

# LEVERAGING THE CLOUD FOR NIST SP 800-171

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# OVERVIEW

- Background
- Motivation
- The Cloud
- REED Overview
- Future Wrok

# BACKGROUND

2006!



- Director of Research Computing Services
- I was once the “Condor Guy” from Purdue –
  - (I did my thesis on ROI of campus Condor grid)
- Now I lead the group supporting computing for scientists all over campus
- **Disclaimer:** I’m not the security/compliance guy!

# HTCONDOR AT PURDUE

- Purdue has been an HTCondor site for a long time
  - Backfill scheduler on Community Clusters
  - Teragrid Condor resource
  - Large Campus Grid
- Today, HTCondor is used at Purdue in more specialized use cases.....



# TRENDS AT PURDUE



# ITAR COMPUTING

- Since 2010, Purdue has offered a small cluster for ITAR contracts
  - Limited physical locations
  - “US persons” only
  - Also ITAR data storage
- Largest user group runs high-throughput Condor workflow with DAGMan managing

## **ITAR ++**

- Researcher using ITAR system received new requirement for compliance with
  - DFAR 252.204-7012 (b)(2)(ii)(D) \*
  - Sponsor wouldn't negotiate on the requirement

\* Guidance to Stakeholders for Implementing Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement Clause 252.204-7012 (Safeguarding Unclassified Controlled Technical Information)

## **CREATING A SEPARATE ENVIRONMENT**

*“If nonfederal organizations entrusted with protecting CUI designate specific information systems or system components for the processing, storage, or transmission of CUI, then the organizations may limit the scope of the CUI security requirements to those particular systems or components.”*

(NIST SP 800-171, pg. 3)

# COMPLIANCE WITH DFAR-7012

- Was... problematic
  - All of campus?
  - Datacenter constraints to bring ITAR system in line
  - Certification/Audit for compliance prohibitive

*Maybe the cloud?*

# NOT JUST ANY CLOUD

- If using Cloud, it must be equivalent to FedRAMP-Moderate.
  - 325 controls, selected from NIST 800-53
  - Accredited by approved 3<sup>rd</sup> party



AWS GovCloud (US)

## **WHY GOVCLOUD?**

- GovCloud required for CUI data? **NO!**
  - Most Purdue contracts with CUI also include ITAR provisions – US persons
- Amazon discourages GovCloud for CUI unless there is an ITAR requirement
- US data centers, maintained by US persons only
- Fewer resources, fewer tools, higher cost

# CLOUD PROVIDERS ARE NOT TOTALLY TURN-KEY

- Many carry certifications of some kind
  - *ISO, PCI, HIPAA, FISMA*
- This applies only to base infrastructure and/or managed services
- **YOU** are still responsible for ensuring compliance of what you build inside.



