



# Open Source & the Cloud

Open Source development adopting  
cloud at Twitter

ApacheCon 2022

Daniel Templeton @templedf  
Lohit VijayRenu @lohitvijayarenu





**Lohit VijayaRenu**

He/Him

Principal Software Eng

Apache Hadoop committer

@lohitvijayarenu



**Daniel Templeton**

He/Him

Sr EM Data Lifecycle

Apache Hadoop PMC

@templedf



# Open Source adoption at Twitter and how it is evolving with extending infrastructure support for Cloud



# Open Source & Twitter





# Data Platform use cases

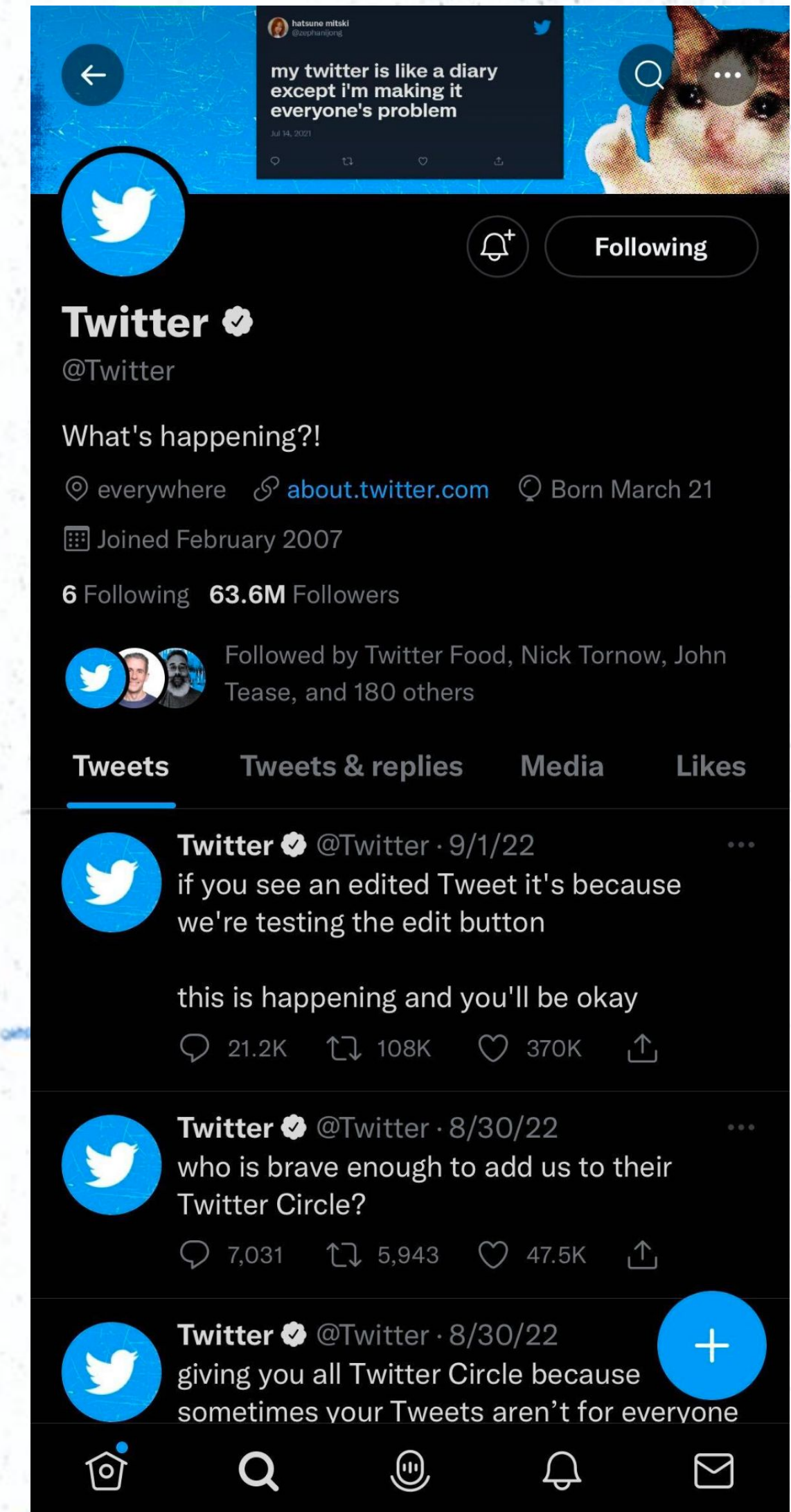
Centralized data processing infrastructure

