate

- Don't confuse *Dev* with *DevOps* (DevOps is a Pro exam)
- For people who use AWS, not just for developers
- Lots of overlap with Solutions Architect - Associate
- Refreshed exam (2018) includes all CI/CD services: ones with "Code" in name

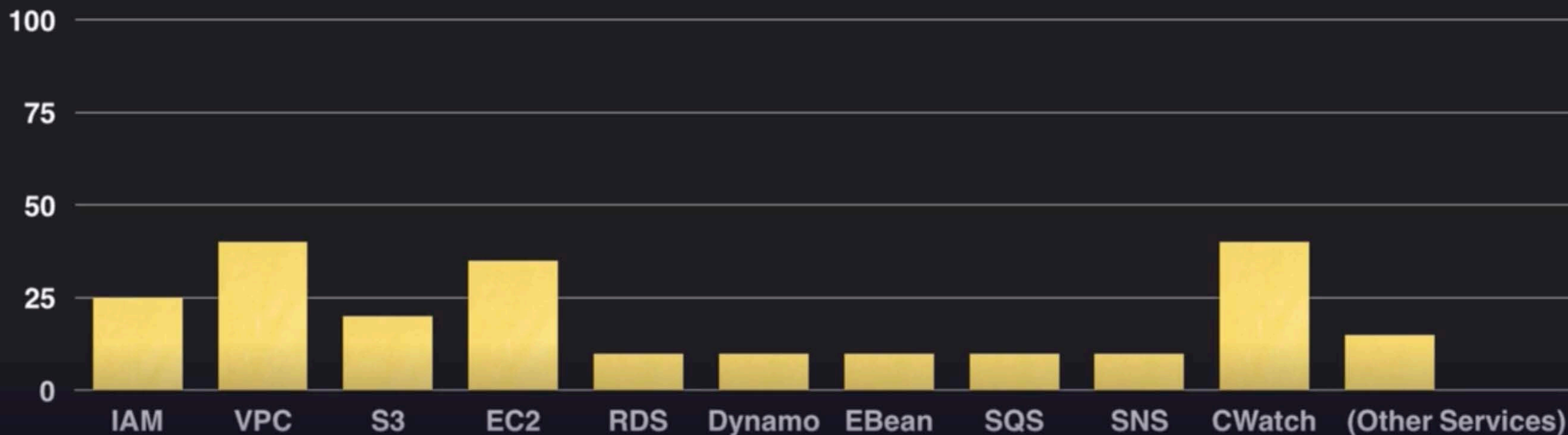




SysOps Administrator - Associate



- For people who run things on AWS, not just for sysadmins
- Hardest Associate
- Critical foundation (content-wise) to succeeding on the Pros
- Finish the Associates before moving to the much harder Pro exams



