

Boosting Research for a Smart and Carbon Neutral Built Environment with Digital Twins – **SmartWins**



Data Storage Types

(Hierarchical, network, relational, graph, object-oriented databases and their representation: SQL, NoSQL, RDF, LPG, etc.)

Paraskevas Koukaras, CERTH

CERTH SmartWins Training Sessions: Day2

23 April 2024

Thessaloniki

Introduction to Data Storage

- Evolution of data storage from physical files to complex digital systems
- Importance of understanding different data models for efficient data management and retrieval
- Types of data storage models to be discussed:
 - Hierarchical
 - Network
 - Relational
 - Graph
 - Object-Oriented

From physical filing systems to modern digital databases



- 1947: Manchester Mark I Williams-Kilburn tube
- Used a cathode ray tube and stored bits as dots



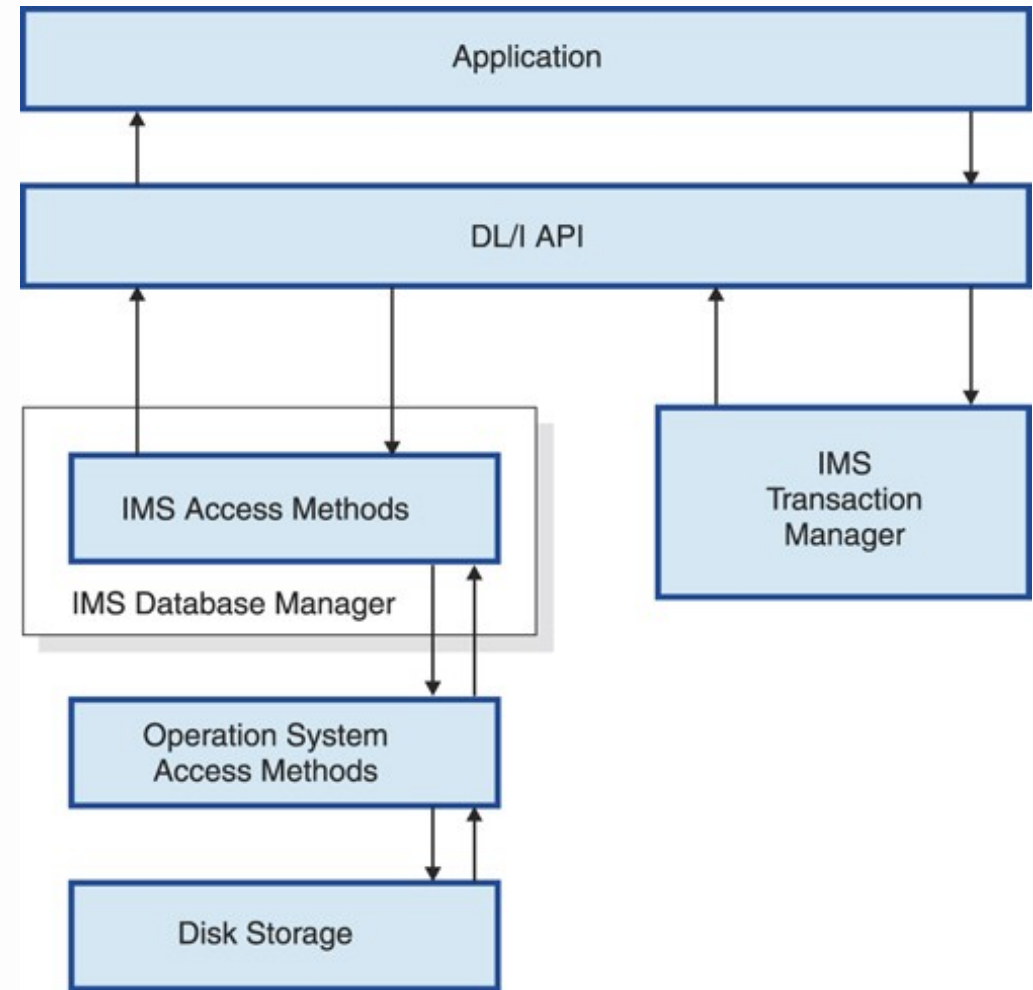
- 2024: Synology DiskStation DS1522+ 5-Bay Network-attached Storage (NAS)
- From 2009: cloud-based network-attached storage solutions appear for online backup

Hierarchical Database Model

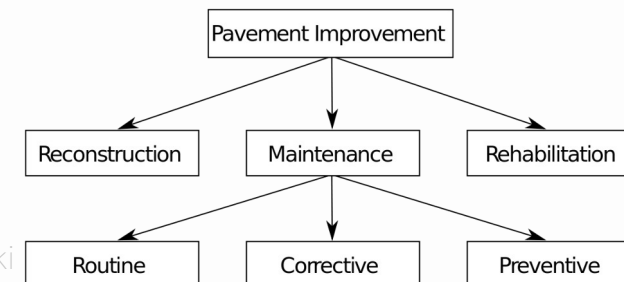
- A model where data is organised into a **tree-like** structure, implying a single upward link in each child except the root.
- Rigid structure, efficient for **read, search,** and **write** operations within predictable, large datasets.

IBM Information Management System (IMS) is extensively used in banking and manufacturing for large-scale transaction processing (<https://www.oreilly.com/api/v2/epubs/9780132886987/files/graphics/08fig01.jpg>).

*IMS: Information Management System
*DL/I: Data Language One

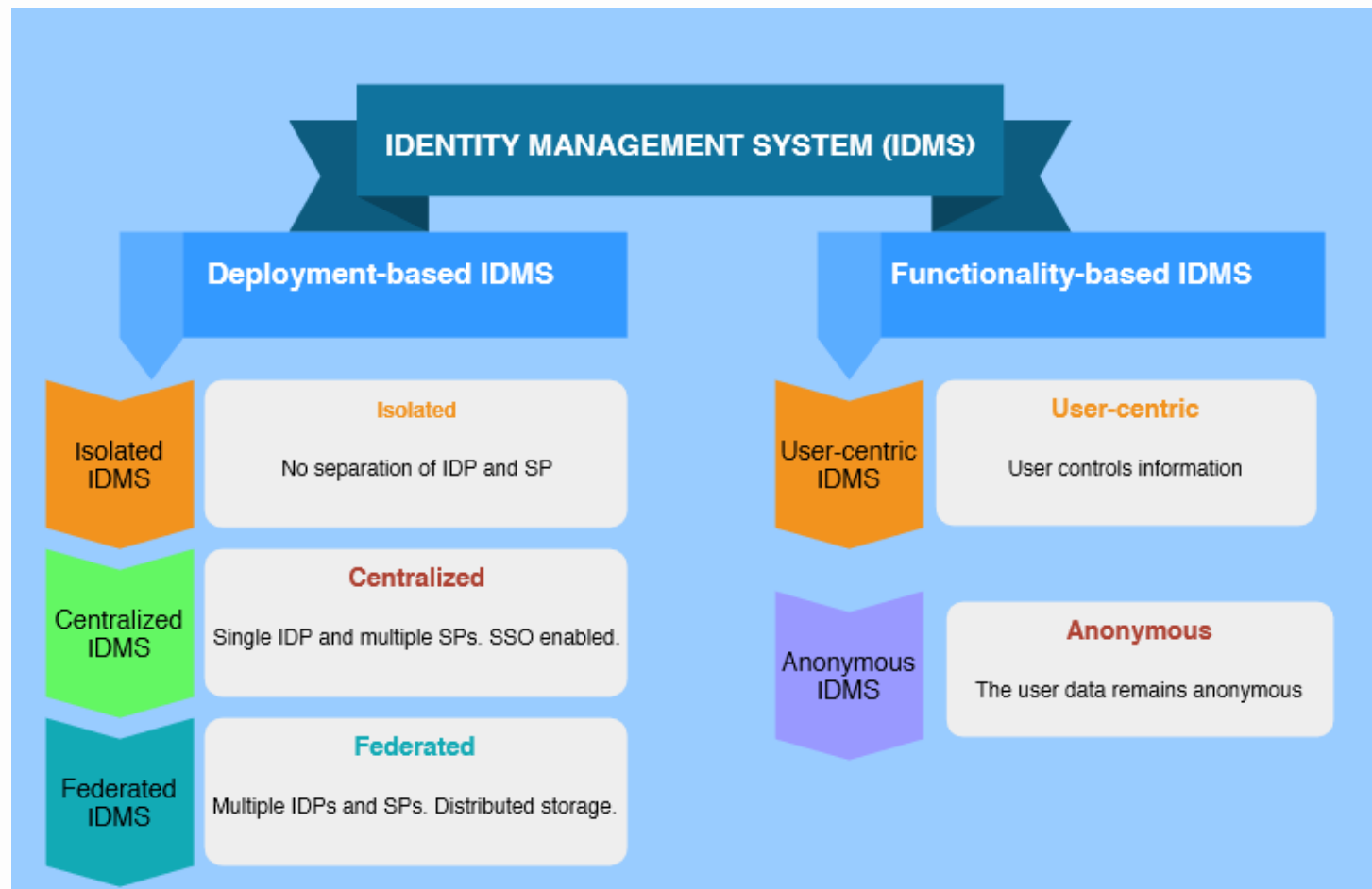


Hierarchical Model

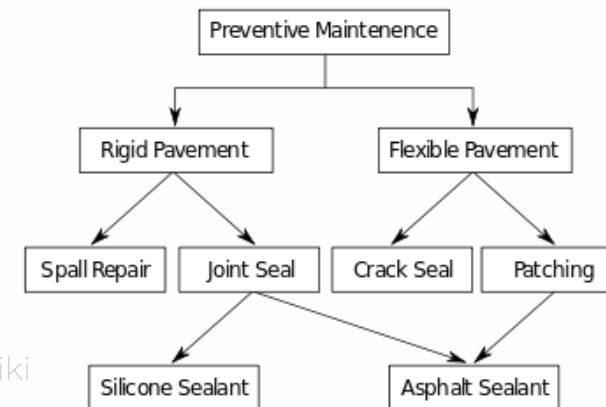


Network Database Model

- A flexible model allowing each record to have multiple **parent** and **child** records, forming a graph structure.
- More complex than hierarchical, it allows **many-to-many relationships** and is suited for large databases handling complex applications.
- (IDMS) is used in sectors with complex data relationships like telecommunications and utilities.