**Data management** - storage, metadata, log ingestion, replication, retention

**Data processing** - batch, streaming, aggregations

**Data analytics** - SQL, reporting, quality

**Data products** - curated datasets





# Data Platform

## Data Warehouse and Query

Data warehouse, Real time Database

## Data Transport

Stream Ingestion  
Data Replication  
Change Data  
Capture

## Data Storage

Data Lake  
Storage Formats  
Cloud Storage

## Query, Transform

SQL Interface  
Batch  
Processing  
Stream  
Processing

## Core Data

Curated  
Datasets  
Curated Metrics  
Data Modeling  
Data APIs

## Analysis, Output

Analytic  
Vizualization  
Data Workspace

## Workflow and Management

Orchestration, Data Discovery, Data Retention, Compliance, Metadata



# On-prem and Open Source

## Data Warehouse and Query

Apache Hadoop, Apache Druid

## Data Transport

Apache Flume  
Apache Tez  
Apache Hadoop  
Scribe

## Data Storage

Apache HDFS  
Parquet, AVRO

## Query, Transform

Scalding  
Apache Spark  
Apache Heron  
Presto

## Core Data

Apache Hadoop  
Scalding  
Apache Kafka

## Analysis, Output

Zeppelin  
Jupyter  
notebooks

## Workflow and Management

Apache Airflow, Internal tools: Data Access Layer, Oxpecker



# Complexities and contributions

- Adoption of open source ecosystem **components at scale**
  - Solving Data Processing and Data Analytic use cases
- Contribution to open source with features around **scalability and reliability**
  - Unique problems seen at scale and solutions for those
- Active engagement with **vendor** and **open source contributors**
- Discuss requirements and opportunities to solve complex problems
- Building strong relationships with **community**
  - Building strong technical teams to scale Twitter business
  - Graduating **developers to committers** and beyond





# Why Cloud?

- Realize story around **Unified Data** and **Machine Learning**
- Rapidly **grow / shrink**
- A broader geographical footprint for locality and **business continuity**
- Solve complicated problems for **max ROI**
  - Capacity management
  - New features and technologies
  - Ecosystem integration
- Access to **other Google offerings** such as BigQuery, CloudML, Cloud DataFlow, VertexAI etc



# Beginning of the Cloud Journey

- Evaluate new **features and capabilities** provided by cloud vendors
  - Particularly to support ML/AI use cases
  - Cost v/s capability
- **Compare and contrast** with on-prem infrastructure
  - Benchmarking, stress testing and evaluation
  - Identify scalable and extensible components
- Justify the need for **adoption**
  - Pick right use cases
  - Utilize new features and capabilities
- Targeted rollout for **specific use cases**
  - Learn, rinse, repeat



# Projects for enablement of cloud

- Integration with existing Twitter infra
  - **Metadata** integration
- Cloud **Resource organization**
  - Projects, buckets, tables and more
- **Security**
  - Identity management, extending Twitter security controls
- Data **Replication Service**
  - Batch, Streaming, and CDC
- **Networking**
- Evaluation of **new services**
  - Dataflow, PubSub, BigQuery, etc.



