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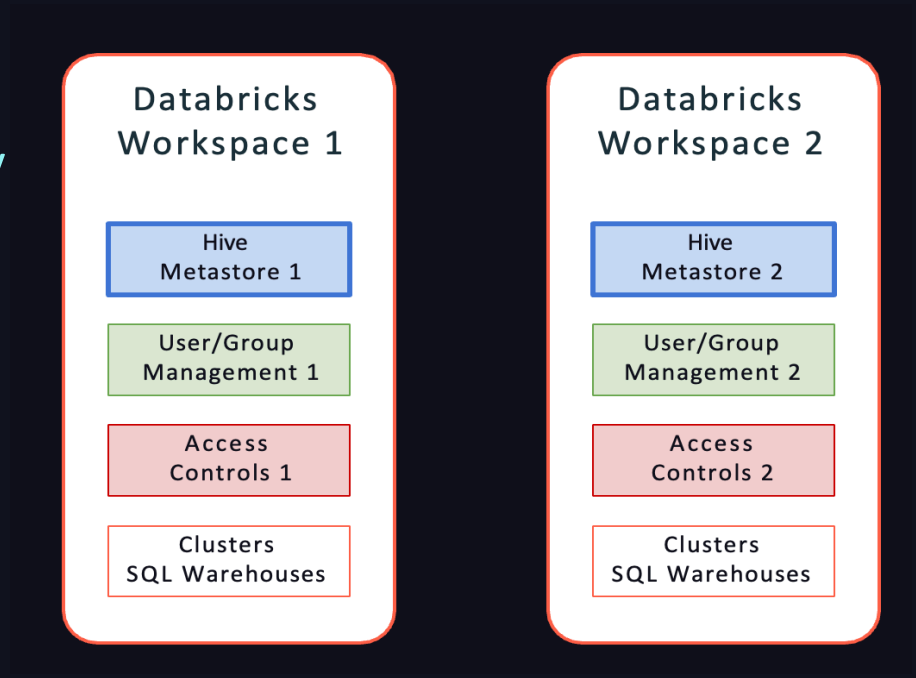
Empowering Centralized Data Governance @Comcast with Unity Catalog

Problem Statement

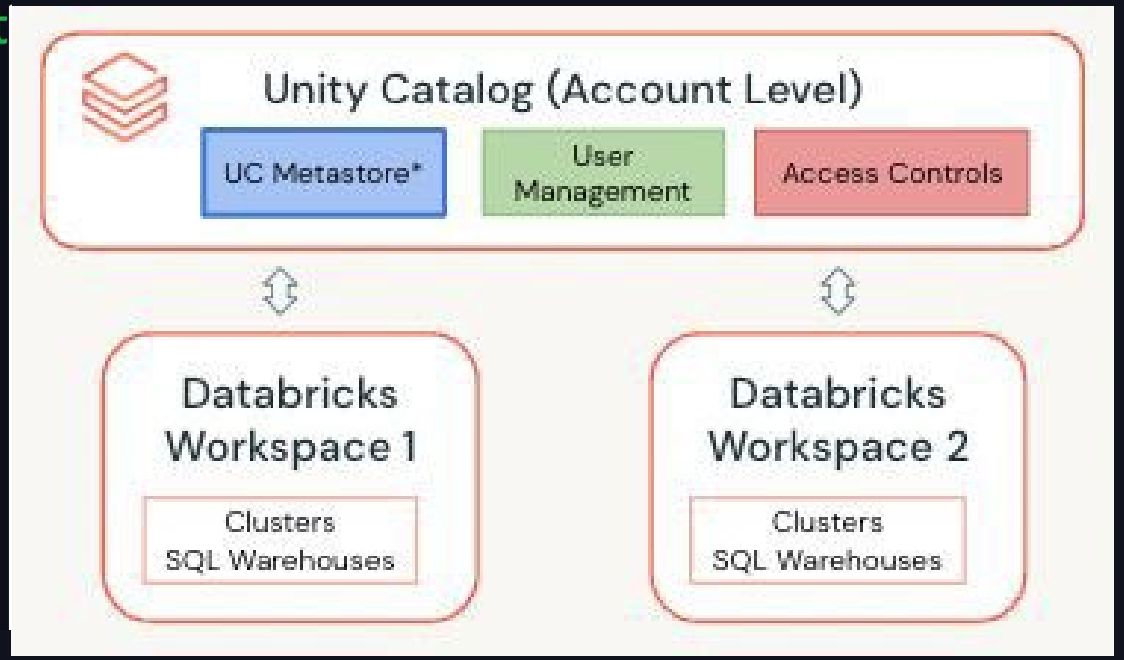
- Fragmented data governance & access control on 150+ Workspaces
- Inefficient data management and utilization
- Increased security risks and potential data breaches
- Difficulty in collaboration and data sharing
- Wasted storage costs due to data redundancy
- Increased administrative overhead for teams



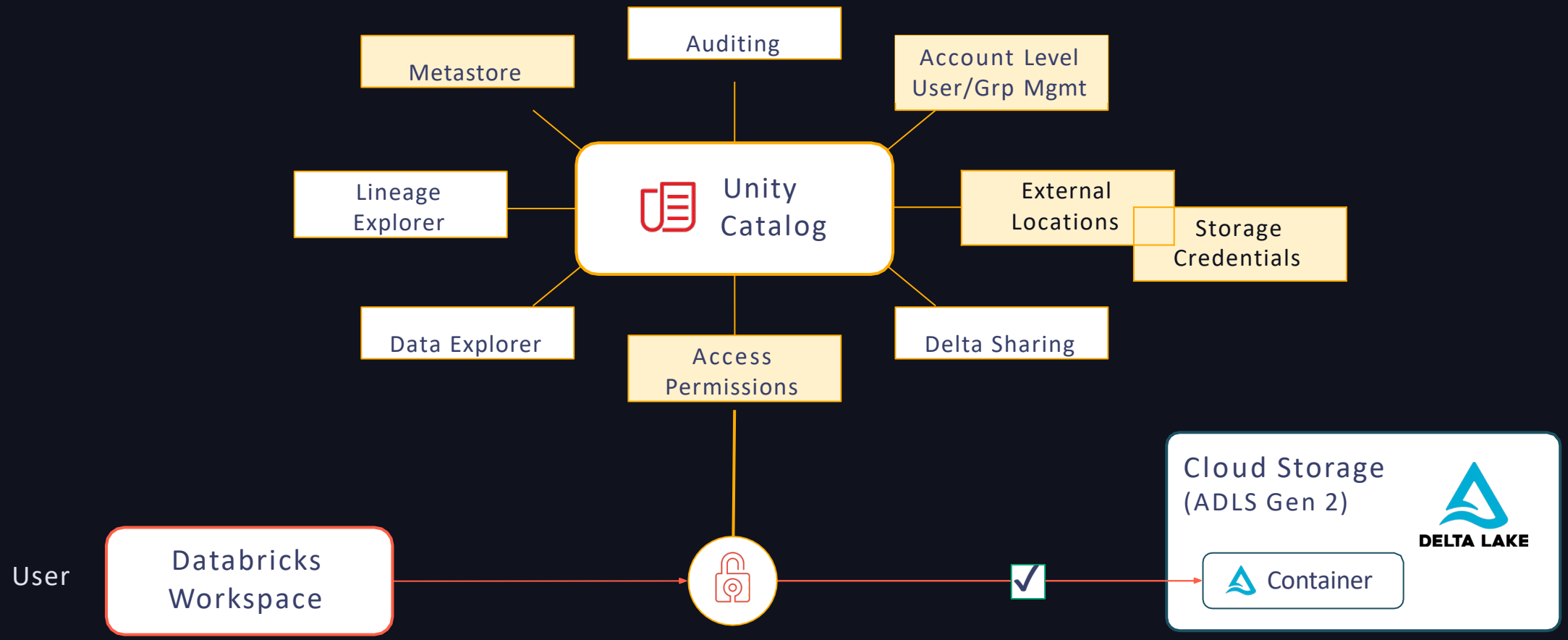
Databricks Unity Catalog

Unified governance for data, analytics and AI

- Centralized Identity and access management
- Simplified administration
- Centralized governance for data and AI
- Enhanced auditing and data sharing
- Built-in data search and discovery
- Performance and scale
- Automated lineage for all workloads



Unity Catalog - Architecture



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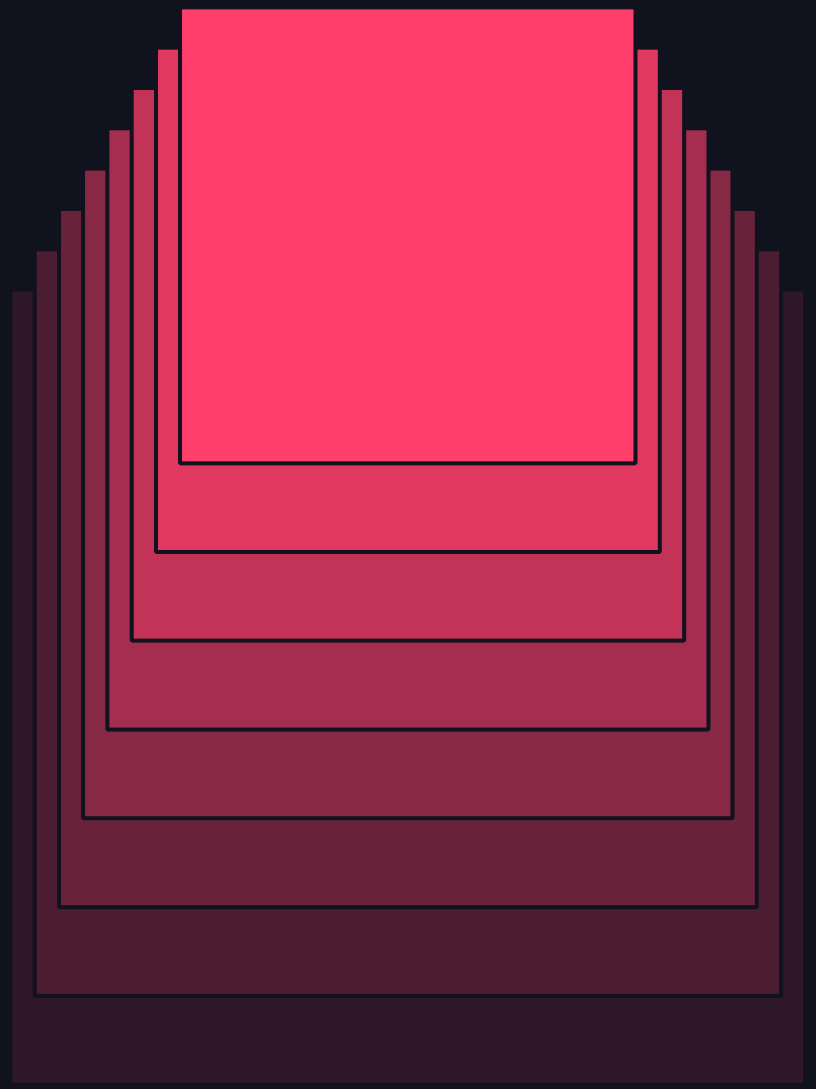
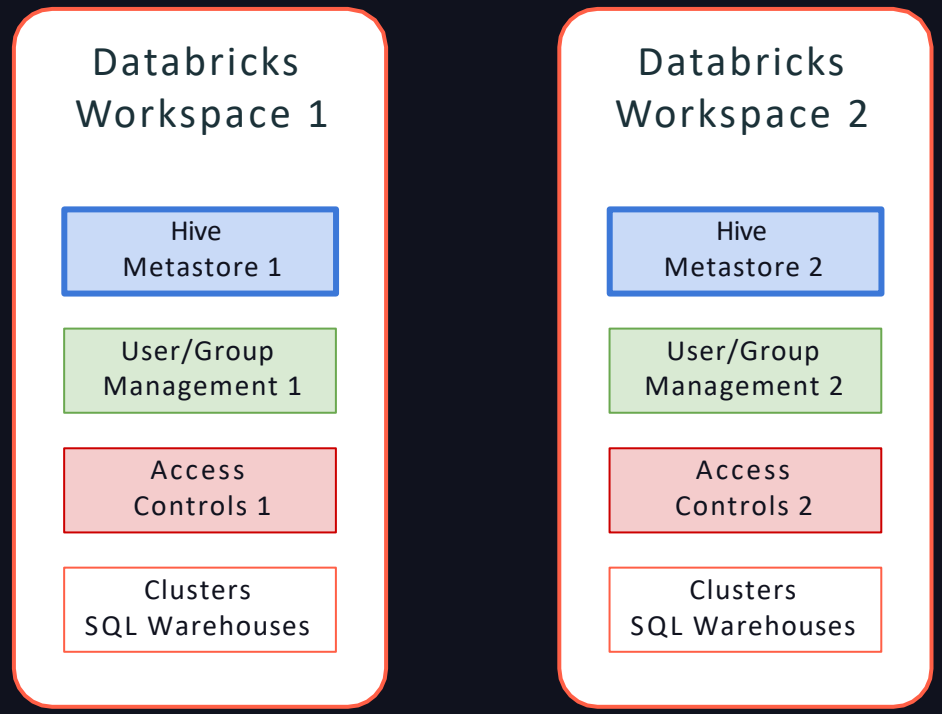
Access Management & Collaboration

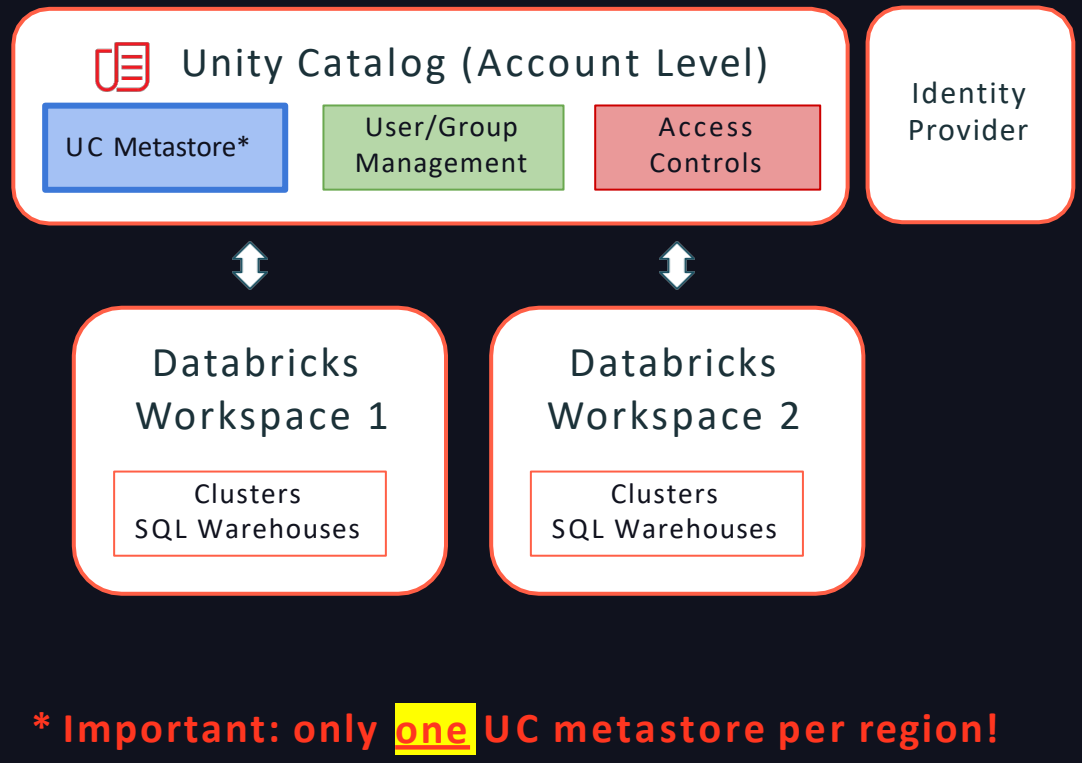


Centralized Metadata, Identity, and Access Management

Without Unity Catalog



With Unity Catalog



*** Important: only one UC metastore per region!**

Identity Federation Enrollment before UC

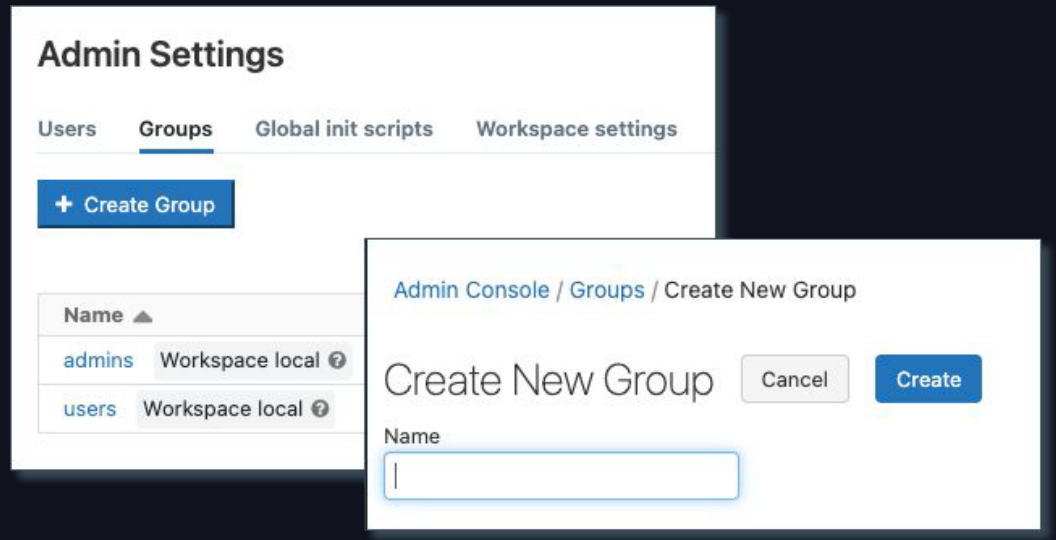
Group administration changes for Workspaces before UC

Before

- Users - created in the **Workspace**
- Groups - created in the **Workspace** with a **Create Group** button
  - These are now referred to as “Workspace local” groups

Challenge: duplicate administration work across workspaces

Before



Identity Federation Enrollment with UC

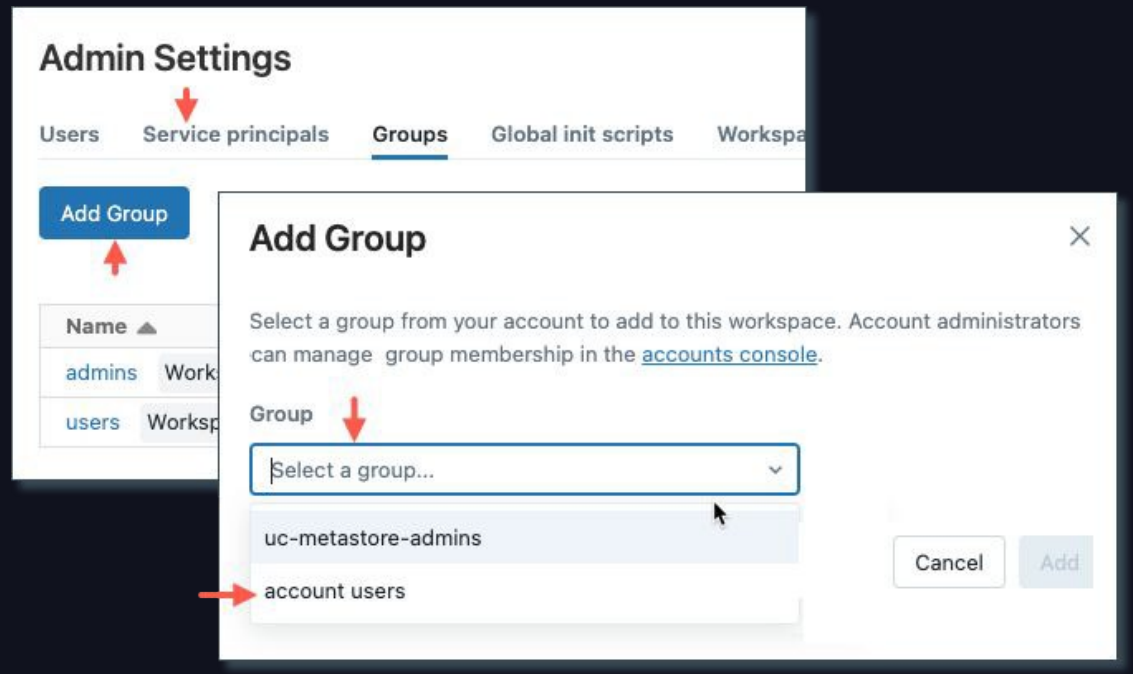
Group administration changes for Workspaces connected to UC

After

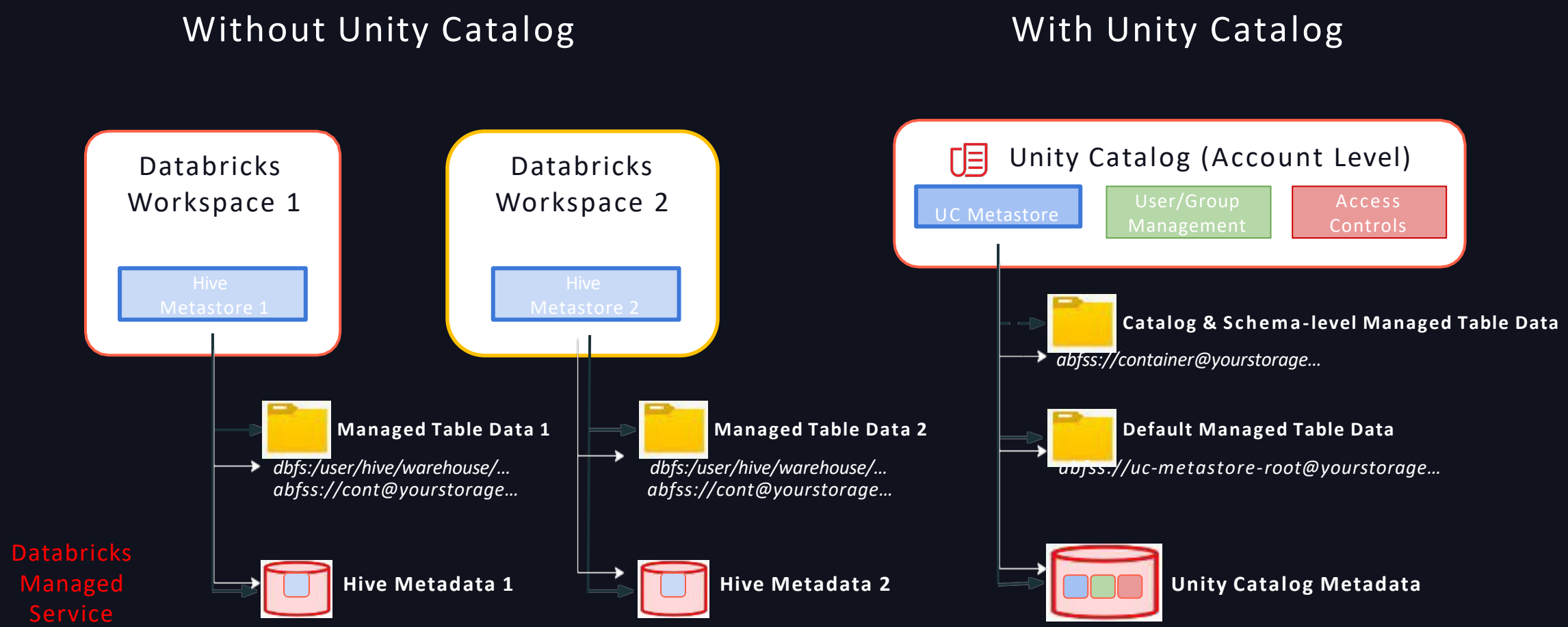
- Users - created in the Workspace **or at the Account level** - users created in the Workspace are synced to the account
- Groups - created **exclusively in the Account Console** and are *added* to the Workspace (**Add Group** button)
  - New **account users** group
- New Service principals menu

Simplified administration

After



Hive vs UC metadata



Access Control Simplified

Centrally grant and manage access permissions across all workloads

Using ANSI Standard SQL

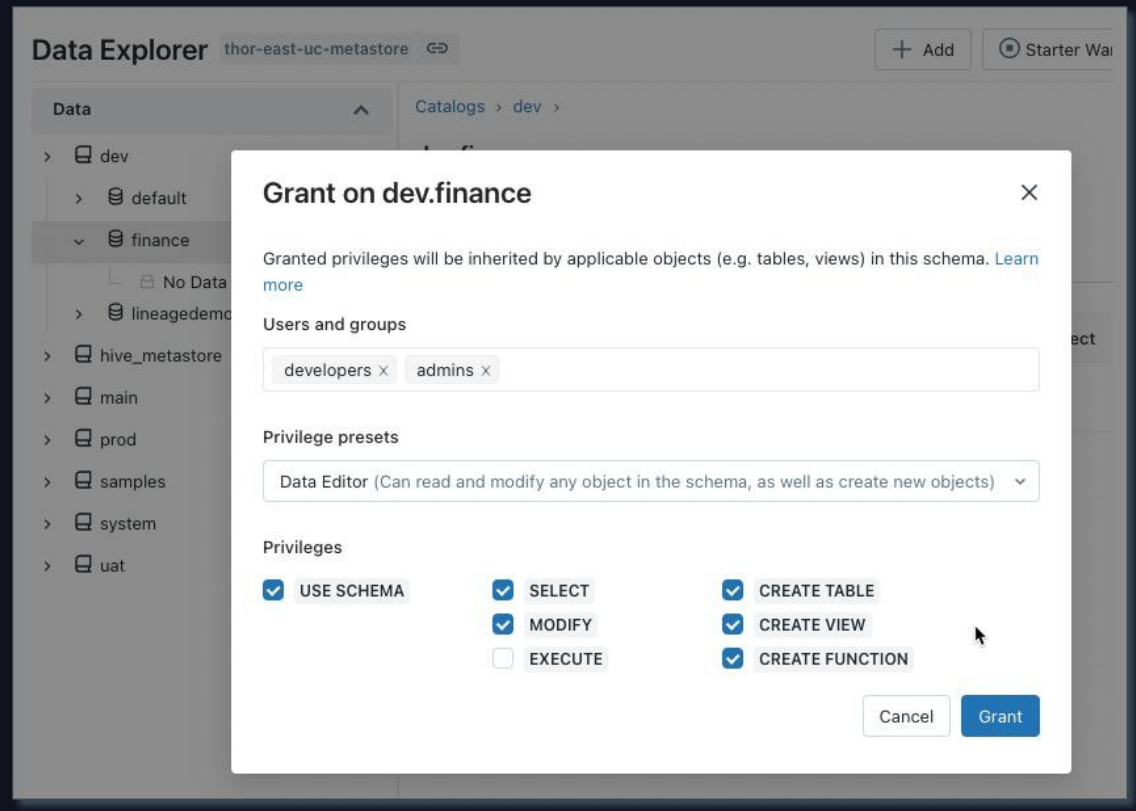
```
GRANT SELECT ON iot.events TO engineers
```

