Running Kubernetes on AWS (EKS)



Prerequisites

- Access to a terminal application for running simple Unix commands in Windows, Linux, or macOS
- Access to a text editor like VS Code
- An active AWS account
- Working knowledge of Kubernetes

Three CLIs to Install Installing AWS CLI

Command to install AWS CLI: choco install awscli

once installed, verify the installation by typing **aws**, if it doesn't work or shown any error, restart the PowerShell and retype the command **aws**

Installing Kubernetes CLI

What is Kube control

Kubectl is a Kubernetes command-line tool that enables you to manage and interact with Kubernetes clusters, whether they are set up on AWS, Azure, GCP, or even on local hardware like Raspberry Pi devices.

Command to install Kubernetes CLI: choco install Kubernetes-cli

```
PS C:\WINDOWS\system32> choco install kubernetes-cli
Chocolatey v2.3.0
Installing the following packages:
kubernetes-cli
By installing, you accept licenses for the packages.
Downloading package from source 'https://community.chocolatey.org/api/v2/'
Progress: Downloading kubernetes-cli 1.31.2... 100%
kubernetes-cli v1.31.2 [Approved]
kubernetes-cli package files install completed. Performing other installation steps.
The package kubernetes-cli wants to run 'chocolateyInstall.psi',
Note: If you don't run this script, the installation will fail.
Note: To confirm automatically next time, use '-y' or consider:
choco feature enable -n allowGlobalConfirmation
Do you want to run the script?([V]es/[A]Il - yes to all/[N]o/[P]rint): Y

Extracting 64-bit C:\ProgramData\chocolatey\lib\kubernetes-cli\tools\kubernetes-client-windows-amd64.tar.gz to C:\ProgramData\chocolatey\lib\kubernetes-cli\tools\
Extracting 64-bit C:\ProgramData\chocolatey\lib\kubernetes-cli\tools\kubernetes-client-windows-amd64.tar to C:\ProgramData\chocolatey\lib\kubernetes-cli\tools\
Extracting 64-bit D:\ProgramData\chocolatey\lib\kubernetes-cli\tools\
Extracti
```

Then verifying the installation by running the command: kubectl

Installing eksctl CLI

What is eksctl

The 'eksctl' CLI is a command-line interface that enables the creation and management of Kubernetes clusters specifically with Amazon Elastic Kubernetes Service (EKS).

Command to install choco install eksctl

```
SciuliDOMOIsystemB22> choco install ekstl
michistry vs.
michistry vs.
michistry vs.
installing, you accept licenses for the packages.
Downloading package from source 'https://community.chocolatey.org/api/v2/'
Progress: Downloading ekstel 0.194.0... 180%

sestl vs.list. 0.6 (Approved)

ekstel package files install completed. Performing other installation steps.
The package files install completed. Performing other installation steps.
The package files install completed. Performing other installation steps.
The package files install completed. Performing other installation steps.
The package files install completed. Performing other installation steps.
The package files install completed. Performing other installation steps.
The package files install completed. Performing other installation steps.
The package files install completed. Performing other installation steps.
The package files installation steps.
The package files installation steps.
The package files installation installation will fail.
The package files installation steps.
The package files installation installation will fail.
The package files installation will fail.
The package files installation will fail.
The package files installation files f
```

To verify, I ran the command: eksctl

Creating an EKS admin user group and user

I created a user group named 'eks-admin' and assigned it the Administrator Access policy from the permissions tab, granting it full access to AWS resources. Next, I created a user and added them to the 'eks-admin' group.

To configure AWS credentials in PowerShell, I used the command `aws configure`. I then entered the necessary details: AWS Access Key ID, AWS Secret Access Key, default region name, and output format.

