

Ch-9
Auto scaling and Cloudwatch



This chapter will cover following topics...

- Introduction to Auto scaling
- Why auto scaling
- Advantages of auto scaling
- Auto scaling components
- 1. Launch configuration
- 2. Auto scaling group
- Scale Up vs. Scale Out
- Hands on Auto scaling
- Introduction to Cloudwatch
- Working of Cloudwatch
- Elements of Cloudwatch
- Hands on Creating Cloudwatch Alarm
- Cloudwatch dashboard
- Monitoring types Basic and Detailed

Introduction to Auto scaling

Auto Scaling is a service that allows you to scale your Amazon EC2 capacity automatically by scaling out and scaling in according to criteria that you define.

With Auto Scaling, you can ensure that the number of running Amazon EC2 instances increases during demand spikes or peak demand periods to maintain application performance and decreases automatically during demand lulls or troughs to minimize costs.



Why auto scaling

Load on application varies

A good design must take care of varying load

Since load spike cannot be anticipated always, manual scaling is not the solution

Other solution is to over provision resources

This is inefficient and costly

Auto scaling is the best solution for dealing with varying load

Advantages of auto scaling

Better Fault Tolerance

Better Availability

Better Cost Management

Integrate with Load Balancing for maximum effect

Auto scaling components

1. Launch configuration:

It is the configuration that Auto Scaling uses to create new instances, and it is composed of the configuration name, Amazon Machine Image (AMI), Amazon EC2 instance type, security group, and instance key pair.

Each Auto Scaling group can have only one launch configuration at a time.

The default limit for launch configurations is 100 per region.

If you exceed this limit, the call to create-launch-configuration will fail.

Auto Scaling may cause you to reach limits of other services, such as the default number of Amazon EC2 instances you can currently launch within a region, which is 20.

It is important to keep in mind the service limits for all AWS Cloud services you are using.



Auto scaling components(Conti...)

2. Auto scaling group:

It is a collection of Amazon EC2 instances managed by the Auto Scaling service.

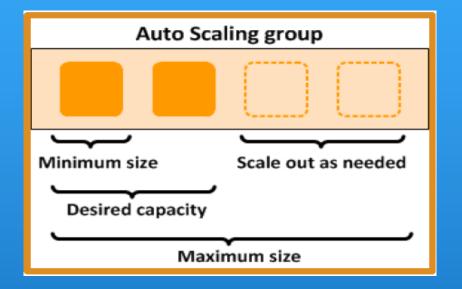
Each Auto Scaling group contains configuration options that control when Auto Scaling should launch new instances and terminate existing instances.

An Auto Scaling group must contain a name and a minimum and maximum number of instances that can be in the group.

You can optionally specify desired capacity, which is the number of instances that the group must have at all times.

Auto scaling components (Conti...)

2. Auto scaling group(Conti...):



Minimum Size: Group should contain No. of minimum instance

Desired Capacity: When starting group how many instance should be start

Maximum size: No instance maximum that group can launch



Scale Up vs. Scale Out

Scale out Amazon EC2 instances seamlessly and automatically when demand increases.

Scale in Amazon EC2 instances automatically and save money when demand decrease.

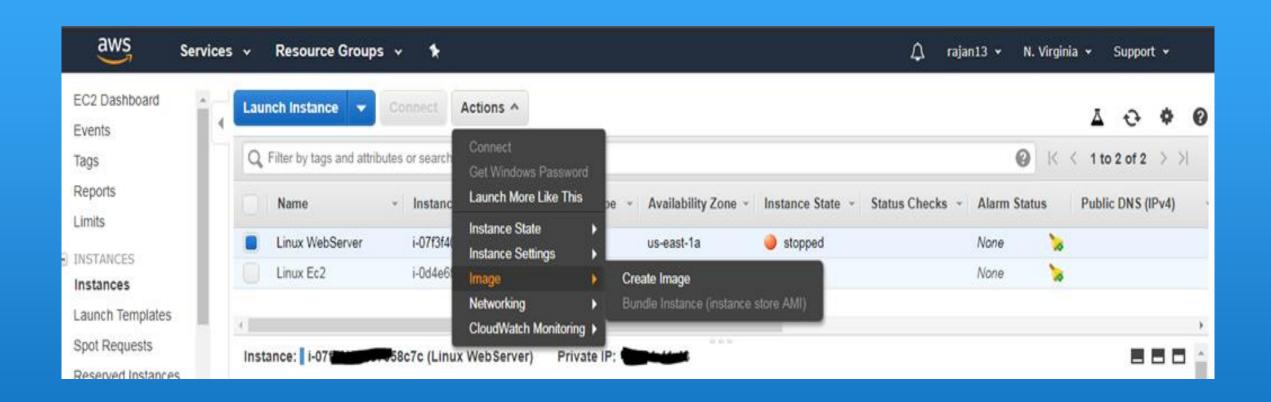
Increasing resources vertically is called Scale Up. Example: CPU Speed, Memory size etc.

