



# Deliver Docker Containers Continuously on AWS

Philipp Garbe  
@pgarbe

# So many choices...

Azure  
Container  
Services



Amazon ECS



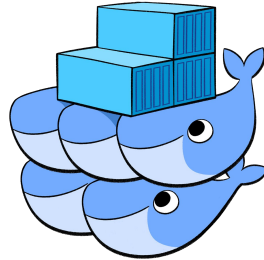
Google Container  
Engine



Cloud Foundry's  
Diego



Docker Swarm



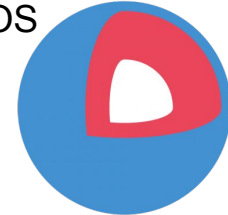
Mesosphere  
Marathon



Kubernetes



CoreOS  
Fleet



# About Me

- Philipp Garbe
- Lead Developer @Scout24
- Docker Captain
- Living in Bavaria
- Working in the Cloud

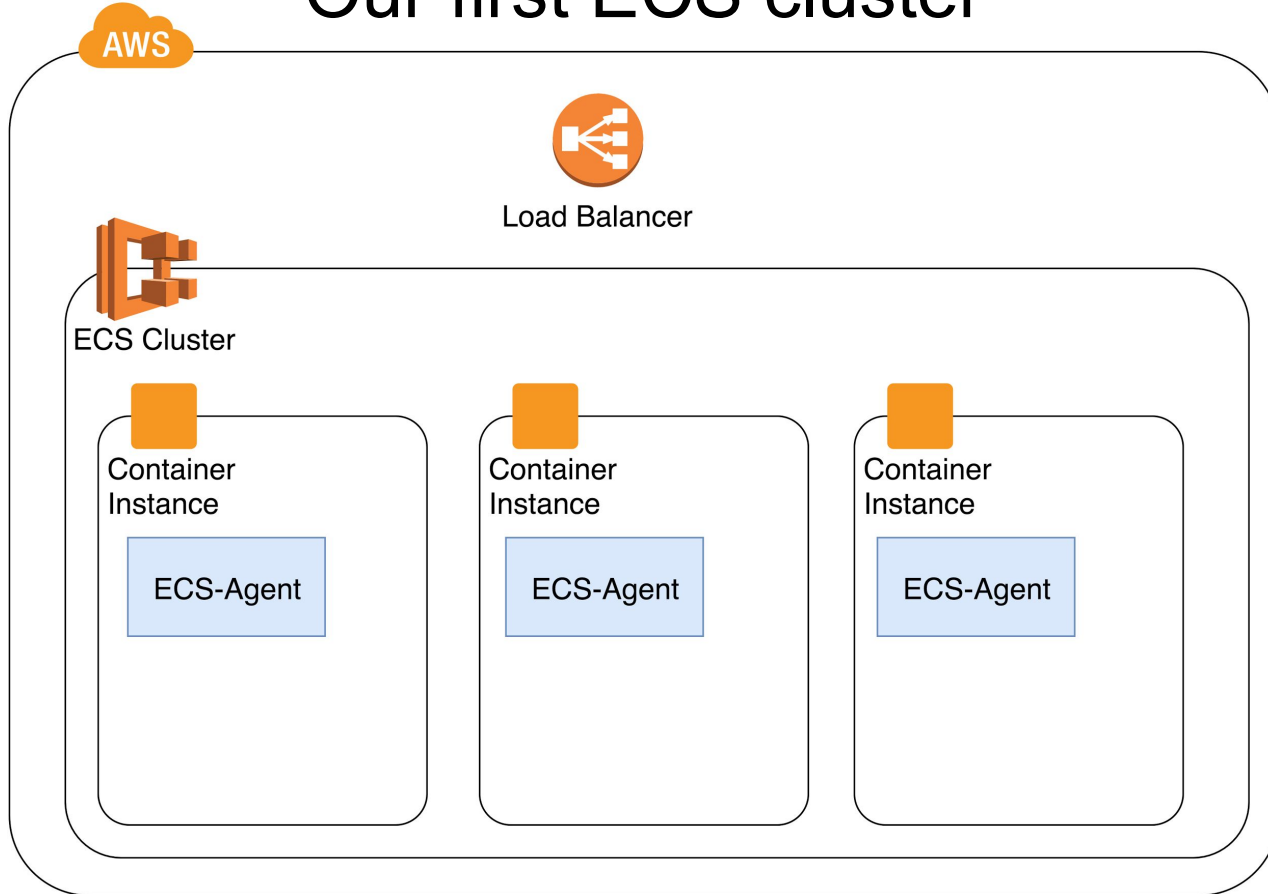


**SCOUT 24**



**“Hello ECS”**

# Our first ECS cluster



# ECS Cluster: Deployment Options

	<b>AWS Console</b>	<b>AWS CLI</b>	<b>ECS CLI</b>	<b>CloudFormation</b>
Easy to start	Yes	No	Yes	No
Automation	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Infrastructure as Code	No	No	No	Yes
Auto Scaling	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

AWSTemplateFormatVersion: '2010-09-09'

Parameters:

KeyName:

Type: AWS::EC2::KeyPair::KeyName

Description: EC2 KeyPair to enable SSH access.

...

Resources:

ECSCluster:

Type: AWS::ECS::Cluster

ECSAutoScalingGroup:

Type: AWS::AutoScaling::AutoScalingGroup

Properties:

VPCZoneIdentifier: !Ref ServiceSubnets

LaunchConfigurationName: !Ref LaunchConfig

MinSize: !Ref ClusterMinSize

MaxSize: !Ref ClusterMaxSize

LaunchConfig:

Type: AWS::AutoScaling::LaunchConfiguration

Metadata:

AWS::CloudFormation::Init:

config:

commands:

01\_add\_instance\_to\_cluster:

command: !Sub |

#!/bin/bash

echo ECS\_CLUSTER=\${ECSCluster} >> /etc/ecs/ecs.config

Properties:

ImageId: !FindInMap: [AWSRegionToAMI, Ref: AWS::Region, AMIID]

InstanceType: !Ref InstanceType

IamInstanceProfile: !Ref EC2InstanceProfile

KeyName: !Ref KeyName

...

Outputs:

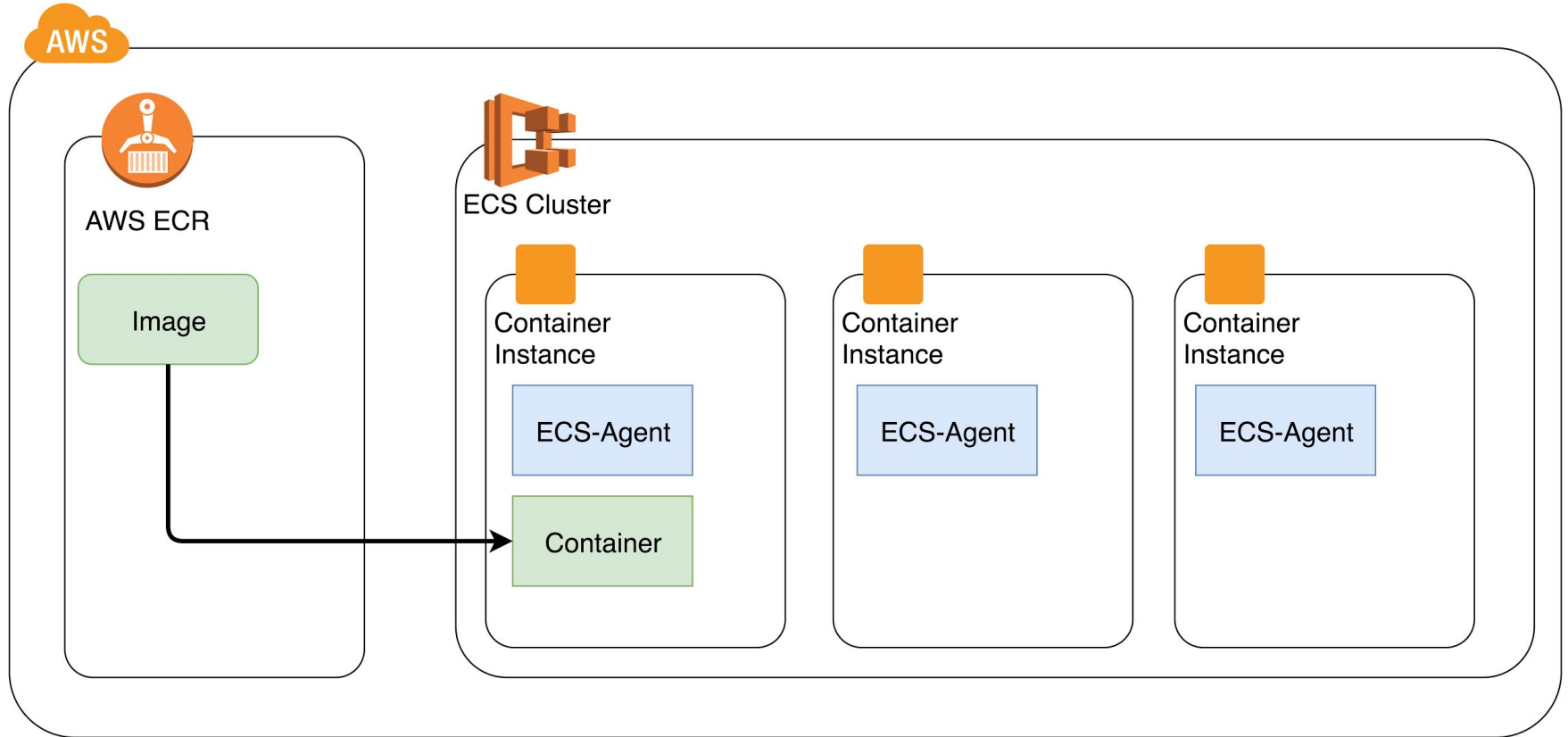
ClusterName:

Value: !Ref ECSCluster

Export:

Name: !Sub "\${AWS::StackName}-ClusterName"

# The first deployment





# Container

## Container Definition

- Image
- Port mapping
- Mount points
- Network options
- Docker options

A diagram showing a light blue rounded rectangle labeled 'Task'. Inside it are two light green rounded rectangles. The top one is labeled 'Container' and the bottom one contains three dots '...', indicating more components.

