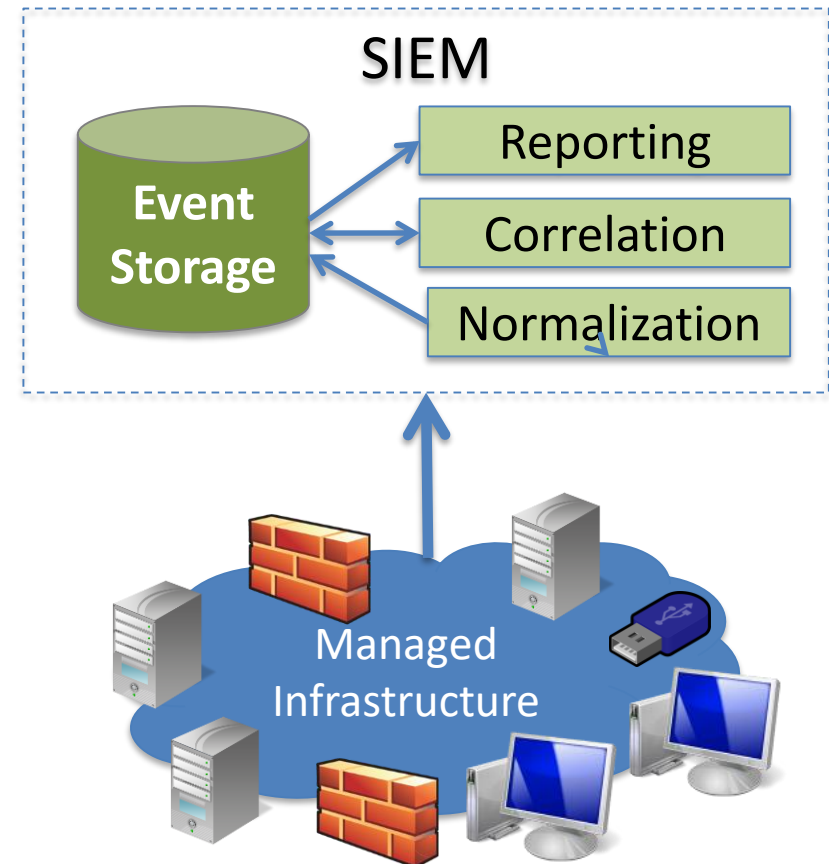


Building a SIEM in the Cloud

Adriano Serckumencka, Ibéria Medeiros, Alysso Bessani
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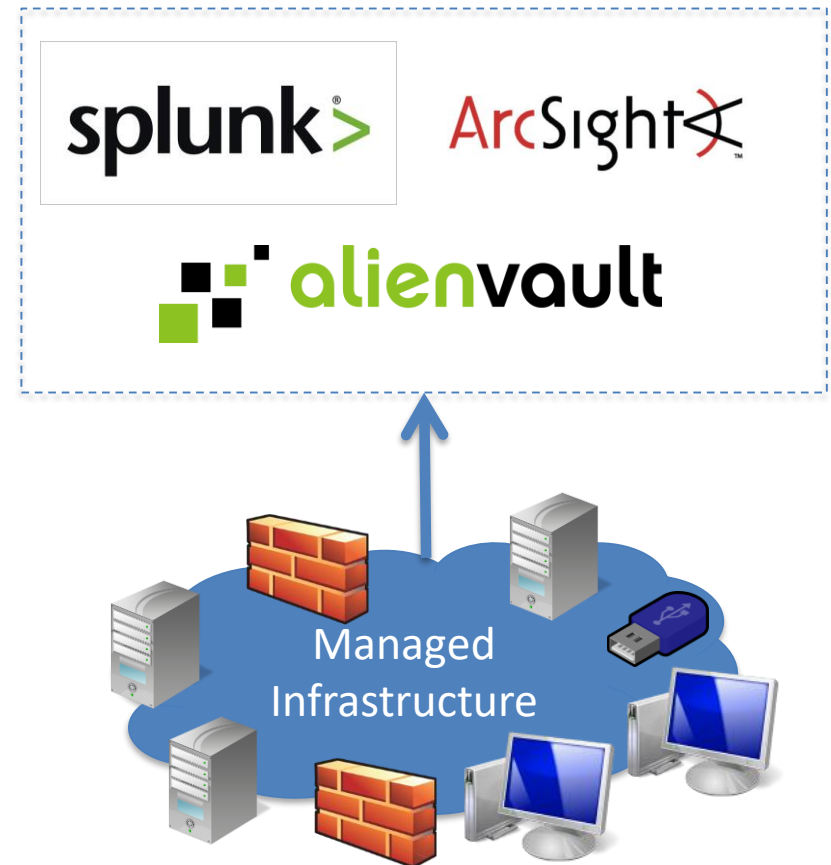
Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) Systems

