

# Cloud and Virtualization Concepts

From NDG In partnership with VMware IT Academy  
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# Why learn virtualization?

- Modern computing is more efficient due to virtualization
- Virtualization can be used for mobile, personal and cloud computing
- You can also use virtualization in your personal life

# This content will cover

- Understand the benefits of virtualization
- Be able to describe virtualization, virtual machines and hypervisors
- Describe typical data center components that are virtualized
- Become familiar with VMware technology popular in industry

# Virtualization Benefits

- Have you ever wished you could clone yourself?
- If you could, would you be more efficient? Would you do more?
- Virtualization enables computers to be more efficient in a similar fashion
- Computers that use virtualization optimize the available compute resources



# What is virtualization?



# Hardware and Software

- Do you use a smartphone, laptop or home computer?
- Smartphones, laptops or home computers are hardware
- Similar to how your brain controls your actions, software controls hardware
- There are different types of software that control computer actions



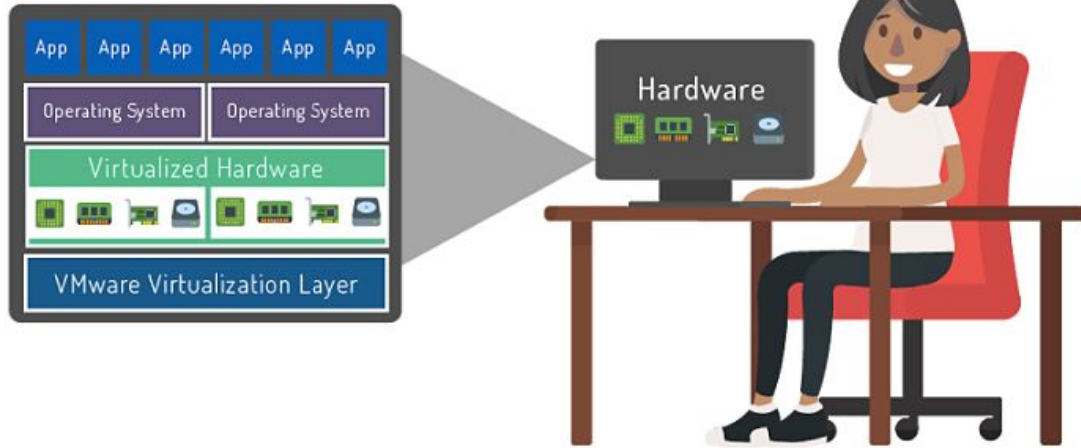
# Hardware

- Processor
  - Also called CPU (Central Processing Unit)
- RAM
  - Random Access Memory
- Read-Only Memory
  - Non-volatile memory that stores BIOS
  - \*BIOS is type of software responsible for turning on (booting) computer
- Motherboard
  - Printed Circuit Board (PCB) that holds processor, RAM, ROM, network and Input/Output (I/O) and other components.
- Chipset
  - Collection of microchips on motherboard that manage specific functions.
- Storage
  - A persistent (non-volatile) storage device such as a Hard Drive Disk or Solid State Drive

# Software

- System software is necessary for hardware to function
- Operating system controls the hardware
- Application software tells your system to execute a task you want





Now that you are aware of the roles of hardware and software, the concept of virtualization will be easier to grasp. Virtualization is the “layer” of technology that goes between the physical hardware of a device and the operating system to create one or more copies of the device.

# What is a VM?

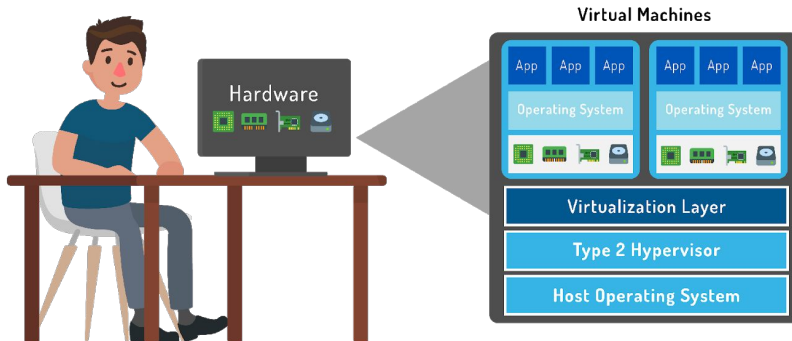
- Virtualization creates virtual hardware by cloning physical hardware
- The hypervisor uses virtual hardware to create a virtual machine (VM)
- A VM is a set of files
- With a hypervisor and VMs, one computer can run multiple OS simultaneously



# The Hypervisor

# What is a Hypervisor?

- Software installed on top of hardware that created virtualization layer
- Hosts VMs
- Type 1 Hypervisor – Bare metal hypervisor (VMware ESXi)
- Type 2 Hypervisor – Hosted hypervisor (VMware Workstation)



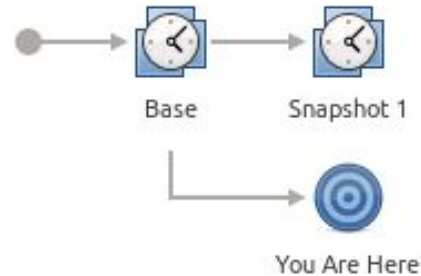
# Virtual Machine Files

- VMs can be exported and moved to other hosts
- Files are created by the hypervisor and stored in a directory
- Example VM files:

File Type	File Name	Description
Log File	<vmname>.log	Keeps a log of VM activity
Disk File	<vmname>.vmdk	Stores content of VM's disk drive
Snapshot Files	<vmname>.vmsd and <vmname>.vmsn	Stores information about VM snapshots (saved VM state)
Configuration File	<vmname>.vmx	Stores information about VM name, BIOS, guest OS, and memory