Task

Container

...

## Task Definition

- IAM Task Role
- Volumes
- Network Mode
- Task Placement Constraints

The diagram illustrates a hierarchical structure. An outer orange rounded rectangle is labeled 'Service'. Inside it is a blue rounded rectangle labeled 'Task'. Within the 'Task' rectangle, there are two green rounded rectangles. The top one is labeled 'Container' and the bottom one contains three dots '...', indicating multiple containers.

Service

Task

Container

...

## Service Description

- Loadbalancer
- AutoScaling
- Deployment Configuration
- Task Placement Strategy

# ECS Service: Deployment Options

	<b>AWS Console</b>	<b>AWS CLI</b>	<b>ECS CLI</b>	<b>CloudFormation</b>
Easy to start	Yes	No	Yes	No
Automation	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Configuration as Code	No	No	Partially	Yes
Auto Scaling	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Load Balancer	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Task Placement	Yes	Yes	No	No *

AWSTemplateFormatVersion: '2010-09-09'

Parameters:

DesiredCount:

Type: Number

ClusterStack:

Type: String

Description: Name of the cluster stack

...

Resources:

TaskDefinition:

Type: AWS::ECS::TaskDefinition

Properties:

TaskRoleArn: !Ref TaskAuthRole

ContainerDefinitions:

- Name: nginx

Image: !Sub nginx:\${Version}

Cpu: '2048'

PortMappings:

- ContainerPort: 80

Memory: '1024'

Essential: 'true'

WebApp:

Type: AWS::ECS::Service

Properties:

Cluster:

"Fn::ImportValue": !Sub "\${ClusterStack}-ClusterName"

TaskDefinition: !Ref TaskDefinition

DesiredCount: !Ref DesiredCount

DeploymentConfiguration:

MaximumPercent: 200

MinimumHealthyPercent: 100

Role: !Ref ServiceAuthRole

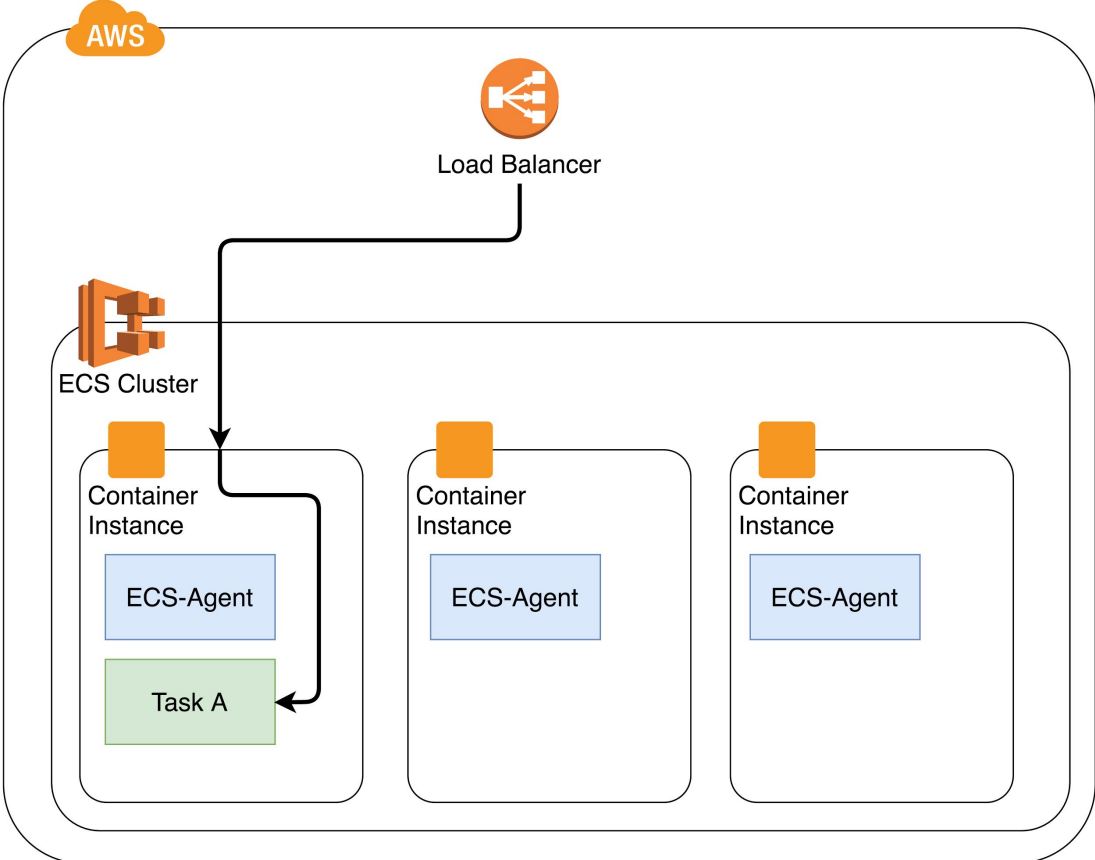
LoadBalancers:

- ContainerName: nginx

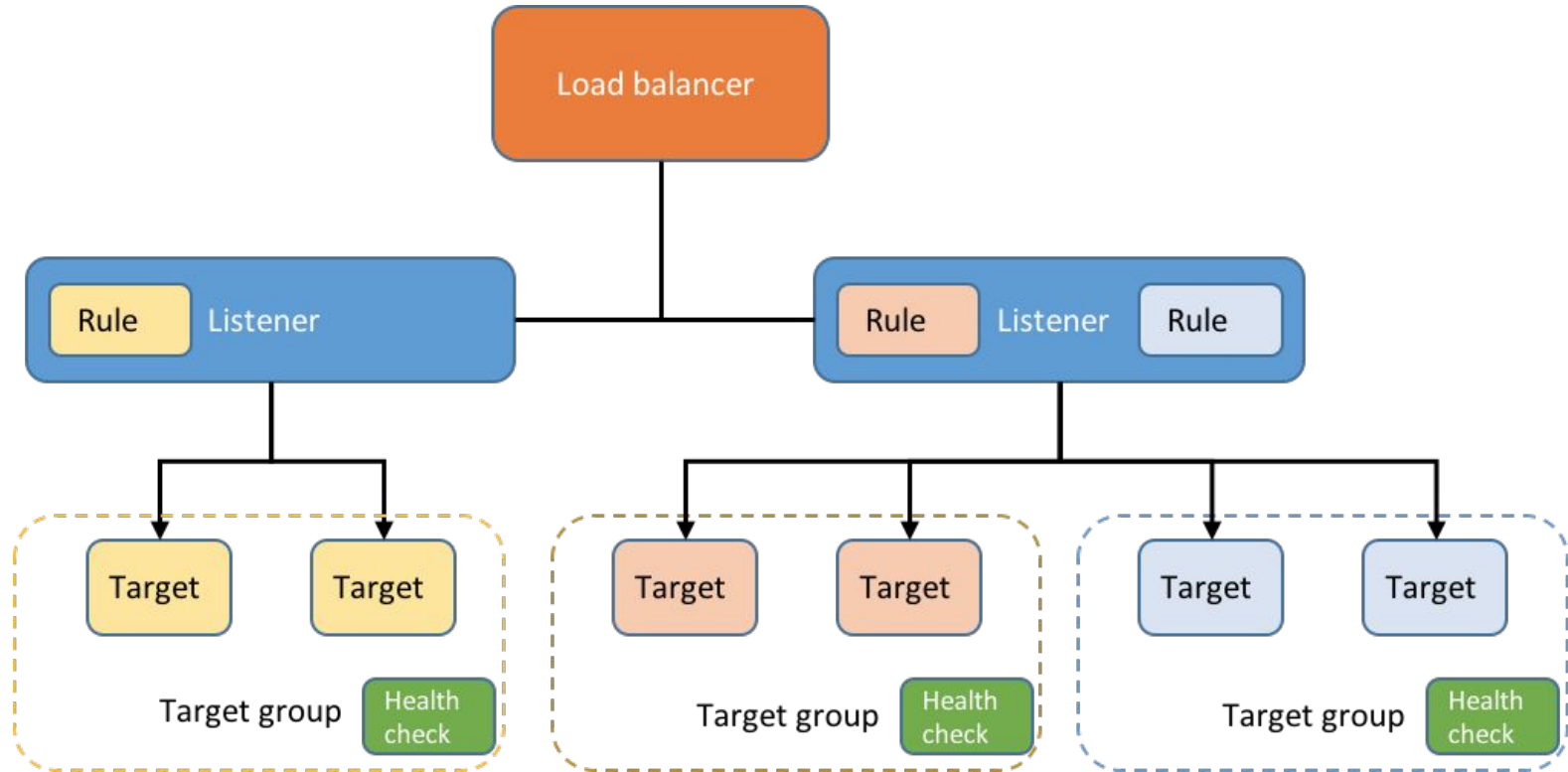
ContainerPort: 80

TargetGroupArn: !Ref TargetGroup

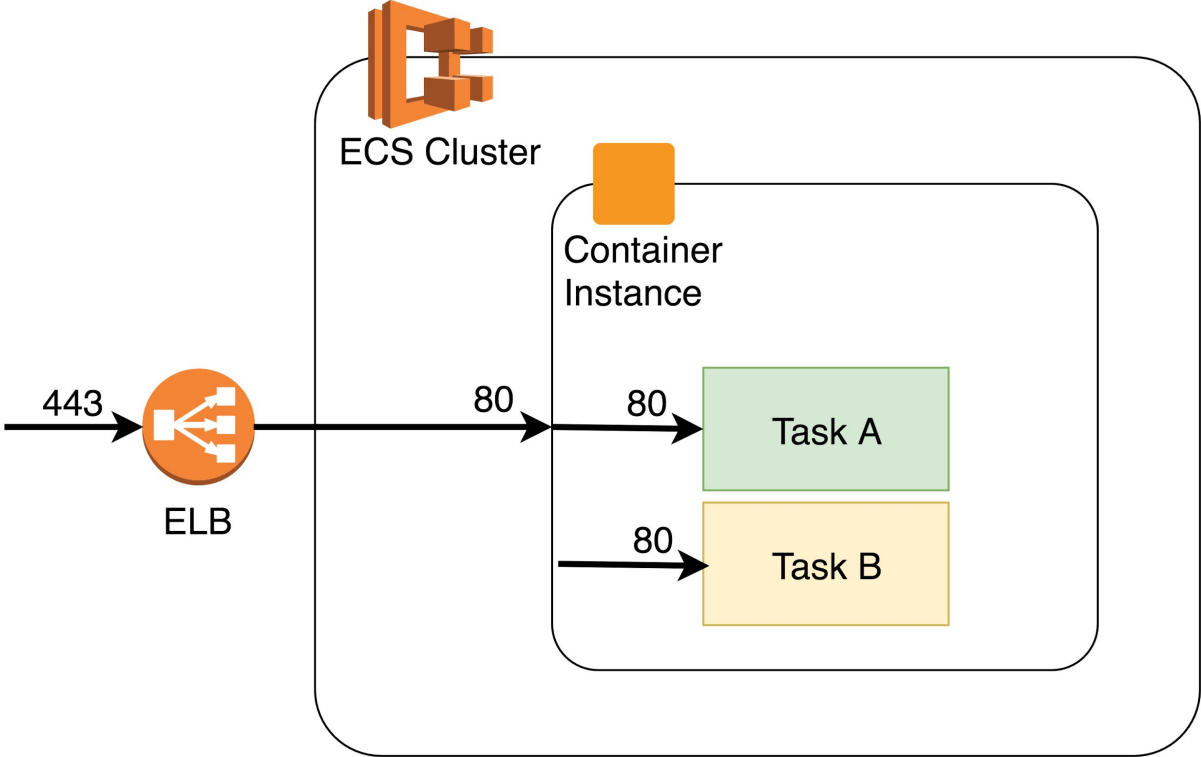
# Load Balancing



# Application Load Balancer (ALB)

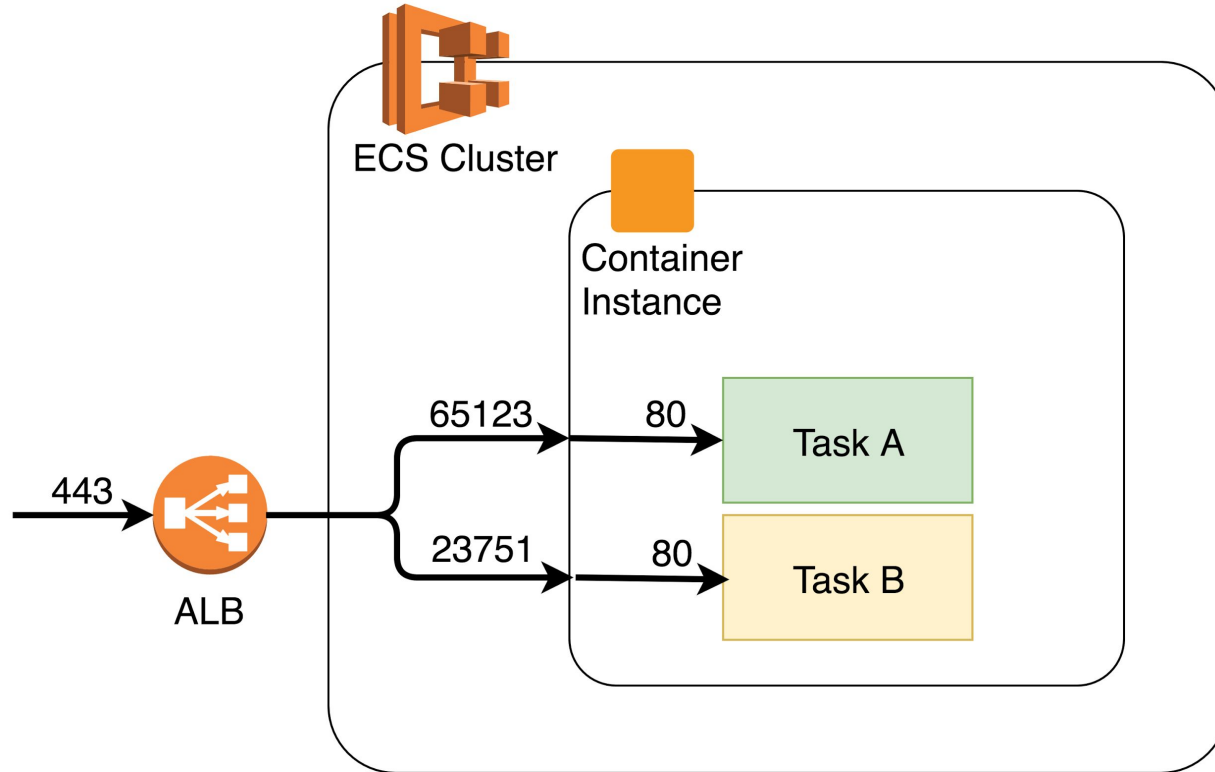


# Static Port Mapping (ELB)





# Dynamic Port Mapping (ALB)





The image displays a line graph with a dark gray background and a light gray grid. A white line with circular markers at each data point shows a fluctuating trend. The line starts at a low point on the left, rises to a peak, falls to a trough, rises to a higher peak, falls to a lower trough, rises to a very high peak, falls to a very low trough, rises to a high peak, falls to a low trough, rises to a high peak, falls to a low trough, rises to a high peak, and finally falls to a low trough on the right. A white rectangular box is centered over the graph, containing the text "Up & Down" in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

