Certified DevOps Professional – Notes

**Introduction:**

* $300 and has a 30-day retake policy
* Can only take it 3 times in 12 months
* 170 Minutes long (2.1 minute per question)
* 80 questions
* Questions are long
* Appropriate level of information in the key exam areas
* Will only cover up to 70% of exam. Practical expertise and general knowledge. DevOps Knowledge
* Re-watch all videos multiple times. Read, YouTube videos, white papers, practice!
* **GIT, Software development concepts are other courses that may help**
* **May be good to do the SA pro course along side this one.**
* 8-10 hours of practical reading based on 1 hour of lectures.
* Other Courses that will help:
* https://www.youtube.com/user/AmazonWebServices/playlists
* DEVOPS - https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhr1KZpdzukeH9VMPbNHMCXl\_NrVc1JGe
* Develop Tools - https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhr1KZpdzuke5pqzTvI2ZxwP8-NwLACuU
* Databases - https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhr1KZpdzukeMbjRqGswHX38DCqOHZ5GA
* Compute - https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhr1KZpdzukfVW6NrpDzdT6Sej0p5POkN
* http://cantrill.io
* http://ozaws.com
* https://read.acloud.guru
* https://serverlesscode.com/
* https://paulwakeford.info/
* https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/aws/
  + https://www.awsarchitectureblog.com
  + http://blogs.aws.amazon.com/application-management
  + http://blogs.aws.amazon.com/security/
  + https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/compute/
* <https://aws.amazon.com/documentation/>
  + EC2 – instance roles, defaults, performance limitations
  + EBS – performance, limits, snapshots
  + S3
  + Cloudwatch – 20% of exam
  + CloudFormation – wait condition handlers, hold condition handlers
  + OpsWorks
  + Elastic Beanstalk
  + DynamoDB – CLI/UI perspective, partitioning
  + CloudTrail – auditing, data output locations
  + IAM
  + SQS, DataPipeline, Cognito, SNS
* <https://aws.amazon.com/whitepapers/>
* Practical Tasks
  + Cloud formation to deploy a HA wordpress instance
  + Cloud formation to deploy a php website, inside an auto-scaling group, reading from dynamo DB, then deploy a HTTP load-testing application, watch and manipulate the autoscaling
  + Write small lambda function, use it as a backing for customer resource in a cloud formation template.
  + Cloud formation template, update, replace, interrupt
  + Download EB example application, make changes, create DEV and PROD EB environments, make changes, and observe updates
  + Deploy 2 instances with appropriate roles, bootstrap the cloud watch logs agent and configure detailed log ingestion into cloudwatch.

**Core Concepts:**

* AWS CLI/API
* SLDC (Software Development Lifecycle)
* Continuous Integration, Build, delivery and deployment
  + Continuous Integration (CI) & Continuous Deployment (CD)
  + Problems with GIT occurred by changes made by other developers being incompatible and causing compile failures. Known as integration hell.
  + Longer the code was checked, the greater issue could arise with more compile issues
  + **Continuous Integration** – process of automating regular code commits followed by an automated build and test process designed to highlight integration issues early.
    - Requires additional tools like Bamboo, Cruise Control, Jenkins, Go and Team City
    - Customizable Workflow based integration
    - Spot prices could be a good fit for compilation and testing servers.
  + **Continuous Deployment** – takes the form of a workflow based process which accepts a tested software build payload from a CI server.
    - CD Server automates the deployment into a working WA, Pre-Production or production environment.
    - CodeDeploy and CodePipeline provide CI/CD services. Same with Elastic Beanstalk and Cloudformation.
  + Developers -> Source -> Build -> Staging -> Production -> Customers – Ideas Requests Bugs -> Changes Update Fixes
* Deployment Types
  + **Single Target Deployment**
    - Not used great these days
    - Mainly for Small development projects, legacy or non-highly available HA infrastructure
    - Build -> Target
    - Brief outage when version installed. Testing limited. Rollback involves removing the new version and installing the previous one.
  + **All-at-once deployment**
    - Happens in one step but destination is multiple targets
    - More complicated than single target, requiring orchestration tooling.
    - No ability to test, more for small deployments. Small outages and less than ideal rollback.
  + **Minimum in-service style deployment**
    - Happens in multiple stages
    - Deployment occurs to as many targets as possible while maintain minimum targets
    - Moving parts with orchestration and health checks required
    - No downtime
    - Quicker and less stages
    - Allows automated testing, targets assessed and tested prior
  + **Rolling deployment**
    - Happens in multiple stages but user defines number of targets
    - Moving parts with orchestration and health checks required
    - Applicable health isn’t necessarily maintained.
    - Can be least efficient deployment based on time-taken
    - Allows automated testing, targets assessed and tested prior
    - No downtime
    - Can be paused allowing limited multi-version testing.
  + **Blue/Green deployment**
    - Requires advanced orchestration tooling
    - Extra cost
    - Rapid deployment process.
    - Cutover/migration can be clean (DNS Change)
    - Rollback (DNS regression)
    - Health and performance of entire green field can be tested
    - Can be fully automated via template systems.
    - Binary
  + **Know Pro/Cons for Exam**
  + **Know when each should be used and when not**
  + **Know the limitations of each, how quick deployment, how quick rollback**
  + **Know how each deployment type impacts your applications**
  + **Known which AWS service support deployment type.**
* A/B Testing
  + **Sends a percentage of traffic to green/blue environment**
  + Separates different versions of your code.
  + Can allow testing/feedback to come from users
  + Allows gradual performance/stability/health analysis
  + New features can be tested.
  + Uses Route53 with 2 records in simple mode. Later switched to weighted.
    - DNS, caching, other DNS related issues can impact overall accuracy of technique.
* Bootstrapping
  + **Bootstrapping** – process during which you start with a base image, ISO/AMI, and automation build on it to create a more complex object.
  + CFINIT or CLOUDINIT
  + AMI based approach would require a lot of AMI’s.
  + Bootstrap can be done via cloud formation.
  + Help to bring all the components together like a cake.
  + Quick launch versions AMI’s use pre-built AMI’s with minimal configuration changes.
* Immutable Architecture
  + Immutable Architecture – practice of replacing infrastructure instead of upgrading or repairing faulty components.
  + Treat servers as unchangeable objects
  + If something develops a problem, diagnose, fix and return to service.
  + Treats servers as throwaway objects. If a failure happens, remove the server and create a new one from an AMI.
  + Never work manually.
  + Traditional architecture is like pets. Immutable servers are like cattle.
* Containers & Docker Primer
  + **Virtualization**
    - Guest OS, Dependencies, Application, VM
    - Wasted space
  + **Containerization**
    - Dependencies, Appliance, Container.
    - Higher density and improved portability
    - Escape from dependencies.
    - Consistent progression from Dev->Test->QA-Prod
    - **Isolation** – performance or stability issues with App A in Container A, won’t impact App B in Container B
    - Resource scheduling at the micro level.
    - Code portability
    - Micro-Services
  + **Docker Components**
    - **Docker Image** – basis of a docker container ISO. Read only.Base Build docker containers.
    - **Docker Container** – holds everything needed to make an application to work.
    - **Layers/Union File System** – Combines layer into a single image. Branches are separate file systems.
    - **Docker File** – instructions create or include each layer. Stored in a docker file.
    - **Docker Daemon/Engine** – create OS to run your applications. Communicates with the docker client to build/ship/run containers
    - **Docker Client** – interface between you and the engine. Control docker daemon
    - **Docker Registries /Docker Hub** – hold images in a repo. Provided by Docker Hub. Can use images based on what others have done.
* JSON Primer
  + **JSON (JavaScript Object Notation)** – way to represent structured data for interchange between appliances.
  + Used most often with Web services like Rest API
  + **Name/Value pairs** – consists of key followed by a value
  + Can be a string, array, object, null value, JSON structure
  + **Object** – collection of key/value pairs.
  + **Array** – ordered list of values surrounded by values.
  + **JSON String** – contains an array of values or an object
  + **Policy document (JSON string)** – complicated information contained by nested objects.

