

Placement Empowerment Program

Cloud Computing and DevOps Centre

Set Up a Cloud-Based Monitoring Service Enable basic cloud monitoring (e.g., Cloud Watch on AWS). View metrics like CPU usage and disk I/O for your cloud VM.

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Introduction:

In cloud computing, effective monitoring is crucial for ensuring the performance, reliability, and availability of cloud resources. AWS CloudWatch provides a comprehensive monitoring solution for AWS resources, enabling users to track various metrics in real-time. This Proof of Concept (PoC) focuses on leveraging CloudWatch to monitor the performance of an EC2 instance by enabling basic monitoring for key metrics such as CPU utilization and disk I/O. This PoC demonstrates how to enable, view, and analyze these metrics, giving insights into the health and performance of cloud-based virtual machines.

Overview:

This PoC will walk through the process of setting up AWS CloudWatch to monitor an EC2 instance. The main steps include:

1. Enabling basic cloud monitoring for an EC2 instance.
2. Viewing key metrics such as CPU utilization and disk read/write operations, to assess the performance of the instance.
3. Exploring how CloudWatch provides real-time insights into the instance's resource usage, allowing administrators to identify performance bottlenecks or issues before they affect the service.

By completing this PoC, users will understand how to integrate CloudWatch monitoring for EC2 instances, enabling effective performance monitoring of virtual machines in the cloud.

Objective:

The primary objective of this PoC is to enable basic cloud monitoring using AWS CloudWatch and view essential metrics for an EC2 instance. Specific goals include:

Enabling CloudWatch monitoring for an EC2 instance.

Viewing CPU usage and disk I/O metrics to analyze the instance's performance.

Understanding how CloudWatch helps in real-time monitoring by providing visibility into cloud resource health.

Importance of this PoC:

1. **Performance Monitoring:** By tracking CPU usage, disk I/O, and network traffic, CloudWatch provides crucial insights into the resource utilization of an EC2 instance, which helps in identifying and troubleshooting performance issues.

2. **Real-time Visibility:** Enabling CloudWatch monitoring ensures that administrators have access to real-time data about the instance's performance. This allows quick reactions to changes in resource consumption, preventing downtime or service degradation.

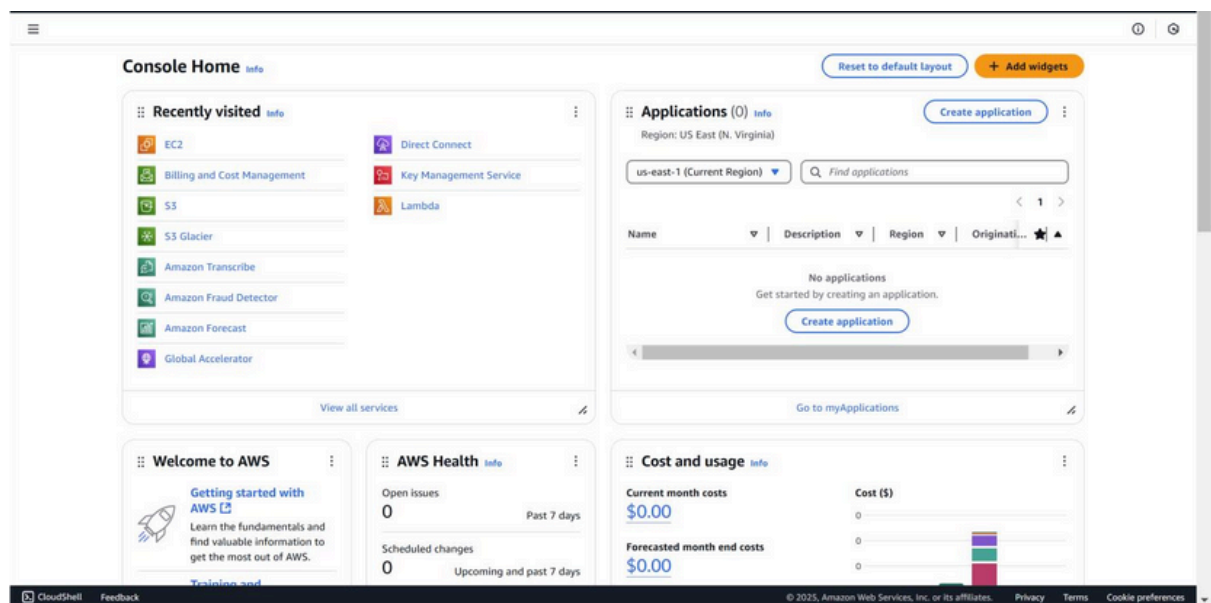
3. **Resource Management:** Understanding the resource consumption of the EC2 instance (such as CPU usage and disk I/O) helps in optimizing the instance's capacity and managing resources efficiently, which can also lead to cost savings.