# What is a snapshot?

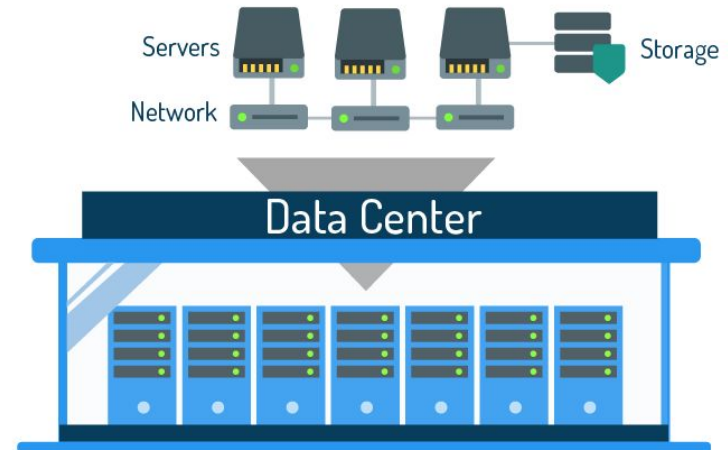
- Working on a VM and need to save progress or state
- Snapshots are saved as files in the VM folder (<vmname>.vmx)
- What is saved by a snapshot?
  - State of VM disks
  - Contents of VM memory
  - VM settings



# The Data Center

# What is a Data Center?

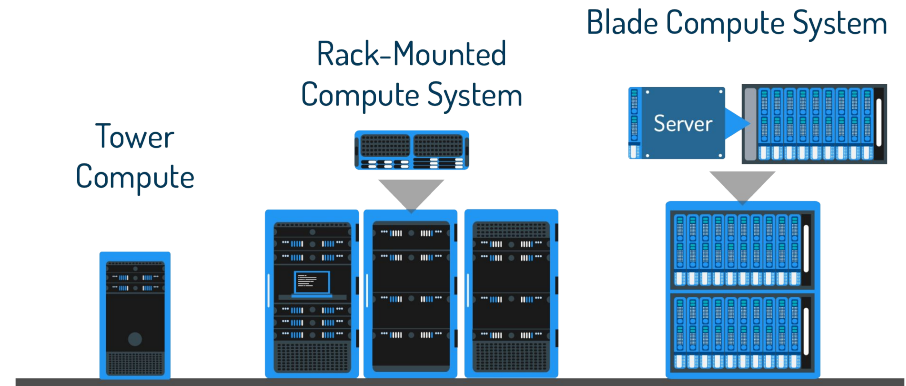
- **Hardware** infrastructure that supports virtualization
- Focus is on processing large amounts of data
- What are the three main components?
  - Compute
  - Storage
  - Networks





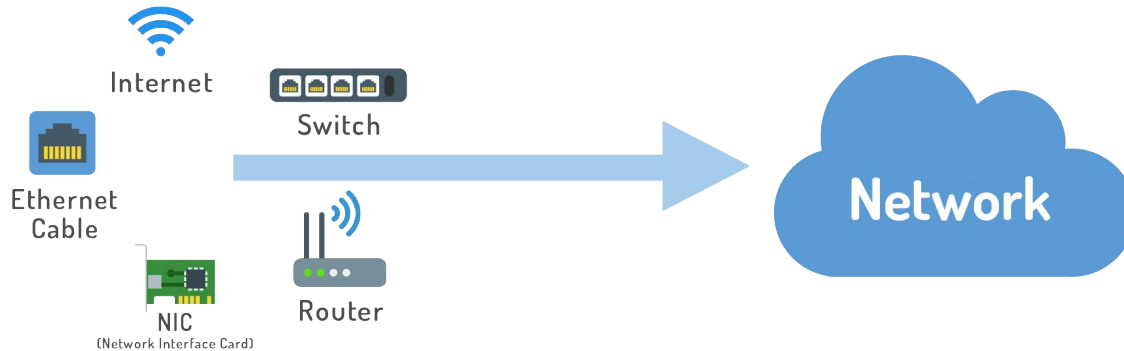
# Compute Systems

- Hardware and operating system software that runs applications
- Difference between a PC and a server
  - PCs have user-friendly interface while servers focus on running programs
- Types of servers:
  - Tower
  - Blade server
  - Rack-mounted server
- What is the architecture of a server?



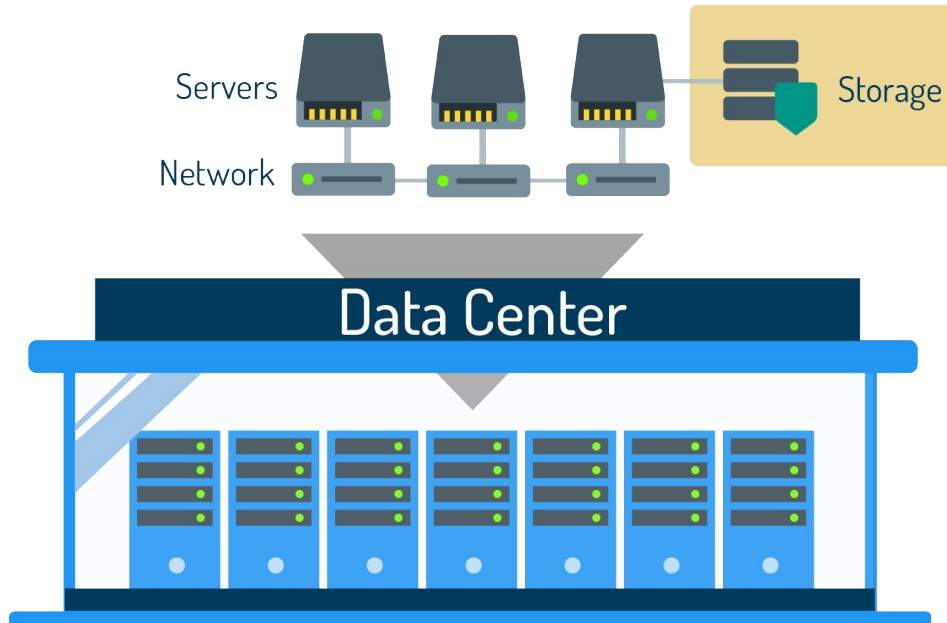
# Networks

- Transfer data across the data center so devices can communicate
- What type of hardware is used for networking?