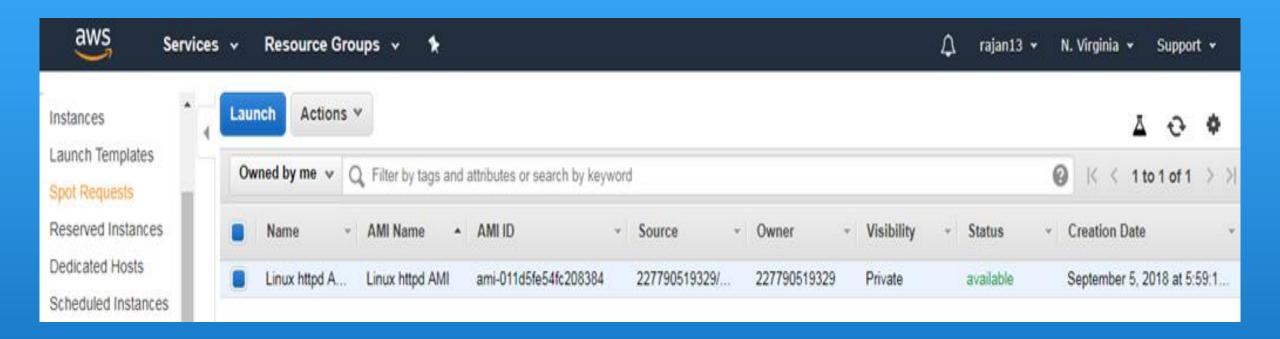
Increasing resources horizontally is called Scale Out. Example: Deploying more instances.

