

27&28 October 2021

Persistent storage on containers using Amazon EFS

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Why persistent storage for containers?



Motivation to modernize applications with containers







- Increased agility and scalability
- 2. Faster time to market
- 3. Improved reliability, simpler operations, and lower cost

Applications that need persistent storage

Long-running stateful applications

Shared data sets



Developer tools

Jenkins Jira Git



Web and content management

WordPress
Drupal
nginx



Machine learning

MXNet TensorFlow



Data science tools

JupyterHub Airflow



Application modernization with containers & Amazon Elastic File Storage (Amazon EFS)



Modern compute spectrum

More

Opinionated



AWS manages

Customer manages

AWS Lambda

Data source integrations
Physical hardware, software, networking, and facilities
Provisioning

Application code



AWS FargateServerless containers

Serverless functions

Container orchestration, provisioning Cluster scaling Physical hardware, host OS/kernel, networking, and facilities Application code
Data source integrations
Security config and updates

Network config

Management tasks



Amazon ECS/EKS*

Container management as a service

Container orchestration control plane

Physical hardware, software, networking, and facilities

Application code

Data source integrations
Work clusters

Security config and updates, network config, firewall, and management tasks



Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2)

Infrastructure as a Service

*Amazon Elastic Container Service (Amazon ECS)
*Amazon Elastic Kubernetes Service (Amazon EKS)

Physical hardware, software, networking, and facilities

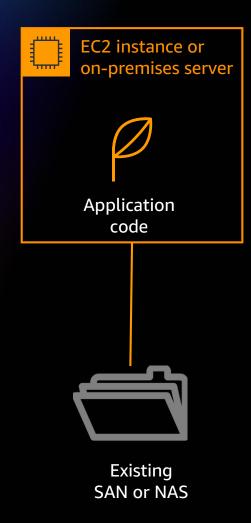
Application code
Data source integrations
Scaling
Security config and updates
Network config