Choose permission level

Choose resource

Sync groups from identity provider

Using the UI



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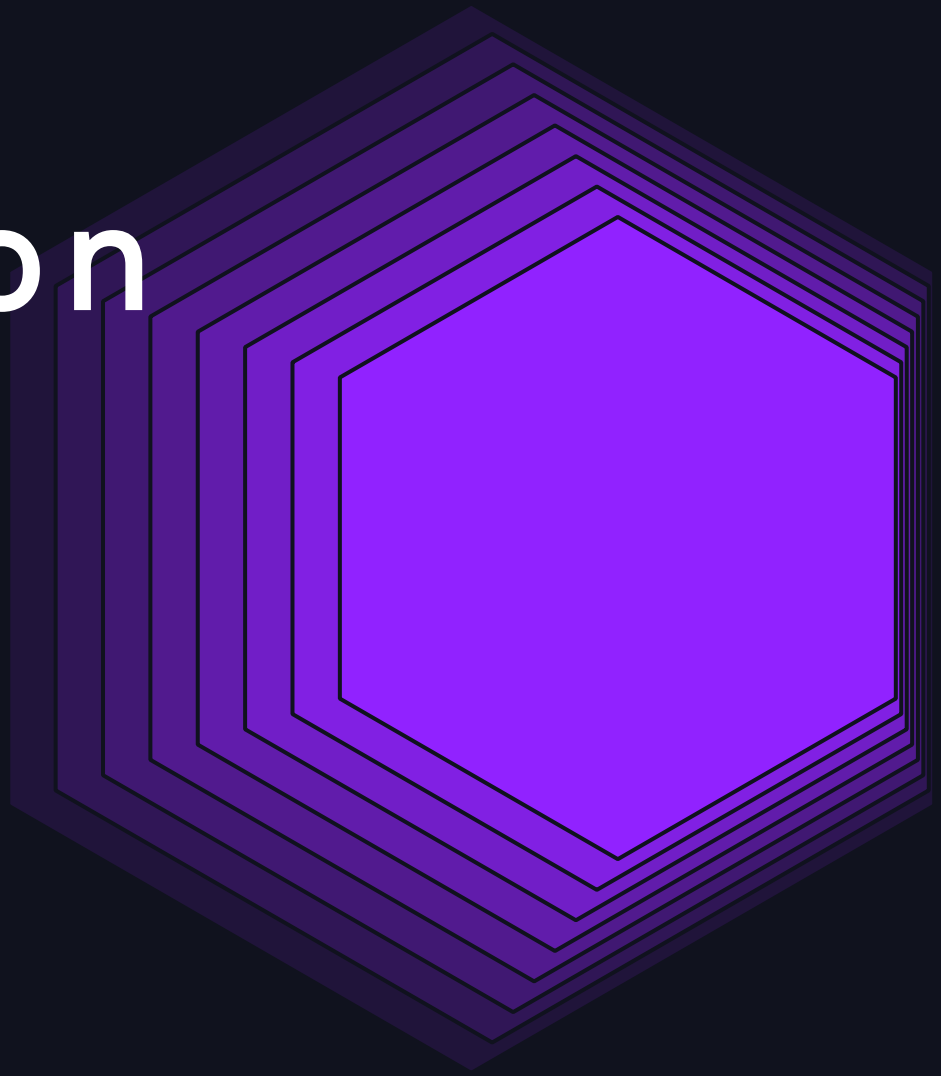
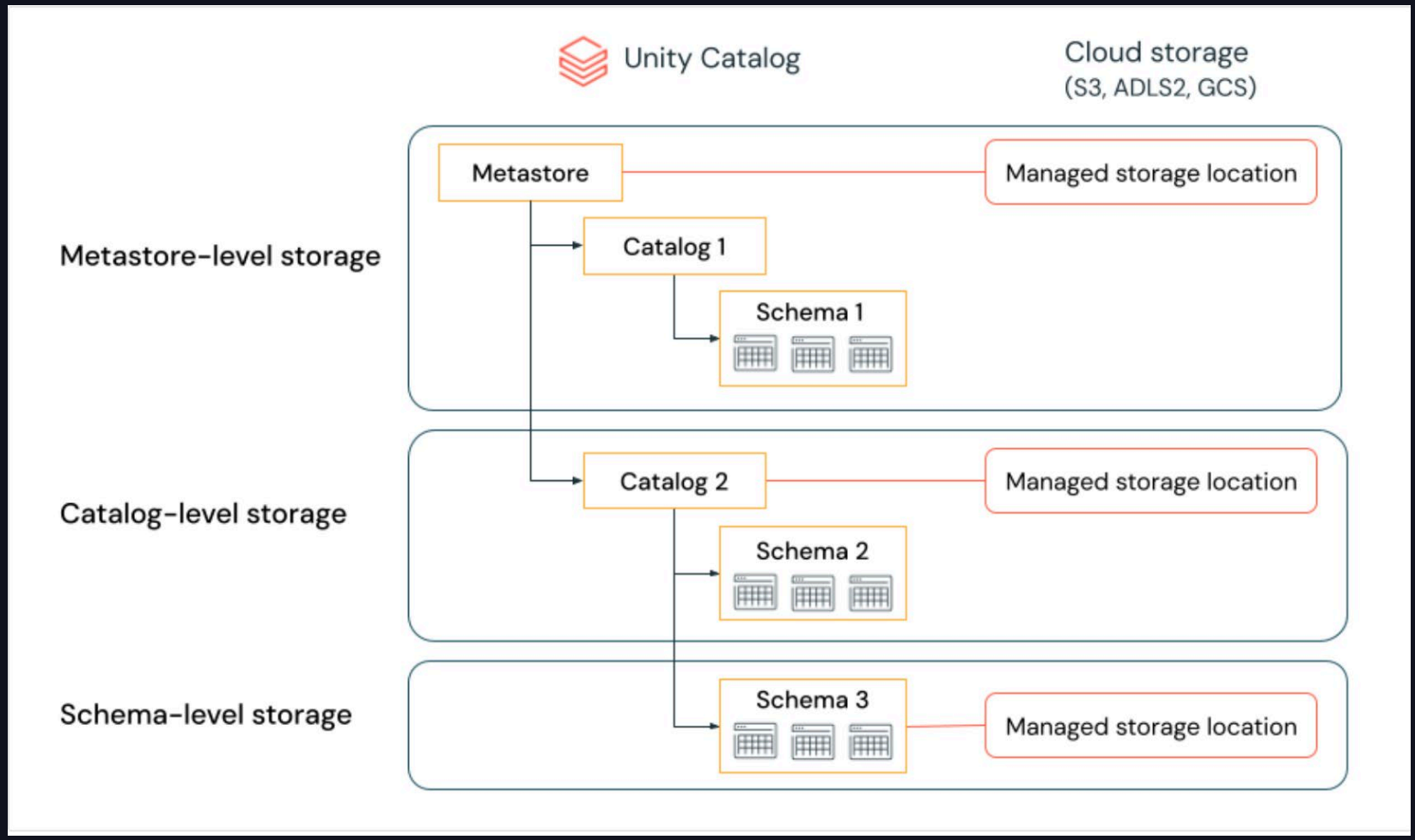
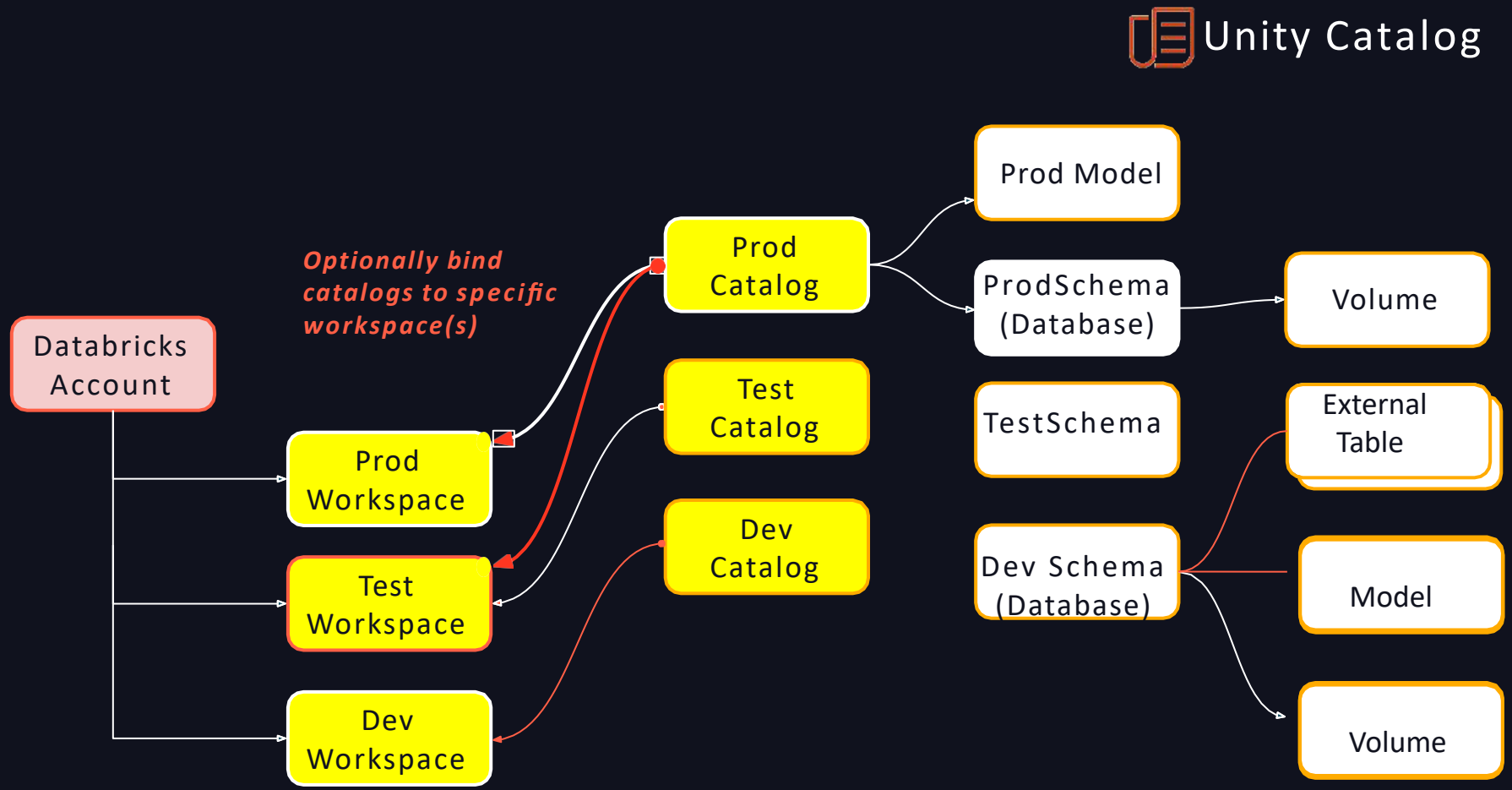
Data Isolation with UC at Comcast



Storage based isolation

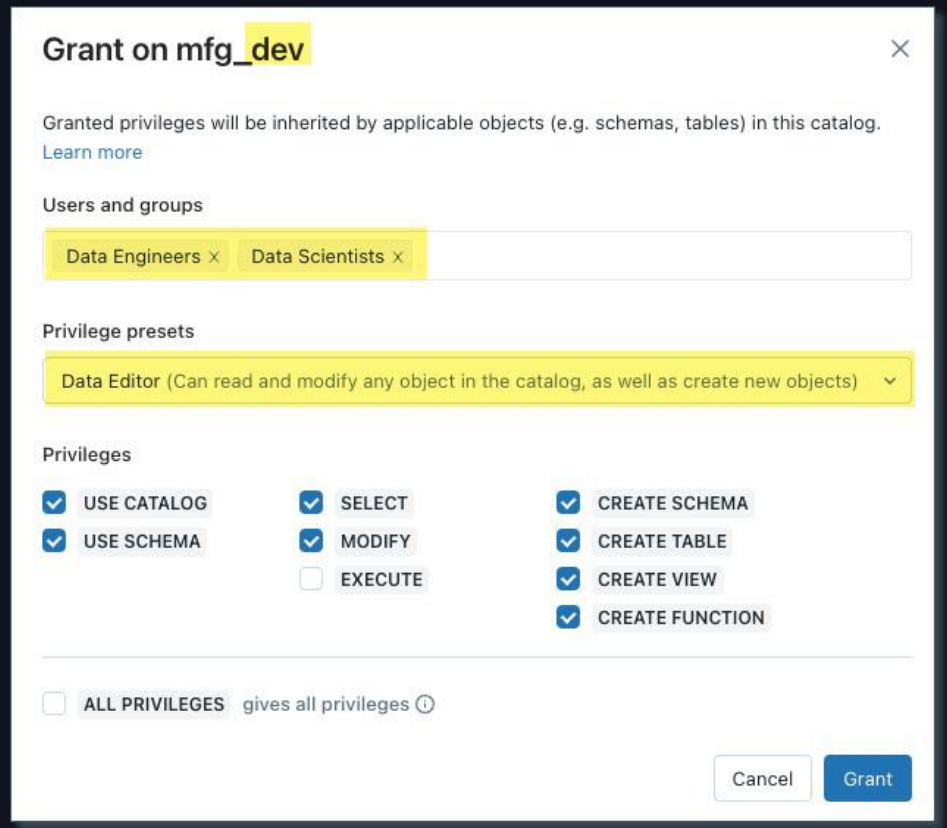


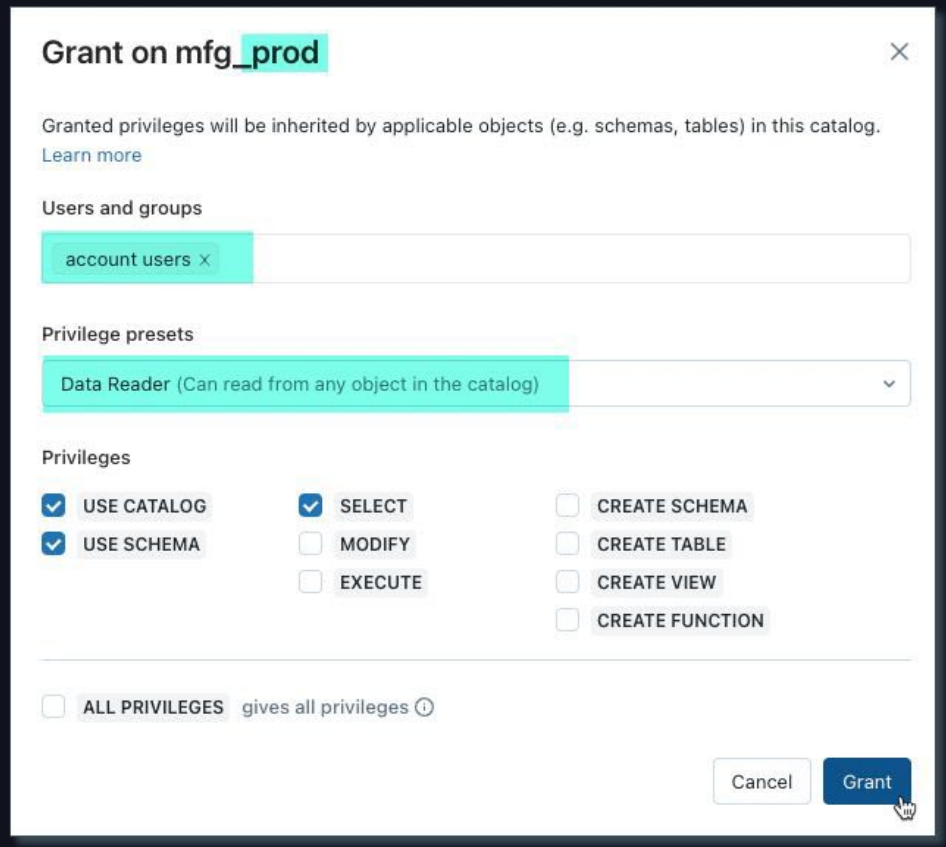
Workspace based isolation



User based isolation

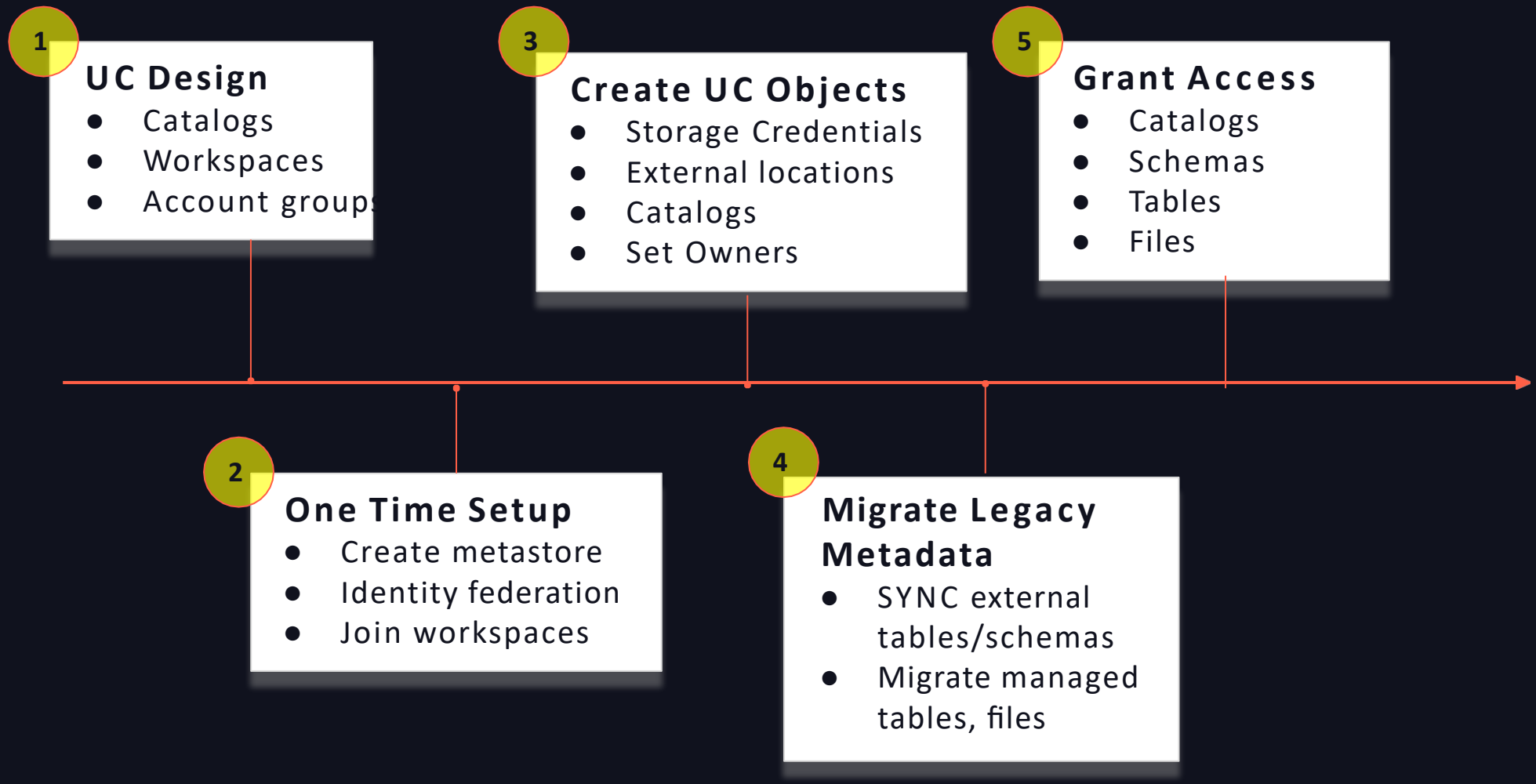
Assign group, user, and service principal permissions as needed