**CI/CD/Automation:**

CloudFormation Primer

* **CloudFormation** – building block service designed to provision infrastructure (cfn)
  + ElasticBeanstalk using cloudformation
  + JSON based. **Know how to read/write JSON.**
  + Let cfn name the resources used in the template.
  + Can self cleanup
* **Stack** –cloud formations unit of grouping for infrastructure. Controls lifecycle of the infrastructure.
  + Has stack ID. Can be applied many times.
* **Template** – JSON document giving cloud formation instructions on how to act and what to create. Used to update or create.
  + Template limit of 200.
* **Stack Policy** – IAM style policy which governs what can be changed and by who. (cfnStack)
* **Parameters –** allow the passing of variables into a template via UI, CLI, or API.
  + Can have a number of attributes like Keypair, string, number, AZ
  + Can have a default value
  + Allowed values – one of more values which the parameter can take
  + Allowed pattern – regular expression that defines the format the parameter
  + Min & Max Value for numbers
  + Min & MaxLength for strings
  + **Look at documentation – UserGuide/parameters-section-structure.html**
  + Cloudformation can pick values if they are not specified in parameters
* **Mappings –** allow processing of hash’s (arrays of key value pairs) by the cfnTemplate.
  + Use case – define lookup to select ami id based on region.
* **Resources –** where your actual resources are declared.
  + Required in the template.
* **Outputs –** results from the template.
  + Can run scripts within the instances
  + Can have conditional elements to resources or whole resources conditional.
* Can expand files within instances.
* Always challenge yourself with infrastructure configuration.

Structure

* **Ref** – can reference an object within the template.
* Stacks – can have output values, parameter references or output function
* Get att can reference alternative values.
* **Work on Cloudformation**

Intrinsic Functions & Conditionals

* **Intrinsic functions** – inbuilt functions provided by AWS to help you manage, reference, and conditionally act upon resources, situations and inputs to a stack. Looking for max portability with Cloudformation templates.
  + Fn::Base64 – accepts plain text and converts to Base64 for EC2
    - { “Fn::Base64” : “yum –y update && yum “}
  + Fn::FindInMap – maps objects to one or more keys. Lookup function
  + Fn:GetAtt – looks at the non default values
  + Fn::GetAZs
  + Fn::Join
    - “Fn::Join”:[“:”,[“a”,”b”,”c”]]
  + Fn:Select – select an object from a list of objects
  + Ref – default value for resource
  + Avoid 2+ AZ if you want your template to work everywhere.
* Conditional Funtions
  + Fn::And – returns true if all input are true
  + Fn::Equals
  + Fn::If
  + Fn::Not – returns false if condition evaluates to true.
  + Fn::Or – return true if any inpute conditions are true