Management tasks

Provisioning, managing, scaling, and patching of servers

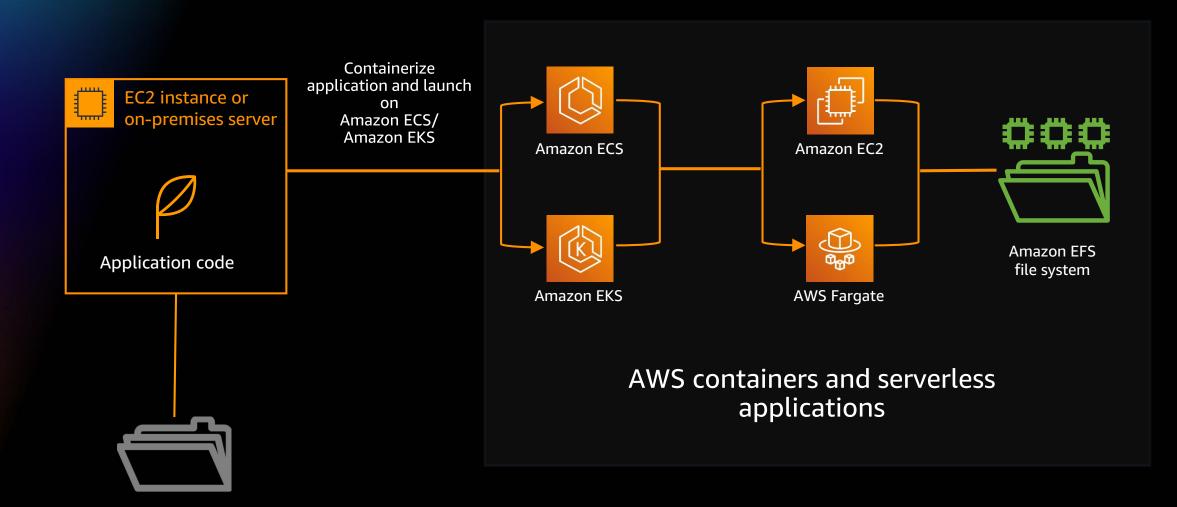


Application modernization with containers





Application modernization with containers





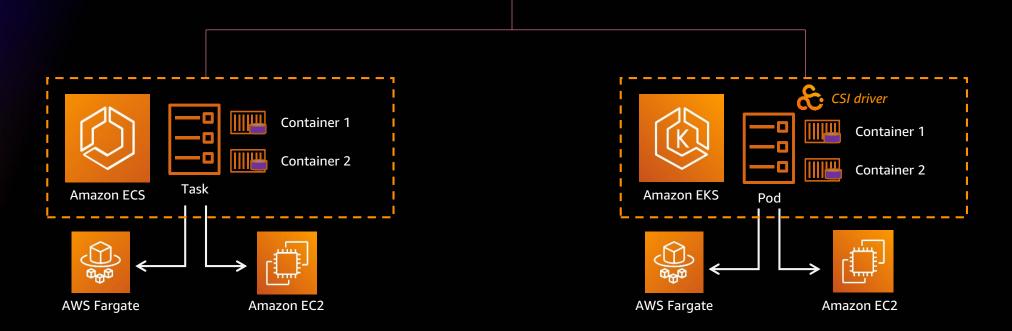
Existing SAN or NAS

How it works



Amazon Elastic File System (Amazon EFS)







Amazon ECS volume definition example

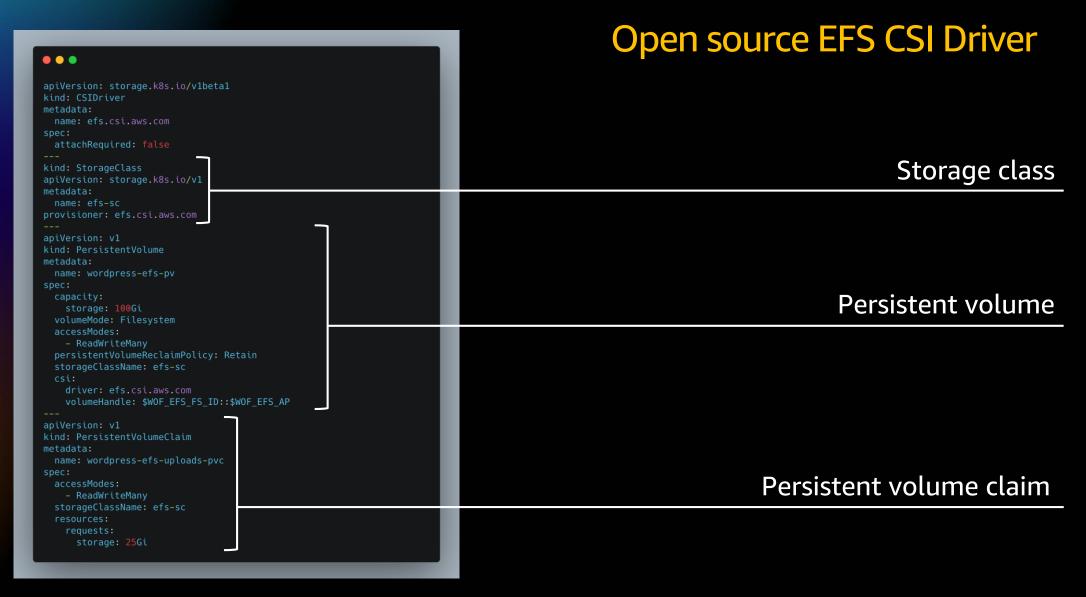
```
"containerDefinitions": [
"mountPoints": [
                    "readOnly": null,
                    "containerPath": "/data",
                    "sourceVolume": "FargateDemoEFS"
            "name": "FileBrowser"
"taskRoleArn": "arn:aws:iam::..:role/FargateRole",
    "volumes": [
            "efsVolumeConfiguration": {
                "transitEncryptionPort": null,
                "fileSystemId": "fs-41c7f3c1",
                    "iam": "ENABLED",
                    "accessPointId": "fsap-0f7741bf379626fc2"
                "transitEncryption": "ENABLED",
                "rootDirectory": "/"
            "name": "FargateDemoEFS",
```

