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CS-470 Final Reflection

YouTube link to presentation: https://youtu.be/Q6yEKlFnJiI

Over the course of CS-470 we have learned to migrated a traditional web application to a cloud native application. In this document I will discuss how this course has improved my strengths as a developer and how I can plan for growth using this knowledge.

Experiences and Strengths:

During this course, I've picked up and reinforced some key skills that will help me with my career goals. One is identifying and isolating the major components or subsystems that compose and existing application. This led to sharpening my skills with tools like docker, lambda and cloud security. I believe that this has reinforced my strengths at functional decomposition, simplifying complexity and full stack development. This will help me assume any role in a software organization.

Planning for Growth:

Cloud and serverless computing can be used to improve efficiencies and management of web applications in just about every scale conceivable. The first major management win is elasticity. This ensures that web applications can scale up or down based on load without intervention. Another improvement is the ease of reusable role based and access controls. From an operations perspective the use of event based logging and metrics allow SRE and devOps to stay on top of systems running on in the cloud in a uniform and extensible manner.

With all of these improvements there are some things that should be considered before committing to a cloud native approach. The first is that the cost of serverless can be less predictable than traditional deployments or container based deployments where the resource are preallotted and billing is based on that. This is because cloud and serverless billing is based on usage which can change based on changes of traffic. So, if an organization has the requirements have a tight budget and perhaps cloud native applications are not for them.