"VPC":{

"Type":"AWS::EC2:VPC",

"Properties":{

"CidrBlock":{"Ref":"VPCIPRange"}

}

}

"SubnetDMZA":{

"Type":"AWS::EC2::Subnet",

"Properties":{

"VPCid":{"Ref":"VPC"},

"CidrBlock":{"Ref":"IPRange1"}

"AvailablityZone":{"Fn::Select":{"0",{"Fn::GetAZs":""}}},

}

}

Stack Creation & DependsOn

* Template Upload/S3 Template Reference
* Template syntax check
* Stack name & parameter verification & ingestion
* Cloud formation template processing & stack creation
  + Resource ordering
  + Resource creation
  + Output Generation
  + Stack Completion or Rollback
* **DependsOn** – influence the automatic dependency checking of cloudformation
  + Allows you to direct cloud formation on how to handle more complex dependencies.
  + Uses this to allow remove/delete/rollback
  + References another resource but doesn’t use the reference function

CloudFormation Resource Deletion Policies

* Policy/setting which is associated with each resource in a template
* A way to control what happens to each resource when a stack is deleted
  + **Delete**
  + **Retain –** keep resources after deletion
  + **Snapshot –** restricted policy type and present in EC2, RDS, and Redshift. Takes a snapshot prior to deletion. Used with data processing workloads where critical elements are generated data. QA setup or QA run.
  + If not specified, the default is delete.
  + Defined at the top level of the resource.
* Transitive environment – can be instantiated and removed without change to your wider environment.
* Used in testing, CI/CD/QA workflows, presales, short life cycle/ immutable environments.
* Less billing control and resources are still charged after stack deletion.

Stack Updates

* Rights are checked and then updated. Stack policy controls.
* By default, absence of stack policy allows all updates
* Stack policies can’t be deleted once applied
* **Once a policy is applied, by default ALL objects are protected, Update:\* is denied**.
* **To remove the default DENY protection of an applied stack policy you need to update the policy with a explicit “allow” on one or more resources.**
* Can use NotResource for inverted logic.
* Principal where stack policies is required to be a wildcard
* Action – Update:Modify (no interruptions or some interruptions), Update:Replace (updates which cause resource replacement), Update:Delete, or Update:\*
* Update can impact a resource
  + No interruption – no impact to service
  + Some interruption – restarted or connectivity updated.
  + Replacement – changes are huge. Replaced with new object
  + Delete – resource removed from template.
* Cloudformation has the same limitation the infrastructure does in the template when being built out.
* Effect as with IAM policies like allow/deny
* Resource designated as single or wild card

Nesting

* **Nesting** – resource can be a whole stack nested in a parent template. Can have nested stacks.
  + Allows huge set of infrastructure split over multiple templates.
  + **460k template limit**.
  + **200 resources in 1 stack**
  + **100 mappings, 60 parameters, 60 output limit per stack.**
  + Allows more infrastructure as code reuse.
  + Sharepoint master template
    - SQL
    - AD & Infrastructure
    - Sharepoint 2013.
  + Steps
    - AWS::CloudFormation:Stack.
    - Template URL
    - Parameters
    - If there isn’t a default, and parameters are not defined, stack will fail.

CloudFormation creation policies, wait conditions and handlers

* **DependsOn** – used for controlling resource creation order within cloudformation.
  + Ready in console doesn’t mean functionality ready.
  + Fawled. Waits until dependencies continue.
  + **Creation Policies, Wait Conditions and Wait Condition Handlers** – influence WHEN a resource is marked as completed – delaying until its actually ready.
    - Creation policies can only be used on **EC2 and Autoscaling Groups**
    - 1st creation policy definition – important are DesiredCapacity and Count.
    - 2nd signal configuration of EC2 instance.
      * # of signal is => count in creation. It is marked as complete.
    - **Wait conditions** – resource that links the handler to the resource. 1. DependON key, 2. Handle property reference handle. 3. Response timeout. 4. Count.
      * Resources can depend on this
    - **Wait handlers** – cloudformation resource with no properties but it generates a signed URL
      * Additional data can be passed back to the signed URL.
    - Count – number of times a resource is reached when the wait handler is triggered.
    - Timeout – when the command timeouts.

Cloud Formation Custom Resource

* **Custom resource** – create any type of a AWS resource along with properties.
  + Not all AWS services are supported
  + It’s not just code. Doesn’t work with non AWS resources.
  + Ability to interact with external services.
  + Custom resources can help overcome the above listed.
    - Custom:ResourceNameHere
    - ServiceToken
  + Stack is created,updated, or deleted a SNS is set to a SNS topic with the event.
  + Cloudformation can call lambda functions in a certain region.
    - Cloudformation->SNStopic->Lambda or EC2 working or external application.
    - Stackeid.
    - ResponseURL
    - Request Type
    - Resource Type
    - Resource Prperties -> CIDR.
    - Status
    - Request ID
    - Physical and logical resource id
    - Data
  + Stack lined to on-premise resource creation
  + Stack linked to advanced logic – resource discovery
  + Stack deletion linked to advanced tidy operations – backups/monitoring deactivation
  + Stack linked to on-premise configuration management system.
  + Web stack creation – linked to external monitoring/penetration testing system.
  + Stack creation/deletion updates a lambda based backup solution – EBS snapshotting
  + Stack deletion spawns account wide pruning for orphaned EBS volumes.

OpsWorks Primer

* **OpsWorks** - AWS implementation of CHEF configuration management & Automation system
* Abstracts some of the detail when provisioning infrastructure
* Chef uses a config file that updates code across all servers
* More power and customization than Beanstalk. Uses JSON. More convenient
* **Stack** – collection of resources to perform a certain function.
* **Layer** – shared functionality and architecture which is shared to a group of components.
* **Instance** – actual units of compute. Inherit configuration from both stack and layer
* **Application** – deployed on 1 or more instances.
* **OpsWorks Agent (CHEF)** – responsible for configuration of machines
* **OpsWorks Automation Engine** – creation and deletion of various AWS infrastructure componenets
  + Auto scaling
  + Auto healing
  + Handle load blaancer
  + LifeCycle Events
* Sits inbetween cloudformation and Elastic Beanstalk.
* OpsWorks and CHEF are **declarative** desired state engines
  + Stat WHAT you want to happen and leave CHEF/OPSworks to handle the HOW
  + Recipes tell OPSworks WHAT you want the end result to be.
  + Cookbooks contain recipes and all associated data to support them.

