

# AWS re:Invent

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# A day in the life of a cloud-empowered aerodynamics engineer

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AWS

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# Agenda

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Introduction to engineering challenges

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What is CFD and the goal of digital certification

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CFD on AWS Reference Architecture

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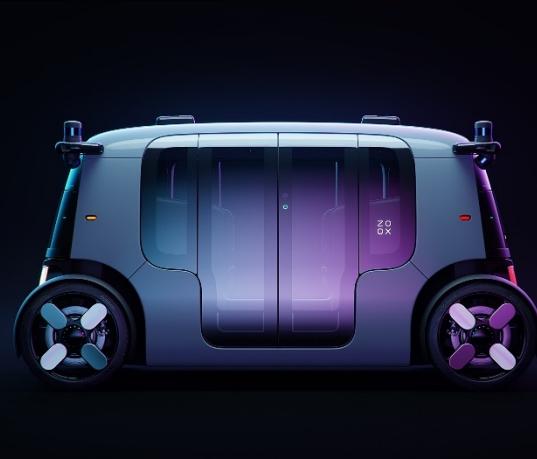
Live Demo using Siemens Simcenter STAR-CCM+

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Optimizing your cloud CFD setup (Compute, storage, visualization, cost, ML)

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# How do you design the next generation of X?



Companies need a way to assess the **performance** and **efficiency** of new designs

Aerodynamics is key, especially in the age of electric vehicles

They want to go from conceptual design to full design in the **shortest** possible time with the **least** expense

Digital certification is the dream for many industries to reduce cost and time compared to physical tests; **let's explore that further**

# Computational fluid dynamics – CFD

No  
manufacture

Cheap &  
fast\*

Accurate?

Navier-Stokes Equations (1822) – *Claude-Louis Navier & George Gabriel Stokes*

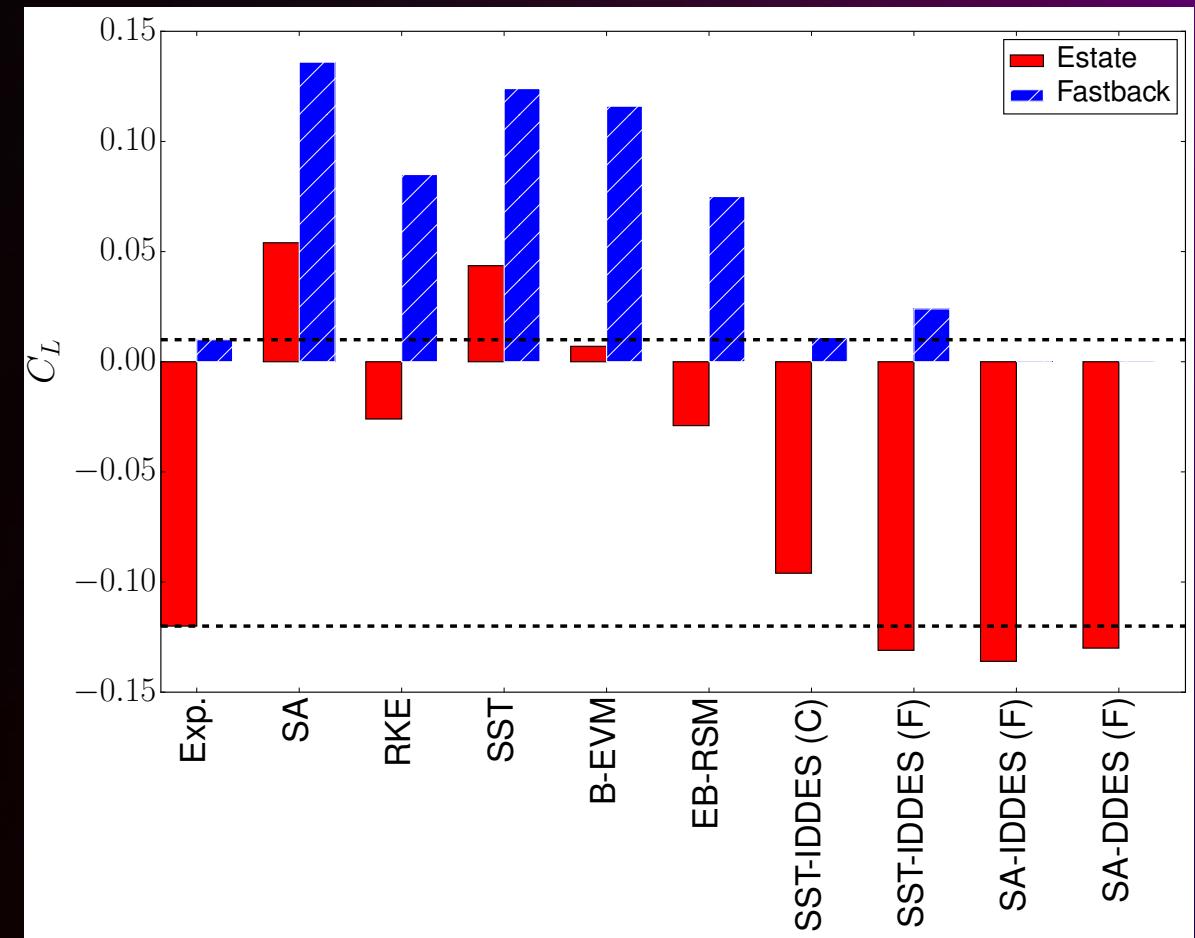
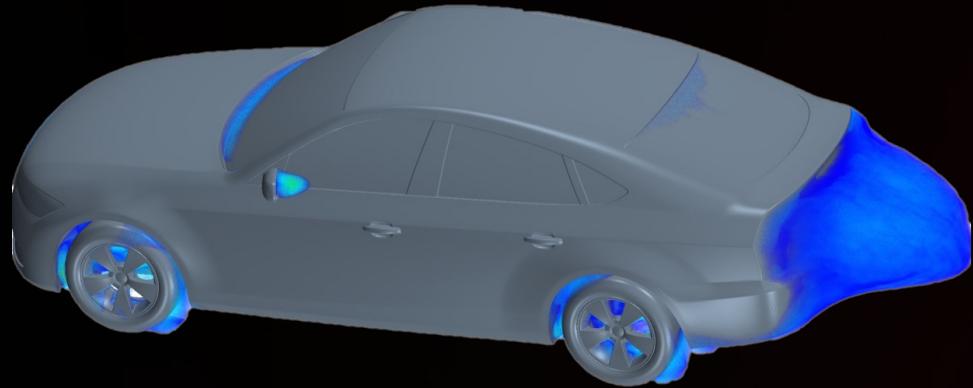
$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_i} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + u_j \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} = - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial \tau_{ij}}{\partial x_j}$$

Key tool for digital certification

# Why high-fidelity CFD? – Automotive

- Improved **accuracy** over low-fidelity methods (e.g., RANS)
- Transient nature means **5x to 20x** more computationally expensive i.e **50k core-hours to 500k core-hours** per sim.
- Growing desire from motorsport, automotive, or aerospace to move