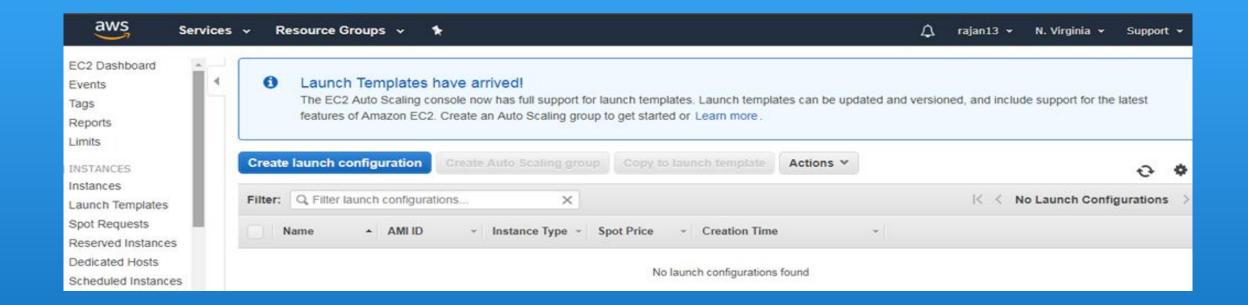


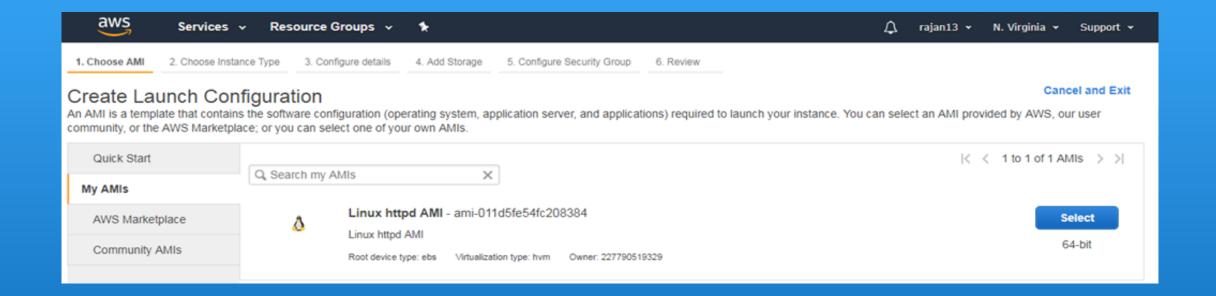


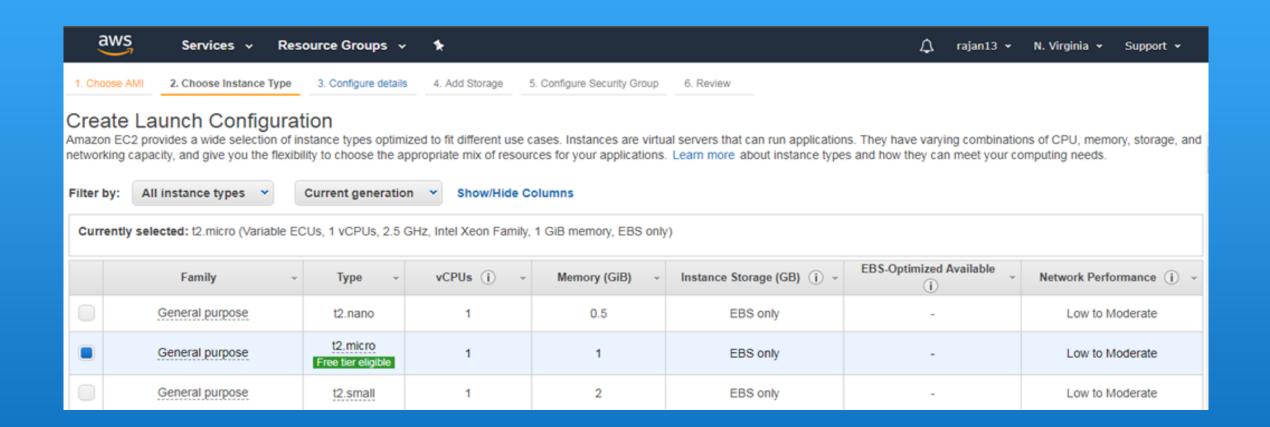
Hands on – Auto scaling

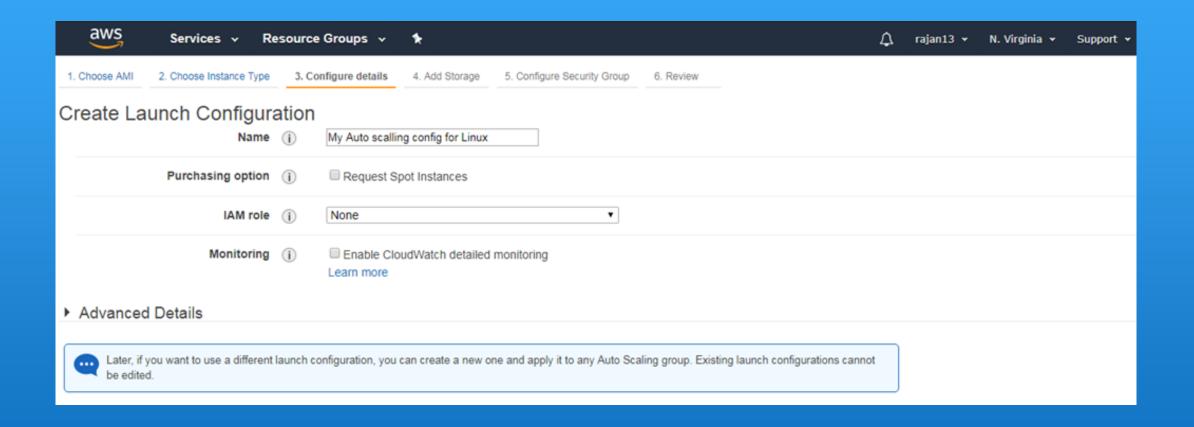


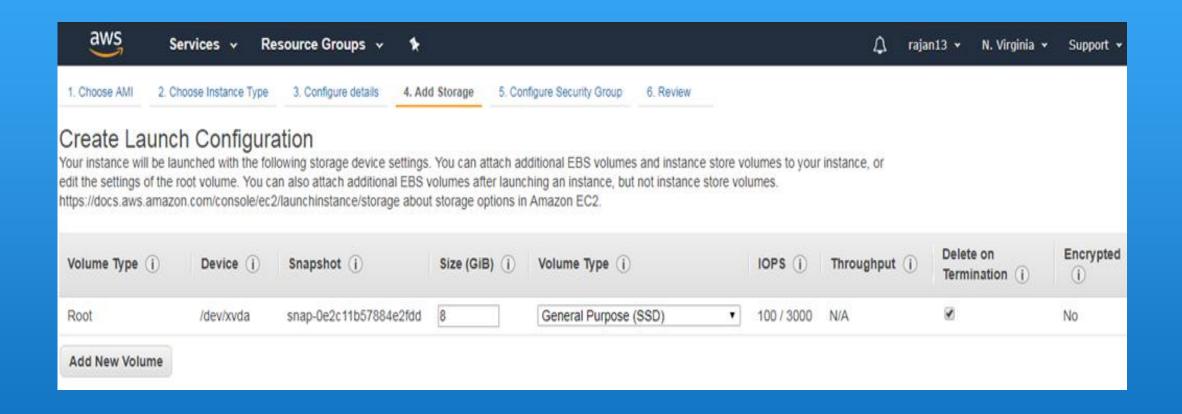


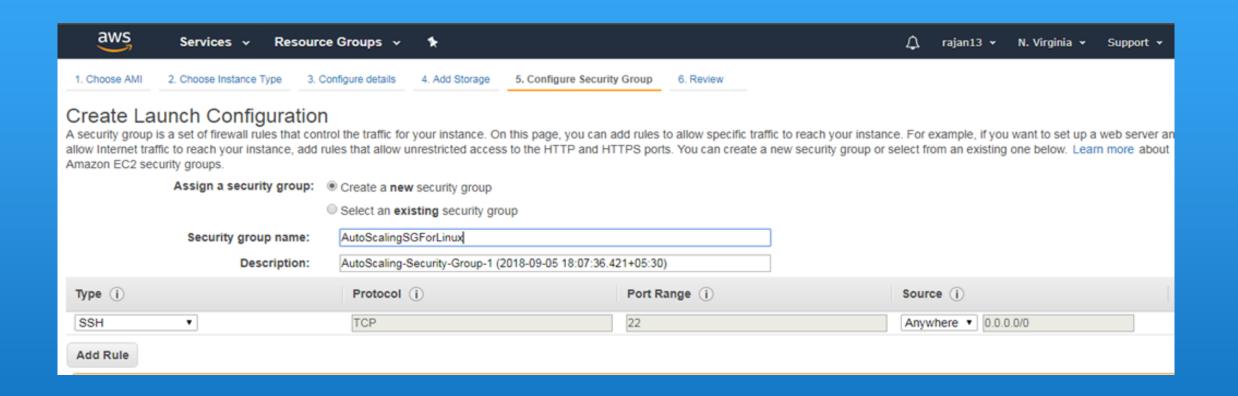






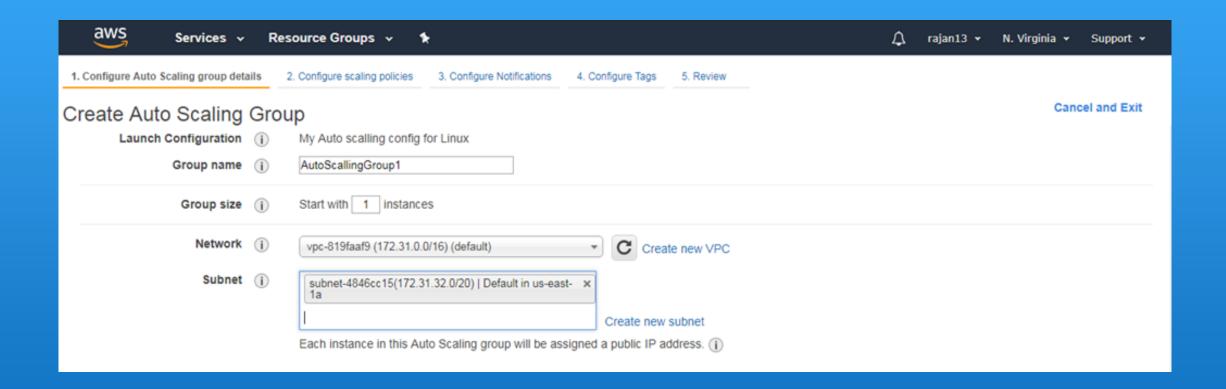


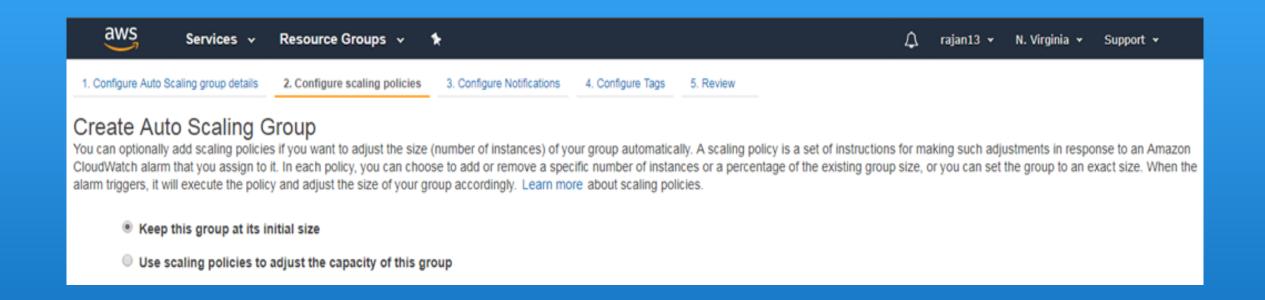


