* **Week 2 Paper 1 - Compute the cost of VMs in the cloud** *Please click on the link above to submit this week's assignment.* Using the Microsoft Azure and AWS online information about hourly costs for servers,  calculate the monthly cost for a cluster consisting of the following servers.  Provide a 3 page write up containing the total amounts along with screen shots of the Azure and AWS calculators.
  + Total number of VMs = 8
    - 6 Linux VMs running any Linux flavor such as Ubuntu or RedHat or Centos or Amazon Linux
    - 2 VMs running any Windows version (ex. Windows Server 2008 or 2012)
  + Allocate a minimum 50 GB storage for each VM  (NOTE:  For AWS, add EBS volumes for each VM)
  + Use variable number of CPUs for the VMs, for example, 3 VMs with 4 CPUs and 3 with 8 CPUs
* Answer the following questions:
  + Does the cost increase or decrease based on the region?
  + How can you reduce the monthly costs?  (Hint:  look at reserved instances)
* **Requirements for the written assignments:**
  + Assignment file must have a .doc or .docx or .xls/xlsx extension; screen shots should be in .jpg, .gif, or .pdf

* **Week 2 Paper 2 - Choosing a Cloud Model** *Please click on the link above to submit this week's assignment.* Given the 3 cloud services (IaaS, PaaS or SaaS) and deployment models  (Public, Private or Hybrid), which ones will you consider using for the following scenarios?
  + You are running a small startup with a few Java/Python developers but no infrastructure administrators. You are also renting office space.
  + You are working for a large company that has its own data center with IT staff and developers. This company now wants to use the cloud in addition to its data center.
  + You own an online store and need infrastructure that can scale up or down based on seasons. For example, you want more VMs to process your orders during Thanksgiving, Christmas or other holidays.
* Your paper must include the benefits, risks and estimated monthly costs for your chosen model, and reasons for not selecting other models.  In addition, why would you choose a particular Azure or AWS region, for example US North East region or Japan region? Consider things such as latency, regulations etc.. in your answer. Notes:
  + There is no right or wrong answer.
  + You can make assumptions about the size of the company, number of servers etc.. Please provide these assumptions in your paper.
  + If you choose IaaS, use AWS as the basis and provide a brief description of the use of services such as AWS AutoScaling, CloudWatch, CloudFormation among others.
  + If you choose PaaS, use Heroku as the basis and provide a brief description of the services you would use from Heroku
  + If you choose SaaS, provide a brief description of the SaaS offering.
* **Requirements for the written assignments:**
  + Assignment file must have a .doc or .docx or .xls/xlsx extension; screen shots should be in .jpg, .gif, or .pdf
  + Number of pages:  3 or more