

# Microsoft Azure Application Monitoring and Diagnostics Workshop*PLUS*

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Student Lab Manual

Version 1.4

17 December 2019

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# Lab 1: Application Insights for Web Apps

## Introduction

Application Insights (AI) is an extensible analytics service that helps you understand the performance and usage of your live application. It is designed for developers to help you continuously improve the performance and usability of your app.

It works with both web and stand-alone apps on various platforms: .NET or J2EE, hosted on-premises or in the cloud, device apps on Windows, iOS, Android, Macintosh OS X, and other platforms. AI currently supports iOS, Android, and Windows apps, J2EE and ASP.NET web applications, Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) services. Web Apps can run on Microsoft Azure or your own on-premises servers. The AI JavaScript software development kit (SDK) can run on any web page. Application Insights works by adding an SDK into your app, which sends telemetry to the Azure Portal. There are different SDKs for the many combinations of platforms, languages, and IDEs that are supported.

This lab introduces you to AI with some simple instrumentation and show you how you can get to the information from the Azure Portal.

## Objectives

After completing this lab, you will be able to:

- Set up Application Insights for a Web and API app
- Monitor your user and application performance

## Prerequisites

- A Microsoft Azure subscription
- The Awesome Web App deployed on Azure Web App (completed in a previous lab)

## Estimated Time to Complete This Lab

60 minutes

## Scenario

Your Web App has been released and has many daily users. Now you need a way to gather telemetry data to prioritize feature development and ensure your team has a user centric approach. Furthermore, you also need to have insight when something goes wrong to quickly detect and troubleshoot issues. To achieve that goal, you will need KPI and reliable data.

## Exercise 1: Creating and Exploring Application Insights

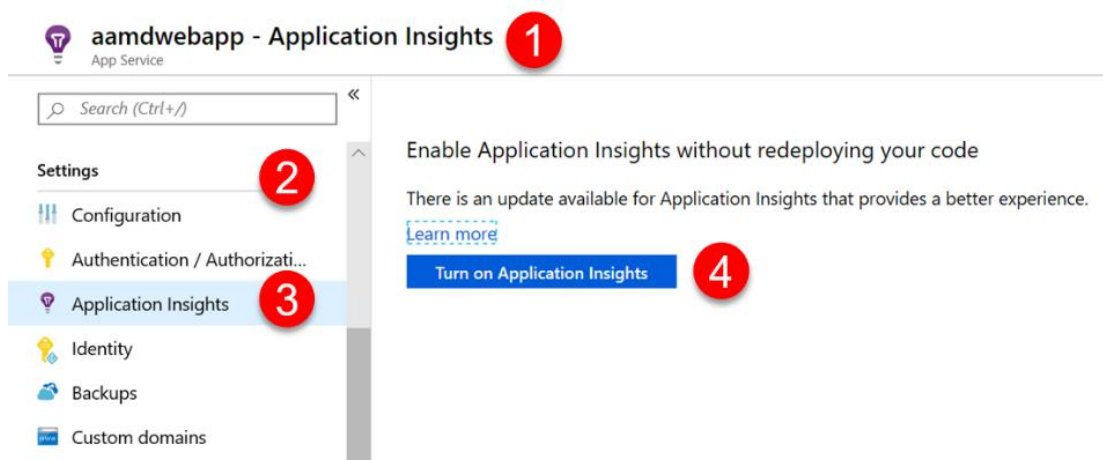
### Objectives

After completing this exercise, you will be able to:

- Create an Application Insights resource

### Task 1: Creating an Application Insights resource

1. Log on to the Azure Portal
2. Navigate to the resource group **AAMDWEBAPP** created earlier
3. Select the **Web App** that is hosting **Awesome Web App** created earlier
4. Select **Application Insights** under **Settings** and click **Turn on Application Insights**






5. Create a new AI resource as shown leaving other values in their default setting and click **Apply**

### Application Insights

Collect application monitoring data using Application Insights

Enable Disable Feedback

### Link to an Application Insights resource

 Your app will be connected to an auto-created Application Insights resource: **aamdwebapp**. Instrumentation key will be added to App Settings. This will overwrite any instrumentation key value in web app configuration files.

#### ^ Change your resource

☒ Create new resource

\* New resource name

aamdwebapp

\* Location

Central US

☐ Select existing resource

 Search to find more resources

Top 5 relevant resources - Relevance is determined by resource group, location, or in alphabetical order.

Name

Resource Group

Location

No Application Insights resources were found.

3

Apply

## Task 2: Configuring Application Insights for Server Data

1. In the Azure Portal, open the **Application Insights** resource associated with your **Web App**. This can be reached from the **AAMDWEBAPP** resource group.

**AAMDWEBAPP** Resource group

Subscription (change): Azure Pass - Sponsorship  
 Subscription ID: 736bb6bc-c771-4681-b756-82cdd34a05e5  
 Tags (change): [Click here to add tags](#)

Deployments: 2 Succeeded

Filter by name... All types All locations No grouping

3 items ☐ Show hidden types

NAME	TYPE	LOCATION
<b>aamdwebapp</b>	Application Insights	Central US
aamdwebapp	App Service	Central US
ASP-AAMDWEBAPP-864e	App Service plan	Central US

2. Click **Performance** under the **Investigate** section
3. Click on **Configure Profiler**

**aamdwebapp - Performance**

Local: Last 24 hours Roles = All

Operations Dependencies Roles

Operation times: zoom into a range Avg 50<sup>th</sup> 95<sup>th</sup> 99<sup>th</sup>

3.0 sec  
2.8 sec  
2.6 sec  
2.4 sec

Request count

Wed 04 06 AM 12 PM 06 PM

09:31 09:31

Select operation Search to filter items...