Creating an EKS cluster with eksctl

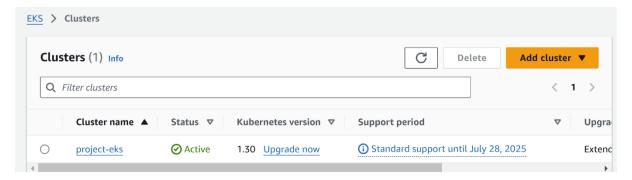
I started by creating a cluster.yaml file and populated it with essential configuration details, including API version, kind, metadata, and node groups. Then, I used the following command to create the EKS cluster:

eksctl create cluster -f

"C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_Files_ Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter_02\02_04_Begin\cluster.yaml"

To make sure I can access the cluster using the CLI, I ran the command **kubectl get nodes**, which shown me the set of worker nodes.

Now I checked the AWS console to the see the eks cluster created.



Exploring the existing resources in my EKS cluster

To view the list of nodes in the cluster, I ran the command:

Kubectl get nodes

```
PS C:\WINDOWS\system32> kubectl get nodes

NAME

STATUS ROLES AGE VERSION

ip-192-168-18-202.ap-southeast-2.compute.internal Ready <none> 4m56s v1.30.4-eks-a737599

ip-192-168-56-38.ap-southeast-2.compute.internal Ready <none> 5m15s v1.30.4-eks-a737599
```

To check which cluster is currently configured on my computer, I used:

Kubectl config get-contexts

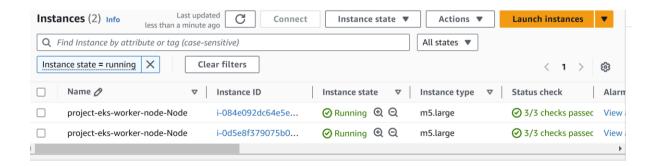


To list all pods running in the cluster across all namespaces, I ran:

Kubectl get pods -A

PS C:\WINDOWS	\system32> kubectl get pods	-A			
NAMESPACE	NAME	READY	STATUS	RESTARTS	AGE
kube-system	aws-node-hg8hk	2/2	Running	0	16m
kube-system	aws-node-pvrb9	2/2	Running	0	17m
kube-system	coredns-585d4c556b-4lvvp	1/1	Running	0	20m
kube-system	coredns-585d4c556b-fdcpl	1/1	Running	0	20m
kube-system	kube-proxy-7bs2f	1/1	Running	0	16m
kube-system	kube-proxy-v28t5	1/1	Running	0	17m
PS C:\WINDOWS	\system32>				

I verified the worker nodes created in the EKS cluster by checking the EC2 instances in the AWS Management Console.



Deploying an application to my EKS cluster

In this step, first I will create a Kubernetes namespace, deploy an application to the cluster, and create a service to prepare my application to be available to the internet.

Creating namespace

To create the namespace, I prepared a namespace.yaml file with the necessary elements, including kind, apiVersion, and metadata. I then executed the following command in PowerShell to apply the configuration:

kubectl apply -f

"C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_Files_ Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter 03\03 01\namespace.yaml"

To verify that, I ran the command: kubectl get ns

```
PS C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex Files Running Kubernetes on AWS> kubectl apply -f
netes on AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter 03\03 01\namespace.yaml"
namespace/staging created
PS C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex Files Running Kubernetes on AWS> kubectl get ns
NAME
                STATUS
                         AGE
default
                Active
                         4h11m
               Active
development
                         3h
kube-node-lease Active
                         4h11m
kube-public Active
                         4h11m
kube-system
                Active
                         4h11m
                Active 14s
staging
```

Creating Deployment

To create the deployment, I wrote the configuration in a deployment.yaml file. I then applied it to the cluster with the following command:

kubectl apply -f

"C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_Files_ Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter_03\03_01\deployment.yaml" To verify all deployments within the staging namespace, I used:

kubectl deploy -n staging

Creating the service

What is Kubernetes NodePort service

The Kubernetes NodePort service acts as an external entry point for incoming requests to your application. I am using the NodePort service because it enables the use of an AWS load balancer to route traffic to the cluster. By exposing the service on a specific port across all nodes in the cluster, it provides a simple way to access the application externally. In this setup, AWS's load balancer can forward traffic to the NodePort, ensuring scalability and availability of the service across different worker nodes.

