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# Alfresco Tech Talk Live #156

March 22, 2024

# Agenda

- 
- Community news
  - Towards a sustainable deployment

# Resources

## Alfresco

[Deploying Alfresco Outlook Transform Engine with Docker Compose @ GitHub](#)

[Script Object for RenditionService2 @ GitHub](#) and thanks to @hi-ko

[Alfresco GenAI @ GitHub](#)

## Resources to come

- Adapting your logging configuration to log4jv2
- How to set up messages for increased reliability
- Upgrading your addons to Jakarta EE 10 and Spring 6
- Upgrading to Apache Tomcat 10
- Using Control Center App with Community Edition
- Deploying Alfresco with Helm in Kubernetes

# Collaboration

## Blog posts

- [Summarization of textual content in Alfresco repository with Amazon Bedrock](#) by @abhinavmishra14

## Contributions

- <https://github.com/aborroy/alfresco-dockerx-builder/issues/11> by @uvukasinovic
- <https://github.com/Alfresco/alfresco-docker-installer/issues/185> by @luca86r
- <https://github.com/Alfresco/alfresco-docker-installer/issues/186> by @N00BTellaBrot

## Conferences

# TTL Speakers wanted!

- Take the opportunity to showcase your work with the community
- About Alfresco, Nuxeo, and associated technologies
- Best practices, integration, scaling, cloud, ...
- In your native language

# Today's talk

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# Towards a sustainable deployment

Alexandre Chapellon and Giovanni Toraldo,  
Hyland

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The Hyland logo is centered on a white background. It features the word "Hyland" in a bold, dark green sans-serif font. A thin horizontal line extends from the left side of the letter "H" to the right side of the letter "d". At each end of this line is a small, open green circle. A small "TM" symbol is positioned at the top right of the letter "d".

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# TTL #156

## Towards a Sustainable deployment

Alexandre Chapellon, Valerio Provaggi,  
Giovanni Toraldo

March 22, 2024

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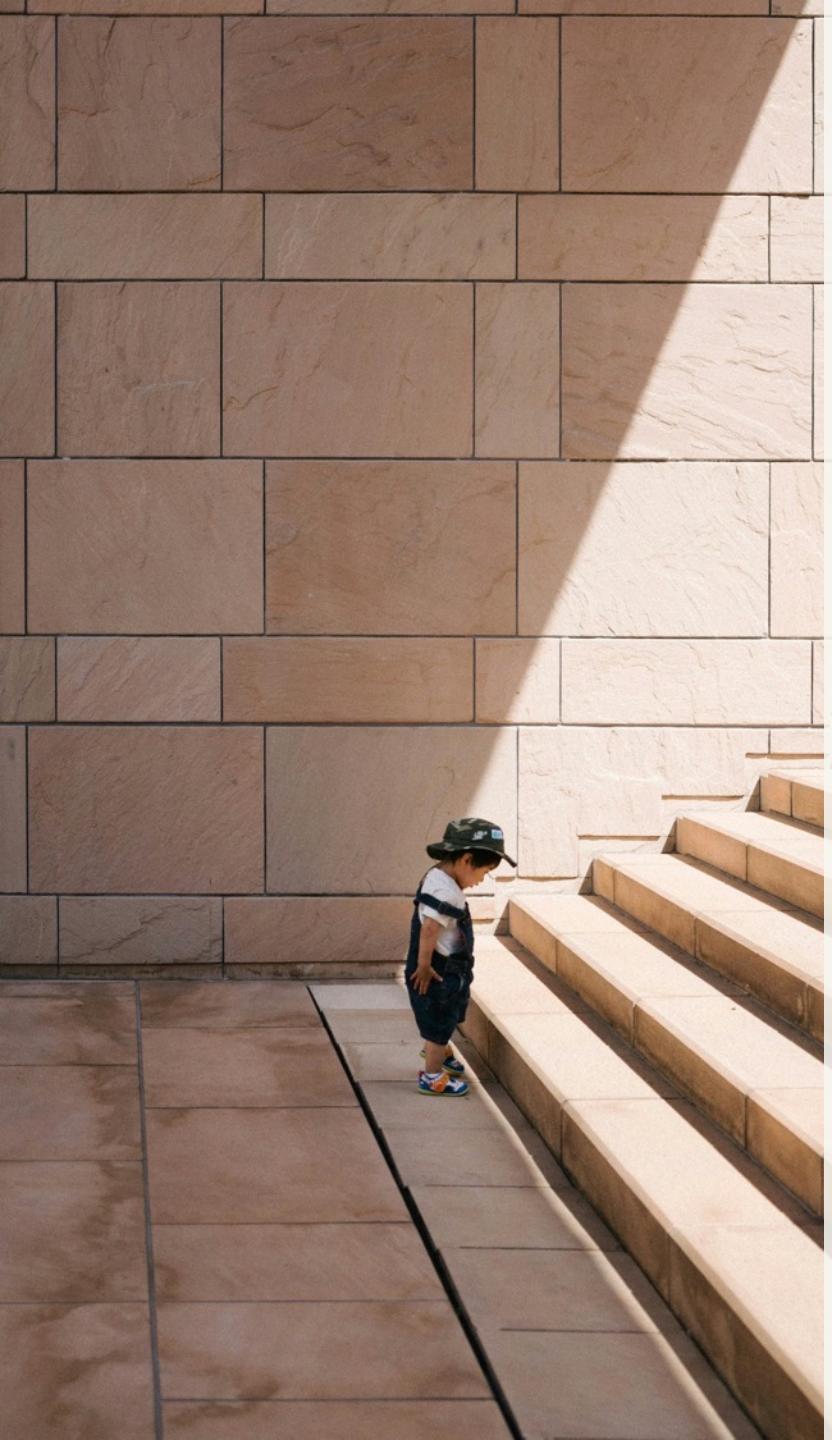
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A photograph of a coastal landscape with green hills, a beach, and ocean waves. A hand is holding a white, empty picture frame in the foreground, centered over the landscape.

**Digital transformation has the potential to  
mitigate climate impacts**



So basically is just a matter of consuming less resources?

A photograph of a young boy in a white t-shirt and dark pants walking up a set of wide, light-colored stone steps. He is wearing a dark cap and colorful sneakers. The background shows more of the same stone wall and steps under a clear sky.