High Level Roadmap to Unity Catalog

Steps to consider

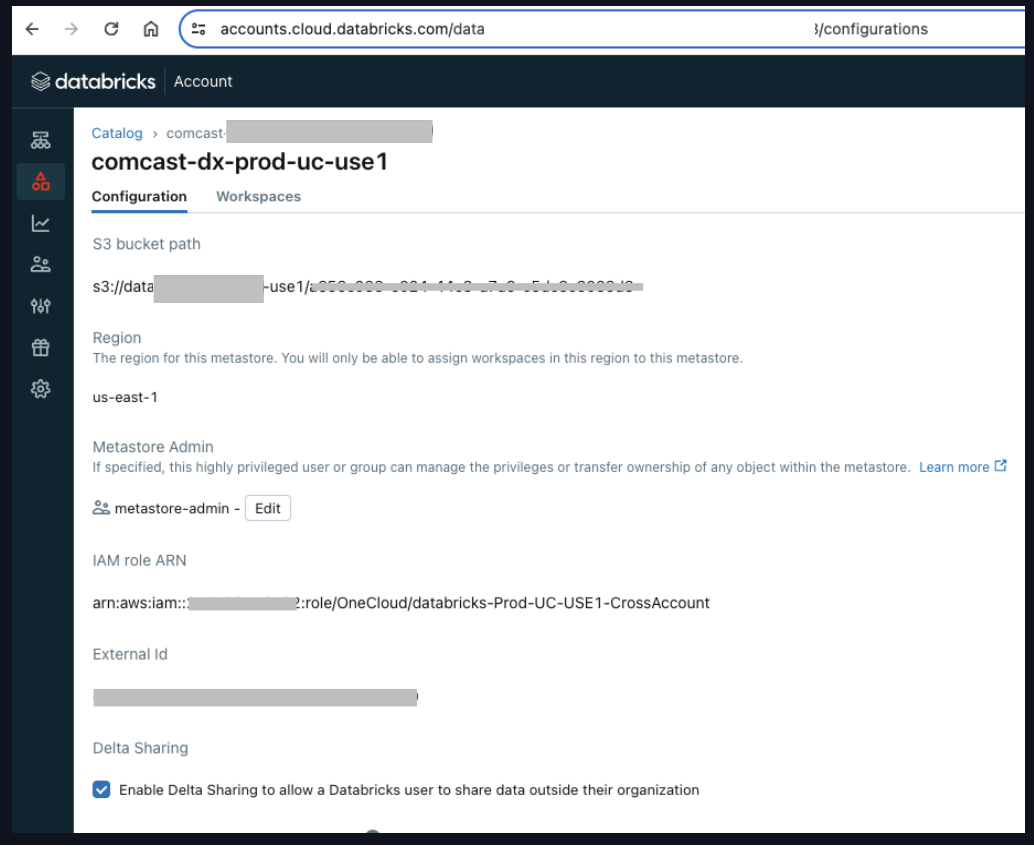


Create metastore and join workspaces

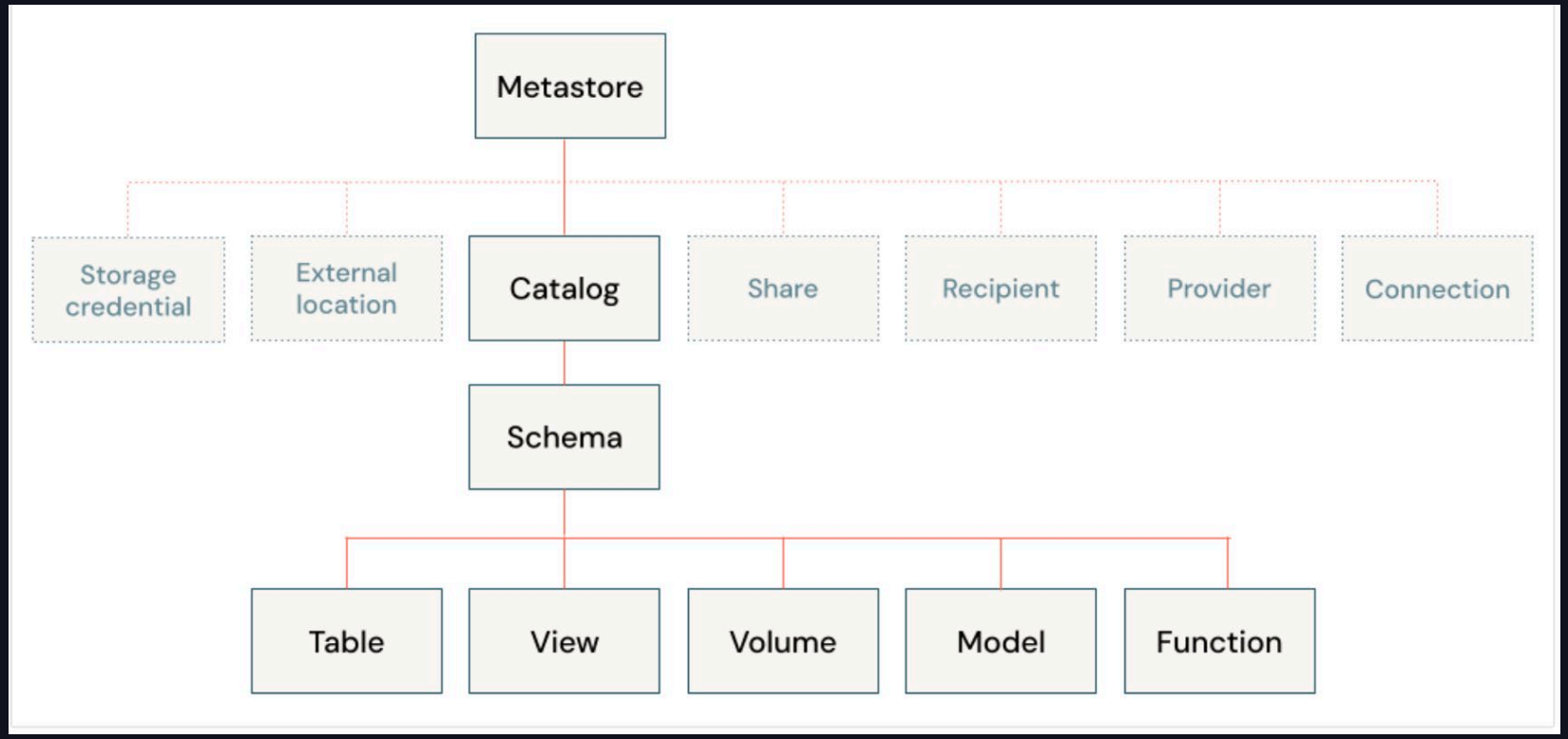
2

One Time Setup

- Create metastore
- Identity federation
- Join workspaces



UC Object Model

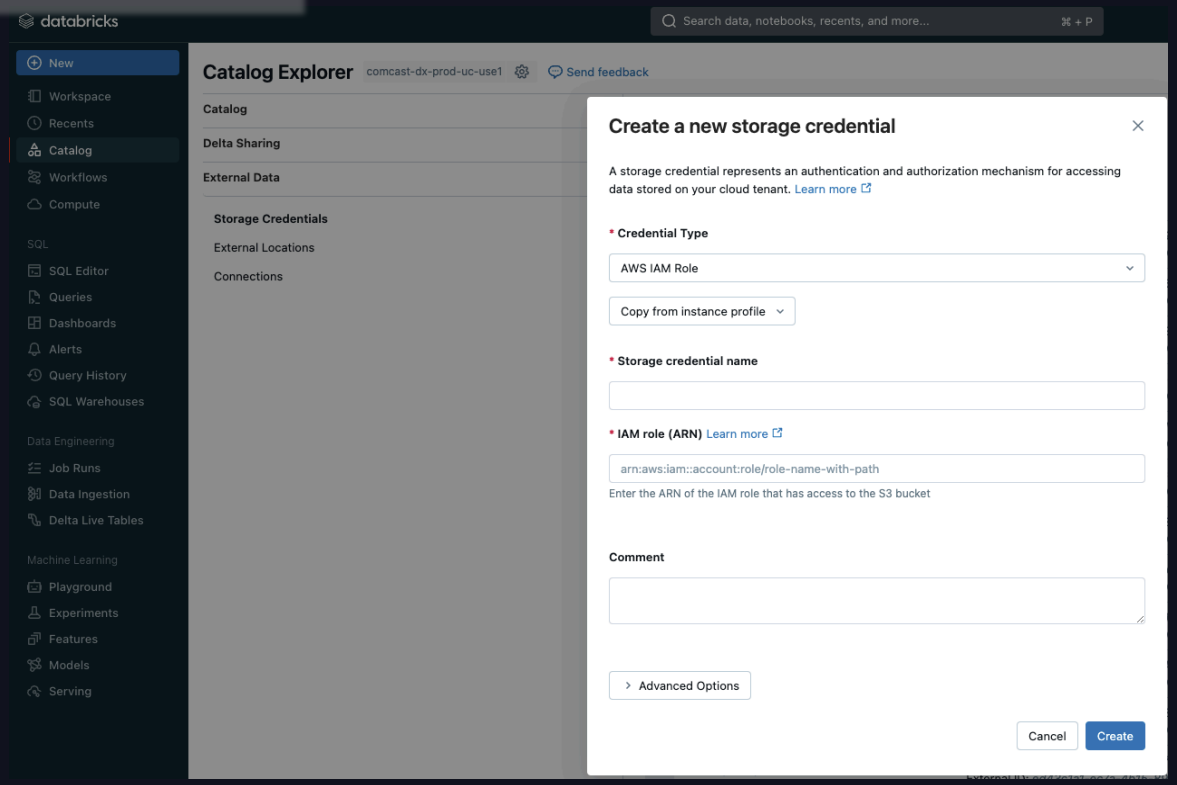


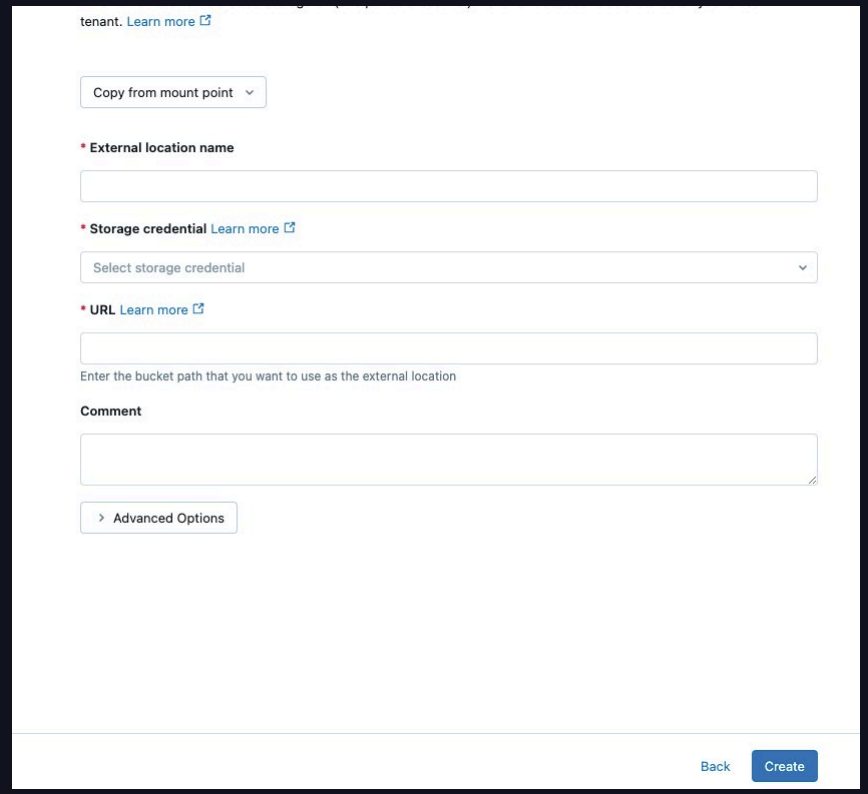
Create UC Objects (Storage Credential, External Locations)

3

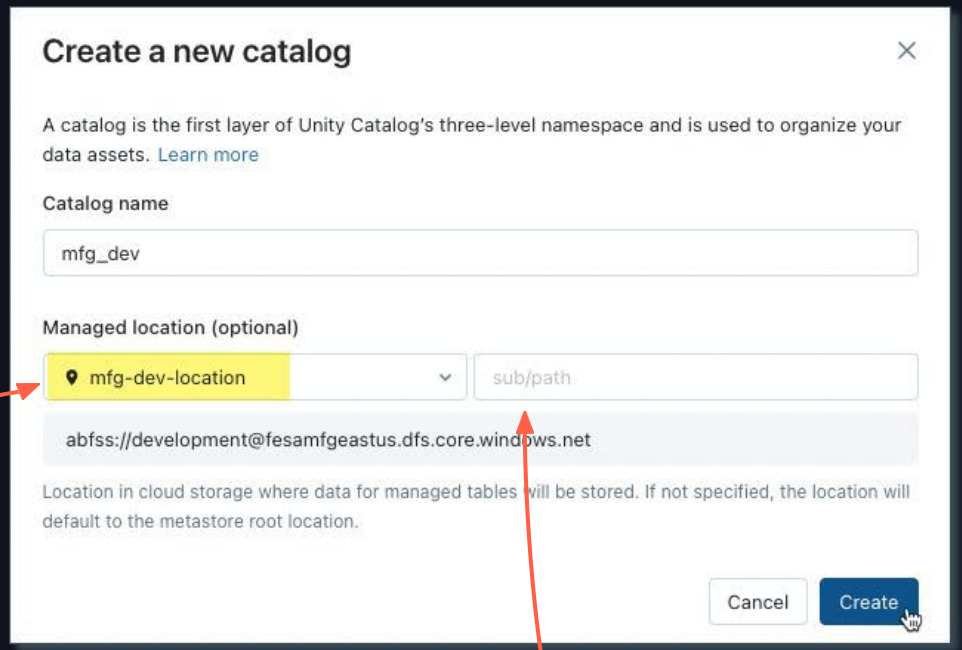
Create UC Objects

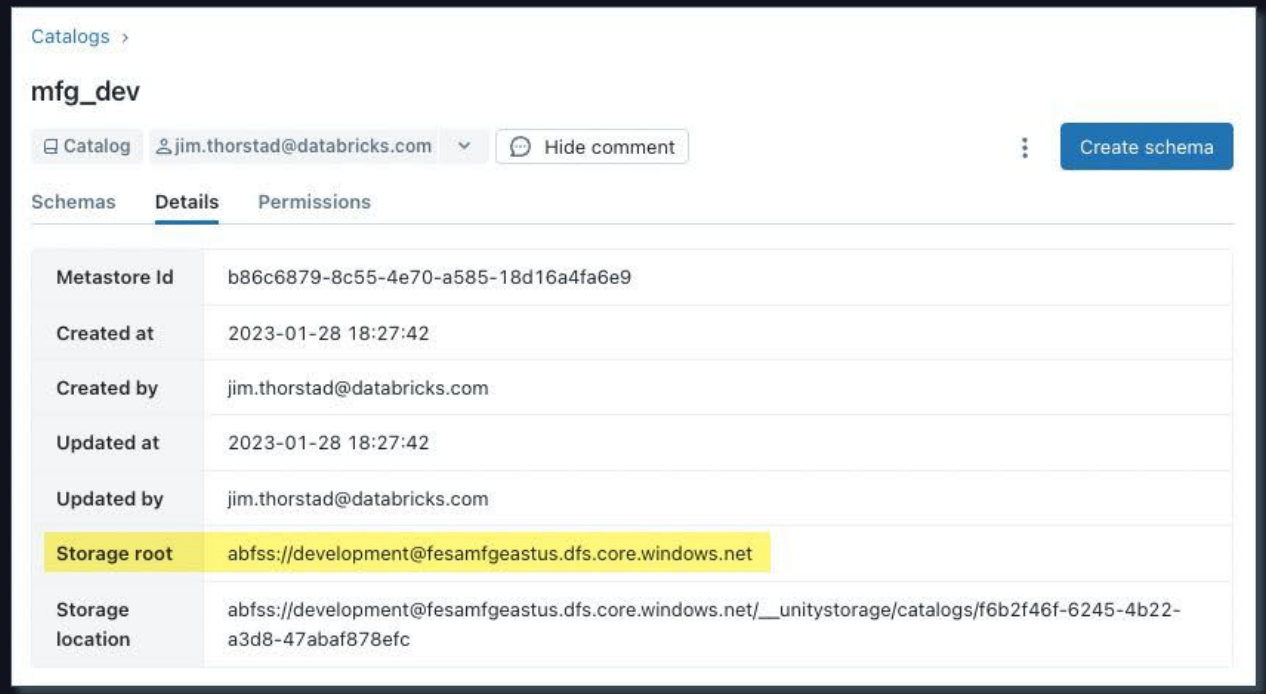
- Storage Credentials
- External locations
- Catalogs
- Set Owners





Managed Location for Catalogs- Storage based data isolation

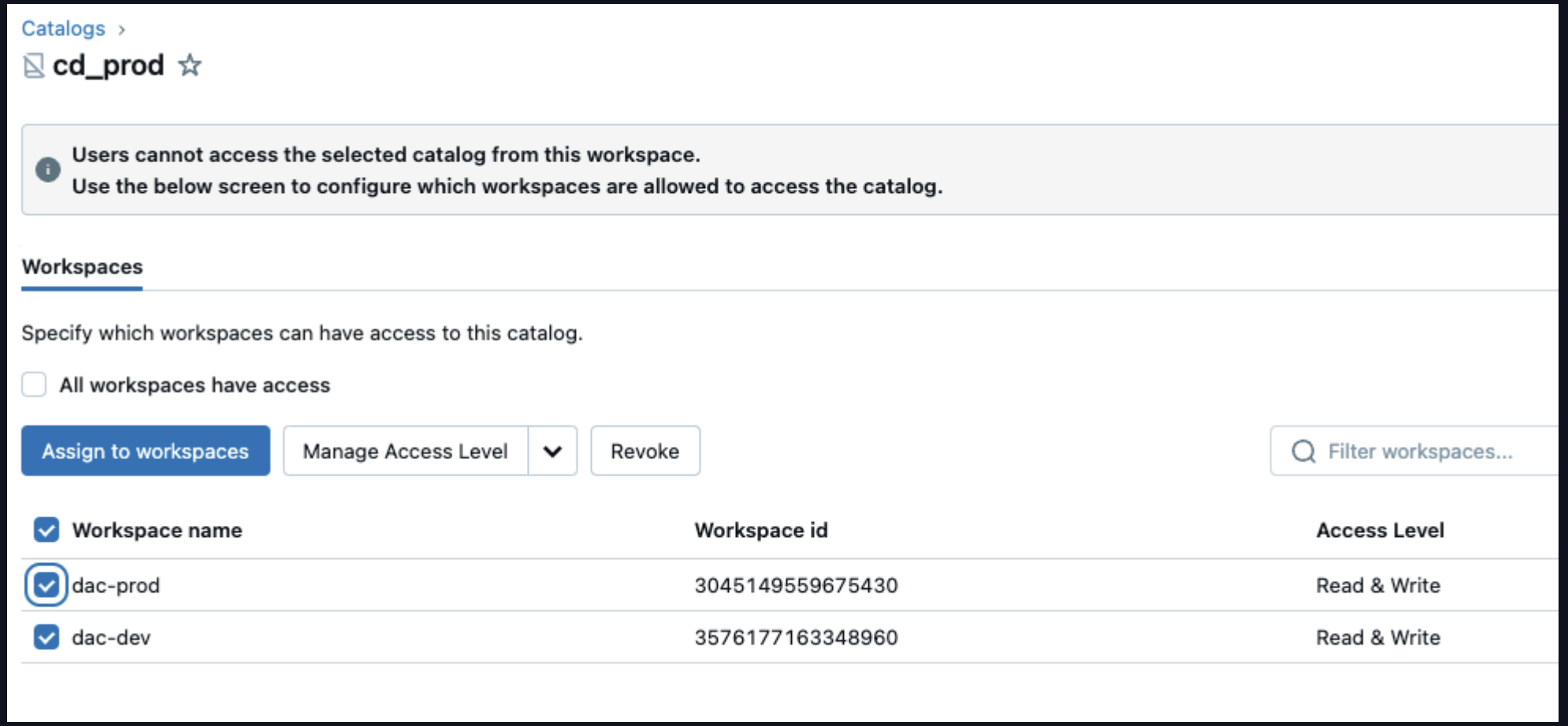




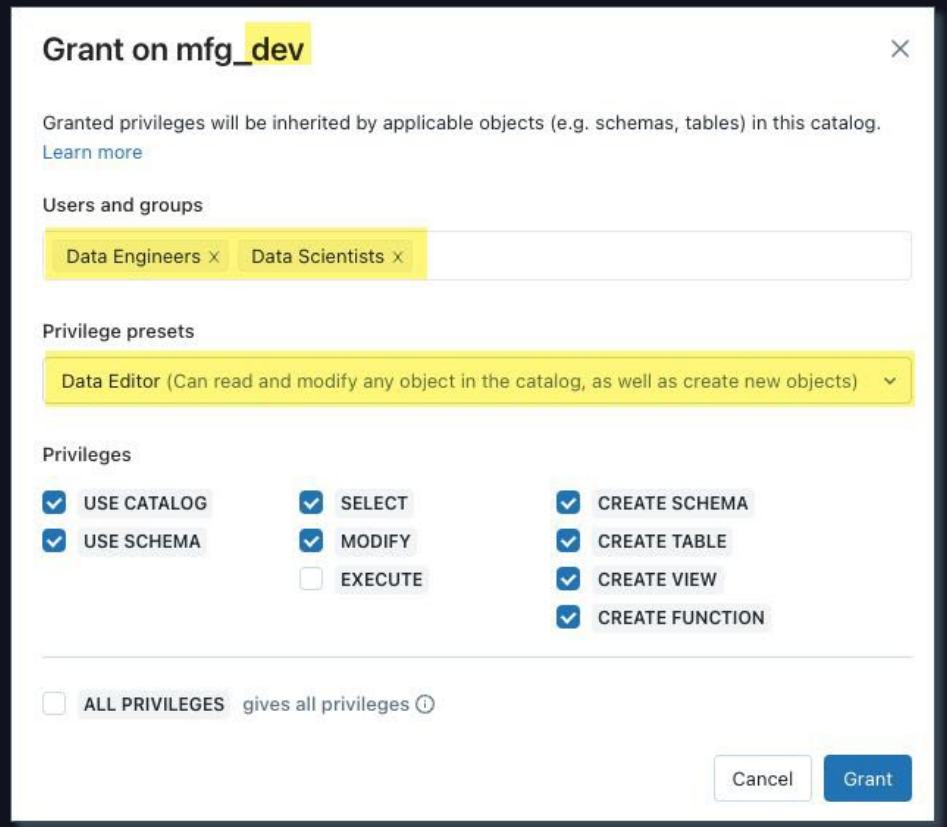
Must choose from previously configured External Locations

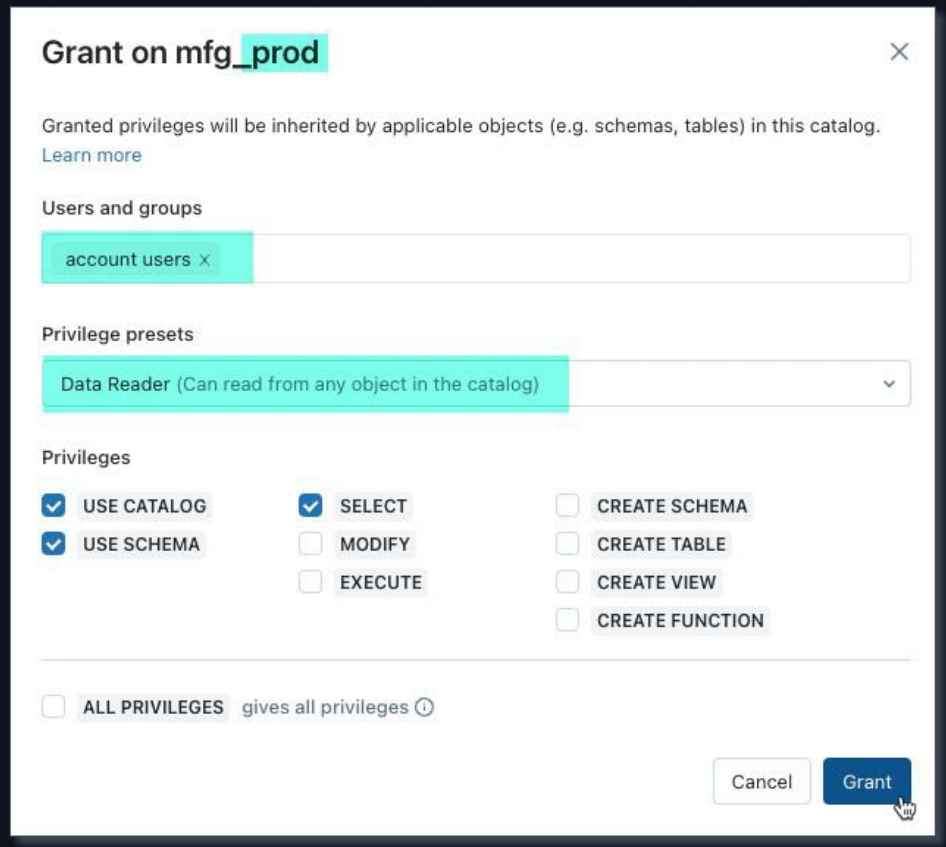
Optionally include sub folder/path

Catalog-Workspace binding – env based data isolation

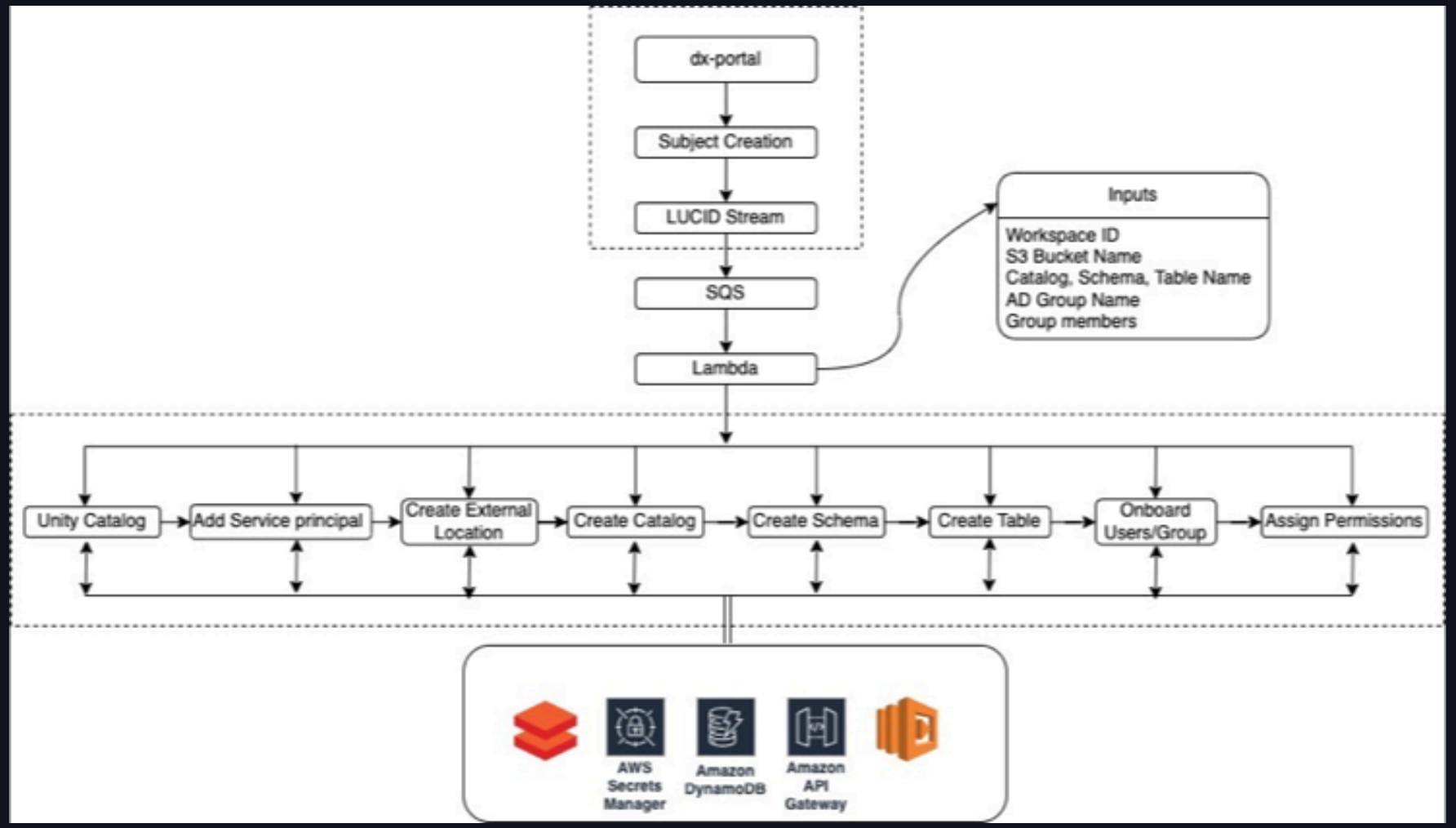


Assign group, user & service principal permissions - User based isolation





Unity Catalog Onboarding Automation Flow



Migrate Legacy Metadata

4

Migrate Legacy Metadata

- SYNC external tables/schemas
- Migrate managed tables, files

```
%sql
-- Sync an existing hive metastore table hive_metastore.default.my_tbl to a Unity Catalog
-- table named main.default.my_tbl.
> SYNC TABLE main.default.my_tbl FROM hive_metastore.default.my_tbl;
  source_schema source_name source_type target_catalog target_schema target_name status_code description
  ------------- ----------- ----------- -------------- -------------- ----------- ----------- ---------------------------------
  default       my_tbl      external    main           default        my_tbl      SUCCESS     Table main.default.my_tbl synced.

 -- Sync an existing managed hive metastore table hive_metastore.default.my_tbl to an external table named main.default.my_tbl in Unity Catalog.
> SYNC TABLE main.default.my_tbl AS EXTERNAL FROM hive_metastore.default.my_tbl;
  source_schema source_name source_type target_catalog target_schema target_name status_code description
  ------------- ----------- ----------- -------------- -------------- ----------- ----------- ---------------------------------
  default       my_tbl      managed     main           default        my_tbl      SUCCESS     Table main.default.my_tbl synced.

-- SYNC a table in DRY RUN mode to evaluate the upgradability of the hive metastore table.
> SYNC TABLE main.default.my_tbl FROM hive_metastore.default.my_tbl DRY RUN;
  source_schema source_name source_type target_catalog target_schema target_name status_code     description
  ------------- ----------- ----------- -------------- -------------- ----------- ----------------- ---------------------------------
  default       my_tbl      external    main           default        my_tbl      DRY_RUN_SUCCESS

-- SYNC all the eligible tables in schema hive_metastore.mydb to a Unity Catalog schema main.my_db_uc.
-- The upgraded tables in main.my_db_uc will be owned by alf@melmak.et
> SYNC SCHEMA main.my_db_uc FROM hive_metastore.my_db SET OWNER `alf@melmak.et`;
  source_schema source_name source_type target_catalog target_schema target_name status_code description
  ------------- ----------- ----------- -------------- -------------- ----------- ----------- ---------------------------------
  ...

-- DRY RUN mode of SYNC SCHEMA to evaluate all the tables in a schema
-- hive_metastore.mydb for upgrading to Unity Catalog.
> SYNC SCHEMA main.my_db_uc FROM hive_metastore.my_db DRY RUN;
  source_schema source_name source_type target_catalog target_schema target_name status_code     description
  ------------- ----------- ----------- -------------- -------------- ----------- ----------------- ---------------------------------
  ...

-- Sync all tables including managed tables in a schema hive_metastore.mydb
-- as external tables in Unity Catalog.
> SYNC SCHEMA main.my_db_uc AS EXTERNAL FROM hive_metastore.my_db;
  source_schema source_name source_type target_catalog target_schema target_name status_code     description
  ------------- ----------- ----------- -------------- -------------- ----------- ----------------- ---------------------------------
  ...
```

