



# LOW-COST, UNLIMITED METRICS STORAGE WITH THANOS:

Monitor All Your K8s Clusters Anywhere and More

Zakaria EL BAZI



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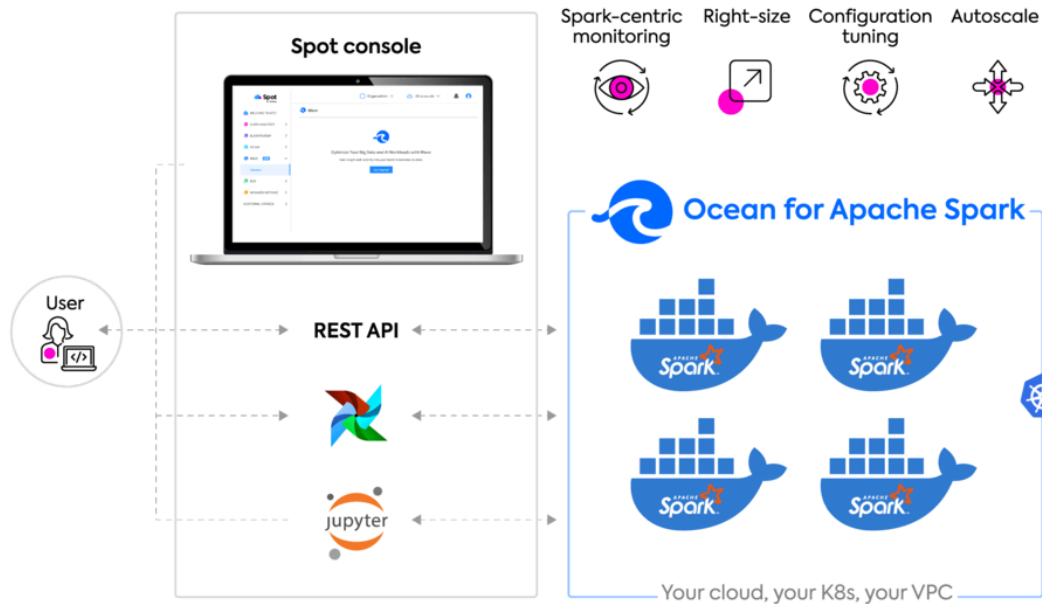
Infrastructure engineer at NetApp  
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<https://awsmorocco.com>

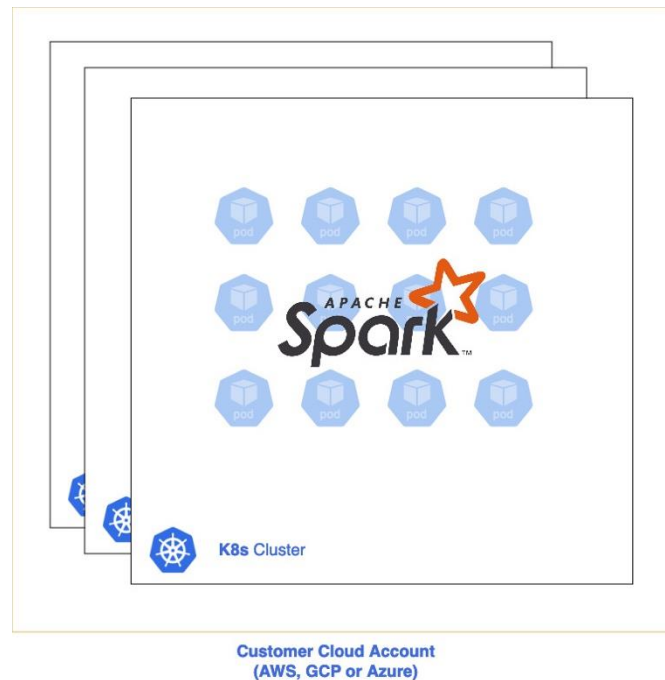
# Ocean for Apache Spark

A data platform for running Apache Spark workloads (batch, streaming, notebooks) on Kubernetes in the cloud, offering an easy, "serverless-like", and cost-efficient solution.



# Ocean for Apache Spark

- The platform is composed of multiple services (deployments) that manage the lifecycle of all Spark workloads.
- The platform runs in the customer's own cloud account (AWS, GCP, or Azure) on their own managed Kubernetes cluster (EKS, GKE, or AKS) in a dedicated namespace.
- There is no ingress to the customer's cluster (the platform operates in a pull-based manner).



**But first let's talk about k8s  
monitoring !**

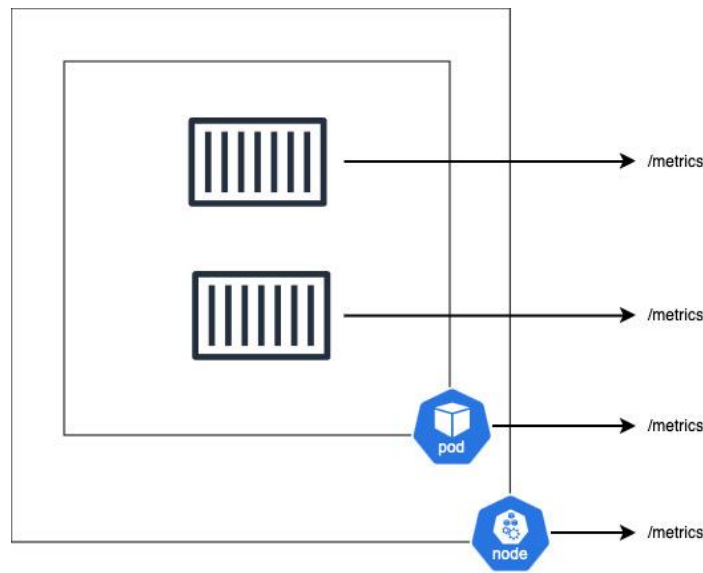
# K8s Monitoring

## Why monitoring k8s ?

- Ensure application health and performance
- Optimize resource utilization (reduce costs)
- Troubleshoot issues quickly
- Capacity planning