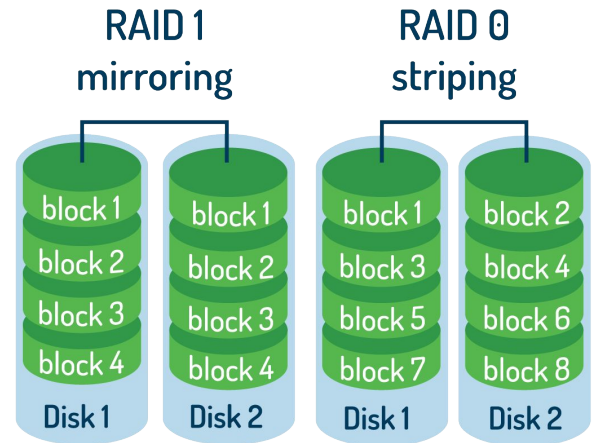
# Storage

- Data center storage should have two features: **availability** and **redundancy**



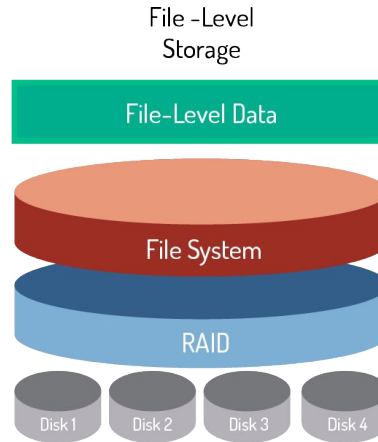
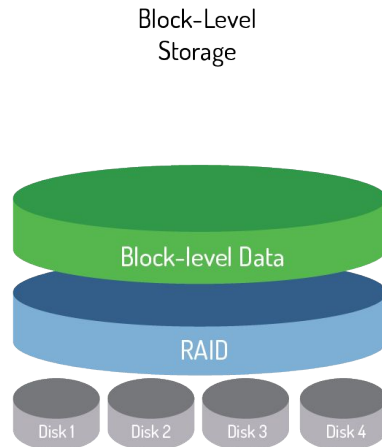
# Storage - RAID

- **R**edundant **A**rray of **I**ndependent **D**isks
- Hard drives linked together to create a large volume of **redundant** storage
- What are the three methods of writing to RAID?
  - Mirroring
  - Striping
  - Parity
- What do the RAID numbers mean (i.e., 0, 1, 5)?



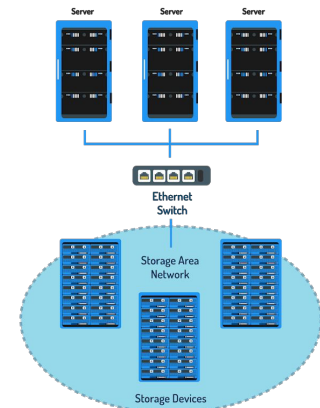
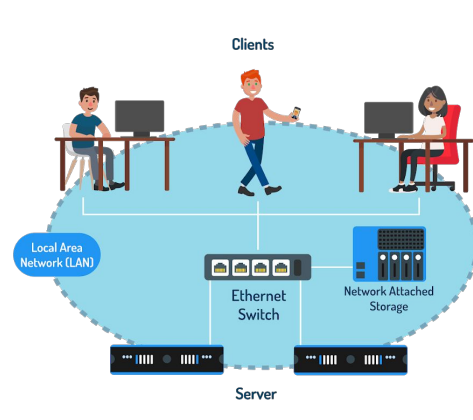
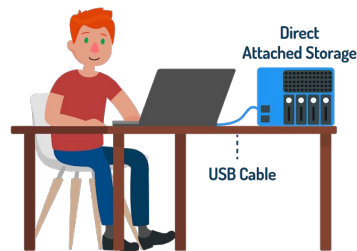
# Storage - Block vs. File Level

- **Block-Level Storage** – Data is written to and accessed from storage volumes (blocks)
- **File-Level Storage** – Data is written to disks but accessed from default file system



# Storage – Types of Data Center Storage

- **DAS** – Storage device is directly attached to a server (block-level)
- **NAS** – Storage device is attached to a network, servers on the network can access device (file-level)
- **SAN** – Clustered storage devices on their own network that servers can connect to (block-level)

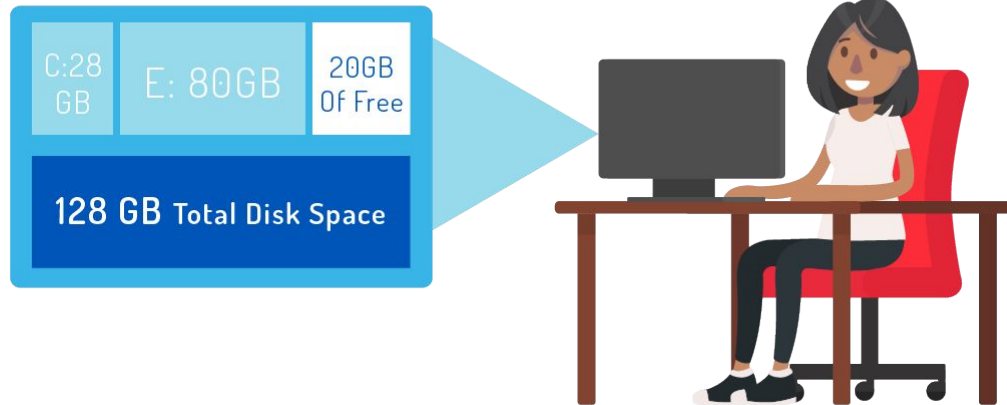


# Common Data Center Storage Protocols

Protocol	Application
SCSI (Internet Small Computer System Interface)	Medium-sized blade servers, Enterprise servers, DAS
FC (Fiber Channel)	Enterprise servers, SAN
FCoE (Fiber Channel over Ethernet)	Enterprise servers, SAN
iSCSI (Internet Small Computer System Interface)	Enterprise servers, NAS

# Storage Provisioning

- **Thick provisioning:** Disk space is strategically pre-allocated to a server, or a VM. This means that the logical space provided by partitioning is equal to the amount of actual physical space set aside on the physical disk.