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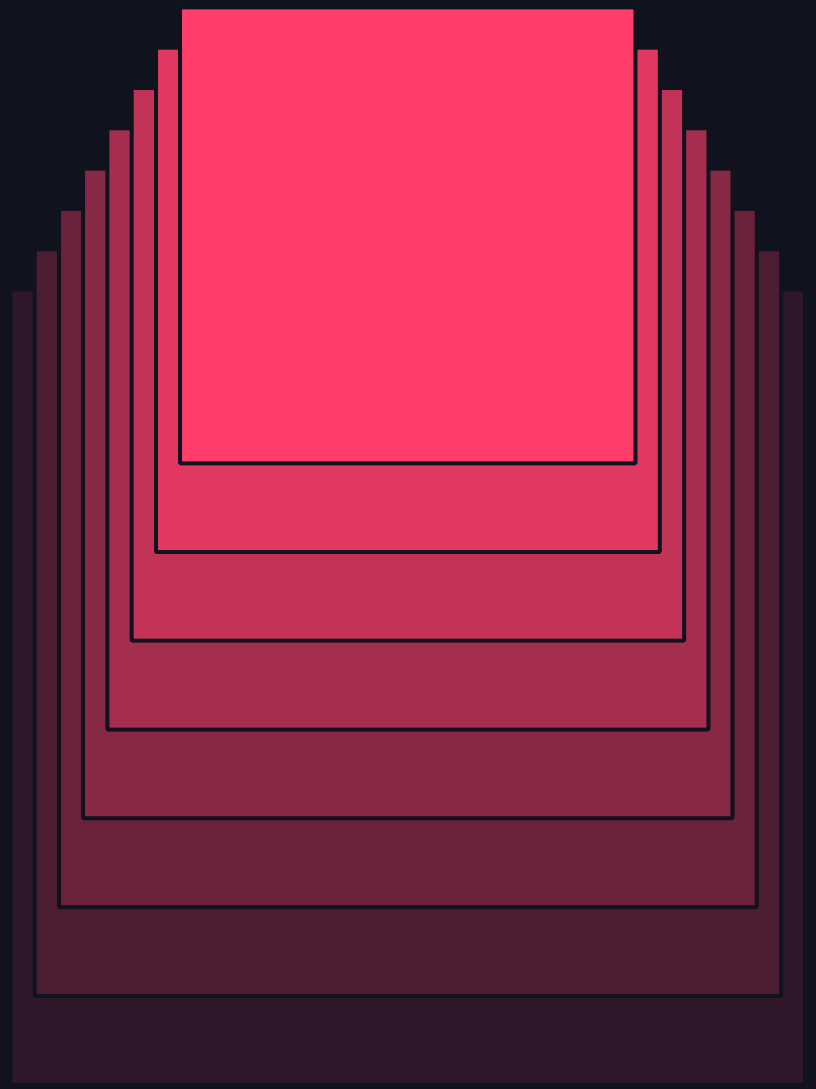
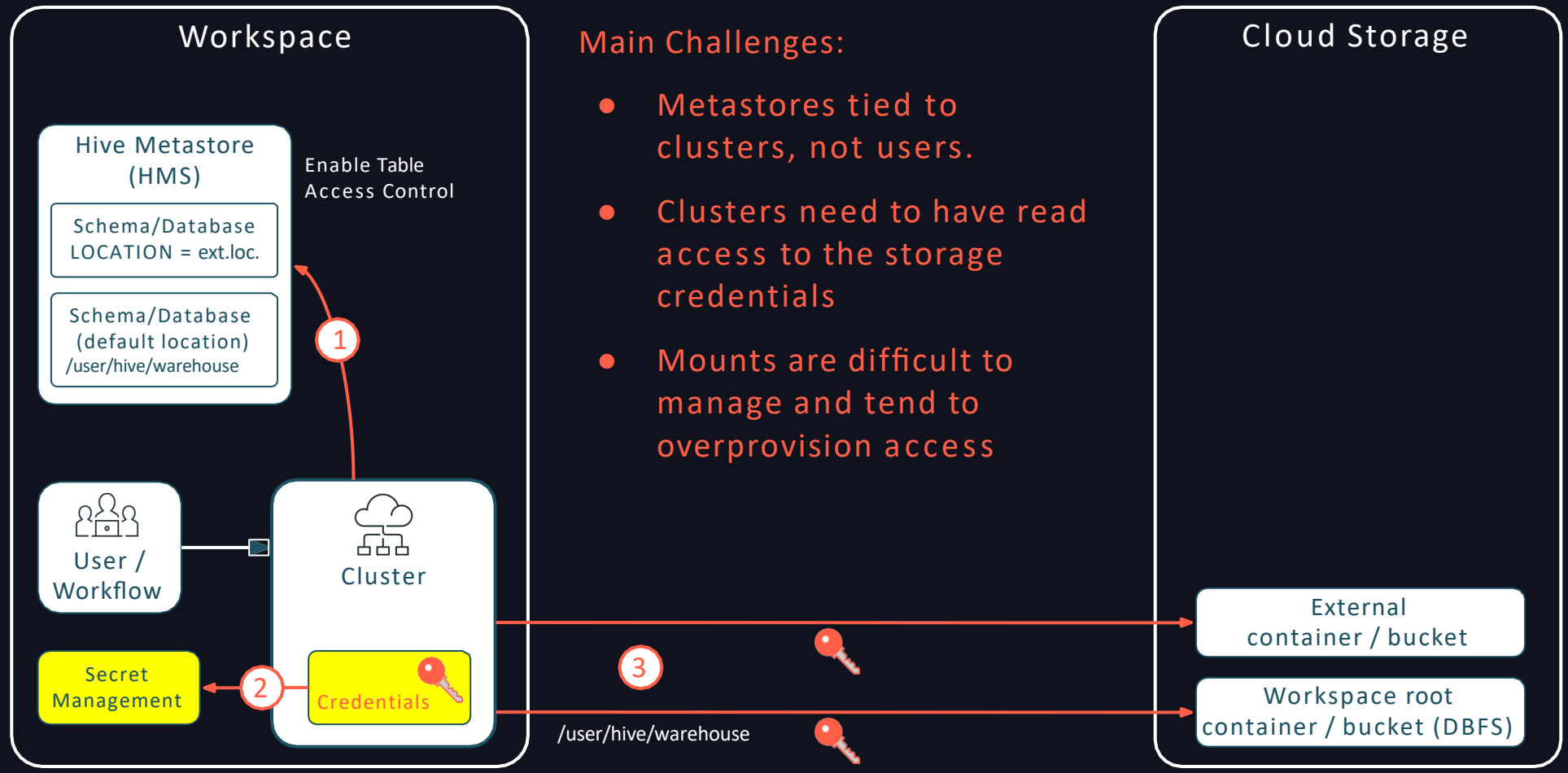
Data Governance & Security



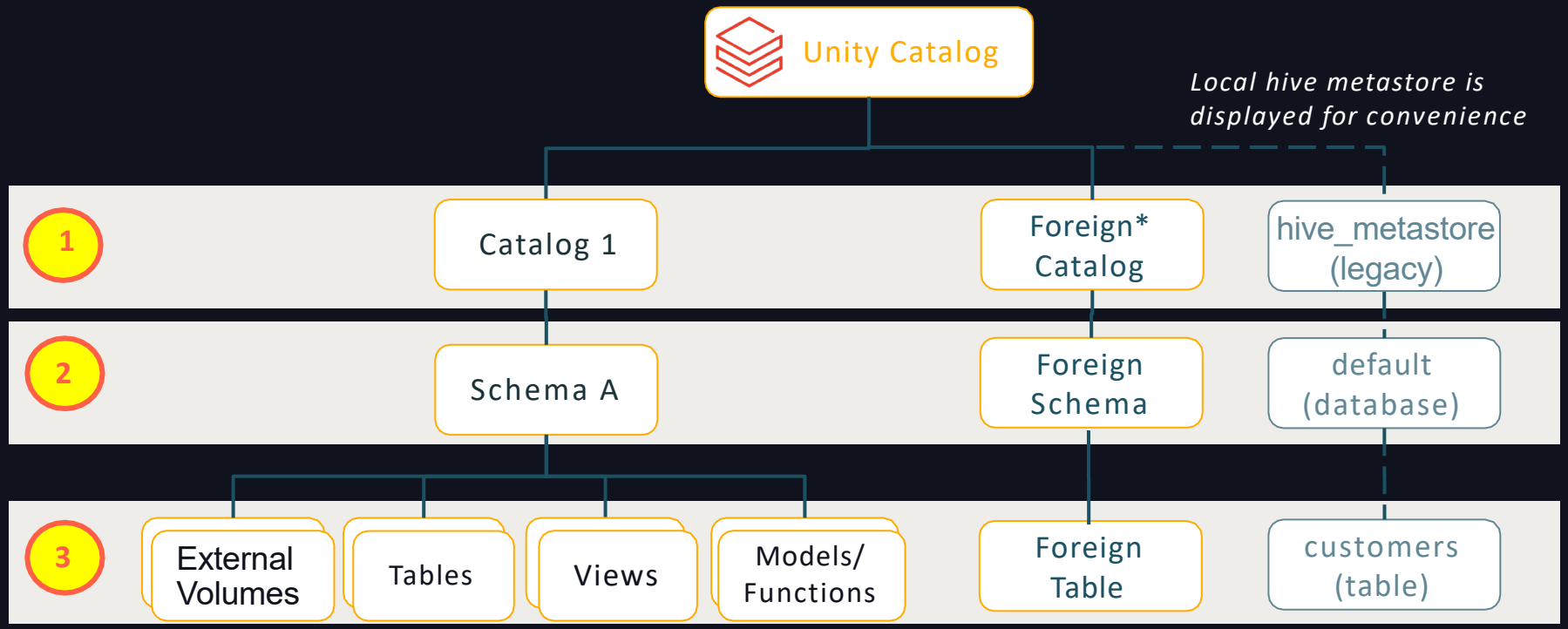
Hive metastore table access control (legacy)

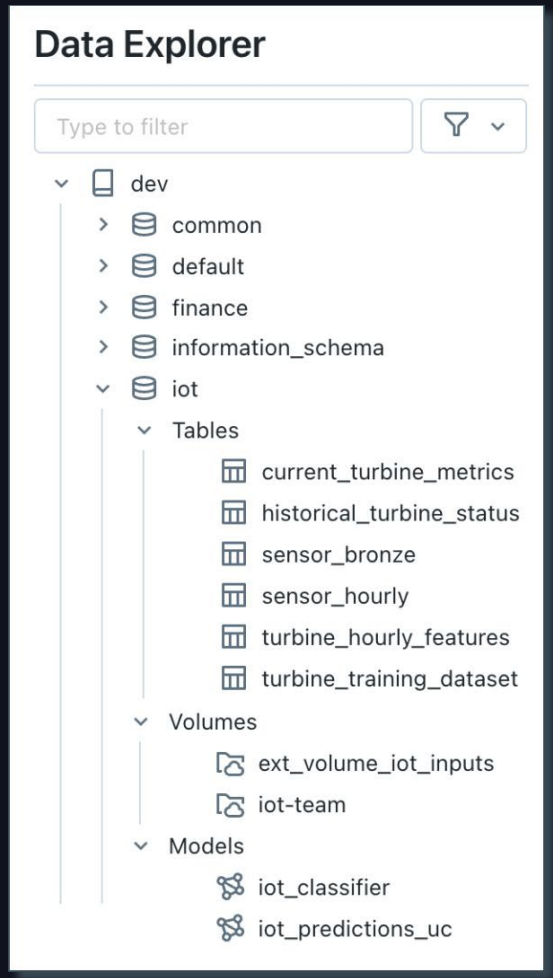


Main Challenges:

- Metastores tied to clusters, not users.
- Clusters need to have read access to the storage credentials
- Mounts are difficult to manage and tend to overprovision access

Legacy data access VS Three level namespace

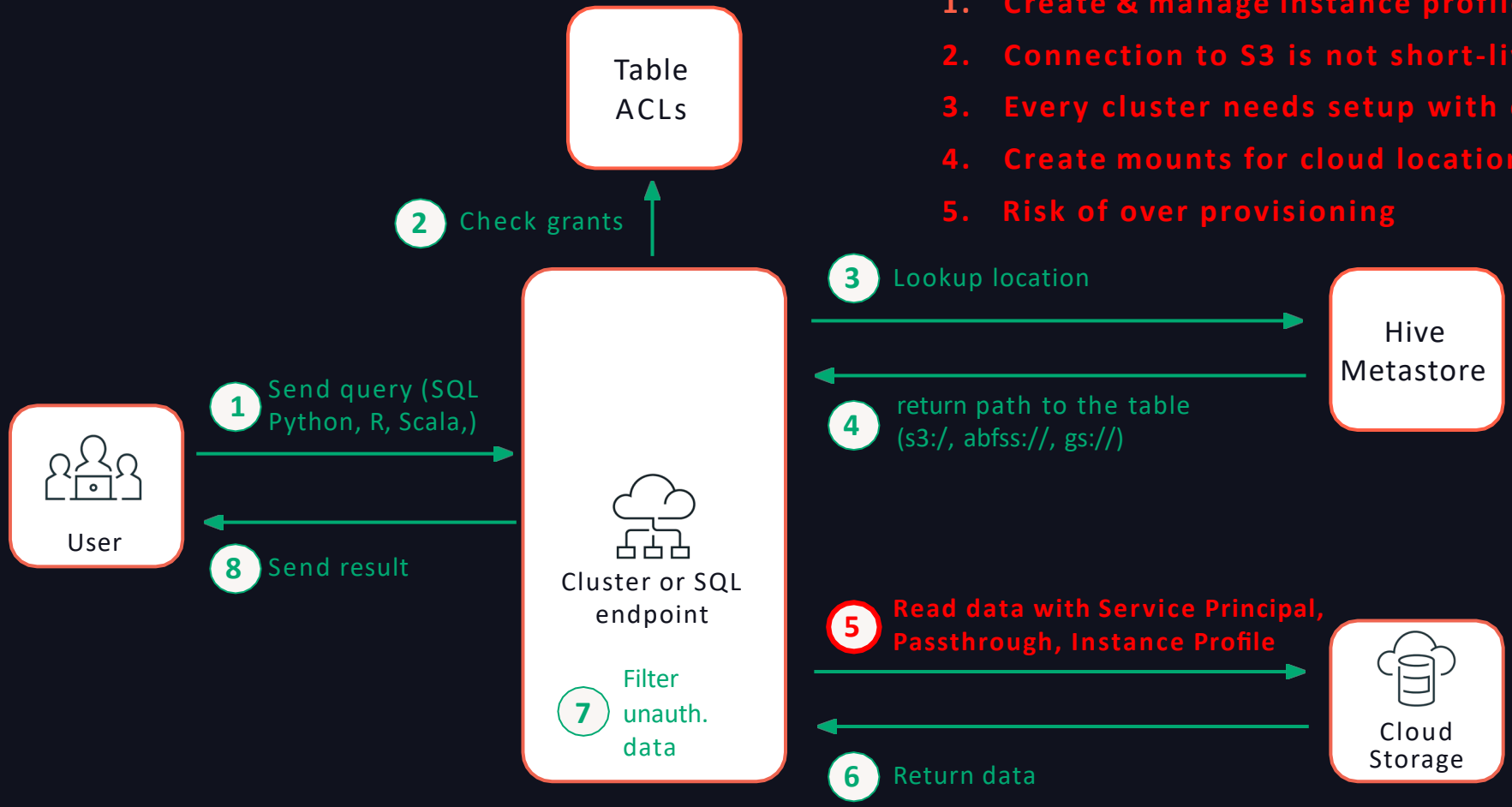





```
With UC: SELECT * FROM dev.iot.sensor_bronze;  <catalog>.<database>.<table>
Without UC: SELECT * FROM hive_metastore.default.customers;
```

IAM role credential passthrough (Legacy)

Difficult to administer; overprovisioned access

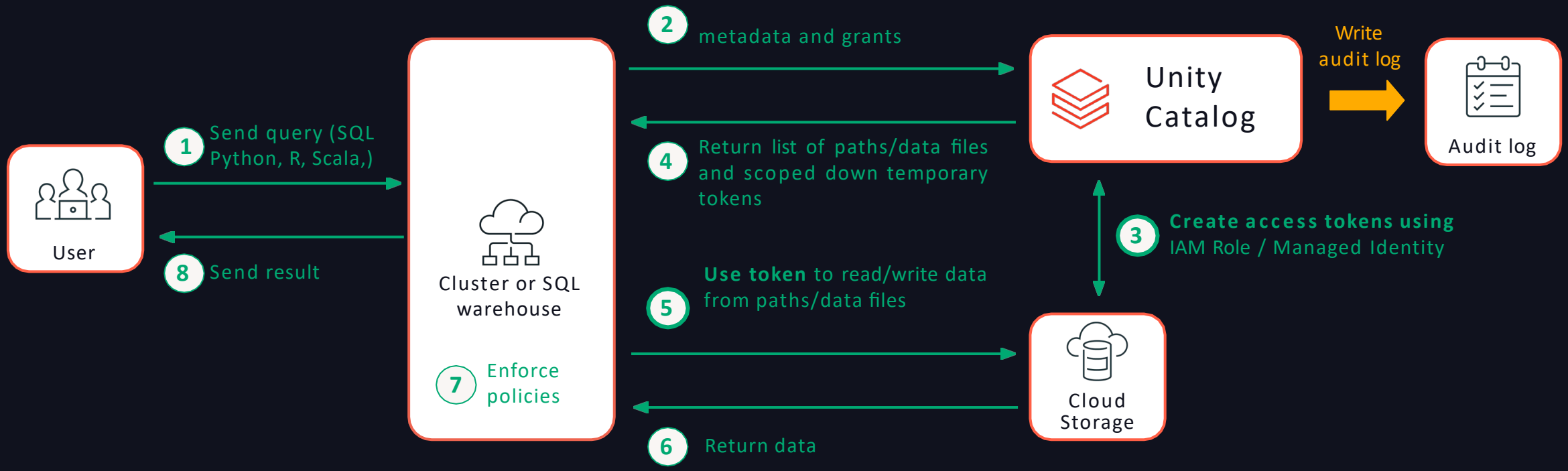


1. Create & manage instance profiles
2. Connection to S3 is not short-lived.
3. Every cluster needs setup with configs and instance profile
4. Create mounts for cloud locations
5. Risk of over provisioning

Need to configure spark.conf properties/instance profiles on clusters, configure table ACLs on each workspace, mounts are inflexible…

Life of a query with Unity Catalog

1. **No longer any need for Instance Profiles, Mounts, Secret Scopes, Spark.conf settings**
2. **No cluster level configs required.**
3. **Storage cred, External locations configured only once and can be used from any workspace**
4. **Data access for authorized users/service principals is via down scoped, short-lived, OAuth tokens**



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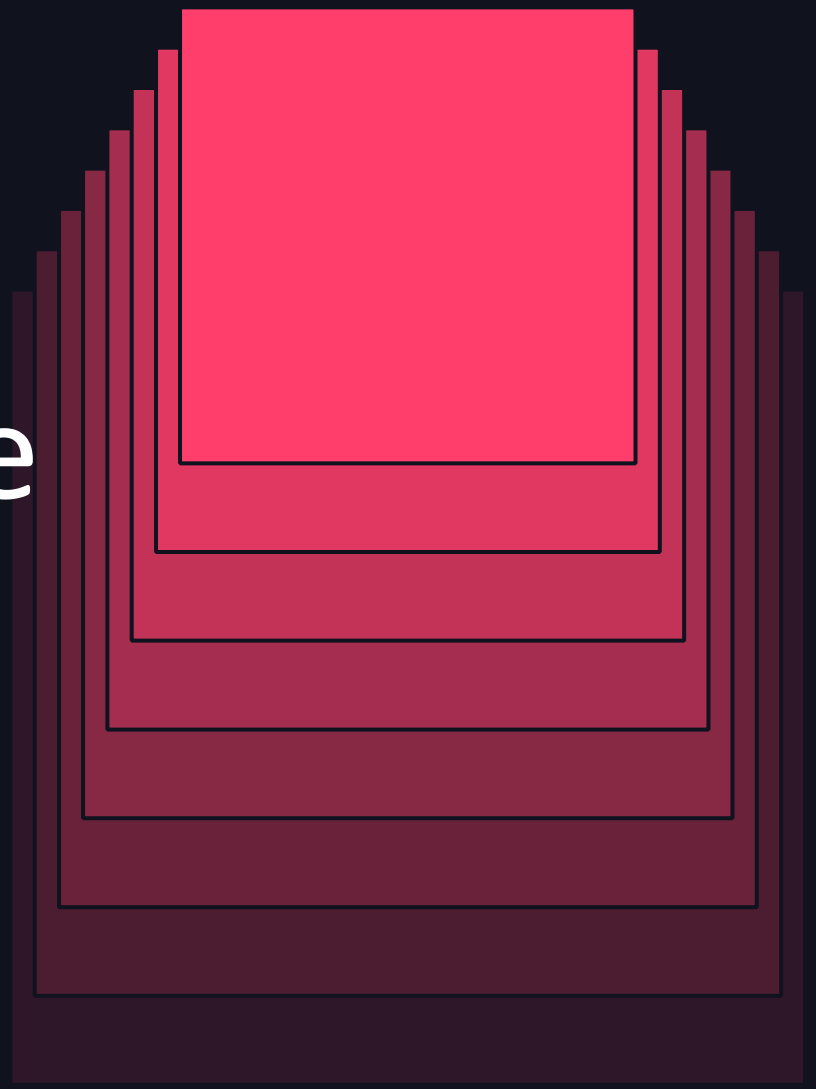
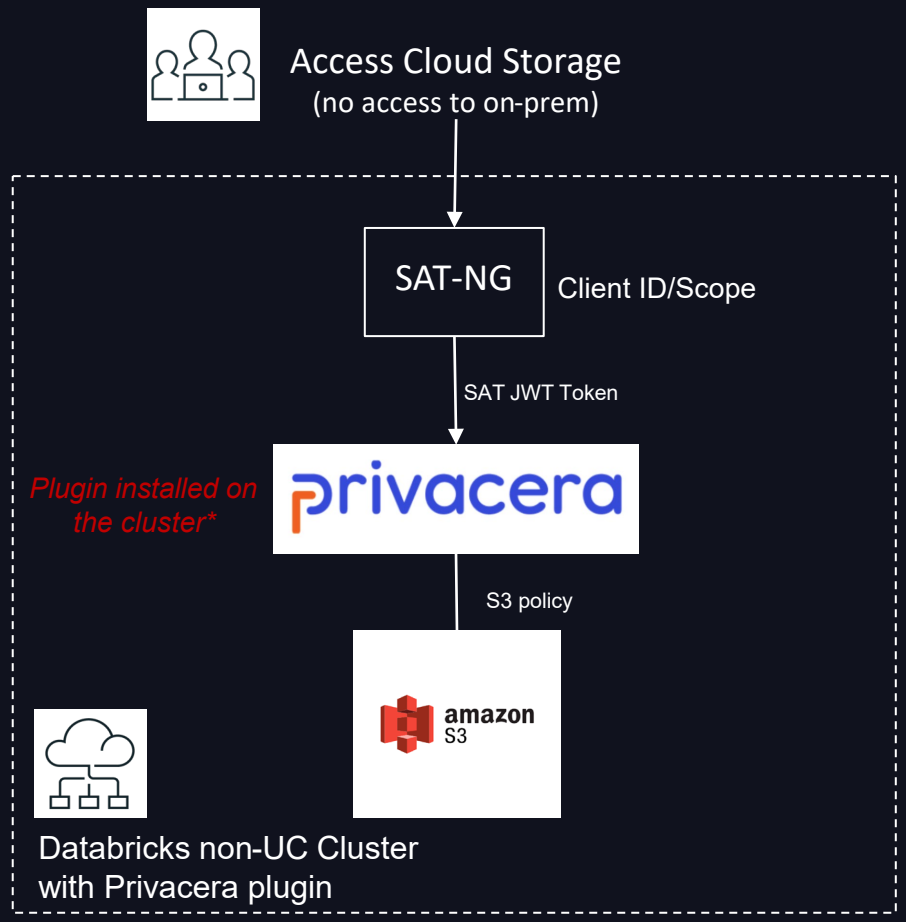
Secure access to Data Lake & On-prem Data