**Up & Down**

/29  
:00

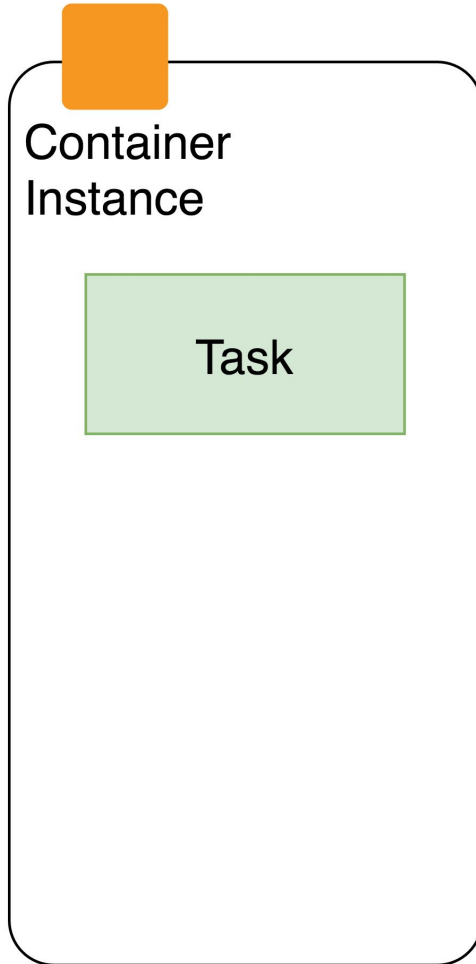
10/30  
00:00

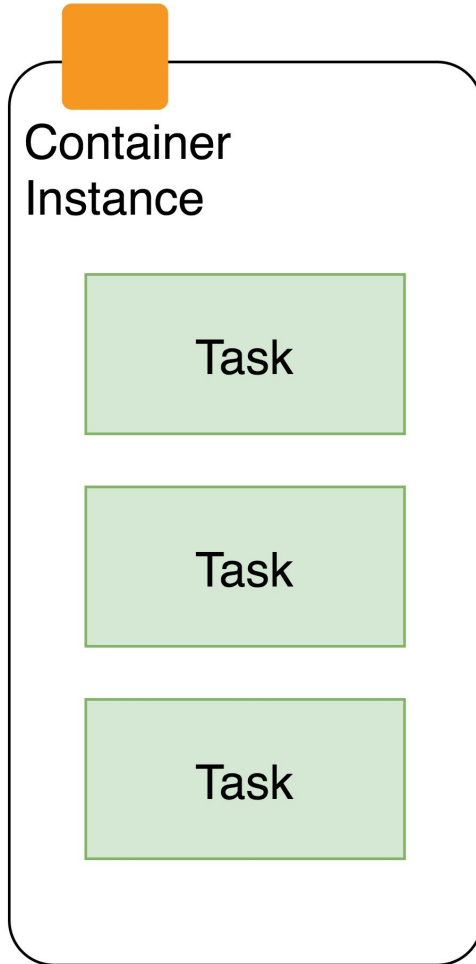
10/31  
00:00

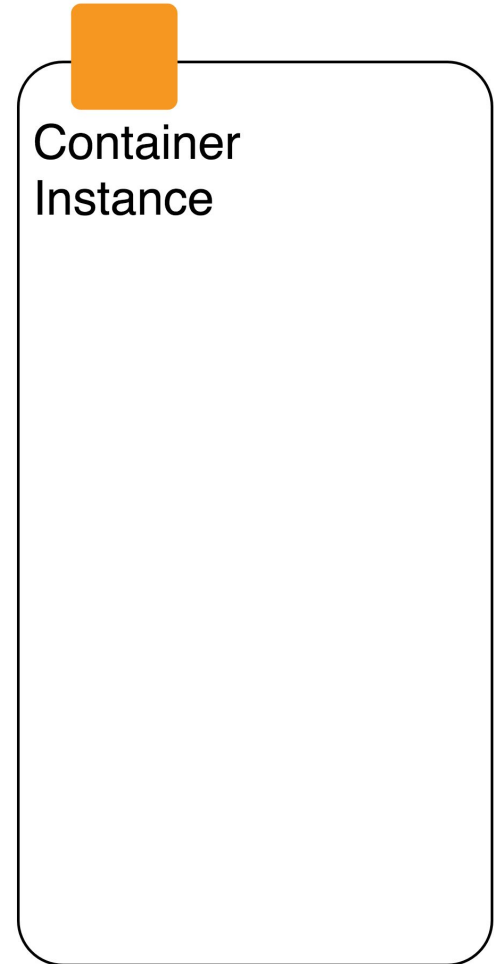
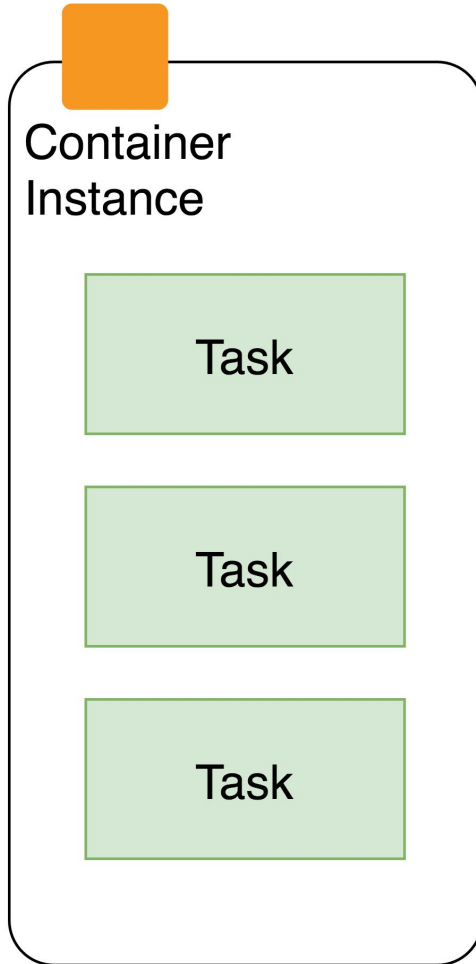
11/1  
00:00

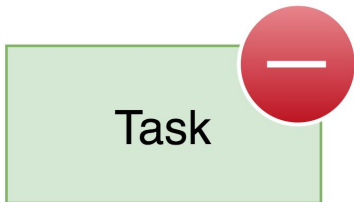
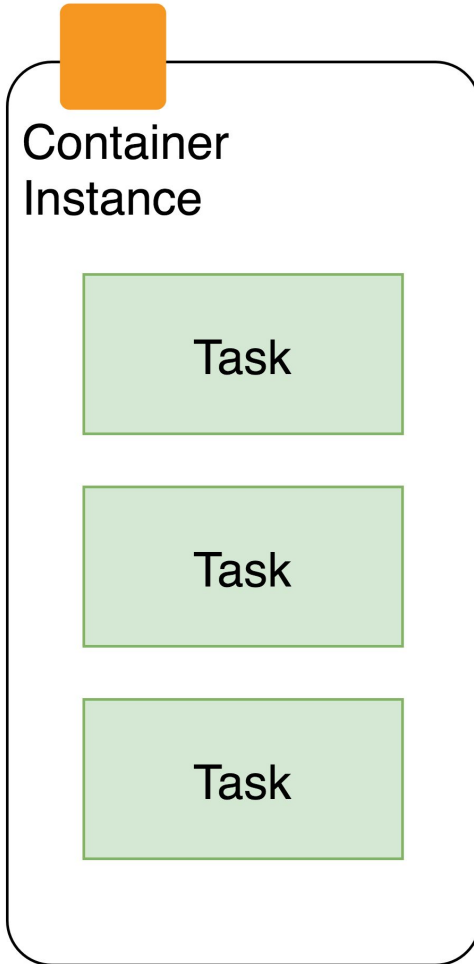
11/2  
00:00

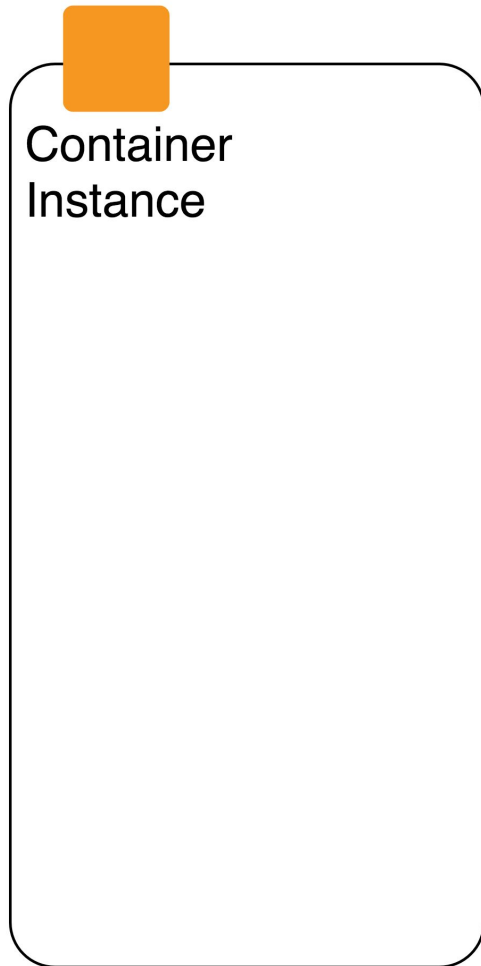
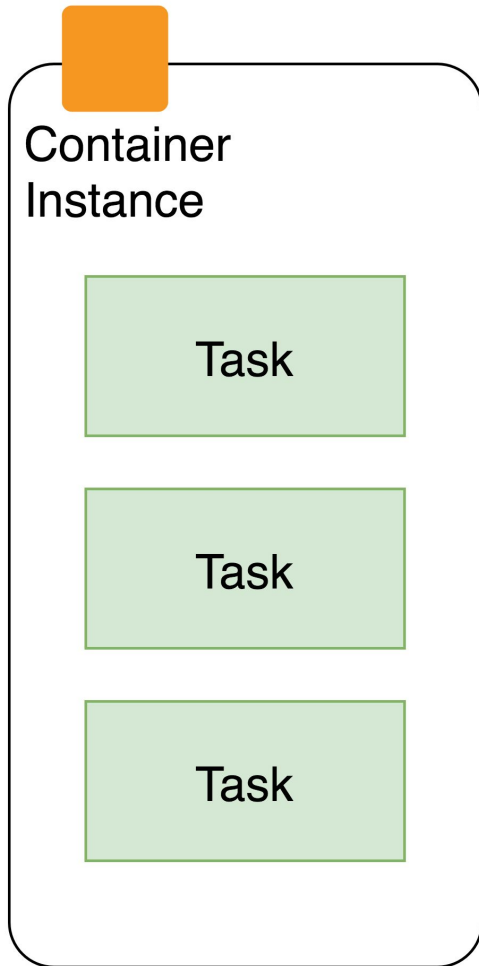
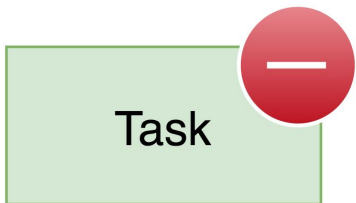
11/3  
00:00