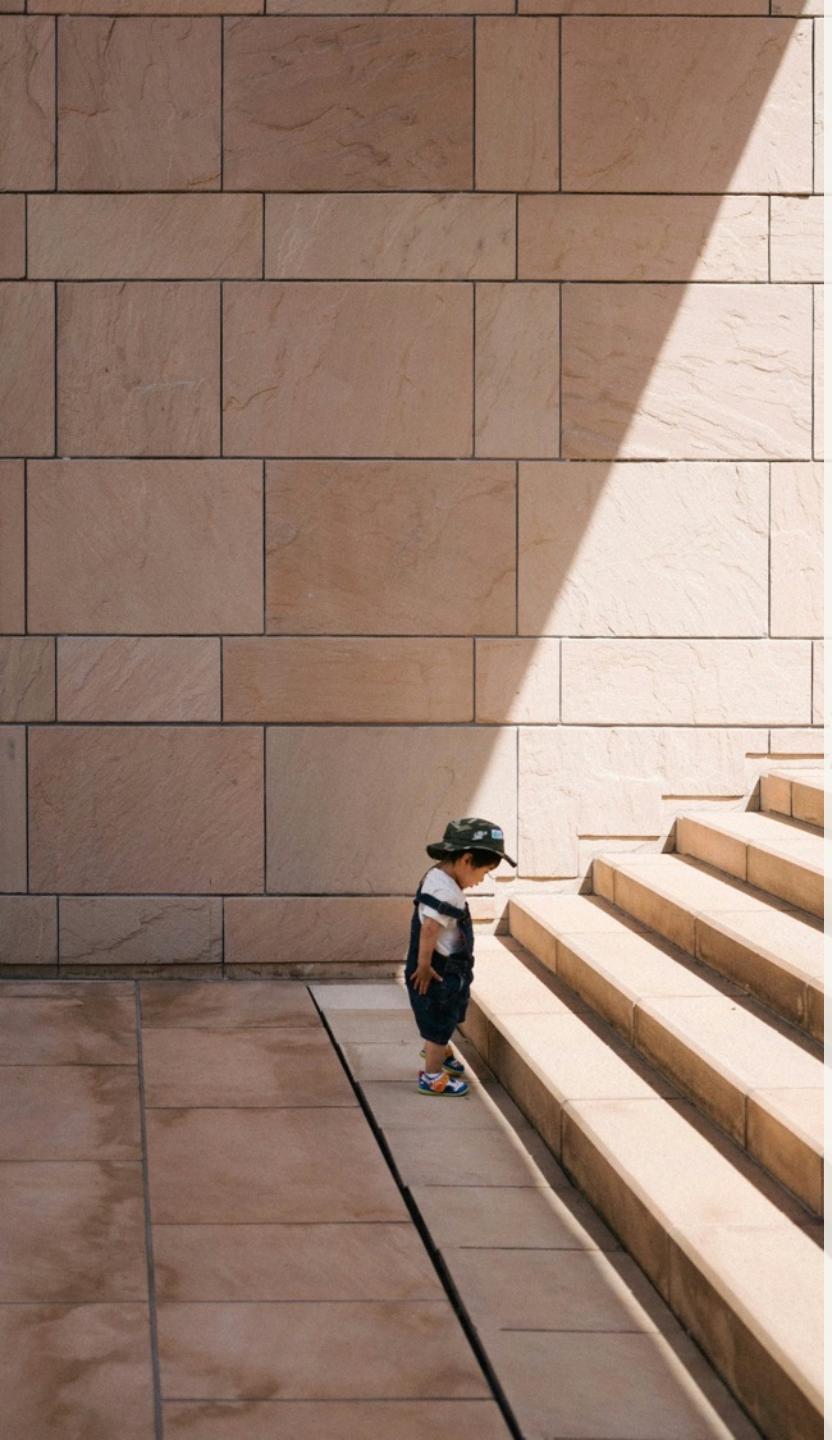
A bit more complex than that



Efficiency



Awareness

A photograph of a young boy in a white t-shirt and dark pants walking up a set of wide, light-colored stone steps. He is wearing a dark cap and colorful sneakers. The background shows more of the same stone wall and steps under a clear sky.