- **Security Operation Centres:** monitor and manage security of organizations infrastructures
- **SIEM Systems:** distributed tools used to collect, analyse and report
- **Why companies spend millions to deploy SIEMs?**
 - Compliance
 - Threat complexity



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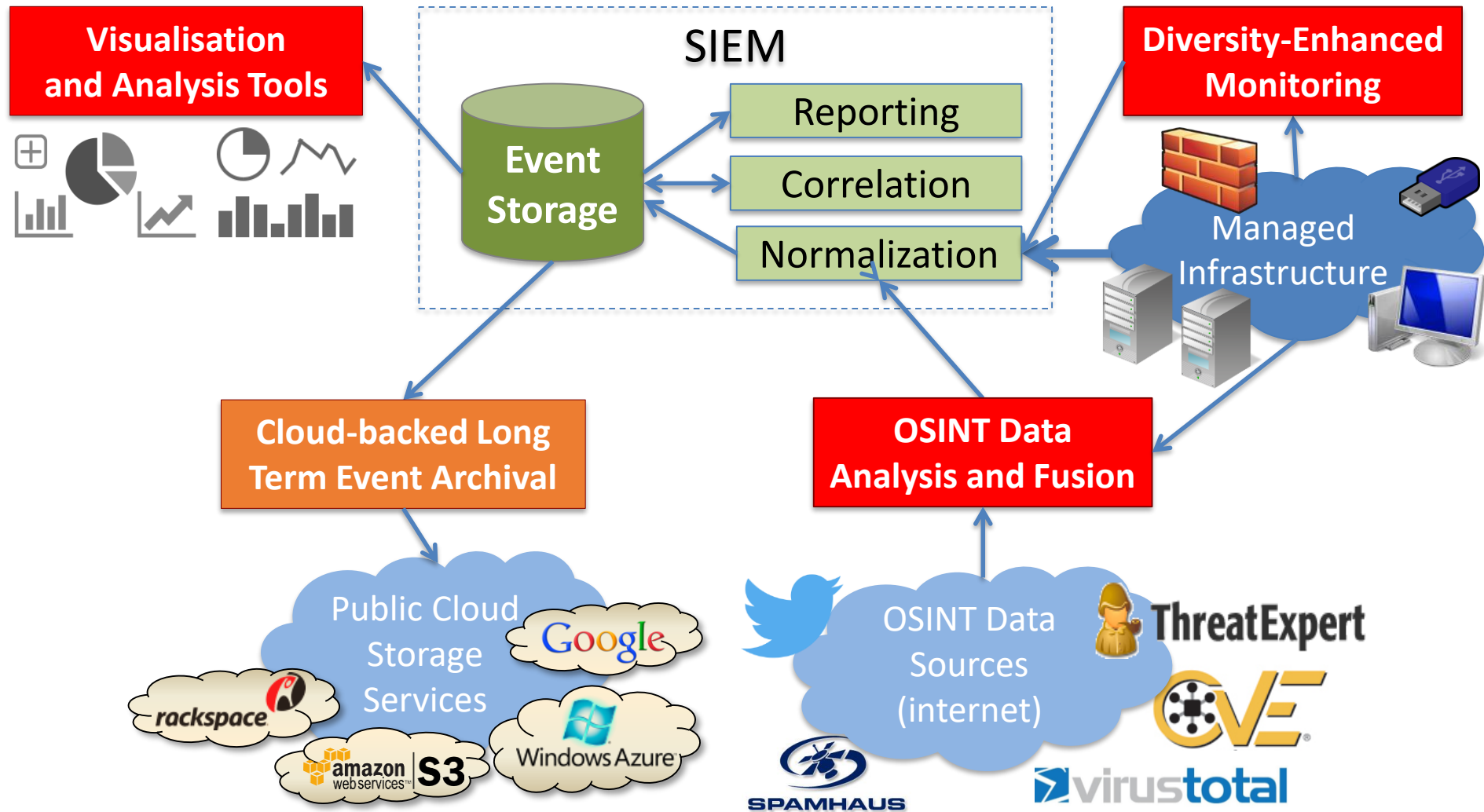