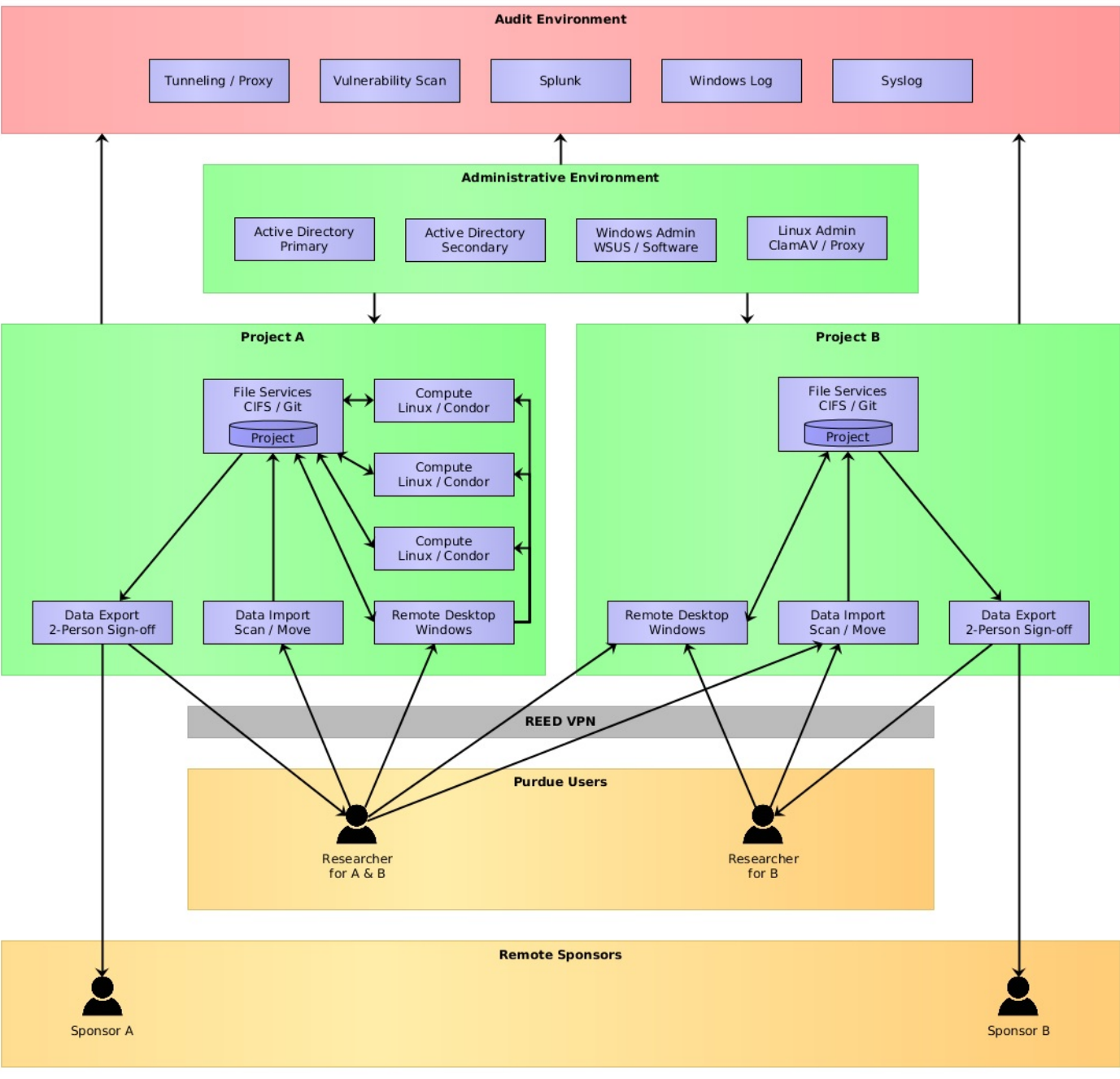
# PURDUE'S SOLUTION

# REED

- Research
- Environment (for)
- Encumbered
- Data



- A hardened environment in AWS GovCloud built to NIST SP 800-171 that allows for processing of data with strict regulations



## **CONNECTING TO REED**

- Requires access to Purdue VPN
- Two-factor authentication
- FIPS 140-2 validated in-transit encryption
- Limited to (1) session
- Allows system anti-virus and other security applications to call home
- Access can be controlled geographically

# ACCESSING REED

- Separate Active Directory from Campus
  - Non-US persons control, smaller user base
- Microsoft Terminal Server
  - Remote Desktop interface
  - Port-forwarding disabled
  - Running USGCB-aligned group policies
- Identified problem: Can't print hardcopy

# **RUNNING ON REED**

- Batch computing is an HTCondor pool, with Linux workers and Windows submitters
- Basic IP security within the pool