# A bit more complex than that



Experience Design

Application Design

Application Deployment

Infrastructure

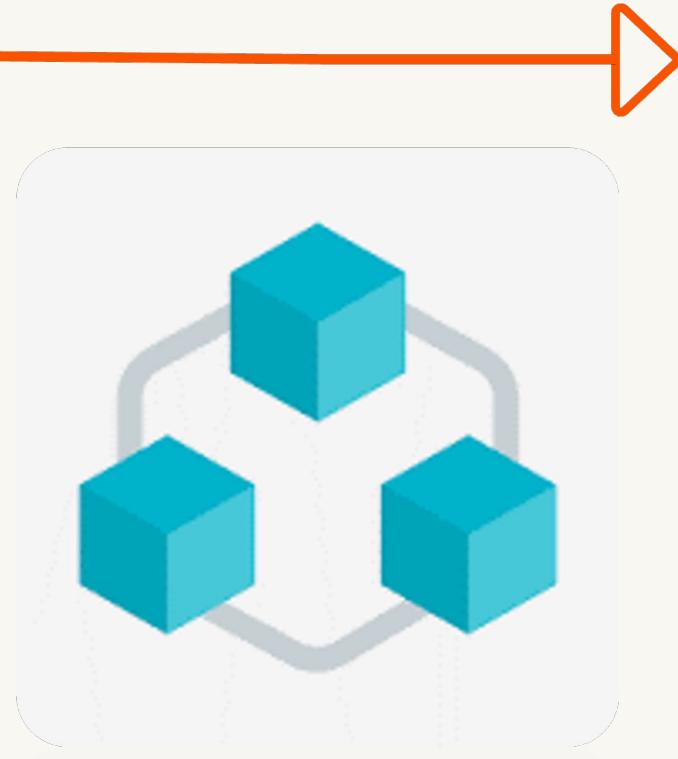
# Agenda

- Helm charts modularity
- Graviton deployment
- Next steps

# Helm charts modularity

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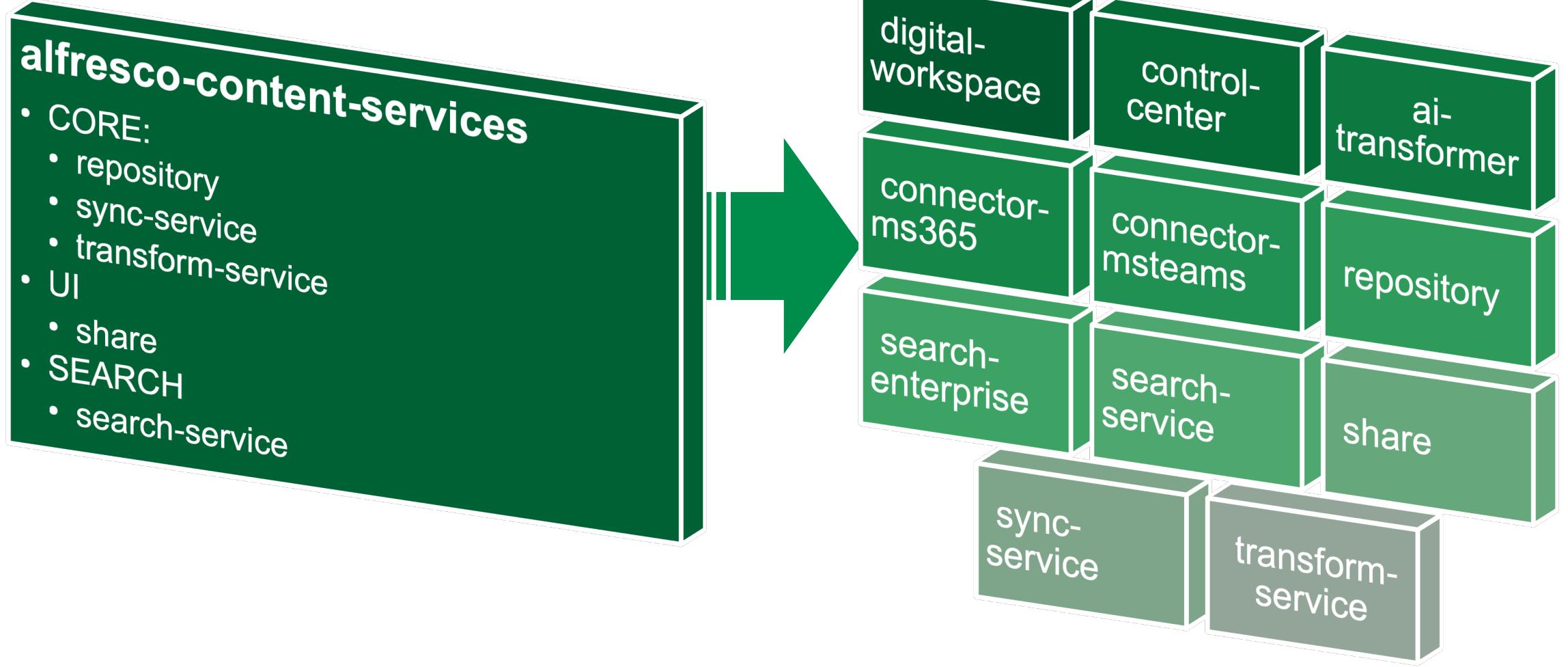
# Why modularity?



- Deploy only what you need and save resources
- Makes Alfresco platform composable
- More generic means of configuration, hence more **flexibility**
- Gives more freedom in choosing dependencies for 3rd party components

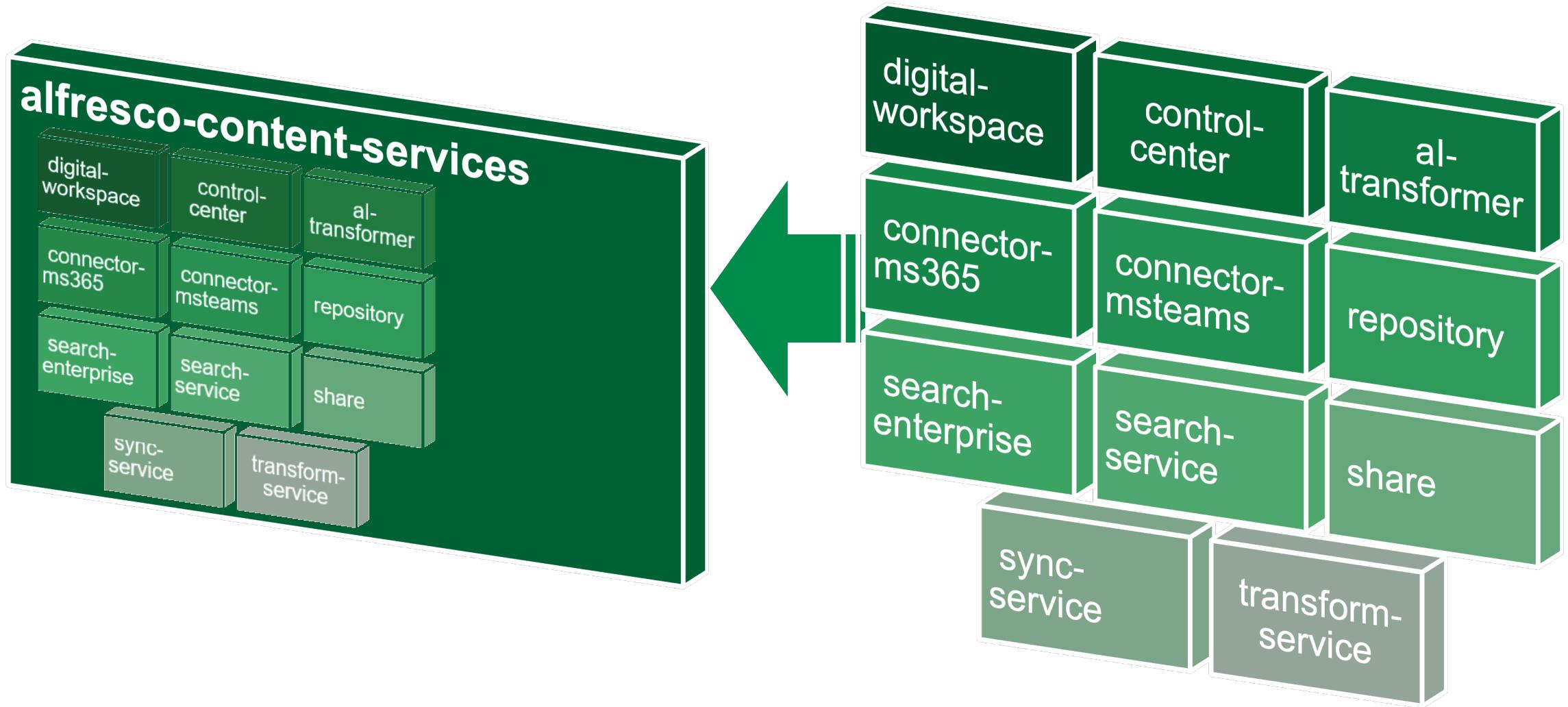
# Comparison

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# alfresco-content-services as an umbrella chart