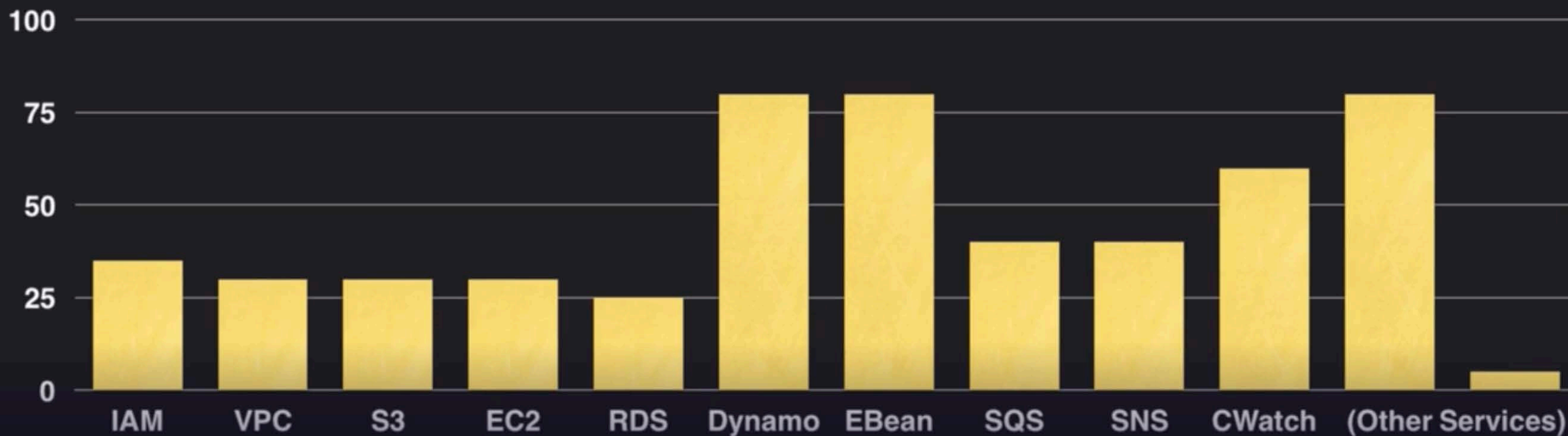


DevOps Engineer - Professional

- Deeper than SA Pro on deployments/lifecycle
- But narrower overall scope
- Systems thinking; Dynamic-through-time systems, not just static
- Valuable foundation (content-wise) for SA Pro

A yellow hexagonal badge with a black border containing the text "DO-P".

DO-P

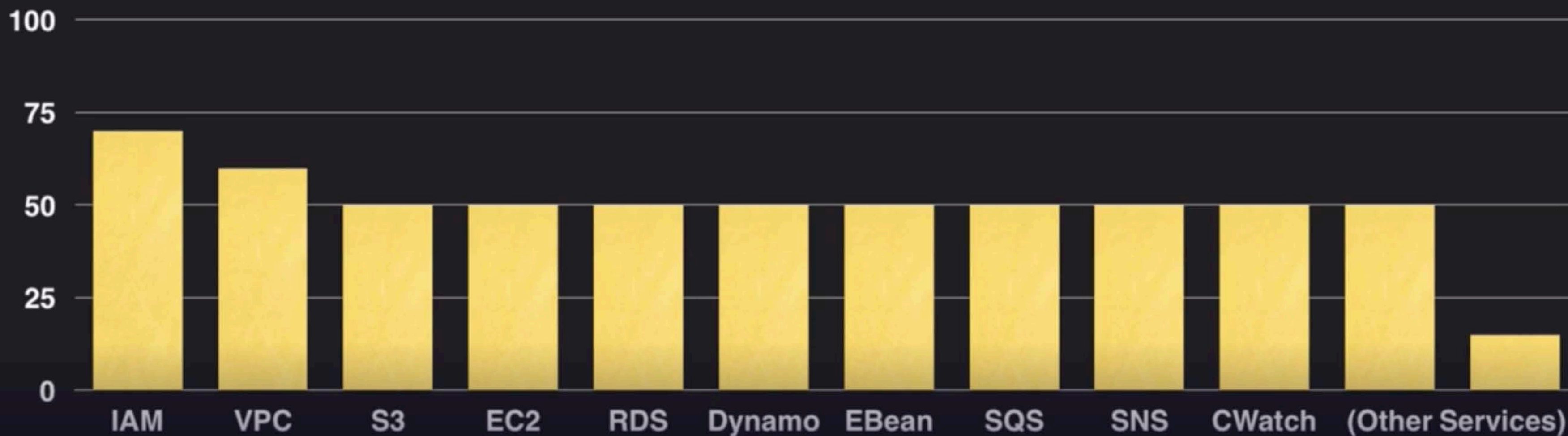




Solutions Architect - Professional



- Pinnacle of general AWS expertise
- Still won't know *everything*
- Should enable you to dig into any new AWS service or feature
- Should enable you to much more easily stay up to date