OPERATION NAME	DURATION (AVG)	COUNT	PIN
<b>Overall</b>	2.72 sec	1	
GET Home/Index	2.72 sec	1	

Overall

Distribution of durations: z... Scale

Request count

Duration 1.0ms 14ms 77ms 270ms 1.1sec

1.0ms 1.0ms 2.5sec

Insights

No insights were found

#### 4. Click **Profile now**

Home > Resource groups > AAMDWEBAPP > aamdwebapp - Performance > Configure Application Insights Profiler

### Configure Application Insights Profiler

**Profile now** (highlighted) Triggers Refresh Troubleshoot profiler

Triggered By: 0 selected App Name: 0 selected Machine instance: 0 selected

#### Recent profiling sessions

(Click on a row to open traces)

Triggered By	App Name	Machine instance	Time
No application has reported a profiling session. Try use 'Profile now' to trigger one.			

**Sessions in progress**

Tuesday, December 17, 2019, 11:45:12 PM Profiling is in progress

The profiling session is in progress. Traces will be ready in 18 minutes.

## Task 3: Configuring Application Insights for Browser Data

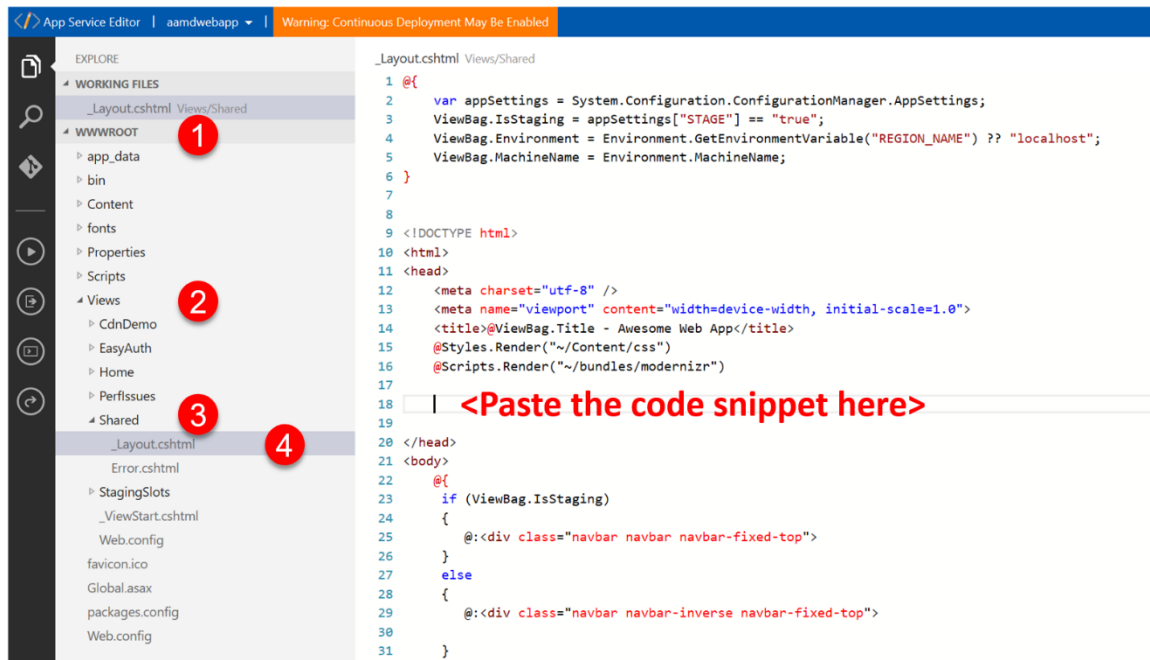
1. Copy the following code snippet. This script enables the collection of client-side telemetry data. See this [reference](#) for more information

```
<!--
To collect user behavior analytics about your application,
insert the following script into each page you want to track.
Place this code immediately before the closing </head> tag,
and before any other scripts. Your first data will appear
automatically in just a few seconds.
-->
<script type="text/javascript">
  var appInsights=window.appInsights||function(config){
    function i(config){t[config]=function(){var
i=arguments;t.queue.push(function(){t[config].apply(t,i)}}}var
t={config:config},u=document,e=window,o="script",s="AuthenticatedUserContext",h
="start",c="stop",l="Track",a=l+"Event",v=l+"Page",y=u.createElement(o),r,f;y.s
rc=config.url||"https://az416426.vo.msecnd.net/scripts/a/ai.0.js";u.getElements
ByTagName(o)[0].parentNode.appendChild(y);try{t.cookie=u.cookie}catch(p){}for(t
.queue=[],t.version="1.0",r=["Event","Exception","Metric","PageView","Trace","D
ependency"];r.length;)i("track"+r.pop());return
i("set"+s),i("clear"+s),i(h+a),i(c+a),i(h+v),i(c+v),i("flush"),config.disableEx
ceptionTracking||(r="onerror",i("_"+r),f=e[r],e[r]=function(config,i,u,e,o){var
s=f&&f(config,i,u,e,o);return s!=!0&&t["_"+r](config,i,u,e,o),s)),t
}({
  instrumentationKey:"<insert instrumentation key>"
});

  window.appInsights=appInsights;
  appInsights.trackPageView();
</script>
```

2. Navigate to the **Web App** resource within the Azure Portal
3. Select **App Service Editor (Preview)** under the **Development Tools** section
4. Click **Go**
5. This will open **App Service Editor** in a separate tab
6. In the **Explore** section, navigate to **WWWROOT** → **Views** → **Shared** → **\_Layout.cshtml**