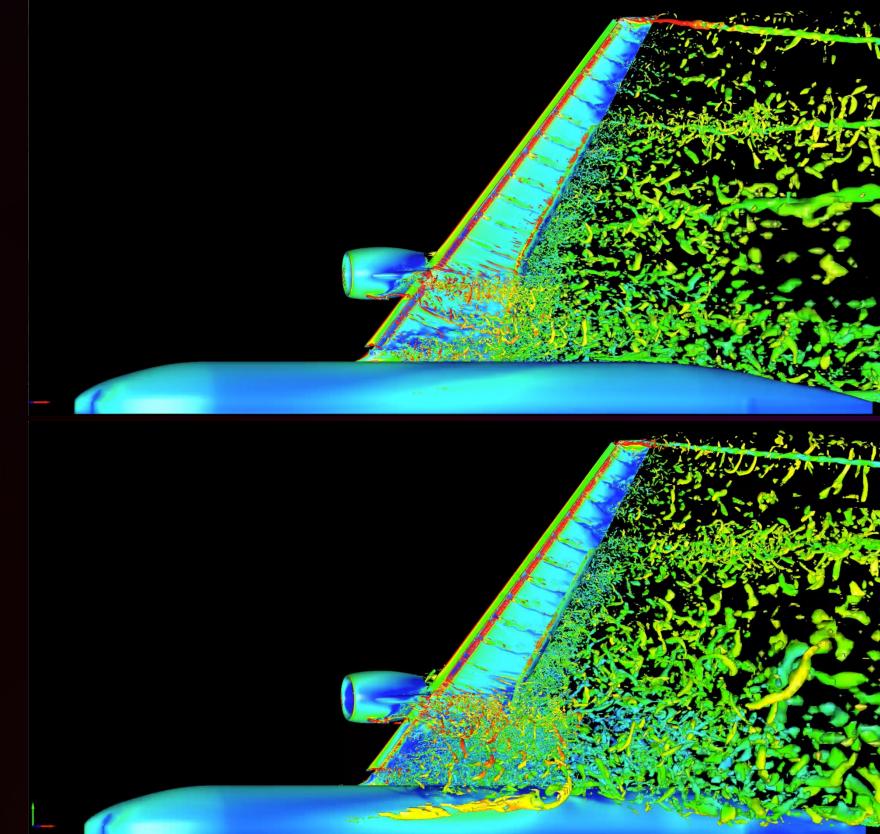
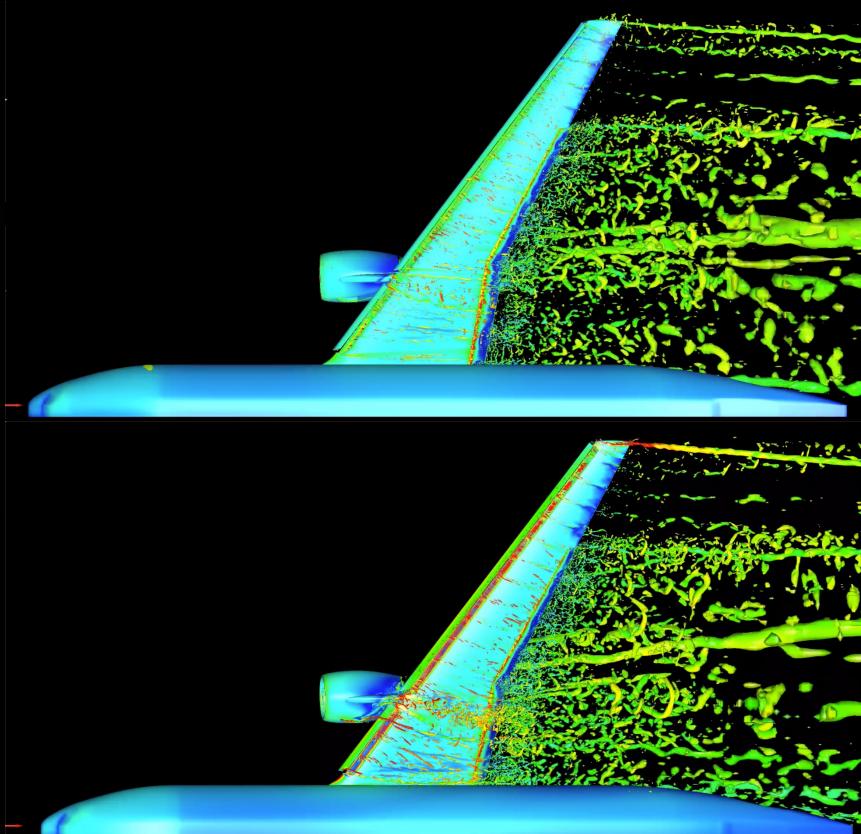


N. Ashton, A. West, S. Lardeau, A. Revell, *Assessment of RANS and DES methods for realistic automotive models*, Computers. Fluids. 128 (2016) 1–15. doi:10.1016/j.compfluid.2016.01.008.

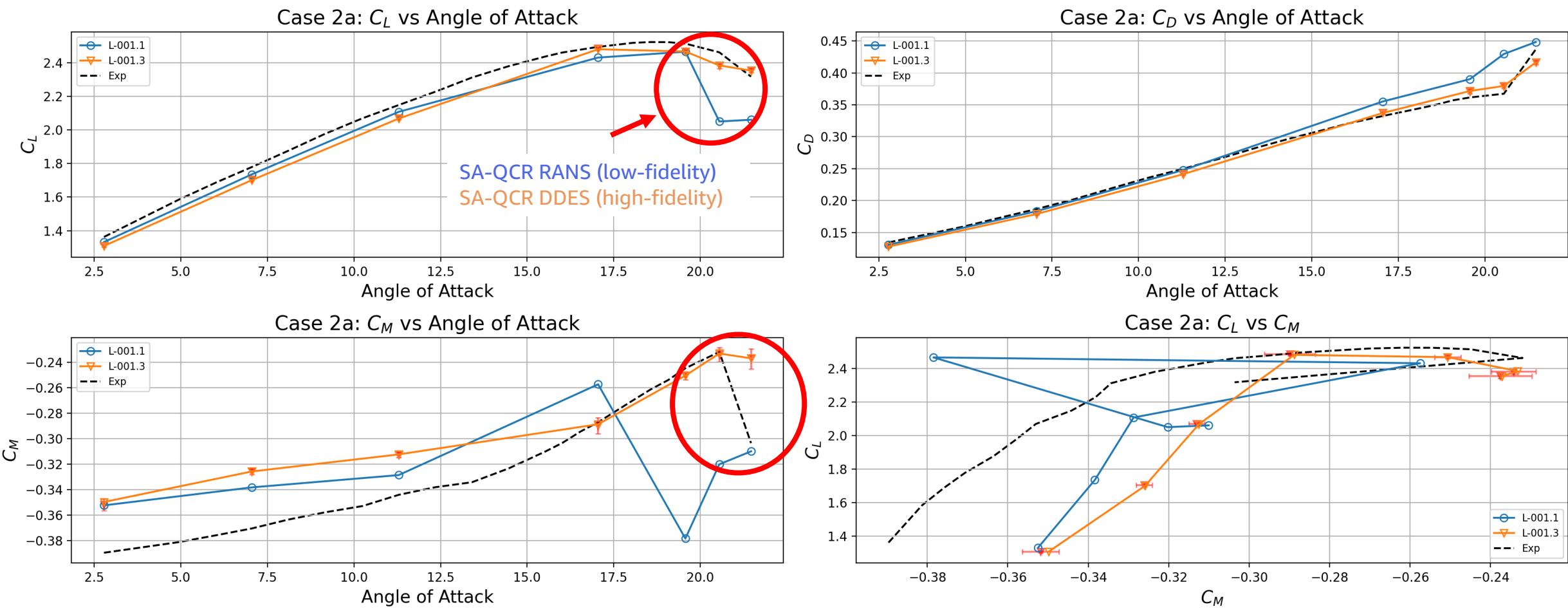
# Why high-fidelity CFD? – Aerospace

## 4th High Lift Prediction Workshop

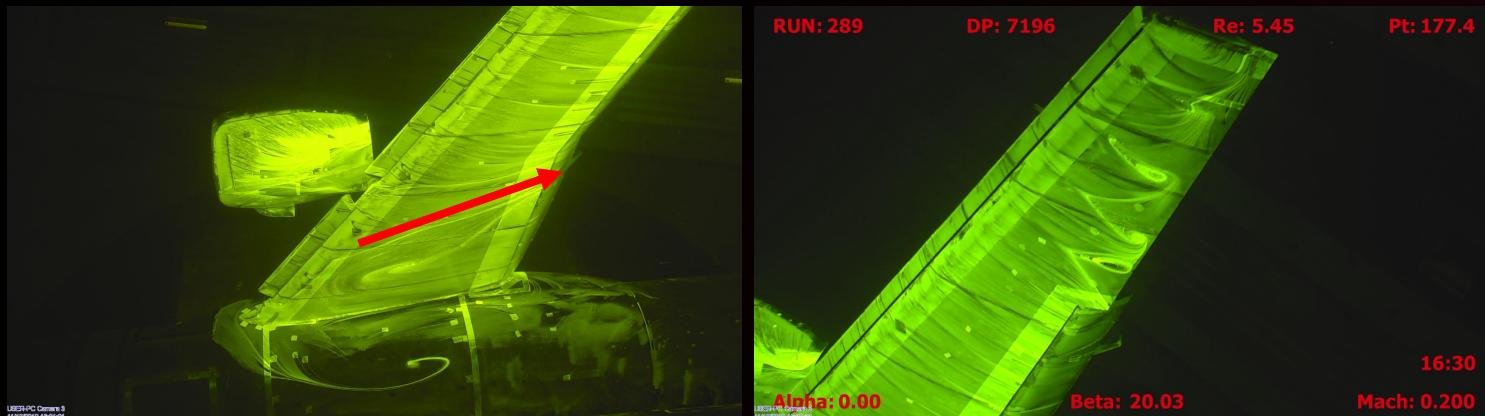
Advance the state of the art for CFD with Boeing/NASA and many others



# Why high-fidelity CFD?



# Supporting evidence



Improved **accuracy** over low-fidelity methods  
(for example, RANS)