Network Model

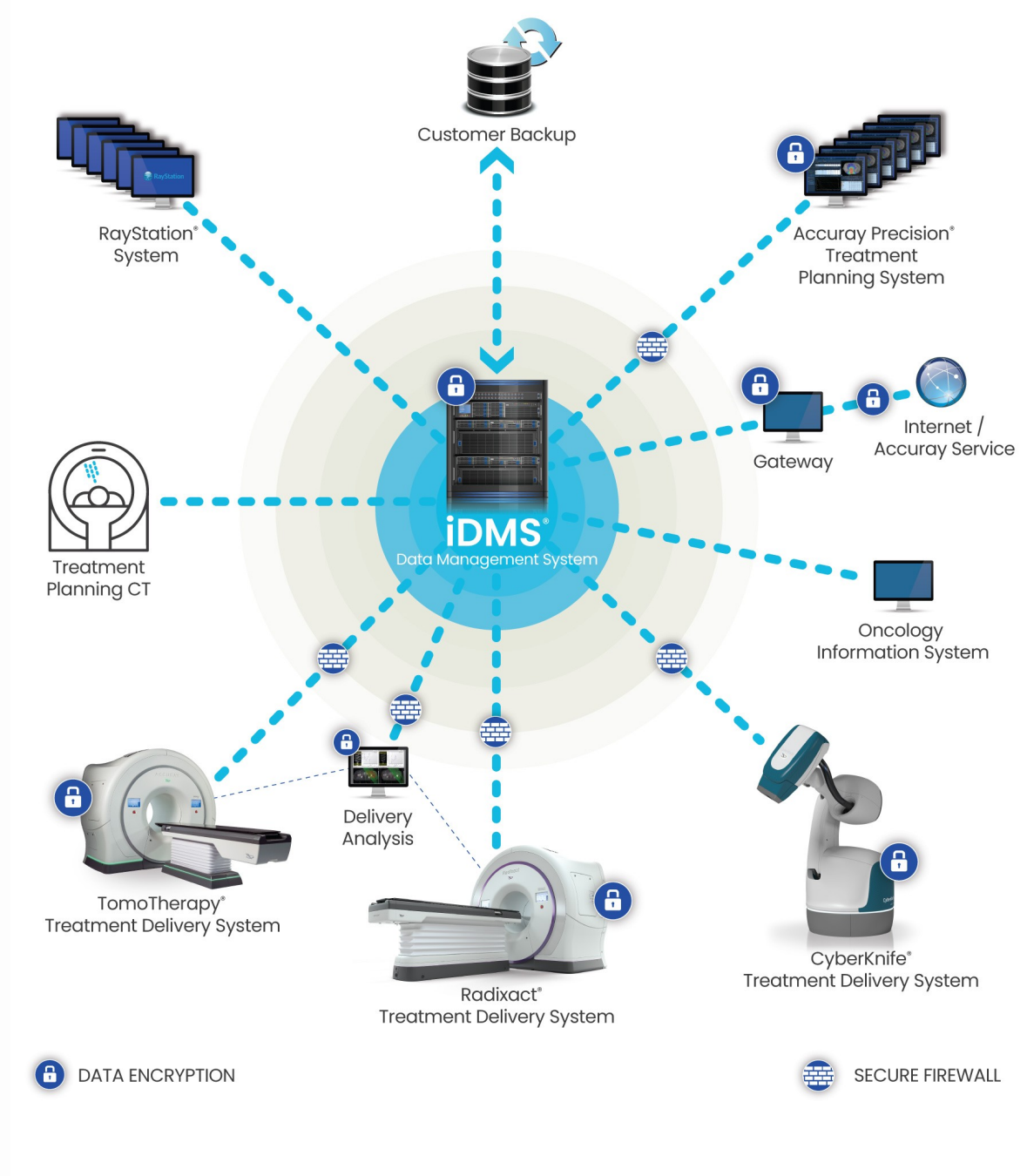


*IDP: Identity Provider
*SP: Service Provider
*SSO: Single Sign On

IDMS example

Accuray IDMS:

- It integrates **patient data** which guide planning and delivery of specified treatments.
- This framework **stores, process** and **manages** all data produced during the process and the delivery phases of each treatment.



Relational Database Model

- A model based on **storing data in tables** that can be linked—or related—based on data common to each.
- Highly flexible, uses **SQL for querying**, well-suited for handling vast amounts of data that require robust transaction processing.
- **Oracle Database** and **MySQL** are widely used in almost every industry for web back-ends, customer relationship management (CRM) systems, and more.

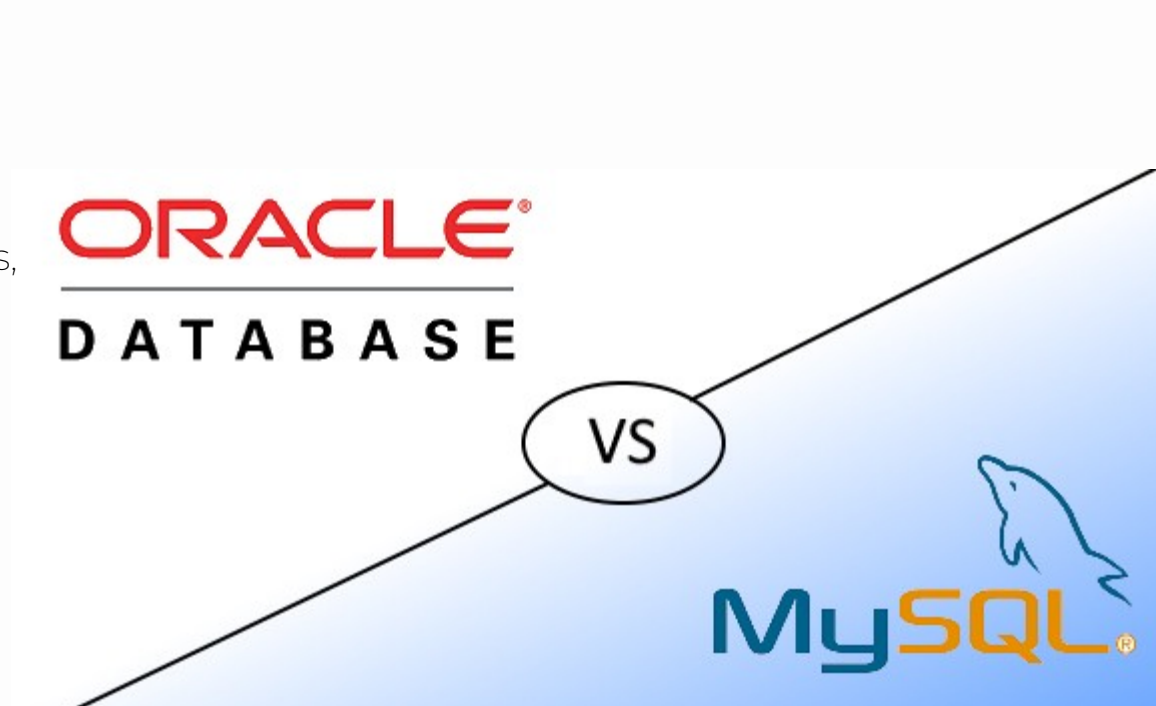
Oracle Database

Pros:

- Comprehensive commercial support from Oracle Corporation ensures prompt updates, bug fixes, and security patches.
- Active developer and user community

Cons:

- The extensive support and advanced features come with a significant cost.



MySQL

Pros:

- Open-source community actively enhances development and support, backed by extensive documentation and forums.
- Oracle provides commercial support for MySQL Enterprise Edition, including 24/7 technical support, training, and consulting.

