

Module 9: Cloud Architecture

Thursday, September 18, 2025 9:13 AM

A. Topics:

- AWS Well-Architected Framework
- Reliability and high availability
- AWS Trust Advisor

B. AWS Well-Architected Framework

- Architecture is the art and science of designing and building large structures
- Large systems needed to be managed by their size and complexity by architects
- Cloud architects engage with decision makers
- AWS Well-Architected Framework;
 - + A guide for designing infrastructure that are:
 - * Secure
 - * High-performing
 - * Resilient
 - * Efficient
 - + A consistent approach to evaluating and implementing cloud architectures
 - + A way to provide best practices that were developed through lessons learned by reviewing customer architectures.
- Pillars of the AWS Well-Architected Framework:
 - + Operational excellence
 - + Security
 - + Reliability
 - + Performance efficiency
 - + Cost Optimization

1. Operational Excellence Pillar -> Deliver Business Value

- Focus: Run and monitor systems to deliver business value, and to continually improve supporting processes and procedures.
- Key Topics:
 - + Managing and automating changes
 - + Responding to events
 - + Defining standards to successfully manage daily operations
- Operational excellence design principles:
 - + Perform operations as code
 - + Annotate documentation
 - + Make frequent, small, reversible changes
 - + Refine operations procedures frequently

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| Prepare <ul style="list-style-type: none">* How do you determine what you promote are?* How do you design your workload so that you can understand its state?* How do you reduce defects, ease remediation, and improve flow into production?* How do you mitigate deployment risks?* How do you know that you are ready to support a workload? | Operate <ul style="list-style-type: none">* How do you understand the health of your workload?* How do you understand the health of your operations?* How do you manage workload and operations events? |
| | Evolve <ul style="list-style-type: none">* How do you evolve operations? |


2. Security Pillar

- Focus: Protect information, systems, and assets while delivering business value through risk assessments and mitigation strategies
- Key Topics:
 - + Identifying and managing who can do what
 - + Establishing controls to detect security events
 - + Protecting systems and services
 - + Protecting confidentiality and integrity of data
- Security design principles:
 - + Implement a strong identity foundation
 - + Enable traceability

- + Apply security at all layers
- + Automate security best practices
- + Protect data in transit and at rest
- + Keep people away from data
- + Prepare for security events.

3. *Reliability Pillar*

- Focus: Prevent and quickly recover from failures to meet business and customer demand
- Key Topics:
 - + Setting up
 - + Cross-project requirements
 - + Recovery planning
 - + Handling change
- Reliability design principle:
 - + Test recovery procedures
 - + Automatically recover from failure
 - + Scale horizontally to increase aggregate system availability
 - + Stop guessing capacity
 - + Manage change in automation

Reliability questions


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| <p>Foundations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you manage service limits? • How do you manage your network topology? <p>Change management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does your system adapt to changes in demand? • How do you monitor your resources? • How do you implement change? | <p>Failure management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you back up data? • How does your system withstand component failure? • How do you test resilience? • How do you plan for disaster recovery? |
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4. *Performance Efficiency*

- Focus: Use IT and computing resources efficiency to meet system requirements and to maintain that efficiency as demand changes and technologies evolve.
- Key Topics:
 - + Selecting right resource types and sizes based on workload requirements
 - + Monitoring performance
 - + Making informed decisions to maintain efficiency as business needs evolve
- Performance efficiency design principles:
 - + Democratic advanced technologies
 - + Go global in minutes
 - + Use serverless architectures
 - + Experiment more often
 - + Have mechanical sympathy

Selection

- How do you select the best performing architecture?
- How do you select your compute solution?
- How do you select your storage solution?
- How do you select your database solution?
- How do you select your networking solution?

Review

- How do you evolve your workload to take advantage of new releases?

Monitoring

- How do you monitor your resources to ensure they are performing as expected?

Tradeoffs

- How do you use tradeoffs to improve performance?