OpsWorks Stacks and Layers

* **Stacks** – defined when creating one.
  + Name – names the stack
  + Region – choose the region and can’t be changed afterwards
  + VPC – controls the VPC in which OpsWorks instances are deployed
    - Need internet access to function. Otherwise they will fail.
    - Can’t be changed afterwards
  + Subnet – generates from the VPC
  + 12 stack allows you to choose linux or windows. Can’t mix OS vendors. OS can be changed later but won’t update existing instances.
  + Default SSH key – Other access keys
  + Specific a Git repo.
  + Advanced Settings:
    - Default root device
    - Host name theme is a vanity setting.
    - Agent version – latest is deployed
  + Resources:
    - Elastic IP’s
    - Volumes or RDS
* **Layers** – logical grouping of instances
  + General Settings
    - Layers Name, short name
    - Shut down time
    - Auto healing – enabled from the layer not the stack
    - Custom JSON – used in relation to chef databags
  + Recipes
  + Network
    - Allocate LB
    - Set private/public IP
    - Add an ELB when the EC2 instance. Can’t create one from the Opsworks console
  + EBS Volumes
  + Security
    - EC2 profiles
  + 3 different types of layers
    - **ECS** – a layer which allows integration of an ECS (Docker) cluster within OpsWorks
    - **RDS** – allows integration between OpsWorks an existing RDS single instance or HA pair.
      * **Can only be associate with one Opsworks stack**
      * **Stack clone operation doesn’t copy an existing RDS instance.**

OpsWorks LifeCyle Events

**Events** – can be executed by stack run command

* Each layer has its own recipes for each event.
* **Setup** – occurs when an instance has finished booting
* **Configure** – run on all instances when it enters or leaves online state or when EIP are associate or detach from LB.
* **Deploy** – deploys application to a set of server by
* **Undeploy** – delete an application or run an undeploy
* **Shutdown** – runs when an instance shutdown, but before it is terminated. Allows cleanup.

OpsWorks Instances

* Layer contains default recipes, general config, network config, and disk additions
* Instances can be added in two locations, the layer, or the stack instances menu.
* **24/7** - provisioned manually, and manually started or stopped by an admin. (can be controlled via CLI)
  + Configuring:
    - Subnet
    - SSH key
    - OS
    - Root Device Type
    - Volume Type
* **Time-based instances** – initially provisioned, and configured to power-on and off at certain times during the day.
  + Same as configuring 24/7
  + All times in UTC
  + Power-on at a specific time during a day will be light green.
  + Solid green will show times all day.
  + Start instances will turn green.
  + Current time will show an inverse triangle
* **Load-based instances** – initially provisioned and configured to automatically power on or off, based on configurable criteria.
  + Enable scaling **per-layer** scaling config.
  + Simple scaling based on CPU/MEMORY/LOAD
  + Complex scaling based on cloudwatch alarms

OpsWorks Applications

* **Application** – object which represents metadata and application. Below shows what can be choosen when setting it up.
  + Application Name
  + Documents Root
  + Data Source
  + Application Source
    - GIT
    - HTTP
    - S3
  + Environment Variables
  + Domain Names
  + SSL Enable & Settings
  + Deploying an App
    - Executes the deploy recipes on the instances targeted by the command
    - Passed to the common is the application-id
    - Application Parameters are passed into the chef environment within Databags
    - The deploy recipe accesses the application source information and pulls the application payload onto the instance.
    - 5 versions are maintained current and four historic.
    - **Create rollback** command can be used to roll back.

**Create-Deployment Command** – not limited to deployments

* Two main functions
  + Application deployments
  + Allows stack level commands to be executed against the stack.
* Syntax
  + **Aws opsworks –region us-east-1 create-deployment**
  + **–stack-id** – operation on a stack or reference towards it
  + **–app-id** – references an app and optional
  + **–instance-ids** – list of instances where the app will run
  + **–comment** – user defined comment string
  + **–custom-json** – operator to provide custom data and callbacks.
  + **–cli-input-json**
  + **–generate-cli-skeleton** – skeleton json structure and can be updated in json inputted. Automation
  + **–command** – execute for create deployment command and options for the option
    - install\_dependencies
    - update\_dependencies
    - update\_custom\_cookbooks
    - execute\_recipies
    - configure
    - setup
    - deploy
    - rollback
    - start
    - stop
    - restart
    - undeploy
* Deployments
  + Aws opsworks –region us-east-1 create-deployment –stack-id 1111-111-111-11 –app-id 111-111-111 –command “{\”Name\”:\”deploy\”}”
  + System maintains 5 version of the application. Current version and 4 historic versions
  + –command “{\”Name\”:\”undeploy\”}” – runs on all instances by the operation
  + –command “{\”Name\”:\”rollback\”}” – replace current version of the application with an older version
* Stack commands
  + **Update\_custom\_cookbooks** – cause instances to perform a full redownload. Update recipes
  + **Execute\_recipes** – does what it suggests
  + **Setup** – fault finding/diagnostics
  + **Configure** – run instance setup and recipes. Server discovery
  + **Update\_dependencies** – available in linux only. Not available in chef 12. Command forces installation of minor changes
  + **Upgrade\_operating\_system** – only available on linux.
  + **Read Opsworks FAQ**

