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CS 470 Final Reflection

<https://youtu.be/QqsLhhQBspS>

Throughout this course, I have learned about the intricacies of AWS and how to run a full stack program through AWS. It has also shown me the differences between running a full stack application through AWS versus doing it myself. It has taught me a lesson that it shouldn't be taken for granted, but that AWS is far easier to use and manipulate. By learning all of this, I believe I have gained marketable skills that I could use to get a job in a software engineering field. My strengths as a software developer lie in my ability to work endlessly at something until it finally gets done. Although it may not sound that great, I don't get frustrated when I receive the same error for the billionth time, but instead try something else and continue trying new things until it works. With these skills and my strengths, I could apply as a fullstack developer and do well in it.

Serverless technology is incredibly helpful for being efficient at anything you do as a full stack developer. By utilizing serverless tech, you can scale to whatever you need, which would be directly predictable given that AWS charges based on what you need. I would calculate the resources that I would likely use and then purchase an AWS plan that has all the resources that I would need. If I ever would need to scale up or down, that would be an option through serverless tech like AWS. It also has great error handling skills, so I wouldn't have to worry much about that. Given the nature of paying for exactly what you need, serverless is far more cost predictable than containers.

There are pros and cons to switching to serverless though. Some pros are that it is more efficient, infinitely scalable, pay as you go, and is easier to develop on. The biggest con is that it will cost far more over time. Thus, if you plan to have something permanent in place that you will keep for as long as you can, it would be more cost effective to run things yourself instead of expanding with Amazon. The elasticity and pay-for-service of Amazon allows for rapid expansions and growth of your business if it grows that fast, but unfortunately a local solution would not have the elasticity of AWS. This makes those features of AWS highly desirable and allows to to plan for rapid growth if you need to, given the infinite scalability of AWS.