# Virtual Data Center

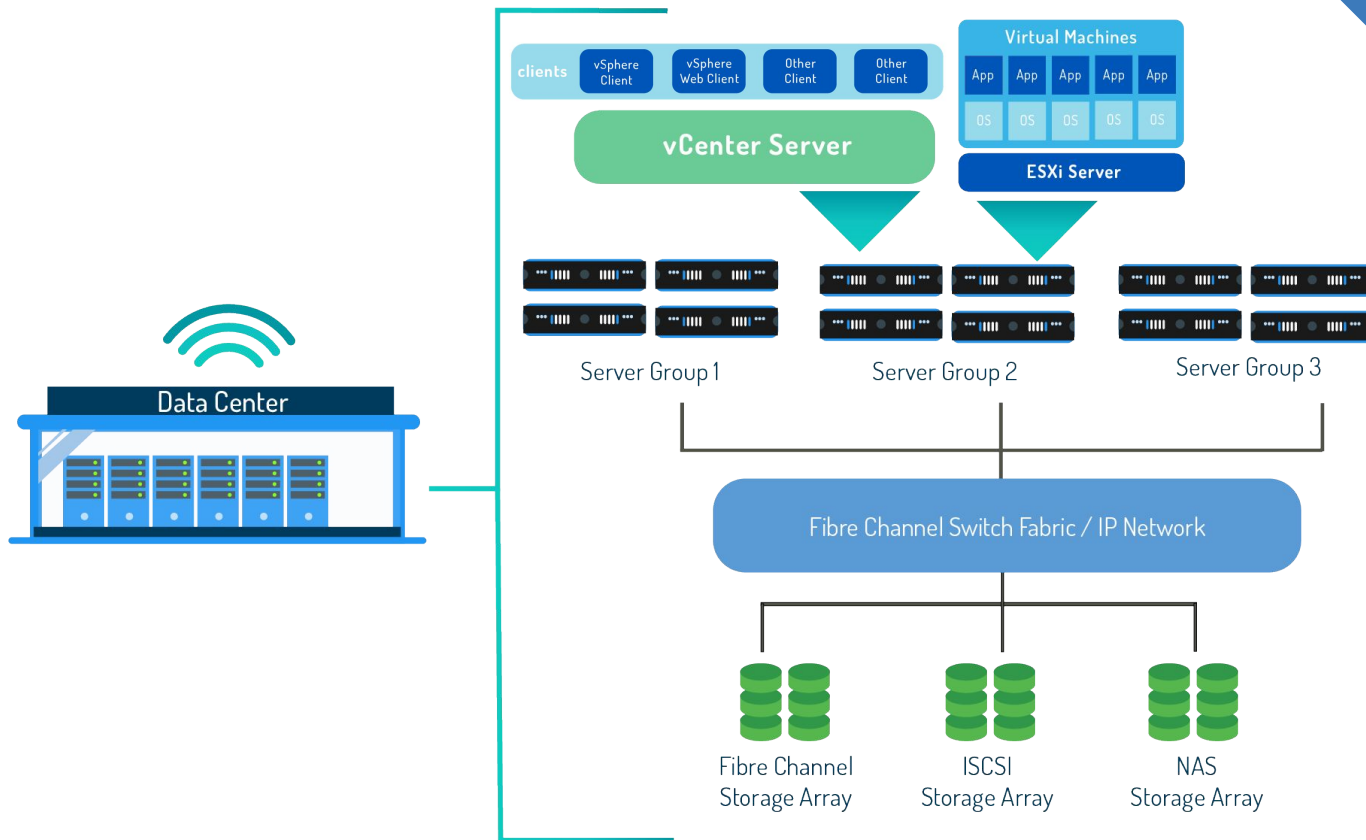
# Benefits of a Virtual Data Center

- Data centers use a lot of hardware and virtualization makes hardware more efficient
- Increased computing resources results in higher **availability** of applications
- Less labor needed to monitor data center (administrator can monitor from desk using a program)
- **Software-defined data center (SDDC):** Hypervisor pools physical data center resources into a virtual data center

# What is vSphere?

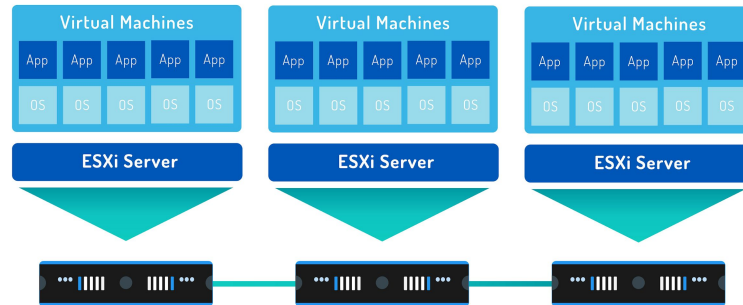
- Suite of virtualization technology designed for larger enterprise data center management
- vSphere virtualization tools include:
  - **ESXi**: Type 1 Hypervisor
  - **vCenter**: Management software (installed on management server) -
  - vSphere Client**: Program that controls host servers and VMs

# vSphere



# What is ESXi?

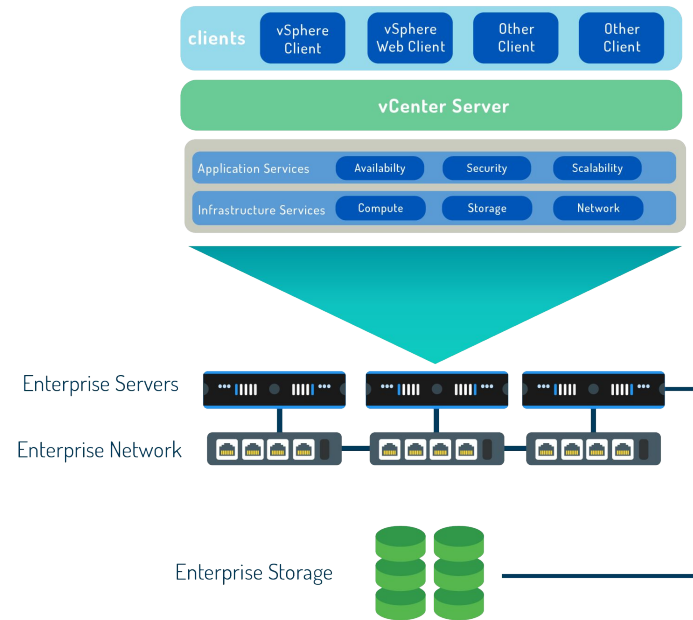
- ESXi is VMware's Type 1 hypervisor software installed directly on the physical server and creates the virtual layer
- Components of ESXi:
  - Unix Microkernel
  - VMware Kernel (VMkernel)



Physical Servers

# vCenter and vSphere Client

- **vCenter:** Software installed on a dedicated server to manage ESXi servers and other components of a virtualized data center
- **vSphere Client:** Program with a graphical user interface (GUI) that allows data center administrators to connect to vCenter and ESXi remotely