OpsWorks Databags & Berkshelf

* **Berkshelf** – system that addresses chef’s shortcomings
  + Opsworks stacks which operate on older versions < 11.10 could only specify one custom cookbook. Limited ability to re-use community recipes. Either had to combine them in a repo or limit to a smaller subset of recipes
  + Chef 11.10 added BerkShelf, allowing you to install cookbooks from multiple repos.
  + How to implement?
    - Need to enable custom cookbooks in the stack level
    - Create berksfile in the repo
      * Yourcustomrepo/Berksfile
      * Source <https://supermarket.chef.io>
      * Cookbook ‘apt’
      * Cookbook ‘bleh;, git: ‘git://somewhere/bleh.git’
      * Cookbook ‘cookbook\_name’, [‘>=cookbook\_version’], [cookbookc\_options]
* **Databags** – global variable within chef or opsworks infrastructure. Contextual information within recipes
  + Global accessible JSON objects with multiple ones like STACK, LAYER, APP, INSTANCE
  + Data accessed via Chef **data\_bag\_item & search** methods within compute assets
  + Constructed by Custom\_JSON field from Opsworks
  + Can contain Strings, Booleans, Number, Lists, and JSON objects
  + Search method allows access via a search index
    - Aws\_opsworks\_app – App Databag
    - Aws\_opsworks\_layer – Layer Databag
    - Aws\_opsworks\_instance – Instance Databag
    - Aws\_opsworks\_user – Users databag, a set of users for a stack
  + Example
    - App = search(:aws\_opsworks\_app).first
    - App\_path = “/srv/${app{‘shortname’])”
    - Package “git” do
    - Node {“platform\_version”] == “14.04”
    - End
    - Git app\_path do
    - Repository app[“app\_source”][“url”]
    - Revision app[“app\_source”][“revision”]
    - End

OpsWorks Auto-Healing

* Opwsworks instance has an agent on it.
* Instances perform an ongoing heartbeat, if it fails, opsworks will treat the instance as unhealthy and perform autoheal
* EBS Backed – instance stopped – online->stopping->stopped->requested->pending->booting->online
* Instance store – can’t be stopped/started – online->shutting down->requested->pending->booting->online
  + Instance terminates
  + Root volume deleted
  + Launch new instance
  + Reattach EBS volumes
  + Assign new public and private ip
  + Reassociate any elastic IP
* Doesn’t do:
  + Won’t recover serious instance corruption. Damaged instances start with a “start\_failed” error.
  + Start/failed status requires manual intervention
  + Won’t update the OS
  + Not a performance response, failure response.

Elastic Beanstalk Primer

* **Beanstalk** – can deploy, monitor, and scale and application quickly
  + Provides developers or end users with ability to provision application infrastructure
  + Highly abstract focus towards infrastructure, focusing on components and performance – not configuration and specifications
  + Attempts to remove or significant simplify infrastructure management, allowing applications to deployed into infrastructure environments easily.
  + Uses cloudformation as it’s basis
  + Offers Basic or Enhanced health reporting similar to cloudwatch
    - Switching to enhanced causes a refresh of the entire environment
  + Different tiers: Software Configuration, Updates and Deployments, health, Networking, and Data Tier
* Key components:
  + Applications:
    - Applications are the high-level structure in beanstalk
    - Entire application is one EB application
    - Each logical component in your application can be a EB application or EB environment within an application.
    - Redeploys application against all instances in the group defined.
    - **Can change type and sizes of instances**
  + Environments:
    - Applications can have multiple environments (Prod, Staging, Dev, V1, V2, or functional type (front-end, back-end)
    - Environments can be either single instance or scalable
    - Environments are either **web server environments** or **worker environments.**
    - Always go with load balancing and auto scaling.
    - **Know options within EB to select.**
    - **Know application and deployment options**
    - **Know container options**
    - **Don’t create an RDS database in the data tier as it ties it to lifecycle events.**
    - **1 DB = 1 environment in EB**
    - Cloning does not clone an instance.
    - Supported
      * Node.JS
      * PHP
      * Python
      * IIS
      * Go
      * Tomcat
      * Ruby
      * Docker – can be used to use not supported languages
      * Java
  + Versions
    - Application version are unique packages which represent versions of apps
    - An application is uploaded to EB as an application bundle .zip
    - Each application can have many versions 1:M relationship
    - Application versions can be deployed to environments within an application.
      * URL’s are swapped

Extending Beanstalk using .ebextensions

* **.ebextensions** is a configuration folder within a Beanstalk application source bundle (.zip)
  + allows granular configuration of the EB environment and customization of the resources it contains
  + files within .ebextensions are YAML formatted and end with .config.
    - processed in ABC order
    - had a source and command section
      * command contains two objects – 91-setupcron and 03-change perm
      * 01-setupcron constructs a cron entry to add custom monitoring
      * 02-changeperm changes the file to executable to allow cron.d to run
      * Can use Ref and Fn::GetAtt referring to APP\_CONFIGkk
  + option\_settings – allow you to declare global configuration options
  + resource – allow you to specify additional resources to provision in your environment or define granular configuration on those resource
  + packages, sources, files, users, groups, commands, container\_commands and service allow customization of the EC2 instance as part of your environment like AWS::CloudFormation::Init
* Leader instance
  + An EC2 instance within a Load-balancing Autoscaling environment like leader/master
  + Only during the environment creation
  + All nodes are equal after establishment
  + **Leader\_only** directive can be used on within the container commands section of .config. Runs only once.