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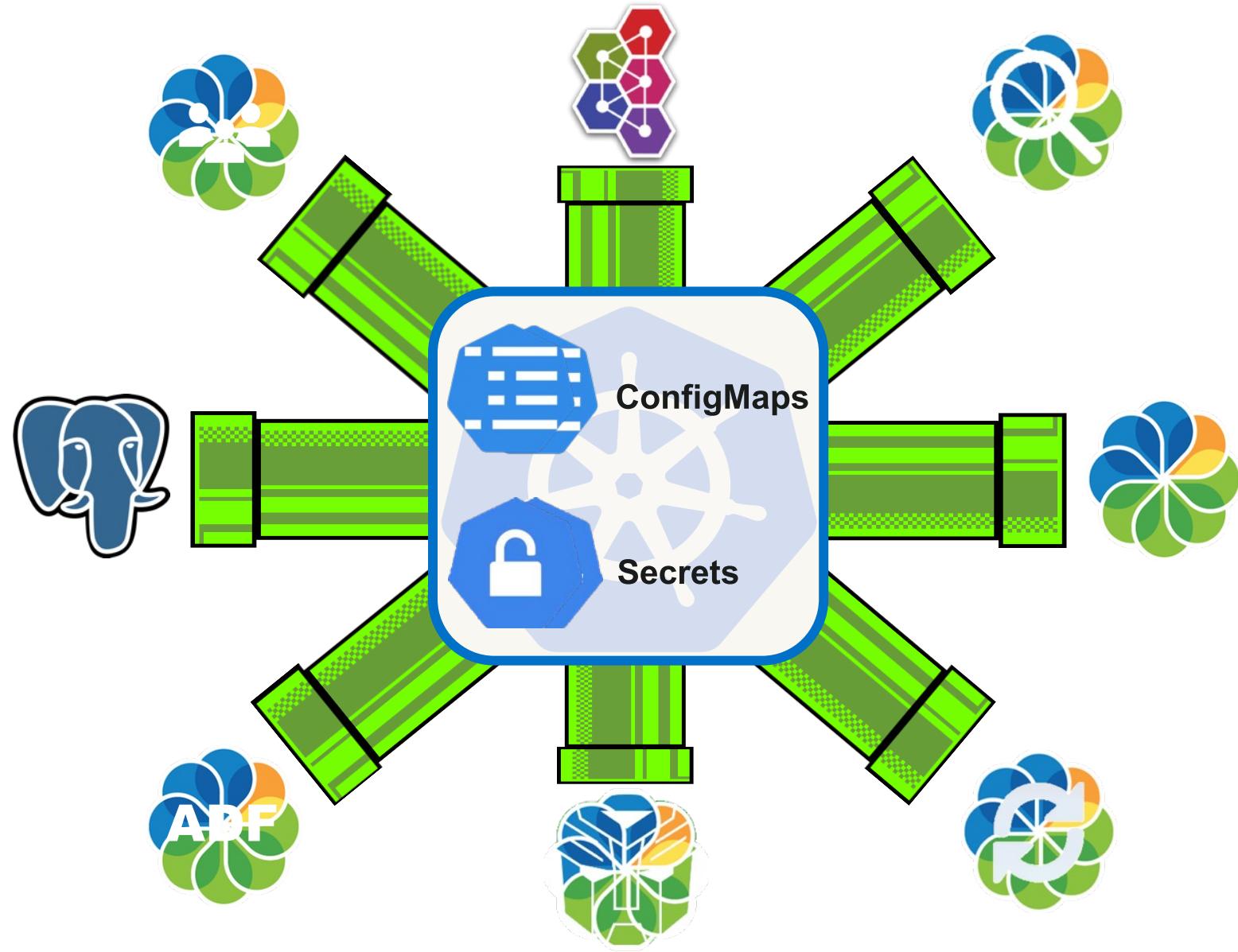


Components as building blocks for alfresco chart or your own chart

# Creating your own chart is just plumbing

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- ConfigMaps to share configuration parameters across charts (`alfresco-global.properties` is back)
- Secrets to share credentials
- `alfresco-common` library chart brings helpers to ease creation of ConfigMap entries
- No third-party dependencies with component charts



# Example dependencies (Chart.yaml)

```
...
dependencies:
  - name: postgresql
    repository: oci://registry-1.docker.io/bitnamicharts
    version: 13.4.0
  - name: activemq
    repository: https://alfresco.github.io/alfresco-helm-charts/
    version: 3.4.1
  - name: alfresco-repository
    repository: https://alfresco.github.io/alfresco-helm-charts/
    version: 0.1.3
  - name: alfresco-transform-service
    version: 1.2.0
    repository: https://alfresco.github.io/alfresco-helm-charts/
  - name: my-custom-search-service
    repository: https://charts.partner.com/alfresco/
    version: 1.0.0
```

# Example ConfigMap (ActiveMQ)

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: ConfigMap
metadata:
  name: message-broker
data:
{{- with .Values.activemq }}
{{- $mqCtx := dict "Values" . "Chart" $.Chart "Release" $.Release }}
MQ_URL: {{ include "alfresco-common.activemq.url.withFailover" (printf "nio://%s-broker:%v" (include
  "activemq.fullname" $mqCtx) 61616) | quote }}
{{- end }}
```

- **Principles:**
  - Build the subchart context (`$mqCtx`)
  - Create a ConfigMap item to pass the expected information the target chart expects (Check individual README.md)
  - Leverage common helpers (`alfresco-common.activemq.url.withFailover`) & source charts' named templates (`activemq.fullname`) to reliably build the ActiveMQ URL

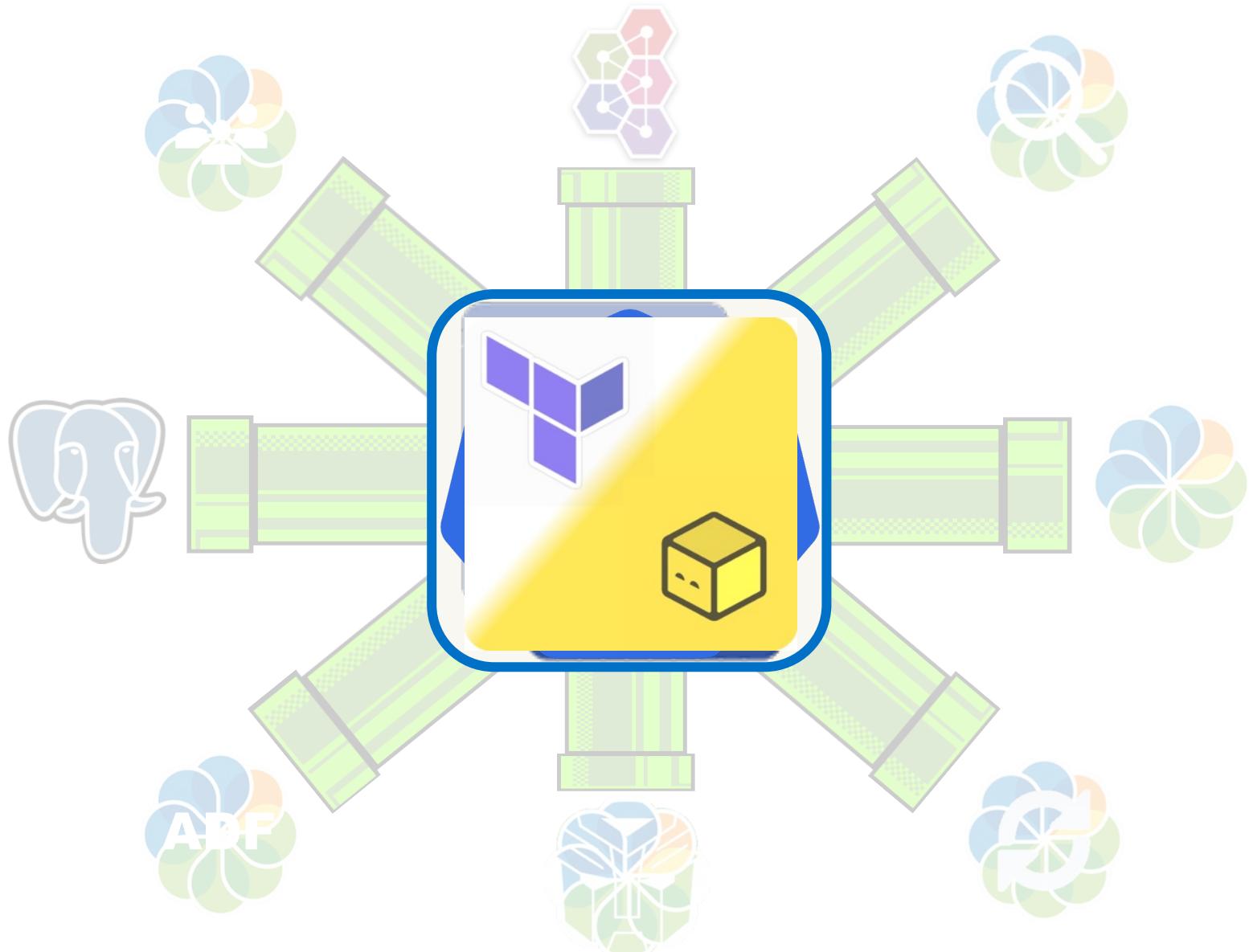
# Example ConfigMap (ActiveMQ)