4. **Proactive Issue Detection:** CloudWatch allows the user to monitor and understand patterns in the system's resource usage, helping detect performance anomalies or bottlenecks before they impact the system.

Step-by-Step Overview

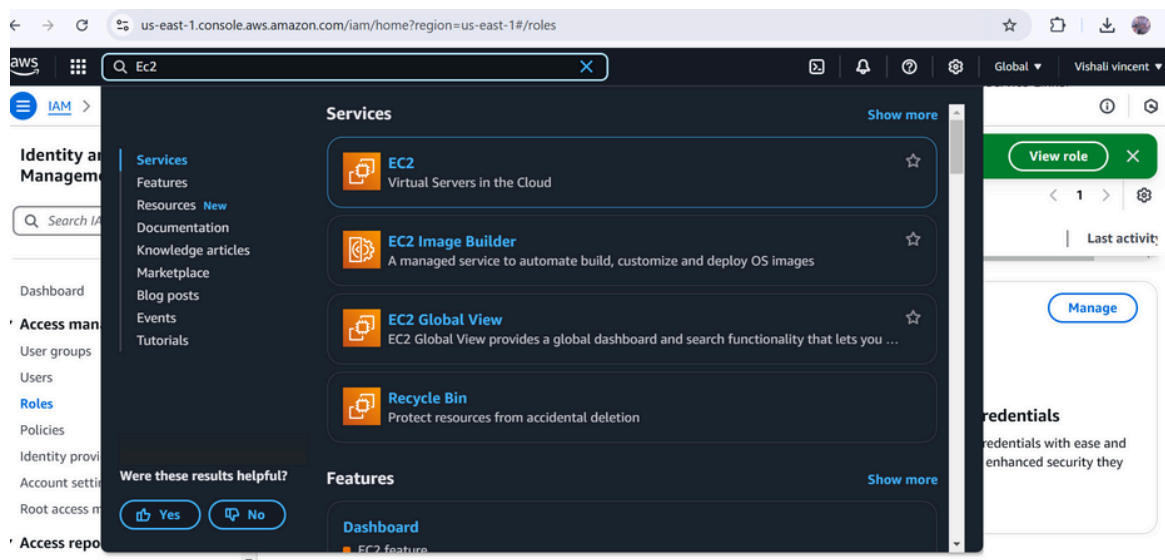
Step 1:

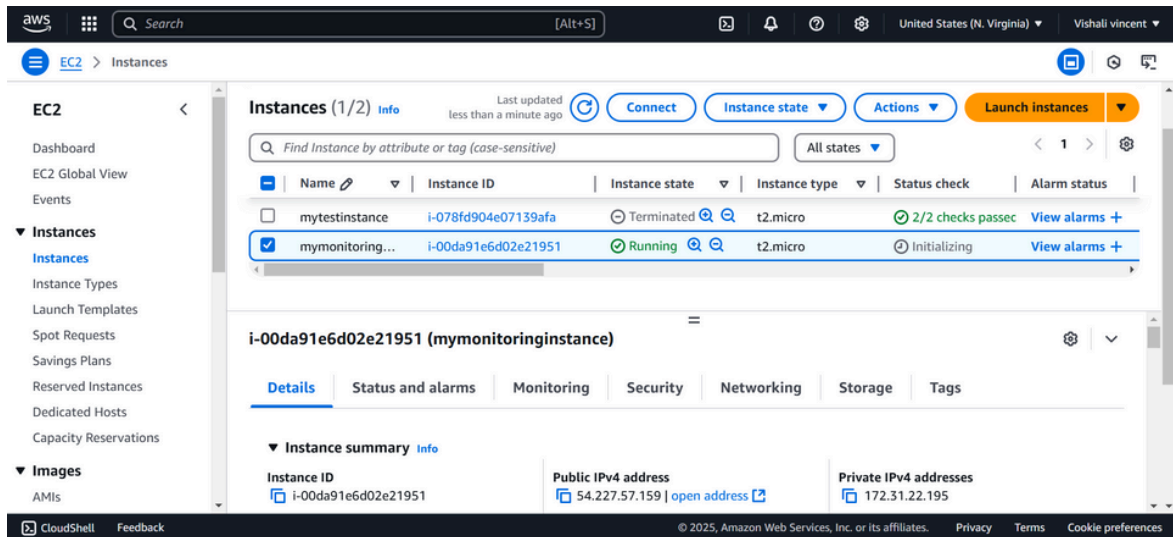
1. Go to [AWS Management Console](#).
2. Enter your username and password to log in.