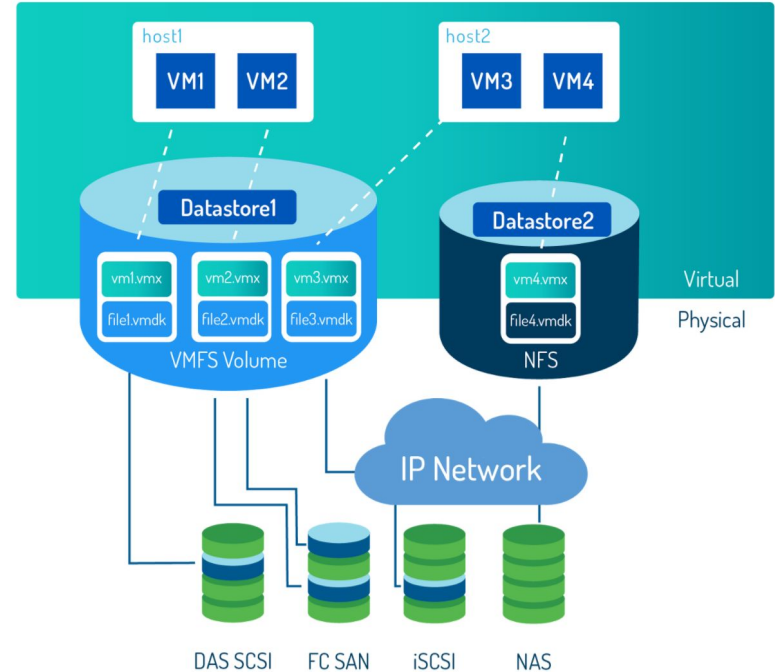
# Server Virtualization

- Results in increased efficiency of data center servers because multiple VMs can be hosted on one server
- Computing resources can be distributed to customers using less hardware



# Storage Virtualization

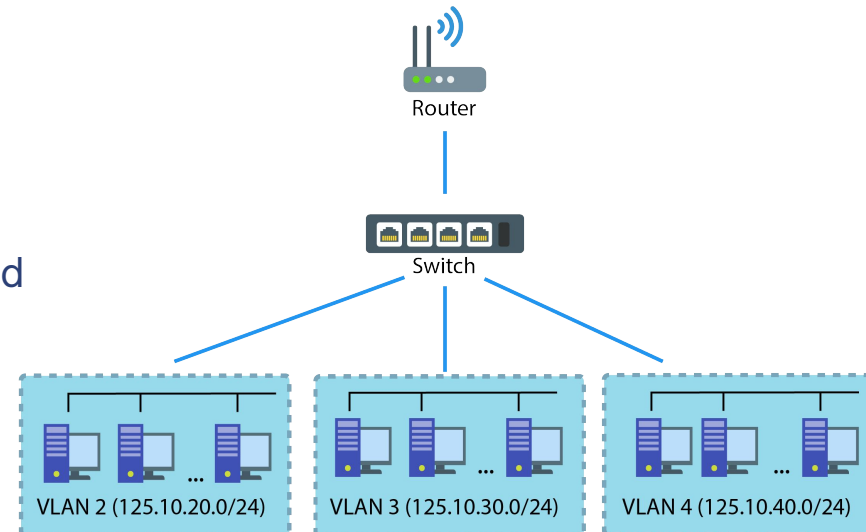
- Storage capacity is pooled and distributed to the VMs
  - Physical storage devices are partitioned into logical storage (**LUNs**)
  - LUNs are used to create a **datastore**
- How do VMs access data center storage?
  - VMs are stored as VMDK (.vmdk) files in a datastore
  - VM configuration files (VM settings) stored as VMX (.vmx) files





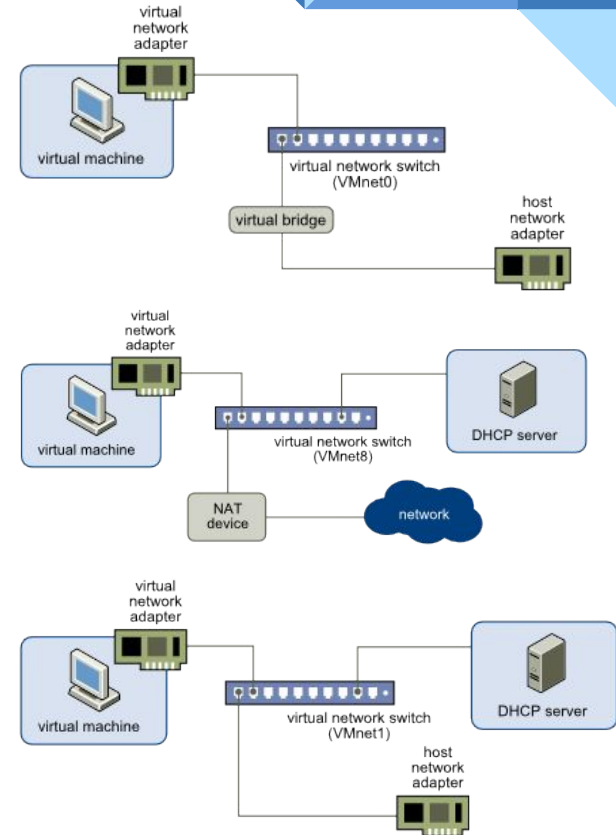
# Network Virtualization

- Physical components that make up the physical network are virtualized to create a *virtual network*
- What is a vSwitch?
  - Virtual switch that virtual devices can connect to in order to communicate with each other
- What is a vLAN?
  - Virtual Local Area Network that is segmented into groups of ports isolated from one another, creating different *network segments*



# Types of Virtual Networks

- **Bridged Network:** The host server and the VM are connected to the same network, and the host shares its IP address with the VM
- **NAT:** VMs use an IP translated from the host's IP (using NAT device) and communicate on a private network set up on the host computer
- **Host-only Network:** VMs use a private network but do not have translated IP addresses to connect to external network, therefore can only communicate to other VMs on the isolated host network



# Application and Desktop Virtualization

- Why use virtualized applications?
  - Some applications have specific system requirements
  - VMware **Thinapp** creates a packaged virtual app, that contains the program and system requirements, and delivers it to the end-user
- What is desktop virtualization?
  - Designed to solve computing resource issues faced by the mobile workforce (workers that need computing without the hardware)
  - VMware **Horizon** takes the resources needed to create a desktop environment from data centers and delivers it to the end-user's device