Docker in Elastic Beanstalk

* Application Source Bundle
  + Application Source
  + Dependancies
  + Scripts
  + .ebextensions
* **Dockerfile** – defines structure of the docker container for custom container
  + Defines source image
  + Defines port which the **container** listens via the EXPOSE directive.
  + **Dockerrun.aws.json** – defines how to deploy an existing docker registry stored container as an EB application
    - Contains .dockercfg file for authentication
    - Container mapping with EC2
    - Shows EB how to user the container
  + **.dockercfg**
    - stored on S3. Must be in the same region.
    - use docker login registry-url to generate the config.json
    - private registry

**Monitoring/Metrics/Logging:**

Intro

* Cloudwatch Basics
* CloudWatch Custom Metrics
* CloudWatch Logs
* CloudWatch Log Filters
* Cloudwatch Alarms

Cloudwatch Basics

* Metric gathering service
* Monitoring/alerting service
* Graphing service
* Cloudwatch will remember metrics **for 2 weeks.**
* **Namespaces** – containers for metrics. Additional namespaces can be enabled by detailed monitoring.
  + You can look at metrics across your autoscaling group. Can aggregate by it as well.
  + **Read entire CloudWatch Developer Guide**

CloudWatch Custom Metrics

* Demo of deploying an EC2 ubuntu machine
  + Install python-pip and git
  + Pip install awscli
  + Git clone https://github.com/ACloudGuru /resources
  + date --utc “+%FT%T.%N” | sed –r ‘s/{{:digit:]]{6}$/Z/’

CloudWatch Alarms

* CloudWatch
  + Initiate actions on your behalf based on parameters you specify against metrics you have in use.
  + Actions sent to SNS or Autoscaling
  + Alarm period should be equal or greater than the metric frequency. Alarms can’t invoke actions because they are in a state, the state must change.
  + Alarms actions must be in the same region as the alarms
  + AWS resources don’t send metric data to Cloudwatch under certain conditions
  + States:
    - **OK** – Metric matches threshold defined
    - **Alarm** – metric is outside threshold data defined
    - **Insufficient\_Data** – Metric isn’t available or not enough data to determine alarm state
  + Can have up to 5000 alarms per AWS account
  + Can create or update an alarm via **mon-put-metric-alarm**
  + Can enable and disable alarms via **mon-[enable|disable\-alarm**
  + Can describe alarms via **mon-describe-alarms**
  + **Head -11 resources/alarms-commands.txt** shows commands for Cloudwatch
* Autoscaling:
  + Add or remove servers based on alarms or resources increase/decrease
  + Aws autoscaling create-launch-configuration –launch-configuration-name my-lc –image-id ami-c6169af6 –instance-type t2.micro
  + Aws autoscaling create-auto-scaling-group –auto-scaling-group-name my-asg –launch-configuration-name my-lc –max-size 5 –min-size 1 –availablility-zones “us-west-2c”
  + Aws autoscaling put-scaling-policy –policy-name my-scaleout-policy –auto-scaling-group-name my-asg –scaling-adjustment 30 –adjustment-type PercentChangeInCapacity
    - Gives us the Policy ARN back
  + Aws autoscaling put-scaling-policy –policy-name my-scalein-policy –auto-scaling-group-name my-asg –scaling-adjustment 30 –adjustment-type ChangeInCapacity
    - Gives us the Policy ARN back
  + Cloudwatch Alarm – aws cloudwatch put-metric-alarm –alarm-name AddCapacity –metric-name CPUUtilization –namespace AWS/EC2 \ --statistic Average –period 60 –threshold 80 –comparison-operator GreaterThanOrEqualToThreshold \ --dimensions “Name=AutoScalingGroupName, Value=my-asg” –evaluation-periods 2 –alarm-actions <ARN>
  + Cloudwatch Alarm – aws cloudwatch put-metric-alarm –alarm-name RemoveCapacity –metric-name CPUUtilization –namespace AWS/EC2 \ --statistic Average –period 60 –threshold 40 –comparison-operator LessThanOrEqualToThreshold \ --dimensions “Name=AutoScalingGroupName, Value=my-asg” –evaluation-periods 2 –alarm-actions <ARN>
  + Sudo apt-get install stress
    - Stress –cpu 2 –timeout 600

AWS Logs

* Allows you to monitor your existing system, application, and custom logs in real time.
* You can send existing logs to CloudWatch, create patterns to look for in your logs, and alert yourself based on the findings of the patterns.
* Agent
  + Free for Windows, Amazon Linux, Ubuntu
* Purpose:
  + Monitor AWS CloudTrail logged events
  + Monitor Logs from EC2 instances in real-time
  + Archive log data
* **Log events** – a record sent to CloudWatch Logs to be stored. Timestamp and Message
* **Log Streams** – sequence of log events that share the same source. Automatically deleted after 2 months
  + Inherit expiration across groups
* **Log Groups** – groups of log streams that share the same retention, monitoring and access control settings
* **Metric Filters** – these are used to define how a service would extract metric observations from events and turn them into data points for CloudWatch metric. Assigned to log groups and log streams.
* **Wget** [**https**://s3.amazonaws.com/aws-cloudwatch/downloads/latest/awslogs-agent-setup.py](https://s3.amazonaws.com/aws-cloudwatch/downloads/latest/awslogs-agent-setup.py)
  + **Sudo python** ./awslogs-agent-setup.py –region us-west-2
* **Retention Settings** – How long log events are kept in CloudWatch Logs. Expired logs are automatically deleted

CloudWatch Log Filters

* **Filters** – define search patterns to look for in a log. These can then be turned into a metric and graphed.
  + Filters will **NOT** work on existing log data.
  + It will only work on data pushed to CloudWatch **AFTER** the filter was created
  + Only returns the first 50 results
* Metrics Contained:
  + Filter pattern
  + Metric Name
  + Metric Namespace
  + Metric Value
  + In order to make sure data is sent change /etc/rsyslog.d/50-default.conf and remove auth from it.