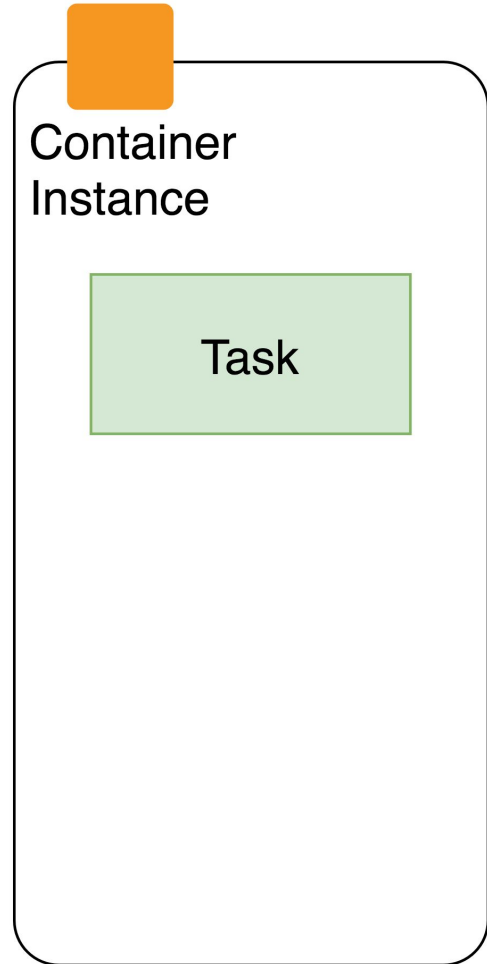
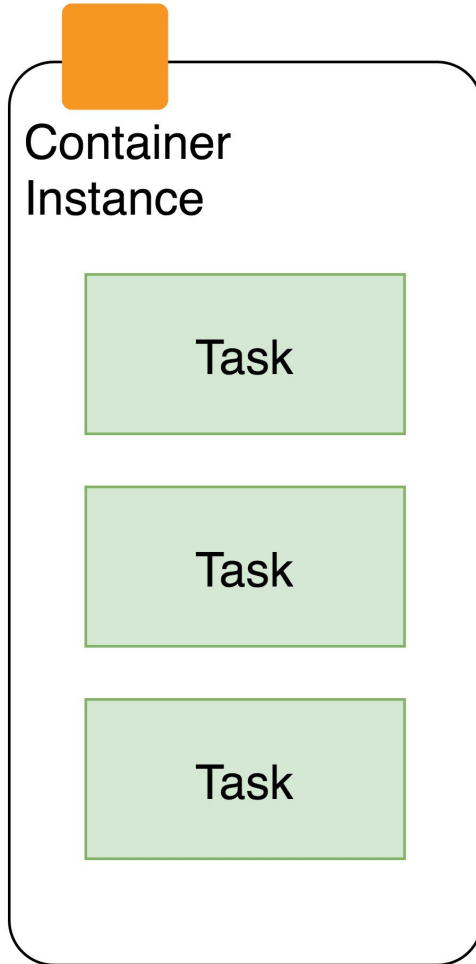




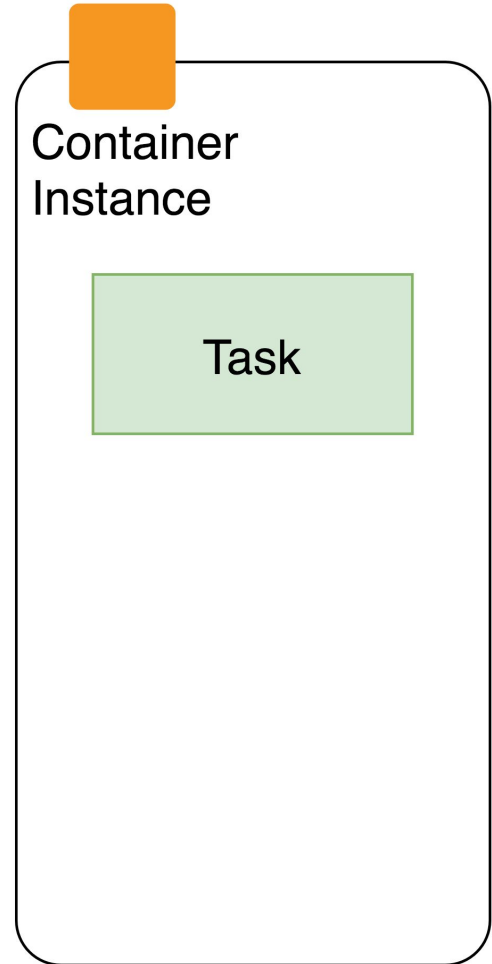
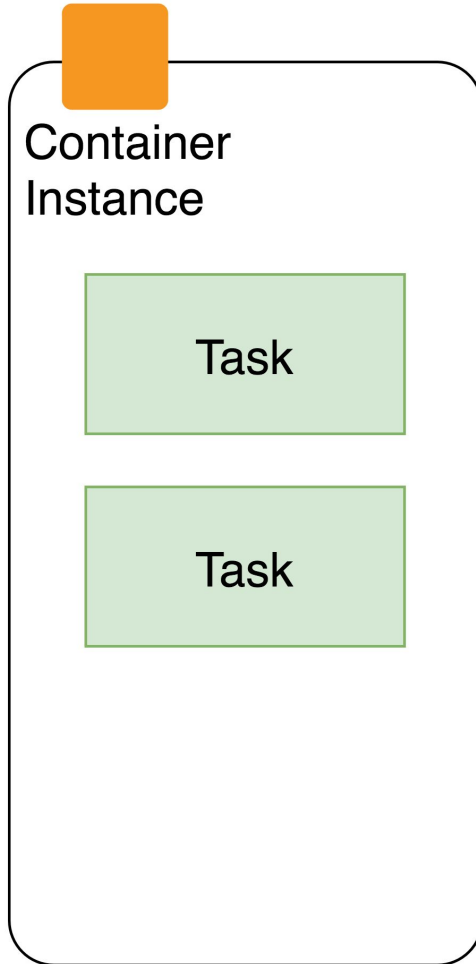


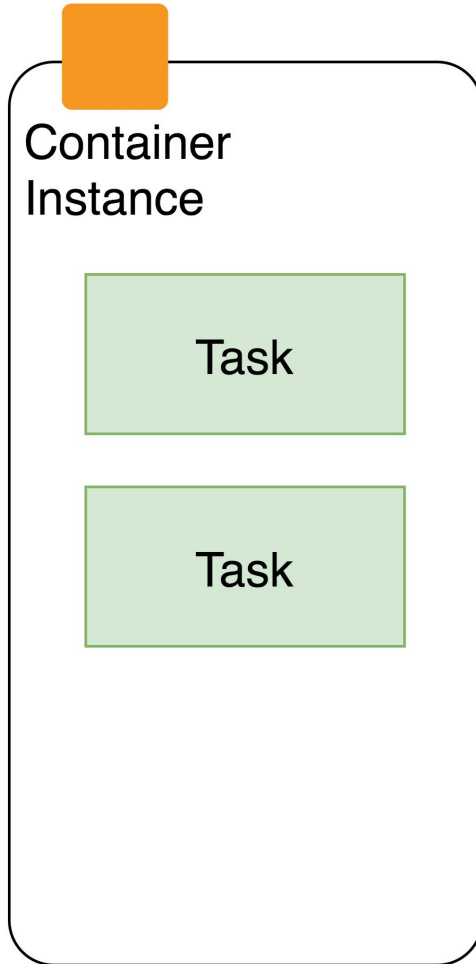


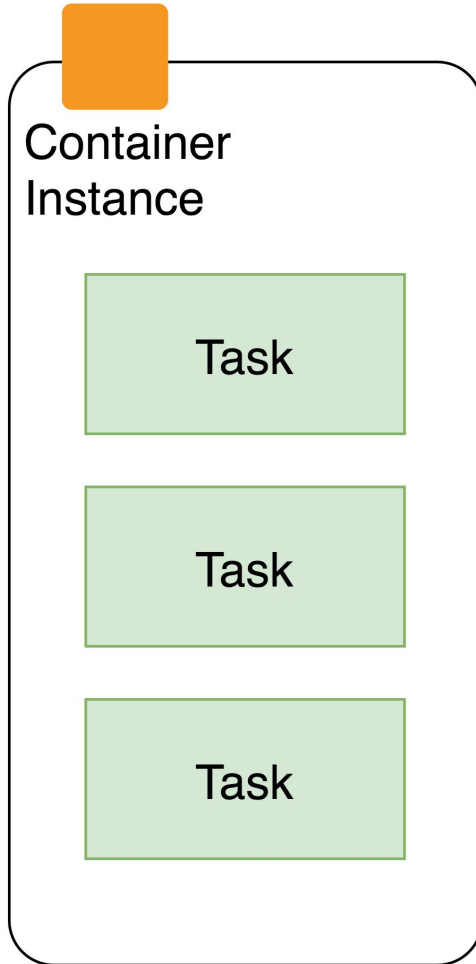












# AutoScaling: Conclusion

- Two different kinds of scaling (cluster and service)
  - Cluster: Use cpu / memory reservation metrics
  - Service: Use cpu / memory utilization metrics
- Scale down to save money, but avoid endless-loop
- Scaling takes awhile to take effect
- ASG is not aware of ECS