Mount point definition

Amazon EFS volume definition



Amazon EKS volume definition example





Amazon Elastic File Storage (Amazon EFS) key features



Amazon EFS highlights

Simple, scalable, fully managed, highly durable, and available shared file system for AWS compute

Simple and highly reliable



Elastic

Pay only for capacity used
Performance built-in, scales with capacity



3-AZ durable and all-AZ available

Designed for 11 9's of durability 99.99% availability SLA

Serverless shared storage



Serverless and scalable

No provisioning, scale capacity, connections, and IOPs



Concurrent access for 10,000s of connections

Amazon EC2 instances, containers, and AWS Lambda invocations

Performant and cost optimized



Performant

10s of GB/s of and 500,000+ IOPS



Two storage classes

Lifecycle-based cost optimization



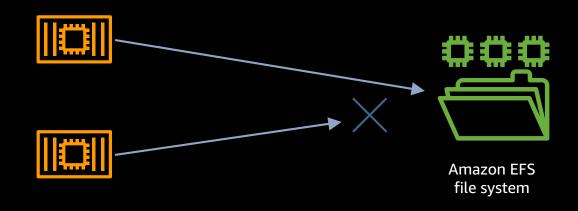
Checklist

- Security and identity
- Performance optimization
- Cost optimization
- Data protection



Goals for security and identity

- File systems should only be mountable by the applications that need them
- 2. Applications that mount file systems should only have access to the data they need

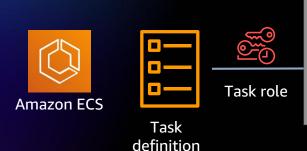


```
$ cat /my_app/data
### SUCCESS THIS IS MY FILE ###
$ cat /someone_elses_app/data
cat: /someone_elses_app/data : Permission denied
```



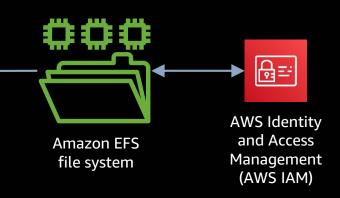
Using AWS IAM for file system access





TLS tunnel (authorized with IAM)

NFS connection



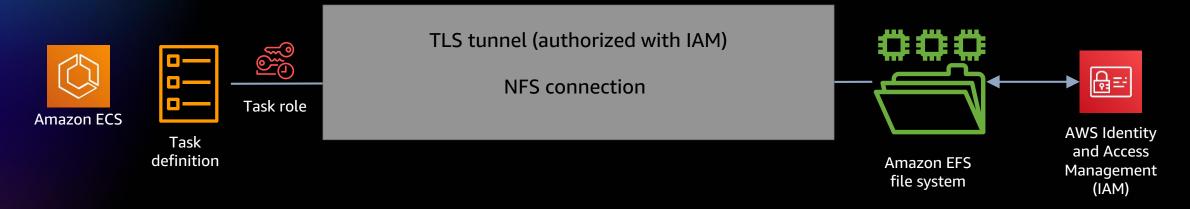
Identity policy attached to IAM role

```
{
    "Statement" : {
        "Effect" : "allow",
        "Action" : "elasticfilesystem:Client*",
        "Resource": "fs-feedfeed"
    }
}
```



Using AWS IAM for file system access





Identity policy attached to IAM role

```
{
    "Statement" : {
        "Effect" : "allow",
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    }
}
```

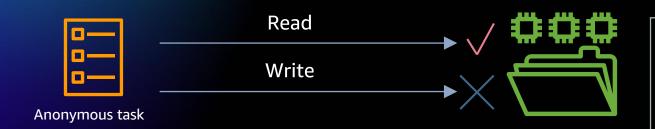
File system resource policy

```
"Statement": {
    "Effect": "allow",
    "Action": "elasticfilesystem:Client*",
    "Principal": { "AWS": "FargateRole" }
  }
}
```



Handling authorization using AWS IAM



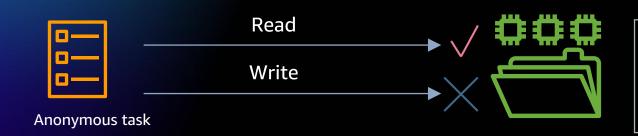


```
"Effect" : "allow",
"Action" : "elasticfilesystem:ClientMount",
"Principal" : "*"
```