Real Time Log Processing

* Subscriptions feed logs into different services like capture, process, analyze.
  + Amazon Kinesis Streams
  + AWS Lambda
  + Amazon Kinesis Firehose
* Example
  + Locate commands in the resources directory
  + Export AWS\_DEFAULT\_REGION=us-west-2
  + Aws kinesis create-stream –stream-name “GuruLogs” –shard-count 1
  + Aws kinesis describe-stream –stream-name “GuruLogs
  + Write down your StreamARN
  + Aws iam create-role –role-name CWLtoKinesisRole –assume-role-policy-document <file://~/resources/TrustPolicy.json>
  + Write down your StreamARN
  + Put in the Permissions.json doc
  + Aws iam put-role-policy –role-name CWLtoKinesisRole –policy-name Permissions-Policy-For—CWL –policy-document <file://~/resources/Permissions.json>
  + We can now look to retrieve logs from kinesis and view logs
  + **Shard Iterator** – position in the stream from which the consumer will read from.
    - aws kinesis get-shard-iterator –stream-name GuruLogs –shard-id shardId-0000000000 –shard-iterator-type TRIM\_HORIZON

CloudTrail

* records all API calls made to any other AWS service and deliveries it to a log to you and records on behalf of a user by an AWS service
* Purpose is to enable security analysis, track changes, and provide compliance auditing
* **“InvokedBy”** field lets you see what triggered the API call
* **Log File validation –** uses SHA256 to make it hard to delete file, modify, or change the file.
* Logs contain:
  + identity of who made the API call
  + Time of the call
  + Source IP of the call
  + Request parameters
  + Response elements returned by the AWS service.
* Two types of Trails
  + All regions
  + One region
* Storage:
  + Store in S3 using SSE
  + Can store as long as you like or use lifecycle rules
  + Logs are delivered within 15 minutes of an API call
  + New logs are published every 5 minutes or so.

CloudWatch Events

* Similar to CloudTrail but faster. **Central Nervous System of AWS.** Near real-time stream of events.
* Components:
  + **Events (JSON)**
    - **State change** – when an AWS resource changes state, such as an EC2 instance changing from pending to running or when autoscaling creates or shuts down an instance.
    - **API call** – When an API call is made that is delivered to cloudwatch events via cloudtrial.
    - **Own code** –
  + **Rules**
    - Match incoming events and route them to one or more targets
    - They’re not ordered, and all rules that match an event will be processed
    - Rules can customize the JSON that flows to the target and elect to pass only certain keys and values.
    - Rules can specify multiple targets
  + **Targets**
    - Lambda Functions
    - Kinesis streams
    - SNS topics
    - Built-In

**Security/Governance/Validation:**

Intro

* Roles & Role architecture
* Cross Account Access – using roles
* Role Switching via the GUI and Command Line
* Identity Federation
* Web Identity Federation

Delegation & Federation

* **Delegation** – allow users in other AWS accounts, access to resources in yours directly
* **Federation** – allows users from external Identity Provider access to your account.
  + Types:
    - **Corporate/Enterprise Identity Federation**
      * Sources include – AD, LDAP
      * SAML, AWS Directory Service, Custom Federation Proxy
    - Web Identity Federation
      * Trust Amazon, FB, Google, Twitter and OpenID Connect
      * Used when you want to give an application access to your AWS resources
      * **Cognito** – handles this interaction
* **Roles** – is an object entity which is granted permissions to your account. contains two policy documents
  + **TRUST** Policy
  + **ACCESS** Policy
* **Sessions** – set of temporary credentials. Access and secret key with an expiration.
  + Obtained via STS – AssumeRole, AssumeRoleWithSAML, and AssumeRolewithWebIdentity
  + May or may not involve cognito
  + After temporary credentials expire, users have to go through it again
  + Services auto refresh the session which auto refreshes temporary credentials (Lambda or EC2). Managed on your behalf.

Corporate Identity Federation

* How?
* Allows you to allow to use an existing identity store for AWS
* Identity stores can be AWS Directory Services, SAML, or custom federation proxy.
* Temporary access given by STS GetFederationToken or AssumeRole
* Uses TRUST and ACCESS policies
* How it works?
  + STS provides you with session credentials, AKID, Secret Access Key, Session Token & Expiration Date
  + Expiration values are (Min/Max/Default)
  + AssumeRoke session 15 minutes, 1 hour, 1 hour
  + GetFederationToken 15minutes, 36 hours, 12 hours
  + Within AWS you have concept of an ‘identity provider’ its an IAM object which holds configuration information about the external identity providers
  + We generally map groups in your identity provider with Roles inside AWS accounts
* Why?
  + It allows the separation of responsibilities, your organization may have a dedicated identity team
  + You have one definitive source of identities within your business HR entry and exit processes are tied to this.
  + You minimize the admin overhead regarding identity management in the business.
  + You reduce the number of identities your staff need to manage and remember – reduced attack footprint.
  + **KNOW THE FLOW OF ASSUMEROLE**
  + **GETFEDERATIONTOKEN FLOW**
    - IAM user needs access to all Users with all permissions which is a risk. Needs a IAM user to take action
    - **GetFederation token doesn’t support MFA**
  + **ASSUMEROLEWITHSAML FLOW**
    - Don’t need to maintain a dedicated federation proxy
    - Proxy doesn’t need to hold any IAM policies