5. Cost Optimization => Eliminated unneeded expense

- Focus: Run systems to deliver business value at the lowest price point
- Key Points:
 - + Understanding and controlling when money is being spent
 - + Selecting the most appropriate and right number of resource types
 - + Analyzing spending over time
 - + Scaling to meeting business needs without overspending
- Cost Optimization design principles:
 - + Adopt a consumption model
 - + Measure overall efficiency
 - + Stop spending money on data center operations
 - + Analyze and attribute expenditure
 - + Use managed and application-level services to reduce cost of ownership

Expenditure awareness

- How do you govern usage?
- How do you monitor usage and cost?
- How do you decommission resources?

Cost-effective resources

- How do you evaluate cost when you select services?
- How do you meet cost targets when you select resource type and size?
- How do you use pricing models to reduce cost?
- How do you plan for data transfer changes?

Matching supply and demand

- How do you match supply of resources with demand?

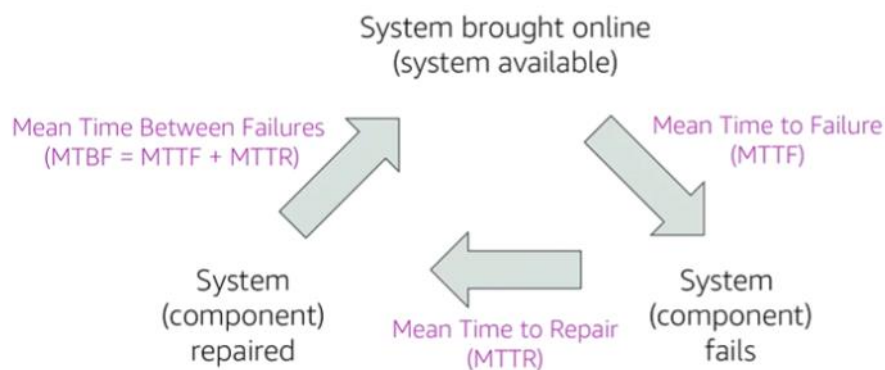
Optimizing over time

- How do you evaluate new services?

6. Reliability

- A measure of user's system ability to provide functionality when desired by the user
- System includes all system components: hardware, firmware, and software
- Probability that user's entire system will function as intended for a specific period.
- Mean time between failures (MTBF) = total time in service/number of failures

Understanding reliability metrics



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46

- Normal operation time/total time
- A percentage of uptime (for example, 999 percent) over time (for example, 1 year)
- Number of 9s - Five 9s means 99.999 percent availability
- High Availability:
 - + System can withstand some measure of degradation while still remaining available
 - + Downtime is minimized
 - + Minimal human intervention is required
- Availability Tiers:

| Availability | Max Disruption (per year) | Application Category |
|--------------|------------------------------|--|
| 99% | 3 days 15 hours | Batch processing, data extraction, transfer, and load jobs |
| 99.9% | 8 hours 45 minutes | Internal tools like knowledge management, project tracking |
| 99.95% | 4 hours 22 minutes | Online commerce, point of sale |
| 99.99% | 52 minutes | Video delivery, broadcast systems |
| 99.999% | 5 minutes | ATM transactions, telecommunications systems |

- Factors that influence availability:

- + Fault Tolerance: The built-in redundancy of an application's components and its ability to remain operational
- + Scalability: The ability of an application to accommodate increases in capacity needs without changing design
- + Recoverability: The process, the policies, and procedures that are related to restoring service after a catastrophic event

C. AWS Trust Advisor

- Online tool that provides real-time guidance to help you provision your resources following AWS best practices
- Looks at user's entire AWS environment and gives user's real-time recommendations in five categories (Optimization, Performance, Security, Fault Tolerance, Service Limits)
- The traceability is not one of the four areas of the Performance Efficiency pillar of the AWS Well-Architected Framework