Limitations of SIEM Systems

- **Threat intelligence** (i.e., capability of recognize and rank threats) capacity of SIEMs is still in its infancy
- Current SIEMs can show any “low level” data related with the received events, but they have **little “intelligence” to process** this data and **extract high-level information**
- Most data **visualisation techniques** in current SIEMs are rudimentary
- Event **correlation capabilities** of SIEMs are as good as the quality of the events fed to it
- SIEMs are **incapable of retaining** the collected **events** for a long duration

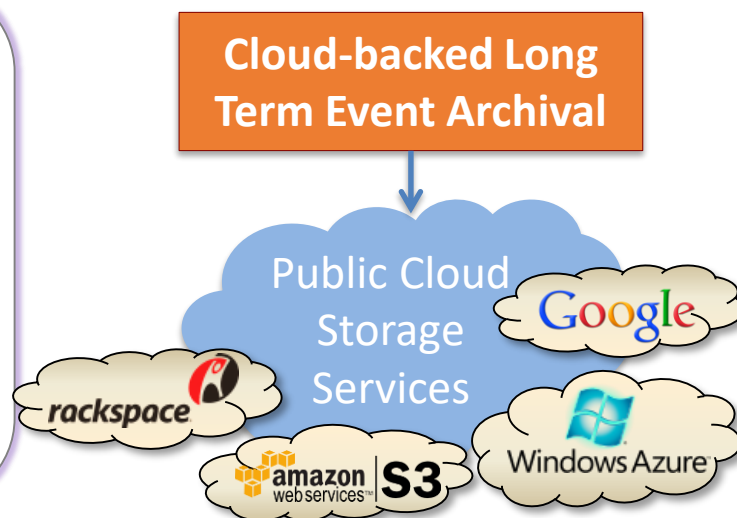


Diversity Enhancements for SIEMs



SIEMs are **incapable of retaining** the collected **events for a long duration** due to storage and event processing constraints

- This limits their forensic investigation capabilities in the long run
- Some zero-day vulnerabilities take up to **320 days** to be discovered
- SIEMs usually keep collected events stored by less than that