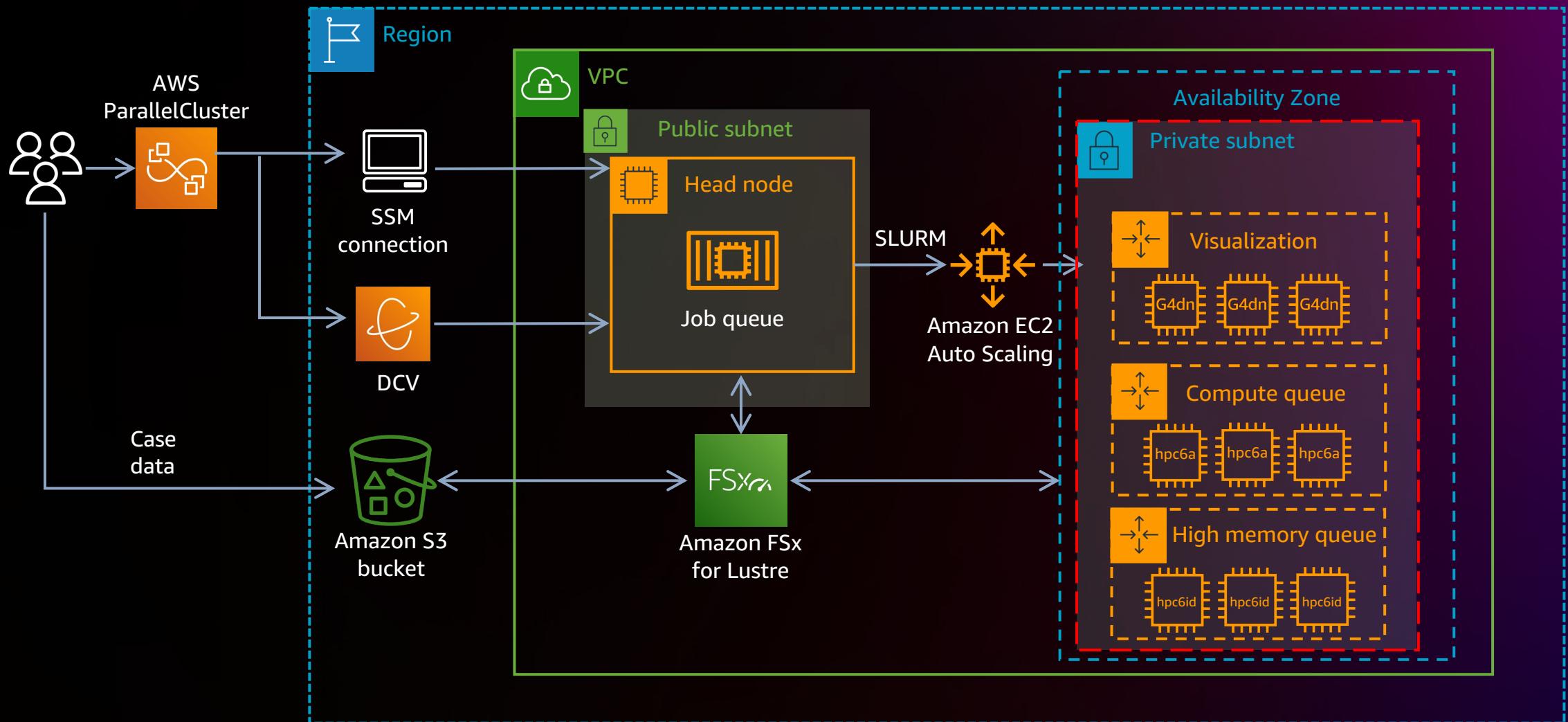
RANS predicts too much outboard and  
inboard separation

Transient nature means **5x to 20x** more  
computationally expensive i.e 25k to 500k  
core-hours. 4000 cores for >12hrs

# HPC can be the bottleneck

- As we move to higher fidelity methods to move towards purely digital design and digital certification, jobs are going to need **thousands of cores per job or tens of GPUs**
- Cloud provides the agility and capacity as you need ever greater HPC
- But how does this work in practice? What would the day look like for a cloud-enabled aerodynamics engineer? How do you make sure you have the optimum setup?
- Lets look at the overall architecture and then a live interactive demo!

# How do we run CFD on AWS? Reference architecture

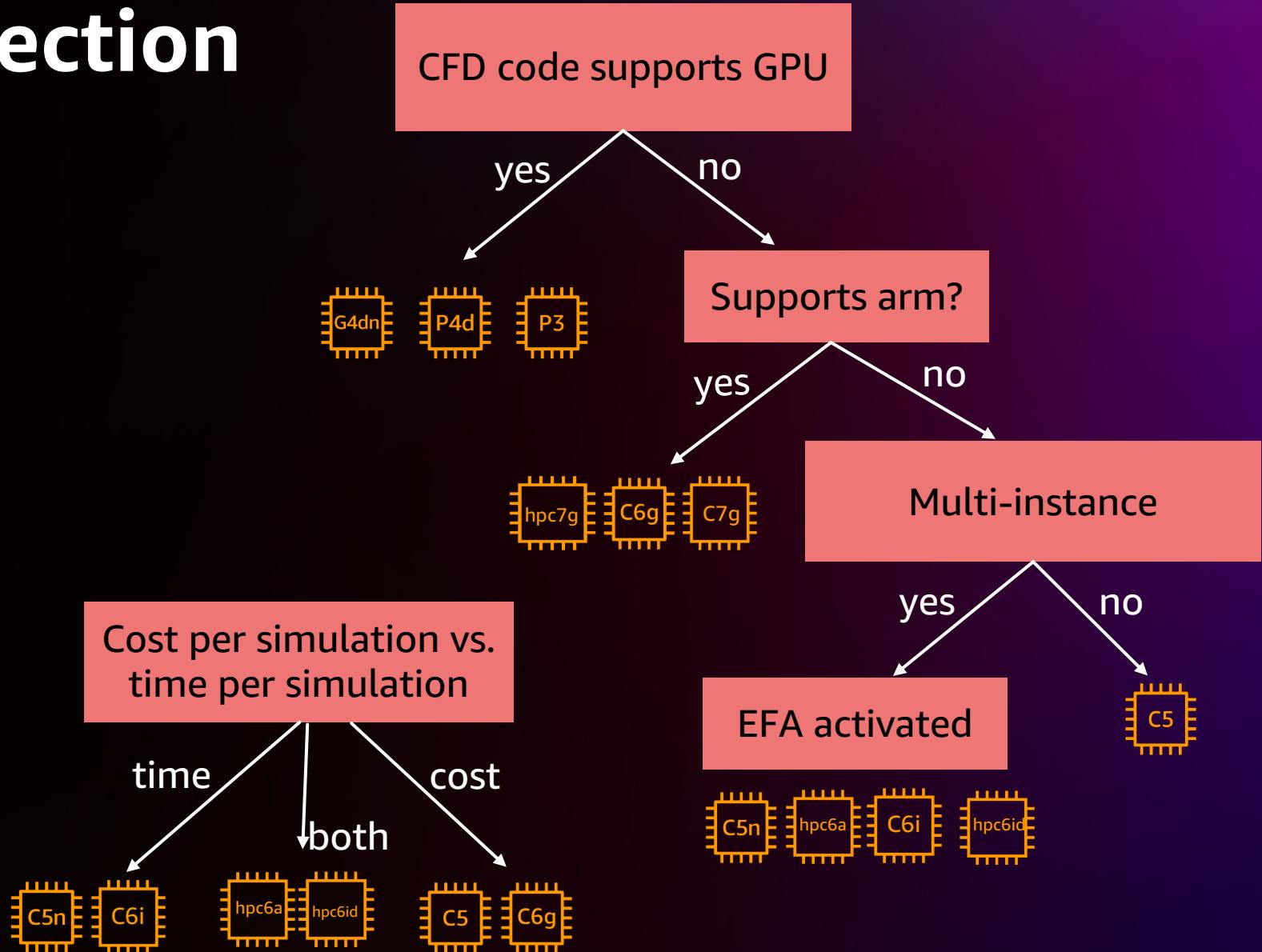
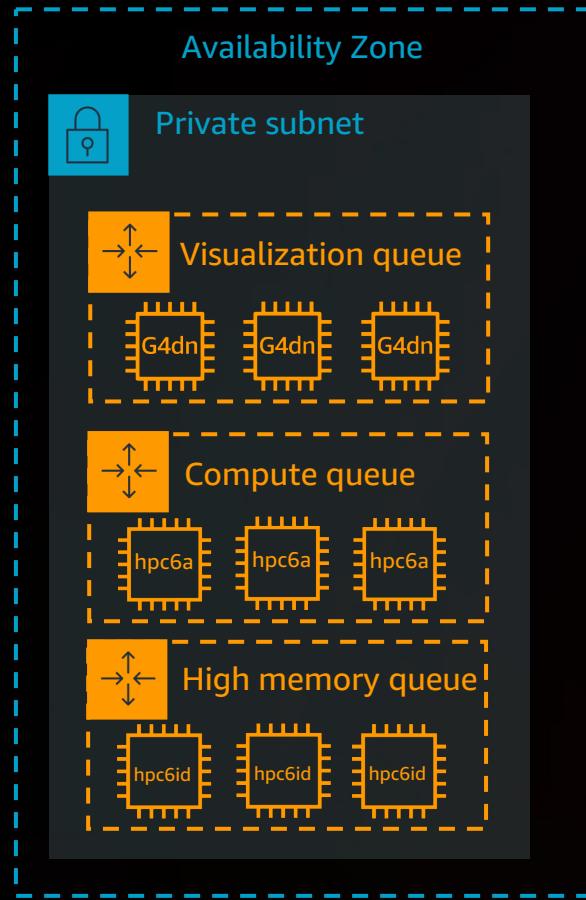


