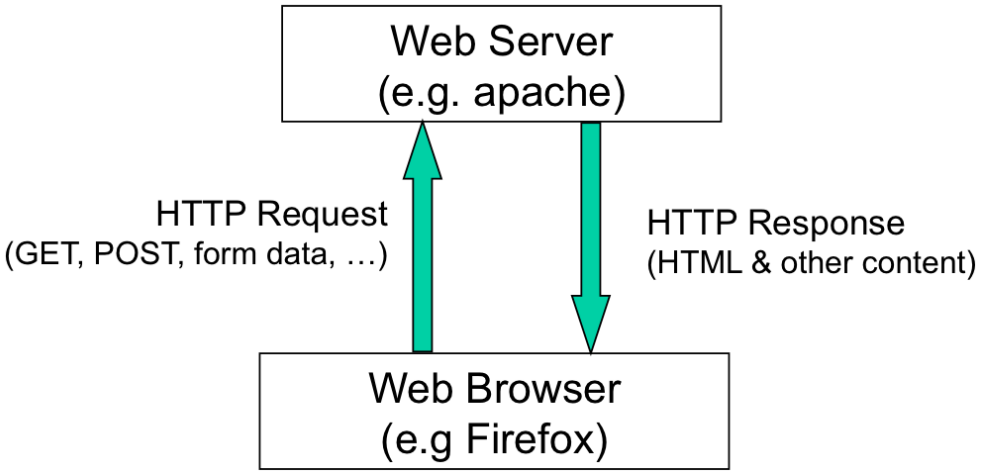
# Developer Operations

## Performance & Scaling

# HTTP dialogue

- Communication on the web means browsers talking to web servers over HTTP




- Within a browsing session the user is (ideally) given an illusion that they are having a one-to-one dialogue with the server
- Part of this illusion is management of **state**
- Another part is achieved by **performance** and **scalability** management

# Performance issues

- Response time
  - How quickly does a server respond to client requests?
  - Affected by
    - Server load
    - Network load
    - Reliance on third-party services (e.g. DNS)
    - Delays in all software components (server & client OS, process switching, server & client network stack)

# Performance issues

- Throughput
  - Rate at which computational work is done
  - Transactions per unit time
  - Affected by
    - Processor speed
    - Storage performance (memory/disk)
    - Some resources overloading badly (e.g. network bottlenecks)
    - Reliance on OS and network services
    - Reliance on third-party services

# Issues related to performance

- Reliability
  - Uptime, ideally 99.999...%
  - Consistency
- Fault tolerance
  - Achieved through redundancy of components, etc
- Adaptability
- Security
  - Can add to load on processor, network, …
- Quality of Service / Quality of Experience
  - Combination of performance, availability, adaptability, security

# How to improve performance

- Better network speeds
- Faster CPU
- More memory
- More disk space
- Less process switching
- Better design – less bottlenecks, better concurrency (e.g. less resource holding)

- All of the above can help performance of individual servers, but don't **scale** indefinitely due to physical limits
  - Also decreasing cost effectiveness