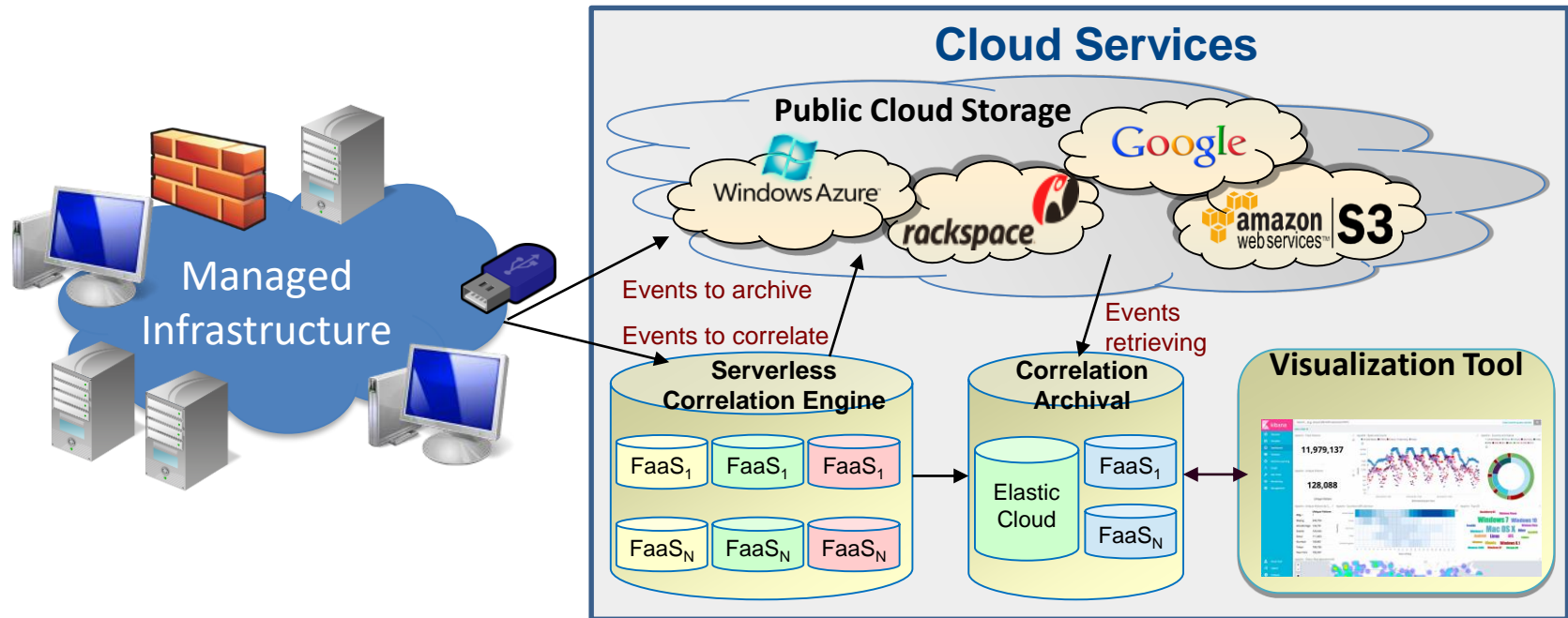


A cloud-backed system for storing selected subsets of events for long periods by using cloud storage services

↳ **SLICER** - Safe Long-term Cloud Event aRchival

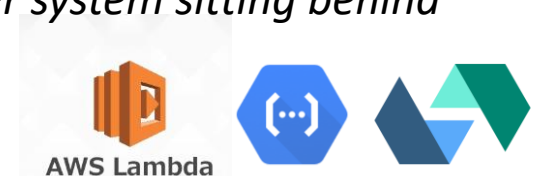


Why not build a SIEM in the cloud ?



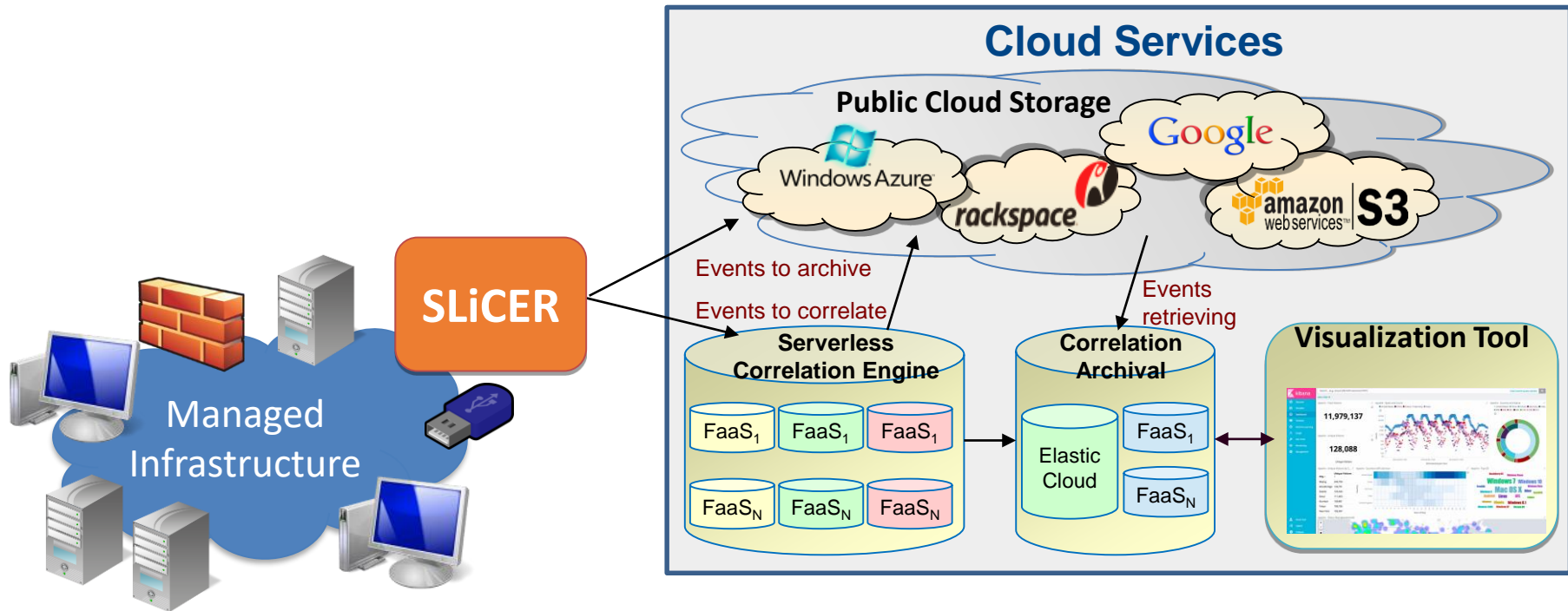
Serverless: focus on application, not on infrastructure -> Function as a Service (FaaS)

removes the need for the traditional 'always on' server system sitting behind an application