```
alfresco-repository:  
  configuration:  
    messageBroker:  
      existingConfigMap:  
        name: message-broker  
      keys:  
        url: MQ_URL  
    existingSecret:  
      name: message-broker  
      keys:  
        username: MQ_USER  
        password: MQ_PASS
```

- **Principles:**
  - Leverage configuration values as expected by the target chart (Check individual README.md) to point to the right key in the right ConfigMap.

# There's more than one way to do it

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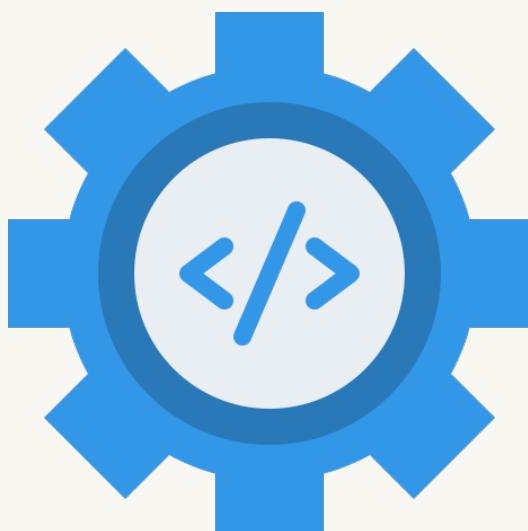




## More details:

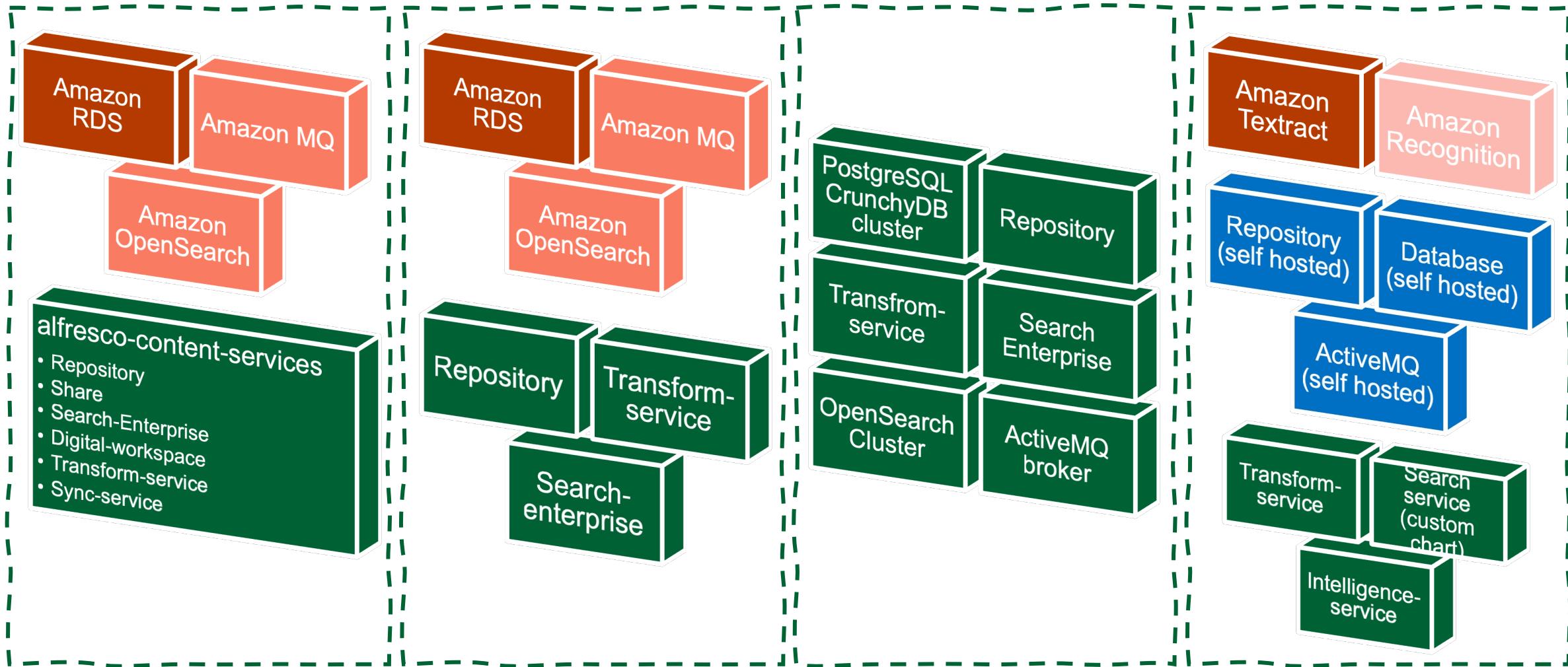
[acs-sso-example](#) available in acs-deployment with step-by-step documentation

# Standardized means of configuration



- `extraVolumes` & `extraVolumeMounts`
  - Can be used to mount additional files from ConfigMaps (e.g. config files, keystores)
- `extraInitContainers` & `extraSideContainers`
  - Preliminary actions
  - System integration
- `extraEnv`
  - Additional config options through environment variables
- `nodeSelector`
- `tolerations`
- `affinity`
- `podLabels` & `podAnnotations`

# Compositions examples



# Charts Repositories

- New git repository: <https://github.com/Alfresco/alfresco-helm-charts>
- New chart registry: <https://alfresco.github.io/alfresco-helm-charts/>
- Each chart now has its own documentation
  - Main `README.md` for values
  - `/docs/*` for specific use cases
- Charts are tested & released using standard Helm tooling on KinD
  - [Chart Tester \(ct\)](#) & [Chart Releaser \(cr\)](#)
- Semver:
  - Major bump: expect breaking changes in architecture or configuration interface
  - Minor bump: new features or non-breaking changes
  - Patch bump: bugfix only

# Beyond deployment modularity



## Elasticity

- Deployments tend to be sized to cope with the peak workload
- Autoscaling can help lowering the resources impact & costs
- Alfresco repository and Alfresco Transform Service good first candidates
- CPU based scaling & investigate other metrics

# Graviton deployment

---

# Docker multi-arch support requirement

- Alfresco ACS 23.2 includes multi-arch docker images (almost)
- Check if a specific image is multi-arch:

```
$ docker buildx imagedata inspect quay.io/alfresco/alfresco-content-repository:23.2.1
```

Name: quay.io/alfresco/alfresco-content-repository:23.2.1

MediaType: application/vnd.docker.distribution.manifest.list.v2+json

Digest: sha256:8af8a3c1590b3318a0d292a20d7aeed4b253e897d8d4b4fc9352949812a0fabb

Manifests:

Name: quay.io/alfresco/alfresco-content-repository:23.2.1@sha256:eed0f4833bd1dfbce1828cd535623ec59ba32d367a1e0e03dadcd60c196ffd

MediaType: application/vnd.docker.distribution.manifest.v2+json

Platform: linux/amd64

Name: quay.io/alfresco/alfresco-content-repository:23.2.1@sha256:15f2bddae502fd2c59ed89a7eba18d0de9ab634841d1f76c5a106671e448cd5

MediaType: application/vnd.docker.distribution.manifest.v2+json

Platform: linux/arm64

- Multi-arch docker image can be built easily with:

```
$ docker buildx build --platform linux/amd64,linux/arm64 -t my-namespace/my-image:latest .
```

# Graviton testbed architecture

- Single EKS cluster
  - Graviton (arm64) node group with t4g.xlarge
    - 4 burstable vCPUs, 16.0 GiB of memory and up to 5 Gibps of bandwidth, starting at \$0.1344 per hour - \$96.76 per month per node
  - Classic (amd64) node group with t3a.xlarge
    - 4 burstable vCPUs, 16.0 GiB of memory and up to 5 Gibps of bandwidth, starting at \$0.1504 per hour - \$108.28 per month per node
- Helm install of Alfresco against each node group
  - (Deployment would fit 2x nodes each with room for scaling up)

# Provision EKS cluster with graviton nodes

- Deploy with Terraform EKS module

```
[..]  
eks_managed_node_groups = {  
    graviton = {  
        min_size      = 0  
        max_size      = 2  
        desired_size = 1  
  
        instance_types = ["t4g.xlarge"]  
        ami_type       = "AL2_ARM_64"  
    }  
}[..]
```

# Cluster Autoscaler

Automatically adjust the desired size of node groups so that all pods have a place to run and there are no unneeded nodes.

- Runs as a deployment within the cluster
- Should have permissions to examine and modify EC2 Auto Scaling Groups
- Do not require additional configuration except for fine tuning

## Links:

- <https://github.com/kubernetes/autoscaler/blob/master/cluster-autoscaler/cloudprovider/aws/README.md>
- <https://github.com/lablabs/terraform-aws-eks-cluster-autoscaler>

# nodeSelector to target nodeGroup

- nodeSelector is a Pod spec to tell K8s scheduler to run only on nodes that match that constraint
- Helm charts allow specifying a nodeSelector via values for each component:

```
[..]  
alfresco-repository:  
  nodeSelector:  
    "kubernetes.io/arch": arm64  
share:  
  nodeSelector:  
    "kubernetes.io/arch": arm64  
[..]
```

# Install alfresco on EKS

- Values oriented for testing purposes only:
  - No persistency
  - 1 replicas

```
$ helm upgrade --install acs alfresco/alfresco-content-services --version ~8.0.0  
--namespace alfresco  
--set global.search.sharedSecret=$(openssl rand -hex 24)  
--values helm-install/acs_values.yml  
--values helm-install/arm64_selector.yml
```

# acs\_values.yaml excerpt

```
alfresco-repository:  
  ingress:  
    annotations:  
      cert-manager.io/cluster-issuer: letsencrypt-prod  
  persistence:  
    enabled: false  
  configuration:  
    search:  
      flavor: elasticsearch  
[..]
```

# arm64\_selector.yml excerpt

```
alfresco-repository:  
  nodeSelector:  
    "kubernetes.io/arch": amd64  
  ingress:  
    hosts:  
      - host: FQDN  
        paths:  
          - path: /  
            pathType: Prefix  
    tls:  
      - hosts:  
        - FQDN  
      secretName: letsencrypt-prod-hydra  
[..]
```

Sources at <https://github.com/gionn/alfresco-eks-graviton-example>

# Cluster dashboard

## Cluster Dashboard

Terraform EKS cluster

Provider: Amazon EKS

Kubernetes Version: v1.27.8 -8cb36c9

Created: 23 days ago

 Add Cluster Badge

269

Total Resources

4

Nodes

46

Deployments

### Capacity

#### Pods

Used 77 / 232

33.19%

#### CPU

Reserved 14.03 / 15.68 cores

89.50%

Used 6.58 / 16 cores

41.14%

#### Memory

Reserved 24 / 58 GiB

41.38%

Used 25 / 62 GiB

40.32%

## Nodes overview

## Nodes

# Deployment/statefulset overview

```
$ kubectl get deploy -n alfresco
```

NAME	READY	UP-TO-DATE	AVAILABLE
acs-activemq	1/1	1	1
acs-alfresco-cc	1/1	1	1
acs-alfresco-dw	1/1	1	1
acs-alfresco-repository	1/1	1	1
acs-alfresco-search-enterprise-content	1/1	1	1
acs-alfresco-search-enterprise-metadata	1/1	1	1
acs-alfresco-search-enterprise-path	1/1	1	1
acs-filestore	1/1	1	1
acs-imagemagick	1/1	1	1
acs-libreoffice	1/1	1	1
acs-pdfrender	1/1	1	1
acs-share	1/1	1	1
acs-tika	1/1	1	1
acs-transform-misc	1/1	1	1
acs-transform-router	1/1	1	1