# Demo



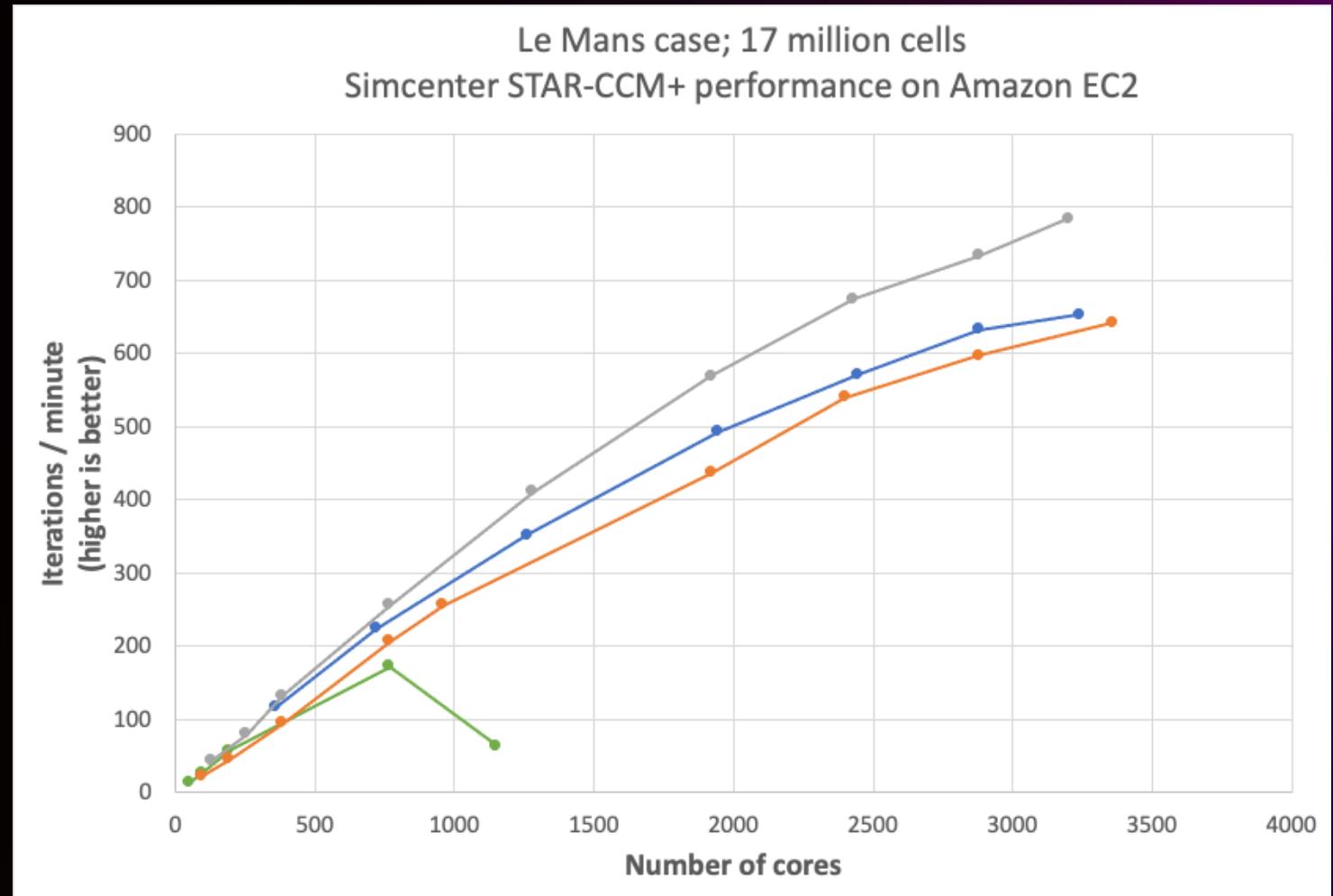
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# Instance type selection



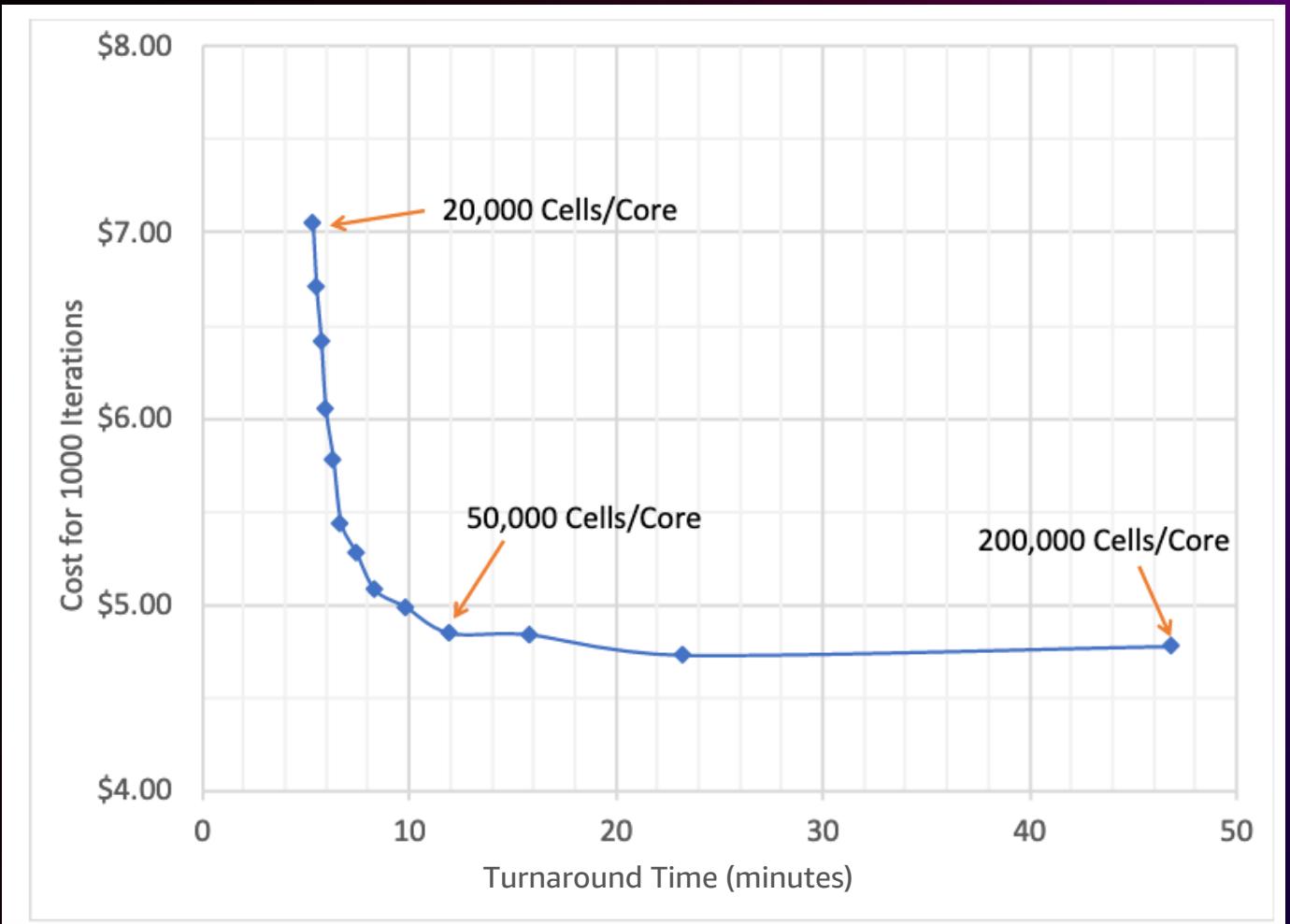
# Multi-node

- For multi-node, the **network** plays a key role
- CFD splits the solution into lots of partitions and then communicates the values around neighboring cells
- Key metric is **cells per core**