7. Paste the code snippet copied from step 1 before the `</head>` tag.



8. Copy the **Instrumentation Key** from the Application Insights **Overview** blade. Replace the string **<insert instrumentation key>** with the Instrumentation Key
9. Your changes are saved automatically

## Task 4: Generating Load to review the data

1. Create a folder named **Scripts** under **C:** drive (C:\Scripts)
2. Copy **tinyget.exe** from current lab folder to **C:\Scripts\** folder.
3. Copy below content and save it in a file named **GenerateRequests.ps1**

**Note:** You can also use the file provided with the lab.

```
# Script to send multiple requests to the cloud service deployed on Azure
# When executed, it will send multiple request to the server simulating load.
# It will prompt for Cloud Service Name (e.g. yourapp.azurewebsites.net - note
#this is without http://)
# It will prompt for no. of threads to use (for e.g 10, 20, 50)
# It will prompt for no. of times to loop (for e.g. 100, 200, 500)
# It will start TinyGet instances and send multiple requests to different pages
#of the application

function Get-ScriptDirectory
{
    $Invocation = (Get-Variable MyInvocation -Scope 1).Value
    Split-Path $Invocation.MyCommand.Path
}

$ScriptDirectory = Split-Path -Path $MyInvocation.MyCommand.Definition -Parent
$program = Join-Path $ScriptDirectory "tinyget.exe"
$argServerURL = "-server:" + (Read-Host 'Please input the Web App URL')
$argThreads = "-threads:" + (Read-Host 'Please input no. of threads to use (for
e.g 10, 20, 50)')
$argLoop = "-loop:" + (Read-Host 'Please input no. of times to loop (for e.g.
100, 200, 500)')

$uriDefault = '/Home/Index'
$uriMemory = '/PerfIssues/MemLeak'
$uriHighCPU = '/PerfIssues/SpinCpuBtnHandler'
$uriException = '/ProduceError/500'
$uriLongRunning = '/PerfIssues/SleepBtnHandler'
$uriDiagnosticLogging = '/Home/ProduceLogs'

$argPageURL = "-uri:$uriDiagnosticLogging"
$arguments = "$argServerURL $argPageURL $argThreads $argLoop"
Write-Host "Started Requests for" $uriDiagnosticLogging
Start-Process $program -ArgumentList $arguments -WindowStyle Hidden

$argPageURL = "-uri:$uriDefault"
$arguments = "$argServerURL $argPageURL $argThreads $argLoop"
Write-Host "Started Requests for" $uriDefault $arguments
Start-Process $program -ArgumentList $arguments -WindowStyle Hidden

$argPageURL = "-uri:$uriException"
$arguments = "$argServerURL $argPageURL $argThreads $argLoop"
Write-Host "Started Requests for" $uriException $arguments
Start-Process $program -ArgumentList $arguments -WindowStyle Hidden
```

```

$argPageURL = "-uri:$uriLongRunning"
$arguments = "$argServerURL $argPageURL $argThreads $argLoop"
Write-Host "Started Requests for" $uriLongRunning $arguments
Start-Process $program -ArgumentList $arguments -WindowStyle Hidden

$argPageURL = "-uri:$uriHighCPU"
$arguments = "$argServerURL $argPageURL $argThreads $argLoop"
Write-Host "Started Requests for" $uriHighCPU $arguments
Start-Process $program -ArgumentList $arguments -WindowStyle Hidden

```

4. Start the **PowerShell** console and navigate to **C:\ Scripts\**

5. Execute the following **PowerShell** command:

**Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope Process -ExecutionPolicy Bypass**

(Note: This command relaxes the security on running PowerShell scripts that are not digitally signed)

6. Type **Y** and press **Enter** to proceed to change the execution policy

7. Execute **.\GenerateRequests.ps1** and enter the parameters (**Note: The Web App URL should be without "http://"**)

8. This will initiate 100s of request to our web app

```

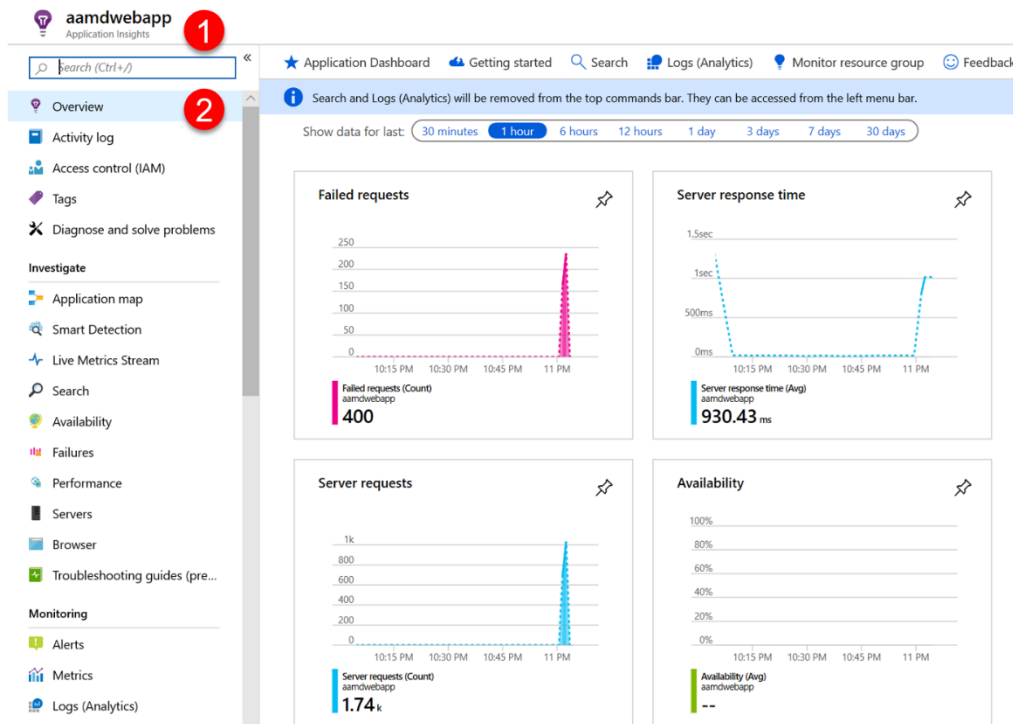
Please input the Web App URL: aamd.azurewebsites.net
Please input no. of threads to use (for e.g 10, 20, 50): 20
Please input no. of times to loop (for e.g. 100, 200, 500): 20
Started Requests for /Home/ProduceLogs
Started Requests for /Home/Index -server:aamd.azurewebsites.net -uri:/Home/Index -threads:20 -loop:20
Started Requests for /ProduceError/500 -server:aamd.azurewebsites.net -uri:/ProduceError/500 -threads:20 -loop:20
Started Requests for /PerfIssues/SleepBtnHandler -server:aamd.azurewebsites.net -uri:/PerfIssues/SleepBtnHandler -threads:20 -loop:20
Started Requests for /PerfIssues/SpinCpuBtnHandler -server:aamd.azurewebsites.net -uri:/PerfIssues/SpinCpuBtnHandler -threads:20 -loop:20