```
$ kubectl -n alfresco get statefulset
```

NAME	READY
acs-postgresql-acs	1/1
alfresco-search-enterprise-mediation	1/1
elasticsearch-master	1/1

# Verify deployment with DTAS

- Deployment Test Automation Scripts (DTAS) is an internal (not yet opensource) pytest suite to verify the correctness of an Alfresco install
- API testing
  - content lifecycle: create user, create a new site, create a folder structure, uploading documents
  - Alfresco Transformation Service (ATS): requesting renditions for various document types such as docx, xlsx, pdf, odt, jpeg, and png
- Basic benchmarking using [pytest-benchmark](#) library
  - pytest suites executed multiple times within a configurable time frame or number of rounds

# Run DTAS via helm charts on Alfresco Enterprise

- Helm install as usual plus --set dtas.enabled=true
- Run the suite via helm test RELEASE

NAME: acs

LAST DEPLOYED: Mon Mar 11 17:28:56 2024

NAMESPACE: alfresco

STATUS: deployed

REVISION: 1

TEST SUITE: dtas-hbusb

Last Started: Mon Mar 11 17:36:58 2024

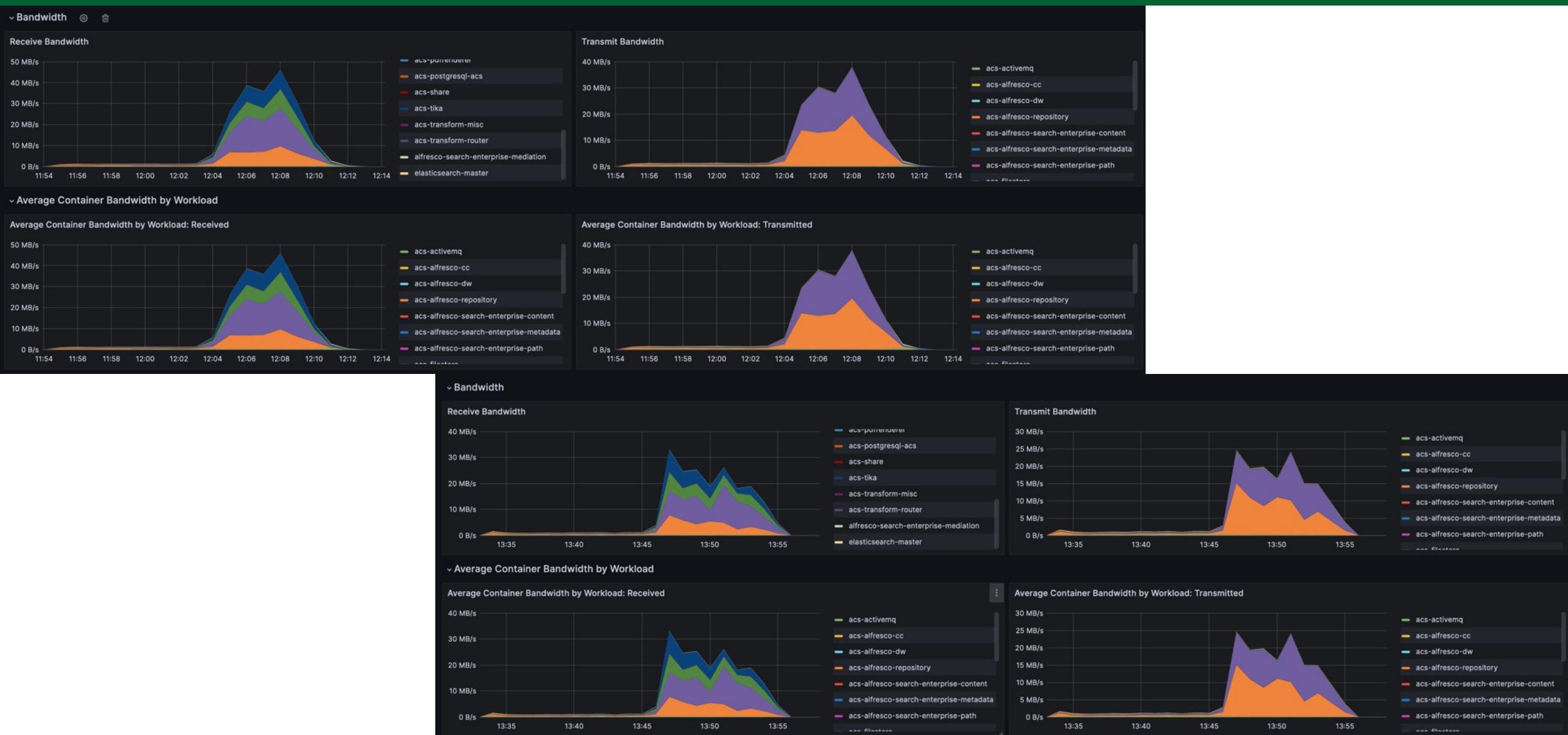
Last Completed: Mon Mar 11 17:49:34 2024

Phase: Succeeded

# CPU/Memory overview (arm64 vs amd64)



# Network bandwidth overview (arm64 vs amd64)



# Benchmark results (arm64 vs amd64)

Name (time in ms)	benchmark:			benchmark:		
	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean
test_get_content_performance	152.4401 (1.0)	184.4141 (1.0)	158.9162 (1.0)	180.4067 (1.0)	331.5942 (1.0)	236.8413 (1.0)
test_put_content_performance	168.1915 (1.10)	209.0614 (1.13)	175.3219 (1.10)	211.6505 (1.17)	414.7178 (1.25)	269.8544 (1.14)
test_list_content_folder_performance	221.6643 (1.45)	264.2115 (1.43)	229.9703 (1.45)	265.7981 (1.47)	551.7217 (1.66)	351.9158 (1.49)
test_create_folder_performance	317.2580 (2.08)	508.8509 (2.76)	332.8935 (2.09)	371.1696 (2.06)	658.4566 (1.99)	438.4468 (1.85)
test_create_content_performance	340.9007 (2.24)	371.8537 (2.02)	351.3009 (2.21)	379.4907 (2.10)	596.1095 (1.80)	451.9847 (1.91)
test_post_person_performance	393.5201 (2.58)	531.7945 (2.88)	417.4775 (2.63)	506.4024 (2.81)	919.8425 (2.77)	618.6456 (2.61)
test renditions_performance[dtas.pdf-pdf]	644.8665 (4.23)	710.5534 (3.85)	667.7715 (4.20)	745.0629 (4.13)	1,290.1847 (3.89)	968.0447 (4.09)
test renditions_performance[dtas.odt-pdf]	649.2688 (4.26)	1,691.0497 (9.17)	706.9890 (4.45)	762.6319 (4.23)	1,075.4566 (3.24)	879.2491 (3.71)
test renditions_performance[dtas.doc-pdf]	649.3458 (4.26)	1,690.5708 (9.17)	715.1449 (4.50)	764.5811 (4.24)	2,263.3215 (6.83)	931.2891 (3.93)
test renditions_performance[dtas.pdf-imgpreview]	649.4653 (4.26)	931.2191 (5.05)	709.9292 (4.47)	782.3095 (4.34)	1,272.6155 (3.84)	989.0500 (4.18)
test renditions_performance[dtas.pdf-doclib]	649.6516 (4.26)	1,235.6930 (6.70)	802.1923 (5.05)	805.4679 (4.46)	1,403.5686 (4.23)	1,038.2332 (4.38)
test renditions_performance[dtas.xlsx-pdf]	652.2842 (4.28)	978.1050 (5.30)	688.7084 (4.33)	848.5558 (4.70)	2,460.8753 (7.42)	1,066.1132 (4.50)