To create the service, I first developed the script for service.yaml with the necessary configurations. Then, I applied the configuration by running the following command:

kubectl apply -f

"C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_Files_ Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter_03\03_01\service.yaml"

After creating the service, I verified that everything was running correctly by executing the command:

kubectl get all -n staging

```
C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS> kubectl apply
service/pod-service unchanged
PS C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS> kubectl get all -n staging
                                       STATUS
                               READY
                                                 RESTARTS
                                                           AGE
ood/pod-info-59dd8d5699-4fkk4
                                       Running
                                                             27m
ood/pod-info-59dd8d5699-prrng
                                                 0
                                                             27m
                                        Running
                     TYPE
                                CLUSTER-IP
                                                 EXTERNAL-IP
                                                               PORT(S)
                                                                              AGE
service/pod-service
                                10.100.192.97
                                                               80:30174/TCP
                          READY
                                  UP-TO-DATE
                                                AVAILABLE
                                                            AGE
deployment.apps/pod-info
                                                            27m
NΔMF
                                     DESIRED
                                               CURRENT
                                                          READY
                                                                  AGE
replicaset.apps/pod-info-59dd8d5699
PS C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS>
```

Making subnets discoverable

In this step, I will be adding the appropriate tags to private and public subnets.

Adding tags to Private and Public subnets

It is important to add tags to private and public subnets to make the AWS load balancer controller to find the subnets it needs to create an Elastic load balancer.

I added the following tags to two private subnets

kubernetes.io/cluster/lil-eks: shared

kubernetes.io/role/internal-elb: 1

I added the following tags to two public subnets

kubernetes.io/cluster/lil-eks: shared

kubernetes.io/role/elb: 1

Create and AWS IAM policy bound to a Kubernetes Service account

In this step, I will create an IAM policy to allow the Kubernetes service to manage and utilize the AWS Elastic Load Balancer service.

I created the IAM policy by writing the necessary configurations in an iam_policy.json file. This file includes the required permissions for the IAM service-linked role to interact directly with AWS services, the policy that links the role to the Elastic Load Balancer, and the specific actions and services the role is allowed to access.

I created the policy by running the following command:

aws iam create-policy \

- --policy-name AWSLoadBalancerControllerIAMPolicy \
- --policy-document file://iam policy.json

Next, I enabled the IAM OIDC provider for the policy by running the command: **eksctl utils associate-iam-oidc-provider --cluster project-eks --approve**

This step ensures that the EKS cluster can securely interact with AWS services through IAM roles.

After enabling OIDC, I created a Kubernetes service account and linked it to the IAM policy by executing the following command:

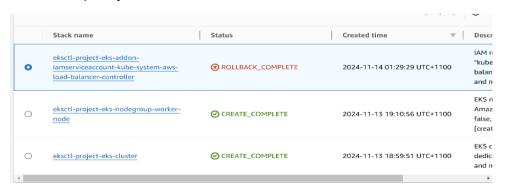
eksctl create iamserviceaccount `

- --cluster=project-eks
- --name=aws-load-balancer-controller `
- --namespace=kube-system `
- --attach-policy-arn=arn:aws:iam:(account number of AWS)
- :policy/AWSLoadBalancerControllerlAMPolicy `
- --approve

Troubleshoot service account issues

When I ran the command **kubectI get sa -n kube-system** to check the service accounts, I noticed that the AWS Load Balancer Controller policy I had created was not listed. This indicated that something went wrong in AWS.

After investigating, I found that the issue was related to a failed CloudFormation stack. One of the stacks that were supposed to be created during the process did not complete successfully. This failure prevented the policy from being properly applied, which in turn caused the service account to not reflect the AWS Load Balancer Controller policy.