Step 2:

On the EC2 Dashboard, click on Launch Instances and enter a name for your instance (e.g., "My Monitoring Instance"). Leave other settings as default and Click Launch Instance.



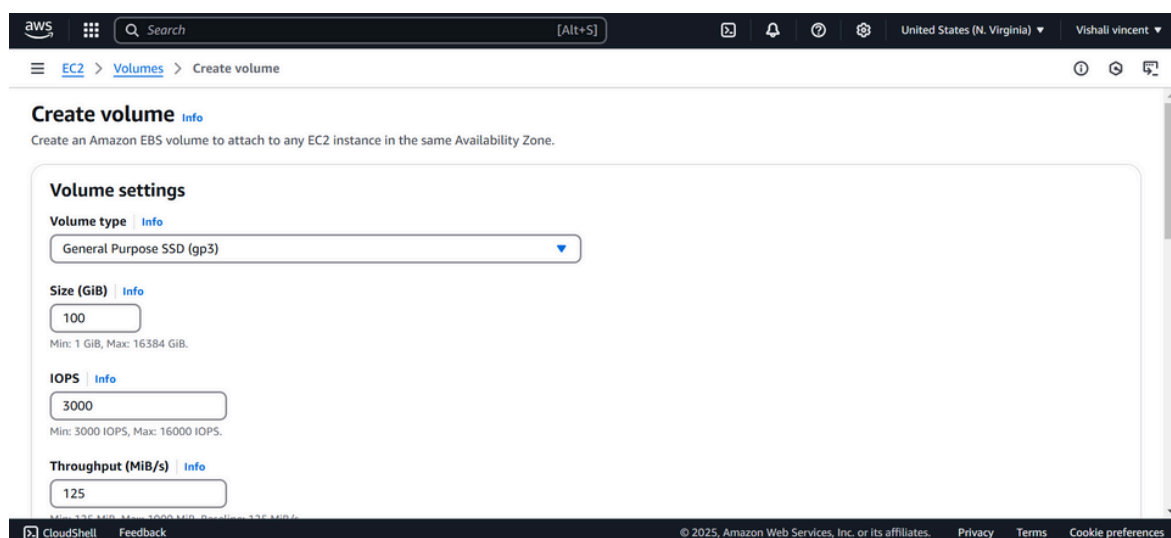


Step 3:

Go to the EC2 Dashboard in the AWS Console.

In the left menu, click Volumes under Elastic Block Store (EBS).

Click Create Volume.



Step 4:

Once created, go to your Volumes list, select the newly created volume, and click Actions > Attach Volume.