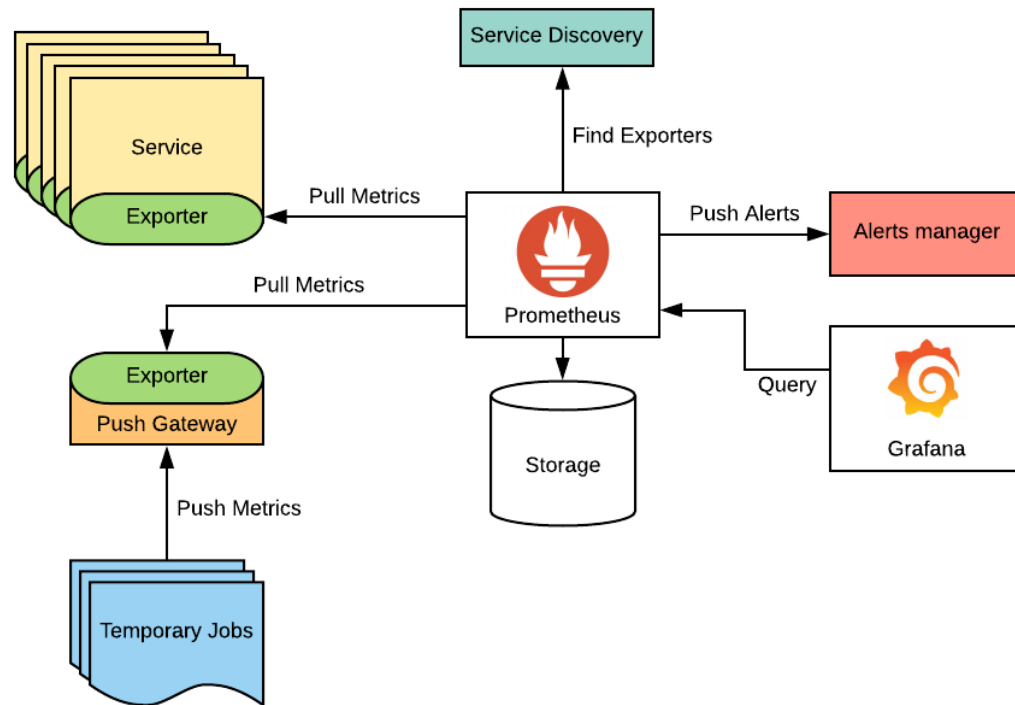
## What metrics ?

- **Node-level:** CPU, Memory, Disk, Network
- **Pod-level:** Resource usage, Health status
- **Application-level:** Custom metrics, Latency, Throughput



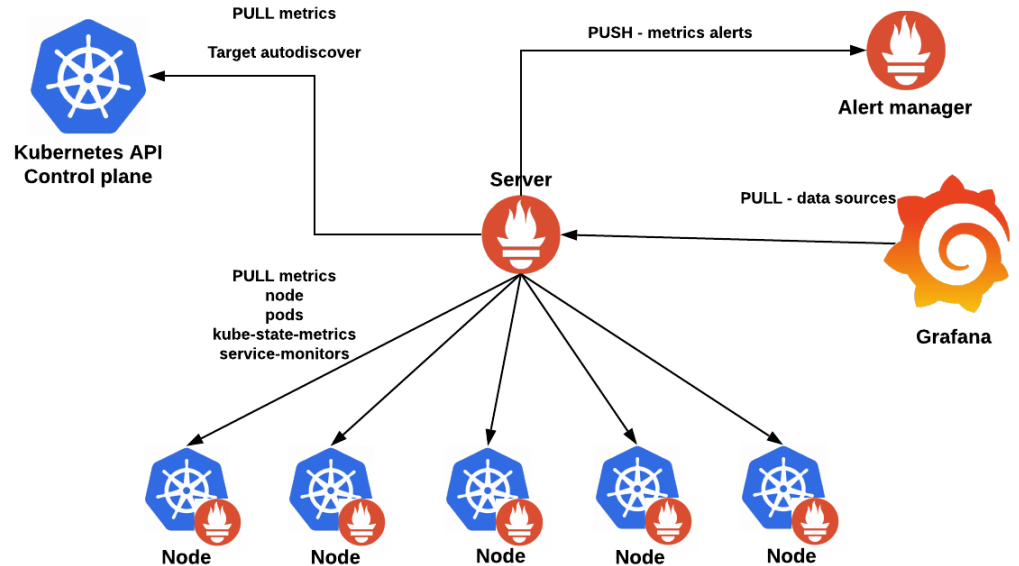
# Prometheus

- Open-source monitoring system (Under the CNCF umbrella)
- Pull-based metrics collection
- Powerful query language (PromQL)
- Built-in alert manager



# Prometheus in k8s

- **Automatic Service discovery**
- **Kubernetes-native deployment**
  - The Prometheus operator
  - Integration with Kubernetes Components (Direct scraping of kubelet metrics, etc).
- **Rich ecosystem of exporters**
  - Dbs
  - Cloud
  - Hardware
  - etc