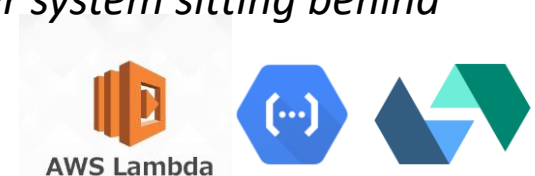
AWS Lambda

Why not build a SIEM in the cloud ?



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SLiCER Key Features

- Organization and storage of the events in a cloud-of-clouds
 - ✓ ensures security, cloud fault tolerance, and cost efficiency
- A data model in which events are aggregated in blocks before being transferred to the clouds
 - ✓ low costs in storing and retrieving data from the cloud
- A process for indexing events in the blocks considering event properties normally used for performing searches (e.g., the IP address of the event source)
 - ✓ acceptable query performance in the cloud-backed archive



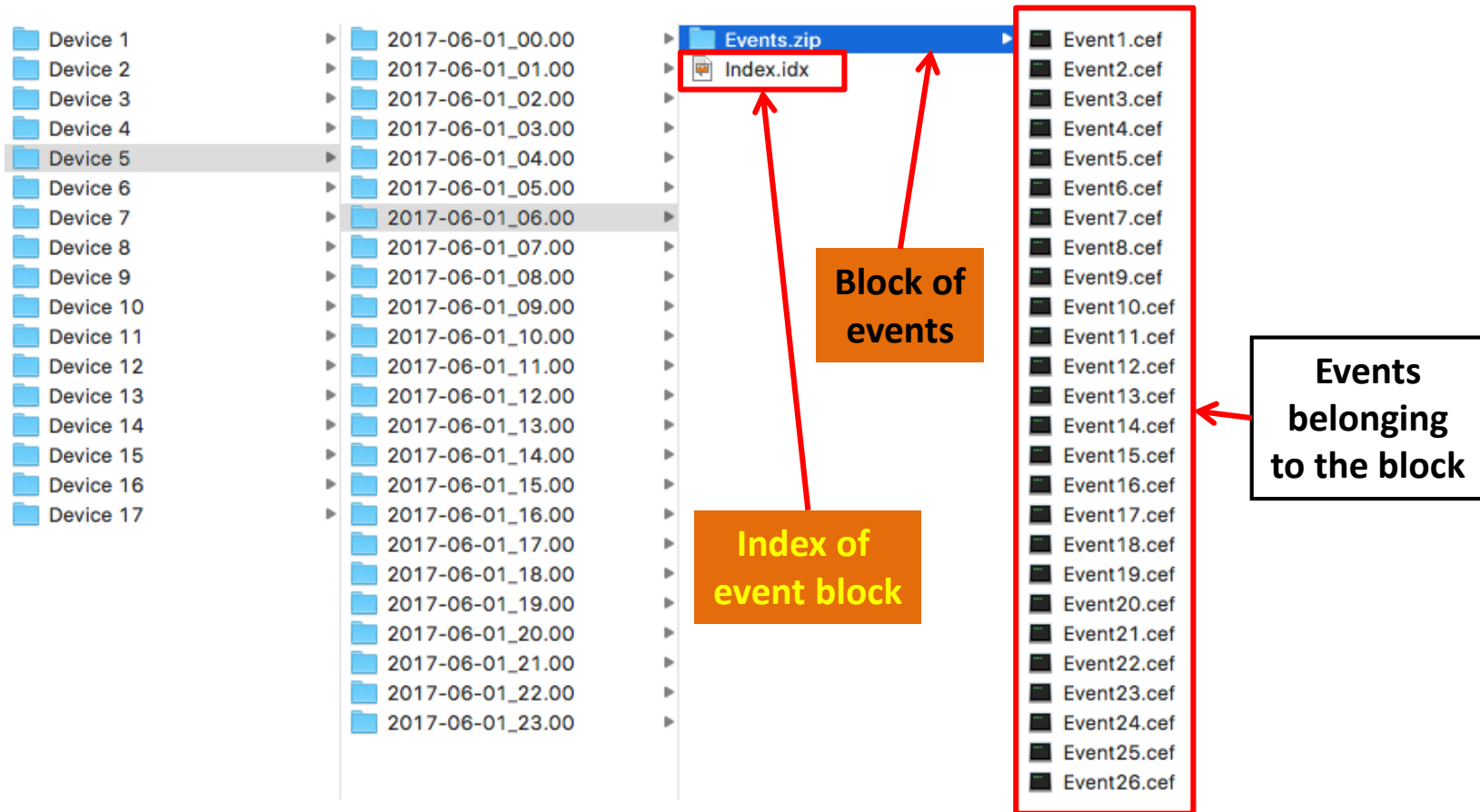
SLiCER challenges

1. Organize the collected events to facilitate the queries to be performed on the archive.
2. Ensure the security of the events stored in the cloud
3. Retrieve events from the clouds in a cost-efficient way



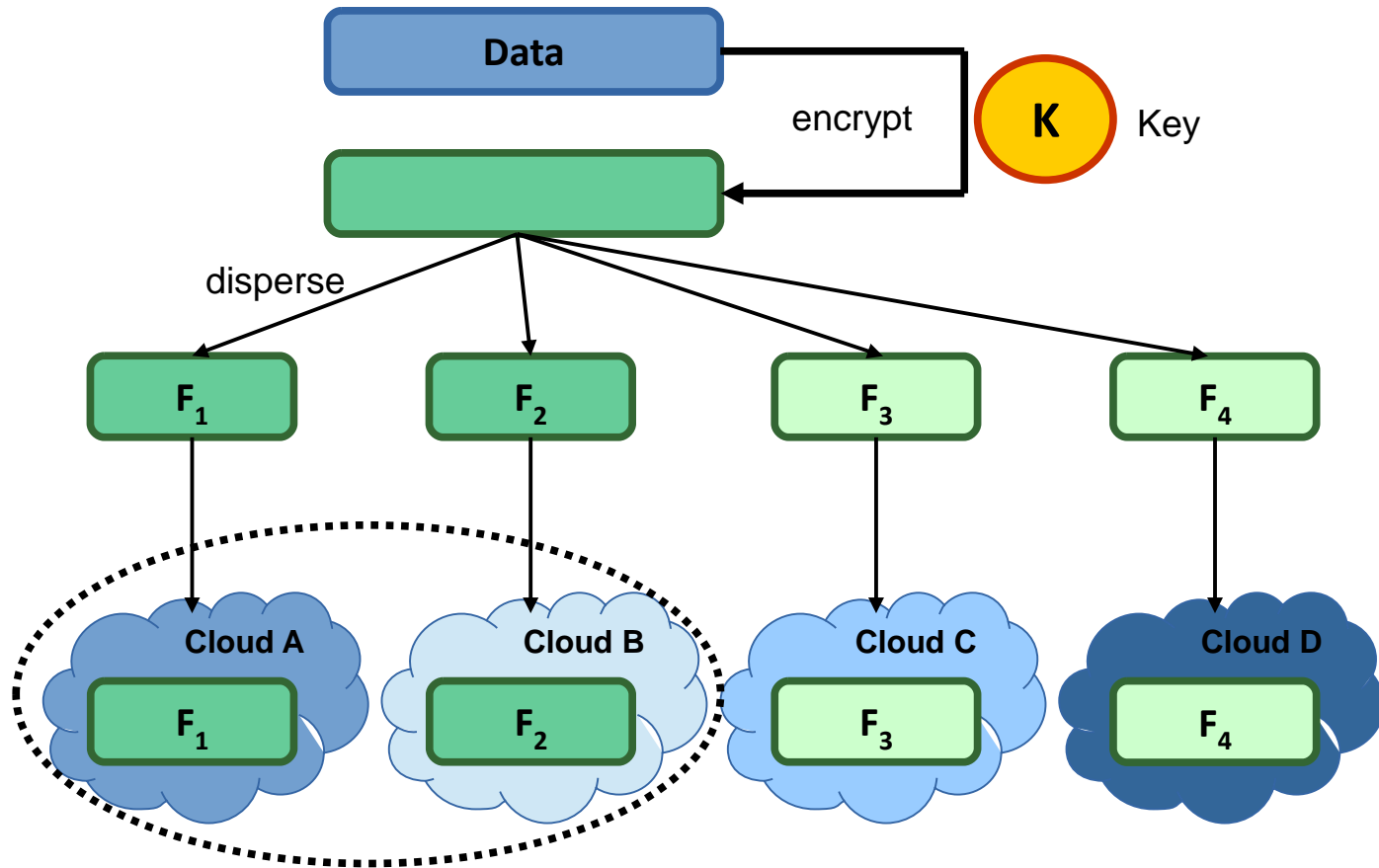
C1. Organize the events to facilitate queries on the archive