Web Identity Federation

* What?
  + Allows a trusted third party to authenticate users
  + Avoids us having to create and manage users in IAM
  + Avoids users having to remember multiple ID
  + Simplifies access control via roles
  + Improves security, no perm credentials stored in our application
  + Using Web Identity Federation + Cognito also provides user state syncing
  + Use if you want to publish an app with multiple credentials
* **Web Identity Federation FLOW**
* **Cognito** – identity management and sync services
  + **Cognito Identity –** web identity in AWS
  + **Cognito Sync –** application and user sync data across applications
  + **Cognito identity pool –** collection of identities, it allows grouping of identities from different providers as a single entity
  + Allows identities to persist across devices
  + Allows two roles to be associated, one for users authenticated by public idP or OpenID Providers
  + Second role can provide permissions for un-authenticated users.
  + **Pre-Cognito auth flow**
  + **Cognito Unauthenticated FLOW**
    - **Basic Classic (Non—Preferred) flow**
      * Same as before
    - **Advanced or Simplified flow**
      * Cognito handles the communication with STS versus before
  + Can orchestrate the generation of an unauthenticated identity
  + Can merge that identity into an authenticated identity if both are provided
  + Cognito can merge multiple identities into one object if all are provided
  + When ID’s are merged – any synced data is also merged.

**High Availability and Elasticity:**

Autoscaling

* Scale your EC2 instance capacity automatically according to your conditions
* Increase instances during demand spikes, maintain performance, decrease capacity during lulls
* Saves money
* Suitable for stable demand applications or hourly/daily/weekly demand fluctuations
* **Autoscaling Group** – instances are organized into groups so that they can be treated as a logical unit. When you create a group, you can specify its minimum, maximum, and desired number of EC2 instances. Limit is 20.
* **Launch Configuration** – Autoscaling Group uses a launch configuration as a template for its EC2 instances to specify what AMI will be launched, which keypair to use and what instance type. Limit is 100.
* **Scaling Plan** – tells your Auto Scaling Group how and when to scale. You can create scaling plans based on conditions (dynamic) or time (scheduled).
* Lifecycle hooks per AutoScaling group is 50
* Load balancers per Auto Scaling Group is 50 (10 attached at a time)
* Step adjustments per scaling policy is 20.
* Benefits
  + Better fault tolerance
  + Better availability
  + Better cost management

Autoscaling Lifecycle

* Refers to the life of an instance that is in a autoscaling group
* Starts when the Auto Scaling Group launches an instance
* End when **you** terminate the instance or Ends when the **Auto Scaling Group** takes the instance out of service and terminates it.
* AutoScaling Group -> Pending (Scale Out) -> Pending:Wait/Pending Proceed (EC2\_INSTANCE\_LAUNCHING) -> InService -> Terminating (Scale In/Fail Health Check) -> Terminate: Wait/Terminating Proceed (EC2\_INSTANCE\_TERMINATING) -> Terminated
* InService -> EnteringStandby -> Standby
* InService -> Detaching -> Detached -> EC2Instance

Autoscaling Lifecycle Hooks

* How it works?
  + Autoscaling responds to a scale out event by launching an instance
  + Autoscaling puts the instance into the Pending:Wait state
  + Autoscaling sends a message to the notification target defined for the hook, along with information and a token
  + Waits until you tell it to continue or the timeout ends
  + You can now perform your custom action, install software, etc
  + By default, the instance will wait for an hour and will change state to Pending:Proceed, then it will enter the InService state.
  + Can restart by changing heartbeat or changing the wait time
* Commands:
  + You can change the heartbeat timeout, or you can define it when you create the lifecycle hook in the CLI with the **heartbeat-timeout** parameter
  + You can call the **complete-lifecycle-action** command to tell the AutoScaling group to proceed
  + You can call the **record-lifecycle-action-heartbeat** command to add more time to the timeout.
  + 48 hours is the **maximum** time you can keep a server in a wait state, regardless of heartbeats.
* Cooldowns
  + Ensure the Autoscaling group doesn’t launch/terminate more instances than needed.
  + Cool down start when an instance enters the InService state, so if an instance is left in the Pending:Wait state as you perform functions on it, Autoscaling will still wait before adding any additional servers.
* **Abandon** – cause Autoscaling to terminate the instance and if necessary launch a new one
* **Continue** – put the instance into service.
* Spot Instances
  + Can **use** Lifecycle hooks with Spot instances
  + **Doesn’t** prevent an instance from terminating due to a change in the spot price
  + When a spot instance terminates, you must still complete the lifecycle action

Launch Configurations

* Template used by Autoscaling to launch EC2 instances.
  + Defines AMI ID, Instance Type, Key Pair, SG, Block device mapping
* **MUST** specify a launch configuration when creating a AutoScaling Group
* **Can** use a launch configuration with multiple Autoscaling groups
* **Can** only specify one launch configuration for a Autoscaling Group at one time
* **Can’t** modify a launch configuration after you’ve created it.
* Can create launch configurations from running EC2 instances
* Some properties may not be supported
* Overrides – AMI, block devices, key pair, instance profile, instance type, kernel, monitoring, placement tenancy, ramdisk, security groups, spot price, user data, assign public IP, EBS optimized.
* Can’t use the same launch configuration to launch on-demand instances and spot instances.
* How spot instances work
  + Set your bid price in your launch configuration
  + You need to create a new launch configuration to change your bid price
  + If your instance is terminated, Autoscaling will attempt to launch a replacement to maintain desired capacity.