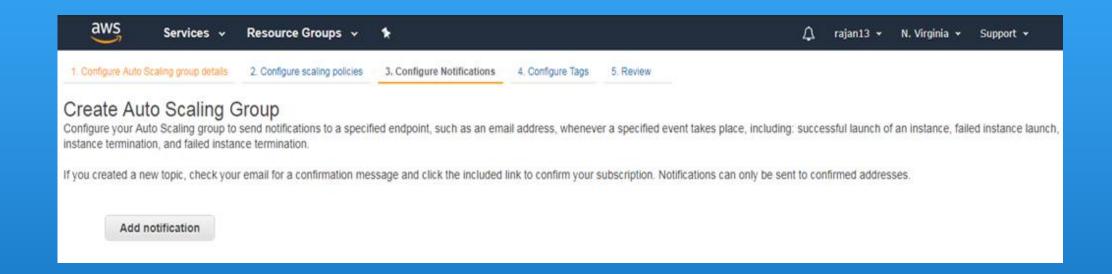


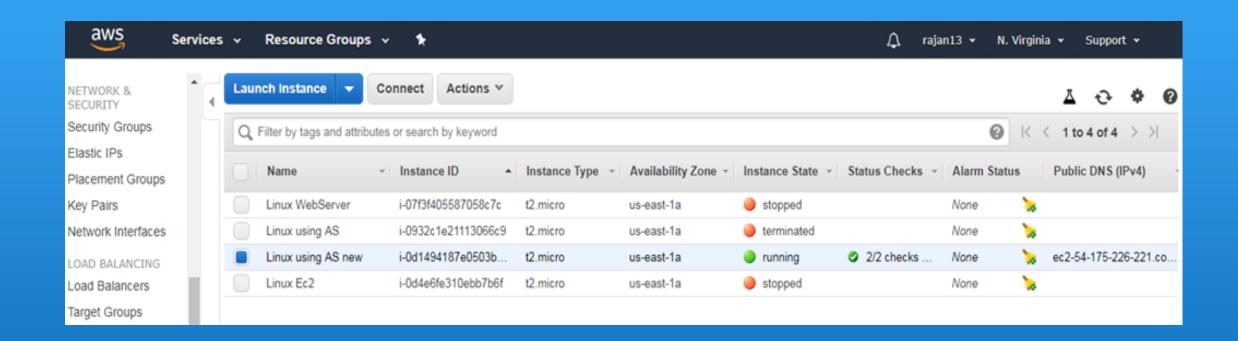
Launch configuration creation status ✓ Successfully created launch configuration: My Auto scalling config for Linux View creation log ✓ View View your launch configurations View your Auto Scaling groups ► Here are some helpful resources to get you