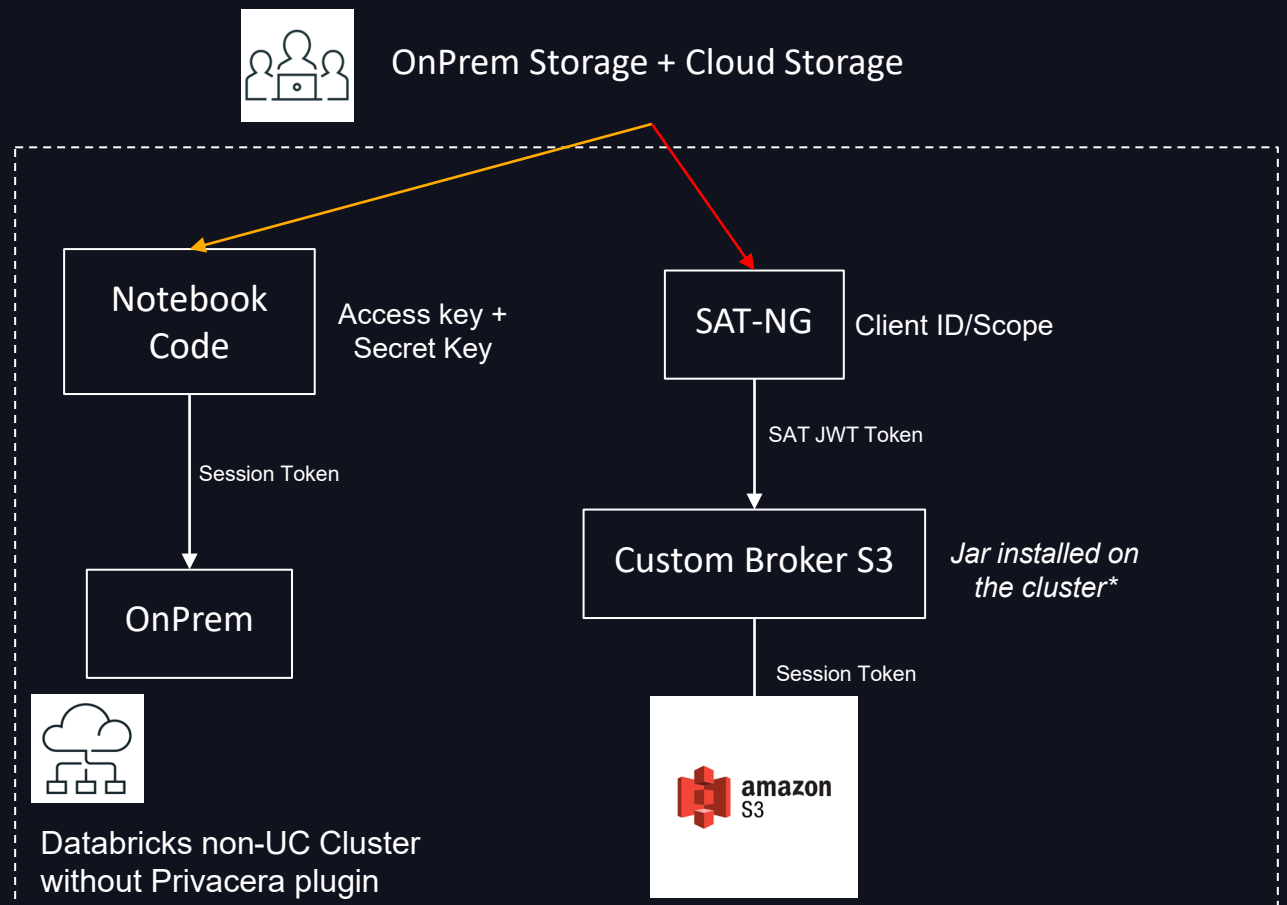
Pre-UC:MULTIPLE ACCESS PATTERNS

Privacera



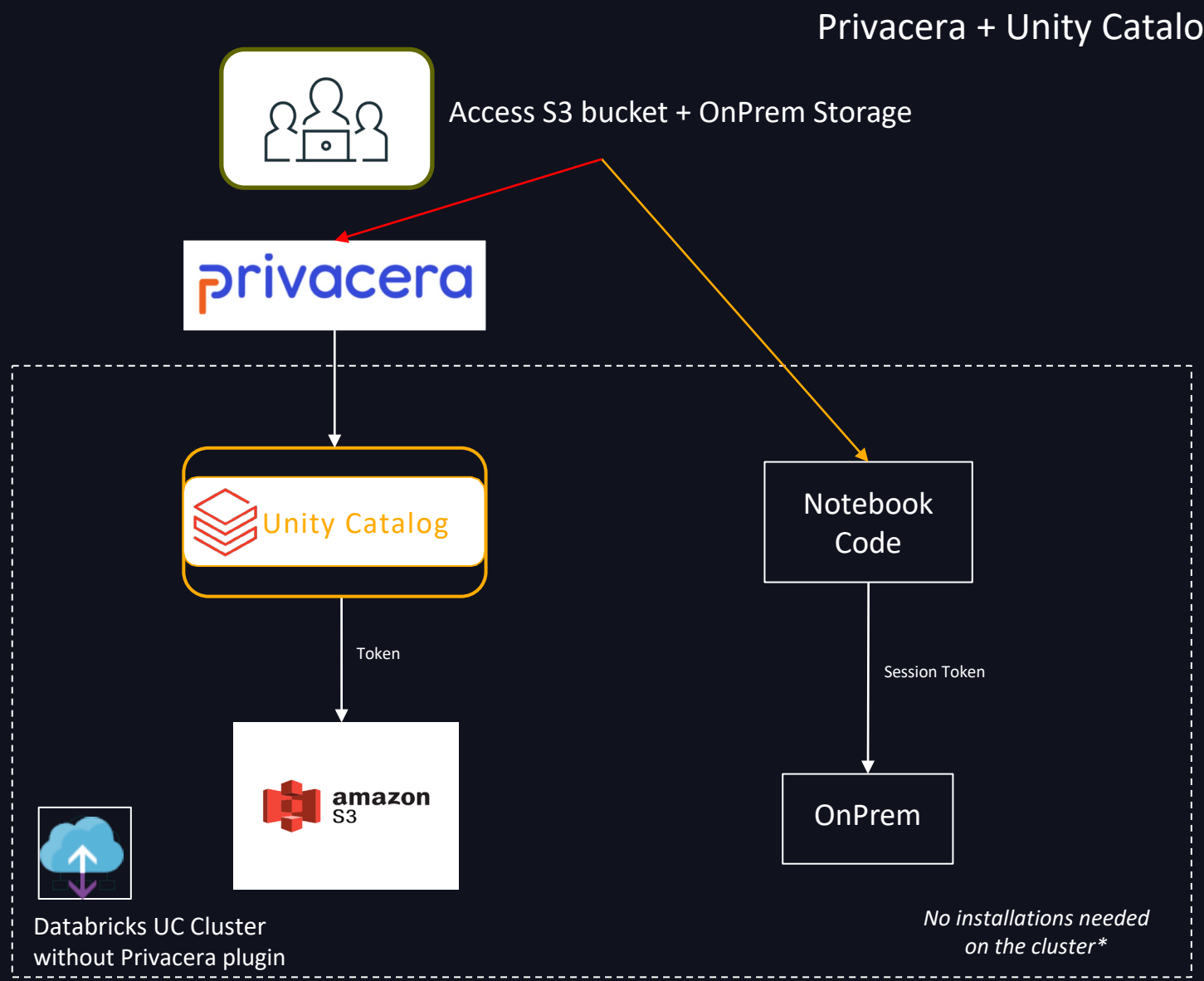
Involves SAT portal that generates the JWT token
Authentication via JWT Token. No user level Identity
Any user with the token can access the data
Privacera needs to be installed on the cluster
User can't access minIO and non-DX S3 buckets

Custom Broker



Doesn't integrate with Privacera
Involves SAT portal that generates the JWT token
Authentication via JWT Token. No user level Identity
Any user with the token can access the data
Custom Broker Jar needs to be installed on the cluster
No fine-grained access

Post UC - SINGLE ACCESS PATTERN

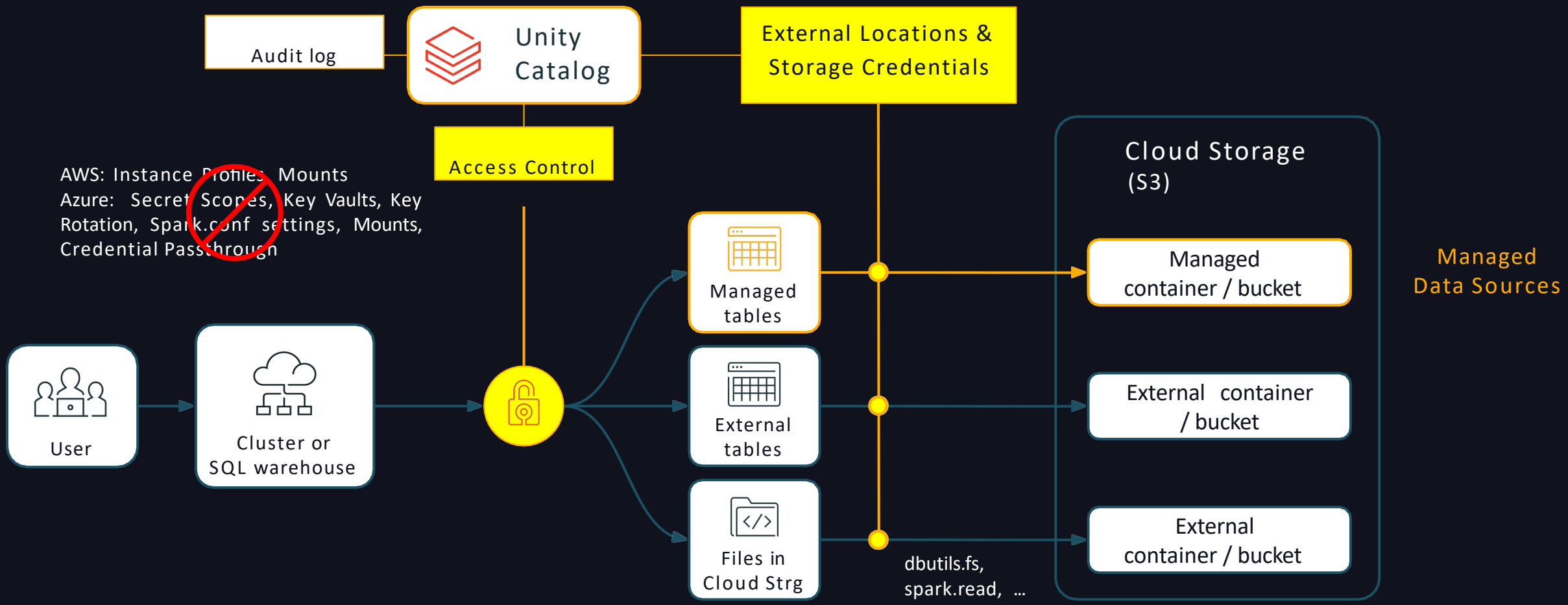


Highlights:

- User's own identity will be used for data access. Hence, Governance can be managed without JWT tokens and clientID
- Integrates with Privacera and at the same time lets users access On-prem and non-DX S3 buckets
- No installations needed on the cluster

Managed Data Sources & External Locations

Simplify data access management across clouds



Comparison of Managed and External UC Tables

Consider the benefits of Managed tables

Characteristic	Managed	**Unmanaged** (a.k.a. "External")
Table's **Type** Property Value	"MANAGED"	"EXTERNAL"
DROP Table Behavior	**Deletes** the associated data • Generally what business analysts (SQL users) expect	Only deletes metadata. Does not delete the underlying S3 data. • May be helpful in certain use cases
Create Table Syntax	`CREATE TABLE [<catalog>.][<schema>.]<table> ( <column_specification>;`	`CREATE TABLE [<catalog>.][<schema>.]<table> ( <column_specification>` `LOCATION 'abfss:/cont@stacct.dfs.core.windows.net' ;`
Data File Location	Whichever is found first: • Location specified for the database (if specified) • Location specified for the catalog (if specified) • Metastore default managed storage location	The path specified by the LOCATION keyword in your create table statement
Performance Optimizations	**Auto Tune** (In Preview)	Manually managed by the customer
Data Format Support	DELTA	DELTA, CSV, JSON, AVRO, PARQUET, ORC, TEXT

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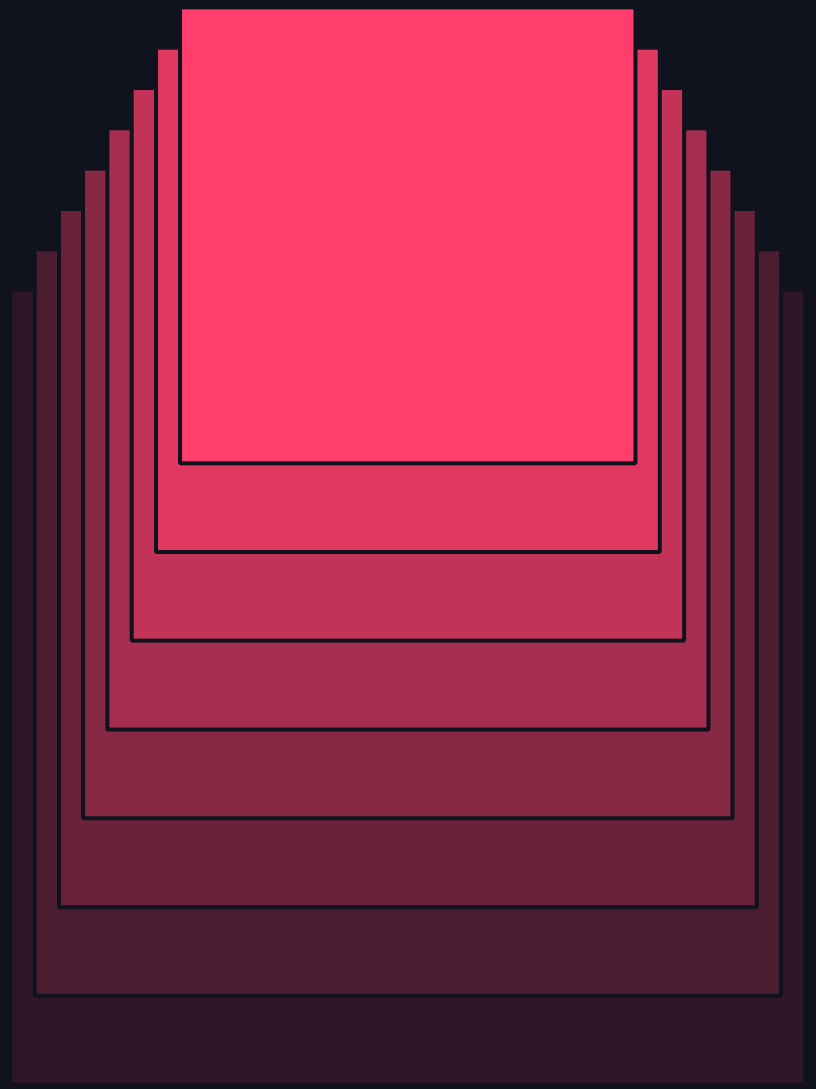
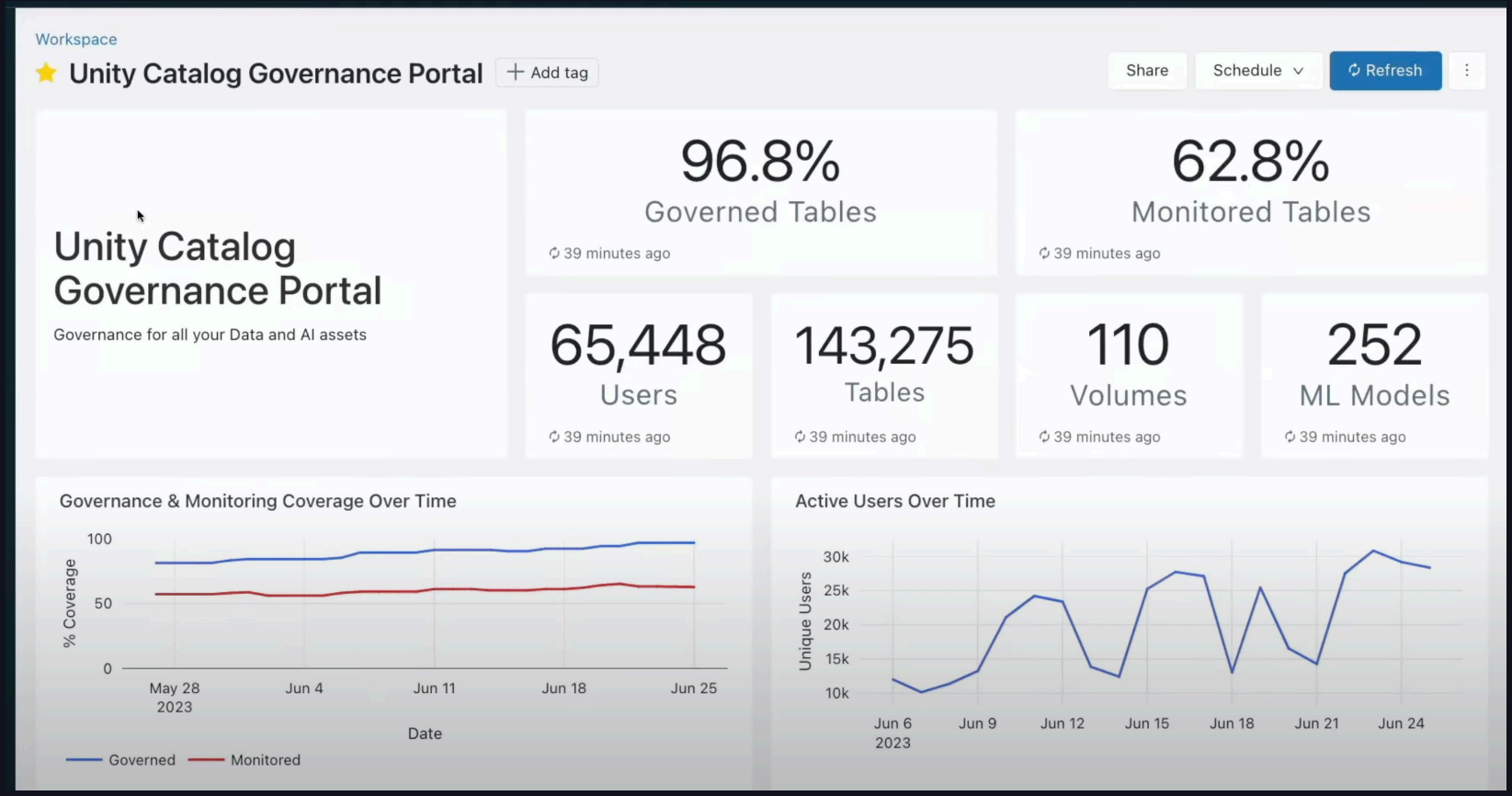
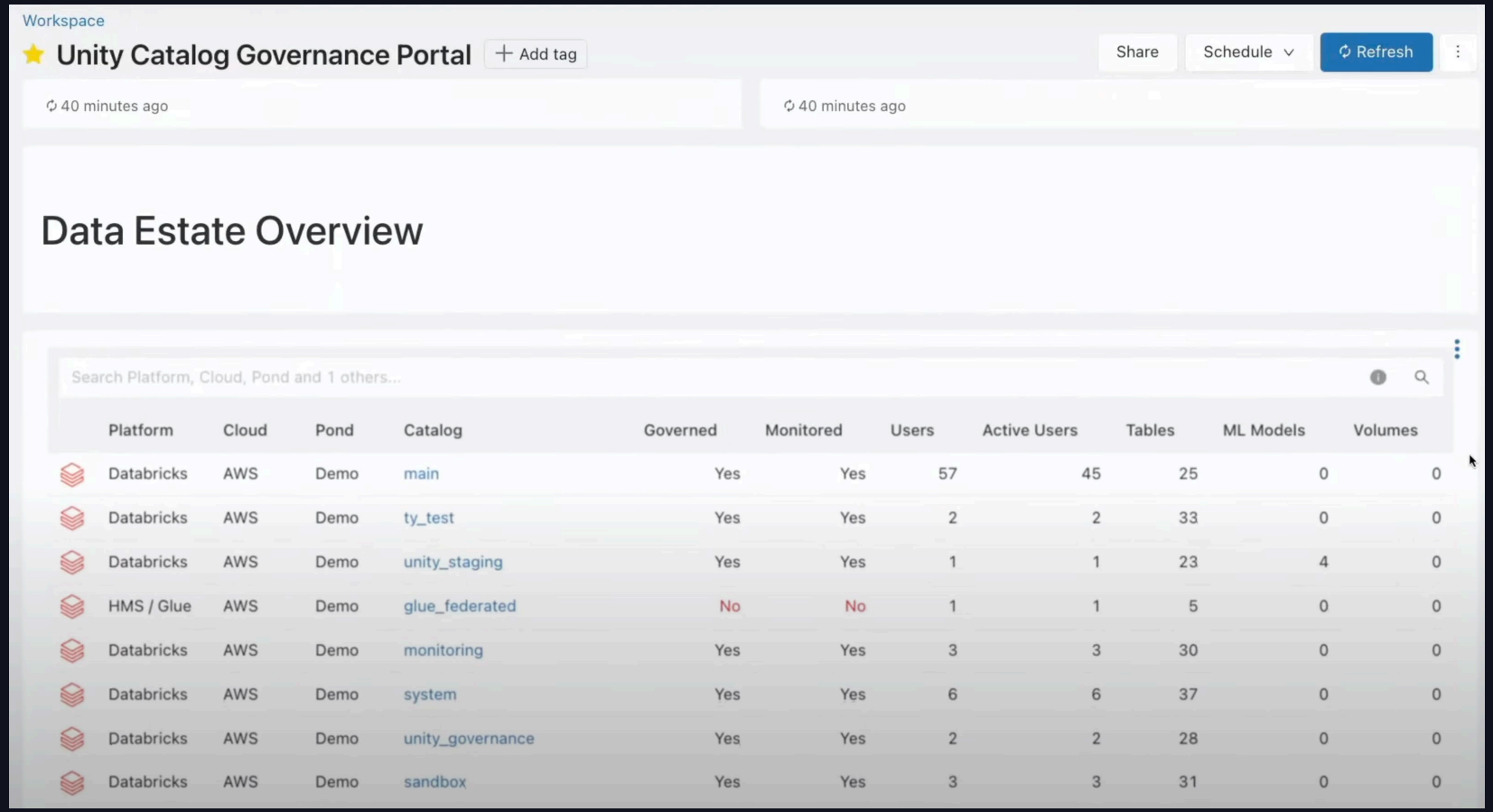
Data Management & Observability



Unity Catalog Governance Portal



Unity Catalog Governance Portal



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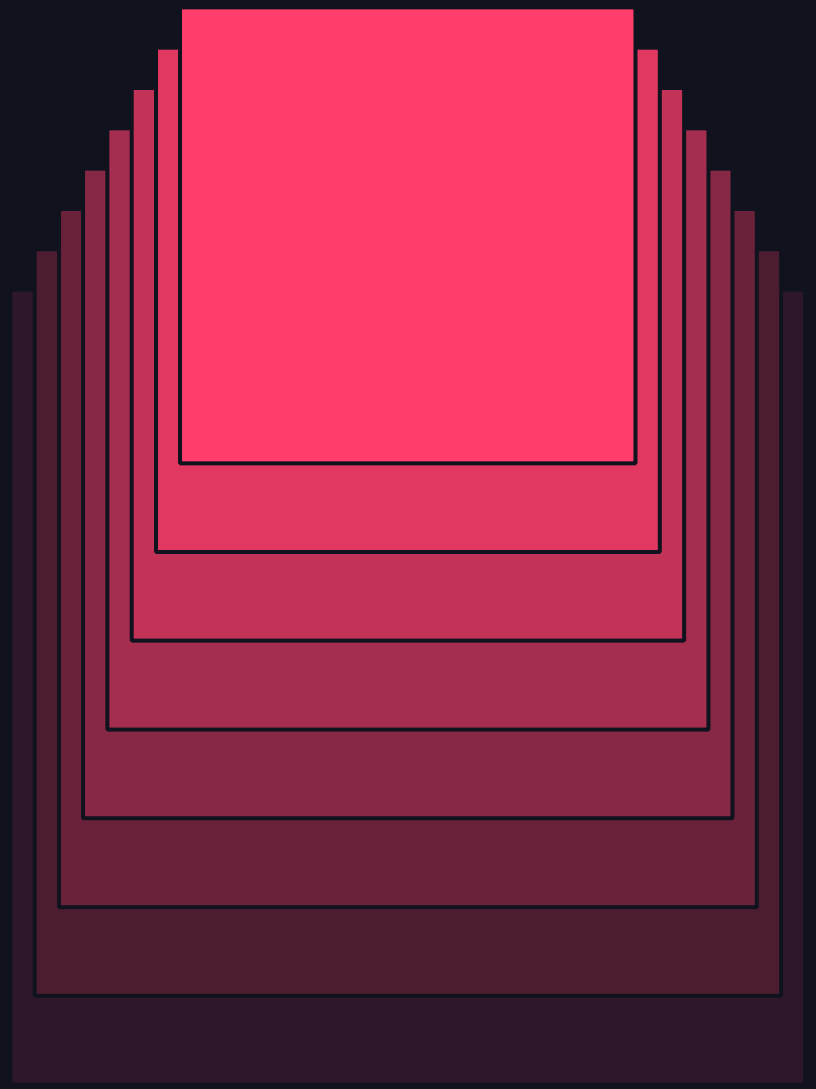
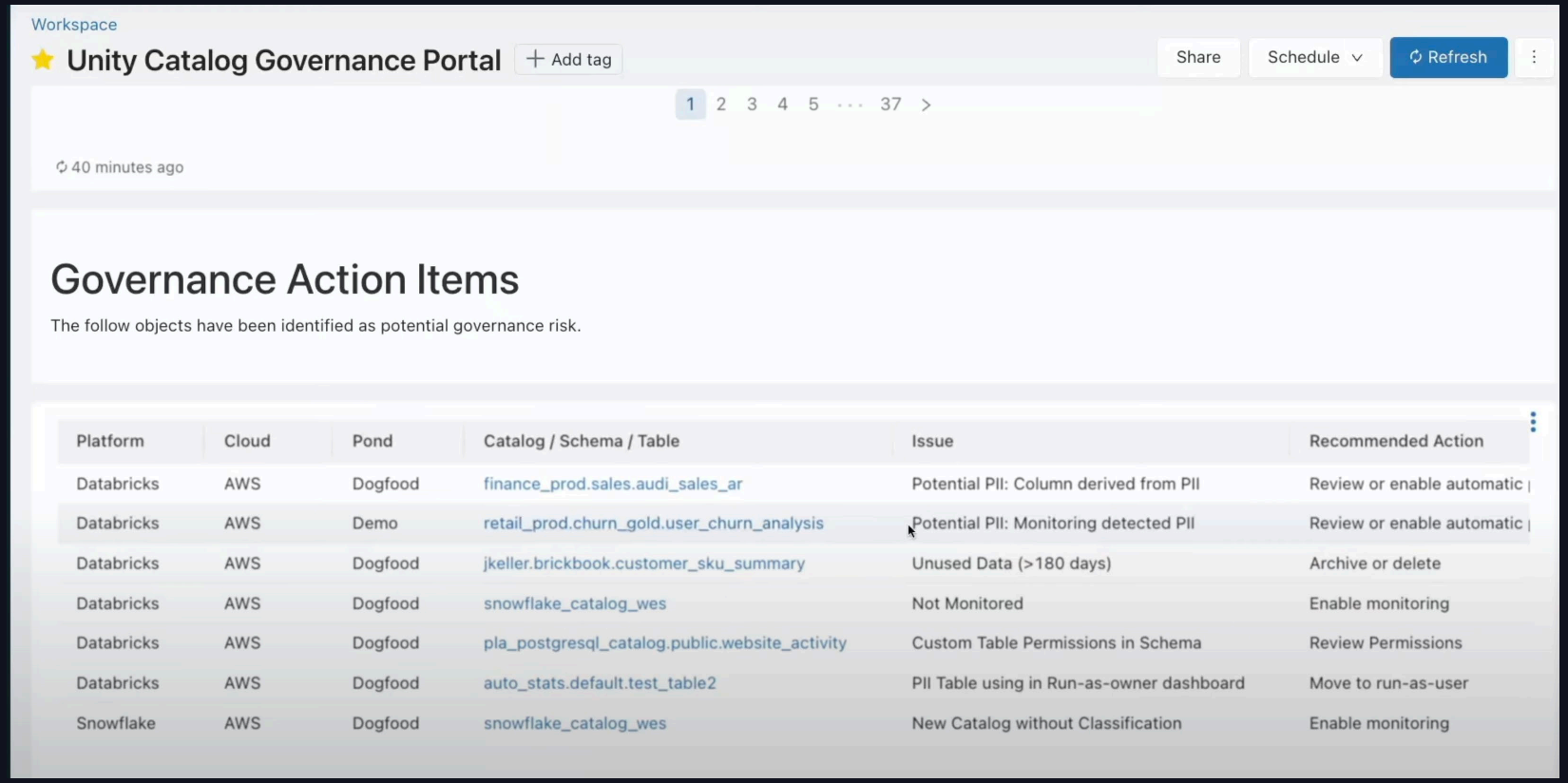
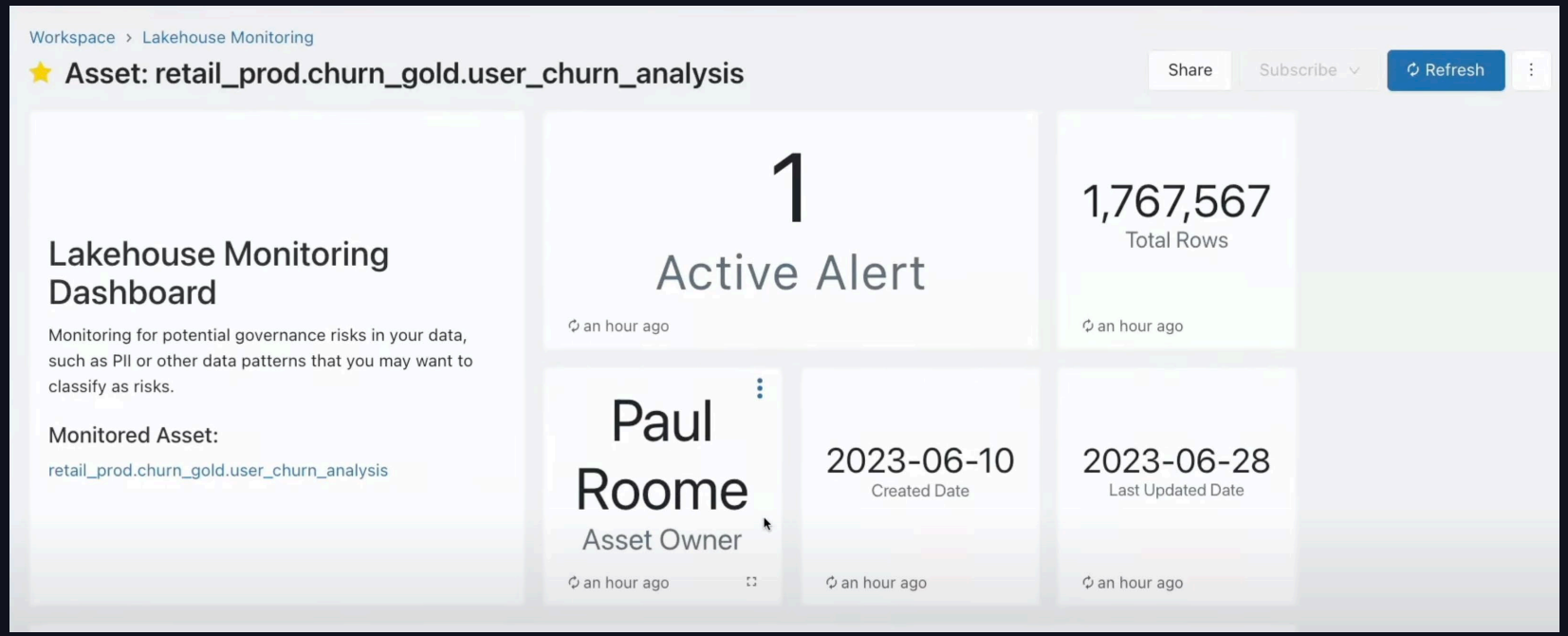
AI for Governance