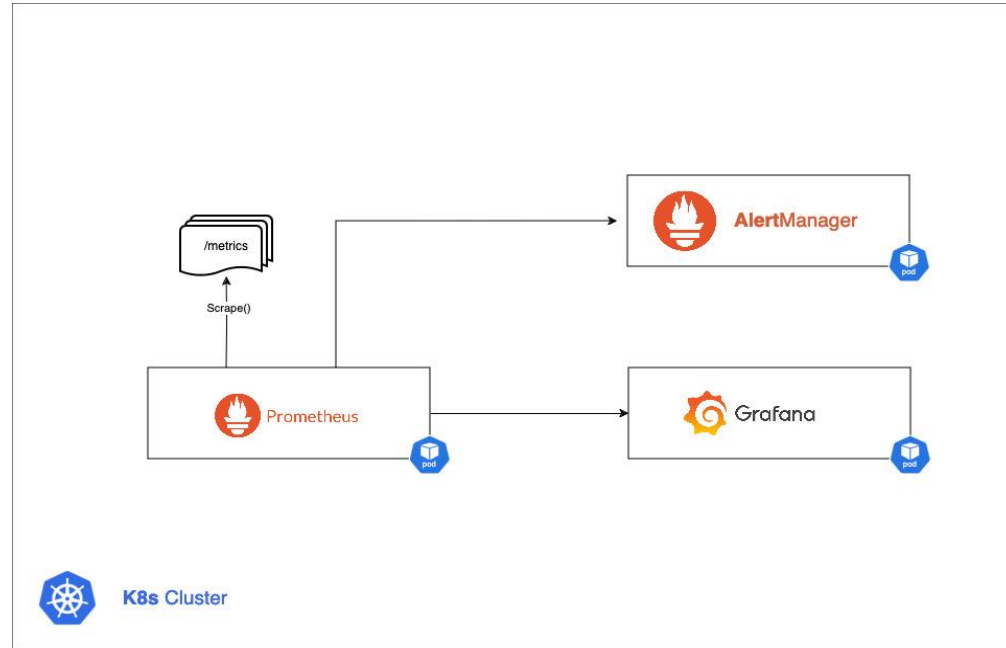


<https://prometheus.io/docs/instrumenting/exporters/>

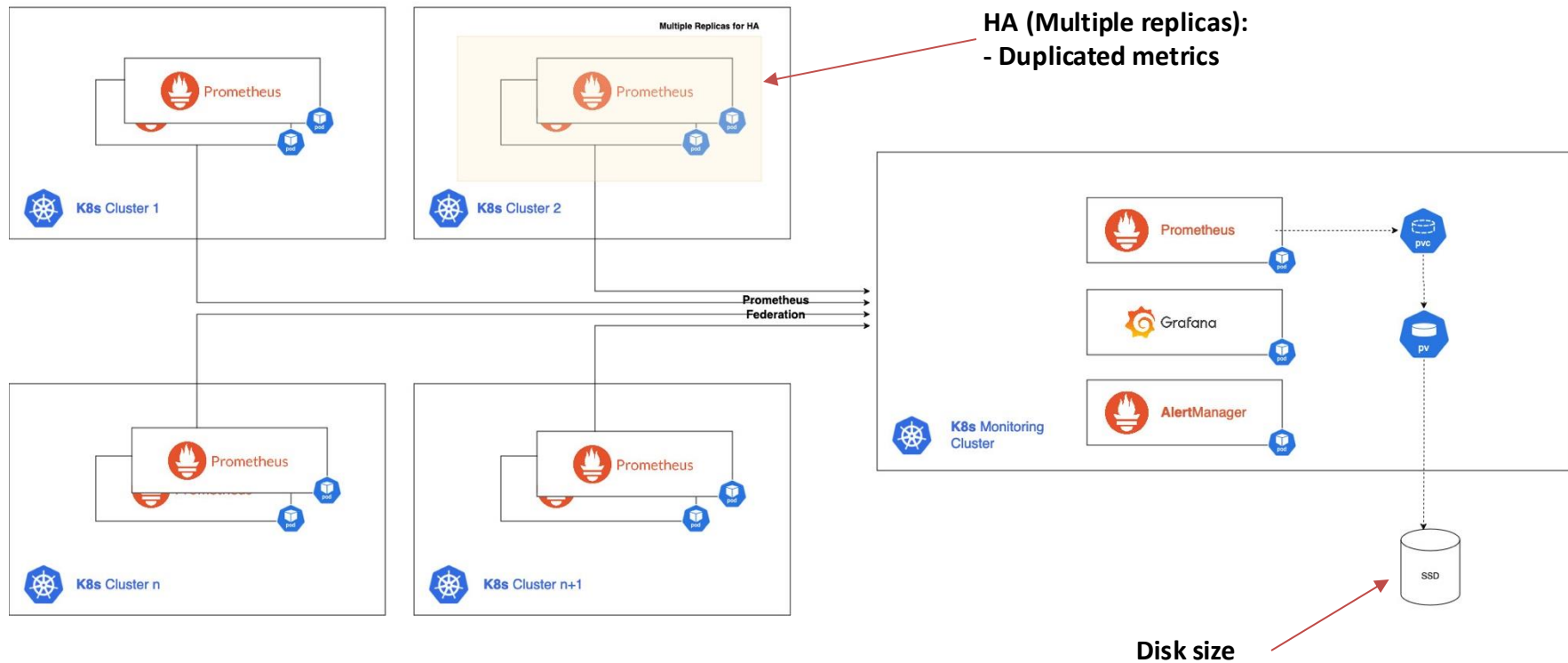


# But ...

- Prometheus is designed for single cluster monitoring and lacks native multi-cluster support.
- Scale and complexity.
- Data volume and retention.
- (If there is an ingress to the cluster) the high volume of data may cause performance issues with complex queries.



# But ...





Thanos

# What is Thanos ?



- Open-source project extending Prometheus capabilities (**CNCF Incubating project**) with unlimited metrics storage in multi-cluster environments.
- **High availability** and **fault tolerance** for Metrics storage.
- **Downsampling** for efficient long-term storage.