# AutoScaling: Rule of Thumb

$$\text{Threshold} = (1 - \frac{\text{max(Container Reservation)}}{\text{Total Capacity of a single Container Instance}}) * 100$$

## Example:

Container instance capacity: 2048 MB

Container reservation: 512 MB

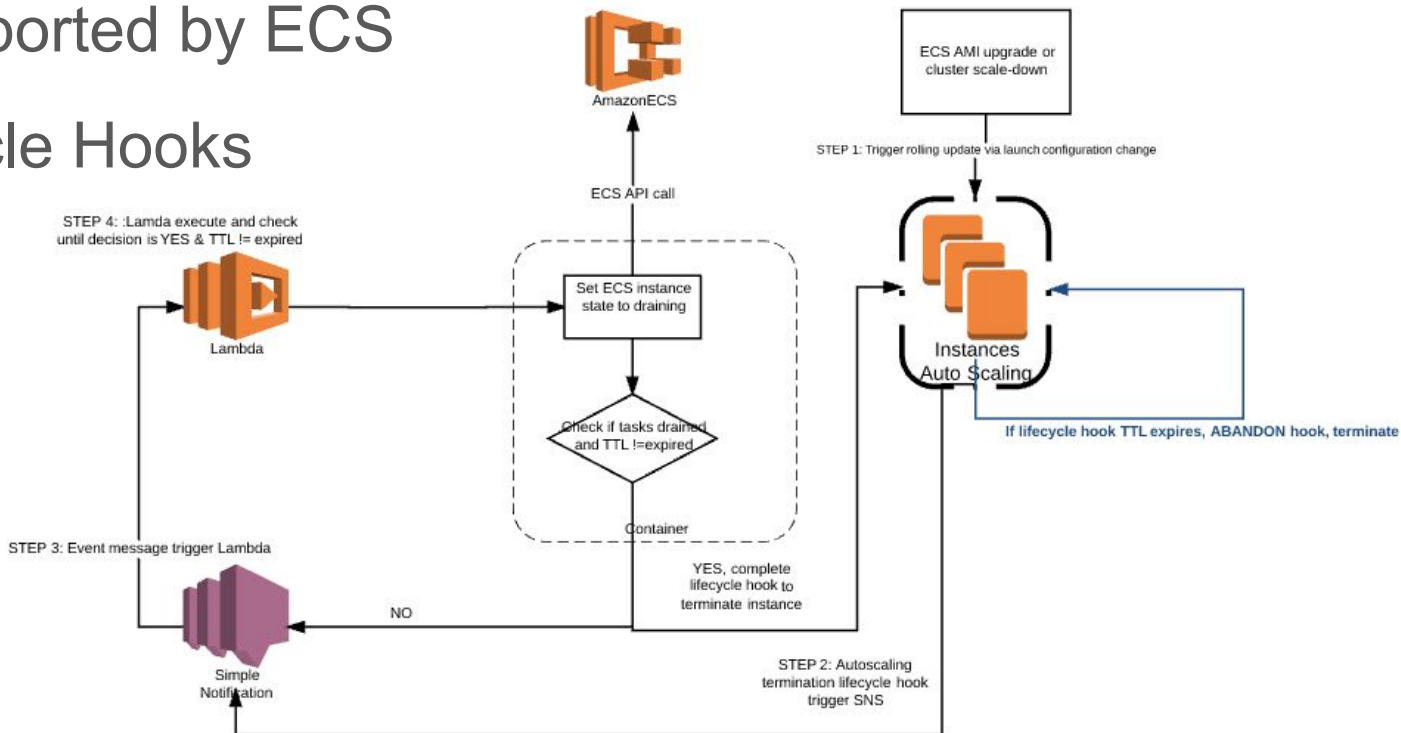
$$\text{Threshold} = (1 - 512 / 2048) * 100$$

$$\text{Threshold} = 75\%$$



# Node draining

- Finally supported by ECS
- Use Lifecycle Hooks



# Best practices for ECS Cluster

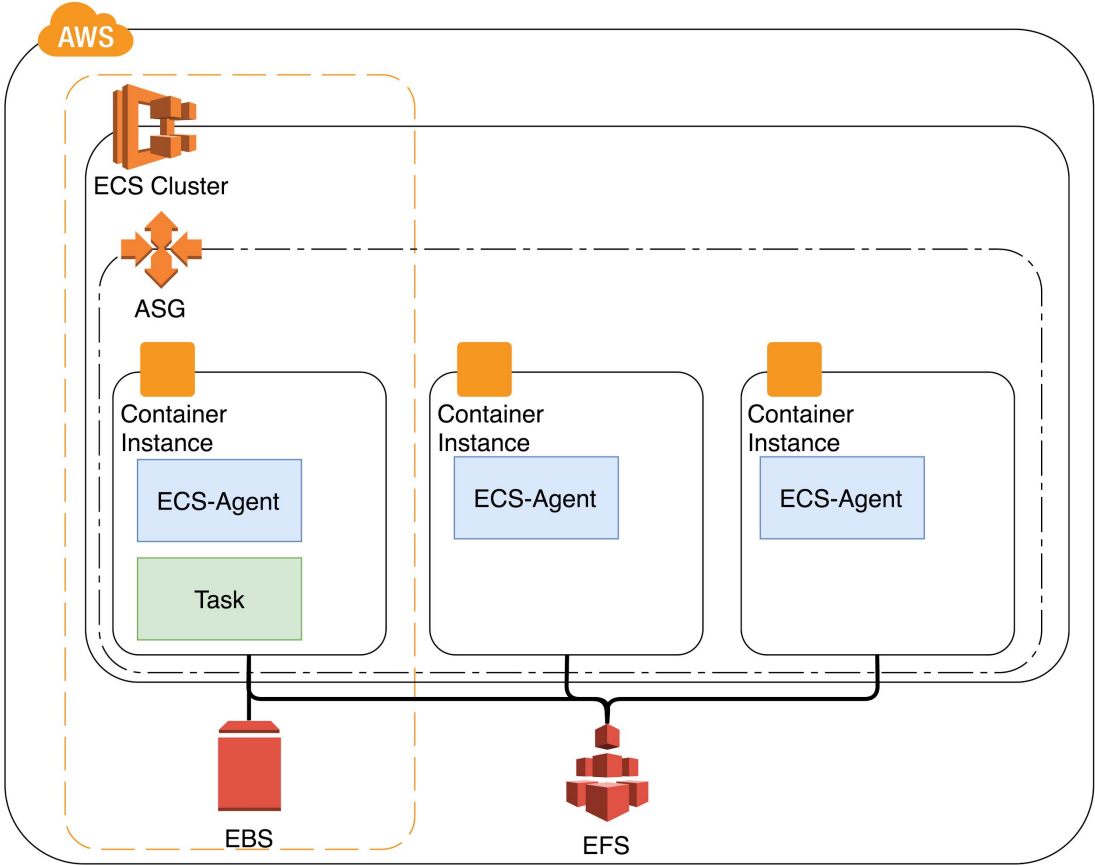
- ASG UpdatePolicy defines deployment strategy
- cfn-init: Ensure Docker and ECS-Agent is running
- Put build no in UserData to enforce new EC2 instances

A stack of several black floppy disks is shown against a dark gray background. The top disk is slightly offset, revealing the circular metal disk inside its plastic casing. A white rectangular box with a thin border is centered over the stack, containing the word "Volumes" in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