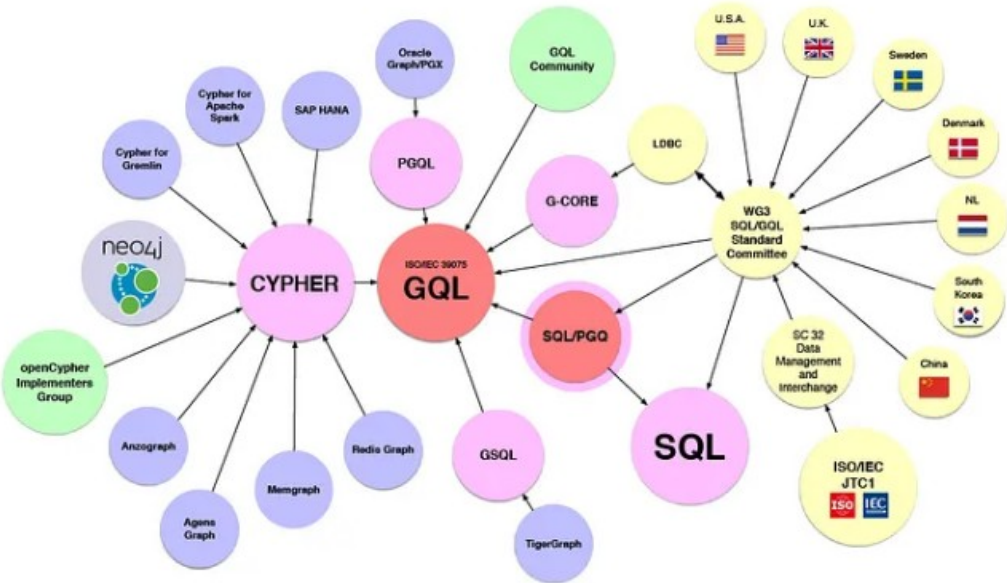
Cons:

- MySQL lacks some of the advanced features and optimisations.



Graph Database Model

- Stores data in **nodes** and **edges**, where nodes typically represent entities, and edges specify the relationships between these entities.
- Extremely **efficient** for applications that require **frequent navigation across relationships**, like social networks, recommendation engines, and fraud detection systems.
- Examples like **Neo4j** and **ArangoDB**, are used extensively in networking sites, logistics, and complex transaction systems where relationships need to be queried frequently and rapidly.



Source: neo4j.com

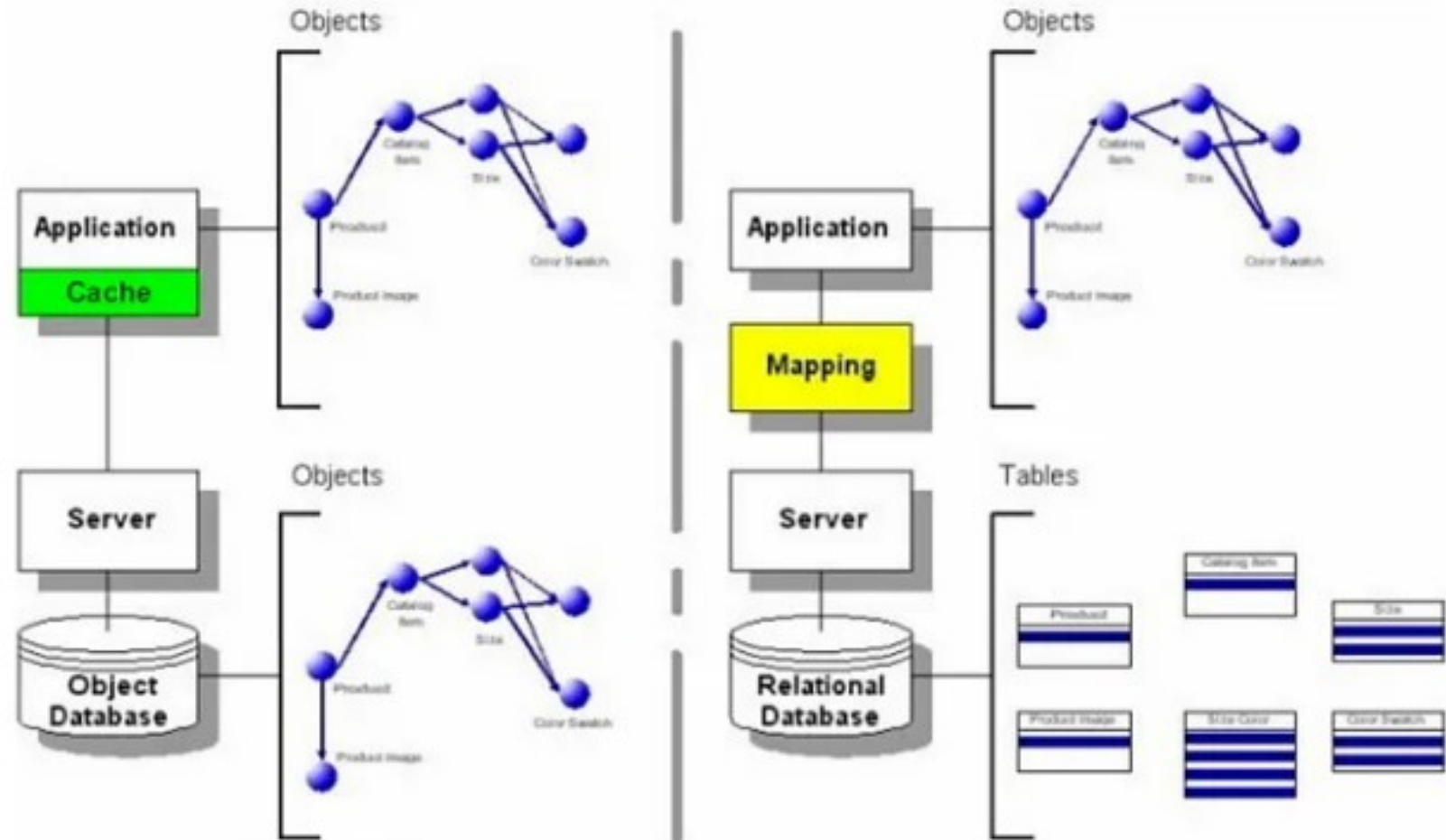


Source: arangoDB.com



Object-Oriented Database Model

- A Database Management System (DBMS) in which information is represented in the form of objects, as used in object-oriented programming.
- **Seamless integration** with object-oriented programming languages, supporting complex data types and structures like **encapsulation, inheritance, and polymorphism**.
- **db4o and ObjectDB**, used in engineering applications, complex data applications, and systems where database operations are heavily intertwined with application logic.