test renditions_performance[dtas.xls-pdf]	652.6579 (4.28)	1,703.4141 (9.24)	703.3143 (4.43)	925.8328 (5.13)	1,552.2070 (4.68)	1,257.8939 (5.31)
test renditions_performance[dtas.docx-pdf]	653.2848 (4.29)	725.1906 (3.93)	668.0379 (4.20)	997.1797 (5.53)	1,516.8924 (4.57)	1,223.0495 (5.16)
test post_site_performance	793.1918 (5.20)	1,086.6737 (5.89)	841.8204 (5.30)	1,011.1304 (5.60)	1,234.0511 (3.72)	1,116.0950 (4.71)
test renditions_performance[dtas.odt-doclib]	899.3008 (5.90)	1,104.6530 (5.99)	925.0898 (5.82)	1,013.1117 (5.62)	1,289.3409 (3.89)	1,127.4147 (4.76)
test renditions_performance[dtas.odt-imgpreview]	899.8614 (5.90)	1,068.4193 (5.79)	925.2980 (5.82)	1,018.7815 (5.65)	1,605.8906 (4.84)	1,184.0606 (5.00)
test renditions_performance[dtas.xls-doclib]	900.5196 (5.91)	1,202.0037 (6.52)	936.8543 (5.90)	1,019.3146 (5.65)	1,342.9116 (4.05)	1,129.7018 (4.77)
test renditions_performance[dtas.xlsx-doclib]	900.7869 (5.91)	976.1583 (5.29)	922.7755 (5.81)	1,023.3145 (5.67)	1,229.4760 (3.71)	1,119.0906 (4.73)
test renditions_performance[dtas.doc-doclib]	901.1418 (5.91)	949.5569 (5.15)	920.3196 (5.79)	1,059.3431 (5.87)	1,532.2266 (4.62)	1,251.6448 (5.28)
test renditions_performance[dtas.docx-imgpreview]	901.3233 (5.91)	1,183.2329 (6.42)	925.4249 (5.82)	1,060.4968 (5.88)	1,634.0791 (4.93)	1,255.1505 (5.30)
test renditions_performance[dtas.docx-doclib]	901.5965 (5.91)	1,031.4085 (5.59)	926.1439 (5.83)	1,077.6391 (5.97)	1,606.7332 (4.85)	1,194.7008 (5.04)
test renditions_performance[dtas.xlsx-imgpreview]	901.7826 (5.92)	1,195.2217 (6.48)	932.4559 (5.87)	1,078.6347 (5.98)	1,452.8360 (4.38)	1,223.1594 (5.16)
test renditions_performance[dtas.doc-imgpreview]	903.5653 (5.93)	1,229.0708 (6.66)	934.9182 (5.88)	1,082.5828 (6.00)	1,683.3439 (5.08)	1,272.5831 (5.37)
test renditions_performance[dtas.xls-imgpreview]	903.9499 (5.93)	956.1612 (5.18)	922.9191 (5.81)	1,086.5896 (6.02)	1,985.4624 (5.99)	1,350.6199 (5.70)
test renditions_performance[dtas.jpeg-doclib]	934.2089 (6.13)	1,079.4840 (5.85)	969.5077 (6.10)	1,095.9799 (6.08)	1,354.1743 (4.08)	1,206.4598 (5.09)
test create_users_and_add_to_site_performance	1,152.6486 (7.56)	1,344.4858 (7.29)	1,190.3074 (7.49)	1,400.5495 (7.76)	1,817.3643 (5.48)	1,575.0191 (6.65)

# Key takeaway

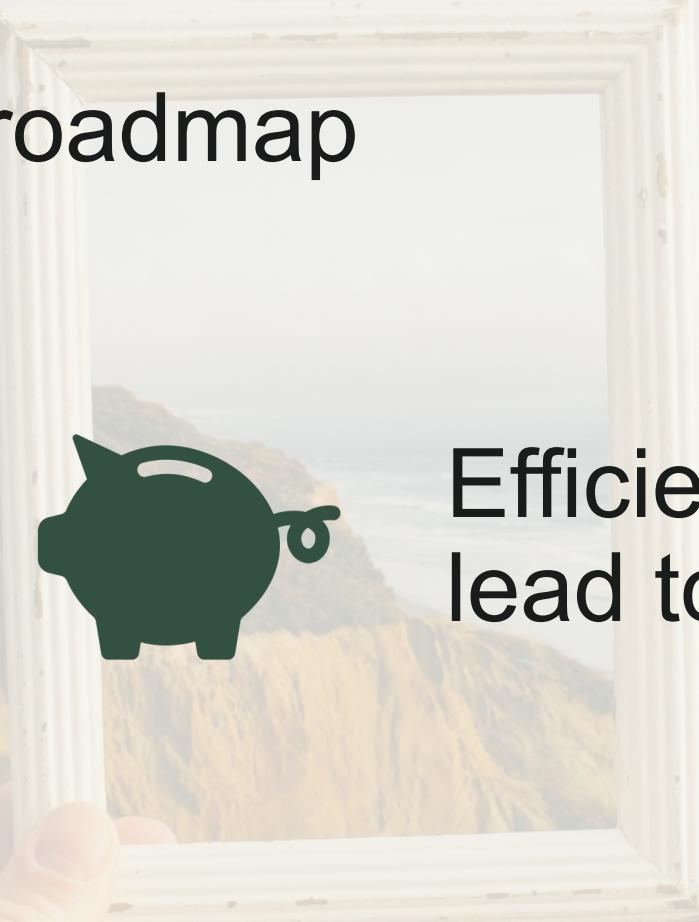
- Alfresco can run smoothly on arm64
- EKS cluster can be configured easily to run arm64 nodes
- Performances/latency is slightly better on AWS Graviton2 instances vs cost-near t3a instances
  - Increased cost efficiency
- Migrating to arm64 reduce workloads energy consumption
  - AWS claim up to 60 percent for the same performance of comparable EC2

# Next Steps

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## Alfresco roadmap



Efficiency and Awareness  
lead to cost savings



Share and create ideas

Thank you

# Hyland<sup>TM</sup>

Questions?