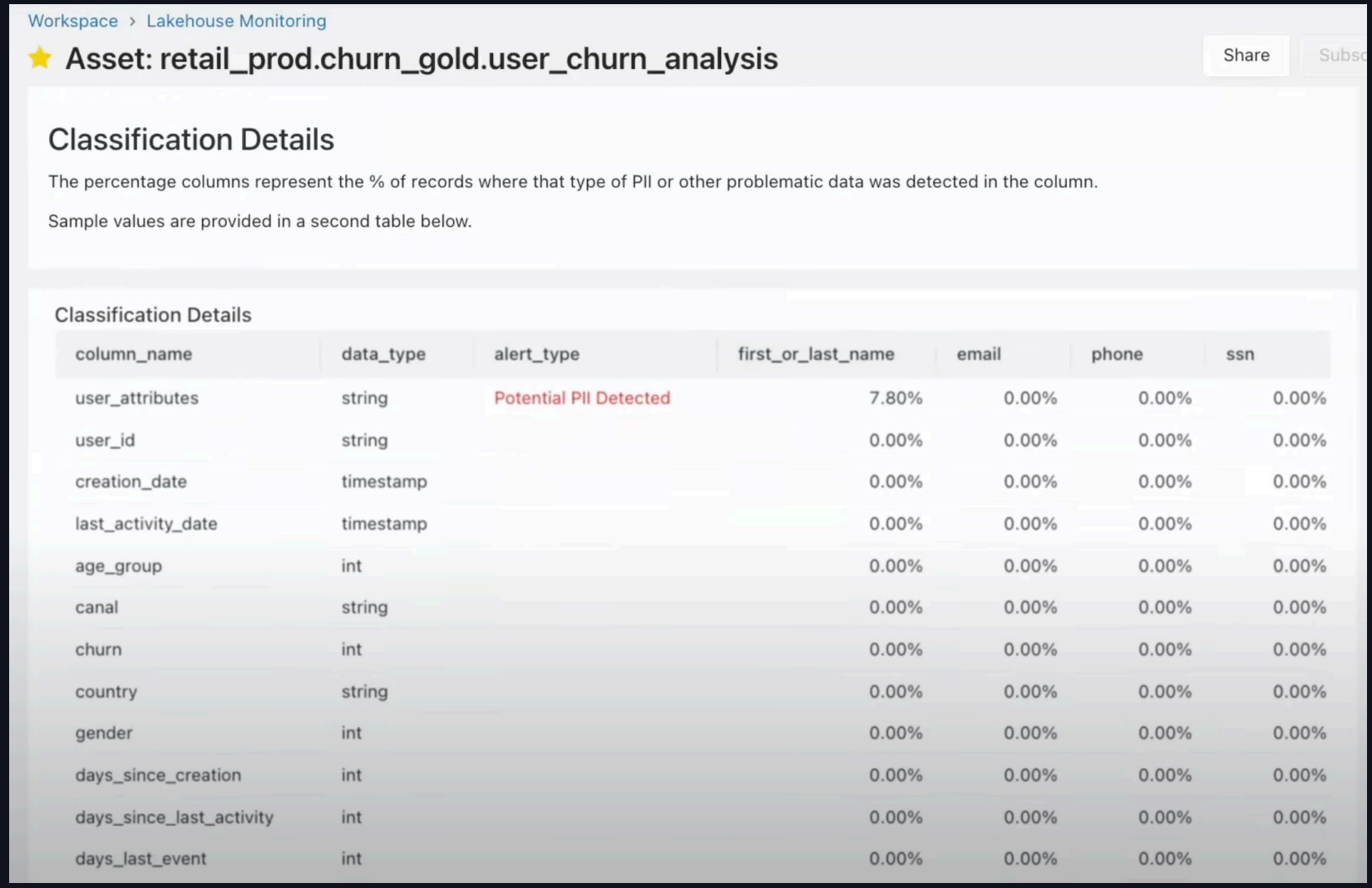
Unity Catalog Governance Portal



Lakehouse Monitoring Dashboard



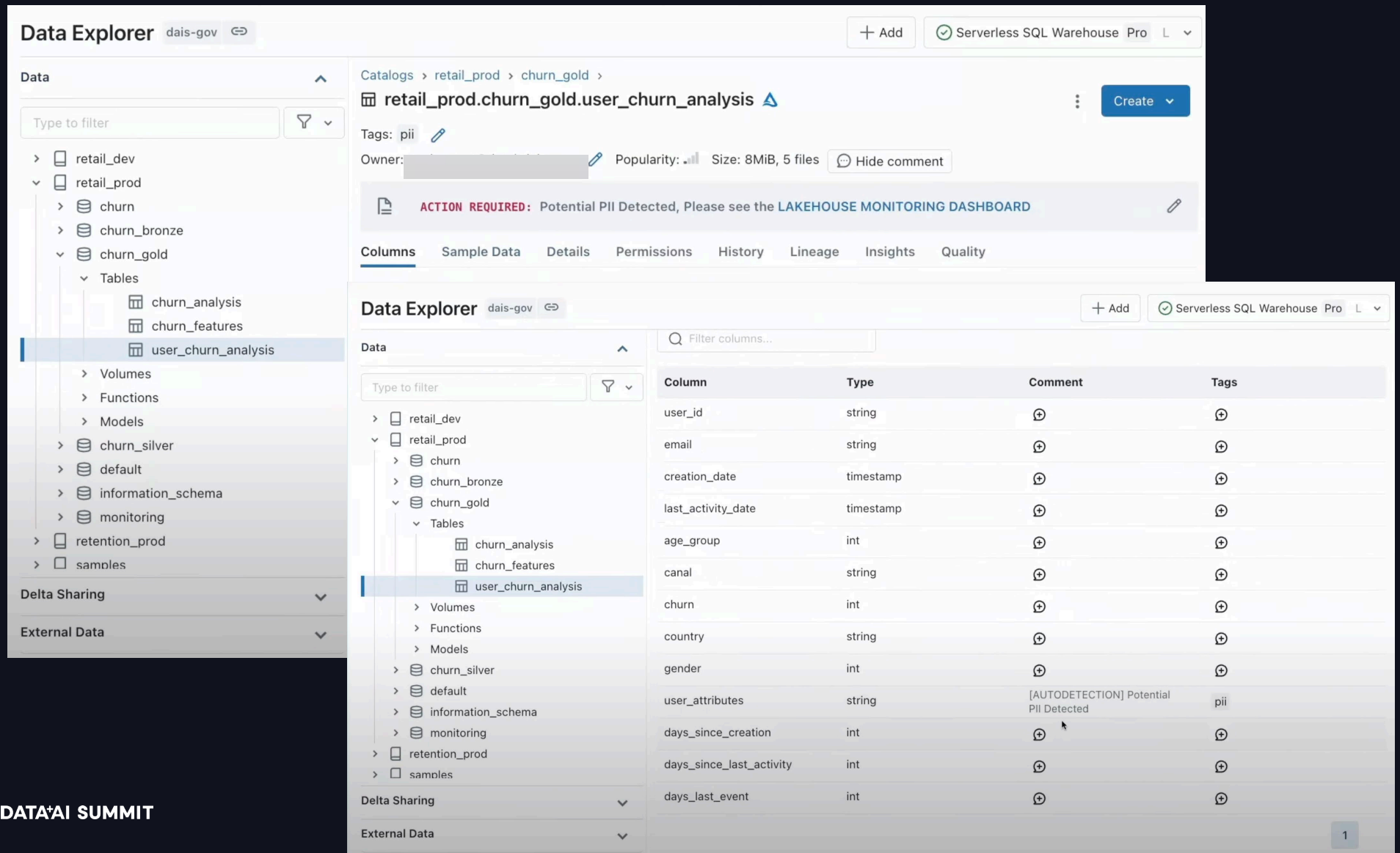
Lakehouse Monitoring Dashboard



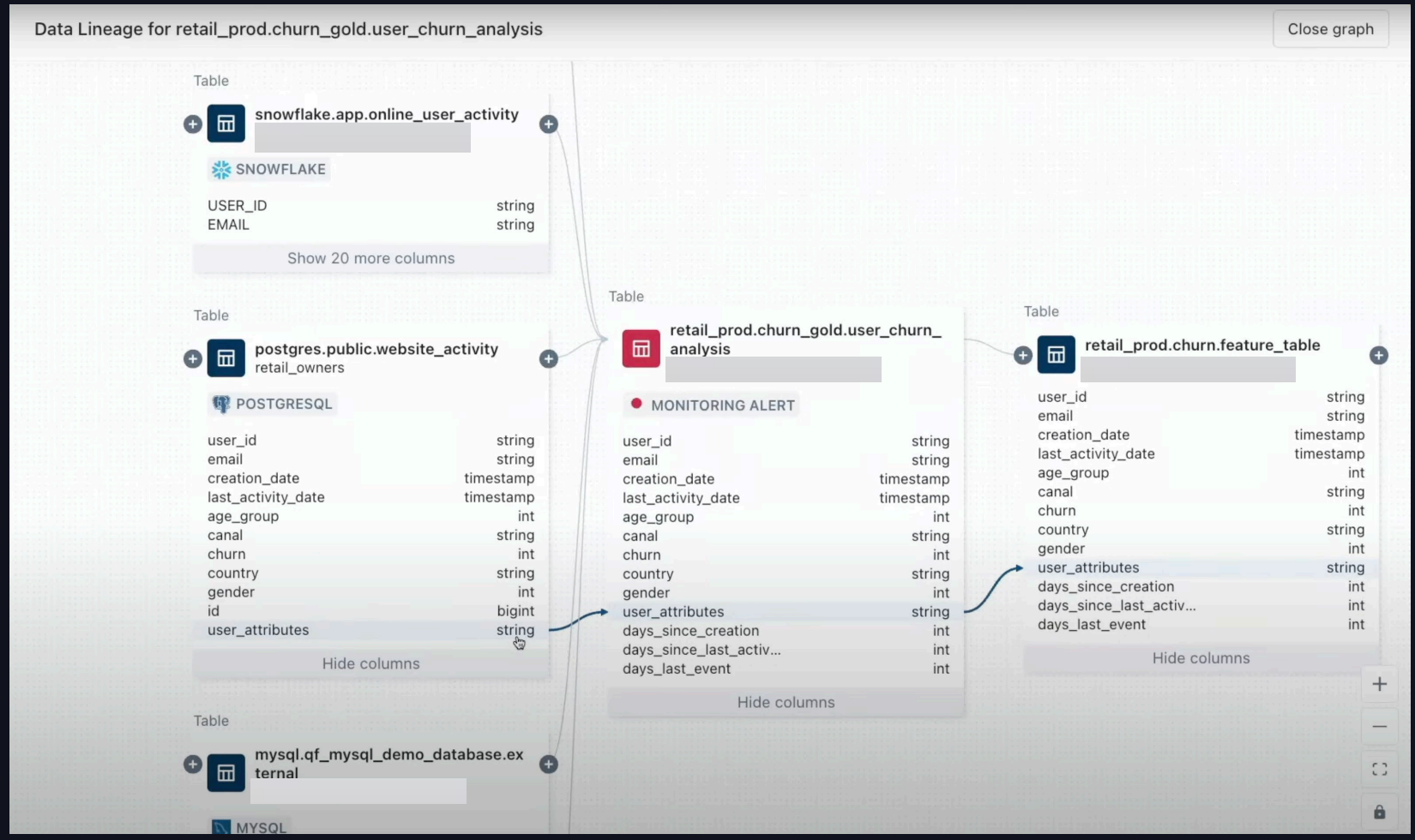
Classification Details

column_name	data_type	alert_type	first_or_last_name	email	phone	ssn
user_attributes	string	Potential PII Detected	7.80%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
user_id	string		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
creation_date	timestamp		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
last_activity_date	timestamp		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
age_group	int		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
canal	string		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
churn	int		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
country	string		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
gender	int		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
days_since_creation	int		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
days_since_last_activity	int		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
days_last_event	int		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

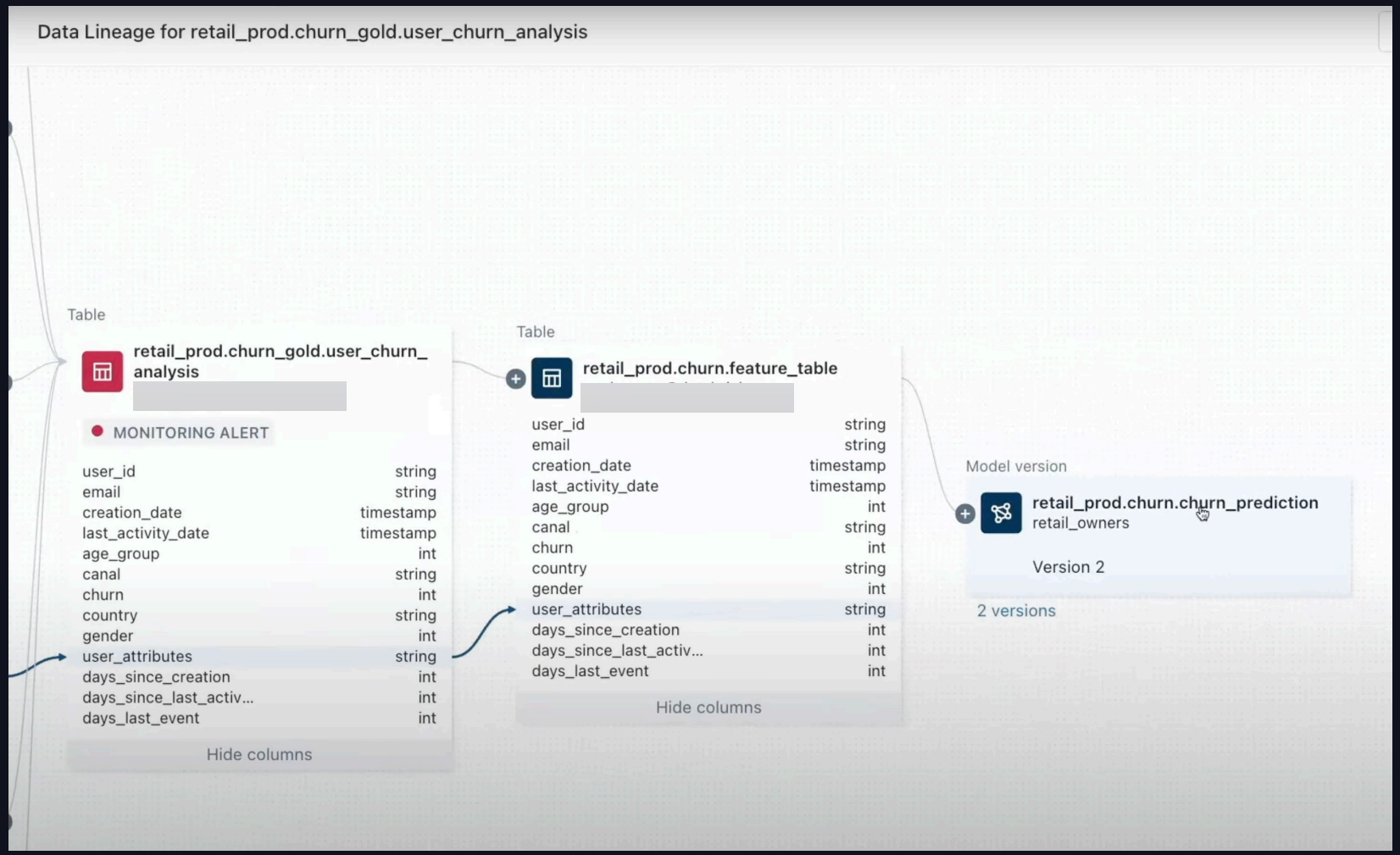
Data Explorer Dashboard



Data Lineage Dashboard



Data Lineage Dashboard



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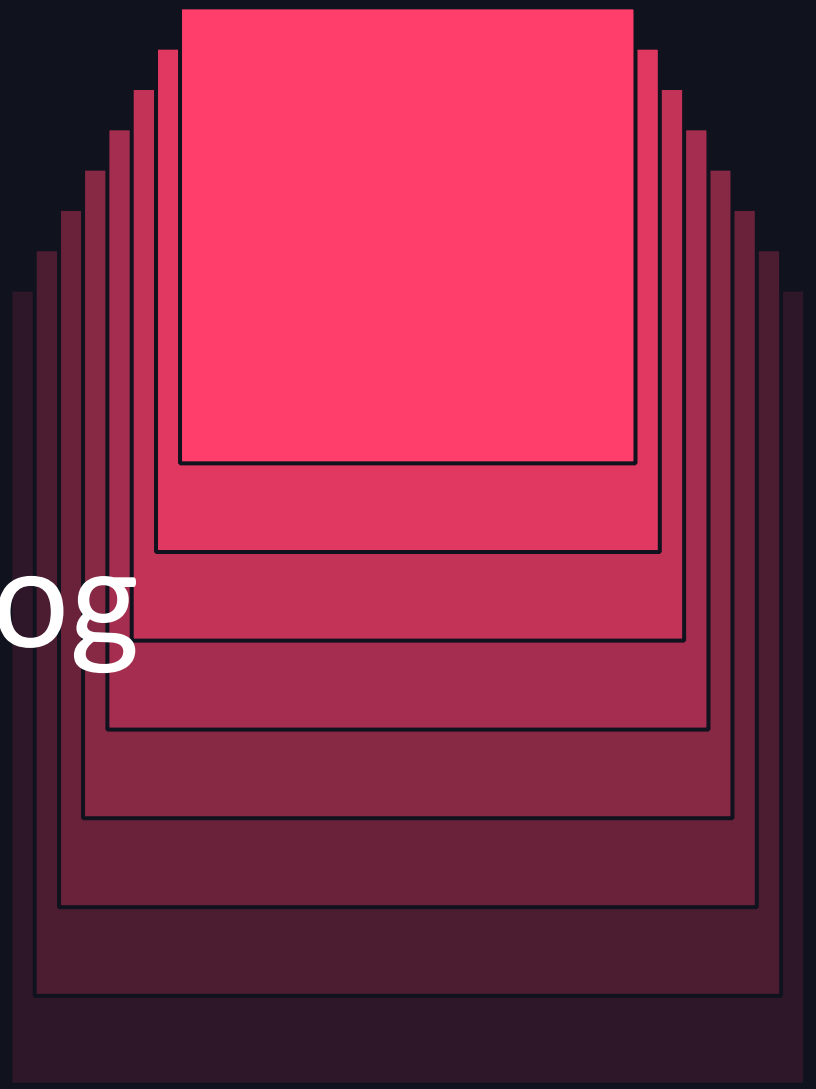
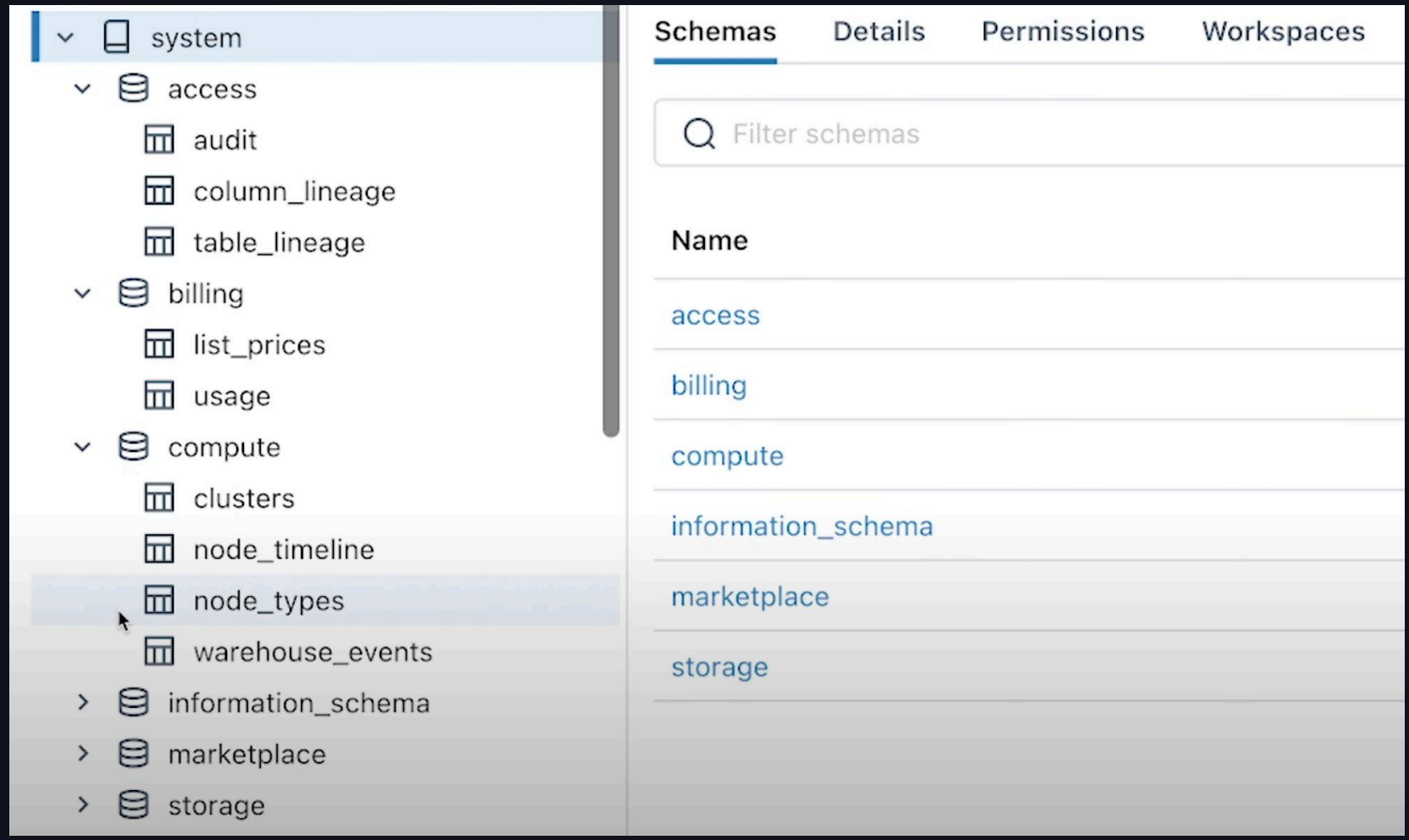
Data Audit : Systems Catalog



Audit and Billing Monitoring Using System Catalog



Billing Usage Sample View, Queries

System Tables: Billing Logs

Understand cost allocation across your data estate

What is the daily trend in DBU consumption?

```
SELECT date(created_on) as `Date`, sum(dbus) as `DBUs Consumed`
   FROM system.operational_data.billing_logs
GROUP BY date(created_on)
ORDER BY date(created_on) ASC;
```

How many DBUs of each SKU have been used so far this month?

```
SELECT sku as `SKU`, sum(dbus) as `DBUs`
   FROM system.operational_data.billing_logs
WHERE
   month(created_on) = month(CURRENT_DATE)
GROUP BY sku
ORDER BY `DBUs` DESC;
```

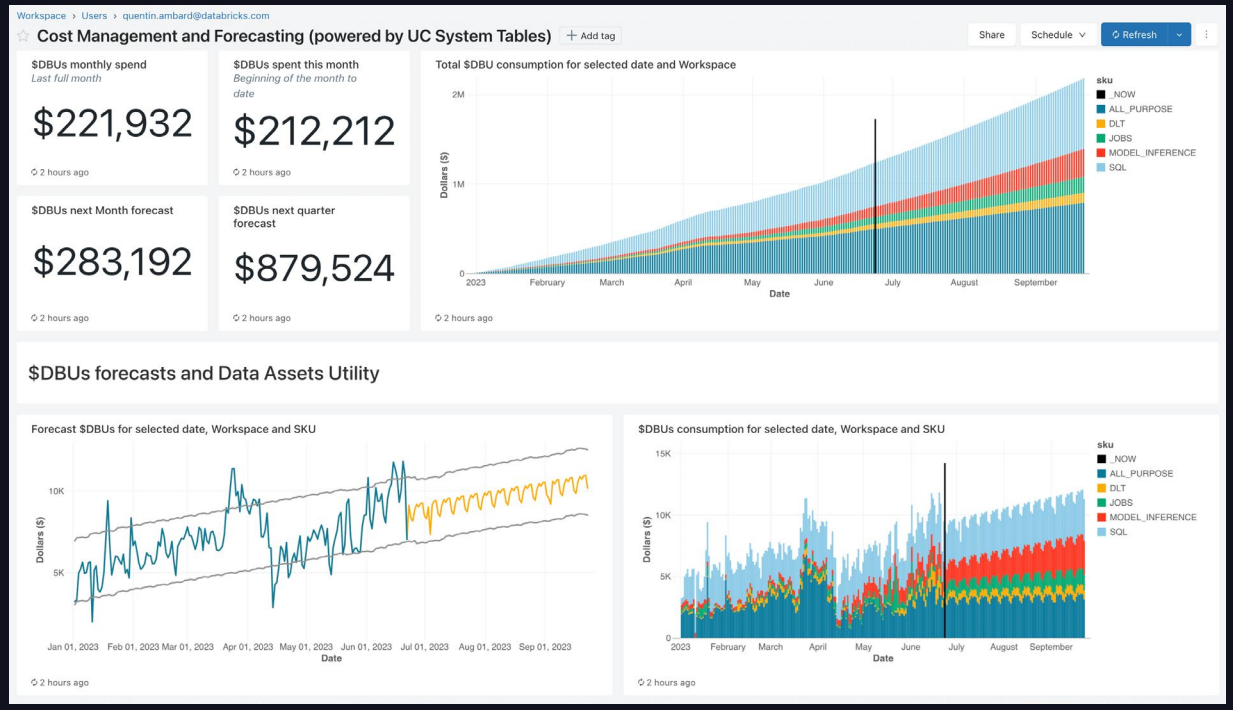
Which 10 users consumed the most DBUs?

