Cloud Scalable Omics Data Analysis Pipeline using Serverless Task Infrastructure

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An automated, scalable proteomics data analysis workflow

Liquid Chromatography coupled with Mass Spectrometry (LCMS) is the premier detection technology for comprehensive proteomics analysis of complex samples, yet its commonly-used data analysis tools are not built for scalability into the future.
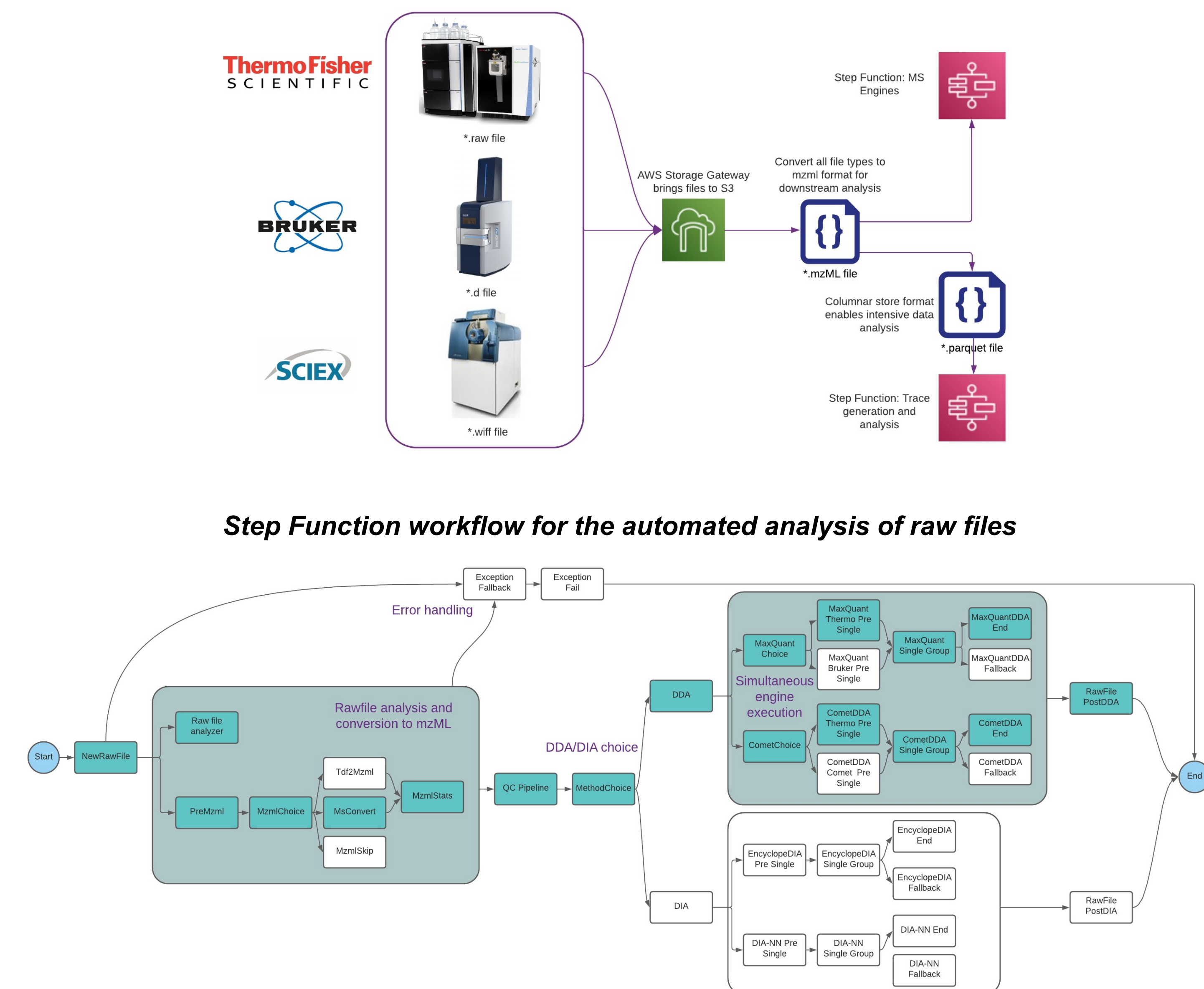
Challenges