1. Create event blocks by device and interval of time
2. Create an index for each block of events



C2. Ensure the security of the events stored in the cloud

Use cloud-of-clouds storage approach for security & dependability



C3. Retrieve events from the cloud in a cost-efficient way

Storage Pricing (varies by region)

Region: EU (Ireland)



| | Standard Storage | Standard - Infrequent Access Storage † |
|---------------------|------------------|--|
| First 50 TB / month | \$0.023 per GB | \$0.0125 per GB |
| Next 450 TB / month | \$0.022 per GB | \$0.0125 per GB |
| Over 500 TB / month | \$0.021 per GB | \$0.0125 per GB |

> 7x more

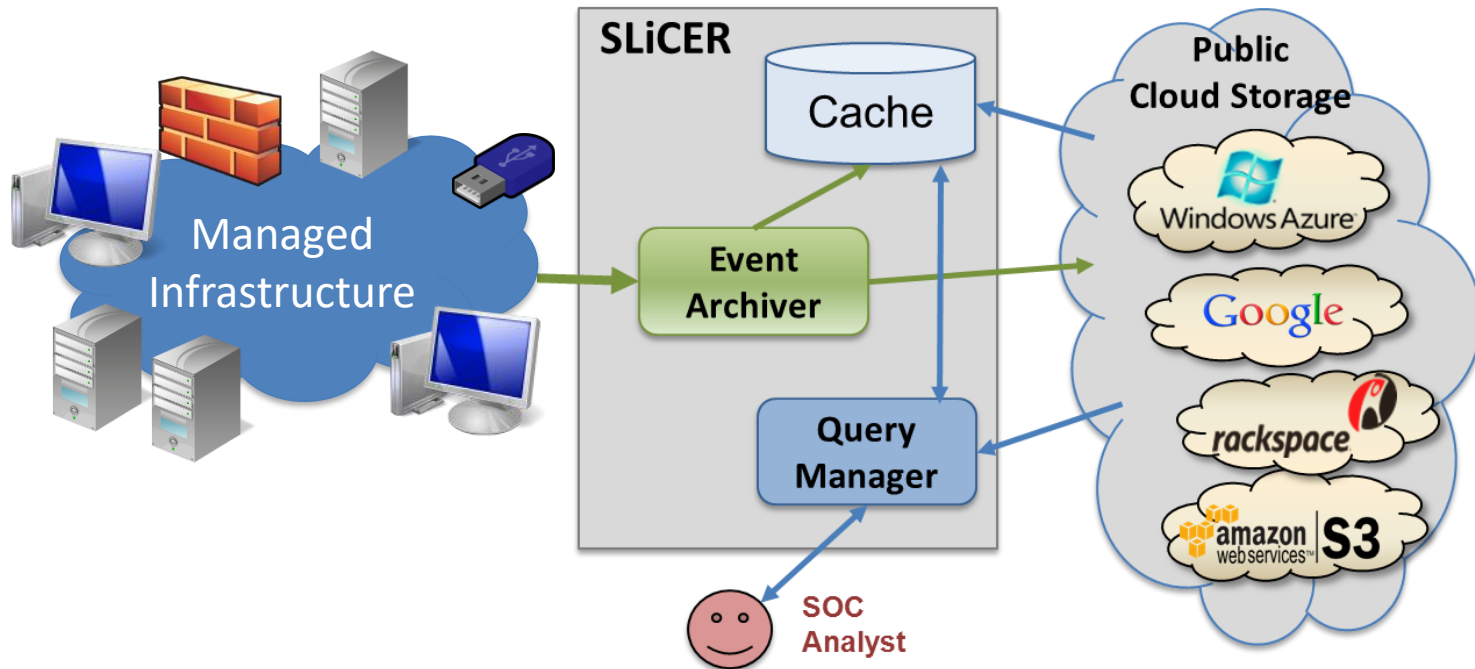
Data Transfer OUT From Amazon S3 To Internet