```

9. This can be repeated as many times as needed during the exercise to observe the data points in **Application Insights**

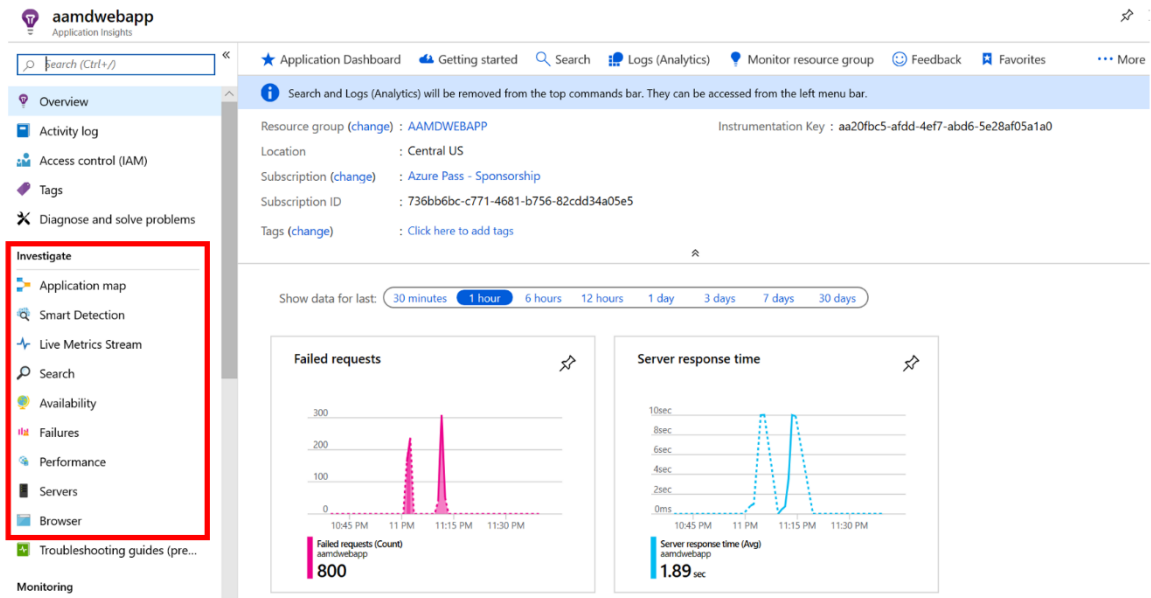
## Task 5: Exploring Application Insights

5. In the Azure Portal, navigate to the **Application Insights** resource associated with your **Web App**
6. In the **Overview** blade, you can see the overall health and request summary