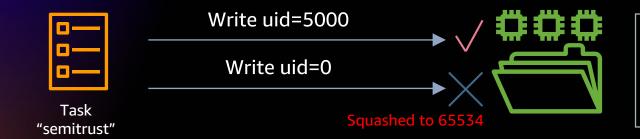


Handling authorization using AWS IAM



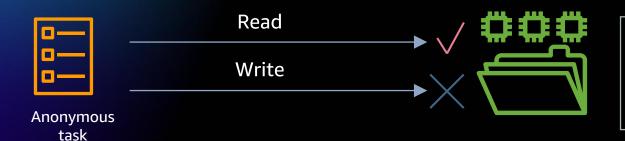


```
"Effect" : "allow",
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```

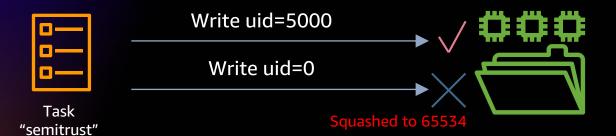


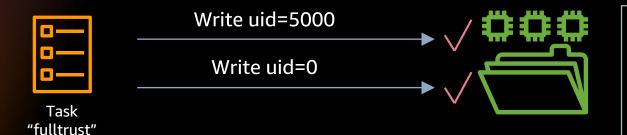
Handling authorization using AWS IAM