# Metadata Integration

- Started with in-house **Data Access Layer**
  - Data Replication
  - Data Retention
  - Data management (Permission, schema, ownership...)
- Integrate cloud services with DAL
- Ensure **compliance and security** for cloud storage services:
  - Data annotation
  - Compliance enforcement
- Considering open source alternatives
  - DataHub, Open Metadata, Open Lineage
  - No end-to-end out-of-the-box solution

The screenshot shows the EagleEye web interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Apps', 'Data', 'Taxonomy', and 'Dashboards'. A search bar is also present. Below the navigation bar, a blue banner reads 'Explore the Data Pipeline' and 'Manage batch analytics jobs and discover data sources.' The main content area features four cards: 'Manage Apps', 'Explore Dependency Graphs', 'Discover Data Sources' (highlighted with a red border), and 'Create Dashboards'. The 'Discover Data Sources' card includes a magnifying glass icon and text: 'Explore Data Source schema, search by HDFS path and view Data Source status.'

Below the cards, there is a section for a specific dataset. The dataset name is 'Dataset Name' with a status of 'HDFS data source - active'. A red box highlights the dataset name and status. Below this, there is a 'Detail' section with a summary and a table of metadata. The 'HDFS Path' field is also highlighted with a red box.

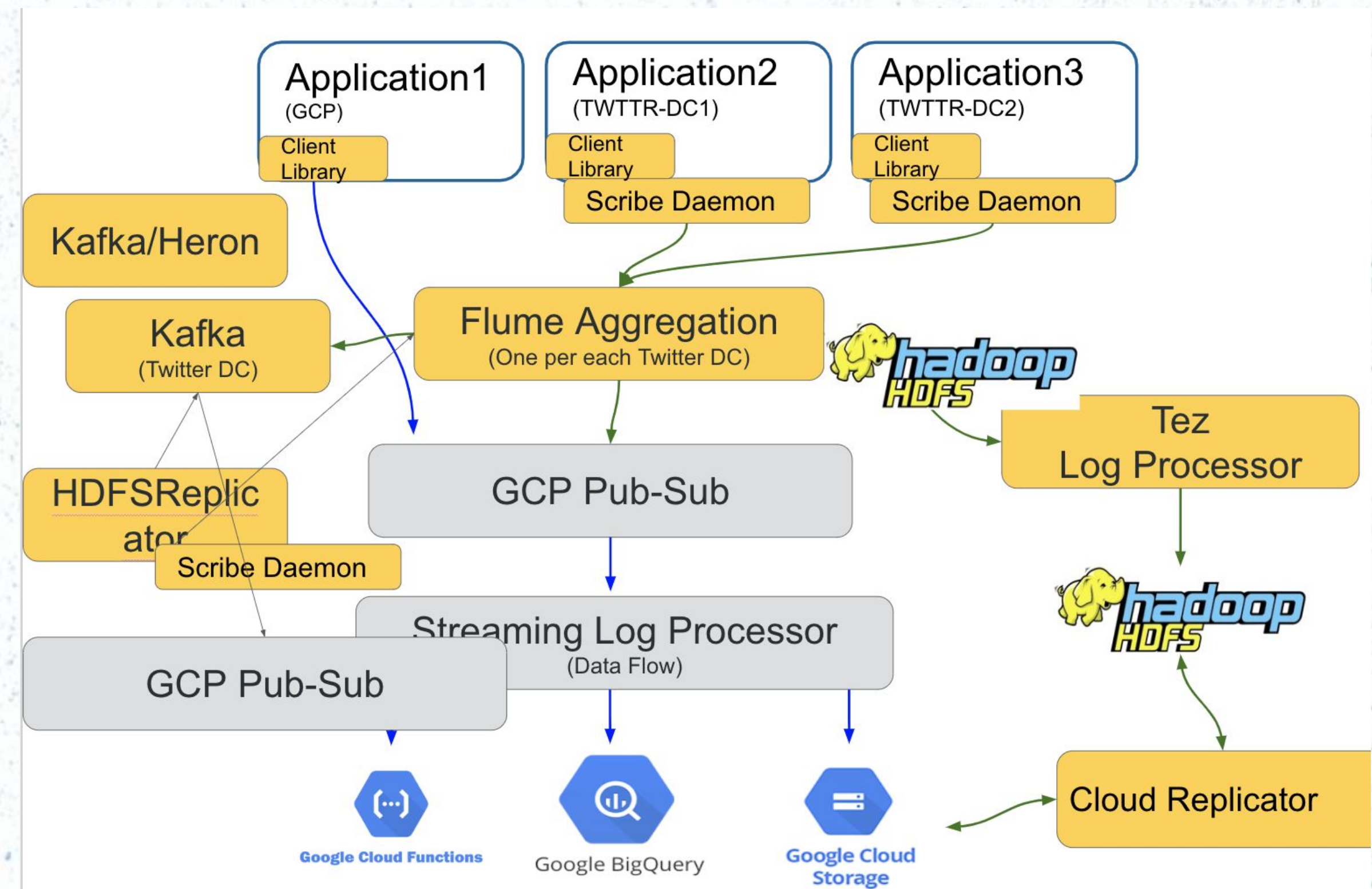
Owner	Owner Name
Frequency	daily
Data Range	Unknown
Thrift Class	com.twitter.owner.data.DataClass
HDFS Path	/user/owner_name/dataset_name/yyyy/mm/dd-