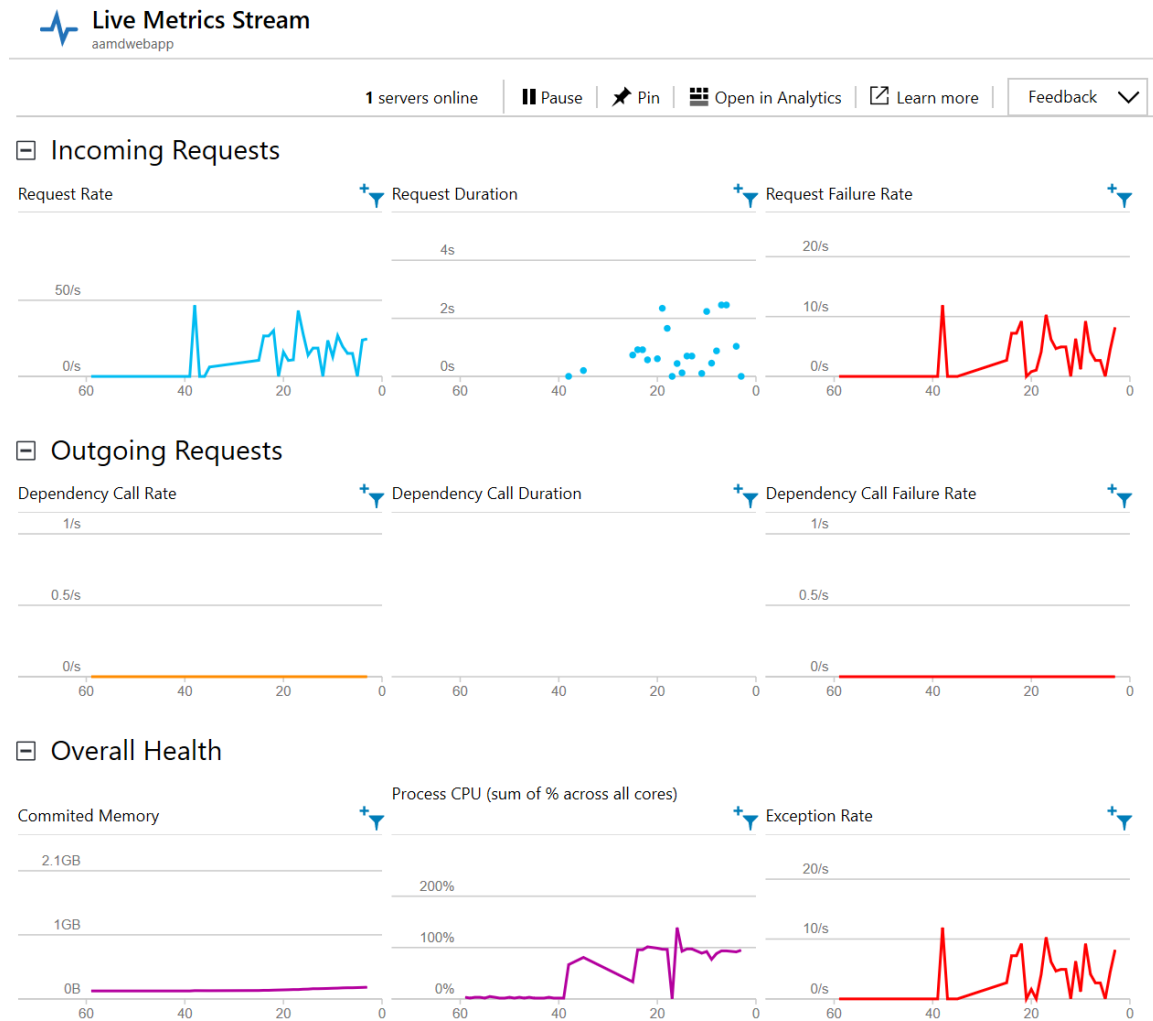


Over the next steps, you will see features useful for investigating issues and usage



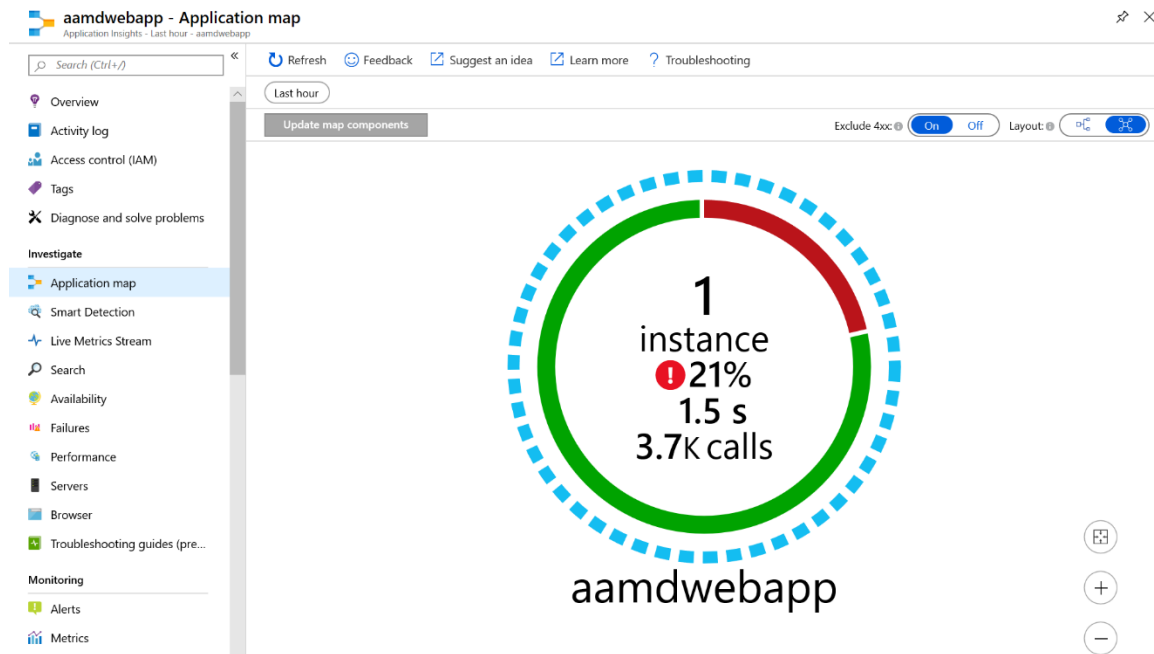


7. Click on **Live Metrics Stream**. If **GenerateRequests.ps1** is still executing, you will see movement in the telemetry