```
"Effect" : "allow",
"Action" : "elasticfilesystem:ClientMount",
"Principal" : "*"
```



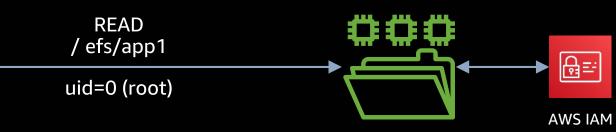


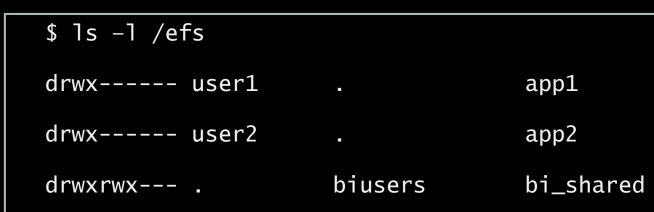


Understanding container identity



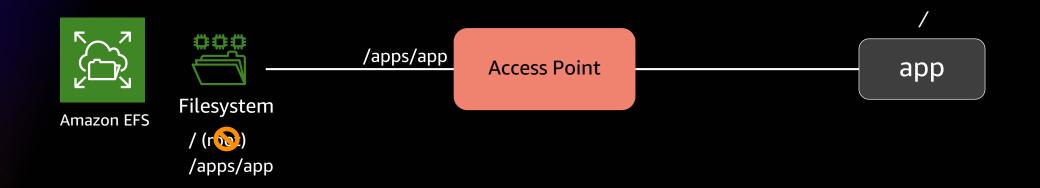
By default, POSIX identity comes from the container image, not the task/pod runtime





Amazon EFS access points



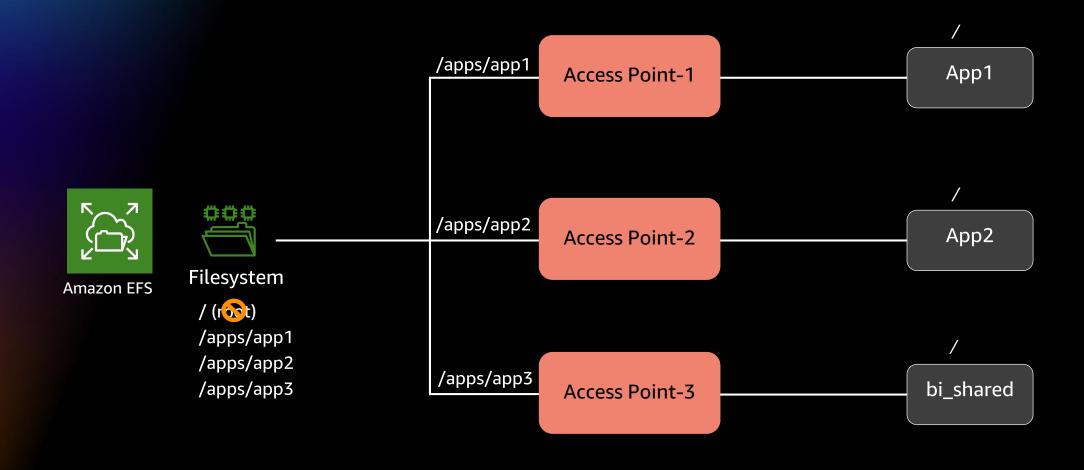


- 1. Can enforce identity: No root (UID=0) access please
- 2. Can enforce different root directory: You can access your directory /App



Amazon EFS access points



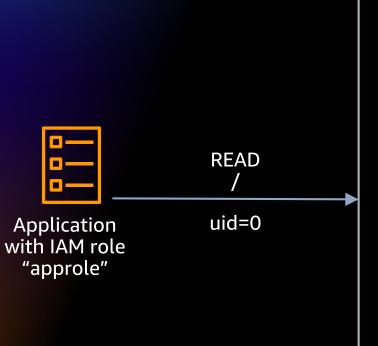




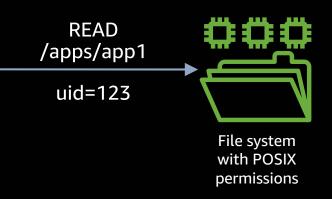
How Amazon EFS access points work



Amazon EFS access point



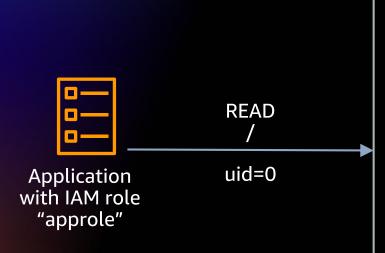
```
"Name": "MyApp",
"PosixUser": {
 "Uid": 123
  "Gid": 123,
  "SecondaryGids": [100, 200, 300]
"RootDirectory": {
  "Path": "/apps/app1",
  "CreationInfo": {
    "OwnerUid": 123,
    "OwnerGid": 123,
    "Permissions": "0700"
```



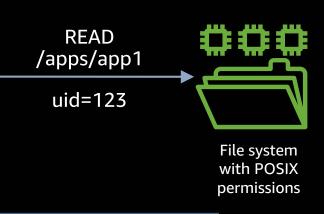
How Amazon EFS access points work



Amazon EFS access point



```
"Name": "MyApp",
"PosixUser": {
 "Uid": 123
 "Gid": 123,
  "SecondaryGids": [100, 200, 300]
"RootDirectory": {
  "Path": "/apps/app1",
  "CreationInfo": {
    "OwnerUid": 123,
    "OwnerGid": 123.
    "Permissions": "0700"
       File system resource policy
```