# Cells per core

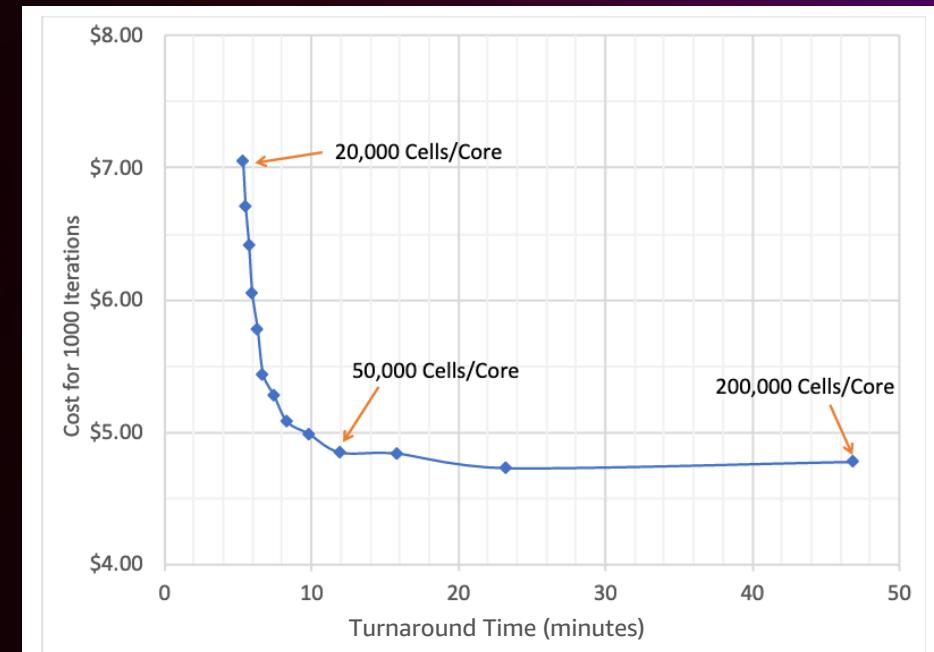
To achieve best parallel efficiency,  
we recommend greater than **50K**  
**cells/core**



# Time to solution vs. cost per simulation

- Optimize compute instance selection and number of instances
- Choose the optimal cells/core for your model
- Optimize storage by using FSx for Lustre as scratch space and Amazon S3 for long-term storage
- Next, look at pricing models such as Spot or Reserved Instances

Evaluate the trade-off of time to solution vs. cost for scaling

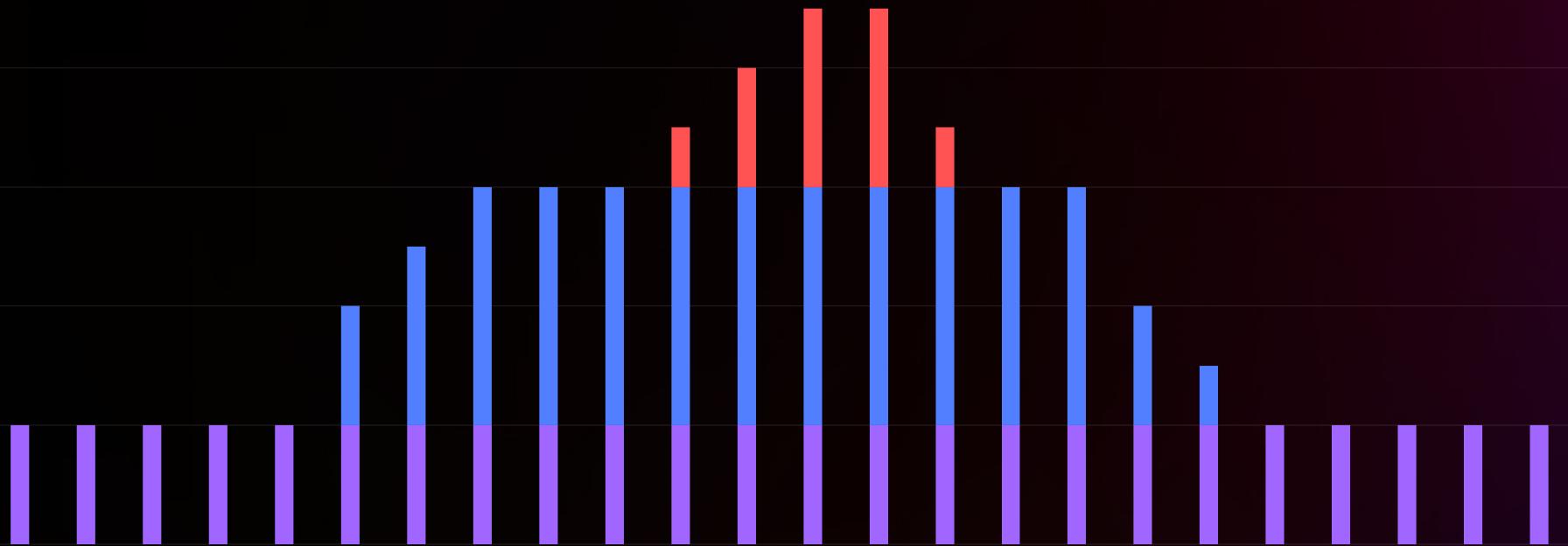


# Cost models

Scale using Spot, On-Demand, or both

Use Reserved Instances/Saving Plans for  
known/steady-state workloads

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# Key resources

CFD on AWS

[aws.amazon.com/hpc/cfd](https://aws.amazon.com/hpc/cfd)

DCV queues

<https://swsmith.cc/posts/dcv-visualization-queue.html>

AWS CFD workshops

[cfd-on-pcluster.workshop.aws](https://cfd-on-pcluster.workshop.aws)

CFD on AWS whitepaper

[d1.awsstatic.com/whitepapers/computational-fluid-dynamics-on-aws.pdf](https://d1.awsstatic.com/whitepapers/computational-fluid-dynamics-on-aws.pdf)

AWS HPC Blog

<https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/hpc/>



# Q&A

# Learn in-demand AWS Cloud skills



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# Thank you!

Dr. Neil Ashton

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Sean Smith

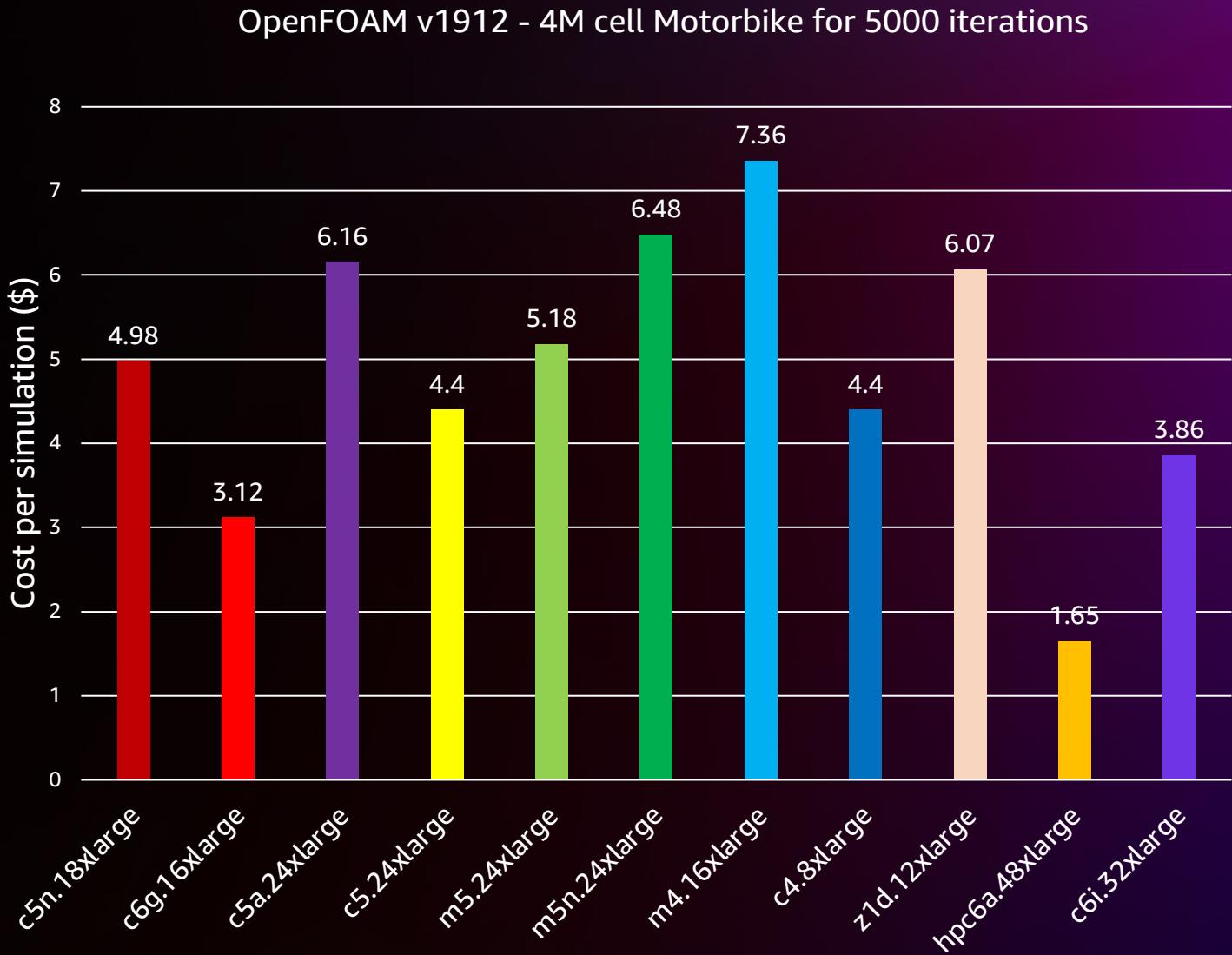
[seaam@amazon.com](mailto:seaam@amazon.com)



