Azure account creation is simple and services for the first 12 months is free to use. You also get $200 credit to use cost incur services while deploying any projects which is using paid services of Azure. If you are a student, make sure you have authenticated university ID to login without giving your credit card credentials.

Regions

Regions in Azure cloud are public cloud, which has servers all over the world.

Why are these data centres spread accorss the world? Because of latency

What is latency?

If someone owns a startup and has client in France, Germany, and Italy. If the Azure data centres are in India the startup must deploy it in Indian servers. The communication during the reach of the sites from France to India involves large number of packets which is time consuming. This delay can cost loss of clients. To avoid this latency Azure keeps data centres all over the world.

What Azure did actually?

Azure divided the countries strategically. They divided US as US west and east. And then they setup 2-3 or more data centres. So, if the complete US west region goes down, US east is available to support. This is because the downtime and latency are not accepted.

IAAS, PAAS, SAAS

MS Azure provides services that can be categorise into 3. Infra as a service, Platform as a service, Software as a service. IAAS – whenever the client is requiring infrastructure for service model such as VM, storage, networking tools. But if the client needs more services, they will switch to platform. Like databases. The last model is SAAS. This provides everything from the beginning. Such as email services, accordingly Azure charges $100 for certain things.