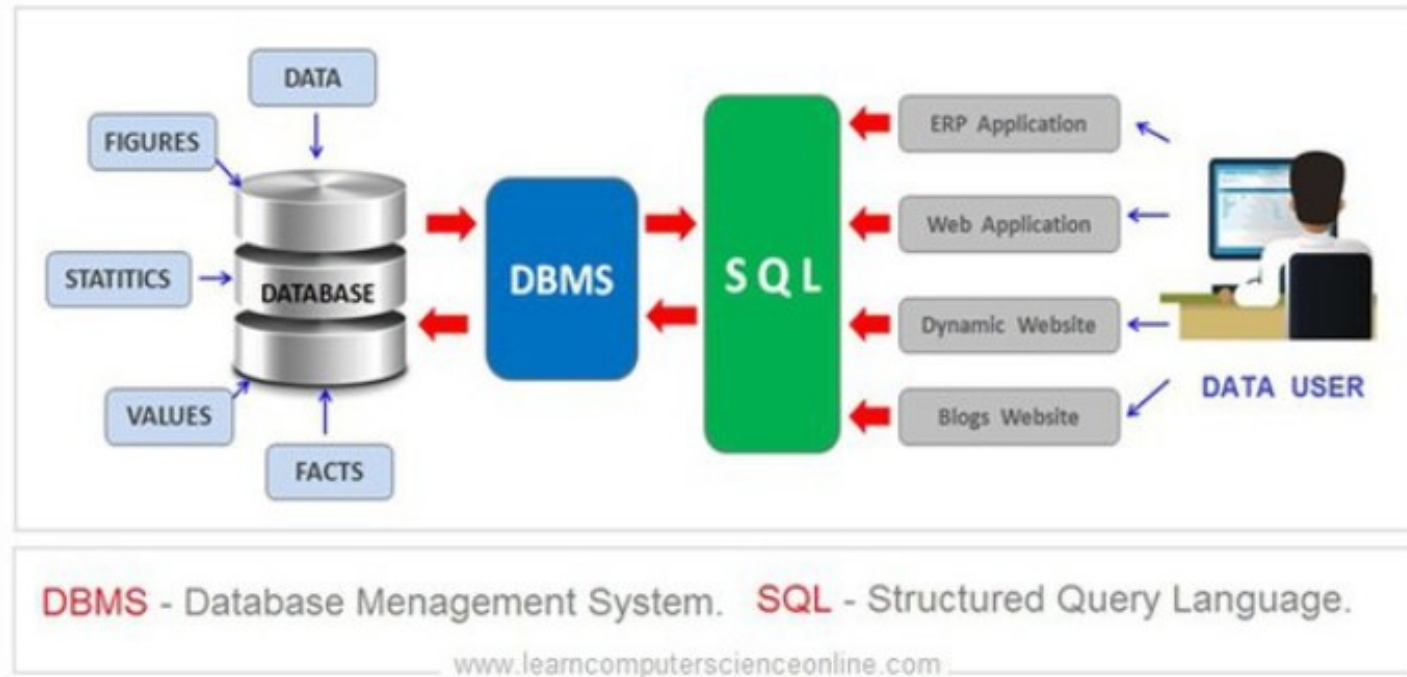


SQL Database Systems

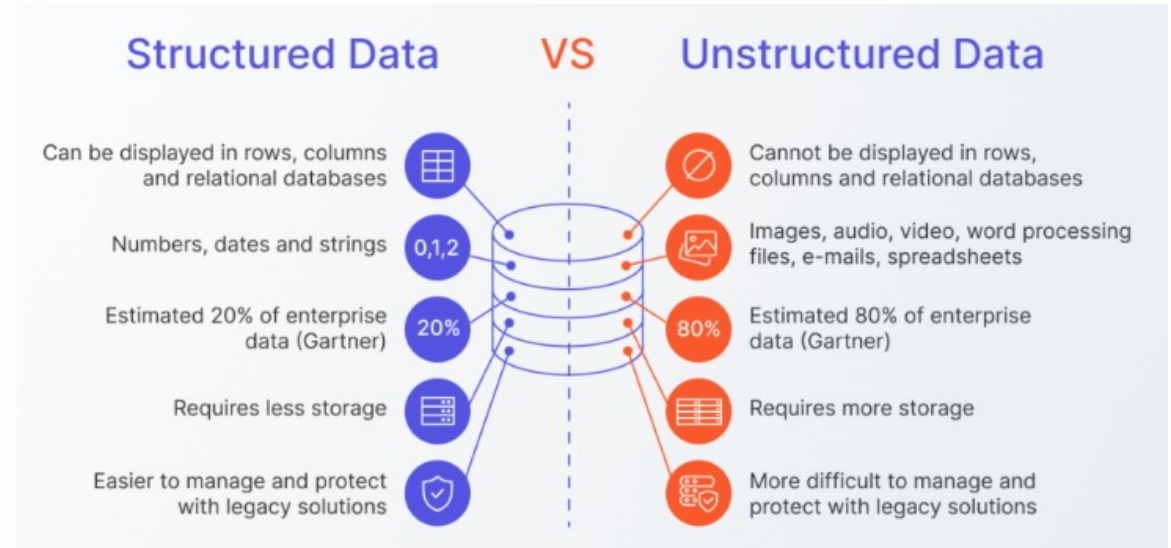
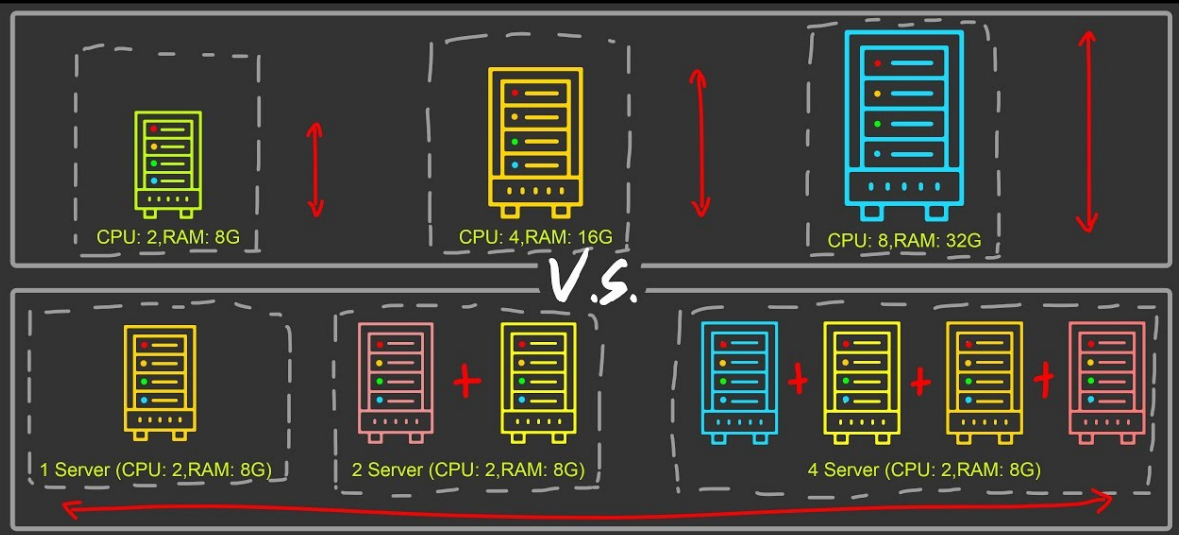
- A domain-specific language used in programming and designed for managing data held in a relational database management system.
- Robust, widely adopted, ideal for complex queries, and highly scalable for transaction-based storage.

BUT

Less efficient for unstructured data, can be complex to scale horizontally.

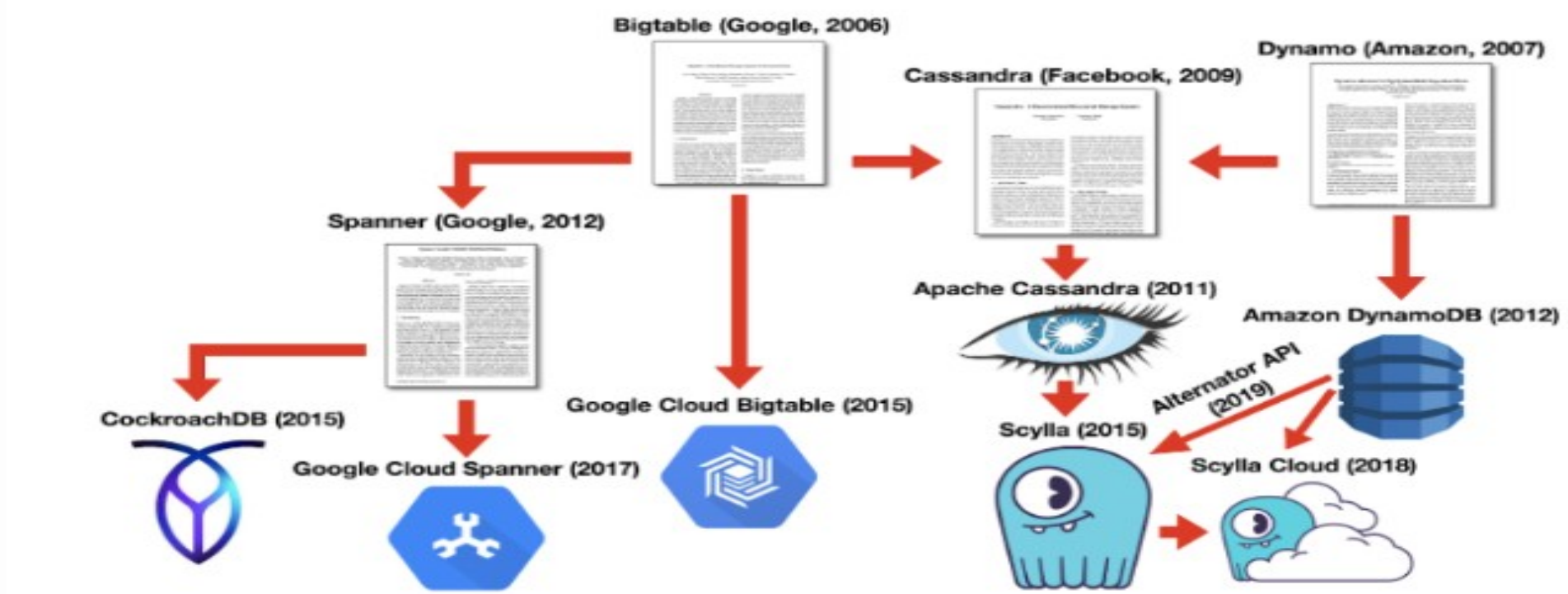


Vertical Vs Horizontal Scaling



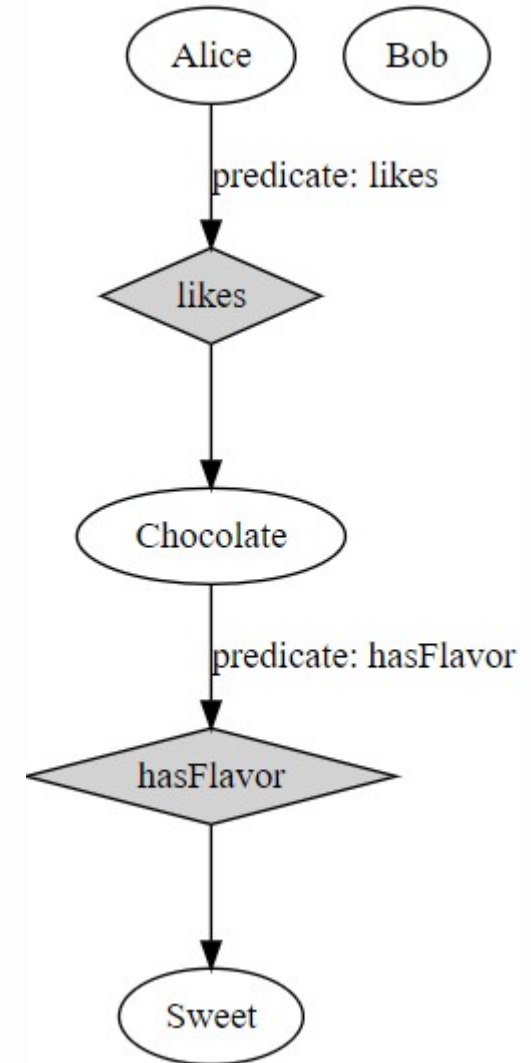
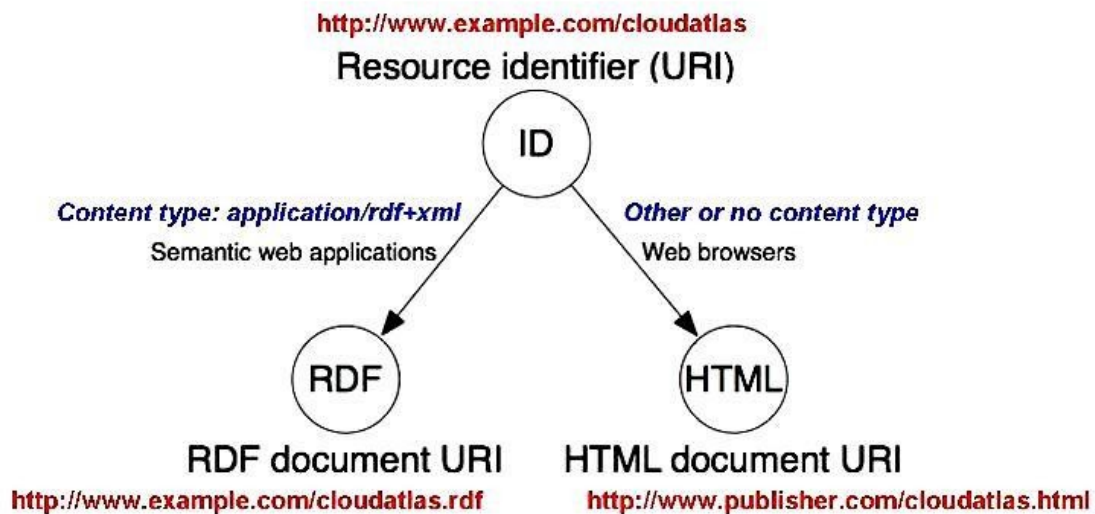
NoSQL Database Systems