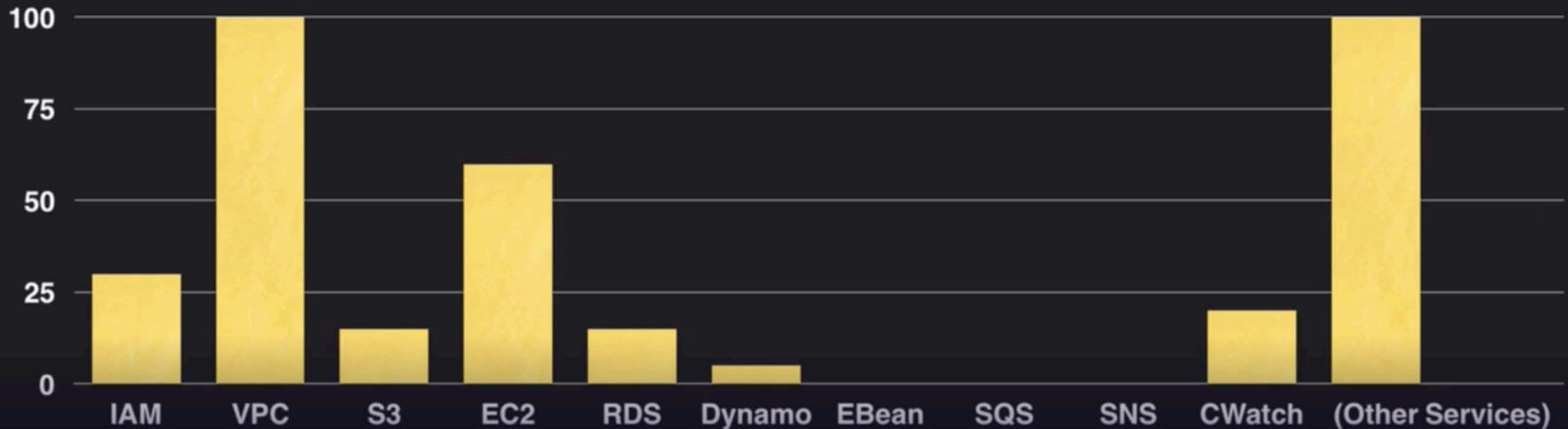


Advanced Networking - Specialty

- Especially VPC, Direct Connect, BGP
- Includes both hybrid and AWS-only networking
- Involves multi-region and cost optimization
- Can smooth the path to SA Pro (one of its hardest domains)

A white hexagonal badge with a pink border containing the text "AN-S".