Now, I will delete the existing stack and then attempt to recreate the Kubernetes service account linked to the new IAM policy by running the following command:

eksctl create iamserviceaccount `

- --cluster=project-eks `
- --name=aws-load-balancer-controller `
- --namespace=kube-system `
- --attach-policy-arn=arn:aws:iam:(account number of AWS)
- :policy/AWSLoadBalancerControllerlAMPolicy `
- --approve

```
C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter_03\03_03> eksctl create iamservices --cluster=project-eks '
--cluster=project-eks '
--name=pas-cload-balancer-controller '
--namespace-kube-balancer-controller '
--namespace-kube-system '
--atach-policy-ann=ann:aws:iam::637423622277:policy/AWSLoadBalancerControllerIAMPolicy '
--approve '
--appro
```

Now, I can see the stack being created successfully.

eksctl-project-eks-addon- iamserviceaccount-kube-system-aws- load-balancer-controller CREATE_COMPLETE 2024-11-14 01:52:44 UTC+1100 eksctl-project-eks-nodegroup-worker- node CREATE_COMPLETE 2024-11-13 19:10:56 UTC+1100	Descr	4	Created time	Status	Stack name	
() CREATE COMPLETE 2024-11-13 19:10:56 UTC+1100	IAM n "kube balan and n	44 UTC+1100	2024-11-14 01:52	⊘ CREATE_COMPLETE	iamserviceaccount-kube-system-aws-	0
	EKS n Amaz false, [creat	56 UTC+1100	2024-11-13 19:10	⊘ CREATE_COMPLETE		0
○ eksctl-project-eks-cluster	EKS c dedic and n	51 UTC+1100	2024-11-13 18:59	⊘ CREATE_COMPLETE	eksctl-project-eks-cluster	0

After deleting the stack and running the command, I verified that the aws -load-balancer-controller was created in the list.

```
2024-11-14 01:53:19 [ii waiting for CloudFormation stack "eksctl-p
2024-11-14 01:53:19 [ii] created serviceaccount "kube-system/aws-lo
PS C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_F
                                                      SECRETS AGE
attachdetach-controller
                                                                   7h14m
                                                      0
aws-cloud-provider
                                                      0
                                                                   7h14m
aws-load-balancer-controller
                                                                   26m
aws-node
                                                      0
                                                                   7h10m
certificate-controller
                                                      0
                                                                   7h14m
clusterrole-aggregation-controller
                                                                   7h14m
coredns
                                                                   7h10m
                                                                   7h14m
cronjob-controller
```

Install the AWS load balancer controller

In this step, I will be installing both the cert-manager and the load balancer controller to integrate with the EKS cluster. To begin, I installed the cert-manager by executing the following command:

kubectl apply '

- --validate=false `
- -f https://github.com/jetstack/cert-manager/releases/download/v1.5.4/cert-manager.yaml

```
C:Users\wpraj\Downloads\Ex.Files Running Kubernetes on AMS\Ex.Files Running Kubernetes on AMS\Exercise Files\Chapter_83\03_83 kubectl apply
- -validate=fale
- validate=fale
- -validate=fale
- -
```

I verified the cert-manager pods created by running the command **kubectl get pods**-n cert-manager

```
S C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_Files_Running_K
bernetes_on_AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter_03\03_03> kubectl get pods -n cert-manage
JAME
                                          READY
                                                  STATUS
                                                            RESTARTS
                                                                       AGE
ert-manager-6bd59b759b-mfzpf
                                          1/1
                                                  Running
                                                                       51m
cert-manager-cainjector-8f4d48c6c-dzgh2
                                          1/1
                                                  Running
                                                                       51m
ert-manager-webhook-fdfb54b64-j2mnm
                                          1/1
                                                  Running
                                                            0
                                                                       51m
PS C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_Files_Running_K
ubernetes on AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter 03\03 03>
```

What is Cert-manager

Cert Manager is a Kubernetes extension that streamlines the process of creating and managing TLS certificates, essential for enabling HTTPS. The AWS Load Balancer Controller relies on Cert Manager to secure the traffic entering and leaving your cluster through encryption.