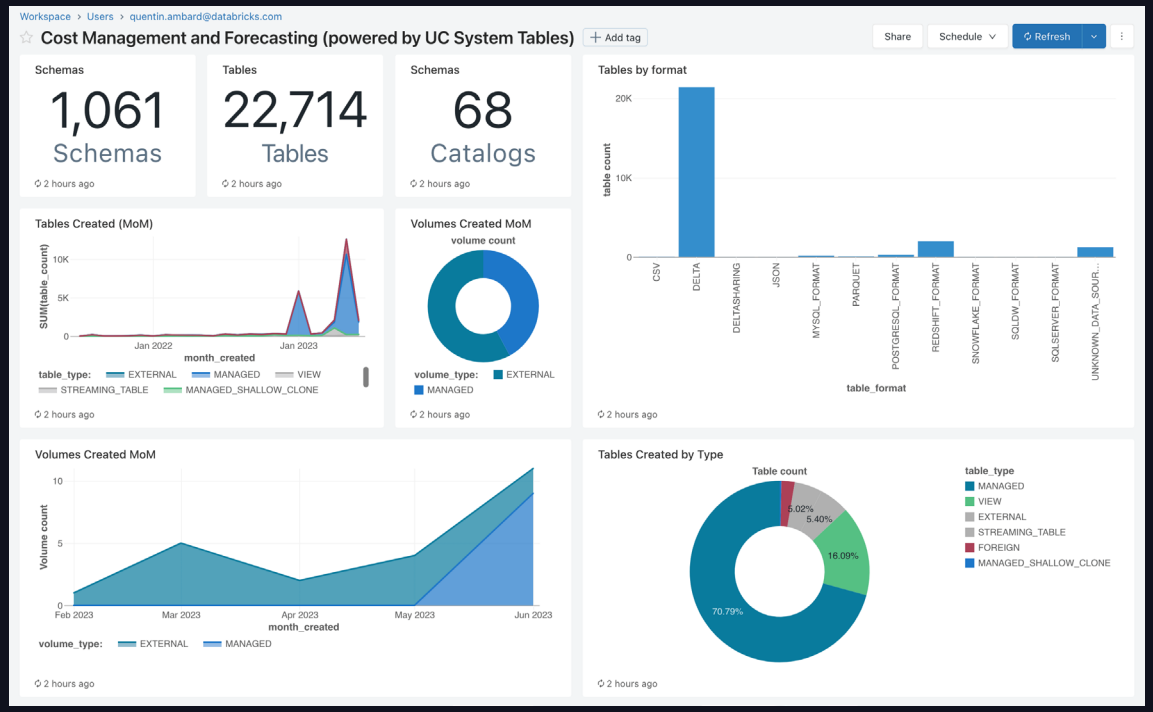
```
SELECT tags.creator as `User`, sum(dbus) as `DBUs`
   FROM system.operational_data.billing_logs
GROUP BY tags.creator
ORDER BY `DBUs` DESC
LIMIT 10;
```

Which Jobs consumed the most DBUs?

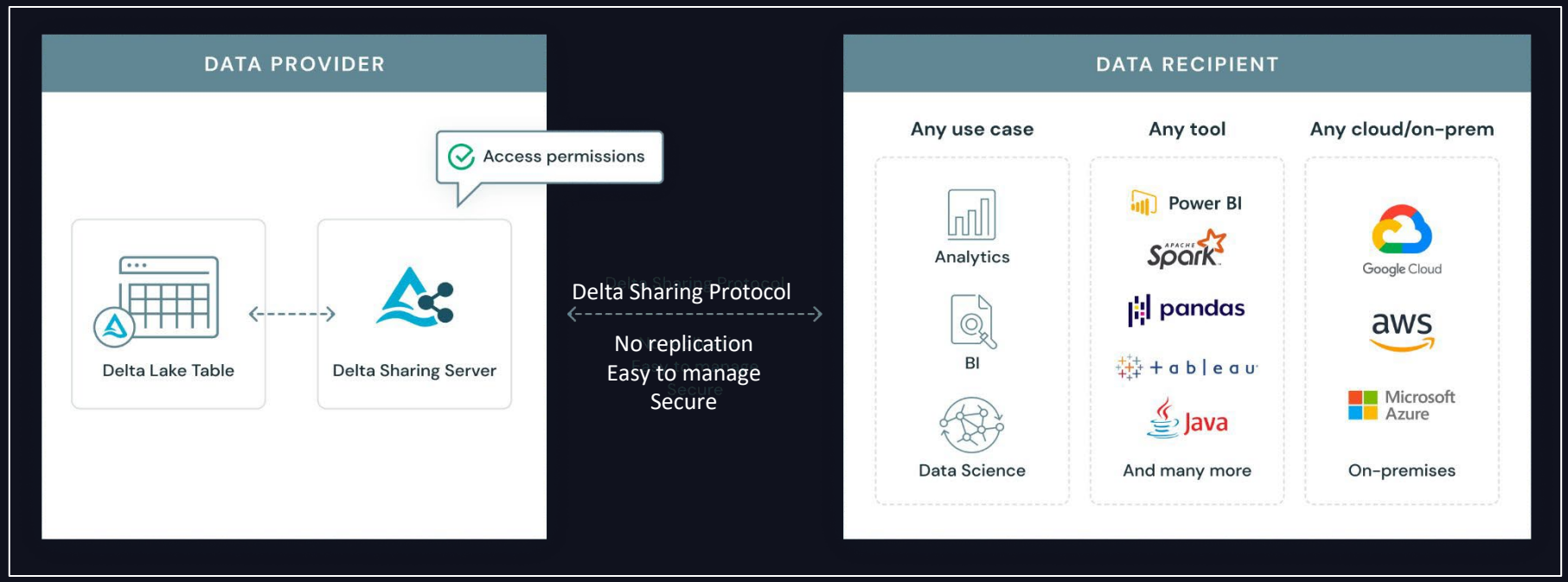
```
SELECT tags.JobId as `Job ID`, sum(dbus) as `DBUs`
   FROM system.operational_data.billing_logs
GROUP BY `Job ID`;
```

Cost Governance Dashboard



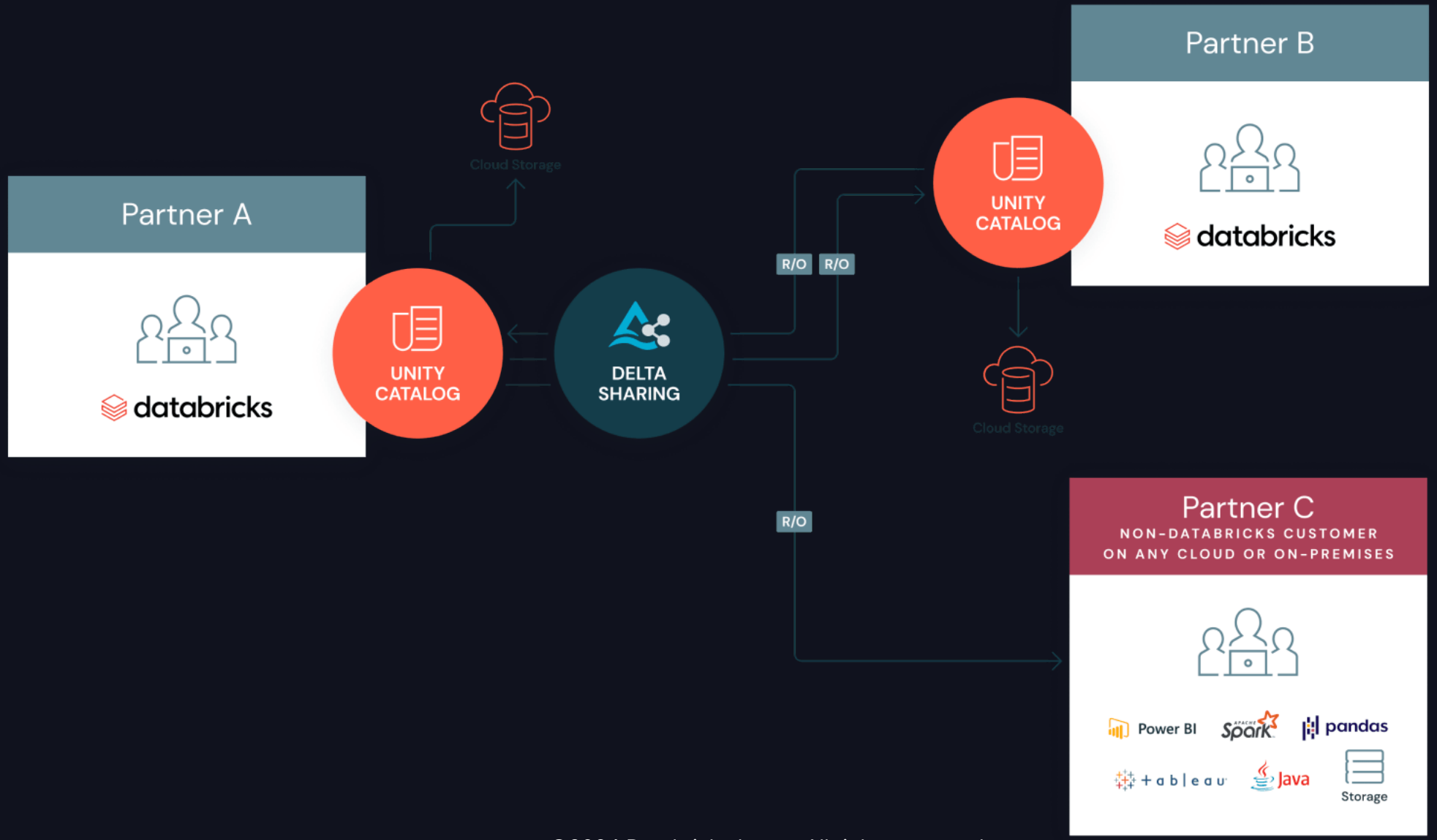


Open data sharing between teams and collaboration



- Securely share live data across cloud regions, and data platforms and eliminate vendor lock-in
- Reduce operational overhead of maintaining multiple copies of data for different recipients
- Centrally manage, monitor usage and audit access to shared data with ease

Types of delta sharing



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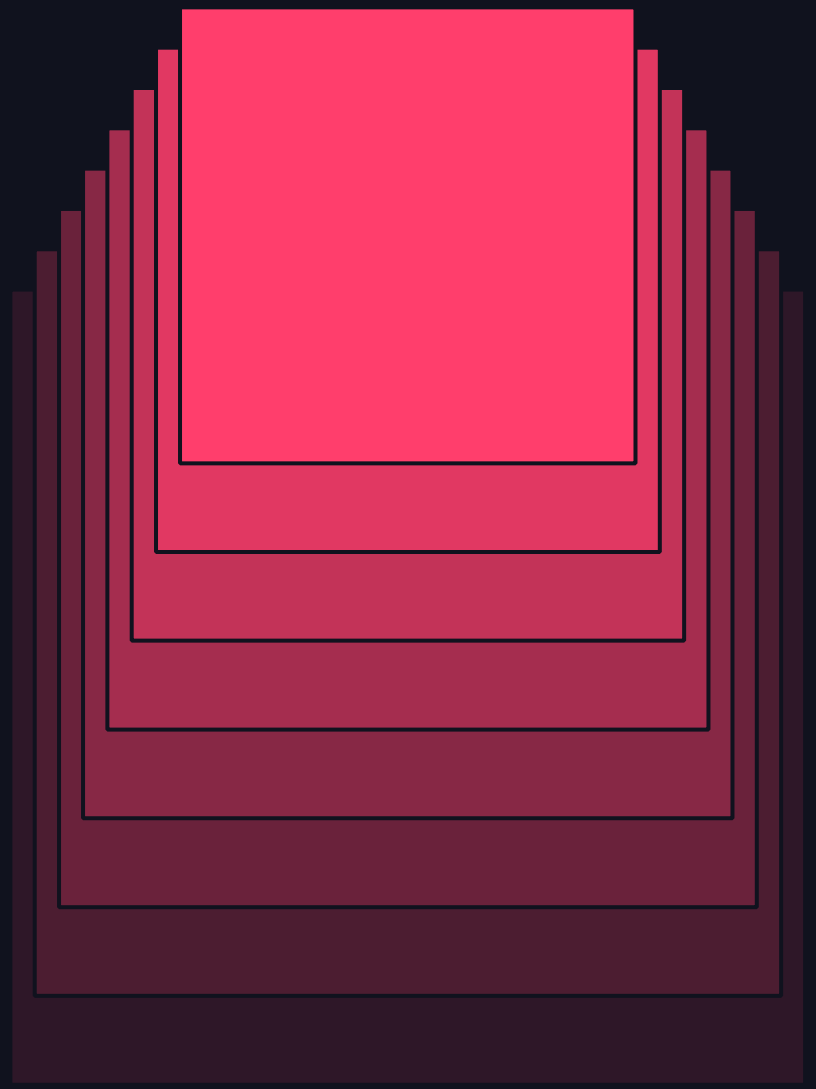
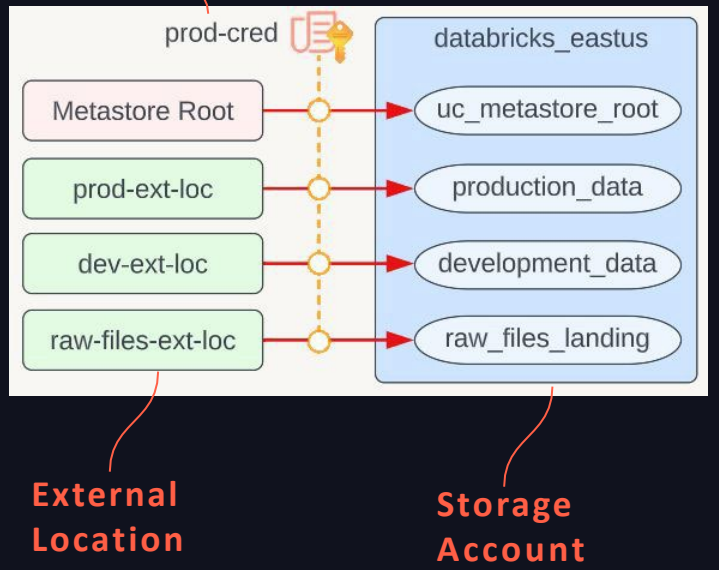
Questions



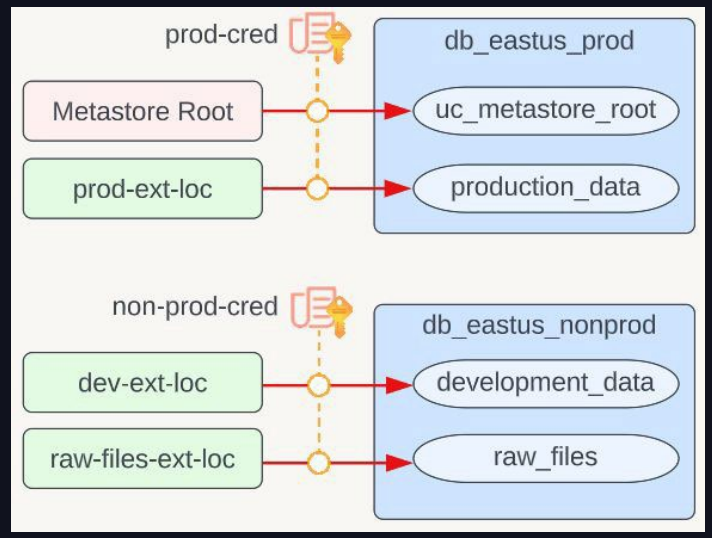
External Location Patterns

Comcast governance requirements drive the pattern

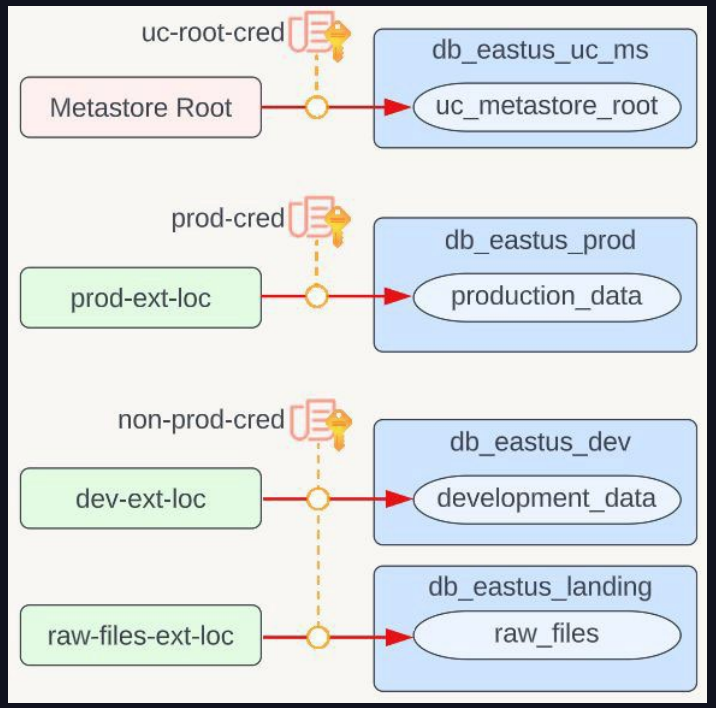
Simple



Prod/Non-Prod

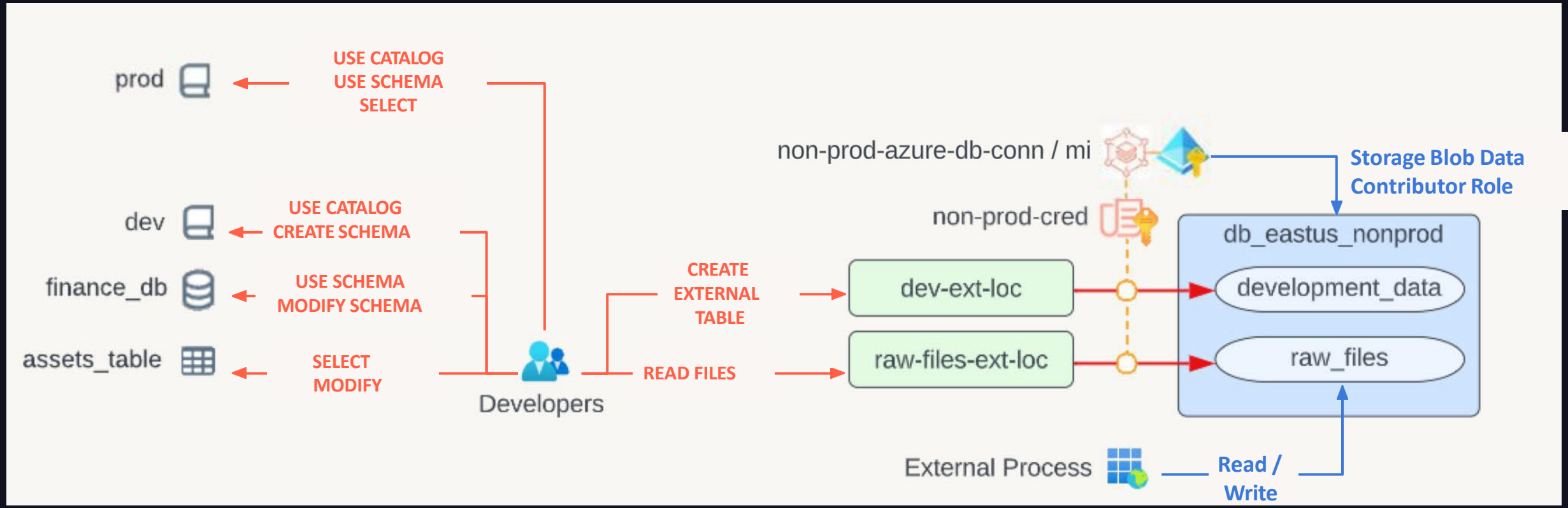


As Necessary

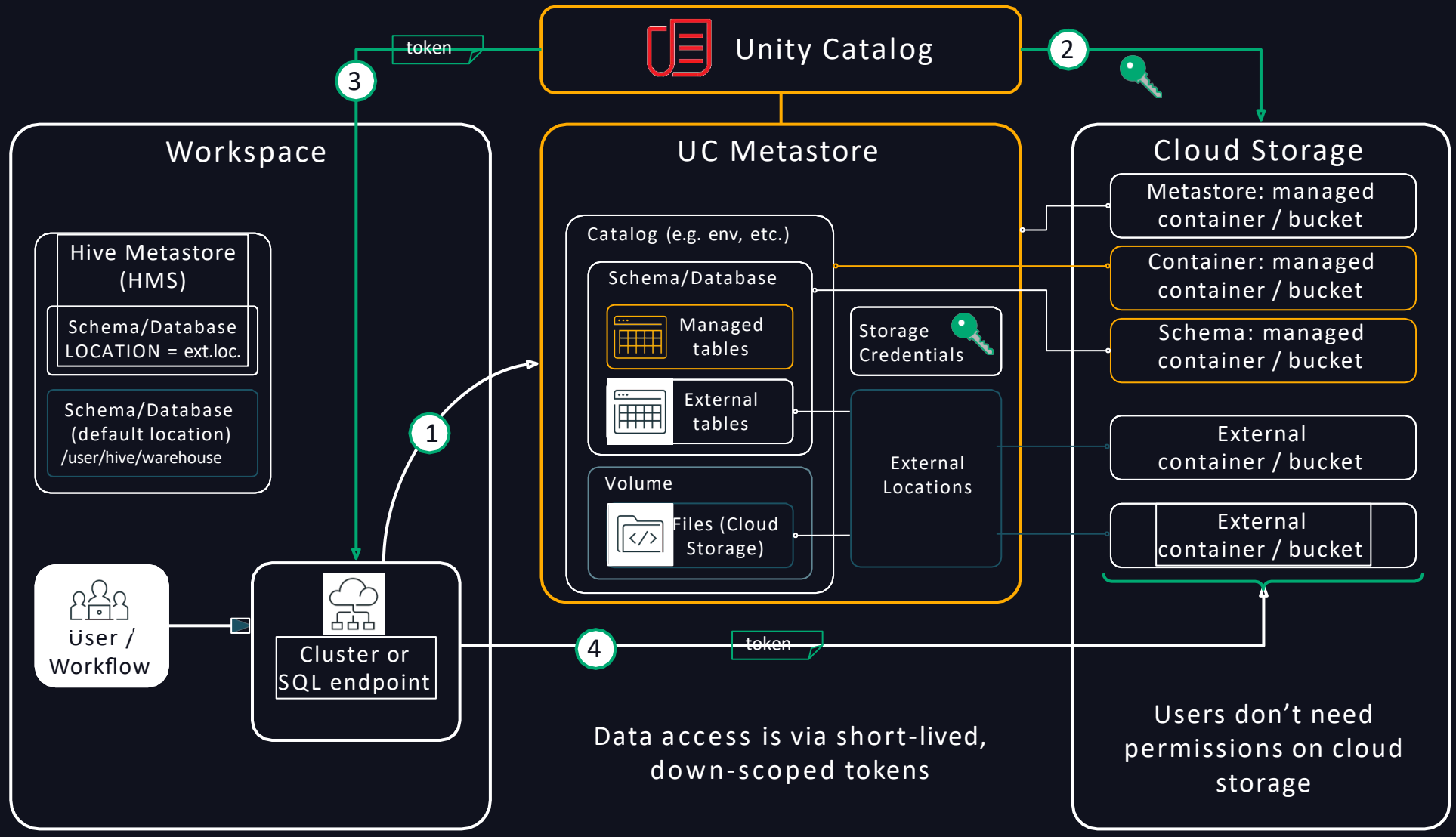


Permissions Example – Prod/Dev Catalogs

Developers need Unity Catalog permissions on External Locations to read non-UC files and create external tables