# Volumes

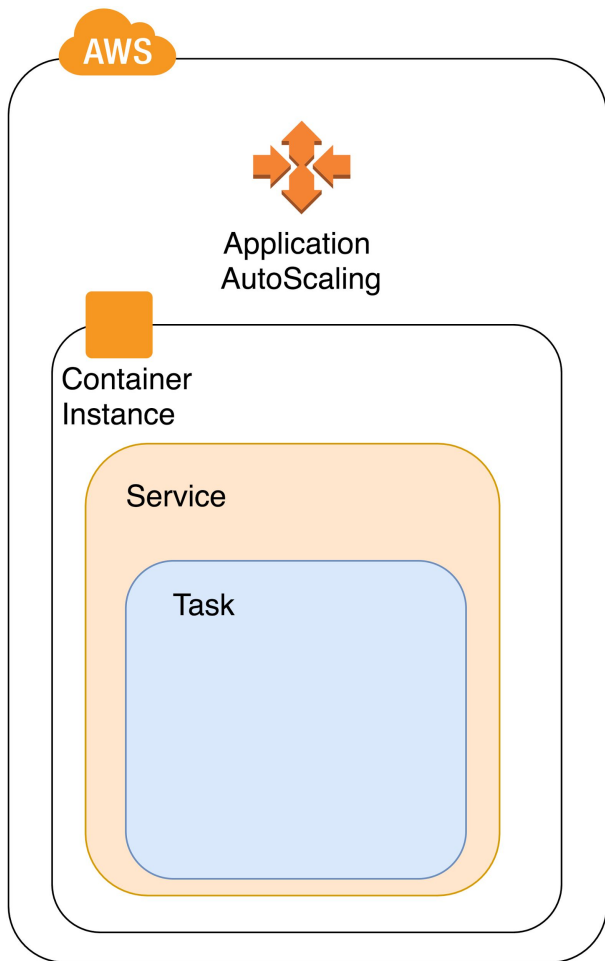


# EBS vs EFS



A black leather dress shoe is shown from a side profile, positioned on the left side of the frame. In the foreground, a banana peel lies on the ground, partially overlapping the shoe's path. The word "Security" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font across the center of the shoe. The entire scene is set against a plain, light gray background.

**Security**



# IAM Security Roles



**ecsAutoScalingRole**

- Read CloudWatch Metrics
- Modify App AutoScaling



**ecsContainerInstanceRole**

- ECR: Get Images
- ECS: De/Register Container Instances



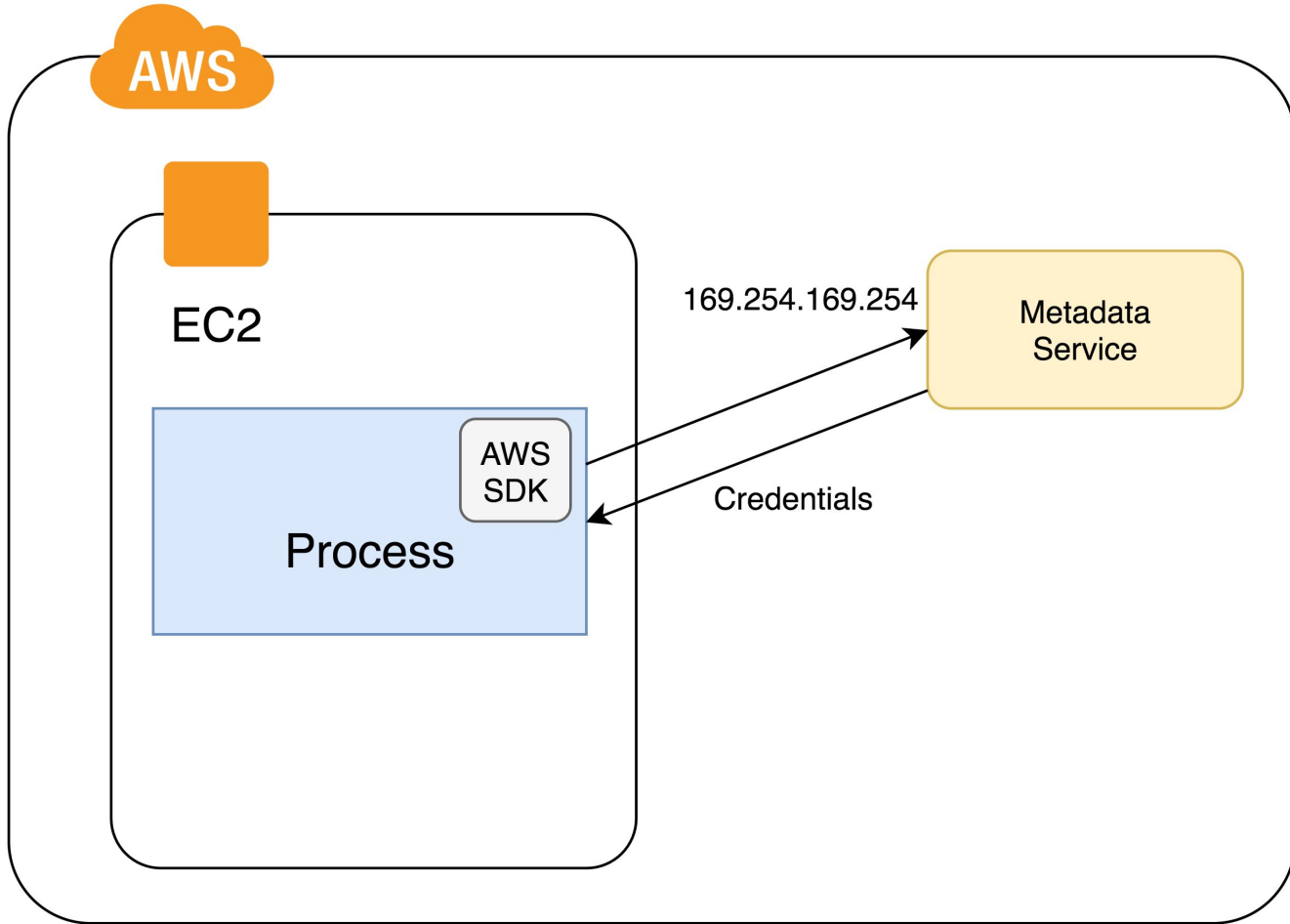
**ecsServiceRole**

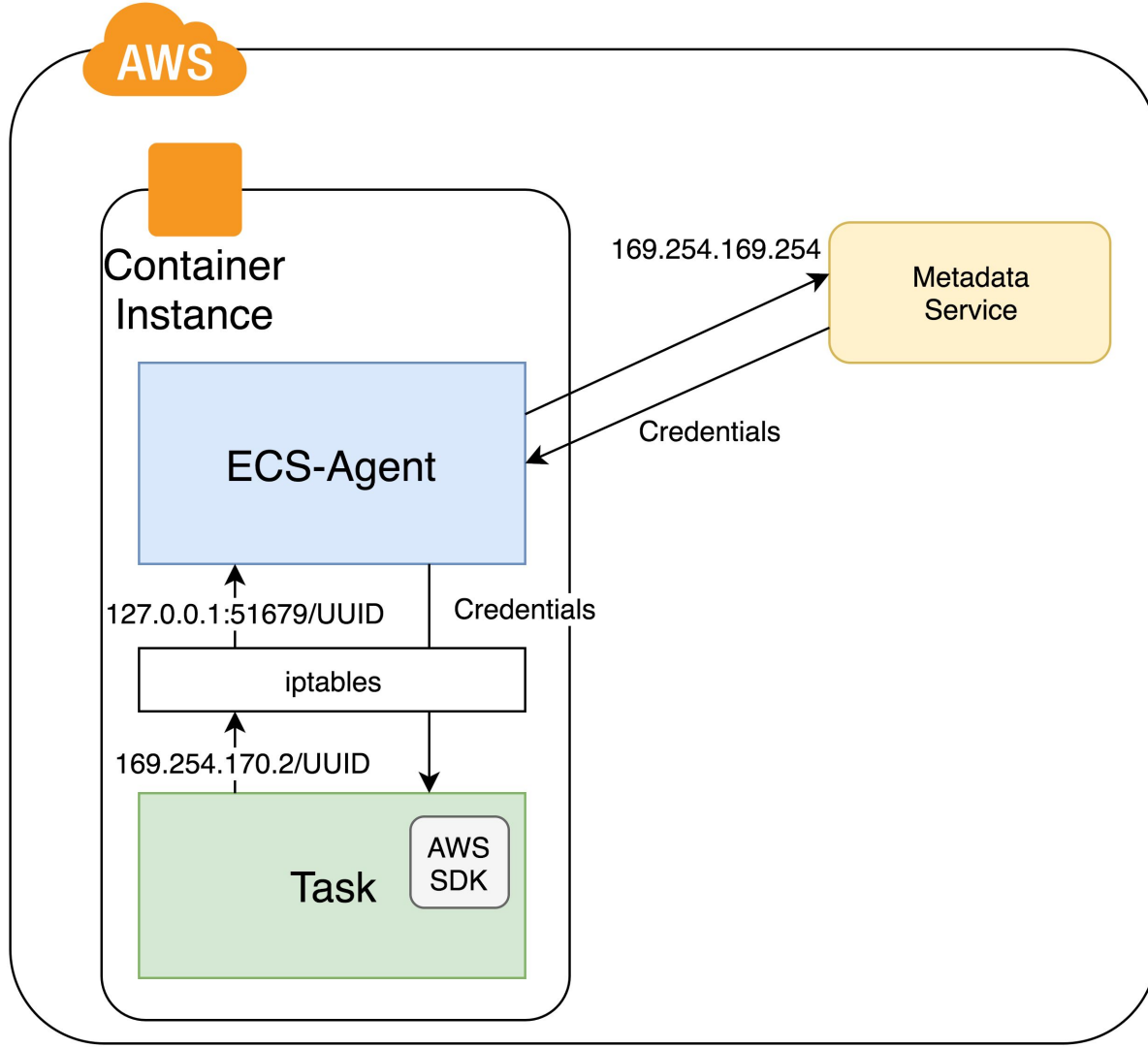
- De/Register Instances with Load Balancer