The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console interface for the 'Attach volume' page. The breadcrumb trail is 'EC2 > Volumes > vol-01cc60e360f69f6c3 > Attach volume'. The page title is 'Attach volume' with an 'Info' link. Below the title is a subtitle: 'Attach a volume to an instance to use it as you would a regular physical hard disk drive.' The 'Basic details' section contains the following information: 'Volume ID' is 'vol-01cc60e360f69f6c3', 'Availability Zone' is 'us-east-1a', and 'Instance' is a dropdown menu with the placeholder text 'Search instance ID or name tag'. A note below the instance dropdown states: 'Only instances in the same Availability Zone as the selected volume are displayed.' The 'Device name' is a dropdown menu with the placeholder text 'Select a device name'. The footer of the console shows 'CloudShell', 'Feedback', and copyright information for Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates.

aws [Search] [Alt+S] United States (N. Virginia) Vishali Vincent

EC2 > Volumes > vol-01cc60e360f69f6c3 > Attach volume

Attach volume [Info](#)

Attach a volume to an instance to use it as you would a regular physical hard disk drive.

Basic details

Volume ID
vol-01cc60e360f69f6c3

Availability Zone
us-east-1a

Instance [Info](#)

Only instances in the same Availability Zone as the selected volume are displayed.

Device name [Info](#)

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The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console interface for the 'Attach volume' page. The breadcrumb trail is 'EC2 > Volumes > vol-084de72d98f484071 > Attach volume'. The page title is 'Attach volume' with an 'Info' link. Below the title is a subtitle: 'Attach a volume to an instance to use it as you would a regular physical hard disk drive.' The 'Basic details' section contains the following information: 'Volume ID' is 'vol-084de72d98f484071', 'Availability Zone' is 'us-east-1b', and 'Instance' is a dropdown menu with the value 'i-00da91e6d02e21951 (mymonitoringinstance) (running)'. A note below the instance dropdown states: 'Only instances in the same Availability Zone as the selected volume are displayed.' The 'Device name' is a dropdown menu with the value '/dev/sdv'. A note below the device name dropdown states: 'Recommended device names for Linux: /dev/xvda for root volume, /dev/sd[f-p] for data volumes.' The footer of the console shows 'CloudShell', 'Feedback', and copyright information for Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates.

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EC2 > Volumes > vol-084de72d98f484071 > Attach volume

Attach volume [Info](#)

Attach a volume to an instance to use it as you would a regular physical hard disk drive.

Basic details

Volume ID
vol-084de72d98f484071

Availability Zone
us-east-1b

Instance [Info](#)
i-00da91e6d02e21951
(mymonitoringinstance) (running)

Only instances in the same Availability Zone as the selected volume are displayed.

Device name [Info](#)
/dev/sdv

Recommended device names for Linux: /dev/xvda for root volume, /dev/sd[f-p] for data volumes.

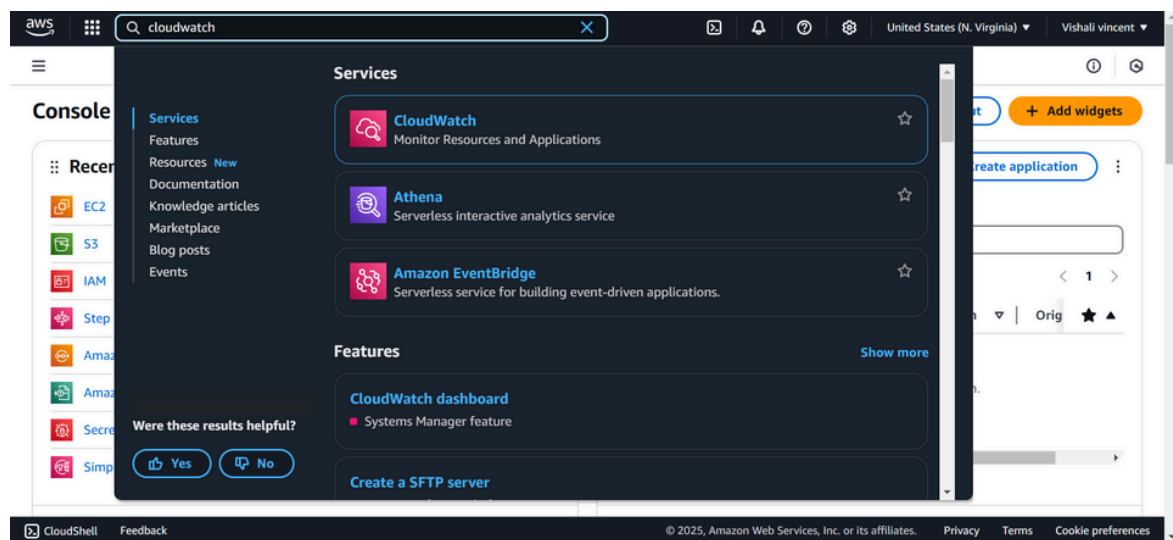
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Step 5:

On the AWS Console homepage, look for the search bar at the top.