Please complete the session  
survey in the **mobile app**

# Instances

- Many users (especially commercial) want the best price/performance
- **hpc6a.48xlarge** is the clear winner
- **c6i.32xlarge** is the second best option among the x86-based instances
- **c6g.16xlarge** is a good second option for codes which support Arm



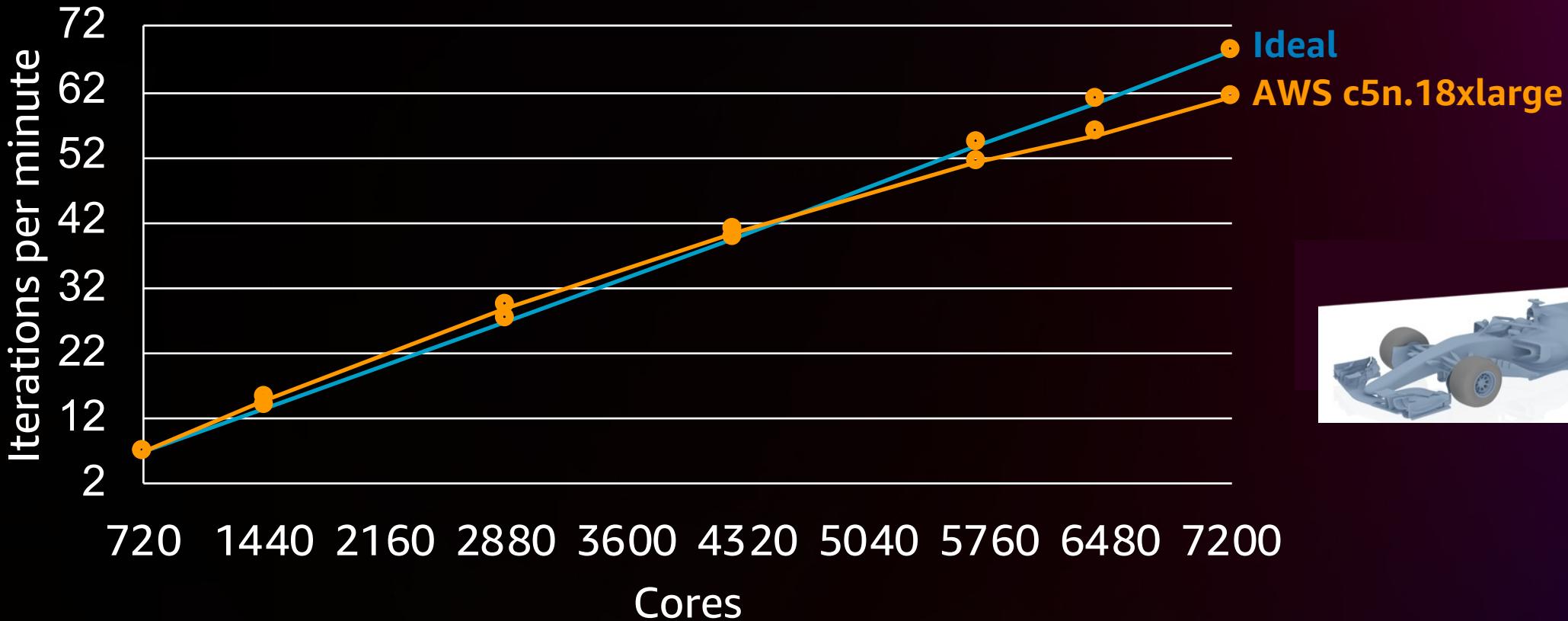
# Scaling on AWS – OpenFOAM

OpenFOAM v1912, motorbike (**222M cells**), Intel MPI 2019.6, AL2, PC2.6.1



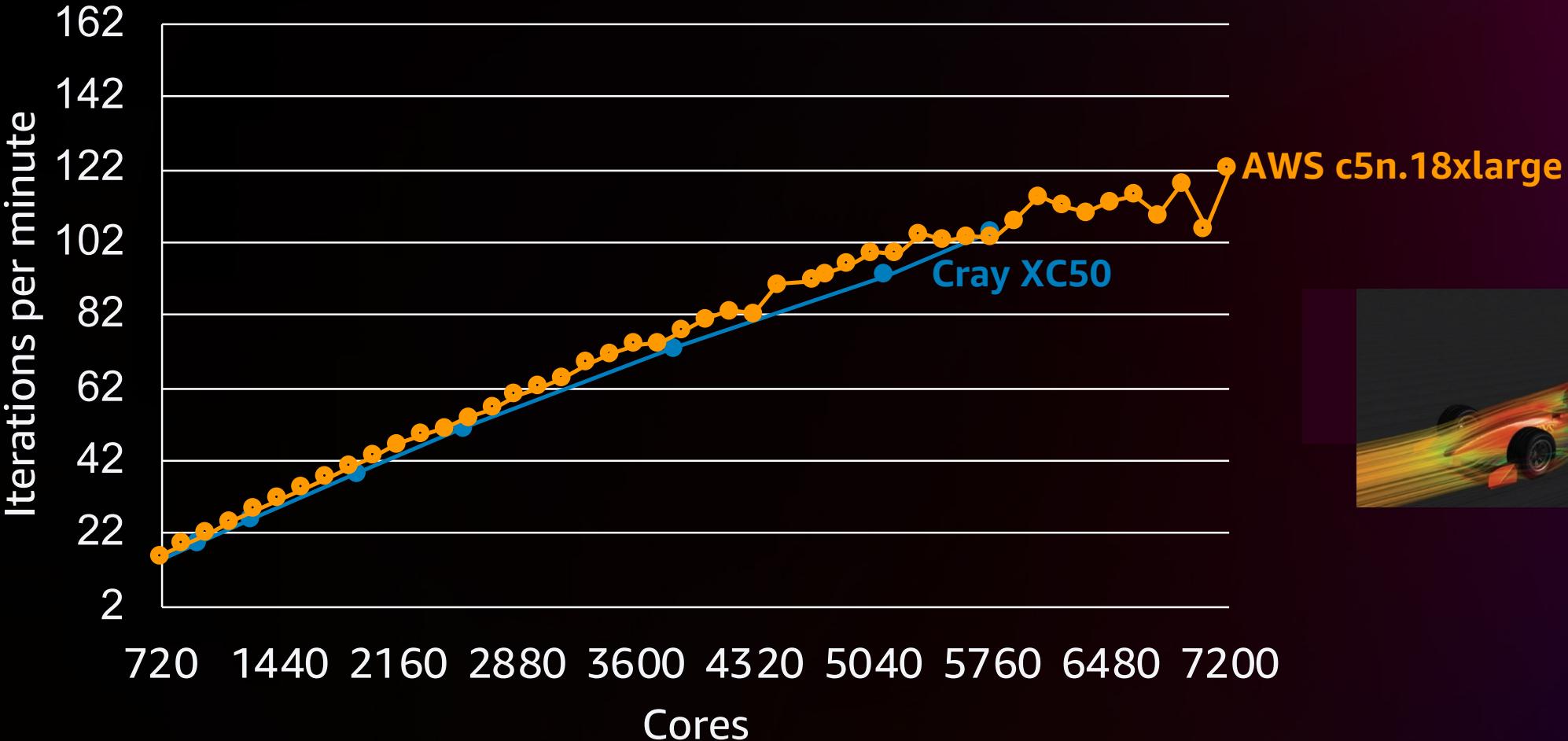
# Scaling on AWS – STAR-CCM+

Simcenter STAR-CCM+ 2020.1, F1 (**403M cells**), Intel MPI 2019.6, AL2, PC2.6.1

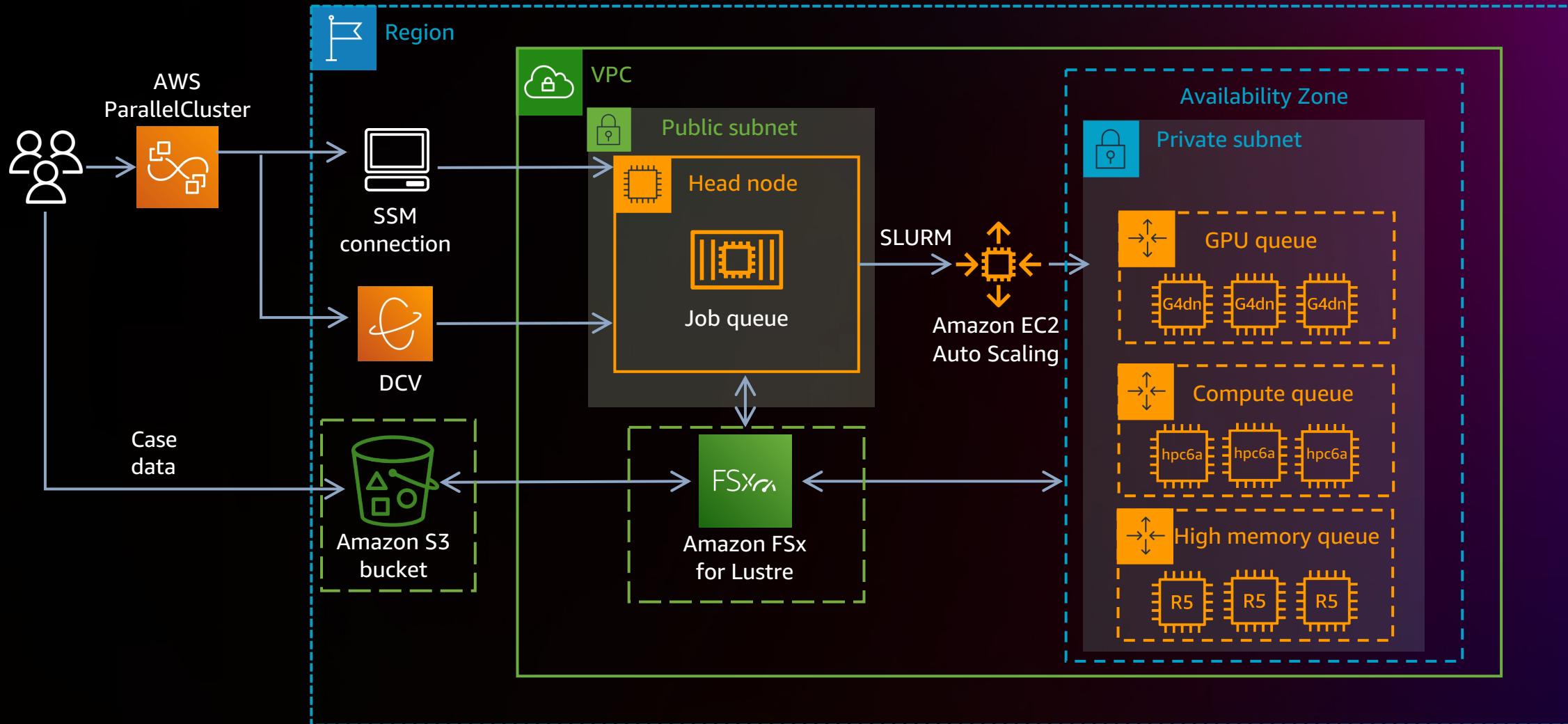


# Scaling on AWS – Fluent

Ansys Fluent 19.5, F1 (**140M cells**), Intel MPI 2019.5, AL2, PC2.5.1