Example Usage



# Data Replication at Scale (PBs)

- Ability to **scale replication** to and from cloud
  - High throughput data transfer
  - Streaming
  - Change data streams
- Heavy **network requirements**
- Built using **open source**
  - Apache Hadoop
  - Apache Flume
  - Apache Kafka
  - Apache Beam
- No complete open source solution
  - Cloud services
  - Lots of in-house code





# Easy Onboarding

- Tooling to manage **security perimeters**
  - VPC SC setup
  - Identity and access management mapping
  - Extending onprem roles to cloud
- **Onboarding** Cloud services
  - Terraform setup
  - Cloud agnostic APIs for resource provisioning
- **Chargeback** of cloud services
  - Cloud resource utilization monitoring and alerting
  - Integrate with other systems (including on prem)
- Tooling for easier **cloud adoption**
  - Migration tooling, Onboarding guides and templates, Provisioning, Auditing...



# Support Impact

- Increased **support load**
  - Different systems on prem and in the cloud
  - Tooling to support new systems
  - Permissions, setup, and resource provisioning
- **Guidance** for customers
  - Choosing the right technology for the use case
  - Communicating cost implications
- Ongoing **support**
  - Migration, Monitoring, Alerting, Capacity management, auditing ...



# Focus on standards

- Uniformity across on-prem and the cloud
- Focus on **standards** and widely adopted **interfaces**
  - Kubernetes
  - Apache Beam
  - Open Lineage
  - Open Metadata
  - SQL
- Adoption of **open source projects**
  - Supporting complex data intensive applications
  - Machine Learning pipelines







# Multi Cloud

- To support continued growth
  - Explored **AWS for serving** and **GCP for offline use cases**
- Challenges of using cloud agnostic vs cloud native solutions
  - For storage, compute and larger use cases
- Data **Movement challenges**
  - Across cloud and onprem
  - Realtime and cost efficient data movement solutions
- **Compliance and Security**
  - Providing uniform constructs for users
- Serving and Processing **near cloud**
  - How to satisfy either needs on different clouds

# OnPrem

- **Build or adopt projects for all parts of infrastructure**
- **Focus on scaling infrastructure deployments**
- **Operate and evolve onprem stack with small teams**
- **Utilize open source where possible**