Type CloudWatch in the search bar and press Enter.

From the search results, click on CloudWatch.

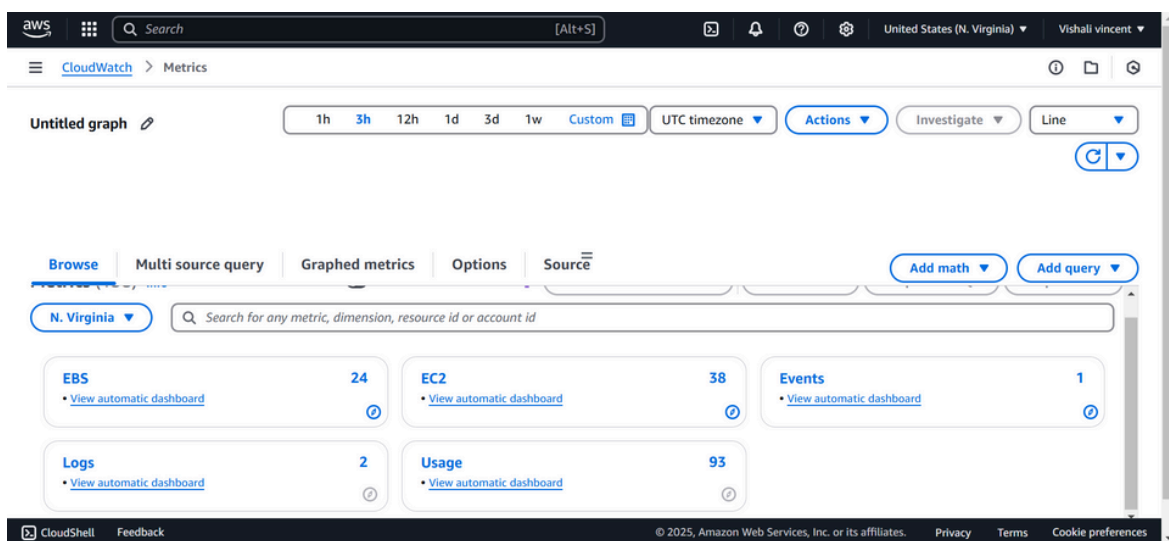


Step 6:

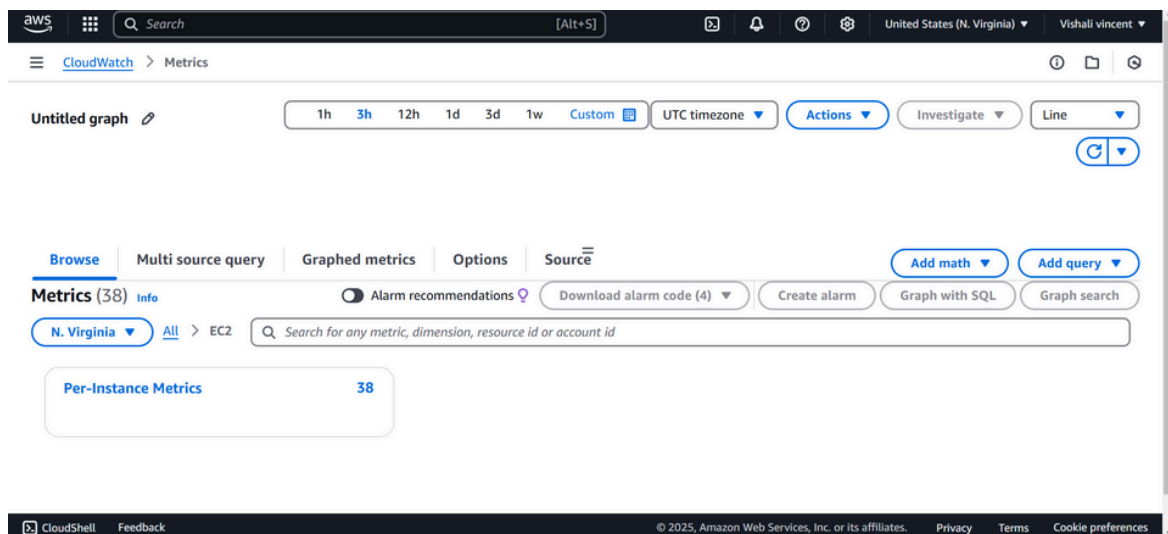
In the CloudWatch dashboard, look at the left-hand menu.

