

5 Costly AI Storage Traps

(and How to Avoid Them)



AI moves fast. Your storage should move faster.

Egress costs, hidden fees, cold-data delays, and replication sprawl in general-purpose cloud storage are dragging performance and blowing up budgets. CoreWeave AI Object Storage unlocks a better way forward.

Trap

01

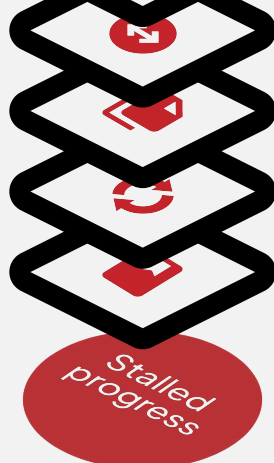
The replication roadblock

Copying data across legacy clouds and regions leads to overwhelming complexity, dead ends, and technical debt—with interest that compounds fast. CoreWeave Cloud sets you free.

The status quo

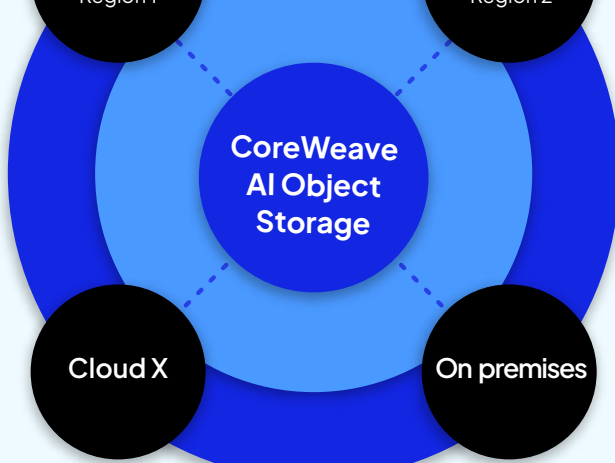
Multiple regions and clouds. Data divergence. Operational fragility. Ballooning costs.

Egress costs
Transfer latency
Version conflicts
Manual synchs
No source of truth



CoreWeave advantage

CoreWeave AI Object Storage delivers a globally unified dataset while Local Object Transport Accelerator (LOTA) ensures local-disk performance wherever your GPUs run.



Trap

02

The transfer toll

Hyperscalers turn access into a tax, charging premiums for every gigabyte you want to move. CoreWeave Cloud gives you transparency with zero egress fees.

The status quo

Common storage rate components (hyperscaler)



Storage rate: \$0.023/GB/mo
Data transfer (egress): \$0.09/GB for first 10TB
Request operation (e.g. PUT/COPY/POST/LIST): ~\$0.005 per 1,000
Inter-region transfer: ~\$0.02-\$0.09/GB

CoreWeave advantage

Transparent usage-based pricing with zero egress, request, or transfer fees.

Storage rate

(automated, usage-based billing):

Hot

\$0.06
/GB/mo

Warm

\$0.03
/GB/mo

Cold

\$0.015
/GB/mo

\$0

Data transfer (egress)
Request operation
Inter-region transfer

Trap

03

The throughput throttle

Legacy storage chokes throughput—wasting capacity, stalling progress, and inflating iteration costs. CoreWeave Cloud fuels innovation.

The status quo

Underpowered throughput means high-performance clusters sit idle waiting for data.



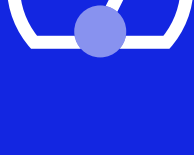
GPU utilization drops



Training pipelines lag



Budget is drained

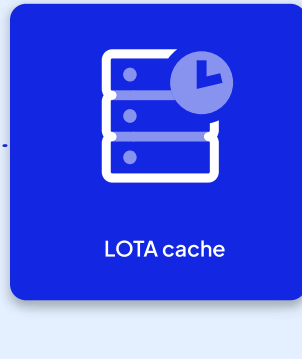
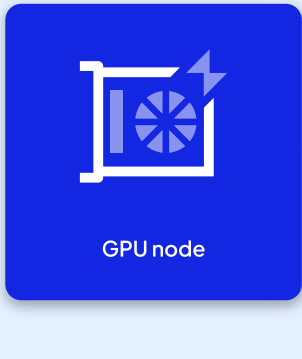