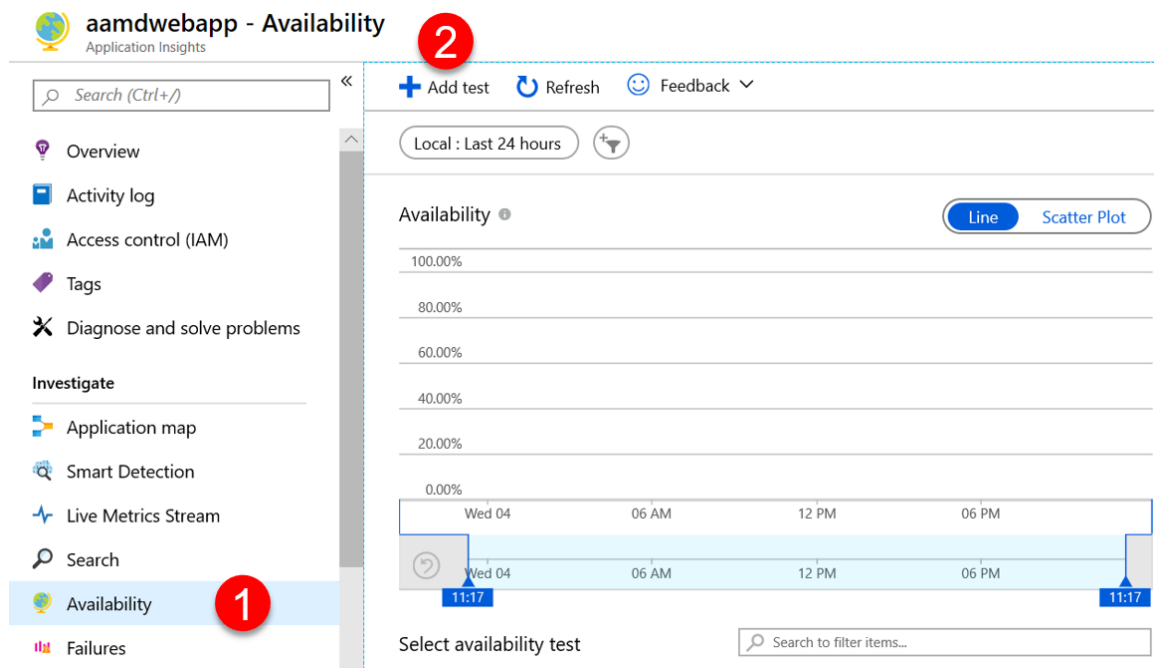
8. Explore individual metrics, filter, etc.

9. Click on **Application map** to look at the application components. Explore the features



10. Click on **Availability**. Here you can configure availability tests for your application from different geographical locations around the world

11. Click **Add test** to configure tests as per your requirement



Here's an example of a test:

**Create test** ✕

^ Basic Information

\* Test name

Web Test 1 ✓

[Learn more about configuring tests against applications hosted behind a firewall](#)

Test type

URL ping test ▼

\* URL ⓘ

https://aamdwebapp.azurewebsites.net ✓

Parse dependent requests ⓘ

☒

Enable retries for availability test failures. ⓘ

☒

Test frequency ⓘ

5 minutes ▼

✓ Test locations

5 location(s) configured

✓ Success criteria

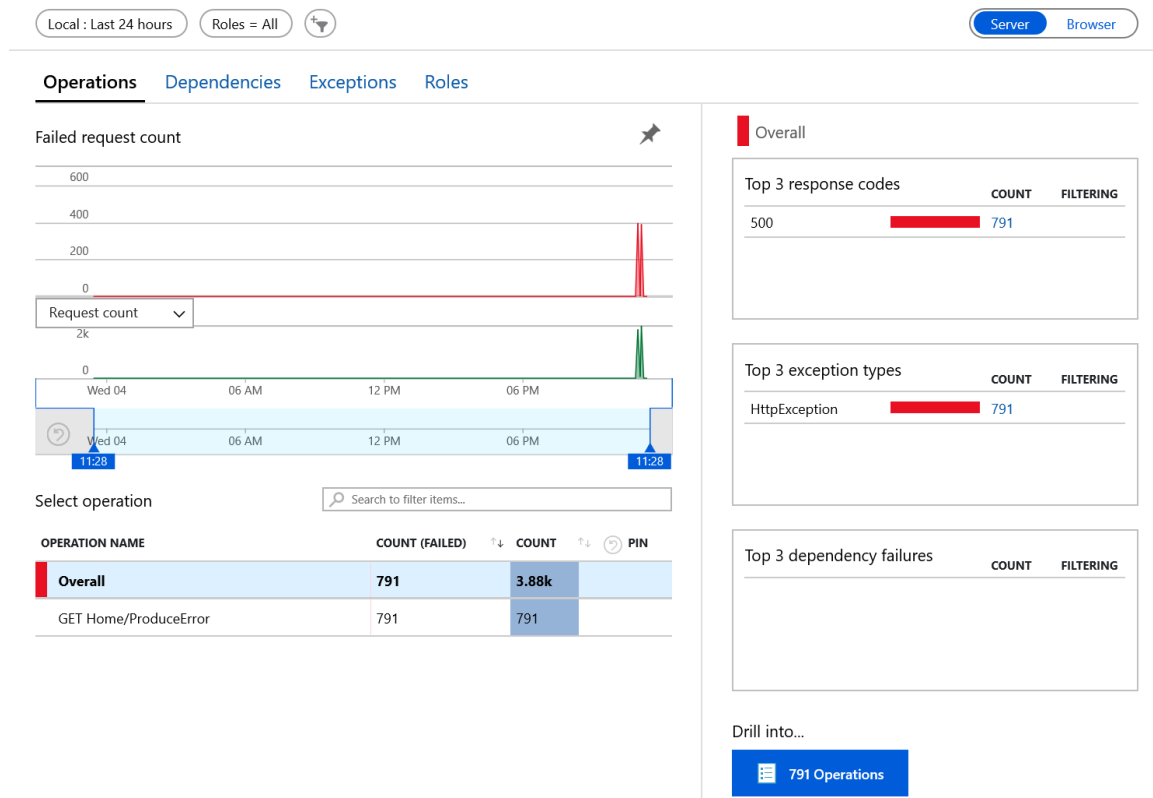
HTTP response: 200, Test Timeout: 120 seconds