```
"Effect" : "allow",
"Action" : "elasticfilesystem:Client*",
"Principal" : { "AWS": "approle" },
"Condition"* : {"accessPointArn" : "fsap-1234"}
```

Best practices for security

- Use access points, even if single application per file system
 - Don't leave UID / GID / RootDir blank!
- Use IAM authorization
 - Use resource policies to restrict IAM roles to Amazon EFS access points
 - Use identity policies to give single role "admin" access to file systems
- Enable encryption at rest and encryption in motion



Best practices for performance

- Use General Purpose (GP) for most applications
 - GP lower latency; now supports up to 35K read IOPS
 - Max I/O for scale-out analytics / ML that needs 100K+ IOPS
- Configure provisioned throughput for initial need –as file system grows, you'll eventually be given higher throughput
- Set up Amazon CloudWatch; monitor throughput, IOPS, and burst credits*

Amazon Elastic File System announces 400% increase in read operations for General Purpose mode file systems

Posted On: Apr 1, 2020

https://aws.amazon.com/about-aws/whats-new/2020/04/amazon-elastic-file-system-announces-increase-in-read-operations-for-general-purpose-file-systems/

Amazon Elastic File System increases per-client throughput by 100%

Posted On: Jul 23, 2020

https://aws.amazon.com/about-aws/whats-new/2020/07/amazon-elastic-file-system-increases-per-client-throughput/

^{*} https://github.com/aws-samples/amazon-efs-tutorial/tree/master/monitoring



Optimize cost with Amazon EFS Infrequent Access (IA)

Pay-as-you-go, effective storage cost of \$0.08/GB-MONTH*







Standard storage class

General-purpose file storage \$0.30/GB-month*

Infrequent Access storage class

Cost-optimized for files not accessed every day \$0.025/GB-month* for storage \$0.01/GB* for access