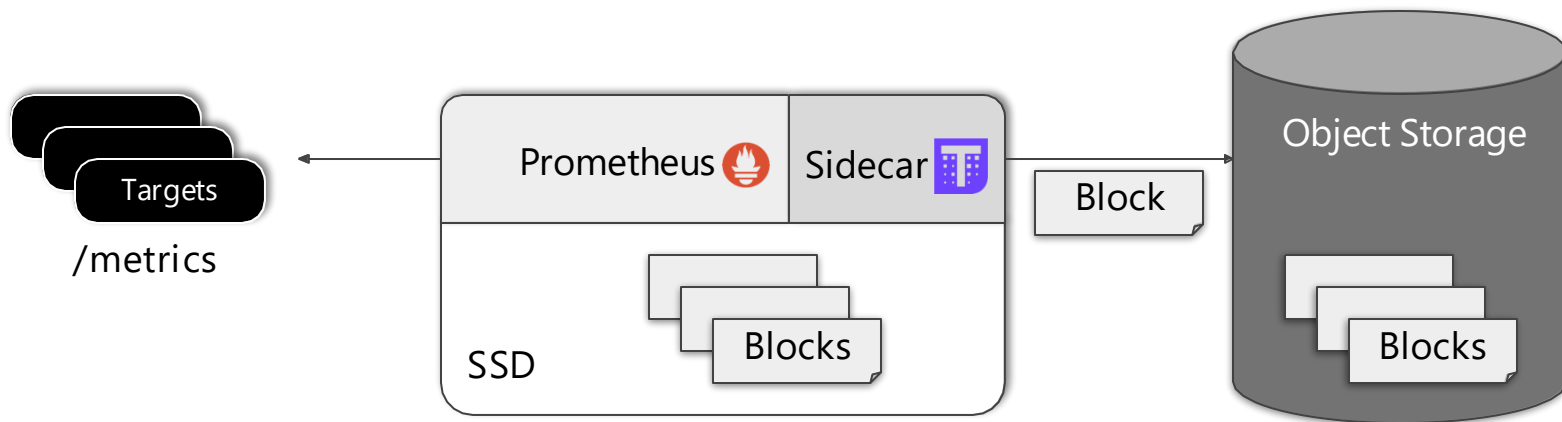
A screenshot of the Thanos website. The page has a purple header with the Thanos logo and navigation links. The main content area features the Thanos logo and the text 'Open source, highly available Prometheus setup with long term storage capabilities.' Below this are links for 'Getting Started', 'Community', 'Download', 'Quay.io', 'DockerHub', and 'GitHub'. A dark banner contains a message about the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The footer section highlights four key features: 'Global Query View', 'Unlimited Retention', 'Prometheus Compatible', and 'Downsampling &amp; Compaction', each with a brief description and an icon.



# What is Thanos ?



- Scalable from simple to complex use cases
- Components can be used independently or together.
- Adapt to various architectures and requirements:



*(simple setup) Use Sidecar for basic long-term storage with object Storage*





**Architecture**

# Thanos Sidecar

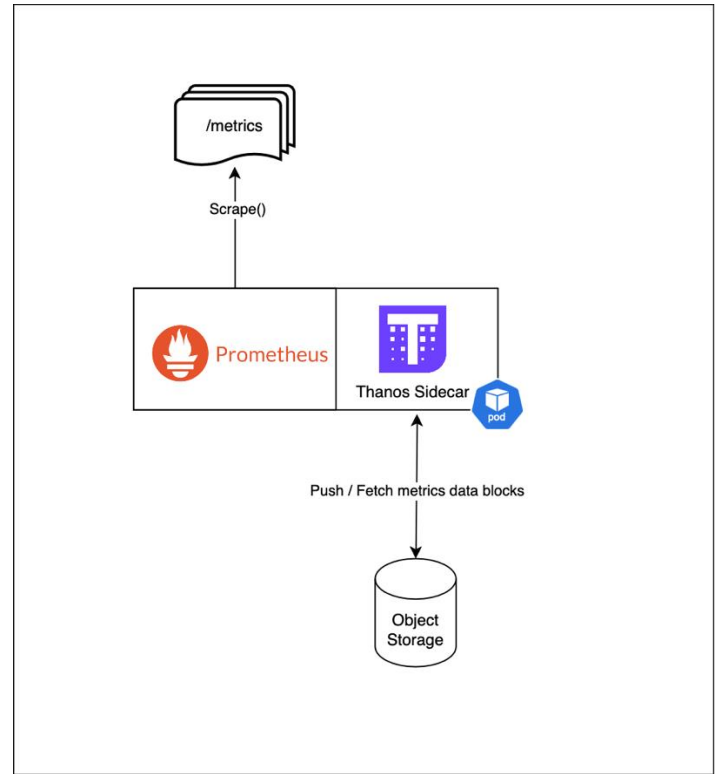


## Role:

- Uploads metrics to object storage

## Key features:

- Runs alongside Prometheus instances
- Uploads TSDB blocks to object storage (e.g., S3, GCS)
- Enables long-term storage without affecting Prometheus performance