started Create an Auto Scaling group using this launch configuration Close

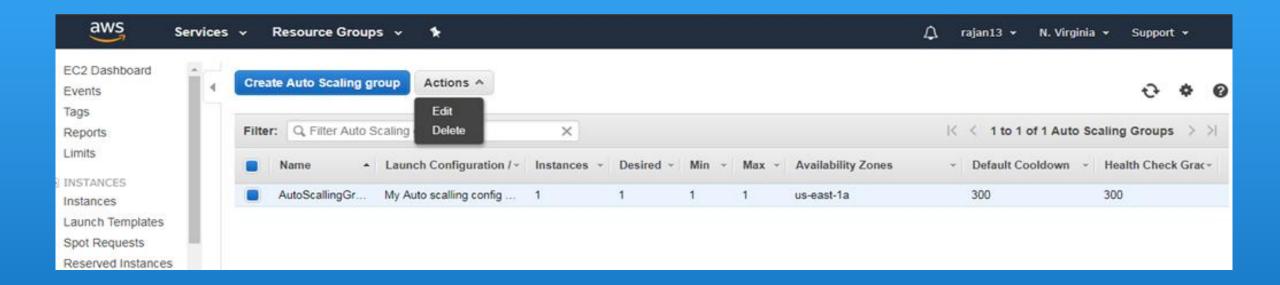


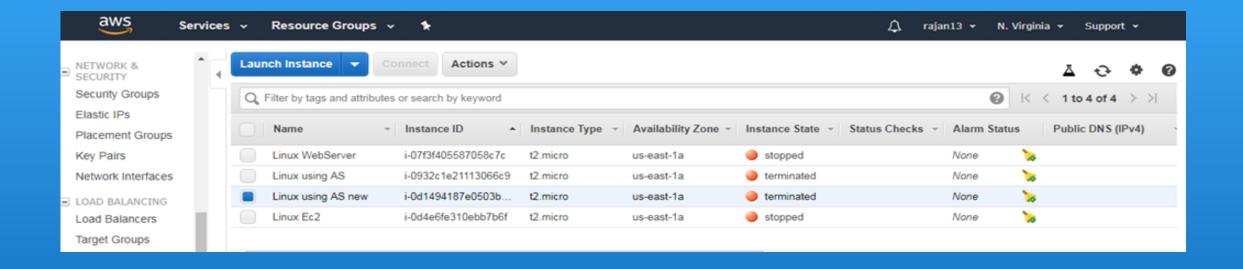












Introduction to CloudWatch

CloudWatch is an AWS service that can be used on the AWS cloud for monitoring various infrastructure and application resources running on your AWS cloud.

