Amazon Elastic File System (EFS):

Amazon Elastic File System (EFS) is a fully managed, scalable, and elastic file storage service provided by AWS. It is designed to be used with AWS cloud services and on-premises resources, offering a simple and cost-effective solution for file storage that can be easily accessed and shared across multiple Amazon EC2 instances.

Key Features of Amazon EFS:

1. Scalability:

- EFS automatically scales your file system as you add or remove files, accommodating petabytes of data without requiring management of storage capacity.
- You pay only for the storage you use, and there are no minimum fees or setup costs.

2. Elasticity:

 EFS dynamically grows and shrinks as files are added and deleted, without needing to provision storage in advance.

3. High Availability and Durability:

- EFS is designed for 99.99999999% (11 9's) durability by storing data redundantly across multiple Availability Zones (AZs) within an AWS region.
- It also provides a high level of availability, ensuring that your data is accessible even if an entire AZ goes down.

4. Performance Modes:

- General Purpose Mode: Suitable for latency-sensitive use cases, like web serving and content management systems.
- Max I/O Mode: Designed for applications that require higher levels of aggregate throughput and can tolerate slightly higher latencies, such as big data processing.

5. Throughput Modes:

- Bursting Throughput: Suitable for most applications, allowing throughput to scale with the size of the file system.
- Provisioned Throughput: Allows you to specify a fixed throughput level independent of the file system's size, useful for applications with high and consistent throughput requirements.

6. Security:

 Encryption at Rest: EFS data can be encrypted at rest using AWS Key Management Service (KMS).

- Encryption in Transit: Data can also be encrypted in transit using industry-standard Transport Layer Security (TLS).
- Access Control: You can control access to your EFS file systems using AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) policies, security groups, and Network File System (NFS) permissions.

7. Cost-Effectiveness:

 EFS offers two storage classes: Standard (for frequently accessed data) and Infrequent Access (IA) (for data that is not accessed often), which helps reduce storage costs.

8. Integration with AWS Services:

- EFS integrates seamlessly with other AWS services, such as EC2, ECS, EKS, AWS Lambda, and AWS Backup.
- It also supports on-premises access through AWS Direct Connect or AWS VPN.

9. Use Cases:

- Web Serving and Content Management: EFS can store and serve static and dynamic content for websites and web applications.
- Big Data and Analytics: It provides scalable storage for big data applications that require high throughput.
- Backup and Restore: EFS can be used as a target for backup and restore operations, supporting data resilience strategies.
- Development and Test Environments: EFS allows multiple EC2 instances to share a common file system, making it useful for development, testing, and staging environments.

How to Use Amazon EFS:

1. Create an EFS File System:

- In the AWS Management Console, navigate to Amazon EFS and create a new file system.
- Choose the appropriate VPC and configure the network settings.
- Select the desired performance and throughput modes.

2. Mount EFS to EC2 Instances:

- After creating the file system, you can mount it to your EC2 instances using the EFS mount helper or standard NFS client.
- EFS can be mounted to multiple EC2 instances simultaneously, allowing data to be shared across instances.

3. Manage and Monitor:

 Use the EFS console, CloudWatch, and AWS CloudTrail to monitor performance, access logs, and manage your file system. Amazon EFS is a versatile solution for applications that require shared file storage in the cloud, offering the flexibility and scalability needed for a wide range of workloads.

Setups of AWS EFS

Setting up Amazon Elastic File System (EFS) involves creating the EFS file system, configuring network settings, and mounting the file system to your EC2 instances. Here's a step-by-step guide:

Step 1: Create an Amazon EFS File System

- 1. Sign in to AWS Management Console:
 - Go to the <u>AWS Management Console</u> and sign in.
- 2. Navigate to the Amazon EFS Service:
 - In the AWS Management Console, search for "EFS" or go to Services > Storage > Elastic File System.
- 3. Create a File System:
 - Click Create file system.
 - Choose the VPC where your EC2 instances are running.
 - Select the subnets and security groups for network access. Ensure the security groups allow NFS traffic (port 2049).
- 4. Configure File System Settings:
 - Choose Availability and Durability options:
 - **Regional**: Default option for high availability across multiple AZs.
 - One Zone: Lower cost, but limited to a single AZ.
 - Choose Performance Mode:
 - General Purpose: Suitable for most workloads.
 - Max I/O: For high throughput, latency-tolerant applications.
 - Choose Throughput Mode:
 - **Bursting**: Scales with file system size.
 - **Provisioned**: Specify a fixed throughput level.
 - Lifecycle Management: Optionally enable this to move infrequently accessed files to the Infrequent Access (IA) storage class.
 - Encryption: Enable encryption at rest if needed.
- 5. Create and Review:
 - Review the settings and click Create. The file system will be created and available in a few minutes.

Step 2: Mount EFS to EC2 Instances

1. Prepare EC2 Instances:

- Ensure that your EC2 instances are in the same VPC and security group allows NFS traffic (port 2049).
- SSH into your EC2 instance.

2. Install NFS Client:

- Install the NFS client on your EC2 instance if it's not already installed:
 - For Amazon Linux 2 or CentOS:

```
sudo yum install -y nfs-utils
```

■ For Ubuntu:

```
sudo apt-get install -y nfs-common
```

3. Get the EFS Mount Command:

- Go back to the AWS Management Console > EFS.
- Select your file system and click **Attach** to get the mount command.

4. Mount the File System:

- Create a directory on your EC2 instance to mount the EFS file system:
 sudo mkdir /mnt/efs
- Use the mount command provided by the AWS console (replace the fs-xxxxx with your file system ID):

```
sudo mount -t nfs4 -o nfsvers=4.1
fs-xxxxxx.efs.<region>.amazonaws.com:/ /mnt/efs
```

5. Verify the Mount:

 Check that the file system is mounted correctly by listing the contents of the mount directory:

```
ls /mnt/efs
```

 If successful, the mount directory should be accessible, and you can start using the EFS.

Step 3: Automate Mounting on Reboot

To ensure that the EFS file system is automatically mounted after a reboot:

1. Edit the /etc/fstab file:

Open the /etc/fstab file in an editor:

```
sudo nano /etc/fstab
```

 Add the following line to the file (replace fs-xxxxxx with your EFS file system ID and adjust the region):

```
fs-xxxxxx.efs.<region>.amazonaws.com:/ /mnt/efs nfs4
defaults,_netdev 0 0
```

Save and close the file.

2. Test the Configuration:

Unmount the file system:

```
sudo umount /mnt/efs
```

Remount all file systems listed in /etc/fstab:

```
sudo mount -a
```

Verify that the EFS file system is mounted again by checking /mnt/efs.

Step 4: Manage and Monitor EFS

- Use the **Amazon EFS Console** or **AWS CLI** to monitor usage, manage file systems, and configure access permissions.
- Integrate with **AWS CloudWatch** for monitoring and setting up alerts based on your EFS usage.

That's it! Your EFS file system should now be set up and accessible from your EC2 instances.