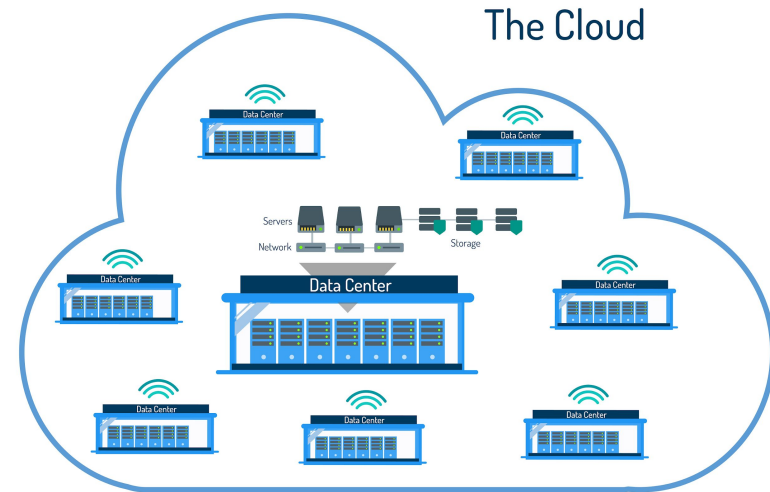
# Convergence

- **Convergence:** Moving from a traditional hardware-based server model to a virtual data center
- Two strategies:
  - **Containment:** Not deploying any existing applications for customers on virtual servers. Maintain applications running on the hardware-based data center.
  - **Consolidation:** Moving applications that are running in the old hardware-based data center model using VMware P2V technology

# What is the Cloud?

# The Cloud

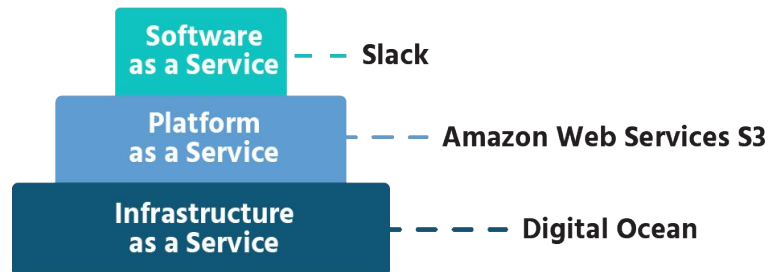
- Cloud computing is the delivery of shared computing resources (software and/or data) on-demand through the internet



# Types of Cloud Computing

Cloud computing is categorized into different service models. The major types of cloud computing are:

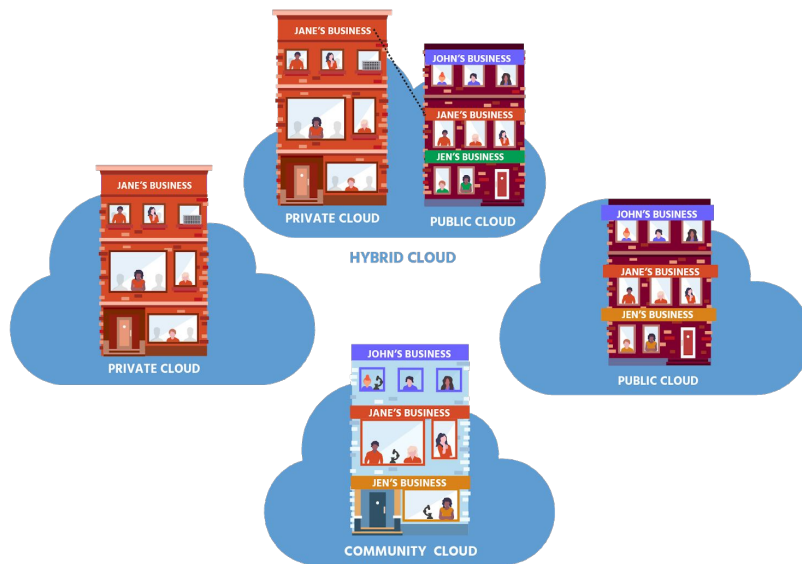
- Software as a Service (SaaS)
- Platform as a Service (PaaS)
- Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS)



# Cloud Deployment Models

Cloud deployment includes an emphasize on where the hardware or software is running and who is controlling it.

- Private Cloud
- Community Cloud
- Public Cloud
- Hybrid Cloud

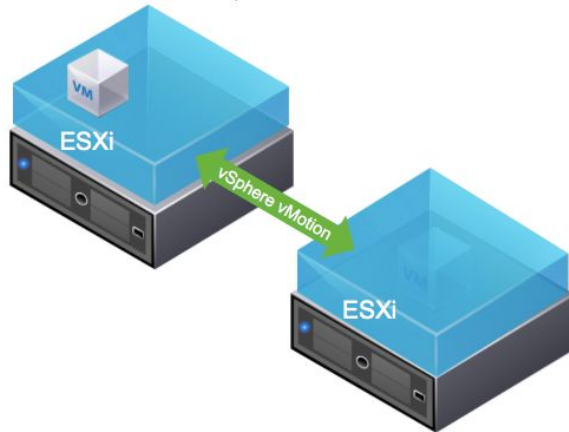




# VMware Solutions

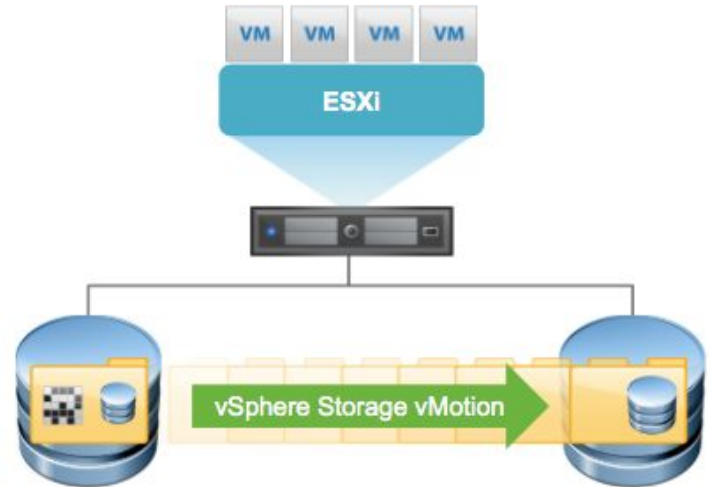
# vMotion

- Move running virtual machines from one ESXi host to another ESXi host without service interruption (live migration)
- Increases **availability** of data and computing resources