What is AWS load balancer controller

The AWS Load Balancer Controller oversees the load balancer for the Kubernetes cluster, monitoring ingress events from the Kubernetes API server. When it detects ingress resources that meet specific criteria, it triggers the creation of corresponding AWS resources

To set up the AWS Load Balancer Controller, I executed the following command:

kubectl apply -f

"C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_Files_ Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter_03\03_05\load-balancercontroller.yaml"

To verify, I ran the command:

kubectl get deployment -n kube-system

```
PS C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AMS\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AMS\Exercise_Files\Chapter_03\03_03> kubectl apply -f "C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AMS\Exercise_Files\Chapter_03\03_05\load-balancer-controller.yaml" customresourcedefinition.apiextensions.k8s.io/ingressclassparams.elbv2.k8s.aws created customresourcedefinition.apiextensions.k8s.io/aws-load-balancer-controller.pleader-election-role created customresourcedefinition.apiextensions.k8s.io/aws-load-balancer-controller-leader-election-role created clusterrole.nks.io/aws-load-balancer-controller-leader-election-role created clusterrole.se.authorization.k8s.io/aws-load-balancer-controller-leader-election-rolebinding created clusterrolebinding.phs.authorization.k8s.io/aws-load-balancer-controller-leader-election-rolebinding created clusterrolebinding.phs.authorization.k8s.io/aws-load-balancer-controller-rolebinding created certificate.authorization.k8s.io/aws-load-balancer-controller-rolebinding created certificate.cert-manager.io/aws-load-balancer-controller created certificate.cert-manager.io/aws-load-balancer-serving-cert created insuer.cert-manager.io/aws-load-balancer-serving-cert created mutatingwebhookconfiguration.admissionregistration.k8s.io/aws-load-balancer-webhook created sps_c:\users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AMS\Exercise_Files_Nunning_Kubernetes_on_AMS\Exercise_Files\Chapter_03\03_03> kubectl get deployment -n kube-sy stem

NAME

READY UP-TO-DATE AVAILABLE AGE
aws-load-balancer-controller

1/1 1 2 285
coredas 2/2 2 137m

PS C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AMS\Exercise_Files\Chapter_03\03_03>
```

After installing the AWS Load Balancer Controller, I checked the AWS console to verify if the load balancer was created. However, I found that no load balancer had been created yet because there were no Kubernetes ingress objects available to trigger its creation.

Create an ingress

What is Ingress

Ingress is a resource in Kubernetes that manages the routing of HTTP and HTTPS traffic from outside the cluster to the services within the cluster. It defines rules for directing traffic to specific services based on the request path or host. The Ingress Controller is responsible for enforcing and fulfilling the ingress rules, ensuring that traffic is routed correctly to the appropriate services within the cluster.

Why do we need to create ingress class

To enable the AWS Load Balancer Controller to connect to the application ingress, it is essential to create an ingress resource. This is done by running the ingress-class.yaml script, which defines the configuration for IngressClass and IngressParams, specifying the resources required for the load balancer controller to function properly.

To create the ingress, I ran the following command:

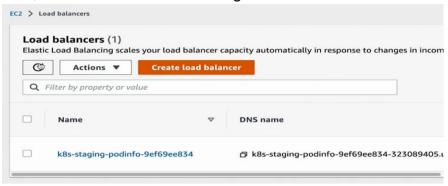
kubectl apply -f

"C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_Files_ Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter_03\03_05\ingressclass.yaml"

Afterward, I created the Kubernetes ingress resource for the application named "pod-info" under the staging namespace. To do this, I created the pod-info-ingress.yaml script, which includes the necessary configuration for the load balancer.I executed the creation of the ingress resource by running the following command:

Kubectl apply -f

"C:\Users\vpraj\Downloads\Ex_Files_Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Ex_Files_ Running_Kubernetes_on_AWS\Exercise Files\Chapter_03\03_06\pod-infoingress.yaml" Now, I see the load balance being created in the console.



I verified the application's availability on the internet by using the DNS name of the load balancer and accessing it through a web browser.

