CIS 4010 – Part 2

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Some existing AWS services that could be used to do similar tasks to part 1 of this assignment are AWS CloudWatch and AWS CodeDeploy.

CloudWatch is a monitoring service provided by amazon that collects various information about a variety of different AWS services that a user may have running. For virtual machines using EC2, various state information can be collected for each instance such as CPU utilization, read/write metrics. Since CloudWatch and EC2 are both AWS services, CloudWatch is able to provide much more information than what was available through the monitor.py program. When it comes to ease of use, monitoring via CloudWatch allows users to have a GUI interface in the form of the AWS console. This is much easier to navigate and may display graph metrics for the user compared to monitor.py which does not offer the same.

CodeDeploy is an AWS service that automates application deployments to EC2 instances among other things like serverless Lambda functions. While launch.py was easy to use, it required many pre-conditions in order to work properly: all template files, scripts, html files, etc. had to be available for the program to function. In the python script itself, it was necessary to manually handle ssh connections, installation of packages to the instance, file transfers and possible error scenarios. By removing some of the manual work done by the python script, CodeDeploy could offer a more user friendly interface.