Click on Metrics.

Under Browse, click on EC2.



Then click on the Per-Instance Metrics.



Step 7:

You should now see a list of metrics for all your EC2 instances, such as:

CPUUtilization (CPU usage)

DiskReadOps / DiskWriteOps (Disk I/O)

Identify the specific EC2 instance you want to monitor (it will be listed by its instance ID).

Click on the metrics associated with your instance

To view detail click Graphed metrics

The screenshot shows the AWS CloudWatch Metrics console. The 'Browse' tab is selected, displaying a table of metrics for the instance 'mymonitoringinstance' (ID: i-00da91e6d02e2...). The table lists several metrics, with 'EBSReadOps', 'EBSWriteOps', and 'CPUUtilization' selected. The 'Options' column shows 'No alarms' for all metrics.

	Source	Options
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mymonitoringinstance	i-00da91e6d02e2... EBSReadOps ⓘ	No alarms
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mymonitoringinstance	i-00da91e6d02e2... EBSWriteOps ⓘ	No alarms
<input type="checkbox"/> mymonitoringinstance	i-00da91e6d02e2... CPUCreditUsage ⓘ	No alarms
<input type="checkbox"/> mymonitoringinstance	i-00da91e6d02e2... CPUCreditBalance ⓘ	No alarms
<input type="checkbox"/> mymonitoringinstance	i-00da91e6d02e2... CPUSurplusCreditsCharged ⓘ	No alarms
<input type="checkbox"/> mymonitoringinstance	i-00da91e6d02e2... CPUSurplusCreditBalance ⓘ	No alarms
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mymonitoringinstance	i-00da91e6d02e2... CPUUtilization ⓘ	No alarms

The screenshot shows the 'Graphed metrics' tab in the AWS CloudWatch Metrics console. It displays a table with three rows, each representing a selected metric: 'EBSReadOps', 'EBSWriteOps', and 'CPUUtilization'. Each row includes a label, details (EC2 instance ID), statistic (Average), period (5 minutes), and actions (graph, alert, etc.).

	Label	Details	Statistic	Period	Y axis	Actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EBSReadOps ⓘ	EC2 • EBSReadOps • InstanceId: i-00da91e6d02e2...	Average ▼	5 minu...	< >	🔔 ⚙️ 📄 ⬆️ ⬇️
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EBSWriteOps ⓘ	EC2 • EBSWriteOps • InstanceId: i-00da91e6d02e2...	Average ▼	5 minu...	< >	🔔 ⚙️ 📄 ⬆️ ⬇️
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CPUUtilization ⓘ	EC2 • CPUUtilization • InstanceId: i-00da91e6d02e2...	Average ▼	5 minu...	< >	🔔 ⚙️ 📄 ⬆️ ⬇️

Outcome

This Proof of Concept (PoC) aimed to establish a cloud-based monitoring service using AWS CloudWatch to track key performance metrics for an EC2 instance, specifically focusing on CPU utilization and Disk I/O (DiskReadOps and DiskWriteOps).

Here's the outcome of the PoC:

1. CloudWatch Setup: Successfully configured AWS CloudWatch to monitor EC2 instance metrics like CPU utilization and Disk I/O (DiskReadOps, DiskWriteOps).

2. Disk I/O Monitoring: Added an EBS volume to the EC2 instance to track DiskReadOps and DiskWriteOps metrics, which were visualized in CloudWatch.

3. Cost Efficiency: The EBS volume was within the AWS Free Tier limits (30 GB), and all metrics stayed within Free Tier usage, incurring no additional cost.