CloudWatch can be used to collect a number of metrics from the AWS resources.

It allows you to track these metrics and also initiate actions based on the threshold you set.

CloudWatch can also collect log files, generate metrics out of them, and help to monitor log files.

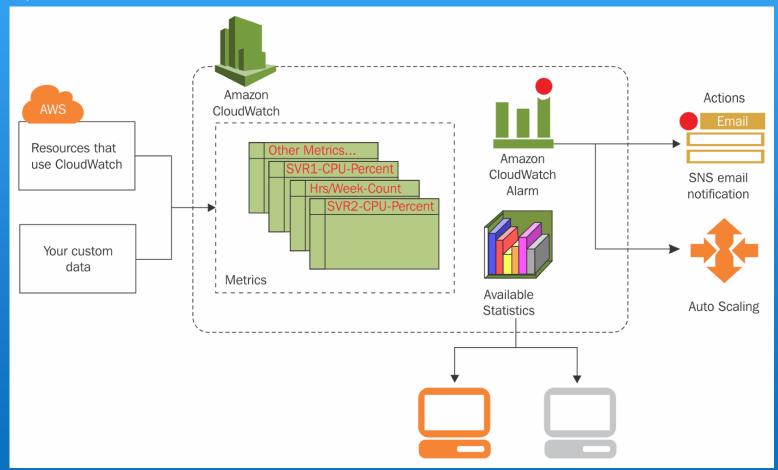
CloudWatch supports the monitoring of many AWS services such as EC2 instances, DynamoDB, RDS, and so on.

Amazon services like Auto Scaling uses CloudWatch alarms to automatically scale an environment up or down, based on the traffic on an environment.



Working of CloudWatch

CloudWatch acts as a repository of metrics, by collating raw data from various AWS services or applications, converting it into metrics, statistics, graphs, and facilitates certain actions based on specific data points in metrics.



Elements of CloudWatch

Namespace

CloudWatch namespaces are containers in which metrics for different applications are stored. It is a mechanism to isolate metrics of different applications from each other.

Metrics

Metrics are sets of data collected over a period of time with a specific time interval for quantitative assessment, measurement, and comparison of performance data generated by a specific application or a service.

For example, CPU utilization data for an EC2 instance is stored in a relevant CloudWatch metric at a time interval of one minute. Each AWS service stores several metrics in CloudWatch.

Dimensions

A dimension in a CloudWatch metric is a mechanism to uniquely identify metrics. It is a name/value pair that is associated with metrics.

For example, CloudWatch stores metrics for EC2 instances in a namespace called AWS/EC2.



Elements of CloudWatch(Conti...)

Statistics

Statistics are a collection of aggregated metrics data for a specific period of time. Metrics data is aggregated using namespace, metric name, dimensions, and several data points in a given time period.

CloudWatch provides the statistics on the metrics data like: sum, average, sample count, minimum, maximum etc.

Percentile

A percentile helps in finding the comparative standing of a value in a set of data.

Elements of CloudWatch(Conti...)

Alarms

CloudWatch alarms help in defining a threshold value that is constantly monitored, and an action is triggered when the threshold condition is breached.

For example, you can define a threshold of 80% CPU utilization on an EC2 instance and trigger an action whenever the CPU utilization is >=80 for three consecutive periods.