CoreWeave advantage

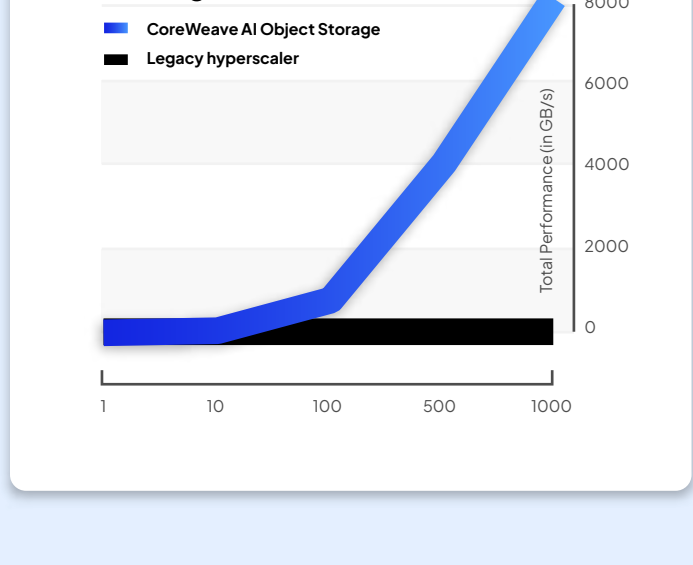
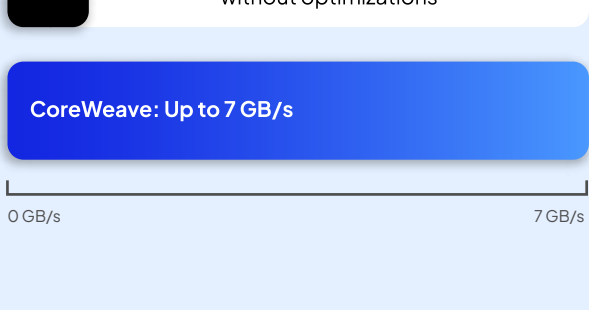
InfiniBand networking and Local Object Transport Accelerator (LOTA) caching deliver up to

7 GB/s per GPU

Local proximity = higher performance



Throughput per GPU



Trap

04

The archive abyss

You never know when a checkpoint becomes critical—but legacy tiering makes you wait for it.



The status quo

Restore delays and brittle lifecycle rules stall iteration and waste GPU time when speed matters most.

CoreWeave advantage

CoreWeave AI Object Storage keeps all data instantly accessible—no restore delays, no rehydration, no tradeoffs.

No restore delays

No rehydration

No tradeoffs



Up to 80%

of stored AI data sits inactive, but could be needed at any moment.

Trap

05

The TCO tangle

There's the rate you see—and the true cost you feel. Consider this simplified example of a 20 PB workload typical of large-scale AI pipelines.*

	Competitor A	CoreWeave ✓
Per-GB price	\$0.021	\$0.06 hot / \$0.03 warm / \$0.015 cold
Blended per-GB price	\$0.037	\$0.026
Storage cost only (20 PB)	\$440,402	\$544,526
Operational and egress fees	\$338,625	\$0
Total cost	\$779,027	\$544,526

Escape AI storage traps: take the next step

CoreWeave's AI-native approach to storage—built into The Essential Cloud for AI—gives you the control, performance, and cost efficiency legacy platforms can't.

Set your data free

Learn how you can eliminate egress fees—no matter where your data is used—with CoreWeave Zero Egress Migration.

Read the blog

AI Storage Without Limits: Exploring the latest CoreWeave AI Object Storage Expansions.

Why CoreWeave Cloud

Learn why CoreWeave Cloud is the force multiplier.

Contact us

Discover how →

Read now →

Learn more →

* Assumptions include: average file size of 1MB; monthly uploads equal to 20% of total data; monthly reads at 30%, and monthly egress to another cloud at 30%. CoreWeave AI Object Storage automated usage-based billing automatically manages data across three transparent pricing levels—Hot (\$0.06/GB/mo), Warm (\$0.03/GB/mo), and Cold (\$0.015/GB/mo)—based on real access patterns with no retrieval fees when data moves between tiers. For this example, a representative data distribution (14% Hot / 32% Warm / 54% Cold) yields a blended effective rate of \$0.026/GB/mo with no request, retrieval, or egress fees. The hyperscaler total reflects publicly listed U.S. East region rates for hot/standard storage as of October 2025, including typical request, retrieval, and egress charges based on the modeled workload. CoreWeave pricing does not vary by region. Note: All storage units are binary.