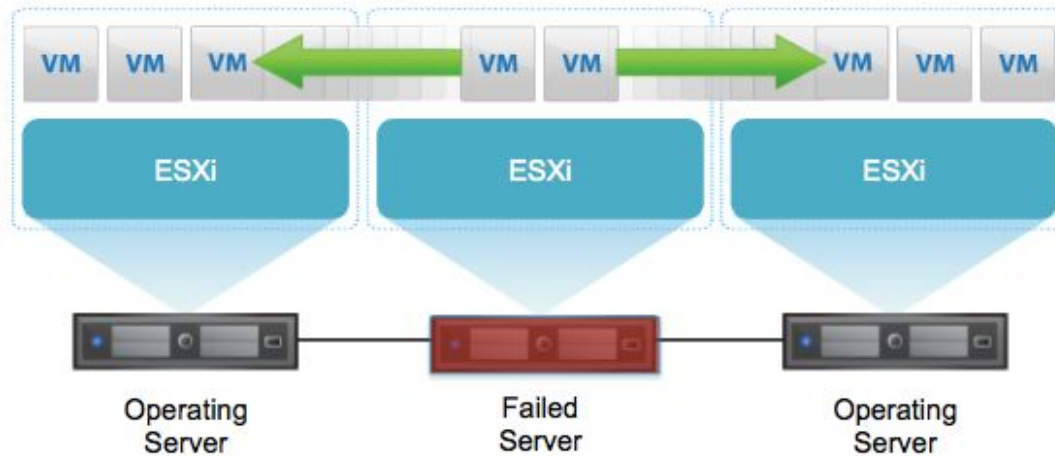
# Storage vMotion

- Move the disks and configuration files of a running virtual machine from one datastore to another datastore without service interruption
- Increases **availability** of storage



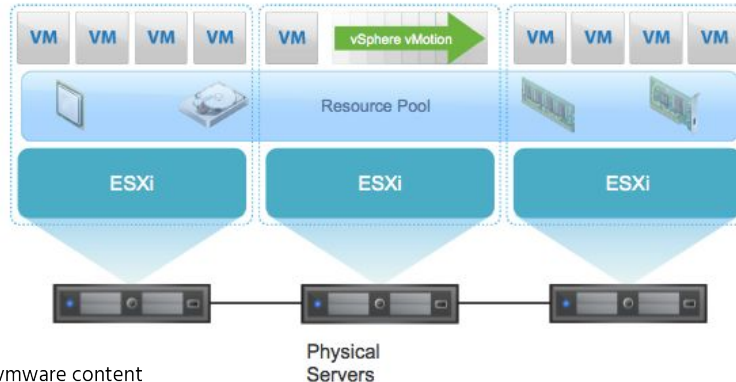
# High Availability (HA)

- Pools servers (hosts) and the VMs that reside on them in a cluster so that in the event of a failure, the virtual machines on a failed host are restarted on alternate hosts



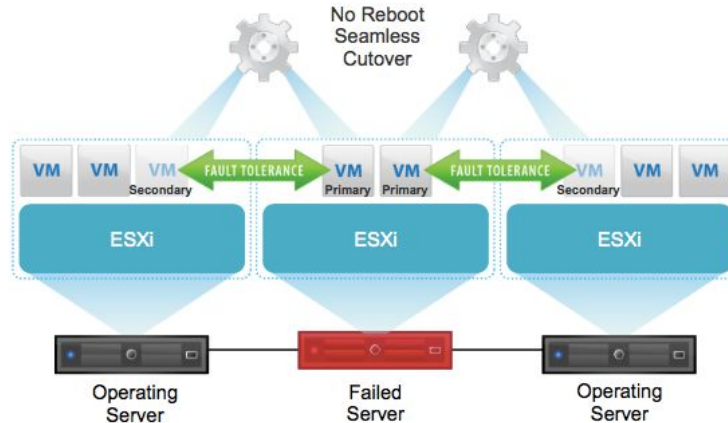
# Distributed Resource Scheduler (DRS)

- What problem does DRS solve?
- HA clusters need to be monitored and managed. DRS implements a shared management interface so that the cluster's resources can be monitored and managed
- vSphere Storage Distributed Resource Scheduler provides the same solution for storage clusters



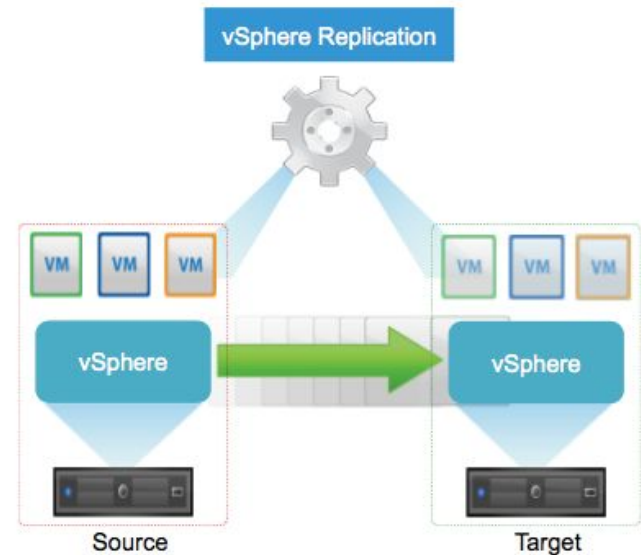
# Fault Tolerance (FT)

- A secondary copy of that virtual machine and its files is created on another ESXi host and datastore
- Using FT, the transfer to a different server is seamless and will not be noticeable to the end-user