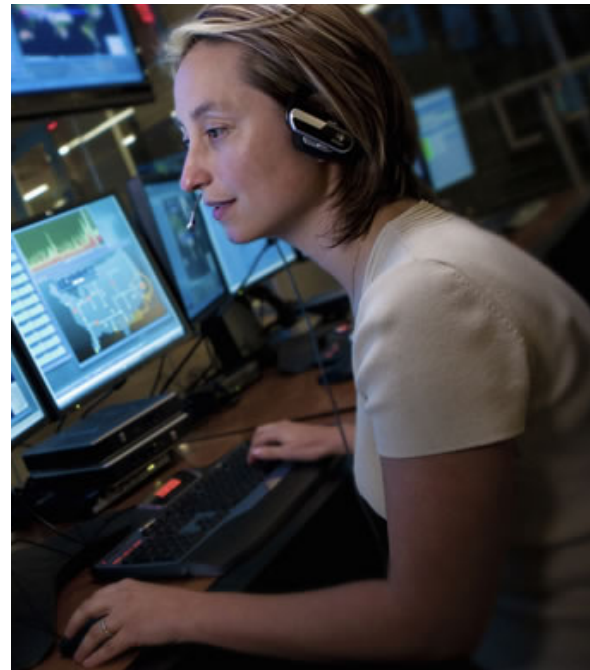


# **DATA-AT-REST & KEY MANAGEMENT**

- AWS EBS containers encrypt data using FIPS 140-2 validated encryption at AES-256.
- Key management is maintained by Amazon
- Key override is AWS requires quorum and access would show in CloudTrails

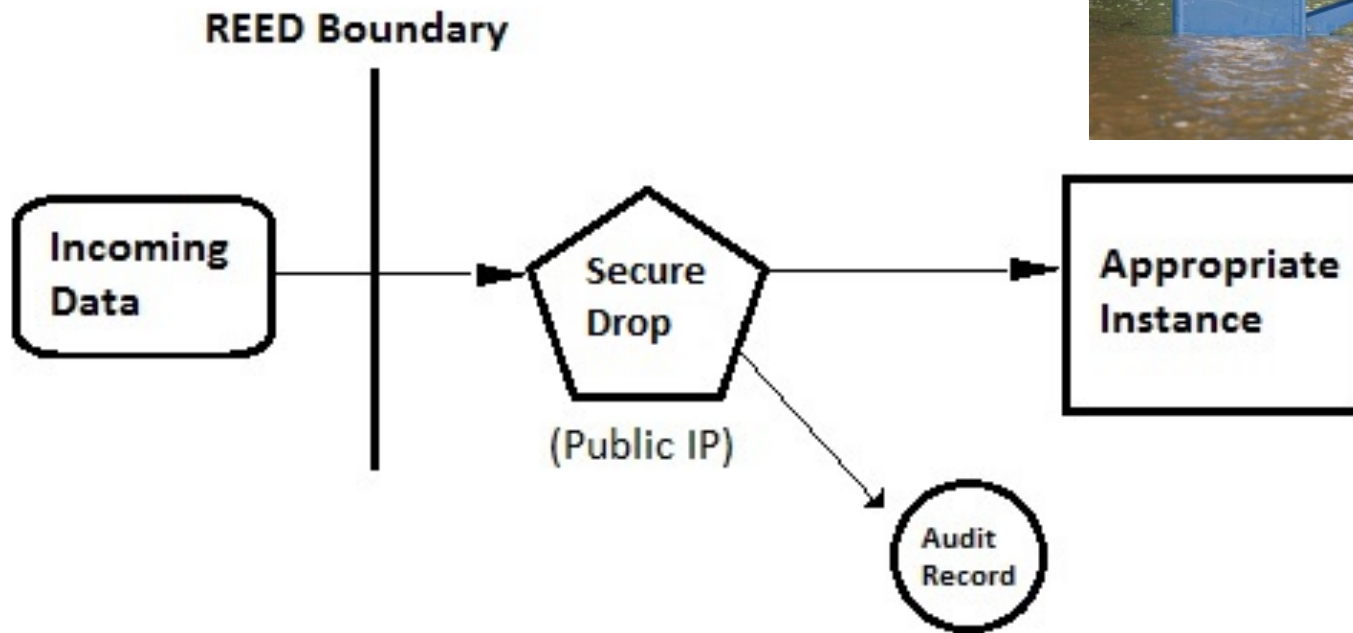
# AUDIT & MONITORING

- Logs routed to Audit environment
- Parsed by Splunk
- Alerts reviewed by SOC Analyst
- Can only be accessed by Audit personnel