# Thanos Receiver

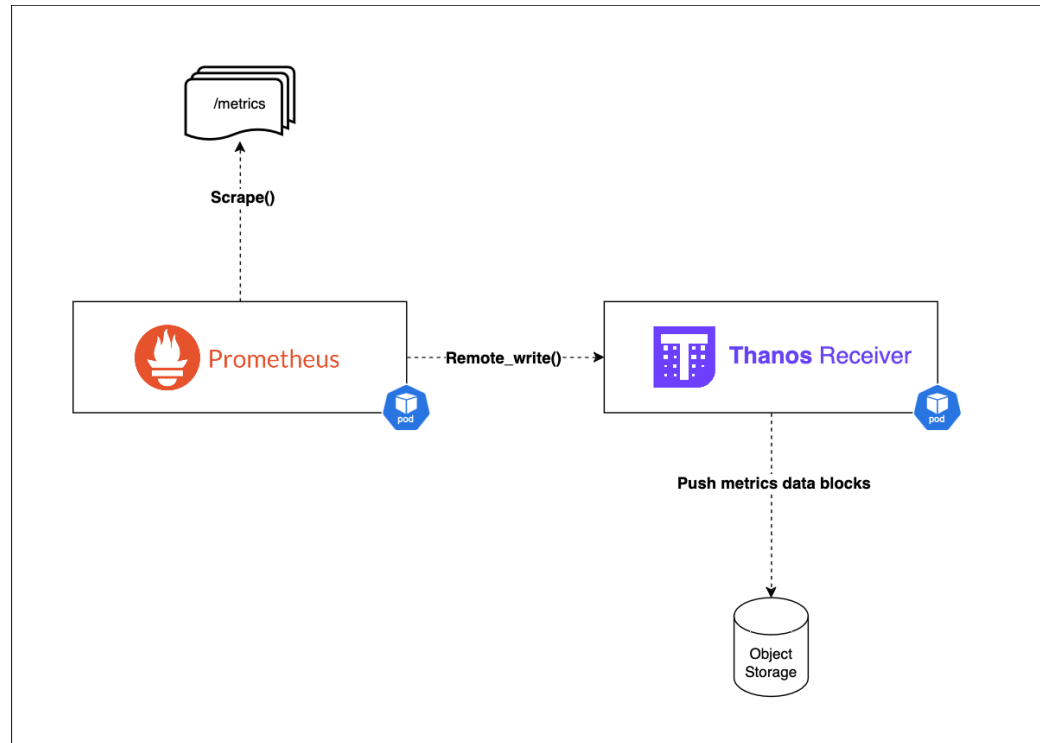


## Role:

- Ingests metrics from remote sources (Prometheus remote\_write)

## Key features:

- Accepts remote write from Prometheus
- Writes data to object storage
- Exposes metrics to Thanos Queriers for real-time viewing.





# Thanos Receiver



```
thanos receive \  
  --objstore.config=$(OBJSTORE_CONFIG) \  
  --tsdb.path=/var/thanos/receive \  
  --label=cluster_name="aws-morocco-outpost-cluster" \  
  --grpc-address=0.0.0.0:10901 \  
  --http-address=0.0.0.0:10902 \  
  --remote-write.address=0.0.0.0:19291 \  
  --receive.local-endpoint=127.0.0.1:10901 \  
  --receive.grpc-compression=none \  
  --tsdb.retention=1d \  
  --tsdb.min-block-duration=5m \  
  --tsdb.max-block-duration=5m \  
  --receive.hashrings-file=/var/lib/thanos-receive/hashrings.json
```

# Thanos Compactor

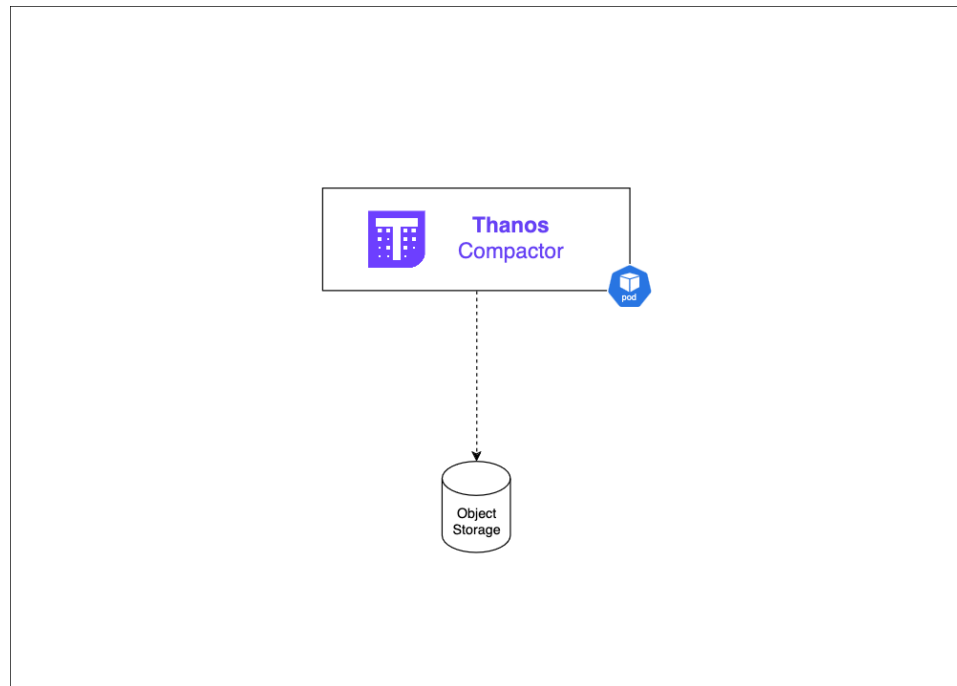


## Role:

- Optimizes object storage data.

## Key features:

- Compacts data for efficient storage
- Creates summarized versions of historical data at lower resolutions (Typically produces 5-minute and 1-hour resolution datasets from raw data)
- Applies retention policies.



# Thanos Store Gateway

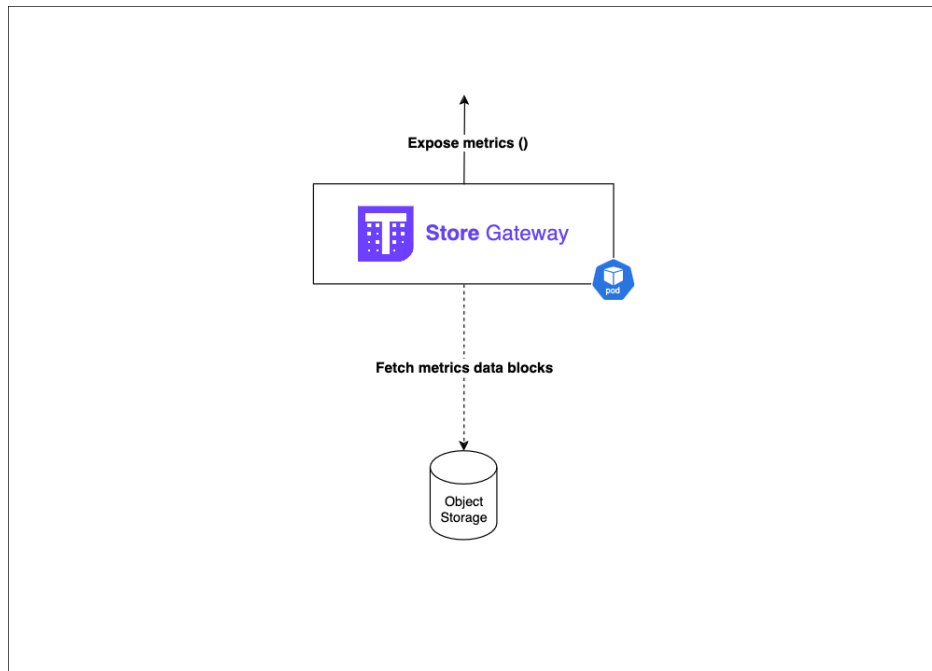


## Role:

- Provides access to object storage data.