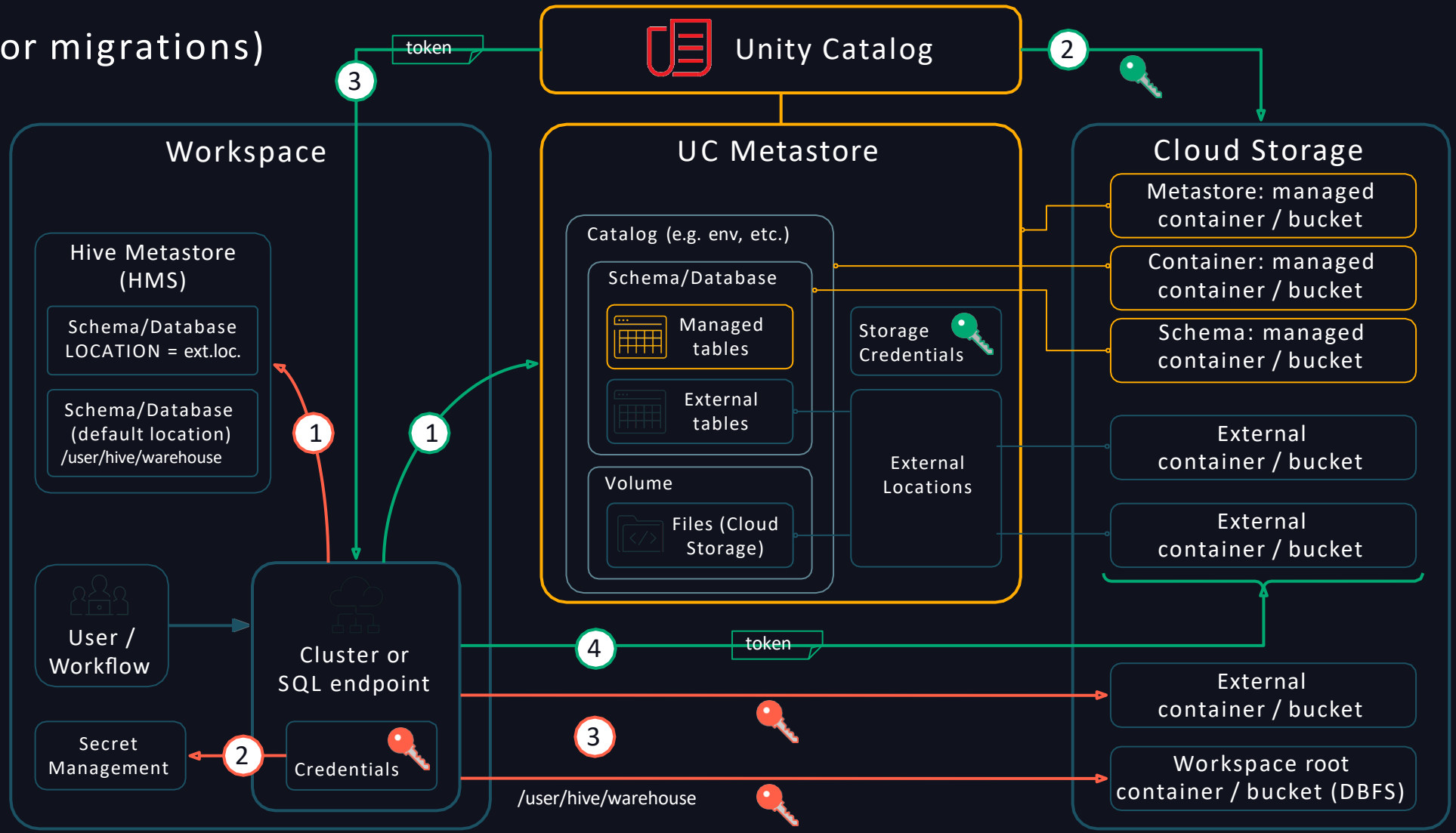


Data Access Model with Unity Catalog



Data Access Model combining both approaches

(e.g. for migrations)



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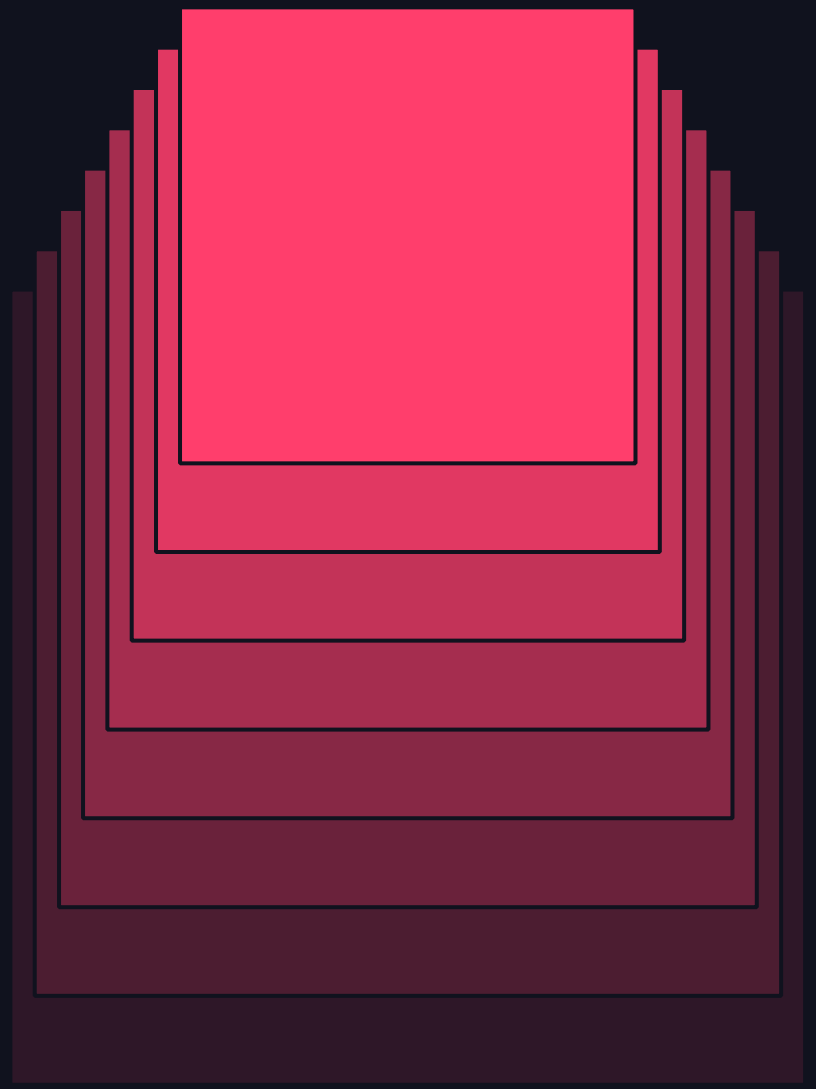
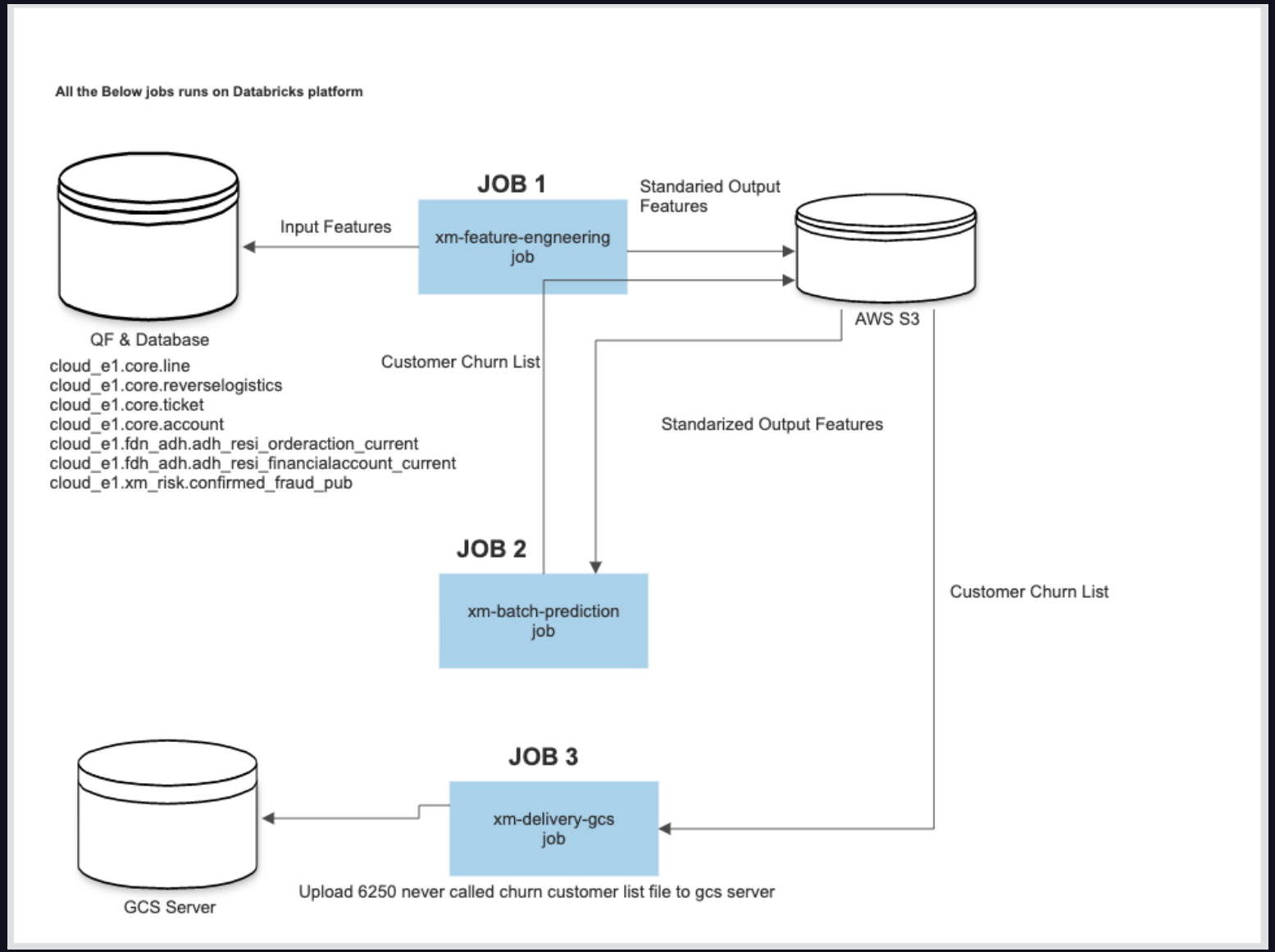
Advanced Use Cases

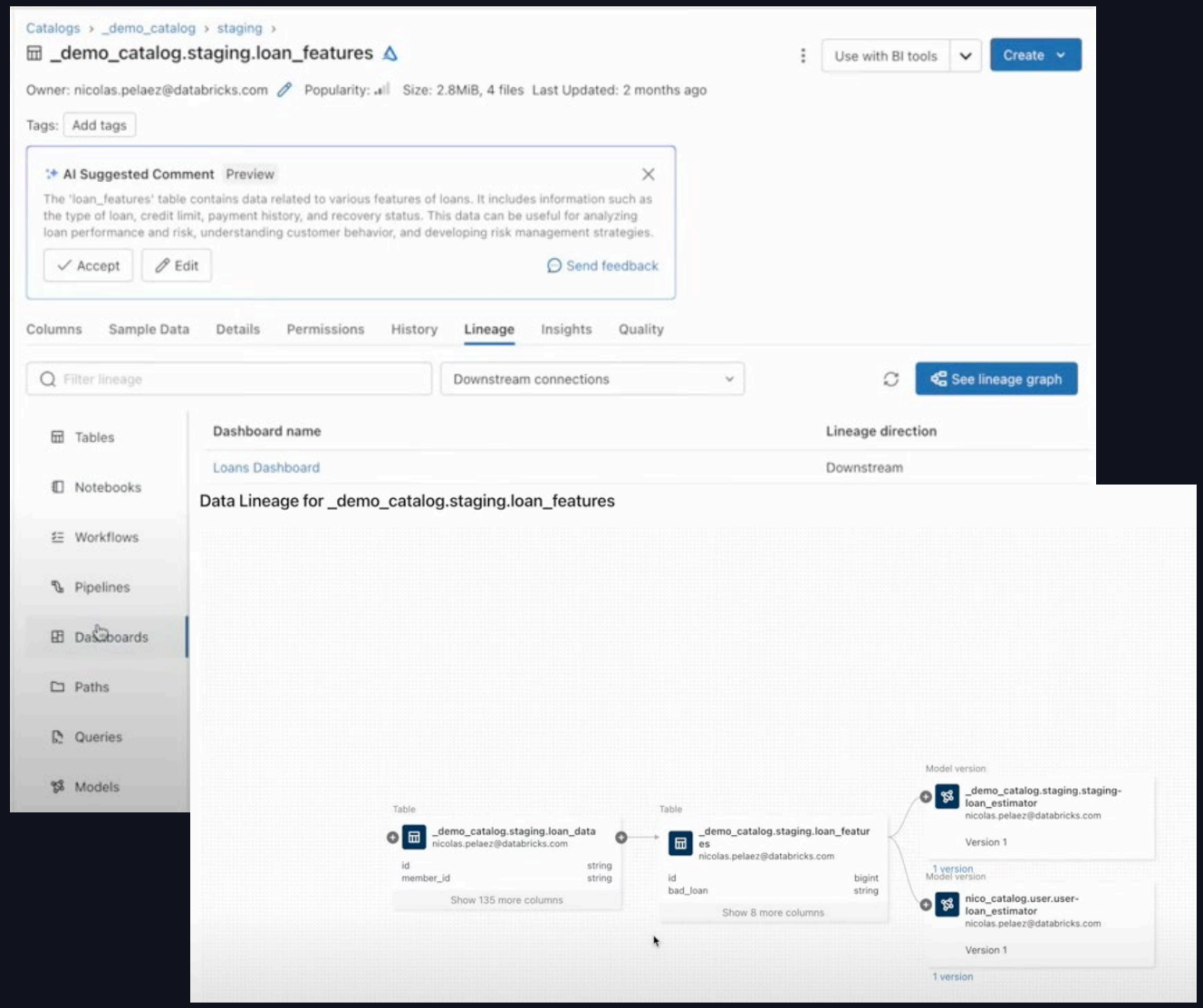


UC Machine Leaning Model for Customer Churn



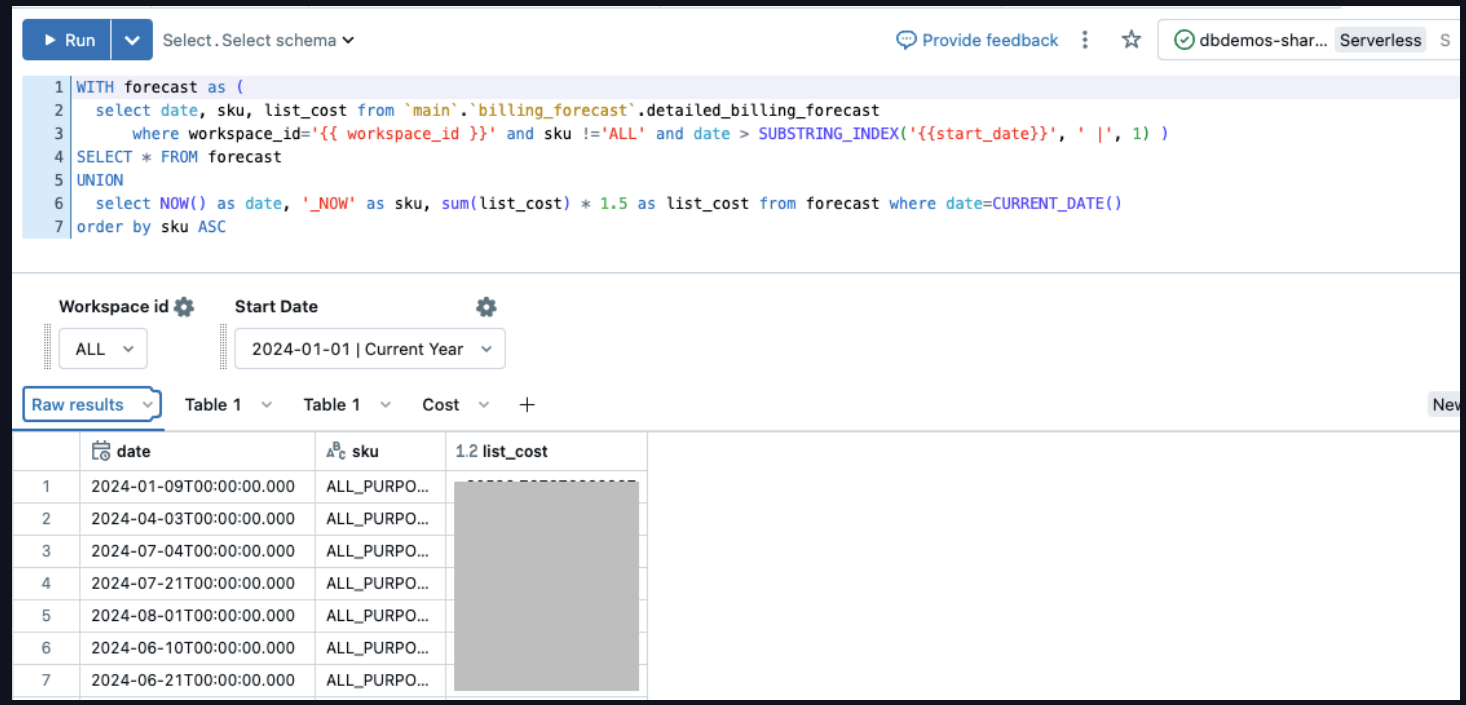
Data observability and quality with Lineage

- End-to-end visibility into how data flows in my org with automated data lineage down to column level
- View lineage across tables, columns, notebooks, workflows, dashboards
- Captured in real time across all workloads in SQL, Python, Scala, and R
- Integration with enterprise catalogs



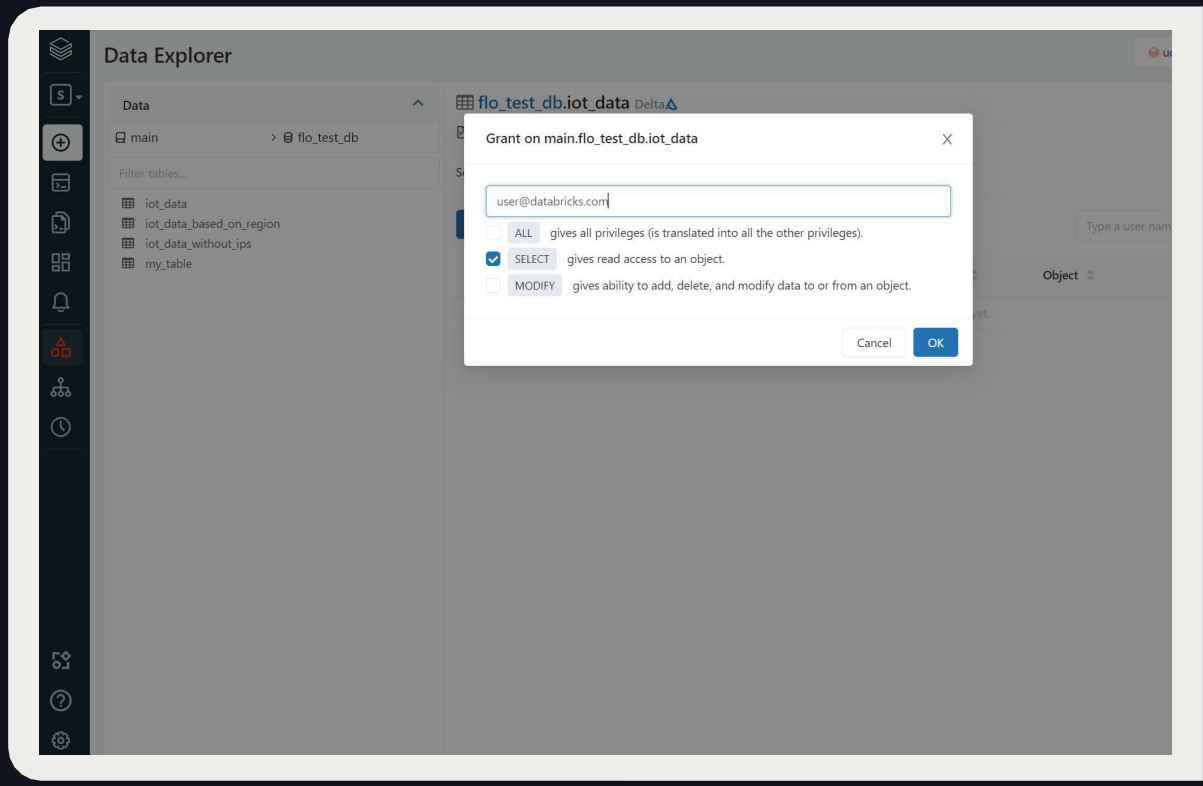
Billing Usage Sample View, Queries

```sql
CREATE VIEW system_test.usage_test (
  account_id,
  workspace_id,
  record_id,
  sku_name,
  cloud,
  usage_start_time,
  usage_end_time,
  usage_date,
  custom_tags,
  usage_unit,
  usage_quantity,
  usage_metadata,
  identity_metadata)
AS SELECT * FROM
system.billing.usage
where lower(sku_name) like '%all_purpose%'
and workspace_id = '123456789'
order by usage_date desc
```

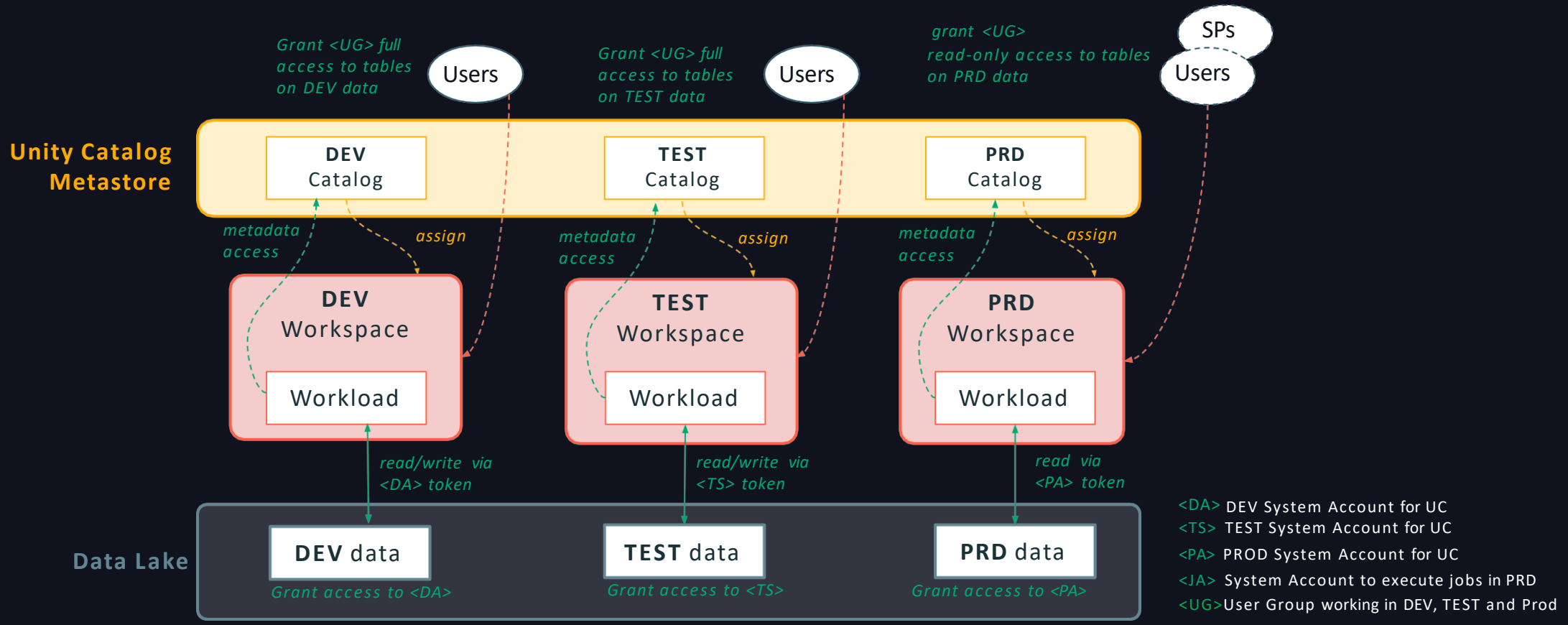


Map, secure and audit data across clouds

- Catalog all data, analytics and AI assets and create a unified view of team's entire data estate
- Centrally manage access permissions and audit controls for files, tables across all workspaces and workloads using a familiar interface based on ANSI SQL



Software Development Lifecycle setup with UC



Databricks Unity Catalog

Unified governance for data, analytics and AI

- Centralized Identity and access management
- Simplified administration
- Centralized governance for data and AI
- Enhanced auditing and data sharing
- Built-in data search and discovery
- Performance and scale
- Automated lineage for all workloads