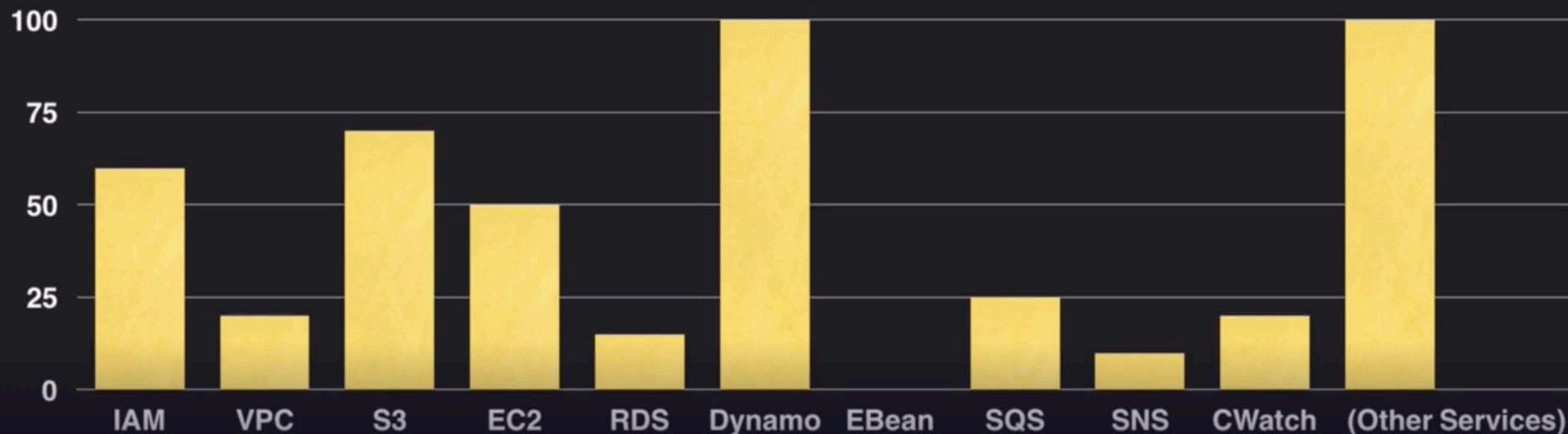
AN-S





Big Data - Specialty

- All data services—especially Redshift, Kinesis, DynamoDB, Elastic MR
- Includes Internet of Things (IoT), Machine Learning (ML), and more
- Security is always important, so this ropes in KMS, CloudHSM

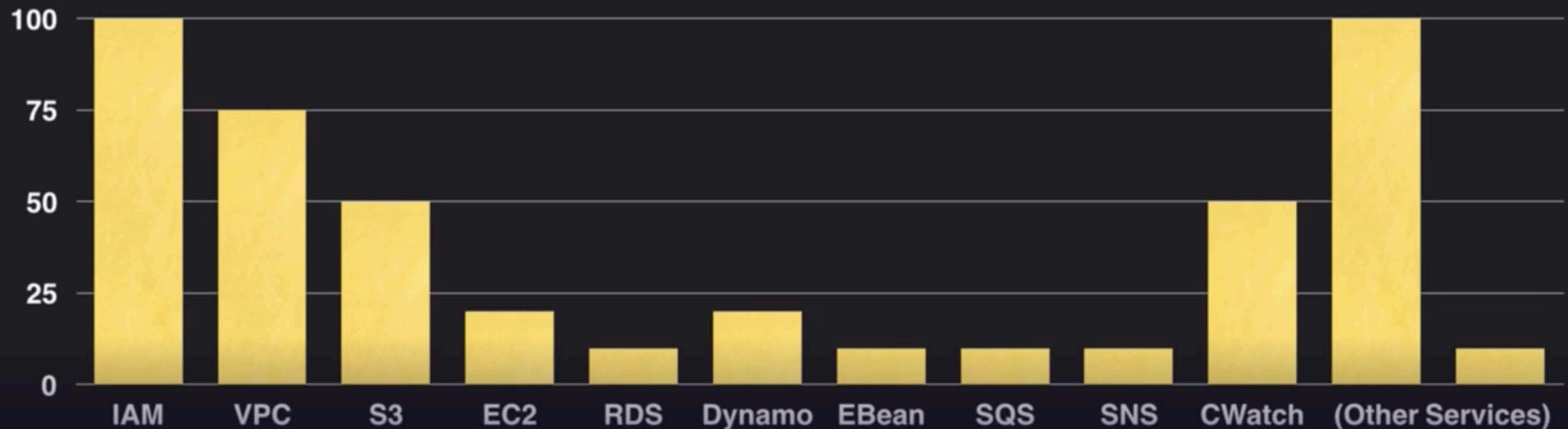
BD-S



Security - Specialty

- Broadest Specialty certification; less-focused on specific services
- But key services include IAM, VPC, KMS, CloudTrail, AWS Config, WAF
- Surprisingly low emphasis on CloudHSM
- Must assess cooperating and conflicting security settings on the fly

Sec-S





SA-P

Sec-S

BD-S

AN-S

DO-P

CP-F

SA-A

Dev-A

SO-A



Stepping Stones

CP-F

SA-A

Dev-A

SO-A

Sec-S

BD-S

AN-S

DO-P

SA-P



Which ones?

Purpose	Path to Consider								
AWS Master	CP-F	SA-A	Dev-A	SO-A	Sec-S	BD-S	AN-S	DO-P	SA-P
Cloud Architect	CP-F	SA-A	Dev-A	SO-A	Sec-S			DO-P	SA-P
Security Engineer	CP-F	SA-A	Dev-A	SO-A	Sec-S				SA-P
Network Engineer	CP-F	SA-A	Dev-A	SO-A			AN-S		SA-P
Data Sci/Engineer	CP-F	SA-A	Dev-A	SO-A		BD-S		DO-P	