✓ Alerts

Enabled

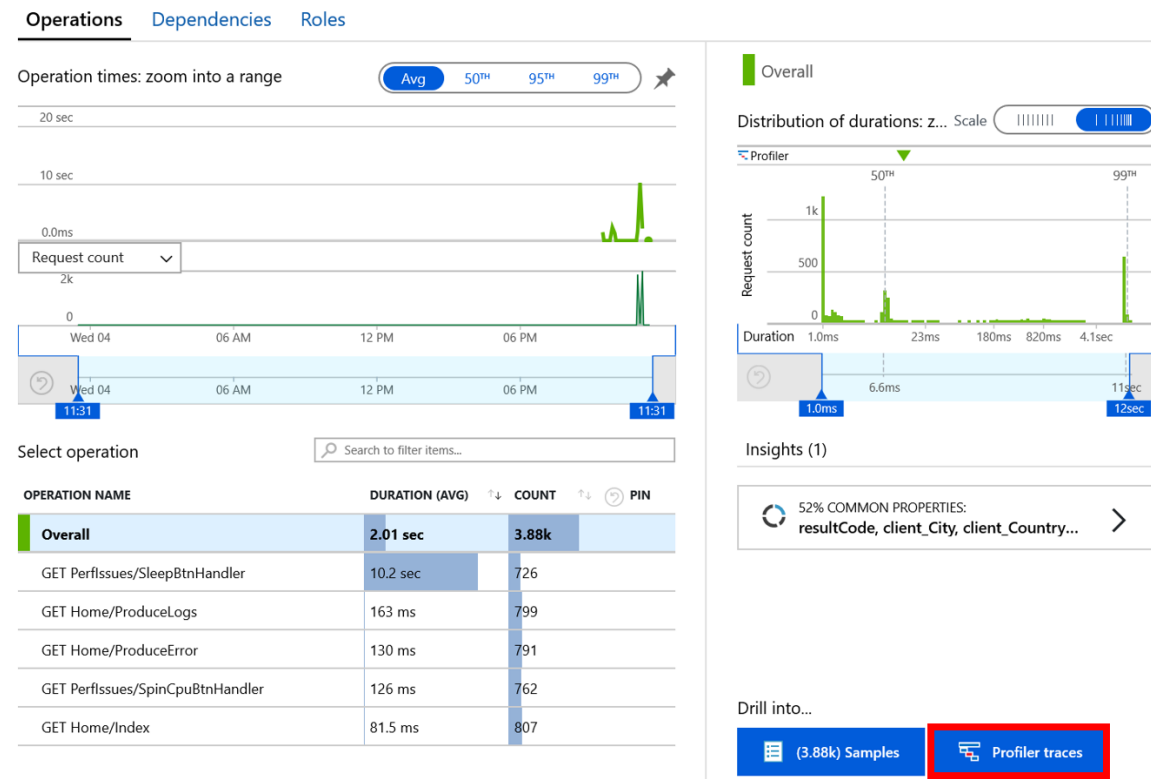
Create

12. Click **Failures**. Here you can see all the requests that have failed. You can find more information about failed requests by clicking on them