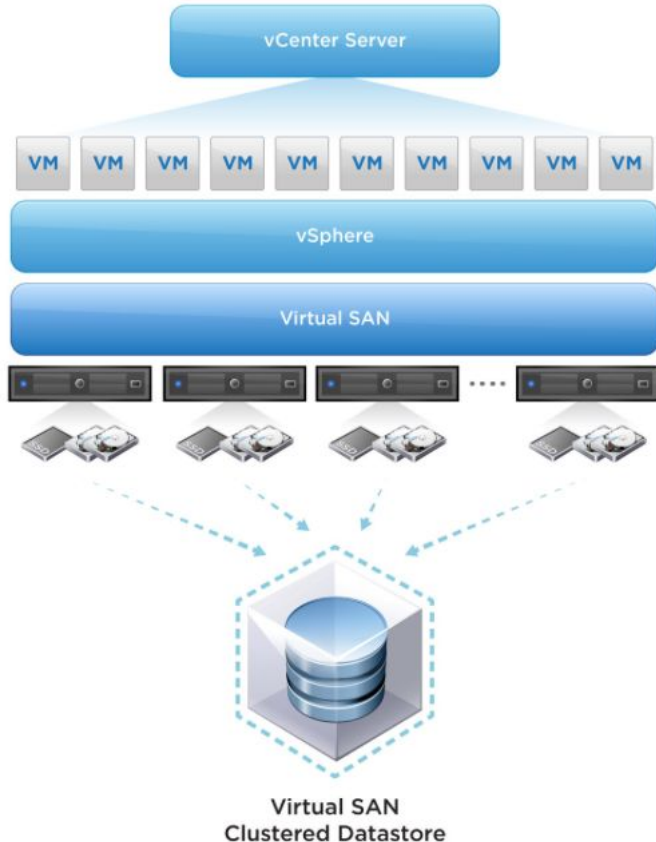


# Replication

- vSphere Replication makes copies of VMs in a different physical location, useful for data protection and disaster recovery
- Works with vSphere Client to allow admins to monitor



# VSAN

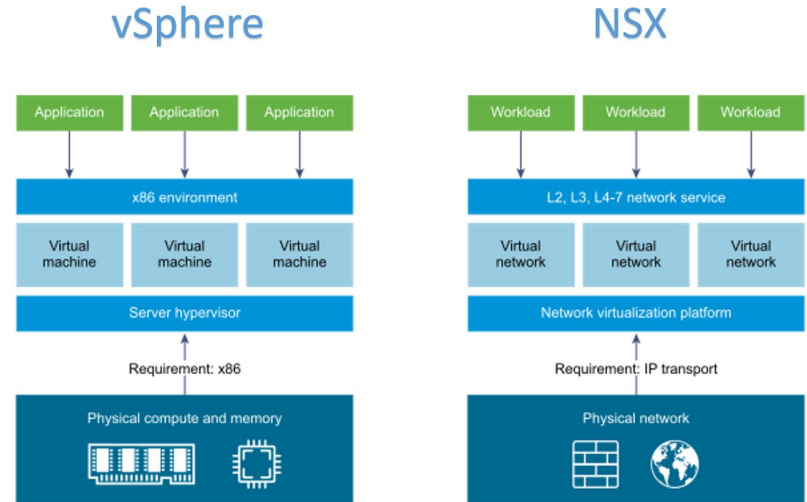


- VMware VSAN (Virtual Storage Area Network) virtualizes existing storage in data center servers
- Creates a **hyper-converged** infrastructure; integrated virtualized data center components from one vendor (i.e., VMware) (Do you recall what a converged infrastructure is?)
- Interacts with vSphere to create one layer of virtualization software, which is managed by the vCenter management layer



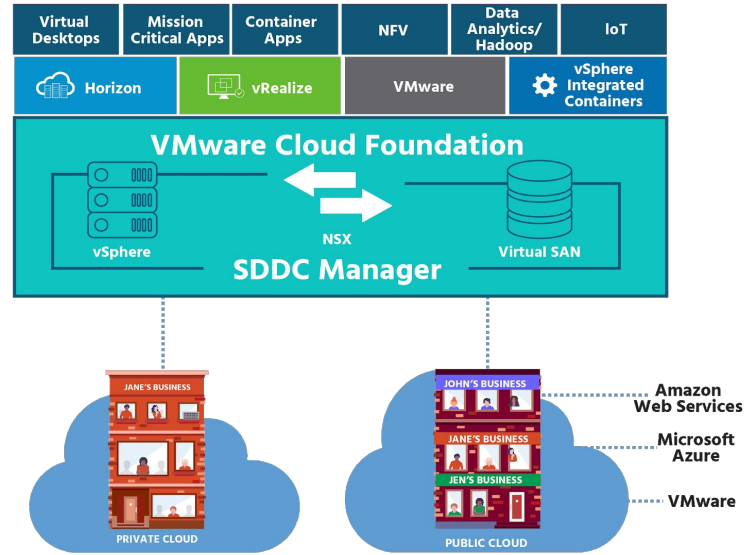
# NSX

- Suite of virtualization solutions for data center networking
- VMware NSX creates a 'software network' on top of the physical network that can be divided up into many virtual networks
- Virtual networking components included



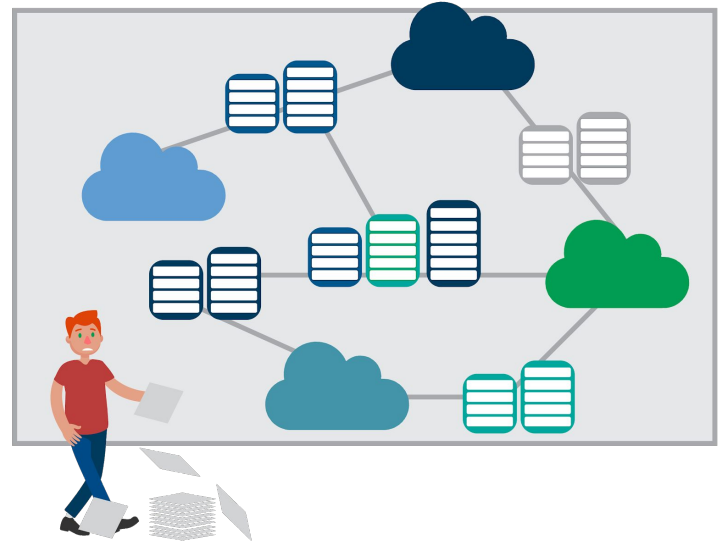
# VMware Cloud Foundation

- Suite of virtualization solutions for data center migration
- VMware Cloud Foundation makes it easy to transition from an existing system to a virtual data center
- Can be used to virtualize on-premises or to migrate off-premises to cloud environments such as Amazon Web Services (AWS)



# vCloud Automation Center

- Cloud management product to quickly deliver and easily manage the personalized infrastructure, applications, and services for business needs
- Individuals can have access to a user-friendly self-service portal to create their own machines
- Ability to deliver services on different platforms such as AWS and Azure



# CloudHealth

- Analyze and report your cloud costs, usage, performance, and security
- Monitor groups of resources or specific resources such as CPU, memory, and disk usage