*Pricing in the US East (N. Virginia) region. Assumes 80% of the files are infrequently accessed

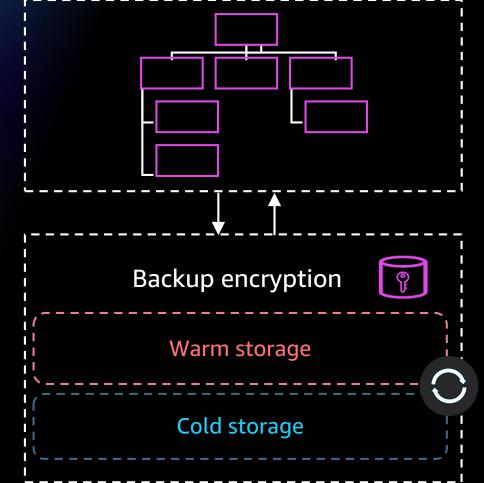


Backup for Amazon EFS





AWS backup



- Amazon EFS file systems can be backed up and restored using AWS Backup
- AWS Backup provides automated backup scheduling and retention per user defined policy
- AWS Backup offers two classes of service backup storage with the ability to lifecycle to cold storage
- AWS Backup restores individual files and directories



When should I use Amazon EFS vs. Amazon EBS?



Amazon EFS



Amazon EBS

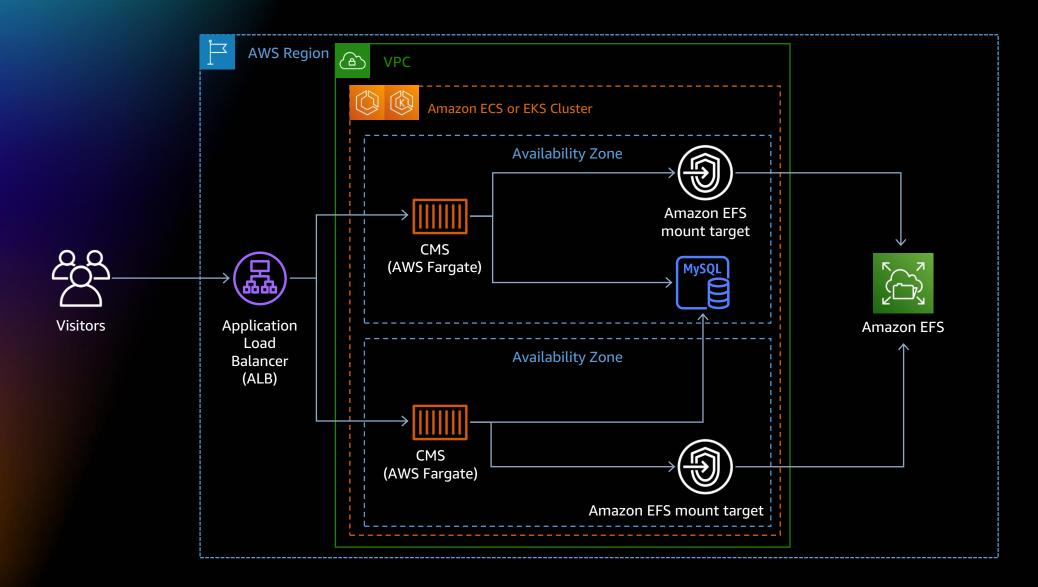
- I need to share data between containers
- I'd like to run across instances or AZs

- I don't need shared storage (e.g., database)
- I need point-in-time snapshots

Note: Amazon FSx for Lustre can be used for containers that require ultra-high throughput and very low latency file sharing

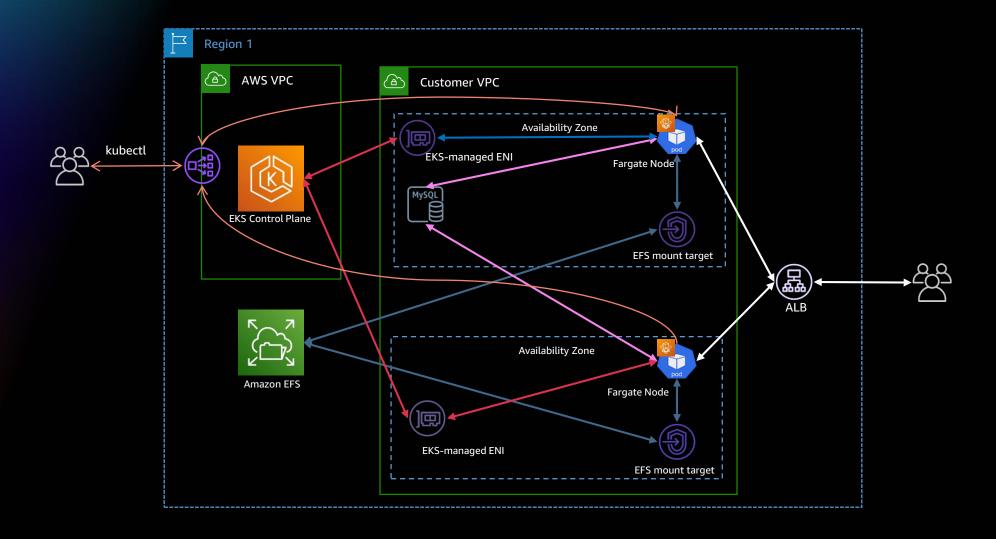


Content Management Systems (CMS) generic architecture





Demo - Amazon EKS on AWS Fargate using Amazon EFS

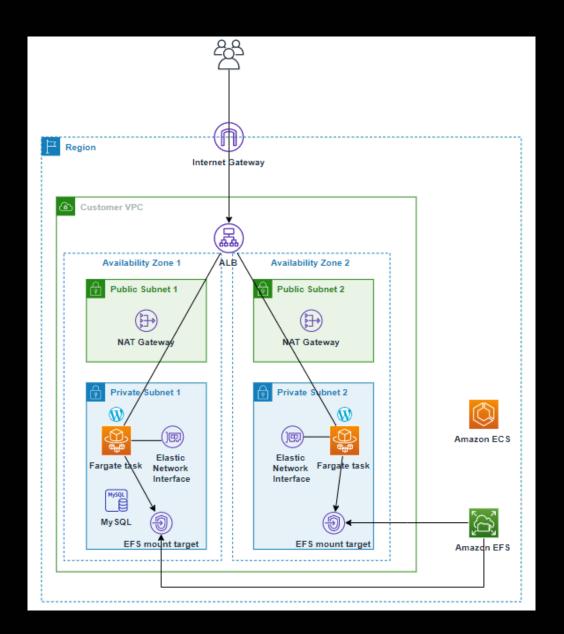




Demo



Demo - Amazon ECS on AWS Fargate using Amazon EFS





Demo



Key takeaways

- Many modern apps on containers require sharing of data
- Amazon EFS works with all container services for variety of apps
- Security
- Demo and references



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- Modernize today with containers on AWS e-book
- Adopting a modern Dev+Ops model e-book
- Modern apps need modern ops e-book
- Determining the total cost of ownership: Comparing Serverless and Server-based technologies paper
- Continuous learning, continuous modernization e-book
- ... and more!



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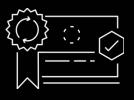
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Thank you!