## Key features:

- Caches object storage data for faster access
- Optimizes data retrieval for queries
- Acts as a proxy between Querier and object storage.



# Thanos Querier



## Role:

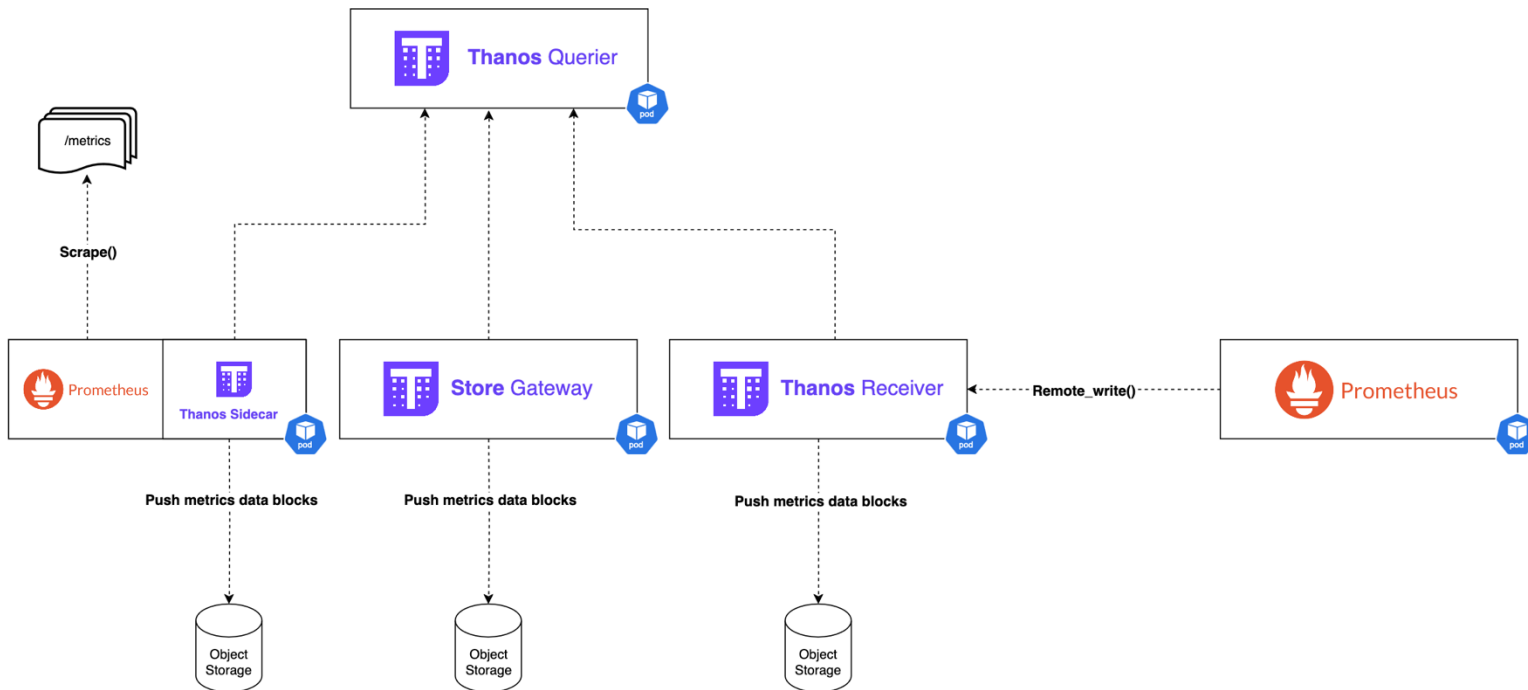
- Global query interface.