- NoSQL databases represent a range of database technologies that are developed to handle a variety of data models, including **key-value**, **document**, **column**, and **graph** databases.
- Designed for distributed data stores with large **data set sizes**, **high scalability**, and **flexible schema** designs.
- MongoDB (document-oriented), Cassandra (column-oriented), Redis (key-value store), and Neo4j (graph database).



RDF (Resource Description Framework)

- A standard model for data interchange on the web, RDF extends the linking structure of the web to use Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs) to name the relationship between things as well as the **two ends of the link** (usually referred to as a “triple”).
- Commonly used in semantic web applications, personal information management, and knowledge management systems.
- **Example:** Data integration across different web data sources and semantic query applications.

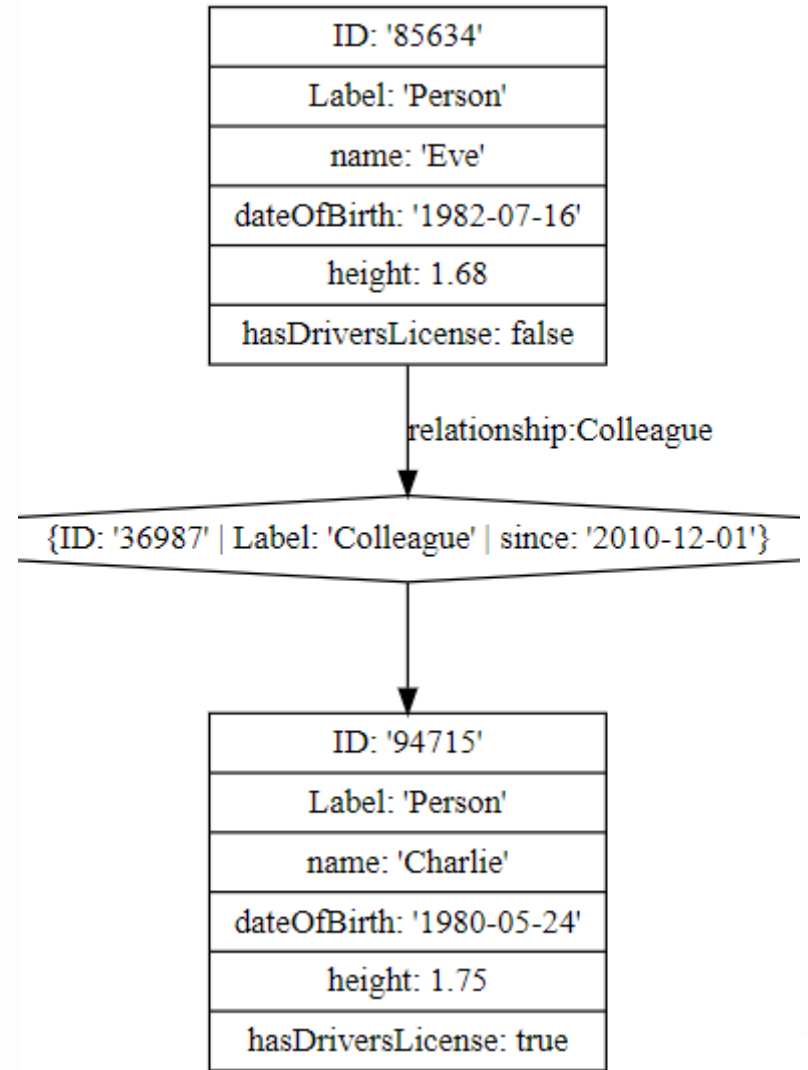


Labeled Property Graph (LPG)

- A type of graph database where each **node** and **edge** has an **associated label** and **properties** that store data about them, allowing for rich, complex data models.
- Highly expressive, suitable for modeling intricate relationships with additional context via properties.
- **Neo4j**, utilizes **LPG** to enhance queries and analytics in network and IT operations, fraud detection, and recommendation engines.
- There is **no standardised query language** for all LPG-style databases, but Cypher is the most widely adopted one.

Cypher Query example:

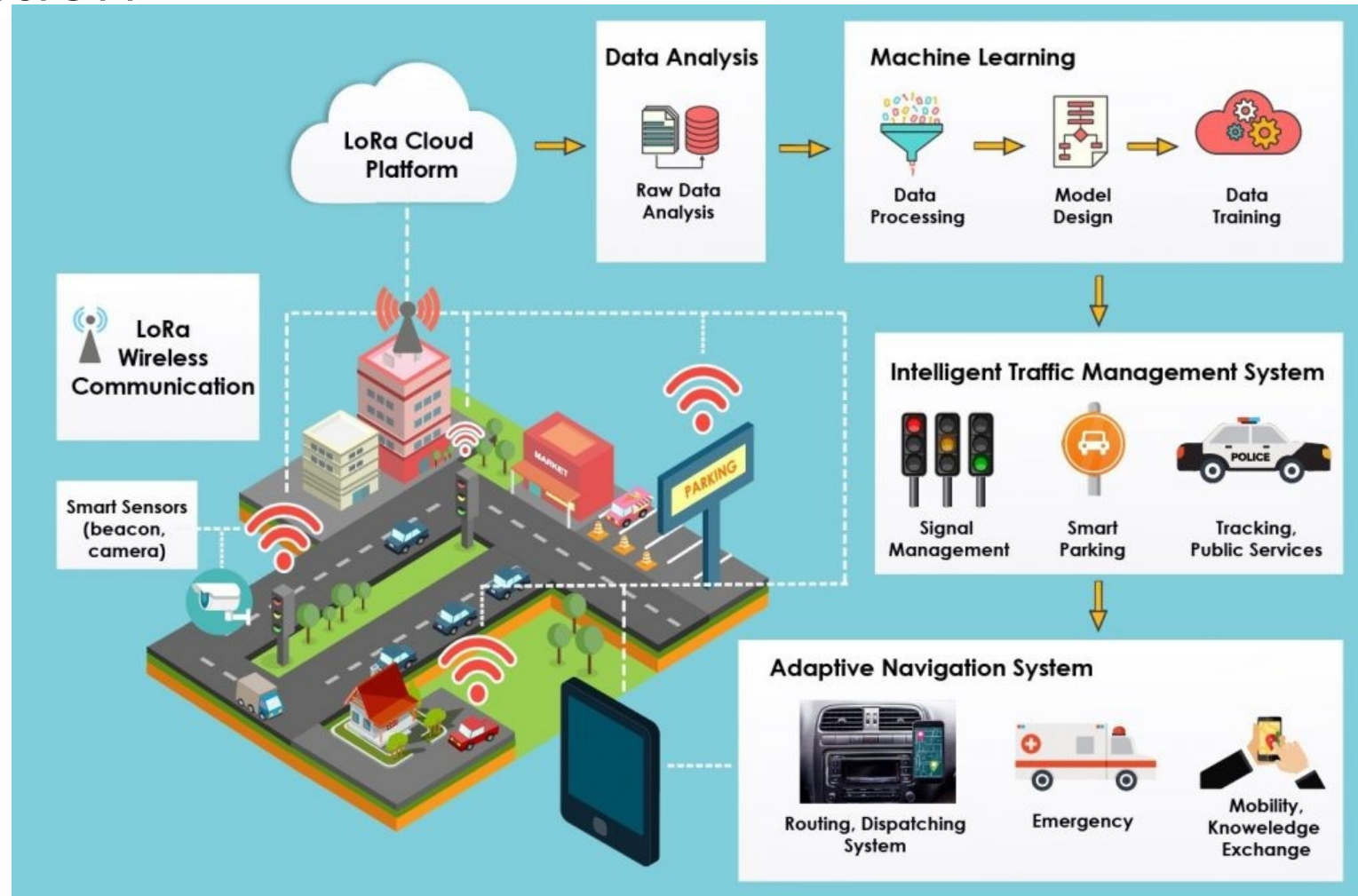
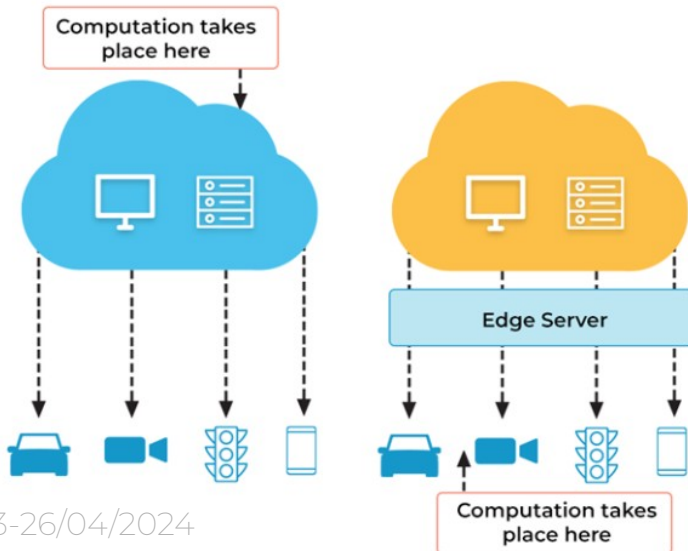
```
MATCH (person1:Person {name: "Eve"})-[relationship:Colleague]-  
(person2:Person {name: "Charlie"})  
RETURN person1, relationship, person2
```