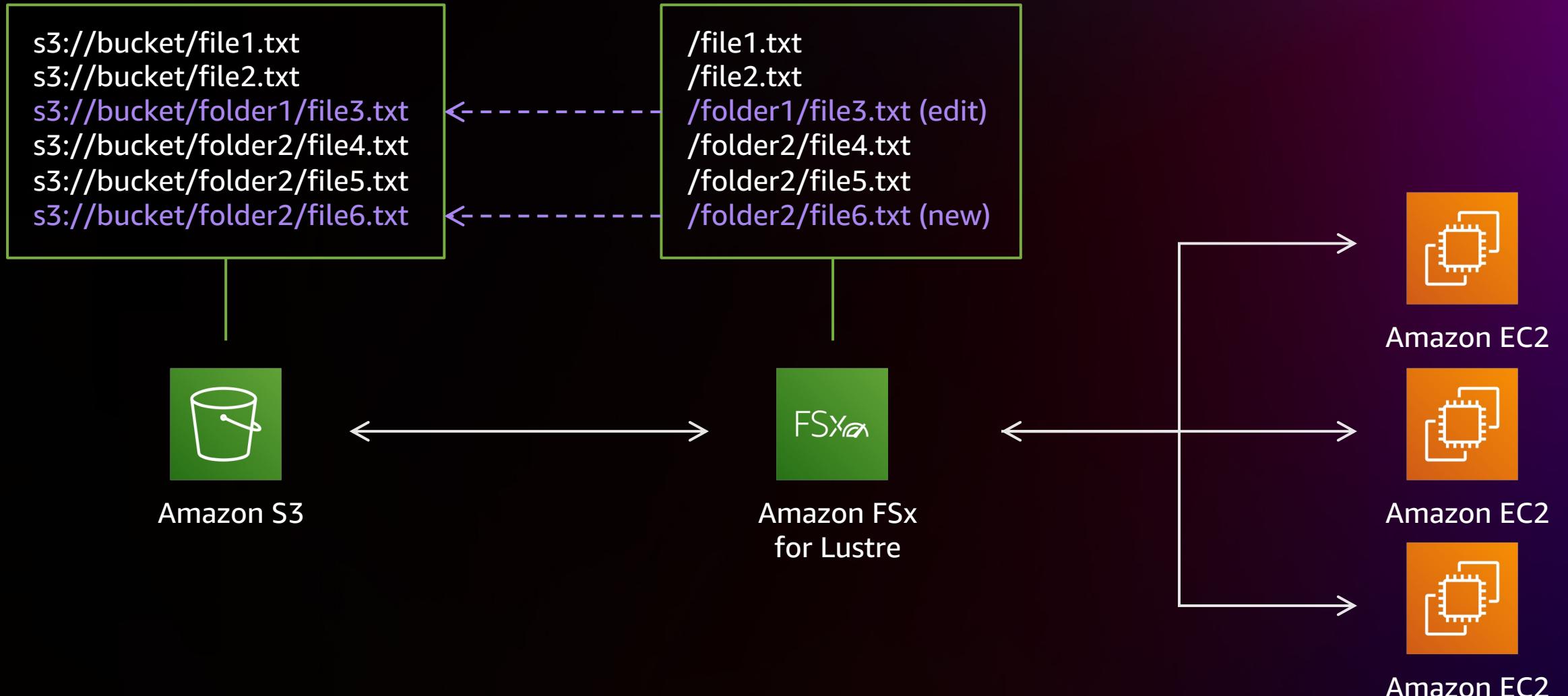
# Reference architecture



# Storage options optimized for price performance

Storage type	Baseline throughput per TiB	Price per GB/s-hour
HDD persistent	12 MB/s	\$2.85 
	40 MB/s	\$2.85 
NEW SSD persistent	125 MB/s	\$1.59 
	250 MB/s	\$1.15 
	500 MB/s	\$0.93 
	1,000 MB/s	\$0.82 

# Updates on FSx for Lustre are exported to S3



# Spin up or down with compute resources

```
s3://bucket/file1.txt  
s3://bucket/file2.txt  
s3://bucket/folder1/file3.txt  
s3://bucket/folder2/file4.txt  
s3://bucket/folder2/file5.txt  
s3://bucket/folder2/file6.txt
```



Amazon S3

```
/file1.txt  
/file2.txt  
/folder1/file3.txt (edit)  
/folder2/file4.txt  
/folder2/file5.txt  
/folder2/file6.txt (new)
```