## Key features:

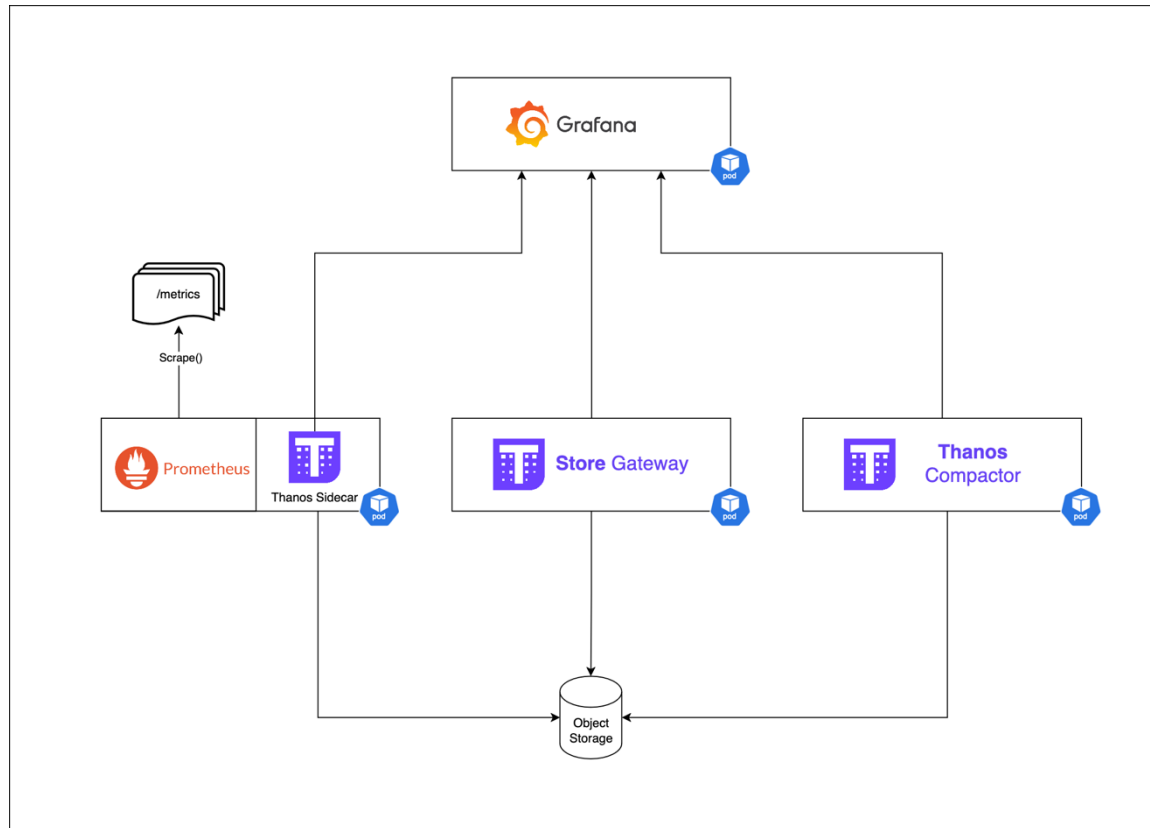
- Provides PromQL interface for querying
- Deduplicates metrics from different sources.
- Aggregate data from all the sources (Sidecars, Store Gateways, Prometheus, etc ).