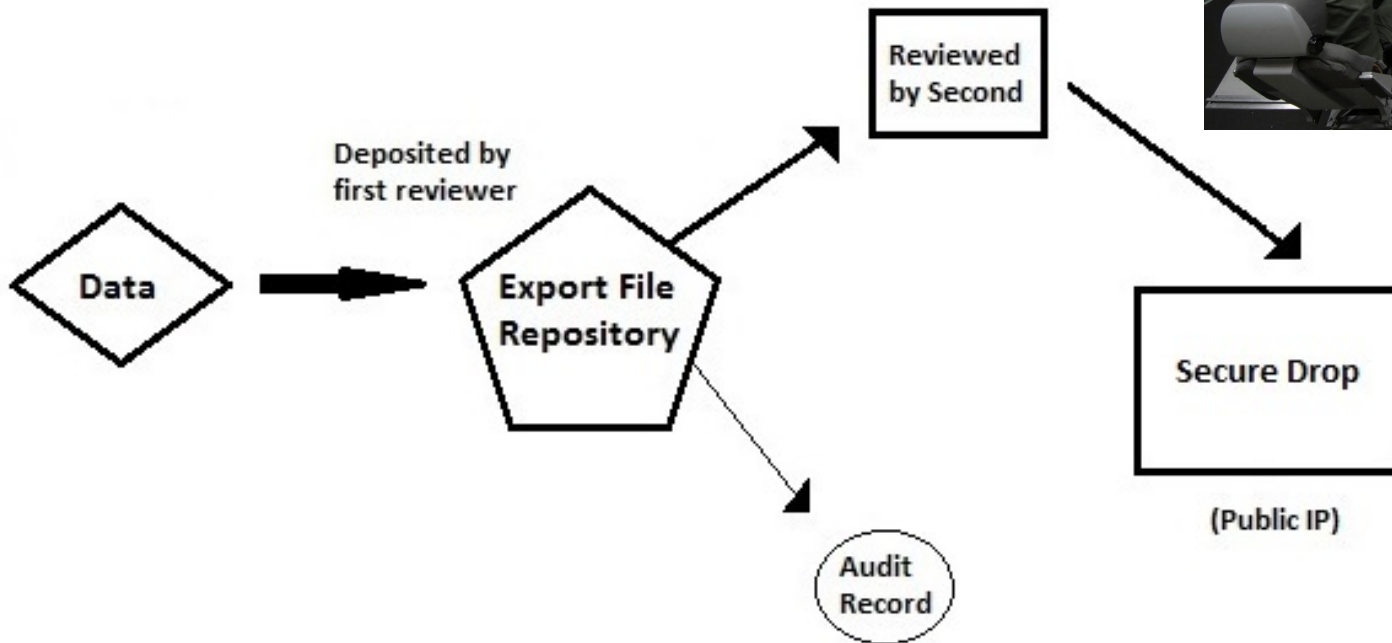


# DATA INGRESS



- Credentials are issued by Purdue
- Large transfers are coordinated through Purdue IT
- Data is encrypted in-transit

# DATA EGRESS



- Two-person review of data (controlled by scripts)
- Drop credentials issued by Purdue IT
- Data is encrypted in-transit

# DATA ARCHIVAL

- Data storage in the cloud has cost
- Far more cost-effective to store on-premises
- Have to maintain FIPS 140-2 encryption
- Plan to use Vormetric – store on premises until recalled for new project

# **FUTURE WORK**

# **BUSINESS CHALLENGES**

- Expensive just to start
  - Lots of FTE cost to audit and support
- Contracts requiring REED are not large
- Sticker shock to researcher absorbing cost of compute node instances

# **AUTOMATION AND ONBOARDING**

- Many processes still Sysadmin-driven
- Automate enrollment/disenrollment
- Automate resource assignment
  - Ala-carte style menu of options
  - Scaling based on need
- Continue to refine Log parsing & alerts

# THANK YOU

**Questions/Comments:**

**Preston Smith**

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REED Overview credit: Jason Stein, CISSP

See our Educause Whitepaper on REED:

**[Leveraging Cloud Services for NIST SP 800-171](#), 2016**

# THANK YOU

**Questions/Comments:**

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