IoT Data Storage Integration

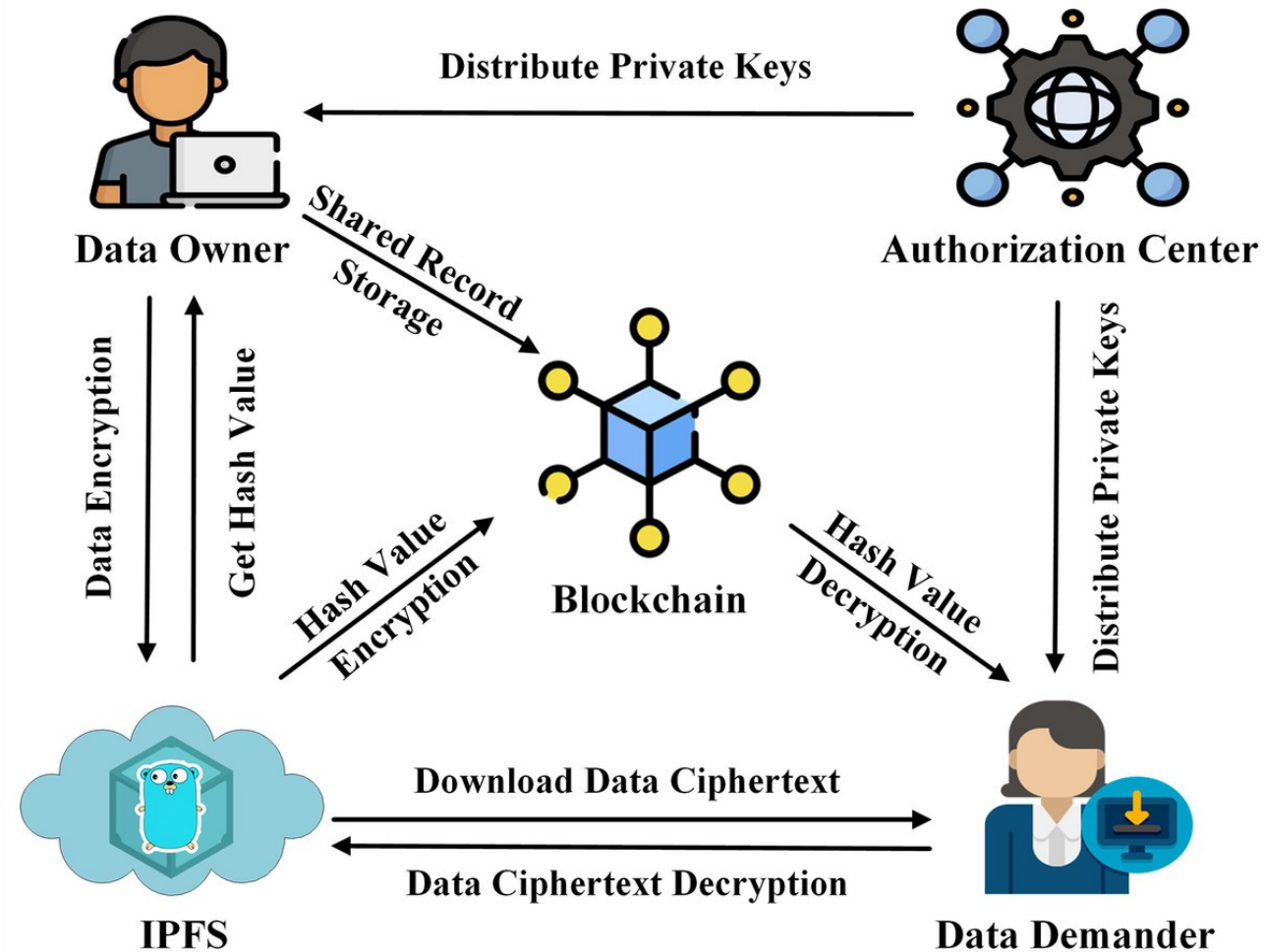
- Handling real-time, voluminous IoT data streams
- **Scalability** challenges in data ingestion and processing
- **Security protocols** for data in transit and at rest
- Time-series databases like InfluxDB for efficient storage
- Edge computing for low-latency, localised data handling
- Smart city traffic management systems

CLOUD COMPUTING VS. EDGE COMPUTING



Blockchain and Data Security

- Blockchain's decentralized ledger for enhanced data integrity
- Encryption and consensus mechanisms prevent unauthorized alterations
- **Applications:** Securing health records, legal documents, transaction logs
- **Trade-offs:** Implementation complexity vs. data immutability benefits

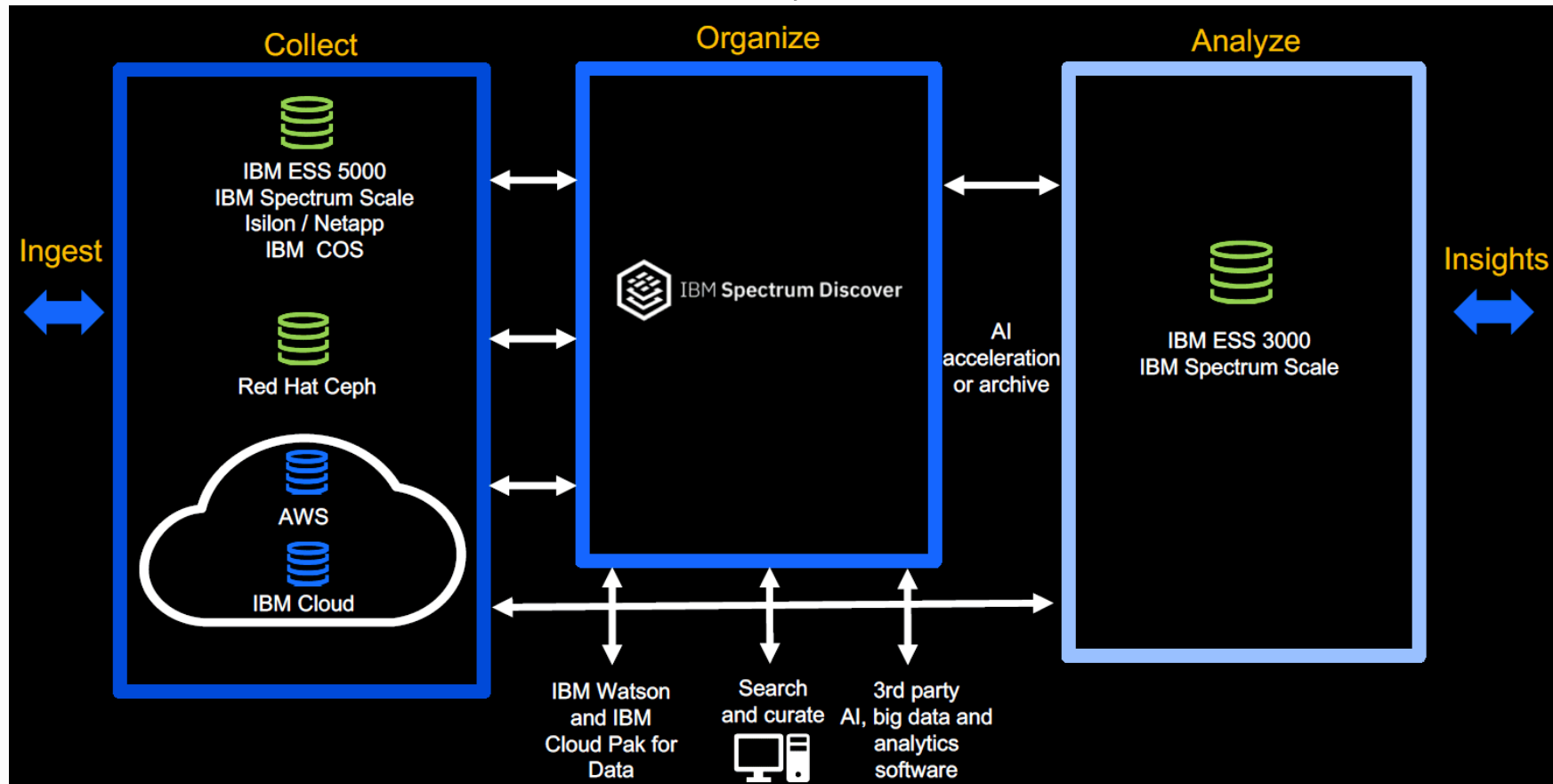


Source: <https://dfzljdn9uc3pi.cloudfront.net/2023/cs-1337/1/fig-1-2x.jpg>

* Interplanetary File System (IPFS): a file system that allows you to store files and track versions over time, much like Git, keeping track of them on a distributed network, somewhat like BitTorrent.