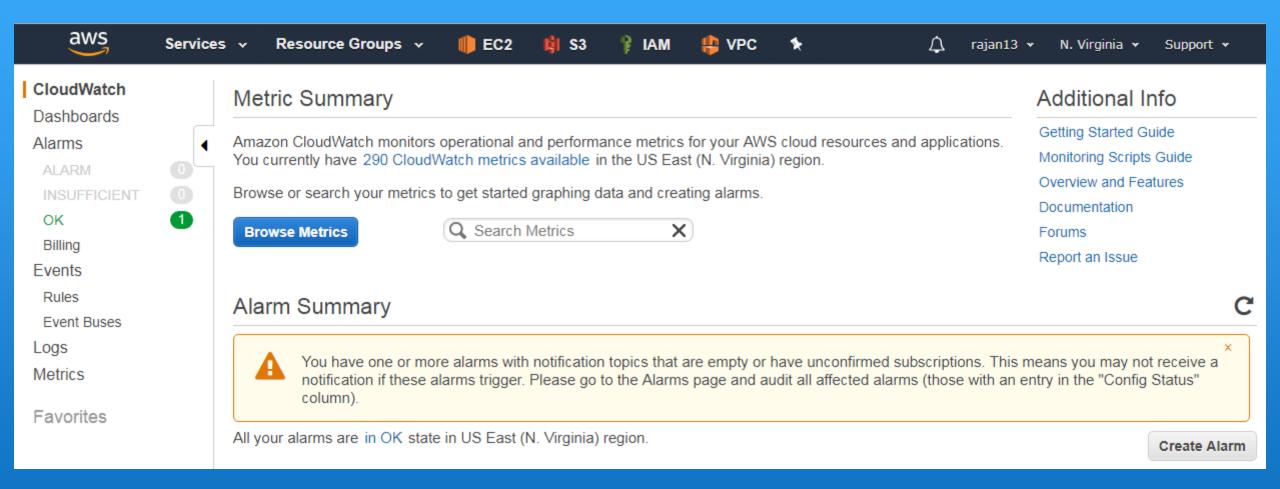
An alarm can have three possible states:

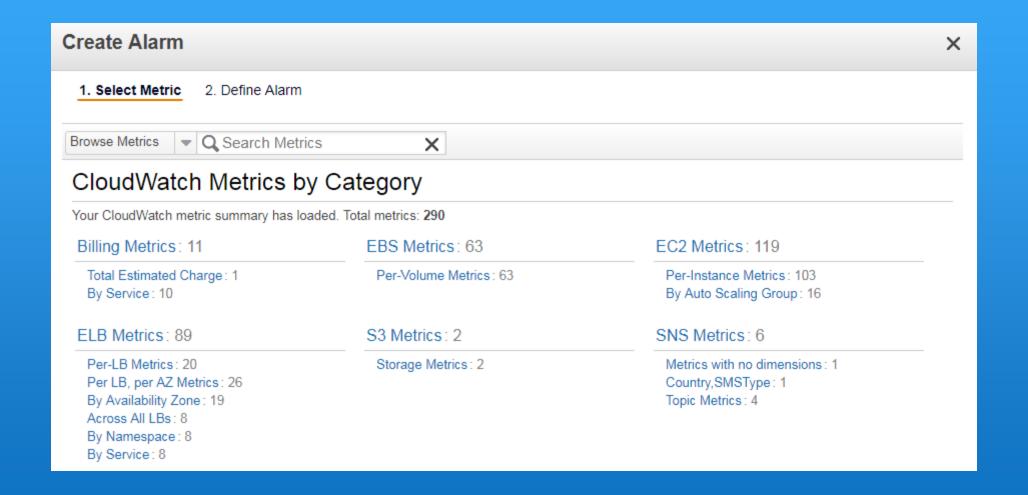
Alarm status displays **OK** when the metric is within the defined threshold

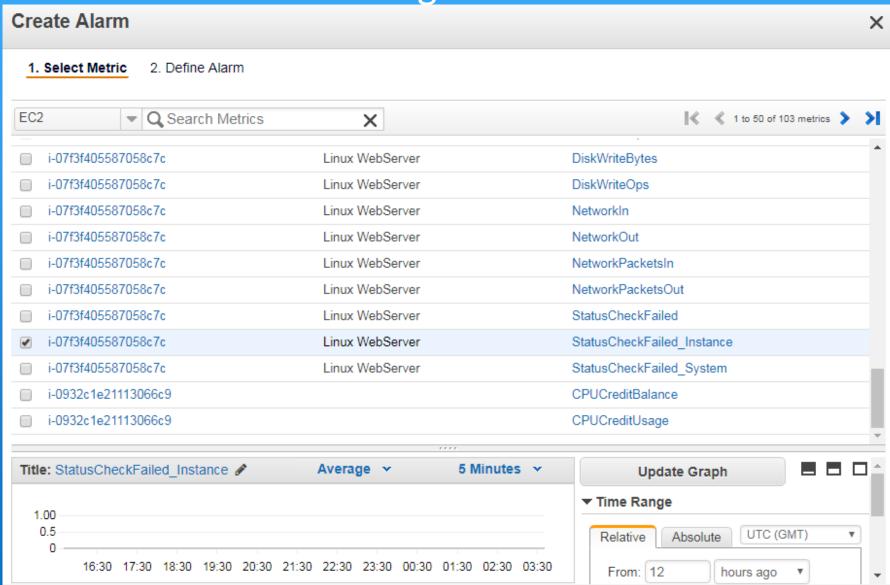
Alarm status displays ALARM when the metric is outside of the defined threshold