Amazon FSx  
for Lustre



Amazon EC2



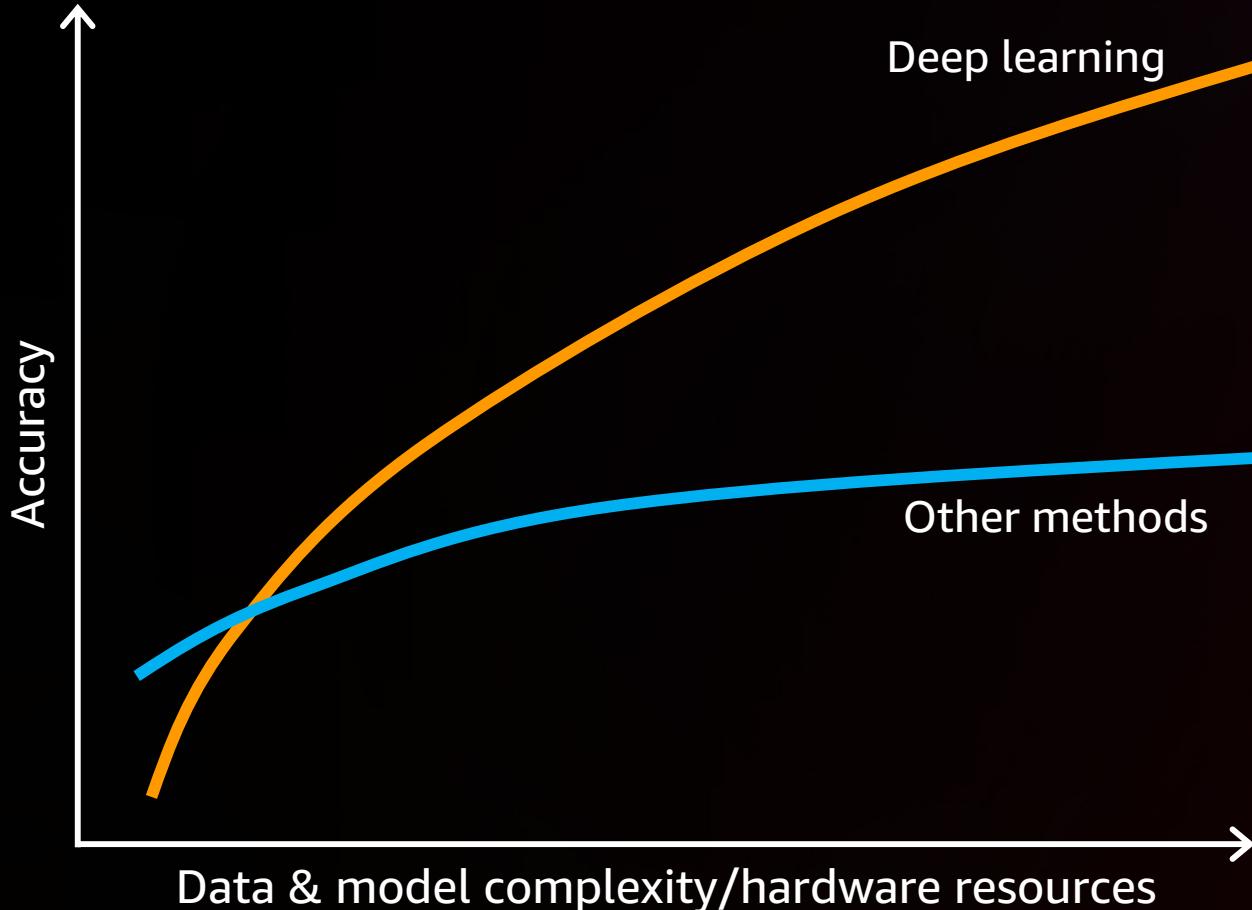
Amazon EC2



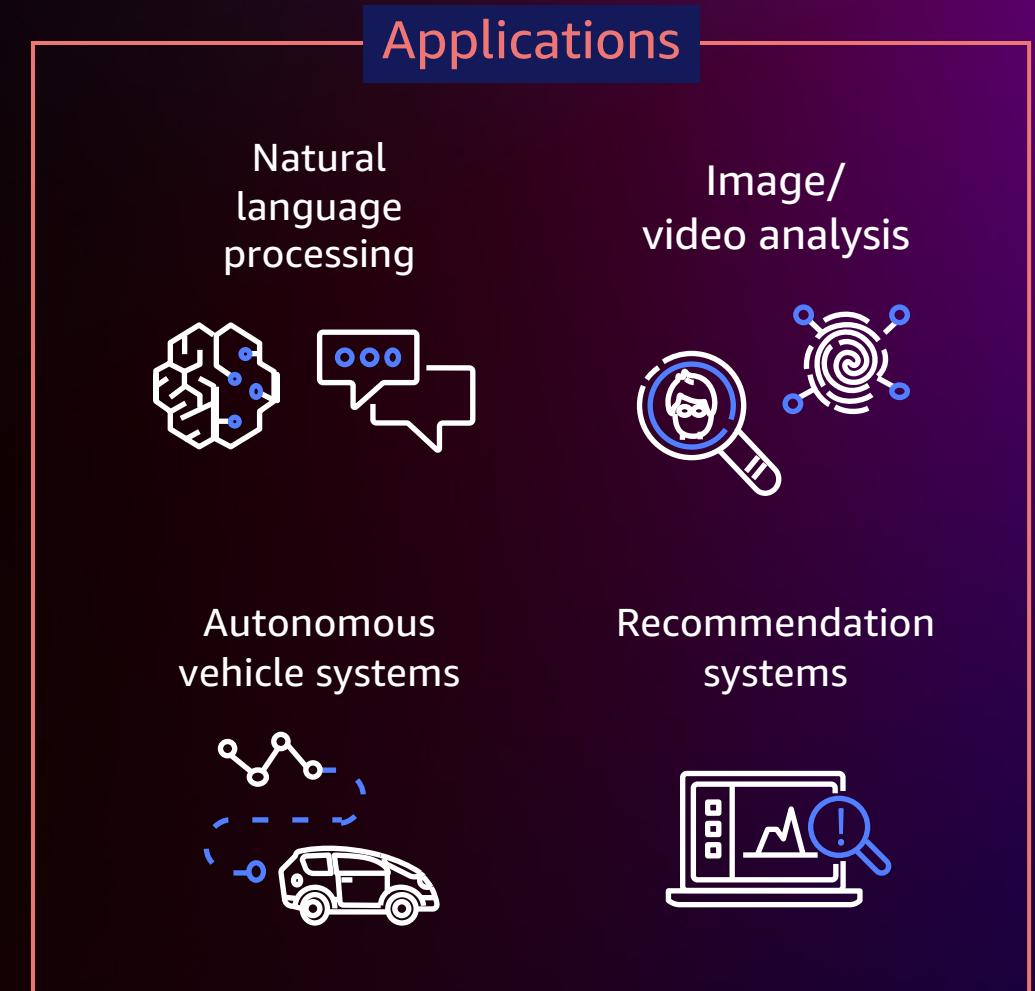
Amazon EC2

Spin down resources between workloads

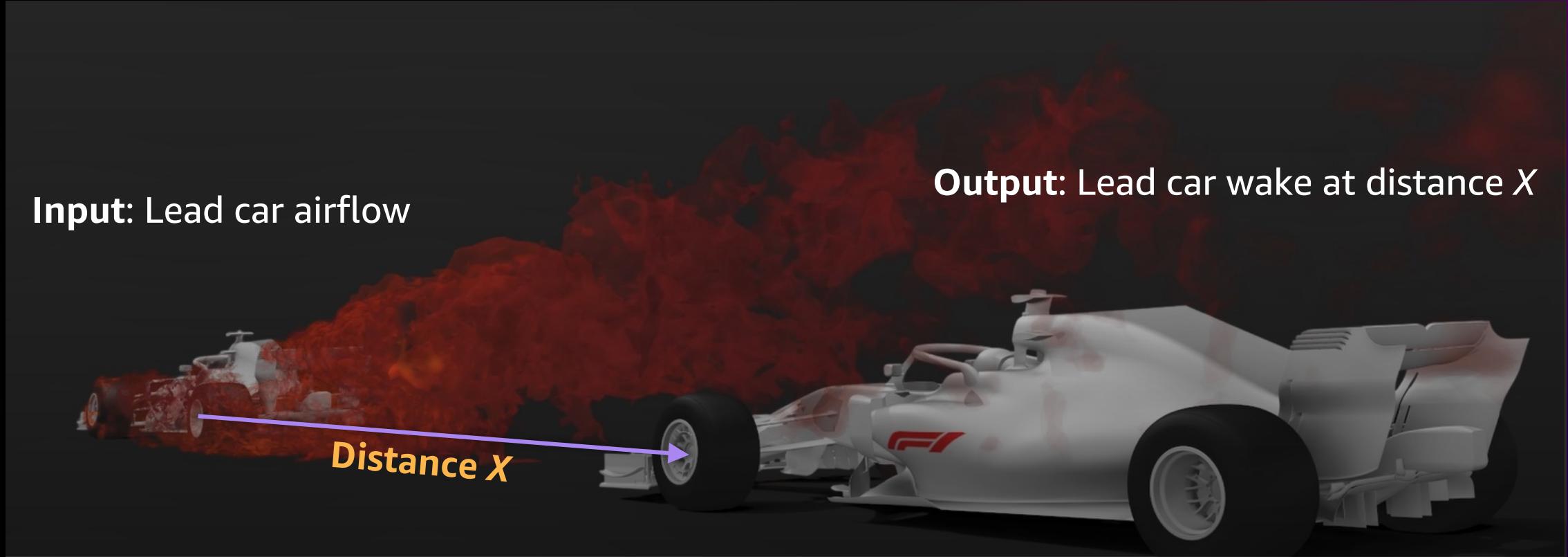
# Innovating with ML



**Model accuracy continues to increase with additional data**



# Demonstrating ML and HPC: Extract relationships from HPC simulation results



## Problem statement:

Determine optimal lead car features to obtain target flow profile at distance X

# ML and HPC solution

