

APPD VS DATADOG

When to use what?

AppDynamics vs Datadog

When to use what in Cloud?

- Many teams ask: “Which tool should we use?”
- The real question is: What problem are you trying to solve?

Key message:

- These tools don't replace each other — they solve different layers.

One-Line Positioning

What each tool REALLY answers

- AppDynamics
 - "Is my application hurting the business?"
- Datadog
 - "What is happening across my cloud platform right now?"

What Data Each Tool Looks At??

AppDynamics

- Application agents (Java, .NET, etc.)
- Business transactions
- Code methods, SQL calls
- CloudWatch metrics (basic infra view)

Datadog

- CloudWatch metrics
- VPC Flow Logs
- Logs, metrics, traces
- Agents on EC2 / EKS / Lambda (optional)

Key takeaway:

- APPD looks inside the application
- Datadog looks around the application

Demo Scenario #1 (APPD Wins)

Scenario: "Checkout(User clicks "Pay/Place Order") is slow"

Facts

- CPU is normal
- Network is fine
- Only checkout users affected

AppDynamics Demo Flow

1. Open Business Transaction
2. Show response time increase
3. Drill down:
 - Application tier
 - Method call
 - Slow SQL query
4. Show business impact

We can say clearly that - "Infrastructure is healthy. The problem is in application logic." And the Correct tool: **AppDynamics**

Demo Scenario #2 (Datadog Wins)

Scenario: **"Multiple apps slow at the same time"**

Facts

- App A, B, C all affected
- No code deployment happened

Datadog Demo Flow

1. Open VPC / Cloud overview
2. Show NAT Gateway or network spike
3. Show VPC Flow Logs (traffic surge / rejects)
4. Correlate with EKS / EC2 metrics

We can say this clearly: "This is a platform-level issue, not an app bug." Correct tool: **Datadog**

Decision Rule

When to use what?

Use AppDynamics when:

- You care about business transactions
- You need code-level root cause
- You support enterprise or monolith apps

Use Datadog when:

- You run AWS / Kubernetes / Lambda
- You troubleshoot VPC, network, infra
- You want full cloud observability

If the question starts with “WHY is my app slow?” → AppDynamics

If the question starts with “WHAT is happening in my cloud?” → Datadog