# Cloud

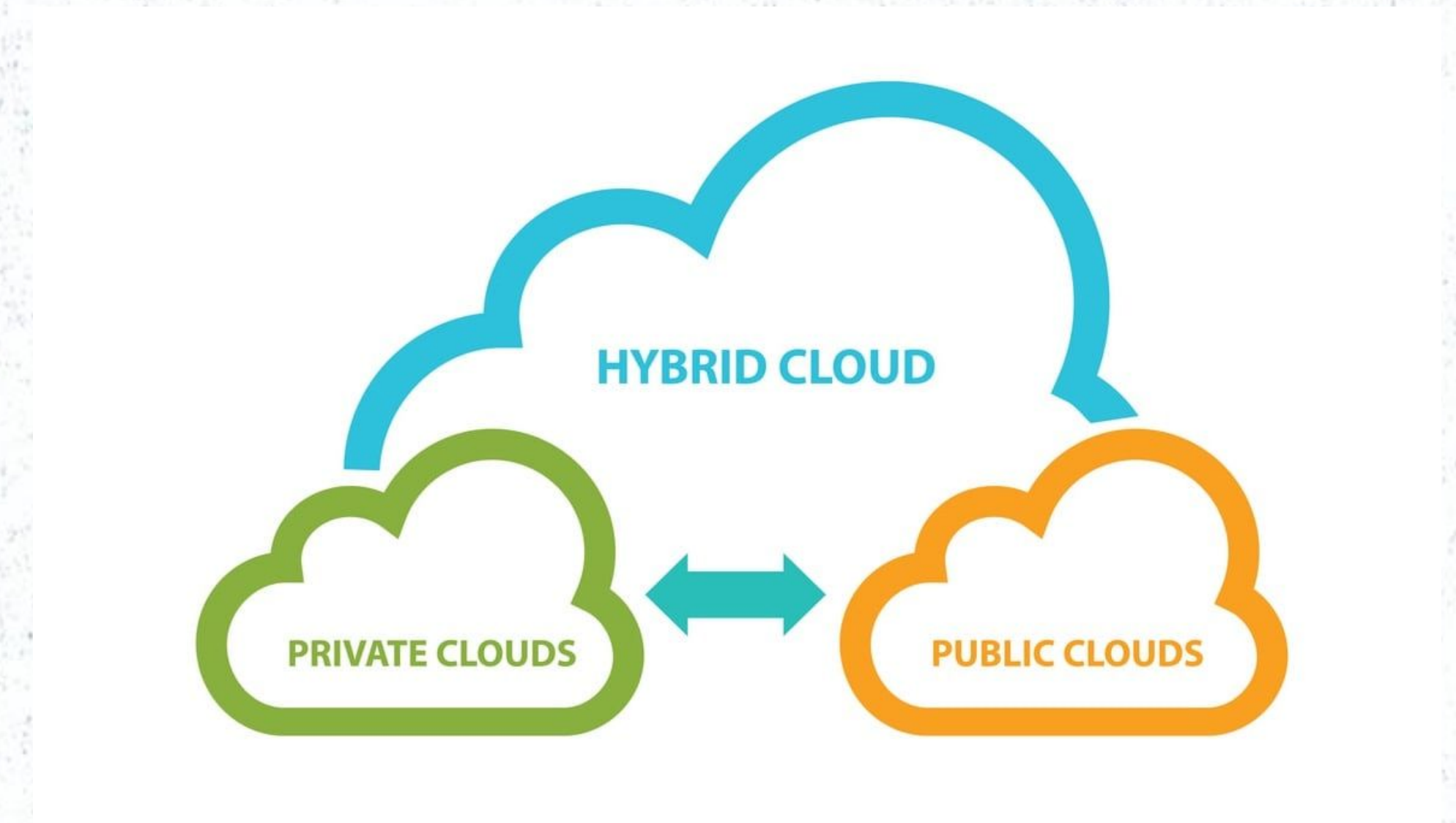
- **Take advantage of infrastructure in Cloud**
- **Utilize elasticity, scalability and reliability of Cloud**
- **Increase velocity by adopting new solutions**
- **Focus on integration projects**
- **Concentrate on adopting interface and standards**





# Cloud or Hybrid

- Choice of all **Cloud** or **Hybrid**
- What is the **future**?
  - Adoption cost
  - Migration cost
  - Maintenance cost
- Where do we **innovate and invest**
  - Build solutions on-prem or hybrid
  - Buy solutions which are cloud specific





# Take away

- Use cloud to **solve a specific problem**
  - Understand its limitations
- Migration is the **majority of the work**
  - Projects should take that into account
- **Lots of room for development** efforts and projects
- Adopt **interfaces, standards, and open source**
- More **hybrid cloud awareness** in OSS projects





# Thank You!

Follow [@TwitterEng](https://twitter.com/TwitterEng)  
[@TwitterCareers](https://twitter.com/TwitterCareers)  
[careers.twitter.com](https://careers.twitter.com)