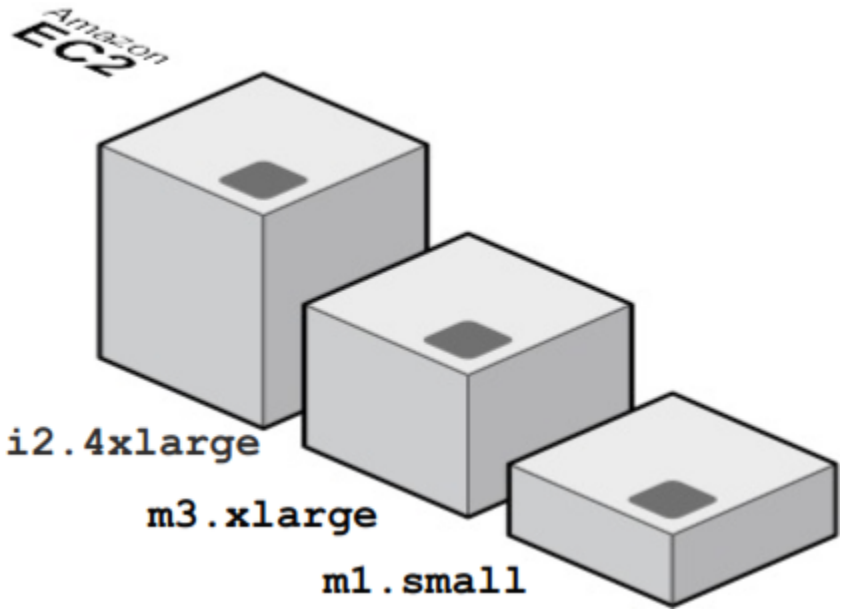
# Scalability

- Ability to grow in size according to need
  - While maintaining performance
- Removal of limits to performance
- Elasticity is one of the main benefits of cloud computing

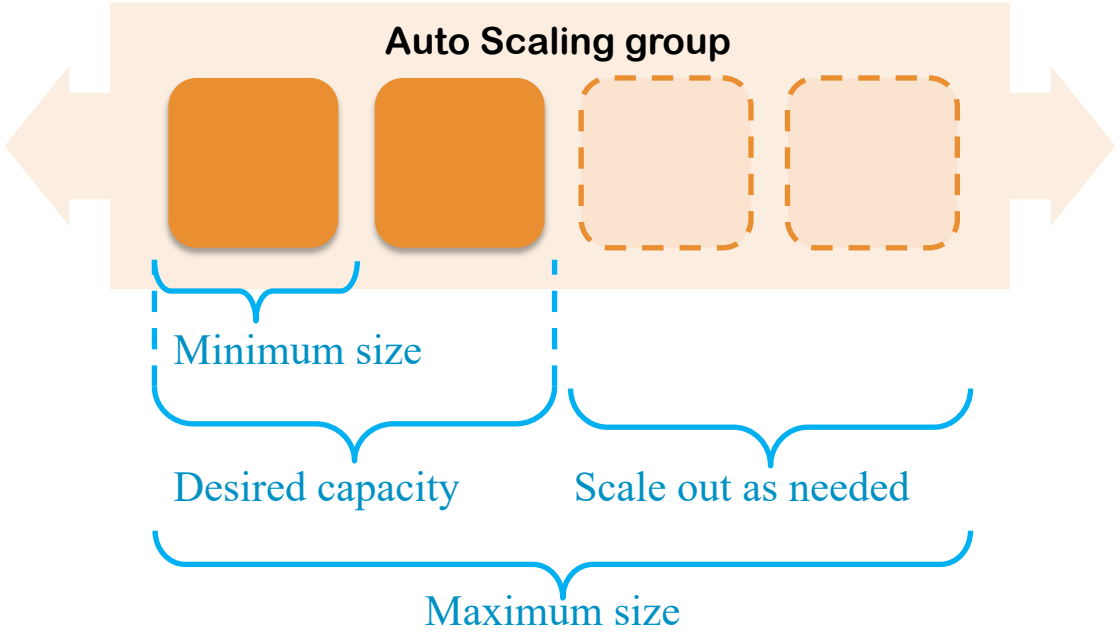
- One way to remove performance limits is to add resources to each element
  - **Vertical** scaling (scale **up**)
- Another way to remove performance limits is to replicate elements (and balance the load between them)
  - **Horizontal** scaling (scale **out**)

# Vertical Scaling: Scale up in AWS

- Simple approach.
- High memory/IO/CPU/ Storage.
- Easy to change instance size.
- Will ultimately hit limit.



# Horizontal Scaling: AWS Auto Scaling




Auto Scaling groups contain a collection of EC2 instances that share similar characteristics.

Instances in an Auto Scaling group are treated as a logical grouping for the purpose of instance scaling and management.