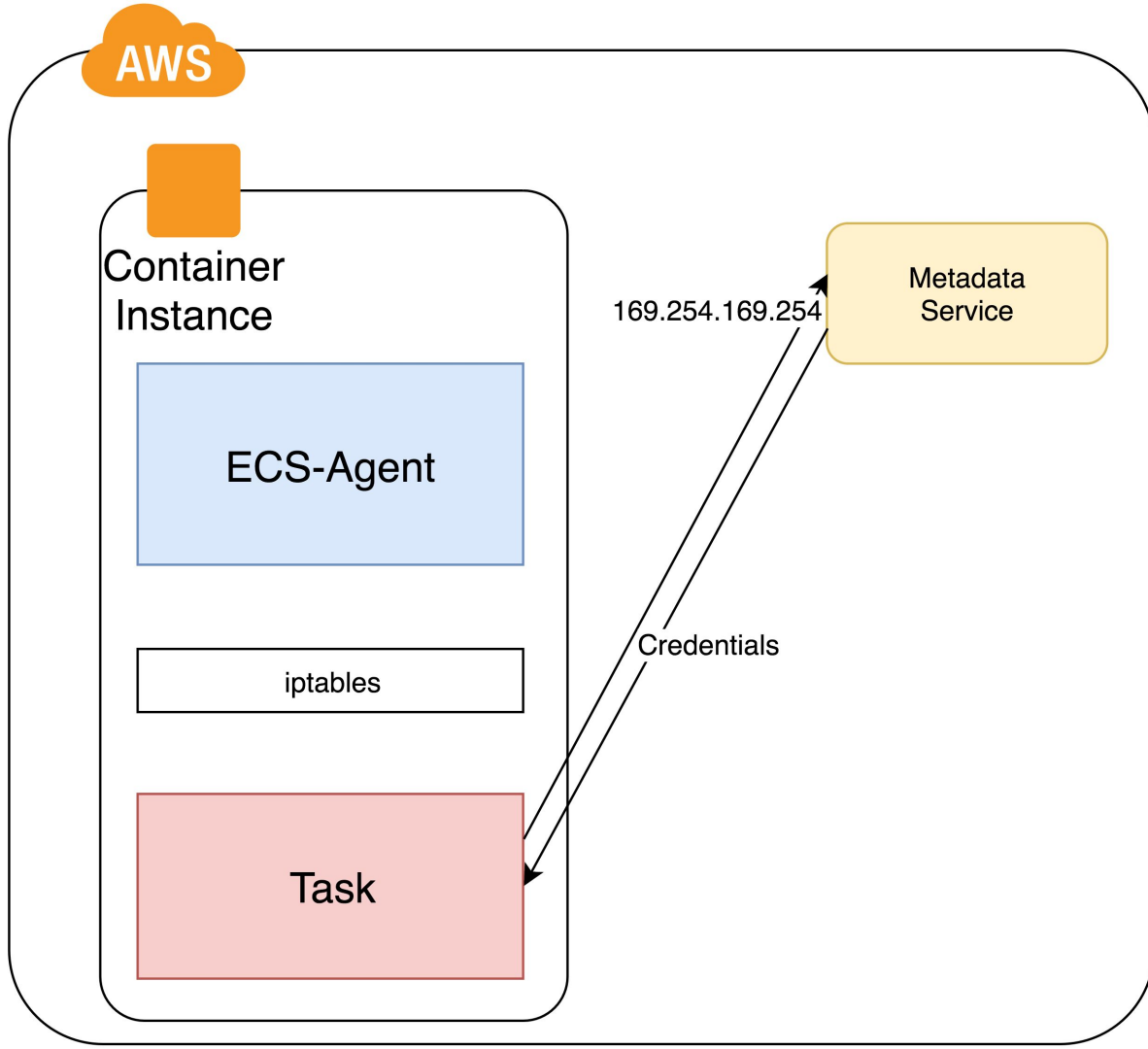


**ecsTaskRole**

- Everything your task needs to do







# How to protect yourself

## EC2

- Disallow access to metadata service from tasks (containers)

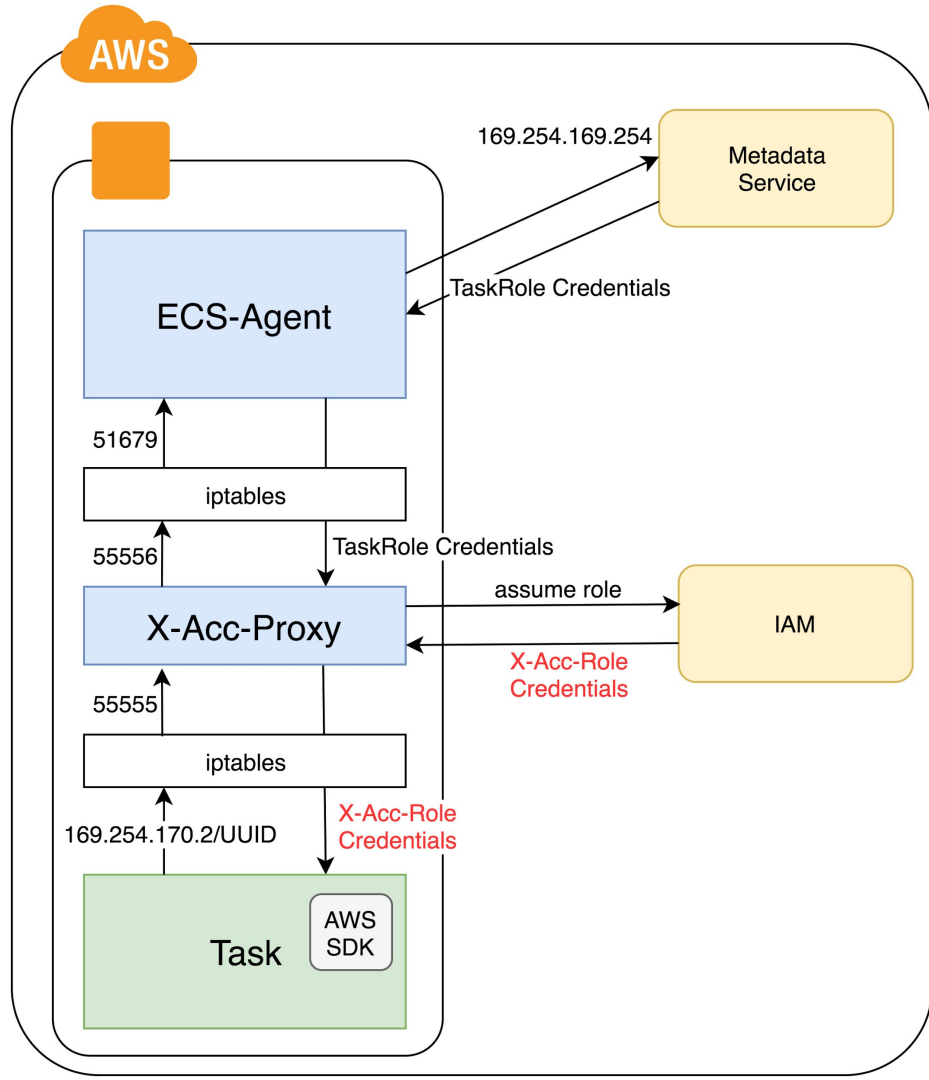
```
iptables --insert FORWARD 1 --in-interface docker+ --destination 169.254.169.254/32  
--jump DROP
```

## IAM

- Give the instance role only the credentials it needs (according to aws docs)

# Cross Account Proxy

- Re-route call to ECS-Agent
- ECS-Agent gets credentials based on configured TaskRole
- TaskRole needs only one permission: AssumeRole
- X-Acc-Proxy assumes role (Role ARN comes from Docker Label)
- X-Acc-Proxy returns credentials from assumed role





# Summary

# What did we miss?

- Networking
- Logging
- Monitoring
- CloudWatch Events
- EC2 System Manager parameter store

# Where ECS shines...

- Stable Environment
- Caught up with task placement engine
- Native support of IAM
- AutoScaling for hosts and services
- CloudFormation all the way

## And where not...

- Does not support all the Docker features (e.g. HEALTHCHECK)
- Disconnect between Docker Compose and Task Definition
- Network philosophy is different (Still no SecurityGroups for Containers)
- Volumes still not natively supported (3rd party tools needed)
- It's not a managed container service

# Philipp Garbe



<http://garbe.io>



[@pgarbe](https://twitter.com/pgarbe)



<https://github.com/pgarbe>

# SCOUT 24

**IMMOBILIEN**

**SCOUT 24**

**AUTO**

**SCOUT 24**

<https://boards.greenhouse.io/scout24>