- Most LCMS applications are built for desktop environments, some even only work on Windows environments
- Different vendors use different filetypes that require different processing modules
- Applications are not designed for increasing compute and memory
- There is a need to modularize the ever-growing collection of applications for both DDA- and DIA- acquired LCMS proteomics data
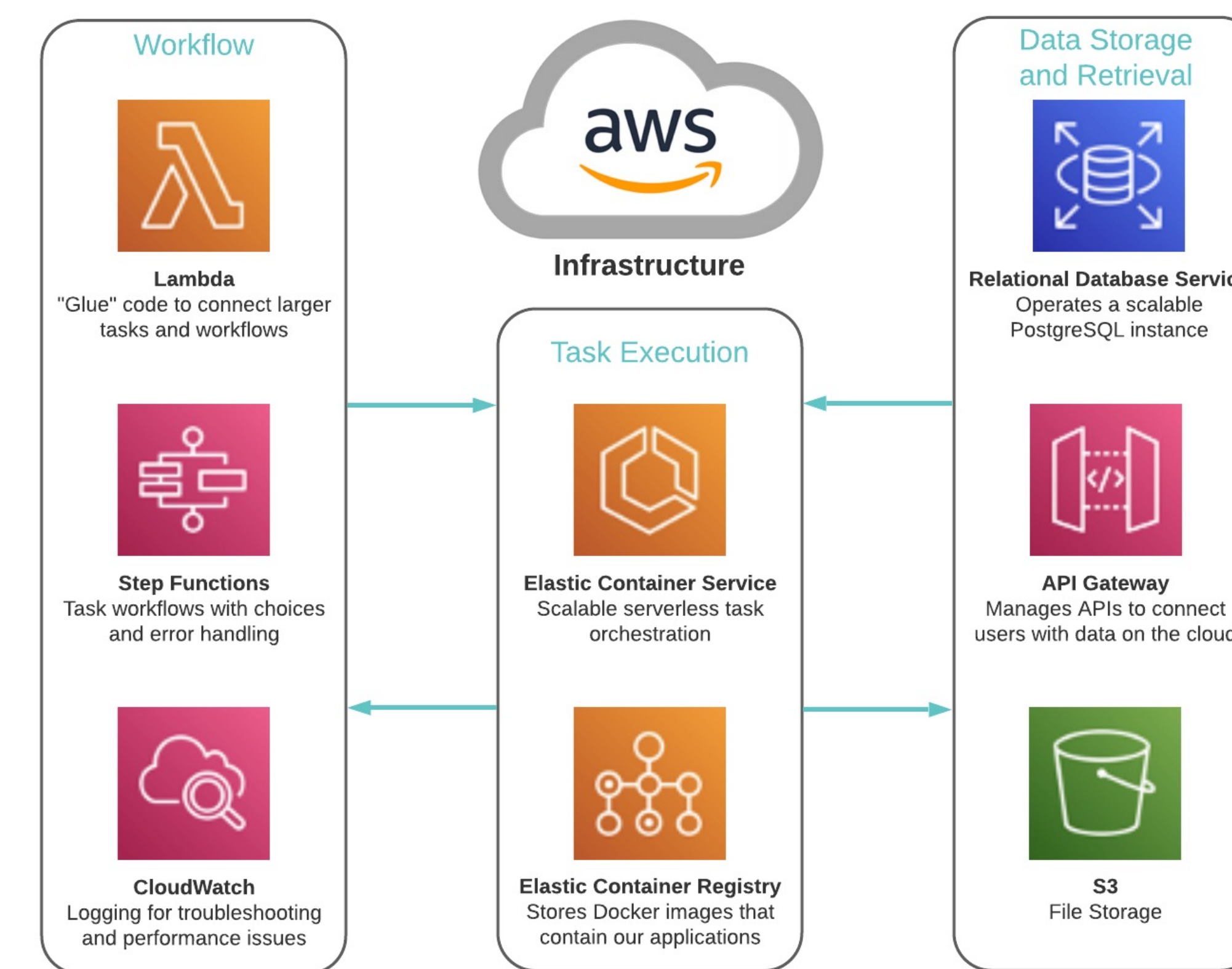
Solution

A carefully curated AWS proteomics data analysis workflow with choices, error handling, and exception fallbacks including:

- **Automated file transfer** to the cloud and **conversion** to the standard mzML filetype
- **Automate single file analysis** for every injection upon raw data file arrival
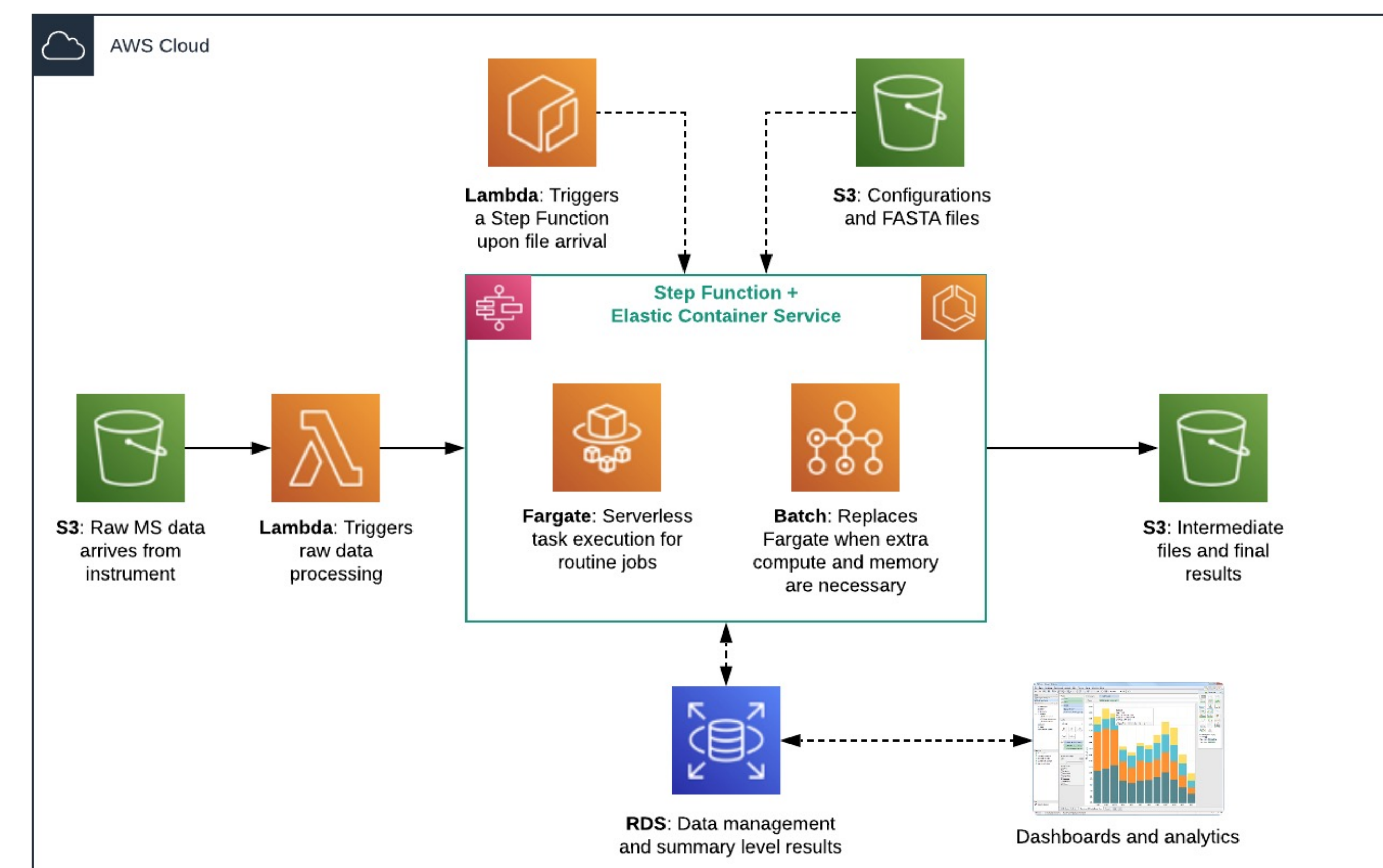- User-specified **group run analyses** with pre-defined recipes and settings (possible with 100s of files)

Step Function workflow for the automated analysis of raw files

Proteograph analysis suite with a smart cloud infrastructure

A combination of AWS services to process, store, and retrieve data

The AWS ecosystem at Seer

Lambda — "Glue" code to connect larger tasks and workflows

Step Functions — Task workflows with choices and error handling

CloudWatch — Logging for troubleshooting and performance issues

Infrastructure

Task Execution

Elastic Container Service — Scalable serverless task orchestration

Elastic Container Registry — Stores Docker images that contain our applications

Data Storage and Retrieval

Relational Database Service — Operates a scalable PostgreSQL instance

API Gateway — Manages APIs to connect users with data on the cloud

S3 — File Storage

Multiple cloud services working in harmony

The coordination of automated file analysis from instrument to data storage

Lambda: Triggers a Step Function upon file arrival

S3: Configurations and FASTA files

Step Function + Elastic Container Service

S3: Raw MS data arrives from instrument

Lambda: Triggers raw data processing

Fargate: Serverless task execution for routine jobs

Batch: Replaces Fargate when extra compute and memory are necessary

S3: Intermediate files and final results

RDS: Data management and summary level results

Dashboards and analytics

Seer data lake, an actionable hub for robust Large scale proteomics analysis

To organize our results, we adhere to the principle of polyglot persistence, where differently structured data is stored in different types of databases to best suit our needs.

- Highly structured experimental data in a relational PostgreSQL database (SeerDB)
- Instrument readings and quality control data (largely unstructured) in non-relational MongoDB
- APIs and various internal apps to query both datastores and return information collectively

API design: connecting teams to the data

Seer Data Lake

SeerDB — SeerDB deployed with AWS RDS

Amazon S3 — AWS API Gateway

MongoDB — MongoDB deployed with AWS VPC Peering

Operations Staff — Tracking plate information and analysis progress

Data Science — Generating sample metrics via an R Shiny app

Lab Scientists — Displaying trace chromatogram data extracted from raw files

Management — Viewing analysis results chronologically from multiple instruments and experiments

Results

A next-generation platform capable of analyzing thousands of samples in hours supporting fleets of LCMS instruments

- Supporting hundreds of terabytes of incoming LCMS data annually
- 150 files with 140 AWS Batch jobs, and 2600 AWS Fargate tasks currently analyzed per day
- Future infrastructure will support massively parallel group run contexts

Publications