AI for Data Storage Efficiency

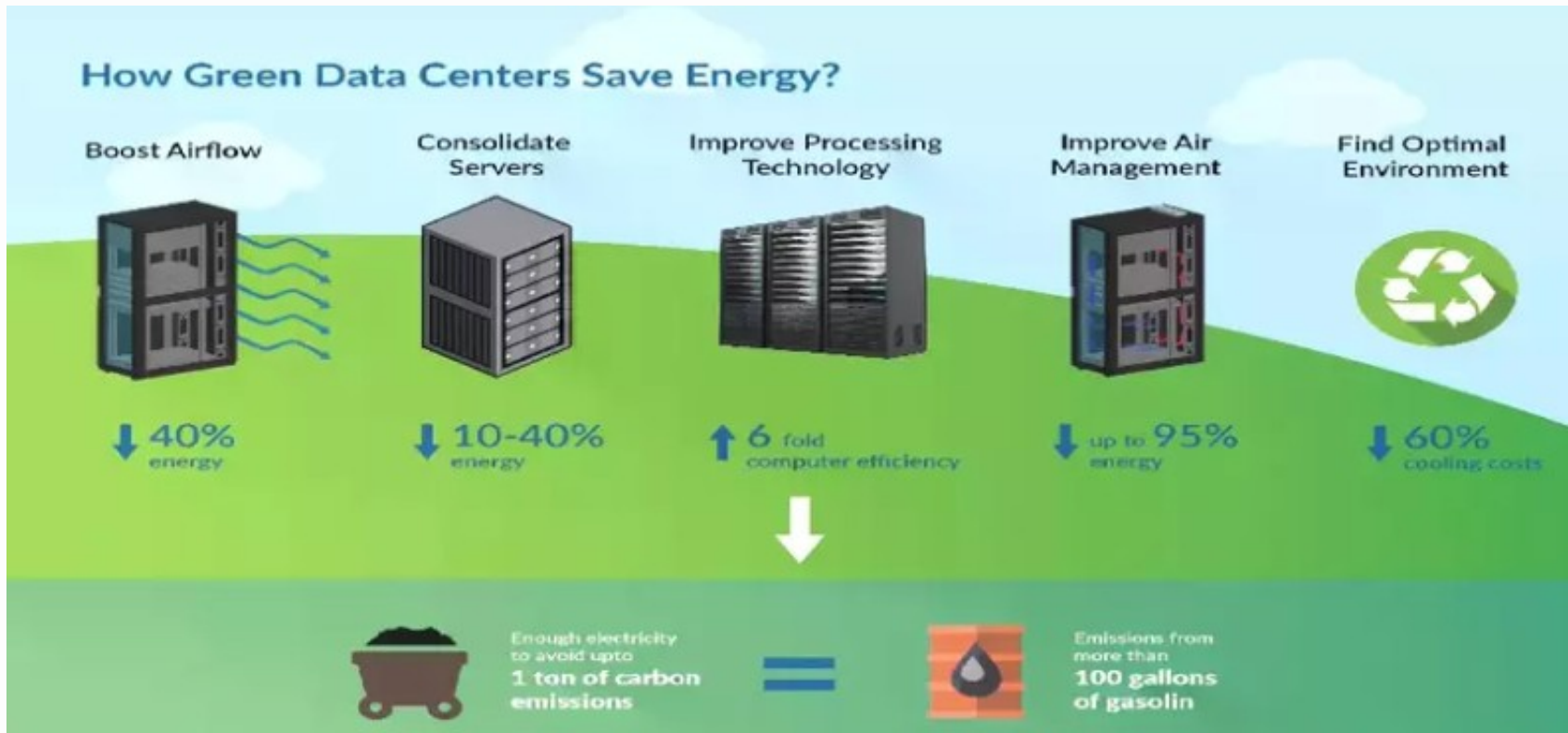
- AI algorithms predictively manage data life cycles and workloads
- Automated data deduplication and anomaly detection minimise waste
- AI in storage adapts to user access patterns, optimises resource allocation



<https://www.nextplatform.com/2020/07/13/an-architecture-for-artificial-intelligence-storage/>
CERTH Training Sessions, Thessaloniki

Eco-Friendly Data Storage Practices

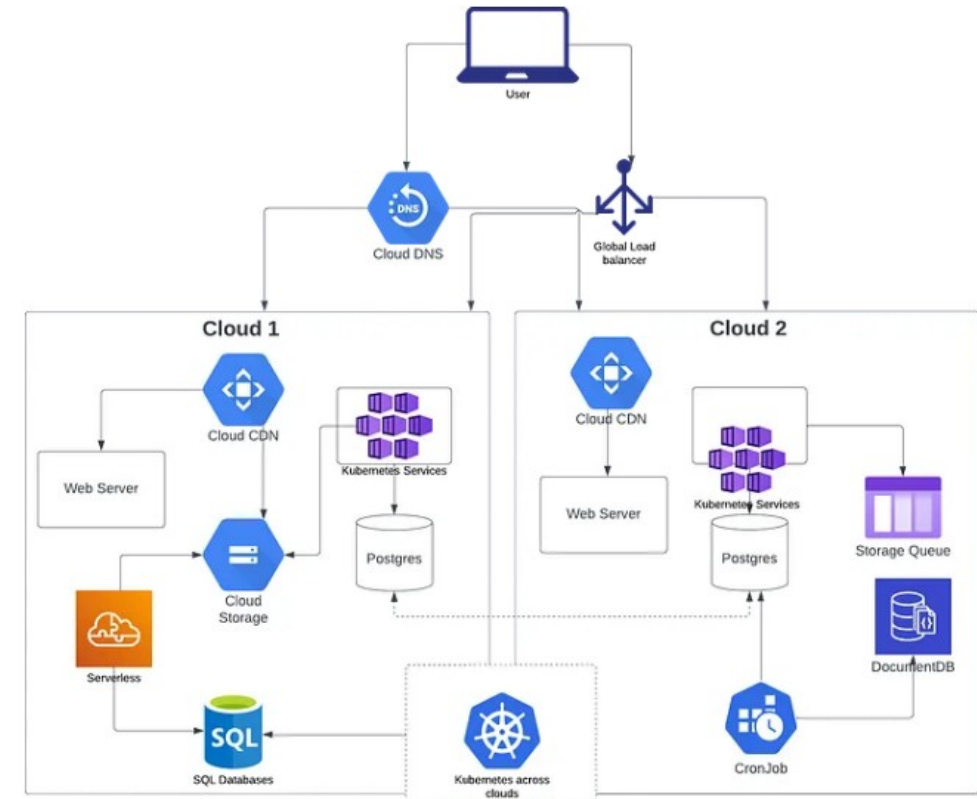
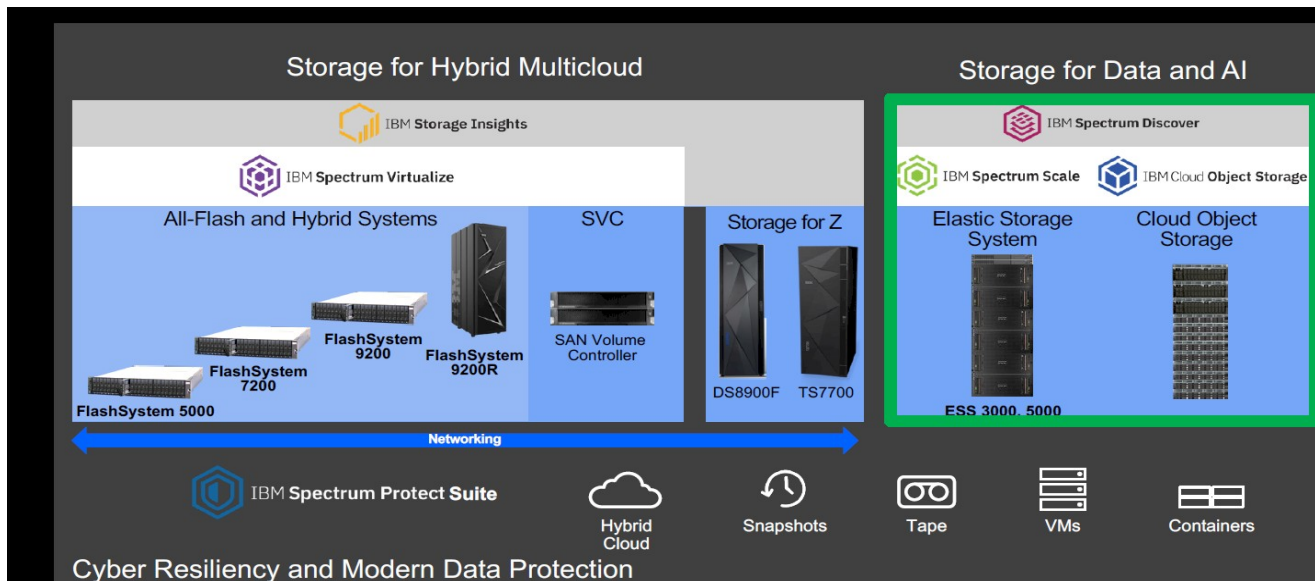
- Assessing the ecological footprint of data proliferation
- Innovation in energy-efficient servers and cooling systems
- Green data centers reduce emissions and operating costs
- Policies and practices driving the shift to renewable energy sources