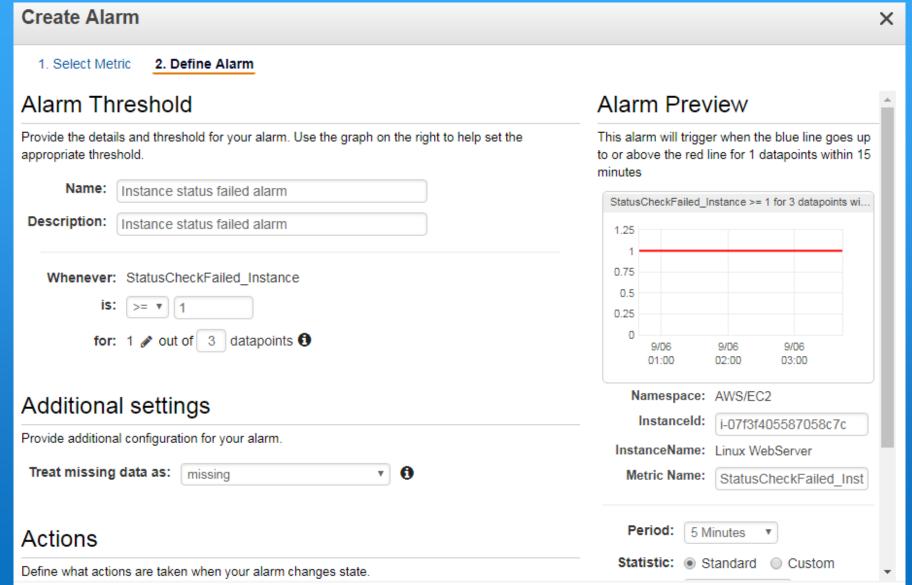
Alarm status displays **INSUFFICIENT_DATA** when the alarm is just configured, the metric is not available, or not enough data is available for the metric to determine the alarm state

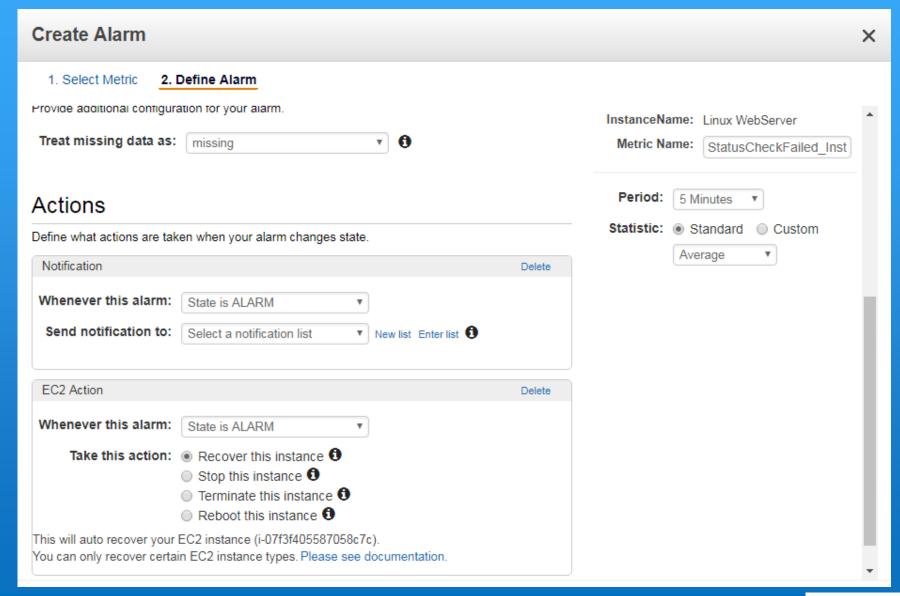












CloudWatch dashboard

Amazon CloudWatch provides a customizable dashboard inside a web console. It can display a set of critical metrics together.

You can create multiple dashboards where each dashboard can focus on providing a distinct view of your environment.

You can create a custom dashboard to view and monitor the selected AWS resources from the same or different regions.



Monitoring types: Basic and Detailed

Basic monitoring

Basic monitoring is free and it collects data at a five-minute time interval.

By default, when you provision AWS resources, all AWS resources except ELB and RDS start with a basic monitoring mode only.

ELB and RDS monitors the resources at a one-minute interval.

For other resources, optionally, you can switch the monitoring mode to detailed monitoring.

Detailed monitoring

Detailed monitoring is chargeable and it makes data available at a one-minute time interval. Currently, AWS charges \$0.015 per hour, per instance.

Detailed monitoring does not change the monitoring on ELB and RDS which by default collates data at a one-minute interval.

Similarly, detailed monitoring does not change the EBS volumes which are monitored at five-minute intervals.



Summary

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See you soon...

Thank You!