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| First 1 GB / month | \$0.000 per GB |
| Up to 10 TB / month | \$0.090 per GB |

When querying the cloud archive, we have to avoid downloading data -> indexing



SLiCER Architecture



Query Model

- A query received by SLiCER must to be represented following the query model that follows the structure of blocks defined on the data model
- A query is composed of 3 components: *devices*, *time period* and *terms*

query = (devices; startTime, endTime; terms)

devices that
generated the events

range of time to
search the events

set of words we are
looking for in an event

Events Search

For each specified **devices**:

1. Retrieve the index file for each block containing events generated between **startTime** and **endTime**
2. Search for the **terms** in the index files
3. For each index file in which the some **term** was found, retrieve the corresponding block of events
4. Search for events satisfying **startTime**, **endTime** and **terms** in each block

Query Example

Get all actions made by Attacker address 192.168.1.22, at Feb.13.2017, between 00:00:00 and 00:06:00, registered by FTP and Check Point

{(FTP, Check Point); <Feb.13.2017, 00:00:00, 00:06:00>; {Attacker Address=192.168.1.22}}



| End Time | Name | Attacker Address | Attacker Host Name | Attacker Port | Target Address | Target Port | Target Host Name |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Feb 13 2017 00:00:42 | Successful Network Logon | 192.168.1.22 | CHAT | 0 | 192.168.1.23 | | FTP |
| Feb 13 2017 00:00:42 | User Logoff | | | | 192.168.1.23 | | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:00:42 | Successful Network Logon | 192.168.1.22 | CHAT | 0 | 192.168.1.23 | | FTP server device |
| Feb 13 2017 00:00:42 | User Logoff | | | | 192.168.1.23 | | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:01:41 | Successful Network Logon | 192.168.1.21 | TICKET | 0 | 192.168.1.23 | | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:01:41 | User Logoff | | | | 192.168.1.23 | | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:01:41 | Successful Network Logon | 192.168.1.21 | TICKET | 0 | 192.168.1.23 | | FTP |
| Feb 13 2017 00:01:41 | User Logoff | | | | 192.168.1.23 | | FTP |
| Feb 13 2017 00:02:21 | Connector Raw Event Statistics | | | | | | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:07:21 | Connector Raw Event Statistics | | | | | | |

| End Time | Name | Attacker Address | Attacker Host Name | Attacker Port | Target Address | Target Port | Target Host Name |
|----------------------|--------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Feb 13 2017 00:03:03 | accept | 172.16.24.100 | | 61862 | 10.100.2.101 | 8443 | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:08 | accept | 172.16.27.150 | | 58403 | 255.255.255.255 | | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:08 | accept | 10.100.1.100 | DC | 59306 | 10.10.0.21 | | Check Point device |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:08 | accept | 10.100.1.100 | DC | 58925 | 10.10.0.21 | | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:08 | accept | 192.168.1.25 | MR | 52868 | 10.100.2.101 | | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:08 | accept | 10.100.1.100 | DC | 59733 | 204.110.15.178 | 53 | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:08 | accept | 192.168.1.22 | CHAT | 4639 | 10.100.2.101 | 8443 | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:08 | accept | 10.100.1.106 | COLEC | 137 | 192.102.248.135 | 137 | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:08 | accept | 10.100.1.100 | DC | 59554 | 10.10.0.21 | 53 | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:09 | accept | 192.168.1.25 | MR | 61033 | 10.100.1.100 | 53 | DC |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:09 | accept | 172.16.22.103 | | 39141 | 10.100.2.41 | 8443 | |
| Feb 13 2017 00:05:09 | accept | 192.168.1.23 | FTP | 1395 | 10.100.2.101 | 8443 | |



Indexing

No Index

- no indexes are used, terms are assumed to be present in the blocks

Bloom Filters

- probabilistic data structures that represent a set of elements of the same type (e.g., source IP address, source port)
- fields to be indexed need to be configured by the SOC
- very small, fast to download and query, but generates false positives

Text-based Indexing (Apache Lucene)

- provides indexing and searching over documents with any type of content (formatted or not)
- larger (~20% of the original data), reasonably fast to query
- can be configured to index only certain event fields



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Thank you!