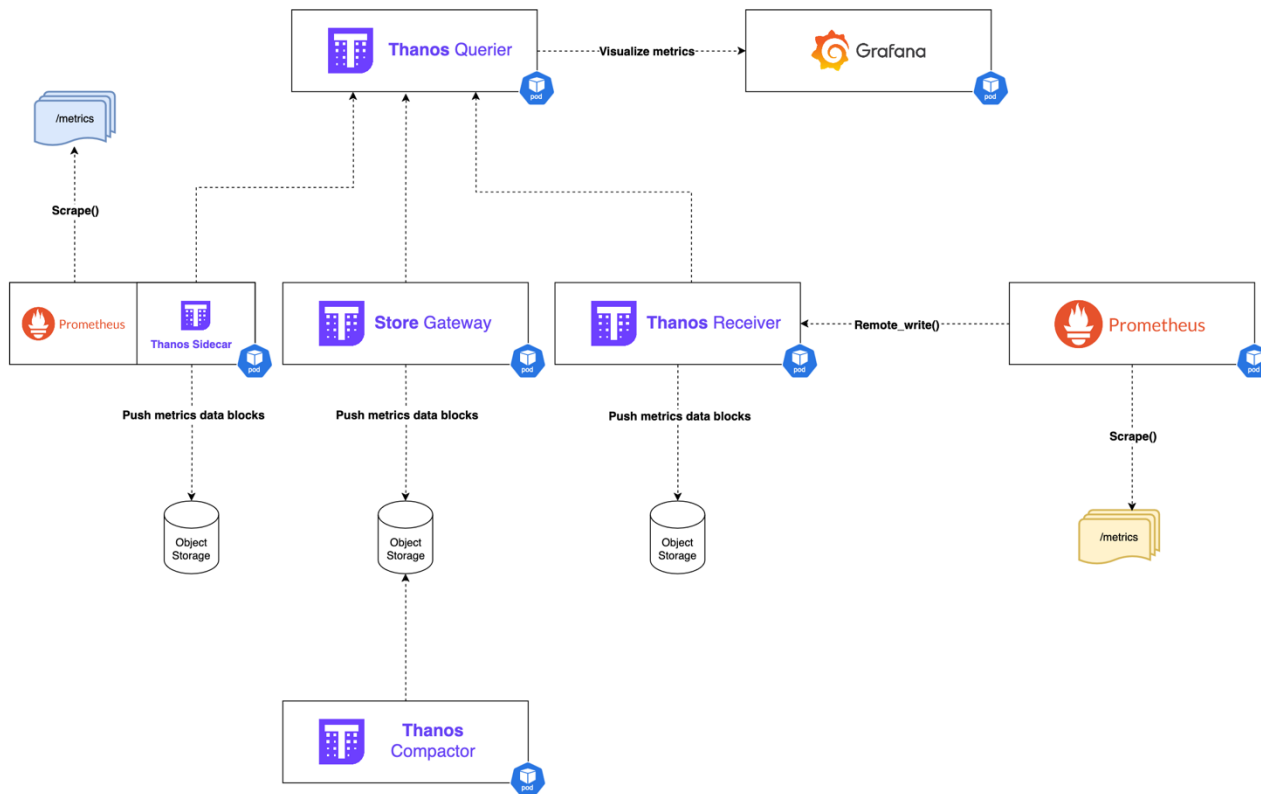
# Thanos Querier



# Example Deployment (simple)



# Example Deployment (Complete)

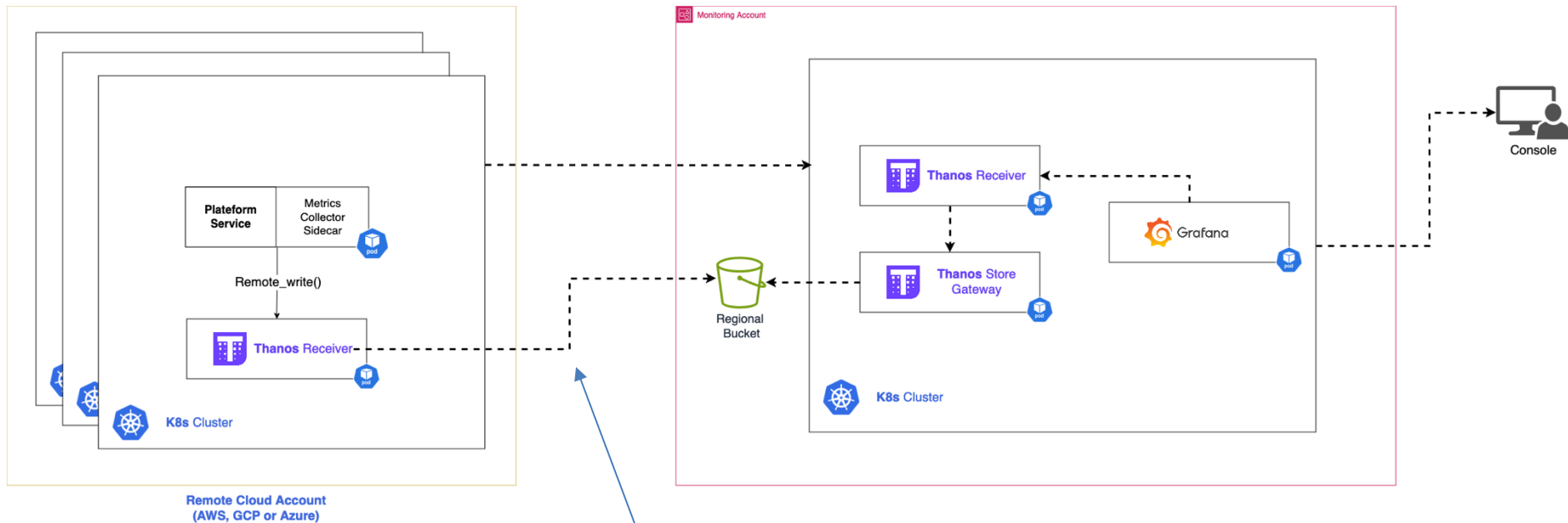




# **Multiple clusters monitoring**



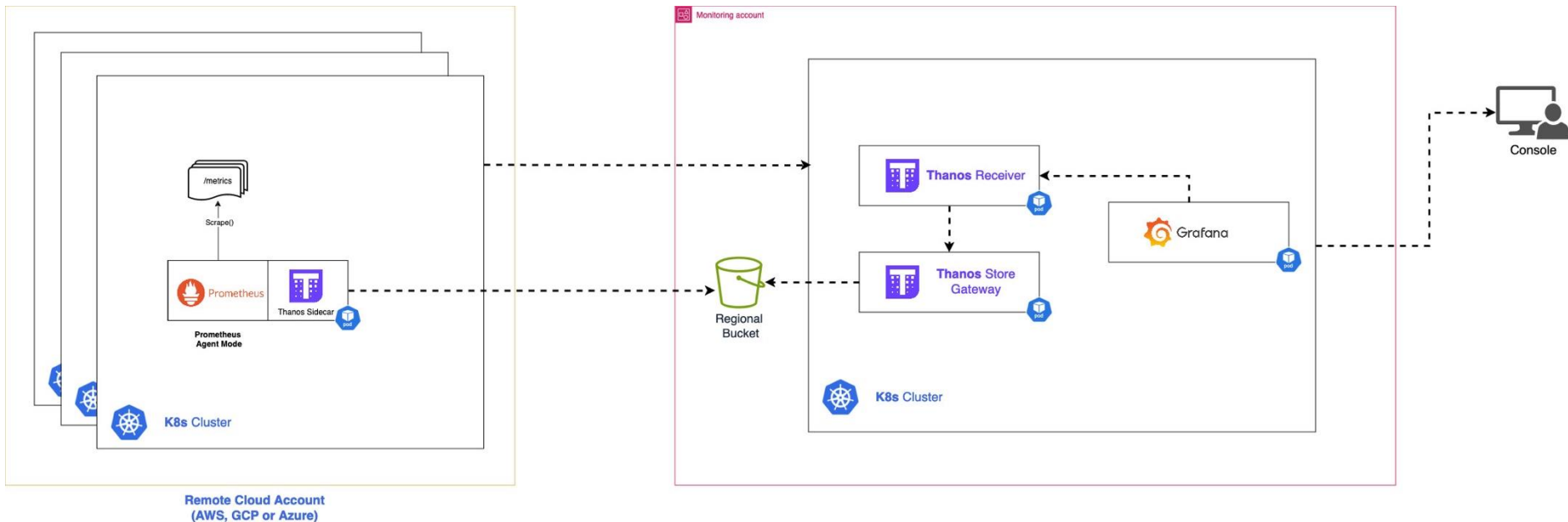
# Multiple clusters monitoring (option1)



Traffic stays within the same region to optimize data transfer costs



# Multiple clusters monitoring (option2)



# Thank you

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## Thanos Deep Dive: Addressing Prometheus Limitations at Scale

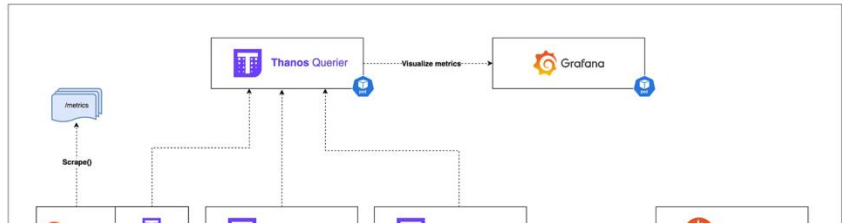
Open source, highly available Prometheus setup with long term storage capabilities.



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Published in AWS Morocco · 6 min read · Sep 22, 2024

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## Low-Cost, Unlimited Metrics Storage with Thanos: Monitor All Your K8s Clusters Anywhere and More.



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