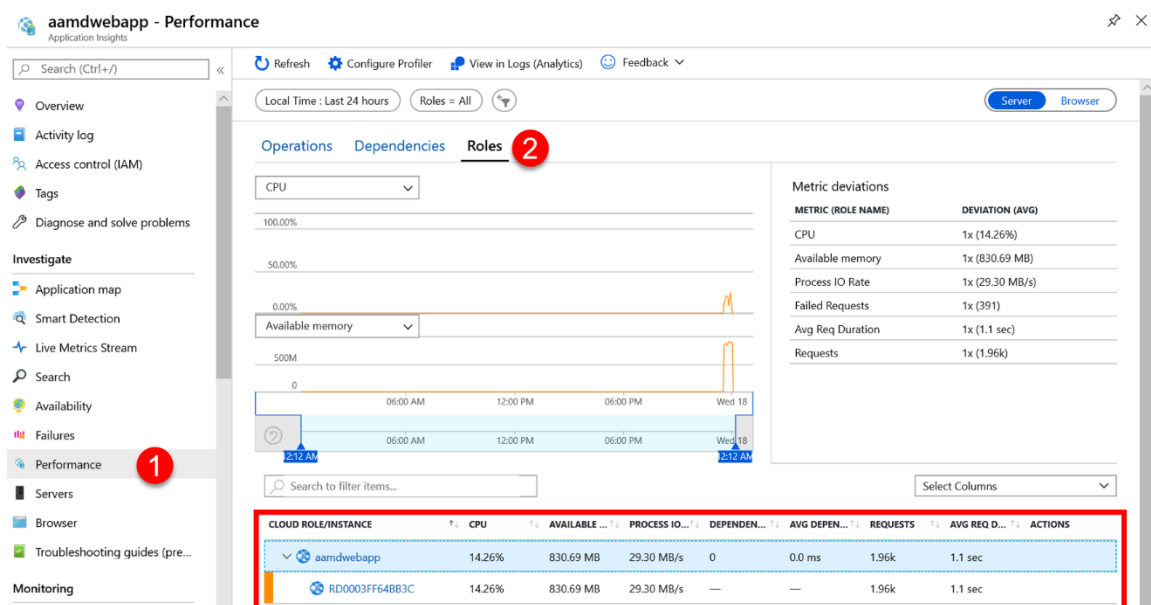


13. Click on **Performance**. Here you will obtain insights about the application's performance

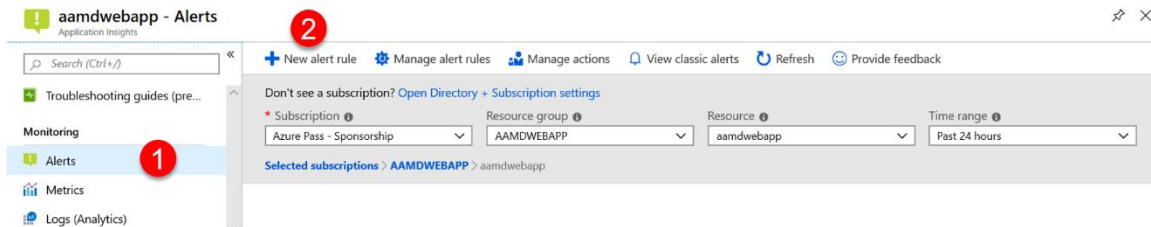
14. Click on **Profiler traces** to obtain more detail about requests and their execution



15. Go back to the **Performance** blade and click **Roles** to explore the metrics against each instance

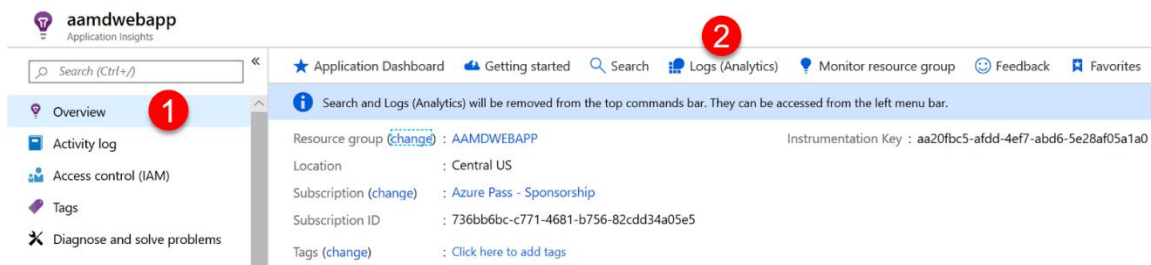


## 16. Under **Monitoring**, you can configure **Alerts**

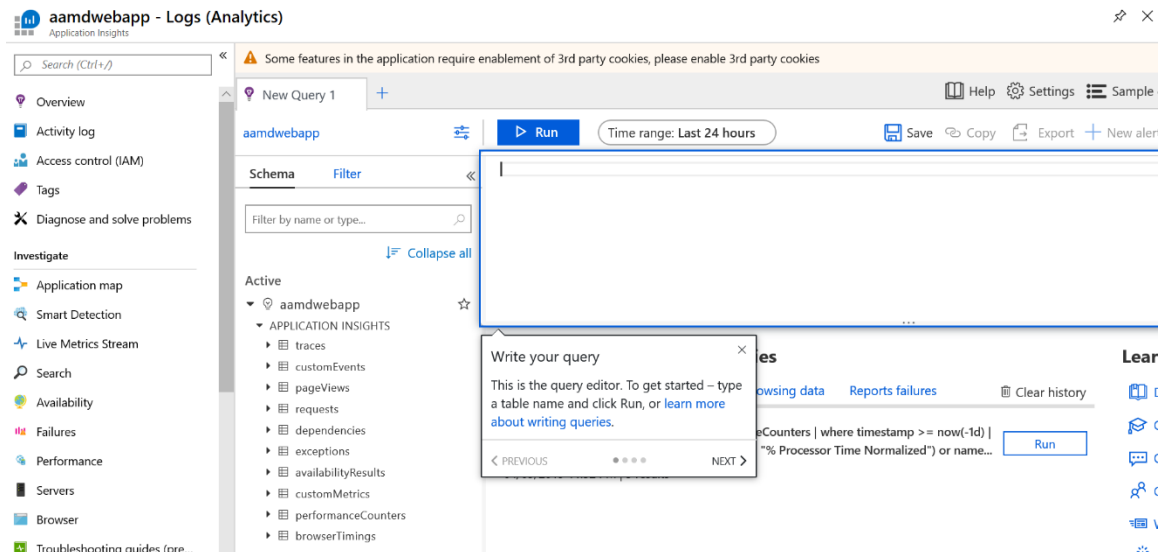


## Task 6: Exploring Application Insights with Azure Logs

1. In the **Application Insights Overview** blade, click on **Logs (Analytics)**.



2. This will open **Azure Logs** (you may have to first click **Get Started**)



3. Try queries from **Get started with sample queries.**

The screenshot shows the Azure Application Insights 'aamdwebapp - Logs (Analytics)' interface. The top navigation bar includes 'New Query 1', 'New Query 2', and 'New Query 3'. A red circle with the number '1' is in the top right corner. The main area is titled 'Get started with sample queries' and contains a 'History' tab with a sample query: '// Process CPU and Processor time performanceCounters | where timestamp >= now(-1d) | where ((category == "Process" and counter == "% Processor Time Normalized") or name == ...)'. A 'Run' button is next to the query. A red circle with the number '2' is over the 'Run' button. The sidebar on the left shows a tree view of log categories under 'APPLICATION INSIGHTS', including traces, customEvents, pageViews, requests, dependencies, exceptions, and availabilityResults.

4. You can also write your own queries to generate insights as needed
5. Explore the features, write various queries and get yourself familiar with **Azure Logs**