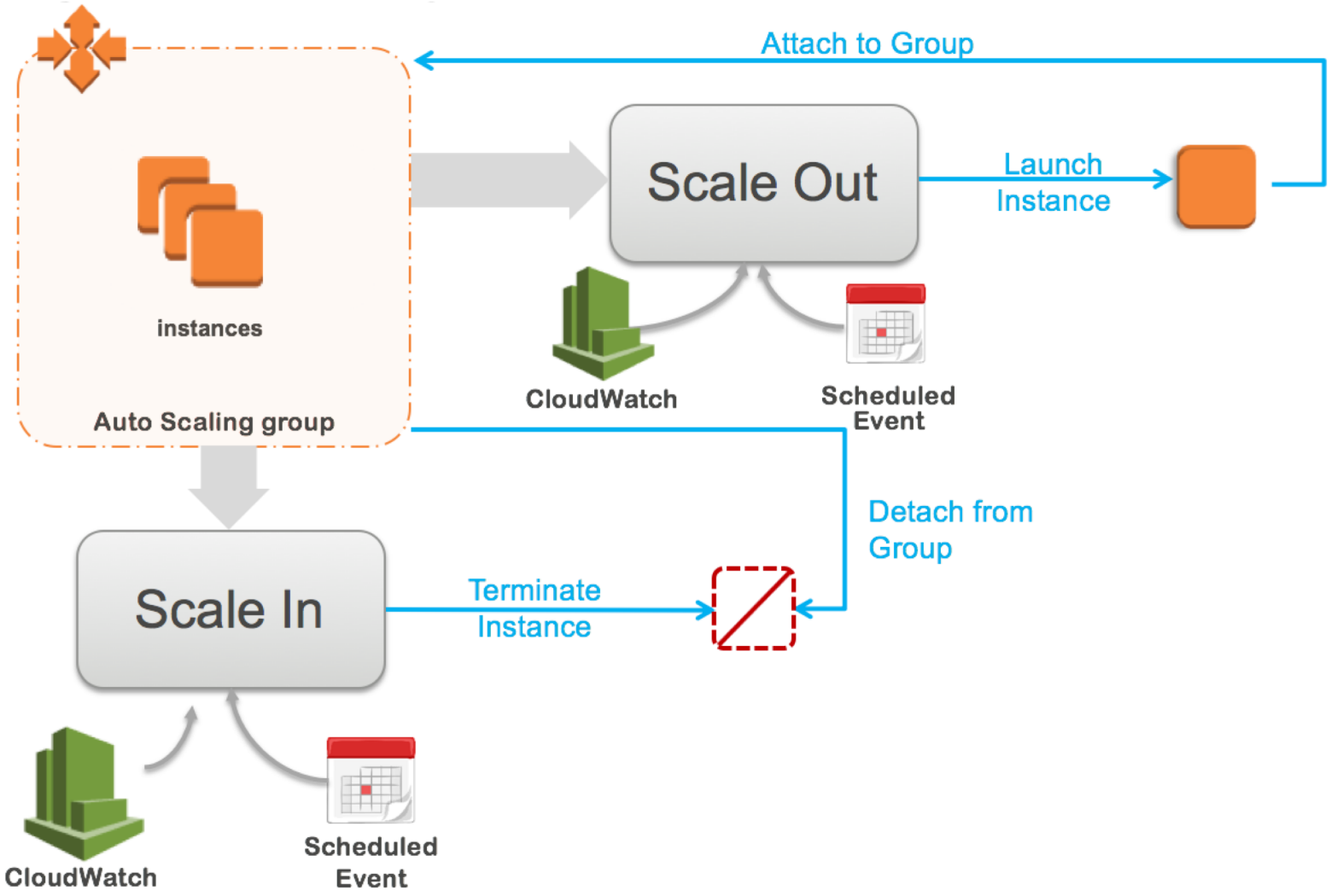
# Dynamic Scaling in AWS

You can create a scaling policy that uses **CloudWatch alarms** to determine when your **Auto Scaling group** should…


You can use alarms to monitor:

- Any of the metrics that AWS services send to CloudWatch
- Your own custom metrics

# Auto Scaling Basic Lifecycle



# AWS Launch Configurations

- A **launch configuration** is a template that an Auto Scaling group uses to launch EC2 instances
- When you create a launch configuration, you can specify:
  - AMI
  - Instance type
  - Key pair
  - Security groups
  - Block device mapping
  - User data

- This provides a **blueprint** for each instance that is automatically started by the auto scaler

# Next: Try out AWS auto-scaling

- Create AMI for launch config
- Create Auto Scaling Group
- Define Scaling Policies