<https://rahi.io/green-data-centers/>

Strategic Multi-Cloud Deployments

- Multi-cloud approaches mitigate **risks** and ensure service **continuity**
- **Geographical data distribution** aids compliance with local data laws
- Orchestrating **storage solutions** across AWS, Azure, Google Cloud, Apache OpenStack, Apache OpenStack
- **Kubernetes** is the industry-standard tool for deploying microservices and cloud-native applications
- Platforms like OpenShift provide a **unified control plane**, enabling efficient management and monitoring of applications across multiple clouds
- Databases such as NuoDB, FaunaDB, and CockroachDB cater to the requirements of multi-cloud environments

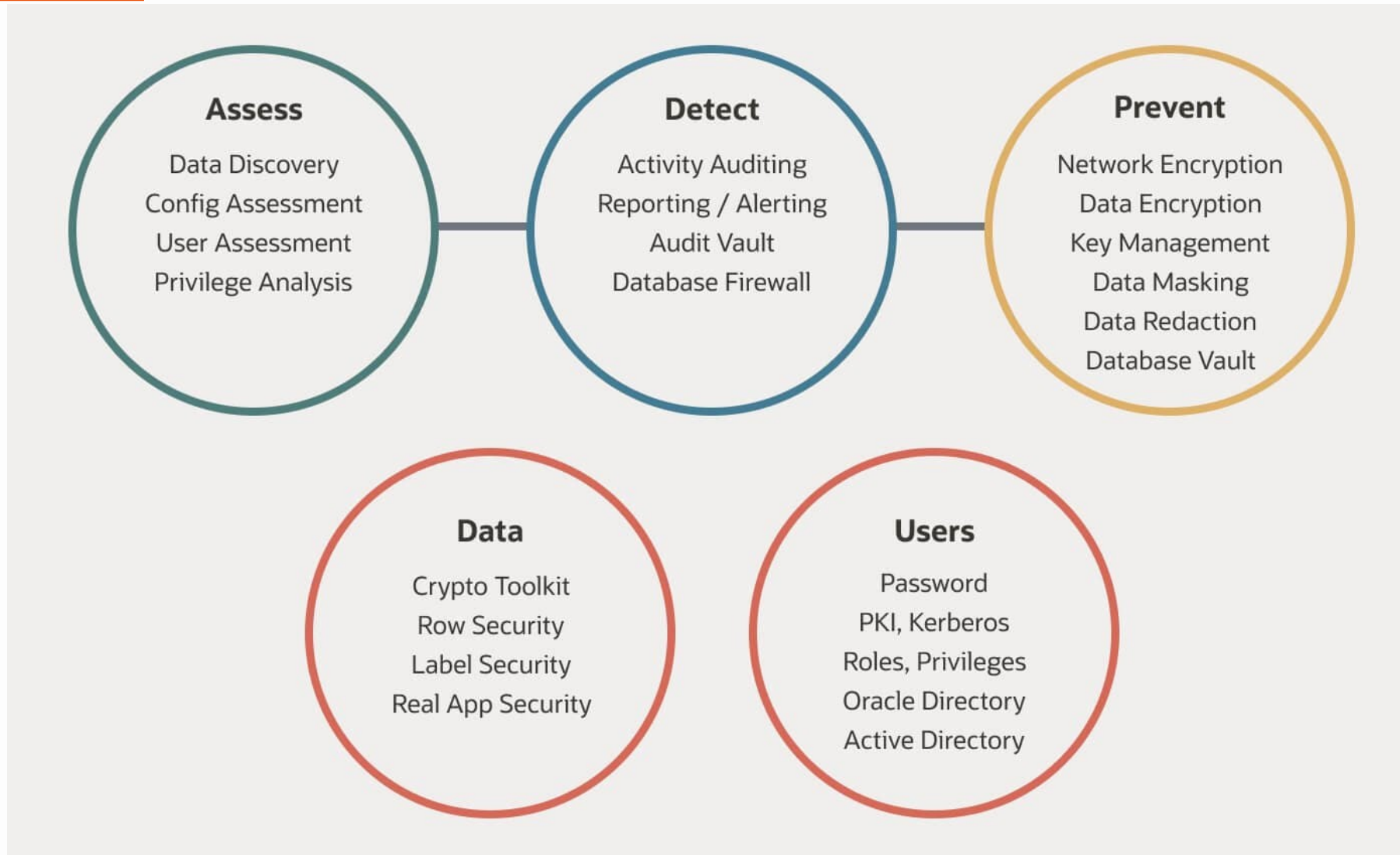


https://miro.medium.com/v2/resize:fit:720/format:webp/1*6d6VaRWpYsJTfzsoGHeS0w.png

<https://www.nextplatform.com/2020/07/13/an-architecture-for-artificial-intelligence-storage/>



Data Security in Database Systems



Compliance in Data Storage

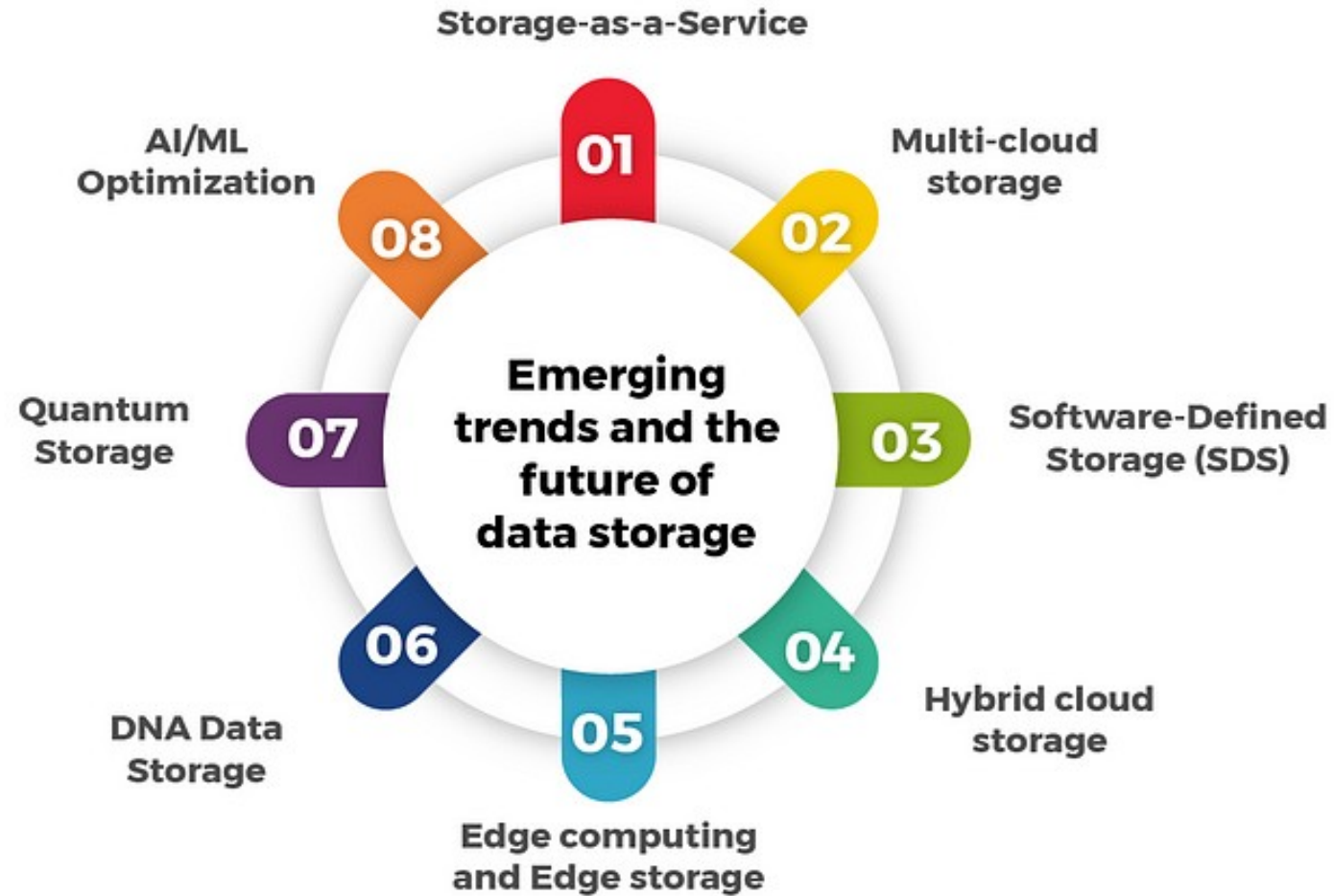
- Aligning database architectures with **GDPR**, **HIPAA**, and **CCPA**
- Implementing compliance through encryption, access controls, and audit trails

Success stories/examples:

Financial Sector: A multinational bank can streamline data governance, achieving GDPR compliance while enhancing customer data protection and transparency.

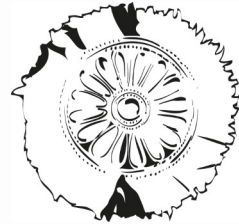
Healthcare: A hospital network can adopt HIPAA-compliant storage solutions, securing patient records and improving data interoperability across clinics.

Future Data Storage Technologies



Boosting Research for a Smart and Carbon Neutral Built Environment with Digital Twins – **SmartWins**

Project Partners



CERTH
CENTRE FOR
RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY
HELLAS



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

